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SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

Internet Web Site: www.sifd.org

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E.Sussex TN39 4PX. Tel: 01424 845866.

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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 is from a photograph taken by Simon Guest
of Carla Padovani, who taught Italian dances at an S.I.F.D.
Summer School, in her Emilia Romano costume.

--oOo--

ACTING CHAIRMAN: Mike Gilbert, 85 Fen Road, Chesterton, Cambridge CB4 1UN.
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S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE, IN TREFUSIS, CECIL SHARP HOUSE, 17TH JUNE 2000

10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. £6.00 for S.I.F.D. members, £8.00 non-members.

I have tried to arrange for a visiting teacher, but unfortunately the dates
clashed. In the circumstances, the Committee has decided to hold a revision
of some of the dances which we have learnt over the last few months so we can
see whether we have remembered them correctly. I look forward to seeing you
there.

There will be no S.I.F.D. Day Courses in July or August.

HELEN EZRA

--oOo--

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

EASTBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL 2000

Again, we should like to thank everyone who came and gave such enthusiastic support to the event. Your presence made the Festival.

Workshops. Once more, Roberto Haddon (Israeli) and Eddy Tijssen (Bulgarian) were in splendid form, with a stimulating selection of dances. Their sessions were well attended, with fewer "bumps and scrapes" as moving the band platform to the corner of the gym gave a little more moving space for the circles. In the afternoons, we welcomed for the first time Jan Mulreany (Breton) and Diana Jewitt (Irish Set) as well as Marina Wolstenholme (Hungarian) and Maggie O'Regan (Balkan), allowing a choice of International workshops, not forgetting the French group "Les Dingues" from Saintry-sur-Seine who gave a delightful "Meeting" session on Sunday. Their dances and costumes were from many areas of France. Having performed in the town on Saturday, they joined in and performed wherever asked on Saturday evening and on the Sunday - a lovely, friendly group.

This year we also provided several Music workshops, which gained a good response. "Cloudburst" and Jill Bransby gave two, including a 3/4 session. Dunav Balkan Group gave a Balkan session and Eddy gave a Kaval session, and the French group held a class.

Evening Dances. "Cloudburst" played extremely well for the Dances on Friday and Saturday nights, a great deal of preparation and practice to provide such a varied programme. Julie Korth led the Friday Dance and Jill the costume evening on Saturday, during which "Les Dingues" demonstrated and we recognised several Bourrées in the S.I.F.D. repertoire. Also, Eddy played his Kaval, and the surprise item was Caspar Cronk and his musical saw! The Balkan evening on Sunday was most successfully led by Maggie O'Regan, Marina Wolstenholme and Dunav, a great combination.

Other Thanks. First especially to Caspar Cronk who spent the whole weekend fixing and pushing buttons for the sound systems. His role was vital and full time; he coped patiently with all the tutors' and musicians' myriad requests. Next, without the help of Rowena, Pat, Judith, Catherine and other stewards the gym would not have been so well decorated with posters, flags (hand-made by Helen Ezra), tea towels etc. (I believe several people's mountaineering skills were considerably improved). Many thanks also to all the session stewards - Toni, Frances, Marina, Maggie, Lily, Duncan, Peter, Judith, Catherine, Helen and Eleanor, and to John for the lunchtime security.

Rowena Martin and Lily Avery escorted the French group throughout the weekend, both in the town and at the school. We should also say thank you to the Iberian Folk Dance & Music Society who took part in the outdoor demonstration programme. Frances Horrocks again chauffeured Eddy wherever necessary and returned him safely to Gatwick for his return flight home. Finally, a big thank you to Claire and Geoff Steeley for organising and staffing the S.I.F.D. shop, not only selling S.I.F.D. goods but also many extra items to tempt our pockets. Stewarding was less onerous this year, with the embargo on heeled shoes lifted, and I don't think the floor was damaged.

During the next few weeks, even before the dust has settled, Jill, Rowena and I start thinking about next year (4th-7th May). Please do send us any suggestions you may have for tutors, improvements etc. We would really welcome them.

HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL IN 2001

JILL BRANSBY
01462 457791

JULIE KORTH
01942 831141

ROWENA MARTIN
01323 503991

EASTBOURNE FOLK FESTIVAL, 2000

Last year, I wrote that the Eastbourne Festival gets better and better. Well, this year the standard was just as high. Four workshop sessions each day - two in the morning and two in the afternoon - and for each session five, six or seven different choices; followed by evening dances, with again several choices - three on Friday, four on Saturday, five on Sunday; rounded off with a farewell dance on the Monday (two choices). All for the price of £40 for a season ticket (less if booked early).

We are so lucky to have such good teachers and M.C.s in the S.I.F.D. who make the workshops and evening dances so enjoyable, with the added attraction of visiting groups with their performances and "Meet The Team" sessions. This year the group from France, "Folk Dingues", were very happy to share their dances with us and also to join in very enthusiastically with the general international - a very friendly liaison.

It would take too long to list all the many attractions and events, but I must say that, for me, the French Bal on the Sunday evening was the "pièce de résistance". The band, "Borborygme", were excellent, and in the confined space of the canteen where the Bal took place Jan Mulreany and the musicians managed to create the atmosphere of a truly French Fest Noz/Sauterie, with bourrées, ridés, schottisches, waltzes, rondes etc. Many thanks, Jan - a superb evening.

The organization of the Festival as a whole was, as usual, excellent and everything went smoothly, due, with no doubt at all, to the amount of hard work that goes on behind the scenes. A really good festival - which is why one sees the same dancers coming back year after year.

LILY AVERY

This year we attended the Eastbourne Festival for the first time- what have we been missing all these years! It was excellent. Congratulations to the organizing Committee; everything went like clockwork. We just managed to fit in one workshop of English dancing during the weekend; the rest of the time thoroughly enjoying all the international dances on offer. It was a real reunion for us - especially as the Dunav band attended. We were at their first concert way back in the 1960s. We are eagerly looking forward to next year's festival, and meeting again old and new friends.

JEAN & IAN WILLSON



REMINDER

I've just received some Christmas cards sent to me at my previous address. By chance, a friend here went into the long-empty flat and found them. I moved in February 1999 and my current very palatial abode is at:-

Calle Angel Vidal 7-2º
08870 Sitges,
Prov. Barcelona
Spain.

Many thanks for all the cards.

KEN WARD

Ed.Note: We did publish Ken's new address at the time he moved but it seems that some people missed it, didn't bother to read it, lost it, didn't make a note of it.....

In my first article on "Style Concepts" (Serbian Dances), I offered it as a model for intending teachers, to suggest to them the kind of preparation they might need to do to focus their thoughts on the required style and to suggest words through which they might convey that style to their class. The purpose of the following article is a little different as it is not specifically aimed at teachers but at anyone who is interested in Hungarian dancing, particularly those who were at the Eastbourne workshop, where there was very little time to give background information.

I hope that the next time readers have the opportunity to see Hungarian folk dancing they will be able to understand it a little better, as well as enjoying it as a spectacle.

This article is based on work originally done for Jan Knoppers as part of our Teacher Training.

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"STYLE CONCEPTS" NO.II
HUNGARIAN "STYLE CONCEPTS"

HUNGARIAN FOLK DANCES CLASSIFIED BY REGION (DIALECTS)

1. Transdanubia, Western Hungary and South Slovakia. Style: Down-up, bent knees.
Many girls' circles (sung). Many types Ugrós (jumping, leaping), e.g. Swine-herd's, lads' leaping dances, Háromugrós (3 jumps). Wedding Dances - processional, candle, pillow. Circle Verbunk at Rábaköz. Csárdás. Variety in figures, crouching and dipping (Lippentős), alluring and releasing, teasing.
2. Central or Tisza region, Great Plain. Style: Up-down. Mostly new-style free Verbunk, boot-slaps, heelclicks, spurs.
Many Csárdás varieties including for three and four people. Few Ugrós, known as Oláhos (Vlach) or Mars (March). Many herdsmen's dances on Great Plain, including weapon dances. Few girls' dances, only known in Northern strip (e.g. Pusztafalu). Circle Csárdás. Gypsy dances, including weapon dances.
3. Transylvania, Eastern Region. ♪ ♫ Legényes - the most developed kind of Ugrós. Concepts = improvised within set structure. Cadences (often as Bokázó), jaunty, off-beat, show-off, solo, virtuoso, proud, strong, twists, young men, initiation.
Szék region of T.V. Cycle of foursome (Négyes), Slow (Lassú), Csárdás, Polka and 7-step. Lads' Dance (Pontozó). Verbunk, lots of stamping. Partners, slow turning and Forgató, a whirling couple dance, up-down, swinging and turning, pulling away and towards each other.
Székelys of Bukovina. Added German, Polish, Ukrainian and Romanian features to the dances.
Kalotaszeg. Region possesses fine Lads' Dances (Legényes) and a very fast Csárdás called Szapora. Aksak rhythms.
Mezőség. Men's dances include fast, slow, and fast recruiting threesome Csárdás. Old slow couple dances. Aksak rhythms. Three-part couple dances, slow, rare, and fast (Lassú, Ritka, Surü).
4. Csángó Dances. East Carpathians. (Hungarians migrated to this region). Gyimes and seven villages round Braşov (Brassó).
Typical dances, Héjsza, Kérékes, Kettős ♪ ♫ / ♪ ♫ Slow Csárdás to 9/16, 7/8, 10/16. Aksak stamping. 6-step. Moldavian Csángós. Dances show Balkan and Romanian influences. Open chain dances, e.g. Űves (belt), Kézes (hand). Couple dances linked to Romanian, e.g. Lapos Magyaros. Show links with Transylvania.

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HUNGARIAN FOLK DANCES CLASSIFIED HISTORICALLY
OLD STYLE DANCES, BEFORE 18TH CENTURY

1. CIRCLE dances with singing, "Karikázó". Concepts: closed, uniform, "stepping the round", girls only. Unison singing, wheeling, pendulum, rocking cradle (Babázás), bellows, asymmetric (6-step) follows movement of sun in the slow two or three parts, e.g. stepping, Csárdás, running, or Csárdás plus running. Fast turning of circle to end.
2. CHAIN dances, Dance Games.
3. RITUAL dances of ancient origin, e.g. Funeral Dances.
4. UGRÓS or jumping dances. This is the biggest dance family. Dances can be for men, women, couples, groups or solo. Herdsmen's - implements, sometimes weapons. Sticks, bottles, brooms, axes, swords, hats. Duels (Hajdú dances). Legényes - boys, men, solo, improvised, virtuoso, show-off, off-beat, competitive, pauses, breaks, twists, cadences. March - ceremonial, processional, especially weddings. Rant step. In Ráboköz the Ugrós is called "Dus" and often used as a group processional dance with rant steps.
Couple Ugrós. Either free or hand-only hold. ♪ ♫ rhythm. Concepts: jumping, lively, playful, display, competitive, neat, precise, crisp.
5. OLD STYLE COUPLE DANCES. Slow turns in close hold, then medium pace and quick partner turning

NEW STYLE DANCES, 18TH & 19TH CENTURY

1. VERBUNK. Men, recruiting, free, improvised or in circle. Concepts: disciplined, crisp, sharp, brave, proud, macho, military, jaunty, solo or group, heel clicks, boot and body slaps, claps 1/4 time ♫ on-beat slaps claps stamps. Romantic style music, square, solid, abrupt.
2. CSÁRDÁS. Slow, then quick. Closed holds, e.g. ballroom, shoulder-waist, shoulders. Concepts: caring, chivalrous, partnering, close turning in twos, leading by man, following and turning by girl.

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References:

Magda Osskó, my first teacher.

"Hungarian Folk Dances" by György Martin and lecture notes from him.

Lecture notes from lecture by Dr. F. Pesovár.

Lecture notes from Dr. Ernő Pesovár.

Lecture notes from Sandor Timar.

Csángó research by Ferenc Sára.

Lecture notes from seminar by Katalin Juhász and Zoltán J. Nagy.

Style points from Csaba Pálfi, Gerzson Péter Kovács and Hungarian groups at Billingham.

MARINA WOLSTENHOLME

Photos 2000

You remember I suggested June as the month-to-aim-for for getting your photos for the Millennium album to me? - well don't let this put you off. Anytime will do! Whenever you can send them, I'm happy to accept them.

But do bear in mind that -

the evenings are wonderfully light at the moment so photos of your group can be taken outside without worrying about flash

you are probably about to finish dancing for the summer.....

I know group leaders already have a lot to do anyway, so - delegate. Someone in your group must have a camera, or know a man who does?

Would it encourage you to know all the splendid people who have sent photos already?

The following groups have all sent terrific photos - Bexhill, Bromley, Dronfield, Dunav, Gosport & Fareham, Hope Valley, Nutbrook, Pembrokeshire, and South Wales. Only 55 to go, then.

The following individuals have also come up trumps - Edna Foster, the Daveys, the Roberts, Margaret Webb, Derek Mulquin, Irene Fyffe (some marvellous old prints), Ken Poyton, and Stella and Wilf with their accordians. Old pictures of Philip Thornton & Kathleen Monroe-James have also been gratefully received.

Thank you so much to all the above for their photos and encouragement. It's because I can see what fun, and what a marvellous record, this is going to be, that I keep going on about it.

Alison Scrimshaw

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

0208 642 3385



FOLKESTONE DISTRICT NATIONAL DANCE GROUP COSTUME CLEARANCE

The group is not about to fold up. It is just that these costumes are no longer needed and they would like them to go to a good home.

Ladies, size 10, 5ft.2ins. Full or mid-calf length. Pay only return postage.

Two Swiss (one with lace head-dress, purchased in Switzerland).

One Austrian (no apron), purchased in Salzburg.

Two Dalmatian.

One Estonian, with a blue skirt.

Contact Christine Hall, 67 Broadmead Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5AW.

Tel: 01303 242819.

Ed. note: To avoid confusion, I should point out that we have two members named Christine Hall. This Christine is a longstanding member of the S.I.F.D. and of Folkestone group, not the Christine who teaches belly dancing.



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 Steeley, 34 Broadwater Avenue, Letchworth, Herts. SG6 3HF.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- S.I. July 2nd PHILHELLENES GREEK FOLKDANCE GROUP at Victoria Embankment Gardens, London. 1.00 p.m.
- July 2nd BALKAN DANCE DAY at Bealings, near Ipswich, with Dorien van de Belt teaching dances from her repertoire. Further details from Sally Fletcher, 106 Westerfield Road, Ipswich IP4 2XN. Tel: 01473 252824.
- July (3rd)4th/9th LLANGOLLEN INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL EISTEDDFOD. For details contact Eisteddfod Office, Llangollen, North Wales LL20 8NG. Tel: 01978 860236.
- July 8th Balkanplus BULGARIAN WORKSHOP with Delyan Demirev, 11.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. at Cecil Sharp House, London. To book a place, contact Galina Turker on 020 8440 4184.
- S.I. July 14th SUMMER PARTY AT BARNET. Dunav Balkan group will provide the music at Barnet International Folkdance Club's end-of-season "do". 8.00 to 10.30 p.m. at Church House, Wood Street, Barnet, Herts. £4.00 including refreshments. Further details from Brian Dowsett, 01992 582717.
- July 15th Oxford BULGARIAN WORKSHOP with Delyan Demirev, 2.00 to 5.30 p.m. at Polstead Road, Oxford, and SUMMER PARTY, 7.00 to 10.45 p.m. To book a place, contact Roger Wicksteed on 01865 451890.
- S.I. July 16th MARTISORUL ROMANIAN FOLKDANCE GROUP at Victoria Embankment Gardens, London. 3.00 p.m.
- S.I. July 29th/Aug.5th S.I.F.D. SUMMER SCHOOL AT YORK. Contact: Roger Sturge, 10 Carmarthen Road, Bristol BS9 4DU.
- Aug.4th/11th SIDMOUTH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL. For details, contact P.O.Box 296, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP19 3TL. Box Office: 01296 433669.
- Aug.12th/19th BILLINGHAM INTERNATIONAL FOLKLORE FESTIVAL. Groups from Chile, China, Georgia, Israel, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain (Basque), Turkey, U.K. Workshops with visiting groups. For bookings, ring Forum Theatre Billingham Box Office, 01642 552663. For other information, contact the Festival Office at Stockton Business Centre, 70 Brunswick Street, Stockton-on-Tees TS18 1DW. Tel: 01642 553220.
- S.I. Aug.25th/28th MINI FESTIVAL at Roedean School, Brighton. This is now full and applications are being put on a waiting list. Further information from Rowena Martin, 60 Anderida Road, Eastbourne BN22 0PZ.
- 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 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.27th CENTRAL LONDON INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP and CROXLEY GREEN INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP at Victoria Embankment Gardens, London. 3.00 p.m.
- Sept.23rd & 24th FOLKDANCE WEEKEND organized by Nutbrook I.F.D.G. at George Spencer School, Stapleford, Notts. Dance workshops, music workshop, Dance & Buffet. ROMANIAN with Corneliu Botos, SWEDISH with Arne & Ingrid Larsson, BELGIAN, NORWEGIAN, DANISH with Lies Roodhart. Information from G.Morral, 116 Nottingham Road, Stapleford, Notts. NG9 8AR. Tel: 0115 917 1831.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - Contd.

Sept.30th DANCEFEST 2000. Royal Albert Hall, London, 3.00 p.m. Tickets £20.00, £17.00, £12.00, £5.00 available from the R.A.H. Box Office, 020 7589 8212. There is a booking fee of £2.75 for telephone and postal transactions, no matter how many seats are booked.

Nov.11th A DAY OF ISRAELI DANCING with Roberto Haddon, arranged by Derbyshire Dancers at Calver Village Hall. More details later. MARINA WOLSTENHOLME, 01433 630183.

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BULGARIAN DANCE WORKSHOPS WITH DELYAN DEMIREV

The popular and vivacious Bulgarian dance teacher and choreographer, Delyan Demirev from Pleven, is once again visiting England to share with us his love of Bulgarian dance and music. He will be visiting London, Oxford and York over the month of July, and if any London groups would like a visit I'm sure he would be very happy to teach. His programme will be varied, covering simple easy-to-pick-up dances and challenging ones for the more experienced dancer. He will be bringing various items for sale, including music and possibly some costume pieces.

If you haven't experienced a 'Delyan Workshop', I highly recommend you to give one a try and, if you have, I hope very much to see you there again to share your enthusiasm with me!

GALINA TURKER

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BALKANPLUS, 10th June at Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London N.W.1, 7.00 to 10.30 p.m. £5.00. M.C.: Brian Dowsett with Dunav.

Following their very successful concert at the Purcell Room, Dunav will be playing some items from the programme, including one or two songs. Brian will be leading a variety of dances amongst which will be a selection from Yves Moreau's recent workshop, for which a spare belt might be a useful accessory.

The next Balkanplus will be on 8th July. There will be no rehearsal for the Albert Hall item in June.

FRANCES HORROCKS

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GREEK FOLKDANCE COURSES

Residential courses in Greek folk dance will be taking place on the Greek island of Kythira from 26th August to 2nd September and from 16th to 23rd September. Courses will be led by Dimitris Triandafyllidis, lead dancer with the celebrated Dora Stratou Folkdance Company in Athens. For information contact Andrew Mullett, The Greek Experience, 19 Leopold Street, Southsea, Hants. PO4 0JZ. Tel: 0239 283 0312.

DAVID MOWAT, Oxford International
Folkdance Group

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

S.I. June 4th Choices by the S.I.F.D. Band

S.I. July 2nd M.C.: Jeanette Hull

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



WHAT'S ON IN JUNE

- 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 to 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 ring Mr. Bob Charmbury, 0115 982 3823.
- S.I. June 10th (Please note change of date from that given last month). BARLOW I.F.D.G. invite you to attend a workshop in a selection of "STICK DANCES OF THE WORLD". Tutor: Frances Horrocks. 2.00 to 5.00 p.m. at St.Ninian's U.R. Church Hall, corner of Egerton Road South and Wilbraham Road, Chorlton, Manchester. Followed by FAMILY EVENING DANCE, 6.15 to 9.15 p.m. One session £3.00; two sessions £5.00. For further information, ring 01942 831141.
- June 10th BALKANPLUS. See p.9.
- June 10th BESKYDY DANCERS' WORKSHOP. See p.10.
- S.I. June 11th S.I.F.D. WEST MIDLANDS BRANCH ANNUAL COTSWOLDS SAFARI. Details given last month, p.4.
- June 17th S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE. See p.2.
- S.I. June 17th DOINA EAST EUROPEAN FOLKDANCE GROUP and LONDON TURKISH DANCERS at Victoria Embankment Gardens, London. 3.30 p.m.
- S.I. June 25th BALATON HUNGARIAN FOLKDANCE GROUP at Victoria Embankment Gardens, London. 3.00 p.m.
- June 30th to July 2nd MILTON KEYNES INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL. Information from Don Allison, 01908 610564.



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.