

# Strictly **FUN** Dancing

## Newsletter

**November 2012**

Hello, hello, I say wincing through tired eyes that are only being propped open by another set of well used matchsticks,

I am confused, I have just been going through the list of SFD newsletters and to my horror have just realised that the last one issued was back in March of this year, what happened to the summer edition, was there one?

How did I let everyone know when we were to start back after the summer break, did I just send out an email or something?

This summer has been such a blur but I just can't think why?

## Newcomers to SFD 2012

The desire to ballroom dance still prevails in that we have had a fair amount of new interest this year. In the main, the two areas that have benefited most are couples taking private lessons and single gentlemen currently attending the Beginner's class. Well done to you all, thank you for finding us at SFD and hope next year is as rewarding for you as it has been for us teaching you this year.

## Getting out there - a message to you all.

It was a long time ago when I began the ever so slow process of learning to dance and, as has been pointed out, probably forgotten what it was like to step out onto a busy dance floor armed only with a little knowledge and a lot of trepidation. Yes, in part, this is true, and there is of course some who would say, in reference to having a little knowledge, 'so what's changed now'?

Anyhow, due to the feedback that's come my way this year I thought I might ask you to consider the following: All of us will have started dancing somewhere and that somewhere will always have been at the beginning. It is a fact that some dancers will progress quickly from that point and others more slowly, but be assured that regardless of what we have achieved we will all be at a stage of learning and we will all, at some point, dance on a floor with dancers more capable than us. Likewise, the more experience we gain the more likely it is that we then start to look to others as an experienced dancer can appear to us now. So the point I would like to make is: try not to be discouraged by dancers who look impressive yet at the same time intimidating because of their big holds and fancy steps, some of those individuals have been dancing for some 10-20 years or more.

## Christmas Parties!

Notice, the word 'parties' is definitely meant to be plural. This year's Christmas celebrations are going to be a little different. Normally, as many of you know, we would run an SFD Christmas party at St Christopher's in Beckenham. However, with the number of people attending classes having dropped recently, my concern has been as to how we fill a hall the size of St Christopher's without feeling as if we're rattling around in an empty tin can. After much fretting, discussion and consideration a very smart lady (I will not mention her name but she is most definitely a star) suggested something that might just work. Please read on.....

## SFD Christmas Party - Thursday 20 December 2012

We will be having a 'get together' on the above date at Shirley Methodist Church in the same hall that we hold the classes. We intend to provide nibbles and non alcoholic refreshments, (no alcohol permitted in a Methodist Church) and hopefully a demonstration by a very smart young brother and sister team; a brother and sister team that as of yet are unaware of the floor they are going to have to contend with but thought it best I might let them know about that nearer the time!

My view is it will be a fairly relaxed 'cosy' informal evening, without table plans or even many tables with the emphasis being on dancing, mingling and having a bit of end of year fun. Ticket prices will be £27 per person, start and finish times yet to be confirmed but, if I can agree an extension with the church, I think we will run from 7.30pm to 10.30pmish.

## Grafton Christmas Party - Saturday 8 December 2012

This event will be more formal, it will have table plans and catering but no demonstration. The price is again £27 and the doors will open at 7.30pm for 8pm.

### The SFD 2012 Christmas Deal!

I would like you to consider both of the options above. The choice is yours, maybe you would like to join us on the 20<sup>th</sup> only, maybe the 8<sup>th</sup> only or maybe you might like to try both?

Here's the deal, if you do both I will do the two for £50 per person and that way you get the best of worlds, demonstration, catering, the big Christmas party as well as the more intermit personal

gathering for SFD-ers only. Whichever way you choose to go could you let us know preference and arrange payment as soon as possible please.

## Class Term Times

All Classes will finish on Thursday 13 December  
2012

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

**Starts**

**Thursday 10 January 2013 @ 6.45pm.**

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Improvers Ballroom & Latin American Class 7.30pm - 8.30pm  
&  
Intermediates Ballroom & Latin American Class 8.30pm - 9.30pm

**Both classes resume Thursday 10 January 2013**

And so to finish off, thank you all for your support throughout the year and if we do not see you before Christmas then we at SFD would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy prosperous 2013.

Best regards

Paul and Team