



TERM 1 NEWSLETTER 2018

Bedford Park, Rosewarne Lane, Ringwood
P.O Box 545, Heathmont, VIC, 3135
9870 6549 or 0436 007 771
office@ringwoodballet.org.au
www.ringwoodballet.org.au

Mrs Frost's Message:

Hello everyone

Welcome back to all our returning families and also a warm welcome to the many new families who have joined us for what is set to be an exciting year!

I hope everyone enjoyed the Summer break! Much of mine was spent in England with my daughter Laura and her partner Craig and my delightful grandson Conor. A trip to the Lake District – (Beatrix Potter country) and two fantastic outings to London to see 42 Street and then the sublime Marienela Nunez in Giselle were highlights! It was harder than ever to say goodbye and tackle that super long flight home!



The concert was wonderful from start to finish and I congratulate and thank every dancer, all our great teachers, the stage crew, technical crew, parent helpers and committee for ensuring it was such a success. I am so pleased that we were once again able to offer a free matinee to the elderly and less fortunate in our community, so thank you to the Karralyka and Maroondah City Council for their support for this worthy cause. Thanks also to Carolyn Callanan for organizing it all. There was some wonderful feedback from the audience members!

On my return from the UK work began to get the studios cleaned up for the new term. The lack of storage space meant some very creative solutions were necessary and with a little help it got done despite the oppressive heat! Thank you to those staff and committee who were able to make time to assist me.

Last year saw some huge changes to the staff with the loss of Mr Chris who has taken up a new profession as a policeman, then Miss Beth who wishes to move on an extend her life in new directions and Miss Ashlee who is on maternity leave. I miss their input and support enormously, but wish them each so much success and happiness in their lives. Miss Ashlee recently gave birth to a gorgeous baby girl, Summer Belle, and we send all our love and congratulations to Ashlee and Leigh and I can't wait to meet Summer!

In order to fill the shoes of these teachers we have taken on a number of new staff including 3 young teachers who have completed all their training to the highest levels with RBG and have successfully completed their teaching certificates through the SFD. Rhiann Costigan is currently teaching Kinder. Pre primary and jazz 1 and 2. Jessi Goodall has taken on tap levels 1 to 4 while Monique Le Breton is teaching jazz levels 3,4P and 4 as well as junior and inter acro. Sam Rush, who has a strong background in Cheer Leading and is a senior student of RBG joins us to conduct the other inter acro and senior acro. New on staff from mid-2017 and returning this year we have Courtney Mantarro teaching contemporary and William Douglas who is teaching our boys, pas de deux and stretch and strength. We also welcome Courtney Rovers who has taken on jazz 6 and tap 5 and 7. Courtney has much experience as a teacher and is also a SFD examiner. It is also great to welcome back returning staff members Miss Janine, Miss Massey, Miss Wendy, Miss Peggy, Miss Penny and Miss Kathryn.

In the office we have a number of new senior students being trained up to assist parents and students with enquiries and to help keep admin running smoothly. Chloe Eckley returns for a 2nd year and is joined by Chelsea May, Emily Standfield, Katie and Stephanie Little-Hales and Juliette Mende. It is wonderful to see these skilled young dancers giving their time in this way to ensure we can function properly and for them to learn how a studio runs from the "other side"!

As well as this and in order to maintain our competition coaching programme a number of new coaches have come on board to replace Miss Beth. They are all RBG trained to the highest levels, with several also in full time training, and it is lovely to see them here bringing fresh ideas and creative energy to our students. The coaching team this year includes Miss Kathryn, Miss Wendy and myself along with Madeleine Magetti, Natalie Smoel, Matilda Lamb, Amy Thomson and Chloe Eckley. I welcome you all and am excited to see your work on stage!

Enrolment day was very well organized and very busy. The inclusion of trial classes was once again most successful. It was great to catch up with returning families and to welcome the many new ones.

The first week of classes ran smoothly on the whole, despite the heat, and it was good to be back at work with our students. There are a number of early closing dates for various things we do so please read through the enclosed information and make sure you are ready to meet these dates. In particular our SFD comp entries close latest 11 March and could be earlier if the online entries reach capacity before then. As we have barely begun private lessons this makes it difficult for all of us!

The AGM is an annual important date and I hope to see many of you there on Wednesday 21st March. I will also be announcing the choice of feature ballet and possibly also the junior ballet!

In April we will be performing in the SFD combined concert with two items –a jazz dance from the concert and a new classical troupe.

I am looking forward to working with you all through the year and hope that your experience with us is a happy and rewarding one.

Kind regards, Rosemary Frost

SFD MASTERCLASSES

What are they?

Masterclasses are offered to students from level 3 in Ballet, Tap and Jazz, and students are encouraged to attend if they are training to undertake an exam. The emphasis of the Masterclasses is on style and corrections from the Examiners, rather than the teaching of steps. Masterclasses can be of great benefit to students who wish to complete their exams, however they **ARE NOT COMPULSORY**. (Also, please note that booking your child into a masterclass does not guarantee acceptance into exams and is not an EXAM.)

Information regarding SFD Masterclasses will be emailed to all eligible student levels via CareMonkey. Eligible students are those in levels 3-4-5-6-7-8-9 and 10 Jazz and Tap (not level 4P as this is a non-exam level) and classical 3-4-5-6. Please note Grade 6 RAD is not a SFD level and therefore not eligible to attend.

If you wish your child to attend the masterclasses, you need to:

1. Book your attendance with SFD, see information below, **AND**
2. Advise us (via CareMonkey) whether you are attending or not.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask your child's teacher or a committee member.

MASTERCLASSES - MELBOURNE

(For students of registered Southern Federation of Dance schools only)

Classical - Sunday 20th May 2018

Jazz - Sunday 27th May 2018

Tap - Sunday 3rd June 2018

Venue: Dance World Studios
295 Bank St, South Melbourne

Registrations: www.comps-online.com.au

Closing Date for entries is 30th March 2018

Masterclass Prices:

Students:

Levels 3 - 6	\$25
Levels 7 - 8	\$30
Levels 9 -10	\$40
Pre-Elementary	\$35
Elementary / Intermediate	\$40

Teachers - Per Class \$13

Teachers - All Day Pass \$62

BENDIGO BANK GRANT

A big thankyou to Bendigo Bank once again for their assistance and generosity! Late last year our group was lucky enough to receive a grant of \$1766 to be able to install some cabinets in our newly renovated space! The cabinets look great and are a wonderful addition to our studios. Thank you also to Warren May for installing the cabinets for us! If you, your friends or family are looking for a new bank, please consider the Bendigo Bank and mention the Ringwood Ballet Group! Support the bank that supports us.



RAYMONDA – FREE COMMUNITY MATINEE

Last year we were again successful in applying for a grant from the Maroondah City Council to be able to provide our Matinee production of Raymonda, for free, to groups in our community. The groups who were able to attend the event included the elderly, disadvantaged and underprivileged.

Whilst we were unable to provide the free morning tea, we did put together some little goodie bags for all our patrons! The free community matinee was another huge success and seems to be booking out earlier and earlier each year! MP Michael Sukkar and Deputy Mayor Mike Symon were also in attendance and we thank them for their continued support of the Ringwood Ballet Group and this program. We received some wonderful feedback as a result of the event, below are a couple of the quotes:

'Since retiring and living on a pension my opportunities for ballet have been limited. I love and appreciate the gift of this magical experience.' Catherine, St Vincent De Paul Society

'Please keep this event to continue, the older community really enjoy our free day out and show bags are very thoughtful.' Cherry Tree Village

'Thankyou council for allowing the ballet performance to be offered free of charge to the wider public. Because many elderly people in nursing homes and aged care are able to be brought to the performance.'

'This was the first ballet I have seen and I was amazed at the quality of the performance.'



SFD COMPETITION ENTRIES

The SFD comps run from 1/7 to 6/7 2018 this year. We will hold our dress rehearsal in the community centre on Sunday 24th June.

These close on MARCH 11TH

Due to APRA copyright changes the SFD now have to pay a fee for every item performed (on top of the fees they already pay and we as a school also pay!) Entry fees have however remained the same as 2017.

All information can be found on the noticeboard.

As Mrs Frost does the entry and pays from her own bank account you will need to pay (in cash to her directly or via paypal) asap. You have received an invoice from Mrs Frost listing all solos/items and their fee as well as paypal information. Check that all items are correctly listed – check with your coach if unsure and then pay this as soon as you can, so that Mrs Frost is not out of pocket. The SFD have informed us they will close the entries even earlier if they reach capacity before 10th March. So this is urgent! A reminder too that your child's private lesson is for 15 minutes once a fortnight as on the schedule on the notice board and costs \$13 per lesson payable directly to the coach before the lesson unless you make an arrangement to pay her by the term.

RAD HIGHER GRADES AND VOCATIONAL EXAMS CLOSING DATES AND EXPECTED EXAM PERIOD

Vocational exams first session close on 20th April. We will inform you all about your readiness to enter this session. Some may be better waiting until October. Please listen to your teachers! The exam session is due to run from 4 June to 15 June. The October session closing date is 17 August and should run from 15 October to 2 November.

Higher grades 6,7 and 8 closing date is 7th May and we will request a date in the 2nd week of term 3.

OUTSIDE WORKSHOPS AND EXTENSION PROGRAMMES

These can be a fantastic way to develop your passion for dance, to work with master teachers and to make new friends with similar interests. While many of these programmes do not require your school principal to sign your application forms, it is common courtesy to let Mrs Frost know when applying to attend these things and to keep her informed as to how you get on! It is also expected that if you wish to use an exam skirt or character skirt that you first ask Mrs Frost and not just help yourself. We have lost a number of skirts this way.

FUNDRAISING

A big thankyou to all the families and friends who purchased items during concert time, participated in photo day or any other fundraising event! We raised **\$1122** in total from our concert fundraising items, which included the sale of calendars, roses, programmes and the raffle.

We also raised **\$240** from selling sausages, drinks and costumes on enrolment day.

Fundraising Goal for 2018

Our new fundraising goal for 2018 is to raise enough money to purchase new tarkett flooring for studio 2. Unfortunately our studio 2 flooring, which handles most of our tapping and jazz, did not survive the transfer from our studios, to the old Ringwood library and back again very well! It has gotten a bit brittle and started cracking in some places.

Monies raised through fundraising activities and the maintenance levy this year will go towards the replacement of this flooring, which looks to be around the \$7000 mark! So, now the big task of raising the much needed funds. Listed below are our fundraising activities for this year:

Term 2 – Yes Cadbury Chocolates are back in about May!

Term 3 – RBG Trivia Night

Save the date – Saturday 25th August 2018, we will be holding a trivia night in the community center at Bedford Park. More details about the night and theme to follow.

Term 4 – Usual concert fundraising activities.

BLOCH DISCOUNT CARDS

Bloch discount cards are available to all new and existing students, and provides 3 levels of discount depending on how many classes you do per week. If you would like a discount card please speak to one of our office assistants.

INVOICES

Please note that Term 2 invoices will be sent to all families during the last week of term and are due at the start of Term 2. These invoices will include the fundraising levy (for those families who choose this option and have not yet been invoiced) as well as the Working Bee levy.

The Ringwood Ballet Group is a community group which requires assistance towards the running of the school. A \$50 working bee levy is charged in Term 2 to all families, however will be reimbursed to any family that provides at least 4 hours of assistance in one or more of the following areas:

- Serving on committee
- Mid-year clean up before exams
- Sewing working bees
- Painting of concert backdrops or building scenery
- Concert helpers
- BBQ helper
- Exam time helpers

A list will be collated by committee members, and families reimbursed the following term.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018

The next date of note for most is Wednesday March 21st - the Annual General Meeting. Apart from the presentation of annual reports, the most important aspect of the evening is the election of the new committee.

The committee are all volunteers and look after the 'management' side of the school while supporting the Artistic Director and teachers as they concentrate on 'all matters dancing'. Joining the committee means making a commitment to do that 'little bit extra' - there is always something to do for most of the year, but it is even busier around Presentation Evening and in the lead up to the Concert. If you do feel like joining have a chat to any of the current committee. Nomination forms can be found at the end of this newsletter and will be available in the foyer.

The AGM is open to all members (as are all committee meetings) and is usually fairly brief but includes the announcement by the Artistic Director of the feature ballet for the Concert! If you are thinking of coming along, please indicate your intention using the reply slip at the end of the newsletter - this is purely to allow us to provide adequate 'supper' at the end of the meeting and perhaps organise a few more chairs!



RBG PRESENTS
TRIVIA
FUNDRAISER

■■■■■■■■

SATURDAY

25 AUGUST 2018

OFFICE@RINGWOODBALLET.ORG.AU



SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS

We are always thrilled when our students and former students achieve success and would like to keep you all posted!

Holly Eckley has begun her training at WAAPA this month and we wish her every success!

Flynn Stelfox continues into Year 5 at the Australian Ballet School and we look forward to hearing more from him as he moves forward towards his dream of becoming a professional dancer.

Monique Le Breton has started training at Kelly Aykers Full Time Dance, and **Natalie Smoel** continue into her second year there.

Ebony Killick received the award for Most Artistic dancer for adapting the most to Ken Ludden's choreography at the recent International Ballet Workshop here in Melbourne.

Along with Ebony, **Katie and Stephanie Little-Hales** were selected by Mr Ludden to take part in a new work "Ne Roi" which he is choreographing as a tribute to Prima Ballerina Assoluta Dame Margot Fonteyn. There will be a performance in Melbourne early July.

After what looked like an amazing first year **Melinda Ferenczi** continues her journey towards a professional career at the Australian Conservatoire of Ballet. Former student **Scott McConnell** has been cast as Hank in Jersey Boys for performances in Sydney

Former student **Hannah Monson** continues to appear in season 2 of the TV series Glitch

Important Dates 2018

FEBRUARY 2018

Saturday 3rd – Enrolment day and trial classes for Kinder and Pre Primary
Monday 6th – Term 1 Begins

MARCH 2018

DCI –Date to be confirmed if running
Monday 12th - Labour Day - NO CLASSES
Friday 23rd - Thursday 29th - Open Week
Thursday 29th - Last Day of Term

APRIL 2018

Monday 16th - Start Term 2
Sunday 19th - SFD Combined Schools Concert
Wednesday 25th - ANZAC Day - NO CLASSES

MAY 2018

Sunday 20th - SFD Classical Masterclasses
Sunday 27th - SFD Jazz Masterclasses

JUNE 2018

Sunday 3rd - SFD Tap Masterclasses
Monday 11th - Queen's Birthday - Reduced Timetable
Sunday 24th - Comp Dress Rehearsal (TBC)
Saturday 30th - SFD Scholarship Technical Classes
Saturday 30th to Friday 6th July - SFD Comps
Saturday 30th - End term 2

JULY 2018

Sunday 1st - Friday 6th - SFD Comps
Approx. 7th 8th and/or 9th - Higher Grades Exam prep classes
Tuesday 10th, 11th 12th - Exam preparation classes
Friday 13th, 14th, 15th - Mock Exams (Classical)
Monday 16th - Start of Term 3
Sunday 22nd - Exam session commences

AUGUST 2018

Sunday 5th - Exam session ends
Saturday 11th TBC - Senior Ballet Audition

SEPTEMBER 2018

Saturday 8th - Presentation day/night
Saturday 22nd - End of term 3
Saturday 22nd TBC- SDF Competitions

OCTOBER 2018

Monday 8th - Start of Term 4
Sunday 14th - SFD Choreographic Comps

NOVEMBER 2018

Saturday 3rd - Regular classes
Monday 5th - NO CLASSES (due to poor attendance in previous years)
Tuesday 6th - Cup Day - NO CLASSES
Sunday 11th - Concert Tickets go on Sale
Saturday 17th - Last Saturday of Normal Classes
Sunday 18th - Senior Ballet Combined Rehearsal
Friday 23rd - Last day of 'normal' classes
Saturday 24th - Senior Ballet Combined Rehearsal
Sunday 25th - Senior Ballet Combined Rehearsal
Monday 26th - Junior Ballet Combined Rehearsal
Wednesday 28th - Junior Ballet Combined Rehearsal

DECEMBER 2018

Saturday 1st - Senior Ballet Combined Rehearsal
Sunday 2nd - Senior Ballet Combined Rehearsal
Monday 3rd - Junior Ballet Combined Rehearsal
Wednesday 5th - Junior Ballet Combined Rehearsal
Saturday 8th - Senior Ballet Combined Rehearsal
Sunday 9th** - Full Dress Rehearsal (Community Centre)
Monday 10th - Final Senior Open Class and Theatre Bump-in
Tuesday 11th** - Junior Ballet, Jazz/Tap FULL DRESS REHEARSAL at Karralyka Theatre
Wednesday 12th** - Senior Ballet/Contemporary/Character Full Dress Rehearsal at Karralyka
Thursday 13th - 11am Matinee - Senior Ballet only (Red Cast)
Thursday 13th - 7pm Performance (Blue Cast)
Friday 14th - 7pm Performance (Red Cast)
Saturday 15th - 12.30pm Performance (Blue Cast)
Saturday 15th - 7pm Performance (Red Cast) and End of Term 4

** These rehearsals are compulsory

SPONSORSHIP PAGE

We would like to thank the following organisations for their generosity and support towards the redevelopment of the Ringwood Ballet Group studios:

PLATINUM SPONSORS



“Everything for the Dancer”

Clare Miller
Manager

207 Mt Dandenong Road
Croydon, Vic, 3136
Tel: 03 9723 1416
Fax: 03 9724 9673

www.danceart.com.au
clare@danceart.com.au

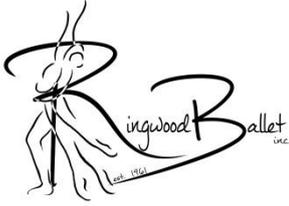


LINLEY
— ESTATE —

GOLD SPONSOR



Interested in becoming a sponsor? Please contact Carolyn Callanan by email at office@ringwoodballet.org.au



COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORM 2018

I hereby nominate

as a candidate for election on the Ringwood Ballet Group Inc Committee of Management.

President Vice President Treasurer Secretary General Member

Name of Nominator

(being a member of that Incorporated Association)

Signature of Nominator

I consent to this nomination

(Signature of Nominee - being a member of that Incorporated Association)

**This form must be delivered to the Ringwood Ballet Group Committee of Management
PRIOR to the start of the AGM – 8.30pm on Wednesday, 21st March 2018.**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPLY SLIP

To assist us with preparations for the Annual General Meeting or to apologise for non-attendance, please indicate below (attendance or non-attendance is in no way governed by completion or non-completion of this form):

Name/s:.....

I/we wish to apologise for non attendance at the AGM on
Wednesday 21st March 2017 at 8:30pm ()

I/we are hoping to attend the AGM on Wednesday 21st march 2017 at 8:30pm ()
Number attending ()