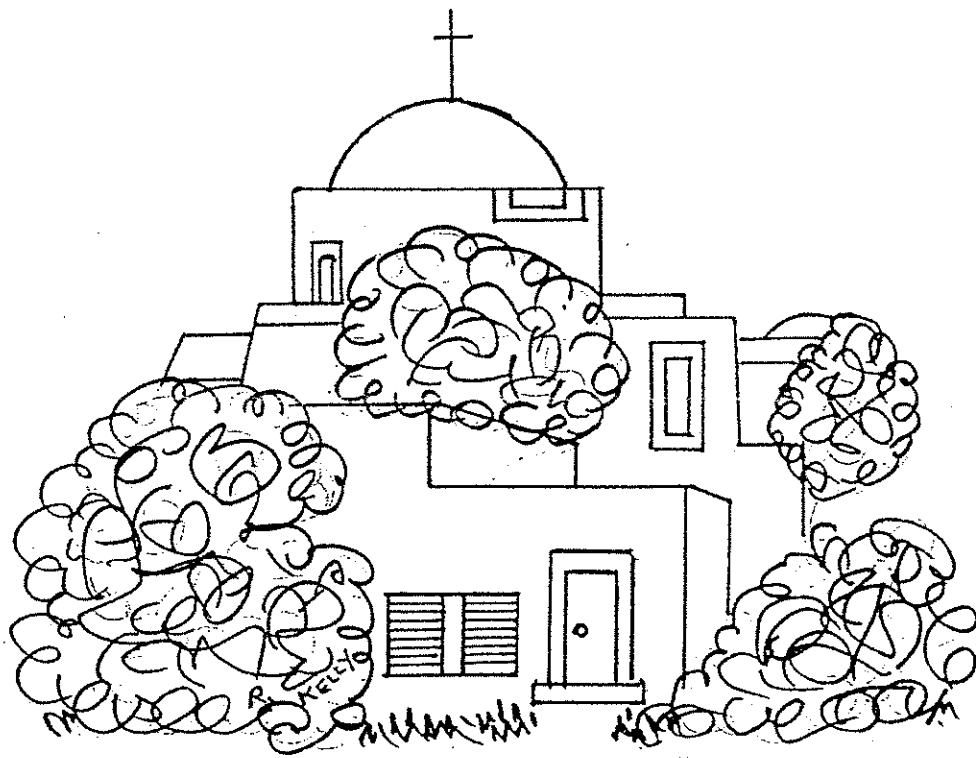


# SIFD NEWS



MAY

1(9)97

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

EDITOR: Lily Avery (Mrs.), 16 Willow Drive, Little Common, Bexhill-on-Sea,  
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The typing is done by Lily Avery. The printing, packaging and posting  
is done by Doug and Maureen Wells.

--oOo--

This month's cover was drawn by Renée Kelly and shows a drawing of a Greek  
church (with Greek key pattern surround) which she uses as the logo for her  
Greek dance class.

--oOo--

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URGENT NOTICE

The Eastbourne International Folk Festival, 2nd-5th May 1997, is completely  
sold out. There will be NO TICKETS OF ANY TYPE AVAILABLE ON THE DOOR. I regret  
this has become necessary because of fire regulations, and the number of people  
allowed in the building. Please DO NOT travel down to Eastbourne and hope to  
get into sessions or dances "on the off-chance", as I am afraid you will be dis-  
appointed. But, of course, this does not stop you watching the various teams  
performing in the town centre during the day on the Saturday.

Those of you who have been successful in obtaining tickets, please remember  
it is SOFT-SOLED SHOES ONLY IN THE GYM.

HELEN EZRA

--oOo--

All material for the June issue of SIFD NEWS must reach the Editor  
IN WRITING by 17th May. Please write in BLOCK CAPITALS all names  
of people, places, dances, unless typewritten.

S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE on SATURDAY, 10TH MAY 1997, at Cecil Sharp House in "Trefusis" 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Price: £5.00 S.I.F.D. members, £6.00 non-members. BASQUE DANCES, taught by Joan Guest. Refreshments in the way of drinks will be available.

The next S.I.F.D. Day Course will be on 7th June and will be mainly a revision of the Irish dances taught at York, but everybody is welcome. More details next month.

HELEN EZRA

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At the Basque Course on 10th May, Fandango and Arin-Arin, although familiar to some members, will be taught in depth and from scratch. Not so well-known, Inguritxo, which uses steps and patterns from Arin-Arin, will be the other main item. Requests have been received to go over Bastan Dantza and ArkuDantza, and also it is intended to include Carnaval de Lanz, which was taught briefly by Marie-Claire Viñala at the York Summer School 1996 during an extra session. This dance is somewhat less challenging than Bastan Dantza and has a lovely tune. Should there be any time left (which seems unlikely) there are Zozo, Hegi and Zazpi Jauziak to be revisited.

The Basque dances we know are rarely included in dance programmes and this course should give us the opportunity to "have a go" and help to keep them in the repertoire. Flat, soft shoes are recommended. It is proposed to have notes and cassettes available.

JOAN & SIMON GUEST

--oOo--

#### DAVID RASBASH

It was with sorrow that I read in the March SIFD NEWS of the death of David Rasbash. David was a founder member of the Society, brought along by Jack Richardson when they were both students at the Imperial College. He was a member of the early Committees, and a staunch friend of the Society. A Member of the Demonstration Team, always stepping in at short notice, and dancing with whichever partner he was given, cheerfully, whether they be good or bad.

David enlivened our Y.H.A. weekends with his "after dancing songs", and was always one of the group at the lovely Easter holidays which Jack organized at Goran Haven. One year, he and Maureen brought Catherine (Little Mo), then only a few months old, and carried her on his back on a rucksack frame fitted with a seat of sorts. Consequently, we were known in that part of Cornwall as "the people with a baby on their backs".

David's work took him out of the folkdancing scene, but he will always be remembered with affection by the longstanding members, and his death is a great sorrow to us. Our sympathy is extended to Maureen and their children.

IRENE FYFFE

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#### MUSIC

Three Dutch tunes from Wilf Horrocks this month on p.11. If you would like the music for any particular dance, please let Wilf know, on 0181 642 3629.

EASTER "EASTERN PROMISE" - FULFILLED

In the delightful rural setting of High Melton College outside Doncaster, a score plus one plus the Saturday girls met to unravel the intricacies of the different styles of Asian and Eastern dance under the expert tuition of Jan Knoppers, whom many of you will know from Aberystwyth, York etc.

Jan's warm-up sessions, carefully graded and incorporating new steps and hand movements as we went along, meant we had already learnt the main ingredients of the dance before we came to it and without fully realising what we had already accomplished. Thus the inevitable co-ordination challenge between hand and foot was already half won. With much patient repetition and with infinite care we were coaxed into doing our utmost to lose our Western stance and adopt the hand and finger positions and body movements necessary to emulate Eastern dancers. This isn't a question of just getting the feet right, but of involving the whole body - fingers, hands, arms, shoulders, neck and head included, though not necessarily all at once. The dance styles between Mongolia, Nepal, Japan, Thailand, China and the Soviet Republic of Buryatia are vastly different. Even though we didn't achieve them all, we were made aware of the differences and which particular detail is a feature of which particular country.

Jan also took the trouble to bring maps, books, photos and a video to fill in the background picture, not to mention the historical feature on each country in his dance notes.

Participants came from as far afield as Aberdeen to Bexhill-on-Sea for this course for which we have to thank Marina Wolstenholme. Finding accommodation, booking the tutor, advertising the course, making travel arrangements, answering queries, arranging the programme etc. etc. is no easy task and requires a lot of fore-thought and planning. Marina not only organized all this, but also a relaxed evening dance programme, despite the change of clock. So, a gargantuan vote of thanks to Marina from all concerned.

FRANCES HORROCKS

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P.S. I've heard some beautiful music on the tape that I don't seem to have learnt the dance for. Could we fill in the gaps next year perhaps? F.H.

.....

What a superb dancer and teacher Jan Knoppers is. His "Eastern Promise" weekend certainly lived up to its "promise" and we were taken, step by step, into a world of enchantment. Jan opened for us a window on to Asian culture - beautiful music and a whole range of styles and movements - and tried to instil into us Westerners something of the feeling and soul of the dances from Thailand, Mongolia, Buryatia, Nepal, Japan, Uygur.

We came away with the sound of Asian music in our heads and a little of the soul of Asian music in our hearts, and wanting more. Thank you, Jan, and thank you, Marina (Wolstenholme), for arranging this weekend. It was a joyful experience.

LILY AVERY

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Once again, Jan Knoppers' choice of material and special way of building up the quality of movement and characteristics in each dance style gave us a weekend of surprise and Eastern promise. Many thanks.

ANDRENE THOMPSON and  
FRAN STRIDGEN, Aberdeen

## "THE BIZARRE CAMEL" IN EGYPT

After our recent trip to Egypt, filled with dance of various sorts, we felt that the S.I.F.D. members might well be interested in our experiences. "We" are "The Bizarre Camel" comprising Toni and Gerald Page and Emerald Macmillan. Having been involved in learning/teaching traditional, circle and international folk dance for some years, we have been drawn to gypsy dance, Turkish folk dance, North African and Middle Eastern folk dance and belly dance for the last few years. As a group we teach on our discoveries in the field of dance, music and song, sometimes with simple live music. (See "What's on in May", 17th, 29th, 31st May. Ed.). Having introduced ourselves, you can now understand that we jumped at the chance to go on a trip to Egypt that consisted mainly of dance workshops and performances!

Our first week was a cruise on the Nile (in a sister-ship to that used to film "Death on the Nile" and therefore basic and old-fashioned - wonderful!). By cruising we were given the chance to go to Aswan, which meant the Nubian dancers and musicians could come on board and teach us their dance form. This was a mixture of Arabic and African dance and music style, which was great fun, very lively and sociable. There were clapping rhythms and song refrains to join in with (perhaps the African rather than Arabic influence here). At the evening performance the men did some simple stick dancing for us - very like Morris dancing.

Our next workshop was called "Baladi belly dance" and we concluded that as the word "baladi" means "our country" this term can be rather vague when describing dance style. As Christine Hall indicated in the January SIFD NEWS, there seems to be a Baladi form of folk dance, but there is also a Baladi form of belly dance - a folk dance of a different type (there is also a "salata" baladi - "our country's salad"). As the trip consisted of about 30 bellydancers of varying degrees of experience and from different "schools" of belly dance (e.g. Raks Sharqi, Middle Eastern dance etc.), the workshop and performance were well supported and much fun was had by all!

Our last workshop on the boat was one that we had been awaiting with baited breath. As background, I will explain that in Luxor there has existed a family of gypsies who have for centuries danced a particular type of gypsy dance, which is said to have influenced belly dancing in Egypt. They are known as "Ghawazee el Ghagar". Unfortunately, at this time there are only two sisters left who dance in this way and this form could be extinct when they are gone. We were lucky enough to have one of these sisters come to teach us this dance form which uses a lot of hip movement, but flamenco in embryo can be seen in the way some of the steps are done. The whole dance is done close to the earth and we were told that the feet dance to the rhythm, not the hips.

At the evening performance, the "Musicians of the Nile" (most of whom have gypsy blood and have been to England to record with "Real World") joined our Ghawazee dancer, as did a gypsy belly dancer, and a male belly dancer and singer. The atmosphere generated was electric!

Our second week was spent in Luxor and so shopping became a priority but we were lucky enough to be invited to the gypsy belly dancer's house one afternoon. Of course there was the usual "laid-back" confusion as to whose house we should be in, the usual wait before something happened, but then food arrived which caused some awkwardness as some people had eaten a large meal just before arriving, some were vegetarian, and some had suffered "Egyptian tummy" and could not eat. So, in a room 10' x 10', with over twenty people sitting around on cushions (neighbours as well as family) our group leader was asked to dance for us all in a space about 2½' x 2½'! Emerald, from our Bizarre Camel group, was asked to dance also, to the live music of the "Musicians of the Nile" again, and as none of the rest of us felt that we could "compete" with these two, the local girls then got up individually to dance. This was belly dance - an integral part of their culture which they had learnt from a very young age and was completely natural to them. I am talking about the same style of belly dance that we saw performed

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in hotels (otherwise known as "cabaret" style). These young girls and women learn to dance in this way almost from birth, and it helps to strengthen them before giving birth, tones them up after giving birth, and generally strengthens them for the basic, hard-working type of life they lead. This to me suggests that it comes under the heading of folk dance, particularly as it has been this way for many, many generations. I believe that many professional belly dancers in the countries around the Mediterranean are really dancing their own dance, but on stage (as Emerald's Arbaic belly dance teacher did, who came from a middle-class family who would not have allowed her to dance professionally. However, when her arranged marriage failed and she was left in a strange country - i.e. England - on her own, she put to use her cultural heritage that she had been taught from the age of 5 and became a professional belly dancer and teacher). To me, therefore, so-called "cabaret" belly dance is to grass-roots belly dance what a performing Russian folk dance troupe is to the village dancing found in Russia. Incidentally, on our visits to Turkey, Tunisia and Egypt the many belly dancers that we have seen have never used fire-eating and snake-charming as part of their acts, although I have seen several videos of belly dance shows in Germany in which these things seem more popular.

To return to our story of the whole trip, we all felt that we had participated in a wide variety of dancing, learnt a lot about the culture and attitudes of the Egyptian people. It was all a very special experience and we feel enriched by the dancing and by the warmth of the welcome we received from the people of Nubia and Luxor.

TONI PAGE (The Bizarre Camel)

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S.I.F.D. SUMMER SCHOOL 1998

The Committee would first like to express their thanks to Dawn and Paul Webster for the work they have done in the last few months, investigating possible places for the Summer School. They have looked at information from a very large number of colleges and universities. Out of 14 places that said they had three good dance rooms, only 6 had suitable halls available for Summer 1998, of which 4 would have charged extremely high prices for the use of those halls, without regard to the number of people attending the course. The remaining 2 places turned out to be Swansea and York. Swansea's hall costs are proportional to the number of people; York makes no separate charge and offers unlimited and exclusive use of the dancing areas for the whole week.

After thinking about all your comments last year, where price seemed to be the main criticism of York, and looking carefully at the distances between the accommodation and dance rooms, and between campus and town, the Websters and the Committee agreed that York is still our best option. After taking all the costs into account, the price difference between the two places is small.

We would also like to thank all the people who sent in information about possible venues; they were all investigated, but were found to be more expensive than Swansea or York.

We are now planning the countries from which to invite teachers, so that we can offer an interesting and balanced programme. It is not too late to make suggestions. Please write to Alison Scrimshaw (address on p.2).

JEANETTE HULL

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N.B. Gillian Morral, Secretary of Nutbrook International Folkdance Group has changed her telephone number. The new number is 0115 9171831.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Lily,

March 15th dawned fine and clear for our Russian Day Course. It was very pleasant to see so many people arrive from many parts of England and Wales. Marina Wolstenholme came down from Grindleford with some of her group and taught us eight very stately dances. The names of the dances were horrendous but the dances themselves were pleasant, and while not too difficult were certainly mind-bending as they were so different from the Israeli and Balkan dances we have done a lot of lately. The graceful, gliding movements were very enjoyable. Thank you, Marina, for a lovely day.

Our next Day Course is in November, when we are trying a new format. We are beginning with a musicians' playalong - a fairly free session for any musician who wishes to join in. Jill Bransby has kindly sent some dots for the dances we will be learning from 11.30 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. The flavour is European. This will be followed by a social mini-party to live music, where we can enjoy some of the dances just learnt and perhaps some old favourites. Information and music is available on request.

Yours,

GILL MORRAL  
Secretary, Nutbrook Inter-  
national Folkdance Group,  
116 Nottingham Rd., Staple-  
ford, Notts. NG9 8AR

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Dear Lily,

Richard Mellish's theory of dance migration (letter - 1st April) seems to confirm the westward movement of the Morris dance from its possible origins in Asia to England. Extrapolating from this theory that this left-ward trend will continue, Morris dancing should soon be the dominant form in Ireland, whilst Irish dancing will continue to drift across the Atlantic. I think that by 1st April 2000 we should expect to see some new dance-shows in the West End to replace "Riverdance" and "Lord of the Dance". These will, of course, be named "Pubdance" (Cock and Bull?) and "Fool of the Dance" as sticks, bells and hankies become the trendy millennial fashion. This all goes to prove the old folk saying, "Pull the other one; it's got bells on".

Yours sincerely (sic),

JILL BRANSBY  
"Red Gables", Benslow Path,  
The Avenue, Hitchin SG4 9RH

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Dear Lily,

I was away in March and not back in time for the April SIFD NEWS. I would, however, like to refer to something that appeared in the March issue.

The first dance on page 12 was translated as "Two Lilies". "Laila" in Hebrew means "night" and therefore, by no stretch of the imagination, is the translation the correct one. The word "Laila" is frequently repeated in the song which is, indeed, about the night.

If anyone would like me to help with the translation of Hebrew song titles I'd be delighted to hear from them, and am particularly anxious for the titles of the dances in the S.I.F.D. repertoire to be translated correctly.

JUDY INGRAM,  
Flat 7, 38 Belsize Square,  
London NW3 4HL

Dear Lily,

I am an overseas member of the S.I.F.D. and am writing to enquire if any of our members can help me please.

Line Dancing is becoming very popular here in Cyprus, as it is in the U.K. Is there an Association in the U.K. for this kind of dancing, and do you have a contact name and address to whom I can write? Any information would be useful as resources here are very limited. My hope is that once people become involved in Line Dancing they may then extend their interest in dance to take in folk dancing.

Thank you, in anticipation.

Warmest regards,

JOAN BOYES  
6 Gerasimou Markora,  
3085 Limassol, Cyprus.

Ed. Note: I have written to Joan, giving her what information I have regarding The U.K.A. (United Kingdom Alliance of Professional Teachers of Dance) to whom Western Line Dance groups can affiliate and who introduce professional qualifications, introduce tests and formulate syllabuses etc., and I have given Joan one contact address of an examiner, but if anyone has more contacts, particularly in the North of England, perhaps they would contact her.

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MAGDA ÓSSKÓ

Everyone who has met and worked with Magda Ósskó will be thrilled for her, that at last she has gained some of the recognition she so richly deserves. On 15th March, in the Great Hall of the Hungarian Parliament, an Award Convocation was held at which the Hungarian President, Arpad Göncz, presented Magda with the Hungarian Medal of Merit for her life's work in folk dance. It is also well known that she is an acknowledged authority in the field of research, education, adjudication and folk culture in general. In this her eightieth year this is no less than she deserves for her years of total dedication. Following the ceremony, she received a personal letter from the President with which a photograph, taken at the time, was enclosed.

Magda, from all your friends.....congratulations!

SYBIL CHAPMAN

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JACY TACY

To those of you who have supported and enjoyed our occasional day courses in Polish dancing, we should like to say that we are sorry not to have been able to arrange one since March 1996. This has been due primarily to the sudden death of our stalwart treasurer, John Gilliam, a central figure on all such occasions, and also to other personal pressures and problems. Both of our past regular pianists now live too far away to be able to come to our assistance, and it would appear that the mould of our past meetings has been broken. It was decided not to re-apply for recognition as an S.I.F.D. Associated Class. Nevertheless, we hope to be able to arrange some other sort of gathering for our members and supporters in the not too distant future.

BETTY HARVEY and TONY LATHAM



## MOVING ON!

Plans are now well advanced to go back into retirement, but not idleness. The reasons for putting it off are now resolved, more or less, and I hope to take up residence in Spain for an indefinite number of years in late summer.

My collection of costumes, jewellery, instruments and some ceramics have gone to the British Museum (Museum of Mankind) where they will be cleaned and conserved and be available for research and display. The collection began in 1957 and some items go back to the 1880s. The research I did for the series of costume articles for SIFD NEWS has been extended to provide documentation for each of the 245 items and will be incorporated in the book which will now begin to take shape. I need to get away to find the conditions I need to put the book together, which will take two or three years. There is still extra research to be done in the former Yugoslavia and in the British library among other institutions. A lot of translation work still needs to be done. I am acquiring the computer equipment to set up the book myself, complete with photographs, black and white and colour, and line drawings and maps. Sarah Posey, the curator for South East Europe at the museum, is enthusiastic about the project and has already given me some help and advice, and promised some material if I need it.

I shall be commuting between the U.K. and Spain quite regularly and have already begun to think about the Balkan Party on 6th December.

I have a few things which may be of interest to members which I have already advertised for sale :-

- 1) Accordion - 120 bass "Soprani", seven treble and two bass couplings, known to Zivko Firfov Group as "Josephine (Mk.111)". In almost mint condition. Black full-size with leather shoulder and back straps. £150.00. The case needs replacing.
- 2) Accordion - 80 bass "Parma", older model but has been overhauled. Ladies' model with four treble and two bass couplings. Known to the group as "Josephine (Mk.11)". Mainly red. £35.00. Case a bit worn but serviceable.
- 3) A pair of loudspeakers - Band W, Matrix 1, digital studio monitor quality. Wide frequency range for their size - 16x9x12½. Fine sound and practically no cabinet vibration - used about one year, until I was given a pair of superb speakers! Complete with sand-filled metal stands. All in black. £350.00 - half the original cost.
- 4) Black Watch barrel-pleated army kilt. In good condition. Waist 34-36 inches; Length 24 inches. £35.00.

KEN WARD, 0181 771 8258

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## FRENCH FOLK MUSIC

Harmonia Mundi have sent me a list of the CDs and Cassettes they have available of French folk and traditional music - more than 70 titles, all looking interesting! Contact Harmonia Mundi for more information, 19-21 Nile Street, London N1 7LL. Tel: 0171 253 0863. Fax 0171 253 3237.

Ed.

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S.O.S. Is there anyone out there who can draw? I need more cover designs, please.

Ed.

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

May 11th M.C.: George Sweetland

June 1st M.C.s: Badge & Day Course Committee. (See below)

7.00 to 10.00 p.m. Admission £3.00 for S.I.F.D. members, £4.00 for non-members.

Your hosts at the S.I.F.D. Sunday Dance on 1st June will be the Badge & Day Course Committee. The programme will be suitable for dancers of all levels of experience, so please talk all your friends into coming along. There will be plenty of interest for the more experienced too. See you all there.

ANNE LEACH

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WHAT'S ON IN MAY

- May 2nd "SPIRIT OF THE DANCE" at Fairfield Hall, Croydon. Friday at 7.30 p.m.  
& 3rd Saturday 3.00 and 7.30 p.m. £12.50, £15.50, £17.50. Box Office: 0181  
688 9291. Programme includes, Mongolian State Dancers, Russian Cossacks,  
Gospel Choir, Irish Harp Ensemble, Irish National Dance, Rhythm & Shoes,  
New York Tapdance Boys.
- May 2nd S.I.F.D. DANCING/WALKING WEEKEND at Halsway Manor, Crowcombe, West  
to 5th Somerset. Enquiries to Jack Richardson, 01792 295194 (work) 01792  
403153 (home).
- May 2nd EASTBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL. See p.2.  
to 5th
- May 5th GHAWAZEE (Egyptian gypsies) dance course in Hastings, with inter-  
nationally renowned performer and teacher, Helené, from America, pre-  
sented by Christine Hall. £12.00 for four hours. Some previous dance  
experience in any form of folk dance helps. Contact Nick Phillips,  
01580 850239 (evenings).
- May 9th ROBERTO HADDON AT BARNET. Roberto returns to teach another selection  
from his fine repertoire of dances. 8.00 p.m. at Church House, Wood  
Street, Barnet, Herts. £2.50. Enquiries: Irene Nicholls, 0181 440 1366.
- May 10th S.I.F.D. BASQUE DAYCOURSE. See p.3.
- May 10th BALKANPLUS at Cecil Sharp House (address above), 7.00-10.30 p.m. £3.  
M.C.: Rosette Rozenberg with "Martinitza" Group, who meet on Mondays,  
at the Benesh Institute, 12 Lisson Grove, N.W.1, 8.00-10.00 p.m. This  
is a small friendly group where everyone is welcome. Don't forget your  
extra belt for Balkanplus. The next Balkanplus will be on 14th June.  
"Popaluc", the trio who play Romanian folk music have been invited to  
Balkanplus on 12th July. Further details to follow.
- May 10th EGYPTIAN AND IRANIAN VEIL DANCE TECHNIQUES workshop with Christine Hall  
at Isle of Sheppey Adult Education Centre, 01795 875059. No price given.
- May 17th DDINA EAST EUROPEAN FOLKDANCE GROUP and LONDON TURKISH DANCERS, 3.00 p.m.  
at Victoria Embankment Gardens, London.
- May 17th TURKISH BELLY DANCING plus playing finger cymbals. One-day workshop  
with Christine Hall at Hastings Adult Education Centre, 01424 435619.  
No price given.

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- May 17th BALKAN WORKSHOP IN IPSWICH. A day of dance with Helen van Bochove from Holland. A varied programme of dances. If you are interested, please contact Sally Fletcher, 106 Westerfield Road, Ipswich IP4 2XN. Tel: 01473 252824. No price given.
- May 17th "DANCE OF THE GHAWAZEE" (women's Egyptian gypsy dance) learnt in Egypt from the Ghawazee dancers. 2.30 to 4.30 p.m. at Bristol Community Dance Centre, Jacobs Wells Road, Bristol. £6.00 (conc.£4). Tel: 01225 448979 to book. (See article on pp.5 & 6).
- May 23rd BALKANPLUS WHITSUN WEEKEND OF BULGARIAN DANCING with Eddy Tijssen at to 26th Cheddar Youth Hostel, Somerset. Contact: Anne Marshall, 44 Church Rd., Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol BS9 3EQ. Tel: 0117 950 9889. No price given.
- May 24th ARABIAN EVENING OF DANCE. Two dance groups - "Moonstar Dancers" from Brighton and Christine Hall's "Awalim" - join forces in a spectacular evening of Middle Eastern dance. Acts presented will include solos, duets, group dances, folk and belly dances, religious and trance dances, dances with veils, sticks, swords, baskets, tambourines, finger cymbals and scarves, in the styles of Egypt, Turkey, Tunisia, Persia and Morocco. There will be an array of colourful costumes, live drumming, and an opportunity for the audience to join in. At Knoyle Hall, Knoyle Road, Brighton. Doors open 7.00 p.m. for show 7.30 prompt. £10 including a taste of Middle Eastern food at candle-lit tables. Discounts available for families. Tickets from Dome Office, 01273 709709.
- May 29th BATH FRINGE FESTIVAL EVENT, "NUBIAN DANCE FROM ASWAN". Arabic/African dance learnt from Nubians in Egypt. Some live drumming. 8.00-10.00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church Hall (near Queen's Square) Bath. £5.00 (conc.£4). Tel: 01225 448979 to book. (See article on pp.5 & 6).
- May 31st BATH FRINGE FESTIVAL EVENT, "TUNISIAN FOLK DANCE FOR WOMEN". Graceful North African dance learnt in Tunisia. 2.00-4.00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church Hall (near Queen's Square) Bath. £5.00 (conc.£4) Tel: 01225 448979 to book. (See article on pp.5 & 6).

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PLEASE NOTE: Zivko Firfov Group will not be dancing at the Embankment Gardens on Sunday, 18th May.

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#### S.I.F.D. INTERNATIONAL BARN DANCE - BEGINNERS PLUS

The Dance for newcomers on 15th March was a great success, with over 100 people attending - over 50 of these being at least non-members if not complete newcomers. I would particularly like to thank the two M.C.s, Jeanette Hull and Phil Steventon, for their hard work, and the band, "Jacob's Ladder", who travelled from Cambridge, I would also like to thank Richard Mellish for setting up and operating the P.A system, Pam Radford and Anne Leach for taking the money and dealing ably with the mass of people, and Anna Huston for again creating a striking flier to advertise the event, and also George Sweetland for sending information to publications and libraries. Finally, thanks to those S.I.F.D. members who supported the event both by attending and by distributing the fliers.

CASPAR CRONK