

Welcome to the Bristol Harmonica Festival - H2016

The National Harmonica League (Registered Charity, England and Wales No.1131484) is Britain's only national harmonica organisation.

We would like to welcome members of the NHL and other visitors to our feast of harmonica events here at the Folk House. Since moving here in 2001, it has become a regular part of the harmonica year for many people.

The staff at the Folk House are a big reason for the festival's success. It is a unique and very worthwhile charitable organisation, which deserves the full support of the local community, so make sure you let them know how much you appreciate what they are doing to make your weekend a happy one.

Please take the time to thank the volunteers and committee members who have worked hard to make all this happen, We need more volunteers to help this weekend and throughout the year. If you think you can help in any way, please contact the NHL membership stand, or any of the organisers.

I hope you enjoy the weekend and are inspired to learn more about music through playing and listening to the harmonica. Our International guests and experts will give workshops, covering all kinds of music played on all types of harmonicas. See the trade stands, enter contests, join in jam sessions, ask all your questions - but above all, just talk to people and make friends!

Most of our members live in Britain, but we do have some from Europe and around the world. They range in ability from complete beginners to top professionals. The benefits of NHL membership include Harmonica World, our magazine (six issues per year), events and workshops.

Ask at the membership desk and find out how to join the NHL today. **Festival Special** - UK Residents can join for 2017 (£20) and get free NHL membership for the rest of this year and the discount on Festival tickets.

The annual subscription for UK members is £20. You can also pay by PayPal or credit card, directly through the membership page on the web site.

Thanks to Seydel, Sutherland (Hohner) and Suzuki for their support.

Friday 28 October 2016

This year we will be starting the Festival with an evening upstairs in the oldest pub in Bristol, **The Hatchet**, a hundred yards below and behind the Folk House, at 27 Frogmore Street, Bristol BS1 5NA.

There is a public concert in the Folk House so we have moved the normal Friday evening festival activities to The Hatchet.

The doors to the upstairs rooms will be opened around 6 pm and we hope to set up a membership desk in The Hatchet by 7pm.

"Meet and Greet" is a great time on Friday night and there will be a chance to exchange ideas and make even more harmonica friends.

The NHL AGM will be held in the pub between 8-8:30pm. Members should try to attend and meet the committee. It does not take long but it is important as it is the only time for members and the full committee to meet and talk.

After the formal AGM, chromatic players can play together with Davina Brazier and Chris Collis, and there will be acoustic and electric blues jam sessions with invited guests. We will turn down the volume at 11:30pm and quiet music can continue until 2am, or you can return to the hotel.



Bristol International Harmonica Festival, 28-30 Oct 2016

Our annual weekend in Bristol is a major European festival. This year we have artists from around the UK, Singapore and Germany.

The website has the most up to date information and forms. www.harmonica.co.uk/festival.htm

The following performers will be at the Festival in Bristol, meeting people, giving workshops and performing in the Saturday Concert.

Giles Hedley and the Aviators

- Richard Sadler, bass, and Sam Kelly drums - head up the concert on Saturday night with Giles on harmonica and guitar. Giles played at the H2005 festival with other early UK blues harp players. www.gileshedley.com

Brendan Power has been a favourite at the festival for many years, performing and talking about harmonica designs and Irish music. This year he will be accompanied by Tim Edey, guitar and button accordion. www.brendan-power.com www.timedey.co.uk www.edeyandpower.com

Philip Achille first came to the NHL Festival in 1999 at the age of 10. He was taught by Jim Hughes in Birmingham. Since then he has won World Championships, appeared on the BBC Young Musician of the Year, and played in the BBC Proms. Philip is now one of the world's top chromatic

performers playing jazz popular and classical music. www.philipachille.com

Cheng Jang Ming (harmonica), Balraj Gopal, (guitar) and Tango Tang, (cello) got together and formed Guitarmoncello in Singapore in 2015. They have developed a distinctive repertoire of classical and light music which they have performed locally and at a festival in Hong Kong.

Jang Ming has written many columns about playing chromatic harmonica for Harmonica World.

Donald Black, the great Scottish moothie player, has agreed to take the place of **Ernie Gordon**, the Geordie Jock, who has had to withdraw from the festival.

Donald is the best known Western moothie player. He plays tremolo and diatonic harmonicas. www.donald-black.com

Jens Bunge is a jazz chromatic player from Germany. He will be demonstrating the new Hohner chromatic on the Sutherland Trading shop with Steve Proctor.

Last year, **Dave Taylor** and some friends busked for passers-by

outside the Folk House.

If you would like to be part of similar activities



at this festival, please contact Dave Taylor or Ben Hewlett.

H2016 Artists



Donald Black



Philip Achille



Brendan Power Tim Edey



Guitarmoncello



Giles Hedley and the Aviators



Jens Bunge

Saturday 29 October 2016

This information is correct as we go to press, but please check the timings posted in the Entrance Hall for any changes we may have to make.

Concert Room

All contestants **must** register at the contest desk in the hall on arrival. The contest starts at 10am with the chromatic section. There is a break for lunch from 1pm - 2pm, when the auction is held in the main hall. Please check the official timings on the boards outside the hall as they will change as the contest progresses. Prize giving will take place after the contest ends, at about 5pm.

Music Room

10am: Dave Taylor - Question and Answers - Play some Tunes - all harmonicas

I Iam: Keith Parker - From Bedroom to Stage and Enjoy the Experience - D

12pm: Ben Hewlett - Q&A - breathing, tone, bending, music styles, practice... - D

Ipm: Contest Warm-up

2pm: Dr Bertram Becher - Improve your Rhythm Skills - D

3pm: Guitarmoncello - Chromatic harmonica in Asian Music

4pm: Philip Achille - Meet the Artist - Jazz, Popular and Classical Chromatic artist

Art Room: Sutherland (Hohner) and Jonny Cope's Jews Harp Emporium

Room 2/3

10am: Viola Barends - Playing Music Together - all instruments

I Iam: Viola Barends - Playing Music Together - all instruments

12pm:Viola Barends - Playing Music Together - all instruments

Ipm: Contest Warm-up

2pm: Jens Bunge - Introducing the new Hohner Chromatic - Ace 48

3pm: Gerry Ezard - Beginners Chromatic-Tips to Improve Your Playing

4pm: Brendan Power - His Latest Creations - Asiabend and Lucky 13 Blues Harp

Room 4: Seydel Shop

Room 5: Suzuki Shop

Room 6: Craft Room

10am: Gautham Choudury - All about the Chord Harmonica and its role in a Band

I Iam: Alan Harper - Author "Waiting for Buddy Guy" - Big Walter, Carey Bell... - D

12pm: Jonny Cope - Jews Harp - How to play and its use around the world

Ipm: Contest Warm-up

2pm: Hugh Barnett - Diatonic for Beginners

3pm: Ben Bouman - Developing Good Breathing Techniques - D

4pm: Donald Black - Playing Scottish Music on Tremolo and Diatonic

Coloured stripes refer to floor plan of The Folk House (see Page 12)

Saturday 29 October 2016

The NHL Contest

Please note that registration for the adult and youth contests (under 18yrs) is at 9.30am on Saturday. All competitors must register immediately on arrival.

This is just a guide. These start times will always vary either way due to late entries etc, so please keep an eye on the notice boards outside the main hall, where the latest timetable will be displayed.

The youth categories follow at the end of each adult section.

10:00	Class I - Solo Chromatic	The British & International
11:00	Class Ic - Solo Jazz	Federation of Festivals
12:00	Class 2 - Duos Class 3 - Trios Class 5 - Bands	www.lederationoffectivals.org.ak
1:00	Lunch Break / Auction in the main hall	
2:00	Class 1b - Solo Diatonic Melodic	
3:00	Class Ia - Solo Diatonic Blues/Rock	
5:00 approx.	Award Ceremony	

The running order will be posted around the Folk House. The timings are approximate and may change depending on the number of late entries and the duration of the performances. Once the maximum number of entries has been received, the contest will be closed.

If you are competing, make sure you keep checking the latest contest time-table and always be available before you think you will be called.

Judging will be carried out by David Beer. He is an adjudicator from The Federation of Festivals. They are trained to judge musical performance by any instrument or voice in music festivals. He has wide experience of young musicians and modern musical stage shows.

The results will be decided as soon as the contest is over and prizes will be presented in the hall at about 5pm, or soon after.

Saturday 29 October 2016

Evening Gala Concert

Doors Open 7:30pm, Start 7:45pm

Guitarmoncello

Jens Bunge

Donald Black

Philip Achille and Nathan Tinker (piano)

--- Interval ---

Brendan Power and
Tim Edey (guitar/accordion)

Giles Hedley and the Aviators

Finale

Concert Finish - 11:15pm

The concert programme may be subject to change on the night.

Sunday 30 October 2016

Open Concert, Workshops & Activities

These are correct as we go to press, but please check the timings posted in the entrance hall and elsewhere on the day for any changes we may have to make. Any empty rooms can be used for practice or free play.

Concert Hall

10:30am Schools' competition with prize giving at 12:00 - 12:15pm

12:15 - 1:15pm - Workshop - Brendan Power and Tim Edey - Diatonic, Chromatic Harmonica and Button Box. duo

1:15pm - The 'open mic style' concert features artists, members, YOU, and children. Sign up to play or see Ben Hewlett for more details.

The concert will end around 3pm as we must leave the Folk House by 3:30pm.

Music Room

9am: Dr Bertram Becher - Soloing - Getting Rid of Old Habits D

10am: Dave Taylor & Chris Collis - Fun Time Playing Together with Accompaniment

I Iam: Giles Hedley - Blues with a Feeling - Playing Together - D

12am: Liam Ward - Make your Solos tell a Story - Add Light and Shade - D

Art Room: Sutherland (Hohner) and Jonny Cope's Jews Harp Emporium

Room 2/3

9am: Gerry Ezard - Playing in a Band - Why Bother?

10am: Cathal Johnson - Cleaning and Repair Workshop - Diatonic and Chromatic

I Iam: Jens Bunge - Jazz on the Chromatic - Improvisation

12am: Guitarmoncello - Chromatic harmonica in Asian Music

Room 4: Seydel Harmonicas

Room 5: Suzuki Harmonica

Room 6: Craft Room

9am: Jonny Cope - Jews Harp - How to Play and its use Around the World

10am: Viola Barends - Practicing Playing Harmonica with a Computer

I Iam: Viola Barends - Improvising on Harmonicas

12am: Lee Sankey - Q&A with a Master of Tongue Blocking on Diatonic

Coloured stripes refer to floor plan of The Folk House (see Page 12)

Festivals past, present and future

Our annual festival is recognised as one of the top European events and we have visitors and artists from outside the UK. Please take this opportunity to talk to them and learn more about what is going on in the wider Harmonica World.

This is also a good time to think of the future of the NHL and what it does. The festival is the only time when you have the opportunity to meet the Committee and discuss how you might be able to help them in any way.

The NHL is run by volunteers in their spare time. Don't forget to thank them for all they do. They are also supported by other volunteers who carry out specific, valuable roles but who cannot commit to a full committed role. Maybe you have a skill you could share. Make sure we know by telling David Hambley.

We are always on the look-out for volunteers to help during the festival weekend. It may just be a cover for someone who wants to take a break or even help with getting rooms or the concert hall ready for use.

Please ask at the desk or contact any of the committee if you want to know more.

This is also a good time to consider how the NHL should develop in the future. Please take this opportunity to pass on your views to the committee in person, email, or by using the feedback forms which will be handed out at the festival.

As the festival has developed, more people are taking the opportunity to enjoy the weekend with their family or partner.

The Friday evening is already catered for but we may find ways to extend it when we have had the chance to see what The Hatchet Inn can offer.

This year we are looking at ways to provide some ways to have a post festival chill-out for people who are staying in Bristol on Sunday night. This might be done in the bar of the Bristol Hotel, or in a local music session. We are still working on this so ask Dave Taylor or Ben Hewlett for the latest information.

If you want to take time out from harmonicas, Bristol has much to offer apart from great shopping for Christmas presents.

The Harbourside area is crammed with eateries, coffee shops, ships, river tours and the waterfront.

@Bristol is on the docks and has cutting edge interactive exhibitions, an IMAX cinema and.

The Lord Mayors Chapel opposite the Cathedral was built in 1220 and is worth a visit, as is The Georgian House (1790) owned by a sugar/slave trader - 7 Great George Street, almost opposite the Folk House.

The Clifton Suspension Bridge, high above the Avon river gorge, is one of the most famous sites in Bristol. It has incredible views but a car is probably a good idea.

National Harmonica League

We have a website which has information about tuition, events, festivals, links to harmonica resources as well as up to date news from the harmonica world.

www.harmonica.co.uk

The website has information about the NHL and how to become a member. The annual subscription for UK members is £20. You can pay by PayPal or credit card, directly through the membership page on the web site.

We have members from around the world.

Festival Special - This weekend, UK residents can join the NHL for 2017 (£20) and get free membership for the rest of this year plus the member's discount on Festival tickets.

We publish the most current and best harmonic magazine in the world, Harmonica World, which is sent to members of the NHL.

You can get more information from the web page.

www.HarmonicaWorld.org

You can contact us in the following ways.

Email - nhl@harmonica.co.uk

Phone - David Hambley - 01772461974

The NHL Facebook Group:

www.facebook.com/groups/nationalharmonicaleague

The NHL Twitter account: @HarmonicaUK

The NHL YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/rtrob

We run an email forum, **NHLNet**, where information on local events and news can be quickly shared between members.

To join NHLNet send an email to nhlnet-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

All material in this programme is copyrighted. The information presented is accurate at the time of going to press.

The Folk House



