

# List of SIFD Teachers - 2023-24

*CIO Number 1189141*

The teachers on this page either hold SIFD, or equivalent, teaching qualifications, or are recognised by the SIFD as suitably experienced or specialist teachers.

- ◆ To see **Information about the Teachers**, [click here](#)
- ◆ To book an **SIFD Teacher if you or your group are not a member of the SIFD**, [click here](#)
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## Teachers List – by Country

Dances from these countries or areas, or types of dance, are taught by the following people :

<b>General International</b>	Meryl Abraham	Jill Bransby	Ursula Brown	Janet Douglas	Frank Dowling	Helen Ezra	Chrisandra Harris
	Fiona Howarth	Jeanette Hull	Maggie Kaye	Jan Knoppers	Anne Leach	Silvia McIntyre	Gill Morral
	Brenda Steventon	Philip Steventon	Geoff Weston	Janet Woolbar			

<b>Armenian</b>	Chrisandra Harris Dalila Heath
<b>Balkan</b>	Meryl Abraham Paul Boizot Ursula Brown Frank Dowling Brian Dowsett Fiona Howarth Maggie Kaye Silvia McIntyre Cathy Meunier Adrian Pointon
<b>Bulgarian</b>	Brian Dowsett Frank Dowling Liz Mellish Cathy Meunier
<b>Circle (&amp; line) dances</b>	Paul Boizot

<b>Choreography &amp; didactics</b>	Jan Knoppers
<b>Croatian</b>	Frank Dowling Joan Sach
<b>Czech</b>	Leslie Haddon
<b>Eastern European</b>	Leslie Haddon Fiona Howarth Liz Mellish Janet Woolbar
<b>English</b>	Janet Douglas
<b>Far East</b>	Jan Knoppers
<b>French</b>	Janet Douglas
<b>Greek</b>	Paul Boizot Frank Dowling Chrisandra Harris
<b>Hungarian</b>	Leslie Haddon
<b>Irish set</b>	Anne Leach
<b>Israeli</b>	Fiona Howarth Maggie Kaye Silvia McIntyre Adrian Pointon
<b>Macedonian</b>	Frank Dowling Liz Mellish Joan Sach
<b>Manx</b>	Geoff Weston
<b>Norwegian</b>	Jeanette Hull
<b>Polish</b>	Currently no teacher
<b>Portuguese</b>	Janet Woolbar
<b>Romanian</b>	Frank Dowling Fiona Howarth Maggie Kaye

	Liz Mellish Janet Woolbar
<b>Russian</b>	Janet Douglas Helen Ezra Chrisandra Harris Maggie Kaye
<b>Scottish</b>	Geoff Weston
<b>Serbian</b>	Frank Dowling Joan Sach
<b>Singing Workshops</b>	Jan Knoppers
<b>Slovakian</b>	Leslie Haddon
<b>Spanish</b>	Currently no teacher
<b>Swedish</b>	Jeanette Hull Anne Leach
<b>Swiss</b>	Janet Woolbar
<b>Turkish</b>	Janet Douglas Chrisandra Harris
<b>(former) Yugoslavian</b>	Frank Dowling Joan Sach

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### Information about the Teachers

Name	Dances taught from these countries <i>web address</i>	Willing to travel in the UK....	Additional Information
<b>Meryl Abraham</b> <a href="mailto:merylabraham@icloud.com">merylabraham@icloud.com</a>	<b>General International, Balkan</b>	Local groups - Hertfordshire	SIFD Teacher's Badge. Teaches Croxley Green International Folk Dance group. Ran a primary school class for a few years. MC'd for Balkanplus several times.
<b>Paul Boizot</b> 01904 621510 <a href="mailto:info@paulboizot.co.uk">info@paulboizot.co.uk</a>	<b>Circle &amp; line dances, incl Greek &amp; Balkan. Irregular rhythms, posture &amp; dance</b> <a href="http://www.paulboizot.co.uk">www.paulboizot.co.uk</a>	Anywhere (providing expenses paid from Yorkshire)	SIFD Teacher's Badge 2003. Dance teacher since 1992. Cert.in F.E. Teaching (Stage 2). Also experienced singer and musician.
<b>Jill Bransby</b> 07513 835517 <a href="mailto:jill@pjbransby.plus.com">jill@pjbransby.plus.com</a>	<b>General International</b>	Anywhere from Hertfordshire	Certificate of Education (1964) Physical Education (including Dance) – Distinction Have taught Rainmakers International Group for 45 years Have also taught dance at various festivals: Sidmouth, Eastbourne, Casterton, Southam, Moorland. Play in 3 dance music bands; Cloudburst (International and English, I founded in 1977), Tappalachian (Appalachian), Danseherts (French).
<b>Ursula Brown</b> <a href="mailto:sulabrown@hotmail.com">sulabrown@hotmail.com</a>	<b>General International, Balkan</b>	Willing to travel in the UK anywhere within easy reach of Central London by public transport	I teach at Friday Feet, and have MC'd at Balkanplus

Name	Dances taught from these countries <i>web address</i>	Willing to travel in the UK....	Additional Information
<b>Janet Douglas</b> Contact via website	<b>General International,            English,            French            Turkish</b> <i>www.interfolk.co.uk</i>	Anywhere from West Sussex	SIFD Teacher's Badge. Attends & organises many courses on dance & choreography in UK & abroad
<b>Frank Dowling</b> 01642 247916 <u><a href="mailto:f.dowling48@gmail.com">f.dowling48@gmail.com</a></u>	<b>Balkan, esp. Romanian,            Bulgarian,            Croatian            Former Yugoslavia,            General International,            Greek            Macedonian            Serbian</b>	Anywhere from North Yorkshire	Many years of experience teaching mostly Balkan and Eastern European dances. Has attended numerous courses run by well-respected teachers, and has a solid background in Balkan music and song.
<b>Brian Dowsett</b> 01992 582717 <u><a href="mailto:bvdowsett@aol.com">bvdowsett@aol.com</a></u>	<b>Balkan,            Bulgarian</b>	Anywhere from Hertfordshire	Leader of Barnet International Folk Dance Club. Member of Dunav Balkan Group.
<b>Helen Ezra</b> Contact via <u><a href="mailto:mail@sifd.org">mail@sifd.org</a></u>	<b>General International,            Russian</b>	Anywhere from South London	SIFD Teacher's Badge 1992. Have taught Cheam class for over 20 years, and MC-ed many dances.
<b>Leslie Haddon</b> <u><a href="mailto:leshaddon@leshaddon.plus.com">leshaddon@leshaddon.plus.com</a></u>	<b>Eastern European - Hungarian,            Czech,            Slovakian</b>	Anywhere from Hertfordshire providing transport is paid	30 years attending dance courses, and has taught at SIFD workshops and other classes. Assisted by his wife who shows the girl's steps.
<b>Chrisandra Harris</b> <u><a href="mailto:chrisandraharris@gmail.com">chrisandraharris@gmail.com</a></u>	<b>Greek,            Turkish,            Russian,            Armenian,            General International.            Older people &amp; special needs &amp;            mental health</b> <i>www.yogamapperley.org</i>	Anywhere from Nottinghamshire	R.S.A. (distinction) in teaching movement and dance, & SIFD Teacher's Badge. 28 years experience teaching dance. Member of Greek Rhythms for 22 years and teacher of Ellinmos Greek dance groups. Leader of 'Kilikia - dances for Armenia' group, available for demonstrations and seminars in costume. Organises overseas dancing holidays.

Name	Dances taught from these countries <i>web address</i>	Willing to travel in the UK....	Additional Information
<b>Dalila Heath</b> 07786 707835 <a href="mailto:dalila.heath1@btopenworld.com">dalila.heath1@btopenworld.com</a>	<b>Armenian</b>	Travel anywhere	SIFD Teacher's Badge (Complimentary). Have run, and dance in, Armenian & Israeli dance troupes for many years. Attends workshops in USA, Armenia & Holland. Organises a small performance group, AKHTAMAR – available for demos etc –for children and adults.
<b>Fiona Howarth</b> Contact via <a href="mailto:mail@sifd.org">mail@sifd.org</a>	<b>General International,            Eastern European,            Balkan,            Israeli</b>	Anywhere subject to easy public transport from Greater London	1 year Teaching Course with Rudolf Laban, many SIFD & IFDA dance courses. Israeli learnt from J & J Barkan & Israeli choreographers. Attended many courses in Balkan and Israeli and also with Silviu and Hennie. Have taught Bromley class for 49 years and U3A for 25. Led Hama'agal Israeli Group.
<b>Jeanette Hull</b> 07722 655481 <a href="mailto:jeanettehull@blueyonder.co.uk">jeanettehull@blueyonder.co.uk</a>	<b>General International            Norwegian,            Swedish</b>	Lives in Surrey	SIFD Teacher's Badge, many courses in Norway and Sweden. If possible I prefer to have live music and can recommend several excellent fiddlers. In addition to my more than 20 years of Scandinavian Bygdedans (traditional village dance) experience, I have danced in a General International Group and also in Balkan and Spanish specialist groups
<b>Maggie Kaye</b> <a href="mailto:margaretkaye@blueyonder.co.uk">margaretkaye@blueyonder.co.uk</a>	<b>General International,            Balkan, especially Romanian,            Russian,            Israeli</b>	Mainly in the Midlands	Has been leader of Selpar IFDG since 1996. Most interested in introducing newcomers to International folk and encouraging dancing for relaxation and enjoyment. Also leader of the Heart of England Band and 'Maggie's Mix' at Eastbourne Festival, and has run workshops for musicians at SIFD Summer Schools and elsewhere.

Name	Dances taught from these countries <i>web address</i>	Willing to travel in the UK....	Additional Information
<b>Jan Knoppers</b> <a href="mailto:saisho@p-art-ners.nl">saisho@p-art-ners.nl</a>	<b>General International, Far Eastern Choreography and didactics</b> <a href="http://www.p-art-ners.nl">www.p-art-ners.nl</a>	Based in the Netherlands	SIFD Teacher's Badge (Complimentary) Jan now also conducts traditional singing workshops as an Estill trained Certified Master Teacher (CMT), specialising in vocal folklor-techniques.
<b>Anne Leach</b> <a href="mailto:dancetent@outlook.com">dancetent@outlook.com</a>	<b>General International, Sweden, Irish set</b>	Anywhere from London	SIFD Teacher's Badge. Teaches at Friday Feet and MCs on many occasions
<b>Silvia McIntyre</b> <a href="mailto:silviamcintyre@hotmail.com">silviamcintyre@hotmail.com</a>	<b>General International, Israeli, Balkan</b>	London and the South East	SIFD Teacher's Badge. Long dancing experience in various groups, leader of Willingdon IFDG, and Lewes Israeli FDG. Many workshops attended, and led.
<b>Liz Mellish</b> <a href="mailto:eliznik@eliznik.org.uk">eliznik@eliznik.org.uk</a>	<b>Eastern European, Romanian, Bulgarian, Macedonian-</b> <a href="http://www.eliznik.co.uk">www.eliznik.co.uk</a>	Anywhere from Hertfordshire	SIFD SE European Teacher's Badge Over 20 years experience. Attends many courses, and spends much time in Eastern Europe to increase repertoire and knowledge.
<b>Cathy Meunier</b> 07484 666172 <a href="mailto:cathy_meunier@hotmail.com">cathy_meunier@hotmail.com</a>	<b>Balkan, Bulgarian</b> <a href="http://www.balkanfolkdance.org">www.balkanfolkdance.org</a>	Anywhere from Cumbria	SIFD SE European Teacher's Badge. I have attended numerous folk dance courses in the UK and abroad. I also spent some time in Bulgaria learning alongside Bulgarian folk dance students. Since the 80s I have regularly invited folk dance teachers from abroad to teach in the UK, and have organised residential folk dance courses. I have also led several folk dance trips to Bulgaria. I led a Balkan folk dance group (Sborenka) in London for 10 years and now teach one-off workshops from time to time.
<b>Gill Morral</b> 0115 917 1831 <a href="mailto:gill.morral@ntlworld.com">gill.morral@ntlworld.com</a>	<b>General International</b>	Anywhere a reasonable journey from Nottingham	I have been dancing for over 40 years. I have taught a regular class for over 20 years and for the last 10

Name	Dances taught from these countries <i>web address</i>	Willing to travel in the UK....	Additional Information
			years have also taught Beeston U3A dance class
<b>Adrian Pointon</b> <a href="mailto:adrian@myrriadd.com">adrian@myrriadd.com</a>	<b>Israeli, Balkan</b> <a href="http://www.myrriadd.com">www.myrriadd.com</a>	Anywhere in the UK from Cheshire	Over 25 years experience of teaching Israeli and Balkan dances at workshops and residential and day courses, both in the UK and abroad. Many Israeli dances learned directly from original choreographers. SIFD member.
<b>Joan Sach</b> <a href="mailto:pawsdandy@gmail.com">pawsdandy@gmail.com</a>	<b>Former Yugoslavian, Serbian, Croatian, Macedonian</b>	Anywhere within reason from Kent	SIFD Teacher's Badge. Over 30 years with Zivko Firfov Group under Ken Ward
<b>Brenda Steventon</b> 020 8397 9649 <a href="mailto:brenda.steventon@btinternet.com">brenda.steventon@btinternet.com</a>	<b>General International</b> <i>Facebook/Tolworth.World.of.Dance</i>	Anywhere from London	SIFD Teacher's Badge. Phil and Brenda have led classes in Kingston and Sutton since 1994, and HF Holidays dance courses since 1999.
<b>Philip Steventon</b> 020 8397 9649 <a href="mailto:philip.steventon@btinternet.com">philip.steventon@btinternet.com</a>	<b>General International</b> <i>Facebook/Tolworth.World.of.Dance</i>	Anywhere from London	SIFD Teacher's Badge. Phil and Brenda have led classes in Kingston and Sutton since 1994, and HF Holidays dance courses since 1999. Phil has played the clarinet in the SIFD Band for over 40 years!
<b>Geoff Weston</b> 0116 285 8352 <a href="mailto:jennyandgeoffweston@gmail.com">jennyandgeoffweston@gmail.com</a>	<b>General International, English, Scottish, Manx</b>	Anywhere from Leicestershire	SIFD Teacher's Badge. Have run international dance workshops at 4 dance weekends, as well as specialised international evenings for local English dance clubs.
<b>Janet Woolbar</b> <a href="mailto:janwoolbar@talktalk.net">janwoolbar@talktalk.net</a>	<b>General International, Eastern European, Romanian, Swiss, Portuguese</b>	Anywhere from Middlesex	SIFD Teacher's Badge & general Teacher's Diploma. Over 40 year's experience.



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- ◆ Please negotiate with the teacher directly, agreeing on –
  - \* date
  - \* time
  - \* venue
  
- ◆ When booking a teacher, you may expect to pay a minimum of £30 per hour.  
Travel and other expenses should be negotiated when arranging a booking.
  
  
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#### The “Free Teachers to Groups” scheme

- ◆ Under the “Free Teachers to Groups” scheme, the SIFD will reimburse fees when a group books a teacher from lists 1 or 2 on the Teachers List circulated when you joined, or renewed your membership, but not from list 3.

(To see details on how to claim [click here](#).)

- ◆ When a class or group Affiliates to the SIFD, they can choose whether to pay a standard fee, which entitles them to claim, each year, the tuition fees for up to 5 teaching hours under this scheme, or pay a higher fee which entitles them to claim up to 10 teaching hours, as long as SIFD funds permit.
- ◆ Associated groups are eligible for up to 5 teaching hours.
- ◆ The hours can be spread over several mini-sessions with several different teachers, or all “spent” on one occasion with one teacher.
- ◆ Payment for teaching is currently £30 per hour. **Travel and other expenses should be negotiated between the teacher and the group.**
- ◆ Please check that you, or the group to be taught, hold adequate insurance cover.
- ◆ Health & Safety Guidelines are in the Members’ Handbook.

#### To Book a Teacher from this List

Choose a teacher. Negotiate with them directly, agreeing on –

- \* date
- \* time
- \* venue.
- \* travel arrangements (you usually pay for their transport costs)
- \* how many hours of teaching you would like
- \* what you're hoping the teaching will cover

#### To claim under the “Free Teachers to Groups” scheme

**If you are intending to make a claim under the “Free Teachers to Groups” scheme, please contact the treasurer, Judith Payling – [judithcpayling@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:judithcpayling@yahoo.co.uk) - when making a booking, to let her know who you’ve booked, and the date you’ve booked. Judith can then budget for the fees.**

***Most importantly, when the event has taken place, please confirm this with Judith, so she can pay the teacher promptly.***

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