

A map of Bristol city center, England, showing streets and landmarks. A red rectangle highlights the location of Folk House at the intersection of Park Street and Hill Street. Other streets shown include Queens Road, Park Lane, Medical Avenue, Colston Street, and Anchor Road. Landmarks like the University of Bristol, O2 Academy Bristol, and Bristol Cathedral are also visible.

H2015

Festival Programme

**Folk House
Park Street**

Bristol Harmonica Festival

23-25 October 2015

Welcome to the Bristol Harmonica festival - 2015

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. 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.

Many thanks to Seydel for sponsoring artists at the festival.

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The information presented is accurate at the time of going to press,
but alterations may be needed if circumstances change.

Friday 23 October 2015

Festival Special - UK Members can join for 2015 (£20) and get free NHL membership for the rest of this year and the discount on Festival tickets.

We have a web site - www.harmonica.co.uk - which has information about events and festivals as well as up to date news from the harmonica world. Pages in the web site give information about the magazine, harmonica events, jam sessions and courses, plus links to many harmonica resources.

Contact us at the following:

nhl@harmonica.co.uk,

01772461974

www.harmonica.co.uk

NHL Facebook Group: www.facebook.com/groups/nationalharmonicaleague

NHL Twitter Account: @HarmonicaUK

YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/rtrob

We run an email mail list, NHLNet, where information on local events and news can be quickly shared between members. To join NHLNet send an blank email to: nhlnet-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

The NHL AGM 8-8:30 Music Room

The NHL AGM will be held in the Music Room at 8-8:30pm. Members should try to attend and meet the committee.

After the formal AGM, there will be a blues jam session in the main hall of the Folk House run by Phil Prowse, Harpin' On and Madcat Ruth. Chromatic, tremolo, and ensemble players can play together with Davina Brazier and Chris Collis..

Meet and greet is a great time here on Friday night at the Folk House. There will be a chance to exchange ideas and make even more harmonica friends.

The bar is open and you can find your bearings, help get the rooms arranged and stock moved into the shops located upstairs.

If the weather is mild, you can sit out in the Oasis and play in the open air. The jam and open mic sessions are good fun and anyone can join in.

Bristol International Harmonica Festival, H2015, 23-25 Oct 2015

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

There is more information in this magazine but the website has the most up to date details and forms. If you can't access the Internet ask a friend or relative to show it to you and print out the page. If you have any problems doing it, please contact David Hambley.
www.harmonica.co.uk/festival.htm

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

Pete Madcat Ruth is a Grammy Award-winning virtuoso harmonica player from the USA who had lessons with Walter Horton and played with Dave Brubeck and his sons. He is one of the top diatonic blues players with a love of percussion instruments and the ukulele. Some of Madcat's many CDs have been reviewed in earlier issues of Harmonica World.
www.madcatmusic.net/

Mat Walklate from Manchester has taken part in the All-Ireland Music festival, Fleadh Cheoil, and tours around the UK and Europe. He teaches privately and for local Councils in the North West. Mat will be playing Irish traditional, Bluegrass and Old-time music with his guitarist, Matt Fahey, from their group, The House Devils.
www.thehousedevils.co.uk

Roy Hugman is a leading Moothie player from Northumberland. Roy plays in pub sessions at regular venues around the North East, along with fiddle players and other musicians and for barn dances (Ceilidhs) with his band Simply Northumbrian.
<http://tinyurl.com/hugman>

Jon & Yuki Vaughan. Yuki studied piano in Tokyo and Paris and plays blues piano and harmonica. Jon's style is steeped in the Chicago tradition with a big fat tone.

Hisako Yamaguchi is a teacher of tremolo harmonica in Japan, and she teaches one of our members, Isamu Nishimura. They are both coming to this year's festival. Isamu will play in the contest and Hisako will make a rare appearance on stage. She plays traditional and Western classical music. Hisako uses tremolos in two or three keys to play any chromatic notes and chords required by the music.

Hermine Deurloo from Holland is one of the top international jazz chromatic players. She studied saxophone and taught herself to play harmonica. Her recordings include jazz, pop and film music, plus compositions with string quartets. She will be appearing with her guitarist, Maarten van der Grinten. He is one of the best known Jazz and Pop guitarists in Holland and is a teacher at the Conservatory of Amsterdam. Several of her CDs are covered in the October magazine.
www.hermindedurloo.com



Hermine Deurloo



H2015 Artists

Jon and Yuki Vaughan



**Madcat
Ruth**



Hisako Yamaguchi



**Mat
Walklate**



Roy Hugman

Saturday 24 October 2015

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 for Beginners and Festival First Timers
11am: Ben Hewlett - Playing Simple Tunes - any instrument
12pm: Liam Ward - Multiply Your Riff Supply - diatonic
1pm: Contest Warm-up
2pm: Mat Walklate - Irish harmonica - Diatonic and Chromatic
3pm: John and Yuki Vaughan - Working as a blues duo - bring your harp-
4pm: Madcat Ruth - Chugging / Rhythm Harmonica Diatonic

Art Room: Sonny Boys Music Store and other shops

Room 2/3

10am: Contest Warm-up until 10:45am
11am: Hisako Yamaguchi - Tremolo playing in Japan
12pm: Gerry Ezard - Intro to Chromatic Harmonica especially tone and dynamics
1pm: Contest Warm-up
2pm: Sorarmonica - How to play classical music as solo and ensemble.
3pm: Roy Hugman - Aspects of Tremolo in the Northumbrian Tradition
4pm: Hermine Deurloo - Tips and exercises for chromatic with improvisation.

Room 4: Seydel Shop

Room 5: Suzuki Shop

Room 6: Craft Room - Suzuki Harmonicas

10am: AJ Marble Amps Demonstration
11am: Eva Hunt - Reading Music for Chromatic players
12pm: Con O'Neill - Music Theory for Diatonic players
1pm: Contest Warm-up
2pm: Hugh Barnett - From melody to improvisation - Any instrument/diatonic focus
3pm: Keith Parker - Don't just stand there/create a performance' Any instrument
4pm: Dr Bertram Becher - Seydel - Repairs/customizing Diatonic

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

Saturday 24 October 2015

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 1 - Solo Chromatic

11:00 Class 1c - Solo Jazz

12:00 Class 2 - Duos
Class 3 - Trios
Class 5 - Bands



1:00 Lunch Break / Auction in the main hall

2:00 Class 1b - Solo Diatonic Melodic

3:00 Class 1a - 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 24 October 2015

Evening Gala Concert

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

Hisako Yamaguchi

Jon and Yuki Vaughan

Roy Hugman

**Hermine Deurloo and
Maarten van der Grinten (guitar)**

--- Interval ---

Guest Spot

Mat Walklate and Matt Fahey (guitar)

Sponsored by Seydel

Pete Madcat Ruth

Finale

Concert Finish - 11:15pm



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

Sunday 25 October 2015

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 Room

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

12:30am - Workshop - Madcat Ruth - Getting a Big Tone out of your diatonic harmonica.

1:30pm - 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 4pm as we must leave the Folk House by 4:30pm.

Music Room

10:30am: Dr Bertram Becher - Rhythm embellishments for diatonic harmonica

11:30am: Mat Walklate - Bluegrass/Old-Time Music - diatonic and chromatic

12:30pm: Sorarmonica - How to play classical music as solo and ensemble.

Art Room Shops : Sonny Boys Music Store and other shops

Room 2/3

10:30am: Roy Hugman - Aspects of Tremolo in the Northumbrian Tradition

11:30am: Paddy Byrne - Be at your best on Stage - factors affecting performance

12:30pm: Dave Taylor - Help for beginning diatonic players

Room 4: Seydel Harmonicas

Room 5: Suzuki Harmonica

Room 6: Craft Room - Suzuki Harmonicas

10:30am: Eva Hurt - Reading Music for Chromatic players

11:30am: George Liddell - Reading Rhythms – for all player

12:30am: Available for use

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

Festivals past, present and future

This year there will be no **Harry Pitch**. He performed at many of our



festivals from the 1980s. He died in July but he will be here in the form of a performance of *Groovin' with Mr Bloe* by a young entrant in the contest.

We also lost **Norman Ives**, another regular at the festival until his health made it impossible for him to make the journey. He sold his unique collection of music, books and harmonicas at most of our festivals in the 1990s. He loved group music and was well known to many of the top harmonica players.



Here he is with another long term NHL supporter, Frank Eatwell who also is unable to travel to festivals.

We have a group from Slovenia who decided to visit the festival but we

learned too late to integrate them fully into our programme schedule. You will see them in their workshop and Sunday Concert and probably around the Folk House.



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. It is also supported by other volunteers who carry out specific, valuable roles but who cannot commit to a full committee role. Maybe you have a skill you could share. Make sure we know by telling David Hambley.

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.

MY SOUND-
MY SEYDEL

The Origin of Sound
SAXONY
CHROMATIC



Available through
WWW.SEYDEL1847.COM

The SAXONY CHROMATIC is a professional chromatic harmonica with unique playing features. The instrument benefits from the stainless steel reeds well known from the SEYDEL 1847 Blues harmonicas and the timeless precision manufacturing of the Renaissance chromatic harmonica. All components were rethought and improved - the result is the SAXONY CHROMATIC - a master's instrument that fits the highest professional demands.

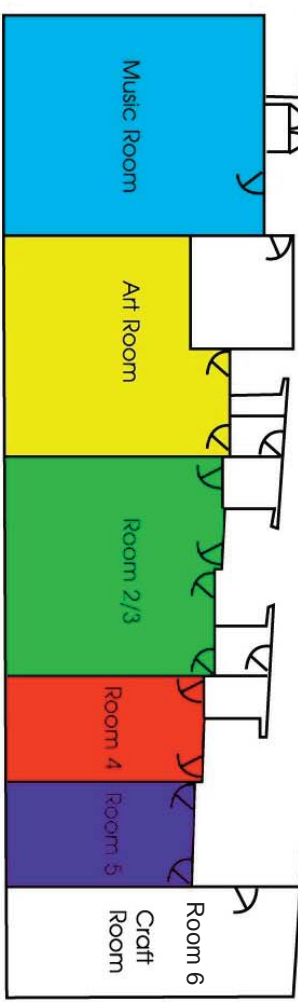
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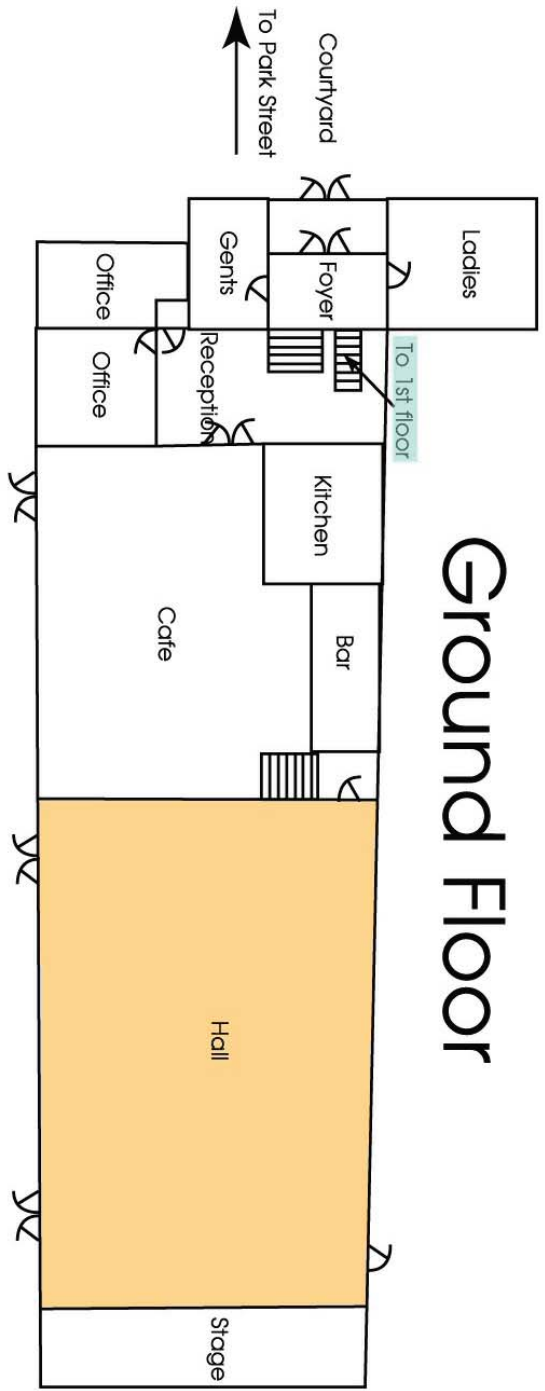
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The Folk House



1st Floor



Ground Floor