

Class acts of all ages

THE Riverina Summer School for Strings will be held at Charles Sturt University for eight days starting today.

The school – now in its 27th year – has developed a strong reputation for its friendly atmosphere, excellent tutoring and educational structure and brilliant professional concerts by the staff in the *Sounds of Summer* concert series.

It caters for players of violin, viola, cello, double bass and guitar and offers a range of string playing activities to cater for varying interests and abilities.

Students come from everywhere this year – in addition to strong numbers from the Riverina, other regional areas and the urban centres of Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne, there are students from Hobart, Roxby Downs and even a visiting family from Finland.

The School's Music Director Goetz Richter will be accompanied by a range of dedicated and talented tutors.

This year will see the return of many well-known regulars as well as some new faces in Alice Evans and Chris Stone (violin); Sandro Constantino (viola); Josephine Costantino and Christopher Pidcock (cello); Holly Downes (double bass) and Bradley Kunda (classical guitar).

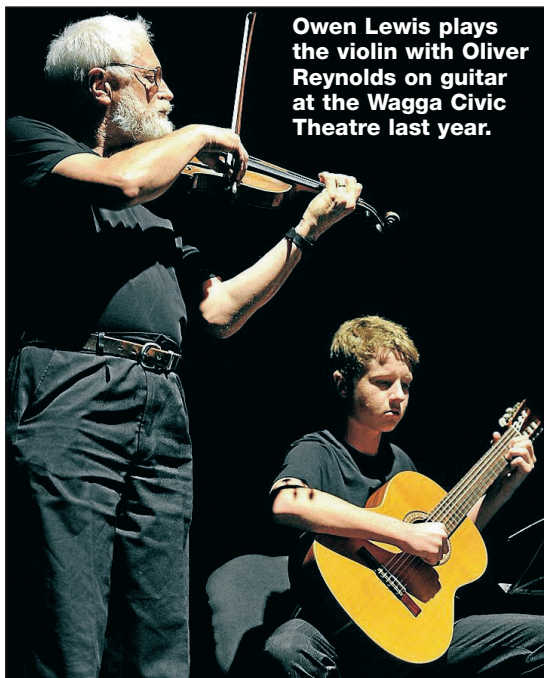
The *Sounds of Summer* Concert Series comprising five chamber music concerts presented by the tutors in the fine acoustic of CSU's Joyes Hall on Sunday and Monday and then Wednesday to Friday promises to be a highlight.

The programs will explore romantic composers from 19th Century Vienna.

Works by Johannes Brahms are in the foreground of the school's attention, with some of the composer's best known chamber works programmed for performance.

Also to be explored will be connections to Brahms with works by Dvorak, often referred to as the bohemian Brahms, the lesser known Viennese composer and teacher Robert Fuchs, who was championed by Brahms and taught the young Finnish composer Jean Sibelius for a brief time in 1890.

There is a reference to Brahms' life-long



Owen Lewis plays the violin with Oliver Reynolds on guitar at the Wagga Civic Theatre last year.

friendship with Clara Schumann in presenting her *Three Romances* and Johann Kaspar Mertz, the Austro-Hungarian composer-guitarist – who lived in Vienna for a substantial part of his life in the mid 19th Century – will also be represented through his works.

However, not all the music will be from the past: one entire concert will be in the style of the New Acoustic sound drawing on a mixture of Bluegrass, Celtic, Classical and Jazz influences and performed by the dynamic and superbly creative Chris Stone and Holly Downes from the String Contingent.

All this will be topped off with the Grand Finale Concert to be presented by all students and staff at the Wagga Civic Theatre at 2pm next Saturday, January 18.

■ For more details of *Sounds of Summer*, go to www.soundsofsummer.org.au, phone 0408 114 858 or e-mail admin@summerstrings.com.au



Joyes Hall CSU:

Sunday 12 January, 7.30 pm,
An introduction to the musicians which will include a variety of works including: *Andante Festivo* for String Orchestra (Sibelius), *Bardenklaenge* for solo guitar (Mertz), *Suite for Violin and Double Bass* (Gliere) and *Piano Quartet in G Minor Op 25* (Brahms).
Sponsored by Charles Sturt University.

Monday 13 January, 7.30 pm,
Serenade No 3 in E Minor Op 21 (Fuchs), *Divertissement Op 32* (Mertz), *Three Romances Op 22* Clara (Schumann) and *Sextet in B flat Op 18* (Brahms).

Wednesday 15 January, 7.30 pm
Nocturnes for Strings Op 40 (Dvorak), *Piano Quartet in C Minor Op 60* (Brahms) and *String Quintet in G Op 77* (Dvorak).

Thursday 16 January, 7.30 pm
A concert of New Acoustic music. Fiddler/violinist Chris Stone and double bassist Holly Downes of The String Contingent present a concert

of chamber music from the American New Acoustic scene drawing from Classical, Bluegrass, Celtic and Jazz.

Sponsored by Riverina Water County Council.

Friday 17 January, 7.30 pm
Liebeslieder Waltzer (Brahms), *Arpeggione Sonata* arranged for violin and guitar (Schubert) and *String Sextet in G Op 36* (Brahms).

Wagga Wagga Civic Theatre:

Saturday 18 January, 2pm
RSSS Grand Finale Concert by all Summer School participants and tutors showcasing solo, ensemble and orchestral works prepared during the week. Entrance by gold coin donation.

Admissions for Joyes Hall concerts:

- Adults: \$20, \$70 the series;
 - Concession: \$15, \$50 the series;
 - Family: \$50, \$170 the series
- Tickets on sale at Allison Music, 114 Baylis St, Wagga, 6921 2696 or available at the door.

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Riverina Summer School
for Strings



www.summerstrings.com.au

Sounds of Summer Concert Series 2014 12-17 January

Presented by some of the
best musicians in Australia

- Chamber Music nightly at 7:30pm
- Joyes Hall, Charles Sturt University Wagga Wagga
- Music Director - Goetz Richter
- Tickets available at the door or at Allison Music 114 Baylis St, 6921 2629
- Adults: \$20/concert or \$70/series
- Conc: \$15/concert or \$50/series
- Family: \$50/concert or \$170/series

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