

SIFD NEWS

MARCH 1977



SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

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Les Avery helped with the printing last month, and the collating and packing etc. was organised by Gaye Saunte.

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Tel. 01 440 4862.

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Tel. 01 886 2345.

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London, N.1.

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

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This month's cover, showing dolls from many countries, is by Caroline Thomas.

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

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WOULD ALL MEMBERS WHO CHANGE THEIR ADDRESS PLEASE LET THE EDITOR KNOW, AS WELL AS THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY. MATERIAL FOR PUBLICATION IN THE APRIL ISSUE MUST REACH THE EDITOR BY 15TH MARCH.

POSTAL DELAY

Owing to a local postal strike I received no mail at all between 28th January and 12th February and although the postmen are now back and dealing with current mail the backlog of 4½ million letters has been 'frozen' at the sorting office until some settlement is reached. So if you have sent me an article for the SIFD NEWS during this period I'm afraid it will not have reached me. When I eventually receive the delayed mail I will publish any items that are still topical but am sorry if this means that it will be too late for you. ED.

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SECRETARY'S NOTES

During the Committee Meeting on 6th February we spent some time discussing the age range of our membership and how we should attract more young people into the Society - the dancers and teachers of tomorrow. We did not reach any clear-cut answer, so if any readers have any ideas, we will be pleased to hear them.

The Music Sub-Committee have arranged a recording date with the Dunav Band for our new records, which will be available later in the year. The new Sub-Committee dealing with the definition and formation of Branches have had their first meeting and have outlined their initial idea on the subject. We will be putting details to you at a later date.

Our membership for the current year is now 340, and we continue to advertise in such publications as the quarterly YHA NEWS and EFDSS Festival programme.

On a personal note; 29th January was a very crowded day in the SIFD calendar but those of you who chose to go elsewhere missed a treat at Borough Green Village Hall. The occasion was the Show put on by Woodvale Folk Dance Group; thirty or so dancers entertained a large local audience for two hours. The varied programme was well received and the dancers looked as if they too were enjoying themselves (most of the time!). Good luck, Woodvale, congratulations to members, leaders, and their new Demonstration Secretary and teacher - Mrs. Ivy Romney. Here is a Group with a very wide age range, and even a waiting list of youngsters wishing to join when they are old enough. Perhaps they would care to tell the slightly older SIFD Committee what their secret is?

EDNA FOSTER,
Hon. Sec.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting are ready and will shortly be despatched to all members. With them you will receive the Treasurer's Report and Accounts for 1975/76, which were not available at the time of the meeting.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Lily,

I greatly enjoyed the Lithuanian Group's demonstration at Cecil Sharp House in January. The programme was varied, the costumes interesting, and their dancing was not highly choreographed and so obviously enjoyed for its own sake that one could not help but be infected by their spirit. It made me feel that this was as near to folkdancing as one could get in the circumstances.

This was a demonstration that I will remember. Many thanks, members of the Lithuanian Group.

Yours sincerely,

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

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Dear Editor,

"I'd like to learn some more Italian folkdances", said Margery Latham. "I'll find out what dances our Italian community here know", I promised.

I've found out - they didn't know there were any Italian dances except Disco dancing. That's what they did in the local hops back in Italy; that's what they do in their clubs here, and that's what they do when Dad lets them go with the Bedfordshire natives to our local village hall. One woman from near Salema did say vaguely she thought the priests sometimes danced at the Italian church in Bedford. The word "tambourines" brought that slow, patient smile only a Continental can produce when the English are being really quaint. Maybe I just haven't struck lucky yet. I'll take a trip to church and keep trying. This very minor piece of research has, however, brought to the surface of my mind various strands of thought that have been drifting half-formed in my head for some time.

Wouldn't it be more honest to call most of our dancing what it really is - historical dance? This would release us from a great many difficulties and tensions. "What is a folk dance?" becomes much easier to define. It is any physical movement arising spontaneously among a homogenous group of people, then becoming stylised and passed on to other groups or generations without formal teaching. It is affected by and has effect upon clothing fashions, social customs, political and religious philosophies. It evolves, changes, adapts and fades as the social and emotional attitudes in which it has its roots change. Thus, in England, gay lively branles of the 11th-13th centuries went out of fashion as costume became more sophisticated and restricting. The tall Queen of Hearts hats, the rage at the time of the Battle of Agincourt, effectively barred anything other than dignified, extremely controlled movements. Enter the Estampi partner dances - slow and graceful. Such dances were eminently suitable for performing in church and this became a frequent dance venue. Rectangular formation reflected the shape of the dancing area and the movement became even tighter and more restricted. Parts of this are

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retained in the Pavane of Tudor times but dance is caught up in the outburst of energy, the desire to discover, to lead a "full" life. Women in hooped dresses and men in huge breeches padded out with sawdust leapt and laughed through Galliards and La Volta. And so on and so on.... It also, incidentally, destroys this myth that there is no English national costume. Take your pick - any Bruegel picture for early peasant costume; farthingales; Regency etc. etc.

I wonder whether some fascinating ways ahead for the SIFD might be to consider more frequently the date of a dance and its relationship to other nationalities arising from similar circumstances. The Menuet was danced in many countries and it is intriguing to read accounts of the subtle differences in different countries. The essence of the style of a Menuet, however, is a class attitude rather than a national one. It was performed as part of a way of life, where gesture and costume had been stylised and exaggerated to declare to the most casual observer, "I don't work for a living".

These traditions are among the most fascinating aspects of dance, and I think those who wish to keep a dance in a static form and still to call that "folk dance" are missing out on half their possible dance experience. Researching into our historical heritage of dance and being meticulous and disciplined about reproducing the dances and styles we discover is fun, important and worthwhile. That alone is well worth having a Society for. No apology is called for if we say, "This evening I'm choosing to step into other ages for an hour or so". I wonder, though, when someone says, "This dance has been performed exactly like this for X years" - is that dance still the living, responding thing I understand by the term "folk dance"? Does it still have real meaning and relationship to the everyday life of the present day dancers? In very remote parts of the world where the daily life of the present generation is genuinely little changed from that of their great grandparents - maybe. What as those places become less remote? It seems to me we must between us find some more positive reaction than sighing wistfully that looking out of our holiday car or 'plane window at peasants on mopeds isn't as picturesque for us as looking at peasants on donkeys.

On a recent Day Course, the comment was made, "This is how we've always done this dance but this summer it was being danced slightly differently in its region of origin". Surely that is a true folkdance; it belongs utterly to the people dancing it and is still responding to their personalities and life-style. Could we come to terms with the fact that we live in 1977 by learning the historical version and perfecting it in that style as well as we can, but at the same time being open to the excitement and challenge of accepting that dance is growing all around us all the time?

Arrivaderla,

BRENDA JACKSON,
35 Lower Shelton Road,
Marston Morteyne, Beds.

WOODVALE INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP

The Group presented its first full-length Show "See How They Dance" in the Village Hall, Borough Green, on 29th January. The hall was filled with over 160 people from Borough Green and surrounding villages who came to support our venture. We performed dances from Germany, Austria, Norway, Sweden, Israel, England, Romania, Czechoslovakia, Majorca and U.S.S.R. Some of the dances which were new to us were taught by Mrs. Ivy Romney, who presented the Show. Included in our programme we had a team of eight young ladies aged 11 to 13 years, who danced three English dances and did very well considering they joined the Group only two or three months ago. The audience enjoyed the Show and we danced an encore of Karapyet.

We have several demonstrations booked up, one in the Chatham Central Hall where we will perform dances from Norway and Austria in a stage Show, along with dancers from local EFDSS groups performing English dances. Jubilee Week will be busy as we have been asked to run open-air country dancing in Borough Green, and also will be dancing at a local Old People's Home Jubilee Party.

Our friends, the Association Folklorique Chalonnaise (from Chalons-sur-Marne, France) are visiting Borough Green from 2nd to 7th April on a return visit as guests of the Group. During this time we will take them to places of interest in Kent and London. One evening will be spent exchanging our various dancing skills, and the visit will end with a party at the Village Hall on Wednesday, 6th April.

We are a very busy Group, with an average attendance of forty. We have several 11-year olds waiting to join us, unfortunately they are all girls!

Our Spring Dance will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday, 28th May. Musician: Wilf Horrocks. M.C. Ernie Nolan. Please note the date in your diary and come and join us at Borough Green. More details later.

EILEEN NOLAN,
16, Dryland Road,
Borough Green,
Sevenoaks, Kent.

ROMANIAN DAY COURSE

The Romanian Day Course run by the Hayes, Kent, International Folk Dance Class, was a success. About 60 people attended including some from as far away as Birmingham, Cardiff and equally distant places. Marina Wolstenholme, from Sheffield, taught about a dozen dances and these will be likely to stay in the class repertoire and filter into Cecil Sharp House Dances as they were so well taught and learned.

The Dance in the evening proved that the practice of following up a Day Course with a general evening of dances, is popular. One wonders why the SIFD has abandoned this practice.

WILL GREEN

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 INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meet at Borough Green Village Hall on Tuesdays 7.30 to 10 p.m. General International, some English. Leaders: Ernie & Eileen 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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At BARNET INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CLUB (address above), Simon Guest will be teaching French dances on Friday, 18th March, at 8 p.m.

BERT PRICE PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION (SILVER) HELD ON
14TH FEBRUARY, 1977

I was the only entrant for the Spanish section and was pleased to pass. The next country to be examined was Israel, for which 16 entered and 10 of those passed, although the examiners were kind enough to say that for those who failed it was a very close thing and a difficult decision, and they were encouraged to try again at the next opportunity. 7 dancers entered for English, 4 for Polish, 8 for Estonian and 10 for German. All were successful and gained their silver badge. Eight silver badges were awarded and five gold.

This was my first attempt at the badge examinations and I was much impressed by the administration and the very helpful comments given by the judges of each country. I learned several points, even for those countries which I did not enter this time. Mrs. Aily Eistrat even demonstrated her points with the help of some members of her family and class who were there. The most general comment which applied to more than one country was that we should all learn to use our heads more, try to look less wooden and less Anglo-Saxon and, in the case of the Israeli dances, to use much more elevation. Also, particularly in the case of the English dances, to be more aware of our partners and dance less as individuals. However, it was agreed among the examiners that the standard of dancing generally was very much improved since the last occasion (a very good point in favour of the examination system) and the knowledge of the dances was very good.

The Polish must have been the most difficult to judge in as much as the compulsory national dances, unlike the set regional dances, do not have a fixed sequence of steps. An attempt to dance a set sequence was made but with 'strangers' from different groups dancing together this proved very difficult. No doubt the method of judging this type of dance will be modified for future occasions - either dancers must bring their own partners with whom they have practised beforehand, or, as is more likely, entrants will be asked to demonstrate particular steps individually. Nonetheless, in spite of the muddle, the examiners were able to see the wood for the trees and could judge the standard of performance.

My mother, who has medals and her teacher's certificate from the I.D.T.A. is highly amused by the fact that we know our examiners personally (and the fact that in one Spanish dance I was actually partnered by one of the three examiners); but at this stage, while the examinations are still in their infancy, it is inevitable that friends are judging friends. This perhaps created a more relaxed atmosphere and I tended to be rather light-hearted, particularly in the line-up before the judges to have our numbers noted down. At one point a fellow contestant whispered that I should be careful that I wasn't disqualified for not taking the matter seriously enough. I would like to assure her and anyone else that in spite of my frivolity I do take the badge examinations very seriously indeed and have been driving my friends mad for weeks, checking on different points of the dance. One or two discrepancies were discovered in the instructions as written in the SIFD books and I noticed several points of difference, particularly in the English dances, between London and out-of-town members - just small points of detail but they prove how difficult it is to achieve a uniform standard of dancing among scattered groups, with several different sources of instruction.

KELSEY BLUNDELL

S.I.F.D. BRANCHES

A sub-Committee has been convened to consider the status and functions of "Branches" within the organization of the Society. Its members are Margery Latham, Jack Richardson and myself, and our first exploratory meeting was held at the Hawkwood Manor weekend on 6th February.

It was felt that all members should be given an opportunity to express their views on this subject, so that the sub-Committee can take these into account at their next meeting. It is difficult to give members who are unaware of the background to this problem some idea of the questions we are asking ourselves without unconsciously echoing the writer's prejudices, so I trust members will accept the following as a stimulus to their own thoughts only.

However, I do think it is generally accepted that the establishment of "Branches" must mean some sort of devaluation; beyond this we need to decide, for example, what physical area they should administer; what their responsibilities and privileges should be; are they to be small groups of people (i.e. committees) apart from their constituent group; if so, how are its members to be selected in some democratic form; and again what should be their composition; and what is their relationship to the General Committee to be; what do you think should be the position in London - should it be included as a Branch?

This is an important step for the Society to take, and we do need your assistance. If you have any ideas, please let us know what they are in writing as soon as possible. All letters to be addressed to me at 28 Hayes Court, Camberwell New Road, London SE5 0TQ.

GEORGE SWEETLAND

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" S L A V A "

SATURDAY, 26TH MARCH, 1977 AT 7.30 P.M.

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

Come and view the combined forces of 'JACY TACY' (Poland) and 'ZIVKO FIRFOV' (Jugoslavia) in their dancing and singing. Each group will be showing five different sets of costumes during their respective items. 'JACY TACY' will be presenting for the first time their dances and costumes from the Rzeszow region of Poland, and 'ZIVKO FIRFOV' will include new dances from Croatia and Macedonia, supported by their new instrumental group.

Tickets: Balcony (reserved) £1. Main Hall (unreserved) 60p. (Old-age pensioners and children 40p). All tickets (reserved and unreserved) are obtainable in advance from any member of the groups or from: Mr. J. Gilliam, 25 Northwood Road, Carshalton, Surrey. Please send stamped addressed envelope. Cheques and Postal Orders payable to J. E. Gilliam.

FIFE AND DRUM

I was interested in the note in last month's NEWS about musical instruments, and the Fife and Drum in particular. Before I knew any better, I used to think that the pipe and drum were the prerogative of Northern areas, e.g. Scotland in Great Britain, Brittany in France, Galicia and the Basque regions of Spain. That is, until I went to the Spring Fair in Seville some years ago with members of Margaret Colato's Spanish group. We heard the Sevillanas, the four traditional dances of Seville, played on the pipe and drum, and the effect was magical. This particular style of playing is very much part of the ceremonies and pilgrimage of the Virgen del Rocio, which takes place in May. The Virgen del Rocio is a small wooden statue found at the foot of a tree, and apparently dropped from the sky, (the word 'rocio' literally means dew). Processions of decorated wagons set out from all points in Andalucia and meet up at Almonte in the Province of Huelva, with dancing and singing all the way. It is often a rough difficult journey through marshlands (perhaps these days, less so) and the style of the Sevillanas Rocieras is quite distinctive.

After the Fair we went on to Huelva where we found them preparing for the pilgrimage and were shown their own statue and wagon for the procession. The piper there was a man of about 60 years of age, known as "El Pollo" (literally translated as "the chicken" though he wasn't - if you see what I mean). I took a photograph of him which never came out, which was just as well since I would not have been able to send him a copy as I could not understand his address and he did not know how to write it.

Some weeks later I read in a Madrid newspaper that El Pollo had sold his smallholding and come to Madrid to seek his fortune by playing his pipe and drum, on which he claimed he could play even Flamenco, which nobody else was capable of doing. I learned no more of him and if he didn't find his fortune, I hope he was happy in the search.

KELSEY BLUNDELL

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'JACY TACY' JUMBLE SALE

Many thanks to all our friends who turned out something for us, and especially to those (including a whole squad of Southgates!) who came along to help us on the day. We had fine weather, lots of good things to sell, lots of people there to buy them, and a splendid lunch provided by our 'caterer', so it was a good day all round, especially as we now can pay for our new costumes.

BETTY HARVEY

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Will Green is having the copies of SIFD NEWS for 1976 bound into book form, as previous years have been, but is one copy short - March 1976. If anyone has the March issue and does not wish to keep it, would he/she please contact Will Green, Tel. 01 703 4008.

HONG KONG'S DRAGON DANCE

One of the more exotic imports currently awaiting clearance from the Customs is a 140 ft. long silver Hong Kong dragon. It has been shipped to London by the Hong Kong government in time for ceremonies marking the Chinese New Year on 18th February, but its moment of glory will be Sunday, 20th February, when, stuffed with its complement of 24 Chinese cooks and waiters, it will perform the first ever Chinese Dragon Dance on British soil in Trafalgar Square.

The dance is apparently an exhausting affair and requires great stamina in those who supply the motive power to its sinuous coils. A reserve team will be standing by to take over when the original 24-man team runs out of steam. The full Dragon Dance team consists of some 80 men who are currently being trained in their spare time by masters of the ancient ritual.

The dragon starts life blind and only takes life once its eyes have been painted in. Dotted the eye of the dragon is considered a great honour, and on this occasion it has fallen to the Lord Mayor of Westminster, Alderman Jack Gillett. Once dotted into life the dragon twists and turns to the beat of drums and gongs as it follows a huge "pearl" on a pole held aloft by the leader of the team.

After savorting through Trafalgar Square, the dragon and full supporting cast representing the sun and moon, the phoenix and other allegorical beasts will wind their brilliant way along Whitcomb and Wardour Streets to the heart of London's Chinatown. Over 15,000 Hong Kong Chinese live in London and this year's dance not only welcomes in the year of the snake, it is also meant as the community's tribute to the Queen on her Silver Jubilee.

"OBSERVER"
Financial Times

BASQUE DAY COURSE

Date: Saturday, 12th March, 1977
Time: 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.
Place: Hugh Myddelton School, Corporation Row, Clerkenwell Green, London, E.C.1.
Tutors: Simon & Joan Guest
Fee: 50p members, £1.00 non-members.

Tea and coffee will be available, but please bring a packed lunch.

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.

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The next Day Course after this will be PORTUGUESE on 2nd April.

SARDANAS

It was good to see so many dancers join in the Sardanas when it was included recently in Sunday dances and also (although the circles were a little smaller at the end of the dance) to see so many persevere to the end. Several members have expressed pleasure at having this dance included and would like to have more opportunity of dancing it, and although one or two have commented on its length, nobody has actually complained that 10-15 minutes or more should have been devoted to one dance. However, I would be glad to know people's views to find out just how much interest there is among members for this very much alive folk dance. I hope to learn some different (and shorter!) Catalan dances just as soon as my employer sends me again to the Costa Brava, since I now have a couple of contacts there.

It has been suggested that it would be much nicer to dance the Sardanas to live music, so I wrote and asked my new Catalan friend if he could obtain written music for me. I heard some weeks ago that he has at last been able to obtain for me music for the piano and for the 'Cobla', which is the traditional Catalan band. It was no easy task, he tells me, but he said when he next sees a stranger dancing in the square who obviously knows how to count and divide the Sardanas, and then finds out that he/she is one of our group, he will know that it has all been worthwhile. So, if anyone is planning to go to the Costa Brava, please be sure to learn the Sardanas before you go, as you are being watched! It really is much easier than the instructions make it seem or the Catalans will allow you to believe. Even the easiest of dances appear complicated when written down.

KELSEY BLUNDELL

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SIFD RESIDENTIAL SUMMER SCHOOL, 1977

Further to the article in last month's issue, we are now able to announce that arrangements are well advanced for the above Summer School. As stated, this will be held at the Dunfermlin College of Physical Education in Edinburgh from 30th July to 6th August, 1977. The address of the college is Cramond Road North, Edinburgh 4.

The tutors will be Radek Kowalczyk from Poland and Nenad Jasna Bicanic from Jugoslavia. We hope soon to have a favourable reply from Finland, to complete the trio of overseas national teachers.

The cost of the week for residents will be £64 for members of SIFD, £67 for non-members; for non-residents the fee will be £20 for members, £23 for non-members.

The above are the basic details; further information will be sent on a separate sheet which will be enclosed with this month's SIFD NEWS, together with an application form.

Our contact who is kindly arranging things for us on the spot in Edinburgh is Joan Henderson, whom many of you know already and will be pleased to meet up with once again this summer.

SUNDAY DANCES

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

April 3rd Cecil Sharp House, Regent's Park Road, N.W.1.

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

At the Cecil Sharp House Dance on 6th March there will be a demonstration of dances from Israel and the Orient, by members of the Hillel Dance Group. On 3rd April, members of the Association Folklorique Chalonnaise from Chalons-sur-Marne, will be showing us some dances from the Champagne district.

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WHAT'S ON

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.

5th CELLIDH 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. Demonstration by Jacy Tacy

12th BASQUE DAY COURSE See page 11.

26th "SLAVA" a concert of Yugoslav and Polish dances. See page 9

April 2nd PORTUGUESE DAY COURSE Hugh Myddelton School, Corporation Row, Clerkenwell Green, E.C.2. 10.30 a.m. Tutor: Annalisa Fox.

2nd GERMAN DAY COURSE followed by an evening Dance, at Marlwood School, Alveston, Bristol. Teacher: Herr Hans-Jorg Brenner.
Course 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (fee 50p), Dance 7 to 10 p.m. (fee 40p).
Organized by The Folk Companions of Marlwood and Patchway;
enquiries to Peter Sumner, Tel: (0454) 414365.

The date for the next Bert Price Proficiency Examination will be 16th July.
Countries: Israel, France, Sweden, Portugal, Basque and Croatia. Syllabuses will be sent out next month.

DANCE LISTS FOR JULY 1977 EXAMINATIONS

BASQUE Fandango (Compulsory)
Arin Arin (Compulsory)
Baztan Dantza
Makil Ttiki
Arku Dantza
Zozo Dantza
Minuet Beri
Zazpi Jauziak
Hegi

FRANCE (Berry and Vendee) Bourree Croisee (Compulsory)
L'Angoise (Compulsory)
Bourree Droite du Pays Fort
Bourree d'Issoudun
Bourree de la Chapelotte
Branle de Cosnay
Deux deux deux

ISRAEL Hora Nirkoda (Compulsory for men and women)
Debka Halel (Compulsory for men)
Ahavat Haqassa (Compulsory for women)
Haroa Haktana
Hora Neurim
Hen Yeronan
Debka Dayagim
Vayiven Uziahu
Debka Uria
Erev Ba

Candidates will also be asked to demonstrate the Yemenite step.

PORTUGAL Verde Gaio (Compulsory)
Gota (Compulsory)
Chula
Beal das Canas
Padeirinha
A Rosa
Vira de Samonde
Senhor da Serra
Vira de Lisboa

SWEDEN Fjallnaspolska (Compulsory)
Fyrmannadans (Compulsory)
Schottische
Hambo
Snurrebocken
Daldans
Ovraby Quadrille
Fyrmanna Schottische

Candidates may be asked to demonstrate the Dalsteg, Ostgota steg, Vestgota steg, Schottische step, Blekinge, Step Hop.

SILVER BADGE EXAMINATION
(BERT PRICE PROFICIENCY BADGE)

The next SIFD Bert Price Proficiency Badge (Silver) examination will be held at Hugh Myddelton School, Corporation Row, Clerkenwell Green, London E.C.1. on SATURDAY, 16TH JULY 1977. Three countries will be adjudicated in the morning and two in the afternoon. Applicants will be informed beforehand when to attend.

Application forms must be received by Charles Steventon, at 64 Erridge Road, Merton Park, London S.W.19, by 1st June 1977.

Applicants may choose to be examined in dances from Basque, France (Berry and Vendee), Israel, Portugal and Sweden, taken from the list shown overleaf, and will be asked to dance those dances marked 'Compulsory' plus three others from the list for each country.

Gaining a Silver Badge will be dependent on being able to satisfy the assessors as to style, technique (execution of steps, etc.) and knowledge of the dances (sequences, figures, positions, etc.). Marks will be awarded for these abilities with emphasis on style. The examination is not intended to qualify the participants as teachers.

The adjudicators may, at their discretion, ask for certain steps to be demonstrated. If a 'set' dance is chosen and there are insufficient dancers to make up a set, then applicants may be examined in their knowledge of the steps and the sequences.

Applicants will be expected to wear appropriate clothing (e.g. full skirts where traditional for style) and footwear (e.g. boots, heeled shoes, bare feet, etc.).

Applicants may bring a partner with them (who may or may not wish to be judged for a badge).

A fee of £1 will be charged to everyone taking the examination.

All participants must be fully paid-up members of the S.I.F.D.