

PRESIDENT'S REVIEW OF 2011

2011 began with a substantially new Committee keen to maintain the legacy of the past twelve years of work and carry forward the growing reputation of the KNVC as Australia's showcase of emerging violin talents. I believe that this task has been successfully achieved.

Liisa Pallandi performed her regional tour in the first half of the year, playing her Caldersmith viola which she chose as her prize for being the 12th KNVC winner. Her performances received very favourable receptions at each venue, and Liisa has demonstrated that she was a very worthy recipient not only with regard to her playing, but also that she possesses the demeanour of so many of our past winners to be a superb ambassador for both the violin and the KNVC.

The 2011 competition held its semi-finals at Government House in August, and Cindy Chau, Victoria Wong, Anna da Silva Chen and Monique Lapins emerged as the finalists. It was a very strong semi-final and it is not surprising to see some of the unsuccessful semi-finalists are receiving significant recognition in other competitions.

The finalists, probably with the youngest average age as yet, assembled for the finals in Kendall in September. Anna da Silva Chen emerged as winner of the 13th KNVC and Victoria Wong was successful winning the Bach performance. Anna chose a Caldersmith violin as her prize.

The day was memorable with a record crowd, and indeed some people regrettably had to be turned away.

So 2011 was indeed a successful year and completed the transition to a new era as well as establishing regular use of past KNVC entrants on the judging panels when they have developed their careers.

Now to 2012. We start with the announcement of an additional prize over the next 3 years for the Sonata performance in the finals. This prize will recognise the death of Richard Pollett during 2011 in a tragic accident. Richard was a past KNVC finalist.

The regional tour by Anna da Silva Chen is in the final stages of planning at present so keep an eye out on this website. Anna has had continued success since winning the KNVC and has made it to the finals of the Yehudi Menuhin Competition to be held in Beijing later this year, another stunning result for Anna and our judging panel. Anna's tour will include Nambucca Heads on Saturday 17 March and Kendall Sunday 18 March 2012.

During 2011 the KNVC was also associated with some other great events. Keri Levy organised two very successful fund raising film nights. One on Hephzibah Menuhin's life and the other the Bob Connolly documentary "Mrs Carey' Concert", which resulted in visits to the area by both Bob Connolly and Karen Carey. In addition, with help from the Kendall Opportunity Shop we brought up 10 young performers from Live Music Sydney to perform for two local schools under the baton of our own Artistic Director, Goetz Richter, who did share his conducting role with the audience. These performances were very well received.

There are too many people to thank for producing all the events and successes of 2011, but thanks to a superb committee, our supporters and all who attend or follow our website. We do need more of you to turn up in Sydney for the semi-finals where you can see the winner and all the finalists on the one programme together with great support.

So may I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy and Safe (Jeanell!!!) New Year.

See you during 2012

Douglas Head

KNVC President