

S.I.F.D. NEWS

FEBRUARY 1982



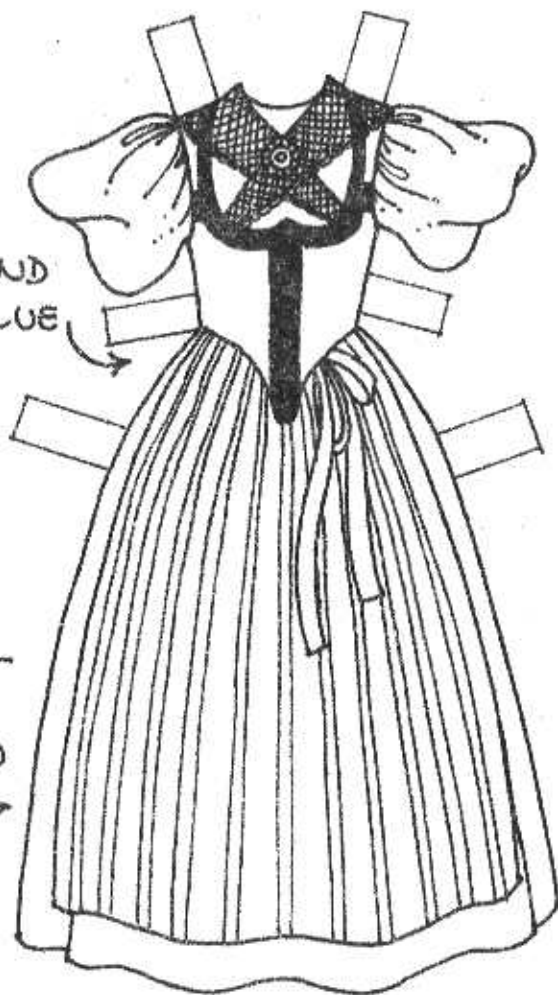
DOLL - STICK ON
THIN CARD,
COLOUR, AND CUT
OUT



STRAW HAT -
SLIT ALONG
DOTTED LINE

BODICE AND
SKIRT - BLUE

APRON -
BLUE, RED
AND YELLOW
STRIPES →



SWISS COSTUME

BASE - BEND
BACK ALONG
DOTTED LINE

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

EDITOR: Lily Southgate, 31 Barbrook House, Chatham Place, London, E.9.
Tel: 01 985 0428 (evenings Monday to Friday)

The printing, collating and packing is organised by Doug Wells and family.
The typing and editing, this month, were done by Kelsey Blundell

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On this month's cover, designed by Lesley Boorer, you will find a cut-out doll and costume for you to keep. Two more delightful costumes for your doll will be included on the covers of the next two issues.

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CHAIRMAN: Charles Steventon, 64 Erridge Road, London, S.W.19
Tel. 01 542 3831.

SECRETARY: Joan Rackham, 16 Bathurst Avenue, Wimbledon, London, S.W.19.
Tel. 01 543 1891.

TREASURER: Judith Holloway, 28 Shepherds Road, Watford, Herts. WD1 7HX.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: Dorothy Bryan, Flat 1, Braunston Mansions,
28 Rosebery Avenue, London, EC1. Tel. 01 837 2438.

DEMONSTRATION SECRETARY: Kay Leighton, 9 Barnes Rise, Kings Langley, Herts.
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 should be made out to SIFD.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

At the first Committee meeting of 1982 topics under discussion included the Questionnaire on Sponsorship which was received from the C.C.P.R. This has now been completed and returned.

The S.I.F.D. has never sought sponsorship but we have, by returning the questionnaire, made the Committee of Enquiry into Sponsorship under the chairmanship of the Rt. Hon. Denis Howell M.P. aware of our existence, and our willingness to co-operate with the C.C.P.R.

I look forward with interest to the results of the enquiry insofar as it affects organisations of Movement and Dance.

The Festival Organiser at Sidmouth has written to say that he is checking with his workshop and dance producers to see if the S.I.F.D. can be fitted into the 1982 Festival.

Please do not forget the Eastbourne Festival. You will have received the information leaflet with your January NEWS and I hope that as many members as possible will come along.

JOAN RACKHAM,
Hon. Secretary

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SUNDAY DANCES

With effect from March 1982, the admission charge will be increased to £1.00 for members, £1.30 for non-members.

Also, please note that our May Dance this year will be held on Sunday 9th May, not Sunday 2nd May.

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HARROW GREEN FOLK DANCE GROUP

With many regrets we decided at the end of the Christmas term that Harrow Green Folk Dance Group must close down. In spite of our very successful 30th Anniversary party last year, numbers at the classes have been too low to make it worthwhile continuing.

I would like to thank all those who have supported us over the years and especially those who have attended regularly during the recent difficult months and worked hard to keep things going. Unfortunately, with no new members coming in it simply wasn't possible.

ALEX BEAUCLERC,
Hon. Secretary, H.G.F.D.G.

BERT PRICE PROFICIENCY BADGE EXAMINATION

The following is the syllabus of dances for the Romanian Silver Badge examination to be held in March:

Arcanul (Compulsory)
Briuletul * (Compulsory)
Dragaicuta
Briul Banatean
Arrameanca (Couple dance)
Ursului (Couple Dance)
Hora Mintita (with calls)
Jumata N Toarse
Invirtita de la Sibiu
Ca La Balta

* Version as taught in the Advanced section of the 1981 Swansea Course.
All the above will be taught at the SIFD Day Course (see below).

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SIFD DAY COURSE IN ROMANIAN DANCES

Date: SATURDAY, 6th February, 1982
Place: CECIL SHARP HOUSE (TREFUSIS), 2 Regents Park Rd., London, NW1.
Time: 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. (Please bring your own lunch)
Tutors: Barbara and Rod Perkins
Fee: £2.00 for members, £3.00 for non-members.
Dances to be taught: Those listed in the syllabus for the Silver Badge Examination (see above).

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HAMA'AGAL ISRAELI DANCE WORKSHOP AND PARTY

on Saturday, 27th March, 1982
at Morley College, 61 Westminster Bridge Road, London, SE1

Workshop: 10.30 am to 5.00 pm. Bring packed lunch. Cost £2.
Party: 6.00 pm to 9.00 pm (or possibly later, if we can persuade the caretaker). Cost £1.50 including refreshments.
Combined Ticket: £3.00
Tutor: Fiona Howarth. Dances mainly from the record "Moshiko No. 5" (copies available)

Please note that, due to the change of venue, we cannot positively guarantee tea or coffee on sale during the day. Squash will be available. Also, because of the early finish, the party will start at 6 o'clock.

Tickets and enquiries (stamped addressed envelope please) to:
Fiona Howarth, 76c Hayes Road, Bromley, BR2 9AB. Tel. 01 460 0823.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Lily,

I have been asked by the Committee to write a few comments on the letters from Charles Stone and Rod Perkins which appeared in the December News.

There are advantages in having the Monthly Day Courses in the same venue but that does not mean that we in London are unsympathetic to the views of our 'country members'.

Day courses are already held outside London and the Committee feel that this could be developed to the greater satisfaction of our provincial members without sacrificing the advantages of a 'permanent' central venue. (The change from Hugh Myddelton School to Cecil Sharp House was due to circumstances outside the control of the Committee.)

Generally it is easier for day courses to be organised by local people because they would know about the availability of halls and could make arrangements for refreshments and similar tasks. The Committee could give advice on the availability of tutors.

The Committee would be very pleased to hear the views of all members with practical suggestions. I should be grateful if members would write direct to me.

Yours sincerely,

JOAN RACKHAM,
Hon. Secretary

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Dear Lily,

I would like to say thank you to Joan Guest for calling the dances at Cecil Sharp House (January 3rd). As I have only been folk dancing for just over a year, I greatly appreciate being taught new dances.

I realise that the majority of people at Cecil Sharp House know a vast assortment of dances and there are a lot of specialist courses and badges for those who want to perfect them.

Couldn't the Sunday Dances bear in mind the complete newcomers? I am sure more people would start folk dancing if they felt really welcomed and encouraged - whether to a local group or at Cecil Sharp House.

I thoroughly enjoy the Sunday Dances, especially because of the helpfulness of some of the more experienced dancers who are prepared to talk me through a dance I don't know. But perhaps there could be more frequent dances, some being geared towards beginners.

Yours sincerely,

SUSAN TOPPER,
97 Cambridge Road,
London, SW20 OPU

Dear Lily,

Both David Rackham's and Rod Perkins' letters in the December 'News' highlight the great difficulties under which the Society works, and both those problems and their possible solutions are closely interlinked.

The publicity which the Society issues has to be applicable to all its activities and it must therefore be somewhat bland in its approach. The literature produced by the EFDSS shows the same pattern, as can be seen by the notice boards at Cecil Sharp House, where the official publications are limited to a general appeal to join, together with a brief explanation of the organisation, and the 'hard sell' is left to individual groups and clubs. Both Joan Rackham and I hold stocks of our "Join the SIFD" leaflets and would only be too willing to send a selection to any group who could use them. But appeals to join particular groups must come from them, since only they know what they wish to offer and what type of member they want to attract.

These issues are, as I have said, very complex and there is a tendency for us to keep going round in the same old circle, partly because newer members cannot be aware that simple solutions have been tried and were not successful. The real problem always remains: we are a small group trying to do a large task.

We are, for historic reasons, London based, but although our membership has been approximately the same for some time, the number of members in London available for administration has fallen drastically. There are, for instance, about a dozen living within a 5 mile radius of Charing Cross, with another 60 or 70 within a 10 mile radius and many of these have devoted over 30 years of time and effort to the SIFD.

In my view, it is neither fair nor practical that they should be asked to do more, and therefore, to ensure the continued existence and growth of the SIFD, the concept of Branches was included in the Constitution. It was intended that interested members outside the Home Counties should get together to form branches, covering areas designated by themselves, but possibly equivalent to the CCPR regions. These branches would be dedicated to increasing our influence in their areas, by promoting groups and classes. One of the first priorities would be to organise a residential week-end course or, failing that, day courses for teachers and prospective group leaders. I have no doubt that Frances Horrocks and the Teachers Committee would be able to supply suitable teachers. In this way, Silver badges and eventually Teachers' Certificates could become available outside the London area.

This may appear to be special pleading, but please let me assure all our valued groups and members in the 'provinces' that their work is appreciated and we don't think that London is the only place on earth! However, it is only by regional self-help that these much-to-be desired results can be obtained.

Finally, a few notes on publicity. In the near future a Crown size poster will be available in two formats. One will include information on groups in S.E. England and the other will have a blank space for any display you may wish to insert. Details of how to obtain them will appear in the 'NEWS'.

GEORGE SWEETLAND,
Publicity Officer, SIFD

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Cont...)

Dear Lily,

I feel that I must reply to Roy Clarke's letter in the January SIFD News, firstly to say that I agree with him that his letter regarding SIFD weekends isn't relevant to SIFD Day Courses and, secondly, to give a personal answer as to why Barbara and I have, over the past few years, restricted our attendance at weekends to certain 'specialist' weekends.

We started going on SIFD weekends soon after we took up folk dancing, and very soon we were going on every weekend, attending every day course, travelling all over the country - we were truly smitten. As time progressed and we got to know more dances from different countries we developed a special love of the music and dances from particular areas, as I am sure many other people have. In our case these were mainly, but not wholly, dances from the Balkans with their complex rhythms and subtle steps and those from Israel with their 'Joie de vivre'. We also found that at most SIFD social functions which we attended, weekends and dances, the dances being danced were always the same ones and were, more often than not, not those which we were learning at courses nor those from the countries which we were becoming especially attached to. True, we did Romanian, Yugoslav and Israeli dances but these nearly always turned out to be Alunelul, Serbian Suite, Cherkessia Kfula etc.!!

This letter isn't really meant as a criticism of the weekends or their organisers - please keep organising them Roy and Jack, there is obviously a call for them in their present form as is shown by the waiting lists - it is simply an explanation of our recent absence, which has nothing to do with the venue.

The day courses I feel come under a different category completely. They give people the opportunity to learn new dances, which hopefully they take away and dance at other occasions. These day courses are attended by people from a wide area and will I am sure continue to be so, no matter where they are held.

Yours sincerely,

ROD PERKINS,
30 Knighton Road,
Northfield,
Birmingham, B31 2EH

Dear Lily,

I should like to respond to two recent letters in the NEWS.

Firstly, speaking as a Provincial I most heartily endorse Rod Perkins' plea for Day-Courses to be held elsewhere than in London. A day-trip to London from here is an expensive and tedious business (and how much worse from the North!) and members of my Group have been very reluctant to attend courses. Many more of them, however, have been to those at Birmingham: the great value of these is to show folks that membership of the SIFD means more than just a monthly newsletter. The last time we attended a course in Birmingham, three of our members, having discovered what the SIFD is all about, became so enthused that they went to Swansea last summer - which proved to be of the greatest value to our group as a whole.

In Bristol, we have been holding a Day-Course every year since we started in 1974; we have had tremendous support, from tutors and invited M.C.s but only on three occasions have we had the pleasure of other visitors from the London area (our next one is on March 13th - please note!)

Secondly I very much appreciate Roy Clarke's efforts to spread his weekends around the country. We usually manage to send a representative or two for a day, when they are within reach of Bristol, and thoroughly enjoy it. The point I would like to make by way of explanation for non-attendance at weekends is that, in our group at any rate, the majority of us have husbands, children or other family commitments, who do not appreciate being abandoned for a weekend. And bringing them too is a somewhat expensive operation.

Keep at it Roy, and don't abandon the West. We'll keep supporting you whenever we can.

Yours sincerely,

HILDA STURGE,
10 Carmarthen Road,
Bristol, BS9 4DU

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DUNAV L.P. "FOLK MUSIC FROM THE BALKANS"

This recently published record is now also available on cassette at £5 plus 60p postage & packing. Please send your cheque, payable to Dunav Balkan Group (LP Account) to Dr. J. Baldwin, 27 Danvers Road, London, N8, specifying that you want a cassette. A free record sleeve will be supplied with the cassette, to give the descriptive details of the recording.

You can order the records through John Baldwin, and also buy them at Collett's Record Shop, 180 Shaftesbury Avenue.

BARNET INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CLUB

The New Year seems to be a good time for looking back as well as looking forward, so we hoped you might like to hear about the activities of Barnet International Folk Dance Club since the new season began at the end of September.

The first special event in the autumn term was the visit of Linda Swanton in November. We always look forward to her evenings. The dances she taught were Senjacko from Serbia, Moravac also from Serbia (currently featured on the new Dunav record), Skudrinka from Macedonia, and Posavski, Drms from Croatia. We hope to keep all these in our repertoire.

At the last minute, we were able to arrange an evening of Bulgarian dances with Christo Stoyanov who came to Barnet on December 4th as guest teacher. Dani Lumley and Di Waller, who have been running a Bulgarian class on Thursdays at Jackson's Lane Community Centre in Highgate since September, managed (with great difficulty) to organise an extended holiday for their friend from Bulgaria. Christo used to dance with the Bulgarian Army Ensemble. He gave several classes at Highgate, and we were so impressed by him, both as a dancer and as a teacher, and by his warm personality, that we felt we must ask him to come to Barnet at least once before he had to return home. He taught a simple Pravo, a Daichevo which incorporated several steps new to us, and finished with a very attractive Reka, which will be a favourite at Barnet for many months to come.

Our Christmas party was a smaller affair than usual because of the weather, but congratulations to all those who braved the sub-zero temperatures and travelled to Barnet across the frozen wastes. Small numbers of course meant more room for dancing and more food, so there were advantages!

We started meetings again on January 8th with another 'surprise evening' - unfortunately, it too was spoilt by a blizzard, but Jack and Joan Richardson and Roy Clarke won through, and also 4 new members from Harpenden! It was a pity more people were unable to come as we had a very enjoyable evening learning the Appalachian clogging step from a young American student who was staying in North London - sadly he has now had to return to the States.

For the future we hope to have visits from Kelsey Blundell, Simon Guest, Frances Horrocks and the Turkish Group under their new leader, Halil Celebioglu.

Many thanks to our members and friends who supported the club so faithfully last year, and best wishes to everyone for the New Year.

JANET HEATHFIELD,
Hon. Sec. B.I.F.D.C.

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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.

NEW RECRUITS AND HOW TO KEEP THEM

Diki Gleeson's despair about young people and SIFD can't be left as it is without looking for (a) reasons for loss of interest and (b) more important, ways to deal with the situation.

First, however, consider also how many adults pass through! What a large number have come to our C.S.H. dances just once. Perhaps my thoughts might relate to these too.

Some organisations do keep some recruits: Scouts, Guides, St. John Ambulance and Nursing Cadets, R.S.P.B. riding schools and many others. And just think of the hundreds of stage dancing classes for children. True, all have a big turnover, but many recruits stay for years.

Let's look at some thoughts about holding people longer.

1. We offer them no future. I don't mean a professional future, but early in their contact with us we should point them towards a future event, e.g. a joint dance evening with another group, a visit from some special dancers, a show for parents, a simple exam with certificate... even better, a continuous series of future activities. Today's class is not just a one-off, but part of something continuous. They should be encouraged to ask 'When is that Band coming?'
2. We seem to isolate them. People, especially the younger, should be shown that the class is part of a great movement - that people all over the world dance like we do. It's not just 'jumping in the gym with Miss Wotnot on Thursdays'. I've met dancers of years' experience in classes who have never heard even of SIFD!
3. Make them pay. They won't come if it's free.
4. Aren't we sometimes a bit vague? At each class children should learn something very definite to take home and 'show off' to family and friends. A fast step, a special hand movement, or a figure or floor pattern. E.G. elbow turn, Cherkessia step, step hop forwards and back. A small achievement that will 'stick'. Older pupils could learn Russian click-heel, reel of three, stamps of Alunelul, Vlajnica step. And pupils should be told that this will be part of next week's dances.
5. For youngsters we could revive the plastic badge we once had - but sell it to them, and only when they deserve it.

WILL GREEN

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LILY has asked me to thank all those kind people who sent her get-well cards and good wishes.

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 Hatten 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, EC1. Tutor: Janet Woolbar.

ISRAELI

Wednesday evenings 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. at Drama Hall, Kidbrooke School, Corelli Road, London, SE3. Tutor: Gaye Saunte. Tel: 01 318 0237.

Wednesday evenings 7 to 9 p.m. at Henry Fawcett School, Bowling Green St., Oval, London, SE11. 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, SE1. 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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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.

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 Rd., Bristol, BS9 4DU. Tel: 0272-621802.

RAINMAKERS INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Friday at 8 p.m. at the Catholic Church Hall, Albert St., 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 S epherds Rd., 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 Ave., 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 Rd., Oxford, OX2 6RE.

NUTBROOK INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Thursday between 7.30 and 9.30 p.m. (except during August and Bank Holiday Weeks), at Kirk Hallam Community School, Godfrey Drive, Kirk Hallam, Nr. Ilkeston. Secretary: Miss G. Coulton, 14 Lawrence Ave., Awworth, Notts. Tel: Ilkeston 303665.

WYCOMBE FOLK DANCE CLUB meets every Monday (except August and Bank Holidays) 7.45 to 10.15 p.m. at the Guildhall, High Wycombe. For further details please contact the club leader, Uri Gerson, Tel: High Wycombe 23434.

KAROMA INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Friday, 7 to 8.30 p.m. during term time at Briardene First School, Whitley Bay. Further details from tutor, Kaye Lewis Poole, 50 Antonine Walk, Heddon-on-Wall, Newcastle. Tel: Wylam 2495.

INTERDANCE, WORTHING (International Folk Dance Club) meets every Tuesday, 8 p.m. at Haverfield House, Union Place, Worthing, Sussex. (same road as Connaught Theatre). General international. Further details from Iris E. Birch, 11 Merlin Court, 106 Littlehampton Road, Worthing, West Sussex. Tel: Worthing 691651.

LYKION TON HELLINIDON hold Greek Folk Dance classes at 12-14 Cottesmore Gardens, London, W.8. on Tuesdays 1 - 2 p.m. (adults), Wednesdays, 5-6 p.m. (children), Thursdays 6.30 to 7.30 (beginners), Fridays 6.30 to 7.30 (Advanced). Enquiries Tel: 937 0084 (Monday to Friday 11.30 to 4).

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THE TURKISH FOLK DANCE GROUP meets on Thursday evenings in term time, 7 to 9 p.m. at Gateway School, corner of Frampton Street and Lisson Grove (near Edgware Road Underground). Tutor: Halil Celebioglu. Secretary: Pauline Welch, Tel: 01-393 1919 (home) and 01-337 6976 (school).

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.

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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

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THE FRIDAY CLASS

First of all my apologies for putting the wrong date and time under "What's On" for the recommencement of this class. The Friday class will, of course, take place each month on a Friday, commencing 5th February and each month thereafter on the Friday immediately preceding the Cecil Sharp House Dance. The class will begin at 6.30 and finish sharp at 9.30 p.m.

As announced last month, after negotiations between your Hon. Secretary and the Authority concerned, we have been offered, free of charge, the use of the first floor hall at Hugh Myddelton School (now known as the Kingsway Princeton Centre) the old venue of the SIFD Day Courses.

There must be a number of members who are no longer able to attend their favourite weekly class, because of the increase in fees and the changing attitude of local authorities, and the monthly class will give them an opportunity to attend a class, in central London, even though only once a month. No enrolment is necessary, although a small charge per person per attendance of 30p will be made, to form a kitty from which to pay, from time to time, the expenses of visiting teachers.

At the first class on 5th February, we will dance a mixture of dances, based on the syllabus for the Silver Badge Examinations due to take place in March. Everyone is welcome, of course, not just those intending to take the badge examination. We will not be able to dance all the dances, of course, so if anyone wishes to take the opportunity to practice any in particular, please come and please make your choice known at the beginning of the evening so that we can be sure to include them.

Constructive comments on the future direction of the class will also be welcome, so that the class can best serve to further the aims of the Society as well as give an enjoyable evening's dancing to those who attend. One way I think the class might be useful occasionally is for members considering taking the Teachers' Certificate, now or in the future, who might like to come and teach a dance or two for practice. And if anyone has a new dance they are just dying to pass on to others, then we are there just dying to learn it from you.

KELSEY BLUNDELL

SUNDAY DANCES at Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London, NW1.

February 7th M.C.s Judith Holloway and Audrey Whiteley

March 7th M.C. Kelsey Blundell

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

At the March Dance there will be a short demonstration of Portuguese Dances; also during the first part of the interval the Catalan Sardanas will be danced for those who would like to join in, followed by some circle dances.

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WHAT'S ON

- Feb. 5th THE FRIDAY CLASS at Kingsway Princeton Centre (formerly Hush Myddelton School) Sans Walk, Clerkenwell, London, E.C.1. (See page 13)
- Feb. 11th & 12th CONCERT OF DANCE presented by the Croydon Schools Dance Association. (Dances from home and abroad) at the Fairfield Hall, Croydon, 7.30 pm. Adults £1.50, children 75p.
- Feb. 12th At BARNET INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CLUB, Kelsey Blundell will be teaching Spanish dances, at Hadley Memorial Hall, Hadley Highstone, Barnet, 8 p.m. Enquiries to Janet Heathfield, 01 368 5345.
- Feb. 23rd AKLOWA! The traditions, history and stories of Africa presented by the Aklowa Centre for African Dancing and Drumming, at the Fairfield Hall, Croydon, 8.00 p.m. All tickets £3 (children and OAPs £2).

and looking ahead to March:-

- Mar. 12th AN EVENING OF GREEK DANCES led by Natasha Drossou at Lykion ton Hellinidon, 12-14 Cottessmore Gardens, London, W.8. 7.30 - 9.30 pm. Tickets (at the entrance) £1.50 including refreshments. Enquiries: 01-262 9821.
- Mar. 14th BERT PRICE PROFICIENCY BADGE EXAMINATION at Cecil Sharp House, (Main Hall). Applicants will be advised in due course when they will be expected to attend.

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For the time being, please continue to address material for publication in the NEWS to Miss Kelsey Blundell, 65 Lonsdale Ave., London, E6 3JZ and remember that - ALL MATERIAL FOR PUBLICATION IN THE MARCH ISSUE SHOULD ARRIVE, IN WRITING, NO LATER THAN 15TH FEBRUARY

S T O P P R E S S

BERT PRICE PROFICIENCY BADGE EXAMINATION

In view of the difficulty in preparing the Romanian syllabus, and the adverse weather conditions which have prevented people from attending classes and courses recently, the Badge Committee have been requested to postpone the Proficiency Badge Test.

This will now be held on SATURDAY JULY 10TH instead of Sunday March 14th.

We regret the inconvenience that this may cause but feel it is in the best interests of all candidates. The closing date for entries will now be May 17th. Candidates who have already submitted their entries need not reapply, but if they are unable to attend on July 10th and wish to withdraw, please let Frances Horrocks know as soon as possible and their money will be refunded.

On Sunday March 14th we will now hold a course for prospective teachers.

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