



WDS NEWS!

WDS Studio Newsletter

Christmas 2016

Review of 2016

2016 was a record year for performances. Kicked off by the ballet crew having a flamingo moment in the Magic Flute and then delicately floating through the Brahms Reverie in First Dance's February show. We then followed this up by hosting our own umbrella event, the 4th Joining Forces Show, with a record of 10 different guest groups, some of them performing with us for the first time. Finally we had a joint fund raising gala performance with First Dance in June which raised £1,045 for Peterson's Fund for Children. Then there was Party in the Park and the 150th Anniversary Celebration of HG Wells at the Ambassadors where Shani's Contemporary dancers channelled their inner aliens whilst Emily's Contemporary Jazzers ventured under the sea. Oh, and not forgetting the Champagne Breakfast fundraiser for Cancer Research UK!

Talk about a busy year!

We also said goodbye to First Dance Studios who left their base at the Mayford Centre and moved to shared premises in Horsell, leaving us as the only dedicated dance studio premises in the area. We will be keeping up all our links with Emma at First Dance though, and hope they go from strength to strength in their new format!



New Look Board of Trustees and Officers

The studio has traditionally been run on a very informal basis by a number of voluntary trustees who have donated both their time and enthusiasm to keeping the place running and thriving. Following on from Pauline's retirement as a trustee last year, we appointed Thea Groombridge as Studio Manager to handle all the aspects of running the studio, and also Gill Osborne joined as a trustee with responsibility for Treasury functions. Jackie Smith has decided to resign as a trustee so she can concentrate on lots of other fun and family stuff. We are sad to lose her from the Board of Trustees but she will now enjoy lifetime membership of the studio and will still be coming along to classes and dancing in our shows!

As a result we now have the Board of Trustees as follows:

Tina Morcom	Chairman
Gretchen Kiefer	Teaching/events and internal marketing
Catherine Ferris	Technical/special projects and external marketing
Gill Osborne	Treasurer
Zelda Whittern	Wardrobe/Costume Mistress
Gen Howgate	Wardrobe/Costume Mistress

In addition the "Executive" is formed of the Board plus any officers of WDS:

Thea Groombridge	Studio Manager
Pauline Barnes	Finance Manager

Your Turn!

These folks are responsible for all aspects of managing and guiding your studio – but they can only do it with your help! So if you have any ideas, want any changes, grumps as well as applause, please let them know. In the New Year we will probably be running a small Survey Monkey just to make sure we are on the right track, so look out for the invitation via Facebook or in your inbox.



The Executive of Woking Dance Space in Action!

New courses and classes

This term has seen WDS teaming up with the RAD to trial a new exam class – Level One Adult Repertoire. Classes have been taking place on Tuesday evenings, taught by Gretchen Kiefer, and they have had a huge sign up despite the late timing. We hope that quite a few students will be doing the exam next March, and we look forward to getting some fabulous results (no pressure people!!).

The success of our rotating beginners classes on Monday, and some of the aforementioned feedback, has prompted us to introduce some new classes. Firstly Natalie is going to run some technique courses on Friday evenings. Like the Monday ones, these will be 6 weeks duration, will be a flat fee of £25 and will be sign up/paid in advance (to ensure we have sufficient interest). We are beginning with ballet technique, but hope to run a tap one in the same slot as well. Natalie explains “This course is targeted at individuals with a good foundation knowledge of ballet technique and will provide opportunities to refine, explain and practice more complex steps”. It is the ideal top up taken alongside your regular classes, where we realise there is often not enough time or space to go through all the details of the movements. If you are interested in taking the first ballet course, please either email info@wokingdancespace.org.uk or book via the webshop so we can get you on the register. Catch up with Natalie via our Facebook Group post if you would like to know more!

Secondly Shani Nash is going to bring some of her classes to WDS – she is already running a pointe class after Contemporary on Wednesday evening, and from January she will be running ISTD Advanced 1 and ISTD Grade 5/6. “The roots of Imperial Classical Ballet stem from the first written syllabus in 1913 which was based on the teaching of the French School from the Paris Opéra and the Grades allow you to develop your classical ballet technique and artistry through a clearly defined structure” Shani told us. Although this will run as a regular class, not a course, Shani recommends combining it with your current classes if possible so you can put the learnings into practice easily. To make life easier for all, her Relaxed Contemporary will move back to Friday mornings too. Sandwiched between the 2 new classes - an excellent cool down or warm up for the new classes!

Class?	When?	Who?	How much?
New ISTD Advanced 1	Every Friday 0945-1045	Shani Nash	Normal prices apply
(Moved) Relaxed Contemporary	Every Friday 1045-1145	Shani Nash	Normal prices apply
New ISTD Grades 5-6	Every Friday 1145-1245	Shani Nash	Normal prices apply
Ballet Technique	6 weeks from 6 th January Fridays 8-9pm	Natalie Dodd	6 week course. Sign up in advance. £25.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to our WDS dancers who have got married this year – we had three beautiful brides with Thea, Anna and Laura all tying the knot this summer.

Also two of our fantastic teachers had exam successes this year. Natalie Dodd received her MA in Contemporary Dance with Distinction and Shani Nash received her ISTD Level 3 Diploma in Dance Instruction. Congratulations and well done to these amazing ladies!

Contact Us

Drop us a line on

info@wokingdancespace.org.uk

Visit us on the web at

www.wokingdancespace.org.uk

And don't forget to order your DVD's, sign on and pay for classes via our online shop,

Did you know that you can now get gift vouchers redeemable against our class fees? Find them on the online shop and add it to your Christmas List now!



Happy Christmas and New Year

Finally all the trustees and officers (ie the WDS bunch!) wish you and your family a wonderful Christmas and fabulous New Year! Term starts again on Tuesday 3rd January, so put it in your diary and come back to class with a smile to work off all those yummy mince pies and turkey. We have lots of fun stuff planned for 2017 – its going to be a great year at Woking Dance Space!

Forthcoming Events for the New Year

Spring Term	Tues 3 Jan – Mon 3 April
Half Term Break	13 – 17 Feb
Sewing Sundays	Every Sunday from 8 Jan (10am onwards)
Show Sunday Run Thru	23 April
Show Sunday Run Thru	7 May
Resonating Happiness	17-20 May (Woohooo!)
May Half Term	29 May – 2 June
Summer Term	Tues 18 April – Mon 24 July