

SIFD NEWS

JANUARY 2003



SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

Internet Website: www.sifd.org

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The typing is done by Lily Avery. The printing, packaging and posting
is done by Dalila Heath.

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This month's cover is a design by Janna Eliot of Barnet group, based on a
performance by Romani Rad group. Romani Rad are a London-based group of
Romanies from Poland, specialising in performing Gypsy songs and dances.

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MILTON KEYNES INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL 2003

As I am sure you all know, Milton Keynes Festival this year was on a smaller
scale than usual, but next year the plan is to restore it to its former glory
with full participation from the S.I.F.D. There will be two foreign dance
teams displaying to local schools and also appearing in the main shows and
also four or five U.K.-based teams who will perform in the main shows. In
addition, we shall be running a full range of workshops (to which the visiting
teams will, of course, contribute) and an international ceilidh on the Saturday
night.

This notice is meant as an appeal. First of all, we need teams to display; so
if you think your group would like to do a slot, please contact Don Allison on
01908 610564 (daytime). We aim to make the standard as high as possible and
time constraints will limit the number of teams required, so some selection
may be necessary. We also need help with the workshops, so if you would like
to teach or help with the organization or have any ideas on what you would like
to see taught at a workshop, please contact me (address above).

And finally we need an audience. So, the dates for your diaries are Saturday,
28th June (workshops and ceilidh) and Sunday, 29th June (workshops and concerts).

MIKE GILBERT (Chairman)

Annual General Meeting

Chairman's Report - 2002

Overall 2002 could be described as a reasonably successful year for the society. We were still without a secretary and with a very small executive committee, but the small army of enthusiasts who do the real work of the society carried on as usual and we still managed to organise an impressive range of events (Eastbourne International Folk Festival, Great Alne Folk Weekend, the Sunday Dances, Saturday day schools, the Newsletter and many events arranged by individuals and groups - and of course Summer School). Wilf Horrocks retired as leader of the SIFD Band during the year after more years service than anyone can remember. From my own experience I can say that playing the kind of music we dance to is very difficult (and taxing). We shall greatly miss Wilf on the band stand. I am glad to be able to report that Martin Butler has taken over this role. Also retiring this year is George Sweetland as publicity officer. The job of the publicity officer is a very open ended one and not one that can be easily defined. We owe him our thanks for taking on this role for so many years. It is also an essential one if the society is to grow and if our events are to be well attended. We are very fortunate to have John Douglas to take over this role, assisted by Alison Scrimshaw).

Which brings me to the bad news. Membership is still drifting down slowly and our events are not as well attended as they should be. It is up to all of us to try to draw new people in (both into dancing and into the Society itself) if we are to thrive in the future. There is plenty of interest in our kind of dancing, and it is up to us to tap into it.

Our biennial summer school took place again this year and was reasonably well attended, although there was room for more people. Roger's report is attached at the end of this report.

The full Milton Keynes International Folk Festival did not happen this year, but planning is well under way for next year in which we are becoming heavily involved. We hope to arrange workshops as well as providing teams to display in the main shows. So a date for your diaries is the weekend of 28th - 29th June 2003.

Lack of manpower has meant that we still have done no work on the production of P10 although we put a great deal of effort into preparing music for the summer school and this may form the basis for a new package.

The teachers course has been launched and I am glad to say that enough candidates have come forward to make it worthwhile.

Grants have been given to enable members to attend summer school, to subsidise and underwrite courses run by groups.

As last year, I have deliberately avoided naming all the people who have worked very hard during the year to ensure that our numerous activities take place and are successful. There are so many people who work very hard for the society and to name them all would be impossible. Nevertheless I would still like to say, on behalf of the whole society, a big thank you to everybody who has contributed to the cause of International Folk Dancing in the past year.

For the future, I am glad to be able to say that for next year we have Janet Douglas as secretary. We also welcome back Anne Leach who has agreed to return to the committee. We are still short of members, so any more volunteers would be received with open arms, but with an expanded committee we hope to be able to start moving forward in a number of ways.

Finally, I said at the last AGM that I will probably be moving to Japan towards the end of 2003. For various reasons this may have to be brought forward and the middle of the year is looking more likely. I am willing to stand as chairman in the absence of any other candidate, but obviously will be very ineffective from the other side of the world so that is another post to be filled as quickly as possible.

Mike Gilbert
December 2002

1. Programme

All the teachers received a high satisfaction rating. The innovation of a singing class was much appreciated. Some were disappointed that the advertised "Japanese" class turned out to be Japanese, Chinese and Filipino. The planning team will take note of the detailed comments on each class.

The range and balance of course seems to have been about right, but quite a few people were overwhelmed by the number of afternoon option courses. No-one was obliged to do all of them, but dancers find it difficult to hold back! One or two wondered about the purpose of the general course, but the main response was highly favourable.

There was a general approval of the quality and range of the evening dances, though curtailed by the late start, and the MCs, though some felt there was, on occasion, too much teaching. Teachers' spots each evening should have been earlier. One suggestion was a for a walk through during the afternoon of some of the evening dances. The advertised tea dance on Friday afternoon did not take place; one respondent wondered what happened to it.

2. The College

Most people commented on the helpfulness and friendliness of the kitchen and other domestic staff, but the organisation was less satisfactory.

The living accommodation was highly rated especially the en suite rooms, although there were criticisms of the lack of kitchens or fridges and association areas in the en suite accommodation. The self catering accommodation was very good value though there were some criticisms of the cramped shared spaces and lack of washing facilities in the toilets. There were also criticisms of the standard of room cleaning. Having the choice of standard of accommodation was appreciated and en suite (at an extra £60 for person for the week) proved more popular than anticipated.

The catering received a mixed response, but a constant complaint was the poor organisation of the service, in spite of the helpfulness of the dining room staff. The lunch provision of sandwiches was not highly rated. Some would have liked afternoon tea to be provided.

The teaching rooms were not ideal and needing to use the dining room for evening dances proved unsatisfactory, resulting in long delays in starting, aggravated by the poor organisation of the evening meal. Some people found difficulty with the acoustics in the evening.

The site was pleasant and reasonably compact, though the lack of lighting on the route from the main building to residential blocks was a problem and the route was not very good for the less mobile. The long distance from the city centre and from any shops was a considerable inconvenience.

The excursion was highly rated if somewhat marred by the weather and by the lack of open facilities at the Dales Centre. High Force was very much enjoyed, especially as it was in spate.

3. Notes, audio and video

For the first time we included notes for those who wanted them without additional charge. The lack of provision of notes on Paja and Madelon's course was a disappointment and this should have been clarified in advance so that time could be allowed in the course for people to make their own.

Two problems occurred with audio:

- a. Paja and Madelon sold copies of two CDs covering most of their dances. The other main teachers provided tapes or CDs which we were able to copy where needed and sell during the summer school

Contd...

- b. We had to collect the music from the option courses from the teachers at the time and collate and copy the tape later. This was much delayed by difficulty in obtaining copyright. The result was a long delay in circulating the tapes/CDs, through no fault of those who did the work.

Filming for the video proved more difficult than in previous years. There was too much to do on Friday afternoon and the dining room proved less satisfactory than expected. The subsequent delay in distribution was down to technical problems and we are indebted to Joe and Sheila Cott for their hard work on this - a considerable service to the Society.

For the future we recommend that:

- a. All teachers should be asked to provide notes, and to make a master available at the start of the course if they don't wish to provide sufficient copies. If there are no notes provided, time must be allowed in their programme for participants to make their own.
- b. All teachers should be asked to provide a master tape or disc covering all the music in their programme, and to have cleared copyright issues in advance.
- c. Filming should be done in the course of classes as far as possible.

4. Recruitment

Attendance, at 60 full time, 7 part time and 13 non-dancers, was up on last year but we were able to attract only a very small number of newcomers. We had hoped to sell the general course to beginners and teachers wishing to introduce folk dance in the national curriculum. If we are going to be successful in this an other time we shall have to re-think our publicity and promotion strategies.

Costs to participants are not directly comparable with York owing to different method of charging and the range of accommodation options. At York in 2000 the charge for dancers with half board was £325; at Durham, the nearest equivalent (standard room, half board plus course fee) was £302. The surplus on the accounts was in the region of £700 but this was more than accounted for by profit on sales of T-shirts, video, audio and the photograph.

5. Acknowledgements

A great many people contributed to the success of the Summer School but the planning team would like to thank particularly: the late Judy Penaluna who helped in the search for a venue but sadly died at the beginning of this year, Simon Guest (design of publicity material), Anna Houston (cake and design of the T-shirt), George Sweetland (advice on publicity), Jean Willson who stood in late in the day to organise the excursion, Vic Clark who did an heroic job on the sales stall, Richard Mellish and Caspar Cronk for managing the sound system and organising the video and audio, all the MCs at the evening dances and all the teachers.

5. Conclusions

There would be plenty of support for a summer school in 2004, but we should probably look for some other venue. We suggest looking for possibilities in the Midlands. The residential facilities should at least match St Aidan's and the public and teaching rooms should be better. Particular attention is needed to the proximity of places to buy food and to eat out at lunch time.

We should give thought to whether to provide such a large number of afternoon options. We might consider reverting to the original plan for Durham of having four with some of them run twice.

S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE - DANCES OF BRITTANY

Date: Saturday, 11th January 2003

Place: Cecil Sharp House

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

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

Tutor: To be announced.

This is the opportunity to enjoy the Breton dances taught by Sibylle Helmer at the Summer School in Durham. Everyone is welcome, whether to revise dances already sampled or to come to them for the first time. You will not be disappointed!

PAM RADFORD

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ADVANCE NOTICE OF
S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE ON 8TH FEBRUARY 2003

A note from Frank Dowling:-

"GENTLEMEN'S RELISH"

As the name suggests, we shall be devoting ourselves entirely to the delights of the masculine dance! We (the four Musketeers) aim to re-introduce a few of the wonderful, old men's dances that have become sadly neglected, and restore them to their rightful place in the folkdance repertoire. So now all we need are lots of old men to come along and join us!

Of course, there is no fun in doing these oldmen's dances unless we have some old women to stand around and admire us! So come on girls, get yourselves along too!! (I'm only joking really; you will be allowed to join in). I promise that there won't be too many leaps or squats or much crawling around on the floor!

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S.I.F.D. DAY COURSES IN 2003

Some of you have asked to know the dates of our Day Courses further in advance than the usual one or two months. I have the dates for 2003 allotted to us by Cecil Sharp House and hope that many of you will be encouraged to attend and share the enjoyment on some, or all, of the dates.

The dates are:-

January	11th	Dances of Brittany (see above)
February	8th	"Gentlemen's Relish" with Frank Dowling (see above)
March	8th	Yugoslav and Albanian dances taught at the Summer School. Tutor: Frances Horrocks
April	12th	Details to follow
May	10th	" " "
June	14th	" " "
Sept.	13th	" " "
Oct.	11th	" " "
Nov.	15th	" " "

PAM RADFORD

Frank Dowling's plan for a day of "old men's" dances to be held next month (see p.6) brings to mind the delightful item arranged by Kathleen Monroe-James for one of the S.I.F.D.'s "See How They Dance" shows at the Royal Albert Hall. The dance was "Los Viejitos" (the little old men) from Michoacan in Mexico.

Sixteen or so little figures, stooped and bent, in very colourful costumes but with wizened faces and leaning on tall walking sticks, shuffled into the arena and performed an intricate stamping dance to a Mexican rhythm. The "old men" were in fact young children from Kathleen's school wearing suitable masks and posture. As it was so long ago (in 1964), I cannot recall whether or not there was a "dénouement" revealing their identity at the end of the dance or whether they shuffled off leaving the audience amazed at their energy!

I am wondering whether Frank will include Los Viejitos in his programme, along with the marvellous "old men's" dances from Yugoslavia that Ken Ward taught from time to time (performed by young men I might add).

LILY AVERY

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Lily,

I wonder if members have taken part in dances from the Canary Islands? There is an opportunity to enjoy from one to six months there if they would like to exchange house (and car) with a professional couple working at the University of Las Palmas. They have two children, aged 6 and 1, and wish to spend their sabbatical leave in England, starting in April.

For details, please 'phone me on 01785 602 589 before 13th January, or after that Tony Pearce (my brother) on 01785 244 558.

Yours sincerely,

KATHY BEECH (Galina Turker's
mother)
The Foxes, 2A Thorneyfields Lane
Stafford ST17 9YS

S.I.F.D. DANCE BOOKLETS AND CASSETTES

I have been storing our stock of dance booklets and cassettes in my loft for some years now but sometime during 2003 I shall be heading for Japan, so it would be a good idea if someone else could take over the stock as soon as possible. All that is needed is a bit of room (the total volume is probably the size of an average-sized desk) and the ability to get supplies to Eleanor Gordon as and when necessary. In practice this has generally been done via the Sunday dances at Cecil Sharp House.

If you can help, please ring me on 01223 700718.

MIKE GILBERT (Chairman)

LYKION'S EPIRUS WORKSHOP

The start of this very good workshop was like a family homecoming - such a welcome for Nikos and it certainly was great to see him again, looking so extra handsome, extra fit, different haircut. As usual, he made sure everyone really assimilated the dances and he chose some lovely music to dance to but, good as the workshop was, the undoubted triumph was the way it finished in a glorious panyghiri sort of dance party - everyone leaping about full belt whatever came up on the player. I do hope this becomes a feature of future workshops. No doubt how vital spirits and flagging energies are immediately raised with non-stop dancing to lovely music in friendly company.

The lovely ballroom looked extra lovely too, with the exhibition of "Images of Greece" featuring photographs by Fred Boissonas, taken all over Greece at the turn of the last century. They were absolutely stunning; wonderful scenes of village life, the countryside and definitive artistic shots, so breathtaking and/or haunting. The exhibition was so successful it was extended well past the closing date and in case anyone should be interested it is worth mentioning that there was a fabulous large volume with text in English and Greek of these photographs in a gorgeous format which the Lykion were selling for £45 - well below the official price. If anyone is interested in that or video tapes of the previous "Greek Islands" or Epirus workshops, please contact Lykion via Anita Williams, 6 Claremont Court, Queensway, London W2 5HX. Tel: 020 7229 4086. The price is £15 plus p. & p.

DIKI GLEESON



ALAN McLEAN

On Friday, 29th November, I was reminded of Alan McLean while listening to "Desert Island Discs". That day's castaway remarked that his mother had danced with the Anglo-Polish Ballet, where Alan had been a principal dancer. A few days later I was saddened to learn that he had passed away, on 29th November.

I first met Alan at the S.I.F.D. Russian "Troika" group, way back in the late '50s or early '60s. He was not only a keen dancer but also a very enthusiastic collector of folk dances and for many years spent his summer holidays visiting villages in what were then the less easily accessible countries of Eastern and Central Europe (on his trusty/rusty motorbike, as I remember! Ed.).

Alan founded both the "Balaton" and "Doina" groups. These have given enjoyment and pleasure to many people, both dancers and audiences. The appreciative audiences ranged from senior citizens to television viewers. The groups continue to perform. As well as the "Balaton" and "Doina" groups, Alan was also instrumental in starting the relatively new but popular Martisorul Romanian Group.

He was interested in all types of dancing and, in his younger days, performed in musicals, pantomime, cabaret etc. Unfortunately, as television became more popular, the live theatre became less so. Nevertheless, even though his career as a professional dancer ended, Alan continued his love of dance by joining a number of folkdance groups, mainly from Eastern Europe. He continued dancing until a few years ago when, after a heart attack and strokes, he was compelled to give up. Even then, he continued to take an interest and, when able to, liked to visit the S.I.F.D. summer displays at the Victoria Embankment Gardens.

The funeral was a private occasion, for family only. We extend our condolences to them.

ARLENE HANSELL

ALAN McLEAN

I was very sad to hear that Alan McLean had passed away at the end of November. Yet, when reflecting on his life, many of the people in the dance groups he founded were impressed by the way that he managed to continue performing into his 70s, that he had managed to follow up his travel interest for many years after that while still coming to support his old groups whenever he had the chance.

I first met Alan in 1979 when I was introduced to the Hungarian group "Balaton" that he had first set up in 1968. At the time, I was teaching in Birmingham but I remember how he regularly used to 'phone my mother to see if I could come down for performances - anyone who has been in his groups knows that for the showman like Alan, who had been a professional dancer for a time, the number of bodies on stage counted! A few years later, he succeeded in getting some Romanian costumes and started "Doina", the Eastern European group, and by the 1990s he used the presence of some Romanian dancers in London as the basis for initiating "Martisorul". In doing so, he touched many people's lives. For example, a few of us, like Sue and me, met our partners through his groups and many have become more deeply involved in dance and in the countries from which those dances originated than might otherwise have been the case. He certainly left a legacy.

But apart from the drive shown, whether in the form of capturing Hungarian dancers and persuading them to break down their dances for him or negotiating the chance for a performance, Alan will also be remembered as a character. He always showed great enthusiasm, even if it did mean that we were dragged off to see that state group dance an hour after arriving, tired, in Budapest; because it was Alan, we would make the effort to go. He made use of every opportunity. I remember him being proud as he staggered home from a trip to Hungary, carrying forty records in his rucksack. And he had an eye for the bargain, which sometimes left Sue and me wondering what exactly we were going to do with the latest piece of costume he had just acquired for the group. Mind you, I always did wonder about the wisdom of flying via Kabul on Air Afghan during the conflicts with the USSR just because it was the cheapest way to go to India. But over the years he seemed to survive it all and go back for more. His energy and determination were to be admired.

He will be missed but, once met, definitely not forgotten.

LESLIE HADDON

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STEPHEN WARD

Stephen died peacefully at home on 8th December 2002 after losing the battle with leukaemia which he contracted in the Spring of 1999. He enjoyed a year of complete remission, thanks to the medical team at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, but the disease returned last Autumn and he declined fast. One of his pleasures was to lie in bed listening to Dunav rehearsing downstairs.

I want to thank everyone who sent cards and made visits throughout these three and a half years, in particular Roy Clarke, Alan Morton, Joe and Sheila Cott, who came whenever Stephen asked to see them. Roy and Alan were with him the day before he died, just being there, watching over him, giving him sips of water when he asked for it. From the bottom of my heart, I thank them for their kindness and friendship.

CAROLINE THOMAS
77 Forest Road, London
E17 6HF

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Feb.2nd DAY OF ARMENIAN DANCE with Shakeh Avanesian at Bergh Apton Village Hall (9 miles S.E. of Norwich). For further information and booking, ring B. Campbell-Johnston on 01508 480195. No time or price given.

S.I. Feb.2nd ISRAELI DANCE WORKSHOP with Anat at Stone Cross Memorial Hall, near Eastbourne. 10.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. £12.00 (concessions £7.00). Shared vegetarian lunch. For bookings/information/map 'phone Rowena Martin, 01323 503991.

Feb.8th S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE - "Gentlemen's Relish" with Frank Dowling. See p.6.

Feb.15th/16th YUGOSLAVIAN DANCE WEEKEND with Paja and Madelon Milic in Bognor Regis. £32.00. Optional meal on Saturday evening £10.00 extra. Further details from Janet Douglas, Oak Cottage, 92 Rose Green Road, Bognor Regis PO21 3EQ. Tel: 01243 265010.

Mar.8th S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE - Yugoslav & Albanian with Frances Horrocks.

S.I. Mar.15th/16th RUSSIAN FOLKDANCE COURSE with Hennie Konings at Chorlton, Manchester, and Calver, Derbyshire. Further information from Julie Korth, Holly Cottage, off Wigan Road, Aspull, Nr.Wigan WN2 1EF. Tel: 01942 831141. No price given.

Mar.21st/23rd 10TH SPRING DANCE CELEBRATION with Bob Neal at Freshwater Bay, Isle of Wight. Cost of weekend £112, or en-suite £122. For full details and booking form send s.a.e. to Pamela Le Goaziou, 55 Mitchell Road, Bedhampton, Hants. PO9 3QA. Tel: 023 9264 1028.

Apr.11th/13th RESIDENTIAL BULGARIAN COURSE with Nina Kavardjikova (recommended by Yves Moreau) in the HF guest house at Brecon - an excellent base for walking and sightseeing. Comfortable en-suite accommodation, full board, heated indoor pool. Choice of General or Advanced course, or both courses. Non-dancing friends and family welcome. Full board and accommodation £107.00. Each course £15.00. For full details and booking form please send s.a.e. to Cathy Meunier, 115 Chetwynd Road, London NW5 1DA.

Apr.12th S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE.

Apr.12th ISRAELI DANCE WORKSHOP, Intermediate level, with Anat at St.Andrews Church, Paddock Wood, Kent. 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. £12.00 (concessions £7). Shared vegetarian lunch; drinks provided. For bookings/information, 'phone Sonya Crocombe on 01732 364585.

May 2nd/5th EASTBOURNE INTERNATIONAL DANCE FESTIVAL.

S.I. May 2nd/5th S.I.F.D. WEEKEND AT HALSWAY MANOR - A long Bank Holiday weekend of dancing, walking and the opportunity to visit some of the attractive sites in East Devonshire and Somerset (extendable by an additional night). The Manor, which is a centre dedicated to folk music and dancing, is attractively situated at the foot of the Quantocks and close to Exmoor and the North Devon and Somerset coasts. Included in the activities will be a full day's walk with coach transport and picnic lunch provided. Details from Jack Richardson, Dept. of Chemical Engineering, University, Swansea SA2 8PP. Tel: 01792 295194 (work), 403153 (home). Cost approx. £140 (inclusive) for three days.

May 10th S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE.

Events covered by S.I.F.D. insurance are marked S.I. 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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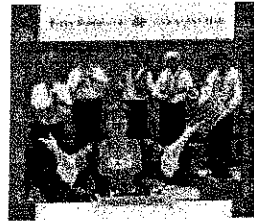
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Above are just a small selection of the many folk and dance music CDs we offer. If you are
have access to the Internet you can find our entire stock at the following web-sites:

www.passion-music.co.uk and www.passiondiscs.com

Alternatively, contact us for a copy of our current catalogue, recommendations,
and details of our 10% discount offer for SIFD members.

**Passion-Music, 37 Red Lion Lane, Overton RG25 3HH Hants UK
Tel 01256 770747**

NOVEMBER SINGING/DANCING S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE

As someone who would only consider myself a singer in my wildest flights of fancy, I set off for the Singing/Dancing Day Course taught by Frank Dowling and Dessi Stefanova with some trepidation. However, Clyde Olliver and Mike Machin, who travelled all the way down from Cumbria to provide some live music for the day, were staying with us and I'd promised to help with the teas if necessary so there was no getting out of it. In the event, not even my tiniest fears were realized and I had a thoroughly enjoyable, if exhausting, day. Although they made an heroic attempt to keep us as near the mark as possible, both Frank and Dessi were very encouraging and I never felt hopeless or silly, nor that I was expected to be able to read or understand anything technical about music.

I think all of us who attended the day would welcome similar opportunities to learn the songs to some of the dances we do. If such occasions arise, this is a special plea to anyone else out there like me, who wishes they could sing but thinks they can't, to be brave and cross the threshold. Every added voice would be a welcome help and you may well find you surprise yourself with hidden ability!

ANNA HUSTON



BALKANPLUS, 11th January at Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London N.W.1 7.00-10.30 p.m. £4.00. M.C.: Frances Horrocks. Get the New Year off to a really good start and enjoy all your favourite dances. The programme will include the Romanian "Dans Cu Sucitoare" and while the sticks are out, the Maori activity "dance" will also be included.

The next Balkanplus dance will be on 9th February.

FRANCES HORROCKS

N.B. Please note that the January dance will be on the 11th, not the 12th as previously announced.



HARROW GREEN

Paul Bradley regrets that he will not be going ahead with his idea of having T-shirts made bearing the words "ex Harrow Green" (see October SIFD NEWS) as not enough people responded to make the project viable. He apologizes to those few who did express interest in the idea.



As I was away for most of December, I was unable to send cards this year but I thank everyone for theirs and hope you all had a very happy Christmas. I shall look forward to seeing everyone in the New Year.

FRANCES HORROCKS

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

Jan.5th No notification re M.C.

Feb.2nd M.C.: Roy Clarke with guest musician Cliff Beck. Come and give the "old firm" another chance! Interval dancing to be led by Brian Dowsett.

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

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WHAT'S ON IN JANUARY

S.I. Jan.11th BALKANPLUS. See p.12.

Jan.17th to 19th ISRAELI & INTERNATIONAL DANCE COURSE with Fiona Howarth at Elm Park Hotel, Eastbourne. Non-dancing friends and family welcome. Full board and accommodation £73.00; course including social dancing on both evenings £10.00. For full details and booking form, send s.a.e. to Cathy Meunier, 115 Chetwynd Road, London NW5 1DA.

Jan.18th CROXLEY GREEN I.F.D.G. NEW YEAR PARTY, 7.30-10.30 p.m. at St.Oswald's Church Hall, Malvern Way, Croxley Green, near Watford, Herts. Come in costume if you have one. £3.00 including refreshments, payable at the door. Contact: Joyce Sharp, 01923 228080.

S.I. Jan.21st PEMBROKESHIRE I.F.D.G. NEW YEAR (non-dancing) DINNER. Venue (central to our area) t.b.c. Also time and cost t.b.c. All welcome to what is traditionally a very happy evening. For details contact Eve Brennan on 01239 831404 or Sue Clark on 01437 710261.

Jan.23rd PHILHELLENES GREEK DANCERS' OPEN EVENING at the basement Hall, Regent's Square United Reformed Church, Wakefield Street, London W.C.1. 8.00-10.00 p.m. All welcome, light refreshments provided. More details from Ariana Johnson, 020 8441 7029.

S.I. Jan.25th OXFORD BALKANSKO DRD NEW YEAR PARTY. 7.00-10.45 p.m. £5.00 at the door. Live music from "Vuhpros", and refreshments.

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All material for the February issue of SIFD NEWS must be received by the Editor IN WRITING by 17th January. Please write in BLOCK CAPITALS all names of people, places and dances, unless typewritten.