

S. I. F. D.

- NEWS -

SEP 66



ADY

1. "S.I.F.D. NEWS" - K. Blackwood, Editor.

SEPTEMBER 1966.

For publication in the S.I.F.D. News, material should reach the Editor by the 10th of the preceding month. Letters which call for a reply should reach the Editor before the Committee meeting prior to publication. (Committee meetings are usually held on the last Sunday of the month). Members will realise that it is better to publish both sides of a controversy in a single issue.

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OUR NEW EDITOR

Our new Editor is Mr. Stephen Ward of 74 Woodside, London, S.W.19. Telephone: Wimbledon 3344. Due to the nature of his work (German translation) he is generally available during both the day and the evening at this address.

Stephen has been a prominent member of the S.I.F.D. since 1957 and has been noted for his ability in revealing to the Committee occasions when they have been out of touch with the members. As well for the last 12 months he has been collating and despatching the 'News' and will eventually be responsible for the printing.

His job has meant living in Germany and thus he has been able to practise 'at home' the dances and hear the music of the region.

He is also a Harrow Green Committee member.

CLASSES FOR 1966-67

At CHRISTOPHER HATTON SCHOOL, Laystall Street, Rosebery Avenue, E.C.1.

Monday	6.15-- 8.15	European Folk Dancing	Mrs. M. Latham, S.I.F.D.
Monday	8.00 -10.00	Polish Folk Dancing	Miss B. Harvey, S.I.F.D.
Thursday	7.00 - 8.00	Spanish Dancing, Advanced	Mrs. M. Colato, S.I.F.D.
Thursday	8.00 - 9.30	Flamenco Dancing	Mrs. M. Colato, S.I.F.D.
Friday	7.30 - 9.30	Certificate Class	Miss. K. Monroe James, S.I.F.D.

At HUGH MYDDELTON SCHOOL, Corporation Row, Clerkenwell Green, E.C.1.

Monday	6.30 - 8.00	Spanish Dancing, Beginners.	Mrs. M. Colato, S.I.F.D.
Monday	7.30 - 9.00	Spanish Dancing, Intermediate.	Mrs. M. Colato, S.I.F.D.
Tuesday	6.30 - 7.30	Balkan Folk Dancing, Beginners.	Mr. K. Ward, S.I.F.D.
Tuesday	7.30 - 9.30	Balkan Folk Dancing, Intermediate and Advanced.	Mr. K. Ward, S.I.F.D.
Wednesday	7.00 - 9.00	International Folk Dancing, Intermediate	Mrs. M. Latham, S.I.F.D.
	9.00 -10.00	International Folk Dancing, Advanced and Demonstration.	Mrs. M. Latham, S.I.F.D.

SEPTEMBER 2.

This is my last Editorial - it's only my second - in the 'NEWS'. As Lily Southgate said in her last Secretary's Notes, I want to return home to New Zealand. Due to the currency restrictions coming into force very soon, I must either at long last leave, or have my trip very much curtailed and go by sea, and I find long sea voyages remarkably dull, even when you are not chained to the bulkhead.

It's been a pleasure being an active member of the Society, and I would strongly recommend to ex-active members that they return and try these delights for themselves. After all, the prodigal invariably get's the fatted calf - or, in this case, the best costume, etc., and the Albert Hall is nearly upon you.

One of the pleasures has been the many friends, and indeed the enemies (not, I hope, too many) I have managed to make. Regarding the latter, I'm sure all will agree with me that meat needs salt and I feel that a few, not too powerful, enemies similarly flavour life. Against whom would one organize otherwise?

As a foreigner, it is dangerous for me to offer criticism of the Society, though I must admit it has never stopped me yet. I do feel that the Society is quite healthy if it could spread the length and breadth of the country and even go foreign into Scotland and Wales, it would be a lot healthier. This can only be done by those people who go to live in the bush amongst the Celts and Picts etc., spreading the gospel, i.e. simple dances in a civilised mode. The Society will always help such people and are, in fact, organizing a class to teach people to teach folkdancing. This will be at Christopher Hatton School on Fridays from September this year. Shows and such, I feel, do little or nothing to arouse interest. They should be considered as goals for people to work for. A public performance demanding a better standard than is customary. The team spirit and feeling of being one of the select that are generated by working in a common endeavour are in themselves rather rewarding. And then there are all the stories, true, clean, and otherwise, that one collects.

My successor will be, as Lily also said, Stephen Ward. He will, I am sure, like all Editors to date, have some changes to make, but I do hope that you will support him at least as well as you supported, or suffered, me, and preferably better. Why not write a letter, saying what you think the 'NEWS' ought to publish? Better still, write something for the 'NEWS' to publish. Some suggestions: group news, dances, parties, orgies, etc., visiting groups that you happen to hear of from both inside and outside Britain, foreign groups that you have heard of or met, new records that appear to be of interest. The list of things that could be jotted on a postcard appears to be endless. Do have a go!

Finally, I'd like to thank those who have helped me enjoy myself since Christmas 1961. It was Jim and Helen at Hindhead over a roast goose who told me about Harrow Green, and I'm afraid John Hughes must take the credit or blame for introducing me to the Society in 1962. I'd like to thank all the teachers and musicians, whether members, non-members, or undecided. Special thanks to the Balkan Class and Ken Ward, and I'll look for some Slavs in New Zealand.

Cheerio, then, and if you ever come to New Zealand (a grand place, very similar and very different from Britain - the similarities are more obvious than the differences), please call at: 14 Eden Street, Dunedin, N.I., New Zealand - or ask for me in the Scottish dancing circles, or at the Library, or at the Evening Star.

Yours aye,

KEN BLACKWOOD.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Our financial situation as at 31st July 1966 was as follows:-

Cash at Bank	£638. 4. 7	Deposit a/c
Cash at Bank	£27.15. 9	Current a/c
Cash in Hand	£26.11. 0	

The reason for the decline in the amount shown in the Deposit A/C is due to the fact that we have now signed the contract for the R.A.H. Show and paid the deposit of £240. This year the Show is going to cost us more than ever and we shall have quite large bills to pay during the next few months for printing and publicity etc. We hope all members will support the Show and sell as many tickets as possible.

Porchester Hall, I'm afraid, was a financial, but not a social, disaster. We lost £61.10. 6d. Maybe we are too ambitious in holding a dance in such a large and expensive hall; maybe members just do not want a grand social dance of this nature; or perhaps we were just unlucky in having to take a booking in July, which is not a good month for maximum attendance. We should appreciate your views on this, but anyway we are pencilling in a date for another Porchester Hall Dance next year, at the end of May or beginning of June, and hope to be third-time-lucky and actually make a profit as well as provide an enjoyable social evening.

We are pleased to welcome a new life member - Alan Stark, who is wellknown to most of the older members. Alan has been a member for some years and is an accomplished performer and teacher of dances from Iberia, Mallorca and Mexico - where he is at present living.

It was pointed out to the Committee at their last meeting that a great opportunity is missed by not taking full advantage of the groups coming from all over the world to take part in the Eisteddfod each year and, very often, passing through London. The groups themselves are usually very keen to stop and see London and also to dance here but are not given the opportunity of doing so. This is something we could well arrange, and so give people an opportunity of seeing the many different foreign groups, if only we had advance information regarding which groups are coming to London. It would take a lot of organizing to put on a Show and the groups would have to be accommodated while in London. The Committee is looking into this, to see if something could be arranged for next year, but in previous years we have always been handicapped because we have been completely unsuccessful in obtaining advance information. Naturally, the Eisteddfod Committee would not welcome a Show which would perhaps take away their audience but if anyone has any sources of information regarding visiting groups or can help to provide us with this advance information, we should be very grateful.

The Chairman has had a letter from D.G. Towner, an ex-member now living in Australia, who is keen to start up a folkdance group in Sydney. If this magazine is read by any member living in Sydney, or any member who knows anyone living in Sydney who would be interested, perhaps they would give the Chairman the appropriate addresses so that she may compile a list of prospective members for Mr. Towner.

Last month's plea for a new Secretary still stands. Any offers?

LILY SOUTHGATE
Hon. Secretary.

NEWS ITEMS FROM 'LOS IBERICOS'

As from 31st August, Margaret & Peter Colato's telephone number will be 01-399-6987.

As from next term, starting September, the Spanish Beginners' class will start at 6.30 p.m. and the Intermediate at 7.30 to 9.00. The Advanced and Flamenco classes remain unchanged.

'Los Ibericos' are presenting a Spanish Fiesta show on three consecutive evenings at Toynbee Hall, near Aldgate East tube station, on the 22nd, 23rd, and 24th September. This is a real beauty of a theatre - comfortable, intimate, and equipped with all the lighting and general paraphernalia that is usually lacking in other places where we have danced.

A special note for members of 'Los Ibericos': Margaret would be grateful if those wishing to take part in the Royal Albert Hall Show would attend Monday classes until the date of the show - 26th November - as work on the SOLEARES will have to be done mostly in the 7.30 Intermediate Class. Practice "colas" will be invaluable. Other R.A.H. Show dances will probably be GUAJIRAS, FANDANGO DE HUELVA, MALAGUENAS.

MARGARET COLATO.

We can't let Ken go without a note of sincere thanks for all the work he has put in as Editor over the past two years. Too many brickbats, not enough bouquets, an Editor's lot is not a happy one. Nevertheless, Ken has carried out the job loyally and with a good will, and we do appreciate it. I'm sure we shall all miss him around the place - whether as an Editor, a dancing partner, a drinking partner, one of the gang, or just someone to argue against! - and wish him all the very best and Bon Voyage.

LILY SOUTHGATE

Hon. Secretary.

We also have to wish Bon Voyage to another of our members - Dorothy Innes - who has gone back to her homeland - Scotland - for a month and is then off to Israel for a month or so. We should like to wish Dorothy a safe journey and an interesting and enjoyable sojourn in Israel.

CONGRATULATIONS! To Barbara Wadsworth and Donald Freeman, who will be getting married on the 24th September. Our very best wishes for their future happiness.

FOUND! A ladies' cardigan, which was left at the Dance Centre. Will the owner please contact the Secretary.

SEPTEMBER 5.

CHOREOGEOGRAPHY - No.II

Our last article under the above heading took us as far as 500 A.D., after the first Mongol invasion of Europe (under Attila) had been repulsed. The next big movement was again an invasion by warlike, nomadic people of Mongol type, this time the Avars. They started Moving West in 552, and by 600 they occupied most of what is now the Ukraine, Roumania, Poland, and Eastern Germany. Then for some reason their power declined and various vassals seceded - in particular the Huns, who took the name Bulgar; at this time they occupied what is now the Eastern Ukraine. The remaining Avars were left in the Pannonian Plain (now Hungary and Transylvania).

The next major group to appear were the Magyars, related to the Finns. They pushed South and split the Bulgars into two groups; the Danube Bulgars, in what is now Bulgaria, and the Volga Bulgars. Various tribal movements that we need not follow in detail occupied the next 200 years, in the course of which the Bulgars swallowed the remains of the Avars, and the Magyars drove West and occupied the Pannonia plain, splitting the Serbs and Croats off from the other Slavs. The Balkans had by now reached its modern composition in broad outline, though Serbs and Bulgars kept gaining and losing independence from each other and from the Byzantine Empire. In the course of this give-and-take the Bulgars adopted the Slavic language.

On the death of Mohammed in 632 Islam had started its expansion, and by 737 the Arabs had conquered North Africa and most of Spain. They were slowly and painfully pushed out of Spain, the process lasting until about 1500. Meanwhile, yet another Mongol tribe, the Turks, were coming West. By 1000 they had reached the Near East and been converted to Islam; they played an important part in the Crusades. By 1100 they were well established in Asia Minor (now Turkey) and by 1300 they occupied the whole of it, and by 1400 they had made great inroads into the mainland of Europe, though Constantinople held out until 1453.

In Northwest Europe things had been much more settled. Teutonic Tribes of various sorts had settled in Southern Britain to form the Kingdom of England, taken over by the Normans in 1066. The Kingdom of Denmark included what is now Norway, and the Kingdom of Sweden included what is now Finland, as well as most of Estonia, and the Coast of Latvia. The Kingdom of France included what is now Belgium, and the "Holy Roman Empire" (Deutsch-Romanisches Reich) covered modern Germany, Holland, Austria, Bohemia (occupied by Slavs) and North Italy. The rest of Italy was divided between the Papal states, the Kingdom of Naples, and the republics of Genoa and Venice, the latter reaching from Venice down the coast of what is now Jugoslavia as far as what is now Albania - it included also Crete.

Acknowledgment to Mary Dossett and
'The Northwest Dancer'.

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10TH HOP HOODENING

on

SATURDAY, 3rd SEPTEMBER

EAST KENT MORRIS MEN, HARTLEY and other MORRIS MEN. ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE TEAMS
and DANCERS from KENT, HOODEN HORSES, HANDBELL RINGERS, FOOL, FOLK MUSICIANS,
QUEEN OF THE HOPS.

Please make a special effort to come and enjoy this tenth successive annual
celebration of the HOP HARVEST in Kent which has now established widespread
interest.

Time: 11.30 for 11.45 a.m. Place: East end of Canterbury Cathedral.

Dress: (for those taking part in General Dancing - adults only).

Ladies - plain brightly coloured skirt, white blouse, black shoes
and (for neatness) black bodice or waistcoat.

Men - grey flannels or black breeches, white shirt, plain tie,
black shoes, and (optional) coloured waistcoat.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

In case you haven't noticed it - your membership has expired, and next month's issue
of the 'NEWS' will be your last unless you renew it posthaste. Send or deliver your
subscription to our Membership Secretary - Roland Minton, 131, Holly Street, Dalston,
E.8.

What do you get out of being a member?

- The opportunity to join any or all of our eleven weekly classes.
- A reduced entrance fee to our Sunday dances and other functions.
- A 20% discount on all our books and records.
- A vote at elections and General Meetings.
- A free copy of the 'NEWS' each month for a year.

All for £1 a year. (15/- for country members).

TAKE YOUR PARTNER

(and anyone else you can drag along)

to THE DANCE CENTRE

on the first 3 Sundays in September.

SEPTEMBER 7.

I'VE SEEN FOR YOU.....

Our Overseas Correspondent.

SONGS AND DANCES FROM TUNISIA***

Female dancers of the Free Bedouins, Arab belly-dancers, musicians; sword dances danced by women, tent dances from the Sahara, dances with musical instruments. Thus, in short, the contents of their show. A group of 7 men (6 musicians) and 8 girls performed for more than a week in The Hague, which is exceptional for any group. Usually they stay for one or two - sometimes three - performances only. Some dances start slowly and have a fast and exciting ending; others are slow from beginning to end, others again are fast. They are erotic and designed to please the Sheik. One male dancer appeared with a very unusual act; he danced a rather wild dance with two earthenware vases balanced on his head, and on top of these were two shelves, carrying six beer bottles each. While dancing, he then let one bottle fall down by shaking his head; and again and again until all the bottles were on the floor. A fantastic feat! Two girls performed a sword dance; and so it went on and on.

The music is quite different from the music of other regions and lands, and should not be missed. Below are listed the instruments which are used:

- 1) Qanoen or Kanun - a kind of zither. Originally it is a Turkish instrument, but where the Turks have neglected it, it is highly appreciated by the Arabs. The resonance box of the Kanun is partly made of wood and partly of animal skin. The instrument is equipped with 26 sets of triple strings, having a range of $3\frac{1}{2}$ octaves. It is played flat on the knees.
- 2) Darbouka - a drum with an earthenware body in the form of an hour-glass.
- 3) Tabol or Tabla - a large drum with wooden body, on both sides a donkey skin.
- 4) Ennay or Nay - a flute, cut from a cane, covering 3 octaves.
- 5) Zoukra or Zokra - originally the Turkish oboe (Zourna). An instrument mainly used outdoors for large groups, competitions, etc. The Zoukra possesses a very penetrating sound and required a special technique. By using the cheeks as air reservoirs, it is played continuously, without stopping.
- 6) Mezoued - bagpipes of goatskin with 3, sometimes 4, canes of unequal length. Both canes used for playing are fitted at the end with an inverted goathorn.

None of the dancers had performed before, and this could be noticed sometimes by one or other of the performers not doing it quite right. Still, taking into account the fact that they aren't professionals, I think it is worth three stars.

RON SPEYER.

Readers interested in purchasing records of Arab folklore may contact the writer of this article, indicating name and number of record desired to be chosen from the list below. When ordering, please do not forget to mention your own name and full address, enclosing cheque (preferably Cashier's Cheque) covering price and add 2/6 handling charges for shipment etc. Bank notes in Pound Sterling may also be sent, but in that case, your letter must be registered. No coins - no stamps - no international reply coupons, please! - except for the 2/6; here you may send I.R.C.'s. NOTE: This service is offered to my S.I.F.D. co-members and other interested parties, without making any profit!

RONALD SPEYER
(P.O. Box 9311, The Hague, Holland)

List of available records.

<u>Danses et Chants Bedouins de Tunisie</u>	LD.S-4.183	LP 10"	Price: 30/-.
<u>Chants Berberes de Kabylie</u>	LD.101	LP 12"	Price: 50/- (complete album)
<u>For Ta Sias Marocaines</u>	LDX-A-4297	LP 12"	Price: 50/- (complete album)
<u>Folklore du Pays Chleu</u>	EX 248	EP 7"	Price: 16/-
<u>Les Hommes Bleus (South Maroc)</u>	EX 603	EP 7"	Price: 16/-

We have reached the end of our membership year and classes have ceased until next term. A list of our classes for the 1966-67 year is shown on page 1, and we shall be holding an -

ENROLMENT DANCE

at

HUGH MYDDELTON SCHOOL,
Corporation Row, E.C.1

on

WEDNESDAY, 7TH SEPTEMBER

7.30 p.m.

SCOTTISH CONCERT.

The annual concert of the Scottish Clans' Association of London will be on 24th September at the Royal Scottish Corporation, Fetter Lane. These evenings have maintained a high standard of singing and other entertainment which lasts for about an hour and is followed by Scottish country dancing.

I.V.C. DANCES.

I.V.C. run dances at 20.00 on the first and third Thursdays of each month at Queen Alexandra House, Jay Mews, S.W.7 (near the Albert Hall). Many European dances are included, but over half the dances are English. Music is usually from records.

GUILDFORD INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS

This club has affiliated to the S.I.F.D., so we now have seven affiliated groups. They meet on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursdays of each month at St. Nicholas Small Hall, Guildford. Usually about 30 attend from a total membership of about 60.

HORNCHURCH INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP

Weekly meetings consist of general dancing with one dance taught by a member, or, when an outside instructor comes most of the evening is devoted to instruction. Music is mostly to records, but Harry de Caux often comes and enlivens the evening with his playing. Meetings start again on the 8th Sept. They are held on Thursdays at Ayloff Primary School hall in Marylands Avenue, Elm Park, Essex. Is is easily reached from Elm Park station on the District Line. Turn right at the exit of the station, then the first turning on the left which is Marylands Ave. The school is on the left at the very end of the road and is situated behind the houses, but the entrance is clearly marked.

29th September will be the A.G.M. Dances to be taught: 6th October: Opere Real, 20th October: Hopak, 27th October: Tretur.

Charge to Non-members: 2/-

FOLKESTONE

Starting again on 20th Sept. this group meets from 19.15 to 21.30 every Tuesday at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Sandgate Road, Folkestone. It is 12-15 minutes walk from the town centre and bus station. Folk dances from many different countries are done, including English. The first half of the evening is instruction, followed by requests. Live music is used, accordian, piano or melodica and a band usually comes for the second part.

Charge: non-members:2/-, members:1/6. Membership costs only 3/6.

The group was responsible for the formation of the East Kent Morris Men and the revival of the Hooden Horse in 1953. In 1961 the group helped to organise the Folkestone International Folklore Festival and continue to take part in it. They have an impressive wardrobe of folk costumes.

Some fixtures: 3rd Sept. 'Hop-Hoodening' tour of East Kent.

Barn dance at Wickhambreaux at 19.30.

10th Dec. Barn dance at Folkestone Town Hall at 19.15.

17th-23rd June 1967. Folkestone International Folklore Festival.

HARROW GREEN FOLK DANCE GROUP

Meetings every Wednesday at Oxford House, Mape St., E.2. Each week an instructor teaches dances from a different country.

Aug. 31st. Swedish Dr. Cyriax.

Sept. 7 A. G. M.

14th Not yet fixed.

21st Chingford group will visit us for a general dance. Musician: Harry de Caux.

28th Balkan - Philip Thornton

Oct. 5th Swedish - Dr. Cyriax (General dancing to records for last half hour).

12th Sardana, Polish etc. - Bert Price.

RADIO: At 11.00 a.m. on Fridays on the Home Service there is half an hour of folkdance music and some unusual folk songs. Different parts of the British Isles are taken in turn.

TSAMIKOS
Greek Line Dance

Noted by: Kenneth Spear, as done at the Folk Dance Center, in Queens.
 Record: Roulette LP-25229 "Rendezvous in Greece"
 Formation: Line dance, face center, hands joined at shoulder level.
 Meter: 3/4. Count each measure as one-hold-three.
 Introduction: 8 measures.

Part I.

Meas.	Count	
1	1	Step on R to R.
	2	Hold
	3	Step on L, crossing in front of R.
2	1	Touch R toe near L toe.
	2	Hold
	3	Step back on R. L foot remains in place.
3	1	Touch left toe on spot where L foot was.
	2	Hold
	3	Step on L, crossing in front of R.
4	1	Step on R to R.
	2	Hold
	3	Lift L leg in front of Right foot (Man lifts leg so that thigh is parallel to floor, lower part of leg and foot hanging naturally. Woman lifts leg few inches only.)
5	1	Step on L foot to L
	2	Hold
	3	Step on R crossing in front of L.
6	1	Step on L foot to L
	2	Hold
	3	Lift R leg in front of L foot (see above lift)
7	1	Step on R to R.
	2	Hold
	3	Step on L, crossing over in front of R.
8	1	Touch R toe near L foot.
	2	Hold
	3	Cross R foot in front of L foot, resting R toe near L toe, without placing weight on R foot.

BEGIN DANCE AGAIN, stepping on R foot to Right.

Music is exciting, and dance is very enjoyable. Other good dances on this record are: Slow Hasapikos, Sylivriano Syrtos.

Record is:

RENDEZVOUS IN GREECE - ROULETTE LP-25229.

Can be purchased by mail for\$ 4.00 from:

FOLK DANCE CENTER IN QUEENS
 56-40 187 St., Flushing, N. Y. 11365

KENNETH SPEAR
 TEL: 212-357-3490

Write for catalog.

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

Chairman	Mrs. Margery Latham, 14 Beechwood Ave., Kew, Surrey.	PROspect 7055 WHI 9000 Ext. 636
Secretary	Miss Lily Southgate, 52, Banbury House, Banbury Road, E.9.	AMHerst 0428 CITY 1212 Ext. 449
Treasurer & Membership Secretary	Mr. Roland Royston Minton, 131 Holly Street, E.8.	<u>MEMBERSHIP NOW DUE.</u>
Demonstration Secretary	Miss Kathleen Munroe James, 14 Oakleigh Drive, Croxley Green, Rickmansworth, Herts.	Watford 24323

SUNDAY DANCES

At The Dance Centre, Floral Street, W.C.2

	<u>Musician</u>	<u>M. C.</u>
4th September	Wilf Horrocks	Ian Willson
11th September	Harry de Caux	Lily Southgate
18th September	Cliff Beck	Roly Minton

At Cecil Sharp House,

25th September	Folk Dance Band	Ian Willson.
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STOP PRESS

Single lady seeks a mature but lively flat-mate to share modern flat in Barnet. Enquiries to Editor or Secretary.

HARROW GREEN: There will be a practice of the Swedish item for the Albert Hall on Monday 12 Sept. at Oxford House (possibly in a different room).

COMING EVENTS:

7th September	"Enrolment Dance" at Hugh Myddelton School. 7.30 p.m.
22nd, 23rd and 24th September	"Spanish Fiesta" at Toynbee Hall.
26th November	"See How They Dance," Royal Albert Hall.

REMEMBER - YOUR NEW EDITOR NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT!!