



HARPS NORTH WEST

2015 Summer Festival

31 July to 2nd August 2015

at

Newton Rigg College, Penrith CA11 0AH



Welcome to the third Harps North West Summer Festival!

Join us at Newton Rigg College for a weekend of harp courses to suit all tastes and abilities

Browse through our brochure to find the treats in store for you in this lovely part of the Lake District.



HARPS NORTH WEST 2015 Summer Festival

Our 2015 Festival features a wide-ranging variety of courses with Ailie Robertson, Heather Yule and a team of local tutors.

The Festival begins with an exciting concert by The Outside Track featuring harpist Ailie Robertson. This will be held in St Andrew's Church in Penrith, about 15 minutes' drive from the College.

John Hoare of Pilgrim Harps will show you how to care for your harp, while Mary Dunsford will get you playing the ukulele.

You will also be able to have your harp serviced by John, and browse through the music and CDs available from Creighton's Collection.

And from 4.00pm on the Saturday there will be an Absolute Beginners' Workshop, where we can offer the opportunity to non-harpists to discover this special instrument. (Harp will be provided).

After the Festival Dinner on Saturday night, Heather Yule will entertain us with her Storytelling skills while we relax in our lounge (with bar) in the College Conference Centre.

We look forward to meeting you and other harp enthusiasts for a weekend of total harp immersion in the beautiful setting of the northern Lake District.



HARPS NORTH WEST 2015 Summer Festival

Festival Venue



Our Summer Festival 2015 will be held at Newton Rigg College, Penrith CA11 0AH.

The College, now part of Askham Bryan College, the fastest growing land based college in the country, is situated on a 490 acre estate, just 2 miles from Junction 40 of the M6, at the gateway to the Lake District. Newton Rigg is just outside Penrith, which is on the main West Coast train line. Further information about the College and the surrounding area is available at www.newtonrigg.ac.uk and at www.golakes.co.uk

All Festival classes will be held in the Conference Centre on the site, in three spacious rooms on the first floor.

The full residential weekend rate includes accommodation in single en-suite study bedrooms in the "Village" residential area of the campus and all meals including morning coffees and afternoon tea, and the Festival dinner on Saturday night. Under 18s must be accompanied by an adult.

Non-residents will have morning coffees and afternoon tea, with the Festival dinner available as an optional extra. The rates for everyone include all classes, tuition and music, and secure harp storage in the Conference Centre.



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The Outside Track concert is booked as a separate item, and further tickets will be available on the door.

All meals will be in the dining area, across from the Conference Centre, including a two-course self-service dinner on the Friday and a special served three-course Festival dinner on the Saturday. Wines & beer will be available for you to buy with dinner, and we will have our own small bar on the Saturday evening storytelling. Lunches will be of the soup, sandwiches, tray bakes/fruit/yoghurt variety.

The weekend begins with registration from 4.00pm on Friday 31 July at Newton Rigg, and finishes at 3.30pm on Sunday 2 August. There will be an early dinner (5.30pm) on Friday 31 July for residents, in order to leave plenty of time before the concert, which is in St Andrew's Church in Penrith (directions will be enclosed with tickets). Non-residents may register on the Saturday morning before the first class.

In your own interest, you are advised to take out personal insurance cover in case of illness and possible cancellation. Harps should also be insured as no responsibility for any loss or damage to harps or to the property of participants at the Festival can be taken by Harps North West or Newton Rigg College.

For any further information please contact Janet Kennedy, Administrator, HNW, 21 Church Street, Moor Row CA24 3JF. Tel: 01946 823167
email: administrator@harpsnorthwest.org.uk
Details can also be found on our website: www.harpsnorthwest.org.uk

Please complete your booking form and return it with your deposit to Janet Kennedy at the above address as soon as possible, to ensure your place.

Closing date for receiving bookings is 30 June 2015.



HARPS NORTH WEST
2015 Summer Festival



THE OUTSIDE TRACK

Friday 31 July 2015
St Andrews Church
Penrith CA11 7XX

£12.00 accompanied under 18s Free

*Tickets from HNW administrator
or on the door*



New Album

www.theoutsidetrack.com



HARPS NORTH WEST 2015 Summer Festival

Meet our Tutors



Ailie Robertson is a musician in the broadest sense: composer, arranger, teacher, improviser and harp virtuoso. "Her synthesis of Irish, Scottish and contemporary harping technique into an individual style represents the realisation of otherwise unimagined possibilities for the Celtic harp" (Niall Keegan, 2006)

She has some of the most impressive credentials in the Scottish harp world. A five-time National Mod Gold Medalist, she was also 1st prizewinner at the inaugural London Harp Competition, and best overall musician at the Edinburgh Competition Festival. She has represented Comunn na Clarsach for Scotland at the Pan Celtic Festival in Ireland. In 2005 she was awarded a scholarship from ESU in recognition of her virtuosic clarsach playing, and was a winner of the St Albans New Roots award. She was the winner of the Live Ireland award for 'Instrumental Cut of the Year' for her debut album 'First Things First'.

Ailie has performed all around the globe, and is recognised for her unique fusion of Scottish, Irish and contemporary styles.



Mary Dunsford has been playing the harp for over twenty five years, starting aged 8 in a small rural village in Mid-Wales. She studied music at Lancaster University and also completed a PGCE. Her passion has always been for teaching the harp, and she has been teaching for the past sixteen years. In 2010 Mary published her first book on learning to play the harp for adult beginners, to great acclaim.

Mary plays with the National Festival Orchestra, and has performed in the top concert venues across the country, including the Royal Albert Hall, the Sage, Gateshead, and Sheffield Hallam FM Arena. She also plays regularly at the bedsides of patients at her local hospital as part of her Harp in Healthcare programme.



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John Hoare began making harps in 1966 specialising in the restoration of Victorian instruments. In 1980, he and others founded Pilgrim Harps designing and building lever harps and pedal harps in 1982. John currently specialises in mechanical design, servicing and pedal harp regulation. He is well known throughout the harp world and has exhibited on behalf of the company at harp festivals and exhibitions throughout Europe and in the USA.



Anna Howard studied music and the harp at the University of Exeter, going on to complete a doctorate in medieval music. She plays and teaches the harp in Cumbria and also sings in the Herdwyck Consort, an early music choir which she co-founded.



Alice Pell started playing the harp when she left primary school. She followed the traditional classical route of training with harp teacher Brian Wilson. She performed with orchestras in Nottingham and Derbyshire before studying at Leeds College of Music with Georgina Wells. Alice is now a part time primary school teacher and supports schools with music co-ordinating. She is also a harp teacher and gives private lessons to students of different ages and abilities as well as performing as a freelance artist. She gives workshops for Harps North West, both introductory courses for beginners and other general skills development sessions.



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Heather Yule is an established harp teacher in Scotland, adept at working both with individuals and groups of all levels and abilities. She has taught and performed on the clarsach throughout Scotland and at various events in the USA and Cape Breton, Canada.

Heather grew up surrounded by storytelling, literature, theatre and music. When she was eight years old her mother, Dr Barbara McDermitt, began her PhD on folk narrative at the School of Scottish Studies at Edinburgh University. Heather was very fortunate to be taken by her mother on many recording trips over the following years. These included visiting the Gaelic tradition bearer Nan MacKinnon on the island of Vatersay in the Outer Hebrides; the master storytellers from the Scottish Traveller tradition, such as Stanley Robertson and Betsy Whyte; and the Appalachian storyteller Ray Hicks in the USA. These early experiences showed Heather the importance of the folktale within these different cultures. Since then, through her own work, and observing the exciting work being done by colleagues, she has seen how the medium of story can not only entertain and educate but also help heal emotional wounds and nurture inclusion while reaching out to all ages and backgrounds. Traditional Scottish folktales and Traveller tales form the basis of Heather's repertoire. She has specialised in developing her own unique way of combining harp music and story. As a storyteller/musician she has performed and led workshops all over Scotland and abroad, including Iceland, Norway and the USA.



Clare Bakewell is a musician, performer and teacher with over 20 years experience, based in the north of Cumbria. She studied English and Music at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth.

As a performer she has played at many venues in northern England and southern Scotland, including the High Sheriff's Dinner at Muncaster Castle, and she has produced two CDs. She has taught at Dowdales School, Casterton School, Windermere St Anne's and Elleray Junior School as well as providing workshops for several harp societies, community centres and for Fylde Folk Festival.

Clare currently teaches Class Music up to year 7 at Limehouse School near Carlisle. She is a Music Therapist for Annie Mawson's Sunbeams Music Trust working in several schools in north Cumbria. She runs harp and music making workshops and was recently featured in The Cumberland News and on BBC Radio Cumbria.



HARPS NORTH WEST 2015 Summer Festival

Festival Courses:

Levels

Our courses will be at three levels:

- Elementary:** You will have been playing for a short time and/or prefer to work at a steady pace
- Intermediate:** You are a more experienced player who prefers music that is slightly more challenging but taken at a moderate pace.
- Advanced:** You are able to tackle more advanced music with a confident approach

Details of Courses

Ailie Robertson *Quebecois*

Elementary and Intermediate/Advanced

Come and fall in love with Quebec's unique brand of vibrant French culture. Quebecois music exudes the vibrant energy and dynamism that is characteristic of the diverse musico-cultural heritage of the region and has developed into one of the best loved styles of music in North America. Quebec has a rich tradition of achingly beautiful waltzes and airs, as well as wonderful dance tunes. Come and learn about the lyrical Quebecois tradition with its sweet melodic lines and rich accompaniment. You will leave with your fingers flying, your feet tapping, and your heart full of joie-de-vivre!!

Irish

Elementary and Advanced

Learn to play a variety of Irish dance tunes, including jigs, reels and hornpipes, and some beautiful slow airs. Focus on melody, ornamentation, and variation of this beautiful body of tunes.

Anna Howard

Minstrels and Troubadors

Intermediate/Advanced

Early Music for the Harp. An exploration of the historical harp and its music throughout the Middle Ages and beyond.

Takes Two to Tango

Intermediate

Duetting Skills for Harp - Developing the skills needed to play with other musicians, both harpists and other instrumentalists.

Mary Dunsford

Classics for Ensembles

Elementary

A chance to tackle some beautiful Classical melodies, made possible through the group efforts of an ensemble. So much of what we play on our harps is from the folk genre, so this will be a refreshing chance to add to your repertoire. Mary always produces interesting challenges and resolutions, stretching your technical capabilities!



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Plucking Pops

Mixed Ability

Pops for ensemble harps - current music that will get your listeners' toes tapping as they murmur how they haven't heard it played quite like this before! For the young and young at heart, this will be another varied session pulling you out of your comfort zone but most certainly putting a smile on your face.

Come and try Ukulele

Everyone

A chance to get to grips with this most popular of instruments. Come and see what the fuss is all about, and get your head around some simple chords (and one trickier one) for a great sing-a-strum-a-long! The joy of just 4 strings, with most chords in this session using just one or two fingers, what could be more fun?

John Hoare

Harp maintenance

Everyone

John will share his many years of experience of building and maintaining harps, showing you the tricks of the trade for changing strings, tuning, caring for your harp and generally keeping it in the best condition.

Alice Pell

Traditional tunes from the Isle of Man

Elementary

Introducing a different type of folk music for the HNW Festival this year, Alice will be sharing traditional tunes from the Isle of Man. This course will be at an elementary level for everyone to enjoy this lovely music with accessible arrangements.

Sounds Familiar?

Intermediate

This session will look at a variety of some familiar and some less well-known tunes that you may have heard which help to create an atmosphere in the background to television documentaries or films. Some popular songs or tunes from recent years will be included. These arrangements will be at an intermediate level to provide something that you can take away and enjoy playing.

Heather Yule

Harp & the Spoken Word

Mixed Ability

This workshop will explore the many ways of combining music and the spoken word. We will look at the techniques of traditional storytelling but also consider other types of narrative, such as ballad and poetry. This will be a very lively interactive class and all levels of harp player will be welcome. Weaving words and music together draws on the same skills that arrangers of tunes or songs use; therefore the concepts we will be working with will also enrich your musical development. Come and have some fun!



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And also, to tempt new players

Clare Bakewell

Absolute Beginners' Workshop (harps provided).

Encourage your friends to come along and learn to play the harp at this workshop for complete beginners. The workshop will provide an introduction to the harp, with a grounding in basic technique giving an ability to play basic chords as accompaniment, and play a simple piece or two. The ability to read music is not necessary.

Participants are welcome to stay for the festival dinner (£20) and storytelling session with Heather Yule (free).

And visit



Creighton's Collection

We are specialist harp music publishers, distributors and online retailers. We provide music engraving, printing and distribution services to music publishers and individual musicians, delivering high quality publications either in their own names or via our unique co-production publishing service. Unsolicited harp scores are always welcome! We also stock a huge range of CDs and scores from other publishers and individual musicians.

And check out

Harp Servicing

John Hoare will be available through the weekend to service your harp, so when you've chosen your courses, see if you can find a slot to book a service for your harp or arrange for John to take your harp for a service to Pilgrim at the end of the festival.

All bookings direct with John at www.info@pilgrimharps
For the attention of John Hoare, please. Tel: 01342 893242.



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FEES FOR THE COURSES AND BOOKING DETAILS

The Festival begins with Registration from 4.00pm onwards on Friday 31 July with an early dinner (5.30pm) before the opening concert as above. It finishes at 3.30pm on Sunday 2 August.

Full residential weekend (accommodation in single en suite rooms, full board including Festival dinner on Saturday night, tuition and music) **£270**

Non-residents (all facilities, tuition, music, lunch, teas/coffees) - **£150**
Optional Festival dinner on Saturday night **£20**

Non-players, residential (accommodation and meals) - **£100**
Optional Festival dinner on Saturday night **£20**

Opening Concert – The Outside Track featuring Ailie Robertson – in St Andrew's Church, Penrith 7.30pm Friday 31 July – Tickets **£12; under 18s free, if accompanied by adult**

A non-returnable deposit of £70 (£50 for non-residents) should be sent with your booking, and the outstanding balance is to be paid by 30 June 2015

Please make cheques payable to Harps North West and send to Janet Kennedy, Administrator Harps North West, 21 Church Street, MOOR ROW, Cumbria CA24 3JF. Payment can be made by BACS

Account name	Harps North West Festival
Sort code	40 16 22
Account number	81806521
Reference	Please put your surname followed by Festival 2015

Please note: If you do pay by internet banking you still need to send the completed form to the Administrator to register for the Festival.

On receipt of the application you will be sent an acknowledgement and directions to the venue.

For your own reference: Total cost of my booking

Deposit paid & date.....

Outstanding balance to be paid by 30/6/15

Number of concert tickets ordered at £12 + number of free under 18s tickets

Harps North West - Charity No 1093441