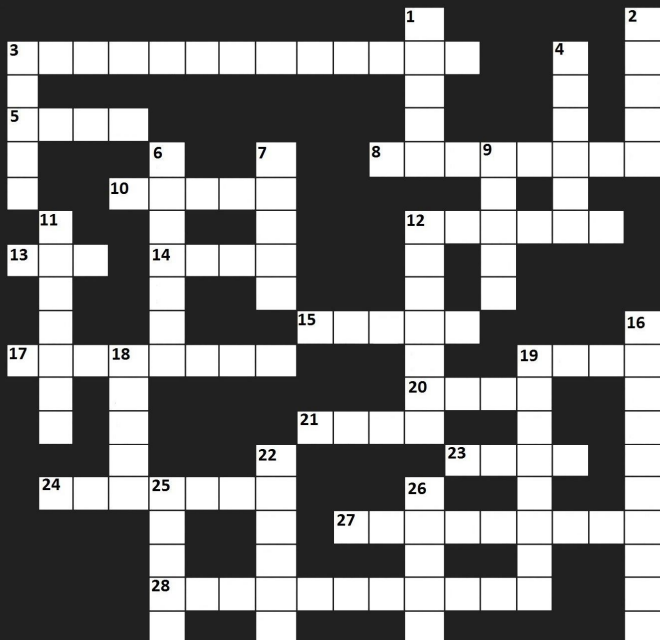


The monthly newsletter of the Society for
International Folk Dancing

SIFD NEWS



NEWS
EVENTS
ARTICLES
INFORMATION

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February 2019

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

Our Best Wishes to Ron.

Some readers will already know that Ron Wilks suffered a stroke on Boxing Day. He is in Southampton General Hospital and at the time of writing is making steady progress. We all wish him a speedy recovery and hope that he will soon be back in the thick of it.

Brian Dowsett



The cover with crossword was designed by Judith Payling, the clues are on page 12 and the answers will be in the next issue.

Ed.



SIFD February Dance

Phil and I will be MCs on 3rd February at the SIFD dance held at Primrose Hill Community Centre, Hopkinson's Place, Fitzroy Road, London NW1 8TN. The SIFD Band will be playing for us as usual and we start prompt at 6.45pm, finishing in time to clear the hall by 9.30pm (hall available from 6.30pm).

The next dance will be on Sunday 3rd March. See you there,

Brenda Steventon



Balkanplus

The February Balkanplus will be held on the 16th February in Trefusis, Cecil Sharp House, Camden NW1 7AY, starting at 7.00pm and ends 10.00pm. MCs will be Susie Kelleher and Anne Maddocks.

Admission £6. Please NOTE this is the 3rd Saturday in February.

Maureen Felton

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

S.I **Mar. 3: SIFD DANCE** see page 3

S.I **Mar. 9: BALKANPLUS** - MC will be Bob Robinson, held in Trefusis, Cecil Sharp House, Camden NW1 7AY, starting at 7.00pm. Admission £6.

Mar. 10: CONCERT AND DANCE WITH KLEZMER BAND

She'koyokh 15.00 at Crookes working Men's Club, Sheffield. Details on their web site or Greg Boyd gregboyd99@aol.com

Mar. 29-Apr.1: 3 NIGHT INT. FOLK DANCING & 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, Freshwater Bay House, Isle of Wight PO40 9RB For details ring HF on 0345 470 8558 or Phil & Brenda on 020 8397 9649

Mar. 30: GREEK DANCING – CHRISANDRA HARRIS see p.11

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

S.I **Apr. 13: BALKANPLUS** - MC will be Brian Dowsett with a party evening following the first day of our Serbian workshop with Vladica and Saša held in Trefusis, Cecil Sharp House, Camden NW1 7AY, starting at 7.00pm. Admission £10.

S.I **Apr.13-14: VLADICA & SAŠA - SERBIAN DANCE W/SHOPS**
Saturday: 10.30am - 4.30pm at Primrose Hill Community Centre, 29 Hopkinsons Place, (off Fitzroy Rd) NW1 8TN Party: 7pm-10.30pm at Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, NW1 7AY. Sunday: 10.30 - 4.30pm at Cecil Sharp House. Workshops: Saturday £40 (£30), Sunday £25 (£20) Party: £10, Weekend package £55 (£45) Early bird prices (in brackets) until end of February. Further discounts for Balkanplus Season Ticket holders. To book tickets, please send cheque payable to Balkanplus with SAE to: Maureen Felton, 28 Henslow Road, Ipswich IP4 5EG. For more information: www.balkanplus.org.uk Tel: Brian 01992 582717 or Maureen 01473 272256

S.I **Apr. 14: DANCES FROM EPIRUS** 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. taught by Dimitris Triandafyllidis at the UPS Club, Institute of Cancer Research, 15 Cotswold Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM2 5NG. £30 including refreshments. Cheques payable to 'Helios' to Sue King, 83 Upland Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM2 5JA

S.I **Apr. 26-29: GREAT ALNE LONG WEEKEND** near Alcester, Warwickshire. Fri. pm - Mon. pm Int. Folk Dancing with Karin Bellaart. Other varied dancing, making music, handbell ringing, Maypole dancing, part singing, walking and cycling.
www.greatalnefolk.org.uk
or phone Paul Lindley 0121 689 1802 or André Hobro 0121 777 3722.

May 2-5 EASTBOURNE FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL

www.eiff.org.uk or International@eiff.org.uk

Jul. 2-7: LLANGOLLEN EISTEDDFOD LL20 8SW 01978 862003

Sep. 14-15, 2019: GREEK FOLK DANCE WORKSHOPS

10:30am-4:30pm with Kyriakos Moisidis at Headington Parish Hall, Dunston Road, Oxford, OX3 9BY. £70. cheque for full amount payable to Mary Perryman: 26 Hamilton Road, Oxford, OX2 7PZ. Tel: 01865 552688 mary.perryman4@gmail.com drinks provided, shared veg.lunch, meal at Greek restaurant on Sat. eve, social dancing. Possibility of accommodation with local dancers.

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.*



All material for the March issue of the SIFD NEWS must be received by the Editor in writing by 18th February



Training for new teachers

I have been reading with interest:

a) The EGM minutes regarding requirements of standards of teaching and the official list of SIFD teachers.

b) The article 'Tips for Teachers' in the January newsletter

Two years ago I became a member of SIFD in the hope of being more in touch with International Folk Dance events around the UK. I also wanted to explore the possibility of attending a teachers' course to broaden my experience, knowledge and techniques of teaching dances. I have been dancing French, Breton and Israeli dances for many years and decided to start running my own dance sessions for a small group of friends, twice a term.

When I joined SIFD, I was very disappointed to learn that teachers' courses were no longer being run and that it was not known if they would start up again.

Over the past 2 years, I have continued to attend dance workshops in this country and have also travelled to Brittany, Macedonia and Bulgaria to learn the dances first hand. My knowledge and range of dance styles is increasing and feedback from my group is positive and encouraging.

I appreciate that SIFD is reliant on the goodwill of volunteers, but how are prospective new teachers like myself to gain a teaching badge or get on the list of approved teachers?

I really enjoy teaching and would still welcome the opportunity to attend a teachers course to gain recognition for competency should the opportunity arise in the future. I hope that it will.

Sue Smith



Lily's article last month was welcomed by several members; now this article by Sue Smith has prompted my suggestion to solve the problem on the following page:

Ed.

SIFD Teachers

There is a list of current SIFD Teachers; in the absence of a Teacher Training course it should be possible for an emerging teacher like Sue to invite her nearest SIFD teacher to join her dance sessions.

The visiting Teacher could observe and then mentor the ‘apprentice’ for several sessions. Perhaps a second SIFD Teacher could be involved (if geographically feasible) to offer the ‘examination’ component. Alternatively the ‘apprentice’ could visit an Associated class and take the ‘examination’ there.

There was a fee payable by trainees on the old Teacher Training courses, but that would probably not cover all the expenses incurred. So my suggestion is that the visiting Teacher(s) would have expenses paid by the Society which is, I think, a good use for our ample funds at this time.

I have copied this to the Committee for comment.

Janet Douglas



The Committee’s reply

Comment

Firstly, the Committee would like to thank Janet Douglas for keeping them “in the picture” in advance of the publication of Sue Smith’s letter and her own reply, enabling the Committee to comment to the membership at an early stage.

We, (the Committee plus Jeanette Hull) thank Lily Avery for her “Tips for teachers” initiative in the January News and the people who have expressed interest in working towards being added to the list of recommended teachers.

We believe that our teachers are essential for the future of the Society and want to encourage new teachers to come forward, and all teachers to continue to develop their skills.

We will not at this point go in detail into the history of the current situation, and how it has arisen. But as members will know, (as

continued overleaf >

reported in the News in 2015) in an initial attempt to remedy it a discussion group of interested parties, co-ordinated by Jeanette Hull, proposed a new and revised programme of teacher training, continued development and certification. The first session was held in 2015 at the last Summer School in Swansea. However, as announced in the May 2018 News the programme did not proceed as initially hoped because it had proved too difficult to co-ordinate participants, venues and dates. We stress that the programme did not fail through lack of funding – this is a project that we want to invest in, to further the SIFD’s interests.

In the intervening period Jeanette Hull has continued to work on the discussion group’s findings and conclusions, having regard to the difficulties experienced and anticipated in organising a programme. Indeed much talk and thinking has been going on in the background for a couple of years, but the time and impetus for action has been missing.

At the EGM Jeanette agreed to complete a draft proposal for updating our teacher training and assessment programme, and she now has prepared for the Committee’s consideration a new proposal.

We thank Jeanette for her valuable and continued efforts on the Society’s behalf.

The first draft is now with the Committee and will be ready for wider consultation within a couple of weeks. But meanwhile it is appropriate to set out the proposal for action, and invitation to help.

The Proposal

We are aiming for a robust plan that will include:

1. Assessment of teachers who already teach a regular class – adding them to the Teachers list or looking at their training needs as appropriate.
2. Provision of support for those who want to work on improving their skills as folk dance teachers, whether or not they are already on the list.
3. Arrangements for assessing teachers who do not yet teach a regular class.

Number 1 is the most urgent.

The system for examining “general” or “south east European” teachers that has operated since the early 1990s no longer suits the current situation for many teachers who may wish to be listed: they may be

practising folk dance teachers already, have knowledge acquired through attendance at a wide variety of courses and festivals in many places or have taught other styles of dance. They may be specialists in one style or generalists in many.

Our next step will be to form a team of 6 to 10 respected teachers across the country who can work together to finalise the assessment programme and form a pool of assessors, who could visit classes to observe and support people who wish to join the list of SIFD teachers.

The issues we must resolve include:

Final agreement of a new set of standards. Recruitment of a respected team who can make unbiased recommendations.

Please, contact Jeanette (best by email jeanettehull@blueyonder.co.uk or by text to 07722 655481) to volunteer or suggest someone who should be invited to join the team. She will then circulate the proposal for further comment and convene meetings as necessary to produce the final version.

It must be stressed that heavy reliance is being placed on the help of volunteers. Without them the proposal cannot be implemented.

If all goes well and a team of busy people can make time to do it, we should be ready to accept applications in March for initial observation in April. Without such a team, nothing further can happen.



Year of the Pig

2019 is the year of the pig, believed to bring fortune and wealth.

- * **London:** Parade, from Charing Cross Rd, performances at Trafalgar Sq.
- * **Manchester:** Dragon Parade from Albert Square to Chinatown and giant Piglet at St Ann's Square
- * **Liverpool:** Chinese market on George St. live show, fireworks Sunday.
- * **Birmingham:** Lunchtime concert at Birmingham Cathedral
Parade of lion and dragon dancers at the Bullring.
“Happy New Year” in Cantonese is “San Nin Faai Lok” (pronounced san knee fy lock) and in Mandarin is “Xin Nian Kuai Le” (pronounced sing nee-ann koo-why ler).

* *dates on back page*

eMADE at Kinnersley Castle

For the last 25 years eMADE has been providing European Music and Dance Education at Kinnersley Castle in Herefordshire, hosting the best of Europe's musicians and dance teachers. This year we have moved our biennial 9-day event from Kinnersley Castle to Gaunts House in Dorset. This will be our first event in the new venue, which is staffed and offers more space and better residential facilities. This change is attracting a new audience whilst also maintaining our loyal followers. It will still be a small event safeguarding the intimate and convivial ambience of previous years.

We have invited fantastic dance teachers and musicians to this Winter School, which runs from Friday 15th to Sunday 24th February 2019. The full 9-day programme shows a wide range of European dance and music workshops for each day with concerts and bals every evening. The line-up includes Ciac Boum, Tondo (France), The Eel Grinders (UK), Naragonia, Hot Griselda (Belgium), HRD, Lyset i Forsen (Sweden) and many more. Dance workshops range from traditional Swedish polska and regional French bourrées through to contra, tango and lindy hop. Music workshops include violin, guitar, nyckelharpa, hurdy gurdy, pipes, accordeon and voice.

All are welcome, whether for all 9 days (with comfortable accommodation and good food) or just for a single concert or evening bal. Enquiries to emade@emade.org.uk You can find out more at <http://www.emade.org.uk/winterschool.php>,

Carol Turner



Greek Dancing – Chrisandra Harris

March 30th

Nutbrook will be hosting an afternoon of dance led by Chrisandra Harris. It will be held at the New Stapleford Community Centre, Washington Drive. The hall has a large car park and a good floor to dance on. This can be approached from Hickings Lane, reached from the A52 via Ilkeston road from Bramcote Baths roundabout. From Junction 26 of M1 via A6002 onto Coventry Lane passing the Bramcote Hills Park on your left and turning right at the first mini roundabout and left at the second roundabout; Washington Drive will then be first right.

Time:

2.15 -5.30.p.m.

Doors open 2p.m. close 6p.m

Cost £7.00

gill.morral@ntlworld.com



Gill Morral

Crossword Clues

Across

3. Dance style from Bavaria and Tyrol, involving shoe-slapping by the men (13)
5. Country dance of Scottish or Irish origin (4)
8. Dance from Spain, and an English country dance (8)
10. Couple dance of Bohemian origin (5)
12. Slow and stately dance style originating in the 17th Century (6)
13. French word for dance (3)
14. Dance step from the north of England, often performed in clogs (4)
15. Term originating from the English and Irish Jig (5)
17. Spanish dance style (8)
19. Circle dance originating in the Balkans (4)
20. Serbian circle dance (4)
21. Couple dance from Spain (4)
23. German word for dance (4)
24. Catalan circle dance (7)
27. Square dance usually for four couples (9)
28. This is danced in couples and resembles a polka. Sounds misleadingly British (11)

Down

1. Dance from the Middle East (5)
2. Dance from Sweden (5)
3. A Greek dance (5)
4. French dance of Renaissance origin (6)
6. French dance (7)
7. Revolving couple dance in triple time, name is German in origin (5)
9. Spanish word for dance (5)
11. Couple dance from Austria (7)
12. Polish dance (7)
16. Lively Italian couple dance (10)
18. A Polish national dance (5)
19. A dance style that has come to be associated with sailors (8)
22. A step taking its name from the running gait of a horse (6)
25. French word for dance (5)
26. French word for waltz (5)

Disposal

Swiss smock with embroidered front panel, epaulettes and cuffs; Swiss man's hat.

(These items belonged to Ed Whiteley and were given to me by Audrey and can now be passed on with her blessing)

Also Austrian knee-length breeches; 2 men's hats

sguest1929@gmail.com or 01992 577065

Simon Guest



The Enigma Solved

Опрости ми! Оprosti mi! Sorry!

Thanks to Brian and Dragan, the mystery has been solved. I'm so sorry for the confusion. As Dragan explained to me at the last Barnet Christmas party, the melody I mentioned in the last issue of SIFD news is in fact, a medley of two tunes.

Having only heard this music at Barnet dances, I assumed the tune I originally asked about comprised of one melody. I now realise this is not so. The tune printed in the last SIFD news (which I came upon in an old book called *Rromane Lila*.) is *Borura Derü*, written by Maria von Hapsburg for her father Archduke Josef's beloved Romani musicians. The tune featured on the CD which accompanies the book is identical to that played by Dunav at parties.

The other tune in the medley is a Serbian song originating from the First World War, The lyrics of this song, *Tamo Daleko*, can be found online (Serbian with English translation) and can be heard on YouTube.

My original question was what was the name of the piece played by the band, *Borura Derü* or *Tamo Daleko*. The answer seems to be - two tunes, two names, one medley.

Janna Eliot





Zekelis

Lithuanian

A Intro: 16 bars x D
Moderate pace - deliberate walk

B

C Faster

Play ABBABABCCDDDDABC

C

"Wilf Horrocks' Collection"



I have been unable to find any information about **Zekelis**, even drawing a blank on a Lithuanian translation.

No such problem will occur next month as Wilf's music for the English dance **Bonny Breast Knot** will feature.

Ed.





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- John Stewart 129 Glebe Road, Thringstone Coalville, Leics. LE67
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Pig - Chinese New Year

WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY

- S.I **Tuesday 5th BARLOW IFDG HOSTS BRIAN DOWSETT** for an evening of 'Balkan Gems'. 7.30-9.45p.m. at St Ninian's Church Hall, Chorlton Manchester, M21 0XJ £5. contact Mary at 0161 881 0955 or maryomahony3@yahoo.co.uk
- S.I **Wed.6th-Mon.11th RIVIERADANCE! 2019** Yves Moreau, France Bourque Moreau), Cristian Florescu & Sonia Dion. 5 nights full board. £415 (dancers); £315 (non-dancers). cathy_meunier@hotmail.com or send s.a.e to 23, Church Street, Keswick Cumbria CA12 4DX
- Fri. 8th - Sun.10th CHINESE NEW YEAR** Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, Southampton. see page 9
- Sunday 10th CHINESE NEW YEAR** London see page 9
- S.I **Fri. 15th - Sun.24th THE WINTER SCHOOL** see page 10
- S.I **Saturday 16th BALKANPLUS** - see page 3
- Saturday 23rd LONG HILL RAMBLERS** traditional songs from U.S. 8.15pm. Cellar Upstairs, London: tel: 020 7281 7700