

## 2019 Great Alne Long Weekend: Fri 26<sup>th</sup> - Mon 29<sup>th</sup> April

Enjoy in our 36<sup>th</sup> year - folk dancing, song, music & very much more!

Great Alne is a small Warwickshire village. A nucleus of timber-frame cottages surround its delightful tiny church. In countryside that's associated with Shakespeare, it's 8 miles from Stratford-Upon-Avon and 2 miles from much historic architecture of interest in the market town of Alcester: founded on the river Alne by the Romans.

Our main draw is the varied range of our International dancing.

Altogether, a particularly wide scope of folk dancing is available.

Being a compact village hall, the venue also lends itself well to the small and quite intimate group activities that we offer: such as part-singing, playing pan-pipes, drumming, handbell and handchime ringing, maypole dancing, and Morris dance. All are there for you to participate. But if you prefer, you may just relax for a while to enjoy watching others as they sample the many things on offer.

We endeavour to cater for all abilities in our dance, song and music.

Bring an instrument to play easy tunes in music groups (or we may even have something available). For sessions such as the pan pipes, drumming & handchimes; these we supply, and all begin with enough basic instruction to provide a fulfilling experience.

These are ideal activities to bring your grandchildren or children to try. They're inclined to surprise us by deftly developing new skills!

By the way, **young people up to 18 years** accompanied by a paying adult (mainly daytime Sat & Sunday) are **welcomed free-of-charge**.

**Please take-up this as YOUR gift opportunity!** Share this joy which YOU have previously found in dance, song etc with a younger cousin, nephew, niece or family friend, and bring them along with you! **PTO.**

**This year**, charismatic **Karin Bellaart** from the Netherlands brings another excellent International mix. The brilliant **Elsa Perez** brings South American Dances, a few from her South Africa & elsewhere.

**Julian Stanley** leads Breton sets & on Sun at 3pm a French Petit Bal!

**Each evening** has a Social Dance. **Nicola Scott** calls American Contra on **Fri eve**, **Karen Hanna** & **David Pattenden** play. **English** folk dancing with **Brian Stanton** on **Sat**. Superb evergreen **Kim Smith** on **Sun** with **Worcestershire players**. Sprinkles of fun **International** dances too.

'Fresh air' is also on the programme. There's planned walking, eg on Sat afternoon. Do bring walking boots or suitable shoes: a walk or a bike ride on Sunday (Bring a bike if you can: try asking Paul, if none).

We provide a seated hot evening meal (or a salad) on Friday and a hot lunch (or a salad) on Monday. On Saturday and Sunday we offer baguettes etc. at lunchtime and a good choice of hot dishes for evening meals. Cold snacks: eg biscuits, cakes fruit are generally available at all times. All of the food is very reasonably priced!

Friday afternoon & all of Mon to 5pm are much quieter periods during work/school times: especially ideal for the retired, or those wishing to get to know our International teachers within a small group.

There are excellent B&B's in pretty local villages. Should you wish to bring a motorhome or caravan, please first check with Paul: phone 0121 689 1802. If answerphone, please leave your name, tel & details.

Do join us for all or any part of the Long-Weekend. In appreciation of their grant, Those who've joined SIFD may have 'Early Bird' at £39 for all 4 days. [That price otherwise expired at the end of Feb!]

**The website** shows each day's programme, prices, booking form and accommodation ideas. SEE [www.greatalnefolk.org.uk](http://www.greatalnefolk.org.uk)