

S.I.F.D NEWS



JANUARY 1970



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

This month's cover is by Caroline Thomas and shows Lithuanian girls hanging the straw decorations associated with Christmas and the New Year.

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SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING.

Officers of the Committee:-

Chairman: Bert Price,
22 Sunnydale Road,
London, S.E.12.
Office: GRE 3767

Secretary: Dorothy Bryan,
Flat 1, Braunton Mansions,
28 Rosebery Avenue,
London, E.C.1. 837-2438

Treasurer: Harry Whitaker,
29 Sherbrook Gardens,
Winchmore Hill, N.21.
LABurnum 4965

Membership Secretary (Ex-officio member):
Roland Minton,
131 Holly Street,
Dalston, London, E.8.

Demonstration Secretary: Margery Latham,
14 Beechwood Avenue,
Kew, Richmond, Surrey.
Home: PRO 7055
Office: WHI 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.

Our records are available from Magnegraph Recording Co. Ltd., 1 Hanway Place, W.1. Price 17/- plus postage.

BOOKS.

Our books are published by Pergamon Press and are available, 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 Janice Wrench, 11 Morpeth Mansions, Morpeth Terrace, S.W.1.

3.

The Chairman writes :-

The January News should be an easy one to introduce, one just says Happy New Year to all and then follow up with a few platitudes about old men with scythes and new babies in napkins. I'll spare you the platitudes, and the pseudo talk about building a new house on the old foundations etc, but would definitely like to wish you all a Happy New Year (even you over there who is fast asleep) and to recommend you all to come to CSH on January 4th.

We shall try to make this a grand New Year's Ball and I look forward to seeing a packed floor. We will not inflict the bagpipes on you, yes I know they are lovely but they do go on a bit don't they? I stood on a Scottish Thistle once and it bit me! and another time I said to a Scot "Edinburgh? yes I know it well, I spit in the river there" "You wouldna spit on me" he growled and remembering this I think I shall make no more cracks about the pipes.

Anyway do come on January 4th.

The Polish Groups jumble Sale was a great success funwise and financially a rewarding exercise all round. Speaking for myself I always hang my old clothes on the bedrail and put them on again in the morning but Betty's group, steeling themselves against such habits decided to sort over their gear and, if in doubt, to jumble it. The result was a little Portobello Road, an enjoyable afternoon, many satisfied customers and at the end, an attache case filled with the takings.

Your Friday class should find its feet next term. Its New Secretary, Ann Bartlett, will be reporting regularly and it is hoped that in time this class will be run entirely by its members and for its members.

Rather interestingly someone on the Committee commented that the Friday class had got itself a pretty large sub-committee and wondered what so many could find to do. In the next quarter of an hour however, so many suggestions were made for the Friday that one wonders if the sub committee is large enough. Ideas ranged from Specialist Teachers, club Nights and Socials to Film Shows, costume shows, Teachers classes MC's classes and so on.

In regard to the Master Course at Keele the most heartening thing is not that the bookings are coming in quite quickly but that they often accompanied by a kind letter of appreciation. More news about Keele in February.

I was disappointed that the Spanish/Basque class which we tried to inaugurate in September last was closed for lack of numbers and am glad to tell you that, like Robert Bruce, we are going to try once more to get this very valuable class established. I would like to ask all who are interested to please enrol during the first two weeks otherwise the GLC will once again use its axe.

You all know about Llangollen but do you know that every year there is a most interesting Dance Festival held during August at Billingham on Tees? Last year the visiting teams were from:-

The Canaries, Denmark, Italy, Poland, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, Yugoslavia, England, Ireland and Scotland. Billingham becomes an International Dancing Town for a whole week with groups dancing anywhere at the drop of a hat as well as in the two official halls where different programmes are shown simultaneously every afternoon and evening.

The Billingham Festival Committee is now considering the feasibility of organising a Teaching Course during its 1970 Festival at which every visiting group will teach one or more of its dances. They have invited me to be the Director of this Course and I am very tempted to accept. If I do I will give further information in the February News and since the numbers admitted to the Course will be limited, I will try to get a priority for SIFD members.

First, however, I must meet the Festival Committee to learn what are its wishes and ideas as to how it wishes the Course to be developed.

I will advise you immediately I hear.

Purificacions Course in San Sebastian next Summer has not met with a great deal of support. I will write to Puri this week to advise her of this and to tell her that we have approximately 20 interested bodies. We have only four firm bookings. This may mean the cancellation of the Course since I feel that Puri was relying on our support before inaugurating it. Nevertheless, if she writes to say she is proceeding with the Course I will advise you at once.

I must close on a sad note advising you that one of our oldest friends, Mrs. Mattson, is ill in Ealing Hospital. To me it seems such a little while ago that she was dancing with us in our Albert Hall Festivals. She came regularly to the CSH dances with her husband Nils, an original Folk Dancer from Sweden whose advice was always invaluable, and only stopped coming when they moved to Harrow. I am sure she would like a card from her old friends and I will, of course, convey your good wishes when I go to visit her.

Bert Price, Chairman.

FOLK HOLIDAY IN ISRAEL.

Academy Travel Ltd. are organizing a holiday in Israel for folk dance enthusiasts, including lectures and instruction on Israeli dances and songs. It is a 15-day tour covering various places of interest, as well as Dance Studios and Dance Groups, kibbutzes (what is the plural of kibbutz ?) etc. Departure dates: April 2nd and October 25th. Cost: £172. Full details from Academy Travel Ltd., 10 Bloomsbury Way, W.C.1.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

The Committee Meeting held on Sunday, 7th December, 1969, was attended by H.J. Price (Chairman), H. Whitaker (Treasurer), D. Bryan (Secretary), M. Latham, J. Wrench, A. Bartlett, A. Dell, W. Green. J. Dear was unable to attend because he has broken his leg. He is now well on the mend. Ann, Angela and Will were welcomed on to the Committee.

Cash in Hand - £536.13.11. Membership 279.

Matters discussed.

Friday Class. Members of the Friday Class have formed a Committee:- Ann Bartlett, Secretary, George, Alex, Dennis, Gay and Victor Committee members. They are to work out a Friday programme and they would be glad of any suggestions that would help to make the class a success.

Cecil Sharp House Dances. The rental of the Hall has gone up from £10 to £12 and it was agreed that the entrance Fee should be raised from 4/- to 5/- for members and from 5/- to 6/6d for non members.

The Keele Course and the next Chatham Show were also talked about.

Allocation of jobs:-

Demonstration Secretary	Margery Latham
Membership Secretary	Roland Ninton
Publicity	Will Green, Johnnie Dear
Wordrake Organisation	Angela Dell, assisted by Margaret Ellis
Keele Committee	Bert Price, Harry Whitaker, Janice Wrench
Auditors	Dennis Wood
Appointments, M.C.'s	
Musicians	Wilf Horrocks
Books, Records	Janice Wrench
Social Secretary	Roland Ninton, assisted by Ann Bartlett

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As you know, the Polish Group held a Christmas Fare jumble sale on 22nd November, and this, thanks to everyone who helped, contributed, and patronized, was a great success. I think all the local people were pleased with their bargains. One rather large lady hanging on like grim death to her O.S.S.S. Skirt that she had acquired for one shilling seemed rather startled when Irene and George did their Spanish number "ere look at them!" and she did rather a weird wiggle in imitation (she wouldn't quite have made a Spanish dancer but a good comedienne as there was rather a lot to wiggle,) nevertheless she made her way to the stage and applauded along with the rest and asked for more. (But there were no more O.S.S.S. Skirts going.) Another couple of ladies said that it was the best sale they had ever been to, and all that lovely dancing too, all for 3d, you should have charged more said they.

One dear old gent with his little suitcase stayed all the afternoon. He asked on the White Elephant stall if they had a map of Paris. Perhaps he wanted to trace his memories on the map, anyway he put all his purchases into his little case and quietly sat reviewing the situation, or thinking of Gay Pari.

Happy New Year Everyone. See you at the New Year Ball.

Dorothy Bryan (Secretary).

81 Heol Llanishen Fach,
Rhiwbina, Cardiff,
CF 4 6LB

I was pleased to find Welsh among the many languages on the back page of the December S.I.F.D. News, but the Welsh greeting seems to be the only one with no New Year wishes. May I, then, take this opportunity to forgive the misprint of "Nadolic" for "Nadolig" and to wish all your readers "Blwyddyn Newydd Dda!"

JOHN RIGBY

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HARROW GREEN NEWS

We open 1970 in a very much better position than in recent years. The Swedish classes under Dr. Cyriax, have proved to be a shot in the arm both for her group "Linnea", and for us as attendance has been very satisfactory.

Our team has entered the Tower Hamlets Festival for the first time in many years, and we hope to present an interesting item.

Harrow Green will be holding a New Years Eve Social on Wednesday December 31st at Oxford House, Derbyshire Street, E.2., and we hope to see as many of our S.I.F.D. friends as possible.

PROGRAMME

December 31st	New Year's Eve Dance
January 7th	Swedish (in Room 1)
January 14th	English Rehearsal
January 21st	General Class :- Portuguese Gota, Verde Gio, Jota Aragonaise
January 28th	English Rehearsal

POLISH CHRISTMAS SALE

Much to our delight, and, we must admit, a certain amount of surprise, our combination of Jumble and Christmas Fair last month worked out most successfully. After paying our expenses and giving small donations both to Community Centre Oxford House, and to Harrow Green, we still earned just over £90 towards our costumes.

We have many people both inside and outside the S.I.F.D. to thank for all their help and co-operation. Large quantities of Jumble and gifts were given to us. In addition we received a great deal of help with one of our biggest problems - that of transporting the goods, as well as support on the day itself in both selling and buying, and with our short International Song and Dance Display.

The latter turned out to be one of our most happy memories of all as we weren't at all confident about how well it would be received. When we first opened our doors and were inundated by rather grim-faced bargain hunting ladies, we couldn't imagine them wanting to relax and watch dancing. However, after a while, re-inforced by many S.I.F.D. and other friends, and beguiled by the gift and other stalls, by cups of tea and gay

music, they watched the dancing and listened to the singing with evident pleasure and absorption. When I heard two of them remarking - "Well you can't complain of all this for value - they ought to have charged 6d entrance", I knew we were a success!

Among some other good moments for me, at any rate, were listening to some of the children debating over what to buy for Mum with their sixpenses, then seeing Roly (missing from his post on the door) flogging ladies underwear with great gusto! Yet another was that of asking Lily's Mother (who had been standing selling for several hours) if she would like a rest, and getting the reply, "Oh no thankyou - I'm enjoying myself"!

Thank you once more, everybody,

BETTY HARVEY

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DANCE ALPHABET

(Further extracts from "Dictionary of the Dance"
by W. G. Raffe)

DAGGER DANCE (Georgia, Caucasus)

A man's solo dance performed to the accompaniment of balalaika, or nowadays probably accordion. Wearing the dark blue tunic and fur cap of the Caucasus, and holding the dagger between his teeth, the man dances round in a circle, arms crossed over chest. The tempo and intensity of the dance gradually increase, until, with arms still crossed, the dancer jerks his head, flinging the dagger through the air until it sticks quivering in the ground. The dance is then continued in reverse, the performer plucking up the dagger and resuming the dance.

DIABALADA BOLIVIANA (Bolivia, South America)

Traditional Spanish-American dance and "Morality Play" done in dance-mime before Ash Wednesday, at the mining town of Oruro, principally by local citizens. The main form is a processional dance with "devil marches". The way is "cleared" by a condor dancer and bear dancer; Lucifer and Satan lead, elaborately attired. There follows a "devil-dance" (based on the forgotten figures of the tango), after which comes the play. The allegorical legend shows Lucifer against Michael; the Seven Vices and the Seven Virtues; together with a local Indian Goddess, here turned into the "devil's wife", with the name of Chine Supaye. The dramatic form is a simple contest, obviously devised by some eager padre among the first invaders. Great delight is taken in the evolutions of the Diabalada groups of devils, attired in great masks and costumes bright with glittering glass. The masks closely resemble those to be seen in Tibetan monastery dances, but the dancers here wear white tights instead of long red robes, while Lucifer and Satan vaguely recall the Spanish toreador dress, with its heavy red plush cloak, and a trident instead of banderillas. Youths of the town, unable to afford carnival gaiety, disguise themselves in hoods as "pepinos" (clowns), singing and making quips. They are the last traces of the once-dreaded Familiars of the Holy Inquisition. As well as at Oruro, 12,000 feet up on the Andes range, there are similar dance-plays at La Paz, as a Cemetery Carnival where the Butchers' Guild play the parts of "devils". This carnival dates only from 1578, when the town was first settled by Spanish invaders.

"SEE HOW THEY DANCE"

8.

at

Chatham Town Hall, Kent,

on

Saturday, 24th January 1970

at 2.30 p.m. and 7.30 p.m.

The 2.30 performance is a special schools' matinee. Admission for children - 2/6d; for accompanying adults - 5/-d.

Tickets for the evening performance are from 5/- to 15/-, obtainable at the door or from Mrs. Pearl Pascoe, 58 Blenheim Avenue, Chatham, Kent.

If there are enough people in any one area, or in adjacent areas, to form a party, and you would like a coach to pick you up and take you to Chatham to see the Show, and bring you back, it may be possible to arrange such a coach to call at specified pick-up points. Would any members interested in such an arrangement, please notify Margery Latham as soon as possible, so that we may order a coach.

INTERNATIONAL FOLK COURSE, SAN SEBASTIAN

This course has had to be cancelled owing to lack of support. Unfortunately there were only four firm bookings.

SPANISH REGIONAL AND BASQUE DANCING - Teacher: Sandra Escudero

We are making another attempt to start a class in Spanish Regional and Basque dancing. This is an area that is not covered by any other specialist class in the Society and the dances are very enjoyable. We did try to start a class at the beginning of the term but had to close after two weeks as we did not reach our target of sixteen members. We have decided to give this class another chance and hope very much that you will give it your support. The class will be held at Christopher Hatton School, on Monday evenings, from 8 to 10 p.m. It is essential to have in advance a list of names of people interested in attending and as we hope to start the class after Christmas, at the start of the new term, would all members wishing to attend, please let Margery Latham have their names as soon as possible.

S.I.F.D. CLASSES - 1970

Winter Term commences 6th January 1970

Fees for one year's classes (three terms):-

42/6d for 1 class per week,
57/6d for 3 classes per week,47/6d for 2 classes per week,
67/6d for 4 or more classes per week.

The classes are as follows:-

MONDAY

		<u>Institute</u>	<u>Tutor</u>
6.00 to 8.00	International Advanced	Christopher Hatton School	Margery Latham
7.00 to 8.00	Polish Beginners	"	Betty Harvey
8.00 to 10.00	Polish General	"	Betty Harvey
8.00 to 10.00	Hungarian	Chelsea School, Chelsea	Alan McLean

TUESDAY

6.30 to 8.30	Yugoslav, Beginners & Inter.	Hugh Myddelton School	Ken Ward
8.30 to 9.30	Yugoslav, Advanced	"	Ken Ward
7.30 to 9.30	European National	Greenwich Institute	Bert Price

WEDNESDAY

7.00 to 9.00	International Beginners & Intermediate	Hugh Myddelton School	Margery Latham
7.30 to 9.30	European National	Sydenham & Forest Hill	Bert Price

THURSDAY

6.30 to 8.30	Flamenco Beginners	Christopher Hatton School	Felisa Victoria
8.30 to 9.30	Flamenco	"	Felisa Victoria
7.00 to 9.00	Flamenco	Kensington Institute	Sandra Escudero
9.00 to 10.00	Spanish	"	Sandra Escudero

FRIDAY

6.00 to 9.00	Hungarian	Millbank School	Alan McLean
7.30 to 9.30	Club Night	Y. W. C. A.	

Club Night will comprise social dances, guest instructors, rehearsals for shows and training for teachers and M.C.'s. Every member should enrol for this night. New dances will be taught and we hope to get a real club atmosphere. Even if you don't join any other class - join this one. Refreshments available on the premises.

CHRISTOPHER HATTON SCHOOL, Laystall Street, Rosebery Avenue, E.C.1. HUGH MYDDELTON SCHOOL, Corporation Row, Clerkenwell Green, E.C.1. CHELSEA SCHOOL, Glebe Place, off Kings Road, Chelsea. KENSINGTON INSTITUTE, 97 Lancaster Road, W.11. GREENWICH INSTITUTE, Charlton Manor School, Hornfair Road, S.E.7. SYDENHAM & FOREST HILL INSTITUTE, Dalmain Branch, Brockley Rise, S.E.23. MILLBANK SCHOOL, Erasmus Street, (Off Vauxhall Bridge Road), S.W.1. Y.W.C.A., Great Russell Street, W.C.1.

HARROW GREEN FOLK DANCE GROUP meet at Oxford House, Derbyshire Street, E.2., every Wednesday at 7.30 p.m. Swedish evenings, with "Linnea" Group held regularly each month, usually on the first Wednesday in the month. Members and visitors always welcome. This month's programme is on P.6.

WOODVALE INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP meet at the Church Hall, Quarry Hill, Borough Green (near Maidstone) every Tuesday from 7.30 to 10 p.m. New members welcome, no age limit. Under 18's - 1/6d; over 18's - 2/6d. Refreshments included.

HAVERING INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meet at Crowlands Youth Centre, Romford, on Thursdays, from 8 to 10 p.m. They are holding an -

INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE

at

Congregational Church Hall,
Crown Street, Brentwood, Essex,

on

28th February 1970

7.30 - 11 p.m.

Admission 5/- including refreshments.

The INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE SOCIETY OF SUSSEX meet every Thursday evening during University term times, from 7.30 to 10.00 p.m. Meetings are held at the University of Sussex, Falmer (on the Brighton-Lewes road) in the Old Refectory, Falmer House. We teach a mixture of dances, mainly from European countries. Because of the transitory nature of the mainly student membership, the group is quite small, and always will be so, but is very keen. Admission is 1/- per meeting. We would be very pleased to welcome any S.I.F.D. members who happen to find themselves near at hand on a Thursday evening.

KENSINGTON SLAVONIC GROUP meet at Fox School, Kensington Place, Notting Hill Gate, W.8., from 7 to 10 p.m., every Wednesday and Thursday evening and would be very pleased to welcome new members. The Group perform Czechoslovakian dances and are taught by Mrs. Hedda Jolly-Klingerova.

Notice to Affiliated Groups

We need your support, and we should like an opportunity to get together. How about organizing a party from your group and hiring a coach to visit us at our New Year's Folk Ball at Cecil Sharp House on Sunday, 4th January - our first Dance in 1970?

Notice to All Members

The Committee very much regrets that the entrance fees for Cecil Sharp House Dances have had to be increased owing to higher rent charges. As from January 4th entrance fees will be as follows: Members increased from 4/- to 5/-; Non-members increased from 5/- to 6/6d.

PROGRAMME FOR SOCIAL DANCES

			<u>Musicians</u>	<u>M.C.</u>
Sunday	4th January	Cecil Sharp House	New Year Folk Ball	Bert Price
	18th January	Dance Centre	Wilf Horrocks	Ian Willson
	1st February	Cecil Sharp House	C. S. H. Band	Lily Southgate

Time: 7.00 to 10.00 p.m.

Admission: Dance Centre: 4/- for members, 5/- for non-members.
 Cecil Sharp House: 5/- for members, 6/6 for non-members.

Cecil Sharp House: No.2 Regents Park Road, N.W.1. (Nearest Underground: Camden Town)
 Dance Centre: No.12 Floral Street, W.C.2. (Nearest Underground: Leicester Square)

WHAT'S ON

- January 2nd Madrid Flamenco - El Sali & His Flamenco Company. Fairfield Hall, Croydon, 7.45 p.m. Tickets from 10/- to 25/-.
- January 2nd/4th Uplands Weekend
- January 4th S.I.F.D. NEW YEAR FOLK BALL. CECIL SHARP HOUSE
- January 9th Lily Southgate will be teaching Balkan dances at Y.W.C.A. (See page 8)
- January 24th SEE HOW THEY DANCE, Chatham Town Hall (See page 8)
- January 28th Israeli Song & Dance Company. Fairfield Hall, 7.45 p.m. Tickets from 8/- to 17/-.

B.B.C. London
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FOLK MUSIC ON RADIO

Readers may like to know that each Friday evening at about 4.50 p.m. Radio 3 have been broadcasting folk music from different parts of the world, and so far the programmes have been well worth listening to. Please check the time of the broadcast each week as this is subject to alteration.

ERRATUM

Earlier in this issue we have stated that Margaret Ellis is the 'Woodrake Organiser'. We apologise for this error as Margaret is, of course, the WARDROBE ORGANISER.

We refer to the Editor's repeated request on Page 2 for material to reach her by the 15th of the month preceding publication. We hope contributors will pay particular attention to this request as articles, news items, etc., which arrive after the 15th cause the Editor and her staff a lot of extra work and could also be liable to omission if sufficient space is not available in the layout. Please, therefore, let LILY SOUTHGATE have your material by the 15th January for the next issue. THANK YOU.