

# SIFD News



MAY 1982

19th Century, Ostend, Belgium



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 stencils were typed by Kelsey Blundell.

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This month's cover is by Caroline Thomas  
and shows a 19th Century costume, from  
Ostend, Belgium.

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CHAIRMAN: Charles Steventon, 64 Erridge Road, London, SW19.  
Tel: 01 542 3831.

SECRETARY: Joan Rackham, 16 Bathurst Avenue, Wimbledon, London, SW19.  
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, N19. 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.

SEE ANNOUNCEMENT ON PAGE 6.

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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 April Committee Meeting the matter of Beginners Dances at Cecil Sharp House was again raised, and it is hoped that Dances will be held on 17th October and 21st November from 7 to 10 p.m. Wilf Horrocks has kindly consented to play. Further information will be given at a later date.

Also at the meeting, the final arrangements for the Society's participation in the Eastbourne Festival were discussed. It was decided to ask members who are going to Eastbourne to take their costumes.

JOAN RACKHAM,  
Hon. Secretary

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CECIL SHARP HOUSE DANCE ON 4TH APRIL

Members who were at the Cecil Sharp House Dance on 4th April will know of the condition of the hall when we arrived, and of the subsequent problems with refreshments. The problems have been taken up with the management of Cecil Sharp House. The untidiness of the hall was partly due to the previous booking running late. This was by the Imperial Society for Teachers of Dancing for their ballet and tap dancing examinations, which extended from the previous Thursday to the following Tuesday.

Because of the large numbers of people involved, a different catering organisation had been brought in and asked to cater for all activities at Cecil Sharp House during that period. Somehow this instruction had been misinterpreted because there were no refreshments provided for the EFDSS Dance on the Saturday evening, and there would have been none on the Sunday but for the efforts of Kay Leighton and Frank Kedge in serving and Ed Whiteley and David Rackham in arranging supplies.

My grateful thanks to all who helped with refreshments and with clearing the hall. As mentioned above, this has been taken up and, I hope, will not recur.

CHARLES STEVENTON,  
Chairman

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Wayne and Pauline Kimball are happy to announce the birth of a son, Andrew, on 29th March. Congratulations and very best wishes from us all.

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ALL MATERIAL FOR THE JUNE ISSUE OF SIFD NEWS  
TO BE RECEIVED BY THE EDITOR, IN WRITING, BY  
15TH MAY.

"JUST FOR FUN"

A "Quiz" compiled by Wilf Horrocks

1. Chopin would have appreciated this dance.
2. She had a lovely chest but was all tied up.
3. This chicken wouldn't comfortably wear a hat.
4. He's no officer, he's certainly not coloured, but he gets around fast.
5. If you were twice as handy, you could dance this reel easily.
6. When you do this one you are, so to speak, on slippery ground.
7. An Israel eventide falls.
8. A waltz for Mum, Dad and the kids.
9. Do you dance this with clenched hand?
- X 10. Might be described as a Danish pleasure trip.
11. You can see into the next garden through the .....
12. You've got to forge ahead or hammer away at this one.
13. The Vicar, the guests and the Best Man are all waiting, so .....
14. Both in Germany and in Sweden they applaud before this dance is finished.
15. Small gent in a predicament.
16. In this part of Northumberland they rave.
17. The Duke of Wellington would never have danced this one!
18. The Labour Party would never have danced this one!!
19. Beef on the hoof.
- X 20. You can make this in your own private still.
21. Too much of it, however, might make Virginia .....
- X 22. The warmest spot in the kitchen.

Answers on page 11.

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MERTON FESTIVAL DANCE  
SATURDAY, 22nd MAY 1982, 7.30 to 10.30 p.m.  
at Merton Hall, Kingston Road, S.W.19  
(near South Wimbledon Underground Station)

This will be a general International Folk Dance presented by the Merton Park Folk Dancers as part of the Merton Festival. It will be for both beginners and experienced dancers - alternate dances being walked through.

M.C. Charles Steventon  
Musician: Wilf Horrocks  
Tickets: £1.20 including refreshments, from Joy Steventon,  
64 Erridge Road, Merton Park, London, S.W.19. Please  
enclose s.a.e. Tel: 01 542 3831.

## DANCES OF THE U.S.S.R.

### KHOROVODY

People often say "Russia" when they mean the USSR, just as people on the Continent say "England" when they mean the U.K., or we, when we say "America" and mean the U.S.A. But here I would like to talk about the Folk Dances of the Russian Federal Republic - simply "Russia", which stretches from the Polish border in the West to the Pacific in the East, from the White Sea in the North to the Caucasian Mountains in the South. The North of Siberia is part of RFSR, for "Siberia" is a geographical term, not a political one, but there are many other Republics in the USSR which are definitely not Russian.

The oldest type of Russian folk dancing are the Khorovody, or Mass-Round-Dances. They originated in the dim beginning of history and are based on life in the village, the seasons, sowing, harvesting, the animals, love, marriage, sorrow, laughter and play. Some of them actually resemble our children's games - that is, if today's children still play them instead of staring at the goggle-box! There is, for instance, "Utyona" (the duck) where the dancers imitate the duck sitting, swimming, building her nest; or "Lenok" (flax) where the "mother" shows her "daughters" how to sow, pull, and spin flax. The dancers often sing while they dance.

Other Khorovody are more complicated and many regions have their own special Khorovod. There is, for instance, a 16-girl "Northern Khorovod" which uses only simple walking steps but has nine figures. This is one of the very old type; the girls' movements are restricted by the long full heavy skirts they are wearing, which makes them "glide like swans", and even the facial expression is limited to chaste little smiles, while only the eyes speak. In other regions there are Khorovody for anything between 8 couples and 20 girls plus 8 boys, from 6 to 32 figures, and from 2 to 15 steps per dance. To quote Anatoly Borsov (ex Moiseyev, Russian State Dance Company soloist, now Professor at the State Institute for Theatrical Arts in Moscow) when he was here in 1966 and wrote in the "Dancing Times":

"The characteristics of the Russian Dance vary considerably according to region. Dances from Siberia can hardly be compared with those from around Smolensk, for example: it is difficult for anyone who does not know them to imagine just how different. A dance from Moscow is as different as chalk from cheese from a dance in the North, near Archangel. In one district a graceful flowing may be typical; in another the tradition may be singing round dances, while in another the dances may be of a different kind altogether, far more brisk and lively. Despite this they are all undeniably Russian."

A typical Russian Khorovod is danced either by girls and boys, or by girls only. There are no "men only" Khorovody. But Khorovody are not couple dances only; the number of girls and boys may be unequal; dancers change partners, divide into girls' figures and boys' figures, meet, circle each other, etc. The tempo is mainly rather slow.

I have in my possession the book which is probably the first one on Russian Folk Dances published in the USSR (1948). It contains children's dances, and it says there that the children, when taught, were astonished to learn how many

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of their dances there were, and how beautiful they are. This is because up to the end of the first World War no-one took any notice of the dances of the people, though folk songs were popular. Even now I know two old lady emigrees who fell about laughing when they heard that I did the Folk Dances of the USSR. "What, these peasant dances? The very idea!!" Now students, dancers and choreographers are researching, taping, filming, noting down and having published literally thousands of dances all over the USSR. But anything prior to 1966 when Anatoly Borsov came as the first Russian Folk Dance teacher to London, Hull, Rotherham and Bedford is NOT Russian Folk Dancing, but social dances done at parties before the revolution, and has as much similarity to the real thing as the war dances of the Hopi Indians.

But you will be glad to hear that the "SIFD" Hopak, taught by real Ukrainians, is quite authentic and very good if done well. So please don't think I am just being nasty about the others.

JENIA GRAMAN



#### BOOKS, RECORDS AND CASSETTES

As a result of our review of the S.I.F.D. books, records and cassettes, we can now announce four new cassettes, corresponding to Books 1 to 4. This decision is in response to two points many members have made to us - the increased popularity and sophistication of cassette players, and the apparent irrational numbering of the books and our present records.

Members will now be able to buy Cassette 1 (C1) which has all the dances in Book 1, C2 - those in Book 2, C3 - those in Book 3, and C4 - those in Book 4. The price of each cassette is £2.50, and we have had to increase the postage/packing charge to 40p per order.

We still hold large quantities of most of the records. Members who have been anxiously awaiting the re-issue of EP8 as a record will still be disappointed, but at least they can now find Ketten Galop, Appenzeller Klatschwalze, Gota, Verde Gaio, Bourree Droite du Pays Fort and Virgencita on the appropriate cassettes.

Group leaders should now scrap their stock of the old order forms. If they require a supply of new ones, they should contact either Edna Foster, 33 Orchard Avenue, Southgate, London, N.14, or me.

AUDREY WHITELEY,  
16 De Vere Walk,  
Watford, Herts.



#### GERMAN FOLK DANCING

Wanted - a jolly, experienced caller to help with folk band running regular folk dances. For further details please ring 01 554 3213, Mr. T. Pearson.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR .....

Dear Editor,

As a very keen novice, may I add a few comments about the International Scene.

I dance a lot of English and sometimes call at the dances. Sneaking into the programme simple dances such as Vleegert, Fyrmanna Schottische, has aroused interest, and discussion in the English clubs has produced the following conclusions:-

1. In a rapidly growing field of Barn Dance to Playford, where English, Welsh, Scottish, American, and a few borderline dances are already in the repertoire, many dancers would welcome a leavening of international dances.
2. The dancers, including new recruits, will have a go at almost anything provided it is fun, has little footwork to learn, not too much waltz or polka, and preferably needs a partner - I think some of us are still a little self-conscious.
3. The idea of going to an entirely international dance is frightening as is the idea of committing oneself to a class.
4. A Barn Dance with an International Flavour would be welcomed in this area, provided that most of the dances are simple and there are a considerable number of English dances included. (Softlee, softlee, catchee new members?).
5. Publicising a Dance such as in 4 would reach not only the existing folkdance clubs whose rapidly increasing membership is most encouraging, but also the occasional dancers at the social clubs.
6. I, and friends, would be only too pleased to look after the English side of such a Dance - to take place somewhere N. Kent/S. London - but would welcome some help on the international side. (I do not presume to be competent to teach international myself.)

Anyway, over to you and let's see what we can do.

Yours sincerely,

ROY LE CROISSETTE,  
47 Victoria Crescent,  
Crystal Palace, London, S.E.19

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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 St., Pimlico, London (behind Tate Gallery), 5 minutes from Pimlico Station. Tutor: Alan McLean.



A DAY OF DANCE IN BROMLEY - SATURDAY, 22ND MAY

Run by Hayes (Kent) International Dance Group. Leader - Fiona Howarth

10.30 am to 10 p.m. at St. Marks Church Room, Westmorland Road, Bromley South.

Cost: £2.50 including evening refreshments. Tickets from Fiona Howarth, 76c Hayes Road, Bromley, BR2 9AB (01 460 0823). Stamped addressed envelope please.

Dances will be taught from the class repertoire of mainly circle and line dances from Armenia, Romania, Israel, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, etc. Social Dancing in the evening.

The hall is literally three minutes' walk from Bromley South Station, with frequent trains from London, Victoria (journey time, from 12 minutes). We hope to convince a few "Northerners" that there is life South of the Thames!

Bring a packed lunch, or visit one of the many good take-away or sit-down food establishments in the High Street.

The hall, although light and modern, is not large, so we have a strict limit of 60 tickets. Within this limitation, "all friends welcome at the Church Hall".

## WHO SAYS EVERYTHING HAPPENS IN LONDON?

On Easter Sunday, Wilf and I took advantage of the kind invitation extended by Diane and Peter Sumner to go to Bristol and join their group, the Folk Companions, in dancing with the German group, "Stuttgarter Spielkreis". Their leader, Hans-Jorg Brenner, took a delightful Day Course for us last summer in London, and accompanied this time by his wife and two of his sons, various musicians and numerous dancers, is in Bristol for a ten-day visit. Dancing on Easter Sunday was just a small part of the interesting and varied programme arranged for the Group which included sight-seeing in the Cotswolds, a visit to Longleat, a civic reception in Bristol, visiting the Roman remains in Bath, and of course dancing here, there and everywhere.

We arrived at Marlwood School to find everyone engaged in the first dance - a Polonaise - winding in and out across the floor, and liberally sprinkled with colourful German costumes. All the visitors, thirty-four all told, I believe, were in costume, as were several of the English group who had begged, borrowed or made their own. The visitors, and hosts, ranged in age from about thirteen years upwards, and included several family groups. We recognised a few faces, including Hugh and Joan Wood, Caroline Thomas and Stephen Ward, the musicians who played for the Day Course in London, and several of the Bristol Group who also came that day.

After a somewhat rapid and prolonged polka, Wilf gratefully retired from the floor and accepted the invitation from the musicians to join them on the stage, which had its advantages as I then had the pleasure of dancing with a succession of charming and expert partners, both English and German, for the rest of the day. The afternoon was spent learning German dances under the expert eye of Hans-Jorg and impeccably demonstrated by various couples. Having gone with the idea purely of enjoying the dancing, I did not write down the names - which were listed on a blackboard - some of which I recognised, many of which were new to me, but Hugh and Joan were putting in a lot of work with cassette and notebook, so watch out Merton.

We retired for tea around 5.30, all the visitors most generously being offered hospitality by families in the Bristol Group. The Sumner household was descended upon by the complete Horrocks family, in addition to Dorothea and Hans-Jorg who were already staying there. After several reviving cups of tea, a delicious buffet, and conversation in mixed English/German, we returned to the school for more dancing. The evening programme was more social, with much less teaching but with a walk/talk through where necessary, as with a somewhat complicated eight-couple set dance. It says something for Hans-Jorg's patience and command of English that we did it.

The evening finally came to an end amidst rousing cheers and shouts and chants from these enthusiastic young dancers who so obviously enjoy their dancing. The real heroes behind the scenes are of course Diane and Peter Sumner who do all the organising and raise the enthusiasm in the first place. Many many thanks to them for a delightful day and for making us so welcome. If the opportunity arises again to join the Folk Companions and their visitors, my advice is, grab it.

FRANCES HORROCKS

ANNUAL REPORT BY CHAIRMAN OF SELPAR, WEST MIDLANDS  
BRANCH OF S.I.F.D.

Another year gone, and the Midlands Branch of the S.I.F.D. continues to flourish with only the occasional hiccup. Another baby - Lorraine's daughter, born on New Year's Day 1982 - and two more to welcome during the year, give us hopes of an enduring tradition in the Midlands. Our total of six babies within hardly more years of our existence is indeed an indication of our efforts to boost Society membership towards the magic 500! Along with news of happiness, came news that Wayne Kimball was involved in a black-ice accident and had a most fortunate escape. Disaster indeed, as the car was a "write-off".

News of our dancing activities is not a disaster, though, for we have continued to meet regularly on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings with many extra hall-hirings for rehearsals, for demonstrations, day courses and dances. In March a sizeable group of us visited Meg and Bernard Ellis, instrument makers, at their workshop home in Dilwyn; a most enjoyable day which included dancing outside their "local" and - inevitably - two of us ordering instruments; one a hurdy gurdy (Rod Perkins) and the other a large hammer dulcimer strung to portable cimbalom tunings (Sybil Chapman). April brought our friend Lucile Armstrong and friends to the industrial Midlands for a delightful day of Spanish and Portuguese dance tuition. Two evenings of Serbian dancing, in May, kept us warmly on our toes. (Wherever did Olivera get her energy from?). One evening was spent dancing for the club run by Highfield Hospital for their out-patients in the Arthritis Clinic. They were all ready to hop off their seats and wheelchairs and join in - only restricted space and the likelihood of showing us up prevented them, I was informed!

Our June Safari in Derbyshire to enjoy the well dressings and dance on very wet village greens was a most enjoyable day and enabled us to meet new and old friends on a cold and damp day, brightened up by Dennis's accordion and the multitude of costumes. How I wish we could be as forward in passing round the hat as our E.F.D.S.S. friends are, as many spectators would gladly have said "thank you" in a practical way.

Quinton, in July, was our next port of call, where we gave a very well received demonstration and had the audience taking turns to get in on the act with us. In September the Wednesday Group danced at Grey Gables, one of the City's Homes for old ladies. This was very much appreciated and took some of the ladies back to their holidays long ago.

The West Midlands Movement & Dance Association admitted that their A.G.M. in October would have been a poor affair indeed without us, as the meeting included a session of dancing together. Nine of us certainly led them a dance as no other group had more than two representatives, and some none at all. The day after, October 10th, found us giving a demonstration to the Conservatives of Bromsgrove. As usual, we ran a "free for all" afterwards. The M.P. for the area proved to be as good a dancer as he is Rugby player and Cricketer! Our friends at Nutbrook gave some of us a most warm welcome on 17th October, and it is such a pleasure to have Gillian Coulter coming to Birmingham in May to share with us her Manx dances.

Rehearsal, rehearsal, rehearsal, and then the Central Hall, Birmingham (no bombs this time). Our programme of Czech and Hungarian dances was very well received, and the organisers were thrilled with the standard of performance. This was a two-night Festival at which all groups affiliated to the West Midlands Movement & Dance Association show their paces, and it was good to see Selpar members in the audience.

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Despite the freezing weather we suffered for a long period before Christmas, we had such a warm welcome in Wolverhampton where we were invited to the Anglo-Polish Society on December 4th. This was a Concert held to collect funds for food parcels to send to Poland. Our demonstrations were a short Israeli sequence as a "taster", then after Irish & Scottish dancers and Polish vocalists, a longer Hungarian sequence. The audience consisted mainly of Poles but they had invited members of the Hungarian Society to attend. The final result was that around 500 got in and over 100 were turned away. The Chairman seemed to think the Selpar appearance was the draw as the other concert performers had been seen before, yet never had they had such a demand for entrance! Shouts, cheers, claps, stamps - a fantastic reception and obviously much joy to the audience. One of the results was that we were invited to dance at the Hungarian Society's dance on 16th January, (this was cancelled because of the snow); and then to dance on 23rd January for the Polish Society and to accept honorary membership of the Anglo-Polish Society. This is indeed a lovely thing to happen. They are such warm, welcoming people, how can one not want to accept an invitation to share their joy, and - alas - some sorrow, with them? The hall is super, acoustics superb and the bar prices very low! Wolverhampton, here we come! Also, I fear - much dressmaking!!! Our "carollers" raised some £72.00 by their vocal efforts on Christmas Eve and survived, I'm informed, through hospitable offers of refreshment on that very, very, cold night. Well done. The Marie Curie Foundation could never have too much help.

In between all this, that and the other, many weekends away, trips abroad, courses here and there, and another year ahead.

I hesitated and thought long about the wisdom of listing our activities but felt, finally, that while bits and pieces of our activities were known of, there are few opportunities to give a complete, or nearly complete, resume so that the fuller picture can be seen.

No year can pass without my own personal thanks to all who keep us going and who show that the better we are, the more we enjoy ourselves. Yes, it is fun! Thank you - Committee members, group members, friends, families, baby-sitters and all those who encourage all we do.

SYBIL CHAPMAN

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Answers to "Just for Fun" quiz on page 4

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|--|--|
| 1. Polonaise.                            | 12. Hammersmiths.  |
| 2. Bonny Breast Knot.                    | 13. Haste to the Wedding.                                    |
| 3. The Crested Hen.                      | 14. Klap dans.   |
| 4. Dashing White Sargeant.               | 15. Little-man-in-a-fix.                                     |
| 5. Dorset 4-hand reel.                   | 16. Morpeth Rant.  |
| 6. Eiswalzer.                            | 17. Napoleon.  |
| 7. Erev Ba.                              | 18. Waves of Tory.   |
| 8. Family Waltz.                         | 19. Ox-dans.   |
| 9. Fist Polka.                           | 20. Moonshine.   |
| 10. Familie Sekstur (Familiar Sex Tour!) | 21. Reel (Virginia Reel).                                    |
| 11. Hole-in-the-Wall.                    | 22. Mellem kagel og ae vaeg (Between the oven and the wall). |

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 0EN.

BARNET INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CLUB meets every Friday, October to June, at Hadley Memorial Hall, Hadley Bagnstone, Barnet, 8 to 10.30 p.m. Leader: Brian Dowsett. Secretary: Janet Heathfield, 29 Cedar Ave., East Barnet, Herts. 01 368 5345, but for the time being please ring Brian Dowsett (Hertford 52717) instead of Janet.

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.

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.

INTERDANCE, WORTHING (International Folk Dance Club) meets every Tuesday, 8 pm. 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, Sussex. Tel: Worthing 691651.

KAROMA INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Friday, 7 to 8.30 pm 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.

LYKION TON HELLINIDON hold Greek Folk Dance classes at 12-14 Cottesmore Gardens, London, W8, on Tuesdays 1-2 pm (adults), Wednesdays, 5-6 pm (Children), Thursdays, 6.30 to 7.30 (beginners), Fridays, 6.30 to 7.30 pm (Advanced). Enquiries: Tel: 937 0084 (Mondays to Fridays 11.30 to 4).

NUTBROOK INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Thursday between 7.30 and 9.30 pm (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.

OXFORD INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Monday throughout the year (excluding some Bank Holidays and 6th Sept 1982) at 8 pm at Blackfriars, St. Giles, Oxford. Further details from Diana Porteus, 105 Southway Road, Oxford OX2 6RE. Tel: Oxford (0865) 57543.

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

THE TURKISH FOLK DANCE GROUP meets on Thursday evenings in term time, 7 to 9 pm 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 pm. Further details from Margaret Cullen, Hemel Hempstead 58277.

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WOODVALE INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Tuesday 7.45 to 10 pm at the Church Hall, Quarry Hill Road, Borough Green, Sevenoaks, Kent. Secretary: Linda Bryce, 9 Sevenoaks Road, Borough Green, Sevenoaks, Kent.

WYCOMBE FOLK DANCE CLUB meets every Monday (except August and Bank Holidays) 7.45 to 10.15 pm at the Sir William Ramsay School, Rose Avenue, Hazlemere. For further details please contact the club leader, Uri Gerson, Tel: High Wycombe 23434.

FOLKESTONE DISTRICT NATIONAL DANCE GROUP meets every Tuesday during the winter and spring terms from 7.30 to 9 pm at South Kent College of Technology, Kingsnorth Gardens, Folkestone, Kent. Further details from the Chairman: John Whittaker, 20 Cherry Garden Lane, Folkestone. Tel: Folkestone 75376.

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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#### S.I.F.D. BRANCHES

"SELPAR" (West Midlands Branch of SIFD). Classes on Tuesday evenings in term time, 7.15 to 9.00 pm 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 Mrs. Juliet Mackintosh, 501 Brook Lane, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B13 OBU. Tel: 021 777 4300.

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The West Midlands Branch is organising a Day Course in Manx Folk Dancing on SATURDAY, 22nd MAY, at Lyndon School, Daylesford Road, Sheldon, Solihull. The tutor will be Gillian Coulton. The Course will be followed by an evening Dance.

Cost:	Morning session (10.30 am to 1 pm)	£1.20
	Afternoon session (2.15 to 4.30 pm)	£1.20
	Evening Dance (7.30 to 10.30 pm)	60p
	Combined Ticket, Course/Dance	£2.50 <u>if booked in advance.</u>

Tickets available from Mrs. J. Mackintosh, 501 Brook Lane, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B13 OBU. Tel: 021 777 4300.

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FOLKLORE FROM POLAND The MAZURY Polish Group of Singers, Dancers and Musicians will be appearing at the French Institute, Queensferry Place, London, SW7 (Tel: 01 589 6211) on Friday 21st May at 8.30 and on Saturday 22nd May at 6.30 pm. Tickets £2.00.

## PARLEZ-VOUS ANGLAIS?

The following is the English (sic) version of a guide to the Dijon Folk Festival which readers may care to ponder on. This event takes place in early September and is the most exciting of its kind in Europe.

### At Dijon, Capital of Burgundy

"At sunrise of a September morning, from above the watch-tower Philippe le Bon that dominates the Dukes of Burgundy's ancient palace, trumpets play cheerful tunes: Dijon wakes up, walks and runs.

The crowd rushes a little everywhere; place Saint-Philibert, where in the older days used to be read the announcement of the grape harvest and where on this day of festivity, the wine-growers meet with folk-lore groups. At the Cathedral of Saint-Benigne, whose choir is covered by all the Burgundy's banners and the flags of all provinces and nations. In front of the City Hall, where Handsome girls dressed in costumes of the whole world help the Lord Mayor to pick off a gigantic bunch of grape, whose grapes are distributed among the crowd. At the Fountain of the Bareuzai, symbol of the Dijon's vine-dresser, during two days, by a miracle, the fountain's water is changed to wine.

Now it's a long procession that winds through the streets of Dijon, procession interrupted by dances, rounds, farandoles; at one place at the sound of a hurdy-gurdy and there at the music of a village band's violins! This joyful youth which gathered from all corners of the world, proud to wear the chatoyant costumes of their ancestors is making its way to the Exhibition Hall where during two days a grand folk-lore festival takes place.

At the town-theatre of Dijon during one week The International Autumn Show is a succession of galas, dances, songs of the most renowned folk-lore orchestras, whose exhibitions arouse an enthusiastic general admiration. They are in fact reserved to the elite of the international folk-lore groups, such as the winner of the golden necklace prize and of other important rewards.

The one who attends at the International Autumn Show and who has seen The International Wine Festival cannot forget this extraordinary current of international friendship because young people of good will from all the countries have come to the Capital of Burgundy in order to watch floating in a clear sky the ancient Dukes' banner, half blue, half yellow and embroidered of the town's emblem."

GEORGE SWEETLAND

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If anyone would be interested in going on a group holiday incorporating a 4-day tour to the International Folklore Festival in Straznice, South Moravia, Czechoslovakia, from 25th to 28th June 1982, would they please contact Joan Rackham (address on page 2) for details.

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

May 9th M.C. Fiona Howarth

June 6th M.C. George Sweetland

7 to 10 p.m. Admission £1 for SIFD members, £1.30 for non-members.

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WHAT'S ON

May 7th FRIDAY CLASS at Kingsway Princeton Centre, Sans Walk, Clerkenwell Green, London, EC1. 6.30 to 9.30 pm. Janet Woolbar will lead a mixed programme of dances taken from all the countries on the badge list. (requests are welcomed).

May 8th "THE FOLK DANCES AND COSTUMES OF THE USSR" Lecture by Jenia Graman at the Dylan Thomas Theatre, Gloucester Place, Swansea.

May 16th NAERBO FOLKDANSLAG (Norwegian Folk Dance Club) will be visiting Harrow Folk Dance Club in the evening. Numbers limited. Please telephone in advance if you would like to come. John Lawes, Tel: 01 907 4700.

May 22nd MANX COURSE at Solihull. See page 13.

May 22nd MERTON FESTIVAL DANCE. See page 4.

May 22nd A DAY OF DANCE IN BROMLEY. See page 8

May 23rd INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE, organised by Harrow Folk Dance Club at Harrow Arts Centre, 356 High Road, Harrow Weald, HA3 6HF, with Derek Mulquin, 7 to 10 pm.

April 30th to May 3rd EASTBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL. Enquiries and bookings to: Festival Office, 7 Victoria Drive, Eastbourne BN20 8JR. Tel: 0323 35346.

April 30th to May 3rd WEEKEND AT HALSWAY MANOR

and in June....

June 19th EVENING OF INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE at Central Institute of Adult Education, Longford Street, London, NW1 (nearest Underground Station: Warren Street). Further details next month.

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WANTED URGENTLY - someone to make out the envelopes for the SIFD NEWS each month. Edwina and Michael Holdup will no longer be able to continue their "envelope job" after July, and we would like another volunteer to take it on. This is an important part of the task of producing SIFD NEWS and it is essential that the envelopes are completed on time each month. Would any volunteers kindly contact Edwina and Michael, 16 Netherby Gardens, Enfield, Middx., and they will explain exactly what is involved.