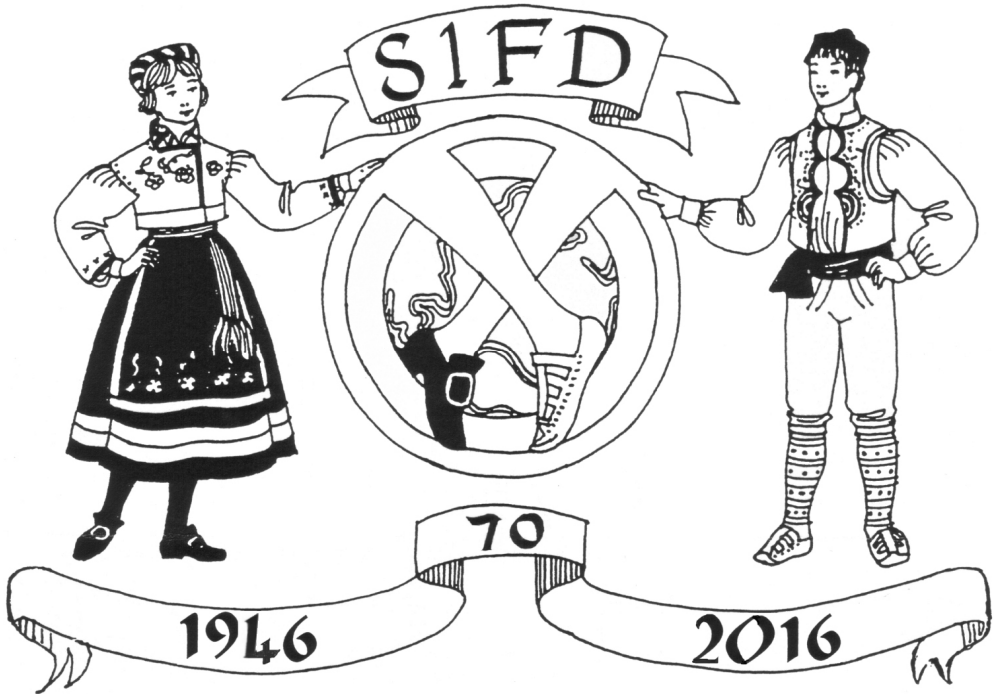


Society for International Folk Dancing News



*Visit us at www.sifd.org or find us on facebook
Registered Charity Number 284509
Contact the SIFD at mail@sifd.org
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February 2016

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Packaging, posting and electronic distribution is done by Dalila Heath.

The cover design by Lesley Boorer was made for the 50th Anniversary of the Society (I've just changed it a little). Roy Clarke continues his series on the early days of the society on page 8. He says that the actual date of the foundation of the Society was Sunday 5th September 1946.

Ed.



February Day Course - New Venue

7th February Day Course: 2pm at **Mazenod Community Centre**;
evening dance at Primrose Hill Community Centre: 7pm

There was a double booking at our usual day course venue so we are trying out a new venue.

It's a short walk from Kilburn High Road which is well served by public transport. Next to Church of Sacred Heart.

Mazenod Community Centre, Mazenod Avenue, London NW6 4LS

http://cindex.camden.gov.uk/kb5/camden/cd/service.page?id=MU4V_nFTVbc

Several people will drive there, so if you want a lift to Primrose Hill for the evening dance, please ask on the day. If you want to know more about the venue please contact Caspar Cronk.

Phil and Brenda Steventon will help us revise, or learn for the first time, their selection of 'general' dances from Summer School, they will include dances from this list:

Mari Kiz	Turkey	Circle
Kraben en Knooien	Netherlands	Mixer
Ahava Psuta	Israel	Couple
Bayata	Kyrgyzstan	Circle
Waterpas	Netherlands	Mixer
Usti Baba	Albania	Circle
Valse A'dieu	France	Couple
Nettenboetersdans	Netherlands	Circle

Reserves:

Lunzer Boarischer	Austria	Couple
Tretur fra Hordaland	Norway	3's
Pod Kujawska	Poland	Couple

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- S.I **Mar.5 EASTERN EUROPEAN & ISRAELI DANCE WORKSHOP**
led by Corry Verheijen at St Ninian's Church Hall , Chorlton
Manchester M21 0XJ. 11.a.m.- 5p.m. followed by a 'bring and share'
supper and evening social dance. SIFD Members £10 Guests £12.
Further details: Mary 0161 881 0955 or maryomahony3@yahoo.co.uk.
- S.I **Mar.6 SIFD DANCE** see page 9
- S.I **Mar. 12 BALKANPLUS** - MCs will be Oxford Balkansko Oro
- S.I **Mar. 19 DANCES FROM AROUND THE WORLD** with Philip &
Brenda Steventon at Nutbrook IFDG. Grangewood Methodist Church,
Wollaton, Nottingham, NG8 2SJ. 10.30 am-4.30 pm. £10, half day £6.
For further information: 0115 917 1831, gill.morral@ntlworld.com,
www.nutbrookfolkdance.co.uk. No prebooking needed.
- Apr 4-8 4 NIGHT INT. FOLK DANCING WITH WALKING** led
by Phil & Brenda Steventon. Dancing in the morning & evening. 4 - 5
mile afternoon walks led by an HF walking leader at HF Holidays,
Selworthy, Somerset TA24 8TJ. For details ring HF on 0345 470 8558
or Phil & Brenda on 020 8397 9649
- S.I **Apr. 10 GREEK ISLAND DANCES** Dimitris Triandafyllidis will
be teaching dances from Paros, Naxos, Tsia (Kea) and Kythnos at St
Swithun's Church Hall, Grovelands Road, Purley, Surrey, CR8 4LB
(just off the A23), 10:30 – 16:30. £30 including refreshments. Contact
Cherry Allen(0208 556 5741) or ron.cherry.allen@gmail.com
- S.I **Apr. 14 OXFORD BALKANSKO ORO** 8:15 to 10:15 for £5.00.
usual dancing evening with Vasil Gerlimov. Oxford, OX2 6TN.
- S.I **Apr. 15 BULGARIAN WORKSHOP - VASIL GERLIMOV** £8.
8pm to 10.30pm at Ewen Hall, Wood Street, Barnet, Herts. EN5 4BW
(along the road from usual Barnet venue) Contact: Brian Dowsett on
01992 582717 or bvdowsett@aol.com

- S.I **Apr. 16-17 BULGARIAN WORKSHOP WEEKEND** with Vasil Gerlimov at St. Margaret`s Institute: Polstead Road, (off Woodstock Road), Oxford, OX2 6TN. Sat w/shop 10:30 - 4:30; break for dinner somewhere nearby: 4:30 to 7; eve. party: 7-10; Sun. w/shop: 10-4. Prices: Sat. w/shop only: £20; Sun. w/shop only: £20.; Party £8.00 (children under 14: £3.; under 4: free). Whole weekend: £45. (£40. if booked by 29th Feb. bring packed lunch for w/shops. information email: sallylhumphrey@gmail.com or charlotte@haenlein.co.uk
- S.I **Apr. 22-25 GREAT ALNE LONG WEEKEND** see page 13
- S.I **Apr. 29-May. 2 (3) SIFD MAY DAY WEEKEND** see page 7
- Apr. 29 - May. 2 EASTBOURNE INT. FOLK FESTIVAL** 01823 401271 or www.eiff.org.uk
- S.I **Sep. 10 RAINMAKERS 40th ANNIVERSARY DANCE**, 7.45pm-11pm at Ickleford Village Hall, 82 Arlesey Road, Ickleford, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 3TG. More info from Roger (01438 812766) or Mark (01462 454210).
- S.I **Sep. 24 SIFD 2016 AGM** - in Nottingham



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.*



Dimitri Feary 1928-2016

It is with sadness that we announce the sudden death on 6th January of Dimitri - co-founder with Dr Anne Pennington of Oxford Balkansko Oro in 1962. A full appreciation will appear in our March issue.

70th Anniversary

Anniversaries are times for looking back and, since becoming a member many years ago, there have been many changes. I am glad the Society is still keeping alive an interest in traditional folkdance from many different countries but regret that the following are no longer part of the Society.

Strong specialist groups - Swedish, Polish, Spanish, Israeli, Estonian, Yugoslav, Bulgarian, French - giving exciting demonstrations in lovely authentic costumes.

SIFD records and books of instruction.

Monthly days of instruction, given by specialist teachers, with emphasis on style.

Badges - bronze for membership, silver and gold for reaching high levels of knowledge of dances and styles, green and gold for recognition as an SIFD teacher - incentives to attain a good authentic standard of dance and learn a little of the background.

SIFD T-shirts, shoe bags, notelets, all with SIFD logos.

Public shows at town halls and other various venues, including "safaris", going from place to place giving short demonstrations in costume, usually in rural settings.

Frequent weekends away, with general international social dancing and walks.

And, of course, the "See How They Dance" shows at the Royal Albert Hall, filling that huge audience capacity for two or three performances.

I know this will be seen as a "Fings Ain't Wot They Used To Be" moan from an elderly member, and probably there is still a lot going on that I'm not aware of, but I'm glad I was part of those old days and I'm thankful for all the pleasure that folkdancing and the SIFD have given me.

Lily Avery





Halsway Manor SIFD May Day weekend

This annual event includes several very enjoyable components.

The dancing includes sessions led by Janet Woolbar aided by others. This comprises international dances and English dance periods. There will be irresistible recorded tunes and live music played by Stella from the SIFD band. All this is to get your mind and feet going.

People come because it is a relaxing weekend with amiable company and the food is great. The countryside is magnificent on the edge and amongst the Quantock Hills with the North Devon coast close by. It's far, far superior to the South Coast!

The fitter and braver walk up hill and then down again to return usually muddied with tales of strange creatures observed which are on the whole far-fetched but given the polite benefit of the doubt.

On one day there will be a coach outing to a National Trust property to see how the other half lived and how some like us worked!

On Monday, which is May Day, there will be pole dancing and traditional dancing around the multi-ribbon May pole. You're not obliged to participate or observe the former style of pole dancing but volunteers are very welcome. Please apply to Robin for an audition!!!

The traditional croquet match will take place where we have asked Halsway Manor to mow the grass but leave the mole hills to add interest to the game. As usual you aren't allowed to play if you know the rules. Another rule has been added which forbids any practice between May Day weekends. The current champion is Ian from Harrow who will play with one arm behind his back to give the rest of us a chance.

If you've never been to a SIFD Halsway weekend then why not come and try the event? Don't be shy - you are worth it and will be very welcome.

John Boyd



The Early Years (1946 to the 1950's)

Last month Frances Brown's article told of the beginning of International dance at the International Youth Centre (IYC). But what of those who danced there and the future? In the turmoil at the end of WWII there were; Poles, Czech's, Jews, Canadians and others as members of the British Forces as well as GI's like Nat Brown, along with refugees living in Britain. It seems that IYC group numbered about twenty regulars plus visitors, and their repertoire of dances was not much greater. Who of that group remained active members for a long period?: Bert Price and his sister Irene Weller (later Fyffe), Jack Richardson and Joan White (later Richardson), David Rosbash, Margery Latham, Mourie Pfeffer, Enid Walters, Mary Butterworth, Irene Prebble, Ruth Sharp (later Coton and now in Australia), Henry Shuster, Charles Fawkes, Ivor Sober, Marie le Fort and Jim Titherage were there. Following soon were Dr. Cyriax, Philip Thornton, Lucile Armstrong, Barbara Duleba and Aili Eistrat. Taken together a wealth of talent!

By 1946 the Sunday dances became a problem for the IYC management and hence the group. The outcome was a formal meeting in July to settle the future, by a narrow majority it was decided to continue and The International Society for Folk Dancing was founded; later when most of the foreign members had returned home, the name was changed at AGM to today's.

The new society needed a hall (Carlyle School was found) for classes; for Sunday dances there was a dingy cellar at a Youth Club in Drury Lane and monthly at Cecil Sharp House. The teachers were Mary Butterworth, Ruth Sharp, Gladys Noble and Irene Prebble. Jack Richardson suggested a class for 'Basic Steps', this proved popular with about fifty members. There was an advanced class, initially by invitation but later open to all who could cope.

Demonstrations were requested and became a regular feature, so costumes were required, at first improvised from blackout material, embroidery and Government surplus clothing and being hired for special occasions. The National teachers provided the incentive for proper costume, and making them gave pleasure.

Seeing demonstrations brought more members and groups were formed, a notable one in 1950 at Leytonstone. Harrow Green, founded by Bert Price and Marie le Fort. This soon grew and made a substantial contribution in its own right. Specialist groups helped raise the standard of dancing.

Friends and visitors gave help; Eugene Jablonski from America saw a demonstration at the French Institute, and subsequently gave records of music and taught dances during visits. It was Douglas Kennedy who introduced Dr. Cyriax, Philip Thornton and Lucile Armstrong with others; both he and Mrs. Kennedy came to the Cecil Sharp House dances (she played the drums).

Dances in the repertoire included; The Hambo, Kreutz Koenig, Ras Dwa, Troyak, Swedish Schottische, Bavarian Landler, Haake Toone, Neapolitan Tarantella, with Estonian and Ukrainian dances, so mainly couple with an emphasis on those of East Europe, but Swedish was popular for demonstrations. The evenings were energetic, lively and vital, all reflecting the spirit of a young organisation suited to the times and providing the interest that has sustained the S.I.F.D. through seventy years.

Next month 'The News' and music.

Roy Clarke



SIFD Monthly Dance

SIFD Monthly Dance at Primrose Hill Community Centre Sunday 7th February 7pm. Helen Ezra will be leading the February dance. Our new venue is a short distance from Cecil Sharp House and parking is available on local roads.

Primrose Hill Community Centre, 29 Hopkinsons Place off Fitzroy Rd
London NW1 8TN

The dance on 6th March will be led by the SIFD Band.

Anne Maddocks



Folk Dance in the 1940s

Roy Clarke's item last month reminded me about the attached photo of student teachers full of the fun of dancing and wearing costumes they must have cobbled together from whatever they could find. It was probably taken at Rolle College, Exmouth, between 1948 and 1950. They are student teachers. The third student from the left is Audrey Hull (nee Bush), and I wonder if any SIFD News readers might recognise any of the others. I found the picture in my mother's things when it was too late to ask her about it.

Jeanette Hull



Balkanplus

The February Balkanplus will be held on the 13th February at Cecil Sharp House, Camden NW1 7AY, starting at 7.00pm. MC will be Bob Robinson. Admission £6.

Maureen Felton

Romania Dance Seminar

Organized by Marius Ursu, the 13th edition in Timisoara, Romania
5th – 15th of July 2016

Come and 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 Maria and Marius Ursu, also master choreographers of
the groups that will participate in The International Folk Festival
“Festivalul Inimilor”.

Watching the performances from The International Folk Festival
“Festivalul Inimilor” (folk groups from 10 countries and more than 20
folk groups from Romania will take part: professional and from villages
Excursions to explore the beauty, rich history, and living traditions of
Transylvania.

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 accommodations in hotels and peasants'
homes, cultural activities, excursions and transportation to all seminar
activities. Single accommodation is available with surcharge.

Price:

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

An additional 200 euro is required for a single room.

Full schedule can be found at <http://www.mariusursu.ro/>

Liz & Nick

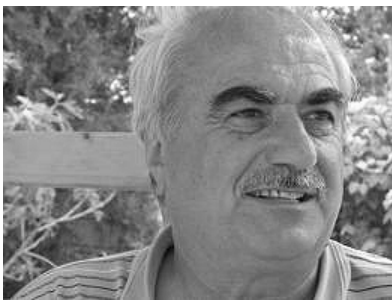


Bulgarian Folk Dance Course with Belco Stanev

Sheffield - Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th April 2016

Belco Stanev

We are fortunate to have the world-renowned and charismatic Bulgarian folk dance teacher Belco Stanev in England next April.



Belco is a kind and generous person with a warm heart and a great sense of humour. It is no wonder that dancers love him! He has made a significant contribution to the promotion of Bulgarian folklore through-out his life, and is highly respected for his knowledge and his unique skills in teaching dancing.

He has taught in several countries across Europe, in Australia, New Zealand and most recently as a guest of Yves Moreau in North America. His dances are already known and appreciated all over the world. Some which you might recognise are Backovsko Horo Brestaška Râcenica, Pitat me Mamo, Isu Nedo, Mjatalo Lence, Drijanovska Racenitsa II, Madro and Valcidolska Kucata. He is particularly adept at selecting dances to suit his audience, and above all he delights in sharing his love of Bulgarian folkdance and music with others.

Programme and venues

Saturday 9th April

11:00 – 17:00 Dance course

17:00 – 19:00 Pie & pea supper (bring own drinks)

19:00 – 21:00 Social dance

Ecclesall Parish Hall, Ringinglow Road, Sheffield S11 7PP

Sunday 10th April

10:30 – 16:30 Dance course

Crookes Social Club, Mulehouse Road, Sheffield S10 1TD

Both venues have free on-street parking nearby, and buses from City Centre.

Cost

The cost of the weekend course is £45 which includes both the Saturday and Sunday dance courses and a social dance on Saturday evening. The optional (but highly recommended) pie and pea supper (meat or vegetarian) costs £5.50.

Bookings

For 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. A list of accommodation in the area is available if you would like this.

Cathy Meunier



Dance with Cathy Meunier in Derbyshire

Come and join us in Calver Village Hall, Derbyshire S32 3XR on the 11th June for a day of dancing with Cathy. The course will run from 10.30 to 16.30. Cost for the day is £10. Bring your own lunch but drinks will be provided. Contact Janet at j.king194@btinternet.com (01629 57065) or Greg at gregboyd99@aol.com (07810181273) to book.

Janet King



Great Alne Long Weekend

April 22nd to 25th (Friday afternoon to Monday afternoon) Great Alne Long Weekend (near Alcester, Warwickshire) International Dancing with our special guest Karin Bellaart from the Netherlands. Other varied dancing, music, handbells, Maypole, 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.



Halber Mond (Half Moon)

German

Brightly

8 D A7 D Em

13 A7 D D A7 D A7 D A

21 D A7 D A

E7 A

Play ABCA

"Wilf Horrocks' Collection"

Halber Mond (Halb Mond, Halbmond, Half-Moon) belongs to the genre of North German Bunte Taenze (colourful dances) from the Lueneburger Heide. It appears as a 3-couple and 4-couple dance in the American dance literature dating back to Elizabeth Burchenal's 1922 Folk-Dances from Old Homelands. We also have it in Anna Helms and Julius Blasche, Buente Taenze Erstes Buch, 1912 edition, reprinted 1920. The dance has appeared very infrequently among North American recreational international folk dancers, and I will be curious to see how many of your readers recognize it. Anyone wishing a description may contact me directly.

Ron Houston

Society of Folk Dance Historians, sofdh@gmail.com



The dance to be featured next month is **Itela** - I have no idea even which country it comes from - so if you know anything about it - please write.

Ed.



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WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY

- S.I **Wed. 3rd–Fri. 8th RIVIERADANCE! 2016** with Roberto Bagnoli (Balkan), Vincent Parodi (Israeli), and Maya Buckley (music making), plus singing, walking & sight-seeing. Balkan only, Israeli only, or both. 5 nights full board ensuite accom. Torquay. £465 (full-days) or £395 (half-days) dance course; £305 for non-dancers. Cathy Meunier: cathy_meunier@hotmail.com or send s.a.e to 23, Church Street, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 4DX www.balkanfolkdance.org
- S.I **Feb. 5th–6th BALKAN INSTUMENTAL DAY COURSE** with Maya Buckley. Livermead House Hotel, Torquay. £30 (free for residents on the Rivieradance! holiday). Pre-booking is essential.
- S.I **Sunday 7th SIFD DANCE** see page 9
- S.I **Friday 12th RAINMAKERS FRENCH EVENING** with live music from Danse Herts Musicians, 8 – 10.45 pm (£5) at St. Michael's Parish Hall, The Broadway, Letchworth, SG6 3PQ. More info from Mark (01462 454210) or Jill (01462 457791).
- S.I **Saturday 13th BALKANPLUS** see page 10
- Sat. 27th-Sun. 28th PONTIC DANCE WORKSHOP** Kyriakos Moisidis teaches 3 sessions of Pontic dance, a Greek Dance Party on Sat. eve. Winchester Discovery Centre, Jewry Street, SO23 8SB. £55. Contact Jackie Charbit-Middleton 8 Pine Road, Chandlers Ford, SO53 1LP (02380 255167) or charbitmiddleton@gmail.com.



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