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## Review: Alice in Wonderland

By Isobel Cronshaw and Greta Brambilla

The Create Theatre School scored another hit on the 8 and 9 May with its 2010 production *Alice in Wonderland* at the newly refurbished Finchley Youth Theatre, raising £250 for the Bobath Centre.



A very important date: the cast of Create's Alice in Wonderland

From the sassy Cheshire cats reclining on their chaise longue in glittery cat masks and pink feather boas, to the very funny Tweedledee and Tweedledum and their ongo-

ing identity crisis, along with a tardy White Rabbit, talking flowers and an extremely scary Queen of Hearts, this new version blew us into another world.

We liked the heart-shaped lights on stage at the beginning to set the scene. What we liked most was having three girls playing the part of Alice, for when she gets bigger and smaller. We interviewed the three Alices (sisters Katherine and Julia Males and Niamh Powell).

Question: "How do you feel swapping over all the time?" Katherine: "It was very confusing."

Question: "How did you feel when you heard that you'd got the part of Alice?"

Niamh: "Very excited because I didn't have a part in last year's show so it was a big chance for me."

Question: "Did you like your costumes?"

Julia: "Yes, but we had to sew on the aprons because they kept falling off."

Director Caroline Lau commented: "The children performed fantastically, we are very proud of them. They were all fully involved with a chance to shine, and shine they most certainly did."

For more information on Create contact Caroline Lau on 020 8882 9009 or visit [www.createtheatreschool.co.uk](http://www.createtheatreschool.co.uk)

## David brings home the medals

Local Taekwon-Do Instructor David Bogen represented England at the European Taekwon-Do Championship in Italy in March. Participants were drawn from all over Europe, including Russia, Czech Republic, Ukraine, Estonia and Greece.

David, who runs classes for children, teenagers and adults at Finchley Lido Leisure Centre and throughout Barnet, brought home two silver and two bronze medals. England tallied a total of eight gold, four silver and 10 bronze medals.

David and his students have also had excellent results at the national English and London Open Championships

with many of his students collecting medals. He said: "We are currently preparing for the London Open Championships in July with many of our junior students keen to retain their titles earned at previous championships."

For the opportunity to train with a European medallist contact 07949 612 706 or visit: [www.taekwondo-uktd.co.uk](http://www.taekwondo-uktd.co.uk)



David Bogen, right, on the podium following a medal award ceremony during the European Championship.

## Every little helps

By Adam Justice-Mills

**If you're anything like me, you've heard about carbon footprints, where all the things we do have a mostly bad impact on the world, and everyone needs to "do something right now" to make things better.**

If you are like me and have looked into things a bit you'll have found the whole situation complicated and huge. Does recycling really make a difference? Should I ever eat blueberries again? Can I help all the packaging? Is a solar panel in East Finchley a waste of money? Would I really share my car? Does it matter if I leave the tap on while I floss?

Maybe it's easier to let someone else sort it out. But if so, who? I liken the carbon footprint issue to the get more healthy issue: conflicting food

fashions, short-term pain for long-term gain, huge vested interests and global pandemics. I'm not sure I really trust anyone else to do that for me, ditto the carbon footprint stuff.

So I've decided to do something, or at least to try to do less harm in my everyday life. As I find out more, I'll let you know in future articles. Maybe you'll try some of these ideas yourself. Better still, get someone else to try them.

### Green waste

First up: organic waste and what to do with it all. I admit that I don't compost anything, so I wondered where the green bin or garden stuff goes. Barnet Council's website says once it's collected it goes to the London Waste EcoPark in Edmonton and is turned into compost. Plastic bags in green bins ruin the whole batch, so they're not collected (even if there's only green waste in them).

The compost is used on London's parks, allotments and agricultural land. Last October, Barnet gave away free compost to East Finchley residents, which had been made in Edmonton. Nice to know it's useful locally. I'll remember that next time I'm peeling the spuds.

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