



***SIFD NEWS***  
***January 2010***

# 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 photo of a girl from Turkey was taken in Llangollen by Ken Poyton in 1993; she was with Aftud, a choir from Ankara. The motif of Spanish dancers is an adapted Clip Art picture.



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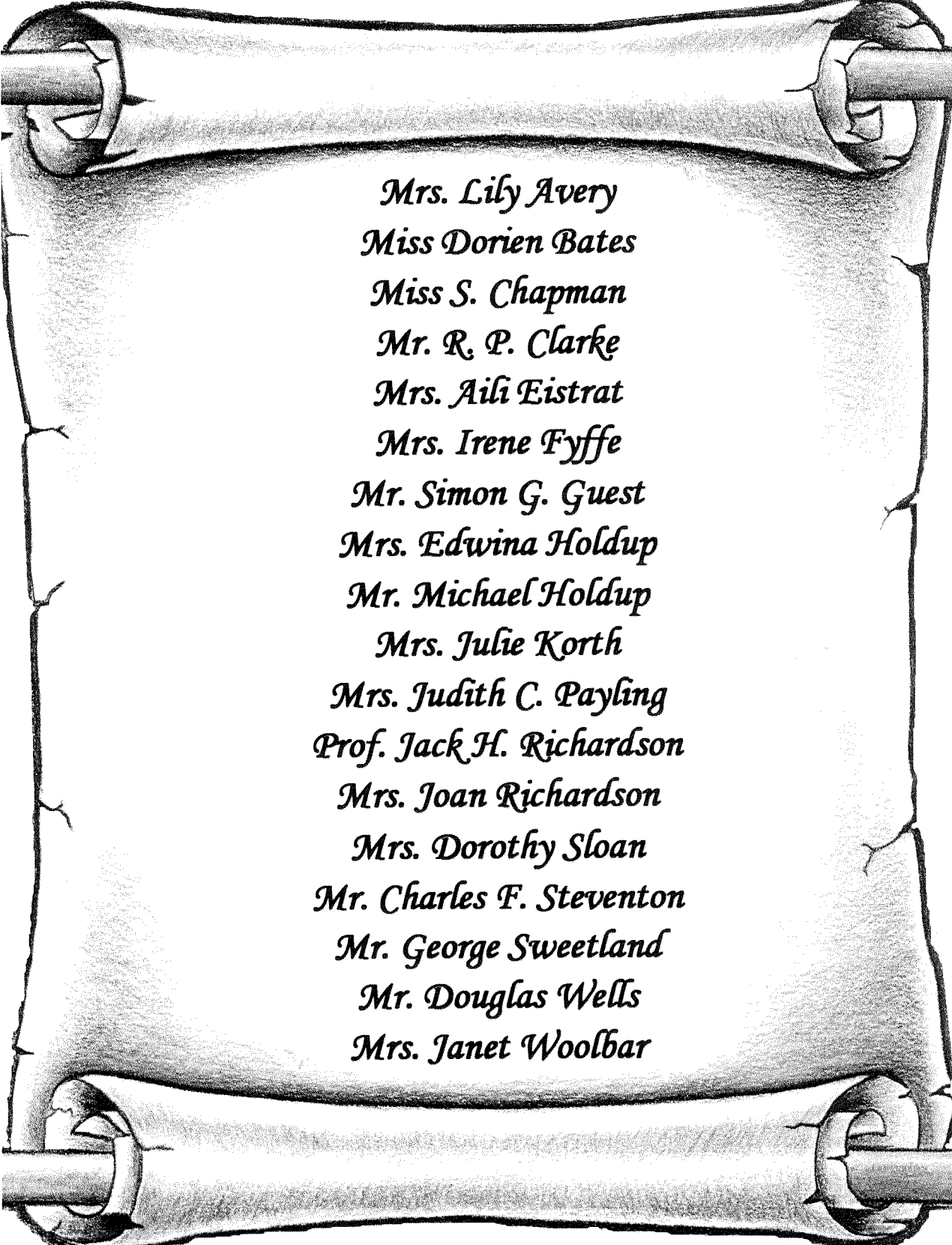
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A sad start to the year with news of the death of Wilf Horrocks. His music has provided the Society with rich treasure which we have tapped into every month in the newsletter. His huge collection of handwritten sheet music is being digitised at this time for the benefit of the musicians of the Society in the future - he leaves a magnificent legacy.

Ed.

### The 2010 New Year List of Honorary Members:

A scroll with a list of names. The scroll is unrolled and held by four wooden rollers. The text is written in a cursive font.

*Mrs. Lily Avery*  
*Miss Dorien Bates*  
*Miss S. Chapman*  
*Mr. R. P. Clarke*  
*Mrs. Aili Eistrat*  
*Mrs. Irene Fyffe*  
*Mr. Simon G. Guest*  
*Mrs. Edwina Holdup*  
*Mr. Michael Holdup*  
*Mrs. Julie Korth*  
*Mrs. Judith C. Payling*  
*Prof. Jack H. Richardson*  
*Mrs. Joan Richardson*  
*Mrs. Dorothy Sloan*  
*Mr. Charles F. Steventon*  
*Mr. George Sweetland*  
*Mr. Douglas Wells*  
*Mrs. Janet Woolbar*



This is the last of the 1970 cartoons. Ed.

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### Treasurer's Report to the 2009 AGM

Following the change of the Society's accounting year end from the 31<sup>st</sup> July, as announced last year, no Accounts are presented for approval at this AGM. The next Accounts will cover the period from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2008 to the end of this calendar year on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.

Even though there are no published Accounts I can still report to members on the Society's finances for the period that has elapsed since 1<sup>st</sup> August 2008. I must advise that a deficit is at present anticipated for this current accounting period. This is mainly because of the fall in the interest rate that we receive in our invested funds, lower sales volumes than in previous years, and rent increases.

The deficit follows the financial surpluses made in recent years. It is not a desirable situation, but because the Society has made surpluses in the past it is in the fortunate position of being able to cover the net cash outflow, (for a while at least), without too much difficulty. In my reports in previous years I have from time to time referred to the desirability of holding funds to meet unexpected eventualities such as have now arisen.

The Committee regularly review the Society's financial position, and on becoming aware of the current deficit situation have been able to take steps as appropriate to reduce the net outflow - members will be aware of admission price changes at the Sunday Dance/Workshops and the forthcoming change to the Daycourse timings. We are also pleased to report good progress in the production of P10, which when completed will yield a moderate income as well as fulfilling its primary purpose of making available further International Folk Dance material in accordance with the Society's objectives.

I would like to briefly mention two projects that we have been able to commence recently using funds previously "earmarked" from past surpluses. One is the conversion of the Summer School Videos to DVD, ensuring the accessibility of the material in the future. The other is the digitising of the SIFD's sheet music, to make it more accessible for use.

Finally on financial matters, at the start of the current period the Society received a payment under the BingoLotto 2008 scheme. This money has been spent in accordance with the terms under which the funds were made available to us, on promotional activities aimed at bringing International Folk Dance to people not previously involved.

**Judith Payling** (Hon.Treasurer)



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- S.I **Feb.6<sup>th</sup> SIFD AFTERNOON COURSE** see page 6
- S.I **Feb.6<sup>th</sup> OXFORD BALKANSKO ORO PARTY**, St. Margaret's Hall, Polstead Road (off Woodstock Road), Oxford, OX2 6TN. 7:00 to 10:30. Oxford's winter party is full of good music, dances and food. All food and drink will be provided by the Oxford Group. Just bring yourselves and entrance fee of £7.00. (children under 14, £3.00.) We look forward to seeing everyone there. Email Sally Humphrey at [sally.humphrey@onetel.net](mailto:sally.humphrey@onetel.net) (tel. 01865 873860) or Marion Owen at [marion.owen@mypostoffice.co.uk](mailto:marion.owen@mypostoffice.co.uk). (tel. 01235 533726)
- S.I **Feb.7<sup>th</sup> WILF HORROCKS MEMORIAL DANCE** see page 7
- S.I **Feb.13<sup>th</sup> BALKANPLUS**: MC: Emily Nisbet
- Feb.13<sup>th</sup> A VALENTINE'S DANCE-A-THON** for charity to be held in the ballroom at the King's Head, Bungay, Suffolk. Non stop dance from 10-6pm. Traditional dances from around the world. All welcome. Sponsorship forms available. Contact 01508 480195 for further details.
- S.I **Feb.20<sup>th</sup> DAY OF TURKISH DANCES** with Janet Douglas. 10.30am - 4.30pm. at Barnham Village Hall, nr. Bognor Regis, West Sussex. details from Janet Douglas 01243 265010
- S.I **Feb.27<sup>th</sup> BALKAN WORKSHOP - CROATIAN AND SERBIAN DANCES** 10.30 a.m. – 4 30 p.m. At Grangewood Methodist Church Grangewood Road, Wollaton Nottingham NG8 2SJ Tutor Joan Sach 10.30 – 1.00 Croatian dances 2.00 – 4.30 Serbian dances Price £8 all day half day £5. Hosted by Nutbrook International Folk Dance Group contact 0115 9171831 or e mail [gill.morral@ntlworld.com](mailto:gill.morral@ntlworld.com)
- S.I **Mar.7<sup>th</sup> SIFD SUNDAY DANCE/WORKSHOP**
- S.I **Mar.13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> MAINLY BULGARIAN WORKSHOP WITH EDDY TIJSSEN** at Chorlton, Manchester and Calver, Derbyshire. Further information from Julie Korth 01942 831141
- S.I **Mar.26<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> BULGARIAN SINGING AND BALKAN FOLK DANCING** residential course with Dessi Stefanova and Frank Dowling at Alnmouth, Northumberland. Comfortable ensuite accommodation, full-board. Excellent area for walking or sightseeing. Non-dancing friends and family welcome. Full board accommodation (3 nights) including the singing / dancing course £230 or £185 for accommodation / walking only (single supplement £20). For details and a booking form please send s.a.e. to Cathy Meunier, 23, Church Street, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 4DX or e:mail your request to [cathy\\_meunier@hotmail.com](mailto:cathy_meunier@hotmail.com).
- S.I **Apr.11<sup>th</sup> SIFD SUNDAY DANCE/WORKSHOP** (NB 2<sup>nd</sup> Sun. as April 4<sup>th</sup> is Easter)
- Apr.23<sup>rd</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> 3 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, Abingworth, Thakeham, West Sussex, RH20 3EF. For details ring HF on 0845 470 7558 or Phil & Brenda on 020 8397 9649
- Apr.30<sup>th</sup>/May.3<sup>rd</sup> EASTBOURNE FESTIVAL** 01278 424332
- S.I **May.9<sup>th</sup> SIFD SUNDAY DANCE/WORKSHOP** MC: Jill Bransby
- S.I **Aug.7<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> SIFD INTERNATINAL FOLK DANCE SUMMER SCHOOL** at Swansea University, Wales. Dance courses - Russian/Hennie Konings, Macedonian/Ibrahim Rizevski, General/Ramon Cardona. For further info. see [www.sifdsummerschool.org](http://www.sifdsummerschool.org) or email [sifdswansea@gmail.com](mailto:sifdswansea@gmail.com) or phone 07905 603655 or 01462 457791

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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.

## January SIFD Afternoon Course

Date: 9 January 2010

Time: 2.00 p.m. -- 6.00 p.m.

Place: Cecil Sharp House

Cost: £8 for SIFD members, £10 for non-members

Tutor: **Elsa Perez**

Subject: Latin American Folk Dances

We have secured the return of Elsa Perez who taught a most enjoyable Day Course a few years ago. Elsa asks that women bring their fullest skirts possible to enhance the dances, and the men need peasant hats for the Colombian Cumbia! The ideal hat is the biggish straw hat worn by S. American peasants - but not Mexican hats. If they do not have one, any hat will do.

**Pam Radford**



I will be teaching: La Cumbia from Colombia, a dance for women only, or for men and women together in couples, it could even be a solo dance. La Rueda from Cuba, like a circular quadrille but only one part. As many couples as possible can dance it together with a caller. La Bamba or El Caballito from Mexico.

If there is time we will recap on Bambuco (Colombia), La Chacarera (Argentina), Contradanza (Cuba) and Festejo (Peru).

Very full, long skirts would be ideal for the ladies. Notes and CDs are available.

**Elsa Perez**



## February SIFD Afternoon Course

Date: 6th February 2010

Time: 2pm -- 6pm

Place: Cecil Sharp House

Cost: £8 for SIFD members, £10 for non-members

Tutor: **Marina Wolstenholme**

Subject: Albanian Dances

Notes and CDs will be available.



## Day (Afternoon) course in February

In October I taught a weekend course for the West Midlands groups at which I did 3 Albanian Dances. These were enjoyed, and I have been asked to teach them again, and some others, at the Society Day course, in February. The dances were:

1. Valle e Dardhes. This is not the dance depicting the picking of pears, which is already known, but a version learned by YVES MOREAU from the Albanian State Group. It is very simple, but the style is quite special.
  2. Çobankat.
  3. Leskovikut. To add to these I will prepare:
  4. Valle Kosovare.
  5. Ženska Albanska Igra.
  6. Halle e Madve.
  7. Hidhe moj hidhe Këmben' o
  8. Pogonishte (to use as a warm-up and show a basic step and style).
- Please bring two waving hankies with you on the day.

**Marina Wolstenholme**



### **Advance notice:**

The next course will be on March 6th the subject will be Breton dances and a selection from South-West France. The Tutor will be Graham Knapp who comes highly recommended.

There will be no courses in April or May, the next course will be June 12th.

**Pam Radford**

## Wilfrid James Luke Horrocks

Wilf was born in Charlton, S.E. London and attended Colfe's Grammar School. He was evacuated to Tunbridge Wells during the war and from there went straight into the army. He fought in the North Africa campaign where he was wounded and was invalided out with a bullet still lodged close to his spine, causing much astonishment any time he was X-rayed.

As a boy he and his sisters all learnt the piano and later he began to play the organ. However, the damage to his leg meant that later he was unable to carry on with the organ as he was unable to manage the foot pedals, but it didn't stop him from going on rambles and riding his motor bike all over the country.

Through the rambling club and a distant cousin he heard about Bert Price's dance class and was soon joining in and the variety of music caught his attention. He then heard about the dances held at Inns of Court, where everyone managed to avoid the pillars, and where we met. He bought an accordion from some-one who was emigrating and joined Mourrie Pfeffer, Cliff Beck and Harry de Caux and since then has played constantly for many groups, classes and dances, principally Merton Park, Woodvale and the S.I.F.D.

Gradually, Alzheimer's took its toll until he needed constant care and he entered a nursing home in Caterham. Eventually he found even swallowing difficult and he became very weak and unable to combat a chest infection which led to a quiet and peaceful death.

As a family we will miss his dreadful puns and invention of words and the loss of music in the house as he played almost every day. Even in the last few days of his life he responded to the folk music I took to the nursing home.

With the kind co-operation of the committee and all of the Steventon family I have hi-jacked the dance to be held on Sunday, 7th February 2010 to make this a memorial dance for Wilf. Please come in costume to make this a cheerful, colourful occasion. Entry will be free.

While searching for a nursing home for Wilf I contacted the Star and Garter Home in Richmond for disabled ex-servicemen where the British Legion poppies are made. Unfortunately they had no vacancies at the time but I learnt that they are building a special unit for Alzheimer's sufferers.

The family have agreed that a donation to this unit would be appropriate and could be ear-marked for specific equipment. Any contributions to this fund would be most welcome.

Finally, many thanks to everyone for their kind messages and for all the cards that are flooding in.

**Frances**

~

## Wilf Horrocks

My memories of Wilf probably go back further than most; I first met him as a member of the Eltham and Sidcup YHA Group in 1956.

I joined the Group at the age of 16 as a cyclist, and helped to start up the club's cycling section; up to that time, everyone was a walker or social member. Wilf at that time was simply one of the older club members, and our paths seldom crossed. Each of us discovered later, however, that we both attended Colfe's Grammar School in Lewisham, but some 15 years apart!

It was through the YHA that I became hooked on International Folk Dance; many people from the club went up to Cecil Sharp House at weekends, and I naturally joined them. I also attended the class run by Bert Price at that time.

As my involvement with International Dance developed, I met Jean, and after we were married, we spent weekends Hostelling or at Surrey Crest. It was there that I noticed Wilf again, he was learning to play a musical instrument which I hadn't seen before (nor have I seen one since); it was like a large kazoo with a keyboard on one side!

Thereafter, Wilf became proficient at the piano-accordion, and he willingly allowed himself to be pressed into service as musician when we founded Woodvale IFDG in 1968. The rest is history; his involvement with the Society as music provider is well documented.

Wilf was created an Honorary Life Member of Woodvale Group several years ago; in recognition of his having played at every major dance event put on by Woodvale until he sadly became too ill to carry on.

The Dance world will miss you Wilf!

Ian Willson



### Wilf Horrocks

Wilf brought much joy to dancers of the Society and I remember him with grateful thanks. We were very lucky in the Rainmakers' early years, as Wilf would drive all the way from Surrey to North Herts to play for our Anniversary dances. It was a great treat for us to dance to his music. His musical timing was perfect and very easy to dance to, even if his map-reading once led him up the M1 (instead of the A1) to regions unknown!

I remember one occasion on a river boat on the Thames when I was calling and Wilf was playing. It was one of the SIFD's Anniversary dances and it poured with rain the whole trip. There was much amusement when the Captain said that we had run out of water and had to turn back. A 'captive woman' who had got on the wrong boat to go to the Tower was not amused! Somehow it was all great fun as well as great music to dance to.

It's wonderful that his legacy of music and music-making will live on, thanks to his sterling work on the musical notation of 'our' dances and his encouragement to the SIFD musicians. I was delighted that Martin Butler took over when Wilf retired from the band – the band played on.....

Jill Bransby



Wilf did compose some of his own music, one piece 'A Frolic with Frances' is reproduced below.

The image shows handwritten musical notation for a piece titled "A FROLIC WITH FRANCES". The notation is written on four staves. The first staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It contains a melodic line with notes and rests, and is annotated with chord letters G, Fb, C, and F4. The second staff is also a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. It contains a rhythmic accompaniment line with notes and rests, and is annotated with chord letters A, A7, D, A7, and D. The third staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. It contains a rhythmic accompaniment line with notes and rests, and is annotated with chord letters A7, D, A7, D, and A. The fourth staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. It contains a rhythmic accompaniment line with notes and rests, and is annotated with chord letters D, A, D, A7, and D. The title "A FROLIC WITH FRANCES" is written in the center of the first staff, and "(w.H) 20" is written at the end of the first staff. A decorative wavy line is present above the first staff.

I'm not sure if the line of music at the top is part of it or not. As all the music Frances gave me is being 'digitised' at present I have only some rough duplicates to work from. Perhaps our musicians can work it out in case they want to play it at the Wilf Horrocks Memorial Dance.

Ed.



## **The Great Koprivshitsa Folklore Festival 2–9 August**

Every five years the beautiful small mountain town of Koprivshitsa is host to a veritable feast of folklore – costumes, music, singing and dancing. The colourful performances take place on the hills above the town by day, and in the evenings there are often impromptu performances in the cobbled streets and squares. It has been described as a cross between a pop festival and a medieval fair; certainly it's an experience not to be missed!

The British Bulgarian Friendship Society is arranging its sixth Festival tour. Annie Kay, the tour organiser, tells me that she has secured some very good accommodation for us in the town. The price of the one week tour is "from £695" which will include flights (including a Manchester option) Bed and Breakfast and transfers from and to Sofia airport. Dancers and musicians may also opt to participate in the Plovdiv Seminar which will follow immediately after the festival. This seminar has classes for folk dance, singing, musical instruments, and even language. There are excellent teachers; there will be 6 village groups with their dancers, singers and musicians. There will also be an alternative option to join a sight-seeing tour after the festival.

For more information about the tour contact Annie Kay 0207 237 7616 [annie.kay@btinternet.com](mailto:annie.kay@btinternet.com) or visit the BBFS website : [www.bbfs.org.uk/tour\\_intro.aspx](http://www.bbfs.org.uk/tour_intro.aspx)  
And for more information about the Folk Seminar in Plovdiv see [www.folkseminarplovdiv.net](http://www.folkseminarplovdiv.net) or contact Cathy Meunier 017687 73117 [cathy\\_meunier@hotmail.com](mailto:cathy_meunier@hotmail.com)

**Cathy Meunier**



### **January Balkanplus**

The January Balkanplus will be held on the 9th January 2010 at Cecil Sharp House, Camden NW1, starting at 7.00pm. MC will be Toni Gutman. Admission £5.

**Maureen Felton**



### **Letter to the Editor**

Dear Editor

May I suggest one addition to Simon Guest's excellent piece "The Art of the MC" (November 2009 SIFD News).

Some of us, especially those with no language other than English, find it impossible to link the ethnic name with the dance. There are hundreds of dances. A few have nicknames like "spectacles" which makes sense and can be linked directly to the dance, but most do not.

It is of course important to keep the ethnic or national name of the dance and be announced and listed in the programme. Even here, and for obvious reasons, it is accepted that Russian and Greek dances are listed using the two Cyrillic alphabets and that twiddly bits of other languages are not included. Although this is one step away from being "pure" it is accepted.

What attracts some people to dance particularly is the music, as well as the steps and choreography. The music makes you dance not the "pure" name. Some of us wait to hear the music before taking to the floor.

So, with some trepidation and apologies to all SIFD MCs and teachers, can I on behalf of myself and others plead for a few bars of the dance music to be played immediately after announcing the dance?

**John Boyd**

## Riepe Riepe Garst

(Ripe Barley)  
Holland (Overijser - Gelderland)

The image shows a musical score for the piece 'Riepe Riepe Garst'. It consists of two staves of music in 4/4 time. The first staff is marked 'A' and 'mod. with emphasis', and the second staff is marked 'B' and 'faster'. The first staff has two measures, each with a first and second ending. The second staff has five measures. Chords are indicated below the notes: F, Bb, C7, F, Bb, F, G7, F, G7, F, F, C7, F, C7, F.

Wilf Horrocks

NB The music for **A Chula** will be in the next issue. Ed.



### Our groups

This year the publicity working party are making plans to increase the publicity directed at attracting people to try International Folk Dancing. In preparation for measuring our success next year, I am working on finding out how many people are involved now. At the time of writing this, about half of groups have replied to a short questionnaire. Here are the results so far:

***Between 1000 and 1700 people attend SIFD affiliated or associated groups regularly.***

About twice as many: around 2000-3000 are on mailing lists/ membership lists, or attend special events (there is probably a degree of double counting here, so the smaller estimate is more likely)

**About 250 people tried a class for the first time** during the year, some are now regular attendees. Many more went to festivals, workshops, courses and events, run by SIFD associated or affiliated groups or by other organisations.

The groups with the highest number of new people use websites, local advertising in newspapers and libraries, involvement in local events, word of mouth and referrals from the SIFD website.

**An average group:** Has a membership list of just under 30 people, of whom 15 attend regularly, and had 3 or 4 new people in 2009.

From the survey results so far, it seems that there are about a hundred SIFD members who do not belong to a group/ attend a class.

Our website has some spare space and we are looking for ways to make it more interesting and useful:

If you have information about your group and activities - with good photos and a short, clear script, or you have an idea and a bit of spare time, please call or email.

If you know of an event where we should have leaflets or advertise in a programme, please tell me about it. I don't mind at all if I get 50 emails about the same event - it's better than missing an opportunity to get ourselves better known.

**How many new people will there be next year?** It depends how much we can do, and that will be easier with your support!

Contact: Jeanette Hull 020 8286 9639, [jeanettehull@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:jeanettehull@blueyonder.co.uk)

**Jeanette Hull**

## 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)

**January 3rd MCs: The Committee    Please come in costume if you have one!**

Feb 7th: Wilf Horrocks Memorial Dance (see page 7)



## WHAT'S ON IN JANUARY

- S.I **Saturday Jan.2<sup>nd</sup>**    **SIFD W MIDS NEW YEAR PARTY** 7.45pm – 10.30pm at St. Giles Church Hall, Church Road, Sheldon, B26 3TT (North of A45 Coventry Rd, near B'ham airport) MC: Grace Pittman. £4 on the door. Bring-and-share supper. More details from Maggie Kaye on 0797-464-9311 or email [margaretkaye@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:margaretkaye@blueyonder.co.uk)
- S.I **Saturday Jan.9<sup>th</sup>**    **SIFD AFTERNOON COURSE** see page 7
- S.I **Saturday Jan.9<sup>th</sup>**    **BALKANPLUS** see page 9
- Saturday Jan.16<sup>th</sup>**    **INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE MORNING COURSE** led by Phil & Brenda Steventon at The North Kingston Centre, Richmond Road, Kingston-upon-Thames, KT2 5PE. For details ring Kingston Adult Education on 020 8547 6700 or Phil & Brenda on 020 8397 9649
- Saturday Jan.16<sup>th</sup>**    **GREEK DANCES** with Tracy Lean and Mary Perryman 10.30 am. -4.30 p.m. at Headington Parish Hall, Oxford. Lunch: bring a vegetarian dish to share. Cost £15.00. Further details from Mary Perryman 01865 552688
- Tuesday Jan.19<sup>th</sup>**    **SAPPHIRE INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP.** The group will for now meet on Tuesdays from 7.30-9.30, once monthly. Brant Road Church Centre, Lincoln.
- Saturday Jan.23<sup>rd</sup>**    **EURODANCE - 'LINES AND CIRCLES'** An afternoon of dancing to live music with Adrian Pointon, Cindy Kelly, Mike Machin and Clyde Olliver at the Gregson Centre, Moor Lane, Lancaster, 1:30 - 5:00pm. Admission £7:50 (£5:00 concessions). Refreshments available in the Gregson cafe/bar.
- Sunday Jan.24<sup>th</sup>**    **'ON SHOW 2010' REHEARSAL**, Solihul, more details from Janet Douglas 01243 265010



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.