

Strictly FUN Dancing

Newsletter

March 2011

Hello, hello to you all,

Where has the past two months of 2011 gone? I wish I knew, and why I must apologise for the time taken to complete and send his particular newsletter out to you. For us it's been a blur of activity but a blur that thankfully means we are still in business, something that is not so easy in these hard times.

For those of you new to the classes, this newsletter will be your first insight into how we do things. Simply, it's an easy way by which we can keep communicate future events to you as well as the all important term times. With particular regards to this year's first ten week starter class at Shirley the numbers have been astounding and what's more it was week 9 last week and most of you are still with us. I don't know what has happened, whether it is because we have been established for almost five years now - word of mouth being an important ingredient - or if Anne Widdicombe dancing the Paso Doble in last year's Strictly Come Dancing inspired you but hey, either way we are glad to see you keeping fit, meeting others, having a good time and learning to dance; we hope to see you for a lot longer yet.



Whilst on the subject of numbers and class sizes I am very aware that numbers have increased in all three Thursday classes and that the capacity of the hall at Shirley is reaching its limit, particularly for the 7.30pm class. In order to alleviate potential overcrowding we are considering various ways of easing this situation as follows:

1. We find a bigger venue.
2. We enquire as to the possibility of running a class(s) in the rear hall at Shirley Methodist along side the existing one.
3. We enquire as to whether there is another evening free to hire at Shirley Methodist.
4. We find another venue on another night in addition to the Thursday night.

All of the above come with their own challenges, none of which are insurmountable but any decision we make must take into account that we also run established classes at the Grafton Dance Centre in Dulwich Village on a Monday and Wednesday evening which does leave us with very little time to play with. Furthermore, I am also conscious of the fact that some of you, understandably, like to make an evening of it and enjoy a drink at the same time so a venue with a bar would also be a consideration; the bar being one of the big advantages of running classes at Fairfield! Rest assured however we are on the case.

Term Times / Holiday Periods - Easter

Shirley Methodist - Thursday Evenings

Beginners Level 1, 10 week Ballroom & Latin American Starter Class 6.45pm - 7.30pm

The current 10 week starter class comes to an end on **Thursday 17 March 2011**.

The next 10 week Beginners Class will start on Thursday 28 April 2011@ 6.45pm.

Alternative Rhythms Class 6.45pm - 7.30pm

Starting **Thursday 24 March 2011**, finishing **Thursday 7 April 2011**.

For the three weeks before we break for Easter we will be running the Alternative Rhythms Class giving you an opportunity to experience yet more dances that do not necessarily come under the Ballroom umbrella. Although we have yet to finalise what we will be covering it usually tends to be along the lines of Salsa, Rock and Roll or Meringue, covering one dance a week.

Improvers Ballroom & Latin American Class 7.30pm - 8.30pm

&

Intermediates Ballroom & Latin American Class 8.30pm - 9.30pm

Both these classes will finish on **Thursday 7 April 2011** and resume on **Thursday 28 April 2011**.

Social Evening at Beckenham Public Halls Friday 8 April 2011

For those of you that are not familiar with our social evenings we run events once a quarter at the Beckenham Public Halls. The venue boasts a wonderful ballroom, accompanied by a licensed bar, and is an opportunity to start the weekend off with a bit of fun, a bit of dancing and a chance to socialise with like minded people.



Beckenham Public Halls
Bromley Road
Beckenham
BR3 5JE

Doors open at 8pm, with the Last Waltz being played at circa 11.00pm.
Price: £10 per ticket per person in advance, £11 on the door.

Grafton Dancing Saturday March 19 2011

This little project of ours is something that I still haven't properly told you about and I promise I will issue a special edition newsletter to explain all soon. Very briefly however Anna and myself have bought a dance school located in Dulwich Village. Every Saturday we have an evening of social dancing to which a number of Strictly Fun Dancing/Thursday night class members will be attending this Saturday 19 March 2011. The vouchers we issued before Christmas allowing you free entrance on your first visit have now time expired however as a measure of goodwill we are happy to still accept them on your first visit. If you did not receive a voucher, or have disposed of the ones you had, please let me know your intentions and we will accommodate accordingly. This offer, of course, extends to all newcomers as well.

Starts at 8pm finishing 11pm.

The full Address is Grafton Dance Centre, 7 Village Way, Dulwich, London. SE21 7AW.

Right next to the railway.

International Championships Albert Hall **Thursday 13 October 2011**

We have run this event for the last three years very successfully. I will not go into all the finite details in this particular newsletter but instead would ask you to go to the website www.strictlyfundancing.co.uk/alberthall.html which will explain all. I will however just say that tickets are now available for this year's trip and if you are intending to join us the cost is £31 per seat in one of the 2nd tier 5 seat boxes or £155 for a box.



Trip to Medway Festival of Steam Easter Sunday 24 April 2011



We are taking the bus, Terry's very own Routemaster bus, to display at the Medway Festival of Steam and Transport. We will be leaving Shirley Methodist Church at 8.30am on Easter Sunday 24th April 2011 returning at circa 5pm. It's not an official trip, so to speak, but rather an invitation to join us on a day excursion to a very interesting event whereby you have the opportunity to ride the Routemaster.

The only cost to you will be your personal entry fee to the event which you pay on entry and stated below. Your carriage with us is free of charge.

THE HISTORIC DOCKYARD CHATHAM

MEDWAY FESTIVAL OF STEAM & TRANSPORT

**EASTER SUNDAY & MONDAY
24 & 25 APRIL 10am – 6pm**

- Steam parades
- Hundreds of spectacular vehicles
- Family entertainment

NEW FOR 2011!
Guest appearance by **TITAN the Robot** (as seen on TV) and an exciting stunt show

the dockyard.co.uk
01634 823807

Supported by **KM**

VEHICLES GALORE!

- Steam trains, traction engines and miniatures
- Classic cars, motorbikes, buses and coaches
- Commercial, military and emergency services vehicles

FUN FOR ALL!

- ModelZone with planes, trains and automobiles and a chance to have a go
- Newfoundland Dog Team with their colourful carts
- 'Hot Riveting' demonstrations
- Drayhorse Shire wagon rides*
- River cruises on the Paddle Steamer Kingswear Castle*
- All the galleries and attractions of The Historic Dockyard (closing from 5.15pm)

EVENT ADMISSION PRICES	
Adult	£12.50
Concession	£10.00
Child	£8.00
Family (2 adults & 2 children or 1 adult & 3 children)	£33.50
Additional Family Child	£5.00

All children under 16 years must be accompanied by an adult at all times. These tickets are valid for one day only. Discounts available for 12 month ticket holders and for two day tickets – see website for details. Tickets may be purchased in advance via the website or by calling 01634 823806. This is a fund-raising event in aid of Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust.

NEW FOR 2011!

- Guest appearances by the amazing **TITAN the Robot!** – as seen on TV!
- Exciting precision driving stunt show with moves developed for film and TV* plus opportunities to have a go!
- Temporary 'ROBOT' Exhibition in No.1 Smithery: The Gallery including some well known metallic stars from the movies.

* Additional charge applies. † Two shows each day.

the dockyard.co.uk/steemandtransport
01634 823807

The Historic Dockyard, Chatham, Kent ME4 4TZ (For SatNav use ME4 4TY).
Registered Charity No. 292901, Fully Accredited Museum.

All images are for illustrative purposes only and are not a guide to the content of the event. Information correct at the time of printing. The organisers, Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust, reserves the right to change the programme of events available without notice.

Admission Fees

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Child	£8.00
Family (2 adults and 2 children or 1 adult and 3 children)	£33.50
Additional family child	£5.00

And that's all for now folks. If you are interested in any of the above or anything else, feel free to ask, email or phone me.

Best regards

Paul and Team