

2019 **Great Alne Long Weekend: Fri 26th - Mon 29th April**

Enjoy in our 36th 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 & just 2.5 miles from interesting historic architecture of 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, an extremely 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 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 daytimes 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 dances of South America - a few from her South Africa & elsewhere. **Julian Stanley** leads Breton sets & a Sunday afternoon French Bal! **Each evening** we shall have a **Social Dance**. American Contra is on Friday eve, English folk dancing: caller **Brian Stanton** on Saturday & **Kim Smith** Sun. Each eve has a sprinkling of fun International dance.

'Fresh air' is also on the programme. There's planned walking (eg on the Saturday afternoon - so do bring walking boots or suitable shoes): another walk or a bike ride on Sunday (please bring a bike if you wish).

We provide salads, or a seated hot evening meal on Friday and hot lunch on Monday. On Saturday and Sunday we provide baguettes etc. at lunchtime and a choice of hot dishes for evening meals. Cold snacks such as biscuits, cakes and fruit are generally available at all times. These are very reasonably priced!

Friday afternoon & all of Monday to 5pm are much quieter periods in 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. If 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.

We hope you will consider joining us for all or any part of this Long-Weekend. A special offer for SIFD members allows the 'Early Bird' price of £39 for all 4 days. [That very good offer otherwise expired at the end of February!]

The website shows each day's programme, prices, booking form and accommodation ideas. SEE **www.greatalnefolk.org.uk**