S.I.F.D. NEWS

November 1976.

Krakowiak
Costumes from Cracow.

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

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Frank Flanagan helped with the printing last month, and the collating and packing etc. was done by Will Green.

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This month's cover is by Dorothy Bryan,
and shows a Polish couple
dancing Krakowiak

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Books, records, tapes and cassettes are available from Frances Horrocks, 112, Kingston Avenue, North Cheam, Sutton, Surrey. Tel: 01-683 3629.
BOOKS 1 TO 4 HAVE NOW BEEN RE-PRINTED AND ARE AVAILABLE.

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ALL MATERIAL FOR PUBLICATION IN THE DECEMBER ISSUE
MUST REACH THE EDITOR BY 15TH NOVEMBER.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

At the Committee's recent meeting, it was agreed that the Society cannot accept Joint Life Members. If husband and wife wish to become Life Members, they must apply individually.

We have recently been advised that our rent for the main hall at Cecil Sharp House is to be increased in January. The Committee have reviewed the income and expenditure for the last twelve months, and we are showing a loss on these dances at the rate of £8 per month. We feel, therefore, that we cannot avoid increasing the entrance fees to help cover the increased cost. From January, they will be 50p for members and 75p for non-members.

The Committee have decided to standardize fees for teachers and musicians involved in the Society's courses, workshops, etc. with immediate effect. Teachers and musicians should apply to the Committee if they wish to know the revised rates.

We were sorry to hear that British Council have been unable to fit us into their autumn programme for third-Sunday dances. There will therefore be no third-Sunday dances for the time being. Enquiries are in hand to see if we can go there in 1977.

The Music Sub-Committee are making plans for the production of new records, and the Dunav Band have agreed to make a 12" record of popular circle dances. Full details will be given as soon as possible. Dennis Wood has found it necessary to withdraw from this sub-Committee, and Wilf Horrocks has agreed to run it. They would appreciate the services of a secretary (shorthand not necessary, but it helps!). If anyone would like to offer their services please contact Wilf, telephone 01-683 3629. We are grateful to Dennis for the work he has done so far with this sub-Committee.

Our membership for the new year stands at 257.

EDNA FOSTER
Hon. Secretary

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AFFILIATED GROUPS

BARLOW INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Tuesday at Wilbraham Road United Reformed Church Hall, Chorlton, Manchester, from 7.30 to 10 p.m. Further details from Alan Williams, 47 South Drive, Manchester M21 2DZ. Tel: 061 881 7744 or Philip Lloyd, 268 Upper Chorlton Road, Manchester M16 OBN. Tel: 061 881 3613.

(This is the only affiliated group who have sent me information for listing in the NEWS. ED.)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday, 5th December 1976, in 'Storrow' at Cecil Sharp House at 4.30 p.m. The Secretary will be pleased to receive nominations for the Committee and any motions to be included in the Agenda. Both nominations and motions must be received by 11th November. Each nomination must be in writing, signed by two members, must contain the written consent of the member to act if elected, and the proposer, seconder and the person nominated must be fully-paid up members of the SIFD. Motions must also be proposed and seconded by fully paid-up members.

Provisional Agenda

1) Minutes of last A.G.M.
2) Matters arising.
3) Chairman's Report.
4) Treasurer's Report.
5) Auditors' Report and Consideration of Accounts.
6) Announcement of newly-elected Committee.
7) Any Other Business.

Final agenda, reports, minutes of last year's A.G.M., and any other papers will be despatched to members, to arrive on or before 1st December.

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EDINBURGH RESIDENTIAL COURSE, SUMMER 1977

The SIFD Committee will be discussing two very important aspects of the proposed Summer Course at Edinburgh when they meet on 7th November.

1) A tentative pricing exercise puts the fee for the course at about £65 per head. At this price, will enough people want to come to make it possible to go ahead?

2) Some of our members who are teachers will not be on holiday from their schools during the originally proposed dates. Should the course therefore be put back to the week of 30th July to 6th August 1977?

The Committee would very much like to hear the views of interested members on these two points before they meet on 7th November; also any suggestions as to which countries' dances should be taught would be welcome.

Please contact (telephone is quickest) any member of the Committee or Jack Richardson.

THE SARDANA

Many readers who have been to the Costa Brava will have seen local people dance the Catalan "Sardana". On the face of it, the Sardana looks like a simple dance, and indeed the steps are simple, but when it comes to the counting of the steps, which is essential to the dance, it makes a Bulgarian 9/16 and a Macedonian 11/16 look easy. This is what Ricky Holden has to say about it in an article headed "The Mathematics of the Sardana":

"The Sardana, exciting circle dance of the Catalan region of the Spanish-French border near Barcelona, has long baffled innumerable foreign folk dance enthusiasts. Not the steps, for the two parts present little difficulty in footwork. The confusion has been in the counting of the steps; how many times is the first part danced, how many times the second part, and how does a poor stranger know when to change? Is there any system at all or is the whole business merely a whim of the "leader" in each circle?

"After months of searching, poring over various monographs and talking with Catalan people, Albert Leroy, of Lille, has been able to show that a definite system exists. Moreover, he has formulated precise mathematical rules for calculating what to do when.

"The Musical Structure

The 2/4 music of the Sardana is in three parts; (A) Short; an odd number of measures varying usually from 21 to 45 during which one dances a number of Short Steps of 2 measures each; (B) Long; an odd number of measures varying usually from 61 to 95 during which one dances Long Steps (changing to Hopping Steps near the end) of 4 measures each; (C) Flaviol; an interlude of several measures during which one does not dance. No rule prescribes an exact length for these parts. We can only say that the short steps come first and are usually danced for a shorter period than the long steps. There exist a few Sardana melodies with an even number of measures in the short or long part but these are rare exceptions. In a "true" or complete Sardana, which lasts 12 to 14 minutes, the parts are played always in the following order:-

Music Part	Name	Repitition No.	Dance Part	Dance steps
C	Flaviol	1	-	-
A	Short	1	1a	Short
A	Short	2	1b	Short
B	Long	1	11a	Long
B	Long	2	11b	Long
A	Short	3	1c	Short
A	Short	4	1d	Short
B	Long	3	11c	Long or Hopping
B	Long	4	11d	Long or Hopping
C	Flaviol	2	-	-
B	Long	5	11e	Long or Hopping
C	Flaviol	3	-	-
B	Long	6	11f	Long or Hopping

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"Rarely do modern records present a complete Sardana - there is simply not time on a 7-inch 45rpm record made for the popular market. In "modern" Sardana recordings the music parts may be played:

Flaviol Short Short Long Flaviol Long	or	Short Short Long	or	Short Long Long	or even	Short Long

"<u>The Dance Sequence</u>

Closed circle, no partners. Rhythm: 2/4. Starting Position: "V" position - hands joined and down. Left foot free.

<u>Part 1a</u> Short Steps (Music A).

1-2 Short Step left.
3-4 Short Step right.
5+ Repeat pattern of measures 1-4 to the end of Music A, COUNTING the total number of measures. Because Music A has an odd number of measures, Part 1a of the dance ends with the first half of a Short Step.

<u>Part 1b</u> Short Steps (Music A).

1+ Continue Short Steps from Part 1a without stopping, beginning with the second half of the uncompleted Short Step; CONTINUE COUNTING also. End with a Short Step left.

<u>Part 11a</u> Long Steps (Music B)

1-4 Long Step right.
5-8 Long Step left.
9+ Repeat pattern of measures 1-8 to the end of Music B, COUNTING the total number of measures. Because Music B has an odd number of measures, Part 11a of the dance ends either $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$ through a Long Step.

<u>Part 11b</u> Long Steps (Music B)

1+ Continue Long Steps from Part 11a without stopping, beginning with the second or fourth quarter of the uncompleted Long Step; CONTINUE COUNTING also. End with a Short Step (left or right depending on the Rules).

<u>Part 1c,d</u> Short Steps (Music A, A.)

1+ Repeat pattern of Part 1a twice except begin each Part with a Short Step (right or left depending on the Rules) and end each Part with a Terminal Step (left or right depending on the Rules).

<u>Part 11c</u> Long Steps (Music B)

1+ Repeat pattern of Part 11a except begin with a Long Step (right or left depending on the Rules) and end with a Terminal Step (left or right depending on the Rules). Usually the Long Steps change

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"to Hopping Steps near the end, and sometimes the Terminal Step is also with Hops.

Part 11d Long Steps (Music B)

1+ Repeat pattern of Part 11c ending with Terminal Step left.

Part 11e Long Steps (Music B)

1+ Repeat pattern of Part 11c beginning with Long Step left and ending with Terminal Step left.

Part 11f Long Steps (Music B)

1+ Repeat pattern of Part 11e.

"Certain Sardana melodies, for example those with 75 measures of Music B, allow an exact number of Long Steps to be completed with exactly three measures remaining for an end sequence of one Terminal Step. These are called "perfect" Sardanas; but for most others it is necessary to dance one, two or three Short Steps before the Terminal Step. IT IS ABSOLUTELY IMPOSSIBLE TO DANCE THE SARDANA TO MODERN INCOMPLETE RECORDINGS WITHOUT KNOWING IN ADVANCE THE NUMBER OF MEASURES IN MUSIC A AND MUSIC B. It is quite possible to dance correctly any complete Sardana without knowing the music beforehand. The secret is to count the measures during Parts 1a-b and 11a-b. This tells which of the four possible end sequences should be danced. SOMEONE IN THE CIRCLE, OFTEN IT IS A SECRET WHO, IS THE LEADER. HE MUST KNOW WHEN THE END SEQUENCE BEGINS. USUALLY HE SIGNALS THE END SEQUENCE OF ONE, TWO OR THREE SHORT STEPS BY HAND SQUEEZES WHICH ARE REPEATED, TELEGRAPH-WISE, AROUND THE CIRCLE."

The above is only an excerpt from the article, which includes rules, computations of sequences, mathematical equations and tables for working out the number of measures, and how to divide them to finish on the right end sequence for a "Perfect" Sardana (including rare exceptions but not including "variants"!). But I thought a whole issue of the NEWS devoted to the mathematics of the Sardana might be a bit indigestible.

On Sunday, 7th November, at Cecil Sharp House, Kelsey Blundell will endeavour to count through for us one or two Sardana tunes (in fact there will probably be only time for one). Everyone will be able to join in, and an attempt to understand the intricacies of the counting will make it that much more enjoyable and interesting. Kelsey tells me that in Spain huge competitions are held, with circle after circle of dancers from different villages dancing at the same time. Needless to say, they are all competent dancers, and they appear to be doing the same simple circle dance, but each one has to be able to work out the sequence and counting and division of the steps for each different tune (yes, every tune is different!) as they dance, and it is on this that they are judged. So next time you visit the Costa Brava, you will know why they look so serious while dancing the Sardana. Their brains are all ticking over like computers! I hope you will bear with Kelsey if she mis-times one of the vital changes, but Catalonians have told her you need to be born Catalan to understand the measures (however, she suspects that

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this is really because the people concerned either did not know the dance themselves or found it too difficult to explain to a foreigner).

LILY SOUTHGATE
(Acknowledgement to
"VILTIS" magazine)

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DANCERS WANTED

The Oberken Gruppe specialize in Austrian dances for cabaret performances and shows and are in need of both male and female dancers interested in this type of dancing and willing to take part in shows and travel, when necessary staying overnight at performing venue. The group meet for rehearsals at Holy Trinity Parish Hall, Pavilion Road, London, S.W.3. every Monday evening at 8.30. Training in the dances is given and beginners s are welcome so long as it is understood that members are expected to take part in shows when required. Would anyone interested please contact Keith Harmon, 52 Helen Avenue, Feltham, Middx. Tel. 01 890 3622 Ext. 162 (day-time), 01 751 0417 (evenings).

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TWO DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Harrow Green Folk Dance Group will be holding their 25th Anniversary Dance at Daneford School, Gosset Street, London E.2., on SATURDAY, 19TH FEBRUARY 1977.

Fiona Howarth, and the Hama'Agal Israeli Group, will be holding a teaching 'workshop' followed by a party on SATURDAY, 26TH FEBRUARY 1977.

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FOUND - a pair of ladies' black shoes, left at the last Israeli Day Course at Hugh Myddelton School. Would the owner please contact Frances Horrocks (address on page 2).

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CONGRATULATIONS and our very best wishes to Ann Bartlett and Dennis Wood (our Hon. Treasurer) who were married on 16th October.

DANCING WEEKENDS 1976-77

Bookings came in very rapidly following the circulation of the notice in the September NEWS. If you have already booked, your booking is confirmed unless you have been told you are on the waiting list.

The position on bookings for the various weekends is:-

November 19th/21st	DINTON (Polish weekend) - Some vacancies.
November 26th/28th	HARRINGTON HOUSE - Fully booked. Unless you have paid a deposit, you are on the waiting list.
December 17th/19th	DUNFORD - Waiting list only. Revised charge about £10.50.
February 4th/6th	HAWKWOOD - All bookings accepted, a few vacancies left.
May 6th/8th	HALSWAY MANOR - Some vacancies.
June 3rd/7th	DUNFORD - Waiting list only. Revised charge about £21.
July 8th/10th	EASTHAMPSTEAD PARK - Fully booked, waiting list.
October 7th/9th	CHARNEY MANOR - Fully booked, waiting list.

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BULGARIAN DAY COURSE

Date: SATURDAY, 13th NOVEMBER 1976

Place: HUGH MYDDELTON SCHOOL, CORPORATION ROW, LONDON, E.C.1.

Time: 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Tutor: BRIAN DOWSETT

Fee: 50p for SIFD members; £1.00 for non-members.

Brian will be teaching the following dances (time permitting):-

PRAVO HORO
ELENO MOME
KAMENOPOLSKO
KAMISHITSE
KOPANITSA
BAVNO ORO
SBORENKA
CHETVORNO

HOLIDAY IN JUGOSLAVIA 1976

Belgrade is a city I do not care for very much as a holiday venue, but it has excellent museums and shops, and a lively atmosphere. Its architecture is, on the whole, a disaster, which is not surprising as it has been destroyed so many times. The new town South of the river is high-rise and although exciting from afar, is hateful at close quarters. One of its best museums is situated in an old 'konak', or house of the so-called 'Turkish' type. This houses a fabulous collection of old Macedonian and Serbian costumes and jewellery, formerly a private collection but bequeathed on the owner's death. The best time to visit Belgrade is in the spring or autumn, when the air is crisp and the sunshine very bright. I managed to buy some nice items of costume from 'my little old man' there, to improve our collection of Serbian costumes, and a really nice pair of old socks for myself. The prices are now quite inflationary.

By contrast, Zagreb is a beautiful town, the cultural capital of Yugoslavia. It is Central European in appearance, and the old town 'Gornji Grad', or upper town, is still intact. Its atmosphere is still that of the 'Habsburg' Empire, and at night when the gas lights are on, one feels transported back into the 19th century. It is here that the performances by folk groups take place every morning and afternoon during the 'Smotra', the mammoth Folklore Festival held every year, and which attracts many village groups from Jugoslavia and abroad. This year, about 60 Jugoslav groups took part, as well as groups from Poland, Czechoslovakia, Portugal, Greece, and a fabulous group of boys from France who danced on tall stilts.

The opening parade took nearly an hour and a half to pass, and the final assembly in the main square was a fantastic sight. All day long on the first day, groups were all over the old town, singing and dancing, and the air was full of the sound of bagpipes, sopile, drums, and tamburitza bands. There were opportunities for joining in, and the opportunity of dancing with the villagers is not one to be missed. The evening concerts are held in the marvellous new concert hall, Zagreb's Royal Festival Hall.

One of the exhibitions was of costumes and jewellery from the second collections of several museums along the coast. It was well catalogued and extremely rich in content. The Smotra has encouraged the publication of some good books, which are rather expensive, but well printed and in English editions.

I was sorry that I could not stay longer, but I had to travel South to Radovia, in Eastern Macedonia. I flew by jet to Belgrade, which only cost £6, and then twelve hours by 'bus to Skopje and Radovia, changing buses en route. One can go direct by Skopje by air, if the ticket is arranged in advance.

I was warmly welcomed by Simo, and in the evening we went up to his village, Injevo, which has a very fine group. (The group took part in the 1975 Llangollen Eisteddfod, and gave one concert at the Royal College of Art in London.) At Injevo I went through the welcoming ceremony, shaking hands and kissing the men, shaking hands with the girls. It was so nice to be back.

KEN WARD

Next instalment: The Bitola Festival, and 'Illenden Den'.

STEVENAGE GROUP

A new group started in early September for general international dancing at Stevenage, Herts. They have had sufficient support to form a club, now called "The Rainmakers". They meet on Fridays at 8 p.m. at the Catholic Church Hall, Albert Street, Stevenage. The Secretary is Mrs. R. Bowtell, 9 Beech Drive, Stevenage, Herts. (Tel: Stevenage 2871) and they would be delighted to see new faces at the club.

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DAY COURSES

Confirmation has been received for the Day Course to be held on the second Saturday in February:-

NORWEGIAN - Teacher: Tony Parkins

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DOREEN BRAMWICH - "SELPAR"

It is with deep regret that I have to inform you that Doreen Bramwich passed away on 29th September. Doreen, although she had only been a member of SIFD for three years, had in that time made many friends, and I am sure that the friendship and enthusiasm that she always conveyed, even up until a few days before her death, will stay with us for many years.

In Birmingham the door of her house was always open, and she will be sadly missed not only for her friendliness but also for the hard work that she did on the Selpar Committee, and for that constant smiling face in many a line-dance even when she felt very ill - an example to us all.

Thank you, all her many friends in SIFD, for the many good wishes you sent to Doreen during her illness. She was constantly saying, "They're a smaching caring lot in the SIFD, aren't they; I only wish I had had the pleasure of meeting them all years ago".

BARBARA PERKINS

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DR. MAUD KARPELES O.B.E.

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the death of Dr. Maud Karpeles on 1st October, at the age of 90. Dr. Karpeles devoted many years to the study of folkdancing, worked closely with the late Cecil Sharp, and was President of the International Folk Music Council.

CECIL SHARP HOUSE

During 1977 two of our regular first-Sunday dance dates fall on Bank Holiday weekends. The dates have therefore been changed as follows:-

2nd January	changed to 9th (our New Year Dance)
5th June	changed to 12th

Don't worry if you haven't yet got a 1977 diary. We shall be reminding you nearer the time.

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SIFD ASSOCIATED CLASSES

INTERNATIONAL

Every Wednesday at St. Albans School, Baldwin's Gardens, Grays Inn Road, E.C.1. Tutor: Margery Latham.

Every Thursday at Stainbeck Hall, Stainbeck Lane (off Scott Hall Road) Leeds, from 8 to 10 p.m. Class run by Ian and Jean Willson.

ISRAELI

Every Wednesday at Kidbrooke School, Corelli Road, S.E.3, from 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. Tutor: Gaye Saunte.

Every Thursday at Henry Fawcett School, Bowling Green Street, Oval, London. (Advanced) 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. Tutor: Fiona Howarth.

JUGOSLAV

Every Tuesday at Hugh Myddelton School, Corporation Row, Clerkenwell Green, E.C.1. Beginners 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. Advanced 8.30 to 9.30 p.m. Tutor: Ken Ward. NEW MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO SEE KEN WARD BEFORE ENROLLING FOR THE ADVANCED CLASS.

POLISH

Every Monday at Christopher Hatton School, Laystall Street, Rosebery Ave., E.C.1. Beginners 7 to 8 p.m. General & Advanced 8 to 10 p.m. Tutor: Betty Harvey.

ROMANIAN

Every Thursday at Pimlico School, Lupus Street, S.W.1. 7 to 9 p.m. Tutor: Alan McLean.

HUNGARIAN

Every Friday at Pimlico School, Lupus Street, S.W.1. 6.30 to 9.30 p.m. Tutor: Alan McLean. Beginners are asked to come at 6.30.

SUNDAY DANCES

November 7th Cecil Sharp House, Regent's Park Road, N.W.1.
M.C. Peter Oakley.

December 4th Cecil Sharp House, Regent's Park Road, N.W.1.
M.C. George Sweetland.

7 - 10 p.m. Admission: 40p members, 50p non-members.

We are sorry we were not able to go ahead with the demonstration of French dances at Cecil Sharp House last month as planned, owing to some of the dancers not being available. We hope to do it at the Cecil Sharp House dance on 5th December instead.

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WHAT'S ON

Nov. 5th SELPAR MONTHLY DANCE at Kings Norton United Reform Church Hall, at the corner of Watford Road and Woodfall Avenue, Cotteridge. 7.30 to 10.30 p.m.

12th ISRAELI EVENING at Barnet International Folk Dance Club, Hadley Memorial Hall, Hadley Highstone, Barnet, 8 to 11 p.m. Guest teacher: Fiona Howarth. Enquiries to Janet Heathfield, Tel. 368 5345.

13th BULGARIAN DAY COURSE. See page 9

19th/21st WEEKEND AT PHILIPPS HOUSE, DINTON, organized by Jacy Tacy Polish Group

20th "THE HONOURABLE OUT-OF-STEP" BBC Omnibus colour film on the Royal Dances of Tonga. Horniman Museum, London, 3.30 pm. Admission free.

20th "THE LITTLE ANGELS". Dancers from Korea. Royal Festival Hall, London, 8 p.m. Tickets £1 to £2.50.

26th/28th WEEKEND AT HARRINGTON HOUSE, BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER, organized by Roy Clarke.

Dec. 11th BALKAN PARTY at Moorfields School, Bunhill Row, off Old Street, London, E.C.1. 7 to 11 p.m. Tickets in advance, £1 including refreshments, from John White, 10 Durnsford Avenue, Wimbledon Park, S.W.19. Tel: 01 947 2417.