



S.I.F.D. NEWS
MARCH 1998

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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This month's cover design of "A Lapp" was drawn by Caroline Thomas.

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EASTBOURNE FOLK FESTIVAL, 1ST-4TH MAY 1998

There should be a variety of dances to interest everyone at Eastbourne. On the International side, the M.C.s will be Julie Korth for Friday night, Jill Bransby for Saturday night and Jeanette Hull for Sunday night. Roberto Haddon will be teaching Israeli dances. The Polish group "Tatry" will be available for Saturday and Sunday only. "Jacob's Ladder" will be accompanying Jill and Jeanette for the evening Dances and will also provide a couple of music sessions. Mike Gilbert will also join Jeanette in a few sessions teaching some of the basics to newcomers so that they can join in the dances with enjoyment. Jill will also hold a couple of workshops showing similarities between various dances.

Unfortunately, the Armenian teacher, Eddy Djoloian, is unable to attend; also the French group. I am therefore endeavouring to obtain replacements. I have approached Jan Knoppers, but have not yet received his confirmation. More news when available.

HELEN EZRA

EASTBOURNE FOR MUSICIANS

May is rapidly approaching and, with it, Eastbourne International Folk Festival. It may be too late to book a season ticket (although it is still worth trying) but this year for the first time music-only season tickets are available. International-only season tickets may also be available for those who do not want to attend the English dances. Music sessions will be running continuously throughout the festival, covering many aspects of playing for dancing. In particular, "Jacob's Ladder" will be running two sessions on playing specifically for international dancing.

Anyone who ever tries to play music for the international repertoire will quickly find that, although the notes can often be very easy, making them sound like a piece of music, let alone a piece of dance music, can be more difficult. In our workshops we will be looking at various techniques which can be used to turn a series of notes into a dance and, if possible, a dance authentic to the tradition from which it comes. The workshops will concentrate on what to do with the music beyond just playing the notes and will be suitable for all levels of experience from beginners upwards. Even those who have been playing for many years may find some new ideas to work on (Bb parts will be provided for any clarinet players who want them).

MIKE GILBERT

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

Mar.1st M.C.s: Woodvale I.F.D.G.

Apr.5th M.C.s: Central London I.F.D.G.

7.00 to 10.00 p.m. Admission £4.00 for S.I.F.D. members, £5.00 for non-members.

YORK INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL - 25TH JULY TO 1ST AUGUST 1998

AT THE COLLEGE OF RIPON AND YORK ST. JOHN

The college is in a very pleasant campus; a few minutes walk from the centre of York. The newer residential blocks are built around a large grass quadrangle. The main hall is just the right size for the evening Dances and has a good wooden floor. There are smaller rooms suitable for day-time classes. The food in the past has been excellent, and we expect the same standard this year. The course fee and residential fee are two separate items, as usual. This means that you can take advantage of camp sites, hostels or any other accommodation in the area. Non-residents can book dinner at the college any night they wish. There is also a snack bar open at lunchtimes, providing soup, sandwiches, baked potatoes, lasagne etc.

You will see, if you compare the college prices for 1996 and 1998, how much they value our custom. The college has given us a very special rate for the week.

Bed & breakfast was £181 for the week last time, this year it is £147.

Bed, breakfast & dinner was £254 for the week last time, this year £223.

Having your own room in the college can seem a very attractive proposition at the end of the evening Dance, or the late-night song session. It's also very handy if you need to change shoes and clothes during the day - or just have somewhere quiet to go.

There have been problems finding teachers this year but the Committee are still determined that the Summer School should be an opportunity for intensive work on dance styles less familiar to many S.I.F.D. members, with the best teachers we can find. We are discussing final arrangements with three teachers at the moment, all of whom have been recommended to us by S.I.F.D. members who have seen them teach :-

Istvan Nagy from Hungary, whose repertoire includes line/circle dances and couple dances.

Ramaute Gaucaite from Lithuania.

Eddy Djololian, who taught a very successful day course in January.

We are inviting the teachers to do music and/or singing classes as well as dance classes. At the time of going to press the teachers were not all confirmed, so if you would like more information before the next SIFD NEWS, please send an s.a.e. to Jeanette Hull or Alison Scrimshaw for more information about the teachers. Booking forms (enclosed herewith) should go to Dawn Webster.

The Committee feels very strongly that the Summer School benefits the whole Society, as those members who attend then pass on what they have learned. For this reason we want to keep the costs as low as we can. The price of £80 covers dance classes for the whole morning plus six evening Dances. As usual, there will be optional afternoon workshops in other dance styles run by course members. There will be no additional charge for these. There also will be no additional charge for any music/singing workshops as these are intended to increase the repertoire and skills of the musicians who play for us throughout the year.

JEANETTE HULL

ERRATUM

I am very sorry that, last month, two different dates were given (one in "What's On" and the other on p.9) for the Lecture on Greek Costume at the Hellenic Centre. I apologize to Diki Gleeson, who sent in the notice, and to anyone who may have been inconvenienced by the error. Mea Culpa. ED.

WEST MIDLANDS MOVEMENT AND DANCE ASSOCIATION

With reference to George Sweetland's letter in the February SIFD NEWS; since the inauguration of the W.M.M.D.A. shortly after our first group started at Selpar (I believe the first of such bodies operating through the Sports Council), our branch has regularly been represented, with very few gaps, first by myself then with Juliet McIntosh as our second rep., and we both attended regularly until her sad death. Thereafter I continued as our rep. and am now joined by Grace Pittman.

A few years ago, to encourage a representative from the London area to do likewise, I wrote to the NEWS extolling the advantages of membership, so those points need not be repeated, but I would ask if "OUT-TAKE" is always to be considered to be more important than "IN-PUT". Our membership of W.W.M.D.A. goes way back, to before the three groups of the West Midlands were granted "Branch status", as Selpar was for many years represented as a viable member of the Association. Over the years we have gained much from the Association, not least being contact and exposure with other groups. Without this, we would exist in isolation from other dance activity groups.

As far as W.M.M.D.A. is concerned, no member group gains financially, nor was this ever the intention. The intention was, and is, one of co-operation and mutual interest. Our £15.00 annual membership fee helps us to maintain this contact and we have a recognised and valued contribution to make. I'm not sure what financial assistance George refers to, but when Festivals were well attended, all participating groups received a portion of "profits" from the Festival. The most recent Festival we took part in, at Leamington Spa Arts Centre, was a great success, gave us further exposure and an opportunity to exhibit a high standard, and gave the public a most enjoyable day.

Our Executive Committee meetings are held every two months, and the S.I.F.D. is always represented, either by both Grace and myself, or by one of us. I write these notes in an effort to persuade both London and our local Committee that our membership is a worthwhile thing! Incidentally, it seems the Sports Council has already divided into National Councils, ours now being called the English Sports Council, or at least that's what it says on the office door!

SYBIL CHAPMAN
S.I.F.D. West Midlands Branch

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DANCES FOR NEWCOMERS

On 28th March there will be an S.I.F.D. International Beginners' Dance, downstairs at Cecil Sharp House, 7.30-10.30 p.m. M.C.s will be Joan and Simon Guest, assisted by some other friendly Guests. Music will be provided by "Cloudburst" and there will be a variety of dances - lines and circles as well as couples. All dances will be taught. Fliers advertising the event will be available at the March Sunday Dance. Please spread the word to everyone you can think of who might be interested. We need newcomers, but we also need the support of experienced dancers to make the event successful. Tickets: £4.00 (for S.I.F.D. members and E.F.D.S.S. members, £3.00).

On 18th April there will be a combined International/English Dance in the main hall at Cecil Sharp House, 8.00-11.00 p.m. The combined Dance we held in the autumn was very successful and E.F.D.S.S. are interested in holding more joint events. M.C.s for 18th April will be Jeanette Hull for International and Brenda Godrich for English. Music will be provided by "Jacob's Ladder". Tickets £4.50 (£4.00 for S.I.F.D. and E.F.D.S.S. members). Please note amended price, not as previously quoted. Fliers for the event will be available at the April Sunday Dance and possibly at the March Dance. This date conflicts with some other happenings, so it is even more important to get the word out to newcomers, as we will miss some of you who normally support our events.

CASPAR CRONK

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Apr.3rd DANCING AT WITNESHAM, near Ipswich. Mainly Balkan plus Israeli and others. 7.30-10.30 p.m. £2.00. Contact Bruce Barbour on 01473 749091 or Sally Fletcher on 01473 252824.

Apr.3rd/5th STEPPING, CLOGGING & CAJUN FESTIVAL at Matlock. Organized by "Footloose". Contact: Meg Ridley, 01246 434789.

Apr.4th BALKANPLUS - BULGARIAN DAY COURSE followed by Evening Dance. See p.10.

Apr.4th ORIENTAL FOLK & BELLY DANCING workshop and demonstration with Christine Hall at Eastbourne for Age Concern, part of Eastbourne "Go For It" weekend. Suitable for absolute and near beginners, especially the elderly. No price given.

Apr.4th IRISH SOCIAL SET DANCE WORKSHOP, 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. with Diana Jewitt at St.Michael's Community Centre, St.Michael's Road, Hitchin, Herts. Whole day £5.00. Organized by Rainmakers I.F.D.G. For further details, ring 01462 677916 or 01462 490071.

Apr.18th SIFD/EFSS INTERNATIONAL/ENGLISH BARN DANCE. See p.4.

Apr.18th "MAGIC OF THE ORIENT" - Dance Show. See p.9.

Apr.24th/26th ISRAELI DANCE WEEKEND at Freshwater Bay, with Fiona Howarth. For details, send s.a.e. to Cathy Meunier, 115 Chetwynd Road, London NW5 1DA.

Apr.24th/27th GREAT ALNE LONG WEEKEND. See p.11.

May 1st-4th EASTBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL. See p.2.

May 8th BULGARIAN WORKSHOP with Corry Verheijen, at Witnesham, near Ipswich. 7.30-10.30 p.m. Cost: £5-£6. Contact: Sally Fletcher, 01473 252824.

May 22nd/25th INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE WEEKEND in North Devon, with Bert van-den-Meer. For information send s.a.e. to Mecki Trestroet, Manor Cottage, Burrington, Umberleigh, North Devon EX37 9LZ. Tel: 01769 560479.

May 29th/31st "FEST NOZ", a weekend of French and Celtic music and dancing in the beautiful surroundings of Thoresby Park, near Newark, Nottinghamshire. Full weekend tickets, including all workshops and FREE camping, £25.00 (concessions £22.00). All day Saturday, including all workshops, £20.00 (concessions £17.50). Saturday evening only, £10.00 (concessions £8.00), Friday evening only £8.50 (concessions £7.00). Details from Marketing Officer, Nottinghamshire County Council (Arts), Trent Bridge House, Fox Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 6BJ. Tel: 0115 977 4435.

May 30th GUJARATI FOLK DANCE DAY COURSE AND PARTY in Harrow. Gujarati teachers will be teaching Raas (a stick dance) and Garba (line dances). Dance beginners and experienced dancers welcome. The party will include dancing and a full Indian meal. A charity event, to raise money for MIND in Harrow. Enquiries to Susan Jordan, 0181 452 4174.

June 7th ISRAELI DANCE DAY, 10.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. For experienced dancers at Stone Cross, near Eastbourne, with Anat. £12.00 (concessions £7.50). For details and bookings contact Rowena Martin, 01323 503991.

July 25th/Aug.1st YORK INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL. See p.3.

Aug:2nd/7th "MACHOL - EUROPA 1998". Israeli Folkdance Seminar at De Montford University, Bedford. Advanced and Intermediate. Full information from Israel Folkdance Institute, Balfour House, 741 High Rd., London N12 0BQ. Tel: 0181 446 6427 (day), 0181 455 6765 (evening).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Lily,

Re cost cutting on SIFD NEWS; whatever the S.I.F.D. decides to cut costs or raise additional funds will not be popular. That's inevitable. Regarding some of the suggestions already put forward; personally, I enjoy reading travel articles, especially those by people who have travelled to areas in which I'm particularly interested, such as Asia, North Africa and the Middle East, but I do appreciate that to someone who likes only, say, Scandinavian or Central European dances the articles written by Toni Page and myself are not "relevant". I also admit that they do take up a lot of paper.

I like the workshop reviews too. They give me an idea of what was going on, and sometimes I make a note to try to get to a workshop with a particular teacher. But, it's true, some reviews contain more unspecific praise than information.

The cover pictures do carry information and I would be sorry to see them go. Actually, I have copied some of them and filed them in my archives. The cover pages in the anniversary year, however, did not add anything and we could indeed have used the space for something else.

All the suggestions so far have been about how to save a bit of space and maybe reduce the newsletter by one page per month. This would not constitute a major saving. I'd like to put forward a different suggestion. It's radical, it won't be popular, but it would save a considerable amount and I would ask you to think it over and discuss it. DO WE NEED A NEWSLETTER EVERY MONTH? Yes, it's nice to get it monthly, but all the other societies, networks and associations I belong to have only three or four newsletters every year. I find that three or four issues are not sufficient, especially for the events listings, but what about six every year - one every other month? Each issue could be slightly bigger than the current ones. This would reduce the cost not only of paper but envelopes and postage too. The cost of paper would go down to (I estimate) 75%, the cost of envelopes 50%, and the postage to around 75%. This constitutes a much bigger saving than leaving out one page per month.

But I think the original idea behind making people pay for events listings was not to save paper but to create an income. Has anyone any suggestions how else to create income? Accepting display advertising is one option, although I don't know how many people would want to make use of it.

By the way, the S.I.F.D. is almost the only organization to which I belong whose Editor brings out the newsletter regularly, punctually and reliably, without excuses about "computer broken down" and "very busy just now". I think the S.I.F.D. is very lucky to have Lily doing this job, and I hope members appreciate just how exceptional her reliable contribution is.

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

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N.B.

In thanking me, credit must be given to other members of the team, notably Doug and Maureen Wells, whose contribution is also exceptional.

LILY AVERY

Dear Lily,

With reference to Christine Hall's and Jacky Webb's letters in the January and February SIFD NEWS respectively, I too would like to add my support to the "What's On" and "Dates for your Diary" pages. I agree that these are very important and a link, as Jacky says, between country members who may not belong to a group and events throughout the country. Re Jacky's other points:-

I also agree with Jacky's opinions on advertising. A lot of hard work goes into producing tapes, notes etc., the cost of which is never recouped, and it would be short sighted indeed to refuse publication or to charge for advertising.

However, the SIFD NEWS is far more than just a calendar. I remember the days when the NEWS didn't have a front cover and very dull it was too. Visitors often remark on the covers, which are eye-catching and certainly should be retained.

If several people write in after a Course, then it must have been a good one and it is good to let other leaders know that a particular tutor might attract people to their group. I'm sure the organisers are personally thanked by a good number more than those who take the trouble to write in.

After a death in the Society, the number of letters could well be an indication of the regard in which that person was held and so be a great comfort to the remaining relatives. Personal remembrances can also highlight different aspects and stages in a life which more recent acquaintances might not be aware of and can be of great interest.

At one time, the NEWS was brought to Cecil Sharp House to be distributed to London members by hand at the Dance. If a member didn't attend that particular month then it was posted, which meant it arrived quite late in the month, especially if the Dance was also later in the month. This could easily mean missing "What's On" for ten days or so, a terrible deprivation, and so this practice was discontinued. Bulk posting means sorting addresses into regional groups, extra packaging, visits to the post office to get these bundles weighed and priced, resulting in extra work, and thus making this monthly chore even more onerous.

I'm so sorry Jacky doesn't like holiday stories, for here I must plead truly guilty, but perhaps she doesn't bother to read them anyway.

Best wishes,

FRANCES HORROCKS
53 Southway
Carshalton Beeches, Surrey
SM5 4HP

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Dear Lily,

SIFD NEWS has itself been "news" lately. In general terms, I would not like to see too many changes; however, here are a few comments to add to the "cost debate".

I agree with both Christine Hall and Jacky Webb - do not charge for adverts or announcements. In fact, we could do with more and, as Jacky suggested, more members should send in information. There are so many folk-related events around the country. At times, I feel that Christine Hall is the only one offering information. A person could be nominated to help search for news.

I do not like Jacky's idea of "rationing" items. Our Editor's discretion has been good enough for many years and it should stay that way. The same goes for the occasional holiday item which always has a folk connection.

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Yes, perhaps the front cover could go or be re-designed to occupy only half or a third of a page, with the remaining space being used for statutory information now occupying the first part of page 2.

Re bulk post; it bothers me every month that I receive two envelopes from S.I.F.D. - one for myself and one for the group affiliation. Surely that could be looked into. Bulk delivery would not be helpful for individual members - ours are too scattered and not necessarily attending each week.

I would like to see added to the statutory list details of the sales goods, including records and tapes, i.e. products and prices as well as contact names and addresses. We in the rural areas have little idea of what is on offer unless we set up shop as I did a few years ago.

Finally, keep up the good work. It really is a very good magazine. Best wishes and happy dancing.

SUE CLARK
22 Church Road, Roch, Haver-
fordwest, Pembrokeshire SA62 6BG

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Ed.Note: As quite a few members have varying opinions regarding the format of SIFD NEWS, the Committee are planning a special Committee meeting to discuss this. So, rather than publishing any more letters on this subject, we suggest that if you would like to voice an opinion you send your letter to me, not for publication but for your suggestions to be taken into consideration, along with those already expressed in the NEWS, and discussed at the meeting.

It would be helpful if you could back up any ideas with factual information, e.g. will it save money (which has been the main purpose of the discussion)?; if so, exactly how much would it save (figures of present costs can be obtained from our Treasurer)?; will it involve additional work and, if so, who will do it?; is your suggestion practicable?; what will be the overall advantage?.

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MUSIC

Re the music given by Wilf Horrocks in last month's issue; Jenia Graman has written to say that:

- 1) "Hopak" is not Russian, as stated, but is THE Ukrainian folk dance, first danced as a man's solo, gradually with more and more warriors, at their camps and home festivities, and later with women as partners as well as soloists. The bandura (a Ukrainian, not Russian, instrument) is sometimes used.
- 2) "Lezginka" is one word and is THE traditional dance of the Republic of Daghestan in the Caucasian Mountains (not Russian). The style is similar to the Georgian.

For anyone who would like more information, Jenia's booklets are available at public libraries and also at The Dance Bookshop, 19 Cecil Court, London W.C.3. "Russian and Other Folk Dances, Style and Presentation" and "Russian and other Folk Costumes".

February Committee Meeting

A request was made for a report of the committee meetings to appear in the News, so here is a brief summary of topics discussed at the last meeting.

- The progress of the **Eastbourne festival** was reviewed - the difficulties being encountered to finalise the teachers and display groups, and accommodate a sudden change of publicity policy (do remember you need to send for your booking leaflet this year), but it should be as good as ever.
- The **financial projection** for 1998 shows our expenditure exceeding our income, chiefly because of increased printing costs. Although this will be rectified in September when the subs go up, ways to save money were discussed. Calculations showed that pruning the News would only save a comparatively small amount, and the feeling was that ideally it should contain *more*, rather than less. Savings in producing it less frequently, and hand delivery, were both outweighed by the practical difficulties involved, and it was felt that if there *were* to be any changes to the News, then they should be to enhance it - and only after full consultation with all involved.
- Better news, though, was that **Peter Heath** has very kindly left £1000 to the Society in his will.
- A good start has been made on a new "**Introductory leaflet**", which is being designed to tempt people who already dance, to join the SIFD. It outlines the benefits of joining, and should be available later this year.
- Progress has also been made on a **new tape**, but it probably won't be ready until late '98/ early '99 because of the work involved.
- Organising the **York Summer School** has involved a few hiccups, but more information will be found with/in this News.

Alison Scrimshaw

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MAGIC OF THE ORIENT - DANCE SHOW

Battle is the venue for a stage display of Oriental folk and belly dances, on 18th April at 7.00 p.m. More than twenty performers will present a varied programme including Chinese broad ribbon dance, Chinese silk fan dance, Tunisian jug dance, Arabic stick dance, Lebanese finger cymbal dance, tribal dance, veil dance, sword dance, snake dance, Moroccan tray dance, Turkish belly dance, sand dance, cabaret dance, and more. Performers are Christine Hall and her Awalim Dance Troupe as well as students from her classes at Battle and Hastings colleges, and guest artistes.

Members of the audience are invited to come in Oriental fancy dress to add to the Eastern atmosphere. During the interval there will be audience participation when everyone can have a go at Arabic dance or try to play an Egyptian hand drum.

Tickets cost £6.00 on the door. Advance tickets are available at £5.00 for adults, £2.50 for children and include a free cup of fresh Moroccan-style mint tea. Other non-alcoholic refreshments, souvenir programmes and music cassettes will be available for sale. The show takes place at Claverham Community College, which has ample parking space. Cheques payable to Christine Hall, Finchden, Sandhurst, Cranbrook TN18 5JS.

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All material for publication in the April issue of SIFD NEWS
must reach the Editor IN WRITING BY 17TH March.

Please write in BLOCK CAPITALS all names of people, places and dances
unless typewritten.

FINAL HITCHIN GATHERING

On Saturday, 7th March 1998, the Staplers English Country Dance Club, of which I am a member, will be organizing their 40th Gathering at the Hitchin Town Hall. This will be the last time this event will be held, not because it hasn't been well received and supported over the years by the general public, but because it has been getting harder to find teams that are willing to travel and perform without the incentive of a fee or travel expenses and difficult to find club members to help to run the event.

Displays of Song and Dance in the Folk Tradition will take place from 2.15 to 4.30 p.m. and the "Rainmakers" will be performing three Portuguese dances wearing new costumes specially made for the occasion. These have been based on dress from the Algarve, seen at Llangollen in 1996. Our first dance, "Bate Bate O Silva Verde", was taught in a workshop at the Eisteddfod by the winning team "Grupo Etnografico Santo Antonio de Arenhilha, Algarve". At the Hitchin Gathering we provide live music which will be led by Martin Butler of "Cloudburst". We have four rehearsals outside of club time - all this for six minutes' display time! This will be our 21st display for the Hitchin Gathering. We shall certainly miss the fun of working together to plan and prepare for this event next year.

There is also an evening Dance (not International, but it should be a great event) with Bernard Chalk and the Weston Country Dance Band from 7.00 to 11.00 p.m. If you fancy a day out in Hertfordshire and need further details on costs etc., please ring 01462 438960. If you want a "home" between afternoon and evening events, please contact me on 01462 457791.

JILL BRANSBY

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BALKANPLUS, 14th March 1998, at Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London N.W.1. 7.00-10.30 p.m. £3.00. M.C.s: Nick Green and James Webb.

Although the music will be mainly on tape, it is possible that Nick and James may have some musical friends with them. We look forward to an adventurous evening.

On 4th April 1998 Balkanplus are organising a Bulgarian Day Course at Cecil Sharp House, 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. £7.00. Season ticket holders £3.50. Tutors: Brian Dowsett and Frances Horrocks. Dances will be selected from Eddy Tijssen's previous courses and will be included in the usual evening Dance which follows at 7.00 p.m.

Don't forget to wear your Balkanplus T-shirt in May and claim your half-price ticket. T-shirts and season tickets are available at the Dances.

FRANCES HORROCKS

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FESTIVALS

INTERNATIONAL' EISTEDDFOD, LLANGOLLEN. 7th to 13th July 1998. Enquiries to Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod, Eisteddfod Office, Llangollen, North Wales LL20 8NG.

SIDMOUTH INTERNATIONAL' FESTIVAL' OF FOLK ARTS. 31st July to 7th August 1998. Enquiries to The Festival Office, P.O.Box 296, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP19 3TL.

GREAT ALNE LONG WEEKEND, NEAR ALCESTER IN WARWICKSHIRE
FRIDAY EVENING, 24TH, THROUGH TO MONDAY, 27TH APRIL 1998

Karin Bellaart, from the Netherlands, is coming over again this year (with her family). Her hour and a half sessions each morning will comprise general dances with a range of difficulty from Interfolk 1, a newly-compiled Dutch International Dance C.D. (The C.D.s or tape cassettes will be available). Karin's charismatic teaching style itself will make a participatory visit to Great Alne worth while. If you haven't yet tried out Great Alne, you may wish to sample this friendly gathering in its 15th year. The village hall is used; even its log fire to inspire early-morning music and late singalongs.

International music workshops, prior to Social Dances, with a substantial international content, are on Friday and Saturday evenings. On Sunday evening, definitely some International, and the nearby wellknown dance compiler and caller, John Chapman, will pay an active visit. Roger Wicksteed, from Oxford, again offers some lively Bulgarian dances. (Cassettes and notes available).

Other dance-workshop topics (mainly Saturday, Sunday and Monday mornings) should offer introductions to Morris, Scottish, Playford, Longsword, Salsa, Cajun and Western Line Dancing. A variety of music and instrumental sessions allow musicians of all abilities to take part, and children (as well as struggling adult musicians) are encouraged. David Bradley and Jack Steele on accordions and Gordon Taylor on violin will lead the International Music and take workshops to help us in playing the dance tunes. Paul Lindley will again make available his popular Handbell ringing workshops.

A small meadow makes a pleasant campsite near the hall, and tent, caravan, or campervan is acceptable. Local B. & B. accommodation is available via Tourist Board, Bridgefoot, Stratford, Tel: 01789 293 127. Bluebell woods of the Alne Hills make superb walks during the afternoons, and "bring a bike" if you wish to join a Sunday ride along the country lanes.

For details/booking information, ring André Hobro on 01203 418 949. If I am not in, PLEASE leave an address and preferably telephone number on the Answerphone so that I can contact you, to send the detailed programme.

For any pre-payments, a small discount is available, and if you are not able to enjoy the whole event you may come to join in any half-day, day, or evening's activities. Spontaneous arrivals at Great Alne Village Hall are also most welcome. (Stratford-upon-Avon 7 miles, Alcester 2 miles; via M40 junction 15 - take A46 - finally lane through Haselor). Detailed programmes at Great Alne, of times and leaders for each event.

ANDRÉ HOBRO



DENNIS BELFORD

I am sure that Dennis Belford's many friends, on both sides of the Border, will be pleased to learn that he was awarded the M.B.E. in the New Year's Honours List for "services to folk dancing". Needless to say, we here in Edinburgh were absolutely delighted! We don't yet know where or when Dennis will actually receive the award but we were able to present him with a "medal" in the form of an iced cake at our New Year party on 5th January.

KIRSTY EVANS
Secretary, Edinburgh Inter-
national Folkdance Group

WHAT'S ON IN MARCH

- Mar.7th HITCHIN GATHERING. Displays and Evening Dance. See p.10.
- Mar.7th A PROGRAMME OF FOLK TAKES, MUSIC & DANCE FROM BULGARIA performed by "A Spell in Time", 7.00 p.m. at The British-Bulgarian Friendship Society Rooms, Finsbury Library Basement, 245 St.John Street, London E.C.1. Dancing to the music of Dunav Band. Entrance by donation.
- Mar.7th ISRAELI DAY COURSE, 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Tutor: Roberto Haddon. £4.00 for whole day, £2.50 for one session. Organized by Barlow I.F.D.G. at St.Ninian's U.R. Church Hall, corner of Wilbraham & Egerton Road South Chorlton, Manchester. Bring packed lunch. Further information from Joan Wood, 0161 881 1077.
- Mar.7th MUSIC & DANCE WORKSHOP with Nutbrook Group. Swedish and Finnish dances. 10.00-11.20 a.m. Musicians' Playalong; 11.30 a.m.-4.00 p.m. Dance Tuition. Tutor: Janet Woolbar; 4.15-5.15 p.m. Social Dance to live music. At Stevenson Junior School, Wadsworth Rd., Stapleford, Notts. Music only £1.50; Dance Tuition £4.50; Combined £5.00. For further information, ring 0115 917 1831.
- Mar.7th/8th ROMANIAN DANCE WEEKEND with Silviu Ciuciumis at Bealings Village Hall, near Ipswich. £25.00. To book, please send £10 deposit and s.a.e. to Sally Fletcher, 106 Westerfield Rd., Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 2XN. Tel: 01473 252824. It may be possible to find overnight accommodation with local dancers.
- Mar.8th ISRAELI WORKSHOP with Roberto Haddon at Calver Village Hall, 2.00 to 4.30 p.m. £3.50. Organizer: Marina Wolstenholme, 01433 630183. On this afternoon we are hoping to raise money to plant trees in memory of one of our dear members, Ann Hargreaves, who died recently.
- Mar.13th DANCING AT WITNESHAM, near Ipswich. Mainly Balkan plus Israeli and others. 7.30-10.30 p.m. £2.00. Contact Bruce Barbour on 01473 749091 or Sally Fletcher on 01473 252824.
- Mar.13th to 15th S.I.F.D. WEST MIDLANDS BRANCH SILVER JUBILEE WEEKEND at the Paddocks Hotel, Symonds Yat, in the Wye Valley. The hotel has a spacious ball-room and all rooms have en-suite facilities. Marina Wolstenholme will teach a selection of dances; usual range of social activities and evening Dances. £80.00 per head. Bookings with £30.00 deposit and s.a.e. to Yvonne Hunt, 27 Baginton Rd., Styvechale, Coventry CV3 6JX. Tel: 01203 413854.
- Mar.14th S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE, NORWEGIAN. See p.13.
- Mar.14th VEIL DANCE WORKSHOP comparing EGYPTIAN, PERSIAN & TURKISH styles, in Faversham. All levels. With Christine Hall. Tel: 01795 534770. No price given.
- Mar.14th BALKANPLUS. See p.10.
- Mar.15th NEW ISRAELI DANCES for experienced dancers in Bristol with Anat. 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. £10.00. Tapes, step-sheets and song translations despatched within the week, price £6.50. For details of venue and bookings, contact Nicki Gissing, 0117 924 0469.
- Mar.20th EAST EUROPEAN COMMUNITY DANCE WORKSHOP. Leader: Marina Wolstenholme. At Tang Hall, York, 10.00 a.m. to 12.00. Contact: City of York Leisure Services, 01904 553385. No price given.

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- Mar.20th to 22nd S.I.F.D. DANCING/WALKING WEEKEND at Charney Manor, near Wantage, Oxon. For information, contact Roy Clarke, 33 Cedar Park Road, Enfield EN2 0HE. Tel: 0181 367 2649.
- Mar.21st WORKSHOP IN TUNISIAN DANCING in Rochester, Kent. With Christine Hall. 10.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. All levels. £14.00. Tel: 01634 405673.
- Mar.27th to 29th/30th BULGARIAN AND INTERNATIONAL DANCE WEEKEND at Malhamdale, with Eddy Tijssen and Maggie O'Regan. For details, send s.a.e. to Cathy Meunier, 115 Chetwynd Rd., London NW5 1DA.
- Mar.28th S.I.F.D. INTERNATIONAL BARNDANCE at Cecil Sharp House. See p.4.
- Mar.28th AN EVENING OF MIDDLE EASTERN, UZBEKISTANI AND CREATIVE DANCE, with Travis from the U.S.A. and guest appearance by Karine Butchart at Window Arts Centre, Lower Borough Walls, Bath. Doors open 7.00 p.m. Cost: £6.00, concessions £4.50.
- Mar.29th MIDDLE EASTERN & UZBEKISTANI DANCE WORKSHOP with Travis at Green Park Day Centre, Green Park Road, Bath. 10.00 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Cost: £25, concessions £20. For details of this and for 28th March (and advance tickets), contact Karine Butchart, 0117 9635967.
- Mar.30th EDDY TIJSSSEN at Buxton Methodist Church Hall, Market Place, Buxton. 7.45-10.00 p.m. Admission not more than £5.00. Contact Pat Phillips of Frith Folk, on 01298 24450, for details or directions.



S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE, CECIL SHARP HOUSE, SATURDAY, 14TH MARCH 1998

10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. IN TREFUSIS. £7.00 FOR MEMBERS, £9.00 FOR NON-MEMBERS

Karin Brennesvik from Telemark in Norway will teach dances from her area. Some of you saw her group perform at the Barbican a few years ago. Karin is a very experienced teacher, travelling regularly to teach at folk camps in America and running her own courses for British, American and Dutch folk dancers in Norway, as well as training a superb performing group in her own area.

The music can be a little difficult to follow at first - but it will grow on you. After six visits to Karin's courses in Norway I am totally hooked on the music and dance. Those of you who want to clutch your partner tightly will be disappointed! In both the Springar (sort of 3 beats to the bar) and the Gangar (two beats to the bar) you holdhands and it won't matter if there are more women than men. It's common for women to dance together in Norway, and it's fun to lead sometimes. There can be a lot of turning, but you are in control of how much and how fast. A dance party in Telemark would have this kind of dancing for hours.

We have also asked Karin to teach some song-dance and Gammel dance (Reinlender and Waltz - Norwegian style) but the two main dances are sufficient to occupy more than a whole week's course, let alone one day.

JEANETTE HULL

YORK INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL

July 25th - August 1st 1998

Surname Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms
First Name
Address
.....
.....
Postcode Tel no

COURSE FEE

Dancer £ 80.00 Non-dancer £ 15.00

SIFD members booking before May 1st may deduct £10 from the course fee.

Course fee payable at the time of booking.

COLLEGE FEE

| | per day (state days required) | full course |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Non-resident | £2 | £12 |
| Bed and breakfast | £21 | £147 |
| Dinner | £11 | £77 |
| Dinner, bed and breakfast | £32 | £223 |

Please tick for full course or fill in days required.

The college fee is payable by July 1st (to the address below, not to the college)

Have you any special dietary requirements? Please specify

.....

Do you wish to purchase lunchtime sandwiches/snacks at the college?

Dance experienceyears. Type of dance studied.....

.....

Do you ever teach dance?.....

Do you prefer to work at elementary, intermediate or advanced level?.....

Do you play a musical instrument?.....

If yes, please state instrument/s.....

Would you join in/lead a music workshop?

If you wish to be allocated a room near your friends, please give their names.....

.....

Please return this form with the appropriate course fee to Paul and Dawn Webster,
Greenacres, Broadstreet Common, Nash, Newport NP6 2AZ Tel: 01633 272 662

All cheques should be made payable to:
YORK INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL