

Encore

WASO
COMMUNITY
SUPPORT MONTH

THE NEWSLETTER FOR WASO PATRONS & FRIENDS

JUNE 2015



JUNE IS WASO Community Support Month

Each year we talk to our community about the importance of Annual Giving. This program is fundamental to the day to day operations of our Orchestra, with over half a million dollars now generated annually, and helps cover our **core operating costs**.

Your Orchestra would be a different one without your ongoing support. Thank you.

As a non-for-profit organisation, we rely on support from a number of sources: government funding, ticket income and the support of the community through corporate funding and philanthropic partnerships. Our philanthropy program, including our bequest program, continues to grow and is an essential source of income for WASO. When we say we could not do it without you, we really do mean it.

As Patron & Friends, you are ambassadors for WASO. Many of you wear your Patrons pin, generously provided by The Perth Mint, with pride and tell your WASO story.

It is critical we continue to grow and the more people who join our community, the stronger our future. Each year, we send out a letter to

over 5,000 WASO audience members inviting them to join our community. This mail out is enormous and once again we need to thank our tireless team of volunteers who assist us.

In addition to this annual letter to our community, we are now in our inaugural WASO Community Support Month. We are calling on your **ambassadorial support** during this month and encourage you to tell people your story of why you give to WASO and perhaps to invite a friend to become a Patron.

At every WASO concert in Perth Concert Hall during the month of June, you will see WASO Community Support Month signage and desks for people who want more information or wish to join our Patron & Friends community. For the month of June there will be an Invite A Friend desk outside the Patrons & Friends Lounge for those who want more information to give to a friend.

Our community of Patrons & Friends is now at 1,000 households. Wouldn't it be wonderful if by the end of June it was 1,500?



WASO staff help out at a busy bee at North Parmelia Primary School.



Wesfarmers Arts
Principal Partner

Celebrating Ten Years of Annual Giving



Patrons enjoy a performance from Shaun Lee-Chen at The Perth Mint.



The Perth Mint, an iconic building in the central business district, has a fascinating history given the influence Kalgoorlie and the Kimberley has had on the Western Australian psyche. This organisation has been a great supporter of WASO, so it was a fitting venue for WASO to provide a recital and certificate presentation to Patrons who have donated to the Annual Giving Program for ten consecutive years.

After a warm welcome from Philanthropy Executive Manager, Alecia Benzie, a group of ten year and first year Patrons were addressed by WASO Board member Keith Kessell and the certificates were presented. The 1,000-strong community of Patrons & Friends who collectively donated over \$500,000 last year provides a vital revenue stream to cover the operating expenses of WASO. We would have a different Orchestra without the support of our Annual Giving community. It is also clear that the partnership is so much more than the financial support of our Patrons – the joy of music, the involvement in a range of WASO events, and the friendships between Patrons make it a very special community of supporters.

Guests were treated to an amazing virtuoso performance of the last movement from Bach's Partita No.1 in D Minor, known as the Chaconne, by WASO's highly-talented violinist Shaun Lee-Chen. Shaun recently received rave reviews for his solo performances at the ANZAC Commemorative Concert and in Vivaldi's Four Seasons. What a privilege to hear such sublime playing from Shaun, a former winner of the ABC's Young Performer of the Year.

The evening concluded with drinks and canapés and the opportunity to chat with other Patrons amongst the glittering array of The Perth Mint's production pieces.

Patrons who have made a donation of \$500 or more to our Annual Giving program since 2006 are:

- Neil Archibald & Alan R Dodge AM
- Jean Arkley
- Tony & Mary Beeley
- Matthew J C Blampey
- Debbie Borshoff
- Dr G Campbell-Evans
- Lyn & Harvey Coates AO
- Arthur & Nerina Coopes
- Jop & Hanneke Delfos
- Robyn Glindemann
- Jannette Gray
- Stephanie & John Kobelke
- Dr Mary Ellen MacDonald
- Gregg & Sue Marshman
- Betty & Con Michael AO
- Mrs Morrell
- Jane & Jock Morrison
- Val & Barry Neubecker
- John & Paula Phillips
- John and Alison Rigg
- Maggie Venerys
- Adrienne & Max Walters
- Anonymous (2)

Thank you for your ten years of giving.
Your ongoing support is deeply appreciated.



WASO Philanthropy is partnered by The Perth Mint



Regular Giving

You can now give regular donations to WASO and support your Orchestra on an ongoing basis.

Regular donations are simple and easy to set up, and every donation helps, no matter how big or small. A monthly donation of \$42 means that you will be acknowledged as a Patron. Your chosen amount is automatically debited from your credit card and you can choose to give every month, 3 months, 6 months or annually.

Your regular donation is secure and can be changed, paused or cancelled at any time. At the end of the financial year you will receive a receipt for your contributions. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

If you wish to make a donation, increase or renew your gift, you can do so by filling in the form at the back of this edition of *Encore* or by contacting Jane Clare on 9326 0014 or clarej@waso.com.au. It is also quick and easy to log in and make a donation online at waso.com.au by clicking the red Make a Donation button. You can also donate at the WASO Box Office or on the phone, with your ticket purchases.

We Made Music Together!



Some of our Making Music Together Patrons with composer Mark-Anthony Turnage and trumpeter Håkan Hardenberger.

In 2012, the West Australian Symphony Orchestra's Song Book Commissioning Program created Making Music Together and successfully raised \$30,000 to jointly fund a new commission by an acclaimed international composer.

The result was the fabulous trumpet concerto, *Håkan*, by British composer Mark-Anthony Turnage that was programmed as part of our Sibelius' Fifth Symphony concert last month. The world premiere was performed by renowned Swedish trumpeter and namesake of the piece, Håkan Hardenberger 'the best trumpet player in the galaxy' (The Times) with WASO.

The work was described by *The West Australian* on 11 May as 'an instant classic'. A miscellany of moods in turn truculent, defiant, sombre and aggressive with perfectly spun trills and a gratifyingly varied range of tone colourings were sent, effortlessly arrow-like, into the auditorium. This was trumpet wizardry from a musician at the height of his powers.'

WASO Patrons met the composer and soloist and receive a framed memento signed by Håkan, the composer and conductor Baldur Brönnimann.

During their visit both Håkan and Mark-Anthony delivered masterclasses – a wonderful opportunity for our local young talented musicians.

To all our
volunteers
we say
THANK YOU

11 – 17 May was National Volunteer Week and WASO extended a big thank you to ALL our volunteers who contribute thousands of hours at Perth Concert Hall and in the WASO office. This includes our WASO Chorus members who contribute their time and talent each year. All our volunteers received a card thanking them for their support, signed by WASO staff and musicians.

Thank you to Patrons & Friends Committee member Barry Neubecker for writing many of the articles about our events.

Connect with WASO online!

There have never been more ways to experience WASO, wherever you are across our vast state, country or globe. We love to connect with our community of supporters online.

facebook

Join over 9,800 others and 'like' us on Facebook to keep in touch with your Orchestra. Go to facebook.com/

twitter

Are you one of our 2,500 followers on Twitter? Follow us at twitter.com/_waso_ for all the latest WASO news.

freezone

WASO concerts online? Head to <http://freezone.iinet.net.au/vod/freezone/music/waso/> to catch up on concerts dating back to 2009 that you want to relive or may have missed.



We are now on Instagram! Follow us at http://instagram.com/_waso_ to get an exclusive look at what goes on behind the scenes.

2015 Friends of WASO Scholarship winners



Friends of WASO Scholarship recipient Associate Principal Horn Sharn Mclver with WASO Chair Janet Holmes à Court AC and Patrons & Friends Committee Vice President Barry Neubecker.

WASO and the Patrons & Friends Committee are delighted to announce the winners of the 2015 Friends of WASO Scholarship as Associate Principal Trombone Liam O'Malley and Associate Principal Horn Sharn Mclver.

Liam O'Malley utilised the scholarship for a study tour to the United States in December last year where he undertook lessons with players from the San Francisco Symphony, Boston Symphony Orchestra and the Philadelphia Orchestra, as well as attending symphony concerts and rehearsals. The lessons, with several different players, included Toby Oft, Principal Trombone of the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Toby is a renowned teacher at the New England Conservatory and a well-known clinician and solo artist. Liam also had lessons with Joseph Alessi, the Principal Trombone of the New York Philharmonic, who is widely renowned as one of the finest brass teachers in America.

While in the US, Liam attended the Winter Trombone Workshop in Ithaca, New York. This was a 5-day intensive trombone workshop consisting of lessons, masterclasses, ensembles and lectures in all facets of brass playing and teaching.

Run by Haim Avitsur, a freelance player in New York City, it featured Nitzan Haroz, David Taylor and Hal Reynolds as guest artists.

Sharn Mclver will utilise the scholarship funds to attend the International Horn Symposium in August of this year. The Symposium, an annual week-long event hosted in a different capital city each year, brings together hundreds of horn players of all different nationalities and standards. The 2015 47th International Horn Symposium will be held in downtown Los Angeles at the Colburn School of Music, with a theme of 'Then and Now' – a celebration and reflection of the horn's role through time. This year, some of the most outstanding and prolific horn players in the world will be at the LA IHS, including the Principal players of the Berlin Philharmonic, the London Symphony Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic and the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra.

We warmly congratulate both musicians and look forward to hearing more about how their programs of study benefited them.

Funds for the Friends of WASO Scholarship are raised each year through events held for our Patrons & Friends Community.

ANZAC Pride

In the true spirit of the ANZACs, we had a group of wonderful volunteers help pin thousands of poppies to the beautiful poppy mural on display at Perth Concert Hall for the ANZAC Commemorative Concert. This breathtaking entry piece beautifully complemented the displays featured across the Hall.

A special thanks to WASO Patrons Nerina and Arthur Coopes for allowing us to display the Arthur Wilfred Harold Gull (known to all as Pompey) medals at the ANZAC Commemorative Concert.



INSET: Patrons Nerina and Arthur Coopes with Pompey's medals.

2015 Patrons & Friends Events

So far this year we have had some wonderful events for our Patrons & Friends. By now you will have received our small foldable calendar of events for Patrons & Friends this year and we hope you enjoy it.

Here is what is on offer for the remainder of the year.



Ali, Andrew & Friends at The Ellington

Tues 8 & Wed 9 September, 5.30pm for 6pm, The Ellington Jazz Club

Back by popular demand, WASO's Principal Flute Andrew Nicholson and singer Ali Bodycoat bring their friends together for a musical sojourn from the world of contemporary to classic jazz at The Ellington Jazz Club – one of Perth's most exciting live music venues!

Embracing classical and jazz perspectives, Ali and Andrew will perform with a trio from the cream of Perth's musicians and will also be joined by one or two special guest WASO musicians.

Tickets are \$60 for cabaret-style table seating and \$40 for standing, and include a drink on arrival and tasty tapas bites from a shared platter. Of course you can order more food and drinks from the table-service waiters or at the well-stocked bar.

Chair of Principal Flute, Andrew Nicholson, is partnered by Apache



The 10K Quiz Night Fri 6 November

Keep this Friday night free!

Scrub up on your trivia and get your teams ready to join WASO musicians and staff for this musical quiz night.

Further details will be announced soon.

Tickets for these events can be purchased by calling the WASO Box Office on 9326 0000 and all proceeds support the Friends of WASO Scholarship, providing professional development opportunities for WASO musicians.



Patrons & Friends Christmas Party

**Thurs 10 December,
from 4.30pm, ABC Studios
30 Fielder St, East Perth**

Principal Conductor Asher Fisch will join WASO Patrons & Friends, staff and musicians to celebrate another wonderful year of music-making.

Hear Asher Fisch conduct an hour of rehearsal for the 2015 City of Perth Symphony in the City before mingling with WASO musicians over a light dinner and drinks.

Tickets are \$45 for Patrons & Friends (\$55 for guests).

Shaken Not Stirred



WASO Patrons with Kate Ceberano.

In April, we were delighted to invite some Patrons to watch our final rehearsal for *The Music of James Bond* with Kate Ceberano. We could only invite a handful so we literally pulled names out of a hat! After the rehearsal, our Patrons were introduced to Kate who was absolutely charming and spent a good fifteen minutes talking to Patrons about how much she enjoys working with WASO, the importance of philanthropic support to the arts and how much fun she was having with this sold out show!

It was a wonderful way to spend a morning, watching the rehearsal and the spectacular light and sound show unfold.



Double the Fun – We Made It!

Students enjoy *The Sound of Picture Books*.

Nearly 150 people donated to our Double the Fun Campaign generating \$30,000 which will be matched by the Australian Government through Creative Partnerships. We thank all of our donors for their generous contributions and for making our tour to Geraldton possible.

In 2014 WASO, The Literature Centre and Yamaha presented *The Sound of Picture Books*, a unique 50-minute workshop that brings story books to life through a journey of sound and imagery. Over 1,000 students from Perth attended the workshops last year, and this year we will take the *The Sound of Picture Books* to Geraldton.

The Sound of Picture Books, featuring *Tree*, is a unique and exciting way of experiencing this acclaimed Australian picture book. Published by Little Hare Books, *Tree* is a poignant story that explores the cycle of life, the turn of seasons, survival of the fittest and the delicacy of the natural world.

The combination of the minimalist text by Danny Parker, and dramatic illustrations and original music by Matt Ottley, provides a rich sensory experience. The children will hear Danny narrate his text accompanied by the illustrations projected on a large screen, with Matt's music performed by a WASO string quintet and a Yamaha pianist.

Following a short introduction to their instruments by each of the musicians, Matt will then explain how he created both the music and the oil painted illustrations for *Tree*. Finally, Danny will lead the children through a dramatic interpretation of *Tree*, once again accompanied by the music.

If you have a chance, visit our youtube channel www.youtube.com/WestAustSymOrchestra for a sneak peek at what *The Sound of Picture Books* tour will look like.



Can't attend a concert? Donate your ticket!

Demand for great seats at WASO performances is high. If you cannot attend a concert, please consider donating your ticket for resale. We will send you a tax deductible receipt and you will create an opportunity for another music lover to see the performance.

To donate your ticket, please contact the WASO Box Office on **9326 0000**. Tickets must be received by the WASO Box Office at least two business days prior to the performance. Please post your tickets to WASO, PO Box 3041, East Perth, 6892.

Note: Only applies to tickets sold by WASO. Transaction fees are not eligible for inclusion in the donation.

Rod McGrath and Brilliant Britten

PATRONS & FRIENDS EVENT, SUNDAY 12 APRIL



Having studied the English composer Benjamin Britten passionately for more than twenty years, WASO Principal Cello Rod McGrath (pictured) explored Britten's First Cello Suite with an audience of Patrons & Friends in the fitting surroundings

of the Perth Institute of Contemporary Art.

WASO Patron & Friends Committee President Robyn Glindemann welcomed everybody to the event, and to the venue, where she is also a Board member. In particular, she welcomed members of WASO's cello section, who had come along to enjoy the Britten.

The story goes that Britten was so enthralled when he first heard the famous Russian cellist Mstislav Rostropovich play that he wrote three cello suites and a cello sonata and dedicated each to Rostropovich, with whom he had become great friends. Britten's First Cello Suite was composed in 1964 and first performed by

Rostropovich at the Aldeburgh Arts Festival in England in 1965. It is significant that Britten, who was not a cellist, was able to write such challenging solo music which is at the very edge, yet playable.

The piece comprises nine movements and Rod asked us to imagine the story of two people going through different stages of their relationship, moods and settings. This was a wonderful way to follow the music as Rod explained each change of events as he went through the work.

After delightful story telling, Rod then played the entire piece uninterrupted – well, almost uninterrupted until the penultimate bar, when the G string on his cello snapped! It did not take away from what was a sensational performance.

The afternoon ended in usual WASO Patrons & Friends style with delicious wine and nibbles. A tour of PICA on the way out finished off a perfect afternoon.

A special thanks to Rod for giving us his time so generously.

Rod McGrath will feature in the Romantic Cello on 2, 3 and 4 July.



THE PERTH MINT AUSTRALIA
Philanthropy Partner

Pins for WASO Patrons

We are very lucky to have had these lovely pins designed and crafted specially for WASO Patrons by The Perth Mint. We have been presenting these pins to our Patrons as a small token of our thanks for a number of years. Many of our Patrons wear their pin to WASO concerts and other events, and some have even modified their pin to include a diamond, or to hang on a necklace. It is a great conversation starter and helps spread the word about supporting your Orchestra.

If you are a Patron but have not received your pin and would like one, please let Jane know so we can arrange to get one to you. You can contact Jane on **9326 0014** or clarej@waso.com.au.



Light for Riley

Our hearts went out to viola player Helen Tuckey and her family when we learned of the devastating loss of her grandchild, Riley Hughes from whooping cough on 27 March 2015. Since that time the family has launched and tirelessly worked to build awareness around their campaign, Light For Riley, to eradicate vaccine preventable diseases. Please visit the Light For Riley Facebook page to learn more.



24 MAY 2015

Pinnacle String Quartet



The Pinnacle String Quartet in the Pilbara.

An unavoidable change in venue proved to be a winner with the Pinnacle String Quartet's chamber music event being a wonderful success on the Terrace Level of Perth Concert Hall.

Before introducing the Pinnacle String Quartet members, the audience were reminded that these events raise funds for the Friends of WASO Scholarship and the two 2015 recipients were announced: Liam O'Malley, Associate Principal Trombone and Sharn McIver, Associate Principal Horn. Liam was unable to attend but Sharn was present and we were able to wish her well as she heads off to Los Angeles to attend the international Horn Symposium in August.

The Pinnacle String Quartet was formed by four full-time WASO musicians in 2009 and has performed numerous concerts in Perth and regional WA. In 2013 the Quartet undertook tours to the Pilbara and Geraldton regions performing school and community concerts as part of WASO's Community Engagement Program. They also performed in the 2014 WASO Chamber Series. As with many of our WASO musicians, the Pinnacle String Quartet members bring an international flavour!

Rebecca Glorie – *1st Violin*; born in Hong Kong, studied at WAAPA and the National Academy of Music in Melbourne before joining WASO in 2006. In 2010, Rebecca was awarded a Churchill Fellowship which enabled her to study at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester New York.

Cerys Tooby – *2nd Violin*; born in South Africa, attended Chetham's School of Music in Manchester and studied Maths at the University of Cambridge. She held positions in the Janáček Philharmonic Orchestra and

the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra before joining WASO in 1999.

Rachael Kirk – *Viola*; born in New Zealand and studied viola in Auckland, Adelaide and Koln, Germany, a member of the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra and the Arioso String Quartet before moving to Perth and joining WASO in 1993.

Fotis Skordas – *Cello*; born in Adelaide and moved to Perth to join WASO in 1988. He studied with Janis Laurs from the Australian String Quartet at the University of Adelaide and is also a member of *I Cellisti*, a cello quartet that has toured Japan on a number of occasions and performed at 'World Expo Japan' in 2005.

Rachael introduced the program giving an interesting 'cross-cultural' background before each piece of music. Firstly we heard Mozart's Divertimento in D, KV.136 in three movements followed by the first two movements of Dvořák's *American Quartet*.

We then heard Gershwin's *Summertime*, the *Pizzicato Polka* (composed in 1869 by Johan Strauss and his brother Joseph) and finally Michael McLean's *Tango*. The playing was superb and the audience was treated to *Drowsy Maggie* as an encore.

The players positioned themselves in front of the small stage to be closer to the audience and the acoustics were excellent. The quiet movement of the Dvořák came across so clearly you could hear a pin drop.

The musicians joined the audience for refreshments with the backdrop of the Swan River and the gardens of Government House. Could there be a better place to be on a Sunday afternoon?

A big thank you from WASO to the Patrons & Friends Committee for their assistance.

5 MAY 2015



Former Patrons & Friends Committee member Heather Rogers with new member Chris Rtshiladze.

Patrons & Friends General Meeting

Our Patrons & Friends General Meeting was held on Tuesday 5 May in Green Room of Perth Concert Hall. WASO Chief Executive, Craig Whitehead, delivered his review of 2014 and Patrons & Friends Committee President Robyn Glindemann outlined key events of 2014, provided an update on the Friends of WASO Scholarship and the Patrons & Friends Committee for 2015 was nominated and confirmed:

- Robyn Glindemann – President
- Barry Neubecker – Vice President
- Gina Humphries – Secretary
- Glenda Campbell-Evans
- Wolfgang Lehmkuhl
- Graham Mahony
- Margaret Marston
- Chris Rtshiladze – new member
- Christine Reitzenstein – WASO musician representative
- Alecia Benzie – WASO administration representative

Heather Rogers retired from the Committee this year and Robyn thanked Heather for her long-standing contribution as a Committee member. We will miss you Heather!

To read the reports of the General Meeting by Craig Whitehead and Robyn Glindemann, please go to waso.com.au and view the Patrons & Friends Events link under the Support tab.