



For Immediate Release

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www.ivfdf2012.org.uk

Inter-Varsity Folk Dance Festival (IVFDF) 2012 – March 2nd - 4th 2012

Early Bird Special prices extended until Friday 4th February!

Aberdeen, UK – The Inter-Varsity Folk Dance Festival is the UK's national student folk festival, and the country's longest running folk festival. IVFDF has been held at a different university each year since the first one in Leeds in 1951. On Friday March 2nd until Sunday March 4th, IVFDF 2012 will take place in Aberdeen, for the first time north of Scotland's Central Belt and the M8.

IVFDF is a non-stop weekend based (fairly broadly) around traditional forms of music and dance. The festival is open to students and non-students, former students, never-been-a students, dancers, folkies, ceilidh monsters, beginners, regulars, anyone and everyone. The weekend holds a number of sessions, music and dancing, ceilidhs, workshops, dance displays and more.

The keyword is FESTIVAL: hundreds of people attending for three days and two nights of intense dancing, playing music and singing, until they are unbelievably exhausted; a non-stop weekend of music and dance from the British Isles and beyond. The festival will be based at the University of Aberdeen, in King's College and surrounding venues. The festival is being organised by Members of Aberdeen University Scottish Dance Society (AUSDS), as part of the Aberdeen University Student Association (AUSA).

Highlights of the weekend will include the following events:

On Friday 2nd March:

- Concert with Megson, 8-10pm: Combining the talents of northerners Stu and Debbie Hanna, the duo Megson are fast becoming hot property on the British folk and roots scene. www.megsonmusic.co.uk
- Evening Dance with The Monster Ceilidh Band and The Touch: Monster Ceilidh Band are Amy Thatcher (Kathryn Tickell Band, The Shee), Carly Blain (Border Fiddles), Kieran Szifris and David de la Haye (Jez Lowe and the Bad Pennies). They've taken their cross-genre ceilidh music all over the world, entertaining generations new and old whilst retaining the true spirit of ceilidh dancing – getting up and having a party! Here they are joined by DJ The Touch, but don't be scared - it's still folk! www.monsterceilidhband.co.uk

On Saturday 3rd March:

- Display Ceilidh on Saturday afternoon with The Aurora Ceilidh Band: The Aurora Ceilidh Band plays traditional music for ceilidh dancing in lively and innovative style. The band line-up includes accordion, fiddle, flute, mandolin and guitar. Their repertoire includes a number of Scottish and international dances picked up along travels to international folk dance and music festivals. www.aurorascot.org.uk/band
- Saturday Evening Ceilidh with Clachan Yell: Clachan Yell are our absolute favourite tame ceilidh band. We also recommend you take a close look at Alasdair's sporrán. www.myspace.com/clachanyell

- Saturday Evening Contra with Vertical Expression and Rhodri Davies: Vertical Expression are possibly the UK's most high-energy contra band, this is what happens when you take two English ceilidh musicians on fiddle and melodeon and put them with a guitar and double bass rhythm section with a love of bluegrass and gypsy jazz. Rhodri Davies will put you through your paces, whether you're a seasoned contra dancer or you've never heard of it before.
www.verticalexpressioncontra.co.uk
- Saturday Evening Dance with Frank Thompson's Scottish Country Dance Band: Scottish Country dancing is what we do up here, and we fully intend to show you just why we enjoy it so much. Frank is not only one of the best SCD musicians in Scotland, he's also lovely. Watch this space for the programme when it's fully cooked. All dances will be called. Frank Thompson Appreciation Society hoodies available on request.
- Saturday Late Evening Blues with MP and the Expenses: After Saturday afternoon's blues workshop you'll want to show off your new-found skills. This is the perfect occasion!
www.myspace.com/mptheexpenses

All over the weekend, there will be workshops to discover or re-discover: Scottish Dancing, Contra, Morris, Molly, Southern Italian and Breton Dance, Blues Dance, Story Telling, etc.

On Sunday 4th March:

- More Workshops!
- To finish off, there will be a Sunday afternoon Survivors' Ceilidh with a live band, dances from all around the country and lots of tired dancers.

There is more! For up-to-date information about the festival in Aberdeen visit www.ivfdf2012.org.uk. For general information on the festival and its history, visit www.ivfdf.org.

Tickets:

Weekend festival passes are now available to purchase online, costing £18 for unwaged and concession, or £28 for waged visitors. There is a £3 early bird discount available until Friday 4th February. Day, evening and event tickets are also available. More information is available at www.ivfdf2012.org.uk/tickets

To find out more and to purchase tickets, visit:

www.ivfdf2012.org.uk

www.facebook.com/ivfdf2012

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