

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

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Website: www.tlbc.org.uk Twitter: @BalletCircle and on Facebook

UK Charity Registration No: 1123258

March 2017

Dear Members

In this edition:

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Francesca Hayward, Principal, Royal Ballet, in conversation with Susan Johnson

Monday 10 April, 7.30 – 8.30 pm

Visit to the Royal Ballet School

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Alistair Spalding, CBE, Artistic Director and Chief Executive, Sadler's Wells

Monday 15 May, 7.30 – 8.30 pm

Visit to the Central School of Ballet

Wednesday 31 May, *2.00 to 4.00 pm (please note change of date, was 16.5)

Christopher Hampson, Chief Executive & Artistic Director, Scottish Ballet, in conversation with Gerald Dowler

Monday 5 June, 7.30 – 8.30 pm

As you can see from the list above, there is so much going on there is only a small space left in which to tell you about what else is in this edition, there is so much to enjoy!

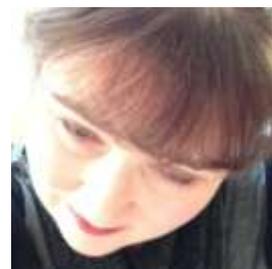
We have received a message from Sir Peter about his birthday celebration. Unfortunately he was unwell on the day but you'll see from his note that he is feeling better now. In case you missed it at Christmas, you can still watch the BBC's hour-long documentary 'The Ballet Master: Sir Peter Wright at 90' by downloading it from the BBC Store for £1.89 from <https://store.bbc.com/checkout/27415931>

We have also received a delightful 'thank you' letter from Ann Wall. You may remember that Ann, a previous LBC scholarship recipient, was able to join Ballet Cymru as an Apprentice courtesy of a donation made via the London Ballet Circle. She's had some great news - read on to find out more.

Finally, the cost of post is going up at the end of March. If you could receive this Newsletter by email instead of post, not only will you receive it quicker but you will also be helping us to save money on postage, paper and photocopying. Please send your email address to Audrey Allen at audrey8allen@gmail.com. Thank you.

Kind regards

Allison Potts
Newsletter Editor



Visit to the London Ballet Company

Monday 6 March, 10.00 - 1pm

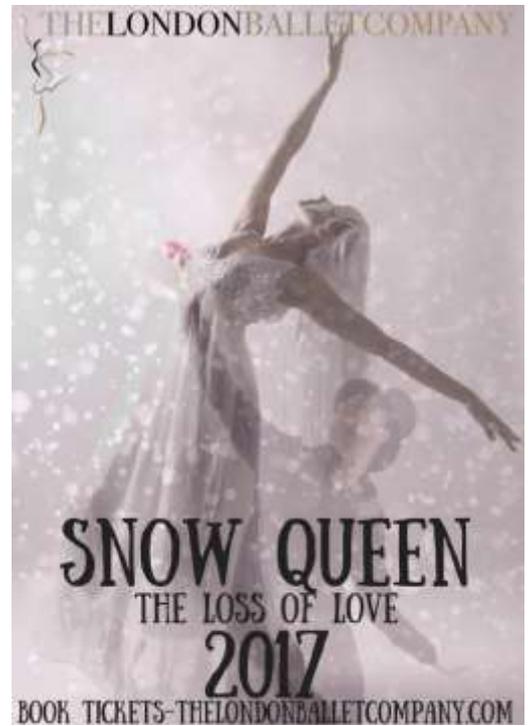
Chelsea Theatre, 7 World's End Place, Kings Road,
London, SW10 0DR

Please give your name in advance. Donations are requested but not obligatory - a minimum of £12.50 is suggested

Members and guests welcome

Our friends at the 'other LBC', the London Ballet Company, have invited us to visit them.

Founded in 2010 by its director Sophie Wright, the London Ballet Company is currently performing *Snow Queen: The Loss of Love*. The company strives to bring ballet to intimate venues and to bespoke engagements - nothing daunts this young innovative company with professional dancers who have graduated from the most prestigious vocational schools in the world. Inspired by popular culture and topical events, the choreographic collaboration of its dancers, employs humour and pathos with considerable success. The London Ballet Company is grounded in strong classical technique and celebrates a variety of contemporary styles. You can find out more about the company at <http://www.thelondonballetcompany.com/upcomingperformances/>



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, audrey8allen@gmail.com. Confirmation of your place will be made by email where applicable but if you require written confirmation please send a stamped address envelope.



Francesca Hayward, Principal, Royal Ballet, in conversation with Susan Johnson

Monday 10 April, 7.30 pm - 8.30 pm

Civil Service Club, 13-15 Great Scotland Yard, London, SW1A 2HJ

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

Francesca trained at The Royal Ballet School and graduated into the company during the 2010/11 Season, promoted to First Artist in 2013, Soloist in 2014, First Soloist in 2015 and Principal in 2016.

She studied at The Royal Ballet School 2003–11 and while a student won the 2009 Lynn Seymour Award for Expressive Dance, the 2010 Young British Dancer of the Year and both silver medal and the Audience Choice Award at the 2010 Genée International Ballet Competition. After joining The Royal Ballet she represented the company at the 2012 International Competition for the Erik Bruhn Prize and won Best Emerging Artist at the 2014 Critics' Circle National Dance Awards. Earlier this year Frankie received the National Dance Awards Critic's Circle Grishko Award for Best Female Dancer. Her repertory with the company includes Juliet, Alice, Manon, Lise (*La Fille mal gardée*), the female Principal role in *Rhapsody*, Sugar Plum Fairy and Clara (*The Nutcracker*), Princess Stephanie (*Mayerling*), Perdita (*The Winter's Tale*), Vera (*A Month in the Country*), Girl (*The Invitation*), Princess Florine (*The Sleeping Beauty*), Justine (*Frankenstein*) and roles in *Swan Lake*, *Don Quixote*, *Giselle*, *Infra*, *Ballo della regina*, *Symphony in C*, *Asphodel Meadows*, *Within the Golden Hour* and *Carbon Life*. She created roles in *Untouchable*, *Woolf Works* and *Multiverse*.



ROYAL
BALLET
SCHOOL

Visit to the Royal Ballet Upper School

Wednesday 3 May, 9.00 - 3.00 pm

46 Floral Street, London WC2E 9DA

Payment in advance, LBC members £15, guests £20

Once again, we have arranged a visit to the Upper School in Floral Street 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 e-mail 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 we can allocate places 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 27 March.** 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. The Ballet Association will contact you after 27 March to confirm whether or not any guest places are available.

The Ballet Association 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 us 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 students.

Alistair Spalding, CBE, Artistic Director and Chief Executive

Monday 15 May, 7.30 pm – 8.30 pm

Civil Service Club, 13-15 Great Scotland Yard, London, SW1A 2HJ

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

Alistair Spalding has been the Artistic Director and Chief Executive of Sadler's Wells since 2004. He has been responsible for programming at the theatre since February 2000 (when he joined as Director of Programming).



Alistair's first job in arts management was at the Hawth Theatre, Crawley, where he was a programmer from 1988-1994. Over six years between 1994 and 2000, Alistair was the Head of Dance and Performance at the Southbank Centre in London.

Alistair was also appointed as a national member of the Arts Council of England Board in January 2009. He was a member of the Arts Council England Dance Advisory Panel between 1995 and 2003. He was awarded Le Chevalier des Artes et Lettres by the French Embassy in October 2005. In June 2012 he was appointed a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in the Queen's Birthday honours list, for services to dance.

Visit to the Central School of Ballet

Wednesday 31 May, *2.00 to 4.00 pm (please note date change from 16.5)

10 Herbal Hill, Clerkenwell Road, London, EC1R 5EG

Please give your name in advance. Donations are requested but not obligatory - a minimum of £12.50 is suggested. Members and guests welcome

We are delighted to have been offered another opportunity to visit the 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.

*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 School apologises for having to change the date of our visit previously arranged for 16 May.

The nearest underground station is Farringdon (Circle and Metropolitan lines and London Overground), 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, audrey8allen@gmail.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.

Central School of Ballet's renowned graduate performing company Ballet Central will begin its extended annual nationwide tour at The Stratford Circus Arts Centre on Thursday 30 March. Under the guidance of its new artistic director Christopher Marney, Ballet Central's diverse range of dance and theatre will now appear in 22 towns and cities across a five-month period. For details of all the tour dates click <http://www.balletcentral.co.uk/ontourpage2.php>





Christopher Hampson, Chief Executive & Artistic Director, Scottish Ballet, in conversation with Gerald Dowler
Monday 5 June, 7.30 pm – 8.30 pm
Civil Service Club, 13-15 Great Scotland Yard, London, SW1A 2HJ
Payment at the door, members £5, guests £8

Christopher joined Scottish Ballet as Artistic Director in August 2012 and was appointed Artistic Director / Chief Executive of Scottish Ballet in 2015.

Christopher trained at the Royal Ballet Schools. His choreographic work began there and continued at English National Ballet (ENB), where he danced until 1999 and for whom he subsequently created numerous award-winning works, including *Double Concerto*, *Perpetuum Mobile*, *Country Garden*, *Concerto Grosso* and *The Nutcracker*.

Christopher's *Romeo and Juliet*, created for the Royal New Zealand Ballet (RNZB), was nominated for a Laurence Olivier Award (Best New Production 2005) and his production of *Giselle* for the National Theatre in Prague has been performed every year since its premiere in 2004. Christopher created *Sinfonietta Giocosa* for the Atlanta Ballet (USA) in 2006 and after a New York tour it received its UK premiere with ENB in 2007.

He created *Cinderella* for RNZB in 2007, which was subsequently hailed as Best New Production by the New Zealand Herald and televised by TVNZ in 2009. His work has toured Australia, China, the USA and throughout Europe. Other commissions include, *Dear Norman* (Royal Ballet, 2009); *Sextet* (Ballet Black/ROH2, 2010); *Silhouette* (RNZB, 2010), *Rite of Spring* (Atlanta Ballet, 2011), *Storyville* (Ballet Black/ROH2, 2012) nominated for a National Dance Award 2012, and *Hansel and Gretel* (Scottish Ballet 2013).

Christopher is co-founder of the International Ballet Masterclasses in Prague and has been a guest teacher for English National Ballet, Royal Swedish Ballet, Royal New Zealand Ballet, Hong Kong Ballet, Atlanta Ballet, Matthew Bourne's New Adventures and the Genée International Ballet Competition. Christopher's work now forms part of the Solo Seal Award for the Royal Academy of Dance.

Christopher most recently gave a talk on 'Creative Thinking' for TEDx Glasgow and developed and led the inaugural *Young Rural Retreat for Aspiring Leaders*, in association with Dance East last summer.

Save these dates for LBC events

Xander Parish	Wednesday 2 August
Visit to Freed London	Wednesday 6 September
Maina Gielgud in conversation with Michael Broderick	Monday 11 September

Video of 70th anniversary

In case you didn't get along to celebration of our 70th Anniversary, you can now watch the video made of that special evening. We would like to thank the Royal Ballet's Andrej Uspenski and Bennet Gartside for making this film <https://youtu.be/Y7LkQ9UDdKA>

London Ballet Circle's AGM and Party

We were delighted that so many members were able to join us at the National Liberal Club for the London Ballet Circle's AGM and party to mark our Patron Sir Peter's 90th birthday. Regrettably Sir Peter wasn't well enough to join in on the night. However, the Chairman, Susan Dalgetty Ezra has been to see him since to pass on in person members' best wishes and to present him with a photo

montage of scenes from the event – see below. Sir Peter has sent us the following message:

Dear friends,

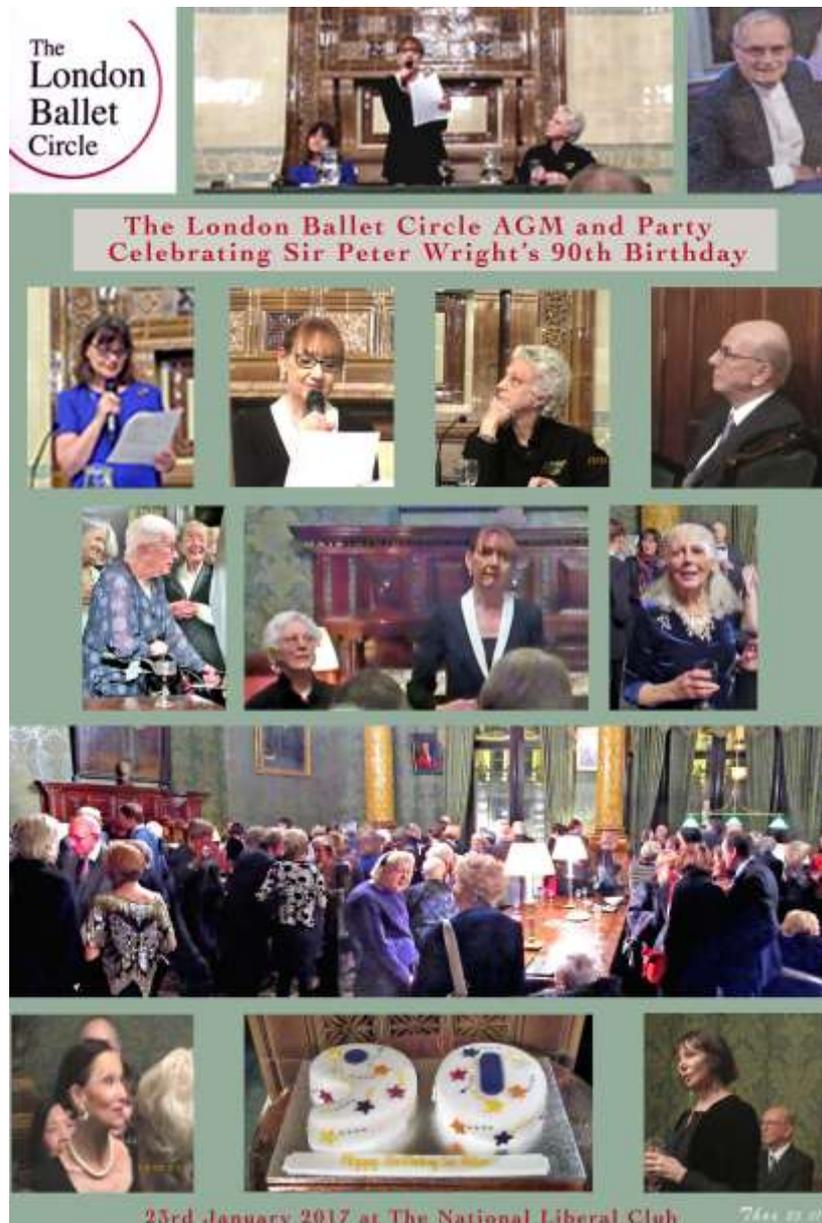
I really was very sorry not to be with you all at the party to celebrate my 90th birthday. Although I was feeling pretty bad I was determined to be there and then on the actual day I began the most awful coughing up of yuk and realised from past experiences that I had got a bad chest infection and a fever. I 'phoned Susan Dalgetty who was most understanding and explained that I couldn't possibly be at the party and she at once set about re-organising things as it was too late to contact everyone and let them know that I would not be there.

I cannot tell you how pleased I was when I heard the next day that the party had been a huge success and very full. Thank you everyone and so glad you all enjoyed the occasion. It just shows, no one is indispensable!

Anyway, I am feeling much better and hope to see you all again soon.

Yours affectionately,

Peter



Ann Wall's apprenticeship diary

Ann was our Yorkshire Ballet Summer School scholarship recipient in 2014 and the Stanley Hawkins scholarship recipient in 2015. With the help of a generous donation from Mr & Mrs Dominic Christian made via the London Ballet Circle, Ann was able to join Ballet Cymru as an apprentice in September 2016 upon graduating from English National Ballet School. We are delighted to learn that Ann has been given a contract to join Ballet Cymru as a company member. Ann has sent us a diary of her apprenticeship at Ballet Cymru and has sent LBC a 'thank you' letter, shown below.

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for the sponsorship of my apprenticeship with Ballet Cymru for the Autumn tour. I have had such an incredible apprenticeship and now I am over the moon that I will be returning to the company next season on full contract. I feel so incredibly fortunate to have received your support and I must admit the support that I have had over the years from you all has meant so much to me. I feel as though the London Ballet Circle is the shining light behind me and my achievements as a dancer and I truly hope to make you all proud of who you have supported by continuing to work as hard as I can. I have kept a diary of my apprenticeship for you all to browse through! I hope you enjoy looking at it as much as I enjoyed creating it for you!

I hope to see you again soon!

*All best wishes
Ann Wall*

Ann is asking her Director, Darius James, if it's OK for us to publish her diary on our website, so let's hope he gives it his seal of approval so we can share the rest of it with you.

Photograph of Ann Wall courtesy of Sian Trenberth Photography Ltd





Sergei Polunin's Film 'Dancer'
On DVD from 24 April, Cert Certificate: 12A
Running time: 84 mins

"Dancer gracefully captures turmoil within Sergei Polunin. Steven Cantor's sensitive, luxuriantly filmed documentary about the princely, magnetic Polunin"
Los Angeles Times

"Dancer elegantly depicts ballet star Sergei Polunin's rise and crisis of faith"
Newsweek

If you didn't make it to the London Film Festival or the London Palladium, you will have another chance to see the documentary 'Dancer' featuring Sergei Polunin when it becomes available on DVD and iTunes. The official trailer can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oCwc265NnDI> You can pre-order the DVD, £9.99, from <https://shop.dogwoof.com/collections/pre-order-now/products/dancer-dvd> And from Amazon https://www.amazon.co.uk/Dancer-DVD-Sergei-Polunin/dp/B01J66FTH2/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1487450755&sr=8-1&keywords=Polunin+dancer

There is a very interesting article about the making of the documentary here <https://www.theguardian.com/stage/2017/feb/22/sergei-polunin-documentary-dancer-steven-cantor>

Project Polunin will be at Sadler's Wells from 14 to 18 March <http://www.sadlerswells.com/whats-on/2017/project-polunin/>

Sadler's Wells says that with Project Polunin he aims to create new dance and ballet works through the collaboration of dancers with contemporary artists, musicians and choreographers for both stage and film. This triple bill includes both classical and modern pieces, including the UK premiere of Vladimir Vasiliev's *Icarus*, and *Tea or Coffee*, a company piece choreographed by Andrey Kaydanovskiy.

The programme will also feature the world premiere of *Echo and Narcissus*, a piece co-created by Polunin in collaboration with composer Ilan Eshkeri, who wrote the music for Polunin's film *Dancer* and conceived the idea for *Echo and Narcissus*, and the photographer and artist David LaChapelle, whose previous collaboration with Polunin helped launch him to stardom with his performance to Hozier's *Take Me to Church*. If you haven't already seen it you can catch up with it here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c-tW0CkvdDI>

Inaugural HeForShe Arts Week

UN Women invites you to take part the first HeForShe Arts Week in support of UN Women's mission of building a gender equal world.

UN Women is the United Nations entity for gender equality.

HeForShe is the UN Women's solidarity movement for gender equality, inviting men and boys to build on the work of the women's movement as equal partners. Since its launch in 2014 hundreds of thousands of men from around the world have committed to gender equality.

HeForShe Arts Week will be held annually and globally in recognition of the power of the arts to shift culture; to evolve the behaviours, norms and perceptions that shape our view of gender. Coinciding with International Women's Day the inaugural HeForShe Arts Week London will run from 8-15 March. On Monday 13 March at 9.30 am to 11 am at Sadler's Wells there will be a debate where the panel includes Alistair Spalding and Tamara Rojo. Tickets are free and if you would like to register your interest please email HeForShe@sadlerswells.com

Danceworks International Ballet Academy

Danceworks International Ballet Academy's Summer School will take place from Monday 17 July to Friday 28 July.

The performance will take place on 28 July at Lilian Baylis Theatre, Sadler's Wells.

The focus of this Summer School is to identify and develop young talent to work towards the highest level of classical ballet and enable those who want to enter into a professional career in any of the various forms of dance. It also welcomes young dancers - boys and girls - of all levels and abilities. Its goal is to nurture students in the classical art form, build confidence and spark a life-long appreciation of the arts.

All classes will be taught by teachers of the very highest calibre from its faculty as well as guest teachers/current professionals from The Royal Ballet, Birmingham Royal Ballet and Dutch National Ballet.

This unique two-week programme, held in Danceworks London studios for children and teenagers, is founded on the belief that the arts have a unique power to motivate and engage young dancers to achieve excellence. Internationally renowned dancers teach classes, including a former LBC guest speaker, Ivan Putrov.

For those that cannot make the summer school dates or stay for the whole programme, Danceworks has an extended week running from 31 July to 1 August. This will consist of weekday morning classes with an in-studio demonstration for parents at the end of the week. If you would like to attend this extension week, please specify in your application. For more details, email balletschool@danceworks.net.

Danceworks International Ballet Academy

BALLET SUMMER SCHOOL INTENSIVE

17th-28th JULY 2017
Ages 5 to Professional level

GUEST TEACHERS
Michaela DePrince
Dutch National Ballet
Ivan Putrov
Former Royal Ballet
Dominic Antonucci
Birmingham Royal Ballet
Ballet Master
Erico Montes
The Royal Ballet

FINAL PERFORMANCE
ON 28TH JULY AT
SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE
LILIAN BAYLIS

APPLY NOW at www.danceworks-academy.net/summer-school-2017



With the patronage of the Minister of Culture of Ukraine, Ivan Putrov is organising another of his 'Men in Motion' shows in Kiev on 22 and 23 April.

Among the stars performing are Vadim Muntagirov (Royal Ballet), Daniel Proietto (Norwegian National Ballet), Giovanni Prinic (Dutch National Ballet) and Natalia Lazebnikova, prima ballerina of the National Opera of Ukraine.

More information and tickets from <https://kiev.karabas.com/en/men-in-motion>

Ivan will be bringing *Men in Motion* back to the London Coliseum on 22 and 23 November. On that occasion Ivan will be joined by award-winning dancers Matthew Ball, Irek Mukhamedov, Daniel Proietto and Edward Watson. You can book tickets now at <https://londoncoliseum.org/whats-on/men-in-motion/>

Easyfundraising

Easyfundraising.org.uk is a great way to raise money for charities, schools, sports clubs, community groups, and other good causes just by shopping online. You don't pay anything extra. So far it has raised over **£13.1 million** for causes throughout the UK.



The London Ballet Circle has raised over £1,190 via Easyfundraising. This money has enabled us to send another two student dancers 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.

The 2017 Committee of the London Ballet Circle is:

Susan Dalgetty Ezra, Chair, 020 7224 5594, susandalgetty1@gmail.com

Audrey Allen, Visits, 020 8361 2872

Jo Blake, Co-opted member

Gary Clarke, Committee member, garyalvinclarke@aol.com

Esme Chandler, Talk Host, 020 8348 1571

Naomi Cockshutt, Website & Social Media Manager naomi.cockshutt@googlemail.com

Susan Johnson, Honorary Treasurer and Talk Host, 07725 149482

Dr Sandra Kendall, Committee Member

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, Honorary Secretary, 01256 841713