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September 2022

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The front cover: two girls from the Bognor group posed for this photo in their Russian costumes (they love the beads); back cover Kitka (see below).

Ed.



Kitka wows the crowds at Broadstairs

With guaranteed good weather the Kitka Bulgarian Folklore Group once again signed up for the Broadstairs Folk Festival. Members of the group stayed at accommodation in nearby Ramsgate and were, therefore, able to visit and enjoy many of the events taking place over the whole weekend, including into the evening.

The weekend was full of colour, dancing, music, singing and merriment, which was enjoyed by the crowds of visitors. The photo (*back page*) shows members of the group making friends with the Green Dragon of Broadstairs.

Kitka will be dancing next at the Tenterden Folk Festival on 1st October, around the town in the afternoon. We hope to see you there.

The group meets in Rochester, Kent. If anyone wishes to join us, please contact me on susanjhaydock@aol.com You will be very welcome.

Sue Haydock, Secretary



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

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

S.I **Oct. 23: SIFD AGM** St. George's Church, Hamilton Ave. Tolworth, Surrey KT6 7PT at 2.30pm (dance after 'til 6)

Oct. 29-30: DANCE AROUND THE WORLD, Cecil Sharp House, 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

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



*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.*



Klezmer bulletin

Dear friends,

It's been a while since we've been in touch, but now things are happening again I hope you'll join me for some of the events below.

22 September

New Year Klezmer Keilidh in Maidenhead

Come and dance the Jewish New Year in with a live klezmer band and caller Ilana Cravitz, in Norden Farm Arts Centre's atmospheric 18th century Long Barn.

Info & tickets: <http://norden.farm/events/klezmer-ceilidh>

Don't forget....

London's monthly klezmer jam at the fabulous new Jamboree venue in Kings Cross.

Info: <http://www.jamboreevenue.co.uk/>

Suffolk: **9 October** Concert of music by Schutz

Cornwall: **13-16 October** Mini-fest of klezmer music, dance and nigunim.

Devon: **17/18 October** Klezmer instrumental workshop and keilidh

Suffolk: **12 November** Concert of music by Handel

Herts: **14-16 November** Benslow Klezmer Orchestra residential course

London: **20 November** Ladino music for voice & instruments

London: **6 December** Tango songs + klezmer

I'm looking forward to seeing you again soon!

Warm wishes,

Ilana Cravitz

+44 (0)782 551 0881

ilanacravitz.com (<http://ilanacravitz.com/>)

[nkyo.org](http://www.nkyo.org) (<https://www.nkyo.org/>)

Here are a couple of extracts from

'The Dictionary of the Dance' by W.G.Raffe

Makavitza Ukraine

A cake-dance of Russian Ukraine and adjacent countries, at village feasts; harvest festival, or at a rich wedding. This 'dance of cakes' is performed by a ring of twelve unmarried girls; each one carries a piece of cake (made of flour and honey, and flavoured with poppy-seed) which she is required to bite, with the rhythm of the dance.

Mejorana Panama

A traditional dance, probably of Spanish origin. In square dance form, with partners facing each other, *zapateado* steps are used and the *paseo* or promenade.

Five -stringed guitars (Mejorana) take their name from the dance which they accompany. There are many traditional mejorana airs, sung during the dance, the melody being in 2/4 time with an accompaniment in 6/8 time. Usually in the major key, when it is played in the minor key its name is changed to **Gallino**. The **Mejorana-Poncho** is a slower version. (*below: Mejorana*)





Uplifting lifts

The item on Lift in the August SIFD News brought some nice memories of my youthful dancing. As a member of the university folk dancing group in Prague I became quite adept at performing a lift. I suppose I was lucky that my usual dancing partner was a slim, nifty girl. I don't remember how successful I was with the other female partners in the group.

Lift (*zvedačka*) is part of several Czech and Moravian dances, often just an optional embellishment for display at the end of the dance. Good co-ordination between partners is essential, and to my mind, especially the ladies have the harder part and have to be quite brave. For a man it needs just some muscles to help his partner to shoot up. She lands, kneeling and supporting herself on arms, on the man's shoulders. I always admired her trust in the partner's reliability and stability. The ladies' folk costumes, comprising usually of dozen or so underskirts, at that moment completely wrapped round man's face and prevented any meaningful orientation. Thus, spinning his partner kneeling on top, ended for the man in some dancing displays with facing the backstage scenery, rather than the audience. A nifty correction was then needed.

Those are sweet memories of an old man. Nowadays, I'd probably suffer backache if I'd try to lift a feather pillow over my head.

Dalbor Sudwell



Tenterden Folk Festival 2022

Plans are well advanced for Tenterden Folk Festival 2022 which will take place over four days from Thursday 29th September to Sunday 2nd October. The first of the 50 or so events will be the Thursday evening concert in The Tenterden Club which will feature Keith Kendrick and Sylvia Needham plus Dick Miles and may be another surprise guest. This year's other guests range from Jack Rutter to four brothers who make up the Wilson Family a cappella harmony group from Newcastle. Other guests include Si Barron, Les Corsaires de la Vesdre from Belgium and many more. Morrigan will present a show to commemorate the composer Ralph Vaughan Williams who was born 150 years ago, on 12 October 1872. Popular local band Foot Down will be playing for the English barn dance on Friday evening with caller John Sweeney.



(photo Morena Slovak Dancers at Tenterden in 2016)

Some of the other festival highlights will be the numerous free music sessions in some of the local pubs, and of course the hundreds of Morris dancers, folk display

dancers and street entertainers, including Kitka Bulgarian Folklore Group and Morena Slovak Dancers, who will perform around the town centre over the weekend and, on Saturday, process along the High Street. As well as all the music and song events in various venues around the town there will be a large marquee for the craft fair and stalls and free music and dance stages on the Recreation Ground. More details of the weekend's events, the full list of guest artists, Morris sides, etc. and details of how to buy tickets can be found on the website at www.tenterdenfolkfestival.org.uk.

Alan Castle

Trustee and Festival Director: Tenterden Folk Festival



Bognor Regis

The **Southdowns Festival** will be going ahead this month in Bognor Regis. There are many folk events around the town and also dance displays, including my group. In fact much of the Tenterden blurb could apply: eg. craft fair / stalls /free music /procession along the High Street.

Headline acts: Lindisfarne & The Men They Couldn't Hang. Starting at 10am. on Saturday the 24th we are dancing Russian dances around the town alongside Irish dancers, Morris and Appalachian.

The following day - we shall be offering a one hour Balkan workshop at 11am. at the Rafa club, near the seafront. Then back into our Russian costumes after lunch for more displays in the town.

Details of the festival can be found at southdownsfolkfest.co.uk

Janet Douglas

Makedonsko Devojce

Macedonia

A (Mod.)

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15

22

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2.

"Wilf Horrocks' Collection"

Makedonsko devojče kitka šarena

Vo gradina nabrana dar podarena

refr:

Dali ina novoj beli svet

Po ubavo devojče od Makedinče

Nema, nema nece se rodi

Po ubavo devojče od Makedonče

Nema zvezdi pelični od tvojte oči

Da se noke na nebo den ke razdeni

refr.

Koga kosi razpletiš kako koprina

Lična si I polična od samo vila

refr.

Koga pesma zapeè slavoj nadpeje

Koga oro za igra srce razigra

refr.

(lyrics courtesy of **Ibrahim Riveski**)

Neda Grivna next month. **Ed.**



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



WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER

S.1 **Friday 9th RAINMAKERS 46th ANNIVERSARY DANCE**,
7.30pm-10.30pm at Wilbury Hall, Bedford Road,
Letchworth, Herts. SG6 4YF. £10.00. MC Jill Bransby
with Cloudburst. More info from Mark (01462 454210).

Saturday 10th GERMAN DANCE MUSIC WORKSHOP
£35 Lewes BN7 2DJ. 01273 476757
valmaigoodyear@aol.com

Thurs.22nd/Sun.25th SOUTHDOWNS FESTIVAL see p.9



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