

SLAP

Issue 58

May 2016

FREE



SLAP Supporting Local Arts & Performers

AN ECLECTIC THREE DAY ARTS & MUSIC FESTIVAL



SUPER FURRY ANIMALS
MERCURY REV • TELEVISION

THE ZOMBIES • BADLY DRAWN BOY
MATT BERRY & THE MAYPOLES • OS MUTANTES
BENTLEY RHYTHM ACE • IBIBIO SOUND MACHINE
MARTIN CARTHU • BILL RYDER JONES • THE MARIACHIS • STEALING SHEEP

BANGKOK PARADISE MOLAM INTERNATIONAL BAND • ALESSI'S ARK

JOSEFIN OHRN & THE LIBERATION • VICTORIES AT SEA

ASHLEY HUTCHINGS • STICK IN THE WHEEL • THE GOOD WATER

FLAMINGODS • SEELAND • AMBER ARCADES • ANDY WICKETT

DUKE ST WORKSHOP & LAURENCE R HARVEY: TALES OF HP LOVECRAFT

...
PLUS MANY MANY MORE...

LATE NIGHT SOUNDS

PSYCHEMAGIK'S MAGIK FOREST • MAGIC DOOR • HORSE MEAT DISCO
SWINGAMAJIG • LEFTFOOT • THIS IS TMRW • DUTCH UNCLES (DJ SET) • SENSATERIA
RICHARD NORRIS • MODULATE • HIGHER INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

FAMILY CAMPING ON THE CHILDREN'S FARM

CIRCUS RAJ • LATE NIGHT SOUNDS
IMMERSIVE THEATRE • THE PINK MOON MEADOW
CINEMA PROGRAMME • PSYCHEDELIC LIGHTSHOWS
AWARD WINNING LOCAL ALES & GOURMET STREETFOOD
POETRY • TIPIS, BELL TENTS & LIVE IN VEHICLES
10FT LASER ROBOT • DAILY YOGA SESSIONS
CAPOEIRA • LUNAR OLYMPICS KIDS CLUB
NICK DRAKE RECORD PLAYER • CLUB UNLIKELY POP QUIZ
GREEN CRAFTS • THE BIMBLE INN • THE CROW BAR

ONLY 9 MILES FROM MOSELEY

3-5 JUNE 2016

UMBERSLADE FARM PARK
NEAR SOLIHULL

TANWORTH IN ARDEN • WARWICKSHIRE

LUNARFESTIVAL.CO.UK

hmm
HOLLYWOOD MONSTER
THE SOURCE AND GAMES

love
CROW

Big
Cat

UMBERSLADE
FARM PARK

Purity
BREWING CO

SLAP

MAY 2016 MAGAZINE

SLAP MAGAZINE

Unit 3a, Lowesmoor Wharf,
Worcester WR1 2RS
Telephone: 01905 26660
editorial@slapmag.co.uk

For advertising enquiries, please contact:
adverts@slapmag.co.uk

EDITORIAL

Mark Hogan - Editor
Kate Cox - Arts editor
Stephan Work - Sub Editor
Steve Glazzard - Proof Reader

CONTRIBUTORS

Andy O'Hare
Will Munn
Graham Munn
Naomi Preece
Rosie Hamilton
Rich Morley
Duncan Graves
Mark Westcott
Ed Ling

Siobhan Joan
Honor Hoskins
Alan Musson
Paul White
Justin Hughes
Oliver Carpenter
Trevor Price
Sarah Ganderton
Sophie Austwick
Geoffrey Head
Kate Cox
Stephan Work



@slapmagofficial

Design

Mark Hogan

Web & Social Media

Ant Robbins

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Reproduction in whole or part prohibited without permission.
Artwork, prints or any pictorial media for this publication are sent at owners risk and whilst every care is taken, neither Slap Magazine or its agents accept liability for loss or damage.

DISCLAIMER

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that adverts and articles appear correctly, Slap Magazine cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage caused directly or indirectly by the contents of this publication. The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of its publisher or editor.

Last month ended on yet another sad musical note as Prince left this plane, if indeed he ever inhabited the same one as us mere mortals.

Certainly not everyone's cup of Darjeeling but few could deny his supernatural talents whether in writing, playing, performing or inspiring; he was often cited as one of the most underrated guitarists, probably only though because he was so good at almost everything else.

Tis a cliché but his like will certainly not be seen again: *Sometimes It Snows In April* indeed.

On a brighter note April also saw a record-breaking (not literally hopefully) Record Store Day as local shops outdid themselves, despite some unfortunates queueing outside Rise in Worcester having to contend with snow flurries. The tills were red hot though so we are told and business was more than brisk with no sign of the record (not 'vinyl' please) boom slowing down any time soon. You can read and see much more about what was an absolutely storming day, in Duncan Graves' review and photo spread on page 23.

And so we march into May (or it may still be March for all I know) somewhat trepidatiously: "Ne'er cast a clout til May is out" goes the old farmers' saying; clout being yer coat not a wallop! But the grass is ever growing as the festival season begins in earnest with **The Beltane Bash, Cheltenham Jazz, Beat it!, Mello, Out To Grass, Wychwood, Breaking Bands, Winchcombe, Lechade, Tenbury** and **Lunar** all imminent. There's no lookin' back now til after **Worcester Music Festival** in mid September when we will doubtlessly collapse in a haze of hopefully happy remembrance with somewhat battle-battered bodies from a summer of over-indulgence and too much camping!

So get yer diaries sorted with all your dates - you're going to need it with the masses of happenings all over our 3 Counties and beyond. We at Slap will do our damndest as always to keep you informed on the latest fest news. In the meantime have fun - we certainly will.

Love and Peace to all X

Exalt-ed



Front cover image - Rosebud
by Duncan Graves
on Record Store Day at Rise Records

Artrix wins Worcestershire arts award

Artrix in Bromsgrove came out on top in the **Worcestershire What's On Reader's Award** for **Best Small Theatre/Arts Venue** in Worcestershire. Over 25,000 public votes were cast in the magazine's inaugural awards.

Artrix was voted the winner in this category with other nominees including **The Swan Theatre, Worcester**, **The Palace Theatre, Redditch** and **Number 8 Community Arts**, Pershore, with the runner-up prize being awarded to **Evesham Arts Centre**.

Hannah Phillips, Artrix's Director said *'We're absolutely thrilled to have won this award. Thank you so much to everyone who voted for us. We're celebrating our 11th birthday this month, what a wonderful present'*

Birmingham Autumn Electronic Fest Announced

In November of 2016 the inaugural **'The Seventh Wave Festival of Electronic Music'** takes place across four days and across three venues in Birmingham. **Seventh Wave** are promoters who consistently bring first class, exciting music to The 2nd City and this is another superb event in prospect.

The stellar 'live' line-up includes highly influential ambient industrialists **:zoviet*france:**, revered Krautrock electronica collective **Gnod**, Ex-Kraftwerk member **Wolfgang Flur**, **DJ Rusty Egan** of **Visage** fame and current **Porcupine Tree** member **Richard Barbieri**.

One of the fest highlights will be an all-day conference with key note speeches from **Wolfgang Flur**, **OMD's Andy McCluskey** and **Rusty Egan**.

To say we at Slap HQ are excited about this happening is an understatement and with tickets selling fast we urge you in the direction of <https://theseventhwaveblog.wordpress.com> for details on all the events and either www.thetickettellers.co.uk or www.skiddle.com/ for all your ticketing needs.

Lakefest Unsigned Opportunity

An exciting opportunity has opened at this year's **Lakefest** where the organisers are inviting unsigned music acts to enter their **'Open Lakefest Livewire'** competition. A live video of your act must be submitted to [play@thefloatingglobe.co.uk](http://thefloatingglobe.co.uk) by Monday 16th May so get yer skates on kids. The finalists will be chosen by the organisers but the eventual winners will be chosen by the public and have the honour of opening this year's festival in August.

Lakefest director **Lee Martin** has announced that the opening performance on the main stage at this year's event running from **11-14 August** will be an unsigned act chosen by a free-to-enter competition - **'Open Lakefest Livewire'**. With the finalists picked by the organisers and the winner decided by the most Youtube likes on a dedicated channel. This year's fifth festival is being held for the first time at the old **Big Chill** site of **Eastnor Castle Deer Park** and features headliners **Primal Scream**, **We Are Scientists**, **StarSailor** and latest announcement **Cast**.

For full details on the Livewire competition please visit <http://lakefest.co.uk/the-latest/open-lakefest-livewire>

4 SLAP MAY

Kinver Fest Act Request

The organisers of **Kinver Music Festival** are looking for acts for the three-day event taking place from 15-17 July - this will be the third festival held in a variety of locations in the village with the aim of raising money for local charities - more details on their website or contact organiser Tim at t.charnock@btinternet.com

10cc's of Wychwood

Wychwood Festival has announced that this year's Saturday headliners for the Cheltenham Racecourse family-friendly bash (3-5 June) will be iconic British rock act **10cc** - featuring original members **Graham Gouldman** and **Paul Burgess** - full lineup and details at wychwoodfestival.com

Fratellis For Livestock

Livestock Festival has announced that **The Fratellis** will be the Saturday night headliners at the **Manor Farm, Longdon** event from 29-31 July - joining previously announced acts such as **Reef**, **Jason Donovan** and **Reverend & The Makers** - more info at livestocklongdon.co.uk

Olivers' Demise

Punters have been paying tribute to **Olivers Bar** in Malvern after it suddenly closed after 20 years - with plans to transform it into a restaurant by the summer. Besides being one of most popular social centres for Malvern youngsters it's also been an occasional social venue for events like **Malvern Rocks** and local musician Ruben Seabright proposed to his fiancée (now wife) Becky after a New Year's Eve gig with his band!

Nozstock Chocka!

Nozstock has added more acts to a packed billing ahead of this year's event at **The Hidden Valley** near Bromyard from 22-24 July including **Imelda May**, **The Skints** and **Goldie** joining previously announced headliners **Jurassic 5** and **Gentleman's Dub Club** - there'll also be comedy provided by performers such as **Phil Kay** and **Richard Herring** - details at nozstock.com

Worcester Carnival Returns

Plans are well afoot for the long-overdue return of **Worcester Carnival** with a longer route - starting and finishing at the Pitchcroft Grandstand - and the return of floats to accompany walking groups and marching bands. The aim is to raise money for charities **Headway** and the **Help Georgie** campaign and will have the theme **Musicals, Theatres and Worcester** - there'll also be a Carnival King and Queen and while there's been a good response from women to wear the tiara - there's a slight shortage of male applicants. If you're interested in being feted royally for a day or willing to lend an organising hand then visit facebook.com/worcscarnival for more details!!

Breaking Bands Sell Out!

The second **Breaking Bands Festival** at **Stoke Prior Sports and Country Club** on 27-29 May has again sold out well in advance - with organisers announcing a couple of last-minute changes to the bill with Nottingham goth rockers **Cadence Noir** replacing **Mad Hatter** - and **Parkin Lot** closing the event with songs chosen by the audience (!) - there'll also be a full line-up on the **Get Your Rock Out** acoustic stage - breakingbandfestival.com

Osmonds for Malvern

Advance warning of a frightening display of all-American dentistry - as the gleaming choppers of **Osmond brothers Jimmy, Jay and Merrill** join the cast of the **Andy Williams** Christmas Extravaganza at **Malvern Theatres** on Thursday 22 December as part of an UK and international touring event that was started in the 60s - guaranteed by 'Little Jimmy' to get you into a 'warm and fuzzy Christmas mood...'

Motor Fest returns

Worcester will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of the **Motor Festival** with a great mix of exciting new and well-loved established feature displays and motoring themed activities throughout the city centre on **Saturday 14th May 2016** from 9am to 5pm. Free admission. For further information explore www.worcestermotorfestival.com, or follow the event on Facebook and Twitter @WorcMotorFest

Mello Friday Headliners Announced

As the name suggests **Mello Festival** (Friday 27th May - Sunday 29th May) prides itself on being the biggest chilled event around. Taking place at **Throckmorton Airfield** near Evesham over the late May Bank Holiday weekend, Mello are pleased to announce their Friday night headliners in the shape of ex-**Simple Minds** legends **XSM**.

Adding their names to first class bill which includes **The Levellers, The Blockheads, Pentangle, Lemar** and many others, XSM normally features original Simps members **Derek Forbes** and **Brian McGee** who were responsible for composing early

classics such as '*Chelsea Girl*', '*Great Cities*' and '*I Travel*', in addition to Golden Era faves such as '*Promised You A Miracle*', '*Glittering Prize*' and of course '*Don't You Forget About Me*'. Lead singer of XSM comes in the shape of **Owen Paul**, the Scottish singer, producer and co-writer of the 1986 UK and European smash summer hit '*My Favourite Waste Of Time*'. Owen happens to be Brian's brother also so XSM is something of a classy family affair. Unfortunately for this and next year Derek is unavailable for XSM engagements but he is more than ably filled by **Gary Irvine**.

Success for Macmillan

Bourbon Alley and the **Ray Mytton Band** raised £650 to support **Macmillan Nurses**. **The Marrs Bar** saw over 100 turn up show their support on 1st April and a great evening was had by all. Organiser **Charlie Lyons** said '*I'm hoping to make this an annual event and raise even more next year*'.

Advertise in this space for as little as £30 per month

SLAP
MAGAZINE

SLAP Supporting Local Arts & Performers

adverts@slapmag.co.uk



PROFESSIONAL DIGITAL RECORDING STUDIO - £30/HOUR

AMAZING REHEARSAL SPACE - £12/HOUR

INSTRUMENT TUITION - £15 P 1/2 HOUR

RECORDING TUITION - £30/HOUR

BEWDLEY - WORCESTERSHIRE

TO BOOK - CALL 01299 400 658 AND QUOTE "SLAPMAG"
FOR A 10% DISCOUNT



www.loadstreetstudios.com

The outdoor event season is here which means **Clik Clik** is flat busy with festival mischief and street fun. Look out for the **Youth Centre** float at **Pershore Carnival** on 30th, a pop up DIY gallery at **Out To Grass** on the 28th come and take part in Clik Clik's **Asparalympics** at **Evesham Asparafest** on June 4th & 5th for some crazy madcap capers and shenanigans!

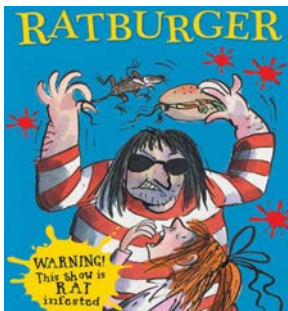
www.clikklikcollective.com



Ratburger comes to Bewdley!

After the phenomenal success of their adaptation of **Mr Stink**, **Heartbreak Productions** are back with the theatrical premiere of *Ratburger* by **David Walliams**, adapted for the outdoor stage.

Voted the top children's book of the year in 2012, we follow Zoe as she battles through a life littered with pitfalls and grizzly individuals. Never giving up on her dream of travelling the world, and inspired by her love of animals, Zoe is determined to save her pet rat and escape her home in a leaning tower block.



Join **Heartbreak Productions** as they perform a modern thriller that promises to deliver a blend of dark reality and empowering comedy for the modern child.

Recommended for 7+ (parents/guardians may bring younger children at their own discretion)

Bewdley Museum. Sun 5th June 4pm. £8 or £30 a family ticket

Bookings: wyreforestdc.gov.uk/bookings or call 08456077819

Confab returns!

Ash Dickinson, a multiple poetry slam champion (including Edinburgh, Cheltenham and BBC Radio) has just released a new book 'Strange Keys' and will be performing some poems from this brand new collection at this month's fab **Confab Cabaret**, this time up at **The West Malvern Social Club**.

Ash is being supported by the Fab Malvern Performer **Elliot Seabright** + we'll have all the usual ConFab loveliness including **The Silliest Raffle**, **Fox Pops** and her wonderful **Audience Poem** and of course our hostess **Amy Rainbow!** There's the Open Mic too, sign up on the door for a slot.

Entry is by Donation. Tuesday 24th May at 8pm.



6 SLAP MAY

Visual Audio



Music and visuals came together on 8th April for **Surprise Attacks** no#42, (see review page 33) with homegrown musical genius **Ben Powers'** project **Blanck Mass** along with the super creative stimulations of both **Ferric Lux** and **Rosebud**. We were submerged into dark soundscapes to revive our aural and visual senses, with music and imagery tumbling together as one, giving us a rare (but hopefully not singular) night of cutting edge arts in Worcester.

Take Three at Eastside

Take Three by **Performance as Publishing** features newly commissioned performances by **Ruth Beale**, **Marie Toseland & Sophie Mallet** and **Nicole Bachmann** alongside screenings of artists' films from the **LUX Archive** and is broadcast by **This is Tomorrow**. Hosted



by **Eastside Projects** in Digbeth, it is a continuation of Performance as Publishing's ongoing investigation into text, writing and language in contemporary art, specifically in performance.

Doors open at 6.30 and will close at 7pm.

Supported by the **Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia** and **Arts Council England**.

www.eastsideprojects.org www.thisistomorrow.info
www.performanceaspublishing.com

Body Double?

A one off discounted body-casting session is being held at the **Boars Head**, Kidderminster, giving a fantastic opportunity for budding and established actors to get their faces cast in preparation for future SFX work, couples to get their hands cast and for parents to get their children's hands and/ or feet cast as a cherished memento. We will also be offering to take casts of your pet's paws too!!!

Places are allocated at 45-minute intervals and a deposit of £10 is required to secure your booking as we expect this to be a very popular event.

To book a place please call 07515 442434, if we cannot answer please leave a message and we will return your call as soon as possible. Deposits can be taken at the Boars Head.

Never Judge a Book

Launching at the 2016 Hay Festival, Meadow Arts present an exhibition investigating the book as an object by a diverse range of renowned artists, who enquire into its function, its form and its symbolic value.



Never Judge a Book features work from artists including **Anselm Kiefer, Fiona Banner, Harland Miller, Michael Craig-Martin** and **Jonathan Callan**, in the iconic **Richard Booth's Bookshop**, the secondhand bookshop that launched the now world-famous Hay Festival.

Many influential artists have used books as objects in their work, in a spirit of inquiry or critique. They appropriate, reinvent and test the graphic capacities of the object, to encourage the viewer to reassess notions of general knowledge, prevailing truth or even individual escape.

Richard Booth's Bookshop, Hay-on-Wye. 27 May – 17 July 2016
www.meadowarts.org

To submit your arts news & events email Kate at
arts@slapmag.co.uk



NEVER JUDGE A BOOK...

Artists explore the book as object in an exciting exhibition in the heart of Hay

27 May to 17 July 2016 Free entry

Richard Booth's Bookshop, Hay-on-Wye, HR3 5AA

For special live events visit www.meadowarts.org



Richard Booth's Bookshop

meadow arts

Michael Craig-Martin *Untitled (book)*, 2014
Courtesy the artist and Gagosian Gallery. Photo: Mike Bruce

Dancefest workshops this month

Guest workshop with Csaba Molnár



A workshop for experienced dancers with **Csaba Molnár**, whose company is in Britain to perform as part of **IDFB (International Dance Festival Birmingham)**. **Csaba** is currently working for the Hungarian dance company, **Hodworks**, and teaches at the Budapest Contemporary Dance Academy.

Sunday 8 May Dancefest, The Angel Centre, Angel Place, Worcester, WR1 3QN. 11am-1pm £15 (concessions £10)



Big Dance Pledge Friday 20 May

Big Dance is a national biennial festival devoted to people dancing. **Dancefest** is the West Midlands Hub organisation for Big Dance, working with colleagues from across the region and nationally. Renowned choreographer **Akram Khan** has created the choreography for 2016. Sign up and find free dance resources at bigdance.org.uk

Dance film project (16+)

Dancefest is working in partnership with the **National Trust** at **Croome** to produce **Vista**, a community dance performance on Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 July that brings to life the landscape created by '**Capability**' **Brown**. This intensive three-day project for creative, experienced dancers to choreograph material around the follies and eye catching buildings in the parkland, will be filmed and shown as part of **Vista**. It's free to take part but booking is essential.



Monday 30 May - Wednesday 1 June, 10am-4pm, Croome, Worcestershire, WR8 9DW

To book on to any of Dancefest's projects or classes visit dancefest.co.uk, or ring 01905 611199

Ashmolean Museum Broadway

British Born **Edward Lear** (1812–1888) was "probably the best ornithological illustrator that ever was," according to David Attenborough and until 8th May you can catch his popular **"Travels and Nonsense"** exhibition the **Ashmolean Museum**. This exhibition displays many watercolours and sketches from his travels around Europe as well as scribbles for his illustrated books as featured in the March edition of SLAP.

Visitors from far-flung corners of the world have converged on the museum so what is all the fuss about?



The landscape paintings are beautifully detailed, tiny portraits of animals and people going about their everyday business. The sketches look like a snapshot of real life from various European countries. Goat herders watch as their goats take a rest or a well-earned munch on the grass, children playing by a well, hunters gather on a hilltop, guns by their sides, to admire the view.

Perhaps my favourite of all the sketches is one from India, and it is full of life. Men bathe in the foreground, while behind them you see buffalo pulling wagons and people riding elephants. In many of the sketches Lear has left himself notes, to remind himself of the colours he sees, or what he will add to the painting back in his studio.

The exhibition includes a few finished paintings, almost postcard sized, and looking resplendent, but somehow the sketches feel more alive, more genuine, and more what the artist really saw than what he wanted to represent to a paying customer.

The exhibition is on until 8th May, with a talk by the curator **Colin Harrison**, Senior Curator of European Art, on **Friday 6th May** at 5pm. Tickets are £10. For details telephone 01386 859047 or email housemanager@ashmoleanbroadway.org.

8 SLAP MAY



Also this month you can see an exhibition of etchings by **F.L. Griggs** (1876–1938)

Visions of England celebrate the work of this Royal Academy artist who lived and worked locally in Chipping Campden.

It is as a draughtsman and printmaker that Griggs is best known, his work demonstrating an equal mastery of meticulous architectural detail and poetic effects of light and atmosphere, creating images of compelling visionary intensity.



In early twentieth century he completed twelve volumes of the Macmillan illustrated guidebook series **Highways and Byways** including one devoted to Oxford and the Cotswolds (1905). Places that he originally encountered as an illustrator often subsequently provided him with inspiration for his own topographical and imaginative work.

11 May–11 September 2016 with a talk on June 17th by the exhibition curator, tickets £10 ashmoleanbroadway.org

Sarah Ganderton

6

artists
are
at

Ladbury
Weaver's Gallery
Church Lane
HR8 1DW

Monday 30th May
Sunday 12th June 2016
10am - 5pm Daily

Megan Arnold Fleen Doran Ben Homer
Elaine Mason Kathleen Murphy Fiona Pringle








Rembrandt and Modern Masters



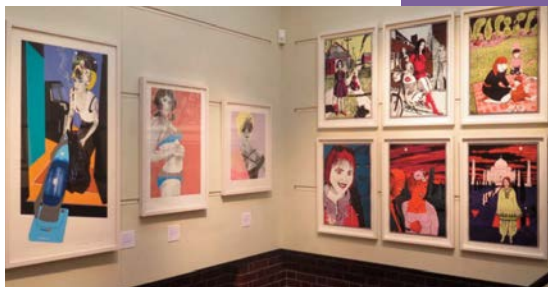
Over 50 of Rembrandt's etchings are being exhibited in **Rembrandt and Modern Masters** at the **John Davies Gallery** in Gloucestershire. It is the first time the etchings have been shared with the public in over a decade.

The exhibition in support of award - winning charity **Create**, which enables disadvantaged or vulnerable people to participate in the creative arts.

The collection of etchings focuses on 'Rembrandt's people', portraits, self-portraits and figure studies that explore the human condition. The collection has been selected to support Create's programmes due to the charity's approach of using the creative arts to promote acceptance, inclusion and empowerment of disadvantaged people. Many of its programmes use portraiture in its different forms as a way of enabling participants to explore their identities and express themselves.



Rembrandt's etchings are being displayed alongside a selection of original prints by modern artists including **Auerbach, Bacon, Freud, Hockney, Moore, Picasso** and **Pissarro**. These are currently on sale, with a percentage of the proceeds supporting Create's creative arts programmes.



Create enables disadvantaged and vulnerable people across the UK to access inspiring creative arts workshops led by professional artists that enable them to develop confidence, self-esteem, social skills and new friendships. Since the charity was founded in 2003, Create's programmes have benefited over 30,000 people.

Co-Founder and Chief Executive of Create, **Nicky Goulder**, commented, "*Rembrandt is arguably one of the greatest painters and printmakers in European art history despite experiencing hardships including the ill-health and premature deaths of his children, before himself dying in poverty. It feels very fitting that these etchings are being exhibited to raise support for Create's programmes. We understand how beneficial taking part in the arts can be to disadvantaged people and how much they have to contribute. Cuts to arts funding are making it increasingly difficult for them to access the arts, and we are deeply committed to ensuring that they can benefit from the health and social benefits that taking part provide.*"

Curator of the exhibition **Hans-Juergen Moesch** commented, "**The emphasis on the figurative side of Rembrandt's art enables us to be touched by the artist's brilliant ability to penetrate to the soul of an individual human being.**"

John Davies Gallery, Morton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire.
Until 7th May, Monday-Saturday 10.00-17.00.
createarts.co.uk johndaviesgallery.com

Worcester Canal Group

Since its formation two years ago the Worcester Canal group has been active. You may remember the three day music festival held in **Lansdowne Park** in June of last year.



Anyone walking the canal between the Commandery and the old St. Georges Lane football ground will have noticed the appearance of several large murals along the way. Usually they are to be found under the bridges. These too are the work of the **Canal Group**. With a general theme of celebrating the role of the canal in Worcester's heritage the group began by decorating the plywood hoardings surrounding the building site next to the Cavalier pub. This was followed up with a **Worcester City Football Club** mural showing the team defeating Liverpool in the FA cup, (which really happened!). So far this mural is the only reminder that the team ever played here. Closer to the city centre where the canal was vital to Worcester's industries is a large work showing landmark factories like Lee and Perrins and Berrows Worcester Journal.

The latest creation of the group is **Myrtle**, fashioned by group member **Peter Moorhouse** Myrtle began life as a recycled wire frame. Now, like her better known sister **Sabrina** the spirit of the Severn, she is a mystical water goddess standing on the far bank of the canal opposite Lansdowne Park, saluting passers by. Go and see for yourself.



These art works are a real product of the community that uses the canal; junior school pupils from **St Barnabus** worked on them, so did the members of the **St Pauls Hostel Creative Group**, **Sian Davis** a young local artist as well as two geriatric graffiti artists!

More works are in the pipeline. You are welcome to join in. In the meantime you can find out more, see photographs and read an accompanying poem or two by looking out for the **Worcester Canal Group Art Project** brochure soon to be available at various locations in the city. Or you can visit the website www.worcestercanalgroup.org.uk





worcester arts workshop

May 2016 equals music month at **Worcester Arts Workshop!** After the success of *Granny's Attic* and *Lazy Sunday* in April, WAW is continuing to welcome musicians from far and wide.

We kick off the month on **8th May** with the second **Lazy Sunday** of 2016. Join us for a session of live music in the yard at **Café Bliss**. Not one to disappoint we're pleased to announce another fantastic line-up including: **12 - 1.30pm Open Mic Sessions** (Contact Café Bliss to book your slot). **2pm Sophronie**, **3pm Katey Brooks**, **4pm Boys In The Wood**. Along with the entertainment we'll be showing our gratitude to the backers from our 1st phase of **Crowd Funding** and launching into our 2nd phase to enable **Café Bliss** to continue their charitable work within the community.

On the **13 May** we have got a real treat in store as **The Night Watch** are bringing us **From Bard to Verse**. This early music duo present a very special celebration of the music in William Shakespeare's plays, to mark 400 years since his death. Shakespeare's plays were full of musical references, and actual songs, where the script plainly says the actor should sing. The original music is rarely heard, so **Ian Pittaway** and **Andy Casserley** have researched and recovered this music to bring these unheard pieces to life through song and classic Tudor instruments.



As soon as the crumhorn and tabors are packed and on the road we are teaming up with **Shindig** to welcome the nationally renowned **Opera Dudes with Licenced to Trill** on the **14 May**. *Il Divo* meets Morecambe and Wise! A little bit classical, a little bit rock n' roll, this unique double act's 'operatic cabaret' blends opera, swing, show songs and good clean 'Carry On' fun: outrageously brilliant, a little bit silly and a whole lot entertaining.



No ordinary operatic duo, the powerful tenors **Tim Lole** and **Neil Allen** rip up the rule book with a bravura act encompassing classical Verdi, Elvis Presley, Lloyd Webber, Chopin... and Frank Spencer. Described as nothing but 'Perfect' in *The Times*, book fast because we have a sneaky feeling this will definitely sell out.



There is always a chance to get involved at **WAW**, and this month as well as regular courses in fused glass, portrait drawing, watercolour, life drawing, salsa and pilates, to name just a few, we are offering the chance to come and take part in one off workshops. On **21 May** there is a full mask workshop for all the family, led by **Vamos Theatre**, the UK's leading full mask theatre company. It promises to be a fun, immersive and practical day where you will laugh A LOT. On the **22 May** join **Ziba Bayley** and **Raw Happy** for an inspirational yoga workshop followed by a heart opening gourmet three course plant based lunch.

It won't be long until May half term is upon us and we have partnered with **Caged Arts** to bring a week of activities for 13-21 year olds. Workshops include: smart phone photography, beat boxing, clowning and spoken word. They sound so good, we wish we were young again!

Splendid Cinema is launching their summer season this month with two cracking films. On the **8 May** we will be screening Justin Kurzel's 2015 **Macbeth** (cert. 15). Michael Fassbender & Marion Cotillard star in this version of the Shakespearean classic which *The Guardian* called 'stylish and inspired'. **Phoenix** (Cert.12), in which disfigured concentration-camp survivor (Nina Hoss), unrecognizable after facial reconstruction surgery, searches ravaged postwar Berlin for the husband (Ronald Zehrfeld) who might have betrayed her to the Nazis. This will be screened On the **22 May**.



If all of that makes you feel slightly exhausted and like you want to put your feet up, then why not pop in to **Café Bliss** for a coffee and soak up this month's exhibition from **ASPIE**, a social self-help and motivation group for adults with Asperger's Syndrome.

Aspies are wired differently, think differently and see the world differently and whilst they live with the challenges of Asperger's it also means their amazing minds are open to unique forms of creativity and often their keen senses allow them to see, hear and feel subtle changes which non aspies do not, resulting in phenomenal powers of observation.

This exhibition demonstrates their creativity and communicates to the audience the importance of celebrating and embracing difference. None of the members have exhibited their art before so don't miss this opportunity to visit Café Bliss at Worcester Arts Workshop and view the gallery space.

For more information or booking all events and workshops please visit www.worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk or call the WAW team between 11am -2pm Tuesday - Friday on 01905 25053.

LAZY SUNDAY
8TH MAY 16
12-6PM



BOYS IN THE WOOD  **KATEY BROOKS**

SOPHRONIE

OPEN MIC 12-1.30PM  **21 SANSOME ST WR1 1UH**

07821 733246

FOOD, DRINKS AND THE BEST MUSIC



OUT TO GRASS PRESENTS
May Bank Holiday Shenanigans 2016

PADDY STEER
MISS PEARL & THE ROUGH DIAMONDS
SKEWWHIFF GLOWPEOPLE
27TH - 30TH MAY

A Regular Camping Weekend with Top Entertainment!
 Workshops, Aerial Silks, Aerial Hoop & Clik Clik Collective
 Camp Stew and Ghostly Tales Bar & Café on site

Adults/16 year+-: £8 per day, 5-16 years: £5 per day, 5 and Under: Free-Entry
 Dogs £2.00 per day Extra charge for workshops



Just fill in booking form at www.outtograss.com

Lazy Sunday - Arcadia Roots Mahalia, Ian Luther + others Café Bliss, Worcester | Sunday 10th April

A persistent cool wind blew across the courtyard of **Café Bliss**, chilling the air, but not enough to deter the numbers filling the tables. The growing crowd were firstly entertained by an Open Mic session, which included notable turns by local singer/songwriter **Eva** from the band **Blue Dive**, followed by a couple of local legends names of **Paul Jeffery** and **Craigus Barry**. If you are lucky enough to know these two rapsclallions then you'll understand that the assembled throng were duly amazed, astounded and entertained as this formidable duo amply displayed their distinctive vocal and guitar talents.

First on the bill proper came wandering minstrel **Ian Luther** who seduced the gathered with his soulful blues'n'country stylings, as he utilised kick drum, percussion and guitar looping to be a true one-man-band. More classy singer-songwriting up next in the form of Leicester based **Mahalia**, who bewitched the Bliss bunch with her haunting and heartfelt material.

A short break then came the headliners - **Arcadia Roots** had landed in Woo-Town after drifting downstream from Bewdley, to warm us up even further. 'Where You Gonna Run To' streams out with its blend of bluesy reggae funk as **Dave Small** fronts up with his cajone and djembe, leading the vocal with **Maddi Abbotts** echoing the call, plus the guitar trio of **Danny Gauden**, **Tom Callinswood** and **Josh Terry**. The rhythms soon have people moving with feet a-tapping-and-bodies-a-swaying as **The Roots** leaning a little more into the blues with the superb 'Talking About



No Preacher' and then fracking hell, they've 'Got To Dig A Little Deeper' - just one more time!

Few would understand the African call 'Ye'le' with the djembe pulling its inspiration from Ghanaian roots, Dave's hands rapidly driving the pace, then time for Maddi's warming voice to lead the way as she goes 'Searching'. After more superior originals plus a classy cover or two, not to mention feasting on some wonderful home-cooked soul food from the Café Bliss crew, we head to the inevitable and unfortunate close with an excellent amalgam of two songs, rolled into a sensational sandwich of sound: 'Soul Of A Man' sliced through and filled by 'The Devil In Me'. It is a superlative closure to this hazy, **Lazy Sunday** in the **Arts Workshop** courtyard and the latest in a long line of what are always much and rightly anticipated Café Bliss events.

Graham Munn



**WEEKEND
CUBE**

May brings music, food, film and comedy to **Malvern Cube** so we hope you're ready!

Kicking off the month on **Friday 6th May** at 7.30pm we have the award winning **MUD** at **White Wall Film Club**, starring **Matthew McConaughey, Tye**

Sheridan, Sam Shepard, and Reese Witherspoon. Two young boys encounter a fugitive and form a pact to help him evade the vigilantes that are on his trail and to reunite him with his true love. IMDB 7.4/10, Rotten Tomatoes 98%.



Sally-Anne, 'Exceptionally funny' *The Independent*, is charming and popular, with a winning brand of autobiographical humour. She'll take you on a journey through her slightly eccentric world, including insights into the female psyche and her compulsion to send off spoof job applications.

Bob Wildlife is a failed and slightly tragic wildlife park owner who'll bring along some of his furry friends for you to meet. Be aware...



White Wall Film Club is an open entry club, all you need to do is turn up on the night. Tickets are £5 in advance or £7 on the door. The bar will be open from 7pm for refreshments, so there's even more excuse for a pre/post film discussion!

For those of you who prefer something a little more traditional musically we have **Lady Maisery** on **Friday 27th May** at 7.30pm. Forged from the voices of **Hannah James, Hazel Askew** and **Rowan Rheingans**, **Lady Maisery** are a harmony trio causing a stir on the English folk scene with their innovative approach to



George Rigden is a Bristol-based musical comic who, despite having only been gigging since 2013, has already racked up in excess of 200 gigs, enjoyed success in a clutch of competitions and is now booked regularly for paid opening/middle sets and MC work for a wide range of respected promoters and independent nights. In the last year alone, he's gigged with the likes of Russell Howard, Stephen Merchant, Jason Manford, Nick Helm & Joe Wilkinson, and is the resident M.C. for legendary Bristol night, **OPPO**.

'Slightly menacing but also funny...Rigden probably has a future writing topical songs for Radio 4' - Bruce Dessau

Patrick Monahan, winner of ITV's Show Me The Funny, this half-



Irishman, half-Middlesbrough comic is a rising star on the comedy circuit. Full of an insatiable lust for life, his **e x u b e r a n t** comedy greets the audience.

To round off our Spring season of the **Cube Comedy Club** on **Friday 13th May** at 8pm we bring you a bumper evening of outstanding comedy fun! Featuring **Sally-Anne Hayward, George Rigden, Bob Wildlife, Tim Goodings** and one of our all-time favourite comperes **Patrick Monahan!** Phew!



For more information visit: www.malverncube.com

Albert Road North, Malvern, Wr14 2yf

May Music Highlights

The Room Upstairs @ Palace Theatre, Redditch

Folk-pop maestro Gerry Colvin must be one of the most endearing and energetic musicians on the planet, just as much at home playing small clubs as he is supporting Status Quo on their Aquostic Live Tour. This multi-talented singer-songwriter performs all his own material, combining catchy melodies with thoughtful lyrics on love, society, angst and Johnny Cash! His be-suited on stage performance combines Frank Sinatra, Lee Evans, and the afore mentioned Man in Black. Genius? Madcap? Maverick? Yes, all of these things...and a lot, lot more.



A stellar musical CV includes co-writing with Alison Moyet, being a John Peel favourite with his 80's band Terry and Gerry (recently reformed), winning best band (with his band Colvinquarmby) at Fairport's Cropredy Festival as well as the Hancock Award for best live folk act. A Glastonbury stalwart, he has played several times and also acted as compere on more than one occasion. As locals may know, he is also the brainchild behind the Knitted Character Folk Festival, held at The Blue Boar Inn in Temple Grafton in June.

Gerry will be previewing songs from his soon to be released eighth album 'Six of One, Half a Dozen of the Other' in addition to old favourites, so come and enjoy a great night's entertainment from this extraordinary performer. Once seen, never forgotten. Fun guaranteed so make sure you catch the legend that is **Gerry Colvin** at *The Room Upstairs* on **Saturday May 7th**.

Arriving at Redditch on **Saturday 28th May** is renowned jazz vocalist **Annette Gregory** jazz who together with her band will celebrate the music of Ella Fitzgerald. Annette begins her performance by reflecting on Ell's earlier career in 1930s, then moving on through the decades of 1950s-1960s and the various song book albums that brought Ella Fitzgerald the right to be called the 'The First Lady Of Song'.



Ella's was a classic rag-to-riches story and her journey to becoming one of the most important and influential jazz vocalists of all time is a fascinating one, which is told in magical musical terms by **Annette Gregory**: a very special show in prospect. As one of the greatest icons of jazz, vocalist Ella Fitzgerald had a unique sound that embodies the sound of Jazz music.

All tickets for these events and many more are available either in person at the Palace Theatre box office, by phone on 01527 65203 or online at www.redditchpalacetheatre.co.uk

Hoopy Frood

The Cube, Malvern | Saturday 7th May

Hoopy Frood are a Psychedelic groove rock band hailing from deepest 'down south', who have honed their eclectic and sound by playing together for over ten years with the same core members. They have released two albums to date, "Psychonaut" in 2004 plus "Indigo" in 2009 and are currently working on new material for a third album.



The band have drawn influences from Pink Floyd and Led Zeppelin to Shpongle and Ott (the latter produced the Indigo album), along with a wide range of other styles and genres. Hoopy Frood have supported Ozric Tentacles in addition to playing sets at many festivals including Boomtown & Chilled in A Field. This original 5 piece outfit have sold albums in 14 countries and to much acclaim. They describe their sound as "a stir-fry of musical styles that is tricky to nail down to a specific genre"; perhaps they have even created their own?! Why not head down to **The Cube** on **7th May** and find out for yourself.

Floating Lotus Presents

Hoopy Frood

A PSYCHEDELIC GROOVE ROCK BAND WITH INFLUENCES FROM PINK FLOYD & LED ZEPPELIN TO SHPONGLE & OTT.
A STIR-FRY OF MUSICAL STYLES, GENRES & ECLECTIC VISION

In Support

Slippery Slope

FROM CLASSIC FRENCH ACCORDION TO STOMPING KLEZMER,
WITH OCCASIONAL DIPS INTO SKA AND IRISH FOLK

Saturday 7th May

8pm - Midnight

@ Malvern Cube
Albert Road North, Great Malvern, WR14 2YF

Adv tickets £8.50 from www.malverncube.com
£10 cash on the door

[/TheMalvernCube](https://www.facebook.com/TheMalvernCube) [@malverncube](https://twitter.com/malverncube)



Info 07803-000988

A bright, energetic yet chilled and happy experience is guaranteed when Hoopy Frood take to the stage.

Severn Sounds Festival Pavilion In The Park, Worcester | 3rd - 5th June

Back for 2016, bigger and better than ever, that's what the organisers say about this year's **Severn Sounds festival**. The 3 day event, based at **Pavilion in the Park**, Worcester, are dedicated to bringing you a vast variety of local acts and beyond, showcasing the talent in our region and all for a good cause.

SSF are proud to announce headliners such as premier tribute act **The Bohemains** (Queen) plus local legends **Jasper In The Company Of Others**, **Of Kings and Captains** and **The Magoos** amongst many others.

This year the festival is supporting **New Hope**, a Worcester charity offering specialist provision working with families who have children with disabilities and complex health care needs.

This is most certainly a family weekend so expect everything from face painting, bouncy castles, henna tattoos and the like, plus

a second 'Busk Stop Stage' for anyone who fancies playing a couple of numbers.

The Severn Sounds Festival team will also be working closely with **Christopher Whitehead Language College** to stage a Battle of the Bands competition, with the winning acts performing at the festival, so once again be sure to head to the website if you want to take part or know anyone who should!

See also social media for updates on this exciting event:
www.facebook.com/severnsoundsfestival
www.twitter.com/severnsoundsfestival



Photography
Simon Sinclair

Fred Fest

River Rooms, Stourbridge Monday 30th May

Worcestershire promoter **Fred Mallinson** is dedicated and passionate about helping local musicians/acts further their careers by forging links with more established and signed bands. He has put on some first class major gigs int the area such as **The Hoosiers**, **Eliza Doolittle**, **The Struts** and **God Damn** and thus given the opportunity of exciting support slots to young, up-and-coming acts at all of these events.



Fred is also very keen to include all ages both as performers and audience members and to this end all of Fred's promotions finish at 10pm with all welcome whether young or old

To further his noble aims Mr M has now organised the inaugural **Fred Fest** at Stourbridge's River Rooms on the last Bank Hol Monday in May with special guests and headliners being Dutch symphonic rockers **Lesoir**.

After 6 UK Tours and many overseas headlining dates **Lesoir** come to Fred Fest with a big reputation to match their sound. With 3 albums under their belt, the last being 2014's '*Luctor et Emergo*' which re-untitled them with producer John Cornfield (Muse, Oasis, Supergrass, Stone Roses, Katatonia and New Model Army), **lesoir** can draw from a wealth of material to doubtless wow the Stourbridge faithful.

There will be 2 stages at Fred Fest and true to his word local act **The Sum Of** will be appearing amongst many more, so keep your beady eye on social media for much more info.

Fred is also very keen to include all ages both as performers and audience members and to this end all of Fred's promotions finish at 10pm with all welcome whether young or old.



FRED M PROMOTIONS presents

FRED FEST 2016

Don't have a boring Bank Holiday Monday. Come and join us for Fred Fest
Two stages with loads of great local bands, drinks, food and FUN!!!

LESOIR + **THE SUM OF**

Monday 30th May
The River Rooms, Stourbridge
<http://www.theriverrooms.com>
£4.00 on the door, £3.00 when booked in advance
Bands start at 3pm / Curfew 10.00 pm
ALL AGES are welcome to this Gig

Laney **MAS RECORDS**

The Zen Hussies/C@intheH@ Collective 43/The Discount Orchestra The Boars Head, Kidderminster | Friday 13th May

A slick night is in order this month, with 1930's style swing, blues and beats for your pleasure, courtesy of the fabulous Bristolian 6 piece **The Zen Hussies**, whose energetic and ultra-stylish sounds have been mining the old-time swing scene since 2001. Their new album *'The Charm Account'* is a gorgeous slip into a brassed-up, bluesy swing concoction to more than whet your whistle!



Supporting them will be Birmingham's **C@intheH@** on the decks bringing a fusion of early twentieth century swing, jazz, and chunky beats; Worcester's own **Collective 43**, a multi-instrumental congregation steeped heavy with New Orleans street style and twists of blues and jazz; and from London, **The Discount Orchestra** providing a high-octane, seven-piece blend of eclectic dance-floor stomp, guaranteed to get you bouncing.

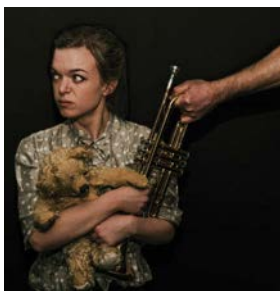
The night is in aid of the charity **F.W.R.D** www.fwrdtogether.com (**Festival Waste Reclamation and Distribution**), with all funds raised helping them continue their work reducing waste at U.K festivals, sending much needed aid to refugees and helping the homeless. Tickets are £7, £8 on door (if still available)

zenhussies.com soundcloud.com/c-in-the-h
collective43.co.uk thediscountorchestra.com

The Courtyard Hereford May Highlights

We have plucked three shows to highlight from an ever-packed and panoramic events calendar from Hereford's premier arts venue, starting with an evergreen play which still packs a punch some 60 years after its writing, namely **Look Back In Anger**.

It's fair to say that back in '56 when first performed *Anger* turned the theatre on its head with its explosive *Angry Young Man*, no holds barred perspective. A ground-breaking work then and one that deserves re-visiting in this excellent venue on Saturday 7th May.



Turning to local talent on Friday 20th May **The Courtyard** plays host to Herefordshire singer-songwriter and fingerstyle guitarist **David Ian Roberts**. Influenced by the esteemed likes of Nick Drake and John Martyn, David's live performance is chance to witness his mesmerising guitar technique and unique singing voice. A singular talent well worthy of your attention and for tickets plus further information to this and all other Courtyard events please visit www.courtyard.org.uk.



You may as well stay over in Hereford that night unless you live there of course, as on Sunday 9th the marvellous musical dynasty that is **The Fureys**. An overused word but certainly not in this case, The Fureys are true legends of Irish music and rightly famous for their hit songs such as *'I Will Love You'*, *'The Green Fields Of France'*, *'From Clare To Here'* and many more of course.

**Advertise in this space for
as little as £30 per month**

SLAP
MAGAZINE

SLAP Supporting Local Arts & Performers

adverts@slapmag.co.uk

Institutes | Golden Egg/Not Alone

Institutes are a local four-piece alternative rock band who have been busy around the county and beyond in support of their debut single, *Golden Egg/Not Alone*. The dual track affair has already seen the likes of Ryan's Gig Guide and BBC Hereford & Worcester's Introducing get behind the band and a recent trio of **Record Store Day** gigs will have no doubt converted more to their cause.

'*Golden Egg*' opens proceedings with a wave of guitars before frontman **Gareth Griffiths** unleashes his towering lead vocal which ranges from near falsetto one minute to a Cornell/Plant like holler the next. The band meanwhile, move effortlessly through the gears, beginning with a tight infectious indie melody before a wall of muscular guitar and drums make their presence felt twisting the track into a slab of molten alternative rock whilst managing to retain said melody.



Whilst '*Golden Egg*' is hard hitting, '*Not Alone*' in contrast sees Institutes on a more reflective trip as shimmering guitars and swirling keyboards back Griffiths' emotive lead vocal. The middle section then adds a near psychedelic flavour to the proceedings as the band stretch out proving there's a great deal more to come from Institutes in the future.

The production (by **Institutes** and **Chris Porter**) is fantastic; the drums snap, the guitars sting and those vocals soar in all the right places on *Golden Egg*, whilst the glistening *Not Alone* shimmies beautifully.

Just on the evidence of the two tracks here plus the momentum the band are beginning to create, I'd say that Institutes are an outfit to

seriously keep an eye on and certainly one of the most interesting bands to have trod the local boards in recent times.

www.facebook.com/institutesuk

Will Munn

Ian Luther | The Lonely Road

Ian seems to have become a regular visitor in these parts, the very stuff of a wandering minstrel, so his album '*The Lonely Road*' probably says much about his lifestyle.



The opening title track is a beautifully produced, melodramatic song that opens like a flower into a fully orchestrated piece of soft rock, which could easily be lifted from a stage show. The pace picks up with '*Gypsy*', which is a galloping acoustic song with touches of Gallic charm and guitar playing reminiscent of Django and this is followed by the inward-looking, soulful confessional of '*I am The Lonesome Busker*'. I can picture Ian, kick drum underfoot, guitar in hand and harp slung ready around his neck: the archetypal one man band. This is arguably the album's stand out song which epitomises his solo performances and is an excellent signature on his CV.

A fine fiddle introduces '*Love Is Blind*', another satisfying song which is Celtic influenced folk rock that swings along nicely. There is a distinct theme to the whole album - that of a solitary figure - and it doesn't get more solitary than '*Keeper Of The Lighthouse*'; well crafted indeed, but perhaps skip this one if your feeling low?!

Back then to rock opera mode for '*Wild Swan*', a far more complex structure of rhythms, including Hispanic guitar with the images of a flamenco dancer being conjured up. A clearly prophetic, pop-rock of '*Too Many People*' is next and the message is a pertinent one; an overcrowded world with ever increasing demands and resources squandered on self aggrandisement.

The closing track brings electric opening chords, tuned to a more exotic rhythm as it leads you into the bazaar with a dance of the seven veils, which is torn away to find the wily '*Snake Charmer*'. It brings to mind the wonderful eclectic music of **Three Daft Monkeys**, praise indeed from this quarter! It is a cracking, hypnotic track and stands alongside '*...Lonesome Busker*' and '*Love Is Blind*' as my album faves. Overall the variety of sound and rhythms are linked by that solitary path that wanders through the album which accurately reflects Ian's live performances. To date I've only seen his 'one man band' show but that may be rectified in the near future as he will be going electric for a visit to Ledbury's **Prince Of Wales** in May - I will be there and heartily suggest that you join me.

Graham Munn

THE BERKELEY ARMS HOME OF LIVE MUSIC IN TEWKESBURY

Great bands every Saturday
Resident band - The Future Set - last Friday

Tythe Barn available for Band Practice
Scaallywags comedy with Jon Wagstaffe
Third Thursday of the month

Real Ales, Real Food in a Real Pub

Church St. Tewks 01684 290555
berkeleyarms01@hotmail.com



26-32 FRIAR STREET, WORCESTER, WR1 2LZ

ECLECTIC, ALTERNATIVE BAR
 POOL TABLE, TABLE FOOTBALL, VINTAGE ARCADE GAMES
 LIVE DJS EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT
 SELECTED DRINKS OFFERS
 FREE WIFI

f / HEROESWORCESTER t / @ HEROESWORCESTER



COMING SOON TO THE FLEECE INN, BRETTFORTON

Join us for a fantastic selection of bands and events in our medieval barn

Fleecey Folk: Gilmore & Roberts. Sun 22 May, 8pm, £10

Up for Best Duo at the 2016 BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards, Gilmore & Roberts cover a broader and more contemporary genre-spectrum than might be expected from a duo wielding guitar, fiddle and mandolin.

Annual Brettforton Silver Band Asparagus Auction. Sun 29 May, Free Entry.

Belle D'Vein dancing from 6pm. From 6.30pm the famous Brettforton Silver Band Asparagus Auction begins. Hundreds gather in the courtyard of the pub to bid for the seasons largest, freshest and greenest Asparagus.

Asparagus Family Fun Day. Mon 30 May. Free Entry.

The aspara-madness continues with our Family Fun Day. Enjoy live music, meet Gus and the Barn Owls and have a go on the bouncy castle.

Asparafest Music & Food Festival. Fri 3 Jun - Sun 5 Jun, Ashdown Farm, Nr Evesham

Dodgy / Blackbeard's Tea Party / Roving Crows / London Veg Orchestra / DH Lawrence & The Vaudeville Skiffle Show / Barney Newman / London Philharmonic Skiffle Orchestra / Poor Boys of Worcester / Fred's House and more! www.asparafest.co.uk

The Cross, Brettforton, Nr. Evesham, Worcestershire WR11 7JE Tel: 01386 831173 Email: info@thefleeceinn.co.uk

To Book: www.thefleeceinn.co.uk

The Quintessential English Pub

Real Ales and Ciders • Good Food • Apple Orchard • Morris Dancing • Music Sessions • Concerts

Mods v Rockers

The Quik Beats & The Delray Rockets

Artrix, Bromsgrove | Friday 8th April

The zoots may be a bit tight in places these days, but tucked inside your parka, with the not so voluminous hair and hidden under the pork pie hat, you're safe to check yourself over in the 50 mirrors that sprout from the Vespa like a porcupine. On the other side of the promenade the aged leather creaks, feet are forced into steel soled boots and chains checked as the third arthritic swinging kick is rewarded with the rumble of low thunder, a triumph of engineering as oil slowly pools on the paving.



Time to do battle then and in the left corner, the swaggering two stroking **Quick Beats** - to the right, the quiff haired **Delray Rockets**; a 4 stroke triple, moody and threatening. They've tossed up and it's the double timing Quick Beats away first, as an unmistakable sound of the Hammond underpins everything from Manfred Mann's 'Sha-La-La' to oddly, the 'Boom Boom Boom' of John Lee Hooker; wrong camp surely but I 'Can't Explain', Who or why. The Delrays push back the Quick Beats and it's rockabilly time; raw, edgy and loud as any Rocket 3 that manages to fire up. 'Too Tired To Rock' - not these boys - it's early yet and they're 'Ready Willing And Able' as they strut menacingly around the stage. The tide turns and The Quick Beats are back in: 'What You Gonna Do About It'? Bring out your 'Tin Soldier'? The tide ebbs again and it's a second coming for 'Rockabilly Man' and they roared through, taking the fight to the streets to 'Rock This Town'. Phew time out then to all get a beer, there's plenty of time for more battle later.



The QB's come back out rewing, leaving a blue haze of pop rock with the Hammond in full flow for a stand out 'Green Onions'. It was now 'All Or Nothing' as the 'Train Arrive'd' carrying the Delrays. Johnny Cash is in *Folsom Prison*, but the Who lend a hand, stepping over the line to play 'Pinball', before that big train pulls in. This is a one rail rattling high speed shuffle of a ride; we've all gotten a bit older, hopefully wiser and there's great music everywhere for all tastes. Time to bring the camps together as both bands 'Wipe Out' the score board and 'Johnny B Goode' rides pillion on the Lambretta, escorted alongside by the low rumble of the ever-present Ace clubmen.

An absolutely non-stop, brilliant evening of fun then, played to a sell out and rabidly appreciative audience. This may have been a Brighton Bash, but there's plenty of scope for a few repeats; maybe a Clacton Crunch, Bournemouth Bustle, or a Margate Mayhem. Which side are you on??

Graham Munn

the wine empourium

All you need for homebrewed beer, wine, spirits and cider

Free sameday delivery to many areas
Help, advice and samples always available

Tel. 01527 854198

www.thewineempourium.co.uk
4 High Street, Studley, Warks. B80 7HJ

Follow us on facebook [the wine empourium](#) 

Advertise in this space for as little as £30 per month

SLAP

MAGAZINE

SLAP Supporting Local Arts & Performers

adverts@slapmag.co.uk

May Musicality at Artrix

The Fair Rain (formerly the **Old Dance School**) have come a long way since their early beginnings playing traditional music at ceilidhs. Throughout seven years of touring and three studio albums, the band has absorbed a rich palette of influences and evolved far beyond their roots. '*Behind The Glass*', the first since their name change weaves together shimmering strings, floating fiddle melodies and soaring brass crescendos. You can see them live at Artrix on **Friday 13th May**.

Close-harmony, eclectic, semi-acoustic piano-led wonder **Mumbo-Jumbo** brings together three top Midlands singer songwriters who have played in acoustic clubs and venues across the country. The trio, who will be performing in the **Artrix Studio on Saturday 14th May**, share lead vocal duties and play nine instruments between them. Expect brilliant musicianship and an incredible mix of sounds.



The late 1980s saw the birth of one of the most famous and memorable supergroups of all time, **The Travelling Wilburys**. Featuring five individual icons in their own right, this formidable team, which consisted of Roy

Orbison, Jeff Lynne, Bob Dylan, Tom Petty and George Harrison created an album that sold five million copies worldwide. **The Big O and the The Wilburys Tribute Show** is widely regarded as one of the best tribute acts around, re-creating an incredible and unique sound that rocked the music industry. There are only a handful of tickets left to see them on **Saturday 14th May**.

Some of us who are old enough to remember **Tom Robinson** in his prime used to shock old ladies by singing '*Glad to be Gay*' on the bus on the way to school. The anti-racist and LGBT campaigner was a hugely influential figure in the 70s and he has released no less than 19 albums with various bands. Through his **BBC Radio 6**



show, he has championed new music with a passion and has just relaunched his own career by releasing his first album in 20 years. His songs remain as vibrant and edgy as ever and you can see Tom performing them at Artrix on **Sunday 15th May**.



MUSIC AT ARTRIX



BILLY JOEL SONGBOOK 7 MAY

THE FAIR RAIN 13 MAY

MUMBO-JUMBO 14 MAY

TOM ROBINSON 15 MAY

BLAKE 27 MAY

DREAMING OF KATE 28 MAY

WESTROCK 2 JUNE

MEGSON 4 JUNE

ROXY MAGIC 24 JUNE

KAST OFF KINKS 8 JULY

WINGS OVER

ABBEY ROAD 15 JULY

DESPERADO 22 JULY

PURPLE ZEPPELIN 30 JULY

QUILL 13 AUGUST



01527 577330 www.artrix.co.uk

Artrix, Slideslow Drive, Bromsgrove, B60 1PQ Free Car Parking



@ArtrixArts



Artrix Arts Centre



Circuit Sweet

by Naomi Preece

Another very busy month for us here at **Circuit Sweet** as per! When we picked up the last batch of Slap Mags we were delighted to be at the incredible **Surprise Attacks** show at **The MARRS Bar** in Worcester for **Blanck Mass, Rosebud & Ferric Lux**. The room was filled with many supportive and familiar faces plus our own writer **Gavin Brown**. Visit www.circuitsweet.co.uk where you can find the full in-depth feature on the site now. See also **Siobhan Joan's** review on page 33 in this issue. The evening was better than we could have ever imagined and we've got our eyes on **Rosebud** as the next act to watch out for!



April of course is known for **Record Store Day** but our usual routine of attending **Carnival Records** in Malvern, then onto **Rise** in Worcester followed by heading to **Rise** in Bristol didn't go as we planned. We still wanted to support the special event in some way surrounded by good music, so we spent the morning at **Hi Fi Gear** in Hereford flipping through their available and well stocked records - we urge you to go and check out this hidden little spot, you are guaranteed to find a gem!

This month has been a little different for us as alongside our regularly updated music news, features, the odd interview we've conducted and our features, we've been busy focussing on our management side of the site. We are thrilled to announce that we've taken on another local artist to our management roster. Although at the moment we can't unveil too much, we can say that this local multi-instrumentalist is well known to **Circuit Sweet**.

An intricate nordic soul dripping in sincere creativity. More will be revealed shortly with an interview special on the site but we are so excited to have another act under our wings. If you enjoy organic, visceral simplistic, minimal electronic creations, ones that can easily be found on a dramatic score then you'll enjoy the talent we are working with.

As for next month- get ready to see many festival features soon, we will be getting in touch with local artists performing at various local festivals including **Nozstock**, to find out more about what we can expect from these booming line ups currently being announced. We are also covering the final **CLEFT** show in Birmingham thanks to **Little Cavalier Promotions** alongside support from **&U&I, Doppelganger, Bearfoot Beware, Classically Handsome Brutes** and **Arbor Lights**. We've got a few single streams penciled in too so make sure you come check the site out!



The Lamb & Flag

The Tything, Worcester

Saturday May 28th

Paul Rose & Friends

'Peeping in the Kettles' album launch

Every Monday

The FOLK SESSIONS - 8.30pm

Every 1st & 3rd Sunday

Baa Chords Open Mic - 8.00pm

With an eclectic mix of Musicians, Poets, Artists and Drinkers...

Help
HARRY
Help Others



Worcester
BACKGAMMON CLUB



Stockists of
ecigwiz
electronic cigarettes | e-liquids

aspire
LIFE CHANGING

Surprise Attacks #43

Ash Is A Robot / Merrick's Tusk

Gooche / Navajo Ace

Firefly, Worcester | Thursday 5th May

Saturday night is alright for fighting. Some allege. Weekends are for partying. Most agree. However. Thursdays are for curated bills of eclectic, quality underground music. Featuring some of the country's - and the continent's - very best bands that you don't know about. Yet.

And so. Thursday 5th May sees Portugal's very finest post-hardcore exponents **Ash Is A Robot** bring their truly explosive and intense live show back to the Firefly, Worcester - with support from more high-end guitar music than you can shake a melodic stick at.

Reminiscent of a more tuneful At The Drive In and combining chaos, melody and power, Ash is a Robot are one of the best live bands you will see this year. This is their 4th time in Worcester and they've epically hoofed everyone's ass every time they've played. So wear padded pants. They kick it. Hard.

Support includes Nottingham's **Merrick's Tusk** - a melodic rock band with swirling guitars, soaring vocals and crashing percussion, for fans of early Jimmy Eat World and The Appleseed Cast - and all things melodic and emotionally soaring. Worcester's very own **Gooche** will bring an infectious and heady mix of psychedelic dream-pop come surf rock, with influences including - we are told - love, sex, Taylor Swift... and magic. Kicking things off though will



be **Navajo Ace**, an emerging four piece from Worcester with a long and impressive history in the UK musical underground. Navajo Ace create a potent blend of soul, melody and serious percussive power, with roots deep in the glory days of alt / college rock. In summary: Essential.

Doors 8pm * £4 Entry * First Band On At 8:30pm

Words: Veronica Bloodsausage Photography: Mark Hoy

Floating Lotus Present

3 DAFT MONKEYS

Sat 4th June 8pm
Tickets £8.50 adv £10 on the door
 from www.malverncube.com
The Malvern Cube Albert Road North, Malvern WR14 2YF
 Support: **FolkLaw**
 info 07803-000988

Floating Lotus presents

3 Daft Monkeys + FolkLaw

The Cube, Malvern | Saturday 4th June

If you love your music marvellously mixed-up and magical with an effortlessly genre-crossing range combined with spell-binding musicianship, then look no further as **3 Daft Monkeys** come to Malvern!

Long established with a loyal and large cult following, 3DM bring their patented eccentric blend of quirky folk tales to The Vern, told with whimsical observation within the swirling layers of music.

These days a new-look four piece outfit, they play virtuoso fiddle, guitar, bass, bespoke hand percussion whilst incorporating 3-part harmony vocals into their enchanting melodies and catch choruses.

3 Daft Monkey's wholly original sound takes in many musical genres from (takes breath) Celtic, Klezmer, Gypsy, Balkan, Latin, Ska, Dub Reggae, Indie, Rock and even a hint of Shostakovich. phew-ee!

None other than Mark Radcliffe declared 3DM as one of the Glastonbury highlights and subsequently invited them to do a Radio 2 session and the band have had another R2 appointment with dear Whisperin' Bob. Add to this appearances at Cropredy, Beautiful Days, Trowbridge, Cambridge Folk and many others, you get a good idea of what kinda calibre outfit we're talking about here.

This promises to be a right rollicking and riotous night out and you'd be crazee (Slade spelling) to miss out so head to www.malverncube.com for full info and tickets.

WEEKEND CAMPING
AND DAY TICKETS ON SALE NOW



LAKEFEST

11th-14th
August
2016

PRESENTS

CASTLE STAGE

PRIMAL SCREAM THE CORAL NEWTON FAULKNER **starsailor**

AFRO CELT SOUND SYSTEM

we are
Scientists



MOLOTOV JUKEBOX

SECRET AFFAIR



Duke Special

ROVING COWS **Cracked**



Foreign Affairs

JASPER • IN • THE • COMPANY • OF • OTHERS

FLOATING GLOBE

3 DAFT MONKEYS • TANKUS THE HENGE • BARBARELLA'S BANG BANG • THE GOAT ROPER RODEO BAND • GAZ BROOKFIELD • POLLY MONEY • LEM AND THE WHITE FIRE • THE MOST UGLY CHILD • NICK PARKER AND THE FALSE ALARMS • THE HONEYFIRE • CLAIRE BOSWELL • TALLULAH RENDALL • THE BEN CIPOLLA BAND • HUW EDDY AND THE CARNIVAL • SAMBARA COLLECTIVE • THE FILTHY SPECTACULA • JACK OF ALL • GRANNY'S ATTIC • ANON AMOS • SPECIAL GUEST DJ SHIPPERS

CREW SALAM

JAM TIDY • MALARKEY • WATER FOR DOGS • ASH C • MEMPHIS BLUES BAND • A3 INSTITUTION • CHEVY CHASE STOLE MY WIFE • MEG HAYDEN • FUTURE SET • THE HAWTHORNES • THE RIN TINS • JOHNNY KOWALSKI AND THE SEXY WEIRDOS • MOTION ENTERPRISE • BOYS IN THE WOOD

SECRET IBIZA

8 WITH LIVE P.A. • **BabyD**

JOHN LEWIS • MARK "MARKY MARK" WINTER • TOBY FARROW • DJ SOS • JACK GOODFELLOW • DJ SNIPS • ROB G • GOATDOG DELUXE • MR CAINES • EL-BRUTO • LAURA MAY • VANERIC • SION PUGH • TUDUR JONES • IAN GOULD • WARP NINJAZ



BUSKERS WALL



SPONSORED BY
VANS



AT EASTNOR CASTLE DEER PARK, HEREFORDSHIRE

Record Store Day

Rise Records Worcester | 16th April

It's been a busy month for the folk down at the Rise record store. It all kicked off when **Faithful City Shows** brought along hardcore rockers **Polar** for an intimate charity show. As soon as normal Saturday shopping had ended, Isles were rearranged and space was cleared for a 7.30 start. Backed by local wreckers **Rail Means Rail**, **Polar** gave a complete rum through of their new album



Polar

'*No Cure No saviour*' as well as some of their old favourites. Hearing their latest offerings ahead of its Radio 1 rock shows premier felt like a privilege, and with all the entrance fees going to their nominated charity **Crisis**. Everyone felt that it was an evening and money well spent.



Rosebud

crowd gathered outside made it almost impossible to pass. Sunshine flooded in through the windows. The 'fish tank' stage gave many a rare glimpse off those elusive artist that normally only venture out on the darkest of nights. **Nth Cave**, **Nerina Pallet**, **Boat To Row**, **Slow Falling Sun**, **Jim Lockey** and **Andy Oliveri** and **The Mountaineers** all gave great performances to new audiences. Tills rang and the city gained a surreal feel as every shopper in some 'time shift' appeared to be carrying a new treasured vinyl. With daylight fading there was only one band that could bring the show to a close. The dark electronic three-headed beast **Rosebud**. With a show that raised more than one eyebrow from the passers by. The brave ventured in and became entangled in the sound, whilst the wary became entranced at a safer distance. What a perfect end to the day.

Duncan Graves



The Broken Oak Duet

Two weeks later it was time for the biggest event on the shops calender. 'Record Store Day'. Promptly at ten am, Crowngate Shopping Centre was brought to life by the pulsating heartbeat that is **The Broken Oak Duet**. Crowds gathered, feet were tapped and the whole area was alive with excitement. With nine live acts

and a host of DJ's including Slaps own **Stef Work**. It did not take long for Rise to become the centre of the city's attention. By the time that the **Institutes** started, the specially opened live stage unit was filled to the rafters and the



Institutes



Boat To Row

LOVE MUSIC?

Music inspired design
ART PRINTS • GREETING CARDS • T-SHIRTS

WWW.17THANDOAK.COM

 @17THANDOAK

 /17THANDOAK

 @17THANDOAK

Kelly Oliver

Prince Albert, Stroud | 13 April 2016

However good **Kelly Oliver's** two albums are, and they are very good, for my money there's no better way to see her than live and playing solo. It's only when this fast rising star of British Folk music is standing alone on stage that you really begin to appreciate exactly how good she is.

She's working very hard at the moment, playing up and down the country in support of her new album as well as working on a very interesting musical collaboration with several other artists - **The Company of Players** - to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death.

The set tonight is drawn extensively from both albums, kicking off with the title track from the new album '*Bedlam*' but her much-feted debut album '*In This Land*' is also well represented, particularly by the poignant '*Far From Home*'. There's a big nod to her Irish heritage with '*Miles To Tralee*', a song about her grandmother and things are brought right up to date with the breathtakingly lovely '*The Other Woman*', the two contrasting songs perfectly illustrating her knack of mixing traditional and contemporary themes and styles that makes her body of work so interesting.

She's also a great Steve Earle fan and we're treated to a couple of excellent covers, of which a respectful and stripped back version of '*Copperhead Road*' is absolutely outstanding.

Her fine guitar technique is very much in evidence - the lady has a very quick left hand and coupled with a mix of finger-styles, strum patterns and tunings, together with her skilful use of passing chords and grace notes, she keeps the accompaniment



lively and varied. She's also got an extensive set of harps, courtesy of Hohner, which she puts to very good use.

Her voice is a really lovely instrument, whether it's being used in a traditional gentle folkie style, or when she really begins to forcefully cut loose at the very end of the set with '*The Witch of Walkern*' (presented with greater pace and power than on the album) and the abrasive '*Mr. Officer*'.

She's played about an hour and a quarter, but the fully appreciative crowd brings her back for an encore, and it's a beauty, a glorious version of Bob Dylan's '*Boots of Spanish Leather*'.

The label 'rising star' might burden some artists, but **Kelly Oliver** seems to be wearing it lightly and with confidence - a very accomplished artist indeed.

www.kellyoliver.co.uk

Geoffrey Head

Granny's Attic

Worcester Arts Workshop | Sat 23rd April

Granny's Attic comprises **Cohen Braithwaite-Kilcoyne** on melodeon and concertina with some lead and group vocal, **George Sansome** on guitar with some lead and group vocal and **Lewis Wood** on fiddle and mandolin with some groups vocal. The trio are mixing live performance with university study (at different ends of the country!) so it was a joy to see them come together to play at the **Worcester Arts Workshop**.

I first caught the 'home-grown' act during last summer's **Worcester Music Festival** and on both occasions they played a variety of eclectic folk songs and tunes with tight but fluid ease.



The evening was well attended, engaging and humorous. George announced, via his father and grandfather, both in attendance, that the last three generations of his family has now sung at the WAW venue.

The set varied from the traditional (sombre but beautifully realised) song '*The Two brothers*' sung by Cohen, to George's self-penned '*Shepherd's Brook*' and some dance tunes including '*Lazy House*' and '*Right Across The Bridge*' composed by Lewis.

The enjoyment and energy is infectious and there was much foot-stomping and clapping (and a little dancing)!

Check out their album, '*Better Weather*' and look out for a new release in the next couple of months.

Please expand your live music guys when studies are completed!

Justin Hughes (not an agent of the band!)

EMPTY SPACES House Clearance

Selling a Property or just de-cluttering?

We offer an all round Clean and Courteous Service

- House ● Garage
- Loft ● Cellar

Call 07973 520 962
or 01905 755 715

Avoid the pain - Let us take the strain...

TENBURY MUSIC FESTIVAL

Saturday 18th June 2016 12pm-12am

MAINSTAGE

STEVE GIBBONS BAND

ROBBIE
BLUNT BAND

QUILL AND
BEV BEVAN

GOODNIGHT LENIN

DAVE ONIONS

A_{ALTERNATIVE} D_{UBBSTEP} O_{RCHESTRA}

FABULOUS BORDELLOS

STEVE AJAO & THE BLUES GIANTS

OBSCURE

ACOUSTIC STAGE

ABIGAIL KELSEY

DAN GREENAWAY

GLEN WILSON

COOPER & DAVIS

OLIVIA PEYECH

DANNY GEE & DAVE SMALL

Tickets from Tenbury Tourist Information Centre

01584 810 136

Early Bird | Gate

Adults £17 £20

12-17 £8 £10

Accompanied Under 12 FREE!

0843 289 3333

• Rain Marquee

• Camping

• Cocktail bar

• Beer Tent

• Food

www.tenburymusicfestival.co.uk

Find us on social media:



Teenage Cancer Trust is a registered charity:
1062559 (England & Wales); SC039757 (Scotland)

The Sentence

The Subscription Rooms, Stroud

"The Sentence" is a new play by Cheltonian author **Martin Lytton** telling the story of John Scrivener who, in the 16th century was sentenced to death for heresy by being burned at the stake.

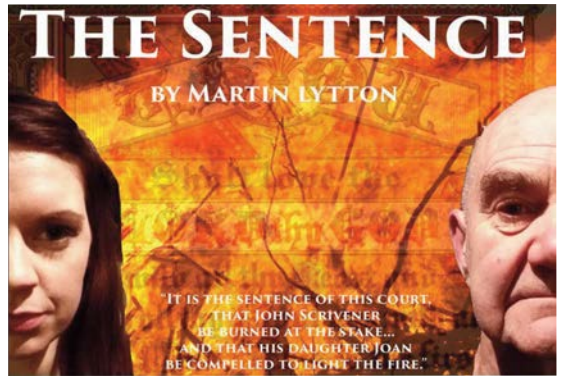
His 'crime' was to translate the Bible from Latin into English to make it more accessible to the common people.

His daughter was sentenced to light the fire.

This two-hander features **Paul Southcott** as Scrivener and **Katie McLeod** as his daughter, Joan and makes for an intense evening at a packed George Room at The Sub Rooms in Stroud.

The play is about words, their power to enlighten, motivate, educate, empower, but also to shock, endanger and destroy. To Scrivener, the goal was relatively straightforward - great swathes of people worshipping a common God, had absolutely no idea of what was happening during church services and were unable to gain any personal insight into The Bible because they were unable to read Latin. Simple, you'd think to produce a version that more could participate in. However, the rigidly controlled class structure of the time relied on a degree of ignorance on the part of common people to maintain its power, and so Scrivener was charged with Heresy and condemned to die.

As a two-hander, the success of the play depends entirely on the extent of the dynamic between the two players and they not only have this, but maintain it throughout the performance. The scenes switch time frames marked by variations in lighting and an insistently ticking clock - particularly effective are two sunlit scenes from many years in the past, where Scrivener, as well as educating his daughter is beginning to formulate his plans for the translation. McLeod's reversion to childlike expressions and actions during these scenes is delightful, and a necessary distraction from the overall seriousness of the play. But we soon revert to the central struggle of Joan's determination not to see her father die, and his determination to see through his mission, even though it will cost him his life.



The most riveting scene though is Joan's interrogation - Southcott dons a cardinal's beretta and scarlet sash to play her interrogator, bent on prising out the extent of her involvement in her father's 'crimes'. It is exceptionally powerfully played as Joan, who had previously been warned by her father of the tricks the interrogator might play, walks a tightrope where one false step could cost her life. McLeod's facial expressions, of terror and intense concentration and her startled movements in this scene perfectly convey the mental struggle that Joan is going through, while Southcott's delivery of the interrogator's mix of intellectual superiority and outright menace is genuinely chilling. These are both fine actors.

It's during this scene that resonances with modern life begin to surface - religious intolerance and the suppression of women through deprivation of education in particular.

The only quibble I have with the play is its brevity, at bang on an hour, this and the abrupt and theatrically low-key denouement left me with the uncomfortable feeling driving home that I'd left at the interval. Stupid boy...

See this play when it arrives near you - the strength of the two central performances and the power of the subject matter makes it a deeply satisfying experience.

The Sentence will be performed at **The Everyman Theatre** in Cheltenham on 8th and 9th October.

Geoffrey Head

Frank Griffith

with the Stuart Barker Trio

Silvershine Jazz Club, Smethwick | 14th April

We rarely get the chance to see tenor saxophonist **Frank Griffith** in Birmingham. In fact, Frank tells me that his last appearance was with the late, great **Andy Hamilton** at The Bear Tavern, just a short walk along the Bearwood Road from the **Silvershine Jazz Club**, which itself has strong links with Andy Hamilton.

Frank hails from Eugene, Oregon, but has been resident in the UK for some years now, building a strong reputation as an instrumentalist, composer, arranger and educator. He is currently Director of Performance at Brunel University.

For this gig, Frank was accompanied by a trio of graduates from **Birmingham Conservatoire**, all of whom are established musicians on the Birmingham jazz scene and further afield. **Stuart Barker** propelled the group from the bass and proved to be both a proficient accompanist and a melodic soloist. **Andrew Woodhead** on keyboard is a musician equally at home in wholly improved music and modern mainstream jazz. He was able to bring great originality to his soloing. **James Bashford** was supportive of his colleagues throughout the evening and made the most of his opportunities to solo.



Frank Griffith is a wonderfully melodic saxophonist with a great command of his instrument. He possesses a big, fully rounded and melodic tone. His playing brings to mind several past giants of the saxophone including Stan Getz, John Coltrane and Dexter Gordon.

The repertoire included jazz standards together with Frank's own compositions, including a wonderful interpretation of 'Holland Park'.

In conclusion, a thoroughly enjoyable evening of music-making. Let's hope that Frank returns to Birmingham without delay.

Words and Photograph: Alan Musson

The Roving Crows + Granny's Attic Artrix, Bromsgrove | Saturday 26th March

A while since I've seen The Crows; the original 5 piece line up, including drums and trumpet having changed and they are now a 4 piece, with **Paul**, **Caitlin** and **Loz** with **Tim** on an impressive display of percussion implements.

Supporting the **Roving Crows** was Worcester's own **Granny's Attic**, weaving their magical music between a forest of microphone stands and monitors. The Attic comprise the combined multi-talents of Lewis, Cohen and George, who despite their youthful countenance, have been wowing the crowds with their patented top class folk for a good few years now. Between them they play guitar, mandolin, squeeze box and fiddle whilst singing mainly shanties of an extremely entertaining nature and in the most marvellous fashion. Some of the songs are built around their own simple experiences, others such as *'Piman's Wife'* perhaps not!? Despite my lack of folk credentials, such is the quality of their set that I may just turn up at Worcester's Arts Workshop in April, to see them again. Watch this space indeed.

Now a 4 piece, the Roving Crows I think its fair to say, as with any band that has transformed, have taken a while to settle and explore the new areas that have opened up. Tim certainly brings a different style to the band as the music has been remodelled to accommodate his percussion talents. Paul has taken to electric



guitar and Loz has added elements of electronica to build on the sound. Warming up with instrumental intro, the glorious *'Nancy Valentine'* then takes an early bow. *'The One'*, is thusly aired with us, followed appropriately enough by *'Time'* which has proven one of their most durable songs. Paul recounts his early days in taking music to the streets of cities across the world as *'Journeyman's Blue'* finds passage toward more recent recordings such as the fine, fiddle-fest that is *'Upheaval'*. Caitlin then takes a rare lead in the vocals for a lovely, haunting *'Ride On'*, accompanied by subtle guitar and bass. Early career selections bring reminders of *'Dirty Habits'* followed by the *'Guns'* rumbling in the distance. Another new song *'Bury Me Naked'* comes next before a hush descends for a reverential *'Brother'*. Fittingly then it is time for a softly sung *'Goodbye'* with Loz prowling, Fender in hand as Caitlin finger plucks her fiddle and the burning fuse fizzles out and darkness falls as the band leave the stage...

Of course not though - this is one ghost never to be laid to rest - it's time for the fiddle fencing finale of *'Devil Went Down To Georgia'* naturally. Thanks Charlie Daniels, this is one 'millstone' that the band need never shake off and few could better it.

It is good to see the band resettled and I've no doubt they will go forward strongly, with new music yet to be relished. Certainly a different style has emerged and tonight's crowd appreciate their efforts as one. The Crows will have another opportunity to find new followers at an upcoming Bellowhead at Bristol's Colston Hall. A big stage then with a sell out auditorium and a great, deserved showcase for Roving Crows. Good luck to them I say.

Graham Munn

The Hills Angels

The Mount Pleasant Hotel, Malvern | Friday 15th April

Having managed to miss every single gig **The Hills Angels** have ever done, I was determined to catch this one, a double set bonanza at one of the coolest and under used venues in Malvern - **The Mount Pleasant Hotel**.

The Angels are **Sharon Hogan** on Vocals, **Sarah Humphries** on Percussion and **Laura Todd** on Guitar. I should add that Sarah and Laura sing too, in fact the backing vocals are a big part of this band's charm, plus smiles all round.

They start the first set with one or two of their own songs. *'Titanium'* has a lovely melody and a wonderful hook - *'Shoot me down but I won't fall'*. The girls mix in a few choice covers as the set progresses. Stand out adaptations for me were the Eurythmics - *'Here Comes the Rain'*, a very brave *'Time is Now'* by Moloko and Adele's *'Whenever I'm Alone With You'*.

There was an attentive crowd assembled in the grand upstairs room and a very relaxed atmosphere with the girls dressed for the occasion looking quite at home. The first set ended with *'I've Not Met You Yet'* - a new self penned melancholy affair which shows the versatility of styles this band have in their locker.

In fact I have to say their own songs are played with much more confidence and therefore sound more dynamic. The harmonies really shine too on their own numbers compositions which on the



whole are tight and fun and the second set lifts a notch as the audience warms to the band, even clapping along to one or two numbers.

Another new one written by Sharon along with Kev Tudge, a *'Kiss Is a Kiss'* or *'Love Me Slowly'...*?, my memory fades as the beers kick in. They are then joined by **Chewie** on guitar for one of Laura's early songs *'Stay'*, a folk melody with some excellent Spanish style guitar. Then another upbeat one of their own - *'Questions'* rounded off a great evening, good music with some good company. I urge you not to leave it over a year before seeking out the Hills Angels, they won't disappoint.

Gary O'Dea

The Ginger Pig, Worcester | Friday 15th April

Over the years **Gary O'Dea** has played in full on electric bands, acoustic bands and solo acoustic, at venues and festivals that vary from Wolves Civic to Glastonbury and the US circuits. Now in the intimate surroundings of **The Ginger Pig** with acoustic guitar in hand and bottle of the 'Pig's' finest ale by his side, Gary is poised to entertain with a set heavy on selections from his latest album 'Fly' (see review in April Slap), a collection which takes us back to his Black Country Tipton roots.

A 'Welcome To The Show' opens the evening and straight off you can appreciate the lyrical and acoustic quality that Gary brings, enhanced by the addition of his harp, as he settles in with an 'Angel'. Enter **Rick Lambe** (pre-gig at The Marris Bar with **Official Receivers**); Rick has history with Gary and a band called **The Fortune Cookies**. This triggered a few 'road' tales from Gary and a song from those times, 'My Sweet Rita', inspired by the cleaner at the factory where he toiled. There's a song scribbled in the back of a road weary Datsun, but it's too early for 'Time Out' as it powers through: much of Gary's material is grounded in 'life on the road' experiences and everyday but trenchant observations. Mr O'Dea may not be thrilled about my considering it as 'Dylanesque', but these songs are seeded from a soulful blues-Americana mix and seasoned from a Jamaican spice rack. 'Take The Money And Run' seems a comment on our times, which together with the easy country style of 'In A Zone', with its easy country style are more titles from his consistently excellent *Fly* album. Indeed yet another track from *Fly*, 'Build It Like A Rock' follows his rejoining the Labour Party as its politics set to reclaim democracy under Mr Corbyn's leadership. The lyrics are forged in



the deserted foundries and barren brown-field sites of his/our industrial heritage: Billy Bragg would be more confrontational perhaps, but the message is the same.

The distinctive rhythms of 'In The Ghetto' follows as Elvis sits at the park bench with Dylan and chat about Joy Division's Ian Curtis. 'Be Careful What You Wish For' is the next message and the the harp then lends a Gallic feel to the superb 'All Down The Days' which somewhat wearily and depressingly states that it doesn't matter what your era - for the man in the street nothing really changes. On that uplifting note the evening is drawing to its close which has been a seamless session of anecdotes and songs from a true wordsmith that is **Gary O'Dea**. *Fly* is an excellent album wherein Gary is joined by many Midlands musicians and perhaps most noticeably, **The Birmingham Clarion Choir**. Unfortunately they could not be here tonight, so it was very much a stripped back session at the delightful **Ginger Pig**.

Graham Munn



The Ginger Pig Café & Bistro

01905 338913

9 Copenhagen Street, Worcester WR1 2HB

Upcoming Events

- 6th May **Fallen Branches**
- 13th May **Chuck Harriet Band**
- 28th May **Andrew Riverstone**
- 10th June **Open Secrets**
- 10th June **Dan Williams**
- 17th June **Kris Dollimore**
- 1st July **Duo Montparnasse**
- 15th July **Trio Rosbif**
- 2nd Sept **Brook Williams**

● Available for Private Hire

Seasonal, Fresh and Local Food

www.gingerpigworcester.co.uk

GOJO' MUSIC Presents



www.gojo-music.co.uk
@gojomusic1
gaza@gojo-music.co.uk

'a variety of songs and arrangements in styles showing he has a few strings to his bow... there's more to Gary O'Dea than a voice and a guitar'
LOUNDER THAN WAR

'Expressive and skilful'
GAVIN MARTIN - DAILY MIRROR****

Available NOW via bandcamp

garyodea-gojomusic.bandcamp.com
www.facebook.com/GaryODeaGojoMusic/

**Advertise in this space for
as little as £30 per month**

SLAP

MAGAZINE

SLAP Supporting Local Arts & Performers

adverts@slapmag.co.uk

Joanna Wallfisch

Elmslie House, Malvern | Friday 6th May

A new voice, plays a new venue.

Formerly known as 'The Grove', **Elmslie House** in Malvern is no stranger to hosting music gigs. Now under new ownership, re-named and completely restored, Elmslie House, a family home and part-time venue, is now poised to re-claim its place in the Malvern music scene and bring to its intimate and elegant setting some great local, national and international artists. On Friday May 6th we bring you:

"The youngest child of a renowned classical music dynasty... crossing borders and flouting rules seem to come naturally to Joanna Wallfisch. With her clear-eyed poetry [she] combines the purview of a singer-songwriter with the technical liberties of a jazz improviser" (The Boston Globe).

Hailed by the great pianist **Fred Hersch** as *"a real discovery - a first-rate musician in every way"* Wallfisch has built an impressive profile since her move to New York from London in 2012, fashioning a musical identity of her own.

En route to perform in Madrid, and fresh from recording her new album *Gardens in My Mind* with Malvern based **Mu-Mu Audio**,

Elmslie House is delighted to announce that for one night only, Joanna, a multi-instrumentalist, will be performing solo. Playing to a maximum capacity of 80 she is set to bewitch her audience with her striking live vocal-looping, quirky ukulele and sombre piano playing, to create majestic soundscapes to accompany her intimate songs.

"The subtle chiaroscuro effects of dynamics, dissonance or vibrato, and her focused, crystalline delivery will melt any purist's heart"



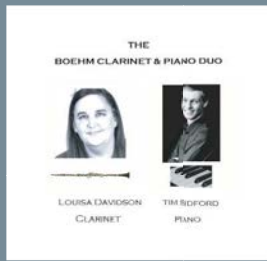
Tickets £12/£10 concs available from www.elmsliehouse.co.uk or please call Anna on 07789 470780. Doors open 7.30pm.

Elmslie House is based at 8 Avenue Road, Malvern, WR14 3AG.

Why not follow them on Facebook and Twitter for regular updates or subscribe to our quarterly newsletter?



Elmslie Hall is a part-time venue in the heart of Great Malvern, within a restored Grade II listed family home. We hold classes, markets and music. Why not subscribe to receive our regular newsletter and find out what else is going on?



New Yorker
Joanna Wallfisch
Friday May 6th
Doors open 7.30pm
Tickets £12/£10 concs

The Boehm Clarinet & Piano Duo
Saturday May 21st
Doors open 7.00pm
Tickets £10/£8 concs

Canadian
Ian Sherwood
Sunday 12th June
Doors open 7.30pm
Tickets £12/£10 concs

Local folk sensation
Sunjay
Saturday 9th July
Doors open 7.30pm
Tickets £12/£10 concs

All tickets available from the website - www.elmsliehouse.co.uk or call 07789 470780
E-mail info@elmsliehouse.co.uk Elmslie House, 8 Avenue Road, Malvern WR14 3AG

Steve Ajao & The Blues Giants

Prince of Wales, Ledbury | Sunday 3rd April

Steve Ajao and The Blues Giants awaited once again on my itinerary at my spiritual home of fine ale and great blues, that is the **Prince Of Wales** in Ledbury. They obviously had an itch to return so **Steve and Mike Hatton** could scratch their heads on the blackened beams and here they were once again delving into their back catalogue of Chicago classics. Tucked behind this duo was a necessarily compact drum kit with **Pete 'Washboard' Hammond** sat behind and ready to bounce to the rhythm on his 'sprung tractor' seat.



The bar is a bit slow in filling with people out walking the hills, but soon to be in need of a beer on landing! Meanwhile **The Giants** bring us some *'Bright Lights'* to illuminate the aged walls, with Mike working over the big 6 string bass as Steve pours out

'Bad Bad Whiskey': it may be bad but it's vintage stuff, worthy of a double measure. A chrome tubular slide sits on Steve's finger and he's saying *'It Hurts Me Too'*, then barefootin' across the quarry tiles Steve's ready to be your *'Backdoor Man'*, delivered with all the spirit and grit you could want. Time for a beer.

The bar has filled but there's space to muscle through with the Strat; a garage find and nicely restored to become Steve's "pride and joy". Hendrix has arrived as *'Hey Joe'* fills the air with electricity and we all feel the energy, with *'Groundhog'* day is around the corner. Steve shows off some fabulous riffs, as Mike follows through with some finger flicking, string bending, bass. Pete's turn for the limelight now as he plugs his fingers into thimbles picking up the washboard and the rattling, rasping rumble strips are soon machine-gunning the warm, thick atmosphere and *'Number 9'* hurtles down the line. He's off up leading the way into the tight bar with Steve and Mike following; this is truly 'in yer face' music! There are smiles on the sea of surrounding faces as Pete dances around the room, the two guitars pointing accusingly at him. A spent force, Pete is then escorted back to his stool to recover, as the applause and encores reverberate around and out into the cobbled street. *'Monies Gettin' Cheaper'* so Mike and Pete down tools for a break as Steve takes us down to the infamous *'Crossroads'*, then the door cools the air as he welcomes in a *'Boogie Chill'*. Mike and Pete then amble back but no hurry as Steve has it covered on slide and The Boogie continues, until the end is nigh which a damn shame for sure. The Chill has become a raging storm as Steve tweaks his settings and pushes overdrive as his amp contorts and protests: the feedback ebbs away and the band are finished, spent out.

One of the most popular bands at the POW, The Blues Giants have blown away the cobwebs for the week, leaving the music lovers satisfied for now, but having to await their return.

Graham Munn

The Queens Head

Wolverley Village | Kidderminster | DY11 5XB
 Real Ales - Fine Wines - Traditional Food - Private parties

LIVE MUSIC in May

- Mon 2nd - All Day pen mic with Pete Kelly
- Fri 6th - Squeaky Pete's Liquor & Poker Band
- Fri 13th - Free Spirit
- Fri 20th - Steve Ajao & the Blues Giants
- Sat 21st - Andre & Jayne In True Colours
- Fri 27th - Chronicles of Zee
- Mon 30th - All Day pen mic with Pete Kelly
- Coming up - 3rd Jun - The Delray Rockets
- Every Tuesday - Open Mic with Pete Kelly

01562 850433 | www.queensheadwolverley.com

Nycosia | Pariah

When you watch independent music, there can be very few better feelings than watching the progress of a young band until they reach the point at which they're ready to release their first EP.

The first word that comes to mind when I think of the launch package for **Nycosia's "Pariah"** EP is 'classy'. Because, make no mistake, the EP is just one element of a fine package, put together with infinite care in support of the end product. It started a couple of weeks before launch with the excellent lyric video by master of the genre, **Andy Pilkington** of **Very Metal Art**, together with previews of the astounding artwork of "*The Hermit*", by **Tom Roberts**. There's a new band logo, again designed by Pilkington which adorns the front of the very high quality tee, with Roberts' artwork sitting on the back.

Aspiring bands – this is how you do a launch for maximum effect...

But, of course however good the support package is, it all falls flat if the focus of the launch isn't up to scratch. No problems on this count, though.

So many times in the past year I've heard an EP or album from a band who are in-your-face live, that barely crawls out of the speakers – not so this beauty – it explodes out.



There are four tracks on this album, plus an ambient intro and they are all of the highest possible quality, and vitally, they give a pretty accurate picture of what it's like to experience this band in a live setting. Precise, brutal and highly professional, it's not 'easy' music, it grabs your attention and demands you listen.

The consistent quality is absolutely outstanding – the brief "*Desert Winds*" slowly and menacingly builds up to "*Blind:Sight*" and the band sets its stall out early. Heavy riffing over a tighter than tight rhythm, **Billy Kibble's** guitar chattering and fizzing in the background and **Adam Barkley's** extraordinary range of growls, bellows and wails creating a significant fourth instrument.

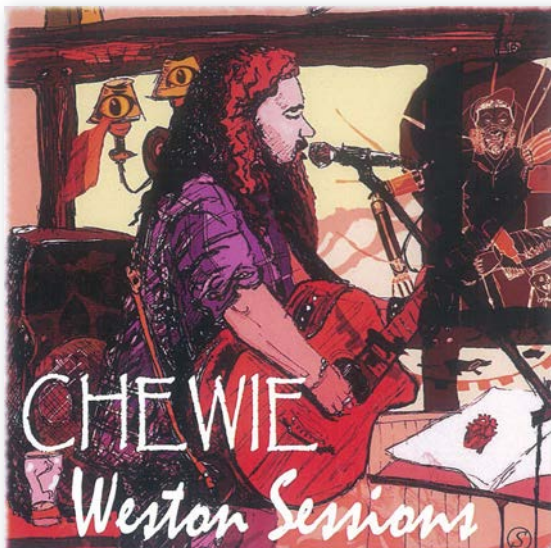
The two tracks released in advance of the official launch, "*Mind of a Hermit*" and the single, "*Miscommunication*" keep up the murderous pace. But it's the final track "*Asylum Song*" that fully showcases what the band is capable of, as time and intensity changes allow the full extent of **Theo Beech's** fine and complex bass patterns to be appreciated, while Noah Plant's drums crack and rumble like a minor war going on in the background.

For a band at any stage of its career this EP would represent an outstanding highlight, but for a first effort, "*Pariah*" is little short of amazing and hopefully, a mouthwatering appetiser of what's to come from this talented young outfit.

Geoffrey Head

Chewie | Weston Sessions

Chewie (or **Randolph Beard**) if you prefer, is another one of those Worcestershire based artists who's name I've seen advertised but as yet haven't had the fortune to see live, so in truth I'm going into this one a little blind. That said, with a song entitled *I Like Jesus (He Smells Of Crisps)* and the EP's cover art of Chewie (by **Sue Thompson**), my interest had been aroused long before the first spin.



The eight track affair opens with a delicately plucked guitar as *My Head* drifts from the speakers as Chewie reveals himself to be an acoustic based singer-songwriter who not only knows his way around a fretboard but also possesses a decent set of pipes, delivering a two and half minute soulful lament that serves as a nice introduction to the musical adventures of Chewie.

Follow up *Icarus* is better yet. Deep strumming and a weathered lead vocal suggest a definite rock edge whilst retaining Chewie's keen sense of melody complimenting the grit with an inspired instrumental middle section. *After The Whiskey & Wine* offers an aching, bruised lead vocal that as the song progresses (or the bottle flows) becomes more ragged and desperate as Chewie wrenches at the heartstrings.

Twisted Virtues is a brilliant Americana tinged number with clever lyrical couplets. An infectious melody, a memorable choral hook and that aforementioned weathered croon drawing you in and enticing further listening. *I Like Jesus* is more of the same, those burnt but welcoming vocals and that ever expressive guitarwork sucking you in and demanding your attention.

Chewie completes the EP with a cover, taking The Beastie Boys *Fight For Your Right* and deconstructing it to create a stunning original take, that turns the once party anthem into a brooding beauty and very much his own.

Weston Sessions is a fantastic showcase of Chewie's talent, both as a singer-songwriter and guitarist, a troubadour baring his soul with his faithful acoustic by his side, that should appeal to anyone with an affinity for well-crafted, acoustic roots.

www.facebook.com/chewies-musical-adventures
www.reverbnation.com/chewie

Will Munn

PREVIEW

Woody Sez: The Life and Music of Woody Guthrie Malvern Theatre | Thursday 5th May

Renowned director and performer **Dean Elliot** brings this tumultuous, tragic, touching and joyful tale of "America's greatest folk poet" to Malvern after sellout and successful shows all around the globe from Northern Ireland to New Zealand.

The show is a celebration of **Woody Guthrie**, a giant of American music, and an uplifting narrative about a difficult man who had a difficult life in difficult times. It is a tale of struggle, activism, patriotism and commitment which includes indelible protest songs such as 'This Land Is Your Land', 'Bound For Glory' and 'The Ballad of Tom Joad' to name but a few.

With plaudits from such publications as The Guardian, New York Times and The Washington Post, this is a worthy show of much merit which in the tradition of folk music, will be unamplified, authentic and include over twenty acoustic instruments.



Please visit www.malvern-theatres.co.uk for further information and tickets

How To Reappear

Evesham Arts Centre | Saturday 14th May

From the ever inventive and indeed re-invented Foulisfair Theatre comes this emotional and thought-provoking one woman show, which deals with the disappearance of one's "self" following the all-encompassing experience of becoming a mother.

How To Reappear is a challenging and weighty piece, but delivered by Gemma Bolwell in a fast-paced, humorous style including some playful interaction with the audience. Be prepared for laughter and tears in this ultimately uplifting theatrical experience.



Music In The Hall

Malcolm Holcombe

St George's Hall, Bewdley | Friday 13th May

If ever there was a reason to venture out on this most inauspicious of dates then this is it!



It is becoming a not so under the radar date on the calendar now as these St George's Americana gigs really do just keep on getting better and better (see **Amy LaVere** review this issue). And so it's the turn of long established Nth Carolina singer-songwriter **Malcolm Holcombe** to tread the Bewdley boards and wow the doubtless sell-out crowd, with his heartfelt and haunted acoustic country-folk-blues, delivered in his distinctive baritone.

'Another Black Hole' is his latest album and features Holcombe's

trademark rasping vocals and bright, percussive guitar, enveloping his always insightful lyrics. The words from his Grammy winning producer Ray Kennedy probably sum the man's songs up best: "His songs hit you like a gunpowder blast. His gruff and tough delivery is a primordial power full of grit, spit and anthropomorphic expression". A strong brew indeed then and Malcolm will be ably assisted at St George's by long-time sidekick Jared Tyler so this promises to be a knock-out night.

The main support on the evening comes from Bewdley's own 'One Tree Canyon' who will bring their own solid Americana stylings to the stage. As always though, the evening will be opened by a local youth act, this month featuring **Two Doors Down**.

Advance booking is always advisable for these events and tickets can be bought from the Hall Café or online at: www.thehall-bewdley.org.uk

APHROΔITE

20% Discount when you quote
'SLAP'

with our experienced hair stylist

Call **Jack 07572 436102**

13 Trinity Street, Worcester WR1 2PW

HOGAN'S

Surprise Attacks presents **Blanck Mass / Rosebud / Ferric Lux** **The Marr's Bar, Worcester | Friday 8th April**

Benjamin John Power, also of **Fuck Buttons**, has been making music as **Blanck Mass** since 2010 but it was only when his *'Dumb Flesh'* album was released last year that I caught up with listening to his solo work, and I utterly loved it. I'm not afraid of noise music, but for me the combination of noise with the exhilarating melody and energy of *'Dumb Flesh'* makes it totally stand out from other music in this genre.

This was amazingly the 42nd **Surprise Attacks** promoted event and promised to be one of their very best. Tonight's show began with **Ferric Lux** who is local film maker, musician and lecturer **John Bradburn**, who set the scene and mood perfectly with his mesmerising mix of *AV*: in his own words, *"ritualistic blackened techno investigating the dark sacrificial and hallucinogenic history of dance music through hazy analogue tape blur and primitive orchestrations."* Couldn't put it better myself and I certainly look forward to another FL manifestation sometime soon.



Small chance to take a breath when local three-piece **Rosebud** began their audience assault. Their electronic noisy beats immediately attracted a fascinated crowd of devoted fans including myself and I have to say I loved their music, which draws inspiration from industrial to punk to dub. **Rosebud** are a menacing sight dressed entirely in black, including odd masks and bowler hats. The detail is admirable including briefcases which conceal their equipment and a pair of white gloves which look eerie, being the only non-black items in evidence. Whilst two of the trio remain onstage controlling the noise, the vocalist roams menacingly around the audience, a loose cannon released, escaped from conformity. Indeed, through his muffled and distorted vocals, the only words I can make out are 'I'm free...' repeated over and over again. The backdrop of hypnotic visuals bring to my mind thoughts of control and freedom, both personal and political, further induced by the name and imagery of a young rosebud. I'm reminded of the moment in *Citizen Kane* when he whispers "Rosebud..." on his deathbed. Innocence vs. Power?

The vast weird sounds of *'Loam'* began the **Blanck Mass'** show. It was the loudest noise I've ever heard in **The Marr's Bar**. Cut up, deformed and degrading vocals and projected visuals of internal bodies immediately took me to visceral inner thoughts. Power has managed to transfer those ideas of fragility and harshness of the body that appear on the album to his live performance. It came as no surprise when I learnt that when he was recording he was recovering from an incident that prevented him from walking for



weeks. Recognisable songs such as *'Dead Format'* and *'Cruel Sport'*, whilst very different from *'Loam'*, are equally visceral. I am really aware of my body, both from the visuals but the fact that my body can literally feel the music. When I stop moving my legs tremble. I can feel the beats in my chest. My closest ear to the PA is having a hard time. Despite this, or maybe because of this, the music is profoundly hard hitting in both a physical and cognitive way. It's chilly and balmy at the same time. It hits the bottom of my stomach. By the end I can't stop dancing and I can't tell what is warped vocals or digital beats anymore, they seem to collide to become sums of their part; an obliterating yet beautiful noise that manages to be utterly controlled and liberating at the same time. No wonder I missed my last train home.

Words by Siobhan Joan Photography by Duncan Graves

Music City

By musicians for musicians



Opening Hours
 Mon - Fri-10am-5pm
 Sat-9.30am-5.30pm



16 Queen Street Worcester
 01905 26600
www.musiccityworchester.co.uk

Folk In The Foyer: Steve Ashley & Mike Weaver Evesham Arts Centre | Thursday 26th May

From strength to strength goes the **Evesham Arts Centre's Folk In The Foyer** season, as it comes up trumps again when **Steve Ashley** graces the venue with his presence together with formidable support from **Mike Weaver** on **Thursday 26th May**.



Steve Ashley

In the words of none other than Mike Harding himself, **Steve Ashley** is "...one of the British folk scene's finest singer-songwriters" and comes with a top class pedigree having recorded with the likes of Anne Briggs, Shirley Collins, Robin Williamson and the various Thompsons (you know their names!).

Previously a member of **The Albion Country Band** and his own **Ragged Robin Steve** has had his own penned singular material covered by a whole host of luminaries such as **Fairport, Wizz Jones, Martin Simpson, Phil Beer** and legions of others. If this is not enough to get you hot-footing it to **Evesham Arts Centre** then the cherry on the cake is the support by none other than **Folk In The Foyer** fundraising and founder stalwart **Mike Weaver**, who will doubtless warm up the crowd wonderfully for what is bound to prove another cracking night of Folk In The Foyer.

As always, visit the **Evesham Arts Centre** website for more details and tickets: www.EveshamArtsCentre.co.uk

Raw Comedy! Evesham Arts Centre | Friday 6th May

A fresh bunch of comedy faces will fill the arts centre foyer on Friday 6th March for another great-value **Raw Comedy** night - bringing a huge variety of comedy styles.

May's headline act is Birmingham's boss of deadpan one-liners & short stories **Lovdev Barpaga**, delivering proper jokes with proper punchlines. MC for the night will be unashamedly middle-class **Matthew Baylis** who has gigged with the likes of Harry Hill, Milton Jones, Reginald D Hunter etc..

There will be another 6, yes 6, terrific turns on the night, all new but rising talent who here at **Evesham Arts** are given a 10-15 minute slot to try out material and hone their act. This is what makes it raw, exciting - expect the unexpected.

Look up the following names, go and support them and you can be smug when they hit the Big Time and say "Of course I saw them at my local Arts Centre-before they were famous".

Here goes: **Sally Firth, Billy McGuire, Thomas Rackham, Ben Glover, Josh Pugh** and **Lucas Johnson**: hailing from Canada to Birmingham and most points inbetween, this line-up is bound to impress. Tickets for Raw Comedy are limited and popular, so advancing booking is recommended (and cheaper!) so - the acts are good, the atmosphere is great and the price is right..what are you waiting for?!



Lovdev Barpaga

Your local arts venue

Evesham Arts Centre

www.eveshamartscentre.co.uk

eveshamarts



06 May **Raw Comedy:** The best in new stand-up
Tickets: £6 / £5 / £4

08 May **Dominic Kirwan:** Here for a Good Time
Tickets: £18.50

14 May **How To Reappear:** Humorous and Uplifting Drama
Tickets: £8 / £6 (Studio)

19 - 21 May **A Night at the Movies:** Iconic songs from movies
Tickets: £12 / £10

26 May **Folk in the Foyer:** Steve Ashley
Tickets: £10 / £9

28 May **D-Day Darlings:** The Songs that Won the War
Tickets: £14 / £12



Evesham Arts Centre



Tickets and further information from:
www.eveshamartscentre.co.uk or The Almonry 01386 446944

Produced by Evesham Arts Association - Registered Charity: 505575

John Otway

The Marris Bar, Worcester | Friday 13th May

Hopefully amongst the knowledgable and music loving Slap readership, the name **John Otway** needs not much introduction, but that would make a crappy preview so here goes!

From the age of 9, John Otway knew he wanted to be a pop star. But even at that young age, having listened to his sister's Beatles and Stones records, he knew he would never be able to do what they do. However, when his sister got the latest Bob Dylan album, he knew there was a place for him and he set about learning how to play guitar.

A visit to a fortune teller would have a profound effect on the young Otway. After gazing into her crystal ball, she confirmed that Otway would indeed be a star and would have success with a blonde-haired musician. Otway took this prediction very seriously and teamed up with **Wild Willy Barrett** (the only musician he knew who fitted the fortune teller's description). In 1972, the pair released their first single, 'Gypsy/Misty Mountain'; a dedication to the fortune teller who had assured Otway that fame and stardom was just around the corner. The single would be the first of a string of flops, but it did capture the attention of The Who's Pete Townshend who offered to produce a number of tracks for the duo.

This titanic twosome of course broke-through and eventually had a hit, the brilliant '(Cor Baby That's) Really Free', due to their ahem singular performance on **The Old Grey Whistle Test**. Since then singer-songwriter has built a sizeable cult audience through extensive touring, either with or without his redoubtable Willy(!),



and armed forever with a surreal sense of humour and a self-deprecating underdog persona. Indeed his well-worth-a-read 1990 autobiography is entitled "Cor Baby That's Really Me (Rock and Roll's Greatest Failure!)".

Yet another fine reason then to head Marris-wards once again. See ya there baby!

www.wegotickets.com/event/339691

Tia McGraff

The Marris Bar, Worcester | Thursday 26th May

Tia McGraff is an internationally renowned and award winning Americana/country songstress from Port Dover, ON, Canada. With Scottish/Transylvanian roots running through her songwriting and voice, Tia's talent has been described as "haunting and soul-grIPPING."

Tia comes to Worcester's **The Marris Bar** in support of her latest and 6th album release, 'Crazy Beautiful' which was released to much acclaim resulting in significant chart action throughout USA, Canada and Europe. Consequently Tia has gained a global following together with much respect from the music industry.



Her last album was produced by Tommy Parham, himself a songwriter and actor of some repute, who eventually whilst collaborating with Tia, ignored the golden "never date a co-writer" rule and fell in love, the pair subsequently getting hitched in fine style by performing a concert for their fans!

You may have gathered by now that we are talking Americana Royalty here, so take it from us (when ever have we let you down??) that Tia McGraff is well worth taking in so et the date in your diaries now and head on down to:

www.wegotickets.com/event/343055

The Leylines

The Callow End Club | 9th April

What better way to spend a Saturday night than with Weston Super-Mare based five-piece, **The Leylines**, a band that in such a small space of time have not only become firm favourites of mine but have also become firm staples of the UK festival scene, performing across the country and soon to be hitting a field near you. The first time I caught the band was back in Gloucester supporting 3 Daft Monkeys (which was their first live gig) and even then their blend of high octane folk, punk and rock stood out, since those humble beginnings subsequent outings has seen the band grow from a tight cohesive unit into masters of their craft.

This year could be something of a big one for the band, along with the numerous live dates and festivals the band release their debut album (should be available when you come to read this review), a disc chock full of infectious hooks, heartfelt melodies and the odd shout it proud anthem; songs that have been on constant rotation (in my head) for the past year or so and certainly since the band recently took Worcester's own (packed out) Marris Bar by storm a couple of months back.

A return to the local area, the last before the release of the aforementioned album, up the road in Callow End once again saw the band in fine form, opening with 'Let It Go' (no not the one from Frozen) the band took the compact, but enthusiastic audience by the scruff and urged them to clap, sing and eventually dance along. A Spanish styled introduction preceded 'The Reasons', before a rousing 'Runaway', voices raised, the dual acoustic guitars strummed and Hannah's fiddle weaving an intoxicating spell, whilst the rhythm section lay down a tight, solid base as the band continue to up the ante.

People spill onto the dancefloor controlled by the energy of the band as they crank out an infectious, driven rendition of 'My Own Worst Enemy' followed by the instrumental 'Stone Circle' showcases the band's musicianship, before a rowdy 'You've



Changed'. A quick break and time for another cheap cider, before The Leylines crank it up again with another anthem and another personal fave in the shape of 'Sorry My Friend'. By now the floor is awash with dancers as a number of the audience (myself included) holler back the words of the sets only cover, the effervescent Levellers' tune 15 Years.

Frontman **Steve Mitchell** stirs the soul with the politically charged 'For Queen And Country', inspired by his time in the army and unequipped soldiers going off to fight. The band then finish the night off with the one-two knockout punch of 'Run For Cover' and festival party anthem 'Sat In A Field', leaving an elated Callow End Club with a nagging hook and a big broad smile etched on their collective faces.

By the time you read this, I'll hopefully be hollering away to the band's debut and I'm sure by the time the first few festivals of the year come round you'll be singing along too. See the band, buy the album and support one of the best live bands in the UK right now. www.theleylinesmusic.co.uk

Words by Will Munn Photography by Graham Munn

Lechlade Music Festival

Friday 27th – Sunday 29th May

The beautiful Cotswolds town of Lechlade on Thames plays host to its sixth 3 day family-friendly music festival over the late May bank holiday weekend. From rock to reggae, folk to funk, pop to punk and everything in between, there's something for everyone including free family activities, real ales, fabulous food and a burlesque revue. With over 70 bands on 3 stages, this is a fantastic weekend of live music for all ages.

Scottish rock band The Proclaimers headline on Saturday night, with festival favourites Doctor & The Medics returning on Friday night, followed by the ultimate Pink Floyd Tribute band.

Kids 16 & under go free and can enjoy a free play tent, daily party and fun family activities over the weekend, whilst Real Ales and artisan ciders can be sampled by the older folk in addition to the mouth-watering selection of food on offer.

Stroll along the River Thames and take in the beautiful countryside, visit Lechlade's smart cafes and independent shops or just chill in the campsites, bordering the river and looking out over the fields. The excellent camping facilities are open from 2pm on Friday through to 10am Monday.



Find out more and sign up for the festival newsletter at www.lechldefestival.co.uk and get the latest news via [facebook.com/LechladeFestival](https://www.facebook.com/LechladeFestival) or via Twitter @LechladeFest

27th - 29th May 2016



Kids go FREE!

16 & under



THE PROCLAIMERS

Doctor and The Medics

Hunter & The Bear

Vesbim's Pink Floyd Show

Light Zeppelin, Hellsinki-V

John Adams, Last Great Dreamers,

Alex Rainsford, Fate The Juggler,

Elles Bailey, Mark Harrison,

Swanvesta SocialClub, Dealer,

The Gotswold Voices,

Felix & The Funk

& many, many more!

Lechlade MUSIC FESTIVAL 2016

**3 Days
3 Nights
3 Stages**

**Fab Food
Real Ales
Stalls & Rides**

Sponsored by



BOOK NOW



www.lechladefestival.co.uk

Supporting



**The Pale Kings, Dr Bullfrog
Market Tavern Legends
The Boars Head, Kidderminster | Sat 14th May**



If some horrid and fatal accident doesn't befall you the day before, go see the first of the **Boars Head's 'Market Tavern Legends'** events on Sat 14th May. The Tavern was a legendary Kiddy venue which despite hosting many of the soon-to-be famous such as **Radiohead, Carter USM** and **The Alarm**, was demolished in 2006. The place was also noted for giving a platform to many local acts and **The Pale Kings** and **Dr Bullfrog** are indeed two of those, who have specially re-formed for the event in order to evoke and invoke old memories plus hopefully some new ones.

You may recognise some members of The Kings as they are currently involved with madcap, food-based punk-popsters **Sister Sandwich**, whilst The Bullfrogs were and are a lively covers band formed in the early 1990's by an eclectic bunch of musicians with a mutual interest in staying up all night drinking and making a racket.

Rich Morley of The Pale Kings says: *"Hats off to Sand and Syd at The Boars Head, I never thought there'd be another place in Kiddy anywhere close to the feel of The Market Tavern but The Boars has a similar vibe...and is a fitting place for The Pale Kings to make their comeback – we can't wait".*

**Advertise in this space for
as little as £30 per month**

SLAP
MAGAZINE

SLAP Supporting Local Arts & Performers

advert@slapmag.co.uk

John Combe

24th December 1944 – 15th March 2016

Tributes have been pouring in to the family and on social media following the news of the death of John Combe. John passed away on 15th March 2016 following a short illness at the age of 71.

He was known by so many people, particularly within his home town of Kidderminster and the Wyre Forest area for his contribution to the local music scene in the 70's and 80's. John loved life and was extremely passionate about music. He worked as a local promoter bringing the likes of Dexy's, U2, Simple Minds and UB40 to the town.



He was struck down by a virus in 2002 that left him virtually paralysed and confined him to a wheelchair. This hit John and his family very hard but he was determined to continue his passion with music – and he focused on a project that he had talked about for

years and started to write the first of what became two volumes called 'Get your kicks on the A456' a history of the Wyre Forest music scene. He also continued to organise fundraising gigs – most of which were held at the town hall.

John influenced and inspired many people. His funeral was attended by family, friends and an army of local musicians all wanting to pay their respects to this kind and generous gentleman. He is a loss to the local music scene and will be sorely missed.

Some of the tributes...

"You supported so many of us and we will never forget your enthusiasm and encouragement that made Kidderminster a melting pot of so many people involved with the local music scene. A massive debt owed by so many to you".

"Every musician from the Kiddy area owes something to John"

"John put Kidder on the music map"

"John will forever be part of the Kidderminster music scene – where's the blue plaque going?"

Your encouragement and excitement for the live music scene in Wyre Forest will never be equalled"

"John deserves his own statue for his sterling efforts to promote live music"

Guitar Tuning Problems

Are you one of those lucky people who can tune up before a gig, use the whammy bar like a maniac and still be in tune at the end of the night — or do you have a guitar that seems impossible to keep in tune? I've repaired and built a lot of electric guitars over the past few years and have learnt a lot along the way about why tuning problems occur and, more importantly, how to fix them. You don't need locking tremos or even locking tuners to keep your guitar happy, just a little careful adjustment starting with using your tuner to confirm that all the octaves (open string to 12th fret) are accurate. If they are not, adjust the bridge saddles — move them towards the neck if the octave is flat or away from the body if the octave is sharp.

After that, let's look at restringing the guitar. If you use the method where the string wraps over the free end of the string after passing through the hole in the tuner post, slippage is unlikely to occur but also try to have only have a couple of turns of string around the post. If you have a great bundle of wound string it is more likely to shift. Once the strings are on, they need to be stretched and the easy way to do this is to tune the string to pitch, then get hold of it midway, pull it away from the neck (but not hard enough to break it!) and then keep the tension on for around ten seconds before releasing it. Check the tuning again and if it has gone flat, as it most certainly will have first time around, repeat the process until the pitch stays the same, then move onto the next string.



Now look at the nut. The purpose of the nut is to raise the strings off the frets by the required amount and also to maintain the correct string spacing, but passing a string through a narrow slot cut into plastic or bone invites friction. If you hear a string 'ping' as you tune up, you almost certainly have a problem

with it sticking in the nut slot. Gibson style guitars are particularly prone to this issue as the strings go over the nut at an angle, not straight across as they do with a Strat or Tele.

A simple and safe DIY cure is to get hold of some fine emery paper (wet and dry paper from Halfords is fine) that is marked as being between 800 and 1200 grit (a measure of coarseness). Fold a piece in two and then run the folded edge along inside the slot of the top string to polish and smooth the sides and bottom of the slot. Same goes for the second string. When you get to the third



string you may need to add another fold to thicken up your polishing paper but the process is the same. When you get to the wound strings, add folds so that you can feel a little resistance when polishing the slot but not enough to cause the paper to jam. A dozen strokes in each slot should make a big improvement.

Some players use a soft lead pencil to lubricate the slots when changing string and this certainly helps. However, there are commercial nut lubrication products such as Big Bends Nut Sauce, which comes in a plastic syringe, that will last you for years. You can squeeze it directly into the slots but it is easy to put in too much and waste it. Instead, apply a little to a piece of dental floss and then work that back and forth in the nut slots. You can also make your own lubricant by mixing powdered graphite (eBay) with Vaseline.

Next time I'll look at setting up a Strat trem to avoid tuning issues.

Paul White (Editor In Chief, Sound On Sound)
paulwhite@paulwhite.org.uk

THE PIG & DRUM

Lowesmoor, Worcester

Large Beer Garden with Marquee

Live Music & DJs every Weekend

Function Room Available

Pool Table, Juke Box, Skittle Alley

6 Draught Ciders & Real Ales!

Friendly happy staff

Student Discount

Bands always wanted

For all our events visit
our facebook & website



[facebook.com/piganddrumlowesmoor](https://www.facebook.com/piganddrumlowesmoor)

www.piganddrumworcs.co.uk

Contact 07854 498018

May at Huntingdon Hall & Swan Theatre, Worcester

On **Tuesday 10th May** true Legends of folk **Fairport Convention** return to Worcester for a heavily anticipated show. Fairport has been making great music for nearly fifty years and are the originators of British folk-rock with their seminal album '*Liege & Lief*', which was voted by BBC Radio2 listeners as '*The Most Influential Folk Album Of All Time*'.

The folk faithful will know all this but we write in hope of converting new listeners as Fairport truly are a special treat. It is regarded as the album that launched the folk rock movement. The band has been through many changes over the years with most music lovers being aware of legendary names such as **Richard Thompson, Sandy Denny** and **Dave Swarbrick**. The current members however retain a passion for live performance and now features **Simon Nicol** on guitar and vocals, **Dave Pegg** on bass,



Chris Leslie on fiddle, mandolin and vocals, **Ric Sanders** on violin and **Gerry Conway** on drums. They even of course put on their own successful annual folk music festival, 'Cropredy' and this has awakened an even wider interest in quality traditional and folk music from new audiences of all ages. Whether you are a long-time fan or a newcomer to their music, an evening with Fairport Convention is sure to surprise and delight you.

Yet more fabulous folk comes to **Huntingdon Hall** in the fine form of **The Peatbog Faeries** on Thursday 19th May. This year sees The Faeries celebrate 25 years as a band and continuing on their marvellous mission of bringing Celtic dance music into the 21st Century. They successfully, nay triumphantly, accomplish this by incorporating and weaving influences that take them from traditional jigs and reels through jazz, hip hop, reggae and more, for a true flavour of traditional Scottish music whilst offering high octane Celtic dance music. Now on their seventh album, the electrifying '*Blackhouse*', Peatbog Faeries use a veritable arsenal of instrument onstage including bagpipes, fiddle, whistles, guitars, keyboard, drums and a brass section. "*The Peatbog Faeries have the power to enliven a crowd into a joyous Ceilidh style energy*" says The Scotsman, so why not head on down to Huntingdon Hall and find out for yourselves.



What's On?

at The Swan Theatre and Huntingdon Hall



Martin Turner
ex Wishbone Ash
14th May - £17.50

Peatbog Faeries
19th May - £17.50

Gyles Brandreth
28th May - £19

The Best Thing
3rd and 4th June
- £14.50

Conservatoire Folk Ensemble
4th June - £16

I, Elizabeth
8th June
- £14

Worcester
live

BOX OFFICE: 01905 611 427
www.worcesterlive.co.uk

A change of pace at Swan Theatre as the classic tale *The Railway Children* is brought vividly to life on Saturday 14th May. So vividly in fact that this show gives the whole audience the chance to join in and for up to 10 children the opportunity to perform on stage. This is then family entertainment at its best and if you would like to take part head over to www.imagemusicaltheatre.co.uk where you can learn the songs and actions before this exciting event.

If you do not already know, 'The Railway Children' is the story of Roberta, Peter and Phyllis whose lives are shattered when their father is taken away. Their mother is forced to take them from a comfortable London life to live in a simple country cottage. Whilst there, they learn about the railway from their new friend Perks and soon fall in love with it. They have many adventures, and when they save a train from disaster, they are helped to solve the mystery of their father's disappearance. This is bound to prove a magical and enchanting family show and is recommended for ages 5 and above.



Please see both venues' websites for full details and tickets: www.huntingdonhall.co.uk & www.theswantheatre.co.uk

Daniel Kemish, James Weston The Woo Town Hillbillies The MARRS Bar, Worcester | Sunday 17th April

I'm one of those people (I think they're called music fans) that, if I see a name I don't recognise performing locally, I find myself scouring the internet for clues and so it came to pass that I should stumble upon 'Trouble Girl' by Southampton born, Portugal based singer-songwriter **Daniel Kemish**; an instantly infectious rootsy lament, featuring a suitably weathered lead vocal and a rousing hook. One play had me scrambling to mark his MARRS Bar date in the diary.

Sundays at the **MARRS Bar** have always been a cozy affair; candlelit with those in the know gathered to witness the best in roots. Everyone who has played from **Christopher Rees, Jackie Leven, Micheal Sheehy, Steve Wynn** and **Amy Wadge** have all left lasting impressions and tonight would be no different, as Worcester paid witness to an incredible night of live music courtesy of **Daniel Kemish** and his touring partner **James Weston**.

Charged with opening the nights proceedings, **The Woo Town Hillbillies** are a somewhat ramshackle collective who weld a combination of bluegrass and country, covers and originals plus a healthy dose of humour. This creates a fun-fuelled spectacle full of whoops and hollers, armed with a collection of acoustics, mandolin, banjolele, double bass and of course a washboard. The band perform a short yet enjoyable set that opened with an instrumental hoedown, setting the mood for a rustic rumpus that included a heartfelt tribute to the late Merle Haggard; a cover of his 'The Bottle Let me Down', before the band delivered a rousing original in the shape of 'Dartmoor Girl' and thus helping start the night with a flourish.

Nashville based troubadour **James Weston** followed the Hillbillies swaying on to stage looking like he'd just woken on a park bench. Armed with beaten acoustic and unruly beard James begun by introducing 'Unlucky Blues', as he started strumming,



unveiling his deep, rasping baritone, well worn and weathered. He weaved a spellbinding opening gambit and you could almost hear the audience collectively gasp as this gravelly voiced maverick, majestically spewed poetry captivating one and all. Another original 'Blinded By Love' followed, proving that James is the real deal as he delivering a vulnerable and aching vocal, drawing the listener into his folky heartfelt lament. With the audience already in the palm of his hands, hanging on every chord and word, James delivered perhaps the best rendition of 'House Of The Rising Sun' I've ever heard. That lonesome guitar and deep ursine delivery brought out new depth to this classic, making the song his own and if that wasn't enough, he finished with not only a mesmeric version of Townes' 'Pancho And Lefty' but also a jaw dropping 'Hallelujah'. How James Weston isn't a household name is beyond me; he has the musicality, the poetic license, the intrigue and that voice.

Most people would struggle to follow such a captivating set, but **Daniel Kemish** and friends are not most groups; they unite the rustic roots of Americana and rock with an instant hook, a keen melody and a swaggering sing-a-long chorus. From the moment Daniel and cohorts took to the stage they grabbed the assembled by the lapels, blending acoustic strums with electric solos, whilst the double bass and drums lock down the bottom end.

Daniel is a natural frontman with a voice that ranges between a husky croon and the emotive balladeer. The likes of 'In The Fast Lane' showcasing the former, whilst the gloriously understated and aching '1000 Miles Of Rail' proves the latter, as Daniel delivers this gorgeous soulful solo number.

The band's set was littered with numerous highlights, with Weston returning to add his whiskey soaked vocals on the rootsy 'Midnight Train', then Kemish taking on Dylan with a glorious take on 'Dark Side Of The Road'. The rockabilly tinged tale of growing weed in Denver on 'Honest Man' followed plus the aforementioned hook-laden 'Trouble Girl' to name but a few. This glorious band led by Kemish delivered from start to finish, with the enthusiastic audience responding in kind.

This one will go down as another memorable **MARRS Bar** gig for those in the know, whilst those of you who missed out, well shame on you and I can only suggest you rectify things next time **Daniel Kemish** and/or **James Weston** roll into town.

www.danielkemish.com www.jameswestonmusic.com

Will Munn

UPTON festival Blues 2016



15th - 17th
July

Some of the Best British Blues

Fantastic Riverside Town

120 Performances over the Weekend

Excellent Organised Camping Facilities

Three Official Stages and 12 pub/boat stages

Britain's Biggest Free Blues Festival



British Blues Awards
FESTIVAL OF THE YEAR 2015

 [facebook.com/uptonbluesfestival](https://www.facebook.com/uptonbluesfestival)

 [@uptonblues](https://twitter.com/uptonblues)

www.uptonbluesfestival.org.uk



Upton Blues Festival

Friday 15th - Sunday 17th July | Upton-upon-Severn

The ever growing and evolving event that is **Upton Blues Festival** – voted UK Blues Festival of the Year 2015 – is set to change and develop again for 2016 bringing in more bands, more activity and better facilities for its visitors. Its two fundamentals will remain the same however ie 'every performance free to watch/every performer paid' and 'filling the streets of Upton with joy and music'.

The line-up brings performers from throughout Britain and further afield to the lovely riverside town to perform to the many 1000's of visitors with top names over the weekend including **Aynsley Lister, Rev Peyton's Big Damn Band, The Producers, Wille & the Bandits, Alexis Evans, Chris Antonik** and over 130 more!

From Chicago to Bluegrass to New Orleans, acoustic to gospel, the Upton Blues Festival's eclectic approach to blues ensures there is something for everyone in this broad and inclusive genre; the root of all popular music. A tinge of jazz, a sprinkle of folk, a thump of rebellion, a flash of joy – its all there in the music over the weekend.

For 2016 the **Sports Field Stage** will open at lunchtime on Friday for the first time with a much larger marquee and stage and more stalls to accommodate the growing audience at this chilled 'sit down on the grass' area. We have a FM radio license (the first blues festival in the UK to do this) and will have a full radio station running throughout the weekend. **The Riverside Stage** layout has been re-organised to increase viewing capacity for the audience.

The festival is also putting on a lecture programme and workshops for people who want to learn more – and sing!



Many people travel to the festival from far and wide in addition to the legions of faithful locals who wish to stay over and savour every moment, so with this in mind the camping field will be bigger and better this year with even more toilets and showers!

So come and join in with the best that UK blues and Worcestershire has to offer – great music, great atmosphere in a beautiful riverside setting. Upton Blues Festival 2016 – It's going to be a Blast! For more info visit: www.uptonbluesfestival.org

Been To The Festival? - Now Go To A Gig!

There is an initiative by **Upton Blues Fest** maestro **Oliver Carpenter** to get festival goers to support their local music scenes more regularly. In conjunction with SLAP, Oliver is planning to have a "You've Enjoyed The Music - Now Go To A Gig" at this year's Upton Fest.

For this to happen Oliver is asking for 20 local volunteer musicians and venue owners to man the stand throughout the weekend, with a view to talking to the many visitors about supporting the wider and regular live music scene.

Each volunteer would be asked to commit to doing a three hour stint at the festival and those interested should contact Oliver at oliver@ocsingstheblues.co.uk, with your preferred date and time. Your help is needed and much appreciated.

THE OLD BUSH BLUES '16

August 19th 20th and 21st 2016

NORTHSYDE - ALLEN DIXON AND FOTHERGILL - AMELVIN HAMCOX - TIM HAM - RED BUTLER - FIVE FIELD HOLLER KYLE AND SHAW - NEW AMEN CORNER - JULES BENJAMIN PAUL SMOOK BAND - DAVE JACKSON BAND - RICHARD CLARKE BAND - DEBBIE BOMB - NOTORIOUS BROTHERS PERRY FOSTER - SHAW/STUFF - ROBIN BIBI - SAM ANDERSON - TOME TAMMER - BACK WATER ROLL - CATFISH ROLLO MARKEE AND THE TAILSHAKERS - CRYW DUT LOUD - LUCY ZIRINS - CHICKEN BONE JOHN JON WALSH - LEINNY JAMES & THE GATOR SQUAD

and special guest... **Chris Farlowe**

The Old Bush ~ Callow End ~ Worcester ~ WR2 4TE

(01905) 830792 matt@old-bush.com www.old-bush.com

Tickets from The Old Bush by phone or Website

Weekend Camping	£50.00
Weekend	£40.00
Friday	£25.00

Free Carpark ~ BBQ All day ~ Breakfast ~ Evening Meals

Friday is Shorts & Skirts Day
Sunday is Hats & Frocks

Saturday is Hat Day
Bottle of Bubbly for Best of the Day

Music from noon till 11pm each day Two covered outdoor stages

Bands may change without notification

Proceeds Action Medical Research and Callow End Playing Fields

www.old-bush.com

Amy LaVere

St George's Hall, Bewdley | Friday 8th April

Having had the opportunity to experience an outstanding Friday night's musical entertainment last month in the venerable venue of St George's in Bewdley, I'd purchased my ticket for the latest in the 'Music in the Hall' a good while back knowing that they'd be in demand. I was certainly looking forward to see how the team arranging these intimate gigs would match the standard of the last visiting Nashville twosome; Matthew Perryman-Jones and Angel Snow.

A combination of word of mouth, simple but effective local advertising and sympathetic local press (thank you Slap Mag), ensured that a sizeable audience had assembled at St George's and they proved to be a respectful, appreciative and knowledgeable one.

As always with these events the organisers called upon the tremendous talent in the area and included two local acts on the bill, including a youth act in conjunction with **Bewdley Youth Festival**.



Bewdley based band **Swallows** opened the night with a well-received set of electronica based songs featuring beautiful harmonies from the two main singers. They were followed by **Wyldwood** from Stourport, fronted by **Hannah Law** and **Chloe Mogg** who soon proved that they are becoming a force to be reckoned with.



However, the night belonged to the double-bass playing **Amy LaVere** who had the audience spellbound with her songs and her humour in describing life in Memphis, Tennessee. Resplendent in a pastel pink wig Amy, accompanied by her Texan troubadour husband in a white cowboy hat, was welcomed by enthusiastic applause and the expectation level was turned up a few notches.

Amy and hubby Will Sexton opened the gig with two new numbers from their recently released album *'Hallelujah I'm A Dreamer'*. Introducing *'Dreamer'* as a story that developed *'restlessness into recklessness'* and running straight into the lyrical vision of young love from *'Last Rock n Roll Boy to Dance'*, with both receiving an increased volume of applause, indicating that the crowd were indeed warming to the accomplished musicianship of the leading lady, plying her trade on a borrowed double bass with her partner wielding a beaten up six string.



It wasn't long before some personal anecdotes endeared her further to the audience and introduced the best numbers of the night. A family story introduced her saintly *'Big Sister'*, with Amy emphasising that the song referred to the first 17 years of her sister's life when she was something of an 'ass' and then introduced us to her love of Memphis and it's history, by explaining that the difference in the deaf sign language between Memphis and Murder is one finger! *'Killing Him'* was explained as a tale of the ultimate retribution of spousal abuse and the first 'murder ballad' of the night.

The most animated story followed, by introducing us all to her experiences sampling hallucinogenic drugs, playing schoolgirl tricks on her housemate and 16 days without power following *Hurricane 'Elvis'*. It was evidence of how in tune the crowd were that *'Damn Love Song'* and *'Day Like Any'* were followed by a respectful silence and the haunting lyrics of *'Rabbit'* which for me was the best song of the evening. Raucous applause and knowing nods of approval resulted.

By way of introduction to the last song of the set, *'Tennessee Valentine'*, Amy thanked the donor of the borrowed bass and if further emphasis of her reputation as a musician's musician was needed a certain **Robert Plant** stood at the rear of the hall joining in the crowd appreciation.

Encores are part and parcel of an artist's set nowadays, but the reward for this intimate and respectful crowd was an additional four numbers, which included a nod of recognition to the recent passing of **Merle Haggard** and **Will Sexton** grabbing control of the mic for a fun version of *'The Man Who Comes Around'* (track it down, it won't disappoint)

This evening was another undoubted success for the team in Bewdley and increased recognition for musicianship from the American state of Tennessee. Thanks for making the journey **Amy LaVere** and **Will Sexton** respectful silence and the haunting lyrics of *'Rabbit'* which for me was the best song of the evening. Raucous applause and knowing nods of approval resulted.

Images: Colin Hill Words: Camomile to Whiskey via Trevor Price

Advertise in this space for as little as £30 per month

SLAP
MAGAZINE

SLAP Supporting Local Arts & Performers

adverts@slapmag.co.uk

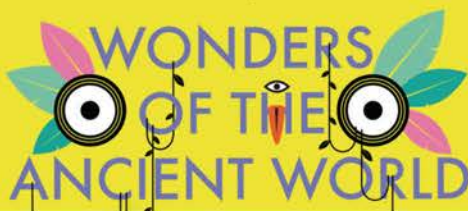


NozStock

the Hidden Valley



22 - 24 July 2016
HEREFORDSHIRE, WEST MIDLANDS



FIRST WAVE OF ACTS ANNOUNCED

JURASSIC 5

GENTLEMAN'S DUB CLUB

FOREIGN BEGGARS SLAMBOREE

THE HOT 8 BRASS BAND

PROFESSOR ELEMENTAL

SPLIT PROPHETS

DR SYNTAX + PETE CANNON

SON OF DAVE

TANKUS THE HENGE

SOLO BANTON + THE UPPER CUT BAND

HOUDINI DAX

KAGOULE

EVA LAZARUS

HARLEIGHBLU

THE LOVELY EGGS

JENNA + THE GS

MYSTRO + CUT LA VIS

SHANTY

YOUTH MAN

SAM REDMORE

FRICTION FT. LINGUISTICS DUB PHIZIX + STRATEGY

DJ MARKY & MC GO

THE PROTOTYPES

DIMENSION

RENE LAVICE + STAPLETON

JFB

ULTERIOR MOTIVE B2B JUBEI

TEDDY KILLERZ

ROCKWELL RANDALL

CHANNEL ONE

XTRAH + STEALTH

AMOS

OCTO PI

SCOPE

TRIBE OF FROG • SIKA STUDIOS • ELECTRIC BALLROOM ELECTRO SWING
LAUGHING STOCK COMEDY • CLIK CLIK'S CABINET OF LOST SECRETS
VELVETEEN VALLEY CABARET • MASH CINEMA: WRONG DIRECTIONS
BANTAM OF THE OPERA THEATRE • SPARE ROOM ARTS: LITTLE WONDERLAND



CAMPLUGH



dt

oliver's

ZOO BELLS

attitude



Hereford College of Arts



www.nozstock.com



PREVIEW

Jinney Ring Folk Festival Hanbury craft centre | Saturday 11th June

Now in its third year, the **Jinney Ring Folk Festival** takes place in the beautiful setting of the Hanbury craft centre gardens, with a stunning backdrop of the Malvern Hills. This growing festival will showcase its biggest line up to date, with eight acts playing on the marquee stage from 12pm to 11pm.

Opening the day will be **The Honeyfire**, two sisters who play harmony driven folk dream-pop, followed by **Mark Stevenson** aka **The Bard of Ledbury**. Local acts include folk-punk duo **Jack of All** from Malvern, and three from Worcester including young trio **Granny's Attic**, the fun-fuelled **Woo Town Hillbillies**, and closing the night **Jasper in the Company of Others** with their energetic fusion of indie pop.



Two multi-award winning acts are on stage in the evening. Singer, songwriter and guitarist **Sam Carter** has toured the world and just released his third album 'How The City Sings' in April 2016. **Lucy Ward** has recently been awarded the Best Album 2015 title at the Fatea Magazine Awards, and previously Best Newcomer in the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards, a title also won by Sam Carter.

There will be local ale, cider and perry all weekend, as well as plenty of homemade food. Camping is available, tents and motorhomes welcome. Free parking and entry to the craft centre.

Advance Saturday tickets £20.00 (£25.00 on the gate), £8.00 under 14s, under 5s go free. Tickets inc. camping £27.00 for one night or £35.00 for two, with a £2.00 breakfast voucher. Tickets & Info: www.jinneyring.co.uk or 01527 821272.



FOLK FESTIVAL 2016
SATURDAY 11TH JUNE 12pm - 11pm

LUCY WARD
SAM CARTER TRIO
JASPER IN THE COMPANY OF OTHERS
WOO TOWN HILLBILLIES
JACK OF ALL
GRANNY'S ATTIC
THE HONEY FIRE
MARK STEVENSON

Saturday Ticket: £20 (£25 on the gate)
Weekend Ticket with 2 nights camping: £35.00
Book online, by phone or in The Gift Shop

FURTHER TICKET OPTIONS & FULL DETAILS AVAILABLE ONLINE
Jinney Ring Craft Centre, Hanbury, Worcestershire B60 4BU
01527 821272 www.jinneyringfolk.co.uk

Real Ale Pub

THE PAUL PRY

LIVE MUSIC FOR

MAY

11th May - Comedy Night

14th May - By The Shore

20th May - Ben Vickers

27th May - Aaron Booton

All Free Entry - Come Down & Visit Us!

Musicians wanting to play at The Paul Pry, pop in and talk to Sam or contact him at 'gwin07@hotmail.com'

Real Ales
Live Music

Home
Cooked Food

Warm atmosphere (Tues - Sat Lunch Times)

Jez Lowe

St.Swithuns Hall, Worcester | Sunday 17 April

A good crowd had already assembled by 7.30 when I rolled up for this Shindig organised event; testament to the hard work that **Barry Walmsley** puts into the thrice yearly **Worcester Acoustic Music Sessions (WAMS)** plus a few Shindig events one can enjoy at St.Swithuns Hall in the Trinity, Worcester.

Tonight we are all here to see Jez Lowe, singer-songwriter from Co.Durham. His remit for this tour is to promote the songs he has written and performed for the BBC Radio Ballads. He's written around 70 songs for the long running award winning BBC series. Once described by Richard Thompson as *'the best Singer-Songwriter to come out of the UK in a longtime'*, our stripy topped troubadour is one of those who connect art and heart in equal measures.

Before the main man we are briefly but beautifully entertained by the mellifluous melodies and harmonies of **Eric and Eilleen**, two stalwarts from the long-running **Somers Folk Club**. Having warmed up the expectant crowd nicely, the pair exit to make way for Jez who after a brief intro opens with *'Tether's End'*, a protest song for modern political cynics everywhere.... *'Flat broken- hearted, bruised and burned. Cash-strapped and dunce-capped from lessons never learned. Up another junction, not knowing where to turn. Come along with me my friend, I'm travelling to Tether's End'*,.... there you go folks, a taste of the great man's lyrics and wouldn't you be at the end of your tether.

More songs from the Radio Ballads follow; *'Taking on Men'* laments the demise of the shipbuilding industry, *'The Pitmen Poets'* salutes the miners who wrote many of North East England's celebrated mining ballads, then it's a couple of songs about the travelling fairs, *'The Waltzer'* and *'Bother at the Hoppings'*, a song which clearly resonates with some of the Geordies in the crowd.

Jez then tells us how he was asked by the Producer of the Radio Ballads to write a funny song about the First World War(!), thus follows *'The Wrong Bus'*, a tale from the perspective of Tommy and Fritz, the protagonists from opposite sides who meet up when they get ferried to the Western Front by double decker

buses. A couple more songs then it's time for the break and a chance to slake yer thirst with a fine pint of the local brew on offer and a chance to purchase your Jez Lowe CDs which many did.

The second half and our genial host Barry and his guitar are joined by Malcolm Myatt on fiddle to serenade us with a gentle waltz followed by 'Bonaparte's Retreat' a cracking fiddle tune delivered with great aplomb by the duo.



Cittern primed and ready to go, left-handed Jez kicks off his second set and soon we're back to the Radio Ballads and a bluesy number called *'Jesse Owens Shoes'*, written for the BBC Ballad of the Olympics. An interesting fact for you quizzers out there, Jez reliably informs us that Jesse Owens was the first athlete to be sponsored by Adidas running shoes. A Charles Darwin inspired song next then another of his many mining songs, this one called *'Bait Up'*, a particular favourite of this reviewer. Bait is the name given by miners and labourers in Co.Durham for their packed lunch traditionally prepared by their wives.

A few more from the Radio Ballads are duly served up with his trademark dry wit and banter with particular mention to *'The Austerity Alphabet'*, a fierce concise summary of hard times....*'A is for Austerity, B for the Bankers..'* etc, you get the gist. Finally it's encore time and a song about the legendary Lord Lambton, another hero from the North East. Tonight's hero though has certainly entertained a healthy crowd and I strongly advise that should you get the chance, and I'm sure you will as he's a busy bloke, go and see **Jeze Lowe** either solo or with his band The Bad Pennies, or indeed with one of the many other collectives he seems to be involved with.

These WAMS events are really worth supporting and next up are the marvellous Welsh acoustic trio ALAW on Thursday 19th May. Be sure to get your tickets in advance for these popular events from Barry Walmsley: barry@ate.org.uk or 07881 581193

Words by Tom Trackswet



Independent Financial Advice
www.malvernifa.co.uk

Business Development IFA of the year'
- AwardWinner- Highclere Castle - 2011!

Office: **01684 588188**

**Call us now for
quality advice and peace of mind!**

2plan wealth management Ltd is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. It is entered on the FCA register (www.fca.org.uk) under reference 461598.

Screaming Miss Jackson and the Slap Ya Mama Big Band Desert Boots, Collective 43 Firefly, Worcester | Saturday 2nd April

Collective 43



Photography: Duncan Clark

With a blare of brass, wind, guitars and a bewildering array of sounds - including the artful click-clack of an old-school typewriter - **Collective 43** opened this evening of swinging, soulful, jazzy, and bluegrass goodness.

Desert Boots



Photography: Duncan Graves



Screaming Miss Jackson and the Slap Ya Mama Big Band

Photography: Duncan Graves

With gusto by the boatload and joyously life-affirming spark throughout, the dizzyingly multi-piece Collective 43 rolled, swung and strutted through New Orleans marching band jazz, ragtime and swing - and other infectious styles that defy categorisation - with the exuberance of a slightly unhinged gospel choir. The arrangement of this many different instruments and vocal parts - eleven members being crammed into this already densely packed little venue - was and is impressive. And make no mistake. This football team's worth of performers delivered a riot of noise and colour, shot through with humour, humanity - and heart.

Next up: Worcester's ascending funk stars **Desert Boots**. Compared to the massed ranks of Collective 43, at a glance this four-piece looked slightly understaffed. However. The blazing soul storm worked up by these fellows, with a crackling energy so tangible it almost sparked off the light fittings - spoke clearly of an outfit that is finding and working its groove with ever increasing precision and assurance. Truly ones to watch.

And finally: **Screaming Miss Jackson and the Slap Ya Mama Big Band**. Well-established on the UK festival circuit, this Bristolian seven-piece directly channeled the spirit of 30s jazz greats and the very swing-iest end of the country and bluegrass spectrum. Mischiefous, passionate and lyrical, this was an uplifting and infectious parade of American folk classics and originals. With boot lace ties, Stetson hats. The works. And all driven along with effortless style and serious washboard action by the eponymous **Screaming Miss Jackson**. This was a great and distinct act on top of its game. And more importantly, the entire room, every single living thing, even the dust mites - had one hell of a good time.

Words: Egon Coalsack

Arts, Exhibitions & Cinema

2nd Bridgnorth May Fair

3-4th The Divide, The Courtyard Hereford

3-5th Sunset Song, The Courtyard Hereford

5th Life Drawing Boars Head Gallery, Kidderminster 7.30pm

5th-7th Look Back in Anger The Courtyard Hereford 7.30pm

6th Mud - White Wall Film Club The Cube, Malvern 7.30

6th Talk about Edward Lear exhibition at Ashmolean Broadway, 5pm

6th Performance as publishing: Take three, Eastside Projects, Birmingham, 7.30pm

6th-9th Body casting at the Boars Head, Kidderminster

6-15th Luminous birds by Kathy Hinde, Tintern Old Station

until 8th Edward Lear Ashmolean museum Broadway

Tues and Thurs Capoeira group meet at 7pm Studio B, Worcester

8th Dancefest workshop 11am

8th Macbeth Splendid Cinema WAW 6pm

14th & 15th Worcester Motor Festival High Street

19th Hitchcock/Truffaut, The Courtyard Hereford

21st Grease outdoor screening Ombersley Cricket Club, 7.30pm

22nd Phoenix Splendid Cinema WAW 6pm

24th Confab Cabaret West Malvern Social Club 8pm

30th Pershore Carnival

30th Ludlow Brewery Family Fun day

31st Miles Ahead, The Courtyard Hereford

27 May until 17 July Never Judge A Book, Meadow Arts at Richard Booth's Bookshop, Hay-on-Wye

30th May - 12th June - 6 Artists - Weaver's Gallery, ledbury

30th - 1st June Dance Film Project, Croome Park, Worcestershire

until 11th Sept F.L. Griggs: Visions of England Ashmolean Museum

Regular Music Sessions & Open Mic Nights

Every Monday - Folk Session
Lamb & Flag, Worcester

Every Monday - Open Mic
Royal Oak, Ledbury

Every Monday - Open Mic/Jam Night
Cock & Magpie, Bewdley

1st Mon of Month - Acoustic Session
The Pickled Plum, Pershore

4th Mon - Singaround
Pidele House, Wyre Piddle, Worcs

Fortnightly Mon Open Mic
Cafe Mambo @ No.5, Redditch

Fortnightly Mon & Wed (check website) - Folk Nights
Three Horseshoes, Frampton-On-Severn, Glos

First Tues - Open Mic
The Oddfellows Arms, Astwood Bank

Last Tues - Folk Night
The Millers Arms, Pershore

First Tues - Folk Session run by Phil Knowles
Rose and Crown, Feckenham

Every Tue Perdido Street Jazz Band
The Fox & Hounds, Lulisleigh

First Tues - For 12-19 year olds 7pm
Pershore Library

Every Tue - Open Mic Night with Pete Kelly
The Queen's Head, Wolverley

Every Tue - Open Mic
The Firefly, Worcester

Every Tues - Enzo's Open Mic
Great Malvern Hotel

Every Tue - Acoustic/Singaround (Folk, Blues, Country)
The Falcon Hotel, Bromyard

2nd Tue of Month - Acoustic Session
The Farriers Arms, Worcester

Second Tues - Open Mic with 'Dodgy' Nigel
The Millers Arms, Pershore

3rd Tues - Folk Evening
The Crown Inn, Longtown, HR2

3rd Tue of Month - Acoustic Session with Mick Morris
The Bell, Pensax, Worcs

1st Tue of Month - Acoustic Session with Pauline Molloy
The Cardinal's Hat, Worcester

1st Wed Every Month - Sing/Playaround
The Talbot Hotel, Knightwick

Every Wednesday - Ukulele Session
The Old Cock Inn, Droitwich

Every other Wednesday - Folk Sessions
The Crown, Colwall

Every Wednesday - Irish Session
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Fortnightly Wed Open Mic
The Queens Head, Redditch

Alternate Weds - Acoustic Session
The Major's Arms, Halmond's Frome

Alternate Weds - Acoustic Session
The Plough & Harrow, Guarlford

First Wed - Open Mic
The Jailhouse, Hereford

Every 4 wks on a Wed - Acoustic Session
The Rose & Crown, Severn Stoke, Worcs

Every Wed - Olá Samba Drumming
All Saints Academy, Cheltenham

Every Wed - Folk Jam Session
Prince of Wales, Ledbury

Every Wed - Marzys Jam Night
Marrs Bar, Worcester

3rd Wed of Month - Acoustic Session
The Admiral Rodney, Berrow Gt

Every other Thursday, Open Mic with Dan James
The Chestnut, Worcester

1st Thurs - Folk Session
Farmers Arms, Wellington Heath

1st Thurs - Black Hill Tune Club
The Crown Inn, Longtown, HR2

Every Thurs - Troublesome Trio
Cock & Magpies, Bewdley

Thursday - Monthly Open Mic Night
The Berkeley Arms, 8 Church Street, Tewkesbury

Every other Thursday, Paul And Rays Sessions
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Every Thursday Open Mic Sessions
The Pheasant, Worcester

Every other Thursday, Bromsgrove Folk Club
Catshill Club, Bromsgrove

Every Thur - Open Mic Night/Jamming Session
Three Horseshoes, Frampton-On-Severn, Glos

Every Thurs from 9.30 - West Malvern Music Night
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Every 1st & 3rd Thursday Ben Vickers Open Mic Night
Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Every Thursday - Acoustic Session
The Fleece Inn, Bretforton, Worcs

Every Thursday - Folk Session run by Bob Chance
Black Swan Muchdew Church, Hereford

3rd Thur - Mainly Irish Session
The King's Head, Tenbury Wells

Every 4th Thursday - Open mic night with Blue Street
The Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Third Thursday - Malvern Storytellers
The Great Malvern Hotel - £1.50. See malvernstorytellers.co.uk

Alternate Thurs - Mainly Irish & Scottish Session
The Morgan, Malvern

Every Friday - Open Mic with Lew Bolton
The Unicorn, Malvern

Every Friday - Somers Trad Folk Club run by Sam & Eleanor
The Alma Tavern, Worcester

1st Fri - Acoustic Session
The Camp, Grimley

3rd Fri (usually) - Beginners/Improvers Session/Workshop
The Methodist Church, Ledbury

Last Fri - Acoustic Session
The Fox, Monkwood Green, Worcs

Every Fri - Irish Session
St Ambrose Hall, Kidderminster

Every Friday Lunch Time - Folk Session
Three Kings, Hanly Castle

Last Fri - Acoustic session run by Mark Stevenson
Wheelhouse Bar, Upton Marina

Last Friday - Resident band The Future Set
The Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

1st Sat - Acoustic session
The Railway Inn, Malvern Wells

2nd Sat (3rd Sat in Feb) - Rushwick Folk Club
Rushwick Village Hall, Worcester

Every Sunday starting at 3:00pm
The Morgan, Malvern

2nd Sun - Singaround Session
The Yew Tree Inn, Peterstow, Herefordshire

Every Sun 9.30-Midnight - Acoustic Session
Social Club, West Malvern

Every Sunday Unplugged 3pm-5pm
The Iron Road Rock Bar, Evesham

Every Sunday - Open Mic 7.30
ScaryCanary, Stourbridge

2nd Sun - Acoustic Session
The Hop Pole, Droitwich

Sunday afternoon jazz 12.00 - 3.00
Lichfield Vaults

Last Sun - Mixed Acoustic Sessions
The Bowling Green Inn, Stoke Prior

Last Sun - Open Mic with Simon Wallace
The Bush Inn, St. Johns, Worcester

1st & 3rd Sun - Singaround format Session
The Galton Arms, Himbleton, Worcs

1st & 3rd Sun - 'Baa Chords' Open mic Session
The Lamb and Flag, Worcester

Jazz every Sunday 12.30 till 2.30 ish
Pickled Plum, Pershore

2nd Sun - Moonshine Acoustic Jam Club
Piddle House, Wyre Piddle, Worcs

Sunday 1 May 2016

Kris Dollimore
The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Revolution - Dj All-Dayer
The Firefly, Worcester

See Website: www.Cheltenhamfestivals.Com/Jazz
Cheltenham Jazz Festival, Cheltenham

Wilfs Carnival Band 4.00Pm
The New Inn, Claines, Worcester

Dave Onions
The Beauchamp Arms, Malvern

The Zz Tops
Iron Road, Evesham

Konichi B2b Consist, The Lodgers, Laurie Wright
The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Beer & Music Festival, See Website For Details: www.ThePrincealbertstroud.Co.Uk
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Forty Blue Toes
The Wheelhouse Marina, Upton-Upon-Severn

Institutions
The Wharf, Stourport

Ark Fest, See Facebook For Details: www.Facebook.Com/Unicorninmalvern
The Unicorn, Malvern

The Exiles
Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Aquarius
The Swan Inn, Barbourne, Worcester

Melt Yourself Down - Cheltenham Jazz Festival
Subtone, Cheltenham

Vo Fletcher
The Chestnut, Worcester

Matt Bedford, Tbc
The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

One Tree Canyon
The Hop Pole Inn, Bewdley

Tasha 4 Till 7Pm
The White Bear, Tewkesbury

Jigdoll
The Convent, Sth Woodchester, Glos

Collective 43
Bewdley Spring Fair - Busk 1-3Pm, Bewdley

Monday 2 May 2016

See Website: www.Cheltenhamfestivals.Com/Jazz
Cheltenham Jazz Festival, Cheltenham

The Dublin Legends
Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham

Glos Uni Alternative Music Society Acoustic Night
The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Beer & Music Festival, See Website For Details: www.Theprincealbertstroud.Co.Uk
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Bank Holiday Open Mic with Pete Kelly
The Queens Head, Wolverley

Sally Live 3.00Pm
Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Paul Rose Dictatorship
Number 8, Pershore

Tuesday 3 May 2016

The Elvis Years
Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham

Marco Mendoza, Beth Blade & The Beautiful Disasters
Iron Road, Evesham

Creative Writing Open Mic
The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Jd And The Straight Shot
The Convent, Sth Woodchester, Glos

Wednesday 4 May 2016

Alice Phelps Band, Gentrifuge
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Lewis Creaven
Café Rene, Gloucester

Tyler & Friends
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Abby Scott
The Hop Pole Inn, Bewdley

Thursday 5 May 2016

Surprise Attacks Presents: Ash Is A Robot, Merricks Tusk, Gooche, Navajo Ace
The Firefly, Worcester

Snake Oil And Harmony, Dan Reed, Danny Vaughn,
Iron Road, Evesham

Ben Vickers
Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

The Purple Shades Ep Launch + The Aura
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Boy Jumps Ship, Insomniacs, Light The Skies
02 Academy 3, Birmingham

The Notorious Brothers
The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Mexican Music And Food Night
The Hop Pole Inn, Bewdley

Two Pianos
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Cale Tyson
The Convent, Sth Woodchester, Glos

Friday 6 May 2016

The Cracked Actors, Skewwhiff
Eleven, Stourbridge

Sammy Jo
Piesse Of Piddle, Wyre Piddle

The Ferrets
The Millers Arms, Pershore

The Delray Rockets
Saracens Head, Worcester

Pure Dc: High Voltage in Full
Iron Road, Evesham

Liquor & Poker
The Queens Head, Wolverley

Death Remains, Black Coast, Ascaris, City Under Sky, Reveller
The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Garance Louis & The Mitochondries
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Danny Vincent
Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

The Magoos
Drummonds, Worcester

Lounge Toad
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Cantaloop
Café Rene, Gloucester

Michael Knowles And The Std's, The Connor Maher Quartet + Toenail And The Bedsores
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Ignition Presents Eradikator, At Dawn We Attack & Konzept!
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Fallen Branches
Ginger Pig Cafe Bar & Bistro, Worcester

Wu Tang Promotions - Drum & Bass
The Pig And Drum, Worcester

Nice N Sleazy
Bluebell Inn, Upton On Severn

Joanna Wallfisch
Elmslie House, Malvern

The Futures
Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

The Core
The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Aire Flamenco
Clent Parish Hall, Clent, Worcs

Maverick Sabre
Guildhall, Gloucester

Now 2
The Bush Inn, St. Johns, Worcester

Bad Names
The Red Lion, Evesham

Moulettes
The Convent, Sth Woodchester, Glos

Saturday 7 May 2016

Big Jim And Black Cat Bone
The Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

Andy Lindsay & Zoe Devenish
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

The Futures
The Woodland Cottage, Redditch

Ricky Cool And The in Crowd
The Fold, Bransford

The Executives
The Green Dragon, Malvern

Burning Crows, Falling Red, Doomsday Outlaw,
Iron Road, Evesham

The Four Owls, Motion Enterprise, Donnie Yen & Prozac,
Griz-O, Jpdl & Micd
The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Thirsty Work
The Wheelhouse Marina, Upton-Upon-Severn

Sally Haines
Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Mark James
The Swan, Studley

Hoopy Frood
The Cube, Malvern

Aquarius
The Wharf, Stourport

Medicine Spoon
Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Olb: Seventh Circle (Be), Grim Existence + Slow Zone
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Jay And Elizabeth
The Swan Inn, Barbourne, Worcester

Infected Promotions - Drunk in Charge, Swing Rioters, The
Youth Within
The Pig And Drum, Worcester

Nice N Sleazy
King's Head, Tenbury Wells

Busby's Babes
Stagborough Arms, Stourport

Clarksville Mountain Band
The Chestnut, Worcester

Hybrid
The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Kickback
New Inn, Pershore

Elio Pace: The Billy Joel Songbook
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Cloudbusting - The Music Of Kate Bush
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Gerry Colvin Band
The Room Upstairs, Palace Theatre, Redditch

Whole Lotta Led
Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Plucking Different
Stroud Brewery, Stroud

Adamantium
Old Cock Inn, Droitwich

Tom Mcrae
The Convent, Sth Woodchester, Glos

Sunday 8 May 2016

Lazy Sunday 12 -6Pm Boys in The Wood, Katey Brooks,
Sophonie, Open Mic
Café Bliss, Worcester

Dave Onions 4Pm
The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Small Town Jones
The Prince Albert, Stroud

The Fureys
The Courtyard, Hereford

Robin Bibi 4Pm
The Old Bush, Callow End

Supalele
Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Ray Mytton Band
The Chestnut, Worcester

Dominic Kirwan
Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

The Dreamers
The Roses, Tewkesbury

Marc Drew 4-7Pm
The White Bear, Tewkesbury

Bad Manners
Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Shook Twins
The Convent, Sth Woodchester, Glos

Monday 9 May 2016

Brother Dege, Forefathers, Men Diamler, Solid Gone
The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Despite Everything + Support
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Tuesday 10 May 2016

Indigo Roads, Discount Colombo, Plus Support
The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Gill Sandell
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Fairport Convention
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Wednesday 11 May 2016

Comedy Night
The Paul Pry, Worcester

Ryan Mcgarvey
Iron Road, Evesham

Steve Nimmo, Ben Poole
Vonnies Blues Club, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham

Luke Doherty Band
Café Rene, Gloucester

Tyler & Friends
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

The O'farrell Frolics
The Hop Pole Inn, Bewdley

Thursday 12 May 2016

The Dowling Pool, Paul Miro, Blacklist Saints,
Iron Road, Evesham

Poetry Festival
The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Gerry Across The Mersey: Gerry And The Pacemakers
The Courtyard, Hereford

Boys in The Wood
Café Rene, Gloucester

Lo-Promo Presents... Sativa & Soden, *Pilla*
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Buddy Holly & The Cricketers
The Swan Theatre, Worcester

The Players, Stripped Down Blues
The Cap 'N' Gown, Worcester

The Invisible Orchestra
Guildhall, Gloucester

Dan Walsh
Bromsgrove Folk Club, Catshill

Ben Savage And Hannah Sanders
The Convent, Sth Woodchester, Glos

Friday 13 May 2016

Dogs Of Santorini

The Cap 'N' Gown, Worcester

Mambo Jambo

Piesse Of Piddle, Wyre Piddle

Free Spirit

The Queens Head, Wolverley

Red Dawe

Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Soul Dj Phil Key & The Soul Patrol

The Cross Keys, Malvern

Skrood

The Millers Arms, Pershore

The Delray Rockets

Kings Head, Tenbury Wells

Sack Sabbath

Iron Road, Evesham

God Damn, Armchair Committee, Buying Lies, Juda

The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

The Ron Jeremy Band

Drummonds, Worcester

A Vision Of Elvis

The Courtyard, Hereford

Chuck Harriet Band

The Ginger Pig Cafe & Bistro, Worcester

Tegu Fly

The Wharf, Stourport

Zen Hussies, C@ in The H@ & Collective 43

The Boars Head, Kidderminster

We Signal Fire + Support

The Pig And Drum, Worcester

John Otway

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Chuck Harriet Band

Ginger Pig Cafe Bar & Bistro, Worcester

Mister Wolf

The Plough Inn, Upton Upon Severn

The Voice Night

Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

Magic: A Kind Of Queen

The Roses, Tewkesbury

The Fair Rain

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Malcolm Holcombe With Jared Tyler, One Tree Canyon,

Two Doors Down,

St Georges Hall, Bewdley

The Thankful Village

Number 8, Pershore

Andy Fairweather-Low

Tithe Barn, Bishops Cleeve

Kula Shaker

Guildhall, Gloucester

Little Dave

The Red Lion, Evesham

The Undercovers

Old Cock Inn, Droitwich

Manran

The Convent, Sth Woodchester, Glos

Saturday 14 May 2016

The Worried Men

Black Lion, Hereford

Without Flight, The Rogues, Danger Trains

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Nightshift

The Express Inn, Malvern

Hybrid

The Cross Keys, Malvern

The Membranes, The Nightingales, Ted Chippington, Fallen Leaves

The Flapper, Birmingham

Timeless Jazz

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Phil Bates

The Green Dragon, Malvern

By The Shore

The Paul Pry, Worcester

The Vim Dicta (La)

Iron Road, Evesham

Falls, I Cried Wolf, Landmarks, Young Hearts Sioux Falls

The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Roadhouse, Sweet Talk

The Booth Hall, Hereford

Reflections

The Wheelhouse Marina, Upton-Upon-Severn

The Pale Kings, Dr Bullfrog, More Tbc

The Boars Head, Kidderminster

South African Gospel Choir Uk

The Courtyard, Hereford

Gary Hall

Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Without Flight, The Rogues + Danger Trains

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Star Maker International

The Swan Inn, Barbourne, Worcester

Market Tavern Legends, Featuring The Pale Kings and The Bullfrogs

The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Micheal Knowles & The Stds + Support

The Pig And Drum, Worcester

Aquarius

The Black Star, Stourport

Izzy The Push

Stagborough Arms, Stourport

Bourbon Alley Blues Band

The Chestnut, Worcester

Notorious Brothers

New Inn, Pershore

Mumbo-Jumbo

Artrix (Studio), Bromsgrove

The Big O & The Wilburys Tribute Show

Artrix (Auditorium), Bromsgrove

Martin Turner - Ex Wishbone Ash

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Licensed To Trill - Opera Dudes

Worcester Arts Workshop, Worcester

Alex Vann (Playing Beyond Borders Folk Show)

Quatt Village Hall, Bridgnorth

Bremner Duthrie - Weill At Heart

Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Luke Phillbrick

Stroud Brewery, Stroud

Sunday 15 May 2016

Forty Blue Toes

The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Moscow Drug Club

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Danny Driver

The Courtyard, Hereford

Robin Bibi 5Pm

The Old Bush, Callow End

Carol Lee Sampson

Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Will Killeen

The Chestnut, Worcester

Tom Robinson

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Licensed To Trill - Opera Dudes

Feckenham Village Hall, Feckenham, Worcs

Two's Company 4-7Pm

The White Bear, Tewkesbury

Blowzabella

Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Don Gallardo

The Convent, Sth Woodchester, Glos

Tuesday 17 May 2016

The Fureys

Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

Beans On Toast, Sky Smeed, Katie Collins, Jay Mansfield

The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Blackline Entertainment Presents, Tbc

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Wednesday 18 May 2016

Jessica Rhodes

Café Rene, Gloucester

Vive La France!

St Andrews Square Shopping Centre, Droitwich Spa

Daniel Seth

The Hop Pole Inn, Bewdley

Tyler & Friends

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

King King, Dan Patlansky

Guildhall, Gloucester

Thursday 19 May 2016

Bella Hardy

The Convent, Sth Woodchester, Glos

Remi Harris Duo

Piccolos, Bewdley

Surprise Attacks & Task in Hand Present: Memory Of

Elephants, The Broken Oak Duet, Lambhorn

The Firefly, Worcester

Tom Robinson

Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

The Cureheads, Ant Flavour

Iron Road, Evesham

The Big Band

The Courtyard, Hereford

Limehouse Lizzy

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Alaw

St Swithuns, Worcester

Bolder Than You

The Pig And Drum, Worcester

Peatbog Faeries

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Whole Lotta Shakin'

The Swan Theatre, Worcester

Friday 20 May 2016

Simon Mcbride

The Convent, Sth Woodchester, Glos

Skewwhiff

The Cap 'N' Gown, Worcester

Benji Kirkpatrick

Piesse Of Piddle, Wyre Piddle

Steve Ajao & the Blues Giants

The Queens Head, Wolverley

Dissident Prophet

Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Rob Kingsley: A Vision Of Elvis

Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

Dave Onions

The Waggon & Horses, Cradley Heath

Melanie Macro

Cheltenham Town Hall, Pillar Room, Cheltenham

Dissident Prophet

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

The Jgc's

The Millers Arms, Pershore

Ben Vickers

The Paul Pry, Worcester

Harper's Ferry, Gypsy Fingers, Two Ways Home, Quigley,

Katie Collins

The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Mother Popcorn

Drummonds, Worcester

Aeonian Dog, Clockwork Rifle, Harlequins

The Booth Hall, Hereford

David Ian Roberts

The Courtyard, Hereford

Echo Town

Café Rene, Gloucester

The Fezz

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Dead Frequency

The Pig And Drum, Worcester

Mister Wolf

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Chicago Bytes Blues Band

Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

Bon Giovi

The Roses, Tewkesbury

You've Got A Friend: The Music Of James Taylor & Carole King

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Talon - The Best Of The Eagles

The Swan Theatre, Worcester

Dorothy's War - The Harmonettes

Clows Top Victory Hall, Clows Top, Worcs

Sarah Warren

The Bush Inn, St. Johns, Worcester

Worcestershire Jazz Orchestra

Droitwich Legion Inn, Droitwich

The Strangers

The Red Lion, Evesham

Miss Penny (Drag Queen)

Old Cock Inn, Droitwich

Saturday 21 May 2016

Sarah Jane Morris And Antonio Formione

The Convent, Sth Woodchester, Glos

Lewis Boulton (John Mayer Tribute)

Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Frontrunner

The Cross Keys, Malvern

Journeyman

The Green Dragon, Malvern

Bombshell Babies, Tempus, Backyard Virgins, The Miiffs, Donato

The Pig And Drum, Worcester

Andre & Jayne In True Colours

The Queens Head, Wolverley

The Futures

Barnards Green CC, Malvern

D-Ran D-Ran

Iron Road, Evesham

Spring Special Punk All-Dayer, Feat. River Jumpers, Catch Fire And More

The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Perhaps Contraction

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Worcester Record And Cd Fair 10 Am-4Pm

St Andrews Methodist Church, Pump St, Worcester

Foreign Quarter

The Wheelhouse Marina, Upton-Upon-Severn

Rock Chic

Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Lenny James And Gator Squad

The Swan, Studley

The Groundhogs, Raptor, As Mamas,

The Booth Hall, Hereford

The Boehm Piano & Clarinet Duo

Elmslie House, Malvern

Gravy Train

Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Folkaholics, Paul Jeffrey, Richard Clarke

St Georges Church, Worcester

Worcester Rejects Reunion Soul & Ska

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Two Tone Review

The Swan Inn, Barbourne, Worcester

Arcadia Roots

The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Luna Rosa, Unpleasant Terrace
Scarycanary, Stourbridge

Will Killeen
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Tyler Massey
The Stores, Colwall

Mister Wolf
The Bell, Worcester

Barrel House Band
Stagborough Arms, Stourport

Lowsteppa
Subtone, Cheltenham

Pete Hyde And The Vieillards
The Chestnut, Worcester

Cracker & The Rockin 88'S
Callow End Club, Worcester

Satellite Down
New Inn, Pershore

The Fortunes
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Talon - The Best Of The Eagles
The Swan Theatre, Worcester

Massacre Festival Iv See Website For Details
Guildhall, Gloucester

Counter Measures
Stroud Brewery, Stroud

Sunday 22 May 2016

Rura
The Convent, Sth Woodchester, Glos

Trevor Burton Band
The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Fleecy Folk: Gilmore & Roberts
The Fleece Inn, Bretforton

Veridian, Young Kings, Delicate Holly, Sahara Breeze
The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Remi Harris 1.30Pm
Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Tyler & Vo
Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Woo Town Hillbillies
The Chestnut, Worcester

Kieran Goss
Tith Barn, Bishops Cleeve

Jackie Baker 4-7Pm
The White Bear, Tewkesbury

Woody Mann, + Film - Harlem Street Singer
Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Monday 23 May 2016

23 - 30 May Full Details: Winchcombefestival.Co.Uk
Winchcombe Festival, Winchcombe, Glos

Tuesday 24 May 2016

Courage My Love, All Ears Avow, Floorboards, Masspectrum, Rivers
The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Cate Cody Trio
The Roses, Tewkesbury

Wednesday 25 May 2016

Rory Mcleod And The Familiar Strangers
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Big Jim & American Eric
Café Rene, Gloucester

Sunjay
The Hop Pole Inn, Bewdley

Tyler & Friends
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Thursday 26 May 2016

Ian Siegal & Jimbo Mathus
The Convent, Sth Woodchester, Glos

Mumbo Jumbo
The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Greg Russell & Ciaran Algar
Bromsgrove Folk Club, Catshill

Voodoo Stone
Worley's The Swan, Stourport

Rebecca Downes + Support
Iron Road, Evesham

When We Were Wolves, Chuggaboom, We Come From Ashes, The Uncharted
The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Sally
Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Tia Mcgraff, Demi Marriner
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Tia Mcgraff
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Steve Ashley, Mike Weaver
Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

Westrock
Guildhall, Gloucester

Friday 27 May 2016

The Humdrum Express, Jess Silk, Vix And Her Mschiefs, Flying Ant Day,
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Fairport Convention, Jess Morgan
The Convent, Sth Woodchester, Glos

Chewie
Mount Pleasant Hotel (Harcourt Room), Great Malvern

Arthur Ebeling
Piesse Of Piddle, Wyre Piddle

Steve Nash
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Remi Harris Project
The Conquest Theatre, Bromyard

See: www.Mellofestival.Co.Uk
Mello Festival, Throckmorton Aifield, Nr Evesham

www.Lechladedefestival.Co.Uk
Lechlade Festival, Lechlade, Glos

Lady Maisery
The Cube, Malvern

Mugenkyo Talko Drummers
Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

When It Rains
The Millers Arms, Pershore

Chronicles of Zee
The Queens Head, Wolverley

Aaron Booton
The Paul Pry, Worcester

Too Rex
Iron Road, Evesham

Cocos Lovers
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Graveyard Johnnys, Red Light Rebels, Plus Support
The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Bright Eyes/Dark Eyes
The Wharf, Stourport

The Future Set
Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Will Edmunds Trio
Café Rene, Gloucester

The Humdrum Express Album Launch Plus Vix And Her Mschiefs, Flying Ant Day And Jess Silk.
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Andy Bennett
Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

Showaddywaddy
The Roses, Tewkesbury

Blake
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Voices Unlimited
The Swan Theatre, Worcester

The Wedding Present
Guildhall, Gloucester

Woo Town Hillbillies
The Red Lion, Evesham

Massive Head Trauma
Old Cock Inn, Droitwich

Saturday 28 May 2016

Jo Harman
The Convent, Sth Woodchester, Glos

Aphelion - 'Towards The Within'
Persore Abbey, Persore

50S And 60S Music Marathon
The Red Lion, Evesham

Hoochmongers
Piesse Of Piddle, Wyre Piddle

Dave Beale
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

See: www.Mellofestival.Co.Uk
Mello Festival, Throckmorton Aifield, Nr Evesham

Ska 45S
The Cross Keys, Malvern

www.Lechladedefestival.Co.Uk
Lechlade Festival, Lechlade, Glos

Skewwhiff, Jack Of All, Prism, By The Shor
Beat It Festival, The Royal Oak, Ledbury

The Rehydrated Turkeys (Unplucked)!!
The Green Dragon, Malvern

The Delray Rockets
VE Festival, Crown Meadow, Evesham

Thunderfuck, The Deadly Romantics
Iron Road, Evesham

Skaface
The Wheelhouse Marina, Upton-Upon-Severn

Terry O'sullivan Rat Pack
Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Andrew Riverstone
The Ginger Pig Cafe & Bistro, Worcester

Paul Rose - Album Launch
The Lamb & Flag, Worcester

The Futures
The Beauchamp Arms, Malvern

Annette Gregory - The Ella Fitzgerald Songbook
The Room Upstairs, Palace Theatre, Redditch

The Lighter Thieves
Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Jagged Hands
The Swan Inn, Barbourne, Worcester

Chicago Bytes Blues Band
Button Oak Inn, Bewdley

Andrew Riverstone
Ginger Pig Cafe Bar & Bistro, Worcester

Festival Experience
Stagborough Arms, Stourport

Dave Beale
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Moretallica
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Back Porch
The Chestnut, Worcester

Matt Bowen
New Inn, Persore

The Songs That Won The War
Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

Dreaming Of Kate - Kate Bush Tribute
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Voices Unlimited
The Swan Theatre, Worcester

[Sponge]
Guildhall, Gloucester

The Remi Harris Project
Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Mr Love And Justice
Stroud Brewery, Stroud

Sunday 29 May 2016

Adam Beattie
The Convent, Sth Woodchester, Glos

Back Porch
The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Lazy Sunday Afternoon
The Red Lion, Evesham

Revolution - Dj All-Dayer
The Firefly, Worcester

See: www.Mellofestival.Co.Uk
Mello Festival, Throckmorton Aifield, Nr Evesham

www.Lechladedefestival.Co.Uk
Lechlade Festival, Lechlade, Glos

The Delray Rockets
Shipston On Stour Cider Fest The Black Horse, Shipston-On-Stour

Skabucks
Iron Road, Evesham

Belle D'vain Morris + Asparagus Auction
The Fleece Inn, Bretforton

Beat It Festival
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Semi-Nice Arts Fair
The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Nice & Sleazy
The Wheelhouse Marina, Upton-Upon-Severn

Sally Live 5.00Pm
Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Chicago Bytes
The Wharf, Stourport

Colin Rickards
Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Disco Mickelson
The Swan Inn, Barbourne, Worcester

Carol And Loll
The Chestnut, Worcester

Pete Brown's Newgrass Cutters
Tithe Barn, Bishops Cleeve

Andrew Riverstone 4-7Pm
The White Bear, Tewkesbury

Paul Rose Dictatorship
Igot Manor (Stratfest), Stratford-Upon-Avon

Richard Clarke
Casablanca's Wine Bar, Worcester

Monday 30 May 2016

Live Music - Asparagus Fun Day
The Fleece Inn, Bretforton

Bank Holiday Open Mic with Pete Kelly
The Queens Head, Wolverley

Laura Stevenson, Personal Best, Austeros, Helen Chambers
The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Lesoir, The Sum Of, & Many More 3-10Pm
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Lounge Toad
The Chestnut, Worcester

Paul Rose Dictatorship
The Angel, Persore

Tuesday 31 May 2016

Natalia Amy Douglas With The Remi Harris Project
Clows Top Victory Hall, Worcestershire

Remember to upload your listings at
www.slapmag.co.uk/get-listed/
it's quick & simple and guarantees inclusion
or email editorial@slapmag.co.uk

THE MARR'S BAR

MAY
JUNE 2016

John Otway
Friday 13th May



Thursday 5th May

The Purple Shades EP launch+The Aura
£3 in advance

Friday 6th May

Michael Knowles and the STD's,
The Connor Maher Quartet
Toenailand the Bedsores
£3 in advance £5 on the door

Saturday 7th May

Olb: Seventh Circle (Be)
Grim Existence + Slow Zone
£5 in advance £7 on the door

Monday 9th May

FSC - Despite Everything + Support
£4 in advance £6 on the door

Thursday 12th May

Lo-Promo - Sativa, Soden + *Pilla*
£3 in advance £5 on the door

Friday, 13th May

John Otway
£10 in advance £12 on the door

Saturday 14th May

Without Flight, The Rogues
+ Danger Trains
£4 in advance £6 on the door

Tuesday 17th May

Backdrop entertainment presents...
Price TBC

Thursday 19th May

Limehouse Lizzy
£12 in advance

Friday 20th May

The Fezz
£3 in advance £5 on the door

Saturday 21st May

Worcester Rejects Reunion soul & Ska
£5 in advance

Thursday 26th May

Tia McGraff, Demi Marriner
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Friday 27th May

3 bands £3

Saturday 28th May

Moretallica
£7 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday 4th June

Hunter And The Bear
£10 in advance £12 on the door

Saturday 11th June

Rust For Glory
£6 in advance £8 on the door

Sunday 12th June

Band Of Rogues
Price TBC

Friday 17th June

Lizzie And The Banshees
£7 in advance £10 on the door

Friday 24th June

Panic Room
£15 in advance £17 on the door

Saturday 25th June

Green Haze
£6 in advance £8 on the door

Wednesdays - Jamming night

Late Saturdays - Midnight till 4. £5

Tickets available from
Marr's Bar and Music City

www.marrsbar.co.uk

01905 613336

Worcester's Premier Live Music Venue

Available for private hire