



S.I.F.D.

NEWS

JUNE 1967

Swedish  
Midsummer Pole

Published each month by the Society for International Folk Dancing.

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

Assistant Editor: Arlene Hansell.

COVER - This month's cover is by Caroline Thomas.

DEADLINE - Material for the July news sheet should reach the Editor by 21 July.

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NEW S.I.F.D. RECORD. A new record of dances from the third book:

Kalamies	Pastourelle
Kivi Kasukas	Hammersmiths (Die Hammerschmidtgesellen)
Bouree Croisee	Windmill (Windmüller)

Musicians - Croxley Green Folk Dance Band. Music arranged by David Peacock.

Available from: Recorded Sound Ltd., 27 Bryanston Street, LONDON W.1

Price: 15/6 (plus 1/3 postage and packing for one or two records).

Also available, on personal application only, from Marjorie Bracey.

A record of the remaining dances in Book 3 will be available soon.

#### S.I.F.D CLASSES

Our classes are sponsored by the Inner London Education Authority who provide premises in their schools and pay our teachers. Their classes closed for the summer on 1 July, but some of ours will continue:

**SPANISH.** At the Central London Institute, Bolt Court (a courtyard off the north side of Fleet Street, 19.00-22.00 on the following Thursdays: 13, 20 and 27 July, 7 Sept.

**BALKAN.** At Hugh Myddelton School, Corporation Row, E.C.1 18.30-21.30 on all Tuesdays in July.

**POLISH AND GENERAL.** Polish dances by Betty Harvey and dances of other countries by Margery Latham. At the Central London Institute (see above), 19.00-22.00 on the following Thursdays: 13, 20 and 27 July.

**ENROLMENT DANCE:** On Thursday 7 September a dance will be held at Hugh Myddelton School, Corporation Row, E.C.1 for members to enrol at next year's classes.

**NEXT YEAR'S TERMS:** Our classes close in the school holidays. Next year's terms will be: 25 Sept - 15 Dec  
8 Jan - 5 Apr  
22 Apr - 28 June (except Mon 3 June)

**FEES:** Fees for a year's classes, starting next September, will be:

1 class	£1.10s
2 classes	£2
3 classes	£2.10s
4 classes	£3

**SINGING GROUP:** Starting on 27 Sept. a group will meet on Thursday evenings under the leadership of Margaret Colato to learn and practise songs associated with folk dancing.

## EDITORIAL

On the day the May Issue was due to be drawn up and printed I was ill. At that time I had no help apart from the stencil typing which is done by Barney Salmon. With too much work on my hands already, illness although brief put all my editing work in a muddle. I now have an Assistant Editor and a small team to help with collation and despatch. We can now get things sorted out. We can still use someone with a typewriter and more people who will occasionally work on collation. If we spread the work out no-one will be called on to do a lot of work.

This June issue is coming out at the beginning of July.. We intend to bring the July issue out at the end of the month. From September, Committee meetings will be at the beginning of each month. The news sheet will be drawn up immediately after this and will go out in the middle of the month.

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## LOSSES AND GAINS ON DANCES

Our dance on 5 June at Islington Town Hall was a success, but not financially. Total takings, including raffle, were £42.14.9, but this still meant a loss of about £20. £1.10.6 was made on programme sales at the Cockpit dance in June.

## LOS IBERICOS

Demonstrations are planned for:

- 22 July, afternoon and evening, North London Folk Dance Festival, Enfield.
- 26 August, Southgate Horticultural Society, Broomfield Park, Palmers Green.

## THE SOCIETY OWNS A DUPLICATOR

It is at present at the Editor's home. It can be used for any Society business, such as programmes for demonstrations or circulars to members of a class. The Editor will not, however, type the stencils. He has enough work already. The actual work of printing is done so quickly that it does not add significantly to his work. Stencils sent to the Editor should have been read over by someone other than the typist, and a particular point made of checking the spelling of the names of dances.

## WEEKEND IN THE CHILTERN

We are fortunate to have been able to secure a booking for Uplands, High Wycombe, for the weekend of 15 - 17 September. This is a very comfortable house with a good dance hall, lounges and games rooms. It stands in pleasant grounds and has a pleasant view. The weekend will cost £5.5s, but a high standard of comfort is provided. Most guests will have single rooms.

There will be walking during the days and dancing in the evenings.

Send a deposit of 10s. now to Jack Richardson, Department of Chemical Engineering, University College, SWANSEA, Glam.

Minutes will be typed and duplicated and sent out to members as soon as possible. Meanwhile, here are the decisions mad and a few other points:

Item 1. Minutes of last meeting. Page 4, Motion (vote of confidence). It was agreed that there was an error in the record of the voting. This should read: For: 24, Abstentions: 12.

Item 4. Treasurer's report. Our Treasurer, Marjorie Bracey, said that discount on the Society's sales is intended for sales for members' personal use only. She is willing to send books but not records by post.

Item 5. The motion was carried: "That the alterations to the Constitution made, or apparently made, by the adoption of the amended Motion No 1 of the half-yearly general meeting of this Society held on 11 June 1966 be negated."

Item 6. The motion was carried: "That Clause 3(c) of the Memorandum of Association of the Constitution of this Society be deleted."

(See below under OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY for an explanation of this motion and news of more recent developments.)

Item 7. The motion was carried: "That Clause 2 of the Articles of Association be altered as follows: Line 2 and 3 delete "or eight shillings per half year for new members" and replace with "or ten shillings for persons becoming members of the Society for the first time on or after 1 March". Line 4, delete "half a guinea" and replace with "fifteen shillings"."

Item 8. The motion was carried: "That in Clause 28 of the Articles of Association the words "except in the case where the foregoing provisions of Rule 27 apply," be deleted (lines 5 and 6)."

Item 9. The motion was amended and then carried. It now stands as: "That the Committee take immediate steps to pencil-in a date at the Royal Albert Hall for the next 'See How they Dance' Festival, with a view to sponsoring a show using outside groups as well as S.I.F.D. teams."

Item 10. The motion was amended and then carried. It now stands as: "That the Committee endeavour to fix the date for the See How they Dance Festival for spring 1968, but failing that autumn 1968."

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#### THE SOCIETY IS NOW RECOGNISED AS A CHARITY

The Treasurer has been informed by the Chief Inspector (Claims) of the Inland Revenue that the Society is now considered to be a charity and that exemption from tax under paragraph 447(1)(b) of the Income Tax Act, 1952 will be allowed on bank deposit interest

#### OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY

Our objects are laid down in clause 3 of our Memorandum of Association. Until this was amended by recent general meetings it was:

- 3 The objects for which the Society is established are:
  - (a) To preserve Folk Dances of all peoples, to make them known and encourage the practice of them in their traditional forms.
  - (b) To promote the knowledge and practice of Folk Dances by means of classes, demonstrations and other suitable methods.
  - (c) To promote and encourage research into, and study of, the origin, development and traditional practice of all Folk Dances, also to promote interest, friendship and understanding with other countries.

The Society is non-sectarian and non-political and no political use of the Society is to be made at any time.

At the half-yearly meetin we deleted sub-clause (c), as a previous Treasurer had been told by the Inland Revenue that this was necessary if we were to be recognised as a charity. Our Chairman quoted professional advice to the same effect. The amendment was carried, but when the matter has been discussed at meetings and elsewhere some members have expressed concern at this deletion, and in particular have questioned whether the first part of 3(c) need go, and indeed whether we can honestly delete it as these things are our objects whether we state them formally or not.

Our Treasurer raised this matter when she wrote to the Inland Revenue to tell them of amendments we had made. The reply was:

"I confirm that provided the aim is to benefit the public there would be no objection to the Society restoring the first part of Clause 3(c). I would suggest, however, that the object reads: 'To provide and encourage for the public benefit research into and study of the origin, development and traditional practice of all folk dances.' "

#### FUTURE EVENTS

- July 24 E.F.D.S.S. Summer Playford Dance. Cecil Sharp House 19.00-22.00  
 28-Aug. 4 S.I.F.D. Summer School at Swansea.  
 31-Aug. 5 Georgian State Dance Company at Wimbledon Theatre.  
 Aug. 4 - 11 Sidmouth Folk Festival. Details from the Director, 3 Barnfield Cres,  
 EXETER, Devon.  
 27 - 31 Whitby Folk Festival. A leaflet can be obtained from Cecil Sharp House.  
 Sept. 9 Hop Hoodening at Canterbury and other places in Kent.  
 15 - 17 S.I.F.D. folk dancers' weekend at Uplands near High Wycombe, see p2.  
 Oct. 14 - 15 1967 London Folk Music Festival at Cecil Sharp House, organised by the  
 London District of the E.F.D.S.S. A leaflet can be obtained from  
 Cecil Sharp House.  
 27 - 29 Folk dancers' weekend at Surrey Crest near Godstone.  
 Nov. 18 A Harrow Green dance.  
 Dec. 8 Harrow Green Christmas Dance.  
 Jan. 19 - 21 S.I.F.D. folk dancers' weekend at Bisham Abbey on the Thames near Marlow.

#### E.F.D.S.S. OUTDOOR DANCES

will be held in Parliament Hill Fields at 19.30 on Wednesdays until 2 August.

#### SMOTRA FOLKLOR (FOLKLORE FESTIVAL) ZAGREB 23-30 July.

Three concerts a day will be given by many Croatian groups and one group from each of the other regions of Yugoslavia; the three professional Yugoslav groups 'Lado', 'Tanec' and 'Kolo'; and groups from other countries including Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria.

#### INDIA ARISE Westminster Theatre until 15 July.

We are informed by the organisers that it includes Indian folk dances. There are 60 performers. They have toured India and several countries in Europe and the Middle East. It is a Moral Re-Armament show and is concerned to put across their philosophy.

## THE BLACKWOOD SAGA

Another instalment of Ken Blackwood's overland journey to New Zealand.

Jalalabad, Afghanistan

It gets warmer. I can breathe out without it being visible. In the garden outside this hotel there are oranges hanging on the trees. There are palms and flowers and everything looks very nice.

I could have got to Pakistan today but I was late leaving Kabul. I almost sold my bike. I was offered the money in U.S. dollars but insisted that it be written off my passport first. That spoiled things because I and the prospective buyer (a cafe owner) toured the passport and visa people, then the Customs, and found it to be none too easy. I knew this would happen and that's why I kept the price low. However, no luck, so I'll try again as I go along.

The natives are now looking more and more Indian/Pak. They are still nice, even when looking the most ferocious rogues. Kabul weather was nice. I spent four days there. Cold in the night but lovely in the sun. It's a typical Afghan town, very squalid mostly and dusty, and the river through the middle of the town is the main sewer, lavatory, wash and drinking supply for a great many. Fortunately the river flows with a good volume and speed. It's very much an Eastern capital of a small, not particularly prosperous, nation. Coats and hats and furs generally seem excellent buys but I've not bought either a hat or a sheepskin coat (both about £2 to £4). Instead, I've got the chapan I told you of. They don't really bargain the way I thought they would but one can get prices down a little, though if you don't watch they rise. They tell you after agreeing a price that it now costs X; then you have to argue it back to Y, but everyone is good-humoured about it. The Afghan restaurants could only be seen in the East.

I've plenty of company (male, alas) these days, as since cheap hotel-ing I've met Aussies, New Zealanders, English, German, French, Swiss etc. Some I've met in several countries. My pace seems to be quite reasonable by comparison. My costs of about £7 - £9 a week also seem in line with others. The best idea for drivers is to go to Munich and get a new car to drive to Persia for some Persian. All expenses paid en route and \$28 in cash in Persia. The same, but with only £10 can be done from Istanbul. They can play rough sometimes - one German girl was killed, hit and run, in Persia.

Agra Bus Station.

The bike is no more (for me, at any rate). I had to ditch it (literally) at the Pak/Indian border. In fact, I nearly had an International Incident on my hands. The Indians wouldn't allow the bike in and the Pakistanis wouldn't allow me to leave it in Pakistan. Eventually, after an hour or so of arguing, I was allowed by the Indians to ditch it on the Pak side of the border! I believe they then salvaged it and I don't know what happens to it now, but I've my suspicions. It would be unofficial, of course.

I've got another souvenir, one I've been coveting since Yugoslavia. You know those curly horns with a large bulb and a lovely gruff oomph sound? Well, the Turks, Bulgars, Persians, Paks and Indians also have them - the last two on everything. Now, so have I, and it causes the locals much amusement to see it on my pack.

One thing about hitch-hiking; you've time to write letters while waiting.

The best thing I've seen in India and Pakistan for spectacle is the wedding processions, especially at night. The night ones are accompanied by 80 or 90 Tilly lamps mounted on staves and 'candelabra' - an excellent example of an old custom adapting modern fittings. The groom is mounted on a richly decorated and belled horse, preceded by a brass and wind band and accompanied by friends and relations garlanded with an orange flower of some sort, going to fetch his bride. Among the group preceding, at least once I saw two well decorated led horses. I've seen several of these weddings, just in the last few days. Perhaps that's why India has such a large population.

(Just had my first lift, a scooter for a few miles, without thumbing. Hope I get a good few more.)

Also saw a performing bird act in Lahore which was very clever. One holds a coin up in the air and a sparrow-sized bird plucks it from your fingers. Also there are performing parrots firing guns and finding coins. I couldn't see any leads which I'm sure must have been given. I tried out two genuine snake charmer's pipes and one tourist but, though cheap, I couldn't afford them. I was unimpressed by the snakes. I've seen the Taj with a good guide, and it's well worth seeing.

One keeps meeting the same people, mostly very pleasant, again and again.

I liked the Lahore Mosque but to be quite honest I'd not weep if I saw no more monuments etc. The people and their lives are antique enough, and I could even bear leaving them. I'm a rotten tourist.

I started hitching hopefully for Darjeeling, Everest, Katchinjunga etc., but may only go to Calcutta. After Calcutta, Singapore would be safest, I think.

#### A teashop near Kanpur.

I've seen no dancing for a while, though I understand I've passed near some. Yesterday I got another lift after a while which took me to Kanpur, but it was leisurely. They were merchants and stopped at a village and bought 2,000 glass bangles. Some were beautiful and none of them all that trashy. We spent two or so hours in the Bazaar which sold nothing else. I was surprised at how much variety could be obtained with only a few colours and cuts. At first I thought they were produced in bulk but was told the cutting and decorations were done individually, which appalled me because they were dirt cheap.

The lift was a lucky one as the driver put me up for the night and invited me to stay a day or even longer. I accepted. It's the Kanpur Club, a relic of the British Raj. I've a sitting room 16' x 20' x 12' high and bedroom the same, with bath and toilet and hot water. Tennis courts, swimming baths, servants who even stir the tea, and a nice verandah with trees around.

Still more, I've toured today a rayon factory of interest. Still more, he knows a shipping firm owner in Calcutta and thinks he may be able to arrange a cheap passage or a lift or even a job to Singapore or even Australia. He's sending

some bangles to New Zealand for me to see if there's a market and he wants me to enquire about barter between New Zealand and India. I shall of course, it might be something good for me. Another thing, he suggested a job running a small print shop in Delhi. I agreed to that too. I'm not investing but life in India with money would be nice (with eyes shut).

KEN BLACKWOOD

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#### AFFILIATED GROUPS

We will publish information on each affiliated group regularly if the secretaries will send up-to-date information. This should include: place and time of meeting; charge to non-members; what meetings consist of (Is it teaching or dancing without instruction? Live or recorded music? What types of dances are done most?); any special dances or other events; and particularly at this time of year: do you close down for a summer break?

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. Sometimes there is a general dance, but most weeks instructors teach dances which they have specialised in. Visitors are welcome and are admitted free the first time they come.

July 19	Dr Cyriax	Swedish
26	Bert Price	Polish, etc.
Aug. 2	Dr Cyriax	Swedish

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#### THE ENGEL FAMILY

Reutte-in-Tirol is the home of the Engel family: Fritz and Margarete the parents, with four sons and three daughters, all grown up now. Large families are not uncommon in Austria, but this one is unique. They live for music. Each is a brilliantly talented and trained musician, and can play seven or eight instruments at a very high standard. In addition they are attractive, charming people, unspoiled by fame and success. They have recently returned from Australia and are now giving concerts in Innsbruck.

Among the instruments are a zither, hackbrett (Alpine dulcimer), wooden xylophone and a raffele which is like a small zither with only three strings, and which originated in the South Tirol. Their programme includes classical music and traditional Austrian folk music. They sing, as much at home with an old madrigal as with a yodel song, and also perform a few Austrian folk dances. Two of the brothers, incidentally, gave a display of Oxdans, having admitted quite openly that this has been borrowed from the Swedes and is now included in the repertoire of many an Austrian folk-dance group. Indeed the first time I ever saw it was in Salzburg.

I recommend anyone coming to the Innsbruck district this summer to hear the Engel family. It is an experience which no music-lover can forget.

CAROLINE THOMAS

#### FOLKESTONE INTERNATIONAL FOLKLORE FESTIVAL

Several people remarked to the Editor that they enjoyed this. One member remarked particularly on the Basque dancers. On the Monday following the festival several items were broadcast including Folkestone's own handbell hoodeners. Perhaps someone will write something more for the July issue.



## POLISH DEMONSTRATION

The Polish team went to Barking for the second time this year when they were invited to dance at the Hospital Fete. This was their first experience of dancing out of doors, and they found the uneven turf of the arena heavy going. However, it was a fine sunny afternoon, and there was a large and appreciative audience.

BETTY HARVEY

## CAROLINE THOMAS IN THE TIROL

Members in Folkestone and London know Caroline as a musician and as Assistant Editor of the news sheet. In summer she works as a resident representative for Cooks. Her job is to look after the tourists, see they know about all facilities and help them in any difficulties. This year she is working in Igls. She has sent this note:

I was trying to persuade some guests to come to a 'Tirolean Evening' in Innsbruck - the usual entertainment made up of yodel songs, folk dances, schuplattl, wood-chopping and so on. "Oh, we've seen it before, you know", they said, "they were dancing in Bath during the Folk Week thing. Austrians they were, at least they had bright waistcoats and flowers in their hats. They wore white trousers with bells on their knees and they hopped up and down hitting sticks together - is that Schuh--- what you said?" It is a compliment to the Morris team in question that these people were very keen to see it again.

## RECORDS FROM U.S.A.

Kenneth Spear has been a member for many years, although he has not visited our dances in London. He directs the Folk Dance Center in Queens in New York. He has sent us their latest catalogue of records. It fills 39 sides of foolscap. It contains many dances which are old favourites with us, but also many unfamiliar names. American square dancing and Israeli are very well represented, but there are records of dances from all the countries whose dances we do, as well as from some whose dances we know little of, such as South Africa, the Philippines and Flanders. There are also records intended for dancing and rhythmic exercises in schools. One title fascinated me.

It is called Assyrian Folk Dances. What can this be? Perhaps Kenneth Spear will tell us. The catalogue is available for any member to see, or they can have their own free copy by writing to: Kenneth Spear, Folk Dance Center in Queens, 56-40 187 St, Flushing N.Y. 11365, U.S.A.

In his letter Kenneth Spear also says:

"May I also ask that an open invitation be extended to any S.I.F.D. members who travel to the United States to dance with us. Our schedule changes from time to time, so it would be best if the notice includes our telephone number and address. Of course I should have said, as guests (without charge). I might also add, if I could, that we would be especially interested in a swap session, in which we might trade dances with visitors. In line with this, we do pay teachers who are prepared to teach our regular groups, so if any of your teachers plan to visit New York, we would be glad to engage them for a workshop."

His phone number in New York is: 212-357-3490.

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING:

Chairman: Harry Whitaker, 29 Sherbrook Gardens, LONDON N.21 LAB 4965  
Secretary: Kathleen Monroe-James, 14 Oakleigh Drive, Croxley Green, RICKMANSWORTH,  
Herts.  
Treasurer: Marjorie Bracey, 125 Reigate Avenue, SUTTON, Surrey. 01-644 0742  
Membership Secretary: Roland Minton, 131 Holly Street, LONDON E.8  
Demonstration Secretary: Margery Latham Home: PRO 7055  
14 Beechwood Avenue, Kew, RICHMOND, Surrey. Work: WHI 9000 ext 636  
Other members: Peter Lilley, Stephen Ward, Ian Willson.

S.I.F.D. OPEN-AIR DANCES IN HYDE PARK

At 16.00 on Saturday 22 July and at 18.30 on Monday 14 August we are holding dances in the Cockpit, which is on the north side of the Serpentine, near the road which separates Hyde Park from Kensington Gardens. At the August dance we hope to have the German group from Karlsruhe with us.

SUNDAY DANCES

Dances start at 19.00. Admission: 4s for members, 5s for non-members. Please do not wear stiletto 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.
July 2	Cliff Beck	George Sweetland
9	Wilf Horrocks	Ian Willson
16	Cliff Beck	Roland Minton
23	Wilf Horrocks	Lily Southgate
30	Cliff Beck	Stephen Ward

At CECIL SHARP HOUSE, Regent's Park Road, N.W.1

Aug. 6	BAND	Roland Minton
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At the DANCE CENTRE, Floral Street, W.C.2

Aug. 13	Wilf Horrocks	Stephen Ward
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OPEN AIR (place to be announced later)

Aug. 20	Cliff Beck	Wilf Horrocks
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NO DANCE ON Aug. 27 (Bank Holiday weekend).

AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN HUNGARIAN FOLK DANCES

On the afternoon of SUNDAY 6 AUGUST at Cecil Sharp House, Mrs Ossko will teach. She is coming from Hungary to teach at our Summer School at Swansea. Marjorie Bracey (address above) would like to hear from those who intend to come.

NO CECIL SHARP HOUSE DANCE IN JULY.