

HALSWAY MANOR

National Centre for Folk Arts

July - December 2024



01984 618274 | www.halswaymanor.org.uk



Halsway Manor is a charity that promotes and supports the practice of traditional folk arts. This includes folk dance, music, song, folklore, storytelling, arts and crafts. It is the only residential centre in the world concentrating on the varied folk heritage of England.

Halsway Manor has inspired thousands of people to discover and explore all facets of the folk arts through its year-round residential and outreach activities. Halsway's mission is to enrich lives through inspirational experiences, as it has been doing for over 50 years – it attracts expert tutors from across the globe, offering a broad programme that assists amateur exploration, professional development, the creation of new work, and stewardship of its heritage. Visitors also cherish the opportunity to make new friends and connections from all over the world, and the community of folk artists that Halsway attracts.

Halsway Manor is a truly unique organisation which employs over 300 professional folk artists every year, works with hundreds of young people through its Young Folk programme and in school settings, and provides a folk education programme for all ages that is second to none.

Information

Prices

Prices for residential courses/ events are per person, to include overnight accommodation, meals, tuition and activities (unless otherwise stated).

Concerts and dances

£12 / £6 full-time students of any age unless stated otherwise. Where a concert/dance takes place during a residential course it is free to course participants. All welcome.

Arrival and departure

Unless otherwise stated, arrival for weekend courses is from 4pm on Friday, and departure at 4pm on Sunday. Arrival for weekday courses is from 4pm on Monday, with departure after breakfast on Friday.

Camping

We welcome campers all year round, in caravans, campervans and tents. Rates vary for different courses and include camping, meals, tuition and activities. There are four electrical hook ups available on a first-come, first-served basis, and showers and bathrooms in the manor.

Non-participants

On most courses, discounted rates are available to a friend/ partner sharing the room of a course participant, but not taking part in the course itself. The price – which is usually the same as

the non-resident price – includes accommodation and meals. Packed lunches are available on request.

Stay an extra night

On certain weekend courses, an extra night of B&B accommodation can be added to the end of your booking. Please ring to check availability and pricing.

Food

Our chefs and dedicated staff will make sure you're well looked after, with plenty of tasty, wholesome food on offer. Meals are prepared fresh on the premises, using local suppliers wherever possible. All dietary needs are catered for – please inform us of any food allergies/ intolerances or special diets when making your booking.

Access

We have two ground floor bedrooms with adapted bathrooms and all the public areas where our courses and events take place are wheelchair accessible. There is a hearing loop system in the main room where concerts and dances take place. Our staff are always happy to assist.

Partnership events

In addition to our own events, Halsway Manor offers the perfect venue for groups and societies from across the UK to host and run their own events. These are marked **P**.

Key to prices

- +** single occupancy with ensuite facilities
- +** sharing a room with ensuite facilities
- single occupancy with shared, non-ensuite facilities
- +** sharing a room with shared, non-ensuite facilities
- ▲** camping / bringing a campervan
- ✕** non-resident

Our Garden Cabins are priced at the same rates as our ensuite rooms.

Nature and Landscape

In addition to our courses focusing on music and dance, we also offer opportunities throughout the year to get out into the beautiful Somerset countryside. Halsway Manor, situated in the heart of the Quantock Hills National Landscape, is the perfect base for exploring nature and discovering this unique area of the country.

Summer Walking Week

Monday 8 – Friday 12 July

Halsway Manor is situated in the heart of the Quantock Hills National Landscape, with direct footpath access to open moorland and views to the Brendon Hills and Exmoor and endless opportunities for varied walking in stunning, unspoiled landscapes. You'll have the choice of three walks of differing lengths each day.

For more information, see page 6.

Coleridge Way Walking Week

Monday 9 – Friday 13 September

This walking holiday includes three full days of walking, covering the Western half of the Coleridge way (Wheddon Cross to Lynmouth) led by local guide and enthusiast Roger Phipps. Shorter walks with Nan Ward will be on offer each day so you can choose the best route for you.

For more information, see page 11.

Late Summer Butterflies and Moths

Monday 9 – Friday 13 September

World-renowned butterfly and moth expert and author David Brown returns to lead a late-Summer week of field trips, workshops and lectures focusing on the rare and interesting late-summer butterflies and moths of Somerset.

For more information, see page 11.

Enjoy the area, bring a friend, share a room, & save money!

When you book a course at Halsway Manor, we offer you the option of bringing a friend to share your accommodation – and you both get a sharing discount! While you learn, they can explore the area, using Halsway as a base for meals and a good night's sleep. Halsway Manor is in the Quantock Hills National Landscape (formerly AONB). We're just a short drive away from the West Somerset Railway (Britain's longest steam railway), Somerset's Jurassic coast (ideal for fossil hunting), and the Exmoor National Park within easy reach.





Halsway Young Folk

Ignite your passion for music with our immersive, creative and fun residential courses for ages 7 -21! They're led by Becki Driscoll, Archie Churchill-Moss, and Ford Collier, with a great team of professional and nurturing folk musicians alongside Kerrie Seymour to provide pastoral and safeguarding support. In addition to the courses below, we run a **Folk Introduction** course in the Easter break for young people aged 11-16 who want to dip their toe into folk music.

Halsway Young Folk – Intermediate (12-18 years)

Monday 29 July – Saturday 3 August

Becki Driscoll, Kerrie Seymour, Archie Churchill-Moss, Matt Norman, Rosie Butler-Hall

An intensive week for young musicians to create a brand-new performance piece – and perform it at Sidmouth Folk Week! You'll need to have prior experience as a musician; any instrument is welcome and we'd recommend that you'd be at a playing level of about grade 4 or upwards. It's not necessary to have prior experience of folk music; it's more important that you want to be creative, work collaboratively with others, and have fun creating a performance that everybody can be proud of. NB. Parents will need to transport participants to Sidmouth on Saturday morning.

£265 – apply online

Halsway Young Folk – Advanced (16-21 years)

Monday 19 – Friday 23 August

Archie Churchill-Moss, Kate Griffin, Matt Norman, Kerrie Seymour

The Halsway Young Folk Advanced course aims to challenge and inspire the next generation of professional folk musicians – could this be you?!

Led by Archie Churchill-Moss, you'll work to develop your musical and performance skills. This is the course to do if you aspire to be a professional musician or educator, or are planning to continue your musical education at University.

You'll share some of the week, and the performance, with the Halsway Young Folk Juniors, helping them to gain skills, experience and confidence, and honing your leadership skills along the way.

£260 – apply online

Halsway Young Folk – Junior (7-11 years)

Wednesday 21 – Friday 23 August

Ford Collier, Kate Griffin, Matt Norman, Kerrie Seymour,

A great introduction to folk music and song, filled with fun and imaginative folk activities, using local traditions and customs as inspiration. You'll explore music and song, and create a performance for friends and family. Any instrument, and any level of proficiency welcome. The main thing is that you enjoy music, song and dance, and being creative!

£95 – apply online

Tutors

Becki Driscoll



Becki is a musician, singer, composer and educator, based in the heart of the West Country. She leads educational projects and workshops, and specialist courses, ranging from beginners fiddle sessions to mixed-instrument folk ensembles. She leads the Autumn Fiddle Weekend at Halsway (together with Nick Wyke) and runs RootNotes - a community music company that provides workshops for people of all ages in North Devon.

Archie Churchill-Moss



Widely regarded as one of the best players of English traditional folk, Archie received the coveted BBC

Radio 2 Young Folk Award in 2011. His engaging teaching style comes from a wealth of experience in his position as senior lecturer in 'Folk Music' at Leeds College of Music and teaching on the National Youth Folk Ensemble courses. With a contemporary approach to composition and arrangement, Archie's playing style draws as much influence from the tradition as it does from modern popular music.

Matt Norman



Matt is a performer, teacher, composer, arranger, workshop leader and conductor. He is also a Dartmoor Step Dance Champion, and his work is steeped in the traditions of Devon and Dartmoor. Matt's extensive teaching experience includes working in community and festival settings with all ages and abilities. He has a relaxed, fun and accessible approach to learning, tailored very much to the group. He has a broad expertise embracing mixed instrument ensembles, choral and voice work, instrument specific tuition (mandolin, fiddle, banjo), and, of course, step dancing!

Ford Collier



Ford is a multi-instrumentalist specialising in folk fusion. He plays low whistle, guitar, and percussion,

and draws on a wealth of traditional Irish tunes, his years of experience as an accompanist, and knowledge of the rhythmic language of Indian classical music to broaden his roots in UK folk. Some of Ford's first teaching experience came from Halsway Manor, where he originally participated in courses as a teenager! He has since delivered a series of workshops in primary schools on local folklore in collaboration with Historic England and Halsway Manor.

Kate Griffin



Kate is a clawhammer banjo player, singer and composer. Described as "one of the top banjo players in the country"

by virtuoso Dan Walsh, her innovative banjo style combines both traditional UK and American folk, whilst also placing the banjo in a contemporary setting. In 2018, Kate formed the award-winning global folk collective Mishra, alongside musical partner Ford Collier. She also performs as part of critically acclaimed transatlantic neo-folk band The Magpies. Kate has taught on our Young Folk courses for a number of years.

Kerrie Seymour



Kerrie is a community artist, youth theatre director and project manager with a background in Social Work, specialising in

Youth, Education and Children's Residential care. Working extensively with schools, community groups and a range of support services Kerrie has delivered countless projects from small theatre performances to large scale outdoor events. She strives to be part of creating fresh, innovative, thought provoking and exciting work that can motivate, inspire, and engage participants and audiences. At Halsway she'll be leading fun team-building and confidence-boosting games and creative activities to complement the musical tuition, whilst making sure each young person feels included and supported during their stay.



Mon 1 - Fri 5 July
Leveret Musicians' Week

Andy Cutting, Rob Harbron, Sam Sweeney

Leveret return to Halsway Manor for their popular musicians' week. Their music involves playing together spontaneously without using arrangements, which is what this midweek course is all about.

+430 +390 -390
-355 ^260 x240



Thurs 4 July, 8pm
Leveret

£12 Adults, £6 Concessions

Fri 5 – Sun 7 July
Summer Piano Accordion Weekend (Levels 1-3)

Paul Hutchinson, Valerie Barr, Tamsin Elliott

Our revamped Piano Accordion Weekend offers workshops honing technique, repertoire and interpretation of folk tunes and accompaniment, as well as informal sessions.

New Level 4 weekend now in September - check your level online to help you choose the right weekend for you.

+310 +265 -265 -210
^200 x190

Mon 8 – Fri 12 July
Summer Walking Week

Roger Phipps, Nan Ward, Jamie Robertson

This is a midweek summer walking break with Halsway Manor as your base, led by local guides. A reasonable fitness level is required – even short walks may include steep climbs – and appropriate clothing and footwear is essential. You'll be able to relax in the peaceful surroundings of the manor with a cool drink when you return each day.

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^260 x240



Fri 12 – Sun 14 July
J25: Banding Together

Banding Together summer weekends provide advanced and fluent English-system concertina players with the opportunity to play as a big concertina band. The music is varied and challenging but help with preparation is provided. For more information and to book please email Sue at nog_walsh@hotmail.com. Sunday B&B available.

Mon 15 – Fri 19 July
Page to Performance: Folk Songs with The Furrow Collective

Lucy Farrell, Emily Portman, Alasdair Roberts

The Furrow Collective invite you to join them for a deep dive into folk songs from England, Scotland and beyond. The band will teach a selection of the songs, delving into their history, stories and contemporary relevance. As well as lots of practical singing opportunities, you'll get an insight into the way they usually work with traditional material.

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^260 x240

Fri 19 – 21 July
Hong Kong Folk Society

A reunion event for former members of the Hong Kong Folk Society. A weekend for singing, playing, performing and teaching. Further details can be obtained by contacting Pete Clarke on 07818 228485 or clarkes1990@googlemail.com



Mon 22 – Fri 26 July
Summer Country Dance Week

Mark Elvins, Meg Winters, Ali Messer, Jane Harrison

Join us for a midweek country dancing break, in the height of the Somerset summer. There will be dances each evening, workshops in the mornings covering American and British contra as well as traditional English, Playford, American squares and more, while the afternoons will be left free to enable dancers to enjoy the Somerset countryside in all its summer glory.

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^260 x240

Mon 22 – 26 July
Violin Making

Neville Gardner, Corrie Schrijver

Supported by Neville Gardner and Corrie Schrijver, who have decades of teaching experience between them, this workshop gives maximum continuous time at the workbench. All levels of ability, including beginners, are welcome to work on any member of the violin family.

£655 (plus cost of materials)

Fri 26 – Sun 28 July
Folk meets Classical

Paul Hutchinson, Sophie Renshaw, Gabi Maas

This course will appeal to classical players who want to get off the page, improvise and exercise their imagination, and trad players who wish to push the boundaries out beyond what they might meet in sessions. You'll work in small ensembles, exploring a wealth of musical 'ingredients' that will enable you to take popular and less well-known tunes and re-invent them.

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^200 x190



Mon 29 July – Sat 3 Aug

Halsway Young Folk Intermediate

Becki Driscoll, Archie Churchill-Moss, Matt Norman, Rosie Butler-Hall, Kerrie Seymour

An opportunity for young musicians from the South West and beyond to work with leading folk artists, to develop skills, confidence and creativity, and to perform at Sidmouth Folk Festival. Full information on Page 3.

£265 – Apply Online



Sat 3 – Fri 9 Aug

Family Folk

David Faulkner, Alison Rowley

Bring your family to a creative and fun Summer folk break at Halsway! There'll be a programme of activities each morning and evening, focused around children but suitable for the whole family.

⬆️520 ⬆️475 ⬆️475 ⬆️430
⬆️340 ⬆️320

Ages 12-17 - 50% of prices above, Ages 3-11 - £110, 2 and under – free



Fri 9 – Sun 11 Aug

Suthering Singing Weekend

Julu Irvine, Heg Brignall

Suthering will be making their first trip to Halsway to teach folk songs in a cappella harmony. The songs have been carefully picked and uniquely

arranged by Julu and Heg and are a combination of traditional folk and contemporary songs by influential modern folk songwriters.

⬆️310 ⬆️265 ⬆️265 ⬆️210
⬆️200 ⬆️190



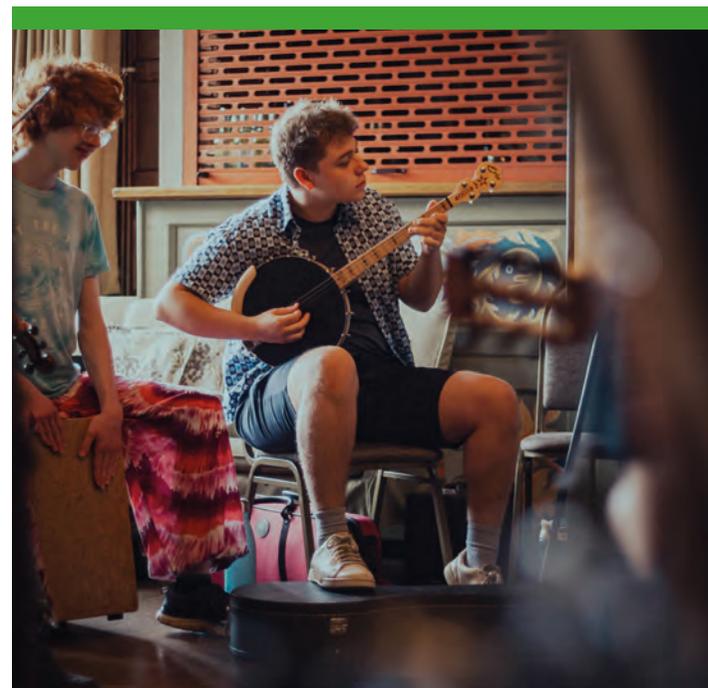
Mon 12 – Mon 19 Aug

Halsway Folk Dance Holiday

Ivan Aitkin, Richard Jones, Chris Jewell, Belinda Bourquin, Kerstin Jewell, Jane and Brian Thomas

An enjoyable folk holiday that has dancing at its heart, alongside folk-related activities for all to enjoy. One day is left completely free for you to explore the local area or relax.

⬆️610 ⬆️570 ⬆️570 ⬆️495
⬆️445 ⬆️380



Mon 19 – Fri 23 Aug

Halsway Young Folk Advanced

Archie Churchill-Moss, Matt Norman, Kate Griffin, Kerrie Seymour

Led by Archie Churchill-Moss, you'll work together to develop your musical and performance skills. If you aspire to be a professional musician or educator, or are planning to continue your musical education at university, this is a great intensive experience, but you're also welcome if you just want to enjoy playing and singing with other young people. Full information on Page 4.

£260 – Apply online

Wed 21 – Fri 23 Aug

Halsway Young Folk Juniors

Ford Collier, Matt Norman, Kate Griffin, Kerrie Seymour

Now in its seventh year, our popular Halsway Young Folk Juniors is a great introduction to folk music and song for ages 7 – 12. Led by an experienced creative team, this short residential will be filled with fun and imaginative folk activities, using local traditions and customs as inspiration. Full information on Page 3.

£95 – Apply online

Fri 23 – Sun 25 Aug

Zenways Family Gathering

A weekend of learning and mindfulness for all those who've trained and worked with Zenways. For more information, visit: www.zenways.org/events



Mon 26 – Fri 30 Aug

Folk Summer School

David Delarre, Kevin Dempsey, John Dipper, Kerry Fletcher, Jo Freya, Paul Hutchinson

There'll be music, dance and song – for adults of all abilities – led by a crack team of tutors who have detailed knowledge and extensive experience of a wide spectrum of folk music. Singers, dancers and musicians of all levels of experience; there's something for everyone! Choose from classes in guitar, fiddle, piano accordion, singing, or dance.

⬆️430 ⬆️390 ⬆️390 ⬆️355
⬆️260 ⬆️240



Archie's Box Academy

September 9th
October 7th
November 4th

Getting Started: 10.30am-1pm
Getting Better: 2-4.30pm

We're delighted that Archie Churchill-Moss has found time in his busy touring and teaching schedule to lead these one-a-month workshops for all ability levels. The sessions will cater for two mixed-ability groups, with time for individual help to support less confident and less advanced players, and to stretch more ambitious and more accomplished musicians.

Single Workshop: £45 / £52 with lunch
Please book in advance.



Fri 30 Aug – Sun 1 Sept

The Halsway Regency Assembly

Georgia Delve, The Warleggan Village Band

Join us for another fantastic weekend of steps, patterns, music and manners, not forgetting that all-important ballroom etiquette. This is a chance to explore the Regency period through dance, looking at the evolving fashions of social dancing through the Georgian period, culminating in the iconic Regency era.

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^200 x190

Fri 6 – Sun 8 Sept

Harpas at Halsway: Nyckelharpa Festival

Vicki Swan, Torbjörn Näsborn, Gabi Maas

A weekend of workshops, ensemble playing, sessions, a gig, and more! Led by Vicki Swan, this popular weekend will also feature Torbjörn Näsborn and Gabi Maas – all are brilliant exponents of this unusual Swedish instrument. Players of all abilities except beginners are welcome. Sunday B&B is available.



Sat 7 Sept, 8pm
Vicki Swan, Torbjörn Näsborn, Gabi Maas
 £12/£6



Garden Cabins

We are pleased to offer our new garden cabins – Blackbird, Cuckoo, Nightingale and Skylark – for use by our course participants.

These beautiful double cabins sit in our lower gardens with views over the manor, and feature cosy underfloor heating and fully equipped shower rooms. They have tea and coffee making facilities and are offered at the same prices as our ensuite rooms in the manor and mews.

They are accessed by either walking down the drive and through the new Cabin parking area, or via the front path and down the steps. Please note that the cabins do not have step-free access and there is some uneven terrain between the manor and the garden.

Please let us know if you would like one of these when you book.



Mon 9 – Fri 13 Sept

Late Summer Butterflies and Moths

David Brown

World-renowned butterfly and moth expert and author David Brown returns to lead a late-Summer week of field trips, workshops and lectures focusing on rare and interesting summer butterflies and moths of Somerset.

There will be field visits to the Blackdown Hills and a location at Taunton to study the nationally important Brown Hairstreak. Light traps will be operated in the wooded grounds of Halsway Manor where the nationally declining Hedge Rustic and the recently established Clifden Nonpareil are local specialities.

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^260 x240



Mon 9 – Fri 13 Sept

Coleridge Way Walking Week

Roger Phipps, Nan Ward

The Coleridge Way is a 51 mile route through glorious scenery, running from Nether Stowey in the East to Lynmouth at its Westernmost point.



This walking holiday will include three full days of walking, covering the Western half of the route (Wheddon Cross to Lynmouth) led by local guide and enthusiast Roger Phipps. There is also the option to enjoy easier walks each day, of up to 6 miles approximately, under the friendly, knowledgeable guidance of Nan Ward.

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Fri 13 – Sun 15 Sept

Autumn Fiddle Weekend

Nick Wyke, Becki Driscoll, Grace Smith

An intensive weekend for fiddle players of all ages and abilities – with the exception of complete beginners – led by Halsway regulars Becki and Nick with guest tutor Grace Smith. You'll need a basic grasp of your instrument and to be able to play either from the music provided or to pick up tunes quickly by ear.

+310 +265 -265 210
 ^200 x190

Sun 15 – Fri 20 Sept

Voices, Viols & Recorders Association

An untutored course for experienced singers and players of early instruments to explore Renaissance and Baroque repertoire in ensembles of all sizes. For more information and to book please contact vr-association@hotmail.com.

Fri 20 – Sun 22 Sept

Advanced Piano Accordion Weekend

Murray Grainger

This new course is an accordion weekend for advanced players working at Level 4 (see our levels

online), and will offer those players the chance to work at a faster pace or cover trickier repertoire in a more intense way, alongside other players of a similar level in a small group.

+310 +265 -265 210
 ^200 x190



Mon 23 – Fri 27 Sept

Midweek Guitars

Charlotte Carravick, David Delarre, Tristan Seume

Our Midweek Guitars course is an intensive and enjoyable guitar school for steel-string acoustic guitarists, led by three fantastic tutors.

The week will be tailored to the needs and experience of the group and you'll have the opportunity to spend a day with each of the tutors in workshops that aim to develop your technique, skills and repertoire.

+430 +390 -390 355
 ^260 x240

Fri 20 – Sun 22 Sept

Beyond the Tune

Moira & Peter Gutteridge, Madeleine Smith

This is a course for musicians who wish to develop their arranging skills through ensemble playing. Players of all instruments welcome, but this course caters particularly well for harpists under the dedicated tuition of Moira. You'll also practise tunes for dancing with guidance from Madeleine on bringing the music and dancers together.

+310 +265 -265 210
 ^200 x190

Fri 27 – Sun 29 Sept

Halsway Harvest Weekend

A weekend of mainly English style dance for experienced dancers. This year's guest caller is Frances Oates accompanied by Dampier's Round (Moira and Peter Gutteridge). For more information and booking, please contact Rob Dawson at halswayharvest@gmail.com.



Mon 30 Sept – Fri 4 Oct

Autumn Contra Dance Week

Diane Silver, Will Allen, Rowan Pigott, Gareth Kiddier

Our Autumn dance week is led by American caller Diane Silver, and is suitable for dancers with all levels of Contra experience. Dance workshops take place each morning with fun optional outings and activities in the afternoons. Dances every evening, all in the lovely setting of Halsway Manor!

+430 +390 -390 355
 ^260 x240



Play your part in **Halsway's future** for just **£35** per year.

Join the Halsway Manor Society to receive a range of benefits (including refundable deposits) and support our ongoing work.

Visit www.halswaymanor.org.uk/support-us-to-join.



Fri 4 – Sun 6 Oct

Tales in Trust: Stories Have Legs

Taffy Thomas, Sef Townsend, Mossy Christian, Richard York

Taffy and his team present 'all the stories between the sun and the moon', which know neither borders or boundaries, and travel the world from tongue to ear. Your leaders for this weekend have toured places here and around the world, enriching their repertoire wherever they met traditional performers. They'll share these riches through a mixture of performances and practical workshops.

+ 310 + 265 - 265 210
 A 200 x 190



Sun 6 – Fri 18 Oct

British Violin & Bow Making Association

BVMA return to Halsway for an extended period of peer-led workshop time, to include their annual conference. For more information visit www.bvma.org.uk.

Fri 18 – Sun 20 Oct

Give Voice

Bob & Gill Berry, with invited guests

It's all about folk song, and it's all in good company! Whether you want a good sing in the bar, to hear and share new songs, to improve your voice or to create songs of your own, this is the weekend for you. The course includes a Leaders' Concert at 5pm on Sunday, followed by a buffet supper. Sunday night B&B is available for anyone wishing to stay on for a survivors' song session.

+ 320 + 275 - 275 220
 A 210 x 200



Mon 21 – Fri 25 Oct

Lady Maisery's October Creative Song Week

Hazel Askew, Hannah James, Rowan Rheingans

With traditional and contemporary folk song as your starting point, this mid-week course is a chance

to delve deeply into the songs we sing, work on how to make our music more meaningful and discover what might move us forward in our personal musical journeys.

+ 430 + 390 - 390 355
 A 260 x 240

Sat 26 Oct, 8pm

Rolling Harmony

Join Rolling Harmony for an evening of glorious music and gorgeous vocal harmonies, rooted in English and American harmony singing traditions.

£12/£6



Sat 5 Oct, 6pm

The Storyteller's Supper

A feast of traditional tales told over a delicious home-cooked evening meal.

£25



Fri 25 – Sun 27 Oct

Songways Singing Weekend

A joyous weekend of learning and singing, led by choir leaders Jane Harris and Pip Wright. For more information and bookings, please visit www.songways.co.uk.



Fri 1 – Mon 4 Nov

Hong Kong Morris ⓘ

A private practice weekend for members of the Hong Kong Society. With music, dancing and time for social activities.

Mon 4 – Fri 8 Nov

Recorders for All ⓘ

This partnership course is for advanced-level, experienced recorder players with the ability to play a bass recorder of some description. For more information and to book, please contact Jan Epps on 01752 417093 or jan.epps57@gmail.com.

Mon 11 – Fri 15 Nov

Mostly English – Rosemary Hunt ⓘ

A social dance week for more experienced dancers; enjoy a selection of workshops and evening dances, looking at dances from both sides of the pond. For more information and booking, contact Rosemary Hunt on rosemaryhunt@icloud.com.



Fri 8 – Sun 10 Nov

German Weekend with TradTöchter

Vivien Zeller, Ursula Suchanek

TradTöchter (meaning Daughters of Tradition) will take you on a guided tour of traditional music, beautiful melodies, groovy tunes

and breath-taking dances from Germany, and get you thinking about how to play both for the joy of dancers and listeners. You need to be comfortable with your instrument to get the best from this workshop.

⊕ 310 ⊕ 265 ⊖ 265 ⊖ 210
▲ 200 ✖ 190



Fri 15 – Sun 17 Nov

Zesty Contra Weekend

Rhodri Davies, Mark Elvins, Mollie Koenigsberger, Ali Messer, Matt Norman

The annual Zesty Contra House Party is an exhilarating, popular and fun weekend designed to extend your dance horizons! It's aimed at regular dancers, with or without experience of Contra – Rhodri and Mark, two of the best callers around, will lead you through the weekend in their inimitable and entertaining style. Instruments welcomed for a session or two with the band.

⊕ 310 ⊕ 265 ⊖ 265 ⊖ 210
▲ 200 ✖ 190

Mon 18 – Fri 22 Nov

Page to Performance: Medieval Music ⓘ

Mary Mohan, Jude Rees

Delve into the world of Medieval manuscripts, dance tunes, beautiful sacred music and more. This course takes a “no rules” approach, allowing musicians from every discipline to explore this diverse and surprising genre. Want to play a cantiga on violin, clarinet and bass concertina? No problem! Note reading is helpful but not essential, and music can be provided in a variety of clefs and transpositions.

⊕ 430 ⊕ 390 ⊖ 390 ⊖ 355
▲ 260 ✖ 240



Fri 22 – Sun 24 Nov

The Front Room Sessions

Nick Wyke, Becki Driscoll

This music-making weekend for all acoustic instruments is a firm favourite in our calendar. Nick Wyke and Becki Driscoll

welcome you back into their Front Room – relocated just for this weekend to Halsway Manor – for another easy-going weekend of session playing.

⊕ 310 ⊕ 265 ⊖ 265 ⊖ 210
▲ 200 ✖ 190



12pm Mon 25 – 2pm Fri 29 Nov

Melodeon Study Week

Anne Niepold, Andy Cutting

This will be an intensive week of skills-based learning focusing on your development as a musician, discovering new ways to interpret and play, and to make the music your own. Arrive from Middy for workshops after lunch.

⊕ 450 ⊕ 410 ⊖ 410 ⊖ 375
▲ 290 ✖ 260





Fri 29 Nov – Sun 1 Dec

Christmas Carols and beyond with Narthen

Jo Freya, Fi Fraser, Sarah Matthews, Doug Eunson

The weekend will explore some of the beautiful Yorkshire and Derbyshire carols, both sacred and secular, and other festive

fare for which Narthen are so well known. We have a fantastic array of songs for you as always and we are particularly excited about it being a more 'festive celebration', being that little bit nearer to Christmas.

+310 +265 -265 +210
▲200 ✖190



Sat 30 Nov, 8pm

Narthen

£12/£6

Fri 6 – Sun 8 Dec

J25: Banding Together Christmas House Party

Banding Together will be at Halsway Manor to celebrate with their Christmas House Party. It's a more relaxed affair than their summer weekend, so expect seasonal repertoire, plus festive fun and games thrown in, too! For more information and booking, please contact Claire Wren at bandingtogetherwithj25@gmail.com.

Mon 9 – Fri 13 Dec

Festive Retreat

Matt Norman, Laurel Swift

Are you looking for an opportunity to take some time away from the December hullabaloo? Then look no further than our Festive Retreat - a chance to sing, make music, craft, relax, walk and generally enjoy the festive surroundings of Halsway Manor decked out for Christmas.

+430 +390 -390 +355
▲260 ✖240



Fri 13 – Sun 15 Dec

Gaudete! Renaissance Music for the Festive Season

William Lyons, Richard Thomas

Intended for players of renaissance wind, brass and strings, this course, led by members of The City Musick, will celebrate the huge variety of sounds and styles of Christmas music heard during the festive season in renaissance Europe. We can't promise a Boar's Head bedecked with bay and rosemary, but plenty of musical delights will be on offer!

+310 +265 -265 +210
▲200 ✖190

Mon 16 – Fri 20 Dec

Essential Fiddle Technique Week

Sam Sweeney

This course, looking at essential technique for fiddlers, is designed to address (or readdress!) the fundamentals of violin playing with a view to helping you get more from subsequent fiddle tuition. This in-depth look at the crucial elements of playing is for anyone who would like to build some strong foundations for their ongoing improvement as a fiddler.

+430 +390 -390 +355
▲260 ✖240

3pm Fri 20 – 11am Mon 23 Dec

A Very Halsway Christmas

The Winter Wonderband, The Rosie Hood Band, Jackie Oates and John Spiers, Gareth Kiddier

Have yourself a Very Halsway Christmas! Come and start your Christmas celebrations at Halsway Manor, where we'll be hosting our very first 'Festive Festival' in the run up to the big day. Your host will be Gareth Kiddier, and joining him over the course of the weekend will be three bands who bring with them a veritable smörgåsbord of talent and a goodly heap of festive sparkle. Each group will be bringing a festive gig to Halsway, one performance on every evening of your stay, as well as leading workshops with guests during the days.

+560 +525 -525 +495
▲400 ✖375

Friday 20 Dec, 8pm

The Winter Wonderband

Saul Rose, Maclaine Colston, Beth Porter and Jennifer Crook bring their spellbinding vocal harmonies backed by a beautiful combination of instruments. They'll sing of wintery tales and festive times, both traditional and original.

£15



Saturday 21 Dec, 8pm

The Rosie Hood Band

Rosie Hood, Nicola Beazley, Rosie Butler-Hall and Robyn Wallace released A Seed Of Gold, their first album as The Rosie Hood Band, in 2023 and they'll be bringing us gems from this recording, alongside other delights, including some special festive treats.

£15



Sunday 22 Dec, 8pm

Jackie Oates and John Spiers

Jackie and John's festive concerts are a beautiful and heart-warming antidote to the materiality that can be a feature of the Christmas season. The duo perform captivating traditional Christmas carols and tunes from England and beyond.

£15

Sun 29 Dec – Thurs 2 Jan

New Year House Party

Bridget Flett, Rod and Francis Stradling, Jane Thomas, Beverley Tapper, Anne and Fritjof Koerber

Celebrate the New Year in style – folk style that is! See out the Old Year and bring in the New with dancing, singing, music and games in the glorious setting of Halsway Manor.

With good food, good music and a packed programme of activities for musicians and dancers, plus with workshops and evening dances. There will be plenty of activities to keep you entertained, or room by the fire to relax with a good book. If the weather is fair, optional walks will be arranged, and you can expect playing sessions too; pack your walking boots and instruments.

+580 +540 -540 +465
▲385 ✖365





HALSWAY MANOR

National Centre for Folk Arts

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