

Saturday 7th October 2017 - the First Ever
Southern England Chromatic Button Accordion Rally

The Chromatic Button Accordion (CBA) is relatively rare in the UK. There are not many players, not many instruments, very few teachers, and not much learning material in English. The internet makes a huge amount of information available, and awareness of this wonderful instrument has probably never been higher. But, “online” only goes so far. Some players may never have met anyone else who plays the system. There’s no one they can ask, “what about this” or can tell “I’ve been doing this, what do you think?” For most people who might like to learn the system there is nowhere accessible where they can actually try a CBA.

So, the first Southern England Chromatic Button Accordion Rally (SECBAR) aims to bring together players, instruments, and potential players in one place and time.

It will be what those who come make it, but aims and suggestions include:-

- An opportunity to meet and talk to other people who are interested in the instrument
- An opportunity to try different instruments
- An opportunity to describe difficulties or share discoveries
- An opportunity to sell and buy instruments. (Black Diamond Accordions are bringing their new instruments for sale.)
- We hope people will bring relevant music books and “tutors” either for sale or so that others can have a good look before buying elsewhere

Anyone with an interest in CBA is welcome, whether they already play, at any level, or would like to find out more. As well as the chance to meet people, talk, and see and play instruments the day should include:-

- An informal “seminar,” a chance to ask questions or share information with a group of people
- A chance for those who wish to do so to play some music, or demonstrate something they like.
- A “massed play” from sheet music of something that should sound good on lots of accordions!

Logistics – Saturday 7th October 2017.

- The venue is St Michael’s church hall, Steventon, near Didcot Oxfordshire. “*Church Lane, Steventon, Oxfordshire, OX13 6SW - From the High Street turn into the Causeway (signposted 'to church') all the way up past the North Star and over the level crossing until you come to Church Lane.*” It’s in the churchyard. There’s easy parking in a village environment outside.
- Meet mid-morning onwards, I’ll be there by 10.30. Tea, coffee, biscuits and water will be available all day. Meet, show, play, talk, discuss, look at, buy, sell!
- “Ploughmans” type lunch provided. (Let me know of any special dietary needs.)
- After lunch “show and tell,” encouraging as many as possible to play a tune, share things of interest, ask opinions, etc.
- Massed CBA “choir”

- Ending “tea-time” – (Some people have evening gigs to play for.)

- Cost £10 a head to include lunch, refreshments and contribution to hall hire. Pay on the day, but please email secbar96@outlook.com to book your place and with any questions, or phone 01993 823 999 or 07989 888 263 If you have anything for sale please let me know details, including guide price, in advance if possible so others can come prepared! If you have topics you’d like to discuss, questions to ask, or music we can play, please let me know.