

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

March 2016

Dear Members of the London Ballet Circle

It's time to celebrate

In this edition of the Newsletter you will see how to book for a special evening to mark the London Ballet Circle's 70th Anniversary, hosted by Sir Peter Wright and Dame Monica Mason, at the National Liberal Club on 9 May – make sure you order your tickets fast, as capacity is limited.



Congratulations to Darius and Amy

We have sent our congratulations to Ballet Cymru's Darius James, and Amy Doughty. Our newest Vice President has a new addition to his family following the birth of Cai Ronald James Doughty Williams, a little brother for Issy. You can expect to find them all in the studio the next time you visit Ballet Cymru's studio!

Well done to Xander

We were delighted to learn of Xander Parish's promotion to First Soloist at the Mariinsky, which he joined from the Royal Ballet in 2010. Xander is a frequent visitor to the London Ballet Circle and is seen here on the right with Jeanette White.



Releve

Moving on from one very impressive young man to another, Isaac Hernandez gave a wonderful talk to us on his path to becoming a principal dancer with English National Ballet. Isaac mentioned the charity he established with his family. You can read more about the free ballet schools the Hernandez family have set up here <http://socialwork.isaachernandez.com.mx/about/>

And finally

Unfortunately, our website isn't working right now. The company that hosted it has gone out of business so please bear with us while we move it to another firm. For our latest news follow us on Twitter @BalletCircle and on Facebook instead.

Kind regards

Allison Potts

Newsletter Editor

What's on?

Leanne Benjamin, AM, OBE, in conversation with Susan Johnson

Monday 7 March, 7.30 pm

The Dining Room, 1st Floor, Civil Service Club

13-15 Great Scotland Yard, London, SW1A 2HJ

Payment at the door, members £5, guests £8

We are delighted to be able to welcome former and much admired Royal Ballet Principal, Leanne Benjamin, as our guest for what promises to be a very enjoyable evening. After 20 years in the Company Leanne gave her last performance in 2013. Most of our members will have enjoyed seeing her in a principal role in the Royal Ballet' wide repertoire and in her distinguished career she has received many accolades. Since retiring, among many other things, she has been involved with the Leanne Benjamin Awards, created and administered by the Tait Memorial Trust, to provide scholarships for promising young Australian dancers. In 2014 she received the Outstanding Achievement Award from the Critics' Circle and in 2015 she received the Order of Australia (AM) in 2015 for significant service to the performing arts and as role model.

Patricia Linton on *Voices of British Ballet*, in conversation with Gerald Dowler

Monday 11 April, 7.30 pm

The Dining Room, 1st Floor, Civil Service Club

13-15 Great Scotland Yard, London, SW1A 2HJ

Payment at the door, members £5, guests £8

Patricia joined The Royal Ballet in 1964 and enjoyed a career as dancer, Assistant Ballet Mistress and company teacher. From 1974 to 2001 she taught at The Royal Ballet Lower School at White Lodge. She co-wrote *The Young Dancer* with Darcey Bussell.



Visit to the Royal Ballet Upper School, jointly with the Ballet Association

Wednesday 27 April, 9.00 am to 3.00 pm

Royal Ballet Upper School, 46 Floral Street, London, WC2E 9DA

Payment in advance £15, tickets from David Bain baindavid23@talktalk.net

Once again we have arranged a visit to the Royal Ballet Upper School to watch three classes. This is a joint visit with The Ballet Association and initially will only be open to members of the BA or LBC. If you would like to attend, please send your name, address and contact details (preferably an email address) to David Bain, Chairman, The Ballet Association, 23 Capstan Square, Stewart Street, London, E14 3EU. The cost of the visit will be £15.00. Please indicate whether you belong to the BA, or LBC or both, so that places can be allocated fairly. Please enclose a cheque made payable to The Ballet Association. If you have no email address, please enclose a stamped addressed envelope. All monies collected will be donated to the Royal Ballet School to provide additional funds for students. **Please apply before 7 April.** If you would like to bring a guest, at a cost of £20, please indicate this in your letter, but do not include them in your cheque. David will contact you after 7 April to confirm whether or not any guest places are available. David will not be issuing tickets. Places will be confirmed by email (or post). Your name will be placed on a list which will be held at the door. If a 9.00 am start is too early for you, it will be possible to join at morning break around 10.30 am. Please indicate in your letter if you will be a late arrival. There will be a 45-minute lunch break before the afternoon session. The School politely requests that you leave the premises during this break, as they do not have the space to allow you to eat lunch on site. However, if you have any mobility issues, please indicate this in your letter and provision will be made for you to stay on site during the break and seating will be reserved for you in the theatre.

You are reminded that the School does not allow visitors to take photographs of the student.

Celebrate LBC's 70th Anniversary - Monday 9 May, 6.30 pm for a 7.00 pm start at The National Liberal Club, 1 Whitehall Place, London, SW1A 2HE

Payment in advance, £20 for members and £25 for guests (there is a waiting list for guests) Sir Peter Wright and Dame Monica Mason will be pleased to welcome you to a celebration of 70 years since the foundation of the London Ballet Circle by Stanley Hawkins with Dame Ninette de Valois as Founding President and First Patron.

The evening will include a discussion, involving Sir Peter, Dame Monica, Daria Klimentova and Michael Broderick, and more special guests who will talk about their memories from the history of the LBC and they will also talk about dance through the decades in a discussion moderated by dance critic Gerald Dowler. It is anticipated that this part of the programme will last one hour. This will be followed by an hour-long reception for members and guests.

Tickets for this special celebration are £20 each for members and include a glass of wine and nibbles. There will be a cash bar for those who want to celebrate a bit more! Please send your cheque to payable to The London Ballet Circle, to Audrey Allen, 8 Goldsmith Road, London, N11 3JP, 020 8361 2872, audrey8allen@gmail.com. Confirmation of your place and acknowledgement of your cheque will be made by email unless you require written confirmation, in which case please enclose a stamped-addressed envelope. There are a limited number of places available and in the first instance they are being reserved for members. If they have not all been allocated by 8 April, the remaining tickets will be available for non-member guests. Therefore members are asked to apply before 8 April. If you would like to bring a guest, at a cost of £25 each, please indicate this in your letter, but do not include them in your cheque. We will contact you after 8 April to confirm whether or not any guest places are available. We will not be issuing tickets. Places will be confirmed by email (or post). Your name will be placed on a list which will be held at the door.

The National Liberal Club has some facilities for members with mobility issues.

**Visit to the Central School of Ballet
Monday 16 May, *2.00 to 4.00 pm
10 Herbal Hill, Clerkenwell Road, London, EC1R 5EG
Donations are requested - a minimum of £12.50 is suggested**

We are delighted to have been offered another opportunity to visit to Central School of Ballet to watch the graduate year, formed into the company Ballet Central, rehearse some of the repertoire for their end of year show to be performed at venues throughout the UK. Those of us who have attended in previous years have greatly appreciated the skill of the students and the very varied choreography they tackle.



Photograph courtesy of Bill Cooper

*Because of limited waiting space we are requested not to arrive before 1.45 pm. The afternoon will end around 4.00 pm with tea in the Library.

The nearest underground station is Farringdon (Circle and Metropolitan lines and overhead), turn right on leaving the station into Farringdon Road, cross at the traffic lights and turn right until you reach Clerkenwell Road, turn left and Herbal Hill is the first side turning you reach. If you would like to take part in this visit please advise Audrey Allen and if you wish to make a donation please send a cheque, made payable to The London Ballet Circle, to Audrey Allen, 8 Goldsmith Road, London, N11 3JP, 020 8361 2872, audrey.allen035@btinternet.com. Acknowledgements of your donation and confirmation of places will be made by email where applicable but if you require a written receipt please enclose a stamped addressed envelope. You are reminded that the School does not allow visitors to take photographs of the students.

Jonathan Watkins, Choreographer, in conversation with Allison Potts
Monday 6 June, 7.30 pm
The Dining Room, 1st Floor, Civil Service Club
13-15 Great Scotland Yard, London, SW1A 2HJ
Payment at the door, members £5, guests £8



Jonathan began choreographing from an early age and showed clear choreographic talent, winning the Kenneth MacMillan Choreography Competition at the Royal Ballet School, aged just 16 years old. After graduating from The Royal Ballet School to The Royal Ballet Company, he created several pieces for the Clore Studio and Linbury Studio Theatre.

He made his main stage debut as a Choreographer in 2010 with *As One*. Following this, he collaborated on the Royal Opera House's main stage commission, *Metamorphosis: Titian 2012*. The overall production went on to receive a South Bank Award nomination for Dance in 2013. In 2014, Jonathan conceived, choreographed and directed his dance adaptation of *KES* based on the novel 'A Kestrel for a Knave' by Barry Hines. Recently he reimagined George Orwell's modern classic *1984* as a new full length production for Northern Ballet due to be performed at Sadler's Wells Theatre in May. If you can't wait for the live performance, you can see it on BBC iplayer until the end of March. <http://northernballet.com/media-releases/2016-02-18/1984-on-bbc-four>

Non-LBC events

Masterclass with Birmingham Royal Ballet's Céline Gittens

Sunday 13 March, 10.00 am to 1.15 pm

Royal Academy of Dance, 36 Battersea Square, London, SW11 3RA

The RAD has kindly offered LBC members a discounted ticket price of £10.00. Tickets can be booked online at www.rad.org.uk/masterclass2016

Please apply for your ticket before Thursday 10 March

LBC members have been invited by our friends at the Royal Academy of Dance to watch its Masterclass event, being given by Birmingham Royal Ballet's First Soloist Céline Gittens. This year the masterclass will involve two separate classes at a pre-professional level. The first class will be for students aged 11 + who have just started vocational ballet training and one class for students 13+ who are more advanced with their ballet training.

The RAD has invited London Ballet Circle members to watch class and to take part in its Q&A session.

You are reminded that the School does not allow visitors to take photographs of the students.

After the Masterclass, why not make your way over to JW3 – see details below.

Masterclass2016
with Céline Gittens

The First Soloist with the Birmingham Royal Ballet shares her artistry and experience

Sunday 13 March 2016
Closing date: Thursday 10 March

Royal Academy of Dance
36 Battersea Square
London SW11 3RA

WHO CAN ATTEND?
Dancers studying at a vocational or pre-professional level.

CLASS TIMES AND FEES
10.00 – 11.00am
Suitable for students at Intermediate Foundation and Intermediate level
£18

11.15 – 11.30am
Q&A session

11.45am – 1.00pm
Suitable for students at Advanced Foundation and Advanced 1 & 2 level
£30

CLASS OBSERVATION FEES

- RAD/One Dance UK / London Ballet Circle members: £10
- Student observation: £10
- General observation: £15

This event has been organised by the London and Midlands P&C. Income will support the Royal Academy Scholarship, which funds a place in tuition on an RAD Summer School for one boy from the London & Midlands Region.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF DANCE
The further information on this event visit www.rad.org.uk/masterclass2016 or email academymembers@rad.org.uk

Royal Academy of Dance® is a charity registered in England and Wales No. 32260



A tribute to John Cranko
Sunday 13 March, 3.30 pm
JW3, 341-351 Finchley Road, London NW3 6ET
Tickets are £20 www.jw3.org.uk, 020 7433 8988

Sir Peter Wright, who danced for and worked with John Cranko, will discuss the man and choreographer with dance critics Clement Crisp and Gerald Dowler.

Known to London's audiences for his ballet *Onegin*, there is far, far more to John Cranko. From his native South Africa to Sadler's Wells Ballet School and the early successes of *Pineapple Poll* and *The Lady and the Fool*, he then moved to Stuttgart where he created a company and repertoire of world class. Brenda Last will give a masterclass on his works including *Pineapple Poll*, which she was taught by Cranko himself, followed by a finale performance by Royal Ballet soloist.

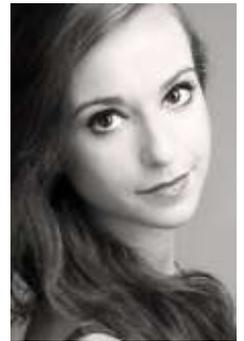
Isabelle Brouwers, Artist, English National Ballet, in rehearsal followed by discussion of her life and career

Thursday 17 March, 7.00 pm, at English National Ballet, Markova House, 39 Jay Mews, London, SW7 2ES

Book in advance: £17.50

Tickets from Jennifer Miller, 020 7590 2950 jennifer.miller@ballet.org.uk

Born in Bonn, Germany, Isabelle trained at the Royal Ballet Lower School and English National Ballet School and joined the Company in 2014.



Isabelle has won many prestigious awards including the Youth America Grand Prix in 2007; Genée International Ballet Competition Silver Medal 2013 and second place Young British Dancer of the Year 2013 and was a finalist in English National Ballet's annual Emerging Dancer competition last year. Multi-talented Isabelle speaks five languages!

Leanne Benjamin's Masterclass series

Danceworks, 16 Balderton Street, London, W1K 6TN

020 7629 6183, info@danceworks.net

If Leanne's talk on 7 March inspires the Advanced level dancers among you, then why not take her Masterclass at Danceworks? Leanne will be looking at: 21 March – *Coppelia*; 18 April – *Swan Lake*; 16 May – *Don Quixote*, from 10.30 am – 1.00 pm. Tickets are £45 per Masterclass (10% discount to Danceworks Members – please book at Reception or by phone).

Danceworks presents a unique opportunity for advanced/professional dancers to work with inspirational ballet legend Leanne Benjamin in a series of monthly 2.5-hour Masterclasses. Numbers will be strictly limited to ensure personal attention. Participants will benefit from the layered progression of the series (the first of which took place on 22 February but was too late for inclusion in our last Newsletter).

Leanne will be offering the opportunity to be taught specific sections of the repertoire of four major classical ballets. Each Masterclass will focus on the technique and interpretation of specific repertoire from *Swan Lake*, *Coppelia* and the *Don Quixote*, and will begin with Leanne teaching a 30-minute barre followed by pointe work warm up.

The Masterclass series is open to advanced dancers as well as dance students from full-time vocational courses, who are looking to enrich their practice. Please make sure you have appropriate technical training in order to get the most out of the experience. Participants must be 15 years of age or over. Limited availability, booked on a first come first served basis.

Ballet Central 2016

If the visit to the Central School of Ballet inspires you to see the graduate year in performance, Ballet Central's tour 2016 features a sparkling programme of ballet, neoclassical, contemporary and narrative dance. The company's young and dynamic dancers will showcase their talent with a diverse performance of newly commissioned works and celebrated revivals. Choreographers for this year's tour include Richard Bermange (Ballet Ireland), Christopher Marney (Matthew Bourne's New Adventures), Sara Matthews (Director, Central School of Ballet) and Sharon Watson (Artistic Director, Phoenix Dance Theatre). Classical ballet fans will relish *Celebration* by company founder Christopher Gable and *Paquita Pas de Trois* staged by Carole Gable. This family-friendly show is ideal for dance enthusiasts as well as those new to ballet. Don't miss this opportunity to see these highly talented and vibrant dancers as they launch their professional careers.

"Ballet Central seems to be on an upward trajectory, looking finer all the time." Dance Europe, July 2015

The Ballet Central 2016 tour opens on Thursday 24 March 2016 at 7.30 pm at EM Forster Theatre, Tonbridge. Tickets can be purchased online via the Tonbridge School website (<http://www.boxoffice.tonbridge-school.co.uk/whats-on/dance/article/date/2016/03/ballet-central-2016/>) or by telephoning 01732 304241. For London dates details will appear in due course at <http://www.balletcentral.co.uk/ontourpage2.php>

Ena Yoshida and Prima Tharathep, students of Central School of Ballet

Photograph courtesy of Bill Cooper



Travelling for ballet

The promotion, sale and delivery of package holidays offered for sale in the UK is regulated by The Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992. The Regulations apply to anyone who organises packages whether they are for profit or not, and whether they are for business or club purposes. The London Ballet Circle organisers do not wish to take on the personal responsibility of being a travel agent or engaging a travel agent on behalf of members.

Those who enjoy travelling abroad for ballet write occasional travel logs for this Newsletter on their experiences that appear and their adventures might inspire you to organise a visit yourself.

Sir Peter Wright's *Sleeping Beauty*, Sunday 17 April, in Budapest, Hungary

Some members are already aware that Sir Peter Wright is staging his production of *Sleeping Beauty* in Budapest in April. It is possible to book tickets for this through the theatre's ticket agency <https://www.jegymester.hu/eng/Production/211/The-Sleeping-Beauty>. A number of the LBC Committee will be attending the performance on Sunday night and some are staying at the K & K Opera Hotel next to the theatre.

Yorkshire Ballet Summer School, Saturday 16 – Friday 29 July, Askham Bryan College, York, YO23 3FR

The Yorkshire Ballet Summer School, which uses the facilities of Askham Bryan agricultural college, offers dance students aged 9 to 19 and their teachers a chance to attend an annual, two week residential summer school taught by renowned dancers and teachers of national or international acclaim. The 2016 Summer School will teach almost 100 students in each of the two weeks. YBSS has the special goal of giving students the chance to take Master Classes taught by world famous dancers, most recently Donald MacLeary, Belinda Hatley and Edward Watson. As the School's Director, Marguerite Porter, puts it, "Our aim is to encourage, inspire and educate our students in a happy and safe environment. We hope that they leave us with renewed joy of the dance and greater confidence." The YBSS Patrons include: Anya Sainsbury CBE, Sir Anthony Dowell CBE, Kevin O'Hare, Michael Nunn OBE, and William Trevitt OBE.

The London Ballet Circle pays for two of students to attend the Yorkshire Ballet Summer School each year. A small number of observers are allowed to watch daily classes. Donations are requested and a minimum of £45 is suggested. This will enable you to watch classes and is a contribution towards the LBC bursary for two students to attend. Please send your donation cheque, made payable to The London Ballet Circle to Audrey Allen, 8 Goldsmith Road, London, N11 3JP 020 8361 2872, audrey8allen@gmail.com The Package Travel regulations mentioned above apply to YBSS as well, so those who wish to attend will need to make their own arrangements. You are reminded that the School does not allow visitors to take photographs of the students.

How to contact the School:

Yorkshire Ballet Summer School, 24 Shaftesbury Road, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 2TD
020 8332 3080 info@ybss.co.uk

How to contact the Accommodation Manager:

Jennifer Scott, Askham Bryan College, Askham Bryan, York, YO23 3FR
01904 772246 jennifer.scott@askham-bryan.ac.uk

The tariff at Askham Bryan College this year is £35.50 per person per night, room and breakfast, plus 20% VAT, making £42.60 for each day.

Put your questions to Sir Matthew Bourne

PeckhamPlex is screening *The Car Man* on Wednesday 2 March at 7.00 pm which will be followed by a Question and Answer session with Sir Matthew. Tickets are £9.99 – more details here <http://www.peckhamplex.london/film/matthew-bournes-the-car-man>

The birth of the modern musical: all singing, all dancing, all smiles at the City Lit

LBC member Maggy has written to us to say how much she enjoys Pauline Greene's classes at the City Lit so as this may be of interest to other members, here are some details about courses about to start.

From Showboat to West Side Story - This course surveys key examples from the early history of the modern musical and traces the development of the 'triple threat' actor, singer and dancer.

Dates: 13/04/16 - 15/06/16 (10 sessions)
Course code: MD624

Time: 10.30 – 12.30

Location: Keeley Street

You can find the course here

<http://www.citylit.ac.uk/courses/performing-arts/music/music-appreciation/the-birth-of-the-modern-musical-all-singing-all-dancing-all-smiles>
<http://www.citylit.ac.uk/courses/performing-arts/music/music-appreciation/the-birth-of-the-modern-musical-all-singing-all-dancing-all-smiles>

Music and Dance: Ashton and MacMillan, masters of British choreography - Frederick Ashton and Kenneth MacMillan created hundreds of ballets over several decades. Focusing on their time with the Royal Ballet, this course explores some of their most famous works, together with the dancers who inspired them and the music they used, to create a legacy of choreography that has turned traditional style into something new and consistently popular.

Dates: 15/04/16 - 24/06/16 (10 sessions)
Course code: MD641

Time: 10.30 – 12.30

Location: Keeley Street

You can find the course here

<http://www.citylit.ac.uk/courses/performing-arts/music/music-appreciation/music-and-dance-ashton-and-macmillan-masters-of-british-choreography>

***Curtain Up* at the Victoria & Albert Museum**
10.00 – 5.45 pm (Fridays to 11 pm), until 31 August
Cromwell Rd, London, SW7 2RL - entry is free

Explore the extraordinary story of the world's two greatest theatrical cities, London's West End and New York's Broadway, in a new exhibition.

The Society of London Theatre, the V&A and The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts at Lincoln Center have collaborated to celebrate this unique theatrical relationship in an ambitious exhibition designed by Alan Farlie of RFK Architects and Tom Piper, the critically acclaimed artist and theatremaker renowned for his stunning Tower of London poppies installation, Blood Swept Lands And Seas Of Red.

Via award-winning plays, musicals and productions, *Curtain Up* explores the craft and collaboration that creates spectacular international theatre. Visitors will be able to explore and interact with unique collections from both the V&A and The Library for the Performing Arts, and immerse themselves in special exhibits from contemporary shows, highlighting how the sector has flourished and developed since 1976. Sir Matthew Bourne tells us that the famous feathered pantaloons worn in his *Swan Lake*, designed Lez Brotherston, are among the exhibits.

Alongside the exhibition, the public can get involved in the multi-strand events programme, with exclusive 'In conversation' events with leading West End professionals and a *Curtain Up* careers programme for the new generation of theatre makers. Investigate the What's On and Learn pages for more information. <http://www.vam.ac.uk/content/exhibitions/display-curtain-up/>

Robert Robinson's *BalletWorks*
[26 & 27 July – London](#) and [29 & 30 July – Isle of Wight](#)

Robert was born on the Isle of Wight. At the age of six years he started his ballet training at the Gillian Cartwright School of Dance. In 2006 he went to the Elmhurst School of Dance before joining the John Cranko Schule in Stuttgart in 2008. He graduated in 2011. In the season 2011/12 he became an apprentice with the Stuttgart Ballet, one season later he was taken into the Corps de ballet. In 2013/14 he was promoted to Demi Soloist. In 2015/16 he was promoted to Soloist.

In 2014 Robert had organised a highly successful ballet gala on the Isle of Wight to raise money for the Mountbatten Hospice who had so lovingly looked after his grandfather.

Having lived and worked in Germany for so many years, Robert had lost a lot of his contacts in the UK and so reached out to the LBC as he planned his 2015 gala. The Newsletter Editor attended and thoroughly enjoyed the event as it presented a programme a bit out of the ordinary from the traditional ballet gala. Robert wanted to give the audience an appreciation of the range of today's ballet dancers.

Via LBC Robert teamed up with our friend Richard Chappell and they produced a video together 'Introduction' <https://vimeo.com/141111351>

At the beginning of the 2015-16 season Robert was promoted to Soloist (one rank below Principal in the Stuttgart Ballet) and seems to be performing in most of the company's productions. Nevertheless, he hopes to be able to invite Richard to Stuttgart to work with him on a new creation as part of Stuttgart Ballet's Noverre-Society evening where young choreographers are given the chance to show their talent. Robert says:

"We are just getting ready for another Premiere this Saturday in the Schauspielhaus, I'm dancing Glen Tetley's Arena which is an interesting piece.

Thought I would give you a head's up on the gala. I've changed the name to BalletWorks which is a nice play on words and at least the Arts Council won't get it mixed up with it being a swimming event! A lot of changes this year due to the circumstances of last year's event. Once I have posters and everything I'll have to send you some. We are performing two shows in London and two shows on the Isle of Wight. Next week I will have to start sorting out invites. The shows will be on the 26th and 27th at Chisenhale dance space in London, then the 29th 30th on the Isle of Wight, I do hope you can make it."

Still from video by Faye Tan's film, 'Introduction', Choreography by Richard Chappell

Dancer Robert Robinson



Can you help Smita with her research?

Smita Talati is researching a possible new biography on Anna Pavlova and wonders if any LBC members may have any recollections of attending the 25th anniversary celebrations held in 1956? Perhaps you have links with one of the many dancers and teachers of Pavlova's company? She appreciates that she's going back several decades now but thinks it is still worth asking!

Smita is a professional writer and journalist, as well as a dance and music scholar. She undertakes to give full accreditation to any members who are able to help and any information gained would only be used with their explicit approval. Smita can be contacted by email at smitta.talati@sky.com

Over £900 raised for LBC via Easyfundraising!

We thought you would like to know that the running total raised for LBC via Easyfundraising currently stands at £965. Let's see if we can get to £1,000 by the time of the next Newsletter! This money has enabled us to send another student dancer to a summer school – so our thanks to the members who have signed up.

Why not help us raise even more? Amazon, Boots, Expedia, John Lewis, Marks & Spencer, Sainsbury and Tesco are among over 2000 stores that have teamed up with **EasyFundRaising.org.uk** so that every time you shop online the stores donate money to your favourite charity – and it costs you nothing! Register quickly and free of charge by:

1. Clicking on www.easyfundraising.org.uk
2. Selecting 'Register as a user'
3. Clicking London Ballet Circle as the charity you wish to support, then each time you shop online log on to www.easyfundraising.org.uk and go from there in the usual way and up to 15% of what is spent will be donated by the retailer to The London Ballet Circle.

Annual General Meeting – proposed change of date

Over the last few years attendance at the AGM and Annual Party has suffered as a result of bad weather and illness of key participants. Although not a formal resolution, the Chairman took a straw poll amongst members attending the 2016 event and all but four members voted in favour of the AGM being moved to later in the year when better weather might encourage more participation. If you have any comments you would like to make known to the Chairman about this suggestion, please phone or email Susan Dalgetty Ezra.

The 2016 Committee of the London Ballet Circle is:

Susan Dalgetty Ezra, Chairman, 020 7224 5594, susandalgetty1@googlemail.com
Audrey Allen, Visits, 020 8361 2872
Esme Chandler, Talk Host, 020 8348 1571
Susan Johnson - Honorary Treasurer and Talk Host, 07725 149482
Dr Sandra Kendall - Committee Member
Istvan Lengyel – Website, 07505 406331
Serena Martin - Honorary Membership Secretary, 020 7402 6799
Allison Potts – Newsletter Editor & Talk Host, 07870 116302
Tim Rooke - Venues Secretary, 020 8352 0492
Jean Wilde, Hon Secretary, 01256 841713