



Spike Island Band

FOLK DANCE BAND

Barn Dances and Ceilidhs

www.spikeislandband.org.uk

(01794) 368467

Barn Dances

A barn dance makes for a very pleasant evening. It is great fun, energetic, and crosses age barriers.

It is usual to have a Caller to announce the dances, encourage people to join in, and carefully explain the dances to them. Then he prompts the dancers whilst the band plays. A typical barn dance would be completely managed by the Caller, so once the entertainment has started, the organisers may relax and enjoy themselves.

Periods of dancing are typically interspersed with instrumentals, songs, or other items. Usually, but not always, an interval is had where food to suit the occasion is shared.

Whatever the event, the choice and pace of dances are adjusted to suit the age range and experience of the group. With the Caller's careful explanations of the dances, even newcomers to barn-dancing need have no fears - after all, the objective is for you all to have fun!

The Spike Island Band

- Lively Music
- Friendly Faces
- Professional Standards

Spike Island is the old name for Sholing, a district of Southampton.

The Spike Island Band was formed in 1982, in those days consisting of just piano accordion, recorder, and banjo. Since then we have built up our reputation across the south of England as a lively, interesting, and talented band.

The Spike Island Band plays for dancing. Our repertoire consists mainly of traditional dance tunes, including reels, rants, polkas, jigs, hornpipes, and even the occasional waltz! Many of the tunes are English, but we also draw from the music of Scotland, Ireland, Wales, America, and Europe.

If you have a particular tune or dance you would like, or a theme you would like the band to follow, please ask. The Spike Island Band strives to satisfy, and emphasis is placed not just on quality of music, but on reliability, punctuality, and a business-like approach.

We provide our own amplification system and caller, but we need to know in advance if there is an additional requirement (e.g. more power may be needed out-of-doors)

Helpful Hints

Appoint a treasurer. Think about how many people will come. Pick a date. Find a venue. Book the Band and a Caller. Arrange advertising - posters, newsletters, shop windows, libraries, radio, word-of-mouth. Get tickets and posters printed. Advertise. Arrange food and drink, and some helpers. Advertise some more. Nominate door tenders. Double check on all offers of help. Provide a cash float for door ticket sales. Ensure the venue will be open in good time. Come along and enjoy the dance!

Please send completed booking forms to:

Ian Puffett (Spike Island Band)
Middle Cottage
Lower Street
Braishfield
Hampshire SO51 0PH

24hr answerphone: (01794) 368467

For your records:

Fee Agreed: £

Deposit: £50

Balance: £

Cash on the night, please.

Cancellation terms:

more than one week: deposit (only) is forfeit;
one week or less: half fee payable;
24hrs or less: full fee payable.

Booking Form

Your name:

Address:

Tel:

Event:

e.g. Wedding anniversary, Company Party, etc

Venue:

Date:

Start / finish times:

Please enclose a deposit of £50 with your booking (cheques payable to The Spike Island Band).

Please 'phone to confirm arrangements.

Fee: £

(including deposit)

Our Musicians

Claire Accordion

Judith Flute
Recorder
Piano

Jane, Sian Violin

Rick Drums
Percussion

John Bass

Pete *Guitar*

Ian Caller
Guitar
Mandolin
Whistle

Each event will draw upon a selection of these musicians.

EFDSS Affiliate
The Spike Island Band
is a member of the
English Folk Dance &
Song Society.

