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Welcome to the final issue of *Focus on Members* for 2011. What a busy year it has been, and I am sure everyone will be in need of a good break by holiday time. 2012 is a landmark year to look forward to, starting with the excitement of the January International Summer School in Wellington and the launch of the new Grades 1–3 work in London and Australia, and ending with the Genée International Ballet Competition in Wellington in December. So much to do, and so much to look forward to! Merry Christmas to you all.

*Janet Taylor*

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## New Grades 1–3 syllabi



Photo: Graham Read

The new Grades 1–3 syllabi will be launched in London on 3 January and in Sydney on 16 January 2012. Building on the foundations laid by Pre-Primary in Dance and Primary in Dance, Grades 1–3 celebrates the traditions of ballet and acknowledges its exciting new directions.

Dame Monica Mason, Director of the Royal Ballet, will be keynote speaker at the London launch while RAD Vice President David McAllister will be keynote speaker in Australia.

Steven McRae, Principal at the Royal Ballet, will deliver a coaching session in London with dancer Lachlan Monaghan who was bronze medallist at Genée 2010, while RAD Vice President Darcey Bussell CBE will deliver the coaching session in Australia. Visit [www.rad.org.uk](http://www.rad.org.uk) and [www.rad.org.au](http://www.rad.org.au) respectively for further information or to download applications for each launch. Contact the RAD NZ office for a product order form if you would like to purchase the new syllabi products.

## New Advanced Foundation Male & Female and Advanced 1 & 2 Female syllabi

These exciting new syllabi will be available in September 2013.

## Changes to Examination Sessions in 2012

From January 2012 teachers whose own studios (Approved Examination Centres) meet the minimum size requirements have the option of holding Intermediate Foundation and Intermediate examinations in their own studios alongside their Graded examinations.

The sessions will be named as follows:

- *Approved Examination Centre (AEC) Sessions:* Previously referred to as Graded Examination sessions, these are examinations that take place in a teacher's own studio (AEC). All Graded levels of Examinations as well as Intermediate Foundation and Intermediate Examinations can take place in an AEC session.
- *RAD Approved Venue (RAV) Sessions:* Previously referred to as Vocational Graded Examination sessions, these are examinations that take place at an RAD Approved Venue. All Vocational Graded levels can be included in these sessions.

## Jobseekers & Employers

There are teaching vacancies and schools for sale around the world, and every month RAD members find their dream job via JSI. For further information or to advertise or subscribe in this monthly online publication, email [membership@rad.org.nz](mailto:membership@rad.org.nz).

## Nominations for New President – by 29 February 2012

RAD Full members and Teaching members may nominate and vote for a new President for the RAD at the next AGM. To nominate a candidate to stand for election as the new President please write to the Chief Executive. Nominations must be received 56 days before the AGM which is on 26 April 2012 and must be accompanied by the signatures of at least 20 Full members who support the nomination.

## 2011 Genée International Ballet Competition

Cape Town 6-9 October 2011



### 2011 Genée Medallists

*Jin Hao Zhang (China) – silver;  
 Mana Ogawa (Japan) – silver;  
 Si Jia Miao (China) – silver;  
 Ashley Scott (South Africa) – bronze;  
 Mlindi Kulashe (South Africa) – bronze*  
 Photo: Pat Bromilow-Downing

36 dancers from South Africa, the USA, Canada, Wales, Scotland, Israel, Malaysia, China, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Cyprus and Spain entered this year's Genée International Ballet Competition. The students, all of whom were aged 15 to 19 years and had passed RAD Solo Seal or Advanced 2 with Distinction, participated in 5 days of intensive coaching, then competed in 2 days of semi-finals during which the 12 finalists were selected by judges David Nixon OBE, Artistic Director of Northern Ballet in the UK; Iain MacDonald, Artistic Director of the South African Ballet Theatre; and Professor Elizabeth Triegaardt, Executive Director of Cape Town City Ballet. The final was a stunning event, resulting in the awarding of the medals as noted above. No gold medal was awarded this year. The Audience Choice Award went to Jessica Brown (Australia).

**The Genée Dance Challenge** was open to South African students up to the age of 17 years. Heats were held all over South Africa and the winners chosen in each of 6 cities represented their region and their ballet schools at the National competition. A total of 36 students performed at Artscape theatre. The candidates were judged on the performance of a ballet solo choreographed by their RAD teacher.

Judges were RAD Artistic Director Lynn Wallis and choreographer Christopher Hampson who selected a winner at each level (four winners in total). Each winner received a trophy, Genée memorabilia and two complimentary tickets to the Genée Final.



### 2011 Genée Dance Challenge Winners

*Megan Gerber (Level 2); Khanya Mandongana (Level 3);  
 Kathleen Videira (Level 4); Kiara Beilinson (Level 1)*  
 Photo: Pat Bromilow-Downing

### NZ Genée Semi-finalist Tessa Hall writes

“ Attending the Genée International Ballet Competition in Cape Town this year was a rewarding and really fun experience. Cape Town is a beautiful city that was a perfect match for the relaxed atmosphere of the competition. I really enjoyed meeting the other 35 candidates from 14 other countries. Everyone got along really well and we were all friends very early on in the week. I loved the way the feeling of support from each other was stronger than the tension and competitiveness found at most other competitions I've been to before. It really is the “friendly competition”.



*Kirsten Isenberg and Tessa Hall*

Our tutors, Christopher Hampson and Lynn Wallis, were brilliant and I felt very lucky to be taught by them. They were able to get the best out of everyone as well as boost our confidence for the competition at the end of the week of coaching. Kirsten Isenberg, the guest choreographer, created a beautiful dance for us called ‘Far Closer’ that I absolutely loved performing. It required us to focus on musicality and to interpret the intricate dynamics of the music in a way that made the dance atmospheric and emotional. It was a challenge to learn and polish the dance in five days but one that I enjoyed a lot. Performing this dance along with our pre-rehearsed variations at Artscape at the end of the week was thrilling and topped off the whole experience.

I can't say thank you enough to everyone who organised and ran the event, and Shelley Morgan and Paula Hunt for taking me. I made so many friends and learnt things about dance all around the world that I know will be a huge influence upon my future. I encourage NZ dancers to take the opportunity to attend the Genée in Wellington next year - you'll have the time of your life just like I did! ”

### NZ National Director Janet Taylor reports

“ What a privilege it was to attend the Genée International Ballet Competition in Cape Town. For members of the audience, the great variety of events started with ‘Sizodanisa – Let's Dance!’, a delightful community dance performance by 96 local students who had attended a 2-day workshop taken by the Cape Town City Ballet Artistic Director, Robin van Wyk, and ended with the stunning finals of the Genée competition during which we were also treated to a colourful, dynamic performance by the Cape Town City Ballet. In between were two days of exciting semi-finals, with lots of discussion and excitement amongst audience members after each event. I particularly enjoyed seeing New Zealander Tessa Hall's beautiful interpretation of the piece specially choreographed for the Genée by Kirsten Isenberg. On the other ‘in between’ day, the final of the Genée Dance Challenge was staged. The 36 young dancers had a wonderful experience competing on stage in front of such a large, enthusiastic and appreciative audience. Attending the Genée was a fantastic experience. There was a real warmth and excitement about the whole occasion, with visitors made to feel very welcome by the South African hosts. I look forward with great anticipation to our providing a similar wonderful experience for all our competitors and visitors at next year's Genée at the St James Theatre 12–15 December 2012. ”

## Solo Seal Award

18 September 2011

The capacity crowd in the Te Whaea Theatre very much enjoyed watching the seven candidates entered for the Solo Seal Award in September. Judges were Isabel Yuan, an RAD Vocational Examiner originally from China but now living in Canada; and Karin Wakefield, former principal dancer with the RNZB and the Ballet de Barcelona, and presently training to be a Detective. Congratulations to Alexandra Cambie (Mount Eden Ballet Academy) and Dane Holland (New Zealand School of Dance) on being awarded Solo Seal.



*Solo Seal candidates relax after the event – Tessa Hall, Alexandra Cambie, Yvette Sauvage, Dane Holland, Emma White, Bi Ru Chua, Tarah Burns*



*Olivia & Helen Calman, and Fiona & Sophie Arbuckle*



*Garry Trinder, Anne Rowse*



*Robyn Charlton-Kelly, Lynne Harrison, Shirley Baker, Carl Myers, Val Murray, Lynn Wallis*

*Many people travelled a long way to attend this year's Solo Seal Award. Everyone enjoyed the chance to catch up with others as well as to watch the performances.*



*Claire Patten, Melissa Tate*



*Anna & Amelia Chandulal*



*Christine Holland, Sue Tuck*



*Vera Green, Anita Hutchins*

## Awards Day in the UK

129 students and their families travelled from all over the world to receive their awards at the RAD Awards Day, which took place at St Mary's Church in Battersea on 20 July.

Over 15 countries were represented from as far afield as Armenia, Greece, Italy, Japan, Thailand and the USA.

Luke Rittner, Chief Executive, offered congratulations to the students, who graduated from one or more of the Academy's seven programmes and will now embark on careers in dance teaching. He also took the opportunity to pay tribute to the success of the Faculty of Education and acknowledge the great achievements of Professor Joan White, who retired as Director of Education at the end of August.

Dame Liz Forgan, who is Chair of Arts Council England, was the inspirational guest speaker.

She told students that 'though they may come from different cultures, speak different languages, eat different foods, what they had in common was a love of dance in all its many forms and a desire to transmit that love to a new generation.'

Legendary prima ballerina, Dame Beryl Grey, DBE, Vice President of the RAD and leading advocate for dance, gave the closing remarks in which she offered the new graduates advice and shared experiences from her own prestigious international career. The Fellowship of the RAD was awarded to Jacqueline Ferguson for outstanding service to the Academy and dance.

After the ceremony, graduates and their guests enjoyed afternoon tea and live music in the courtyard of the RAD.

**Lorraine Nicholson,**  
**Marketing Manager, Faculty of Education**



Photo: Tempest Presentation Photography

## Auckland

Auckland had its largest Vocational session ever in August–September, with nearly four weeks of exams with Australian Vocational examiner Debra Whitten. Debra held a very well-attended pilot feedback seminar for teachers after the Vocational examination session.

Following the feedback seminar, a presentation was made to two of the AUT University BDance students who graduated recently with eligibility for RAD Registered Teacher Status.



*AUT BDance graduates Laura Watkins and Dannielle Chandler with lecturer Philippa Pidgeon  
Photo: Carole Speirs*

After the presentation to the AUT BDance graduates, the first of several scheduled Auckland Genée group meetings was held, with Auckland teachers already planning how they can help with fundraising for the Wellington 2012 Genée.

Don't forget to register for SABA's Diamond Jubilee (to be held on 11 December at The Civic at The Edge) to celebrate Val Murray and SABA Young Ballet's 60 years of dance teaching. Check [www.acbc.co.nz](http://www.acbc.co.nz) to download the registration form or contact Lynda Jeffrey on 09 292 7659 or email [acbc-saba@xtra.co.nz](mailto:acbc-saba@xtra.co.nz).

Congratulations to Auckland teacher Emma McInnes who has recently given birth to her second child, Cleo (sister for Orlando) and to AUT BDance Programme Leader Jennifer Nikolai on the birth of Samuel.

*Deborah Morrison*

## Waikato

Waikato Teachers, having finished with the Graded and Vocational Examinations, are now working on their end of year productions.

*Judith Ward School of Dance* will present 'Peter and the Wolf' and the 'Flower Festival' on 3 Dec.

*Valerie Lissette School of Dance* will perform 'When Xmas Comes to Town' on Friday 25 Nov @ 7pm, with a matinee the next day at Founders Theatre.

*Limelight Dance Academy* will present a Triple bill featuring 'Paquita' (restaged by Peter Boyes); 'The Sea and Beyond' (two acts that take the audience on a journey under the sea and over a tropical island featuring ballet, jazz, contemporary, hip hop and tap styles); and 'Dance Fever' (a burlesque styled jazz number to finish the show) at Founders Theatre Friday 2 Dec @ 7 pm and Saturday 3 Dec @ 2 pm. (Tickets from Ticketek).

*Thames Hauraki Ballet Theatre* is presenting 'The Nutcracker Suite' on Saturday 19 Nov @ 7 pm in the Thames Civic Theatre.

After the Waikato Graded Examination session, several teachers attended a pilot feedback seminar with Grades Examiner Sharon Howells.



*Kerry Mills, Annette Leach (Area Organiser), Sharon Howells (Examiner), Jonas Dept (pianist), Judith Ward, Valerie Lissette*



*Jonas Dept, Belgian-born pianist who is now living in Thailand, played for Valerie Lissette's exam classes as well as for some of the regular classes while he was in Hamilton for the Graded exams in July*



*Annette Leach and Vocational Examiner Isabel Yuan enjoy a moment after the exams*

A happy and restful Xmas to all.

*Annette Leach*

## Bay of Plenty

Graded and Vocational Graded examinations are finished! By the time this goes to print the final of the Rugby World Cup will have been decided. School holidays were welcomed by children and teachers. Then ready to go for the end-of-year concerts. No time to catch your breath, teachers.



We had four different pianists for our Grades exams this year. Sue Alexander from Wellington, Pat Littler from Tauranga, Vivienne Genet-Ward from Te Aroha and Jonas Dept from Thailand. I hope our examiner, Carole Speirs, enjoyed the variety of musicians. With daylight saving also invading our examination timetable, it was definitely a session with a difference.

*Examiner Carole Speirs and pianist Jonas Dept  
Photo: Faye Stamp*

Anne Samson was one of the teachers for whom Jonas Dept played the piano. She writes:

“ An enterprising young man from Thailand took the initiative to email RAD Wellington suggesting he may plan a trip down under if he was able to secure some work playing for local teachers. As luck had it Hamilton also needed a pianist, Valerie Lissette made contact with him and it escalated into a trip of a lifetime for him. Thanks to wonderful kiwis he managed to see Raglan, Waitomo Caves and practically all Rotorua had to offer. His words were “we managed to do some serious work while also enjoying the greatness of the surrounding nature.” Jonas stayed with me for the week in Rotorua. I had him making salads, washing dishes and he got to iron his shirts. We made a great team in the kitchen. During the week leading up to exams we had our practices but also travelled each day finding the lakes, forest trails to venture upon and hot thermal soaks. It actually made me feel like I was on holiday as well. The students responded well to him and all exams ran smoothly. A rewarding experience for him and he is taking away with him many fond memories which I can assure you made his friends back home envious of our beautiful country and hospitality. ”



We had our first Pre-School Dance Curriculum demonstration classes for the Bay of Plenty.

*Diane Willcox School of Dance's Pre-School Dance Curriculum students proudly show their certificates*  
 Photo: Diane Willcox

Congratulations to Holly Finch, a pupil of Dale Boddy for being invited to enter for Scholarships for both PACANZ NZ for Jazz and NZAMD for Contemporary. Good luck Holly.

Both Vicki Le Fleming Whitmore and Anne Samson's students provided entertainment for the Mayoral Concert, in Rotorua. Vicki's pupils' performed 'Backing Black' and were asked to perform again before the All Black vs Argentina Quarter Final. South Waikato Dance Festival was held at the Plaza Theatre in Putaruru in late Oct/early Nov.

Now for the end-of-year concerts – the best part of the year for students and a reward for all the hard work they put into their exams.

#### **Rotorua:**

*Vicki Le Fleming Whitmore* presents 'Peter Pan' on Sun 27 Nov at 2pm. Venue TBA.

*Emily Linklater* presents 'Showcase 2011' on Sat 10 Dec at 3pm at the Westbrook School Hall

#### **Taupo:**

*Karen McNaughton* and *Leanne Short* present 'Jungle Dream' on Sun 4 Dec at 2pm & 6.30pm at Great Lakes Centre

*Dale Boddy* presents 'Lets Travel the World' at 6.30pm on Fri 16 Dec and 1.30pm & 6.30pm on Sat 17 Dec at Great Lakes Centre

#### **Tauranga:**

*Yvonne Edwards* presents 'End of Year Dance Showcase' on Sat 3 Dec at 6.30pm at Baycourt

*Debbie & Pru Gooch* present 'The Dance Education Centre Christmas Show' at Thames Civic Centre 3 & 4 Dec. Evening performances both nights and a matinee on Sun 4 Dec and at Baycourt Theatre Tauranga at 6.30pm Thurs 15 and Fri 16 Dec and 1.30pm & 7.30pm Sat 17 Dec

*Shireen Breebaart* presents 'Shopping Spree' on Fri 9 Dec at 7pm and Sat 10 Dec at 1pm & 6pm at Bethlehem College Performing Arts Centre

*Gillian Moore* presents 'Alice in Wonderland' on Fri 9 Dec at 7pm and on Sat 10 Dec at Baycourt Tauranga

#### **Whakatane:**

*Michelle Lewis* presents 'The Nutcracker' on Sat 17 Nov 2011 and Sun 18 Nov 2011 at The Little Theatre in Whakatane

I look forward to your concerts, teachers, and wish you all the best for Christmas and New Year.

I hope those attending enjoy the International Summer School in January 2012.

*Faye Stamp*

## Hawkes Bay

On 26 July, local teachers were delighted to meet Luke Rittner when he and Janet stopped briefly in Napier on their way to Wellington. Those who attended appreciated his support and news about the Academy. It was also an ideal time for him to chat with people interested in assisting with Genée sponsorship.



*Luke Rittner, Belinda Harvey, Janet Taylor, Kerry Mackenzie, Leigh Jones and Melissa Martin*

Many teachers and dance students, both current and past, attended the funeral service for Cheridah Sewell who passed away at the end of August. Cheridah was the past president of HB Ballet and Dance and will be remembered by many as the driving force behind the Summer Schools that used to be held annually in Napier in January.

### **HBBBD Tribute to Cheridah Sewell who passed away at Cranford Hospice 30 August 2011**

At the Hawke's Bay Ballet and Dance Inc 41st AGM held on 19 June 2011 Cheridah Sewell retired from the position as president and from the committee. The success and longevity of HBBBD for 41 years was due to Cheridah's lifetime commitment, dedication and work. Cheridah carried on her mother's (founding President Dulcie Malcolm) work to initially support the NZ Ballet Company and then to support and encourage dance and dancers locally in Hawke's Bay. She became a Life member in 2005, and was also honoured to receive a Paul Harris Fellowship from the Rotary Foundation for contribution to the arts community. In November 2009 a Souvenir Booklet covering the history and many achievements of the society was compiled in honour and recognition of Cheridah's work. The booklet notes the 25 years of Summer Schools involving not only ballet, but also modern, jazz, tap, character, contemporary, music, theatre & drama, choreography, Indian, Spanish and Highland dancing; the successes of Scholarships winners; and the association with NZ School of Dance which has graciously allowed students as Guest dancers at the Annual Dance Festivals since 1993. Two of many scholarships and grants HBBBD give to encourage and support dancers locally and nationally are the Poul Gnatt Scholarship which supports a male dancer at the NZSD, and the Dulcie Malcolm Scholarship which supports a female dancer at the NZSD. Most people knew Cheridah as a quiet and unassuming lady with wonderful organisational skills. The Club owes its success to her with many years of support from her family, as her involvement has been a lifetime commitment.

Former winners of the Poul Gnatt and Dulcie Malcolm Scholarships to the NZSD include Craig Bary, Tasi Tuala, Farley Johannson, William Pratt, Daniel Cooper, Kase Craig, Dane Holland, Debbie Fulford, Belinda Harvey, Katrina Dixon, Sarah Knox, Hollie King and Alicia Mitchell.

The busy examination sessions are over for another year. Examiner Alison Pond visited for the Graded exams in August, closely followed by Isabel Yuan, from Canada, who examined the Vocational session.



*Vocational Graded Examiner Isabel Yuan with  
Pania of the Reef  
Photo: Leigh Jones*

Over Labour weekend Helen Calman tutored the new Intermediate Foundation and Intermediate work. The RNZ Ballet visits with 'Sleeping Beauty' at the end of November, and the annual dance recitals will round off another busy year.

*Leigh Jones*

## Manawatu/Wanganui/Taranaki

Next year a celebration of 50 years of the Maureen Ax School of Dance will be held during Labour weekend 20-22 October 2012. It is a wonderful opportunity to get together with old friends and make new ones. To register your interest in attending and receive further information as plans are confirmed, please contact the Reunion Committee at [dance2012@hotmail.co.nz](mailto:dance2012@hotmail.co.nz) or phone Toni at (06) 3545145.



*Melissa Tate at the 2011  
IDTA Congress*

Congratulations to **Melissa Tate** who attained the highest mark in the world, (59 countries!) for IDTA's Theatre Branch for 2010. Melissa attended the IDTA Congress 2011 in Southport, England where she was awarded the Giles Bursary. A Mutually Recognised teacher of the RAD, Melissa has worked at the Shirley McDouall School of Dance for a number of years. She writes:

"Thanks to Shirley McDouall offering to take my classes while I was away, I was able to attend the IDTA Congress and Dinner to receive the Award in person. This was my first trip to England – and what an amazing experience it was. I was lucky enough to be one of the first to see the launch of the new Grade 5 Theatre Craft along with an array of exciting classes and workshops. The weekend was very well constructed and I found all members attending very welcoming. New Zealand organiser, Eileen Frost, arranged extra classes with two distinguished I.D.T.A members." Melissa also travelled to Blackpool to train in Modern Jazz with Lynda Lister of the Phil Winston Dance School, then to Manchester to start training for her Licentiate Ballet Exam with Lynda Cardwell who is a member of the IDTA and RAD and was part of the team who created the IDTA Ballet Syllabus. She then attended classes at Pineapple Dance in London which she said "lived up to every expectation I ever had and I left them feeling exhilarated and inspired." A tour of the Royal Opera House in Covent

Garden left her amazed by the wealth of history. She said that "Receiving the Giles Bursary has been a special and positive experience and I look forward to continue to further my training in as many aspects of Dance as possible."

*Sue Tuck*

## Wellington



In July Luke Rittner attended a Wellington teachers' meeting and briefed those present about general RAD business before leading a discussion on planning and fundraising possibilities for the 2012 Genée.

*Anne Rowse, Luke Rittner, Natasha Reeves, Robyn Charlton-Kelly, Sue Tuck, Christine Gunn, Janet Boutel, Deirdre Tarrant, Janet Taylor, Nina Sowerbutts and Georgia Hofsteede*

Well known pianist Sue Alexander who plays for many teachers both in Wellington and other areas is currently unwell and unable to fulfil her commitments at least for the rest of this year. We have sent best wishes to Sue from the RAD family. Should you wish to contact Sue her email address is [suealex@kol.co.nz](mailto:suealex@kol.co.nz).



*The Dalmatians shown appeared in the juniors' performance of 'The Magic Toyshop'*

*At Mary Rodger's recital in June, the seniors performed 'Elite Syncopations'*



*Mary Rodgers' students Shannon Toe, Holly Cumming & Olivia van Woerkom before their Intermediate exam in September*

Footnote Dance has had an amazing year with performances from London to Dunedin.



*The company backstage in the GeoDome built for the Christchurch Arts Festival where they performed a new Made In New Zealand programme – Olivia McGregor, Manu Reynaud, Emily Adams, Lucy Marinkovich, Francis Christeller, Deirdre Tarrant*



*Roll Out the Red Carpet on Queens' Wharf, Auckland, celebrating Kiwiana and Kiwi music as part of the Real New Zealand Festival – what makes us special as New Zealanders!*

## Christchurch

It was good to see Luke and Janet down our way again for the teachers' meeting in July. Luke updated us on what is happening in the RAD world, such as the new CBTS starting next year, and the new CPD system being introduced in September 2013. I then took them for a tour around our sad city which they both appreciated but were shocked at what they saw, as has been the case with Examiners who have come to Christchurch recently.



*Sarala Niven, Lynda Saxton, Nicky Falloon, Corli Nortje, Adir Botting, Angela Longman, Sharon Howells and Luke Rittner  
Photo: Janet Taylor*

It is great to have our exams being held again. The students who sat exams this year have really enjoyed doing so – I think it's a wee bit of normality coming back into their lives.



*Hannah Kofoed, Teagan Tank and Ella Wilson of the Anna Lee School of Dance before their Intermediate Foundation examination. These three girls have been very busy, having also done JDNZ jazz exams, NZAMD ballet exams, and attended the Winter Dance Masters workshop.*

Helen Calman was here in October tutoring the new Intermediate Foundation and Intermediate work, and there were a lot of smiles from teachers coming out of the studio. I sat and listened to the music which sounds lovely – it made me feel like getting up and joining in.

The RNZB were in Christchurch in September performing 'Tutus on Tour' and they will be back in November with 'Aurora's Wedding'. We won't be getting the full 'Sleeping Beauty' as we don't have a venue to hold it yet.

I hope you all have a great Xmas and a good New Year.

*Lynda Saxton*

## Otago

The Caroline Plummer Fellow in Community Dance for this year is Lyne Pringle of Wellington. Lyne grew up in Dunedin and started learning ballet at the age of 6. Since the beginning of this year she has been working with children and staff at Forbury School on dance and oceanic themes. Last month they were involved in a collaborative performance of dance and music called 'Ocean Wave' which was inspired by a poem written by Caroline Plummer.

We've had a plethora of rugby events in Dunedin in Sept-Oct, but in November our new stadium will play host to a different style of entertainment. As part of the 150th year celebrations marking the beginning of publication of the Otago Daily Times a 'Big Night In' concert is being staged on 12 Nov as a thank you to the Otago community for 150 years of support. Several Otago ballet dancers will be performing in what promises to be a wonderful evening of music and dance.

Ex Dunedin School of Ballet pupil Briony Martin (nee Hutton) called in to see the new studio and ended up bringing her daughter to the Mum & Me Ballet class. Unfortunately Robyn didn't get a photo of the event, but perhaps she doesn't want to admit to being onto the next generation of dancers!!!

Grade exams with Tonia Robertson have finished and I've no doubt she was relieved to complete the tour without any complications with snow. Below are some photos of pupils of the Dunedin School of Ballet as they prepared for their exams.



*Primaries waiting for the bell – Samantha Bixley, Annelise Scharpf, Madeleine Driver*



*Grade 1's Capri Stanger, Olivia Ferris, Hannah Pollock, Jessica McDonald*



*Grade 8's Georgia Henderson, Tamzin Motion, Imogen Duncan  
Photos: Robyn Sinclair*

*Joy Pearson*

## Southland

The extreme weather conditions around the country in August proved a challenge for Examiner Tonia Robertson to get through the snow from Auckland to Invercargill for the Graded Examinations. Thanks to Tonia for persevering, finally arriving only one day later than originally scheduled – and for staying on an extra day to ensure all students were able to take their exams.



*IF-I Course  
Back: Anna Thomas,  
Fleur Rodway, Miranda  
Schwarz, Wayne Twohill,  
Lee van der Schuit,  
Paula Gilroy-Schmidt,  
Bruce Cassidy  
Front: Jennie Kjelgaard,  
Helen Calman, Robyn  
Sinclair, Marilyn Cassidy  
Photo: Lynette  
McKerchar*

Sunday 9 October saw teachers from Central Otago, Dunedin and Invercargill gather at the Dance Southland rooms for the Intermediate Foundation – Intermediate course taken by Helen Calman. With willing minds and sometimes not-so-willing bodies, they spent 3 days of hard work under Helen's guidance, accompanied by the lovely music played by pianist Wayne Twohill. During the session we had the pleasure of wishing Helen 'Happy Birthday' (it was a shame that we were all non-smokers so there were no matches to light her candle!). The course was very much appreciated, as expressed by Jennie Kjelgaard who, along with pianist Bruce Cassidy, attended as an observer: "Miss Helen Calman was an inspiration. She demonstrated beautifully and never tired!! Her passion gave the whole course meaning and purpose. Thanks for including me in a memorable few days." It was a very successful course – thank you to Helen and Wayne.



*Congratulations to Damen Axtens, pupil of Paula Gilroy-Schmidt, who has been selected to take part in a 4-day training programme with the Australian Ballet School in Melbourne next July.  
Photo: Aran Jagoutz*

Lynette McKerchar



## NEW ZEALAND SCHOOL OF DANCE



*Photos: New Zealand School of Dance students by Stephen A'Court.*

### GRADUATION SEASON 2011

**16–26 Nov 2011**

**Te Whaea: National Dance & Drama Centre, 11 Hutchison Road, Wellington**

November in Wellington sees the return of the highly popular New Zealand School of Dance Graduation Season. Showcasing the school's graduating students, this season of dance features works by some of history's greatest choreographers.

Danish ballet master August Bournonville's 'Napoli Divertissements' of 1842 is invested with captivating light and shade while 'Emeralds' by the great 20th century choreographer George Balanchine sparkles with modernism. Particular highlights will be three new works by New Zealanders Maria Dabrowska and Ross McCormack and influential Australian choreographer Lina Limosani. Legendary US choreographer Paul Taylor's 'Company B', danced to the music of the Andrews Sisters provides a riveting finale.

With many of its graduates reaching the heights of the dance world, the New Zealand School of Dance is internationally recognised as one of the southern hemisphere's leading dance conservatoires. Performances by New Zealand School of Dance students give the public and future students an insight into the excellence fostered at the School.

Book tickets at Te Whaea or online [www.nzschoolofdance.ac.nz](http://www.nzschoolofdance.ac.nz)

## Benesh Movement Notation

Benesh Movement Notation (BMN) is a universal language for recording movement. The RAD offers a wide range of courses in BMN, from introductory courses lasting two days to a professional diploma. Anyone interested in learning this invaluable method of recording dance or who would like to increase their knowledge will find a course to suit them.

*'The professional notator's course was one of the best career moves I made – it has been invaluable for my work as a teacher, répétiteur and choreographer. Just knowing the basics can really help. It is so simple and logical.'*

Gary Harris, Artistic Director Royal New Zealand Ballet

*'I just love learning the notation. It wasn't nearly as difficult as I thought and I find it really useful – particularly for syllabus work. I feel so much more confident when I teach, knowing I can find out precisely what the port de bras should be, when the turn should happen, all the timing details, just by looking at the notation. I'd urge everyone to have a go.'*

Justine Berry ARAD PDTD (RAD teacher)

An increasing number of the Academy's publications from Pre-Primary to Solo Seal now include BMN scores of the set exercises, studies, dances and variations. These scores provide considerably more detail than is possible in word notes. Being able to read the Benesh can be hugely helpful if you need to learn the set work or check movement or rhythmic details.

### Benesh Distance Learning Course One

Want to be able to use Benesh notation as a resource in your study and teaching? Enrol on this course. You can start at any time of year – approximately 100 hours over 12 months delivered by distance learning with individual tutorial support provided by phone, fax, email and post.

The course includes study of the basic principles of BMN as applied to the solo dancer (including movements of the limbs and body, direction faced, turns, floor patterns and the expression of rhythm) and practice in reading and recording ballet exercises and enchaînements.

To apply, contact Diana Curry, Assistant to Benesh Director on +44 (0)20 7326 8035 or dcurry@rad.org.uk



For information about other Benesh courses or how to study to become a professional notator, visit [www.benesh.org](http://www.benesh.org) or contact Liz Cunliffe, Director, Benesh Institute on +44 (0)20 7326 8031 or [lcunliffe@rad.org.uk](mailto:lcunliffe@rad.org.uk)

www.radenterprises.co.uk

LAUNCHING  
IN JANUARY  
2012



# New boundaries for ballet Grades 1-3



#### Core Product Range

##### Printed Book

Set Exercises and Dances

##### DVD

Set Exercises and Dances

##### CD

Set Exercises and Dances  
with orchestra and piano

##### Printed Music

Set Exercises and Dances

This new syllabus celebrates the traditions of ballet and acknowledges its exciting new directions. It offers children rich, authentic experiences of ballet and music that will help them develop a love, knowledge and understanding of ballet through participation.

To order, contact the RAD NZ office

*As part of the Academy's Social Responsibility Vision to help provide access to dance and dance education, 2% of every purchase you make (ex-GST) will be put aside to help create a Social Responsibility Fund.*

Royal Academy of Dance is a charity registered in England and Wales No. 312826 and in New Zealand No. CC21861.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF  
**DANCE**  
ENTERPRISES LIMITED

## Membership

### Life Members Policy

40 consecutive years of membership with the Academy results in eligibility for Full Life Membership or Teaching Life Membership of the Royal Academy of Dance.

- Existing Life Members will continue to receive printed copies of RAD publications, as well as access to all other member benefits.
- New Life Members (those who are eligible for Life Membership from 1 September 2010) are required to pay an annual subscription fee of \$45 if they wish to continue to receive printed copies of *dance gazette* & *Focus on Members*. They will continue to have access to these publications online and to the all other member benefits.
- The RAD head office issues specially-designed certificates to Life Members around the world.

### Life Members Section on the Web

A new feature of the website [www.rad.org.uk](http://www.rad.org.uk) is the Life Members section. This has been developed to celebrate the achievements of those who have attained Life Membership status, and will include a full list of names of all Life Members who have given permission for this to occur. In time it will feature the many wonderful stories, achievements and remarkable contributions that our Life Members have made to the RAD.

### Teachers with Lapsed Membership

A re-registration administration charge of \$60 is payable by RAD Registered Teachers who have let their membership lapse and wish to re-register with the Academy. RAD Registered Teachers who wish to maintain membership of the RAD but will not be entering students have the option of changing to Full Membership for a period of time.

### Membership Benefits

These include:

- Eligibility for a 10% discount on RAD products. Graded and Vocational Graded specifications, music books, compact discs and DVDs are available from the NZ office. Visit [www.radenterprises.co.uk](http://www.radenterprises.co.uk) to view a greater range of products.
- Access to Members' Briefings on a wide range of topics, and to Music and Artistic Fact Sheets covering popular topics and frequently asked questions. These can be accessed on [www.rad.org.uk](http://www.rad.org.uk), or can be requested by emailing [info@rad.org.nz](mailto:info@rad.org.nz).
- Eligibility to pay reduced examination fees for members who are sitting Advanced Foundation, Advanced 1, Advanced 2 or Solo Seal.
- Access to Radacadabra, the Academy's children's website (age 5 -11+) dedicated to providing a fun, safe and interactive online learning environment for young dancers and dance enthusiasts across the globe. It is also a useful resource for parents and teachers [www.radacadabra.org](http://www.radacadabra.org)
- Access to a range of online services, including digital *dance gazette*, monthly e-news bulletins, and e-cards for every occasion.
- Access to JobSearch International™ (JSI) which is the Academy's monthly publication advertising dance vacancies and schools for sale across the globe. The publication includes a Job of the Month feature, interview tips and interviews with employers. Contact [info@rad.org.nz](mailto:info@rad.org.nz) to receive JSI by email at the beginning of each month.

### Membership Year

The Royal Academy of Dance Membership Year is from 1 September to the following 31 August.

## Examinations Information

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### Overview

The Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) offers an internationally recognised portfolio of examinations and assessments which is designed to motivate and encourage students of all ages and levels of ability, through a systematic measurement of progress and attainment. Examinations are organised and administered by the RAD Examinations Board.

Students may start with the Pre-School Dance Curriculum, move up through Pre-Primary and Primary levels and then into eight Graded levels or six Vocational Graded levels. Students may move from the Graded to the Vocational Graded pathway at an appropriate time, or they may study at both Graded and Vocational Graded levels simultaneously. Types of assessment include Examination, Class Award, Presentation Class and Demonstration Class.

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### **RAD examinations provide students with:**

- an achievable goal to work towards;
- recognition from the world's largest ballet examination board;
- qualifications that are fully accredited by the UK regulatory authorities;
- the impetus to achieve their personal best.

### **The Graded Examinations in Dance syllabus:**

- includes our Pre-School Dance Curriculum for candidates from the age of 2½ years;
- includes our innovative new Pre-Primary in Dance and Primary in Dance syllabi for candidates from the age of 5 years;
- incorporates Ballet, Free Movement and Character.

### **The Vocational Graded Examinations in Dance syllabus:**

- builds on the elements covered in the Graded syllabus;
  - is suitable for candidates from the age of 11 years;
  - is intended for students who wish to pursue a career in dance;
  - includes the prestigious Solo Seal Award, the highest Vocational Graded examination offered by the RAD, which focuses on solo performance.
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Information on other examination matters such as worldwide fees, entry procedures, results and certificates, and uniform requirements are available in the new publication *Focus on Exams* and in the Examination Specifications. Specification documentation for Graded examinations and Vocational Graded examinations and an overarching document called Examinations Information and Rules & Regulations are now available. Check them out on [www.rad.org.uk/examinations](http://www.rad.org.uk/examinations). Combined, this documentation replaces the previous Handbook for Teachers publications.

You can also contact the RAD NZ office via email: [exams@rad.org.nz](mailto:exams@rad.org.nz) or tel 04 382 8924.

## Further Examinations Information

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### Target Date for Examination Results

Examination certificates and result forms should reach the teacher within 4 weeks of the end of the examiner's tour.

### Reduction in Vocational Examination Fees for Members

For those sitting examinations at Advanced Foundation level and higher there is a reduction in exam fees which more than offsets the cost of the membership fee. The Member Exam Fee is available only to candidates who are already Members before the exam closing date.

### Special Graded Examinations

The closing date for a session requested outside the published dates is 2 months before the start of the session. The fees are \$350 plus \$50 per day. Any request for a special examination session should be sent to the NZ office with a \$75 deposit which forms part of the fee.

### Less than 3 hours' Graded Examining Time

Teachers who have less than 3 hours examination work may choose to hold their examinations in their own studios by paying an additional charge on the total fee income from their examination and class award or presentation class entries to bring it up to the minimum fee of \$1548. This surcharge will not apply if teachers combine with other teachers to ensure a total of more than 3 hours.

### Replacement Certificates and Replacement Medals

A charge of \$38 will be made to replace any certificates which are incorrect due to mistakes on the entry form. The same fee will be charged to replace lost certificates. Errors made by the Academy will be corrected free of charge, but in all instances the original certificate must be returned to the NZ office before a replacement certificate can be issued. A charge of \$18 will be made to replace any medals.

### Results Enquiry Service

There are two levels of check for the Results Enquiry Service.

**Level 1:** Results Enquiry clerical check. This provides an additional data entry and monitoring check to ensure that all procedures have been carried out appropriately and marks have been accurately processed and reported. The fee is \$25 per candidate.

**Level 2:** Result Enquiry Report. This service includes the clerical check and also a detailed Report which provides the reasoning behind the result given. The fee is \$80 per report.

### Refund Policy

50% of any examination or presentation class fee will be refunded if a candidate is unable to take the examination due to illness or if the teacher has to cancel the examination session due to illness. No refunds will normally be made for withdrawal for any other reason. In the case of sickness a medical certificate must be enclosed. Both should be given to the Area Organiser or sent to the RAD office within a week of the conclusion of the examination tour.

### Age Requirements

From January 2013 examination candidates worldwide must have reached the minimum age by 1 January of the year of the examination (not by 31 December as at present).

## Approved Examination Centre (AEC) Sessions

### Graded, Intermediate Foundation and Intermediate examinations

#### 2nd Term 2012

Area	Approx Dates	Closing Dates	Examiner
Auckland/Northland	11–24 Jun	29 Mar	Tba
Wellington Mid-Year	22–24 Jun	27 Apr	Tba

#### 3rd Term 2012

Area	Approx Dates	Closing Dates	Examiner
Waikato	19 Jul–05 Aug	10 May	Tba
Auckland Mid-Year	23 Jul–21 Aug	10 May	Tba
Hawkes Bay	06–31 Aug	31 May	Tba
Southland	07–14 Aug	07 Jun	Tba
ChCh/Canterbury	15–24 Aug	07 Jun	Tba
Manawatu/Wanganui/Taranaki	27 Aug–16 Sep	21 Jun	Tba
Bay of Plenty	27 Aug–16 Sep	21 Jun	Tba
Otago	03–18 Sep	28 Jun	Tba
Marlborough/Nelson	17 – 19 Sep	05 Jul	Tba

#### 4th Term 2012

Area	Approx Dates	Closing Dates	Examiner
Christchurch Year-End	15 Oct–13 Nov	09 Aug	Tba
Wellington Year-End	15 Oct–13 Nov	09 Aug	Tba
Auckland Year-End	23 Oct–01 Nov	16 Aug	Tba
Wairarapa	10–12 Dec	18 Oct	Tba

#### 2012 Fees per candidate

Level	Examinations		Class Awards & Presentation Classes	
	1st Child	2nd Child	Up to 4	Over 4
Pre School Dance Curriculum			\$18	\$18
Pre-Primary / Pre-Primary in Dance			\$43	\$37
Primary / Primary in Dance	\$62	\$47	\$47	\$40
Grade 1	\$69	\$52	\$52	\$45
Grade 2	\$82	\$62	\$62	\$53
Grade 3	\$93	\$70	\$71	\$61
Grade 4	\$102	\$77	\$78	\$67
Grade 5	\$111	\$84	\$86	\$73
Grade 6	\$118	\$89	\$90	\$77
Grade 7	\$121	\$91	\$93	\$79
Grade 8	\$128	\$97	\$99	
Intermediate Foundation	\$178	\$135		
Intermediate	\$189	\$144		

## RAD Approved Venue (RAV) Sessions

### Vocational Graded examinations

#### 2nd Term 2012

Venue Location	Venue ID	Approx Dates	Closing Date	Examiner
Wellington (1st)	1142	13–19 May	17 Mar	Tba
Auckland (1st)	1077	20–29 May	17 Mar	Tba

#### 3rd Term 2012

Venue Location	Venue ID	Approx Dates	Closing Date	Examiner
Christchurch	1066	24–27 Jul	24 May	Tba
Palmerston North	1090	28 Jul–02 Aug	24 May	Tba
Auckland	1077	03–22 Aug	24 May	Tba
Invercargill	1082	23–27 Aug	24 May	Tba
Hamilton	1019	15–22 Aug	14 Jun	Tba
Wellington	1142	23 Aug–02 Sep	14 Jun	Tba
Schol & Solo Seal (Wgtn)	1142	09 Sep	14 Jun	Tba
Napier	1098	03–07 Sep	14 Jun	Tba

#### 2012 Fees per candidate

Level	Member Fee	Full Fee
Intermediate Foundation	\$178	\$178
Intermediate	\$189	\$189
Advanced Foundation	\$194	\$312
Advanced 1	\$199	\$317
Advanced 2	\$204	\$322
Solo Seal Award	\$279	\$397

#### 2012 Primary School Term Dates

<b>Term 1:</b> Between 30 Jan & 07 Feb to Thur 05 Apr
<b>Term 2:</b> Mon 23 Apr to Fri 29 Jun
<b>Term 3:</b> Mon 16 Jul to Fri 28 Sep
<b>Term 4:</b> Mon 15 Oct to Thur 20 Dec
<i>Note: Easter Fri-Mon is 06-09 Apr</i>

## 2012 Key Dates at a Glance

### January to April 2012

Jan	New Intermediate Foundation and Intermediate Syllabi are examinable IF and I can be examined in the teachers' own studios (provided they comply). • <i>The teacher's studio is an Approved Examination Centre (AEC)</i> • <i>Vocational Examination venue is an RAD Approved Venue (RAV)</i>  The new Certificate in Ballet Teaching Studies begins
3 Jan	Launch of the new G1–3 syllabi in London
16 Jan	Launch of the new G1–3 syllabi in Sydney
9–21 Jan	International Summer School in Wellington Performance Course, Summer School and Teachers' Courses
29 Feb	Closing date for nominations for RAD President
17 Mar	Closing date for May RAV Examinations – Auckland & Wellington
29 Mar	Closing date for June AEC Examinations – Auckland-Northland
31 Mar	First 2012 closing date for Creina Gee Memorial Awards
26 Apr	RAD AGM in London

### Events later in the year

#### Teachers Courses for the new Grades 1-3 Syllabi

1–3 Jul: Auckland and Napier

8–10 Jul: Wellington and Dunedin (note the Dunedin course dates may change – tbc)

30 Sep–2 Oct: Wellington and Tauranga

7–9 Oct: Auckland

20–22 Oct: Christchurch

**Scholarship and Solo Seal** are scheduled for 9 September, with rehearsals on 8 September. The closing date is 14 June.

**Genée International Ballet Competition in Wellington.** The intensive coaching will be 7–11 December; Semi-finals 12&13 December; Finals 15 December.

#### RAD Membership Fees for 2011-2012

Affiliate	\$112
Full	\$174
Full ( reduced rate)	\$112
Teaching	\$270
Friend	\$94

## Area Organisers

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### AUCKLAND/NORTHLAND

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## National Office Staff

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# ROYAL ACADEMY OF DANCE INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL

9 – 21 January  
WELLINGTON

# 2012



ROYAL ACADEMY OF  
**DANCE**

For information

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