2020 Great Alne Long Weekend: Fri 24th- Mon 27th April

Enjoy in our 37th year - folk dancing, song, music & very much more! Great Alne is a small Warwickshire village. Near to its delightful tiny church, are clusters of timber-framed cottages. It's in countryside associated with Shakespeare - Stratford-upon-Avon is just 8 miles distant, and Mary Arden (Shakespeare's Mother's) Farm is 4 miles. It's 2 miles to much historic architecture of interest - in the quaint market town of Alcester - founded on the river Alne by the Romans. We offer a wide scope of folk dance - with a range of International. Being a compact village hall, the venue also lends itself well to the small and quite intimate group activities that we offer - there's part-singing, playing pan-pipes, drumming, handbell and handchime ringing, maypole dancing, and Morris dance. All are there for you to participate. If you prefer; take part, then just relax for a while. Enjoy watching others, as they sample the many activities 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 a ukelele available). For sessions such as with pan pipes, drumming & handchimes; they are supplied. Everyone receives basic instructions that are sufficient 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 youngercousin, nephew, nice or family friend, and bring them along with you! PTO.

Charismatic Karin Bellaart from the Netherlands brings a varied mix for 2020. Dalila Heath offers Armenian 'Party' dances, Israeli & more.

Julian Stanley leads Breton sets: and Sunday 3pm-a French Petit Bal!

Each evening includes Social Dance. Fri eve: David Pattenden & Karen Hanna play for Brian Stanton's American Contra Evening. A terms-and-moves workshop for Contras at 7.15. Sat: Dez Thompson's English and American Evening. Worcestershire players & Kim Smith's evergreen calling on Sun eve: Sprinkles of fun International dances throughout.

James. H & James E lead superb part singing workshops on Sat & Sun. '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 varied choices of hot dishes for the 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 Monday to 5pm are the quieter periods, during work/school times - especially ideal for the retired, or those wishing to get to know our International dances & teachers - in smaller groups!

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 this Long-Weekend. - After 36 years, we appreciated a helpful first grant from SIFD in 2019.

Looking forward again to Great Alne's winning 4 eventful days in April!

Website shows each day's programme, prices, local walks, a booking form and accommodation ideas: SEE www.greatalnefolk.org.uk