

MALTON CELEBRATES MARDI GRAS

Fed up with winter and longing for spring? Then here's what you can do!

Put on your dance shoes and come dancing at the 1st ever **Cajun & Zydeco Festival** in the North of England!

The Festival will be held in the picturesque market town of Malton from March 9 till 11.

This date has been chosen on purpose since it is around this time of year that people in Southern Louisiana celebrate **Mardi Gras**, an event best compared to our very own Carnival.

The South of Louisiana with its well-known cities of New Orleans, Lafayette and Baton Rouge is the home of Cajun and Zydeco music – a very upbeat kind of music sure to chase away the winter blues.

The inspiration for this Festival came from similar festivals in the South of England and one held every summer in Burgundy.

The organisation lies in the hands of an enthusiastic group of Cajun & Zydeco music lovers who hope to equal the success of these other festivals to make the Malton Festival an annual event for the whole community to enjoy.

During these three days in March, the Milton Rooms, restored to their former glory, will tempt dancers with its well-sprung wooden floor.

Eight bands – from the UK and the Netherlands – will keep the audience entertained with infectious Bayou rhythms.

Don't worry if you don't yet have a clue of how to dance to these beats! There will be a series of workshops for all levels of dancers to show you how easy it is to learn the basic steps and figures.

If dancing is not really your "cup of tea", why not taste the very best Cajun cuisine has to offer?

The menu will, of course, include legendary dishes such as the Jambalaya and Pecan Pie, but will also cater for those with more adventurous taste buds.

Visit www.yorkshirecajun.com for more details about the Festival programme, the bands and the organisers. Enjoy the fantastic atmosphere at this unique event and don't forget:

LAISSEZ LES BONS TEMPS ROULER!