

Dancing Around the WORLD

Every Thursday, the Surrey International Folk Dancers meet for an evening of fun and the challenge of learning traditional dances from cultures throughout the world. Over the course of a year, the group learns folk dances from over thirty different countries, including Eastern Europe, the Balkans, Israel and many more, drawing from a body of thousands of dances enjoyed by international folk dance groups the world over.

*SIFD at
Surrey Children's Festival*



The Surrey International Folk Dancing Society began in 1974. Its membership now includes beginners, occasional dancers, and participants with years of experience. Each session includes a teaching portion where new dances are introduced step-by-step with plenty of repetition and practise. Previously-learned dances are reviewed regularly with re-teaching when needed so everyone can participate regardless of their level of experience.

Several times during the year, members of the group dress in colourful ethnic costume and participate in community events. During 2010, you could have watched the group's demonstration dances at the Surrey Children's Festival and the Fleetwood Community Festival, then enjoyed the fun as the audience joined the performers in a large circle and learned a couple of traditional folk dances. Two visits were also made by the group to seniors' care homes in Surrey to provide entertainment and to reminisce with the residents about their own experiences of music and dance. In January 2011, representatives of the group taught folk dances to elementary school children in Surrey.

The Surrey International Folk Dancers welcome newcomers and beginners at any time during the year. An open house is held each September to demonstrate the group's activities to potential new members. For further information, including time and location of evening sessions, dance videos and links to other groups, or for information on having the group perform at a community event, please visit www.surreyfolkdance.org.

