

Newsletter 14

March 2004

Calling all mature dancers

This year we are hosting a number of new initiatives aimed at the more mature dancers among us (hey, we're all kicking on a bit!). Foremost among these is a new "over 50" jazz class with our very own Emma, running from 1.30pm to 2.30pm on Thursdays. This is in conjunction with Go 50 – a scheme that provides lots of different activities across the country for older folk.

Secondly we are very pleased to be hosting a workshop for the over 50's only, with teacher Ann Dickie. She is

holding similar events across the County, and ours will take place on 12th May from 2-4pm (price only £2 for the whole session). No experience is necessary, and it's sure to be a fun event, so tell you friends/mum/grandma!

Finally we have decided to extend the concessionary class rate (£3/£2.50) to all those who are pensioners, starting from next term. As all of us dancers look so young, do not be offended if we ask for some proof of age!

Renovations update

OK, we know we've talked about the heating many times before, and yet another winter has passed accompanied by the chattering of teeth, but we have a plan! Honest

The studio is, let's face it, difficult to heat and ventilate properly. We can't put radiators around the walls (bit hot when at the barre) and elevated radiant heaters pose a fire risk and would require us to upgrade the electrical supply into the unit. Our

current heater works but is too noisy and aggressive for use during classes. So we are looking at investing in a 24/7 timer for the heater – one that will allow us to programme the week such that it comes on before classes to take the chill off the room. So we are now looking at suppliers and costs.

We will also invest in a couple of oil filled radiators for the kitchen and changing room – which will be safer and cheaper than the current fan heaters.

Spruce Our Studio weekend!

In addition to the heating we are having a "Spruce Our Studio" or SOS weekend on 29th/30th/31st May. Under the auspices of the Guv'nor (aka Kate Ferris) we aim to:

- Create a new prop space in the changing room by installing some high level kitchen units on the left hand side, with a rail underneath (useful for costumes during rehearsals)
- Install a new shelf for the music center to isolate it from vibrations
- Take down and clean/dust the ceiling hangings
- Rotate, clean and reseal the flooring sections

Please, please, please come and help. Even if only for an hour; even if all you can do is make tea.

Dates for your diary...

Summer Term

Term starts
19th April

Half-term break
31st May to
4th June

Term ends
16th July

Summer holiday classes at teachers discretion

Autumn Term

Term starts
6th September

Half-term break
25th October to
29th October

Term ends
3rd December

When you wish upon a star...

Who amongst us hasn't wished for a purpose built studio, independent of the whims of the management of the Mayford Centre, without that irritating entry-phone buzzer, with proper full length mirrors, air conditioning, showers perhaps....

Well the trustees have indicated that they would be prepared to take on a project to create a new studio if only we could find a site. Not easy in Surrey as we would need ample parking and an area where we wouldn't be deemed a noise nuisance. In addition, if a site were found we would have to apply for lottery funding, Council sponsorship and devote a heck of a lot of effort into it! So it's still a dream...but keep your eyes and ears peeled and if you hear of anywhere suitable, let one of the trustees know. You just never know....

When I was born I was so surprised I didn't talk for a year and a half.

Gracie Allen (1906 - 1964)

Take in a show with friends

We have secured group bookings at the following performances in Woking:

NBT's Midsummer's Nights Dream	21 st May	20 tickets at £22
Crazy For You	18 th June	30 tickets at £22
Fosse	16 th July	30 tickets at £24.50

All seats are in the Upper Circle either Row A or B. Sign up at the studio!

Congratulations!

Well who could have missed the Woking Dance Space baby boom?

After Michelle's Max last autumn, Tina's Sarah at Christmas and Lynn's Hunter in January, we are pleased to announce Sarah Lynds had a baby girl, Rebecca, two weeks ago. Congratulations to them both. With at least two more pregnancies to go this year, it looks like we are creating a whole new generation of dance lovers!

And good luck to Emma Brewer for her wedding to Charlie last week. We hope she had a fantastic day. Her hen night in the studio was great fun, and for those of you who missed it here's a few piccies.....

People who say they sleep like a baby usually don't have one.

Leo J. Burke

