

Remember: No Cecil Sharp House dance in February.

S.I.F.D. NEWS

FEBRUARY 1967.

MAYIM-MAYIM

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USH-ARTEM MA-YIM BE-SA-SOM MI-MAR'ANEI HA - YE-SHU-A USH - ARTEM MA-YIM
BE-SA-SOM MI-MAR'ANEI HA - YE-SHU-A MAYIM MA-YIM MA-YIM MA-YIM
HOI MA-YIM BE-SA-SOM MA-YIM MA-YIM MA-YIM MA-YIM HOI MA-YIM
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BE-SA-SOM MA YIM MA-YIM MA YIM MA-YIM MA YIM MA-YIM BE-SA-SOM

The words are from Isaiah 12.3:

"Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation."

Published each month by the Society for International Folk Dancing.

Editor: Stephen Ward 74 Woodside Phone: 01-946 3344
LONDON S.W.19

DEADLINE: Material for publication should reach the Editor by the 24th of the previous month.

ASSISTANT EDITOR: Caroline Thomas has agreed to take on this post. She has been a member of Folkestone group for several years and has recently come to live in London. Many will know her as a musician. Her musical knowledge is particularly useful when preparing music for printing. Unfortunately she will be working in Austria from May to September, so we will be looking for an assistant editor again soon. We will be pleased to hear from anyone who will do this job, or from anyone who will do occasional work such as typing, envelope addressing or helping with despatch.

DISTRIBUTION OF LEAFLETS WITH THE S.I.F.D. NEWS

I am often asked to send out leaflets with the S.I.F.D. News about folk-dance matters within or outside the Society. This can be done where necessary, but putting an extra thing into 250 envelopes does make extra work and adds surprisingly to the time. I prefer to be given a stencil to form one page of the news sheet, as was done by Watford group for their dance, published in the January issue. Where separate sheets must be sent, it helps if they are on quarto paper so they can be folded with the news sheet.

EDITOR

S.I.F.D. CLASSES

Our classes are held in schools and close during the school holidays. The present term ends on 18 March. Summer term: 3 April to 1 July.

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

Monday	18.15-20.15	General European	Margery Latham
Monday	20.00-22.00	Polish	Betty Harvey
Thursday	19.00-21.30	Spanish: Flamenco	Margaret Colato
Friday	19.30-21.30	Certificate Class	Kathleen Monroe-James.

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

Monday	19.00-20.00	Spanish: beginners	Margaret Colato
Monday	20.00-21.30	Spanish: intermediate & advanced	Margaret Colato
Tuesday	18.30-19.30	Balkan: beginners	Ken Ward
Tuesday	19.30-21.30	Balkan: intermediate & advanced	Ken Ward
Wednesday	19.00-21.00	General European: intermediate	Margery Latham
Wednesday	21.00-22.00	General European: advanced and demonstration	Margery Latham

DO YOU ENJOY DANCING?

Why not learn the correct style of the dances plus some new ones? There's an opportunity for you to join a class on Friday evenings at Christopher Hatton School. All dances are carefully taught by experienced teachers and advanced students.

SEE HOW THEY DANCE

There was a net surplus of £75 after donations to musicians, groups, etc.

EARLY COPIES OF S.I.F.D. NEWS

The Society has kept no official file of news sheets. My Editor's file only goes back to when I was first concerned with the news sheet in May 1965. If any member has kept earlier issues which he no longer requires I would like to have them to put in a permanent file which I can hand on to future editors.

I have spare copies of recent issues if they are of use to anyone.

SOME DECISIONS MADE AT RECENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

We hope to hold a large dance on a Saturday night in June again this year, but not in the Porchester Hall. 10 June has been suggested as possibility, but nothing has been fixed yet. It will mark 21 years since the Society started.

It was decided not to send out the minutes of the A.G.M. in November immediately, but to withhold them until just before the next General Meeting.

If anyone going abroad to learn dances for the purpose of teaching cares to apply before departing, the Committee will consider making a contribution to expenses.

CLASHING OF FOLK-DANCE EVENTS

In the past few months there have been several occasions on which two important events have been arranged for the same evening. Our enrolment dance coincided with Harrow Green's A.G.M. An important demonstration with several different teams was arranged for the evening of Harrow Green's Christmas dance.

I am keeping a diary of all events. I suggest that this should be consulted before any dates are fixed. Also, please let me know of any events you may hear of. I often do not hear about groups of dancers from abroad until it is too late to publish in the S.I.F.D. News.

EDITOR

MEMBERSHIP

We have at present:

5	life members
131	London members
65	country members
6	junior members
24	joint memberships

totalling 250 individual members.

There six groups affiliated to the Society: Croxley Green, Folkestone, Harrow Green, Hornchurch, Guildford and Medway.

BERT PRICE has changed his address to: 22 Sunnydale Road
LONDON S.E.12

29.12.66

To the Committee:

I have reluctantly decided to resign from the position of Assistant Editor for the "News".

It is now the 29th of the month, and still no sign of the magazine which should, in my view, be issued on the 1st of each month, and could easily have been so this month.

Of course members like to read interesting articles and letters etc. but the majority of members are first of all interested in the news value and want to know in advance what folk dance activities are going on this month. It is no good receiving the news at the end of the month, to be told then what was happening last week; or the week before. This month, December, was particularly important as there were several Christmas folk dance parties and, as the classes were closed, people were relying on the magazine for news of what was going on, and not the least important was the announcement of our Christmas Dance on the 18th December, for which the only other form of advertising was an announcement at the Sunday dances, which everyone does not attend.

The Editor has a duty to the members to produce the magazine on time each month, giving them whatever news is available regarding activities in the folk dance world, and particularly within the Society, and if he is not carrying out this duty he is not doing the job he has been elected for. I have spoken to Stephen about this and he tells me that the sole reason for the delay in issuing the December "News" was due to the Committee's interference. Bearing in mind that Stephen is on a three-months' trial as Editor, and that he was given a vote of confidence at the A.G.M., surely the Committee and the Editor should endeavour to work closer together, and the aim of both the Committee and the Editor should surely be to produce an informative and interesting monthly magazine promptly each month.

It seems that the Editor and the Committee are unable to do this, and I am wasting my time trying to work to this end, and also chasing up items of information of what is going on and where, if they are not going to reach members until too late, if at all - hence my decision to withdraw from the futile job of Assistant Editor.

Sincerely,
LILY SOUTHGATE

COMMENT BY EDITOR:

The 18 December dance was mentioned on pages 3 and 9 of the November issue, so there was some publicity besides announcements at dances. Of course there should have been more. It was my attempt to do this which prevented the December issue coming out. I had designed a cover which incorporated a panel headed 'Christmas Events'. This contained a notice of our Christmas dance in large letters, and, in smaller letters,

the dates of other folk-dance events of interest to members: the Dunav Kolo Festival, Harrow Green dances and a dance at Watford.

I happened to mention the cover design when talking about the news sheet during the November Committee meeting. As Harry Whitaker was about to close the meeting Marjorie Bracey said, "There's just one more thing", and suggested that outside events should not be mentioned on the cover. A vote was taken without my being allowed to speak. Harry Whitaker then immediately closed the meeting.

At the A.G.M. another disagreement was discussed. A vote of confidence in me as Editor was passed. It was moved by Simon Guest who asked that I be allowed to show what I could do without being continually hindered and messed about by the Committee. It was on this assumption that I continued.

Of course the Committee must have the final say about the news sheet, but if they appoint an editor he should decide on which page items should appear. I emphasise that the cover design (which the Committee had not seen) was not a large display for rival activities. It was just that part of the Future Events column had been moved to the front page. Our dance was mentioned in much larger letters than the dances of other groups. I had taken great trouble over the cover design. I spend much time on the editing, printing, envelope addressing and despatch of the news sheet. I am trying to run my own business and am not having an e-sy time. I do not like to see my time wasted. The news sheet had to be ready the morning after the Committee meeting so that I could print it before starting a large batch of work at the end of the week. It was necessary to move everything around so that the announcements which had been on the front cover could appear inside. Naturally I fealt disheartened about the whole thing. The extra work did not get done. I hoped to fit it in later, but with work and Christmas and other things it was not done. There is a limit to the amount of time I am willing to give the Society.

I understand Lily's point of view. Whoever was at fault, she was not to blame. She was caught between me and the Committee and her time was being wasted. She worked hard as Assistant Editor. I am grateful for the items and reminders which she has continued to send me in spite of her resignation.

STEPHEN WARD

WATFORD INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meet on Tuesdays at 19.15 at Francis Coombe School, Horseshoe Lane, Garston, Watford (Buses 318, 318A, 319, 319A, 319B, 319C, 319D, 347, 347A, 719 from Watford Junction Station). This is a growing group and new members are welcome.

On 21 January they held a very well-run dance at Letchmore Heath with music by Harry de Caux and a demonstration by the Zivko Firfov Group.

RECENT DEMONSTRATIONS

9 December 1966, INTERNATIONAL STUDENT HOUSE, Great Portland Street.

Kathleen Monroe-James organised a first-rate show which included: Swiss dances by Margery Latham's Wednesday class; Israeli by Croxley Green; Estonian by the London Estonian Dancers; Croatian and Macedonian dances by our Balkan class; zither and accordion solos of Austrian music by Caroline Thomas; Krakowiak and Oberek by our Polish class; the Pakistan singer who was in See How They Dance; and Majorcan and Mexican by Croxley Green.

7 January 1967, LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CLUB, Indian Y.M.C.A. Fitzroy Square.

This was another successful demonstration which was a credit to Margery Latham and all concerned. Music was provided by the Croxley Green Dance Band and by Wilf Horrocks. Members of Margery's Wednesday class performed dances from Switzerland, Germany and Sweden, including an excellent Oxdans by Edy Brine and Tony Latham. Our own Polish class did Oberek and a Krakowiak. Adults and children from Croxley Green group under Kathleen Monroe-James showed dances from Mexico and Majorca, together with the delightful Lithuanian dances which were in the Albert Hall show. There was a very good response from the audience when they were asked to join in.

STEPHEN WARD

LOS IBERICOS DEMONSTRATIONS

10 December 1966, UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION, Muswell Hill.
A small audience, but the show was well received.

17 December 1966, Spanish cabaret for Banco Bilbao at Martinez Restaurant, Swallow St.
Very enthusiastically received.

HARROW GREEN FOLK DANCE GROUP meet at 20.00 every Wednesday throughout the year at Oxford House, Mape Street, E.2. From Bethnal Green station (Central Line) walk down the Bethnal Green Road and Mape Street is on the left. Each week an instructor teaches dances from a different country. Visitors are welcome and are admitted free the first evening.

15 Feb. will be a general dance to records.

On 22 Feb. we were to have had John Hughes teaching French dances, but as this is the day of the Bethnal Green Folk Festival he will come on 1 March instead.

On 8 March Philip Thornton will teach dances from the Balkans.

Editor: Stephen Ward 74 Woodside
LONDON S.W.19

Phone: WIMBLEDON 3344

THERE WAS NO DECEMBER 1966 S.I.F.D. NEWS.

The news sheet was practically ready when the Committee insisted on some last-minute changes. I was busy with my own work at the time and was unable to cope with the extra work involved.

The Committee regretfully accepted Lily Southgate's resignation as Assistant Editor. She asked that her letter of resignation be published, but I received it too late for inclusion in this issue. It will go in in February. Meanwhile, I must thank her for the great amount of work and the helpful advice and criticism which she gave.

Due to the large amount of material for publication which has been received in two months, it has been necessary to hold some of it until February.

CHANGE OF DEADLINE AND PUBLICATION DATE

With the consent of the Committee I have decided to change the deadline for publication to the 24th of the month. The Committee usually meets on the last Sunday of the month. Their decisions will now reach the members in a few days. Using the old deadline, the Committee's decisions of one meeting were not known by the membership until after the following meeting, and any comments which the members might make could not be considered until two months after the original decision. In future the news sheet should appear about the first Sunday of each month.

Editor.

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SEE HOW THEY DANCE

Another Albert Hall show is over, the lights are out and the dust has settled back on to that terrible matting. I don't know the financial result to date.

As an observer and not participator it seemed to me to be first-class entertainment, without any major faults and only a very few minor ones. Comments from the audience confirm this, and the critics in the Society assure me it was a good show as well.

I am sure all members will wish me to congratulate the R.A.H. sub-committee and to thank them. First, thanks to Dickie Gleeson for your time and effort spent on our behalf, and our sincere hopes that you are making a speedy recovery from your recent illness. Our main thanks must go to Kathleen Monroe-James and Ken Ward for what I know has been 12 months sheer slavery. I can assure you Kathleen and Ken that the members do appreciate the amount of work involved in this show and are very grateful to you. I hope the success of the Show is ample compensation for this work.

HARRY WHITAKER
Chairman

Accounts for the show are not yet available, but we know enough to know that a surplus was made.

We have some programmes left over and are sending some to our overseas members. If anyone else would like one will he please let me know and I will send it with the next news sheet.

Editor.

STOCKTAKING OF SOCIETY PROPERTY

Will anyone holding S.I.F.D. property (badges for sale, a book, a record, a costume or part of one, the violin, empty costume boxes, etc.) please send full details to the Treasurer, Marjorie Bracey, 125 Reigate Ave., SUTTON, Surrey. (Phone: FAIrlands 0742). Even if you think she already knows about what you have, please let her know as it is hoped to make a complete inventory.

FUTURE EVENTS

- 23 Jan - 11 Feb Dance and Music of India, classical, folk, modern. Scala Theatre, Charlotte St. Tickets: 7/6 to 25s.
 3 Feb Y.H.A. Reunion dance.
 17-18 Feb E.F.D.S.S. Folk Festival, Albert Hall.
 24 Feb Demonstration at Barking.
 4 March Praxmair's 'Gay Tyrolese' from Kitzbühel at Royal Festival Hall.
 11 March Folk dance at Milford youth hostel.
 17-23 June Folkestone Folklore Festival.
 4-9 July International Eisteddfod, Llangollen.
 28 July-4 Aug. S.I.F.D. course at Swansea.

S.I.F.D. CLASSES

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Monday	18.15-20.15	General European	Margery Latham
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Thursday	19.00-21.30	NOTE: Entire evening is now Flamenco.	Margaret Colato
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We draw particular attention to the Friday class, which is not only suitable for those who want to be able to teach our dances, but is also ideal for beginners because the dances are dealt with in such detail.



WATFORD INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP

PRESENT

New Year Dance

SATURDAY, 21st JANUARY, 1967

7.15 p.m. sharp

at

THE MEMORIAL HALL, LETCHMORE HEATH

Near ALDENHAM, HERTS - easily accessible from London

with

THE ZIVKO FIRFOV GROUP!

HARRY DE CAUX on the accordion!

Come and enjoy a first-class evening - you can sleep
it off next day!

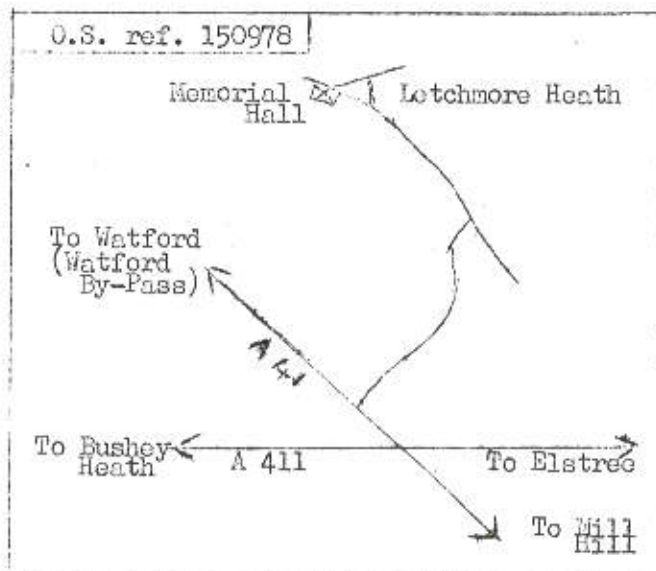
By Road: Take first turning on
right after Elstree Roundabout

By public transport: We will
meet you with cars at Stannore
Station. Be there by 6.45 p.m.

Any enquiry to: C. Crichton,
46 Farm Way, Bushey, Herts.

Admission 5s. Od.
Refreshments

No parking problems!



"The Firs", Youth Hostel,
Haselmere Road, Milford,
Godalming, Surrey.

Miss Lily Southgate,
Secretary S.I.F.D.

27th October, 1966.

Dear Lily,

The proximity of the A.G.M., the Society's twenty-first year, and the termination of your 'stint' as secretary, prompts me to write now a letter and suggestion to the Society which has been in my mind for some time.

First, though, as a mere 'associate', may I express appreciation and thanks for all your good work during your term of office - you have set a high standard to follow.

My suggestion, for consideration by the next Committee or by the A.G.M. is that the Society should issue Teaching Diplomas under its own name and in its own right. I feel, sincerely, that the Society now has the stature and responsibility necessary for such action; that there is, in a sense, an obligation to do so - but I will present this case later.

Information has reached me that a Certificate of Attendance to L.C.C. classes for dance teachers, signifying a standard of proficiency in teaching, is now issued to qualifying persons. This, if it is so, creates a strange anomaly, inasmuch as there exist people who could quite well have actually been instructors at these classes yet who are not eligible for a Certificate to say so (there being no such certificates available). Many names crop up among past and present members that it is unnecessary for me to enumerate.

Obviously, the wording of such a certificate issued by the Society would need to be carefully considered as, also obviously, the Society cannot set itself up as an authority on the dances of any one country. It would undoubtedly be challenged, rightly so, and, I fear, successfully if it did. What then, and how, could the Society certify?

Firstly, it should proclaim its objects and aims with special reference to the item concerning style, tradition, and authenticity - and the hazards of being dogmatic about these three.

Secondly, it should honour the known authorities to whom it is indebted for its knowledge and growth - 'Pug', Philip Thornton, Heinz and Ilsa, Eile Eistratt etc. etc., and state that the certificate is issued with deference to their superior judgment in their own sphere. (They could indeed be consulted as to the issue of a certificate to any individual).

Then would come a definition of what was being certified - which could include:-

- (a) the ability to perform a dance.
- (b) the ability to teach a dance.
- (c) the ability to play the music for a dance.
- (d) the ability to introduce the history, background and costume pertaining to a dance.

An 'all-in' selection of 12 to 24 chosen dances could comprise an 'Introduction to International Folk Dancing' and, beyond this 24, the addition or exception of individual dances ad lib according to the capabilities of the person to whom the certificate was being issued.

There remains one other faculty - the ability to 'introduce' a particular dance or type of dancing - e.g. I don't think any ordinary member could claim to be able to teach Hopak, Mazur, Kolomeyka, Landler (these being generic dances of such variety that only an authority of much learning could claim expertise upon).., so the ability to teach basic steps, style, and to suggest sequences should be recognized as an ability to 'introduce' these dances.

The objection may be raised that a certificate issued by the Society would have no value, validity, and would not be recognised; but I would challenge this objection. The Society is consulted by bodies like U.N.A., the L.C.C., and numbers among its members people who have been referred to and who have been called upon to judge at contests. These people would obviously be the ones who would say what certificates (and to whom) should be issued.

I, for one, would deem it a great honour to be considered, and would greatly value such a certificate, and there must be others like myself.

After all, University degrees must have started sometime without precedent and look how degrees from different sources differ in worth. The value of a Society Certificate cannot be measured until it is issued - when the Society and those to whom it grants recommendation will be judged and evaluated by the public they meet. Perhaps 'feelers' could be put out to assess the likely reception both within and outside the Society - although I would not feel inclined to put too much weight on adverse comment. Ours is a rather specialised field and jealousies could well be afield.

There must be individual elder members like myself up and down the country who spread the Society's work in practical ways and who give credit (and blame if necessary) to the Society for their folkdancing background. The issue of certificates would honour and give validity to these relationships. The Society would have its 'Man at Milford' and the 'Man at Milford' would have his diploma to display and to give a purpose beyond 'just another social evening' to his efforts.

Should the Society provisionally accept the idea of this suggestion, I would be pleased to draft a specimen Certificate for consideration and should the idea be taken up completely and be brought into practice, I would be prepared to fulfil any conditional requirements that might be considered necessary in the way of full membership, registration fee, etc.

Above all, I feel that the Society now owes this, or some similar gesture, to itself to effectively record the monumental work which it has done through these twenty years.

Yours sincerely,

JIM TITHERIDGE

A SECOND LETTER FROM DOROTHY INNES IN ISRAEL

Eilat, Red Sea, 25th October.

Dear Folks,

Stephen has asked for another letter. He is doing his job thoroughly, it seems. The point is, I don't know where to begin, so it had better be at the point where I last left off.

I finished my dish-washing and was sent to wash the kids instead. This was rather fun but I couldn't communicate very much, which made it difficult. They say a teacher's life never ends and I'm beginning to think there is some truth in it because I was drawing pictures to keep them amused and soon found myself making flash cards for the backward class and pictures that could be used for lessons for the other classes.

We had a wedding last week in the kibbutz and it was most interesting. The girl, a non-Jew from Manchester, had become converted in Marseilles and at the eleventh hour discovered as she had no proof to show it, the local Rabbi wouldn't perform the ceremony and as there is no civil wedding in Israel it was quite a predicament. All lines were put into action until verbal confirmation came from France. She was married on the lawn of the kibbutz while four lads held up the ceremonial canopy. We all crowded round and it was a very easy-going occasion. After that we had a bean feast and dancing in the chaderochel.

I left the next day on my tour. An early start saw me off in the bus to Telaviv, where I met Moche Carmeli, whom some of you met in London. He is now back in Israel. I stayed with his parents for the weekend. This was rather good as he took me around the sites and sights of Telaviv and Jaffa, and women alone in Israel are a sitting target for all the male population. Telaviv, contrary to all comments I had so far heard, is a nice place - very much like an American small town and with an atmosphere of its own. From there I took the bus to Beersheva, the capital of the Negev. Once more I was extremely lucky and sampled Israeli hospitality as I had the address of a friend of a friend in the kibbutz. Although I had arranged to stay in the youth hostel I was invited to stay with this family and duly collected my rucksack. That night we went to see Marco Polo. It was an uncanny feeling seeing the desert and knowing I was actually in it. The next day, although I had planned to go to Sodom, I was invited to go along to the teachers' seminary where my new friend, Sara, taught. They were having African visitors and she thought it would interest me. I rose reasonably early and went along to the Bedouin camel market, a sight never to forget, and then proceeded to the school. I arrived late as usual and was led to the right place by the sound of singing. The hall was crowded and I sneaked in, but suddenly in Hebrew a voice announced that we had a visitor from Britain and I was politely but firmly hauled on to my feet. The worst was still to come, as the various Africans were singing songs (they came from different countries) and then I was asked to sing a song from Scotland. Terror but I couldn't refuse. My voice, as many of you know, resembles a corncrake, but I sang the Skye Boat Song, which has been well rehearsed in the bath, and gave them the only greeting I knew in Gaelic. It followed with dancing - the tourist dances, as the Israelis say i.e. the ones we do!! After talking with an English girl who teaches there, I managed to edge

my way into her class and spent the lesson, to her disgust or delight, teaching these students the Skye Boat Song, at their request I must say, and discussing the teaching of immigrants in Britain. These students have the same problem, as they have to go out and teach Hebrew to the European and Oriental immigrants in Israel.

From there I was taken to Beersheva on a sight-seeing tour, which included a visit to a charming orthodox family. They were charming. My host, who works for the truck business to the South, had during my absence arranged a lift for me to Eilat and here I am. The drive through the desert was more magnificent than post-cards or words can describe. On the way we saw the Bedouins and their camels. They pitch outside the perimeter of Beersheva as they are not allowed any nearer for political reasons. The desert is about 150 miles long and one goes through flat stony desert, then hilly ground where the hills are anything from red, white, to deep purple. We dropped down into the Dead Sea Valley which is over a thousand feet below sea level, and this view was pink. I'm not exaggerating, the mountains were deep blue and the desert valley a pale pink. I hope my photos come out.

When we arrived at Timna copper mines, I left my driver; he had a lorry and truck around forty feet in length; and made my way to Eilat with an American copper tycoon from Chicago. Eilat is Israel's chief and only Southern port, again like an American frontier town but smaller than Beersheva. There are many Arabs around and it makes one feel safer to adopt purdah. The youth hostel is quite nice and has a prominent position over the Red Sea. My driver friend (it's O.K. he has a very nice wife whom I met) came to collect me and take me for a meal and tour of Eilat. I was thankful as I was in the throes of extracting myself from an Arab. I have learnt the Hebrew for "hands off", a very vital remark in this country. Anyway, we went off in his lorry and had a steak, the first I've had since July, and then he showed me, by truck, the highlights of Eilat, the potash works and the port. He also arranged with a friend of his to take me to Soðom. I'm telling you this to show how generous these people are. Admittedly this man had lived in a kibbutz and left it for the same reasons as I would - but I don't think people are kind just because you are a kibbutnik.

It is so valuable to get around among the ordinary Israeli as life on a kibbutz is so sheltered and unreal. I have thoroughly enjoyed myself but I'm too much of an individualist to ever survive it. I just don't like to be like everyone else, eat with everyone else, go to the pictures with everyone else, all the time. My truck friend, who was of German origin, felt the same way. That's why he left. He didn't speak English, but I conversed in my atrocious German.

Along the road there are the usual signs, first in Hebrew, then English. As the vowels in Hebrew have different sounds, one sees delightful notices, such as "SLOW DAWN, DANGEROUS".

Israel is a very mixed country and completely Oriental. The arab population is increasing rapidly and will soon outnumber the Jews. As I have mentioned, I have met with kindness but I have been lucky, I realize when talking to others, as this is a hard country and made up of very mixed people. The most staggering revelation being the race barriers and prejudices I have come across.

Another day has passed since I began this. I went off to King Solomon's mines this morning. It took me an hour to get a lift, as I had missed the bus,

and got it as far as the Timna copper mines. From there, I walked eight kilometres to Solomon's Pillars and the old disused mine. It was wonderful as there was no-one else there. I hunted around for a collection of stones, solemnly admired the view, and then walked back. When I got to Timna, the first truck I stopped was my American friend of the day before, and at exactly the same time. Then I spent the rest of the time swimming and reading.

The sun is just setting and everything is red and purple. This must be the explanation for it being the Red Sea as the water is indigo. This is the place where Solomon met his fancy woman, Sheba, which reminds me of a conversation..... "I've travelled from Dan to Beersheba". "Gee, man, don't tell me they are places. I thought they were husband and wife, like Sodom and Gomorrah."

Maybe I'll see some of you in London in November.

Cheerio,

DOROTHY

Dorothy has now returned to Britain.

AFFILIATED GROUPS

GUILDFORD INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS meet from 20.00 to 22.00 on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursdays of each month at St. Nicholas Small Hall, Millmead Terrace, Guildford. (5 minutes walk from bus station, 10 minutes walk from railway). The group started in January 65 and do mostly simple dances to a tape recorder. Usually about 30 attend from a membership of 64. All visitors are welcome. Cost of admission: 2s.

HARROW GREEN FOLK DANCE GROUP meet at 20.00 every Wednesday throughout the year at Oxford House, Mape Street, E.2. From Bethnal Green station (Central Line) walk down the Bethnal Green Road and Mape Street is on the left. Each week an instructor teaches dances from a different country. Visitors are welcome and are admitted free the first evening.

18 Jan	Dalia Zalutski	Israeli
25 "	not yet fixed	
1 Feb	Philip Thornton	Balkan
8 "	Dalia Zalutski	Israeli
15 "	not yet fixed	
22 "	John Hughes	French

INTERFOLK

It has been decided by the Committee that the name 'INTERFOLK' should be used in presenting ourselves to the public. We want to have a short easily-remembered name. Thus, our shows will be presented as INTERFOLK PRODUCTIONS, the S.I.F.D. News might be renamed INTERFOLK NEWS, etc. It is emphasised that there is no intention of changing the name of the Society.

Ken Blackwood the former S.I.F.D. NEWS editor is travelling overland to New Zealand.

Rialto Camping Ground,
Near Venice.

I had a very wet and largely wasted day yesterday. I took - I blush to admit it - four hours to rectify a lack of petrol! I mistook the symptoms for something else - battery trouble. It was pouring as well. After that, I only reached Milan. Next day here, with no trouble and then today I spent six hours in Venice. Once you have accepted the fact that the gutters are deep, there's nothing much to it, except to speculate why people should live crammed into so little space. I wandered through the back streets in amazement. Streets where I nearly had to turn sideways to get through. Still, it's nice and quiet except for the kids and the arguments/discussions. Had one myself with a cop and a soldier tonight. I'd left Venice through the railway yards and that's not allowed. I showed them my map and they shrugged and said "Beat it". My French was bad, my Italian worse; Serbo-Croat tomorrow, what happens then? I tend to use French instead of English, perhaps on the principle of, well I don't understand that either. Having difficulty starting the bike these days, but that's the battery, so if that's all I'm still happy at 1270 miles or so.

Zagreb.

My maximum is 50 m.p.h., but what's the hurry. I cruise at 40/45 and I'll admit to two unplanned changes - one at Modane where I intended to cross the Mt. Cenis into Italy but caught the train instead, and at Turin where I couldn't find the Asti road but the Milan road kept popping up so I took that, but otherwise all (almost all) is planned, i.e. I'm going generally South-East. Touring at this time has advantages. If the camp site is open, it's empty. The roads are quiet and one is a fairly rare bird, so gets more attention.

Italy/Yugoslav Customs were the simplest yet. I queued with bike. The chap inspected my passport then waved me out of queue and on to Yugoslavia. I couldn't even give up my A.C.1 form. Then the Yugoslavs were even better. One came up to me; said with gestures, this will have to be stamped; went and got it stamped; waved me out of the queue again, and that was it. I drove off slightly bewildered with the speed and lack of concern. It was getting dark so I tried to camp, but there seemed to be sheer drops on all sides. Eventually, failing to find a side-road, I parked on an oversized layby. Next morning was nice, so I left late, after being inspected by two cops on B.M.W.'s. Literally pushed off as I'd finished fuel, but it was a mile coast down to the village (19 km. from Ljubljana) marred only by skidding on some gravel and splitting the knee of my corduroy pants. Most annoying, as invisible mending is difficult with orange thread.

The Italians were friendly but I seemed to go through Lira faster than francs. The Yugoslavs are most kind. Nothing seems too much trouble. I've never heard of a country which gives a foreign-language forecast and things to see and do over the air, which I heard yesterday in English, German and French.

Camping near Brod.

Went to Zagreb again for breakfast as I was out of everything but sugar, coffee and butter. Left after an excellent breakfast of bread, cheese and coffee. Another uneventful day admiring the economy of a country that for one cow has a boy, for two a woman, and for three a man watching. That's not strictly true, but what a way to run a farm. I shall be sticking to the Autoput, having looked to the side and shuddered. I left the main road tonight and am at a little village just to the

South. The people still seem very friendly. I've been puzzling all day and have finally decided why I'm so broke. The Yugoslavs have a limit on money imported of 100 (new rate) and that's all my bank gave me, so trying to stay within what I've been given is almost impossible, even on bread and cheese. All prices are in two rates, which seems superfluous. Some stuff still seems very dear. I want a set of mm. feeler gauges, but at 48 new, I think I'll wait until Greece. I could do some collecting here. The people come home, singing just like the records.

The dumb show continues with "Milims" and "Hvalas" working well. They seem used to strangers. I hand them my biro and they write the price and sometimes we have a wee discussion and neither of us understands a word. These people are most helpful, and very polite. The trains are pathetic, except for the marvellous horn with its two-tone whistle. This is the first country where I've slowed down to let the train catch up so I could inspect it. It seemed to be a 4-4-2, which in Great Britain and New Zealand is about shunting size, and obsolete even for that.

Radio Beograd played an hour or so of folkdance music this morning; other stations have given a most marvellous mixture with one or two of their own included.

The road still stretches ahead, in some places a bit rough but since Beograd very good for a secondary road, only its the Autopot!

Near Kragujevac
(1883 miles)

I marvel at the way townspeople and peasant seem both to survive. People actually wear costume as dress, not 'fancy-dress' but workaday. This is what I couldn't altogether accept from the accounts of visitors. Those tight-legged pants Ken wears are common, even on people working in town. One can see young men wearing them and young women in drab peasant gear in the main street of Zagreb, where their sisters are westernized. One chap who spoke to me on the road today was smart in a blue suit, knife-edged creases and all. Then I noticed his shoes! Croatian style but the top all leather and a sole that looked like a rubber tyre. The carts are rough but intricate and have been the same all the way so far - four-wheeled single pole open-frame drays. They use horses, cows and bullocks, and they'll use a single horse with a single pole, which seems very inefficient to me. The cows look good, or rather most do, a couple have been very rough. I've seen some sheep today. I've seen none in Yugoslavia before. They seem to have an odd habit of standing in a circle with their heads down in a tight cluster - most odd. Macedonian cheese seems a bit ropey.

Delphi.

I've little to say, except a comment on the temples on the road, but felt I must use the address. Lends such an oracular tone, don't you think.

As to the road, in Lamia I asked the way for the road I wanted, a secondary, and immediately became the centre of a crowd. After a little while, one said "You're going to Delphi?" and I decided to go. Delphi lies on the road between Amfissa and Leyadia, a sub-secondary. I asked a peasant and he measured to me by gestures that it was quite good after about 3 k.m. He was quite right too, but what he didn't mention was that after Amfissa it got a b----y sight worse. I felt I was speeding at 20 m.p.h. which is why I've only done 115 today. The road improved past the summit and I'd another of those wonderful collection of Greek hairpins. I finally reach Delphi, halfway up a great mountain, which was a surprise. The view was grand. I decided I'd view the Grotto, which was interesting, assuming it's the true one. I'll need to read some of the Greek and Roman accounts of visits again.

The Temple was impressive. Going from a young country, it's impressive to walk where civilised people were when and before Cook found New Zealand. The Temple below the road of Athens was similarly impressive and viewing the moon through the three pillars standing with capping still in place was delightful.

My tent is still O.K. The flysheet I sent home as unnecessary; the only rain I've had was in Italy. I've added two rubber bands to the side guys. Inner tube pieces I picked up in Italy. The stoves work well. I use a biscuit tin with a windshield set on top. Very stable, and if anything goes wrong I can chuck the whole lot out or put the lid on. Using electric light since the new battery. My brightest idea has been the Thermos they gave me at work. I boil up and then fill up the Thermos, and I can then douse the primus and have hot water for some hours. I wash and shave in hot water. Luxury!

Leaving Yugoslavia, the Customs was promising to be sticky and he was considering making me unpack, but didn't, and in fact when the engine didn't start he gave me a push. There were more formalities in Greece but everyone was all smiles after I practised my first and only Greek word - thanks. I've since forgotten it.

Camping at Florina.

I know I shouldn't be here, but I misread my map. Tried to find a quiet place to camp. Some hopes. First I found a place that I'm sure was under cultivation, so I moved - it was long dark. Then I tried another place but seeing a sign with something on it I couldn't read I began to withdraw. Loud shouts, and up belted an armed (bayonet-mounted) soldier. I must have made his night. We rapidly established no common tongue and I switched off the engine. That bayonet was nice and clean and I didn't want it bloody. More loud shouts produced two more, one speaking excellent, if slow, English. He had rifle and bayonet, his mate a machine gun and a torch. We talked and I was told I could not camp here and must not camp within 1000m. either side. I beat it up the road and up another minor road and made camp. The first ox-cart came past at something like 4 a.m., I think. I just lay and wondered if he was passing through or by - it was by. From then on it was oxen and horses and carts and donkeys, plus trucks and cars, and the railway was in hearing too. It looked so quiet the night before, too.

I suppose you'd like my impressions of Yugoslavia. Well I think, from a very superficial view, it's very poor, very dry, and b----y pathetic. I don't like feeling a wealthy nabob when I know I'm skint. The people are very pleasant, a really nice mob, and fall over themselves to assist. It's easy to form a crowd; just ask a question that can't be answered 'Yes' or 'No'. 'Molim' and 'Hvala' are tremendously useful, but ever tried indicating a request to use a lavatory without being obscene? Feeler gauges are good. I got a set in Bitola.

KEN BLACKWOOD.

PRINTED MUSIC

I shall publish music in the S.I.F.D. News less often than did my predecessor. My impression is that those who play instruments have the music which they need and that the music published is only useful to two or three members and is therefore not worth the space, or the cost of the special stencil. If this impression is wrong I hope those who find printed music useful will let me know and I will be pleased to reverse this decision.

We ran off extra copies of much of the music which has been published in the past. If any member is wanting the music of particular dances I will be pleased to send some of these, or will try and get it from other sources.

Editor.

THE SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

Chairman: Harry Whitaker
29 Sherbrook Gardens, N.21 LAB 4965

Secretary: Liz Randall Home: Medway 51836
37 Beechwood Avenue, CHATHAM, Kent. Work: WHI 9400

Treasurer: Marjorie Bracey
125 Reigate Avenue, SUTTON, Surrey. 01-644-0742

Membership Secretary: Roland Minton
131 Holly Street, E.8
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RESULTS OF VOTING FOR COMMITTEE

Here are the figures for the vote for Committee members taken in November:

Chairman: Harry Whitaker - 58. Margery Latham - 38.

Secretary and Treasurer unopposed.

Other members:	Roland Minton	85	
	Peter Lilley	62	
	Margery Latham	62	
	Ken Ward	50	Ken Ward has since resigned due to
	Kathleen Monroe-James	46	lack of time. The Committee
	Stephen Ward	43	accepted this with regret.

Unsuccessful candidates:

Ian Willson	41
Les Avery	40
David Dewhirst	34
John Dear	33
Jean Willson	28

***** **

SUNDAY DANCES

Dances start at 19.00. 4s for members and 5s for non-members. Please do not wear stilleto heels, and if you invite someone to come warn her of this in advance.

At the DANCE CENTRE, Floral Street, W.C.2

	Musician	M.C.
8 Jan.	Cliff Beck	Cliff Beck
15	Wilf Horrocks	Ian Willson
22	Cliff Beck	Cliff Beck
5 Feb	Cliff Beck	Cliff Beck

At CECIL SHARP HOUSE, 2 Regents Park Road, N.W.1 (Station: Camden Town)

29 Jan	Folk Dance Band	Roland Minton
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NO CECIL SHARP HOUSE DANCE IN FEBRUARY OR MARCH.

We have been unable to book the hall for the last Sunday in February. We hope to have a normal Floral Street dance, but at the time of printing we have not heard whether this hall is available.

The last Sunday in March is Easter.