

NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2013

Examinations

Once again I am pleased to report 100% success in examinations of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music. Since the last newsletter was published the following students were successful in achieving the Grades outlined below. Many congratulations to all.

Dip.ABRSM	<i>Tony Seprenji</i>
Grade 8	<i>Harriet Bilsborough Owen Clarridge Veronica Kadi Matthew Kimemia Michael Riley Tony Seprenji</i>
Grade 7	<i>Gareth Clarridge Rebecca Kadi</i>
Grade 6	<i>Rebecca Kadi</i>
Grade 5	<i>Mirej Patel Rosanna Wood</i>
Grade 5 Theory	<i>Rebecca Kadi</i>
Grade 4	<i>Jennifer Ayre Aled Clarridge</i>
Grade 4 Theory	<i>Paul Studart</i>
Grade 3	<i>Nathaniel Anand Madeleine Crust Angie Koufou Maia Stockman</i>
Grade 2	<i>Alex Copp Olivia Petrie Natalie Sena</i>
Grade 1	<i>Jaqueline Anand Gemma Crane Simon Jelley</i>
Preparatory Test	<i>Saffron Cambden Rhiannon Jelley</i>

Extra congratulations to the highest mark scorers who gained good Distinctions and Merits at Grade 8 ***Michael Riley*** (136), ***Owen Clarridge*** (120), Grade 7 ***Rebecca Kadi*** (123), Grade 6 ***Rebecca Kadi*** (123), Grade 5 ***Rosanna Wood*** (127), Grade 3 ***Madeleine Crust*** (122), ***Michel Wallace*** (121), Grade 2 ***Aled Clarridge*** (130), ***Olivia Petrie*** (120), and Grade 1 ***Simon Jelley*** (130).

Tony Seprenji Dip.ABRSM

Following his Grade 8, Tony continued to achieve success when he gained the Diploma Dip.ABRSM in July 2012. This involved the performance of a 35 minute recital, to be played from memory before a jury of three examiners. Tony also presented programme notes about the music he was playing and its place in music history. He did well in the viva voce part of the examination in which he was required to discuss his programme notes and the composers of the music he performed.

Eleanor Wilson BA Hons., ATCL

Eleanor achieved First Class Honours in her BA degree in Music in July 2013, so she now has more letters to add to her name following her success with her Piano Diploma ATCL which she gained some years ago. Eleanor is now building a successful piano teaching practice of her own, and she has been invited to join the Piano Committee of the Blackheath Music Festival. Eleanor is also pursuing a successful singing career.

Michael Riley

Michael was successful in passing the entrance auditions and requirements for Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music, London. He is now in his second year at the College.

Concerts

On Sunday July 2012 two concerts were held at my home in Christchurch Road, Sidcup. **Tony Seprenji** gave a morning recital which included the music he would play the following week for his Diploma examination, Dip.ABRSM. He performed a Bach Prelude and Fugue, Beethoven's Sonata Opus 13 in its entirety, *The Man I Love* and *I Got Rhythm* by George Gershwin, and *Regard de l'Étoile* from *Vingt Regards sur l'Enfant-Jésus* by Messiaen. The second concert was held during the afternoon, and all my students were invited to participate. Many congratulations to the following, all of whom gave excellent performances: **Nathaniel Anand, Anežka Butler, Saffron Cambden, Aled Clarridge, Owen Clarridge, Jerry Hamilton, Rhiannon Jelley, Simon Jelley, Rebecca Kadi** (who also performed on the clavichord), **Angie Koufou, Olivia Petrie** and **Tony Seprenji**. The concert was followed by refreshments in the garden and fortunately, we were blessed with good weather. Particularly popular were the homemade cakes supplied by parents, and also the strawberries and cream.

On July 7th 2013 a concert was held at Footscray Baptist Church, Sidcup. Several of Eleanor Wilson's students took part as well. This was the first time we had come to this venue and it has a very good Blüthner Grand Piano. Additional to those named above we heard from **Luca Cambden, Matthew Kimemia, Elena Margetis, Paul Studart and Eleanor Wilson**.

Music Festivals

Many students took part in Music Festivals, in particular the **Blackheath Music Festival** of which I am Piano Secretary. Students achieved 'Merit', 'Commended', 'Distinction' and 'Outstanding' awards for their performances. The *Duet with Teacher Classes* proved particularly popular, maybe because these are non-competitive classes. Congratulations to **Anežka Butler, Olivia Petrie, Florence Hyde, Jerry Hamilton, Anto Buckley, Rosanna Wood, Eleanor Wilson** and **Isabel Biddle**. **Rebecca Kadi** played in both the *Grade 7 Class* and the *16 Years and Over Class*. In 2013 **Tony Seprenji** achieved **First Place** in what is probably the most advanced Class of the Festival, the *Open Recital Class*. He played music by Brahms, Rachmaninov, Beethoven and Messiaen. Tony also performed Bach in the *Baroque Music Class* as well as music by Chopin and Messiaen in the *16/17 year old Class* at the **Maidstone Music Festival**. He was awarded 'Outstanding' in both categories. **Michael Riley** achieved **First Place** in the *Grade 8 Class* at both the **Beckenham Music Festival** and the **Maidstone Music Festival**. He achieved the 'Outstanding' category in the *16/17 Years Recital Class*. **Gareth Clarridge** and **Owen Clarridge** were awarded 'Merit' and 'Commended' in the *Grade 6 Class* and also in the *14/15* and *16/17 year old Classes* respectively.

Geoffrey Molyneux

Summer 2013