

Barrowburn



Overview

“Raleigh’s premier Ceili band.” – Jack Crosson, Ancient Order of Hibernians

Barrowburn is a Raleigh, NC based band presenting traditional Celtic music on acoustic instruments for dances, public performances, group meetings, and private engagements throughout North Carolina.

Barrowburn prides itself in its versatility. They are equally at home ripping through a set of jigs or reels as they are rendering the simple beauty of a slow air or lament. They perform both legacy and contemporary ballads from the tradition as well as comical pub songs that are best accompanied by a swinging pint of Guinness. In concert, they demonstrate their love for Celtic music, but do so from an American perspective.

Barrowburn has played at numerous festivals including the Gaelic Festival in Raleigh, Celtic Fest in Cary, and the International Festival in Raleigh. They often play for dancers at both Céilí and Contra dances as well as private parties and receptions throughout North Carolina. For over ten years, they have been the house band at Tir na nOg, Raleigh's premier Irish Pub.

Booking inquiries for performances, dances, receptions, and private parties may be made via email, email@barrowburn.net, or voice, 919-219-1461. For the latest and more in-depth information on Barrowburn, visit our website, www.barrowburn.net. Complete promotional material is available online, too.

Performance schedule and online press kit available at <http://www.barrowburn.net/press>
For more information or to booking: email@barrowburn.net or 919-219-1461

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Biographies

“The Aversboro Multicultural Festival was very successful and Barrowburn was a valuable part of our festival.” – Jeff Hammerstein, President Aversboro PTA

Jeff Cates, fiddle and vocals

Jeff's poignant rendition of an Air on his fiddle and his rich baritone interpretation of a favorite Irish song are hallmarks of the Barrowburn sound. Studying both classical and folk styles, he is also a member of The Raleigh Civic Symphony, teaches tunes at the local sessions, and sings in his church choir. Attending numerous Swannanoa Gatherings, Jeff has studied with some of the world's best Irish and Scottish fiddle players including Elke Baker, Laura Risk, and Brian Conway.

Nathan Deese, flute, whistle, mandolin and banjo

Nathan cast around for the perfect woodwind instrument for many years until he came upon the penny-whistle. He studied whistle under Laura Byrne Egan in the Baltimore Irish Arts program, then branched out to Irish flute, guitar, mandolin, and Irish tenor banjo. Nathan has played with a variety of local folk music groups. He has led the NC Renaissance Festival's madrigal and pub singing group, and plays for his church choir.

Richard Nardin, guitar and vocals

Richard was an active member of the folk music community that flourished around Saratoga Springs, New York in the 1970s and 80s. He performed as a singer-songwriter throughout the northeast and midwest. His songs have been sung by Gordon Bok, Margaret MacArthur, Priscilla Herdman, Anne Dodson, Rory Makem, and others.

Virgil Sealy, fiddle, mandolin, bodhran, guitar and vocals

Virgil is the leader and booking agent for the band. His driving fiddle and his tenor voice are a mainstay of the band's sound. Adept at the bodhran, guitar, and mandolin as well, Virgil always hogs the most inputs on the soundboard! Virgil has attended workshops and master classes in fiddle and bodhran as well as soaking up tunes from other great players at area sessions and house parties. He is also the leader of the Pinecone Irish Session and is active with a number of the area folk music and dance groups.

Music

“Traditional Irish music is hard to define but easy to listen to. [Barrowburn] makes you want to drink a pint of Guinness and dance a jig on the bar. How many bands can you say that about?” - www.artmusiclife.com

Excerpts from our CD *Mist Covered Mountains* can be found on www.barrowburn.net on our Recordings page. If you would like a complete CD for your evaluation, please contact the band.

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Appearances

"I can't imagine anybody doing a better job for our dances." – Gene Liechty, Christ Church, Cary

Concerts

Carrboro LunchBox Concert, Carrboro, NC
Halle Cultural Arts Center, St. Patrick's
Concert 2009, 2010, and 2011, Apex, NC
Page Walker Hotel Winter Concert, Cary, NC
Pittsboro General Store Cafe, Pittsboro, NC
Weaver Street Market, Music on the Lawn
Concert, Carrboro, NC
Whole Foods, Cary, NC

Festivals, Events & Parades

AOH Irish Fest, Raleigh, NC
Aversboro Multicultural Festival, Raleigh, NC
Carrboro Music Fest, Carrboro, NC
CBS: The Early Show, Raleigh, NC
Celtic Fest, Cary, NC
Gaelic Festival, Raleigh & Cary, NC
Harvest Fest, Wake Forest, NC
International Festival, Raleigh, NC
International Food Festival, Clayton, NC
Johnston Community College International
Festival, Smithfield, NC
Raleigh St. Patrick's Day Parade, Raleigh, NC
Sacred Arts Festival, Raleigh, NC
Wake Forest Irish Festival, Festival Park,
Wake Forest, NC

Clubs, Pubs & Coffeehouses

Borders Books & Music Cafe, Cary, NC
The Flip Side, Clayton, NC
Hibernian Irish Pub, Raleigh & Cary, NC
Luther Café, Cary, NC
Piper's Tavern, Raleigh, NC
Starbucks - Crossroads, Cary, NC
Starbucks - Peace St, Raleigh, NC
Tir na nOg Irish Pub, Raleigh, NC
W. B. Yeats, Chapel Hill, NC

Receptions & Dances

Beth Shalom Family Picnic, Raleigh, NC
Cape Fear Contra Dance, Castle Hayne, NC
Christ Church Soiree, Cary, NC
Danny Tighe School of Irish Dance Feis,
Raleigh, NC
Friends of Ireland Céilí, Raleigh, NC
Galloway Ridge St. Patrick's Party, Pittsboro,
NC
Galway Hooker, Cornelius, NC
Inis Cairde School of Irish Dance Céilí,
Raleigh, NC
North Ridge Country Club St. Patrick's Day,
Raleigh, NC
Pinecone Contra Dance, Cary, NC
Pinehurst Resort Corporate Event, Pinehurst,
NC
SAS Institute Family Picnic, Cary, NC
Wake & District Public Safety Pipe & Drum
Band Tartan Ball, Raleigh NC
WUNC Breakfast with Fiona Ritchie at
Tir na nOg, Raleigh NC
Various weddings and private receptions