



Coordinator: Colin Sleath Treasurer: Andrew Stevens Bookings: Esther Venn

BANDING TOGETHER 16th – 18th JUNE 2017

If, having read this letter, you are uncertain if your level of reading and playing is sufficient ...

PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH ME SO WE CAN TALK ABOUT IT FURTHER

wren658@btinternet.com or ring me on 07584 305452

IS THIS WEEKEND FOR ME?

Our passion for playing concertina band music was the inspiration for Banding Together. We have a wonderful venue in Dame Hannah's at Seale-Hayne where we can work on great music under the direction of a **professional guest conductor**. The purpose of the course is to provide **ADVANCED AND FLUENT** players with the opportunity to join others of similar proficiency in a big band playing more demanding music at a higher level.

The music is intended to challenge everyone. Some of it will be fiendishly difficult but all players will have the music 2-3 weeks in advance of the weekend to give everyone a fighting chance! The music pack is followed-up with emailed notes and mp3 files to help with private practice. You can telephone/email me if you need extra help with anything. It is expected that all participants will spend time with their music pack, reading and following the practice guidance which comes with each mp3 file.

PLAYERS SHOULD COME TO THE WEEKEND BEING ABLE TO PLAY MOST OF THE MUSIC RELATIVELY COMFORTABLY

The job of the guest conductor is to pull it all together, making sure you not only have the right notes in the right order but in exactly the right place at exactly the right time with the right rhythm, the right dynamic, phrasing and articulation. The attention to detail is relentless but thoroughly riveting. The result of this work is an electrifying big band sound.

The weekend is carefully timetabled. During the sessions the music is taken apart so tricky bits can be identified and sorted out. When reassembled, the dots on the page become the music we love. Recordings are made as pieces become ready so that by Sunday afternoon we can relax and indulge ourselves and play through some golden oldies from previous years.

You will feel exhausted by the time you are ready to go home but I can pretty much guarantee you will leave Seale-Hayne exhilarated and inspired by the experience of playing in a large group, mastering some challenging pieces and achieving the thrill of 'Banding Together' with others!

There are weekends available which can be used as training grounds for this weekend. Most notable is the band workshop in the West Country Concertina Players residential weekend held in March. The March Kilve band is run similarly to Banding Together but with music and direction more suited to **intermediate to competent** players. If you are not sure about your level of playing please contact me and we can talk about it. Whilst we wouldn't wish to discourage anyone from coming, we want to protect the integrity of the weekend as one for advanced and fluent players. This preserves Banding Together as something special to which up-and-coming players can aspire! I can assure you – it is worth every hour of practice!

Claire wren658@btinternet.com 07584 305452



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Banding Together at Seale Hayne 16th - 18th June 2017

Cost: £220 for the weekend fully inclusive of accommodation, all meals and band workshops.

BOOKING FORM

I would like to book a place at the Banding Together weekend on 16th - 18th June 2017

COST: **£220** (no change for 4th year!) DEPOSIT: **£70**

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....POST CODE _ _ _ _ _

TELEPHONE E-MAIL

Music: Please indicate the instrument/s you will bring:

Piccolo _____ Treble _____ Baritone _____ Bass _____ C or G?

Is your baritone and/or bass single (S) or double (D) action? _____

Are you happy for other players to use any of your instruments during sessions? Yes / No

What parts are you interested in playing? Piccolo ____ Treble ____ Baritone ____ Bass ____

Bass players, do you read treble or bass clef? _____

(Please note, all players will be allocated at least one line on a lower pitched instrument)

Accommodation: Mainly single rooms but a few doubles may be available

Single _____ Double (if available) _____

Do you have any particular access needs/mobility problems?

Dietary: Do you require a vegetarian diet? Yes ____ No ____

If yes then do you eat the following? fish ____ eggs ____ milk ____ cheese ____

Do you have any other special dietary needs?

Please complete the above form and send it with your deposit (payable to Banding Together) to:

Esther Venn, 25 Buckland Lane, MAIDSTONE, Kent. ME16 OBJ (07778 602885)



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(Cancellations prior to April 30th will be eligible for a full refund less £70)

Bursaries are available for students in full time education, please enquire for details.