

SIFD News



SEPT 1990

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 Yvonne Cooper, and shows the Abbots Bromley Horn Dance
which is traditionally performed by men from Abbots Bromley on the first Monday
after the first Sunday after 4th September.

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Enquiries and orders for books records and cassettes should be
sent to Mrs. Joan Rackham, 16 Bathurst Avenue, London SW19 3AE.

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 Kedge (address above).

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

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WOULD MEMBERS WHO CHANGE THEIR ADDRESS PLEASE NOTIFY THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY



NEW CHRISTMAS CARDS

The design illustrated is by Caroline Thomas, and the S.I.F.D. is most appreciative of her work in producing this charming and decorative Christmas Card. Very many thanks, Caroline, for so readily agreeing to do this for us.

The actual size of the cards is 4 1/8 inches by 5 7/8 inches and they are in full colour. Like the previous ones, they are packed in sets of five and are 70p per pack. Postage rates for the moment are: 1 packet - 15p; 2 packets - 28p; 3 packets - 34p; 4 packets - 42p; 5 & 6 packets - 56p. Postage rates will probably rise in October, so get your order in early!

I still have some of the previous design left, 65p per packet, postage as above.

KAY KEDGE
(address on page 2)

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INTERNATIONAL BARN DANCE (a.k.a. BEGINNERS' DANCE)

SATURDAY, 6TH OCTOBER 1990, TREFUSIS HALL, CECIL SHARP HOUSE
7.00 to 10.00 p.m.

The Society has arranged the above event, and Hugh Wood (merton Park) and Jill Bransby (Rainmakers) have kindly agreed to be the M.C.s. Nick Green will be responsible for the music side.

This Dance will be different inasmuch as it is aimed at non-dancers outside the S.I.F.D., and the programme will, at the M.C.s' discretion, consist of both old and new dances which will have one thing in common - they can be easily called or shown without taking up too much time, so new people should be able to relax and enjoy themselves without getting tied in knots, as the first step to becoming interested in the Society. However, if possible, we would like a few S.I.F.D. members to come along and act as partners and generally help the evening to be a friendly one, and of course if they can make this event known to other prospective dancers it would be helpful.

Note: Outside publicity gives the entrance fee as £3,00, but S.I.F.D. members will be admitted at the usual rate of £2.50.

GEORGE SWEETLAND

M.C.s FOR SUNDAY DANCES

This year's calendar of M.C.s is filled and I have been asked to arrange M.C.s for next year. I should be grateful if Group Leaders could get in touch with me and let me know what month they would like to do in 1991.

My thanks to the Group Leaders and their members who readily came forward to help fill this year's calendar; also many thanks to others who in answer to my plea willingly helped out at the last minute, especially Havering. All extremely busy people.

I had apologies from Fiona, Frances, Jack and Uri. Had they been able to M.C. a Sunday Dance, it would have lent more of a variation to the year's programme. A minus, I'm afraid, from the Balkan leaders. I thought it would have been nice for the Aberystwyth Summer School organizers to get together again and run a Sunday Dance. My letter with this suggestion was ignored.

MONA GRAHAM

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

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news from the north

Instead of everyone zooming down South for workshops, what about climbing Northwards to a glistening granite and oil-fired city called Aberdeen? Why? Because Jan Knoppers will be holding a weekend workshop there teaching dances from the Balkan countries. We all know who Jan is - a very qualified teacher who specializes in Armenian and Bulgarian dances and who taught at the last S.I.F.D. Summer School in Wales (special invitation goes to Barbara Shaffer).

The workshop will take place on 17th/18th November 1990 as part of a 10-day dance festival. This festival is funded by the District Council and the Scottish Arts Council and is mainly for contemporary dance events but, with some pushing, the organizers have allowed this one folkdance event and its success could influence future events.

So, anyone within a 500 mile radius of Aberdeen is very welcome to come. Please contact me for further information.

ANDRENE SAILE

Beannachar, Banchory Devenick,
Aberdeen AB1 5YL
Tel: Aberdeen 861825

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

Dance Groups:

"Selpar". Classes on Tuesday evenings, 7.15 at Selly Park School, Pershore Road, Stirchley, Birmingham. Tutor: Sybil Chapman.

"Heart of England" International Folkdance Group. Wednesday evenings, 7.30 at Lyndon School, Daylesford Road, Solihull. Leader: Alf Garton.

"Arden" International Folkdance Group. Tuesday evenings at 8.00 in Heart of England School, Gipsy Lane, Balsall Common, Nr.Coventry.
Tutor: Grace Pittman.

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

Following the Introduction and Part 1, we now have Part 2 in the series of articles by Ken Ward.

A PLAIN MAN'S GUIDE TO YUGOSLAV FOLK COSTUMES
PART 2. THE PANONIAN ZONE - THE EASTERN PART

The Eastern part comprises Slavonia and Vojvodina (which includes also Baranja and Bačka). Vojvodina comes within the Republic of Serbia. The Eastern part is very fertile and most people therefore were comparatively well off compared with the majority of rural people in other ethnic regions, and it is also a complex one for it contains many ethnic groups or descendants of people from many parts of Europe. Constant changes of frontiers, large movements of people, and occupying forces made it a melting pot. When occupied by Austria, there were many mercenary troops, and the town of Novi Sad was virtually created by the Empress Maria Theresa as a garrison settlement. So, apart from the Serbs, there were Slovaks, Ukrainians and Hungarians - also groups from Catalan, Armenia, Italy, Bulgaria and Germany. Backa and Baranja formed part of the old Kingdom of Hungary but many Hungarians left due to political and frontier changes. There have been many influences on the development of clothing, and we have to remember the important trading routes from the East, which introduced textiles and techniques of embroidery. Two important tribal groups also left their lands around the end of the 17th century - the Sokci from the Dinaric regions (Bosnia) and the Bunjevci from the Adriatic Coastal region. About the same time, some 30,000 or so families migrated Northwards to this area to avoid the Turkish advance in the Serbian provinces further South. The name Bunjevci derives from the word "bun", a temporary shelter used by semi-nomadic shepherds.

By the 1950s or so, a once-thriving local textile production had died out and a once-common Slavonian costume was replaced by local variants - a certain amount of standardization was encouraged by the Seljačka Sloga from the 1920s onwards, possibly to prevent disintegration of fine costumes, and it was felt that each area should have a different costume. However, a lot of the former richness has disappeared. At one time, the most representative festive or best costume was adorned with elaborate gold embroidery known as "zlatara"; today this variant is well-preserved in the villages around the town of Djakovo. The embroidery shows a distinct Baroque influence which has been grafted on to an older multi-coloured technique; this change happened some time in the 18th century. The use of gold metallic thread, however, goes back a long way. Two techniques are used, (a) "Nas kroz" in which the gold thread is passed through the cloth so that there is an equal amount on both sides, an expensive technique of Muslim origin, and (b) "Po papira" (through the paper) in which the gold thread is worked over a paper design and secured on the underside with silk thread. The embroidery is in strong relief - sometimes thick paper or card is used and the technique is known as "pozlatinski vez". In between the two World Wars, silver thread began to be used, sometimes blended with the gold or used on its own.

The zlatara costume consists of a full-length dress (kosulja, rubina or odnica.) This is in fact a blouse part (oplečak) joined to a pleated skirt (skuti). The sleeves are very full and long so that they overhang the wrist and end in fine or coarse lace cuffs (cipka), and they are gathered on to the neck-band. The skirt is flat across the front but pleated across the back from hip to hip. Pleating seems to be at its most complex in Slavonia, and has become a decorative form in the whole of the Panonian region. Pleating was not always a decorative form; it was a practical way of storing clothes in a chest, and various forms have evolved. The most basic form is a "zig-zag". This can be combined with square "U"-shaped boxes facing both in and outwards. In the Slavonian costumes the outward facing box is several inches wide and embroidered in a vertical strip. In practice, the zig-zag pleats become almost totally compacted and you have what seems to be a solid wall of embroidery in some costumes. The women are expert in re-pleating and folding into a tube for storage. The narrow zig-zag

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pleats are compressed into the box pleats until a tube is formed. Holding on to the waist end of the skirt piece, the skirt is swung high in the air and banged down heavily several times onto a table so that all the pleats converge and dovetail. The tube is then tied up with strips of cloth. I couldn't believe it when I saw it done in a Posovinan farmhouse where I had obtained some very old costumes (never used) back in the 1960s. I declined the offer to try! It now takes me more than a little longer to repeat the operation using another method. The top part of the costume is prepared by flattening and rolling inwards the sleeves to form a tube and folding over onto the skirt part.

The pleats are made by soaking the new material in lye (a mixture of sieved wood-ash and water), rubbing well and rinsing in running water. Soap is often used today but the technique is still the same. The material is dried until damp, laid on a table and smoothed. Small pleats are put in with the fingers and beaten with a stone fold by fold after which the pleats are pressed in a shallow wooden trough, weighted down by a large smooth stone. This technique is called "skretati rublje". It takes a long time and needs patience and skill. Clothes are put in a chest until needed, when they are taken out and shaken; the pleats are stiff and strong. Over the dress is worn an apron of satin, embroidered with gold motifs (pregača) and a triangular scarf over the shoulders, also embroidered in gold (Marama za ledja). Around the waist is an embroidered sash (pas). The top garment is worn in a fold over the sash in the style of the late Roman women's tunic, and the costume as a whole is different in development from other regions in Yugoslavia. The Slavonians absorbed much from the original Roman culture of the area which has been preserved.

At one time, broad strips of yellow satin with relief gold embroidery were sewn over the box pleats in vertical columns and a broad piece sewn around the hem of the skirt. The entire sleeve was also covered in this way. The apron was also of quality pink or cream satin lavishly embroidered. Now, black is often used for the apron and shoulder scarf.

The man's costume is similar to the basic Panonian costume of the Western region. a loose-fitting long-sleeved tunic worn over wide trousers but in the "zlatara" area the front neck opening has a large gold embroidered panel and the sleeves and trouser seams are also richly embroidered. Vertical bands of white embroidery or drawn-thread work are often inserted. The sleeve cuffs and the bottom of the trousers are edged with rich heavy lace.

Young and unmarried women have their hair arranged in a special manner for weddings and festive occasions called "pletanica". Special women in the village knew how to do it. The long hair was finely plaited into sixty tresses or more, and interlaced to form a flat net which was fixed on to the top of the head with decorative pins and ribbons. The part around the ears was adorned with flowers, artificial flowers, and ears of corn. The type of hair style can be seen in Roman illustrations of the 3rd to 5th centuries. Slavonia was an important part of the Roman Empire and supplied several emperors.

Another distinct variant of the basic Slavonian costume called "starinsko ruha" is found in villages around the town of Slavonski Brod. It is similar in construction but the decoration is in coloured embroidery - red, blue and black - and the apron is made of dark fine woollen thread with a long fringe. The apron is worn hitched up at the left side. The embroidery is of a type also found in Russia in which the threads are not pulled tight but left in small loops on the surface. The decoration is arranged in stripes of the same or alternate colours on the front and back of the blouse part and across the shoulders and down the sleeves, and the box panels of the skirt. White costumes were used for mourning. There is, however, a white variant called "Bijela" worn around the town of Vincovci. It has fine white embroidery cut work called "raspit", and needlepoint called "priplet" which is a kind of lace blended into the cloth. A more recent type of drawn threadwork is called "šlengeras".

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The man's costume is the basic wide trousers worn under a long-sleeved tunic. All cuffs and hems are decorated with white lace, and white embroidery is used on the neck area of the tunic. Lace strips are put into the lower part of the trouser legs (or drawn threadwork is used). The most usual motifs used in embroidery are birds, bunches of grapes, flowers and ears of corn.

Both men and women wear sheepskin waistcoats (prosluk) predominately red in colour and decorated in applique and small circular mirror inserts. A predominately red printed scarf is worn by men and women under the jacket, so that it protrudes over the shoulders, and inside the neck opening. In the summer, men wear a black braided silk jacket. Older women wear a large woven "tartan" scarf on their heads so that it hangs down the back and is fastened on the crown of the head. The men wear a soft "trilby".

There are distinctly different costumes worn in other areas, and those worn by the Bunjevci and Sokci. All these will have to wait for the book. Part 3 will look at the costumes of the coastal region along the famous Adriatic coast, possibly the least known but nevertheless both important and beautiful.

KEN WARD

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The Yugoslav Folkdance Class (Zivko Firfov Group)

Due to management changes at Morley College, the day, time and venue for the above class have had to be changed. The class will now meet on Monday evenings from 7.30 to 9.30 at Morley College, 61 Westminster Bridge Road, London S.E.1. I apologize to any other class teacher with a class on Mondays with whom we now clash, but unfortunately we had no choice in the matter.

LINDA SWANTON
Tutor, Yugoslav Folkdance Class

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Marjorie and Debbie Corner have moved and now live at Willowby, Down Road, Tavistock, Devon PL19 9AE. We wish Marjorie every success in her new job at Tavistock.

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THE RED ARMY

A group from Moscow - The Red Army Ensemble "Red Star Rockets Troupes" (The Red Rocketeers!) will be touring in the U.K. from September to December. Over 100 singers, dancers, musicians. I haven't space to include the full details of their itinerary but they start at Poole Arts Centre on 12th September and after that will be visiting Wembley, St.Austell, Paignton, Oxford, Wimbledon, Brighton, Southampton, Canterbury, Liverpool, Stockport, Nottingham, Doncaster, Coventry, Hanley, Sunderland, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Leeds, Hull, Leicester, Bristol, Eastbourne, Cardiff, Wolverhampton, Preston, finishing at Brentwood on 17th December. For full details, contact Mervyn Conn (Lime Leisure Group), 139a New Bond Street, Mayfair, London W1Y 9FB. ED.

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BERT PRICE PROFICIENCY AWARDS
Silver and Gold badges awarded to members

Tests were held recently at St.Paul's Centre, where 32 candidates performed dances from Holland, Armenia and Mexico and were assessed by a panel of teachers. Nineteen Silver badges and Certificates were awarded for Dutch, eleven for Armenian and sixteen for Mexican. Having gained five Silver awards, seven members also received Golds on this occasion. SIMON GUEST

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.....

Dear Lily,

I have been called many things in my time but, until Philip Thornton's letter in the last issue of SIFD NEWS, I have never been accused of being an Alice-in-Wonderland Stalinist. I would be prepared to ignore an insult that I don't even understand, if it were not associated with such a gross distortion of my views on folklore and tradition. I don't know who Philip Thornton thinks I am, but I have no "associates". My views are those of an ordinary S.I.F.D. member and I need please no-one but myself in the formulation of those views.

Anyone who knows me well would find laughable the idea that I care nothing for authenticity. My main argument is that any concept of authenticity should be linked to historical context, and should not depend on the aesthetic and political judgments of external observers.

Rather than reiterate my views, I feel that it is better to urge everyone (especially Mr. Thornton) to read again what I wrote in the July issue of SIFD NEWS. I would like to add that I am willing to modify those views on the basis of rational discussion, and I regret that Philip Thornton chose to squander a page of SIFD NEWS on personal abuse.

Yours sincerely,

JAMES WEBB,
9 Mill Bank, Oulton Broad,
Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 3HG

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Dear Lily,

May I crave space in your illustrious organ for news about my classes?

First, Morley College has decided to drop all its Branches, and has therefore closed the Israeli class with no notice, and no apology. This means that at present we are homeless in Limbo. If anyone knows of a hall in Central London that might be suitable and available, please let me know.

Secondly, Bromley International Class continues, but at a new venue. Term begins on 8th September at 7.30 p.m. at Raglan Infant School, Jaffray Road, Bromley. The school is a short frequent 'bus ride from Bromley South station, off Bromley Common.

Apart from this nothing has changed! I am still the teacher, available for functions (veddings and Bar Mitsvahs a speciality).

Shalom,

FIONA HOWARTH
17a Ravensbourne Road, Bromley,
BR1 1HN Tel: 081 460 230.

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Dear Lily,

Members in Norfolk and Suffolk might be interested to know that there is a new dance group. The Beccles International Folkdance Group meets on Monday evenings in Worlingham Village Church Hall from 7.30 to 10 p.m. (£1 per evening). We will be re-starting on 3rd September, and anyone is welcome. Experience and partners are not necessary. For further information, contact James Webb (0502 589058).

By the way, the group is nothing like that portrayed by Mr. Thornton.

Yours sincerely,

JACKY WEBB (address as on
James's letter above)

S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE - STICK DANCES

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

Time: 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Date: SATURDAY, 8TH SEPTEMBER 1990

Tutors: Various Fees: £3 S.I.F.D. members, £4 non-members

Bring packed lunch; squash available on site. Kitchen will be open for making tea or coffee, and tea-bags, instant coffee and milk will be provided at a nominal charge.

It is planned to teach stick dances from Romania, Estonia, New Zealand, Pays Basque and India. Some notes and cassettes may be available but only official video recording will be permitted.

The S.I.F.D. Day Course on 13th October is expected to be Balkan.



HUNGARIAN FOLKDANCE WEEKEND - 27th and 28th OCTOBER

The teacher will be Ferenc Biró, a Hungarian currently living in Germany. We have provisionally booked one hall in Camden but we are still waiting to see if we can get another one with a slightly better floor surface, i.e. sprung. Details will be provided in next month's SIFD NEWS. The exact details of the dances have also to be confirmed, but much of it will not be choreographed but will consist of learning figures with which to improvise - the original way of performing these dances.

The day course will be from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with an hour for lunch, on the Saturday and Sunday, with a social dance on the Saturday evening from 6 to 9. About half of the evening dances will also be Hungarian. Costume optional (Balaton and Doina Groups will be wearing theirs).

Saturday course + Evening Dance + Sunday course	£14.50 (SIFD £13.50)
Saturday course + Sunday course	£12.00 (SIFD £11)
Evening Dance alone	£3.00 (SIFD £2.50)

Bookings in advance. For further information and booking, contact Leslie Haddon or Sue Chipp on 081 441 2959 (3 Clifford Lodge, 36 Clifford Road, New Barnet, Herts. EN5 5PF).

LESLIE HADDON



WORTHING INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE CLUB celebrates its 10th year

As a further part of the celebrations there will be an ISRAELI DAY COURSE, on SUNDAY, 7th October 1990, at Heene Road Community Centre, Heene Road, Worthing, West Sussex. Heene Road runs South to the sea-front from about half-way between West Worthing and Worthing Central B.R. stations. Heene Centre was formerly a school, and parking is in the playground and in the roads around the centre. The centre is only two minutes from the sea-front.

The hall will be open at 10 a.m. for a 10.30 a.m. start and the tutor will be JUDY INGRAM. The first session will be from 10.30 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. (one hour for lunch; bring packed lunch). The second session will be from 1.45 to 4 p.m., or 4.30 if need be. The hall closes at 5 p.m.

Fee for the day, £2.50. Tea/coffee/squash and biscuits will be available all day FREE. A telephone call would be appreciated if coming, for catering purposes.

IRIS BIRCH, 0903 691651

Lesley Boorer has produced yet another beautiful design for an S.I.F.D. T-shirt, which is illustrated alongside. The shirts are all navy poly/cotton, and the design is in white. Once again we give Lesley our very grateful thanks for all her talented work.

The T-shirts will be on sale at London area functions, and those living further away can order from me by post; bulk orders can be supplied to groups. Price: £4 each (please add 30p for postage). Sizes: Small, Medium, Large and Extra-Large.

Also available are the "Line of Dancers" T-shirts in white poly/cotton. They are in the same sizes as the navy, and are also £4 each.

KAY KEDGE
(address on page 2)



SIDMOUTH INTERNATIONAL FOLK ARTS FESTIVAL

The whole of Sidmouth was "en fête" for the 36th International Festival from 3rd to 10th August this year. There were beautiful flower displays in the gardens, private and public, and in the streets and squares, and the town was bursting at the seams. During the week there were over 600 festival events - workshops, performances, concerts, social dances, lectures, ceilidhs and countless impromptu sessions so that whether you were walking along the esplanade or through the town or calling in at any of the pubs or public gardens you were entertained by music, dance and song. Use was made of every church hall, drill hall, club premises, council chambers, cinema, marquee, market square and park and field to accommodate the numerous events. Even the beautiful parish church itself was used to stage some excellent small concerts. There were some very talented musicians, and I was very impressed with the standard of some of the musical groups.

As usual, there was a predominance of English folk dance and song, but on the "international" side there were some very good musical groups from Sweden, Hungary, Pays Basque, France, Czechoslovakia, and a fantastic didgeridoo player (from Brighton!); also a lively group of Bolivians. There were dance groups from Yugoslavia, China, Sri Lanka and Czechoslovakia; an evening of French dancing (more enthusiastic than authentic!), an evening of Cajun dance, as well as workshops for Cajun and Hungarian and Appalachian clogging. There was also a group of singers from Norway. A new item this year was a series of lectures under the heading, "International Dance Workshop". Two of these were given by Vera Kovaru and covered the dances and traditions of Czechoslovakia, and two were given by Bruno Ravnikar and covered characteristics of Yugoslavian folk dances as well as collecting and notating traditional dance. They were excellent lectures and included demonstrations by the dancers and musicians of regional styles of dance, costume and traditions. These lectures were in addition to the "Meet The Team" items and were much more interesting.

The festival seems to go from strength to strength, but I'm afraid it gets more expensive. Season tickets this year cost £64, and although one can see quite a lot of spontaneous performances for nothing, I think £5 just to sit on the grass to watch a show at the Arena is exorbitant. However, I enjoyed the week, and only wish I had the stamina to keep up the pace. Events start at 9.30 a.m. and continue until the early hours of the next morning!

LILY AVERY

INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL EISTEDDFOD - LLANGOLLEN 1990

Welsh weather is notoriously changeable, but it does seem to be quite exceptional in its perversity during Eisteddfod week. Swelteringly hot before; by Tuesday the wind and rain clouds appeared and Llangollen became grey and sombre; but come Saturday, the last day, the sun was shining and the Celtic weather gods were smiling again - just four bad days.

The opening concert was not well chosen, "The Trinidad & Tobago Carnival, Camboulay". It could have been a bright, eye-catching entertainment but, in spite of the fact that the audience were ready to enjoy themselves and the performers worked hard, the lack of continuity, and the overlong items, led to a lack of interest and the audience became smaller and smaller. But, without doubt, the most disappointing moment was on the Wednesday afternoon when the list of entrants was read out before the competition began. Group after group after group had failed to present themselves, so that of the listed 23 only 11 took part, one of which (the Kurdistan group) was a last-minute additional entry. I have in past years given what I believe to be the reasons for this lack of attendance so I won't bore you by repeating them.

The competition was opened by a Lithuanian group from Vilnius, beginning with a men's dance in which two sets of "goats" hopped, jumped and butted each other with great abandon and this was followed by a 19th century dance, this time with the men in town costume and their partners looking very attractive in green, black and gold. The fine musicians made this group particularly enjoyable.

The London Ukrainians, showing "Arkan" and "Kolymeyka" were well received by the audience, but both in the first man's dance and the couple dance several of the men seemed to be under-rehearsed. But again the music of accordeon, dulcimer and violin was good.

Next, the Portuguese. These were, unusually, a student group but showed the authentic exuberant style. Their costumes were quite simple working clothes but very effective. Because of the re-arrangement of the competitions, I cannot now check the names of dances, but the dances they did are not in our repertoire, which is probably just as well as they both finished by being fast and furious. The first dance was a foursome, the second for couples in a circle, with progressive movements.

The dances performed by the Turkish women's group from Izmir were somewhat similar to each other as both were "engagement" dances and used the wooden spoons characteristic of Southern Turkey.

The Seven Towers Dance School from Ballymeena are regular visitors, and their two dances, based on the manufacture of Irish linen and the working of the Flat Mill wheel, are true folk dances, but why do they have girls dancing and dressed as men? Lucile Armstrong always came down on this practice very heavily.

From Gravesend, an Indian group demonstrated a dance depicting work on the land, digging, sowing and reaping, then a playlet ending with the distress of the poor suitor as his beloved is forced to marry a rich (and old) merchant.

A French group from Toulouse were very good. Their first dance, "La Fricassé", for couples, has a similar format to our Sadala Polka. A lovers' tiff leading to tears, and a reconciliation, ending with a long embrace, especially for one couple, still clasped together when the rest had gone. The second was a set dance for two couples but neither resembled the styles of Berry or the Vendée.

The late entrants from Kurdistan (in fact from somewhere in the London area) showed dances very reminiscent of those from Turkey, as were the costumes, although the men's headcloth seemed more like those of the desert Arabs. The men and women danced in separate lines to the music of drum and pipe (tapan and zurla?). The second dance featured a mock fight between two men before the women intervened and all were friends again - a lesson here perhaps?

Next, a home team from Pontypridd. They were a good team; they danced well and the costumes were correct, but I have some reservations about the amount of choreography.

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For example, the first item, the Broom Dance, usually a solo, became a competition between three men, finishing as a trio, presented to the audience. Next, the Welsh Morris for both sexes had a Squire and Betty as in England but the men were blacked-up, rare here. They were popular and deserved their placing.

Our good friend, Nenad Bicanic, was able to ensure the appearance of his former group from Sisak, Croatia. They were represented on stage, except for the musicians, largely by women who performed variants of two dances known to the S.I.F.D., Repa and Dučec. The M.C. told us they were related to the harvest and to linen manufacture, a connection new to me.

The group from South Yorkshire showed a quadrille from the Dales and a longsword dance. Both their costumes and precision in the longsword need some improvement.

I enjoyed the Sicilians. Their dances were fast and jolly. The second, in honour of their Patron Saint, danced on his day in September eulogized the delights of their local delicacy, a sausage.

The last performers were the long-time visitors to the Eisteddfod, the Dungeer Mummers, who again showed us their two local dances.

The adjudicators, Naren Kotiyan, Francis Feybli and Anca Giurchescu from Romania, have an almost impossible task. The present timing of the folk music competition means that from 9 o'clock on the Wednesday morning through to the small hours of Thursday they are watching, judging, writing, speechifying for both the music and dance sections, and then filling in the numerous report sheets. It is hardly surprising that some of their decisions are perhaps debatable. The placing has already been reported but, for the record, the Portuguese were first (95), the second the Welsh (94) and lastly Seven Towers N.Ireland (90). For myself, I would not have placed the Irish, but felt both the French and the Lithuanians had the edge over them.

For several reasons, I now find myself attracted to the folk music competition, especially the preliminaries. There is a more informal feeling and all the competitors take part, not just the three who appear on stage and whose position is by then already known, but they are given a chance to show themselves to the public. This year in the preliminaries we had five groups, a duo, and three soloists. The first group, the Lithuanians, were a sextet and their instruments included a zither (kankles) and a sort of vertical wooden xylophone (skrabalai) and they gave a most melodious performance. The Turks, who were very young musicians, played four saz type instruments plus a hand drum, but their two choices seemed to lack contrast. They were followed by a solo on the saz.

From Sisak, the tambouritza band with bass and guitar gave two well-contrasted melodies, full of life and bounce, and this year they were not unwise enough to use written music. The Sicilians were another happy group. Accordeon, guitar, tambourine and short pipe (friscaletto), together with the inevitable jar, blown and tossed in the air, played two lively tarantellas, perhaps not sufficiently contrasted.

A duo from Lithuania, a zither and pipe, gave us two beautiful melodic airs, increasing the tempo at the last section. A soloist from Provence was lovely, playing the pipe and tabor. His first item was a Rigadoon and this was followed by a piece imitating the sound of a nightingale, which he did by using two pipes simultaneously.

The last competitor was somewhat of a puzzle. He wore jeans and T-shirt, and you can't tell much from that. He played an instrument which I didn't recognize, a short pipe with a cow's horn as a bell end, producing a loud but nicely rounded tone. I thought he spoke English, which was not unusual, as when I asked him for the name of the pipe and where he came from he wrote, eyeing me, "Pibgorn, Cymru". I felt a complete idiot! However, we had a long chat later and he told me he was a maker of instruments from Aberystwyth, and he had copied his pipe from a museum exhibit. He was also interested in French music and dance, so I have sent him details of our publications.

The three competitors to appear on stage were the soloist from Marseilles (98) the

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Sicilians (96) and the Lithuanians (95), all very well deserved.

I always enjoy Llangollen, as much for the place and its atmosphere as for the Eisteddfod itself, but I sincerely hope that next year the organizers will do their best to arrange a more suitable opening concert, and see that there are more reliable entrants who will actually arrive on stage.

GEORGE SWEETLAND



BALKANPLUS DANCE COURSE - GREEK AND ROMANIAN DANCES

The above course will take place at Working Men's College, Crowndale Road, London N.W.1. on SATURDAY, 15TH SEPTEMBER 1990, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tutors will be Lillian Galatis and Frances Horrocks. Fee: £4.00, annual members £3.00.

Both morning and afternoon sessions will be divided between the two countries. No cassettes will be available on the day but may be ordered if there is sufficient demand. Shoes with a heel are preferable for both countries. Please bring own drinks for the day, packed lunch, or eat out.

A BALKANPLUS DANCE will follow, from 7 to 10.30 p.m. Cost: £2.50 including light refreshments. M.C.: Frances Horrocks assisted by Lillian Galatis. Music by Dunav Balkan Group. Other musicians welcome. The programme for the evening will include dances taught during the day and also one or two stick dances from the S.I.F.D. Day Course the previous week, so please come prepared. With Dunav in attendance, there will be lots of live music as well, so what better way to start your autumn Balkan programme.

Further details, if required, from Helen Green, 0923 51528 (evenings). The next Balkanplus will be on 20th October and will include a half-day course on Kurdish dances; full details next month.



VISIT TO ENGLAND BY PECE ATANASOVSKI

The Zivko Firfov Group is in the process of finalizing arrangements for Pece Atanasovski to come to England. As you may know, he is a bagpipe player and teacher of Macedonian folk dances, whose expertise and inspiration are acknowledged both in America and in Europe. It is many years since he last came to this country, but I am certain that those who experienced his teaching then have not forgotten his skill and enthusiasm.

The Zivko Firfov Group will arrange classes for the weekend of 10th and 11th November and also for a couple of evenings during the following two weeks. However, it seems selfish to confine the benefits of his visit to the London area, and therefore if any group or individual in another part of the country would like to arrange a teaching weekend for 24th and 25th November (or 17th and 18th, though this would be a second choice), this is a possibility. His fee would be £30 per hour for a group of 30/40 people - more for a larger group. He would charge an additional fee for video-taping, and would also need accommodation and travelling expenses.

Please ring me on 081 764 6181, or Irene Keywood on 081 592 4427 if you might be interested in arranging such a weekend.

Further details next month.

LINDA SWANTON
Tutor, Yugoslav Folkdance Class

HORA FETELOR

(Romania)

A (Play gently and with expression)

Am D7 G Cm G Am Cm G Cm Am Cm D7 G G G Last time

Play: AABAB (2 mins.)

DOUDLEBSKA/LINEČKA POLKA

(Czech)

(Pro: LEENETSKER)

A (Intro: Last two bars)

D A7 D A7 D A7 D A7 D A7 D Play Ad lib - finish

The Czech name for this dance is Doudlebska but apparently at some time in this century, possibly during one of the wars, the dance was taken by migratory workers to the town of Lienz in Austria. When the workers and the dance came home again it became known as the polka from Lienz or Linečka Polka.

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

Sept. 2nd M.C.s Woodvale International Folkdance Group

Oct. 7th M.C. Leslie Haddon (from Doina Group)

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

Sept. 8th S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE OF STICK DANCES. See page 9.

Sept. 14th THRACIAN DANCES FROM BULGARIA taught by Brian Dowsett at Barnet International Folkdance Club, 8 p.m. at Church House, Wood Street, Barnet, Herts. Details from Irene Nicholls, 081 440 1366.

Sept. 15th RAINMAKERS' ANNIVERSARY DANCE, 7.45 to 11 p.m. at Springfield House, High Street, Stevenage Old Town, Herts. All welcome; please wear costume. Tickets £3 including refreshments. Musician: Wilf Horrocks. More details if required from Betty Lee, 0438 316288.

Sept. 15th BALKANPLUS DAY COURSE and EVENING DANCE. See page 13.

Sept. 19th DUNAV BALKAN GROUP WILL BE PLAYING AT Chanticleer Folk Club in the Social Club of Dorking District Hospital, St. Paul's Road West, Horsham Road, Dorking, Surrey. 8.15 to 11 p.m. Entrance fee "up to about £3.50". There will probably not be room for dancing, but there will be lots of Balkan music and songs.

Sept. 21st to 23rd WEEKEND AT KELSTON PARK, NEAR BATH. £46. Some vacancies. Enquiries to Roy Clarke, 33 Cedar Park Road, Enfield, Middx. Tel: 081 367 2649.

Sept. 29th DAY COURSE OF ARMENIAN FOLKDANCES organized by Barlow International Folk Dance Group at St. Ninian's Church Hall, Egerton Road South, Manchester. Tutor: Frances Horrocks. 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Cost: £3.50 for whole day, £2 for morning or afternoon only. Bring packed lunch; hot drinks available (or small cafes, take-aways, close by). Further details, if needed, from Joan Wood, Secretary (061 881 1077). It will be an exciting day; do come and join us. JULIE KORTH.

Oct. 6th INTERNATIONAL BARN DANCE FOR BEGINNERS. See page 3.

Oct. 7th ISRAELI DANCE COURSE at Worthing. See page 9.

Oct. 13th AUTUMN DANCE run by Woodvale International Folkdance Group at Borough Green Village Hall, 8 to 11 p.m. £3.50 including buffet. Guest M.C.: Dave Carter. Bookings: Heather Bevan, Maidstone 692937.

Oct. 20th LATVIAN DAY COURSE run by Nutbrook International Folkdance Group at Kirk Hallam Community School, Godfrey Drive, Kirk Hallam, Ilkeston, Derbyshire. 10.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tutor: Viktors Grigulis. Fee: £3. Bring packed lunch; drinks available.

Oct. 27th to 28th HUNGARIAN FOLKDANCE WEEKEND. See page 9.

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ERRATA.

Thank you, Kay, for your write-up of the Embankment Gardens programme for 8th July. I should like to point out, however, that the children's team came from Wimbledon Chase Middle School, not Banstead. They would be most upset!

FRANCES HORROCKS

The groups marked with an asterisk have not been confirmed for this S.I.F.D. year, and details given are based on last year. Either the groups have not re-enrolled or their applications are still in the pipeline.

- * ANACHNU ISRAELI DANCE GROUP meets during term time on Tuesdays, 7.45 to 9.45 p.m. at Thomas Tallis School, Kidbrooke Park Road, London S.E.3. Teacher: Judy Ingram. Tel: 01(?) 858 5436. Beginners & Advanced.

BALKANPLUS meets monthly, on 3rd Saturday of every month, 7 to 10.30 p.m. at Working Men's College, Crowndale Road, London N.W.1. (near Mornington Crescent Underground). Live music by Dunav Balkan Group some months. Workshops and special events organized. Details from Helen Green, 0923 51528.

BARLOW INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP MEETS EVERY Tuesday, September to mid-July, except Christmas week. Wilbraham/St.Ninian's United Reformed Church Hall, Wilbraham Road (corner of Egerton Rd. South) Manchester. 7.45 to 10.15 p.m. Secretary: Joan Wood, 38 Egerton Road North, Manchester M21 1SQ.

- * BESKYDY DANCERS (Czechoslovakia) meet on Wednesdays during term time. Beginners 7 to 8 p.m. Advanced 8.30 to 9.30 p.m. Singing 8.15 to 8.30 p.m. Fox School, Edge Street, Notting Hill Gate, London W.8. Live music. Tutor: Hedy Fromings. Tel: 01(?) 699 8597 (evenings).
 - * BRADFORD HUNGARIAN DANCE GROUP meets most Sundays, 3.30 to 5.30 p.m. Willowfield School, Legrams Lane, Bradford. Teachers: Eva Gazdag & Ruth Richardson, also visiting specialist teachers. Secretary; Rachel Novak, 88 Legrams Lane, Bradford BD7 2AH. Tel: 576903. Warm welcome to all ages.
 - * BRISTOL INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP meets every Thursday during term time, 7 to 9 p.m. at Claremont Special School, Henleaze Park, Bristol. Tutor: Hilda Sturge, 10 Carmarthen Road, Bristol BS9 4DU. Tel: 0272 621802.
 - * BROMLEY INTERNATIONAL GROUP meets in term time only on Tuesdays, 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. at ~~St. Mark's C.E. Primary School, Aylesbury Road, Bromley (off Westmoreland Rd.)~~. ~~Very near Bromley South Station - Victoria 15 minutes.~~ General International with emphasis on "Lines & Circles" from Balkans and Israel. Tutor: Fiona Howarth, Tel: 081 460 2305. NEW VENUE: Raqlan Infant School, Jaffray Road, Bromley.
 - * CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL CLUB meets at St.Columba's Church Hall, St.Andrews Street, Cambridge (entrance beside the Varsity Restaurant), on Mondays, 8.30 to 10.30 p.m. General International. Secretary: Mrs. V.Thorgerson, 19 Earl St., Cambridge CB1 1JR.
 - * "DANCEFOLK" NEWCASTLE INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP meets on Thursdays, 1 to 3 p.m. in the Small Gym, P.E.Dept., Newcastle University. Enquiries to Mrs. P.Brewer, 9 Pilton Walk, Westerhope, Newcastle. Tel: Tyneside 2861983.
 - * EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP meets on Mondays, end-September to mid-May, 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. at Stockbridge House, Cheyne Street, Edinburgh. General International. An Advanced Class meets on Wednesdays in St. Ann's Community Centre, South Gray's Close (off the Cowgate) Edinburgh, 7.30 to 9 p.m. Further information from Dennis Belford, 031 449 5325, or Kirsty Evans, 031 337 4638.
- FOLKESTONE DISTRICT NATIONAL DANCE GROUP meets on Tuesdays, 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. in the Community Hall, United Reformed Church, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, from September to June. Contact Secretary, 51 Chichester Road, Sandgate, Folkestone. Tel: 0303 49199.
- * HARROW FOLKDANCE CLUB meets at various venues on most evenings fro English/Playford/~~American~~ Square /Clog. Some International dance on Mondays. Contact: John Lawes, 044(?) 907 4700.

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* HAVERING INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP meets in term time on Thursdays, 8 to 10 p.m. at Harold Wood Primary School, Recreation Avenue, Harold Wood, nr. Romford, Essex. Tutor: George Sweetland. Secretary: Sheila Hall, "Cranwood", Blackmore Road, Hook End, Brentwood, Essex CM15 0DS. Tel: 0277 821808. General International.

* HURSLEY INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS meet at IBM Clubhouse, Hursley Park, Winchester, on Thursdays, 7.30 to 10 p.m. General International. Secretary: Terry Clowes, MP 206, IBM U.K. Laboratories Ltd., Hursley Park, Winchester, Hants. SO21 2JN. Tel: 0962 844433 Ext.6550.

IBERIAN FOLKDANCE & MUSIC SOCIETY meets on Wednesdays, 6 to 8 p.m. and on Sundays 3 to 5 p.m. at Swiss Cottage Community Centre, 19 Winchester Road, London N.W.3. Spanish & portuguese dances, collected personally by Lucile Armstrong. Leader: Mrs. Juanita Martin, 125 Broadhurst Gardens, London N.W.6. Secretary: Miss M. Morris, 64 Yale Court, Honeybourne Road, London N.W.6.

* INTERDANCE EASTBOURNE meets 1st & 3rd Fridays each month except August, 7.45 p.m. at St. Wilfrid's Church Hall, Broad Road, Willingdon (A22), Nr. Eastbourne. Guests always welcome. Leader: Roy le Croisette, 0323 32237 (between 5 and 7 p.m.).

INTERDANCE WORTHING meets every Friday, 7.15 to 10 p.m. at Field Place Pavilion (Southern end of the Boulevard), Worthing. Nearest B.R. Station Durrington. Partners not essential as line and circle dances are very popular. Tutor: Iris Birch, Worthing (0903) 691651.

ISRAEL FOLKDANCE INSTITUTE. For details of classes and other services available, please write to I.F.D.I. c/o Balfour House, 741 High Road, London N12 0BQ, or call 01(?) 445 6765 or 446 6427.

KALINKA DANCERS Folk dances of the U.S.S.R (Russian Ukrainian, Moldavian, Tartar, Uzbek). Mondays, 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. at Unitarian Church Hall, Ormond Road, Richmond, Surrey. Teacher: Jenia Graman, 081 876 0514. First class free; later £3 per session. No enrolments, no terms, no age limit, but no children. No previous experience necessary. Live music.

KAYROMA INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP meets Fridays, 7.30 to 9 p.m. in term time at Whitley Lodge First School, Whitley Bay, Northumberland. General International. Special interest in Spain, Portugal and Mexico. Tel: 0661 852495.

LOIDIS INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP meets on Thursdays, 7.45 to 10 p.m. at Moor Allerton Memorial Institute, Stonegate Road, Moortown, Leeds, West Yorkshire. Mixed international, including Balkan, Israeli, Greek and Western European. We are always delighted to welcome new members and extend a warm invitation to anyone who visits our area and wishes to join us for an evening's dancing. Contact 0532 787837 for further details.

* LONDON TURKISH FOLKDANCE GROUP meets on Mondays in term time, 7.30 to 9.15 p.m. at Netley School (annexe of Camden Institute), Netley Street, London N.W.1. (off Hampstead Road). Nearest Underground: Warren Street. Contact Pauline Welch, 01(?) 393 1919 or Ibrahim Tastaban, 01(?) 808 7284.

* MERRY ANDREW FOLK AND SQUARE DANCE CLUB meets on 2nd, 4th & 5th Mondays except August, 8 to 10.30 p.m. at Sherard Hall, rear of United Reformed Church, 1 Court Road, Eltham, London S.E.9. All welcome. Enquiries: 0689 71494.

* NEWPORT INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP meets on Tuesdays, 8 to 10 p.m., September to July, at Brynglas Community Centre, Brynglas Road, Newport, Gwent. Further details from Sue Oates, 135 Beaufort Road, St. Julians Estate, Newport, Gwent. Tel: 0633 246241.

NUTBROOK INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP meets on Thursdays in term time, 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. at Kirk Hallam Community Centre, Godfrey Drive, Kirk Hallam, Ilkeston, Derbyshire. Secretary: Mrs. Sylvia Stephens, 67 Thackerays Lane, Woodthorpe, Nottingham NG5 4HV. Tel: 0602 208109. We do a wide variety of general international dances, and new members and guests are always welcome.

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- * OXFORD INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP meets on Wednesdays throughout the year, 8.15 to 10 p.m. at St.Giles Church Hall, 10 Woodstock Road, Oxford. General International dancing, led by David Mowat.
 - * RAINMAKERS INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP meets most Fridays at 8 p.m. in St. Michael's Church Hall, The Broadway, Letchworth, Herts. Teacher: Jill Bransby. Secretary: Betty Lee, 48 Rockingham Way, Stevenage, Herts. SG1 1SH. Tel: 0438 316288.
 - * TROIKA INTERNATIONAL DANCE GROUP meets at The Pavillion, Totnes, Devon, for dances from East Europe to live music from the group "Troika" whenever possible. For days and times of meeting, contact Basil Bunelik, Bellaver, Crosspark, Totnes, Devon.
 - * WIGGINTON INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP meets on Thursdays at 7.45 p.m. in term time at Wigginton School, nr.Tring. Details from Margaret Cullen, Hemel Hempstead 58277.
 - * WOODVALE INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP meets on Tuesdays, 8 to 10 p.m. at Parish Hall, Quarry Hill Road, Borough Green, nr.Sevenoaks, Kent. General International folk dancing. Details from Heather Bevan, 45 Chillington Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 2RT. Tel: 0622 59560.
- WYCOMBE INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP meets every Monday except Bank Holidays and August, at Sir William Ramsay School, Rose Avenue, Hazlemere, nr.High Wycombe. 7.45 p.m. Contact: Uri Gerson, Tel: 0494 23434.

S.I.F.D. ASSOCIATED CLASSES

* GENERAL INTERNATIONAL

- Tuesdays, 7.45 to 10 p.m. in term time, in Senior Common Room Bar, Fulton House, University College, Swansea. Contact: Joan Richardson, 0792 403153. (Swansea University International Folkdance Group).
- * Tuesdays, 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. at Cheam High School, Chatsworth Road, Cheam, Surrey. Beginners. Tutor: Joy Steventon, Tel: 01(?) 542 3831. (Merton Park Group).
 - * Wednesdays, 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. at Merton Institute of Adult Education, Whatley Avenue, London SW20 9NS. Advanced. Tutor: Joy Steventon, Tel: 01(?) 542 3831. (Merton Park Group).
 - * Wednesdays, 8 to 10.15 p.m. at Red Cross and Welcome Club, Barton Way, Croxley Green, nr.Rickmansworth, Herts. For details, ring 0923 241441. (Croxcley Green International Folkdance Group).
- Wednesdays, 7.15 to 9.15 p.m. in term time, at St.AlbansSchool, Baldwin's Gardens, London E.C.4. Tutor: Janet Woolbar. (Central London International Class).
- * Thursdays, 7.45 to 9.45 p.m. at Durrants School, Manor Way, Croxley Green, near Watford, Herts. Tutor: Audrey Whiteley, Tel: 0923 221696. (Watford International Folk Dancers).
 - * Fridays, 2 to 3.45 p.m. at Community Centre, off Barton Way, Croxley Green, Rickmansworth, Herts. (not August). For details, ring 0923 241441. (Croxcley Green International Folkdance Group).
 - * Fridays, 8 p.m. September to July, at Church House, Wood Street, Barnet, Herts. Leader: Brian Dowsett. Details from Irene Nicholls, 081 440 1366. Balkan and General International (Barnet International Folkdance Club).
- Mondays, 7.15 to 9 p.m. at Hope Valley College, Castleton Road, Hope, Derbyshire. Tutor: Marina Wolstenholme. Term time only. We do General International dances with a stress on lines and circles, especially Balkan and Israeli. (Hope Valley Dancers).

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Thursdays, 7.30 to 9 p.m. at Gosforth School, Dronfield Woodhouse, Sheffield. Tutor: Marina Wolstenholme. Term time only. We do General International dances with a stress on lines and circles, especially Balkan and Israeli. (Dronfield Dancers).

BALKAN

- * Feltham Balkan Dance Club meet twice a month in Feltham. For details, contact Philip or Mary Dobison, 01(?) 890 8304.

Mondays, 8 to 10 p.m. in term time at the Camden Institute, Longford Street, London N.W.1. Balkan and Eastern European folk dance, especially from Bulgaria, Romania and Macedonia. Half the normal ILEA fee. Details from Cathy Meunier, 071 482 0906 or Nick Green, 0923 51528. (Balkan & International Folkdance Group).

BULGARIAN

- * Thursdays, 7 to 9 p.m. at Woodberry Down Branch, Hackney Adult Education Institute, Woodberry Grove, London N.4. (Maritsa Bulgarian Folkdance Group).

EASTERN EUROPEAN

Tuesdays, 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. in term time, at Netley Street School, Netley Street, London N.W.1. Contact: Leslie Haddon, 01(?) 441 2959. Apart from weekly classes, the group gives many public performances and welcomes visiting specialist teachers. (Doina East European Dance Group).

HUNGARIAN

Thursdays, 8 to 10 p.m. in term time, at Camden Adult Institute, Longford Street, Marylebone, London N.W.1. Contact: Leslie Haddon 01(?) 4412959. Apart from weekly classes, the group gives many public performances and makes occasional visits to Hungary. (Balaton Hungarian Dance Group).

ISRAELI

- * Wednesdays in term time. Beginners 6.45 to 7.45 p.m. Progression 8 to 9 p.m. At Henry Fawcett School, Bowling Green Street, Oval, London S.E.11. Tutor: Fiona Howarth, 01(?) 460 2305. (Hama'Agal). PLEASE DELETE THIS PARAGRAPH. CLASS TEMPORARILY CLOSED.

POLISH

Jacy Tacy Group meets and performs from time to time. Watch SIFD NEWS for notice of day courses and less formal Polish dance meetings, open to all. Tutors: Tony Latham (081 992.9445) and Betty Harvey (081 980 9650) also available to teach elsewhere.

ROMANIAN

Mondays, 7 to 9 p.m. at United Reformed Church Hall, 7 Wakefield Street (from St.Pancras Station, down Judd Street, left into Tavistock Place, first right is Wakefield Street.) Tutor: Alan McLean. 50p for 2 hours. Apart from weekly classes, the group welcomes the opportunity to perform publicly in authentic costumes and hopes to make group visits to Romania. (Sirba Romanian Dance Group).

YUGOSLAV

Mondays, 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. at Morley College, 61 Westminster Bridge Road, London S.E.1. Tutor: Linda Swanton, 081 764 6181. (Zivko Firfov Group). PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DAY, TIMES AND VENUE FROM LAST YEAR.