

SIFD NEWS



MAY 1987

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

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The typing is done by Lily Avery. The printing, packaging and posting is done by Doug and Maureen Wells.

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This month's cover is by Jenia Graman, who has supplied the following text:-

The cover shows historical costumes, mainly from Central Russia. The colours are mainly red, white, black and grey, occasionally with gold embroidery. Very little blue, green and yellow is used and NEVER purple, mauve or lilac. These tones appear, for some reason, never West of the Ural Mountains, which separates European Russia from the Asian Republics, but there, in the East, these tones are used. The shoes worn with these dresses are either plain black, or a kind of slipper made of tree-bark and bast, crossed over with strings on feet and ankles, often with strips of white linen bound around feet and lower legs instead of stockings - or the women go simply barefoot. The linen strips, incidentally, are worn even today, by Russian soldiers.

The few samples I am showing are just a tiny tip of an iceberg of literally hundreds and hundreds of folk costumes. Some of these are still worn at festivals or (re-produced) by performing companies, who of course adapt them to be suitable for dancing and/or singing. Most of them are from Central Russia, except the Arkhangelsk one and the "Russian General" one. This is the costume most often worn by performing groups, instantly recognisable as "Russian", and can have many variations. It is called "Sarafan" and the skirt can be long or short, with or without a flounce. In the olden days, girls only wore long heavy skirts, but today skirts can be short as well, and the girls are able to vie with the boys in running, jumping and stamping steps. The parts over the shoulders can be wide or just a strip - but it must be there in some form, as must the parts across breast and shoulder, and the long panel in front. The colours are generally "lively" ones; red, blue, pink, yellow etc., but no browns and very little grey and black. The headdress is called "Kokošnik" and can have many forms, but is principally diadem-shaped, and held together at the back with a ribbon. The girls go round, holding hands, in a "Khorovód" (mass-round-dance). Often they use only simple walking steps and, singing, form circles, lines, "snakes", stars, "gates" etc.

For further information: Jenia Graman, 39 Stanley Road, East Sheen, London SW14 7EB.
Tel: 01 876 0514.

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

SECRETARY'S NOTES

At the April Committee Meeting, several matters were discussed which need some feedback from members. Firstly, it has been decided to go ahead with an application to Greater London Arts, initially for an Annual Grant, and possibly a Project Grant later. I mentioned last month the value of community work in such an application, but so far I have heard nothing from members. Does anyone have some ambition to further the Society's aims in a particular area which needs some injection of capital? There are strict deadlines for applications, and now is your chance to tell the Committee what you think the Society is lacking, merely through shortage of funds. We need to know now, not at the Annual General Meeting! Any suggestions must, of course, be applicable to the Greater London area. Please contact any member of the Committee urgently if you think you can help.

Secondly, it has been suggested that the Society needs an archivist. There is a great deal of material connected with the Society in various areas - membership, meetings, programmes, events etc. Is anyone able and willing to take on the task of archivist? At the moment, documents are scattered around among various members, and no one person knows where everything is! Some rationalisation of the system seems necessary, and this is one solution.

Arrangements for the Eastbourne Festival have been finalised, and this year should see one of the best from the international folk dancing viewpoint.

Finally, we have decided to continue our Sunday Dances at the Y.W.C.A., Great Russell Street, London W.C.1., from the autumn until the end of 1988. The future of Cecil Sharp House is still in doubt in spite of the efforts of the "Friends", and until we have some definite news we must make arrangements elsewhere.

AUDREY WHITELEY
Hon. Secretary

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Audrey is disappointed at the lack of response to her appeal last month, but it may be that members are not sure what a grant from Greater London Arts would be used for and, more important, are not sure in what direction the S.I.F.D. is heading. The question of "the future of the S.I.F.D." has been talked about for several years. Two different Sub-Committees have been set up to investigate this question, but neither has produced any worthwhile guidance on future policy.

The S.I.F.D. has never been stronger than it is today; we have more groups and classes than ever, more members than ever, more activities than ever. We have grown too large to be considered just a club where people meet to practise and enjoy folkdancing together; on the other hand, we have not set ourselves up to be the authoritative body on all aspects of international or European folkdancing, carrying out research and study in the field etc. Our news-sheet is getting to be too cumbersome a task (Doug and Maureen Wells are now having to cope with packaging and posting 540 copies every month); on the other hand we are not rich enough to put out a glossy professionally printed and published magazine. Our houses are bursting at the seams with S.I.F.D. property - collections of costumes, written documents, records, minutes, reports, books and records etc; on the other hand we are not rich enough to have our own building, with paid staff - caretaker, secretary, archivist. So we are betwixt and between. We are not even wholly S.I.F.D. as our classes are open to any I.L.E.A. member even though he/she has no interest in joining our Society.

We need to review the situation. Big is not necessarily beautiful, nor is expansion for expansion sake. Where are we going from here, and what would an Annual Grant and/or a Project Grant be spent on? What are we aiming for? If a grant is on offer from the Greater London Arts, for use in the Greater London area only, we must look into the question of forming a Greater London Branch of the S.I.F.D. (this was a point put forward at the A.G.M.) but care should be taken that the question of boundaries and the use of the grant does not cause a rift among Society members.

Could the Committee please give us some guidance, starting with their evaluation of the Report submitted by the "Looking to the Future Sub-Committee" produced at the A.G.M.?

LILY & LES AVERY

S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE OF GREEK DANCING

Place: St.Paul's Centre, Rossmore Road, Marylebone, London N.W.1. (off Lisson Grove, near Marylebone and Edgware Road Underground Stations).
Date: SATURDAY, 9TH MAY 1987.
Time: 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.
Tutor: Natassa Lemos.
Fee: £3 for S.I.F.D. members, £4 for non-members.

Natassa will teach the following dances which have been chosen for the Greek Proficiency Badge Examination (Silver), and the list has been compiled to include both island and mainland dances. Everyone is, of course, welcome, whether or not they intend to take the examination.

Karagouna (Compulsory)
Pidhihtos (Compulsory)
Zagorissio (men's & women's steps)
Baidouska (with variation for couples)
Zonaradiko (men's & women's steps)
Tsamiko
Pendozale
Plataniotiko Nero
Militsea
Sousta

Low-heeled shoes, and please bring a belt to wear for Zonaradiko.

Cassettes and dance notes will be on sale on the day. Squash will be available, for a small charge, throughout the day. Facilities are available for making tea/coffee during the lunchbreak if you bring your own provisions.

The next S.I.F.D. Day Course will be Yugoslav, on 13th June.

BADGE & DAY COURSE SUB-COMMITTEE

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Nutbrook International Folk Dance Group are thinking of replacing their tape recorder and wonder if readers could help. We need a tape recorder for use on club nights in a small room and also for demonstrations with participation by 100 people. The group would like a machine with a speed control, but it is this part which keeps causing trouble. Can readers help with the following questions :-

- 1) What kind of tape recorder do other groups use?
- 2) How long has it been in use reliably?
- 3) How powerful is it? (What size room does it serve?).
- 4) What assets and problems does it have?
- 5) How much does it cost?
- 6) What make and where can it be bought?

Hoping you can help. Thank you.

GILLIAN MORRAL
Hon. Secretary, Nutbrook I.F.D.G.,
116 Nottingham Road, Stapleford, Notts.
NG9 8AR.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Lucile Armstrong has moved and is now living at 36 Stanford Road, Friern Barnet, London N11 4HX. This is a temporary address. Tel: 01 368 1815.

We were very pleased indeed to have Lucile at our S.I.F.D. Day Course in April, when she taught us Catalan dances which were new to most of us. It was a thoroughly enjoyable day, and we are very grateful to Lucile and to her four pupils who came along in their beautiful Catalan costumes, to help demonstrate the steps.

GEORGIAN STATE DANCE COMPANY

The Georgian State Dance Company are paying a return visit to the U.K. and Ireland from 11th May to 3rd July 1987 and will be appearing at the following towns. Please enquire locally re theatres, times and prices etc.

May 11th	Isle of Man	June 12th-13th	Bournemouth
May 13th-14th	Dublin	June 14th	Brighton
May 15th-16th	Belfast	June 16th-20th	Birmingham
May 18th-23rd	London	June 22nd	Aberdeen
May 24th	Gravesend	June 23rd	Edinburgh
May 25th-30th	London	June 24th-25th	Glasgow
June 1st-3rd	Manchester	June 26th	Southport
June 5th	Nottingham	June 28th	Newcastle-upon-Tyne
June 6th-7th	Northampton	June 29th	Croydon
June 8th-10th	Norwich	July 1st-3rd	Cardiff

Georgia was for a long time a collection of principalities, each with its court, encouraging music and dancing. Christianity came to Georgia in the 4th century, and was a major influence, though the Georgians, like most people in such cases, grafted on to the Christian culture many of the qualities, ceremonies, civil and religious rituals of earlier, pagan times. Foreign ideas grew in the towns. The purest Georgian forms of the dance remained in the lonely mountain villages. The nation has always been in the forefront of cultural advances; it has been forced to be a martial people. All these things can be seen in strong or vestigial form in their dancing. Naturally, there are dances that include both men and women, but the Georgians are noted for the division of much of their dances into those for men alone, and those for women. Dances in which the women move with speed and energy, in which they dance "to" the men, provoking jealousy, are confined to those stemming from the high villages. The general dancing for women has a decorous flowing style, with any inner temperament merely hinted at in the external movements. The woman never openly tries to attract her male partner's attention in the dance. She seems not to wish to be noticed. It is not indifference, but reserve. Her features maintain an expression of self-respect, an awareness of her beauty and irresistibility, and with it a challenge, and light mockery of the least clumsiness on the part of the youth - and at the end of the dance a sign acknowledging his conquest. In new folk dances, created in the past 20 or 30 years, the pattern has changed somewhat, with a new liveliness, boldness and energy apparent, though not infringing the traditional strictness of conduct.

Both men's and women's dances have a basic requirement that the back must be immobile while the legs and arms move, no matter whether the tempo be fast or slow. The faster a man's feet fly, the more steady must his body remain. The men's arms move very differently from the women's. In pair dances of the Kartuli type, the wide sweep and fullness of the men's arm movements recall the majesty and pride of the soaring eagle, the powerful beat of the falcon's wings. In a number of dances the arms mark the rhythm, the metre, corresponding to the pattern of the dance. Depending on the character and content of the dance, the arm movement may be abrupt, and now and then angular, but always definite and expressive. The women's arm movements are distinguished by the circular rotation of the hands. The arms and fingers have great expressiveness, conveying grace and a feeling of reserve and various emotions.

The most difficult male steps are the dances on the toes, as no supports for the toes, like "blocks", are used. There are more than ten types of movement on the bent toes. The most important are standing, the spin, and jumps on the toes of one foot or both, with feet astride or crossed. In the women's dances, in contrast to classical ballet, dancing on the toes (on the pointes) is unknown. The woman moves with small light steps. Her long skirt hides the movement of the feet, creating the impression of an even, flowing glide. Turns and other characteristic movements are important. There are immense gradations of form between the easy smooth turn and the abrupt stormy whirling of the body (on one foot, or on one or both knees) in the men's dances.

The music for Georgian folk dances is usually performed on folk instruments, of which there is a variety, including plucked and bowed strings, woodwind, bagpipes, accordions and percussion. Usually there are two instruments, one being percussion, but the Georgian State Dance Company do use instrumental ensembles as well. Rhythms are commonly 2/4, 4/4, 6/8 and, in the Khorumi, 5/4. The dance melodies played on

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instruments are simple in pattern, but the choral singing used attains a high development of texture and harmony.

(Reproduced by kind permission of The Entertainment Corporation, London, who are arranging this current tour).

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

In the March issue of SIFD NEWS (page 12) we gave details of an S.I.F.D. Day Course on Teaching which we shall be holding on 4th July 1987. We hope this will be of interest to all of you who have ever wanted to have a go at teaching folkdancing and that it will encourage more young teachers for the S.I.F.D. As stated, we shall include in the day's programme an opportunity for you to teach a dance, or part of a dance, if you wish, but in order to plan the programme we shall need to know in advance how many people would like to take this opportunity. So, would you please write to Kelsey Blundell, 65 Lonsdale Avenue, London E6 3JZ, giving (a) your name and address, (b) which dance you would like to teach, (c) whether you will be bringing tape/written music. If we are overwhelmed with the response(!) we may not have time for as many people as apply, and so may have to give priority to first-comers. So please let Kelsey know as soon as possible - preferably before the end of May.

In addition to the practical teaching, there will be lots more of interest during the day, so do come along even if you are too shy to try your hand at teaching.

BADGE & DAY COURSE SUB-COMMITTEE

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Please add the following group to the list of S.I.F.D. Affiliated Groups sent out last month:-

KAYROMA INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP meets on Friday evenings, 7 to 9 p.m. during term time at Whitley Lodge First School, Whitley Bay, for General International folk-dancing. Tutor: Kaye Poole, 50 Antonine Walk, Heddon-on-the-Wall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE15 0EE. Tel: Wylam 2495. Pianist: Nancy Willis.

Apologies to Kaye for not including her group on the list.

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S.I.F.D. SUMMER SCHOOL - SWANSEA July 25th to August 1st 1987

Specialist teachers from Sardinia, Bulgaria and Norway.

Requests for a General Course are now sufficiently great for us to be proceeding with plans to run such a Course in addition to the above.

Further information from: Jack Richardson, Department of Chemical Engineering, University College, Swansea, SA2 8PP.

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CONDOLENCES

We were very sorry indeed to hear of the death of Arthur Jordan in March. Arthur has been Director of the Folkestone Festival for many years, along with his wife, Evra, who also leads the Folkestone District National Dance Group. We send our sincere condolences to Evra, and our good wishes to her in the task of carrying on with the bulk of the Festival work at this very sad time.

CECIL SHARP HOUSE: WHITE ELEPHANT OR FOCUS FOR REVIVAL?

(This was written before the results of the adjourned Annual General Meeting at Coventry were available, but the points I make will not, I think, be affected.)

There are remarkably few facts available regarding the dispute which has divided the E.F.D.S.S. into two camps, and it is therefore necessary to use "guessology" to fill in the gaps in the picture. Neither group has supplied us with hard information, but this is particularly remiss of the E.F.D.S.S. since we are not only an affiliated body, but a customer of very long standing.

The executive, or at any rate a majority of it, appears to believe that the House is outdated in concept, has run into considerable debt, and should therefore be closed. Rumours suggest that a substantial offer has been made for the site, and further that the developer has included the erection of a purpose-built centre outside London as part of the deal.

While I believe the House to be badly designed and its faults have been obvious for a long time, and it needs to be thoroughly refurbished, on balance it should be retained.

However, this outline only represents the tip of the iceberg, and the underlying reasons for the schism go much deeper, reflecting a division which has existed in the E.F.D.S.S. since its inception - song & music on one side, dance on the other. Since the explosion of folk (song) clubs in the 50s and 60s, and those interested in dance have become older, the image of English folk dance has become more "fuddy-duddy", or whatever the current term is, and less and less younger people are attracted to it. It follows that the drive in the E.F.D.S.S. comes from the singers and musicians, and they probably dominate the executive. Jim Lloyd, the ex-Director, is one such, and collectively they see no real need for a large hall for dance use, since folk clubs operate in smallish rooms. This view receives some support from the fact that a widely read folk magazine which seems to have the ear of the executive always refers to the "Friends" as "the London Dance Tendency" (amongst other derogatory terms) and the establishment is applauded. Perhaps I should add that I regard all these activities as being of equal importance and they cannot be separated, but I see the current emphasis as a little too one-sided.

Opposing the executive stance are the "Friends" who I suspect are chiefly dancers and who see the provision of a prestige hall, centrally located, as essential to the Society's function, a view which must have our support. To this end, they have stimulated as much protest against the closure of the House as they can.

Again using second-hand information, I understand that much of the current debt is due to losses incurred at Sidmouth and the Annual Festivals, viz. the last Albert Hall and Dominion shows. These cannot be attributed to the existence of the House, since the position would be the same if the events had been run from a hut on Dartmoor. It must be unjustified to ask the "Friends" to pay the entire national debt of the E.F.D.S.S. in return for a vague hint that they will be allowed a say in the running of the House. These losses can only be due to inefficient organisation and the E.F.D.S.S. solution would therefore appear to be virtual asset-stripping. I can understand that the regions will be sympathetic to any suggestion which will result in less contributions from them, but the sale of the House is not the real solution. Running costs of whatever centre is decided on, together with staff salaries, will continue to be high, and unless efficiency is achieved, heavy debts may well recur.

As individuals, and as a body, we need to know the answers to at least the following questions before we can come to a reasoned, not an emotive, conclusion. From the E.F.D.S.S., if the House is sold: how will the organisation be improved so that past mistakes are not repeated? what exactly is the form of the alternative centre being envisaged? For the "Friends" the first question is more or less the same: how do they see their future relationship vis-a-vis the E.F.D.S.S. executive?; if the debt is paid, how will they improve the running of the E.F.D.S.S. and of the House?; And what will either party do to encourage a revival of the dance aspect of our English tradition? A strong E.F.D.S.S. combining all the elements of folklore is necessary if our traditions are not to be lost, and it is to be hoped that this dispute will soon be settled.

GEORGE SWEETLAND

FESTIVALS/SEMINARS

YUGOSLAV FOLKDANCE SEMINARS

July 4th-15th; July 18th-29th; Aug. 1st-12th; Aug. 15th-26th 1987

At Bale, an Istrian village in Yugoslavia, organized by Mr. & Mrs. Djokovic; courses in dances from Macedonia, Serbia, Banat, Vlashko, Pirot and Shopsko. Leisure activities, excursions etc. For full information, write to Mr. Ivan Djokovic, Place de l'Hotel de Ville, 21190 Meursault, France.

BULGARIA

There will be a colourful Folklore Festival in Rozhen, Rhodope Mountains, S.Bulgaria, together with a Dance Course, from 10th to 19th August 1987. Prices: Groups of 15 or more £368; Dance Course £20; up to 15 £392; Course £30. Based in Pamporovo and two nights in Sofia. Full board, festival and excursions. Flights from Heathrow. Early booking essential. Details from The British-Bulgarian Friendship Society, 69 Upper Street, London N1 0NY. Tel: 01 359 0507.

FRANCE

Inter Groupe Folklores are organizing a seminar on Traditional Dance & Discovery of the South West of France, at St.Macaire (50kms from Bordeaux) from 11th to 18th July 1987. Dances from different parts of the South West of France, their history, customs and national costumes etc. Excursions around St.Macaire. Teachers: Michel and Gisele Verdiere. Full details from Inter Groupe Folklores, 41 Rue de la Butte aux Cailles, 75013 Paris, France, or booking form from the Editor, who has been sent a few copies.

DENMARK

International Folkloretreef is a combined dance and holiday week which takes place at the Ungdoms School in the village of Rens, in Denmark. The course runs from 5th to 12th July 1987 and includes dances from Serbia, Macedonia, other Balkan and international folk dances, American square dances and contras. Teachers: Desa Djordjevic from Yugoslavia and Rickey Holden from Belgium. Full details from Berit Borg, Fuldager Stationsvej 111, DK-6710 Esbjerg V, Denmark.

U.K.

- May 1st-4th Eastbourne International Folk Festival. Details from Festival Office, 24b Bedford Grove, Eastbourne BN21 2DU.
- June 20th-26th Folkestone International Folklore Festival of Music & Dance. Details from Festival Secretary, Mrs. A.Whittaker, 20 Cherry Garden Lane, Folkestone, Kent. Tel: (0303) 75376.
- July 7th-12th Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod. Details from International Eisteddfod Office, Llangollen, Clwyd.
- July 31st-
Aug. 7th Sidmouth International Folklore Festival. Details from Festival Office, The Knowle, Sidmouth, Devon EX10 8HL.
- Aug. 15th-22nd Billingham International Folklore Festival.
- Aug. 21st-29th Harrow Festival. Details from John Lawes, 29 Tenby Avenue, Harrow HA3 8RU.

GERMANY

Hungarian dance courses will take place in Germany this year, as follows:-

May 28th/31st in Hohenschwangau

June 27th/28th in Munich

Aug. 22nd/28th in Hohenschwangau

Sept. 19th/20th, Oct. 10th/11th, Nov. 14th/15th, Dec. 28th/Jan.2nd in Munich

Teachers include Sandor Timar (Director of the Hungarian State Ensemble). For further information about the courses, write to Theodora Györgyi, Silvanestr.2, 8000 Munich 81, W.Germany

FOLKESTONE INTERNATIONAL FOLKLORE FESTIVAL, JUNE 20TH - 26TH 1987

Seven foreign groups will be coming to this, the fourteenth Festival since starting in 1961. They are from AUSTRIA (Siebenburger Group from Salzburg, who wear their black-embroidered white costume showing their Romanian heritage as well as the Austrian dirndl), CZECHOSLOVAKIA, from Brno, ITALY (flag throwers, trumpeters and drummers in mediaeval costume), NORWAY (with Hardanger fiddle), PORTUGAL, from Oporto, SWEDEN and TURKEY, from Istanbul (not the group who didn't turn up in 1985! Fingers crossed for this one). All are new to the Festival. The Royal Ballet students will again be dancing items of Irish, Scottish, American Square and Morris during the Sunday evening performance.

Outline leaflets are available now from me at 'Mid-Streams', Green Lane, Hythe, Kent CT21 4DY, with s.a.e. please, and the full illustrated week's programme will be available mid-May price 50p plus 22p postage & packing (stamps acceptable or cheques payable to F.I.F.F.). All performances are in the Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone, Tel: 0303 53193. Booking opens 23rd May 1987.

There will be an afternoon of instructed English dancing with live music on Sunday afternoon and the Swedish Group will raise the Mid-Summer Pole on Sunday at noon.

We are always pleased to see S.I.F.D. members and friends at the Folkestone Festival and welcome their support. Please contact me at the above-mentioned address, or telephone me on 0303 69119 for any further information.

EVRA JORDAN
Director & Producer F.I.F.F.



SULA'S DAY

A HUGE THANK-YOU to everyone who bought tickets (including Julie and Birgitta who couldn't come). HUGE BOUQUETS to Natassa Lemos for an excellent workshop; to Lilian Galatis who helped and led the Greek dances in the evening; to all the lovely M.C.s who kept the evening merry and moving - Liz Mellish (Israeli), Simon Guest (French), Frances Horrocks (Romanian), Robert Haddon (Yugoslav); and to the two group shows - Galina Toker and her Bulgarian Group, who also did a teaching spot which made sure everyone joined in; and Omer Erdem and the colourful Turks. It was a delightful extra to have these two little shows, so interesting and exciting. Last, but by no means least, a great THANK-YOU to Dunav Balkan Group for the wonderful high note close to the evening. Just a shame that the time slipped away so quickly like a high-speed egg-timer. We are all most grateful to everyone, Sula in particular as her total creeps up towards that £2,000 for Operation Raleigh. For another boost, we plan an encore of SINGING AND DANCING (for a change), so WATCH THIS SPACE!

There are a few copies left of the cassette of the music and also the accompanying booklet of dance notes from Natassa's Greek workshop for Sula's Day. Most of the Greek dances for the S.I.F.D. Silver Badge are included, so how about helping Sula a little more and being all "teed up" for the Day Course on 9th May? The cassette and dance notes are £3 plus postage. Cheques and requests to me: DIKI GLEESON, Oak Lodge, Theobalds Park Road, Enfield, Middx. EN2 9BN.



STOP PRESS - Two late items

May 8th Linda Swanton will be teaching dances from various regions of Yugoslavia including Eastern Serbia, at Barnet International Folkdance Club, Hadley Memorial Hall, Hadley Highstone. 8 p.m.

June 14th West Midlands Branch of S.I.F.D. are organising a Safari. Dancing in villages of the Cotswolds. Picknicking in the Country Park. Starting 11 a.m. in Chipping Campden. All welcome. Wear costumes. Bring instruments. Details from Dennis Hunt (address on page 12).

S.I.F.D. BERT PRICE PROFICIENCY AWARD

We shall be holding Silver Badge Examinations for the above award in March 1988. The countries will be (subject to confirmation nearer the time):- Greece, Bulgaria, Romania, Yugoslavia and Switzerland. Teachers of groups and classes, and also members who may be thinking of taking one or all of the examinations, may like to know well in advance the syllabuses for the various countries, so that they have plenty of time to practise! We are therefore giving this month the syllabuses we plan to use. The dances for the Greek syllabus are given on page 4, the others are:-

Romania

Arcanul (Compulsory)
Briuletul (Compulsory - version as taught in Advanced Section of 1981 Swansea Course)

Dragaicuta
Briul Banatean
Arrameanca (couple dance)
Orsului (couple dance)
Hora Mintita (with shouts)
Jumatale N Toarse
Invirtita de la Sibiu
Ca La Balta

Yugoslavia

Makedonsko Oro (Compulsory)
Letovanić (Compulsory)
Čačak (Compulsory)
Bufcansko
Vlajnica
Popovičanka
Moravka
Ženil Seje Sirotek
Koso Moja
Potečano
Dvčepolsko

Bulgaria

Kjustendilska Ručenica (Compulsory)
Pravo Trakijsko Horo (Compulsory)
Bavno Oro
Sadi Moma
Dospatsko Horo
Kamišice
Rūka
Tervelska Tropanka
Eleno Mome
Sitno Severnjaško Horo

Switzerland

Trull Masollke (Compulsory)
Wechselpolka (Compulsory)
Ludere Polka
Appenzeller Klatschwalzer
Faira da Strada
Hinggi
Nagelschmied
Faira de Sent
Hirschener gräbler
Meitschi Putz di

People wishing to take the Specialist Teacher's Badge for South-East European Countries will need to have Silver Badges for three out of four of the Balkan countries mentioned (Greece, Bulgaria, Romania, Yugoslavia). As we shall be holding the examination for this Specialist Teacher's Badge in 1988, we have taken this into account when selecting the countries for this next batch of Silver Badge examinations, but of course anyone is welcome to take the Silver Badge examinations whether or not they would wish to consider taking the teacher's examination.

KELSEY BLUNDELL

Chairman, Badge & Day Course Sub-Committee



On 28th March, Jean and Ian Willson celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary surrounded by friends at a folkdance party at Borough Green, Kent. There were several of the "original" Harrow Green Folk Dance Group members there, who had known Jean and Ian since before they were married, as well as lots of younger members from Woodvale International Folkdance Group, which Jean and Ian ran for many years. They received many cards and presents to mark the occasion, and were toasted with champagne while cutting a specially made 25th Anniversary Cake. Many thanks, Jean and Ian, for a lovely party. Many congratulations, and we hope you're still dancing on your Golden Anniversary! ED.



RAINMAKERS FOLKDANCE GROUP will be dancing at the Barbican, London, in a folk festival on 2nd and 3rd May. No further details to hand. Please enquire at the Barbican or contact Rainmakers (0462 814798) for further information.

BULAVA COSSACK ENSEMBLE

The Bulava Ukrainian Cossack Ensemble will be visiting the U.K. for the first time from April 30th to May 23rd 1987, and will be appearing at the following places:-

Apr. 30th - BRIGHTON - The Dome
May 1st - BRISTOL - Colston Hall
May 3rd - LONDON - Queen Elizabeth Hall (2 performances)
May 4th - POOLE, Poole Arts Centre
May 5th - SHREWSBURY - Music Hall
May 7th - BRADFORD - St. Georges Hall
May 8th - SOUTHPORT - Southport Theatre
May 10th - OLDHAM - Queen Elizabeth Hall
May 11th - DERBY - Assembly Rooms
May 12th - BUXTON - Opera House
May 13th - KILMARNOCH - Palace Theatre
May 14th - IPSWICH - Corn Exchange
May 15th - CAMBRIDGE - Corn Exchange
May 17th - NORWICH - Theatre Royal
May 18th - STIRLING - MacRobert Arts Centre
May 19th - EDINBURGH - Usher Hall
May 20th - PERTH - Perth Festival of the Arts
May 21st - DUNFERMLINE - Carnegie Hall
May 22nd - DUMFRIES - Dumfries & Galloway Arts Festival
May 23rd - ABERDEEN - Music Hall

The group, founded in 1979 and based in Canada, is a 12-strong male chorus of professional singers, dancers and musicians, all of Ukrainian extract. They incorporate "authentic Ukrainian cultural heritage into modern North American techniques and style", ... "developing the traditional elements while using contemporary dance interpretations" (sic).



CELEBRATING AGE
"Making a Song and Dance About It"

Members will have read in SIFD NEWS that we have been invited to take part in the "Celebrating Age" Festival at the Royal Albert Hall on 28th November 1987. Leaders of groups who participated in the C.C.P.R. Golden Jubilee Show in 1985 should by now have received a letter from me asking if their groups would like to take part.

The programme this time will be based on couple dances, so if there are any other groups or couples who would like to take part would they please let me know by Friday, 8th May 1987. Please apply as couples.

The length of our item will be about five minutes (as before) and dancers should be over about 50 years of age. We shall probably base the item on wellknown dances in a variety of costumes. There are likely to be one or two S.I.F.D. rehearsals and a complete "Age Concern" one before the actual Show. Groups or couples are asked to bear their own expenses.

Please write or telephone by 8th May if you wish to take part.

CHARLES STEVENTON, 64 Erridge Road, Merton Park,
London SW19 3JD. Tel: 01 542 3831.



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

PUBLICITY

The current "Dance With The World" group list is now available for group leaders and secretaries. If they require copies, can they please write to me enclosing the necessary postage, or let me know how they can be passed on. As a guide, a dozen copies can be sent on 13p second-class postage.

DANCE BOOKS

An ex-S.I.F.D. member has been in touch with me and wishes to dispose of a number of folkdance books at a nominal price. They include the S.I.F.D. instruction books 1 to 3, several of the Ling Handbooks largely covering Central & Eastern Europe and the Balkans, the Harrold & Wingrave book on Spanish dancing, an introduction to Laban notation, a history of social dance, and some books on English and American Square. There are also books on classical and modern ballet. If anyone is interested, they can write to me or telephone me and I will make the necessary arrangements.

GEORGE SWEETLAND (address on page 2).



DEMONSTRATIONS AT VICTORIA EMBANKMENT GARDENS, LONDON

Here is a reasonably accurate list of S.I.F.D. demonstrations to be held at the above Gardens. Some starting times are not yet decided, but are mostly 2.00, 2.30 or 3.00 p.m. Definite information will be given in the June SIFD NEWS.

Not many S.I.F.D. members turned up last year to watch the shows. It would be very encouraging to participating groups if more of you came along this year to watch.

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| June 6th | SYRENKA (Polish) and HORNIMAN MUSEUM DANCERS. | 3 p.m. |
| 7th | BARNET INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP and DUNAV BALKAN GROUP. | 2.30 p.m. |
| 13th | RAINMAKERS INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP. | 2.15 p.m. |
| 21st | WATFORD INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP and HURSLEY FOLKDANCE GROUP | |
| 27th | KALINKA DANCERS (U.S.S.R.) plus another to be arranged. | |
| July 4th | WIGGINTON INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP and MARITSA BULGARIAN GROUP | 2 p.m. |
| 11th | DDINA GROUP and BALATON GROUP (East European) | |
| 12th | SPORENKA (Bulgarian and Romanian) | |
| 19th | CENTRAL LONDON INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE CLASS | |

KAY LEIGHTON



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

- Dance Groups: "Selpar", classes on Tuesdays, 7.15 p.m. at Selly Park School, Pershore Road, Stirchley, Birmingham. Tutor: Sybil Chapman
- "Heart of England" International Folkdance Group meet on Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m. at Lyndon School, Daylesford Rd., Solihull.
- "Arden" International Folkdance Group now meet every Tuesday, except the second Tuesday of the month, at the Village Hall, Station Road, Balsall Common, Coventry. 7.30 p.m.

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

SUNDAY DANCES

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

- *May 10th M.C. Fiona Howarth
June 7th M.C.s Wilf Horrocks and the S.I.F.D. Band
*(The 2nd Sunday in the month)

7 to 10 p.m. Admission: £2.50 for S.I.F.D. members. £3.00 for non-members.

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WHAT'S ON

- May 1st/4th EASTBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL.
- May 1st/4th A LONG BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND AT HALSWAY MANOR in the Quantocks between Taunton and Minehead, starting on the Friday evening and finishing at tea-time on the Monday. Good walking. Dancing to Wilf Horrocks. Enquiries to Jack Richardson, Tel: 0792 295194.
- May 9th S.I.F.D. GREEK DAY COURSE. See page 4.
- May 16th ROMANIAN DAY COURSE, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (change of time) at Grays Inn Resource Centre (Downstairs Hall), 1A Rosebery Avenue, Holborn, London. Alan McLean will be going over most of the dances taught on 14th March and teaching the rest of the 20-odd dances on his cassette. Admission £2. Cassette £2. Alan teaches Romanian dances every Friday from 7 p.m. at Y.W.C.A. Gymnasium, Gt. Russell St., London. The classes are free.
- May 16th ARMENIAN FOLK DANCES. A concert by ARAX Folkdance Ensemble, together with a newly formed children's group, at Logan Hall, University of London, 20 Bedford Way, London W.C.1., 8 p.m. Tickets £3, £5, £7, £10, £12, from Tekeyan Cultural Association, 41 Emperor's Gate, London SW7 4HJ. Tel: 01 373 6492. "Arax" is an amateur Armenian group consisting mainly of student.
- May 16th BALKANPLUS at Swiss Cottage Community Centre, 19 Winchester Rd., London N.W.3. 7 p.m. M.C. Philip Dobison. Further details from Liz Mellish, 01 863 7807. Dunav Balkan Group. Other musicians welcome. £2 inc. refreshments
- May 16th DAY COURSE OF "LINES & CIRCLES" organized by Bristol Folkdance Group at Henleaze United Reformed Church Hall, Waterford Road, Bristol. Tutor: Frances Horrocks. 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., followed by EVENING DANCE, 7 to 10.30 p.m. Admission: Course £3.25 (£3.50 non-members): Dance £1.25 (£1.50 non-members); Combined Ticket £4 (£4.50 non-members). Reductions for unwaged. Bring packed lunch, or use nearby take-aways. Tickets and further information (s.a.e. please) from Hilda Sturge, 10 Carmarthen Rd., Bristol BS9 4DU. Tel: 0272 621802.
- May 21st MUSIC OF SOUTHERN ALBANIA. A lecture at National Sound Archive, 29 Exhibition Rd., London S.W.7., 7.30 p.m. Seating limited. Early booking recommended. Tel: 01 589 6603/4.
- May 23rd DUNAV BALKAN GROUP will be playing in the foyer of the Barbican, London, 12.15 to 1.45 p.m.
- June 6th ZIVKO FIRFOV GROUP'S SUMMER PARTY at Charlotte Sharman School, West Square, St. Georges Road (behind Imperial War Museum). Nearest Underground Stations Elephant & Castle and Lambeth North. 7 to 10.30 p.m. £4 including refreshments. Admission by ticket only, obtainable from Fred Wood, 43 Gillmans Rd., Orpington, Kent. Tel: 0689 27363 (home). Cheques to be made payable to Zivko Firfov (s.a.e. please).
- June 13th BALKANPLUS. M.C. Cathy Meunier. Other details as for May 16th.