

FEBRUARY 1970



S·I·F·D NEWS



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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 John Rigby. The circular motif is copied from a Transylvanian cross-stitch embroidery dated 1897.

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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.
LAEburnum 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, London, 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 each.

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.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

The Committee Meeting held on the 8th January was attended by all members except Johnnie Dear.

Cash in Hand: £566. 2. Od.

Membership: 279

Matters Discussed

We have had to give up our room at Elia Street. The Roneo has been moved to Oxford House, Bethnal Green, and the costumes as follows: those most in use to be housed at Christopher Hatton School; any others, together with various items of stock etc., to be housed in the room offered to us by the Public Relations Company in Dorset Square.

Publicity

This was discussed in great length, and is now in the hands of Will Green, assisted by Johnnie Dear. It is an extremely difficult job but Will has some good ideas which we hope will improve our publicity.

Keele Spring Course and Chatham Show.

Leaflets have been sent to Education Authorities and Schools giving information about the Keele Spring Course, and the sub-Committee are dealing with all enquiries and arrangements. Harry Whitaker is to go to Chatham to see that all the arrangements for the Show are going ahead.

Spanish Regional/Basque Class.

The Committee agreed to subsidize this class in an effort to get it going, as there aren't enough members to form a G.L.C. class.

Reference Book.

Gaye Saunte is to be asked to compile a music and dance book of all the dances in our repertoire.

Cecil Sharp House Dances.

Ann Bartlett has been put in charge of arranging demonstration items at Cecil Sharp House dances.

Diary of Events.

Johnnie Dear is to continue to be responsible for keeping this record.

I received a Christmas card from Richard Wheeler. I don't know how many of you can remember the tall American (Surrey Crest goers and the Balkan class will). He sends his kindest regards to all, and wishes you all good dancing for 1970.

By the time you read this, the Chatham Show will be over. I hope it was a great success.

DOROTHY BRYAN (Hon. Sec.)

PROGRAMME FOR OUR FRIDAY CLUB NIGHT AT THE Y.W.C.A.7.30 to 9.30 p.m.

February 6th Israeli Dances, taught by Gaye Saunte
 13th Social Evening
 20th Bulgarian Dances (advanced), taught by Lily Southgate
 27th " " " " " " " "

The evening of Balkan dances on the 9th January went off very well, but I kept the programme fairly simple to allow for people who were not familiar with Balkan dancing. In February, although I do not wish in any way to discourage beginners, I should like to cater for members who have already done some Balkan dancing and would like something a little more difficult. I have therefore labelled the class "Advanced". I hope to see all you Bulgar-philes there. (Please bring a belt).

LILY SOUTHGATE

MAZOWSZE

Those of us who were eagerly awaiting the proposed visit of the Polish State Dance Company, Mazowsze, to this country last November were, of course, disappointed as it was cancelled.

However, I have just had a letter from one of their leading dancers telling me they hope to be here in February of this year, though they still don't know exactly when. So once more our fingers are crossed!

BETTY HARVEY

DIARY OF EVENTS

The Committee would like to remind readers that Johnnie Dear has been asked by them to keep a Diary of Events. If you know of any folkdance event taking place, would you please let Johnnie know (address: 558 New North Road, Hainault, Ilford, Essex.) Equally, if you wish to know about any event, please contact him.

SPANISH REGIONAL & BASQUE CLASS

This class recommenced on Monday, the 5th January, at 8 p.m. at Christopher Hatton School, and to help it get on its feet the Committee have agreed to subsidise the class, but we do need the support of as many people as possible if it is to continue. We can never hope to increase our repertoire and keep the Society alive if we do not support new classes, so if you are free on Mondays do please come along and give it a try. If we do not get a reasonable attendance within the next few weeks, we shall have no alternative but to close the class completely.

5.

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

First Spring School at University of Keele, Staffordshire

Monday, 23rd March to Thursday, 27th March

Full details were sent to members with a previous issue of SIFD NEWS, but we would remind you that closing date for registration is 23rd February.

Teachers: Katarina Tribe (Hungarian); Sandra Escudero (Spanish Regional); Ken Ward (Balkan); Bert Price (European).

Programme: Two teaching sessions per day (with a choice of two classes arranged simultaneously) 9.30 - 12.30 and 3.30 to 6.30. Social Folk Dance 8.30 - 10.30. Course begins 11.15 a.m. on Monday and closes at lunchtime on Thursday.

Accommodation and Fees: Comfortable single rooms in one of the University Halls. Inclusive fees for residents - £12; for non-residents - £3. Residents' fees include accommodation, breakfast, lunch, dinner, and tuition, from tea/biscuits on Monday, 23rd March until breakfast on Thursday, 26th March. Residents arriving on Sunday evening (22nd March) can be accommodated at an extra charge of 35/- per head for room and breakfast.

Enrolment: Forms will be sent on application to the Enrolment Secretary:- Miss Janice Wrench, 11 Morpeth Mansions, London, S.W.1.

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FAUX PAS-DE-DEUX !



FOLK DANCE COURSE IN FIESCH

Ever since October, when I returned from a folk dance course in Switzerland, I have been meaning to write to SIFD NEWS about it. Now at last I am inspired to get down to it by the arrival of the Swiss Folk Costume Society magazine with its many beautiful photographs of the Course, which was kindly sent to me by Mr. Karl Klenk. It was he, I discovered, who first sent the notice about the Course which appeared in SIFD NEWS back in the summer.

The Course was held in an interestingly planned modern holiday centre just outside Fiesch in the magnificent Goms valley of Southern Switzerland. Most of the 300 or so participants arrived in specially reserved compartments of the local mountain train, so one began to feel the atmosphere of the Course even before reaching the centre. We were given a hearty welcome outside on one of the broad terraces by the organisers of the Course. After an excellent meal in the restaurant - the first of many - the instructors and musicians were called to the stage and introduced to the assembled company - as were then, to my amazement and consternation, the foreign participants! There were five of us, the others coming from Austria, Belgium, and Liechtenstein. The evening was spent dancing, but first we were asked to fill in a form indicating which dances we knew or would like to learn and whether we wished to sing in the choir or play in the Course Orchestra in the afternoons etc. According to our answers, we were divided for purposes of the Course into five groups, ranging from beginners to group leaders. The next morning, lists of the groups were posted up, and you were lucky if you could get near the noticeboard!

Each day we were woken at 7 a.m. by gentle folkdance music over a loudspeaker - a great improvement on much ruder awakenings I have experienced on other courses, if a little on the early side for my lazy English taste. Before breakfast, a small group of musicians would play chamber music in the restaurant and afterwards we sang rounds while digesting our bread and coffee. Two classes followed for the rest of the morning. After lunch was choir and orchestra practice - an hour each - though one afternoon was kept completely free and we went in relays by cable car to the top of the Eggishorn, where there was an unforgettable view of the Jungfrau, Monch and Eiger, and also of the Aletsch glacier. Normal afternoons ended with one more class.

A word about the classes; the groups were given a certain amount of choice as to which dances they would like to learn, and we were several times given the option of attending a Contra dance class. These were slow, dignified dances, in many ways reminiscent of Playford in mood. After trying this class once, I found I preferred the normal class where the dances seemed more typically Swiss. One particular interesting class was taken by the organizer of the Course. We were encouraged to try out various polka and waltz figures to different tunes, and then discussed which fitted best. There was ample opportunity to test one's inventiveness still further in the evening sessions, when the floor was so crowded that there was no room for set dances.

There were various evening programmes arranged, though they always ended with dancing, which was only right and proper. We heard a lecture, illustrated with tape recordings, on folk music from the different cantons of Switzerland and another day saw old films from the early days of Swiss folk dancing. It was

7.

interesting to learn how the music had been collected and the dances built up, since in many cases the traditional steps had been lost. Many dances, incidentally, are being written at the present time. A number of these were in the Course syllabus and were lively and much appreciated.

An official evening was organized, to which local dignitaries were invited and local folk artistes performed, among them an incredible hand-bell player, and two flag-throwers who found the ceiling rather low for their purposes! Also, each group on the Course demonstrated a dance it had learned. The final evening also saw performances of various sorts but was less formal and, in places, very funny. From each group there was once more a dance and also a sketch. One of these was a skit on the exaggeratedly large dance movements made by the ladies of the Society some thirty years ago, which we had seen on film.

It was apparently the first time that a folk dance Course of such a size had been organized in Switzerland. The idea was that everyone who wanted to should be able to come - members and non-members, beginners and experienced dancers. In some cases, whole families came and the children were taken care of during the classes. They also learned some dances which they performed with great solemnity on the final evening.

I learned a great deal about Swiss folkdancing and music during that week in October - this of course was the original object of the exercise. However, there was far more to it than that. For me it was a unique opportunity to meet people from different parts of the country, with their different traditions, languages and outlooks, and I believe I thus gained in a week more insight into the country as a whole than in a month holidaying in a more conventional way. I met with incredible kindness all round and particularly from the organizers and instructors in spite of their mammoth task.

The night I returned from Switzerland I could not sleep for the Swiss folk tunes racing round my head. Most of them have, unfortunately, now departed - though for that I can now sleep again. There remain, however, very many happy memories of the Fiesch Course.

JILL WELFARE

EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP is a small but active club. They meet every Monday in St. Columbus by the Castle Church Hall, Johnston Terrace, Edinburgh, from 7.30 to 10 p.m. and rarely miss a Monday from October to May. Visitors are always welcome and, of course, especially folk dancers. The club has a membership of about 40 and a weekly attendance of 20 to 25. Anyone going North would be most welcome, either going straight to the Monday meeting or contacting Dennis Belford, 10 West Preston Street, Edinburgh EH8 9PX (Telephone: 031 667 1626).

HALSWAY MANOR WEEKEND - 15th - 17th May 1970

Our next weekend at Halsway Manor will follow a similar pattern to previous ones, with dance sessions in the evenings, some instruction, walks on the Quantock Hills and sightseeing in the lovely countryside.

The Manor, run as a Folk Centre by the E.F.D.S.S., is a very pleasant and comfortable place to stay. Accommodation is in rooms for two to five people, with hot and cold water in each. There are modern bathrooms and spacious facilities for all our activities.

Members with families will find this week-end especially attractive as children are welcomed and charges are reduced for those under 11 years.

The cost for the two days from Friday dinner to Sunday tea will be £3. 8. 6. The charge for children from 2 to 5 years and 5 to 10 years will be one third and two thirds respectively of the above costs. A deposit of £1 per head is required.

Dinner will be served between 8.00 and 9.00 p.m. A meal will be provided for people arriving later including those coming by the train given below.

Accommodation is available at Halsway during the weeks preceding and following our weekend, and visitors may stay extra days at a cost of £1.12.6 per day.

Travel: The cheap weekend return rail fare on the train given below is £3.0.0d.

	<u>Friday</u>		<u>Sunday</u>
Paddington	18.30	Halsway	17.30
Taunton	20.24		} bus
Taunton	21.05	Taunton	
Stogumber	21.21	Taunton	18.23
		Paddington	20.55

Stogumber Station is 1½ miles from Halsway and the train will be met.

The National Grid Reference for Halsway is 126383. The Manor lies to the right of the Taunton-Williton road (A358) and the turning is ¼ mile past the last turning to Crowcombe. If approaching from Bridgewater, Crowcombe may be reached by leaving the A39 at Nether Stowey and driving over the Quantocks: there are steep hills at each end. London is 156 miles away. The address is Halsway Manor, Crowcombe, Taunton, Somerset. "Please enclose S.A.E. if immediate acknowledgement is required".

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BOOKING FORM. Bookings should be made by the end of February
TO: Michael Clark, 14 Weldon Close, Church Crookham, ALDERSHOT, Hants.

Please reserve places at Halsway Manor for 15th-17th May, 1970 for

Adults..... Children 2 to 5 Children 5 to 10

I enclose a cheque/P.O. crossed payable to Halsway Manor Society for £..... being £1 deposit for each person booked. I would like to stay for the following extra days (give approximate time of arrival). I shall arrive at Halsway before/after 9.00 p.m. Friday 15th May. NAME

ADDRESS

HOP ŽICA (Hohp zhee-tsah) - Croatian.

Those of you who have heard Henry Morris and the Dunav Ensemble will have heard the tune of Hop Žica and perhaps learned the words from Henry. Here is the dance that goes with it.

Formation: Closed circle, front basket hold.

Part I - Lilt.

- 1-2 Lilt forward on R foot, simultaneously swinging arms forward.
- 3-4 Lilt backward on L foot, simultaneously swinging arms back to place.
- 5-16 Repeat measures 1-4 three more times.

Part II - Drmeš

- 1 Drop onto R foot
- & Rise slightly on ball of R foot
- 2 Step on L foot
- & Step on R foot
- 3-4 Repeat movements of measures 1-2, using opposite footwork
- 5-16 Repeat measures 1-4 Part II three more times.

Part III - Twisting Drmeš

- 1 Drop onto R foot.
- & Rise slightly on ball of R foot
- 2 Twist R heel sharply to L and bring L heel lightly against R (Measures 1 & 2 happen almost simultaneously)
- & Step on L foot
- 3-16 Repeat movements of measure 1-2 Part III seven more times.

Part IV - Step-hops

Four small step-hops to centre and four back to place. (Starting RF)

Repeat entire dance twice more, but ending with Part III (twisting Drmeš) of third sequence.

The music for this dance is on record Mendocino 6901. 2/4 time.

Words: Oko moje plavo i garavo
 Dosta si mi dike izvaralo
 Hop žica, žica, žica
 Drma mi se kabanica.

Your enchanting eyes of blue
 Have teased me long enough
 Hop zhitsa, zhitsa, zhitsa
 Trembling is my sheepskin coat.

(With acknowledgement to VILTIS)

AFFILIATED GROUPS

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.

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.

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.

ED. NOTE: I should be very pleased to publish details of meeting places and special events of any of our affiliated Groups if they would care to let me have this information. Also, please let me know if there are any alterations to the information given for the various groups above.

DANCE ALPHABET

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

DODOLE (Serbia)

Rain ceremonies performed in time of drought. A group of girls, headed by the DODOLA, danced through the village, stopping at each house. The DODOLA was a girl, naked but completely covered from head to foot in grass, leaves and flowers. Continuously she danced and revolved, while each time the group stopped before a house, the housewife threw a pail of water over her, "in order to tempt the rain to fall". In Macedonia, boys instead of girls went the rounds, the principal one being a poor orphan called the DUDULE. Dalmatia had a further variant, in that the chief character was a young unmarried man, called PRAPTS, over whom water was similarly thrown while he danced, his companions, also young bachelors, being named PARPORUSHE. Similar customs were known in Greece, Rumania, and Bulgaria.

DUBOKA "DANCE FOR THE DEAD" (Yugoslavia)

Duboka is a village about fifty miles east of Belgrade on the River Danube. The Vlach inhabitants used to celebrate annually the solemn Dance for the Dead, lasting three days. It was noted for the fact that some of the women fell into a deep trance, in which they were said to communicate with dead relatives. The time of the year marked the event; not any long antecedent ritual. The Dance was an Exorcism Ceremony; and began round the prostrate body of an entranced woman, thus resembling closely (as does the whole ceremony), primitive church ritual, for which they ordained an Exorcist for treatment of the ENERGUMENOI. A HORA was danced, the chain led by a young man; two girls next danced, then a middle-aged woman, then the woman's husband. He and the leader carried a steel knife in their right hand; all the dancers wore bunches of magical flowers, including mandrake, wormwood, garlic and rosemary. After four rounds - men chanting their spell (Opsa Jaresa; Sinko data jaresa; Asa bolesa Daen gure hei; Aide bole hai) - anointing was done. A sprig of wormwood and a blade of garlic were chewed with a sip of water, and then spat over the entranced face. The woman's nervous reaction became acute; but subsided with the music. The dancing was mainly a ritual walk; straight or circular; in a 'right-left-right', or a 'left-right-left' triple step. The rite required placing the entranced one in a series of "stations"; the dance-walk recurred each time and the anointing was repeated. Deep trance might need five or six ministrations to end it, finally carrying the woman across water. The last act was drinking water that dropped from a steel knife, ending the exorcism. Other groups "danced for the dead" to fiddle music; with the same shuffling step. The rite started with the PNEUMA - the "cold wind" - which begins the trance state.

APOLOGY: My apologies to Angela Dell and Margaret Ellis for the errors in last month's issue concerning their duties with the Committee. Having noted, whilst running off the stencils on the Roneo, the earlier error on Page 5 and still having the back page to type, I thought I could rely on my memory to get the details for the ERRATUM on Page 11 correct. However, my memory let me down that time. Would readers please note the following correction:- WARDROBE ORGANISER - Angela Dell assisted by Margaret Ellis.

BARNEY SALMON

S.I.F.D. CLASSES - 1970

Spring Term - 5th January to 21st March.

Summer Term - 6th April to 27th June.

Fees for the Spring and Summer Terms:

For 1 class a week 30/- (or 15/- a term), For 2 classes a week 32/- (or 16/- a term),
For 3 classes a week 40/- (or 20/- a term), For 4 classes a week 46/- (or 23/- a term).

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	Spanish Regional & Basque	"	Sandra Escudero
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.

PROGRAMME FOR SOCIAL DANCES

			<u>Musicians</u>	<u>M.C.</u>
Sunday,	1st February	Cecil Sharp House	C.S.H. Band	Lily Southgate
	15th February	Dance Centre	Harry de Caux	John Driver
	1st March	Cecil Sharp House	C.S.H. Band	Roland Minton

Time: 7.00 to 10.00 p.m. Admission: 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)

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WHAT'S ON

- February 6th International folk dance section of Tower Hamlets Festival, at York Hall, Bethnal Green Road, E.2. Approximate starting time 6.30 p.m.
- 20th The E.F.D.S.S. Folk Festival '70, Royal Albert Hall, 7.30 p.m. Guest team from Trinidad. Tickets from 5/- to 22/6 from Cecil Sharp House.
- 21st Folk Festival '70 as on the 20th, but at 10.30 a.m., 2.30 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. Tickets from 3/6 to 15/-, from Cecil Sharp House.
- 28th International Folk Dance at Brentwood, run by Havering Group
(See page 10)
- February 1st "Balkan Workshop". First in a series arranged by Narendra Kotiyan. Folk music, group folk songs, elementary dances. Interested musicians are invited to take along their instruments. For details, telephone Naren at 01-624-3235.

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FOLK DANCE WEEKEND

A course of international and English folk dancing will be held at Ivinghoe Youth Hostel on 6th, 7th, 8th March 1970, with a Folk Dance on the Saturday evening. Teachers will be Peter Oakley and George Emerson. Cost of weekend, including food, accommodation, and the weekend course will be £3. 5. Od. Please send your application for booking to:- The Old Brewery House, Ivinghoe, Leighton Buzzard, Beds., as early as possible.

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REMINDER:

Have you sent off your booking application for Keele University Folk Dance Course? 23rd to 27th March inclusive. (See page 5)