

S.I.F.D. NEWS

FEBRUARY 1977



SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

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Frank Flanagan helped with the printing last month, and the collating and packing etc. was organised by Gaye Saunte. Gaye has asked me to apologize for any envelopes that may not have been sealed properly. She had completed all the collating, sealing etc. and then found she had forgotten the enclosure, and so re-opened them all and re-sealed them! ED.



Chairman: Simon Guest, 65 Crescent Road, New Barnet, Herts.
Tel: 01 440 4862.

Secretary: Edna Foster, 33 Orchard Avenue, Southgate, London, N.14.
Tel: 01 886 2345.

Treasurer: Dennis Wood, 16 Barnfield Close, Old Coulsdon, Surrey.

Membership Secretary: Roland Minton, 10 Benyon Court, Balmes Road,
London, N.1.

Demonstration Secretary: Margery Latham, 14 Beechwood Avenue, Kew,
Richmond, Surrey. Tel: 876 7055.



This month's cover is by Lesley Boorer and is based on the "Gossips' Dance" performed by International Folkloristisch Danstheater of Holland. Costumes from Marken.



Books, records and cassettes are available from Frances Horrocks, 112 Kingston Avenue, North Cheam, Sutton, Surrey. Tel: 01 683 3629.



WOULD ALL MEMBERS WHO CHANGE THEIR ADDRESS PLEASE LET THE EDITOR KNOW, AS WELL AS THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

At the meeting held on 9th January the Committee decided to hold in abeyance two events which were mentioned earlier in the year. It was felt in both cases more time is needed for thorough preparation; they are (a) the Day Course for non-member school teachers, and (b) the conference/teaching session for present and potential M.C.s. Both ideas are very much on our minds and we will put them in at a later date.

The Committee were pleased to hear that Charles Steventon has agreed to take over the organisation of the Saturday Courses, for which we are very grateful. Members will have noticed that the trend is now for the courses to link up with the Bert Price Proficiency Examination countries, and it seemed a logical step for all the preparation to be with the same Sub-Committee, of which Charles is Chairman.

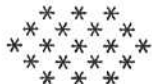
Our thanks are also due to Gaye Saunte, who has offered to deal with the collation and despatch of the NEWS for the next few months. If anyone can spare time to help her, we are sure she will be pleased to receive offers.

Plans for the Edinburgh Course are going ahead (see page 7). We will go into details more fully about the coach when enrolment has opened.

Our next task is to set up the Sub-Committee to deal with the definition of a Branch, as requested by members at the A.G.M.

Membership for the current year is 330.

EDNA FOSTER,
Hon. Secretary



EASTHAMPSTEAD PARK WEEKEND, 8TH/10TH JULY

I have been able to reserve all the accommodation at Easthampstead Park for the weekend of 8th/10th July 1977. This means that everyone who was on the waiting list is now booked and there are a few vacancies. I expect the cost to be £12.50.

ROY CLARKE,
33 Cedar Park Road,
Enfield, Middx.



SIFD BALKANS GROUP WEEKEND AT HALSWAY MANOR. Irene Keywood has asked me to announce that the booking for this weekend in Feb. is full, and there is a waiting list. ED.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Lily,

The November issue of the SIFD NEWS arrived in good time - the postal service is indeed getting better. Now that we both have a semi-autonomous post office, it is hard to know which to blame (or, in this case, praise) when something unusual happens to the post. Somehow, I think that things were better in the old days when one could stick a blue 5c stamp on a letter here, hand it to the postman, and be sure of its delivery in Dover or London in a reasonable time, or alternatively, there, to put a 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d blue (and I can remember when it was only a 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d brown with King George V) stamp on, drop it in a pillar box, and in a week it would arrive in New York.

But all this is beside the point; I had intended writing weeks ago in time to wish the SIFD people a happy Christmas season, but procrastination prevailed (plus editing, mailing, etc. and the following relapse), and here I find myself only being able to wish you all a 1977 full of happy dancing - and all the extracurricular things your gregarious group seems to enjoy; how we envy you your tours, your walks, your ability to hop off for Spain or Brittany or Belgium apparently at the drop of a hat!

Apparently folk dancing is the same the world round - you seem to have the same arguments we have, and the same problems too. Apparently there is plenty of advice from the sidelines, but when the time for action or election of officers or volunteers for work in running the Society is involved, said voices steal silently into the night. Your problems in resolving the "authenticity" of dances is very familiar. I believe that we may be able to learn some things from you in qualification of teachers. We have no such programme ourselves, and it could end up with a host of generals and no soldiers, if we don't take some steps in teacher-training soon. One of these days, we may have to call on you for advice.

With sincere wishes for happy holidays,

PAUL PRITCHARD
(Editor of FOLKDANCE SCENE
13250 Ida Avenue,
Los Angeles, California 90066)

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Dear Lily,

May I, on behalf of the Edinburgh International Folk Dance Group, say Hello (first time in print) to all SIFD members and wish them the best of dancing in 1977. We were delighted to hear that the 'Swansea Course' is coming to Edinburgh this year, and look forward to seeing many of our old friends. We have a good, going, folk dance club in Edinburgh, and a few members have offered to put up dancers from 'down south' for the week of the course. At the risk of being swamped with fan mail, I invite any members who would be interested in such hospitality to write to me and I will see what can be arranged.

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As it happens, the week before the 'Swansea Course' (SIFD Summer School) is going to be quite hectic. A University group of Scottish dancers stage a "Mini Dance Festival" every second year; folk dance groups from Belgium are coming this year, also from Austria, probably Germany, and from Yugoslavia or Provence; the Edinburgh Polish Dance Group will participate, and of course the university group from Scotland will be dancing. Demonstrations have been arranged for Edinburgh, Leven, Dundee, Glasgow, Ayr and Falkirk. In the evenings of course the revelry continues until far too late, so for those of our group who are involved (this means hosting, transporting, and dancing, etc.) the SIFD Summer School is going to be a rest cure! In the "even" years, the Scottish and Polish groups are away to similar festivals abroad. In 1976 Margaret and I were lucky enough to tour with the University group, dancing in many festivals in Provence, and finishing at the Nice festival, and later (this time dancing with the Polish group) to Germany and Belgium.

Needless to say, if any reader happens to be in Edinburgh, or contemplates coming, and hopes for some folk dancing (especially on Mondays), just ring 031 449 5325 and ask for Dennis.

Regards,

DENNIS & MARGARET BELFORD,
21 Whitelea Road,
Balerno, Lothian.

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FOLK DANCES AND COSTUMES OF SWITZERLAND

Robert Harrold has sent me a copy of a book with the above title, which is written by himself and Helen Wingrave, and is obtainable from Dance Books Ltd., 9 Cecil Court, London, W.C.2. or from The Dancing Times, 18 Hand Court, High Holborn, London, W.C.1. price £1 plus 15p postage & packing.

The book contains seven traditional folk dances - all from Switzerland. The book is well and clearly set out, with descriptions of the various steps, general background information, instructions for the dances, illustrations and notes on the costumes, as well as music for the dances which has been printed in the centre of the book so that it can be withdrawn and given to the musician if required.

A tape - reel to reel or cassette - of all the music, recorded on piano, is available from Miss Barbara Lander, 82 Kempshott Road, London, S.W.16, price £2.00 plus 15p (overseas 40p) postage & packing.

Other publications by Robert Harrold and Helen Wingrave include REGIONAL DANCES OF EUROPE - Book 1, covering dances from Northern Spain, Turkey, Italy, Finland, Portugal and Basque. (£1.50 plus 19p postage U.K.); REGIONAL DANCES OF EUROPE - Book 2, covering dances from Norway, Holland, Provence, Serbia, Romania, Menorca. (£2.00 plus 21p postage U.K.); and SPANISH DANCING which includes castanets, footbeats, body, arm and hand positions, and notes for three Flamenco solos. (£1.00 plus 15p postage U.K.)

ED.

SIFD AFFILIATED GROUPS

CANONS FOLK DANCERS meet every Tuesday at Park High School, Thistlecroft Gardens, Stanmore, Middx. (nearest station Canons Park) from 7.45 to 10 p.m. Further details from Joan G.S. Goodman, 13 Woodgrange Close, Kenton, Harrow, Middx. Tel: 01 907 9857.

BARNET INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CLUB meet every Friday from October to June, at Hadley Memorial Hall, Hadley Highstone, Barnet, 8 to 11 p.m. for general international dancing. Leader: Brian Dowsett; Hon. Sec.: Janet Heathfield. Telephone 01 368 5345 for details.

WOODVALE FOLK DANCE GROUP meet at Borough Green Village Hall on Tuesdays 7.30 to 10 p.m. General International, some English. Leaders: Mr & Mrs. Nolan, 16 Dryland Road, Borough Green, Sevenoaks, Kent. Tel: 0732 883380.

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

MERTON PARK INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meet every Wednesday in term time at Rutlish School, Watery Lane, S.W.20. 7 to 7.30 p.m. Spanish beginners; 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. General International. Musician: Wilf Horrocks. Details from Charles Steventon, 64 Erridge Road, Merton Park, S.W.19. Tel: 01 542 3831.

KENSINGTON SLAVONIC DANCERS meet every Wednesday from 7 to 10 p.m. at Fox School, Kensington Place, Notting Hill Gate, W.8. and every Thursday from 7 to 10 p.m. at Isaac Newton School, Lancaster Road, W.11. Dances from Czechoslovakia taught by Mrs. Hedda Jolly-Klingerova, 69b Grange Road, W.5. Tel: 01 567 2346.

SELPAR (Birmingham Branch of SIFD) meet at Selly Park Centre, Pershore Road, Birmingham, every Tuesday, 7.15 to 9.15 p.m. Enquiries to Rod Perkins, 3 Linnet Close, Bournville, Birmingham, or to Sybil Chapman, 20 Pelham Road, Droitwich, Worcs.

HAVERING INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meet every Thursday at 8 p.m. at Harold Wood Primary School, Recreation Avenue, Harold Wood, Romford, Essex. Enquiries to Miss Doreen Grew, Brentwood 222051.

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ED. NOTE: Affiliated Groups are reminded that if they wish their group to be listed, they should write to the Editor direct, giving what information they would like printed.

SIFD RESIDENTIAL SUMMER SCHOOL 1977

After so many successful courses at University College, Swansea, the SIFD is breaking new ground in holding the 1977 Course at the Dunfermlin College of Physical Education in Edinburgh from 30th July to 6th August.

Arrangements are well advanced for what promises to be an exciting week for dancers of all standards. Mr. Radek Kowalczyk has already accepted our invitation to come from Poland to teach us dances from his country. We have written to Finland to invite a teacher from the Iso Ilo group of Oulunsala, which was so well received recently at the Billingham Festival. For a third teacher we are looking towards the Balkans.

Further details, of costs etc., will appear together with an application form in the next NEWS. Book the dates now in your diary. We will be investigating cheap coach travel from the South-East.

SIMON GUEST

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FOLKESTONE INTERNATIONAL FOLKLORE FESTIVAL
18th to 24th June, 1977

In deep winter when the real Hooden Horses of East Kent join the mystical animals of folklore around the dark streets and countryside, it is sustaining to think of the long bright days of mid-summer, and this year again the Folkestone International Folklore Festival. Our plans are well advanced, and again we have more overseas groups who want to come than the seven or so that we can accept. At the moment, too, there are so many French and Belgians in the shops in Folkestone that one could think the Festival had already begun!

Although the local Government reorganization has caused considerable, clumsy problems and we cannot have our outdoor podium constructed, we are, for the first time, to have the entire use of the admirably suitable Leas Cliff Hall for the whole week. Our ceremonial opening and concerts in there will be on the Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Thursday evenings, with the Barn Dance on the Friday, and less formal performances will be held most afternoons. Programmes will be changed for each concert and there will be one British item in each.

Enquiries regarding camping or accommodation should be sent to the Publicity Officer, Civic Centre, Folkestone. Official programme available in May from Official Information Centre, Sandgate Road, Folkestone, Kent. (Tel: 0303 53840 or 0303 57388).

FOLK DANCES AND COSTUMES OF THE U.S.S.R. is the title of a lecture Jenia Graman (Publicity Secretary of the Balalaika Dance Group) has given for the Great Britain/U.S.S.R. Association at the I.C.A. Galleries in The Mall, London.

The U.S.S.R., this immense country, one sixth of the world, has a vast number of different peoples, all with their own language, literature, songs, dance-styles and costumes, and one could spend a lifetime always learning something new. Girls glide like swans or whirl like the desert storm, men stamp complicated rhythms or rise on their toes, one country has "set" dances, while in another it is left to the dancer to improvise or the choreographers use traditional steps to form new patterns. There are mass dances, couple dances, solos, girls' dances, men's dances, to folk instruments or singing. They wear long skirts, short skirts, tight or wide trousers, elaborate head-dresses or wreaths of flowers, black boots, red boots, intricately patterned boots; there are comic dances, lyrical dances, heroic dances - the whole range of human emotions is covered.

Jenia Graman illustrates the lecture with lantern slides and original tapes, and will demonstrate basic steps.

The lecture at I.C.S. was received with great interest, and Jenia was asked to repeat it some time later in the year. She is prepared to give it to any Club or Association who may be interested. Please write to Jenia Graman, 39 Stanley Road, East Sheen, London, S.W.14., or telephone 01 876 0514 between 9 and 10.30 a.m. on weekdays.

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FOLK DANCE INSTRUMENTS

PIPE AND DRUM (Basque) The pipe and drum combination is popular along the whole line of the Pyrenees. Drums of all sizes and shapes are used, varying from the huge bombo, which is half the size of a man, to the very small drum slung on the left arm of the pipe-player, a method which is generally adopted, one man playing both instruments. Drums are not always cylindrical in shape, as square forms have been observed in some places and even flat "drums" with seven strings banged with drumsticks to mark the rhythm. The pipes used mainly have three holes and have varied names - flaviol, caramella, txistu, tchirula and others. It is amazing the variety of tones and delightful melodies that the players obtain with three holes.

LYRA (Crete). Cretans dance to the sound of the Cretan lyra. Apart from its name, the lyra is in no way connected with the ancient lyre. It is the same instrument that in the Middle Ages was introduced under the name of fidula in Western Europe through Byzantium. In the Middle East it is called kemenge rumi, i.e. Greek fiddle, and is still used in its original form, whereas in the West it developed through a long and complicated process to the modern violin.

Acknowledgement to "THE FOLK DANCER"

S L A V A

A combined concert of Yugoslav and Polish dances by
Zivko Firfov and Jacy Tacy groups

SATURDAY, 26TH MARCH, 1977

at 7.30 p.m.

ISLINGTON TOWN HALL, UPPER STREET, LONDON, N.1.

Tickets will be on sale from the end of February: £1 Balcony (reserved), 60p main hall (unreserved). These can be obtained from John Gilliam, 25 Northwood Road, Carshalton Beeches, Surrey (please send stamped addressed envelope) or via any member of either of the two groups. It is pointed out that although the main hall is unreserved, it will be far better to obtain tickets in advance in order to avoid Box Office queues during the short period (about 30 minutes) the latter can be open before the start of the concert.

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SIFD DAY COURSES

at Hugh Myddelton School, Corporation Row, E.C.1.

at 10.30 a.m.

February 12th	-	No Course, owing to the Silver Badge exams.
March 12th	-	Basque
April 2nd	-	Portuguese
May 14th	}	- To be announced.
June 11th		

Please note that the April Course is on the FIRST Saturday to avoid Easter.

We are very pleased to announce that Annalisa Fox, who assisted Lucile Armstrong at Swansea in 1973, has agreed to take the Portuguese Course.

At the Basque Course it is planned to teach the relatively advanced dances (Fandango and Baston Dantza) in the morning and, after an early lunch, teach simpler dances in the afternoon. Soft shoes are essential for Basque.

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On Friday, 11th February, at BARNET INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CLUB, Hadley Memorial Hall, Hadley Highstone, Barnet, Said Serifoglu will be teaching some simple Turkish dances. Musician: Hilton Calpine. Enquiries to 01 368 5345.

There will be a week of instruction in SWISS FOLK DANCES, in Switzerland, during the week commencing 9th July, 1977. Would anyone interested in attending please write to Dr. Maurier, Wydackerring 144, CH.8047, Zurich.

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SIFD ASSOCIATED CLASSES

INTERNATIONAL

Every Tuesday at Charlton Manor Junior School, Hornfair Road, Charlton, S.E.7. 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. Tutor: Peter Oakley.

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.

HUNGARIAN & ROMANIAN

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.

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MATERIAL FOR PUBLICATION IN THE MARCH ISSUE
MUST REACH THE EDITOR BY 15TH FEBRUARY.

SUNDAY DANCES

- February 6th Cecil Sharp House, Regent's Park Road, N.W.1.
M.C. Charles Steventon
- March 6th Cecil Sharp House, Regent's Park Road, N.W.1.
M.C. Wilf Horrocks

7 to 10 p.m. Admission: 50p members, 75p non-members.

At the Cecil Sharp House Dance on 6th February, a demonstration of Hungarian dances will be given by Josef Baracsi's group. On 6th March there will be a demonstration of dances from Israel and the Orient, by members of the Hillel Dance Group.

WHAT'S ON

- Feb. 1st/2nd ARMENIAN DANCE WORKSHOP at Hillel House. Details given last month.
- Feb. 4th/6th WEEKEND AT HAWKWOOD COLLEGE. Organized by Roy Clarke
- Feb. 5th DUNAV BALKAN ENSEMBLE. Music, songs and dances from the Balkans. Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, W.8., 7.30 p.m. Tickets £1, £1.50 & £2.00, from 01 602 3660 or at the door.
- Feb. 12th BERT PRICE PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION (Silver Badge) at Hugh Myddelton School.
- Feb. 18th/20th SIFD BALKANS GROUP WEEKEND AT HALSWAY MANOR. Apply: Miss I. Keywood, 133 Third Avenue, Dagenham, Essex. (Now full)
- Feb. 18th & 19th FOLK FESTIVAL '77 at Royal Albert Hall, organized by EFDSS. Guest team from Norway. 7.30 p.m. on Friday, 10.30 a.m., 2.30 and 7.30 p.m. on Saturday. Tickets from EFDSS, 2 Regent's Park Road, N.W.1.
- Feb. 19th HARROW GREEN FOLK DANCE GROUP SILVER JUBILEE PARTY. Daneford School, Gosset Street, E.2. Tickets 75p (40p children) from Alex Beauclerc, 28 Hayes Court, Camberwell New Road, S.E.5. or Harrow Green members.
- Feb. 26th HAMA'AGAL ISRAELI GROUP WORKSHOP & PARTY. Enquiries to Fiona Howarth.
- March 5th HALF-DAY COURSE IN SWEDISH DANCING at Watford Central Library, (side entrance), 1.45 to 4.45 p.m. Tutor: Margery Latham. Fee: 35p.
- March 5th CEILIDH organized by Havering International Folk Dance Group at Ardleigh House, Ardleigh Green Road, Hornchurch, Essex. M.C. Peter Oakley. Tickets £1 including refreshments. Enquiries to Mrs. Eve Wildy, Hornchurch 52146.