

Society for International Folk Dancing

July 2018



S.I.F.D. NEWS

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

The Mexican scene on the front cover was embroidered by Janice Munden; I bet it really was a prickly cactus. The story about the Galo de Barcelos (motif this month) is on page 6.



Due to circumstances beyond my control there are changes to the times of the AGM and accompanying workshop, I have given further details on page 9.

Ed.



Enclosed with this issue is your Notice of the **Annual General Meeting** of the Society together with a nomination form.



Also enclosed is your **Membership Renewal** form duly completed with your details and please do note the new GDPR statement.

Your membership card will be posted with the next issue of the News following receipt of payment.



Finally, I will be away dancing in Armenia, Georgia and Turkey from 14th July to 4th August so your August issue of the News will be a tad later than usual.

Hope this does not inconvenience you too much.

Dalila Heath



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Aug. 5-9. MACHOL EUROPA at University of Warwick -Israeli Dance Institute. from £429. tel: 020 8209 3155 *info@IDI.ORG.UK*

Aug. 24-27. SOUTH DOWNS MINI DANCE FESTIVAL Fully booked, for waiting list, *suekewley@outlook.com* or 01903 744929

S.I **Sep. 2: SIFD DANCE** see page 8

S.I **Sep .8: SIFD AGM** 3.30pm at Pulborough Village Hall, West Sussex RH20 2BP.

S.I **Sep. 8: GENERAL INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP & DANCE** at Pulborough Village Hall, West Sussex RH20 2BP. Workshop: 11.30-3.30pm with 1hr lunch break - bring a packed lunch. Workshop £10. Supper (5pm) £10. Evening dance (6pm) £6. further information from Janet Douglas 01243 265010 *sifdnews@hotmail.co.uk*

S.I **Sep. 8: BALKANPLUS** - MC will be Maggie O'Regan, held in Trefusis, Cecil Sharp House, Camden NW1 7AY, starting at 7.00pm. Admission £6.

Nov. 2-4 SKINT 2018 at Ashover, Derbys. S45 0BA. A low cost collaborative weekend of traditional European music and dance, accessible to all from beginners to experts. *www.skintdance.org.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.*



Friday Feet Summer Party

Friday Feet will hold its regular end-of-term party on Friday 20 July. We will offer our usual mix of international dances and, as ever, are happy to receive specific dance requests which we'll do our best to accommodate. This year we're delighted to welcome a special guest visitor from the USA. Lee Otterholt is a master teacher of International Folk Dance and was responsible for several of the dances we've enjoyed doing at Friday Feet, including Cobankat and Mori Shej. We hope to persuade him to lead one or two of these dances for us. Everyone is welcome, whether you're a Friday Feet regular or not. We meet in Cecil Sharp House starting at 7.30, admission £4/£3. Please feel free to bring snacks/drinks for sharing should you so wish.

Ursula Brown and Anne Leach



Lee Otterholt at Balkanplus

21st/22nd July

This month's What's On page gives the general information but just to remind you that the July Balkanplus is on the third Saturday of the month to coincide with the long awaited Lee Otterholt weekend. Lee will be accompanied by his wife Hilde. Together they will offer a varied programme of dances drawn from their impressive repertoire. Those who have enjoyed Cobankat and Ne Klepeci will need no further encouragement to come to the workshops. These two dances - which Lee first introduced - will doubtless be included in Dunav's programme for the Saturday evening party.

Note also that the Otterholts will be giving a taster of what to expect when they look in at Friday Feet on 20th July. Expect a string of instant hits from the Balkans and beyond. An end of term treat maybe, but ammunition to start the autumn season with a bang! See you in Trefusis.

Brian Dowsett



Committee Members wanted!!!

The Notice announcing the AGM invites nominations for new Committee members. There are four vacancies on the present Committee, and it is hoped that these can be filled by appointments at the AGM. The present small Committee of just six would work more effectively with more members to help them, and new and different ideas and viewpoints would in any case be refreshing and valuable.

It is increasingly difficult to keep the Society going without a larger Committee. The lack of interest in supporting the Society by being a part of the Committee is a matter of concern. For the future if there is not sufficient interest in and active support for the Committee and its work the Society may struggle to survive.

The Committee meets about 5 times a year in London. But we welcome members from further afield and a claim for reimbursement travelling expenses can be made. Much work, discussion and decision making is carried out by email.

Please think about this, and if you believe you can help the Society in this way....ask someone to nominate you!



Courses....and what would members like SIFD to organise?

SIFD's programme of Daycourses, held in London, was regrettably suspended a couple of years ago due to dwindling interest and support.

However we would very much like to arrange something in their place, if there is interest, to further the objectives of the Society.

What would members be interested in coming to? Are "general" courses preferred to single country teaching? Or a programme drawing on just 2 or 3 countries perhaps? What about "old repertoire" courses to bring back forgotten old favourites? Do you have particular things in mind? Rather than monthly would just 2 or 3 workshops a year be more popular? The possibility of Daycourses led by one or two groups together, using material from their repertoires, aimed at sharing material, has been put forward already.

Would live music make a difference to the attraction of a course?

It's a specialist field but are their musicians out there who would be interested in a music workshop? Please let us know your opinions.



Committee Meeting Report

This is a report of the meeting held in June 2018.

Finance

The Treasurer reported she has completed preparation of the 2017 Accounts and Report in the format required by the Charity Commission, for submission to them later in the year. No new requests for support for groups have been received since the last meeting but matters arising with regard to previous requests were discussed.

Membership

The group Sovicka has applied for Affiliation and been accepted.

Publicity

The current position on the website redevelopment was reported. Designs for the new Banner were considered. A new issue of the publicity cards was authorised.

SIFD Dances and Courses

It was agreed to seek members' opinions, via the SIFD News, about events that they would like the Society to organise.

Teachers

Gill Morral and Ursula Brown are now shown as SIFD teachers on the Teachers List.

AGM

The preliminary arrangements were discussed. Nominations etc for new Committee members would be particularly welcomed.

GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations)

The work done to comply with GDPR was reviewed and summarised.

Digital Archive Memory Stick

The update is proceeding. The Committee noted their thanks to Ron Wilks for his work in making the project possible.

SIFD July Dance

Sunday 1st July will be the last chance to dance at Primrose Hill Community Centre, Hopkinson's Place, Fitzroy Road, London NW1 8TN, before the summer break. The dance will be led by Jill Bransby, with live music from the SIFD Band. We start promptly at 6.45pm and finish in time to clear hall by 9.30pm (hall available from 6.30pm). No dance in August, following dance Sunday 2nd September. See you there,

Brenda Steventon



Leonora Denhard (Leo)

Leo, (with Dick) was a familiar figure at many SIFD weekends from the 1970s. She trained as a midwife and, when retired, did a chiropody round in Meopham and was a volunteer with the Ellenor Foundation to help people. Her nursing skills were put to use at weekends on more than one occasion (not the midwifery!) Her early years were spent in America and she returned there frequently as well as travelling widely around Britain and Europe.

In September 2002 family and friends were invited to a pub lunch to celebrate Leo and Dick's ruby wedding anniversary. Incredibly, the evening before, Dick died suddenly. With no way of letting everyone know in time, Leo showed great strength of character in going ahead with the meal, where in spite of the underlying sadness there was laughter and reminiscing. She attended Israeli dance classes, which she loved, before becoming a long time member of Woodvale IFDG. Latterly she took up circle dancing "the slow and gentle sort". She had a tremendous zest for life - playing tennis twice a week into her 80s, singing with a local group and membership of Meopham Art Club. She provided a few covers for the SIFD News. She liked her adventures, such as a pampered weekend at a health farm, a hot air balloon flight over Kent with June Glover and me (Dick, our photographer staying firmly on the ground) and the next year the three of us went to Paris for the day (the hottest day of the year) on Eurostar, then relatively new. Leo had a strong faith and rarely missed a Sunday church service. Seven members of Woodvale IFDG were able to attend her funeral service on 30th May to celebrate a life lived to the full.

Heather Edwards

SIFD Day Courses

It has been suggested that we have a day course led by various groups. Dances known in one group could thereby be shared with others, increasing everyone's repertoire. With this in mind I am asking all the groups if this is something they would participate in?

The first such day course would be held in London and subsequent courses could move around the country. If you lead a group in or around London and the south-east (further afield if you are happy to travel), and would be interested in participating I would be grateful if you could let me know. I would also appreciate feedback from other groups about this idea and day courses in general. Many thanks

Brenda Steventon

(brenda.steventon@btinternet.com)



Dance Workshop at Pulborough

September 8th

Unfortunately Levent and Gülcan Ketenci are unable to come to England for their proposed workshop. My first reaction was to scabble about looking for a teacher to fill the void; but several are on holiday on September 8th or just unable to make it, or I couldn't make contact.

Then I thought "Well, I'm a teacher, so I'll put together a workshop".

I will include one of Levent's dances to give a taste of what might have been. The other dances will be drawn from around the world, including dances from Paja, Silviu and Ersin and probably an English one. It will be a three hour workshop with an hour lunch break halfway through.

The AGM follows the workshop. Then after the supper there is an early evening dance (6-9pm), let me know if you can help with the dance.

Details of times and cost (the AGM is of course free of charge) are in the Diary Dates.

Janet Douglas

Galo de Barcelos

In response to the note about Sula Gleeson's two Portuguese aprons (see June SIFD News), Lily Avery sent in the following text about "the ubiquitous cockerel".

It was originally supplied by Silmar's Taste, a Portuguese Gourmet Restaurant.



The National Symbol of Portugal - Galo de Barcelos (Barcelos Rooster) - symbolising honesty, integrity, trust and honour and it is also believed to bring good luck, here it is a bit of history around this famous tale: The town of Barcelos is celebrated for its pottery, handicrafts and earthenware. One of the most typical baked clay items is the renowned rooster of Barcelos, with its crest well reared up and with its spurs standing out and which had become the national symbol of Portugal symbolising honesty, integrity; trust and honour, and it is believed to bring good luck based on a national tale.

The origin of the cult of the rooster can't be pinned down with accuracy, but people at Barcelos keep worshipping the rooster, and an ancient legend has been passed on from generation to generation.

Once upon a time the inhabitants of Barcelos were quite alarmed with a crime, and, this was even more alarming when they couldn't discover the criminal. One day a stranger from the neighbouring Spanish province of Galiza, appeared in the village. Suspicion fell on him at once.

The authorities resolved to seize him and in spite of all his oaths of innocence nobody believed the stranger. Not one villager, and no one in authority, could believe that the man was on his way to worship St. Tiago, the patron saint of a nearby town. Finally the hapless stranger was condemned to death by hanging.

As a last request before his execution, he asked to be brought once more into the presence of the Judge who had condemned him. The request was granted and they lead him to the residence of the magistrate, who was just banqueting with some friends. “So you are innocent, are you?” laughed the judge. “Yes Sir, I am. Before God, I swear it” answered the stranger.

“Ah, but you have been accused and sentenced to death, and I can’t change the sentence on just your word without proof. How do you think you can prove your innocence, my good man?” “But Sir, I swear that I am innocent,” the man insisted. He looked around the banquet room in desperation, seeking some way, some help. His eyes fell on a servant carrying in a large platter of fowl, steaming with seasonings. He fell to his knees.

“Lord God,” he prayed, “as Peter, your servant, denied you at the cock’s crow, would that you show my innocence as your humble servant by this rooster’s crow...” so he said “If I am innocent, this rooster will crow three times.”

All eyes turned to the platter of steaming cooked fowl and widened in wonder and amazement as the rooster got up, ruffled his feathers and crowed loudly.

“The Lord has indeed spoken,” the Judge said in awe, and rising to his feet, he proclaimed, “Let this be a lesson to each of us never to sit in quick judgment of our fellow man. The rooster, henceforth, shall be a reminder to us and to our children after us, of this, the Lord’s message. So shall it be in our land forever!”

To this day the Galo de Barcelos is the national symbol of honesty and can be seen in most of Portuguese households and numerous variations of the registered Barcelos clay Rooster are often used to identify Portugal: football teams, tattoos, clubs, restaurants, cafe logos are just some of the examples, and because Silmars taste is all about the Portuguese Homestyle Cooking.., we are very proud of our National Symbol too!



Köra Till Särslöv

(4 time Hambo)

Swedish

"Wilf Horrocks' Collection"

This is Wilf's music for **Köra Till Särslöv** which seems to be the dance Tony mentions below. Ed.

Hambo

The articles in the last two issues of the News have evoked memories of the Swedish dance Kora, which my mother used to teach and I wonder whether it is ever still danced now. It is in fact a Hambo but danced to music in 2/4 time. My pet theory is that it predates the now established Hambo and derives from the Polish dance Powolniak, also in 2/4 time.

Both Powolniak and Kora consist of sixteen bars (A music) couples running forwards anti-clockwise along Lo.d. and sixteen bars (B music) turning. In Hambo the couples each make one whole turn per bar, but in Powolniak and Kora they make two turns every three bars, dancing "across" the music, as it were. In Kora the turns are danced exactly as in Hambo, while the footwork in Powolniak is a little different in that instead of bringing the feet together between stepping left and right, the man touches his right toe beside the left foot, the woman lifts her right foot behind her, bending at the knee. Powolniak has a further refinement in the shifting of the stress to the second beat of the bar for the B music, not often observed nowadays, but we used such a recording in Jacy Tacy and in writing out the music for our pianist to play it was easiest to write a bar of 3/4 at the end of both the A and the B music to achieve this effect.

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I have my mother's recording of Kora played on the accordion by either Wilf Horrocks or Caroline Thomas at a rather leisurely Hambo tempo. Powolniak is played very much more briskly - "ironically", as my record sleeve observes (powolny meaning very slow). I wonder whether Kora was originally danced at similar speed.

Tony Latham



Eten Bamidbar was taught to us by Judy and Jacob Barkham at the second of their visits to Swansea's summer school and the music they made available for us was on cassettes. The previous year the music was on reel to reel. I have enclosed my original notes and the comments in italics are points that Judy and Jacob kept emphasising for us. They were sticklers for detail. I introduced the dance to both the Newport ifd and the Pembrokeshire ifd. Unfortunately I failed to make a note of the date but I know it was consecutive summer school and I think in the 1970s. Happy dancing to all of you and I only wish I could join you.

Sue Clark Pembrokeshire

Eten Bamidbar Israel
(It was given in the desert)

R. ○ L.O.D.

arms shoulder level palms touching (*fire*)

a R. gallop (2) R. step L. heel across
2 claps (*near face*) (2)
4 step hops (skip) L.O.D.
4 step hops (skip) ANTI
Repeat L. (2)

b -----
4 Israeli bobs L.O.D.
3 steps & *claps to face* ANTI
R. 4 skips to centre, clap on 4th (*near ground*)
R. 4 skips away from centre,
swing arms forward and back on skips

Eten Bamidar

(C minor)

Israel

Steady

7 Cm G7 Cm G7 Cm G7

14 Cm C G7 C G7

C G7 C

1. 2.

and..

Eten Bamidar

(D minor)

Israel

Steady

7 Dm A7 Dm A7 Dm A7

14 Dm F C F Dm Gm

A7 D F A7 E Dm Dm

1. 2.

"Wilf Horrocks' Collection"

Thanks to all who have contributed information about the recent dances featured in the News.

Next month - Something Completely Different from the Wilf Horrocks' Collection - **A Jaunt with Joan**. He composed it for Joan Guest in 1981. Was there a dance to go with it? **Ed**.

Reg. Charity No.284509

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WHAT'S ON IN JULY

- S.I **Sunday 1st SIFD DANCE** see page 8
- S.I **Sunday 1st BALATON & MORENA AT THE EMBANKMENT** at 3-5.30pm. Balaton's 50th anniversary year performance with the Slovak group and the Hungarian choir from Southend.
- Tues.3rd-Sun.8th LLANGOLLEN EISTEDDFOD** the Traditional Folk Dance Competition is Friday 6th. *international-eisteddfod.co.uk/en/*
- S.I **Sat.21st-Sun.22nd LEE OTTERHOLT BALKANPLUS W/SHOPS** Dances from the Balkans & Beyond at Cecil Sharp House. Workshops: 10.30am - 4.30pm Sat. Party: 7 - 10.30pm Workshops: Sat. £40 (£30) Sun. £30 (£20), Party £10 W/e deal: £70 (£50) Early bird prices (in brackets) until end of May Further discounts for Balkanplus season ticket holders. Tickets: Please send cheque payable to Balkanplus with SAE to: Maureen Felton, 28 Henslow Road, Ipswich IP4 5EG For more information visit *www.balkanplus.org.uk* Tel. Brian 01992 582717 or Maureen 01473 272256
- S.I **Saturday 21st BALKANPLUS** - A Balkanplus party evening with MC Brian Dowsett & live music from Dunav, following the first day of a weekend workshop with Lee Otterholt held in Trefusis, Cecil Sharp House, Camden NW1 7AY, starting at 7.00pm. Admission £10. Please NOTE this is the 3rd weekend in July.



All material for the August issue of the SIFD NEWS must be received by the Editor in writing by 18th July.