



## Tops in Clarinet

**Laura Quigley** of Legana has good reason to smile so beautifully – she received a High Distinction and what could best be described as a “glowing” report for her Third Grade Clarinet exam. This was the first AMEB exam for the 12 year old Riverside Primary School student who has been learning the clarinet for four years. The positive feedback she received from Examiner and Lecturer in Clarinet at the Tasmanian Conservatorium of Music, Dr Heather Monkhouse, will no doubt encourage her to continue her music studies. Dr Monkhouse described Laura’s performance as very musical and professional. “The sound was beautiful and attention to phrasing, melody and mood very impressive” reported Dr Monkhouse. Laura’s clarinet teacher, Karlin Love of East Launceston, was also pleased with the exam result, as was



Photo courtesy of The Examiner

Dad, well-known Launceston music teacher and trumpeter, Peter Quigley. Although Laura devotes a good deal of time to her music – which includes playing jazz and pop as well as the classics – she still finds time to pursue her other main interests – swimming, soccer and drama.

## Message from the State Chairperson

**As Chairperson of the Syllabus Committee** responsible for reviewing our existing theoretical syllabuses and Executive Director of Syllabus Development (Music Craft), I am pleased to give you another progress report on the development of our exciting new syllabus, Music Craft. Written by Dr Rhoderick McNeil of Qld, Music Craft was field-tested last year, with 240 students and 40 teachers participating throughout Australia. The syllabus was reviewed and adjustments made in the light of these tests and it has now been approved by the Federal Board of the AMEB for introduction in 2006. A creative team of three writers who bring with them a wealth of experience and expertise, has been appointed to develop a series of publications to accompany the new syllabus: Professor Paul Mast of the USA (teacher guides), Margaret Brandman of NSW (student workbooks) and Dr Robert Keane of Qld (aural materials).

We are particularly gratified with how the writing stage of the new materials is progressing with excellent and discriminating judgements being made by this cohesive team. Prior to the release of the new syllabus, comprehensive information sessions and workshops will be held for teachers. In line with usual practice, the current Theory of Music and Musicianship syllabuses will run concurrently with the new syllabus for a period of time.

The first AMEB Concert in the Conservatorium of Music’s Lunchtime Concert Series was held on Wednesday 13 October last year. A near-capacity audience in the Conservatorium Recital Hall greeted with great enthusiasm nine young students who had gained Honours in Sixth Grade or above. Witnessing the excellent performances and confidence of these young

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## Message from the State Chairperson (continued)

players made me aware not only of their talent and dedication, but also of the effort made and encouragement given by their teachers in developing these skills and attitudes. I also felt proud of the contribution made by the AMEB in providing syllabuses,

goals and standards for our young musicians to strive towards.



We are planning a similar concert for October this year and I hope that you will start considering now if any of your students would be suitable to take part. Nomination forms will be mailed later in the year.

Best Wishes for the 2005 teaching year!

**Douglas Knehans**

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

## Whose turn to practise?

**It's a fight to get to the piano** in the Moore household, with Jennifer (Mum), Sarah (9 years) and Andrew (6 years) all wanting to practise for their exams. Jennifer started learning in June 2004 and sat for *Piano for Leisure* Grade 1 in October. Now with a credit to her name, she says she's well and truly hooked! Sarah, having already completed *Piano Grade 1* and therefore being much more experienced, sat for *Piano for Leisure* Grade 2, also gaining a credit. And how did Andrew come to be doing an exam? Well, when visiting the AMEB State Office with Mum, he said: "I want to do an exam too." So we gave his teacher the *Keyboard Induction Test* leaflet. Andrew sat for Level 2, receiving an outstanding report and a special participation certificate. The Moore's are pupils of Ally Forrest of Warrane.

## 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.

Two participants in the Hobart 2004 ceremony were twins, Tannie and Ita Tong, who gained their *Associate in Music Australia* (AMusA) Diploma in Piano in 2003. Tannie and Ita both achieved Honours in their first piano exam in 1997 when they were 8 years old. Completing their AMusA at only 14 years of age, places them amongst the youngest students to gain this prestigious award.

**Pictured wearing their AMusA Diploma stoles are (from left to right) Tannie and Ita Tong.**

## Rachel Cowell, BA (TAS), ASDA

**Rachel Cowell** commenced Speech & Drama exams in 1998, gaining Honours for Third Grade. Working her way through the higher grades, she then took a break while studying for her BA at the University of Tasmania. Last year, under the guidance of her teacher, Sarah Triffitt of Hobart, Rachel successfully completed her *Associate in Speech and Drama, Australia* (ASDA). This demanding diploma comprises a 1 hour practical exam and a 3 hour written exam. Rachel is currently attending the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA) in London, and she believes that having her ASDA contributed strongly to her gaining a place at this prestigious academy. In particular the theory components in her AMEB exams have proved relevant to *Voice Studies* classes in which she has an edge over other students who have not been trained in phonetics and theatre history. So far in her course, *Text and Performance Studies*, Rachel has performed as *Pompey* in "Measure for Measure", and directed and written a few commedia dell'arte based plays. Rachel is the only Australian among twenty students in the course.



## AMEB Enquiries

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## Piano for Leisure Workshops 2005

**Series 2 Piano for Leisure** Grade Books will be released this month. During the year, Workshops will be held throughout the State, presented by Examiner, Jody Heald, who will demonstrate and talk about the pieces from a teaching viewpoint. Dates to be advised.



Tully Brookes. Photo courtesy of The Mercury

## Awards sponsored by TMTA (Tas Music Teachers' Association)

The **\$100 AMEB Seventh Grade Pianoforte Award** was shared between: Jesse McVeity, aged 15, pupil of Lyn Loudon of Somerset; and Tully Brookes, aged 14, pupil of Shan Deng of Hobart. Both students gained High Distinctions and played their programmes from memory.

Jesse McVeity also won the **\$100 Jennifer Filby Memorial Award** for the best candidate in AMEB Fifth Grade Theory or Musicianship.

A young man of many talents, in addition to his piano playing, Jesse gained Honours for Sixth Grade Tuba. He is a member of

the Ulverstone Municipal Band and has received guidance and encouragement from bandmaster, Chris Lusted.

This year Jesse will continue his music studies at the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School.



Jesse McVeity. Photo courtesy of Stuart Wilson & The Advocate

## Guitar Award

**Two students** shared the **\$100 Hobart Guitar Society Award** for the best Classical Guitar exam performance in 2004: Tom Pollard, pupil of Don King, and Nicholas Young, pupil of David Malone, all of Hobart.

## Successful Year for NW Coast

**Three North-West students**, (from left) Elisha Harris (pupil of Ruth Parsons of Devonport) and Laura Dixon and Shantelle Rodman (pupils of Lyn Loudon of Somerset), were all awarded their *Associate in Music Australia* (AMusA) in Piano last year.

Gaining the AMusA Diploma, represented the culmination of ten years of practice for the three girls, who commenced learning piano from about 8 years of age and progressed through all the AMEB exam grades from Preliminary to Eighth Grade.

So what next? Well, Laura (18) hopes to complete her Psychology studies, Elisha (18) has been accepted into Medicine in Hobart and Shantelle (17) will be studying at the Conservatorium of Music.

Photo courtesy of Tony Cross & The Advocate





# Syllabus Information

## Violin *Use of New and Old Syllabuses*

During 2005, both the new and the old Violin syllabuses may be presented for examination.

### Violin Grade Books:

Series 7 may be used for the new syllabus only. Series 6 may be used for both the old and new syllabuses. Series 5 may be used for the old syllabus only.

### Special Notice: *Violin Technical Work for users of the new syllabus only*

Until the end of 2005, candidates presenting for examination using the new syllabus will continue to have the option of presenting the Technical Work from either the new or the old syllabus. Candidates presenting Technical Work from the new syllabus should refer to the relevant section and grade in the 2005 Manual of Syllabuses. The AMEB publications *Violin Technical Work Book Level 1* (Allans 2001) and *Violin Technical Work Book, Level 2* (Allans 2001) should be used. *The Violin Technical Work Book* (1995) is for use with the old syllabus and, **until the end of 2005**, it may also be used with the new syllabus.

### New Speech Syllabuses

#### *Drama and Performance*

In 2005, the AMEB is offering a new practical syllabus entitled Drama and Performance. This syllabus has been developed as a result of the review of the Speech and Drama (Practical) syllabus undertaken in 2004. The syllabus now offers a greater and more diversified choice of material with the opportunity to combine a number of performance skills in a single examination.

Candidates may choose to present for examination using **either** the Drama and Performance syllabus in the *2005-2006 Speech Manual* **or** the Speech and Drama (Practical) syllabus published in the *2003-2004 Speech Manual*.

#### *Voice and Communication*

In 2005 the AMEB is offering a new syllabus called Voice and Communication. The syllabus has been developed as a result of the review of the Speech in Action syllabus undertaken in 2004. The syllabus is designed to foster an individual's confidence and skill in communication in both everyday life and the professional sector. Candidates may choose to present for examination using **either** the Voice and Communication syllabus *2005-2006 Speech Manual* **or** the Speech in Action syllabus published in the *2003-2004 Speech Manual*.

### Speech Evaluations

During the first years of use, the new practical syllabuses of *Voice and Communication* and *Drama and Performance* are under evaluation, prior to the withdrawal of the old syllabuses—*Speech in Action* and *Speech and Drama (Practical)* respectively. At the completion of evaluation, any necessary adjustments will be made to the new syllabus and one year's notice will be given advising of the withdrawal of the old syllabus. All users of the syllabus are invited to contribute their views by sending their comments and suggestions to:

The Project Manager, AMEB Federal Office, 5th Floor, 175 Flinders Lane, Melbourne Vic 3000, or email [projectmanager@ameb.net](mailto:projectmanager@ameb.net)

### Reviews

#### *Piano*

In the latter half of 2005 the Piano Syllabus review will commence. During the review, there will be two nationwide consultations seeking stakeholders' feedback. If you wish to register your involvement in this exciting project, please send your name, address, telephone number and email to:

The Project Manager [projectmanager@ameb.net](mailto:projectmanager@ameb.net)  
Level 5, 175 Flinders Lane, Melbourne 3000

Please check our website [www.ameb.edu.au](http://www.ameb.edu.au) where regular updates, consultation material, and questionnaires will be posted.

## Contemporary Popular Music (CPM)

The Keyboard syllabus of CPM has been reviewed. Please note that the Keyboard syllabus appearing on the AMEB Federal Website [www.ameb.edu.au](http://www.ameb.edu.au) now replaces the previous Keyboard syllabus and is available as a downloadable pdf. The revised syllabus contains reduced requirements and graduated examination times. Publications for CPM Keyboard are still current and are to be used with the revised syllabus.

# Publication News

### New Releases

#### *Piano for Leisure*

In order to keep the repertoire of this syllabus contemporary and relevant the AMEB is proud to announce the release, in February 2005, of Piano for Leisure Series 2 – Preliminary to Eighth Grade. It is also planned to release accompanying Handbooks and CD recordings in mid 2005.

#### *Orchestral Brass*

Orchestral Brass Series 1 Grade Books Grade 1 to 4 have been released for the following instruments: **Trumpet, Trombone, Tuba, Euphonium and Horn.**

Other recent releases are:

- Orchestral Excerpts Grades 5 to 8 for use with orchestral instrument syllabuses only.
- Brass Sight Reading for use with all orchestral brass syllabuses and Band.
- A Technical Work Book designed for users of the Trombone, Tuba, Euphonium and Bass Trombone syllabuses. Band syllabus users who read bass clef can also use it.

**Please Note:** *To accompany the release of the Trombone, Tuba and Euphonium Technical Work Book, the existing Trumpet and Horn Technical Work Book has been given a cover matching that of the new series. However, the contents remain the same.*

### Withdrawal from Examination

#### *Piano Series 13*

From 2005, works listed in the 2004 Manual of Syllabuses from Series 13 Grade Books have been withdrawn from examination. However, they can still be presented as an Extra List (as can pieces drawn from Series 12 Grade Books). In order to augment the examinable pieces for Eighth Grade, relevant works from Series 11, Series 12 and Series 13 have been included in List B Manual List repertoire as indicated in the 2005 Manual of Syllabuses.

### Syllabuses available as free downloads on the AMEB website

Drum Kit, Vocal, Keyboard, Guitar and Bass in CPM Manual; Accordion; Ensemble Performance; Percussion. [www.ameb.edu.au](http://www.ameb.edu.au)

### Publications available from the AMEB State Office:

- 2005 Manual of Syllabuses (Music) - \$10.00 + postage
- 2005-2006 Manual of Syllabuses (Speech) - \$8.00 + 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
- Notation Handbook – An Essential Guide to Music Notation Practice - \$8.00 + postage

\*All prices quoted are GST inclusive