

S.I.F.D. NEWS

APRIL 2011



SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

registered charity number 284509

www.sifd.org

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The front cover design by Lesley Boorer first appeared in April 1974;
this month's motif is the Zivko Firfov logo (their rescheduled party is this month).

As the back page is full with "What's on in April" details of the SIFD Sunday Dances are on page 10.



We had an enjoyable day in March with Tom Bozigian, here, on the South Coast, and learnt several new dances. He taught two versions of Tomzar - which appear to be the favourite choice of the day with most people. Also popular was Hayr oo Mamoogner (homage to grandmother), which was connected to Lorge (limping duck!). There were two energetic Debki dances and Tom also reviewed some old favourites.

We are grateful to Dalila for arranging Tom's visit with all the ferrying around it entailed.

Ed.



Halsway Manor Weekend

Halsway Manor near Taunton, Somerset Friday 29th April - Monday 2nd May

A mixture of international folk dancing led by Janet Woolbar, and walking on the Quantocks. Sunday will include a coach trip to Tyntesfield (National Trust).

The basic cost is £193 (plus (£21pp) extra if ensuite) for full board until cream tea on Monday at 1600.

There is the option to pay Halsway for Monday night, light supper B&B (+dancing!)

Info: grdnadie@aol.com or 0772 384 5635(mobile I'll ring you back)

4, Upper Lemon Villas, Truro, TR1 2PD

Gordon Adie



Balkanplus - April

The next Balkanplus will be held on the 9th April and we will be celebrating our 25th anniversary. MC will be Fiona Howarth with a selection of dances old and new. 7.00pm at Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London, NW1 7AY. Admission £5.

Maureen Felton



Balkanplus 25th Anniversary Dance

Do try to join us on April 9th. The evening will include old dances from early Balkanplus, and selections from the recent workshops from Yves Moreau and Tom Bozigian.

PLEASE bring a belt.

Fiona, MC



Bromley Reunion

Those wishing to attend the **Bromley Reunion** please phone Fiona on 020 8460 2305 for details.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- S.I **Apr.29/May2nd HALSWAY MANOR** see page 3
- Apr.29/May2nd EASTBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL** Tickets cost £72. Apply to: 24, Inwood Rd. Wembdon. Bridgwater TA6 7PP Phone: 01278 424332
- S.I **Apr.30/May.1st NORTH NORFOLK DANCE WEEKEND** see page 10
- S.I **May.14th INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE WORKSHOP & TEA DANCE** led by Phil & Brenda Steventon at St.George's Church Hall, Hamilton Avenue, Tolworth, KT6 7PF. Workshop & Tea Dance - £8 - dancing from 10:30 to 5:30 !! Bring your own packed lunch - drinks will be available. Tea Dance only - £4 incl. Cream Tea. Open 2.45pm - dancing from 3.00 to 5.30 Tickets in advance please- for details ring Phil & Brenda on 020 8397 9649
- May.14th ARMENIAN AND GREEK DAY COURSE** in Baslow Village Hall, Derbyshire with Chrisandra Harris. Morning session from 10.30 - 12.45 and afternoon session from 1345 - 1600. Cost for the day £9. Further details from Greg Boyd (tonicboyd@aol.com 01142304073) or Janet King (j.king.king.994@btinternet.co.uk 01629 57065).
- S.I **May.14thBALKANPLUS** - MC will be Toni Gutman
- S.I **May.21st/22nd VENTZI SOTIROV - BALKAN DANCE WORKSHOPS** at the Ferry Centre, Ferry Pool Road, off Marston Ferry Rd, Oxford, OX2 7DP Tickets: Sat.w/shop only 2.30-4:30 £8. Sat.party 7-10.30 £7. Sun.w/shop only 10.30-4.30 £20. Whole w/end £35. SAE to: Sally Humphrey, The Big Barn, Old Farm, Horspath, Oxford, OX33 1HZ. Cheques payable to "Balkansko Oro Balkan Folk Dancing Society" email: sally.humphrey@onetel.net or Stephie Clark: stephieclark@9farmington.co.uk
- May.21st/22nd CULTURE WITHOUT BORDERS - TURGAY ONATLI** teaches Anatolian Dances at Lambley village hall, Nottinghamshire, NG4 4QF. £60. Accommodation may be available with local dancers or a list of B&Bs is available, please ask if needed. Further details: Elaine Donnelly, 21 Villa Road, Mapperley Park, Nottingham NG3 4GG. Tel 07768 774 381 or email edonnelly@talktalk.net or see Kilikia web site www.kilikiadance.com/
- May.28th/29th MACLENNAN INTL. FOLK DANCE & MUSIC FESTIVAL**, at Langley Park Boys School, South Eden Park Road, Beckenham, Kent BR3 3BP. Sat. Intl. Folk Dance and Ceilidh, 7.30-11pm. Sun. Intl. Folk Dance Concert, 2-5.30pm prices: £3 - £7.50 per day. Family and weekend discounts. Tel: 020 8300 0621, 01732 866557, or festival@msg.org.uk
- S.I **May.30th RUSSIAN DAY COURSE** with Janet Douglas at St. Francis Church, Clayhall Road, Gosport. 11am-4pm (shared lunch) cost: £7 contact Tessa 02392 526489 (numbers limited)
- S.I **Jun.11th SIFD AFTERNOON COURSE** South African Quadrilles taught by Elsa Perez, Cecil Sharp House. 2-6pm. £8: SIFD members £10: non-members
- Aug.20th/27th 7 NIGHT INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING WITH WALKING** 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, Devon, TQ13 9XT. New to HF? We can get you a £50 discount! For details ring HF on 0845 470 7558 or Phil & Brenda on 020 8397 9649
- Aug 26th/29th WILLINGDON IFDG MINI FESTIVAL** at Plumpton College 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). Contact Rowena Martin, 60 Anderida Road, Eastbourne BN22 0PZ. Enquiries 01323 503991 or rowenahmartin@hotmail.com

Oct.7th/10th RESIDENTIAL COURSE OF BULGARIAN & BALKAN FOLK DANCE with Yves Moreau at Malhamdale, Yorkshire Dales. 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) £200. Single course £36, both courses £60. 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.

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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.



Report from the Last Committee Meeting

The last meeting was much more successful than the previous one – many items made significant progress.

The first was initialising the first request for a **CRB check** for a member. Timed nicely with the news from the Government that CRB checks will be needed less often in future. So a faint victory – but still a step forward.

A date for this year's **AGM** was selected in September.

Finances. How we will cope when cheques are phased out was discussed – not for a while yet, but we feel confident that we will have systems in place well before that. Judith circulated draft accounts for 2010, and is starting on those for the Charity Commission.

Dalila produced a draft of a much-clearer **Membership Form**. It has been increased to A4 size, and should be easy to fill in without mistakes!

It is very clear at the moment that the structure of the Society's membership is changing – individual membership is going down, while the number of groups is increasing. We talked about the benefits of **individual membership**, and would like ideas from members about how we could make individual membership more attractive. Any ideas would be welcomed, and will result in a discussion at the AGM.

Jeanette is working on an **advertising card**, with photos and basic information about the SIFD. This will be very useful for handing out, and should have Instant Appeal. Our current leaflets are really more useful when someone already knows about the Society, and wants further information, so this new card will fill a gap.

The **digitalising all of Wilf Horrocks's music** (estimated at between 800 and 1000 pieces) is leaping ahead, and we actually discussed arrangements for when the work is finished. The **P10 committee** are excelling themselves with progress on this new CD, but warn not to get too excited yet.

Helen attends the **Sport and Recreation Alliance** (previously CCPR) meetings on our behalf, and reported back on the last. A report on the **Eastbourne Festival** was also handed round. Altogether a more satisfying meeting.

Alison Scrimshaw

Jack Richardson

I was sorry to hear the news about Jack although I knew that he was far from well. The news brought back so many memories of the past and of the Society when I joined in 1951 [I think]. I think I first met him at one of the dances he organised at the Rector's lawn of the old lovely building of Imperial College at the rear of the Royal Albert hall that no longer exists.

I was one of group of dancers at the recording sessions in the Rector's beautiful board room at the College for the Society's first records that were issued on old shellac 78 rpm records. We danced in complete silence on thick carpeting to help the musicians with tempi and endings. At the time we had a fine band known as the Wallace Collection who used to play for the monthly dances at Cecil Sharp House. The recordings were excellent and made on a Ferrograph tape recorder that was probably the best machine available at the time. Jack also used to make one off copies on metal discs coated with shellac, on a recorder at the college, for use at classes as portable tape or cassette recorders were not obtainable.

I have happy memories of the weekends away that he organised in some lovely locations and the dancing and long walks he led. I like to forget the "short cuts" and the mud that always seemed a feature of a walk.

The Swansea Summer School was also a memorable time. It was hard work but there were always a lovely group of people and a wonderful atmosphere and lovely people, I remember the rather scatty evenings after dinner with a little booze. Sometimes Bert Price brought homemade beer or there was Simon Guest's homemade wine [known as "National Health"]. I hear that this atmosphere has continued. Does anyone remember Donald who used to play the piano for most of the dance sessions?

Jack asked me to teach Yugoslav dances at a couple of the early Schools that were held in the large house at the entrance to Singleton Park and later in the larger accommodation in the University buildings.

Jack was such a friendly person and always so enthusiastic, and always around should help be needed. After his unfortunate amputation he continued to join in as many activities as he could and was an inspiration to others to keep going whatever problems they may have. He and Joan often came to the Živko Firfov Christmas Dance and it was always nice to see them, especially when I came to live in Spain.

Joan was always around to help him when he was organising activities for the Society. She was always around to help him after he became handicapped and during his failing health. Despite her own recent health problems she continued to care for him, and I'm sure that all of us who know her send our condolences, our thanks and our best wishes for the future.

Ken Ward



George Sweetland

It was always enjoyable to be in George's company, not only for interesting conversation but his great sense of humour, and he made a very good companion to be with on a holiday. He was always at Llangollen, and we would discuss the competitions over a pint or two in the pub. In 1958 he accompanied me on one of my early trips to Macedonia where the way of life had not changed very much to that existing before the War. Travelling in buses that were well past their sell by date on rough dusty roads and across dried up river beds where the bridges had been destroyed, did not deter his enjoyment of the experience. He treated it like an expedition as it was in the days before air travel, and the journey took three days from London and sometimes having to stand for hours in the corridor, as far as possible away from the toilet.

I think I first met him at one of the Sunday night dances held in the old Gym in the Inns of Court Mission in Drury Lane, but he seemed to turn up for most Society events. He enjoyed folk dancing and his reports from the International Eisteddford at Llangollen were always very informative. He was, for many years an active member of the Spanish and Portuguese dance group "Los Ibericos" organised by Margaret Colato who died not so long ago. He always came to watch the Živko Firfov group when they gave a performance, and also to their annual Christmas dance, but he kept up with the activities of most other groups.

In recent years he was not in good health and he missed Alex very much after she died last year.

The Society has lost so many of its notable members in recent years, and I hope that we do not forget them and the contributions that they made.

Ken Ward



Famous Swedish Author Danced at Cecil Sharp House Friday Feet in February.

After a delicious Spanish meal in Camden Town's Jamon Jamon, I took Gunilla Lundgren, the famous Swedish author, and her colleague Karin Sohlgren, to Cecil Sharp House.

A ceilidh was in full swing in the upper hall, and after watching for a while we went to get a cup of tea. Hearing Bulgarian music coming from one of the rooms, we pushed open the door to find Ann and Pam running the Friday Feet group. Everyone made us very welcome, and invited us to join in the varied dances.

We'd had a difficult day working through a translation of Gunilla's soon to be published book, SOFIA Z, so it was great to do something fun and physical. Apologies from all three of us for mucking up the Scottish reel. Although Gunilla and Karin speak almost perfect English, they weren't familiar with the terms back to back, right hand star and set to your partner. At one point, we three intruders were in a foursome with an experienced dancer, who vainly tried to swing us into the right positions.

I got an email from Stockholm today, saying that the dancing was the highlight of their visit. So tack så mycket - thanks to all the friendly dancers we met that night.

Janna Eliot



SIFD West Midlands Branch Weekend

Fri 11th – Sun 13th Nov 2011

at Willersley Castle Hotel, Cromford, Nr. Matlock, Derbys. DE4 5JH
with Marina Wolstenholme



I am happy to be able to invite you to join us for our third West Midlands SIFD weekend in this beautiful Grade 11 listed Georgian house overlooking the river Derwent, just south of Matlock Bath in the Peak District. If you have not been there before you will find plenty of information to tempt you on their website at: <http://www.christianguild.co.uk/willersley/>

We are delighted that Marina Wolstenholme has again agreed to teach the weekend for us – the lovely selection of dances she taught us in 2009 will be hard to beat, but I'm sure she will try. There will be the usual programme of social dancing on Friday and Saturday evenings, dance tuition each morning, Saturday afternoon free to visit the area and a short final dance session on the Sunday afternoon. On Saturday there will also be an organised walk and a music session for those who are interested.

The cost for the weekend including ensuite single, double or twin room, all meals from Friday dinner to Sunday lunch (including morning coffee) and dance tuition will be £130 per person. A few twin standard rooms will be available at £115 per person. There is likely to be a shortage of single rooms, so book early to avoid disappointment.

We do hope some of you will want to join our regulars this year. For more information and a booking form please ring or email me: mobile: 0797-464-9311, email: margaretkaye@blueyonder.co.uk

Maggie Kaye



Armenian Dance Course

Thank you to Julie Korth and Marina Wolstenholme for hosting the weekend of dancing with Tom Bozigian in Chorlton and Calver. These joint weekends are very popular because they give dancers in two locations, as well as dancers from further afield, the chance to enjoy being taught by renowned dance teachers. This was yet another enjoyable weekend. Tom's programme of dances catered for both experienced and less experienced.

Long may these weekends continue.

Janet King

(on behalf of dancers in Derbyshire.)



Letters:

Would anyone like to have my collection of postcards of folk costumes, accumulated over the years? I have about 80 cards. They are not all in pristine condition as a lot of them have been through the post, sent by friends, and myself, while on holiday (with the usual "wish you were here" type messages on the back!).

If anyone can find a use for them, perhaps they would contact Janet Douglas *.

Lily Avery



* I have scanned them into my computer for possible use in the News - a couple of the oldest, black and white, appear here.

(The bottom left-corner shows a heavily veiled bride.)

Lily's postcard collection now awaits a new home. **Ed.**
(contact details on p. 2)



Kazokelis

1 Play x 4

5

9 2

13

Wilf Horrocks



Kazokelis remains a complete mystery, even the country of origin is unknown! Hopefully in May we will learn more about the next dance music to be featured - **De Kolom** (which comes from Belgium). **Ed.**



North Norfolk Dance Weekend with Cindy Kelly and Adrian Pointon

Saturday 30th April & Sunday 1st May at Hempton Memorial Hall, near Fakenham, Norfolk. NR21 7LG. Cindy and Adrian are well-known and well-loved dance teachers who offer a wide range of traditional dances from many cultures and modern choreographies. On Saturday 11am - 4.30pm they will teach traditional Balkan dances from Greece, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Romania and beyond. On Sunday 12noon - 5pm they will teach a mixture of traditional and choreographed circle dances, including Balkan, Israeli and some of their own choreographies to Celtic music. Saturday Balkan dance £12, Sunday circle dance £10. Both days booked in advance £20. For further details and bookings contact Dawn 01328 856582 dawnwakefield@btinternet.com Accommodation help available - list of local B&B's and some spaces with local dancers. Come and spend this long holiday weekend dancing, and exploring the beautiful North Norfolk coast.

Dawn Wakefield



SIFD Sunday Dance/Workshops

at 7pm – 10pm at Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, NW1 7AY
£8 SIFD members £9 non-members £4 children 14-18 (under 14 free)

April 3rd **MC: Helen Ezra**
May 8th **MCs: SIFD Band**

WHAT'S ON IN APRIL

- Friday 1st** **EVENING WORKSHOP WITH JANET WOOLBAR**, Rainmakers IFDG, 8 - 10pm at St Michael's Parish Hall, Broadway, Letchworth, SG6 3PQ. £3. More info from Roger (01438 812766) or Mark (01462 454210).
- Saturday 2nd** **WOODVALE INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP** annual dance. Borough Green Village Hall, 5.30–9pm. £6.00 incl. refreshments, bring your own drinks. Music by Phil & Stella. Alan Cant 01732 883405.
- S.I **Saturday 2nd** **ZIVKO FIRFOV FOLKLORE GROUP; BALKAN PARTY** 7.00pm - 10.30pm: St.Albans Centre, Leigh Place, Baldwins Gardens: London EC1N 7AB nearest strn:- Chancery Lane (Central Line) Tickets:- £10 incl. refreshments from:- Irene Keywood, 133 Third Ave, Dagenham, Essex RM10 9BD. 0208 592 4427
- S.I **Friday 8th / Monday 11th** **RESIDENTIAL COURSE OF BALKAN FOLK DANCE** with Bianca de Jong at Conwy, North Wales. General or Intermediate course, or both. Non-dancers welcome. (3 nights) £199. Single course £31, both £56. details: Cathy Meunier, 23, Church Street, Keswick, CA12 4DX or email your request to cathy_meunier@hotmail.com.
- S.I **Saturday 9th** **BALKANPLUS** see page 3
- Saturday 9th** **BULGARIAN DANCE WORKSHOP** Boiko Andonov Bulgarian Embassy Art Gallery, 186-188 Queens Gate SW7 £7. 3.30pm-5.30pm www.boikoandonov.co.uk 07900904370
- Saturday 9th** **INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE MORNING COURSE** led by Phil and Brenda Steventon at The King Charles Centre, King Charles Road, Surbiton, KT5 9AL. For details ring Kingston Adult Education on 020 8547 6875 or Phil and Brenda on 020 8397 9649
- Saturday 9th / Monday 11th** **GREAT ALNE LONG WEEKEND** (near Alcester, Warwickshire) (Friday night 8th is an Alcester Contra Dance night). Intl. Dancing with Anne Leach. dancing, music, singing, walking, cycling and more. Details www.greatalnefolk.org.uk or phone Paul Lindley 0121 689 1802 or André Hobro 0121 777 3722.
- S.I **Saturday 16th** **HELP FOR HAITI - 2** an afternoon of followable dances from around the world. Raffle and tabletop sale - proceeds for St. Saviour's Priory, Haiti mission. £8 (children £4) 2pm - 5.30pm. Barnham Village Hall, Bognor Regis. Details: Janet Douglas 01243 265010 or www.interfolk.co.uk
- Fri.Apr.29th/ May2nd** **HALSWAY MANOR WEEKEND** see page 3
- S.I **Fri.Apr.29th / May2nd** **EASTBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL** Tickets cost £72. Dutch DIP. Eddie Tijssen, Annelies Tijman, Corry Verheijen and more. Phone: 01278 424332
- Sat.Apr.30th/ May.1st** **NORTH NORFOLK DANCE WEEKEND** see page 10



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