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APRIL

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

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The typing is done by Lily Avery. The printing, packaging and posting
is done by Doug and Maureen Wells.

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This month's cover was drawn by Janet McCrickard and shows a dancer from Bali,
Indonesia, in the costume of the Redjang dance, and carrying a basket of offer-
ings used in another dance, Mendet.

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S.I.F.D. Internet Web Site: www.sifd.org

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YORK SUMMER SCHOOL, 29TH JULY TO 5TH AUGUST 2000

Sorry the registration and information leaflet attached to the March SIFD NEWS
managed to get upside down and back to front at the printer's. I hope it didn't
put you off sending it in. The information was all there but in the wrong place.
In case you haven't sent your form in yet, there should be a correct version
at the back of this issue.

I look forward to receiving it from you. Don't forget - S.I.F.D. members get
a £10 discount if you book before 1st May.

ROGER STURGE
for the York 2000 planning team.

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MUSIC Two more tunes from Wilf Horrocks on p.9. If you would like the music
for any particular dance, please contact Wilf on 020 8642 3629.

S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE, 11TH MARCH 2000

Sadly, the Filipino course due to take place on Saturday, 11th March, had to be cancelled - always an organizer's nightmare - so, very much at the last minute, Marina Wolstenholme stepped in and gave an exciting day of Russian dances. Her approach was so relaxed and yet thorough, none of the dances was "mind-bending", so perhaps for this reason everyone had a sense of ease. We could have all been at a village wedding in Russia, although sadly no vodka flowed! It has been a long time since one has heard so much laughter, people in Cecil Sharp House wondered what we were all up to; a good advert for folk dance - and the S.I.F.D.

The dances were all basic village dances, starting with Chorovod from Archangel, the typical walking circle dance found in so many areas. Marina introduced each dance gradually building in different components as the class and dances developed. Pivna Jagoda, a Northern Russian Chorovod style dance, added different rhythms and steps. Devushky Pradrushenky added patterns. Tscherevitschki from Voronezh, South Russia, was a progressive dance which should be a tremendous success for dancers of all ages; great fun.

The day ended with a Streka, nice easy relaxing dance to finish the day. This Streka was called Cteha-a Pryalitsa, or dance for women, found in North Russia, but worked well with everyone, men and women.

One couldn't help thinking what people miss out on; all those interesting courses, teachers, dances and information. Aren't we just the lucky ones. This is all part of being a folk dancer. From every course one learns something of tremendous value, about other people, their music, dances, background, costume and culture.

We all left Cecil Sharp House on a "high" to battle with the crowds in Camden Town. One of those "not to be missed" days. We were all most grateful to Marina Wolstenholme, Helen Ezra and the Course Committee. A wonderful day.

ROBERT HARROLD



S.I.F.D. DAY COURSES

Many thanks to Marina Wolstenholme for stepping into the breach on Saturday, 11th March, when we had to switch from Filipino to Russian at the last minute. It was a very enjoyable day.

There will be no course in April but on 13th May Maggie O'Regan will be teaching Greek (See her article below).

Future courses: Does anyone have a dance which they would like taught or revised? If so, let me know and we will perhaps arrange a day for them.

HELEN EZRA
84 Farm Road, Morden, Surrey SM 4 6RB

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GREEK DANCES FROM CALEDONIAN ROAD (that well-known Greek outpost). Helen Ezra has asked me to teach some Greek dances for the May S.I.F.D. Day Course and I have finally given in, not unwillingly but still feeling that there are better qualified people than I (namely Greeks). Most of the dances I am considering teaching will be new to most people but if you have any requests (or anything you'd rather I didn't do) please don't hesitate to let me know.

MAGGIE O'REGAN, 020 7609 7098

Dear Lily,

I really don't think my article of November 1999 can be said to deny the Afrikaaners their tradition and culture or even that it showed lack of respect for their dances. Nevertheless, I am grateful to Dorothy Sloan for her comments on 'Aunt Hessie's White Horse' and on Afrikaans dance evenings in general. I must confess to an almost complete ignorance of this particular tradition and so, when asked to play this music, I have to rely on what little information is available and on my own musical instincts. (Thoroughly researching all the dances and the traditions from which they come before playing them is just not possible unless the organisers are willing to wait a year or two and pay several thousand pounds in costs!).

The little information that was available regarding 'Aunt Hessie' is that Pat Shaw introduced it into the English dance scene after a tour of South Africa by Whirligigs in, I think, 1953. (It was presumably known on the international circuit before then). Whether the idea of starting slowly was introduced then or evolved later I cannot say, but that was the version that came to us. I should point out that the phrase 'starting slowly and getting faster' seems to have caused some confusion. We do not get particularly fast by the end of the dance, and there is no reason when anyone dancing to our music should do anything indecorous, but we do finish faster than we started.

I accept that my own musical instincts may lead me to an interpretation different from the original, but the only alternative I can see is to not interpret the music at all - just play the notes in as undistinguished manner as possible and move on. To me, this is far more disrespectful of the tradition than the approach I and Jacob's Ladder adopt - which is to use all experience, knowledge and imagination we can muster on every piece we play so to make it a beautiful and danceable as we can.

Jacob's Ladder has recently tried 'Aunt Hessie' with two fiddles and Bina (a very small harmonium which I hope gives a sound not unlike a trek harmonica), which worked extremely well, but I must admit that this combination would never have occurred to me from looking at the music and dance alone. So please, anyone who has any knowledge of any traditional dance and/or music, pass it on. Otherwise you will continually be finding that nobody else is ever 'doing it right'.

Mike Gilbert

(address on p.2).

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Dear Lily,

The S.I.F.D. Day Course on 11th March was Russian dances, taught by Marina Wolstenholme. She took this on at very short notice, and came up trumps. Marina made the day. She was knowledgeable and I thought the dances were great, fun to do, and I'm sure they will be done at classes.

MONA GRAHAM
25 Warwick Way, Croxley Green,
Rickmansworth, Herts.

Photos 2000

The daffodils are out, the frogs are in the pond – Spring is definitely here – but where are your photos? I've received about a dozen – thank you so much to those who have sent some really lovely prints, but at this rate we're not going to need a very big album.

Please feel inspired, and resolve to get round to it soon. I'm not expecting studio portraits, just pictures of happy people.

Do not be put off because -

you think your photo might be too small – I can enlarge it
too large? I can trim it

you'll need too many photos to include everyone? I can give you extra pages

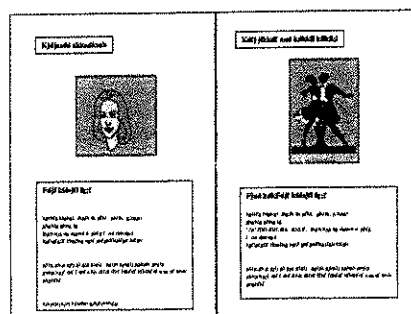
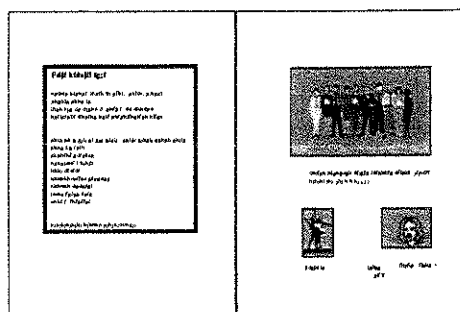
your key or notes are only rough? I can type them up

you haven't finished the film? Go mad!

The guidelines I gave before were –

- ◆ Max 10" x 8", colour or black and white
- ◆ Individuals, and groups with supplementary photos if necessary to include everyone
- ◆ Key to identify all faces
- ◆ A few lines about yourself, or your group

This is what I have in mind –



Please – start taking those photos!

Here's a reminder of my address:-

Alison Scrimshaw

22 Sherwood Park Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM1 2SQ.

0208 642 3385



TEACHER REQUIRED for a children's/student Summer School. To be held on 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th August inclusive. Approximately 3-4 hours per day. Payment per hour plus travelling expenses.

Last month it was stated that they would very much like a teacher who is able to teach the folk dances of their country of origin. They now say that this is not necessary and a teacher able to teach dances from other countries would be welcome. Any country considered; open to any offers of help. Contact: Miss Tanya Allen, Principal of Allenova School of Dancing, "Rivendell", Pond Lane, Hermitage, Thatcham, Berkshire RG18 9RN. Tel: 01635 201701.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

May 13th S.I.F.D. GREEK DAY COURSE. See p.3.

S.I. May 20th WOODVALE INTERNATIONAL DANCE at Borough Green Village Hall, 7.30 to 11.00 p.m. Tickets £5.00 including food. Please bring your own drinks. Details from Alan Cant, 01732 883405.

S.I. June 4th ISRAELI DANCE WORKSHOP with Anat at Stone Cross Memorial Hall, near Eastbourne. 10.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. £12.00 (concessions £7.50). Shared vegetarian lunch. For bookings/information/map, contact Rowena Martin, 01323 503991.

June 9th/11th FEST NOZ - a weekend of Celtic & French Music & Dance, at Thoresby Park, Thoresby, near Ollerton, Nottinghamshire. For tickets ring 0116 233 3111. For other details contact Mr. Bob Charmbury, Nottinghamshire County Council Community Services, Trent Bridge House, Fox Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 6BJ. Tel: 0115 982 3823.

S.I. June 11th S.I.F.D. WEST MIDLANDS BRANCH ANNUAL COTSWOLDS SAFARI. Starts 11.00 a.m. at Moreton-in-Marsh. Details of rest of programme to follow.

June 17th S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE.

June 30th to July 2nd MILTON KEYNES INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL. Groups from Georgia, Holland and Italy. Information, brochure, tickets from Don Allison, 01908 610564.

July (3rd)4th/9th LLANGOLLEN INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL EISTEDDFOD. For details, contact Eisteddfod Office, Llangollen, North Wales LL20 8NG. Tel: 01978 860236.

S.I. July 29th/Aug.5th S.I.F.D. SUMMER SCHOOL AT YORK. See attached booking form.

Aug.4th/11th SIDMOUTH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL. For details, write to P.O.Box 296, Aylesbury, Bucks HP19 3TL. Box Office: 01296 433669.

Aug.26th/28th AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY COURSE with Jan Knoppers at St.Peter's Church Hall, Fairfield, Buxton, Derbyshire. Dances outside the European International repertoire. Course fee: £30.00. (£15.00 deposit). Accommodation in local guest houses. For application forms and further details, send s.a.e. to Marina Wolstenholme, "Robin Cottage", Commercial Road, Grindleford, Hope Valley S32 2HA. Tel: 01433 630183.

S.I. Aug.25th/28th MINI FESTIVAL at Roedean School, Brighton. Wide variety of Folk and Circle Dance led by participants (offers welcome!). Full board; mostly single rooms; swimming pool; £120 (deposit £20); s.a.e. to Rowena Martin, 60 Anderida Road, Eastbourne BN22 0PZ. Tel: 01323 503991.

Sept.30th C.C.P.R. SHOW DANCFEST 2000 at Royal Albert Hall, London.

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Events covered by S.I.F.D. insurance are marked "S.I." in the margin. Please remember that the onus is on you to mark each event when sending in the notice if your event is covered by our insurance.

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N.B. Some telephone numbers given in this issue may be out of date after 22nd April, when new numbers will take over in certain areas. Some people have already given their new numbers, others have not.

'I've Got a Little List'

Or rather, I want a little list – in fact several of them.

It has become increasingly apparent that the official teachers' list represents only a portion of the skills offered and needed by the SIFD and its members. So we are hoping to put together a list of services members (and possibly non-members) can offer which may be of interest to the rest of us. This will include teaching of course, but also MCing (which is a quite different skill), musicians, display dancing, teaching beginners, running workshops or whatever else you want on it.

This is not intended as kind of cheap substitute for formally recognised teachers and we will be looking to add people to the official teachers' list as soon as resources allow. Basically, all we are trying to do is make accessible to everybody the kind of information which is already circulating on an informal (and sometimes rather patchy) basis.

Entry is open to everybody – all you have to do is let us know – and carries no endorsement from the SIFD, so any formal (or informal) qualifications you have, as well as areas of particular interest or expertise, would be useful.

So, if anyone is interested, or has any questions, please ring or write to me at 85 Fen Road, Chesterton, Cambridge CB1 1UN (tel. 01223 425648).

Mike Gilbert (Acting Chairman)

P.S. The committee is very short of people at the moment and the people we do have are very short of time, so if any-one would like to help with setting up or maintaining this information, I would be very glad to hear from you.



PAYMENTS TO S.I.F.D. TEACHERS

At the A.G.M. in December a motion was carried that the meeting was in favour of S.I.F.D. teachers being paid at rates comparable with those paid by Adult Education Authorities.

At their meeting on 5th March, the Committee considered this matter and have raised the rate of payment to S.I.F.D. teachers to £20.00 per hour. This is with effect from 5th March 2000.

JUDITH PAYLING, Hon.Treasurer



S.I.F.D. books and cassettes are available from Eleanor Gordon, 70 Chestnut Grove, New Malden, Surrey KT3 3TS. Other S.I.F.D. goods are available from Claire Steele, 34 Broadwater Avenue, Letchworth, Herts. SG6 3HF.



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

FRENCH & BRETON DANCE AND MUSIC, with "Hot Springs"

A chance to play and dance every third Sunday of the month, 2.30-5.00 p.m. at Window Arts Centre, Lower Borough Walls, Bath. £3.50/£2.50. April 16th, May 21st, June 18th. Beginners and experienced dancers welcome. No partner needed. Musicians welcome to come and play for the dance workshop. Sheet music can be arranged. Further information from Nicki Cawthorne, 01225 332025.

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"FEET FIRST", a programme of dance at different venues around London. Thirty different dance styles are listed, from which the programme will be selected. They include African, Cajun, E.European, Egyptian, Flamenco, French, Greek, Javanese, Irish.

10th & 11th June Feet First Taster Weekend at "over ten venues".

19th June to 22nd July Feet First Workshop Programme. Over 30 courses, each meeting for 1½ hours per week.

23rd July Feet First Dance Party at Finsbury Park

For details, contact Arts Worldwide, FREEPOST LOND 6656, London N5 2BR.

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QUADRILLE MANIA, 24th/25th June. A weekend of "quadrille dances from the living traditions of Ireland and the Caribbean and the original 19th century English dances from which they grew", which may be of interest to those who study the way dances are adapted by the different cultures to which they are introduced. It is said that the Caribbean quadrilles are based on the quadrille structure taken by English planters to the West Indies in the 19th century, were taken up by the local community and given a local slant with variations between islands, and have been brought back to Britain by West Indian immigrants. Two days of workshops and a Saturday evening Social with live music. £18.00. At Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London N.W.1.

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SEMINAR OF GREEK TRADITIONAL DANCES, organized by Yannis and Ira Konstantinou in the village of Agios Germanos, near Prespa Lake, 5th to 17th August 2000. Five hours teaching per day, local musicians, excursions, parties. Accommodation in Macedonian houses. For details, contact Yannis and Ira Konstantinou at Griva Digeni 41, 17342 Agios Dimitrios, Athens, Greece.

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MUSIC & DANCE IN SPAIN

If you are interested in Flamenco music and dance, and wish to visit Spain, you may like to contact Linda Bootherstone-Bick who is a folk singer, musician and dancer, living in Andalucia and offering to introduce you to local Flamenco teachers and performers. There is a cottage to rent (sleeps 6). To contact Linda, write to Casa Linda, Castillejos, Castellar de la Frontera, 11350 Cadiz, Spain. For information about the cottage, ring Anne Gungey on 01582 658 459.

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

S.I. Apr.2nd M.C.s: Central London Group

S.I. May 7th M.C.: George Sweetland

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

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WHAT'S ON IN APRIL

S.I. Apr.1st DANCE WORKSHOP, organized by Rainmakers I.F.D.G., 11.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. at Radwell Village Hall, near Baldock, Herts. Teacher: Maggie O'Regan. £5.00 all day, £3.00 half-day. Tea/Coffee available but bring a packed lunch. (See also last month's NEWS, p.11).

Apr.8th INTERNATIONAL DANCE WORKSHOP with Marina Wolstenholme in Norwich. 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. £8.00 (concessions £4.00). For further details ring Claire Shearman on 01603 460800.

Apr.8th BALKANPLUS. Eee p.8.

Apr.10th DUNAV BALKAN GROUP CONCERT at The Purcell Room, South Bank Centre, London, 7.30 to 10.00 p.m. Two hours of traditional songs and instrumental pieces from South-East Europe. Tickets are £10.00 (concessionary £8.00) and may be booked in advance at the Box Office, 020 7960 4242. Queries to Caroline Thomas, 020 8527 4896.

Apr.14th/16th RESIDENTIAL COURSE OF INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE with Fiona Howarth at Alnmouth (North-East coast). Dances mainly from the Balkans and Israel, with opportunities to go bird-watching with a leader or sight-seeing or walking. Non-dancers and bird-watchers welcome. Full board in single or twin-bedded rooms. £82 with dance course, £88 with led bird-watching, £68 for non-dancers. For details, send s.a.e. to Cathy Meunier, 115 Chetwynd Road, London NW5 1DA.

Apr.28th EASTBOURNE INTERNATIONAL DANCE FESTIVAL. For details of international to May 1st events, contact Julie Korth, 01942 831141. For bookings and other details, contact Dave & Mary Shockley, 7 Manor Road North, Seaford, E.Sussex BN25 3RA.

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S.I.F.D. WEEKEND AT HALSWAY MANOR

FRIDAY, 28TH APRIL - MONDAY, 1ST MAY 2000

Walking and dancing weekend at Halsway Manor, near the Quantocks, Exmoor, and the North Somerset/Devon coast.

There are a few vacancies for couples willing to sleep in nearby farmhouses, and for men in shared accommodation in the House. Also possibility of cancellations occurring. Cost about £115 (fully inclusive). Details from Jack Richardson, Chemical Engineering Department, University, Swansea SA2 8PP. Work: 01792 295194; Home: 01792 403153.

Dancers

6 session courses A place on both — Bulgarian and W European — will be allocated to all who register as dancers.

2 session courses

We will try to make a place available on as many of the optional courses as you wish. Please indicate your preferences.

I would probably like to take (*delete as appropriate*) 1, 2, 3, 4 courses

My preferences are (*please number in order of preference*)

- Philippines
- Egyptian (women's dances)
- Israeli
- Armenian

[Two courses will run each afternoon, one at 1430 the other at 1630, enabling any participant to take all four courses, subject to numbers. If there is sufficient demand for any one course, we may be able to run it twice.]

Children

I wish to bring my child/children with me and would like to discuss the possibilities of children's activities.

Child's name _____ Age _____

_____ Age _____

Excursion

I am interested in taking part in a group excursion on Tuesday afternoon (additional cost)

SIFD Membership No.

Signed Date

INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE SUMMER SCHOOL
29 JULY - 5 AUGUST 2000

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF RIPON & YORK ST. JOHN
YORK CAMPUS

The Society for International Folk Dancing Summer School has taken place every two years, more or less continuously since 1962. Participants are mainly teachers and dance enthusiasts from UK but over the years we have welcomed many from other parts of the world.

The dances are taught as recreational folk dances, as far as possible, faithful to their original village settings. They will be of interest to folk dance enthusiasts as well as to anyone who teaches, or has an interest in, national dances. This year, as an innovation, we shall have six specialist dance teachers:

Two six session courses will be available to all participants taught by:—
Delyan Demirev (Bulgarian). Bulgarian dances have developed from the most ancient line and circle dances, to music influenced by both western and eastern traditions. **Delyan Demirev** from northern Bulgaria has become popular in England following several previous dance tours including the Summer School in 1994

Elsche Korf, accompanied by **Frans Tromp**. The couple dances of Western Europe have developed with highly distinctive national variations and styles. **Elsche Korf**, a well known teacher from the Netherlands, will teach dances from her **Western European repertoire** including a number of "zweifachers" from **Alsace**.

You will also be able to take part as many of the four two session courses as you wish:—

- Ronnie del Barrio (Philippines)**
- Fiona Howarth (Israeli)**
- Galina Turker (Egyptian women's dances)**
- Dalila Heath (Armenian)**

Accommodation

Participants are encouraged to be resident. The college provides comfortable single study bedrooms on its compact, attractive and comfortable campus close to the city walls.

If it is more convenient for you to be non-resident, information about camp sites and bed & breakfast accommodation in the area can be provided.

Programme

The two long courses will take place in the morning.

In the afternoons there will be the choice of two of the short courses and opportunities to visit the historic city of York and its surroundings.

Extra workshops may be arranged by interested participants.

Each evening there will be a social dance when we can enjoy the dances of many lands. Those with costumes are encouraged to bring them.

Excursion

Tuesday afternoon is being kept free for an optional group excursion.

Non-dancers

Partners, spouses or friends not taking the courses are welcome, especially at the evening dances. [A small charge will be made to cover morning coffee, evening dances and administration]

Children

If you wish to bring children, please ask — we are hoping to make provision if it is needed.

Course fee

Dancers £85 (£75 for SIFD members to 1 May)

Non-dancers £15

Accommodation

Dinner, Bed & Breakfast £240 (including morning coffee)

Non-residents £10 (including morning coffee)

Payment

Deposit with booking £20 [Cheques payable to "SIFD"]

Balance by 23 June 2000

*please detach and return by 30 April 2000 to
YORK 2000, 10 Carmarthen Road, Bristol BS9 4DU*

**INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE SUMMER SCHOOL
29 JULY - 5 AUGUST 2000**

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

I wish to enrol for the SIFD Summer School, York 2000
please tick the relevant boxes

Course:

Dancer £85/75 Non-dancer £15

Domestic:

Resident £240 Non-resident £10

Total fee £20 [Cheques to SIFD]

Less deposit (enclosed) £20 [Cheques to SIFD]

Balance due 23 June 2000

Residents

I wish to be accommodated near to.....

I have the following special dietary needs.....

.....

I have the following mobility needs.....

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