

The Gazette

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37p

up on their new creation, a team of their Tru Masters street dancers (Anne-Marie Morris, Christine Stonehew, Jemma Orritt, Laura Gasgarth, Lisa Beardsall, Sarah Fenton and Taline Tchobanian) came fifth in the recent World Dance Championships in Blackpool Winter Gardens.

"We know the talent is out there but until now there hasn't been one roof under which so many different skills could work at once," said Michelle.

Other classes will be introduced if the demand is there and there will also be the chance to take part in performances and events.

Laura-Anne has worked with artists such as Gwen Stefani, Kanye West, Geri Halliwell and George Michael and has credits which include The Brit Awards, The MTV Awards, The Royal Variety Show & Bump 'n' Grind 2004.

Michelle's credits include performances for ITV, Nike

Classes are £4 each for an hour. Newcomers can try one class by paying on the door. Block booking can be made for five classes up front at £18 or 10 classes up front for £36 (any 10 classes can be selected, and you get one class free).

All instructors are fully professional.

A former student at Bispham High School Arts College, Laura-Anne, said it has all the facilities required, including two dance studios with air conditioning, sprung floors, mirrors and an excellent sound system, two drama studios with high quality floors, lighting and sound systems, a performance hall with excellent lighting and sound, and the prospect of putting on professional performances plus new, spacious dressing rooms and a roomy dining area.

"Finding the right premises has been the hardest thing about setting up business," said Michelle. "But having everything under one roof is great and the school couldn't have been more helpful."

"We have gone for classes in what we feel are the most appropriate things but we are open to suggestions as to what we offer in the future," said Laura-Anne.

And the name Applescratch? "It doesn't actually mean anything. It's just an original name - but then so was Pheapple when it was established," said Michelle.

Enquiries to (07855) 440901 or (07999) 233 481. Email - applescratch@btinternet.com

Check out the website on www.applescratch.fusionweb.co.uk



Jun's trainees will also spend time with some of the nation's top chefs where they will learn how to perfect their cooking skills in working kitchens.

Jun is executive chef at Pearl, one of the capital's most glamorous restaurants.

So if you live on takeaways; love food but have no idea how to cook; turn culinary triumphs into inedible disasters or think you can learn how to cook like a professional with a top London chef, Cooking It could need you.

Call 020 7749 3965 or email cook@radartv.co.uk for details.



HEAD GIRL: Michelle Ramsay in action and (left) Laura-Anne Gill

Thrilling story of young love

COMING to the Thornton Little Theatre on Friday after a hugely successful run as part of the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Starcross'd is a gripping blend of imagination, legend and history.

It tells the story of two lovers who might have inspired Shakespeare's timeless love story Romeo & Juliet and their fight to be together, and is set in a little-known period of both Lancashire's, and possibly, Shakespeare's history.

Dealing with a political issue with strong resonance today, it explores the conse-

quences of religious fanaticism and questions the importance and influence of religion and spirituality on young people.

Starcross'd is written by BBC scriptwriter, Carole Solazzo (BBC Radio 4's The Archers) and features new digital music composed by Ben Evans.

Produced by Physico Theatre the peref-

ormance starts at 7.30pm on Friday in Thornton Little Theatre, Four Lane Ends, Thornton. Tickets are £6 and the show is not suitable for children.



Tribute from one blonde bombshell to another

FOR anyone expecting a note-for-note Dolly soundalike, you were probably in the wrong place; but Mandy Winters is more what the Americans would call an "invoker", a tribute singer in the true sense, not a mimic.

The blonde bombshell bounced on stage and, for a fleeting two-and-a-half hours, treated the Busty One's fans to a celebration of country music, Parton-style... with a lot of humour thrown in.

"This is your Sunday night, you've come to see a yodelling cowgirl in a pink leather suit," she said. "How do you think I feel? I've to do it for a living."

Her vocal acrobatics - a talent

Review

The Dolly Parton Story Blackpool Grand Theatre

inherited from her father Ronnie Winters, Columbia Records' Yodelling Cowboy of the 1950s and 60s - were mighty impressive, but it was her renditions of the greatest hits, Love Is Like A Butterfly, Jolene and Here You Come Again

which had the audience cheering. The show traced succinctly Dolly's modest beginnings and her rise to fame, spanning country, disco and the movies, coming right up to date with Little Sparrow and the soon to be re-released Where Have All The Flowers Gone, performed beautifully by Winters.

Foot-stomper of the night was, of course, the magnificent 9 to 5, bringing the house down not once but twice.

Great fun, the kind of show which has everyone singing and smiling all the way home.

Kay Carson