Society for International Folk Dancing

SIFD NEWS



October 2018

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

The address for items for the News is *sifdnews*@*hotmail.co.uk* and is always printed inside the front cover on page 2 along with my postal address. This month's front cover picture and motif of Russian dancers is adapted from a Hennie Konings cd cover.

Maggie and Fiona have sent items about Dance Around The World - the annual weekend festival celebrating traditional dance from all over the world is not to be missed. If you have never been to D.A.T.W. - you will find it has everything an International Dance aficionado needs.

Ed.



Something to Look Forward to: Dance Around the World

27/28 October 2018

Now that the prospect of cold, wintry days is fast becoming a reality, we all need something to cheer us up. And what better than to contemplate this year's DATW. Yes, it's that time again. It's the tried and trusted mixture as before - at least forty different dance groups, representing countries from Armenia to Ukraine, starting with Fiona's Early Bird warm up sessions at 10.00 each day. Whether your main interest is watching the performances, or doing workshops, or a mixture of both, there's something for everyone. Social dances both evenings, Latin American special Saturday night. So.....Put on your dancing shoes! Saturday & Sunday, 27th/28th October 10.00 a.m to 11.00 p.m. Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regents Park Road, London NW1 7AY. £17 full day (incl. eve), £10 evening only, £30 weekend ticket, £2 reduction for concessions.

Maggie O'Regan



Balkanplus

The October Balkanplus will be held on the 13th October in Trefusis, Cecil Sharp House, Camden NW1 7AY, starting at 7.00pm and ends 10.00pm. MCs will be The Ipswich Group. Admission £6

Maureen Felton

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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*

- S.I Nov. 4: SIFD DANCE see page 5
- S.I Nov. 10: DAY COURSE OF INTERNATIONAL DANCING in Derbyshire with Gill Morral at Calver Village Hall, S32 3XR from 10.30 to 4.30. Cost for the day is £10 Bring your own lunch but drinks will be supplied. Contact Janet at *j.king194@btinternet.com* (01629 57065) or Greg at *gregboyd99@aol.com* (07810181273) to book.
- S.I Nov. 10: BALKANPLUS MCs will be Jill Bransby and Rainmakers, held in Trefusis, Cecil Sharp House, Camden NW1 7AY, starting at 7.00pm. Admission £6.
- S.I Dec. 2: SIFD DANCE see page 5
- S.I **Dec. 8: BALKANPLUS** MCs will be the Zivko Firfov group with Dunav held in Trefusis, Cecil Sharp House, Camden NW1 7AY, starting at 7.00pm. Admission £8.
- S.I Feb. 6-11: RIVIERADANCE! 2019 Yves Moreau (Bulgarian & Balkan), France Bourque Moreau (Int. folk dance), Cristian Florescu & Sonia Dion (Romanian). Plus: singing with heli, music-making with Maya, drumming with Dave, walking and sight-seeing. 5 nights full board in ensuite hotel accommodation, award winning chef, Torquay. from £415 (dancers); £315 (non-dancers). Contact Cathy Meunier cathy_meunier@hotmail.com website: www.balkanfolkdance.org or send s.a.e to 23, Church Street, Keswick Cumbria CA12 4DX

Mar. 29-Apr.1: 3 NIGHT INT. FOLK DANCING see page 6

S.I Apr. 6-7: PETROS SELKOS from Greek Macedonia teaches traditional folk dances from Northern Greece at Cliff College, Calver, Derbyshire. Residential option from £185, non-residential with meals £115. For details and a booking form please contact Cathy Meunier email *cathy_meunier@hotmail.com* website: *www.balkanfolkdance.org* or send send s.a.e to 23, Church Street, Keswick Cumbria CA12 4DX

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

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.



Come early to avoid disappointment!

The wonderful Dance Around the World event is nearly upon us. I'm sure Anne and Caspar have got another amazing weekend of International Dance ready for us to watch, or to learn. Please encourage your classes and friends to support this unique opportunity. Grandmas and other mature persons can really enjoy sitting in Kennedy Hall and being entertained, while the more active can sample workshops with the various groups and extend their knowledge and repertoire.

Each day will start at 10 am with a warm-up session to get you into the mood for the day. I have prepared an eclectic programme of dances from different countries and in different formats. All the dances will be walked through, and there are always helpful people to stand between, so come early and join in.

See you then on Saturday October 27th and Sunday October 28th at ten o'clock. I'll be there.

Fiona Howarth



SIFD October Dance

Anne Maddocks is our MC on 7th October and the dance is held at Primrose Hill Community Centre, Hopkinson's Place, Fitzroy Road, London NW1 8TN. The SIFD Band will be playing for us and we start prompt at 6.45pm finishing in time to clear hall by 9.30pm (hall available from 6.30pm).

Dates for the future dances are Sunday 4th November and Sunday 2nd December. See you there,

Brenda Steventon

HF Holidays

Our HF International Folk Dancing with walking holidays led by Phil and Brenda Steventon for 2019 are now taking bookings.

Dancing in the morning and evening, 4-5 mile afternoon walks led by an HF walking leader.

March 29th - April 1st 2019 at HF Holidays, Freshwater Bay House, Isle of Wight PO40 9RB

Oct 25th - 28th 2019 at HF Holidays, Longmynd House, Church Stretton, Shropshire SY6 6AG

For details ring HF: 0345 470 8558 or Phil and Brenda on 020 8397 9649.

Phil & Brenda Steventon



Greek Folk Dance Workshops

September 14th & 15th, 2019:

10:30am-4:30pm each day. Dances from Thrace, Macedonia, Marmara, Epirus and N. Greece taught by Kvriakos Moisidis at Headington Parish Hall, Dunston Road, Oxford, OX3 9BY. £70 for the weekend. Bookings by BACs or with cheque for full amount payable to Mary Perryman:

26 Hamilton Road, Oxford, OX2 7PZ. Tel: 01865 552688 mary.perryman4@gmail.com

Please bring vegetarian food for a shared lunch on each day (hot drinks and biscuits provided). There will be a shared evening meal at a local Greek restaurant on Saturday evening, with free social dancing to follow. Please indicate if you would like to join us. CD and DVD available. Possibility of accommodation with local dancers, or in Travelodge, Premier Inn or local B & B.

Mary Perryman



Letter re: July in Bulgaria (September News)

I enjoyed reading Martin Phillip's account of his holiday in Bulgaria and regret that I am no longer mobile enough to go on these exciting trips in search of folk dances and music. However, I was surprised to read that he was amazed that a group of "amateurs" can produce impressive singing, dancing and costumes. Surely the very essence of folk culture is that they are not professionals?

I have made many visits to Balkan countries and the most impressive and outstanding performances I have seen of singing, dancing, and music, and original and varied costumes, have been in villages by true amateurs - much more impressive I might add than the choreographed, stylised uniformity of professional "folk" groups.

Lily Avery



SIFD Groups Report for year 2017

Once again, numbers in 2017 remained fairly constant - 51 affiliated, 25 associated and 2 Music groups, so there are 78 groups attached to the Society – no change from last year.

We sadly lost Cambridge International and Withernsea, but we're pleased to welcome Kitka Bulgarian Folklore Group (Rochester) and Zdravets Bulgarian Folk Dance Group (Portsmouth) to our list of Affiliated Groups. One Associated group was lost – Pembrokeshire International Folk Dance Group but another gained – Lewes Israeli Folk Dance Group.

Notable this year were the number of groups who cut their numbers of classes and/or the lengths of their meetings. 9 Affiliated groups opted to pay the higher rate and benefit from 10 teaching hours subsidised by the Society, rather than the standard 5 – this was 4 more than last year. Payment for Affiliation can be made electronically – 20 groups took advantage of this – 6 more than last year.

16 groups still prefer their renewal form to be printed and posted, but as 4 go to the same person, postage costs are low. When I started, every renewal form was posted, so using email makes a considerable saving – on money, if not on time!

Alison Scrimshaw

Dancing at the AGM Day Workshop

In recent years the Society's AGM has been hosted sometimes by groups from around the country, who have also organised a Workshop and Social Dance. In the past we have been to Nottingham and Bristol (and going further back, to Birmingham and Manchester). On the 8th September we were in Pulborough, West Sussex, with the groups in that area.

Janet Douglas taught a programme of dances, varying in speed and style and very much enjoyed. These were Zaplyetisya Pleten, an interesting "plaiting" dance from Russia, Pyrgosykos a wedding day dance from Greece, Fandango de Pollenca from Spain, and Morning Rout a 16th Century English Dance, together with Kerimoğlu from Turkey, Jianul from Romania, and Bračno Oro from Albania.

Judith Payling



A.G.M.: I couldn't resist using this cartoon again because we experienced this very scenario - but there were more than two of us!

We were one or two short - another problem for our long suffering, short handed committee!

Janet Douglas

Kitka

Once again, and by popular demand, Kitka was invited to be part of the international entertainment at the end of the Gillingham (Kent) to Rochester Peace Walk. This is a multi-faith and multi-cultural event which is gaining in popularity. A goodly crowd of people braved the searing heat to do the walk and were grateful for the refreshments available at the war memorial in Rochester High Street.



Kitka, too, were grateful for the sliced melon and oranges on offer after dancing in the hot sun. In fact the organisers were so worried about us that they split our set in two, to give us a break. We were grateful, too! However, it was not too hot for the Deputy Mayor of Medway to join us in one of our hora. The organisers laid a wreath at the war memorial to remember the dead of all faiths, and our photo here is of us holding it.

Our next engagement was the Maidstone Mela. Again, it was a multi-cultural event where we have danced for the last few years. Again the weather was hot, but that did not stop the public joining in Prava Horo, which proved very popular.

The Mayor of Tonbridge and Malling was present but did not dance with us, but he was happy to assume our regular pose which soon featured on his Facebook page! The photo is of us dancing in the crowd with members of the public joining in (*back page*).

Our next report will be of our exploits at the Broadstairs Folk Festival. No doubt many of you were there, too. If you want to get in touch with us our contact details are *kitkabfg@gmail.com*

> Sue Haydock Secretary

Katerina



"Wilf Horrocks' Collection"

Nobody appears to know anything about **Katerina** - let's see if we do any better next month with **Chodzony**, from Poland. **Ed.**



Bulgarian Folk Dance in Braithwaite

An added bonus for our Bulgarian dance weekend with Nikolay Svetkov is that his wife Veselina is coming too. She is a dancer, so we will have the opportunity to see men's and women's styling. If you cannot make it for the whole weekend you are welcome to come just for the social dance on Saturday evening 7 - 9:30pm. See the What's On section for more details.

Cathy Meunier

Please note that the SIFD Committee email address is:

mail@*SIFD.org* (for committee business - not the SIFD News)

Reg. Charity No.284509

SIFD Committee

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WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

- S.I Saturday 6th INTERNATIONAL DANCE WORKSHOP with Corry Verheijen 10.30–4.30 Grangewood Meth. Church, Grangewood Rd. Wollaton, Notts NG8 2SJ Day course: £15.00 ½ day course: £10. Please bring packed lunch. Tea, coffee available. contact; 0115 9171831 or gill.morral@ntlworld.com www.nutbrookfolkdance.co.uk
- S.I Sat.6th–Sun.7th NIKOLAY SVETKOV from Pirin, Bulgaria teaches folk dances from all over Bulgaria, in Braithwaite, nr Keswick, Cumbria. Weekend package including Saturday social dance £40. Social dance only £5. For details and a booking form please contact Cathy Meunier email *cathy_meunier@hotmail.com* website: *www.balkanfolkdance.org* or send s.a.e to 23, Church Street, Keswick Cumbria CA12 4DX
- S.I Tuesday 9th BARLOW IFDG is hosting Corry Verheijen. 7.30 9.45p.m. at St Ninian's Church Hall, Chorlton Manchester, M21 0XJ.
 £5 maryomahony3@yahoo.co.uk or 0161 881 0955
- S.I Saturday 13th BALKANPLUS see page 3
- S.I Friday 19th RAINMAKERS 42nd ANNIVERSARY DANCE, 8pm-11pm at St Michael's Parish Hall, Broadway, Letchworth, Hertfordshire, SG6 3PQ. £8.00. MC Jill Bransby with live music from Cloudburst. Please bring food to share. More info from Roger (01438 812766) or Mark (01462 454210)
- S.I Sat.27th–Sun.28th DANCE AROUND THE WORLD see p.3 & p.5