



# Transpennine Harps - a branch of the Clarsach Society

<https://transpennineharps.org/>

Newsletter Summer 2021

**Hello to all of our harpists.**

Zoom sessions have been continuing with a successful beginner's workshop, as well as one with Eira Lynn Jones (head of Harps at RNCM). Lucy and Tamsin have been absolutely fantastic in inspiring us and leading us along our musical journeys. In the May session with Lucy, members were invited to play a piece as a performance. It was really wonderful to hear the range of music genres and the standard of playing, the love of playing the harp was certainly evident in abundance.



Eira's workshop was truly inspirational, (in fact I then went and bought some of her compositions-Ed). Her attitude was to break a piece down and to examine the parts that were tricky, exploring the best fingering technique to use. <https://www.eiralynnjones.com/>

**Can we meet together to play?**

**Yes.....** we have booked the Queen's Hall, Burley -in-Wharfedale for Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October for a harp session with Lucy.



A beautiful high ceilinged room with plenty of space for harps, bags, music stands and stuff. There is also a car park at the rear. The post code is LS29 7BT.

*I think I have forgotten what it is like to pack up my harp and carry it somewhere!!*

**We hope you can join us.**

**Moving forwards, we anticipate a blend of Zoom sessions and in person sessions for 2021- 2022.**

**Our AGM**

The Annual General meeting is booked for **August 15<sup>th</sup> at 2pm**. An email has been sent out with the necessary documentation.

The Zoom link is

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89539789295?pwd=bEZvRzIRQmJqb2Q3QlRHWXp3Q29xUT09>



Hopefully we can also have a play together. You may be interested in joining the committee, and we would be so pleased if you could help out in some way.

## Ben Rhydding Community Choir

Once again BRCC have invited TP Harps to join them 'in song ' at their concert in 2022, (we also get our own spot!) The song is, This Is Home, by Sophia Efthimiou, and is sung by the AcaBella group of the choir. There will be a harp accompaniment which Lucy has offered to write, this will have a beginners part and an intermediate part, so there is something for every ability, the music will be available in Autumn. When rehearsals start they will be on occasional Friday afternoons, and the sessions will have a zoom link, to give those not living near Ilkley, and who would like to play, the chance to rehearse with the choir. If you would like to take part, please let me know, Jean - [jeannie69b@gmail.com](mailto:jeannie69b@gmail.com).

**Angel Tolosa** has posted a [series of videos](#) called *Essential Latin American Harp Vocabulary* looking at styles and techniques from Cuba, Venezuela, Brazil, and Paraguay. I haven't watched all of them, but from what I've seen they look to be extremely valuable/useful - so if this is something you're interested in you should definitely check them out.....Annie

## More on Special techniques:

<https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcomposingforharp.com%2F&data=04%7C01%7C%7Ce2bacc28b814121e4df08d949293142%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637621263523945653%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&data=4uGsXTYrRK5gKZ Xj7Lcq%2FgB1XMmw1SWoSHBiWWMQins%3D&reserved=0>

Special techniques 1&2 are in the library.....Annie Jones

## Classical Group

Within TP Harps there is a wide range of musical interests, and it seemed like a good idea to enquire if there would be any interest in setting up a group to have a look at classical music, we had our first session in March 2020, and then ..... we restarted in January 2021 on zoom. There is very little classical music available for the harp, most of it seems to be in the middle of symphonies, not what we had in mind!, however we have Lucy, who has taken up the challenge, and is our tutor. Last November Lucy arranged the Mozart Eine Kleine Nachtmusik for the November festival, we are looking at this as a long term project, another arrangement, again Mozart, is the delightful Menuet Tranquille, did you know Mozart had a very musically talented sister? something we learnt from Lucy. We have a look at music history and how pieces are constructed and how to interpret them. A few months ago, we started Gymnopedies No 1, by Satie, written for piano, this has been arranged for us to play either as solo or a group piece, in September we start a new piece by Bach. We meet bi-monthly, at the moment, on Sunday morning for an hour, but usually we stay on after the session has finished and chat.



There are probably other groups that could be started, Jazz, Celtic, to name but two, until you ask you don't know who would be interested!

For further information about the classical group contact Jean - [jeannie69b@gmail.com](mailto:jeannie69b@gmail.com)

## Spotlight on the Old Malton Group – organised by Annie Jones.

We meet next on the 11<sup>th</sup> September, and then fortnightly thereafter until we decide to meet in person.

Tamsin has given us inspiration and held us together as a group. We could not have done it without her! We have been on an almost world tournée: Wales, Yorkshire, France and Japan. Medieval, Baroque to Modern, and modes. The regular players, who meet virtually, come from far and wide. Old and new friends. The silver lining.



The last actual workshop with Tam in the hall before lockdown.

## Events coming up

**August 15<sup>th</sup> 2pm** .....AGM and play together.

**September 4<sup>th</sup>** .....Workshop with Karen Marshalsay- details to be sent out soon.  
<http://www.karenmarshalsay.com/>

**September 11<sup>th</sup>** .....Old Malton Group by Zoom.

**September 12<sup>th</sup>** .....Classical Group

**September 19<sup>th</sup>** .....Zoom group with Lucy Nolan



**October 17<sup>th</sup>**.....Lucy group meet up in person in the Queens' Hall Burley in Wharfedale. LS29 7BT



Happy harping!

### Contacts

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