

Lower Farm
Shelve
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Tel 01743 891117

Please find enclosed details for the Southam Gathering 2011. These include programme (separate attachment), programme notes and some general notes.

The Grange Hall will be open from 5pm on the Friday night for collection of tickets.

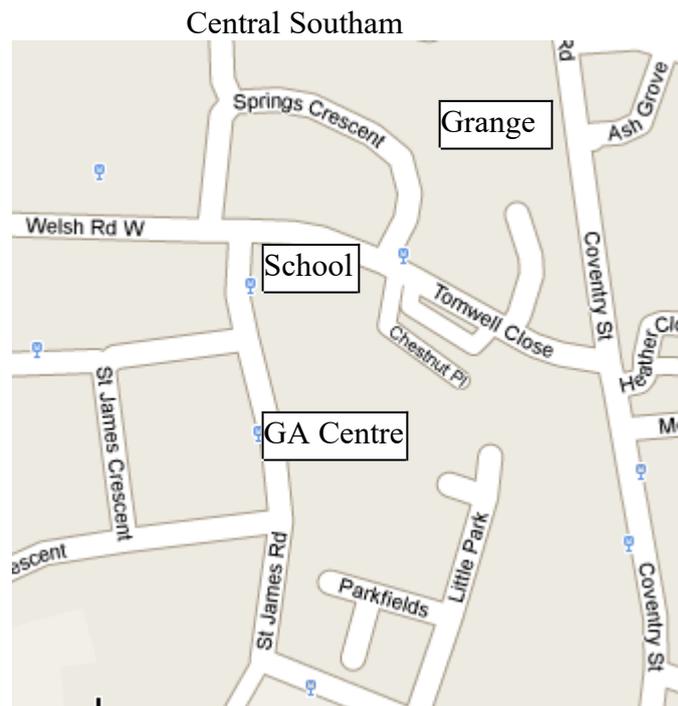
As last year, there will be three dancing venues at the Grange, Graham Adams Centre, and Southam Primary School. There is decent parking at the Grange and the School, but limited parking at Graham Adams Centre. All venues have dances on Friday night – more choices to make!

Sandwiches have been ordered in advance and you will receive tokens to collect them when you arrive. Everyone has brown bread unless otherwise stipulated. Please keep your tokens safe and remember to bring the relevant ones on the day. Due to regulations we cannot deal with money on the premises for food, so there won't be additional goodies like fruit and biscuits for sale. If you require these please bring them with you or pop into a shop.

As ever we do hope you will take a full part in the festival and sheets will be available for you to sign up as volunteers for making tea, stewarding a session etc. It is by taking part in these activities that allows us to continue running.

We look forward to seeing you on the dance floor. Do give us feedback afterwards.

Jean, Denise, Jenny, Paul, Peter, Norman



Southam Gathering 2011

Welcome to another Southam Gathering. We hope that you will enjoy the programme that we have put together for your week-end.

This is now our third year running it as a team and the feedback we received from you has been very positive. Thank you to all who gave us feedback, we appreciate it. Thank you too for volunteering, it really is important to keep the event running. Once again we have had more applications than we can accommodate, so we must be doing something right ☺

We are again keeping a third Friday night event so there should be space to dance – if an event is overcrowded why not try an alternative?

Once again we shall be using the Primary School. Although not as large as the college, it seems to work well and it is handy we feel having the two venues (School and Graham Adams Centre) so close together so that there is not so far to walk to an alternative event if one gets oversubscribed.

We welcome all our bands and callers, but especially this year's overseas contingent in the form of Bruce Hamilton from California and Mary Lea and Karen Axelrod as musicians. Many of you will know Bruce as he has called in the UK before and was here as a dancer at Southam last year. He will also be over at Chippenham festival this year. Mary and Karen may be new to you but I am sure we shall find their music inspiring and wonderful to dance to.

Southam is a very full week-end of dancing and we have noticed that numbers tend to drop rather at the end of the evening dances. This year we have brought forward the finishing time of the evening dance to 10:45pm. Do let us know if you think this is better, or whether you would prefer it to stay at 11pm, or come even further forward to 10:30pm.

Just a brief note on dance etiquette if we may.....

We are all experienced dancers who I am sure do not need reminding of the basics but we would ask you please to give special thought to the following points for the increased enjoyment of all dancers.

- Do please respect "House Full" notices. Venue limits are set for everyone's benefit. Please do not embarrass the stewards by trying to negotiate your way into a full event.
- Please stop talking when the caller starts their teaching (whether you are on the floor, or sitting out) – there are always people at the bottom of the room who are struggling to hear (and you may well miss vital instructions yourself!)
- Even if you are not someone who normally changes partner, please consider doing so occasionally, especially if you see that someone has been sat out who may have wanted to get into the last dance if only....
- Please feel free to make up longways sets as soon as you are ready to dance. We shall be asking callers to adopt, where possible, the technique of taking hands 6, 8 etc. From the top to make up 3 couple or 4 couple sets. We feel this is a lot fairer way of making up these types of sets. If that does not leave you with those friends you always dance with – well sorry but why not dance with some different people for a change?

Southam 2011 Programme Notes

FRIDAY 8:00pm - 10:45pm

It's Thyme To Dance – Grange Hall – Maggie + Keeping Thyme
Warwickshire musicians and caller present a miscellany of dances for your enjoyment. Nothing too mind-bending tonight!

Hello Everyone – Primary School – Bruce + Folkus Pocus
A variety of easily accessible dances.

Meet & Greet – Graham Adams Centre – Andrew + Deo Volente
An easygoing programme for the first night.

SATURDAY

9:30am - 11:00am

Reeling and Writhing – Grange Hall – Ian + Weston CDB
Dances with all kinds of heys, reels and other gyrations!

Compos'd by Mr Kynaston – Primary School - Andrew + Mary & Karen
A mix of new and more familiar dances from the Nathaniel Kynaston collections (1710-1718).

English Dancing in America – Graham Adams Centre - Bruce + Deo Volente
A 'typical' ECD session.

11:30am - 1:00pm

American Squares for All – Grange Hall - Colin + Weston CDB
Some traditional, some modern, some straightforward, some a bit tricky.

The Trouble with Triples – Primary School - Frances + Mary & Karen
Triple time, triple minors or both at once! Each has its own beauty, and points to watch out for in order to get the most out of the dance.

Local Produce – Graham Adams Centre – Maggie + Deo Volente
Dances in various styles devised by Midland folks.

2:15pm - 3:30pm

Choreography - A Woman's World? – Grange Hall – Frances + Folkus Pocus
We have all heard of the great dancing masters, so why is there a titter if the term dancing .mistresses is mentioned? Dance devisers of the "fairer" sex have been most prolific and here is a chance to sample some of their creations.

How to Dance for Playing – Primary School – Bruce + Kendal Green
Dance musicians study how to play for dancing — to our great benefit. How could we reciprocate.

The Cook and the Waitress – Graham Adams Centre – Eileen + Keeping Thyme
Dances by Julian Hill.

4:00pm - 5:15pm

Coxalls All A Row – Grange Hall – Andrew + Folkus Pocus
Some not-too-demanding dances from Ron, for tired brains..

A Gallimaufry of Appealing Dances – Primary School – Maggie + Kendal Green
How many of you had to get a dictionary out?

The Wild Thyme Legacy – Graham Adams Centre – Colin + Keeping Thyme
Dances with tunes recorded by Wild Thyme.

8:00pm - 10:45pm

A Mixed Bag – Grange Hall – Ian + Folkus Pocus
A typical Ian Jones programme with something for – and probably by – everyone!

Just Dance – Primary School – Bruce + Mary & Karen
The dancers are skilled, the caller is brief, and the music is glorious.

Gary Roodman Evening – Graham Adams Centre – Frances + Weston CDB
A selection of dances from this talented choreographer, including some new compositions from the Maestro's pen, interspersed with titles that have become firm favourites, and spiced with some of his lesser known yet delightfully intriguing designs. Weston Country Dance Band are avowed aficionados of the music Gary selects, so the combination will be irresistible.

SUNDAY

9:30am - 11:00am

Squares To Tangle the Brain – Grange Hall - Geoff + Weston CDB
What a way to start on a Sunday morning!

Creamy vs. Crunchy - Primary School - Bruce + Mary & Karen
Luscious dances with smooth flow, plus lively dances with lots of acceleration and chances to give weight

Puzzled by Duplicates - Graham Adams Centre - Andrew + Deo Volente
A session for dance nerds like me, exploring the artifices used by the 18th century publisher John Walsh in the compilation of his books of country dances.

11:30am - 1:00pm

Dancing with Dolphins - Grange Hall - Frances + Weston CDB
The tandem reels which have become widely known as dolphin heys have spread quickly through the dancing world. Try some of the fascinating new dances in different styles which use this move imaginatively.

Contras + Sqs to Make You Think - Primary School - Colin + Mary & Karen
Dances by Cary Ravitz, Ron Buchanan and other thought-provoking writers.

These you Have Loved - Graham Adams Centre - Ian + Deo Volente
Old favourites which we don't seem to do so often now.

2:15pm - 3:30pm

A Star Too Far - Grange Hall - Geoff + Deo Volente
Contra dances with lots of..... yes you've guessed it.

Late 18th Century Dances - Primary School - Andrew + Keeping Thyme
Some interesting dances from a generally less interesting period (in my view) in English country dance.

Dances that Change Orientation - Graham Adams Centre - Eileen + Kendal Green
Just what it says on the can.

4:00pm - 5:15pm

Colin's Compositions - Grange Hall - Colin + Deo Volente
Older dances from his books; newer dances from his website.

West Coast Repertoire - Primary School - Bruce + Keeping Thyme
Dances popular (not necessarily composed) in California, Oregon & Washington.

The Wedgbury Legacy - Graham Adams Centre - Ian + Kendal Green
More of Brian's superbly crafted creations.

8:00pm - 10:45pm

Mostly "American" - Grange Hall - Geoff + Weston CDB
An evening of mainly contras and squares.

Playford Aplenty - Primary School - Andrew + Mary & Karen
An evening of Playford style dances, old and new.

Raffle Dance - Graham Adams Centre - Colin + Keeping Thyme
You choose the programme - within reason!

MONDAY

9:30am - 11:00am

Three for All - Grange Hall - Ian + Weston CDB

3-couple, triple time, three part.....

Double Trouble - Primary School - Geoff + Mary & Karen

Dances with more than the usual number of participants

Morning Medley - Graham Adams Centre - Frances + Folkus Pocus

A Monday morning mixture to stimulate body and soul.

11:30am - 1:00pm

Dances with Zest - Grange Hall - Colin + Weston CDB

Not all rants and polkas, but not just a pleasant stroll.

From Early Walsh Annuals - Primary School - Andrew + Mary & Karen

Dances from the annual sets of 24 new country dances published by John Walsh in the early 1700s.

Streets of San Francisco - Graham Adams Centre - Bruce + Folkus Pocus

Dances/tunes written in the San Francisco Area.

2:15pm - 4:15pm (3:45 in school)

Tea Dance - Grange Hall - Colin + Folkus Pocus

Nothing too impossible, but no other restrictions.

See You Next Year - Primary School - Ian & Victoria + Kendal G & Deo V

Ian and Vic, Dave and Margaret send you on your way with some of the loveliest tunes you could ever wish to hear.