

Off the floor ...

Josh is back in town !

After 11 countries in 12 months, Josh Talbot is back home and back on the line dance scene.

“It was certainly a trip to remember and I had such an amazing time,” says Josh. “I went to England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, The Republic of Ireland, Italy, France, Spain, Germany, Holland, America and Canada. And I travelled by boat, plane, bus and train; one train trip in the US took me 51 hours!”

Josh also worked for eight months in Belfast at The Linen House, a hostel for young travellers. “The beauty of this job was that I was able to travel with some of the people who stayed with us to Munich for Oktoberfest and to Amsterdam. And if I just happened to have a few too many pints of Guinness the night before, no one noticed the following morning as they were all feeling the same!

“Although I didn’t do a lot of dancing I was able to see the variety of styles around.

“In Northern Ireland I could only make it to an easy class where the dances were fairly basic and they use terms like “give it the welly” which I think means ‘give it a go’.

“I was also very honoured to be invited to attend and conduct a workshop at the Crystal Boot Awards in Blackpool, England, which is run by the UK Linedancer Magazine every year.

“The atmosphere is like that of a giant disco.

Seventy per cent of the music is non-country, and the steps are more like those in a pop song video clip than a linedance.

It was great fun and I would definitely love to go again.”



“In Canada I met up with Vivienne Scott from Stay in Line. I have known her since her first visit to Australia about 8 eight years ago when she came to do a spot teach at my class at Seaforth Bowling Club.

“She had arranged for me to teach at two classes: one was with Fred Buckley where they organised a party for me. I taught Jan Wyllie’s Peppy Toe and Jenny Hughes’ Corona Con Lima which were both well received. Vivienne also took me to a country club called West 7, where they dance only to country music. It was mostly Beginner/Intermediate dancing run by Tammy Wyatt of Boots & Spurs and I taught Strapping Saddles by Warren Mitchell.”

One of the highlights of his trip was the people he met. “Everyone was out having a good time just like I was.

“The very first person I met convinced me to go on a trip that I hadn’t planned and then 11 months later I caught up with her in Chicago for a traditional American Thanksgiving Lunch.

“And of course, attending the Crystal Boot Awards was another highlight.

Just being able to meet and put a face to names such as Robbie McGowan Hickie, Kate Sala and Craig Bennett to name a few. I also met Scooter Lee and Rick Guard who sings Sea Salt Sally.”

Josh arrived back home in mid December with a Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT/Blood Clot) and was unable to walk, let alone dance. "Not being able to exercise meant I couldn't work off all that eating and drinking over Christmas, but I am on the mend.

"I am now working with the Accor Group, in their hostel and youth travel branch, and thoroughly enjoying it. And I have just stepped into the property market, buying a studio flat in Annandale."

Josh started dancing at about eight or nine, and many of us knew him then as 'Julie Talbot's son'. Now 23 he says it must be in the blood. Linedancing was originally a family affair with his siblings, grandparents, aunties and uncles all involved. Sadly they slowly dropped off, but Josh has stayed and now the tables have turned. There are places where Julie is known as 'Josh Talbot's mother'. Josh says it just goes to show he learnt from the best!

He started teaching at 14 when he took over the Seaforth class from Julie, at 15 became the youngest judge for the Australian Linedance Championships in Tamworth, and then moved on to hold more classes, socials and workshops as his confidence and reputation grew.

Josh intends to keep up his involvement with the linedance scene and will be happy popping into other instructors' classes from time to time, doing spot teaches and learning what's out there at the moment.

"I already have two workshops lined up this year; one in Condobolin on 6th March and another in Caboolture from April 30th to May 2nd. I am also in discussions for a third in New Zealand.

"So if you want me just call!"

Judging from the photos, Josh was in great demand.

All of the ladies wanted to be photographed with him including international line dance personalities Pat, Maggie and Scooter. Josh didn't seem to mind too much either! Watch out for those international superstars Josh!



More than you should probably know about Josh !

What is your favourite linedance?

When I was younger it was Dizzy, but now I like those done to swing music such as Let's Swing or Coochie Bang Bang.

What has been your funniest line dance moment?

I attended a weekend away in Cowra and they had a white Christmas theme. For some reason I decided to go as an elf. I am 6 ft and I had to walk up the main street dressed in this extremely colourful outfit which had the locals making U-turns just to take another look at me. The guys in the pubs also thought it was great. Maybe this should be the answer to the next question!

And the most embarrassing?

I was teaching my own dance at a workshop and forgot the hardest 16 counts. I only realised my mistake when I put on the music and the first wall didn't fit. You can imagine the death stares I got!

What is your favourite way to relax?

Listening to music in the sun with a cold Jack Daniels and watching the world go by.

What is your favourite song?

Please Remember Me by Tim McGraw. It has just come back on the floor as a new dance You'll Find Better Love.

Do you have any hidden talents we should know about?

I'm a master in the kitchen, a natural with children and can make a mean cocktail.

Do you accept food bribes to play dances, and what is your favourite?

Of course! Homemade sweets will always win me over. I also accept marriage proposals ladies!

Favourite TV show?

I like crass humour like Little Britain. I'm also a shy Lost fan.

Do you have any tattoos or piercings we should know about?

Well I already have my eye brow pierced, and a lion tattoo on my shoulder blade. They are quite addictive! I am thinking the next one will be the happy budda.

Tell us one thing we don't know about you?

My feet are size 13 and I can linedance in thongs.

If you could have three wishes granted, what would they be?

A ranch in Texas, a good wife and my own reality TV show.

What did your last text message say?

It was from my sister. I sent her a text asking if she would like to meet up and she replied that she had better things to do....

Who are you more like, your mum or dad?

Tough one! Mum I would say. We are both pretty out there and doing things we want to do, neither of us hold back.

What advice does your mum always give you?

"Clean as you go, then there won't be a big mess at the end". Just doesn't seem to work though. By the end of the week my place looks as if I've been running a day care in there.

What do girls usually say when you tell them you linedance?

Their response is normally "Ohhhhh, ok" with their eyes not knowing where to look. I have to convince them it's no longer the thumbs in belts, yee-haa-ing, knee slapping, bush dancing they think it is. They do tend to come around when I say I teach, judge and travel with it. Perhaps they see money?!

Is Elvis really dead?

Hey! I'm Elvis!!