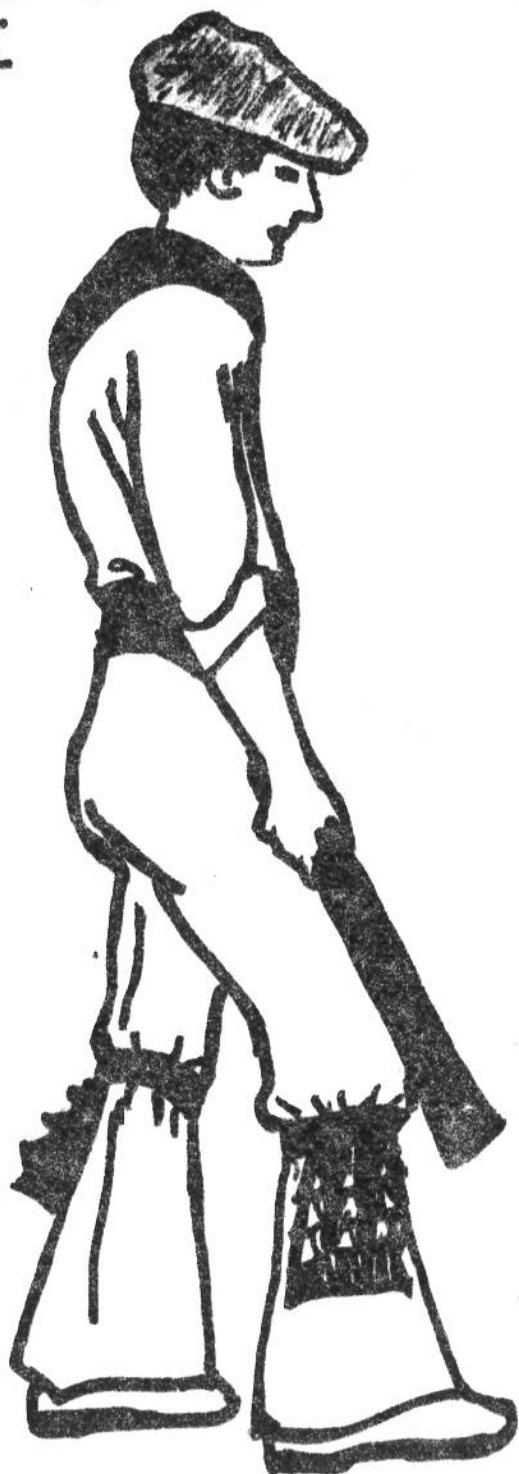


SIFD

NEWS

JUNE

1979



BASQUE
REGION OF
FRANCE

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

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Tel: Kings Langley 62763.

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 is by Leo Denhard and shows a couple from Guthary near St. Jean de Luz, Basque Region of France.

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

During the May Committee Meeting we spent some time discussing a subject which has been raised many times in the past - the feasibility of buying amplification etc. equipment. The Committee are fully aware of the need, but have not come up with a solution to the question of storage and accessibility. Having no headquarters presents some problems. The 'caretaker' of any equipment must be prepared to supply the equipment wherever and whenever it is needed. Another aspect which has proved to be a problem in the past is the care and operation of the Society's property. When it is operated by people who are not familiar with it, experience shows that it gets damaged - not wilfully - and then it is possibly out of action for the next user. So, if you can solve the storage/accessibility/operator problems for us, we are more than ready to spend the money on new equipment. Any ideas please?

Secretaries of Groups requesting teachers' fees from the Treasurer are asked to give full details of the length of the teaching session and fee involved when writing to the Treasurer.

Those of you who do come to Cecil Sharp House are familiar with the arrangements for giving notice of forthcoming events; if you have an item for announcement, will you please give it to Roland Minton, or whoever is on the door that evening, in writing with full details, and they will be read out. This will avoid several people making announcements, and ensure the details are correct.

Current membership totals 410 - highest ever.

EDNA FOSTER
Hon. Secretary

SIFD "DEMONSTRATION/ REVISION" CLASSES

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

Friday, 1st June

Friday, 29th June

6.45 to 9.30 p.m.

Members who usually, or sometimes, come along are asked to make a special effort to be there on the 29th June as we should like to hold a discussion that evening on the future of the class.

ALL MATERIAL FOR THE JULY ISSUE MUST REACH THE EDITOR IN WRITING BY 15TH JUNE.

A LETTER FROM CHRIS GUNSTONE

Chris Gunstone, who many members know as musician and dancer with Ken Ward's Yugoslav class has been on a two-month tour in Australia and, from the account he has sent us, has been having a marvellous time. He says, -

"The "folk" world here is alive, young, and healthy, and interest in Macedonian folkdances and music is evidenced by the good attendance at workshops in Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne. The workshops are run by Mile Kolarov, 71 years old, 20 years on Radio Skopje, 5 years with the Macedonian professional dance group "Tanec", and the best acknowledged kaval player in Macedonia; Lazo Nikolovski, superb gaida player, who plays for "Koco Rasin" Skopje and Radio Skopje; Linsey Pollak (Australian) very talented musician, whom many of you know from his two years with Ken's group in London, and myself, musician for four years with Ken's group. We all teach dances as well as playing. We have hardly stopped working since we got here, and Linsey organized everything wonderfully for the two-month duration of the tour.

We have been along to teach dances to the various folklore dance groups among the emigree population of Macedonians (there are 60,000 Macedonians in Sydney!) as well as to the Sedenka International Dance Group, who are largely native Australians, "Sedenka", along with the Australian Council financed and supported the tour.

We have performed on several different radio programmes, playing solo numbers as well as group items. The first was all in Macedonian language for the Ethnic Radio Station, when we all played solo items: Mile "Ovcarsko" (shepherd's melody), Lazo "Svadbursko Oro" (wedding dance), Linsey (Number One bagpiper in Australia as the announcer said in Macedonian) played "Sitno Kicevsko" and I played "Malasevsko Oro" on the tambura. Then we all played together for the fade-out. At the next radio station we were on a folk programme in Australian and just played solidly with four different solos and many band pieces, Linsey compering as well in between. I played Sandansko Oro on the tambura for my solo item. We astounded many people with the hypnotic Macedonian music.

In Woolagong there are 9,000 Macedonians, and we were there in a concert with our friends K.U.D. Vardar whom we had met at the Bitola Festival in Yugoslavia last year.

Every night we are working at folkdance workshops and all day at the weekends. It is non-stop and we get very tired. At the Universities we play and give a combined lecture for the students. I have been teaching four dances of the 30 that Linsey Pollak, Linda Dawson and I collected after the Bitola Macedonian Festival 1978 by following up invitations from the many friends we made there among the musicians. The musicians are the most important key to learning as they know not only the music but the dances note for note.

After an evening public concert in Canberra we were rushed over to Quebec where the Macedonian Community there were celebrating Orthodox Easter Sunday. We had a tremendous reception from them. The President of the Community met us outside and took us in. The people lined up on both sides and we walked down the centre to the stage amidst fantastic cheers and acclamation. We played and danced with great fervour, equally matched by the Macedonian families dancing.

/Contd.....

We hope to make an L.P. record soon, and my Kemence is featuring now in our repertoire. We are having a marvellous time in Sydney. Some of the suburbs are really international in looks, alphabets, goods and people. It's not at all like the "outback" image we have of them back in the U.K.!

We're being looked after by "Sedenka" International Folk Dance Group as their personal guests and we are shared out amongst the group. They have even organized themselves so that there is usually one car (in turn) available for Linsey or Linda to drive us around and get us across this huge 60-mile diameter city!".

DATES FOR YOUR 1980 DIARY

May 2nd/5th	WEEKEND AT HALSWAY MANOR.	Organized by Michael Clark.
May 2nd/5th	WEEKEND AT DUNFORD.	Organized by Ken Ward's Balkan Class.
July 18th/20th	WEEKEND AT DUNFORD.	Organized by Jack Richardson.
Dec. 19th/21st	WEEKEND AT DUNFORD.	Organized by Jack Richardson.

In addition to the above, there will also be a Weekend at Dunford, organized by Jack Richardson, from 14th to 16th December 1979.

We are giving the above 1980 dates well in advance, so that groups organizing events may plan to avoid further clashing of dates, which can be a disadvantage to all concerned.

SIFD DAY COURSE IN SWEDISH DANCES

SATURDAY 9TH JUNE

This month Joan Richardson and Janet Woolbar will be teaching Swedish dances. In the morning Janet will teach a selection from:

Trekarlspolska, Östgotapolska, Västgotapolska, Fryksdalspolska.

After lunch Joan will continue with:

Ranningen, Smålandspolska, Ekebyspolska.

Joan suggests that shoes with small heels should be worn.

As usual the course will be from 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. at Hugh Myddelton School, Corporation Row, Clerkenwell Green, London, E.C.1.

Fee: 50p members, £1 non-members. Tea and coffee available. Please bring a packed lunch.

VORDINGBORG SPILLEMANDSLAUG

A Danish folk group of 18 dancers, 10 fiddlers and relatives is visiting England for a week in July this year and will be based in London.

On Saturday, 14th July, the Vordingborg Spillemandslaug has been invited to Borough Green Village Hall, Kent, to meet the Woodvale International Folk Dance Group for an exchange of Danish and English dances in the afternoon from 2.30 to 5.30 p.m. approximately. This will be followed by a general Dance in the evening from about 7.30 p.m.

Any member of the S.I.F.D. is welcome to attend the teaching session and/or the evening Dance without charge, but no food, only drinks, will be provided, so please bring your own. Only the Danes will be fed and watered!

Further information from Heather Dobson, Tel: Sevenoaks (0732) 57455.

DANCE TEAMS FROM LLANGOLLEN

As announced in last month's "SIFD NEWS" the S.I.F.D. will be arranging a party to coincide with the end of the Eisteddfod at Llangollen, on Saturday, 7th July 1979, at 7 p.m. at Lyndhurst Hall, Warden Road, London N.W.5. The hall is quite near to Cecil Sharp House, about 10-15 minutes' walk from Kentish Town Underground Station. There is a good floor for dancing, with catering facilities, and a changing room.

It is hoped that some teams from the Eisteddfod will be appearing but it must be emphasized that this is very much in the lap of the gods. If we can get in touch with the group leaders at Llangollen, and if they are coming to London, we shall have some interesting items to watch. From past experience, there are usually one or two groups passing through on Saturday, so we may be fortunate. If any member is aware of anyone who will be competing, or if they are prepared to assist in publicising the event at the Eisteddfod, I would be pleased to hear from them.

The rest of the evening will be devoted to a social dance, with Charles Steventon and myself as M.C.s and Wilf Horrocks taking care of the music in his usual debonaire fashion. Tickets will be 75p for S.I.F.D. and Affiliated Group members, and 85p for others, but numbers will be limited. Tickets will be available at the Cecil Sharp House Dances in June and July. Anyone unable to attend these can obtain tickets from me at the address below, and leaders may take a batch of tickets "on approval" for sale within their groups.

GEORGE SWEETLAND

28 Hayes Court,
Camberwell New Road,
London S.E.5.

Tel: 01 701 3785

TURKISH DELIGHT

It was with some curiosity and not a little scepticism that I looked forward to meeting in person Bora Ozkok, whose name I had seen so many times over several years in the various American folkdance magazines coupled with numerous superlatives extolling his ability as teacher, musician, dancer, and exponent of Turkish folk dances; workshop organizer, and arranger of folklore excursions into Eastern Turkey, etc.

Bora was passing through London at the end of a 2½-month tour of Eastern Europe and Asia and, with the aid of S.I.F.D. member Pauline Welch, and support from the S.I.F.D. Committee, two classes of two hours each were arranged at short notice on 16th and 17th May at Gateway School in North-West London.

As soon as the first class began it became obvious that here was a teacher of long experience, who knew how to handle a class. He chose dances that were enjoyable to do, with inspiring music, but not too difficult steps; he certainly knew his subject, and had all the "semi-professional" patter to keep the class alive, amused and "together", singling out no-one but repeating each step until everyone had mastered it. The class went smoothly, without a hitch, and his teaching ability is unquestionable. Bora is a Turk who, although he travels a great deal and frequently goes back to Turkey, has lived in the U.S.A. for 17 years, which accounts for his very American style of patter.

He taught four dances the first evening, YAYLALAR, GARZANE, KONYALI and MANI, from different regions of Turkey, with explanations of the titles and the styles of the dances, and then showed a film consisting of dances and music from various regions, again showing the different styles and rhythmic steps and costumes, which was quite interesting.

On the second evening, there were many more people there, and this time he taught DELILO, which some of us already knew (although again it was a slightly different version from that taught to us by Cenzig Karahan some years ago); he repeated GARZANE, and then taught a sixth dance ISLIP; he again finished by showing the film.

Two hours is really not long enough to take full advantage of such a course, especially in a country's dances whose music is not always easy to assimilate, and I would have liked a longer session. Bora Ozkok's style is beautiful to watch and what little he played on the zurna was certainly very good indeed. I think he would be a very popular teacher at one of our Summer Schools but whether we could afford him is another matter! - and of course the dances were chosen from several different records which it would be necessary to buy to be able to make use of the dances. His fees certainly make me realize how fortunate we are in having such excellent teachers within our Society, and friends of the Society, who are willing to give so much of their time for very little monetary reward, if any. Also, our teachers are usually only too willing to let us record the music, and even record it for us.

However, thank you Pauline Welch, and anyone else who was involved in arranging these classes, and thank you to the Committee for agreeing at short notice to help sponsor Bora Ozkok if necessary. The whole project was certainly very worthwhile and most enjoyable.

LILY SOUTHGATE

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, 30 Knighton Road, Bournville, Birmingham B31 2EH. Tel: 021 475 3440.

NEWS FROM BRISTOL

On 12th May the Bristol International Folk Dance Group took part in a "Dance International" programme organized by the Youth Service at the Bristol Little Theatre. Most of the groups appearing were representing their own countries, including a group from the Bristol Polish community, some Chilean refugees, and two West Indian groups, one of which also presents West African dances with great verve and skill.

Our group had been asked to perform a series of Israeli dances. This was the group's most ambitious effort so far, and for the first time we had done a complete programme of one nationality, necessitating the making of a complete set of costumes. We managed to recruit four men for the occasion, including David Young, whose experience with the Hillel Group was invaluable in tightening up on authenticity (sic) and style.

Dennis Hunt brought his family down from Coventry to play for us again, as they did at the Bristol College Fair last July. What would we do without our friends!

HILDA STURGE
10 Carmarthen Road
Bristol

MAISONETTE TO LET

In Barnes, South-West London - a two-bedroomed maisonette available for short lets this summer. Reasonable rent for SIFD members and friends. Possibility of a long term let from September. Details from Jean Holemans, Garden Flat, 45 Hampton Park, Bristol 6. Tel: 0272 33776.

S.I.F.D. ASSOCIATED CLASSES

DANISH

Every Monday in The Drama Hall, Kidbrooke School, Corelli Road, London S.E.3.
7.30 to 9.30 p.m. Tutor: Gaye Saunte.

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. ASSOCIATED CLASSES - Continued

TURKISH

Every Thursday in term time only, at Gateway School (Marylebone Evening Institute), Frampton Street, London (near Edgware Road Underground) 7 to 9 p.m. Tutor: Sait Serifoglu. Secretary: Pauline Welch, 15 Boleyn Avenue, E.Ewell, Epsom, Surrey.

S.I.F.D. AFFILIATED GROUPS

FOLKESTONE DISTRICT NATIONAL DANCE GROUP meet at South Kent College of Technology, Folkestone, every Tuesday from 7.45 to 9.00 p.m. Secretary: Mrs. F. Cox, 24 Darnley Close, Folkestone, Kent.

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 meets 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 groups breaks for four weeks during August.

KENSINGTON SLAVONIC DANCERS (Czechoslovak dancing) meet every Wednesday at the Fox School, Kensington Institute, Kensington Place, London, W.8. (nearest Underground: Nottinghill Gate) from 7 to 9.30 p.m. Beginners and Advanced. Tutor: Hedy Fromings. Tel: 01 699 8597.

BARNET INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CLUB meets every Friday, 8 to 11 p.m. at Hadley Memorial Hall, Hadley Highstone, Barnet, Herts. Leader: Brian Dowsett. Secretary: Janet Heathfield, 29 Cedar Avenue, East Barnet, Herts. Tel: 01 368 5345.

CANONS FOLK DANCERS meet each Tuesday at Park High School, Stanmore, Middx (in term time only) from 7.45 to 9.45 p.m. Nearest station: Canons Park. Further information from the Secretary: Joan G.S. Goodman. Tel: 01 907 9857.

WYCOMBE FOLK DANCE CLUB meets every Monday except in August and on Bank Holidays, at The Guildhall, High Wycombe, Bucks. Enquiries to Terry Reid. Tel: High Wycombe 37758.

SUNDAY DANCES

- June 3rd Cecil Sharp House, Regent's Park Road, London N.W.1.
M.C. Brian Dowsett (introducing some Bulgarian/Balkan dances).
- July 1st Cecil Sharp House, Regent's Park Road, London N.W.1.
M.C. Simon Guest. Demonstration by team from Birmingham, and session of mixed dances to be led by Sybil Chapman.

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

WHAT'S ON

- June 8th AN EVENING OF TURKISH DANCES at Barnet International Folk Dance Club, Memorial Hall, Hadley Highstone, Barnet at 8 p.m. Tutor: Sait Serifoglu. Enquiries to Janet Heathfield, Tel: 01 368 5345.
- June 9th SIFD SWEDISH DAY COURSE. See page 5.
- June 9th BALKAN PARTY run by Ken Ward's Yugoslav Class in aid of the Yugoslav Earthquake Fund. 7 to 11 p.m. Johanna Street School, Lower Marsh, London S.E.1. (Nearest Station: Waterloo). Admission by ticket only. Tickets £2.00 including refreshments, from Fred Wood, 43 Gillmans Road, Orpington, Kent. (s.a.e. please) or telephone Erith 47724 (office) Orpington 27363 (home).
- June 22nd/24th HAMA'AGAL ISRAELI DANCE GROUP. Weekend at Halsway Manor.
- June 23rd/29th FOLKESTONE INTERNATIONAL FOLKLORE FESTIVAL. Full details from Official Information Centre, Sandgate Road, Folkestone, Kent. Tel: Folkestone 53840 or 57388.
- July 6th BARNET INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CLUB SUMMER PARTY. 8 p.m.
M.C. Henry Morris.

S.I.F.D. SUMMER SCHOOL at Balls Park College, Hertford, 28th July to 4th August 1979. Hungarian, Danish and Israeli courses; elementary for beginners and/or teachers looking for material; intermediate/advanced for less simple dances. Cost: £79 for SIFD members, which includes all instruction and full board from tea-time on 28th July to after breakfast on 4th August; £20 for non-resident SIFD members. Application forms and full details from Simon Guest (address on page 2).