

NEWSLETTER - OCT 2021

Website: <https://harpnorthwest.org.uk/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HarpsNorthWest>

Editor: Gill Salter-Smith. events@harpnorthwest.org.uk

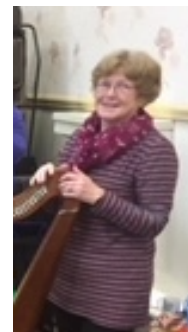


HNW Dates for the Diary

All times are BST / UTC+1 until end of 30th Oct. Thereafter GMT / UTC

A message from our Convenor

Hello members, Following the HNW AGM last month this is my first message to you as a very green Convenor! First of all, a huge thank you to Carol, who over the past three years, brought members of Harps North West many exciting experiences, despite everything else going on in the world. Time to put your feet up, Carol, and spend more time with your harp! A huge welcome to our two new committee members, Chris who plays with Harps Out West and Frances who plays with Harps Up North. We hope you will enjoy your time on the committee. Thanks to Mandy who takes on the role of Vice-Convenor and Harp Hire Secretary. Ann faithfully continues in the role of Treasurer, even though her term of office is officially over. If any member feels they can take on this vital role, please get in touch. Susan Lambert, alongside her many talents, is a technical wizard and looks after the website and Facebook page. Thanks to all the committee members who keep HNW going.



We have busy times ahead. I hope many of you are working hard on **Pachelbel's Canon** and hope to see lots of you at **St Bees Priory. Tamsin Dearnley's Jazz and Blues workshop** on Zoom at the end of this month is another treat to look forward to and we hope to 'meet up' with more of our distant members. We continue to rehearse for the **HNW Christmas Party**, always a special occasion. It's based in the north of the county this time as the last live event was in the south west of the area. The committee is working hard on planning for 2022. Thanks to those members who responded to the survey. As a result we are continuing to offer a balance of LIVE and ZOOM events so that we can include as many members as possible. So look out for new events coming up. In the meantime do join the **MacMillan Cancer Care 'Coffee Morning' play-along** session on Sunday 10th October. We'll be playing through much of the music the HNW has been lucky enough to gather and share over the past two years. We do have hire harps lying dormant just now. If you know of anyone who would like the chance to take up the harp, please make contact. There is the **Absolute Beginners Workshop** coming up in November. Enjoy your harps. **Gill Salter-Smith**

Harps North West Annual Membership Fees were due on July 1st 2021

Thanks to all members who have renewed their membership. The details of former members who have not renewed have been deleted from our records. If you really meant to renew please contact our administrator, Alison, membership@harpnorthwest.org.uk

Tuesday 12th October Donations welcome. Use reference PACHELBEL No need to book. All members will be sent the Zoom link.	Harps for Harmony rehearsal - Pachelbel's Canon - Tutor: Mary Dunsford - 'Get Up to Speed and in the Zone'. A one-hour rehearsal for all playing abilities. 20:30 to 21:30. This session will work on stamina (maintaining it for the entire piece) and give details ready for the recording session.	ZOOM EVENT
Sunday 10th October To book please contact Gill on saltersmith@btinternet.com or events@harpnorthwest.org.uk	MacMillan 'Coffee Morning' Play-along session - 15:00 – 17:00 BST/UTC+1 Play along to your favourite tunes and make a donation to MacMillan Cancer Care. Target is to raise £300, as we did last year. Please let Gill know if you can offer to lead the playing of a favourite piece. Also, we'll share tips on good harp technique that help us to improve. Link to the Macmillan Cancer Support Donations page https://thyg.uk/BUU004397660	ZOOM EVENT
Saturday 23rd October To book contact Mandy on events@harpnorthwest.org.uk	Harps for Harmony – LIVE EVENT - Recording of Pachelbel's Canon Musical Director: Mary Dunsford - Recording manager: Jon Borgia Full day from 10:00	St Bees Priory, CA27 0DR Live event leader: Linda Taylor
All times are GMT / UTC from now until the end of March 2022.		
Sunday 31st October Fee £10 – workshop or the recording. To sign up contact Mandy on events@harpnorthwest.org.uk	NEW EVENT Jazz & Blues on the harp workshop – Tutor: Tamsin Dearnley 10:00 – 12:00 GMT/ UTC All playing levels are welcome.	ZOOM EVENT
Friday 12th to Sunday 14th November 2021	Higham Hall - A Weekend with the Harp – Residential Tutors: Ailie Robertson and Wendy Stewart www.highamhall.com	Higham Hall CA13 9SH

Saturday 20th November Donations welcome To book contact Mandy on events@harpnorthwest.org.uk	Christmas Party rehearsal - Tutor: Mary Dunsford - LIVE EVENT Arrive 10:00. Playing from 10:30 until 12:30 A recording of the sessions may be made available to members after the session. Please bring your own refreshments.	Orton Market Hall CA10 3RU Live event leader Ann Woolley
Saturday 20th November Open to all. Fee £25. To book contact Mandy on events@harpnorthwest.org.uk	Absolute Beginners' Session - Tutor: Mary Dunsford - LIVE EVENT Arrive 13:15. Playing from 13:30 until 16:00. Harps, music stands and sheet music are provided. Please bring your own refreshments. Opportunity to hire a harp from HNW at the end of the session.	Orton Market Hall CA10 3RU
Saturday 20th November	Committee Meeting - LIVE and on ZOOM 13:30 start	Orton Market Hall CA10 3RU
Saturday 11th December To book contact Mandy on events@harpnorthwest.org.uk	HNW Christmas Party - Tutor: Mary Dunsford – LIVE EVENT Arrive 10:00. Rehearse 10:30 until 12:30 Concert for family and friends 14:00 – 15:00	Braithwaite Institute CA12 5RY. Live event leader Chris Pollington
Sunday 19th December Donations welcome	Play and accompany carols - Tutor: Susan Lambert - Time to be confirmed How to accompany tunes. Offers to lead a carol are welcomed. Contact Susan on events@harpnorthwest.org.uk All members will be sent the music and the Zoom link before the event.	ZOOM EVENT
1st to 31st January 2022 Open to all harpists across the globe	The 2022 JaNEWary Challenge - Tutor: Mary Dunsford Mary introduces us to exciting new tunes in bite-size portions each day, with plenty of hints on technique. A great way to learn.	FaceBook, YouTube HNW website
Fri 29th to Sun 31st July 2022 To register your interest please contact Mandy on events@harpnorthwest.org.uk	Harps North West Festival - Harp tutors: Jean Altschuler, Mary Dunsford More tutors to be announced soon. Harp repair and servicing by Teifi. Exhibition of sheet music and harps. Alexander Technique and Positive Posture sessions.	University of Cumbria Campus, Ambleside.
Friday 11th to Sunday 13th November 2022	Higham Hall – A Weekend with the Harp – Residential Tutors: Shelley Fairplay and Rachel Newton	Higham Hall CA13 9SH
Saturday 19th to Monday 21st August 2023	Higham Hall – A summer Break with the Harp – Residential Tutors: to be arranged	Higham Hall CA13 9SH
POSTPONED WORKSHOPS (due to the pandemic). We'll keep you informed of dates for these events once secured.		
1. Kulning workshop - Tutor: Mary Dunsford 2. Cumbrian Tunes workshop - Tutor: Jean Altschuler		3. Full day live workshop - Tutor: Rachael Gladwin 4. Live workshops – Tutor - Lauren Scott - Freshwater Tears, Black Sheep & Beatles.

COVID-19 SECURITY

HNW ADVICE TO MEMBERS ATTENDING LIVE EVENTS – to help keep members safe

1. Before attending a live event participants are advised to have had two vaccines and/or have carried out a negative COVID test within the previous 48 hours.
2. Please do not attend a live session if you are feeling unwell, have a temperature, a persistent cough or have recently lost your sense of taste or smell or if anyone in your household is similarly unwell.
3. Undertake your own risk assessment and only attend if you are happy to accept the risks. Take particular account of your personal health and situation and those of others in your household or of those who visit you often.
4. Come with plenty of warm clothing as venues are encouraging good air flow with doors and windows open.
5. Maintain 2m social distancing, especially from over 70s and clinically highly vulnerable people.
6. Wear a face mask/covering when less than 2m distant from those with whom you do not live.
7. Bring and use hand sanitizer and antiseptic cleaning wipes. Take your own rubbish home with you.
8. **Bring your own refreshments and utensils and do not share. Kitchens may not be available.**
9. Print your own copies of the music to be played in advance.
10. Avoid touching and sharing other people's property. Wash your hands often.
11. Be familiar with the risk assessment and the specific expectations for each venue you visit.
12. **Respect the decisions of others, but do not be afraid to ask others to adhere to the advice if you feel you are at risk.**

Nominated organisers of HNW events: Please ensure that a specific risk assessment for the venue and activity has been carried out and all participants have been informed of its expectations.



WANTED! Your Harp Society Still Needs You!

If you are a keen harpist committed to enjoying playing with others, we welcome you to join the committee
We're a friendly bunch who just love playing the harp.

We still need a **TREASURER** and /or **TREASURER ELECT**, though Ann Woolley has agreed to stay in the role for now. Our administrator, Alison, deals with the day-to-day bank payments and writes up the cashbook spread sheet. The Treasurer provides an overview, writing brief reports for committee meetings and pulling together the end of year accounts and claiming gift aid annually. The treasurer (or secretary) reports to the Charity Commission each year.

If you think you could help with any of the roles above, please contact Alison on administrator@harpnorthwest.org.uk

NEWSLETTER EDITOR – position now filled. Thanks to Frances who will be taking over the editing of the newsletter in the next few months.

Other Dates for a Harpist's Diary 2021 (Times until the end of October are BST / UTC + 1)

Free tutorial for Autumn Leaves – a jazz piece	Ailie Robertson is offering harpists a free video tutorial for her arrangement of the jazz piece, Autumn Leaves . The piece is suitable for early-intermediate players and harps with 25+ strings. Sheet music is available to purchase: https://www.ailierobertson.com/harp-music-shop/the-autumn-leaves Free tutorial: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dtciyj8i08s Video performance by Ailie: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hyQ3wYf0jVE
On line video course Discount for HNW - code HARPSOC25	Be Thou My Vision Masterclass. Tutor: Lauren Scott. This is a video course on the traditional hymn arranged by Lauren Scott . Covers topics such as Understanding Musical Form, Exercises for Independence of Fingers, a Healthy Practice Routine, Creating a Dynamic Range on Harp, Right Hand Harmonics and Creating Rich Voicings in your playing. Suitable for intermediate to advanced levels (Grade 4 to post Grade 8) www.bit.ly/be-thou-my-vision
Next session: Tues 5 th Oct 20:00 - 21:30	Shelley Fairplay's Dynamic Harps Virtual Ensemble. A monthly free offering to all harpists to come together to enjoy our wonderful instrument. First Tuesday of the month for 2021 https://startharp.com/dynamic-harps-virtual-ensemble/ On Zoom and/or Facebook. Shelley also offers many other online courses.
Sat 9 th Oct 14:30	High Tea Tunes with Wendy Stewart. The Smiddy, Balmaclellan. £7.50 / £3.50 (under 25) https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/dumfries-galloway/the-smiddy/high-tea-tunes-with-wendy-stewart/e-brdljm
Mon 11 th Oct 19:00	Tamsin Dearnley - Retreat to the Harp, Zoom Workshop. Monthly Meet and Play. http://www.retreattotheharp.com/monthly-meet-play
22 nd – 26 th Oct	Harp on Wight International Festival 2021. Planning to go LIVE – all being well! https://www.harponwight.co.uk/#
Sat 30 th Oct 19:30	Catrin Finch (Welsh Queen of Harps) and Seckou Keita in concert at Ulverston Coronation Hall https://www.thecoro.co.uk/catrin-finch-and-seckou-keita https://ulverston.com/event/catrin-finch-seckou-keita/
Sat 30 th Oct Sun 31 st Oct	Ailie Robertson – Celtic Christmas Workshops (different tunes at each workshop) Elementary / Intermediate Intermediate / Advanced https://www.ailierobertson.com/workshops
6 th – 7 th Nov	Transpennine Harps Online Festival with Tamsin Dearnley and Lucy Nolan https://transpennineharps.org/festival2021.html
Oct - Dec	Heather Downie – Christmas Harp Collaboration 2021. Free to all harpists Christ Child Lullaby; Away in a Manager; We Wish You a Merry Christmas https://heatherdownieharpist.thinkific.com/courses/christmas-harp-collaboration-2021
Autumn 2021	BBC Radio 3 Christmas Carol Composition Competition Christina Rossetti's poem "Love Came Down at Christmas" Closing date 2nd November. https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/2FYZN3ck8vZGNBkyR1ysPxJ/radio-3-christmas-carol-competition-2021
October 2021	UK Harp Association - See the UKHA's list of workshops and concerts across the UK at the end of this newsletter. For our distant friends.

HNW EVENTS COMING UP

MACMILLAN 'COFFEE MORNING' PLAYALONG SESSION – ON ZOOM

Sunday 10th October 15:00 – 17:00

To sign up please contact Gill on saltersmith@btinternet.com or events@harpnorthwest.org.uk

An excuse to play favourite pieces and, if you wish to, donate to **Macmillan Cancer Support**. The target is to meet or exceed last year's total of £300.

Link to the Macmillan Cancer Support Donations page

<https://thyg.uk/BUU004397660>

All harpists are invited, i.e. members and their harpist friends. Please consider offering to lead a piece.

Music will be shared with signed-up participants in advance, on the understanding that rules of copyright are observed.

I would also like us to share with each other, our own tips on technique that help us to play better.

Plenty of chance to chat over virtual coffee and cake.

A Zoom link will be sent by email beforehand **to those who have signed up.**

Please let Gill know if you can offer to lead the playing of a favourite piece.

HARPS FOR HARMONY 2020-21

LIVE RECORDING of PACHELBEL'S CANON – AT LONG LAST!!!

performed by members of HARPS NORTH WEST – all are welcome

St Bees Priory, West Cumbria. CA27 0DR

Saturday 23rd October 2021– all day from 10:00

Musical Director: Mary Dunsford

Recording manager: Jon Borgia

To book please contact Mandy on events@harpnorthwest.org.uk

Bring your own refreshments – no kitchen available.

Come dressed for comfort as well as the camera, and ready to play it many, MANY times over! Please consider in advance ways of avoiding page turns!

As a truly inclusive organisation we aim to involve as many members as possible in this live recording whatever playing level and experience. For elementary level harpists Mary suggests you revisit the 2020 January Challenge Days 24 to 31 Gentle pace. <https://harpnorthwest.org.uk/online-learning-links-/janewary-challenge-2020.html>

Mary has also produced a useful sheet of **simple and even simpler accompaniments** that can be played in harmony with the Sylvia Woods' arrangements throughout the whole piece. All members were sent a copy of this sheet with the September newsletter. Please contact Mandy if you need this sheet. For the full piece you need your own copy of the Sylvia Woods sheet music.

Mary will run a one-hour rehearsal on Zoom for all levels of harpists.

Tuesday 12th October 20:30 on Zoom

The session will work on stamina (maintaining it for the entire piece) and give details ready for the recording session.

No need to book. All members will be sent a Zoom link. **Donations welcome.** Use reference PACHELBEL.

Still plenty of time to practise and get involved!

Background to the HNW Harps for Harmony Project – from January 2020 to October 2021

Pachelbel's Canon, arranged by Sylvia Woods, was taught by Mary Dunsford in the **2020 HNW JanNEWary Challenge, Days 24 to 31.**

<https://harpnorthwest.org.uk/online-learning-links-/janewary-challenge-2020.html>

28th March '20, live recording postponed.

1st May '20, deadline for harpists' video submissions.

19th June Video Launch Day

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yyv1JTUul7o&feature=youtu.be>

196 video clips. **109** harpists from across the globe. **19** young persons (youngest age 5)

<https://www.harpnorthwest.org.uk/harps-for-harmony.html> Please keep on sharing the video with your friends, family and contacts.

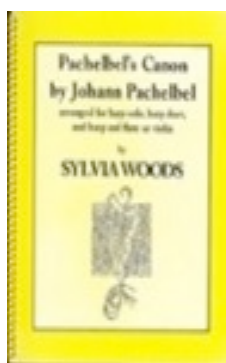
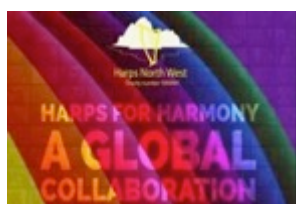
Play Jazz and Blues on the Harp - Workshop - Tutor: Tamsin Dearnley

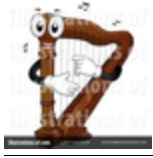
Sunday 31st October 10:00 – 12:00 on Zoom

A message from Tamsin - 'It's true that the harp isn't the first instrument one might think of for jazz, but I've spent a lot of time during lockdown doing my best to study and try new things and I'd love to share some of the things I've learned and explain why the harp is in many ways a great instrument for jazz!'

Programme

- 1) An introduction to jazz chords theory (nothing too scary, but just so when we get onto playing it's not TOO mysterious, and besides it's never as hard as people think and it's good to demystify it a bit, I think!)
- 2) Blues with the basic structure and then a look at how to add/change chords within this structure and do a bit of improvisation.





3) A short/not-too-hard jazz piece.

Members who sign up will be sent the Zoom link and the sheet music in advance of the workshop.

To sign up please contact Mandy on events@harpnorthwest.org.uk

Fee £10 – for workshop or for the recording.

Details of how to pay are set out towards the end of this NL. Please use reference TAMSIN.... and your initials.

For more information about Tamsin visit her website:

<https://tamsindearnley.co.uk/>



Rehearsal for HNW Christmas Party - Tutor: Mary Dunsford

Saturday 20th November. Orton Market Hall. CA10 3RU.

Arrive 10:00. Playing from 10:30 to 12:30

Donations welcome. Please use reference: ORTON

To book please contact Mandy on events@harpnorthwest.org.uk

Please bring your own refreshments as the kitchen will not be in use.

Mary will guide us through a rehearsal of the pieces to be played at the HNW Christmas Party in December.

Members have been sent the sheet music with the September newsletter. If you have not received the music, please ask for it via Mandy.

Clouds in a Sunlit Sky – Eira Lyn Jones (2021 JaNEWary Challenge)

O Mio Babbino Caro – Puccini. Arranged by Lucy Nolan (May 2021 Zoom workshop)

Sunrise – Judy Sharps (First place in the HNW Composition Competition)

Carol Medley – to be confirmed

Plus a play-through of Pachelbel's Canon – Sylvia Wood's arrangement. You need your own copy of this.

Playing Groups – Seren Fach – Shelley Fairplay. You need your own copy of this if you do not play in a playing group.

A recording of this session will be available to members.



Absolute Beginners' Workshop - Tutor: Mary Dunsford

Saturday 20th November. Orton Market Hall. CA10 3RU

Arrive 13:15. Playing 13:30 to 16:00

Fee: £25.

Share your love of the harp by encouraging your friends and family to have a go at playing this beautiful instrument. No musical experience is necessary. Harps, music stands and sheet music are provided. **Please bring your own refreshments.**

To sign up please contact Mandy on events@harpnorthwest.org.uk

There will be an opportunity to hire a harp from HNW at the end of the session.

Harp hire: £70 per quarter, minimum 3 months up to 12 months. £50 deposit. Membership of HNW is a requirement.

NEWS of recent HNW EVENTS

The Five-Question HNW Survey August 2021 – SUMMARY

Many thanks for the 39 responses received, almost 50% of the membership. The committee really appreciate your responses.

HNW area - 23;

UK but out of the HNW area - 14;

Overseas - 2.

Will you take part in Zoom events in the future? 39 responses

YES = 30

NO = 4

MAYBE = 5



2. If yes or maybe, what type of Zoom events would you take part in? 35 responses

ALL= 20

Tutor workshops = 14 (+20)

Play-along sessions = 3 (+20)



3. Will you take part in live events? 39 responses

YES = 20

NO = 5

MAYBE = 14



4. Please identify the region/s of the NW where are you likely to attend a live session?

North Cumbria = 14

West Coast = 11

East Cumbria = 17

Central Lakes = 20

South West Cumbria = 17

South East Cumbria & North Lancs = 25



5. Are there any events you would like to see organised?

Playing Skills: Skills and techniques (**most requested**); Improvisation; Composition; Playing in a session; Sessions to include all playing levels; Workshop on Modes; Small harp (19 strings); Learning by ear.

Genres of music: Celtic; Traditional Folk including Cumbria; Folk (not Cumbrian); Scottish; Jazz & Blues; Classical; Beatles; Mediaeval; Non-Western harp; Chinese Folk; South American Harps.

Tutors: Mary Dunsford, Jan Bennett, Robin Huw Bowen, Ailie Robertson, Charlotte Peterson, Tamsin Dearnley,

Lucy Nolan, Eira Lyn Jones, Heather Downie, Tristan Le Govic, Adriano Sangineto, International Tutors. **Other:** Using music software e.g. Sibelius

The Harps North West Inaugural Composition Competition 2021

Winners were announced by the judges, Shelley Fairplay and Lauren Scott, on 19th June

A Play-along to all sixteen Lockdown Compositions was held on 11th July; both events were held on Zoom.

A message from Susan Lambert – Thank you so much to everyone who took part. Everyone who entered the competition will receive a gift from HNW of a manuscript book and pencils.

A pdf booklet of all the compositions will be sent to all HNW members soon.

A hard copy of the booklet will be available to purchase – more details to follow.

We look forward to playing all sixteen pieces in future get-togethers whether live or on Zoom. You can hear the winning pieces in our winners' announcement video on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/98CbB0kYzwY>

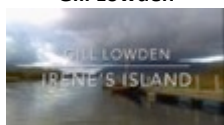
Look out for Judy Sharps, 'Sunrise', that we are playing at the HNW Christmas Party!

Don't forget, the links to the **Bitesize videos and pdfs** giving guidance on how to approach composition, will stay on our website so that you can access them any time. You can find them here: <https://harpnorthwest.org.uk/composition-month/bite-size-composition.html>

First Place 'Sunrise' - Judy Sharps



Second Place: 'Irene's 'Island' - Gill Lowden

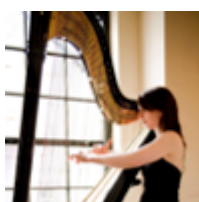


Third Place: 'Out Walking with a Butterfly' - Kath Wilson



Special commendation: 'Marmalade, Schokolade' - Maureen O'Sullivan





Rehearsal of the HNW Christmas Party Pieces: Tutor Mary Dunsford, followed by the HNW AGM. Saturday 11th September, Grizebeck Village Hall

Nine of us met in Grizebeck Community Hall on 11th September, all spaced apart and suitably masked but enjoying being back playing in a room together. Mary took us through Judy Sharps' lovely winning composition 'Sunrise'. It was good to have Judy present to provide composer insights.

Next was Pachelbel's Canon – a warm up to the zoom sessions to come and recording day at St. Bees in October. We also looked at O Mio Babbino Carro arranged by Lucy Nolan who did a workshop for HNW in May and Eira Lyn Jones' JaNEWary challenge piece, named by our own HNW member, Lyn Walby, 'Clouds in a Sunlit Sky'. The morning was successfully recorded (hurray!) and the link has been sent out to members who could not attend.

The Annual General Meeting for HNW was held after lunch, both live and on Zoom.

There was a cabinet reshuffle, seems to be the flavour of the month, with some of our Committee members taking on new posts. We were also delighted to welcome two new committee members, Frances Quinn and Chris Pollington.

Carol Coldwell stepped down from being Convenor after her three-year service with our grateful thanks for guiding us through some tricky times and overseeing a very successful Festival in 2019 and lately some innovative events such as the Composition Competition. The Committee presented her with some beautiful autumnal flowers. She thanked the Committee members for their work during her time as Convenor and also gave out gifts. We are very happy to report that she will remain on the Committee to continue to support us.

The minutes of the 2020 AGM were agreed as correct. The Annual Accounts to 30 June 2021, which had been previously circulated to members, were accepted. Harp Hire, Membership and Playing Group reports were also presented. We are all very ably supported by our lovely administrator, Alison Stobbs, who does the day to day treasury work, harp hire administration, booking of venues and taking of minutes at meetings, to name just a few duties. Our thanks go to her for helping us to keep the show running. **Ann Woolley**

PLAYING GROUP REPORTS for the 2021 HNW AGM

It was good to hear how the HNW Playing Groups, spread across the wide HNW area, have fared over the past difficult year. Members are clearly enjoying the resumption of playing live with others. Ensemble pieces enable harpists of all levels to play beautiful music together. So whatever your playing experience think about joining one of the open **Playing Groups**. See the end of the newsletter for details.

Harper Four - Irene M, Carolyn B, Lesley M and Carol H

Harper Four have had two playing sessions this summer in Storth Village Hall and what a joy it was to get together again with our harps. We played some of our old favourites and enjoyed trying out Shelley Fairplay's Seren Fach. Carol and I have joined in several of the ZOOM workshops and had a wonderful time at Higham with our own Mary, and Jan Bennett as tutors. Carolyn and Lesley have spent part of lockdown brushing up their piano playing. **Irene Mower**

Harps Out West - Brenda C, Helen H, Jill K-C, Chris P, Gill S-S, Judy T, Linda T, Bettina (new member) plus our tutor Susan Lambert

We enjoyed meeting every Friday afternoon on Zoom under the leadership of Susan Lambert and now that restrictions have eased, we are meeting fortnightly on Thursday mornings in Santon Village Hall with Susan joining when her schedule allows. We managed to get a little gig at a Pensioners' Club and then another one at a charity summer event. The council in Whitehaven has booked us to play at the outdoor market in December and in fact, December is looking to be a busy month for Harps Out West with gigs for a WI group, the pensioners' club and possibly in a local church. So things seem to be gradually getting back to normal. We are gaining a new member, Bettina; that will bring our numbers up to nine. Generally, we have between five and eight members at any session. **Linda Taylor**

Harps South Lakes - Mandy B, Cathryn B, Cathrine L, Gill L, Hazel O, Kate P, Gill S-S, Jane T plus our tutor, Mary Dunsford

September 2021 saw us briefly returning to in-person sessions with our tutor Mary Dunsford able to lead us for two sessions. However such is the nature of this pandemic by November we had returned to Zoom. Mary valiantly agreed to having fortnightly sessions of 30minutes on Zoom with each one being preceded by 15 minutes of 'chat' allowing us all to keep in touch with one another, which we all greatly valued. Some of us met up, on Zoom, during the intervening weeks for a practice. This required people to volunteer to 'lead' each tune but we managed to muddle through. May 2021 provided a brief respite with a return of a couple of in-person practice sessions followed by our last session of the year which was led by Mary. To round off the year before our summer break we all went for coffee and cake in the open at Ellie's in Ulverston. We have now resumed a normal pattern which is a tutor-led session by Mary on the second Wednesday of the month and

a practice session the fourth Wednesday of the month in the Flannery Centre Victoria Road Ulverston (next to the RC church). Long may it continue and we are all looking forward to a return to little performances in care homes and anywhere people would like a bit of Harping.

Hazel Ord



Harps Up North - Another strange year, but with playing group meetings on ZOOM for much of the year, we have been able to keep playing together. All the HNW activities have been a marvellous boost, seeing people from other groups and new ones from overseas - well done HNW.

In June we started meeting again in Watermillock Hall, which felt absolutely amazing. The greatest pleasure was playing pieces that had parts, which lets those of different abilities be part of wonderful music. Over July and August numbers were lower as all the postponed family visits and holidays happened all at once. In September, it wasn't COVID but wasps that stopped us using the hall, and four of us met in a kitchen nearby, again a lovely session. Overall, we are going to look at all those pieces that have multiple parts as we all agree we missed them most. **Frances Quinn**

Red Rose Harps

The Red Rose group of harpists, which was of course disrupted during lockdowns, is now meeting every two weeks in St. Luke's Church Hall, Slyne. Our members come from Preston to Windermere and anyone in the north Lancashire, south east Cumbria area is welcome to join us. We have plenty of space for social distancing and our members include harpists of all levels. Our numbers vary slightly between four and eight. We play a variety of music and include beginners up to advanced level harpists. We are developing a growing repertoire and it would be lovely to perform publicly when restrictions allow. **Carol Coldwell**

PLAYING GROUPS

Participating in a playing group adds to the fun of playing. The following are contacts for the HNW open playing groups:

Harps Out West is based on the west coast, near Gosforth, usually meeting on the Thursday morning once and sometimes twice each month. Contact Helen on helenbrian@sky.com. Tutor: Susan Lambert.

Harps South Lakes are based in Ulverston and usually meet in the morning of the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. Contact Hazel on hazeyhead49@gmail.com. Tutor: Mary Dunsford.

Harps Up North are based in Watermillock, usually meeting the first Thursday morning of the month. Contact Sue on sue@dawbank.co.uk 01539 624636.

Red Rose Harps are based at Slyne Village Hall, North Lancashire. They meet on Tuesday afternoons twice per month. Contact Carol on coldwellcarol@gmail.com

NEW evening playing group in the **North Lakes**, playing 7pm until 8.45pm at Braithwaite Hall near Keswick on the second Wednesday evening of each summer month was started in 2020 just before Lockdown One. Members will be informed when this group can restart, probably spring 2022. If you are interested, please contact Gill on events@harpsnorthwest.org.uk.

The MANAGEMENT TEAM from 11th Sept 2021 – Sept 2022

Gill Salter-Smith	Convenor Membership Secretary - overview Newsletter editor Higham Hall Link	convenor@harpsnorthwest.org.uk events@harpsnorthwest.org.uk higham@harpsnorthwest.org.uk
Mandy Bartlett	Vice Convenor Harp Hire Secretary - overview Events: members' bookings	harphire@harpsnorthwest.org.uk events@harpsnorthwest.org.uk
Ann Woolley	Secretary Treasurer - overview	
Susan Lambert	Website & Facebook	online@harpsnorthwest.org.uk
Carol Coldwell		
Cathrine Livesey		
Chris Pollington		
Frances Quinn		
Linda Taylor		
Alison Stobbs – Not a committee member	HNW Administrator from Jan 2020 Treasurer - admin & support Harp Hire - admin & support Membership - admin & support	administrator@harpsnorthwest.org.uk treasurer@harpsnorthwest.org.uk membership@harpsnorthwest.org.uk

Bank details for use when paying donations for HNW workshops.

Bank: HSBC

Name of Account: Harps North West

Sort Code: 40-16-22

Account Number: 81806521

For those paying HNW from outside the UK please use PayPal <http://paypal.me/HarpsNorthWest>

When paying by PayPal please choose the pay 'friends and family' option where possible to avoid charges.

UK Harp Association Events Coming Up in October 2021

Online Concerts

- Friday 10th at 6pm: Harpy Hour with Olivia Jageurs: [INFO](#)
- Every Friday at 7.30pm: Fiona Hosford live on Facebook: [INFO](#)

In person concerts

- 1st at 7.30pm: Flute and harp (Sharon Griffiths) recital in Rothesay: [INFO](#)
- 2nd at 6.30pm: Tara Minton performs at Metronome, London: [INFO](#)
- 2nd at 7pm: Alina Bzhezinska HipHarp Quartet in Newcastle: [INFO](#)
- 2nd at 5.30pm & 8.30pm: Elizabeth Bass performs Debussy Dances and Mozart in Chobham: [INFO](#)
- 5th at 1pm: Voice and harp (Jenny Broome) recital at Romsey Abbey (free tickets): [INFO](#)
- 9th at 7.30pm: Elizabeth Bass performs the Debussy Dances in Colchester: [INFO](#)
- 12th October at 11am: Gwyneth Wentink masterclass at the Royal College of music: [INFO](#)
- 14th at 1.05pm: Trinity Laban harp department recital in Greenwich: [INFO](#)
- 16th at 7.30pm: Anne Denholm solo recital for the Ripon Festival: [INFO](#)
- 17th at 4pm: Twelfth Day Duo concert in Glasgow: [INFO](#)
- 17th at 7.30pm: Pelleas Ensemble recital, Lichfield Festival: [INFO](#)
- 19th at 10pm: Hermes Experiment at the Oxford Lieder Festival: [INFO](#)
- 20th at 7.30pm: Tara Minton Trio at Twickenham Jazz Club: [INFO](#)
- 24th at 3pm: Sophie Rocks solo recital in Perth and Kinross: [INFO](#)
- 27th at 7.30pm: Saxophone and harp (Gwen Sinclair) recital in Crieff: [INFO](#)
- 27th at 7pm: Heather Brooks plays Panufnik Concerto at Milton Court, London: [INFO](#)
- 29th at 7.30pm: Trio recital (Bethan Griffiths harp), St James' Piccadilly: [INFO](#)
- 29th at 1.15pm: Elizabeth Bass solo recital , RWCMD, Cardiff: [INFO](#)
- 30th at 7.30pm: Oboe and harp (Elizabeth Bass) recital in Wakefield: [INFO](#)
- 30th at 7.30pm: Saxophone and harp (Gwen Sinclair) recital in West Lothian: [INFO](#)

Online Workshops and Take Part

- Every Friday: a new video from Coffee break harp: [WATCH](#)
- Monday 11th at 7pm: Retreat to the Harp Zoom workshop with Tamsin Dearnley: [BOOK](#)
- Take anytime: Kickstart Composing course (fundamentals of composition) with Ruth Lee: [SIGN UP](#)