

S.I.F.D.

NEWS

NOVEMBER 1981



SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

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The printing, collating and packing is organised by Douglas Wells and family.
The stencils were typed this month by Kelsey Blundell.

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Tel: Kings Langley 62763.

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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 SIFD 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.

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

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SIFD T-shirts, small, medium and large, available at £2.50 each from Kay Leighton (address above). Cheques and postal orders to be made out to SIFD.
PLEASE NOTE INCREASED PRICE.

This month's cover is by Lesley Boorer and shows costumes from Tenerife.

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SECRETARY'S NOTES

At the October Committee Meeting a letter from Peter Mayes, the Eastbourne Festival Organiser, was read, and members will be pleased to hear that the SIFD will definitely be holding a workshop during the Festival and running a Dance on the Saturday evening. This will be a marvellous shop window for the SIFD and I hope that as many members as possible will do their best to come along. The Festival runs from 30th April to 3rd May 1982.

We have not been able to run the monthly meeting at the Chequer Centre so far this year as we are still awaiting a reply from the Central Institute regarding the use of the hall. Members will be advised about the class as soon as we hear from the Institute.

Applications are still coming in for affiliation and association, and the SIFD individual membership stands at the moment at 322. The numbers always fall at the beginning of the membership year because people often forget to renew until they realise they are no longer receiving the SIFD NEWS! If you have friends who have not yet renewed their membership, please encourage them to do so. It would be marvellous to see our numbers get up to 500.

JOAN RACKHAM,
Hon. Secretary

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S.I.F.D. DAY COURSES

Members will have read in previous issues of SIFD NEWS that I.L.E.A. now want to charge the Society for the use of Hugh Myddelton School, and that the Day Course fee for members would have to be about £4.

The best alternative cheaper accommodation we have found so far is Cecil Sharp House, where the hire charge is about half that for Hugh Myddelton. Unfortunately, at this late stage most Saturdays are already booked, but some Sundays are free. We thought that, although a Sunday Day Course would be a departure from our usual arrangement, it might have advantages for some people and would be worth trying. We have therefore booked Trefusis at Cecil Sharp House for three Sundays. The dates are: November 15th, December 13th, January 10th. This will enable the Course fee to remain at £2 for members, £3 for non-members, and will give time to investigate other possible halls.

On page 11, Frances Horrocks gives details of the November Day Course.

We hope members will bear with us in these temporary difficulties. As requested last month, please advise any member of the Committee if you know of a likely hall in Central London.

CHARLES STEVENTON,
Chairman.

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

BOURREE TILL DAWN

A report on The Sixth International Meeting of Master Instrument Makers & Players (Bagpipes and Hurdy-Gurdys) which took place in the grounds of 15th-century Chateau of St. Chartier, Central France, 11th-14th July, 1981.

As well as stands of instrument makers displaying and selling their craft, there were folklore events throughout, and dancing in the village square after the concerts, to a number of musicians all vying in harmony from Macedonia and France. Many complicated Bourrées in lines and crosses, there seeming no end to the variation of spins in between 4 forward and 4 crossover movements. There were countless variations on the Mazurka; all young people and no caller, such is the knowledge and expertise in picking up the dances, and the young French dance with life as it is in their blood to do so.

An outstanding performance back at the Chateau was given by a hurdy-gurdy player from Hungary, Robert Mandel - a young instrument maker taught by the last few surviving hurdy-gurdy players in Hungary, a superb and exciting musician. He performed many Hungarian dance tunes from many periods but on the instrument they were originally played on for centuries.

He was followed by Virgil Borta from Romania who in fifteen minutes played one kind of flute after another, as well as the bagpipe, accompanied by a folk orchestra on a cassette recorder in his shoulder bag! Although unusual, his great effort to keep up with himself, and his very skilful playing, achieved remarkable results. The excellent but somewhat academic "Musiciens du Conservatoire Occitan de Toulouse" performed on instruments and in styles ethnically correct but needed a bit of life, rather like some Early Music groups.

Throughout the day, dance workshops went on in the "parc du chateau" and at night in the village square till dawn to the accompaniment of hurdy-gurdys and bagpipes from the different regions of France.

The second day witnessed a triumph of international co-operation, co-ordination and teaching methods, when the professional dance company IZVOREN, performing Macedonian dances, took the stage for a 1½-hour programme of pure tradition. This group is from England and France, and the best of the two halves met for the first time only on the morning of the performance; they fitted perfectly. They were accompanied by four English musicians, Jon Swayne, Dave Armitage, Dave Roberts and Chris Gunstone playing gajda, kaval, tamburas, kemence and tapan, and also joined by Linsey Pollak from Australia, also playing gajda, and Lazo Nikolovski, one of Macedonia's finest gajda players.

The French sun at last appeared and scorched the crowd, and so shone the beautiful original pre-First World War Macedonian costumes from Philip Thornton's collection. IZVOREN's singing was led by Parisian Michèle Joseph and Skopje's Lazo Nikolovski throughout "Slavej mi peje", "Ibrahim Odja", "Els mi Veleche" and many more, up to the epic finale by all the dancers and musicians, when Linsey and Chris sang Shar Planina in which the audience stormed the stage to dance with the group.

There followed a French quartet of hurdy-gurdy, tarabuka, violin and dulcimer, which played exciting Chalgi music of the Near East. It was an honour to find them dedicating one of their melodies to me and the L.P. "17 Macedonian Folk

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Dances", from which they had learned the tunes. Such has been the far-reaching influence of this record that people from another culture should be so inspired.

Again a Yugoslav influence in the evening concert by "La Crois e des Chemins" which sounded like music from the island of Krk. Strange and compelling harmonies. Full of life and one of the best interpretations of Mediaeval music I ever heard. Mich le Fromenteau, Anna Couture, Eliane Magnan and Chantal Jaquet performed beautiful and restful hurdy-gurdy and chamber orchestral music of the XVIIIth century. "Ensemble Ysengrin" was very much an Early Music Group; very good but needed a bit more vitality.

The next day appeared, and so did many bags under the eyes through lack of sleep. Judging for certificates were to take place for bagpipe and hurdy-gurdy skills, and presentations to makers of the best of these instruments.

The evening concert opened with Lazo Nikolovski (gajda), Linsey Pollak (gajda) and Chris Gunstone (tambura) together again as "Orkestar Grupa Pechalbari". They had the 5,000-plus audience completely enthralled, and the reception (which was televised) was tremendous as they played Ela mi Veleche, Osogovsko, Pajdushka Oro se vieh kraj manastirov and Baba Georgia. An encore of Svadbarsko Oro encouraged more encores. Then followed "Blowzabella" from England. Amazingly having reconstructed two English Mediaeval bagpipes, with two hurdy-gurdys, bouzouki, melodeon, nakers and long drum, this friendly group won over the audience whilst microphones were set up and television cameras everywhere. They performed some old Playford tunes on the instruments on which they were originally played. (I had a quick change from Macedonian costume into all-white costume to do a 4-man Morris dance accompanied by two bagpipes). "Blowzabella" finished with three bourr es to which the discerning French audience sang along to Ma Chienne D'Garrenne. It was an acceptance and an accolade.

Patrick Molard and Pierre Crepillon, "Musique Celtique" played on the Irish bagpipes, followed by an outstanding lament on the Scottish pipes, finishing with the popular Breton combination of bombarde and bagpipe.

The last day of the meeting, and again wherever you wandered there was music. Those who kept awake were amply rewarded by the best hurdy-gurdy and bagpipe playing at each instrument makers stand. Finishing off the performances were a dance group from Berry followed by a Swedish group with the beautiful instrument, the Nyckelharpe.

Dancing again continued in the idyllic village till sunrise, and the village baker, who makes as many loaves in these four days as he does for a whole year, can at last get some sleep!

CHRISTOPHER GUNSTONE

(Orders for the L.P. "17 Macedonian Folk Dances" can be placed at The Record Shop, Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regents Park Road, London, N.W.1., or at Colletts Record Shop, 180 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W.C.1.)

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We are sorry to hear that Will Green has had to go into hospital. We all wish you a speedy recovery, Will, and hope that you will soon be up and dancing again.

Dear Lily,

Now that British Rail have introduced a £9.00 monthly return ticket from Manchester to London, and similar ones from other inter-city termini - less than half the day return fare - it has made it much easier from the financial angle to come to London for SIFD events. There is only one snag: "rush hour" trains cannot be used, which limits the choice to one very early morning one, middle of the day ones, or two mid-evening ones. The midnight sleeper cannot be used. So, to go to an evening event means staying overnight in London, where the hotel bill will certainly cost more than the saving in train fares.

In my other hobby of genealogy, there is a scheme run by the Federation of Family History Societies whereby a register is kept of people with spare rooms who are willing to put up fellow members from other parts of the country who are doing research in their area, and a standard minimum charge is suggested. Would it be possible to institute a similar scheme in the SIFD for people wanting to go to Day Courses etc. in various parts of the country? The Selpar Group already offer hospitality, but it would avoid embarrassment on both sides if there were an amount proposed by the Society and already acceptable to both parties.

What do London members feel about this, as they would probably be on the receiving end most of the time? If it helps to make members more mobile and encourage attendance at Day Courses in non-metropolitan centres, it could help to make the SIFD the nationwide institution it was intended to be.

Sincerely,

PHILIP E. LLOYD,
268 Upper Chorlton Road,
Manchester (Barlow Group)

ED. NOTE: I suggest that the Committee take up this point, and that members send their views direct to the Committee so that they may see if there is sufficient interest to take the matter further.

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Dear Lily,

I was interested to read Judy Ingram's letter in the August NEWS about the Dutch dance, "Hakke-Toone".

Hak-teen does mean literally "heel-toe" but the official name of the dance is Hakke-Toone. The dance originated on Terschelling, one of the small islands along the Ijsselmeer, and perhaps "toon" is a dialect word. I can only assume that Judy's friend was not a folk dancer; Dutch dancing is not very popular with the Dutch public.

The other possibility may have been Judy's pronunciation. Phonetically it is closer to "huker-toner" (using a Southern "u") than the English version I have heard.

Yours sincerely,

JACQUIE DABNOR,
Van Lansbergestraat 210,
2593 SK, S Gravenhage, Holland

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Cont.)

Dear Lily,

I was very disappointed when I learnt that the October Day Course had had to be cancelled, and I am sure there must be other members who felt the same way, especially as this came so soon after the commencement of the 1981/82 series. Members will read in the Chairman's article on page 3 that the next few Courses are to be held on Sundays. I assume that Saturday was originally chosen as the day for the Courses, when they began several years ago, because it was a more suitable day than Sunday. There must be many members who will be unable or unwilling to come on Sundays, and who will therefore be particularly disappointed that the Society has broken the so well established and successful series of Saturday Courses.

On a different subject; would it be possible to publish an "index" of all known articles in the SIFD NEWS over the years of an "educational" nature, e.g. on folk dance forms, styles, costumes, etc. This would be in the interests of further study of these aspects by interested members.

Finally, changing the subject again; I write as secretary of Canons Folk Dancers. Probably our main problem, as a small group, is publicity. Without it, of course, we cannot attract new members, but having only limited funds we can spend little on advertising. As we are not a local authority evening class we do not obtain any publicity from evening class prospectuses, which most people seeking evening occupation/recreation look at first. We place posters in libraries and have tried putting cards in shop windows, but with only very moderate success. I assume that other small affiliated groups experience the same difficulties, and should be interested to hear how they deal with the problem. Perhaps if we pooled our ideas we could obtain more members both for our own groups and for the SIFD.

Yours sincerely,

JUDITH HOLLOWAY,
28 Shepherds Road,
Watford, Herts.

ED. NOTE: Regarding Judith's suggestion in her second paragraph; we do have copies of SIFD NEWS going back for many years, and if anyone would like to take on this task of compiling an index of folk dance articles I would be very willing to let them have access to these records. In addition, I have a wealth of American and Canadian folk magazines going back some 20 years or more, with a mass of information on folk costumes, dances, customs, etc. which could, if desired, be incorporated in the index, if someone would like to take on the job.

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ERRATA

In last month's issue, the third paragraph on page 12 should read, "We were to see M. and Mme. Paris again, when they put on a folklore exhibition in a cottage in Vesdun "

In the article on Rainmakers last month, page 14, the number of dances in their repertoire was over-estimated; it is nearer 131 than 231.

VASIL LEVSKI GROUP - BULGARIAN DANCE

The Vasil Levski Group performs authentic Bulgarian dances from all regions of Bulgaria. It has been in existence for about 25 years and has amassed a large collection of folk costumes which are worn at all performances. The present leaders and tutors have all spent lengthy periods of time in Bulgaria, working with amateur and professional ensembles, to ensure that the standard of the dances is maintained.

Bulgarian dances are characterised by rapid footwork, fast changes of weight and complicated rhythmic patterns. They range from very fast, exciting horos of the Sofia region, to slow, lynx-like warrior dances from the South, and from tight, upright styles of the North, to the relaxed, flowing movements of the Black Sea Coast. The dances used to be performed at Saints' Days, weddings, christenings and other celebrations. There are certain dances which were only performed on special days - such as St. Elena's Day, etc. The ritualistic aspect of the dance is therefore very important. There were dances for particular professions, such as potters and tinsmiths, and to celebrate the New Year.

The dances are accompanied by musicians playing instruments such as bagpipe, drum, long flute, stringed instruments and chordophones, and a very loud trumpet (zurla). More recently, the accordion and double-bass have been introduced. The group is associated with musicians who are skilled in playing the complex rhythms and who accompany performances and rehearsals. Members of the group also have access to a large collection of books on costume, dance and music, tapes and records.

If you are energetic and like a challenge, please come and join us. No previous dance training is necessary. Beginners are especially welcome and will be given expert tuition. Visitors who wish to watch a class are also welcome. The group meets at Jacksons Lane Community Centre (Opposite Highgate Underground Station) in London, on Thursdays, 7 to 9 p.m.

For further information please contact Jacksons Lane Centre (01 340 5226) or Diane Waller (01 692 1424 during the day or 01 348 6143 in the evening).
Class tutors: Dani Lumley, Diane Waller, Moni Sheehan.

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A VISIT TO BULGARIA

I would like to share my experience of the Folk Arts Gathering in Kopriustica, Bulgaria, this summer. People and groups from all the districts in Bulgaria meet every five years in this picturesque town to exhibit and perform their folk dances, songs, rituals, costumes etc. It is the most authentic folk arts event in Bulgaria and the wealth and size of the whole event was amazing. It was a 3-day event in which performances took place simultaneously at seven different locations in the hills around the town. The whole area was covered with thousands of people dressed in their festive clothes, walking from one stage to another. The feast for one's eyes and ears was in a way too rich and it was best to restrict oneself to the happenings on one stage.

On the whole, the dances were of the village type, with just the basic steps performed and no choreographed or intricate floor patterns, and almost every group sang and danced. The performances were short and followed each other without any break. A lot more could be said about the performances but I should

like to make one important comment. We learned that the people singing, dancing and playing music on the stages in this gathering had witnessed their grandparents doing this as part of real life, and now these dances and customs can almost only be kept alive by being put on the stage, and that is the purpose of this and any other festival. I would recommend to everyone that they should visit the next gathering in Kopriuštica.

May I also take this opportunity as one of your Northern members to say a little about the dance situation in this part of Scotland. I live in a therapeutic community which looks after handicapped children. Amongst the 150 workers there is a small group which meets weekly and does mainly Balkan, Greek, and a little Israeli and international dancing. Close by is another very lively and flourishing group led by John Butler, and there are close contacts between the two. Occasionally, teachers - for instance Dani Lumley and Mickey Holden - venture here and give courses and sometimes one or two of us venture down to London to attend a Day Course. If any teacher/dancer should visit the area we would love to know about it.

ANDRENE SAILLE,
Camphill-Rudolf-Steiner-Schools,
Neahbur, Murtle Estate,
Bielside, Aberdeen, AB1 9EN

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S.I.F.D. AFFILIATED GROUPS

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 21, from 7.30 to 10 p.m. Further details from Philip Lloyd, 268 Upper Chorlton Road, Manchester M16 0BN.

BRISTOL INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Thursday during term time, 7 to 9 p.m., at Cotham Grammar School, Cotham Lawn Road, Bristol 6. For further information, contact Hilda Sturge, 10 Carmarthen Road, Bristol BS9 4DU. Tel: 0272-621802.

RAINMAKERS INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Friday at 8 p.m. at the Catholic Church Hall, Albert Street, Stevenage, Herts. Secretary: Mrs. S. Leavy, 10 Orchard Road, Hitchin. Tel: Hitchin 52502.

CANONS FOLK DANCERS meet every Tuesday, 7.30 to 9.45 p.m. usually at Park High School, Thistlecroft Gardens, Stanmore, Middx. in term time only. Nearest Underground station, Canons Park (Jubilee Line). For further details please contact the Secretary: Miss Judith Holloway, 28 Shepherds Road, Watford, Herts., WD1 7HX. Tel: Watford 25480.

WOODVALE INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Tuesday, 7.45 to 10 p.m. at The Church Hall, Quarry Hill Road, Borough Green, Sevenoaks, Kent. Secretary: Mrs. Sue McKie, 2 Auden Road, Lunsford Park, Larkfield, Maidstone, ME20 6TL.

BARNET INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CLUB meets every Friday, October to June, at Hadley Memorial Hall, Hadley Highstone, Barnet, 8 to 10.30 p.m. Leader: Brian Dowsett. For further information, contact the secretary, Janet Heathfield, 29 Cedar Avenue, East Barnet, Herts. 01 368 5345.

OXFORD INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Monday throughout the year (excluding some Bank Holidays and 6th Sept. 1982) at 8 p.m. at Blackfriars, St. Giles, Oxford. Further details from Diana Porteus, 105 Southmoor Road, Oxford, OX2 6RE

SWANSEA COURSE 1981. LIST OF DANCES TAUGHT

FRENCH - Michel and Francoisé Piot

	<u>Stream</u>		<u>Stream</u>
Schottisch à Sept Pas	A, B		
Haut Poitou:		Bas Poitou:	
Bal à Deux	A,B,C	Maraichines -	
Bal à Quatre	A,B,C	ordinaire	A,B,C
Quadrille	B	les crêpes	A,B,C
L'Ageasse	A,B,C	la guitonnelle	A,B,C
Le Guimbarde	B	la giroflée	A,B
La Vrie	A,B,C	les papillons	A,B,C
L'Avant Deux	A,B	Maraichine croisée	A,B
La Chasse à Quatre	A,B	Les Mouchoirs	B
La Marchoise	A,B,C	L'Angoise	A,B
		La Polbeu de la grenouillé	A,B,C

ROMANIAN - Frank Dowling

Hora (Din Casa)	A	Tandara	A
Sirba	A	Arcanul	A
Alunelul în Hora	A	Hora Mintita	B
Briulețul	A,B	Sirba	B,C
Briul Banățean	A	Oas	B
Drăgaicuța	A	Ca la Balta	B
Coconeasca	A,C	Alunelul Infundat	B
Marioara	A,C	Bătuta Ursului	B
Tărăneasca	A	Hora de Niță	C
Bătrineasca	A,C	Alunelul în Hora	C

CZECH - Hedy Fromings

Doudlebská Polka	A	Mazurka	A
Hulán	A	Káča (Duckling)	B
Cobbler/Blacksmith	A	Mistrin Čardás	B
Cerešnický	A	Morava - Moravian dances	B
Trencín	A	Celadenský	B
Tancuj-Tancuj	A	Zemplin Čardás	B
Karička/Odzernok	A		

SPANISH - Kelsey Blundell

Rondón (Segovia)	C	Jota (Aragón) de Realito	C
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ISRAELI - Fiona Howarth

Baa Menucha	C	Machar	C
Ssimchu Nah	C	Niguna Shel Yossi	C
Shodemahi	C		

BALKAN - Ken Ward

Croatian - Letovanić	C	Serbian - Šetna	C
Ajdna Levo	C	Pop Marinko	C
		Kukunješte	C

Cont....

SWEDISH - Joan Richardson

Fyrmannadans	C	Trekarlspolska	C
Vava Vadmal	C		

GERMAN - Joan Richardson

Sauerlander Quadrille V C

BASQUE - Joan Guest

Zazpi Jauziak	C	Arku Dantza	C
Makil Ttiki	C		

ESTONIAN - Aili Eistrat

Oigi ja Vasemba	C	Kiigadi Kaagadi	C
Kalamies	C	Targa Rehealune	C
Jooksu Polka	C	Vastatside Tants	C
Kivi Kasukas	C	Kolmokeski Kaarasim	C
Viru Valts	C	Jamaja Labajalo	C
Sadala Polka	C	Huppetants	C

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S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE - GERMAN
SUNDAY, 15th November

at Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regents Park Rd., London, N.W.1. in "Trefusis" (the downstairs hall).

Tutor: Peter Sumner Time: 10.30 to 4.30 Fee: £2 members, £3 non-members.

Last June we were very pleased to welcome Jans-Jorg Brenner from Stuttgart to teach us some of his dances. This month Peter Sumner, whose group in Bristol has had close connections with Stuttgart over the last ten years, is coming to revise those dances. Amongst those taught was Kruz Konig which members are reminded is one of the compulsory dances for the Proficiency Badge, and candidates will be expected to know it in its correct form. Peter will also be bringing with him the records from Germany made by the Stuttgart musicians which some people ordered last time. This is a very busy weekend for Peter and his wife, Diane, and I am very grateful to them for making the time to take this course.

I am also very grateful to Steve for his help and time in booking Cecil Sharp House, and would be pleased to hear from members how they feel about this venue and change of day. My thanks also to those who have given me addresses of possible halls.

FRANCES HORROCKS

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S.I.F.D. BRANCHES

"SELPAR" (West 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: 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.

BOURREE TOURNANTE DES GRANDES POTERIES
(Bourree des Conscrits)

1. Formation: 2 hommes, cote a cote, ep. droite-ép. droite.
2. Pas utilisés: avant-deux droit Haut Berry et retour en epingle à cheveux - bourrée valsee à l'endroit.
3. Evolution: A. Les hommes reculent en 'V' et avancent Haut Berry, epaule gauche-epaule gauche. Ils reviennent en arriere en 'V' en epingle à cheveux et avancent H.B. ep. droite-ép. droite. Ils sont revenue en position initiale apres avoir change de cote. Ce mouvement est à faire deux fois.

B. Encore un 'V' en reculant et en avançant; puis bourree valsee en demi-cercle en SIAM; puis retour en quatre pas de bourrée valsee en carre.

(Bourree des Conscrits is French Army folklore version - same dance, different melody.)

ALAN HOLLAND

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SEPTEMBER 19TH BEDFORD
EASTERN REGION MOVEMENT AND DANCE LIAISON GROUP'S
DAY OF MOVEMENT AND DANCE

Once again the Rainmakers International Folk Dance Group of Stevenage (SIFD affiliated group) represented the SIFD at this annual day of Movement and Dance held in Bedford.

In the morning, the participating groups gave ten-minute demonstrations of their activities. There were various folk and country dance groups, modern rhythmic gymnastics, keep fit, Margaret Morris movement, Laban, Medau, the Dalcroze Society and others. The Rainmaker's Swedish and Sicilian dances were very well received.

After lunch it was time for everyone present to "have a go" at three of the activities. There were three sessions, each offering a choice of five activities so it was difficult to know whether to play safe and go for the type of activity one was familiar with, or be really adventurous and try something quite new. I was glad I went to the SIFD session, where Jill Bransby successfully instructed a large group of interested people. Some Dutch dances were included in this session.

We hope that this event will have aroused interest in the Rainmakers' group, and particularly that there will be encouraging support for their Day Course on 17th October, in Bedford, at which Janet Woolbar is again to be the teacher.

UNA STOCK

S.I.F.D. ASSOCIATED CLASSES

POLISH

Monday evenings. Beginners 6.45 to 7.45 p.m. General & Advanced 8 to 10 p.m. Christopher Hatton School, Laystall St., Rosebery Avenue, London, E.C.1. Tutor: Betty Harvey.

EUROPEAN NATIONAL

Monday evenings. Beginners 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. (two classes, 15-30s and over-30s) at Willows High School, Central Road, Morden SM4 5SE. Wednesday evenings, Advanced 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. at Sir Joseph Hood Centre, Whatley Avenue, London SW20 9NS, during term time. Contact: Charles Steventon. Tel: 01 542 3831.

GENERAL INTERNATIONAL

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

ISRAELI

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

Wednesday evenings 7 to 9 p.m. at Henry Fawcett School, Bowling Green St., Oval, London, S.E.11. Tutor Fiona Howarth. Tel: 01 460 0823.

YUGOSLAV

Tuesday evenings. Beginners & 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. Tel: 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), 5 minutes from Pimlico Station). Tutor: Alan McLean.

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I was very sorry to see that the SIFD Danish class has been closed this year. Although "General International" classes are the mainstay of the Society and we could not do without them, I feel the specialist classes have much to offer, being able to concentrate wholly on style and detail necessary to reach a high standard in dances from one particular country. It is particularly sad to see the Danish class close as this is the first Danish specialist class we have had. However, Gaye's group of enthusiasts will not be disbanded and will be meeting from time to time, so we hope the class may be resuscitated in due course. ED.

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Classes/groups are reminded that they must send details direct to the Editor if they wish to be listed in SIFD NEWS.

BRANLE BACCHANAL
(Normandy)

For Jill Bransby, who learnt this dance at Eastbourne, and others interested, here are the words of the song for this "Bacchanalian brawl". (I don't think there should be an "e" on the end of bacchanal, even though some Frenchmen put it there!).

"Un compagnon s'est debauché
J'ai icy ouï une voix chanter
Chez son voisin s'en est allé
J'ai, j'ai, j'ai icy ouï une voix souveraine)
J'ai icy ouï une voix chanter) bis

(I wonder if the use of the past participle "Ouï", now obsolete and dating back to the days before French accents were introduced, gives some indication as to age).

I think this dance is incomplete without knowledge of the content of the song. If anyone wants a copy of the sheet music, I would be pleased to send them one. I have quite a collection now; my clearest copies are for:-

Bourrée mussée
Bourrée tournante des grandes poteries
Les moutons - la moutonne
Bourrées droites (la quenouillée, etc.)
Bourrée droite valsee d'Issoudun
Bourrée droite en V d'Issoudun
Bourrée droite de Reuilly
Bourrée croisée (for Bourrée d'Oulches)
La Chevre (for La chevre bure; La chevre d'Argenton, La Chevre de Cerbois)

La sabotée des conscrits de Montgivray
Le Branle de Cosnay
L'ageasse, La santaska
L'engageante
Bourrée pastourelle
Bourrée carrée (air - en passant la rivière)
Bourrée ronde de la sole
La bourrée droite du Pays Fort
Bourrée eclaire (Men's dance) - air - "La chatte, elle a chie...")
I'll give you the rest of the words. Our local French girl says the words are not considered rude in France.

"La chatte, ell'a chie
Au fond de la marmite,
La chatte, ell'a chie
Au fond du saladier!"

I believe these appear in "Les mesaventures d'une chatte".

ALAN HOLLAND,
Fairfields, Main-street,
Long Lawford, Rugby,
CV23 9BB

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

SUNDAY DANCES at Cecil Sharp House, Regents Park Road, London N.W.1.

November 1st A Woodvale evening, with Woodvale Group providing M.C.s and a demonstration.

December 6th M.C. Frances Horrocks

7 to 10 p.m. Admission: 75p for SIFD members, £1 for non-members.

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WHAT'S ON

Nov. 13th AN EVENING OF YUGOSLAVIAN DANCES at Barnet International Folk Dance Club, with Linda Swanton as guest teacher. Hadley Memorial Hall, Hadley Highstone, Barnet, at 8 p.m. Enquiries to Janet Heathfield, 01 368 5345.

Nov. 15th SIFD GERMAN DAY COURSE. See page 11.

Nov. 21st INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE organized by Barlow Group at Wilbraham Road United Reformed Church Hall, (corner of Withington Road), Chorlton, Manchester, 7 to 8 p.m. children's special session; 8 to 10.30 p.m. for everyone. Admission: Adults 75p, Children 40p one child, 60p two children, 70p three children - from one family. Enquiries to Philip Lloyd, 061 881 3613.

Nov. 27th/
29th WEEKEND AT CLARANCE HOUSE, THAXTED. See below.

Dec. 5th BALKAN PARTY organized by Zivko Firfov Group, at Moorfields Primary School, Bunhill Row, London E.C.1. (Nearest Underground Station Old Street, Northern Line). 7 to 10.30 p.m. Admission by ticket only, purchased in advance from Philip Barnes, 30 Torver Rd., Harrow, Middx. (Tel: 01 427 0947, evenings). Please send s.a.e. The Group apologises for higher price than usual - £2.50 per ticket including refreshments - due to the increased hire charge for the hall.

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"JACY TACY" WEEKEND AT CLARANCE HOUSE, THAXTED

NOVEMBER 27th/29th

Dancing will be in the Church Hall which is opposite the back of Clarence House. Anyone wishing to join us for any of the daytime teaching sessions, or the international Dances on both Friday and Saturday evenings (approximately 8 to 11.30 p.m.) will be welcome at a small cost.

It is not possible to give details of the exact timing of the Saturday a.m. and p.m. teaching sessions until the weekend itself. Telephone Thaxted 830787 or just come along and join us. We expect to have some tuition in Serbian, Hungarian, and Romanian dances as well as Polish.

BETTY HARVEY