**NEW YEAR HOUSE PARTY**

**29 December – 2 January 2017**

Dear Friends

Thank you for booking for the New Year House Party at Halsway Manor.  Elaine, Chris, Maggie, Jenny and David are planning an exciting and fun course for us all and are really looking forward to meeting you soon. The outline programme is attached and a more detailed version will be available when you arrive, but we want to tell you about various activities now so that you can come prepared.

The daily music workshop will lead to a Grand Gala Performance on New Year’s Eve.  If you play an instrument, please bring it with you and join in.  If you have an instrument that you have never played, or played a bit and given up, bring it along, too, and we'll help you to get started.  Please let David know which instruments you play, so he can start on the musical arrangements.  Contact him on [jp\_dp@talktalk.net](mailto:jp_dp@talktalk.net).  If you don’t have internet access, phone Chris (020 8889 0634) and he will pass the details on.  If you are willing to call a dance during the evening sessions, and you need a specific tune, please tell David what music you would like.

We’d love New Year’s Eve to be extra special so do bring along your glad rags and be ready to celebrate. Informal, glitzy, posh, over the top or understated are all equally appropriate.

There will be opportunities each day to entertain your fellow guests in any way you wish, so do bring whatever you need to call a dance, sing, play, tell stories, recite poems or juggle!  If you plan to bring a Pantomime or Mummers’ Play please forewarn us.  If you’d like to lead one of the afternoon dance workshops, please contact Chris and tell him what you’d like to do. We are running a jig doll workshop, too, so bring yours if you have one.

To help us all get to know each other please provide a name badge – the bigger the writing the better, as some of us are short-sighted!

Please consider the plight of your teddy bear as you plan and pack.  Many teddies are left alone and isolated when their daddies and mummies are away on holiday. Don’t let your teddy feel thus neglected! Bring him or her with you to Halsway, where there will be a special teddies’ dance and game of teddy bears’ hide and seek. If you have more than one teddy, and can’t choose, bring them all!  They are assured of a fantastic time at the New Year House Party.

If you are travelling by public transport and intend to take the bus from Taunton to the Manor, please phone us when the bus is leaving Taunton with the estimated time of arrival at Halsway.  We shall try to arrange for someone to collect you from the nearest bus stop.

If any of this raises questions, or if you want to ask us anything at all about the House Party, do contact Chris at [chrisdancing@aol.com](mailto:chrisdancing@aol.com) or 020 8889 0634.

Keep calm, relax and build up your strength ready for an amazing and fun-filled course!

See you in December!

Elaine, Maggie, Jenny, Chris and David