



## The sky's the limit for Roisin!

The 2005 winner of the AMEB Seventh Grade Piano Award (\$100), sponsored by the Tasmanian Music Teachers' Association, was 15 year old Roisin Mortimer of Launceston. A pupil of Lyndle Van Zetten, Roisin was the only pianist in the State to gain a High Distinction for this grade. In addition, she gained Honours for Theory of Music Fourth Grade. 2005 was also a successful school year for Roisin - she was named Riverside High School Grade 10 Dux, with high marks in French, English and Mathematics. And this high-flyer knows where she's heading: "I want to be a commercial airline pilot. I've already had a trial flying lesson". And when she's not flying, Roisin intends to keep up her music by playing in a piano bar.

## Message from the State & Federal Chairperson

I am delighted to tell you that I have recently been appointed Chairperson of the Federal Board of the AMEB. With over 100,000 candidates annually, the AMEB is the major examining body in music and drama in Australia. At the Federal level, I and my fellow Board members from the major mainland universities and education departments are responsible for the development of syllabuses, as well as the production of an extensive range of music publications. We aim to provide you and your students with affordable access to some of the best repertoire for study and examination purposes.

With this in mind, during February we will be releasing a new series of Violin Grade Books covering Preliminary Grade to Seventh Grade. A complete set of CD recordings and full-size Handbooks containing comprehensive notes and analyses will follow later in the year.

To complement our new Speech and Drama practical syllabuses, a brand new publication, *AMEB Speech Handbook*, will be released this year. It contains helpful hints for teachers on preparing students for the exams, as well as sample programs.

During the second half of 2006, a range of publications relating to our exciting new theoretical syllabus, *Music Craft*, will be released. These will include teacher guides and student workbooks to assist in the preparation for assessments in *Music Craft* in 2007.

At the local level, we will continue to offer AMEB candidates the opportunity to enhance their performance skills through



participation in our workshops, master classes and the annual AMEB Concert, to be held as part of the Conservatorium's Lunchtime Recital Series on Wednesday 18 October 2006.

I wish you all the best for the new performing year and thank you for your continued support of the AMEB.

### Douglas Knehans

State and Federal Chair, AMEB  
Professor of Music  
Conservatorium of Music  
University of Tasmania

## AMEB/TCE

AMEB qualifications (4th Grade practical/3rd Grade written or higher) are now recognised by the Tasmanian Qualifications Authority and can be recorded on the Tasmanian Certificate of Education (TCE).

## Piano Masterclass 2005

On 17 September last year, AMEB Federal Examiner, Dr David Lockett, Associate Dean and Head of Keyboard, Elder Conservatorium of Music at the University of Adelaide, presented a highly successful Masterclass in Hobart. "It's a long time since I've seen such little hands on the keyboard," commented Dr Lockett when 7 year old Ririka Tambara played for him. Ririka, a pupil of Eileen Johnson, made the most of the opportunity to gain some expert advice, and in her First Grade exam a week later was awarded a High Distinction!



## Graduation Ceremony



**Successful AMEB** diploma students may receive their awards at the University of Tasmania's Graduation Ceremonies held in Hobart and Launceston each year. Pictured wearing her AMusA Diploma stole is 17 year old pianist Jessica Priestly who participated in the Launceston Ceremony in August last year.

## New Awards for 2006

The following new awards will be introduced in 2006:

**Australian String Association (AUSTA)** - Trophy for best candidate in Violin Fifth Grade.

**Barratts Music** - \$100 for best candidate in Northern Tasmania.

**Fosters Music** - \$100 (gift voucher) for best candidate in North-West Tasmania.

**Geoff Long Music** - \$25 each for best candidates in Piano for Leisure Preliminary-Third Grade.

**MacFie Music** - \$25 each (gift voucher) for best candidates in Violin First-Third Grade.

**McCann's Music** - \$100 for best candidate in Southern Tasmania.

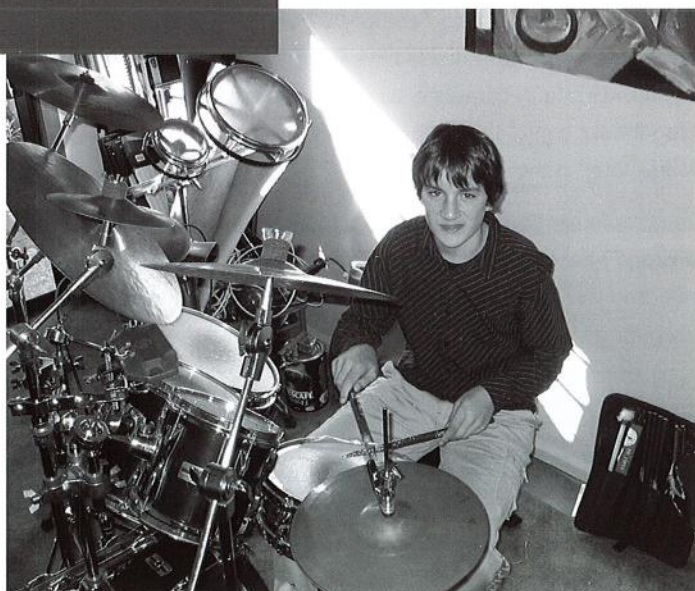
In addition, encouragement awards will be made to candidates in Levels 1, 2 and 3 who receive an A+, and those in Levels 2 and 3 may be invited to perform in the AMEB Concert.

## Esk Band Program

The Department of Education's Esk Band Program (under the direction of Peter Quigley) provides high quality band music instruction to students from a range of Northern Branch schools. In 2005, 30 members of the Senior Band (under the tutelage of Robert Allen) sat for AMEB exams in Brass and Woodwind. Preparing and sitting for the exams provided an added focus for the students, as well as feedback on their performance and formal recognition of their achievement.

## Aled's Many Hats!

For 14 year old **Aled Templeton**, a Grade 8 student at Kings Meadows High School, life revolves around music. In 2005, under the guidance of his teachers, Andrew Dennis and Katrina Chilcott, Aled completed CPM Drum Kit Advancing Steps 1 and 2, and Clarinet Fifth Grade, as well as Theory of Music Second Grade. And that's not all! Aled plays bass clarinet and trumpet in bands organized through the University of Tasmania Community Music Program, is principal clarinet in Launceston Youth and Community Orchestra, plays drum kit in his school's rock band, and plays percussion and kit in the Senior Band of the Department of Education's Northern Branch Esk Band Program - no wonder his mother found acting as his taxi service a tiring experience! In 2006 Aled will play clarinet in the University of Tasmania Wind Orchestra - their youngest member!

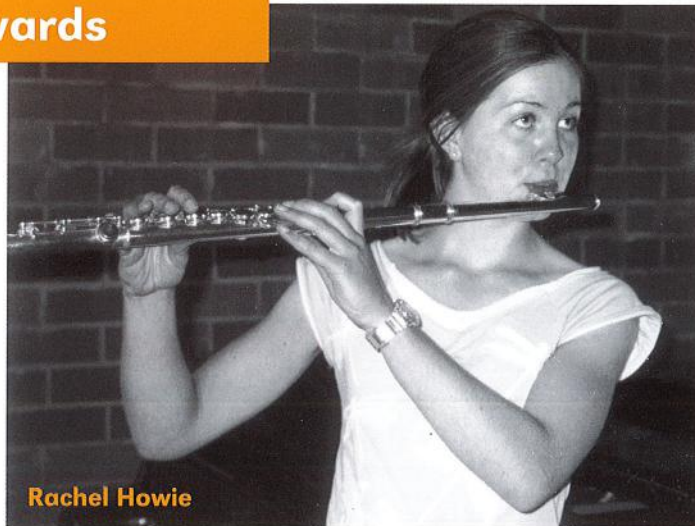


## Musicians' Union of Australia Awards

Michael Gautschi (left) and William Hewer (right)



Photo courtesy of The Mercury



Rachel Howie

**Winners** of the inaugural \$100 awards (sponsored by the PPCA Performer's Trust Foundation) for the best candidates in Strings, Brass and Woodwind were: 16 year old Rachel Howie (Flute - High Distinction Seventh Grade; 16 year old William Hewer (Cello - Distinction AMusA); 17 year old Michael Gautschi (Trumpet - Honours Seventh Grade).

## The Hobart Guitar Society Award

**The \$75 prize** for the best Classical Guitar exam performance in 2005 was awarded to 13 year old Rosa Bishop of South Launceston who gained Honours for Preliminary Grade.

## Drama & Performance

"An engaging and self-assured candidate" – this is how Examiner, Frank Bansel described 15 year old, Lauren Casey, who gained Honours for her Eighth Grade Drama & Performance exam. Lauren presented a "well linked conceptually mature program with skill, elegance and understanding". The presentation included a talk and discussion, a poem, a scene from a Shakespearean play and an original scene, as well as a selection of prose, verse and drama readings.

A Year 9 student at St Mary's College, Lauren has been sitting for AMEB drama exams since she was 12, under the guidance of teacher, Sarah Triffitt. Last year, Lauren also gained a Credit for Fourth Grade Speech & Performance Theory – another step towards achieving her long-term goal of becoming a drama teacher.



## Awards sponsored by TMTA

(Tasmanian Music Teachers' Association)

Winner of the \$100 AMEB Seventh Grade Pianoforte Award was Roisin Mortimer (pictured on front page), pupil of Lyndle Van Zetten of Launceston.

The Jennifer Filby Memorial Award for the best candidate in AMEB Fifth Grade Theory or Musicianship was shared between four students who each received \$50: Ya Szu Chang and Amy Lim, pupils of Eileen Johnson of Hobart; Claire Maynard, pupil of Rennie Herbert of Devonport; Simon Robb, pupil of Lynda Nicholls of Launceston.

# Syllabus Information

## General Knowledge Guidelines

General Knowledge Guidelines have been developed for all three levels of the practical music syllabuses. Full details have been published in the "Test Requirements for Candidates in Practical Examinations – General Knowledge Tests" on Pages xiv-xvi of the 2006 Manual. Please also consult the information contained in the individual syllabuses as some contain instrument-specific requirements.

## Regulation 19: Additional and Prerequisite Requirements

Teachers and candidates are reminded that for most practical syllabuses from Sixth Grade and above, it is necessary to complete a written examination before a certificate for the practical examination will be issued. For example, to receive a certificate for Sixth Grade practical, a candidate must pass Third Grade Theory or Musicianship. However, this "additional requirement" need not be completed before the practical examination is undertaken.

The Board has recently decided that qualifications earned through the alternative examining authorities, Trinity College London (TCL) and Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM), will be recognised and deemed to have met the necessary additional requirements. Please refer to Table A in Regulation 19 [c] on Page xviii of the 2006 Manual for details.

## Violin - Use of New and Old Syllabuses

During 2006, both the new and the old Violin syllabuses may be presented for examination. However, the *Violin Technical Work Book (1995)* may now be used with the old syllabus only. It may no longer be used with the new syllabus.

## Notice of Withdrawal

### Violin

Notice is hereby given that the old Violin Syllabus in the 2001 Manual will be withdrawn at the end of 2006. From 2007 this syllabus can no longer be presented for examination.

## Reviews

### Piano

The Piano syllabus review will be completed by April 2006. However, there is still an opportunity for you to participate in the review. Should you wish to do so, please visit the AMEB Federal Office website: [www.ameb.edu.au](http://www.ameb.edu.au) where you can register your details.

## Contemporary Popular Music (CPM)

A reminder that the Keyboard syllabus of CPM was reviewed in 2004. The revised syllabus contains reduced requirements and graduated examination times. It is available as a downloadable pdf at [www.ameb.edu.au](http://www.ameb.edu.au)

Publications for CPM Keyboard are still current and are to be used with the revised syllabus.

## Evaluation

### Certificate of Completion - Piano for Leisure

This recently added section of the Piano for Leisure syllabus will be under evaluation during 2006. If you are a user of this syllabus and would like to contribute to the evaluation, we would be pleased to hear from you. Check the AMEB Federal website for details: [www.ameb.edu.au](http://www.ameb.edu.au)

## Publication News

### New and Forthcoming Releases

#### Violin Series 8

To complement the Violin Syllabus in the 2006 Manual, a new series of grade books will be available in February this year. Series 8 (Preliminary to Grade 7) now offers even more choice of attractive repertoire to discover. Handbooks with CD Recordings, due for release by mid 2006, include fully accompanied recordings of the pieces and accompaniment-only tracks for practice. The full-size Handbooks provide a comprehensive source of information for all the works contained in the grade books.

#### Music Craft

A range of publications relating to our exciting new theoretical syllabus, Music Craft, will be released during the second half of 2006. These will include teacher guides and student workbooks to assist in the preparation for assessments in Music Craft in 2007.

#### Speech Handbook

To complement our new speech and drama practical syllabuses, a brand new publication, *AMEB Speech Handbook*, will be released this year. It contains helpful hints for teachers on preparing students for the exams, as well as sample programs.

### Syllabuses available as free downloads on the AMEB website ([www.ameb.edu.au](http://www.ameb.edu.au))

- Drum Kit, Vocal, Guitar and Bass in CPM Manual
- Revised CPM Keyboard
- Accordion
- Ensemble Performance
- Percussion

### Publications available from the AMEB State Office:

- 2006 Manual of Syllabuses (Music) - \$10.00 + postage
- 2005-2006 Manual of Syllabuses (Speech) - \$8.00 + postage
- AMEB Speech Handbook - \$10.00 + postage
- Induction Tests: Strings and Keyboard - No charge
- Theory of Music, Musicianship and Speech Papers  
\$2.00 + postage (minimum order for mailing - \$5.00)
- Musicianship Cassettes - Postage only

\*All prices quoted are GST inclusive

## AMEB Enquiries

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