

SIFD NEWS



BERNE
SWITZERLAND

AUGUST 1989

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

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TN39 4PX. Tel: Cooden (04243) 5866

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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 Dennis Balford and shows a lady's costume from Berne,
Switzerland.

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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 Payling (address above), 30p.
(Please send s.a.e. 4" square).

S.I.F.D. T-shirts in various designs and sizes, S.I.F.D. Mugs, Notelets,
Shopping Bags, and also copies of "The History of the S.I.F.D.", are all
available from Kay Leighton (address above).

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ALL MATERIAL FOR THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF SIFD NEWS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE EDITOR
IN WRITING BY 15TH AUGUST.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

The last Committee Meeting before the summer break heard of some solid progress made by the Music Equipment Sub-Committee. They have bought amplifiers, and speakers should also be purchased in time for the Aberystwyth Summer School. These are major items of equipment, and the rest will follow shortly.

It was decided to have a Wallchart Year Planner, to be displayed at all Sunday Dances and other Society events. We hope to be able to avoid clashes of dates when as many people as possible have a visual pointer to future dance occasions.

This year was the first time we have sponsored the Third Prize for Folk Dance Groups at Llangollen in memory of Lucile Armstrong. The Prize was awarded to Gasra Aislinn, Malahide, Dublin.

Many of the Committee look forward to meeting you and renewing old acquaintances at Aberystwyth, and we are sure of a feast of dancing and music-making.

Wherever you are spending your holiday, we wish you a happy and enjoyable one.

AUDREY WHITELEY
Hon. Secretary

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EQUIPMENT AND PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE

As some of the groups are aware, it is possible to take out insurance for the group through the S.I.F.D. Associated Groups receive automatic cover for Public Liability but not Equipment. Affiliated Groups may arrange to pay for both Equipment and/or Public Liability cover.

As we shall soon be renewing the insurance, I should be grateful if groups already receiving cover could notify me by the end of August of any changes to be made. If any other groups require new cover, please contact me as soon as possible to arrange this, stating what it is to be covered and its value.

It would also be very useful to know if the group contact address has changed, as in previous years we needed to employ Sherlock Holmes! SUSAN TUPPER
107 Cherrywood Lane, Morden,
Surrey SM4 4HD

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S.I.F.D. DAY COURSES

There will be no S.I.F.D. Day Course in August. The next one will be on 9th September, when Frances Horrocks will be teaching the Armenian dances from the Aberystwyth course. This will be an opportunity for those people who did not go to the Summer School to learn the dances, and for those who did go to revise them. All welcome.

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FOLK COSTUME

Janet McCrickard has asked me to bring to members' notice a firm called "Wealth of Nations". This company imports items of traditional folk costume for sale in England and produces catalogues and illustrations of their current collections. She has sent me some coloured illustrations of items from their latest collection and they look attractive and beautifully made, but they are individual items and not complete costumes - a "kabat" from Hungary (puff-sleeved blouse), Hungarian shirt, Hungarian pleated skirt, Mexican embroidered shirt, Mexican "rebozo" (shawl), Mexican shirt. For more information, contact Wealth of Nations, 37 Tedworth Square, London SW3 4DW. Tel: 01 823 3580. ED.

BALKAN DANCE - SUMMER CLASS

Throughout the summer months we shall be revising some of the popular but more complex Balkan dances. The dances will be taught in slow and easy stages. Everyone is welcome on Tuesdays evenings, 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. in the Basement Hall, Finsbury Public Library, 245 St. John Street, Islington, London. Nearest Underground Station: The Angel. Cost £1.00 (50p concessions). For more details or special requests, contact Cathy Meunier, tel: 01 482 0906 (evenings), 01 637 3434 Ext.5565 (daytime), or Anne Gilman, 01 837 2158.

CATHY MEUNIER



BALKAN DAY COURSES

The Balkan & International Folk Dance Group are planning a series of pre-BALKANPLUS Day Courses. We will have a special late start so that there is not such a long gap between the Day Course and the evening event. More details about the programme of dances will be given in the SIFD NEWS. We hope to provide music and dance notes for all the dances taught.

Venue: Swiss Cottage Community Centre, 19 Winchester Road, London N.W.3.
Nearest Underground Station: Swiss Cottage

Time: 11.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Dates: Saturday, 21st October 1989
Saturday, 16th December 1989
Saturday, 20th January 1990
Saturday, 17th March 1990

Note that we are also hoping to run a weekend course based on Youth Hostel accommodation in November and/or February. Watch out for more details, or contact Cathy Meunier, Tel: 01 482 0906 (evenings), 01 637 3434 Ext.5565 (daytime).

CATHY MEUNIER



A VISIT TO CYPRUS IN 1990

I should like to know whether any of our members would be interested in a cultural seminar to Cyprus in 1990. The visit will probably be of fourteen days duration and will cover:-

- 1) an introduction to and learning of Cypriot dances
- 2) a little language teaching
- 3) visits to places of interest
- 4) visits to any festivals, if relevant
- 5) any other special interests expressed by individual members:
for example, hiking, rambling, mountain biking

Arrangements at this stage are only tentative, but I am working in co-operation with Marios Sofroniou, Director of the dance troupe Leographicos Omilos from Limassol. Some of our members may know Marios and his team as they danced at Cleveland last year and at the London Greek Festival in May 1989.

I would welcome relevant ideas and suggestions from our members, in the hope that the seminars may be organized to meet members' needs and may become an annual event. Any member interested may either write to me or telephone. I shall be available after 26th August.

JOAN BOYES
34 Westland Avenue, Heaton,
Bolton BL1 5NP
Tel: 0204 40494

A LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN:

Dear Lily,

It is apparent from several letters published recently in SIFD NEWS that some members are under a misapprehension about how the Society is run, and the Committee's role in the procedure. It seems advisable therefore to take this opportunity to clarify the situation.

I trust that all members are aware of the Society's aims as set down in its Constitution: To preserve the Folk Dance of all peoples, and to promote the knowledge and practice of Folk Dances in their traditional form. The Executive Committee, to give its full title, is an administrative body which tries to ensure that the Society's funds are spent in such a way as to promote these ideals for the benefit of the maximum number of members.

If you consult the accounts presented prior to the A.G.M. you will see that the largest proportion of the annual income raised by subscriptions is spent on producing and circulating the SIFD NEWS, which, besides giving members an opportunity to share their experiences and air their views, gives a very comprehensive guide to events through which members pay pursue their interests in the folk scene, and I have never known our Editor, Lily Avery, to refuse to publicise an event which truly promotes the Society's aims.

Our ambition is that events should be self-supporting, but sadly, due to scattered membership, apathy, and selective interests, this is often not the case, and the Society supports the organizers of these events so that they may continue.

The Executive Committee does not organize either Sunday Dances, Day Courses, Weekends or Residential Courses, but delegates the responsibility to members who are willing to support the Society by giving their time and effort to provide a varied programme which will appeal to the widest section of the membership. It is a thankless task, as often the people they would most like for M.C. or Tutor are unavailable or unwilling; also, minority tastes have to be catered for, and while people are very ready to criticise, they are less ready to praise.

If you read your July SIFD NEWS carefully you will have noticed a letter from Fiona Howarth inviting comment and suggestion on the organization of the Sunday Dances. It was not put in as a page-filler; she really wants to know what people want. So don't ignore the invitation and then grumble that you haven't got what you enjoy.

The Badge & Day Course Sub-Committee would also welcome ideas and practical suggestions to help them plan a varied and interesting programme of Day Courses. Simon Guest as Chairman, or any member of his Sub-Committee, would be pleased to have your requests.

Then we come to Weekend Courses/Houseparties. Many of those advertised in SIFD NEWS are organized by Roy Clarke and Jack Richardson. This is done on their own initiative to enrich the diary of events available to members. They are S.I.F.D. events only insofar as they are organized for members, and non-members are only accepted if there are vacancies. The Society has a policy of being ready to underwrite them financially as it does to similar courses run by other members. They get their publicity by informing the membership through SIFD NEWS as early as possible to avoid conflict with other events. They also try to reflect members' interests by the countries they cover in their teaching sessions, and to make the events available to as many members as possible by considering the cost and location of the courses.

Finally, may I remind people that officers of the Executive Committee were elected by members of the Society. Some have served for many years because no new volunteers have put themselves forward for election. As there seems to be a re-awakening of interest in the way the Society is run, we look forward to new candidates being put up for election in the autumn when the invitation is issued. As Jacky Webb said in her last letter to the SIFD NEWS, the apparent age distinction

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is unhelpful. There are young members on all our Committees, and the major event of the Summer School which we shall be enjoying as this edition of the SIFD NEWS is circulated, has been undertaken by a group entirely composed of young members. As more young members come forward prepared to take over the care of running the Society, we will gladly step back and look forward to enjoying the fruits of their labours.

JANET WOOLBAR
Chairman, on behalf of the Executive Committee

OTHER LETTERS TO THE EDITOR....

Dear Lily,

The Sunday Dance organized by Central London Group in July was a winner. It was nice to see so many in costume, adding colour to the event. Congratulations all round - to M.C.s, door staff, sellers of raffle tickets (making a fine donation to charity), and to the foodstall, who donated their takings to the S.I.F.D. Well done, and thanks for a most enjoyable evening. These events are proving that Fiona Howarth's recipe of group involvement is really working.

The 1st July "Walk in Essex" was a good idea, and if advertised in the local press would be a possible way of interesting outsiders to S.I.F.D. activities. However, it would be beneficial to readers of SIFD NEWS if the walks were held later in the month as not everyone has their copy by the 1st. (ED. NOTE: Or, better still, if I were notified the previous month).

Sorry to learn that the large hall at Cecil Sharp House has been priced beyond our budget. However, if "Trefusis" is available at a lower price, is it big enough? Another thing that deters people from coming from out of town to the Sunday evening Dances is the thought of having to get up early for work the next morning after a late night due to a long journey home. So would the answer be a change of time to a Tea Dance? Or changing the Dance to a Saturday evening?

HARRY STONE
4 Pelham Road, Tottenham, London N.15

P.S. Many many thanks, Lily, for looking after our SIFD NEWS so well.

SADIE & HARRY

Dear Lily,

* Just a short note to add to the many who will reply to Fiona Howarth's letter re Sunday Dances.

The evenings I have enjoyed most have been those with three or four M.C.s because they provide a big variety of dances and styles. I have also enjoyed the demonstrations, and I think that if some dances are walked through it would enable the newcomers to take part. Personally, I would not want to be taught any new dances on that evening. I think a raffle is good because it helps a charity, as is the stall selling cold drinks and cakes.

I hope this will help Fiona in decision making.

Best wishes,

MARGARET MORTON
26 Durham Rd., Harrow, Middx.HA1 4PG

* ED. NOTE: In fact, the above two are the only letters I have received to date (as at 17th July) on the subject of Sunday Dances.

Dear Lily,

I thought I would send you a progress report on my dancing activities in this area. I had a very enjoyable year with my Hope Valley class, and I am looking forward to our re-start in September. We meet on Mondays, 7.15 to 9 p.m. The group was small, and all women, but we are hoping to enrol some new members next term. One man did come to enrol, but when he saw that we were all women, he left, and we never saw him again!

As well as our weekly class, we have done some extra things, such as going to see the Polish Navy Group at the City Hall, and attending a local Barn Dance. One class member went to the Hungarian class with André van de Plas at Hartington with me, and I hope that more will be able to go to Silviu Ciuciumig's course in September, and to join in with the Nutbrook group's 10th Anniversary weekend.

Several of the class work at Cliff College, and I was invited to do an International Folk Dance for them as an end-of-exams celebration. This was a great success, and was written up in the local paper as an "International Folk Dance Festival"! As a result, the W.I. in Calver Village asked me to go and give them an evening's dancing, which I did last night. They immediately afterwards asked me to do their Christmas party, so they must have enjoyed it. I also did an International Party for the Keep Fit Association in Sheffield and several of the class went to help with the teaching and to enjoy themselves.

In September, I am going to start a new class, at Gosforth School, Dromfield Woodhouse, between Ilkeston and Sheffield and Chesterfield. This class will be on Thursday evenings from 7.30 to 9.00.

I am taking early retirement at the end of this term and intend to spend much more time dancing. I am hoping to do some teaching at the Yorkshire Dance Centre in Leeds, for example, and I am hoping to run some courses, as I used to when I was at Lady Mabel. I found one very nice venue near here and have invited Fiona Howarth to come up to do a weekend of Israeli dances, but the Centre is so heavily booked that up to now we haven't got a mutually free date. We are very anxious to have an Israeli course with Fiona early next year so I am looking for a new venue. If we can't have a residential one we shall have to make do with a day course, perhaps, and hope that our friends from Manchester, Ilkeston and Birmingham will support it.

I am looking forward to Aberystwyth.

Best wishes from

MARINA WOLSTENHOLME
"Robin Cottage", 4 Commercial Road
Grindleford, Nr. Sheffield S30 1HA.

Dear Lily,

I am pleased that Jacky Webb wrote to you for the July SIFD NEWS, but I am sorry that she found my letter patronising. It was not intended to be, and I do sincerely apologize that it could be read that way.

Jacky's letter does get stuck into the Committee! My experience is that the Committee has given me positive encouragement, and there are advantages to organizers in working within the S.I.F.D. When I first considered organizing "Weekends Away" I wrote to the Committee explaining what I wished to do and that I did not intend competing with other events. That imposed a discipline on me to avoid the dates of Sunday Dances and Day Courses, and co-ordinating with other organizers -perhaps easier then than now! Frank Flanagan used to operate a Diary of Events for the benefit of organizers, but to little effect I understand, so we no longer have the regular notice about it on page 2.

I wonder if the real message for organizers, young or old, as well as the Committee is - "it takes two to Tango!".

Yours sincerely,

ROY CLARKE
33 Cedar Park Rd., Enfield
EN2 0HE

Dear Lily,

Here I am again asking you, through the SIFD NEWS, to thank everyone individually and collectively for their cards, letters, flowers and messages of goodwill.

I have just had my third amputation - no, I didn't suddenly develop two left feet, but the second amputation failed because of an infection and had to be reformed. They called it a "Gritty Stokes Amputation" (or was it nutty slack, or knitted socks?). I'm sampling another of St.Bart's Hospital wards - Percival Pott (I believe he was a vascular surgeon), making some new friends, but finding no change in the taste of the food!

They tell me that with two artificial legs they will have to make me shorter in height. Isn't it just my luck to be short enough to get a partner and not feel able to dance! I knew it was a mistake, enrolling in the Flamenco class this summer term!

Many thanks to all my friends who send so much comfort and support.

Love,

KELSEY BLUNDELL
from Percival Pott Ward,
St.Bartholomew's Hospital,
West Smithfield, London E.C.1.

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BROMLEY INTERNATIONAL and HAMA'AGAL ISRAELI groups

Both the above-named classes, taught by Fiona Howarth, have some changes in structure for the Session 1989/90.

Bromley International will be changing its day from Monday to Tuesday, as the school is no longer used on Monday evenings. There is always some risk in changing days; previous members may be lost, but it also gives an opportunity for us to invite newcomers for whom Tuesday may be more convenient. The class is held in a pleasant school, St.Mark's, Aylesbury Road, very near Bromley South Station. Frequent trains from London Victoria take 12-20 minutes.

We cover general international dances, with a lurch towards lines and circles from the Balkans and Israel. Dances are taught at all levels, and revised. We attempt to keep a large repertoire alive, including "called" dances. The main criterion is enjoyment, and I have to confess to the use of frivolous mnemonics and aide-memoires and parties with silly themes. The atmosphere is friendly, very welcoming to newcomers, and we have many recidivists.

Hama'agal Israeli continues on Wednesdays at Henry Fawcett School, Oval, London, but with slightly different times: 6.45 to 7.45 p.m. is for Beginners and those who are prepared to spend time working on basic dances, style, hold, structure etc.; 8 to 9 p.m. is "Progression" class, for more advanced dances and wider repertoire. Occasional performance work; 7.45 to 8 p.m. is "crossover" time for both groups. Dancing may continue to 9.15 p.m.

So here's an invitation to the light-hearted adventurer to bring belt and shoe to the fastnesses South of the Thames. Bromley International starts 19th September, 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. Hama'agal Israeli starts 27th September. Further enquiries to Fiona Howarth, 17a Ravensbourne Road, Bromley BR1 1HN. Tel: 01 460 2305.

FIONA HOWARTH

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LOST AND FOUND

A pair of ladies' red sandals (small size - about 4) was left at the last Sunday Dance at Y.W.C.A. Would the owner please contact Janet Woolbar (address on page 2).

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1988/89

The membership figures for 1988/89 are as follows:-

National members - 571 (507 addresses)
Overseas members - 30 (27 addresses)
Total membership - 601 (includes joint members who receive one copy of SIFD NEWS)

Associated Classes - 13
Affiliated Groups - 34 (who receive two copies of SIFD NEWS)

The total number of copies of SIFD NEWS currently produced monthly is 507+27+68=602. Hence, some 600 copies of SIFD NEWS are sent out each month. (Physically, this is a batch of paper about a metre high that needs two people to carry it, or two journeys for one person).

Mainly as information for new members, I will explain how the distribution system works. As Membership Secretary, I produce an updated membership list from time to time and a set of labels monthly. The latter is sent to Michael and Edwina Holdup who prepare the envelopes and convey them to Doug and Maureen Wells. They organize the printing of the SIFD NEWS, fill and post the envelopes. Meanwhile, our Editor, Lily Avery, is busy gathering the material for publishing, and preparing and typing the master copy of SIFD NEWS, which has to be ready for timely dispatch. In times of postal disruptions, we have to make special hand delivery arrangements for the master copy; for example, Les Avery comes up to London by train and brings it to me and I take it to Doug Wells.

We are still able to enjoy conditional exemption from Data Protection Act registration (currently £56 per three years) because no-one objects to their membership records being on our computer file. The Act does not apply to any records that are held and processed manually. Objectors' records have to be handled manually, and with the above workload it would be difficult to guarantee error-proof distribution of SIFD NEWS if we had to revert to manual handling.

So as to clarify how the information is used, the membership list is disclosed as confidential to committee members and officers on a "need to know" basis and is neither disclosed to anyone else nor to any other organization. This has always been our normal practice, and the new legislation makes what we have always done a legal obligation. If at any time we wish to do anything different, proposals would be presented to the membership and it would probably entail registration.

The data are stored on floppy discs that are kept under lock and key in safe locations. A balance needs to be arrived at with regards to security and updating. Either by mistake or equipment failure, it is very easy to lose irretrievably the entire contents of a disc. Fortunately, so far this has not been a frequent occurrence. One of the worst enemies of all in data processing is muddle, so a system of strict logging discipline needs to be followed to ensure that the most up-to-date disc is used and backed up.

Renewed thanks for your support, and I wish you a Happy New Dancing Year.

ALAN MORTON
Honorary Membership Secretary



Your S.I.F.D. membership expires at the end of August, and Alan will be sending out membership forms with SIFD NEWS. Please renew promptly to ensure continued delivery of your copy of SIFD NEWS.

Affiliation and Association membership also expires at the end of August. Application forms for renewal have already been sent out by Alan. If your group or class has not already done so, please return the forms promptly to Alan for submission to the Committee for acceptance. Details of your groups/classes will then be added to the official list, if you have completed the appropriate section.

GUIDE CAMP AT CHIGWELL

At the end of May, a camp of one thousand Guides took place at Chigwell, Essex. The S.I.F.D. was approached in the hope that we could supply teachers to take international folkdance sessions on 29th and 31st May.

We are most grateful to Joan Guest for undertaking the task of arranging these sessions. She organized Roberto Haddon into teaching on the Monday, and she (with a few "supporters") coped with the Wednesday sessions. It sounded a daunting task, especially as it involved up to 70 guides at a time, with a rough field for a dancing floor. Many thanks to Joan and Roberto for doing this for us.

KAY LEIGHTON

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HUNGARIAN TÁNCHÁZ - Change of address

Rather sooner than expected, we have found bigger and better premises for our "tánc ház", and there is also a new day and time. From 6th August it will be held on alternate Sundays, from 6.00 to 9.00 p.m. at Purley Hall, Banstead Road, Purley. The nearest station is Purley B.R. station. Admission is still £1. It is hoped that some dance teaching can be included in the Hungarian Festival which will be held at the Barbican in the autumn, so come along now and get in some practice! Watch this space for more information.

HILARY BOLTON

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WEEKEND COURSE WITH SILVIU CIUCIUMIS

There are still places available for the weekend of Romanian dancing to be held at Hartington, Derbyshire, on the 23rd and 24th September 1989. For further information, contact Rhiannon Sivewright, 404 Barlow Road, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 5HZ, enclosing stamped addressed envelope.

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A NEW GROUP

Joan Boyes will be starting a new folkdance group from Friday, 29th September 1989. The group will do general international dances but the emphasis will be on Greek and Cypriot dance, and if it is successful it is hoped that some of the better dancers will form a Greek demonstration group. The group will meet every Friday, from 7.30 to 9.30 p.m., at Whitefield Adult Education Centre, Higher Lane, Whitefield, near Bolton, Lancs. Everyone welcome, including children. For further information, contact Joan Boyes, 34 Westland Avenue, Heaton, Bolton BL1 5NP. Tel: 0204 40494, but not until after 26th August.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Oct. 7th RAINMAKERS will be holding a Day Course in St. Michael's Church Hall, The Broadway, Letchworth, Herts., from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mainly Mexican dances. Tutor: Charles Steventon. Tel: 0438 316288 for more details.

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MUSIC

Three more tunes from Wilf Horrocks this month, by request, on page 12. If you have any requests, please contact Wilf at 53 Southway, Carshalton Beeches, Surrey SM5 4HP. Tel: 01 642 3629.

CONGRATULATIONS!

We are pleased to announce the birth of a second son to Natassa Lemos, in June. Congratulations to Natassa and George, and our best wishes for health and happiness to baby Christos.



THE NYCKELHARPA

The Nyckelharpa forms an important part of Swedish folk culture. These fascinating Swedish instruments, which are totally unique to the country, are a mixture of fiddle and hurdy gurdy, and display influences from both guitar and lute. Translated as keyed fiddle, the Nyckelharpa is held horizontally and played with a bow, like a fiddle, but has tuning keys on the neck of the instrument. The body of the keyed fiddle may be shaped like a guitar or a lute and has drone and resonance strings similar to a hurdy gurdy in addition to the melody strings.

In Sweden, musical festivals are often held and at these large informal gatherings many Nyckelharpas are seen and compared. In lovely open-air settings, such as Wadköping near Örebro, musicians meet and play extempore and move on to find other musicians to compare and unite in beautiful harmonies. It is at such gatherings that the individuality and variety of Nyckelharpas can be seen. Traditionally the maker and player of keyed fiddles are one and the same person. There are many personal touches which can be applied. Keyed fiddles must be the same length but differences in shape and decoration are found in the effort to produce the best possible quality and most attractive appearance. Profiles of the body may be drawn freehand or sometimes a template is used allowing considerable variations in shape. The body and belly of older instruments were made from spruce but now maple has been introduced. The tailpiece and key box are of acoustic importance so great care is taken of the chosen wood. The birch, spruce or maple must be left to dry for at least a month but may take up to four years. Juniper and horsehair are traditionally used for the bow, although nowadays violin bow hairs, shortened by 10 centimetres, are in common usage.

The Nyckelharpa is an ancient instrument. There are some recorded in medieval church art-like stone relief at Källunge Church Porch dated 1350. A keyed fiddle in the middle ages had no resonance strings and it was this introduction circa 1600 that changed the course of development. The path of the Nyckelharpa now diverged from the hurdy gurdy and followed that of the violin family. The bridge was introduced in the 18th century and developed in the 19th century. The top became curved, making it easier to play one string at a time. The older instruments had twenty keys and this increased to about forty in the present instrument, enabling a very wide range of note and tone to be achieved.

The keys are located in a key box on the neck of the instrument. They are whittled with a knife and the tuning pegs are made out of wood in the club-like shape that is characteristic of the keyed fiddle. These keys project from the side of the instrument, therefore the player using his left hand fingers the heads of the keys and not the strings as in any other stringed instrument.

A chance for you to see and hear the Nyckelharpa is coming at the end of September as part of a Weekend of Folk Dance Workshops and Ceilidh. Details are available from Nutbrook International Folkdance Group. Contact Gill Morral, 116 Nottingham Road, Stapleford, Notts. NG9 8AR. Tel: 0602 393204.

GILLIAN E. MORRAL

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The weekend referred to above will be held from 30th September to 1st October 1989 at Kirk Hallam Community School, Godfrey Drive, Kirk Hallam, near Ilkeston, Derbyshire. Teachers from Sweden, Denmark, Germany. Cost of full weekend course (six sessions plus buffet and International Ceilidh) £10 (SIFD members, students and children £8.50) or £1.50 for each session, £3.50 for Ceilidh plus buffet, £2.50 for Ceilidh only. Full details, plus information about accommodation, from Gill Morral.

OXDANS

(Sweden)

A *Steadily*

B *Faster*

C

Play 7 times - each in a style suitable to the particular movements of the dancers.

CRESTED HEN

Lightly and with a swing.

A

B

Known in Denmark as DEN TOPPEDE HØNE and in Sweden as TUP OCH HONA.

MA NA'AVU ("How pleasant...") (Israel)

A (Intro: Last two bars A) *Slowly with feeling*

B *A little faster*

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

August - No Sunday Dance

Sept.3rd This Dance will be organized by Woodvale International Folkdance Group. Costume Special. Free prize draw for anyone in costume. Help us set a record for the number of different costumes at an S.I.F.D. Dance. Refreshments available. Please come and join us. HEATHER BEVAN (Secretary of Woodvale I.F.D.G.)

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

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To Aug. 3rd MAZOWSZE Polish Song & Dance Company at Royal Festival Hall, London. 7.30 p.m. Box Office: 01 928 8800.

July 29th to Aug.5th S.I.F.D. FOLKDANCE SUMMER SCHOOL at Aberystwyth. Enquiries to Julian Sinton, D223 853604.

July 30th to Aug.4th ISRAEL FOLKDANCE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL SUMMER CAMP. Details from IFDA Summer Camp, c/o Balfour House, 741 High Road, London N12 0BQ.

Aug.4th to 11th SIDMOUTH FESTIVAL. Overseas teams from U.S.S.R., Bolivia, Sri Lanka, Portugal, Canada, Gambia, Hawaii. Details from Festival Office, The Knowle, Sidmouth, Devon EX10 BHL. Tel: 0395 515134.

Aug. 6th HUNGARIAN TÁNCÁZ at Purley Hall. See page 10.

Aug. 6th DANCING IN NONSUCH PARK, CHEAM, by Merton Park and Cheam groups. Outside the café at 3.00 p.m. for about 1½ hours. Music by Wilf Horrocks. All welcome. Please come in costume if you can. Further details from Joy or Steve Steventon, on 01 542 3831.

Aug. 12th to 29th BILLINGHAM INTERNATIONAL FOLKLORE FESTIVAL. Teams from Brazil, France, India, Israel, Korea, Poland, Las Palmas, U.S.A., Uzbekistan. For details of workshops, contact County Education Officer, 0642 248155 Ext. 3055. For festival bookings, contact Box Office, 0642 552663. Other enquiries, contact Festival Office, 0642 558212.

Aug. 19th BALKANPLUS at Working Men's College, Crowndale Road, London N.W.1. (near Mornington Crescent Underground) 7 p.m. M.C. Philip Dobison. Admission £2.50 including light refreshments. Further details from Liz Mellish, 01 863 7807. Next BALKANPLUS will be on 16th September when the M.C.s will be Maggie O'Reagan and "Ollie".

Aug. 20th HUNGARIAN TÁNCÁZ at Purley Hall. See page 10.

Aug. 21st to 26th SPANISH FIESTA with Paco Pena and his Flamenco Dance Company at the Barbican, London. Tel: 01 638 8891.

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MARTA SEBESTYEN, the Hungarian folk singer, will be appearing at the following places this month:-

4th	Glasgow (tbc)	15th	Queen's Hall, Edinburgh
5th/6th	Bear Fair, Peebles	16th	St.John's Church, Edinburgh
7th	Glasgow (tbc)	17th	Irish Centre, Sheffield
8th	Festival Club, Stirling	18th/20th	Pontardawe Festival, Sth.Wales
10th	Sidmouth Festival	21st	Purcell Room, London
12th	Dingwall, nr.Inverness	23rd/24th	St.John's Church, Edinburgh
14th/15th	St.John's Church, Edinburgh	26th/27th	Womad Festival, St.Austell