

75th  
Anniversary

# AMEB NEWS

NEWSLETTER TO TEACHERS FROM THE AUSTRALIAN  
MUSIC EXAMINATIONS BOARD IN TASMANIA

## Celebration and change

Most of you by now will have acquired a copy of the 1993 Manual, resplendent with its 75th Anniversary emblem on the front cover. I don't know how this emblem strikes you, but it reminds me of a Spanish galleon or some other kind of tall ship. There is certainly the feeling of something old and treasured about the design – as indeed there is about the AMEB itself.

It is perhaps appropriate to think about these kinds of things in an Anniversary year, for this is a time when we naturally want to take stock, see where we have come from and look at the changes that have taken place over the years. And they are considerable. We have moved from a system where the Federal Board seemed to be the only possible reference point, to one where the Federal Board has become simply the heart of a vital organism – where even a message from a little toe can make input into the decision-making process. I mustn't get carried away with my analogy, but I do want to underline the fact that every one of you 'out there' – just like members of the State Committee, the Specialist Panels and Examiners – has an opportunity to contribute ideas and suggestions to the working of the whole organisation. We have moved from autocratic to democratic decision-making. Of course, *how* we all use the new AMEB is up to us.

When introducing the inaugural AMEB concert in Hobart last year I said something to the effect that *love*

*of performance* is really what AMEB is all about. I know that statement is a simplification, but I believe we need to remind ourselves of the importance of performance in the overall scheme of things – otherwise there is a tendency to lose perspective and worry too much about examination 'results'.

### Now something really exciting...

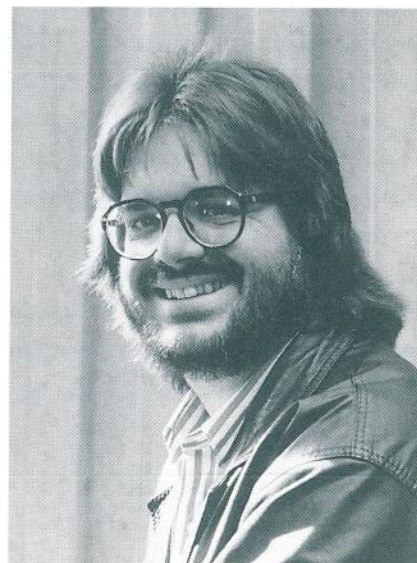
The University of Tasmania has just appointed Simone de Haan as Professor of Music at the Conservatorium. Simone comes to us from the Victorian College of the Arts and has a distinguished career in performance. He will be taking up his position in a week or so, at about the time when the Conservatorium itself – along with AMEB – is moving into new accommodation, the old ABC TV building in Sandy Bay Road. It is a time of great excitement for music in Tasmania.

As you know, I have been acting as Chairperson of Tasmanian AMEB since David Cubbin left us two years ago. The arrival of Simone de Haan as Professor brings a new and welcome force to AMEB in this state. Simone will now become Tasmanian Chairperson and I will be Deputy. I am very pleased to be able to introduce Simone to you. I can't think of a better Anniversary present to AMEB in Tasmania.

Best wishes and have a good 75th year!

Leon Stemler

## From the new state chairperson



Professor Simone de Haan, new state chairperson

I welcome this first opportunity to establish contact with all of you in the musical community of Tasmania. The philosophy I bring to my new position as Professor of Music at the University is one that places a strong emphasis on the establishment of effective communication between the composer, performer and audience, and of encouraging connections of this kind throughout the state.

All of us who are involved in music-making in the community have an essential role to play in a process of this kind, through our mutual interest in music as a vital activity available to everyone, irrespective of role or position. Through using the most of our capacities in whatever part of

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'From the new state chairperson' continued  
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the community we function, a more dynamic approach to music-making becomes possible. For this to continue to develop, however, it is essential to nurture more effective musical and personal relationships with each other in an ongoing way.

I believe that the AMEB fulfils an essential function in the development of music throughout Australia and deserves full recognition for its contribution to music teaching and general musical literacy. I remember completing A.Mus.A. in Trombone at the age of 14 or 15, and know that the disciplines involved in the preparation for that examination have served me well in later years. More recently, I have been a member of the Victorian State Committee of the AMEB and also given informal advice on the place of Australian contemporary music in the overall curriculum.

I am particularly glad to be coming to the AMEB in Tasmania at a time when the examination system has become more open and believe that there is scope for the AMEB to extend its already significant contribution to the development of music teaching and performance in the state.

The AMEB also has an important role in providing an essential connection between the Conservatorium and the wider community. I am certain that there are new ways for the AMEB in Tasmania to go, and will certainly be wanting to involve you all in a participatory process towards the further development of its role in music education.

I hope my involvement with AMEB in Tasmania will be as rewarding to you as I know it will be to me.

**Simone de Haan**



## New publications

The following new AMEB publications are currently available from leading music retailers –

- **Bassoon Technical Work Book**
- **Oboe and Saxophone Technical Work Book**
- **Aural Tests** – a new edition of this popular book provides sample tests for all practical grades.

Additional publications will be released in March this year –

- **Revised Viola Technique Book**
- **Pianoforte Series 12 Handbooks for Fifth and Sixth Grades**

Details of other AMEB publications are given on Page 6 of the 1993 Manual. Twelve months' notice will be given of withdrawal of publications.

**Pianoforte teachers should note particularly that Series 10 Grade books were withdrawn at the end of 1992.**

**Publications available from the AMEB State Office** Apart from the new Manual, the AMEB State Office holds supplies of examination papers and cassettes from previous years:

- Theory of Music and Musicianship Papers (pre-1993) – 60c each
- Musicianship Cassettes (pre-1993) – \$2.50 each

Copies of 1993 papers and cassettes will be available after the examinations at a cost of 90c and \$4.50, respectively.

## New home for AMEB

Between 1–8 March this year, the Conservatorium of Music will be moving from the Mt. Nelson Campus to the old ABC TV building (opposite St. David's Park) at 5–7 Sandy Bay Road, Hobart. The AMEB will be housed on Level 3 and we hope that this central location will make it easier for you to visit the State Office. Telephone and fax numbers and the postal address (GPO Box 252C, Hobart 7001) will remain the same.

Special festivities are being planned to celebrate the Conservatorium and AMEB's new home – more details later!

## AMEB showcase concert

At the end of last year we staged a concert at the Philip Smith Education Centre, Hobart, where the participants had all been candidates in recent AMEB examinations. Most performance areas of AMEB were reflected. It was an enjoyable occasion and its success has heartened us to think of repeating this kind of event. So, at the end of 1993, as a part of our 75th Anniversary Celebrations, look out for AMEB concerts in Hobart, Launceston and the North West.

## AMEB enquiries

For enquiries on any aspect of AMEB contact Marita Crothers, State Manager, GPO Box 252C Hobart 7001, Telephone (002) 23 2502.



## Conservatorium student wins AMEB trophy



Jun Yi Ma is pictured with his teacher, Dr Sedivka, receiving the perpetual trophy from the 1992 Tasmanian State Chairman of the AMEB, Mr Leon Stemler

To encourage young participants in the City of Hobart Eisteddfod, the AMEB has made available a special trophy for award to the best overall performer in the Instrumental Section.

The inaugural winner in the 1992 Eisteddfod was twenty year old Conservatorium of Music student, Jun Yi Ma. Jun Yi, whose ambition is to become a Concert Master in Australia, started studying violin at the Shanghai Conservatorium in China when

he was six years old. At the age of ten, he played in the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra and two years later visited the USA where he played at the White House for the President. He has since performed in Singapore, Hong Kong and Czechoslovakia.

The Artistic Director of the Australian Festival of Chamber Music, Theodore Kuchar, described Jun Yi as the most talented and accomplished violinist in his age group in Australia.

## Workshops 1993

It is planned to offer a series of Workshops throughout the State during April/May. Some of these Workshops will include demonstrations of syllabus pieces by the Examiner, and time will be reserved for discussions with Teachers. Application forms will be sent out next month for return to this office by **early April**.

## Additional items for the attention of teachers

*Set Works* The same set works for Theory of Music and Musicianship apply in 1993 as in 1992.

*Accompaniment* In practical examinations, works requiring accompaniment **may not be heard or assessed** without the provision of that accompaniment. An explanatory note is included in the Manual (see Page 11, Reg. 26) concerning the way in which results are **downgraded** when a candidate does not fulfil this requirement. Please note that accompaniment for Extra Lists is not obligatory.

*Trainee Examiners* From time to time, AMEB has a need for trainee Examiners to gain experience in practical examination procedures and, on these occasions, the trainee 'sits in' with an experienced Examiner. This is how it comes about that candidates sometimes find 'two Examiners' present in practical examinations at Grade level.

*Certificates* Certificates for the May and Mid-June/Mid-July examinations will be issued in mid-year; certificates for the remaining examinations will be issued at the end of the year. Any request for re-issue of a certificate should be accompanied by a **re-issue fee of \$5**.

*Higher Grade Examinations (Grades 6,7,8): Additional Requirements* See Page 9, Reg. 19. It is the teacher's/candidate's responsibility to advise the office when additional requirements have been completed, so that a

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# Syllabus information

## Brand new syllabuses

The 1993 Manual carries new syllabuses in: Trombone, Tuba, Singing.

In the new **Trombone** and **Tuba** syllabuses, examinations are available from First Grade through to Licentiate level. New and interesting repertoire can be found throughout the extensive lists that have been developed for these syllabuses.

**Singing** In this new syllabus no age limit applies and the syllabus now commences at Second Grade. The lists are categorised for High or Low voice for all grades except diplomas where specific voice categories apply.

## Availability of music

As far as is possible, the AMEB checks the availability of material listed in a new syllabus. However, due to circumstances beyond the AMEB's control, music may not be always available. To ensure that all your music is ready for examination, it is recommended that orders for material be placed in good time.

## Use of new and old syllabuses

When 'new' and 'old' syllabuses are available for use concurrently, candidates must decide which syllabus they wish to use and must present the chosen syllabus in its entirety. At this time, there are 'new' and 'old' syllabuses in the following subjects:

- **Harp** The 'new' syllabus is in the 1993 Manual. Candidates wishing to use the old syllabus should refer to the 1989 Manual. From 1994 only the new syllabus may be used.
- **Horn and Trumpet** The 'new' syllabus is in the 1993 Manual.

Candidates wishing to use the old syllabus should refer to the 1991 Manual.

- **Trombone, Tuba and Singing** The 'new' syllabuses are in the 1993 Manual. Candidates wishing to use the old syllabuses should refer to the 1992 Manual.
- **Viola** The 'new' syllabus is in the 1993 Manual. The old syllabus in the 1992 Manual will be withdrawn at the end of 1993.

During the first years of a new syllabus the AMEB evaluates the syllabus to ensure its suitability. Comments from teachers are welcome with regard to any adjustments or corrections that should be made before the new syllabus is finalised and the old syllabus withdrawn. Comments can be sent to the Music Consultant, AMEB Federal Office, 3/175 Flinders Lane, Melbourne 3000.

## New syllabuses which have been evaluated

Four new syllabuses have now been evaluated and appear in the 1993 Manual in their final form. These are: Accordion, Electronic Organ, Viola, Harp.

Changes have been made in these syllabuses in a variety of ways – corrections, adjustments and amendments – and teachers should check carefully the 1993 Manual for all syllabus details.

## Adjustments to technical work

In order to assist candidates in the preparation of Technical Work requirements, the Board is arranging progressively for all scales in Level 2 (Fifth to Eighth Grades) to be grouped in sets. The 1993 Manual includes

sets of scales in Recorder, Flute, Clarinet, Horn, Trumpet, Trombone and Tuba. Please note that, for examination purposes in these syllabuses, only **one** set of scales is required to be presented. While some syllabuses have had this option for some time, all new syllabuses now include sets of scales.

*Flute and Clarinet* Teachers should note particularly that the selection of a set of scales from the options given in the Manual is only a part of the Technical Work requirement. Candidates still need to prepare the other technical material stipulated in the Technical Workbooks – Chromatic, Whole Tone, Scales in Thirds (5th & 6th Grades), Sustained Notes and Sustained Scales in the keys specified in the respective workbook.

Technical Work publications for Viola, Bassoon, and Oboe and Saxophone include sets of scales.

For Oboe, Bassoon and Saxophone syllabuses, candidates may present technical work from the 1992 Manual or from the new Technical Work Books. In 1994 only the work from the Technical Work Books will be accepted.

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'Additional information' continued from page 3 certificate may be issued.

*Information from the Register* Any request for information from a previous year's Register should be accompanied by a **search fee of \$5 per candidate per result**. In the case of an examination completed in another State, please also forward full information regarding year of entry, centre of examination, and teacher's name and address at that time.