



And breathe! Looking back, not quite sure how we manage to fit everything in, such a productive spring with discussions, workshops, platforms and even a collaboration on a multisensory dance tour choreographed and performed by the University of Chester students to VIVO day care centres.

Jody Morgan continues to be inspired by Fergus Early from Green Candle following on from his workshop Dance, Older People and Dementia at MMU in February, great that we are keeping the momentum going on the rich discussions that we have already started with Fergus. We are in the process of making a film about Jody's work in Leighton Hospital and are hoping we will be able to share this in the next edition of Wildfire. We will keep you posted

We were delighted to be able to support Knowing Body Network in their latest practice gathering. The Frontiers of Dance and Health Symposium in May was a sell-out and brought together a group of practitioners who are at the forefront of Dance and Health practices nationally.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the University of Chester for collaborating with us on the NOW dance platform on the 4th May. It was a full day and evening of workshops, discussions and performances creating an opportunity to showcase some of Cheshire Dance community groups as well as performances from students and professional artists.

The North West and Cheshire are attracting some great **Dance Performances** this season. Check out what's on below and get them in your diary. There are links to websites for information on how to book on.

Dance, Health and Wellbeing

Dance and Dementia



Following on from the movement sessions at Leighton Hospital Cheshire Dance are now delivering three community sessions in Crewe inviting those living with dementia to come and join us. Our aim is to provide opportunities for individuals to live in the moment and to engage physically, socially and emotionally through movement and dance. Go to our [website](#) to find out more

Dance and Falls



Phase 1 funding is now CONFIRMED!

Following our work on the Pilot in 2015/16 as Founding Dance Partner with AESOP, we will now be collaborating with 6 other Dance Partners as Phase 1 roll-out gets underway. Go [here](#) to read more

Knowing Body Network Symposium - Frontiers of Dance and Health



Cheshire Dance supported the Knowing Body Network with the two day symposium at The Bluecoat (Liverpool) which brought together practitioners who are working at the forefront of Dance and Health practices nationally.

The event represented a strong collaboration with Knowing Body Network, the INHABIT Project (Liverpool Improvisation Collective) and Bluecoat Liverpool. The event will not only directly impact our own Dance and Health practice but has created connections with other key national organisations that are engaging in these practices offering exciting learning and development opportunities for the future. To find out more about the Knowing Body Network go [here](#)

Lisa Dowler – Small Things App for people working with Children in hospitals



The app created by Small Things Dance Collective is a series of video tutorials for parents, carers and healthcare professionals taking care of children in hospital. The intention is to encourage creative movement and relaxation through somatic dance which can reduce pain perception and enrich hospital experience. Click [here](#) to download

Dance and Young People

REWIND



This term our new Emerging Dance Development Artist Emily O'Shea has taken on the delivery of REWIND. They have been working on their performance which will be taken in to the five primary schools in Blacon on **22nd & 23rd June**, followed by a performance at Blacon festival on **1st July**. The focus has been on taught choreography & creative skills.

Celebrating 40 Years of Dance in Cheshire



Cheshire Dance is supporting HomeGrown Dance Theatre to produce Dancing Stories on 11th July 7.30pm, Chester Cathedral. This is a new professional/ community/education commission celebrating the legacy of children and young peoples' dance over the last 40 years. It is also an event to inspire audiences and new generations of young artists. For details on the project click [here](#) for tickets go [here](#)

DMPC (DOPE Male Performance Co)



We would like to congratulate Jack on his role as mentor to this group of boys, Zac is off to Falmouth University in September to do a degree in dance, Alex has been offered a scholarship at a school of Performing Arts and Max has been accepted on the Lowry CAT. Max and Alex will still train and perform with DOPE.

This is a fantastic achievement from Zac, Alex and Max and we look forward to hearing what the future holds for them in dance.

DOPE are currently crowd-funding to enable them to perform at platforms across the region, the boys would really appreciate your help. If you are able to help support the boys then click [here](#) to 'gofund' them. Don't forget to follow them on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to see what they are up to. If you would like them to perform at your event then please contact jane.atherton@cheshiredance.org.

Take Over



Action Transport Theatre and Cheshire Dance were delighted to host a group of 18 young people for TAKEOVER that took place during the half term holidays– they were given unlimited access to every room in the 150 year old Whitby Hall and the massive park surrounding it - exploring the beautiful buildings with dance, physical theatre and devising workshops, drama games, creative writing, digital film making, photography, and music.

Artist and Professional Development

Safeguarding in Dance



Cheshire Dance will be delivering its annual **Safeguarding in Dance** training on – Sunday 10th September at Winsford Library if you wish to book on email jane.atherton@cheshiredance.org there are limited number of spaces for more details go [here](#).

'Dancing Aware' Training -



On Sunday 17th September we will be delivering '**Dancing Aware**' training – This day opens up a learning environment for dance artists working in all styles and settings focusing on making dance sessions welcoming to people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds. This training will help dance artists discover how they can make their existing dance sessions accessible, giving them the confidence to respond to diverse circumstances and to celebrate diversity as a creative tool. More details are also to follow but in the meantime email jane.atherton@cheshiredance.org to register your interest as spaces will be limited

New Look Inquiring Bodies 5



We would like your help in curating Inquiring Bodies 5, whose practice would you like to gain insight to? Who inspires and intrigues you? We are particularly interested in under- represented groups. Go [here](#) to suggest people or to read more about this years' new look Inquiring Bodies go to our [website](#).

Creative Dementia Arts Network Conference, Sheffield Hallam University – 27th June



This conference offers a unique opportunity to experience the UK's best practice and to explore how to progress mainstreaming arts for people with dementia through social prescription. An opportunity to learn from music and dance therapists, musicians, singers, composers, dancers, visual and digital artists, actors, poets, film makers and more. Go [here](#)

Dance Performances and Audiences

NOW Dance 2017



A collaboration with University of Chester, NOW Dance Festival was a full day celebration of Dance in Cheshire. The day started with a workshop that included Let's Connect (adults with disabilities a session delivered weekly with Cheshire Dance in Chester), Fallen Angels and University of Chester Dance students.

The evening started with a panelled discussion on the Creative Case for Diversity and the evening performance brought together dancers of all ages, abilities and backgrounds, both community and professional, to share their passion for the art form. To read more go [here](#)

University of Chester – Performance Practice Module ‘Vivo Tour’



16 second year dance students working with their lecturer Angharad Harrop, created a multisensory, immersive, interactive dance performance which toured to three [Vivo Care Choices](#) centres in the final week of May. To read more about the process go [here](#)

And look what else the region has to offer over the next couple of months in dance

27th June – Creative Arts and Dementia Training – Sheffield Hallam University -
<http://www.creativedementia.org/>

1st July – REWIND – Blacon Festival – Go and see REWIND perform at Blacon Festival tickets on the door

3-11th July – MIF17 Flexn Residency – Contact Theatre Manchester - Reggie will be introducing a group of young dancers to the flexn dance style, working with local spoken word collective Young Identity <http://contactmcr.com/whats-on/category/?category=dance>

3rd July – Summer Dance Platform – Fallibroome Academy - A showcase performance for students to create and perform their own choreography along with performances from visiting schools, Pulse Dance Company, Pulse 2 Dance Company and Evolve Dance Company <http://fallibroome.academy/show/summer-dance-platform-2/>

8th July – Disability Showcase – Pyramid Parr Hall - The Warrington Wolves Charitable Foundation in partnership with Culture Warrington will host their first

ever disability Arts festival <http://www.pyramidparrhall.com/whats-on/event/disability-showcase/>

11th July – Dancing Stories – Chester Cathedral – Celebrating 40 years of dance in Cheshire. <https://chestercathedral.com/event/dancing-stories-cheshire-dance-home-grown-theatre/>

11-15th July Matthew Bourne’s production Red Shoes – The Lowry - A beloved fairy-tale Red Shoes has seduced audiences and inspired generations of dancers with its tale of obsession, possession and one girl’s dream to be the greatest dancer in the world. <https://www.thelowry.com/events/matthew-bournes-production-of-the-red-shoes>

15-16th July The Lowry Cat Performance 2017 – The Lowry The culmination performance from the 8th year of The Lowry Centre for Advanced Training in Dance presents a number of works that celebrate the journey of a young dancer as they work towards a career in dance. <https://www.thelowry.com/events/the-lowry-cat-performance-2017>

10th September – Safeguarding in Dance Training – Cheshire Dance Email jane.atherton@cheshiredance.org to book on

17th September – Dance Aware Training – Cheshire Dance email jane.atherton@cheshiredance.org to book on

19-20th September – National Dance Company Wales – Blackpool Grand - NDCWales presents a triple bill of astonishing dance to Blackpool's Grand Theatre <https://www.blackpoolgrand.co.uk/event-category/dance/>

20-23rd September – Birmingham Royal Ballet Aladdin – The Lowry Soar into the fantastical world of Birmingham Royal Ballet's David Bintley’s Aladdin. <https://www.thelowry.com/events/aladdin>

28-30th September - Rambert Ghost Dances – The Lowry - Christopher Bruce’s masterpiece, Ghost Dances, is possibly the most popular work in Rambert’s history. <https://www.thelowry.com/events/rambert-ghost-dances-plus-other-works>

Team News

Jody Morgan visited Green Candle Dance Company in Bethnal Green London on 26th May. She was invited to participate in a dance and dementia session facilitated by Artistic Director Fergus Early and speak to him about the work. This was invaluable to the development of our work in dance and dementia. Fergus is keen to continue an active partnership with Cheshire Dance following his delivery of the training weekend for us in February.

Emily has been selected to be a part of the Overture programme run by Re:Bourne for community dance artists. The first of four weekend residencies was on the 20th/21st May. During the weekend they talked about how we bring their individual artistic practice in to community dance.

In February Lauren started working on Afroplay: Colour Vs Place, with Ithalia Forel (co-director of Movema and One Dance UK Trailblazer Champion) They have performed the work at The Place in London and will be sharing the next version at The South Bank Centre in July.

AND FINALLY ...

If you have details of work or dates that you would like to share in **Wildfire** or on our twitter and facebook feeds then please contact jane.atherton@cheshiredance.org. The next wildfire will go out in Sept/Oct, we would love to hear from you and share what is going on across Cheshire and the North West. Get in touch before 6th September 2017 to include your work.

If you are an under-graduate or post-graduate student looking for a placement or shadowing opportunities then please get in touch with emily@cheshiredance.org to discuss.



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