

SIFD

NEWS



Blata, south bohemia.

January 1979

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

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Enquiries and orders for SIFD books, records, and cassettes should be sent to Mrs. Audrey Whiteley, 16 De Vere Walk, Watford, Herts.

This month's cover design is another in the series of Bohemian costumes drawn by Dorothy Bryan.

WOULD ANY MEMBERS WHO CHANGE THEIR ADDRESS PLEASE NOTIFY EDWINA AND MICHAEL HOLDUP, 16 NETHERBY GARDENS, ENFIELD, MIDDX. AS WELL AS THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

As you are all aware, the Annual General Meeting of the S.I.F.D. was held on 3rd December. We were pleased to see more than 30 members at the meeting, the Minutes of which will be issued early in February.

At the present time, a review of our costumes is in progress, and renovation is being undertaken for us by Dorien Bates. In some instances we are held up by lack of information about costume detail. One way of increasing our knowledge of costumes, not only of the country of origin but also the region within the country, is to collect picture postcards. If any members have duplicates of postcards, or feel they could part with any of their collection, it would be a help both now and in the future. We would like to ask you to remember this request when travelling abroad on holiday; could you please buy costume picture postcards to donate to our collection?

In addition to using the postcards as a check-list in our costume review, we feel it would be interesting to be able to produce a display of pictures when a course is being held for a particular country.

Another necessity for making costumes is, of course, paper patterns. We appreciate these are not easy to come by, but if we knew who has patterns, perhaps when we are stuck we could borrow, or copy. If you can help on either postcards or patterns we shall be pleased to hear from you.

A very happy New Year, and we hope you enjoy your dancing during 1979.

EDNA FOSTER
Hon. Secretary

BERT PRICE PROFICIENCY AWARD SILVER BADGE EXAMINATION

We are enclosing with this issue of SIFD NEWS an application form for the next Silver Badge examination. Applications, with the fee, must be received by Charles Steventon, 64 Erridge Road, London, S.W.19 by 16th January 1979.

JUMBLE SALE

The "JACY TACY" Polish Group are holding a Jumble Sale on SATURDAY, 27TH JANUARY, at 2.30 p.m. at BROMLEY PUBLIC HALL, BOW ROAD, LONDON, E.3. Entrance 4p.

COME ALONG FOR THE BARGAINS - IT'S AMAZING WHAT YOU CAN PICK UP!

If you have any old clothes, bric-a-brac, books etc. please contact any member of the Polish Group or Betty Harvey (Tel: 01 980 9650), and we will arrange collection.

POLISH DANCING FOR BEGINNERS

In addition to the normal Beginners' class at Christopher Hatton School on Mondays from 6.45 to 7.45 p.m., there will be two classes each month on Fridays at Chequers Centre, Chequer Street, off Whitecross Street, off Old Street, London E.C.1., commencing in February 1979. The time will be from 7 to 9 p.m., and the dates for the first two months as follows:-

Friday, 9th February and Friday, 23rd February
Friday, 16th March and Friday, 23rd March.

The aim of these extra classes is not only to give some more time for tuition to regular members of the Polish Beginners' class, but to give an opportunity to anyone who would be interested to learn a little Polish dancing, whilst not necessarily having the time to come regularly to class.

Emphasis will be on thorough learning of steps and style rather than on acquiring quick repertoire.

BETTY HARVEY

S.I.F.D. POLISH DAY COURSE

The next S.I.F.D. Day Course will be held on Saturday, 13th January 1979, when Betty Harvey will be teaching Polish dances listed in the February examinations:

Krakowiak and Oberek (enough steps and sequences to arrange
a choreographed dance)

Zagrodnik
Po Fajdok
Kaczok
Zuraw
Sztajerek
Szurok
Laura
Raz Dwa

As usual the Course will be held at Hugh Myddelton School, Corporation Row, Clerkenwell Green, London E.C.1. from 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Fee: £1 for non SIFD members, 50p for members. Please bring a packed lunch. Tea and coffee available.

REMINDER: All candidates for the Polish Teachers' Examination to be held in July must be holders of the Silver Badge for Polish dancing.

Last month I mentioned that I had particularly enjoyed a solo item by Linsey Pollak who played the gajda and sang at Horniman Museum in November as part of a performance by Ken Ward's Yugoslav class. Fred Wood, member of that class, has kindly given me permission to reprint the following article which he wrote for their news-sheet. Linsey's field of music spread far and wide - York Medieval Fair, Cambridge Folk Festival, Devon Medieval Fayre, Ireland, Belgium, and Bagpipe and Hurdy Gurdy Festival in Southern France, where the local population in each of these places will tell of the young Australian in shorts who played the Macedonian bagpipe. Also mentioned is Bill O'Toole, a fellow Australian, who not only plays well but makes Belgian and French bagpipes, so if any French day courses need a 'live' bagpiper (doodlesac 1 or 2 drones, or cornemuse) they might like to get in touch with Bill. ED.

LINSEY'S FAREWELL

London, Christchurch, Hope Valley, Royal Albert Hall (outside), Early Music Exhibition, Skopje (region of), Birmingham, Zagreb, Bitola, the Star and Garter in Putney - some of the places where Linsey will be remembered, reading like a list of regimental honours.

Linsey came among us just over two years ago on his arrival in London from Australia. He came to earn a living as a baroque musical instrument maker, but we will remember him principally as a musician because he at once made himself felt as a player of no mean skill on kaval - and gajda. Almost at once, he worked into the group's repertoire, and was performing publicly with us from Slava onwards. Besides an obvious skill as a musician he has the manner of the natural leader, relaxed, reliable, and knowing what he is doing.

His arrival was followed by that of an entourage from down under, some being again musicians and instrument makers. All of them came with an easy insouciance of life and dress. Untrammelled by needs such as mowing the lawn, painting the house, dressing for the office, or even paying the rates, they have all manifestly achieved much success in seeing the world and experiencing life fully. None could say they were not but delightful people.

Linsey has now returned to Australia, where among other things he says he intends to form a Macedonian dance group. However, on Saturday, 18th November, he gave his farewell performance, along with Ken Ward, Jerry Wakeman, Chris Gunstone, and Adam, at the folk club of the Star and Garter pub by the Thames in Putney. Preceded and followed by a performer of outstanding wit who could have stolen their thunder, the Zivko Firfov Group musicians nevertheless gave a lively and well-received twenty minutes of Macedonian music that must have been an eye-opener (or ear-opener) to the many present. Linsey also gave a part rendering of that old shepherds' song which so delighted the audience at Horniman Museum two weeks before.

From the pub, the musicians and others went on to a nearby Aussie pad and made music until three in the morning. Fortunately, the venue was a room slightly below ground level, so no problem arose from the neighbours. Here, in the

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simple surroundings of unplastered brick walls and an open hearth, the Zivko Firfov lads made colourful music, playing through what seemed to be their whole repertoire. This was interspersed by some very spirited French and Irish music played on a Flemish-style bagpipe by the redoubtable Bill O'Toole and his colleagues.

Then at last came the moment of farewell; an emotional one, and each of us there - as indeed many who were not there - will feel for many a day that here was one real cobbler who has enriched our lives and whom we will remember fondly, and very much hope to see again.

FRED WOOD

TWORCZOSZ GROUP FROM NOWY SACZ, POLAND

It isn't often that a group such as the above manages to get over here, as, with music and dances solely of their particular small region, they would not be considered a good enough financial proposition for the dance agents here to promote. Indeed, most International Festivals, even the smaller ones, require groups with a wider repertoire, and more than one set of costumes.

However, Tworczosz was sponsored by the Co-operative Society, so we were lucky to have the chance in a number of places to see and hear this splendid small group of musicians and dancers. Here, flowing smoothly, were the truly authentic fast flat polkas and waltzes of this region, linked with splendid singing, especially by the men, and with one of the best folk orchestras I have ever heard.

True, this doesn't necessarily make a satisfactory full-length concert for the average audience, and I must confess that I hoped they would change into costumes from Krakow, which is not far from them, in the second half of their programme and give us a rousing Krakowiak. However, they remained in their own beautiful Sacz costumes, giving their own dances and music superbly, and for once not having to aim at a theatrical performance to entice the general public.

BETTY HARVEY

FOR THE RECORD

E.M.I. have made an L.P. Double Album which is a re-issue of the old 78 rpm. records, recorded under the auspices of the Royal Academy of Dancing and the Physical Education Association. It is called "European National Dances" RLS 720 Mono, records Nos. CLP 3770/3771, and contains 47 dances in all, traditionally arranged by Pat Shuldham-Shaw. This Album may be of value to members, especially those who still have the instruction booklets; "Folk Dances From Many Lands" Series 1-4 and Scandinavian Dances Series 1-3. The album is available from the EFDSS Shop at Cecil Sharp House, but no dance instructions are included. The Editor, and also Frank Flanagan, have a list of the dances on the album, should anyone wish to know more details.

S.I.F.D. MIDLANDS BRANCH - SELPAR
Chairman's Report submitted at their A.G.M.

Although our activities are written about in the SIFD NEWS, it would be as well to remind ourselves of our busy year and our flourishing enthusiasm.

October saw us demonstrating at Sparkhill Council of Churches, where the local groups of all races and creeds gathered for an evening's party and entertainment. Our demonstration was very well received, as also was our Greek Dance to a Rumba from the Steel Band!

November brought the demonstration for the Sports Council at Birmingham Central Hall. (No bombs this time, fortunately), and May saw the Group spellbinding the audience of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society Annual Festival with two sessions of Hungarian Dance. In the same month we were guests of the Central Synagogue to dance in celebration of their thirtieth anniversary.

June's Safari was a great success, not least the final stop at a country pub with garden and pond! Next was our participation in Swanshurst School Fete, and then in July to Bromsgrove Fete with Brass Band and Majorettes competing with our music!

Sadly, the August Hungarian Workshop was cancelled as Magda Ossko was unable to visit us, but that will be rectified next year, we hope.

The new term started off with a demonstration of many dances at Acocks Green Church, and October found us demonstrating Israeli dances at Dudley Town Hall as the start of "One World" week. November 11th/12th brought two hectic days of Dances from all Nations, also part of "One World" week, where at a Teach-In we showed and taught Hungarian and Romanian dances, and in return learned some from the Middle East and India.

In between all these events were weekends of dancing and walking, visits abroad, and to Festivals here, and the participation by some of our members in Festivals in Yugoslavia. A full year; an interesting year; but above all a hard year. Now we have reorganized ourselves and meet not as a full F.E. Class but as an Associated Group of the Institute, making it a cheaper financial arrangement for the group but still working on a fairly formal basis, which balances well with the group running at Lyndon School led by our own members for people in that district.

Membership has increased, averaging 24 here on Tuesdays, and our efforts in demonstrations have enabled us to buy a new tape recorder. All this could not be done without the enthusiasm of all the members, and the hard work of the folk who help to make it all possible. Our thanks are due particularly to those who do all this and keep contact with so much that goes on in London and other areas. We only wish for more support in return, as the Society has gained many new members since our group first started. Perhaps that too will come, as the next year promises to be as busy as this one has been.

SYBIL CHAPMAN
Chairman

FOLKDANCING IN SOUTH AMERICA

The Inter-American Institute of Ethnomusicology and Folklore have specialists engaged in field research in many Latin American and Caribbean countries. These specialists (ethnomusicologists, ethnologists, film-makers, etc.) have lived for varying periods among aboriginal and folk communities to record their music and to document the most authentic expressions of each culture.

They have produced quite a lot of documental material which is available for anyone to purchase from their Institute (INIDEF, Apartado 81.015, Caracas, Venezuela). The material comprises Audiovisual Kits (cultural report, cassette with music, colour slides) on aboriginal cultures, Honduras, Panama, Ecuador, Venezuela, Panama and Chile; records, post-cards, books, films.

Further details from the Inter-American Institute of Ethnomusicology and Folklore, address as above.

SUMMER SCHOOL IN AUVERGUE

The Inter-Groupe Folklores (Region Parisienne) are organizing a Summer Course in Auvergne, France, from 15th to 25th July 1979. Although the wording of the information received is not absolutely clear, it would seem that this particular course may cover Bulgarian, Romanian and Spanish dances as well as French, but full details can be obtained from Sylvaine Godard, Inter-Groupe Folklores, 4 Passage Barrault, 75013 Paris, France.

GERMAN DANCES

Any members particularly interested in German dances may like to know that the German Institute in London has a collection of books, available for loan, on German folkdances, some with illustrations, some with music. The books are printed in German but the music might be of interest to some of our teachers and/or musicians, and Stephen Ward would be pleased to give a little help with the translation of instructions.

FRIDAY "DEMONSTRATION" CLASSES

The dates for the next monthly Friday classes at Chequer Centre are:-

5th January and
2nd February
6.30 to 9.30 p.m.

FOLK DANCES AND COSTUMES OF THE USSR

Jenia Graman's next lecture "FOLK DANCES AND COSTUMES OF THE USSR" will be given on Friday, 2nd February, for the Watford Ballet Club at Cassio College, Langley Road, Watford, at 8 p.m. The following is a recently published description of her lecture:-

"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 easily 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 to use traditional steps and movements to form new patterns. There are mass dances, couple dances, solos, girls' dances, men's dances, to folk instruments or to singing. They wear long skirts, short skirts, tight or wide trousers, elaborate headdresses or wreaths of flowers, black boots, red boots, intricately patterned many-coloured boots; there are comic dances, work dances, lyrical dances, heroic dances - the whole range of human emotions is covered. Jenia Graman illustrates her lecture with lantern slides and original tapes, and will demonstrate basic steps".

S.I.F.D. SUMMER SCHOOL/WEEKENDS

Before pursuing the idea of holding a Summer School at Swansea University in 1980 or 1981, we would like to have an indication of what members' feelings are on this. Without committing yourself in any way, would you kindly write to Jack Richardson, Dept. of Chemical Engineering, University College of Swansea, Singleton Park, Swansea, and let him know if you would be interested in attending such a Course. When we have an idea of the number of people likely to be interested, we shall know whether to go ahead and book the College or not.

Also, we would like to have an indication of how many people would be interested in spending a weekend at Uplands, which would now cost in the region of £20. We used to enjoy many weekends at this lovely house, but before exploring the possibility of booking it again, would like to know if members would be willing to pay up to £20 for a weekend there. If so, would you please let Jack Richardson know. Again, this will not in any way be a commitment.

CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBER

Would members please note that Joan and Jack Richardson's home telephone number in Swansea has been changed from 0792 68853 to 0792 403153.

ADVANCE NOTICE

The Folk Companions group will be organizing a Day Course in Swedish folk dances on SATURDAY, 24TH FEBRUARY 1979 at Marlwood School, Vattingstone Lane, Alveston, Near Bristol, from 10.30 a.m. to 5.45 p.m., followed by a Dance in the evening, 7.30 to 10.30 p.m. Tutor: Sune Helgesson of Folkdans Vastanvind Laget from Gothenburg. Course fee: 75p. Dance ticket: 50p.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

24th March A day of French dancing, followed by a Dance in the evening, at Enfield, Middx. Keep this date free; further details later.

30th March/1st April Balkan weekend at Dunford.

4th/7th May The EFDSS are organizing a Festival at Eastbourne and intend to make it an international event by including choices of different workshops to attend, and fully international social dance evenings. Discounts are available to SIFD members, who may attend as groups or as individuals. Accommodation can be arranged in hotels, guest houses, self-catering flats, caravans, camping. Full details from Mr. Peter Mayes, Festival Organizer, 8 The Sanctuary, Eastbourne, Sussex.

23rd/30th June Folkestone International Folklore Festival.

21st/28th July Week's Course in Swiss Folk Dancing at St. Moritz, Switzerland. The surrounding countryside is very beautiful and as well as the dancing, one can climb, swim, sail, surf - even ski on the higher mountains. Full details of the course from Dr. Hans Walter Maurer, Wydackering 144, CH-8047 Zurich, Switzerland.

We are very sorry to announce that BARBARA DULEBA, who was a pianist at many of our functions for several years, and also at the Polish YMCA, died on 19th November, aged 71 years. She will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

S.I.F.D. ASSOCIATED CLASSES

EASTERN EUROPEAN

Every Tuesday at St. Marylebone School, 74 Marylebone High Street (off Baker Street) London. 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. Tutor: Alan McLean.

EUROPEAN NATIONAL

Every Wednesday at St. Albans School, Baldwins Gardens, London, 6.00 to 7.00 p.m. Beginners. 7.15 to 9.15 p.m. General & Advanced. Tutor: Janet Woolbar.

At Rutlish School, Watery Lane, London, S.W.20 during term time: Beginners on Mondays 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. (Two classes 15-30 and over 30s). Advanced on Wednesdays 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. Contact: Charles Steventon. Tel: 542 3831.

HUNGARIAN (including Transylvanian)

Every Friday at Millbank School, Erasmus Street, Pimlico, London (behind Tate Gallery and 5 minutes from Pimlico Station). 6.30 to 9.30 p.m. Tutor: Alan McLean.

ISRAELI

Every Wednesday at Kidbrooke School, Corelli Road, London, S.E.3. 7 to 8 p.m. Beginners. 8 to 10 p.m. Advanced. Tutor: Gaye Saunte (Tel: 01 318 0237)

Every Thursday at Henry Fawcett School, Bowling Green Street, Oval, London, S.E.11. 6.15 to 7.15 p.m. Basic Israeli Dance Course. 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. Advanced. Tutor: Fiona Howarth. New members should consult Fiona before enrolling for the Advanced Class.

POLISH

Every Monday at Christopher Hatton School, Laystall Street, Rosebery Avenue, London, E.C.1. 6.45 to 7.45 p.m. Beginners. 8 to 10 p.m. Advanced. Tutor: Betty Harvey.

JUGOSLAV

Every Tuesday at West Square Branch of South Bank Institute, St. George's Road, London, S.E.1. 6.15 to 8.15 p.m. Beginners and Intermediate. 8.30 to 9.30 p.m. Advanced. Tutor: Ken Ward.

S.I.F.D. AFFILIATED GROUPS

RAINMAKERS INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Friday 8 to 10 p.m. at Stevenage Catholic Church Hall, Albert Street, Old Stevenage, Herts. Secretary: Roy Bowtell, 9 Beech Drive, Stevenage, Herts. Tel: Stevenage 2871.

KAROMA FOLK DANCE GROUP meet at South Wellfield Middle School, Whitley Bay, each Wednesday in term time from 12.30 to 2 p.m. Tutor: Kaye Lewis Poole, 50 Antonine Walk, Heddon-on-the-Wall, Northumberland. Tel: Wylam 2495. Further information from Brenda Ross, 26 Waterloo Road, Wellfield, Whitley Bay. Tel: Whitley Bay 534597.

BARLOW INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meet every Tuesday (except end of July and all August) at Wilbraham Road United Reformed Church Hall, Chorlton, Manchester, from 7.30 to 10 p.m. Further details from Philip Lloyd, 268 Upper Chorlton Road, Manchester (Tel: 061 881 3613).

WOODVALE INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Tuesday at Borough Green Village Hall, 7.45 to 10 p.m. Chairman: Ernie Nolan, 16 Drylands Road, Borough Green. Tel: Borough Green 883380. Secretary: Heather Dobson, 8 Holmesdale Road, Sevenoaks, Kent. Tel: Sevenoaks 57455. The group breaks for four weeks during August.

REMINDER: Affiliated and Associated groups and classes who wish to be listed in the SIFD NEWS must send details to the Editor as well as to Frank Flanagan.

S.I.F.D. BRANCHES

"SELPAR" (Midlands Branch of SIFD). Classes on Tuesday evenings in term time, 7.15 to 9.00 p.m. at Selly Park School, Stirchley, Pershore Road, Birmingham. Teacher: Miss S. Chapman. Further details from Rod Perkins, 3 Linnet Close, Bournville, Birmingham B301XB. Tel: 021 471 1373.

FUTURE S.I.F.D. DAY COURSES

SIFD Day Courses are on the second Saturday of each month. The following programme has been arranged for the first half of 1979.

January 13th :	POLISH.	Tutor: Betty Harvey.
February 10th :	SILVER BADGE EXAMINATIONS.	
March 10th :	CATALAN.	Tutor: Lucile Armstrong.
* April 7th :	BULGARIAN.	Tutor: Brian Dowsett.
May 12th :	ARMENIAN.	Tutor: Frances Horrocks.
June 9th :	SWEDISH.	Tutor: Joan Richardson.
July 14th :	SPECIALIST TEACHER'S EXAMINATION IN POLISH DANCING.	

All these events will be at Hugh Myddelton School, Corporation Row, Clerkenwell Green, London, E.C.1. from 10.30 to 4.30 p.m. Tuition fee for each course (at present): 50p members, £1 non-members. Tea and coffee will be available. Please bring a packed lunch.

* Date to be confirmed.

SUNDAY DANCES

Jan 7th NEW YEAR'S DANCE WITH FOUR M.C.'s at Cecil Sharp House, Regent's Park Road, London, N.W.1.

Feb. 4th Cecil Sharp House, Regent's Park Road, London, N.W.1.
M.C.: Fiona Howarth.

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

WHAT'S ON

Jan. 6th TWELFTH NIGHT DANCE, organized by Barlow International Folk Dance Group, Manchester, at Allen Hall, Wilmslow Road, Fallowfield. General international dancing. Tickets £1.50 for adults, £1.00 for school-age, including supper. Further information from Philip Lloyd, tel. 061 881 3613.

13th SIFD DAY COURSE IN POLISH DANCES. See page 4.

20th DAY COURSE OF ARMENIAN & ISRAELI DANCES (mainly), organized by Bristol International Folk Dance Group at Friends Meeting House, 126 Hampton Road, Redland, Bristol.6. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Evening Dance 7 to 10 p.m. Tutor: Frances Horrocks. SIFD members £1, non-SIFD members £1.25. Applications and enquiries to Hilda Sturge, 10 Carmarthen Road, Bristol B59 4DU. Tel: 0272 625750.

27th POLISH JUMBLE SALE. See page 3.

Feb. 2nd "FOLK DANCES AND COSTUMES OF THE USSR" - Lecture. See page 9.

ALL MATERIAL FOR PUBLICATION IN THE FEBRUARY ISSUE MUST REACH THE EDITOR
IN WRITING BY 15TH JANUARY.

! H A P P Y N E W Y E A R !