

January 2009



Dear members of The Eltham Orchestras,

I hope everyone has had a nice break. It's probably time to get your instruments out of their cases and start playing some scales and exercises in readiness for some sight-reading at our first rehearsal !

This will be on **Wednesday 4 February** at Briar Hill Primary School, 6pm for Beginner strings, 7pm for Senior string ensemble and 8pm for the orchestra.

Please remember to bring a **music stand** every week to rehearsals.

If you are unable to attend or if you have decided not to return this year please advise Mary or Derek Wright on **9434 2147 or marielouisewright@bigpond.com**, or me as listed below.

Fees for 2009, payable to our Treasurer, Derek Wright, at the beginning of each school term, are:
\$ 40 per term or a discounted annual fee of \$ 150 if paid within the first 4 weeks of Term 1 (a saving of \$ 10) plus an additional \$ 10 per term (\$ 40 p.a.) for each additional dependent family member.

Membership fees are charged to cover the costs of running our organisation. These include rehearsal venue hire, conductor's honorarium, music hire and purchase, printing, concert production and public liability insurance.

Our main concerts for 2009, involving all players, have been booked at the **Eltham Community Centre for 2 May and 12 December**. The mid-year stage show with the Diamond Valley Singers will be Carousel. Information regarding other performances will be issued when details are confirmed.

Thanks to our hard-working website manager, Libby Shade, the newsletters and any other important information will be regularly updated on our website **www.elthamorchester.org.au** so remember to check it out.

Our group subscribes to radio station **3MBS** (103.5 FM Classically Melbourne) which provides publicity for our concerts and an avenue for other musicians wishing to play in an ensemble. This subscription (number **051302**) entitles our members to discounts which are listed on the 3MBS website. Derek will have the membership card at rehearsals, as well as a copy of the list of businesses offering discounts, so just ask him if you wish to borrow the card. Also, if you're a regular listener and you hear our membership number being called out for a prize, please ring the station on behalf of the Eltham Orchestras and then call Derek to make arrangements to collect the prize.

To make sure your name is on the correct email distribution lists and attendance records, please let me know if you are moving up from beginners to seniors or from seniors to orchestra and if you are still playing in your old group. Sometimes, specific information is sent out to a particular group so it is important that I know in which group/s you are playing throughout the year. In addition, please advise me if any of your contact details have changed since last year. If you are not returning to play with us but would like to continue receiving newsletters, I would be happy to keep you on the email list.

If you have received this notice on paper but actually have an email address, please let me know as it is much easier and cheaper to send out information via email.

Kind regards,

Rosa Antoniou,
Secretary,
The Eltham Orchestras Inc.

9435 7872, 0417 412 392, rosaantoniou@ozemail.com.au