



The Nuline UK Launch

Alan Birchall and Jacqui Jax hosted an event to launch Nuline UK. Nuline Dance Founder and Director Alison Johnstone came from Perth in Australia with 10 of her dancers to officially launch her worldwide organisation 'Nuline Dance' in the UK.

Nuline was born two years ago giving Line dance a modern new image, logo and identity making it now a global brand with approx 40 UK clubs and over 100 worldwide. Nuline teaches dance routines to all genres of music and is suitable for all ages and levels, with no partner required, it is a great way to learn to dance while having fun.

Alison arrived in the UK in September with Patrick and her Nuline dancers... June, Wayne, Wendy, John, Heidi, Violet, Pat and Sue. They met up the day after with us and we had organised a couple of days sightseeing around Bolton. The first day included a meal at a local restaurant of fish, chips and mushy peas, Alison's special request! We followed this with an evening of dancing at one of Alan's classes, where we celebrated Nuline's second birthday with a cake specially baked and decorated for the occasion. The second day was a trip to the Trafford Centre in Manchester for some retail therapy, followed by a meal and drinks to welcome Growler and Maureen arriving ready for the UK Nuline launch the following day. This left just enough time for Alison to 'pop up' and meet

some of the dancers at The Dance Line studio in Preston.

Over 100 guests from around the country attended the Nuline UK Launch at The Rivington Suite, Horwich, Bolton. It was important that this event reflected the concept behind Alison's vision and mission statement 'To preserve and perpetuate this form of dance on a global basis.' There was a lot of Orange and Black around, with the room and dancers sporting these colours. Nuline merchandise was on sale throughout the event, thanks to Cathy Hodgson, who also contributed to the dressing of the room. MC for the day was Alan Birchall who together with Growler provided us with an amazing mix of dances from the Dj Booth.

The doors opened with a buzz of excitement as dancers filed into the room ready for an afternoon of dancing and workshops hosted by various Nuline presenters. Alison got us underway after a brief welcome with her opening teach, 'Bengawan Solo' with some interesting Polynesian hand moves to music by Tantowi Yahya. Next up was Mrs. Growler (Maureen), who taught brilliantly from



her wheelchair, Francien Sittrop's 'Hot Sexy Mama' to music by Bouke with the help of Growler demonstrating on the stage. Next Steve Rutter, who after encountering a few interruptions when the local press arrived to take photos taught 'Make It Shine' co-written with Claire and Keira Butterworth to music by Victoria Justice. Alison then treated us to her beautiful 'You Needed Me' co-choreographed with Adeline Cheng (Nuline Malaysia) to music by Boyzone. Alan Birchall had us dancing and singing along to his 'Lido Shuffle' to the track of the same name by Boz Scaggs. Paul Turney followed with 'Latino Love' to Amor Latino by Belle Perez. The last two teaches of the afternoon went to Julie Carr with 'You Win Again' music by The Bee Gees and lastly the lovely Karen Hadley with 'Evergreen' music by Will Young. What fun to do this classic dance again!

Steve Healy from Linedancer Magazine had set up the Linedancer shoe stall just outside the main hall and also found time (thanks to Mrs. Grr) to mingle amongst us taking photos. He even squeezed in a couple of interviews for the magazine too! The afternoon

concluded with a fabulous buffet supper and individual Nuline cup cakes for everyone.

Our Evening of social dancing got underway with a short demo from The Dance Studio kids and an inspiring and motivating speech from Alison where she thanked everyone for coming, the instructors for their workshop dances, Cathy for the Nuline merchandise, Growler for helping Alan with the Djing and finally she thanked us both for all their hard work organising the event, providing the venue, making and distributing tickets and badges, decorating the room, arranging the Nuline cakes and the wonderful buffet which was delicious. Lots of dances, including the workshop dances, of all levels, current and classic, filled the floor for the rest of the evening. A final word from Alison closed the event. There was a definite feeling that it wouldn't be too long before we all get together again and with the suggestion of a satellite link to Australia!

All too soon it was time to say 'Good Bye' as Alison left to host a fantastic cruise from Amsterdam to Budapest.