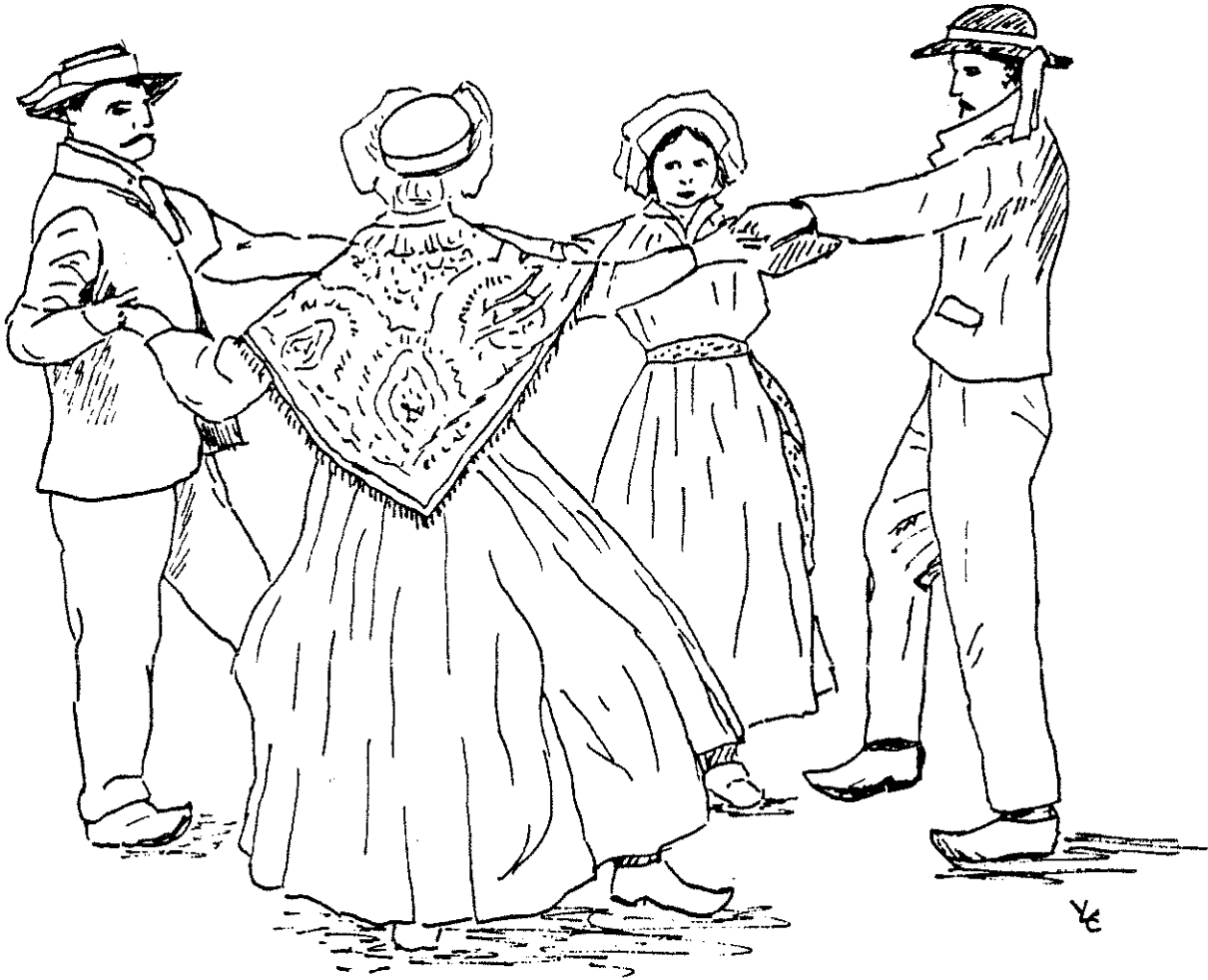


**SIFD**

*News*



**NOV 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 peasants dancing "La Bourrée" in the Auvergne, France.

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CHRISTMAS PRESENTS?

Diki Gleeson still has three copies of Lucile Armstrong's book, "A Window on Folk Dance" which is now out of print (and unlikely to be re-printed). Price: £8.95. plus postage & packing. Contact Diki at Oak Lodge, Theobalds Park Road, Enfield, Middx. EN2 9BN, if you are interested.

Also, don't forget Nigel Allenby-Jaffé's very comprehensive book, "Folk Dance of Europe" reviewed last month. Price: £24.00 hardback, £16.50 paperback, plus £2.82 and £2.30 respectively for postage and packing. Orders, marked "S.I.F.D.", to Folk Dance Enterprises, Lambert's Halt, Kirkby Malham, Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 4BT.

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Diki has also sent me some information about a "Voice Over Festival" (incorporating Voice, Music & Dance) taking place this month in various venues centred around the Royal Festival Hall - Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room, as well as I.C.A., Chisendale Dance Space. Artistes listed to appear include Iain Ballamy (Indian flavour), Sianed Jones (Irish), a Beijing singer, Caroline Pegg, Jenny Rodd, Ida Kellarova (Moravian songs), Valentina Ponomareva (Russian), Cassiber and Sayhno Namchilak (Mongolia), Iva Bittova (Czech) and Frankie Armstrong. Some of these names may be familiar to some of our members. If you would like more information, Diki suggests you contact the Royal Festival Hall to get the programme leaflet, giving details of who is doing what where. ED.

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

SECRETARY'S NOTES

We were very pleased to hear at the October Committee Meeting that the International Barn Dance held at Cecil Sharp House the previous evening had proved to be most successful. Thanks are due to all those who contributed to this success - the organizer, George Sweetland, M.C.s Jill Bransby and Hugh Wood, the Band who played so well, and, of course, those members who attended and helped the beginners to dance the evening away. We hope to put on another Barn Dance later in the year.

Various administrative details of interest to members were settled. First, the 1991 dates for the Sunday Dances at Cecil Sharp House are as follows:-

6th January	7th July
3rd February	1st September
3rd March	29th September
7th April	3rd November
28th April	1st December
2nd June	

We have two dances in April because of the Eastbourne International Folk Festival during the first weekend in May, and two dances in September as the House has been booked for a conference for the whole of the first weekend in October.

Secondly, because of rising hall hire charges and increased teachers' fees, it has been decided that admission charges to the monthly Day Courses will have to be raised. It is, however, over eight years since the last increase. With effect from January 1991, Society members will pay £4 instead of £3, and non-members £5 instead of £4. Concessionary rates are being investigated.

Book 1 is to be re-printed, and we ask all interested parties to check the music and instructions in the present edition and tell Joan Rackham (address shown below)\* of any errors. (We know about Kreuz König!).

We have a new Affiliated Group, the Ryde International Folkdance Group. This is our first group in the Isle of Wight, and we welcome them and hope they will thrive.

We hope to see as many members as possible at the Annual General Meeting at Cecil Sharp House on Sunday, 2nd December 1990.

\*16 Bathurst Avenue, London SW19 3AE

AUDREY WHITELEY  
Hon. Secretary

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"NOËL" AND "PARTY"

The above names refer to our own special Christmas Cards. They are done up in packets of 5 cards, with the words "With Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year" inside. "Noël" costs 65p a packet, and "Party" is 70p a packet. Postage rates are as in last month's SIFD NEWS.

Also available are Membership Badges at 90p each; Notelets at £1.10 for a packet of 10 (2 designs in each pack); "History of the S.I.F.D." by George Sweetland, £1.50; Car Stickers at 30p each. We are out of calico bags for the moment, but some are on order.

If you order by post, please make cheques and postal orders payable to S.I.F.D. and send your letters to me, address on page 2. I am hoping to be snowed under with orders!

KAY KEDGE

--oOo--

Members who knew her will be sad to know that we have heard that Rita Towner died in July. Rita will be remembered by those of us who used to dance in Danny Lumley's Bulgarian group many years ago. We send her family our sincere condolences. ED.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Readers (and particularly Lawrence Fry of Ammanford),

When I read Lawrence Fry's message on page 8 of the October SIFD NEWS, I was forcibly reminded of the 41 other personal messages that reached me direct. They included 8 from members who have been great friends of mine for 25-30-40 years! I have also humbly to confess I had six from readers who virtually told me to shut up, disappear, and get lost. They totally agreed with dear Mr. Webb of Lowestoft. But Lawrence sums it up far more aptly than I was able to do in his paragraph 3, lines 5 to 7, "Is it possible to know 700 dances and still really appreciate the authentic experience of ANY of them?". The blunt answer is NO. You end up doing them almost as if they came from the same country.

I take it that his 700 is a figure of speech? Nevertheless, several S.I.F.D. members to whom I have spoken, tell me they know 220! - but they have confessed that it is sometimes very difficult to remember where on earth they got them from.

It gives me such joy to stagger along, riddled with arthritis, to an occasional Balkanplus gathering, and occasionally to totter through Makedonsko, or Jedenaistvo, but tell me, where have Drmeš, Pajduška and dear old Hora Din Teiš disappeared to? Our sort of dancing is like good wine - it isn't found in the volume; it is found in the vintage and flavour.

With all good wishes, and many many thanks for bothering to write to me.

PHILIP THORNTON  
40 Epirus Road, Fulham,  
SW6 7UH

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Dear Lily,

I was recently given a book on folk dancing by a friend, who knew that I understood Dutch. Unfortunately, the book turned out to be in Swedish which is not one of my languages! The book includes a great deal of information on dance history in Sweden, music, song words, photographs and illustrations as well as dance instructions (including footwork patterns in the ballroom dancing style!).

If there is anybody in the S.I.F.D. - or known to anybody in the S.I.F.D. - who would like to take this book off my hands (as the friend who gave it to me doesn't understand Swedish - or Dutch! - either), I would be quite happy to pass it on to them at no charge except possible post and packing. So, first-come, first-served. Please ring me on 081 533 5016 (be prepared to speak to an answerphone if I'm not there) to put in your claim.

ROBERTO HADDON  
17 Monkton House, Pembury Rd.  
London E5 8LY

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Dear Lily,

S.I.F.D. members might like to know that there are accordionists and accordion clubs throughout the U.K. They can be contacted through a letter to "Accordion Monthly News", 146 Birmingham Road, Kidderminster, Worcs. DY10 2SL. Tel: 0562 746105.

It could be that some local accordionists would be interested in providing live music for dancing to, or that some accordionists reading this would like to make contact with other accordionists.

Yours sincerely,

SUE COPPARD  
6 Huntingdon Street,  
Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts.

Dear Lily,

It is all great fun when Mesdames O'Regan and Carter draw attention to those strictures on how gentlemen should comport themselves at Renaissance dances, and be dainty and continent and wear fishy pieces of apparatus, but how about the feminists being fair and square by saying that those oft-read notes are monstrously sexist? Beware of wooden spoons, ladies.

JACK CHADWICK  
Hornchurch.

--oOo--

VISIT OF PECE ATANASOVSKI

Arrangements are now finalised for Pece Atanasovski's visit, and teaching sessions are available as follows:-

WEDNESDAY, 21ST NOVEMBER 1990, 7 to 10 p.m. at St.Paul's Community Centre, Rossmore Road, London N.W.1. Price: £5. And SATURDAY, 24th, AND SUNDAY, 25th NOVEMBER 1990, 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. at Sidings Community Centre, 150 Brassey Road, London N.W.6. Price: £10 per day or £15 for both days.

As space is limited, places on all three days will need to be pre-booked. For further information and booking (s.a.e. please), contact me at 65 Ena Road, London SW16 4JE. tEL: 081 764 6181.

Linda Swanton  
Tutor, Yugoslav Folkdance Group

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ARNSIDE BALKAN COURSE - 28TH MARCH TO 2ND APRIL 1991

Romanian and Macedonian dance course with teachers Martin Ihns and Erik Veenstra, with social dances in the evenings and a chance to do your "tourist bit" in the afternoons. £100 half-board accommodation in Arnside Youth Hostel, plus dance course. Space is limited, and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. For further details contact me at 28 St.Mary's Road, Watford, Herts. WD1 8EF. TEL: 0923 51528 (evenings) 0923 204434 (daytime).

HELEN GREEN

--oOo--

SOMMERFESTIVAL '91, SANDEFJORD, NORWAY

In an earlier issue of SIFD NEWS I mentioned the above festival. I have now received a little more information about the festival. It will take place at Sandefjord, Norway, from 21st to 28th June 1991 and is open to the following groups: Choirs, Marching Bands, Big Bands, Folklore Groups. If your group is interested in taking part, or if you wish to go as a spectator, please contact Sommerfestival '91, Sandefjord Reiselivsforening, Boks 367, 3201 Sandefjord, Norway, Tel: 034-60 590, for full details regarding participation, accommodation etc. Bookings have to be in no later than 1st February 1991. ED.

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A BOOK OF ESSAYS

It occurs to me that some readers may like to buy the Book of Essays entitled "A Day In Our Lives" which contains 22 prize-winning essays in English by Romanian children. If you are interested, please send £2.95 plus 75p postage and packing to: A Day in Our Lives, Romanian Orphans Appeal, Wellington School, Wellington Road, Bebington, Wirral, Merseyside L63 7NG. Cheques payable to this appeal.

DIKI GLEESON

Dear Lily,

How right Jack Richardson is, writing that it was painful to listen to the amplifier at the Pontardawe Festival. Yes, it is "a wonder that folkdance festivals were ever held before the days of electronics"!

It seems that any music that is not ear-splitting is no good. I had an example of this when I went to one of the Balkanplus evenings. There were six instruments, perfectly adequate for the hall. But no, they had to have an amplifier each. I was told this was the fault of whoever was in charge of the amplifiers, but I hope that Dunav's wonderful music has not been spoilt again by distortions to be so overpowering that I escaped into the lounge with a splitting headache. There, I could hear the music at a normal level.

Incidentally, I was told that at the Victoria Embankment during my songs, the amplifier went up, and down, and off altogether, and far too loud in places.

Is it not time that we gave up the idea that there MUST be amplification at any price?

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

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S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE - BALKAN

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, 10TH NOVEMBER 1990

Tutors: Various

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

Dances to be taught:

Assoulis	(Armenia)
Ajšino Oro	(Yugoslavia)
Arcanul Bătrinesc	(Romania)
Danets	(Bulgaria)
Kangeli	(Greece)
Zervos	(Greece)

Please come equipped with a belt. 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.

Cassettes and notes will be available at the course. Only official video recording will be permitted.

N.B. Owing to a double booking by the Church Council, it was thought that we would not be able to use St.Paul's Centre for this month's Day Course, and Simon Guest made an announcement to this effect at last month's course. However, the other booking has now been changed, and our Balkan Day Course this month will be at St.Paul's as usual. Our thanks to the Church Council for their co-operation in sorting this out.

There will be no S.I.F.D. Day Course in December.

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SILVER BADGE EXAMINATIONS

Several people have requested more frequent Silver Badge Examinations. Should we hold them perhaps every year? If we hold tests next summer, which countries should we include? Answers and comments please to me or any member of the Badges and Day-Courses Sub-Committee. SIMON GUEST, 0378 77065.

This article excludes Istia in the North which is in the Alpine region and the hinterland which is in the Dinaric region.

The Slav immigrants of the early 7th century expelled or assimilated the greater part of the existing population, but had to adapt to a new way of life. However, the comparatively wealthy maritime cities were able to withstand the invaders and so became a refuge for the Latin and Italian population. But the Slavs penetrated to the coast at several points between the towns of Kotor, Zadar, Dubrovnik, and other Latin cities, where at the time sovereignty was held by the Byzantine Emperors. There followed centuries of complex power struggles involving Croatia, Venice and France - Napoleon was around at one stage. However, the population preferred independence until Austria took over in the 19th century. In the area there was also a long tradition of piracy which was very lucrative - the pirates were called Uscoks. The Balkan War of 1912 and World War 1 determined the future of the region, although there were further boundary changes after the subsequent World War which resulted in the Yugoslavia we all know today. Although the Italian population declined, much of its influence remained, and the language can still be heard.

Geographically, the Adriatic coast is a long narrow strip of land and high mountains which were until recently inapproachable, and the nature of the "karst" terrain made it poor agriculturally. However, olives, grapes and figs are produced. The region is also rich in mineral ore which the Romans were quick to exploit. The cultivation of the lower slopes was only made possible by terracing. Fields were created by manually transporting thousands of baskets of soil from the lower ground and containing it behind dry stone walls. Flocks of sheep were kept but the shepherds were semi-nomadic. There are differences in the costumes not only between the towns and villages of the coast but also the numerous islands and the mountains.

The costume from the Konavli district near Dubrovnik is possibly the best known; many tourists go to Čilipi on a Sunday to watch dancing, and the Poskocica or Lindjo, a couple dance in which the figures are called by a dancer, is famous. The costume differs in many respects from others of the Adriatic. While in essence it preserves the Dinaric characteristics (to be discussed later), its links with the Venetian urban culture of Dubrovnik led to the development of a more graceful woman's costume. The coarse woollen cloth was replaced by machine-made cotton and silk. The once-nomadic way of life of the Konavli people ended in the 15th century.

The woman's costume (Fig.A) consists of full-length dress ("košulja") worn under an outer black or blue long-sleeved garment worn open at the front ("modrina"). Both are of one-piece construction. Underneath, older women still wear a petticoat ("privlačak") and underskirt ("skuti"). Some elements of the original costume from the highlands remain. The boys, until they grew up, and the girls until they got married, wore a "bijelača" or child dress of undyed wool. Girls still wore this until recently as a winter costume, but boys ceased to wear it in the 1930s. Over the two garments is worn an apron ("pregljača") of white cotton (wool in winter). The bottom edge is adorned by an interwoven broad decorative strip - the depth of colour depending on the age of the wearer. In the past, girls who had passed the marriage age of 18-20, because so many men became temporary emigrants abroad seeking work, adopted the older and married women's attire. The older type of apron often gives way to a "traversa" made of floral pink or blue artificial silk, which is a pity. The embroidery is only found at the neck opening of the dress ("poprsnice") and the sleeve cuffs ("osvice"). The exquisite neck panels are worked in silk and traditionally indicated the social status of the wearer. The patterns have names, such as "vez na prstice" (little fingers stitch), "na zavrtače" (spotted pattern), "Skadarice" (Skadar pattern), "mrk vez" (dark stitch), and so on. There are variations in size, colour, and type of execution. Large yellow silk tassels hang from the neck panels. Over the "modrina" is worn a simple waistcoat, "čermica" or "jačerma", braided in black. But on special occasions a "velika jačerma" embroidered with gold metallic thread was worn. These were made by tailors in Dubrovnik or Skadar and were an important part of the bride's dowry given by her betrothed.

Young and unmarried girls wear a small red cap, "crven kapa". At one time, this was embroidered in gold and was called "zlatača".

Contd...

At one time, married women wore a special headdress called "hondelj". A specially tied scarf would be mounted on to a pad formed by twisting the hair into two plaits with flax stalks. The scarf was then fixed with large filigree topped pins (black glass in times of mourning). The wearing of the "rogi", or ram's horns, supporting frame has long ago died out. Currently, the older and married women wear a small starched white scarf formed into a cap over which, on special occasions, is formed a large starched scarf - very similar to the headwear of certain women's religious orders and to the Gothic headdress of the 15th century. The only other item is a black woven sash, "tkanica", with a wide yellow silken stripe woven into the centre. However, now multicoloured machine-made braids are being introduced. Leather sandals, "opanci", are seldom worn. The black shoes now worn replace the older red slippers, "firale" or "kundure".

The costume now has far less jewellery than the costumes of other areas and consists of betrothal gifts. An ornamental pen-knife, "britva", hanging from the belt by a chain, "šmdzir", silver badges, "kolanja", a cross hanging from a rosary, "kriz i ploče", silver links for the dress collar, "igle prebadače", and earrings, "vežlice".

The man's costume (fig.A) is Levantine (from countries bordering the Eastern Mediterranean). It has survived in an older stage of development. The distinctive full, knee-length trousers, "gače", are of cotton called "modrača". In everyday wear they became black, but for best wear they are blue; traditionally they were white. White cotton socks replace the original natural woollen ones, although black became normal for everyday; these are called "bičve" or "koveje". The white linen shirt, "košulje", has open sleeves. Over it is worn an "oriental" type waistcoat, "presomitaca", which overlaps across the chest, double-breasted style. It is richly decorated in gold metallic wire; this is usually red or blue. Over this is worn another jacket. "gunjac" or "fermant", richly decorated on the front, back, and upper sleeves in gold metallic thread and wire. (A fuller description will be given in the Dinaric article). A large umbrella "parasol" was once carried by both men and women to protect them from the sun.

In part 4 I shall discuss the town of Primošten and the island of Pag, and two distinctive traditional dance costumes from the island of Korčula, for Moreška and Kumpanja.

(See drawings on page 9).

KEN WARD

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#### ARMENIAN AND INTERNATIONAL COURSE AT THE YORKSHIRE DANCE CENTRE

On SATURDAY, 1ST DECEMBER 1990, from 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. there will be a Day Course in Armenian and International Dances. Tutor: Marina Wolstenholme.

Weekend courses must be booked and paid for in advance in person or by post. Please make cheques payable to the Yorks Dance Centre. If the required minimum number of bookings has not been reached one week before a course is due to take place, that course will be cancelled and fees returned.

Cost: £7.50/£5.50 all concessions. For further details, contact: Y.D.C., 3 St. Peters Buildings, St.Peters Square, Leeds LS9 8AH.

ALSO - On SATURDAY, 2ND MARCH 1991, a Day Workshop on Bulgarian Folk Dances, with a special evening viewing of the "Bulgaria, Tradition and Beauty" Exhibition at Leeds City Museum. Telephone Leeds (0532) 426066 for details and costs.

MARINA WOLSTENHOLME

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CANCELLATION. The proposed visit by Pece Atanasovski to Derbyshire has been cancelled due to lack of support. The dates of his visit have also recently been changed. I hope that interested dancers will be able to attend one of his workshops elsewhere. Many thanks to those people who did ring me. We reached a total of 13, which was obviously a bad omen! MARINA WOLSTENHOLME





Fig A

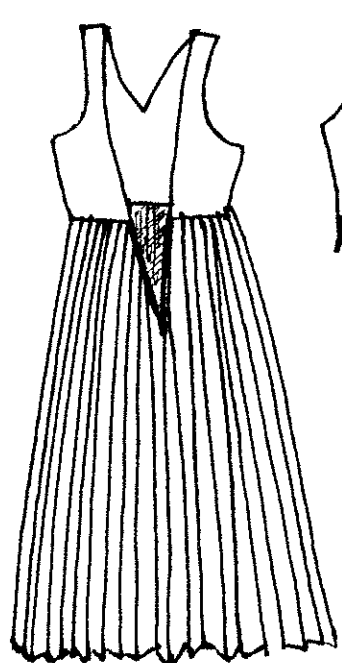


Fig C

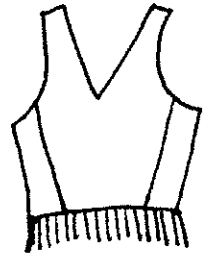


Fig Ca

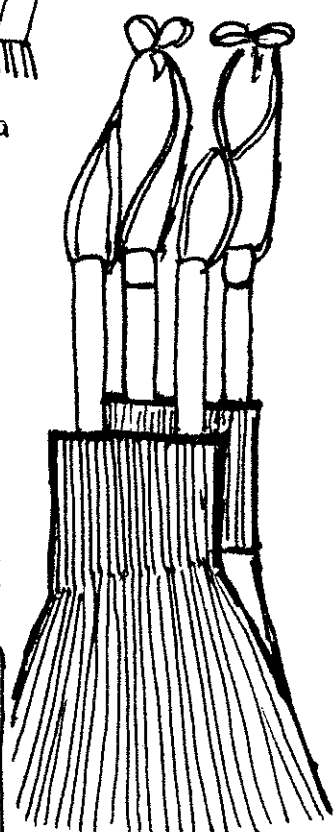


Fig F



Fig D



Fig B

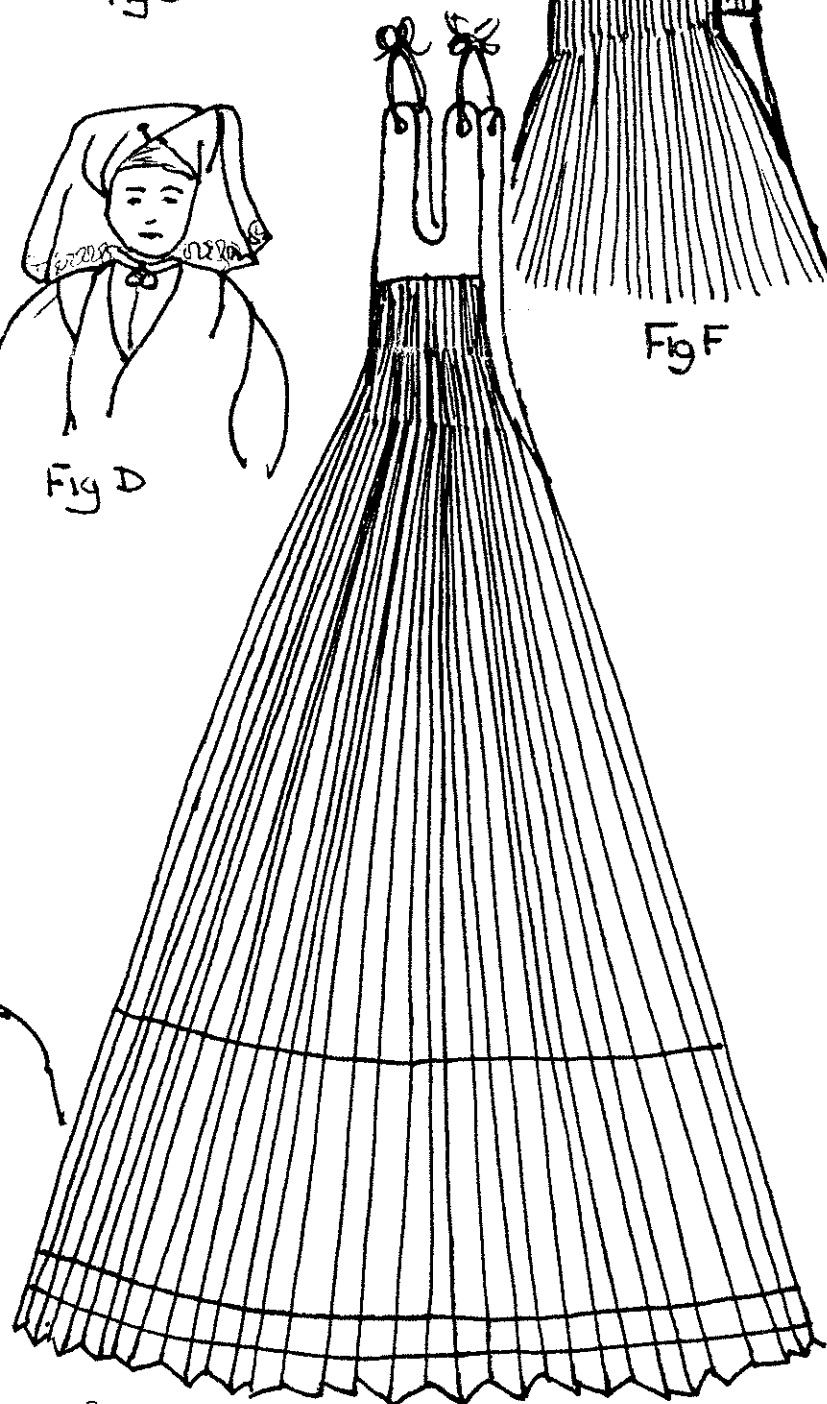


Fig E

A COURSE WITH JAN KNOPPERS  
HARTINGTON YOUTH HOSTEL MAY 25TH TO 26TH 1991

Jan Knoppers has recently been appointed chief teacher/trainer for the Dutch Centre for Amateur Dance (previously Folk Dance), and he is Adviser/Organiser for Amateur Dance in Rotterdam. He is coming to share his skills with us at a weekend which will combine practical and, possibly, theoretical work.

At the recent hugely successful "Rotterdam Danst" Festival, Jan's American clogging workshop was the best attended (and most photographed). At Hartington he has expressed a readiness to teach any dances from his International repertoire, and even invites your requests for material, which will ensure a fun weekend for everyone. In addition, he is offering an introductory course in Roman notation. This system, which was originally developed for notating Romanian dances, can be very quickly adapted to any dance style. A knowledge of musical rhythms is essential; after that the symbols are easy and logical, and it is very quick to use. A great amount of dance material is now notated in this way. and it is a system taught to Dutch folk-dance teachers.

Also, several people have expressed an interest in up-dating their knowledge of teaching methods, and ideas on how to present dances. If there is sufficient support for this, Jan would also give advice and help on developing and enlarging teaching skills, to present or potential teachers/leaders, as he does on his training courses in Holland.

These sessions would be optional and in addition to the dance course. When people send for application forms I would like them to indicate whether or not they would want to attend these sessions and I will plan the time-table according to demand. Jan would be able to show how dances learned during the day would be notated. I will do my best to fit everything into the programme. Don't forget your requests for material, e.g. Armenian, Lines & Circles, "Easy dances for your group", clogging (these are my requests already!).

I have booked the Y.H.A. "luxury" accommodation in "The Barn" at Hartington, which has 4 and 6-bed dormitories with their own shower-rooms. There are 28 places in "The Barn". The course will be at Biggin Village Hall nearby. Monday, 27th May, is a Bank Holiday, so why not make a long weekend of it? The Peak District is very beautiful at that time of year, and though I cannot promise Well-Dressings, it is the season for them, and on 29th May, at Castleton, there is the unique and fascinating Garlanding Ceremony. With all these "folky" events on offer, you may wish to stay all week!

Costs: Full board at the Y.H. with sleeping bag and packed lunches, Friday supper to Sunday lunch - £31.20. Teaching: I anticipate a fee of £13-£15, depending on numbers, whether notation and teaching practice sessions are taken, and possible rises in transport costs in 1991. Numbers for theory sessions may have to be limited, so when sending s.a.e. for application form, please state clearly whether you are interested in (a) the notation course, and (b) the dance teacher's course. Send s.a.e. for forms to me at "Robin Cottage", 4 Commercial Road, Grindelford, near Sheffield S30 1HA.

MARINA WOLSTENHOLME

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OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Jan.19th 1991 BALKAN DANCE WORKSHOP with Sbořenka Group. A selection of popular dances will be taught at the Swiss Cottage Community Centre, 19 Winchester Road, London N.W.1., from 11.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Further details later.
- Feb. 2nd 1991 OXFORD BALKANSKO ORO NEW YEAR'S PARTY, 7.30 to 11 p.m. at St.Margaret's Institute, Polstead Road, off Woodstock Road, Oxford. Tickets £5 (includes refreshments) available from Roger Wickstead, 42 South Parade, Oxford. Tel: 0865 514989. Cheques made payable to Balkansko Oro (please send s.a.e.). Admission by ticket only.

## REVIEW for SIFD News

### 'Steppes' by Troika

Fans of 'World Music' (I think it once used to be called international folk music before it became trendy) will be pleased to know that another cassette has been produced by the group Troika -- also known in a previous incarnation as Wild Borscht - who play music from east European countries such as Romania, Serbia, Russia, and the Ukraine.

To quote from the sleeve notes: "Troika play the music of East Europe together with influences such as Irish, Jazz and Indian, creating a unique sound with their variety of instruments." Unique it certainly is -- and just from the instrumental point of view no wonder. Featured alongside the more familiar accordian, clarinet, balalaika, etc., are the kobza, clavinet, cymbali, domra, tabla and sopilka which, for me at least as a non-musician, were until now unknown entities.

I would say that, on the whole, this isn't a tape to dance to -- not that the tunes don't get your feet tapping, but it would simply detract from the sheer aural pleasure that the music provides! Nor are many of the pieces for ethno-musical traditionalists, fusing as they do elements from different countries and musical genres. The results, however, are brilliant; Troika are very competent musicians and do not just play clinical reproductions of East European music. They have a feel and a taste for the music and add their own spices -- and a welcome drop or two of humour: included in this cassette are 'Drops of Vodka' (used for dancing Strip the Willow), 'Perestroika' ("actually a gypsy song sung by Basil's cousin during his first ever visit to the west, courtesy of Gorbachev") and 'Trip over Transylvania' ("try dancing to this and you'll see what we mean").

My own favourites illustrate Troika's virtuosity: 'Mi Yetni Of' (shoot the typographer: it should be 'Mi Yitneni Of' but fortunately the misspelling doesn't mean anything untoward!) combines the beautiful Yiddish tune with the wonderful sounds of the Indian tabla whilst the jolly 'Ebba Poika' illustrates just how well Troika can play dance music in a traditional rendition when they want to.

From a technical point of view, the whole cassette is very well produced: the recording is of a high quality and the inner sleeve is -- even with the one typo! -- legible and well laid out. I would certainly recommend this as a stocking filler this Christmas/Hannukah/Winter Solstice, even (or especially) if it's your own stocking. Copies are available from Basil Bunelik (Believer, Crosspark, Totnes, Devon; 0803 862393) at the very reasonable price of £5.50 each including p&p.

(reviewed by Roberto Haddon)

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### BALKANPLUS WELCOMES MUSICIANS

Immediately before the Balkanplus dance on 17th November, there will be a Music Workshop at the Working Men's College, Crowndale Road, London N.W.1. This will start at 6 p.m. Bring sandwiches if necessary! The workshop will be led by Nick and Helen Green, and admission is FREE. We aim to work at some of the dances which will be on the evening programme, and give some of the budding musicians who we know are lurking out there a chance to show what they can do. Any standard of playing is welcome; we don't mind what sort of noise you make. If this first workshop is successful, we plan to hold further, longer, sessions, so please give us your support in November. Further details from us at 28 St.Mary's Road, Watford WD1 8EF. Tel: 0923 51528 (evenings), 0923 204434 (daytime).

NICK & HELEN GREEN

## TEN SIMPLE GREEK FOLK DANCES

I have recently compiled a booklet of Ten Simple Greek Folk Dances which comes together with a cassette of the music. The idea sprung from the Folk Studies, launched a while ago by the I.S.T.D. in order to provide suitable material for this new venture. I taught four of the dances at the I.S.T.D. Congress in July, also at the I.S.T.D. Summer School at Ilkley in August. Those present seemed to enjoy them and the booklets and cassettes were sold out.

The ten dances are:-

Sta Tria	(Epirus)	Lenim Thimaís	(Thrace)
Fissouni	(Epirus)	Issos	(Kalymnos)
Pilioritiko	(Thessaly)	Korakianitikos	(Corfu)
Mahalas	(Macedonia)	Ai-Ghiorghis	(Corfu)
Nikolos	(Macedonia)	Tsirighotiko	(Kythira)

S.I.F.D. members might enjoy learning them and doing them at parties etc. Those who teach will find the dances suitable for beginners in Balkan dancing. They should also go down well with children.

The purpose of this collection is not necessarily to present unknown dances. It aims, with simple dances from various parts, to introduce beginners to some of the many Greek styles. It was thought it would be useful to have such dances under the same cover and in an order attempting to introduce learners gradually to some of the intricacies of Greek folk dance. Also, it might be helpful to have this collection at hand when M.C.s are compiling their programme for the various evening Dances.

The booklet and cassette cost £8.50 plus £1 postage and packing. Anyone interested should contact me at 81 Corringway, London W5 3HB. Tel: 081 997 5729. Cheques payable to E.Galatis.

LILLIAN GALATIS

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### KOPRIVSHITSA FOLKLORE FESTIVAL AND DANCE COURSE IN THE MOUNTAINS, BULGARIA, 7TH TO 21ST AUGUST 1991

According to reliable Bulgarian sources, the Festival will definitely take place on 9th, 10th and 11th August 1991, and we invite you to join the B.B.F.S. group - leader Cathy Meunier. As on previous occasions, we shall follow the Festival with a Dance Course which, at a special request from participants, will be combined with a 9 to 10 day stay in the mountains.

Programme: 7th August and 20th August, Sofia. 8th to 11th or 12th August, Festival. (Daily coach transfers from hotel in nearby town). 11th or 12th to 20th August, in the chalet-type "Orbita" Centre near the Batak Reservoir (North-Western slopes of the Rhodopes), altitude 1150m., amongst beautiful scenery and unspoiled natural woodlands; guided walks and optional coach trips; modern indoor and outdoor sports facilities, including a covered 25m. swimming pool. Accommodation in twin-bedded rooms with private showers and W.C. FULL BOARD. Dance Course - Instructor of our choice will be negotiated direct by us and our leader. Therefore, we expect that the course will be cheaper than previously. Non-dancers are welcome.

Prices: £431.00 (group of 25) or £449.00 (group of 15). Course extra.

Immediate booking required with first deposit (registration) of £30 (returnable). Second deposit of further £25 plus Insurance (approx. £15) due by mid-December 1990. If preferred, both deposits may be paid together on booking. Balance due by 7th June 1991.

Further details from: The Secretary, The British-Bulgarian Friendship Society, c/o Finsbury Library, 245 St. John Street, London EC1V 4NB. Tel: 071 837 2304.

SYBIL NEWTON

AFFILIATED AND ASSOCIATED GROUPS/CLASSES

Please make the following amendments to the lists sent out in September:-

ASSOCIATED

FELTHAM BALKAN DANCE CLUB now meet every 1st, 3rd (and 5th where applicable) Friday of each month, 8 to 10 p.m. at Hanworth Youth Centre, Hanworth. Contact: Philip or Mary Dobison for further information, 081 890 8304.

HAMA'AGAL ISRAELI GROUP now meet on Wednesdays, 7 to 9 p.m., at Netley School Annexe, Netley Street, near Warren Street Underground. Tutor: Fiona Howarth, 081 460 2305.

Delete from list: General International Class held at Watford on Thursdays.

AFFILIATED

BRISTOL INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP. Please add: "General International with Balkan bias".

CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL CLUB meet as listed but would like to add that some of their members are trying to reform their display team, after over 20 years hibernation. They are very short of experienced dancers and would welcome anyone with display team experience who is moving to their area and who would have the time to help "knock some shape into a mob of enthusiastic but very amateur dancers"!

HAVERING INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP. Please add "Beginners always welcome".

HURSLEY INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS. The secretary is now Eric Janke, IBM U.K. Scientific Centre, St.Clement Street, Winchester, Hants SO23 9DR. They meet as listed, but please add "Bar and Food available". "Beginners always welcome".

MERRY ANDREW FOLK & SQUARE DANCE CLUB meet as listed but would like International dancers to telephone first on 0689 71494 or 0322 53094 as they also do Playford, Scottish and North American, with some General International.

OXFORD INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP meet as listed but would like to add "Enquiries to D.Porteus, 98 Fairacres Road, Oxford OX4 1TG. Tel: 0865 241584.

WOODVALE INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP. Add: Chairman, Alan Cant, 0732 883405.

Add to Affiliated list:-

CAPRIOL HISTORICAL DANCE & MUSIC GROUP meet on Wednesdays at 7.30 p.m. at the Oldham Community Centre, Union Street, Oldham, Lancs. Early Dance, 13th to 19th centuries. Open all year except end-June/Beg.-July and end-Aug./Beg.-Sept. Enquiries to George Dickinson, 061 766 8208 or Ann Kent 0484 663842.

LYKION TON HELLINIDON GROUP meet on Fridays, 5.15 to 7.15 p.m. and Saturdays 1.15 to 3.15 p.m. for Greek dancing. Enquiries to Elena Katopodi, 8 Bramdean Crescent, Lee, London SE12 0N5.

OXFORD BALKANSKO DRO GROUP meet at St.Margaret's Parish Institute Hall, Polstead Road, off Woodstock Road, Oxford, on Thursdays at 8.30 p.m. Ring Jill Loveday on Oxford 58482 for details.

RYDE INTERNATIONAL GROUP meet on Wednesdays, 7 to 10 p.m., at St.John's Ambulance Hall, Newport Street, Ryde, Isle of Wight. General International. New members and guests are always welcome. Tel: 0983 291134.

# BUČANSKO

(Macedonia)

**A**

**B**

**C**

PLAY: ABABACAC  
Taken from Tape by W.H. Sept. '90

Starts at a moderate speed but each sequence gets a little faster.

# IJS WALS (Pro: ACE-VULS) (Holland)

INTRO.

Play Twice.

Taken from tape by W.H. May '90.

Two more tunes from Wilf Horrocks. Don't forget to let Wilf know if you would like the music for any particular dance. His address is: 53 Southway, Carshalton Beches, Surrey SM5 4HP. Tel: 081 642 3629.

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

Nov. 4th M.C.s Merton Park Group. Interval dances by Frances Horrocks.

Dec. 2nd M.C.s Rainmakers 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

- Nov. 2nd "BARABAN", A FOLK BAND BASED IN Milan, playing music from North-West Italy in the foyer of Barbican Centre, London, 5.30 to 7.20 p.m. Free.
- Nov.10th S.I.F.D. BALKAN DAY COURSE. See page 6.
- Nov.11th LATVIAN FESTIVAL IN GREAT BRITAIN, FEATURING THE FOLK SONG AND DANCE GROUP "Vektors" together with classical musicians "Mantojums". Mermaid Theatre, Puddle Dock, Blackfriars, London, 3 p.m. (doors open 2.30). £5.00. Tickets from British-Soviet Friendship Society, 36 St.John Square, London EC1V 4JH until 8th November, or at Mermaid on day of performance.
- Nov.17th BALKANPLUS AT THE Working Men's College, Crowndale Road, London N.W.1. 7 p.m. M.C.s: Liz Mellish and Joyce Sharp. Admission £2.50 including light refreshments. Further details from Helen Green, 0923 51528 (evenings) 0923 204434 (daytime). Any new musicians particularly welcome at the preceding workshop (see page 11).
- Nov.17th FANFARE FOR LLANGOLLEN INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL EISTEDDFOD. International Gala Performance at Royal Albert Hall, London, 7.30 p.m. includes Hoverla Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, Diwanas Folk Dance Group, Punjab, and Children's Choir of Bulgaria. Tickets £7.50 to £20, from Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod, Eisteddfod Offices, Llangollen, Clwyd LL20 8NG. Tel: 0978 860236.
- Nov.17th BALKAN WEEKEND WORKSHOP with Jan Knoppers at Aberdeen. Further information to 18th from Andrene Saile, Tel: Aberdeen 861825.
- Nov. 21st PECE ATANASOVSKI WORKSHOP. See page 5.
- Nov. 24th PECE ATANASOVSKI WORKSHOPS. See page 5.  
& 25th
- Dec. 1st ZIVKO FIRFOV BALKAN PARTY. Moorfields School, Bunhill Row, London E.C.1. 7 to 10.30 p.m. Tickets £5 including refreshments. Admission by ticket only. Tickets from Irene Keywood, 133 Third Avenue, Dagenham, Essex RM10 9BD. Tel: 081 592 4427. (please send s.a.e.). Cheques payable to Zivko Firfov Group.
- Dec. 1st MATINÉE FOLKDANCE COURSE organized by Barlow International Folkdance Group with "Troika", specialists in EasternEuropean folk music. 2 to 5 p.m. at St.Ninian's Church Hall, Egerton Road South, Chorlton, Manchester. Tickets in advance £3. Contact Joan Wood, 061 881 1077, or 38 Egerton Road North, Manchester M21 1SQ.
- Dec. 1st ARMENIAN & INTERNATIONAL DANCE COURSE, Yorkshire. See page 8.
- Dec. 2nd S.I.F.D.ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 4.30 p.m. in Trefusis, Cecil Sharp House. Nominations for Committee and Motions for the Agenda must reach the Secretary by 5th November.

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It is proposed to hold an EXAMINATION FOR THE GENERAL TEACHING CERTIFICATE OF THE S.I.F.D. in November 1991. An application form and copies of the Requirements and Notes for the Guidance of Candidates may be obtained from Simon Guest, 49 Station Rd., Epping, Essex CM16 4HJ. PLEASE ENCLOSE A STAMPED ADDRESSED FOOLSCAP ENVELOPE.