

Society for International Folk Dancing

SIFD NEWS



FEB 2015

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

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Registered Charity Number 284509
SIFD Committee

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

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

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

Other Committee Members:

Caspar Cronk 8 Langbourne Avenue, London, N6 6AL 0208 340 4683
caspar.cronk@blueyonder.co.uk

Mary O'Mahony 11 Hartington Road, Chorlton, Manchester, M21 8UZ
01618 810955 maryomahony3@yahoo.co.uk

Richard Mellish 15 Lancaster Road, Harrow, HA2 7NN richard@mellish.eu
0208 863 7807

John Stewart 129 Glebe Road, Thringstone Coalville, Leics. LE67 8NU
j2ohn@yahoo.co 01530 223957

Holly Payling 4 Hobart Walk, St Albans, AL3 6LS 07784 117599
hollycp@hotmail.co.uk

Naomi Ryder 13 Maun House, 1 Dunn Street, Dalston, London E8 2DG
naomiryder@hotmail.co.uk 07920 424575

Contact the SIFD at mail@sifd.org

I have received the final publication of 'Folk Dancer' the Ontario Folk Dance Association magazine; for anyone planning a trip to Canada from now on they will be producing it digitally and making it freely available to any visitor to their website at www.ofda.ca/newsletter.html;

My own system nearly collapsed recently along with my computer - and having to use the local library (armed with bits of paper and USB sticks) some Diary dates and information got lost. Hopefully, all information is now up-to-date and nobody will miss Dalila at Nutbrook this month.

As ever, the content of the newsletter is up to you, keep those articles and letters coming. Our cover this month of a Korean dancer was an anonymous offering way back in 1974; the motif from an Yves Moreau teeshirt.

Ed.



Monthly SIFD Dance at Cecil Sharp House

Sunday 1st February 7pm

Helen Ezra will be leading the dancing in February which follows the Pontic workshop in the afternoon beginning at 2pm.

The dance on 8th March will be led by the SIFD band.

Anne Maddocks



Russian Dancing at Barlow

Mary O'Mahony has asked me to write something about the Russian dances I will be teaching at Barlow on 21st March. I have been attending Hennie Koning's twice yearly Russian courses since they began, about ten years ago, so I have a considerable repertoire by now. I'm not planning to teach anything too complicated or difficult, just some lovely, and some lively, dances that I hope will be new to people. If anyone intending to come has any particular requests they can email me at maregdan@yahoo.co.uk, and I will do my best to fit them in. Hope to see lots of you there!

Maggie O'Regan

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mar. 1 GREEK FOLK DANCE – A programme of Pontic dances led by Dimitris Triandafyllidis will be held at St Swithun's Church Hall, Grovelands Road, Purley, Surrey, CR8 4LB (just off the A23) from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Cost £30 for the day including tea, coffee and bikkies. Please contact Cherry Allen, 0208 556 5741 or ron.cherry.allen@gmail.com

S.I **Mar. 7–8 ERIK BENDIX** teaches dances from Greece, Macedonia, Albania and Bulgaria in Sheffield. Weekend dance course £35. 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. Website www.balkanfolkdance.org.

S.I **Mar. 8 SIFD SUNDAY DANCE** see page 3

S.I **Mar. 14 BALKANPLUS** MC will be the Oxford Group

S.I **Mar. 21 RUSSIAN DANCE WORKSHOP** with Maggie O'Regan at St. Ninian's Church Hall, Chorlton, Manchester. From 11.a.m. - 5.p.m followed by a 'Bring and share' supper and a social dance from 6.30 - 9.00 p.m. £12 (£10 for SIFD members) Contact Mary O'Mahony 0161 881 0955 maryomahony3@yahoo.co.uk

Apr.10-13 3 NIGHT INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING with walking led by Phil & Brenda Steventon. Dancing in the morning and evening. 4-5 mile afternoon walks led by an HF walking leader, at HF Holidays, The Peveril of the Peak, Dovedale, Derbys. DE6 2AW. For details ring HF on 0345 470 8558 or Phil & Brenda on 020 8397 9649

Apr.11-12 INTENSIVE RUSSIAN WEEKEND see page 15

S.I **Apr.24-27 GREAT ALNE LONG WEEKEND** (Friday evening to Monday afternoon), near Alcester, Warwickshire. International Folk Dancing and other varied dancing, music, handbells, singing, walking and cycling. For further information see website at www.greatalnefolk.org.uk or phone Paul Lindley 0121 689 1802 or André Hobro 0121 777 3722.

May 1-4 EASTBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL
Please contact Maureen on 01823 401271. or www.eiff.org.uk

Jun. 13 DANCE WITH DALILA IN DERBYSHIRE. see page 13

- S.I **Jul.25-Aug.1 SIFD SUMMER SCHOOL** tel 07905 603655 see p.15
Aug. 21-28 7 NIGHT INT. FOLK DANCE COURSE led by Phil & Brenda Steventon. Dancing in the morning and evening. Afternoons free, at HF Holidays, The Longmynd, Church Stretton, Shropshire SY6 6AG. For details ring HF on 0345 470 8558 or Phil & Brenda on 020 8397 9649
- S.I **Aug. 28-31 WILLINGDON IFDG ANNUAL MINI FESTIVAL** of International and English Folk Dance, Circle Dance and singing at Plumpton College nr Lewes, East Sussex. £160 full board. Contact Rowena Martin 60 Anderida Road, Eastbourne BN22 0PZ; 01323 503991 or rowenahmartin@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.*



Croxley Green International Folk Dance Group

- change of time

The time for our group has been 8-10pm but will change from January onwards to 8-9.30pm. The charge for hiring the hall has again been increased and our group attendance is rather small so this will help to cover the cost whilst also giving a suitable time span for those involved. If you are in the area we would love to see you at the class but best to phone beforehand as we occasionally cancel some evenings. Tel: 01923 210876.

Meryl Abraham



Balkanplus

The February Balkanplus will be held on the 14th February at Cecil Sharp House, Camden NW1 7AY, starting at 7.00pm. MC will be Emily Nisbet. Admission £5.

Maureen Felton

Dancing in Yarralumla, Canberra.

The name Yarralumla (from the indigenous word apparently meaning echo) sends me back to student days and an evening attending a bush dance at the Yarralumla Woolshed, the floor boards “flexing” as we danced! A naturally sprung floor, you might say!) I’m glad to say the Woolshed still exists and still hosts bush dances among other events. (Australian bush dances are mainly based on the traditional folk dances of the UK, Ireland and Europe.)

Now, years later, I find myself once again in Yarralumla (a suburb just south of Lake Burley, Griffin in Canberra), but this time in a modern church hall dancing with CIFDA (Canberra International Folk Dancing Association) members. In addition to CIFDA run by Carol McNally, there is another folk dance association on the north side of lake - Folk Dance Canberra (FDC). Both groups are keen on a mix of Balkan dances (especially Romanian and Bulgarian), but with plenty of other dances for good measure. At CIFDA along with Balkan dances, we did Israeli (numerous), Spanish (eg Sardana Curta) and a Polish Polonez, French (Muzette), German (Samba mix!), Greek (we enjoyed learning Makarios) and one English (Lord of the Dance: it pleased the group no end that I, coming from England, didn’t know the dance!) I was surprised to see the Bolivian/Peruvian dance Chilili on the list one evening. “Who taught you?” I asked. Yves Moreau! Coincidentally he was to do a workshop in Sydney 2 days’ hence. If I’d known sooner!

Newcomers are given a warm welcome at both groups. The Yarralumla group allows newcomers to come for the first three sessions for free! The first session can be a bit bewildering, I was told. The FDC group meets in a large, light hall with a sprung floor. There are six classes a week. All teachers are fully trained with 15 years and more teaching experience. FDC is well sign posted in the nearby streets. (Has anyone noticed any helpful signs on the way to Cecil Sharp House?)

For further details about folk dance in Australia see folkdanceaustralia.org.au. (see Events- weekly), also folkdancecanberra.org.au

Helen de Bray

My apologies to Janet our editor, and members, for not properly 'proof reading' the photocopy of Mike Laurence's letter (Dec. News) Camel should of course read 'Gamel Rhineland'! The same issue of Fandango included a mention by Ron Coultrup of a letter from Michael Herman in New York, to the effect that the 'knee-bend' version of Karapyet in the S.I.F.D. book and record is "made up and false", he describes it as grotesque out of place. However, it remains there and is danced because; to quote Mike Laurence, "it is thus in a book"! I have always regarded it as a 'fun dance', to the extent of trying it out at 45, not 33rpm!, it was possible then, not now.

Roy Clarke



Koprishitsa Festival Trips

31st July – 10th August

The programme includes a visit to the Bagpipe festival in the village of Gela (Rodope mountains) plus a 5-day dance course (2 levels) with renowned Bulgarian folk dance teacher Becho Stanev together with Irena Staneva and Julian Stanev, and then the 3-day festival in Koprivshitsa.

Full board in a hotel in Koprivshitsa (half board during the festival).

Cost: Dancers - €900; Non-dancers – €700

More information & bookings: Belco Stanev, Hailfinger Str. 9, 72119 Ammerbuch, Germany. email: belcostanev @ gbg.bg, website: www.belcostanev.com

31st July – 10th August

Dance course (for dancers with some previous experience) with well known dance teacher Prof. Nikolaj Cvetkov from Pirin and his team. Live music. Introduction to the songs and music led by professional musicians and singers, meetings with folk dance groups. Excursions to places of interest in the area around Koprivshitsa. Plus the 3-day festival in Koprivshitsa.

Full board accommodation in a hotel in Koprivshitsa (half board during the festival).

Cost: €880 More information & bookings: balkanbrugge@telenet.be

Balkanplus Workshops: with Iliana Bozhanova & Todor Yankov



The ever popular Iliana and Todor return to Cecil Sharp House on 19th/20th September with a programme of dances from their latest CD “Destiny”. I can’t think of a better way to start dancing again after the summer break. Two full day workshops and a Saturday evening party yet to be conceived but likely to involve London’s impressive array of Bulgarian talent. Visit www.balkanplus.org.uk for the latest details. Balkanplus is happy to maintain our policy of charging SIFD

members the early bird prices beyond the cut-off date of 31st July provided there are places available of course. A further discount is given to Balkanplus season ticket holders (details again on our website) and I suggest that this is the perfect time to purchase a season ticket if you are likely to attend our monthly dances at least six times a year because we may be forced to lift our prices in the autumn.

The prices, with early bird prices in brackets, are £70 (60) for the weekend; £40 (30) for the Saturday workshop only; £30 (25) for the Sunday workshop only. For those unable to attend the workshops, the party is open to all and will cost £10 payable on the door. Tickets are available from Maureen Felton 28 Henslow Road, Ipswich IP4 5EG. Please send SAE and a cheque payable to Balkanplus.

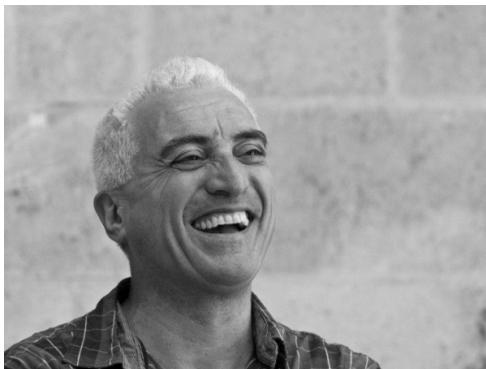
At the time of writing I am in discussion with groups in the north to host Iliana and Todor on the weekend of 26th/27th September and I am hopeful there will be an announcement soon.

Brian Dowsett

Turkish Folk Dances with Turgay Onatli

Friday 11th – Sunday 13th September

Last summer in Torquay we enjoyed a wonderful selection of music and dances with Turgay Onatli. There is a surprising variety of styles of music and dance from Turkey (or “Anatolia” as Turgay calls it), and he still has plenty more to teach us. So we are delighted that he is coming back this year.



The venue is the delightful village of Calver in Derbyshire in the Peak District National Park. You can choose to stay in Cliff College which is less than a mile from the village hall, or you can attend the course non-residentially.

As well as being a renowned and popular dance teacher, Turgay is also a musician and plays authentic Turkish instruments - Zurna, Saz and Darvul (big drum).

We plan to offer an Instrumental workshop led by Maya Buckley on Saturday 12th September in Cliff College. This will include a mixture of music from Turkey and elsewhere in the Balkans. There will also be opportunities to learn some of the songs which accompany the dances. There will be more information about this later.

The dance course starts on Friday evening and finishes on Sunday at 1pm. The cost of the weekend course is £55 for participants staying at Cliff College and £75 for non-residents. Full board accommodation at Cliff College is £130 (or less if the Friday evening meal and/or Sunday lunch is not taken).

There are a limited number of places on this course. Please book early if you want to be sure of a place.

For full details and a booking form contact Cathy Meunier email cathy_meunier@hotmail.com tel 017687 73117 or send s.a.e to 23, Church Street, Keswick Cumbria CA12 4DX. Website: balkanfolkdance.org.

Cathy Meunier

Mourie Pfeffer: 1921 - 2014

I am sorry to report that Mourie Pfeffer died in August 2014. To many members he is someone they have read mention of in the News. For older members who knew him and danced to his music, he was both a character and a personality. I came to know Mourie through his being both M.C. and musician for the first weekend of sailing (Maldon to Bradwell and back), camping and Youth Hostelling, with dancing in the village hall Saturday evening; that I organised in June 1955. Mourie's ability to both M.C. and play with vitality enabled him to carry the evening to success. His simultaneous playing the mouth organ and leading Cherkassia (Not Kerfula) was always fun.

I do not know how he came to London, but I did once ask how he came to play music, and he told me that at his twentyfirst birthday he was in a "displaced persons" camp; and a man came in saying "I have a present for you!" and put a mandolin on his bunk!

He certainly was involved in the early days of the S.I.F.D. as an active dancer, his music came later and gave something of a conflict since it limited his dancing.

Members of those times will have many memories of Y.H.A. weekends; walking and dancing at every opportunity; and ending Sunday evenings at the Drury Lane cellars with Mourie, Ken Ward, Cliff Beck and Harry de Caux keeping the dance going.

Great times, happy memories, many thanks!

For anyone wishing to write to Nora, I will either forward a letter, or give the address.

Roy Clarke

33 Cedar Park Road, Enfield, Middx. EN2 0HE

~

Mourie Pfeffer

I have just heard that, sadly, Mourie Pfeffer died a few months ago. Although not many of our present members will remember him I felt that as he was such a prominent part of the Society and one of the very first members Mourie's death should not go unannounced in the news-sheet.

Mourie was a natural folk musician and could play several instruments by ear, without having had any tuition or training and unable to read music, picking up tunes and rhythms easily. In those days we had a lot of young dancers and throughout the year groups of us went to many weekends staying in Youth Hostels and wherever we went we danced, at hostels, in village halls, on village greens and even on railway station platforms while waiting for trains, and Mourie was usually there. As one of the instruments he played was the harmonica he could just bring it out of his pocket and we had live music to dance to, so he was very much part of the folkdance scene as it was then. He also played for us at the Sunday evening dances at Inns of Court, Covent Garden, colloquially known as "The Cellars", sometimes playing his harmonica at the same time as leading a dance.

He also came to Norway with us when a group from Harrow Green Folkdance Group went to collect Norwegian dances, and Mourie was able to play some English dance tunes for us so that we could swap our English dances for their Norwegian.

After Mourie moved to Wilmslow, Cheshire, with his wife, Nora, we saw less of him but he did occasionally turn up at some of our weekends away and some of our members kept in touch with him. He is now part of the memories of the early days of the SIFD.

Lily Avery

~ ~

Hans Baumann

Dear Janet,

We have just heard the sad news about our Swiss friend Hans Baumann who died on 3rd January. Most people who attended the SIFD Summer Schools between 1971 and 1985 will remember him and his lovely wife, Ruth (who died some years ago). They introduced some lovely dances on these courses and became very good friends. We also danced with them at New Year courses in Switzerland organised by Francis Feybli and visited their home in Brunnen.

We are sure the many members who remember Hans and Ruth will join us in sending our condolences to his family and friends.

Joan and Simon Guest

Kalinka Concert



In December Barlow International Dance Group again took part in a Benefit Concert for R.O.O.F to raise money for the orphans in St Petersburg at the Royal Northern College of Music. 23 of us took part aging from 10 to over 80.

In the first half our younger members energetically danced Ochochej a dance from north east Siberia which was greatly enjoyed by the audience.

In the second half we danced 3 dances. The first one, So vyunom ya khozhu we started in 3 different circles and then moved into 2 concentric circles. The second, Oy, kumushki golubushki was danced in a square formation and the third, Vo sadu li v ogorode was a lively progressive partner dance performed in a circle.

Julie Korth directed us and provided costumes for all the younger members. We also joined in singing a Russian song in the finale with the other groups who had taken part in the concert.

Mary O'Mahony



Dance with Dalila in Derbyshire

Join us in Calver Village Hall on the 13th June for a great day of dancing with Dalila Heath. Further details from Janet King (01629 57065 or j.king194@btinternet.com) or Greg Boyd (07810 181273 or gregboyd99@aol.com).

Janet King



Dvorana Summer Course

The Prague Dvorana will again this summer organise a week's course of Czech and Moravian folk dancing. The course will be running from 19th to 26th July 2015. All the details can be found on their web site www.dvorana.cz.

Dal Sudwell

Banatfolk - Romanian dance seminar 2015

For those planning summer trips for 2015, who might be interested in visiting Romania prior to Marius and Maria Ursu teaching at the SIFD summer school, here is details of the annual Banatfolk dance seminar in Timisoara, Romania that takes place at the same time as the International folk Festival, Festivalul Inimilor.

Banatfolk Romanian Folk Dance Seminar - 12th edition, Timisoara, Romania, 7th – 17th of July 2015

Organized by Marius Ursu & Toma Frentescu

<http://www.mariusursu.ro/>

Liz Mellish

Come Join Us for 10 Memorable Days of Music, Dance, More ...

... in beautiful Timisoara, the capital of Banat, a town in the west part of Romania, also known as the town of roses.

The Seminar Program includes:

Dance Lessons with Marius Ursu and master choreographers of groups participating in the International Folk Festival “Festivalul Inimilor”.

Watching the performances from The “Festivalul Inimilor” (folk groups from 10 countries and more than 20 professional and village folk groups from Romania will take part.

Excursions to explore the beauty, rich history, and living traditions of Bistrei Valley and Danube Gorge.

We have a surprise for you:

We will prepare a choreographic suite from Banat, which we will present the closing show of The International Folk Festival “Festivalul Inimilor”

Plus ... Full Board, double accommodation in hotels and peasants’ homes, cultural activities, excursions and transportation to all seminar activities. Single accommodation is available with 150 euro surcharge.

Price:

- 750 euro. The fee includes the participation in all the activities mentioned above, the transfer from the Timisoara International Airport to the hotel
- 550 euro/person, for those that do not take part in the courses but take part in the other activities.

Intensive Russian Weekend Course - April 11th & 12th

Hennie Konings has agreed to come again in April to provide us with some more of his expertise. This could be the last time he is able to come over, so take the opportunity to learn, and come along.

The venue is a short walk from Old Street Station and will be approx. 10am - 4.30pm each day. Further details from Raymond Daymar on raymond@daymar.freeuk.com or phone Raymond on 0132 438148. I will be there, so hope some of you will join me.

Helen Ezra



SIFD Summer School

25 July to 1 August 2015, Swansea

Just a reminder so you book in time to get your first choice from our excellent courses:

Romanian with Marius and Maria Ursu.

Danish with Henning Christensen and musician Pia Nygaard.

Two general courses - partner and non-partner dances with Karin Bellart.

All twin rooms are now booked, but single en suite rooms, either self catering or bed and breakfast, are available. Book using the application form distributed with the December News, or print an application form from www.sifdsummerschool.org, which gives further information.

We look forward to another successful and popular Summer School, probably the last in a series that has extended over 50 years. Don't miss it!

Jill Bransby



Greek Folk Dance Courses with Kyriakos Moisidis

27th June – 7th July A nine-day seminar at Papa Nero.

18th – 28th July Evros – Thrace. For more information contact Kyriakos Moisidis: moisidiskyriakos@gmail.com or visit his website: www.moisidis-dance/gr/en

Ca La Ușa Cortului

Thank you for the January issue of the SIFD News, Dalila, which mentioned **Ca La Ușa Cortului**. Please share the attached description of the dance's history and movements with Janet. The description is, of course, from the US perspective, but perhaps it will contain useful bits of information for your audience. The Larisa Lucaci mentioned in the description learned her dances from Al. L. Dobrescu in Romania prior to her emigration to the US, and her description appears to match that in Debrescu's book. We have danced Ca La Ușa Cortului from the late 1950s to present. I never saw the version taught by Eugenia Popescu-Judetz and cannot comment on it.

Ca La Ușa Cortului (ka la oo-sha kor-too-loo-ee) = as at the door of the tent.

Other Names: Hora Ca La Ușa Cortului. Hora Sinaia - another dance done to a medley ending with the tune for Hora Ca La Ușa Cortului. Shave and a haircut, six bits - Dick Crum's mnemonic for the stamps.

Background: Rudolf, vassal of Hungary, founded Wallachia in 1290, and his successor, Bessarab the Great, granted independence. Passing again under Hungarian and then Turkish rule, Wallachia united with Moldavia in 1859 to create modern Romania. We call that part of Wallachia lying east of the Oltenia River Greater Wallachia, or Muntenia.

This dance, with Oromnia and Hora la Patru, belong to the Muntenian dance family called hora, and specifically to the so-called "stamping" horas (hore batute), characterized by faster tempo, syncopated stamps, scuffs and taps, travelling two-steps and arm swinging. Natives associate these features with Gypsy dance style, and it is generally agreed that these "stamping" horas have been subject to Gypsy influence. (Dick Crum, 30th annual Kolo Festival.)

John Uhlemann says:

Ca La Ușa Cortului, a dance I learned in Cleveland in 1971. I tried doing that dance to that tune at a wedding in Romania (Amara in the south) at about 4 in the morning, but the locals thought I was doing a Bulgarian dance, so I stopped. I normally hang back at weddings, but 90% of the crowd had gone to bed and I had had too much of the local products of fermentation poured into me by my gracious host to have much common sense...

By the way, the expression ‘Ca la ușa cortului’ is an idiom meaning “in the crudest/most uncouth way” according to my local informant. For example, one could say of a bar-room brawl that the combatants fought ca la ușa cortului. Yes, the phrase “ca la ușa cortului” is an idiomatic phrase that does mean “as in the door of the (Gypsy) tent”, but, by unfortunate ethnic stereotyping, that implies ‘uncouth’. Other Romanian dances are named after expressions like that; the best known to American IFD groups is the ‘Trei Păzește’ group: the name means ‘watch out’ (you might say it before someone trips, for example).

Larisa Lucaci introduced this dance at Michael and Mary Ann Herman’s Folk Dance House in New York in the early 1950s. She and Dick Crum taught it around the country for the next 10 or 15 years until the Romanian dance flood hit the U.S. in the early 1970s, at which time Eugenia Popescu-Judetz presented it at the 1971 Stockton Folk Dance Camp. Michael released in the 1950s the definitive recording on his Folk Dancer label, MH 1123, and that is the last record I bought from him, shortly before his death in 1996.

Formation:

Large circle of men and women; hands joined and held high overhead.

Bars Action:

2/4 Introduction.

1-? Wait as long as you can, since the light steps and sharp, hard stamps of this dance require extraordinary cardiovascular endurance. The Hermans suggested: “begin halfway through the record, so as not to kill everyone off!”

Quick threes and stamps. Hands held high:

1 Step to R onto R foot (ct 1), step behind R foot onto L foot (ct &), step to R onto R foot (ct 2), stamp beside R instep with L foot, no weight (ct &).

2 = 1 with opposite footwork (step-behind-step-stamp to L).

3 = 1, turning the last stamp into a scuff as you brush the L heel forward and up in a “backward bicycle” movement, bending L knee.

continued overleaf

Ca La Usa Cortului

A Fast

"Wilf Horrocks' Collection"

(continued from previous page)

4 Hop on R foot, circling L foot back and down (ct 1), stamp beside R instep with L foot, no weight (ct &), stamp beside R instep onto L foot (ct 2).

Note: Dick Crum used to describe bars 3-4 in terms of the old Vaudeville routine: "Shave and a haircut, six bits," with the 2 stamps of bar 4 coinciding with the words "six" and "bits."

Slow leap-behind, to R. Hands still high:

5 Leap to R onto R foot, leaning forward a bit, throwing L leg out a bit behind you, and bringing joined hands strongly down to sides (ct 1), leap behind R foot onto L foot, straightening up, and raising joined hands strongly overhead.

Repeat bars 1-5 to the end of the music. No, the steps don't fit the phrase of the music. We ethnomusicologists call this "non-concordance" when we want to impress people.

Ron Houston



☀ **La Monaco** will be featured next month.

Ed.



Ca La Uşa Cortului

This dance was taught by Eugenia Popescu-Judetza on her only visit to London in the early 1970s. She had been a professional dancer with the National Theatre Ballet in Bucharest before embarking on her career as a folk dance instructor - and it showed. The workshops at the Dance Centre in Floral Street remain in my memory because of her commanding presence. I had my first encounter with Fiona Howarth at the workshop when she was a relatively new kid on the block. Fiona recalls being continuously picked on by Eugenia to partner her in demonstrating couple dances and, uncharacteristically, having to hide in an adjacent room. My friend Sunni Bloland, who received a Fulbright Scholarship to study Romanian dance and became a leading teacher in the USA, has some very pithy comments about Eugenia which I will keep to myself. Eugenia moved to the States in 1973 and died in 2011. Her workshop programme included such dances as Somesana, Dinga and Alunelul Batut which became very popular at the time, drawn from her three Folkcraft albums "Folk Dances of Romania". I referred to the Dick Oakes website www.phantomranch.net for the following translation of Ca la Uşa Cortului, As in the door of the Gypsy tent. Also an idiom meaning "in the crudest, most uncouth way". Not very PC these days. It is danced in a closed circle with hands held up high, elbows straight. The whole sequence of steps takes just five bars of music to complete so it does not follow the melody. I give the dance description below.

Brian Dowsett

4 bars introduction

1 With hands held high, very small step R sideways (ct.1); step L in place (ct &); step R in place (ct 2); scuff L heel next to R (ct &).

2 Repeat action of bar 1 to L with opposite footwork.

3 Repeat action of bar 1 to R

4 Pause (ct 1); scuff L heel next to R (ct &); stamp L diag fwd to L, taking wt (ct 2); pause (ct &)

5 Leap on R, swinging arms down, leaning fwd slightly with L thrust out back (ct 1); leap L behind R straightening up (ct 2) bringing arms back to high position.

Repeat dance from the beginning.

WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY

- S.I **Sunday 1st SIFD SUNDAY DANCE** see page 3
- S.I **Sun. 1st SIFD DAY COURSE** Pontic workshop + live music at Cecil Sharp House, 2pm-6pm Jackie Charbit-Middleton & Mike Machin
- S.I **Wed. 4th – Mon. 9th RIVIERADANCE! 2015** with Yves Moreau, Cristian Florescu & Sonia Dion, France Bourque-Moreau. 5 nights full board, Torquay. £465 (full-days) or £395 (half-days) res. dance course; £305 - non-dancers. Contact cathy_meunier@hotmail.com 23, Church St. Keswick Cumbria CA12 4DX or www.balkanfolkdance.org
- S.I **Friday 6th FRENCH DANCE EVENING AT RAINMAKERS** with live music from Danseherts Musicians: The Parish Hall, St. Michaels, Broadway, Letchworth, Herts, SG6 3PQ 8 to 11 pm. Cost £5.00 Contact: 01462 454210 or 01462 457791 or www.rainmakers.org.uk and www.danseherts.co.uk
- S.I **Sat. 7th BALKAN INSTRUMENTAL DAY COURSE** with musician Maya Buckley. 10am - 5pm & 8:30pm – 10:30pm Livermead House Hotel, Torquay. £30 (no charge for residents on the Rivieradance! 2015 holiday). All instruments welcome, course resources provided in advance. Pre-booking is essential. details see Cathy Meunier above.
- S.I **Saturday 14th BALKANPLUS** see page 5
- Sat. 21st BULGARIAN DANCE EVENING** with Boico Andonov & Martin Spasov. 6-8.30pm £8 (children free) Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London NW1 7AY
- S.I **Saturday 28th ARMENIAN, GREEK & ISRAELI DAY COURSE** with Dalila Heath at Nutbrook IFDG. Grangewood Methodist Church, Wollaton, Nottingham, NG8 2SJ. 10.30 am - 4.30 pm. £8, half day £5. For further information: 0115 917 1831, No prebooking needed. gill.morral@ntlworld.com, www.nutbrookfolkdance.co.uk.



All material for the March issue of the SIFD NEWS must be received by the Editor IN WRITING by 17th February.