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**March
1983**



SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

EDITOR: Lily Southgate, 33 Thornton Crescent, Old Coulsdon, Surrey,
Tel: Downland (71) 54377.

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
Lesley Boorer, and shows
a 19th-Century Spanish costume.

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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 Rd., 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 organizers to check for duplication on dates, and also to
confirm those arranged for 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 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.

SIFD Car Stickers are now available, price 30p each, from Judith Holloway. The
stickers are circular (3½" diameter) and depict two dancing figures, in red and
white. If you wish to buy by post, please send a stamped addressed envelope at
least 4" square. (Judith's address is above.)

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Arrangements for the Eastbourne Folk Festival were discussed at the February Committee Meeting. As members will see from the leaflet sent with the February NEWS, on the Saturday the SIFD will hold a workshop at 2.15 p.m. and an International Dance at 8 p.m. Those who arrive in time on the Friday will, I hope, visit the Bistro from about 9 p.m. to listen to French music and enjoy some French dancing with M.C.s Joan and Simon Guest. I understand that there will be some French wines available to help things along. Vive la SIFD!

Membership of the Society is now well over 400. Maybe I will see it reach 500 during my term of office.

The SIFD is a member of the Movement & Dance Liaison Group (CCPR) Greater London and South East Region, and on 24th April is taking part in a Day of Movement & Dance at Cecil Sharp House. Thirteen member organizations are taking part, and the SIFD group will be led by Joan Guest with a small demonstration team. It is hoped that everyone will "have a go" at all the activities, e.g. dancing, keep-fit, yoga, to name but a few, so all present will have a busy day. The day will be an excellent way to show what the SIFD can do, and we hope a full report will be made in the NEWS at a later date.

Will Green produced an excellent report for the Committee on the progress of the Margery Latham Memorial Dance to be held on 7th May. Plans are afoot for a special Memorial Programme to be printed and ticket sales are going well.

Members are reminded that the Cecil Sharp House Dance in April is to be held on Sunday, the 17th.

Joan RACKHAM,
Hon. Secretary

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ROMANIAN CASSETTES

I have a number of cassettes remaining from the Advanced Course (Course B) at Swansea in 1981. The dances are as follows:

Side A

1. Hora La Batai
2. Pitesteanca
3. Ca La Balta
4. Alunelul Infundat
5. Trei Pazeste
6. Hora Mintita
7. Sorocul
8. Roata din Oas

Side B

1. Briul de la Fagaras
2. Dansul Fetelor de la Crihalma
3. Batuta Ursului
4. Batuta
5. Ciobanasul
6. Cadineasca
7. Hora de la Gorj
8. Briuletul

Although we have not been taught all these dances, the lively, exciting music itself makes the cassette worth having, and who knows - perhaps Frank Dowling could be persuaded to return and teach us those we don't know!

The cost of the cassette is £4, plus 40p post and packing.

AUDREY WHITELEY,
(address on page 2)

THE ARMENIAN DANCE GROUP AT THE ALBERT HALL IN DECEMBER 1982

I was interested in Philip Thornton's account of this Show, in the January issue of SIFD NEWS. His criticism tallies absolutely with my experience of groups sent by the Iron Curtain countries to the Llanglollen International Eisteddfod; which is a festival for traditional folk dances, folk music and some folk songs. (The singing is both classical and folk).

There is nothing wrong in stage arrangements based on folk dances, folk music, songs and legends - as Diaghileff's ballets used to be in the early 1900s - provided the truth is stated, as he did; that his ballets were based on folk materials. He did not pretend his ballets were 'traditional'. Classical writers, poets, musicians and choreographers have been inspired by folk themes. But let us know the truth. Don't pretend stage arrangements are 'folk' when they are merely choreographed for the stage.

Folk dances were created by early man for specific purposes; for ritual help through sympathetic magic, to promote fertility of humans, animals, crops, pastures and other food, for the community. Some dances were created to teach the young the routines of daily life; to teach young men resistance in fatigue, agility and discipline for the hunt, and to defend the tribe. Another form was to bring the community together so that everyone would feel they 'belonged' and no-one was left out. Therapeutic aims were also performed in dance and chants to heal the sick. Other forms of dance were created to entice the fish to let themselves be caught. Food was of primary importance, so numerous dances were evolved for that specific purpose. If you change the style of steps, of arm movements, of figures, or if you mix hunters' with peasants' dances, or fishermen's with children's dances and figures, you ruin and lose the purpose of the dance. You forget the meaning. Once lost, these figures and steps will never be created again, for modern mentality and ways of life are different from those of early man.

It is useful to know our origins; to be inspired by the way our ancestors solved their problems. This knowledge will help us solve our modern problems by their example. If you cut a rose, you have it for a few days, then it dies. If we cut our roots, that is the end. Our folk heritage will have gone and future generations will never know the difference in traditional styles. Stage choreography will die, for there will be little, if any, inspiration. Each region has its own style of dance, music, instruments and costumes, dictated by environment, the climate, the successive waves of invaders. So each region has something of the past to show. If all styles are mixed, there will be no inspiration.

There are people interested in other things besides seeing exercises to music performed at top speed on a stage, just so that people will say "Isn't it clever!"

Of all the groups sent to the International Eisteddfod from Eastern European countries, there was one Polish group from a small town. It was excellent, and its dances were untouched by stage choreographers.

LUCILE ARMSTRONG

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FOUND - at Cecil Sharp House, 12th February, a lady's sweatshirt, blue with white stripe. Please write to Roy Clarke, 33 Cedar Park Road, Enfield, Middx. to arrange return.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To Lily and the SIFD,

Thanks to all the many people from the SIFD who came to see the East European Folk Concert at Conway Hall on 15th January. It is only by your attendance and by your telling everyone when concerts are on that it is possible to be able financially to bring such quality groups from Europe to Britain. The interest shown by television companies and the telephone calls to the BBC following their television appearances show that genuine folk music played on traditional instruments is popular and has a wide appeal.

As announced, their L.P. "East European Folk" GBOO4, £5 including p & p, is of Hungarian and Balkan dance music, and songs by their guest singer Marta Sebestyen (who has appeared on 14 LPs to date and is wellknown in Hungary) available from 7 Nesbit Close, London, SE3.

The group are all from Budapest, and one is originally from Bulgaria and learned Gadulka from his grandfather. As you saw at the concert, he plays every Balkan instrument very well. At the request of one SIFD member who attended the concert, I give below details of instruments played:-

Hungarian Hurdy-Gurdy (Tekero). Hungarian Bagpipes (Duda), Koboz (Folk Lute), Hitgardon (Utogardon), stringed drum in the shape of primitive cello; double bass, Tamburitza (like a mandolin in length and sound), Bulgarian Bagpipe (Gajda), Gadulka (Rebec), Kaval (transverse open-ended shepherd's flute), Tambura (long backed lute), Bouzouki (long-necked lute), Tarabuka (Hourglass-shaped hand drum), guitar, Tapan (double-sided folk drum).

Players: Robert Mandel, master instrument maker. Toured U.S.A. and Europe solo and also with his groups. Six L.P.s Plays Hungarian Hurdy-Gurdy.

Gabor Kiss. Double bass. Toured six years with Mandel. Six LPs.

Nikola Parov. Bulgarian. Plays all Balkan instruments and Hungarian Bagpipes. 2LPs. Toured Germany.

Marta Sebestyen. Fifteen years folk dancer and now a professional singer. Folk song collector. Is the main traditional influence in Hungary's top folk/rock group. Appears on 14 LPs. Tours extensively with her other groups too.

Chris Gunstone, organizer (slightly worn out!) Musician and dancer. Appears on 4 LPs. Taught dances in Britain, Ireland, France, Hungary and Australia. Has own Macedonian Folk Dance Group, Izvoren, and new concert group "The White Horse".

"East European Folk" will be back to appear on television and at festivals later this year. More details later, so don't plan your holidays yet! Don't miss it, or the LP; it has music from Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey. Something for everyone.

Yours faithfully,

CHRIS GUNSTONE,
7 Nesbit Close,
London, SE3

Dear Lily,

I feel I must write in response to Jenia's letter about her enjoyment of the Armenian State Dance Company's performance. Mind you, I suppose I've no right to reply to a letter about a performance I've never seen!! If they had appeared in Birmingham though I still doubt if I would have made a special effort to get baby-sitters and go and see them.

Yes, Jenia, it is fortunate we are not all from the same mould. Philip Thornton possibly feels like I do that what he actually enjoys and is "moved" by (one's soul needs replenishing by something beautiful too and each of our souls needs different "intakes") is simplicity - which doesn't necessarily mean dance steps that are easy to learn and follow. I was deeply "moved" several years ago at the "Smotra" Festival in Zagreb, Yugoslavia, by a group of about 20 Croatian peasant women dressed very simply in white doing a circle dance with such beauty that words can't describe. They were dancing in the old market square to their own vocal accompaniment - their memory is still vividly with me years later and I'm sure always will be. They were dancing and singing for themselves, not to anyone watching. Another year, at Billingham, it was a small village group from Greek Macedonia that again enthralled me - not the slick Russian group who were trained professional dancers and "performed" with great expertise and which the majority of people enjoyed a lot more than the simplicity of the Greeks. I am very much in the minority who would love to see village groups at festivals in this country but this very rarely happens, for reasons too numerous to mention. The only way I will ever see and enjoy folk music and dance in this "simple" form is to travel (not so easy now with a baby in tow!) or play tapes of memorable groups that have provided food for my soul. "Each to his own!!"

To us do-it-yourselfers to meet together to make music, sing and dance (and chat!) is the essence of life - at least mine - and that's what folk is to me, not an academic exercise.

Yours,

BARBARA PERKINS
30 Knighton Road,
Northfield,
Birmingham, 31

(ED. NOTE: I would suggest Barbara visits the Llangollen International Eisteddfod. It is not too far to travel with a baby in tow, and is the one festival in the U.K. where you can be sure of seeing authentic folk dance and village groups.)

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Dear Lily,

If there are any members who might be interested in attending the National Folklore Festival in Gjirokaster, Southern Albania, to be held in early October of this year, please write for further information to: Regent Holidays, 13 Small Street, Bristol, BS1 1DE. (Tel: 0272 211711/12).

Sincerely,

IAN PRICE,
259 So. Harvard 304
Los Angeles, Ca. 90004, U.S.A.

Dear Lily,

At the risk of rubbing salt into the wound, dare I make the following reply to Miss Graman's comment on my note on the Armenians in the Royal Albert Hall.

- (1) Folk Arts are the peoples' Arts. Taken into the theatre and arranged out of recognition they cease, de facto, to be what they claim to be. This is not a matter of opinion; it is a matter of fact.
- (2) I would not be so grotesquely silly as to claim that folkdancing should not be performed by professionals; the crunch is whether what they perform is recognisable as authentic. If you pay £8 for a good seat in the Albert Hall to see a country's national dancing, then you're entitled to expect the genuine article, not a fudged-up extravaganza, however impressive, that bears little regard to the original material.
- (3) Folkdancing performed by real professionals (e.g. the astonishing work of the original KOLO group that visited London in 1952) in the correct costumes, to the correct music, is totally acceptable, and instructive.
- (4) The hallmarks of the Soviet dominated quasi-folkdance groups that have visited us since 1952, have been theatricality, commercialisation and total standardisation. The Jugos and Bulgars alone seem to have escaped.
- (5) Bozighian's material is captivating because it is genuine, exact and authentic.
- (6) Lastly, I do concede one cardinal point to Miss Graman. These Armenians (if you study their programme) never claimed to be a folkdance group! They were billed as a 'State Dance Company' and came complete with K.G.B. guards who haunted both the artistes' exits, and a grand piano. So what's the argument about?

PHILIP THORNTON,
40 Epirus Road,
Fulham, London, SW6

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Dear Lily,

After my operation I did not have the strength to write letters (I lost everything - strength, memory, will-power, etc. and these are coming back slowly now), but I would belatedly ask you to include a message in the NEWS to thank everyone for the lovely card and beautiful flowers sent to the hospital when I was there. They were so lovely that the flowers are now planted in my garden and every year when these yellow chrysanthemums come up I shall always remember the Society and its kindness.

I hope you are keeping well and wish you to know once again how much we appreciate your, and the Committee's, work to keep the Society going. May it last forever, and may the very generous helpers who bring out the NEWS with you know how grateful we are to them.

Yours sincerely, much love,

from Lucile (Armstrong)

Dear Lily,

I like the picture of the dancers chosen for the SIFD car-sticker. It's a little unobtrusive perhaps, but the dancers look as they should - happy and graceful. Maybe the passer-by coming for a closer look will ask, "Do you really dance like that?". One could answer, "Well, I don't know, but we've sold a lot of car stickers!" (Have we?).

Yours sincerely,

ALAN HOLLAND,
Fairfields, Main-Street,
Long Lawford, Rugby.

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S.I.F.D. PORTUGUESE DAY COURSE

The S.I.F.D. Day Course to be held on SATURDAY, 12TH MARCH, at Cecil Sharp House will be PORTUGUESE and will be taken by Lucile Armstrong, assisted by members of her class. Dances to be taught are:-

Indo Eu	Vira de Sao Lourenco
Senhor da Serra	Viva Extrapassado
A Chula	A Rosa
Padeirinha	Vira de Lisboa
Tirana	Real das Canas
O Verdegaio	

10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. £3 for SIFD-members, £4 for non-members. Refreshments available at Cecil Sharp House, including lunches.

Wilf Horrocks will be playing. Recording will be allowed.

Those who attended the February Dance at Cecil Sharp House were delighted to see Lucile looking so fit and well after her recent operation. She has obviously made a marvellous recovery and no doubt will soon be leaping around in her customary fashion, and singing at the same time. Lucile wishes to thank the Society and all friends and well-wishers for the flowers, cards, letters, messages and greetings sent to her during her stay in hospital. (See letter on page 7).

The next SIFD Day Course will be Hungarian, taught by Peter Siptar, on 9th April.

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S.I.F.D. SUMMER SCHOOL, SWANSEA 23rd/30th JULY 1983

Bookings are now flowing in and SIFD members are reminded that 31st March is the latest date for registration for them to benefit from the £5 discount. Dances from Switzerland, Mallorca and Greece will be taught.

New members may obtain details from Jack Richardson, Dept. of Chemical Engineering, University College, Singleton Park, Swansea, SA2 8PP.

HOLIDAYS WITH A PURPOSE
AT ACTIVITY CENTRE, TORBAY

EASTER COURSE - Monday, 4th April to Friday 8th April 1983.

WHITSUN COURSE - Monday, 30th May to Friday 3rd June 1983.

The South Devon Technical College have an Activity Centre which holds holiday courses in various subjects during the College vacations. This year they are introducing two Courses in International Folk Dancing during the Easter and Whitsun periods. The Easter Course will be led by Frances Horrocks and the Whitsun Course by Janet Woolbar. The Courses will be held during the afternoons. The fee for each Course will be £16.50. Accommodation is not included but there are good bed & breakfast establishments near the College who charge between £6.50 and £7.50 per night. A list of these is available.

Interested members should book direct with Mr. Jim Lupson, Principal Lecturer, South Devon Technical College, Newton Road, Torquay TQ2 5BY, but further details can be obtained by telephone from Joan Rackham (SIFD Secretary) on 01 543 1891.

IMPORTANT. The College would like enrolment fees before March 7th (for Easter) and May 2nd (for Whitsun). The SIFD Committee is sorry for the short notice. This is due to a letter from the College being lost in the post and we have only just received confirmation that the College is in fact running these Courses.

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NEWPORT INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP

I was very sorry to hear that Newport International Folk Dance Group has been wound up. It is always sad when a group decides to disband due to lack of support, especially as so much hard work has gone into setting up the group and keeping it going over the years. The assets of the group have been disposed of according to the **constitution** rules and the balance of the money held by N.I.F.D. will be donated to the SIFD Margery Latham Memorial Donation to Leukaemia Research. This choice was made in recognition of the help that the SIFD in general and Margery Latham in particular gave to the formation of the N.I.F.D. in September 1974. ED.

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BEST WISHES FOR A SPEEDY RECOVERY to Sylvia Fulton who, at the time of writing, is unfortunately still in hospital. Sylvia has asked me to thank everyone who has sent her cards and good wishes, and she looks forward to seeing us all again. We hope this won't be too long, Sylvia. Meanwhile, our very best wishes. ED.

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JENNY MEAD of Merton Park Folk Dancers and ALAN CANT of Woodvale International Folk Dance Group are pleased to announce their engagement on 14th February 1983. Our congratulations and best wishes to you both, Jenny and Alan.

Continued from last month....

"Les Escargots" was composed almost entirely of Society members, but was not a group in the strict sense of the word, as it was brought together especially to perform French dances for particular demonstrations. Interestingly, one of the most important of these was when Les Escargots were needed to dance as the guest item in the E.F.D.S.S. Festival at the Royal Albert Hall.

But to return to the move to the Central London Institute; Margery Latham was invited to take over the Wednesday class and although it was only one of her many activities on behalf of the Society, it was perhaps the most important since the General Class was, and is, the core of our existence. Apart from the Swedish team already mentioned, Margery later developed both Swiss and Italian teams, complete with authentic costumes. Although I was not a regular member of her class, I had the privilege of dancing with her at various demonstrations and one which I recall was when her Swedish team appeared in a stage show preceded by an energetic African group. It was soon obvious that they were completely entranced by the rhythm of the drums and as the clock ticked well beyond their allotted time, Margery became more and more agitated. I do not know who was more astonished, the Nigerians or the audience, as she led us on stage, right through the middle of a tribal dance!

Philip Thornton also brought his Balkan group, "Slavjanska Bessada", to Hugh Myddelton School, but he soon felt restricted by the various rules judged necessary by the ILEA and the class was taken over by Ken Ward. Ken was especially attracted by the whole of Yugoslav folklore, and it naturally followed that the class specialised in that country, with a bias towards the complex rhythms of Macedonia. The group successively adopted several names, "Sava", "Opanki", but finally settled on "Zivko Firfov" in honour of that doyen of Macedonian teachers.

The biennial Summer School, which has been a regular feature for many years, had its origins in 1955 when the Society was asked to provide teachers for folkdance classes to be included in the curriculum at Canford Summer School of Music, situated in the beautiful country near Bournemouth. Bert Price and Dr. Cyriax were the directors and the Course was most successful; teachers who had not previously known of our existence became aware of the wide range of our repertoire. By 1962 the number of pupils had increased to the point where the venue was moved to Swansea University where the teaching could be entirely devoted to folkdance. Jack Richardson is largely responsible for the high standard of organization at these Courses, and has co-ordinated them since their inception. Jack has also arranged many enjoyable social weekends, which are an essential part of the life of our Society. The first one I remember was at Godalming, followed by others at Henley, Bisham Abbey, Uplands at High Wycombe, and of course Dunford House at Midhurst. The work entailed in organizing these events is tremendous and I for one am very grateful to Jack.

In our younger days, Kemsing and Crockham Hill Youth Hostels were often the scene of a folkdance weekend, with a Saturday night 'hop' in the village hall. Since a large proportion of our members at that time were also keen YHA types, there was quite a lot of hard walking on the Sunday morning, but we still found the energy to go back to "The Cellars" in London for the evening Dance.

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Hostelling discomfort was followed by the hardly less spartan conditions of Surrey Crest. This establishment, near Godalming in Surrey, had been built sometime around 1936 and by the time we went there had the appearance of a combination of a prisoner of war camp and a Tennessee hill billy shack. It was usually cold and damp, but it was immensely popular, probably due to the total freedom we were allowed. Accommodation was in two dormitories each side of the hall, and each room had four bunks. Hot water had to be carried in jugs. After the evening meal we began to dance at about 8 or 8.30 and continued up to midnight, when there was a break for refreshments and small parties assembled in the various dormitories and a jolly time was had by all. Folkdance romances began, and sometimes ended, in those small rooms. At any rate, by 1.30 a.m. or so, people drifted back to the hall and dancing, mostly Balkan, began again, the majority dragging their exhausted bodies to bed around 4 a.m., leaving a dozen or so to chat for another hour - great days! Anecdotes abound of course, but I won't try to do them justice.

But finally to more serious matters. Like all growing organizations, our aims and means of achieving them over the years has changed. In our early days the Wednesday class was "the Society" but by the 70s so many other classes had been established that their position vis-a-vis the SIFD was not clear. It became increasingly difficult to distinguish between independent groups and those who thought of themselves as "Society", so that the concept of associated classes was evolved by a Sub-Committee under the chairmanship of Les Avery, which clarified the position and is contributing to our growth. This aspect of SIFD organisation was taken a step further by creation of a Branch structure and the East Midland Branch, guided by Sybil Chapman and Rod Perkins is doing good work. It is my personal hope that other Branches will be formed throughout the British Isles and the Society will go from strength to strength in its next 35 years.

GEORGE SWEETLAND

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BEGINNERS DANCE, CECIL SHARP HOUSE, 20TH MARCH

M.C. FIONA HOWARTH

The dances will all be walked through first, and will be a majority of circle and line dances, although there will be several couple, trio and set dances. The music will be on tape and usually played by musicians from the relevant countries.

The dances will be from Yugoslavia, Greece, Romania, Israel, Armenia, Bulgaria, England, Finland, Holland, etc. I hope this evening will appeal to many, and provide a pleasant counterbalance to the regular Sunday Dances.

FIONA HOWARTH

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WHAT'S ON - ADVANCE NOTICE FOR APRIL

April 23rd SPRING DANCE organized by Wycombe Folk Dance Club 7.45 to 11 p.m. at Sir William Ramsay School, Rose Avenue, Hazlemere (near High Wycombe). £1 including refreshments.

S.I.F.D. ASSOCIATED CLASSES

EASTERN EUROPEAN

Thursday evenings 8 to 9.30 p.m. at Ealing Green High School, High St., Ealing (next door to Walpole Park Library). Tutor: Alan McLean. Tel: 01 422 6498.

Tuesday evenings, 7 to 9 p.m. at Y.W.C.A. Annexe, Gt. Russell St., Tottenham Court Rd., London. Tutor: Alan McLean. Tel: 01 422 6498.

GENERAL INTERNATIONAL

Monday evenings, Beginners 18-30s Club 7.30 to 9.30 at Wimbledon Chase Middle School, Merton Hall Rd., SW19. Beginners Over-30s Club 8.15 to 10 at Willows High School, Central Rd., Morden. Wednesday evenings, Advanced 7.15 to 9.15 at Merton Teachers' Centre, Whatley Ave., SW20. All during term time. Contact: Charles Steventon. Tel: 01 542 3831.

Wednesday evenings. Beginners 6 to 7. General & Advanced 7.15 to 9.15 at St. Albans School, Baldwins Gardens, London EC1. Tutor: Janet Woolbar.

HUNGARIAN (including Transylvanian)

Friday evenings 6.30 to 9.30 at Pimlico School, Lupus Street, London (Pimlico Station, Victoria Line). Tutor: Alan McLean. Tel: 01 422 6498.

ISRAELI

Wednesday evenings 7 to 9 at Henry Fawcett School, Bowling Green St., Oval, London, SE11. Tutor: Fiona Howarth. Tel: 01 460 0823.

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

POLISH

Monday evenings 6.45 to 10. Beginners 6.45 to 7.45. General & Advanced 8 to 10. at Christopher Hatton Centre, Laystall St., Rosebery Ave., EC1. Tutor: Betty Harvey. Tel: 01 980 9650.

YUGOSLAV

Tuesday evenings. Beginners and Intermediate 6.15 to 8.15 p.m. Advanced 8.30 to 9.30 at West Square Branch of Morley College, St. George's Rd., London, SE1. Tutor: Ken Ward. Secretary: John Micklem, 3 Grosvenor Rd., Richmond, Surrey, TW10 6PE (Tel: 01 948 2014).

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DAY COURSE AT BRISTOL - With assistance from "SELPAR"

Sybil Chapman will be teaching EAST EUROPEAN DANCES on SATURDAY, MARCH 19TH, at Friends Meeting House, 126 Hampton Road, Redland, Bristol, 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. followed by a Dance at 7.15 to 10.15 p.m. M.C. Alf Garton.

Cost: Course £2, Dance £1.00. Combined ticket £2.50 (SIFD members £1.75, 75p and £2). Tickets (few only, s.a.e. please) from Hilda Sturge, 10 Carmarthen Road, Bristol, BS9 4DU (Tel: 0272 621802).

S.I.F.D. AFFILIATED GROUPS

BESKYDY DANCERS (CZECHOSLOVAKIA). Classes for Czech and Slovak dances take place every Wednesday from 7 to 9.30 pm at the Hammersmith & Kensington Evening Institute at Fox School, Kensington Place, London, W8. Nearest Underground: Notting Hill Gate. Beginners 7 to 8, Advanced 8.30 to 9.30. Tutor: Hedy Fromings.

KAYROMA INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets each Friday 7 to 8.30 pm during term time at Whitley Lodge First School, Whitley Bay. Further details from tutor, Kaye Lewis Poole, 50 Antonine Walk, Heddon-on-the-Wall, Northumberland. Tel: Wylam 2495.

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

WIGGINTON INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Thursday during term time at 9 pm at Wigginton (near Tring, Herts) Junior School. Further details from Margaret Cullen, Hemel Hempstead 58277.

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. Tel: 061 881 3613.

HAVERING INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Thursday in term time at Harold Wood Primary School, Recreation Avenue, Harold Wood, from 8 to 10 p.m. Tuition by Eleanor Oakley. Hon. Secretary: Eve Wildy, 52 Slewins Lane, Hornchurch, Essex. Tel: Hornchurch 52146.

FOLKESTONE DISTRICT NATIONAL DANCE GROUP meets every Tuesday evening 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 Secretary, Pat Clarke, 12 Somerset Road, Cheriton, Folkestone, Kent, CT19 4NP.

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.

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.

OXFORD INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meets every Monday throughout the year (excluding some Bank Holidays and 5th September 1983) at 8.30 pm at Blackfriars, St. Giles, Oxford. Further details from Diana Porteus, 105 Southmoor Road, Oxford, OX2 6RE. Tel: Oxford (0865) 57543.

INTERDANCE, WORTHING (General International Folk Dance Club) meets every Tuesday, 7.30 pm at Haverfield House, Conservative Headquarters, Union Place, Worthing (same road as Connaught Theatre) AND every Friday, 7 pm at Field Place Pavilion, the Boulevard (Southern end, next to Bolsover Road). Further details from Iris E. Birch, 11 Merlin Court, Littlehampton Road, Worthing, W. Sussex. Tel: Worthing 691651.

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. Tel: Borough Green 885048.

RAINMAKERS INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP meet every Friday, 8 to 10 pm at the Catholic Church Hall, Stevenage. Secretary: Sheila Leavy, 10 Orchard Road, Hitchin, Herts. Tel: Hitchin 52502.

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WYCOMBE FOLK DANCE CLUB meets on Mondays 7.45 to 10.15 p.m. (except during August and Bank Holidays) at Sir William Ramsay School, Rose Avenue, Hazlemere, near High Wycombe, Bucks. Contact: Uri Gerson, 14 Curlew Close, Downley, High Wycombe, Bucks. Tel: High Wycombe 23434.

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

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).

VASIL LEVSKI GROUP (Bulgarian Dance) meet on Thursdays, 7.30 to 9.30 pm at North Bank, Pages Lane, Muswell Hill, N.10. Tutors: Dani Lumley, Diane Waller and Moni Sheehan. Enquiries to Diane Waller 01 692 1424 (day), 01 348 6143 (evening).

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.

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Classes and Groups are reminded that they must send details direct to the Editor after they have been accepted by the Committee if they wish to be listed in SIFD NEWS.

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WEST MIDLANDS BRANCH OF S.I.F.D. - SELPAR

"SELPAR". Classes on Tuesday evenings in term time 7.15 to 9 pm at Selly Park School, Stirchley, Pershore Road, Birmingham. Teacher: Sybil Chapman. Also "LYNDON GROUP" on Wednesdays in term time 7.30 to 9.30 pm at Daylesford Infants School, Lyndon Road, Solihull. Further details of both from Mrs. Juliet Mackintosh, 501 Brook Lane, Moseley, Birmingham, B13 OBU. Tel: 021 777 4300.

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ALL MATERIAL FOR THE APRIL ISSUE OF SIFD NEWS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE EDITOR IN WRITING BY 15TH MARCH (AT THE NEW ADDRESS).

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

March 6th M.C. Uri Gerson

March 20th Beginners' Dance. M.C. Fiona Howarth (see page 11)

April 17th M.C. George Sweetland

7 to 10 p.m. Admission £1.80 for SIFD members, £2.30 for non-members.

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WHAT'S ON

March 4th FRIDAY CLASS. Kingsway Princeton College, Sans Walk, Clerkenwell Green, London, EC1 (top floor). 6.30 to 9.15 p.m. If possible, a review of dances taught at the SIFD Transylvanian Day Course.

March 4th/6th WEEKEND AT NEAL HOUSE, EAST GRINSTEAD

March 12th SIFD PORTUGUESE DAY COURSE. See page 8

March 12th DAY COURSE AT BRISTOL (East European Dances) See page 12.

March 12th DAY OF MACEDONIAN DANCING at Wilbraham Road U.R.Church Hall, Chorltoncum-Hardy, Manchester. Tutor: Chris Gunstone. Further information from Philip Lloyd, 061 881 3613 day or evening.

March 12th ST. PATRICK'S CEILIDH ("London's Biggest Annual Ceilidh"). Camden Town Hall, London, opposite Kings Cross Station, entrance in Bidborough St. 8 to 12. Live music, demonstration, licensed bar. Entrance £2.

March 12th AFTERNOON COURSE OF KURDISH DANCES 2 to 4.30 p.m. Tutor: Sarteeep Kader. followed by EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING to finalise Committee at 6.30, followed by A DANCE 7 to 10.30, at Daylesford Infants School, Lyndon Rd., Solihull, West Midlands. Course & Dance £2 for SIFD members, £2.50 non-members. Further information from Juliet Mackintosh, West Midlands' Branch of SIFD.

March 13th DAY OF WELSH FOLK DANCE at Asa Briggs Hall, Falmer site, Brighton Polytechnic. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. £3. Tutor: Ian Roberts. Further information from Julie Korth 0273 606622 Ext.217 or home 0323 26078.

March 18th At BARNET INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP the guest teacher will be Frances Horrocks. 8 p.m. For contact and venue see page 13.

March 19th INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE organized by Havering International Folk Dance Group at Harold Wood Primary School, Recreation Ave., Harold Wood, Romford 7.30 pm. Musician Wilf Horrocks. M.C. Eleanor Oakley. Tickets £2.50 including refreshments. Bring own drinks & glasses. Information from Eve Wildy, Hornchurch 52146 or Barry Burton, Hornchurch 59836.

March 25th AN EVENING OF FRENCH DANCES at Rainmakers Int. Folkdance Group, the Catholic Church Hall, Stevenage, Herts. 8 to 10 pm. Tutors: Joan & Simon Guest.

March 26th SPRING DANCE organized by Woodvale Int. Folk Dance Group, 7.30 to 11 pm at the Village Hall, Borough Green, Kent. Tickets £1.80 inc. refreshments, under 16s £1. Bring your own drink. Further enquiries B.Green 885048.