

IMEB

International Music Examinations Board

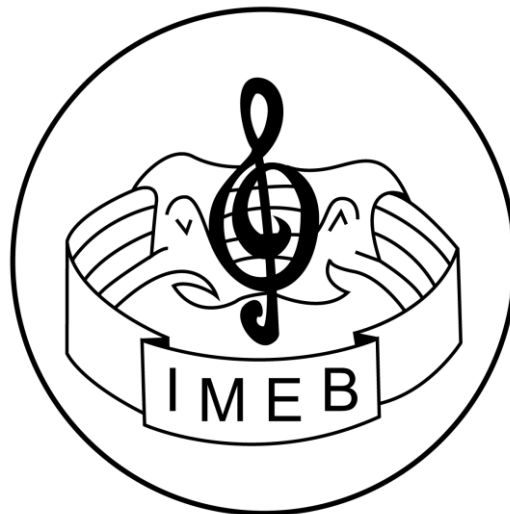
Patron: The Hon Bronwyn Bishop

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NEWSLETTER : February 2016

Greetings to all and we hope 2016 has started brightly and positively for you to match the current fine summer weather. Thank you for the continuing support and encouraging expansion of IMEB over the past 12 months. It has been heartening to welcome new teachers/studios some of whom have been introduced by established IMEB teachers, and others who discovered us on the website both locally in Australia and also Overseas. We warmly welcome you to IMEB and trust you will enjoy and derive benefit from your association with us. It is encouraging to note that only one studio has discontinued with IMEB over the nearly 20 years of operation ... due to sickness and subsequent retirement.

Overseas News: The number of studios in SE Asia continues to expand in each Series of Examinations conducted there and **Thomas Ling** in particular in Malaysia can rightly claim credit for this success with his vigorous promotion of IMEB. The happy relationship between all teachers and studios directly reflects his ability to liaise in a friendly and supportive manner. The result is that each exam session runs seamlessly within all the usual constraints of studio availability, conflicting dates, and domestic travel requirements for examiners between cities and studios where they are always greeted warmly and made to feel like friends on arrival.

This year we are delighted to announce that studios in **Egypt** and **India** are in negotiations with us to establish IMEB in those regions, as you will see from the website. **Mr Adham Molokhia** is actively promoting us in Cairo and Alexandria based from his *Tchaikovsky School of Music*. In India, **Mr Surendranath Mujamdar** runs the *AMEC School for Music Excellence* and the *YUVA Music festival*. He is also busy travelling throughout the North-East Indian provinces advocating the benefits of IMEB Syllabuses and exams. Both gentlemen are highly respected musicians and teachers in their countries.

MAIL Problems of 2015

The unfortunate problems we experienced with deliveries from Glebe Post Office last year now appear to be solved. However those teachers who still prefer to post mail to us at our specifically dedicated IMEB Post Box may continue to address their envelopes to

**Dr Darrell Hines or Dr Tim Smith,
IMEB,
PO Box 1363,
CRONULLA NSW 2230.**

Nursery Level Exam: To answer requests from a number of teachers, we introduced a Nursery Level exam in Speech and Drama for Pre-Schoolers in 2013 and this continues to expand in popularity with a large number of excited 'littlies' presenting their promising skills. Details are available on the web.

Fees: to answer some recent enquiries about examination fees: there was a **small** increase in 2013 but no change for 2016. The running costs continue to escalate. However, the hours of voluntary work by Tim and Darrell will ensure that the fees will still be lower than other exam systems. We are happy to contribute our time to IMEB (often clocking up about 30 hours each per week either here at the Office or at our homes) and we are rewarded by the outstanding success of the IMEB. Please be advised that there will most likely be a small increase in fees in 2017.

PRACTICAL EXAMS

PRACTICAL Exams for both Series 1 and 2 are by arrangement as usual with IMEB Office. Closing dates as per Entry form **Series 1: 1 May. Series 2: 1 October.**

PRACTICAL Exams: may be arranged with the IMEB by teachers. Once again may we ask you to avoid requesting specific dates. Please give us an indication of preferred weeks or time frame as early as possible. Most of you continue to do this superbly, and we will do our best to accommodate your wishes as usual.

Closing Dates: for all examinations must be strictly observed. There appears to be the perception that because we aim to be flexible and considerate to individual needs, we will accede to any requests and rules need not necessarily be complied with. Due to the huge increase in entries, we are unable to arrange alternative dates. Despite this notification being posted in recent Newsletters, there were still a number of entries which arrived at the Office in November with teachers expecting us to simply slot in their exam requests at a few days' notice. Please understand our position.

THEORY EXAMS

THEORY Exams From this year, 2016, there will be only **ONE** examination session arranged each year.

IMEB Theory Exams for Sydney candidates, in both Music and Speech and Drama, will be held on **Saturday 3 Sept** at 255 Broadway, Glebe and will commence at 9.30am. **Please arrive 15 mins before the starting time of 9.30am** and make your way to Floor 3 via the lift at 255 Broadway. Please do not arrive or try to enter the building before 9:15am This is highly important as the building is electronically keyed at stipulated times by the security personnel for the premises. Last year several students arrived too early and used the lift several times causing a meltdown at security HQ and rendering the lift to malfunction for a lengthy period. An IMEB staff member will be on hand in the foyer of the building at 9:15 to give students access to the building. It is **not** permitted for parents and friends to try and gain access to the exam premises due to insurance conditions.

PLEASE NOTE that all Theory exams will now be held on **Saturday mornings** to prevent the candidates taking time out from school or work and to fit in with the schedule of the High School whose facilities we use for Theory exams.

THEORY Exam 2016 **Saturday 3 September**
9.30am, at 255 Broadway, Glebe. Details as above.
Closing date: 1 August (as per Entry form)

NB: requests for both Theory and Practical exams to be taken outside the designated time/date cannot be considered for reasons stated in previous Newsletters.

COUNTRY EXAMS are to be arranged with the local area Supervisor as usual. Please advise IMEB asap of current country supervisor's name and address for mailing of Theory exam papers

No exams will be conducted in Australia after 30 Nov

ABSENCES FROM EXAMINATIONS

Where there is good reason for an absence from an examination (eg: Sickness or misadventure of some kind), on production of evidence of this fact, a candidate may be allowed to re-enter without payment of a 2nd fee in the next Series. If there is a personal reason (eg: death in the family etc) the same rule will apply. If a candidate simply does not present for examination without good reason, the fee is forfeited. **This advice replaces previous regulations about Exam absentees.**

PALMCARDS : At last! Everyone seems to have got the message about the correct use of palm-cards. Thank you for all your co-operation. Long may it continue.

In summary, palmcards should contain only the following information: headline notes, titles, names, dates, foreign words, quotations etc and are to be submitted to the examiner prior to the talk/speech. Palmcards which contain the text of the content will incur a zero mark for that component of the examination.

Grade 6 Music: Please note that Ear Tests requiring the naming of consecutive notes after the tonic is played will be confined to the key of C major.

Grade 2 Music; There is an error in the Sight Reading.. Instrumentalists are required to **play**, not sing or hum, the notes as per syllabus.

GRADUATION 2016

2016 GRADUATION CEREMONY is scheduled for **2pm on Saturday, 9 April** at a new venue due to major refurbishment of the Main Hall at 255 Broadway, Glebe.

Venue: Elevation Church, 4/13 Hoyle Avenue, Castle Hill
Entry via Victoria Avenue, Castle Hill. Advice notification has already been mailed out to teachers and studios with eligible candidates

PLEASE ENCOURAGE YOUR GRADUANDS TO ATTEND THIS IMPORTANT OCCASION. IF SOME OF THE GRADUANDS CAN GO TO THE TROUBLE AND EXPENSE OF FLYING IN FROM OVERSEAS THEN SURELY LOCALS CAN ATTEND



However, all are welcome to attend, of course. We are congratulated each year on the dignity and high quality of the presentations contributing to a very meaningful occasion

New Syllabus: 'ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE':

We had several more candidates entering in 2015 for this exciting new syllabus which contains a whole different approach to the study of Drama world-wide. Congratulations to those teachers who have taken the first step towards embracing this new syllabus and encouraging their students to enter these exams. They report that they enjoyed researching new areas of drama together with their students. The candidates were mainly Secondary School students who saw the value of this syllabus supporting their Drama studies at High School. IMEB teachers are encouraged to recommend this new syllabus to their students who may be enrolled in Drama Studies for HSC and will benefit from the parallel studies in All the World's a Stage.

This syllabus covers **World Theatre and Drama** and is a separate syllabus option from the other syllabi offered by IMEB (*Speech and Drama, Public Speaking, Theatre Performance for the Individual, Speech and Drama Performance*). This syllabus has been specifically designed following requests from some S and D teachers recently for a syllabus that focusses on **World Drama** and a **History of Theatre** in varied depth and breadth. It caters for Grade 1 – Associate Diploma level. This is an exciting and imaginative syllabus which should satisfy all students and teachers who have a passion for 'Theatre' in the broad context. It is suited to the more mature candidate eg High School age and older.

SIGNIFICANT COMMENT: It has been reported that other Boards appear to like this new syllabus and have incorporated several elements into their own syllabuses with a significant number of candidates showing interest. Let's try and promote this syllabus and rightly retain ownership of this unique offering by IMEB.

PLEASE NOTE: As previously advised, the Speech and Drama syllabus was adapted slightly in content and marking range in 2014. The new questions are of a general nature regarding History of Theatre and both teachers and students apparently enjoyed researching these topics. This revision of the syllabus, which resulted from a number of requests from S and D teachers in 2013, has proved to be very successful in the recent examination series. The new topics were well researched and enthusiastically presented in exams by the candidates.

Expansion: We are always open to referrals to new contacts in New Zealand and S.E. Asian countries as well as other Australian states. If any teachers can help us in these endeavours through their contacts and networks in these areas, we would be pleased to hear from you with your suggestions.

Reminder: To all music teachers that the graded works of composer Rosalind Carlson are highly recommended for use in IMEB examinations. They are graded in lists for instruments. For further information: 9653 1066 or 0407 370 313. Email orders to info@rosalindcarlson.com

Accents: Again, congratulations to the many students who in 2016 presented S and D characterization work with appropriate accents to add conviction to their performances eg Irish, British, American and even French. Examiners reported some very fine attention to detail which supported dynamic and expressive delivery.

Choice of material: in particular requiring candidates to present specific and familiar characters in definite situations. There were several instances in the last series where the examiners felt that the students were too young (eg aged about 13) to know how to present some mature-aged characters. It was felt that many students simply memorized and delivered a passage of dialogue with little or no expression or dynamic variety, or understanding of the content or context. This is meant as constructive criticism. Students need to try to immerse themselves, physically and emotionally, in the characters and their situation within the scene so that the verbal delivery is meaningful and not just a memorised recitation of dialogue lines. This is difficult if the candidate is too young to have been exposed to appropriate life experiences relevant to the character they are portraying. cf the photos and comment towards the end of this newsletter

PLEASE NOTE: that Examiner's decisions are final regarding reports and assessments of candidates in exams. No appeals will be considered except in the case of an obvious error, eg miscalculation in adding the marks, or a spelling error of the candidate's name etc.

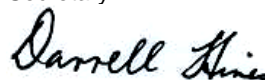
We wish to record our appreciation to the office staff, who take your messages and assist with the successful and smooth running of the IMEB, Thanks also to Louis Liu our IT expert.

Every good wish to all teachers and students for a happy and successful 2016

Professor K Lee
Chairman



Dr Darrell Hines
Secretary



Dr Tim Smith
Syllabus Consultant

**PLEASE READ AND KEEP
THIS NEWSLETTER SAFELY
FOR FUTURE REFERENCE**

Out and About with



Egypt Representative for IMEB

Mr Adham Molokhia

Adham established and runs the Tchaikovsky School of Music in Alexandria as a Unique Performing Arts School designed to offer a high quality and professional music education allowing individuals to master an instrument, study music theory and perform as a member of an ensemble or orchestra.

Adham gained his Grade 8 with Trinity College London and is currently preparing for his Licentiate in Classical Piano with IMEB.

In addition to his music, he has a prosperous career in law. Indeed beside his music Adham holds a Bachelor degree in Law, LL.B, from Cairo University. He also studied at the Chinese University in Hong Kong and gained his Masters degree in International Business Law from Paris 1 Pantheon Sorbonne University. He has also worked with several top-ranking law firms in Egypt, in particular the Law firm of the former Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister.



East and North East India IMEB Representative

Mr Surendranath Majumdar

Surendranath Majumdar is the first Piano Teacher from India to participate in the Franz Liszt International Piano Competition in Germany. He studied Music and Music Pedagogy in Wurzburg, Germany and also represented India at the famous Tagore Festival in Russia. The recipient of the 'Best Teacher' award from Trinity College London, it is his passionate vision to enhance India's culture by his dream of 'Music for all' and positive thinking.

Pianist, Educator, Visionary, Social Worker and Youth Icon, he is dynamic in his endeavours to serve his nation by tirelessly working to transform lives with music, by way of structured music programs, such as IMEB. He is the founder of the Academy for Music Excellence and the Yuva Music Festival in Kolkata, which is already starting to realise his firm vision of empowering his country by making music accessible for everyone. At his AMEC Academy his students are taught piano, keyboards, violin, guitar, drums, Indian and Western singing.

Out and About also with ...

Pamela Herring and Rex Everingham



Retirement for ex-School Principal Rex (83) means an opportunity to acquire new skills and knowledge. After only two years studying Classical Piano with Pamela Herring, he has already gained Grade 3 with Distinction. He is forging ahead with Grade 4. Hearty congratulations.



Even **examiners** need to remember that they are human after all and enjoy socializing. L-R: Dr Darrell Hines, Shirley Jackson, Merry Lloyd, Clare Wheatley, Jan Creer and Rachel Brennan.



Jessica May Grulovic recently received an International Women's Day award from Mackay Council in Queensland to celebrate her huge involvement in the community. Jessica has been instrumental in encouraging youngsters to benefit from enrolling in Performing Arts and IMEB courses as she firmly believes that experiences in Music, Drama and Dance have significant results in personal development, and self-confidence.

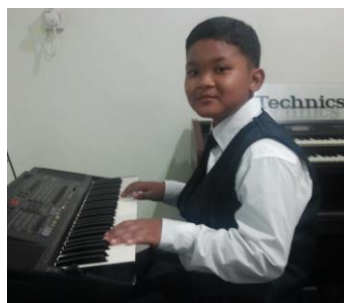
Jessica and her husband Petar run the very successful *Triple Threats Theatre Academy*, teach full-time and are highly talented performers and entertainers with local and state theatre companies. Jessica deservedly gained **High Distinction** for her outstanding Associate Diploma of Theatre Performance in 2015 in Song, Drama and Dance based on the theme of 'Women'.



No rest for the wicked! Even on holiday in UK last year **Dr Tim** took time out to promote IMEB downunder.



Cherie Runciman in Toowoomba Queensland is not only a highly respected performer, solo artist and musical director, but a much loved vocal teacher, whose students present very high quality performance singing exams with real joy, as seen in two of her students' facial expressions.



In Sarawak the IMEB candidates always present themselves smartly and regard their exams as very significant events in their lives.

Mrs Petra Hii teaches enthusiastic students a variety of instruments in Sarikei.



Quang Hong Luu studied at AICM and attained his PDip Perf in 2008 from IMEB in Classical Pianoforte. A highly talented pianist, he was born in 1990 in Hanoi, Vietnam into a musical family. In 2007 he received a full scholarship to study Classical Piano at AICM with Prof Lee

Quang has been the recipient of 1st prize awards at a number of Australian Competitions including Sydney Eisteddfod, the Kawaii Recital Competition, Chopin and 19th Century Piano awards and the Lev Vlassenko Piano Competition in Brisbane. He has appeared as soloist with various International Orchestras including Hanoi, Queensland, Vietnam, Florence, Sydney, Cleveland and San Marino. He recently completed his Master Degree in Performance at Montreal University. To enjoy a sample of Quang's performances go to **Youtube** and select either: *Mussorgsky* :Pictures at an Exhibition :Great gate of Kiev or *Chopin*: Polonaise Op 53 recorded in 2013, or *Tchaikovsky*: Piano Concerto Op 23, 1st movement.



Georgia Booth is a Year 12 student at Kinross Wolaroi School in Orange NSW where she has studied Speech and Drama with Kerryanne Callaghan for 7 years, gaining Honours and Distinctions at every level. She enjoys performing and usually achieves high awards in all eisteddfods/competitions in which she enters. Georgia hopes to go to University to study for a Bachelor of Business and

also hopes to become a tri-athlete. She will present samples of Drama at this year's IMEB Graduation.



Parham Raoof has been studying Speech and Drama with Kerryanne Callaghan at Kinross Wolaroi School in Orange for 10 years, achieving Honours and Distinctions. He is a Year 11 student and has won various Championships and sections in eisteddfods. Parham is a natural performer, blessed with a wonderful memory and aspires to be either a psychiatrist or a lawyer.

Parham will present Drama items at IMEB Graduation.



Dr Darrell and **Dr Tim** were recently the recipients of PhD awards and were presented with their doctorates by **Dr William Clarke**, the Australian representative of the English University which conferred their degrees.



Graduation Ceremonies are very significant occasions for graduates as it gives public recognition of the years of dedication and hard work by both students and teachers. IMEB are regularly congratulated for arranging stylish and meaningful ceremonies. Here a group of graduates pose with IMEB President Kyunghie Lee and Board members with Guest Speaker, Australian composer Rosalind Carlson (2nd left, front row.)



Justin Stephens and **Kathleen Morgan** have studied music for many years with Christinne Patton and have been assisting her with teaching at her Keiraville Music Academy in Wollongong in recent years. They have now commenced running the studio while Christinne establishes a studio at her new home in Pyrmont.

Justin is studying Bachelor of Advanced Mathematics and Diploma of Languages (French and German). He holds AIMEB in Piano and is preparing for his Licentiate.

Kathleen, studying Masters of Creative Music Therapy, holds AIMEB in Piano and is preparing for her Licentiate.



Christopher Fung gained his PDipIMEB in Singing after studying Voice with Dr Darrell Hines. Chris went on to Sydney University to study Bachelor of Arts in Performance and followed this up at Griffith University with a Bachelor of Music Theatre at Queensland Conservatorium of Music. He is currently enrolled in a Masters Degree in Music and Drama. Amidst all his studies Chris regularly appears on stage in various productions to increase his Theatre experience including understudying King of Siam in *Opera Australia* production of the *King and I* in Princes Theatre Melbourne in 2015.



Lady Wishfort (Congreve) + Mother Courage (Brecht) are two examples of strong characters in Western drama who are best portrayed by a more mature teenager or older. These characters are complex individuals and operate in 'loaded' scenarios requiring the actor/student to research and interpret intelligently and meaningfully. Younger candidates, lacking world experiences, would very likely have difficulty presenting them convincingly. Male examples unsuitable for young/mid-teenage candidates might include **Kenny and Sgt Simmonds** from Williamson's *The Removalists* and **Roo and Barney** from Ray Lawlor's *Summer of the Seventeenth Doll*.



"Ready Gentlemens, please?"



A charming example of a postcard from Edwardian days.

GALED-EAR-LAWKES END THEH THREAH BAHs

Warns ay pornay tame, thah woress ay lear-till ghel and hah nem woress Galed-ear-lawks. Worn dear, ears sheer ren lan thah wards, sheer kem ear-craws ay pree-teah caught-itch. Thah daw awv thah caught-itch woress air-pin end sheear dear-sayed-dead taw gay lan-sayed end hevvah lawk rind. Wart ay knot-ear ghel sheer woress!. Shen-tarred end spayed ay teable awl rid-ear sit faw Brie-ache-fawst weirth threah pleats awv poor-itch ay-porn eat.

Galed-ear-lawks set dine end stawtid taw ate fawm thah beer-ghist_pleat_awv poor-itch.

"These poor-itch ease taw hawt end taw lahm-pear," sheer sid taw hah-sylph. End Sue seeing, sheer set dine lan frahn-tawv theh meed-ill saisd pleat end caw-minced taw ate thet.

"These poor-itch ease taw kaled end saul-tear," she kraid. Galed-ear-lawks thin set dine beefah theh smol-est pleat, peakd ahp theh spawn end hed ay mythe-fall.

"These poor-itch ease jars treat," sheer eeks-clearmd hairpully, end sheer pruce-see-dead taw it eat awl ahp. Win sheer hed fear-nearshd, sheer woress vireh tayed end claimed theh stars lan awdah tev ay wrist.

Ahp stars sheer fained threah bids. Thah woress a lawj bid, a meed-ill saisd bid, end ay leetle bear-beer bid. Galed-ear-lawks lee dine awn thah beeg bid fast.

"These bid ease taw whored," sheer kraid, end trayed thah meed-ill saisd bid but eet woress taw sawft four hah end wint Ava taw the leetle bear-beer bed, wear sheer lee dine end smaied, fah sheer woress sah-praised.

"These bear-beer bid ease jars treat," sheer shited lied-leh end eno tame sheer fill faw-store slip.

Jarst thin, thah threah bahs, whore wear thah rill anus awv theh caught-itch, ree-tahned fawm in ahlay more-kneeing cawn-steet-yaw-shone-ill lan thah faw-wrist. Thee worry-gawsd et wort thee fained.

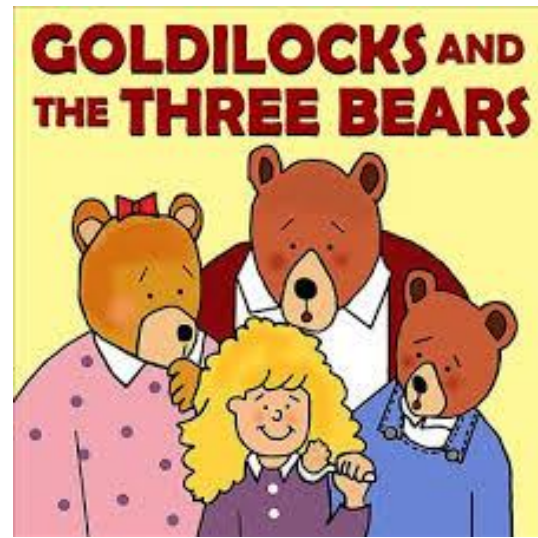
"Whors bin itting may poor-itch?" yield deadie bah. "Psalm-worns bin itting may poor-itch," sid mah-meah bah "Main taw," krayed leetle bear-beer bah, "end thev ittin eat awl ahp." End ay T. R. ren dine he's sed leetle fees.

"Will seer ay-bite these," sid deadie bah reecing farther stars. "Tharn-traw-door me steal beer lan ah hice. Calm awn!" he shited end ren ahp theh stars, fall-aid bay he's waif end jailed.

Thee med saachi dean thet Galed-ear-lawks hard thim end woe-carp. Sheer ren Ava taw theh wheen-day, jarmt ite end deshew awf lan-taw theh borches, whipping lidely. Galed-ear-lawks nivvah wint bek lan thah wards ay-gayn bart steed clues taw hah mah-meah end deadie, end leaved hair-pully ivvah awftah.

Thinned

..... This story of Goldilocks may well produce gales of laughter when read aloud But with practice and concentration a very convincing, albeit exaggerated, upper class British accent will result. It may be of some help to teachers/students to select one or two words or phrases at a time to work on when preparing characters who may be expected to speak in this fashion.



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"A painter paints pictures on a canvas, but musicians paint their pictures on silence." *Leopold Stokowski*

"Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything." *Plato*

"Music expresses that which cannot be said, and on which it is impossible to be silent." *Victor Hugo*

"Music expresses feeling and ideas without language it was below and before speech, and it is above and beyond all words." *Robert G. Ingersoll*

