

The London Ballet Circle

*Founding President and First Patron: Dame Ninette de Valois OM, CH, DBE
President and Patron 1981 to 2004: Dame Alicia Markova DBE
Founded in 1946 by Stanley Hawkins*

Patron: Sir Peter Wright CBE

President: Dame Monica Mason DBE

Vice Presidents: Dame Beryl Grey DBE, Dame Merle Park DBE,
Wayne Eagling, David Nixon OBE, Darius James and David Bintley CBE

Associate Vice President: Michael Broderick

Chairman: Susan Dalgetty Ezra

A CELEBRATION OF SIR PETER WRIGHT

Monday 28th October 2013

The National Liberal Club was the grand setting for a special evening in honour of Sir Peter Wright, The London Ballet Circle's beloved Patron.



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Seventy-five invited guests and members gathered to celebrate a significant anniversary both for Sir Peter and the ballet world. In October 1943, an eager young man made his debut in "The Green Table". His appearance lasted thirty seconds but that thirty seconds was enough for that young dancer to know the stage was where he wanted to be. Seventy years later, Sir Peter shared memories of those early days with an appreciative audience.

The evening began with a toast to Margaret 'Andy' Andreazzi. Andy was a long time member of LBC, a great ballet fan and friend to all she knew. When she passed away, she left a

legacy to be used for the enjoyment of the membership. A party for the members seemed the very thing!



Michael Broderick had the happy task of leading the conversation with Sir Peter. We were royally entertained with stories of wartime days, touring, working in Germany and balancing it all as a young husband and father. Following questions from the audience, President Dame Monica Mason

thanked Sir Peter and announced the creation of The Sir Peter Wright Prize.

This prize will be awarded annually to a graduating student from Elmhurst School for Dance. Robert Parker, Artistic Director of Elmhurst, accepted on behalf of the school.

What is an anniversary party without a cake? Kevin O'Hare proposed a toast to Sir Peter who then ceremonially cut the 70th anniversary cake. That ended the formalities and the social hour began. Delicious canapés, wine and, of course, cake were served and enjoyed by all.



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It was a memorable evening and we now look forward to the 75th anniversary!