SIFD NEWS



JUNE 1993

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

EDITOR: Lily Avery (Mrs.), 16 Willow Drive, Little Common, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex TN39 4PX. Tel: 0424 845866.

---000---

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

--000--

This month's cover is by Tina Stone and shows three French ladies in costume.

---000---

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

SECRETARY: Nick Green, 110 Gammons Lane, Watford, Herts. WD2 5HY. Tel: 0923

251528.

TREASURER: Judith Payling (Mrs.), "Rosebank", 56 Quickley Lane, Chorleywood, Rickmansworth, Herts. WD3 5AF.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: Alan Morton, 26 Durham Road, Harrow, Middx. HA1 4PG. Tel: 081 427 8042.

DEMONSTRATION SECRETARY: Kay Kedge (Mrs.), 9 Barnes Rise, Kings Langley, Herts. WD4 8AN. Tel: 0923 262763.

PUBLICITY SECRETARY: George Sweetland, 28 Hayes Court, Camberwell New Road, London SE6 OTQ. Tel: 071 701 3785.

GROUPS LIAISON OFFICER: Alan Morton (address above).

--000--

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

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 JUNE 1993

Tutors: Hilary Bolton & Nick Green Fees: £4 for SIFD members, £5 non-members (Concessions on request)

The course will comprise an exciting mixture of Hungarian and Romanian couple, line and men's dances. The Hungarian dances will be from Székelyföld in Eastern Transylvania, and the Romanian from various districts. Cassettes and dance notes will be available. 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. Only official video recording will be allowed. Any enquiries to Simon Guest, 0992 577065 (evenings).

There will be no S.I.F.D. day courses in July or August. The September course will be an Armenian weekend; see page 9. Book now!

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

It was good to meet so many of our members at Eastbourne. Some members travelled a long way, and I hope that you enjoyed the Festival as much as I did. This year the Society was responsible for the International social events, and Jeanette Hull took on this responsibility on our behalf. The events were: the French evening, the Saturday night dance, the Sunday night beginners' dance, and the Monday farewell Balkan party. Thank you, Jeanette, for all your hard work. (See a note on page 8 from Jeanette thanking callers, teachers and other helpers).

Thanks also go to the "Rainmakers" who have donated £63.40 to the Society. This was raised from a surplus from a beginners' workshop and an auction of unwanted goods. I can recommend the latter as a simple and easy method of raising money. Belinda Lansbury (Rainmakers' Chairperson) could tell you exactly how it was done as she organized it. Thank you, Belinda and the "Rainmakers". Croxley Green also donated some ethnic goods to the shop at Eastbourne. Thank you, Croxley.

At the Committee Meeting in May it was decided that, in order to attempt to stabilize our financial position, the Society will not publish an SIFD NEWS in August this year. We think that it is better to sacrifice this than to have a deficit for the third year running. Our Treasurer has projected a loss (which includes depreciation) of approximately £459 by the end of this financial year. Admittedly, August will fall into the next financial year, but the principle is the same and it will give us a better start for the next year. We know how much everybody values the SIFD NEWS and we are sorry to make this decision. We think that there are fewer Society activities going on in August, so that this is the appropriate edition to cut. Please make sure that information about August events is sent to Lily for inclusion in the July SIFD NEWS. The membership forms will be sent out in July this year instead of August.

Some good things come out of financial hardship and one of these is a Safari, which will act as a publicity exercise (instead of paying for advertisements), as well as allowing members to have a good day out in Essex on 22nd August (see George Sweetland's article on page 9).

Following Peter Bransby's note on constitutional matters in the April SIFD NEWS, the comments received have suggested some minor amendments which have now been incorporated in the draft motions. These will be put to members for consideration at the A.G.M. One issue of principle remains: the question of how many proposers there should be for a motion to award honorary life membership. At the May meeting the majority of the Committee felt that the number should be 10. Since it is desirable that the motion should reflect majority opinions, we would welcome comments on this proposal.

JILL BRANSBY, Chairperson

--000--

As Jill has said in her "Note from the Chair", the Committee has decided, for financial reasons, to cut out the August issue of SIFD NEWS this year. This means that anyone organizing events for August or early-September will need to let me have details in writing by 17th June for the July issue. I'm afraid anything received after that date will have to wait until the September issue, deadline for which will be the 17th August.

---000---

Former members of Harrow Green will be sad to know that Harry Steptoe died last year.

On a happier note, Ivy Romney was awarded the B.E.M. for "Services to Folk" and the Freedom of the City of London for "Services to Youth".

POLISH DANCE REVISION DAY

SATURDAY, 5TH JUNE 1993 - 11.30 a.m. TO 5.15 p.m. AT
THE PLACE (NOW IN STUDIO 10 NOT 12) 17 DUKE'S RD., W.C.1, OFF THE SOUTH SIDE OF
EUSTON ROAD. NEAREST UNDERGROUND STATIONS: EUSTON SQUARE, EUSTON, KING'S CROSS.

COST: £3.50

Jacy Tacy, following their S.I.F.D. Day Course on 13th March this year and their day for the "not so experienced" on 28th November last year, are holding a revision course to cover dances taught on both dates:

National: Maky Krakowiak, Kujawiak and Oberek

Regional: Krzyżok, Sztajerek, Polka Tramla, Powolniak, Zajączek

Besides those who have attended on either or both of the above dates, any others having some experience of these dances will be welcome, but this course will not be suitable for complete beginners. Owing to the rather small size of the studio, numbers must be limited, so tickets will be sold in advance, Cassettes of either of the previous courses may be brought along to have the extra dances added. 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

Cold drinks will be available in the studio and the canteen will be open both before 11.30 a.m. and during the rest of the day.



COTSWOLD SAFARI - S.I.F.D. WEST MIDLANDS BRANCH - 6TH JUNE 1993

11 a.m. Moreton-in-the-Marsh

12 noon Broadway

1.38 p.m. Picnic lunch at Abbotswood, Lower Swell (Manor House gardens only open to the public on four Sundays in a year; admission free to our folkdancers).

4 p.m. Chipping Campden

If you would like to join us and wear costume, please do; also musicians are very welcome. Enquiries to us on 021 604 5706.

ALF & FRANCES GARTON



MERTON PARK/WOODVALE SAFARI IN SURREY AND SUSSEX - 13TH JUNE 1993

10.30 a.m. Godstone Green, South of Caterham, Surrey

12.30 p.m. Barkham Manor Vineyards, Piltdown, Nr. Uckfield, Sussex

3.00 p.m. Michelham Priory, Upper Dicker, Hailsham, East Sussex

Dancing to music by Wilf Horrocks for about 30 minutes at each venue. All welcome. Please come in costume if you can. Bring lunch; drinks available. Further details from Steve or Joy Steventon on 081 542 3831.

THE ZIVKO FIRFOV JUGOSLAV FOLK DANCE & SONG GROUP Its origins and times.

Fred Wood has sent me the following interesting account which he wrote under the above title in 1986. It was offered to me after Philip Thornton's death, to show in some detail Philip's massive contribution in putting Balkan dance "on the map" in this country, although, as the story is of necessity a long one, Philip will not appear until the later instalments.

.

It is impossible to know how long the Zivko Firfov Jugoslav Folk Dance and Song Group will endure even though, as these words are written in January 1986, its existence spans most of three decades. In conjecture, then, we may find that its day has passed, its members disbanded, its wardrobe and muniments — mute objects they — dispersed and memories faded. With that prospect in mind, this archive is created to establish the events that lead to its foundation and to record in some measure the subsequent times and activities of the Group. It will thus serve for the gratification of the membership both past and present, but should it live on itself then it may also be seen as a brick in the bridge of friendship between two nations. Let us then endeavour to find a beginning or arrive as near to one as can be reasonably achieved.

Can it be, in this age of cheap travel, when seemingly the whole world is open to the most humble of us, that of all the many thousands of British people who go to the Balkans to holiday each year, some have seen the local dances and, enchanted by them, returned with an eagerness to practise them for themselves? Some probably, but it must be true that most folk go to the Balkans, as to so many other parts of the world, to bare themselves on sun-soaked sands, to imbibe alcohol, and to eat their fill. Scant thoughtdo they give, if any, to the cultures and hinterlands of these countries and rarely do they leave the well-beaten tourist path. Once home, next year's holiday is more in mind.

What then gave rise to the Group? Did a small band of enthusiasts form after being introduced to Balkan dancing at the inaugural public performances at the Royal Festival Hall in 1951, where "Kolo", a great Jugoslavian State Company of Folk Dancers, with superb costumes and spirited footwork, burst upon our still austere, war-conditioned imaginations? Not so, for such a band had existed even prior to this event, occurring as it did six years after the end of World War II. Could it be, then, the agents of the Special Operations Executive who had returned to Britain from that war imbued with the magic of Balkan tippitoe and a keenness to keep it up? A reliable source of information states quite positively that dancing was outside their encounters! Of one thing we may be certain though and that is that our Group owed its existence to World War II.

Back in those far-off days, the British Isles became a refuge for countless men and women fortunate enough to escape from their many homelands when these were invaded, conquered and occupied by the German, Italian and Russian armies. (In 1939 Russia too had invaded Poland and in 1940 she occupied the Baltic States). Our island refuge then became an armed camp as servicemen from many more: nations massed upon it in readiness for the great cross-Channel liberating re-invasion of Europe. London in particular was host to a hotch-potch of peoples, and as the war progressed the Government sponsored the opening of an INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CENTRE (I.Y.C.) at a large house in Chelsea's Pont Street. As a cultural centre it was immediately popular, attracting students, young workers, exiles and service personnel, especially Americans. Many of them found a need to assert the culture of their own particular homeland if only to give them status in the land in which they found themselves. For the exiles especially, there was a need for an earnest of the culture they had left behind but to which they had every intention of returning. Performing their national dances perfectly fulfilled such needs. So natural a form of expression as folk-dancing, therefore, executed with the exuberance of youth yet sympathetic to the historical times being lived through, became a dominant activity at the I.Y.C. Weekly dance events

Contd...

were soon established there and eventually monthly dances as well at Cecil Sharp House, the national home of the ENGLISH FOLK DANCE AND SONG SOCIETY (E.F.D.S.S.).

In contributing to the defeat of the Axis Powers in 1945, Russia's armed forces entered many lands contiguous with her borders, lands from which she had no intention of withdrawing at least until she had imposed Communist rule upon them. Thousands of exiles from these lands in Britain saw their hopes of the war years blighted by the Russian occupation. Faced with a choice of democracy or Communism, they chose to remain in Britain. The need to assert their identity became even more powerful. National dancing, and singing as well, giving as they did an opportunity also to wear national costume, assumed a greater importance to those exiles and continued to flourish. As well, young Londoners and returning service personnel found appeal in the movement at Chelsea and skilled folkdance exponents steadily increased in number. A situation was eventually reached where certain enthusiasts considered it possible to set up a society devoted solely to international folkdance and by the end of 1946 they had separated from the I.Y.C. and inaugurated the International Society for Folk Dancing. This society received considerable support from the E.F.D.S.S and even the British Council. It organized regular classes at the Carlyle School for Girls, Hortensia Road, Chelsea, and continued with the monthly Sunday dances at CecilSharp House. Numerous of the original members also belonged to the Youth Hostel Association and the dancing became popular at weekends spent at hostels on the fringe of London, in turn drawing a new wave of interest in international folkdance from other hostellers. The society then changed its name to the SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING (S.I.F.D.). It is still in being today, an authority in its own right and still holding its monthly Sunday dances regularly. It is of interest to recall some of the names of those who inaugurated the Society - Lawrence Thackeray, Irene Hales, Bert Price, Len Weller, Irene Weller, Ivor Sober, Jack Richardson, Charles Fawkes and Margery Latham.

To be continued.

• • • • • • • •

BARLOW INTERNATIONALFOLKDANCE GROUP

We at Barlow are doing our bit to introduce children to folk dancing. As we hire the room for the evening and most adults cannot arrive much before 8 p.m., we use the hour before for a junior class for children aged 6 to 11 at the nominal cost of £1 \underline{a} term. This has become very popular and has had the bonus effect that some of the mums have joined the adult class.

JOAN WOOD Hon.Secretary, Barlow Group

.......

VISITING GROUP

A folkdance group from Hessen in Germany is coming to England on 25th July 1993 for a week. There are about twenty young people (approximate ages 14 to 24) with their instructor. They are spending three days in Shropshire, staying with members of a dance school, and sharing in workshops and displays.

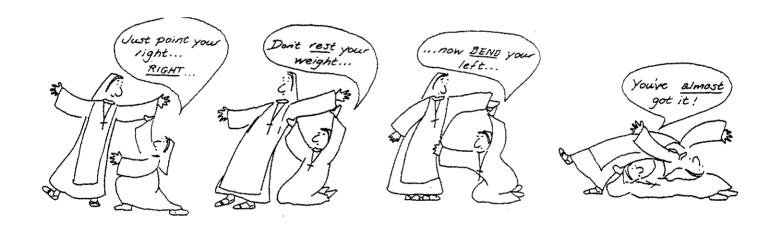
They would like to arrange a similar event with another group in or near London for one to three days, any time from 25th to 31st July. Would anyone interested please contact Volkmar Weckesser, Paul Klee Strasse 9, 7500 Karlsruhe 41, Germany. Tel: 01049 271 492776.

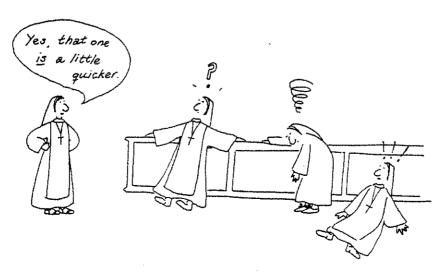
PAM'S PEOPLE

Pam Radford, one of the newest and most enthusiastic recruits of the Central London Group, is a nun who takes the dances she has learnt back to her convent to teach them to the other sisters. One of the sisters recorded their reaction in cartoons. We thoroughly enjoyed them and thought that other members might also, so with Pam's permission we send you a copy for SIFD NEWS.

JANET WOOLBAR Central London Group







EASTBOURNE FESTIVAL 1993

This is my last news-letter entry for this year's Eastbourne Festival. Instead of the last two months' appeals for help, this is to say THANK YOU to all the people who responded.

First, thank you Joan and Simon Guest, Jill Bransby, Hugh Wood and Cathy Meunier for M.C.-ing the social dances, and to Barbara and Malcolm Shaffer for leading the interval dancing.

To everyone who helped behind the scenes, lending things to decorate the gym, setting up equipment, putting up decorations, pushing performers' lunch trolleys, clearing up afterwards and loading my car, plus all sorts of other jobs. I couldn't have survived the weekend without you.

A special thank-you to Pam Khan and Kay Kedge, plus their volunteers, who kept the shop open in every break time, making an important contribution to the S.I.F.D. funds.

It was good to see so many people joining in all the dances and workshops. I hope you all enjoyed the weekend as much as I did.

JEANETTE HULL

---000---

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Lily,

Many grateful thanks to all the S.I.F.D. members who so kindly supported the ISTD/UNICEF Day of Chinese folkdances - Action for Somalia. The three days at Southampton, London and Chester were great fun and most enjoyable. The dance material will, I hope, prove interesting and useful for your classes.

All the money, a total of £500, has gone to the Audrey Hepburn Memorial Fund. Just before she died, Audrey Hepburn, who was a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador, visited Somalia. She was so horrified by the condition of the children that she described her visit as "like walking into a nightmare". When she returned, she expressed the wish to help the children of Somalia in every way possible. Being a dancer (she was trained at Rambert), it seemed a good opportunity to support her last wish — in dance.

Thanks go to you all from UNICEF, and also to Marian Roberts, Southampton, to Nic Espinosa of the London Studio Centre, and to Heather Rees of the Hammond School, Chester, for kindly donating their studios. Many thanks to several teachers who were unable to attend but sent a cheque; this was a very kind thought and much appreciated. It's still not too late!

I would be happy to do further Workshops for the Fund - anyone like to organize one?

Yours sincerely,

ROBERT HARROLD 4 Breakspeare, 94 College Road, Dulwich, London SE21 7NB Tel: 081 693 7753

--000--

LE GRAND BAL DE L'EUROPE takes place from 15th to 25th July 1993 at Gennetines (near Moulins in central France). Full programme of dance workshops from various regions of France, and other countries. Contact in England: Jessica Abrahams, Low Greendale, Wasdale, Cumbria CA20 1EU.

BULGARIAN TSERVULI

I have obtained a few pairs of tservuli (Bulgarian leather dancing slippers) and hope to find more during my visit in early June - still not an easy task! The sizes available at this moment are from 38 to 42. Those interested are asked to contact me after 10th June at 117 Buxton Lane, Caterham, Surrey CR3 5HN TEL: 081 660 3007.

SYBIL NEWTON

--000---

S.I.F.D. "SAFARI" - SUNDAY, 22ND AUGUST 1993

Following the initial announcement last month of the above event, some further details have now been settled.

The tour will start at Theydon Bois, then on to Blackmore and Whittle, and finally at Havering-atte-Bower. Should the weather turn out to be wet, there is a village hall at the last stop where we can dance if necessary. There will be an opportunity to have lunch in one of the many suitable pubs. Tina Stone has kindly agreed to play for us, and there will be a number of other musicians supporting her and, of course, we shall have tapes and amplifying equipment to supplement the live music.

Perhaps it is worth mentioning that these "safaris" are a sort of travelling general dance - not demonstrations! You come along, preferably in costume, join in the dances you know or like, and sit out the rest. It is really a most sociable occasion, and in order to make it useful as well, we shall be collecting for "Save The Children" funds among the audiences, so we still need volunteers for this.

We have pencilled in a booking for a coach for non-drivers but in order to confirm this, we do need to have the minimum number fairly soon. The stops have limited areas for parking, so one coach is a lot simpler than 20 cars or so, and it is more "green". So, if you are even thinking about using the coach (£6 per person), please let Jill Bransby or me know immediately as we do need to know whether or not we have a reasonable hope of achieving the minimum number.

GEORGE SWEETLAND

---000---

S.I.F.D. ARMENIAN WEEKEND COURSE

Saturday, 11th September 1993 12 noon to 6 p.m. Sunday, 12th September 1993 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

at Studio 10, The Place, Dukes Road, London W.C.1. (near Euston)

Tineke van Geel, who has studied extensively in Armenia and who has a reputation as an inspiring teacher, will be our tutor for this weekend. Places will be limited in the interests of providing optimum conditions for learning the dances and style. Book now to avoid disappointment later.

Weekend ticket £16; Saturday ticket £8.50; Sunday ticket £8.50 Priority will be given to applications for weekend tickets.

Applications (with s.a.e. please) to Liz Mellish, 15 Lancaster Road, N.Harrow, Middx. HA2 7NN. Tel: 081 863 7807. Cheques should be made payable to S.I.F.D. We would be very grateful to anyone able and kind enough to offer Saturday night accommodation to any out-of-town member attending the course. Offers to Liz Mellish, please.

19 Belmont Rise Cheam Surrey SM2 6EJ 16th May,1993.

Dear Lily,

Having read Hugh Wood's letter in the May magazine, I felt I must write to confirm what he mentioned about the National Curriculum with regard to dance and to say what I, as a primary school teacher, have been trying out in the neighbouring London Borough of Sutton.

I began attending Joy and Steve Steventon's classes in I.F.D. in Cheam in September, 1991, after discovering them through a Sunday day course at the Sutton College of Liberal Arts, in April, 1991. Until that point, I had no idea that S.I.F.D. existed and would have joined years ago, had I known.

There are in the National Curriculum (Physical Education), six main areas of activity to be studied and one of these is, indeed, Dance, which is given the same weighting as the other areas of Athletics, Games, Gymnastics, Swimming, and Outdoor/Adventurous Activity.

Much emphasis is placed on Creative Dance with children making up their own dances to convey/communicate ideas, atmosphere, etc.. But, at all stages, from Key Stage 1 (5-7 years) to Key Stage 4(14-16), children are to be given experiences to develop skills in rhythmic responses, travelling, jumping, turning, gesture, stillness, speed, tension, shape and direction, working with a variety of contrasting stimuli, including music.

At Key Stage 2(7-11 years), pupils are expected to be given opportunities to "increase the range and complexity of body actions, including step patterns". By the end of Key Stage 3(age 14), pupils should have been "taught to perform set dances, showing an understanding of style, and to describe, analyse and interpret dances recognising stylistic differences, aspects of production and cultural/historical contexts". By the age of 16, pupils are to have been "taught to perform complex and technically more demanding dances accurately and expressively". Therefore, far from being hidden deep in the National Curriculum, it is quite openly stated what must be taught in the area of Dance.

I have only quoted a few of the statements for each Key Stage above - there are many more. However, suffice it to say from what I have quoted, International Folk Dancing would appear to be a very appropriate and indeed, almost necessary, part of each child's education in Dance, and that there is a need for teachers with expertise in Dance at all levels.

Needless to say, I have been delighted to be able to use what I have learnt at Steve and Joy's classes, with the children I teach at Dorchester Primary School in Worcester Park , my present class being aged 9-10

CONTD....

for their tapes.

Sutton has a Dance Sharing Day for schools, which is held in July, and last year I took my class along and another younger class I had also taught and they performed Diatchko Kolo and Cherkessia Kfula. I had been asked by Sutton's Adviser in P.E., Anne Allen, to teach an easy dance to the other children from schools in Sutton, and organised it so that the 60+ children from our school each took two other children and in the space of 15-20 minutes taught Diatchko Kolo to them, which we then all performed together in four huge circles!

This year with my present class we have covered Ve Davide, Danish Schottische, Riepe Riepe Karste, Vrapceto, Vlajnica, the Grand Square, Debka Kafrit and are in the process of learning Fado Blanchita. The class have performed to the school each half term and I took 16 of them to the Charles Cryer Theatre in Carshalton in April to take part in a Sutton Schools" performance.

I have found that the children, both boys and girls, have been very enthusiastic about dance sessions and enjoy the challenge of remembering sequences and directions. Circle and line dances have broken down barriers of boys not wishing to dance with girls and viceversa and in dances requiring a partner, I find the children are far happier if we number them 1 and 2 round a circle and then they all learn the boys and the girls' parts.

I feel it would be of value for more primary and secondary children to see local groups perform and to have visiting teachers from abroad come into schools to teach. Certainly, it is an area waiting to be developed in schools. As far as I am aware, I am the only teacher in Sutton teaching International Folk Dancing: it would be lovely to see more.

Yours sincerely.

Maddi (Madeleine) Roojun.

Another of those cartoons (see p.7)

UNTERSTEIRER LÄNDLER

(Austria)



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

June 6th M.C.s Nick & Helen Green

July 4th M.C.s S.I.F.D. Band

7 to 10 p.m. Admission £3 for S.I.F.D. members, £3.50 for non-members.

• • • •

WHAT'S ON

June 4th "LE MYSTÈRE DES VOIX BULGARES", the original choir of 24 singers, 8 p.m. at Hazelwood House, Loddiswell, nr.Kingsbridge, South Devon Tel: 0548 82232, or 081 883 2124.

June 5th POLISH DANCE REVISION DAY. See p.4.

June 5th OXFORD BALKANSKO ORO present a day of easy Romanian dances with Nick Green. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 2 to 5.30 p.m. plus all are invited to a Party in the evening, 7.30 to 11 p.m. Day Course £5, Party £2.50. (No venue given; enquiries to Roger Wicksteed, Oxford 511898).

June 6th COTSWOLD SAFARI. See p.4.

June 11th BARNET INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE CLUB. Balkan dances that have withstood the test of time. Taught by Brian Dowsett, the resident hardy perennial. 8 p.m. at Church House, Wood Street, Barnet, Herts. Enquiries to Irene Nicholls, 081 440 1366. (Barnet Summer Party with Dunay on 2nd July).

June 12th S.I.F.D. TRANSYLVANIAN DAY COURSE. See p.2.

June 12th BALKAN FOLKDANCE COURSE at Freshwater Bay, Isle of Wight, in a beautto 19th iful location overlooking the sea. Afternoons free for walking, sightseeing, relaxing. Details from Cathy Meunier, 071 482 0906.

June 13th MERTON PARK/WOODVALE SAFARI. See p.4.

June 19th BALKANPLUS at Working Men's College, Crowndale Road, London N.W.1. 7 p.m. M.C. Brian Dowsett. Live music with Dunav, plus a few extra surprises. Please Note: Next month's Balkanplus will be on Saturday, 10th July. Enquiries to Stella Carter, 0702 207447.

June 25th to 27th accommodation; some vacancies. Programme: walking and dancing. Cost £56. For details contact Roy Clarke, 33 Cedar Park Road, Enfield, Middx. Tel: 081 367 2649, or Jack Richardson, Dept.of Chemical Engineering, University College, Swansea SA3 8PP. Tel: 0792 295194.

June 27th BALATON and PHILHELLENES groups, 3 p.m. at Victoria Embankment Gardens, London.

• • •

Apologies to anyone who turned up at Victoria Embankment Gardens on 22nd May expecting to see Tatry Polish Group. The group decided not to perform, and the show was cancelled.