

DAD IN PROFILE

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**GEORGE
ELLIS**



Conductor George Ellis is best known for his orchestral work for children, including Babies Proms and Toddlers Proms with the Sydney Youth Orchestras. Ellis conducted the music for the film *Mao's Last Dancer* and is conducting the Australian Youth Choir concert on October 24 (www.niypaa.com.au). George is dad to Bronte 17, and Payton 13 and married to Michele.

- **My favourite parenting moment is...**
Every time with my two children laugh and relate with one another as best friends; also when my children joined me on stage this year to perform for a Sydney Festival performance at the Spiegeltent.
- **My most embarrassing parenting moment is...**
When I try to be funny in front of their friends.
- **The funniest thing I remember one of my kids saying is...**
My son once said, "Hey Dad, but mine are ovals!"
- **Raising boys is like...**
Being part of a sports team and you are the motivator.
- **Raising girls is like...**
Being an ambassador for the UN, resolving conflict and issues with the greatest of patience and carefully chosen words.

- **Music is good for kids because...**
It is an aesthetic that stimulates the heart and mind.
- **The thing I am most proud of as a parent is..**
when my children are able to do things independently, without help.
- **The thing I wish I'd done differently as a parent is...**
Spent more time with them when they were little. I would have probably had them later in life (I was in my late 20's) so my career was more established and my desire to spend time with them didn't compete with all the running around I was doing to get conducting work.
- **The thing I want most for my children is..**
To find something in life that they are passionate about and possibly doing it for a profession
- **The most difficult thing about being a parent is...**
When they are going through a difficulty that I can't help them with; and getting them up in the morning for school.
- **The thing I miss about my life before kids is...**
Nothing, I wouldn't change having children for the world. You can still go out when they're little; It is just more expensive!
- **My children would probably describe me in the following way...**
He follows his heart; he knows what he likes (and talks about it all the time).

Article from Sunday Telegraph by Eloise King

Most Valuable

VANESSA Panousis, 14 of Kingsford, was named most valuable player of the Sydney Comets under - 16 girls' premiership team, who were crowned state champions after another successful season for the club based at Alexandria.

Vanessa started playing basketball in 2003 aged eight and first played representative basketball for the Comets in 2004. The Comets team she was a member of, won the Sydney junior competition in 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009.

They have also won the State Championship in 2003-2007 and 2009. Vanessa has been in the winning Comets team in the pre-season competition held at Terrigal every year since starting to play in 2004.

This year as a member of the under-16 Comets women's team, they won the pre-season tournament, the Sydney junior competition and the State Championship.

Vanessa was named most valuable player in all the three games.

Vanessa and three other Comets girls were selected in the NSW Metro State Team which came fourth in the national basketball tournament held in Ulverstone, Tasmania.



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* Οι φόροι, στις 21/10/09 είναι \$640 κατά προσέγγιση.



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