



All newsletters are available at [www.ncdance.com.au](http://www.ncdance.com.au)

<b>Diary 2009</b>
<b>Term 1</b> 27 <sup>th</sup> January – 9 <sup>th</sup> April
<b>Sydney Eisteddfod Closes</b> 16 <sup>th</sup> March
<b>Rose Fund Meeting</b> 17 <sup>th</sup> March
<b>Exams Entries Due (1<sup>st</sup> Session)</b> 21 <sup>st</sup> March
<b>Isobel Anderson</b> 26 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup> March
<b>Term 2</b> 28 <sup>th</sup> April – 10 <sup>th</sup> July
<b>Term 3</b> 27 <sup>th</sup> July – 2nd October
<b>Tentative Graded Exams TBA</b> 4,5,6 August
<b>Term 4</b> 19 <sup>th</sup> October – 11 <sup>th</sup> December
<b>Bursary Semi Final</b> December TBA
<b>Dress Rehearsal</b> 11 <sup>th</sup> December Civic Theatre
<b>End of Year concert</b> 12 <sup>th</sup> December Civic Theatre
<b>NCD Graduation</b> 13 <sup>th</sup> December
<i>All information is correct, to the best of our knowledge, at time of printing. Please check the studio timetable &amp; noticeboards regularly</i>

### ★Dear Parents and Students

Thanks once again for the wonderful effort in raising \$900 for the Bushfire appeal (\$1800 donated). We said we would announce the winner of the famous tickets to "Kings of Leon" Well much to my embarrassment I drew my own name out – this was validated in front of NCD staff and students. I was about to hand them back in to be re draw..... Then I saw the glance of "Oh no mum" so with quick rethinking..... I'm a favourite mum this week.

### ★Alana Haines Australasian Awards

Best wishes to the 10 students that I will accompany to New Zealand to compete in the Alana Haines competition in the school holidays. There will be an Open class on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April, 11am – 12.30pm for these students followed by full dress rehearsals in repertoire and contemporary between 1pm – 3.30pm. Naturally, all NCD students who are in the Newcastle Eisteddfod may take advantage of the open class as valuable preparation.

Cost of Open Class: \$15.00      Cost of Repertoire/Contemporary Class: \$25

'Alana Haines' students will receive an information package shortly outlining all details.

### ★Isobel Anderson

We wish all our students a happy experience in the upcoming Isobel Anderson Awards, 26<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> March!! Now the students have been taught the variations they will be rehearsed by me each week at the times allocated. As only a small window is available the students must be warm for their own safety. Your personal class times in Sydney will be handed out as soon as they are received., Aust Ballet's Stephanie Williams, former MWM Student, will give a guest performance at the final.

*(See the noticeboard and website for details on how to vote for Stephanie in the Telstra Awards)*

### ★Miss Frawley's Leave

Best wishes for Miss Frawley as she will go off on maternity leave 23 March and return 27<sup>th</sup> April. All classes have been allocated and training implemented for covering staff. We all thank her for her hard work during the last stage of her pregnancy especially the long day to teach all the students the Isobel Anderson Award variations. I know you join with me in wishing her a trouble free birth and can't wait to see her new baby shortly.

### ★NCD Scholarships

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded scholarship for 2009: Cert III – Melanie Smith, Simon Jones; Cert IV – Isaac Houston, Emily Dibden; Diploma – Henrietta Ellice-Flint, Raegan Williams. This has been implemented by Tony and Michele Bayliss on an annual basis (pending enrolment numbers) and based on the following criteria: Students had to apply in writing with confidential questions/answers that were only viewed by management and not the artistic staff. The Artistic staff then had to report on each student giving marks out of 5 on the following: Attendance/punctuality, Grooming, Class effort/behaviour, Potential.

This is an extremely fair way of judging a scholarship and all staff having input without knowing any of the personal attachment. Each student was then given a personal interview and asked the same questions. Scholarships awarded by Tony Murphy will have separate criteria and be transferred to the end of Year at the Civic Theatre.

### ★Private Lessons – Easter Break

No one was invoiced for Private lessons during the Easter Break, however with the Newcastle Eisteddfod commencing on the following week some students may require extra preparation. The following teachers are available to book a private lesson on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April. Marie Walton-Mahon, Michele Jarmaine, Hayley Farr, Veronica Mahon, Brianna Thomas, Zoe Jones, Debbie Linnert, Jillian Kempton (to cover Miss Frawley's students). Please fill in the tear off if you wish to take advantage of this opportunity: Bookings will be timetabled on a first in basis. You will be invoiced separately for these lessons.

### ★Open Week

Any classes and privates lessons can be viewed from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> April, with the exception of the two assessments for Choreography.

### ★ Newcastle Eisteddfod Trophies

All perpetual trophies are to be returned. Please leave trophies with Christine at the studio office.

## McDonalds Challenge (Sydney)

**Closing date: 16<sup>th</sup> March**



**LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT  
BE ACCEPTED!**

### ☆ Injuries

If something is causing pain tell your teacher to immediately modify your program. If after this the pain doesn't go away within a week of modifying your work, I would suggest to discuss with your teacher if you should have it checked. I would prefer everyone if possible to make the effort to see Ken Crichton at North Shore Orthopaedic Medical Centre – 02 9966 4700. If you need a physiotherapist we have Camille Clinton at our school each Friday afternoon and you can place your name down on her list. My reasons are: Ken looks after all the Australian Ballet and understands Dance and the dancers' body. Camille was a ballerina and naturally that has an enormous advantage. I have a direct liaison with both Ken and Camille and also them with each other. A clear letter is always sent to both Camille and myself and how to modify the work to gain recovery as quick as possible. Communication is so valuable and then we have tangible paperwork to copy for all staff that may have your daughter/son in classes.

### ☆ "So you think you can dance....."

Congratulations once again to the high standard set by Miss Debbie Linnert; she deserves all the accolades from Jason. I feel some people need to understand that some choreographers are only choreographers! They then have other people come in and teach their work. We are so fortunate here for our students not only to work with competent choreographers but we are also teachers and understand attention to detail and a trained "eye" to look at line and refinement in the movement. So when they book Miss Linnert they are definitely going to get the 100% finished product, all polished to show them to their best advantage which will enhance the beautiful choreography.

### ☆ Genée International Ballet Competition

The 2009 Genée will be held in Singapore, 3<sup>rd</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> September. Students wishing to participate in the competition should go to the following website for all information: [www.geneeballetcompetition.com](http://www.geneeballetcompetition.com) (Please note that a teacher will not be travelling with students). Students will receive a 'hand-out' in class, Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March regarding the Genée.

The Genée is a demanding competition which attracts the finest dancers from all over the world. Competitors partake in five days of intensive coaching with RAD faculty before competing in the semi-finals. They perform in front of a panel of distinguished judges who then select a short-list of finalists to compete in the final. Entry is open to dancers who have passed the RAD Advanced 2 examination with Distinction or who have been awarded the Solo Seal. Applicants must also be paid up members of the Royal Academy of Dance and be aged between 15 and 19 years. Judges for this year's competition include: Dame Antoinette Sibley DBE, Goh Doo Khim (Principal, Singapore Ballet Academy), Gary Harris (Artistic Director, Royal NZ Ballet).

Fond Wishes,  
Marie Walton-Mahon



**Private Lessons – Easter Break 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> April**

Date received:

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(parent/guardian)