

SIFD NEWS



OCTOBER 2009

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

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www.sifd.org

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Contents

Inserted in the News are two business cards advertising our **Summer School** which takes place next August. If each member could take at least one card along to another dance function that they attend, this would widen our distribution and aid our publicity efforts.

Thank you,

Jill Bransby

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The October cover picture was sent in by Harry Phillips - there is a letter from him about it on page 13.

The motif this month is the logo of Kilikia - the Nottingham Armenian Dance Group.

It is with great regret I must report the sad loss of three longstanding members of the Society this month.

The charming **Alex Beauclerc**, a regular supporter at Cecil Sharp House and other London events, was partner to George Sweetland for over 40 years.

Stan Deney, was a founder member of Selpar. (obituary by Sybil Chapman on page 10)

Alan Morton was our keen and active membership secretary until 2004 (he made the trip down to Bognor Regis to persuade me to affiliate our group to SIFD).

I know you will have many fond memories of all three of them.

Ed.

* * *

Alexandra Fleur Beauclerc

I have received many, many letters and cards of condolence on the death of my beloved Alex from members who knew her. I need hardly say how much I miss her and remember the happy times we had together in Margery Latham's and Betty Harvey's groups, so that these kind thoughts were greatly appreciated. I would have liked to reply to them all individually but this is impossible. My family and close friends have been very supportive for which I am grateful. I hope everyone who wrote will accept this brief announcement as a sincere thank you for their concern.

I would like to add that I have just heard of the death of Alan Morton which saddened me as I knew him well in his period as Membership Secretary.

George Sweetland



SIFD Day Courses

From next year SIFD Day Courses at Cecil Sharp House will run from 2 pm to 6 pm. This is because of increased prices.

The dates negotiated for 2010 are:

January 9th
February 6th
March 6th
June 12th
July 10th
September 11th
November 6th

Pam Radford



SIFD AGM

A reminder.

Please contact me :

- for directions to St Ursula's School;
- to let me know if you would like supper (between the AGM and the dance) - it will be easier to cater if I know how many to expect;
- for a list of reasonably priced accommodation within reach of the school if you wish to stay over.

Roger Sturge (address on p.2)

Dance Around The World - 2009

Yes, it's that time of year again! DATW returns (almost certainly) bigger and better than ever. The dates to remember are 24th&25th October. As usual, we will be taking over Cecil Sharp House and filling it with dance, music and fun, although last year we added a serious note with a fascinating conference of dance collectors. The number of groups participating seems to grow every year - last year the newbies were the Polynesians, who were a big hit, along with all our old favourites from Bulgaria, Slovakia, Spain, the Caribbean, Lithuania, Poland - I can't go on, there's just too many. We've also expanded into the area of social dance - as opposed to traditional dance - with Lindy Hop, Hip Hop and even cheer leading. So, something for absolutely everyone. Many of these groups are first or second generation nationals, and have never danced any other dances but their own, and it's wonderful to see them enjoying other groups' workshops, something that underlines what an international language dance is (something *we've* always known).

If you've never been before, and London is at all accessible, it's well worth making this your first visit. Most people, once they've been, come back year after year. You can find out more at www.datw.org.uk, although details of groups performing and times of performances and workshops are not generally finalised until closer to the date.

Maggie O'Regan



Groups Renewing their SIFD Membership

I'm pleased to report that taking over from Simon Guest as Groups Liaison has gone very smoothly. His instructions were comprehensive and thorough, but oddly didn't mention how much more interesting I'd find my post, or that I'd need a greater awareness of the location of HSBC branches for cheque paying-in duties.

Thank you to all you group leaders who have renewed, especially the very prompt ones. I've heard from almost all of you, and haven't given up yet on those who still haven't replied. I'd like to think that eventually everyone will renew their membership. I'd like to welcome three new affiliated groups, who I hope will benefit from their membership and be supported whenever possible by current members.

Suhayla Arabic Dance Group runs classes in Swansea, teaching traditional Egyptian Dance, Fleet U3A International Folk Dance Group is a well established group with classes in Church Crookham, and Sapphire is running its very first international folk dance workshop on Saturday 10th October in Lincoln. This is free of charge, and will hopefully be the first of many. Full details of these, and all our other, groups will be available very soon in the News, as usual.

So thank you all again for your support for, and loyalty to, the SIFD, and to Simon for all his hard work.

Alison Scrimshaw



Dunford (Midhurst, West Sussex) 18th – 20th December 2009

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 - £135.00. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Dot Bradbury (Mrs) Tel. No. 020 8540 3464

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

S.I. Oct.30th/Nov.2nd **SIFD WEST MIDLANDS BRANCH WEEKEND** at Willersley Castle, Mill Lane, Cromford, Derbys DE4 5JH. (Near Matlock) with Marina Wolstenholme. Evening dances with Maggie Kaye, Janet Woolbar and the Heart of England Band. Full board ensuite accommodation for the weekend £130 per person. Sunday night stopover available at special rate. Still a few places available if you are quick! for more details ring Maggie Kaye 0797-464-9311 or email margaretkaye@blueyonder.co.uk .

Nov.7th ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE WORKSHOP The Friends of Cecil Sharp House have invited Philippe Callens from Belgium for a workshop and dance, and SIFD members are being offered concessions on the ticket prices. Phillippe has built up an international reputation for being one of the best teachers of English country dance, and will be accompanied by Masquerade. Tickets on the door or from www.wegotickets.com Workshop 2.15 - 5.15pm £6 (SIFD £4) Dance 7.30-11pm £9 (concs £8) Combined tickets £14 (concs £13) (SIFD combined tickets £12) Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London NW1 7AY

S.I **Nov.21st CROATIAN DANCES** including Ličko Kolo (the silent dance), with Joan Sach. 10.30am - 5pm. at Barnham Village Hall, nr. Bognor Regis, West Sussex. £10 (SIFD members), further details from Janet Douglas 01243 265010

S.I **Nov.21st SIFD AGM** 4.30pm at St Ursula's High School, Brecon Road, Henleaze, Bristol, BS9 4DT. Afternoon workshop with Dalila Heath from 2.00pm to 4.00pm (£5), evening dance with Anne Leach 7.00pm to 10.00pm. tea 4pm, and a buffet supper at 6pm, cost £5.

Nov.29th WORKSHOP WITH CATHY MEUNIER at Witnesham Village Hall near Ipswich. 11am-5pm. Balkan dances from Yves Moreau's recent workshop. Details from Sally Fletcher fletcherism@aol.com or on 01473 252824 after 23rd October.

S.I **Dec.5th ZIVKO FIRFOV BALKAN PARTY** at St. Alban's Centre, Baldwins Gardens. EC1N 7AB. Nearest underground station - Chancery Lane (Central Line) Tickets from: Irene Keywood, 133 Third Ave., Dagenham, Essex RM10 9BD. Tel: 0208 592 4427. Price: £8 (including refreshments) Time: 7.00 - 10.30pm. Admission by ticket only, numbers limited. Dances from: Croatia; Macedonia; Serbia. Also: Bulgaria, Greece and Romania. Cheques made out to Zivko Firfov Folklore group. s.a.e. please

Dec.18th/20th DUNFORD WEEKEND see page 4

S.I **Dec.29th WILLINGDON IFDG TWIXMAS DANCE PARTY** at Stone Cross Memorial Hall, near Eastbourne, 10.30 - 4.30. Bring something for a shared lunch and a dance if you can. Info and map from Rowena 01323 503991 or rowenahmartin@hotmail.com. £7 (half day £4).

S.I **Jan.24th 'ON SHOW 2010' REHEARSAL** 1.00pm - 5.00 pm. (nr. Jcn.5 on M42) Elmdon Heath Community Centre, Cornyx Lane, Solihull. B91 2SF. Details from Janet Douglas 01243 265010

Mar.26th/29th BULGARIAN SINGING AND BALKAN DANCING IN ALNMOUTH see page 11

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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.



Biography of one of the Guest Teachers for the SIFD Summer School.

The dates are August 7-14, 2010. www.sifdsummerschool.org

Ibrahim Rizevski

Ibrahim was born in Belgrade and has a strong background in Yugoslavian folk culture. He started dancing in the Lola Ribar folk dance ensemble in 1972. From 1977 until 1987, he was assistant artistic director and dance teacher of Lola Ribar. The ensemble held over 1200 performances all over the world. From 1978 - 1980 he was artistic director of a Yugoslavian military state folk dance ensemble. As dancer, dance teacher, choreographer, and musician, he worked with the National Theatre in Belgrade, Ensemble Renaissance, Radio Belgrade, rock group of Goran Bregovic, and others.

In 1983 Ibrahim graduated in ethnology at the Philosophy University in Belgrade. He then worked as Curator in the Ethnography Museum in Belgrade in 1985.

Ibrahim came to Switzerland in 1987 and taught dances in the Yugoslav folk dance ensemble Sloga in Zurich for ten years. He has contributed to many folk dance seminars on Serbian and Macedonian folk dances, in France, Holland, Sweden, Switzerland and the UK.

Some of our SIFD members have met Ibrahim at the Eastbourne International Dance Festival and enjoyed his expert teaching of Macedonian dancing in 2003 and Yugoslavian dancing in 2006. At Swansea Ibrahim will be sharing his knowledge of Macedonian dancing with us.

Jill Bransby



Israeli CD5 now ready

The process of transferring all the SIFD cassette tapes to CD is going well. The Israeli CD (which was Tape 5 and has become **CD5**) is now available, spurred on by the successful co-ordinating workshop held recently at Cecil Sharp House. The speed of the tracks has been adjusted to match the dances as originally taught.

The dances are –

Ahavat Hadasa, Debka Dayagim, Debka Ha'Abir (Uria)
Debka Halel, Erev Ba, Hein Yerunan, Hora Neurim,
Hora Nirkoda, Hora Haktana, Vayiven Uziyahu

The CD costs £5, and the accompanying (original) book is £2.50.

Very soon **CD4** will be available. This used to be the EPTAPE, taken from EPs 12 and 13. The tracks have been tidied up, and of course have the huge advantage that on a CD each can be accessed instantly.

The tracks are –

| | |
|---------|---|
| Austria | Steiregger, Jägermarsch |
| Croatia | Opšaj Diri |
| Estonia | Oige Ja Vasemba |
| Greece | Tsamikos |
| Israel | Simi Yadech, Hora Agadati, Tzadik Katamar |
| Romania | Hora din Teiş |
| Serbia | Makazice, Ersko Kolo, Romansko Kolo, Čačak, Neda Grivna, Vranjanka |
| Russia | Russian Lyrical Dance, Russian Waltz |
| USA | Mexican Waltz |

Again the CD costs £5, but this includes the two small accompanying booklets.

Thanks must go to Richard Mellish and Frank Dowling for their work on these transfers.

If you would like any of these items, an order form can be downloaded from the website, or contact me:
020 8395 1400, alison.scrimshaw@googlemail.com **Alison Scrimshaw**

Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod

Other competitions

The folk dance group competitions, adult and children, are recorded by our official press representative at the Eisteddfod, George Sweetland, but it fell to me – with my notorious lack of expertise – to put on record the folk instrumental, solo folk dance and duo and trio folk dance competitions. The comments below are based on the adjudications rather than my judgement. In the past these competitions have each sent three or four finalists to competition on the pavilion stage, recently as part of the evening performances. The nature of these evening concerts has changed towards a greater involvement of professional groups so this year the three competitions were held entirely away from the pavilion stage with only the winner of each appearing in an evening concert. Sadly the folk song groups competition was cancelled for lack of competitors.

Instrumental Folk Solo or Group

This was held in the hall of Dinas Bran secondary school. The arrangements are now much better than formerly and the attendance of spectators is no longer on sufferance. As usual a number of groups failed to appear and there were only five competitors. Adjudicators: Elinor Bennett and Michel Camatte.

Ranjit Singh (India) played the Saranji, a stringed instrument from the Punjab, with bells on the bow handle (photo). The adjudicators commented on the interesting instrument and the authenticity of the performance. It was a good choice of programme and the player created a poetic atmosphere.



Lot Tin Kun (Hong Kong, China) played a reed pipe somewhat similar to a Zurna. The adjudicators appreciated the assured enthusiastic performance which demanded listening and sounded extempore.

91 marks, 2nd place.



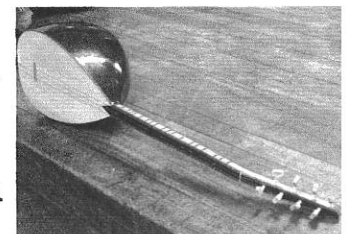
Artsphere, (Singapore), divided into two groups. The first group gave a polished performance on a range of string (plucked) instruments, with percussion and a small pipe. The adjudicators commented on the polished and rehearsed performance and the use of music, giving it a classic rather than folk quality.

The second Artsphere group, the Chamber Ensemble, had a different selection of instruments, with a large drum, a flute, gong, cymbals, and an ancient hand-held organ-like instrument (banbura? see photo). The adjudicators appreciated the dramatic opening and the virtuosity.

92 marks, 1st place.

Kurdish Folk Dance Group (London) performed with four baglamas (lute-like string instruments - photo), a nei, a zurna and a davul (open drum). Adjudication: good interaction and contrast, but some lack of tuning.

88 marks, 3rd place.



Individual Folk Dance

This competition also took place at Dinas Bran School. The adjudicators, Dick van der Vooren and Cliff Jones were impressed by the quality of performance, considering it the best ever solo competition. They expressed their difficulty in interpreting the Indonesian hand movements as an example of the complexity of adjudicating a wide range of cultural traditions. The competitors, with the adjudicators' comments were:

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| <u>Gurpreet Singh Dhindsa</u> (Gurman Folk Dance Academy, Barnala, India) | |
| Beautiful and impressive from the start but attempted too much and exaggerated too much. | 89. |
| <u>Berdan Arslan</u> (Kurdish Folk Dance Group, London) | |
| Exciting presentation using the whole body. Good interaction with musician and audience. | 94, 1 st |
| <u>Declan McGarry</u> (Loughgiel Folk Dancers, Ballymena, NI) | |
| Stepping delightful and rhythm spot on. | 93, 2 nd |
| <u>Rupinder Singh</u> (Surtal Sabhiachar, Mansa, India) | |
| Started with back to audience and finished weakly, but in between a wonderful display with very good relation to audience. | 91, 3 rd |
| <u>Sitras Anjilin</u> (Java, Indonesia) | |
| The masked silent dance used the body to tell a story. | 88 |
| <u>Wangi Indriya</u> (Java, Indonesia) | |
| Beautiful hand movements enhanced by singing. | 89 |
| <u>Fajar Astriada</u> (Java, Indonesia) | |
| Expressive, very masculine character, earthy and basic. | 90 |

Folk Dance Duo/Trio

This competition took place in the Town Hall which is a better setting than the school hall. It is more intimate and the gallery provides a better vantage point than the floor of the school hall. The adjudicators were Ed Austin and Dick van der Vooren. Ed commented on the very high standard, notably the good use of the stage, including overcoming the difficulty of dancing on a raked stage. There was good characterisation and story telling and a high standard of music.

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| <u>Leisa Gillan and Lynsey Graham</u> (Loughgiel, Ballymena, NI) | |
| Movement light and authentic, good use of steps and interesting partner work well done. | 93, 2 nd |
| <u>Sitras Anjilin, Wangi Indriya and Fajar Astriada</u> (Java, Indonesia) | |
| Picturesque and very complex. Good vocalisation and movement of masks. | |
| <u>Gursenwak Singh Sidhu, Gurpreet Singh Dhindsa and Jabir Singh Byllar</u> (Gurman Folk Dance Academy, Barnal, India) | |
| Less interaction, three dancers side by side, but made to look easy, which it was not.. | 89, 3 rd |
| <u>Berdan Arslan, Guney Kurtaran and Guzde Sarhan</u> (Kurdish Folk Dance Group, London) | |
| Good footwork and changes of step, but occasional uncertainties. | |
| <u>Adela Dancovicova, Artem Cherkas and Stanislav Stasek</u> (Jskra, Pilsen, Czech Republic) | |
| Telling a story. Well acted, natural and genuine. The trio worked well together and there was a lot of dance. | 94, 1 st |

Uergen Onyschenko, Artem Cherkas and Oleksandra Sakharna (Ukraine)

Two shepherds and a girl: athletic performance, but some weakness in their partnership.

Iurii Ushakov and Maxim Kuznetsov (Ukraine)

Fighting scene, confident and expressive. Very good use of the stage.

Choreographed Folk Dance

This was on the Pavilion stage but four groups took part in a preliminary round at Dinas Bran School, on the floor of the hall rather than the stage, giving the necessary space for the larger groups, but depriving the audience of a good view. Two groups went forward to the finals.

This fairly recent addition to the Llangollen programme has had some success in giving an alternative opportunity for more stagey presentations leaving the Adult Folk Dance Group competition to those with an authentic traditional style, though some groups still end up in the wrong competition. The adjudicators commented on Surtal Sabhiachar from Mansa, India, in the preliminary round, that their performance lacked choreography and would have been more suited to the Folk Dance Group competition. Ironically, the preliminary round resulted in the best bit of real folk dance in the whole week. While the competitors were waiting for the adjudication Dancing Anatolia (Kurdish, London) started to dance on the floor of the hall. Gradually the other groups joined in until there was a wonderful spontaneous village atmosphere.

The comments of the adjudicators, Dick van der Vooren, Ed Austin and Anca Giurchescu. on the finalists follow with the marks:

Kalynonka (Kyiv, Ukraine)

In their first piece, Na Ivana Kupala, they did not make good use of the stage, but their Gopak showed a high standard of technique. They lost a mark for over-running time.

91, 2nd

Kurdish Folk Dance Group (London)

High standard with new elements in their presentation and they clearly shared pleasure.

88

Loughgiel Folk Dancers (Ballymena, NI)

Instruments of Ireland. Wonderful dancing with new approaches and a variety of movements.

89

Veselka (Ukraine, Ashton-under-Lyne) from the preliminary round.

Kosaks and Metelyry. A good example of a staged Ukrainian presentation. The music was limited and more attention was needed to technique and training.

77

Orlyk Ukrainian Folk Dance Group (Manchester)

Za la Ytsianna and Na Levadev. Impressive, well-rehearsed and polished. Not so spectacular but balanced and well-performed. Variation of costume.

85

Gurman Folk Dance Academy (Barnala, India)

Exuberant and outgoing. Well executed, showing individuality within the ensemble. Simple and effective.

90, 3rd

Hornsey Ataturk School (Turkish Republic of N Cyprus, London)

Well thought-out production and good use of stage. Appropriate choreography well-executed.

84

Pro Musica (Michalovske, Slovakia) from the preliminary round

Brilliant choreography, beautifully executed. Fitting high quality for this competition.

93, 1st

Roger Sturge

Stan Denev

Stan, Jean and Sybil in 1985, Selpar Safari in Stow-on-the-Wold.



I think most people - in most of our SIFD groups will be familiar with his name, his kindness and his dance expertise.

Sadly, Stan died on Sunday, August 30th in Hospital. He had been suffering greatly - and patiently - hoping to come back home, but it was not to be. His family had all come home - Denise, his elder daughter in Birmingham, Rachael from the U.S.A., and Michael from France and we must all be thankful, whilst grieving, for the support they gave their father and are giving their mother, Jean.

For those who did not know Stan, I must explain that although Selpar grew into part of a Branch, no branch can flourish without a firm Root. Stan actually was, with Jean at the very root of our 36 years of activity in the West Midlands. Late in the 1960's - about 1969, I was asked to teach some dances at our Church Harvest Festival celebration. "Oh, I wish we could do more" was the call from Jean and Stan. Through the help of Margery Latham (S.I.F.D.) and Celia Hodges (Sports Council) we were able to start a class in 1973 at Selly Park School in Birmingham - hence the name of what was to become the first 3 groups which together were called the West Midlands Branch in 1978.

Despite serious surgery many years ago, Stan continued to dance and was invaluable in all our demonstrations in the Central Hall and other grand occasions. His good humour, awareness of other people, the help he offered to all and his warmth, along with his unstinting support of the group will be remembered for a long, long time, as will the loyalty to me, personally.

He, and Jean, should have been with us at our coming weekend in Derbyshire. They will be so very missed.

Sybil Chapman
(Founder member / Teacher of Selpar)

Willington International Folk Dance Group – Mini Festival 2009

At the August Bank Holiday, 35 dancers, mostly from the South of England, met at Plumpton College at the foot of the South Downs for our 12th weekend of dancing and singing. The sessions covered many types of dance including Russian, Romanian, Armenian, Bulgarian, Greek, Turkish and Israeli as well as English Folk, modern line dance and Circle Dance – in fact anything that anyone wanted to bring. Kris Lee led the singers who performed *Ajde red se redat*, *Oro se Vie* and *Lo Yisa Goy* for dancing in the final session.

On the free afternoon a group visited the College's Small Animal Centre which is home to a baby skunk among other more or less appealing creatures. There was also time to explore the South Downs and other local walks.

The new accommodation block was spacious and comfortable, with most rooms enjoying lovely views. The College's catering staff fed us very well indeed with three meals a day including cooked breakfast, plus refreshments available 24/7.

Involving as many people as possible in leading the dances results in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere where no-one feels left out, and we are grateful that so many give freely of their knowledge, expertise, and effort.

At the end we came away tired but happy, having renewed or made new friendships through living and dancing together over the three days of the Festival, and we go back to our regular dance groups refreshed, and sometimes even inspired to try something new.

P.S. Thank you to those who responded to the questionnaire. The result indicates that there would not be enough support for two Mini Festivals a year, so we shall continue as before, with the August one.

Rowena Martin



Residential Bulgarian Singing and Balkan Dancing Weekend in Alnmouth Friday 26th – Monday 29th March 2010

This weekend is for Balkan folk dancers who would like to learn some of the songs that accompany the dances, and combine this with dancing. It is also an opportunity for walking or sight-seeing in this delightful area of unspoilt sandy beaches, castles and gardens. We are lucky enough to have the renowned Bulgarian singer **Dessi Stefanova**, our ever popular Balkan specialist **Frank Dowling**, together with live music from **Tsârvuli** on Saturday evening. We will learn some of the beautiful songs that accompany popular dances from our Balkan repertoire. Some of these are in two or three-part harmonies. Dessi's unique teaching technique is both fun and instructive. There is no need to be able to read music, as she carefully teaches each of the parts. Most of the songs will be Bulgarian, but she may include some songs from other parts of the Balkans. Frank Dowling has an extensive Balkan repertoire and a wealth of information about the dances that he teaches. He will teach a variety of dances, some have songs which we can learn to sing or dance to (or both!).

This residential long weekend will be held at the HF country house hotel at Alnmouth on the Northumberland coast, in a delightful and unspoilt part of Britain. It includes comfortable twin, double, family or single en-suite accommodation and full-board with a plentiful choice of good food. Non-dancing friends and family are welcome to come and enjoy the facilities of the house and facilities, the walks and the attractions of this area. Full board accommodation (3 nights) including the singing / dancing course is £230 or £185 for accommodation / walking only (single supplement £20).

For full details and a booking form, please send s.a.e. to me at 23, Church Street, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 4DX. Alternatively you can get the information electronically by sending your request to cathy_meunier@hotmail.com.

Cathy Meunier

Letters to the Editor:

Hello Janet,

I love when the Newsletter arrives - and particularly lately when there has been contacts and response from 'old' members. We do correspond annually with Ruth Coton but are seldom close to where she lives when we visit.

A friend from the International Group with whom I dance has moved to Vancouver and now meets Beryl Sawyer at her new group. I gather Len does not dance any more. Patricia Treadwell is in the area too.

I loved the photo of Pug and Bert Price on the cover in August. Our children danced in Sydney with her.

In the September issue on p3 Frances Horrocks has sent a lovely photo of Aily Eistrat, her son I believe lives quite close to us here. However I do not believe that other person is "Pug" Cyriax; Jeremy agrees with me that it does not look like her. We think it is Margery Latham but Tony would need to confirm that. "Pug" was from Skane and always wore their costume. The one in the photo was worn by Margery for performances.



To keep up the memory bank we have included a photo taken of the two of us at Nordlek - the 2009 Scandinavian Folk Festival held in Lahti, Finland for one week in July.

We attended and performed with a group of 16 from the Swedish, Finnish and Danish communities in Toronto.

The pieces for my costume from Rattvik, Dalarna were given to me by "Pug" as a wedding present 50 years ago. We had to buy a sewing machine so that I could make it up.

Jeremy's from Leksand belonged to Pug's Father so it must be almost 150 years old. He has the hat and the long coat which he wears on high days and holidays. He had to pass her exam in Hambo during a visit to her group Linnea in Australia to earn it !

{I saw Erik Owden's name mentioned - he challenged me to learn hambo - a long time ago.

Congratulations to George Sweetland for his very interesting notes on the Eisteddfod. You feel as if you have been there too. Keep the stories coming.

Dorothy Sloan Toronto



“Thank you, Sue Clark, I don't imagine where the dropped arm in Erev Ba came from - it's certainly NOT what Judy and Jackie Barkan taught. Keep up the "purity" - that's what some of us strive for.

Best wishes - **Sybil Chapman**”

Dear Janet,

I have noticed that the cover picture on SIFD News is usually of European dancers. So I submit a dancer we met on a cruise of Alaska, for your consideration. (*cover picture*)

We cruised with a group of American folk dancers, organised by Mel Mann, of Berkeley, California. One stop was Sitka the old Russian capital of Alaska. He organised a showing of Alaskan folk dances and I enclose a photograph of a native Alaskan dancer, in costume.

During the cruise we met, and danced with, an international folk dance group in Juneau, the current capital. Their repertoire was the same as ours so we had no difficulty joining in.

It is usually cold in Sitka and her clothes indicate that I found the weather on that day typical of a fine summer day in Buxton, Derbyshire.

Harry Phillips



Dear Janet,

I was fascinated by reading about the recent day course on Indian dance. I would have liked to have attended it and also Fiona's course on Israeli dance - pressures on the clock and the purse.

With this in mind I have a few ideas for the Summer School organisers. Instead of every evening in the Summer School being a mixed bag of dances, there could be a few themed evenings, eg.

- Shivanti Lowton could lead an evening on Indian dance.
- an evening of dances from Israel hand in hand with dances from the Middle East.
- an evening of north European dances including Russia etc.

I hope at least there will be some sort of 'slot' for these and other workshops that we far northerners miss.

Andrene Thompson (Aberdeen)



Meteixas

from Mallorca. Time signature $\frac{3}{4}$

Couple dance for women, side by side facing front.

Estribillo

Left hand low on hip. Basket on head, held by R hand.

- 2 bars R foot step across deep, R shoulder across, Step back high L.R. Repeat with L.fr. and shoulder -
- 2 bars Dotting step sideways to left, starting R. foot
- 4 bars Repeat starting left side, L dotting to R
- 4 bars Turning L about, hop, taking basket low, high x 2
- 3 bars Run to place basket on floor, step back facing basket.

- A** 2 bars L low to basket on R fr. Turn away R. 3 steps
- 2 bars Smooth run round basket C.C.
- 4 bars Repeat

- B** 8 bars Smooth run travelling round partner's basket Cwise, then round own C.C.

- C** 4 bars Both pick up baskets, travel together to up R corner with step, close, step R fouelté, Step back R, lift L forward, basket both hands lifted high then low.
- 4 bars Repeat back to place.

- Estribillo** Repeat as before, but instead of placing baskets on floor, waltz R&L step sideways, R close beating L heel.

I have been doing some sorting out and come across a lot of music and dance instructions. One of the dances is a basket dance from Majorca, Spain. Does anyone know of this dance? Music and Instructions attached.

Gill Morral

SPAIN

Maleixas (Majorca)

Moderate tempo
Estríbillo.

Once through + Estrebullo.

Fin A. Copla.

B

C

NB Next month you will have the music for **La Dérobée** (The undressed woman ??), from France.



I recently (beg. of Sep.) received the May issue of the news (posted 24th April) and can add to your list of spellcheck variants my most irritating - I write quite a lot of Russian notes - prepadanya always comes out as propaganda.

Maggie O'Regan

SIFD Sunday Dance/Workshops

at 7pm – 10pm at Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, N.W.1
£8 SIFD members £9 non-members £4 children 14-18 (under 14 free)

Oct.4th MCs: Pam Radford & Janet Woolbar

Nov 1st MC: Graham Styles



WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

- S.I **Thursday
Oct.1st** **NUTBROOK INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP:** Iliana Bozhanova and Todor Yankov. 8pm - 10pm. Visitors £4. club members £3. Grangewood Methodist Church Hall, Wollaton, Notts. NG8 2SJ. tel: 01159171831 or www.nutbrookfolkdance.co.uk
- Saturday
Oct.3rd** **KILIKIA DANCE GROUP WITH DALILA HEATH & SHIRIN ENSEMBLE,** featuring Peyman Heydarin on Santur, present dances and live music from Armenia. An evening of divine music, beautiful costumes and lovely dancing. 7.30pm at The Great Hall, Trent Building, The University of Nottingham, NG7 2NR. Tickets £6.50. To book: 0778 729 1073 or info@kilikiadance.com or www.kilikiadance.com
- S.I **Saturday
Oct.3rd** **BULGARIAN DANCE WORKSHOP AND PARTY** with Iliana Bozhanova and accordionist Todor Yankov in Edinburgh at St Ninian's Church Hall, Comely Bank Row, EH4 1AF. Workshop, £11, from 11am to 5pm. Evening party, £4, from 6.30 to 9.30 live music from "Tsârveli". Pre-booked Buffet supper available (5.30 to 6.30). Graham Crowder 0131 3342891 or graham@gcrowder.co.uk
- S.I **Saturday Oct.10th** **BALKANPLUS** with Maddy and John. Cecil Sharp House
- S.I **Friday
Oct.16th** **RAINMAKERS ANNIVERSARY DANCE** 8-11pm at St Michael's Parish Hall, Broadway, Letchworth, SG6 3PQ. £6. MC Jill Bransby with live music from Cloudburst. More info from Roger (01438 812766) or Mark (01462 454210).
- S.I **Sunday
Oct.18th** **"ON SHOW 2010" REHEARSAL** 1.00 - 5.00 pm. Elmdon Heath Comm. Centre, Cornyx Lane, Solihull. B91 2SF. (near Jcn.5 M42). tel Janet Douglas 01243 265010
- Saturday/Sunday
Oct.24th/25th** **DANCE AROUND THE WORLD** Cecil Sharp House, 10am - 11pm. Workshops and performances by more than 50 groups; and special Music and Dance Programmes on both Saturday and Sunday evenings. £10 (£9 conc.) each day, incl. evening, £7 evening only, £16 Weekend Ticket, children free. More information from www.datw.org.uk or phone 07749007040
- S.I **Friday Oct. 30th/
Monday Nov. 2nd** **RESIDENTIAL COURSE OF GREEK FOLK DANCE** with Angie Saravelaki at Malhamdale, Yorkshire Dales. full-board, indoor pool. Non-dancers welcome. (3 nights) £195. Single course £28, both courses £50. s.a.e. to Cathy Meunier, 23 Church Street, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 4DX or cathy_meunier@hotmail.com
- S.I **Friday Oct. 30th/
Monday Nov. 2nd** **SIFD WEST MIDLANDS BRANCH WEEKEND** at Willersley Castle see page 5



All material for the November issue of the SIFD NEWS must be received by the Editor
IN WRITING by 17th October, emails by 16th October.