



Halsway

National Centre for Folk Arts



July - December 2025

01984 618274 | www.halswaymanor.org.uk



The Halsway Manor Society is a charity that promotes and supports the practice of traditional folk arts, and celebrates its 60th anniversary in 2025. 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 has inspired thousands of people to discover and explore all facets of the folk arts through its year-round residential and outreach activities, and continues to enrich lives through inspirational experiences, as it has been doing for 60 years. It attracts expert tutors from across the globe, and offers a broad programme that allows amateur exploration, assists professional development, encourages the creation of new work, and helps to steward our nation's folk heritage. Visitors enjoy the community of folk artists that Halsway attracts and the opportunity to make new friends and connections from all over the world.

Halsway Manor is a truly unique organisation which employs many folk artists every year, nurtures young people through its Young Folk programme, 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
-  single bed in a dormitory style room
-  camping / bringing a campervan
-  non-resident

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

Fri 4 – Sun 6 July

Piano Accordion Workshop Weekend

Amy Thatcher, Paul Hutchinson, Tamsin Elliot

Our accordion workshop weekend is a chance for Level 1 to Level 3 accordionists to grab a whole bag of pick 'n' mix techniques and tips from three brilliant players and tutors.

+ 330 + 285 - 285 - 225
▲ 215 ✕ 200



Mon 7 - Fri 11 July

Violin Making

Neville Gardner, Corrie Schrijver

This course is for all levels of ability and beginners are very welcome. As well as the violin family, support can also be given for making a Rebec (an ancient ancestor of the violin). The class size is limited so that participants have plenty of support from the two tutors.

+ + - - £695

▲ ✕ £550

(plus cost of materials)



Mon 7 - Fri 11 July

Social Country Dance Week

Mark Elvins, Ali Messer, Jane Harrison, Meg Griffin

Join us for a midweek country dancing break, in the height of the Somerset summer. This will be a week of lively dance encompassing all forms of social folk dancing, with time to enjoy the local area.

+ 460 + 420 - 420 - 380
■ 340 ▲ 275 ✕ 255



Fri 11 - Sun 13 Jul

J25: Banding Together

This weekend is for advanced and fluent English system concertina players to play as a big concertina band under expert direction. For more information and to book please email Sue at nog_walsh@hotmail.com





Mon 14 - Fri 18 Jul

Immersive Drawing in Nature

Louise Rainbow

Join us for an immersive drawing experience, led by creative force-of-nature, Louise Rainbow. This course is suitable for experienced students and beginners alike.

475
 435
 435
 395
 355
 295
 270

Mon 14 - Fri 18 Jul

Playing in a Duo

James Delarre, Saul Rose

James Delarre and Saul Rose are offering you a deep dive into what it takes to play as a duo (or trio), and you'll leave with a broader understanding of the subtle dynamics of small ensemble playing.

460
 420
 420
 380
 340
 275
 255

Thurs 17 Jul, 8pm

**James Delarre
& Saul Rose**

£12 / £6



Fri 18 - Sun 20 Jul

Queer Folk Weekend

Sophie Crawford, George Sansome

This is a course to explore all things queer and folk, in collaboration with Queer Folk! Through workshops

and discussions, you'll be making new music, learning old songs and having the opportunity to share music and stories that are important to you.

330
 285
 285
 225
 215
 200



Mon 21 - Fri 25 Jul

Leveret Musicians' Week

Andy Cutting, Rob Harbron, Sam Sweeney

This workshop week for instrumentalists will explore ways of playing together intuitively in ensembles of varying size as well as discussing repertoire development and composition.

460
 420
 420
 380
 340
 275
 255





Fri 25 - Mon 28 Jul

Society for International Folk Dancing ⓘ

Dancers of all levels are invited to join our fun, friendly weekend and widen their international folk dancing experience. For more details and to book this partnership event please contact Brenda Steventon at brenda.steventon@btinternet.com.

Mon 28 Jul - Sat 2 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 create a new performance piece. The week will end with performances at Sidmouth Folk Festival!

Full board (accommodation and all meals), tuition and all activities: £275

Transport to Sidmouth is not provided.



Thurs 24 Jul, 8pm

Leveret

£12 / £6



Sat 2 - Fri 8 Aug

Family Folk Week

David Faulkner, Maia Ayling

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.

+ 550 + 475 - 475 - 430
^ 340 x 320

Children: Ages 12-17 - 50% of prices above / ages 3-11 - £110 / Age 2 and under - free



Mon 11 - Fri 15 Aug

Halsway Young Folk Advanced

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

This is the course to do if you are aged 17-21 and aspire to be a professional musician or educator, or are planning to continue your musical education at University.

Full board (accommodation and all meals), tuition and all activities: £260

Fri 15 – Sun 17 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

Fri 8 - Sun 10 Aug

60th Anniversary Party Weekend

Jane Thomas, Gareth Kiddier, Paul Hutchinson,
John Dipper, Dom Stichbury,
Anna Tabbush

A special party weekend will be hosted by a team representing Halsway courses, past, present and future.

+ 330 + 285 - 285 - 225
^ 215 x 200




Mon 18 - Mon 25 Aug

Halsway Folk Dance Holiday

Ivan Aiken, Richard Jones,
Chris Jewell, Belinda
Bourquin, Kerstin Jewell,
Jane Thomas

Come and enjoy a relaxing holiday that has dancing at its heart, alongside optional folk-related activities for all to enjoy.

 640
  600
  600
  540
 500
  470
  400



Mon 25 - Fri 29 Aug

Folk Summer School

Sophy Ball, Kevin Dempsey,
Kerry Fletcher, Jo Freya, Paul
Hutchinson, Kirsty Martin

Our adult Summer School is ideal for singers, dancers and musicians who would like to

spend some time in small groups learning new songs, dances, tunes and techniques, and who are interested in 'Bringing it Together' as a large ensemble.

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  420
  380
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  255

Sun 31 Aug - Fri 5 Sep

Southsea Reel Club 

A private dance holiday for members of the Southsea Reel club.



Fri 29 - Sun 31 Aug

The Halsway Regency Assembly

Georgia Delve,
The Warleggan Band

Join dance teacher and caller Georgia Delve for another weekend exploring the Regency period through dance. She will be looking at



the evolving fashions of social dancing through the Georgian period, culminating in the iconic Regency era.

 330
  285
  285
  225
 215
  200



Sat 6 Sep, 8pm

Harpas at Halsway

£12 / £6

Fri 5 - Sun 7 Sep

Harpas at Halsway: Nyckelharpa Festival

Vicki Swan, Torbjörn
Näsborn, Ruth Morris

The Halsway Nyckelharpa
Festival is a weekend of harpa
workshops, ensemble playing,
sessions, a concert and more!

330
 285
 285
 225
 215
 200

Sunday B&B is available.

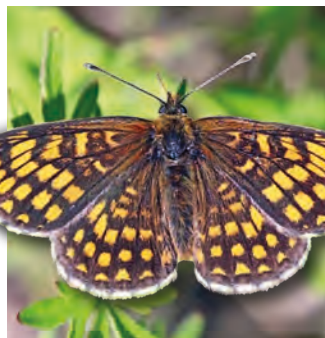
Mon 8 - Fri 12 Sep

Late Summer Butterflies and Moths

David Brown

A late-Summer week of
field trips, workshops and
lectures focusing on rare and
interesting summer butterflies
and moths of Somerset.

460
 420
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 255



Mon 8 - Fri 12 Sep

Autumn Wellbeing

Tracey Roberts

Immerse yourself in nature,
yoga, relaxation and good
company, improving your
sense of wellbeing through
learning to pay more attention
to mind and body and the
world around you.

460
 420
 420
 380
 340
 275
 255









Fri 12 - Sun 14 Sep

Advanced Piano Accordion Weekend

Murray Grainger

This course for advanced players working at Level 4 will include sessions on technique, repertoire and interpretation, including a chance to workshop your choice of repertoire in front of the rest of the group.

 330
  285
  285
  225
 215
  200





Fri 12 - Sun 14 Sep

The Maniac's Return – improving dull tunes!

Paul Hutchinson,
John Dipper

Paul and John will share their love of reworking and revitalising old, forgotten tunes. This course is for players of all instruments and will be aimed at intermediate level and above.

 330
  285
  285
  225
 215
  200



Sun 14 – Fri 19 Sep

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 vvr-association@hotmail.com.

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 19 - Sun 21 Sep

Autumn Fiddle Weekend

Nick Wyke, Becki Driscoll,
Rowan Piggott

Nick and Becki share a love of traditional English fiddle music, and are joined by guest tutor Rowan Piggott. Workshops include technique, expression and repertoire with plenty of time to play together and receive some individual help.

+330 +285 -285 -225
▲215 ✕200



Mon 22 - Fri 26 Sep

Guitar Study Week

Jenn Butterworth, David
Delarre, Tristan Seume

Our Guitar Study Week is an intensive and enjoyable guitar-school for steel-string acoustic guitarists, led by three fantastic tutors.

+460 +420 -420 -380
■340 ▲275 ✕255

Fri 26 - Sun 28 Sep

Halsway Harvest Weekend

Frances Oates, Moira and
Peter Gutteridge, Barrie
Bullimore, Rob Dawson,
Laura Hodges

A weekend of mainly English style dance for experienced dancers.

To book please contact Rob at
halswayharvest@gmail.com





Fri 3 - Sun 5 Oct

Give Voice**Bob & Gill Berry and friends**

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. *Sunday B&B available.*

+330 +285 -285 225
 ▲215 ✕200

Mon 6 - Fri 10 Oct

Autumn Contra Dance Week

Cis Hinkle, Ali Messer, Linda Game, Meg Griffin

Our Autumn dance week is led by American caller Cis Hinkle with music by Box of Frogs. Dancers of all levels of experience welcome.

+460 +420 -420 380
 340 ▲275 ✕255



Sun 12 - Fri 24 Oct

British Violin & Bow Making Association

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

Fri 10 - Sun 12 Oct

Tales in Trust

Taffy Thomas, Chrissy Thomas, with guests

Join England's first storyteller Laureate, Taffy Thomas MBE and a hand-picked team of guests for a weekend of workshops, performances and presentations to stir the heart and feed the soul.

+330 +285 -285 225
 ▲215 ✕200



Sat 11 Oct, 6pm

The Storyteller's Supper

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

£25



Fri 24 - Sun 26 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 31 Oct - Sun 2 Nov

Learning by Ear**Rob Harbron, Miranda Rutter**

Do you struggle to pick up tunes by ear? Would you like to be freed from behind your music stand? Rob and Miranda will help you get to grips with the skill of learning by ear, using some accessible folk tunes as their starting point.

+330 +285 -285 225
 ▲215 ✕200

Mon 3 – Fri 7 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.



Fri 7 - Mon 10 Nov

Violin Making Weekend

**Neville Gardner,
Corrie Schrijver**

Violin making is extremely popular at Halsway Manor. This weekend workshop gives maximum continuous time at the workbench with plenty of support from the two tutors.

⬆️ ⬆️ ⬆️ ⬆️ £490

⬆️ ⬆️ £375

(plus cost of materials)



Fri 7 - Sun 9 Nov

Moonrakers Folk Orchestra Weekend

Jon Bennett, Jacqui Johnson

Members of Moonrakers return to Halsway Manor bringing their exciting and dynamic Folk Orchestra event for musicians and singers, now over a weekend! *Sunday B&B available.*

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⬆️ 215 ⬆️ 200



Mon 10 – Fri 14 Nov

Mostly English Dance Week ⓘ

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 rosemahunt@icloud.com.



Fri 14 - Sun 16 Nov

The Front Room Sessions

Nick Wyke, Becki Driscoll

Nick Wyke & 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.

⬆️ 330 ⬆️ 285 ⬆️ 285 ⬆️ 225
⬆️ 215 ⬆️ 200





Mon 24 - Fri 28 Nov

Advanced Melodeon Study Week

Lucas Thébaut, Lolita Delmonteil Ayrat

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.

Course starts at 2pm and ends at 12pm.

470
 430
 430
 390
 350
 285
 265



Mon 17 - Fri 21 Nov

Page to Performance: Medieval Music

Mary Mohan, Jude Rees, Leah Stuttard

Come and discover Medieval music with Mary Mohan, Jude Rees and Leah Stuttard. 2025's focus will be Adam de la Halle. Always wondered about him? Now's your chance to get stuck in!

460
 420
 420
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 255



Fri 21 - Sun 23 Nov

Zesty Contra Weekend

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

A fantastic team return to lead you through some of the best contras, new and old! With evening dances, morning workshops, open mic and

musicians' workshops, this is a "not to be missed" weekend!

330
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Fri 28 - Sun 30 Nov

Halsway Old-Time Weekend

Rowan Piggott, Joe Danks

Join us for the first Halsway Old-Time Weekend, hosted by one of the UK's foremost Appalachian bands, Old Spot. The weekend will be a relaxed and joyful way to connect with the roots of Appalachian music at the foot of the beautiful Quantock Hills.

330
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 225
 215
 200



Fri 12 – Sun 14 Dec

J25: Banding Together Christmas House Party P

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 bandingtogetherwithj25@gmail.com.

Mon 1 - Fri 5 Dec

Lady Maisery's Winter Creative Song Week

Hazel Askew, Hannah James, Rowan Rheingans

Lady Maisery are back at Halsway in winter 2025 to lead another edition of their hugely popular Creative Song Week, an exploratory course for intermediate and advanced singers to develop their creative skills.

+ 460 + 420 - 420 - 380
||| 340 ^ 275 x 255

Mon 8 – Fri 12 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.



+ 460 + 420 - 420 - 380
||| 340 ^ 275 x 255



Fri 5 – Sun 7 Dec

Gaudete! Festive Renaissance Music

William Lyons, Richard Thomas

Intended for players of renaissance wind, brass and string instruments who are strong sight readers, this course will celebrate the sounds and styles of Christmas music heard during the festive season in renaissance Europe, and is led by members of The City Musick.

+ 330 + 285 - 285 - 225
^ 215 x 200





Mon 15 - Fri 19 Dec

Longest Nights with The Furrow Collective

Lucy Farrell, Emily Portman,
Alasdair Roberts

Deep dive into seasonal
folk songs from England,

Scotland and beyond. This
course is for people who
would like the opportunity
to sing together in harmony,
and would like to develop
their practical knowledge
and repertoire of traditional

songs, whether to perform as
soloists or in groups.

460
 420
 420
 380
 340
 275
 255

Tue 23 - Sat 27 Dec

Christmas House Party

Geoff Cubitt, Will Pound,
Linda Game, Gareth Kiddier

Come and celebrate
Christmas at Halsway Manor,
we'll be cooking-up a fine feast
of festive delights with plenty
to keep you entertained on our
Christmas House Party!

645
 600
 600
 520
 490
 450
 420

*A £100 per person deposit
is required for this festive
holiday.*



Mon 29 Dec – Fri 2 Jan

New Year House Party

Bridget Flett, Rod & Frances
Stradling, Anne & Fritjof
Koerber, Jane Thomas,
Beverley Tapper

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.

595
 555
 555
 480
 440
 400
 380

*A £100 per person deposit is
required for this festive holiday.*



Phone us: 01984 618274
(Bookings: Mon to Fri 9am - 4.30pm)

Email us: office@halswaymanor.org.uk

Write to us: Halsway Manor,
Nr Crowcombe, Somerset TA4 4BD

www.halswaymanor.org.uk

Company No. 849615 Charity No. 247230

*Cover Photo: James Delarre & Saul Rose
(Credit: Benjamin Potton)*

