

# THE CHELMSFORD BALLET COMPANY NEWSLINE AUTUMN 2013



## From The Chairman

The Company year has already got off to a wonderful start with our artistic endeavours; The Nutcracker workshop and Let's Make a Ballet. We are now well into our rehearsals for The Nutcracker and of course our performance at the Brentwood Centre with the Hutton & Shenfield Choral Society.

We have said fond farewells to many of our Senior Dancers, several of whom have gone on to vocational training. We miss them all but hope that their experience with The Company will stand them in good stead as they follow their chosen path.

We are always pleased to hear about our dancing members and how they are faring in the big wide world and are proud of their achievements.

- Demi Aldred – The London Studio Centre
- Lorian Kurzweil – The Royal Academy of Dance
- Jasmine Wallis – Central School of Ballet
- Sam Ellis, although studying Economics has been able to choose a Dance Module in her first year.

Dance can present itself in all sorts of ways and continue to enhance your life; please let us know if you have any special experiences to share.

## AGM

The AGM in early October did not attract very many members at all this year; we were quorate though and able to conduct the necessary business, reporting on the successful year 2012-2013 and the election of officers.

We said good bye to three committee members. John Baker stepped down as Hon Treasurer; a long standing, valuable, and committed Committee member. John has been a company stalwart, supporting his wife, our current president Elizabeth Baker in her many roles with the company even

before he took over as Hon. Treasurer in 2001. He has always undertaken his role conscientiously behind the scenes, (but very publicly when "Front of House")

Richard Morris stepped down from his then current role as Business Manager. Richard, has also been a company stalwart, firstly supporting his wife Susan in her committee duties and then as a committee member in his own right undertaking various positions over the years.

Rhian Jenkins, who although by comparison had not been with us for long, brought the company into the world of social media. We are grateful to them all for their hard work and commitment to The Company.

We welcome our new committee members

## Nicola Roberts- Hon Treasurer

Nicola spent all her childhood playing sport, and had never been to the ballet until she watched The Company's production of Sleeping Beauty in 2009. Inspired by the performance, her daughter Megan successfully auditioned to join The Company the following year. Nicola assisted backstage chaperoning in the 2013 production of Coppelia and once it was discovered that she had 25 years of finance background was approached to stand for election to the position of the Hon. Treasurer.

As well as supporting The Company, Nicola can be found either standing by the side or a rugby pitch or driving her other two children to various events.

## Jessica Wilson – Publicity Officer

Jessica has been a Senior dancing member of the Chelmsford Ballet Company since 2007. In 2009 she began studying Dance Performance at Middlesex University and graduated in 2012 with a First Class Honours. She began dancing aged four, and has continued since then through various strands, be it



stage school, open classes, competitions, shows, exams and full-time training at university.

Jessica has written for many online and print dance publications during her time at university and beyond, in those such as Critical Dance, Dance Review and 4dancers. She has been reviewing dance and theatre for many years, and enjoys being able to combine her love of writing with her passion for dance, having also previously written for TheatreFix, A Younger Theatre and Londondance.com. In 2012 dancewear retailer Dance Direct approached Jessica to write and co-ordinate their blog, with this developing into a fully-fledged role over the past year. Dance writing has opened up many opportunities for Jessica, including being asked to guest lecture on Dance Writing in the Professional Studies module at Middlesex University.

Prior to graduation from Middlesex, Jessica was appointed as Marketing and Communications Assistant at the Royal Academy of Dance, and has recently been made Editorial Assistant for the RAD's flagship publication Dance Gazette and the smaller member publication, Focus on Members, in addition to her current role. Jessica also dances for Rambert's youth dance company, Quicksilver.

#### **Zoe Glenister – Committee Member**

Zoe danced as a child at the Wynne School of Dance, where her daughter currently dances today. Her daughter successfully auditioned in 2009 as a guest dancer for The Chelmsford Ballet Company's production of Sleeping Beauty and went on to become a dancing member in 2010. Zoe joined the chaperone team for Coppelia and enjoyed it so much, admiring the hard work that goes on behind the scenes that she wanted to become more involved and became an active committee member. Zoe works within the hospitality industry in human resources.

#### **Darci Willsher – Dancers' Representative**

Darci was elected at the pre-show meeting. She became a member at the age of 10 and has danced in Cinderella, Nightclub Express, The Tales of Beatrix Potter, Napoli and Coppélia. You can talk to her about any problems or if you have any questions at all. She is especially keen to make new members feel at home. Please feel free to contact her by

email. In her role she can raise any issues with the committee. [darcicbc@gmail.com](mailto:darcicbc@gmail.com)

**Marion Pettet**  
**Chairman**

### **Christmas Concert - The Brentwood Centre**

The Hutton and Shenfield Choral Society has invited us to perform at their Christmas Concert again, accompanied by the Aurelian Symphony Orchestra. We will be performing excerpts from The Nutcracker at the Brentwood Centre on the 21st December. This is a wonderful opportunity to advertise our excellence to a wider audience. The concert is a lovely occasion, really festive with beautiful music as well as the opportunity to join in with some carols and see Father Christmas. Please support YOUR Company. Tickets can be purchased from Elizabeth Baker: 01245 420522 @ [drake.baker@btinternet.com](mailto:drake.baker@btinternet.com)

More details can be found on the Hutton & Shenfield Choral Society website. <http://www.hscs.org.uk/>

### **News from our Publicity Officer**

We have had much support over the past couple of months, spreading the word and work of The Chelmsford Ballet Company and backing our ventures.

Our Facebook and Twitter accounts have been inundated with well wishes and congratulatory comments following the success of The Nutcracker workshop, Let's Make a Ballet and The Nutcracker auditions. Dancers, family and friends of the Company expressed their enjoyment and dedication to the company; we even had backing from local Councillors!

The November issue of Dancing Times, one of the leading dance publications, saw us included twice, once in News in Brief and again in the Diary section. It was great to see our name amongst prestigious and well-known companies, and it is hoped that this is just the beginning of such achievements.



Our Chairman, Marion Pettet, has been working tirelessly to present the Company to potential supporters, representing our name with professionalism and enthusiasm. It was fantastic therefore when Marion received an invite from BBC Radio Essex to talk about what the Company is up to for a broadcast in December. Make sure you listen out for Marion, and turn the radio up for all to hear!

December will also see the Company included in the Royal Academy of Dance's regional newsletter for Midlands and East of England, following Jessica Frogley's recent tour of the Royal Opera House courtesy of the RAD's Genée International Ballet Competition. If you receive the RAD newsletter for the region, please do share it with others.

Do keep spreading the word of The Chelmsford Ballet Company as our ambassadors and promoting our work as young voices. Here's to 2014, and even more support and publicity.

**Jessica Wilson**  
**Publicity Officer**

### **From the Wardrobe Mistress**

Costumes are in the process of being washed, ironed, fitted, adapted and made for our production of the Nutcracker in March 2014. Some of you may already have theirs!

Please bring a named costume bag to rehearsals ready to take your costumes home once we are satisfied that they are the best they can possibly be. Hang them carefully at home until you are asked to bring them for a final costume check nearer to the show. In the meantime please check that every item is named as groups of costumes will all look the same and can easily become muddled in the changing rooms especially if you have quick changes.

You will take your costumes to the theatre on the Sunday and they will remain there for the duration of show week. You will take them home after the last show, washing instructions will be given and costumes will be returned to me on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

As previously advised you will be expected to provide your own tights, socks, shoes and make up. Further details will be given nearer to the show.

I am excited to be working with you all and my hope is that you will all have great fun at the show so let's all try really hard to make it extra special.

**Ann Starling**  
**Wardrobe Mistress**

### **EASYFUNDRAISING.COM**

Please, please, please buy your Christmas presents via [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk). It is simple use - you can access all the major on line retailers via [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk) such as Amazon, Apple, M&S, Argos, Smyths, Ebay, and raise money for The Chelmsford Ballet Company.

It doesn't cost you any extra and so far we have raised £178 by simply shopping via the website.

Get started now -

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/2jpfum](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/2jpfum) invite friends and family and once they and you have raised £10, easyfundraising will donate £5 to The Ballet Company.

Full instructions are on The Ballet Company's website

### **Electronic Banking**

Future payments to the Ballet Company can now be made via electronic transfer, full details will be provided on the relevant membership/audition/workshop form. Please ensure that the dancers name is given as a reference. Thank you

**Nicola Roberts**  
**Treasurer**

### **'Dance Proms' - Royal Albert Hall by Alana Muis**

On Sunday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November I travelled to London to perform at the Dance Proms at the Royal Albert Hall. It was the first time, that I had ever danced in front of such a huge audience, there were over 5000 people watching me, which was quite a daunting feeling but it was also an amazing and an incredible experience at the same time.



The Dance Proms is an international event, with dancers travelling from Italy, Belgium and even Australia to perform and take part. My dance school performed a tap troupe called 'Tap Jamming' but



there were also many other styles of dance, such as contemporary, hip hop and ballet. The day



consisted of some rehearsals and costume adjustments and we also had to learn the finale, which we all performed and it was an extremely fun way to end such a memorable day.

Even though the day was very long, I thoroughly enjoyed it and it was an experience that I will never forget.

**Alana Muis**  
**Senior Dancing Member**

### **Life at Central by Jasmine Wallis**

I have just completed my first half term at Central School of Ballet. I am really enjoying it. I have learnt so much, and the teaching and encouragement is superb. At the moment I am studying ballet, repertoire, pas de deux, choreography, contemporary and Spanish.

We also have lectures in subjects such as nutrition and sports psychology. On the academic side we

have to write essays on topics like the history of ballet and dance styles.

Last week we were invited to the Royal Opera House to see a dress rehearsal of *The Rites of Spring*. It was really interesting to see the dancers performing. The Chelmsford Ballet Company was an excellent preparation for me as it gave me valuable insight into a ballet company. I am still a member and will come to as many company classes as possible. Good luck with your rehearsals for *Nutcracker*. You will have a wonderful time!

**Jasmine Wallis**  
**Senior Dancing Member**

### **A Visit to The Royal Opera House with The Royal Ballet**

Back in July this year, I was lucky enough to win a prize from the Royal Academy of Dance to visit the Royal Opera House for a back stage tour and to see a performance by The Royal Ballet from the wings.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> November, I arrived at the ROH nervously to be met by James Wilkie, first artist in the Royal Ballet Company. He took me on a tour of the ROH visiting practise rooms to see the evenings principals rehearsing, to see their new physio suite, the amazing costumes for their forthcoming *Giselle* and to see the amazing back stage area of the ROH. It was an incredible experience and was a real eye opener as I had no idea how big the back stage area was! The building alone is a maze with different areas being colour coded to help you find your way around.



*On the stage at ROH Edward Watson and Melissa Hamilton*

The visit culminated with me being able to watch *Romeo and Juliet* from the wings. The costumes



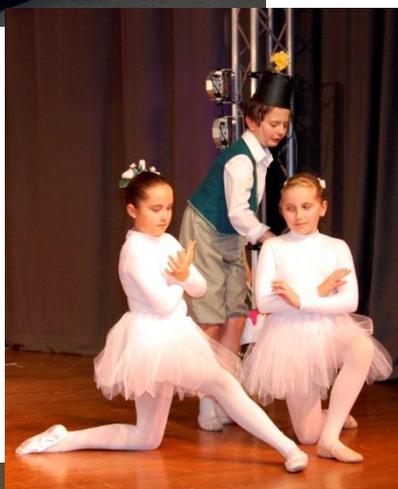
and the performance were amazing and everyone from the back stage crew and the cast were so welcoming and friendly. One lesson I learnt was that you need to get your interval coffee from the back stage bar before the orchestra get there!

It was a once in a life time visit and one I will remember for many years to come.

**Jessica Frogley**  
**Senior Dancing Member**

## Let's Make A Ballet 2013

On the 20<sup>th</sup> October, over 70 dancers from all over Essex aged between 7 -14 years, joined us at The Sandon School to create an amazing ballet in a day - Alice-Adventures In Wonderland.



The day went quickly with everyone learning their choreography and getting to know each other. Our Wardrobe Mistress and a team of helpers costumed all the dancers making them look amazing for their two performances. The dancers presented two spectacular performances in just one day to family and friends.

A big thank you to all of those involved in making the day such a success .

**Pippa Sellwood**  
**Events Secretary**

*"Let's make a ballet is such a fun event ,I had an amazing time and also made some new friends along the way .Who would had thought being a flamingo could be so much fun!"*

## Keep Up to Date!

Please follow us on Twitter (@Ballet\_CBC) or "like" our Facebook page (The Chelmsford Ballet Company)

News about the Company, rehearsals and the Production can be found on our Facebook page



Bookmark our website:

[www.thechelmsfordballetcompany.co.uk](http://www.thechelmsfordballetcompany.co.uk)

## THE CHELMSFORD BALLET COMPANY

**PATRON** -THE MARCHIONESS OF LONDONDERRY and CHRISTOPHER MARNEY  
**PRESIDENT** - Elizabeth Baker, 28 Bridge Street, Writtle, Chelmsford, CM1 3EX 01245 420522

### COMMITTEE 2013/2014

CHAIRMAN	Marion Pettet	59 Glovers Field, Kelvedon Hatch, Brentwood, CM15 0BD ☎ 01277 372056
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR	Annette Potter	55 Churchill Rise, Springfield, Chelmsford, CM1 6FD ☎ 01245 469443
HON. SECRETARY	Carol-Anne Frogley	Bishopstone, Colchester, Essex CO3 0GJ ☎ 01206 751656
HON. TREASURER	Nicola Roberts	26 Fairholme Avenue, Romford RM2 5UU ☎ 01708 458352
BUSINESS MANAGER & WARDROBE MISTRESS	Ann Starling	238 Rushbottom Lane, Benfleet, SS7 4LU ☎ 01268 757964
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	Debbie Snell	35 Harrow Way, Chelmsford, CM2 7AT ☎ 01245 474602
PUBLICITY OFFICER	Jess Wilson	@ wilsonjessica19@googlemail.com
EVENTS SECRETARY	Pippa Sellwood	7 Magnolia Close, Canvey Island, SS8 0GD . ☎ 01268 510936
COMMITTEE MEMBER	Zoe Glenister	49 Garry Way, Rise Park, RM1 4YT ☎ 07716 914612
COMMITTEE MEMBER	Julie Firman	2 Vincent Chase, Braintree, CM7 9UJ ☎ 01376 348964
DANCERS' REPRESENTATIVE	Darci Willsher	@ <a href="mailto:darciCBC@gmail.com">darciCBC@gmail.com</a>

### Calendar for 2013/2014

1 <sup>st</sup> December	5 <sup>th</sup> Rehearsal and Company Class
8 <sup>th</sup> December	6 <sup>th</sup> Rehearsal
15 <sup>th</sup> December	7 <sup>th</sup> Rehearsal
5 <sup>th</sup> January 2014	8 <sup>th</sup> Rehearsal
12 <sup>th</sup> January	9 <sup>th</sup> rehearsal
19 <sup>th</sup> January	10 <sup>th</sup> Rehearsal
26 <sup>th</sup> January	11 <sup>th</sup> Rehearsal
2 <sup>nd</sup> February	12 <sup>th</sup> Rehearsal and Company Class
9 <sup>th</sup> February	13 <sup>th</sup> Rehearsal
16 <sup>th</sup> February	14 <sup>th</sup> Rehearsal
23 <sup>rd</sup> February	15 <sup>th</sup> Rehearsal
2 <sup>nd</sup> March	16 <sup>th</sup> Rehearsal
9 <sup>th</sup> March	17 <sup>th</sup> Rehearsal
16 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	The Nutcracker – Civic Theatre

THE CHELMSFORD BALLET COMPANY

Presents

# THE NUTCRACKER

The Civic Theatre - Chelmsford

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2014**

7.30pm & 3.00pm Saturday Matinée



**Ticket Prices Wednesday & Thursday £14.00 (£12.00 concessions)**

**Friday, Saturday & Saturday matinée £16.50 & £15.00 (£14.50 & £13.00 concessions)**

£1.50 booking fee per transaction, except for cash and debit card payments made in person or by telephone.

**Theatre Box Office: 01245 606505**

**[www.chelmsford.gov.uk/theatres](http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/theatres)**

Visit our website [www.thechelmsfordballetcompany.co.uk](http://www.thechelmsfordballetcompany.co.uk)

## ABOUT THE SHOW

Tchaikovsky's wonderful, captivating and possibly most famous melodies set the scene for everybody's favourite ballet. Join in the festivities of a Christmas party and marvel at the dancing automatons. Battle the Mouse King and his Mouse Army with Clara, and then travel with her and Herr Drosselmeyer on the magic sleigh to the Magical Kingdom of Sweets. Be captivated by the flurry of the dazzling Snowflakes and the enchanting beauty of the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Prince. Delight in the famous waltz of the Flowers; the candy striped Merlitons, the fiery Spanish Fandango and dance of the Russian dolls, the Chinese Tea dancers and the veiled dancers of the Arabian song. This is truly a ballet for the whole family and a spectacle for any time of year.

