



*SIFD  
NEWS  
NOV  
1992*

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, showing dancers from Turkey, is by Tina Stone.

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CHAIRMAN: Jill Bransby (Mrs.), "Red Gables", Benslow Path, The Avenue, Hitchin, Herts. SG4 9RH. Tel: 0462 457791.

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GROUPS LIAISON OFFICER: Alan Morton (address above).

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"Noel"



"Party"

Christmas Cards, designs as above, 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ " in full colour, 5 in each packet, 70p per packet, plus postage 1 packet 30p, 2 packets 36p. From Kay Kedge, address on p.2.

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 Regent's Park Road, London N.W.1, on Sunday, 6th December 1992, at 4.30 p.m.

- 1) Minutes of the A.G.M. held on Sunday, 1st December 1991, at Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London N.W.1.
- 2) Matters arising.
- 3) Chairperson's Report.
- 4) Treasurer's Report.
- 5) Auditor's Report and consideration of accounts.
- 6) Announcement of new Committee.
- 7) 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 12th November 1992. 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 12th November 1992, 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.

NICK GREEN, Hon.Secretary

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SUNDAY DANCES

The monthly Dances at Cecil Sharp House have been a lot of fun throughout the year; many thanks to everyone who has been involved for their hard work. Unfortunately, the news on the financial front is not quite so good. The Dances have only just broken even this year, and in January 1993 the rent for the hall is to be increased. Faced with the prospect of the Dances running at a loss, I bearded the Committee in its lair.

We spent quite a while on the problem and the Committee considered various options. In the end they were forced to the conclusion that, given the expenses involved, the door charges were unrealistically low and the most sensible solution would be to increase them. From 1st January 1993, therefore, the Sunday Dances will cost £3 per member, £2.50 per child, and £3.50 per non-member (concessions available on request). We all hope that no further increases will be necessary for a good while but, of course, costs never go down!

I hope that all dancers who attend will agree that the Dances should be self-financing and that they are still great value. Comments and suggestions are always welcome, even if not on a £5 note.

ANNE LEACH  
5 Southbourne, Hayes,  
Bromley, Kent BR2 7NJ

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A NOTE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY REGARDING LIFE MEMBERSHIP

I should like to draw attention to the following important and possibly not well-known rule. On determining a motion of subscription rate changes at an Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary Meeting, Life Membership applications will be considered only at the new rate thus agreed from the date of the meeting. (Unlike all other classes of subscriptions that change at renewal date, the newly-agreed Life Membership subscription comes into force immediately after the acceptance of the motion). ALAN MORTON

Part 10. Vardar Zone (Contd.)

The massive Šar Planina mountains of South-West Macedonia contain many isolated villages with only caravan routes for pack animals, but in more recent times roads have been built into the area. The way of life remained quite unchanged even into the 1950s. The Polog Plain (Pološka Poljanska) is situated on a spur of the Šar Planina, North-West of the town of Gostivar, situated on the river Vardar, South-West of Skopje. Gostivar now has a dull modern town centre of outdated ugly blocks, but a lot of the old town is still around, much as I remember it in 1958 when it was a hot, dusty, atmospheric, oriental looking place.

The costume from the village of Debreše in Gornji Polog (upper Polog) is most likely no longer worn, but is of great interest as it does not completely follow the usual trend of Macedonian costumes. Its use of massive amounts of silver chains and coins, and the design not only of these but also of certain of the garments, suggest a direct link with the distant past, although some items are of more recent times. Lavish use is made of gold and silver wire and braid, and the chest-piece and construction of the earrings link with the men's symbolic armour (toke) of the Dinaric region. The Ethnographic Museum in Belgrade has a wonderful specimen, part of a private collection given to the museum in 1948 of mainly Macedonian costumes collected before the second world war. As far as I know, this costume is of a Christian woman.

1) Chemise - "Košulje diplena". This is made from hand-woven cotton with faint narrow stripes in yellow and light brown. The centre panel of one loom width is folded at the head hole and the sleeves of one and a quarter loom width are set in at right angles. Nine triangular inserts are put in at each side to give width for pleating. When not in use, the pleats are "tied up" for storage.

2) Under-jacket - "R'kai srmeni sindžrlii". A short bolero type garment worn over the chemise. It is of hand-woven linen with the exposed parts covered with gold and silver thread, and with black, blue and red over-pattern in a dog-tooth (zigzag) stitch called "sindžiri". I suspect that this has protective qualities or one of fertility to ensure child-bearing.

3) Sleeveless jacket - "Klaćenik quvealski". This is known as an "Inspection jacket", worn when the bride is shown during the wedding ceremony. It is made of thick white twill, basically of a back panel with front panels. However, there are shaped inserted panels in between; the usual inserts are rectangular and in this respect the garment is not typical of most Macedonian costumes. It has its roots in the Orient. The cloth is lavishly covered with gold and silver braid work and embroidery, and the edges and seams covered with red and black "military" braid. Attached to each armhole is a long strip of cloth which is tucked into the belt; this is a rudimentary sleeve called "r'kavcinje". The full sleeve which hangs at the back is found in the full-length coat of the Mijak men in Galičnik and neighbouring villages, and also in Albanian and Greek costumes, and also in "Hussar" uniforms - but that is another story.

4) Apron - "Opregač yumaklia". The apron was originally hand-woven in multi-coloured stripes, and I think overlaid with silver and gold wire and braid, and possibly woollen bobbles or tassels, but for some reason the women adopted the use of industrial thread called "jumak". The apron is woven in multi-coloured stripes. The wide stripes are called "gradska stiča", the narrower ones "pravi šarksi", and the very narrow ones "prsti". The wide stripes have lozenge or dogtooth patterns woven in. The bottom edge of the apron is trimmed with industrial lace.

5) Sash - "Kolan so kitki". "A belt with bobbles". This long sash is made of woven multi-coloured goat-hair twill. The end parts exposed when wound around the waist are interwoven with silver thread. At each end of the sash are very large woollen bobbles wound around with gold or silver thread, "kuški", which are attached by thick woollen cords also wound around with metal. "Kuški" means seed-pods, and the cords are called "slapčinja" meaning twigs. Attached to the bobbles

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are very large, long tassels, each made of a different coloured woollen thread, mainly black, red, green or yellow; goat's hair is also used. Large tassels are a feature of many Macedonian costumes, and I hope to do some research here.

6) Breast-piece (necklace)- "Panzir". This is a large cloth panel of cotton twill secured by hooks on to each shoulder. It is completely covered with rows of old silver coins. In the centre is a chased silver boss set with agate and other semi-precious stones. This is called "tas tepelak" and has around the outer edge, silver coins mounted on short chains. In addition, on either side are pendants, hinged plates set with agates in filigree silver called "titrajki", which are hooked on. The panzir, under different names, is found also in the Dinaric zone, and I have already referred to the full-length one worn by the women of Vrlika; it is also part of a dowry.

7) Chin-piece - "Nametuški". Again a form of necklace consisting of a silver chain secured high on the shoulders, with a row of old coins. Hanging from it are eight rows of very long coin chains reaching almost to the knees, to the front and back of the body, and at the bottom larger coins. A bridal piece.

KEN WARD

To be continued.

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#### JACY TACY POLISH DANCE DAY FOR THE LESS EXPERIENCED AND BEGINNERS

The above Dance Day will take place on SATURDAY, 28TH NOVEMBER 1992, 1.45 to 5.30 p.m. at THE PLACE (STUDIO 12), 17 DUKE'S ROAD, LONDON W.C.1, off the South side of Euston Road. Nearest Underground Stations: Euston, Euston Square and King's Cross. Cost: £3.50. The canteen will be open for anyone wishing to use it beforehand and during the break. Shoes with a hard sole and a small heel (rubber not suitable) should be worn if possible. Cassettes and some basic notes will be available.

This will be a new venture for us and we aim to spend considerable time on the basic steps of the "great" or national Polish dances, as well as teaching some regional ones. We hope that this will be helpful for dancers who may follow on by attending future "general" Jacy Tacy days.

For further information, please contact either of the tutors:-

Betty Harvey,  
30 Regent Square,  
London E3 3HQ  
Tel: 081 980 9650

- or -

Tony Latham,  
Flat 9, 118 Avenue Road,  
Acton, London W3 8QG  
Tel: 081 992 9445

Accompanist: Zuzanna Mierzejewska

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#### VICTORIA EMBANKMENT GARDENS, LONDON

It is already time to be thinking about the 1993 season of performances in the above Gardens. Last year, very many bookings were made before Christmas by organizations other than ourselves, so I do urge would-be participants to think ahead and let me know their dates as soon as possible. I am hoping to send out the usual forms within the next two or three weeks.

KAY KEDGE (address on p.2)

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CONGRATULATIONS to Karin Bellaart and Erik van Schelven on the birth of their fourth son, Kasper, born on 21st September 1992. Our best wishes to the parents and their new baby.

AMENDMENT TO ASSOCIATED CLASS LIST: Dronfield Dancers meet on Thursdays, 8 to 9.30 p.m. at Northfield School, Falcon Road, Dronfield, Woodhouse, Sheffield.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.....

Dear Lily,

Four members of the newly-formed "Frith Folk" group in Derbyshire attended the Albanian Day Course organized by the Barlow International Folkdance Group and we thank them for their warm welcome to us.

We were guided through many delightful and fascinating dances by Marina Wolstenholme whose excellent tuition encouraged us to achieve a high standard of performance and style in the dances. The photographs and items of costume, together with the background information she provided, gave us further insight into the culture of the people of Albania: all this in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere.

Very many thanks, Marina, for a day which offered both challenge and enjoyment.

Yours sincerely,

PAT PHILLIPS,  
27 Errwood Avenue, Buxton,  
Derbyshire SK17 9BD

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Dear Lily,

Just a brief note to let everyone know that we in the North are still dancing! On 26th September, Marina Wolstenholme came to us in Manchester, and four and a half hours later we emerged waving our hankies and wrists, having experienced a splendid visit to Albania. Everyone was (is!) enthusiastic about the dances and the music, and at Barlow we're all struggling to be efficient "great aunts", with a few "great uncles" ofcourse. This is also a way of thanking all our supporters from North Wales, Anglesey, Derby, Sheffield, Leeds, Lancaster, to name but a few; without your presence the Days would not be such a success. Many many thanks to Marina for giving us such a well-taught, enthusiastic and enjoyable day.

Sincerely,

JULIE KORTH,  
Holly Cottage, off Wigan Rd.,  
Aspull, Nr. Wigan WN2 1EF

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Dear Lily,

For the older members of the S.I.F.D., I should like to let them know that Braco Šivak, the leader of the Zora Folkdance group, Opatija, died on 31st May of bone cancer. He was buried at Volosko, and many of Zora Group attended in national costume.

We were always made most welcome at the group, and he trained several dancers from England who subsequently performed with Zora.

Our condolences go to his family and to Zora. He will be sorely missed in the folkdance world.

My regards to everyone.

PEARL PASCOE  
42 Clover Rise, Tankerton,  
Whitstable, Kent CT5 3EZ

Dear Lily,

I am very excited to be able to report to the members that we shall now be in the very fortunate position of being able to create a new specialized group, learning and perhaps later on performing, the dances of Romania. I recently received a communication from "five young Romanian folk dancers" who have decided to settle here for the next couple of years. For the past five years they have been dance members of the Bucharest University Folk Ensemble and in that time have performed in many foreign Folk Festivals including Britain. They have also graduated in Geology and speak very good English. In this case, their Ensemble had been performing in the Folk Festival in Newcastle, but at its completion they decided not to return to Romania but to make London their new home.

As the current monthly workshop (October) was to be the revision of the Romanian dances taught at York Summer School, very ably done by Nick Green, I jumped at the opportunity of inviting the Romanians to attend. During the day, they gave a performance of a suite of Romanian dances from Oltenia, with absolutely no musical accompaniment. This was greatly appreciated by all those present.

As they plan to be here in our midst for the next couple of years and are very enthusiastic themselves, we have decided to begin regular Romanian classes every Monday from 7 to 9 p.m. commencing on Monday, 19th October. We will hold these at the same venue as the South America dance classes which began on Thursday, 15th October. The venue is at the "1A Centre", 1A Rosebery Avenue, close to the junction of Grays Inn Road, London. This is next door to Christopher Hatton School, where the S.I.F.D. Polish dance classes took place. As it is such a golden opportunity to have such talent in our midst, I sincerely hope that a sufficient number of our members will support this new venture so as to let our Romanian dance friends witness an enthusiasm for their country's folk dances.

ALAN McLEAN  
6 Epsom Close, Northolt,  
Middx. Tel: 081 422 6498

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#### DELYAN DEMIREV IN ENGLAND, JANUARY 1993

Delyan Demirev, the popular and talented young Bulgarian, will be in England from 13th to 27th January (possibly an extra week). He will be teaching Bulgarian dance workshops at LONDON, BIRMINGHAM and OXFORD, as listed below. He is keen to teach as many workshops as possible during his visit, including visiting dance classes around London and the Home Counties, and possibly further out, depending on distance and travelling costs. So would any dance teacher/class organizer interested in holding a workshop or inviting Delyan as a guest teacher to their class, please contact me at 37 West Walk, E.Barnet, Herts. EN4 8NU. Tel: 081 368 3320, or on 071 251 2551 Monday to Friday, 9.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. GALINA TURKER

16th/17th January at The Place Contemporary Dance School, Flaxman Terrace, London W.C.1. (near Euston). 10.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Lunch 1 to 2 p.m.). Bring packed lunch for the Sunday. Course fee: £16.00 (£8.50 per day, but priority will be given to applicants booking for the full weekend). Audio cassettes and dance notes may be ordered. Saturday's workshop will be followed by Balkanplus.

23rd January at Oakenshaw Adult Centre, Oakenshaw Road, Shirley, just outside Birmingham, off M42 Exit 3A, 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Delyan will be teaching 3-4 easy dances, music for which will be available on the day. Cost: £6 (£5 for SIFD members) includes Evening Dance beginning at 7.30 p.m., at which Delyan will probably give a short demonstration of his favourite dances. For further details and bookings, contact Frances Garton on 021 777 5130 or Galina Turker.

31st January at St.Margaret's Parish Institute Hall, Polstead Road (off Woodstock Road), Oxford, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 2 to 6 p.m. Tickets in advance £5 including drinks, from Roger Wicksteed, 47 Jordan Hill, N.Oxford OX2 8EU (s.a.e. please) Organized by Oxford Balkansko Oro group who are also holding a party on 30th January (see p.8). Cheques payable to Oxford Balkansko Oro.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

19th December BALKANPLUS CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR. By way of a change, and to enter into the festive season, it would be wonderful for those with dance costumes to wear them for this special evening. To add further to the event, several dance groups are giving short performances throughout the evening in between general dancing. This will include Dunav, who will also provide live music. So, here is a chance to dance, to watch, and to listen, and to have a really good time. No problem if you haven't a costume, just come as you are. You can be sure of a warm welcome. Times and venue as for November Balkanplus (p.13). If your group would like to give a short performance and you haven't been approached, ring me on 0702 206613. DAVE CARTER.

27th December to 1st January. NEW YEAR'S CAMP IN THE SWISS ALPS. Dances of Czechoslovakia, the Balkans and Israel, with Frantisek Bonus, Francis Feybli and Răgi Moser. Hotel accommodation, dance tuition, evening recreational dancing, skiing. Information from Volkstänze aus aller Welt, Postfach 2, CH-8332 Russikon, Switzerland. Tel/Fax: 41/1/9540077 (Francis Feybli) or Tel: 41/52/270219 (Răgi Moser).

30th January 1993. OXFORD BALKANSKO DRO NEW YEAR PARTY at St.Margaret's Parish Institute Hall, Polstead Road (off Woodstock Road, Oxford. Tickets £5 including refreshments; obtainable from Roger Wicksteed, 47 Jordan Hill, N.Oxford OX2 8EU. (S.A.E.PLEASE). (See also Day Course on 31st January, p.7) Cheques payable to Oxford Balkansko Oro.

10th/17th April and 25th July/8th August 1993. Folklore and Dance Tours to Romania. Contact: Silviu Ciuciumis, Aarhuispad 22, 3067 PR Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

12th/19th June 1993. COURSE OF BALKAN FOLK DANCING WITH H.F.HOLIDAYS. A week's course of Balkan folk dancing amongst the Special Interest Holidays organized by H.F.Holidays. The venue is Freshwater Bay on the Isle of Wight, in a lovely setting overlooking the sea. Dancing will be in the mornings and evenings, leaving the afternoons free for walking, sight-seeing, or relaxing. The course will accommodate both beginners and experienced dancers. Tutor: Cathy Meunier. Telephone for a Special Interests brochure, 081 905 9388 (24 hours). Details of the course from Cathy Meunier, 071 482 0906.

20th/30th August 1993. FOLK DANCE, MUSIC & SINGING COURSES, based in Bansko, 160kms from Sofia, Bulgaria, in the beautiful and cool Pirin Mountains - a perfect starting point for walks and excursions with a local guide. Leader: Cathy Meunier. Price: £399 including scheduled flights from Heathrow, good hotels and half board (Sofia 2 nights, Bansko 8), coach and guide/interpreter, visas. Courses (with expert tutors) £25 extra. Details from British-Bulgarian Friendship Society, c/o Finsbury Library, 245 St.John Street, London EC1V 4NB. Tel: 071 837 2304

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A new C.D. of 20 Bulgarian Folkdance Favourites, "Ajde Na Horo", recorded in Bulgaria under the supervision of Jaap Leegwater and Yves Moreau, is available from Francis Feybli, VAW-Verlag, P.O.Box 2, CH-8332 Russikon, Switzerland. £10. Details from Francis.

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### A NEW GROUP

I have started a group in the Surrey/Hampshire border region and would welcome other members (and anyone else) who can reach us. We meet at the West End Arts Centre, Queens Road, Aldershot, on Wednesdays at 7.30 for one hour.

MICHAEL CLARK,  
14 Weldon Close, Church Crookham, Fleet,  
Hants. GU 13 0BG. Tel: Fleet(0252) 614663

Ed.Note: Michael doesn't say, but I assume it is a General International Folk-dance Group.



I should like to make advance mention of Gaby Ghuir's plans for next summer. He enjoyed the York week hugely and was most impressed with everyone's kindness, helpfulness and friendliness, and delighted at the interest in Romanian dancing; so much so that he is organizing a dancing course in Maramures (one of the most interesting regions) SPECIALLY AIMED AT BRITISH PARTICIPANTS. There will be special opportunities for singing, learning local crafts (e.g. spinning, weaving, pottery etc.) and even staying in local village homes for a couple of days. He plans plenty of options and variations. (I hope it doesn't clash with Silviu's course!).

I should also like to say how marvellous it was to see Heinz and Ilse again after so many years. Although I have seen them since of course, the memory which stands out in my mind (as a young student) was the walking, dancing holiday in Austria which they led. That was absolute magic - walking all day in the sunshine in the mountains, then sleeping in mountain chalets or on straw (in the company of a dead rat!) in a farmer's barn when we were benighted; dancing all evening and often into the night; loads of laughs with such as Mourrie Pfeffer, Nora, Nancy (then Low, from New Zealand), Richard Beckford, Dr. Heath and many more whose names escape me now. It was all so varied and enjoyable - wish we could have an anniversary repeat. Heinz and Ilse looked just the same and were just as lively and good company - so maybe we could?

While I was reminiscing to myself I remembered the very first time that anyone from the S.I.F.D. met Kalamatianos. Who else was at the Canford Summer School of Music all that long time ago? Dave Rosenberg(?) came to the course hot foot from Greece full of Tsamikos and Kalamatianos. He taught it to us with all the variations he had picked up along the way and also all the leader's "show-off" bits. Over the years most of the general S.I.F.D. dances have used the lot! - which of course horrified Lillian Galatis and Natassa Lemos; in fact, all the Greeks who have seen it. In Greece it simply is never danced like that anywhere at all. I suppose it is more exciting(?) to dance the whole lot like that, but not really satisfying to anyone who prides themselves on trying to dance as closely as possible to the country of origin and in the manner seen in the villages etc. Is it too late to re-educate us all? Lillian is always ready to help. (Natassa is too busy with her young family at the moment to be able to do any dancing). Lillian would be pleased to give an update correction of Kalamatianos.

I hope everyone else had as good a dancing summer as I had (even with my broken toes and damaged foot). York week with Gaby Ghuir and Florica, Tommy and Ewa Englund (super organization, many thanks Dawn and Paul); a long weekend at the Truro Festival with the Philhellenes Group (I was with Lillian's group - anyone else want to join at the end of October? Mondays, 7 to 9.15 p.m. Yes, I know it's absolutely horrific how many good classes are on a Monday). Anyway, it was just great at Truro. We even had a group of people just following us all around to see every programme (we changed costumes and programmes, unlike the Dagastanis, Romanians and Czechs. The Dutch group did a few variations but was essentially the same, so we must have got the gold star for variety at least). Then it was off to the European Craft Fair at Tatton Park - what luxe! We were put up in a very nice 3-star hotel with evening meals included. I could do that again any time! And finally a day in the precinct at Ealing where later on the Czech group are performing too. No time even for Sidmouth or Billingham - next year perhaps?

DIKI GLEESON

P.S. For details of Lillian Galatis' Greek class please ring her or me or Jill Payne (work, 071 589 5111 Ext.4984; home, 081 829 8704). DIKI

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We are pleased to welcome a new Affiliated group; Zdravets Edinburgh Balkan Folk-dance Group meets on Thursdays at 8 p.m. in St.Ninian's Church Hall, Comely Bank Road, Edinburgh, practically all year round. Mostly Balkan, with strong showing from Armenia. All are welcome. Contact Graham Crowder, 031 334 2891.

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ALL MATERIAL FOR THE DECEMBER ISSUE OF SIFD NEWS MUST REACH THE EDITOR  
IN WRITING BY 17TH NOVEMBER

Six aspiring dancers set off with Galina Turker to undertake this testing tour through Bulgaria to the resort of Burgas on the Black Sea. Our tutor, Delyan Demirev, led the convoy in his Lada car followed by the minibus as we circled Sofia searching for the exit road to Levski. We arrived at the Rest House in Levski at 3 a.m. and were allowed a few hours sleep. After the mandatory exchange of currency, we sallied forth to explore the sleepy town of Levski. No wonder even the storks dozed in their nests on the former Party H.Q.; it was nearly 85 degrees. Fortunately, cafes beckoned the gasping tourists before lunch, then we drove out to the city of Pleven to visit the Panorama building on the site of the famous battles (1878) where Russians and Bulgarians defeated the occupying Turks in a battle of three months' duration. We were invited to drop into the Pioneer Academy to view the rehearsal of the large touring group about to depart for Italy and France. This was the real thing, and all stops were pulled out to impress the foreign guests. I think it was a seventeen-piece band, or was it eighteen?

In the evening, our hosts were Delyan's own young group, who were avid to drink the English culture, with very limited English. I wish I knew more about English pop groups! Wednesday saw us set off to the coast, where we arrived in the evening. Our headquarters were to be a Medical Institute which appeared to be the home of myriads of insects and cockroaches with the password to my personal quarters. During the following days we passed the time pleasantly moving obediently to Delyan's instructions in the seminars which were part of the holiday. Fortunately, not all members of the group were crack Bulgarian dancers, and allowance was made for the halt and the lame. Delyan was stunned to have one of his sessions interrupted by a virtuoso display of Lancashire Clog dancing by one of our hidden talents. A further interruption was caused when we received a bathful of water from a fourth floor flat from a mischievous young native. A handsome apology was later made to the spluttering dancers, who were secretly relieved to be "cooled off" in this fashion.

The International Groups performing in the Festival then arrived and went into a 24-hour overdrive. The night discos were somewhat tempered by the discovery that the campus shop stocked a delicious white wine called Moscow Breeze! This certainly dulled the students' night-time clamour - how did they manage to dance so well on so little sleep?

We were able to spend afternoons on the beach or exploring the shops of Burgas which yielded forth their surprises little by little. We managed to make a visit to a very interesting ethnographical museum which I can recommend to intending visitors. For three nights over the weekend we lapped up the marvellous programme of International Dancers performing in the large open-air auditorium. Most people liked the statuesque North Ossetians who danced Georgian style. Personally, I was entranced by the Macedonians from nearby Yugoslavia and they were popular with the local Bulgarians. There were also groups from Romania, Greece and India, but I missed the Turks and Slovaks who were billed to appear and didn't. Each programme was concluded by the local Bulgarian groups, including children, who were really wonderful. This festival is only put on every second year so next year we shall have to find other diversions.

Delyan had arranged a full social programme and we were able to drive out of Burgas to visit two local fishing villages which had retained their original character. Nessebur was a jewel but full of tourists (hier spricht man Deutsch), and a great thunderstorm hit us as we strolled in shorts and singlets. Later that night we visited a Folkdance Restaurant where we alarmed the British tourists with some thumping Bulgarian dances. We had grown quite fond of our four Bulgarian companions by the time we left Burgas by night-train on the last Monday and there were some touching farewells. We left Sofia station at dawn as the sun rose over the neighbouring mountain but our minds were on the English breakfast at the International Hotel (cornflakes and fruit juice). Alas, shopping in Sofia was very limited and we could only gaze longingly into the firmly closed folkcraft shops. Then a final tram ride to the station for the taxi ride to the airport.

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I think we all wanted to thank Galina for her marvellous efforts, not only as a universal translator but also as a magician who dealt with the constantly varying timetable and even the "vegetable problem". We hope this trip will prove a good pilot-course for future and more ambitious programmes. Come on folks, it's so cheap over there you can't resist signing up for the next course. As for me, I'm planning on a mosquito-proof suit of Japanese armour (with or without earplugs).

DAVID HOWELL

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#### ERRATUM

I'm sorry the wrong telephone number was given for Ken Ward with his new address last month. The number should have been 081 771 8258. My apologies for any inconvenience caused. Ed.

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#### NEWS FROM THE TURKISH GROUP

WE HAVE FINALLY MOVED TO TUESDAYS!. For some time now, people have been saying that many similar and good "Balkan-type" classes have been held on Mondays, so we have now changed to TUESDAYS, at 7.30 p.m. at the 1A CENTRE, 1A ROSEBERY AVENUE LONDON E.C.1. Visitors are very welcome, particularly from S.I.F.D., so if you are one of those people who have joined in the Turkish dances at various events and parties, or have been to Ergument's or to other workshops, and vaguely thought you'd like the opportunity to really learn some Turkish dances, particularly newer ones, with that tantalising Turkish music, now's your chance!

<sup>i</sup> Omer Erdem is now our regular teacher, and those of you who have danced with us in the past will recall what a good teacher he is; Terry, his wife, an excellent dancer also dances with us. In addition, we now have Serpil Urkmez from Istanbul, and she has a very similar background to Nuket Sakalli, who taught at our recent workshops at Imperial College enjoyed by a number of S.I.F.D. members, so we have been able to retain our tradition of having Turkish teachers. We also have the prospect of live music this term and have been approached by the Head of the Turkish Tourist Office to do a performance later this term. Our programme is also being planned to include a visit to a Turkish film, and one of our popular meals at a traditional Turkish restaurant.

How to get to Rosebery Avenue - it could hardly be simpler (why we chose it!):

- 1) Parking is easy, and free after 6.30 p.m.
- 2) Underground - Chancery Lane is nearby (Central Line).
- 3) The 1A Centre is at the Gray's Inn end of Rosebery Avenue (not the Sadler's Wells end).
- 4) At least seven 'bus routes pass the door! These all seem quite frequent and include Nos.17, 19, 38, 45, 171A, 243 and Red Arrow 505.

If you need any more information -or a map - 'phone me on 081 393 1919, or Philip on 081 427 0947, or Jean on 071 272 8075.

PAULINE WELCH

Ed. Note: So that we can identify people, it would be helpful if surnames could be included when sending in articles, please. Many thanks.

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MUSIC. Two more tunes this month from Wilf Horrocks on page 12. Please let Wilf know if you would like any particular music. His address is 53 Southway, Carshalton Beeches, Surrey SM5 4HP. Tel: 081 642 3629.

# JABADAIO

(Breton)

**A** (Intro: chord G)

**B**

**C**

The dance is performed usually with five sequences; so play AABCA.

Finish with the last note held on while dancers express their excitement vocally!

# JÄGER-NEUNER

(Germany)

(Nine Hunters)

**A** (Intro: Last 4 bars of A)

**B**

**C**

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

Nov.1st M.C.s Merton Park International Folkdance Group

Dec.6th M.C. Dawn Webster

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.7th OXFORD BALKANSKO ORD are presenting a BULGARIAN DAY COURSE with Galina Turker, to revise Delyan Demirev's dances from his various courses this year, and other items. 10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 to 5.30 p.m. Numbers will be limited to 30 places, so book early. Tickets £5 including a Party in the evening. Send s.a.e. and cheque to Roger Wicksteed, 47 Jordan Hill, North Oxford OX2 8EU. The evening Party, 7.30 to 11 p.m., is also open to non-course attenders. £2 payable at the door.
- Nov.13th BARNET INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE CLUB welcomes back Maggie O'Regan for another workshop of popular Balkan dances, 8 p.m. at Church House, Wood Street, Barnet, Herts. £2. Further details from Irene Nicholls, 081 440 1366. N.B.: No meeting on 6th November, due to church function.
- Nov.14th S.I.F.D. SILVER BADGE TESTS, in place of usual S.I.F.D. Day Course. There will be no Day Course in December. Enquiries to Simon Guest 0992 577065 (evenings).
- Nov.15th ISRAELI DANCE COURSE with Anat (as in Eastbourne) 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. at St.Paul's Hall, Beaufort Road, Southville, Bristol. £8. Food to share. Contact: Daphne Allen, 0275 392757.
- Nov.21st BALKANPLUS at Working Men's College, Crowndale Road, London N.W.1., 7 p.m. £2.50 including refreshments. M.C: Liz Mellish. Enquiries to Stella Carter, 0702 207447. The next Balkanplus will be on 19th December (see p.8).
- Nov.27th DANCING/WALKING WEEKEND at Holland House, Crothorne, Worcs. Enquiries to Roy Clarke, 081 367 2649.
- Nov.28th JACY TACY POLISH DANCE DAY. See page 5.
- Dec.5th ZIVKO FIRFOV BALKAN PARTY at Moorfields School, Bunhill Row, London E.C.1 7.00 to 10.30 p.m. Nearest Underground Station: Old Street. Admission by ticket only. Tickets £5 including refreshments, from Irene Keywood, 133 Third Avenue, Dagenham, Essex RM10 9BD. Tel: 081 592 4427. Cheques payable to "Zivko Firfov Group"; s.a.e. please.

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FESTIVAL OF SCANDINAVIAN ARTS

From 10th November to 13th December, there will be a Festival of Scandinavian Arts at the Barbican Centre in London. The many events on the programme include the following items which are free:- traditional dancers, fiddlers, singers from Norway; exhibition of Finnish tango; Finnish folk musicians; Danish folk musicians; Swedish folk musicians; Iceland folk rock(!). There will also be exhibitions/workshops/lectures of Scandinavian embroidery. For full programme of events, contact the Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2Y 8DS. Tel: 071 638 4141.