

SIFD News

OCTOBER 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 is by Caroline Thomas and shows a Kathakali dancer from Kerala, India

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

The Committee met in September after the summer break, to deal with an unusually large pile of general correspondence, and make preliminary plans for the 1979 A.G.M. It is to be held on 2nd December at Cecil Sharp House. Full details and the official notice will appear next month, but in the meantime you can think about any matters you wish to raise.

We have received several applications recently from teachers from abroad who offer their services at extremely high fees for workshops in this country, and asking if we wish to hire them. At present the Committee feel we should not pay £40 plus expenses, travel and accommodation, for a 2 to 3 hour teaching session. Members will realize that we rely heavily on our own teachers learning from the country in which they are interested, or bringing ethnic teachers to such places as the Summer School. It is your money we are employing - what do you think? We are very aware of the fact that a London teaching session can only reach comparatively few members, however good the teacher. Our present feeling is that if a specialist wishes to link up with one of our specialist groups the responsibility is theirs; should we guarantee financial support? should we pay the bill from the central Committee? Would someone like to raise this matter for debate at the A.G.M.?

Before the new S.I.F.D. year opened on 1st September we had 175 members enrolled, 30 of whom were new. Perhaps 1979/80 will be our bumper membership year.

EDNA FOSTER
Hon. Secretary

RE SIFD DANISH DAY COURSE HELD LAST MONTH

Would the dancers who attended the SIFD Danish Course on 8th September please note (with my apologies) that there was a mistake in Sekstur II as taught, and amend their notes.

- A. Fig.1 Big circles L and R, 32 walking steps.
2 Ladies R-handed mill, 32 swing steps.
3 Men's R-handed mill, " " "
4 Couples 1 & 2 basket, " " "
5 Couples 3 & 4 basket, " " "

C is ballroom hold with partner, 16 swings only.

GAYE SAUNTE

DUNFORD

Both the December 1979 and the July 1980 weekends at Dunford were fully booked by the end of the first week of September. Any further applications will be added to the waiting list. All those who booked in the early part of September should assume that their bookings are confirmed unless they have had a note stating that they are on the waiting list.

VORDINGBORG SPILLEMANDSLAUG
or - The Danish Connection

At 2.30 p.m. on 14th July, they arrived. A foreign coach parked outside Borough Green Village Hall and, while a Dane adeptly directed traffic, our guests piled out carrying a vast assortment of peculiarly-shaped cases, boxes and polythene bags covering costumes. The Vordingborg Spillemanslaug were here to spend the rest of the day with Woodvale International Folk Dance Group. We were relieved to see them on time as their interpreter, Jane, daughter of the leader, Jens Erik Johansen, had said when 'phoning from their London hotel that they were visiting Stonehenge that morning - a trip that was mercifully postponed until travelling to Bristol. The traffic coming down from London was bad enough.

The group of musicians and dancers from Vordingborg, about 50 miles South of Copenhagen on the island of Sealand, were on a 6-day holiday in Britain. They had contacted the SIFD asking to meet British groups through their travel agent. After receiving Simon Guest's circular letter we decided to try and link up with them.

In spite of the heat, the Danes immediately changed into costume - all together in the Ladies'. (We weren't sure if this was an old Danish custom, or whether we had failed to get across that there was a Gents'!) The costumes were gorgeous, all different and made by members of the group. We were told that they had been copied from exhibits in a Copenhagen Museum and represented many different towns and regions of Denmark. The material was hand-woven and hand-embroidered; reds, greens and yellows were especially favoured colours.

For the first part of the afternoon, the Danes taught us their dances. Initially, some were demonstrated, but that soon went by the board and we went straight into dances like Family Sekstur and Halve Kaede which we had already been taught by Gaye Saunte. After an hour's furious dancing, including a "killer" at the end with a hambo step, the Danes retired, dripping, to change into cooler gear. Our M.C., Ernie Nolan, then took over and, with the help of our many friends from Otford Folk Dance Group, taught English dances (as requested by the Danes), such as The Ploughboy, Walpole Cottage, Cumberland Square Eight and Picking up Sticks. Unfortunately, we only had records and tapes as "our" musician, Wilf Horrocks, was away at Dunford. However, it all went with a swing, but by 6 p.m. we were ready for a rest.

After a dash into Sevenoaks and a laying out of tables, a traditional English repast was served - fish 'n chips! The genuine English public house, not 20 yards distant, was pointed out to our guests, and there was a general exodus. This gave Woodvale clearer-uppers and washer-uppers time to perform, change into costume and recoup a little energy.

At 7.30 p.m. it all started again after a diversion caused by the local Press photographer. The band, consisting of string instrumentalists and accordionists, played almost the whole evening - a superb effort and a marvellous sound, which remained in our memories for days afterwards. The Danes did two "demo" spots with great verve, including a harvest dance in clogs, carrying scythes and rakes. Woodvale played some tapes of international dances, but in the main the dances were English or Danish.

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I had a lovely surprise when, as "chief correspondent", I was presented on behalf of Woodvale with a pottery bowl and two exquisitely dressed dolls about a foot high in costumes from Horsens in Jutland and Naestved, exact replicas of costumes worn by two of the dancers. The man wore brown velvet breeches with white socks, a blue woven jacket with a pink and green design, and the typical red woolly fisherman's cap with tassel. The girl wore a red woven full-length gathered skirt, a red bodice bound in green, a blue and white check apron and lace cap.

Around 11.30 p.m. the Dances staggered into their coach and departed with much horn-blowing and waving. It had been a wonderful day, meeting such a friendly group. We were pleased to see some S.I.F.D. members at afternoon and/or evening sessions, especially Gaye Saunte who was able to chatter away in Danish. To those who were otherwise committed on a busy folkdancing weekend - you missed a treat. We look forward to further contact with the Vordingborg Spillemands-laug (spillomand means fiddler I am told) at Borough Green or, who knows, in Vordingborg!

HEATHER DOBSON

MONTHLY FRIDAY CLASS AT CHEQUER CENTRE

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

5th October Danish dances, plus Carinthian Landler.

2nd November Hungarian dances, plus Skudrinka, Sandanska, Zabarka, Makedonska Oro, Gruzenke Devonjke - from Macedonia.

Everyone welcome. 6.45 to 9.30 p.m. Chequer Centre, Chequer Street, off Whitecross Street, off Old Street, London E.C.1.

SIFD DAY COURSE IN HUNGARIAN DANCING

SATURDAY 13TH OCTOBER

This month Sybil Chapman will be revising and teaching a selection of the dances taught at the Summer School. It is hoped by this means to retain them in the Society's repertoire.

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: £1 members, £1.50 non-members. Tea and coffee available. Please bring a packed lunch.

TU BOURREE?

The 4th International Meeting of "musical instrument-makers" converged in the grounds of the XIII-XVI Century Chateau des Maitres Sonners of Saint Chartier for three days in July.

The Chateau was surrounded by two stages and the official Stands of Musical Instrument Makers playing and selling the magnificent objects of their craftsmanship; cornemuses and cabrettes (bagpipes), vielles (hurdy-gurdys); bombards (shawms); harps, dulcimers; pan-pipes. Music filled the air constantly.

The evening concert began with Michel de Meir and Pascal le Ferre - duet on vielle, playing expertly traditional and self-composed tunes and songs. There followed on the main stage the presentation of all the craftsmen, demonstrating their instruments with a short explanation. Proudly, with all the skills of Flemish, French, Swiss and German craftsmen to contest, was Samuel Palmer from England. (He had top award in 1978 for the best made hurdy gurdy). He also plays for the group "Blowzabella", and his mother, an archaeologist, has written a comprehensive book on the hurdy gurdy for a museum, to be published next year.

There were two kinds of hurdy gurdy present - lute or guitar-shaped. Some with very loud drones and soft melody, and the many variations and combinations thereof, but in tone Samuel Palmer's had the best all round balance in sound.

Bernard Blanc, cornemuse-maker and player in the group "Bombache", appeared too. He is one of the key figures and is largely responsible for the resurgence of popularity among the young people in France for French folk music. On cabrette, notably Dominique Paris, and later, Lucan Destanne, played seated with a bells collar around the left ankle, and while reeling out the tune kept up a furious accompaniment with feet stamping a 3/4 rhythm.

During the afternoon, a Folkdance Group, "Les Sonneurs Nerondais" from Berry with a band of eight hurdy gurdys and two cabrettes, made folkdancing come alive. They were incredible. With the sun scorching, and barely stopping for a breather in threequarters of an hour, they went vigorously from dances to Bourree - circles and lines. One boy in the group was outstanding in village style, amazing in natural humour and missing front tooth. These were followed by the Breton "Kevronn de Rennes", an instrumental group with four Scottish bagpipes and seven bombards. Precision playing but, without drums, losing vibrance and excitement - which is not lost by the traditional Breton binou (bagpipes) and bombard combination.

Later I met an Australian friend of Linsey Pollak who has a Macedonian bagpipe. He made a tape of the Macedonian Folk Music Band of the Zivko Firfov Group farewell performance at the "Star & Garter" folk venue in Putney (see December SIFD NEWS). He had learnt all the tunes, and naturally we were playing in the grounds of the Chateau along with his friend from Finland on tarabuka (hand-drum) and a Turk called Sinan (living in Paris and playing for a Balkan group there) on tapan. An official heard us and invited us to perform on the main stage in the Bagpipes of Central Europe section only a few hours away. After a quick rehearsal back at the campsite, we were received rapturously by 3000 French when we played the Macedonian tune "Baba Georgia" - the four of us together, never having played before that day.

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They roared and applauded furiously for encore but we departed as there were many musicians to follow. Also in this section were Peder Kallman and Tage Magnusson on Swedish Nyckelharpa - a very complex looking hurdy gurdy with more strings and played by bow. Donald MacBride and Lesley Hutt proved the Scots as being peers of the bagpipe. Colin Ross on Northumbrian pipes enchanted the crowd.

During the day there were adjudicating sessions for all instruments. Some of the oldest and strange versions of tunes we know were played in minor on the hurdy gurdy.

Then there was the All-night Ball in the village square; we left just before the sun rose at 5 a.m. Bagpipes from all over Europe played night and day on the campsite. It needs a lot of stamina, and some people do not sleep for the length of the entire festival!

The next day another folkdance group came - "Les Enfants de Morvan" from Dijon. Again the ferocity and energy of these mixed-aged groups was amazing. This time they were in huge over-clogs which came to an upturned point at the toe. Ribbons of yellow and green predominant in the broomstick held by men catching up the broom brush held by women as they danced.

Next, Swiss Rene Zosso and Anne Osnowycz appeared for an hour and a half on vielle and slide dulcimer. Rene, a controversial figure who can produce sounds not imagined for hurdy gurdy, gave an added versatility to this fine instrument.

Then was the section for the "foreign" musicians, and our group "Blowzabella" from England led off with a 20-minute spot on two cornemuses, hurdy gurdy, lute, melodian, tabor, drum and nakers, accomplishing a balanced performance of French tunes, waltzes and bourrees, finishing appropriately (which no-one else did!) with of course Bourree de St. Chartier. The audience were noticeably captivated by Peter Lees on English hammer dulcimer, and John Swayne on flute with Irish Celtic melodies.

Another All-night Ball followed; a barbary organ played, disappearing in a crowd of French, all singing the old songs along with it. Every few yards were musicians playing and people dancing. This time we saw it through to the end, having joined the musicians and started playing at 2 a.m. Fun was had by all with our translations when we taught the Farandole, and others. Then the dancers taught us their version in return. We left at 6.30 a.m. finishing with Macedonian dance "Rada Pere".

What was so impressive to us was that all the young people knew a variety of complicated dances in lines, circles, squares, and never needed a caller; only watching for a few minutes, if not sure, then joining in and doing it. They were not only keen to try anything but could accomplish it, and with such enjoyment - a folklore paradise.

CHRIS GUNSTONE

ARMENIAN DAY COURSE IN BIRMINGHAM

The Midlands Branch of S.I.F.D. is running a Day Course in Armenian Folk Dancing followed by an International Folk Dance Party on 20th October 1979. The teacher for the Course will be Frances Horrocks. Both events will be at The Dame Elizabeth Hall, Oak Tree Lane, Bournville, Birmingham, the Course running from 10.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and the Dance from 7.30 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. Cost will be as follows:-

Course £1.00 (75p for SIFD members/students)
Dance £1.00 (75p for SIFD members/students)
Combined ticket: £1.50 (£1.00 for SIFD members/students)

Tickets and further details from Rod Perkins, 30 Knighton Road, Northfield, Birmingham B31 2 EH. Tel: 021 475 3440. (Please send stamped addressed envelope).

MIDLANDS BRANCH A.G.M.

The Midlands Branch of S.I.F.D. will be holding their Annual General Meeting on 20th October 1979 at 5.30 p.m. at Dame Elizabeth Hall, Oak Tree Lane, Birmingham. Nominations for Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and Committee Members should be sent to Rod Perkins (address as above) by 17th October 1979.

MACEDONIAN FOLK DANCE TEACHER TO VISIT ENGLAND

Mile Kolarov, Macedonian folk dance teacher, will be visiting England this November/December. The legendary 70-year old Mile is one of the original "Tanec" Skopje Folkdance Group members and taught them the dances from his village; he toured Europe, Africa and Arabia with them. He has been on Radio Skopje for many years and manages his own group. He toured Australia recently with Orkestar Grupa "Pecalbari" and has just come back from the U.S.A. where he taught coast to coast in 1975. He is acknowledged as the best Kaval (shepherd's flute) player, and also plays the bagpipe.

Mile knows countless folkdances of Macedonia in the original version for dancing and public performance. Would any groups interested in arranging an evening, a day, or a weekend session with him please contact me, stating their requirements, and fees available.

CHRIS GUNSTONE
75 Baizdon Road,
Blackheath, S.E.3.

ALL MATERIAL FOR THE NOVEMBER ISSUE MUST REACH THE EDITOR IN WRITING
BY 15TH OCTOBER

SIDMOUTH FESTIVAL 1979

Sidmouth Festival - where you have to get into the right gear to be seen on the scene! My first impression, on my first visit to the Festival, was that I had wandered in to a 'pop' festival where the obligatory uniform was long shaggy hair, tee-shirt bearing a motif (informative, instructive or invocative), jeans and, most important of all, a pewter tankard fixed on to a leather belt preferably with a climber's snaplink, to show your secondary (or maybe primary) reason for being present is to frequent the local ale-house. (I saw tankards of all sizes, shapes and types including one gentleman carrying "His" and "Hers" and one couple who had attached a miniature tankard, suitably inscribed, to their baby's push-chair!). I had always associated this kind of gear with the 'pop' festival and the folk song festivals, but not, somehow, with the folk dance festivals. However, it seems that at Sidmouth the two - folk song and folk dance enthusiasts - can and do intermingle, and I am wondering if perhaps at last young people are accepting folk dancing as not being rather twee and an odd thing for young men in particular to do, but the exciting and pleasurable leisure activity that it is. I certainly hope so for the SIFD's sake as we do need some new young blood. (It is a pity there wasn't any SIFD advertising material around in the publicity offices). There was certainly no lack of "young blood" in the foreign teams taking part in the Festival.

This being my first visit I did not know quite what to expect. I was only able to spend two days there but was pleasantly surprised to find that during those two days I was able to see more international folkdancing than I had seen during any one visit to the International Eisteddfod at Llangollen. The concerts I attended took place in the Arena, an open-air platform in a very pleasant setting, and one team followed another with no hitch and very good organization. It was not all authentic folk but was very enjoyable to watch and included performers from Bolivia, French Canada, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Holland, Sicily, Spain, Turkey, Eire, Scotland and England.

The team that would have taken the accolade at Llangollen for authenticity was the Handsworth Traditional Sword Dancers, who performed a longsword dance which has an unbroken tradition in Handsworth, near Sheffield, since 1890 and originated in the nearby village of Woodhouse. This was an excellent performance. Also excellent were Les Sortileges from Canada, the French group Lou Cieri from Provence, the Turkish group TUFEM (particularly the men who excelled in their Black Sea dances), and the breath-taking Lous Les Aygues who danced on tall stilts.

The team from Spain showed us a delightful ballet with stunning costumes; there were Manx and Welsh dances from the English Woodfidley Group; a very lively and most colourful performance from the Sicilians; a rather peculiar group from Yorkshire called Yorkshire Chandelier comprised of very severe ladies in unflattering costumes, dancing very much like men, with stiff heavy movements and heavy clogs. It was very nice to get back to the very feminine Woodfidley ladies, with their bonnets, shawls, and full skirts, and the scaucy Sicilian girls with their decollete blouses, tight velvet bodices, swirling satin skirts and flowers in their hair, after the very masculine Yorkshire Chandelier who, incidentally, boasted that they knew some of their dances were authentic Yorkshire dances as they had just written them themselves! As I said, it certainly was not all folk but very enjoyable and well worth seeing.

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Apart from the four shows I attended in the Arena, I was able to see some shorter performances at the opening ceremony and along the procession route, as well as some impromptu demonstrations of both English and European dances along the Esplanade. It was very nice to see many friends there, including representatives of Merton Park International Folk Dance Group dancing on the Esplanade in various costumes.

I have only scratched the surface of the many events that go to make up the whole week-long Festival, quite a large majority of which are for people more interested in English folk singing and dancing, but I was pleased to see greater participation of foreign dance groups and admired the very efficient organization of the whole Festival.

LILY SOUTHGATE

SIDMOUTH 1979

Fifteen members of Merton Park Group went to Sidmouth this year for the 25th anniversary of what is the largest of the Inter-Folk Festivals to be held in this country, with 2000 performers and 25,000 spectators. The Festival lasts a whole week and runs from Friday to Friday. Most of us arrived on the first Friday, to find that something had gone wrong with the booking arrangements for the hotel. There is no truth in the rumours coming from Harrow Green, however, that we had to resort to "progressive" sleeping arrangements; but it is just as well that we are all good friends!

The problem with Sidmouth is that there is so much going on that one is constantly having to choose from at least three different events occurring simultaneously. Some workshops start at 9.30 a.m. and anyone with unlimited stamina could dance almost continuously until 1 a.m. the next day. Monday, 6th August, was the Silver Jubilee Day, and displays went on all the afternoon in the Arena and Connaught Gardens, as well as concerts, ceilidhs and workshops all day. At 9 p.m. the Esplanade was closed to traffic, and all the teams danced. Merton Park were very happy to join up with the Glen Eyre Group and with Hursley, who gave a display of Albanian dances which were superb. The evening finished with a splendid display of fireworks, and a rush by about 10,000 people to a certain late-night cafe for coffee etc.

Teams from Bavaria, France, Turkey, Canada, Bolivia and many others came to the Festival and all danced magnificently. The most outstanding were the stilt dancers from France who amazed all those who watched, and scared us to death! They really have to be seen to be believed and are twice as agile on their stilts as most of us ordinary mortals are on legs. The Sicilian jug-thrower was much in evidence, and the boys from Sicily were as handsome as ever.

Merton Park danced four times on the Esplanade as part of the fringe activities and we attracted quite a few watchers and dancers who seemed to enjoy joining in. To do full justice to the Festival and to tell all that we did would fill the whole of SIFD NEWS. Suffice it to say that a good time was had by all, and no doubt many of us will return next year. Perhaps we might then discover the secret of the missing nightie and pyjamas!

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. Tel: 01 318 0237.

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. Beginners 7 - 8 p.m. Advanced 8 - 10 p.m. Tutor: Gaye Saunte (Tel: 01 318 0237.)

Every Wednesday 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. Beginners 6.45 - 7.45 p.m. Intermediate 8 - 9 p.m. Advanced 9 - 10 p.m. Tutor: Betty Harvey.

YUGOSLAV

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. COURSE FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

to be held at

HUGH MYDDELTON SCHOOL, CORPORATION ROW,
CLERKENWELL GREEN, LONDON E.C.1.

on

SATURDAY, 27TH OCTOBER 1979

10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Tutors: Joan Guest
 Frances Horrocks
 Janet Woolbar

Cost: S.I.F.D. members £1.00, non-members £1.50

This course is intended as an Introduction to International Folk Dancing for Primary School Teachers, and is being widely advertised in schools in the London area. The dances to be taught are all taken from the S.I.F.D. books and records, and therefore will already be familiar to most members. Apart from the dancing, there will also be sessions on the use of recording equipment, and on making costumes suitable for children's displays.

If any member would like to add his/her support, or pick up any hints on teaching, perhaps with a view to taking our own teacher's certificate, he/she will be most welcome.

Tea and coffee will be available; bring a packed lunch as usual.

SIFD SUMMER COURSE 1981

We are pleased to announce that Jack Richardson has agreed to organize a residential summer school in Swansea in 1981. This will be the 11th SIFD Summer School, and the 9th to be held at Swansea, which goes to show what a popular venue it is. More details next year; meanwhile, make a resolution to be there, and please let Jack know if you have any preferences for programme. Address: Department of Chemical Engineering, University College of Swansea, Singleton Park, Swansea SA2 8PP.

S.I.F.D. AFFILIATED GROUPS

HAVERING INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meet at Harold Wood Primary School, Recreation Avenue, Harold Wood, Romford (B.R. Harold Wood) in term time, every Thursday 8 - 10 p.m. Tel: Hornchurch 52146 for further details.

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 (corner of Withington Road), Chorlton, Manchester, from 7.30 to 10 p.m. Further details from Philip Lloyd, 268 Upper Chorlton Road, Manchester M16 0BN (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.

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 meet 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, Thistlecroft Gardens, 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.

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.

SUNDAY DANCES

- Oct. 7th Cecil Sharp House, Regent's Park Road, London N.W.1.
M.C. "The Serbian Suite" (Jean Marshall, Kathleen French, Irene Keywood). Flavour of the month: Yugoslav.
- Nov. 4th Cecil Sharp House, Regent's Park Road, London N.W.1.
M.C. Joan Guest (with members of St. James Folk Dance Group)
Flavour of the month: Polish.

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

WHAT'S ON

- Sept. 24th to Oct. 6th PACO PENA FLAMENCO COMPANY at Sadlers Wells Theatre, London.
7.30 p.m. Saturday matinee 2.30 p.m. Tickets 80p to £4.75.
- Oct. 5th AN EVENING OF GREEK DANCES organized by Barnet International Folk Dance Club at Hadley Memorial Hall, Hadley Highstone, Barnet, at 8 p.m. Admission 40p. Tutor: Brian Dowsett.
- Oct. 6th DAY COURSE OF ROMANIAN DANCES followed by INTERNATIONAL DANCE PARTY
Tutors: Francis Feybli and Frank Dowling. At Henry Fawcett School.
Enquiries to Fiona Howarth, 76c Hayes Road, Bromley BR2 9AB.
- Oct. 13th SIFD DAY COURSE OF HUNGARIAN DANCES. See page 5.
- Oct. 20th DAY COURSE OF ARMENIAN DANCES organized by SIFD Midlands Branch.
See page 8.
- Oct. 26th A BARN DANCE organized by Barnet International Folk Dance Club in aid of their "new equipment" fund. 8 to 11 p.m. at Hadley Memorial Hall, Hadley Highstone, Barnet. Caller: Henry Morris. Enquiries to Janet Heathfield. Tel: 01 368 5345.
- Oct. 27th SIFD DAY COURSE FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS. See page 12.
- Nov. 3rd AUTUMN DANCE organized by Woodvale International Folk Dance Group. at Borough Green Village Hall, Kent. 7.30 to 11 p.m. M.C. Ernie Nolan. Musician: Wilf Horrocks. Tickets, including refreshments, £1.50, available at door. Licensed Bar. Please wear costume if possible.

PLEASE NOTE:

THIS WILL BE THE LAST ISSUE OF SIFD NEWS THAT WILL BE SENT TO YOU IF YOU HAVE NOT RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP.

AFFILIATED GROUPS AND ASSOCIATED CLASSES WILL NOT BE LISTED AFTER THIS MONTH UNLESS THEY HAVE HAD THEIR RENEWAL CONFIRMED BY THE COMMITTEE AND HAVE SENT TO THE EDITOR DETAILS FOR INCLUSION IN THE SIFD NEWS.

