**IMPORTANT NOTICE  
To All Our Entrants In The National Concerto Competition**

We are delighted to welcome you all of you who have entered the 2020/2021 contest, starting in December. After such a disappointing end to the previous event, when last March’s final had to be cancelled, it has been very pleasing to receive so many entries. Could I ask that you please confirm with your accompanist if you have not already done so. Our Christchurch accompanists already have high numbers to deal with. It is essential we know exactly how many require accompaniment from a local player.

37 applications have been received, a very high number for the contest. In order to process so many we are in the process of booking extra time at the venue (The Piano) to ensure that performers get their required rehearsal time on stage. This extra time would be provided for the Christchurch players, leaving the usual day and times for other entrants.

Unfortunately, because of the pressure of high application numbers we are unable to offer the one-week period for late entries this year. The NCC organisation simply cannot accommodate any more contestants. I apologise sincerely for this, but see no alternative to this situation. It would put undue pressure on players, adjudicators, administrators and accompanists. I hope you understand, and look forward to welcoming you in early December.

Sincerely,

Michael Lawrence   
Chair, National Concerto Competition