

SIFD NEWS



November 2006

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

registered charity number 284509

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The typing is done by Janet Douglas.
The packaging and posting is done by Dalila Heath.



The cover this month is a photo, taken last year by Andrew Hardwick, of two performers at the Koprivshitsa Festival in Bulgaria. The motif this month is from the Barlow group logo.



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SIFDNews email bounceback:

SIFDNews mail gets forwarded to two other addresses for de-spamming. Unfortunately we have had a problem with one of the routes our emails follow resulting in some of you receiving a 'message not delivered' response. This is because hotmail has updated its spam filters and decided that SIFD News mail was not even deliverable. However all emails were received via the alternative route. John is working on the problem.

Ed.



Membership Renewal

Before I print the labels for the December News I shall be going through the database and (reluctantly) deleting the addresses of the few members who have not so far rejoined for 2006/2007. If you have just forgotten, please rejoin now.

Membership Secretary ; 01992 577065 ; sguest@iee.org"

Simon Guest



A Big 'Thank You'

Thank you to all who helped to make the 60th Anniversary Dance such a success. Here is a list of 'cast and crew', in no particular order:-

- Dorien Bates for manning the door – she wielded the scissors with great authority!
- Simon Guest for designing and producing the art work for the tickets and programmes. Also on the night, Simon 'cracked the whip' on the timekeeping of the MC slots. (We didn't dare to overrun!)
- Janet Woolbar for organising her school secretary to make the celebration cake. Wasn't it beautiful?
- Jerry Stuart and Artur Wojcik for the lovely refreshments.
- Tony Latham for bringing some archive material, which hopefully brought back old memories of earlier days. Also thanks to many other members who brought group scrap books and photos. (We wish we'd had time to look)
- Thanks to all the callers: Jeanette Hull, Charles Steventon, Maggie Kaye, Bob Robinson, Simon Guest, Janet Woolbar. Thanks also to Joan Guest for leading the Polonez. We had a nice variety of dances; we hope you enjoyed the programme.
- Thanks to Dave Wedd and Caspar Cronk for the 'sound'. There is a lot of work that goes on before, during and after the dance to enable you to enjoy your dancing.
- Thanks to Martin Butler and all the SIFD band for the lovely music and all the hard work that went into the preparation for this dance.
- Thanks to Caroline Thomas and Dunav for their wonderful sound. As Martin said, 'the best bit of the evening was when the two bands played together at the end of the evening'. This symbolised the great spirit of cooperation shown at the dance.
- Thanks to members who brought the banners and posters, along with Helen's flags and the wonderful costumes that folks wore, they really lifted the event.
- Thanks to all who came from far and wide to make it such a special occasion.

Here's to the next one!

Jill Bransby and Helen Ezra

Congratulations to Helen, Jill and all who contributed to the organisation of the excellent 60th Anniversary Dance at Cecil Sharp House. The small (but select!) contingent from Loidis IFDG enjoyed every moment of this super event.

The food was delicious, certainly for those who managed to wrest themselves away from the dancing long enough to eat it!

The bands excelled themselves, making it even more difficult to tear oneself away for refreshments. For Jean and I, it was a lovely trip down Memory Lane once more; how is it that dancers never seem to grow old?

I've managed to capture a fair few old faces for posterity; what a boon is the digital camera! I attach a sample couple of shots that readers of the News might like to see.



“The Three Graces”

left to right:
Janet Woolbar
Joan Guest
Frances Horrocks

“Caroline and the massed bands”



For anybody who knows that I took their picture, and would like to see it, just send an email to me at thewillsons@tiscali.co.uk and I'll do my best to get a jpeg back to you in the near future.

Jean and Ian Willson, (Loidis IFDG)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- S.I. **Dec.2nd ZIVKO FIRFOV BALKAN PARTY** St. Alban's Centre, Baldwins Gardens, EC1N 7AB. Nearest underground station: Chancery Lane. (Central Line). Time 7.00 – 10.30pm Price £7 incl. refreshments. Dances from Croatia & Macedonia also from Bulgaria, Greece & Romania. Cheques payable to 'The Zivko Firfov Folklore Group'. s.a.e please; tickets from Irene Keywood, 133 Third Ave., Dagenham, Essex. RM10 9BD tel: 0208 592 4427. Admission by ticket only
- S,I **Dec. 2nd SIFD W. MIDLANDS BRANCH** Half-day Workshop and Christmas Dance at Solihull Methodist Church Hall, Blossomfield Road, Solihull. 3.00 - 5.30pm. Balkan dances with Roger Wicksteed, followed by W.Mids. AGM. Christmas Dance 7.30 - 10.30pm. MC Maggie Kaye. More details from Maggie on 0121-608-1437.
- Dec.9th A.G.M.** Cecil Sharp House. 1.00-2.30pm (and dancing 10.30-12, and 3.00-4.30pm)
- S.I **Dec.9th BALKANPLUS** with MC Frances Horrocks
- S.I **Dec. 29th TWIXMAS DANCE PARTY** at Stone Cross Memorial Hall, nr.Eastbourne 10.30am–5pm. (jnc. B2104/B2247) Cost£5. Bring-and-share dances and lunch. Enquiries: Rowena Martin 01323 503991 or RowenaHMartin@hotmail.com
- Jan.20th/21st RUSSIAN DANCE COURSE** with Hennie Konings. venue to be announced. contact Janet Wilks 0207 229 9387, janetwilks@tiscali.co.uk
- Feb. 17th/18th GREEK DANCE COURSE** taught by Angie Saravelaki, from the Dora Stratou Company in Athens; Bognor Regis Community College £36 for weekend. £20 for one day only. For map, accommodation list and booking form contact: Janet & John Douglas, Oak Cottage, 92 Rose Green Road, Bognor Regis, West Sussex. PO21 3EQ tel:01243 265010 or: angie@interfolk.co.uk
- Mar.10th/11th KALITSA TSOVALAS-PANTAZIS** Sat:11am–5pm St.Ninians U.R.Church Hall, Egerton, Derbyshire. Sat.evening party 7-10pm. MC Mike Machin. Sun:10.30am-4.30pm Calver Village Hall, Manchester. £25 (includes party) Day only £14. Party £3(non-SIFD members add £2 to each fee. Julie Korth, Holly Cottage, Off Wigan Rd.Aspull Wigan. WN2 1EF (please include s.a.e.)
- Mar.30th/Apr. 2nd RESIDENTIAL COURSE OF ROMANIAN FOLK DANCE** with Silviu Cuicuimis at Derwent Bank, Lake District. Comfortable en-suite accommodation, full-board. Choice of General or Intermediate course, or both courses. Superb area for mountain, lakeside and valley walking. Non-dancing friends and family welcome. Full board accommodation (3 nights) £179. Single course £25, both courses £45. For details and booking form please send s.a.e. to Cathy Meunier 115 Chetwynd Rd, London, NW5 1DA or email your request to cathy_meunier@hotmail.com.
- May 4th/7th EASTBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE FESTIVAL** line-up includes Jan Knoppers, Hennie Konings, Dutch Dip, Clyde Olliver, (international dance workshops) Fri., Sat. and Sun.Evening Dances plus dance displays. Booking office: 01278 424332 or 07970 436337
- S.I **May 4th/7th (or 8th) SIFD LONG BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND** at HALSWAY MANOR, an attractive folk-lore centre on the edge of the Quantocks and near the north Somerset and Devonshire coast and Exmoor. Join in Folk Dancing and walking (or just sightseeing!) A full-day outing with coach transport and packed lunch provided on the Sunday to the coast or Exmoor. Inclusive cost about £160 for 3 nights with supplements for the 4th night or en-suite bedrooms. Enquiries and further details from Jack Richardson 01792 403153

Events covered by SIFD 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.

Folk Dance Workshop at Flumet

(French Alps near Mt. Blanc)
from DECEMBER 26th to JANUARY 1st 2007

Serbian dances with Radojica Kuzmanovic and Milivoje Branisljevic
Turkish dances with Ersin Seyhan

Arrival 26th afternoon, departure the 1st after lunch.

The 19th consecutive seminar will be held in "HOTEL PANORAMIC" at Flumet, 10mins from Megeve, (nearest airport Geneva). Skiing is possible in Flumet, home of 1992 Olympics.

Radojica Kuzmanovic is the manager of the Serbian state folk ensemble "KOLO" where he was lead solo dancer.

Musician accordionist and singer: Milivoje Branisljevic of the KOLO orchestra.

Ersin Seyhan teacher and choreographer of Turkish dances, he lives in Holland, and teaches in all Europe. He has taught in Flumet before, when we enjoyed his enthusiasm, and professionalism a lot.

Price of the seminar for 6 days in full-board :

Rooms with washbasin or bathroom: 440 EUR (double rooms are reserved for couples), otherwise rooms for 3, 4 or 5)

Children from 3 to 6 years will pay 108 EUR and from 6 to 12 years 162 EUR, from 12 to 18 years 280 EUR. Non-dancing partners 340 EUR. Supplement for a single room 120 EUR.

Programme:

Traditional dances of different regions of Serbia and Turkey 3 hours in the morning, and 2 hours in the end of the afternoon, and evening dinner parties with your favourite dances and singing with Milivoje.

Level of dance: intermediate and advanced. You will be able to buy the CDs of the programme.

For New Year's Eve party, theme for fancy dress will be: "Pirates"

Please book by November 15th

Francoise Djokovic
5 A rue de l'Abbaye de Foitenay
F- 21240 TALANT

Tel 00 33 3 80 58 27 58 or 0033 8 60 43 52 64

e-mail: francoise.djokovicl8D-stmail.com

Your registration will be available after sending the filled in registration form and an advance payment of 100 EUR (by bank transfer to the following bank account:

FRANCOISE DJOKOVIC SWIFT :CCBPFRRPPDJN

IBAN : FR76 1080 7004 0601 3192 3693 907

Registration form FLUMET 200612007

Name : First name:

Address:

Phone : E-mail :

Age (for children only):



Dance weekend 23rd-25th March

Residential Weekend with Bob Neal at Freshwater, Isle of Wight. Dances from Romania, Russia, Israel and the Balkans at superb HF hotel in twin en suite rooms. Non dancing partners welcome. Cost £146. For details tel. Claire 01243 788833

Claire Wilton

More memories by Ken.

Previously I have mentioned the names of people who were around when I joined so many years ago; and who were instrumental in the development of the Society.

(This photo taken at an Inns of Court Mission Sunday Dance in the 50's: left to right.

Ken Ward, Ruth Sharp, Mourrie Pfeffer and Cliff Beck.)



Now I want to mention Jack and Joan Richardson.

I first came across Jack in the early 1950's when he was on the staff of Imperial College, London, in the department of Chemical Engineering and in a position to make use of some of the college facilities. On a Wednesday evening he organised dances on the Rector's lawn in Exhibition RD, almost in view of the Royal Albert Hall. They were in full view of the public who were no doubt a little puzzled by what they saw but hopefully enjoyed. I think that there was a public address system or perhaps Mourrie played, I can't remember. The dances were, very enjoyable and we always seemed to have good weather.

When Jack moved to Swansea University as professor at the head of a department he was able to initiate a summer residential course in international folk dancing and the Swansea course was born. The first was based at the large house in the grounds of Singleton Park, the university campus and was very successful. I taught Yugoslav dances, a relatively unknown factor, (or was it at the second course?) and I think Robert Harrold taught South American. There might also have been a general course.

Among others, I remember meeting Marina Wolstenholm who was at the College of Physical Education in Sheffield; and later the Zivko Firfov group arranged a couple of teaching weekends for her and put on a full concert in the grand hall of the huge Georgian mansion where the college was housed. Later on together with a few friends we travelled to Macedonia to attend a dance course organised by Pece Antanasovski who I already knew as he was a friend of Zivko Firfov.

Later the activities moved into the modern buildings of the main college where it remained. I was a regular visitor and taught a couple of times. It was very hard work and after two weeks I was shattered.



I remember other teachers - Magda Oska from Budapest, Eili Eistraat from the Estonian community in London, Hans and Ilse Steigle originally from Vienna, Lucile Armstrong who taught Spanish and Portuguese, and many others. (This a photo of a 60's Final Night Procession at a Swansea Course. Margery Latham and Ken Ward carrying the cake; behind them - Frances Horrocks and Eili Eistraat of the Estonian Group, one of the teachers.)

The afternoons were free and every Wednesday Jack organised a coach trip along the beautiful Gower coast to swim and dance on the beach.

We did crazy things. I have a slide of Joan Guest garlanded with seaweed and with a long train also of seaweed, I think she was Queen Neptune. Other activities were arranged after dinner before the evening dance usually in a science lab which had the facilities for showing films and slides. I remember especially some Bulgarian and Romanian films showing the most beautiful costumes and of course some dancing. (I think it might be useful if films showing dancing in the country concerned could be shown at dance courses, currently one has to watch the teacher. I am not doubting the teacher's ability but I think that native dancers en mass have a special quality. Of course this is not always practical, but now in the era of video and DVD not impossible)

I remember giving a slide show on Yugoslav costumes, and other people contributed with material relevant to the course. One year Jack asked me if I could arrange a costume exhibition so I took up some items from my collection, and with contributions from others set it up improvising with tables and chairs. It continued every course for a while and was open to the public.

After dinner many congregated in a large room in the students' block for singing and games and whatever. I remember Bert Price's homemade beer and Simon Guest's wine which came to be known as "National Health". Fiona Howarth's crazy song games including 'In the Greenwood' which confused everyone. Marina's 'There's a hole in my bucket, dear Liza, dear Liza', Katrina's Swiss song in a most terrible dialect entitled "Shlump!".

Sometimes there were events during the evening dance - I remember Magda's Hungarian puppet show, and a Welsh clog dance. I remember members of my class performing the silent 'Licko kolo', for the first time. Other class members also showed something special from their teaching sessions. One year the course moved up to Edinburgh, but somehow it was not the same and it moved back to Swansea. However I did meet Jill Turner who was teaching in Edinburgh. I had met her in 1966 at a seminar in Yugoslav Folk dances held in Pula on the Adriatic coast. The teachers were from different parts of the country and were researchers and collectors who travelled around the villages. There were also classes in singing and Labanne dance notation.

I always enjoyed my visits to Swansea, as there was such a happy and friendly atmosphere.

Ken Ward

More 60th Anniversary Dance Pictures (from Andrew Hardwick)



far left:
Alan Trangmar with Trefusis
horns

left:
Frances Horrocks encouraging
Helen Ezra as she cuts the cake



left: Sally Fletcher



right: Bob Robinson

Yellow Tassle, Blue Adriatic/ or Dance in Dalmatia

Historic Dubrovnik, attractive to tourists for its fabulous setting in the wondrous blue Adriatic, is not the first place to seek out Balkan music and dance. In August we were staying on the beautiful pine and oleander-clad Lapad peninsula just outside Dubrovnik, close to a hotel which provided middle-of-the-road live music every night echoing round the small bay! However, there was respite from this as Dubrovnik was holding its 57th summer festival of music, drama and dance. The events take place annually in the delightful setting of the old town surrounded by its majestic and defiant walls. The Folklore Ensemble Lindjo, founded in Dubrovnik in 1964, put on several performances in the coolness of the night atop the Revelin Fortress.

The origin of the name Lindjo (a dance from the Dubrovnik coastal region) is uncertain, possibly named after the dance leader Nikola Lindjo, or the local name of the *lijerica* player. The dance is accompanied by the *lijerica* (an old South Dalmatian instrument with three strings which, according to the programme notes, came from the Eastern Mediterranean and Greece in the late eighteenth century and spread along the Adriatic coast in the 19th century). The dance master plays the *lijerica* on his left knee while stamping with his right foot, so dictating the rhythm to the dancers. They move in a circle around him as he gives commands in rhyme, often humorous and with double meaning. Unfortunately (or perhaps fortunately) no translations were provided! (If anyone knows any of these, it would be interesting to know.)

The troupe performed dances from the various regions of Croatia with an array of fabulous costumes. Particularly memorable, even amusing to the unfamiliar eye, were the men's wide white frilled short trousers looking like a kind of split skirt nightdress. There was a mixture of couple, line and circular dances. I thought I recognized one dance in particular (Vrlicko Kolo), thanks to London's Zivko Firfov group which has performed it at Dance Around the World events. The dance is mesmerising for the absence of music. The only sounds to be heard are the tinkling of the silver coin jewellery, and the shushing or stamping of feet.

We also enjoyed a dance from the Bunjevci people; the men wore bells on their ankles (as opposed to toes!) which they used to great effect when performing small ankle movements. A familiar Hungarian sound could be heard in some of the dance music (Stiri snehe). A *gajda* player, accompanying some dances from Sokadija, also took on the role of dance master, calling out commands and stamping.

There were musical interludes between the dance performances. A group of men sang light-hearted songs accompanied by mandolins of varying sizes.



By contrast, their a cappella sets (for example *Plavi putevi mora*) created a sublime atmosphere. This type of singing is called *klapska pjesma* (Dalmatian group singing which has its origins in church music). Divine! Cilipi Folklore afforded us the opportunity to experience more Croatian traditional music and dance. During the summer on Sunday mornings after the church service the village of Cilipi, near

Dubrovnik Airport, puts on a display of traditional music and dance in the square for groups of tourists. First we were shown an ethnographic display (costumes, fabrics and looms), then we were entertained to Croatian singing and a Croatian wine tasting (a bit early in the morning!).

There was ample opportunity to spend our money on lace, lavender, embroidery and cravats (which originate in Croatia) served by women in costume. Finally a group performed a number of dances and songs from the Konavle coastal region. The dance troupe wore black and white costumes with red shoes and red pillbox type hats. Traditionally the women's hats differentiated between single, engaged and married women. Single women wore red, those engaged had gold trim on the red, and married women wore a large white hat. The men's hats provided no such distinction! The women's blouses were adorned with red and yellow embroidery and a yellow tassel. We were entertained to a small number of dances - Potkole, Poskochitsa, Cicak (or if you like "musical women" as opposed to musical chairs, where the men who outnumbered the ladies would compete to dance with a woman), a wedding dance (Namigusha) where the bride, wearing a pink, red and white garland headdress, was paraded by her mother and toasted by the dance master, and finally the Lindjo. The group put on a delightful performance and it was all the more impressive as they had to compete against aircraft occasionally taking off and it was 94 degrees. Bravo!

Helen de Bray



Unmissable –

Exhibition of Greek Embroidery 17th /19th centuries.

Lykion Ton Hellinidon are staging a unique exhibition of Greek Embroidery at the Hellenic Centre (16 -18 Paddington Street, Marylebone - very close to Baker St. tube station. Tel. 7487 5060.) From 13th October – 16th November. 11.30 - 8.30 weekdays & Sats. 11.30 - 4.30. Admission free.

These remarkable items are from the collections of the V & A and Benaki Museums and feature many items not seen since 1911 !! It includes a very very old chemise from Karpathos dating back to the 1600's, which is unbelievably breathtaking. In particular those members so adept at recreating and copying costumes will be enthralled with so many lovely things. Some are part of the collections of English archaeologists like Wace & Thompson. While working in Greece, they realised how precious these heirlooms were and saw they were beginning to be undervalued and falling out of use, so collected several to preserve them for future generations, as the Benaki has done so splendidly. It will be very special to see such rich treasures from both Museums side by side.

Unfortunately I shall be away at the beginning of November, but I hope lots of you will be luckier and manage to take in the conducted guided tour of the exhibits being given by Anne French (grand daughter of archaeologist Dorkins) at 12 noon on 4th November. A further treat is a lecture being given by Jennifer Wearden (Expert from the V & A and author of a definitive book on Greek Island Embroidery) on the 1st November at 7.30. Although the main hall at the Hellenic Centre is spacious it would be a good idea to book a place (free) for these events. Additionally Natasssa (Lemos) whom so many remember from many workshops and a special 'Swansea Week' has kindly promised to be there on 10th November about 5 p.m. to see old friends and chat about the costumes. For more information (children's workshops, other lectures & tours) visit www.helleniccentre.org.

Don't miss this great opportunity that Lykion are so generously sharing.

Diki Gleeson.



Swansea Summer School Video - Irregular Rhythms - Erratum

Due to an editing error in the "Irregular Rhythms" section, the dance introduced as "Bazarkana" is in fact "Sfarlis", and the dance "Bazarkana" has been omitted.

Paul Boizot

A Rosa

Portugal

A $\sharp = 120$

B

C

Piano:
ABC
ABC
A (fast)

Wilf Horrocks



For Sale: Live Music by the Zivko Firfov Group, London

These recordings were made by the group over a period of years. All the recordings are from Macedonia, unless otherwise stated.

Most of the singers & musicians on the disc were also active dancers with the group, and only a few had had any musical training. Some of the musicians had had lessons with folk musicians in the former Yugoslavia.

The selected recordings were made over a period of about 25 years, and none are studio recordings. They are from performances, a few serious recording sessions, and informal gatherings. The recordings were made on various items of equipment, from a professional recorder to handheld automatic recorders from onlookers watching a performance. All the tracks have been digitally remastered, and represent the pleasure the group had in recreating traditional music.

1. Ej, dobro dosle. Women's song
2. Skudrinka. ZF musicians
3. Bufcansko. ZF musicians
4. Pajduska. Gajda solo
5. Ke odam. Women's song
6. Crpi voda jano (Vodarki). Flute and tambura
7. Slezi maro mori. Women's song with gajda
8. Tropnalo oro. ZF musicians
9. Gon goveda maro (Serbia). Mixed group song
10. Nevestinsko oro (Draceva). Gajda solo
11. Zaspala devojce. Women's song with tamburas
12. Zaspal Ivan. Women's song with tamburas
13. Zensko Berance. Clarinet with tapan
14. Licko kolo (Croatia) silent dance with calls & feet
- 15a. Polegala trava detela (Croatia) Mixed group song with pipes
- 15b. Keli je, keli je (Croatia) Mixed group song with pipes
16. Sto mi omilelo nane. Men's song with gajda
17. Berovka & Ratevka ora. Pipe
18. Kugurigu Petle. Gajda
19. Neveno, mori, neveno. Men's song with pipe & tarabuka
20. Zito zele, zito zele. (Croatia) Women's song
21. Potrculka. ZF musicians
22. Ratevka oro. Flute with tambura
23. Nevestinsko oro. Tambura
24. Pajduska. With tambura
25. Osogovko oro. ZF musicians
26. Sandansko horo (Bulgaria). Tambura with pipe & tarabuka

There are 26 tracks which are available on tape or CD. Price £10 plus 75p plus 75p p&p.
To buy: Contact Joan on 01634 302190

Joan Sach

SIFD Day Course

Date: Saturday
Place: Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London. NW1
Time: 10.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.
Cost: £6 for SIFD members. £8 for non – members
Subject: Dances from Wales
Tutors: **Sue Oates and Dawn Webster**



Dunford (Midhurst, West Sussex) 15th–17th December 2006

If you've been before there's no need to tell you that this is a really enjoyable weekend of dancing and walking or, of course, just relaxing in the lounge with its log fire and Christmas tree. Accommodation is in single, double or twin bedrooms, all en-suite, at a well-furnished country house at the foot of the northern slopes of the South Downs, once the home of Richard Cobden. Janet Woolbar has kindly agreed to lead the dancing on Friday and Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoon. On both Saturday and Sunday mornings there will be a walk from the house - returning in time for lunch. For non-walkers, on Saturday morning, there is the opportunity to visit Midhurst's monthly market.

There will be Christmas dinner (the meals are jolly good) and carol singing on Saturday evening. If you haven't been before, and you're a dancer, I'm sure you will feel at home and among friends. The cost of the weekend - £120.00.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Dot Bradbury (Mrs.)
tel. no. 020 8540 3464



Letters to the Editor

Dear Janet,

Can I assure Ken Ward that we do still do 'mad things'? The Rainmakers' last demo took place on a small patch of very uneven grass, with a drain in an awkward place. We were dancing in the rain outside a hospital window for a member's mother who was too ill to watch our earlier display in the common room. We ended up borrowing her toy fox and danced *Hashual*.

We could list lots of demos when unexpected things happened, such as someone unplugging our tape recorder to put on the kettle when we were in the middle of *A Gota*. I remember us carrying on and singing the tune. There have been torn skirts, gloves that cut off finger circulation, fringes of women's scarves entangled with buttons on men's jackets – just when we were about to go in different directions. There was the riot in Hemel Hempstead and the time I danced *Untersteirrer Landler* with Michael Barrymore (this may have been the start of all his troubles!). I'm sure all groups have their stories. 'Do you remember when'.....?

I would also like to assure Ken that we do still dance a lot of the dances that he mentioned. The Ox Dans, for example, certainly has been danced by us within 'the last decade'.

I thought he would like to know that we are keeping up the tradition of having a lot of fun with our dancing.

Jill Bransby

* * * * *

Apropos Ken Ward's contribution to the last News, I also have memories of the Swedish Oxdans that seldom gets done nowadays. It is possibly because most of us are getting too old to bend over backwards as far as was necessary for a good performance!

The attached photo, taken at a Woodvale Group dance in 1970, might be of interest to those who remember Peter Lilley, who was dancing opposite me when the picture was taken by the late Ernie Nolan.

I think I can remember the dance sufficiently well to do it again, but other men who would want to dance it today are becoming increasingly rare in our Group, and, I suspect in most of the other groups generally!

Is there anyone else out there who could still dance it?



Jean and Ian Willson, (Loidis IFDG)

* * * * *

Dear Janet,

I am intrigued as to how dances are passed on, and wondered whether you would include this little questionnaire in the magazine. The dance chosen is one of the programme for the 60th Anniversary dance and therefore considered generally well known. Please send answers to:

Fiona Howarth, 17a Ravensbourne Road, Bromley, BR1 1HN.

Or – Fiona.Howarth@tesco.net

Hora Fetelor

1. Who taught you this dance?
2. Approximately when did you first learn it?
3. What, if any, style points were mentioned?
4. If possible could you write out in your own way (words, notation, shorthand etc.) a description of the dance steps as you know it?

Fiona Howarth



November Balkanplus

The next Balkanplus will be held on the 18th November 2006 at Cecil Sharp House, Camden, London NW1 starting at 7.00pm. The MC for the evening will be the Ipswich Group with Sally Fletcher. We also welcome dance favourites Maggie O'Regan and Anne Leach to lead some dances during the evening. Entrance £4.

Maureen Felton

SIFD Sunday Dance/Workshops

at Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, N.W.1 Cost £5 members £7 non-members

Nov. 5th MC Alan Cant
Dec. 3rd MC Jill Bransby



WHAT'S ON IN NOVEMBER

- Nov. 4th** **NUTBROOK IFDG** Day Course, tutor Leslie Haddon, at the Maycliff Hall, Toton Lane, Stapleford [right in the centre near the traffic lights] .
- Nov. 4th/5th** **PAJA & MADELON MILIC** return to Bognor Regis with dances from ex-Yugoslavia. £36 for weekend. £20 for one day only. Details from Janet & John Douglas, Oak Cottage, 92 Rose Green Road, Bognor Regis, West Sussex. PO21 3EQ tel:01243 265010 or: paja@interfolk.co.uk
- Nov.11th** **SIFD DAY COURSE** Welsh see page 12
- Nov. 18th** **BALKANPLUS** see page 13
- Nov. 25th** **GYPSY PLUS**, Sheffield. Traditional dances with Paul Boizot, with an emphasis on Balkan Rom (Gypsy). 11am. - 4.45p.m. £8 - £22 (sliding scale). Book in advance. 0114 256 1708. www.paulboizot.co.uk



All material for the December issue of **SIFD NEWS** must be received by the Editor **IN WRITING** by 17th November, emails by 15th November. Please write in **BLOCK CAPITALS** all names of people, places and dances, unless typewritten.



Anne Leach



Those not busy eating, drinking and chatting downstairs