



# RAINMAKERS' SCRAPBOOK

VOLUME 19 2000~2001

Volume 19

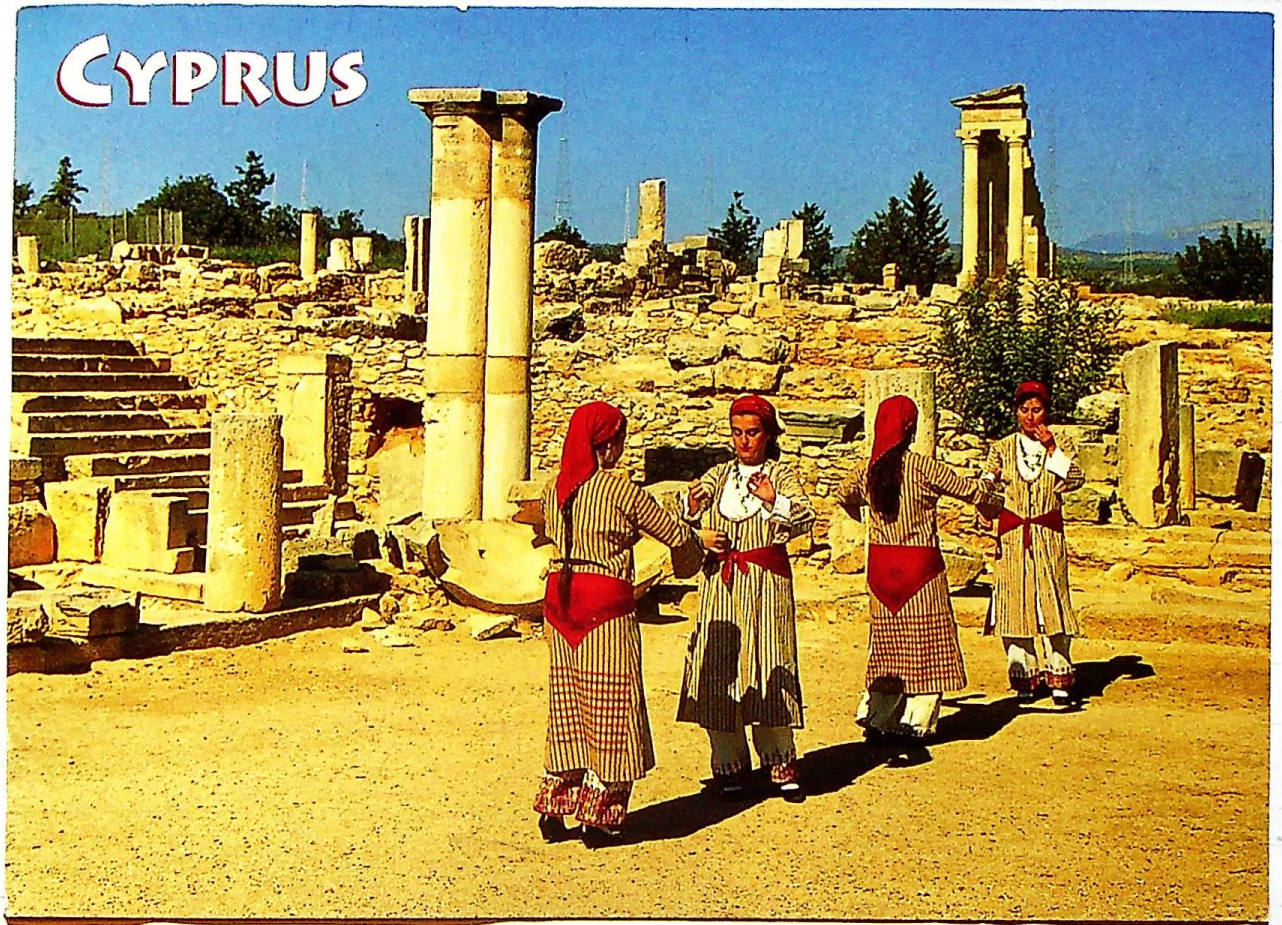
The  
Rainmakers'  
Scrapbook

From  
September 2000  
To August 2001

Cover picture ~

Dancets in Rynek Square,  
Krakow

The Rainmakers' new term began on  
Friday, September 2nd, 2000



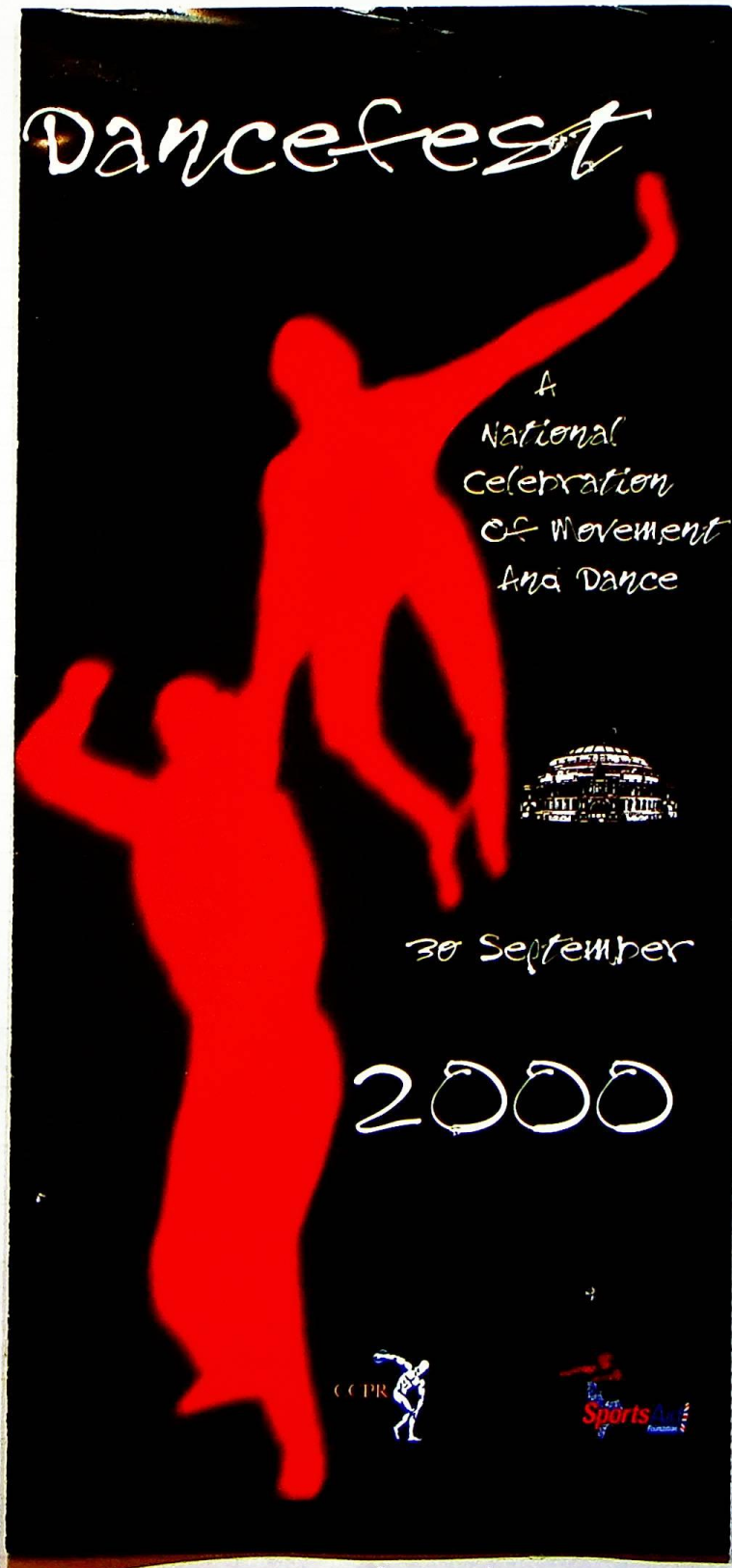
Holiday postcard from Paphos.

"Cyprus ladies folk dancing."



Bulgarian Dancers.  
Photo. from the Observer newspaper.

Saturday, 30th September 2000  
Dancefest at Royal Albert Hall.



Graham, Maria and Belinda were part of a group representing the Society of International Folk Dancing who danced in the Royal Albert Hall at the Dancefest organised by the Central

Saturday, 30th September 2000  
Dancefest at Royal Albert Hall.

# Dancefest

A National Celebration  
Of Movement And Dance

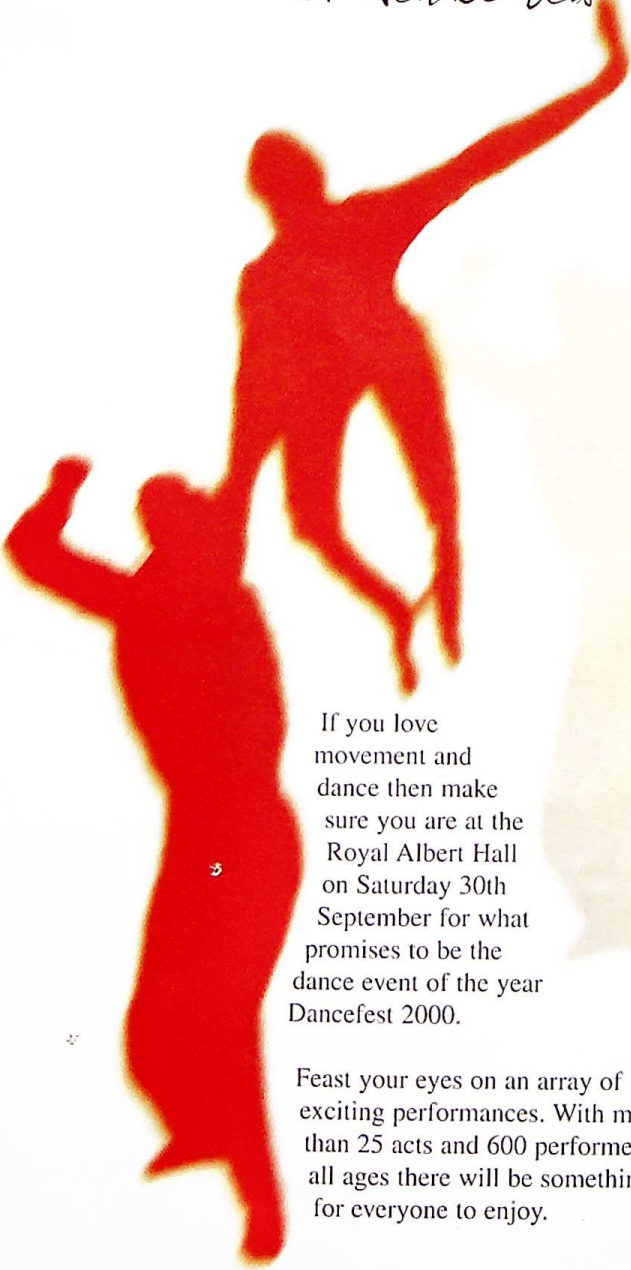
Dancefest 2000 brings together performers from all over the UK to celebrate the diversity of exercise, movement and dance.

You are invited to share in this unique experience in the splendour of the Royal Albert Hall - an afternoon of fun and excitement is guaranteed!

## 2000

From jazz to ballet, folk to ballroom, tap to salsa, contemporary to historical and latin to sports acrobatics and more, a fast moving and dazzling kaleidoscope of colour and vitality will unfold before your eyes.

Dancefest 2000 opens up the world of movement and dance to you in one unforgettable experience. With only one performance early booking is essential. Don't delay - book today!



If you love movement and dance then make sure you are at the Royal Albert Hall on Saturday 30th September for what promises to be the dance event of the year Dancefest 2000.

Feast your eyes on an array of exciting performances. With more than 25 acts and 600 performers of all ages there will be something for everyone to enjoy.

Dancefest 2000 is produced by the Movement and Dance Division of the Central Council of Physical Recreation. Early pioneers in community dance, the Division acts to promote and encourage the enjoyment of exercise, movement and dance for all.

Graham, Maria and Belinda were part of a group representing the Society of International Folk Dancing who danced in the Royal Albert Hall at the Dancefest organised by the Central

Council for Physical Recreation.

Belinda is going to tell us more about the occasion.

RAINMAKERS 24<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY DANCE

13<sup>TH</sup> October, 2000

M.C.: Jill Bransby. Band: *Jacob's Ladder*

*If desired by some folks we can do some Raas after the Interval.*

Ambee Dageets  
Kak Pri Balke (Tape)

Lublin Polka  
Steiregger

Little Man in a Fix  
Horlepiep

Reiach Dudaim (Tape)  
Chassene

Ludo Mlado(Tape)  
Pravo Trakijsko Hora (Tape)

Jarabe Tapatio (Tape)  
Fyrtur

Ashrei Ha'ish (Tape)  
Ba Pardess

Gort Met Stroop  
Hakke Toone

Inch Imanyee (Tape)  
Te'en (Tape)

Branle a six de la chatre (Tape)  
Joc de Leagane

Renningen

Devushky Padruzhenky (Tape)  
Stenka (Tape)

Neapolitan Tarantella  
Pandelas (Tape)

Gavotte de Pont Aven  
Polka Dot

Aymar Behar Hamor (Tape)

Sprotzer Achterum  
Kreuz Koenig



Shepherds' Dance (Tape)

Tiedeliepats (Tape)  
Merioneth

Joc in Patru (Tape)

Ssulam ya'kov  
Erev Ba

NB If short of time we will cut out some of the taped dances.

## Anniversary Celebration.

Friday, October 13th, 2000 at St. Michael's Hall,  
8.00 - 11.00 p.m. Letchworth.

The Rainmakers celebrated the 24th anniversary of the formation of their club with a dance party at St. Michael's Hall, Letchworth, on their usual club night, a Friday.

A Friday was chosen this year to see whether attendance would be better than on a Saturday as numbers had been decreasing at recent Anniversary Dances. This year there were forty-two people in the room - seven in the band, five visitors and thirty club members - success! We were very pleased to see Fiona and her friend from London, Rachel and her husband from Milton Keynes and John who had travelled from Reading to dance with us.

Till had compiled a varied programme of dances that included some requests and some that have come into the club's repertoire during the past year. The band was Jacob's Ladder from Cambridge. It was delightful to dance to their very animated live music. We especially appreciated the virtuosity of the band's leader, Michael, when playing the clarinet for Israeli dances. As Michael is also a dancer and a member of our club he could lead the music at the speed we like for our dancing. Till had interspersed dances played by the band with dances on tape so that band members could dance or have a breather.

There were two breaks in the dancing. The first one came early on, when Katka, a

club member, sang for Czech songs to us.

They were:-

Kayby bye Babarov

Tovarov

Vrt sa clivca

Keci jci zajelem

As they were in the Czech language she told us what they were about. All were jolly, charming and seemed to involve a young man getting into difficulties with his girlfriend.

Katka sang beautifully and was warmly applauded.

The next interval gave us an opportunity to talk to each other and admire the splendid costumes that many people were wearing. Graham and Maria in particular were resplendent in their new Romanian costumes, obtained especially for the Dancefest at the Albert Hall recently. It was noticeable that Graham's sheepskin hat was making him rather overheated! There was a variety of refreshments to be consumed including a delicious birthday cake, decorated with umbrellas and made by Maria.

So, time swiftly went by. Some of us joined in a Raas (an Indian stick dance) led by Daksha whilst refreshments were cleared. Till then continued with the programme but had to delete some of the dances on tape through lack of time.

Before the end of the evening, Graham stepped forward to thank everyone who had

contributed to make the evening such a success, especially Till and Jacob's ladder. Graham was also thanked for all his organisational work.

It had been a very cheerful, lively evening. We all (including the members of the band) formed a large square to march in and out and bow as we performed Stenka.

Now we look forward to the club's Silver Anniversary next year.

Unsolicited Publicity!

1st November 2000 SL

**Comet** *Town and Around*

**Letchworth**



**Terry Gray, Media Executive  
Letchworth Garden City  
Heritage Foundation  
01462 476057**



**D**ID you know we have an international folk dance group on our doorstep? The Rainmakers meet most Fridays from 8pm to 10pm at St Michael's Church Hall, The Broadway - newcomers always welcome. To find out more, ring Mrs Leavy on 636038 - you never know she might give you the weather forecast for the next few days as well!!  
.....

*Has Sheila received any strange phone calls?*

*It is fortunate for us that Letchworth is not flooded.*

Friday, November 3rd 2000

An Evening of Eastern European Dancing.

The whole of the Rainmakers' normal club evening was led by Leslie Haddow who<sup>2</sup> came, with his wife Sue as dancing partner, to teach us dances from Eastern Europe. Both wore Hungarian costumes which set the right atmosphere.

Leslie taught:-

1. Keeskés
  2. Dedos
  3. Dudálas + Ugros
  4. Starodávunýj
  5. Trojke
- } From Moldavia
- From Hungary (Transylvania)
- } - From Czechoslovakia (Moravia)
- } Hana region, Czechoslovakia.

Leslie is very enthusiastic and expert, He set a fast pace and most of the dances were very long. Twenty seven of our members did their best to keep up. There were smiles on their faces so they were obviously enjoying the experience. Only towards the end of the evening did one or two, puffing, retreat to a chair for a breather.

We are grateful to the S.I.F.D. for providing these teachers and glad that Leslie came and worked so hard to give us a stimulating evening. I do wonder though, how many of the Rainmakers will remember any of the dances by next week!

Sunday, November 5th, 2000.

Dance at Cecil Sharp House. 7.00 - 10.00 p.m.

Bonfire Night, pouring with rain and very few trains running was the scenario when fourteen Rainmakers set out for Cecil Sharp House on Sunday. "Would many dancers turn up" we wondered. Our club had been asked to run this month's S. I. F. D. Dance.

Till was M.C. and she had planned a varied programme of dances that would be known by most people from many clubs.

Claire set up her shop. Graham put up posters advertising Rainmaker events and several club members took the money at the door.

The dance started promptly at seven and by seven thirty I counted fifty dancers on the floor. Most people were dancing most of the time including during the interval (which is really a break for the band) when Maggie O'Regan led a lovely programme.

In honour of it being Bonfire Night, Till had included Picking up Sticks and La vezi, La veson (a dance round a bonfire, but not in November.) We danced the latter to the singing of two members of the band, Martin Butler and Wendy Harry.

The band played splendidly and only one dance had to be omitted from the programme. It was a very enjoyable evening.

S.I.F.D. Sunday Dance – November 5th, led by the Rainmakers.

M.C.: Jill Bransby

Interval Dances: Maggie O'Regan

Hora Chadera  
Lo Ahavti Dai

Der Steiregger  
Maiezyt

Kulsko Hora  
Ba Pardess

Jarabe Tapatio (hat dance)  
Chotis de la Frontera

Ograždensko Hora  
Dvaždi, triždi

La Bourrée Croisee  
Deux, Deux, Deux

Inch Imanayee  
Te'en

Pariser Polka  
Renningen

Hora Zemer  
Harimon

Devushky Padruzhenky  
Stenka

Dorset Four Hand Reel  
Waterfall Waltz

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Interval Dancing led by Maggie O'Regan at 8.25pm

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Hine Ma Tov  
Haro'a Haketana

Joc de Leagane  
La Bourrée Tournante des Grandes Poteries

Jota Antiqua

La Bourrée de la Chapelotte

Maruszka  
Tarantella Montevirgene

~~Tiedeliepats-~~  
Ys Wals

Picking up Sticks  
La vezi la veson

Hambo  
Russian Lyrical

Erev Ba

# Rainmakers

International Folk Dance Group

Dear *Henry & Betty*

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Rainmakers International Folk Dance Group will take place on :-

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2000**

in St. Michael's Church Hall, Starting at 8.15pm

## Agenda

- 1) **Welcome & Opening Comments**
- 2) **Apologies for absence**
- 3) **Minutes of 2000 EGM**
- 4) **Matters Arising**
- 5) **Minutes of 1999 AGM**
- 6) **Matters Arising**
- 7) **Secretaries Report**
- 8) **Treasurers Report**
- 9) **Appointment of Examiner**
- 10) **Annual Subs & Friday Charges**
- 11) **Chairman's Comments**
- 12) **Letchworth Centenary Celebrations 2003**
- 13) **Election of new Committee**
- 14) **Any Other Business**

# Rainmakers

## International Folk Dance Group

Minutes of Extraordinary General Meeting held at St. Michael's Church Hall, Letchworth.  
Friday 25th February 2000

The meeting opened at 08.10pm with Graham Styles in the Chair.

### 1 Opening Welcome

Graham opened the proceedings by welcoming everybody to the meeting and requested members to record their presence on the clipboard being circulated.

### 2 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from :  
Martin Lansbury  
Jane Doran  
Adrian & Sue Barter  
Henry & Betty Lee  
Sheila Leavy

Number of people Present 17

Graham advised the meeting that an attendance of 17 members exceeded the constitutional requirement of 25% attendance of total membership (Ref Para 4.g) and declared the EGM to be valid.

### 3 Chairman's Statement

Graham requested the meetings indulgence to correct an "Error of Omission" from the clubs 1999 Annual General Meeting (held on 26<sup>th</sup> November 1999). There being no objections Graham read out the following extract from Committee Meeting Minutes dated 19<sup>th</sup> October 1999 :-

"Graham confirmed that he was willing to stand for re-election as chairman to the new committee. However having been on Rainmakers committee since 1991 he would not stand after that".

For the record Graham then confirmed that he did not intend to stand for re-election to committee at the end of his present term as Chairman.

### 4 Introduction of Club Accounts

Graham asked if there were any members who did not have the following documents :-

- a) Copy of the club's 1997/98 accounts
- b) Copy of the club's 1998/99 accounts
- c) Notes to be read in conjunction with the above documents.

All members who wanted copies had them.

4.1 Prior to presenting the accounts Graham asked Richard to read the Auditors Report to the meeting (Although supplied with the accounts these notes had not been previously circulated). See Appendix A

#### 4.2 1997/98 Accounts

Graham presented the 1997/98 accounts for comment. There being no comments or queries Graham requested a proposal from the floor to accept the accounts. Katka proposed their acceptance Roger seconded them. There were no objections and one abstention (Richard Thom). The accounts were accepted.

#### 4.3 1998/99 Accounts

Graham presented the 1998/99 accounts for comment. Roger noted the following typographical errors :-

Under 1998/99 EVENTS INCOME £278.80 should read £334.80

Under 1998/99 ADMINISTRATION INCOME £150.44 should read £168.44

Under 1997/98 TOTAL EXPENDITURE £1477.93 should read £1571.32

Roger asked whether the returnable deposits (Ref. Note 8) should be in the 1998/1999 accounts rather than the 1999/2000 accounts. Richard accepted that technically they should, however he did not know that when preparing the account. Roger and those other members present felt it acceptable for them to be shown in the 1999/2000 accounts. There being no other comments Graham requested a proposal from the floor to accept the accounts (with typographical corrections). Jill proposed there acceptance and Isabel Seconded them. There were no objections and one abstention (Richard Thom). The accounts were accepted.

#### 5 Appointment of Independent Examiner for 1999/2000

Richard informed the meeting that Bill Thorn was willing to stand as the club's Independent Examiner, noting that although he (Bill Thorn) already had holiday commitments towards the end of the year he did not see that as being a major problem. Graham presented Bill Thorn as the clubs Independent Examiner and asked for a proposal from the floor Richard proposed & Moya seconded his appointment, there were no objections or abstentions.

#### 6 Annual Subscriptions & Weekly Charges

Graham informed the meeting that he had discussed the question of Club subscriptions and weekly charges with Richard and Peter (the current Treasurer). In their opinion although the club's "break even" position was marginal their joint proposal was not to recommend any changes at this meeting. However it was noted that it was almost inevitable that some changes would be proposed at the next AGM.

#### 7 Record of Thanks

Having dealt with the main business of the meeting Graham proposed a vote of thanks be recorded to Richard, Peter & Barry for their work in preparing the club's accounts for presentation. Noting that he was in no doubt that the majority of the work had been undertaken by Richard. Peter wished to add his thanks to Richard and confirmed that Richard had indeed born the brunt of the work and spent a considerable amount of time unraveling the figures.

#### 8 Resignation of Treasurer

Graham advised the meeting that with regret he had received Peter's written resignation from the position of Treasurer and reminded members that Peter had only accepted nomination on the understanding that it would be a temporary appointment.

#### 9 Appointment of Treasurer

Graham asked for a volunteer from the floor to fill the now vacant position of Treasurer. Richard Thom agreed to stand. Graham presented Richard as Treasurer and asked for a proposal from the floor. Isabel proposed and Peter seconded his appointment. There were no objections and no abstentions.

There being no other business Graham thanked members for there attention and closed the meeting at 08.35pm.

# Rainmakers

International Folk Dance Group

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at St Michael's Church Hall, Letchworth.  
Friday 26th November 1999

The meeting opened at 08.15pm with Graham Styles in the Chair.

## 1 Opening Welcome

Graham opened the proceedings by welcoming everybody to the meeting and drew attention to the following points :-

- a) The meeting was being recorded and requested members to prefix any comments with their name.
- b) To record their presence on the clipboard being circulated.
- c) That members of less than 3 months standing were not eligible to vote.

## 2 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from :  
Katka Kesler  
Martin Lansbury  
Jane Doran  
Charles Bolton  
Chrisine Bower  
Daksha Trivedi  
Rachel Gray

Number of people Present 23 (members : 22, non-members : 1)

Graham advised the meeting that an attendance of 22 members exceeded the constitutional requirement of 25% attendance of total membership (Ref Para 4.g) and declared the AGM to be valid.

## 3 Minutes of Annual General Meeting of Friday 5th December 1997

Graham requested members to raise points of inaccuracy in the minutes of the previous years AGM.

Isabel observed the following points :-

Item 6.3 First line "proceeding year" should read "preceding year".

Item 10.1 Last line of paragraph starting "Following a lively discussion"  
"paragraph 3 b)" should read "paragraph 3 d)".

Item 10.2 Last line "continues" should read "continuous"

Item 10.6 First line "Fiona Howeth" should read "Fiona Howarth"

Item 10.7 Last line "tunes" should read "dances".

With these corrections Graham offered the minutes for acceptance as a true and accurate record of the clubs 1998 AGM. Proposed by Adrian seconded by Betty. Carried with no objections or abstentions. Graham signed the minutes.

## 4 Matters Arising

Graham noted that Items 6.3, 6.4 & 6.6 all related to the accounts and requested that they be addressed under Section 6 (Treasurers Report). The meeting had no objection.

## Matters Arising (continued)

Graham then covered the following Items :-

### 4.1 Ref AGM Minutes Para 6.5 Capital Outlay on Equipment.

Graham reported that committee had specifically considered the benefits of a MINI-DISK system to Rainmakers. However the only local club known to possess such an item were the Staplers Country Dance Club located in Hitchin. He noted that Staplers were currently transferring their library of music from vinyl to Mini-Disk. As such committee felt it prudent to observe the success of the system in a club environment before making any decisions. The possibility of a new audio tape player was not addressed.

Henry observed that Frank Flanigan and Janet Woolbar used a Mini-Disk during one of their workshops and suggested discussing its merits with them. Graham thanked Henry but replied that he was particularly interested in how the equipment performed in a club environment when it would be available for use by several people.

### 4.2 Ref AGM minutes Para 8.4 Sale of club costume

Graham reported that there has been no progress on this action although he recommend the new committee to regard as worthy of continued attention.

### 4.3 Ref AGM Minutes Para 10.3 Extent of Rainmakers SIFD Insurance cover

Graham noted that this query was prompted by the report of an instance of theft from a callers car. Committee addressed the matter and concluded that in this situation the responsibility for insurance cover for personal property was the responsibility of the owner.

### 4.4 Ref AGM Minutes Para 10.4 Promotion of SIFD events....

Graham advised the meeting that since the last AGM, as Chairman he had attempted to promote the SIFD and its events via the Friday evening notices.

### 4.5 Ref AGM Minutes Para 10.7 Short audio tapes.....

Graham reported that committee had discussed Isabel's comments from last years AGM and decided to go ahead with the production of a further 30 short tapes (60 tunes). The action was a current and ongoing action.

In response to a query from Isabel, Graham stated that he had given the responsibility of selecting the dances and recording the tunes etc. to Katka following her positive request for the job. Graham extended his thanks to Isabel, noting that her offer of assistance was on record from the last AGM

Graham asked if there were any further comments, questions or matters arising that he had not covered. There were none.

## 5 Secretaries Report

### "A calendar of events" 1<sup>st</sup> September 1998 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 1999

No sooner had we returned to St. Michael's than we outside again! On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September nine members provided an hour long display in the Letchworth Arcade. We drew a reasonable audience despite the wet weather.

Two evening workshops provided Jill with an opportunity not only to brush up our technique but also to revise some of the dances requested for the Anniversary Dance. Daksha used some of the time to initiate members into the finer points of two Indian dances (one circle dance, one stick dance).

## Secretaries Report (continued)

Live music provided by Jacob's Ladder and Jill acting as MC attracted 33 dancers to our anniversary dance held in Ickleford Village Hall. A Rainmakers cabaret of two Indian dances led by Daksha & (her friend) Daksha proved to be the highlight of the evening. Maria made a delicious cake for the occasion.

The year was rounded off by our Christmas party when an enjoyable evening was spent dancing, eating, and chatting. Some members then welcomed the new year at the Staplers/Rainmakers New Years Day Party Dance.

An Armenian evening with Dalilah Heath at the end of January saw the club getting to grips with some new dances and revising the "Windscreen Wipers" dance. This was an old favorite from Albert Street, danced with scarves. The evening overran but we still stayed to watch Dalilah perform a wedding dance.

The Sunday SIFD Dance in February was hosted by Rainmakers with Jill as MC.

There were also songs to accompany some of the dances from the Rainmakers Singing Group. Some club members went up to Cecil Sharp House early to hear "A Celebration of Music & Dance" for Alan Humberstone.

In March Janet Woolbar came to teach at an International workshop at Radwell Village Hall. As usual she was ably assisted by Frank Flanigan. This was a good opportunity to revise some of our neglected dances. As usual when Janet & Frank come to teach us we had a day of humour and hard work

The Spring highlight was the "Phil & Jill 103 Show on 10<sup>th</sup> April at Ickleford Village Hall. The occasion was to celebrate their joint 103<sup>rd</sup> birthday. After discovering that they shared a birth date Phil & Jill decided to share the event with a dance. Jill had only just arrived back from Australia even picking up a new costume from the Far East on the way. Phil & Jill later performed a surprise cabaret. Resplendent in full evening dress they danced to a selection of music, a dance finally recognized as "Oh they're doing Neapolitan Tarantella". I managed to put together a compilation of 103 things, often, sometimes & never heard at Rainmakers and presented a copy to the dancing duo, signed by the Rainmakers. Sixteen Rainmakers later danced Fackeltanze, a candle dance. At the end of April Fiona Howarth came to the club to teach us some new Israeli dances. May & June followed with the usual programme of Friday evenings, but July saw a change of venue. Refurbishment was announced at St. Michael's, so Graham arranged for us to the St Thomas of Canterbury Church Hall, on Bedford Road. The hall was smaller than St. Michael's and high temperatures made it very warm, but Phil helped by bringing in a number of large electric fans.

The end of term party was held in the Wilbury Hall to the rear of St. Thomas's Church, but this time Peter came to our rescue by fetching large containers of drinking water because we couldn't get into its kitchen.

Also in July some Rainmakers went over to Milton Keynes for their International Festival and to Llangollen for the International Eisteddfod.

As usual garden evenings followed at the end of July & through August. Peter & Jill, Sue & Adrian, Martin & Jane and Phil & Daksha kindly offered their gardens. It was nice to dance and to have long chats to people, not possible on Friday evenings.

At the beginning of August three Rainmakers made the trip to Devon for the week long Sidmouth International Festival. Four members also went to the Towersey Village Festival, held in Bucks.

Although the year again saw Rainmakers engaged in a variety of activities we were far less involved in group displays. Preparations for the Gathering now no longer occupy much of the autumn & Spring terms. We were invited to display at RAF Lakenheath, Suffolk, but at the last minute their funding was cut and we were canceled.

Graham thanked Sheila for her comprehensive report.

## 6 Treasurers Report

6.1 Barry reported that he had only recently been able to make contact with Bill Thorn, only to find that Bill was just about to leave for several weeks holiday. Following a suggestion from Bill, he approached Richard Thom who willingly agreed to examine the clubs 1998/99 accounts in Bills absence. Regrettably Richard was unable to reconcile the accounts with the supporting documents, receipts etc. that he (Barry) had provided. Consequently he had no accounts to present. Referring to Para 6.6 of the 1998 AGM minutes Barry also reported that because <sup>of</sup> Richard's concerns he was also unable to present a set of 1997/8 accounts.

In a set of written notes supplied to support his concerns Richard offered to work with Barry, or his successor to produce an acceptable set of accounts.

Roger asked if the current level of annual subscriptions and weekly charges were still appropriate, Barry confirmed that he had addressed this matter and did not see a case to increase them.

Following some lengthy discussion and with Barry's agreement, Graham proposed the club accept Richard's offer and that the resulting accounts be presented to an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) in the new year. The exact date to be circulated when Barry and Richard had completed the task. The meeting agreed the proposal.

## 7 Appointment of Independent Examiner

Graham proposed that the appointment of an independent examiner be addressed at the same EGM. The meeting agreed the proposal.

## 8 Chairman's Comments

Graham noted that the Annual General Meeting of any club was traditionally the opportunity taken to thank those members who have made a specific contribution to its activities or well-being during the previous 12 months. This AGM was to be <sup>no</sup> exception. So, not in any order of priority, he wished to record a vote of thanks to :-

### 8.1 Committee members

Sheila who took on the mantle of publicity officer and club secretary.

Katka who took responsibility for the Friday MC rota and has been a prime mover in the production of a further 30 short audio tapes.

### 8.2 Non-committee members

Maria as Wardrobe Mistress & general catering coordinator.

Jill as Dance mistress and choreographer

Betty for maintaining the scrapbooks

Martin for ensuring we never ran out of squash for our interval drinks.

Clare for bringing the SIFD shop to many Friday evenings thus ensuring Rainmakers often had a preview of (and an opportunity to buy) items before the rest of the society.

And to all those members who have acted as "Guest Callers" on Friday evenings or Garden evenings

### 8.3 A special vote of thanks to :-

Barry, who is standing down from committee, for bringing his own unique "down to earth" approach to the role of treasurer. His input will be missed.

Graham concluded his thanks by recognizing all those members who had supported the club by performing random, non-specific tasks, during the preceding year.



#### 8.4 Advertising

Referring to his comments made at last years AGM, Graham reported that committee had supported his proposal and as a result there had been no expenditure on "passive advertising" this year. Non the less, as the result of Sheila's efforts Rainmakers name still regularly appeared in a number of databases or publications, including :-

Herts Folk Association Directory.

Whats on in N.Herts.

Community Information Database

NHDC Arts Directory

Sticks Magazine

Spotlight

Unfortunately in spite of this and our "Bring a friend Evenings" club membership was still virtually static. In an attempt to raise Rainmakers profile within the community Graham proposed that the new committee investigate the possible advantages to be had by associating Rainmakers with the "Letchworth Arts & Leisure Group"

#### 8.5 Workshops

In view of their success Graham recommend that the new committee continue to arrange occasional special Friday evening workshops with invited teachers and also to provide at least one full Saturday workshop.

#### 8.6 Anniversary Dance

Graham cited the low turnout and higher than normal expenditure as the two main factors contributing to the large financial loss incurred at the 1999 Anniversary dance As Chairman Graham accepted responsibility for this situation and went on to strongly recommend that the new committee take a far more cautious approach to its year 2000 Anniversary dance. He closed the item by requesting members to express their own views on the subject under "Any Other Business".

#### 8.7 Displays

Observing that Rainmakers had been through a particularly lean year regarding displays, Graham stated that on a personal level he still considered them an activity with many benefits and wished to encourage committee to continue its positive yet considered approach to display requests in the next 12 months.

Graham concluded his comments and thanked members for their attention.

#### 9 Election of Officers

Graham read out the nominations received to date and noted the absence of a nomination for the post of Treasurer. As Chairman, Graham informed the meeting that the absence of a Treasurer was not only unconstitutional but also unrealistic and that the meeting could not proceed until a volunteer came forward.

Peter Bransby offered his services as Treasurer on a temporary basis on the understanding that existing commitments would almost certainly prevent him attending committee meetings. Graham thanked Peter and noted his comments, Barry proposed Peter and Roger seconded him.

## Election of Officers (continued)

Graham then read out the nominations for committee as follows :-

<b>Office</b>	<b>Nomination</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Seconded</b>
Chairman	Graham Styles	Isabel Lamont	Phil Trivedi
Secretary	Sheila Levy	Betty Lee	Louise Tomlinson
Treasurer	Peter Bransby	Barry O'Sullivan	Roger Lowes
Member	Katka Kessler	Sheila Leavy	Daksha Trivedi

Graham asked if there were any further nomination from the floor - there were none.

Graham offered the nominee's, as read, for election "on block".

Proposed by Adrian, seconded by Jill, there were no objections and no abstentions.

### 10 Any Other Business

#### 10.1 Silver Jubilee T-shirt

Isabel noted that 2001 was the Rainmakers Silver Anniversary year and asked if committee could investigate the possibility of producing an appropriate T-shirt to mark the occasion. Graham agreed to raise the matter in committee.

#### 10.2 Anniversary Dance 1999

Isabel asked why the date of the Anniversary Dance had been arranged for 25th September, when historically it had better support when held in October, Graham replied that it was the best date available to suite hall availability, Cloudburst and Janet & Frank. Jill observed that because of external factors October was less flexible in terms of available dates. In any case the 1998 dance which was held in October was only kept in profit by visitors and if members wanted the event they ought to support it. Some members stated that holiday arrangements had been made for September in anticipation of an October dance and requested that future dates be made available as soon as possible. As a member of "Cloudburst" Jill voiced the opinion that when dealing with Rainmakers their leader Martin Butler would normally have been open to negotiation regarding their fee for the evening. Graham replied that he believed the fee discussed & agreed at £175 was in consideration of the other members of the band. As Treasurer Barry stated that he considered the fee quite acceptable A suggestion was made to consider a "low key" Anniversary dance be arranged for 2000 while arranging a "big event" for the Silver Jubilee in 2001. Isabel noted that the events arranged for the club's 18<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversaries had been well supported. Following further discussion Graham agreed to note the views expressed when committee were arranging the 2000 & 2001 Anniversary dances.

#### 10.3 Scrapbook - Thanks

Betty wished to minute a vote of thanks to all those who had provided her with articles and photographs for the scrapbook. They were invaluable as she was now unable to attend many of the events personally.

#### 10.4 Keeping New Members

Barry advised the meeting that when questioned, friends who had attended Rainmakers with him and Helen said they felt International dancing required a great deal of input and commitment before any real enjoyment could be obtained.

There being no other business Graham thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

Friday, November 24th 2000.

Annual General Meeting.

The meeting was preceded by dancing in a freezing cold room - with all doors propped wide open. This was because the floor had been cleaned and sealed and the fumes from the sealant/polish were unbearable.

Then, with doors closed, heaters turned up and members huddled in their coats the A.G.M. opened at 8.25 p.m.

1. Coraham welcomed the 24 members present.
2. Apologies for absence were received from Jill, Peter, Isabel and Moya.
3. The Minutes of Last February's <sup>2000</sup> E.G.M. were quickly gone through as each member had previously been given a copy.
4. In "Matters Arising" Richard asked that "R. Thorne reluctantly agreed to stand as Treasurer and pointed out that he might not be able to attend all committee meetings," he added.

The accounts were accepted.

Bill Thorne had agreed to be Examiner of Accounts.

5. The Minutes of the 1999 A.G.M. were gone through and a few typing and grammatical errors were corrected.
6. The main "Matters Arising" from this A.G.M. were as follows: -

There had been capital outlay on mini discs. No progress had been made on the sale of club costumes as the small committee was too busy.

60 dances (chosen by Katka) had been transferred to cassettes.

The outstanding accounts had been confirmed as accurate.

It was decided not to join the Letchworth Arts and Leisure Group as the subscription fee of £16 per person was too expensive.

The 24th Anniversary Dance held in October 2000 was a low key affair but was very successful. 42 people attended.

Isabel is organising the procurement of 25th Anniversary Tee-shirts in blue and silver.

The 25th Anniversary Dance will be held on Saturday, 13th October 2001 in Ickleford Village Hall. Jill will be M.C. and Clondburst Band will play. There will be an entertainment.

Betty has agreed to write to some past members to invite them to attend.

7. Sheila, our Secretary, gave an entertaining and comprehensive report on the club's activities during the past year. Even though the Rainmakers had given no dancing displays at all as a team, they had participated in several events such as the Christian Aid Barn Dance to help. Adrian and Graham had performed the Ox Dances. Several workshops were well attended. Sheila thanked Betty for the loan of the Scrapbooks to help her compile her report.

8. Richard, the Treasurer, presented his accounts with notes (which had previously been distributed).

There were no comments from the floor. Richard said he saw no need to increase annual or weekly subscriptions as long as the good attendance figures were kept up this year. He thanked Peter for his help.

9. Bill Thorne had agreed to be Examiner of Accounts.
10. See Treasurer's Report.
11. Graham, our Chairman, thanked everyone who had helped the club during the year particularly:-
  - Till - as teacher, choreographer, M.C.
  - Sheila - secretary.
  - Peter and Richard as treasurers.
  - Katka - for doing the new tapes and for singing at parties.
  - Maria - for catering and as wardrobe mistress
  - Clare - for bringing her S.I.F.D. shop to meetings.
  - Martin - for obtaining supplies of squash.
  - Isabel - for organising the new tee shirts.
  - Members who plan and M.C. occasional Friday evenings.

The hosts of the Garden Evenings.  
All others who do things for the club.

Graham said that the Committee had met seven times during the past year.

There had been no organised displays this year but the workshops had all been a success.

The planned "Bring a Friend" evenings did not happen but efforts had been made to publicise the club in the S.I.F.D. News and Set and Turn Single, posters, fliers and leaflets were frequently used in appropriate places.

The Coomber is to be serviced.

Richard proposed a vote of thanks to Graham for the heavy burden of work he had undertaken with a small committee. Members agreed.

12. Letchworth Centenary Celebrations - 2003.

Graham and Sheila attended a meeting of the Letchworth Heritage Committee for all local organisations to make plans for the celebration of the town's centenary in the year 2003. All were urged to take part.

The dancing groups were asked to organise a Day of Dance, Katka and Adrian agreed to attend a meeting to investigate the idea further. Graham asked "Can we commit the club", The answer was "Yes, in principle, hoping that we have enough able and willing dancers in 2003."

### 13. Election of new committee.

Graham produced the Proposal Sheet and said "We have two committee members, Roger and Katka. This is not enough to run the club." There was silence and much pondering. Finally several people volunteered so the new committee is as follows:-

Chairman: Graham Styles.  
Secretary: Sheila Leavy,  
Treasurer: Richard Thom.  
Committee: Roger Lowes  
Katka Kessler  
Adrian Barter  
Diane Henton

(Much relief and applause. Graham wonders if he has enough chairs.)

### 14. Any Other Business.

Christmas closure. On a show of hands it was decided that the club will meet on Friday, December 29th.

A donation of £20 will be sent to "Set and Turn Single" as they send free copies and do not charge for advertising.

Displays - There was a short discussion on seeking or accepting requests for dancing displays. It was decided to accept the request from Pirton Hall Nursing Home.

Mark suggested that the Newsletter should be restarted. The list of dates in this was useful. The new committee will consider this.

The meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

There was time for a quick drink of squash and a dance before we left at 10.00 p.m.



Card from Sue and Adrian on holiday.

Friday, December 22nd. 2000

Christmas Party.

Party time has come round again. This date being very close to Christmas Day it was found that several of our <sup>regular</sup> members had already gone away for the holiday or were at home to welcome family and friends arriving for the festive season. However, twenty-six members gathered at St. Michael's Hall, Letchworth, most of whom were wearing international costumes.

We were pleased to welcome Hestie and Sue Haddom as our guests. (They came to teach us Balkan dances in November.)

The evening followed the usual pattern of a programme of dances chosen by members, M.C.'d by Jill.

During a rather long interval for the consumption of delectable foods brought along by members, Graham made a short speech, thanking Jill for all the hard work she has put in for the club throughout the year. Sheila then produced a large bag containing a present for Jill. It proved to be a Muslim costume (from Pakistan) in sage green with much white beading and decoration on the top. It had been bought in Belfast by Phil Trevedi on behalf of Rainmakers.

Graham then produced a small parcel for Peter "Who always stands by Jill's side." When opening the packet Peter said "This is just what I wanted", some earplugs!

Amid much laughter dancing began again.





Sheila presents a large bag to Jill. It contains her Christmas present from all the Rain-makers.

All is revealed!  
A Muslim costume from Pakistan bought by Phil Trevdi on our behalf.

Photos from Graham.



Shiri Li Kinneret  
Inch Imanayee  
Twelfth Street Rag  
Chassene  
Halfe Hannikin  
Joc in Patru  
Tiedeliepats  
Hoi Harmonica  
Renningen  
Starodavny  
Agir Halay  
Jove Malo Mome  
Moi Muzenka  
Mexican Hat Dance  
Hashual  
Polonaise (to end the first half, whenever that is)  
Kreuz Koenig  
Hachinanit  
Polka Dot  
Maple Leaf Rag  
Lludo Mlado  
Reiach Dudaim  
Dar Gorani  
Jababao  
Maori Stick Dance  
Aymar Behar Hamor  
Devil's Dream  
Stenka  
Erev Ba



Card from Barbara who has decided  
to retire from Rainmakers for health  
reasons.

To Rainmakers

Wishing you  
a very  
happy New Year.

Jim Barbara

With many thanks for  
cards received

Till decided to repeat the Czech dance Starodávný in the second half so that we could watch Leslie and Sue as they danced it with us.

By over-running the finishing time of 11.00 p.m. by a quarter of an hour we managed to complete the full programme of dances. (I think this is the first time this has ever happened.)

Whilst collecting out Christmas cards and dishes we wished each other a "Happy Christmas" and reminded ourselves that the club will meet next Friday, December 27th.

Friday, December 27th.

An extra Club meeting.

During the early hours of December 26th more snow fell in Herts, than we have seen for ten years. All roads were treacherous as temperatures stayed very low all day and night. Side roads and paths were not salted. The result was that Alan Tranqmar arrived at St. Michael's prepared to lead the evening, to find that he had six other dancers who lived quite reasonably nearby.

I am told that they had a very jolly time.

Monday, January 1st. 2001

An Anglo/International Party/Dance.

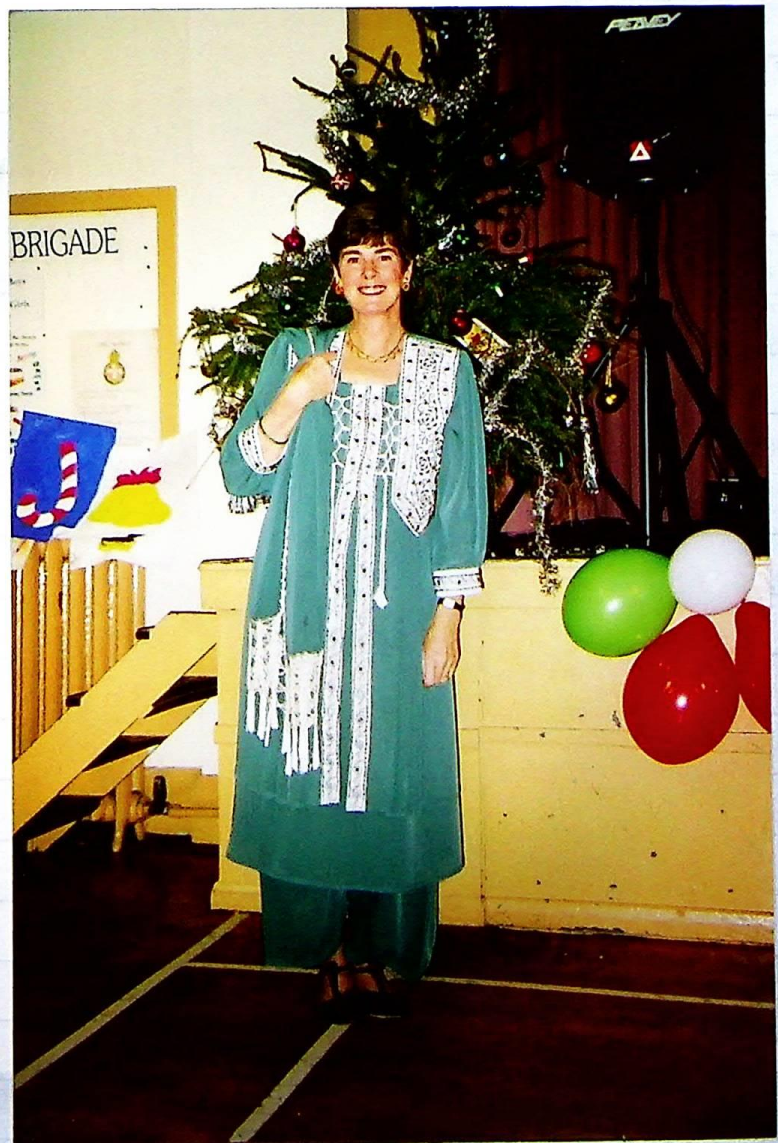
Two local dancing clubs joined together to organise a party dance on January 1st at the Methodist Church hall in Letchworth. Committee members of Staplers and Rainmakers Country dance clubs worked hard to give us an enjoyable evening.

John Riley was M.C. of the English dancing, Jill Bransky led us in the international dancing and Bernard Higgs, organised a few team games. Alan Hughes' Band played very delightfully for the dancing. They had had to learn the tunes of the varied international dances specially and they got the rhythms and speed just right. About fifty people were present.



Alan Hughes and his Band at the Anglo-International New Year Party held in Letchworth Methodist Church Hall on January 1st 2001.

The M.C.'s for the dancing were Jill Bransky and John Riley.



Fun and games between the dances at the New Year party.

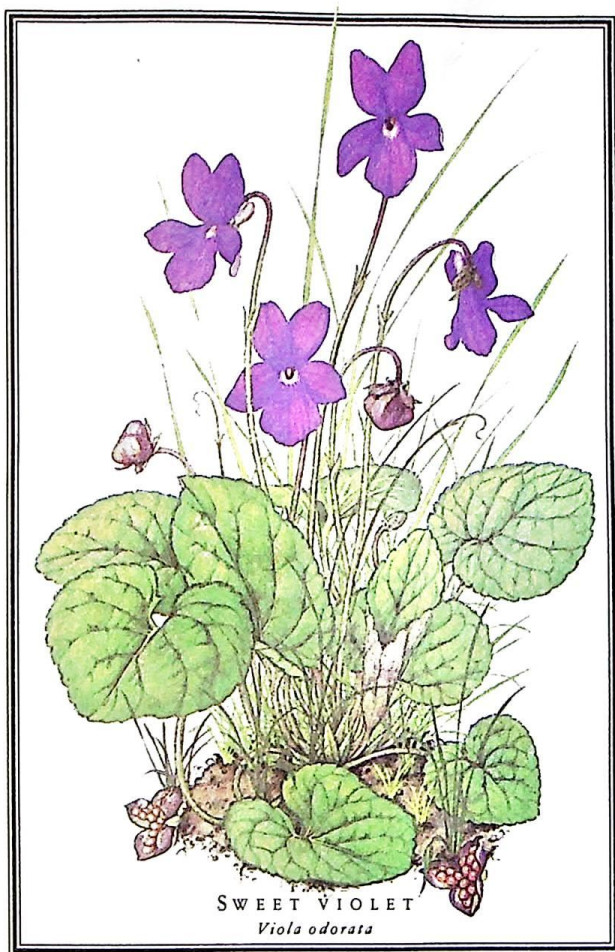


Staplers and Rainmakers mingle.



Photos from Jill.





Received  
January 5th  
2001.

Card from Moya who feels that International Dancing has become too much for her so she will not be coming to the Rainmakers on Fridays in the future. We hope she will come to the Anniversary Party.

Dear Rainmakers

Thank you very  
much for your cards and  
good wishes.

All the very best  
for the New Year - enjoy  
your dancing.

Moya



Staplers' / Rainmakers' New Year Party.  
Letchworth.  
January 1st 2001.



Graham giving all the "Thankyous" at the end.  
Till Bransby and John Riley were M.C.'s for the  
dancing.  
Photos from Helen and Barry.

Friday, January 19th 2001.

Learning Tantouli.

We have been pleased to welcome a Swedish couple, Gunilla and Bengt, to our Friday club meetings occasionally when they are in England.

They come from a village near Stockholm. Gunilla is a teacher of folk dancing and Bengt plays the violin. This week they agreed to teach us a Swedish dance. Despite the fact that Bengt had a chesty cold they kept their promise and appeared at St. Michael's Hall.

Gunilla explained that she was going to teach a traditional dance called Tantouli. Her club was founded in 1914 and they always dance it.

First of all she and Bengt demonstrated the dance to us with music on a tape. Then she broke it down into figures which the Rainmakers endeavored to copy. Bengt accompanied the practising at a slow speed on his fiddle. Some members had met a simple version of this dance before but the "proper" version was quite taxing. By the time the <sup>whole</sup> dance was going through for the second time it became an elimination dance as couples retreated, puffing, to chairs. Everyone enjoyed it, however, and Tantouli is sure to enter the club's repertoire. We are very grateful to Gunilla and Bengt.

It was a pity that most of the Rainmakers' men happened to be absent that night.



March 21st 1992. Rain-makers at Van Hague's Garden Centre, Ware. Moya 'is in the front row, left person.

## Moya Gray.

Moya died on January 17th, 2001 aged 83. The members of Rainmakers were very sad to hear the news of her passing. She was taken to hospital on January 3rd and had lived an active life in her own home till that date.

Eight members of the club attended her simple funeral at the Harwood Park Crematorium, Stevenage on Friday, February 2nd. There we each remembered her as we knew her at the club - a little frail lady, full of energy, with an excellent memory for the dances. She never wanted to sit out even in the last months she was with us when the more energetic dances were becoming too much for her. I could see her at parties and displays wearing Mexican, Dutch or Basque costumes. I also remembered her lugging in a bag of squash bottles and beakers from her car on a Friday night, every week for several years until she was persuaded to pass on the job a year or two ago. My last memory of her was at Jill and Peter's Garden Evening in August 2000, dancing on the lawn.

Moya joined the Rainmakers in 1985 and was a loyal, regular member and a good dancer. We shall miss her very much.



A basket of apricot and pink flowers was sent to the funeral from the Rainmakers.

With all the rain we have had lately, surely we don't want any more? But one group, called The Rainmakers, lifts the clouds for everybody when they perform. Why not join Rainmakers International Folk Dance Group, on Friday nights, at St. Michael's Church Hall, Broadway, for their club night and slip the light fandango with social dances from throughout the world. 8pm to 10pm. Mrs Leavy on 636038 will tell you more. I bet the first song they dance to is 'Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head' - okay!, there's not a lot of comedy in this week's column, alright! What's that, I hear you say, the whole column is a joke every week anyway, - charming!!

February 15th.

A bit of free publicity from the Letchworth "Comet",

All newspaper reporters seem to think that folk dancers are a fair target for mockery!

### Double-edged

The other day, the Army's press office received an unusual request. "A researcher from a TV cookery programme wrote to us saying that they'd heard that the Gurkhas do 'a famous cookery dance', and asked whether they could film it for the show," I'm told. "We fell about. I think they had misheard."

The kukri is the name given to the wicked curved knives with which the Gurkhas terrify their enemies and open their champagne. "It's a fearsome weapon of war - not a celebration of cooking," explains a spokesman for the MoD.

A "funny" seen in the Daily Telegraph, Peterborough's column, about April 19th, by Isabel.

# Rainmakers

International Folk Dance Group

Invite you to attend a

## Mixed International Dance Workshop

With

Janet Woolbar

on

Saturday 7th April 2001

at

Radwell Village Hall, Radwell

£5.00

(All Day)

11.00am to 4.00pm

Further Details, Tel 01462 636038 or 01462 677916



Pirton Nursing Home, 22 April '01, 3 pm. (meet at 2.50)

Hora Hadera (All – Start in line led by Jill and form circle)

Neapolitan Tarentella (All – please pair yourselves up\*– dance with tambourines)

Bourree de la Chapelotte (Adrian with Sue & Isabel, Mark with Diana & Patti, Graham with Shelia & Julie, Peter with Belinda & Maria)

Walenki ( all -as join dance in perhaps)

Kreuz Koenig (2 sets: Adrian & Shelia, Graham & Belinda; Mark & Maria, Peter & Julie )

Zemer Atik ( pairs - all)

Trekarls Polska (set: Graham in middle with Isabel & Shelia, Mark with Patti Diana, Adrian with Sue & Belinda)

Maiezyt (pairs – all)

Jesusita en Chihuahua (pairs - all)

Ox Dans (Adrian and Graham)

Ba Pardess (all)

Appenzeller Klatzwaltzer (pairs - all)

Mexican Hat Dance - Jarabe Tapatío (Couples: Graham & Belinda, Peter & Jill, Adrian & Maria)

Rav Brachot (all)

Stenka (as join in)

\*Pairing. Please will the men make sure that the same women are not sitting out too many of the couple dances. It is usually very hot so we don't all have to dance every dance unless we want to. The women can also pair up – I'll leave it to you all. I do not know whether we have even numbers, if Richard comes, we have. Also Richard could be included in Trekarls Polska instead of Mark or Adrian (fight it out!) and Bourre de la Chapelotte instead of Peter.

Mixed Costumes please.

Saturday, April 7th 2001.  
Day Course at Radwell.

Today Janet Woolbar made her annual excursion to Hertfordshire to lead a Day Course for the Rainmakers club. I think she has been doing this for over twenty years. Certainly a large proportion of the dances in the club's repertoire were originally taught to us by Janet. We are always delighted to see her and her friend Frank who helps in many ways and dances with a "spare" lady, if there is one.

Today Janet taught: -

BRANLE MAITRE DE LA MAISON	ALSACE
REINADIA -(ESTREMADURA)	PORTUGAL
WITTENAUER TORTANZ	GERMANY
JOTA MALLORQUIN	MALLORCA
IDAM <del>NE</del> IDAM	BULGARIA
WECHSELPOLKA	SWITZERLAND
FÖDELS DAGVALS	SWEDEN
WALTZ FROM VINÖN	SWEDEN

During the morning there were sixteen dancers, including Janet and Frank and two visitors (one all the way from Ipswich and the other from Hertford.) At midday four Rainmakers had to leave so there were only twelve dancers in the afternoon (8 Rainmakers.) N.B. Even numbers of men and women all day.

In thanking Janet and Frank, Graham commented on how hard they had all been worked but how very much they had enjoyed the day and Janet's clear teaching.

Pirton Hall Nursing Home, Sunday 22 April 2001

A request from Pirton Hall for a visit from the Rainmakers resulted in twelve of us heading off to Pirton on a sunny April afternoon. We were to dance in the dining room (a good wooden floor) and there was more space available than when a few of us danced there on a previous occasion, so it was even possible to squeeze in 2 sets of Kreuz König and for 2 couples to dance the Mexican Hat Dance (dancing 'end to end', with an interesting bit of flirting going on when the man from one couple came face to face in the middle with the woman from the other pair!)

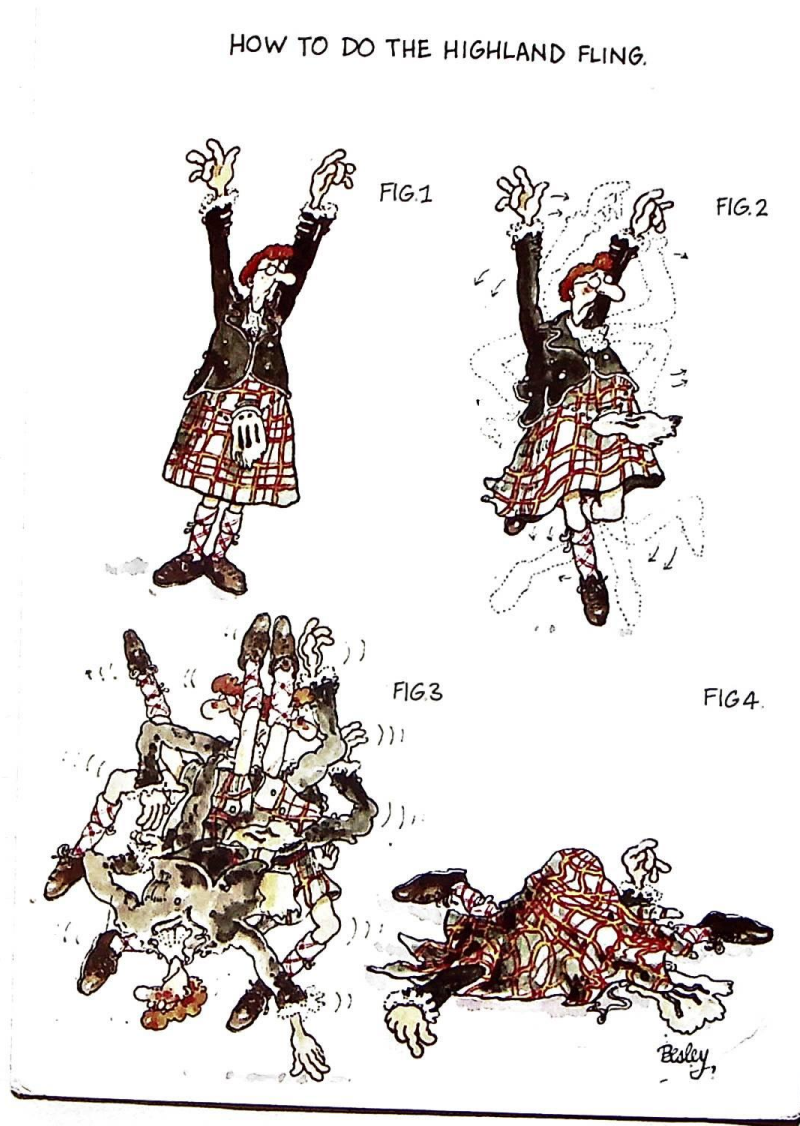
Our last dance was Stenka, and two of the old ladies were persuaded to 'have a go' — well supported on either side by our men. Afterwards we were asked to pose as a group outside for a photograph, and one of the old dears who had danced in Stenka came toddling out to join the group — she obviously considered herself to be an honorary Rainmaker now.

Before we left we were treated to home-made cake and shortbread, tea, coffee, and fruit juice. We were very grateful for the drinks as it had been really hot work dancing for an hour, but we felt it had been a worthwhile exercise.

Isobel

June 23rd. 2001.

Card from Till and Peter, on holiday in Scotland.



They have not seen any midges, kilts, bagpipes or Highland Dancing but a lot of rain.



# RAINMAKERS

## Summer Newsletter 2001

Congratulations to  
Phil and Daksha on the  
celebration of their silver  
wedding anniversary.



### SIFD Dances and Day Courses

Cecil Sharp House 7.00-10.00pm

- 1st July Sue Makin & Fiona Howarth
- August No Sunday Dance in August
- 2nd September Programme selected and introduced by the SIFD band

The next day course is scheduled for Saturday  
8th September - details TBA - see SIFD News.

### Dates for your diary

- 7th July **Phil & Daksha's 25th Anniversary Party**  
St. Michael's Parish Hall 7.30-11.00pm  
Wear costume if you can. Please bring drink and/or a plate of food.
- 8th July **Display at White House Nursing Home**  
Gillison Close, Letchworth.  
Mixed costume.  
Arrive 3.00pm for display at 3.15pm.
- 20th July **Rainmakers End of Term Party**  
Bring usual donation of food/drink.
- 31st Aug Back to St. Michael's.
- 13th Oct **Rainmakers 25th Anniversary Dance**  
Ickleford Village Hall  
Dancing 7.30-11.00pm. Please wear costume if you have one and bring drink and/or plate of food.
- 23rd Nov **Rainmakers Annual General Meeting**  
Start 8.00pm.

### GARDEN EVENINGS

- \* 27th July TBA
- \* 3rd August TBA
- \* 10th August TBA
- \* 17th August Jill & Peter, Red Gables, Benslow Path, Hitchin
- \* 24th August Adrian & Sue, 5 Langbridge Close, Hitchin



For details of evenings not yet "taken up" ring Graham  
on 01462 677916





# International Competitions

## MONDAY 2nd JULY

**LLANGOLLEN INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTALIST** – 14.30 & 19.30 hrs  
**SEMI-FINALS** – Twenty instrumentalists compete for this prestigious new title in two sessions.

## TUESDAY 3rd JULY

**CHILDREN'S MATINEES** 11.00 & 13.00 hrs  
**COMPETITORS' TOWN PARADE** 17.00 hrs

## WEDNESDAY 4th JULY

**YOUTH CHOIRS** of not more than 50 voices, 14-25 years of age, a 20th Century composition (not an arrangement) by a composer of the competing choir's own country, sung in any language.

**FOLK SONG SOLO** (under 15) two well contrasted folk songs of the singer's own country.

**INSTRUMENTAL FOLK SOLO OR GROUP** up to 6 musicians. Folk air, song or dance on regional instruments.

**ADULT FOLK DANCE GROUPS** of not more than 20 dancers, a total number of 6 musicians and flag bearers is allowed, 16 years of age and over. Two well contrasted traditional folk dances of the dancers' own region, performed in **traditional** and **authentic** manner.

**VOCAL SOLO** under 15  
 Either: Handel: Ombra mai fu – to be sung in Italian, Welsh or English  
 Or: Schubert: Die Forelle – to be sung in German, Welsh or English

## THURSDAY 5th JULY

**CHILDREN'S CHOIRS** of not more than 60 voices, two contrasting pieces:

(a) William Mathias – Calico Pie from Lear Songs.

(b) Either: a choral arrangement of a traditional folk song of the competing choir's own country, sung in any language

Or: a 20th century original composition by a composer of the competing choir's own country, sung in any language.

**INSTRUMENTAL SOLO** under 15 – open to all classical instrumentalists including pianists under 15 years of age.

**FOLK SONG SOLO** 15 years and over. Two well contrasted traditional folk songs of the singer's own country. The first song must be unaccompanied.

**FOLK SONG GROUP** up to 25 voices, mixed or equal voice, 16 years of age and over. Two well contrasted traditional folk songs of the singers' own country to be performed in **traditional** and **authentic** manner.

**FOLK SONG PARTY** up to 8 voices, mixed or equal voice, 16 years of age and over. Two arrangements of well contrasted traditional folk songs of the singers' own country.

**VOCAL SOLO** 15 – 19 years of age (inclusive).

## FRIDAY 6th JULY

**CHAMBER CHOIRS** of 16 – 30 voices only (mixed or equal voice). A contrasting programme of up to 12 minutes of music.

**INSTRUMENTAL SOLO** 15 – 19 (inclusive). Open to all classical instrumentalists including pianists

**MIXED CHOIRS** of not less than 30 and no more than 80 voices. A contrasting programme to include:

Verdi: *Gli arredi festivi (Nabucco)* to be sung in Italian

**CHILDREN'S FOLK DANCE GROUPS** All dancers must be 16 years of age and under. Two well contrasted traditional folk dances of the dancers' own region performed in **traditional** and **authentic** manner.

## SATURDAY 7th JULY

**FEMALE CHOIRS** of not less than 30 and no more than 60 voices. A contrasting programme of music to include an unaccompanied item and the set piece:

Verdi: *Che Faceste? Dite su! (Macbeth)* to be sung in Italian

**PEACE MESSAGE** Presented by local Primary School children.

**FOLK SONG CHOIR** up to 25 voices, mixed or equal voice, 16 years of age and over. Two choral arrangements of well contrasted traditional folk songs of the singers' own country, performed in a **classical** manner.

**MALE CHOIRS** of not less than 30 voices. A contrasting programme of music to include an unaccompanied item and the set piece:

Verdi: *Ewiva! Beviam! Beviam! (Ernani)*

**INDIVIDUAL FOLK-DANCE** 15 years of age and over. Competitors to use traditional steps and melodies from their native country.



# International Evening Concert

## TUESDAY 3rd JULY 19.30hrs

Welcoming Ceremony and Opening Concert

## Yale Alumni Chorus



A Celebration of Yale University's 300th Anniversary, honouring the university's first benefactor namesake Elihu Yale, native of Wrexham.

## WEDNESDAY 4th JULY 19.30hrs

**Worldwide Celebration of Music and Dance** featuring Folk Dancers and Singers, Youth Choirs, Folk Instrumental winner.

## THURSDAY 5th JULY 19.30hrs

**Worldwide Celebration of Music and Dance** featuring Folk Dancers, Singers, Instrumentalists and Children's Choirs.



## FRIDAY 6th JULY 20.00hrs

## LLANGOLLEN INTERNATIONAL Instrumentalist

Five young Instrumentalists compete for the title and a first prize of fifteen thousand pounds.

**Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra**

## SATURDAY 7th JULY 19.30hrs

**Worldwide Celebration of Music and Dance** featuring Folk Dancers, Singers, Instrumentalists and Choirs and

## Choir OF THE World AT LLANGOLLEN

Since 1987 the Eisteddfod has staged this major event which determines the outright winner of the four major choral competitions for Mixed, Female, Male and Chamber Choirs.



## SUNDAY EVENING

8th July 19.00hrs

## LLANGOLLEN

# International MUSICAL EISTEDDFOD

Present a *Gala Concert*

featuring one of the world's most celebrated sopranos

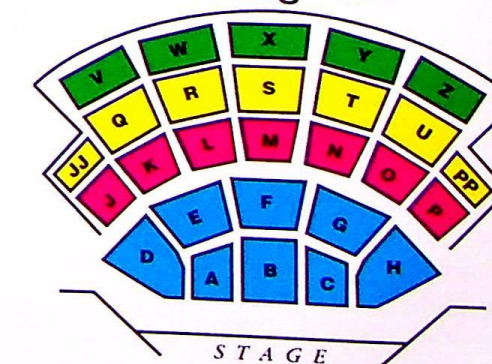
## Angela Gheorghiu

with the Orchestra of Welsh National Opera



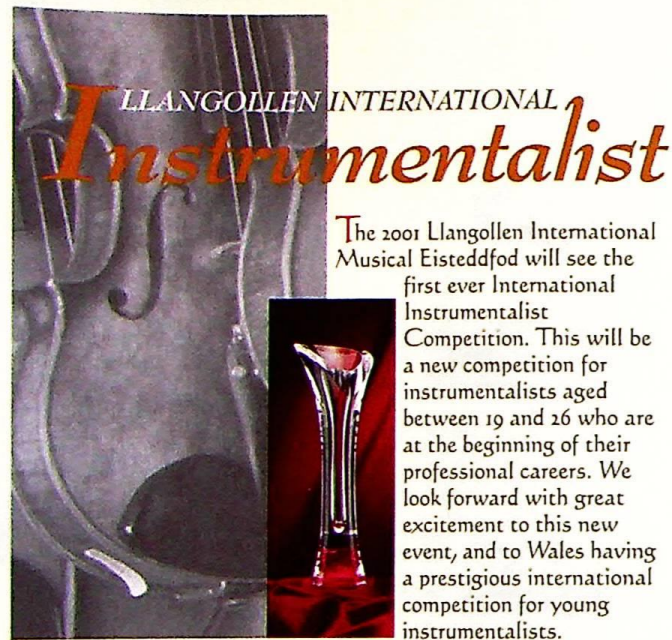
## LLANGOLLEN International 2000

### Seating Plan



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# New Competition information



The 2001 Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod will see the first ever International Instrumentalist Competition. This will be a new competition for instrumentalists aged between 19 and 26 who are at the beginning of their professional careers. We look forward with great excitement to this new event, and to Wales having a prestigious international competition for young instrumentalists.

Along with the Llangollen International Singer, we are confident that these competitions will bring a new audience to Llangollen and will, in time, become two of the major competitions for young performers throughout the world.

As with the Llangollen International Singer this year, competitors will be asked to send a recording of themselves, along with a letter of recommendation specifically for the competition from the principal of a Conservatory of Music, the person responsible for classical music at the national broadcasting organisation of the competitor's country, or the Manager of a symphony orchestra.

Twenty young instrumentalists will be selected for the semi-finals of the Llangollen International Instrumentalist, and they will be competing for the first prize of fifteen thousand pounds. The semi-finals will be held in the Royal International Pavilion in two competitive sessions on Monday, July 2nd 2001, and the final will take place on Friday, July 6th 2001. The five finalists will be accompanied by the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra. A distinguished international panel of judges have been invited.

The closing date for entries is February 1st 2001, and a brochure with further details is available on request.

# When & How to book tickets

SEASON TICKETS	Applications from 1st September 2000
CONCERT / SESSION	Applications from 1st December 2000
COUNTER SALES	Applications from 1st February 2001
FRIENDS PRIORITY	Applications from 15th November 2000
PARKING	With ticket Application*

\*essential to ensure allocation and avoid overflow parking

**By Post**  
Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod,  
Eisteddfod Office 1st Floor, Royal International  
Pavilion, Abbey Road, Llangollen LL20 8SW, UK.  
Cheques should be made payable to L.I.M.E.

**By Telephone/Fax**  
Tel: (0) 1978 862000 Fax: (0) 1978 862002  
Telephone Hours 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday.  
All major credit and debit cards accepted.

**By Internet/E-Mail**  
E-mail: tickets@international-eisteddfod.co.uk  
Web Site: www.international-eisteddfod.co.uk

**Counter Sales**  
COUNTER (Monday - Thursday 09.00-16.00 and Friday 09.00-15.00) from 1st February 2001  
Please note that we are now on the 1st Floor, Royal International Pavilion, Abbey Road, Llangollen

**Group Discounts**  
10% on parties of 10 or more applicable on reserved seating and unreserved\* - not applicable on Season Tickets.  
\*Unreserved bookings only receive discount if prior notice of party is given.

**Unreserved Seats/ Ground Admission**  
Wednesday to Saturday (Tuesday & Sunday Evenings not included).  
10% discount on Party Bookings available by prior application only.

(Not available in advance, seating NOT guaranteed)	ADULTS	OAPs	CHILDREN UNDER 16	FAMILY TICKETS (Two Adults & up to 3 children under 16)
ALL DAY 08.30-23.00	£5.00	£4.00	£3.00	£12.00
EVENINGS ONLY 18.00-23.00	£2.50	£1.50	£1.50	

# Other information

**Corporate Hospitality**  
A selection of Hospitality Packages are available for Evening Concerts. For detailed information write to the Marketing Director. Tel: 01978 862007  
E-mail: marketing@international-eisteddfod.co.uk

**Dance Workshop**  
\* Thursday 09.30-12.00 hours and 14.30-17.00 hours  
Tickets £5.00 per session £8.00 per whole day  
- available on the door.

**Folk Dancing For All**  
\* Wednesday & Friday evening from 19.15.  
\* - ALL THESE EVENTS WILL BE HELD AT DINAS BRAN SCHOOL.

**Ground Admission Times**  
Monday - Ground Open 14.00 hours  
Children's Matinée - Ground Opens 9.30 hours  
Day Sessions - Ground Opens 08.30 Hours (Wed-Sat)  
Evening Concert - Ground Opens 18.00 (Tues-Sat)  
Sunday Concert - Ground Opens 17.00

**NO DOGS EXCEPT GUIDE DOGS.** Please advise staff when booking tickets.

**Disabled Visitors**  
Disabled visitors are very welcome at the Eisteddfod. We provide special preferential parking, seating areas, toilet facilities and a Courtesy Car for those with severe difficulties. **Motorised wheelchairs are welcome on the ground but can only be accommodated for reserved seating in Block JJ please advise the office when booking your seats.**

**Accommodation**  
Visitors requiring accommodation are asked to send their details to the **Private Accommodation Secretary.**  
• Number in party • Type of accommodation required  
• Date of arrival and departure • Whether travelling by car  
The area is also well served by camping and caravan sites.

**Refreshments**  
The official caterers are Dolen, who provide hot and cold meals within a seated pavilion, there are also a wide selection of fast food outlets. Llangollen is well served by restaurants and bistros.

**Syllabus 2001**  
Available from Eisteddfod Office. Closing date for groups 1st November 2000. Closing date for soloists 1st March 2001  
2002 Syllabus available March 2001.

# Friends of the Eisteddfod

Formed to support the Eisteddfod. Members enjoy a periodical newsletter, Members Tent, and Group Activities. Members also qualify for Priority Booking - see Postal Booking.

RATES	UK & Europe	Overseas
Individual	£10	£15
Joint	£15	£20
Family	£20	£25
Student	£3	£6

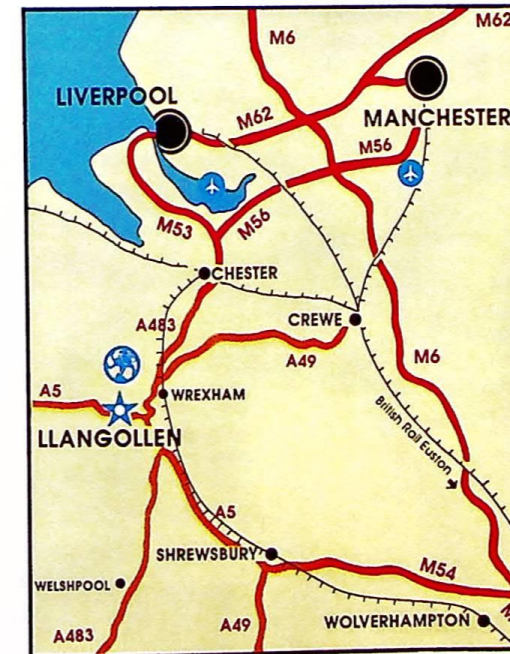
# How to find us

**NEAREST INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT:** Manchester and Liverpool.

**NEAREST RAILWAY STATION**  
Major - Chester/Crewe, Minor - Ruabon/Chirk  
A limited bus service operates between the Station and Llangollen.

**ROAD TRAVEL**  
See Map for Routes

CHESTER	20M
SHREWSBURY	29M
BIRMINGHAM	85M
CARDIFF	139M
LONDON	192M



EISTEDDFOD GERDDOROL GYDWLADOL LLANGOLLE

# LLANGOLLE International Musical Eisteddfod 2-8 July 2001



NEW for 2001

LLANGOLLE INTERNATIONAL  
**Instrumentalist**

www.international-eisteddfod.co.uk



LLANGOLLEN INTERNATIONAL - MUSICAL EISTEDDFOD



Performers at Llangollen International  
Musical Eisteddfod (46th) July 3rd-9th 2000.  
Till, Claire, Kathka, Henry and Betty were  
there from Rainmakers. We met many S.I.F.D.  
people. Many of those interested in the dance  
teams, folk choirs and instrumentalists just



go for Wednesday and Thursday but others stay longer (one can pick and choose). There are "folk" items in the evening concerts during the week. Llangollen is in a beautiful valley. The standard of dancing and singing is very high, the atmosphere is friendly.  
This programme is to tempt you for next year.

N.B. Page 2,  
The unreserved seats are rather far from the stage but they are up the slope and give a good view of the dancing. (Better than some of the more expensive seats as no heads are in the way)



EISTEDDFOD GERDDOROL GYDWLADOL LLANGOLLEN

# LLANGOLLEN

## International

### Musical Eisteddfod

2-8 July 2001

**NEW for 2001**

# LLANGOLLEN INTERNATIONAL

# Instrumentalist

[www.international-eisteddfod.co.uk](http://www.international-eisteddfod.co.uk)

**PHIL AND DAKSHA TRIVEDI INVITE YOU TO AN  
EVENING OF**

# **International Dancing**



**TO CELEBRATE THEIR**



## **25th Wedding Anniversary**



**ON SATURDAY 7 JULY 2001 FROM 7.30 PM  
AT LETCHWORTH PARISH HALL, BROADWAY, (next to ST  
MICHAELS CHURCH), LETCHWORTH, N.HERTS.**

**M.C. for the evening: Jill Bransby**

**◆ NO PRESENTS PLEASE..... BUT PLEASE BRING A  
PLATE OF FOOD AND / OR DRINK TO SHARE !... ◆**



**THANK YOU.....**

**(Our Tel No: 01462 813943)**

Phil and Daksha's 25<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary Dance.

July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2001, 7.30 – 11.00 p.m.

Musician: Martin Butler M.C.: Jill Bransby

Hora Hadera  
Cherkessia Kfula

Danish Schotische  
La Bastringue

Fyrtur  
Dorset Four Hand Reel

Nikolos

Reiach Dudaim  
Chassene

Lludo Mlado

Mexican Waltz  
Moi Muzhenka

Never on a Sunday

Steiregger  
Neapolitan Tarantella

Trekarls Polska  
Raas

Rav Brachot  
Zemer Atik

Vleegert

Jesusita en Chihuahua  
El Corrido

Dvazhdi Trizhdi  
Meillionen

Musica Nisheret  
× Jarabe Tapatio

× Appenzeller Klatchwaltzer  
× La Bourree Pastourelle

× Hava Nagila





The Anniversary Waltz.



Sunthari's display of classical Indian dance.

Phil and Daksha's Silver Wedding Anniversary  
Saturday 7 July 2001

So enthusiastic have Phil and Daksha become about international dancing that, to celebrate their Silver Wedding, they booked St. Michael's hall for an international dance, to which they invited all the Rainmakers, in addition to their other friends.

When we arrived we found the hall completely transformed — lit with coloured 'spots' and decorated with great bunches of silvery balloons topped with big blue heart-shaped ones. The assembled company was very colourful, with most Rainmakers in costume and many of the other ladies in Indian dress. A varied and lavish selection of tasty dishes had been brought by the guests and there was a lovely cake decorated with a photo of Phil and Daksha.

The programme, M.C.'d by Jill, was made up of Phil and Daksha's favourite dances, and live music was provided by Martin Butler and his violinist Adrian. There were 2 'cabaret' items: first, a spectacular display of Indian dance by one of Phil and Daksha's friends, and then later an 'Anniversary Waltz' performed by Phil and Daksha, and choreographed by Jill from a combination of 2 Polish dances (Laura and Lublin Waltz). As I watched them dancing, I remembered how, when they first came to Rainmakers, Phil insisted on sitting watching while Daksha joined in, and it was weeks before he could be persuaded to try even a simple dance with us — what a difference a few years have made!

All in all, this was another memorable event in the history of the Rainmakers. To mark the occasion, Rainmakers gave Phil and Daksha a hallmarked silver photo frame, and we wish them every happiness for the future.

Isabel



Members of Rainmakers join in dancing a Raas with Daksha, Phil and their Indian friends.

Sunday, July 8th 2001.

Display at The White House, Letchworth.

Till's mother is a resident at the White House Nursing Home, Gillson Close, Letchworth so on Sunday last eleven Rainmakers went along to entertain her and her fellow residents.

A mixture of colourful costumes was worn by the dancers and Till had devised a varied programme of dances for the display.

I am told that an L shaped room (carpeted) had been prepared for them to dance in, so unperturbed, the Rainmakers adapted their moves accordingly so that all the audience could see them. Circles had to go round a corner and out into a straight line, Stenka became a long, thin sausage shape and Mark had to keep hopping on the same leg in Kreuz Koenig to avoid a wheelchair.

Two dances, Walenki and Stenka, were designated as "joining in for all" and a few of the residents were able to do this.

The audience was quietly appreciative of the entertainment and, over a cup of tea afterwards, the dancers heard complimentary comments so the visit had been well worthwhile.



The White House, Gillison Close, Sunday July 8<sup>th</sup>, 3.15pm.

Hora Hadera (All – Start in line led by Jill and form circle)

Neapolitan Tarentella (All – please pair yourselves up\*– dance with tambourines)

Bourree de la Chapelotte (Adrian with Sue & Claire, Mark with Jill & Patti,  
~~Richard~~ with Shelia & Julie, ~~Peter with Belinda & Maria~~)  
*Peter* *Maria*

Walenki ( all -as join dance in perhaps)

Kreuz Koenig (2 sets (there may not be room for two?): Adrian & Shelia, Graham  
& ~~Belinda~~; Mark & Maria, Peter & Julie )  
*Julie*

Zemer Atik ( pairs - all)

Trekarls Polska (set: Graham in middle with Claire & Shelia, Mark with Patti  
& Maria, ~~Richard~~ with Sue & ~~Belinda~~)  
*Peter* *Julie*

Maiezyt (pairs – all)

Jesusita en Chihuahua (pairs - all)

Ox Dans (Adrian and Graham)

Ba Pardess (all)

Appenzeller Klatzwaltzer (pairs - all)

Mexican Hat Dance - Jarabe Tapatio ( Peter & Jill ) ( *Maria + Graham* )

Rav Brachot (all)

Stenka (as join in)

\*Pairing. Please will the men make sure that the same women are not sitting out too many of the couple dances. It is usually very hot so we don't all have to dance every dance unless we want to. The women can also pair up – I'll leave it to you all. (We have ~~5~~ men and ~~8~~ women in the display today.)

*4*  
Mixed Costumes please.



Rainmakers dancing in Peter and Jill's garden on August 17th, 2001.

Friday, July 20th 2001.

End-of-term Party.

The usual end-of-term party was held at St. Michael's Hall. The evening was led by Graham who M.C.'d a programme of dances requested by Rainmakers. This resulted in a rather un-balanced mixture of dances, mainly Israeli, but members present joined in and enjoyed themselves.

Garden Evenings.

Summer 2001.

Three Garden Evenings were held this year:-

August 10th at Diana & Dick's<sup>2</sup> home in  
Letchworth,

August 17th at Peter & Jill's home in  
Hitchin,

August 24th at Adrian & Sue's home in  
Hitchin.

Quite a few members, including me, were on holiday in the early part of August so we had to miss the first garden party. However, I know that those who could be there had a very enjoyable time.

The weather stayed dry for the next two events. It was so pleasant to relax and dance in pretty gardens and to have time and opportunity for conversation, particularly when we retreated indoors as dusk fell and the gnats began to bite. Then we enjoyed delicious refreshments provided by

our hosts and brought along by members.

We are extremely grateful to all our hosts and hostesses for their hospitality. We appreciate that it means a lot of extra work for them.

## Summer Festivals 2001.

### Sidmouth.

Some members will remember when twenty-five of us (plus families) would go off to the International Folk Festival at Sidmouth in Devon. There we would meet to dance at workshops with foreign teams, at workshops led by S.I.F.D. teachers (including Jill) sit together at the Arena to watch the displays and concerts, busk on the Esplanade, generally socialise and finally, take part in the torchlight procession on the last night.

This year six Rainmakers and two former members met there from time to time. The festival is differently organised now - only four foreign teams who came for one or two performances before moving on, so the shows at the Arena had quite a different format. However there were still workshops in English and various international dance styles to attend and many excellent concerts of music, singing and dancing. The torchlight procession now ends with fireworks and those processing are mainly British people.

## Milton Keynes.

This has been the nearest we have to a local International Folk Festival. It was always held in early July. A large group of Rainmakers have enjoyed excellent workshops and concerts there with teams from abroad. It did not happen this year.

## Llangollen. 2-8 July.

I have written about <sup>this occasion,</sup> earlier in this Scrapbook. It is an excellent chance to see many folk dance teams, in costume, from all over the world. They compete for prizes and give displays. It is well worth a visit particularly on the Wednesday and Thursday of the event. There were no workshops this year.

## Towsersey.

- A little hamlet in Oxfordshire near Thame and Aylesbury (Bucks). Here you can enjoy a "folksy" day or weekend. The events are mainly English in origin but there are sometimes Irish, Scots and Welsh performers. On Saturday and Sunday one dance team from abroad performs on the Arena stage. Sue and Adrian enjoyed spending Sunday there this year, very much.

Rainmakers' new term begins on Friday, August 31st.



Costume of Saas Fee, Switzerland.

Till and Peter sent this card on August 4th. Till said that they came upon this local feast day by chance. Several people, dressed in their local costumes, stood on a platform and talked (in German) for a long time. They did not dance!

# International Folk Dancing



Come to the  
Stevenage  
Catholic Church Hall  
Albert Street,  
Stevenage

Every Friday 8-10pm

OPENING NIGHT  
10th SEPTEMBER 1976

Everybody welcome -  
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