

*Society for International Folk Dancing*

# *SIFD News*



# *July 2022*

The front cover photo was from Cathy Meunier (*in 2013*) entitled Doburskite babi from one of her Bulgarian trips. On the back page, from DATW, more Bulgarian dancers and Morena, the Slovak group (also reduced to the motif below).

**Ed.**



## **The Digital Archive Memory Stick project**

Further to the Article in the December 2021 News asking members for feedback about the Digital Archive Memory Stick, the Committee were disappointed to receive little response.

The Committee appreciate that the absence of comment presumably indicates that users have experienced no problems with the Digital Archive Stick and are generally satisfied, which is of course good. They also realise that a fair number of members will have purchased the Stick to “have it by them”, and not for active use, and that these purchasers may therefore feel that they have no useful comment to make. And it is appreciated that the disruption to Dance caused by Covid-19 will have meant in some cases a reduced need or opportunity to use an Archive Stick in a group setting.

However so that the Society can direct the project and its content appropriately in future, we really need feedback. Please send us your comments if you have used the Archive Stick at all. It does not matter whether the Stick is or has been in active or periodic use for class or group work, for personal interest or study, or just for the purposes of nostalgia.

Amongst the Committee members there is use of the Stick in a class setting, and appreciation of it as a “wonderful journey down memory lane”. Please do let us know about your experiences. Contact details are elsewhere in this magazine.

If there are members who don’t have a Stick but would like to purchase one, please contact Jeanette Hull at [jeanette.hull@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:jeanette.hull@blueyonder.co.uk) or on 07722 655481. The price is £68 inclusive of postage.

**The Committee**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Aug. 7-11: MACHOL EUROPA** Israeli Dance Institute teachers: Schmulik Govari, Rafi Ziv, Ilai Szpiezak, Dado Kraus, Moshe Telem. University of Surrey. 07980 451912 [idi.org.uk/macholeuropa](http://idi.org.uk/macholeuropa)  
[info@idi.org.uk](mailto:info@idi.org.uk)

**Aug. 19-22: SOUTH DOWNS MINI DANCE FESTIVAL** at Plumpton Agricultural College, East Sussex. £205 full board. Enquiries to Sue Kewley, [suekewley@outlook.com](mailto:suekewley@outlook.com).

**Sep. 10: GERMAN DANCE MUSIC WORKSHOP** for musicians £35 Elephant & Castle, White Hill, Lewes BN7 2DJ. 10.45 - 16.45 (lunch 12.30-13:30) 01273 476757 [valmaigoodyear@aol.com](mailto:valmaigoodyear@aol.com)  
[www.lewessaturdayfolkclub.org](http://www.lewessaturdayfolkclub.org)

**Oct. 1: NUTBROOK I. F. D. G.- ROMANIA & FRIENDS**, led by Maggie Kaye. 11.00am – 3.30pm Nutbrook dance workshop at Bramcote Memorial Hall Comm. Hall am / Large Hall pm. Nottingham NG9 3HD. £8.00. Everyone welcome, no partners needed. Further information: Gill Morral on 0115 9171381 or [gill.morral@ntlworld.com](mailto:gill.morral@ntlworld.com)

S.I **Oct. 8: BALKANPLUS** - in Trefusis, Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regents Park Road, Camden, NW1 7AY t 6.00pm - 9.00pm.

**Oct. 29-30: DANCE AROUND THE WORLD**, Cecil Sharp House, [www.datw.org.uk](http://www.datw.org.uk)

S.I **Nov.19: HENRY & BETTY LEE MEMORIAL DANCE** 7.30pm-10.30pm at Ickleford Village Hall, 82 Arlesey Road, Ickleford, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 3TG. MC Jill Bransby with live music from Cloudburst. Rainmakers would particularly like to invite people who knew Henry and Betty to attend this special dance. Naturally all other dancers would be very welcome. The dance is free. If you are interested in coming, please contact Mark on 01462 454210 or [markbalaam2@sky.com](mailto:markbalaam2@sky.com)

S.I **Dec.10: BALKANPLUS** - in Trefusis, Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regents Park Road, Camden, NW1 7AY t 6.00pm - 9.00pm.



Here are further extracts from

**‘The Dictionary of the Dance’ by W.G.Raffe**

**Kachinas** (N. America)

Ancestral spirits of Pueblo Indians (especially Hopi and Zuni), thought to dwell in the "good" or western direction, and to visit the earth for six months of the year, when they are impersonated by male masked dancers. Primarily concerned with bringing rain and increasing crops they are beneficent spirits, anxious for the well-being of man. Different varieties of Kachinas include Long Horn Kachinas; Manas, or Maiden Kachinas; Shalako etc., and in some pueblos they are divided into summer and winter groups. All men and boys belong to Kachina Societies, the initiated, sl'cti, being "those who know" that the Kachinas are men disguised. Even so, dancers as well as spectators believe in the identification of the ancestral spirit with the mask while it is worn, although dancers do not go into trance. For four preliminary days initiates are secretly prepared, masks painted and dances practised. On the fifth day the medicine man leads them into the plaza. They divide into two groups - dancers in line behind each other, all wearing identical masks; and attendant dancers at the sides in varied masks. Maiden Kachinos take their places behind the men. Following the movements of their leader, the Kachinas shake their rattles and dance in a sunwise circuit of the plaza, facing in turn each direction. Singing as they dance, they monotonously repeat the basic steps "of stamp and raised knee. At a signal from the leader they turn and dance towards the next wall of the Square, for the dance must be repeated towards all four directions. This fourfold dance ritual is performed four times in the morning and four times in the afternoon. Accompanying the Kachinas are dancing clowns, Koshare, Kurena, and Koyemshi, who provide burlesque interludes in the other-wise serious ceremonies. Kachina masks are carefully stored away between rituals, and consecrated before use. Elaborate ceremonies mark the arrival and departure of the Kachinas at Winter and Summer solstices. Small dolls, also called Kachinas, are made in their likeness, and given to children. Visitors are not permitted to see the masked dances, but unmasked dances having the same form may be witnessed at various times of the year.

## **Koyemshi** (N. America)

Dancing clowns of the Pueblo Indians of the South-West, who perform between the serious Kachina dances. Generally known as "mudheads", they are masked with cloth stained pink with sacred clay, and each has a special name. Molanhako, Father-Koyemshi, is their leader. They are feared because it is believed they have power over people, given to them by virtue of a small quantity of earth (soil from the village on which people have walked) which they carry in a pouch. Particularly associated with the Zuni, these clowns accompany the Shalako, and dance at night with the Kachinas at the summer solstice. Their performance consists of leaping about and over each other, juggling and general buffoonery, and they have phallic associations.

## **Krakoviak** (Poland)

Couple dance, mentioned in records in 1510, belonging originally to the region of Krakov, where it was danced by everyone. Later it was adopted by the nobility, in a refined form; and is now danced all over Poland. To gay music in 2/4 time, the couples dance in circular formation, the man with his right arm round his partner's waist, the girl with her left hand on his right shoulder. The couples move into a large circle, then into lines behind one another, moving again into a linked circle. Satirical or flattering songs accompany the dance, the man of the first couple starting the song; or a ballad or madrigal may be sung, the dance varying according to the song. The Krakoviak may also be danced by one couple, when it has more dramatic action. The clink of metal heels, and jingle of brass and silver rings on the men's belts, mark the rhythm of the dance. Costumes are colourful. For the women a patterned skirt with yellow waistcoat over white blouse; high red boots and a head-dress of flowers with long ribbons. The men wear striped trousers tucked into high boots, long tasselled coat, and red cap with peacock feathers at one side. The krakoviok (called in France, Cracovienne) became famous on the stage in 1839, when Fanny Elssler scored a great success in the ballet *La Gypsy* at Her Majesty's Theatre, London with this dance.



# Kriči Kriči Tiček

## "Whistle Little Birdy"

Croatia

# Kriči Kriči Tiček

## "Whistle Little Birdie"

Yugoslavia

### "Wilf Horrocks' Collection"



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





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**C.I.O. number 1189141**



## WHAT'S ON IN JULY

- S.I **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> BALKAN WITH BRIAN IN BOGNOR**, an afternoon workshop with Brian Dowsett £7. at 2pm at the Willowhale Centre, Pryors Lane, Aldwick, Bognor Regis PO21 4JB. Janet Douglas, tel: 01243 265010 email: [sifdnews@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sifdnews@hotmail.co.uk)
- S.I **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> BALATON AT VICTORIA EMBANKMENT** at 3-5 pm. with the Guildford Hungarian group
- S.I **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> BARNET SUMMER PARTY** 8pm at Church House, Wood Street, Barnet, Herts. EN5 4BW Music by Dunav. £8 For more info. contact Brian 01992 582717 [bvdowsett@aol.com](mailto:bvdowsett@aol.com)

