

IMEB

International Music Examinations

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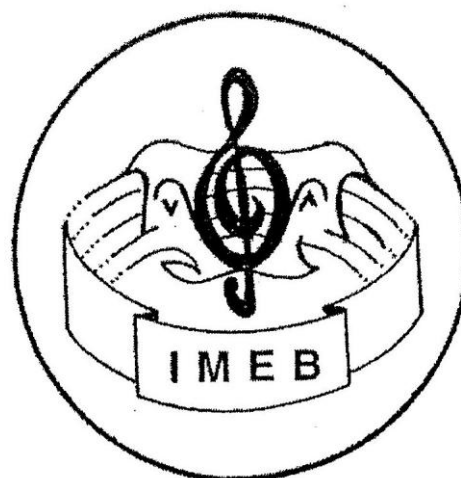
NEWSLETTER : January 2011

Greetings and Happy New Year to all: Our apologies for not producing and mailing out this Newsletter in time for Chpistmas 2010 as planned, but we were inundated with entries in Series 2 and found ourselves swamped with the overwhelming task of producing an unexpectedly large number of certificates required for the end of the year - another indication of the rapid expansion of IMEB. More than 2000 IMEB exams were conducted in Series 2

Tim and Darrell recently spent two weeks in **Malaysia** examining Music candidates and promoting the IMEB to a large number of teachers/studios, many of whom have shown interest in entering Music candidates for IMEB exams in 2011. As you can see there are no limits to the lengths we will go to promote IMEB overseas!



Our thanks go to **Mr Thomas Ling**, our IMEB representative in Malaysia for the superb organisation and overall success of the visit. It was a joy to work with such an efficient and delightfully personable individual.



Thank you to the teachers who continue to support IMEB with increasing numbers of entries. Thank you too for the generous hospitality extended to examiners during examination sessions. It is very much appreciated.

IMEB also warmly welcomes the **new teachers** who have joined us during the year :

Erica Booker (Lindfield), Soei Lan Chang (Burwood), Janet Wu (Chatswood), Benjamin Bradly, Josh Varda and Emily Ward (Musitopia: Cessnock), Michelle Blunt (Parkes), Kristen Barrass (Forbes), Eleanor Dawson, Mary Sila-Mato and Cathy Hainsworth (Carmel Scott Studios : Research, Vic), Mei Queen Chin (Kuching), and Wong Hon Eng (Sri Aman, Malaysia).

We also extend a warm welcome to **Mr Isral Bustami** in **Indonesia** who has agreed to act as IMEB agent in that country and who is currently organizing Music exams in Jakarta in November 2011. We look forward to working with the teachers in the Concilio Music Conservatorium, and establishing a successful relationship there.

We also welcome **Kathy Chan** as IMEB representative in **Hong Kong** who replaces Ms Fiona Ng following her recent marriage. Kathy is a graduate of AICM and completed her IMEB Music Performance Diploma when she was a student in Sydney, so she is very familiar with the way IMEB operates. Kathy is actively trying to introduce an IMEB presence in Hong Kong where other exam systems have long been firmly established.



The IMEB **website** continues to attract steady attention and flow of enquiries. We try to keep the **website** updated each time there is any significant news to announce, and trust teachers check up on **Latest** Announcements and Updates. These recently include:

- a) Reminding country/interstate teachers that a levy may be imposed by them to cover the costs of examiner travel, meals and accommodation.
- b) The updated 'Keyboard' syllabus is now available for download.
- c) The **Classical Piano Syllabus** early grades previously styled STANDARD 1, 2, 3 are now styled PRE-GRADE 1, 2, 3
- d) All IMEB exams, in **all** subjects, which have a time-limit of 10 or 15 minutes, should each be extended by 5 minutes when teachers plan exam timetables. This is to allow examiners sufficient time to settle the candidates into the exam session and to encourage them to feel comfortable rather than risk feeling stressed and rushed through these short early grade exams. Examiners also feel that the extra five minutes will assist in writing reports, checking name spellings with candidates, recording marks, and completing master sheet details etc within the allocated timeslot. **Additional work/items are NOT required to take up the extra time.**

In general the perennial difficulty of **mis-spelt names** has improved. However there have still been some problems and in one case the teacher pointed out that *'it was only one letter in the name that was wrong'* (eg **Ellinor** for **Elinor**.) Irrespective of how many letters are recorded incorrectly, a new certificate still has to be produced and redelivered. In another case the teacher had forgotten how to spell a name and assumed the IMEB office would have a record of the candidate's name from a previous year's exam list and we would look it up to see how it was spelt. We are not making this up! Again, we ask teachers to continue to be **vigilant and consistent** in recording the names on the Entry forms and **all** paper work relating to candidates and their exams. If in doubt, always check with the parents rather than hazard a reasonable guess at spellings. There are some extraordinary spelling variations these days as you know, and parents are usually the first to complain that a certificate has the incorrect spelling. Thank you again.

Music of Stage and Screen : This new Syllabus has been well received and some fine work was presented during the year. Congratulations to the teachers and candidates who have embraced it with enthusiasm. We feel it has a bright future and look forward to further presentations of items from **Opera, Operetta, Gilbert & Sullivan, Light Opera, Early Musicals, Broadway and West End Shows, Musical Comedy, Rock and Concept Musicals, Disney and Film Musicals etc**

Expansion: We are still pleased to receive enquiries from new contacts in New Zealand and S.E. Asian countries as well as other Australian states. If teachers can continue to help us in our expansion process through your contacts and networks in these areas, we would be delighted to hear from you.

The exam **fees schedule** remains the same for 2011 and is printed on the reverse of the **New Examination Entry Form** which is available for download from the website. Teachers who do not use a computer should continue to photocopy the New Examination Entry Form which was mailed last year and is attached with this Newsletter. **Please do NOT use the old/out-of-date Entry form.**

Included on the form are the **Closing Dates** for both Series which **will apply annually until further notice.**

Series 1 : Theory and Practical : **1 May** annually

Series 2 : Theory : **1 August** annually
Practical : **1 October** annually

Teachers, please try to observe these **Closing Dates** carefully. There is great difficulty in trying to schedule last-minute exam entries after the cut-off dates.

We feel this is preferable to changing the dates each year and series, based as they have been in the past on school terms and holidays etc. Teachers should copy this attached **Examination Entry Form** as often as required to submit candidates' names for exams.

No exams will be conducted after 30 Nov annually.

Series 1 Theory Exams : **9am, Friday, 20 May 2011**

The venue for Sydney candidates will be at AICM, 31-33 Allen Street, Harris Park. Country candidates will need to sit the Theory Exam at a suitable venue, with a supervisor, arranged by the teacher. Please advise IMEB as early as possible, supervisor's name and address for mailing of the exam papers.

Series 1 Practical Exams : may be arranged with the IMEB by teachers. Once again may we ask you to avoid requesting specific dates for the Practical Exams. Instead, please give us an indication of preferred weeks or time frame, as early as possible, and we will do our best to accommodate you as usual.

NB. Requests for both Theory and Practical exams to be taken outside the designated time/date can not be considered in future. The possible and very serious ramifications of Theory exam information/questions being widely disseminated can not be discounted, and the problems in arranging extra venues and supervisors makes these requests very difficult.

GRADUATION Date for 2011 : The Graduation will take place at **2pm on Saturday, 21 May 2011** in the Main Hall at the AICM Campus, at 114 Victoria Road, Rozelle. There will be more than **50 Graduating Diploma candidates** who will receive information about requirements for the ceremony in due course. **ADVANCE ADVICE:** We would draw your attention to advice printed in previous Newsletters about annual Graduation requirements and the responsibilities for graduates to acquire their own mortar board and gown. There seems to be a perception that IMEB will simply have everything 'on tap' for graduates at the venue. Further information will be mailed to graduates before the 21 May ceremony. With nearly 4 months' notice there should be plenty of time for Graduates to locate and organize the hire of their cap and gown.

Teachers please remind your graduating Diplomates not to leave these arrangements to the last minute, but start planning NOW with the booking, hiring or borrowing of caps and gowns.

Important Reminder:

1. Memorisation: Items which are set for 'memory' are expected to be memorised and **not 'bead'**.

2. Palmcards: There are still a number of studios who are still permitting candidates to **read palmcards** as if reading a passage of prose. Please try to encourage students to use palmcards properly. ie: as cues only, rather than writing and reading the whole item as, apart from **incorrect use**, the reading process detracts from an effective communication delivery. Believe it or not, but a number of candidates are still reading both **talks** and **speeches**. This is not acceptable. The opportunity to show skill in effective '**prose reading**' is provided in various sections through the Syllabus grades and levels.

Theatre Performance for the Individual: You will be interested to know that **several teachers are continuing to enter candidates for this innovative Syllabus**. They report how suitable, exciting and motivating it is for those students who are multitalented in S/D, Music, Movement, Visual Arts and who love all aspects of '*Theatre*'. It is good to hear that the teachers realize they do not have to be multi-talented themselves to teach this syllabus. The students virtually design their own workload to prepare for the exams and thoroughly enjoy the challenge and ownership of their program content.

We are sure that if you take a moment to analyse the Syllabus closely, you will find that it contains wonderfully sequential opportunities through Grades up to Diploma level for students who are developing in these related arts and who enjoy all aspects of performance studies.

Please consider implementing this enjoyable and varied syllabus in your studio for your talented students.

Music Theory Syllabus: Ms **Christinne Patton**, DipTeach, AMusA(P), AMusA(M), ATCL(T), LTCL(T), ATCL(CMT), AAGM(Th), DipPP, AGM, FTCL, MMTA(NSW). We are pleased to announce that Christinne has accepted our invitation to the appointment of **Director of Music Theory** and is currently preparing a new innovative IMEB Music Theory Syllabus. Christinne is a highly qualified musician with great knowledge and experience in Music Theory. This syllabus is almost completed and is expected to be posted on the IMEB website by Easter 2011. We are delighted to welcome Christinne to this important position.

Speech and Drama Association: Speech and Drama teachers are reminded that your Diploma students are recommended to join this Association where they are assured of a warm welcome. Contact Robyn Fraser on 9810 2449 for details.



Reminder: To all **music teachers** that the graded works of composer Rosalind Carlson are highly recommended for use in IMEB exams. Further information : 9653 1066 0417 307 313. Email orders to info@rosalindcarlson.com

In response to various requests, we are again attaching:

1. The current **Examination Entry Form** is attached to this Newsletter. Please copy it as many times as you require. **This new form must be used in future and replaces the 'old' form.** UPPER CASE LETTERS is recommended for candidates' names, as per the example. Cf. back page for current fees schedule.
2. Sample **solo dramatic character monologue**. There are still some candidates/teachers who admit to having difficulty condensing a page of dialogue to form a solo piece. Close analysis of the monologue on the right side of the page will reveal that the other character's utterances have been absorbed into it. Teachers will realize that punctuation marks, and pauses between statements in the monologue would allow the candidate/actor to show reaction and interaction, facially and physically, to the 'presence' of the other character. This excerpt is from the musical vaudeville '*Chicago*' (text Fred Ebb) and is the interchange between Roxie the murderess and Billy Flynn her lawyer, prior to her trial.
3. Appendix of selected **dramatists and plays** which contain monologues or passages suitable for arranging into solo performances. **This list is NOT prescriptive.**



Congratulations to **TRISHA NOBLE** who has secured the role of Anna in the new musical ***Dr Zhivago*** due to open shortly at the Lyric Theatre. Trisha is an IMEB teacher and has lectured in Music Theatre at AICM. She holds the IMEB Diploma in Theatre Arts. She says she is looking forward to working alongside Anthony Warlow. We wish Trisha an enjoyable and successful run with the production.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT **Associate Diploma in Studio Teaching AIMEB(ST)**

It has been brought to our attention that there are a number of experienced teachers, who for various reasons, have been unable to complete a Teaching Diploma and who now feel they are not sufficiently 'in practice' to perform their pieces at a high standard. IMEB is therefore offering an **Associate Diploma in Studio Teaching AIMEB(ST)** in all Music, Speech and Drama subjects. This exam will consist of a presentation of two (2) lessons (one Junior level up to Gr 4, and one Senior level from Gr 5 to Gr 8) accompanied by a written teaching lesson plan for each lesson. Aims/Objectives and detailed sequential content should be clearly stated. Maximum total time of the exam for the two lessons, is 40-45 minutes and the entry fee is \$175. Entries may be submitted at any time.

Out and About with ... Katherine Tuckerman (left) MBBAO, ODTs(Hons), JTC, AIMEB:SD(T) and Robyn Newton, (right) NDAA(TC), FBAL, ODTs(TC), UKAPTD(HB), Solo Danseuse Dip, SOBHD(AC), AIMEB:SD(T)

A few years ago two mothers collected their 5 year old daughters, dressed them in their best frocks, and took them along to their first dancing class. Placed side by side the two little girls exchanged shy smiles and thus began a friendship that was to continue through the years fostered by their mutual love of dancing and the performing arts.



Katherine completed her classical ballet training, tap dancing and highland dancing and attained her Teaching Certificates with Honours in these areas. Katherine also studied **Speech and Drama** at the Independent Theatre in North Sydney with Doris Fitton and **Singing** with Bryson Taylor. She subsequently appeared in various J C Williamson productions in Australia and in various productions in UK including Pantomime in Blackpool. Returning to Australia, Katherine has successfully run a number of Performing Arts Academies with many of her graduating students accepted into British and European Companies.



Robyn studied classical ballet as well as other forms of dance, winning accolades at Eisteddfods, and appearing in professional dance, music and drama stage productions and on TV which she says were all wonderful experiences, but teaching became her great love. She is also a highly esteemed international dance adjudicator and examiner. Robyn appeared regularly on the popular UK BBC1TV shows *White Heather Club* and *Moir Anderson Show*. She performed for the Royal Family at Deeside, was soloist at the *Sydney Folkloric Show* for the 1973 opening of Sydney Opera House as *Grand Australasian Highland Dance Champion of Champions*, and choreographed dance routines for the opening of Sydney 2000 Olympics.

In recent years, **Katherine and Robyn**, both now retired to the Central West of NSW, opened the *Drama Daze Acting Academy* in Mudgee teaching Speech, Drama and the Performing Arts. As 'Ladies in Retirement', they recently attained their IMEB Teaching Diplomas AIMEB:SD(T) with flying colours.



And Out and About with ... Elaine Coates PGCert:Vocal Pedagogy, DipMus:StudioConducting



Elaine is a prominent member of the Toowoomba arts community in Queensland and is in regular demand as a Guest Conductor for various Choirs and Music ensembles. She established the *Toowoomba Bel Canto Singing Academy* 14 years ago and achieves many prizes in various Queensland Festivals. The high standards of her individual students' work are reflected in their IMEB exam results. She is currently the President of the

Toowoomba Eisteddfod Committee and her varied musical tastes range from the Classics, to Music Theatre and Jazz.

Out and About too with ... Dennis Young ... BMus (AICM), GradDipEd (ACU), LIMEB, AMuSA, LMuSA, and a Teaching Certificate in Band Mastership



Dennis has taught Classroom Music programs and run a very successful private studio in the Campbelltown area for many years. He established School bands at Fairfield before moving to Crookwell where he taught with Paul Pavior. He has recently graduated with a BMus DipEd and has been appointed to the Music Dept at Wade High School in Griffith NSW where

he will also establish Bands and a School Orchestra. He is a strong supporter of the IMEB and we look forward to a new centre in Griffith. Dennis has musically gifted children who play a variety of instruments: piano, flute, trombone and clarinet.

FINALLY:

Special thanks to our Bursar, **Meeja Yoo**, and our Office staff for their on-going assistance in transferring your messages to us when we are absent from the IMEB office. We really appreciate their willingness to help ease the load of our schedule which can be hectic at times.



from our Chairman, Professor Kyunghee Lee, who joins with us in sending you best wishes for a successful, safe and satisfying 2011.

Professor K Lee
Chairman and President

Dr Darrell Hines
Director

Dr Tim Smith
Director