



Soft Moroccan leather boot; with silk embroidery



Persian man's shoe



Stilted shoe (kabbab) from Damascus



Bedouin boot worn by Syrian Kurds, with iron heel.

S.I.F.D.

NEWS



Moroccan wooden shoe with embroidered leather parts and iron point.



Wooden stilted shoe of Arab princess

SEPTEMBER

1968



Opanke, Balkan sandal made of hard hide laced with cords made of animal intestines. Worn over a thick heelless sock.



Leather sandal from East Turkestan

Shoes from Northern India.



2.

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MATERIAL FOR PUBLICATION TO BE WITH THE EDITOR BY THE 15TH OF THE MONTH
PRECEDING PUBLICATION.

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This month's cover is by Caroline Thomas.

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Officers of the Committee:

Chairman: Bert Price,
22 Sunnydale Road,
London, S.E.12.

Secretary: Dorothy Bryan,
Flat 1, Braunton Mansions,
28 Rosebery Avenue, E.C.1.
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30 Cygnet House,
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131 Holly Street,
Dalston, E.8.

Demonstration Secretary:
Margery Latham,
14 Beechwood Avenue,
Kew, Richmond, Surrey.
Home: PRO 7055
Work: WEI 9000 Ext. 523

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BADGES

S.I.F.D. Badges for lapel, scooter, and car, at 3/6, 7/6 and 12/6 respectively, can be obtained from our Membership Secretary, Roland Minton (address above).

RECORDS

S.I.F.D. records are available from Recorded Sound Ltd., 27-31 Bryanston Street, Londo, W.1.

BOOKS

Our books are published by Pergamon Press and are obtainable, to order, through any bookseller, price 7/6.

Discounts are obtainable on records and books purchased by members for their own use. Full details from Marjorie Bracey (address above).

This issue completes my first year as Editor and I should like to thank all the people who have been of help to me during this period - typing, printing, folding, stamping, contributing articles and covers, and all the other fetching and carrying that goes into producing the magazine. A lot of man-hours have gone into the production but I hope I have been able to achieve what I set out to do - produce regularly each month an interesting and informative magazine - and that I have succeeded in at least pleasing some of the people some of the time.

As I shall be away on holiday in September, the October issue of the NEWS will be edited and printed by Sylvia Fulton, assisted by Barney Salmon. If you have any items of information or articles etc. to be published in the October issue, will you please send them to Sylvia (address on page 2) by the 15th September.

LILY SOUTHGATE.

RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership subscriptions become due for renewal in September. For this purpose, we enclosed with last month's issue a Renewal of Membership form. If you haven't already done so, would you please complete this and return it, with your cheque or Postal Order, to the Membership Secretary (address on page 2), or bring it along to our :-

ENROLMENT DANCE

- at -

CHRISTOPHER HATTON SCHOOL

Laystall Street, Rosebery Avenue, E.C.1.

- on -

Wednesday, 4th September,

Dancing from 7 - 10 p.m. Enrolment from 6 p.m. onwards.

In addition to renewing your membership, this will be your opportunity of enrolling for one or more of the many classes we shall be running next term, starting from 23rd September.

IAN HAYDEN

Many of his old friends in the Society will be sad to learn of the death on 2nd August of Ian Hayden, member of the Society, founder and leader of the Medway Group. Ian used folk dancing to foster friendship amongst peoples of all races, creeds and denominations. A friend himself, he was always championing the Freedom from Hunger cause, and in this direction he raised hundreds of pounds for the various organizations who used his talents as an M.C. Some members of the Society have performed at some of Ian's fund-raising dances, and I know he was always appreciative of their efforts. Ian believed in groups being family affairs and encouraged young dancers to bring their parents. He will be sadly missed by many people in the Medway area. LEN PASCOE.

THE CHAIRMAN WRITES.....

I have just finished reading, for the second time, the August issue of the 'NEWS' and am proud of the present day quality of this monthly issue of S.I.F.D. news and views. I am struck by the layout that the Editor produces from the sometimes awfully scrappy notes that some of us who provide material give her and admire the way she managed to produce a topical and interesting article off her own bat when members' articles are scarce. This is the end of her first year as Editor and I would bring to your notice and ask you not to take for granted the efforts made by the Editor to give you a news-sheet worth reading and mention once again the work done in getting it out - the layout, the stencils, running it off, addressing envelopes, filling them, and posting them - all of which she is so ably assisted by Sylvia Fulton and Barney Salmon. I am sure she would appreciate it if more of you would give her a short article or item of news for her to incorporate in the ensuing issues, even if it is only another thankyou or a grumble. The Editor is very capable of sorting the wheat from the chaff.

By the time you read this, your holidays will be mostly over and it will be September, the start of a new year for us. Of course you have already paid your membership fees, and we are ready to start off our new year with classes every night of the week, plus Sunday dances, and festivals for you to participate in or to bring your friends to watch. It is inevitable that I must ask you to join a class. They will be provided in practically every corner of London, but they will flop if you don't patronise them. I and your Committee, and all of us who work behind the scenes, are asking for your help to get classes really well attended this year so that we can once again make a big stride forward in our membership and in the numbers at our social dances. One evening a week from all of you will help support the classes and add to your own enjoyment during the winter evenings.

Swansea 1969. I have had just one letter so far giving some advice and suggestions but I still hope for many more before the end of the month so that we can offer you a really super Swansea in what will be Coronation Year in Wales.

You will be glad to know that on your behalf I have written letters of appreciation to the Bodrog Hungarian and to the Burgos Spanish groups and have received a kind letter back from Spain thanking us for our efforts and sending their best wishes to all Society members.

Sybil Chapman, whom some of you will remember from Swansea 1967, has written a welcome letter telling of her holiday in Hungary and saying she is looking forward to Swansea 1969.

I have also had a very nice letter from Heinz Striegel saying how much he looks forward to seeing some of his old friends and to meeting some new ones when he comes to the Bethnal Green class on 1st and 8th October, and Aily Eistraat has voiced the same wish when she agreed to come and teach Estonian at all our new classes to give them a good send-off.

BERT PRICE

FOLKLORE FEAST

Still in search of the fountain of authentic folklore, Sheila and I went to Yugoslavia for the seventh successive year (and her second trip this year!). We planned to see a feast of folklore by taking in the Dubrovnik Summer Festival and the Smotra Folkloru (Review of Folklore) in Zagreb.

The soup course was provided by the Dubrovnik amateur group "Lindjo", who, although of relatively new formation, are rapidly climbing the charts. Of particular interest to the Yugoslav-minded critic, overfed on Staro Sito, Poskok and Slavonsko Kolo suites, was an item of dances from Hrvatsko Zagorje (the area immediately beyond the mountains North of Zagreb). These simple dances were intermingled with symbolic folk traditions, one being the appearance of Djuro Zeleni (Green George) a man wearing a cone-shaped covering of green branches and representing the harbinger of a fruitful summer. The costumes were originals from the area. This suite was particularly notable for its originality as, to our knowledge, no other Yugoslav group performing a full national repertoire includes this item. Even the professional group "Lado" only include the songs. This "pathfinder" approach is to be applauded, otherwise the hundreds of Yugoslav dances known to exist will ultimately be represented by the same two or three dozen performed by all groups.

The meat course at Dubrovnik consisted of four lavish helpings of "Lado". Throughout the world, they are famed for their singing and the authenticity of their costumes and dance presentations. Their singing, and by this one means that of their fifteen or so women, is the equal of that found in any groups anywhere, not forgetting that in certain Polish, Bulgarian, and Hungarian ensembles they also know how to sing. Lado still sing like well-rehearsed peasants even if their physical proportions and facial beauty are those of healthy model-girls.

Lado's singing, dancing, and instrumental playing have so far not suffered from that folk cancer whose symptoms are squeaky sopranos with operatic training, made-up tenors with narcissistic tendencies, conducted orchestras with sheet music and fussy inconsequential dance arrangements. One tires of seeing coy pantomimes involving soldiers, sailors, and park benches, and played out to a never-ending accordion solo! Lado's choreography remains unobtrusive and skilful almost to the point of magic. Their midsummer custom "Ladarke" is a classic of folk choreography, combining age-old ritual with strident singing and zestful dancing. The simple act of four girls and one boy (their defender against geese and dogs) visiting the houses of the village to receive offerings of cakes, eggs and cheese in supplication for a fruitful harvest could be the excuse for an artistic fantasia, but Lado treasure their folklore heritage too much. And yet they treat us to a kaleidoscope of tasteful and meaningful movement, each change of pattern concealed in embryo, then suddenly revealed in its maturity.

Musically, Lado remain true to their colours, although the recent loss of their tamburica virtuoso Bozo Potocnik (see any Lado record cover) has dimmed their sparkle a little. Nonetheless, they are still worth hearing and continue to play Serbian frula tunes better than any other non-Serb group we know.

contd....

6.

The occasional use of pre-recorded tapes is sad to note, although it must be remembered that the sopile (or rozenice) used in the Istrian dance Balun and the Krk Island dance, Krcki Tanac, are not easy instruments to play. (They're a kind of primitive folk clarinet). Nor are the various Yugoslav bagpipes easy to master, as used for the Suak Island dance, Tanac po Susacku, and the Macedonian dance, Kopacka. In fact, some original folk instruments are becoming so scarce that our friend Brank, who plays for Lado, has had to make his own Slavonian bagpipes, copying a borrowed specimen. As these originals were too old to function, he had to experiment with the making and adjusting of the reeds - a very long job. And I thought our group was the only one with this sort of problem!!

Next month, the feast continues through the sweet, black coffee, and Alka Seltzer courses! Stay tuned.

JOHN FISHER.

(ED. NOTE: I regret that as I have no diacritics on my typewriter, I am not able to reproduce the correct Serbo-Croat spelling of names.)

***** *** *** *****

Dear Editor,

Swansea Courses

Would it not be a good idea to invite Magda Ossko to come over again to the Summer Course in order that we may consolidate the little knowledge we have on Hungarian folk dance? We could then, also, increase our knowledge and our standard of dance. One week, in which many other 'idions' are covered, seems too short a time for such an exciting and varied subject as Hungarian folk-dance, and many members, I feel sure, appreciate the opportunity of specialist teaching. Having seen the work done in Hungary, I know there is much to be learnt from Magda, and how much better to have the original techniques from a resident teacher of the country than, as so often happens, memories and reminiscences from people who have long left their homeland?

Could not the Swansea course be devoted to, say, two specialists (natives!) with S.I.F.D. dances being picked up in the evening social dances? I may be speaking out of turn, of course, but I feel a "Course" is an opportunity for concentrated specialisation.

Yours sincerely,

SYBIL CHAPMAN

To the organizers of Swansea Course: I should like to add my plea to the above and request a BASQUE teacher for Swansea. I find the Basque dances so intricate and lively, that I think it would be exciting to be able to add some of these to our repertoire, if only for the specialist few.

ED.

Dear Editor,

I joined the S.I.F.D. for the reason that I like folk dancing and enjoy participating in it, but this last year I have been very disillusioned. Floral Street is just pointless going to; the people just seem to clique together and if you are alone then you just stay alone. There are very few people that give any indication that you are welcome. Cecil Sharp House is a little better, perhaps because there are more people there, visitors etc., but even then it is not very often anyone asks me to dance.

I wonder how many people have joined your organization thinking that they will spend many happy Sunday evenings but just spend their evenings sitting or standing alone. Perhaps, like me a bit shy to just go to anyone and speak to them. I am very fond of folk dancing but feel left out. I enjoy your magazine but don't think that I would join again.

Perhaps if this is published you will think of the ones always inside, but on the outside.

Not One of the Clique

Dear Member,

I am breaking an unwritten rule of mine, not to publish anonymous letters, but I should like you to know that I am sorry you have been so disillusioned by your reception at our social dances but that this is a state of affairs of which the Committee is well aware and have discussed many times, and we are not unsympathetic. However, at any public function one attends, not only folk dances, you will find people in cliques, and very few are interested enough in newcomers to go out of their way to make them feel welcome. Newcomers are encouraged to join in and are then left to find their own feet. I am not making excuses but just stating a fact. This is just human nature and I'm afraid there is very little we can do about it. However, I would suggest that if you joined one of our many classes, where the atmosphere is more intimate and it is easier to make friends, you would find yourself in a smaller circle of faces that would soon become familiar and, through learning the dances in detail, gain more confidence to attend the social dances.

Editor

REGISTER FOR HOSPITALITY

In July we were asked to accommodate some Basque dancers, which unfortunately we were unable to do in the time allowed, and also some Spanish dancers from Burgos, which we did manage to do thanks to the spontaneous generosity of members and friends. In view of the unavoidably very short notice we were given when asked to accommodate these dancers, the Committee feel it would be of great assistance if we had a list of people whom we could call on to provide accommodation for visitors on such occasions. If you feel you could put up one, two, or more guests, would you please let the Secretary, Dorothy Bryan, have your name, address, and an indication of the number of beds you could provide. This need not commit you in any way, but would provide the Committee with a short list of people to approach when they are seeking accommodation for visiting teams. In return, the teams are usually more than willing to put on a Show for us, and we have on occasion missed this opportunity through not knowing where to look for accommodation. Any help you can give will be very much appreciated.

SEVILLE FERIA, 1968

Way back in 1964, Margaret Colato arranged for Los Ibericos to visit the Seville Spring Fair, and about a year ago various members of the group got together with the idea of repeating the experience. This is an impression of how we fared.

The journey to Southampton in Charles Collingwood's car, a Renault 1100, together with a member of a "rival" Spanish group, Jackie Bavin, was uneventful. We rolled up the ramp and on to the car ferry half an hour before embarkation, the luggage was dumped in the cabin, and seconds later we were in the bar enjoying our first drink of the holiday. Harry, Irene, and Margaret Bisset were already well settled and when the mooring ropes had been cast off our immediate object was achieved. The facilities on board were very good; a comfortable cabin with air conditioning (although it was only on the second night that we managed to manipulate it properly), a restaurant and self-service cafeteria, a large bar with a dance floor, and a swimming pool. Wonderfully relaxing; we all unwound to such a degree we were almost sorry to reach land 36 hours later.

The port at Bilbao is not the most attractive in Spain, and we gave a sigh of relief when the traffic was behind and we were really on our way. Vittoria, Burgos, Valladolid, Salamanca, all flew past until, just outside Caceres, dusk began to fall. By a stroke of luck we saw Harry's car before dark and we all arrived at Seville at about 11 o'clock. After delivering Jackie at her hotel, we made our way back to the centre of the city hoping to find ours fairly quickly. So we did on foot, but in a car through winding one-way streets was another matter. At one point we thought it was around the corner so we parked the car and tried again, promptly losing both car and hotel! Several false starts later, we managed to get ourselves, car, and hotel altogether in one spot.

The Seville Spring Fair is a unique event. In physical terms, it occupies an area about the size of St. James' Park, originally cleared for an international exhibition in 1929. Some of the larger buildings remain (Plaza d'Espagna) as Government offices etc. The open space is occupied by a fairground with roundabouts, dodgems, and similar amusements, and the remainder devoted to the fair proper. Here, wide avenues lit at night with hundreds of coloured lanterns run between temporary marquee-like structures. These are "casettas", each consisting of a front room and a bar at the back. In the case of the family casettas, the front room is exactly that, with lace-edged cloths covering little tables, religious pictures on the walls, and other knick-knacks scattered around. The bar, even the smallest, have enough wine, brandy, and beer to keep an average pub going for months. The larger casettas, such as those run by business houses, clubs, and military forces, are huge and ornate affairs, very often employing professional dancers and musicians to entertain their guests.

During the twenty-four hours of every day in the week somewhere there will be small groups of people dancing, singing, and clapping. Dusk brings on the illuminations which appear to lure the entire population of Andalucia

to the fairground, and the noise level becomes almost unbearable. About 2 a.m. the crowds diminish slightly and sounds of more serious flamenco can be heard, the dedicated "aficionados" keeping the party going until dawn. With daylight, the mood shifts to that of an older and more leisured world. Horses and carriages begin to fill the avenues, their riders and passengers beautifully dressed in the elegant Andaluz style. Small boys handle their fullgrown mounts with arrogant confidence, their even smaller partners balanced sedately behind them.

The Hostal "Toledo", situated in a charming little square (Plaza Santa Cruz) in the old quarter of the city, was given over almost entirely to our group (Harry and Irene, Margaret, Sally, June, Gill, Charles, David, Francis and myself) apart from one or two passing visitors and a large and voluble Dutchman who attached himself to us. Naturally enough, one of our mass expeditions was to the Bodegas at Jerez, ostensibly to see the manufacture of sherry, but in reality to drink as much of the free wine as possible. After our visit, we emerged filled with the love of humanity in general and tottered to a nearby park to eat our packed lunches, accompanied by an even more talkative Dutchman. When the golden fumes had evaporated, we set off to Arcos de la Frontera, a detour suggested by our Dutch friend, and soon we were again sipping drinks in a patio perched high above the patchwork of vineyards looking down on the seemingly miniature rivers.

.... To be continued.

GEORGE SWEETLAND

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"SEE HOW THEY DANCE"

Dances from the Balkans, Czechoslovakia, Israel, Mexico
Sweden, Poland and Spain, all in colourful costumes.

-at-

OLD TOWN HALL, 553-561 Fulham Road, S.W.6

-on-

Saturday, 5th October, 1968

at 7.30 p.m.

Admission: 10/-, 7/6 & 5/-.

Tickets from: Anthony Latham, Flat 9, 118 Avenue Road, W.3. or at door.

10.

HALSWAY MANOR

Michael Clark is considering booking Halsway Manor for another folk-dance weekend from the 16th to 18th May 1969. We realize this is some way ahead but the booking has to be made well in advance and it would assist Michael if he knew how many people were likely to be interested in another weekend at Halsway Manor. If you think you are likely to be interested (this need not be a firm booking at this stage), would you please contact Michael, so that he may estimate whether it is worth while going ahead with the booking. His address is:- 14 Weldon Close, Church, Crookham, Aldershot.

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S.I.F.D. CLASSES - 1968/9

<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>Institute</u>	<u>Tutor</u>
6.00 to 8.00 European National adv.	Christopher Hatton School	Margery Latham
7.00 to 8.00 Spanish, beginners.	"	Felisa Victoria
8.00 to 9.30 Spanish, inter. & adv.	"	Felisa Victoria
8.00 to 10.00 Polish	"	Betty Harvey
8.00 to 10.00 Hungarian	Kingsley School, Chelsea	Alan McLean
<u>TUESDAY</u>		
6.30 to 8.30 Yugoslav, beginners & inter.	Hugh Myddelton School	Ken Ward
8.30 to 9.30 Yugoslav, advanced	"	Ken Ward
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>		
7.00 to 9.00 European National, beginners.	Hugh Myddelton School	Margery Latham
<u>THURSDAY</u>		
7.00 to 8.00 Flamenco, beginners	Christopher Hatton School	Felisa Victoria
8.00 to 9.30 Flamenco, intermediate	"	Felisa Victoria
7.00 to 9.00 Flamenco	Kensington Institute	Sandra Escudero
9.00 to 10.00 Spanish	"	Sandra Escudero

Christopher Hatton School is at Laystall Street, Rosebery Avenue, E.C.1.
Hugh Myddelton School is at Corporation Row, Clerkenwell Green, E.C.1.
Kingsley School is at Glebe Place, off Kings Road, Chelsea.
Kensington Institute is at 97 Lancaster Road, W.11.

In addition to the above classes, we shall also be running new classes at Greenwich, Bethnal Green, Sydenham, Fulham and Paddington, further details of which are given on page 11.

The term starts, generally, on 23rd September, but may differ in some areas. Please check on enrolling.

Fees for the whole session (three terms) are as follows:-

- 35/- for one class a week
- 40/- for two classes a week
- 50/- for three classes a week
- 60/- for four or more classes a week.

PROGRAMME OF NEW CLASSES

The dances taught will be international from the Society's books of instruction for one hour, coupled with one hour's specialization in the dances of a specific country aided where possible by the assistance of a specialist teacher as below.

Greenwich Institute, Charlton Manor School, Hornfair Road, S.E.7

Tuesdays 7.30 - 9.30 p.m. Instructor: Bert Price.

September 24th	Estonian	Aily Eistraat
October 1st	Estonian	Aily Eistraat
8th	Sardanas	Bert Price
15th	Sardanas	Bert Price
22nd	Balkan	Lily Southgate
29th	Balkan	Lily Southgate

Bethnal Green Institute, Daneford Street, Gosset Street, Bethnal Green Road, E.2.

Tuesdays 7.30 - 9.30 p.m. Instructor: Peter Oakley.

September 24th	International	Peter Oakley
October 1st	Austrian	Heinz & Ilse Striegel
8th	Austrian	Heinz & Ilse Striegel
15th	International	Peter Oakley
22nd	Estonian	Aily Eistraat
29th	Estonian	Aily Eistraat

Sydenham and Forest Hill, Dalmain Branch, Brockley Rise, S.E.23.

Wednesdays 7.30 - 9.30 p.m. Instructor: Bert Price.

September 25th	Estonian	Aily Eistraat
October 2nd	Estonian	Aily Eistraat
9th	International	Bert Price
16th	Swedish	Bert Price
23rd	Swedish	Bert Price
30th	Sardanas	Bert Price

Fulham and South Kensington, St. Cuthberts School, Warwick Road, S.W.5.

Thursdays 7.30 - 9.30 p.m. Instructor: Bert Price

September 26th	Swedish	Bert Price
October 3rd	Swedish	Bert Price
10th	French & Israeli	Frances Horrocks
17th	French & Israeli	Frances Horrocks
24th	Estonian	Aily Eistraat
31st	Estonian	Aily Eistraat

Paddington Institute, Hallfield School, Inverness Terrace, W.2.

Fridays 7.30 - 9.30 p.m. Instructor: George Sweetland.

September 27th	International	George Sweetland
October 4th	International	George Sweetland
11th	Estonian	Aily Eistraat
18th	Estonian	Aily Eistraat
25th	Israeli & French	Frances Horrocks
November 1st	Israeli & French	Frances Horrocks

PROGRAMME FOR SUNDAYS

		<u>Musicians.</u>	<u>M.C.'s</u>	
September	1st	BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND - NO DANCE		
	8th	Dance Centre	Cliff Beck	George Sweetland
	15th	Dance Centre	Caroline Thomas	Roland Minton
	22nd	Dance Centre	Cliff Beck	To be arranged
	29th	Dance Centre	Wilf Horrocks	Ian Willson
October	6th	Dance Centre	Cliff Beck	Bert Price

Time: 7 to 10 p.m. Admission: 5/- for non-members, 4/- for members.

The Dance Centre is at No.12 Floral Street, W.C.2. (Nearest Underground: Leicester Square)

N.B. THERE WILL BE NO CECIL SHARP HOUSE DANCE ON OCTOBER 6TH AS WE WERE UNABLE TO BOOK THE HALL. WE SHALL BE AT THE DANCE CENTRE INSTEAD.

WEEKENDS AWAY

September 20/22nd.

FOLKDANCERS WEEKEND AT SURREY CREST.

Surrey Crest is situated near Godstone Green, in Surrey. The surrounding countryside is very attractive for walking; there are a couple of good village pubs, and facilities for horse-riding nearby. The weekend is usually a mixture of folkdancing, walking, playing table-tennis, cards, or chess etc. If you would like to spend an informal weekend with your fellow folkdancers in pleasant surroundings, book your place with Roland Minton, 131 Holly Street, London, E.8. The cost for the weekend from Friday evening until after tea on Sunday is:- £2.16. Od. Please bring with you your tape recorder or tapes or record player or records or musical instrument - the more variety, the better.

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WHAT'S ON

September 4th Enrolment Dance at Christopher Hatton School. (See page 3)

14th Rehearsal for "See How They Dance", Christopher Hatton School
2 - 10 p.m.

16th to October 4th. Red Army Ensemble at the Royal Albert Hall.
Tickets 5/- to 35/-.

20th/22nd Folkdancers Weekend at Surrey Crest. (See above)

23rd Classes commence.

28th Rehearsal for "See How They Dance", at Hammersmith Old Town Hall.