

S.I.F.D. NEWS



OCT 1994

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

EDITOR: Lily Avery (Mrs.), 16 Willow Drive, Little Common, Bexhill-on-Sea,
East Sussex TN39 4PX. Tel: 01424 845866.

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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 design of elegant cats in Austrian costume was drawn by
Lesley Boorer. She saw a book called "Yoga For Cats"(!) and thought,
"Why not 'Folk Dancing For Cats'?" She hopes that S.I.F.D. cat-lovers
will like it and that dog-lovers won't mind!

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S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE - SUNDAY, 9TH OCTOBER 1994

Janet Woolbar will be revising the ITALIAN dances taught at the York Summer
School, at The Place. Remember to bring your own drinks and sandwiches as
the restaurant will be closed. There are no parking restrictions on Sundays.

Cassettes and notes will be available for purchase. Only official video-
recording will be allowed.

Date: 9th October 1994

Venue: Studio 10, The Place, 17 Duke's Road, London W.C.1. (near Euston Station)

Time: 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Cost: £5.00 members, £6.00 non -members
£4.00 concessions

November's course will be revision of the South American course, by Jan Knoppers.

MAGGIE O'REGAN

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S.I.F.D. dance tapes and instructions are available from Mrs. Eleanor Gordon,
92 Norbiton Avenue, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey KT1 3QP. Tel: 081 549 2998.
(Eleanor has taken over from Pam Khan).

Other S.I.F.D. sales goods are available from Mrs. Claire Steeley, 34 Broad-
water Avenue, Letchworth, Herts. SG6 3HF. Tel: 0462 686419.

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MUSIC. Three tunes from Wilf Horrocks this month, on page 11. Please let
Wilf know if you would like music for a particular dance. Tel: 081 642 3629.

A NOTE OF THANKS

I should like to thank Heather Edwards very much for taking on the job of compiling and editing the September issue of SIFD NEWS, thus enabling me to extend my holiday in Yorkshire after the Summer School, without having to rush back!
Many thanks, Heather. LILY AVERY

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* A REMINDER: This will be the last issue of SIFD NEWS that will be sent to
* you if you have not renewed your membership. Membership forms were sent
* out with an earlier issue of SIFD NEWS. All enquiries re subscriptions to
* our Membership Secretary: Alan Morton, 26 Durham Road, Harrow, Middx. HA1
* 4PG. Tel: 081 427 8042.
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KELSEY (BLUNDELL) AND JOHN (SAYERS) MEMORIAL DANCE, CECIL SHARP HOUSE, 4TH SEPT.

At the Dance, the sale of programmes raised £33.05 and the raffle £72.80, so £105.85 has been sent to the Motor Neurone Disease Association with a programme and covering letter. The money will be put to very good use by the Association which, as well as helping existing sufferers and their carers, funds research into the disease.

I want to add my own thanks and appreciation to the organizers, to all who provided prizes, and to all those who by their kindnesses enabled me to enjoy what could otherwise have been a difficult evening.

MAVIS SAYERS

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DELYAN DEMIREV, the popular and experienced Bulgarian folkdance teacher, came to the U.K. to teach at the S.I.F.D. Summer School in August. He is still in this country and plans to stay on for a few months. If any classes/groups are interested in having him as a guest teacher, he is eager to teach you his dances (and to practise his English!). So, please contact me on 081 368 3320 to make arrangements. Messages can be left on this number if no answer and I'll get back to you as soon as I can.

GALINA TURKER

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The London Borough of Merton is looking for people to deliver Thursday evening lectures at Mitcham and Morden libraries, and to arrange demonstrations and performances on Saturday afternoons at Merton Civic Centre. If anyone would like to promote any aspect of the S.I.F.D., or has anything else to offer that may be of interest to the general public, please 'phone me and I will take your details. A fee and expenses can be paid.

PAM KHAN, 081 648 1422.

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ALL MATERIAL FOR THE NOVEMBER SIFD NEWS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE EDITOR IN WRITING BY 17TH OCTOBER.

SOME FEATURES OF DUTCH FOLK COSTUMES

After the Dutch day course, I thought members might be interested in a short article about Dutch folk costumes.

Holland is the European country with the greatest diversity of costumes in everyday use, though this situation is changing fast. With the exception of Volendam, Marken, Staphorst and Bunschoten-Spakenburg, the average age of women wearing a costume every day is around 60, and for men even higher. Time is getting short.

I will not attempt to describe individual costumes in detail, but I hope to create an interest, to encourage people to find out more for themselves, and to look out for these beautiful garments when visiting the Netherlands.

The usual costume portrayed as the Dutch National Costume is that of Volendam, or occasionally Marken, but the famous Volendam costume is worn only by Catholics and the winged white cap is only seen on Sundays. With these costumes go leather shoes, sometimes with silver buckles. The famous clogs are only worn for working on the farm, mainly in Eastern Holland, and are not supposed to be worn with "Sunday-best" and festive costumes. Neither of these two costumes is typical, because they do not employ the head-clasp, or ear-iron (oorijzer) which is generally typical of Dutch folk costume.

It is the women who have preserved the traditional dress, and a woman would need at least seven different dresses in her wardrobe for different seasons and occasions, including special dresses for Whitsuntide, the Queen's Day, and various mourning garments. Men were usually limited to an everyday costume, a summer variant, and a "Sunday-best". The overall picture is one of solid quality. The rules are strict, and the forms rigid, but the details can be exquisite. The basic elements of a women's costume are the bib, or kraplap, the skirt, with petticoats, the apron, bodice, cap and/or kerchief. There are six different shapes of caps and, as there are often strong winds in Holland, a metal brace clamps round the head and the cap is attached to it. This was originally made of iron and in time it developed into a casque or helmet, completely enclosing the wearer's head. This "oorijzer" is often made of silver or gold, to show wealth, and has beautiful decorations. If a thatched farmhouse caught fire, at least the gold and silver could be salvaged! Nowadays, copper is often used to simulate gold, and it looks very lovely under a cap made of fine lace. Some of these ear-irons have elaborate spirals projecting from them, or have large rectangles sticking out at the sides, rather like wing mirrors. The jewellery uses gold, silver, corals (very important), garnets and pearls.

Most of the costumes seen today originate in the 16th and 17th centuries, and the most dramatic changes took place in this century. The materials, colours and accessories are standard in each region and personal variations are only seen in the decoration. The dress not only reflected fashion but from the costume you could tell the wearer's origin, occupation, religion, marital state (married, unmarried, bride), the day of the week, the season, the weather, and whether or not the wearer was in mourning. An incredible system of minute changes in colour and accessories indicates the closeness of the relationship to the deceased person, and how long ago the bereavement occurred. Even the crocheted guards over the bicycle wheels and saddle covers go into mourning in Staphorst. They are made of soft shades of purple, white, green or blue instead of the out-of-mourning vivid red, yellow, orange, green, white and blue.

The men's costumes are usually made of heavy black woollen cloth, with the fishermen having baggy trousers, a jacket, and a striped shirt with a checked kerchief. The shirt often has an embroidered neck-band, and is fastened with gold studs. Another long kerchief is looped round the neck and down the front of the Volendam costume - useful to grab hold of if a man fell overboard. For Sunday-best, large buttons and buckles would be of gold or silver. Farmers wore a similar costume but with straight trousers. A man from Marken would

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wear a garment of red baize round his middle. This was known as his "Health". It was treated with alum, which absorbs moisture, and was dyed with madder roots, reputed to prevent rheumatism. The women of Marken wore underskirts of the same material to guard their "health".

It is not surprising that costume wearing is dying out. In some cases the materials, such as the Indian chintz which features in the costumes of Marken and the twin farming/fishing villages of Bunschoten-Spakenburg, are either no longer obtainable or very expensive if they can be found. A new lace cap in South Beveland costs over £100. A Friesian couple told me that, together, their costumes cost over £3000, not counting the antique heirloom solid silver watch and chain worn by the man. The lace caps have tended to get larger and more elaborate over the years so that the wearers can no longer launder them without professional help. The same applies to the wide and heavily-starched chintz kraplap of the Bunschoten-Spakenburg costume. The costumes are hand-made and decorated. The skills of weaving, dyeing, embroidery, crochet, knitting, lace-making, button-making, beading, painting and nail printing need to be acquired, and to a high level. When women no longer possess the skills to make their own costumes, the wearing of them will be a lost tradition.

MARINA WOLSTENHOLME

Acknowledgements:

1. Jan Knoppers. Notes for lectures given in the U.S.A.
2. "The Costumes of Holland", Constance Nieuwhoff, Willem Diepraam and Cas Oorthuys
3. "Onze Kleder-Drachten", Constance Nieuwhoff
4. "The Folk Dress of Europe", James Snowden
5. "National Costumes of the World", John Gilbert

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THE TURKISH GROUP has moved to Wednesdays. We are still at the 1A Centre, 1A Rosebery Avenue, London E.C.1. (the opposite end to Sadlers Wells) and meet from 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. on Wednesdays - mainly first and third.

Ibrahim Tastaban is our main teacher, with visits from others, including Atilla Altinoz (a leader of the group who won first prize at Llangollen this year); also others from that group.

Friends will be welcome at 7.30 p.m. on 5th and 19th October. For further details ring 081 393 1919, or just turn up!

PAULINE WELCH

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THE BALATON HUNGARIAN FOLKDANCE GROUP has changed venues and now meets on Thursdays, 7 to 9 p.m. at the Old Gym, Grays Inn Centre, on the corner of Grays Inn Road and Sidmouth Street, London W.C.1.

LESLIE HADDON

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MARTINITSA TUESDAY BALKAN CLASS. New term commenced on Tuesday, 13th September at Osnaburgh Road Diorama Centre. It is hoped Delyan Demirev will be able to teach on an occasional basis.

STELLA CARTER

GREEK WORKSHOP WITH NATASSA LEMOS AND MARIA STASINOPOULOS

On SATURDAY, 15TH OCTOBER, at Studio 10, The Place, 17 Duke's Road (between Euston and King's Cross Stations). 1.30 to 5.30 p.m. Free parking in surrounding streets.

Dances: Kyra Maria, Berati, Nizamiko, Kassilamas, some from Epirus and Cyprus. The dances taught will be danced at Balkanplus in the evening.

In the latter half of the mid-way break, Natassa will briefly go over and lead ALL the dances done on the February workshop, particularly both Tsamikos, AND the singing dances. (Bring the words, printed in February SIFD NEWS).

If possible, I will arrange for the day's dances to be "tacked on" to the video from last time. If you missed out, there are still a few copies of notes and tapes, and also a few copies of Lillian Galatis's tape and booklet at £6 a set.

DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO DANCE WITH NATASSA AND MARIA. SEE YOU THERE!
Any queries to me.

DIKI GLEESON, 081 363 1506

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DAY COURSE OF BALKAN FOLK DANCING

Rainmakers Group will be organizing a Day Course of Balkan folk dancing on SATURDAY, 22ND OCTOBER 1994, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. Michael's Church Hall, The Broadway, Letchworth, Herts. Cost: £5.00. Tea, coffee, squash available. All welcome. Ring 0462 454210 for directions if needed. The tutor will be Frances Horrocks, who will choose dances from the following:-

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| <u>Turkish</u> | <u>Romanian</u> | <u>Armenian</u> | <u>Bulgarian</u> |
| Oguzlu | Hora in Dona Parti | Loorke | Mitrino Horo |
| Macka Yollare | Invirtita a Roata din Oas | Kogharee | Okopska Rucenica |
| | | Goudoontsee | |

MARK BALAAM

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POLISH DANCING WITH JACY TACY

On SATURDAY, 5TH NOVEMBER 1994, from 4 to 7.30 p.m. at Studio 10, The Place, Duke's Road (across Euston Road from Euston Station). Cost: £3.00.

Dances will be suitable for all levels and chosen from the following :-

| | | |
|----------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| <u>Silesia Region</u> | Koziorajka) Golebek) | Dances for 2 girls and 1 boy |
| <u>Wielkopolska Region</u> | Przodek Szamutulski Walc | |
| <u>Kurpie Region</u> | Dziadek | |
| <u>National</u> | Oberek Majdaniak Chodzony (Polonez, peasant style) | |

Some notes and cassettes will be available, Soft drinks in Studio. If anyone has any dance preferences or requests, please let us know in advance.

BETTY HARVEY, 081 980 9650
TONY LATHAM 081 992 9445

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.....

Dear Lily,

The Society has always lacked a reasonably clear set of aims and objectives, and it has been increasingly obvious in the last fifteen years or so, resulting in a variety of "knock-on" effects. Currently, there is a discussion on the value of our Badge awards and, together with a related subject, I am basing my argument on those.

Bert Price's original idea was to raise the general level of performance to an acceptable degree that was well within the scope of most members, and to recognise it by Badge awards, thus giving the Society some standing, as John Smith has already pointed out. To my mind, this has been achieved, and although it has been suggested that standards have fallen I feel this to be a simplification. In our Society, a small group of people feeling our way in new territory, there are going to be occasions when judgments of this type vary, and they have happened from the beginning. There are, for example, conflicting ideas on how to compare a simple dance well done with a more complex one with the odd mistake. Perhaps a seminar with past and future examiners might help in establishing a more consistent level?

The Badges were included in the later Teacher's Certificates as a necessary preliminary and I must admit to a curiosity as to how they both relate to the Teacher Training Course initiated at York, and this is where I believe what might be termed a working philosophy is needed.

It would appear that this course is aimed at the upper echelon of the Society, since the commitment in terms of time (125 hours), and presumably finances, would indicate this. While reluctant to ask too many questions, but, as the course seems to be well under way, I think it reasonable to ask some which I consider pivotal.

Is it, in some way, a private project or has it been organized or sponsored by the Society?

Does it relate to the Badge/Teacher's Certificate route?

What is the qualification awarded, by whom, and who recognizes it?

I am sure that such a high level qualification has its place in our organization, but these and other questions need to be answered so that its purpose and function can be fitted into a much-needed overall scheme of things.

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Referring to Liz Mellish's comments on my Llangollen report and the mention of the S.I.F.D.'s contribution to the third prize in the Folk Dance Competition; I apologize for this omission but I had assumed it was fairly widely known that we had been so doing for a number of years now in memory of Lucile Armstrong and, as I had noted that the Catalans were third, I thought that sufficient.

GEORGE SWEETLAND
28 Hayes Court, Camberwell New
Road, London SE5 0TQ

Dear Mrs. Avery,

I have read with interest Arlene Hansell's letter, suggesting that Morris dancing originates further East than Romania, possibly in Arabia. She mentions that she observed Morris complete with fool and hobby-horse in Bahrain, and asks if this type of dancing is found in other countries.

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I suggest looking even further East. I have just returned from a remote corner in the Jilin Province of China (part of the former Manchuria) where I lived and worked and had ample opportunity for studying the local folk dances. And, would you believe it, the hobby horse is there. It is part of the folkdance tradition which, in whichever form it is performed, always incorporates four legendary characters: the monkey god (dressed in yellow, dancing with a staff, always up to mischief), the pig god (with a mask, and a "bare chest" painted on his T-shirt, supposedly always drunk), the matchmaker (complete with basket and opium pipe) and the horse.....quite similar to the hooden horse! So similar that friends, not knowing where the photos were taken, insisted they depicted a folkdance scene in Sussex or Kent. (I've also seen "donkeys").

The other participants in folk dancing wear bright, asymmetrically-cut jackets and elaborate headdresses made from pink plastic flowers. They wear either a long scarf as a belt, holding one end of it in one hand, or a handkerchief in one hand, and a silk fan in the other. The steps are based on a strict 1-2-3-4 pattern, often involving hopping, some of them similar to Morris dancing, but the steps are smaller and more intricate. There is no pair-work involved, except walking in two by two. Everything is choreographed for the whole group, except for the four main characters, who wander about on the dance floor or village green amidst the regular dancers, playing their roles.

The most fascinating experience of Chinese folk dancing was the Manchurian double fan dance. Having had an excellent private tutor, I have mastered the art and am teaching it. May I take this opportunity to say that if there is a group of folkdance fans in Kent or Sussex, I'll be happy to teach Chinese folk dance and Manchurian fan dance at your adult education centre.

CHRISTINE HALL, Finchden,
Sandhurst, Cranbrook, Kent TN18 5JS

Dear Lily,

The unanimous strong support for the Silver Badge examinations in the August and September SIFD NEWS does not reflect the situation reported by Maggie O'Regan in the July issue. Her note suggests we might have expected some letters of dissent. Maybe the members who took the trouble to complain to her feel they have made their point. Others with similar views may likewise feel that nothing need be added, but now that Maggie has thrown the issue open I strongly feel the NEWS is the place in which to hear from such members themselves, even if it means complaining a second time. While we who support the examinations do not agree standards have fallen, we are very keen to hear from those who think they have.

Actually, Maggie's note was not a complete surprise. We at Merton Park - responsible for four of the letters in support as well as for many examination candidates from the very beginning - have in recent years watched in dismay as the numbers of other candidates have often fallen dramatically. We have always enjoyed meeting other members, and there is something uniquely special - albeit nerve-wracking - about all going through the mill together.

This seems an opportune moment to suggest that the S.I.F.D. comment on our demonstration standards, as the improvement of standards was the original aim of the examinations. Have they improved as much as had been hoped, and how are they now? I like to feel that all the examination passes and successful years at the Victoria Embankment Gardens in particular speak for themselves. If so, we still need to maintain or even improve standards and encourage more members to come forward for examination. In fact, were the S.I.F.D. to have such encouragement in mind, then knowing exactly why so many people are unhappy would be an immense help. So, if you are displeased with the examinations - even if you have never entered - do please tell us all why.

JOHN SMITH, 32 Babington Rd.,
Streatham, London SW16 6AH

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Nov.5th POLISH DANCING WITH JACY TACY. See p.6.
- Dec.3rd ZIVKO FIRFOV BALKAN PARTY, 7 to 10.30 p.m. at Moorfield School, Bunhill Row, London E.C.1. Nearest Underground Station: Old Street. Tickets £5 including refreshments, from Irene Keywood, 133 Third Avenue, Dagenham, Essex RM10 9BD. Tel: 081 592 4427. ADMISSION BY TICKET ONLY. Please send s.a.e. Cheques payable to Zivko Firfov Group.
- Dec.4th ISRAELI DANCE PARTY with Anat, 10.30 a.m. to 5.00p.m. at Stone Cross Memorial Hall, near Eastbourne. Revision of dances from previous workshops. £12 (concessions £7.50). Details and map available from Rowena Martin, Tel: 0323 503991. Come early and help to decorate the hall!
- Jan.29th ISRAELI WORKSHOP with Anat, 10.30 to 5.30 p.m. at Stone Cross Memorial Hall, near Eastbourne. £12 (concessions £7.50). Details and map available from Rowena Martin, Tel: 0323 503991.

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INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE SUMMER SCHOOL, YORK 1994

We would like to thank all those who helped us to arrange another successful Summer School, and also everyone who was there for helping to make it such an enjoyable week. From the 26 replies we have already received (as at 8.9.94) to the questionnaire sent to all the participants of this year's school :-

15 would like 3 teaching sessions a day
5 would like 2 sessions
6 have no preference

9 would like the third session to be in the morning
2 would like it after lunch
8 would like it before the evening meal
7 no comment

7 would like 1 hour sessions
7 would like 1½ (some suggesting starting at 8.45 a.m.)
3 would like 1¼
9 no comment

With regard to the grouping of participants :-

3 would prefer friendship grouping
3 would prefer random grouping
20 would prefer ability grouping - though one commented "I don't know how you would do this!" I wonder too? Any ideas? In our opinion, the only way would be to ask people in which group they wished to be, but what effect would this have on the comparative size of the groups?

We look forward to receiving the rest of the questionnaires. If you were not at the Summer School this year and would like to comment, please write to us, or ask us for a questionnaire, which also asks for opinions about suitable countries and teachers.

DAWN & PAUL WEBSTER
Greenacres, Broadstreet Common,
Nash, Newport, Gwent NP6 2AZ
Tel: 0633 272662

DUNAV BALKAN GROUP

Next month sees Dunav Balkan Group's 30th birthday. It is one of those anniversaries that makes you wonder where your life has gone. As a former "groupie" and now a long-term member of Dunav, I would like to write a few words about the group and hopefully whet readers' appetites for our celebration on Saturday, 12th November 1994.

Dunav was founded by musicians who had been very much involved in the international folkdance movement. John Baldwin still leads the group and Henry Morris remains a personal friend. It was Henry who introduced me and many others to the heady pleasures of Balkan dance at Hendon Folk Music Club. John, Henry and, about the same time, Narendra Kotiyan were keen to share their love of Balkan music with a wider audience. Over the years, with the involvement of many talented instrumentalists and singers, their wishes have been fulfilled. The group has performed on radio and television, made a number of recordings, and travelled extensively both in Britain and the Balkans. Performances range from music workshops to full-length concerts, but they have never lost the special satisfaction that comes from playing for dancing. Speaking as a co-founder of Balkanplus, I acknowledge that we owe much to Dunav for their early support and encouragement.

All this brings me to the celebration on 12th November. The occasion will be a little poignant because we have booked the Camden Centre (formerly St.Pancras Town Hall), the venue for the first Balkan Festival produced by Naren and Henry back in 1965 - and of blessed memory! There will be a place for nostalgia, but the group's repertoire and musical skills have developed significantly since then, and with the support of specially invited guests, the concert promises to be of exceptional quality. Two of the best performing groups in London will join us as will the girls' choir from Petrich (Bulgaria). The programme looks the most exciting and varied that we have ever put on, even to a seasoned old performer like me. It is definitely not to be missed.

Earlier in the afternoon, we commence with workshops for instrumentalists and singers. We would appreciate some indication of instrument and musical standard from those intending to take part, in order that we can plan the workshop properly. So please let Caroline Thomas have this information when you book.

The party that follows the concert will be a non-stop mix of dancing and cabaret with a good spread of food presented buffet style. There should be ample opportunity to meet or hear past and present members of Dunav. When you are not dancing your legs off, expect to witness some impromptu "magic moments". The essential details are set out below, so let's have no excuses. Book now!

BRIAN DOWSETT

BALKAN CELEBRATION - 30 YEARS OF MUSIC MAKING BY DUNAV

SATURDAY, 12TH NOVEMBER 1994, at Camden Centre, Bidborough Street, London W.C.1 (rear of Camden Town Hall).

3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Vocal and Instrumental Workshops £5 (£3 concessions)
7.30 p.m. Concert £8 (£5 concessions)
9.30 p.m. to 11 p.m. Party £4
Combined Ticket £14 (£10 concessions)

Tickets and further information from Caroline Thomas, 77 Forest Road, London E17 6HF. Tel: 081 527 4896. Cheques payable to Dunav.

FFANIGLEN.

(Wales)

$\text{♩} = 120$ (Intro: last two bars)

A

Play in bright cheerful style. Play AAB.

(Intro: Last two bars)

ERETZ, ERETZ

(My Homeland)

(Israel)

A

Play in smooth gentle style.

La Bourrée Valsée d'Ardenes

(France)

WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

- Oct.2nd ISRAELI DANCE DAY with Anat Sharabi (including dances from the 1994 Summer Camp), at St.Paul's Hall, Beaulay Road, Southville, Bristol. 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Cost: £10. Ring Daphne Allen, 0275 392757, or Anne Marshall, 0272 509889.
- Oct.8th FRITH FOLK are organizing a DAY COURSE at St.Peter's Church Hall, Fairfield, Buxton, Derbyshire. 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. In the morning CAJUN and SWING with Linda Moon, partnered by Roberto Haddon, who will teach ISRAELI in the afternoon. Single session £3.00, or £5.00 for the day. Contact: Pat Phillips, 0298 24450.
- If anyone wishes to extend their stay in Buxton that weekend, contact Linda Moon at the Tourist Office, Pavilion Gardens, Buxton, for accommodation list, 0298 23114
- Oct.8th WEST MIDLAND BRANCH EVENING DANCE AND A.G.M., 7.00 to 10.00 p.m. at Oakenshaw Centre, Shirley, Birmingham. All welcome.
- Oct.8th DAY COURSE OF GREEK FOLK DANCING. Tutor: Maggie O'Regan. At Hope Valley College, 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Fee: £7.00. Tel: 0433 620662. For details and bookings, contact Mrs. Jackie Evans, Adult & Community Education, Hope Valley College, Hope, Sheffield S30 2RD.
- Oct.8th RAINMAKERS' 18TH ANNIVERSARY DANCE, 7.30 to 11.00p.m. at Ickleford Village Hall. M.C: Jill Bransby. Band: "Cloudburst". Entertainment: Dave Garner. £5.00. Tickets from Richard Thom, 0438 316651.
- Oct.9th S.I.F.D. ITALIAN DAY COURSE. See p.2.
- Oct.9th OXFORD BALKANSKO ORO presents Deljan Demirev teaching BULGARIAN dances and styles, at St.Margaret's Parish Institute Hall, Polstead Road, Oxford. 2.00 to 5.00 p.m. £5.00. Contact: Roger Wicksteed, 47 Jordan Hill, Oxford OX2 8EU. Tel: 0865 511898.
- Oct.13th to 16th LONDON CAJUN FESTIVAL. A four-day birthday celebration for File Gumbo at Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regents Park Road, London N.W.1. (except for Thursday evening which is at Weaver's Arms, 98 Newington Green Road, London N.1.). Cajun dancing, workshops (music and dance), Cajun food, many different bands. More information from "Cajun Festival", 41 Gillam Way, Rainham, Essex RM13 7HS. Tel: 0708 558128.
- Oct.14th ROBERTO HADDON AT BARNET. Another inspired selection of line and circle dances by this popular guest. 8 p.m. at Church House, Wood Street, Barnet, Herts. Details from Irene Nicholls, 081 440 1366.
- Oct.15th WOODVALE INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP AUTUMN DANCE, 7.30 to 11.00 p.m. at Borough Green Village Hall, Tickets £4.00. Guest M.C.s: S.I.F.D. Band. More details from Alan Cant, 0732 883405.
- Oct.15th BALKAN DAY COURSE organized by Nutbrook International Folkdance Group at Stevenson Junior School in Nottingham, 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Tutor: Nick Green. Cost: £5.00. Coffee/tea from 10.00 a.m. Bring your own lunch. Further details from Janet Simner, 0602 235753.
- Oct.15th ESTONIAN DAY COURSE organized by West Midlands Branch, 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. at Oakenshaw Centre, Shirley, Birmingham. Tutors: Aili and Karin Eistrat. £5.00 full day (£4.50 S.I.F.D. members), £2.50 half-day. Contact Denis McCarthy, 021 472 6210, for further details.
- Oct.15th GREEK WORKSHOP with Natassa Lemos and Maria Stassinopoulos. See p.6.

WHAT'S ON, Contd. from p.12

- Oct.15th BALKANPLUS. M.C.s: Maggie O'Regan with either Diki Gleeson or Val Lenny. Enquiries to 0702 207447.
- Oct.16th BULGARIAN DAY COURSE with Delyan Demirev, 11.00 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. at St.Paul's Church Hall, Beauley Road, Bedminster. £6.00. Please bring food to share. Contact: Anne Marshall, 0272 509889.
- Oct.22nd DAY COURSE OF BALKAN DANCING AT LETCHWORTH. See p.6.
- Oct.22nd NEWPORT INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP are celebrating their 20TH ANNIVERSARY at The Lysaughts Institute, Corporation Road, Newport, Gwent, 7.30 p.m. (come in costume if possible). For further details, ring Sue Oates on 0633 246241.
- Oct.29th INDIAN FOLK DANCE. There will be a series of five workshops in Indian Folk Dance at Mitcham Library, London Road (c/o Armfield Crescent) Mitcham, starting on 29th Oct. They will be held every Saturday morning, 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon. Cost: £5.00. Further details from Shibani Basu, 081 648 4070.
- Oct.29th WORKSHOP OF MUSIC & SONG FROM THE VENDEE REGION OF FRANCE, led by visiting groupe "Traditional Groupe Folklorique de Vendée", 2.30 to 5.30 p.m. Tickets £2.50 (£2.00). Followed by a Halloween Ceilidh with performances by Groupe Folklorique, 8.00 p.m. Tickets £3.50 (£3.00). In between, 5.30 to 7.30 p.m., free informal Anglo/French music session. All at The Met Theatre, Market Street, Bury. Tickets from the Met Box Office. Further information from Chris and Ann Nash, 0204 593224 or 0161 761 2216. (Box Office).
- Oct.29th to 30th WEEKEND COURSE OF DANCES FROM RUSSIA with Hennie Konings at Fox Centre, Edge Street, Notting Hill Gate, London W.8. 2.00 to 7.00 p.m. on Saturday, 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. on Sunday. £40. Group concession, 6 tickets for the price of 5. Enquiries to Janet Wilks, 071 229 9387.



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

Oct.2nd M.C.s Scandia
Nov.6th M.C.s Merton Park

7.00 to 10.00 p.m. Admission £3.00 for S.I.F.D. members, £3.50 for non-members.

Scandia are M.C.s for the dance at Cecil Sharp House on Sunday, 2nd October. Expect a general and varied programme and, of course, some of our favourite Scandinavian dances too.

Looking ahead, please be thinking about whom to bring to the November Sunday dance. M.C.s, Merton Park, are arranging a programme to cover all degrees of ability and experience. It will be an ideal opportunity to introduce newcomers to international dancing and there will be plenty for the more experienced as well, so bring a friend!

ANNE LEACH

SWANSEA 1995

There has been considerable support for a possible re-union from those who have been on Swansea courses (over the years 1962 - 1987!) and from people who have missed the courses but would like a taste of what Swansea has to offer. Joan Guest has taken some soundings of people who were at the York Summer School, and there appears to be a variety of views concerning the most suitable dates and duration. I have a provisional booking for the usual Swansea week (July 29 - August 5) which would, as in previous years, slightly overlap with Sidmouth week (starting Friday, August 4). However, we could easily move one day earlier to start on Friday, July 28. There has been some preference expressed for a later date, corresponding to the York date, or a period to include the Bank Holiday week-end at the end of August.

Some people would like to come for a week, others for a long week-end and yet others for a mid-week break! These could all be accommodated because, if we have a week-long booking, anyone who so wishes can come for part of the time. This would probably be made easier if we started on a Friday.

The week can be structured however people would like. There could be outings during the day, or part of the day, and dancing every evening and possibly at other times as well. The nearby Gower peninsula has good beaches and walking country. In addition, other attractive areas which are easily accessible include the Brecon Beacons, the upper Neath Valley with its waterfalls, country parks (including Margam Abbey), bird sanctuaries, the Dan-yr Ogof caves and the Welsh Folk Museum at St Fagans.

We would like to consider inviting some of the teachers from Swansea courses to join us and they might be asked to revise some of the dances they taught to us. I think we should cover the cost of their accommodation but it would be out of the question to pay their travel expenses. We would, however, have to limit the number. Spreading the cost among the people attending would mean, for instance, that if we invited one teacher for every ten people attending, it would add 10 per cent to the accommodation cost. This would be on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis - in the region of £150 for the whole week. There would then be some add-on costs for musician (if we invite one), coach hire, etc .

Please let me know what your preferences are so that I can assess what is feasible and in line with members' wishes. When you return the attached form, write any other suggestions or observations on the back.

Tel: 01792 403153 (home)
01792 295194 (work)
FAX: 01792 295701

JACK RICHARDSON
Chem. Engg. Dept,
University,
SWANSEA SA2 8PP

To: Jack Richardson, Chem.Engg. Dept, University, Swansea, SA2 8PP

Do you support the idea of a re-union?.....

Preferred duration.....

Preference for dates: July 29 - August 5

Please indicate July 28 - August 4

1,2,3,... To include Bank Holiday w/e (August 25-28).....

Other dates.....

Please write Overleaf Suggestions for invitations to teachers
Any other ideas and features you would like

Name.....

Telephone:

Address.....

Home.....

.....

Work.....