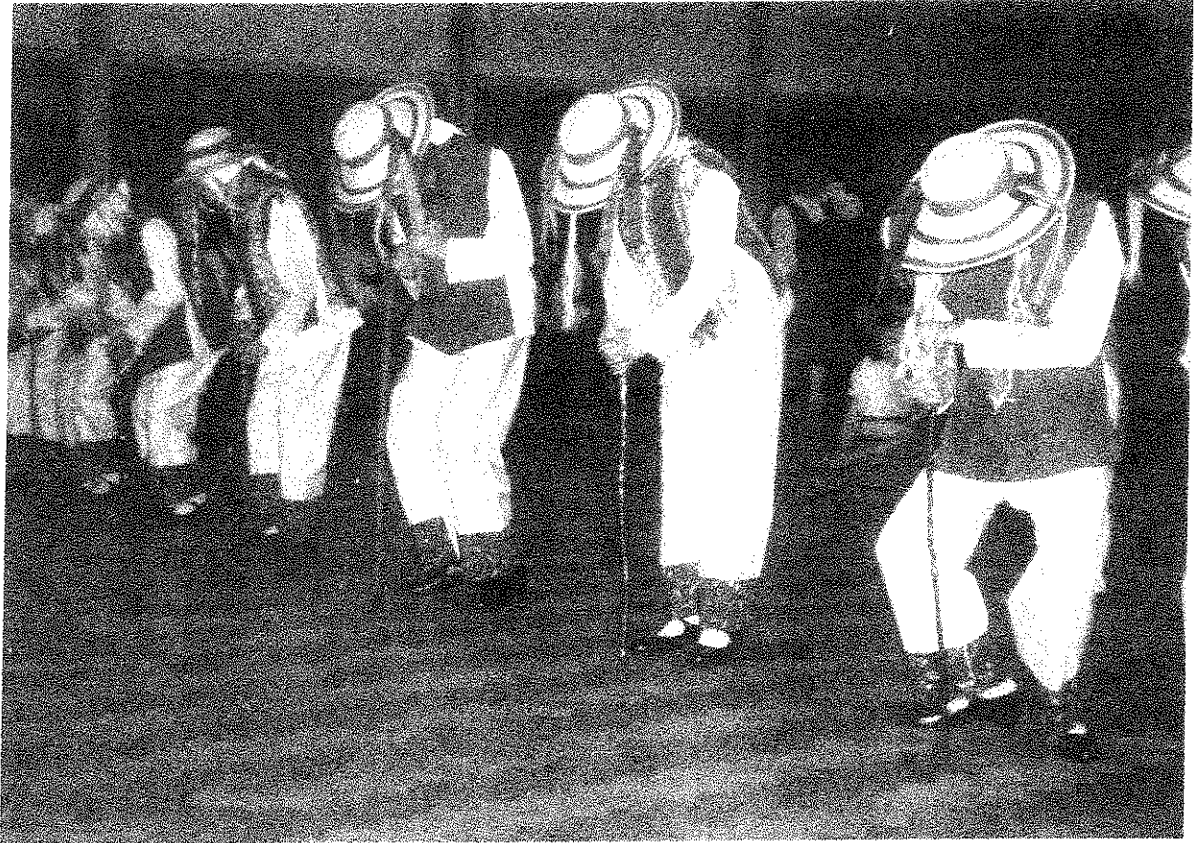


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FEBRUARY 2003



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SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

Internet Website: www.sifd.org

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East 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 Dalila Heath.

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My mention last month of Los Viejitos prompted Ken Poyton to look up the
photographs he took of Kathleen Monroe-James' team of dancers who took part
in the item at the Royal Albert Hall in 1964. From the photos, Simon Guest
has kindly produced this month's cover showing our little Viejitos and some
of the other girls who took part in the Mexican item - some of whom are still
active members of the S.I.F.D. including Judith Payling, Jennifer Cant and
Ken's daughter, Alison Whisker. Ed.

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

ALAN McLEAN

I was sorry to read about Alan's death. I did not see him very often but I do owe him a debt of gratitude because it was he who introduced me to the world of international folk dancing.

I was a member of the YHA for many years and one weekend at Milford Youth Hostel I met Alan and we got around to talking about folk dancing. I had recently started to attend dances at work, in the staff restaurant at County Hall, London. This was mainly English and Scottish country dance and some American Square, and I had no idea anything else existed.

One Sunday, on Alan's recommendation, I went to an S.I.F.D. dance at the old Inns of Court Mission in Drury Lane (now sadly demolished). The place was packed and the atmosphere was wonderful, quite unlike anything to be experienced today. I made many friends and this led to my joining the S.I.F.D. in 1950. This triggered off so many wonderful experiences in my life and I shall forever be grateful to Alan.

KEN WARD



WILL GREEN

Members who knew Will Green will be sorry to hear that he died on 7th January following a severe stroke. Will did not want anything written about his years with the Society so, sadly, I will comply with his wishes, although I have to say that I have always been grateful to him for the tremendous help he gave me with the SIFD NEWS. Ed.



S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE, "GENTLEMEN'S RELISH"

Date: Saturday, 8th February

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

The aim of the day is to revise "old" men's dances (i.e. dances which have been learned in the past and neglected) rather than learn dances for "old men" (though we are all getting on!!), so unfortunately the dances which Lily mentioned will not be in our programme! The dances will be revised by Brian (Dowsett), Simon (Guest), Clyde (Olliver) and myself. It should be a very enjoyable day so I look forward to seeing lots of you there.

Ladies, you might feel more comfortable wearing trousers because there might well be a bit of kneeling and most certainly a lot of leg lifting!! Bring belts along and shoes with heels as well as "flats".

FRANK DOWLING

Licensing Regulations - A Cause for Concern

Some members have expressed concern about the Licensing bill currently going through parliament. This seeks to extend considerably the kind of activities which need licences. It also changes the responsibility for granting licences from magistrates to Local Authorities. The concerns are that the cost of licensing will increase and that the scope of the legislation is such that many activities which currently do not need a licence will need one in the future.

In particular, reports in the press have said that performances of live music will be badly effected. This could well cover concerts in Churches, school plays and many other activities.

How this will affect us is not altogether clear, but the according to the Bill :-

The descriptions of entertainment are—

- (a) a performance of a play,*
- (b) an exhibition of a film,*
- (c) an indoor sporting event,*
- (d) a boxing or wrestling entertainment,*
- (e) a performance of live music,*
- (f) any playing of recorded music,*
- (g) a performance of dance,*
- (h) entertainment of a similar description to that falling within paragraph (e), (f) or (g),*

Fortunately, the bill adds 'where the entertainment takes place in the presence of an audience and is provided for the purpose, or for purposes which include the purpose, of entertaining that audience.'

My initial reaction is that attendees at a dance class or club could not normally be described as an audience and so the legislation may have little effect on us, but I would be grateful if any members with more legal knowledge than I have could comment. The Bill itself can be found on the web (at <http://www.parliament.the-stationery-office.co.uk/pa/ld200203/ldbills/001/03001.107-111.html>) or I can provide a printed version to anyone who contacts me.

That said, many of us do take part in dance displays, which certainly would be covered by the legislation under almost all circumstances. There is generally great concern that the legislation will have a hugely detrimental effect on traditional music and dance and could affect pub sessions, carol singing, organised singarounds in pubs, private weddings and even the provision of rehearsal and practice facilities.

Further comment and information can be found on the web (at, for example <http://www.tradmusic.com/newspage.asp?newsID=66> and <http://www.hobgoblin.com/hobnob/news.htm>). Anyone who shares this concern should write to their MP and/or sign a petition (which can be found at <http://www.petitiononline.com/2inabar/petition.html>).

Mike Gilbert (Chairman)



SHORT CASSETTE TAPES

Short tapes are available from Keith Orchard, 32 Myton Crescent, Warwick CV34 6QA. Tel: 01926 490897.

C20 (10 minutes/side) - or - C10 (5 minutes/side)

£7.20 for ten.

Postage: £2.25 for 10, £4.30 for 20, £6.75 for 30/40/50.

FOLK DANCES OF KARNATAKA, SOUTH WEST INDIA

Often, after I have returned from one of my visits to India, people have asked me if I saw any dancing. The answer, up till now, has been in the negative but this time I was very fortunate.

Having arrived very early on a Thursday morning, we set off again at 5.30 a.m. on Friday for two days hard driving to Bangalore, the silicon city of Southern India. "We" means Naren Kotiyan, his sister Jayanti, a friend Vijay, myself and our driver Hari, all in a 4x4 vehicle with the luggage stowed in the back. The following night we stayed in Mysore and then off again towards Mangalore and the coast. On the way, we visited a Nature Conservation Park and had a ride on an elephant and went to the Golden Temple of the Buddhist settlement near Mysore. The name is taken from the presence of three enormous statues in gold leaf which dominate one end of this huge, impressive and beautifully decorated temple. Neither of these places was on our original itinerary but were well worth the diversion. From there we continued to the coast to Yermal Bada, a village which you won't find on any map, to Vijay's house, our base for the next few days.

I digress, but I must mention the location of Vijay's house - a bungalow really - fifty yards from a sandy beach lined with coconut trees, stretching for miles and not a soul in sight. At night one could hear the surf pounding on the shore. Fabulous! If you cared to get up at 4.00 a.m. you could see the fishermen going out in their one or two men narrow boats to bring in the catch.

We spent some time touring round and visiting various temples in one of which I fed bananas to the elephants (directions to another were "down the lane and turn left by the tamarind tree") and then we heard of a dance competition for youngsters. There were a couple of classically based dramas in which the acting lacked conviction but the costumes and props were superb. There was a good classical solo and a couple of Bollywood items which, frankly, were poor. With everyone doing step and close to the right, there was always one going to the left. The choreography was unimaginative - sixteen children in four straight rows, so only the first four in the front could be seen and as everyone was doing the same steps it was effectively sixteen solos. However, the highlight of the evening was a group of boys about eleven years old performing a stick dance called Kola Attam. They wore white trousers and loose shirts with a yellow cummerbund and yellow headscarves. They had two sticks each which were used to hit with their neighbours' and their own, mostly in a circle but also in pairs, a double circle and as spokes of a wheel lying on the floor, which was most effective. The steps were variations of hop, step, with the emphasis on the hop, and grapevine steps performed with great vigour, energy and enthusiasm. They were extremely well-rehearsed and the choreography was excellent and well within their capabilities. We returned to the bungalow in a tremendous thunderstorm and a power cut, apparently a not unusual occurrence.

Two days hard driving brought us back to Bombay, where we enjoyed an excellent evening of classical Kathak dance in the beautifully appointed Nehru Centre, but there was still more to look forward to. Naren's and Jayanti's community has now been established in Bombay for one hundred years and great celebrations were afoot. One evening in particular had been set aside for the community to have a concert in which all age groups could participate. We had been to watch some of the rehearsals in the school hall and people came every evening for a month to practise.

The concert began with an offering and a prayer and a puja dance performed by small girls of primary school age dressed in white, holding candles (or light bulbs) in their hands. The steps were very simple and the whole effect relied on the choreography, which was very well arranged considering the age of the

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children. There was also some extremely good modern dance, far, far better than the groups we saw in the South, but the folk dances were the most interesting.

The local group presented an item which portrayed the fishing community from which they all originated those one hundred years ago. It began with a harbour scene where one of the men cast a fishing net across the stage. It landed in a perfect circle and lo and behold, when he gathered it in, it had a fish in it! A boat came in and the women arrived with their baskets to collect the catch and take it to market where the villagers came and some amusing bargaining took place.

One of the most effective dances was the Koli fisherman's dance. The men had paddles and imitated paddling their canoes with a hard driving action accompanied by a simple, but very vigorous, hop step which took them across the stage. The women had shallow baskets about six inches deep and twenty inches in diameter, held in both hands or on one hip, and danced with a very graceful and seductive sway of the hips. The steps were again variations of the hop step and grapevine steps that we had seen in the South, very vigorous and energetic, especially the men's. The men were dressed in lungis of various colours, with a scarf on their heads, tied at the back, while the women wore short saris of mid-calf length, again of different bright colours, predominately greens and reds, and all adorned with flower garlands. Having seen them practising, it was amazing what a difference the costumes, the stage and a huge audience made. Their dedicated rehearsals certainly paid off.

Earlier in the year, two groups had been invited to take part - a women's group from Baikampadi and a men's group from Sasihithlu, both villages from Mangalore district. The first dance, performed by six women, made a tremendous visual impact. Their costumes were quite amazing. The blouse was red and the full-length skirt was alternate layers of red and gold frills. They also had a long yellow scarf the same length as the skirt, held in at the waist by a belt with a red and yellow fringe about eight inches in depth. The headdresses were shaped like a pillbox hat with a huge crown shape on top decorated with a mass of flowers built up on a cane framework. The dance was called Halakki Nritya, a traditional festival dance from Uttara Kannada in Coastal Karnataka. Again, the steps were simple and they were accompanied by two singers and two drummers, all women. One drum, Dolu, was a frame drum about eight to ten inches in depth and about two feet in diameter, played with two sticks, while the other, Taasey, was waisted or hour-glass shaped, about two feet long with leather thongs zig-zagging from top to bottom, producing a basket effect, and was played by hand.

For their second appearance, they performed the Suggi dance, another traditional dance welcoming the harvest season, featuring small fans made from peacock feathers. They wore calf-length saris in a more subdued orangey-red and accompanied by the same musicians. Although less spectacular than the first, this was also beautifully performed - hard to believe that they are all amateurs.

The men's first dance was called Kangilu, again from Coastal Karnataka, a traditional dance by tribal people to propitiate Lord Krishna. There was a central character dressed in an orange dhoti, with a blackened face, carrying a staff. His role reminded me of the man/woman character in an English Morris side - not joining in the team but still a part of it. This character was surrounded by a circle of six men dressed in orange lungi, vest and headscarf and covered with a long cape and "skirt" of golden straw, so dense one could hardly see the orange beneath. Straws were also attached to the headscarf so when they stood still (almost never) the covering was almost complete. Their whirling grapevine and vigorous hop step movements made a sea of shimmering gold sweeping across and around the stage, producing a magical pagan atmosphere. They were accompanied by drummers, Taala, small hand cymbals, and a Kolalu, a bamboo flute held cross-ways like an orchestral flute but without the mouthpiece, played by blowing

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across the hole. The first drum was again the Dolu and the second was a Tambarey, a shallow frame drum hung round the neck and played with two sticks. All the musicians were men and this time there was no singing.

Their second dance was dedicated to a lesser known goddess called Baagawathi. Six men dressed in orange carried a Karasa, an earthenware pot for holding milk or rice and decorated with mango leaves. Tucked into their waist they had two bunches of pingaray, a white catkinlike plant but thinner and cordlike. A seventh man was dressed in yellow, seeming to oversee the proceedings, but the focus of attention was a man carrying a large brass water pot on his head and built up on top of that, in a pyramid shape three to four feet high, was a statue of the goddess so heavily garlanded and covered in flowers it was difficult to see the idol itself. This headdress took some balancing, so the dancer moved very cautiously, whereas the six men, first carrying their pots and then with the bunches of pingaray were as vigorous as ever.

All the dancers, both local and from Mangalore, were obviously enjoying themselves immensely and it was so interesting to see dances from a beautiful region that has not yet succumbed to mass tourism. My grateful thanks to Naren and Jayanti for their limitless hospitality and for inviting me to their very special celebrations.

FRANCES HORROCKS

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Dear Folk,

Vic and I are glad we came up to town for the A.G.M. and dance. Some had said that the A.G.M. would be boring - it was not.

We put it to the meeting that the Committee should consider holding the A.G.M. on a Saturday, so long as there was the usual "icing on the cake" of a dance to follow. This would enable out-of-town members to attend and still be back home in time to go to work on Monday. Maybe it wouldn't matter if it were somewhere other than Cecil Sharp House.

We were interested to read Roger Sturge's report on the Summer School at Durham. Very comprehensive. I was interested in the comment about too much teaching at the evening dances and the possibility of walking through the dances during the afternoon. Please, no more afternoon commitments. The holding of the short course already scheduled is enough. As for the teaching, I prefer to call it helping with some of the evening dances. Over many summer schools, I have heard one or two people make such remarks, but I have heard many people say how grateful they are for the help. Please, "core" members, remember that the summer school attracts dancers from the length and breadth of the country and for many of us the evening dances are new dances! (see Julie Drinkwater's letter in November SIFD NEWS re being a first-timer). This point will be especially relevant if more schoolteachers are encouraged to come to future summer schools.

Happy dancing,

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

S.I. Mar.1st S.I.F.D. WEST MIDLANDS BRANCH ST.DAVID'S DAY DANCE (but not only Welsh dances!). 7.30-10.45 p.m. at Weoley Hill Village Hall, Weoley Hill, Selly Oak, Birmingham (off A38 Bristol Road South). M.C. Maggie Kaye. £2.00. Bring-and-share supper. For directions, ring Maggie on 0121 608 1437.

Mar.1st "MARTENITSA" HALF-DAY WORKSHOP AND SOCIAL BALKAN DANCE. Workshop with Frank Dowling 2.30 to 5.30 p.m. Social Dance 7.00 to 10.00 p.m. At Staveley Village Institute, Staveley (near Kendal). Live music. Cost £10.00 per person. Admission by ticket only. For information and tickets 'phone Clyde Olliver or Mike Machin on 01229 889 362.

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.

S.I. Mar.29th S.I.F.D. WEST MIDLANDS BRANCH BALKAN & ISRAELI DAY COURSE with Julie Korth. 10.30-1.00, 2.00-4.30 at Solihull Methodist Church Hall, Station Approach, off Blossomfield Road (B4102), Solihull. Close to both 'bus and railway stations and M42 Jn.5. S.I.F.D. members £7.00 all day, £4.00 half day; non-members £8/£5. Further details from Maggie Kaye on 0121 608 1437.

Mar.29th "MAKE A SONG AND DANCE WITH DESSI AND FRANK". One-day workshop of Croat Dances and Songs with Dessislava Stefanova and Frank Dowling. Live musical accompaniment from Mike Machin and Clyde Olliver. 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. at Birch Community Centre, Brighton Grove, Rusholme, Manchester. Cost £15.00 per person. Admission by ticket only. For tickets, send s.a.e. to Mike Machin, 2 Dove Bank, Kirkby in Furness, Cumbria LA17 7XD; cheques payable to Mike Machin. For information, 'phone Mike or Clyde Olliver on 01229 889 362.

Mar.29th SWEDISH MUSIC & DANCE EVENT. See p.11.

Apr.11th/13th RESIDENTIAL BULGARIAN COURSE with Nina Kavardjikova (recommended by Yves Moreau) in the HF guesthouse 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.

S.I. Apr.11th/14th 20TH GREAT ALPINE FOLK WEEKEND at Great Alpe Village Hall, near Alcester, Worcs. The usual full programme of International and British folk music and dance workshops, evening dances, walking, cycling etc. More details next month, or sooner from André Hobro, 0121 777 3722, or Maggie Kaye, 0121 608 1437.

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.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY, Contd.

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 2nd/5th EASTBOURNE INTERNATIONAL DANCE FESTIVAL. See p.11.

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

June 14th S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE.

June 28th/29th MILTON KEYNES INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL.

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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THE BALKAN PARTY, 7TH DECEMBER 2002

For those who enjoy Balkan dancing and music, the one event of the year which is not to be missed is the Balkan Party organized by the Zivko Firfov Group which was founded by Ken Ward, who was there himself again this year dancing with renewed vigour. This year, the party was held at its usual venue in Central London and was attended by over seventy dancers, the majority in costume. There were not only members of Zivko Firfov but also ten members from the new group at the Serbian church, many S.I.F.D. members and others, all of whom were made equally welcome. A much appreciated feature of the programme was that, except for a few special items, the music was pre-recorded by Ken, ensuring continuous dancing without gaps. The repertoire, which in early years had consisted primarily of dances from the various regions of the former Yugoslavia, has now been broadened to cover dances from other Balkan countries, including Bulgaria (led by Brian), Romania (Nick and Janet) and Greece (Maggie). Throughout, there was a good mixture of the more difficult dances and of easy ones which non-experts could readily join in and quickly follow.

What else was included? Firstly, an interlude in which girls in costume treated us to some beautiful Balkan singing. Then, finally, there was the usual magnificent buffet consisting of exciting dishes of food and drink, all prepared by a handful of volunteers.

A vote of thanks to all of those who contributed in one way or another to a wonderful evening - but especially to Irene Keywood who co-ordinated it all, as well as doing so much of the leg-work. By the time this note appears in SIFD NEWS it will be only ten months to next year's party. Do not miss it!

JACK RICHARDSON

ANYONE KNOW ANYONE NEEDING A LIVEIN HOMEHELP, AUPAIR?

In those idyllic far off days when we were all that much younger and young Silviu introduced lots of us to the magic of Romania and its wonderful dances and songs, long before the 'immigrant situation' and the influx of rogue gypsies like the one my mother was so kind to and was repaid by having her bill savings stolen (so difficult to equate with the fantastic musicians indefatigably bowing away for our delight well into the night and the colourful, full skirted charmers so easy to 'talk' to on the fringes of the street markets with their exotic wares ...) In those idyllic far off days and my very first trip to Romania and the unique Maramures delights in company with Sula, I met **Nicoleta Orzac** in Rozavlea. As you know I am not slow in coming forward when it is a matter of welcoming and saying hello, so I was the first one to leap out of our bus to greet our welcoming group of young children, teachers and elders in Rozavlea. They all hung back with great modesty and awkwardness, except for little Nicoleta, who seemed to take a breath and came resolutely forward towards me with her bunch of flowers, shy solemn smile and soft 'hello'. I was captivated, followed her in the dancing and was delighted to hear her solos in the singing, so I boldly sought her out and to cut a long story short began a long correspondence – even subsequent visit with Theo (my lovely Dutch friend who drove me there on our free afternoon). That was a magic time and 'his' special friend turned out to be the family of the young boy I had taken sundry photos of during a Romanian wedding celebration at the hotel we were staying at and I was thrilled to see he immediately produced the bundle of photos and my letter as soon as he saw me!! Nicoleta made us both so welcome offering us apples from their orchard and a drink and inviting us to eat with them. By then she must have been 14 years old I think, but even so her hospitality was so mature, simple and captivating in the absence of her schoolteacher mother, who came later and endorsed the welcome. Now years later she has a degree in history, post grad in socio-anthropological studies, experienced teacher and seeking to improve her (by now excellent) English with working in a family from **July 2003 – OCTOBER 2004**. It seems there are sundry rules and regulations she must abide by and this seems to preclude her earning a 'proper' living teaching in one of our schools (although I think she would be well capable of this). She is only allowed to work 5 hours per day (with remuneration as well as free board & lodging) and has to have time organised to attend English lessons – the prime reason for her trip.

Although most of my knowledge of her and her lovely family is by letter and now E mail, I have no hesitation in recommending her and her abilities to anyone out there who may be able to offer her such a position. As her father was killed when she was very young and her brave, strong mother brought up her and her brother and sister alone, they are all very self sufficient and used to hard manual work tending their fields, orchard and sheep, so I am sure she could turn her hand to several useful jobs. In that delightful rural village there was plenty of evidence of extended families and easy attention and care of the much younger children and babies, so I am sure she would be excellent with any young family. Anyone interested in Romanian dances and songs would have the bonus of a ready teacher there too. If only I could help her find a really nice place where she would be happy and give happiness, where I could come and visit her often and make sure she made the most of her trip.

SO IS THERE ANYONE OUT THERE WHO COULD HELP? OR MAKE A USEFUL SUGGESTION??? IF SO PLEASE CONTACT DIKI. 0208 363 1506.

Oak Lodge, Theobalds Park Road, Enfield, Middx. EN2 9BN. I'd be so

grateful for ANY help!

DIKI GLEESON.

EASTBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE FESTIVAL, 2ND-5TH MAY 2003

The full programme for the Festival is now complete and (hopefully) you will find a booking form attached to this issue of SIFD NEWS. You will see that there is plenty of variety and this year there will be even more international workshops. Most will be in the new re-vamped gym, some in the Community Centre to encourage you to walk around the festival site and perhaps sample something new.

Claire and Geoff Steeley will be there with the S.I.F.D. shop, so go in and browse between sessions of Macedonian, Czech, Slovak, Swedish, Indian and General International dances.

See you there.

JANET DOUGLAS

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SWEDISH MUSIC & DANCE - SATURDAY, 29TH MARCH

This is a preliminary notice of a Swedish music and dance event. Mats Berglund from Varmland, Sweden, will be teaching a two-day fiddle workshop on Saturday and Sunday, 29th and 30th March, from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. at the King and Queen pub, 1 Foley Street. We are planning an evening dance at Cecil Sharp House where the fiddle students will play.

There will be a dance workshop preceding this evening dance, where we will teach a variety of Swedish couple dances.

The exact times for the evening event have not yet been finalised. For further information, contact me on 020 8340 4683.

CASPAR CRONK

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BALKANPLUS, 8th February at Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London N.W.1. 7.00 to 10.30 p.m. £4.00. M.C.s: Martinitza Group with Toni Gutman, Greg Boyd and Rosette Rosenberg. This enterprising trio intend to start at 6.30 p.m. to revise Radonursko, a rather fast but fun dance from the Bulgarian Sop region, from Delyan Demirev. Time permitting, there will also be one or two others from his repertoire and these will be included in the evening dance. The rest of the programme will include some old favourites and some new dances, so be sure to be there.

FRANCES HORROCKS

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LAURA SHANNON has published her new leaflet giving details of the workshops she and Andy Betts will be running in 2003 (in eleven different countries). If anyone would like a copy, please contact Laura at "Rose of the Heart", 227 The Park, Findhorn Foundation, Forres, Moray IV36 3TB, Scotland. Tel: +44 (0)1309 690198.

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.

Mar.2nd No information re M.C.

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



WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY

- Feb.1st DAY COURSE OF IRISH SET DANCING WITH SOME GENERAL INTERNATIONAL, with Anne Leach, organized by Norwich I.F.D.G. 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. at John Innes Centre, Norwich Research Park, Colney. £10/£5. Ring 01603 460800 or 01508 538875 for details.
- 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 on 01323 503991.
- Feb.8th S.I.F.D. DAY COURSE - "GENTLEMEN'S RELISH". See p.3.
- S.I. Feb.8th BALKANPLUS. See p.11.
- Feb.15th PETE COOPER, fiddler and singer whose repertoire covers English, Irish, American, Eastern European and others. At the Cellar Upstairs Folk Club, The Cock Tavern, 23 Phoenix Road, London N.W.1. From 8.15 p.m. Entrance £5.00 (unwaged £4.00). Enquiries: 020 7281 7700. Ring at least two days before the evening if you wish to attend (to comply with local licensing laws).
- Feb.15th & 16th POLISH DANCE SPECTACULAR (5th Polish Folklore Festival in Great Britain) at the Ashcroft Theatre, Fairfield Halls, Park Lane, Croydon. Performances at 7.00 p.m. on Saturday, 15th, and at 4.00 p.m. on Sunday, 16th. Tickets £12 and £10 (adults), £8 (children), from Ewa Brzeska, Tel: 020 8840 4187, or from the theatre box office, 020 8688 9291.
- 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.