





SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

registered charity number 284509

www.sifd.org

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We have to thank Chris Gill from Norfolk for the two pictures of the Polish men in their colourful costumes performing at the 2006 Dance Around the World in London; and Lily Avery for the Yugoslav folk embroidery cross-stitch pattern designs which I have combined for our colour issue.

The Kilikia logo is featured this month to accompany their article.

In response to Judith Payling's promptings; an article about one of our groups, Kilikia, appears on page 5, and, one from the Bournemouth and Christchurch U3A Folk Dance Group on page 8. There are more articles from groups in the pipeline to look forward to.

It is delightful to receive so much material but some articles have caused problems for me this month, so I would like to remind you of "my rules". I can only accept electronic submissions in Plain Text, Microsoft Office or Open Office. Text in pdf is useless. Pictures are best as jpg - please don't compress them - this enables me to work on them to maximise the look of black and white.

If you use Royal Mail - I am happy to copy photos and return them to you (this does not damage them); and of course typed or handwritten letter and articles are welcome.

One more thing - please don't forget that not all members are able to access electronic data - so please always give a telephone number or address as part of your contact details.

Ed.



SIFD Publicity Cards

In April, Alison's committee report included an announcement that we were working on a new card to advertise the SIFD. You should have received a couple of them with this month's News. Please take them to the next event you attend, and give them away, then ask any committee member for a new supply.

Society for International Folk Dancing





If you are going to any festivals this summer, please ask for a bundle of cards to take with you. They have already been seen at Eastbourne and Scandimoot.

We have 5000 of them, and if only twenty extra people come to our events this year or join the SIFD as a result of seeing the card, then they will have proved their worth!

Your groups will benefit too, as more people will see your information on the website.

Please keep sending in photos and events information for the website- we're working on it!

Jeanette Hull

0789 492 0104 jeanettehull@blueyonder.co.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- S.I Jul.3rd SIFD SUNDAY DANCE/WORKSHOP see page 13
 Jul.4th/10th LLANGOLLEN INTERNATIONAL EISTEDDFOD 01978 862000
- S.I Jul.9th BALKANPLUS with MC Frances Horrocks

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 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 OPZ. Enquiries 01323 503991 or rowenahmartin@hotmail.com

- S.I **Sep.4th SIFD AGM** see page 9
- S.I Oct.1st BALKAN FOLK DANCE WORKSHOP with Frank Dowling. 10.30 4.00 Price: all day £8 half day £5. Bramcote Memorial Hall, Church Street, Bramcote village, Notts NG9 3HD From Derby and Stapleford approach from Chapel street (because of the dual carriageway), turning off the A52 island by Bramcote baths towards Bramcote village Town street, first left into Chapel street. The Memorial Hall is on Church Street. From Nottingham turn off A52 into Church street. Buses from Nottingham number 4 to Sandiacre or Derby. Contact G or J Morral 0115 9171831 email johnml@ntlworld.com or J Tipper 01332 882117 www.nutbrookfolkdance.co.uk
- S.I Oct.4th/7th & Oct.7th/10th RESIDENTIAL COURSES OF BULGARIAN & BALKAN FOLK DANCE with Yves Moreau at Malhamdale, Yorkshire Dales. Comfortable ensuite accommodation, full-board. Dance workshops, singing workshops, social dancing and live music. Informal workshops for musicians. Excellent area for walking or sightseeing. Non-dancing friends and family welcome. 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
- S.I **Nov.10th OXFORD BALKANSKO ORO MITKO PETROV**, evening event contact Sally Humphrey for details, sally.humphrey@onetel.net (tel 01865 873860)
 - Nov.11th MITKO PETROV DERBYSHIRE, morning course, j.king.king.994@btinternet.com

Nov.12th **MITKO PETROV** - Hempton Memorial Hall,near Fakenham, North Norfolk NR21 7LG. 11am - 4.30pm approx. Price to be confirmed soon. Refreshments included, please bring food to share for lunch. For bookings and further information (including accommodation advice) contact Dawn 01328 856582. dawnwakefield@btinternet.com

Nov.15th OXFORD BALKANSKO ORO - MITKO PETROVadvanced evening workshop

Nov.16th METHODONSKO - MITKO PETROV Chandlers Ford, 7.30-9.15pm, contact Mad Chapman, 02380 267616 or mad.john@dial.pipex.com

Nov.17th HURSLEY - MITKO PETROV, Hursley International Folk Dancers 8-10pm

S.I Nov.19th/20th MITKO PETROV - BULGARIAN at Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, NW1 7AY. Party £10. Both Workshops+Party £50,(£45 if booked before 30th Sept). Discount to Balkanplus season ticket holders. For tickets, please send sae to Maureen Felton, 28 Henslow Road, Ipswich IP4 5EG. Please make cheques payable to Balkanplus. For more details phone Brian 01992 582717 or Maureen 01473 272256 or visit our website www.balkanplus.org.uk

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Events covered by SIFD insurance are marked S.I. Please remember that the onus is on <u>you</u> to mark each event when sending in the notice if your event is covered by our insurance.

Kilikia Dances for Armenia

Kilikia began in August 2007 when a group of Nottingham dancers who loved Armenian dance and music got together with a friend who was of Armenian heritage. The aims of the group were to develop a repertoire of Armenian dances and increase our knowledge of Armenia, its culture and history. The group also wanted to share their dancing and raise awareness about Armenia. We also hoped to raise funds in order to support a range of humanitarian projects in Armenia.

The group initially had 13 members, 11 ladies and 2 men. Several group members had already visited Armenia. Chrisandra, our dance teacher, had studied dance in Armenia, as well as having taken Armenian dance courses in the UK for the last 15 years. We had just three beautiful ladies costumes which had been bought during visits to Armenia.

One of the group members, Judith Park, had been a professional costumier in the theatre and gamely offered to try to replicate the costumes for the other 8 ladies as well as designing and producing costumes for the men. The results were outstanding and soon we had a full set of traditional velvet costumes.



In November 2007 we gave our first performance in the foyer at the Playhouse theatre in Nottingham. Details and pictures of this and our other performances can be found on our web site www.kilikiadance.com

Each year we have a weekend with a visiting teacher of Armenian or Anatolian dance. In 2007 Dalila Heath spent the weekend with us and since then has become an honorary member of the group and regularly works with us to help develop our choreography and perform with us.

Over the last four years the group has grown in numbers and a few members have moved on. We have given many performances, some with presentations about Armenia, and have organised two large evening concerts. In 2010 ten of us joined other SIFD members for a memorable performance at the Albert Hall. We now have three sets of costumes, the original traditional velvet costumes, summer traditional outfits and modern costumes.



left: modern costumes

At the outset we set up our web site and established an archive to record our history. We also took different roles within the group, so for example we have a treasurer, costume supervisor, web manager, archivist, bookings secretary, artist, dance arranger and teacher and social secretary. The social side of the group is also important to us, we regularly have social events and celebrate our formation with a party each year.

We now have a large repertoire of around 70 dances which include dances from the Armenian Diaspora, from Western Armenia (now Turkey), and from present day (Eastern) Armenia.

The women in the group particularly like to dance Ezeroumi shoror (based on the version by the state dance ensemble) and a lively Tak Tamzara is a current favourite with the men. For quiet times we all love to dance Daronee and have developed our own beautiful arrangement for the dance.



As a result of our performances and concerts we have raised a significant amount of money for projects that we support in Armenia which include http://www.centaur.am/ an organisation that provides support and therapy for disabled children in Armenia.

This year twenty three of us (Kilikia and friends) will travel to Armenia in September for a cultural and dancing holiday. We are very much looking forward to staying and dancing with local people in Yeghegnadzor, a village that we have developed close links with.

The group welcomes any dancers to our annual workshop with visiting teachers and anyone who is willing to perform is welcome to join the group. Our regular practices are on the 2nd Wednesday evening of each month and we have a long practice on the last Saturday of each month. Our next two performances are at Bakewell day of dance, June 25th, (http://www.bakewelldayofdance.co.uk) and Sudbury Hall day of dance on July 2nd, (www.nationaltrust.org.uk) Lots more information about the group can be found on our web site or by contacting Chrisandra@tesco.net (or Elaine Donnelly, tel. 07768 774 381).

Chrisandra Harris

Bulgarian Folk Music & Dance Seminar, Plovdiv

July 24 - 30, 2011

The programme couples the teaching expertise of instructors from the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts in Plovdiv, Bulgaria with village "masters" from various ethnographic regions in Bulgaria, teaching dances and songs from their own villages. The instrument and singing classes will be taught by some of the finest teachers in the country, and translated from Bulgarian into English. A Bulgarian language class will also be offered, as well as optional evening social activities.

The Bulgarian Folk Music & Dance Seminar, now in its 7th year, is designed for non-Bulgarians (or Bulgarians interested in connecting with their "roots") who want a more in-depth opportunity to learn Bulgarian traditional instruments, singing styles, and dance. Please, refer to our website for more information. 15% discount for members of the East European Folklife Center (www.eefc.org), and Bulgarian participants are also warmly welcomed at a special price of 30 leva per day.

Registration can be completed online. Payment for the Seminar can only be made by bank transfer or on-site payment; details are on the website. contact@folkseminarplovdiv.net (we speak English, Bulgarian, Greek, German and Russian!) or Larry Weiner, Bulgarian Folk Music & Dance Seminar - Intnl Coordinator, 10206 Day Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910 USA tel#: 301-565-0539 or Dilyana Kurdova, Bulgarian Folk Music & Dance Seminar - International Program Coordinator, ul. Tsar Samuil 25, 4230, Assenovgrad, Bulgaria (dialling from outside Bulgaria): 011-359-876-636-441

Liz Mellish and Nick Green



25th Anniversary of the Greek Traditional Dance Seminar

organised by Yannis Konstantinou and Lingistes! 05-17 August 2011

Yannis, Lingistes and a Memorable Line-up of Dancers, Musicians, Family, and Friends are Gathering to Celebrate 25 Years of Dancing in Beautiful Prespes Greece!

Lessons in Dance and Cultural Traditions with regional specialists:

- -- Epirus with Eli Kazakou -- Serres with Nikos Koulialis -- North Thrace with Vasilis Lantzos
- -- Asia Minor with Christos Theologos -- West Macedonia with Yannis Konstantinou

Plus ... Special Sessions with Guest Teachers: Panagiotis Apostolides (Pontos)Dimos Gkikas (Sarakatsan/Drama), Sotiris Theocharis (Thessaly), Yiannis Tsamitros (Vlach/Imathia) ... and more ...

Dancing at village festivals ("Panegiria") to local Brass Band music ("Halkina") ... evening parties ("Glendi") with Live Music: Zournades from Naoussa, "Halkina" from Florina, and Lyra from Pontos and August 12th evening, special "glendi" at village Vrondero (Prespes) with the famous clarinet-player Petros Loukas Halkias..

Excursions to explore the natural beauty, rich history, and living traditions of the villages of Prespa and Florina ... Picnic on the island of Agios Achilleos, home of the famous Byzantine basilica, with Dancing to live music And ... who knows what other "Surprises" may happen!!

Register with Deposit of 300 euro by June 30, 2011, by contacting:

Yannis Konstantinou: yankost@otenet.gr; +30 6944 946 227 Maryse Fabre: maryse.fabre3@wanadoo.fr +33 681 20 73 79 or

Caroline Simmonds: caroline simmonds@hotmail.com; +1 415 272 4641

Fun, Friendship and Food in the South

The Bournemouth and Christchurch U3A Folk Dance Group was set up in 2000 with a Tuesday morning class catering mostly for the Bournemouth area and a Thursday morning group for Christchurch. Both groups have a regular attendance of 25. Recently we have set up another beginners' class on a Monday. Visitors and grandchildren are always welcome, even though the U3A chairman is liable to greet a five year old with, "May I see your membership card?"!

We became an Affiliated Group in 2006 and have found that the "Free teachers to Groups" scheme is an absolute godsend and, had I realized the benefits, we would have become affiliated 6 years earlier. Janet Woolbar has visited us annually since then, each time providing us with 10 new dances with music and instructions. This day of workshops has become one of our most enjoyable events.

Another annual event is our summer dance. Unfortunately we have no live music but there is the opportunity to choose favourite dances (Sulam Ya'Akov. Korobushka, Tai Tai) and relax and enjoy them. Both annual events and also the end of term parties have a secondary but definite interest in delicious, shared food!



Volunteers dance in displays given for residential homes and friendship clubs. We can tell that these give pleasure from the comments as we socialise over cups of tea – "You are our favourite entertainment", "You are the only group that dresses up for us". For the latter comment we are grateful to our wardrobe mistress, Eleanor, who ceaselessly raids charity shops for suitable garments and uses her sewing skills to make them fit.



We also had fun dancing with a group of 40 foreign students. It was not until we reached a partner dance that I realized that there were more boys than girls – not that it worried them in the least – the boys just paired up. The summer brings the Christchurch Day of Dance, when we, along with 10 or so other groups (Appalachian, Caledonian, Belly, Morris) dance on the quay and in the town centre. This is immensely enjoyable, especially if the weather is fine.

We do continue with one meeting a week during U3A holidays, so should you be in the area, do come and join us in our dancing. Phone me (01202 433121) to check where we will be. We shall be delighted to see you.

SIFD Annual General Meeting 2011

Notice is officially given that the Society's Annual General meeting will take place on Sunday, September 4th, 2011 at 4.30pm at Cecil Sharp House, Regents Park Road, London, NW1 7AY

- Motions should be proposed and seconded, and should be submitted to me, or another member of the current committee, *on or before July 10th*, 2011.
- Nominations for the Executive Committee should be proposed and seconded by members, with the agreement of the nominee, and submitted to me, or another member of the committee, also on or before July 10th, 2011.

This might seem a surprisingly long time before the actual meeting, but it obeys the requirements of the Constitution, and allows information to be sent to the appropriate Newsletter.

It also gives you more thinking time as we would love to hear from people who are considering serving o the committee – especially in the capacity of secretary. If you would like to know more about what is involved, please contact me.

After the AGM we will be holding a special dance. Instead of the usual Sunday evening dance, there will be a Commemorative Dance, to remember and honour the many members who have sadly died recently, many of whom were long-standing and influential members of the SIFD. We hope as many people as possible will stay after the AGM to join in, or come to the dance at 7pm. I will give you more details next month.

Alison Scrimshaw, 5 South Rise, Carshalton, SM5 4PD. 020 8395 1400 email – alison.scrimshaw@googlemail.com



Hat Night at Nutbrook I.F.D.G.

To end the Spring term 2011 members wore hats to celebrate Easter, a slant on the traditional Easter bonnets. There was also a display of hats and pictures of hats from other countries. The idea was to dance a dance from each country that a hat was worn. We included Vals fra Vinon from Sweden, Mellem Kaeg og Veg from Denmark, Erva Cidera from Portugal Ali Pasa from Turkey and Shatagi Shoror from Armenia.

The most spectacular hat was one from Uzbekistan, a gorgeous golden cap. There was a straw summer hat from Romania, hats with brims from U.S.A. (cowboy) and Mexico, embroidered hats to describe just a few. It was a very enjoyable night.

Gill Morral





Smiles and Steps - Balkan and Circle Dance weekend

with Cindy Kelly and Adrian Pointon in North Norfolk

This was my first ever venture into running a weekend event, and it was a truly special and memorable time.

Cindy and Adrian's infectious smiles and evident joy in the dance and its music sent ripples of happiness around the room and gave us all a really uplifting experience.



Their teaching was excellently prepared with clear and simple explanations. Having two teachers was a great bonus as there was always one of them on your side of the circle, saving the difficulties of 'mirroring' feet. A wonderful variety of dances flowed out seamlessly across the day with Adrian tending to teach the simpler jolly, or as he called them 'cheeky' dances, whilst Cindy specialised in the longer more contemplative ones, showing great skill at making even quite complex long sequences of steps seem manageable and followable.

The Saturday Balkan session included dances from Macedonia, Albania, the Greek islands, Romania and Bulgaria, whereas on the Sunday we were treated to some of Cindy and Adrian's wonderful choreographed dances to Celtic music alongside more traditional folk dances from the Balkans and Israel.

Taking advantage of the long holiday weekend many dancers travelled long distances and those who stayed over in nearby Wells-next-the-sea, were able to enjoy a stroll along the quayside and a beach walk as well.

A lovely sunny spring dance weekend was enjoyed by all and we look forward to a return visit from Cindy and Adrian in the not too distant future.

Dawn Wakefield



SIFD Afternoon Course

On May 28th, Dance Around The World is having a Quadrille Day. I will be teaching a quadrille, possibly two if time allows. On June 11th I am supposed to teach quadrilles from 2pm to 6pm for SIFD. Both events happen at Cecil Sharp House.

I am sure that the same people will be attending both events and I have therefore made some changes to the second programme. I will teach two quadrilles, a Zulu work dance, a dance specially created for the World Cup in S. Africa using African football moves and an umbrella dance based on the style of the Cape Town Minstrels - which goes back to 1834.

I hope this mixed programme of S. African dance will excite and satisfy those who come.

Elsa Perez



Firsts and Favourites

When we started International Folk Dancing a lot of us at first muddled along, copying or being guided by someone else. But what was the first dance that was actually taught to you, the first dance you could say you "knew"? It's probably true to say that most dancers can recall what this dance was – after all it was a milestone. It's interesting to look back on this and also to hear what someone else learned first.

If you would be willing to share your first dance memories, and possibly more than one for those who have been to different specialist groups, please send them to me, as I would be happy to collect the details together for an item in the News. It would be really good if a lot of dancers were to join in doing this. It does not matter if you are not an SIFD member.

If you are participating it would be interesting if you could tell us too which group or class you started at. If you have particular memories from back then include them as well.

Everyone has a favourite dance or dances, that they would ask for if dance requests were invited. Please mention this too, if you'd like to.

It would add to the interest if we could show a small photograph of each person who contributes. If you are willing for this to be included please send an appropriate picture. However it doesn't matter if you don't want to do this.

Judith Payling

(My address and email address are shown on page 2)



Balkanplus

The June Balkanplus will be held on the 11th June 2011 at Cecil Sharp House, Camden NW1 7AY, starting at 7.00pm. MCs for the evening will be the Oxford Group. Admission £5.

NOTE: Balkanplus is hosting a pre-dance workshop at **6pm in Trefusis, Cecil Sharp House** – led by Rosanka Boderova. For those attending, the workshop will be running just before the main evening dancing and will not incur extra cost.

Maureen Felton



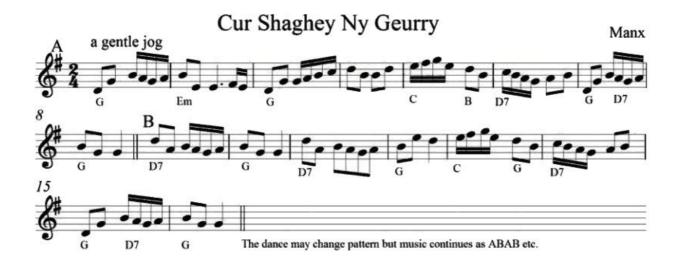
Letters:

Dear Janet

I had a telephone call from Sunni Bloland the other week. Sunni was a very popular Romanian dance teacher in the USA particularly during the 70s and 80s and co-author with Anca Giurchescu of "Romanian Traditional Dance: A Contextual and Structural Approach". She reminded me that archive workshop videos are beginning to be made available for download on the Stockton (California) Folk Dance Camp website http://www.folkdancecamp.org/VideoArchives.htm

The quality may not be great but it is a chance to see one of the great characters of the folk dance scene. Other archive material is promised in due course.

Brian Dowsett



"Wilf Horrocks' Collection"

Apart from being "a gentle jog" we have no further information on **Cur Shaghey Ny Geurry.**Next month Wilf's music for **Debka Meshuleshet** will be featured - can anyone shed any light on it?



A little request from Oxford Balkansko Oro

Members of Oxford Balkansko Oro are looking for **tsurvuli/opanci** for some of the dancers. If anyone has a pair they are no longer using we would greatly appreciate your getting in touch with Sally Humphrey (tel 01865 873860) sally.humphrey@onetel.net



In Memory of Vic Clark

Sadly Vic died on April 19th after many months of ill health. He'll be known to many SIFD members as the supportive husband of Sue Clark (Pembs). For over 40 years Vic supported Sue with her passion for folk dancing which includes the setting up of two groups, Newport, Gwent and the Pembrokeshire International Folk Dance Group (PIFD).

His "services" to folk dancing include acting as a steward at one or two Eastbourne Festivals, helping man the shop at SIFD events in the "old days" and taking orders for dance videos.

He always looked after the music at all our demonstrations which were quite a lot in the earlier days. Our Christmas party will not be the same without Vic's lovely punch.

Virtually all messages of condolences to Sue have stated what an absolute gentleman Vic was. He was a patient, tolerant, intelligent, modest man who was courteous to the last. We in PIFD will miss him and will always remember him with great affection.

Eve (for all the members of PIFD)

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Vic did long stints of stewarding at the Eastbourne Festival, which I appreciated. Condolences to Sue and the P.I.F.D. group at their loss of Vic after his 41 years of support.

Janet Douglas

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)

June 5th MC: Alison Scrimshaw

(Dancer's Favourites)

July 3rd Woodvale - Alan Cant



WHAT'S ON IN JUNE

GRAND MIDSUMMER FOLK BALL - SOAS French Folk Dance Society, 8pm - 2am. Advance tickets on sale now (save £3): featuring Dazibao Duo, The Dancing Slippers, The SOAS French Folk Band Free beginners dance class at 8pm. Dancing until 2am at the beautiful Dalston Boys Club, 68 Boleyn Road, N16 8JG Save £3, http://www.wegottickets.com/event/117131 Advance: £12 (£8 concs), Door: £15 (£11 concs) More info http://www.soasfrenchdance.org.uk/

Monday 6th ROSANKA BODUROVA will be teaching Ferry Centre Hall, Ferry Pool Rd, off Marston Ferry Rd. OX2 7DP 7:30 to 9:30, £5.00

S.I **Tues. 7th ROSANKA BODUROVA** St Margaret`s Institute, Polstead Rd., Oxford, OX2 6TN 8:00 to 10:00, £5.00

S.I **Thurs. 9th ROSANKA BODUROVA** St. Margaret's Institute, Polstead Rd., Oxford, OX2 6TN 8:15 to 10:15, £5.00

Friday 10th ROSANKA BODUROVA Barnet Group, 8:00 to 10:30, £3.00 For more information call Brian Dowsett: 01992 582717

S.I **Saturday 11th SIFD AFTERNOON COURSE** South African Quadrilles taught by Elsa Perez, Cecil Sharp House. 2 - 6pm. £8: SIFD members. £10: non-members

S.I **Saturday 11th BALKANPLUS -** see page 11. Main evening dancing starting as usual at 7.00pm but NOTE earlier start of 6.00pm for pre-dance workshop

S.I **Thurs. 16th ROSANKA BODUROVA** (possibly) St.Margaret`s Institute, Polstead Rd. OX2 6TN 8:15 to 10:15, £5.00 – please email to confirm this date. For more information email Sally Humphrey – sally.humphrey@onetel.net

S.I

Saturday 25th OXFORD BALKANSKO ORO 50th ANNIVERSARY PARTY, Ferry Centre Hall, Ferry Pool Road, off Marston Ferry Road, Oxford OX2 7DP. (NOT Polstead Road) 7:00 to 10:30. This is a chance to meet some of the original founders of this dance group 50 years ago, enjoy good music, and good food. All food and drink will be provided by the Oxford group. Tickets: £7.00. Children under 14, £3.00. For tickets and information email Sally Humphrey sally.humphrey@onetel.net or Charlotte Haenlein charlottehaenlein@tiscali.co.uk Book early - tickets are limited.



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