

Hello all,

I hope you are well and enjoying you're playing and listening.
In this newsletter, I want to share some exciting news about upcoming events, as well as a few changes to the schedule.

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER MAGAZINE

The magazine has gone to print and will be with you soon. This is thanks to the sterling efforts of Roger Trobridge and everyone who contributed their time and articles. Thank you all!

I have also added more events happening next year, so please take a look.

SUNDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER Annual General Meeting (AGM) – SEE
<https://www.harmonica.uk/pages/agm-documents>

Understanding Our Upcoming AGM: Why Your Vote Counts
As we prepare for our virtual **Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Sunday 27th September 2026**, the Executive Committee is introducing some vital constitutional updates to secure the future of our harmonica community.

At this AGM, we will be voting on a formal resolution to invoke a **12-month notice and review period** for the charity. This 12-month window is a responsible, transparent governance step that allows us to fully audit our resources, transition to sustainable digital formats, and review the long-term viability of our traditional framework.

To pass this resolution and keep our community moving forward, **we must meet a strict legal quorum (minimum number of votes) required by the Charity Commission**. This is why your vote is so important—and why understanding the proxy voting regulation is essential.

SEE NOTIFICATION THAT WAS SENT BY EMAIL 04/09/2026



What is a Proxy Vote? (A Simple Guide to the Regulations)

We understand that charity regulations can sound complicated, so here is exactly what the voting rules mean for you:

- **Why is it needed?** Many of our members live in different geographical areas, have busy schedules, or may experience technical disruptions on Zoom. Appointing a proxy ensures your voice is legally counted toward our mandatory quorum, even if you cannot attend the live virtual meeting.
 - **Who can be your proxy? The Chair of the Meeting** can act as your proxy. Naming the Chair is the most common, reliable way to guarantee your specific vote is securely registered.
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Your Simple 3-Step Action Plan

To ensure our harmonica community transitions smoothly into a modern, vibrant digital future, please take three minutes to secure your vote this week:

1. **Open the Attached Proxy Form:** Find the official voting form that will be sent to you on a separate email.
2. **Appoint Your Proxy:** Select "**The Chair of the Meeting**"
3. **Return It Early:** Email your completed form back to our administration team by **Friday 25th September 2026**.

Thank you for your continued talent, your passion, and your active participation in shaping the next chapter of our community.

Join us for this wonderful event!

Event Timetable: Sunday 27th September 2026 LINKS WILL BE SET UP AND AVAILABLE ON <https://www.harmonica.uk/>

12:00 | Virtual Doors Open: Welcome video and early gathering in the virtual lobby.

12:20 | Official Opening & Welcome Address: Opening remarks from your Chair, Wendy Wood.

12:30 | Artist Spotlight Introduction: A special video feature introducing our first guest.

12:45 | Guest Artist Session: Performance and masterclass with **Isabella Krapf** (75 mins).

14:00 | Annual General Meeting (AGM): Introduction and official business of the 2026 AGM, followed by an overview of the upcoming autumn calendar.

14:45 | Artist Spotlight Introduction: A special video feature introducing our second guest.

15:00 | Guest Artist Session: Performance and masterclass with **Joe Filisko** (75 mins).

16:15 | Artist Spotlight Introduction: A special video feature introducing our third guest.

16:30 | Guest Artist Session: Performance and masterclass with **Sean Spicer** (75 mins).

17:45 | Special Feature Video Showcase: Community highlights and special presentations.

- **18:00 | The Open Mic Session:** The virtual floor opens to our members for live performances (90 mins).
- **19:30 | Closing Remarks & Event Close:** Final thank yous and farewell.

SATURDAY WORKSHOPS COMMENCING 2ND SATURDAY EVERY MONTHLINKS WILL BE SET UP AND AVAILABLE ON <https://www.harmonica.uk/>

SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER 5PM – 6.30 PM WORKSHOP AND COMPETITIONLINKS WILL BE SET UP AND AVAILABLE ON <https://www.harmonica.uk/>

More details to follow

SUNDAY 25TH OCTOBER ONLINE EVENT INAUGURAL LAUNCH OF OUR PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN HARMONICAUK AND HARMONIKA NUSANTARALINKS WILL BE SET UP AND AVAILABLE ON <https://www.harmonica.uk/>

Since my last newsletter, we have not attracted any additional volunteers. Regrettably, we have therefore decided to cancel the one-day October festival event.

However, we are still having an event on this date.

This will now be an event to launch our inaugural partnership between HarmonicaUK and Harmonika Nusantara.

Further details will be coming soon.

COMPETITIONLINKS WILL BE SET UP AND AVAILABLE ON
<https://www.harmonica.uk/>

This year's competition will once again be held by video submission. Please submit your recording by Friday, 25th September 2026, for adjudication. The submitted videos will be shown during the Members' Workshop on Saturday, 10th October, followed by the awards ceremony.

Please note that a professional recording setup is not required. You may simply use a phone to record yourself. If you are able to include a backing track or similar accompaniment, that is also perfectly acceptable. Please see the link below for further details

SECOND "HARMONICA PLAYING TOGETHER WEEKEND – 6TH & 7TH MARCH 2027

Message from Hilvert Scheper

Following a successful weekend in February 2026, we are pleased to announce our second Harmonicas Playing Together Weekend for chromatic harmonica players. It will take place on Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th March 2027 at the Premier Inn, Hockley Heath, Solihull.

This is an informal, sociable weekend for players who enjoy making music with like-minded enthusiasts. There will be no formal workshops;

the focus is on playing a varied repertoire together, with time for improvisation and learning new material in a relaxed atmosphere.

The cost is £80 per person for the full weekend, including music links, refreshments, and lunch on both days. Participants requiring overnight accommodation should book directly with the hotel or other local guest houses.

A one-day option is also available.

To register your interest, please email Hilvert Scheper: hilvertscheper@gmail.com

OTHER EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

The Manfreds Warner, Holme Lacy, Hereford (9th September) (with Mike) d'arbo)
More information <https://www.warnerhotels.co.uk/entertainments/the-manfreds>

Adam Glasser Quartet – 606 Club, London 29th September 2026 More information <https://www.606club.co.uk/events/view/adam-glasser-quartet-3/>

Other dates for the Manfreds in September

Thurs 17th Ilkley, Kings Hall - 01943 602319

Fri 18th Yarm, Princess Alexandra Auditorium - 01642 792587

Sat 19th Whitby, 60's Weekend Festival - 01757 700042

Thurs 24th Corby, The Core at Corby Cube - 01536 470470

Fri 25th Clacton, Westcliff Theatre - 01255 433344

Sat 26th Hunstanton, Princess Theatre - 01485 532252

Mundharmonika Live – Seydel, Klingenthal, Germany (15th – 20th September)
more information <http://mundharmonika-live.de>

Harmonica Masters Workshops at Mundharmonika Live Festival in Klingenthal, Germany (15th – 18th September), more information

<https://www.seydel1847.de/workshops/en>

OCTOBER

Other dates for the Manfreds in October

Thu 1st Hoddesdon, The Spotlight - 01992 441946

Fri 2nd Wavendon, The Stables - 01908 280800

Sat 3rd Braintree, The Institute - 01376 323228

Weds 7th Lytham St. Annes, Lowther Pavilion - 01253 794221

Thurs 8th Bury, The Met - 0161 7612216

Fri 9th Lanark, Memorial Hall - 01555 673199

Fri 30th Ramsgate, Granville Theatre - 01843 594510

Sat 31st Felixstowe, Spa Pavilion - 01394 284962

Harmonica Masters Workshops Trossingen, Germany (28th October – 1st November) more information www.harmonica-masters.de/en

Other dates for the Manfreds in November

Sun 1st Basildon, Towngate Theatre - 01268 205300

Weds 4th Paignton, Palace Theatre - 01803 665800

Thurs 5th Taunton, Brewhouse Theatre - 01823 283244

Fri 6th Worcester, Swan Theatre - 01905 611427

Weds 11th Hayes, Beck Theatre - 0203 3429970

Thurs 12th Christchurch, The Regent - 01202 499199

Fri 13th Isle Of Wight, Shanklin Theatre - 01983 868000

Weds 18th Newcastle-under-Lyme, New Vic Theatre - 01782 717962

Thurs 19th Sunderland, The Fire Station - 0191 5700007

Fri 20th Scarborough, Spa Theatre - 01723 376774

Thurs 26th Bridport, Electric Palace - 01308 428354

Fri 27th Eastleigh, Concorde Club - 023 80613989

Sat 28th Warners, Littlecote House, Hungerford (with Mike d'Abo)

<https://www.warnerhotels.co.uk/entertainments/the-manfreds>

JANUARY 2027

January Blues: Charlie Musselwhite & Kirk Fletcher: Night One more

information: <https://unionchapel.org.uk/whats-on/charlie-musselwhite-kirk-fletcher-night-one>

FEBRUARY 2027

Broadstairs Blues Bash (17th -21st February 2027) more information
www.broadstairsbluesbash.com

MARCH 2027

Second "Harmonicas Playing Together Weekend" - 6th & 7th March 2027

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