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## WAIKATO ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

Dear All,

1990 is rapidly drawing to an end and no doubt you are all looking forward to the festive season and a relaxing holiday. Do commence your celebrations by coming to our final concert at St. Peters Cathedral on December 8th and St. Andrews Church, Cambridge on December 9th. It will be the Orchestras first performance with the Cantando Choir singing Vivaldi's "Gloria' and a special moment for Christine and I when our daughter Helen performs Vivaldi's Cello concerto. We feel very honoured that the Society is giving her the opportunity to play with the orchestra. Each year the Society has given emerging players a playing opportunity and next year a concert has been specially organised for talented young local players.

Plans are well ahead for next years concerts. Our first concert in the New Year will feature Matthew Marshall playing Rodreigo's Guitar Concerto.

This has been a particularly busy year for the Society having staged five concerts, four of them by the orchestra. I never fail to marvel at the energy and enthusiasm that our conductor Paula Spiers has. Not only is she preparing the orchestra but also the Cantando Choir. We are pleased to be associated with her. My final thanks must go to the Committee who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes. They are a very efficient group of people and I will miss them when I stand down next year. I hope there are subscribers who are seriously considering getting involved with the Society as there is plenty of room for people with a variety of talents. I hope that you have enjoyed the music we have brought you this year and will continue to support the Society in the future.

## WAIKATO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERT

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8TH 8pm ST PETERS CATHEDRAL Victoria St., Hamilton

> SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9TH 2pm ST ANDREWS CHURCH Hamilton Rd., Cambridge

Conductor: Paula Spiers Leader: Trudi Miles

Programme

Terpsichore Dance Suite - Praetorius Cello Concerto - Vivaldi

Soloist: Helen Polglase Symphony No. 3 - Schubert Gloria - Vivaldi Cantando Choir

Prices

Adults: \$12.00

Senior Citizens, Students, Unwaged: \$7.00

Children: \$3.00

Family Concession: \$24.00

(Usual subscriber concessions apply)

Ticket Sales: Opus Music, 555 Victoria St, Hamilton.

Helen began her Cello studies in 1982 at Fairfield College with Peter Merz and later continued with Kathy Shelhart and James Tennant. Inspired in no small way by her music teacher, Paula Spiers, she came to play a prominent role in the school orchestra groups and by the 7th form was Principal Cellist in the Waikato Secondary Schools Orchestra and a member of the N.Z. Secondary Schools Orchestra (Auckland). After leaving school Helen had one year in the Schola Musica under conductor Michael Vinten and received cello tuition from Farquhar Wilkinson. She gained membership of the N.Z. Youth Orchestra and was appointed Principal Cellist with the Wellington Youth Orchestra.

In 1986 she commenced a Bachelor of Music (Performance) degree studying cello with Allan Chisholm which she completed last year. Helen has had four years as a member of the N.Z. Youth Orchestra and this year gained a N.Z. Post Study Award for 'commitment to music and achievement of excellence in the NZYO'. She has been a guest player with the Schola Musica, Principal Cellist with the Victoria University Orchestra and a member of the Arcata String Quartet.

In 1988 Helen completed a series of NZ Music Federation concerts with the Wellington Baroque players who presented the Baroque Opera 'La Serva Padrona'. She has played Baroque continuo with the Cantoris Choir (Wellington) and Nelson's Polhymnos Choir as well as being continuo player for Richard Wistreich (England) and Pepe Ward - Smythe (Nelson and Wellington).

Early this year her performance of Craig Uttings Cello Sonata was accepted for the concert programme.

Helen has participated in Master Classes taken by Robert Cohen, Andreas Diaz and Heinreck Schiff.

At present Helen is completing an Honours degree in Performance studying under Josephine Young.

The Orchestral Society once again takes pleasure in giving an emerging young player a performance opportunity.

## INTRODUCING ......CANTANDO CHOIR

The choir Cantando was formed in Hamilton two years ago. Its aim was to provide a group of people who enjoy singing with the opportunity to study and perform music of a wide range of styles. They perform three times a year and this is their first concert with the Waikato Orchestral Society.

1991 will see the Cantando performing with the Waikato Opera Society in Mozart's "La Clemenza di Tito". Conductor since April is Paula Spiers.

Soloists for the "Gloria" will be Colleen Love - Soprano and Rhonda Gibbison - Alto.