



1996

MARCH

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

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The typing is done by Heather Edwards. The printing, packaging and  
posting is done by Doug and Maureen Wells.

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This month's cover design was drawn by Lesley Boorer specially for our  
Silver Jubilee Anniversary Year and we shall be using it every month  
throughout the year.

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CHAIRPERSON: Vacancy.

SECRETARY: Jeanette Hull (Miss), 24 The Homefield, London Road, Morden,  
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London SE5 0TQ. Tel: 0171 701 3785.

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POLISH DANCING WITH JACY TACY

Date: Saturday March 30th Time: 1.30pm.-5.30pm.  
Venue: The Place, Studio 10, 17 Dukes Road, Euston.  
Cost: £3.50.

In addition to dances from several regions of Poland we shall teach the  
National dance Krakowiak.

The canteen will be open both before the start and during the afternoon tea-  
break, and soft drinks will be available in the studio.

Some cassettes and notes will be on sale.

Contacts: Tony Latham, tel. 0181 992 9445; Betty Harvey, tel. 0181 980 9650.

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ALL MATERIAL FOR THE APRIL ISSUE OF THE SIFD NEWS MUST REACH HEATHER EDWARDS,  
47 SUTHERLAND AVENUE, BEXHILL-ON-SEA, EAST SUSSEX, TN39 3QL, IN WRITING, BY  
MARCH 16th 1996.

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LES AVERY  
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My husband, Les, died of a brain tumour on 24th January 1996. We were overwhelmed at the number of cards, letters and telephone calls of good wishes and sympathy that we received from our folkdancing friends during the weeks before and after. Thank you so much all of you for your kindness. Some of you may not know that I broke my leg, just at the time when Les needed me most, so it was doubly hard for us.

The funeral took place on 1st February, and again I was touched by the number of members who attended, some having travelled quite a long distance.

My very sincere thanks to all of you for your good wishes, sympathy and support. I know Les would have appreciated it, as I do. Life will be bleak without Les, but it is comforting to have good friends.

LILY AVERY

Ed. I am sure that all readers of the S.I.F.D. News would wish to extend to Lily their deepest sympathy and condolences at this sad time. Many of us have personal experience of Les's helpfulness, inventiveness and those humorous one-liners he was always coming out with. He will be greatly missed.

We also hope that the leg will mend completely and that Lily will be dancing again before too many months have passed.

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LAST CALL

A number of members have responded to our request for short 'histories' of their groups for a publication to celebrate our '50th', but we still do not have enough to make it worthwhile producing this. In particular, we would like to hear from those groups who have been with the Society for a long time, such as Merton Park, Woodvale, Barlow, Turkish, and so on. If you wish to be included in the booklet, please let me know before the end of March, with the material to follow as soon as possible.

GEORGE SWEETLAND  
Publicity Officer

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SIDERNA, ITALY, SUMMER DANCE HOLIDAY, July 20th-28th 1996

Dance holiday by the sea in Siderna (Reggio Calabria, Italy).

Teachers: Tess Edelmann (RSCDS): Scottish and Irish

Umberto Niola: Italian and International dances.

Organisation: Clivis SCDS and Lo Studio dance school.

For information, write or call Tess 011/66 11 061 (evenings) at Strada G. Volante 2, 10133 Turin, Italy.

Clivis is also organising a long Scottish weekend workshop and ball, November 1st-3rd, 1996. Teachers: Carol Blake, (Geneva SCDS and Tess Edelmann.

Live music.

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INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE SUMMER SCHOOL, YORK 1996

The College of Ripon and York St. John at York has been booked for the summer school from the evening meal on Saturday July 27th until after breakfast on Saturday August 3rd 1996. An application form and publicity leaflet about the summer school is enclosed with this issue of the News. Please feel free to photocopy them if you can publicise the summer school in any way.

We would like to develop the musical side of the summer school, so with this in view there are some extra questions on the application form. Wilf Horrocks has agreed to lead a couple of workshops for musicians with the aim of joining together in a few of the tunes in the evening dances. Is there anyone else who feels that they could help to strengthen the musical side? Perhaps someone with expertise in music from a particular area? Or someone willing to lead extra workshops?

Please let us know as soon as possible if you wish to attend the summer school as Marie-Claire Viala wishes to teach with the help of an accordionist rather than use taped music. We can afford the extra cost if there are the usual number of participants, but we cannot commit ourselves until we have an idea of the number, and of course her musician would like to know as soon as possible whether he is able to come!

If you haven't been to a summer school before, ask someone who has been to tell you about it, or ring us for more information.

Remember that all SIFD members get a £10 discount if they send in their forms promptly!

Dawn and Paul Webster, Greenacres, Broadstreet Common, Nash, Newport, Gwent.  
NP6 2AZ. Tel: 01 633 272 662.

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Please don't forget SATURDAY MARCH 16th is the ORIENTAL WORKSHOP DAY from 1.30pm.-5.30pm. in Studio 10 at The Place, Euston.

This will make a lovely follow on from Robert Harrold's highly enjoyable, much appreciated workshop last month of a delightful mixture of social dances from several regions of China. Robert Harrold has so many fields of expertise I hope he will continue to share some more fruits of his wide-ranging collecting at future such workshops.

Why not extend that experience with the ribbon and fan dancing of older tradition under Christine Hall's guidance? Sorry I said there would be a Balkanplus to follow, but that was written before Christmas and before I knew of the change of dates. (No space for the notice until the February issue).

By the way, I have now seen the book Brian Dowsett was advertising in December and I should like to say how splendid it is. There is a wealth of 'on the spot' photographs and the ground covered is extensive. Even if you are not interested in the music or the 40 dances notated in Romanotation and Labanotation, it is still well worth buying for the comprehensive information on all aspects of Romanian tradition and culture. There is a reduction on 3 books ordered at the same time, so why not encourage your friends to make a threesome!

DIKI GLEESON

## BULGARIAN FOLK DANCE COSTUMES FOR SALE

The British Bulgarian Friendship Society is preparing to sell some of its Bulgarian folk dance costumes which are surplus to requirements in order to free office space. The costumes, for men and women, are as follows:

<u>Women</u>	Sliven	Red
	Kustendil	Green
	Haskovo	Navy striped
	Sofia	Blue
	Panaguirishte	Yellow or green
<u>Men</u>	Jackets )	Brown wool
	Trousers )	
	Waistcoats	Red or black
	Navoushti	(leggings)
	Fur hats	
	Red sashes	
	Embroidered shirts	

Anyone interested is requested to write to:  
Dr. Donald Kenrick,  
BBFS Office,  
c/o Finsbury Library Basement,  
245 St. John Street,  
London EC1V 4NB.

Arrangements can then be made to view them. Prices range from £30.

SYBIL NEWTON

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### SUTTON DAY OF DANCE, April 28th

Westcroft Leisure Centre, Westcroft Road, Carshalton, Surrey.  
10.00am.-4.15pm. Cost: £1.50.

Taster classes in 31 varieties plus short demonstrations in break times.  
Sample the delights of English, Irish, Scottish and International folk dancing,  
plus ballet, tap, salsa, jive, ballroom, yoga, disco, etc., etc.

Those who have been before will know that this is a fantastic bargain for the whole family.

Further information from Frances Horrocks, tel. 0181 642 3629.

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### MILTON KEYNES FOURTH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF FOLK ART, July 5th-8th 1996

Arrangements for the foreign groups visiting the Festival have now been finalised and the following will be taking part: "Flacara Prahovei" from Filipestii de Padure in Romania, "Kolos" from Torchyn in the Volyn Region of the Ukraine, and "Pynimelis" from Panevezys in Lithuania.

Details concerning Sunday July 7th workshops will be available in due course.

For further information on the Festival, contact Jill Gourlay, Secretary,  
tel. 01908 610564; fax 01280 824200.

WANTED: CHRISTIAN FOLK DANCE GROUP

Many thanks to everyone who wrote in after my note in a previous newsletter asking for contacts for possible magazine articles on the occasion of the S.I.F.D. anniversary.

I have now heard from the editors of two magazines for whom I write regularly: The Lady and Woman Alive. Both are seriously interested in publishing an article on the occasion of the anniversary.

I'm particularly interested in interviewing some of the long-term members of the Society (maybe even founder members!) for The Lady. For Woman Alive, I'm seeking to profile an international folk dance group which is involved in Christian activities (contributing to church services - fund raising for charity - international friendship - exchanges with churches in other countries?), and has photos of such events.

Please get in touch as soon as you possibly can. If I'm not in, leave a message on my answerphone (Scriptease Editorial 01580 850687).

CHRISTINE HALL

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BALKAN DANCE HOLIDAY - DOVEDALE, September 7th-14th 1996

If you would enjoy a week's holiday in a delightful spot in the Peak district whilst learning some of the popular Balkan dances from our ever-increasing repertoire, why not try an HF Special Interest holiday?

Newton House (once an inn) has comfortable accommodation (some ensuite) with good food, and is surrounded by delightful countryside and places of interest. The atmosphere is relaxed and friendly, and the course can be tailored to suit the interests of the participants. Afternoons are free to explore the surrounding countryside, guided walks can be arranged, or you can enjoy the facilities offered in the house and grounds - croquet, putting, volleyball, short tennis, badminton and board games - or simply relax.

If you are interested, ring for a Special Interest brochure on 0181 905 9388 (24 hours).

CATHY MEUNIER

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ON BOUGE

French traditional dance and music club for dancers and musicians. From Bourrées to Breton, via the waltz, schottisch, polka, mazurka and rondeau. No partner needed. Beginners and experienced dancers welcome. Meets every 3rd Monday of the month, 8.00pm.-11.00pm. 50p. membership plus £3/£2 per sessions. Lower Hall, London Welsh Centre, 157 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1. Nearest Underground Station: Kings Cross/Russell Square. Bus: 17; 45; 19; 38; 171A. Session dates: March 18th; April 15th; May 20th; June 17th; July 15th; August 19th; September 16th; October 21st; November 18th. Contact: Jessica Abrahams, tel. 0181 838 1996 or Catherine Moore, tel. 0171 383 4627.

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EASTBOURNE FESTIVAL, May 3rd-6th 1996

I have once again organised the International side of the Festival on behalf of the S.I.F.D. this year, and hope there will be a variety to suit everyone. There is a visiting Dutch team, Hupsakke from Holland, a Greek group, Philhellenes from London, plus Judy Ingram with Israeli and Jessica Abrahams with French.

Jill Bransby, Jeanette Hull and Malcolm Shaffer will be running evening dances and workshops, ably assisted by Cloudburst.

I still, however, require assistance by way of stewards for the Gym, staff to man the S.I.F.D. shop, and security in respect of the electrical equipment over the weekend, so I would welcome any offers.

Eastbourne Festival 1997

1. Does anyone know of a teacher for workshops or to run an evening dance?
2. Are you in contact with any foreign teams?
3. Would you be able to attend a meeting every 2/3 months in the Eastbourne area?

If the answer is Yes to any of the above 3 questions, please let me know:  
Helen Ezra, 84 Farm Road, Morden, Surrey SM4 6RB, tel. 0181 648 4118.

Happy dancing everyone and I hope to see you at Eastbourne.

HELEN EZRA

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BALKAN DANCE COURSE/WALKING WEEKEND  
AT BRECON, WALES 1st-3rd November 1996

Enjoy Bianca de Jong's first class tuition together with the luxury of good food and comfortable accommodation in an exceptional country house. Choose either the "General" or "Advanced" course, leaving time to relax or join a guided walk, and enjoy the surroundings between the dancing. If you don't want to miss any of Bianca's teaching you can do both courses. Alternatively you can take advantage of the favourable prices and enjoy a weekend of autumn walking or sight-seeing in a beautiful part of Britain, with optional social dancing in the evenings.

It may seem early to book, but these weekends have filled very quickly in the past, and places are limited. For details, send s.a.e. to Cathy Meunier, 115 Chetwynd Road, London NW5 1DA.

CATHY MEUNIER

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MUSIC for Ssimchu Na (Israel) and Lüdere Polka (Switzerland) from Wilf Horrocks on p.10. Don't forget to let Wilf know if you would like music for a particular dance. His number is 0181 642 3629.

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Apr.5th/9th ALISON HOUSE, Cromford, Matlock, Derbyshire. Weekend organised by Roy Clarke. Enquiries to Roy: 0181 367 2649.

Apr.20th BULGARIAN DANCE DAY COURSE. Join the Bristol group in learning some real village Bulgarian dances. 10.30am.-4.30pm. at St. Ursula's School, Brecon Road, Bristol BS9. Cost: £5.00 SIFD members, £6.00 non-members. Tutor: James Webb. Please bring lunch to share. Party in the evening, 7.30pm.-11.00pm., same venue. Contact: Anne Marshall, tel. 0117 950 9889.

Apr.26th ROSTOV BALALAIKA COMPANY. Fairfield Concert Hall, Croydon. Box Office: 0181 688 9291.

Apr.26th/29th GREAT ALNE LONG WEEKEND, near Alcester, Warwickshire. Contact: André Hobro, tel. 01203 418 949. See p.9.

Apr.28th SUTTON DAY OF DANCE. Westcroft Leisure Centre, Westcroft Road, Carshalton, Surrey. 10.00am.-4.15pm. £1.50. Various taster classes. Contact: Frances Horrocks, tel. 0181 642 3629. See p.5

Apr.28th KAROLINKA - Polish Folk Dance. Fairfield Concert Hall, Croydon. Box Office: 0181 688 9291.

May 3rd/6th EASTBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL. Festival Booking Office, 7 Manor Road North, Seaford, E. Sussex BN25 3RA. For information, telephone 01435 830092 or fax 01435 830988.

May 24th/28th BALKANPLUS ROMANIAN AND MACEDONIAN DANCE WEEKEND, Ironbridge Gorge Youth Hostel. Contact: Anne Marshall, 44 Church Road, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol BS9 3EQ. Tel. 0117 950 9889.

Jun.29th ANNIVERSARY DANCE IN THE NORTH. Please note change of date due to Exam bookings. All welcome. Venue: Oldham Sixth Form College, just off the M62. Further details to follow. Enquiries: 01942 831141.

July 5th/8th FOURTH MILTON KEYNES FESTIVAL OF FOLK ART. For information, contact The Festival Office, 30 St. John Street, Newport Pagnell MK16 8HJ, or Jill Gourlay on 01908 610564. See p.5

July 7th ISRAELI DANCE DAY with Anat at Stone Cross Memorial Hall, near Eastbourne. Contact: Rowena Martin, tel. 01323 503991.

July 22nd/26th INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE COURSE with David Mowat. Line and circle dances, mostly Balkan and Israeli. The course forms part of the Oxford Summer School at Milham Ford School, Oxford. You can book for the whole, or just part of the course. Contact: Richard Speed, tel. 01367 710593.

July 27th/Aug.3rd YORK INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE SUMMER SCHOOL. Contact: Dawn and Paul Webster, Greenacres, Broadstreet Common, Nash, Newport, Gwent NP6 2AZ. Tel: 01633 272 662.

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### GREEK DANCE SEMINAR, July 19th-29th 1996

The seminar is based at Loutrá, Sidirókastro, near the Greek-Bulgarian border and includes 3-4 hours daily dance instruction; lectures, slides, videos; visits to one or more villages; dance party with live music. Dances taught by villagers, Yvonne Hunt and Tákis Tsolakídis. Cost US\$ 465.

For further information and registration contact Yvonne Hunt, 4837 38th Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98105, USA. Phone/fax: 1-206-523-2477.  
Deadline 1st May



WHAT'S ON IN MARCH (Continued from p.11)

- Mar.30th WEST MIDLANDS BRANCH SPRING DANCE. 7.30pm. at Downing Hall, Knowle.  
This is a new venue in the centre of Knowle Village, between the Tesco precinct and the High Street, with its own car park. To reach it, turn west off the High Street by the pedestrian crossing, then right by the bottle banks, and Downing Hall is on the right hand side. Any difficulty, 'phone Audrey Steele on 01564 774103.
- Mar.30th WOODVALE INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP SPRING DANCE. 7.30pm.-11.00pm.  
Borough Green Village Hall, Kent. £5 adults; £2.50 children. M.C.s: "The Gruesome Twosome" alias Alan Cant and David Mckie.  
Contact: Alan, tel. 01732 883405.
- Mar.30th INTRODUCTION TO BELLY DANCING with Christine Hall, one-day workshop, women only, Brighton & Hove WEA. Tel. 01273 602486.

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GREAT ALNE LONG WEEKEND, near Alcester, Warwickshire

Friday evening, April 26th, until Monday April 29th 1996.

If you have not sampled it before, why not try out this lively and informal gathering (in its 13th year). We make use of the friendly atmosphere of the village hall throughout the Long Weekend.

Social dances with a substantial International content are on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings.

There will be a range of workshops mainly through Saturday, Sunday and Monday mornings until a little after lunch. These will include International Dances from the newly released Dutch CD "Doe Dans Basics 3", which will also provide some of our instrumental music.

Nel Mijman is coming from the Netherlands to show the dances, and her husband, Jan, will lead Balkan part-singing. Roger Wickstead will also give a workshop on Bulgarian Dance each day.

Morris, Scottish Dancing, Handbell Ringing, Lancashire Clog, and a try at Cajun and Swing Dance are also available.

There are a variety of participatory instrumental sessions for musicians of all abilities; and children are encouraged. Jack Steele and David Bradley on accordions, and Gordon Taylor on violin will play the International Music and lead workshops.

You may pitch a tent on our small campsite near the hall, but caravan or camper van is equally acceptable on this pleasant little meadow; or you may prefer to book into local B&B accommodation. There is a bonus of afternoon walks in the lovely bluebell woods of the Alne Hills, and/or bring a bike for Sunday's cycling in the lanes.

For any further information ring André Hobro on 01203 418 949. Please leave your address and 'phone number if the answerphone is on, so that I can send you booking details - prepaid bookings receive a discount! A timed working programme is available at the event. (For day visitors I mail these a week or so beforehand if you send an SAE, or for a requesting message on the answerphone).

You are welcome to join in just for any day's workshops or for an Evening Dance.

ANDRÉ HOBRO

**INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE SUMMER SCHOOL**  
**27 JULY TO 3 AUGUST 1996**  
**AT THE**  
**COLLEGE OF RIPON AND ST JOHN, YORK**

The International Folk Dance Summer School takes place every two years in collaboration with the Society for International Folk Dancing. Participants are mainly folk dance enthusiasts from the UK, but others have come from Japan and Canada.

The dances are taught as recreational folk dances, and as such are reasonably faithful to their original village settings. They will be of interest to folk dance enthusiasts as well as to anyone who teaches, or has an interest in, national dance. Three specialist dance teachers will teach all participants dances from the following countries:

**France**

France has always had a great tradition of dance and throughout France there are numerous couple dances, circles and chains, many incorporating interesting patterns and figures. Each region has its own particular style and group of dances.

Marie-Claire Viala has taught at the Grand Bal d'Europe. She is half-Catalan, although she was brought up in France. Her repertoire includes dances from Gascony, Bearn, Pays Basque and the Balearic Isles.

**Ireland**

Irish set dances are quadrille type dances, which were danced in the early part of the century but were suppressed by Church and secular authorities in favour of the more familiar Ceilidh style. Much more relaxed and less technical, they are fun to dance and have become extremely popular in recent years, thanks to the efforts of dedicated collectors, who have gone to villages to learn them from the old-timers who still remember them.

Timmy McCarthy is a great character, who is himself a collector of these dances. He teaches and performs regularly in Ireland and abroad and is particularly concerned with authenticity.

**Turkey**

There is no single style of Turkish dance, which is remarkably diverse in character and origin. Each region, even each village, maintains its own dances.

Ahmet Luleci brings with him a wealth of experience, having danced in folk groups since the age of eight. For five years, until his departure to America in 1995, he was Director of Dances for HOY-Tur, one of Turkey's leading folk dance associations. In addition, his research into the historical, social and cultural background of the spoon dances from Turkey's Mediterranean coast led to a 400-page study, which won an award from the Turkish ministry of Youth, Sport and Education.

Participants may stay in the college itself or find their own accommodation in York. The mornings will have lessons taken by the three teachers, while the afternoons can be spent in the historic town of York and its surroundings, or at extra workshops arranged by interested participants - this year we hope to offer workshops for musicians as well as dancers.

For further information and an application form please send sae to:

Dawn and Paul Webster  
(International Folk Dance Summer School)  
Greenacres, Broadstreet Common, Nash, NEWPORT, Gwent, NP6 2AZ  
tel: 01633 272 662

