

# SIFD NEWS



*Bottle dance from Szent István, Hungary.*

# January 2009

# SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

registered charity number 284509  
www.sifd.org

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\* \* \*

The packaging and posting is done by Dalila Heath.



This month's cover first appeared in June 1985; it was drawn by Rachel Novak and shows girls' costumes from Hungary, it has been reduced as the motif.



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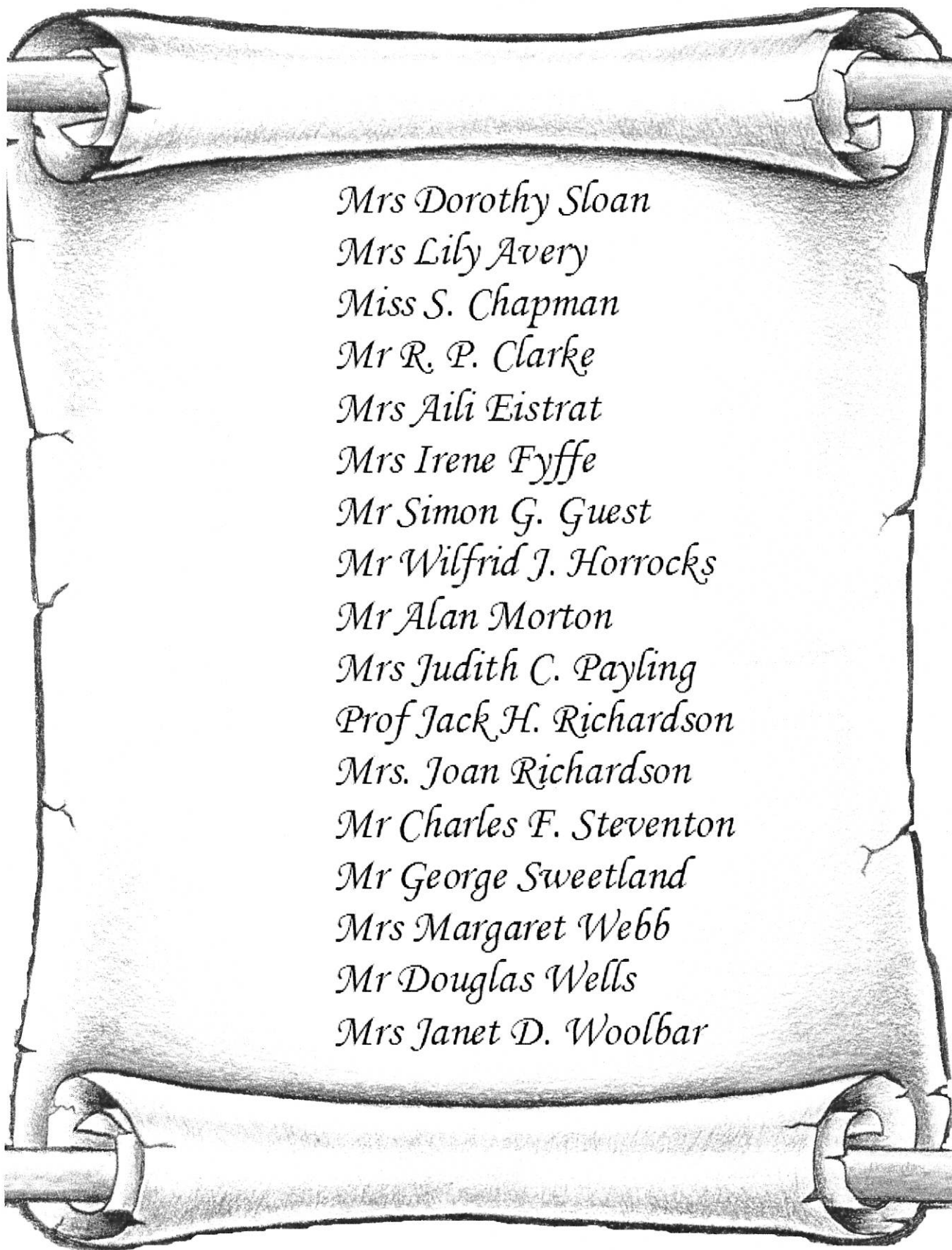
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Happy New Year; and as requested - A New Year List of Honorary Members:

A black and white illustration of a scroll, partially unrolled, with a list of names written in a cursive font. The scroll is held by four wooden rollers, one at each corner. The paper has a slightly aged, textured appearance with some creases and shadows.

*Mrs Dorothy Sloan*  
*Mrs Lily Avery*  
*Miss S. Chapman*  
*Mr R. P. Clarke*  
*Mrs Aili Eistrat*  
*Mrs Irene Fyffe*  
*Mr Simon G. Guest*  
*Mr Wilfrid J. Horrocks*  
*Mr Alan Morton*  
*Mrs Judith C. Payling*  
*Prof Jack H. Richardson*  
*Mrs. Joan Richardson*  
*Mr Charles F. Steventon*  
*Mr George Sweetland*  
*Mrs Margaret Webb*  
*Mr Douglas Wells*  
*Mrs Janet D. Woolbar*

Sybil Chapman's article on Hungarian Folk Dancing is on page 8; then there will be only one of the 1986 series left (former Yugoslavia by Ken Ward). So, come on all you specialists - we are waiting to hear from you.

Also there are only a couple of the 1970 cartoons yet to be reproduced - so all cartoonists take note.

**Ed.**

## Membership Report to the AGM 29<sup>th</sup> November 2008

### **Individual Membership**

There have been 17 new enrolments so far this membership year (1<sup>st</sup> September to 31<sup>st</sup> August) but 32 previous members have failed to renew. Three members have resigned or died so the net loss is 18. Some of the defaulters will, no doubt, renew when they find that they have not received the December News and thereby cause extra work all round.

The number of Town	110
Members is	226
Country Members	1
Family Junior Member	1
Junior Member	1
Young Adult Member	9
Overseas Members	75
Life & Honorary	
Total	423

### **Associated Classes**

The number of Associated Classes is 28. Kalikia is new and Heart of England is now included in this category.

### **Affiliated Groups**

One Affiliated Group has failed to renew and two are no longer functioning and this makes the current total to 43.

### **News Distribution**

Members may be interested to know that 398 labels are printed and 446 copies of the News despatched each month. These figures are based on the expected requirements for the January 2009 edition.

**Simon Guest - Membership Secretary**



### **Memories**

The cartoon in the November magazine [of the AGM] reminded me of my introduction to the Society. In the Sixties the SIFD gave a concert in the Bromley United Reform Church hall. During the interval I met some performers who told me that all the dancers were English, and that I could go to their Social dances held at CSH and Floral Street. I decided to try the next Floral Street one. After searching along murky streets I saw a dim light and pushed open a door. I saw a small group of people sitting despondently on bar-stools. Someone shouted out

“Are you here for SIFD?” “Yes”

“Are you a member?” “No”

“Do you want to join?”

They all seemed very eager to hear my reply, I soon found out why when they explained that they were there for the AGM and were one short of a Quorum. I agreed to join so the meeting began. What would have happened if I hadn't joined?

**Fiona Howarth**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

S.I **Feb.14<sup>th</sup> SIFD DAY COURSE** see page 6

S.I **Feb.14<sup>th</sup> BALKANPLUS:** with Bob Robinson

**Mar.6<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> 3 NIGHT INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE COURSE** led by Phil & Brenda Steventon at Earnley Concourse, Chichester, West Sussex. For details ring Earnley on 01243 670392 or Phil & Brenda on 020 8397 9649

S.I **Mar. 7<sup>th</sup> SIFD W MIDLANDS BRANCH ROMANIAN DAY COURSE** with Liz Mellish & Nick Green 10.30 - 4.30 at Solihull Methodist Church Hall, Blossomfield Road, Solihull B91 1LG. More details from Maggie Kaye on 0797-464-9311 or email margaretkaye@blueyonder.co.uk

S.I **Mar.7<sup>th</sup> NUTBROOK INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP** General International theme: venue: Grangewood Methodist Church Hall, Grangewood Road, Wollaton, Notts. NG8 2SJ. Led by Jill Bransby; 10.30am-4.30pm. Details 01332 701922 / 0115 9171831

S.I **Mar.14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> ROMANIAN WEEKEND WITH SILVIU CIUCIUMIŞ** Sat.14<sup>th</sup> in Manchester and Sun.15<sup>th</sup> at Calver, Derbyshire. send s.a.e. to: Julie Korth, 'Holly Cottage', off Wigan Road, Aspull, Nr. Wigan WN21 1EF

S.I **Mar.27<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> NEW SPRING MINI FESTIVAL** organised by Willingdon IFDG at Ardingly College in the beautiful Sussex countryside. Shared leading of International and English Folk, Circle Dance and singing. Covered swimming pool. 3 days full board (award winning catering). Some single rooms @ £145, sharing £130. Booking by end January recommended. Booking form from Rowena Martin, 60 Anderida Road, Eastbourne. BN22 0PZ.

S.I **Mar.27<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> RESIDENTIAL COURSE OF BULGARIAN & BALKAN 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) £186. Single course £28, both courses £50. For details and a booking form please send s.a.e. to Cathy Meunier, 23, Church Street, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 4DX or email your request to cathy\_meunier@hotmail.com.

**Apr.6<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> 4 NIGHT INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE COURSE** led by Phil & Brenda Steventon Dancing in the morning and evening. 3-5 mile afternoon walks led by an HF walking leader at HF Holidays, Haytor, Dartmoor, Devon. For details ring HF on 0845 470 7557 or Phil & Brenda on 020 8397 9649

S.I **Apr. 24<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> GREAT ALNE LONG WEEKEND** in Great Alne Village Hall, nr Alcester, Warks. Another long weekend programme of International and British folk dance and music workshops, evening dances, singing, handbells, walking, cycling and much more. International dance teacher Nel van der Laan from the Netherlands and Contra with Rhodri Davies.from the Netherlands and Contra with Rhodri Davies. More information on the website: <http://www.greatalnefolk.org.uk/> or phone André Hobro on 0121 777 3722

## **May. 1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> EASTBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL**

Workshops and evening dances. Paja & Madelon Milic (ex-Yugoslavia & Albanian) Cristina Casarini (International dances) Dalila Heath (Armenian) plus many other bands and callers. 01278 424332 or [www.eiff.org.uk](http://www.eiff.org.uk)

**May. 1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>(or 5<sup>th</sup>) HALSWAY MANOR (SOMERSET)** This weekend of dancing and walking on Quantocks/Exmoor has been happening for at least 40 years; for further information contact: Gordon Adie 100, College Way, Truro TR1 3WJ. or 01872 279490 or [grdnadie@aol.com](mailto:grdnadie@aol.com) "

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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.



### **SIFD Day Courses**

Date: January 10th 2009	Place: Cecil Sharp House
Time: 10.30 am -- 4.30 pm	Cost: £8 for SIFD members, £10 for non-members
Tutors: <b>Fiona Howarth</b> and <b>Maggie Kaye</b>	Subject: Revision of dances taught by Corry Verheijen at the 2008 Summer School.

Corry ran the general course at Summer School with partner and non-partner dances. The day course is revision, but everyone is welcome.

**Pam Radford**

\* \*

Date: February 14th	Time: 10.30 am 4.30 pm
Place: Cecil Sharp House	Cost: £8 for SIFD members, £10 for non-members
Tutor: <b>Janet Douglas</b>	Subject: Russian and Armenian dances for the Royal Albert Hall

**Pam Radford**

\* \* \*

### **February 14th Day Course**

The dances of the day course on February 14th will include the four proposed dances for the Albert Hall presentation September 27th, 2010:

Sepastia Bar and Ambee Dageets (Armenia)  
Ya da Kalinushka Lomala and Moy Muzhenka (Russia)

The remainder of the dances will be taken from the following list:

Gelin Halayi (Turkey)  
Hopa Horuna (Turkey)  
Lagu sopo sopo (Moluccan Islands)  
Sussex Cottage (England)  
Tūgadiņ Tāgadiņ (Latvia)

**Janet Douglas**

## **Bristol International Folk Dance**

(SIFD Affiliated Group)

With great regret we announce that after 34 years of happy dancing the Bristol Group's Thursday general class closed on 4 December 2008. For several years drop-outs have exceeded enrolments and we have now reached the point where the class is no longer viable. The increasing age and infirmity of some of us have also taken their toll. Thanks to all who have supported us over the years.

The good news is that BIFD is not dead; the Tuesday Balkan Group will continue for the foreseeable future. It meets every Tuesday for most of the year (not just term time) and is for Balkan enthusiasts with some experience as the members of the group teach each other. Anyone interested in attending should contact Hilda Sturge (0117 962 1802, roger@rogersturge.me.uk) or Pat Skinner (0117 967 2493).

**Roger Sturge**, Secretary



### **Amendments to the List of Groups, 2008/9**

Please note these corrections to the list of Groups and Classes published in the News last month: -

First – a huge apology to Sally Fletcher for leaving out her Ipswich Balkan Dancers.

She somehow slipped through my usually very careful net, and I am sorry. Her details are –

Ipswich Balkan Dancers  
Mainly Balkan Ipswich  
1) Wed T 10.00am-12.00  
Friends' Meeting House, Ipswich  
2) Fri monthly 7.30-10.00  
Witnesham Village Hall  
Sally Fletcher 01473 252824  
fletchersm@aol.com

A typing error in Ian Willson's email address for information about Loidis IFDG. There are TWO L's in Willson – not one - ie ianrwillson@tiscali.co.uk Again, my apologies.

No present email address for Fiona Howarth, who runs the two Bromley groups.

Sadly Bristol IFDG have had to close their THURSDAY class, but still meet on Tuesdays.

If you would find an electronic copy of this list useful, please email me and I will send you one – complete with corrections! alison.scrimshaw@googlemail.com

**Alison Scrimshaw**



## Hungarian Folk Dancing

Throughout the country certain dance-types may all be found; girls' round dances, herdsman's dances, lads' leaping dances, and line-of-dance style couple dances. These form the nucleus of Hungarian folk dancing. Newer style dances - the Verbunk (recruiting) and the Csárdás - appeared during the 17th/18th Centuries. These latter were developments from the older styles, and contained influences from countries outside Hungary. Each of the named dance types is self-explanatory, but the sudden upsurge of interest in and development of the Csárdás was due in no small part to an increase in desire for a national 'identity'. It is to be noted that a pub / inn etc. is called a Csárdá and here the dancing would flourish. There is a close relationship between many of the figures of the Csárdás and couple dances of other, neighbouring, nations, for the 'new style' of song and dance extended beyond the present borders and into modern Slovakia, Romania and South-Slav areas.

The basic differences in the dancing of Hungarian dances lies in their geographical location, for Hungarian dance, like English speech, falls into regions of 'dialect'. Although a girls' Round Dance or a Csárdás may have a seemingly 'national' character in step, hold or shape, depending on the region of the country where it is danced so the style of dancing will differ. In some areas, similar motifs are danced at both slow and quick tempos, whilst in other areas there is a distinct change of motif with change of speed both stepwise and 'tune'wise. Some areas dance 'higher' whilst others maintain a more level plane of movement.

In most cases, girls' dances, Csárdás and Verbunk are based on songs which, if short, are repeated and 'strung' together, hence a Round Dance may involve 4 or 5 different songs with differing metres, tempos etc. The girls sing - strongly - while dancing, for often the boys and the band are absent (sometimes the lure of the bar!). In 'olden' days, of course, the girls sang in the meadow and the Spinning Room, away from the boys!

Hungarian dances are to be enjoyed by dancers and watchers alike, and often give the impression of being 'staged' or choreographed. This is not necessarily so, but often is due to the requirements of the motif itself so the shape of the group must change - for instance from one couple to two couples enjoined - making a small circle. In a purely social situation, the Tánz Ház, once the band strikes up, and there are many gifted young musicians who have reverted to the old type instruments), the dance can go on and on and on, breathtakingly, with perhaps short periods of slower motifs, and all dance the dance according to their own range of motifs, so that the assembled company is all dancing but making different steps and movements. The uniformity lies in their all dancing in the same style. If a 'presentation' is made, then the group works on a set sequence of movements. Tánz Ház could almost be equated with a Western disco - the difference being the music (Folk) and the quality of dancing! The lovely aspect of Hungarian dancing is that it is for all, of any age, of either sex, to enjoy according to their own range of movement both physically and technically. In many dances there is an opportunity for boys and girls to separate, make their own steps and 'decorations' and then resume dancing together, so that those with greater expertise can enhance their enjoyment very much.

It is NOT a difficult dance form to enjoy ..... why not try it?



## Dance and Cultural Tours to Romania 2009

Silviu Ciuciumiș has sent details of Doina tours to Suceava - Bucovina (25 April - 2 May) and Brașov - Transylvania (17 - 24 October).

The price 745€ (each) includes transfer to and from Bucharest; half board; dance lessons; excursions; meeting and dancing with dance ensembles.

The Spring tour to Suceava will include dances from Bucovina and Moldavia taught by Costinel Leonte.

The Autumn tour to Brașov will include dances from South Transylvania and Muntenia taught by Angela Drăgușin and Tănase Gheorghe.

Both tours include dances from the villages visited and the opportunity to dance with local people and watch them perform.

Further details from: Silviu Ciuciumiș, Aarhuispad 22, 3067 PR Rotterdam, NL.  
tel: =31 10 4218622 email: stichting.doina@hetnet.nl

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Silviu has also sent details of the **Zetten** Festival 25 - 28 June:  
Romania (Silviu Ciuciumiș), Turkish (Ersin Seyhan), Bulgaria (Bianca de Jong),  
Ex-Yugoslavia (Ben Koopmanschap), Greek (Dick van der Zwan).  
contact details as above.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Janet,

Thank you for the SIFD News, I find it very interesting. I was pleased to see the proformer for the DVD which was made at Swansea. However there is an error for Disc B. The 2nd Section is not actually Corry's dances but mine - Gill's Medley - that is Gill Morral a medley of dances enjoyed at Nutbrook IFDG.

The 2nd row of dances is also incorrectly spelt. They should be Bordasjinn (Denmark) Vilanella (Italy) Der Salamander (Alsace).

**Gill Morral**

\* \* \*

(On the same subject a note from Jill):

My dances were Nonesuch, Elverton Grove, Round Pond and Turning by Threes. These were danced at an English afternoon workshop called 'English Dances - Ancient and Modern'.

**Jill Bransby**



I see in the class listings in the December Magazine that I am credited with an Email address. That one is no longer valid. I do not have an E-address that is available to all, so contact must be made by phone.

**Fiona Howarth**



## Petite Montferrine á Quatre

Switzerland

The image shows a handwritten musical score for the dance 'Petite Montferrine á Quatre'. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 6/8. The first system is marked 'Allegretto' and contains two sections: section A (bars 1-4) and section B (bars 5-6). The second system contains bars 7-12. Chord symbols (D, A, G, A7, D) are written below the bass line. Bar numbers 1 through 12 are indicated below the notes.

**Wilf Horrocks**



**Petite Montferrine á Quatre** is a dance for two couples and I learned it from Francis Feybli in 2003.

- 1 first 4 bars (A in the music): Hands joined, walk left for 8 steps (R.L. x 4)
- 2 First 4 bars (A in the music): Circle right for 8 sideways gallop (right foot to side, close left)
- 3 first bar (B in the music): Hands on hips, 3 small steps in place whilst acknowledging opposite (R.L.R.)
- 4 bar 2: 3 small steps to partner (acknowledging) (L.R.L.)
- 5 bar 3: 3 small steps to neighbour (acknowledging) (R.L.R.)
- 6 bar 4: 3 small steps in place whilst acknowledging opposite (L.R.L.)
- 7 bars 5-8: Extend right arms and walk 8 steps in a r-hand star
- 8 bars 1-2: (B in the music) hands joined in circle, 4 steps forward (R.L.R.L)
- 9 bars 3-4: Hands joined in circle, 4 steps backward (R.L.R.L)
- 10 bars 5-6: Step right, point left then step left, point right
- 11 bars 7-8: 4 pivot steps (down on right, up on left) clockwise

**Janet Douglas**

**NB** The music for Shar'm Ah Sheikh will be in the next issue.



## January Balkanplus

The January Balkanplus will be held on the 10th January at Cecil Sharp House, Camden NW1, starting at 7.00pm. MC's will be Brian Dowsett and the Barnet Group. Admission £5.

**Maureen Felton**

## **SIFD Sunday Dance/Workshops**

at Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, N.W.1

Cost £6 members £7 non-members

**January 4<sup>th</sup>** MC: The Committee  
"Please come in COSTUME if you have one"

**February 1<sup>st</sup>** MC: Jill Bransby,  
with Wendy Harrup leading Appalacian dancing in the interval. There will also  
be a short display by Tappalacian.



### **WHAT'S ON IN JANUARY**

- S.I **Saturday** **ARMENIAN & RUSSIAN DANCES** with Dalila Heath and Janet  
**Jan.3<sup>rd</sup>** Douglas. 10.30am -5pm. Barnham Village Hall, Nr. Bognor Regis,  
West Sussex. Bring packed lunch.
- S.I **Wednesday** **SIFD W MIDS NEW YEAR PARTY** 8.00 - 10.30 at St Giles Church  
**Jan.7<sup>th</sup>** Hall, Church Rd, Sheldon B26 3TT (off A45 near airport) with  
Grace Pittman and Heart of England Band. £3 on the door. Bring-  
and-share supper. More details from Robin Morris Tel 01564  
773482 or email Robinnimbo@aol.com
- S.I **Saturday** **BALKANPLUS** see page 10  
**Jan.10<sup>th</sup>**
- S.I **Saturday** **SIFD DAY COURSE** see page 6  
**Jan.10<sup>th</sup>**
- Saturday** **OXFORD BALKANSKO ORO PARTY**, St.Margaret`s Hall, Polstead  
**Jan.24<sup>th</sup>** Road, Oxford, OX2 6TN. 7:00 to 11: for more information email  
stephieclark@farmington.co.uk
- S.I **Saturday** **BARLOW** have invited Dragan Draganov to take a Bulgarian  
**Jan.24<sup>th</sup>** workshop at St. Ninian's U.R. Church Hall, Egerton Road South,  
Chorlton, Manchester. Followed by our Family Dance Party.  
7.15 - 10.15pm. Workshop £6, Party free. Further information from  
J. Korth 01942 831141



All material for the February issue of SIFD NEWS must be received by the Editor  
IN WRITING by 17<sup>th</sup> January, emails by 16<sup>th</sup> January.