

OCT

SIFD NEWS

1986



40th ANNIVERSARY YEAR

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

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Tel: Cooden (04243) 5866.

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The typing this month was done by Lily Avery. The printing, packaging and posting was organized by Doug and Maureen Wells.

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This month's cover is by Rachel Novak and shows a girl's costume from Hungary.

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SECRETARY: Audrey Whiteley, 16 De Vere Walk, Watford, Herts. WD1 3BE.
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Tel: 01 701 3785.

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Enquiries and orders for books, records and cassettes should be sent to
Joan Rackham, 16 Bathurst Avenue, London S.W.19.

Car stickers from Judith Holloway (address above) 30p each. Please send
s.a.e. 4" square.

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S.I.F.D. T-shirts, all white polycotton.

'Legs' design, in small size only - £2.50.

'Horlepiep' circular design, in red & black - £3.00 (£3.30 by post)

40th Anniversary design in black line drawing - £2.80 (£3.10 by post)

40th Anniversary design in three colours - £3.60 (£3.90 by post)

All available in small, medium, large and extra large, from Kay Leighton (address above). Cheques to be made payable to S.I.F.D.

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WOULD ANY MEMBERS WHO CHANGE THEIR ADDRESS PLEASE NOTIFY THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY
(ADDRESS ABOVE).

STOP PRESS!! We have been informed by E.F.D.S.S. that Cecil Sharp House will not be available to us after 8th November 1986, and that any bookings we have made with them for dates beyond 8th November will be cancelled. This will, of course, affect our Day Courses, Social Dances, meetings etc., for which new venues will have to be found. So, don't turn up at Cecil Sharp House for any S.I.F.D. event which may have been advertised to take place after 8th November. We will keep you informed of developments. In the meantime, if anyone knows of any suitable halls which may be available at a reasonable price, preferably within Central London area, would they please send details to the Secretary or Chairman. It would help if you could find out as much information as you can first, and then send full details, i.e. address of hall, where to apply for booking, which days it is available, size of hall, facilities available, and cost of hiring etc. ED.

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SECRETARY'S NOTES

At the September Committee Meeting arrangements were made for the Annual General Meeting - see below. However, since that meeting we have heard that Cecil Sharp House will not be available to us for the meeting and we have to find alternative accommodation. We hope to hold the meeting and the evening Dance at the Y.W.C.A. in Great Russell Street on Sunday, 7th December 1986. Members will be informed as soon as we have confirmed arrangements.

Alan McLean reported that he has received 12 applications for Association and 17 for Affiliation so far for this membership year. This must be a record for September! Individual membership must be one of the priorities for us all to help spread the word that Folk Dancing is Fun, and that it is worth becoming a member of the S.I.F.D., so do try to recruit one new member each this year.

AUDREY WHITELEY
Hon. Secretary

S.I.F.D. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Preliminary Agenda for the Annual General Meeting of the Society for International Folk Dancing, to be held on 7th December 1986. Venue and time to be announced later.

- 1) Minutes of the A.G.M. held on Sunday, 1st December 1985, at Cecil Sharp House.
- 2) Matters arising.
- 3) Chairman's Report.
- 4) Treasurer's Report.
- 5) Auditors' Report and Consideration of Accounts.
- 6) Publicity.
- 7) Announcement of newly-elected Committee.
- 8) Any Other Business.

Members wishing to submit Motions to be added to the Agenda must submit them in writing, duly seconded, to the Secretary by 10th November 1986. Proposers and seconders must be fully paid-up members of the S.I.F.D.

Nominations for the Committee must be submitted in writing to the Secretary by 10th November 1986 and must contain the written consent of the nominated member to act if elected. The proposer, seconder and person nominated must all be fully paid-up members of the S.I.F.D.

Present Committee: Janet Woolbar (Chairman)
Audrey Whiteley (Secretary)
Judith Holloway (Treasurer)

Frank Flanagan, Alan McLean, Uri Gerson, Michael Ridout
Kay Leighton, George Sweetland, Susan Tupper

BULGARIA REVISITED
by Frances Horrocks

It's Tuesday, 29th July, and Cathy Meunier and I are off again, complete with bath plug, coffee jug and water heater, to join our Dutch friends in Amsterdam and thence to Sofia. The group is thirty-nine strong and this time includes four Belgians, one Canadian and nine Americans. After an uneventful journey, we arrive in Sofia and are driven to our motel on the outskirts of the town. We are asked to go immediately to the adjoining restaurant as our meal awaits us. Having found our tables and got settled, we are asked to go outside, without so much as a mouthful having passed our lips. It's almost dark, but a bonfire is burning and there is music from a gajda and tapan (bagpipe and large drum). Oh well, dancing round the bonfire might be quite a good appetizer, but as Balkantourist in-flight meals do not exactly qualify for the Good Food Guide I'm beginning to feel a bit peckish. A young man starts to lift the branches off the fire, and then rakes the glowing embers into a cross, and my interest suddenly awakens. The embers are further raked out until they form a circle of about fifteen feet diameter. I catch my breath as a bare-foot girl glides round the perimeter and then traverses an arc, round again, and then right across the centre. The young man joins her and they both dance round and across several times to the insistent rhythm of the tapan and plaintive air of the gajda, the only light being from the glow of the embers. After a few more crossings they retire unhurt, and we retire to our meal and then to bed.

Now Bulgarian beds are a law unto themselves. First, you have to unpack them. You have the equivalent of a duvet cover which contains not a duvet but a blanket. Instead of the sides being tucked in they are neatly folded under, down both long sides and across the bottom, and the whole thing lies beautifully neat and all wrapped up exactly on top of the mattress. Simple, you think, just unfold the sides, tuck them in, and there you are. But there you aren't, because the mattress is carefully fitted into a wooden box-base which just doesn't allow for the thickness of the blankets. In the end we let the sides flop and hope it doesn't all fall off in the middle of the night.

Our room is on the ground floor of the motel with a twenty yard stretch of untended garden between us and the main road. As it's warm we decide to risk leaving the window open and draw the curtain across. The curtain sticks, so I give it a tug and it starts to come off; another tug, and half of it is hanging down, so I climb up and discover that it is held up by miniature crocodile clips on a backing tape, and is relatively easy to restore to normal. Corry and her companion are not so fortunate. Their curtain comes off completely. They now have the option of undressing in the dark or hoping that the motorists' eyes are firmly fixed on the road. Fire dancing and curtain raising all on the first night - what a start!

The next morning we are whisked off for a sight-seeing tour of Sofia, including the student area where semi high-rise buildings look just the same as in any other part of the world. The cathedral, however, at the end of the yellow brick road, really is worth seeing, but the ethnographic museum is closed. We have a snack lunch in one of the few self-service cafes and are shown the whereabouts of the best record and book shops. Then we are on our own for the afternoon. A group of us make for the Balkanton shop at the far end of the city and by the time we have finished it is denuded. "Get in quick", was the advice given, "before the other tourist groups arrive". So we did. Our packing problems have started early as we haven't yet unloaded the presents we have brought with us.

We have two classes next day - morning and late afternoon - with Velko, from the Philip Koutev Ensemble. He is an expert dancer, as is only to be expected from this group, and also an excellent teacher. As the classes are the only ones we have from him, they could have been a mere fill-in, but no, he is methodical and thorough, and shows us different styles and combinations of steps. The accordionist, Todor, turns out to be another dancer, who only plays the accordion as a hobby.

After a meal in the Panorama Restaurant on the top floor of the Grand Hotel, we return to our motel where Cathy, who has come armed with a long list of names and telephone numbers, decides to make a couple of 'phone calls. One of those called

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announces he is coming round right away, and as Cathy is not too sure of his intentions I have to get dressed again. He whisks us off to his flat in Sofia, where happily his wife is waiting. We do our best to tackle another meal of salad, cold meats, banitsa (a croissant-like cheese bread), rakia (fire-water) and Bulgarian pink champagne, and very good it was too. Todor is an accordionist (I begin to wonder if the name and the instrument go together) and he plays for us and we listen to some cassettes, but mainly it's talk. Mrs. Todor used to be an opera singer and therefore she knows some French, Italian and German, so she and I manage to converse, sometimes using all three in one sentence - a strange sort of "Desperanto", but it works. At the end of our visit we are both given a present which we take to be Bulgarian place mats, but on later inspection turn out to be aprons. Drink and drive laws are very strict, so Todor calls a taxi to take us back to the motel where the very straight-faced receptionist unlocks the door to let us in. We've had such an enjoyable evening we hadn't given a thought to the possibility of being locked out, and it's a bit of a shock to realize it's now 2.30 a.m. No wonder she's straight-faced. I suppose we could have climbed in through the window if we'd found the right one - two along from the one with the missing curtain (it never was put back).

Next morning (Friday) we travel on to Plovdiv, stopping off on the way for lunch at the beautiful Rila Monastery which we also visited last year. After lunch we continue on our way, the temperature gradually rising, and we are thankful to have our evening meal, with musical accompaniment, in the open-air restaurant adjoining the hotel which is right in the centre of town. Because of the heat we don't bother to unpack our beds, which only have the duvet cover and no blanket anyway, but just fold the cover back and sleep on top. The windows are wide open, and being in the centre of town it's rather noisy, not from traffic, but from a nearby cafe and people walking past, their voices floating up from the street below. I'm glad I don't understand Bulgarian - it means I don't have to strain to overhear the conversations.

Saturday sees the beginning of our dance classes proper and our general routine for the next few days. Breakfast is at 7.30 a.m. and because of the heat, what would normally be a four-hour morning class is split into two, the first session 9 to 11 a.m. and the second generally 5 to 7 p.m., with the afternoons free. We walk up past the market to the dance studio, built specially for amateur dance groups, and meet our teachers. Stanka, our principal teacher, is a young professional and product of the Plovdiv school. She is supported by Valja, wife of the director Mitko Doichinov, and Nina, a beautiful and graceful girl also from the Plovdiv school, and not forgetting Spiro, our accordionist. Classes start with warming up exercises, not that we need to warm up but it's wise to stretch our muscles. I never did find out what the actual temperature was, but Sofia at 29°C was noticeably cooler. In the streets there is a breeze, but not in the studio. Our dance programme has been very well planned, with new dances added each day and plenty of revision of what has gone before. Stanka is clear and precise and is prepared to go over steps for as long as we need. She also has a beautiful singing voice and we add songs to some of the dances, at least some of the class do, singing is not my strong point. Our group leaders, Jaap Leegwater and Bianca de Jong, take it in turns to translate for us. Some of the dances are slow and controlled, not easy, some are fast and still not easy, but there are some which can be mastered by all. As always with the Dutch groups, the general standard is high, and I find the programme challenging and satisfying.

This then is the pattern of the next few days with odd incidents thrown in. On Saturday evening, of all evenings, there is no band in the restaurant. On Sunday morning there is a power cut, the only one on this visit, and we have mineral water for breakfast. On Monday we have a three-hour class which includes a fair amount of singing and several short breaks as the heat makes it impossible to dance for too long. In the late afternoon we have a visit to Batchkovo Monastery. One can only enter the beautiful little church if "decently" dressed, so the same skirt appears on more than one person, so does a shirt. Then, after a bit of scouting around, we find a picnic spot. The hotel has provided us with a veritable feast and all bottles of wine, mineral water and fizzy drinks get put in a conveniently large

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drinking fountain, together with the melons, to keep cool. Our teachers, the accordionist, and Valja's children join us for our meal. Jeep and Bianca give us a marvellous display of dancing on the rough stony ground, and as the light fades, candles are lit. Stanka sings for us and her clear, strong voice soars out across the countryside in the gathering dusk.

To be continued next month.



SWANSEA COURSE 1987 - 25TH JULY TO 1ST AUGUST

This summer will mark the passage of 25 years since the S.I.F.D. held its first Summer School, in Swansea, in 1962. From 1963 onwards courses have been held in alternate years at Swansea, with the exception of 1977 at Edinburgh and 1979 at Hertford.

Plans are now being made for the 1987 course and invitations are being sent to teachers from Bulgaria, Sardinia and Norway. We would like a reserve list of possible alternative or additional countries, and your suggestions would be very welcome. Spanish regional dances (not Flamenco) are a possibility. Please send suggestions direct to me.

This time the course really will be housed in one of the newly renovated Halls of Residence as work is nearing completion on Mary Williams, the last of the Halls to have wash hand basins and carpets in all bedrooms. Regrettably, College charges have risen steeply and it is likely that the inclusive cost of the course will be about £160. Although this is a sharp increase on the 1983 and 1985 prices, the charges in those years were quite uneconomic as far as the College was concerned. As in recent years, the course will be organized through the Department of Continuing Education at Swansea.

Full details of the course, together with application forms, will be circulated early in 1987, but you will be kept up-to-date on developments each month through SIFD NEWS.

Jack Richardson,
Department of Chemical Engineering,
University College, Swansea SA2 8PP

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Nov. 8th DAY COURSE OF GENERAL INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCING, organized by Rainmakers Folk Dance Group at the United Reformed Church Hall, Cutty's Lane, Stevenage, Herts., 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. S.I.F.D. members £2, non-members £2.50. Details from Sheila Leavy, 7 Miles Drive, Clifton, Shefford, Beds. SG17 5HS. Tel: 0462 814798.
- Nov. 9th BALKANPLUS at Swiss Cottage Community Centre, 19 Winchester Rd., London N.W.3. (Sunday) M.C. Frances Horrocks. Special guest: Eddy Tijssen.
- Nov. 9th ISRAEL FOLKDANCE ASSOCIATION monthly social dance at the Sternberg Centre, 80 East End Road, London N.3., 8 p.m.
- Dec. 13th BALKANPLUS at Swiss Cottage Community Centre. M.C. Fiona Howarth.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Lily,

Bernard and I recently attended a Holiday Fellowship course in Devon called "Songs from Around the World", which might be of interest. The course was taken by Joy Hyman and Robert Fowler and we were taught songs mostly from Europe, and of course England as we had several overseas people with us. There were lessons in guitar as well for those who were interested. During the afternoon, walks were arranged for those who wanted them, or you were free to do your own thing.

I am surprised that after all these years the folk song side of international dance in the S.I.F.D. has not been promoted, except of course with the Balkan groups, and wonder if there are any would-be singers who might get something going? There are plenty of lovely songs around and certainly they would add to the dancing and also give a little variety to the performances.

I think the first time I had to sing was for Pug's Swedish Midsummer Dance at the Royal Albert Hall, where we all pranced around singing something which sounded like "Shu vuckra flickor ee on ring" at the top of our voices. Needless to say, with the bad acoustics of the Albert Hall at that time, nobody heard a word in the audience, but it was fun and certainly added to the dancing.

We thoroughly enjoyed the Reunion Dance at Porchester Hall. It was a lovely atmosphere and we are always very pleased to see all our old friends - and new ones!

Best wishes,

MARGARET WEBB

43 Crabtree Lane, Gt. Bookham, Surrey KT23 4PL

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Dear Lily,

Sadie and I have recently returned from the Scarborough Holiday Fellowship week where Joy and Charles Steventon, backed by Wilf Horrocks, led us in a very enjoyable week of international folkdancing. I'm sure all S.I.F.D. members would have enjoyed such a holiday.

Although most of the group had little knowledge of international folkdancing, they had a grounding either of English folk, American Square or Ballroom dancing and in a surprisingly short time they were being put through fairly demanding dances and liking it. On two evenings the other guests at the centre were invited to join us and did so with a will, as did some of the staff who were curious to know what all the noise was about. Our group showed off with a short demonstration of dances that we had just learned, to much acclaim. Even though I had a bad leg, I was able to join in for gentle dances put on for my benefit; also it was a pleasure to sit and watch, and listen to Wilf Horrocks' playing.

The Holiday Fellowship house is comfortable and well run, food plentiful and well cooked, with helpful management and staff; also, all rooms equipped with electric kettles and tea etc. which were replenished daily. Good value. (Steve and Joy will be teaching at another Holiday Fellowship week this month. See "What's On". ED.).

The previous week we spent at Whitby for the Annual Festival there. It must now be the largest English Festival in the country, even bigger than last year. All events, apart from busking, were indoors, so there was no weather problem. I feel it is ripe for an S.I.F.D. presence; those lively North Country people would love it. I know our main problem is in supplying able and willing people to run the workshops and who can get the time off, but if it were possible it could be of much benefit to our Society.

SIFD NEWS is getting better all the time. Nice work, Lily.

Yours,

HARRY STONE

4 Pelham Rd., Tottenham N15 4RN

Dear Lily,

On Saturday, 6th September 1986, at the Royal Exchange, Newbury, a most encouraging sight could be seen. From 8 to 9 p.m. a mass band of tin whistles, recorders, clarinets, oboe, cor anglais, crumhorn, galoubet, accordions, melodions, hurdy gurdy, violins, 'cello, mandolins, drums of most shapes and sizes, tambourines and a triangle played a selection of bourrées, polkas, schottische and a waltz to a hall of at least 180 paying customers, many of whom were dancing enthusiastically to the exciting music.

The event continued until midnight with music from "Blowzabella", a competent folk-band, and "Mare!", a remarkable Australian band. The crowd participated in dances from England, France, Macedonia and the Balkans. The average age must have been 26 years and it was heartening to see so many young people doing international folk dancing. It made me feel quite old!

Although we only took part in one day's festivities, there was plenty for all to do; music sessions for all levels and dance workshops were run by highly skilled leaders. The festival ran from Friday evening to Sunday afternoon and during the brief time that we attended very few people we chatted to had ever heard of the S.I.F.D. and were surprised that such a wonderful organization existed.

Now there's a thing!

Yours accordingly,

TINA MEECH
75 Revelstoke Rd., Wimbledon Park,
London SW18 5NL

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S.I.F.D. SWISS DAY COURSE

On SATURDAY, 11TH OCTOBER 1986, Janet Woolbar will be teaching Swiss dances, as follows:-

Trüllollke	Wechselpolka
Lüdere Polka	Appenzeler Klatschwalzer
La Faire da Strada	Der Hinggi
Der Nagelschmied	La Faire de Sent
Hirschener Gräbler	Meitschi Putz Di

This day course will be of interest to everyone wishing to increase their knowledge of, or revise, Swiss dances, but will be of particular benefit to members intending to take the Silver Badge Examination as all the above dances will be in the Swiss badge syllabus. Wilf Horrocks will be playing, and recording will be allowed - with Wilf's permission - or from tapes.

Place: Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London N.W.1.

Time: 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Cost: S.I.F.D. members £3, non-members £4.

Refreshments, including lunches, available at Cecil Sharp House Canteen.

This will probably be our last Day Course to be held at Cecil Sharp House. We hope to be organizing a Bulgarian Day Course next month, but the venue has not yet been arranged, or the date confirmed.

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S.I.F.D. NEWS, 1966 TO 1970

Dennis Turner has been clearing out and has some old copies of SIFD NEWS from 1966 to 1970 (not complete) which he would be pleased to pass on to anyone who would like them. Would anyone interested please contact Dennis - 53 Stafford Street, Gillingham, Kent ME7 5EN.

YUGOSLAV FOLK DANCES - A brief survey.

The country is small, about the same size as our own, but it has been said that it has the folk culture worthy of a continent in its richness and diversity.

The original tribal cultures of the Slovenes, Croats, Serbs and Macedonians have linked with the peoples that subsequently came to be included - the Slovaks, Hungarians, Austrians, Italians, Romanians, Albanians, Turks and Gipsies.

Some of the oldest dances in Europe are to be found in the mountains inland from the famous Adriatic coast, and hundreds of dances have been notated or filmed since the middle of the 1930s, many of which are still danced. Many dances are not spectacular to watch, but pleasurable to perform - the rhythms and steps sometimes elusive with subtle irregularity.

Most of the dances are in a circle formation, with mixed dancers or couples, or blocks of men and women; some dances still keep the sexes separate. Along the coast there are quadrilles, and in Herzegovina and the Eastern part there are line formations.

Shaking or trembling of the body (drmanje) is common in Croatia, and becomes softer and more subtle as one moves Eastwards. Other ancient movements, i.e. kicking, jumping, squatting, spinning round, limping, are still used, and also body movements suggesting hunting or work are found.

Dances identical in movement often have different names depending on the occasion, or are named after a town, village or personality. Weddings will often have a similar dance called 'first dance', 'second dance', or 'mother-in-law dance', distinguished only by a change of melody or rhythm.

The most widely known dances are:- Drmeš, Slavonsko Kolo, Staro Sito, Dužec, Repa, and Polka from Northern Croatia, and town dances of the coast from Split, Dubrovnik and Trogir. The silent dances of the coastal mountains and Bosnia - Ličko, Vrličko, Glamoč.

In Serbia we have U Šest, Žiking Kolo, Čačak, Bunjevačko Momačko Kolo, the Devojačko group of dances which includes Šetnja, and the dances from the Pirot region, and Vranja. The men's Šopsko Kolo from the border with Bulgaria. In the Albanian region of Kosmet there is the wedding dance, Šota. Macedonia is noted for Teškoto, Nevestinsko (wedding dance), Kopačka, Rusalijska (ritual sword dance), Aramiskoto (the Aramis were akin to Robin Hood's band and were active against the Turks until about 1906), Pajduška, Čamče, etc.

The majority of the dances are for joining in, and to sing and chat while doing so. Why not try them?

KEN WARD

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WEST MIDLANDS BRANCH OF THE S.I.F.D.

Dance Groups: "Selpar", Classes on Tuesdays, 7.15 p.m. Selly Park School, Pershore Rd., Stirchley, Birmingham. Tutor: Sybil Chapman.

"Heart of England". Wednesdays 7.30 p.m. Lyndon School, Daylesford Road, Solihull.

"Arden", fortnightly on Tuesdays, at Village Hall, Station Road, Balsall Common, nr. Solihull.

Further details of these activities from the Secretary of West Midlands Branch of S.I.F.D., Dennis V.Hunt, 27 Baginton Rd., Styvechale, Coventry CV3 6JX. 0203 413854.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Alan and Jenny Cant have moved and now live at:- 38 Crowhurst Road, Borough Green, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 8SJ. Tel: Borough Green (0732) 883405.

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40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

HISTORY OF THE S.I.F.D.

This is an illustrated booklet containing a potted history of the S.I.F.D. Events and comments are as seen and heard by George Sweetland, with additional information from such people as musicians, and others closely involved with the Society. There are line drawings and also reproductions of photographs of the 'old days'. It is fascinating to pick out those many members who are still very much around now, and continuing to work hard for the S.I.F.D. The booklet is a real bargain at £1.50 (add 25p postage in the U.K., 70p for Europe, and about £1.10 airmail to really faraway places). It is on sale at most S.I.F.D. functions, or by post from Kay Leighton (address on page 2).

A.G.M. AND DANCE

Our Annual General Meeting is to be held on Sunday, 7th December (subject to confirmation of the booking of a hall) and in the evening we hope to arrange a special Dance which will be a worthy culmination to our year of festivities. The venue and time will be announced in due course, and we hope all London and Provincial members will join us for both events. To make it a full weekend, I will try to arrange some dancing events for the Saturday as well - so, URGENT, PLEASE! - is anyone planning a dancing event for the Saturday (6th December) in the London area? Morning, afternoon, evening, or part of 'a weekend'? If so, DO PLEASE LET ME KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, so that I do not arrange anything to clash with your event.

HERE'S A THOUGHT- WHAT ABOUT CHRISTMAS SHOPPING?

Lots of firms nowadays allow employees to take a day off for this, and if you are lucky enough to be in this position (or have a day's holiday owing), why not take Monday, 8th December, off, so that you do not have to make a long journey home immediately after the Dance on Sunday? If you want to shop on the Sunday morning, too, there are exciting East End markets such as Petticoat Lane (Liverpool Street Station) and Brick Lane (Shoreditch or Aldgate Station). They usually close at about 1 or 2 p.m. But beware of pickpockets! It is said that you can have your umbrella stolen at one end of Petticoat Lane, and can buy it back at the other end! Many of you already have places to stay, but for those who do not, Margaret Joyner (113 Hartswood Road, London W12 9NG, Tel: 01 749 3344) can help with suggestions for friendly accommodation.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

The S.I.F.D. now has quite a few of these to offer. Perhaps you never noticed that on page 2 of SIFD NEWS we give details of some of the items on sale.

The Society has a good selection of instruction books, records and cassettes, so that you can practise very many of our dances at home, or use the music at parties, dances or even as background music. Joan Rackham (see page 2) can let you have a list of what is available and an order form. How about buying some for yourself or for a member of the family, or renewing some of your old worn records?

We also have car stickers with a motif of a couple dancing; the above-mentioned History; and three designs of T-shirts. Most of these will be on sale at the Dance on 7th December, or you can get them by post.

Our present stock of mugs has been sold, apart from six or seven 'seconds'. However, Staffordshire Potteries are now fulfilling our order for the first in our new series of mugs, each bearing a design of a couple from various countries. The first will be of two dancers in Neapolitan costume, and has been designed by Teresa Blunt, from Oxford. Very many thanks, Teresa, for all your help.

KAY LEIGHTON

(Address on page 2)

SUNDAY DANCES at Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London N.W.1.

Oct. 5th M.C. Jill Bransby
Nov. 2nd M.C. Fiona Howarth

7 to 10 p.m. Admission £2.20 for S.I.F.D. members, £2.80 for non-members.

On Oct. 5th, Uri Gerson will be leading the "Interval dances".

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WHAT'S ON

- Oct. 2nd FREE ISARELI DANCE EVENING to launch "Thursdays at the 'Y'", 8 p.m. at Youth Centre (Gymnasium), 523 Finchley Road, London N.W.3. Entrance opposite Heath Drive.
- Oct. 11th S.I.F.D. SWISS DAY COURSE. See page 8.
- Oct. 11th AUTUMN DANCE organized by Woodvale International Folkdance Group at Borough Green Village Hall, 8 to 11.30 p.m. M.C.s David McKie, Jan Bryce and Alison Thompson. Musician: Wilf Horrocks. Tickets £2.50 (£1.50 for under-16s) including refreshments. Please bring your own drink and glasses. Further details from Jenny Cant, Tel: Borough Green 883405 or any member of Woodvale.
- Oct. 18th YUGOSLAVIAN DAY COURSE organized by Nutbrook International Folkdance Group at Kirk Hallam Community Centre, Godfrey Drive, Kirk Hallam, Ilkeston, 10.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Marina Wolstenholme will be teaching dances from Serbia, Croatia and Macedonia, and displaying costumes from these regions. Admission £3.25. Bring packed lunch, drinks available. Followed by an EVENING DANCE, 7.30 to 11 p.m. Mixed International and English dances. Various callers, live band. Buffet & Bar. Admission £2.75. Combined ticket for Day Course & Evening Dance, £5.50. Tel: Sandiacre 393204 or Nottm.208109 for more details.
- Oct. 18th BALKANPLUS at Swiss Cottage Community Centre, 19 Winchester Rd., London N.W.3, 7 to 10.30 p.m. M.C.s Nick Green and Narendra Kotiyan. Dunav Balkan Group. Other musicians welcome. Admission £2 including light refreshments.
- Oct. 18th to 25th GENERAL INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE COURSE at Holiday Fellowship Centre at Coniston in the Lake District. Tutors: Charles & Joy Stevanton. Musician: Wilf Horrocks. Enquiries to H.F.Holidays, Special Interest Dept., 142/144 Great North Way, London NW4 1EG. Tel: 01 203 6411.
- Oct. 24th to 26th WEEKEND AT MARYLAND COLLEGE. Details from Roy Clarke, 33 Cedar Park Rd., Enfield, Middx.
- Oct. 25th WORKSHOP OF TRADITIONAL GREEK DANCES, 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m at the Crypt of the Greek Cathedral (St.Sophia), Moscow Rd., London W.2. Nearest Underground, Queensway or Bayswater. £2.50 including refreshments. Bring packed lunch (or pubs/restaurants nearby). Hard shoes, please.
- Oct. 28th & 29th "FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY". Greater London Arts at London's Shaw Theatre, 8 p.m. A Festival of modern, contemporary and folk dance.
- Oct. 29th AUTUMN PARTY organized by Oxford International Folkdance Group, 7 p.m. at St.Giles Church Hall, 10 Woodstock Rd., Oxford. Admission £2 including refreshments. Further details from Oxford (0865) 241584 or 250308. All are welcome.
- Nov. 1st DUNAV BALKAN GROUP will be playing at the Barbican Centre foyer, level 5, 12.15 to 1.45 p.m. Dancers welcome.

CHILDREN'S SOCIAL DANCES

Social Dances for children are held twice a year, at which both Scottish dances and International dances are taught. Alec Green and Patricia Webb, from Loidis International Folkdance Group, organize the International half and have sent the following information regarding the next children's event, which may be of interest to S.I.F.D. members with children :-

Children's Scottish and International Social Dance to be held on SATURDAY, 8TH NOVEMBER 1986, from 2.15 to 4.45 p.m. at Scott Hall Middle School, Henconner Gardens (off Stainbeck Lane,) Leeds 7. The cost will probably be 35p for children and 15p for accompanying adults. This price includes orange squash or tea, and a biscuit. Children up to about the age of 12 or 13 are welcome. All dances are simple, and all are taught on the day. The programme alternates Scottish and International dances.

These Social Dances have been successful and enjoyable over the past five years. All children are welcome just to experience enjoying social dancing with other children. It is a great help if adults are willing to join in, or help organize circles and lines, but you are also welcome just to watch. If interested, please ring for further details and to check on prices. Tel: (early evenings) Alec Green, Leeds (0532)787837 or Pat Webb, Leeds 664384. There have been between 90 and 180 dancers on previous occasions. The present venue limits the number to about 120.



S.I.F.D. MEMBERSHIP

This will be the last SIFD NEWS sent to you if you have not renewed your membership. In case you have mislaid your application form, or would like another to pass on to a friend, we have reproduced the membership application form overleaf, which should be completed and sent, with subscription, to the Membership Secretary.

SIFD NEWS COVER DESIGNS

We are in need of more people to draw cover designs for SIFD NEWS. If you can draw and would be willing to help by contributing your drawings to be used as covers, I would be very grateful if you would send your designs to me (black line drawings, on A4 paper, with "SIFD NEWS" incorporated but no dates). ED.

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WELSH DANCING IN LONDON

The London Welsh Folk Dancers (Dawnsywyr Gwerin Llundain) meet on Friday evenings at 7.30 in the London Welsh Centre, 157 Grays Inn Road, W.C.1. All are welcome, and no experience is necessary, nor any connection with Wales. The group has been in existence for a little over a year and is devoted to Welsh folkdance. If anyone is interested in going along, would they please contact the Secretary of the Group, Mr. Anthony Long, 18 Heysham Rd., South Tottenham, London N15 6HL. Tel: 01 636 1544. Ext.705 (work), or 01 809 0146 (home).

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

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ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

		<u>Tick</u>
Full member (within 30 miles of Central London or within 30 miles of Central Birmingham)	£5.60
Joint Members (Man & Wife) ..	£8.40
Country Member	£3.70
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All classes of membership end on 31st Aug. each year. New members joining after 1st March, half annual subscription.

Reg. Charity No.284509.

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

Membership Secretary: Alan Morton, 26 Durham Rd., Harrow, Middx. HA1 4PG.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL*

Please enrol me as a member in the category marked with a tick.

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