

## *Gearing up for next year's show*

Can you believe how fast this year's gone? One minute we're all wrapped up in our leg warmers and next minute... well we're all wrapped up in our leg warmers!

So we've been doing a bit of advance planning for the show – appropriately titled (courtesy of Eithne's brainwave) "Watch This Space!". The venue will be as before, the Rhoda McGaw Theatre in Woking, and the dates for the performances will be Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May to Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May.

You've probably found that your teachers have already been sketching out their chosen routines and thinking about costumes and music. Soon they'll be asking you which ones you would like to be in, so we can get a cast list together. This is vital for the Show Director, who needs it to determine the order of running of the pieces to ensure no one has an impossible costume change.

As well as the actual performance nights, there are a number of rehearsals closer to the show week. The dates for the rehearsals are below, and are also on the noticeboard. It's important to attend these rehearsals as you may miss vital last minute changes and let all your classmates down on the night by getting things wrong!

- Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May                      Rehearsal at WDS studio
- Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May                     Dress rehearsal at WDS studio
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May                    Act One dress rehearsal at Rhoda McGaw
- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May                    Act Two dress rehearsal at Rhoda McGaw
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May                Full dress rehearsal at Rhoda McGaw

More details including times will be posted next year.

This show will actually mark Woking Dance Space's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, so we hope it will be a good one. To that end we are again having a costume budget – but if your class wants something particular (or unusual!) you may be asked to contribute a small sum towards the purchase cost. Alternatively some classes may want to make their own, and the studio will be available for "sewing bees" when needed. If you have any skills at costume making, do let Gill Barnes, our wardrobe mistress, know, or speak to your teacher.

Remember that fantastic "Bond" finale we did last year? People are still talking about it. Well this year we are again doing a compilation, but this time to those gods of rock, Queen. And we think we've lined up a hot Freddy Mercury!

### **Dates for your diary...**

***Mincing Pies  
Christmas Party***  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Decembe  
7.30pm

***Watch This Space***  
Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May  
to  
Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May

## *Mincing Pies*

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Just in case you fancy a practice, Mincing Pies is here again with mulled wine, mince pies and the Kiefer/Ferris Fairy Grotto makeover of the studio.

Will Emma's tap class be showered in squeaky polystyrene bits from buckets? Will Gretchen's jazz class ever have the courage to wear those reindeer horns again? Will there be a cuddly toy in the raffle? Who needs the X-Factor?

See you at the studio on 10th December at 7.30pm.

## *Face the Future Danceathon*

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Wow what a day we had!

Over 30 dancers turned up on 4th of September for the Danceathon in aid of the Face the Future organisation. And between them they raised a whopping £2,033.85!

Face the Future was set up by Alison, whose son Jake sadly died aged 3 following a number of operations. She badly needed to raise money to set up the charity, and was delighted with the level of support shown by Woking Dance Space dancers.

The day started with Gretchen's ballet and jazz followed by Eithne's contemporary class, before a wonderful lunch provided by Michelle and Alison. The pace continued in the afternoon with Katie's tap and Emma's jazz, before a special chill-out session with Nick who taught everyone the intricacies of swing – see those girls strut!

Alison and Michelle then presented every attendee with a delightful gift as well as a personalized thank-you letter. A raffle was then held (with noticeable clustering of wins by Ms Brewer and Mrs Howgate! – both of whom kept gallantly re-donating their prizes) which raised a further £51. This, combined with an astonishing £104 from the collecting tin, and a donation of £100 from the studio itself, brought the total to over £2,000!

Special mentions go to Aisling Cass-Kavanagh, Bex Steer, Emma Simmons, Janice Woods, Jenny Quayle and Simone Horrabin, who all each raised over £100 for the fund. Well done everyone!

We are thinking of making this an annual event – perhaps for a different charity each year, and preferably an organisation that has some connection with the studio or one of our dancers. Any suggestions let us know.

## *Brrrrrr!*

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Stop Press! We have ordered a heating controller. It's being made especially for us and will be programmable for each day of the week to allow us to automatically switch on the heating before a class starts. This should warm up the studio nicely whilst avoiding the irritation of dancing over the racket of the "Hurricane Concerto" that accompanies the operation of the fan. The controller can be overridden however, if it still feels a bit chilly during class.

Installation is scheduled for Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November !

## *Risky business dance...*

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...so why do we all keep falling over outside the studio! We've had a rash of accidents – Tina's ankle, Gen's wrist, Iris' leg, Derek's ankle and now Katie's arm (well at least its not only people in Eithne's class!!).

We wish all of them a speedy recovery. And be careful, it's dangerous out there!

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*The real reason I dance is  
because I want to explode.*

*Bill Evans*

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