

S.I.F.D. NEWS

MAY 2010



'borbena rugovska igra' – Sqiptar dance from Kosmet
Southern Yugoslavia.

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

registered charity number 284509

www.sifd.org

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Contents

- p. 3 News**
- p. 4 SIFD Courses**
- p. 5 Diary Dates**
- p. 6 Past Events**
- p. 7 Notes for MCs**
- p. 8 Future Events**
- p. 9 Letters to the Editor**
- p.10 Rankankalia & Tre Ting**
- p.11 What's on in May**



The cover picture of dancers, from what is now Kosova, by Ken Ward first appeared in the November 1971 issue of the SIFD News;

In the March issue there was mention of the convent in Haiti, destroyed by the earthquake, with which Pam Radford and Anna Huston of St. Saviours Priory are associated. Clyde Olliver and Balkanplus hosted the first successful fundraising event and in April dancers on the South Coast also had an event in support of the Sisters in Haiti.

We raised £470 during an enjoyable afternoon of dance (on a sunny day!), which was also a chance to meet up with old friends and encourage some newcomers. I would like to thank Sue Kewley, Rowena Martin, Judith Washington and Claire Wilton for leading dances and taking on "jobs".

Here are the contact details again, in case any of you also feel inspired to organise something: cheques payable to 'St. Saviour's Priory' at 18 Queensbridge Rd. London E2 8NS (please indicate that the cheque is intended for Haiti).

Ed.



Nutbrook International Group

On 27th February Nutbrook International Dancing Group held a day workshop led by Frank Dowling. The morning session was Croatian Dancing and the afternoon was Serbian. Frank kept us alert and worked us hard throughout the day as we did no less than 17 dances!!! Many of which we repeated and revised. The teaching was most enjoyable and we were soon clicking, jumping and shouting to order.

The day was made even more interesting by Frank who gave us additional information about the countries and the various areas including anecdotes about the specific dances. We certainly didn't know that the tie was 'invented' in Croatia, coming from Croatia -- Croat -cravat -- the tie!

During our lunch break we were entertained with a film of original dancing where the Croats and the Serbs were dancing in their own villages. A film recently 'found' having been 'lost' for many years.

A great day - led by a superb teacher and we can't wait for more.

Margaret Beevers



Ruth Baumann

It is with great sadness that we report that Ruth Baumann died on April 6th. Many people will remember her with great affection.

She came, with her husband Hans, regularly to Summer Schools at Swansea. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Hans and family.

Hans' address is Ballyweg 25, 6440 Brunnen, Switzerland.

Joan & Simon Guest

SIFD Day Courses

June 12th 2010

This will be a special event, as **Sebastiá Bover** is coming to teach Mallorcan dances. Sebastiá was born in Mallorca, where he learnt his dances initially from his parents. He now teaches Balearic dances at the Casa de Menorca in Barcelona.

He will teach Mallorcan and Minorcan Fandango and also Jota. The course will run for a whole day and will include the showing of a DVD of Mallorcan dance then and now, during the break.

Place: Cecil Sharp House

Time: 10.00 am -- 6.00 pm

Cost: £15 for SIFD members, £18 for non-members



July 10th 2010

The last of the SIFD tapes (Tape 7) to be converted to CD is almost ready and to coincide with its arrival there will be an Afternoon Course to introduce/revise some of the dances.

The dances are:

Israel: Ari Ara, Le'or Chiyuchech

Norway: Tretur fran Hordaland, Attetur med Mylne

Hungary: Somogyi Karikazo, Fárkas Játok

Czech R: Doublebská Polka, Mazurka

Portugal: Senhor da Serra

Poland: Zagrodnik, Maruszka

Sweden: Vingákersdans, Väva Vadmal, Trekarlspolska, Östgötpolska

Lithuania: Kalvelis

If you have any requests for particular dances to be included on the course, please contact **Janet Woolbar** in advance of July.

Place: Cecil Sharp House

Time: 2.00 pm -- 6.00 pm

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

Pam Radford



May Balkanplus

The May Balkanplus will be held on the 8th May at Cecil Sharp House, Camden NW1, starting at 7.00pm. MC for the evening will be Janet Douglas. Admission £5.

This is Janet's first visit to Balkanplus as MC but she is well known to many as editor of the SIFD News, and has worked hard for many years to make Eastbourne a success. She has also organised workshops and is at present in charge of the SIFD "On Show" dance display in September at the Albert Hall.

Maureen Felton

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- S.I **Jun.12th BALKANPLUS:** MC will be Oxford Balkansko Oro
- S.I **Jun.12th SIFD DAY COURSE** see page 4
- S.I **Jun.13th DOINA** performing at the Embankment Gardens Theatre (free entrance). 3-5pm.
- S.I **Jun.13th DRESS REHEARSAL - ON SHOW** 1.00pm (for 1.30pm start) - 5.00 pm. Elmdon Heath Community Centre, Cornyx Lane, Solihull. B91 2SF. (near Junction 5 on the M42). Details: Janet Douglas 01243 265010
- Jul.6th/11th LLANGOLLEN INTERNATIONAL EISTEDDFOD** 01979 862001
- Jun.19th HUNGARIAN** performance at the Embankment Gardens Theatre. (free). 3-5pm.
- S.I **Jul.10th SIFD AFTERNOON COURSE** see page 4
- S.I **Jul.10th BALATON** performing at the Embankment Gardens Theatre (free). 3-5pm.
- S.I **Jul.31st ARMENIAN & RUSSIAN** dances from some of the "On Show" team at the Embankment Gardens Theatre (free entrance). 3-5pm
- S.I **Aug.7th/14th SIFD INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE SUMMER SCHOOL** at Swansea University, Wales. Dance courses - Russian / Hennie Konings, Macedonian / Ibrahim Rizevski, General / Cristina Casarini. For further info. see www.sifdsummerschool.org or email sifdswansea@gmail.com or phone 07905 603655 or 01462 457791
- Aug.21st/28th 7 NIGHT INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE COURSE** led by Phil & Brenda Steventon at HF Holidays, Malhamdale, North Yorkshire, BD23 4AA. For details ring HF on 0845 470 7558 or Phil & Brenda on 020 8397 9649
- S.I **Aug.27th/30th WILLINGDON IFDG MINI FESTIVAL** at Plumpton College at the foot of the South Downs near Lewes, East Sussex. Shared leading of International Folk and Circle Dance, also English Folk Dance and singing. Full board £160 (plenty of single rooms). Booking form from Rowena Martin, 60 Anderida Road, Eastbourne BN22 0PZ. Enquiries 01323 503991 or rowenahmartin@hotmail.com
- S.I **Sep.12th REHEARSAL - ON SHOW** 1.00pm (for 1.30pm start) - 5.00 pm. Elmdon Heath Community Centre, Cornyx Lane, Solihull. B91 2SF. (near Junction 5 on the M42). Details: Janet Douglas 01243 265010
- Sep.25th 'ON SHOW'** Royal Albert Hall. 2pm. Armenian and Russian dances from S.I.F.D. Morris from E.F.D.S.S. and a variety of dance from other CCPR members.
- S.I **Oct.16th/17th YVES MOREAU WORKSHOPS** Send SAE with cheque (payable to Balkanplus) to Maureen Felton, 28 Henslow Road, Ipswich IP4 5EG. (further reductions for Season Ticket Holders). for details phone Maureen on 01473 272256 or Brian Dowsett on 01992 582717 or balkanplus@aol.com Further information on www.balkanplus.org.uk
- S.I **Nov.12th/15th RESIDENTIAL COURSE OF MACEDONIAN FOLK DANCE** with Paul Mulders at Derwent Bank, Lake District. Comfortable ensuite accommodation, full-board. Choice of General or Intermediate course, or both courses. Live music, social dancing and singing workshops. Excellent area for walking or sightseeing. Non-dancing friends and family welcome. Full board accommodation (3 nights) £198. Single course £32, both courses £56. 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.

* * *

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.

W.I. Day of Culture from Around the World

Dancers from the Worthing Interfolk Group and from BRIDE were invited to the Women's Institute day of Food, Music and Dance from around the World held in Lancing, on the last day of March this year. There was an interesting array of artefacts and samples of food from different countries. Both of the SIFD groups had literature, pictures, costumes, dolls and other items on display which added to the occasion.



The Worthing group danced a diverse selection of dances and wore a variety of different costumes, looking very colourful - unfortunately my camera decided to die that day and all my pictures were lost. The Bognor Regis group danced Hungarian and Polish dances, and in the afternoon Armenian and Turkish. The picture above shows four of the girls wearing costumes on loan from Dalila's Armenian Group; the girls will be wearing the same costumes at the Royal Albert Hall* later this year.

Janet Douglas

**Unfortunately, I am still unable to give accurate information about ticket prices for Sep.25.*



Society for International Folk Dancing

Notes for MCs

with special relevance to Cecil Sharp House dances

1. Plan the programme in advance to give balance:
Easy and difficult dances, circle and partner dances,
Different styles and nationalities, slow and fast.
Interval dancing should be different in style from the main programme.
Aim to get through at least thirty dances, which means planning for several, say 50% more.
Remember to submit your programme to the band at least two weeks in advance.
2. Try to avoid including dances you do not know - you may have to give instructions or sort out a muddle.
3. Watch how your programme is being received - are some people consistently sitting out?
If so, adjust your programme accordingly.
4. Call figures or sequences if necessary; call well ahead of the figures.
5. Establish Rapport
(a) With the musicians.
Give them the programme in advance (see 1 above). Warn them when making changes - give as much notice as possible. Signal or let them know when you wish a dance to end, if there isn't a set sequence or ending. Manage, if possible, not to have the dancers on the floor, waiting, before the musicians are ready to play.
(b) With the dancers.
Be audible, be sure they know which dance you have announced, and whether it is easy or difficult. Repeat the announcement if people are slow in coming on to the floor. Be slick, do not allow gaps between dances.
6. Be prepared - for anything. You are in charge and responsible, eg: the band fails to arrive - have recorded music.
The mike fails - have your own or be audible.
Make sure the interval dancing is arranged and the equipment available.
7. Avoid
(a) Instruction. With complicated dances, a couple of minutes giving the sequence and numbering the sets is OK, but ten minutes instruction is not, especially if many are not dancing.
(b) Too much recorded music - if you have a band, use it.
8. Interval - watch this coming in your programme, announce it and do not let it drag on. This may require a little gentle chasing to achieve.
9. Get people on the floor at all costs. Dancers are happy dancing and unhappy not.
10. Announcements - find out who will be doing them and ask them to be brief.
11. Demonstrations - keep them short, they may be good to watch, but they interrupt the dancing.
12. Ending - make sure that all can join in the last few dances. Do not overlook thanks to the band.

The above notes are based on suggestions by Jack Richardson, to whom my thanks are due.

Roy Clarke
first published in July, 1982

Macedonian Dance Courses in Ohrid

Teacher: Joška Bosilkovski (email: joskabosilkovski@yahoo.com)

8. July - 17. July - Hotel Metropol €740 (half board)

22. July - 31. July - Hotel Desaret €580 (half board)

(flights not included in price)

Lessons: 10.00 - 12.00. and 17.30 - 19.30

Information :

Barbara Zalega-Rynkiewicz

An der Kreuzkirche 20,

26131 Oldenburg,

Germany

tel: 0049 / (0) 441 / 52396

email: barbara.zalega@tanz-oldenburg.de



Hallo SIFD,

- * I should like to announce a new approach to dance, using as a basis for dance the Playford dances and the "Eutony" method (from the Greek "Eu" harmony and "Tonos" muscular tone, tension) developed by Gerda Alexander in the early 1920s, when physical well-being became very important in Switzerland and Germany. Eutony, rather like yoga, aims to teach a different approach to one's body, and how to use the newly acquired physical competence. For dancers it means not just copying but more involving all your body in the activity.

Workshop with Tess Parker Edelman and Anne Vincent from 21-26 Aug. in Molines-en-Queyras (French Alps on the Italian Border); there will be lots of time for walking and exploring the beautiful Queyras area.

Tess Parker Edelman is English but has spent most of her life in continental Europe, now living in Turin. She is a fully qualified RSCDS teacher, spending many years teaching Scottish, Irish and other forms of traditional dance.

Anne Vincent founded the association « Le Corps Sensible » (The Sensitive Body). She studied Eutony at the Gerda Alexander School in Geneva for for 4 years and Zen at the Durckheim Centre. www.eutonie-troyes-en-champagne.com avincent@eutonie.fr

All levels and all participants over 11 years are welcome. If you would like further information mail Tess at t.parker@alice.it ,or call 0039 01166 11 061 or write T. Parker Edelman, via Sabaudia 23, 10133 Turin. Italy.

Tess Parker Edelman



- * *Not sure if this is relevant to International Folk Dancing - but as there was space.... Ed.*

Miscellany

1. The note headed 'Calling – Some Considerations', which Janet published in the March News, was written in the early 1990s. You might have wondered why it was concerned with tapes and started with rhetorical questions. The article was written for a day course that was held on calling, leading, working with a band, PA etc. I was clearing out old papers and sent this to Janet in case it was of any interest.
2. I have to admit that I know most of these ancient dances that crop up in the News. My experience of Opšaj Diri is similar to Janet's cartoon!
3. Riepe Riepe Garste brought back memories of when I taught Keep Fit in OAP residential homes. I would do this with everyone sitting. Looking back, I think that the 'windmill' arms may not have been a good idea for arthritic shoulders! By the way there was a typo on point 8 – you visit to the left (not right).
4. Rankankaliali is an easy mixer. I have some scribbled notes from the 1960's in my file and I have the song on a tape that sounds as if it was recorded underseas (probably 'reel to reel', if you can remember these machines)! I tried the dance out a few years ago but it wasn't very exciting – maybe OK for a party?

Scribbled Notes.

Circle of couples with men on inside of circle, facing anti-clockwise. Starting with outside feet, 4 walks forward, giving a slight bow to partner on first step. Spare hands on hip. 4 walks backwards. Repeat forward and back.

Face partner men's hands on hips, ladies holding skirt – honour partner (bow and curtsy at the same time), clap 3 times, (x2) everyone turns towards the left diagonal to find a new partner and walks round clockwise 8 steps holding hands with this new partner. Repeat the honour, claps and turn. Start the dance with this new partner.

5. I loved the jigsaw – what a find!

Jill Bransby



Dear Janet,

Two things in the April 2010 Newsletter particularly interested me.

The jigsaw first. I am a jigsaw 'fan' and would love to have a copy of the one of dancing in Trafalgar Square. If anything comes to light, perhaps you could let me know.

The second item is Opšaj diri. I unearthed my home-made folk dance cassette of dances I used for socials and the like. Opšaj diri was a favourite - they all loved the body shaking (which I managed more easily than they did) and we ended in much laughter.

That version which Ken put in the Newsletter was the one which we all knew. I had not realised that the lyrics were added by the Partizans.

I spent many happy hours playing over that old tape. Some tracks were fading - it would date from about 1960 and has not been used since 1985 - what a waste! I shall not let it lie unplayed for so long again. At 87 (in May) I can only tap my feet, hum, and remember the good days pre 1962 when I left London.

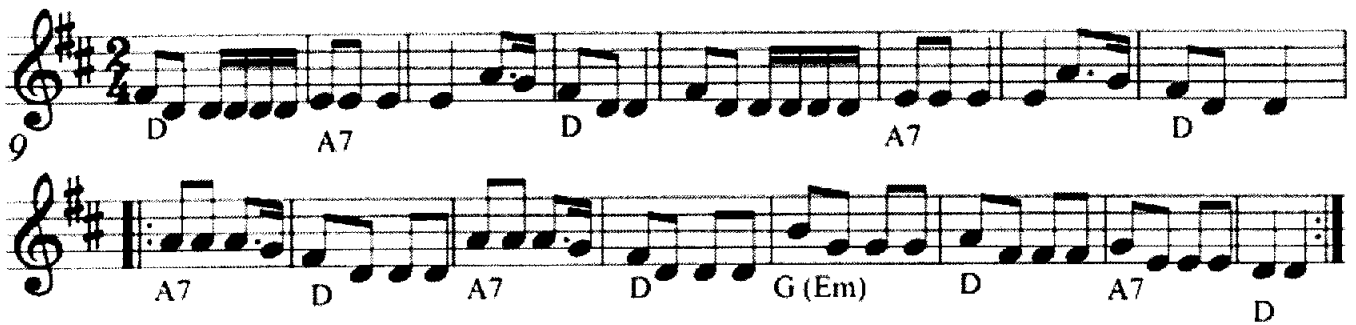
Greetings to everyone,

Ruth (Coton née Sharp)

Rankankalia

Finland

Mod. Intro: Last 4 bars of B music



Musical notation for Rankankalia, featuring two staves of music in 2/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff begins with a measure rest of 9 bars. Chords are indicated below the notes: D, A7, D, A7, D. The second staff continues with chords: A7, D, A7, D, G (Em), D, A7, D.

Wilf Horrocks

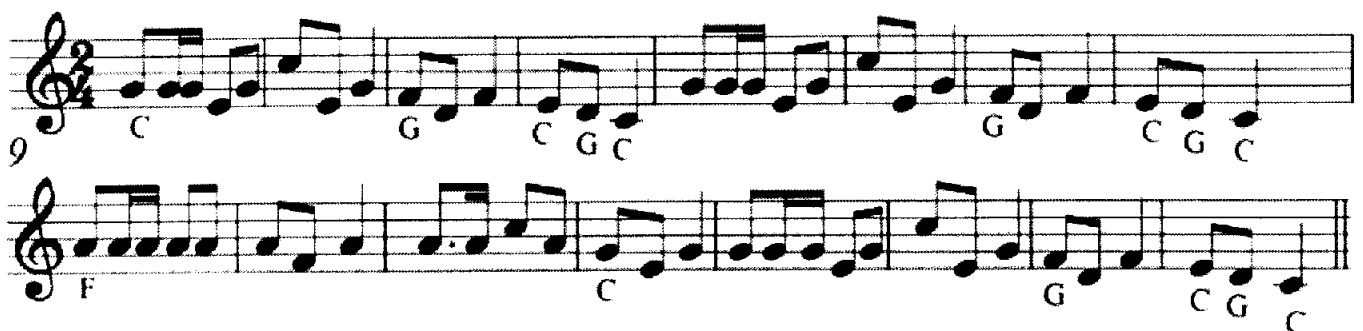


As there is extra space this month I have also published the music for **Tre Ting**. Next month the music for **Pericote** (Spain) will be featured. **Ed.**

Tre Ting

Denmark

x3 (Once dance) (clapping)



Musical notation for Tre Ting, featuring two staves of music in 2/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff begins with a measure rest of 9 bars. Chords are indicated below the notes: C, G, C, G, C, G, C, G, C. The second staff continues with chords: F, C, G, C.

Wilf Horrocks



Opšaj diri - Errata

In the last issue Ken Ward wrote a piece on Opšaj diri; p.8 line 3 should have read "without words" and not "without music". P.9 fifth line from bottom: Ken meant to say "usually fiddles, abrač (a kind of guitar which is a rhythm instrument playing counter-beats and either a cello or bass)".



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)

May.9th MC: Jill Bransby

June 6th MC: Helen Ezra



WHAT'S ON IN MAY

- Fri. Apr.30th - Mon. May.3rd** **EASTBOURNE FESTIVAL** phone 01278 424332
- S.I **Fri. Apr.30th - Mon. May.3rd** **HALSWAY MANOR**, Somerset. SIFD long weekend of dancing, led by Janet Woolbar. £184. For more information Gordon Adie 0772 384 5635 grdnadie@aol.com 4, Upper Lemon Villas, Truro TR1 2PD.
- S.I **Saturday 8th** **BALKANPLUS:** see page 4
- Sunday 9th** **S.I.F.D. A.G.M.** 4.30pm. Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Rd. NW1 7AY
- S.I **Sunday 9th** **BALKAN DANCING & SINGING** event at Folk on the Pier folk festival fringe in Cromer, Norfolk. Live music with Zaramo and the Balkanettes singers. approx 1.30pm - 3.30pm. Free admission. Part of weekend festival with many great free events all around the town. Please contact Dawn for exact venue and further details. 01328 856582 dawnwakefield@btinternet.com
- S.I **Sunday 23rd** **MERTON PARK 40th ANNIVERSARY FOLK DANCE** led by Phil & Brenda Steventon at St. Mary's Church Hall, Church Path, Merton Park, London SW19 3HJ, with an interval for cream tea! £3.50 including Cream Tea. Doors open 2.15pm - dancing from 2.30 to 5.30. Please get your tickets in advance - for details ring Phil & Brenda on 020 8397 9649
- S.I **Saturday 29th** **CHICHESTER MAYFEST** 11am - 4.30pm. Avenue de Chartres. English and International displays with joining-in opportunities. details: 01243 265010
- Saturday 29th** **MACLENNAN INT FOLK DANCE AND MUSIC FESTIVAL** at
Sunday 30th Langley Park Boys' School, Beckenham BR3 3BP. International Folk Dance and Ceilidh 7.30 Sat.eve. International Folk Dance Concert 2pm.Sun. Guests are from Sweden, Provence, Cornwall and the London Slovak group Morena. 01474 745580, festival@msg.org.uk
Cost: £6/£7.50 (£3 children)



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