

Southdowns Ukulele Festival 2025 Workshops

A: Saturday 20th September (9.15 to 10.15)
Beginners - Richard Hales
Ukulele/Music Marquee, Waterloo Square

We have been very lucky to get Richard to run classes for beginners at the Southdowns Ukulele Festival over the last few years. Many of these 'beginners' have gone on to join their local ukulele clubs and continue to play and have fun with the ukulele.

Ukuleles available to borrow.

B: Saturday 20th September (10.00 to 11.00)
Trebling Your Songbook – Hedge Inspectors
RAFA Club, Waterloo Square

The Hedge Inspectors are amazing entertainers and musicians. Humour and talent abound in this fab duo and they love passing on their skills to others. They also run great ukulele jams!

Aimed at intermediate players, this workshop focuses on taking songs everyone knows and giving them a different twist.

C: Sunday 21st September (10.00 to 11.00)
Unlocking Ukulele Chords – Mark Thomas
Ukulele/Music Marquee, Waterloo Square

Mark is a passionate musician with over 30 years of experience in both playing and teaching. He runs a weekly Ukulele Club in Bracklesham Bay where students learn together in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

Pick up Tips, Tricks & Theory to improve your playing.

This workshop is designed for beginners and improvers who want to take their chord playing to the next level. Whether you're frustrated with difficult shapes, looking for easier ways to transition between chords, or curious about why chords work the way they do.

D: Sunday 21st September (10.00 to 11.11)
Rock'N'Roll Shuffle – Jon Wheeler
RAFA Club, Waterloo Square

Jon has been playing, teaching and working in the grassroots music scene in Sussex for many years. He's a full time, self-taught musician and tutor who's enjoys passing on his skills and experiences. Here's your chance to add some more skills to your playing.

Basic rock'n'roll rhythm is generated by a straight up and down strum pattern 1&2&3&4&, where the numbers are downstrums, and the '&' signs are upstrums. The magic happens by effectively varying the third strum of every four to create that rock and roll rhythm. Here's your chance to learn how!