

# THE GRADUATE COLLEGE OF DANCE NEWSLETTER

The Graduate College of Dance  
**Term 2 May 2003**

*The Graduate College of Dance is always looking at new ways to encourage and foster financial support so that we can continue to provide the very best facilities, support and experiences for our students.*



This year has already seen some very innovative fundraising initiatives undertaken, such as the adult ballet classes, the Dawn Weller Rose and the sale of photographs on-line through Pics in an Instant.

Many thanks to all students, parents and friends of the College who supported our fundraising activities in Term 1.

Now we are very excited about the launch of a new initiative for the College – The Graduate College of Dance Appeal Fund.

Our goal is for this fund to become an integral part of the fundraising program for the College and I hope that the extended College community will wholeheartedly support the appeal.

Chavaune Francis  
**Editor**

## **THE GRADUATE COLLEGE OF DANCE APPEAL FUND**

The Graduate College of Dance has established an Appeal Fund to encourage and foster the interest and financial support of former students, parents of students and friends of the College to preserve, improve and develop its standards, services and facilities.

Our inaugural appeal for 2003/2004 will be for the purchase of a Baby Grand Piano. The marriage of dance and music forms the basis of ballet and the study of music is an important component of the dance course syllabus at the College. One of the unique aspects of The Graduate College of Dance is that classes are conducted to live music. This provides students with the opportunity to develop a respect and knowledge of the scores they will work with in their professional careers.

The appeal will be officially launched in Term 2 and our target for the 2003/2004 appeal is set at \$20,000. If you would like further information regarding the appeal, please contact Chavaune Francis on 0408 982890 or [glide@inet.net.au](mailto:glide@inet.net.au). We look forward to your support.

## **DIE FLEDERMAUS PERFORMANCE**

The Graduate College of Dance has received a tremendous compliment by being invited to perform in the Australian Opera Studio's season of Die Fledermaus.

The Australian Opera Studio is headed by the renowned former principal singer of The Australia Opera Mr Gregory Yurisich and funded by the generous patronage of Dr Haruhisa Handa, of the International Foundation for Arts and Culture. The Australian Opera Studio is Australia's only school dedicated to the development of future operatic performers through a completely performance-based course.

Considered a masterpiece and the finest product of the Viennese operetta school, Die Fledermaus is a profusion of wit and melody. Touring during November 2003, Die Fledermaus will perform in Geraldton, Kalgoorlie, Bunbury and at His Majesty's Theatre. A special New Year Eve's performance will be presented at His Majesty's Theatre.

## MEET YOUR DIRECTOR - DAWN WELLER OMSS, ARAD



*Dawn Weller performing in 'The Three Musketeers' (above) and in rehearsal for 'Giselle' (above right) during her distinguished career as Ballerina with the State Theatre Ballet. 'The Three Musketeers' will be staged by The Australian Ballet later in the year.*



Dawn Weller has had a long and distinguished association with ballet and is recognised as one of the prime movers in taking South African ballet and, in particular, the State Theatre Ballet, to a level of sustained excellence. Under her direction for 17 years, from 1983 to 2000, the State Theatre Ballet consolidated its standing as South Africa's premiere ballet company and strengthened its position as a company of international calibre.

Trained in South Africa and abroad by prominent figures in the field of dance, Dawn reached Principal and Ballerina status with the State Theatre Ballet. During her career as a dancer, she built up an extensive repertoire that included many major classical roles, full-length dramatic works, shorter ballets and works created for her by leading 20th century choreographers. On many occasions Dawn was the recipient of leading awards for dancers. She was the first South African ballerina to be the subject of a book (*Dawn Weller: Portrait of a Ballerina*) and was the subject of two full-length national TV documentaries in 1983 and 2000. Her contribution to dance was acknowledged by South Africa when she was awarded the Order of Meritorious Service Silver (O.M.S.S.).

Dawn was the founding Director of the contemporary State Theatre Dance Company, the State Theatre Ballet School and a founder trustee of the *Arts and Culture Trust of the President* under Nelson Mandela. Dawn was a member of the Artistic Committee for Nelson Mandela's Inaugural Gala in 1994 and during that time launched ballet classes for historically disadvantaged children and gave movement classes for terminally ill children.

As artistic director of the State Theatre Ballet she acquired for the company the works of many important international choreographers. Dawn was highly regarded for personally restoring to the repertoire works that had not been performed for many years.

She has served on the jury of various international competitions including the VIII Moscow International Ballet Competition chaired by Yuri Gregorovich and headed by the legendary Galina Ulanova and is frequently invited to serve on the teaching and examining faculties of schools and educational institutions. Dawn's lifelong contribution to dance has recently been acknowledged by the South African and Australian Cecchetti Societies (honorary memberships) and the Royal Academy of Dance (life membership).

In 2002 Dawn was appointed as Director at The Graduate College of Dance. She has since introduced an all-encompassing syllabus and staged her own highly acclaimed production of *The Nutcracker* at His Majesty's Theatre.

## STUDENTS BENEFIT FROM GUEST TEACHERS



*Simon Dow (above), Artistic Director of  
WA Ballet and recent guest teacher at  
The Graduate College of Dance.*

In Term 1 students at The Graduate College of Dance had the unique opportunity to learn from professionals within the dance industry when Simon Dow, Artistic Director with WA Ballet, Kim McCarthy, former Principal Dancer with Hamburg Ballet, and Jane Tucker, former dancer with Hong Kong Ballet, were invited as guest teachers.

Simon worked with Year 12 students on a section of his Spartacus Pas de Deux, performed as part of WA Ballet's 'Rite of Passage' season held at the Quarry Amphitheatre in February. The Year 12 curriculum includes the study of an Australian choreographer and to learn the work from Simon, the creator of Spartacus, was indeed a privilege for our students.

Originally from Perth, Kim McCarthy has been invited back to create a work for the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts. Students benefited from classes Kim gave to Years 10, 11 and 12. Kim will return as a guest teacher in Term 2.

Exposure to dance professionals is extremely important to the training of a dancer and The Graduate College of Dance will continue to pursue similar opportunities for our students.

### YOUTH DANCE ADVANCE

On May 17 students from The Graduate College of Dance will participate in Youth Dance Advance 2003. Students have been working hard with choreographer Rachel Ogle who was commissioned by Ausdance WA to choreograph a contemporary piece with our students. The result, 'mag-ne-to-sphere', will be performed at the Lady Wardle Performing Arts Centre at St Mary's Anglican Girls' School in Karrinyup. Below is a synopsis of the work.

#### **mag-ne-to-sphere**

*An asymmetrical region surrounding the earth, extending from about one hundred to several thousand kilometres above the surface, in which charged particles are trapped and their behaviour is dominated by the earth's magnetic field.*

*The imbalance of positive and negative charges results in static electricity. The dancers act as conduits to these charges and the resulting magnetism of the field.*

### REGIONAL COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

Four students from the Dance School in Bunbury participated in the first Regional Community Outreach Program conducted by the College in March. The program has been implemented to benefit dance students in regional areas of Western Australia. Students participated in Classical, Character, Spanish and Repertoire classes over two days. At the conclusion of the program, students were interviewed regarding their work and presented with a certificate of attendance.

### PERTH MODERNIAN PERFORMANCE

On Sunday April 6 students from The Graduate College of Dance presented a performance for Perth Modernians, the association of former Perth Modern School students. Students representing each year of study at The Graduate College of Dance demonstrated the diverse training undertaken from years 5 to 12 as part of the dance performance course syllabus.

### LIFE MEMBERSHIP FOR DIRECTOR

Dawn Weller has received further recognition of her contribution to the dance community having recently been honoured with a Life Membership from the Royal Academy of Dance.

## PHOTOGRAPHS + VIDEOS



Photographs from the 2002 season of The Nutcracker and of Term 1 Assessments are now available to purchase. Part proceeds from the sale of these photographs will go towards the College for the benefit of the students.

To view the beautiful and inspiring images available please go to **[www.picsinainstant.com](http://www.picsinainstant.com)**

If you would like to order photographs please contact:

Pics in an Instant  
Phone: 9371 8626  
Mobile: 0408 080 396  
Email: [pstone@stonespub.com.au](mailto:pstone@stonespub.com.au)

Videos of the Term 1 Assessments are also available for purchase. Each video will contain footage of only one year of study (ie if your child is in Year 5, you will need to purchase the Year 5 video). If you would like to purchase a copy of the Term 1 Assessment video, please obtain an order form from the administration office.

**Orders for photographs and videos close on 23 May 2003.**

## WELCOME

We would like to welcome Michael Williams to The Graduate College of Dance. Michael joins us at reception in a full time capacity.

## NEWS FROM THE COLLEGE'S BOARD

I hope all young dancers return from holidays refreshed and ready for another exciting term.

The College's Board of Management meets monthly and has achieved many things in this past term.

The College has a new constitution and one of the outcomes is an expanded Board membership. Welcome to three parents of College students who were nominated at the Ballet Support Group meeting on March 11. Bill Coleman, Eng Kong and Michele Toner bring expertise in industrial relations, architecture and education to the Board.

Welcome also to Jacquie Kubacz who is a lawyer and Jim Gray who is an accountant. Jim was elected to the position of Treasurer.

These five new members join continuing Board members Lynn Fisher, State Executive Officer of Guides WA as Chair, David Hilditch, Business Development Manager with Geotechnical Services as Deputy Chair and John Scotland, Manager Contracts and Relationships with Silver Chain as Secretary.

Other continuing members are Rodney Phillips, General Manager of His Majesty's Theatre, Simon Dow, Artistic Director of West Australian Ballet, Robyn White, Principal of Perth Modern School, Chavaune Francis, Director of Community Relations at PLC and Dawn Weller, Director of The Graduate College of Dance.

The Board is concerned with the continuing excellence of the dance program, building relationships with the community and with the financial position of the College. To this end, the Board is pursuing matters with the Education Department, funding sources and artistic educational organisations.

Each family with a student at the College is entitled to have one parent as a member of the Association. An audit will be undertaken soon and an Annual General Meeting will follow. I look forward to keeping you informed of developments.

### Lynn Fisher

Chair, Board of Management



### DAWN WELLER ROSE

The College has a limited number of 'Dawn Weller' Roses available for sale to parents, friends and supporters of the College.

Named on 25th November 1994 to honour Dawn Weller, only seven roses are available. The

roses have been generously donated by Andrew Scogings and all proceeds from their sale will go to the College.

'Dawn Weller' is a very vigorous floribunda that will quickly grow to a large, tall specimen shrub, covered with very glossy green and copper coloured leaves and large clusters of large semi-double blooms of an intense coral-apricot colour.

If you would like to purchase a 'Dawn Weller' Rose, please contact Michael Williams on 9380 0551. More roses will be available in October.

## COLLEGE HOUSEKEEPING

### Adult Ballet Classes

Adult classes will resume on Tuesday May 13, 2003. Classes are held at The Graduate College of Dance on selected Tuesdays from 5.30 to 6.30 pm (see below for timetable). The cost is \$10 per person per class. Book a series of 10 classes and you will only pay for nine (\$90). All proceeds from the classes will go towards the College.

<b>May</b>	13, 20, 27
<b>June</b>	3, 10, 24
<b>July</b>	29
<b>August</b>	5, 12, 19, 26
<b>September</b>	2, 9, 16
<b>October</b>	21, 28 (last for year)

### Advertising

If you are interested in promoting your business through The Graduate College of Dance newsletter and would like to obtain further information and advertising rates please contact Chavaune Francis at glide@inet.net.au or on 0408 982890. The booking deadline for advertising in the Term 3 newsletter is Monday June 30, 2003.

### Auditions

This year, auditions for entry to the Senior School in 2004 will be held on Saturday June 21. Auditions for entry to the Junior School will be held on Saturday October 18. Please contact Suzan if you require further information about auditions for entry in 2004.

### Student Notes

When writing notes or letters to The Graduate College of Dance, please ensure they are written on standard paper sizes (A5/A4) and that the following information is always included:

First name of student  
Surname of student  
Student's year of study  
Date

### Thank You

Thanks to Mrs Lawless and Mrs Ward who very generously responded to our 'wish list' request for a tea service set. If you would like to know what is on our 'wish list' or can help by donating or providing funding to assist with any items on this list, please contact Bruno Romeo on 0419 045651.

## OPEN WEEK AND CAREER GRADUATE TALKS

The Graduate College of Dance will open its doors from Monday June 16 until Friday June 20, 2003 to prospective students, their dance teachers and parents interested in the College's activities.

Visitors to the College will be able to observe the students' regular 'working week' and have the opportunity for discussion of the curriculum with members of the teaching faculty. A series of career seminars will be held, with talks from former students who have embarked on career paths in dance and related vocations, parents, representatives from WA Ballet, Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts and the College's physical health expert. All parents are encouraged to attend. There is no cost involved and bookings are essential.

### MONDAY JUNE 16, 2003

#### 'Pathways to a Career in Education' - 3.45-4.05pm

Sharon Prudham, Dance Studies Coordinator

#### 'Maintaining the Dancer' - 5.00-5.20pm

Ian Lowther, Physiotherapist and Podiatrist

### TUESDAY JUNE 17, 2003

#### 'The Role of Parents' - 3.45-4.05pm

Janet Brook, Former Parent

#### 'Partnership with Perth Modern School' - 4.10-4.30pm

Don Cook, Deputy Principal PMS

#### 'Professional Dance Employment' - 5.00-5.20pm

Simon Dow, Artistic Director WA Ballet

### THURSDAY JUNE 18, 2003

#### 'Alternative Career Paths in Dance' - 3.45-4.05pm

Peta Murgatroyd + Mr Josh Keefe, Former Dance Students

#### 'Opportunities for Vocational Examiners' - 4.10-4.30pm

Diana de Vos, Principal Practical Dance and Vocational Examiner

## BALLET SUPPORT GROUP NEWS

The next meeting of the Ballet Support Group will be held on **May 14, 2003** at 5.45pm. All parents are encouraged to attend.

During Term 1, Ian Hughes, Sunniva Antonucci and Sue Surman were appointed to the executive of the BSG. The parent body is now represented in the Colleges Board of Management. Bill Coleman, Michele Toner and Eng Kong were nominated to the Board. Congratulations to our Board members.

Our next fundraiser will be the sale of **Entertainment Books**. The books will be on sale for \$60 each and represent excellent value. You will recoup the cost by using the discount available for the purchase of WA Ballet tickets. We have ordered only 100 books so get in quick. Contact your year representative for details.

We again plan to have a **Family Social Night** (including a Silent Auction). This is will be held during second term (probably late June). This is our main fundraiser and we need all to attend to make it a success. More details to follow early next term.

### Bruno Romeo

Chairperson, Ballet Support Group

# YEAR PLANNER - TERM 2 (MAY / JUNE 2003)

(information is correct at time of printing however subject to change without notice)

<b>DATE</b>	<b>THE GRADUATE COLLEGE OF DANCE</b>
<b>Mon 5th May</b>	<b>TERM 2 COMMENCES</b> <b>10.15-11.15am</b> - Faculty Meeting <b>3.10-3.30pm</b> - Yr 12 Monthly Meeting with DW (Lecture Room) <b>Years 5 &amp; 6</b> - Girls can wear pink tights and boys black footless tights until end of Term 3 (winter)
<b>Tue 6th May</b>	
<b>Wed 7th May</b>	<b>Youth Dance Advance Rehearsal</b>
<b>Thu 8th May</b>	<b>7.30am</b> - Board Meeting
<b>Fri 9th May</b>	
<b>Sat 10th May</b>	<b>Term 2 Performance Dance Studies Commence</b> <b>Lost Property</b> (wardrobe) <b>Youth Dance Advance Rehearsal</b> (in costume)
<b>Sun 11th May</b>	
<b>Mon 12th May</b>	<b>10.15-11.15am</b> - Directors' Meeting (DW/MJ)
<b>Tue 13th May</b>	<b>5.30-6.30pm</b> - Adult Class (DW/GDD - STD 2)
<b>Wed 14th May</b>	<b>5.30-6.30pm</b> - Youth Dance Advance Rehearsal <b>5.45pm</b> - Ballet Support Group Meeting
<b>Thu 15th May</b>	<b>World Day at Perth Modern School</b> - no classes for Yrs 8-12. Yr 11 + 12 classes normal from 1.30-3.25pm <b>5.15-6.30pm</b> - Pas de deux - Years 11 & 12 (AA/GDD - STD 2)
<b>Fri 16th May</b>	<b>Term 2 Fees - full payment due</b>
<b>Sat 17th May</b>	<b>Youth Dance Advance Performance</b>
<b>Sun 18th May</b>	<b>AICD Day</b> - The Stars at WAAPA and WA Ballet Dancers
<b>Mon 19th May</b>	<b>8.00-10.00am</b> - Guest Teacher Kim McCarthy giving class to Yr 10 <b>10.15-11.15am</b> - Faculty Meeting
<b>Tue 20th May</b>	<b>8.00-10.00am</b> - Guest Teacher Kim McCarthy giving class to Yr 11/12 <b>5.30-6.30pm</b> - Adult Class (DW/GDD - STD 2)
<b>Wed 21st May</b>	<b>10.30-11.30am</b> - Alexander Technique Yr 11/12 <b>5.30-6.30pm</b> - La Sylphide Rehearsal
<b>Thu 22nd May</b>	<b>5.15-6.30pm</b> - Pas de deux - Years 11 & 12 (AA/GDD - STD 2)
<b>Fri 23rd May</b>	<b>Yr 12 Ball</b> <b>WA Ballet Season Commences (23 May - 7 June)</b>
<b>Sat 24th May</b>	
<b>Sun 25th May</b>	
<b>Mon 26th May</b>	<b>12.00-1.00pm</b> - Pianists' Meeting (DW/MJ/DdV/Pianists)
<b>Tue 27th May</b>	<b>5.30-6.30pm</b> - Adult Class (DW/GDD - STD 2)
<b>Wed 28th May</b>	<b>12.00-1.00pm</b> - WA Ballet Open Day
<b>Thu 29th May</b>	<b>5.15-6.30pm</b> - Pas de deux - Years 11 & 12 (AA/GDD - STD 2) Technical lay tarquet at Perth Modern School Auditorium
<b>Fri 30th May</b>	Teachers to hand in student report file for their year of study <b>12.30-1.30pm - La Sylphide Performance</b> (Perth Modern School Auditorium - TBC)
<b>Sat 31st May</b>	
<b>Sun 1st June</b>	
<b>Mon 2nd June</b>	<b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY - FOUNDATION DAY</b>
<b>Tue 3rd June</b>	<b>Yr 8 Lighting Carnival</b> (Perth Modern School) All music and uniform requirements for Term 2 assessments in <b>5.30-6.30pm</b> - Adult Class (DW/GDD - STD 2)
<b>Wed 4th June</b>	
<b>Thu 5th June</b>	<b>5.15-6.30pm</b> - Pas de deux - Years 11 & 12 (AA/GDD - STD 2)
<b>Fri 6th June</b>	

# YEAR PLANNER - TERM 2 (JUNE / JULY 2003)

(information is correct at time of printing however subject to change without notice)

<b>DATE</b>	<b>THE GRADUATE COLLEGE OF DANCE</b>
<b>Sat 7th June</b>	<b>Lost Property</b> (wardrobe)
<b>Sun 8th June</b>	
<b>Mon 9th June</b>	<b>10.15-11.15am</b> - Faculty Meeting <b>3.10-3.30pm</b> - Yr 12 Monthly Meeting with DW (Lecture Room)
<b>Tue 10th June</b>	<b>5.30-6.30pm</b> - Adult Class (DW/GDD - STD 2)
<b>Wed 11th June</b>	
<b>Thu 12th June</b>	<b>7.30am</b> - Board Meeting <b>5.15-6.30pm</b> - Pas de deux - Years 11 & 12 (AA/GDD - STD 2)
<b>Fri 13th June</b>	
<b>Sat 14th June</b>	
<b>Sun 15th June</b>	
<b>Mon 16th June</b>	<b>OPEN WEEK and CAREER SEMINARS</b> (for further details see newsletter) <b>10.15-11.15am</b> - Directors' Meeting (DW/MJ) <b>La Sylphide Performance</b> (Penrhos College)
<b>Tue 17th June</b>	<b>OPEN WEEK and CAREER SEMINARS</b> (for further details see newsletter)
<b>Wed 18th June</b>	<b>OPEN WEEK and CAREER SEMINARS</b> (for further details see newsletter)
<b>Thu 19th June</b>	<b>OPEN WEEK and CAREER SEMINARS</b> (for further details see newsletter) <b>5.15-6.30pm</b> - Pas de deux - Years 11 & 12 (AA/GDD - STD 2) - last class for Term 2
<b>Fri 20th June</b>	<b>OPEN WEEK and CAREER SEMINARS</b> (for further details see newsletter)
<b>Sat 21st June</b>	<b>AUDITIONS FOR SENIOR SCHOOL</b> <b>9.00-10.00am</b> - Yr 8/9 (including existing Yr 7 students) <b>10.15-11.15am</b> - Yr 10/11 <b>11.30-12.30pm</b> - Yr 12 <b>12.45-2.45pm</b> - Dance Around the World Rehearsal (Perth Modern School)
<b>Sun 22nd June</b>	
<b>Mon 23rd June</b>	<b>10.15-11.15am</b> - Faculty Meeting
<b>Tue 24th June</b>	<b>5.30-6.30pm</b> - Adult Class (DW/GDD - STD 2)
<b>Wed 25th June</b>	<b>Term 2 Classical Assessments - Yrs 5, 6, 7 &amp; 8</b>
<b>Thu 26th June</b>	<b>Term 2 Classical Assessments - Yrs 9, 10, 11 &amp; 12</b>
<b>Fri 27th June</b>	Teachers to hand in their student reports for their year of study to Director
<b>Sat 28th June</b>	<b>12.45-2.45pm</b> - Dance Around the World Rehearsal (Perth Modern School) - TBC
<b>Sun 29th June</b>	
<b>Mon 30th June</b>	<b>Work Experience Week for Year 10</b> (see separate schedule) <b>12.00-1.00pm</b> - Pianists' Meeting (DW/MJ/DdV/Pianists) <b>3.10-3.30pm</b> - Yr 12 Monthly Meeting with DW (Lecture Room)
<b>Tue 1st July</b>	<b>NZ School of Dance - Winter School</b> <b>Dance Around the World Rehearsal</b> - to be announced <b>7.30pm</b> - Dance Around the World Performance (Perth Concert Hall)
<b>Wed 2nd July</b>	<b>The Australian Ballet School Intensive Training</b> (all male students Junior Program) <b>1.30-2.30pm</b> - Meeting re music curriculum (SP/GDD/AP)
<b>Thu 3rd July</b>	<b>The Australian Ballet School Intensive Training</b> (all male students Junior Program) <b>Last day of Term for Junior &amp; Senior School</b> (classes will be held)
<b>Fri 4th July to Sun 20th July</b>	<b>SCHOOL HOLIDAYS * (no classes)</b>
<b>Mon 21 July</b>	<b>TERM 3 COMMENCES</b>

\* **Please note that students are advised to attend conditioning classes the last week of the school holidays (Monday 14th July to Friday 18th July).**

# Sue Walker MLA

MEMBER FOR NEDLANDS

*“Please  
contact me if  
I can be of  
assistance”*



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## Representing These Suburbs

**Claremont - Crawley - Dalkeith - Daglish - Jolimont**

**Kings Park - Nedlands - Shenton Park - Subiaco**

**Wembley - West Leederville - West Perth**