

#BRISTOLFOLKFEST

# BRISTOL FOLK FESTIVAL

1-3 MAY 2026

[bristolfolkfestival.org](http://bristolfolkfestival.org)

## SESSIONS

This year we host 3 open sessions:

- **Open Session**  
Saturday | 4.45 - 6.15 pm | St George's Foyer
- **Greenbank Folk Club Session**  
Saturday | 6 - 8 pm | The Architect
- **English, Scottish + Irish Tunes**  
Sunday | 5.30 - 6.30 pm | St George's Foyer

*Sessions are open to all, bring your instruments & enthusiasm!*

## TEAM

**Creative Director:** Dr Anna Rutherford

**Production Lead:** Jen Hobcraft

**Co-Programmer:** John Blakeley

**Late Night Folk:** Alex Garden

**Sessions Leads:** Nonny Tabbush, Alex Garden, Katie Kennedy & Michael Greene

**Choir Leads:** Neil Johnson, Matt Norman, Nonny Tabbush, Sorrel Wilde

**Dance & Fringe:** Fiona

**Sound & Light:** Tom Bryan, Alan Burgess, Rich Whitehead, Chris Heigham, Roo McPhee

**Steward Lead:** Eli Carr

**Photos & Design:** Paul Blakemore, Jon Trace

## LATE NIGHT FOLK

@ THE ARCHITECT

On Friday & Saturday Nights we open a late Folk Club at The Architect on Bristol Harbourside. Entry is free to all festival ticket holders (show your wristbands / ticket)

Entry is first-come, first-served. Join us for music, conversation, song, dancing & drinks into the early hours. Bring instruments if you fancy!

The Architect

16 Narrow Quay | BS1 4QA

## HALSWAY STUDIO

We're partnering with Halsway Manor to bring workshops & free talks to St George's.

### St George's Glass Studio

- **Fiddle Workshop** - Sam Sweeney  
Sunday | 10 am - noon
- **A Life in Music** - ft. Rioghnach Connolly & Mothers in Music  
Sunday | 12.30 - 1.30 pm
- **The Rise of Folk Clubs** - Alex Garden, Ian Anderson, Ellie Gowers & Lizzi Morse

## THANK YOU!

Huge thanks to everyone who helps bring the festival to life. Ben, Trish, Louise & St Georges; Anna, Rich & Bristol Folk House; Ant & Downend; Todd & Bristol Beacon, Malcolm & The Architect, Phil & Arnolfini, John & Jen & Ear Trumpet...

To the artists, dancers, choirs & audiences who keep folk alive. To our fab festival volunteers Sally Ainsworth, Julia Bell, Clare Dornan, Robbie Downs, Jane Egginton, Alex Fraser, John Gavin, Susan Howe, Jenny Insall, Sarah Knight, Rose Lawrence, Jamie Lock, Anne Mitchard, Steve Roberts, Trish Roberts, Nick Sainsbury, Clare Sharples, Peter Sharples, Cath Slade, Alyd Williams & all the lovely folk who joined the team after this schedule went to print!

## SCHEDULE

Welcome to Bristol Folk Festival!

Peruse the schedule & dive into the music & dance.

Timings are correct on publication but may be subject to change.

Seating is unreserved apart from Bristol Beacon. The Architect is the late folk hub this year & entry is free for Bristol Folk Festival ticket-holders (first-come first-served). Join us there after the music at the main venues has finished. Keeping live music going takes all of us. Thank you for your support. We couldn't do it without you!

## FRIDAY

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL

FOLK HOUSE

THE ARCHITECT

ARNOLFINI

Doors + Wristband  
Exchange & Bar  
6.30 pm

Heartwood Chorus  
7 pm - 7.30 pm

The Staves  
8 pm - 9.10 pm

Doors 7 pm

Tamsin Elliot Trio  
8 pm

Doors 9 pm

Bowker & Morse  
9.30 pm

Kai Carter Trio  
10.45 pm

Eve Appleton Band  
11.45 pm

Reel Folk  
6.45 pm

Shovel Dance  
Collective  
7.30 pm

JOIN THE CONVERSATION



[bristolfolkfest](https://www.instagram.com/bristolfolkfest)

[#bristolfolkfest](https://twitter.com/bristolfolkfest)



BRISTOL  
FOLK  
HOUSE

ARNOLFINI



THE ARCHITECT



BRISTOL  
CATHEDRAL



B24/7

BRISTOL  
FOLK FESTIVAL  
1-3 MAY 2026



# SATURDAY

# SUNDAY

## ST GEORGE'S BRISTOL

## FOLK HOUSE

## THE ARCHITECT

## ARNOLFINI

## BRISTOL BEACON

## ST GEORGE'S BRISTOL

### MAIN HALL

### FOYER

### MAIN HALL

### FOYER

### GLASS STUDIO

Venue & Bar Open  
1 pm

Bristol Folk Singers  
1 pm

Aellin  
2 pm

Robbie Cavanagh  
3 pm

Sam Sweeney Trio  
4 pm

Open Session  
Magician's Nephew  
4.45 pm - 6.15 pm

Food & Drink  
Available on Site

Doors 7 pm

Session  
Greenbank Folk Club  
Takeover  
6 pm - 8 pm

Island Choir  
6.45 pm

Kittiwake  
Border Morris

Doors 7.30 pm

Ellie Gowers  
8 pm

Ceilidh  
Bristol Ceilidh Quartet  
8 pm

Lisa Knapp &  
Gerry Diver  
7.30 pm

The Breath  
7.30 pm

Doors 7.30 pm

Kit Hawes &  
Aaron Catlow  
8 pm

## FOLK HOUSE

Doors 7 pm

Malin Lewis  
8 pm

Doors 9 pm

Common Ground  
9.30 pm

Razzomo  
10.45 pm

Ushti  
11.45 pm

Ye Vagabonds  
8.40 pm

The Unthanks  
9.50 pm

Rioghnaich Connolly  
& Honeyfeet  
9.30 pm

Venue & Bar Open  
1 pm

Amadou Diagne  
2 pm

Vulva Voce  
3 pm

Ranagri  
4 pm

Food & Drink  
Available on Site

Bristol Folk House  
Choir 1 pm

Kittiwake Border Morris

Brigstowe  
Village Band  
5 pm - 5.30 pm

Open Session  
w/ Nightjars  
5.30 pm - 6.30 pm

Sam Sweeney  
Fiddle Workshop  
10 am - 12 noon

A Life in Music - Panel  
/Rioghnaich Connolly  
12.30 - 1.30 pm

The Rise of the Folk Club  
/Alex Garden & guests  
2 pm - 3.15 pm