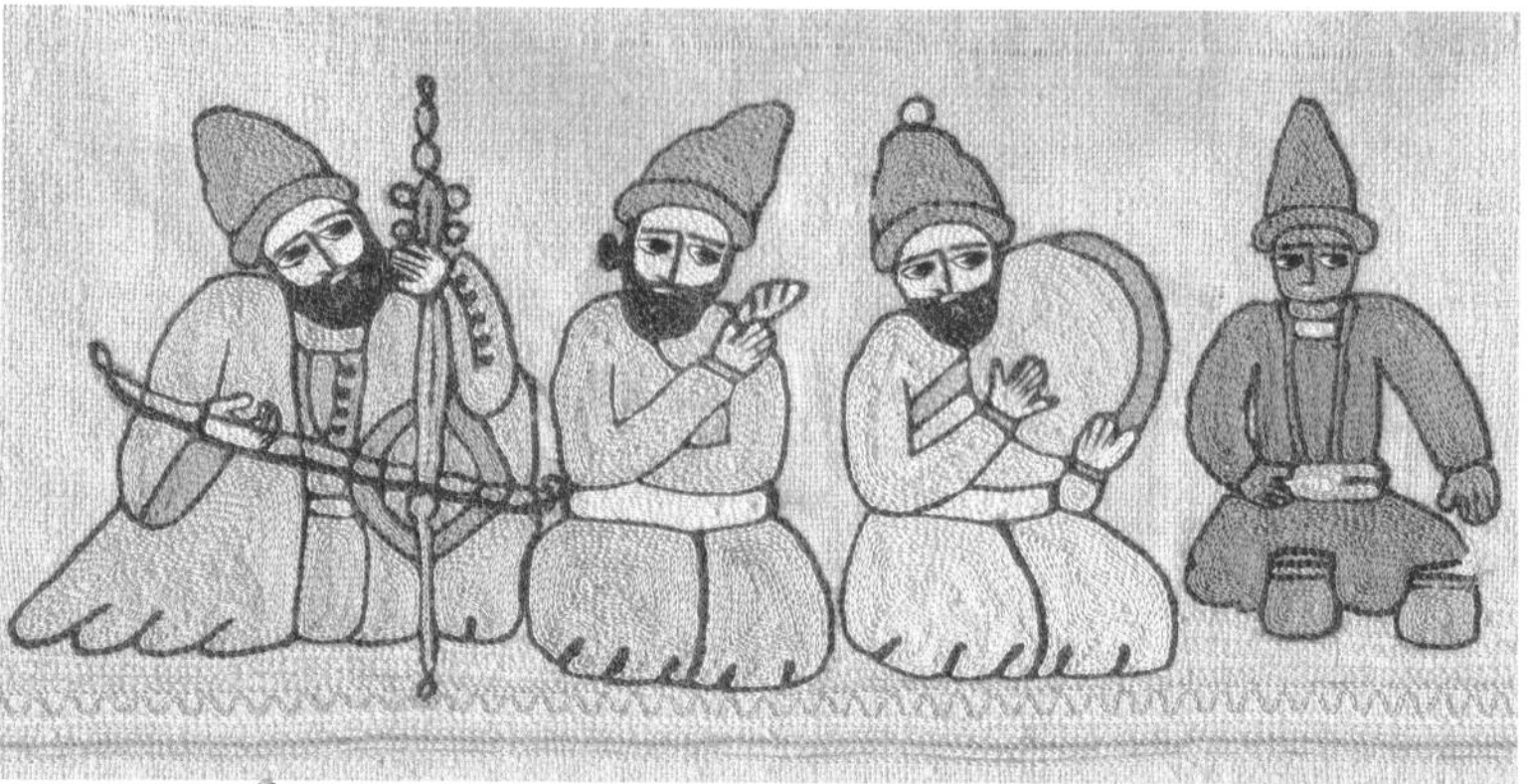




SIFD NEWS



January 2005



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 packaging and posting
is done by Dalila Heath.

--oOo--

This month's cover design was sent in by Janet Douglas and is an actual size
reproduction of antique Mongolian embroidery. The borders at the top and
bottom have been enlarged to show the detail which is fine silk on coarse cloth.

--oOo--

The SIFD Committee for 2005

CHAIRMAN: Janet Woolbar (Mrs.), 34a Prestwood Avenue, Kenton, Harrow,
Middlesex HA3 8JZ.

SECRETARY: Alison Scrimshaw (Mrs.), 22 Sherwood Park Road, Sutton, Surrey
SM1 2SQ. Tel: 020 8642 3385.

TREASURER: Judith Payling (Mrs.), Rosebank, 56 Quickley Lane, Chorleywood,
Rickmansworth, Herts. WD3 5AF.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY &
GROUPS LIAISON OFFICER: Alan Morton, 26 Durham Road, North Harrow, Middx.
HA1 4PG. Tel: 020 8427 8042. (See Alan's article
on p.4).

--oOo--

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 dances, people and places, if not typewritten.

HERE WE GO - INTO 2005

A New Year, 2005, has arrived and so we say a sad farewell to 2004.

The past year has been an interesting and busy one for folk dancers. All the Saturday monthly classes, with such diverse styles and teachers - brilliant. So instructive and great fun. The many regional day courses and the special weekend courses, all so much a feature and part of the SIFD structure. A popular event, and a must for all folk dancers, is the Eastbourne International Folk Dance Festival. An exciting event. Then there is the Llangollen, Billingham and Sidmouth Festivals, an opportunity to see and hear groups and musicians from overseas. A real experience.

For those who are interested and enjoy Spanish dance, there have been some really excellent companies visiting these shores. Other visitors have been the Russian Cossacks who did a marathon tour of the country, and also Russian Spectacular, a blend of music and dance, the dancers being from Belarus. To celebrate 125 years of Diplomatic Relations between Great Britain and Bulgaria, there was the Bulgarian Spectacular at the Royal Albert Hall, but for one night only. One must not forget all the festivals and courses overseas.

Then there are the very popular SIFD Sunday dances at Cecil Sharp House, all the work carried out by Balkanplus, and the SIFD groups appearing at Victoria Embankment in the summer. To brighten up the autumn October days, on to the scene came "Dance Around The World", two days of non-stop performing groups and workshops. This, the third year, and it gets better. Also this year, Magyar Magic, Hungary in Focus, a year-long series of cultural events celebrating Hungary's recent membership of the European Union. Did you catch any of them?

To wind up the year, there were Christmas folk parties galore. Anyone in the Northampton region may have caught the ISTD National Dance Awards, all very theatrical but extremely popular. Life as a folk dancer is never dull; there is never enough time (or money!) to see and do everything, but what opportunities the SIFD offers. So many dedicated teachers, so many organisers, so many groups, so much knowledge. Aren't we all the lucky ones.

Have fun in 2005.....can't wait.

ROBERT HARROLD



BALKANPLUS, 8th January 2005 at Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London N.W.1, 7.00-10.00 p.m. £4.00 M.C.: Frances Horrocks.

During the day, the SIFD have a Romanian Day Course and Nick Green has kindly agreed to revise some of the dances during the evening. There will also be a few of Yves Moreau's dances as a reminder of what we have to look forward to in the autumn, and no evening would be complete without some Turkish and Armenian, plus the usual popular dances from other parts.

The next Balkanplus will be on 12th February.

Don't forget to reserve the weekend of 10th/11th September for Yves Moreau's third visit to London, when he will be teaching varied Bulgarian dances from all regions. The course will be held at Cecil Sharp House and there will be a dance on the Saturday evening. Previous courses have been very popular and numbers will be limited for the comfort of all. Times and prices will be announced soon.

FRANCES HORROCKS

SIFD SUMMER SCHOOL
22ND TO 29TH JULY 2006

Following the success of the 2004 Summer School, the Planning Team has decided to book Swansea again for 2006. Please put the date in the back of your 2005 diary, ready to transfer to your 2006 diary when you get it.

We are planning a similar format to Durham 2002 and Swansea 2004: two main countries, a general course in two parts so that it can be combined with one or other of the main countries, and a choice of short courses and workshops, plus the usual costume parade and evening social dances.

We shall be looking for specialist teachers for the two main countries, native to the country concerned if at all possible. Many readers of the SIFD NEWS will know of such teachers and will have preferences for teachers and countries. We'll be glad of your ideas and knowledge.

If you have any suggestions you wish to make to the Planning Team, please send them to Janet Woolbar as soon as possible, not later than the end of February 2005.

Janet's address: 34A Prestwood Avenue, Kenton, Harrow HA3 8JZ
or e-mail: Janet.Woolbar@care4free.net

Planning Team: Maggie Kaye, Pam Radford, Roger Sturge (convenor), Janet Woolbar

ROGER STURGE

MEMBERSHIP & GROUPS LIAISON OFFICER

Having been in the job for some eighteen years, I think it is time to hand over to a younger person. It would be timely to hand it over whilst it is in good shape as the peak renewals period has passed for this year, but health problems now need to be taken into account. Please write to either Janet Woolbar or myself (addresses on p.2) if you feel interested in taking over.

Season's greetings to everyone.

ALAN MORTON

FOLKDANCE RECORDS

I have three duplicate Balkan folkdance 7" records I'd like to find a good home for. Anyone who is into Balkan is welcome to them.

Folkraft 1528x45 Sweet Girl and Toi Nergis (Armenian)

Michael Herman MH45-3057 Pravo Horo and Kynstendilska Ruchenitsa (Bulgarian)

Dances of Bulgaria DB-8105 Kotlenska Ručenica and Dujni Ranke, Panagjursko Horo and Kucinata (Bulgarian 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ rpm)

CYRIL FLEISHER
78 Fengate Mobile Home Park,
Peterborough PE1 5XE

Music from the EPs

I have now recorded the music from EP12 and EP13 onto tape several times, and have enjoyed it so much I thought I must encourage you to enjoy it too!

To refresh your memories, the Twelve Circle Dances on side A are

Hora Din Teiš	Makažice	Ersko Kolo	Simi Yadech
Hora Agadati	Tsamikos	Romansko Kolo	Opšaj Diri
Čačak	Vranjanka	Neda Grivna	Tzadik Katamar

All are played, and some sung, beautifully by Dunav.

By contrast, the Six Social Dances on side B are

Steiregger	Mexican Waltz	Oige Ja Vasemba
Jaeger Marsch	Russian Lyrical Dance	Russian Waltz

These are most skilfully played by SIFD musicians.

They all make you want to dance, so at only £2.50 (+ p&p.£1), can I tempt you....?

Alison Scrimshaw, 22 Sherwood Park Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM1 2SQ 020 8642 3385



EASTBOURNE FESTIVAL UPDATE

Unfortunately, neither Fiona Howarth nor Yves le Blanc are able to take part in the Eastbourne Festival, so there are some changes.

Corry Verheijen will return to Eastbourne again this year to M.C. the Balkan evening with her old friends "Duo Izvor Plus". She will also present two workshops with live music from "Klaption Klezmer".

"Twm Twp" will appear with Mike James with a mix of Breton and Welsh dance workshops.

We still need stewards. Do you know that if you offer yourself as a fulltime weekend steward you can sleep in a classroom? and...be fed? and...wear a badge? ...direct traffic? If you are interested, contact me or Richard Wright (01273 835759).

JANET DOUGLAS



DANCING IN MACEDONIA

Ibrahim Rizevski and Paja and Madelon Milic have organized a dance seminar/holiday to take place at Lake Ohrid, Macedonia, in a hotel with its own beach on to the lake. The seminar will start after dinner on 31st July and finish on 11th August after breakfast. There will be two days for excursions and the cost of the seminar and all meals and accommodation will be 500 euros. Flights are not included.

Further details will follow in February. If you are interested, please contact John or Janet Douglas, Tel: 01243 265010.

C.C.P.R.

Central Council for Physical Recreation

The CCPR was founded in 1935 by a PE teacher who was concerned by the poverty caused by the Depression and the consequent problems for the young and others in the poorest areas so she conceived the idea that leaders of sports should co-operate and find opportunities for them to live an active life. The CCPR soon grew and the value of movement and dance was soon appreciated and added to its aims and it was understood that 'sport' and 'sports clubs' included those organizations involved in dance.

Generally, the CCPR is a democratic body run by members for members and often finds itself in opposition to the Government, an example being opposition to some of the provisions of the recent Licensing Bill. It now represents over 270 sports bodies including some 25-30 groups in the Movement and Dance Division. Very roughly, these can be divided into three or perhaps four types. One is the ballroom dance bodies which are well organized and deal with teaching standards, awards etc. and are involved in DanceSport. Next is the largest group in terms of individual members, the movement section which covers Keep Fit, Medau, Margaret Morris, Laban and others. Although these have some male members most are women. The third covers ourselves, the EFDSS, the Scottish Country Dance Society and the Dolmetsch Historical Dance Society. All these feature partner dances so that membership includes both sexes. There are a number of bodies which do not fit into any category, such as Yoga, Cheerleaders and so on. All these have different aspirations but there is a real attempt to find common ground so we can all go forward.

For us there a number of advantages. At one time, the CCPR arranged dance 'fairs' under its own direction, giving the NGBs space to show their specialities through workshops and to display their publicity and to sell their products. Now, financial constrictions make this impossible so that it has to be done in co-operation with commercial bodies, but the CCPR usually has a stand where information on dance groups can be obtained and their publicity shown in addition to the M & D's own well-designed leaflet which gives our details. Some of John Douglas' material was available at the recent show at Wembley. A number of the dance NGBs at the last meeting felt the organization at this event left something to be desired and the CCPR passed their comments on to the organizers. The earlier one at Bexhill, it was agreed, was a great success and again our material was displayed but unfortunately we had no workshops.

Another CCPR event in which the Society is closely involved is the Dance Fest at the Royal Albert Hall. Jill Bransby (General European), Frances Horrocks (twice - Romanian and Bukgarian) in past years, and now Helen Clancy will be staging our 2005 item. Potentially useful to us would be the guidance that can be obtained from the CCPR's financial and legal advisors, made possible by the Council's status and access to Ministers. On occasions, their advice has been asked and one example, following it, as members will have seen, the "S.I." (Society Insured) has been added to our events diary.

The SIFD has been affiliated to the CCPR since the early '50s and our relationship has always been good and I have represented us at the Division meetings for some time. Because of their wide coverage, not everything the CCPR does is of interest to us. The M & D officers are highly regarded in the CCPR as a whole. Both Hilary Weedon, recently retired Chairman, and Margaret Peggie, who produced many of the Royal Albert Hall shows and now heads the British Sports Trust, are now Vice-Presidents of the Council.

GEORGE SWEETLAND

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Feb.11th/13th Friday to Sunday INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE COURSE led by Phil and Brenda Steventon at The Earnley Concourse, Chichester. For more details, ring 01243 670 392.

S.I. Feb.12th SIFD DAY COURSE - CORNISH. See p.10.

S.I. Feb.12th BALKANPLUS.

S.I. Feb.19th/20th JAN KNOPPERS will teach dances from faraway exotic places in Bognor Regis. £30.00 SIFD members, £35 non-members. Contact Janet Douglas, Oak Cottage, 92 Rose Green Road, Bognor Regis PO21 3EQ. Tel: 01243 265010.

S.I. Feb.25th/27th SIFD WEST MIDLANDS BRANCH WEEKEND at The Paddocks Hotel, Symonds Yat West, Ross-on-Wye, Glos. with dance teaching by Frank Dowling and Sue Clark. Cost £95.00 per person in twin or double en-suite rooms. Almost full, but contact Maggie Kaye for more information. 0121 608 1437.

S.I. Mar.12th SIFD DAY COURSE.

Mar.18th/20th RESIDENTIAL WEEKEND with Bob Neal at Freshwater Bay, Isle of Wight. All inclusive cost for the weekend £126 en-suite, £116 with wash-basin. Further details from Pamela Le Goaziou, 55 Mitchell Road, Bedhampton, Hants. PO9 3QA. Tel: 023 9264 1028. £30 deposit secures place, s.a.e. please.

S.I. Mar.19th PORTUGUESE DAY COURSE with Janet Woolbar, organized by Nutbrook IFDG, at Stevenson School, Stapleford, Nottingham. 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. £7.00 (£4.00 half-day). For further details, ring 01332 701922 or 0115 917 1831.

S.I. Mar.19th/20th MACEDONIAN FOLKDANCE COURSE with Paul Mulders at Chorlton, Manchester and Calver, Derbyshire. £20 or £12 a day for SIFD members. Further information from Julie Korth, Holly Cottage, off Wigan Road, Aspull, Nr.Wigan WN2 1EF. Tel: 01942 831141.

S.I. Apr.9th SIFD DAY COURSE.

Apr.15th/17th RESIDENTIAL COURSE OF ROMANIAN FOLK DANCES with Silviu Ciuciumis at Malhamdale, Yorkshire Dales. Comfortable en-suite accommodation, full board. Indoor swimming pool. Choice of General or Advanced course, or both courses. Delightful area for walking. Malham Cove nearby. Non-dancing friends and family welcome. Full board accommodation £117. Each course £16. For full details and booking form please send s.a.e. to Cathy Meunier, 115 Chetwynd Road, London NW5 1DA. FEW PLACES LEFT. APPLY BY 15TH JANUARY.

S.I. Apr.29th-May 2nd DANCING/WALKING WEEKEND at Halsway Manor. See Jack Richardson's article in last month's SIFD NEWS.

Apr.29th-May 2nd EASTBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE FESTIVAL.

S.I. May 7th/8th "FROM THE ADRIATIC TO THE BLACK SEA", a non-residential weekend course with Maggie O'Regan and Marina Wolstenholme, organized by Edinburgh IFDG in the Columcille Centre, Newbattle Terrace, Edinburgh. Whole weekend (including dance) £18.00; one day's workshop £9.00; Saturday evening dance £3.00. Contact: Ruth Bowman, 1 Church Hill Place, Edinburgh EH10 4BE.

S.I. June 11th SIFD DAY COURSE.

July 5th/10th INTERNATIONAL EISTEDDFOD, LL'ANGOLLEN.

S.I. July 9th SIFD DAY COURSE.

Contd...

Contd...

Aug.27th/Sept.3rd ONE WEEK INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE COURSE led by Phil and Brenda Steventon at Haytor, for HF Holidays. For more details, ring 020 8905 9388.

Sept.10th/11th BULGARIAN DANCE WORKSHOP with Yves Moreau. Details later.



ROY GOODWIN

Those who know him will be very sorry to hear that Roy Goodwin has suffered a stroke. He was at home and was only found after two days. The stroke has affected his left side and he is unable to move his left arm and leg; he is able to speak but his face is badly bruised. We hope he will improve during his stay in hospital, but time will tell. At the moment he is in Ward North 5 at Ealing Hospital, Uxbridge Road, Southall, Middx.

Roy has been a member of the SIFD for many years and is (I think) a regular visitor to Balkanplus.

MARGARET MANLEY



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Lily,

Having read Rowena Martin's letter about a plea for teaching videos, I agree with everything she suggests.

I think it is very important to record (on video cassettes) dances selected by the experienced teachers. To have them on DVDs as well would be good because video tape players may soon be scarce. It would be a lot of work for a few people, but I'm sure it is necessary. The dances could be enjoyed by more people and preserved for future generations.

I do my best to teach International Dance on the Isle of Wight but my repertoire is limited because of a lack of visual material. I can't manage to go to most of the workshops so I would really appreciate being able to buy the videos and music.

Best wishes,

MAVIS BOWNAS
33 Place Road, Cowes,
Isle of Wight PO31 7UA

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Dear Lily,

Thank you, thank you, thank you - first to Frank Dowling for his inspirational teaching at the SIFD Greek Day Course on 20th November; secondly to you the members for being there and making it such a friendly gathering and for staying on to the A.G.M. for what turned out to be a healthy debate; and lastly to Margaret and Alan Morton who, as always, made us so very welcome in their home and acted as escort for us in London. Happy dancing to everyone.

SUE and VIC CLARK, 22 Church Rd
Roch, Haverfordwest SA62 6BG

ARMENIAN FOLK DANCE WITH TINEKE VAN GEEL AT BRECON

28TH TO 30TH OCTOBER 2005

Tineke Van Geel is a wonderful folkdance teacher, full of enthusiasm for her specialist interest, Armenian folk dance. She has regularly visited Armenia to study folklore and has worked with several amateur groups there. Tineke lives in Holland, and it is a few years since she last taught in England. She has a world-wide reputation as a much respected dance teacher and those who have attended her courses are full of praise for her teaching.

This residential weekend will be held at the HF country house hotel in Brecon, South Wales. It includes comfortable twin, double or single en-suite accommodation and full board with a plentiful choice of good food. There is also a heated indoor swimming pool. Dancers can select either the General or Advanced course or both courses, and there will be social dancing in the evenings. There are some delightful walks in the valleys, the Brecon Beacons and Black Mountains, and full and half-day walks will be offered. Non-dancing friends and family are welcome to come and enjoy the facilities of the house, the walks and the attractions of this area. Full board accommodation is £118, and each course is £17.

For full details and booking form, please send s.a.e. to me at 115 Chetwynd Road, London NW5 1DA. Alternatively, you can get the information electronically by sending your request to cathy_meunier@hotmail.com

CATHY MEUNIER

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OTHER RESIDENTIAL WEEKEND NEWS

Weekend of Israeli and International folk dance with Fiona Howarth in Bournemouth, 28th-30th January 2005 is now fully booked. Places available only if there are cancellations. (See "What's On" p.11).

Weekend of Romanian dance with Silviu Ciuciumis in Malhamdale, 15th-17th April 2005. Just a few places left. Please apply by 15th January. (See "Dates For Your Diary" p.7).

Weekend of Bulgarian folk dance with Yves Moreau in Malhamdale, 7th-9th April 2006. Two or three days weekend. More details later.

CATHY MEUNIER

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POLISH FOLK COSTUMES

Those of you who were members of the S.I.F.D.. in the 1970s and '80s may remember the beautiful costumes worn by members of "Jacy Tacy" in their many concerts and demonstrations. Sadly, there is little interest in the Society in Polish dancing these days but the costumes remain. We should like any group who may include some Polish dances in their repertoire to borrow some of them, if they wish, for their demonstrations. To do this, contact either Tony Latham on 020 8992 9445 or me on 020 8980 9650.

BETTY HARVEY

LOIDIS INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE GROUP

Our group is now twenty-one years old and thriving well. We have had celebrations this year, the first being an evening with a party atmosphere when Fella taught us some new Israeli dances and we then had food and finished the evening with general social dancing. We were joined on this occasion by Kaye Poole, who is known to many of you, and although now not as fit as she would like, she managed to enjoy at least one dance with us. Also, big surprise, Peggy and Roy ('Oscar') Haycock were on a week's holiday visiting various places and our evening fitted in with their plans. It's some years since Ian and I have seen them and it was good to reminisce about Harrow Green days, among other things. We should be pleased to see any SIFD members who are in the vicinity on a Thursday evening. Our address is Moor Allerton Sports & Social Club, Stonegate Road, Moortown, Leeds 17. Ring Jean or Ian Willson on 01423 505006 for further details.

The second celebration was a very enjoyable day when Marina Wolstenholme ran a workshop for us and we now have even more dances in our repertoire. We followed the workshop with a meal in the evening, which rounded the day off very well. Incidentally, since we have been running, our records show that we have been taught over 450 different dances - although we personally would be hard pressed to remember them all!

Several of our members attend Cathy Meunier's weekends, which are always excellent. Two members attended the SIFD Summer School and four of us have twice been to Days of Dance held in Saltaire, West Yorkshire, to run workshops in international folk dancing.

We wish all our folkdance friends, both new and old, a happy and prosperous new year.

JEAN & IAN WILLSON



SIFD DAY COURSE, SATURDAY, 12TH FEBRUARY 2005

CORNISH TRADITIONAL DANCE

<u>Place:</u> Cecil Sharp House	<u>Time:</u> 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.
<u>Cost:</u> SIFD members £6.00 Non-members £8.00	<u>Tutors:</u> Merv & Alison Davey with musicians "PYBA"

This very enthusiastic and experienced Cornish family group will introduce us to the variety of Cornish dances which reflects Cornwall's unique identity and distinctive history. There are dances from their industrial past and influences in other dances from their place on the sea routes between the Continent and Ireland. There are Feast Day dances, Ceili dances, step dances - in fact, something for everyone!

We are advised to wear hard, or outdoor, shoes.

Anyone wishing to find out more about Cornish dance before the event can do so on www.An-Daras.com

PAM RADFORD

S.I. SIFD SUNDAY DANCE/WORKSHOPS AT Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Rd., N.W.1

Jan.2nd M.C.s: The SIFD Committee

PLEASE WEAR COSTUME

7.00 to 10.00 p.m. Admission £5.00 for SIFD members, £7.00 for non-members.

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WHAT'S ON IN JANUARY

S.I. Jan.8th BALKANPLUS. See p.3.

S.I. Jan.8th SIFD DAY COURSE, ROMANIAN. See below.

Jan.22nd OXFORD BALKANSKO ORO NEW YEAR PARTY 2005 with live music by "Vuhpros". 7.00-10.45 p.m. at St.Margaret's Parish Institute Hall, Polstead Road, Oxford. Tickets at door £6.00.

Jan.28th to 30th RESIDENTIAL COURSE OF ISRAELI AND INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE with Fiona Howarth in Bournemouth. En-suite accommodation. Non-dancing friends and family welcome. Accommodation £90.00. Dance course, including evening dances, £20.00. For full details and booking form please send s.a.e. to Cathy Meunier, 115 Chetwynd Road, London NW5 1DA. FULLY BOOKED, see p.9.

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SIFD ROMANIAN DAY COURSE

8TH JANUARY 2005

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

Place: Cecil Sharp House

Cost: SIFD members £6.00
Non-members £8.00

Tutors: Nick Green & Liz Mellish

Nick and Liz will be teaching a further selection of Romanian dances from their repertoire of "mainly village" dances which covers the various dance types and typical step patterns from the different ethnographic regions of Romania.

They are posting their teaching programme on their website at www.eliznik.co.uk click "Dance Classes", and hope to have a provisional programme there over the Christmas holidays. Their extensive Romanian ethnography site is at www.eliznik.org.uk