

## Worldwide 24hour Ukulele Jam

A cohort of ukulele players from around the world are joining forces on the 5th of September 2020 to take part in an online marathon ukulele jam for 24 hours in aid of international charity Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders). The Ukulele jam is due to start at 8pm (BST/GMT+1) and will be broadcast through the popular video-conferencing software Zoom, where ukulele players can unite and take turns leading their chosen tune while others play or sing along from the safety and comfort of their own homes.

The group of ukulele players originally came together under the banner of the Pandemic Pluckers and Self-Isolating Strummers at the beginning of the Covid-19 outbreak in the United Kingdom in March 2020. It has grown to include other ukulele groups, hosts, and members from many different countries around the world, including Ireland, Germany, France, USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and more. Currently, there are Pandemic Pluckers jams 7 nights a week, which see this international cohort of ukulele players not only join to make music together, but make friends, connections, and ease the challenges of lockdowns around the world.

A decision was made in late July of 2020 to conduct a 24 hour ukulele jam and use the connections and friendships created to support the hard work of Médecins Sans Frontières volunteers and medical personnel who are facing even more challenging times due to the Covid-19 outbreak.

Ukulele players meet every night of the week and the jams are hosted by a different person or group using a number of different songbooks, which means that the variety and choice is endless for everyone who participates. Monday night is hosted by Emerson, Dani and Stephen of the Hoxton Ukulele Hootenanny, who are based in the UK. Tuesday night is hosted by Uwe Holstein, who is based in Germany and provides a multilingual treat for participants. Wednesday night is hosted by Lorraine Bow of Ukulele Wednesdays in London, UK. Thursday night is hosted by Dave Cornett of various ukulele bands and groups in Liverpool, UK. Friday nights are alternated between Lorraine Bow of Ukulele Wednesdays and Mandi Harkett of ukulele duo Operalele. Saturday nights are hosted by Ronan and Lora McCauley of Arklow & Wicklow Ukulele Players in Ireland. Sunday nights are alternated between Carol Anne Whinnom of Croydon Ukulele Jam, UK, and Eric Davey, busker extraordinaire, based in Mansfield, UK. More information on all of the wonderful hosts and their musical abilities can be found in the Facebook group for Pandemic Pluckers and Self-Isolating Strummers.

To get involved you can find the group on Facebook, where you can get details on how to join in the daily jams, or how to support or donate to our chosen charity and participate in the 24hour ukulele jam. We look forward to enjoying 24 hours of non-stop ukulele playing while supporting a great cause.

Stay safe,

Pandemic Pluckers and Self-Isolating  
Strummers