



MARCH 2007

SIFD NEWS

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

registered charity number 284509

www.sifd.org

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



The cover picture shows an Austrian couple from Voralberg, Walgau.



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Just a reminder about the photo competition to any of you in possession of a good coloured photo. I shall be happy to receive them up to April 15th by email or Royal mail (they can be returned). You will see the resulting SIFD News cover on a summer issue.

Ed.



I would like to thank everyone who has sent me "Get Well" messages. It gave me quite a boost to know that people are thinking of me.

I am on the mend now, and walking without my Zimmer at home, but still use it when I go out of doors which gives me confidence.

Cynthia and I both missed the weekend away at "Dunsford" but hope to make it to "Halsway" in May.

We both look forward to seeing you all then, many thanks.

Roy Lewis



Dance trip 2007 to the Ukraine

24th July to 4th August

The price of the trip will be between €750 and €800 (this is an all-in price for a return trip from Berlin Ostbahnhof). We will travel on the night train (sleeping car) from Berlin Ostbahnhof to Kovel (about 17 hours). From Kovel, the trip will continue by coach (1½ hours) to our destination, Zapovednik Shatskiye Oziora.

This is a holiday resort in a nature park at the Shatsk lakes about 90 km from Kovel, in the north-west of the Ukraine: it is known as an ecological, unpolluted area of beautiful nature. The water from the lakes has the reputation of being very clean, the same as Lake Baikal. The house we will live in is located on the lakeside and has a beach. There are woods around where you can walk; there are tennis courts and other opportunities for leisure activity. As on the previous trips, we will live, dance and sing there together with the Folklore Ensemble Ozorniye Naigrishi.

Dance classes will be given by Hennie Konings.

You will need to find your own way to Berlin to join the party, although I will discuss with Hennie the possibility of joining them elsewhere. Bookings will need to be in as soon as details are finalised.

Enquiries and bookings to: Janet Wilks, 138B Portobello Rd. London W11 2DZ

Phone: 0207 229 9387

email: janetwilks@tiscali.co.uk

Janet Wilks



Destinations

From March 2nd – 4th there is a holiday show at the NEC in Birmingham called Destinations. Not generally that interesting but this year there is to be a World Music and Dance stage with lots of dance performances from around the world and dance workshops afterwards. The Greek dance group from Nottingham led by Georgina Kyrris will be performing each day around 1pm - dancing Hasapiko, Koutalia, Tsamiko, Zonaradiko, Mantilatos, Cypriot zeybetiko, Tatsia, Cretan Sousta, Siganos, Pentozalis and Fast Hasapiko, all in costumes, with a dance workshop straight afterwards. I know that there are lots of other dance groups performing and the full programme should be available on the web site soon

http://www.destinationsshow.com/html/content_birmingham.php

So it sounds like a good event. Tickets are £8 if booked in advance, £10 on the door.

Chrisandra Harris

Change to Cecil Sharp House Dance in April

The Sunday Dance in April at Cecil Sharp House is to be slightly different this year. Various members have asked if we could hold the dances earlier, so that children could join in, and those with long journeys would get home at a reasonable time. As a result we are going to try out an earlier start time.

On April 1st the dance will start not at 7pm, but at 4pm, and end at 7pm.

The MC is to be Pam Radford, who always organises a lovely programme of dances, and is willing to walk them through beforehand which will be particularly helpful for the children. We do hope this will be very well attended – please give the event your full support. We'd love to see all the usual faces despite the time change – and many new ones, especially children. I shall even enter into the spirit of it and make cake to go with your afternoon tea in the interval. All are welcome. Usual (very inexpensive) entrance fees apply – members £5, non members £7.

Please note that entrance for children under 14 is free.

The success of this occasion will determine whether we aim to have a more regular “early dance”.

And don't forget the date for the May dance is May 13th.

Alison Scrimshaw



March Balkanplus

The March Balkanplus will be held on the 10th March 2007 at Cecil Sharp House, Camden NW1, starting at 7.00pm. MC for the evening will be Fiona Howarth with live music from the Dunav Balkan Group. Admission £7.

Maureen Felton

* * * * *

If you emerged unscathed from my Sunday Dance last month you may like to join me again on March 10th when I am MC at Balkanplus. The evening dances will be live music from the Dunav band, plus sessions on tape. People frightened of Balkan dancing should remember the “plus” factor – several of the taped items are old friends, some even with partners, and include items from my SIFD Dance. Many of the dances will get a brief scribble-through, and I will say when a dance is best left to the cognoscenti.

May I yet again remind everyone to bring a BELT if you want to do Kamisice.
Hope to see faces old and new in Trefusis – put it in your diary now!

Fiona Howarth

Some of the SIFD tee-shirts on show at the February Sunday Dance. Fiona (looking pensive) in the middle row, third from the left



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- S.I **Apr.21st BALKANPLUS** - MC to be announced. Please note this is a change of date to the third Saturday in the month.
- S.I **Apr.21st/22nd SIFD DAY COURSE** see page 6
- May 4th/7th EASTBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCE FESTIVAL** line-up includes: Jan Knoppers, Richard van der Kooij, Hennie Konings, Dutch Dip, Clyde Olliver, Mike Machin, Ian Willson, Helena Benge (flamenco workshop and display), Karolinka (Polish Dancers) Fri., Sat. and Sun. Evening Dances. Booking office: 01278 424332 or 07970 436337
- S.I **May 4th/7th (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: Gordon Adie, 35 Royal Crescent, Exeter. EX2 7QT. (tel:01392 362788) or further details from Jack Richardson 01792 403153
- S.I **May 12th INTERNATIONAL DANCE WORKSHOP** with the Bristol International Folk Dance Group. Led by Maggie O'Regan. Venue: St.Ursula's School. Brecon Road, Henleaze, Bristol. Time: 11am to 5pm with a lunch break, bring your own lunch. Cost: £7 or £6 for SIFD members. For further details tel. 0117 9683974 or 0117 9621802
- S.I **May 19th WOODVALE INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP**. An evening of international folk dancing to be held in the Village Hall at Borough Green, Kent. 7.30-11.00pm. Tickets £6.00 including a hot supper. Bring your own drinks and glasses. More details and tickets available from Alan Cant 01732 883405.
- S.I **Jun.1st/3rd SIFD W MIDS BRANCH WEEKEND** at Willersley Castle, Cromford, nr Matlock, Derbys. Teachers: Marina Wolstenholme and Jill Bransby. Cost £120 pp in ensuite rooms. For more information and booking form contact Maggie Kaye - by email if possible. Contact details on page 2
- S.I **Jun.10th SIFD W MIDS COTSWOLDS SAFARI**. Starting at 11.00am at Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucs. More details nearer the time from Maggie Kaye. Contact details on page 2.
- S.I **Jul.13th/15th WILLINGDON IFDG's MINI FESTIVAL** at Stafford House, Burgess Hill, West Sussex. Shared leading of International Folk and Circle Dances, also English caller and a singing class. Full board £132 (no supplement for a single room). SAE to Rowena Martin for booking form, 60, Anderida Road, Eastbourne, BN22 0PZ
- Aug. 4th/11th ANGLO-GERMAN FOLK WEEK** Halsway Manor, Crowcombe, Taunton, Somerset. £285 per person. Tel:01984 618274 or email: office@halswaymanor.org.uk
- S.I **Sep. 8th/9th VENTZI SOTIROV** Cecil Sharp House. Sat.workshop - £15, Sat. workshop and evening Dance - £20, (MC Maddy & John + Dunav) Sun.workshop - £12, w/e - £30. SAE and chq. payable to Balkanplus to: Mrs Sally Humphrey, The Big Barn, Old Farm, Horspath, Oxfordshire OX33 1HZ Tel. 01865 873860 sally_humphrey@onetel.net
- Oct.26th/29th RESIDENTIAL COURSE OF BULGARIAN FOLK DANCE** with Yves Moreau at Malhamdale, Yorkshire Dales. Comfortable ensuite accommodation, full-board, indoor swimming pool. Choice of General or Intermediate course, or both courses. Excellent area for walking or sightseeing. Non-dancing friends and family welcome. Full board accommodation (3 nights) £190. Single course £26, both courses £46. For details and a booking form please send s.a.e. to Cathy Meunier, 115, Chetwynd Road, London, NW5 1DA or e:mail your request to cathy_meunier@hotmail.com.

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.

Great Alne Long Weekend 2007

As the spring approaches so does the time to look forward to this year's Great Alne Weekend in the Warwickshire countryside. The dates for this year's weekend are Friday 27th to Monday 30th April 2007 – the weekend before the Spring Bank Holiday, so no clash with other events around this time!

As usual there will be a wide mix of all sorts of dancing, music, singing and other activities. On the International side, we have Nel van der Laan from Holland, who always produces a lovely programme of dances from all over Europe for us. Adrian Pointon will once again teach Israeli, Roger Wicksteed will be back to do Balkan dance workshops and a new venture this year will be a belly dance display and a chance to have a go yourselves.

If you fancy coming for all or part of this long weekend, there is no need to book. You can see photos and a programme from previous years on the website: <http://www.greatalnefolk.org.uk/> For more up-to-date information email or phone me (contact details on page 2).

Maggie Kaye



SIFD Day Course

At: Cecil Sharp House

On: Saturday, 10 March 2007

Time: 10.30 am - 4.30 pm

Cost: £6 for SIFD members £8 for non-members

Tutor: **Silvia McIntyre**

Subject: Austrian Dances

The dances Silvia has chosen are couple dances, covering a span from moderately difficult to easy enough to be light relief. None of them are those we know through the SIFD books, but a couple were taught at last year's Eastbourne Festival.

Pam Radford

News of forthcoming SIFD Day Courses

April: Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd.

Following her enthusiastically received classes at last year's Summer School, **Cristina Casarini** is coming to teach us again this April, for two days. She will be teaching mainly Italian dances, but also Sardinian and some from the Czech Republic.

This should be a great opportunity to revise dances from the Summer School, but it will also serve as an introduction to Cristina for those who have yet to experience her wonderfully warm and vibrant style.

June: Saturday 9th.

We are very lucky to have secured **Frank Dowling** for the June Day Course. This time he will be teaching dances from Serbia.

Frank probably doesn't need an introduction as the excellence of his teaching is well known but this is a chance not to be missed.

Pam Radford



Cultural Diversity Festival

Folkestone Town Centre, 14th/17th June 2007.

Would any SIFD groups be interested in giving a dance display in Folkestone? This is the first year of trying to organise an event of this size, and it may become an annual festival. If you are interested in getting involved please contact: Barbara Witham, Events Organiser, Folkestone Town Centre Management, 103, Sandgate Road, Folkestone, Kent. CT20 2BQ
Tel: 01303 850522 www.discoverfolkestone.co.uk

Machol Europa 30

Israeli Folk Dance Institute Summer School to be held at Loughborough University 5th /10th August .
Join our 30th birthday celebrations!

Our traditional dance (Harkada) course, where you can learn all the latest hits, starts on Monday August 6th, and continues through to lunchtime on Friday 10th. Some great classic dances will also be reviewed.

You can join the singing (Shira Betzibbur), learn how to play the Tarbouka (drum), or join Ariadne's lively line dance sessions.

After supper each night you are invited to our themed evening dance parties, with Rafi and Ofer, two of Israel's leading markidim Why not come one day earlier to our special newcomers' course, or the teachers and performers courses. These start on the morning of August 5th and include:

* Popular dances for newcomers * Teaching techniques * Choreography and stage presentation
* The story of Israeli Dance * Learn dances that will enable you to join the circle from New York to Tel Aviv, London to Moscow, Melbourne to Jerusalem!

For further details and Booking form, visit www.idi.org.uk (information and downloadable/on-line application form will be available from our website by end-January 2007)
or email: info@idi.org.uk or call +44 20 8446 6427/ 8369 5197.

Machol Europa is a project of the Israeli Dance Institute, Balfour House,
741 High Road, London N12 OBQ. The IDI is a registered charity.

As I have intimated in past years the atmosphere is very lively and the course can be demanding. Of interest to SIFD members is the fact that many of the participants are from the countries whose dances we perform. In particular Russia, the Ukraine, Romania, Bulgaria and Turkey. However nearly all of them are only interested in Israeli dances. If we have enough SIFD members present we could demonstrate a few dances from their countries.

Whatever the case the school has always been very enjoyable and I would thoroughly recommend it to all our members. The older ones can tailor their participation to what they can take.

If you require further information please do not hesitate to contact me (020 8954 7073) or Maurice Stone or the I.D.I. office.

David J.Bramson



International Day Course with Silvia McIntyre and Rowena Martin

at Stone Cross Memorial Hall, nr. Eastbourne Sat. March 17, 10.30-5pm

We are going to teach dances from the following list:

Wartawar (Arm.)	Syrtos Nysiros (Gr.)
Sari Gelin (Tur.)	Grad si Beli (Cro.)
Tora de la Cogeaalac, Lamaita, Siriul (Ro.)	Kor Csardas (Hun.)
Maki Maki (Gypsy)	Bil ja Rano, Bil ja Posdno (Ru.)
Deninka, Karaj Maitso (Bul.)	

The cost is £7. Bring lunch to share. For more information phone 01323 503991 or 502962.

Silvia McIntyre



London Gypsy Orchestra

Eastern Europe and the Balkans. Special Guest: Balkan Dancer Ljiljana Grkinic. Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regents Park Road, London. 11th March, Doors open at 7:30pm, Concert at 8pm (General £9 Concessions £6) Tickets on door or, at: tickets@londongypsyorchestra.co.uk or contact Donald Ridley on 07799 481702. More information on www.londongypsyorchestra.co.uk

Indian Classical Dance

Date: Sat 9 June 2007

Fee: £30

Tutor: Ananya Chatterjee

Place : The University, London Road, Reading

Time 10.00am - 4.30pm.

India has a very rich tradition of classical dance, including six major dance styles which were established in the second century BC. It is a country of diverse cultures, traditions and languages, and this diversity is very evident in its forms of dance. This unique dayschool will take you on a wonderful journey, looking at the rich tapestry of Indian dance through lectures and practical demonstrations by a trained Indian classical dancer who teaches and performs widely in the UK. For further details phone 0118 378 8347 www.reading.ac.uk/conted or email: continuing-education@reading.ac.uk

Beverly Maton



Yannis Konstantinou

International seminar of Greek dances in Greece/ Macedonia - August 5th /17th, 2007
In the village of Lemos, near Prespa Lake (natural border between Greece, Albania and Macedonia), about 60 kms from Florina. Alongside the Macedonians, live Vlach and Pontic families, refugees from Asia Minor and Albanians. The traditional dances in this part of Macedonia are still alive and, of course, we will have many opportunities to join the neighbouring villagers.

Macedonia (Florina/Prespes area) with Yannis Konstantinou, Macedonia (Drama/Serres/Gypsies) with Christos Papakostas, Anatoliki Romilia/Thraki (Vana/Mavri Thalassa) with Apostolis Skrekas, Cappadocia/ Asia Minor with Christos Theologos, Vlachika (Olympos Piera, Vermio) with Yannis Tsamitros, Karpathos/Dodecanisa with Yannis Lentakis and Yannis Kladakis, Podos with Panayotis Apostolidis, Epirus with Elli Kazakou, Thessalia/Sporades/Trikeri with Sotiris Theoharis

Accommodation in traditional Macedonian houses. (Rooms 2/3 persons with baths and toilets).
for the 12 full days : **850 euros**/person (extra charge to be applied for single rooms).

YANNIS telephone : +30 210 99 46 227 / Fax : +30 210 99 45 900 (Greek/English)

Mobile : +30 6 944 946 227 / Email : yankost@otenet.gr

Address : Agiou Nikolaou, 78 - 1664 GLYFADA - ATHENS - Greece

Registration Date : Before June 30, 2007



Dale Hyde

I would like to supplement the notice in the February SIFD News about Dale Hyde who will be in the UK en route to Germany in July. I admire his teaching and, in case, in his modesty he has not told you very much about himself, I would like to add some notes I found in my mail today. He also presents top notch Leadership Courses annually for the Ontario Folk Dance Association. One which will be held here in March will feature dances from Wales.

Dale Hyde has taught and developed folk dance leadership programmes for Dance Nova Scotia, Canadian Dance Teachers' Association, Performing Arts Educators of Canada, The Universities of Western Ontario, Toronto, Brock and York. In addition, he has developed educational folk dance curriculum/syllabi for many schools.

Dale has studied folk dance in Wales and England with the I.S.T.D and is renowned as a collector and researcher of traditional Canadian folk dance.

He has produced at least two very well presented discs and instruction booklets - Dances of French Canada and Ontario (Dances which I have used on many occasions especially with teenagers).

Dorothy Sloan
(PTO)

Letters to the Editor

PS *(continued from previous page)*

I have loved the articles by Ken Ward. I dearly wanted to get to the 60th anniversary celebrations but I had just come back from a meeting in Australia and crossing the pond three days later and without my partner being able to come along too was a bit daunting. I heard from the Richardsons that they thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Dorothy Sloan



Dear Janet,

Dalbor Sudwell (Czech It Out!) in the January issue, need have no need to “humbly apologise” for pointing out the correct spelling and pronunciation of Czech dance titles. I made a similar point in my piece “About Authenticity” in the same issue...although I was concerned about the pronunciation of a Romanian dance.

We expend a lot of energy in learning the correct steps, with authentic styling, in the many dances from many countries that we do for fun. We should consider it equally important to strive for correct pronunciation and spelling. Admittedly, English is a language without diacritics (apart from a few imported words like “café”), so it is sometimes difficult for us to appreciate how significant their presence or absence may be in their language of origin – but hey, if we can learn the steps of a Bulgarian ruchenitza, we can jolly well learn that **c**, **č** and **č** are pronounced differently!

And mention of ruchenitza raises the vexed question of transliteration from one alphabet to another; for international folk dancers this is often a question of transliterating from Bulgarian Cyrillic into Roman characters. For fun, one day, I looked through my collection of Bulgarian dance records and listed fourteen different ways of spelling ruchenitza! The only three letters they all agree on are the initial **r**, the central **n** and the final **a**! I forbear to point out all the possible permutations of vowel and consonant sounds in this simple little word, but as a standards engineer I might set myself the task of “standardising” the spelling, in English. Now that I’m retired, what else is there to do?

Cyril Fleisher



Dear Janet,

I was interested in the article entitled CHINESE NEW YEAR by Robert Harrold, and I would like to add something to it.

In 1984 I was on holiday in Hong Kong over the Chinese New Year, staying with friends, and enjoyed a wonderful time celebrating the Year of the Rat. There were parties and magnificent firework displays and great feasts. At the time I had a bright red shiny mackintosh, and on many occasions I was accosted by the local people with cameras, begging me to have my photograph taken with them, as red is such a “lucky” colour!

Another custom I discovered - to my cost - was that a lady friend or relative gave money in little red envelopes to any children of their acquaintance! That nearly broke the bank, but I made a lot of friends....

Those were the days!

Sincerely

Leo Denhard

HORA FEMEILOR

(Romania)

* SLOW

Intro. In slow and gentle style.

Am Em Am Em Am Em B7 Em Em

Em Am D Am B7 Em

Em D7 G E7 Am D Am B7

Em D7 Em Am Em Am Em Am Em

B7 Em Am Em Am Em Am Em

B7 Em

Play: IABCABC (Bass emphasis on 1st and 3rd beats.)
Taken from Garry Karner's tape by WH.

Wilf Horrocks



Hora Femeilor

Nobody has sent any information about Hora Femeilor, so I shall pass on my experience of it. It translates as 'The Women's Dance'. Silviu danced* it in Ipswich to celebrate International Women's Day (and bestowed a sprig of blossom on each of us to wear to mark the day).

*I have never been taught it, it being one of those dances that "everyone knows"! But I usually manage to half-remember, or half-follow it. It has a very gentle pace, but with a lot of direction changes so it can be difficult to dance gracefully if you collide with a neighbour.

Ed.



NB The **April** issue will have the music for **Maike** (from North Germany). Please send me any details about Maike that you know of (I for one know nothing!).

Ed.

SIFD Sunday Dance/Workshops

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

Mar.4th 7pm – 10pm MCs: The SIFD Band

Apr.1st 4pm – 7pm MC: Pam Radford



WHAT'S ON IN MARCH

- S.I **Mar.2nd/4th** **Mar.2nd/4th RESIDENTIAL BULGARIAN SINGING WEEKEND WITH DESSI STEFANOVA** at Bourton-on-the-Water in the Cotswolds. (all-inclusive) £150. For details : Cathy Meunier, 115 Chetwynd Road, London, NW5 1DA or e:mail your request to cathy_meunier@hotmail.com.
- S.I **Mar.10th** **BALKANPLUS** see page 4
- S.I **Mar.10th** **SIFD DAY COURSE** see page 6
- S.I **Mar.10th/11th** **KALITSA TSOVALAS-PANTAZIS** Sat: 11am–5pm St.Ninians U.R.Church Hall, Egerton, Manchester. Sat. evening party 7-10pm. MC Mike Machin. Sun: 10.30am-4.30pm Calver Village Hall, Derbyshire. £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.11th** **LONDON GYPSY ORCHESTRA** see page 7
- Mar.17th** **DAY COURSE OF INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE** see page 7
- S.I **Mar.24th** **DAY COURSE OF EASTERN EUROPEAN DANCES** by Marina Wolstenholme. Organised by Rainmakers. SIFD members £7 full day, £4.50 half day, non-members £8 and £5. 10.30am to 4.30pm, The Parish Hall, St Michael's, Broadway, Letchworth, Herts, SG6 3PQ. Enquiries 01462 457791.
- Mar.24th** **BESKYDY BAND** of Eastern European and Klezmer music to dance to. The Cellar Upstairs. Exmouth Arms, Starcross St. 8.15pm members £5, non-members £6. details: 020 7281 7700
- S.I **Mar.28th** **SPRING PARTY NIGHT** hosted by the Heart of England group. 7.45 – 10.15pm at St Giles Church Hall, Church Rd, Sheldon B26 3TT (North of A45 Coventry Rd, near B'ham airport) Live Music from HoE band. Bring-and-share supper. Info from Maggie Kaye. Contact details on page 2
- S.I **Mar.30th/Apr.2nd** **RESIDENTIAL COURSE OF ROMANIAN FOLK DANCE** with Silviu Cuicuimis at Derwent Bank, Lake District. Choice of General or Intermediate course, or both courses. Non-dancing friends and family welcome. Full board (3 nights) £179. Single course £25, both courses £45. details s.a.e. to Cathy Meunier 115 Chetwynd Rd, London, NW5 1DA or email: cathy_meunier@hotmail.com.



All material for the April issue of **SIFD NEWS** must be received by the Editor **IN WRITING** by 17th March; emails by 16th March. Please write in **BLOCK CAPITALS** all names of people, places and dances, unless typewritten.