



# AMEB NEWS

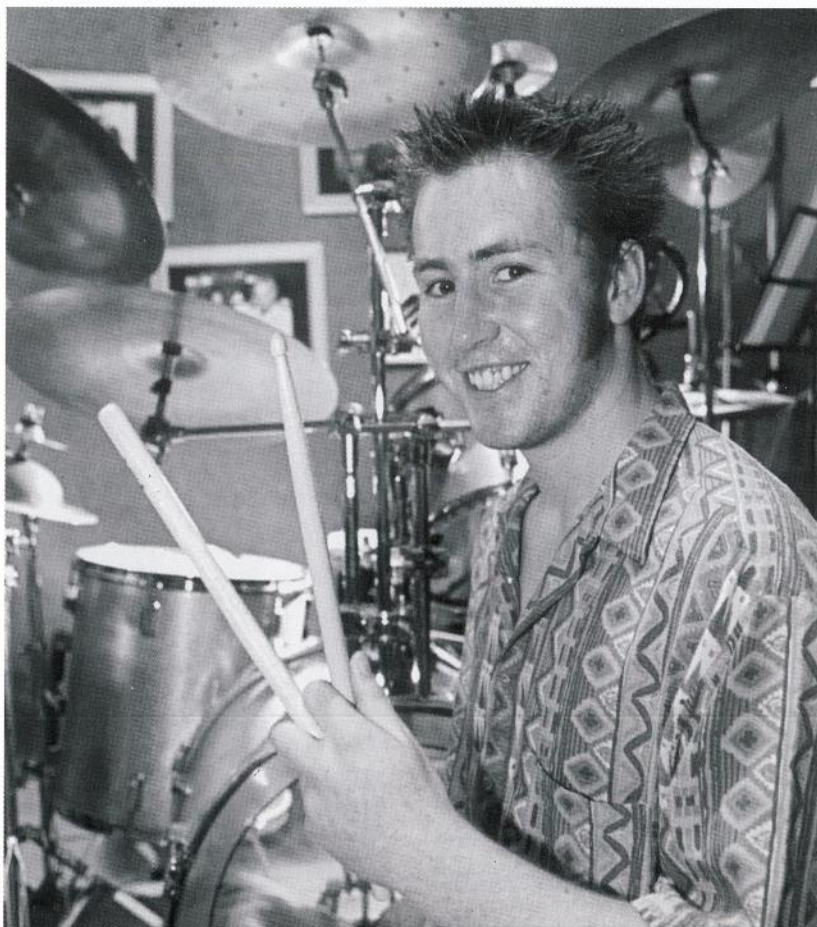
NEWSLETTER TO TEACHERS FROM THE AUSTRALIAN  
MUSIC EXAMINATIONS BOARD IN TASMANIA

## AMEB's Drum Debut

The first Tasmanian student to sit for AMEB's new Contemporary Popular Music (CPM) syllabus in Drum Kit was eighteen year old Gerry Young of Hobart. A student of Steve Marskell at the Bay Music Studios, Gerry has been learning drums for seven years.

For his assessment at Advancing Step 4 level, Gerry was required to play two set works and three free choice pieces in a variety of modern styles from Rock, Jazz, Latin, etc. Two of these pieces had to be performed with 'live' musicians, the remainder with the CPM backing recording. In addition, Gerry was tested on technical, aural and reading skills, as well as improvisation.

Gerry's own band, Gig Holes & Buildings, is a combination of 'groove' with modern rock influence and a touch of 'new sounds'. The band plays regularly at nightspots around Hobart and is shortly to release a CD. Gerry hopes to attend the Conservatorium of Music to gain a Bachelor of Music degree and become a drum teacher.



Above: Gerry Young (photo courtesy of *The Mercury*)

## Message from the State Chairperson

Welcome to another year of music with the AMEB. During 2000 the AMEB Office will be relocating to the ground floor of Heathfield House at 4 Heathfield Avenue which is situated behind the Conservatorium with car access off Davey Street or pedestrian access through the Conservatorium Carpark. The new location provides a larger office space for the AMEB, and parking is available in Heathfield Avenue.

To improve our service to you, we will be offering two additional exam sessions in Hobart for Piano candidates – on 16 April and 10 September this

year. In addition, the closing date for entries for the mid-year practical exam session has been moved to 7 April, i.e. 3 weeks later than previously. This will give teachers more time after the Christmas break to decide if a student is ready to sit for an examination.

2000 will see the inaugural Mini-Concerto Competition for Young Pianists hosted jointly by the AMEB and Tasmanian Youth Orchestra Council. The culmination of this project will be a concert for finalists on Saturday 22 July at the Conservatorium Recital Hall, 5 Sandy Bay Road, Hobart. This project

is a unique and exciting enterprise and I would encourage all young pianists and their teachers to participate. Details and registration form are included with this newsletter.

The Tasmanian Conservatorium will be hosting a Festival devoted to the celebration of JS Bach, April 8-15. There will be many exciting performances of music from one of the icons of Western Music both from local and visiting artists.

I look forward to seeing you at the Festival and hope you have a rewarding year of music making in 2000.

*Raffaele Marcellino*

## Tivendales' Triumph

When the Tivendale family of Devonport decided to sit for AMEB exams there were no half measures! Last year 15 year old Jessica gained Honours for Theory of Music Grade 1 and Singing Grade 3, a Credit for Speech & Drama Grade 3 and a pass for Pianoforte Grade 3; 12 year old Nathan gained Honours for Theory of Music Grade 1 and Trombone Grade 2, a Credit for Speech & Drama Grade 1 and a pass for Violin Grade 2; and 10 year old Hannah gained Credits for Violin Grade 1, Pianoforte Grade 1 and Speech & Drama Preliminary.



Above: Jessica, Hannah and Nathan Tivendale. (Photo courtesy of *The Advocate*)

## Graduation Ceremony

Successful AMEB diploma students may now receive their awards at the University of Tasmania's Graduation Ceremonies held in Hobart and Launceston each year.

Diplomates who participated in the Hobart Ceremony on 14 August last year are pictured (from left to right) Stephanie Ierino, Linda Leaman, Janelle Gough and Lindy Mackay.

At only 16 years of age, Stephanie

gained her Licentiate Diploma in Pianoforte, thereby becoming one of the youngest candidates in Australia to achieve this award. Linda and Lindy were the first Tasmanian candidates to gain their Associate Teaching Diplomas. Multi-talented Janelle was awarded her Associate Diploma in Pianoforte, and is now in the final year of her Bachelor of Music degree at the Tasmanian Conservatorium with Trumpet as her Principal Study.



## Award Winner

Each year the AMEB offers an Award (sponsored by the Tasmanian Music Teachers' Association) to the candidate who achieves the best result in Seventh Grade Pianoforte. Winner of the \$100 award for 1999 was 18 year old Hamish Graham of Devonport. A pupil of Ruth Parsons, Hamish gained a High Distinction for his practical exam and Honours for Fourth Grade Theory.

In 1998 Hamish spent a year as an exchange student in Slovakia, where he continued his piano studies and played violin in the Bratislava Youth Orchestra. Last year he completed his Year 12 at Don College gaining a TCE score of 98.6 points. Hamish plans to study medicine this year and to continue enjoying his music making.



Above: Hamish Graham

## GST

AMEB is claiming a Goods & Services Tax exemption for exam entry fees from the Australian Tax Office – the outcome of this claim is not yet known. However, the GST will apply after 30 June 2000 to sales of the Manual of Syllabuses, past written papers and all other AMEB publications.

## Scenes from 1999 Master Classes

The Australian Strings Association (AUSTA) joined forces with AMEB on 16 May to present a String Master Class with Barbara Jane Gilby, former Concertmaster of the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra and Examiner for the AMEB. Pictured receiving some tips on bowing techniques are Jonathon de Hoog (left picture) and Kate Young (right picture), pupils of Heather Thompson of Hobart.

Federal Examiner and State Chairman of AMEB in South Australia, Associate Professor David Lockett of the University of Adelaide presented a Master Class for piano students on 18 September. Pictured with Professor Lockett are Quan Payne (left picture), pupil of Steven Young of Hobart, and Amy House (right picture), pupil of Trish Seward of Smithton.

## High Achiever!

Megan Rimes (pictured, below right) sat for her first piano examination in 1992 at age 8. Last year at 14 years of age she gained her Associate Diploma.

And that was not her only achievement in 1999; at the City of Hobart Eisteddfod, Megan won the following prizes – Piano Recital 14 years & under (\$75 Award, plus Suzuki Music Teachers Best Performance from Memory \$50 Award); 17/18 Century Award; Australian Composer Award; 20th Century Work Award; Piano Duet 14 years & under Award; Lady Cross Trophy Junior (most outstanding performer 14 years & under); Tasmanian Music Teachers' Award \$50 (Best performer in the Eisteddfod, age taken into account).

A student at St. Michael's Collegiate, Megan learns piano from Eileen Johnson.

**Right: Megan Rimes**



## Workshops 2000

It is planned to hold workshops throughout the State on the new Piano syllabus, plus a number of events with AUSTA. More details later.

## Improved Service

Payment of exam entry fees and purchases from the AMEB State Office may now be made by credit card.

## Syllabus information

### Alterations to Syllabuses in the 2000 Music Manual:

**Piano** has been through a major review. This means that the structure and all repertoire and technical work has been reconsidered, and where necessary, new material has been chosen.

The syllabus from the 1999 Manual will be available for examination until the completion of evaluation of the new syllabus. The evaluation process usually takes three years and one year's notice will be given advising of the withdrawal of the old syllabus. Therefore until further notice, teachers may choose to work with either the old (1999) syllabus or the new (2000) syllabus. The syllabus chosen for examination must be presented in its entirety and a combination of the old and new syllabus is not accepted for examination.

**Piano Grade Books:** only Series 12 and 13 may be used with the syllabus from the 1999 Manual; however, Series 12, 13 and 14 may be used with the syllabus from the 2000 Manual.

**Oboe and Electronic Organ** have been through a minor review, which means that repertoire has been adjusted, but the structure of the syllabus remains as previously. The old syllabuses in these subjects from the 1999 Manual also will be available for use until the end of 2000.

**LTMusA** replaces the current TMusA syllabus, leading on from ATMusA. These are teaching diplomas and apply to senior candidates, usually teachers who are extending their qualifications. The TMusA syllabus will be available until 2005 for candidates needing to complete the relevant examination sections of this syllabus.

**Percussion** for Level 1 (First to Fourth grades) has been available for several years. Level 2 of the syllabus has been approved for use in 2000 and a new Manual containing all Percussion grades will be issued early in 2000.

**Trumpet and Trombone** Candidates using these syllabuses should note that there may be problems in obtaining publications required for the List D orchestral excerpts requirement for

Fifth grade and above. In cases where the publication is unavailable, candidates may present for examination a substitute work chosen from List A, B or C of the same grade.

**Own Choice, FMusA, ATMusA and LTMusA** In some cases, such as Own Choice, FMusA, ATMusA and LTMusA, the AMEB requires candidates to submit a copy of a work/s for approval prior to an examination, or for use by the examiner during the examination.

In these circumstances there is a process which can be used to enable candidates to provide authorised photocopies of the works required. Details of the process are outlined in the publication *A Practical Copyright Guide to the use of Print Music in Australia*. Copies of this publication and information on copying are available at no cost by calling AMCOS on (02) 9935 7900 or by visiting the AMCOS Web site – [www.apra.com.au](http://www.apra.com.au)

### Teacher comment invited

During the first years of use, new syllabuses undergo an evaluation process, to ensure that any problems are resolved before finalising the syllabus. The old syllabus runs concurrently during this time. At the end of the evaluation process, any necessary adjustments are made and one year's notice is given of the withdrawal of the old syllabus. Suggestions are welcome on the following new syllabuses which are still in evaluation – **Piano, LTMusA and Band**. A comment page can be found in the back of the 2000 Manual. Please return comments to: Reply Paid 1305, AMEB Federal Office, 5/175 Flinders Lane, Melbourne 3000.

## AMEB enquiries

For enquiries or additional copies of this Newsletter, contact Marita Crothers, State Manager, AMEB, GPO Box 252-63, Hobart 7001, Telephone: (03) 6226 7317, Facsimile: (03) 6226 7318, E-mail: [Marita.Crothers@utas.edu.au](mailto:Marita.Crothers@utas.edu.au) Visit our website at <http://www.ameb.nsw.edu.au>

## Publication News

**Piano Grade Books Series 14:** These books which are available from leading retailers, will be offered from Preliminary to Seventh grades inclusive and will apply to the new Piano syllabus for 2000.

**Piano Recordings Series 14 Grade Books:** The AMEB has released its first set of recordings to accompany a grade book series. These recordings are issued in a separate package – Preliminary to Fourth grades are currently available and Fifth to Seventh grades will be released in February/March 2000.

**Australian Collection, Fifth to Eighth Grades:** This book, intended for use with the new Piano syllabus, is scheduled for release in 2000. It will contain works for List D, including some works on the syllabus which at present are available only through the Australian Music Centre, plus works which are out of print or hitherto unpublished.

**Brass Grade Books:** The AMEB books for Brass, released in 1998, have now been given extended use in AMEB syllabuses. From 2000 these books will be listed in the orchestral Trombone, Tuba and Euphonium syllabuses, in addition to the Trumpet and Band syllabuses in which they are currently listed. Tuba candidates can obtain a bass clef Tuba part of the Brass books for use in the orchestral Tuba syllabus from Allan's Publishing, Telephone: (03) 8415 8000.

**Oboe Technical Work Book:** A new edition of this publication will be released in early 2000 to accompany the revised Oboe syllabus.

Details of other AMEB publications are printed on the back cover of the 2000 Manual.

### Publications available from the AMEB State Office

- 2000 Manual of Syllabuses (Music) \$8.50 (+ 85c GST\*) + postage
- 2000 Manual of Syllabuses (Speech) \$7.00 (+ 70c GST\*) + postage
- 2000 Percussion Manual (Price TBA)
- Theory of Music, Musicianship and Speech & Drama Papers. \$1.50 (+ 15c GST\*) + postage (minimum order for mailing – \$4.50)
- Musicianship Cassettes (includes copy of Aural paper). \$4.00 (+ 40c GST\*) + postage

\* GST applies after 30 June 2000.