

SIFD

1987

MARCH

NEWS



SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

EDITOR: Lily Avery, 16 Willow Drive, Little Common, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex TN39 4PX. 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.

—oOo—

This month's cover is by Margaret Cullen, and shows a headdress from Brittany known as "la coiffe bigouden". It is one of the most frequently worn coiffes in spite of being so impracticable.

—oOo—

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—oOo—

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

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

S.I.F.D. T-shirts in various designs and sizes available from Kay Leighton,
(address above). Also available from Kay are copies of "The History of the
S.I.F.D.", price £1.50, or £2 by post.

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

SECRETARY'S NOTES

The main item on the agenda at the February Committee Meeting was the possibility of obtaining funding from Greater London Arts. We discussed whether we should opt for Annual Funding, or Project Funding, and various ideas, some originally put forward by the Forward Planning Committee, were aired in detail. Further discussions will have to be held to finalise any proposed submission, and we shall keep you in the picture.

Forward Planning again - both Mike Ridout and Liz Mellish expressed an interest in liaison with groups abroad; Mike already has connections with a Dutch Group through Karin Bellaert. Mike is also the Committee's representative in co-ordinating with the Festival Committee for the Harrow Festival.

The membership figures are very encouraging. Over 50 new members have joined this year - Welcome everybody! - bringing our numbers to over 500. There was a question asked at the A.G.M. about Honorary Life Members. There are now seven, and you may like to know who they are - Irene Fyffe, Lily Avery, Margaret Webb, Jack Richardson, Aili Eistrat, Roland Minton and Sybil Chapman.

As our contact with the former G.L.C. has now retired, we can obtain no advantage from continuing our affiliation with the Fitness Club, and this will accordingly lapse.

Kay Leighton has agreed to become the Committee's contact with the Friends of Cecil Sharp House.

The Music Sub-Committee is to be resurrected, and a rather reluctant Simon Guest has agreed to be its Chairman (he says he must have been drunk at the time!). The terms of reference are to institute a manuscript Music Library, and to oversee production of new cassettes. Thank you, Simon, and we hope you will find some willing volunteers to help you.

Finally, you should receive the Minutes of the A.G.M. with this copy of the NEWS.

AUDREY WHITELEY
Hon. Secretary



ANOTHER TEA DANCE!

On SATURDAY, 21ST MARCH 1987, 2 P.M. TO 5 P.M. at ST. PAUL'S CENTRE, ROSSMORE ROAD,
OFF LISSON GROVE, LONDON N.W.1

Admission: Adults £2. Children, 9 to 15 inclusive, £1; 8 and under, free.

M.C.s: Eleanor Oakley and Janet Woolbar

Musicians: Wilf Horrocks and friends.

Hot and cold drinks will be available as we have the use of the kitchen. Costume optional.

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This is a pleasant new venue for us. From Marylebone Station exit, turn right, then right again into Harewood Avenue. Two or three minutes up the road, turn left into Rossmore Road. St. Paul's Centre is on the left. Baker Street and Edgware Road stations are also quite near. See map on page 10.

As I said in the February NEWS, the programme will be arranged so that all ages and preferences will be catered for. Do come along, whether you are young or old, married or single. Enquiries to me, Kay Leighton, Kings Langley 62763.



EASTBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL 1987 - MAY 1ST TO MAY 4TH

We would like to remind you that to get your priority booking for the Eastbourne Festival your application should reach "All-In Holidays" no later than 31st March.

We have a veritable feast for you this year. On the Friday evening, "Interfolk, Eastbourne" will be having a normal club night with dances being taught. On the Saturday, Sunday and Monday, Juhani Eistrat will be running Estonian workshops with Tino Metsma as his accompanist (not with tape as has been published on the official leaflet). Tina Meech will be running Musicians Workshops on the Saturday and Sunday. Although a book will be available later this month, you don't have to read music to be able to join in.

Saturday evening will be our "Grand Costume Dance" with Dunav, hosted by Alf Garton. Anyone in costume will receive a free raffle ticket, although authentic footwear is not essential in view of the Festival rule on suitable footwear.

Sunday has two attractions at the Winter Gardens. Kay Loughton will be running a stall at the Craft Fair which, we hope, will include a costume display. Julie Korth will be organizing a demonstration. If you would like to participate, the dances will be selected from Kalamatianos, Maroushka, Čačak, Jota Antiga, Hora Femilor, Vleegest, and Pravo Trakisko Hora. On the Sunday evening, Roy le Croisette has invited guest M.C.s from Borough Green to join him and will include the Musicians Workshop Showcase. The band will be Monda Muziko.

peter Mayas has also invited Karin Belaart back again this year to do a variety of workshops from her vast collection of dances. We have also heard that there will be a visiting team from the Netherlands.

All this - and English folk dancing too - at the Eastbourne Festival! Why not come and join us? For more details, contact Ginny le Croisette on 0323 32237 or write to her at 26 Westfield Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN21 2QU.

TINA MEECH

S.I.F.D. SUMMER SCHOOL AT SWANSEA, 25TH JULY TO 1ST AUGUST 1987

Bookings are now coming in and members are reminded that the special discount for S.I.F.D. members applies to applications received by 31st March (£10-£12 off!). Enclosed with this issue of SIFD NEWS (if there's room in the envelope) is an A4 size notice about the course, and I shall be pleased if you will kindly pass it on to any non-member who may be interested, or exhibit it at any suitable event which you attend. Further copies are available from me, also as small handouts (A5 size) or as posters (A3 size).

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

The Secretary of HAVERING INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP has resigned. The new Secretary is Sheila Hall, Cranwood, Blackmore Rd., Hook End, Brantwood, Essex CM15 0DS. Tel: 0277 821808.

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Young lady student pianist seeks London lodging at modest rent, with grand piano or space for same. Good Underground or 'Bus access to Central London essential. Kendall, 13 Mill Road, Marlow, Bucks. SL7 1PX. Tel: 06284 3205.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR...

Dear Lily,

The Committee were very disappointed to read your footnote to the Secretary's Notes in February, concerning the proposed participation in the Festival for Age Concern. Our first reaction was indeed that it was not an image we would wish to promote of the S.I.F.D. as a whole, but after discussion we considered that we should try to reflect the idea that folk dancing has something to offer to people of all ages. Everyone knows that the young and sprightly can enjoy activities like dancing, and indeed countless other pastimes. The elderly do not have so much scope, but folk dancing is one of the recreations which can bring them both pleasure socially and benefit physically. By using some of our senior members to demonstrate this we could open up new horizons to them.

The audience at the festival will be elderly, so the maturity of the team should not be a deterrent to any youthful enthusiast, and although we must actively encourage the interest of the young, we must not discourage the participation of older people.

From another point of view, taking part in these events brings the S.I.F.D. to the attention of administrators interested in the field of movement and dance, which could benefit us in the future.

The Committee hope that you will make these views known to the members through the SIFD NEWS.

Yours sincerely,

JANET WOOLBAR,
6 Wye Court, Malvern Way, Ealing W13 8EA.

:::::

My dear Lily,

Re the "oldies" appearing in a performance this autumn (or whenever?); first of all, four minutes is a ludicrous offer of space-time. It has to be a minimum of eight minutes to make the smallest impact.

Second, it all hinges on what is presented, and how it is presented. We would have to show at least two different folk cultures, and we would have to be properly dressed.

Third, it would be a magical publicity stunt for the S.I.F.D. that we could well do with, and with a bit of genius we could introduce an identical number of "younger dancers" (also correctly dressed!) to wind up the item. It will get heavy press coverage.

Fourth, the music should be live - very live - and certain of our older members could help perform in this vital aspect of the experiment. Can you imagine the impact of Lucile Armstrong (one of our oldest members) in full Portuguese costume playing the tambourine!

As I write, I am looking rather sadly and with nostalgic attention at a photograph taken of my dear old Group in which you appear, and Margery Latham, and many dear friends, in the Royal Albert Hall Show of 1958!

To return to the current proposition; it would make a wonderful contrast to present one Balkan item and melt into a French item, and wind up with "X" (yet to be chosen) where the younger members helped us "wind up and wind off" stage, hand in hand! Don't dismiss it out of hand. We've come a long way in 41 years - a long weary way. Let's exploit our experience, if we can, to advantage.

Yours sincerely,

PHILIP THORNTON (a mere chicken of 77!)
40 Epirus Road, Fulham, SW6 7UH.

Dear Lily,

I was interested to read the comments regarding dancing for older people.

Aside from the issue of whether or not to participate in the November event, perhaps the idea of catering for this age group is not as strange as all that. In the Netherlands (where else?) there are special classes for 65+, one of which I visited a few years ago. For the participants it's the high point of the week and their enthusiasm was obvious. The teacher told me she found them far more appreciative than those at her Advanced classes. The fact that this particular class celebrated its 10th anniversary and is still going strong speaks for itself. The Dutch have organized courses to train people to teach to this age group so that their different needs can be met. This is in addition to the 2-year part-time training courses they run for general folkdance teachers. Could we learn from their experience?

Yours faithfully,

RHIAMMAN SIVEWRIGHT,
404 Barlow Rd., Altrincham, Cheshire.

Dear Lily,

Referring to your comment on the proposed C.C.P.R. Royal Albert Hall Show as a culmination of the Celebrating Age Campaign; I think the important aspect to consider is that the object of the year's activities is to show the ways in which older people can contribute to society generally. We have always said that the S.I.F.D. is for all age groups and it should therefore be to our advantage to show how agile and fit older people can be through the practice of folk dancing.

The dancing time of four minutes is admittedly short, although this is only a preliminary suggestion and might change depending on the number of C.C.P.R. groups participating. Nevertheless, the chance of dancing in the Royal Albert Hall brings its own brand of enjoyment, satisfaction, and perhaps nostalgia. I hope that groups who are interested in taking part will write to me as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

"STEVE" STEVENTON
64 Erridge Road, Merton Park,
London SW19 3JD.

Dear Lily,

Re the announcement in last month's issue; four minutes for "older people"? Certainly not! What an idiotic idea!

What about Victoria Embankment again? We, the Kalinka Dancers, would love to do it again. Any hope?

JENIA GRAMAN,
39 Stanley Rd., East Sheen, London SW14 7EB

Dear Lily,

I am writing in connection with your note in SIFD NEWS expressing your opinion that taking part in the Royal Albert Hall Festival would not be good for the S.I.F.D.'s image.

I am sure that older members of the S.I.F.D. will be only too willing to contribute their services, even if it is only for a four-minute stint.

Yours sincerely,

MONA GRAHAM, 25 Warwick Way, Croxley Gn.,
Rickmansworth, Herts. WD3 3SB

Dear Lily,

Starting a new group has produced one or two surprises, one of which has been the contact with an ex-S.I.F.D. member who now lives not far from here. Ann Houghton (née Johns) used to be a member of Alan Starke's class and has many happy memories of those and later days when she did Spanish dancing. There may well be some S.I.F.D. members who will remember Ann and would like to get in touch with her again. Her address is:- 5 St. James Street, Marbeth, Dyfed.

For some years she lived in Mallorca and learned a number of dances there, some of which she feels able to pass on to our group, but she has no music. So, if anyone can help, please get in touch either with Ann or myself. We would prefer recorded music rather than sheet music if at all possible. The dances are:-

- 1) Copeo de Montanya
- 2) Ses Xaremies (Ancient Church Dance)
- 3) Jota Malloquina
- 4) Bolero Malloquin
- 5) Sa Rosa
- 6) Boleros Antioos
- 7) Parado de Valldeмос

In anticipation, many thanks.

Our new group can now boast up to twelve at a meeting sometimes, drawn from a possible sixteen. Not bad eh! One of the members, along with Vic and I, is looking forward to meeting our S.I.F.D. friends at the Hill, Abergavenny, in April.

Till then, best wishes to all.

SUE (AND VIC) CLARK
22 Church Rd., Roch, Nr.Haverfordwest,
Dyfed SA62 6BG.

p.S. I have just received this month's SIFD NEWS, prompt as usual. Re the "Age Concern" Concert; yes, I think the S.I.F.D. should take part, but certainly it should be for a longer spot - perhaps ten minutes. That would be realistic. It should be danced by the over-forties, MAKING QUITE SURE THAT THE PROGRAMME AND ANY OTHER PUBLICITY STATES THAT ONLY THE OLDER MEMBERS WERE SELECTED FOR THIS PARTICULAR EVENT. Good luck with it. I only wish I lived nearer. SUE

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Dear Lily,

Had a crazy flight to Mexico City via Greenland. So far, mostly on 'buses, I've been through Mexico and Guatemala. Flew over Nicaragua, Honduras and Salvador (the danger spots). Then 'buses through Colombia, Equador and along the Pacific coast of Peru. Then across the Andes mountains inland on the highest railway in the world. Have visited the Inca monuments and villages high in the mountains. Next I go to the highest navigable lake in the world, then Bolivia, Paraguay, and finally the Carnival in Rio. I've heard tons of folk music and have loads of cassettes, but have only seen one folk dance show and have really learned nothing. However, the weather is great.

ALAN McLEAN

ED. NOTE: Alan left England on 14th December for a holiday in Central and South America, and hoped to collect lots of folkdances. I received the above postcard from him dated 25th January. He is due back in England early in March and will be running a Day Course of Romanian dances on 14th March. (See "What's On").

Dear Friends,

"To be or not to be" should read "to go or not to go"! I would like to thank all my friends in the S.I.F.D. who sent such warm wishes for our move to Canada, but the venture is "off", due to many circumstances, so we shall, as far as we know, be remaining in the U.K. The reasons are too complicated to mention here, but I'm so glad that my contact with the S.I.F.D. can now be maintained on a personal rather than a postal basis. Let's keep dancing!

Best wishes,

SYBIL CHAPMAN
(Selpar & West Midlands S.I.F.D.)
20 Pelham Rd., Droitwich, Worcs.UR9 8NT



HARROW FESTIVAL - 21ST TO 29TH AUGUST 1987

Much detail has still to be sorted out, but here is the Festival Format on the International Scene:- Daily for 8 days from Saturday, 22nd August, to Saturday, 29th August, Mornings, workshop with one of the teams; afternoons, workshop or dance; late afternoons, Meet-a-Team - Anglo/International Dance Swap; evenings, General International Dance. As far as possible we shall keep to this plan, but there will be a full international timetable for those who do not wish to do English dancing. We expect the following countries to be represented:- Africa, America (Appalachian Clog), France (Bretons), Holland (Amsterdam), India, Israel (Rishon-le-Zion), Norway (Naerbo), Poland, The Ukraine, Yugoslavia.

Season Tickets will admit to all events during the availability of the ticket, subject to there being room.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) Full Season Ticket - £40)
Camp Pass £8) | Available 21st to 29th August inclusive. |
| 2) Limited Season - £30)
Camp Pass £8) | As for Full Season but excludes 25th to 28th prior to 7pm. |
| 3) Weekend Season - £20)
Camp Pass £4) | 21st to 24th inclusive. |
| 4) Evening Season - £20)
Camp Pass not available) | 21st to 29th (9 evenings) 7 to 11 p.m. Dances only |

Children half these prices. Only numbers 1 to 3 admit to Late Night Extra. Discounts as follows (no discount on camp passes:-)

Full Season (item 1) - as on yellow booking form but see ** below
Items 2 to 4 - less 10% prior to 1.4.87, see *** below
less 5% prior to 1.5.87, see *** below

*** These discount deadlines have been extended for S.I.F.D. members. To qualify, your S.I.F.D. membership number should be written at the right hand end of the signature line on the enclosed booking form.

** Further, the discount dates on the yellow form are extended to S.I.F.D. members. For 1.2.87 read 1.4.87, and for 1.4.87 read 1.5.87.

A 10% discount will be allowed on 10 or more Adult Tickets. Please use yellow booking form for all season tickets. Other tickets will be available, subject to there being room, but they will not get you in to Late Night Extra. Prices of these have yet to be fixed but are likely to be about £9 for Day Tickets and £3 for Evening Dances.

The camp site is a 5-minute walk from Headstone Lane Station (British Rail) on two 10-acre fields at Pinner Park Farm. Dogs cannot be accommodated on the site. A Bed-and-Breakfast list is in course of preparation (s.a.e. please).

Enquiries to John Lawes, 29 Tenby Avenue, Harrow HA3 8RU. Tel: 01 907 4700.

ERRATUM

In the December issue of SIFD NEWS, on page 4, we printed an article on Hungarian Folk Dancing by Sybil Chapman. If any of you are keeping this article for reference, would you please delete "line-of-dance style" in line 2 and substitute "old style". The error occurred because Sybil typed "lod" instead of "old", and I interpreted "lod" to mean "line-of-dance"! (What else?!) ED.



S.I.F.D. BADGES

A limited number of bronze S.I.F.D. members' badges (crossed legs design) are available from Judith Holloway (address on page 2) at 35p each. Please send stamp to cover postage, if ordering by post.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Apr.3rd/5th A RESIDENTIAL WEEKEND OF INTERNATIONAL DANCING at The Hill, Abergavenny, Gwent, organized by West Midlands Branch of S.I.F.D. Cost £50 inclusive. A limited number of single rooms still available. Further details from D.Hunt, 27 Baginton Rd., Coventry CV3 6JX. Tel: 0203 413854.
- Apr. 4th WOODVALE SPRING DANCE, 8 to 11.30 p.m. at Borough Green Village Hall. M.C.s Uri Gerson, Alan Cant, Alison Thompson. Musician: Wilf Horrocks. Tickets £2.50 at the door (children £1.50). Refreshments provided but bring your own drink and glasses. Enquiries: Jenny Cant, Boro' Green 883405
- Apr.25th BALKANPLUS at Swiss Cottage Community Centre, 19 Winchester Rd., London N.W.3. Dunav Balkan Group. Other musicians welcome. M.C. Robert Haddon. Admission £2 including light refreshments. Further details from Liz Mellish, 01 863 7807.
- May 23rd DUNAV BALKAN GROUP will be playing in the foyer of the Barbican, London, 12.15 to 1.45 p.m.



BILLINGHAM INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE COURSE 15TH - 22ND AUGUST 1987

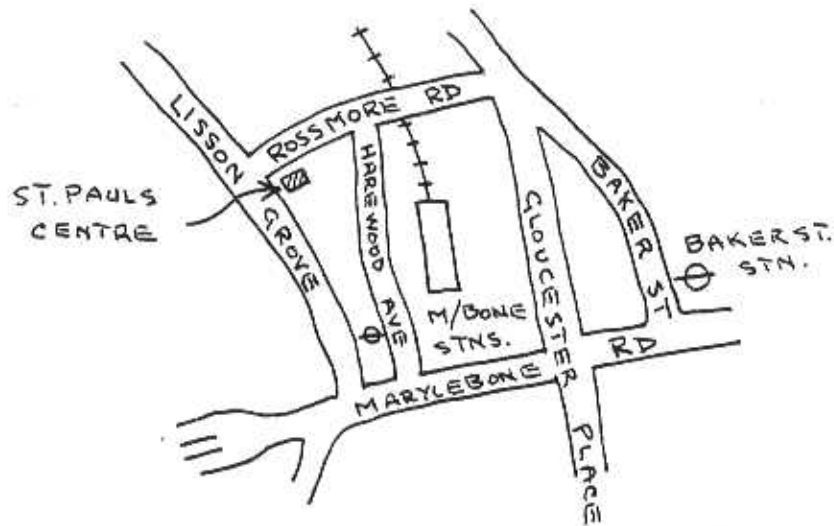
This unique course is again being arranged to coincide with the Billingham International Folklore Festival. The programme is not yet finalised but groups from U.S.S.R. (Russia), Poland, Finland, Puerto Rico, Syria, Turkey, Mexico, Brazil, Sicily and an Asian Group have been invited.

The course is a practical one intended for organizers, specialist teachers and others interested in international folkdance. Each group attending the Festival visits the dance course and gives tuition to the course members. The cost of the course is £55 (including lunches and ticket for opening ceremony). Accommodation in twin-bedded rooms in Forum Hostel. Cafes and Snack Bars nearby for other meals.

Application forms and further particulars are obtainable from the County Education Officer, Education Offices, Woodlands Road, Middlesbrough, Cleveland. Please quote reference 54/SCIFD.

S.I.F.D. DAY COURSES

Now that we have found a new venue, we shall be resuming the S.I.F.D. Day Courses, starting with a Day Course of Catalan dances, to be taught by Lucile Armstrong, on SATURDAY, 11TH APRIL 1987, at ST. PAUL'S CENTRE, ROSSMORE ROAD, off LISSON GROVE, MARYLEBONE, LONDON N.W.11. See map below :-



We hope to follow the Catalan Course with a Yugoslav Course on 9th May and a Greek Course on 13th June (both subject to confirmation), and on 4th July we shall be holding a Day Course for members interested in teaching (more details of this on page 12). We hope members will find the new venue convenient to reach and that as many of you as possible will come along on 11th April to get our Courses off to a flying start after having been forced to abandon them when we lost Cecil Sharp House.

Our future plans, after a break in August, will be to hold Courses in September, October and November to review the dances taught at this year's Swansea Summer School, and our longer term plans will include Silver Badge Examinations possibly next March, and, a few months later, a Specialist Teacher's Badge for South-East European Countries.

DAY COURSE & BADGE SUB-COMMITTEE



VICTORIA EMBANKMENT GARDENS, LONDON

In the last week or two I have sent out forms to various groups in the South-East, asking if they would like to put on a display at the above gardens. Do please let me know if you have not received a form and would like to participate. It is open to everyone, but obviously is of more interest to Southern groups.

KAY LEIGHTON, Tel: Kings Langley 62763



SWISS DAY OF DANCE

Nutbrook International Folk Dance Group are organizing a Swiss Day of Dance at Kirk Hallam Community School, Godfrey Drive, Kirk Hallam, Ilkeston, Derbyshire, on SATURDAY, 21ST MARCH 1987, 10.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tutor: Audrey Whiteley. Bring packed lunch. Dances will be chosen from: Wechselpolka, Trullmasolka, Faira Da Sent, Ludere Polka, Appenzeller Klatschwalzer, En Allant Aux Chataignes, Nagel Schmied, Maiezyt, Weggis. Six of these dances are in the syllabus for the Swiss Silver Badge in the S.I.F.D. Bert Price Proficiency Examination. They are mainly couple dances and are social dances. Cassettes will be on sale at £2.50. Instructions will also be available. Admission £3.50. Enquiries: Sandiacre 393204 or Ilkeston 329442.

CECIL SHARP HOUSE

I have been very surprised and rather disappointed that only a casual mention of Cecil Sharp House has appeared in the NEWS so far. I feel that many S.I.F.D. members might feel moved to become a "Friend of Cecil Sharp House" for the modest sum of £2 and so help the very hard-working enterprising little group who are seeking to save it from closure, decay and the threat of disposal for development. So far they have raised over £10,000 towards their £150,000 target. Do let's help! (I'm glad we have sent over £100 and several individuals have become Friends, but is there any possibility that the S.I.F.D. could have a very small sharing part in its use and upkeep for certain priority use and privileges for an annual amount we could afford, say?). Is it possible for us to go back to Cecil Sharp House for a few Day Courses etc. while it is being kept open and alive by this Friends Group? I'm sure our renewed bookings would help. Apart from becoming a Friend, if anyone goes in for T-shirts they might like to know that they are selling one with "I ♥ C # House" on it for £6, in white, (plus 40p p. & p.), and sweatshirts in white, grey and sky blue at £10 plus p. & p. 60p (Send for T-shirts from 6 Akerman Close, Milton Keynes MK12 6AA, and subscriptions (£2 or more) to Chris Miles, 1 Charlbury Grove, Ealing, London W5 2DY.)

The re-convened E.F.D.S.S. Annual General Meeting is to be held on Saturday, 4th April, in Coventry and there is a coach party going up from Cecil Sharp House (£6). Anyone interested, contact Marjorie Fennessey, 14 Gloucester Crescent, London N.W.1.

I wonder if Cecil Sharp House couldn't be involved in some way with the Sports Council's initiative on a movement and dance national centre in London/South? It seems incredible to me that their grant couldn't be increased; could Camden Council (one of the most generous to the Arts) be enlisted to help? Anyone with ideas for fund-raising, sponsorship, etc. - anything helpful or encouraging, should write to Brenda Godrich, 62 Huddleston Road, Tufnell Park, London N7 0AG.

DIKI GLEESON

—oOo—

THE LIGHT FANTASTIC IN TAIWAN

Taiwan is an island off the coast of China, small in population but a population which is very keen on dance. Perhaps because children are exposed to a great deal of dance at school level, this interest in dance is carried through into teenage and adult life. All the Universities have large dance clubs for folk, ballroom etc. and there are numerous other dance clubs, outside of university life, which cater for Western and Chinese folkdance, ballroom, and Latin dance styles.

For those who do not dance, their interest lies in some form of sport. There seems to be no-one who does not do some form of physical activity. The whole of Taiwan seems to be involved in movement. Classes are large, always into the hundreds; everyone is eager to learn, which makes teaching a pleasure. Balkan and Israeli dances are extremely popular (there seems no limit to the number of Israeli dances there are), but dances from Western Europe are not quite so much in demand.

For anyone who has not journeyed in the Far East, it comes as a surprise to see people doing their Tai Chi exercises at the crack of dawn in the parks, by the roadside, or wherever a space can be found. In Taiwan as soon as it is light you are confronted by an amazing sight (that is, of course, if you are not still in bed!) - folkdance groups, ballroom dancers, martial art experts, Tai Chi, are all up and practising. By 7 a.m., and at the latest 7.30, they are gone!

In Taipei, the capital city, the most popular places to go to practise are the lovely paved grounds and monument to General Chiang Kai-Shek. Here, on the large pavements and terraces, there is plenty of space; the cassette machines are set up and away they go. Just like Cinderella at midnight, it all suddenly ends and the dancers leave for breakfast and work. No wonder General Chiang Kai-Shek looks down on them all with a lovely benevolent smile!

How about it at Swansea? Who's for a few Horas before breakfast?

ROBERT HARROLD

AN S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE ON TEACHING

Have you ever wanted to 'have a go' at teaching folkdancing but have never had the confidence, or opportunity? If so, we invite you to come along to the Day Course on Teaching which we shall be holding on 4th July 1987. There will be short talks on the practicalities of teaching, how to plan an evening's programme or a term's syllabus, how to handle your tape recorder or musician(!), how to take notes, a costume quiz, music, and a panel of teachers to answer your questions on any aspect of teaching or learning to teach - plus, most important of all, an opportunity for you to get up and teach a dance in a completely informal, friendly and helpful atmosphere. You may even have some useful and new ideas on teaching which you would like to put forward. Even our experienced teachers are happy to learn new tricks!

The S.I.F.D. needs more teachers, and the Day Course in July is to help and encourage anyone who has ever felt they would like to try teaching, and is not necessarily just for those people who would like to work towards an S.I.F.D. Teacher's Certificate, although we hope that some will. We would welcome anyone who would like to try to teach, or who would just like to come along and listen and take part in the discussion and general dancing, at what we hope will be an enjoyable and instructive day. You may not aspire to being a teacher for a class or group, but may like to be able to teach a dance occasionally, just to show and pass on to others a dance which you have learned elsewhere. If so, you will be able to pick up some useful tips at our Day Course. It is not necessarily aimed at prospective class or group leaders.

We would particularly welcome younger members. Everyone has to start somewhere, so why not make this your debut?

Details will be sent out nearer the date, but please keep 4th July free, and pass on the information to any members of your group or class who may be interested.

BADGE & DAY COURSE SUB-COMMITTEE

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FOLK FESTIVALS IN SPAIN

- Apr. 22nd/25th World Folkdance Festival on the island of Palma de Mallorca. 3,000 dancers and musicians from over 30 countries are expected to attend.
- July 23rd/26th International Music Festival at Cantonigros, Spain. As well as music, there are folk song and folk dance competitions.

(Acknowledgement to "FOLK DANCE SCENE").

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A JAPANESE EXPERIENCE

On a recent holiday in Japan, I joined a group for an evening tour of Tokyo. I was expecting the usual tour with entertainment laid on, tourist style. Imagine my delight when, after a coach tour and a walkabout, we were taken to a hall where, after a display of folkdancing, we were invited to join in. None of the dancers spoke English but we were soon enjoying the simple dances. The one that remains in my mind is the "Coal Miners' Dance". As we dug and bagged the coal and slung it over our shoulders, I felt I had really reached the roots of folkdancing in Japan!

IVY ADLAND

SUNDAY DANCES

At Y.W.C.A., 16/22 Great Russell Street, London W.C.1. (Queen Mary Hall) :-

March 1st M.C. George Sweetland

At Baden Powell House, (Assembly Hall), Queensgate, London S.W.7. :-

April 5th M.C.s Philip Steventon and Harry Matthews
*May 10th M.C. Fiona Howarth
June 7th M.C.s Wilf Horrocks and the S.I.F.D. Band
*(Please note, this is the 2nd Sunday in the month).

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

No intoxicating liquor allowed on the premises at Baden Powell House.
On April 5th, Uri Gerson will be leading the dances in the Interval.

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WHAT'S ON

- March 6th/8th WEEKEND OF INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCING at Earnley Concourse, mainly for beginners. Tutors: Charles and Joy Steventon, with music by Wilf Horrocks. Details from the Earnley Concourse, Earnley, Chichester, Sussex PO20 7JL. Tel: 0243 670392. Cost as non-resident, approx. £38 plus V.A.T.
- March 14th (not 13th as printed last month) ROMANIAN DAY COURSE, 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. at Grays Inn Resource Centre, 1A Rosebery Avenue, Holborn, London (5 minutes' walk from Chancery Lane Underground Station - next door to Christopher Hatton School). Tutor: Alan McLean. Cassettes of all dances taught will be available, price £2. Dance Course fee: £2.
- March 14th HUNGARIAN DAY COURSE. Sybil Chapman will be teaching a variety of dances from regions of Hungary, at Oakenshaw Centre, Oakenshaw Rd., Solihull, West Midlands. Access best from M42 on to the A34 (Stratford Rd. > Marshall Lake Rd., South Solihull). 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Further details from D.Hunt, 27 Baginton Rd., Coventry. Tel: 0203 413854.
- March 16th DUNAV BALKAN GROUP will be playing in the foyer of the Royal Festival Hall, London, 12.30 to 2 p.m. Spontaneous dancing.
- March 21st SWISS DAY OF DANCE at Ilkeston, Derbyshire. See page 10.
- March 22nd GREEK DAY COURSE & EVENING PARTY organized by Diki Gleeson (full details given last month). 10.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Greek dances taught by Natasaa Lemos, followed by an Evening Party, 6.30 to 10.30 p.m. or later. At Holy Family Convent School, London Rd., Enfield Town. Tickets £5 in advance for Day Course plus Party, or £2.75 each separately OR £6.25 for both or £3.25 each separately on the door; s.a.e., please, to Diki Gleeson, Oak Lodge, Theobalds Park Road, Enfield, Middx EN2 9BN.
- March 28th FULL-LENGTH DUNAV BALKAN GROUP CONCERT. Music & songs from South-East Europe, 8.00 to 10.15 p.m. (not 7.30 as previously informed). Romford Central Library, St.Edward's Way, Romford, Essex. Seats £2.80, payable on the door or reserved in advance at the Library (0708 46040 Ext.3164) or at any other library in the Borough of Havering. For more information, please ring Caroline Thomas, 01 527 4896 (home).
- March 14th DANCE TRADITIONS OF KOREA, OLD & NEW. Lecture-recital by Dr.Won Kyung Cho at Horniman Museum, Forest Hill, London, 3.30 p.m. Admission free.

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BALKANPLUS have cancelled their Dance on 22nd March, to avoid clashing with the Day Course and Party organized by Diki Gleeson on that day - for which Diki wishes to express her very grateful thanks.