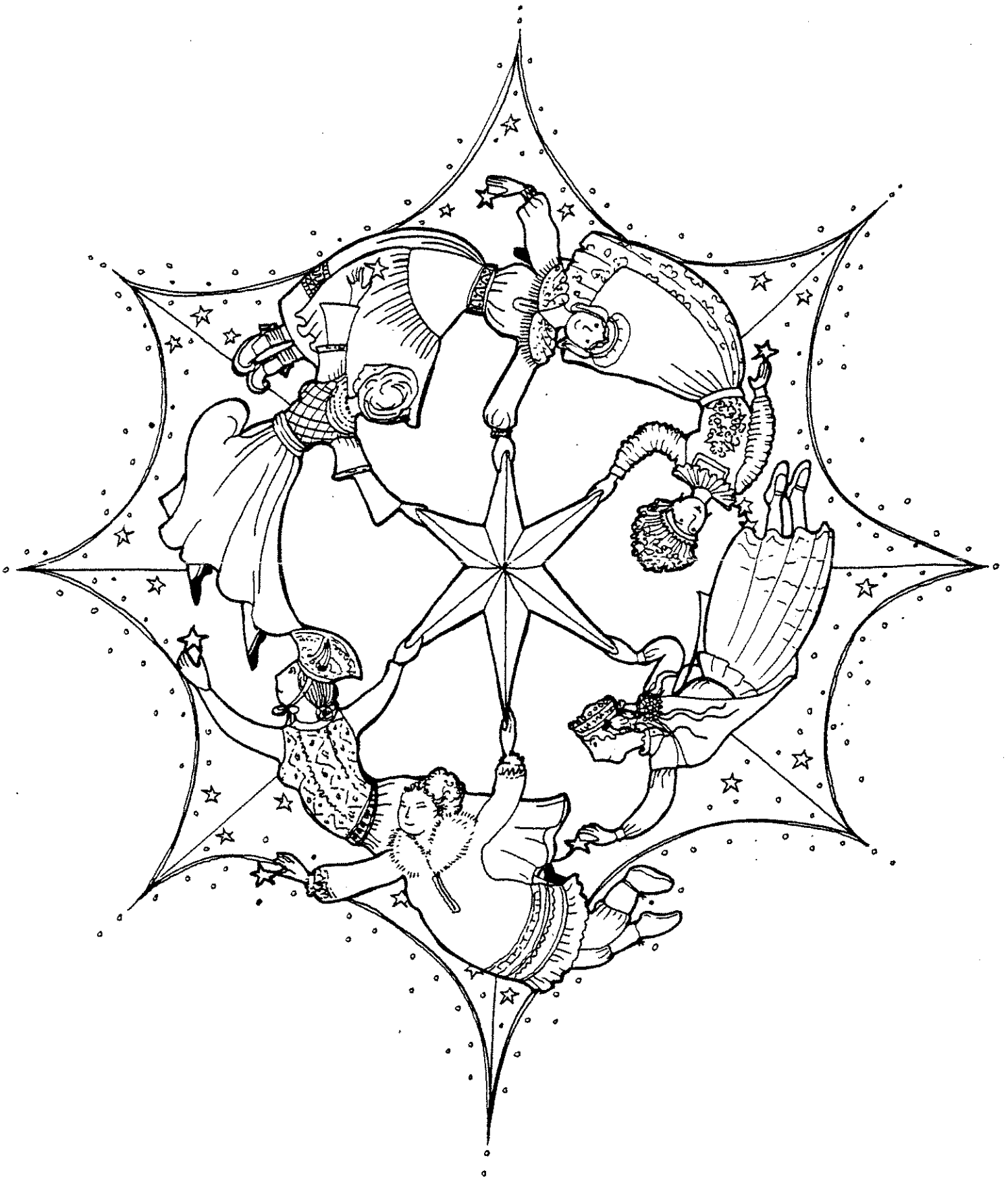


S.I.F.D. NEWS



DECEMBER 2000

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

Internet Web Site: www.sifd.org

EDITOR: Lily Avery (Mrs.), 16 Willow Drive, Little Common, Bexhill-on-Sea,
East Sussex TN39 4PX. Tel: 01424 845866.

--oOo--

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

--oOo--

Our Christmassy cover this month was drawn by Janet McCrickard. The costumes
are:- starting at the top and going clockwise, Lapland, Switzerland, Latvia,
Alaska, Norway, Finland - all the snowy countries!

--oOo--

ACTING CHAIRMAN: Mike Gilbert, 85 Fen Road, Chesterton, Cambridge CB4 1UN.
Tel: 01223 425648.

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London SE5 0TQ. Tel: 020 7701 3785.

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S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE - ISRAELI, WITH FIONA HOWARTH

Date: Saturday, 13th January 2001

Time: 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Place: Trefusis, Cecil Sharp House

Cost: £6.00 for S.I.F.D. members
£8.00 for non-members

Fiona Howarth will be reminding us of the Israeli dances taught at York,
plus a couple of new ones if there is time. Please come along and join in
the fun. See you there.

HELEN EZRA

There will be no S.I.F.D. day course in December. Future dates:-

10th February

10th March

12th May

9th June

8th September

13th October

17th November (No courses in April, July and August)

Details to follow.

WILL THERE BE AN S.I.F.D. SUMMER SCHOOL IN 2002?

The bad news is that only two people replied to Roger Sturge's letter in the October SIFD NEWS. He was hoping to get an indication of whether those members of the S.I.F.D. and its affiliated and associated groups and classes who were not at York this summer want there to be a summer school in 2002 and if so whether they have any ideas about what sort of event it should be.

The good news is that the S.I.F.D. Committee are very keen that it should go ahead, and Roger has been persuaded to get on with planning it. A planning group is being formed and at present consists of Janet Woolbar, Judy Penaluna and Roger Sturge. They are concentrating on finding a venue and thinking about the shape of the event. No firm decisions (apart from the date: 27th July to 3rd August) have been made yet, so if you have any ideas it is not too late to write to Roger (address below). At present, our thinking is that we should have a similar programme to the one at York this year but add a general course for beginners and novices, possibly aimed particularly at P.E. teachers wishing to extend their work on dance in the national curriculum. We hope to publicise the summer school outside the S.I.F.D. but success depends on a good turn-out from members. In particular, we need leaders of affiliated groups and associated classes to persuade their members to come.

The summer school has always played an important part in the life of the S.I.F.D. thanks to Jack Richardson's vision and energy. Let's keep up that tradition and make the 2002 a real success.

MIKE GILBERT, Acting Chairman
ROGER STURGE, Co-ordinator,
Summer School 2002 Planning Group,
10 Carmarthen Road, Bristol,
BS9 4DU (Fax/Tel: 0117 962 1802)

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DANCEFEST 2000 - PHOTOGRAPHS

Anyone wishing for details of the photographs taken by Garry Wingrove during the rehearsal for Dancefest 2000, or for a copy of a photograph taken during the performance, which shows three of the four circles (not the circle which the children were in), please contact: Mr. G.Wingrove, 32 The Meads, Sheffield S8 8JD. Tel: 0114 235 9313.

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THE HISTORY CHANNEL

There are still some copies available of the History of the S.I.F.D. and also the later publication which was a history of our longer-established groups (see George Sweetland's article on p.5 of last month's SIFD NEWS).

Both histories are being offered at a bargain price of £1.60 for the two, plus 60p for p. & p. Available from George (address on p.2) or can be collected at Cecil Sharp House Sunday Dance, if arranged with George beforehand.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Lily,

Thanks to some negotiating by Margaret Webb, the Society has received a lovely Spanish costume to add to its collection. The costume was beautifully made by Eva Montero, a professional Spanish dancing friend of Margaret. It is from the Lagartera region, near Toledo.

In the past few years we have also received gifts of costumes; one from Fano in Denmark from Gaye Saunte and two Hungarian costumes, one Kalocsa from Margaret Morton and a "working blue" from Dorien Bates, who also gave a Bavarian costume, twin to one already in the collection.

We are always pleased to receive costumes from members who have given up demonstrating or who have maybe just grown out of them, as this makes them available for other members to borrow. Members wishing to borrow costumes need to arrange to collect and return them at an agreed event or venue, or to pay for secure postage both ways.

JANET WOOLBAR
34A Prestwood Avenue,
Kenton, Harrow, Middx.
HA3 8JZ

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Dear Lily,

A very happy Christmas to you all, and many hours of joyful dance in the New Year. We would love to send personal cards all round but, having enjoyed the taste of travel this year, we need to trim our budget more than ever so that future adventures might be possible. We have in mind to visit some East European cities and wouldn't mind a festival or two. Any ideas or experiences would be welcome.

In September, our local press printed an article about the group, coupled with a photograph of a performance of Fackeltanz from Italy, and ended with a quotation from me, "There is no doubt in my mind that International Folk Dance is the best way of having a laugh, keeping fit and making lots of friends, and all whilst enjoying gorgeous music". And I really believe it.

In our Pembrokeshire group we have a party at every opportunity but it never stops us from a couple of hours of serious folk dance each week with all members keen to learn new dances, not lose the old ones and improve our standard of dancing. We find the course videos a tremendous help and thank all those who produce them. Our most recent party was both jolly and sad for we were saying Goodbye (only temporarily we hope) to one of our members, Sue Wichall. However, our loss may well be Barlow's gain as Sue is moving to Manchester and in her luggage will be an S.I.F.D. file.

Folk Dancing seems to be the "flavour of the month" down here and we have already accepted bookings for six demonstrations next year, four of them in March. So we have a busy time ahead and opportunities for much laughter as we put together the programme and I'm sure that at the end it will be "Well Done" all round.

Finally, a thank you to all my friends in P.I.F.D. (Pembrokeshire), N.I.F.D. (Newport), B.I.F.D. (Bristol), M.I.F.D. (Midlands) and all the other people of S.I.F.D. who together give me this wonderful hobby of INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE.

God Bless,

SUE CLARK, 22 Church Rd., Roch,
Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire
SA62 6BG

LETTERS Contd.

Dear Newsletter/S.I.F.D. Committee,

I note from the S.I.F.D. accounts that the general balance at financial year end was some £25,000, give or take a few hundred, including nearly £3,000 surplus for the year just gone; and there has now been that bequest of £6,600.

I recognise that there is a need for "prudence" in holding some reserves, that you do plan to spend on publicity, and also that any expenditure necessarily involves voluntary input, if only to monitor a project, but surely some significant spending can be done. I suggest the following possibilities, which may of course be reflected in the plans already held by the Committee. I also recognise that implementing all of them would be unviable.

- 1) Pay professionals to produce professional quality publicity in all media. This can publicise both the S.I.F.D. and also constituent groups, events to come. Printed materials can be sent to dance venues like The Place and Cecil Sharp House.
- 2) Pay, if necessary, for professional input to the production of videos.
- 3) If you can't get people to process the newsletter mailing, pay an organisation. There are organisations providing work to, for example, people with learning disabilities who take on work like this.
- 4) Hold the S.I.F.D. subs. stable for the next few years.
- 5) Have a special low-cost affiliation fee for groups like the one that I belong to which does not have a teacher and, operating on a shoe-string, cannot afford the full fee.
- 6) Create bursaries or subsidies for low-income people to go to York; raid other organisations' expertise as to how to operate this. (I have been to a summer school where there were three fee levels - for people in full, part-time, and non-employment. It was left to the honour of the participant as to what was applicable).
- 7) Has it already been decided to pay day course tutors the "going rate"?

My final point - and heaven forbid that this clause should ever have to be put into operation - is to ask if there is a clause in the Constitution that states what happens to the funds should the S.I.F.D. ever be wound up?

My compliments to the Committee on its management to date.

Yours faithfully,

TONI GUTMAN
64 Birchington House,
Pembury Estate, London E5 8LE

P.S. As for getting more volunteers, perhaps making specific requests - like the newsletter mailout - might generate responses.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS. Jeanette Hull has moved and now lives at:-

39 The Green,
Morden, Surrey
SM4 4HJ
Tel: 020 8286 9639

PHOTOS! PHOTOS!

Yes, Please, I am still wanting your photos! Although I do now have a splendid collection of photos of groups and of individuals, it is not a complete collection. Remember, I'm hoping for a photo of everyone who is a member of the S.I.F.D. in 2000. I still believe this is (almost) possible. Thank you to everyone who has already responded. Your photos are lovely and I'm really looking forward to assembling them, when I just have a few more.

I am writing separately to the groups I haven't heard from yet, so this is an appeal aimed principally at individual members who don't belong to a group. I don't mind that you don't dance these days, or only a few times a year. I don't mind that the only photo you want to send was taken years ago on a skiing holiday. Neither do I mind that you've only just joined. I do mind, though, if you're not represented in the Millennium Photo Album. So please, before the end of the year, if you haven't already, could you make a big effort to find, or take, a photo of yourself and send it to me with your name and a sentence or two about yourself. You don't want to be left out, do you? You know I'd be really grateful.

Incidentally, I find I am also accumulating some really old photos, which are fascinating, and should - and I hope one day will - be mounted in a separate archive album. If you have any you would like a home for, I'm happy to receive them as well. With as many names as you can manage, please!

Believe me, this is all worth it!

ALISON SCRIMSHAW
22 Sherwood Park Road,
Sutton, Surrey SM1 2SQ
Tel: 020 8642 3385

S.I.F.D. BEGINNERS' DANCE

There will be a Beginners' Dance on 20th January at Cecil Sharp House. Fliers will be available at the January dance and should also be available at the December dance. The M.C.s will be teachers of the "Friday Feet" beginners' class and the live music will be by "Cloudburst". Please be thinking about ways to spread the word to anyone who might be interested. We need to introduce new people to the pleasures of International Folk Dancing. Also, remember there is the "Friday Feet" class for beginners every Friday, 7.30 to 10.00 p.m. at Cecil Sharp House.

CASPAR CRONK

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.

MACEDONIAN SONGS. The new cassette of Macedonian songs, issued by the Zivko Firfov Group (see p.11 of last month's SIFD NEWS) is still available from Irene Keywood, 133 Third Avenue, Dagenham, Essex RM10 9BD, price £5.00 plus 50p p. & p. Also available at the Zivko Firfov Group Balkan Party on 2nd December.

ARMENIAN FOLKDANCE CLASSES

Dalila Heath is starting a new Armenian folkdance class (with some International thrown in) to meet every third Wednesday of the month, starting on 17th January 2001 at Contemporary Dance Centre (The Place), 17 Duke's Road, London W.C.1. (nearest Underground stations: King's Cross, Euston, Euston Square), 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. Entrance: £3.00. (No outdoor shoes in the studio please). For details, ring Dalila Heath on 01707 642774.



ARMENIAN DANCE COURSE WITH TINEKE VAN GEEL AT HAYTOR, 6TH-8TH APRIL 2001

Tineke Van Geel from Holland is a specialist of Armenian folk dance and, since 1985, she has regularly visited that country to study folklore and to work with several amateur groups. Currently she works exclusively as a professional folk-dance teacher. Those who have attended her courses speak very highly of her "step by step" approach to dance teaching.

This residential weekend at the HF guest house at Haytor, Dartmoor, includes comfortable en-suite accommodation with full-board and a plentiful choice of food. It is also a delightful area for walking and sightseeing. Dancers can select either the general or advanced course, or both courses, and there will be social dancing and some further tuition in the evenings. Non-dancing friends and family are also welcome. Full board and accommodation is £88.00, and each course is £15.00.

For full details and a booking form, please send s.a.e. to me at 115 Chetwynd Road, London NW5 1DA.

CATHY MEUNIER



FIRST VISIT OF YIANNIS KONSTANTINOU TO THE NORTH

On 24th and 25th March 2001, Yiannis Konstantinou will be coming to Manchester and Calver, Derbyshire, for two days of workshops on Western Macedonian dances.

Yiannis comes from Florina in the Northwest corner of Greece and has been dancing all his life - as a child in his parents' villages of Alona and Akritas and later, professionally, throughout Greece and Europe. Several years ago he formed his own performing group, "Lyngistes". The group dances regularly at the major festivals in Greece and has performed in France, Spain and Sardinia. This year the group was placed third in the Eisteddfod at Llangollen. Those of you who went will remember that Yiannis took the final workshop at the Dinas Bran School.

This course is being organized jointly by Barlow I.F.D.G. and Derbyshire Dancers. Early booking is essential. £12.00 for one day, £20.00 for the whole course, including a Dance on the Saturday night.

For further details, please contact Bill Croft on 0161 445 2140.

JULIE KORTH and
MARINA WOLSTENHOLME

IMPORTANT NOTICE

All material for the January issue of SIFD NEWS must reach the Editor IN WRITING by 11TH DECEMBER - earlier than usual because of the Christmas holiday. Anything received after the 11th will have to wait until the February issue.



FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE

Two copies of Philip Thornton's "Dead Puppets Dance" £10.00 each plus postage OR exchange for copies of "The Voice of Atlas". BEVERLY MATON, 0118 9789 683.

While on the subject, has anyone a copy of Philip's "Icon & Oxen" that they would be willing to sell to me? LILY AVERY (address on p.2).



Woodvale Web Site

Woodvale International Folk Dance Group would like to announce to our friends in the S.I.F.D. that we are now "on-line" with a web site. Please note that as our web site is part of a community web group, there is NO www in the address.

<http://beehive.thisiskentandeastsussex.co.uk/woodvale>

One of the pages on the site is a "favourites" page and if any group would like us to provide a link to their site, then contact us at woodvale@tinyworld.co.uk

The Kent and East Sussex group of newspapers run this community site, and it covers the South East of England. It is free to clubs and societies and easy to use. They even run a free half day course on how to get the best out of the site. There are twelve Beehive communities around the country and I include a list of them below.

Derbyshire	<u>http://beehive.thisisderbyshire.co.uk</u>
Leicestershire	<u>http://beehive.thisisleicestershire.co.uk</u>
Essex	<u>http://beehive.thisisessex.co.uk</u>
North Scotland	<u>http://beehive.thisisnorthscotland.co.uk</u>
Exeter	<u>http://beehive.thisisexeter.co.uk</u>
Grimsby	<u>http://beehive.thisisgrimsby.co.uk</u>
Scunthorpe	<u>http://beehive.thisisscunthorpe.co.uk</u>
Devon & Cornwall	<u>http://beehive.thisisnorthdevon.co.uk</u>
Staffordshire	<u>http://beehive.thisisstaffordshire.co.uk</u>
Hull	<u>http://beehive.thisishull.co.uk</u>
Gloucestershire	<u>http://beehive.thisisgloucestershire.co.uk</u>
Kent & Sussex	<u>http://beehive.thisiskentandeastsussex.co.uk</u>

I hope this is useful to any group who is not "on-line" yet and would like to get a site up and running as easily and cheaply as possible. Happy surfing !!


David Mckie

THE "DOBROUDJANCHE" ENSEMBLE FROM SILISTRA, BULGARIA

The preferred spelling may have changed over the last month but the prospects of the group appearing at Cecil Sharp House are now much less tentative. Balkanplus is thrilled to be able to present this exciting group of dancers and musicians that made such an impact at the Millennium Dome in the summer.

A full-length performance will take place on Saturday, 9th December 2000, commencing at 8.00 p.m. The Balkanplus dance moves to Sunday, 10th December, starting at 7.00 p.m., during which "Dobroudjanche" will be invited to perform much of their programme of dances from most regions of Bulgaria. Dunav and Fiona Howarth will join me to ensure a rip-roaring evening. The main hall has been booked for both evenings. The admission price will be £10.00 for each event (£5.00 for Balkanplus season ticket holders and children).

Those wishing to attend these evenings should contact Frances Horrocks on 020 8642 3629, principally to guarantee entry to what will be well publicised events, but also to check on any late information about the visit.

Looking further ahead, I am pleased to announce that Dave Carter will be M.C. for the New Year Balkanplus dance on 13th January 2001. Those who attended his Millennium Bug Ball last January will know the treat in store.

BRIAN DOWSETT

CULTURAL FOLKLORE DANCE TOURS TO ROMANIA, 2001

The Doina Foundation are organizing the following tours next year:

28th April - 5th May Targu Mures, Transylvania
26th July - 8th Aug. Bistrija, Transylvania

BALKAN FESTIVAL, 2001

28th June - 1st July 2001 at Cultural Centre "De Wanmolen", Schweitzerpark 2, Zetten, near Arnhem, The Netherlands.

Dance: Greek (Dick van der Zwan), Bulgarian (Eddy Tijssen), Turkish (Ersin Seyhan), Macedonian (Martin Ihns), Yugoslav (Paja Milic), Romanian (Silviu Ciuciumis), Balkanball (Helen van Bochove).

Singing: Linny van der Weyden

Musical accompaniment: Orchestra KALEB, Orchestra Trediki.

ROMANIAN FOLKLORE COSTUMES AND DANCE BOOTS

From all regions of Romania. Complete or partial outfits for men and women.

For information on all the above, please contact Silviu Ciuciumis, Aarhuispad 22, 3067 PR Rotterdam, The Netherlands. Tel: +31-10-421 86 22.

CANmuzik of 56 Stoke Newington Road, London N16 7XB, Tel: 020 7254 7009, specialises in Turkish music. They have cassettes/CDs and also string, wind and percussion instruments.

TONI GUTMAN

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

Dec.3rd M.C.s: Merton Park I.F.D.G. with Phil Steventon

Jan.7th M.C.s: S.I.F.D. Committee - To be confirmed.

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



WHAT'S ON IN DECEMBER

Dec.2nd BALKAN DAY OF DANCE with Paul Boizot, 11.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. at Sheffield. £6-£16. For details, ring 0114 256 1708.

S.I. Dec.2nd S.I.F.D. WEST MIDLANDS BRANCH CHRISTMAS PARTY, 7.30-10.30 p.m. at Weoley Village Hall, Weoley Hill, Selly Oak, Birmingham (off Bristol Road South). M.C.: Maggie Kaye. £2.00. Bring-and-share supper. For details of how to get there, ring Maggie on 0121 608 1437.

Dec.2nd ZIVKO FIRFOV FOLKLORE GROUP PARTY at Moorfields Primary School, London E.C.1, 7.00-10.30 p.m. Nearest Underground station: Old Street. Dances from Croatia, Serbia, Macedonia; also Bulgaria, Greece, Romania. ADMISSION BY TICKET ONLY from Irene Keywood, Tel: 0208592 4427.

Dec.3rd S.I.F.D. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 4.00 p.m. Cecil Sharp House.

S.I. Dec.8th BARNET CHRISTMAS PARTY. Renowned for good food, bonhomie and Dunav's cabaret spot; there is even time for dancing. £4.00. 8.00 p.m. at Church House, Wood Street, Barnet, Herts. Further details from Brian Dowsett on 01992 582717.

S.I. Dec.9th PHILHELLENES DAY OF GREEK DANCE and related workshops culminating in a party with live music. 10.00 a.m. till late at Wakefield Hall, 7 Wakefield Street, London W.C.1. FREE TO ALL. For details and to book a place, ring Ariana Johnson on 020 8441 7029.

S.I. Dec.9th BALKANPLUS present "DOBROUDJANCHE" BULGARIAN ENSEMBLE. See p.9.

S.I. Dec.10th BALKANPLUS CHRISTMAS DANCE. See p.9.

S.I. Dec.15th/17th S.I.F.D. WEEKEND AT DUNFORD. Details in October SIFD NEWS p.8. There could be one or two vacancies. Enquiries to Jack Richardson, 01792 295194 (daytime), 01792 403153 (evenings etc.).

Dec.17th MAZURY POLISH DANCE COMPANY present dances, songs and music from all regions of Poland including the Krakowiak, Oberek from Lowicz, Kujawiak, Polonaise, Mazurka, dances from Nowy Sacz and Lwow, with Christmas carols and traditional scenes. Commonwealth Institute Theatre, Kensington High Street, London W.8. 6.30 p.m. Tickets £10.00 and £13.50 available from the Polish Y.M.C.A. on 020 8992 5699 (11.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.).

S.I. Dec.18th HIGH WYCOMBE FOLKDANCE CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY, from 8.00 p.m. at Manor Farm County First School, Rose Avenue, Hazlemere, High Wycombe, Bucks. £3.00 (and bring a plate). All welcome. Details from Alison Whisker, 01923 778547.

MERRY CHRISTMAS, AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Linksmu sventu Kaledu ir Laimingu Mauju Metu
(Lithuanian)

Felic Nadal i Any Nuo
(Catalan)

Buon Natale e felice Capo d'Anno
(Italian)

Il-Milied it-Tajjeb Is-Sena it-Tajba
(Maltese)

Zalig Kerstfeest en een Gelukkig Nieuwjaar
(Dutch)

Glad Jul och ett Gott Nytt Ar
(Norwegian)

Tchestito Rojdestvo Hristovo. Tchestita Nova Godina
(Bulgarian)

Kobotama Na Yesu
(Lingala-Congo)

Shenoraavor Nor Dari yev Pari Gaghand
(Armenian)

Glødileg Jol og Nyar
(Icelandic)

Shinnen Omedeto, Kurisumasu Omedeto
(Japanese)

Ya't'hey Kheshemish, Ya't'hey Na-Hi
(Navajo)

Yeni Yilinizi Kutlar, saadetler dilerim
(Turkish)

Joyeux Noel et Heureuse Annee
(French)

Glad Jul och ett Gott Nytt Ar
(Swedish)

Maligayang Pasko, Masaganang Bagong Taon
(Tagalog)

Veselykh Svyat i scaslivohe Novoho Roku
(Ukrainian)

Betarin arozo baray salnow
(Afgan)

Sarbatori Fericite. La Multi Ani
(Romanian)

Gojan Kristnaskon kaj Felican Novjaron
(Esperanto)

Boldog Karacsonyi es Ujevi Unnepekot
(Hungarian)

Roomsaid Joulu Puhi Ja Uut Aastat
(Estonian)

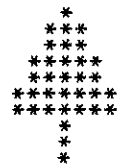
Wesolych Swiat Bozego Narodzenia i szczesliwego Nowego Roku
(Polish)

Priecigus Ziemas Svetkus un Laimigu Jauno Gadu
(Latvian)

Gun Tso Sun Tan' Gung Haw Sun
(Cantonese)



Srelcem Bozik. Srelkna Nova Godina
(Macedonian)



Hyvaa Joula. Onnellista Uutta Vuotta
(Finnish)