

## Learn to dance like your favourites on Strictly



With the success of BBC's *Strictly Come Dancing*, many people have discovered they have a burning desire to learn to dance or wow their friends with their first wedding dance.

Dance teacher, David Kingham, has been teaching Latin and Ballroom in Edenbridge for over a year now and his students range from varying backgrounds, beginners and those wanting to refresh skills they haven't used for years.

David has been dancing for most of his life, regularly attending dances with his late wife. He took a break from dancing for a number of years before returning to it recently following a suggestion from his elder brother, Peter Kingham (Chairman of the Eden Valley Chamber of Commerce).

The classes are held every Tuesday evening between 7.30pm and 9.30pm at Rickards Hall (behind the Eden Valley Museum on the High Street) and are attended by men and women alike. Each 2 hour session is split into learning two different dances - such as waltz, tango, cha cha cha, quick step etc, with a tea/coffee break half way through. It's harder work than you would think.



Di helps Russell with his footwork

For some, the ability to learn the dance steps comes quite naturally or with a bit of

practice and perseverance. For others, such as my husband, it's like teaching a fish to climb a tree. Still, anything is possible though if you put your mind to it and whilst Russell did have problems with some of the dances, he did manage to pick up the tango quite quickly.

Of course you do not need to attend the dance classes with your spouse or partner, everyone is welcome to the sessions, even if you've never learned a dance step before in your life. The tuition from David and his assistant (and sister-in-law) Di Kingham, means you will also be able to have some one-to-one tuition as well as learning as part of a group. For each new step that is taught the class is split into the male and female parts and you learn the steps alone before getting together with a partner to try the new steps together.

As well as classes, you can also hire David on a one-to-one basis as one couple did in order to learn a routine to perform as their first dance at their recent wedding. We were all delighted to be the first audience when Kim and Craig performed their Argentinian Tango to before tying the knot the following weekend. Belated congratulations to you both!

Tuesday evening classes will be resuming again on 10 September, after a short summer break. Either turn up on the night or call David on 07912 445 338 in advance if you have any questions about the classes. You can also pop into Magnolias (4 High Street, Edenbridge) and Di or Peter will be more than happy to speak to you.



David gives us coaching on our postures and steps



Learning basic Tango steps