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Contact details at a glance

Postal Address:

Royal Academy of Dance
PO Box 11718 Manners Street
Wellington 6142

Physical Address:

Level 8, 89 Courtenay Place
Wellington 6011
tel: 04 382 8924
fax: 04 382 8200
email: info@rad.org.nz

web addresses:

www.rad.org.nz
www.rad.org.uk
www.radacadabra.org
www.radenterprises.co.uk
www.radeducation.org.uk
www.stepintodance.org

Editor: Janet Taylor

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Welcome to the second issue of *Focus on Members* for the year. It is a busy time with applications for the January 2012 International Summer School flooding into the office, and many examination sessions about to begin. Do take time to check out our new RAD NZ website for the latest information. Our hearts go out to our Christchurch teachers and students who are having such a harrowing time at present.

Janet Taylor

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Our Wonderful Area Organisers

In March, our eight hard-working Royal Academy of Dance Area Organisers met with the office staff for a busy and enjoyable meeting in Wellington.



Area Organisers and staff enjoyed a night out before the hard work began. Annette Leach (AO Hamilton), Deborah Morrison (AO Auckland), Nina Sowerbutts (Staff), Faye Stamp (AO Bay of Plenty), Joy Pearson (AO Dunedin), Sue Tuck (AO Wellington), Leigh Jones (AO Hawkes Bay), Janet Taylor (Staff), Lynda Saxton (AO Christchurch). Absent Lynette McKerchar (AO Southland).

President's Awards

Any Member of the Royal Academy of Dance is eligible to nominate a person for an RAD President's Award, which is given to "an individual who has for many years dedicated themselves over and above the call of duty to the Royal Academy of Dance." Nominations are considered by the Awards Committee, which is Chaired by the President of the RAD, and made up of members of the Executive Committee. NZ recipients of the President's Award to date are Val Cooper and Joan Irvine (1992); Shirley Baker, Eli Gray-Smith and Val Murray (1994); Doreen O'Leary Yalland (1995); Joy Lewis Benneworth and Valmai Robertson (1998); Tess Graham (2000); Christine Gunn (2004); Annette Leach and Faye Stamp (2007). Nomination forms and guidelines are available from the RAD office.

Jobsearch

Teacher Available in the Wellington Region: Colleen Cox is available for freelance teaching work, full-time or part-time, for RAD Grades and Vocational levels; private coaching for competitions and examinations at both grades and vocational levels; choreography for competitions and recitals. Colleen can be contacted by email on dancewithcolleen@gmail.com.

Teacher required in Taupo: Ballet/Contemporary Teacher for the Taupo Academy of Dance. Email karenmnaughton@xtra.co.nz

NZ Website: Check out the new RAD NZ website. It contains up-to-date information about events in NZ; a 'find-a-teacher' section; and there are quick links to specific pages of interest on the RAD UK website

Teachers Courses				
Intermediate Foundation and Intermediate Courses				
July-Oct Courses	Closing Date	Intermediate Foundation	Intermediate	Tutor
Auckland	16 June 2011	Jul 17 – 18	Jul 18 – 19	Carole Speirs
Napier	22 Sep 2011	Oct 22 - 23	Oct 23 – 24	Helen Calman
Wellington	1 Sep 2011	Oct 09 – 10	Oct 10 – 11	Carole Speirs
Christchurch	8 Sep 2011	Oct 13 – 14	Oct 14 – 15	Helen Calman
Invercargill	1 Sep 2011	Oct 09 – 10	Oct 10 – 11	Helen Calman

Teacher Training for RAD CBTS Students and AUT BDance Students

In March, students working towards the Royal Academy of Dance Certificate in Ballet Teaching Studies again combined with students who are on the Auckland University Bachelor of Dance programme for their Intensive Study Programmes.

2011 ISP1



Both of the ISPs are part of the 'Knowing the Royal Academy of Dance Syllabus' modules tutored each year by Sue Nicholls. As in the past, RAD and AUT students alike were very enthusiastic about the experience they had and the understanding they gained during a very full-on week.

2011 ISP2



2012 RAD International Summer School and Performance Course

**Te Whaea, 11 Hutchison Road, Newtown, Wellington
Mon 9 to Sat 21 January 2012**

The last Royal Academy of Dance International Summer School was held in 2008. It was a great success, with very positive and enthusiastic feedback received from students, teachers, faculty and parents alike. The 2012 event will again have something for everyone.

Summer School: 1 week (9 to 14 January or 16 to 21 January 2012)

The 1-week Summer School includes classes in Classical, Group Dance, Musical Theatre and much more – for students who are 8 years and over and are at Grade 3-5 or equivalent level

“ It was the best thing I’ve ever done IN MY WHOLE LIFE! I loved all the different range of classes. The teachers were really friendly and I learnt lots from them. ”

“ I gained so much confidence. The Summer School is great and I will definitely be back! ”

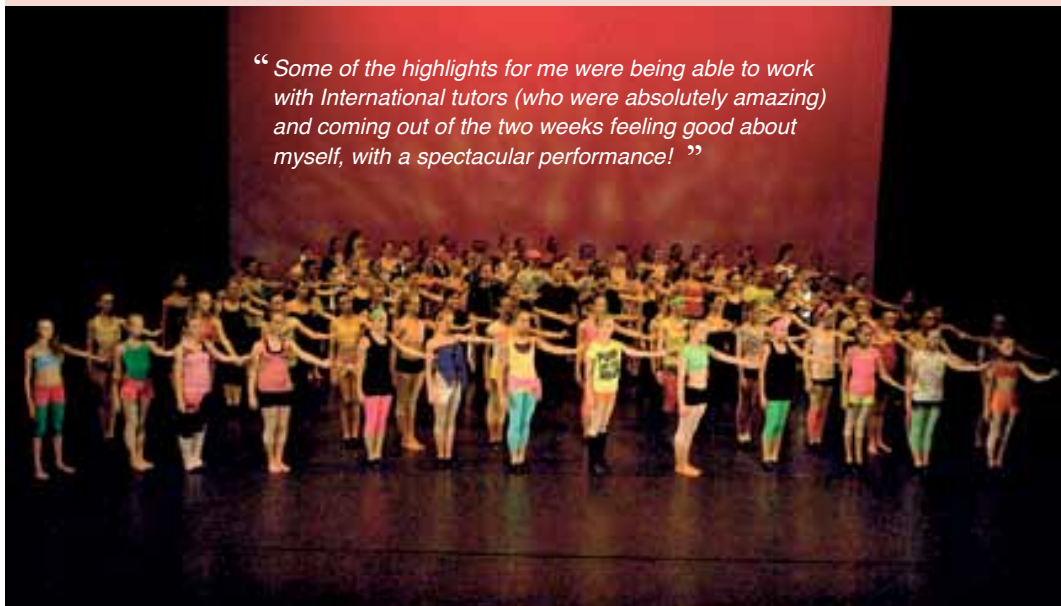
Performance Course: 2 weeks (9 to 21 January 2012)

The 2-week Performance Course includes classes in Classical, Contemporary, Repertoire and Jazz – for Vocational students who are 12 years and over and are at Intermediate Foundation level or above

“ It was a fantastic opportunity to have two weeks working with some top International teachers. I enjoyed learning different forms of dance and getting the opportunity to perform before a live audience. ”

Application forms can be downloaded from the website www.rad.org.nz, or contact the RAD office 04 382 8924 or iss@rad.org.nz. The Earlybird closing date is 22 September 2011.

“ Some of the highlights for me were being able to work with International tutors (who were absolutely amazing) and coming out of the two weeks feeling good about myself, with a spectacular performance! ”





International Administrators Conference

In April thirty five Administrators from Royal Academy of Dance offices around the world met at the RAD headquarters in London for a conference entitled 'Building a Vision for the Future'. Many of the UK staff had input into the intensive workshops and discussions covering a range of topics from Continuing Professional Development and Examinations to Communications in a Global Market and the effect of Global Technology on Business.

Global Database

At present the RAD offices in Australia, Canada and South Africa use one database, while the RAD UK and the RAD offices in the rest of the world use another which is centralised in the UK. NZ has a third, separate stand-alone database. The RAD UK is working towards replacing the three separate databases with one new global database. When that comes into effect, members in NZ will again be able to access the members' area on www.rad.org.uk.

Genée Dance Challenge 2011

Following the outstanding success of the first Genée Dance Challenge competition at Birmingham Royal Ballet in July 2010, the RAD is holding these competitions in four UK regions in 2011. There are four levels of competition open to students studying at Grade 4 to Advanced 1 level. Candidates are judged on the performance of a solo choreographed by their teacher.



Step into Dance

The Step into Dance programme, run by the RAD and funded by the Jack Petchey Foundation, provides free dance training for young people regardless of experience and ability. On 17 July over 400 talented students aged 11–16 from schools across 18 London Boroughs will perform at Sadler's Wells Theatre.

*Camden & Islington Step into Dance Borough event
Photo: David Tett*

Genée International Ballet Competition 2012

St James Theatre, Wellington

Thursday 6 to Saturday 15 December 2012

Semi finals: Wednesday 12 December 2012

Thursday 13 December 2012

Finals: Saturday 15 December 2012

Next year it is Wellington's turn to host the exciting and prestigious Genée International Ballet Competition. The Genée is the RAD's flagship annual event and is named after Danish-born Dame Adeline Genée DBE (1878-1970), co-founder of the Association of Operatic Dancing, as the RAD was then known. Originating in 1931 as the 'Adeline Genée Gold Medal, the award continued to progress and develop into a competition format and remarkably it has taken place almost every year since 1931, even during the Second World War. In 2002 Luke Rittner, Chief Executive, made the landmark decision to hold the competition outside London in order to embrace its international spirit, taking it to Australia where a record number of candidates competed in the Sydney Opera House. Since then, there have been stunning events around the world: Birmingham in 2003; Athens in 2004; London in 2005; Hong Kong in 2006; Toronto in 2008; Singapore in 2009; and back to London in 2010. This year it will be held in Cape Town, and next year in Wellington. We are looking forward with excitement to this wonderful opportunity for New Zealand and for New Zealanders as well as dancers from around the world. Make a note of the dates – further information will follow in due course.

Solo Seal Awards

The Solo Seal Awards will be held in Wellington on Sunday 18 September. Please return the enclosed form as soon as possible to reserve your tickets for this prestigious event. There are eight entries this year, so it will be a great opportunity to see so many wonderful young dancers.

Key Dates

2011

1 August	Closing date for Certificate in Ballet Teaching Studies applications
18 September	Solo Seal in Wellington
22 September	Earlybird Closing Date for 2012 International Summer School
30 September	Second 2011 closing date for Creina Gee Memorial Awards
6 & 7 October	Genée Semi-finals in Cape Town
9 October	Genée Final in Cape Town
10 November	Final Closing Date for 2012 International Summer School

2012

9-21 January	International Summer School and Performance Course in Wellington
12 & 13 December	Genée Semi-finals in Wellington
15 December	Genée Final in Wellington

Genée International Ballet Competition 2011 – Cape Town

Photo: Photograph courtesy of South African Tourism



GENÉE INTERNATIONAL BALLET COMPETITION 2011 CAPETOWN

South Africa will host the Genée International Ballet Competition for the first time in 2011, with the city of Cape Town providing a stunning backdrop to the prestigious competition, from 30 September to 9 October.

The competition is presented by the RAD in association with the City of Cape Town and is supported by the University of Cape Town (UCT) and Cape Town City Ballet. It will be staged at Artscape, the city's leading forum for the performing arts, with the Semi-finals taking place in the Theatre and the Final in the Opera House.

Finalists will compete for a coveted gold, silver or bronze medal, as well as significant prize money. The live audience at the Final will also vote for their favourite candidate who will receive a special Audience Award.

South African choreographer Kirsten Isenberg will create two exclusive variations (male and female) which will be premiered during the competition.

General booking is now open. Students (under 18) enjoy a 10% discount, and groups of 10 will pay for only nine tickets.

Buy your tickets through Computicket Website: www.computicket.com

For up to date information please visit: www.rad.org.uk/genee2011

Grades 1 – 3: New Boundaries for Ballet



Photo: Graham Read

Following on from the foundations laid by Pre-Primary in Dance and Primary in Dance, the creative panel, led by Artistic Director Lynn Wallis, has now made significant progress in revising the current Graded syllabus, focusing first on Grades 1–3 which has been piloted by 40 teachers worldwide. The feedback from the pilots has been invaluable in making sure that the syllabus is suitable for both male and female students of varying abilities, ages and cultures.

The new Graded syllabus (1–3) aims to provide the young ‘once a week’ student with a hunger and love of ballet that will develop into their teen and adult years. To ensure this, Grades 1–3 must be stimulating and fun for students to engage in, whilst leaving the parents of younger candidates confident that their child is learning a variety of new skills which are relevant to the ballet world of today. The new syllabus acknowledges tradition but extends boundaries.

Lynn Wallis describes the ethos of Grades 1–3 as ‘*instilling a love, knowledge and understanding of ballet through participation.*’ As with Primary in Dance, the learning outcomes focus on quality of movement and not quantity, and the syllabus is designed to challenge students technically, artistically, musically and creatively through exercises and dances that encourage a sense of stagecraft and musical interpretation, creating a rounded learning experience.

Accordingly, the new Grades 1–3 syllabi also provide a rich, authentic musical experience for young dancers. Each exercise has a choice of two contrasting pieces of music, including ballet and concert repertoire in its original orchestral form recorded exclusively for the RAD by the Orchestra of English National Ballet, as well as specially commissioned arrangements for chamber ensemble that highlight particular instruments, sounds and styles. Piano reductions

of all the music have been recorded in order to provide variety and contrast and also to be used as a rehearsal CD for those working with piano accompaniment in examinations.

Key Developments:

- Three Assessment options: Grade Examinations, Class Awards and Solo Performance Awards. A third and new assessment – Solo Performance Award – has been introduced so that students may work with their teachers to present three contrasting solos, of which at least two are taken from the examination syllabi while the third may be created by their teacher.
- Choreographic options for both teachers and students. Within certain exercises and dances, teachers and students have the option to create their own content or arrange their spatial patterning. This allows for flexibility and differentiation, ensuring inclusivity for all ages and abilities and importantly, a higher level of engagement.
- A selection of dances to choose from for all assessment options. At each grade, teachers and students can choose between two dances in the classical dance and character dance sections.
- Dynamics of movement that are aligned to 'Free Movement' in the current syllabus are integrated throughout the new Grades 1–3 to promote the development of versatile and dynamic dancers.
- Candidates are assessed on their ability to move rather than recall. The syllabus has therefore been designed with fewer exercises than the current Grades, although the overall content is more comprehensive.
- As with Pre-Primary in Dance & Primary in Dance, teachers and students may choose between the two musical selections provided

for each exercise. All assessment options may use either live or recorded music in dance class whilst preparing for examination; but all dances are performed to recorded music in the examination, as with the current Intermediate Foundation/Intermediate.

- Feedback from the pilot teachers suggests that there is a significant difference in the way that both average and more able students progress from the new Pre-Primary in Dance and Primary in Dance syllabi to the new Grade 1 and beyond.

Launch Event on 3 January 2012

Grades 1–3 will be launched at a members' event at The Mermaid Theatre, London on 3 January 2012 and in Sydney on 16 January 2012, using a similar format to previous syllabus launches. Tickets will go on sale in September and more information will be available via e-news and at www.rad.org.uk. To find out what teachers and students involved in the trials think of the new work, please visit www.rad.org.uk/grades1-3

The product range will comprise an Exercises & Dances Book (incorporating word notes and Benesh Movement Notation), Sheet Music, DVDs and CDs, and members will be able to pre-order the product range at a special rate from October 2011. Visit www.radenterprises.co.uk for more information.

Teachers, please note that the current Grades 1–3 syllabi will stop being examined at the end of December 2012 and the new Grades 1 – 3 will be examined worldwide from January 2013.

Key Syllabus Review Dates for the Diary

Launch of Grades 1–3: January 2012

NEW! Launch of Advanced Foundation & Advanced 1 & 2 Female: September 2013

Launch of Grades 4 & 5: January 2014

Auckland

Auckland's Vocational Graded and Graded examination entry numbers have been bigger than ever this year. In June there was a very well-attended Feedback seminar for teachers with Vocational Examiner Joy Ransley (one of several pilot Feedback seminars being held worldwide), and also a special Focus Group session. In mid-July the second of the two Auckland courses covering the new Intermediate Foundation and Intermediate will be held. It is a very busy year for the teachers here!

On 11 December, Valerie Murray will be celebrating 60 years of teaching with a Diamond Jubilee in the Auckland Civic Theatre. This promises to be a fantastic day, filled with memories, old friends and dancing from the entire school including a ballet choreographed specifically for the occasion. SABA Young Ballet was established in 1996. Prior to that, it was Auckland City Ballet Centre (1994), South Auckland Ballet Academy (1961), and Valerie Bentley School of Ballet (1952). Register on line for this exciting and special event at www.acbc.co.nz. Please let anyone who may be interested in this celebration know about it. For more information, contact Lynda Jeffrey (09) 292 7659 or 021 0221 4539; or email acbc-saba@xtra.co.nz.

Deborah Morrison

Waikato

Two dancers from Thames Hauraki Ballet Theatre are succeeding in the wider world.



Megan Streiff (16 yrs) originally from the USA has been accepted into the California Dance Arts summer intensive in July. She was one of only 15 senior students chosen to take part in this 3 week intensive programme in Los Angeles.



Vida Polakov (13 yrs) was thrilled to be one of 22 semi finalists out of 105 entries in the Alana Haines competition held recently in Auckland.

Waikato Teachers are busy preparing their students for the examinations in August and are looking forward to welcoming Grades Examiner Sharon Howells and Vocational Examiner Isabel Yuan. Teachers will have the opportunity to attend a Feedback seminar with Sharon Howells in Hamilton on 15 August.



A new name for an existing school: introducing Limelight Dance Academy, formerly the Margaret Fairhead School of Dance. Kerry Mills has owned the school for over two years, and said: "It was time to give the school a new look. We are the same school, with the same teachers, and the same values, but just with a shiny new name. I would like to thank Margaret for all her hard work over the years, in building up such a wonderful school, and I hope to continue on in this fashion with the new name."

Annette Leach

Bay of Plenty

June was a very busy month with closing dates for Vocational Graded examinations in Hamilton, Intermediate Foundation and Intermediate courses in Auckland and the Bay of Plenty examinations all falling due. Teachers and pupils will be working hard in preparation for these important events.

I was thrilled to attend Anne Samson's concert celebrating 40 years of teaching. Her best concert yet! It was great to see her mother, 2 sisters and niece travel such a long way to be with her on her special night. Past teacher Rosemary Clark from Auckland and many past pupils were also there. Well done Anne.



Congratulations to our Life Member Linda Hudson who, as a trustee of the Bay Trust for 4 years and with broad governance and community knowledge, has been elected to specific roles including Health Sector Chair and member of the Investment Committee.

Congratulations also to Bailey Anderson, pupil of the Taupo Academy of Dance, on winning a return scholarship for the Intermediate 2012 event of the Phoenix Dance Workshop. Choreographers from all over the world teach at this event held annually in New Zealand.

Welcome to Leila Eve, new granddaughter for Yvonne and Peter Edwards.

Faye Stamp

Manawatu/Wanganui/Taranaki

Maureen Ax reports that the Queen's Birthday weekend seminar was a fantastic event, with 53 students from New Plymouth, Wanganui, Hawkes Bay and Palmerston North coming together in the Regent Theatre rehearsal room. Tutors were Fiona Haines who took the syllabus classes, and Torum Heng who introduced the students to the fun of Musical Theatre.



Fiona Haines with students at the Queens Birthday seminar

Congratulations to Maxene Greer and family on the birth in May of Hunter.

Sue Tuck

Wellington

Following the Wellington Vocational Graded examination session with Examiner Joy Ransley, one of the pilot Feedback seminars for teachers was held. A number of teachers also accepted an invitation to be part of the special Focus Group here. The second Vocational Graded session, including Solo Seal, will be in September; and both the Graded session and the Intermediate Foundation and Intermediate teachers courses will be in October.



Photo: Rebecca Pilcher



Senior Students from Khandallah Ballet Academy & Carolyn McKeefry School of Dance performed 'Les Sylphides' and 'Dance Russe' during their recent recital.

In May, Lucas De Jong, the Wellington reporter on the Breakfast show joined in a class of young dancers from the Paula Hunt Dance Studio. His attempts to learn ballet as part of the class were shown on the Breakfast programme on May 27, for the RNZB opening in Auckland.

Lucas de Jong in class, with students of the Paula Hunt Dance Studio



Sue Tuck

Nelson-Marlborough

Students from the Rebecca Bignall Academy of Dance enjoyed being involved in 'Purple Cake Day', which was established to celebrate and empower the children in our lives to help children in need worldwide.

The Funds raised from this event went to the Kenbe La Foundation to build a school for earthquake devastated Haiti. Because of Christchurch's recent devastation half the funds raised by the Academy were given to children and families in need who are currently living in Christchurch.



Pink and purple ballerinas from the Rebecca Bignall Academy of Dance

Congratulations to Sherie Schwass and her husband on the birth in March of their baby, Samantha Rose.

Sue Tuck

Christchurch

Royal Academy of Dance staff worldwide have sent messages expressing their shock and sorrow at the effect of the earthquakes on the structure and the people of Christchurch.

The report below was received from our Area Organiser Lynda Saxton before the further devastating quakes on 13 June.

“ With our very-messed-up start to the year, the Christchurch teachers are running about a term behind. A couple of teachers had to move and are not sure when they can go back or even get into their old studios. A lot of our students were scatted all over the country and some are not coming back. We hope they are settled now. We had to move our Vocational exams and Intermediate Foundation–Intermediate course to be held later in the year, and trying to get halls and meeting places has been a nightmare for all, because everybody is on the lookout for places to temporarily work from. We will get there in the end, and will hopefully get a better city out of it all.

I would like to thank everyone who sent their kind wishes to us. It was really nice to hear from them and from head office in London, THANK YOU all. We are hoping that the RNZB will come to Christchurch later in the year as we haven't seen a show this year, but that will depend on the Isaacs Theatre Royal being open, and on the Red Zone. I heard that our Town Hall is going to be out of action for at least two and a half years. That's so sad. But we are slowly getting back into things. The Christchurch Competitions are still going ahead in the July school holidays and that is always fun. So if you have nothing better to do, I bet the organisers would love to see you there.

Well that's about it from shaky old Christchurch. We are trying to catch up and to get a bit of normality back into our busy lives. Bye for now. ”

Lynda Saxton

One week after the 13 June earthquakes, Christchurch RAD teacher Avril Levings wrote the following:



A Day in the Life – from a Quake-stricken City

“ It's probably a bad time to ask for an article from me on what it's like because over on the Christchurch East the feeling is very down and very tearful. Enough is enough and it keeps on happening. What is the future for this poor city, what will be left of it, and when will it all end??? Each day we live in fear and there's not a day that it's ever out my mind; or wherever I am, I find myself checking out where I would run to or where would be safe.

As I write we have experienced over 7,400 quakes/aftershocks.

June 13th saw our home once again trashed, we have no water, no sewage and a home that was knee-deep in liquefaction – even my oven smashed to a million bits in the shake. Spending days and weeks to get rid of the stuff from the February quake, it's back again with a vengeance and worse than ever, this time going into my daughter's room and right round the whole house as well as through the garage. The street and footpaths are munted and as with February's quake which took 5 weeks to get our water and sewage back on, we are once again back to square one.

Back to port-a-loos, back to lugging water from the closest well to do dishes, arriving at different people's houses to shower and to do our washing. We eat mostly from paper plates and plastic cups, knives and forks. It's hard to clean the house, and hygiene is a big issue. This time in the middle of winter one finds this is all too much. I know there are a lot of people in Christchurch, unaffected, and although petrified with the continuing shaking, they are able to go on with their lives to a certain degree, but for the people in the most affected areas, life is tough.

One doesn't realise how we take power, water and sewage for granted. I am a solo mother with 3 girls and I have had my 2 younger children in my room since September the 4th's 7.1 quake. I no longer like where we live, or like our home. Or can I even say, I don't even like Christchurch.

However one has to be realistic, and it is my home and in reality – who would want to buy it?? So here we are in for the long haul. Luckily my dance halls have not been damaged and we have been able to return for classes, but the children have had so much time off this year. From February 23rd's quake, a month of tuition was missed, and last week's classes were cancelled after the June 13 quake.

The pupils need and crave for normality and I know the importance of us as dance teachers to get back out there to give them their love of dance and make them forget about it all, for a while anyway, while they are at their classes and are amongst their dance friends. Exams are put in the too-hard basket this year, what with the split shifts of schools adding to the difficulty. A lot of students miss many classes, unable to get to the studio till 7pm. But that's the way it is this year and we have to make the most of a bad situation. The children are focusing on an exciting production at the end of the year, something exciting for them to work towards and look forward to! We have to keep on going and we have to stay focused.

To everyone in Christchurch, stay strong – Kia Kaha ”

Avril Levings

Lynda Saxton

Costumes for Hire: Thames Hauraki Ballet Theatre has for hire costume sets for ballets including 'Pineapple Poll', 'Giselle Act II', 'Les Patineurs', 'Peter Pan', 'Beatrix Potter', 'Cats'. Also tutus for juniors and senior groups, red double and black single circle long skirts for seniors, short microdot skirts for Juniors and Seniors, etc. Contact Pauline Germon thbt@xnet.co.nz or ph 07 867 8145.



Otago

Karen Macleod has recently received the following exciting news from three of her ex-pupils. Lisa Craig, who is now a student



at the Australian Ballet School, was chosen to go on an exchange to the Toronto National Ballet School and then on to New York. She is also going on the Dancers Tour later this year. Anna Noonan,

who graduated from the Victorian College of the Arts, has gone to England to develop her choreographic skills. Philippa Stewart, pictured, who graduated from the National Theatre School in Melbourne, has been contracted to dance in 'Swan Lake' with the Tasmanian Ballet.

Jordan Mullin (ex Dunedin School of Ballet) was home from the Royal Ballet School in London for 3 weeks at the end of Term One. She provided much inspiration for the other students when she joined in with classes, especially at the 'Mum and Me' classes, as the accompanying photos show.



Students enjoyed having Jordan Mullin joining in their class.



Robyn Sinclair choreographed 'Music of the Knight' which so well received that a slightly shorter version has been requested as the opening performance for the refurbished Regent Theatre. Thus Dunedin audiences are in for a double treat soon.

I'm sure somewhere there is a saying about being careful what you wish for! I found this out for myself at the beginning of the year when I casually mentioned to my sister Shelley who was choreographing 'That's Entertainment' (a Theatre Restaurant show), that I'd love to do something like that. Before I knew what was happening I was in the cast and even performing a small solo ballet item. It has been many, many years since I was last on stage and the closer we got to opening night the more nervous I became. Even my 20-year-old's advice that make-up was the answer was little help. However, the show must go on and so did I – and I actually loved every minute of it. So perhaps there is a lesson from this which others may like to consider. Even though most of us who learn ballet do not go on to become ballerinas, the training we have had through the RAD can stand us in good stead for all of our lives.



Joy Pearson with ex Dunedin School of Ballet pupils, Tash & Stacey Primmer, in their 'Razzle Dazzle' costumes from 'That's Entertainment', Waikouaiti, May 2011. Photo: Lloyd Pearson

Dance Otakou held Otago's Heritage Dance Day in May with 17 groups taking part in the event, which aims to promote all styles of dance.

Joy Pearson

www.radenterprises.co.uk

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New boundaries for ballet Grades 1-3



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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.

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NEW ZEALAND SCHOOL OF DANCE



Photo: Phillip Merry



*Photo:
Phillip Merry*

NZSD Up Close

A varied programme of new contemporary dance works and ballet repertoire rarely seen in New Zealand, these intimate studio performances are an opportunity to get behind the scenes at the New Zealand School of Dance (NZSD).

Wednesday 13 July at 6pm (3rd year Solos)

From the savage to the sublime, the performance on Wednesday will present some of the best solos by third year classical and contemporary students, highlighting their distinctive talents.

Thursday 14 July at 1.15pm and 6pm

The one hour programmes on Thursday will be performed by over 40 students of the New Zealand School of Dance, fresh from working with outstanding New Zealand choreographer Michael Parmenter and international dance luminary Pablo Aharonian from Ballet de Santiago.

Te Whaea: National Dance & Drama Centre, Wellington
13 & 14 July – Entry by koha/donation, no need to book

Forum for Teachers

The School will also be holding a forum for teachers during the annual Winter School, 18 – 22 July. The forum is an opportunity to meet the staff of the NZSD and to ask any questions about fulltime training at NZSD, the audition process or the Junior and Regional Associates programmes. The time of the forum will be posted on the NZSD website.

Alana Haines Australasian Awards



The 20th anniversary of the biennial AHA awards was held in Auckland at Easter weekend 2011. Commemorating a promising 11yr old Wellington dancer Alana Haines, who was tragically killed on Christmas Eve 1989, this event was founded in 1991 by Alana's mother and former RNZB dancer, Katie Haines. The competition has grown to be the most prestigious of its kind in Australasia and is highly respected throughout the world. It creates a spring board of opportunities for students, with 260 contestants aged 11-21, including 103 from Australia, participating this year. Over \$250,000 prizes in cash & scholarships was awarded to 47 contestants.

The prestigious jury of six internationally renowned celebrities included Li Cunxin, author of the inspiring book 'Mao's Last Dancer', and his wife Mary McKendry; Gailene Stock, Royal Ballet School Director London; Mark Cassidy who was the 1991 AHA recipient and is now at the Australian Ballet Company; Tibor Horvath from the Swedish Ballet Company; and Leigh Rowles from the Australian Ballet School.

The event spanned 4 days, opening with a full house to view the celebrated Movie of 'Mao's Last Dancer' sponsored by Auckland Council. Over the next 3 days there were adjudicated classes, then 3 rounds of performances which culminated with the Grand Finals to a capacity audience of over 1000 followed by a cocktail party. Finals host was Sir Jon Trimmer, leading artist of the RNZB and patron of the AHA Awards. The guest performer was Hannah O'Neill of the Australian Ballet School, who was 1st runner-up in AHA Awards 2005 & 2007. Hannah, who went on to win the prestigious Prix de Lausanne in Switzerland 2009 and the Youth America Grand Prix in New York 2010, was a great inspiration to an already excellent standard of dancers.



Scholarships for the 2011 event included awards by elite international companies and schools from Hong Kong, Europe and the USA. All Supreme Finalists from 2011 on will be able to apply through the new AHA Awards 'Ongoing Financial Support' scheme for help towards all scholarships-related costs. The AHA Awards is the only competition in the world to offer ongoing financial support to recipients but with only NZ\$60,000 in this fund to distribute in 3 rounds, contributions towards these funds are needed in order to make a difference.

This event attracts thousands of dance enthusiasts, tutors and families throughout Australasia, and many past recipients of these awards are now international stars.

*Li Cunxin, Shayarne Matheson, Gailene Stock,
Brooke Ray, Mary McKendry
Photo: SmileClick*

Supreme Awards (13 to 21 years)



Group B (16-21 years):

Supreme Winner: Shayarne Matheson

Academy Ballet & Tanya Pearson Classical Coaching, NSW

Award: \$11,000 cash plus a £30,000 scholarship of one year to the Royal Ballet School in London.

1st Runner-up: Joel Woellner, Tanya Pearson Classical Coaching, NSW

2nd Runner-up: Cauê Frias – NZSD, Wellington

3rd Runner-up: Elese Hart – Tanya Pearson Classical Coaching, NSW

Audience Choice: Sun Lou – East Auckland Performing Arts School, Auckland



Group A (13-15 years):

Winner: Brooke Ray, Mt Eden Ballet Academy, Auckland

Award: \$3000 cash plus a scholarship to the American Academy of Ballet in New York

1st Runner-up: Courtney Jade MacMillan – PBCA, Queensland

2nd Runner-up: Georgina Martin – Amanda Bollinger Dance Academy, Queensland,

3rd Runner-up: Montana Rubin – The Dance Spot, Sydney

Audience Choice: Jessica Brown – Prudence Bowen Atelier, Queensland, Australia

Supreme Finalists:

Thealyssa Ng – Mt Eden Ballet Academy, Auckland

Ariana Hond – Mt Eden Ballet Academy, Auckland

Emma White – NZSD, Wellington

Supreme Semi-Finalists:

Megan de Klerk – Northern Dance Academy, Kerikeri

Taylor Venter – Academie Etoiles, Perth

Yayoi Matches – Ponsonby School of Dance, Auckland

Aurelian Child-de Brocas – EAPA, Auckland

Harry Churches – Alegria Dance Studios, NSW

Jessica Brown – Prudence Bowen Atelier, Queensland

Kelsey Stokes – Northern Dance Academy, Kerikeri

Brydee Lyttle – Carole Oliver School of Ballet, Victoria

Danielle Scott – Ballet Theatre Australia, Victoria

Alex Cambie – Mt Eden Ballet Academy, Auckland

Molly Grigg – Prudence Bowen Atelier, Queensland

Junior Scholars (11-13 years)

Winner: Thomas McClintock – MEBA, Auckland

Award: \$2000 cash plus a scholarship to the Australian Ballet School in Melbourne.

1st Runner-up: Emily Da – MEBA, Auckland

2nd Runner-up: Katerina Hond – MEBA, Auckland

3rd-equal Runner-up: Emma Launder – MEBA, Auckland

3rd-equal Runner-up: Si Yeon Lee – Philippa Campbell School of Ballet, Auckland

Audience Choice: Amy Radford – Redland Dance, Queensland

Junior Scholar Finalists:

Jana Viktoria Baldovino – Paula Hunt Dance, Wellington

Emily Bray – Jane Moore Academy of Ballet, Victoria

Jade Shubitz – The Dance Spot, NSW

Isabella Robertson – Prudence Bowen Atelier, Queensland

Henry Grey – Philippa Campbell School of Ballet, Auckland

Jaimée Logan – Strictly Dance, Queensland

Junior Scholars Semi-Finalists:

Amy Radford – Redland Dance, Queensland

Henriette Hartl – Amanda Bollinger Dance Academy, Queensland

Amelia Townsend – Annette Roselli Ballet Academy, Queensland

Ellie Norton – Brisbane Dance Centre, Queensland

Hannah Roche – Marlborough Dance Centre, Blenheim

Chloe Michelle Hollow – Karen Ireland Dance Centre, NSW

Libby-Rose Niederer – Cameron Ballet Academy, Auckland

Beth Brockett – Brisbane Dance Centre, Queensland

Katherine Sonnekus – MEBA, Auckland

Indigo Robb – Harbour Performing Arts Centre, NSW

Vida Polakov – THBT, Ngatea

www.ahaawards.co.nz

Examinations Information

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.

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.
-

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. New specification documentation for Graded examinations and Vocational Graded examinations and a new over arching document called Examinations Information and Rules & Regulations are now available. Check them out on 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 or tel 04 382 8924.

Further Examinations Information

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 \$300 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 \$1520. This surcharge will not apply if teachers combine with other teachers to ensure a total of more than 3 hours.

Replacement Certificates

A charge of \$15 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.

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).

The Graded Examinations in Dance syllabus

2011 Approximate Dates

2nd Term 2011

Area	Approx Dates	Closing Dates	Examiner
Auckland/Northland	28 Jun – 13 Jul	7 Apr	Carryne Algie
Wellington Mid-Year	8 Jul – 10 Jul	12 May	Robyn Charlton-Kelly

3rd Term 2011

Area	Approx Dates	Closing Dates	Examiner
Waikato	4 Aug – 21 Aug	26 May	Sharon Howells
Auckland Mid-Year	8 Aug – 1 Sep	26 May	Helen Calman
Hawkes Bay	10 Aug – 4 Sep	2 Jun	Alison Pond
Southland	15 Aug – 22 Aug	2 Jun	Tonia Robertson
ChCh/Canterbury	23 Aug – 1 Sep	9 Jun	Karen Macleod
Manawatu/Wanganui/Taranaki	12 Sep – 2 Oct	30 Jun	Karen Macleod
Bay of Plenty	12 Sep – 2 Oct	30 Jun	Carole Speirs
Otago	15 Sep – 30 Sep	7 Jul	Tonia Robertson
Marlborough/Nelson	29 Sep – 1 Oct	7 Jul	Sharon Howells

4th Term 2011

Area	Approx Dates	Closing Dates	Examiner
Christchurch Year-End	27 Oct – 5 Nov	11 Aug	Carryne Algie
Wellington Year-End	25 Oct – 18 Nov	11 Aug	Valma Briggs
Auckland Year-End	25 Oct – 20 Nov	11 Aug	Karen Stephens
Wairarapa	6 Dec – 8 Dec	29 Sep	Carole Speirs

2011 Fees per candidate

Level	Examinations		Class Awards & Presentation Classes	
	1st Child	2nd Child	Up to 4	Over 4
Pre-School Dance Curriculum			\$16	\$16
Pre-Primary/Pre-Primary in Dance			\$41	\$35
Primary/Primary in Dance	\$60	\$45	\$45	\$38
Grade 1	\$67	\$50	\$50	\$43
Grade 2	\$80	\$60	\$60	\$51
Grade 3	\$91	\$68	\$69	\$59
Grade 4	\$100	\$75	\$76	\$65
Grade 5	\$109	\$82	\$84	\$71
Grade 6	\$116	\$87	\$88	\$75
Grade 7	\$119	\$89	\$91	\$77
Grade 8	\$126	\$95	\$97	

The Vocational Graded Examinations in Dance syllabus

2011 Approximate Dates

2nd Term 2011

Venue Location	Venue ID	Approx Dates	Closing Date	Examiner
Wellington (1st)	1142	18 May – 25 May	17 Mar	Joy Ransley
Auckland (1st)	1077	26 May – 3 Jun	17 Mar	Joy Ransley

3rd Term 2011

Venue Location	Venue ID	Approx Dates	Closing Date	Examiner
Palmerston North	1090	15 Aug – 20 Aug	26 May	Debra Whitten
Auckland	1077	21 Aug – 7 Sep	26 May	Debra Whitten
Hamilton	1019	31 Aug – 8 Sep	16 Jun	Isabel Yuan
Wellington	1142	9 Sep – 21 Sep	16 Jun	Isabel Yuan
Solo Seal (Wellington)	1142	18 Sep	16 Jun	Isabel Yuan
Napier	1098	22 Sep – 26 Sep	16 Jun	Isabel Yuan
Invercargill	1082	26 Aug – 30 Aug	23 Jun	Sue Nicholls
Christchurch	1066	3 Oct – 7 Oct	5 Aug	Sue Nicholls

2011 Fees per candidate

Level	Examination Fee Members	Examination Full Fee Non-members
Intermediate Foundation	\$174	\$174
Intermediate	\$185	\$185
Advanced Foundation	\$190	\$308
Advanced 1	\$195	\$313
Advanced 2	\$200	\$318
Solo Seal Award	\$275	\$393

2011 Primary School Term Dates

Term 1: Between 31 Jan & 7 Feb – Fri 15 Apr
Term 2: Mon 2 May to Fri 15 Jul
Term 3: Mon 1 Aug to Fri 7 Oct
Term 4: Tues 25 Oct to Tues 13 Dec
Note: Easter Friday-Monday is 22-25 Apr

Check the 'Further Examinations Information' on Page 23 for topics such as Refund Policy, Age Requirements and Special Graded Examinations.

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) will be 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 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 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, or can be requested by emailing 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
- 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 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.

Area Organisers

AUCKLAND/NORTHLAND

Deborah Morrison

85B Long Drive
St Heliers
Auckland 1071
tel: 09 585 1258
mob: 027 416 8404
dmorrison@ihug.co.nz

WAIKATO

Annette Leach

58 Herbert Road
Hamilton 3210
tel: 07 855 7031
fax: 07 855 7036
ronant@clear.net.nz

BAY OF PLENTY

Faye Stamp

3/187 Te Akau Road
RD4
Rotorua 3074
tel: 07 362 4829
mob: 027 244 2078
fax: 07 362 4284

HAWKES BAY/POVERTY BAY

Leigh Jones

PO Box 436
86 Kennedy Rd
Napier 4140
tel: 06 835 5982
mob: 021 055 0936
paljones@xtra.co.nz

WELLINGTON/TARANAKI/MANAWATU/ WANGANUI/ WAIRARAPA/NELSON

Sue Tuck

41a Calcutta Street
Khandallah, Wellington 6035
tel: 04 479 2716
mob: 021 298 8270
fax: 04 479 2745
suetucknz@hotmail.com

CHRISTCHURCH/CANTERBURY

Lynda Saxton

80 Strickland Street
Somerville
Christchurch 8023
tel: 03 960 6950
lyndance@paradise.net.nz

OTAGO

Joy Pearson

40 Cole Street
Caversham
Dunedin 9012
tel: 03 487 6744
mob: 021 134 0653 (txt only)
joy.pearson@clear.net.nz

SOUTHLAND

Lynette Mc Kerchar

Forest Hill
RD1
Winton 9781
tel: 03 221 7045
mob: 027 223 0817
fax: 03 221 7045
mckerchar.foresthill@xtra.co.nz

National Office Staff

National Administrator

Janet Taylor

jtaylor@rad.org.nz

Assistant National Administrator

Nina Sowerbutts

nsowerbutts@rad.org.nz

Tel 04 382 8924 | Fax 382 8200 | PO Box 11718 Manners Street, Wellington 6142

ROYAL ACADEMY OF DANCE INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL

9 – 21 January
WELLINGTON

2012



ROYAL ACADEMY OF
DANCE

For information

Phone: 04 382 8924

Email: iss@rad.org.nz

Website: www.rad.org.nz