

RISE in High Places!

Torfaen's Flagship RISE venue in Cwmbran, The Power Station, was graced by a visit from the Princess Royal on May 30th. Her Royal Highness Princess Anne was treated to demonstrations from a variety of the classes that run in Torfaen, plus entertainment from the Welsh Harp and Torfaen's resident Belly Dancers!

What has Belly Dancing to do with RISE?

The tutor, Rachel Jones, works as a RISE Development Worker for Torfaen Voluntary Alliance when she is not teaching dance or performing under the name "Siluria". Below "Siluria" can be seen in conversation with HRH Princess Anne and Karen Padfield, Torfaen CBC Adult Education Manager.



One of Rachel's students, Wendy Hughes, is a RISE success story: she began studying with Rachel at a RISE/Adult Education class in Abergavenny, and has been inspired to start teaching the dance. She has gained her ET01 teaching qualification and is following the same dance teaching/performing qualification ex school teacher Rachel holds. Wendy recently delivered some very successful RISE Tutor Pot classes for Cwmbran Centre for Young People. Wendy and Rachel jointly taught a popular class at Blaenavon Community Education Centre this term, which will carry on in the Autumn. Rachel also runs a large class in Abergavenny. Below we can see Wendy (in red and white) in full flow.



The Belly Dance group pictured is based at the Settlement in Pontypool and has been run by Rachel for 5 years. We are a very dedicated group of dancers who love to perform, and beginners are always made very welcome. We are keen to spread the joy this wonderful, elegant art form brings!!

Belly Dancing illustrates the RISE ethos so well: it is a fun subject to learn which can build confidence to try other new things and can literally change peoples lives. Below Donna, Rachel (Tutor) and Sue perform the Veil Dance.



Rachel would like to especially thank Donna, Wendy, Martine, Glenys, Pauline, Sue, Barbara and Ann for their contributions to performances and other events this Season. See you in September Ladies!

Want to know more? Contact Rachel rachel@torfaenvoluntaryalliance.org.uk
07738455533