

IDSF World Junior Standard Moscow 27<sup>th</sup> March 2010

Miles Chapman and Lorna Arnold / Will Duffin and Aimee Falvey

Moscow – the first ‘Worlds’ for the two couples, and at one stage it was doubtful if we would even get there, thanks to ‘Unite’. The return aircraft was Air Finland, courtesy of Willie Walsh (thanks Willie!).

We all arrived a day early so that we could visit Red Square and The Kremlin. The venue was just one floor of the new exhibition halls at Crocus City on the outskirts – a massive new development which is bound to be used for future competitions. Unfortunately the Hotel Aquarium at the end of the complex was fully booked, so we stayed at a (nicer) hotel some miles away.

On the day, the organisation was superb, from coach transfers through to registration and competition and back.

The Competition: Both couples danced strongly to good effect: Miles and Lorna avoided the repercharge, which Will and Aimee danced beautifully and survived. Both couples danced the second round even better than the first, but that is where it ended - Miles and Lorna 29<sup>th</sup>, Will and Aimee 38<sup>th</sup>.

The standard of dancing was clearly ‘world class’ and the eastern Europeans dominated – they have strength in depth we can only dream of. This was amply demonstrated by the Russian National competition which was run between rounds of the ‘Worlds’ – awesome.

So then, a tremendous effort by both couples, and a fantastic experience. (we were shocked and saddened to hear of the people killed and injured at the very spot we had been just three days before)

(Mike Chapman – enclosed pictures – ‘Off duty in Red Square’, and ‘High noon in Crocus City’)