



**BIRTHDAY GIRL:** Jeanie Moore, who celebrates her 80th this month

# Spotlight shines on composers

by **SU CARROLL**

Features Editor

**J**EANIE Moore is planning a very special birthday party. She is celebrating 15 years of organising concerts at Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery by commissioning four new works from local composers.

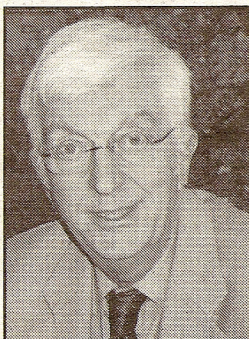
The Composers Concert on Thursday will premiere pieces by composers Philip R Buttall, Clive Jenkins, Marsha Head, and Terence Higgins. They will be performed by Douglas Clarkson on saxophone and clarinet, Jake Loewendahl on violin and Olivia Loewendahl on cello, along with the four pianist composers themselves.

The Lunchtime International Concert Series which Jeanie organises is one of the most prestigious in the UK and attracts artistes from all over the world.

The concerts are normally performed at the museum but it is closed for refurbishment and so the venue has been moved to Sherwell United Church, North Hill.

Philip R Buttall played his piano concerto, written at 16, in Plymouth Guildhall with the Combined Orchestras of the Royal Marines, before studying composition at the Royal College of Music.

His music is regularly performed worldwide. His Samba... alla Turca! was played by the City of Birmingham



**CLOCKWISE, FROM LEFT:** Philip R Buttall, Clive Jenkins, Terence Higgins and Marsha Head

Symphony Orchestra in its Family Christmas Concert 2006, and repeated this January by the Ulster Orchestra at Belfast's Waterfront Hall.

Marsha de Thornley Head studied at the Royal Academy of Music, London, during which time she won the JS Bach Interpretation Prize. She is particularly respected for her keyboard improvisation, especially in the Baroque style.

Terence Higgins grew up in Bangor, Northern Ireland, where he took piano lessons and music studies. Despite some early promise, he decided against music as a career, becoming a dentist.

He has, however, kept up his interest in music over the years and has been composing for the last 15, mostly for piano and small ensembles as well as for choir. He has lived in Plymouth since 1980.

Plymouth-born Clive Jenkins is no stranger to the lunchtime concerts, having performed in them many times. The museum has commissioned chamber music from him as well as a full-length cabaret about Plymouth which he wrote with the late TV producer John Bartlett.

The Composers Concert is on Thursday at 1pm. Tickets are available from Vibes Music Shop, 19 Cornwall Street, Plymouth, or on 01752 603563. Any unsold tickets will be available on the door.