

## **KENDALL NATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION (KNVC) UNDERGOES RENEWAL**

With three committee members of the KNVC, including long standing President Elaine van Kempen, electing to retire, the Committee elected two new members. Local music teacher and violinist, Annette Bryson will join the committee and lead a focus on engaging a younger audience participation with a view to exposing aspiring violinists on the Mid North Coast. Douglas Head, a long time supporter of the competition, was also elected to the Committee and will serve as the new President.

Artistic Director, Professor Goetz Richter, noted that this was a period of substantial change. "Not only do I welcome the new Committee members but we also have the acceptance of a new Patron for the KNVC in Donald Hazelwood OBE, AM. Don is one of Australia's most distinguished violinists and an artist of international renown. It is indeed an honour for us to welcome him as our new Patron and a recognition of the legacy of the retiring committee members."

New President, Dr Douglas Head, acknowledged the past success of the Committee and looks forward to an exciting future. "This is a major renewal opportunity and we will be very careful to retain the elements of this competition which have propelled it to its preeminent position in the role of preparing our best young violinists for their performing careers. At the same time I'm sure that the new committee will want to build on the solid foundations already established. We will seek to strengthen our engagement with the local community as well as extend our reputation in Sydney where the semi-finals are held. We are going to try to attract some younger members to our audience and develop closer links to the media. Forests NSW, our major financial sponsor, who has recently increased their commitment for the 2011 competition, will assist in this engagement to raise the competition profile. All in all an exciting challenge for the new team and the KNVC Competition.

**Further comment:** Douglas Head mobile 0408856022

November 2010