

Lower Farm, Shelve, SY5 0JF

Southam Gathering 2013

Enclosed are details for the Southam Gathering 2013. We hope that you will enjoy the programme that we have put together for your week-end. **The Grange Hall will open at 5pm** on Friday night for collection of tickets. Emergency contact at the weekend is 07963 043290. This is not monitored at other times.

As ever we do hope you will take a full part in the festival and sheets will be available at the Grange on Friday 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 – it really does work out about one each so if one person shirks someone else does two (or three!) Stewards, please turn up in good time, as nobody can enter the halls until you are in place.

It is imperative that badges are WORN and VISIBLE at all times. If you don't see someone's name badge please challenge them so that we can keep premises secure at all times and allow everyone to learn names.

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 on the School playground, but limited parking at Graham Adams Centre. All venues have dances on Friday night. We have given instructions to stewards regarding hall capacities. Please accept the steward's decision as final and try elsewhere if your first choice is full

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.

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?

This is now our fifth year running Southam as a team and the feedback we received from you has been very positive. This year Paul & Jean are retiring from the committee, and David & Ruth Jeffery are joining. Thank you all for volunteering, it really is important to keep the event running.

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

Jean, Denise, Jenny, Paul, Peter, Norman