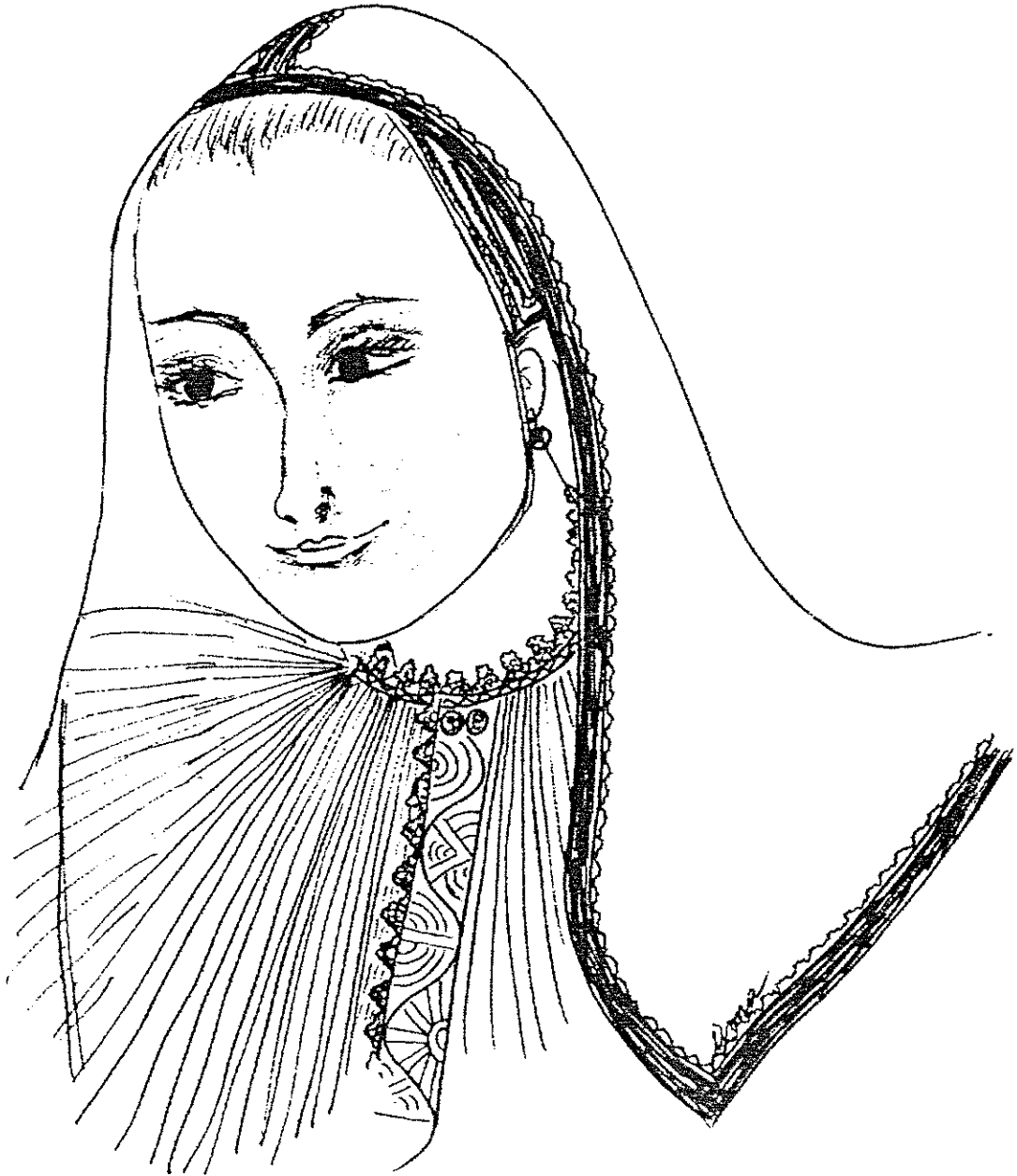


# SIFD NEWS



JUNE 1998

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 sent in by Anna Cidu and shows a Sardinian girl in costume.

--oOo--

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EASTBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL - 1ST-4TH MAY 1998

I should like to say Thank You to all who participated in the weekend festivities.  
Julie Korth for the welcome Dance on Friday evening; Jill Bransby for the Saturday  
night Dance plus workshop sessions; Jeanette Hull for Sunday evening plus work-  
shops with Mike Gilbert, who also played with "Jacob's Ladder", our band for the  
weekend, and who also gave music workshops.

Thanks also to Roberto Haddon for the Israeli workshops, Joy and Steve Steventon  
for the Iberian, and our visiting groups, "Tatry" plus "Riabinoushka" for all the  
hard work they put in on the Saturday in the town, plus the teaching sessions.  
Various other people assisted over the weekend in many ways, such as in the S.I.F.D.  
Shop or stewarding on the door; it was all greatly appreciated.

I hope all who came to take part in the various sessions enjoyed the weekend,  
despite the weather. Thanks again.

HELEN EZRA

--oOo--

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

## S.I.F.D. BEGINNERS ANGLO-INTERNATIONAL DANCES

Both the Beginners' Dance of 28th March and the Anglo/International Dance of 18th April were very successful. The former made a slight loss of £6.50 while the Dance on 18th April made a profit of £39.00. This was divided equally between the S.I.F.D. and the Friends of Cecil Sharp House. I should like to thank Simon and Joan Guest, with their guests Mona Graham and Audrey Whiteley, for M.C.-ing on 28th March, and Frank Flanagan for running the sound. For the Dance on 18th April my thanks go to Jeanette Hull for M.C.-ing the International portion of the Dance, to Simon Guest for running the sound, and to Anne Leach for running the Dance. I should like to thank Anna Huston for the imaginative fliers to publicise the Dances and all those who helped pass the word to newcomers.

CASPAR CRONK

--oOo--

## A JUBILANT JUBILEE WEEKEND

It was Friday, 13th March, but we set off confidently to Symonds Yat to join the S.I.F.D. West Midlands Group for their Jubilee weekend - and we were not disappointed. The Paddocks Hotel was a lovely venue, on the banks of the River Wye, with the cliffs of the Yat towering above it. It was friendly and comfortable, and most importantly for this occasion, it had a large ballroom with bar adjacent.

After the preliminary reception and meal, Maggie Kaye got the weekend off to a good start with the first evening dance, mostly accompanied by a group of West Midlands musicians led by Jack Steele. On the Saturday morning we were on the dance floor again at Marina Wolstenholme's first teaching session. She had no easy task with over forty dancers of varying experience, but I think everyone enjoyed themselves, tackling a very varied programme of Romanian, Armenian, Japanese and Israeli dances.

In the afternoon, Roy "Oscar" Haycock led a party on a walk. We had intended to take a stroll beside the river and turn back when the going got steep, but somehow we found ourselves scrambling up to King Arthur's cave, and once there it seemed less effort to carry on over the top and back to the hotel. Amazingly, we still found the energy to change into costume for the celebratory meal and dance that evening.

This was an opportunity to pay special tribute to Sybil Chapman who started the first international dance group in Birmingham and later set up the West Midlands Branch of the S.I.F.D. Health problems have restricted her dancing activities for the past few years and it was good to see her there, even dancing a little. She used this occasion to hand over formally the leadership of Selpar to Maggie Kaye. Alf Garton, for many years co-leader of Heart of England group, had made the journey up from Devon to join the weekend, and Grace Pittman, leader of the Arden group, completed the trio. As on any family occasion, the photo albums were on display, with photos and press cuttings of demonstrations, weekends and safaris through the years. A great record of twenty-five years of achievement.

This Jubilee weekend was indeed a happy family occasion, and as visitors from other groups around the country we enjoyed the friendly atmosphere and would like to thank the West Midlands groups for their warm welcome.

JANET WOOLBAR

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LOST PROPERTY. A brown leather belt was found in the ladies' cloakroom after the Bulgarian Day Course and Balkanplus in April and is now in the possession of Frances Horrocks. 'Phone 0181 642 3629 to reclaim it. Better hurry up - it fits!

OPEN COLLEGE CREDITS FOR FOLK AND BELLY DANCERS

Students of oriental dances can now gain qualifications with the Open College network. The Open College has accepted a complex programme which allows students to get up to 18 credits at three different levels. This is useful for learners who like to have something to show for their learning, and for teachers who want to be able to compare standards. There are three levels; Level 1 is for people who dance purely as a hobby and who have not been dancing for that long; Level 2 is for the enthusiastic amateur who enjoys exploring different forms of dance and who is willing to put in a lot of practice; Level 3 is for the ambitious dancers with a keen interest in oriental dance, including aspiring teachers and performers.

For full information, contact your regional branch of the Open College, or the branch which introduced this programme - South of England Accreditation Network, SEANET, Co-ordinating Centre, University of Brighton, "A" Block, Lewes Road, Moulsecomb, Brighton, East Sussex BN2 4GJ. Tel: 01273 642930.

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BILLINGHAM INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE COURSE - 15TH-22ND AUGUST 1998

This course is run in conjunction with the Billingham International Folklore Festival. Each group performing at the Festival will teach several of their national dances. Groups expected so far include Russia, Germany, Poland, France, Bulgaria, Hungary, Spain, England, plus possibly Sweden, Brazil. For details of the folkdance course, contact Brian Padgett, William Newton Centre, Junction Road, Norton, Stockton-on-Tees TS20 1PR. Tel: 01642 397320.

Ed.Note: In spite of writing for details, I haven't, so far, any information on the actual Festival.

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BULGARIAN FOLKDANCE SEMINAR in Koprivstica, 30th July to 8th August 1998. Dance tuition, lectures, excursions, parties, accommodation in private homes, full board. For details, contact Stefan & Bogdan Vaglarov, Dobromir Hriz str.29, 1124 - Sofia, Bulgaria. Tel/Fax: +359 2/944-13-45.

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POLKA DOT COSTUMES FOR SALE

Kayroma Folkdance Group has several polka dot skirts, sizes 14 to 18, for sale. Calf-length, fully washable, easy-care ironing. Red or green or yellow polka dots on a white background (not full Flamenco). If interested, photos are available. If not sold, they will go to theatrical costume hire. Please contact me at 3 Townegate, Heddon-on-the-Wall, Northumberland NE15 0DT. Tel: 01661 852495.

KAYE LEWIS POOLE

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

June 7th M.C.: George Sweetland - in Trefusis

- July 5th M.C.s: Jeanette Hull and Helen Ezra - in Trefusis

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

## TRAVEL WRITING COMPETITION

The winner of the recent travel writing competition was Pat Barker, with the following article. Pat chose, as her prize, the book "Daughters of The Dragon - Women's Lives in Contemporary China" by Christine Hall, value £10.99, donated by the publishers, Scarlet Press.

### BUDAPEST NIGHTLIFE

My holiday last year had been spent with "Dvorana", learning Bohemian and Moravian dances in the Czech Republic, and my visit to Hungary in October was meant to be all work. I had gone there with International Voluntary Service to join volunteers from seven other countries in order to learn about and write reports on conditions for refugees in Hungary. The young Hungarian activists shared our accommodation in a partially renovated building in which we slept on the floor; bought us bread, cheese and yellow peppers for our breakfasts; took us to good, basic local cafes for our other meals, and helped us find our way around Budapest by 'bus, tram and Metro.

Days were divided between meetings with official bodies in Budapest, and with train journeys to Refugee Camps and Community Shelters. There proved to be a great gap between the bland and politically correct statements of the official bodies; between the generous claims of the N.G.O.s; the stark reality of conditions in the camps and shelters, and the personal stories of the asylum seekers themselves. We had a great sense of frustration in our inability to get at the truth. We, however, had the advantage of having a language in common. English was the working language of our group and we were able to speak with officials directly or via an interpreter. The situation in the camps was very different. The soldiers and civilians working in the camps spoke nothing but Hungarian. Many of the asylum seekers, whether from former Yugoslavia, from Africa or from Asia, could speak English so came to us to pour out their stories. Each revealed his personal tragedy but each one shared the despair of not being able to discover why they were waiting or what their eventual fate would be.

The organization of our workcamp was in the hands of a group of young Hungarian students. They were anxious to provide us with some relaxation after our rather traumatic days and wanted to introduce us to Hungarian culture so, at 10 p.m. or later, after we had finished writing up our notes, they would take us dancing. I could not believe my good fortune. Public transport runs throughout the night in Budapest and we criss-crossed the city to listen and dance to Hungarian folk bands and to gypsy bands. There was no tuition and no calling but always someone to watch and follow, and friendly helping hands. Unlike all too many S.I.F.D. events, I was the one who was noticeable here for being over sixty! 99% of the dancers crowding into the dance halls were between 16 and 30 years old. They told us how the Hungarian Dancehouse Movement of participatory folk dancing had formed part of the underground culture in the 80s as a reaction to state controlled and censored culture. The venues still buzzed with this excitement.

It is hard to choose one night from this visit, but the hours spent dancing to gypsy music were very special - and totally exhausting. The band would start playing and the gypsies - or Roma as they prefer to be called - moved about the room encouraging everyone to join in. This was not really necessary as people jumped to their feet fast in order to get a good position for watching the footwork of the Roma dancing in the centre of the circle. The music started fairly slowly before getting faster and faster and continuing far past the point where I thought I could survive. Two men approached me (having seen the wording on my T-shirt) to ask if I was English. They were from Roma Radio and wanted to interview me - this elderly foreign woman who was dancing her heart out! They were particularly interested to hear that I regularly meet an extended family of gypsies back at home in Devon to sing with them, exchange tunes on the accordion with them and watch their traditional step dancing.

The excitement and pleasure of my Hungarian dancing experiences were all the greater for being entirely unexpected. As I prepare to go to India later this week I am wondering what surprises lie in wait there.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Lily,

We have just had a splendid weekend on the Quantocks, staying at Halsway Manor, the Folk Music Centre at Crowcombe in Somerset. I have been going for about thirty years, with some gaps. The weekend consists of walking, dancing, eating, chatting and outings to places of interest - or just to get a cream tea!

The weekend is organized by Jack Richardson, with dancing led by Joan Richardson, Janet Woolbar and other members at the weekend who are willing and experienced leaders. Music is a happy mix of live music (Wilf Horrocks) and tapes. Walks of varying lengths and standards are led by a variety of experienced walkers like Jack, Michael Clark, Michael Holdup and Roy Haycock. Others feel free to stroll. The oldest dancer is 80+, the youngest 23. Some people come for the dancing and find themselves walking, some for the walking and find themselves dancing - of course. A few come just for the company.

This year I came with wheelchair and stick to enjoy the company, sure that I wasn't well enough now (I have MS) to walk or dance, but with sterling help from friends old and new I too found myself dancing and joining a group of walkers for their refreshment halt. The purpose of this letter/report is to thank all those on the weekend for their patience and support. Maybe it is also a letter of encouragement for any who, like me, are no longer as fit - or as young- as they were; don't give up, do just that little bit extra, give that little bit extra too. It is amazing what you can achieve with a smile and a little (a lot?) of support from some really nice folk. I certainly feel so much better for my weekend with friends.....and I nearly didn't go.

Yours sincerely,

MARJORIE CORNER  
3 Parkwood Court, Parkwood Rd.  
Tavistock, Devon PL19 0RH

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VISIT TO THE LINKS HOTEL, 17TH-19TH APRIL 1998

About sixty dancers from Merton Park, Cheam, Sutton and Kingston groups spent a weekend in April at the Links Hotel, Eastbourne. The weekend was organized by Philip and Brenda Steventon, ably assisted by their two sons, Robert and Andrew.

To say it was a success is an understatement - it was superb. All the work put in by the Steventon family made it seem a completely relaxed weekend. The dancing was well suited to all the people present and no-one sat out except by choice or from lack of breath. We did about eighty dances and in the Top Ten contest No.1 was "Trip to Bavaria". The high spot of the dancing was a display of "Ox Dans" by the three generations of the Steventon family - Steve, Philip, and Robert and Andrew. The dance was greeted with rousing applause which was well deserved. A quiz was organized to keep the brain cells busy when we were not actually dancing - anagrams which when solved became names of wellknown dances. Two people got all twenty and were presented with Maltesers by Robert.

The hotel was warm and comfortable; the food was excellent; and the staff friendly, efficient and pleasant. Sadly, we shall not be able to return to The Links as it is to be closed, possibly re-sold to another company. However, should Philip and Brenda decide to arrange another weekend somewhere else I shall be first in the queue to sign up. Thank you, Philip and Brenda, for a really happy weekend.

JOAN RACKHAM  
Merton Park Group

GLASTONBURY DANCE FESTIVAL (not to be confused with the Glastonbury Festival) will take place this year from 24th July to 1st August. For one week, the whole town becomes a centre for international, traditional and innovative dance. Every day there are many workshops and performances, often two or more simultaneously so that you have the choice. The organisers give every day a theme. Last year, for example, there was a "Middle Eastern Dance Day", a "Percussive Dance Day" and a "Flamenco Dance Day".

The prices are very reasonable. For £15 you can get a day ticket which admits you to as many workshops as you like to try out, as well as any evening dance performances and parties which take place on the day. There are also full season tickets, as well as individual event tickets. However, many events are booked out in advance. It may be a good idea to ask the organisers to put you on the mailing list and as soon as you get the official brochure, order your tickets and reserve places on any specific workshops you want to do.

The festival organisers are currently finalising the programme. However, some details are already available. Monday, 27th July, is "Middle Eastern Day" and will include a Persian traditional dance workshop with Medea Mahdavi, a Persian veil dance workshop with Christine Hall, and an Egyptian stick dance workshop with Yasmin Asar, and other workshops. There will be a lunchtime performance platform with Christine Hall and others, and an evening performance with Yasmin and Medea, followed by a Haflah (Arabic party) with live drumming.

Contact: Glastonbury Dance Festival, P.O.Box 2154, Glastonbury, Somerset BA6 9FE.  
Tel: 01458 835717.

CHRISTINE HALL

Ed.Note: I have since heard that there may be a visit by "a European folkdance group" as well as Latin American, Percussive, Folk, Circle, Street Jazz, Contemporary, American Line, Flamenco and more.

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#### WOODVALE I.F.D.G. ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to Woodvale for organizing such a cracking 30th Anniversary Dance on 25th April at Borough Green. The programme, cleverly designed as a menu, featured many Woodvale specialities such as Kol Dodi, Aunt Hessie's White Horse, Tancuj, a Bulgarian Pajduška, Bucksaw Reel and Gammel Reintländer, introduced by M.C.s Heather Dăscălescu, Jan Bryce, Alan Cant and David Mckie, all of whom with their families have been instrumental in keeping Woodvale alive and well for so long. Founder, Ian Willson, who had the honour of the opening M.C. spot, was in his usual ebullient form. The occasion was marked when he posed with Jean Willson and Eileen Nolan for a Founders photo beside a beautifully iced cake incorporating many national flags.

While gorging ourselves on the splendid food during the interval, we were treated to a sparkling display of three Romanian dances from Martisorul, each member wearing a different costume. The spectators were quite exhausted afterwards. Rita Wood was presented with a framed certificate of life membership for her help and support over so many years; other longtime helpers, Don and Joan Rankin and Beryl received recognition; the raffle with an international flavour included a musical plate; the champagne corks exploded in all directions; the toast was given. Wilf Horrocks, musical director, and his band, tuned up and the dancing continued. Never have I seen so many dancing babies! Plenty of children were taking part as well so it was a real family occasion.

Here's to the next time!

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HEATHER EDWARDS

KAYROMA INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP HAVE DECIDED TO HANG UP THEIR DANCING SHOES  
AFTER THIRTY YEARS

Sad, but true, all good things come to an end, like dancing or "Roaming with Kay". Kayroma Folkdance Group have enjoyed for over thirty years the fun of international folk dancing, and in particular dances from Spain, Portugal and Mexico, Enthusiasm, effort, determination and dedication have carried us along; our history is a long story.

Originally, we danced under the umbrella of the Whitley Bay Campus, Further Education, Recreation Section. I was already then a qualified teacher of Keep Fit, Movement & Dance, and teaching four evenings per week in term time, and I occasionally would introduce into my lesson plan a Swiss waltz or a traditional dance from Israel. I had also studied and become a qualified teacher of National Dance with the I.S.T.D. These interludes became popular with some class members and so they asked the Education Officer if he would put it to his Committee that they offer to the Campus members a specialist independent international folkdance class. This request was granted but only eight members enrolled. "Not enough", we were told, but if we could double our numbers in three weeks a class would be accepted into the Campus programme. We did double our numbers, and so we founded our own folkdance class, born from enthusiastic Movement & Dance class members, so it was thanks to those ladies for their support.

For many many years we were happy and content and all was well until, because of rising costs and the need for cutbacks, we were moved from one hall to another in various areas, often having to change the day and times of our meetings, but still we survived. The cutbacks continued and finally we had to "go private" and we were fortunate enough to be offered accommodation in the Whitley Bay Briardene Scout Hut. Incidentally, in all this shuffle around of halls and times we lost our very accomplished pianist. In addition, there was no piano in the Scout Hut, funds were very low and travel was an added problem.

Our aim was always to dance for pleasure. We were also eager to learn new dances but still keen to recapture the favourite dances when possible. To dance in a demonstration team was not uppermost in our minds. However, gradually over the years, and with help from many of our dancers, we acquired a costume wardrobe, including costumes from several countries. When asked, we would present a suite of dances from various countries and would do a "demo" for example at school open days, guild meetings, and also danced many days at the Gateshead Garden Festival. Intentionally, we kept public performances to a minimum; we enjoyed what we did and it was no problem to us to link together our favourite dances. We also had good amplification to reproduce cassette music on the tape recorder.

Now, our once-thriving group, owing to circumstances beyond our control, has diminished to about eight dancers, four of whom are founder members, and so we discussed and then chose to call it a day and regretfully fold up Kayroma Folkdance Group. We do, and intend to continue to, keep in touch fairly regularly. Next month one of our dancers is celebrating a special birthday and she has invited sixty guests including Kayroma Dancers, so we are looking forward to this exciting celebration.

We would have liked someone to have carried the group forward but it was not possible. I have had setbacks in the last three years, with my health, but seem to have overcome the problems now. Although I am cultivating new interests, I hope to turn up to the odd workshop when I can - maybe York! We live so far North. Eastbourne and the Isle of Wight are too far away for me at the moment but I will think of all my dancing friends who will be there and at other venues enjoying their dance experiences wherever they may be. I shall keep on "steppin out" even without my character shoes. I look back with fond memories and look forward to whatever the future holds in store. Cheerio! for now, and Happy Dancing everyone. End of story.

KAYE LEWIS POOLE L.I.S.T.D.  
Founder and teacher of Kayroma  
Folkdance Group



"MAGIC OF THE ORIENT"

Thank you, and congratulations, to Christine Hall for providing a very enjoyable and entertaining Show, "Magic of the Orient", on 18th April. The programme comprised more than twenty items, from Chinese Fan and Ribbon dances to Turkish, Egyptian, Lebanese, Arabic, Moroccan and Tunisian dances; from cabaret style belly dance and choreographed dances with finger cymbals, swords and other props, to two very impressive traditional Egyptian dances - one a ritual solo dance and the other a convincingly spontaneous performance of belly dancing by two ladies. There were also two "novelty" items - a snake dance (for which I hastily left the hall as the snake was real!), and a "fun" Egyptian sand dance, amusingly presented.

Mint tea was served on arrival, and during the interval the audience were invited to try drumming and also belly dancing under Christine's instructions. Altogether a very pleasurable evening, presented by Christine, her Awalim Group and guest artistes.

LILY AVERY

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MACEDONIAN GROUP'S LONDON STOP-OVER

You have probably noted that the superb "Ilinden" group from Bitola is due to appear informally at Balkanplus on 11th July. Our present information is that they will be travelling to London from Llangollen on Friday, 10th July, and could stay for the whole weekend. This gives us an opportunity to organize at least one formal concert in London before they depart. We hope to give details next month. It also gives us the problem of accommodating a group of between 30 and 40 dancers and musicians. Attempts will be made to prevail upon the Macedonian community in London to take in members of the group as guests for the weekend, but I would also like to hear from anyone in the London area who might be able to provide accommodation or who knows of suitable communal sleeping quarters. Contact me on 01992 582717 (daytime or evening).

BRIAN DOWSETT

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THE DOINA FOUNDATION FOR ROMANIAN ETHNOGRAPHY & FOLKLORE are arranging the following in 1998:-

Folklore and Dance Tour to Romania (Pitești, Muntenia), 25th July to 8th August.

Balkan Festival at Zetten, The Netherlands, 2nd to 5th July, with the following dance classes:- Greek (Dick van der Zwan), Bulgarian (Jaap Lægwater), Turkish (Ersin Seyhan), Hungarian (Jenö Molnar), Macedonian (Martin Ihns), Yugoslav (Paja Milić), Romanian (Silviu Ciuciumiş). Singing: Nina Kavardjikova. Musical accompaniment: Orchestra Kaleb, Orchestra Trediki.

The Foundation also offers for sale, Romanian folklore costumes from all regions of Romania. Complete or partial outfits for men and women, including boots.

For information on all the above, contact Silviu Ciuciumiş, Aarhuispad 22, 3067 PR Rotterdam, The Netherlands. Tel: +31 10 421 86 22. Fax: +31 10 455 60 65.

## WHAT'S ON IN JUNE

- June 3rd and the first Wednesday of every month, FRENCH, BRETON and EUROPEAN DANCING to live music from "Boa", "Citizen Camembert" and guests. Excelsior Hotel (Tudor Room), Kingsway, Hove (opposite the Lagoon), from 8.30 p.m. More details from Trevor Upham, 01273 388816 or Jan Muireany, 01273 501304. No price given.
- June 6th BELLY DANCE WORKSHOP with Christine Hall at Eastbourne. All levels. Approx. £15.00. Contact ECAT Adult Education, 01323 644711.
- June 7th S.I.F.D. WEST MIDLANDS BRANCH SAFARI. See p.10, last month's NEWS. Contact: Malcolm Cox, 0121 783 8517.
- 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.
- June 7th "DANCING THE DRUM SOLO". Workshop with dance teacher Helené, presented by Christine Hall at South Street Studio, St.Leonards, E.Sussex. Probably the most exciting and difficult part of Egyptian dance, so some previous experience would help. 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. £12 in advance (to H.Haynes-Stakem, c/o Finchden, Sandhurst TN18 5JS) or £15 on the door.
- June 12th DANCING AT WITNESHAM, near Ipswich. Mainly Balkan plus Israeli and others, 7.30-10.30 p.m. £2.00. Contact Bruce Barbour, 01473 749091 or Sally Fletcher, 01473 252824.
- June 13th ARMENIAN HALF-DAY COURSE, 2.00-5.30 p.m. Tutor: Marina Wolstenholme. Followed by shared supper (please bring contributions) and FAMILY EVENING DANCE, 6.30-9.30 p.m. Organized by Barlow I.F.D.G. at St.Ninian's U.R. Church Hall, corner of Wilbraham and Egerton Road South, Chorlton, Manchester. Cost: £4.00 2.00-9.30 p.m. £2.50 half session.
- June 13th BALKANPLUS. See p.13.
- June 13th & 14th IRISH SET DANCING WORKSHOP with Timmy McCarthy at Mazenod Centre of the Quex Road Catholic Church in Kilburn. For details, contact Pat Cardis, 0171 254 3998 or Breege MacArdle, 0181 348 1047.
- June 20th BALKAN DAY WITH HELEN VAN BOCHOVE. Helen returns to Ipswich with a mixture of dances. 10.30 a.m.-5.00 p.m. at Bealings Village Hall. £10. Please book with Sally Fletcher, 106 Westerfield Road, Ipswich IP4 2XN. Tel: 01473 252824, or with Bruce Barbour, 01473 749091.
- June 21st EGYPTIAN & ARABIC DANCE WORKSHOP including Raks Al Asaya, with Christine Hall and one other tutor, at St.Philip's Church Hall, St.Philip's Ave., Eastbourne. 1.30-5.30 p.m. £12 in advance (cheques to C.Hall, Finchden, Sandhurst TN18 5JS) or £15 on the door. This is a National Dance Week event.
- June 26th THE ACADIAN RAMBLERS, contemporary Cajun & Zydeco, at Covent Garden Community Centre, 46 Earlham Street, London W.C.2. 8.30 p.m. to 1.00 a.m. £6.50. Early booking advisable. Cheques payable to CMG Promotions, 70a Mansfield Road, London NW3 2HU. Ring 0171 267 1374 for more information.
- June 26th to 28th RESIDENTIAL WEEKEND of Oriental dances including belly dance, veil dance and Mongolian folk dance with Christine Hall at Fittleworth, W.Sussex. Small group, individual attention. This is a National Dance Week event. (No price or contact number given). (See Christine's address above).

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June 27th BRETON DANCE with Jan Mulreany, 2.00-3.30 p.m. as part of Eastleigh Dance Festival, The Point, Eastleigh. Other workshops over the weekend include Russian folk dance, Brazilian, Argentinian Tango, Arab/Egyptian, Flamenco and Irish Step. Details from Box Office, 01703 652333. No prices given.

June 28th DOINA EAST EUROPEAN and LONDON TURKISH groups at Victoria Embankment Gardens, London. 12 noon.

June 28th FEST DEIZ. Special "National Dance Week" event. Breton dancing to "Diwal", one of Brittany's best! Starts at 4.00 p.m. Excelsior Hotel (Tudor Room), Kingsway, Hove (opposite the Lagoon). More details from Trevor Upham, 01273 388816. No price given.

June 28th MERTON/WOODVALE SAFARI in Kent. Three venues. At 10.45 a.m. Manor Park, West Malling; 12.15 p.m. Queen's Head Pub, Butchers Lane, Mereworth; 3.30 p.m. Castle Lawns, Tonbridge Castle. All welcome. Further information from 0181 542 3831 or 01732 885048. Seats may be available on coach leaving Wimbledon 9.15 a.m. Ring 0181 543 1891 to book.

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#### S.I.F.D. DAY COURSES

Regrettably, the Day Course for 13th June has been cancelled as various specialist teachers who were approached are unavailable for that date. The next course will not be until September; details nearer the time.

HELEN EZRA

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BALKANPLUS, 13th June at Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London N.W.1. 7.00-10.30 p.m. £3.00. M.C.: Rosette Rosenberg, "Martinitza" and friends. The "Martinitza" group meets on Mondays at the Benesh Institute in Lisson Grove, where much of the Balkanplus repertoire is taught. Pop along and learn some of the dances beforehand, then join in with confidence in the evening.

The next Balkanplus will be on 11th July, when we hope to have the Macedonian group following their visit to Llangollen.

FRANCES HORROCKS

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#### LLANGOLLEN DANCE WORKSHOPS

Teams from Macedonia, Romania, Turkey, India, N.Ireland and Norway have been approached to take workshops, on the Thursday (9th July) at Llangollen. The final choice will depend on whether the teams reach Wales and whether the Festival Committee sends them off somewhere else. Find out from the Festival office beforehand.

FRANCES HORROCKS

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SILVIU CIUCIUMIS IN LONDON - 24TH OCTOBER 1998. Silviu will be teaching in Central London for the first time this decade! At Kingsway College, Grays Inn Centre, London W.C.1, 11.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. £10.00. Tickets available from members of Martisorul or from Martisorul Dance Group, c/o 10 Parkview House, Eastbury Rd., Watford WD1 4PZ. Cheques payable to Martisorul Dance Group.