

No 3 2005

Hi there!

This issue is about the Nutcracker which is a Christmas ballet full of fun. Look out for the Friends' of the Ballet sponsored dancer, Rowan Cann who will be dancing the role of Fritz – if he looks a bit plump for a dancer it is because he will be wearing a padded suit under his clothes!

There is also a nutcracker colouring competition for you to do.

Nutcracker word find

X R F M R D J T S T S Z F C X
 E T E A E W O R M A M R R L R
 D N P K J D E C M S I Y A A M
 M C O Q C W I T T T I E I R C
 C N J G O A S C Z O C L C A F
 B I Z L A I R S I B R L E M I
 G F F T R R G C U N W O F P G
 O V B H L F D J T O E R A M V
 H E C B O A S Q S U Z T I I M
 E S R U N O W C I F N A R W R
 B D B K L M A T R O N E Y O E
 T E T D T N E S E R P T H N Z
 F B I C G H O S P I T A L S G

BED
 CLARA
 FLOWERS
 HOSPITAL
 MATRON
 NURSE
 PRESENT
 SNOW IMP
 TEA TROLLEY

CHRISTMAS
 DOCTOR
 FRITZ
 ICE FAIRY
 MEDICINE
 NUTCRACKER
 DRAGON
 SOLDIER
 WALTZ

DANCER PROFILE

Alessia Lugoboni



Our featured dancer in this issue is Alessia Lugoboni who is from Italy.

Alessia will be dancing the role of Clara in the Tower Season of The Nutcracker. Over the page, she has written a letter to Young Friends.

Have a giggle

Q. What did the nut say to the nutcracker?

A. You crack me up!

Q. What has a head & feet and no arms?

A. A bed!

Q. Why did the cookie go to hospital?

A. She was feeling crummy!

A letter from Alessia

Hello Young Friends

My name is Alessia Lugoboni, I 'm from Verona in Italy where I started ballet when I was 9 years old.

I lived in Europe until a few years ago when I started to perform in other countries. I joined the Royal New Zealand Ballet in 2004 but I had been here before. I first came to NZ when I was 15 to study at the NZ School of Dance on a scholarship. I've never found a beautiful place like this, I am so happy I had the chance to come back and work.....
it's a long way from home but it's worth it!

When I'm not dancing I spend a lot of time with my partner Mike. I like to have a nice quiet night in and have a nice dinner followed by a decent dvd.

Just recently I went fishing and caught my first fish it wasn't the biggest one! We were on a big boat you can sleep on and stayed out the night, cooked fish and cruised around in some of the most beautiful places in New Zealand in the Marlborough Sounds. We even got to see dolphins jumping in the waves.

I'm going home to see my mamma and papa at Christmas and can't wait to see them. Mike's coming too and we are going to Spain as well.

I've had a great year and a half working with the company – we've done some really amazing shows and have had so much fun. Everybody I work with are great. We all had a ball doing the last season of Dracula and I got to tour with Mike 'cause he was working on the show as a stage hand. All of the audience in every city were so receptive and welcoming. I'm looking forward to the next tour and seeing you all in the next season, The Nutcracker.

In Nutcracker I'll be dancing the role of Clara – it's my first big role with the company. I'm really looking forward to playing it. We're in the middle of rehearsal and we're all working very hard. It's a completely new production, different from the traditional story but I am sure it will be a fun show and I hope you will all come and enjoy it.

Ci vediamo presto, ciao

Alessia

The Nutcracker story

Whirling ice fairies, snow imps and tangoing tea ladies join the fun in the Tower season of The Nutcracker.

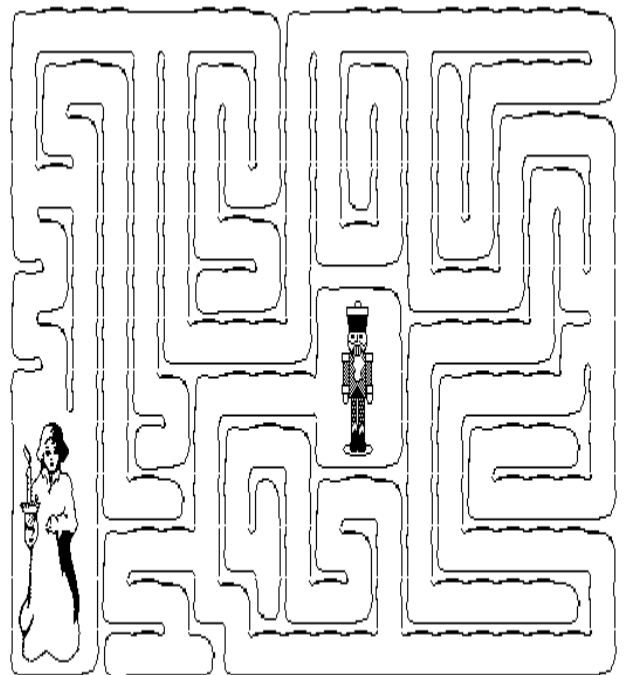
The action begins on Christmas morning when Clara's rat-bag brother Fritz clouts her over the head with her beloved nutcracker doll. Rushed to hospital, she meets the fearsome matron who doses her with spoonfuls of medicine which make her sleepy and she dreams she is flying through the air in her bed.

In her dreams, the nutcracker comes to life as a soldier and helps Clara to get her own back on the naughty Fritz and his rumbustuous friends.

She meets the tea lady with a trolley full of chocolates and sweets as well as mysterious Arabian princesses, Chinese dancers and a magical dragon.

Flower petals come to life in the waltz of the flowers and the doctors and nurses appear as glamorous Hollywood stars.

By Boxing Day, Clara is feeling much better and she is well enough to go home with her parents.



Clara is looking for
her Nutcracker

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