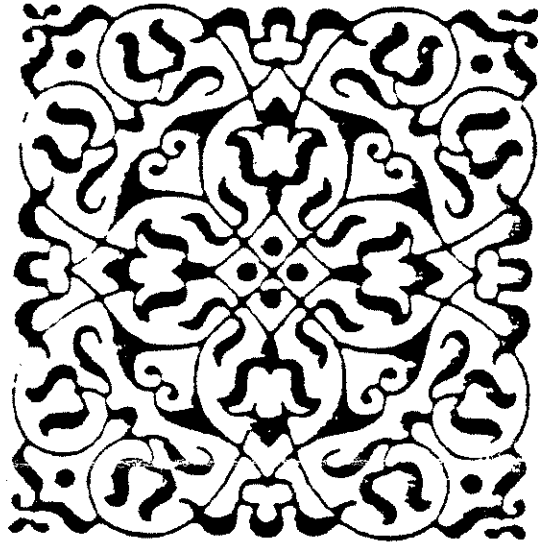
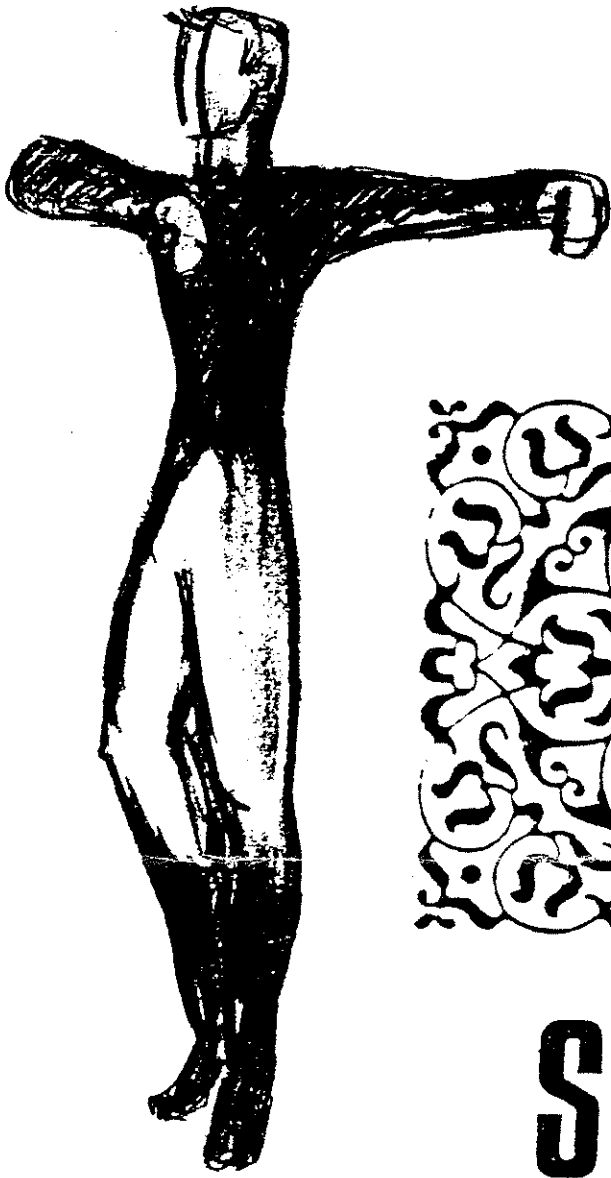


OCT 1991



**SIFD**

*News*



SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

EDITOR: Lily Avery (Mrs.), 16 Willow Drive, Little Common, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex TN39 4PX. Tel: 04243 5866.

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

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This month's cover is by Caroline Waterlow and shows drawings from some of the dances from Jan Knopper's Armenian & E.European Dancing Day in July.

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CHAIRMAN: Janet Woolbar (Miss), 34A Prestwood Avenue, Kenton, Harrow, Middx. HA3 8JZ.

SECRETARY: Audrey Whiteley (Mrs.), 16 De Vere Walk, Watford, Herts. WD1 3BE. Tel: 0923 221696.

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GROUPS LIAISON OFFICER: Alan Morton (address above).

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

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, 12TH OCTOBER 1991

Tutor: Hilary Bolton      Fees: £4 for S.I.F.D. members, £5 non-members  
Concessions on request.

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

Audio recording will be allowed. Only official video recording will be allowed.

Teaching examinations will be held in November instead of a Day Course.

Enquiries to Simon Guest, Tel: 0378 77065.

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WOULD ALL MMBERS WHO CHANGE THEIR ADDRESS PLEASE NOTIFY THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

At the September Committee Meeting we were delighted to hear of a new Group requesting Affiliation - Tatry Polish Song and Dance Group. Tatry is a well-established London Polish Group, and we look forward to a closer link with them.

There will be two important vacancies to fill on next year's S.I.F.D. Committee, as both Janet Woolbar and I are relinquishing our posts. Please help us by canvassing for likely candidates - don't leave it to someone else. It is your Society, and you know what you want from it, and the Committee as your representatives.

AUDREY WHITELEY  
Hon. Secretary

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S.I.F.D. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Preliminary Agenda for the Annual General Meeting of the Society for International Folk Dancing, to be held in Trefusis, Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regents Park Road, London N.W.1., on Sunday, 1st December 1991, at 4.30 p.m.

- 1) Minutes of the A.G.M. held on Sunday, 2nd December 1990, at Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London N.W.1.
- 2) Matters Arising.
- 3) Chairman's Report.
- 4) Treasurer's Report.
- 5) Auditor's Report and Consideration of Accounts.
- 6) West Midlands Branch Capitation Fee.
- 7) Printing costs of SIFD NEWS.
- 8) Announcement of new Committee.
- 9) Any Other Business.

Members wishing to submit Motions to be added to the Agenda must submit them in writing, duly seconded, to the Secretary by 4th November 1991. Proposers and Seconders must be fully-paid-up members of the S.I.F.D.

Nominations for the Committee must be submitted in writing to the Secretary by 4th November 1991, and must contain the written consent of the nominated member to act if elected. The proposer, seconder and person nominated must all be fully-paid-up members of the S.I.F.D.

Present Committee: Janet Woolbar (Chairman)  
Audrey Whiteley (Secretary)  
Judith Payling (Treasurer)

Dave Carter, Judy Clayden, Nick Green, Liz Mellish, Maggie O'Regan, John Smith, Co-opted: Frank Flanagan, Kay Kedge

Ex-Officio: Lily Avery (Editor, SIFD NEWS)  
Alan Morton (Membership Secretary)  
George Sweetland (Publicity Officer)

AUDREY WHITELEY  
Hon. Secretary

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Is there someone out there who would like to take over from me the job of selling the items listed on page 11? I have now done a stint of many years and feel the time has come for me to hand over to someone else. Please contact me (address on page 2) if you would like to consider taking over. KAY KEDGE

S.I.F.D. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1990/91

The membership figures as at 31st August 1991 for the year 1990/91 are as follows:-

National members	618	(536 addresses)
Overseas members	38	( 36 addresses)
Total membership	656	(includes joint members who receive one copy of SIFD NEWS)
Associated classes	16	
Affiliated groups	35	(who receive two copies of SIFD NEWS)

Total number of copies of SIFD NEWS currently produced monthly - 536+70+36 = 642

The total number of members (656) exceeds that of last year (639) and is the highest yet recorded.

As a reminder, revised subscriptions for 1991/92 to cover the increased costs of producing the SIFD NEWS, as agreed at the E.G.M. on 28th April 1991, are:-

*Town Member	£9.00
*Joint Town Members	£12.50
Country Member	£6.60
Joint Country Members	£9.00
Junior Member	£1.50
Life Member	£90.00 (subject to two years' continuous membership and Committee approval)
Group Affiliation	£13.80

\*Address within a radius of 30 miles from Central London or Birmingham.

There has been a return to formerly low levels of losses in the post, where overall there were only about two or three items that went astray.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank members and group leaders for their prompt payment of subscriptions. Due to the peak workload of processing applications it may be a little while before I dispatch your receipt but IF YOU HAVE NOT RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP THIS IS THE LAST COPY OF THE SIFD NEWS THAT WILL BE SENT! Although it is in our budget to send receipts, some members have sent stamped addressed envelopes for this purpose. I try to ensure that a note of appreciation is enclosed and I should like to thank them for this consideration; every little helps!

Best wishes for a Happy Dancing Year for 1991/92.

ALAN MORTON

Honorary Membership Secretary  
and Groups Liaison Officer

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A NEW GENERAL INTERNATIONAL CLASS

At the request of Brent Adult Education Service, Janet Woolbar will be starting a new General International Class at The Copland Community Centre, Cecil Avenue, just off Wembley High Road, near Wembley Central Station. Thursday evenings, 7.00 to 8.30, starting on 3rd October 1991. This could be of interest to members living in the Wembley/Harrow area. (This is in addition to Janet's Central London Class).

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A NEWLY-AFFILIATED GROUP

As mentioned in Secretary's Notes, we have a newly-affiliated group - Tatry Polish Song and Dance Group. Tatry has been in existence since 1962 and the group takes care in preserving the authentic character and steps of Polish folk and national dances. It has a repertoire of songs and dances from all parts of Poland, as well as seven sets of authentic costumes, and performs regularly. They meet on Tuesdays and Fridays, 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. The venue this year will be in the area of Parsons Green or Ravenscourt Park, London, but for details please contact Renata Urbaniak, 66 Blandfield Road, London SW12 8BG

## 37TH SIDMOUTH INTERNATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL

This Festival gets bigger and bigger. You described last year, Lily, what a huge range of folk activities take place in a great variety of venues. This year there were even more events and an extra dance marquee was provided. Visitors have an extravagant banquet of folk set before them from which to choose the most delectable dishes according to their own taste. It is a very rich feast. The festival has quite different effects on people because of the enormous choice. Some get rather overwhelmed by it all and think the festival is too big and lacks a cosy, intimate atmosphere; some build up high expectations which are not fulfilled; some think it is a glorious opportunity to gorge themselves on the best of folk music, song and dance, and get intoxicated by it all. In effect, the choice means that individuals' experiences of Sidmouth vary enormously because each person can follow his or her own interests. Speak to two visitors to the festival and you would get two accurate but quite different reports of it.

There are disadvantages and drawbacks to Sidmouth. Guest-house/hotel accommodation is not easy to get, and camping, which is much cheaper, may not appeal to some. Car parking is difficult to impossible. There can be a lot of tiresome trudging to do between the venues holding the events one has chosen to attend. Tedious queueing for some events may be necessary. Ticket prices have risen steeply and have almost doubled in the last three years and one heard grumbles on this subject.

There are also frustrations and regrets to Sidmouth which arise out of having to choose from the enormous range of events on offer. Soemtimes one almost wishes one were at a small festival or summer school where there are no alternatives. It saves thinking. At Sidmouth one has to study the working programme very carefully and make agonizing decisions about attractive alternatives. One gets frustrated when one stops to eat, bathe or sleep because one then misses part of the festival. Sometimes one feels the organizers have not done their job properly. One has just missed several enticing but competing events that were on at the same time, only to find that all that seems to be readily available next is a workshop on "Arranging and printing music using a micro computer based sequencer package". And there is another frustration. One learns there is a limit to the capacity of the body and mind to absorb and digest the folk diet on offer. By the end of the week one is satiated and punch-drunk with folk music and dance. I attended as many events as I could but of 518 formal events for adults (which did not include 158 events for children or a mass of informal music-making), I managed to attend only 8% and sadly regretted missing about another 40%.

Have I given the impression that Sidmouth is just too much and that it is too big and clumsy and over the top? Well, for some people it is. For me, it is a wonderful opportunity to experience folk music and dance I will not get in my home area, and to learn and satisfy my curiosity about aspects of the folk world I know nothing about. It is a great place for individuals to taste new folk activities for themselves. Everywhere one goes there is live music, live music and even more live music, and sometimes, thank God, without the benefit of boxes of electronics. I am a Sidmouth enthusiast.

What had Sidmouth to offer in 1991 for those interested in international folk music and dance (which is only a small part of the festival)? There were, of course, the foreign dance teams. One learns that the teams that actually come bear little relation to the list of teams that were originally invited. The teams were:-

Russia. "Roon" from Byelorussia. Very energetic, well drilled, disciplined and rehearsed, like all Russian teams. Also much choreographed. Very popular with the crowds.

Romania. "Ansamblul Plaiul Romanesc". Accompanied by a superb folk orchestra with eleven players. Like all East European teams they were energetic, dynamic and much choreographed. Lovely music and dancing.

Basques. "Sahatsa" from Spain. Music was pipe and drum. We were informed the dancers had to do ballet training and before every display they did half an hour warming up exercises. Very believable. Splendid, stylish dancing.

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France. "Lou Cieri" from Provence. Music was pipe and drum. Regional dances of Provence only. A young, small team, not nearly as well trained and rehearsed as the teams mentioned above. They performed an extraordinary and sensational dance which is done in Provence at harvest time and expressed what people do in that region when harvesting is being completed. The young couples skipped around in a circle. The boys took an item of clothing off the girls and then the girls took an item off the boys. This went on till they were down to their bikinis and bathing trunks. Somehow the girls finished lying on their backs in the centre of the circle and the boys jumped on them. Then some spoilsport flicked a switch and there was darkness. The M.C. at the Arena said this was the first time there had been a strip-show at Sidmouth Festival. It certainly stirred the imagination. I imagined the S.I.F.D. doing this traditional folk-dance at day courses, club evenings and Sunday dances.

U.S.A. "Rutherford County Square Dancers and Cripple Creek Cloggers". Very popular with the public.

Borneo. "Rungus and Kadazan Papar". Gamelan percussion music, Gentle, sweet dancing.

India. "Jugnu Bhangra Dancers" from Gravesend, who performed Punjabi dances to percussion music. Very lively and energetic dancing.

Ireland. "Mrs. O'Shea's Dancing School" from Dublin. Brilliant, fast stepping by these children.

Borneo and India exemplify a recent trend at Sidmouth. More and more teams are being invited from countries whose music seems to be based solely or mainly on drums and/or other percussive instruments. Reaction to this music varies a lot. Some (the young I think) seem to love it. Others seem to find the music strange to their ears. I suspect that with time more and more festival-goers will become tolerant of this music.

I sometimes wonder by what criteria European teams are chosen. Some countries seem to come frequently. Romania came this year for the first time in 37 years. In the eleven years I have been going to the festival I have never seen teams from Bulgaria and Albania, and from the Baltic States of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. But what surprises me is the absence of two types of folk dance. Ask the British holiday-maker what folk dancing he has seen on the continent and Spanish flamenco and Austrian Tyrolean would probably head the list. I have never seen them at Sidmouth.

Do you remember "Meet The Team", the mecca for those interested in international folk-dance? The foreign teams could be seen at close quarters for an hour or more. There would be explanations of the background, costumes, music and dance, displays by the team and joining-in by the audience of some dances taught by the team. At their best these could be thrilling and memorable occasions which made them highlights of the festival. Well, "Meet The Team" is no more. In its place is an event called "An Hour With". What is the difference? Nothing much except the audience does not seem to be taught joining-in dances.

Another trend of the last few years is noticeable. More and more foreign folk bands are being invited without attendant dance teams. They come mainly to play at concerts and are made up of very able young musicians. But the bands are of a certain type. If one hopes to hear old traditional folk music unadorned and unchanged, then one is going to be disappointed. Sidmouth invites modern bands. Here are some official descriptions of this year's visitors. Mara (from Australia, who specialize in Balkan music) "present a fusion of jazz, folk, rock and ethnic music". Jams (from Berlin) "combine traditional music from all over Europe with elements of classical music, rock and jazz". Jarvelan Pikkupelimannit "mix traditional Finnish dance music with waltzes, tangos and rags". A fourth band was Table 5 from France. These bands also played for dances. Each held one or two workshops of an hour and a half, each followed in the evening by a dance lasting three hours, which to me raises an interesting question. How can you support a 3-hour international dance on the basis of workshops lasting up to 1½ or 3 hours in total? What sort of dancing do you do? I did not attend and therefore I do not know. I do not like to criticise the organizers because I think

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they are right to experiment, but I sense these particular arrangements do not always work very well.

There were other international dance workshops. Elsche Korf Schroder, who is well known to many S.I.F.D. members, held a very successful and well attended series of workshops on dances from N.W.Europe. She was supported by her musician, Franz Tromp. The visiting Americans taught Appalachian clogging. There were a series of Cajun dance workshops followed by a Cajun dance. These two forms of dance from the U.S.A. are becoming increasingly popular in this country. There were workshops on Arabic dance, Israeli dance, Irish set dances and a Punjabi "Disco Dance" workshop. (The youngsters were raving it up at the latter event).

But something was missing from Sidmouth 1991. Have you ever been on an international day course and thought to yourself that it is good and you are enjoying it very much but wouldn't it be lovely if a teacher could materialize from the country of the dance and be accompanied by a folk band and folk dancers in costume from that country? But you dismiss these dreamy thoughts as you know they are madly and hopelessly impractical. But then the dream materialized at Sidmouth 1990. In the comfort of the elegant Assembly Rooms, Vera Kovaru from Czechoslovakia and Bruno Ravnikar from Yugoslavia gave lectures on aspects of their country's folk dances. They were very serious lectures, spoken in excellent English. Every now and then they would illustrate their lecture. They would look towards the left and their full band, in costume, would play (without amplification). They would look to the right and dancers, in a variety of costumes, would enter and do the appropriate dance. This was luxury. As it was such an unexpected surprise the effect was magical. These vividly exciting lectures were the highlight of Sidmouth 1990 for me. The presenters said these events were innovatory and they hoped to do this sort of thing every year. Alas, in 1991 they did not, and the excuse given to me was they could not find the right sort of lecturer, especially for the Romanian team. What wonders we missed. But I am not complaining. I feel very grateful when Sidmouth delights with some surprising magical experience and I think it is unreasonable to expect an automatic repetition of magic.

HENRY LEE



BALKANPLUS BULGARIAN FOLKDANCE WORKSHOP

A Balkanplus Bulgarian Folkdance Workshop will be held on SATURDAY, 16TH NOVEMBER 1991, at Working Men's College, Crowndale Road, London N.W.1., from 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Tutor: Galina Toker.

I shall be teaching dances from this year's repertoire taught at the summer dance course by Belcho Stanev, to include as many as we can manage from the following list:-

Dvaždi Triždi	- Pirin	Trakiska Rutchenitsa (with attractive	
Ludo Mlado (with words)	Pirin	arm and hand movements)	- Thrace
Brežniško Kopanitsa	- Šop	Trendafilko	- Dobružja
Četvorno	- Šop	Dobružjansko	- Dobružja
Trite pati	- Thrace	Gankino	- Northern
		Paŭdushko	- Northern
		Daŭčovo	- Northern

The workshop will be followed by the usual Balkanplus, M.C. Roberto Haddon. There may also be an extra taste of Bulgarian folklore before the Balkanplus evening dance. Further details on this and the workshop in November's SIFD NEWS.

GALINA TUKER, 081 800 1123

Those people who went to Bulgaria this summer are invited to use the day and evening as an opportunity to display their photographs, costumes etc. HELEN GREEN

BRISTOL INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP

As we start on a new dance year, I thought it might be an appropriate time to report on the old, especially as it has been such a successful and enjoyable one.

The Bristol Group was started by Hilda Sturge in October 1974 when she invited George Sweetland to give a day course in International Folkdancing. Three of our present members were at that original day course. We've had our problems over the years, as I suppose most groups do. We've been part of the L.E.A. adult education classes and we've been independent. We've had problems with halls, caretakers, etc. but have come through with a very loyal and staunch group of dance enthusiasts.

This last year has been particularly enjoyable, with none of these problems. In September we welcomed several new members, making us a group of 20-25 regular dancers and we are often joined by members from the Newport Group.

Our Christmas party was a good lift for us as we held it in January, which is always a low time of year after the Christmas hustle and bustle. We are very fortunate to have a band which regularly joins us on such occasions, adding atmosphere to the fun. In May this year, we held our seventeenth day course, with teaching by Sborenka. We are currently planning next year's day course.

This year, for various reasons, we've only given one demonstration, and this was a magnificent evening of Romanian dancing (I can say this as I was a member of the audience and not in the dance team). The event was held to raise money to support Rodica Cupcia on her visit here from Romania in July and to help Romanian school-children on a visit to France. Several of the costumes worn were from Romania, adding authenticity to the excellently performed dances.

Through the summer we've been fortunate to have both Romanian and Bulgarian concerts in our area, which were well attended by members of the Bristol Group, if not always by the public in general.

We finished our year with another party - any excuse. Now we look forward to a new year with more new members, more parties and more dance displays, the first of which is in the pipeline for the Avon Community Leisure Department's 1922 Festival of Europe in April. Of course, all this means much hard and devoted work from Hilda and on behalf of the group I should like to take this opportunity to say a big "Thank You" to her.

With very best wishes to everyone for a happy dancing year.

JANE ABBEY

Bristol International Folkdance Group

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BULGARIANA

Following recent visits by Bulgarians (with no pounds), I have the following items for sale:-

- Gadulka (folk violin) £45
  - Gourd Shaker (maraccas) with pictures - £20 including postage
  - Rhodope Apron - £15 for a quick sale (worth more)
  - Rhodope Costume - Ask for photo if interested. This is very fine.  
Dress and headdress (free slippers) - £150.
- Also ikons at various prices.

Please contact me on 081 660 3007, or Donald Kendrick on 071 727 2916. SYBIL NEWTON

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DANCING WEEKENDS AWAY. The usual list of weekends and booking forms will be enclosed with the November SIFD NEWS. If you are organizing a weekend which you would like to include, please send details to Jack Richardson, Dept. of Chemical Engineering, University College, Swansea SA2 8PP (or FAX 0792 295701).



After a very successful holiday touring Finland, Sweden and Norway by rail last year, Richard and I decided - or fate decided for us - that this year we would combine some parts of Scandinavia that we missed last year with a dance course in Sweden.

I saw Norrlandia 91 advertised in an American magazine called Nordiska News\*. It was being organized by a fiddler and five dance teachers who had all taught in the U.S.A., where Scandinavian dance has its own place in the recreational folkdance spectrum, as Balkan dance already has in the U.K. I had a video from the U.S.A. of the teachers and I knew that they would be teaching mostly bygdedans, which I decided I would love to learn. Richard decided to risk it too. Our only previous experience of bygdedans had been with Alix Cordray at Swansea 1987; Røros pols and Stegvals turned out to give us an invaluable basis for learning Swedish bygdedans.

Those of you who were there in 1987 will remember Alix introducing us to the different layers of Scandinavian dance.

- 1) Sångdans/långdans - this is the oldest type, danced in a circle (sometimes in pairs). The circle usually moves to the left and the structure of the dance is simple and often accompanied only by singing.
- 2) Bygdedans - country or village dances thought to have originated in the 17th and 18th centuries. These are pair dances, such as Norwegian pols and Swedish polska, danced to traditional local tunes.
- 3) Figurdans (folkdanser or turdansar) - set dances which either arrived in Scandinavia around the 18th century from England and other European courts or were created by local "ballet masters" in a similar format.
- 4) Gammeldans - "old time" dances which were popular dances introduced into Scandinavia in the 19th century mainly from Germany, e.g. vals, schottis, etc.

The Swedish dances in the Society's present repertoire are mainly figure dances (even those which include polska in their names). We dance them in the same manner as Swedish performing groups do today. (For example, some of us saw Skansens Folkdanslag in Covent Garden in June performing a number of the dances in our repertoire with almost no differences).

Swedish bygdedans may be less familiar than the music. Quite a few people have heard polska or gånglåt tunes from groups like Filarfolket and Groupa.

There are many varieties of polska, both music and dances. (Those Balkan enthusiasts who have not explored Norwegian and Swedish fiddle music will be surprised by the complexity and variety of rhythms and scales). Polska tunes are (now) always in 3/4 time, but there are several quite different rhythms, such as semiquaver polskas and polskas with dotted or undotted quavers or triplets. Some are syncopated and some contain irregular numbers of bars. Some polska tunes cannot be danced to!

The basic polska dance is a three step turn (like pols and hambo) but some variants involve two or even only one step to turn round! (To risk confusing everybody totally, hambo is strictly hambopolska and evolved from older polskas, but it is considered as a gammeldans because it is danced in a regular 8-bar sequence to music having a simpler rhythmic structure than the classic polskas).

We did not know quite what we would be letting ourselves in for at Norrlandia. We knew that the course was aimed at Americans and would be taught in English and that we had to arrive at Järvsö station mid-afternoon on Sunday, 7th July. Järvsö is a small town in the Hälsingland province of Sweden, four hours' train ride north of Stockholm. We were met at the station by the organisers wearing beautifully painted wooden badges bearing their names. A coach took us to Härsa, the centre where we were staying, and on our arrival we were all given the painted wooden badges to wear. This turned out to be typical of our organisers' efficiency and thoughtfulness.

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Our accommodation was in log cabins, beside a lake in the mountains. It was a beautiful location. The dance course lasted from Sunday to Friday and there was a parallel fiddle course. We learnt dances from the provinces of Hälsingland, Jämtland, Harjedalen, Dalarna and Värmland, accompanied by live fiddle music throughout. Dancing sessions were held in the morning and early afternoon. Then, if we had any energy left, we could choose from walking, swimming in or boating on the lake, traditional Swedish games on the lawn, or traditional basket painting. Over dinner we were serenaded by several of the best known fiddle players in Sweden. Then we danced to live music from some of the fiddlers, including some young Danes who played a very lively Sonderhøning.

During the week we visited the neighbouring towns of Järvsö and Bollnäs, attended a local bygdedans evening and spent another evening on a fåbod (summer farm) listening to music played on cow horns and wooden pipes (and being attacked by Swedish mosquitoes and midges!). Yes, it was fun - even the mosquitoes.

Most of the people on the course were Americans, but we also met Dorothy and Jeremy Sloan who now live in Canada and will be remembered by some members of the Society. Throughout the week everything just happened. The food was excellent, the teaching was excellent, the music was wonderful. We were full of praise for the organization. But, of course, as we came to say, "We were in Sweden". Our main organizer, Bengt, explained, "We have all been on courses in the U.S. and we have learnt by their mistakes".

The course itself finished on Friday, but many of us had decided to stay until Saturday so that we could follow the Hälsinge Hambo contest. The contest has been held on a Saturday at the beginning of July for the past 26 years. There have been as many as 1500 couples participating, but this year there were only about 900 couples. All the participants had to dance hambo first on a field for 8 minutes, then round a football pitch for 4 minutes, then 400 metres up a village street. After this, 100 couples were selected to dance at the final, on a stage, and from then 10 couples were chosen, and finally a winner.

Each section took place in a different town or village. Everybody was bussed from one to the next and provided with breakfast, lunch and two snacks. The contest started at 6.30 a.m., so we left Härsa at 5.30(!) but somehow the day didn't drag. There were so many opportunities for costume photographs, especially as the programme listed each couple's costumes. Also, some of our newly-made American friends were competing so we had to watch them dance. And then there was the time taken to calculate how many Swedish meatballs it takes to feed 900 couples, plus musicians, judges and ? number of spectators at 5-6 meatballs per person!

The same musicians played non-stop at each location - as they have done at every contest for 26 years. Their leader, Hugo Westling, has undisputed authority as to the speed of the music for hambo; and he now plays it much more slowly than it used to be played (and much more slowly than it is done in the Society), and the dance has become correspondingly more graceful.

I am hoping to bring some of our teachers to England if I possibly can. They would all love to teach in Britain as they take real pleasure in non-Swedish people showing an interest in their dances. Two of them, Tommy and Ewa Englund, have won the Hälsinge Hambo contest four times (1983-6), then Tommy was made one of the judges. They would be very happy to teach a course mainly of bygdedans but including hambo. If they can't teach you to hambo well, nobody can. Just to watch them dance together is an experience in itself. I will put details in SIFD NEWS as soon as I can arrange something.

LIZ (and RICHARD) MELLISH

\*I have subscribed to Nordiska News for several years now and would recommend it. If anyone else would like to subscribe, the editor, Don Myers, would be delighted. The subscription is U.S.\$20 for four issues (quarterly) and Don's address is 7016 17th NW, Seattle, WA 98117 U.S.A. (I usually send dollar notes).



"Noel"



"Party"

FOR SALE

As most members will know, the S.I.F.D. has numerous items for sale. A list is given below, with postage rates per item. As postage on a parcel containing several items is usually cheaper than the sum of individual articles, I am giving the approximate weights of each, so that you can estimate the total postage, having added a little for packing. Group leaders can take orders for bulk purchases, or you can ask for an "on sale or return" parcel. We can often find a mutual contact who can collect items from me, if you let me know what you want. Otherwise, goods are taken to most events around London.

Membership Badges - Bronze, 90p each (negligible weight).

Bags - Shopping Bags, in off-white calico, 19" x 14", £2.50 each. Design of Slovakian couple in brown. Weight: 100g.

Shoe Bags, off-white calico, 14½" x 10½", £2.50 each. Design of Slovakian couple in blue. Weight: 70g.

Car Stickers - Design of dancing couple, red background, white figures, general folk costume, 30p. (weight negligible).

"History of the S.I.F.D." - George Sweetland's reminiscences, with photographs and line drawings, £1.50 each. Weight: 90g.

Notelets - Packets of ten, each containing five notelets of two designs in full colour. Dancing couple from Volendam, and couple from Moravia. £1.10 per packet. Weight: 70g.

Christmas Cards - As shown in illustrations above. Actual size 5¾" x 4¼" in full colour. Five in packet, weight 70g. "Party" - 70p per packet, "Noel" - 65p per packet.

T-Shirts - Sizes: Small, Medium, Large, X-Large, £4 each. Weight: 120g. White poly/cotton, with line of dancers. Or Navy poly/cotton with Slovakian couple in white.

Sweat Shirts - Sizes: Small, Medium, Large, X-Large. £7.50 each. Weight: 380g. Navy poly/cotton with lining, with white design as on navy T-shirts.

Examples of postage on Christmas Cards and Notelets: One packet, 28p; Two packets, 34p; Three packets, 41p; Four packets, 49p; Five packets - 66p; Six packets, 75p. (750g costs £1.40).

Please make cheques/postal orders payable to S.I.F.D. and send orders to me, address on page 2. KAY KEDGE

# JAUNĀIS STŪRIS

Latvia

**A** ♩ = 120



Intro.

With thanks to Viktors Griņulis for this music.  
Play ABBC x 4 and finish on A.

# TSAMIKOS

(Greece)

**A** Intro



This is a two-melody version of Tsamikos: the first is the original which is in the SIFD Twelve Circle Dance booklet and the second is ENAS MITHOS - a Fairy Tale.

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

No Sunday Dance in October.

Nov. 3rd M.C.s Merton International Folkdance 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

- Oct. 12th S.I.F.D. HUNGARIAN DAY COURSE. See page 2.
- Oct. 12th INTERNATIONAL BARN DANCE 7 p.m. at Trefusis, Cecil Sharp House. M.C.s Jill Bransby and Hugh Wood. £2.50 for S.I.F.D. members, £3.00 for non-members.
- Oct. 12th WOODVALE INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP AUTUMN DANCE, 8 to 11 p.m. at Borough Green Village Hall, Borough Green, near Sevenoaks, Kent. S.I.F.D. Band. Tickets £4 including refreshments. Please bring your own drinks and glasses. Bookings to Heather Bevan, 0622 692937, or Alan Cant, 0732 883405.
- Oct. 14th BULGARIAN BISSEROV SISTERS and THE TRIO KARADZOVSKA. Bulgarian folklore singers and musicians in a concert of Bulgarian folk music and songs in aid of Friends of Bulgaria (a charity established in Britain this year to provide humanitarian aid to Bulgaria). Purcell Room, South Bank, London. Tickets £6 from the Box Office, 071 928 3191.
- Oct. 19th BALKANPLUS at Working Men's College, Crowndale Road, London N.W.1., 7 p.m. £2.50 including refreshments. M.C. Nick Green. Further details from Helen Green, 0923 204434 (daytime), 0923 51528 (evenings). The next Balkanplus will be on 16th November, after the Bulgarian Day Course. (see page 7).

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Nov. 2nd DAY COURSE OF INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCING organized by Rainmakers at St. Michael's Church Hall, The Broadway (near station), Letchworth, Herts. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tutor: Janet Woolbar.
- Nov. 8th ANGLO-INTERNATIONAL DANCE, suitable for beginners, with "The Rangers" and caller Jill Bransby, 7.30 to 10.30 p.m. at Trefusis, Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London N.W.1. Organized by Tina Stone in aid of Trinity Hospice, Clapham. Tickets £4 on the door, or £3 in advance from Sadie Stone, 4 Pelham Road, London N15 4RN. Enquiries to Tina Stone, 071 438 4656 (work). (Note new telephone number).
- Nov. 23rd BALKAN DAY COURSE at Westbury Methodist Church Hall, Waters Lane, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol, 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Further dancing from 5.00 to 6.00 p.m. Tutor: Nick Green. Cost: £4 members, £4.50 non-members. Not suitable for beginners. Contact: Hilda Sturge, 0272 621802 or Anne Marshall, 0272 509889.
- Dec. 7th ZIVKO FIRFOV BALKAN PARTY, 7 to 10.30 p.m. at Moorfields School, Bunhill Row, London E.C.1. (Nearest Underground Station: Old Street). ADMISSION BY TICKET ONLY. £5 (including refreshments) from Irene Keywood, 133 Third Avenue, Dagenham, Essex RM10 9BD. Tel: 081 592 4427. (S.A.E. please). Cheques payable to Zivko Firfov Group.

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