

SIFD NEWS

JUNE
1980



TURKEY

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

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A FIXTURE DIARY for organisers to check for duplication on dates, and also to confirm those arranged by them, is kept on behalf of the S.I.F.D. by Frank Flanagan. His address is: 124 Fairbridge Road, Upper Holloway, London N.19. Tel: 01 272 5003 (suggested time to ring - between 5 and 6 p.m.)

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

SIFD T-shirts, small, medium and large, available at £1.85 each from Kay Leighton (address above). Cheques and Postal Orders to be made out to S.I.F.D.

This month's cover is by Dorothy Bryan and shows costumes from Turkey.

S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE OF CATALANIAN DANCES

On Saturday, 14th June, Lucile Armstrong will be teaching the following dances from Catalonia and Majorca:

Las Aguilles, La Bolangera de Solsona,
Danca de Seu de Urgel, Parado de Valdemosa,
Danca de Castelltersol, Danca de Vilanova y Geltou,
La Cuadrilla.

This will be a good opportunity to add to our repertoire as we know very few dances from Catalonia and we are privileged to have Lucile to pass on to us her knowledge of dances from this area.

HUGH MYDDELTON SCHOOL, Corporation Row, Clerkenwell Green, London E.C.1.
10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Admission: £1.00 for S.I.F.D. members, £1.50 for non-members.

Tea and coffee available. Please bring packed lunch.

S.I.F.D. BERT PRICE PROFICIENCY AWARD

Syllabuses for the next Silver Badge Examination in the above award scheme were sent out with last month's issue of SIFD NEWS. With this issue, we are enclosing an application form for those members who would like to take their Silver Badge in dances from Denmark, Serbia, Hungary, England and Norway.

The completed application forms should be sent to Frances Horrocks (address on form) with the fee, by 16th June 1980.

It is over a year since we held the last Silver Badge examinations, and we hope that lots of you will take this opportunity to (a) attain your first badge (b) win another badge, as a step to getting your 'Gold', or (c) even if you have already won a gold badge, add another country to your belt.

CONGRATULATIONS to Angela and John Savill on the birth of their daughter, Laura Georgina, on 8th April. Our very best wishes to the parents and new baby.

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

WINCHESTER FOLK FESTIVAL

The Festival is not large, but as it is on the weekend of the May holiday, and I was not otherwise engaged, I hoped to see it all, but with the peculiar logic of local authorities, it finished on the Saturday, hence I missed most of it. However, I did manage to see the closing concert, in which all the groups gave a short ten-minute programme, in the appropriate setting of the Great Hall at Winchester Palace.

There were several Morris sides, the host EFDSS group, a women's clog Morris team from Poynton, the French visitors from Normandy, and it was a pleasure to see two international groups associated with the SIFD keeping the flag flying.

The EFDSS Group performed an English suite, ranging from sedate Playford to energetic Manx. These were well danced, with none of the over-refinement often shown by English teams. The costumes too were most attractive, in a traditional style.

The girls' Morris side almost overcame my prejudice against women performing men's ritual dances as their execution was crisp, without being masculine. Their particular tradition was, I understand, developed during the 1920s, when such sides kept Morris alive after the Great War.

Our affiliated group from Southampton "Glen Eyre", led by Charles and Audrey Dellow, and augmented by a couple who bore a striking resemblance to "Steve" and Joy Steventon, showed a variety of 'our dances', beginning with one I do not know, presumably a Southampton specialty, and finishing with Danish Contra; a very well judged performance. The musicians (who included Wilf Horrocks' twin), produced a very good sound, a strong accompaniment giving it real solidity. It really is very encouraging to see our groups taking part in these festivals and enhancing our corporate image.

All the dancers "busked" round the town during the day, and the Horsley group showed Greek, Israeli and Albanian dances. In the concert, they chose an Austrian item, again very well presented. Unfortunately, they do not possess a live musician who can manage the intricate Balkan rhythms. May I, in passing, congratulate Syd and Madeleine on the birth of their daughter, Alexandra.

Finally, the French visitors, who appeared at Llangollen some years ago (perhaps some members have seen the film of that occasion?). They entertained us with dances from the Normandy area, which are totally unlike the Berry and Vendee dances we know, but have their own special flavour. The men looked very like characters from an early Dickens novel, in their red and green frock coats, grey trousers and top hats.

Altogether, a most enjoyable afternoon.

GEORGE SWEETLAND.

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

DANCE STYLES OF THE RIO GRANDE PUEBLO INDIANS

The Indians who have lived in villages of Pueblo along the New Mexico Rio Grande River have in the course of many centuries developed a distinctive culture and dance style. As they were subjected to influences from other Indian tribes and from Europe they increased their repertoire and often modified their aboriginal dances. The dances which belong to them and which they accepted from the outside are graded from the most sacred to the most secular types.

The sacred dances have grown out of a practical purpose, namely, survival. Winter dances are prayers for hunt and animal multiplication. Summer dances invoke rain and crop fertility. These are performed respectively by the winter and summer moieties (clan groups). Sometimes the moieties perform together in the most spectacular dances. As the Pueblo Indians have developed an agricultural economy in a semi-arid climate, these rain dances are of prime importance.

Some of the most sacred dances are held in secret in the kivas or sanctuaries and are not open to white visitors. Such are the Kachina and other closed society dances. Some may be witnessed by visitors, though under restrictions, as the Spring Dance by a group of men. Others again involve no restrictions, except simple respect as the Game Animal (Buffalo, Deer, Antelope) dances and the famous so-called Green Corn Dance. These are performed in the plaza or plazas of the Pueblo.

The strictly native dances share a peculiar choreography. They are line dances by 30 to 50 men, women, or combined sexes, with children at the end of the line. The step is a tromp - a slight lifting and stamping of the right foot - in place - with periodic face-about, in time with the singing of the most expert male dancers, rattle shaking, and a drum or scraping stick. The monotonous beat is frequently broken by the metric changes or halts. Gestures of swaying evergreen sprigs or bows and arrows vary the movement. And clowns may cavort on the sidelines as hunters or overseers. Song repeats and dance appearances are grouped by fours, from morning to late afternoon. Entrance, exit and dance circuits usually follow a counter-clockwise direction, though they may be reversed on occasion. In San Juan Pueblo clockwise circuits are customary.

The restrained simplicity of the native style has been modified in the Game Animal dances, partly under influence from the Great Plains tribes. The buffalo may prance vigorously and raise their knees or fit toeing and grape-vine steps to songs that betray Plains borrowings. They may meander among large groups of deer, describe figure eights and other complex patterns. The "Buffalo Mother" follows the same patterns, in a more subdued, feminine manner. All of these dancers and the chorus singers are well rehearsed and expert.

Secular dances are derived quite frankly from the Great Plains. Certain exhibition dances are named after the Comanche, Kiowa, Crow, and they imitate the forceful leaps and torso flexions of these tribes. The Shield and Hoop Dances are show favourites of the Pueblos. Some social round dances for couples, which are performed in homes or schools, have been imported from

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modern Oklahoma.

Certain Spanish-derived dances as the Matachina and Santiagos have been incorporated into the ritualism. These deserve a separate description.

Despite the inroads of modern white culture, the Pueblo dances retain much of their vitality. But they are diminishing in number and the old songs are not being learned by the young men. The next decades will bring changes.

Acknowledgement to "THE FOLKLORIST"

THAXTED POLISH WEEKEND, 28TH/30TH MARCH

With reference to the article in last month's SIFD NEWS by Mona Graham regarding the above, it is indeed good to know that we have found a new and pleasant spot for dance weekends, and thank you Mona for your nice remarks. I must point out, though, that most of the "behind the scene" organization for this initial weekend was done by Janice Wrench to whom a large share of the thanks should go. That I was the "front man" during the actual weekend was to a large extent due to the fact that Janice was feeling rather ill with a heavy cold.

BETTY HARVEY
Jacy Tacy Group

The INTERNATIONAL EISTEDDFOD at LLANCOLLEN, Wales, this year will take place from 8th to 13th July.

The INTERNATIONAL FOLKLORE FESTIVAL at SIDMOUTH, Devon, this year will take place from 1st to 8th August.

At Sidmouth, teams are expected from France, Sri Lanka, Israel, Mexico, Hungary, Ireland and Wales, as well as English Morris dancers, traditional folk dancers, etc.

WEEKEND AT HALSWAY MANOR

It is a long way ahead, but it may help to prevent clashing of bookings if we announce now that HALSWAY MANOR (SOMERSET) has been booked for a folk-dancing/walking weekend from 1st to 4th May 1981. This is the early May long weekend holiday, and members will have the benefit of three days at Halsway Manor.

Please make a note in your diaries now, and booking forms will be sent out in the autumn for all the 1980/81 weekends.

JACK RICHARDSON

S.I.F.D. AFFILIATED GROUPS

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.

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.

CANONS FOLK DANCERS meet every Tuesday 7.45 to 9.45 p.m. at Park High School (in term time only), Thistlecroft Gardens, Stanmore, Middx. Nearest station: Canons Park. For further information please contact the Secretary, Miss Judith Holloway, 53 Swiss Avenue, Watford, Herts. Tel: Watford 25480.

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.

HARROW GREEN FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Wednesday during term time at Daneford School, Turin Street (off Bethnal Green Road) London E.2. 7 to 9.15 p.m. General International with some English. Tutor: Kelsey Blundell, plus occasional guest teachers. For further information contact the Secretary: Alex Beauclerc. Tel: 01 701 3785.

NUTBROOK INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Thursday, 7.30 to 9.30 p.m., except August and Bank Holidays, at Kirk Hallam Community Centre, Godfrey Drive, Kirk Hallam, Ilkeston, Derbyshire. Secretary: Gillian Coulton, 53 Tulip Road, Awworth, Notts. Tel: Ilkeston 303665.

WOODVALE INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Tuesday at Borough Green Village Hall, 7.45 to 10 p.m. Secretary: Miss Sue Douglas, 20 Normanhurst Road, Borough Green, Sevenoaks, Kent.

RAINMAKERS CLUB FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING meets every Friday at 8 p.m. at the Catholic Church Hall, Albert Street, Stevenage. Secretary: Mrs. S.M. Leavy, 40 Shephall Green, Stevenage. Tel: Stevenage 65918.

FOLKESTONE DISTRICT NATIONAL DANCE GROUP meets every Tuesday during school terms, 7.30 to 9 p.m. at South Kent College of Technology, Folkestone. Leader: Olive Field. Secretary: Frances Cox, 24 Darnley Close, Folkestone. Tel: Folkestone 39774.

OXFORD INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Monday, 8 to 10 p.m. at Blackfriars, 64 St. Giles, Oxford. European, English, Balkan and Israeli. For further information contact Miss Diana Jean Porteus, 105 Southmoor Road, Oxford. Tel: Oxford 57543.

WYCOMBE FOLK DANCE CLUB meets every Monday except Bank Holidays from September to mid-July at The Guildhall, High Wycombe, Bucks. Leading instructor: Marion Gerson. Chairman: Ken Poyton. Tel: Marlow 2194.

AFFILIATED GROUPS - continued

HAVERING INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Thursday, in term time, at Harold Wood Primary School, Recreation Avenue, Harold Wood, Romford, from 8 to 10 p.m. Nearest station, Harold Wood. For further information, contact Miss Doreen Grew, 31 Marlborough Road, Brentwood, or Eve Wildy at Hornchurch 52146.

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, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 5OEE. Tel: Wylam 2495.

BULGARIAN FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Wednesday, 7 to 9 p.m., at Johanna School, Johanna Street, London S.E.1. Tutors: Danny Lumley, Diane Waller, Moni Sheenan.

WIGGINTON INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Thursday during term time at Wigginton (near Tring) Junior School at 8 p.m. Further details from Margaret Cullen, Hemel Hempstead 58277.

S.I.F.D. BRANCHES

"SELPAR" (West Midlands Branch of SIFD). Classes on Tuesday evenings in term time, 7.15 to 9 p.m. at Selly Park School, Stirchley, Pershore Road, Birmingham. Teacher: Sybil Chapman. Also a "Club Evening" on Wednesdays in term time, 7.15 to 9.15 p.m. at Lyndon School, Daylesford Road, Solihull. Further details of both from Rod Perkins, 30 Knighton Road, Northfield, Birmingham B31 2EH. Tel: 021 475 3440.

S.I.F.D. ASSOCIATED CLASSES

DANISH

Monday evenings 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. at Kidbrooke School, Corelli Road, London S.E.3. Tutor: Gaye Saunte. Tel: 01 318 0237.

ISRAELI

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

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

POLISH

Monday evenings. Beginners 6.45 to 7.45 p.m. Intermediate 8 to 9 p.m. Advanced 9 to 10 p.m. at Christopher Hatton School, Laystall Street, Rosebery Avenue, London E.C.1. Tutor: Betty Harvey.

EUROPEAN NATIONAL

Wednesday evenings. Beginners 6 to 7 p.m. General & Advanced 7.15 to 9.15 p.m. at St. Albans School, Baldwins Gardens, London E.C.1. Tutor: Janet Woolbar.

Monday evenings. Beginners 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. (two classes 15-30 and over 30s). Wednesday evenings. Advanced 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. at Rutlish School, Watery Lane, London S.W.20. during term time. Contact: Charles Steventon. Tel: 01 542 3831.

YUGOSLAV

Tuesday evenings. Beginners and Intermediate 6.15 to 8.15 p.m. Advanced 8.30 to 9.30 p.m. at West Square Branch of South Bank Institute, St. George's Road, London S.E.1. Tutor: Ken Ward. Secretary: John White, 10 Durnsford Avenue, London SW19 8BH (01 947 2417).

EASTERN EUROPEAN

Tuesday evenings, 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. at St. Marylebone School, 64 Marylebone High Street (off Baker Street) London. Tutor: Alan McLean.

HUNGARIAN (including Transylvanian)

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

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.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

Irene Fyffe (Bert Price's sister) was Editor of SIFD NEWS.

We launched our second book, for sale at 5/6 (for younger members, this was the cryptical way of writing five shillings and six pence).

A son was born to Joy and Charles Steventon, and a daughter to Frances and Larry Howell.

We launched our first S.I.F.D. badge.

With a membership of only 112, we were running very successful Shows at the Royal Albert Hall.

Who was the mysterious person who wrote in the NEWS under the pseudonym "PUFFO"?

HURSLEY INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

Appeal for "Live" Musicians

Are you a "live" musician?? Do you know any musicians who like a challenge?
Read on

While Madeleine and Syd Chapman were in the United States in 1971 they started folk dancing, which they found an enjoyable way to spend an evening together and to meet other people who enjoy dancing. When they returned to Hursley they decided to start a folk dance club in the area. From the original twelve members who met weekly in a church hall, the membership of the club has grown to around 60 people of all ages, including several complete families. The aim of the club is to encourage people to enjoy folk dancing by being in contact with other people and sharing their experience of music and dance.

Many of our dances are from the Eastern European countries and they are taught to us by visiting or resident nationals, folk dance experts, and members who have learnt them abroad. The public aspect of the club is the performing group which normally consists of around 10 to 12 people who perform suites of the more intricate dances for their own enjoyment and for charity. Over the years, suites have been added to the repertoire, which now consists of dances from Albania, America, Austria, the Balkans, Greece, Israel and Romania. At present we are developing a suite of Polish dances which we hope to give an airing at some folk festivals this year. Performances are in costumes based on those of the country from which the dances come, and are designed and made by club members.

Although some very special occasions can draw a group of musicians to play our music, we lack a hard core of enthusiasts both for performances and Thursday evenings. Generally speaking, the musicians with whom we have contact are happier playing Western European music rather than the Eastern type which we normally require. The ideal would be to have a group of zealots using the appropriate instruments, who would play every Thursday evening, rehearse with the performing group on Mondays and be available for all the performances which occur at folk festivals and at some random evening in the week. We have a group of dancers who do it; are there any musicians out there who can meet the challenge? We do not expect any to be able to cope with the complete range of our music, but we would be very pleased to hear from those who would like to make the attempt. If you are interested please contact Terry Clowes (work: Winchester 4433 Ext.6650, home: Chandlers Ford 65943), or Syd Chapman (work: Winchester 4433 Ext.6779, home: Chandlers Ford 67616), or John King (work: Winchester 4433 Ext.6468; home: West End 3535).

TERRY CLOWES
Chairman

STOP PRESS

One of our members, Susan Jordan, has booked to go on the Turkish symposium organized by Bora Ozkok for one week from 14th June, as advertised in previous issues of SIFD NEWS, but now finds she is unable to go. If anyone would like to take her place would they please contact her. (Telephone: work, 01 836 6633; home: 01 764 5368)

SUNDAY DANCES

June 1st Cecil Sharp House, Regents Park Road, London N.W.1.
M.C. Brian Dowsett.

July 6th Cecil Sharp House, Regents Park Road, London N.W.1.
M.C. Fiona Howarth.

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

WHAT'S ON

June 2nd/14th DARPARNA INDIAN DANCE (South Indian Dance Company) at Sadler's
Wells Theatre, London, 7.30 p.m. Saturday matinee 2.30 p.m.
Tickets £1 to £6.

June 6th AN EVENING OF TURKISH DANCES at Barnet International Folk Dance
Club, Hadley Memorial Hall, Hadley Highstone, Barnet, 8 p. m.
Tutor: Sait Serifoglu.

June 7th BALKAN PARTY at Johanna School, Johanna Street, S.E.1. (nearest
station Waterloo). 7 - 11 p.m. Tickets £1.50 including refresh-
ments. Admission by ticket only from Fred Wood, Tel: Office 38.47724,
Home: 66.27363.

June 12th "NEW MEMBERS' NIGHT" at Harold Wood Primary School, Recreation
Avenue, Harold Wood, Romford, 8 to 10 p.m. Arranged by Havering
Folk Dance Group. Enquiries to Hornchurch 52146. Admission free.

June 13th KASATKA COSSACKS. Traditional Russian and Ukrainian songs, music
and dances presented in colourful national costume. 8 p.m.
Fairfield Hall, Croydon. Tickets £1.50 to £2.50.

June 14th S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE IN CATALAN DANCES. See page 3.

June 20th ~~AN EVENING OF YUGOSLAV DANCES at Barnet International Folk Dance
Club, Hadley Memorial Hall, Hadley Highstone, Barnet, 8 p.m.
Tutor: Linda Swanton. (This is in place of the advertised date
of 23rd May).~~ THIS EVENT NOW CANCELLED.

June 21st ARMENIAN DAY COURSE. See enclosed sheet.

June 29th TERESA MORENO & HER SPANISH DANCE THEATRE at Queen Elizabeth Hall,
London, (Spanish Classical & Flamenco), 7.15 p.m. Tickets £1.00
to £3.20.

June 21st "FAMILY FOLK" - An evening of international entertainment, at 7.30 p.m.
in the Drama Hall, at Kidbrooke School, Corelli Road, Blackheath,
London S.E.3. Admission £1.50 (children and O.A.P.s 75p). Tickets
available from Mrs. Alison Huckle, 24 North Park, London S.E.9.
Telephone: 01 850 0254. (Please send s.a.e.).

July 4th SUMMER PARTY at Barnet International Folk Dance Club.