



WADA

Wessex Arabic Dance Association

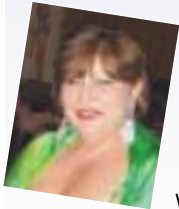
Autumn Update 2010

Things are changing at WADA!

The AGM & New Committee

A very successful AGM was held on 16 Oct. and a new committee formed. We have some big ideas for the future of WADA and already have a brand new website. We are planning more varied and exciting workshops with some great teachers. These will be held in many different locations. News of forthcoming events will be posted on the website and newsletter.

Read on for your new committee.



Chair

☆ Luisa Taylor

Luisa has been dancing for over 18 years, has trained with some of the best teachers in the dance world, including Wendy Buonaventura, Karine Butchart, Liza Wedgewood, Juliana Brustick, Beatrice, Aziza, Yasmina of Cairo Dandesh and many more. Her passion is gypsy dance and Beledi. Luisa has performed at weddings in Egypt, Turkey and Europe. Luisa has been organising workshops and events for many years in her hometown of Warminster where she liaised and brought over some of the best teachers in the area, therefore giving students the opportunity to dance different styles including Raqs Sharqi. While a WADA member Luisa is best known by the members as a WADA events organiser. She is not only a passionate dancer, but a passionate WADA committee member. She took on the role of Publicity Officer and together with the rest of the committee produced The Desert Caravan show.

She is planning great things for the future of WADA and her knowledge and passion together with a professional line up of much loved and respected teachers as Committee Members should give WADA members a group to be proud of. Her aim is to create events and workshops to be envied and offer the services of professional teachers to members that they can be proud of and most of all to give every member a chance to take part in this new venture and shine.

You can contact Luisa about any WADA issues.



Webmistress & Marketing Officer

☆ Tracey Jones

Tracey is a qualified Marketing Professional with over 15 years experience working in the media, PR and in marketing consultancy. She has worked for both television and Radio stations running their regional PR campaigns. She holds a CIM (Chartered Institute of

Marketing) Advanced Diploma in Marketing Communications (since 1997). She is an Adobe Certified website designer and currently runs her own websites, in addition to others including this Site.

She is a professional Arabic Dance performer and teacher, having won the UK National Belly Dance Competition in 2006. She is in demand as a teacher and performer at festivals throughout the UK and teaches weekly classes and regular workshops in Wiltshire. She is a below knee amputee and is deeply committed to making Arabic Dance accessible for anyone who wants to try it. She has a keen interest in each dancer's unique style.

You can contact Tracey about listings and photographic contributions for this website. Or if you are interested in promoting WADA membership



Secretary & Events Organiser

☆ Shona Hagan

Shona is a sought after performer and teacher (JWAAD) of Egyptian bellydance. Shona teaches popular regular classes in the Dorset area (Poole, Corfe Mullen, Bournemouth and Salisbury), and is in demand for giving workshops and performances throughout the UK and in Spain. Before moving to the UK Shona had a successful career both as a teacher and performer in Spain, where she owned her own dance studio and had dance contracts with local restaurants, tour companies and danced in five star hotels at weddings and other events.

Shona recently won an award at the Isis Awards for professional soloists at the International Bellydance Congress 2009. Shona is now the organiser and promoter of Miss Bellydance UK, which she is hoping will help and encourage up and coming dancers here in the UK as she believes Britain has a wealth of talent which is largely unrecognised.

You can contact Shona if you are interested in putting on a WADA event.

Treasurer ☆ Garry Taylor

Gary has been a close follower of the Arabic/belly dance scene in the Southwest region, supporting Luisa, his wife. He regularly attends hafas and other events throughout the WADA region and has gained a good understanding and knowledge of the various Arabic music and dance forms, and knows many of the teachers and groups in the region. He has extensive experience in roles on committees, especially with his fencing activities; as Secretary and Treasurer of both Warminster's Wessex Blades fencing club, and for Wiltshire's County Fencing Union. Not being a dancer or dance teacher, Gary brings a neutral pragmatism to the WADA committee.

You can contact Gary to find out about what funding is available to put on a WADA event.



Membership Secretaries & Newsletter

☆ Helené Willson

Helené lives in the New Forest with her partner. "My interests are in gardening, floristry photography, costume making, and

since young a passion for dancing; Scottish, ballroom & sequence, American square dancing and over the last four years belly dancing. Last year I was bitten by the Tribal bug and now dance in The Tribe of The Honeybadgers having performed on stage at Majma and Gothla UK.

My first WADA hafla was brilliant experience, meeting dancers from different areas, opened up a new world to me".

You can contact Helené about Newsletter contributions, and membership issues.

☆ Paul Traies

Paul is a graphic artworker/illustrator. "Having a like for things artistic, dance is naturally something I enjoy. Helené and I run a weekly ballroom sequence dance and I have been a square dancer for many years. I'm now enjoying various belly dance workshops and learning to play Darabuka and Frame Drum.

I would like to see more dancers aware of WADA, see it progress and be given the recognition it deserves".

You can contact Paul about Newsletter contributions, and membership issues or the Chat Group.



Visit the new website at www.wada.org.uk





Workshops and The Halloween Hafla

After the AGM meeting Akasha (Heike Humphreys) ran two workshops - Group Combinations and drills to the Black Sheep Tribal Style format and Kathak (Indian Classical) inspired fusion combos. Indian ATS!



The Hafla was also held at the Studio Theatre in Salisbury. It was the first time we have used the venue which overall worked well on the day with plenty of space for the AGM, workshops and good dressing rooms for the hafla. Those who did not attend missed a wonderful show of dance in very comfortable surroundings including a Souk, raffle and Bar. Our DJ for the night was?..... who provided excellent sound and lighting for the performers and informal dancing afterwards.

Performers were:

Akasha	Improv. Tribal Fusion
Kamara Tribal	Tribal
Shona	Stick Dance
Louisa	Classical Egyptian
Shiraz (Gillian)	Kholeege Tabla
Louisa	Malaya Leff
Lena Fort	Tabla solo
Corinda Hall	Egyptian Cabaret
Kamara Tribal	Tribal

WADA Hafla in April

The new committee are working on a hafla which will be held in April, date and venue yet to be decided so keep an eye out as we will keep you posted. We are hoping for a relaxed atmosphere, no stage event. It will be open to any level of dance or music performer, so if you would like a spot contact the committee. There will be the usual bring a plate of food, disco and hopefully a Souk.

Workshop ideas?



If you have a suggestion for a WADA workshop or venue contact your committee who will try to help.

If you wish to organise a workshop yourself but can't finance it, WADA could provide backing if it is commercially viable.

WADA Show success

The Blackledge Theatre made an excellent venue for the wonderful 'Desert Caravan' show, which portrayed traditional dance styles from around the old middle east trade routes. There were some problems in the final weeks leading up to the show but it all worked out well on the night. A big WADA thank you to all concerned, performers and organisers. You can see pictures from the show on the WADA website

New WADA website

Our thanks go to Tracy Jones for producing the wonderful new website. It has links to our coming events, teachers, newsletters, event pictures, constitution, committee, membership etc. Keep in touch with what's going on at www.wada.org.uk

WADA Show DVD

If you missed 'The Desert Caravan' show don't miss the DVD, still some copies left at a reasonable £18.50 including P&P. Contact Erica - erica.illustrator@yahoo.co.uk for your copy now!

Alzheimer's Society donation thanks

Dear Erica,

I am writing on behalf of Salisbury Alzheimer's Society to thank you and the Wessex Arabic Dance Association for your very kind donation of £75.00 which was money raised at the Desert Caravan Show on 25 September at Godolphin School.

As you know, we are always grateful for donations as they help us continue to provide services for people with dementia and their carers in the Salisbury area. Thank you for your support.

With very best wishes.

Yours sincerely
Angela Laden
Services Administrator

★ Membership - Forget it and regret it! ★

Remember that membership fees were due from October. An application form is with this newsletter so please fill in your details and comments/requests so we know what you want from WADA. We are working on payment on-line to make it easy next time. We are going to send the newsletters by Email as PDF file attachment or Snail mail (£2 extra) please tick the box on the membership form. Thank you all for your continued support!

To advertise your event to WADA members

email; Helene.paul.traies@uwclub.net for the Newsletter or send details to Tracey Jones; traceylacey@me.com for the website. If you are on the Yahoo Group, you can email to the Group.

WADA member Teachers have a page on the website where they can advertise. Send a brief profile, thumbnail size photo, information on what styles and levels you teach, when & where, if you are available for workshops, and your contact details and website if applicable.



Useful WADA contacts



- ★ Chair - Luisa Taylor, Tel: 01985 220110, Email: khalidaital@yahoo.co.uk
- ★ Secretary/Events Organiser - Shona Hagan, Email: shonahagan@aol.co.uk
- ★ Treasurer - Gary Taylor, Tel: 01985 220110, Email: ??
- ★ Web Mistress & Marketing - Tracey Jones, Email: traceylacey@me.com
- ★ Membership Secretaries - Helené Willson & Paul Traies, Tel: 01590 682967, Email: helene.paul.traies@uwclub.net

Minutes of WADA Annual General Meeting

16th October 2010

the Studio Theatre, Salisbury

Present:

Committee

Chair - Andrea Stuart

PR - Luisa Taylor

Treasurer - Pru Collins

Secretary - Erica Hemming

Ex-Officio - Ian Southwood

Margaret Bailey

Christine Vale

Members

Heike Humphreys

Fiona Musker

Nicky Scammell

Jenny Wickham

Helene Willson

Paul Traies.

Apologies:

Committee

Membership Secretary - Laura Humphries

Web Mistress - Sara Shrapnell

Hon.Memb. - Sabine Dawson

Members

Tracey Jones

Shona Hagan

Agenda:

- ☆ Report from Chair
- ☆ Report from Treasurer
- ☆ Report from Membership Secretary
- ☆ Voting for new committee - nominations received and any from the floor.
- ☆ Any Proposals from Members
- ☆ Any other business

Report from Chair

Hello,

The last year for WADA has been a mixture of highs and lows. The highs have been the launch of the new newsletter which, I am sure you will agree, has been a huge improvement on previous years. This is due to the work of Erica Hemming, Helené Willson and Paul Traies and I am sure you will join with me in passing over my thanks for all their efforts.

Other highs have been the successful workshop with Gwen Booth earlier in the year and the successful production of the recent show 'Desert Caravan' where we were treated to dance styles from all around the old trade routes. What some of you may not have appreciated was in the couple of weeks before the show we had some major dancers pull out due to family bereavement or problems which meant that some groups had to dance without their teachers who was unable to attend or was now filling a spot left vacant. Some groups had pulled out earlier when their teacher would not be performing and so I would like to say a "Thank you" to the groups with the courage to continue. There is still a limited number of videos available to purchase if you did not see the show: see Erica.

Some of the lows have been the attendance at the day of dance and drum which was a real shame as we had spent a lot of time decorating the venue, providing a small Souk and nibbles. Members had previously expressed a wish for this yet failed to support it. Another low has been some of the personal nature of criticism by other members on the committee: we are all trying to do our best in a voluntary position. None of us get paid and in fact most of us subsidise WADA in petrol costs, paper, stamps printing ink and envelopes and I would like this "nasty" side to stop immediately and support shown to the new committee in a positive manner. Feedback is always welcome but it should be given and received in a positive manner.

We currently have three members willing to stand for the committee and I hope that there will be others to join them, to enable WADA to continue into a successful 2011. (New committee since formed)

Best regards

Andrea Stuart



Report from Treasurer

Pru gave the assembled a handout itemising the accounts for the year. She also made available the previous year's report & accounts and the current bank statement.

Bank Balance at 17.9.09 £1,413.54

Bank Balance at 24.09.10 £1,277.55

(does not show £710 paid in on 02.10.10.

Actual balance at 16.10.10 £1,787.55

Show: Desert Caravan made a profit of £220 which allows £75 each to be paid to the Alzheimer's Society, Smile Train and Salisbury District Hospital's Spinal Unit mini-bus. Pru wrote cheques at the meeting for Erica to send to the first two and Christine to give the last to the Spinal Unit.

Public Liability Insurance is paid up until May 2011.

Performing Rights Licence for 13 events/year was not renewed on 30.09.10 due to uncertainty over WADA's future and a 20% increase in costs. Future options include buying a licence per event, a reduced number of events on the licence (Suggested by Luisa Taylor), or using the PPR of the event venue (Suggested by Fiona Musker) - as we were doing that evening with the Studio Theatre.

Filming of events - Nicky Scammell also confirmed that the cost of this licence per event has greatly increased this year. She suggested that a rise in the Membership fee from £8 to £10 might be necessary to fund these licences.

Report from Membership Secretary

As Laura was not able to be present and now sadly lives in London, the Chair read out the membership figures: 60 Members and 7 Honourary Members.

At £8 each, this brings in only £480 per year as Hons. do not pay fees.

Discussion: Heike suggested we have to be much more internet savvy to try to recruit more members. Pru mentioned that each Newsletter costs £60 - £80 to print and send.

Erica said that The Membership is very ready to complain but this year has not stood behind the Committee in terms of supporting events put on for them (see Chair's report). This AGM is a case in point as there were only 6 non-Committee Members present.

Voting for new committee

None of the existing committee were standing for re-election so the posts vacant are:

Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Secretary, Public Relations/Publicity officer, Web Mistress, and Ex-Officios.

Proposals 1 - Luisa proposed Tracey Jones, Shona Hagan, Gary Taylor and herself.

4 nominations were sufficient to form a new Committee

Andrea read out the emailed statements from the absent Tracey and Shona, in support of their standing

for Committee.

Chair then asked if anyone else was standing?

All Seconded by Andrea.

Proposals 2 - Helene and Paul Traies, present at the meeting, who have produced the Newsletter this year, were persuaded to stand and seconded by Luisa.

Christine Vale and Heike volunteered to be co-opted in as necessary, should the Committee require extra help.

Discussion

★ The need for new blood and outlook in order for WADA to survive in what is a very different environment to that in which it was started. Against this were questions over the existing time, travel and teaching commitments of those standing. This Committee will have to set a date to decide who will assume which role and to run for the following year on the existing Constitution. Amendments to the Constitution, including an increase in Membership fee, can only be proposed at an AGM.

★ Fiona and Heike - Where does WADA compete and what should the new Committee be offering the membership? Suggestions are workshops with top level teachers; WADA teacher's training workshops, a yearly show. Many teachers in this area and beyond now offer their students the kind of workshops that WADA used to specialise in. Nicky Scammell confirmed that we all benefit from supporting our teachers and promoting WADA through public events like shows, and that Tracey's ideas would support and promote the 'Community' spirit in which WADA was founded.

★ Proposed - Heike - that meetings could take place remotely by media such as Skype, to avoid time and fuel costs of travelling to meetings.

Voting

All those proposed were voted in by those present. ? any abstentions ?

Positions: Only one position was confirmed; that Gary Taylor is to be Treasurer, with the outgoing Treasurer's and Chair's proviso that Luisa is not a signatory on the account in order to protect her and WADA from allegations of fraud.

Tracey Jones's statement suggests that she could be both Web Mistress and PR Officer.

Any Proposals from Members

No proposals by post, email or those present.

Any other business

Proposed - Andrea - that any new Membership applications should be sent to Luisa's address until a new Membership Secretary is appointed.

Date for next AGM

★ Saturday 8th October 2011



WADA Membership still only £8

Name: _____ Tel: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Age: 20-40 40-60 60-60+ tick box

Main dance style/interest?: _____

Any suggestions/comments?: _____

Newsletter by Email (Adobe Acrobat required)

or by post £2 extra

Remittance enclosed **Total £** _____ *Please make cheques payable to WADA*

Benefits of WADA Membership

★ Organised Hafas

★ Social events

★ Dance workshops

★ Finance for dance events

★ Practice space

★ Performance opportunities

★ Professional teachers

★ Newsletters

★ Events website

★ Members email

★ Discount on WADA events

Return this form to: **WADA Membership Sec. 28 Setthorns Road, Sway, Hampshire. SO41 6AG**