

NEWS FEB 1988

SIFD



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 shows costumes from Italy. On the left are two women from
Genzano, near Rome, and on the right is a piper from the Neapolitan Apennines.
The picture is reproduced by kind permission of "Dover Pictorial Archive Series"
and is from their book, "Folk Costumes of Europe Coloring Book", published in
the U.K. by Constable & Co. Ltd.

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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 are 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 (£1.75 by post).

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ALL MATERIAL FOR THE MARCH ISSUE OF S.I.F.D. NEWS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE EDITOR
IN WRITING BY 15TH FEBRUARY.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

The first Committee Meeting of 1988 was a somewhat routine occasion, with the updating of various outstanding matters.

Enquiries are proceeding with endeavours to find suitable organisers for the next Summer School and its location. The possibility of holding a Folk Camp this summer was mooted.

The composition of a Sub-Committee to deal with the purchase of amplification equipment was finalised, and invitations have now been sent out.

The feasibility study undertaken by a firm of architects for the proposed National Centre for Movement and Dance has now been completed, and copies sent to member organisations of the C.C.P.R. Movement and Dance Division. It will next go before the Sports Council for approval.

On a more domestic note, we have been informed that the rents for both St.Paul's Community Centre and the Queen Mary Hall at the Y.W.C.A. are to be increased. We shall continue to hold Tea Dances, probably twice this year.

We had reports about the New Year's Day Parade in London - some 12-14 stalwart members braved the elements and danced their way along the streets, entertaining the shoppers - and also on the revised organisation of the Eastbourne Festival, details of which you will find enclosed with this issue of the NEWS. We wish Roy le Croisette every success with his part in the new venture.

The Day of Dance at Cecil Sharp House on 30th January will consist of demonstrations in the morning, and workshops in the afternoon. Eleanor Oakley will be organising the Society's participation in the Day.

Finally, we have 454 members so far this year - an encouraging figure.

We hope to send out the Minutes of the A.G.M. with this issue of SIFD NEWS.

AUDREY WHITELEY
Hon. Secretary

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The West Midlands Branch of the S.I.F.D. held their A.G.M. on 14th November 1987, at Balsam Common, West Midlands. This was followed by an evening International Folk Dance. Thirty members attended. Rod Perkins retired as Chairman of the Branch, and Grace Pittman was elected lady Chairman for the new session. Rod was elected on to the Committee so that the Branch does not lose his valuable experience. Sybil Chapman retired from being a formal member of the Committee but agreed to assist informally in activities, as her other dance activities allows.

The proposal for a £5 annual levy on Member Groups was agreed; this augments the income of the Branch whose funds are running low because of the expenditure of an active costume workshop whose plans to make sets of French and Romanian costumes will proceed in 1988 under the guidance of Olga King.

The Branch heard reports from the member groups, which will be published in a newsletter in February. Members thanked the group leaders for their dedicated work over the years and looked forward to a successful 1988.

DENNIS V. HUNT
Secretary, West Midlands Branch S.I.F.D.

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LUCILE ARMSTRONG

Surely we should find some suitable way of keeping Lucile's memory alive? I wonder how many other people feel the same? It occurred to me that as for so very many years Lucile was one of the chief adjudicators at Llangollen for the folk dancing and music sections, why not a suitably inscribed trophy of some sort for, say, the simplest, most traditional dance group (which may or may not necessarily be the winner of the section). What does everyone else feel? I personally would pursue the idea of something for Llangollen if nothing is to be done as a Society, but of course the best thing would no doubt be some memorial presented by the Society as a whole.

As a footnote, if anyone else wanted to join me in buying more trees for Lucile, let me know. I am buying a little group, but the more money donated, the larger the area dedicated to her. It could be a copse or a small wood if there's enough interest. (With the Woodland Trust).

Anyway, they are my two best ideas!

DIKI GLEESON,
Oak Lodge, Theobalds Park Road,
Enfield, Middx. EN2 9BN.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Lily,

The January Sunday Dance was extremely good, due, I thought, to the change in format. Nine members of the Committee were the M.C.s, each allotting six dances of their choice; and what a varied choice we had. Also, not having an interval kept the continuity of dancing; you took a break when you felt like it, and two of the M.C.s used taped music so that the Band got their well-deserved break.

I enjoyed the evening immensely, and look forward to another like it.

Yours sincerely,

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

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POLISH DANCING IN THE S.I.F.D.

Jacy Tacy was one of the biggest and most successful groups back in the late sixties and seventies. Somehow it attracted many of the best male dancers at that time and, as was generally acknowledged, the prettiest girls! In turn, came all the beautiful costumes, the concerts, day courses, parties etc. In other words, it had a "very high profile" which these days it has not.

It is not easy to find all the reasons for a group's decline - and that is not the purpose of my writing - but once the slide in numbers has started it is very difficult indeed to stop it. Only one thing is certain and that is that unless the men come forward, it deters the girls from joining, as Polish dancing is mostly for couples, and there has been a swing away from such dancing in recent years.

What can be done about it? Obviously we don't want to lose all these beautiful dances and would like to regenerate general interest in them, apart from always hoping more will join the class at Christopher Hatton Centre on Mondays. First, it is planned to arrange a party (maybe preceded by some tuition) which will be enjoyable both for friends and ex-members of the group as well as for those who have had little experience of Polish dancing so far. If any S.I.F.D. members have any suggestions about what else they would like to see done to help keep these dances alive, we should be glad to hear from them. Tony Latham's address is: Flat 9, 18 Avenue Rd., Acton, London W.3; mine is: 30 Regent Square, London E3 3HQ.
Tel: 01 980 9650. BETTY HARVEY

Continued from December:- Frances Horrocks' account of her recent visit to Bulgaria.

The next afternoon we have some more visiting musicians, one of the leading accordionists in the country, with a saxophonist and a drummer; not an ethnic sound, but exciting nevertheless. The accordionist is the James Galway of his instrument and he puts his all into his playing, his face expressing the mood of the music, the phrase, the very note. He loves it, and he makes us love it too. In the evening we go to Dimitrovgrad, about 15kms North of Haskovo. The dance group from here was in Holland at the end of August for the Doe-Dans Festival, so this is in the nature of a return visit. Two long tables are set out on a curve, ideal for dancing round later, and we sit in pairs intermingling with our hosts. Thanks to Cathy's knowledge of Bulgarian we soon get chatting to the young man next to me, and after the meal gets started it isn't long before the dancing follows. Their lead dancer cuts a dash on the front cover of the Dutch Volkdans magazine, and I find I am in the crowd scene on the inside pages.

On Thursday, the timetable is reversed, so we can shop in the morning when the shops are open, and dance in the afternoon when the shops are closed. While in town, half of the group accept an invitation to attend the musician's rehearsal. This is not so much a rehearsal as a private performance for us, our very own concert and a delightful occasion. In the afternoon we have our last class and go through all fourteen dances, video-ed by Eddy for future reference. The class draws regretfully to a close with thanks and presents, but it is not yet the end of the day.

We now go to visit another children's group just outside Haskovo. The children have dressed up for us as far as possible and they dance the old village dances on stage. They are rather shy but pleased when we join them and quickly pick up their dances. Next, we teach them some Dutch dances including Haake Toone which sounds a little strange on Eddy's kaval, and then we have a couple more Bulgarian dances to finish off with. I never thought I would find myself showing an eight-year old Bulgarian girl how to do Pajduško, but it happens. The children then go home while we have supper with the group leaders and musicians - bread, cheese, salami, fruit, wine and of course more dancing..

On our return, we decide to do some preliminary packing as we have to leave at 9 a.m. Tricia is gradually compiling a list of essentials to pack next time. Cathy still can't find her spoon - never mind, it's too late now. Gradually order prevails out of chaos and it looks as if everything might fit in after all. The next morning we set off for Plovdiv, about one and a half hour's journey away and the centre for last year's course. Upon arrival, Cathy disappears to visit friends, so Tricia and I go shopping and have a leisurely lunch in the park. Then it's on to Sofia for the evening where our old friend Stojan is waiting to greet us and I get my usual bear hug. For our evening meal we go to a folk restaurant outside the town, where there is a floor show to entertain us, and in the limited space they do very well. Naturally it is a choreographed display, but one can still admire the neat footwork. The folk-style napkins make very good substitute aprons, and half a dozen of the girls decide to put on their own display, much to the surprise of the musicians and the other diners.

Stojan and Eddy play their kaval for us and the evening draws to an end, but as it's our last night it can't possibly be the end. Back at the hotel, wine and biscuits appear and we all sit in the corridor outside our rooms, chatting quietly and listening to Stojan's kaval. As we are all in the same corridor we presume all our rooms are together, but no, one poor guest has to pick his way between the outstretched legs to reach his room. With great aplomb he retrieves his own bottle of wine, steps carefully out again and disappears - what one might call a strategic withdrawal. Next morning, breakfast is a somewhat haphazard affair. Stojan departs for the station and we depart for the airport. There are no delays and we are back. It really is over. I can't believe it's for the last time. While there I caught a cold and with a few words and much miming I managed to get some cough sweets from the chemist. They were quite effective - perhaps I'd better go back for some more.

Nazdrave,

FRANCES HORROCKS

S.I.F.D. TEACHER'S CERTIFICATE
SPECIALIST, SOUTH EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

SYLLABUS FOR JULY 1988

We shall be holding an S.I.F.D. examination for teachers specialising in East European Countries on Saturday, 9th July 1988. The syllabus will be as follows; application forms will be sent out nearer the date.

Countries - Yugoslavia (any region)
 Bulgaria (any region)
 Romania (any region)
 Greece (any region)

- 1) The candidate must submit a list of 50 dances which he/she is prepared to teach. Not more than 40% of these should be from any one country or region. The list must include at least 5 dances from each country and should include examples of various types of dance, e.g. those for couples or threesomes as well as the more widely known line dances.
- 2) The candidate must be able to identify broadly the costumes from the countries included in his/her list of 50 dances, (exact knowledge of regional variations is not necessary, but a broad knowledge of regions).
- 3) The candidate must be able to identify the music for the 50 dances on his/her list.
- 4) The candidate must submit a programme of one term's classes, giving reasons for his/her choice of material and stating for what student level it is intended, and the length of the class.
- 5) The candidate will be asked to write down the instructions and rhythm for one dance, or part of a dance, from the list. The dance will be chosen by the examiners and the instructions must be clear enough for a dancer to understand.
- 6) The candidate must be able to recognize and explain the rhythmic metre of the dances he/she teaches.
- 7) The candidate will be asked to teach for about 45 minutes up to 3 dances selected from five chosen by the examiners from the candidate's list; he/she will be allowed at least half an hour for preparation.
- 8) The candidate will have to hold a Silver Badge for 3 out of the 4 countries listed above.

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FOLKDANCE TOURS TO ROMANIA

2nd to 9th April 1988. To Brasov, Transylvania - 1110 guilders
23rd July to 6th August 1988. To Baia Mare, Maramures - 1710 guilders
Included in the price: Return flight from Heathrow to Bucharest, then coach to final destination. Full board in 1st-class hotel in twin rooms with private facilities (single supplement 140 gldrs. per week). Tour accompanied by Silviu Ciuciumis and English-speaking guide/interpreter. Dance instruction from Romanian teachers, live music. Excursions, to meet and dance with local groups, etc. Silviu will deal with all visas. For further details, application forms and detailed itinerary, contact Silviu Ciuciumis (Doina Foundation), Aarhuispad 22, 3067 PR, Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

SILVIU'S ROMANIAN HOLIDAYS (see previous page)

The latest of these marvellous Holland-based teachers has been Silviu Ciuciumis, a Romanian with a most engaging personality who, over the past courses (Derby weekend, Swiss Cottage weekend before Christmas, Hammersmith Sunday and Cathy Meunier's class in the New Year) has become a friend. Some of us have already paid deposits and booked places on the two holidays mentioned on page 6 - there is a week's trip at Easter and a fortnight in the summer. Although it is 1st-class hotels and luxury coach taking us about, it will be uniquely linking up with local festivals, dancing with villagers and some dance teaching too. It will all be led by Silviu, which in itself means that extra doors will be opened. I am sure it will be great fun, so even if you have not had the very real pleasure of meeting Silviu, don't hesitate about joining one of his trips. Rhiannon Sivewright has given the details but I just couldn't resist an extra little encouragement. DO COME. One of the best holidays ever was Heinz and Ilse Striegel's Austrian walking and dancing holiday with S.I.F.D. members when I was at college. I'm hoping Silviu's will be of the same sort of delight. Don't miss it if you can possibly raise the money.

DIKI GLEESON

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S.I.F.D. ROMANIAN DAY COURSE

Place: St. Paul's Centre, Rossmore Rd., Marylebone, London N.W.1. (off Lisson Grove, near Marylebone and Edgware Road Underground Stations).

Time: 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Date: SATURDAY, 13TH FEBRUARY 1988

Tutor: Rod Perkins Fee: £3 for SIFD members, £4 for non-members.

Rod will be teaching the syllabus dances for the Romanian Silver Badge, although of course everyone will be welcome whether or not they intend to take the examination.

Arcanul, Briuletul, Dragaicuta, Briul Banatean, Avrameanca, Orsului, Hora Mintita, Jumatate N Toarse, Invirtita de la Sibiu, Ca La Balta.

Recording will not be permitted. Bring packed lunch; squash available. If tea or coffee required, please bring your own provisions; kitchen available.

There will not be an S.I.F.D. Day Course next month as we shall be holding the Silver Badge Examinations on the second Saturday in March. The Day Course in April will be Irish.

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EASTBOURNE FESTIVAL

We hope to send out copies of the programme for Eastbourne Festival with this month's issue of SIFD NEWS. Would you please note the following amendments to the programme:-

Juanita Martin will be teaching dances from Iberia, not just Spain.

The Saturday night band is "Almost Folk", not S.I.F.D. Players. Please come in costume for this Dance if you can manage it.

Also: A camera-man will be present to make video recordings for teaching/record purposes. Details at the festival.

Tutors have been asked to provide notes and tapes to accompany the teaching. Tina Stone and I would like to have your suggestions for the dances you will introduce on the Sunday night.

ROY LE CROISSETTE
26 Westfield Rd., Eastbourne, E.Susse

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MUSIC. Three tunes this month from Wilf Horrocks on page 12. Please let Wilf know if you have any special requests for music you would like published in SIFD NEWS. His telephone number is: 01 642 3629.

THE LORD MAYOR OF WESTMINSTER'S BIG PARADE

What reckless idiots would get up early on New Year's Day, struggle into Central London, and attempt to dance/march (jog?) through the streets on a cold, wet Bank Holiday? The mugs from the Doina and Balaton groups, together with equally fool-hardy representatives from Merton and Balkan and International groups, were also asking themselves this question as they did their bit to represent the S.I.F.D. at the Lord Mayor of Westminster's Big Parade. In particular, as chief mug organisers, Sue Chip and I were at times wondering how we ever got involved in the first place.

Had the open-topped car which we had been promised actually turned up, at least some problems would have been resolved. Instead, our accordionist, Wendy, had to go the distance on foot. She did a marvellous job, despite being occasionally out-gunned by a 50-piece marching band and having one arm occasionally seize up! The absent car also meant that we had to carry a very un-ethnic looking ghetto-blaster as well as a plastic Londris bag with the tapes in. Meanwhile, our overcoats which were not carried in the aforementioned absent car went on what I presume was a tour of London. We certainly never saw them for the next few hours!

The intention had been to use some processional dances like the Polish Polonaise and then adapt some of our other Eastern European repertoire dances so that they progressed. However, this relies on moving at a speed which is at worst a fast strolling pace. A hint of a problem came when one of the bands proudly announced the record speed at which they could march while playing. I can only assume the other bands must have risen to this challenge, since we finished early by some margin. It's a bit unnerving to have a loud cohort of uniformed bandspeople constantly encroaching on your derriere! This situation also leads to such wellknown games as "all watch the dancers nearest the music to guess what the beat must be if only we could hear it".

Perversely, we seem to have enjoyed the parade overall. The general opinion was that we didn't do too badly in the circumstances. There were the distinctly tatty bits (which inevitably occurred when a video camera happened to be pointing our way) and some of us later discovered just how cold, wet and miserable it was possible to get while traipsing around in search of our clothes. However, we managed to improvise on the dancing side, and the warm hotel room provided afterwards was some compensation for the organisational breakdown at the end.

The only dance originally planned which was fast enough to keep up with the line was the somewhat energetic Polish dance Pod Borem, but who wants to do an hour of only Pod Borem? So we experimented with a moving Doudlebska(?) Polka. This worked to some extent and was frequently repeated, but when forced to march to the dominating music of the bands, it turned out that even a costumed line across the street using a crosshand hold drew some applause. More adventurous manoeuvres were tried, and finally some variation was provided by a few dancers performing solo movements.

To put the whole event into some perspective, the organisation wasn't too bad, considering that very few leaders were controlling thousands of performers. Only two organisers seemed to know what they were doing, while other marshalls were inclined to make promises they didn't stick to, and to "give you the run-around". The upshot was that there were inevitably weak points and breakdowns. Apart from that, the main problem was the nature of this procession itself. Since it was geared to bands, as reflected in the pace and noise level, dancers took part at their peril. The English dance groups appeared to be struggling at least as much as we were. I hesitate to say that we shouldn't take part, since it was enjoyable to a degree; the audience seemed to appreciate us breaking up the repetitiveness of the bands; and the organisers also wanted our participation for the variety which we provided. But I would suggest that both the organisers and dancers re-think what it means for the S.I.F.D. to be involved in events of this kind.

LESLIE HADDON

Many thanks to Leslie Haddon, Sue Chip, and everyone who braved the drizzle on New Year's Day to take part in this event. We are very grateful to them for taking up the challenge and representing the S.I.F.D. It is hoped that no-one caught a chill or had costumes ruined.

KAY LEIGHTON

In August last year, I travelled with a party from Enfield to Gladbeck in F.R.Germany as part of the twinning link between the two towns. My hosts in Gladbeck were Robert and Elisabeth Heinrich, who teach and lead a dance group. Although they are not folk-dancers, they had done some "Folklor@tanz" in the past and were keen to sample some more, so, at their request, one evening during our stay in Gladbeck I taught a selection of simple dances to young members of their group - and as some of the Enfielders took part as well, I had to teach in both German and English (which confused me at times, let alone my "victims"!).

Anyway, despite the linguistic confusion the evening was a success - so much so that Robert and Elisabeth want to invite me back again to teach more dances (their group is well subsidised by the local sports association!). In the meantime, they are coming to London with members of their group on a whistle-stop weekend trip and asked me if I could organise some dancing with them. So, I have decided to hold an "International Folk Tea Dance" on SATURDAY, 27TH FEBRUARY 1988, from 1 to 5 p.m. The venue will be St.Paul's Centre, Rossmore Road, Marylebone, London N.W.1., known to many S.I.F.D. members as the venue for S.I.F.D. Day Courses. Admission (which will of course include tea and sandwiches!) will be £2 (waged) or £1 (unwaged, OAPs, fulltime students). Although this is not officially an S.I.F.D. event, there will be a further 25% reduction on these prices for S.I.F.D. members (on production of a valid membership card!).

The "programme" will consist mainly of "Balkan-plus" dancing, with some teaching for the German visitors. I will, however, be pleased to take requests for other well-known dances - but do come armed with a cassette recording of reasonable quality! I also hope to persuade our visitors to show us one or two of "their" dances and will probably include the odd Viennese Waltz or Foxtrot for variety!

Tickets can be bought at the door or in advance from myself - either at forthcoming folkdance events or by post (s.a.e. please). I hope to see many people there to make our German visitors at home and to give them a good impression of international folk-dancing in London!

ROBERTO HADDON
26 Bodney Road, London E8 1AY.

AMMERDOWN

There are still vacancies for the weekend at Ammerdown, near Radstock, 25th to 27th March 1988. A weekend of dancing and exploring the North Somerset countryside. Accommodation in single rooms. Cost: £42.50. Further details, including programme, from - and bookings to - Roy Clarke, 33 Cedar Park Road, Enfield, Middx. EN2 0HE. Tel: 01 367 2649.

RECORDING

I would like to comment on the growing tendency to say, in connection with our Day Courses, "Recording will not be permitted" but cassettes may be bought. However, the cassettes themselves have in most cases been copied from commercial recordings, so the vendors are selling for profit their copies of other people's copyright material, while forbidding other people to copy. Very unfair. Very illegal.

WILL GREEN

FESTIVALS

LLANGOLLEN INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL EISTEDDFOD this year will be held 5th to 10th July. (Dancing day 6th July). Details from Llangollen International Eisteddfod Office, Llangollen, North Wales LL20 8NG.

SIDMOUTH FESTIVAL will be held 29th July to 5th August. Overseas teams invited: Bulgaria, China, Holland, Jordan, New Zealand, Sardinia, U.S.A. etc. Details from Festival Office, The Knowle, Sidmouth, Devon EX10 8HL.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Joan and Simon Guest have moved and now live at:- 49 Station Road, Epping, Essex. CM16 4HJ. Grid Ref. TL463017. Tel: (0378) 77065. We wish them happiness in their new home.

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A SIDEWAYS LOOK

There is no doubt that we of the S.I.F.D. know a lot of folk dances; some we do regularly and some have retreated into the past. This is inevitable, I suppose, just as it is natural that many are great favourites, some less so and, of course, with a lot it depends on our physical ability. I mean, you could not easily do a foot-less dance but you could, I'm sure, do the Fingerles Tanz from Germany; and I think we ought to do more often the Offener Waltz from Austria. Attitudes change, of course, and in these days of liberal outlook we can dance the Gay Gordons no matter what is worn or not worn under the kilt. What about Scottish dances anyway? How about Sodger Laddie? Aye we'll and the same to you, laddie! And you don't have to have an Al-Tira motive to take part in Israeli dancing. I was once thoroughly enjoying a dance and afterwards a friend remarked how pretty my partner was, and asked did I know her well. Yes, I said, I've been Chassene for years. That French dance, La D erob ee, is it really as interesting as it sounds? And how firmly do you hold your partner in the Appenzeller Clutchwaltz? For those who like English dances, it might be Long Odds as to whether they would prefer performing the Kentish Cricketers in Newcastle or Portsmouth but, either way, I am sure they would not be in The Doldrums. Most dancers need refreshment after a session, so if you get thirsty then it's fizz in a cola or S'Milkino Kolo. Now what could follow that? Rattling Bog....Ah well, we'll just have to hope that these Irish dancers get their chain in order. Enough is enough then - after reading this you will probably say, "I'm dance sure I've never heard of any of these!". Speaking for myself, I've never been much good at dancing but there is a Czechoslovakian dance I think I ought to have a go at - it is Hor cko.

WILF HORROCKS

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THE RED ARMY ENSEMBLE of dancers, singers and musicians from Moscow will be appearing as follows:-

March 20th/22nd	Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury	Apr. 14th/16th	Davenport Theatre, Stockport
" 24th/26th	Royal Albert Hall, London	" 19th/23rd	Alexandra, Birmingham
" 28th/31st	Empire Theatre, Sunderland	" 25th/27th	Colston Hall, Bristol
Apr. 2nd/3rd	Derngate, Northampton	May 1st/2nd	Wembley Arena, London
" 5th/6th	Usher Hall, Edinburgh	" 4th/7th	Mayflower, Southampton
" 7th/9th	Theatre Royal, Glasgow	" 11th/12th	Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham
" 11th/13th	St. David's Hall, Cardiff	" 13th/15th	Futurist Theatre, Scarborough

Further information from Mervyn Conn Organisation, Tel: 01 930 7502.

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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 Road, Solihull.

"Arden" International Folkdance Group meet every Tuesday except the second Tuesday of the month at the Village Hall, Station Road, Balsall Common, near 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 Rd., Styvechale, Coventry CV3 6JX. 0203 413854.

GENERAL INTERNATIONAL

Mondays. Beginners. 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. in term time. Liberty Middle School, Western Rd., Mitcham, Surrey. Contact: Hugh Wood. Tel: 01 540 5533. (Affiliated).

Tuesdays. Beginners 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. Cheam High School, Chatsworth Rd., Cheam, Surrey SM3 8PW. Tutor: Joy Steventon. Tel: 01 542 3831. (Merton Park Group).

Tuesdays. 7.45 p.m. in term time. Park High School, Thistlecroft Gardens, Stanmore, Middx. Leader: Judith Holloway. Nearest Underground Station: Canons Park. Ring Watford 225480 for details. (Canons Folk Dancers).

Tuesdays. 7.45 to 10 p.m. in term time. University College of Swansea, Fulton House (College House) in Senior Common Room. Enquiries: Joan or Jack Richardson, Tel: 0792 403153 or 295194. (Swansea University International Folkdance Group).

Tuesdays. 8 to 10 p.m. Oddfellows House, 22 The Avenue, Watford, Herts. For further details, telephone Joyce Sharp, Watford (0923) 228080. (Croxley Green International Folkdancers Group).

Wednesdays. Beginners 6 to 7 p.m. General & Advanced 7.15 to 9.15 p.m. St. Albans School, Baldwin's Gardens, London E.C.1. Tutor: Janet Woolbar. (Central London International Group).

Wednesdays. Advanced 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. Merton Institute of Adult Education, Whatley Avenue, Merton, London SW20 9NS. Tutor: Joy Steventon. Tel: 01 542 3831. (Merton Park Group).

Thursdays, 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. Durrants School, Manor Way, Croxley Green, near Watford, Herts. Emphasis on neglected dances. Tutor: Audrey Whiteley. Tel: 0923 221696. (Watford International Folkdance Group).

Fridays. 2 to 3.45 p.m. Croxley Green Community Association, near Barton Way, Croxley Green, Rickmansworth, Herts. For further details, telephone Joyce Sharp, Watford (0923) 228080. (Croxley Green International Folkdancers Group).

EASTERN EUROPEAN

Tuesdays. 7 to 9.15 p.m. in term time. Central Y.W.C.A. (Gymnasium), Great Russell St., Tottenham Court Rd., London W.C.1. The group rehearses & performs only the dances of Eastern Europe. For information contact Alan McLean, 01 422 6498, or Dave Cook, 01 989 9591. (Doina Group).

HUNGARIAN (Balaton Group)

Thursdays. 8 to 10 p.m. in term time. In the Dance Studio, Camden Institute of Adult Education, Longford St., Marylebone (Warren St. Station), London. For information contact Alan McLean, Tel: 01 422 6498. Or Tony Rider, 01 242 4411 Ext.5142 (work

ISRAELI

Wednesdays. 7 to 9 p.m. in term time. Intermediate & Advanced level. Henry Fawcett School, Bowling Green St., Oval, London S.E.11. Tutor: Fiona Howarth. Tel: 01 460 2305. Secretary: Jane McKenzie, Tel: 01 542 6274. (Hama'agal Israeli Group).

POLISH

Mondays. 7 to 9 p.m. Regional & National dances. Christopher Hatton Centre, Laystall St., off Rosebery Avenue, London E.C.1. Tutor: Tony Latham, Tel: 01 992 9445. (Jacy Tacy Group).

YUGOSLAV

Tuesdays. 6.15 to 7.45 Beginners, 8 to 9 p.m. Advanced. In term time. West Square School, St. Georges Rd., Elephant & Castle, next to Imperial War Museum, London S.E.1. Tutor: Ken Ward.

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MAZURKA

(Geech (of Polish origin))

A Slow and dignified

[Intro.]

B

C Fastev

VÄSTGÖTAPOLSKA ("WEST WIND POLKA")

(SWEDEN)

A

B

Play: AAB AAB AAB AABBB
AAB AAB AAB.

BITTE MAND I KNIBE ("LITTLE-MAN-IN-A-FIX")

(Danish)

A

B

C

SUNDAY DANCES at Y.W.C.A. (Queen Mary Hall), Great Russell Street, London W.C.1.

Feb. 7th M.C. George Sweetland

Mar. 6th M.C. Uri Gerson

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

Feb. 13th "SPRING" PARTY organised by Wycombe Folkdance Club. Sir William Ramsey School, Rose Avenue, Hazlemere, near High Wycombe, 8 p.m. Dunav Balkan Group. M.C. Uri Gerson. Admission £2 including refreshments.

Feb. 13th S.I.F.D. ROMANIAN DAY COURSE. See page 7.

Feb. 14th BULGARIAN DAY COURSE organised by Julie Korth at Edge Hill College of Higher Education, Ormskirk. 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Tutor: Frances Horrocks. Details from Julie Korth, 0942 831141.

Feb. 21st BALKANPLUS (N.B. this is a Sunday). Swiss Cottage Community Centre, 19 Winchester Road, London N.W.3. 7 p.m. M.C. Cathy Meunier. Dunav Balkan Group; other musicians welcome. Admission £2 including light refreshments. Further details from Liz Mellish, 01 863 7807.

Feb. 27th INTERNATIONAL FOLK TEA DANCE at St. Paul's Centre, London. See page 9.

On Sunday, 28th February, Diki Gleeson is organising a Day Course to give people a chance to recap on the dances on the syllabuses for the Balkan countries' Silver Badge examinations. The course will be held at Holy Family Convent School, London Road, Enfield (directions given in February 1987 issue of SIFD NEWS - or ring Diki). 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Programme as follows:-

10.30 to 11.30	Yugoslav dances.	Tutor: Linda Swanton
12.00 to 1.00	Bulgarian dances.	Tutor: Frances Horrocks
2.00 to 3.00	Romanian dances.	Tutor: Frances Horrocks
3.30 to 4.30	Greek dances.	Tutor: Lilian Galatis

Everyone welcome. This is your chance to brush up the dances before the examination on 12th March, or, for "Balkanplus" fans, to practise some of the regular dances. Entrance £3.50 on the door, or £3 in advance from Diki Gleeson, Oak Lodge, Theobalds Park Road, Enfield, Middx. EN2 9BN. Tel: 01 363 1506.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

March 19th BALKANPLUS. M.C. Roberto Haddon. Other details as for February.

March 26th WOODVALE INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP 20TH ANNIVERSARY DANCE, 8 to 11.30 p.m. at Borough Green Village Hall. Tickets £4 including buffet and glass of wine. Bring your own additional drink. Tickets must be purchased or booked in advance. Please ring Sue McKie, 0732 846065 or Jenny Cant, 0732 883405, to book tickets or for further details.

April 2nd ANGLO-FRENCH DAY OF DANCE. Workshop on the dances of the Berry region, with Josiane Perrin and "Balade Tes Pieds" (10 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.), followed by a Dance with "Rosbif" and "Balade Tes Pieds" (8 to 11.45 p.m.). Workshop £4. Dance £2.50. Both £5. At Newick Village Hall, Newick, near Lewes, Sussex. Advance tickets and information from Mel Stevens, 62 Hanover Street, Brighton, East Sussex BN2 2SS. Tel: (0273) 685434.