

SIFD NEWS



July 1972

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This month's cover was donated anonymously.

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ALL MATERIAL FOR PUBLICATION MUST REACH THE EDITOR BY THE 15TH OF THE MONTH
PRECEDING PUBLICATION.

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SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

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BADGES

S.I.F.D. Badges for lapel, scooter and car, © 17¹/₂p. 37¹/₂p. and 62¹/₂p respectively, can be obtained from our Membership Secretary, Roland Minton.

RECORDS

Our records are available from Magnegraph Recording Co., Ltd., 1 Hanway Place, London W.1. Price 85p each plus postage, and also from Frances Horrocks, 112 Kingston Avenue, North Cheam, Sutton, Surrey.

BOOKS

Our books are published by Pergamon Press and are available, to order, through any bookseller, price 50p each, or from Frances Horrocks.

Discounts are obtainable on records and books purchased by members for their own use when purchased direct from the S.I.F.D. (i.e. from Frances Horrocks), but not when purchased from Magnegraph or booksellers.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

A Committee Meeting was held on 4th June and attended by all Committee Members except Angela Dell and Alan McLean.

Membership now stands at 327.

Matters discussed:

Demonstrations. Following our last Safari, we have been asked to give a demonstration at Meopham. Unfortunately, owing to short notice and shortage of musicians we shall probably not be able to accept. We have also been asked to team up with the Woodvale Group for a demonstration on 23rd September.

Children's Section. Judith Barkan is to teach Israeli dances to the children on 17th June. It was agreed that children who had attended five dances should receive a badge.

Publicity. We are proposing to advertize our activities in the Y.H.A. magazine, and also in "What's On In London" for a further three months.

Future Events.

Chelsea Town Hall has been booked for our next Reunion Dance on 7th October 1972. A sub-Committee of Margery Latham and Dorothy Bryan will be organizing this.

We have agreed to have a "Bodiam Picnic" instead of another Safari. This will be an afternoon and evening at Bodiam Castle, which is a delightful castle with a moat surround, in Kent. I was very impressed with the beauty of the castle and surrounding countryside. For those who wish to stay longer, Alex Harris has suggested a camping weekend there. The suggested date is 9th/10th September 1972. Is anyone interested in this camping weekend? Or the afternoon and evening? If so, could you please give your name to Roland Minton at any of the Sunday dances, or telephone me. We shall have to have names in good time so that we can book the coaches, which has to be done well in advance at this time of the year.

DOROTHY BRYAN, Hon. Sec.

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WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO TO HUNGARY?

I am making some preliminary enquiries about the possibility of arranging a visit to Hungary for a small party of folkdancers - perhaps Easter 1973? Perhaps a charter flight to Vienna and then down the Danube to Budapest by hydrofoil? If you might be interested, please let me know, with your ideas. I have already written to Magda Ossko.

Prof. J. Richardson
Dept. of Chemical Engineering,
University College,
SWANSEA, Glam.

Two more pages of our Bibliography of Folk Dance Instruction Books.

European
Continued

Folk Dances from Many Lands: Series I.
Physical Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. n.d.
12 dances. Music available in separate book.

Folk Dances from Many Lands: Series II.
Physical Assn. of Gt. Britain and N. Ireland. n.d.
7 dances. Music available in separate book.

Folk Dances from Many Lands: Series III.
Physical Assn. of Gt. Britain and N. Ireland. n.d.
7 dances. Music available in separate book.

Folk Dances from Many Lands: Series IV.
Physical Assn. of Gt. Britain and N. Ireland. n.d.
9 dances. Music available in separate book.

A Selection of European Folk Dances. Volume 1.
Society for International Folk Dancing. Pergamon. 1964.
19 dances. Music. Records.

A Selection of European Folk Dances. Volume 2.
Society for International Folk Dancing. Pergamon. 1964.
19 dances. Music. Records.

A Selection of European Folk Dances. Volume 3.
Society for International Folk Dancing. Pergamon. 1966.
16 dances. Music. Records.

A Selection of European Folk Dances. Volume 4.
Society for International Folk Dancing. Pergamon. 1971.
11 dances. Music. Records.

Dance Handbook.
Turner, M.J. Prentice Hall (USA). 1959,
20 folk dances (plus social, ballroom, tap, etc.). Records.

Folk Dancing in America.
Wakefield, E.E. Lowell Pratt (USA). 1966.
103 dances. Records.

FINLAND

45 Folkdanser. (In Swedish).
"Brage". Brages Förlag. (Finland). 1949
45 dances. Music.

Folk Dances of Finland.
Burchenal, E. Schirmer (USA). 1943.
65 dances. Music.

Dances of Finland.
Collan, A. and Y Heikel. Max Parrish. 1950
4 dances. Music.

5.

FRANCE

Dances of France III: The Pyrenees.
Alford, V. Max Parrish. 1952.
5 dances. Music.

Entrz Dans la Danse. (In French).
Arma, E. Henry Lemoine (France). 1947.
29 dances. Music.

Dancez La France. Tome I. (In French).
Decitre, M. Dumas (France). 1963.
80 dances. Music. Records.

Dancez La France. Tome II (In French).
Decitre, M. Dumas (France). 1960.
88 dances. Music. Records.

Dances of France I: Brittany and Bourbonnais.
Marcel-Dubois, C. and M.M. Andral. Max Parrish. 1950.
4 dances. Music.

Dances of France II: Provence and Alsace.
Tennevin, N. and M. Texier. Max Parrish. 1951.
4 dances. Music.

GERMANY

Folk-Dances of Germany.
Burchenal, E. Schirmer (USA). 1938.
29 dances. Music.

Dances of Germany.
Fyfe, A. Max Parrish. 1951.
4 dances. Music.

Die Tanzkette. (In German).
Helms-Blasche, A., O. Ilmbrecht and H. Dieckelmann. Hofmeister
84 dances. Music. (Germany). 1952.

Bunte TÄnze. 1. (In German).
Helms, A. and J. Blasche. Hofmeister (Germany). 1948,
21 dances. Music.

Bunte TÄnze. 2. Nieder-Deutsche VolkstÄnze. (In German).
Helms, A. and J. Blasche. Hofmeister (Germany). n.d.
29 dances (plus 5 non-German). Music.

*Bunte TÄnze. 3. PaartÄnze. (In German)
Helms, A. and J. Blasche. Hofmeister (Germany). n.d.
12 dances. Music.

Bunte TÄnze 4. Hahn im Korbe. (In German).
Helms A., and J. Blasche. Hofmeister (Germany). n.d.
7 dances. Music.

INTERFOLK IN THE ANTIPODES

Many members in the South, especially London and Guildford, will remember Heather Pratt who came into our circles several years ago, then vanished into the other half of the world. She was a good dancer and a popular partner. By "trade" she was a nurse or a nanny from time to time, and since leaving England she has earned her living in both ways. She has written to a number of S.I.F.D. members, especially to me, and her adventures have often been both romantic and interesting. From her last few letters and postcards I quote a few of the items she has written:

From Tasmania.

September 1971. (Spring in Downunder - daffodils adorn my room). Hello interfolk. I am receiving your newsletters with considerable consistency considering the vast oceans between us. My June newsletter is keeping me up with the news, Safaris, children's sessions, visiting teachers etc. There is much evidence of the penal colonies here in Tasmania, in the form of Port Arthur, convict-built homes and bridges.....many craftsmen among the convicts, some learning the crafts during termship.

I am now back in Van Diemensland, living in my favourite city, Hobart. Today I moved in with a mixed group of boarders, sharing my bedroom with an English girl (dairymaid from Hampshire). Although the house is very neglected it is very homely, and sitting round an open fire at night has great appeal.....even a chandelier....huge pine sideboard....the trees are blossoming (May blossom in October!) in the garden where we have a lovely view over the city and snowclad Mount Wellington.....several cats complete the household.

I am now near to the Royal Hobart Hospital where I am a wardmaid.....I have worn my dancing shoes again with the St. Andrews and Caledonian Society, S.C.D. style.....I have been walking with the bush walkers in very rugged country. I am trying to book my passage to New Zealand in November. Recently I enjoyed an enchanting evening being entertained by the Moscow Variety Group in one of Hobart's oldest theatres; very high standard; dances from the Bolshoi Ballet, Ukrainian, Georgian, and a well-groomed pop singer.

I have now moved into a new bedsitter. The owners of the house are Romanian, very nice and trusting. Lovely mountain views on a hike up through the deep, moist, mossy, fernclad, my-style forest...tall virgin gums, blue stringy bark, turpentine etc. Fond regards to you all, Bert, Gaye, Barry and all interfolk.

October 1971.

Bushwalking activities have taken me through a ghost mining town, trails over Mount Wellington, the Hobart backing now covered in wild flowers (Golden wattle, running red postman, etc., singing cuckoos, chattering green parrots, one sleepy huge lizard), boiling the billy for tea and gumleaf on the wood fire, sandwiches on the beach and water from a fresh mountain stream. Views over Tasman Island, lighthouse, settlement, and the Dolomite Cape Pillar, and the port with the remains of the penal settlement.

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I'm planning to hike round the island and walk through the Cradle Mountain area....sailing for New Zealand on 5th December, arrive Auckland on the 7th, but hope to be home in 1973 sometime. (Note: Home for Heather is Chichester).

November 1971.

Dear Will and interfolk, greetings from Ausyland. I'm now free to go overseas again - this time to those enchanting Polynesian Islands of New Zealand, but Tasmania holds a great enchantment for me.... in fact where I now sit I can see the skyline of Sydney City and Harbour Bridge, and the ferry boats shuffling to and fro across the harbour.

As to my dancing activities, my international dancing has been neglected but the Scottish Country Dancing is always popular here and particularly enjoyed in Hobart where teaching is of high standard. Over the weekend I enjoyed a South American and Spanish evening of singing, with a solo dancer and guitarist, and meeting Dutch, Jordanian, Arabian, Scots, English.. the regular Ausy interfolk...a very happy day. Please pass on my regards to interfolk and everyone.

2nd January 1972. Auckland, New Zealand.

Hallo Will and interfolk... wishing you much happy dancing in 1972. I saw the New Year in at the Nurses Home on the balcony overlooking the harbour; the ships hooted in 1972 with gusto, trying to outnoise each other against the tinkling of the Town Hall clock tower bells. The nurses celebrated, walking through the wards singing Christmas carols, holding tiny lamps all the way, all rather beautiful. I quickly secured a position as a Karitane Nurse. (Mothercraft).

8th March, same letter.

As you see, three months since I started this letter. Life is so different, time just melts away, and I have to make time to write to family and friends. Friends are not forgotten, though new ones come into my life all the time. Several covers of SIED NEWS adorn my bedroom wall and can be seen each time on entering. During my three months here at Auckland hospital I have been working on the children's ward. I have been very happy, often having been invited to friends' homes.

I leave Auckland Hospital on Saturday to commence a tour of the North Island, seeing the thermal area, National Parks, up to Cape Raingo, South to the volcanic regions of Mt. Egmont, Ruapehu, Ngauruhoe, all steeped in Maori mythology, and the settlements....then?? Some patients and nurses and wardmaids are from Tonga, also some girls from Samoa, U.S.A., Holland. Because of my night duties I have done some square dancing; dancing by candlelight was really ideal, in the folk style of yesterday.

3rd April 1972.

How are all those interfolk? I'm fine and well. In fact just completed the first stage of a tour of North Island, including a ferry

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to Waiheke Island out in the Hauraki Gulf, camping out on one of the isle's wild beaches, and in the sheep-shearer's sheds (very comfortable). Had an opportunity to visit an all-Maori village, hearing all the Maori legends, riding along a 90-mile beach, beautiful miles of surf and dunes, and bird life. Spent two glorious days with a friend hiking the trails, into virgin forests, passing waterfalls, swimming in the waterholes, with gorges, rivers beneath the niku kauri groves, fern trees, and toetoe grasses - all to myself.

My camera is constantly clicking...

Warm regards to interfolk and best wishes to Gaye, Barry, Bert....

The above extracts from letters and postcards from Heather are only a tiny part of her amazingly interesting story about her two and a half years in Australia and New Zealand. She sent many maps and calendars, photographs, press cuttings, magazine pages. She did about ten thousand miles travelling in and around the entire continent of Australia. Her descriptions of the flora and landscape were as good as any travel book; her maps were marked with her journeys in and out of the desert lands and the cities. Her latest date for returning is about Christmas 1972.

WILL GREEN

Greece in Music and Song
Stereo ARGO ZFB 70

This record is worth recommending to those who may not know it. The recordings do not represent the whole of Greece. They are based on a collection made back in 1962 and come from the northern and central mountains south of the Albanian border.

There are some very moving tracks from a gypsy ensemble featuring a virtuoso sliding-clarino player. The couple of Bouzouki pieces are examples of how the instrument was played before it became the principal sound in Greek cabaret acts. The selection of songs is appealing, and the secret recording of three widows keening is really soul rending.

The cover design is illustrated with two karamusa players, but there is only one track devoted to them. The karamusa is a small version of the zurla and has a reedy tone. The Greek melody chosen here seems quite different from the Macedonian and Turkish tunes for the zurla (or zurna). It is fragmented and you do not get the continuous blowing that is the fascination of the instrument. It is accompanied by the tupan (drum).

The record is excellent and costs £1.50.

David Swanton,
SIED Yugoslav class.

EXTRA CLASSES

Two of our regular classes will be continuing after the official end of term:-

Margery Latham's INTERNATIONAL CLASS (both the Monday and the Wednesday people) will continue to meet throughout July, but at BOLT COURT, 6.30 to 9.30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings. Everybody welcome.

During July, Len and Beryl Sawyer will be visiting this country, and Margery has invited them to come along to Bolt Court on the 12th July. This will be an opportunity for Len and Beryl to get together with their old friends for an enjoyable evening's dancing, or for new people to make their acquaintance with Len and Beryl, so make a note of the date.

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The POLISH class have two further Monday evenings booked after the official end of term. These will be from 6.30 to 9.30 p.m. on JULY 3rd AND 10th at Christopher Hatton School. Betty Harvey writes: During these two evenings we hope to try out any new dances I may be lucky enough to acquire whilst in Poland the previous weeks. We also aim to have a 'get together' about plans for next year, and I hope some relaxed general dancing as opposed to our usual hard work! Anybody interested outside the class will be very welcome on these evenings. If they would like any further information, telephone me at 01-980 9650 (evenings) after 26th June.

AFFILIATED GROUPS

BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP now meet every Thursday evening in the Church Hall of St. Mary Magdalen, Hazelwell, at 7 p.m. Secretary; Miss Christine Butler, 76 Headingley Road, Handsworth, Birmingham B21 9QD.

KENSINGTON SLAVONIC GROUP meet every Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 7 to 10 p.m. On Wednesday they meet at Fox School, Kensington Place, Notting Hill Gate, London W.8., and on Thursdays at Isaac Newton School, Lancaster Road, W.11. (50 yards from Ladbroke Grove Underground). They learn and perform dances from Czechoslovakia and are taught by Mrs. Hedda Jolly-Klingerova, 69b Grange Road, London W5 5BU. Everyone welcome.

HARROW GREEN FOLK DANCE GROUP. Details from George Sweetland, 28 Hayes Court, Camberwell New Road, London S.E.5.

GUILDFORD INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS meet on the first Thursday in each month from 8 to 10 p.m. at St. Nicolas Hall, Millnead Terrace, Guildford, Surrey. Secretary: John Driver, Kilndown, 11 Mary Vale, Godalming, Surrey. Tel: Godalming 6259 (Home), Wormley 2122 (Work). Any offers in the way of local musicians and/or M.C.s would be welcome.

MANCHESTER - BARLOW INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Tuesday evening during normal school terms. Regular Saturday dances and other activities are run. Full details from Alan Williams, 19 Ellesmere Road, Chorlton, Manchester M21 1SG Telephone: 061-881 7744.

The Galicnik Wedding Rituals.

Galicnik is situated high in the Bistra mountains of Macedonia close to the border between Yugoslavia and Albania. It is a large stone-built village, and until recently preserved a very elaborate wedding ritual, one of the most complete in Yugoslavia. Its former inhabitants still return on the 12th of July to celebrate, and there are couples who still return to get married. In the years before the Second World War the men were 'pece bari', that is men who were obliged by economics to seek work abroad. The men from Galicnik were accomplished stone masons, and their work is to be found as far afield as the Paris Opera House and the Empire State Building. When sufficient money had been saved they would return and the custom of the mass weddings developed, during which twenty or more couples were married.

The festivities lasted a week, each wedding having its own procession which moved about the steep winding paths in the village. The bride-to-be, on the eve of her wedding, went in procession at night to draw water for her parents for the last time. At one time she took a mouthful of water at each well and held it in her mouth until reaching the next when she spat it out. This was a purification ceremony and was accompanied by flaming torches.

On the morning of his marriage the bridegroom, early in the morning, went to the cemetery with his mother and female relatives and musicians, to invite the departed relations to his wedding and to ask forgiveness for marrying without their blessing. On his return he underwent a ritual shaving performed by one of his friends. The custom, whereby the bridegroom's wedding party was composed mainly of relatives on his mother's side and where traces of matriarchy are found in the wedding dances, symbolise old matrilinear marriage customs.. It is known that the Mijaci tribe were matriarchial in structure.

For every part of the celebration - the bride's preparation to welcome the guests, the bridegroom's departure from his home, his return with the bride, her step over the threshold of her new home, her meeting with the bridegroom's family - there were traditional songs and dances and ceremonies with symbolic meanings. While certain rituals took place outside the house in which the bridegroom had an important role, the bride stayed inside, hidden, watching him through her engagement ring saying - "When I look through the ring, your heart is to enter". Guests joined in various dances, Lesnoto, Teskoto, Svekrivno Oro (the mother-in-law's dance.) The women's dances were reserved, and the order in which the women took their places in the circle was determined by length of marriage and not age. In the Svekrivno Oro the bridegroom's mother led the dance balancing a flour sieve on her head, and some bread, and in her hand she held a pitcher of water. A pistol was tucked into her belt. The bridegroom danced next to her and eventually took her place.

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The wedding ceremony was quite complex, and had one curious feature - at one point the brides and bridegrooms and the guests knocked their heads together. On the first night the couples did not sleep together but played a complex game of hide and seek. On the second day there was a celebration with singing and dancing - one of the songs sung by a bride was

"The eagle flies up high with me,
 Holds me fast in his lap,
 Wide and high as sorrow reaches,
 The sorrow of love.

The marriage was consummated on the second evening but before they retired to bed each took an apple which had been placed in the bride's wedding chest. The apples were halved, a half exchanged and eaten. The apple is connected with many wedding customs in Yugoslavia, and in Galicnik there was a taboo on eating them for a period before St. Peter's Day, the day on which the wedding ceremonies took place. The bride's headdress was decorated with sprigs from an apple tree, and often brides would hang their chemise on an apple tree so that they would be as fruitful as the tree.

This isolated village is now almost completely abandoned; life is too hard for the support of a modern standard of living. I shall never forget my first glimpse of it over ten years ago when after a long climb up the caravan track I turned a corner and saw it high up in the mountains gleaming white in the sunshine. The view from it across the mountain peaks towards Albania was magical in the sunset. One had the feeling that the atmosphere both attracted and repelled, I wanted to stay, but the desolation of the place in its half deserted state drove me away after a few days. Perhaps I was sad at its ultimate fate.

Ken Ward,
 Tuesday Yugoslav Class.

Acknowledgements to "Peasant Life in Yugoslavia" by Olive Lodge.

HARROW GREEN'S VISIT TO FRANCE

Avid readers of the NEWS may remember that a couple of years ago Harrow Green went to Blandecq in Northern France to show English dances to a French folk-dance group led by Jean-Francois Guyo, who is a friend of Alex Harris. Subsequently, Jean-Francois brought his group over here, and some of you may remember meeting them at Surrey Crest. We were naturally very pleased when Alex Harris told us that Jean-Francois had invited us to appear at a Festival in Etaples, which is near Le Touquet.

We went on the weekend 10th/11th June, We had a team of six couples, and two musicians, Caroline Thomas and Wilf Horrocks. We flew to Le Touquet on the Saturday, a very short trip, and we were met there by members of a local folk-dance group who were helping to entertain us. They drove us to Etaples; it was a beautiful drive along tree-lined avenues, past some very opulent houses, mostly holiday houses apparently. We drove straight to the main square in Etaples to the Syndicat Communale, where our host group meet for practice. It was really one large room which opened directly on to the square, and it proved very useful to us as a place to leave our costumes and cases as our accommodation for the night was rather scattered. We were able to have a quick run-through of our programme as soon as we arrived; we had to wait around for a while as there was a vague rumour that we were going to meet the Mayor but he must have changed his mind because we were suddenly whisked off to the local cafe for drinks. Then we took a stroll around the town; there were posters everywhere advertising the Festival and it was rather disconcerting to see "Avec le concours du groupe Anglais HARROW GREEN" in large type at the bottom! It transpired that we were the only foreign group.

Needless to say, throughout our visit we were wined and dined with true French hospitality, and after seeing what we could of the town we had a marvellous dinner at one of the local hotels. Then, back to the Syndicat Communale to dance with the French group. They were not, incidentally, the same group that we met before, who came mostly from the Arras area, but we did recognize a few faces; they had probably come to Etaples for the occasion just as Jean-Francois and his wife Denise had. We did some English dances, some French, and some International, with everybody joining in together. They showed us a very attractive dance with a nautical air from the Etaples area called "The Cable" (I don't know how it's spelt I'm afraid), and we wished we had had a bit longer to learn it properly.

The Festival started on Sunday morning. We were to walk round the town, stop at a pre-selected spot, do a couple of dances, then move on. We all stayed in different places on the Saturday night and there was a bit of confusion on Sunday morning finding our way back to the town centre. Anyway, we all made it in the end, even though Marjorie got locked in the bathroom at her place; for some strange reason her host had removed the door handle!

So, having all assembled, we changed and set out; by now we had acquired a very decorative lady guide, and with Alex Harris helping to carry the accordions and muttering words of encouragement we got to our first dancing spot. This was a crossroads, and we had to get right in the middle and start dancing. Fortunately there isn't a great deal of traffic in Etaples, which is just as well as we had to perform this death-defying

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feat four or five times in different places in the town. I think we all felt rather foolish to begin with, dancing in the middle of the road to apparently nobody, but after a few bars of Bonny Breast Knot, doors and windows opened and we had quite an audience. It was a bit tough on the feet, I found, as there was rather a lot of loose gravel on the roads, but we were soon back in the main square where the surface was a bit smoother for our final item and then we had to go into the Town Hall for a reception. There were a great many speeches but at least we were able to sit down and have a breather. A pop group appeared and sang a few numbers, then a few more speeches, and just as we were all beginning to wilt a bit, glasses of champagne were handed round and we all revived.

We had lunch at a school, from where we would leave later on with other groups to walk in a procession around the town, finishing up at the Football Stadium where all the groups were to take part in a Show starting at about 3 o'clock. We all gathered in the playground after our meal, with the other groups plus the town band who struck up a resounding fanfare and started to march briskly out. We all prepared to follow but then they all seemed to lose interest and sat down on the grass and lit cigarettes! Maybe they were just practising. After this false alarm we did a few dances to pass the time and looked around at the other groups. For a fleeting moment I thought I spotted the Bacup Coco-Nut Dancers from Yorkshire, but then I realized they were ladies "blacked-up" and wearing a sort of African costume; there was even a witch-doctor with them. Unfortunately, we never saw them dance so we never did discover which country they were representing. There was also a group of ladies wearing black leotards, wellingtons, plastic macs and carrying umbrellas. There were a lot of children's groups, and three French adult groups, two local, but in costumes from different parts of Northern France, and a group of Bretons, who incidentally were very good.

Eventually we moved off, banner fluttering in the breeze and Wilf and Caroline playing as we walked along. It was rather tiring for them, with the heavy accordions, and we had to walk a fair distance. We passed down some of the old streets of the town; a lot of people turned out to see us go by, some of the old ladies wearing long black skirts, blue denim aprons, and short navy worsted jackets buttoned to the neck, and most of the older men wearing navy flat peaked caps. At last we reached the stadium and we paraded round, then were able to sit and watch the other groups while awaiting our turn to dance. I might mention that the weather throughout the day was marvellous, which was lucky; we were outside all day long and it would have been a bit miserable if it had rained or been cold.

The programme at the Stadium was pretty mixed; the ladies in plastic macs did a modern dance number and there was another similar group, but a bit more energetic, who did a number a la West Side Story. There were some singing groups too. There were a lot of children's folkdance groups and some of them were very good indeed, though in some cases it seemed that the dances had been learned from a book rather than taught by a knowledgeable teacher. Our turn came at last and our item went quite well. We did five dances, leading on with Dorset Ring, then Fandango, Dorset 4-Hand Reel, Epping Forest, and Sybil's Roundabout. Afterwards we were surprised and pleased to be presented with a cup, a certificate, and a charming decorated tile as a memento.

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It has been the aim of Harrow Green in the last couple of years to make this sort of trip abroad, meeting foreign groups and showing English dances, so we all felt that this weekend was an achievement as well as being extremely enjoyable. Everyone was so very kind and friendly towards us and it was with reluctance that we left on Sunday evening, especially as the French group started some dancing when we got back after the Show, and though we all joined in for a while we soon had to leave to get to the airport in time to catch our 'plane home. Jean-Francois, Denise, and all the group came to see us off. We all hope it won't be long before we see them again.

ALEX BEAUCLERC

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A ONE-DAY COURSE OF ROMANIAN DANCES

On Saturday, 15th July 1972, at Millbank School, Erasmus Street, London, S.W.1., Alan McLean will be holding a refresher course of the Romanian dances taught by Mme. Popescu. The morning session will be from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.; the afternoon session from 2 to 4.30 p.m. Please bring your own refreshments. Cost of whole day - 50p.

It would help us to assess numbers if people wishing to attend would let Dorothy Bryan know in advance.

Dances to be taught or revised at this Course will be:-

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|------------|
| Alunelul | } | 1st record |
| Husanca | | |
| Ca Va Usa Cortulvi | | |
| Tupa | | |
| Hora Mare | | |
| Alunelul ca la Gorj | | |
| Hodoroaga | | |
| Ciuleandra | } | 2nd record |
| Rustemul de la Hunia | | |
| Marioara | | |
| Jianul | | |
| Doiul | | |
| Somesana | | |
| Ca La Breaza | | |
| Alunelul Batut | | |
| Alunelul Amestecat | | |
| La Miita | | |
| Dinga | } | 3rd record |
| Ga La Balta | | |
| Invirtita de la Sibiu | | |
| Dealungul | | |
| Oromnia | | |

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PROGRAMME FOR SOCIAL DANCES

| | | <u>Musicians</u> | <u>M.C.</u> |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Sunday, 2nd July | Cecil Sharp House | C.S.H. Band | Margery Latham |
| 16th July | Dance Centre | Harry de Caux & Wilf Horrocks | Peter Oakley |
| 6th Aug. | Cecil Sharp House | C.S.H. Band | Ian Willson |

Time: 7 to 10 p.m. Admission: Cecil Sharp House, 25p members, 35p non-members.
Dance Centre, 20p members, 25p non-members.

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

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WHAT'S ON

- July 4th/9th INTERNATIONAL EISTEDDFOD at Llangollen, Denbighshire, Wales
- July 5th A NIGHT IN THE TIROL. Folk music, dancing and singing from the Tirol. Fairfield Hall, Croydon, 7.45 p.m. Tickets 50p to £1.00.
- July 10th/
Aug. 19th "THE TURCOMAN OF IRAN", an exhibition of folklore and costumes, at Horniman Museum, London. Admission free.
- July 13th KATHAKALI DANCE THEATRE from Kerala, South India. Cheltenham Town Hall, 8 p.m. Tickets 50p to £1.50.
- July 14th ALEXAYEV BALALAIKA ENSEMBLE. An evening of Russian music, folk songs, and Cossack dances. Fairfield Hall, Croydon. 7.45 p.m. Tickets 50p to 80p.
- July 15th ONE-DAY COURSE OF ROMANIAN DANCES. See page 14.
- July 15th An evening of ASIAN MUSIC AND DANCE. Battersea Town Hall, 7.45 p.m. Tickets 40p to 75p.
- July 19th/
Aug. 5th "AMBAKAILA", Trinidad Folk Performing Company, Royal Festival Hall, 7.30 p.m. Sat. 3 & 7.30 p.m. Tickets 50p to £1.50.
- July 27th/
29th ANTONIO VARGAS and his Spanish Ballet. Holland Park Court Theatre, London. 7.30 p.m. (Matinee on Saturday at 2.30). Ticket office open half an hour before performance. No advance booking. Admission 35p, children 15p.
- July 29th/
Aug. 5th TEES-SIDE INTERNATIONAL EISTEDDFOD (Not to be confused with Billingham Festival, also Tees-side).
- Aug. 4th ANDRA MARI, Spanish dancers from the Basque region. Holland Park Court Theatre, London. 7.30 p.m. Admission and booking as for Antonia Vargas above.

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CONGRATULATIONS!

Our congratulations and very best wishes to Michael and Edna Gibbs (nee Waterson) on the birth of a daughter.