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SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

registered charity number 284509

www.sifd.org

Editor: Janet Douglas, Oak Cottage, 92 Rose Green Road, Bognor Regis, West Sussex
PO21 3EQ. Tel: 01243 265010 email: *SIFDNews@hotmail.co.uk*

The packaging and posting is done by Dalila Heath.

With the Para Olympics dominating the media recently - the picture on the back cover should be of interest to our members. Especially Marjorie Corner who wrote an article about wheelchair dancing which appeared in the May issue of the News earlier this year. The photo was taken at Herzliya, Israel in 2009 at a national folk dancing competition. The front cover shows a 19th Century Spanish costume, it is by Lesley Boorer, and first appeared in 1983.

Ed.



Dance Around The World

Festival of World Dance

20/21 October 10.00 a.m. to 11.00 p.m.

Are you excited already? You should be. The big (folk dance) event of the year is about to burst upon us once again, bigger and better than ever.

Some comments from previous years: “A tour through all the villages of the world - and it’s happening in London.” “Lovely atmosphere”. “Dance as an expression of communities and countries - a marvellous opportunity to compare and revel in juxtapositions”.

If you haven’t been before, now is the time to come, and if you have - bring a friend (or two). Saturday evening is Latin American night.

Social dances both evenings - Eurobal (mostly French and Swedish) Saturday night, International Dance Sunday night.

£12 per day. £9 evening only. £20 whole weekend. Concessions £2 off children free.

Further information: www.datw.org.uk danceoffice@waitrose.com
07749007040 020 8340 4683

Maggie O’Regan



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- S.I **Nov.3rd GENERAL INTERNATIONAL DANCE WORKSHOP** with Philip and Brenda Steventon. 11.00am - 4.pm Cost: £8 at the Emmanuel United Reformed Church Hall. St. Michael's Road, Worthing, BN11 4SD. Tea, coffee and squash provided. Details from Christine Wood on 01403 780993.
- S.I **Nov.7th/8th GREEK FOLK DANCE** with Kyriakos Moisisdis in Keswick. Cost £30. For details please send s.a.e. to Cathy Meunier, 23, Church Street, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 4DX or email cathy_meunier@hotmail.com
- S.I **Nov.8th SIFD AFTERNOON COURSE** Armenian and non-partner summer school dances. Cecil Sharp House, £8 (£10) 2-6pm
- S.I **Nov.9th/12th RESIDENTIAL COURSE OF GREEK FOLK DANCE** with Kyriakos Moisisdis at Malhamdale, Yorkshire Dales. Full board accommodation (3 nights) £205. Single course £37, both courses £60. Cathy Meunier, 23, Church Street, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 4DX or email your request to cathy_meunier@hotmail.com.
- S.I **Nov.10th BALKANPLUS** - MC will be Fiona Howarth
- Nov.18th BALKAN DANCE AFTERNOON.**3-6pm Bridport Town Hall DT6 3HA Teaching sessions between 3pm and 4.45pm, followed by social dance to live music. Cost: £5. info: please ring Mecki on 01308 423 442 or email mecki1@yahoo.co.uk
- S.I **Nov.24th W.MIDS BRANCH INT. DAY COURSE**, Jill Bransby and Rod Stradling. Workshops for Dancers and Musicians 10.30 – 4.30 at Elmdon Heath Comm. Centre, Cornyx Lane, Solihull B91 2SF. (Near M42 Jn 5) More details next month or email Maggie Kaye: margaretkaye@blueyonder.co.uk or phone 0797-464-9311.
- S.I **Dec.9th FRANK DOWLING** will be leading a day course at Calver Village Hall, Derbyshire, S32 3XR from 10.30 - 4.30. Cost: £12. Details from Janet King (01629 57065 j.king194@btinternet.com) or Greg Boyd (07810181273 greg.boyd99@aol.com).
- Dec.9th BALKAN DANCE AFTERNOON.**3-6pm Bridport Town Hall DT6 3HA Cost: £5. details: Mecki on 01308 423 442 or email mecki1@yahoo.co.uk

- S.I **Dec.15th SANTA'S FOLK SHOW**, all day on-going entertainment 11am-5pm. Father Christmas (Tiptereer), children's theatre. English and international folk dance displays, candle dances, carol singing with choir - all with joining-in opportunities at Barnham Village Hall. near Bognor Regis. PO22 0AX. Entrance £1 (child visit to Santa £3) www.interfolk.co.uk Janet Douglas 01243 265010
- Dec.27th TWIXMAS DANCE PARTY** at Stone Cross Memorial Hall (junction of B2104 & B2247) 10.30am-4.30pm. Cost £8. (half day £5) Bring CDs or tapes to share dances shared lunch. Rowena Martin 01323 503991 or rowenahmartin@hotmail.com
- S.I **Feb.7th/12thRIVIERADANCE!** Four world-renowned folk dance teachers: Yves Moreau (Balkan & Bulgarian), France Bourque-Moreau (International), Cristian Florescu and Sonia Dion (Romanian), singing, music-making and live music with Mike and Clyde. Livermead Hotel Torquay. 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 **Mar.2nd SIFD W.MIDS BRANCH BALKAN DAY COURSE** with Cathy Meunier, Mike Machin and Clyde Olliver at Solihull Methodist Church Hall, Blossomfield Rd, Solihull B91 1LG. Workshops for dancers, musicians and singers. Further details nearer the time. Maggie Kaye: margaretkaye@blueyonder.co.uk
- S.I **Mar.16th /17th BIANCA DE JONG** runs a Balkan Workshop, details from Julie Korth: Holly Cottage, off Wigan Rd, Aspull, nr. Wigan WN2 1EF or Mary: maryomahony3@yahoo.co.uk
- Mar.23rd BALKAN DAY OF DANCE** St Mary's (Church House) Hall, South Street, Bridport DT6 3NW. Cathy Meunier will be teaching Balkan dances, Clyde Olliver and Mike Machin providing live music. ring Mecki on 01308 423 442 or mecki1@yahoo.co.uk



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.

Eastbourne International Folkdance Festival

I am writing to introduce the new team organising the 2013 Eastbourne International Folkdance Festival and taking over from Ray Goodswen.

Penny and Julian Burton, Maureen and Graham Knight all have strong Sussex connections and come with fresh ideas and enthusiasm. Working alongside our international dance colleagues, Julie Korth and Mary O'Mahony, we want to encourage and help the International part of the festival develop further and are looking for connections and better involvement between our dance communities.

We particularly commend to you maypole dancing with Chris Turner and "beginning Appalachian" with Geoff Cubitt. We encourage you to look at the evolving EIFF website which will contain updates of the 2013 programme. Mary expects to be able to announce the international artistes very shortly.

A season ticket allows you to dip into the social dance programme as well as international dance. Booking starts on 1st November, and we offer online booking and BACS payment for as many dancers as possible to reduce administration costs. We would like to thank in advance everyone who is able to use this method. (www.eiff.org.uk) For dancers who prefer to talk to a person, ring 01823 401271.

Day tickets will be available from 1st March 2013.

As the cost of festival tickets has not increased for several years more participants are needed to keep the festival reasonably priced. We look forward to meeting friends who have been before and offer a warm welcome to newcomers.

Maureen Knight, on behalf of EIFF team



Guildford U3A International Folk Dance

Last September I went along to the U3A sign up meeting in Guildford as I noticed an International Folk Dance Class mentioned. At last, I thought, wonderful to have some International dancing in Guildford on a Friday afternoon if only once a fortnight! I was delighted to find Linda Melville-Smith, who I have known for many years and who leads the Fleet Group, she warned me that it would be for beginners – I have not been disappointed – what beginners!! They are great, very friendly and very eager to learn. There were 40 names on the original list which must have been quite daunting for Linda. We have an average of 25 ladies and a couple of men who are willing to tackle the dance steps with great alacrity, ably led by Linda, whose fortnightly programmes are well organised and thoroughly researched. Some of the ladies even ventured up to a workshop at Cecil Sharp House and one even attended the day course with Sister Pam Radford to raise funds for the mission in Haiti.

Long may it last, it is only once a fortnight and being a Friday afternoon some of us cannot always attend on a regular basis but I for one thank Linda so much for introducing all these people to dances from many countries (you can never hope to know them all) and hope that the class will continue next year, which I understand it will.

Jean Taylor



Braithwaite August bank holiday dance weekend

Did you enjoy the rain in the Lake District over the August Bank Holiday weekend? If you were there you know what I mean. If you missed it - bad luck. Cristian Florescu and Sonia Dion treated us to a wonderful trip round Romania with the dances they had chosen. Great teaching in great company. Another wonderful dance course organised by Cathy Meunier. Thanks to Cathy and all her 'team' who helped make this an unforgettable weekend of dancing.

Many more please.

Janet King

Memorial Dance for Ken Ward

On Sunday September 2nd, members gathered together at Cecil Sharp house to dance and remember Ken Ward.

Frank Dowling did a fantastic job putting the celebration and tribute together. He and Alison Scrimshaw worked together to find a date and book the venue, and Alison made sure that the dance was widely advertised. Frank was MC for the event and organised the putting together of the programme, working with the bands, and arranging dance leaders.

The programme began with the group Živko Firfov singing the traditional song of welcome, and group members brought round to everyone the traditional bread and salt, offered to each guest in Balkan homes. The bread was delicious and we must thank Sister Anna, who made it.

Irene Keywood, one of Ken's original "3 Graces" helped Frank to get in contact with old group members, and it was lovely to see another Grace, Jean, helping the group to dress in costume. Simon Guest was another of what Frank called "his small army of willing helpers", Simon made the flyer and provided many of the photographs which decorated the Hall.

In the early days of the Society; people danced in many groups and the programme reflected this. Brenda Steventon took on the International side of the programme while Frank organised the Balkan side.

It was lovely to see such a full Hall, and so many people in costume. Ken's pupils had come to honour him, and to acknowledge the debt we owe to his fantastic teaching. I will always be grateful that I learned my first Balkan dances from him. Previous group members paid tribute to him, and so did Nenad Bićanić who with his wife Jasna, was over from Croatia. He spoke about Ken's visits to them and admitted that he had given them a fresh insight into their own dance heritage. Nenad also led some Croatian dances for us.

Music was provided by the SIFD band for the western dances, and by Dunav for the Yugoslav, together with music on CD, mostly of Ken's

friend, the famous musician and teacher of Macedonian dances, Pece Atanasovski.

Ken often spoke about the lovely wines he had tasted in Yugoslavia and Frank had managed to track down some of the red wine for the toast. We all remembered what Ken had meant to us and what he did for the Society as we drank it. I thought how much Ken would have enjoyed the evening!

As a bonus, after all the expenses were paid there was enough left over to make a donation to one of Ken's favourite Charities.

Many thanks to Frank and everyone who contributed to the success of the evening.

Marina Wolstenholme



Day of Balkan Dancing

October 13th from 12.00 - 18.30 in Bradpole Village (Forster Memorial) Hall, Higher Street, Bridport DT6 3JA, featuring circle and lines dances mainly from Bulgaria, Macedonia and Greece.

Workshop run by Marion Niewenhuizen 12.30 - 15.15, social dance to live music provided by Maya Buckley and Chris Edmunds from 16.00 - 18.30. Bring & share lunch at 12.00, other refreshments provided. Cost: £10 for workshop, £10 for dance; day ticket £18 (concessions available).

More details from Mecki on 01308 423442 or mecki1@yahoo.co.uk

Mecki Testroet



Balkanplus

The October Balkanplus will be held on the 6th October at Cecil Sharp House, Camden NW1 7AY, starting at 7.00pm. MC for the evening will be Mad Chapman & John Riley. Admission £5.

NOTE this is the 1st Saturday in October.

Maureen Felton



Ken Ward (left) with the Živko Firfov group in Bitola.

Gordon Edwards 1928-2012

Those of you who used to enjoy the many SIFD weekends organized by Jack Richardson and Roy Clarke may remember Gordon. On Jack's morning walks the party would return with Gordon looking immaculate, still with creases in his trousers. He also loved to chat.

Gordon was a primary school teacher at Sidley County Primary School for over 31 years. At St. Lukes's Teacher Training College, Exeter, he took part in English folk dance displays. Then on an educational course he met Janet Loader who got him interested in international folk dance. So, in 1975 he went to Swansea Summer School. He thought everyone was bonkers - dancing everywhere and every moment of the day, even on the beach, and took himself off to the cinema for a break. However, he was thoroughly smitten, especially with the Balkan classes and subsequently attended various SIFD weekends.

Julie Korth set up monthly Sunday dance courses at Eastbourne Training College for her students, originally, which Gordon attended, starting off with Israeli in January 1977. The roast dinner at student prices was also a great attraction!

We met on Roy Clarke's weekend at Easthampstead Park near Bracknell later that year. I was dancing with Woodvale, Borough Green at the time and also attended some of Julie's courses, often with Rita Wood. Rita usually danced with Gordon's friend, Terry, and I would dance with Gordon. We married in 1983.

Gordon was also a professionally trained tenor and, after a year as an exchange teacher in New Zealand, he toured the country with the New Zealand Opera Company singing in 'The Magic Flute' and 'La Boheme'. He sang with several local operatic societies and the Bexhill Choral Society but especially with the Bexhill Light Operatic and Dramatic Society (BLODS) taking many leading roles from 1953 to 1998. He was renowned for his comic roles.

Sadly deafness and loss of balance stopped him singing and dancing eventually, though we still enjoyed some SIFD weekends up to 2004.

The acquisition of a tricycle in 2009 gave him many hours of pleasure and he became a well known sight around Bexhill in his yellow jacket meeting lots of people on his rides.

From the response to his death on July 23rd he will be greatly missed - especially by me.

Heather Edwards

This should have appeared in the last issue - my apologies. Ed.



Swansea

Returning from a brilliant week in Swansea with, as usual, exceptional teachers, I give full praise to organisers and helpers for a brilliant job.

I have just received Jan's booklet on his programme - it is great - and yes, during the class, he did tell us where the Lav people were to be found, but judging from the several questions later - nobody had really assimilated the fact - so wasn't it great to find it all written down and documented?

I translated for Philippe, and in spite of his great vocal teaching I am sure that many would have missed some background and practical information had I not been there. And how much remained while we were struggling with the steps and adjusting to all the important information he was giving us about a cultural entity in Italy/France etc. which is probably unknown?

So WHY do we not invite the teachers to give a brief cultural, geographical and musical introduction in a written form which will save us hours of research if we want to teach the dance...? This could be easily translated. It would also be a great plus for our archives. I for one would be ready to do some work on this.

So why don't we just add the icing to the cake and make sure that every teacher has facts about their dancing.

Tess Parker Edelmann. Turin

Hello dance friends in the UK and beyond....

Greetings from New Orleans, Louisiana!

Fiona Howarth encouraged us to write our impressions of our very first Wales dance workshop.

My husband Dominique and I were absolutely delighted to attend the International Folk Dancing Festival in Swansea this summer. It was the first festival for both of us and it exceeded all our expectations. We were amazed at the sheer number of dances most participants knew and astonished at the stamina of the dancers. (It took one week for our feet and ankles to stop hurting!)

Although I had taught children's dance in the USA, and had attended other dance workshops, I have to confess that every single dance in Swansea was completely new to me. I had coerced Dominique to attend with me and he was a trouper. He is an engineer at Chevron and had never danced before. We were so thrilled about our new endeavour, we immediately joined an Irish Set Dance class when we returned. Last weekend we attended a Celtic Fest in rural Mississippi. People from the UK and the Republic of Ireland would be pleasantly surprised to see how popular their culture is here in the USA. We have found an International Folk Dancing group we want to join. That is on next week's agenda. I am still searching for an English Folk Dancing group (my favourite).

We wanted give a special shout out and thanks to a number of people who helped us: Fiona Howarth (who looked out for us all week) our teachers Philippe, Jan and Richard, all the accomplished evening course leaders (who seemed to know an incredible number of dances), Diane and Ray Hitchins in French class, Helen Ezra, Marjorie Adams, Sue Clark (who told us all about her group in Wales) Anne Leach (an inspiration from Cecil Sharp House) and last but not least Dorien (who patiently answered many emails to get us registered). We would like to say once again how much we learned and how much we enjoyed ourselves. If any of you are in the New Orleans area, please call or drop by to see us. Best Wishes

Cynthia and Dominique Frizzell
cfrizzell04@aol.com dfrz@chevron.com

Balkanorth Dance Workshop and Christmas Party

Leeds Massc Hall Saturday 8th December

On the afternoon of 8th December Marion Nieuwenhuizen will be teaching a selection of Balkan dances, some of which are favourites from the dances which Bianca de Jong introduced at the last Eastbourne Folk Festival. This will be followed by a Balkan Christmas party with the pleasure of some live music with Mike and Clyde, and with Ian Willson. It will be an opportunity to wear a costume if you wish. After the dance party there will be a “bring & share” supper and a Balkan sing-along / dance-along with live music. The workshop will take place between 2:15 pm and 5 pm. After a break for tea the dance party will commence at 5:45 pm, breaking at about 7:30 pm for supper. Following the meal break we’ll continue with live music and a sing-along / dance-along finishing at 9:30 pm.

Loidis International Folk dance group will be hosting the event at the Moor Allerton Sports and Social Centre, Stonegate Road, Leeds, LS17 6EL. Cost if booked in advance: Workshop £7; Party £5 (Bring & share supper. Bar available); Combined Workshop & Party £10; or pay at the door: Workshop** £9 Party £7. For tickets: please apply to Mike Machin; 2, Dove Bank, Kirkby in Furness, Cumbria LA17 7XD with a cheque made payable to “Mike Machin”. Tickets will be held at the door, or you can include S.A.E if you would like to receive your ticket in advance. For more information ring 017687 73117 or email mikecmachin@gmail.com. ** please check last minute availability for the workshop on 017687 73117 / 0771 3239863.

Cathy Meunier & Mike Machin



Dance and cultural trip to Republic of Moldova-Chisinau

(Kishinev)

12 –19 May 2013.

For further information: Silviu Ciuciumis: +31-10-4218622,
stichting.doina@hetnet.nl www.StichtingDoina.nl (after 15 October)

Dear Janet,

I have a few corrections and additions to the report of the SS and can shed light on the people that you didn't recognise.

1. Sorry, Philippe was incorrectly spelt.
2. Gagik's visa was obtained on Tuesday 24th July
(not Wednesday 26th)
3. Since writing the report we have received a generous anonymous donation of £500 – thank you very much to the donor.
4. I would like to point out that the 'I', writing about the photos in the centre spread, was Janet Douglas, our editor, who kindly added some photos and captions. Thank you Janet. We do know who everyone is and some of them were mentioned in the report. They are: From left standing: Susanne Duxa, fourth on left Celia Cox, next to Barbara Shaffer, Brian Hall, next to Caspar, John Stewart with 'wonderful hat' cut off. Seated from right: between Dorien and Janet is Naomi Ryder who was partly sponsored by Frank Flanagan's Bursary fund to encourage young people to dance (Naomi seemed very 'encouraged' and enthusiastic!), Christiano Lima (with hat not cut off) next to Ann.
5. Another correction on page 18 – my email is jill@pjbransby.plus.com (Sorry I was rushing to catch deadlines)
6. I hope by the time you read this to have added some of this year's photos to the website www.sifdsummerschool.org

Jill Bransby (Publicity Officer for the Summer School)



Ken's Memorial Dance

Many thanks to everyone who came along to this event. I think Ken would have been pleasantly surprised to see that it was a "full house". Also, thanks to the dedicated team who worked so hard, and to Frank who, on the night, made it a very eventful and successful occasion. Well done everyone!

Irene Keywood

Gone But Not Forgotten

It was very heartening to see so many people at Ken Ward's Memorial dance on September 2nd. Over 100 people came, from far and near, to show their appreciation of Ken's contribution to folk dancing and it was really lovely to see so many happy, smiling faces! I'm sure that outwardly Ken would have been rather bemused by all the fuss but on the inside I think he would have been very pleased and flattered.

Thank you once again to all those who helped organise the evening and to each and everyone for turning up and making it such a success.

Frank Dowling



Dancing at Dunford 14th – 16th December 2012

For many people this pre-Christmas weekend is a regular date in their diary – hopefully you pencilled it in after reading Margaret and John's enthusiastic article in the February Newsletter.

Dunford house is an attractive mid-nineteenth century house which still retains furniture, pictures and memorabilia relating to the original owners; while being thoroughly up-to-date, with single, twin and double bedrooms, all being en-suite.

Well known SIFD teachers, Janet Woolbar, Helen Ezra, and Brenda and Philip Steventon will lead the dancing. Last year we danced on Friday evening, Saturday afternoon and evening, and Sunday morning and afternoon.

Midhurst market is a popular choice for Saturday morning and the South Downs offer the opportunity for a pleasant walk to build up your appetite for the good food, which includes Christmas dinner on Saturday evening; all this plus a friendly welcoming staff contribute to an enjoyable weekend.

If you need to know more please ring me on 020 8540 3464.

Dot Bradbury



Myjavsky Czardas

Czechoslovakia



“Wilf Horrocks’ Collection”

Unfortunately no-one has contributed anything about **Myjavsky Czardas**. Maybe we will have more luck with next month’s offering - **Jumatate Toarse** from Romania. **Ed.**



Dear Janet,

Marina Wolstenholme taught **Devushki Padruzhenky** to Frith Folk at Chapel en le Frith in November 2001. As far as I can make out a good translation is ‘All girls together’.

It is a dance in a circle and the dominant feature is a move towards the centre of the circle followed by backing out as a spiral, either left or right, alternately, following a track shaped like a banana. That is why our dancers, who do not speak Russian, call it ‘the banana dance’. It is a good dance for winding down before going home at the close of a class.

Harry Phillips

(**Devushky Padruzhenky** was published last month; **Ed.**)



SIFD Sunday Dance/Workshops

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)

October 7th Fiona Howarth

**Fiona's dances are rightly popular, combining enjoyable dances with
catchy ways to remember them!**

November 4th Jeanette Hull



Chair: Helen Ezra 84 Farm Road, Morden, Surrey SM4
6RB

tel: 0208 648 4118

Treasurer: Judith Payling Rosebank, 56 Quickley Lane,
Chorleywood, Rickmansworth, Herts. WD3 5AF.
judithcpayling@yahoo.co.uk

Secretary: Jeanette Hull 39 The Green, Morden, Surrey, SM4
4HJ 07722 655481 *jeanettehull@blueyonder.co.uk*

**Membership
Secretary:** Dalila Heath 18 Calder Avenue, Brookmans Park,
Hatfield. AL9 7AQ
dalila.heath1@btopenworld.com tel: 01707 642774

mail@SIFD.org - please use this address as the SIFD contact for
non members and when a quick response matters - a committee
member checks this mailbox every day, while personal emails may
not be accessed when the addressee is working or away.





WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

- S.I **Mon.1st** **ILIANA & TODOR AT GOSPORT**, 10-12am. St.Francis Church Clayhall Rd. Cost: £4 contact Tessa 02392 526489
- S.I **Thurs.4th** **ILIANA & TODOR** 19.45 to 22.00 at Ecclesall Parish Hall, Sheffield. Further details: contact Greg Boyd on 07810181273 or greg.boyd99@aol.com
- S.I **Sat.6th** **BALKANPLUS** see page 9
- S.I **Sat.6th** **ILIANA & TODOR AT MANCHESTER**.11-5pm, party 7pm -10pm. St Ninian's Church Hall. Chorlton, M21 0XJ Julie Korth 01842 831141 or maryomahony3@yahoo.co.uk
- Sat.13th** **A DAY OF BALKAN DANCING** see page 9
- S.I **Sat.20th / Sun.21st** **DANCE AROUND THE WORLD** 10.a.m.-11.p.m. Cecil Sharp House, see page 3



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