

S.I.F.D.

NEWS
MARCH
2015

♫ La Monaco ♫



A la mo-na-co L'on chas-se, l'on dé-
chas-se; A la mo-na-co, L'on chas-se comme il faut.
Les demoi-sell's qui ne sav' pas dan-ser, On leur fait
fai-re la chaîne an-qlai-se. Les de-moi-sell's qui ne sav' pas dan-
ser, On leur fait fai-re la chaîne an-qlais'.



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Thirty years ago Lesley Boorer designed the front cover which shows an old French children's song - **La Monaco**. The dancers circle right and left for the first part of the song, then make a grand chain. The costumes are from various regions of France. (Interestingly, a grand chain is "la chaîne anglais").

To fill in space a reprint of Lesley Boorer's puzzles are on the centre pages. (Why haven't you sent in your interesting and informative article yet?)

Ed.



Location change for SIFD April and May Sunday Dances

Unfortunately we cannot justify continuing to hold our monthly Sunday dances at Cecil Sharp House. The cost for the upstairs hall is too expensive and Trefusis is not available.

The dances on 12 April and 10 May will be at the Primrose Hill Community Association in the larger upstairs hall. The address is 29 Hopkinson Place, off Fitzroy Road, London NW 1 8TN. This is not far from Cecil Sharp House. There is no off street parking but the parking on Fitzroy Road is free on week-ends. After passing Cecil Sharp House on Regents Park Road, Fitzroy Road is the third street on the right. Hopkinton Place is then on the left. There is a gate across the entrance but there is access for pedestrians. If you receive the newsletter by e-mail you can enter 'Primrose Hill Community Association' into Google Maps to see the location. (The URL is too long to include here.)

The March and June dances will still be at Cecil Sharp House.

Caspar Cronk



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

S.I **Apr. 11. BALKANPLUS** MC will be Julie Korth

Apr.11-12. INTENSIVE RUSSIAN WEEKEND Hennie Konings will be providing his expertise again this weekend, with some lovely dances. Venue in London near Old Street Stn. Details from Raymond or Judith Daymar raymond@daymar.freeuk.com or 0132 438148

S.I **Apr. 12. SIFD SUNDAY DANCE** - change of venue see page 3

S.I **Apr. 19. MAGGIE O'REGAN** with a day course of Balkan dances. 11am till 5pm at Witnesham Village Hall, near Ipswich IP6 9JD. £10. Contact Sally Fletcher, fletcherism@aol.com or 01473 252824.

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. www.greatalnefolk.org.uk or phone Paul Lindley 0121 689 1802 or André Hobro 0121 777 3722.

May 1-4. HALSWAY MANOR SIFD WEEKEND

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. Join us in Calver Village Hall. Further details from Janet King (01629 57065 or j.king194@btinternet.com) or Greg Boyd (07810 181273 or gregboyd99@aol.com).

S.I **Jul.25-Aug.1. SIFD SUMMER SCHOOL** in Swansea, Danish, Romanian & General Int. www.sifdsummerschool

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.
- S.I **Sep.11-13. TURGAY ONATLI** teaches dances from Turkey in Calver, Derbyshire. For details and a booking form please send s.a.e. to Cathy Meunier, 23, Church Street, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 4DX or email cathy_meunier@hotmail.com. www.balkanfolkdance.org.
- S.I **Sep.19-20. BALKANPLUS ILIANA & TODOR WORKSHOPS**
The prices, with early bird prices in brackets, are £70 (60) for the weekend; £40 (30).Sat. workshop only; £30 (25) for the Sun. workshop only. Party only: £10 payable on the door. Tickets from Maureen Felton 28 Henslow Road, Ipswich IP4 5EG. SAE and a cheque payable to Balkanplus.



*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.*



Balkanplus

The March Balkanplus will be held on the 14th March at Cecil Sharp House, Camden NW1 7AY, starting at 7.00pm. MCs will be the Oxford Group. Admission £5.

Maureen Felton



2016 will be the SIFD's 70th Anniversary

If you want an event other than a London Sunday dance with a cake and a few other special features, you'll need to volunteer to make it happen we just have too much to do.

Otherwise, the committee proposes that we should plan for something extra special for our ¾ century in 2021.

Summer School 2017

A false rumour:

Some people seem to have interpreted comments made by the existing summer school committee to mean that there will be no SIFD summer courses in future. We do not want this to happen, but must do some thinking about the form it will take.

So, we want to start planning 2017

We'll need ideas and opinions, and a team to run it:

For me the Summer school is a wonderful opportunity to spend time with other folk dancers and to experience unfamiliar styles taught by experts without the expense and risk of a full week's course in another country. The social part can be as important as the dancing!

So to get our planning and discussions started:

What are the ESSENTIAL features of a summer school?

What changes should be considered?

What would stop you coming (that we can control)?

What if we needed lots of volunteers to staff a "self-catered" event?

What sort of social/ fun activities should be offered?

What level of price or comfort is essential to you?

Could it work if the SIFD organises teachers, dance venues and some meals, and participants find their own accommodation?

Are there other events you go to that we can learn from?

If you could consider offering some time, facilities or expertise – let us know what you can do: in advance or during the event.

The more ideas and comment we have now, the better the 2017 event will be!

Reply to the News or to Jeanette or Dalila

Sunday Dance Relocation

to PRIMROSE HILL COMMUNITY CENTRE: 29 Hopkinsons Place, off Fitzroy Road, London NW1 8TN

Sunday dances in Kennedy hall are too expensive: to cover our costs at current attendance we would need to charge over £20 per person. We are also aware that EFDSS are planning major refurbishment work and will close Kennedy Hall in a year or so to replace the floor and make repairs to the walls and mural. The other hall at Cecil Sharp House is taken by a weekly Tango class.

We have found a hall just a short walk away that has been used and liked by at least one SIFD group. We will hold Sunday Dances there on 12th April and 10th May this Spring and again in the Autumn and into 2016 unless something even better is found. It's a pleasant hall, with a well equipped kitchen, just the right size for us and with heating that should suit the dancers, and the Band!

The 14th June dance will stay in Kennedy as we have an afternoon workshop there and want to make it as easy as possible for people to attend both parts of the day.

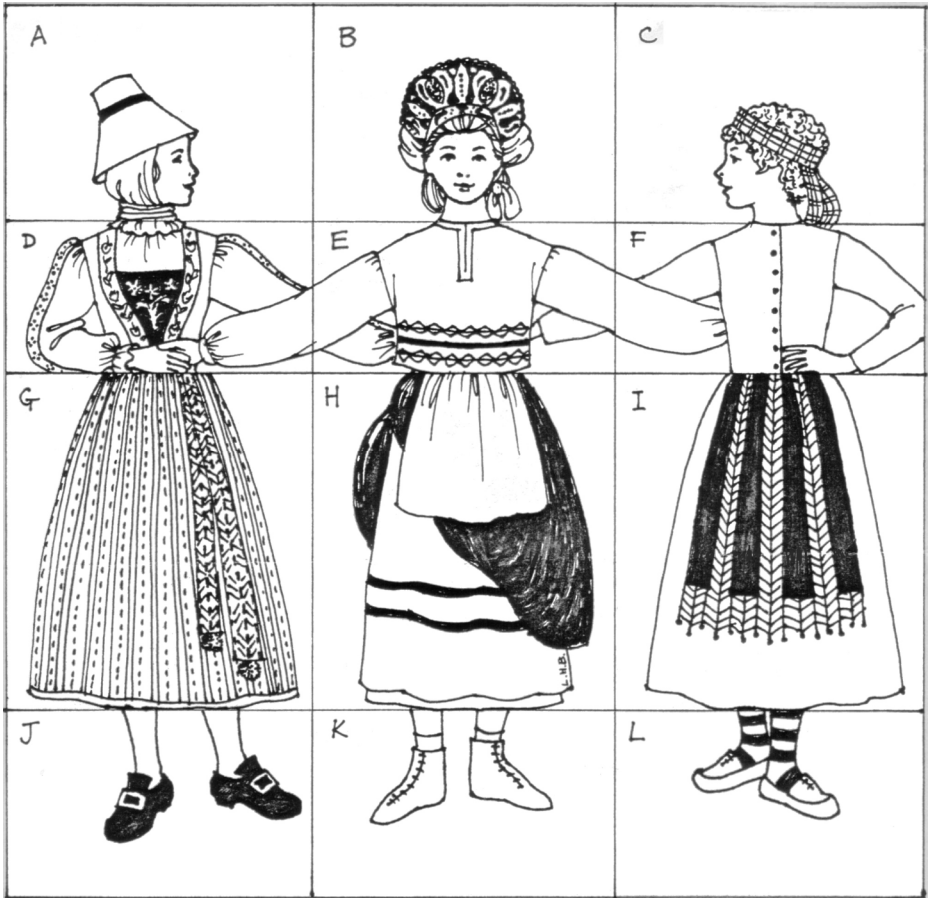
The SIFD has had a long relationship with EFDSS and Cecil Sharp House and the hall is wonderful for well-attended dances. If you want to support the EFDSS costs for the refurbishment see the website: cecilsharphouse.org



Halsway SIFD long weekend 1-4 May2015

Halsway Manor Somerset. A mixed holiday of walking, dancing and sightseeing in beautiful North Somerset International dancing each evening is led by Janet Woolbar. Most of us take the option to stay an extra night, on Monday for more dancing ...and to avoid Bank Holiday traffic. Full board - Fri. dinner to Mon. afternoon cream tea. £215pp / +ensuite£21 pp/ +single occupancy supplement £20.....

....extra night special Monday £35/ + ensuite£5 please contact Gordon Adie:-01872 260517 e-mail grdnadie@aol.com



These puzzles by Lesley Boorer were cover designs about thirty years ago.

Parts of the girls' costumes have been mixed up (headdresses, bodices, skirts, footwear) and given a letter.



The boys' costumes are also mixed up.

See if you can solve the puzzles by putting together the correct complete costumes and finding the country of origin.

(answers in next month's SIFD News)

News of Teacher Development Courses

At long last!

We are now in a position to start running the long-delayed International Folk Dance Teaching Workshops:

The plan is to run a series of weekend and one day sessions, over a two year cycle.

The course will cover all aspects of teaching folk dance, and is aimed at anyone who wants to work on their teaching and social dance leadership.

For those who wish to do so there will be opportunities for assessments/ observations leading to accreditation as an SIFD teacher - more about this later.

We have had interest from people in many parts of the country and would like to make sure no-one has excessive travel costs, so the course should move around. We must also cover some of the cost, so we propose to charge at the same rate as any other day course.

To get started we need to agree a date and find a venue.

I need to be there as coordinator and will travel as needed. Over the two years we will draw on the expertise of many SIFD (and sometimes external) teachers. Possible dates for the first session are 16th May in London or 23rd or 24th May elsewhere.

The dates are planned to avoid times I cannot be available due to work commitments.

When I first proposed such a course enough people replied to make it worthwhile doing the planning and finding teachers to help run it, now I need your replies to say which dates you could attend, and a volunteer to find and book a meeting place if it is not in London. If you can't do May but are interested in later dates please tell me. (June and July are not possible)

The May session will only run if we have enough people.

I will also find a way to run one or two short sessions at Summer School, possibly directed at MC/ social dance leadership.

Jeanette Hull

Zomerfestival 2015, June 25-28

Last summer I was among those who attended the first Balkan dance Zomerfestival in Zevenhuizen near Rotterdam in The Netherlands. It is running again this year.

It is good value in packing a lot of dance into a long weekend. Although overseas, it is relatively easy to travel to for people living in the east of England via the North Sea ferry so it was somewhat surprising that four only went from the UK last year.

The format is four 1h 15min workshops per day with a choice from 3 parallel sessions (2 dance, 1 singing) in each, with the afternoons repeating the mornings so one could learn every dance if one wants or have revision. The dance teachers planned this year are Bianca de Jong (Bulgarian), Genci Kastrati (Albanian), Caspar Bik (Black Sea) & Dick van der Zwan (Greek). The planned singing teachers are Jan Knoppers & Hedwig Schoots. The evenings are 3 hours of lively join in & follow dancing with the leaders including Eddy Tijssen (Bulgarian) & Turgay Onatli (Turkish). Several of those names will be familiar to dancers in the UK from classes they have lead here individually in the past few years. In the Zomerfestival one can get them all!

It is essentially a revival of the Balkan Festival which ran in Zetten for many years before coming to an end in 2011. For a detailed report of what that was like, see my August 2009 SIFD News article.

The price for the festival is €10 (€5 for students under 27) if booked before April 1st. There is a campsite & chalet park nearby with bikes available to hire. Alternatively, if you travel by car, it is close enough to the outskirts of Rotterdam for one to find B&Bs or hotels.

For more information & booking, see <https://www.dansevent.nl/tile/zfenglish> .

Andrew Hardwick

Rivieradance!



I had some great feedback this year from Rivieradance! 2015: “loved it”, “best ever dance event”, “wonderfully inspiring teachers” etc. So I’d like to share a bit of news about it.

RIVIERADANCE! (winter dance holidays on the English Riviera) is much more than just dance. This year Maya Buckley skilfully selected some lovely music and songs to suit the participants of the instrumental and singing workshops. To the amazement of our guest teachers many tunes and songs to dances they had taught us were performed during the social evening dances. In addition to this, our capable walk leaders took those with extra energy and time on some delightful guided walks in the balmy warm climate of the English Riviera. Our American guests were particularly taken by the traditional decor and grandeur of the hotel. The sprung floor in the ballroom was a big bonus for those of us who are getting older every year! Their award winning chef didn’t disappoint us with his delicious deserts, and the food and service was top class.

Our folk dance teachers Yves Moreau, France Bourque-Moreau, Cristian Florescu and Sonia Dion are amongst the most sought after in the world, and when you meet them you can see why. They are more than just teachers. Knowledge, energy, enthusiasm and love of folk-lore just oozes out of their teaching and they are kind, generous friends

taking a genuine interest in everyone they meet. Yves has been teaching for nearly 50 years and his method of breaking down a dance makes it seem easy (something we teachers can learn from!). He chooses memorable dances and great music and we probably have more of his dances in our Balkan repertoire than any other teacher's. Running a social dance to suit people from lots of different places (and countries) is always tricky. Thanks to my social dance "helpers" and the enthusiastic participation of the teachers we had a record number of dancers staying right through to the end of the evening and joining in most of the dances. Even the late night singalong on the last night was well attended.

Our teachers enjoyed it so much that they are already talking about coming back in 2017 – so don't miss it next time!

For February 2016 we have much loved Israeli specialist Vincent Parodi, and the delightful International folk dance teacher Roberto Bagnoli. Watch out for more details!

Cathy Meunier



Festival Internacional de Música de Cantonigròs

July 16th to 19th

for more information,

www.fimc.es

The Festival takes part in Cantonigròs and Vic (Catalonia - Spain), in the country of Osona, and 100 km far from the city of Barcelona (south) and French border.

Competition and exhibition of mixed choral music, both female voices, children's choir and popular dances, that takes part every year, for 4 days in July.

Groups from throughout the world to take part on the 5 different competitions which make the Festival, and daily, a choice of groups take part in the Concert to be held at the end of the day, the "evening concert". Strengthening friendly links among all the countries of the world, the hope for peace and wellbeing amongst all nationalities.

Greek Folk Dance Courses with Kyriakos Moisisdis

27th June – 7th July

A nine-day seminar at Papa Nero, a wonderful place by the Aegean sea at Pilion. Kyriakos and other teachers will teach dances from the northern part of Greece. Live music, wooden dance floor! And time to explore the beautiful beaches in this area. Full board accommodation in the “Katarina” hostel. Limited to 20 participants.

18th – 28th July

Evros – Thrace . A tribute to Thracian traditions in the region of Evros, the heart of Greek Thrace, where folk dance is alive and part of people's life! Unique experience and opportunity, 10 days-10 festivals-10 villages. For more information contact Kyriakos Moisisdis: moisisdiskyriakos@gmail.com or visit his website: www.moisisdis-dance/gr/en



29th Greek Traditional Dance Seminar

7 – 17 August 2015

Yannis Konstantinou and "Lygkistes" invite you to to enjoy 10 days of Greek dance, music, rituals and customs. Opportunities to perform in costume at panegyria, to sing and make music with other attendees (so bring your instrument!) and hear about the rich history of Prespes! Lemos is approximately 2-1/2 hours from Makedonia Airport in Thessaloniki, one hour from Aristotelis Airport in Kastoria, and less than one hour from the city of Florina.

Hotel Mimallones or restored Guesthouses in the village of Lemos. www.mimallones.gr

price €70 includes: double or triple rooms with Full Board
Single supplement of €250. Non-dancers €680.

Lessons - 5 hours / day - except on days of excursions.

Local transportation for activities and excursions during the seminar.

Contact: Yannis Konstantinou (Greek, English) - yankost@otenet.gr -
tel: +30 6986 733 391 Maryse Fabre (French, Greek, Spanish) -
maryse.fabre3@wanadoo.fr - +33 681 207 379 Caroline Simmonds
(English) - caroline_simmonds@hotmail.com - +1 415 272 4641

“Ca la usa cortului” = as (in manner or like) the door of the tent (pavilion)

This seems to be more to do with the title of music rather than a particular dance, typically a type of Hora melody. There is a popular recording on the “world music” CD from “Mehala Rai Banda”.

There are some examples of free form gypsy style dancing to this type of music

Nick Green



There will be a manuscript entitled ‘Skift så’ from the “Wilf Horrocks’ Collection” next month. As no country of origin is given I rely on the SIFD wealth of experience to identify it. Ed.



A photo of the Maori Ngāti Rāana performing a haka at the last Dance Around The World Festival in London.





WHAT'S ON IN MARCH

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) 10:30 - 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** at Cecil Sharp House

S.I **Mar. 14 BALKANPLUS** see page 5

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



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