



# ODF Open Meeting 3rd Dec 2020

Update on 2020 activities





# Background & context

Natural break for ODF (Which has existed for ~15 years):

- **End of 3 year Evolution programme** funded by ACE with celebration in autumn 2019
- Claire Thompson of Oxford City Council stepped down after that from her role as Chair of the Steering Group (Jan 2020)

New Steering Group elected at AGM of 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020:

- Susie Crow – Chair
- Ségolène Tarte – Secretary
- Jane Connelly – Treasurer
- Jenny Parrott – Communications and paid Administrator (part time)



*Update from ODF chair: Susie Crow*

# Initial plans of activities

**Transfer** and distribute administrative tasks from Claire across the steering

- communication with members,
- organisation of meetings,
- programming of activities,
- online presence management,
- marketing
- finance etc.

Keep some recurring activities from the Evolution Programme going, with Jenny continuing as paid administrator (1 day per week):

- Programming of monthly **Creative Labs** at OFS
- Programming of **Scratch Nights** (3 per year) at OFS
- **Monthly newsletter**

Then COVID-19 happened - so Creative labs and Scratch Nights were naturally put on hold ...

*Update from ODF chair: Susie Crow*



# Lockdown and beyond activities

## Admin

- Updating our **bank arrangements** (signatories, change of address, setting up online banking)
- Revision of the **ODF Constitution and Protocols**
- Revision of ODF **membership**
  - Application, process
  - subscription,
  - benefits

## Creative opportunities

- Focus on access to Space - **“Breathing Space”**
  - Negotiated free access to **BT studio** for 1 week - Sept 2020
  - **AOFS studio offer** - Nov-Dec 2020

## In numbers:

- 17 Steering Group meetings (1h30 to 2h each)
- 19 Check-in & Chat sessions (Thursday pm - weekly April-July; then monthly)

[~50 voluntary hours per person this year!]



*Update from ODF chair: Susie Crow*

# “Breathing Space” take-up so far

In the **Burton Taylor**- September 2020; **free use of the space**:

- Gemma Peramiqel (8h)
- Ségolène Tarte (4h)
- Tingting Yang (4h)
- Jane Connelly (4h)
- Kaleigh Taylor Hodge (4h)

With our grateful thanks to:

Louise Chantal, Director and CEO of Oxford Playhouse

Dan Gilbert and Laura Elliot of OP Programming

Richard Willoughby, OP Buildings Manager.

At **Arts at the Old Fire Station** so far (Nov to 3rd Dec 2020):

- Susie Crow (Ballet in Small Spaces)
- Nathan de Grassi (Nathan and Ida)
- Jane Connelly
- Ayala Kingsley (Café Reason)
- Gemma Peramiqel

On the principle of:

- An **initial 3 hour session free**
- Up to **2 more 3 hour sessions for £10 each**

With our grateful thanks to Chris Michael, Becca Vallins and Becs Morris

*Update from ODF chair: Susie Crow*





# More about Space for Dance in Oxford

University of Oxford plans for the new Schwartzmann building at Radcliffe Observatory Quarter

Public consultation:

The new building will have **new performance spaces** but the plans have **little detail about other spaces** to support arts activity, **especially much needed dedicated dance studio space**.

<https://www.schwarzmancentre.ox.ac.uk/buildingconsultation>

ODF Steering Group will be responding officially, but we urge all to contribute individually to this consultation; the deadline for submission is 9<sup>th</sup> December.



*Update from ODF chair: Susie Crow*



# Refreshing & updating ODF official documents

Constitution and Steering Group protocol  
of ODF as a collective



# Revising the constitution

The revised constitution will be **submitted to members for approval at the AGM** in January 2021

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1411tgio6UR8EH-1hxmSNpL6X2KWJd69M-DhqrEOCWNw/edit?usp=sharing>

Revisions made to :

- reflect **change in structure**
- clarify **membership** and **voting procedures**
- specify the **role of the steering group**
- define **responsibilities** of chair, treasurer, and secretary



*Update from ODF secretary: Ségolène Tarte*

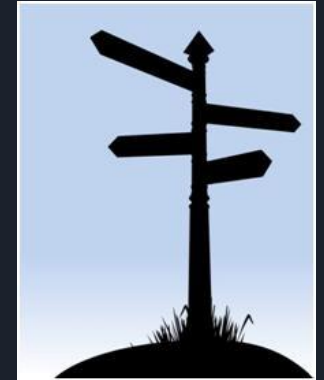


# Steering group protocol

Short document **outlining how the steering group functions**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1TNvvyOzz44YCb1YVYGRcpS5MI6x4B700ipq6Q9sgcFc/edit?usp=sharing>


- Guideline for decision making as a steering group:
  - **democratic & transparent**
- Roles of steering group members:
  - **active voluntary contribution**
  - **representing members**
  - **limited term** - initial term for 3 years, renewable once
- Recruitment of steering group members:
  - **ideal number** of steering group members: **5 - maximum 8**



All documents (including minutes of steering group meetings and contact details of steering group) available here:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1sdoMop2cObLpvI3sV1CJ1DdNPnaK9HC4?usp=sharing>

*Update from ODF secretary: Ségolène Tarte*



# ODF Banking update and wider dance community actions





# Banking update

## Update of Signatory:

- Jane Connelly was already a signatory
- remove Claire Thompson and replace her with Susie Crow as other signatory.

After some time this has been done, so now Jane Connelly and Susie Crow are both signatories.

The next step is to organise online banking so there will be no need for paper, posted bank statements, can do bank transfers, and see the account more easily.



*Update from ODF treasurer: Jane Connelly*



# Unions/campaigns update 1/2

Jane is a BECTU rep.

Equity also present at this meeting to discuss further about dance and unions.

C-19 has highlighted the **precarious nature of our work**. Many freelancers have had no financial support at all.

## Support Organisations:

- Freelance Task Force
- Freelancers Make Theatre Work

*#excluded*



*Update from ODF treasurer: Jane Connelly*

# Union/campaigns update 2/2

## Campaigns

Bectu/Equity/MU have worked together, for the first time, to lobby the government and raise awareness.

There are several campaigns to highlight the plight of Arts/Theatre/Live Events:

- Light It in Red
- We Make Events

## Unions

“The union is You”.

C-19 has enabled us Independent Dancers to see each other for the first time.

Unions provide support, rate cards, negotiation, etc.

ODF is a collective, Equity is a collective. We are The Collective.

*#TogetherWeAreStronger*

“United We Conquer, Divided We Beg”

*Update from ODF treasurer: Jane Connelly*



# OXFORD DANCE FORUM

BEING A MEMBER





# Membership 2019-2020

- Annual membership was **£12** per artist in 2019-20 and there were 30 paid individual members which raised approx **£360** (slightly less as some joined part way through the year and paid a smaller fee accordingly).
- We propose increasing the annual fee to **£20** per year starting Jan 2021.
- If we have 30 members again this will raise **£600** - this money can be used as match funding for fundraising bids and will go towards the opportunities we offer members so you will receive the money back in kind!
- If we can get 40 members this will increase to **£800** or 50 members **£1000**.





## Member offer Jan - April 2021

We plan to offer members the chance to apply for one of the following:

Travel bursary of £50 for up to 10 people £500

Mentoring Bursary of £100 for up to 5 people £500

Breathing Space at OFS - value £70 for up to 15 people £1050

Total ODF spend: £2050



*Update from ODF administrator: Jenny Parrott*



# What else do i get?



- Your photo / bio on oxford dance forum website  
<https://www.oxforddanceforum.com/opportunities/artist-profiles/>
- FREE loan of ODF equipment - list on the website  
<https://www.oxforddanceforum.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/ODF-EQUIPMENT-LIST-June-2018.pdf>
- Monthly e-newsletter - November 2020 issue:  
<https://mailchi.mp/5e3620235f6d/oxford-dance-forum-news-nov-2020>
- Access to regular ODF socials / meetings - virtual where necessary and real world where possible.



*Update from ODF administrator: Jenny Parrott*



# Post covid member opportunities in 2021

- Creative Labs reinstated when possible if members are interested in continuing these - members can apply to be paid to host as well as attend the sessions for free. Monthly in blocks of 3 - max 3 times a year.
- Dance Scratch Nights at AOFS will be reinstated when possible (upto 3 per year)
- ODF steering group plan to apply for ACE funding for an event to take place at the North Wall in Spring 2021 - we have 1st May pencilled in with the venue and once funding is secured will do a call out to members to show/share work.





# Any questions about membership?

- Email [oxford.dance.forum@gmail.com](mailto:oxford.dance.forum@gmail.com) to ask to join the mailing list and become a member.
- Fill out the membership form - we have developed this to help us know more about our members and your interests! <https://forms.gle/Aa43W9MSbuU2XLSS7>
- You pay £20 to us - we will give you the bank details. As we can't currently meet up then bacs payment is preferred. When we can do real world events then cash in person may be possible or cheques made out to Oxford Dance Forum and send to Susie to pay in!
- Any member can also put yourself forward to join the steering group if you want!





## Keep connected with ODF

- Twitter [@OxDanceForum](https://twitter.com/OxDanceForum)
- ODF CPD Facebook Page - follow for professional opportunities/news:  
<https://www.facebook.com/oxforddanceCPD>
- ODF Facebook Group - join and share your own information about classes / workshops etc and any dance stuff of interest!  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/7846230209>

