

SIFD

News

SEPTEMBER

1982



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 this month by Kelsey Blundell.

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This month's cover is by Caroline Thomas and shows the STUTTGARTER SPIEKDREIS dancers from West Germany, who visited Bristol last Easter. Caroline writes, "We saw them dance in front of Bath Abbey, where they performed this interesting dance Sword dancing of this type is often thought of as typically English but their movements were very similar. There was no music, just a drum beat. When they made the "lock" the first time, they pretended to decapitate the "fool", and later the character with the tricorn and stick, who did not take part in the dance itself, was lifted up on it as in the illustration. The fool pranced around among the audience and occasionally marked people's faces with blue chalk."

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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, 1 Braunston Mansions, 28 Rosebery Ave., 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 rig - 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

This year the Society took part for the first time in the Sidmouth International Folklore Festival, with workshops daily and an evening dance on 4th August. The workshops were packed to capacity and we all enjoyed the excellent teaching of Janet Woolbar and Jill Bransby. The names of all the dances taught were listed clearly and everyone took part enthusiastically. There were quite a few SIFD members present but many folk had no experience of international folk dancing until coming along to the first workshop. Janet, Jill, Wilf Horrocks and Frank Flanagan worked very hard and well deserved the loud and appreciative applause. As Kay Leighton pointed out at the last workshop, the fact that so many people came along every day proved that there is a need for the teaching of international dances at international festivals.

On Wednesday, 4th August, in spite of a terrible night of torrential rain, nearly 200 people turned up at the Bowd Marquee, about 2½ miles out of Sidmouth, to enjoy the dance which was a tremendous success. Jill Bransby was the M.C., ably assisted by Janet. The rain poured down but the music of Wilf Horrocks took all our minds off the weather until 10 o'clock when regretfully we had to stop dancing and make our way back to campsite or guest house.

There seems to be no doubt that the SIFD participation in the festival was a complete success and we hope to be included again next year. Congratulations to all those who worked so hard and remained so cheerful and good humoured. One lady, looking through the open door of the drill hall at the many enthusiastic people dancing merrily inside, said to her friend, "I say, do you think they have all done this before?". That surely speaks volumes for the quality of the teaching.

Another First for the Society was the highly successful Holiday Fellowship Special Activity Week at Newquay run by Steve and Joy Steventon. It is hoped to repeat this kind of activity week at other Holiday Fellowship Centres in the future.

Some interest has been shown in the proposed Children's Day of Dance, mainly from the Midlands, with a suggestion that the Day be held in Derbyshire, possibly towards the end of the Summer term.

The SIFD seems to be expanding on all fronts this year, unlike the EFDSS which is facing such a severe financial crisis that it may no longer be in existence after Christmas. This does not, however, mean that we can afford to be smugly complacent at our apparent viability. After all, the Harrow Green Group has already gone after thirty years' existence. Without the EFDSS there will be no Eastbourne or Sidmouth Festival and no Cecil Sharp House. I think our best hope for survival depends on increasing our membership. What do you think?

JOAN RACKHAM

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KENSINGTON SLAVONIC DANCERS wish to announce a change of name of the Group to BESKYDY DANCERS (CZECHOSLOVAKIA). The class for Czech and Slovak Dancing takes place every Wednesday from 7 to 9.30 p.m. at the Hammersmith & Kensington Evening Institute at Fox School, Kensington Place, London, W.8. Nearest tube station: Notting Hill Gate. Beginners 7 to 8, Advanced 8.30 to 9.30 p.m. Tutor: Hedy Fromings.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Lily,

I have just returned from the Sidmouth Festival after having spent the last three days of its duration rushing from one event to another and loving every minute of it. I must say it was a wonderful experience to see the Danes, Hungarians, Turks, Basques and of course our own Morris men and ladies giving of their very best. A very special word for Ken Ward and his London Club of Yugoslavian Dancers who filled the bill at very short notice, I was told. I'm sure that anyone who had not known would have thought they were watching not only authentic dancing but also genuine Yugoslavs. It was a lovely display.

Finally, a word of praise must go to Jill Bransby and Janet Woolbar who worked so hard at the S.I.F.D. workshops every morning. They each had to rise early as theirs was the first spot from 9.30 to 11 a.m. Although the hall was large it was crammed to overflowing with enthusiastic would-be international dancers, and I will certainly be surprised if our membership doesn't go up after this. There was also an evening dance run by Janet and Jill in a marquee outside the town on the Wednesday evening, and although the heavens opened up, and the wooden floor in the tent sloped in all the wrong places, everyone attending had a great time. The Society will, I am sure, be very grateful to Jill and Janet for such successful representation - also to that great musician, Wilf Horrocks, and all those members in the background who worked so hard as a back-up group.

R. BOWTELL,
9 Beech Drive,
Stevenage, Herts.

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BASQUE VIDEO RECORDING

I noted the comment in the last SIFD NEWS about the examination in dances from Pays Basque, with special reference to Fandango. Fandango was taught at Swansea in 1971 by Paulette Claisse and we have a video recording of her dancing with Joan Guest, which people may like to watch as it may help to get a feel for the style. It is not very good quality, I'm afraid - best to imagine it taken through a snowstorm on a dull winter's day! But if anyone would be interested in seeing it, would they please let me know.

JACK RICHARDSON,
Dept. of Chemical Engineering,
University College of Swansea,
Singleton Park, Swansea, SA2 8PP

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DANCE STUDIES. VOL. 5

For anyone who collects this series, the latest volume has just been published. This edition contains an account of "Folk Dance Research in Norway" by Egil Bakka, "Semiotics and Dance" by Roderyk Lange, and a commemoration to Diana Baddeley-Lange (1928-81). Price £3.50 plus postage & packing from: Centre for Dance Studies, Les Bois, St. Peter, Jersey, Channel Islands.

S.I.F.D. BALKAN DAY COURSE

This Course will be held on SATURDAY, 11TH SEPTEMBER 1982, at Cecil Sharp House, in the Main Hall, from 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. The dances to be taught will be chosen from the following:-

Rucenitsa	(Bulgaria)
Sedi Donka	(Bulgaria)
Cetvorno	(Bulgaria)
Zikino Kolo	(Yugoslavia)
Struga	(Yugoslavia)
Moravac	(Yugoslavia)
Kalamatianos	(Greece)
Hassapikos	(Greece)
Hora de la Risipiti	(Romania)

Brian Dowsett will be teaching, but may have guest experts on hand to teach certain of the dances, and may concentrate on those dances that are least likely to be known to people attending. A strong belt will be needed in two of the Bulgarian dances.

All the dances taught are on the record made by DUNAV Balkan Band. The record will be available for sale on the day, so private recording will not be permitted.

SIFD members: £2 Non-members: £3.

The next SIFD Day Course will be on 9th October when Eamonn Herlihy will be teaching Irish Ceilidh dances.

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BEGINNERS' DANCES AT CECIL SHARP HOUSE

Sunday, 17th October 1982. M.C.s Joy and "Steve" Steventon

Sunday, 21st November 1982. M.C.s Joan and Simon Guest

Both at the usual time of 7 to 10 p.m.

Admission £1 for SIFD members, £1.30 for non-members.

In addition to the regular Sunday dances.

As already mentioned in SIFD NEWS, these dances are being introduced to supplement the usual monthly Cecil Sharp House Dances and are intended for those people new to international folk dancing. In general, dances will be fairly simple and will be demonstrated and walked through first before being danced.

Please bring these dates to the attention of new members in your groups. It will be a good opportunity for them to get together for a general international dance.

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CONGRATULATIONS to Mike and Linda Singer on the birth of their son William on 1st July 1982. Our best wishes to all three.

NEWQUAY

Many members will know that apart from the normal walking holidays the Holiday Fellowship provides special activity weeks at their many centres throughout the country in such diverse subjects as Archeology and Yoga. This year, in conjunction with the SIFD, there was for the first time a special activity week in international folk dancing, the tuition being provided by Steve and Joy Steventon and the music by Wilf Horrrocks. The week was a huge success. All 40 places were taken, and with Steve and Joy's friendly instruction and Wilf's genial personality, all the dancers were soon mixing together as a cohesive group.

The centre at Newquay holds 80 guests but the ballroom is only just adequate for 40 folk dancers. The other guests took part in the normal HF walking tours and most of them consisted of a party of Germans, for whom the dancers learnt and demonstrated Windmill. The Germans were most impressed and appreciate the compliment.

With the dancers there were only about five members of the SIFD but this was satisfactory as the holiday was intended as an introduction to international folk dancing. Most people seemed to have had some experience of dancing, whether it was English or Scottish folk dancing, ballroom or ballet, and were interested to try international folk dancing as a new experience. There is no doubt that everyone thoroughly enjoyed the week. Apart from the German walkers there was a German lady with the dancers and also a lady from Switzerland, so the interest is certainly spreading far and wide. One class member was heard to remark, "I have tried all kinds of dancing but THIS IS IT!"

The dances taught were nearly all taken from the Society Publications and over £100-worth of SIFD books and records were sold, the most popular being the Six Social Dances. However the most popular dance of the week turned out to be Erev Ba - so much so that the night-time bathers (easily a dozen or more) were dancing this on the beach at midnight.

All in all, it was a very happy week, with some 40 dances taught, and cheers and applause for Wilf, and also presents for him and for Joy and Steve. Five people joined the Society during the week and many more took leaflets with the intention of joining later.

The holiday is sure to be repeated - probably next year. Any member who is isolated from a regular group or who is new to the Society might consider taking part. Details for the future will of course be published in the NEWS.

DAVID RACKHAM

Ed. Note: Apropos David's last sentence, it is a pity that no details of this course were given to me for publication in SIFD NEWS, apart from brief mentions of it in Secretary's Notes, as I am sure many of our members would have been interested.

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ALL MATERIAL FOR THE OCTOBER ISSUE OF SIFD NEWS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE EDITOR, IN WRITING, BY 15TH SEPTEMBER.

SIDMOUTH 1982

Earlier this year Rod and I were asked by several members of the Zivko Firfov Yugoslav Dance Group (Ken Ward's group based in London) if we would be interested in going to Sidmouth to take part in the "fringe" side of the festival - mainly busking in and around Sidmouth. We said we didn't think we'd be able to as our baby was due on 10th July and if he/she arrived on time would be only three weeks old so we didn't want to commit ourselves. "She" did, however, arrive one week early and so we decided to go at least for a few days, although we eventually stayed the week!

Three or four days before the start of the festival we received a telephone call to explain that the Bulgarians who were supposed to be one of the foreign teams appearing were unable to come because of visa problems and could the Zivko Firfov Group stand in where possible for the Bulgarians. Having "tasted" Sidmouth and its atmosphere from the spectators' view, we were now to be involved in participating in the festival.

Participating in a festival as large as Sidmouth means very little free time, Wednesday being our only complete free day, and one periodically asked oneself throughout the week as we rushed round trying to find parking places to be at our allocated venues at the right time whether we were lunatics to actually enjoy such "wear and tear" on one's nervous and physical energy!

Yet it was worth it and we met and enjoyed the company and friendship of many long-standing and new friends - many thanks to my many baby minders!! Anna, who was then only four weeks old, certainly enjoyed her first taste of a folk festival and I think on the odd occasion "stole the show" - all the world seems to love a baby! The members of the Turkish team certainly did!

Sidmouth is a mammoth task of organisation and administration and yet retains a unique informality which is a joy to be involved in and exists, I think, very rarely in a large international folk festival. Let's hope it can survive despite the economic uncertainty that faces its organisers. Its flavour is "the essence of life" for many!

Many thanks to the members of the group who shared farmhouse accommodation with us for enduring Anna's off moments, especially the night-time ones. They said they didn't hear her but I'm afraid I refuse to believe them as she's certainly got a strong pair of lungs. She was always quiet amidst turmoil and hustle and bustle, and the sound of tapan, gajda, accordeon etc., but she doesn't yet appreciate peace and quiet. Perhaps that's all to the good as there is not much of that anyway in our household, or at the many events to which she will no doubt be taken. Music is certainly our food of life and we hope will be hers too to a greater or lesser degree.

Hope you all enjoyed your summer pursuits. Kindest regards,

BARBARA & ROD PERKINS, and now
wee Anna.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE RE MEMBERSHIP As from the date of this NEWS, the cost of Life Membership has been increased from £40 to £50, as agreed at the last A.G.M.

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 Rd), Chorlton, Manchester 21, from 7.30 to 10 pm. Further details from Philip Lloyd, 268 Upper Chorlton Rd., Manchester, M16 0BN.

BARNET INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CLUB meets every Friday, October to June, at Hadley Memorial Hall, Hadley Highstone, Barnet, Herts., 8 to 10.30 pm. Leader: Brian Dowsett. Secretary: Janet Heathfield, 29 Cedar Ave., East Barnet, Herts. Tel: 01 368 5345.

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

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

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.

HARROW FOLK DANCE CLUB meets evenings for English/Playford/American/Clog/Sword dancing BUT on 4th Sunday of every month (except August and December) for International Folk Dancing from 7 to 10 pm, usually with Derek Mulquin, at Harrow Arts Centre (opposite Harrow Weald Bus Garage), 356 High Road, Harrow Weald, Harrow. Contact: John Lawes, 01 907 4700.

HAVERING INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Thursday in term time at Harold Wood Primary School, Recreation Avenue, Harold Wood, Romford, from 8 to 10 pm. Tutor: Eleanor Oakley. For further details please ring the Secretary, Mrs. Eve Wildy, Hornchurch 52146.

INTERDANCE, WORTHING (International Folk Dance Club) meets every Tuesday, 7.30 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, W1, on Tuesdays 1-2 pm (adults), Wednesdays 5-6 pm (children), Thursdays 6.30 to 7.30 pm (beginners), Fridays 6.30 to 7.30 pm (advanced). Enquiries: Tel. 01 937 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., Apsworth, Notts. Tel: Ilkeston 303665.

OXFORD INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Monday throughout the year (excl. 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.

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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.

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.

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 pm at Selly Park School, Stirchley, Pershore Road, Birmingham. Teacher: Sybil C"apman. Also a "Club Evening" on Wednesdays in term time, 7.15 to 9.15 pm 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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S.I.F.D. ASSOCIATED CLASSES

POLISH

Monday evenings, Beginners 6.45 to 7.45 pm. General & Advanced 8 to 10 pm. Christopher Hatton School, Laystall Street, Rosebery Avenue, London, EC1. Tutor: Betty Harvey.

EUROPEAN NATIONAL

Monday evenings. Beginners 7.30 to 9.30 (two classes, 15-30s and over 30s) at Willows High School, Central Road, Morden SM4 5SE. Wednesday evenings, Advanced 7.30 to 9.30 pm 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 pm. General & Advanced 7.15 to 9.15 pm. St. Albans School, Baldwins Gardens, London, EC1. Tutor: Janet Woolbar.

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ISRAELI

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

Wednesday evenings 7 to 9 pm 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 pm. Advanced 8.30 to
9.30 pm at West Square Branch of South Bank Institute, St. George's Road, London,
SE1. Tutor: Ken Ward. Secretary: John Micklem, 3 Grosvenor Road, Richmond,
Surrey, Tel: 01 948 2014.

EASTERN EUROPEAN

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

HUNGARIAN (including Transylvanian)

Friday evenings, 6.30 to 9.30 pm at Millbank School, Erasmus St., Pimlico, London
(5 minutes from Pimlico Station). Tutor: Alan McLean.

It is hoped to recommence the FRIDAY CLASS on 1st October, at Hugh Myddelton School,
but as yet the booking has not been confirmed by the Authority. Please check,
therefore, nearer to the date, by telephoning Kelsey Blundell on 01 471 3847.

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AN IMPORTANT EVENT

In last month's SIFD NEWS it was announced that at last we are taking steps to
express our appreciation of Margery Latham, to whom all members of SIFD today, and
many other "international" dancers, owe a great deal.

Margery died over four years ago and we lost over thirty years of experience and
knowledge which we cannot replace. A full appreciation of Margery must be written
one day, but it is to be said now that her teaching, dedication, and enthusiasm
were so effective that we shall feel the effects for a long time, and every present
member of SIFD is influenced by her life.

We shall be holding a Memorial Dance for her - a very special dancing event but
also an occasion to raise funds for Leukaemia Research. More details during the
coming months, but for now please note the date:-

SATURDAY (to enable outer London members to come) 7TH MAY 1983
(There will be no Cecil Sharp House Dance in May).

PORCHESTER HALL, LONDON (very large, to enable over 200 to dance)

7 to 11 p.m. Food, bar, demonstrations, etc. Price of tickets: £3

Every group will be invited to co-operate in coming months, but for now, please
do not arrange events which will clash.

WILL GREEN

THE YEAR WITH THE ZIVKO FIRFOV GROUP

The Yugoslav Dance Class, whose members make up the Zivko Firfov Group, started its year of evening meetings last September with the worry now common to all classes that the enrolment might not be sufficient for the class to be viable. We needn't have worried! As well as most of the regular members, a good number of new members turned up and stayed through the year. The average class size was about 20 to 25.

Ken Ward and Linda Swanton kept us working on Croatian and Macedonian dances, but the major effort was spent on new Serbian dances. Olivera Vasic from the Belgrade Ethnographic Museum had taught us over fifty dances during her whirlwind visit in May last year and we concentrated on a number of these. Remembering them isn't as impossible as it appears to be! As well as supplying us with a tape of music, Olivera had co-operated in the making of 8mm reference films of her doing all those dances. This material was invaluable.

At the Annual General Meeting we were all sorry to hear that John White was giving up his position as Group Secretary because of lack of spare time. He has served us well for many years and his efforts will be missed. The new Secretary is the undersigned who can be contacted at 3 Grosvenor Road, Richmond, Surrey. Tel: 01 948 2014.

Outside the class, the Group gave a number of demonstrations. In November we were at the British-Yugoslav Society National Day celebration where we performed some Macedonian dances, and then provided the music and the leads for some general dancing. In March we were part of a Yugoslav evening at the Old Palace School, Croydon. The evening started with a talk on Yugoslav wines which involved the tasting of a large selection by the audience of parents, staff and us! This led to some lively dancing and a tolerant audience when our turn came to demonstrate some Macedonian dances. This all took place in the marvellous atmosphere of a 15th-century banqueting hall.

Later in March we performed some Croatian dances at a Morley College open day. Then in June we spent a weekend in Suffolk to help raise funds for church restoration at the Thornham Country Fair. Once again in Macedonian costume we demonstrated Macedonian and Serbian dances both in the Fair and, to advertise the event, in surrounding towns.

Irene Keywood organised another very successful Balkan Party in December, and later, at the beginning of May, she arranged a very pleasant weekend at Dunford House for the Group and friends. As well as the usual "long walks" and "short walks" and dances we were treated to a showing of Phil Barnes' sometimes very revealing slides of the Group in action accompanied, of course, by much hilarity. On the Sunday we gave a short demonstration, dodging the showers, at the nearby Weald and Downland Museum. The scarlet and white of the costumes looked well against the background of timber and thatch.

Altogether, it was a very successful year for the Group.

If you would like to join us to learn some of the very varied and exciting dances of Yugoslavia while enjoying yourself in good company, come to the class when it restarts in September.

JOHN MICKLEM

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

September 5th M.C. Wilf Horrocks (Musicians choice)

October 3rd Evenings Programme to be organised by Woodvale Folk Dance Group.

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

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WHAT'S ON

Sept. 11th S.I.F.D. BALKAN DAY COURSE. See page 5.

Sept. 19th ESPANA. A programme of flamenco, regional and classical music, song and dance. Queen Elizabeth Hall, London, 7.15 pm. Tickets £1.20 to £5.30.

Sept. 24th BARNET INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CLUB will be starting their new season on 24th September but as the hall is undergoing alterations and may not be ready, it would be well to check with the Secretary (after 20th September) Tel: 01 368 5345.

Sept. 24th INDIAN CLASSICAL MUSIC & DANCE. Odissi Dances from North East India. Queen Elizabeth Hall, London, 7.45 pm. Tickets £2 to £6.

Oct. 9th DAY COURSE OF GENERAL INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING, organised by Rainmakers International Folk Dance Club at Letchworth Free Church Hall, Letchworth, Herts. (off the A1(M)), 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Teacher: Jill Bransby. Course Fee £1.50. Liquid refreshments and biscuits on sale. Booking details from Mrs. S. Leavy, 10 Orchard Road, Hitchin, Herts.

Oct. 15th At BARNET INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CLUB (address on page 8), Fiona Howarth will be guest teacher, teaching Israeli dances.

Oct. 16th WOODVALE INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP AUTUMN DANCE in Borough Green Village Hall, 7.30 to 11 p.m. Licensed Bar. Tickets £1.80 including refreshments. Enquiries: Borough Green 885048.

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This being the end of the SIFD year, I should like to take the opportunity of saying Thank You Very Much to all the people who have helped produce the SIFD NEWS throughout the year, and in fact throughout many years. To Kelsey Blundell who types the stencils so promptly each month, to Doug Wells who takes on the long and arduous task of printing, folding, bagging-up and posting, to Edwina and Michael Holdup who spend hours making out all the envelopes, to Caroline Thomas, Dorothy Bryan and Lesley Boorer who produce so many lovely drawings for the covers, to Jack Richardson who produces the stencils for the covers. They all put in hours of their spare time to make sure you, the members, receive the NEWS each month. Thank You Very Much Indeed, helpers.

LILY SOUTHGATE, Editor

(Typist's Note: Lily's note to the typist said "Have I left anyone out?". Well, the answer to that is herself, of course, who prepares the NEWS each month, sifting the information, gathering articles, fitting it all together and typing the draft, to mention just a part of the task of being Editor. All our thanks to you too, Lily from all the members.)