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Issue 83

Aug 2018

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Aug 2018 MAGAZINE

SLAP MAGAZINE

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Hello folks, I trust you all had a fabulous July and made the most of the glorious sunshine...

If you have been in Worcester over the last few weeks, you couldn't have missed at least some of the colourfully painted giraffes dotted around the City as part of the 'Worcester Stands Tall' public arts trail. The event has really captured the publics interest and has been a big talking point for locals and visitors alike. Of course there's always one or two who need to spoil it for everyone else with mindless violence, as two had to be taken away for repair... We chose the installation by artist Matthew Smith at the gates of Worcester Race Course as our front cover for this issue.

The festivals came thick and fast last month and we take a look back at the wonderful Nozstock festival. It was the sell-out 20th anniversary and, although I say it every year, the best one yet.

And so the summer continues... in this issue we look back at the Westfest, Linton and Upton Blues. We also take a look forward to the brilliant Lakefest, Old Bush Blues, Kidderminster Fringe festivals and last but not least the Moseley Folk festival.

Next month we'll bring you all the latest news and updates from the Worcester Music Festival due to take place mid September. We at SLAP can't wait, enjoy August!!!

Infest-ed



Photography by: Momentsbyadam

Giraffa Chameleondalis by artist **Matthew Smith** as part of **Worcester Stands Tall** (See Page 7).

Matthew is an Illustration graduate living in Worcester and is active in the online art and comics communities. Find him on twitter at @teamsmithy and see his work at teamsmithy.tumblr.com



Spotify

Search Slap Magazine

Boom For Tunes

Good news for independent music labels as the streaming boom brought in £380m worth of revenue last year to the struggling industry - with much of the growth attributed to Latin America and Asia. Merlin - a non-profit global digital rights agency for independent labels reported a rise in customers using paid-for services such as **Spotify** rather than downloading for free - with the most-committed music fans listening to independent music - excellent!

Literally Good News

Bewdley Festival is planning to include a 'literary day' for the first time this year with local historian **Fen Flack**, author **Gill Paul** and BBC Radio 6 broadcaster **Stuart Maconie** giving talks on Saturday 29 September at St George's Hall. The festival itself kicks off on Friday 12 October with the star attraction being former Fine Young Cannibals frontman **Roland Gift**. Organisers are hoping to hold a **Bewdley Literary Day** three-monthly thereafter...

Angry Proclaimers Proclaim Anger

A bonus for **Lakefest** organisers as headliners **The Proclaimers** launch their new album *Angry Cyclist* two days before their main stage appearance on 12 August. The album's been described as 'timeless and politically and socially aware' with brothers Craig and Charlie taking a wry look at the bigoted and reactionary times we live in. **Lakefest** takes place at Eastnor Deer Park from 9 -12th August - lakefest.co.uk

Rarm-a-Rama

The sixth **Down On The Farm Festival** runs from 10-12th August at Abbey Dore in Herefordshire and features **Mark Chadwick of The Levellers** and festival folk favourites **Sons Of Clogger** - who will be playing their 300th gig! Local acts on the bill at the **Gwatkin Cider** farm site include **Nuns Of The Tundra**, **Hide Your Eyes** and **The Woo Town Hillbillies**...

Lovely Loveday look to Lakefest

Great news for fast-rising Evesham indie-rock outfit **Lower Loveday** when their latest single *Is It Right* was featured on ITV's *This Morning* in its unsigned music feature. It's been a good year for the four-piece, who've also reached the final of a national music competition - their next appearance will be on the BBC Stage at **Lakefest** on Saturday 11th August!

Handing Over the Reins

After bringing back **Worcester Carnival** to success the last couple of years after the 'unfortunate' last-minute cancellation in 2016, chairman **Alan Feeney** has stepped down as he has now moved out of the city and wants to 'hand the reins' over to someone local. Despite clashing with a certain football match - this year's event attracted a good crowd and also featured a funfair, street theatre and a RAF flypast!

Toyah's Having a Giraffe

Not just content with designing one of the giraffes (*Touch The Wishing Star*) in the **Worcester Stands Tall** arts project - local superstar **Toyah Willcox** will also be playing an unplugged set of her hits and lifting the lid on the entertainment business in her 35-year career at **Evesham Arts Centre** on Saturday 1st September. www.eveshamartscentre.co.uk



Worcester loses a piece of History

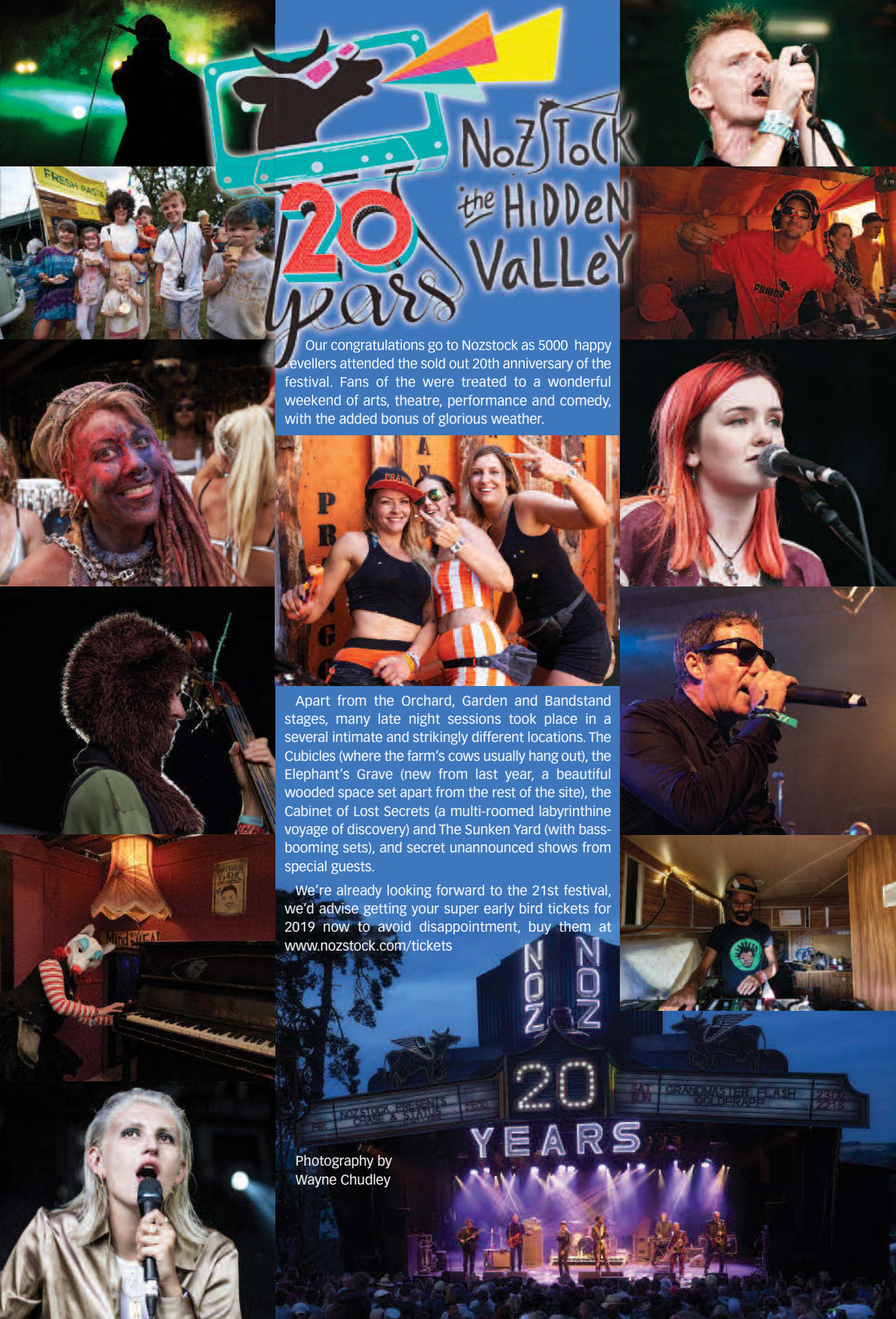
Despite fierce criticism from campaigners and a petition against - the **Elgar Foundation** has moved its archive of the composer's material to London to join the British Library's collection - where it'll be digitised for worldwide online access. However a further twist when a first edition annotated draft of the *Enigma Variations* appeared on the BBC's *Antiques Roadshow* - attracting a valuation of £100,000! However the Foundation recognised it as a document which 'disappeared' 20 years ago and blocked the sale of the score by auction house *Christies* - watch this space...

World Unfolds at Bransford

Another new festival coming to our fair region with the announcement of *World In A Day* on Saturday 1st September at **The Fold** in Bransford which as you guessed is a world music event featuring blues, reggae, klezmer, bluegrass, roots and Indian classical music - featuring acts from all over the UK such as *Kingsley Salmon*, *Troyka*, *The Folly Brothers* plus local supergroup *Stone Mountain Sinners* - more at www.worldinaday.co.uk

Charles Street Pop Up

A pop up record shop is occupying the former Autovac Domestic Appliance shop at 7 Charles Street on the City Walls in Worcester from now to November. The shelves mainly are filled with albums from the 1950s to 1990s. It really is 99% Analogue, and 99% near mint. The temporary name, **The Turntable Worcester**, is a revival of a shop name from this City that closed over 30 years ago, sometimes the name is seen on old price labels, so it is a comeback of sorts to mirror the so called vinyl revival. Large swathes of classical records are offered for £3 to £5 each, lots of low price jazz, all sorts of rock & pop, with the rarities on the walls. Most of the many soundtracks are £5, as are the Folk, World and Country. A large collection is due in over the next month that will really expand the pop and rock sections.



Our congratulations go to Nozstock as 5000 happy revellers attended the sold out 20th anniversary of the festival. Fans of the were treated to a wonderful weekend of arts, theatre, performance and comedy, with the added bonus of glorious weather.

Apart from the Orchard, Garden and Bandstand stages, many late night sessions took place in a several intimate and strikingly different locations. The Cubicles (where the farm's cows usually hang out), the Elephant's Grave (new from last year, a beautiful wooded space set apart from the rest of the site), the Cabinet of Lost Secrets (a multi-roomed labyrinthine voyage of discovery) and The Sunken Yard (with bass-booming sets), and secret unannounced shows from special guests.

We're already looking forward to the 21st festival, we'd advise getting your super early bird tickets for 2019 now to avoid disappointment, buy them at www.nozstock.com/tickets

Photography by
Wayne Chudley



Clik Clik will be splattered around various festivals in the UK this month, firstly curating a circus inspired visual arts exhibition at **KAF (Kidderminster Arts Festival)** combining community work from 'Arts Etc..', work from local artists, a growing art piece for you to make your own masterpieces and a giant Circus mural from Kidderminster artist **Karina Harrison**.



The **Clik Clik Circus Showcase** links in with 'Circus 250', a nationwide celebration of 250 years of UK Circus art.

KAF takes place from 11th-26th August and offers amazing street entertainment, events and activities.

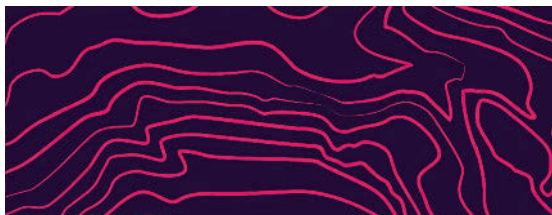
kidderminsterartsfestival.org.uk

Then I'll be hopping off to **Boomtown** to set up my little quirky installation '**Pie n' Tash**', a playful, dark and immersive photobooth experience. Followed on by **Green Man Festival** for some walkabout performance and interactive silliness!

clikclikcollective.com

Civic Fabric

In June almost 200 people attended Herefordshire's first national culture conference, **Civic Fabric 2018**. The event was organised and hosted by the team behind **Herefordshire's a Great Place**, a **Heritage Lottery Funding** and **Arts Council England** funded pilot project that aims to strengthen and support arts and heritage across Herefordshire.



There were talks about how cultural organisations can collaborate and workshops about valuing volunteers, what is social impact and the ways church buildings can work with local communities, like **St Michaels** in Brampton Abbots where a regeneration group plans to open an artisanal bakery and café. In August, **Great Place** will launch **Go & See Bursaries** – an opportunity to apply for funding to go on short research trips to inspiring and innovative cultural projects outside of Herefordshire.

To watch films from the conference, or find out more about the grants for arts and heritage projects being offered through Great Place, head to - www.hiddengemsherefordshire.co.uk/civic-fabric-2018/

Riverside Arts Markets

Archiimp reinvents the **Worcester Riverside Arts Fayre** this year in partnership with the **Worcester City Council** and **LSD Promotions**, as an annual celebration of art and culture in Worcester with local artists covering all mediums in the beautiful setting on the banks of the River Severn. Together there will be over twenty individual artists from Worcester and the surrounding area, displaying all hand created artworks including watercolour, oil, acrylic paintings, aboriginal inspired art, pastel portraits, photorealistic pencil work, felt and paper cut art, photography, pottery, ceramics and glass jewellery. **Nigel Jones** of the **Cardinal's Hat Public House** will be supporting the Arts Fayre with a pop up bar and creating a special cocktail in celebration of the event and **Calvin** from Worcester's **The Cabin** will be presenting mounting and framing solutions.



The **Archiimp Pop-up Gallery** Initiative will be held alongside the River Severn and will compliment the **St. Richards Hospice Duck Race** and Celebration Gardens events being held on the same day at the South Quay, Worcester on at 11th Aug

Droitwich Arts Fest success

The sunny weather just added to the recent Droitwich Arts Festival last month, which offered a whole host of creative activities and performances from children's activities, photography, sketching walks, pop-up installations and live music. Look out for next year's event!



**For Arts Submissions
News & Events email Kate
at arts@slapmag.co.uk**

A Wonderful World Of Drama Workshops This Summer At Artrix

Throughout the summer holidays, **Artrix** is opening its doors to budding young actors, singers, dancers and film stars to take part in a selection of theatrical summer schools.

The On-Screen Acting Course runs from Monday 6th to Friday 10th August, 10am to 4pm each day. Young people aged 6 to 18 years will learn about acting on camera, as well as filming and editing and the week will conclude with a film premiere to showcase their work.



Young people who would like to create their own play are invited to join in with the Devising Summer School, from Monday 13th to Friday 17th August, 10am to 4pm each day. This ever popular week-long course culminates in a performance for friends and family. This workshop is best suited for young people aged 13 to 18 years.

Each course costs £100 for five days with a 25% discount available for siblings attending.

For further information or to book a place on a workshop at Artrix contact Box Office on 01527 577330 or visit: artrix.co.uk.

Ballet Malvern



Talented dancers at a Malvern ballet school are celebrating a summer of unprecedented success.

From winning lead roles in professional theatre productions to places at prestigious drama and ballet schools, Ballet Malvern Centre of Dance students are flying high.

All 20 of Ballet Malvern's dancers who auditioned for Malvern Theatre's production of Peter Pan, which runs this August and stars TV's Billy Elliot, Eliott Hanna- were given parts.

Other students have been offered places at prestigious drama and dance schools nationwide.

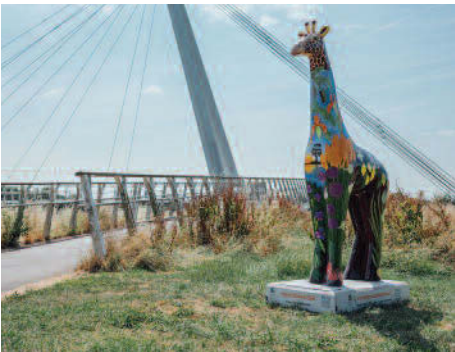
Ballet Malvern, in Cowleigh Road, runs weekday and weekend classes for children aged three upwards from musical theatre to classical ballet and rhythmic gymnastics to jazz and tap. There are adult ballet and contemporary classes, too.

For details of classes, visit www.balletmalvern.co.uk

Standing Tall

You may have noticed a colourful herd of giraffes all around the city! **Worcester Stands Tall**, an event by **Wild in Art** brought to the city by St Richard's Hospice is a total of 57 individually designed and painted sculptures on show through the city's streets and open spaces, forming a trail approximately six-miles in length. The trail is raising funds for the hospice's Build 2020 Appeal to build a bigger hospice, enabling more patients and families to be cared for in Worcestershire.

The 57 sculptures have been decorated by artists for display through the city in a number of well-loved places. Each large sculpture has been sponsored by organisations from across the county. There are 26 smaller calf sculptures, which have been decorated by schools and community groups and are on show in the city's **Crowngate Shopping Centre**. You can see these wonderful creatures out on display until Sept 16th. worcesterstandstall.co.uk



Photography by :Momentsbyadam

The Precious Clay Porcelain in Contemporary Art

Meadow Arts and the Museum of Royal Worcester present an exhibition exploring the medium of porcelain in contemporary art, **The Precious Clay**. The exhibition will examine why and how artists choose to use this legendary material in their practice. With its origins in the Far East and a long global history, porcelain holds rich associations of preciousness, mutability and exoticism: the artists' work responds to these associations in lively and inventive ways.

With new commissions by **Laura White** and **Emily Speed** shown alongside work by artists including **Annie Attridge**, **Barnaby Barford**, **Céline Berger**, **Neil Brownswold**, **Edward Chell**, **Bouke de Vries**, **Edmund de Waal**, **Edward Chell**, **Jessica Harrison**, **Mona Hatoum**, **Rachel Kneebone**, **Leonora Lockhart**, **Livia Marin**, **Matteo Nasini** and **Rosa Nguyen**, the exhibition is an opportunity to see the museum's newly displayed world-class collection through the eyes and imaginations of contemporary artists.

Porcelain is a complex substance that requires skill, practice and an intimate involvement. Laura White's newly commissioned piece will explore this physicality, through a collection of porcelain objects that occupy and explore their own materiality – exposing the elemental behaviour of this extraordinary 'white matter'. Meanwhile, **Emily Speed** will be responding to the museum's globally important collections to create a performance artwork, drawing on the connections to the waterways that supplied materials and distribution networks for the Museum of Royal Worcester factory. Speed's work is being produced for **The Ring**, a Canal & River Trust 'Arts on the Waterways' project in 2018.

Artists like **Jessica Harrison**, use 'found' porcelain, such as figurines, to configure new pieces that retain part of the narrative qualities of the original objects, but transform them to compose new, often acerbic and humorous, narratives.

Others, like **Bouke de Vries**, use the suggestive powers of broken and reassembled porcelain to provoke emotional responses and suggest thrilling new variations. The choice of



porcelain by conceptual artists such as **Matteo Nasini** is not frivolous: during a series of performances, he recorded the sleep patterns of participants, particularly the brain's fluctuations during dreams. He then translated these patterns into intricate and abstract white porcelain forms.

In the last decade, acclaimed artists such as **Edmund de Waal** and **Rachel Kneebone** have taken the art world by storm by creating masterful bodies of works in porcelain; their work points to a whole new language, and ultimately a new recognition, for the medium as a whole.

The exhibition will unfold throughout the museum, introducing contemporary work into the displays where the newly renovated Museum's collection is presented, as well as in the special exhibitions room.

In addition, work from **Laura White's**, *Esque* collection will be exhibited in the evocative setting of the Dean's Chapel of Worcester Cathedral in winter 2019 and there will be exciting workshops, including an opportunity for local groups and visitors to help create a collaborative artwork that will form part of **The Precious Clay** exhibition. The programme will also include a symposium bringing together academics and artists for a day of discussion and learning.

20 Sept 2018 – 20 Mar 2019: Museum of Royal Worcester (With additional work by Laura White from 8 January to 10 February 2019 at Worcester Cathedral) Severn St, Worcester WR1 2ND

Dancefest Slap listings August 2018

No break for **Dancefest** over the summer - join in with their summer sessions to carry on dancing until the start of the new term or come and watch one of their performances.

On Mondays 30 July, 6, 13 and 20 August, there are fun, energetic and sociable **Chance to Dance** classes for people aged 50 and over at Rock Village Hall, so you can sample new exercises and meet new people. The cost is £20 for all 4 sessions.

Big Jigsaw Inclusive Dance Summer School for people with learning disabilities, their friends and support workers is an inclusive sensory and movement-based experience using Dancefest's specially made dance yurt. Based on the book *'Come Travel with Me'* by Steven Metzger, it takes place at The Courtyard in Hereford on Tuesday 31 July and Wednesday 1 August, at 11am-1pm for ages 10-15 (£18) and 2.30-5pm for people aged 16 and over (£25).

For dancers aged 11-14, there are **Youth Dance Summer Sessions** on Tuesday 21 and Thursday 23 August at 10am-3pm at the **Angel Centre**, Worcester, using contemporary and creative dance to make a performance for friends and family at the end of the two days. The cost is £40.

And on Saturday 25 August Dancefest's Chance to Dance Company and groups will be performing at two festivals in one day! - Kidderminster Arts Festival and Sounds Amazing at Avoncroft Museum.

To find more details about Dancefest's summer events visit dancefest.co.uk or ring 01905 611199.



The Ring news

We're thrilled to be bringing you a summer programme of events and installations as dazzling and fresh as the waters of the **Mid-Worcestershire Ring**! There is still so much more to come this month.

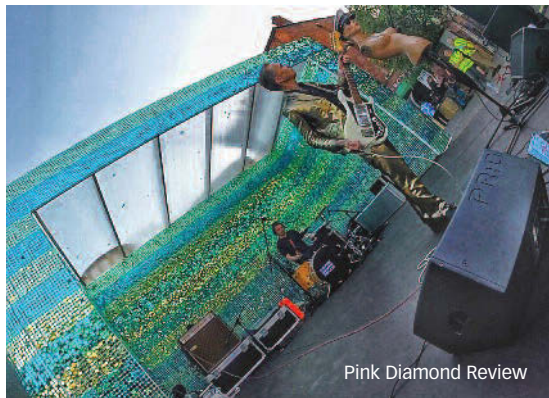
Emily Speed brings **Hollowware** to the canal-side and Museum of Royal Worcester on 11th; you have one last chance to hop over to the **Diglis Island** on 30th and see **Rich White's** installation and you can take part in your own creative competition!

You've seen what **The Ring's** artists are making, and now it's your turn! We would love you to draw, write, photograph, video or make something in response to our 21-mile circle of waterways. There will be a range of prizes for competition winners. Our **21 Miles** curator, **Emily Wilkinson**, will be creating her own responses, and she will be adding entries to our **21 Miles** blog so that everyone can see your great artworks! Send us your entries using the hashtag #TheRing21, or contact us on TheRingWorcs@gmail.com. Submissions close 2nd Sept 2018.



Take the opportunity to view **Occupation** up close on a **Diglis Island** Visit and make your own discovery of the secrets of **Diglis Island** guided by **Rich White**. There will be three 1-hour tours at 11am, 1pm and 2.30pm.

30th Aug. Diglis Island, Navigation Rd, Worcester. Free (book places via the ring website)



Photography: Ben Peer

Pink Diamond Review

June was a particularly exciting one for **The Ring** and for the city of Worcester. **South Quay** was home to our sequin-laden **Weargorn Pavilion** for a ten-day festival of music, poetry, dance, theatre, performance and history celebrating the amazingly diverse talent the region has to offer. From a set by Ledbury-born beatboxer **Dave Crowe**, to drumming workshops, yoga classes and a takeover from the **Click Click Collective**, there really was something for everyone.

You can follow all The Ring's projects and events on their website: theringart.org.uk and @theringworcs on social media.

Hollowware

Contemporary artist **Emily Speed** will create **Hollowware**, an unusual artwork and performance inspired by the **Museum of Royal Worcester's** historic collections and the waterways nearby that once served the Worcester porcelain works. The work is being commissioned by regional arts organisation **Meadow Arts** and **The Ring**.



Part of the artwork is a structural costume, from which the performer will reveal plaster moulds and the spaces they contain, referencing a pair of potter's vases held in the Museum's archives. On 11th August, a performer will parade from the Museum of Royal Worcester, setting off at 1:30pm, down to the canal side at Diglis Basin, telling stories about the miniatures, the museum and the canals on the way. **Emily Speed** says, "The objects I make, and the stories told by the performer, will have an abstract quality, acting like memories or moments in time." Part of the journey will take place on the 'Wanderer', a working boat owned and operated by the **Canal & River Trust**.

Emily Speed, who is based in Cheshire and travels internationally for her art projects, is talking to groups and individuals about their interest in the history of Royal Worcester and links to the waterways, which are inspiring places to visit. Her interests lie in the relationship between people and buildings and her work often explores the human body and its relationship to architecture.

A film of the performance will be made on the day and this will be exhibited along with the costume in **The Precious Clay**, a major Meadow Arts exhibition at the Museum of Royal Worcester from September 2018 to March 2019. **Anne de Charmant**, Meadow Arts' Director and Curator, says, "We are delighted to be working with Emily, who has already talked about her work as part of our Garage Open Lecture Series with the University of Worcester. Her work is exciting because it lies at the crossroads of performance and sculpture; it relies on sharing stories and direct participation with audiences."

Hollowware - Sat 11th Aug. 1.30pm. Museum of Royal Worcester.



Suz Winspear

What an extraordinary summer this has been – I can't remember when we last had such a stretch of perfect picture-book summer weather! For a performer, this has both good and bad aspects. Out first SpeakEasy at our new venue, Waylands Yard, was held in the garden at the back of the café and turned into an idyllic evening of open air poetry. Then the following evening, I was doing an indoor event in full Victorian costume – the odours that followed my damp and sweaty blouse into the washing machine afterwards were considerably less than idyllic...



Anyway, let's hope that this weather continues into the school holidays for the children to enjoy, and here are some Spoken Word events for August . . .

Sat 4th – Worcestershire Remembers the First World War Organised by **Adrian Gregson** from **Worcestershire's Archive and Archaeology Service**, providing an opportunity for local groups to show how they are commemorating the centenary of the First World War – this will include the poetry and spoken word projects *'The Unremembered'* and *'Voices of 1919'* among others. Takes place at the Guildhall, free admission, 10am – 4pm.

Thurs 9th – SpeakEasy at Waylands Yard poetry from a wide range of local poets. Our featured performer this month is the winner of this year's Worcestershire **LitFest Poetry Slam, Io Osborn!** . . . Open Mic slots available on a first-come, first-served basis. They're popular, so get there early. £3 admission, 7.30pm.

Enlighten

Enlighten is Evesham's *Creative Lighting Trail* which will launch in November 2018. For phase 1 they will be updating the lights of **The Bell Tower**, lighting the war memorial and projecting Evesham's rich history on to the **Almonry Museum**. Running alongside the project is a community engagement and event programme. These are just some of the dates and activities on offer.

On 1st & 8th August, young people can get involved with an introduction to animation workshop at **Garage Arts**, Evesham. For ages 7-13 years 4-6pm. To book contact Heather at:

heather@garageartgroup.com.

You can take part in free drop in arts workshops during Aug at **The Battle of Evesham** on 4th and **The War Memorial**, Abbey Park on 7th. Then from November there will be a WW1 visual arts installation at **All Saints Church**.

The War Memorial lights launch on 11th Nov from 6.30pm followed by the Bell Tower and Almonry Projection on 17th Nov from 5pm

10 SLAP AUGUST

Sat 11th – 'Lost Landscapes' at Worcester City Art Gallery and Museum. A reflective reading and Q & A session with poet **Ruth Stacey**, part of the series of events concerning the Ice Age – I don't know what Ruth has planned for this, but Ruth is a brilliant poet and I know it will be worth attending. 11am – 1pm, pre-booking required. Phone the Museum on 01905 25371 for further details.

Thurs 16th – Dear Listener at Boston Tea Party, Angel Place. This is an early-evening event of eclectic poetry and spoken word, from both new and established voices. The featured performer for July is **Billy Goaty**. A few Open Mic slots are available, and can be booked at dearlisteneropenmic@gmail.com £3 admission. 6.30 – 8.30pm

Wed 29th – 42 at Drummonds Bar **Life, the Universe and Everything** – prose and poetry – Gothic horror, science fiction, fantasy, storytelling, comedy, reportage, genre fiction, and a few categories that haven't yet been given a name . . . You never know what you might see and hear at 42 . . . Free entry. 7.30pm.

Sat 28th – 'Dark Nights into Brighter Days' book launch at Paradiddles Music Bar, **Daniel Burton's** debut collection of poetry and short stories shows those affected by mental health that they are not alone. Money from the sale of each book will go to a mental health charity. 6pm

Throughout July, Droitwich is holding its **ARTFEST**. Spoken Word events include –

Tues 17th – 30-40-60 at St Andrew's Church Poetry on a theme of womanhood featuring **Nina Lewis**, **Claire Walker** and **Cathy Gee**. 7.30pm

Sat 21st – Poetry in the Square featuring **Roy McFarlane**, **John Mills**, **Liz Mills** and **Nina Lewis**. 2pm at St Andrew's Square. At 7.30pm that same day, the **Poetry Extravaganza** is happening at Park's Café, with an open mic session, followed by *'A Tale of Two Cities'*, **Nina Lewis' Legacy Project** involving poets from Worcestershire UK, and Worcester, Massachusetts, USA.

Suz Winspear

They hope to raise the money to fund phase 2 which will be lighting and projecting on to **All Saints Church**, **St Lawrence's Church** and the **Abbey Gardens**.

They are also calling upon the local community to delve in to the archives and share with us their photos and memorabilia from days gone by in Evesham. This will help the artists to design a brilliant animation on the history of Evesham that will be projected on to **The Almonry Museum**. To take part, upload your photos on to the Enlighten website.

Keep in touch and visit www.enlightenevesham.co.uk or follow on facebook @enlightenproject or twitter @enlighteneves





worcester arts workshop

Summer Activities — 6th - 16th Aug

We've planned a whole heap of activities for children, young people and families this summer. Our Create Together sessions are designed especially for children to enjoy with their adults. Make clay dragons or faeries, tell stories with your own recycled puppets or make a portrait in wet-felt plus lots more.

And there's **Claire's Crafty Club** for ages 8 to 11 to enjoy arty, messy play just for the fun of it.

For young people aged 11 to 16 we have a recycled portrait workshop as well as 3 full days of arts classes where participants can try drawing, painting, 3D sketching and ceramics.

Ticket prices start at just £6 and if you book more than one place across all our summer activities you get an automatic 10% discount.

Places must be booked in advance and they're selling fast!

visit: www.worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk/summer-activities/



Adults Summer Workshops

It's not all about the kids this summer. Resident tutor **Kay Mullet** is holding two Ceramics workshops. The first is on Tuesday 31st July and the second is Tuesday 31st August. Both days run from 10am to 3pm and cost £55 each. A discount is available if you come along to both. Visit our website to book your place.



Worcester Music Festival

This year **Worcester Music Festival** promises to be bigger than ever and we're very excited to be hosting events here again. From Friday 15th to Sunday 17th September we'll be hosting a weekend of bands old and new, and we've already started stocking the bar! Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more details.

The Transformation has Begun

New Director of Transformation, **Hannah Phillips** has already got exciting plans underway and the whole team here at WAW are all busy behind the scenes.

Our vision for the future is to create an arts and learning centre for a diverse future generation of artists, participants and young people. But the first step in our journey is to hear you! What do you want to learn, watch and participate in here at WAW?

In the coming weeks we'll be asking you to complete a short survey to tell us exactly what you want and what you care about. The survey will be available from our website and all our social media. And you can always email us with your thoughts and suggestions at future@worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk

Hidden Gems

A new grant scheme has been launched to fund arts and heritage projects in Herefordshire. **Hidden Gems** is part of the Herefordshire's a **Great Place** project, co-funded by **Heritage Lottery Fund** and **Arts Council England** and supported by **Historic England**.

The grant scheme will fund a total of nine cultural projects that get communities, artists, heritage experts and digital specialists working together to raise the profile of the county's 'hidden' heritage

Four grants of between £6,000 to £12,000 each will be awarded in 2018. **Hidden Gems** will run again in 2019, when five more grants will be available.

Lauren Rogers, from **Herefordshire's a Great Place**, said: "Herefordshire has so many fantastic heritage and local history stories that should be better known - they are an integral part of the county's unique appeal.

"Hidden Gems will not only bring artists and communities together around heritage, it recognises how important the creative use of digital technology is when we're trying to attract new audiences to heritage sites or tell more people about Herefordshire's rich history."

All over the UK digital technology is allowing cultural organisations to push the boundaries. Just look at the **Natural History Museum's** new virtual-reality experience where a hologram of Sir David Attenborough takes you on a virtual tour; the Royal Shakespeare Company's ground-breaking production of *The Tempest* that put digital avatars on stage; or the collaboration between English Heritage and Google that meant we could explore 360 degree images of cultural treasures online.

"We believe *Hidden Gems* could create similar experiences albeit on a smaller scale here in Herefordshire, and then go a step further by involving communities too so that more people are taking part in exciting arts and heritage projects," said Lauren.

Hidden Gems is the flagship grant scheme of **Herefordshire's a Great Place**, an ambitious cultural development project delivered by **Rural Media** on behalf of the **Herefordshire Cultural Partnership**.

The deadline to apply for 2018 Hidden Gems funding is August 1th. For all the information, including grant guidelines and the application form, please visit hiddengemsherefordshire.co.uk.



A creative bank holiday adventure

From Badsey to Bromsgrove, Colwall to Kidderminster and Malvern to Redditch, artists and craftspeople will be welcoming visitors into their studios, homes and shared spaces at 81 different locations across Worcestershire this August bank holiday weekend.

Now in its fourth year, **Worcestershire Open Studios** provides the public with a unique opportunity to explore unseen creative spaces, talk directly to artists about their inspiration and creative processes, and see a diverse range of original artworks.

One artist who is more than happy to discuss her artwork and the inspiration behind it is **Vicky Kitchen**, owner of **Kingcot Gallery** in Flyford Flavell. She explains *"I've always been interested in craft and eight years ago I took a fused glass course as I'd tried nearly everything else. The mix between art, science and gadgets sealed the deal for me – I was hooked. The science geek in me likes to experiment with the different temperatures glass can be taken to in order to get different effects. Add in the different metals, powders and other inclusions that can be used to get different textures and it's like a big chemistry set."*

With the work of over 170 different artists and craftspeople on display, there's more than enough to suit every taste. From drawing, painting, printmaking and photography, to ceramics, jewellery, textiles and mixed media, there are both traditional and contemporary styles of work available to see and buy.

This year's participants include **Caroline Hall** whose colourful paintings of local landscapes and scenes of Worcester are sure to catch the eye and **Sewing at the B** where you can find everything from freehand embroidery cards and appliqué textile pictures to children's clothing and beautiful accessories.

Groups taking part include **Portfolio 18** showcasing the work of artists who are members of **Stone Fire Art School**. Their subject



matter spans from traditional representational works to more contemporary conceptual approaches to art practice. **Elmley Castle Village Hall** plays host to five local artists working in a variety of media including pastels, acrylics and watercolour. In a Malvern church you'll find **St Peter's Printmakers** showing off two news printing presses and a selection of recent work produced on them. Visitors can even have a go at printing their own small letterpress pieces.

Ceramicists **Hiromi Nakajima** and **John Beck** are among the artists taking part for the first time. Hiromi is hoping her animal sculptures will bring a smile to visitors' faces, while John's functional stoneware is sure to tempt a few buyers. Other first timers include photographer, **Mark Zytynski**, whose love of trees permeates his work, and Sarah Greening maker of beautiful bright glass fused jewellery.



This will be the third **Worcestershire Open Studios** for mixed media artist, **Trudi Foggo**. She says, *"I thought year one was brilliant, especially as I was paralysed with fear at the thought of doing it and then last year was absolutely brilliant. Trudi's inspiration comes from what she sees around her: 'I am a watcher of all things, landscape, people, situations, and the emotions that these observations evoke. And so when I paint, everything goes on to the canvas: memories, emotions and colours'"*



Trudi Foggo

Photography: Lewis Membery

Painter, printmaker and Worcestershire Open Studios organiser, **Sally Anne Morgan**, says, *"Discovering some of Worcestershire's fantastic artistic talent is the perfect way to spend a bank holiday weekend. Whether you're an art lover, a family looking for a trip out, a budding artist, or just fancy a day exploring our wonderful county, you'll definitely receive a warm welcome."*

Entry to all venues is free. Details of participating artists and galleries can be found at www.worcestershireopenstudios.org.uk

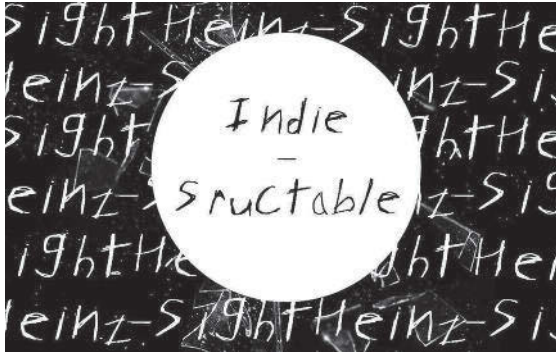
Guides are available to download or pick up from libraries, Tourist Information Centres and other locations across the county.

Sat 25th – Mon 27th August

Heinz-sight | Indie-structible

After the demise of **Jellybean Rebellion** it may have taken Bromsgrove singer-songwriter **Simon Thomas Henrik Lacks** (or **Heinz-sight** if you prefer) time to collect his thoughts and start again. But following on from a couple of attention grabbing singles (*Honesty* and *Give It*), plus a few live shows including his home town carnival, Simon has hit his stride and with an album in the works and a brand new EP. We could be (hopefully) seeing a great deal more of Simon in the near future.

The aforementioned singles showcased a number of things, *Give It* saw a collision of genres, a keen sense of melody and an instant, up for it choral hook. Whilst *Honesty* showed a different side to the coin, a vulnerable and personal side, dealing with the sensitive issue of mental health. Proving *Heinz-sight* to be a multi-faceted artist capable of anything, leaving me with high expectations for the five-track Indie-structible.



Lacks, with producer **Elliot Vaughan** by his side, opens the EP's proceedings with *Needle In A Haystack*, and within the first few bars I was completely hooked. Instead of hip-hop styled vocals as previous singles, Lacks delivers a summery indie croon that's oddly reminiscent of Jamie T or perhaps Luke Pritchard (of The Kooks fame). Acoustic strums, drums and finger clicks provide the basis for the songs instantly addictive melody. Throw in a contagious choral hook and lyrical couplets such as the tongue in cheek 'I Bet Your Lips Taste So Sweet, A Thousand Different Flavours Like Rowntrees, I know That Line Is Pure Cheese, But

Sometimes Cheese Is Just What The World Needs and you have a summery radio friendly indie hit in the making, just waiting for the right exposure.

Letting Go follows and proves that *Needle In A Haystack* is no mere one off. The track starts with an understated vocal and hushed strum combo, before a chorus worthy of any big name pop-punk bands, literally crashes into view around the thirty second mark. Bringing a buzzing, strident guitar riff along for the ride as the song lurches for attention bursting from it's restraints. Lacks and Vaughan working together in tandem to create a bombastic punch with a clever production and arrangement.

About You is up next and proves the aforementioned cross pollination of genres as **Heinz-sight** is rapping one minute and delivering a frenzied guitar fuelled indie pay-off the next during an inspired sub three-minute anthem. Continuing with the EP's diverse nature, *That Life* is a piano based, emotive indie number that grows, building towards yet another lapel gripping, radio friendly hook, and the welcome addition of horns add a subtle seasoning.

Indie-structible finishes as it began, with the aptly named *Music Man*, offering up an undeniable summery feel good vibe. Riding high on a marching drum tattoo, an acoustic guitar and a light touch of tinkered piano. Lacks provides a delightful earworm that's guaranteed to linger long after the song's initial spin. With a full length album on the way and numerous gigs in the pipeline, **Simon Thomas Henrik Lacks** star is very much on the rise, check him out now and remember where you read about Heinz-sight first!!

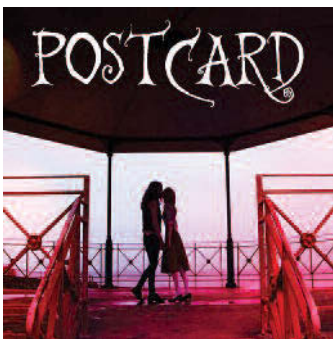
www.facebook.com/heinzsightmusic

Will Munn

Ria Parfitt | Ria Plays

With many strings to her bow, singing, song writing and guitar playing **Ria Parfitt** has offered up her first single under the guise of band "*Ria Plays*". The single and accompanying video are quirky to say the least, but it perfectly showcases the colourful creativity of the artist. A soft, slow indie guitar intro leads into the distinctive vocals of Ria, reminiscent of the eccentricity of Björk, but with moments as powerful as Florence Welch.

Postcard invited us into a wacky take of an, at first, unsent postcard, as she fails to find the right words. With no obvious chorus, the only thing to repeat in the song is the underlying rhythmic strumming that opened the tune, keeping us listening and intrigued as to where we're being taken lyrically and musically. We go through slower verses into a faster mid section before another calmer outro, before being flung into a building, excitable finale. A unique, individual song by an artist with a vivid imagination which she is able to beautifully transfer into music.



Kate Ford

Americas | Come on Out

West Midlands based **The Americas**, present "*Come on Out*" as the lead single from their EP "*Guitar Music is Dead*".

As soon as the track starts, you know you're in for a treat, promise of a feel good track, a proper rock and roll tune with laid back 60s/70s vibes. Proper music. The vocalist tells the story with a style not dissimilar to that of Bob Dylan, almost spoken, but with clarity and character, so that you feel like a good mate is talking you through what he's up to. With the heatwave we've had this July, "*Come on Out*" is just the soundtrack you need to get yourself outdoors, with your friends, and not sat indoors bored and lonely. Professional and slick, this track is radio ready, and should be heard loud from car windows everywhere. It sounds like a song you should already know, it's pure and simple, urging us to forget about our troubles for a moment, chill out, suspend reality and kick back. A solid, enjoyable track perfect for sunshiny days.



Kate Ford

Deathly Pale Party Baseline Trigger Escalation Recovery

A new 4 track mini album from **Deathly Pale Party** is a most welcome event especially in the height of summer when there is usually a dearth of new releases with everyone concentrating on treading the festival stages.

You come to expect the unexpected with DPP though and so at the height of the heatwave they treat us to four slabs of uneasy sounds filled with chill dread, cooling your blood temperature to near dangerous levels.

Wild Oats opens proceedings as we discover a musical box of deadly delights, the underlying Mariachi feel is embellished with classy echoes of John Barry and Maestro Morricone filtered through a trip-hop gauze. **Holly Daffurn's** ethereal voice is a meeting of Hope Sandoval, Nancy Sinatra and Isobell Cambell surrounded by the deranged and unholy church organ stylings of fellow Party member **Key Pandemon.**

Wonderfully titled, *The Occlith Shakes* announces itself with tribal, occult drumming before the woozy, warped spaghetti guitar of *Emma Castella* propels us to imaginary soundtrack territory: if only a certain D. Lynch could lend his lugholes to DPP you can't help feel that he'd be mightily impressed. The undertow of dubby Wobblisms don't hurt none neither.

Swab takes us further into dark, industrial territory bringing flashes of Coil to mind amongst others and again that glorious geetar twang transports us to the nightmare black desert of forboding. The always inventive instrumentation is again underlined as some tasty space-organ enters the feverish fray. The word *Swab* has different meanings, I'll leave it up to you to conclude which one best fits the bill here.

The final party piece *Six Second Hand Wash* (another great title) re-introduces Key's uneasy & other-worldly deathbed vox as his lamentations attempt to shroud the shifty-shifting bassy death-rattle rumble, the rhythms and percussion laced with traces of Bristolian Tricky-hop.

This is deep material and and it is abundantly evident that a helluva lot of thought, work and soul has gone into making this mini-masterpiece of an album. It is a deliciously dark weave of wondrous webs which often

proceeds and presents in a spookily stately and elegiac manner. Constantly spellbinding throughout, there is a breathtaking breadth of imagination and ambition on this release and I urge you to support Deathly Pale Party by heading to deathlypaleparty.bandcamp.com and snagging yourself a copy.

Party on!

Words by Luigi Board

Cymbeline | Since Last Tuesday

Released at midnight on the same day as their recent triumphant gig at Birmingham O2 Academy 3, *Since Last Tuesday* is an excellent romp of a song as these four Wolverhampton teenagers are finally let loose in the studio.

Already building a loyal following via their incendiary live performances at such venerable venues as Brum's Institute and Sunflower Lounge plus back home at Newhampton and the Royal Oak, it is great for **Cymbeline** to have a chance to show their range and inventiveness, which they ably manage here in one tune.

Weighing in with a monumental Stooges v MC5 riff to start us off they're soon up and running into indie-punk territory on the verses as singer **Aaron Hodgetts** snarls 'n' spits whilst channeling **Alex Turner** before exercising his classic garage rock chops, throwing in some classy pop la-la-la's (I'm a sucker for those!) before deciding to turn into Buzzcocks vintage Howard Devoto before the end. Phew indeed!

Therein lies Cymbeline's strong suit; the changes of pace and style portray the frustrations and ever-shifting nature of their teenage lives which keeps the listener on their toes and proceedings ever fresh. However the clever structure of this number and exemplary playing throughout belies their tender years. There is abundant maturity in conception and production here make no mistake and the results are never less than thrilling.

Feargus Flanagan's tasty guitar work brings to mind Thee Oh Sees in the electrifying break and portays elsewhere an already obvious vast knowledge of and dedication to his craft, whilst the ever-steady and classy rhythmic bedrock of bassist **Stefan Mitchell** and drummer **Leon Haffie-Hobday** make a fine foundation for the riotous, righteous and ranty vocals.

The clear, crisp and loud production is the cherry on the cake here and knowing that more recordings by the same team are in the bag, I'm more than a little excited to

hear what follows and very interested to follow this great young band's development.

Listen and buy at Spotify and iTunes, you won't be disappointed. Watch on YouTube https://youtu.be/T6xNLBMT_nQ and catch them live soon at a venue near you.

Look out!

Words by Percy Thrillington



Raptor | Dynamite (Is Freedom)

The first and most important bit of advice we give to prospective gig-goers is to always check in advance (phone or online) if your hoped-for life-enhancing musical experience is actually taking place before stepping out of the front door. It's a mantra I've been preaching myself for many years - but rather sadly I haven't been quite so good at practising it before excitedly leaping into the car or taking a super-saver return by train of an evening...

But it's not been all bad news! A few years ago I sashayed along to a non-existent gig in Bromsgrove - and a short time later was trudging back with a cartoon thundercloud hovering over my head - when I heard some incredible guitar sounds from a pub - I popped in and very happily caught my first hearing of the very wonderful Dave Onions and his rather splendid and very unique act - quite pleased to catch yet another stunning set from him at Upton Blues a couple of weeks ago - total quality!

The same thing happened about the same time in Hereford - I'd given up on an uninspired and insipid cover outfit elsewhere in town when I stumbled across **Raptor** - essentially the young Leominster duo of brothers **Kurt** (guitar/vocals) and **Adam Fletcher** (drums) - who were obviously an outfit of blues-rocking quality, great stage presence and a talent for creating fine riffs!!



Glad I'm not the only one who's slightly keen on this outfit - they've just been signed by Brighton-based label **Don't Tell Anyone Records** and have just released new single *Dynamite* (Is Freedom) which I think marks a gradual but progressive step forward in their musical evolution...

It's a very short number!! Only 2'21" - and a bit more R&R-ish than their previous classic blues-rock sounds but there's still a variety of quality riffs to foot-tap along to! It's definitely a lot more raw than say *Been Too Long* (still on my own festival mixtape!) but shows a growing maturity and willingness to experiment - with maybe a nod-back to 60s acts like the MC5 and The Stooges!

But by far the best way to enjoy the great sound of **Raptor** is to catch them live, when you'll find it difficult not to bop along to their driving sound! Like a couple of other ex-local acts they've recently relocated to the Bristol area - probably the only other UK region slightly more musically happening than our own (!) but happily are regular returners - checkout their gigging and festival schedule at www.raptorliveandloud.co.uk and www.facebook.com/raptorthetheband - highly recommended!!

AOH (so-sue-me@live.co.uk)

Suckerpunch View from the Mood Swings

During the 12 months since their debut release (*Strong and Unstable*) hard-working Birmingham punk band **Suckerpunch** have gone from strength to strength, building a solid reputation for themselves on the UK live circuit through gigging pretty much every weekend. During this time they have built a fine body of catchy melodic punk tunes. Three of which have recently been released on their 2nd EP: *View from the Mood Swings*. A change of personnel for this release sees the nucleus of **Neil**, **Craig** and **Todd** joined by talented young drummer **Dead Mob Rob**.

The EP opens with the incendiary *Blue Pill Red Pill*. The song starts with a fast street punk salvo that is reminiscent of one of the hardcore numbers by The Filaments. It's fast, punchy, energetic song which could no doubt light the touch paper in many a mosh pit. A great start to the EP and one which sets the tone for what will follow.

Track 2, *Instagrudge*, is another fast paced number replete with a catchy chorus and a hook that is more than a little reminiscent of their peers Spunk Volcano & the Eruptions and that is no bad thing in my books. The tempo barely drops and Neil's scathing vocals are perfectly accompanied by some fine driving rhythms from the lads. A blistering Turbonegro-esque (new word, take



note) guitar solo sees the song to its conclusion. This is a song that I'm sure will quickly become a fan favourite live.

The EP is rounded off by the epic *Mouthbreather*. It opens with an absolutely awesome throbbing bass line by Craig accompanied by guitar feedback and driving drums before steaming into a fast slice of melodic street punk. It's a vitriolic number that tackles the bullshit talked by racists, bigots and the like (the aforementioned *Mouthbreathers* of the title). The song builds to a crescendo of anger that is released in a musical explosion similar to that of vintage Rage Against the Machine. It leaves your ears burning and your blood pumping in a way that that only certain songs and bands can. It's a pure tour de force!

View from the Mood Swings is pure quality from start to finish. Yes it's a little harder and heavier in sound to its predecessor but it still retains all the qualities that make it recognizable as being **Suckerpunch**. A band who are undoubtedly one of the most exciting on the current UK punk scene. A fact which has seen them invited to play a number of festivals this year including an invite to play the Introducing stage at the UK's biggest punk festival, **Rebellion** at Blackpool this August. The band can also be seen playing at the **Kidderminster Fringe Festival** on Saturday 18th August (a free show).

View from the Mood Swings is available on CD at the band's live shows or available to purchase as a digital download from Bunny Boiler Records at: www.bunnyboilerrecords.co.uk

Jason K - Punk by Nature

The Girl With A Hat | Tomorrow Is Fine

Once upon a time a girl with a hat hailing from Kidderminster picked up a guitar and started to write and hone a collection of songs. **Daria Tomalak** (the girl in question) asked **Scott Ewins** (of Vaults Of Eagles fame) to help her collate a trio of her songs (recorded in both acoustic and electric formats) to form a debut EP under the *Girl With A Hat* monicker.

No doubt *Girl With A Hat* (or Daria if you prefer) will be something of a new name to most of you. However, hitting play on the acoustic side of this EP and indeed first track *Lost*, Tomalak quickly proves herself as an accomplished vocalist, revealing an emotive and somewhat vulnerable lead. Drawing the listener in, her vocals are framed by a simplistic yet effective lone acoustic, leaving the listener to hone in on Daria's beautiful tones as the folksy lament plays out. Both *Unsaid To M* and *Sweet A* continue in the same vein. Simple yet effective strummed melodies back a collection of personal musings. Only gone is the fragile nature of the opener as Tomalak's vocals open up and soar towards a winning, contagious hook that slowly seduces and demands a second (and third spin).



Initially I found myself questioning the need for electric versions of the same three tracks, would we lose the intimacy? How would Daria's voice compete with a plugged six string? However hitting the electric version of *Lost*, my fears were quickly alleviated. Instead of the expected overbearing electric, producer Ewins and guitarist **Toni Charles** pepper the EP's lead track. Subtle electric chimes initially compliment Daria's acoustic and voice combo, before drums join and propel the track to the choral pay off, giving

the track something of a different dimension. With the additional instrumentation to *Unsaid To M*, the track is transformed from folk beginnings into something that wouldn't sound out of place on a *Everybody Else Is Doing It, So Why Can't We* era, Cranberries disc. Whilst *Sweet A* combines both programmed and organic instrumentation, suggesting yet another direction for *The Girl With A Hat* to explore in the future.

The debut EP, by Daria suggests that if she continues to write intimate, compelling odes and experiment with structure and instrumentation, tomorrow will indeed be fine for **The Girl With A Hat**. A contagious debut by Kidderminster's newest singer-songwriter on the scene.

www.facebook.com/projectTGWAH

Will Munn

KORB

Hot on the heels of their excellent **Mutante** release earlier in the year (see Slap 77 Feb '18 for review), the enigmatic and prolific duo of **Jonathan Parkes** and **Alec Wood** have returned with another exciting project from their ever-fertile minds. And so it came to pass that album **KORB** manifested on **Dreamlord Recordings** in the long, hot summer of 2018 and we gathered to listen...

As befitting enigmas there is precious little info about how this album was made and what it all means, suffice to say our dynamic duo are given credit on the excellent Hawkwind-esque album artwork, together with the redoubtable, omniscient **Dave Draper** at the helm mastering the music, plus our very own Slap editor who printed the marvellous cover. The lack of info aids our imagination as we take flight through what I imagine to be a story album. Indeed in my mind the final two tracks, *Setjen To Condor* and *Korbs First Android* further confirm a possible narrative.



Opening piece *Voyager* sets course building masterfully as we take off to explore the unknown. I'm reminded slightly of French Band Air as the simple, effective percussion marries with vintage synth outpourings. A great start to an album and indeed a live performance. Second track *Power Structure* motors along er powerfully in fine Kraut-mantra fashion with some delightful synth squeals and squelches and this moves seamlessly into the next

nebulous offering *Shapeshifter*. *Earth Ritual* then announces itself with a monumental kosmische riff and fits its title perfectly before perhaps the standout piece and probably my fave, *Teleforce* changes up the pace with tribal drumming, somewhat reminiscent of Flowers of Romance era PIL, as the stupendous bass riff aped by guitar hammers along magnificently. We are at the same time taken backwards and forwards in time as organic meets pristine plasticity and forced to co-exist in harmony.

Teleforce batters you into beautifully bruised submission and *Megalith* continues in similar heavy psych style as yet another stupefying & stupendous stoner riff drags us along in a foggy fug as we worship at the foot of the titular stone behemoth. The mysteriously named *Setjen To Condor* is the most filmic of the collection, a journey piece perhaps as we prepare to be propelled further into the cosmic chartlessness. *Korbs First Android* is a fitting closer as we seem to musically find resolution and peace after our exciting, breathless journeys and the stunning playing is again ever-evident.

I can't tell you how the sounds are made on this beautifully produced album and it doesn't matter if 'real' drums, bass etc were employed. I do know that Korb

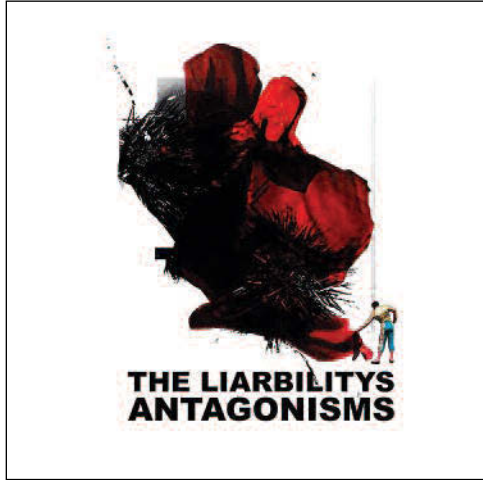
is also the name of a modular synth so please feel free to explore and make your own mind up how this superlative work was created. The only thing I care about and am sure of is that album KORB comprises of wonderful, expansive and expressive music of the best kind and we should be happy and grateful that it has manifested itself in our realm.

Let us give thanks and praise that KORB is here amongst us. You can support **KORB** by purchasing your very own copy of the album at korbmusic.bandcamp.com

Eamonn Düül

The Liarbilities | Antagonisms

I'm going to start this review by rolling the clock back. Between 2005-2007 Birmingham punk band **The Liarbilities** were making quite a name for themselves on the Midlands scene. Sadly, just as things were starting to pick up for the band they imploded. Fast forward to 2016 and during a conversation with vocalist Mez he mentioned that The Liarbilities were thinking of getting together and having a bit of a jam to see how things went. I was putting on shows under the **Punk by Nature** moniker at the time and said to him if things go well I would be more than happy to put the band on one of my line ups. December 2016 The Liarbilities made their live return at a Punk by Nature half-dayer at the **Boars Head** in Kidderminster. The band stole the show and literally blew the roof off the venue. Tight, fast and energetic they showed no signs of rust from their hiatus. The Liarbilities were back and better than ever. Countless live shows followed in 2017 with the band steadily building a name as one of the best live punk bands in the country. In summer 2018



the band released its long awaited debut album *Antagonisms*. It's been worth the wait!

The album delivers 11 quality tunes and is a cracking collection of songs that consistently deliver one after another from the album's beginning to its end. It's difficult to pick out stand out tracks from a body of songs this strong but my personal favourites are the emotive *Build More Prisons*, the scrap-fest that is *Two Against One*, the Rancid-esque *Sold You An Oi* and their tribute to the tragic 80's TV Grange Hill character, *Danny Kendall*.

I must be honest and say that *Antagonisms* is one of the finest punk albums that I have ever heard and is definitely my album of 2018 so far (punk or otherwise). *The Liarbilities* are a band that have managed to take the best elements of Oi, street punk, hardcore and melodic punk and moulded them into a sound that is uniquely their own. If you buy just one punk album this year make sure it's this one! *Antagonisms* is available on CD from <https://www.theliarbilities.com/>

Jason K - Punk by Nature

Jack Blackman Too South For Heaven

Midlands based singer-songwriter Jack Blackman has been performing gigs across the region (and beyond) for a number of years, cutting his teeth with the likes of the legendary Paul Jones and The Blues Band. But it was the release of 2016's *Nearly Man* that saw Blackman begin to gain the critics attention. The likes of Blues Matters, 'Whispering' Bob Harris and fellow singer-songwriter Martin Simpson offering their support, with the latter going as far as to proclaim "At last! A brilliant young young guitarist coming through".

Following a busy schedule of gigging and running his own Tuery sessions in Alcester, Jack returned to the studio with Joe Collier to record his follow up, *Too South For Heaven*, with Blackman showcasing his vast musical abilities by writing, playing, recording, co-producing every aspect of the new album.

The few live shows I've caught suggest an artist with a love of folk, blues and roots. But *Too South For Heaven* sees Blackman explore new avenues, embracing elements of indie and 60's inspired rock as he straddles genre divide over the eleven track duration.

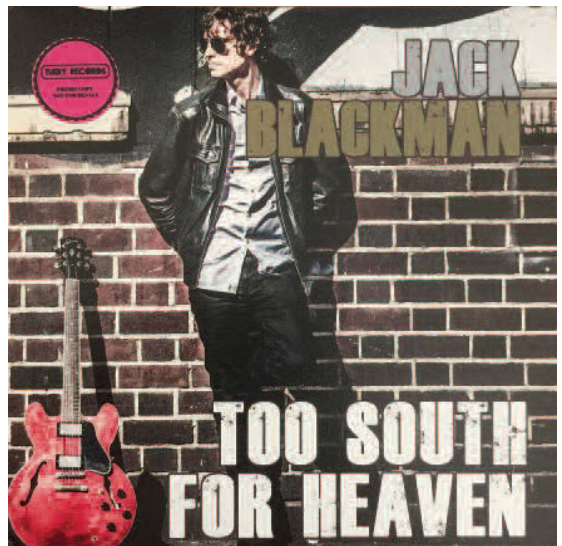
Opening number *Watch Me Fall* sets the mood. Combining twanging guitar, a driving rhythm and an effortless melodic indie croon during an infectious, hook-laden, breezy rocker. *She's A Butterfly* follows and sees Jack slows things down for a organ heart on the sleeve ballad. Peppered by the occasional bursts of guitar as Blackman stretches his musical boundaries. *Lucky This Time* opens with a driving riff before settling into an addictive Petty-like groove, with Blackman playing the role of each of the Heartbreakers (and perhaps a Beatle or two during a psych-tinged mid-section) himself. *Teardrop On A Levee* continues the diverse nature of *Too South For Heaven*, this time suggesting a country tilt as Blackman adds knowing twangs and a collection of enriching multi-layered harmonies.

As the album continues Blackman offers up a little Stones swagger on *Stumble On*, a deft touch of acoustic picking and that aforementioned Americana roots rock on *No Stranger To Misery* and a touch of power-pop on the catchier than a common cold, sub three-minute romp of *Maybe I'm Wrong* proving the disc's commendable diversity and Jack's impressive penmanship.

Personally, despite all there is to recommend on *Too South For Heaven* (and there is), I'd like to hear a little bit more dirt and grit, perhaps throw in a little gravel and a few whiskeys to the likes of *Stumble On* and *Maybe I'm Wrong* and Blackman could really be onto something, turning a good album into something truly special. But for now it's fun to hear him continue to straddle genres as he search for his own sound..

www.jackblackman.com

Will Munn



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Now firmly established in Callow End, Matt and Karen host this excellent 3 day event at the **Old Bush**, featuring 26 bands over 3 stages.

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Northsyde return to greet their 'mad hatter' fans, and the earth will move. Joining them, the riveting, eclectic, rootsy, **Spikedrivers**. For the nostalgic amongst you, **Mike D'abo** fronts the **New Amen Corner**, and rock laced blues will be delivered in the hands of **Gerry Jablonski** who has been electrifying fans across Europe. The **Paddy Maguire Band** adds a bit more weight to the rockery.

Greg Coulson has been making waves in the blues scene and is lined up for final selection into the European Blues Challenge 2019. Nearer to home, **Troy Redfern** will be sliding in on the gravel path. **Elles Bailey** brings her smoked voice and superbly crafted songs



to captivate her audiences she tours across the UK, and now Europe with regular excursions to Musclee Shoals studio sessions.

Two of the finest acoustic slide and lap guitarists, feature, the marvellous, unmissable **Martin Harley**, and the guitar and bass duo of **Kyle & Shaw**.

You can find more detail on the website, with links to artist information, at www.oldbushblues.co.uk/

Camping comes with all facilities, so why not stay the weekend. Tickets availability and details are also found on the website.



The Dickies

Robin 2, Bilston | Monday 6th August

Los Angeles punk-pop veterans **The Dickies** have survived line-up changes, "untimely deaths" and gigs spent sweating in satin clown costumes in a career spanning more than forty years.

Founding members **Stan Lee** and **Leonard Graves Phillips** still have the same energy and ferocity they had in the 70s when they were at the cusp of the burgeoning LA punk scene, inspired by bands like the Ramones and the Damned.

"The Dickies" are well known for recording many fast-paced punk covers of classic rock songs, including The Moody Blues' "Nights in White Satin," Black Sabbath's "Paranoid" and the TV theme from "The Banana Splits".

They are currently on their "No Sleep 'til Bilston" European tour, which coincides with the 40th Anniversary of their album "Incredible Shrinking Dickies" and their classic single "Paranoid".

The "Robin 2" gig on Monday 6th August will be the final night of the tour, so expect all the favourite songs to get an airing. The Dickies are very excited about this show as they will be previewing brand new songs that will appear on their new album which is to be released next year.

Stan Lee says, "The set list will be a musical potpourri and as long as we do Banana Splits we'll get out alive."

Support on the night comes from **Pure Gold Babies** who supported "The Dickies" back in 1999 and have reformed for this "one off special" gig. They were well known for their trademark gold body paint, UV backdrops and exploding microwaves. Expect tons of energy, some great songs from this Stourbridge based band.

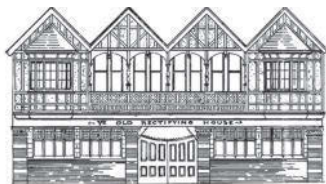
Also on the bill are **Kick the Clown**. This young 4 piece Worcester punk band will make you sit up and listen. They have a great selection of Hard-hitting songs coupled with an amazing stage presence. What's not to like!!!!

Arrive early so you don't miss this great band.



Old Rec Acoustic Music Convention

Thursday August 23rd brings the opening night of Worcester's new music club, upstairs at **The Old Rectifying House**.



The **Acoustic Music Convention (AMC)** will be presenting regular concerts from established and emerging artistes playing music from folk, blues, roots and Americana genres, who

will delight and impress the audience.

With one concert arranged for August and another in September, then from October 2018, the music will be twice each month, usually on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month, with the first six month's programme to be published soon.

August brings **Vikki Clayton** to the opening night. Vikki has a long career in music stretching back over thirty years or so. Her first band was Ragged Heroes, named after a John Tams' song for the Albion Band. She has guested with Fairport Convention, taking the late Sandy Denny's role for Fairport's 35th anniversary festival at Cropredy before working with the band regularly.



In 2013, Vikki emigrated to New Zealand where she found inspiration to develop her song-writing, demonstrated on "*Messenger*," her latest album. We are fortunate to secure Vikki's appearance in Worcester on her "*Back to Blighty*" tour over the summer. Vikki will be supported by a local artiste (to be confirmed), the evening will start at 7.30.

Tickets can be obtained by emailing your name and contact number to the.rob.southern@icloud.com, this email can be used for other queries, Tickets may also be purchased from the bar at The Old Rec, any remaining tickets will be available on the door.

The Aguilar Blumenfeld Project Ft Barry "The Fish" Melton The Malvern Cube | Thurs 2nd August

Californian musicians **Roy Blumenfeld & David Aguilar** and Barry "The Fish" Melton" will be bringing their unique blend of swamp, blues and funk music to the UK. The partnership of these two seasoned and masterly musicians draws on their extensive combined repertoire, honed over many years performing and collaborating with countless icons of the Americana music scene. **The Aguilar Blumenfeld Project**



creates a fascinating mix of interpretative musical statements expressed through both traditional and unconventionally innovative instrumentation that melds together the steamy swamp-music roots of the blues with elements of the jazz, rock and soul that has developed up to the present day. Their eclectic



and fascinating mix of funky rhythms and inspirational musicianship are sure to get audiences dusting off their dancing shoes!

Don't miss out - book your tickets now! Doors open 7pm/ Show 730pm ADV tickets £10.00/ OTD £12 from Carnival Records, Malvern TIC, Malvern Cube Garden Café or www.ticketsource.co.uk/BWMPromo

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Midsummer Ceilidh with The Organ Grinders Sinton Green Peace Hall | Sat 16th June

And so it came to pass, **The Organ Grinders** had reached another significant birthday. What better way of celebrating than joining forces with **Worcester Music Festival** and organising a charity bash for this year's chosen charity, **Worcester Association of Carers**.

From 7.30 onwards folks arrived in their droves to the **Peace Hall** on the outskirts of Worcester. Once they had availed themselves of the well stocked bar, dancing began in earnest. It was immediately evident that there were those who had done this before and those that hadn't. Fear not, with Alan's expert and friendly instructions, by the third dance everyone was 'lepping' around and 'Do-Si-Do-ing' like seasoned veterans. The current OG line-up churning out the tunes for most of this evenings festivities consisted of Jon and Mark on fiddle and squeezebox respectively, Pete, who switched between electric and acoustic guitars and the rock solid rhythm section of Phil on electric bass and Dom on drums. For most part of the evening the band were joined by OG occasional and 'sixth member', Liz, on flute and recorders. It was great to see ex-members and various stand-ins over the years join the Band on stage and thrash out a jig or a polka. A big thumbs up to Nick, Mick, Rob, Tim and Dave. We were also treated to guest caller spots, again, expertly provided by Dean, Lynne and Richard.

Midnight fast approaching and Beer stocks running low, it was time for the last dance followed by a frantic polka around the dance floor with a bit of strip the willow going on for good measure. The dancers had clearly been listening to the callers !



Thanks to all those that contributed to this hugely successful event including **Music City** for being a ticket outlet, all those that worked on the door, those that sold raffle tickets and those that made the wonderful cheese and ham rolls, much needed sustenance on the night & nice complemented by the legendary **Robbo's Chilli Roulette Nuts**.

Finally massive thanks are due to **Bob Southern** and Jan who ran the bar all night without a break! NB Check out Bob's new Folk club previewed elsewhere in this SLAP issue.

All monies now counted up, a huge £670(!) was made which has now been passed on to a very grateful **Worcester Carers Association**.

Roll on another umpteen years of Organ Grinding !

Words by Leggy Mountbatten

Nick Harper The Earl, Worcester | 15th July

I've wanted to see a gig on **The Earl** for ages and had been really looking forward to seeing **Nick Harper** back in April for the closing gig of his "100 Things" tour. It was a simple idea. Nick has recorded about a hundred things over the years and ticket holders were invited to let him know, in advance, which things we wanted to hear. Unfortunately, after three weeks of torrential rain, the swollen river meant the gig had to be postponed.

Three months later, on a superb, sunny Sunday evening, in what felt like a very different city, still high on England's brilliant World Cup performance, we finally boarded the Earl.

Nick sat at the front, nonchalantly playing around on his guitar as we settled into our seats. Following the postponement, no requests had got through to Nick and he gave a strong impression that he was just going to make it up as we sailed along. He was certainly very relaxed about the whole thing and seemed to be enjoying being in charge of a microphone on a river, briefly interrupting his introduction to gently heckle a couple of kayakers!..... "Losers!"



It is hard to find words to describe the richness of the performance which followed. Once we had passed the watchful eyes of Sunday walkers and the colourful giraffes around the City, the performance turned unselfconsciously beautiful and sharp. In addition to his amazing guitar playing, Nick Harper has probably got the most varied vocal style I have ever heard. At one moment soulful and sweet, and at other times a full rocking rage befitting his famous father. But my favourite is when things really get going.

Nick Harper brings you fully into his unique musical world with a haunting falsetto which is as wild as it is magical.

The sound and mood changed frequently, perfectly and sometimes quite bizarrely from the classic "Radio Silence" from "Seed", his very first album, to Prince's "Purple Rain". Nick Harper was clearly having fun. He even dropped "Moon River" into the set, which he told us was in preparation for a future career gigging on cruise ships!

However, the serious message remains in his political song writings and with "The Magic Money Tree" sounding far more sinister than the jolly album version, and "Tiina" sounding even sadder when faced with the story of his dear friend having worked for 30 years as a nurse in the NHS, now facing possible deportation post Brexit.

Nick Harper is a top musician and a top bloke. I would recommend anyone to go and see him but I am really glad I saw him on **The Earl**. There is something special about an intimate gig, pootling along the river in the sunshine, but this gig really was extra special!

Maria Baldwin

That Dog Was A Band Now The Marrs Bar, Worcester | Thursday, August 9th

Alt-Folk band with members from Sweden, Canada, and the USA. Touring hopefully everywhere always- including 60+ shows in 13 countries in 2018. "*Stings Poetic*" is set to be released on April 20, 2018. The album was recorded at a shipping container studio (LKR C-Byen in Fredericia, Denmark) by Engineer / Producer Eske Aller. Having met at clown school in California, back in 2013, **That Dog Was A Band Now** has earned quite a reputation for putting on a show.



That "country" thing... at least to European ears, it almost always remains an empty cliché. That is apart from the very rare cases when musicians actually succeed in credibly translating the genre's epic wanderlust into something new. If anybody is doing this, it's definitely **That Dog Was A Band Now**. Four men from Northern America and Scandinavia who every now and then pass

oceans for rehearsals, cover half continents with their tours – and, as it truly sounds, have retrieved the western frontier; it's been found somewhere in the troubadour life, traveling from the bars of Vancouver to Copenhagen and Berlin all the way down to Rome. When the accordion pulls the horizon up close, the banjo plucks the roadhouse blues, and the vocals ask with a mischievous authenticity for sympathy with the musician's heart, everything adds up to an almost tangible and beautifully elusive musical moment.

<https://soundcloud.com/thatdogwasabandnow>

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Tadstock 2018

Kencot Hill Farm, Cotswolds | 24th to 27th August

Tadstock in association with **CCP** and **Studio340** is proud to present its annual festival which takes place between 24th-27th of August 2018. Set in the heart of the picturesque Cotswolds and the whole festival is powered by solar energy.

Born in 2005, Tadstock has quietly grown to embrace a wider community of creatives who gather to share a love for great music, art and entertainment. Since partnering with Cheltenham based charity, CCP, who exist to improve the lives of children, young people, families and vulnerable adults; and their music driven initiative, Studio340, Tadstock plays an important part in the transformation of young lives by providing a festival platform that prides itself on young talent which is nurtured through various workshops and sessions through studio 340.

We are also proud and honoured to announce that the major headliner is none other than **Brinsley Forde** (MBE) who is the founding member of Reggae and Pop legends **ASWAD**. Double time Grammy nominee, Brinsley scored a British number one chart hit with "Don't Turn Around". The band continued to feature in top 20 in the British charts with tracks "On and On" and "Next to You" & "Shine". Brinsley will also be providing a music industry



workshop to all the young artists that will be playing the festival. Other artists that feature on the line up are **Jon Otway**, **The Oddbeats**, **Other Animals**, **BAAST** and **King Solomon Soundsystem**.

Head over to www.tadstock.org for tickets and more information.

ZEA/Haress

Cellar Bar, Grapes, Hereford | Thursday 16th August

Those in the know will be very excited to hear that **Arnold de Boer**, guitarist and frontman with legendary Dutch Anarcho-Punk band **The Ex** is bringing his side project, **Zea**, to Hereford this summer. Zea is a unique presence in a lo-fi, punk-inflected world of Arnold's own making. With his trusty Telecaster and a range of toy instruments, a dictaphone and a sampler he creates an almighty bout of crazily high energy songs which draw on cartoon philosophy over roughshod beats and grimy bass lines. Joyfully obstinate, wonderfully bonkers.

And in support, fresh from Supersonic festival, Shropshire based **Haress**, construct mesmerising post-rock drone music. Haress consists of the core guitar duo of **David Hand** and **Elizabeth Still**, based in Bishops Castle in the Shropshire Hills where they also organise the amazing Sineater Festival and run the DIY record label Lancashire & Somerset. The music is reminiscent of latter-day Earth, or Papa M. Haress are frequently joined by collaborators and recent live performances have expanded the 2 piece to also include **Pete Simonelli** (Enablers) on vocals and **Chris**



Summerlin (Kogumaza) on guitar. A recording made with **Nathan Bell** (Lungfish, Human Bell) is also in the release pipeline.

A brilliant night awaits, in a really intimate venue - not to be missed!

<https://zeamusic.bandcamp.com/>

<https://supersonicfestival.com/event/haress/>

<https://haress.bandcamp.com/>

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Kidderminster Fringe Festival

August 18th & 19th

The Fringe Festival, as it became known, grew from the Jubilee Festival held in June 2011 celebrating 60 years of Music over four days. It went down so well we thought it would be wicked to make it an annual event. So with a bit of discussion they teamed up with **KAF - Kidderminster Arts Festival**, a fortnight of Art, Music & Events held through out Kidderminster & moved the dates to August. Obviously at that time of year the festival season is in full swing & the one band we wanted to play were always booked, so once again we moved the date to the weekend before Bank Holiday to enable **Stiff Joints** to join us. We have stuck with this weekend ever since and seen the Fringe grow and grow..



Until 2015 where our spirit and bank balance got broken. The year of the Storm. But with the fantastic help and support of friends, customers and bands we continued, both with the Pub and the Festival.

Then in June 2017 we left the Boars Head, but **Kris Heal** nagged me until at the last minute we managed to hold a one day event which was superb & a wicked chance to catch up with everyone.



Still unsure of whether it would continue. Kris came round to see us late last year, and basically said "You've had 6 months off, come on, let's get it sorted..."

So we are back as a totally independent venture for our 6th year, with a bigger line up having a bit more time on my hands this year these days. We have a Circus Theme through out event to celebrate of 250 years of the modern circus! So more going on, more to do.



The Annual **Paint Jam** will also be happening on the Saturday, with Artists from all over making Kidderminster a prettier place. Plus with the help of KAF and WFDC we have been able to extend our line up and keep this event free to all....

To delight your taste buds for 2018 we have a wide selection of music, **XSLF, Blackballed, Stiff Joints, The Humdrum Express, Bleeding Hearts, Skewwhiff, Flat Stanley, Suckerpunch, Sister Sandwich, Rouen, Teddy Matthews, Crows & Crosses, The Bullfrogs, The Skeletons, Escobar's, One Dementia and White Noise Cinema** along with a wonderful selection of Acoustic Acts, **Lown Lizards, Peter Williams, Alex Round, Tristis, Paul Lennox, Dan Hunt, Chris Jones, Matt, Bobby Parker & Ben & Leah.**

So pop on down and support live music with an outside Bar, selection of food options, a craft market and entertainment for the Kids... Fun for everyone. All this and free entry and the music kicks off about 1.00pm each day.

Hopefully see you there

Sand Baker

Moseley Folk Festival Friday 31st August – 2nd September 2018

Every year people from across Birmingham and beyond flock to Moseley Park to witness a healthy mix of traditional, contemporary and downright experimental folk and acoustic music at the **Moseley Folk Festival**. This year will be the thirteenth Moseley Folk Festival, which showcases unsigned acts right next to well-established international artists, making for a truly exciting bill.

On Friday night Moseley plays host to the often political, occasionally angry but always big hearted **Levellers**, for their 30th anniversary celebration. From their early gigs in Brighton in 1988, Levellers were a 'gang band', whose potent brew of activism and hedonism attracted an instant following. Their headline slot on Friday 31st August is sure to start the festival with a bang as the band takes us through anthem after anthem, appealing to the head, heart and feet in equal measure.



Expressive songwriter **Nick Mulvey** will headline Saturday. After



leaving his former band (Portico Quartet) in 2011, Mulvey made waves with his Mercury Prize nominated 2014 debut *First Mind*, celebrated for its melding of expressive song writing with everything from West African rhythms to electronic dissonance. His new album, *Wake Up Now*, evokes the lightness and sophistication of Paul Simon's *Graceland* alongside shades of Caribou

and Four Tet in its organic approach to electronics.

Almost thirty years after the band's debut album, *A Catholic Education*, the much loved **Teenage Fanclub** will be bringing their



signature indie rock repertoire to the Park for Sunday's headline slot. Throughout their illustrious career Teenage Fanclub have released a total of ten studio albums, with their latest album *Here* making the Scottish Album of The Year Award longlist in 2017. Many of their offerings have claimed Top 20 status in the UK, which is no mean feat for an alternative rock band reaching their 30th anniversary.



Show of Hands

With a full line-up including **Show of Hands**, **This Is The Kit**, **King Creosote**, **Skinny Lister**, **Imarhan**, **Chris Wood**, **Martin**



Imarhan

Carthy, and many, many more set to captivate the crowds at **Moseley Folk Festival**, this is an event you truly do not want to miss!



Skinny Lister



This Is The Kit

This year the teams behind the **Mostly Jazz, Funk & Soul Festival** (now in its eighth year) and **Lunar Festival** (returning for its fifth year) are again set to venture out beyond the tree-lined boundaries of the park into a selection of Moseley's finest pubs to add further acoustic sessions to the already first-class line-up.



King Creosote

Tickets for Moseley Folk Festival are available for general sale via the official website, www.moseleyfolk.co.uk

Westfest - The Dakin Stage

West Malvern | Sat 7th July

The **Dakin Diversity Stage** was buzzing all day. Out on the field the St. James primary school samba band started the day with a bang!. In our intimate chilled out marquee the day began with the mellow sounds of **Mal Edgson** with covers of **Jess Morgan** and **Richard Thompson**. The **3 Disagrees** carried on this atmosphere with their laid back bluegrass.

Throughout the day we had 3 diverse choirs:

St James primary school choir(who had a large audience of parents!), **Vox Rox choir** (full of energy) and **West Malvern Voices** (the local community choir) who between them sang all genres of music from gospel to pop to folk.

Spoken word interludes brought humour and thought provoking renditions of life and love. This like minded group meet every Thursday at 7.30pm at Abbey Road Cafe- all welcome.

In the afternoon we heard the **Supalele Ukelele band**, they had lots of fun singing the blues. They meet every Thursday at 10am at the New Inn, Lower Howsell Road. Later the classical music of **Handel with Care** gave us time to relax.

The stage was conceived 6 years ago primarily to give young people the opportunity to perform. Drawing in one of the biggest audiences of the day were some of our younger performers cousins Will, Ellie, Freya, Becca and Harry showing off some amazing talents with a lively performance on acoustic and electric guitar, ukelele, piano, drums and vocal harmony (Panic at the Disco with a twist).



This year we introduced **Lucy Horwood** whose smooth melodies touched us all, accompanied by Eric on the bongos, who smiled all the way through!. This was followed by **Lucy Hughes** debut act with dulcet tones of covers by Snow Patrol, Lukas



Graham and Birdy. Well done to all our youngsters. We are very proud of you all.

Several solo acts graced us with their presence. **Paul O' Neill** (of Roving Crows fame). Paul's material is poignant, humorous and steeped in social conscience. **Emma May White**, who has been on the circuit for 18 years, covered a range of well known songs in her own unique style. **Lou Clarke** is a young singer songwriter who reminds us of Tracy Chapman and Ed Sheeran. Lou's low vocal line and insightful lyrics made an intriguing set.

Gordon Giltrap sat at the back enjoying some of the performances after he had finished his set on the Bar Stage!

In true West Malvern style we held our Grand Parade at 6pm of mythical creatures this year from our stage. Our giant dragon, several fairies, unicorns and mermaids serenaded everyone around the field (with Puff the Magic Dragon of course).

The day ended with the ever popular silent disco. What a wonderful West Fest day!! - Watch this space for next year

Words: Sue Dakin photos: Dazz Green

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Upton Blues Festival 20-22nd July

Mid-July temperatures soar as the sound of a guitar cuts through typically tranquil Upton-Upon-Severn airwaves, and the small town becomes swamped with music lovers making their annual pilgrimage to the award winning, free, UK blues festival. Thursday saw record numbers of campers pitch up for a block-busting long weekend, with a prelude at a rocking **Boathouse**.

Friday reveals a town besieged with revellers and musicians as the festival kicks off in earnest, with **Brilleaux** offering up the Feelgood factor with a dose of harmonica driven rock 'n' roll. **Jenny Wren And Her Borrowed Wings** take over next, and Wren appears almost possessed as she slaps at her double bass, backed by acoustic and steel guitar. A quick spin around the town reveals crammed pubs belching out music from a kaleidoscope of bands. On the main stage **Robert J Hunter** is leading his crew through a tight, funk-licked blues workout, whilst the **Reverend Robert** offers up sermons in blues, calypso and jazz at the **Big Top**.

Adam Sweet unshackles the confines of the acoustic stage, joined by heavy hitting friends **Ian Jennings** and **Gary Cole** (bass and drums) for a stirring, full electric set, from a reworked "*Next Man After Me*", to the slow blues of the brand new "*Take My Time*", Adam hits the sweet spot with a sizzling set.

The Bex Marshall Band, also in the Big Top, promptly steal the day with a fiery set of mesmerizing blues rock, displaying not only



a huge voice but also stunning six-string prowess, as she attacks her guitar from the off with "*Lay Down*", leaving the packed sports field stunned.

We leave **Rebecca Downes** rocking the riverside to catch the unique, rockabilly, country swing styling of **The Rob Heron Tea Pad Orchestra**. The Big Top is alive with bodies dancing the night away to the harmony-enriched "*Holy Moly*", "*I'm In Love Again*" and the insatiable "*Life Is A Drag if You Don't Dress It Up*".

Surveying the scene on Saturday, revellers pound the streets in search of the next blues fix, packing out every conceivable venue from the day's opening chords onwards. Dipping into the **Memorial Hall** for a slice of prohibition era jug band, **The Rumblestrutters** blow the cobwebs away with a take on Robert Johnson's "*32-20 Blues*". Three-part harmonies and a mean harp breeze through a fun acoustic opening. **Mumbo Jumbo** follow, offering up a unique, rootsy stew as tinkered piano collides with jazzy flights of New Orleans flavoured trumpet, bluesy guitar and theatrical drunken laments, for an eclectic and engaging set of rich sonic gumbo.

Over at the Big Top, **The Black Feathers** prove that less is more, as husband and wife team **Ray Hughes** and **Sian Chandler** huddle around one mic, their voices entwined, for a bewitching set of rootsy Americana and folk that manages to seduce the

entire field. 'Travelling Man' **Dave Acari** is armed with an array of resonators, a banjo and his own personal mini bar, sharing some



"*Good Moonshine*" before hitting the "*Whiskey Trail*" in a suitably grizzled take on the blues. **The Stumble** are left to close the sports field stage, and the six-piece, raucous, New Orleans-



inspired rhythm & blues band do not disappoint. A crammed marquee throws aside all inhibitions, becoming a mass of flailing bodies, and the band respond with guitar and sax duals, dance-inducing rhythms, and a host of huge choral hooks; perfect for a Saturday night holler.

With little energy remaining we finish the night in the **Memorial Hall** for a stripped back, smoky acoustic set with **Elles Bailey** and guitarist **Joe Wilkins**. A smouldering Elles showcases new songs before taking to the piano for a sensational "*Girl That Owns The Blues*", followed by an unleashed "*Howlin' Wolf*". More howling from the audience brings the duo back to spark a "*Wildfire*" response.

Sunday starts with a riverside gospel sing-a-long, warming the stage for **Stone Mountain Sinners**, who waste no time in



encouraging us to “*Drink the Wine*”. The audience can’t help but shuffle their feet, raising their voices to the heavens to rejoice when “*She Said Yeah*”.

Over at the Big Top a riotous seven-piece are staging some sort of **Whiskey Rebellion** armed to the teeth. The Leicester-based combo storm the stage for a gloriously rowdy set of supercharged



roots. A swinging shanty takes us “*Round the World*”, revealing a crazed, Balkan punk polka or two. Last year’s Memorial Hall highlight **Muscle Shoals** songstress **Hannah Aldridge** returns for another stunning set of Americana. The audience assist in “*Burning Down Birmingham*”, as Hannah holds the hall spellbound from start to finish.

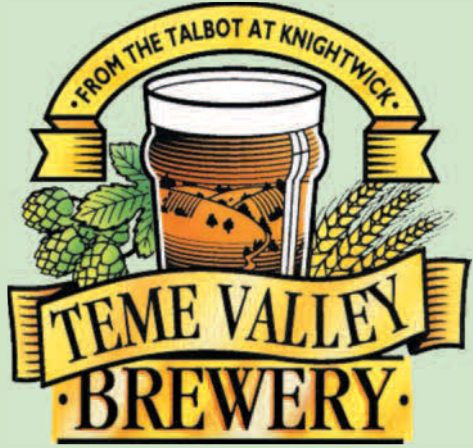
Back by the riverside, **Kris Barras** tears and twists at his battered six string,

leaving it howling and squealing, while he leads his band through the likes of “*Lovers And Losers*” and “*Stitch Me Up*”, before we are treated to a little Hendrix. With bands still rocking the heaving bars of Upton, the acoustic stage closes with **The Swaps**, and we head back to the sports field one final time for a slice of laidback sunshine soul, in the hands of a stripped back **Jo Harman**. The curtain is drawn on Upton Blues



2018 with swaggering rock ‘n’ roll, in the capable hands of **The Quireboys**, to an enthused crowd, not wanting the fabulous weekend to come to an end.

Words: Will Munn Photography: Graham Munn



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Surprise Attacks/Uncover Present 1in60: Sœur/HVMM/Nuns of the Tundra Skewwhiff/As Mamas/Gareth Griffiths The Marris Bar, Worcester | 7th July

Two regular promoter ensembles join forces to offer a who's who of the hottest local bands (via Bristol) all in the name of charity. Local promoters **Surprise Attacks** and **Uncover** have both become banners you can trust, supplying the city with the must see shows (along with **Faithful City Shows**) month in, month out, so when the two collaborate (in aid of the **West Mercia Rape & Sexual Abuse Centre**), you can expect something a little special, so it was unsurprising to see a packed out bar as Worcester's finest tread the boards.

Opening duties fell to **Institutes** frontman **Gareth Griffiths**, who instantly grabbed the attention with an acapella opening and *This Fire*, showcasing his swooping vocal abilities, before cranking his guitar. Weaving a combination of indie, grunge and Bowie like rock Griffiths dazzled, with long term favourites *Not Alone* and *Golden Egg* hitting the mark, whilst the brand spanking new *Monster* suggests there's plenty more to come from **Institutes** in the near future.

As Mamas took over proceedings and the duo hit the ground running with a thick meaty slab of psych tinged rock 'n' roll combining a garage groove, a heavy dose of the blues and a Morrison meets Iggy Pop like lead, the band quickly whip up a storm, inviting the first revellers to the floor for a suitably jagged run at *19th Floor* and *Idle Eyes*, whilst an inspired, down and dirty take on Willie Dixon's *Spoonful*, left an addictive aftertaste that will have me delving back for more and the first opportunity.



With the party well under way, raffle tickets exchanging hands and a steady flow of bar dwellers taking to the floor, **Skewwhiff** are on hand to provide a 'Nice Little Upper' as choppy new wave guitars collide with spiky sing-a-long hooks. If you've seen **Skewwhiff** before you'll know that 'It's Obvious' that the floor will fill as they paint the 'Perfect Picture' as **Beanie** leads the boys through another invigorating set, before delivering one final 'Over And Out'.

Nuns Of The Tundra seem to be in fire right now, a band in the ascendancy, with their reputation enhancing with each gig and tonight was no different as the band stormed the stage with a barrage of drums and psych tinged stoner riffs as they quickly

30 SLAP AUGUST

settled into a tight, intoxicating groove, topped by **Troy Tittley's** gripping melodic tones. The band prove 'Actions' speak louder than words as they deliver a thrilling newbie in the shape of *Pray For You, Slave For You* before bringing their set to a close with an explosive *Minds Eye*.



In recent times **HVMM** have been busy stomping round the UK, delivering their brand of serrated alternative rock to the unexpected folk of Bristol, London and beyond, before returning to Worcester to lay waste to **The Marris Bar**. From the first crack of **Sam Jenkins** drums, the band meant business, **Ebony Clay** slashes at six string and we're away, pulled down the dark, brooding, back alleys of rock, led by a possessed **Andy Teece**. *Pummeling A Monk, 1924* and the newly recorded and released *Bell Jar* grip the audience vice like, as the band prowls the stage, delivering a thrilling set of corrosive intent.



Local made, Bristol based **Sœur** are left to tire out the masses gathered at the front, with their brand of dual fronted pop kissed grunge. Pretty melodies and gorgeous harmonies collide with dense walls of dirty riffs, battered drums and howling yelps as **Tina Maynard** and **Anya Pulver** caress and claw at their guitars, whilst **James Collins** pummels at his kit during the likes of *Track Back* and the aptly named *Tough*, before Anya abandons the stage completely joining the melee at the front, during the final frenzied moments of an exhilarating showcase.



Surprise Attacks and **Uncover** put on a brilliant night, raised a ton of money (over £1300 and counting) and highlighted some of our local best and with both promoters having loads of great things in the pipeline, I rather suggest you follow them on social media and hit a show or two, you won't be disappointed.

Will Munn

Swampcandy

The Chestnut, Worcester | 2nd July

It's Sunday evening and the air is still heavy with heat as Swampcandy return to Worcester, having just performed at Upton Blues as well as Gloucester's Fountain Inn on Saturday. The stage is draped with merch; spoils hauled across the Atlantic for a 39 gig tour, over 41 days of tearing across the British Isles. Their delivery is characteristically fast and raw, like a Spanish onion on a moped, with Ruben laying enough grit to resurface the road all the way to "Aberdeen". It's more than enough reason for me to drag my way back to Worcester, catch the boys from Annapolis, tuck away a precious vinyl copy of their new MINE album, have a beer, lose my sun glasses, and tear back to Upton for another fix.

Every year sees a style shift from Ruben. The resonator, acoustic, and National electro acoustic are there of course, but he's grown out his hair, filled out the beard a bit, and is looking every bit the American Civil War vet. By the time we reach the third song his hat is lost and the pace has lifted, with Joey's hair flying under the constant stream of air flowing from his blower. The kick drum thumps in while fingers pull at the heavy strings, slapping the big bass into shape. Ruben is busy on his steel bodied resonator; his slide rips along the fret while clawed finger picks work out the melody.

"Preaching Blues" is what it's all about, and Swampcandy are going to press gang you into their church, with steel strings stretched to breaking point under Ruben's picks, Joey in his stride with foot hard down on the pedal; the drum answers back, and

the bass rumbles out its rhythm. There's plenty of time for "Positive Drinking" before taking "Cindy" for a dark ride to an even darker resting place.



Had I not had to rush away to catch Kris Barras going 12 rounds with the 'fight' fans at Upton, I would have raised a glass for the inevitable "Drink Whiskey With Me". No doubt there would have been songs from the new album, MINE, which, when added to the previous Swampcandy release LAND, makes for a deadly dangerous Swampcandy LAND MINE. But when two vinyl albums combine to take you on the road to oblivion, be careful where you tread, it could be my shades! The band are on an extensive tour and will be back in Gloucester on August 8th and Worcester on the 11th. I'll see you there for another night of eclectic, steamy, swamp-edged blues.

Graham Munn

Trevor Babajack Steger,

Prince Of Wales, Ledbury | 5th July

It was going to be good to catch up with Trevor at last, since he has started performing his solo blues, and indeed, since his release of *Sawdust Man*.

Naturally, the wine box/salvaged timber guitars are still a major part of his show, lovingly hand made, by the 'sawdust man'. His array of guitars includes a resonator and electro acoustic, not to mention a box full of harmonicas, with the gold plated Dannecker still shining through.

Trevor is about roots blues, the type of songs that ebbed out of the Mississippi and Southern States, whether from the low Delta, open plains or the hills and mountains that formed the bedrock of blues.

Stomp box in place, winebox in hand, and harp framed around his neck, Trevor warmed into the session with the glorious, Robert Johnson, 'Walking Blues', Trevor snarling out those well trodden lyrics, hands busy on the stumpy guitar, harp filling in the gaps. A ¼ of a century back, Babajack was 'christened' in Zimbabwe, Jack was born, and Trevor became *Father Of Jack*, it also gave birth to, 'What You Gonna Do When Your Daddies Gone', there's no let up on the throat lozenges, as the wine box suffers and the harp bends. A much more mellow bit of country blues, played out on the resonator, as 'The River', babbles bye. The rhythm soon ramps up, the stomp thumps along underfoot, the spikey res is worked hard for a gritty gospeling lyrics, aint gonna see you for a while oh Lordy Lord,



'Red Boots', rasps out, threatening retribution for deceit. Trevor attacks everything hard, the music is raw edged, like cutting fresh hewn timber on a buzz saw, its gonna leave rough edges, and you'll be pulling out the splinters in your mind, for days. Every one of Trevor's songs are drawn from his experiences, but no reason not to drop in another 'cover', a scintillating and savage, 'Partridge Farm', Steger style.

The evening is warm and sticky, the gang, enthusiastic, Trevor rolls on copper slide, ripping, fingers strumming and picking, at impossible speeds, his hands a blur, the only breath taken, to change a guitar or key changing harp transplant. No silky vocals here, no easing up, feet constantly moving, as he implodes into the final chords. He's got a touch of 'Cat Scratch Fever' an itch that can't be ignored.

A slow and heartfelt, 'Stranger In The Hall', forms a familiar picture in my mind, Trevor sings his lonely lament, but he, 'Something On My Mind', springs into life, the tempo lifts, strings are attacked, slide busy, and the harp is paragraphing the lyrics. Time we all, 'Went Out Walking', as Babajack parks his guitar, quietens the stomp, and gets

busy on his harp, for a superb reed bending, bit of Delta blues, singing out the lyrics in breaths, through the harp and into the microphone. Talking of walking, it was time I moved on for my journey home, leaving Trevor to ease through to close his set. It had been an absolute pleasure to catch up again after far too long, breathe in the atmosphere full of Sawdust, its a bit like being home!

Graham Munn

Linton Blues Festival 6-8th July

I'm almost embarrassed to admit that I'd never had the pleasure of attending **Linton Blues Festival**, up until now something had always managed to get in the way, but 2018 would be my year! The weather was looking good, and the line-up even better; I was itching for my first Linton experience.

I arrive on Saturday to see **Starlite Campbell** opening the stage. The band slice into their *Blueberry Pie* album, where rich, plummy bass notes from Suzy are interlaced with Latin drum rhythms, held together by a psychedelic edge to the guitar lead. Their set finishes



with *"Walking Out The Door"*, a superb blues number that has the feel of Mayall or Mac in their heyday. The Hammond is sublime; producing guitar notes with just enough dirt ground in, while drum and bass rhythm set the all-important foundations.

Kyla Brox has a jaw dropping, soulful blues voice that stops you in your tracks. The band begin with a shuffling *"Beautiful Day"* which practically melts into its audience, sizzling in the sunshine and Kyla's warm voice. Funk flows freely from the stage, and a gang of groovers dance in the heat. Dripping with passion, the intoxicating *"If You See Him"* pulses out, before slipping into the heart wrenching *"I'd Rather Go Blind"*. How do you follow that? Kyla's rich, velvet voice silences the field with a gobsmackingly beautiful *"Hallelujah"*.



The **Marcus Sibun Band** have a hard set to follow, but the



combination of Detroit rock blues and Innes at his electrifying best quickly turns us round for a rocking ride along a blues road. The amalgam of Marcus and Innes works wonderfully well, and they steam non-stop from a *"One Woman Man"* on the way to *"Living The Blues"*. Innes attacks his Telecaster, hair flying, lost in his impassioned play. Marcus, well he just looks so damned cool throughout, pouring out his soulful lyrics and preaching the blues.

Deborah Bonham takes to the stage next, a name that is synonymous with Brit rock blues. Peter picks his slide, Jo turns to mandolin, and **John Dominic** steps in with his harp as Deborah lifts spirits with a super *"Fly"*. A very special guest, **Leon Holmes**, joins them onstage, sitting astride his cahon for a storming finish as *"been a long time since I rock and rolled"* cuts through the air. People reach for their air guitars and the dancing crowd joins in for the chorus.

Next up is **Sari Schnorr** with her raw, powerful blues. It's time to step up and start a *"Revolution"*, as Sari takes us for a ride through this superb album, launching into a glorious take on



"Black Betty", an absolute show stopper. Next is a raucous game of *"Cat & Mouse"*, before the confessional *"Ain't Got No Money"* closes the set... Well, not quite. Sari and her brilliant band come back for *"Aunt Hazel"*, a particular favourite of mine. If you've not seen Sari 'live', then it's about time you did.

As the legendary **Big Country** ready themselves I manage to sneak away to recharge my batteries for super Sunday, while the crowds at Linton dance long into the night.

The unmistakable strains of *"Graceland"* wind their way through the summer air; I have, at long last, caught up with **La Vendore Rogue**. I might be late to the party, but the mix of punk, rock, blues and Americana is instantly captivating. **JoJo**, the Salvador Dali-esque frontman is vibrant with buckets of attitude as he provokes and teases the basking blues sun-worshippers. We are offered a delicious slice of *"Chocolate Cake"*, with Joel's honey drizzle sweetening the flavour. Warren adds a rich, buttery filling of avant-garde blues, and maybe even a dollop of Cream.

When it comes to punk and attitude, it doesn't get better than the pioneers of pub rock, **Dr Feelgood**. You know what you're going to get with this band, with a cult following we can all sign up to. Rob, resplendent in blue velvet jacket and shades, looks suitably cool, and Steve has brought his 'steel forged' beast of a



slide guitar. Phil is dressed in a dark suit and Kevin, poised as ever, takes a more casual approach in shorts and cotton shirt. Everyone is up and grooving, joining in with the chorus of that glorious cocktail, “*Milk and Alcohol*”. Rob struts, dragging the micstand and attacks the stage, and Steve can’t be pinned down; his guitar is teased and tortured into submission. Brash and brilliant as ever.

The festival draws to closure with **Davy Knowles**, here with his Chicago band to play songs from his *Three Mile From Avalon* album. Organic, raw guitar, thundering bass, blasting drums, and finessed keys wind back the clock, taking us to the glory days of blues rock. Davy is a fine vocalist too, harmonising with his elemental guitar, raw with energy and emotion.

Linton Blues Festival welcomed me into their well-established, wonderful atmosphere with warm arms. Yes, the weather helped, but the team behind the event does a great job in bringing together around 600 campers, 1100 fans, and a cracking line-up, all while supporting local charities. It’s a ‘well-oiled’ Blues Festival and is sure to keep on bringing in the crowds. I look forward to joining them again next year.

Graham Munn



Suzy Starlite

Comes Home To Ross And Linton Blues

Suzy, half of the Starlite Campbell partnership was raised in Ross, just a few miles down the M50 from Linton, the full **Starlite Campbell Band**, opened the stage as Saturday unfolded at this brilliant festival.

Playing French Horn at school, and writing her own material for guitar, at 16, she knew she wanted to follow her artistic instincts. It was a calling, that had to be answered, which took Suzy seeking a coarse in performance media, leaving her friends and family in Ross, and relocating in Salford. Naturally drawn to music, she graduated, into a folk/rock band, Megiddo, the dream of music, travel and performance, driving her forward.

Suzy based herself in the Isle Of Man, where **Simon Campbell** came into the picture as producer and guitar player, proclaiming a band needed to be formed, and ‘just get out there and play’. Simon pulled a band together, and ‘**Starlite**’ was formed. Simon was going through a divorce at this time, Suzy driving a huge white van from the mainland, effected an ‘escape’ for Simon, his studio was crammed in and, they ran away together in the, ‘van of rock’. First settling in France, before setting up the **Supertone Records** North of Valencia, Spain.

Supertone Records evolved into a residential studio, with a sophisticated amalgam of analogue equipment available, becoming recognised for the quality of recordings that rekindled the feel of the 60’s and 70’s. Suzy praises Simon’s production skills and meticulous equipment choice, alongside fastidious microphone placement. Musicians could stay, live and eat together, connecting as a musical family, with recording sessions becoming more organic as a result.

Their own *Blueberry Pie*, was cooked up in those studios, with drummer **Steve Gibson**, and **Jonny Henderson** flying across, the studio being already equipped with Hammond, Leslie and Wuritzer Piano, for Jonny, Sakae drums for Steve. The result was an album that has found world wide appraisal.

Steve had worked on past albums with Simon, Jonny stepping in whilst Simon was working on his ‘*Knife*’ album, the bond was

formed, and the seed of **Starlite Campbell Band** had all but germinated at that point, the bass slot soon to be resolved.

The conversion to bass evolved from a studio jam, where she was encouraged to fill in on the bass, Simon decided she was a ‘natural’, the die was cast.

Suzy and Simon married, Suzy receiving a Gretsch Thunderjet bass guitar as a wedding gift, **Mike Lull** followed on her Birthday.



Brexit, of course the dreaded Brexit reared its ugly multi faced head, currency changes and soaring costs rapidly eroded at the concept of a studio in Spain. Supertone Records was packed in its box, finding them returning to the Isle Of Man, though it’s likely the studio will be reborn somewhere else when the mists of devolution clears.

Meanwhile, **The Starlite Campbell Band** were in Linton to perform live for the first time. *Blueberry Pie* has brought recognition and an extensive tour, including a headline spot at the prestigious Wangaratta Jazz And Blues Festival in Australia. Their ‘mince pie’ tour will bring them to **The Iron Road** in Evesham, later in the year. Suzy and Simon are also currently working on a new album, ‘*The Language OF Curiosity*’, destined to move on from *Blueberry Pie* 60’s feel, stepping forward into the 70’s for inspiration. Watch this space!

Graham Munn

Henry Sandon Hall Offers Something For Everyone this August!

The newly opened **Henry Sandon Hall** is offering a fun-filled programme of events this August, to coincide with the annual **Worcester Festival**.

Henry Sandon Hall, an exciting new arts venue run by Worcester Live Charitable Trust on Worcester's famous Royal Porcelain Works site, was officially opened last month. The flexible space, which can seat up to 140 people or can be cleared of chairs completely, will feature a diverse programme of events, including film, talks, live music, family and children's events, exhibitions, and more, but before the full programme begins in September, there will be an array of special treats to coincide with the Worcester Festival this August, with something to tempt everyone along to see what the new venue has to offer.

A spokesperson said: "There will be family treats in the form of children's 'Magical Making' craft workshops, fantastical storytelling and puppetry with 'The Yarn Spinner', and a musical treat for all the family with local violinist Shulah Oliver in her brand new family show; A Carnival of Music & Ferdinand the Bull. There'll be drama too, with a performance of the Worcester Repertory Company's one-woman show, *Where Is Mrs Christie? The Mystery of Agatha Christie's Eleven Lost Days*, which recently received a 4* review in *The Stage*. Not only that, there'll be music in the form of live concerts and a fantastic Festival Ceilidh with the foot-stomping Orchard Band. For guitar aficionados, Kit Holmes will be performing with Al Greenwood, and if you prefer brass to string then the Worcester Horn Day is for you; a day-long celebration of the French Horn with something to interest players of all ages and abilities."



That's not all that the new venue will have to offer though. Later in the year there'll be Pop-In Auctions, Poetry Open Mic Nights, weekly film showings in partnership with the University of Worcester, a fascinating range of talks on topics ranging from local history and gardening to music, wine, the arts and more, plus exhibitions, demonstrations and craft fairs.

Find out more about the upcoming events at **Henry Sandon Hall** www.worcesterlive.co.uk - The Box Office on 01905 611427





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BUNKER MENTALITY

ON THE RECORD - THE ROLE OF THE PRODUCER

Things seem to be getting busier at the Funky Bunker. We have had a marked increase in rehearsing bands looking for a new home since the sad closure of The Session in Worcester. This, added to an already steady rehearsal schedule has been keeping us happily occupied. While the circumstances have been unfortunate, it has been pleasing to accommodate the rehearsal needs of bands we may not otherwise have come across, and it has been eye-opening to witness the wealth of talent and diversity coming through the door from further afield. Long may it continue.

As we were reminded at the start of the month, live recording is an interesting challenge with its own unique pressures. The acoustics of the location or venue presents its own challenges, as does the fact that once the band is up and playing there is no turning back. Beyond the soundcheck, all is off the map.

In the studio the emphasis changes. I have been busy with one of my own bands throughout July. We've been getting our debut album put together at long last and it has been an interesting and rewarding process.

It is also an abject lesson in emphasising efficiency over production excesses. Yes, we could have many guitar parts, vocal layers and countless "atmospherics" as it was put to me recently, but a band then runs the risk of creating a record so unwieldy and complicated they would struggle to perform it live.

The point is, we are not that sort of band, so the art is knowing ahead of time what the goal is and then deviating from that as little as possible.

For any band that isn't experienced in these matters, the importance of a good producer is vital, as important as any member of the band in my opinion. This person will keep you on track, tell you the things you may not want to hear about your music, provide an objective pair of ears and get you over the line.

Finish your material, know your parts, choose your studio and above all get a good producer or engineer before you even walk through the door. You'll be glad you did. CP

FEAST AND FAMINE

Back at the beginning of July, we were privileged to be asked to provide PA and location recording at a concert by *Flood for the Famine* at St Peters Church in Malvern.

Based in London with a Malvern connection courtesy of frontman Alex Lindner, this young ensemble variously hails from Nigeria, Scotland and Scandinavia, and a fantastic evening was had by all in a wonderful setting.

Brooding, intense with all shades of light and dark in between, we predict promising things in this band's future.

Elsewhere, the new open mic night at *The Oil Basin Brew House* in Worcester is the perfect way to wind down a weekend.

Courtesy of the effortlessly convivial Mr Ruben Seabright, this runs alternate Sundays to his already well established open mic evening at *The Unicorn Inn* in Malvern - I urge you to get to both wherever you can; it will make him very happy.

Details on Facebook at Ruben Seabright Music.

CP

Try new things at Worcester Music Festival

Worcester Music Festival returns from 14th-16th September and this year, organisers have developed a packed programme of free music workshops for all ages, from guitar workshops to poetry writing. Although, many more sessions will be added in the run up to the festival, here are some examples of activities that you can find happening over the weekend.

Have you got a guitar but don't know what to do with it? Join our guitar workshop, which is aimed at absolute beginners. Our teacher will introduce you to a few key concepts in this supportive one-hour session which will help you feel more confident when picking up your own guitar.

Tutored band jam session with Worcester **School of Rock** and Performance. This workshop will give young musicians a chance to learn a song and perform it on stage in front of a supportive and friendly audience.

An introduction to song writing with **Nigel Clark** from **Dodgy**. A look at the basics of writing / finishing your first song. Nigel will lead a session looking at lyric writing, melody and rhythm. It is open to all ages and all song writing abilities.



Spare Room Arts will once again bring some glitter and sparkle to the festival! Expect music-themed arts and crafts activities, such as, music festival flags masks, music themed puppets, musical instruments and badges.



A friendly **Junk Percussion** workshop, which will allow attendees to use everyday objects, many of which would otherwise end up in the rubbish or recycling bin, to build their own instruments. Join our band and experiment with the sounds you can make from 'junk'!

Poetry Out Loud workshop, led by previous **Birmingham Poet Laureate, Spoz**, aims to get young people reading, writing and appreciating any form of poetry. Spoz... is an award winning performance poet, singer / songwriter, filmmaker, playwright and was the poet-in-residence at Birmingham City FC.



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Anti-Nowhere League, Borrowed Time The Valkyrie, Evesham | 27th July

Gloucester's **Borrowed Time** got proceedings off to an excellent start. Over the last few years a relentless work rate has seen the band play a myriad of headline shows, very decent support slots to countless punk rock legends and blistering performances at both the Blackpool and Amsterdam Rebellion Festivals. There's no denying Borrowed Time are now at the vanguard of grassroots, non-corporate punk.

Tonight's set of originals packed a high-octane, melodic punch. All were delivered with confidence and verve and sing-a-long classics such as *Under The Radar*, *Bridges*, *Day We Broke The World* and the brilliant set closer *Borrowed Time* (dedicated to the late Gary Borland of Heavy Drapes) had the audience showing sincere appreciation. As I, and many others, exited for some much-needed air before the **Anti-Nowhere League** took to the stage I heard a couple of punters discussing BT's performance. One finished with, 'Outstanding, fucking outstanding.' Can't argue with that.



Ah the **Anti-Nowhere League**. I haven't caught them live for a few years and haven't really followed them on record since the excellent debut album. The first thing to say is that lead singer (and only original member) Animal has recruited a fantastic line-up. I've always believed bands should look the part and employ a certain rock 'n' rock swagger. The League do both effortlessly; think 1%er motorcycle gang and you've got the picture.



From the moment they hit the stage the Anti-Nowhere League were on fire. Animal's a warm, very naughty, highly amusing frontman. I'm quite certain there's always been an element of theatre to The League and tonight we were treated to a stunning performance. All the classics were present and correct, *So What*, *Streets Of London*, *I Hate People*, *Snowman*, *Woman*, *For You*, *We Are The League* etc, but what was particularly pleasing was the quality of the new songs. *God Bless Alcohol* covers familiar League territory, while Uncle Charlie salutes the UK Subs' legendary frontman. It's *The Last Cowboys* however, about keeping the original DIY punk ethic alive, that is quite simply a stone cold, bonafide classic.

I'm not sure if Animal singing *I Hate Rock 'n' Roll* is a parody when it's delivered by such a blisteringly exciting punk rock 'n' roll four piece, but what I do know is this band was genuinely exciting to witness in the intimate surrounds of **The Valkyrie**. Long live The League.

Words: Ro Link Photos: Michael Collins



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**GAZ BROOKFIELD : GOAT ROPER RODEO BAND : THE CRACKED : WHITE FEATHER COLLECTIVE : URBAN FOLK THEORY : WHIPJACKS
DJ SHIPPERS : TREVOR STEGER : MUSTARD BAND : HIGH HORSES : ALEX LIPINSKI : SAINT ALTO BAND : JACK BLACKMAN
HIGH HORSES : CARL OLANDER : CHIEF O'NEILL BAND : THE COLLECTIVE : GREENMAN RISING : KING CASSIDY : ALEX TAYLOR
HUW KNIGHT & VIV BELLE : EMILY FAYE : MAITREE EXPRESS : THE NO GOOD NANCY FUTURE SET : WEDNESDAY'S WOLVES**



**CLUB TAKEOVER
WITH JIM "SHAFT" RYAN**

**DANNY RAMPLING : EXPRESS 2 ROCKY & DIESEL : RICHARD NORRIS
NANCY NOISE : LISA UNIQUE : SION PUGH : DJ SOS : ELLASKINS : MARK WINTER**

**HEAPS OF
FREE
ACTIVITIES**

**AFTER HOURS
by St Austell Brewery**

**THROWN TOGETHER INSTITUTES BEAVER AND THE FOGHORNS
MISSIN ROSIE PLUCKING DIFFERENT DIRTY SMOOTH
SKEW WHIFF CHASING DEER WIDE EYED BOY MEMPHIS UPPOAR
RICHIE LANE BAND FRONTRUNNERS PLASTIC SCENE SIRACUSE**

**PEN & PARCHMENT
by Louder Than War**

**LAKEFEST DOES LITERATURE,
LAUGHS AND LANGUAGE
JOHN ROBB IN CONVERSATION WITH TIM ABBOT
CHRIS ABBOT PETE THE TEMP....PLUS MANY MORE**

FAMILY FUN

**TINY TOTS RAVE DJ WORKSHOPS
SECRET WOODED DISCO POTTERY
YOGA AMAZING BMX DISPLAY FEATURING
MASON MURRAY, SETH MURRAY AND JOE BADDELEY**



**LAKEFEST.CO.UK
#LAKEFEST2018**



THE BRETHRYN'S COCKTAIL BAR

Wednesday 01 August 2018

Saskia Griffiths - Moore
Carpenters Arms, Miserden, Stroud

Gordon Wood
The Bayshill Pub, Cheltenham

Xadium, Tristan Gorman, Kaleido Bay
The Marshall Rooms, Stroud

Damon T & Mark Cole
Café René, Gloucester

Thursday 02 August 2018

Esther Turner
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

The Tom Barnwell Trio
The Queens Head, Bromsgrove

Midweek Musings: Topic Work
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Day Jobs!
Tank, Gloucester

Ben Hall Acoustic 8:30
The Oil Basin Brewhouse, Worcester

The Aguilar Blumenfeld Project Ft Barry "The Fish" Melton
Malvern Cube, Malvern

El Macho
Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Friday 03 August 2018

Bandeoke With Polkadot Robot
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Betsy Harmony
Red Lion, Evesham

Answer Back
The Chequers Inn Fladbury, Pershore

Ben Green
Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

Fitz Of Laughter
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Supreme Queen
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Parallel
The Blue Bell Ryall, Upton Upon Severn

The Ron Jeremy Band
Slug & Lettuce, Bromsgrove

Skabucks
The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Ross Angeles
The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Dan Greenaway
No.3A, Bromsgrove

Josh Buckley
The Red Lion, Amblecote, Stourbridge

Liquor & Poker
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Dr Cornelius
The Hanbury Turn, Bromsgrove

Ben Smith, Gerry Riley
Stourbridge Royal British Legion, Stourbridge

2Tone Revue
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Craig Seeney
Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

Vince Freeman
Smokey Joe's Coffee Bar, Cheltenham

Slowjin
The Royal, Cheltenham

The Hawthornes
Harry Cooks, Cheltenham

Dirty Bourbon River Show
The Marshall Rooms, Stroud

Will Killeen
Sebright Arms, Worcester

Loungetoast
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Croft And Cotes
Tank, Gloucester

Gaf Franks Acoustic Set
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Dan & King Rich
The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

58 Shots
The Iron Road, Evesham

Chewie
The Sociable Beer Company, Worcester

Hump De Bump
The Camp, Grimley, Worcester

40 SLAP AUGUST

Summer Rock 'N Roll Party With Sunjay
St. George's Hall, Bewdley

The Unconventionals
The Millers Arms, Pershore

Worcester
Texan Peacock, Drummonds

Voodoo Blue
The Queens Head, Wolverley

The Rumble
Café René, Gloucester

Griff Collins Acoustic
The Bush Inn, St Johns, Worcester

Artiphunk, The Foreign Quarter, Heathens
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Paddy O'Turner
The Left Bank, Hereford

Black Heart Angels
Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

The Speedgums
The Golden Cross, Hereford

Ponty Presley
The Dog, Hereford

Polly Edwards
The Nightingale, Worcester

Saturday 04 August 2018

One2many
Reet Petite-Music Cafe, Leominster

Kevin Rhodes
Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Terry
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

The Futures
The Three Horseshoes, Malvern

Coda
The Railway, Redditch

Stuart From Strangers
Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

Ct Riders
The Oast House, Redditch

Just Charlotte
Ye Olde New Inn, Arley, Bewdley

Fires That Divide
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

The Blues Brothers
Button Oak Inn, Bewdley

Inclines
The Globe, Hay On Wye

Jackire Baker
Hungry Horse, Bromsgrove

The Transporters
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Deiliah's Umbrella Charity Gig: The Young Hearts, Crying Wolf, Lazerbrain, The More You Know
The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Coda - A Tribute To Led Zeppelin
The Railway Inn, Redditch

Joel Gardner
The Talbot, Belbroughton, Stourbridge

The Joe Elvis Show
Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

The Floyd Effect - The Pink Floyd Tribute Show
Norwich Playhouse, Norwich

Gunnrunner
Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Gotta Groove
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Sons Of Navarone
The Bayshill Pub, Cheltenham

Midland Regulators
The Railway Inn, Studley

The Usual Suspects
The Cross Keys Inn, Malvern

Durandau Ballet
The Brewery Quarter, Cheltenham

Rxptrs, Prey Drive, The Jericho Racks
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Dj Cerveau
Stroud Valleys Artspace, Stroud

Miss Treated
Nailsworth Social Club, Stroud

Liberty Artillery, Dead Dads Club, Mad Isaac
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

The Delray Rockets (2:30pm)
Priory Park, Malvern

Glyn Martin

The Green Dragon, Malvern

Beaver And The Foghorns

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Chantel McGregor - Acoustic

The Iron Road, Evesham

The Mercy

Archdales 73 Club, Worcester

Matt Peplow And Brandon Clark Aka Bratt

Brunswick Arms, Worcester

The Encore

The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Toby

Rainbow Hill Club, Worcester

No Poetry: The Young & Restless + Guests

The Grapes, Hereford

Jagged Hands

Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

Jay & Eli

The Queens Arms, Bromyard

Aladdinsane

Baker Street, Gloucester

Martin Lennon

The Royal Oak, Gloucester

The After Dark Band

The Oak Apple, Worcester

White Spice

Lydbrook & District Community Social Club, Gloucester

The All Tones

Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

Bourbon Alley

The Chestnut, Worcester

Coldfinger

The Victory, Hereford

Sons Of Yoda

The Plough, Hereford

Dan & King Rich

The Weavers, Kidderminster

Sunday 05 August 2018**Tyler & Vo**

Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Rob Powell & Pete Hodge

Red Lion, Evesham

Whiskey River Boys (3pm)

The Grape Vaults, Leominster

The Beautiful Ways (3pm)

Ye Old Crown Inn, Stourport-On-Severn

Kings String Quartet (1:45pm)

Priory Park, Malvern

Kitchen Island Band (3pm)

The Morgan, Malvern

Jay & Eli

The Kings Arms, Mickleton

Berkeley Square

Bands in The Park, Bewdley Museum, Bewdley

Born Jovi Solo

The Harbour Inn, Arley, Bewdley

Leanne & King Rich (4pm)

The Rising Sun, Bewdley

Pilchards

The Longlands Tavern, Stourbridge

Lemonade Jazz/Funk/Soul Session

The Marris Bar, Worcester

The Follicles

Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

Lewis Leighton

The Exmouth Arms, Cheltenham

The Beautiful Ways

Ye Olde Crown, Stourport-On-Severn

Zakk Poland

The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Devon Mason

Ambassador Snooker Club, Evesham

Lyfest!!!

The Flyford Arms, Worcester

Over The Hill (Leo Saunders) (4pm)

The Wheelhouse Marina Bar, Upton On Severn

Ray Mytton (5:30pm)

The Chestnut, Worcester

Nicole Sherwood (5:30pm)

The Imperial Tavern, Worcester

Sue Fear's 'Life' (4pm)

Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Monday 06 August 2018**Trongate Rum Riots**

The Prince Albert, Stroud

The Dickies, Pure Gold Babies, Kick The Clown

Robin 2, Bilston, Wolverhampton

Wednesday 08 August 2018**Keshanadram Featuring The Amazing Ash Mandrake**

The Green Dragon, Malvern

Slipstone

Carpenters Arms, Miserden, Stroud

Swampcandy

Café René, Gloucester

Thursday 09 August 2018**Malfunction**

Bromsgrove Folk Club, Bromsgrove

The Bug Club

Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Duncan Eagles Quartet

Smokey Joe's Coffee Bar, Cheltenham

Brooke Sharkey

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Diamond

The Greenway Hotel And Spa, Cheltenham

Dead Royalties, Liquid State, + Support

Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

The Magic Of Motown

Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Spence Cater

Tank, Gloucester

All Metal Tribute To The Bee Gees & Beyond

The Iron Road, Evesham

Sean Jeffery Acoustic 8:30pm

The Oil Basin Brewhouse, Worcester

Fred Zeppelin :: Locked & Loaded

Worcester CAMRA Beer Festival, Worcester Racecourse,

That Dog Was A Band Now

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Friday 10 August 2018**Decades**

Reet Petite-Music Cafe, Leominster

Shades Of Grey

Red Lion, Evesham

Mice

Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Vo Fletcher

Colwall Park Hotel, Malvern

The Ska 45's

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

The Ferrets

The Blue Bell Ryall, Upton Upon Severn

The Upstairs

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

The Persuaders

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Folk in The Foyer: Bouzatina' & Atto Mul

Conquest Theatre, Bromyard

In Dynamics, Ten Tombs, Hvmm, Viva La Bear

The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Beatles Buddy Holly Tributes

Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

Sounds Of The Sixties!

Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Red Moon

Smokey Joe's Coffee Bar, Cheltenham

West Coast Eagles (Eagles Tribute)

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Kevin Paul As Elvis

Stourport Royal British Legion, Stourport-On-Severn

That Dog Was A Band Now

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Come Together

Drummonds, Worcester

The Kidgloves, + Support

Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Chineseburn

Crown And Sceptre, Stroud

Freeborn Rising

The Bridge, Tenbury

The Magic Of Motown

Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Miss Pearl And The Rough Diamonds

The Hunters Inn, Tewkesbury

James Harriman

Tank, Gloucester

Wolfrén Riverstick

The Rollin Hills, Upton Upon Severn

Weekend Recovery, A Void

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Nikki Rous

Ye Olde Talbot Hotel, Worcester

Vintage Inc

The Millers Arms, Pershore

Mumbo Jumbo, Wootown Hillbillies, Autumn, Poor Boys Of

Worcester

Worcester CAMRA Beer Festival, Worcester Racecourse,

The Great Noise: Featuring :, Ferric Lux, Rosebud, Deathly

Pale Party, Michael D. Wynn

Heroes Bar, Worcester

Bands in Beer Garden

Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

The Rhythm Slingers

The Tall Ship, Gloucester

Kate Gee Band

The Queens Head, Wolverley

The Cookies

The Glevum Inn, Gloucester

Sam Gwinnell

The Bush Inn, St Johns, Worcester

Andy Quick

Café René, Gloucester

Jack Blackman

The Globe, Hay On Wye

The Hush

The Golden Cross, Hereford

The After Dark Band

Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

Miss Pearl And The Rough Diamonds

The Hunters Inn, Longdon, Upton Upon Severn

The Follicles

The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Saturday 11 August 2018

Black Max And The Pirates

Reet Petite-Music Cafe, Leominster

The Luke Doherty Band

Ludlow Brewery, Ludlow

King Solomon Soundsystem

Malvern Cube, Malvern

Ruzz Guitar Blues Revue

Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

The Vignettes At Battle Proms

Ragley Hall, Alcester

The Malvern Delta Blues Band

Wick Working Men's Club, Pershore

Binomial

The Oast House, Redditch

Hannah And Brian

Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

About The Party

Red Lion, Redditch

Maz Mitrenko

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

The Official Receivers, Jonathan Darby And Claire Worboys,

Sadie Owen, Just Charlotte, The Lady And The Sax, African

Drummers

Far Forest Show, Bewdley

Take That v The Jersey Boys

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Thunder Daze

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Rooters

Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

The Shaded Squares

The Red Lion, Amblecote, Stourbridge

Toby

The Cross, Oldswinford, Stourbridge

Sam Griffiths

Hungry Horse, Bromsgrove

Back in The Game

Millfields & District Social Club, Bromsgrove

Version

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Voodoo Glow Skulls, Faintest Idea, Drones, Borrowed Time

The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

The Ronnie Scott's

The Bacon Theatre, Cheltenham

Union Of Strings

Smokey Joe's Coffee Bar, Cheltenham

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Kate Stapley, Jace

The Prince Albert, Stroud

The Hush

The Cross Keys Inn, Malvern

Sounds For A Small Space

The Garden Room, Museum in The Park, Stroud

Without Flight, The Rogues

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Chris Hutchison

The Green Dragon, Malvern

Country And Western Night

Pembroke House, Tenbury

Witcher

Virgin Tavern, Worcester

Ira And Riley Dance Party

Bredon Village Hall, Tewkesbury

Blind Lemon

Kidderminster Town Station - Severn Valley Railway,

Lee Richardson

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Final Clause, Second Self, Reawaken

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Skrood

The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Jazz Singers

The Swan Inn, Evesham

Institutes, Humdrum Express, Swampcandy, The Whole

Caboodle, Vincent Flats Blues Band, The Whipjacks

Worcester CAMRA Beer Festival, Worcester Racecourse,

Jay & Eli

The Swan, Barbourne, Worcester

Dodgy Connection

Baker Street, Gloucester

As Mamas, The Lightweights, Dirty Soap, Ember

Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

The After Dark Band

The Toby Jug, Rednal

All Day Music Festival (2pm)

The Railway Inn, Studley

Fellow Pynins (1pm)

The Left Bank, Hereford

Ben Vickers Collective

The Chestnut, Worcester

Miss Pearl And The Rough Diamonds

The Express Inn, Malvern

Blind Lemon

Severn Valley Railway, Kidderminster

Face Stealers

The Red Man, Kidderminster

Sunday 12 August 2018

Nothing Like A Whale

Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Stuart Davies

Red Lion, Evesham

UB40 Tribute (3pm)

Ye Old Crown Inn, Stourport-On-Severn

Paul O'Neill

The Plough, Worcester

Backporch (3pm)

Richmond Place Club, Hereford

2Tone Revue

The Cross Keys, Alcester

Kim Lowings

Bands in The Park, Bewdley Museum, Bewdley

Rebooted, Mumbo Jumbo, Dharma Bums, Susa Ukulele Band,

Elisha Green, One Tree Canyon

Far Forest Show, Bewdley

Jukai (USA), Drawn In, Strike Back

The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Abba Sensation

The Bacon Theatre, Cheltenham

All Day Music Festival

The Railway Inn, Studley

Ska Waddy

The Royal Oak, Studley

Mike Silver

Littlevic, Stroud

Mitchell - UB40 Tribute

Ye Olde Crown, Stourport-On-Severn

Pete Harrington

Nottingham Arms, Tewkesbury

Flatworld (6pm)

The Earl, Worcester

Tone Tanner

The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Tandem

Ambassador Snooker Club, Evesham

Woo Town Hillbillies (5:30pm)

The Chestnut, Worcester

Abi, King Rich & Weak13 (Acoustic)

Weary Traveller, Kidderminster

Groovyhead (5:30pm)

The Imperial Tavern, Worcester

Sons Of The Delta (4pm)

Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Tuesday 14 August 2018

The Quad

The Railway Inn, Studley

Wednesday 15 August 2018

Sons Of The Delta

Carpenters Arms, Miserden, Stroud

Ben Catley

The Prince Albert, Stroud

The Children in The Moon

Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

The Delray Rockets (6pm)

St Peters Garden Centre, Worcester

Harry Houseago

Café René, Gloucester

Thursday 16 August 2018

Kim Lowings, Town Musicians Of Bremen, Mike Weaver

Oat Street Chapel, Evesham

Ministry Of Swing

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Zea, Haress

The Grapes, Hereford

Kit Holmes, Greenwood

Henry Sandon Hall, Worcester

Illusions Of Grandeur, Iota, Twisted State Of Mind

The Iron Road, Evesham

Sunjay Acoustic 8:30PM

The Oil Basin Brewhouse, Worcester

G&T Mix

Cap N Gown, Worcester

The Velvet Jukes

Tank, Gloucester

Strictly Nashville

The Courtyard, Hereford

Stone Mountain Sinners

Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Friday 17 August 2018

Claire L Shaw

Red Lion, Evesham

Icymi, The Dreams, Crying Wolf, Corrupting Josie, King Cove

2Pigs, Cheltenham

Mice in A Matchbox

Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Dead Dads Club

Abbey Road Coffee, Malvern

Black Asteroids, Mammoth Temple

The Railway, Redditch

The Wild Tonics

Artrix, Bromsgrove

White Tyger

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Vince Freeman

No.3A, Bromsgrove

Jon Townley

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Baast, Dankhomez, Ross Angeles, Tom Cassidy

The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Kev From The Murmur

Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

The Rat Pack | Swingin' At The Sands!

The Bacon Theatre, Cheltenham

Uncover Presents: Skewwhiff, Sam Hollis, White Noise

Cinema

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Kuonatic

Smokey Joe's Coffee Bar, Cheltenham

The Disciples

Drummonds, Worcester

Luke Philbrick, Damon T

Crown And Sceptre, Stroud

The Follies

Sebright Arms, Worcester

The Delray Rockets

The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Jon Eselle

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Matt Moorey And Lavinia

Tank, Gloucester

The Reflections

The Copcut Elm, Droitwich

'The Voice Of The Heart' - Karen Carpenter

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Sertraline, Fear Me December

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Vice Squad, Who Killed Nancy Johnson

The Iron Road, Evesham

The GTs

The Sociable Beer Company, Worcester

The Ferrets

The Millers Arms, Pershore

Voodoo Blue

The Blue Bell Ryall, Upton Upon Severn

Neil Ivison

The Wheatsheaf Inn, Worcester

The Shyteds

Baker Street, Gloucester

Tyler Massey Trio (6pm)

The Earl, Worcester

Terry

The Bush Inn, St Johns, Worcester

Hip Route

Café René, Gloucester

Selena in The Chapel

The Globe, Hay On Wye

A Celebration Of Neil Diamond

The Courtyard, Hereford

Mark T. Folk & Blues

The Left Bank, Hereford

Mister Wolf

The Lamplighter, Stratford Upon Avon

Elisha Green - Cast Off Appalachian Dancers, Karen Swan,

Kidderminster Folk Choir, Graeme & Keith

The Birch And Stock Folk Club, Kidderminster

Saturday 18 August 2018

Hot Rox

Reet Petite-Music Cafe, Leominster

The Hush

Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Funky Janky Monkeys, Hennesea

West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Jay & Eli

Coney Green Showground, Stourport-On-Severn

Meraki

Number 8, Pershore

Nicholson

The Royal Oak, Alcester

Rosebourne Duo

Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

The Underground Police

The Oast House, Redditch

Midnight Shift

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Bryn Teeling

Button Oak Inn, Bewdley

WBCA Peaky Fighters 1920's Themed Boxing

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Tone Locked

Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

The Nitecrawlers

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Funeral Shakes, Red Light Rebels, Frown Upon, Blood Uncle

The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

The Reflections

Stanton Village Club, Cheltenham

Bad Penny

The Bayshill Pub, Cheltenham

The Chromotones

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Mel & Him

The Cross Keys Inn, Malvern

Kick The Clown

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Vo Fletcher

The Green Dragon, Malvern

Revolting Women

Randwick Village Hall, Stroud

The Recovery

The Queen Vic, Stroud

Witcher

The Express, Malvern

The Black Pears

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Elvis Tribute Night

Gaudet Luce Golf & Leisure, Droitwich

Ev Pugh And Friends

Wychbold Sports And Social Club, Droitwich

Kharmagheddon

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

The Stones

Swan Theatre, Worcester

Föllakzoid, Melt Dunes, Arno

The Lanes, Cheltenham

Slyder

The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Forever Sabbath

Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

Risky Galore!

Churchdown Club, Gloucester

No Fit State

The Pilot Inn, Gloucester

Speak, Brother

The Globe, Hay On Wye

The Will Killeen Band

The Chestnut, Worcester

Arcadia Roots

Cleobury Mortimer Sports & Social Club, Kidderminster

UB40 Tribute Night

Treetops Pavilion, Kidderminster

Sunday 19 August 2018

Madi Stimpson Trio

Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Spitz

Red Lion, Evesham

2 Tone Revue (3pm)

Ye Old Crown Inn, Stourport-On-Severn

Dutch Lewis Trio (2pm)

Alestones, Redditch

Ross Angeles

The Islington, Angel, London

Aka Skaface, Kumari 7 (Afternoon)

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Arcadia Roots

Ye Olde Horseshoe Inn, Belbroughton, Stourbridge

Genesis Legacy

The Bacon Theatre, Cheltenham

James And Ash

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Terry

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

2 Tone Revue

Ye Olde Crown, Stourport-On-Severn

A Carnival Of Music – Ferdinand The Bull (3pm)

Henry Sandon Hall, Worcester

Howard's Open Mic Night

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Tom Forbes

Ambassador Snooker Club, Evesham

Meg Shaw

Bottles Wine Bar, Worcester

Complete Madness

Baker Street, Gloucester

Polly Edwards (5:30pm)

The Chestnut, Worcester

Chewie (5:30pm)

The Imperial Tavern, Worcester

Rollo Markee (4pm)

Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Monday 20 August 2018

Ain't Misbehavin

Harriers Arms, Hoo Rd, Kidderminster

Tuesday 21 August 2018

Trigger, Transient, Conqueror Worm,

Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Wednesday 22 August 2018

Hunter's Corner (Canada)

Carpenters Arms, Miserden, Stroud

Jess Jones

The Maverick, Stourbridge

Groovelator

Café René, Gloucester

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Thursday 23 August 2018

Answer Back

The Royal Oak, Alcester

Ben Smith

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Get Cape. Wear Cape. Fly, Wild Front, Hot Beige, Chris Smee

The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Anita Harris

The Bacon Theatre, Cheltenham

Jay & Eli

Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

The Gigspanner Big Band Plus Knight & Spiers

Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

The Delray Rockets

The Plough, Upton Upon Severn

Leon Daye

Tank, Gloucester

Hamilton Loomis Band

The Iron Road, Evesham

Chloe Reynolds

Rivercamp, Evesham

Gallow Glass 8:30

The Oil Basin Brewhouse, Worcester

Vikki Clayton

The Old Rec, Worcester

Friday 24 August 2018

Another Country

Red Lion, Evesham

Toby Wren

Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

The No Good Bancy's

Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Dan Greenaway

Colwall Park Hotel, Malvern

Anthill Mob

The Frog, Bidford-On-Avon

Daniel Sutton

Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

Echo Gekko Solar

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Common People

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Alex Lleo

No.3A, Bromsgrove

Loose Lips

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

2Tone Revue

Old Rose & Crown, Stourport-On-Severn

The Follies

The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

Gary Clail Soundsystem

The Subscription Rooms, Stroud

The Institutions

Drummonds, Worcester

Ross Angeles, Rosebud, The Arboretum

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Liam Ward Band

The Ale House, Stroud

Dan Graham

Tank, Gloucester

Skabucks

The Copcut Elm, Droitwich

Festival Ceilidh! The Orchard Band With Caller Ian Craigan

Henry Sandon Hall, Worcester

Strictly Nashville

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Bon Jovi Forever

Swan Theatre, Worcester

Artiphunk, Martyrails

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Jay & Eli

The Anchor, Diglis, Worcester

Toby

The Blackpole Inn, Worcester

Claire Shaw

Ye Olde Talbot Hotel, Worcester

Gunnrunner

The Millers Arms, Pershore

Reflections

The Blue Bell Ryall, Upton Upon Severn

Lowkey

The Guildhall, Gloucester

The Rain Trees

The Wheatsheaf Inn, Worcester

Steve Ajao Blues Giants
The Queens Head, Wolverley

Luke Philbrick
Peppers Cafe, Gloucester

Splat The Rat
Café René, Gloucester

Sheek Quartet
The Globe, Hay On Wye

Witcher
New Unicorn, Malvern

Mike Surman National Rum Day Ska Reggae And Soul
The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Saturday 25 August 2018

Journeyman
The Green Dragon, Malvern

Snog The Dog - E.P Launch
2Pigs, Cheltenham

Jibbafish
Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

K C Company
The Old Sticky Wicket, Redditch

Offthegrid
The Village Inn, Beoley, Redditch

Polly Edwards
Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

VJK
The Oast House, Redditch

The Follicles
Horn & Trumpet, Bewdley

The One Love Band
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Baby Love
Hungry Horse, Bromsgrove

Pete Harrington
Bromsgrove Unionist Club, Bromsgrove

Jayne Peter's Band
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Buzzard
The Mitre, Stourbridge

Paul Modely
Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

Bluestreet
The Bayshill Pub, Cheltenham

Dna
The Cross Keys Inn, Malvern

Albino Tarantino
The Ale House, Stroud

Nth Cave, Happy Bones
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Pistol Pete Wearn
The Oak, Painswick, Stroud

The Lost Submarines
Crown And Sceptre, Stroud

Binomial
Croft Farm Waterpark, Tewkesbury

Chevy Chase Stole My Wife
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Worcester Fake Festival
The Old Bush, Worcester

Totally Tina!
Swan Theatre, Worcester

Honey, Hypophora, Hush Mozey
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Beetles Tribute Night
Amber Café Bar, Evesham

The South
The Guildhall, Gloucester

The Usual Suspects
The Avenue, Gloucester

Beaver & The Foghorns
Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

Gracelanders
Quarry Bank Labour Club, Brierley Hill

Andra
St James Club, Gloucester

The Billy Fury Years
The Courtyard, Hereford

David Barney (1pm)
The Left Bank, Hereford

Mister Wolf
Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Jamie Joseph Soul Old Motown
The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Big Fat Shorty
The Chestnut, Worcester

Al O'kane
The Bay Horse Inn, Hereford

2Tone Revue
The Red Man, Kidderminster

Stormbringer
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Sunday 26 August 2018

The Melyin Hancox Band (4Pm)
Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Brian Jones
Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Sons Of Yoda
The Bell Inn, Leominster

Essential 80S
Wharton Park Golf & Country Club, Bewdley

2Tone Revue
Horn & Trumpet, Bewdley

Otis Irie
The Oast House, Redditch

James And Ash
Hopleys Campsite, Bewdley

AC/DC Uk
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Grandmaster Flash
The Subscription Rooms, Stroud

UB40 Karaoke
Ye Olde Crown, Stourport-On-Severn

Absolute Blondie
Croft Farm Waterpark, Tewkesbury

Legend: A Tribute To Bob Marley
The Iron Road, Evesham

Tom Forbes
The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

The Booty
Ambassador Snooker Club, Evesham

Freddie Mercury Tribute Act
Coney Hill RFC, Gloucester

Jay & Eli
The Bell, St. Johns, Worcester

Over The Hill
Baker Street, Gloucester

Georgie Hayes (1pm)
The Left Bank, Hereford

Jazz Express (5:30pm)
The Chestnut, Worcester

Miss Pearl And The Rough Diamonds
Out To Grass, Malvern

The Hills Angels (5:30pm)
The Imperial Tavern, Worcester

Dan & King Rich
The Sportsman, Kidderminster

Monday 27 August 2018

The Charlton Blues Kings
The Royal, Cheltenham

English Symphony Orchestra
Swan Theatre, Worcester

Bank Holiday - All Day Open Mic
The Queens Head, Wolverley

Rockaway Record Fairs Record And Cd Fair, Open 10.00-16.00. Free Admission, Buy, Sell And Exchange Records And Cd's, <http://Rockawayrecordfairs.tumblr.com/>
Butter Market, Hay On Wye

Wednesday 29 August 2018

Zoe Wren
Carpenters Arms, Miserden, Stroud

Will Edmunds Band
Café René, Gloucester

Thursday 30 August 2018

Jonas Kaufman: Under The Stars
Number 8, Pershore

Paul Bridgewater & The Electric Blues Rebellion
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Hannah Johnson & The Broken Hearts
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Mallory Knox, Bellevue Days, All Ears Avow, Floorboards
The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

The Harcourt Players - Silent Movies Live Music
Crown And Sceptre, Stroud

Blaze Bayley
The Iron Road, Evesham

Immy & The Boatman Acoustic 8:30pm
The Oil Basin Brewhouse, Worcester

Friday 31 August 2018

Polly Edwards

Red Lion, Evesham

Voodoostone

The Cross Keys, Alcester

Songs Of Anger And Redemption Present Tv Smith

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Pure - Whitney Houston

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Kat Davis

No.3A, Bromsgrove

Easy

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Black Magic – The Little Mix Show

Town Hall, Cheltenham

The Strays

The Somerset Arms, Cheltenham

Risky Galore

Cafe Rouge, Cheltenham

Call Of The Kraken

Drummonds, Worcester

80'S Mania

Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

The Delray Rockets

J.K's Bar And Bistro, Cannock

Steve Linforth

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Selena Jerome

Tank, Gloucester

James Hickman

Ye Olde Talbot Hotel, Worcester

Terry

The Old Pheasant, Worcester

The Harcourt Player

The Camp, Grimley, Worcester

Witcher

The Millers Arms, Pershore

Chicago Bytes

The Blue Bell Ryall, Upton Upon Severn

Arcane Roots

The Guildhall, Gloucester

Billy Fury Tribute

Walls Club, Gloucester

Jay & Eli

The Wheatsheaf Inn, Worcester

Sun Fire, The Lost Path, The Hard Road,

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Michael Jackson Tribute Act

Stonehouse Court Hotel, Gloucester

Dave Onions

Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

Charlie Baxter Vs Michael D Wynn

Cafe Ren , Gloucester

Mel And Him

The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

John Nicholas

The Globe, Hay On Wye

Get Listed for FREE
Upload your events at
slapmag.co.uk/get-listed/

Arts, Exhibitions & Cinema

1st-8th Intro to animation workshop, Garage Arts, Evesham.

age 7-13yrs. 4-6pm. heather@garageartgroup.com

4th Drop in arts workshops, The Battle of Evesham,
Evesham 10am to 4pm

4th Laurence of Arabia screening, Number 8, Pershore

4th Grease, outdoor cinema, Colwall Park Hotel, Malvern

5th Dinosaur Show, Eastnor Castle, Ledbury

7th Drop in arts workshops, War Memorial Abbey Park Evesham

5th Bubble Disco and Baby Rave – Artrix, Bromsgrove

6th-10th On Screen Acting Course, Artrix, Bromsgrove

11th Riverside Arts Market, Worcester

11th Far Forest Countryside Show, Rock

11th Holloware – Emily Speed, The Ring.

Museum of Royal Worcester.

11th Worcester Duck Race

11th-26th Kidderminster Arts Festival (KAF)

12th Worcester Show, Gheluvelt Park

13th-17th Devising Summer School, Artrix, Bromsgrove

15th/16th Under the Tree,Artrix, Bromsgrove

18th & 19th Kidderminster Fringe Festival and Paint Jam,
Boars Head, Kidderminster

25th-27th Worcestershire open Studios

25th Sounds amazing festival – Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove

29th- 1st Sept Nell Gwynn, The Courtyard Hereford

30th Diglis Island Visit, The Ring. Worcester.

Until 11th World War 100 People's Collection, Number 8 Pershore

Until 16th Worcester stands Tall – giraffe sculptures

Until 2nd Sept Wonderland Maize Maze, Cotswold Farm Park -
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire

Until 28th Sept Anne Bennett Summer Exhibition
Droitwich Library

Until 30th Sept Space to Engage, The Courtyard, Hereford

For Events email Kate
at arts@slapmag.co.uk

August Festivals

3-5 Aug Drunken Monkey Rock Festival

Wellend Road, Upton Upon Severn

3-5 Aug Truefest, Baskerville Hall, Hay-on-Wye

9-11 Aug Worcester Beer Festival, Pitchcroft, Worcester

9-12 Aug Lakefest, Eastnor Castle, Eastnor

10-12 Aug Down on the Farm Festival, Abbeydore, Hereford

10-12 Aug Farmer Phils Festival, Rattlinghope, Shrewsbury

17-19 Aug Old Bush Blues, Callow End, Worcester

17-19 Aug Sunrise, Kentchurch Estate, Hereford

17-19 Aug Pershore Jazz Festival, Pershore College, Pershore

18-19 Aug Morton Stanley Festival

Morton Stanley Park, Redditch

18-19 Aug Kidderminster Fringe Festival

The Boars Head, Kidderminster

18-19 Aug Skate, Eat, Rock, Repeat Weekend

Hereford Skate Park, Hereford

24-27 Aug Swanfest 2018, The Swan, Cheltenham

24-26 Aug Beermageddon Metal Festival

Stoke Prior Sports & Country Club, Bromsgrove

24-27 Aug Adstock, Kencot, Lechlade

25-26 Aug Woodystock Festival, Woodman Inn, Lydney

24-26 Aug Camper Calling, Ragley Hall, Alcester

24-26 Aug Sunshine Festival, Fish Meadow, Upton Upon Severn

24-25 Aug Cwm Festival, Cwm Farm, Walterstone, Herefordshire

25-27 Aug OllieFest, Ross on Wye

31 August – 2 Septemeber - Mosley Folk Festival

Mosley Park, Birmingham

Music Sessions/Open Mics

Every Monday - Open Mic/Jam Night

Cock & Magpie, Bewdley

Every Monday - Folk Night

Worley's, The Swan, Stourport

Every Monday night - Acoustic Night

The Rollin Hills Restaurant, Upton Upon Severn

1st Mon of Month - Acoustic Session

The Pickled Plum, Pershore

4th Mon - Singaround

Pidele House, Wyre Piddle, Worcs

Fortnightly Mon & Wed (check website) - Folk Nights

Three Horseshoes, Frampton-On-Severn, Glos

First Tues - Jazz Night

Worley's The Swan, Stourport

First Tues - Open Mic

Bar 57, Pershore

Last Tues - Folk Night

The Millers Arms, Pershore

First Tues - Folk Session run by Phil Knowles

Rose and Crown, Feckenham

First Tues - The Courtyard Open Mic Night

Cafe Bar, The Courtyard, Hereford

Every Tue Perdido Street Jazz Band

The Fox & Hounds, Lulsley

First Tues - For 12-19 year olds 7pm

Pershore Library

Every other Tue - Open Mic Night with Pete Kelly

The Queen's Head, Wolverley

Every Tue - Open Mic

The Firefly, Worcester

3rd Tues - Acoustic Jam Night with Ian & Kevin Fuller

The Millers Arms, Pershore

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

3rd Tues - Folk Evening

The Crown Inn, Longtown, HR2

3rd Tues of Month - Acoustic Session with Mick Morris

The Bell, Pensax, Worcs

1st Tues of Month - Acoustic Session with Pauline Molloy

The Cardinal's Hat, Worcester

Every Wednesday - Open mic

The Maverick, Stourbridge

Every Wednesday - No Poetry Open mic with Cheating Lights

The Garrison at the Grapes, Hereford

1st Wed Every Month - Sing/Playaround

The Talbot Hotel, Knightwick

Every Wed - Swan Sessions - Open Mic

Worley's The Swan, Stourport

Every Wednesday - Ukulele Session

The Old Cock Inn, Droitwich

Every other Wednesday - Open mic/Sessions

Green Dragon, Bishops Cleeve

Every other Wednesday - Open mic/Sessions

Rose & Crown, Severn Stoke

Every other Wednesday - Open mic/Sessions

Fox & Hounds, Breden

Every other Wednesday - Folk Sessions

The Crown, Colwall

2nd Wednesday Permission to speak - spoken word & poetry

Clap Trap The Venue, Stourbridge

First and third Wednesday - The Dragon Folk Club

The Dragon in The Tything, Worcester

Every Wednesday - Irish Session

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Every Wed Music night - Andy Lindsay & Debbie Parry

The Green Dragon, Malvern

Fortnightly Wed Open Mic

The Queens Head, Redditch

Last Wednesday Priest & The Beast Jam Night (No covers) 7pm

Clap Trap The Venue, Stourbridge

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

Marr's Bar, Worcester

3rd Wed of Month - Acoustic Session

The Admiral Rodney, Berrow Gt

3rd Wed of Month - Celtic folk session

The Fleece Inn, Bretforton, Worcs

Last Wed - Under 18s open mic

Reet Petite, Leominster

Every Thursday - Drumlove Adult Workshop 7.30pm

The Angel Centre, Worcester

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

Every Thurs - open mic hosted by Andy Lindsay

The Bakery Inn Malvern Link,

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 Open Mic

West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

1st Thursday Polly Edwards Open Mic Jam Night

Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

First Thurs - Open Mic

The Oddfellows Arms, Astwood Bank

Every Thursday - Acoustic Session

The Fleece Inn, Bretforton, Worcs

Every Thur - Open Mic Night/Jam Night

The Swan, Barbourne, Worcester

Every other Thursday, Open Mic

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Every Thursday - Spoken word 7-9pm

Abbey Road Coffee, Great Malvern

Every Thursday - Folk Night

The Fleece, Bretforton

3rd Thursday - TTs Musonic Night

The Cap n Gown, Worcester

Every Thursday - Folk Session run by Bob Chance

Black Swan Muchdew Church, Hereford

3rd Thur - Mainly Irish Session

The King's Head, Tenbury Wells

3rd Thur - Jam Session

Reet Petite, Leominster

3rd Thursday - Malvern Storytellers

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

Every 4th Thursday - Open mic night with Blue Street

The Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Every 4th Thursday - Session

New Inn, Malvern

Alternate Thurs - Mainly Irish & Scottish Session

The Morgan, Malvern

Every Friday - Somers Trad Folk Club (8.15pm)

Bishop Allenby Hall, St Stephen's Church, Worcester

Every Friday - Open mic 7-9pm

Abbey Road Coffee, Great Malvern

1st Fri - Acoustic Session

The Camp, Grimley

2nd Fri - Open mic

Reet Petite, Leominster

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 Friday - Resident band The Future Set

The Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

2nd Sat (3rd Sat in Feb) - Rushwick Folk Club

Rushwick Village Hall, Worcester

Every Sunday starting at 3:00pm

The Morgan, Malvern

Every Sunday Acoustic Sunday at 7.30pm

The Wharf, Stourport

Every other Sunday Open Mic with Tom Doggett 6pm-9pm

Thatched Tavern, Honeybourne

Sunday Live Open Mic

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Every Sat - Disco

Ducker Bar & Beer Garden, Leominster

2nd Sun - Singaround Session

The Yew Tree Inn, Peterstow, Herefordshire

Every Sun 8.30-Midnight - Open Session

Social Club, West Malvern

Every Sun Lazy Acoustic Afternoon with Liz Kirby 4pm

Red Lion, Market Place, Evesham

Sunday Shenanigans Open Mic Night 7pm every Sunday

Clap Trap The Venue, Stourbridge

Every Sunday Unplugged 3pm-5pm

The Iron Road Rock Bar, Evesham

2nd Sun - Acoustic Session

The Hop Pole, Droitwich

Every other Sunday open mic hosted by Ruben Sebright 9pm

The Oil Basin, Worcester

Every other Sunday open mic hosted by Ruben Sebright 9pm

The Unicorn, Malvern

Sunday afternoon jazz 12.00 - 3.00

Lichfield Vaults

Last Sun - Mixed Acoustic Sessions

The Bowling Green Inn, Stoke Prior

1st & 3rd Sun - Singaround format Session

The Galton Arms, Himbleton, Worcs

Jazz every Sunday 12.30 till 2.30 ish

Pickled Plum, Pershore

2nd Sun - Moonshine Acoustic Jam Club

Piddle House, Wyre Piddle, Worcs

If any of these regular music nights are no longer running or you run one not on this list, please let us know editorial@slapmag.co.uk

THE MARRS BAR

**AUG
SEP** | 2018



Thursday 6th September
The Willows

Friday August 3

Artiphunk, The Foreign Quarter, Heathens
£3 in advance £5 on the door

Saturday August 4

Liberty Artillery, Dead Dads Club, Mad Isaac
£3 in advance £5 on the door

Thursday August 9

That Dog Was A Band Now
£4 in advance £6 on the door

Friday August 10

West Coast Eagles (Eagles tribute)
£10 in advance £12 on the door

Saturday August 11

Without Flight, The Rogues
£5 on the door

Friday August 17

**UnCover presents: Skewwhiff,
Sam Hollis, White Noise Cinema**
£6 in advance £8 on the door

Saturday August 18

Kick The Clown
£3 in advance £5 on the door

Friday August 24

Ross Angeles, RoseBud, The Arboretum
£3 in advance £5 on the door

Saturday August 25

NTH Cave, Happy Bones
£3 in advance £5 on the door

Thursday August 30

**Paul Bridgwater & the Electric Blues
Rebellion**
£4 in advance £5 on the door

Friday August 31

Sunfire, Lost Path, The Hard Road
£3 in advance £5 on the door

Saturday September 1

Faux Fighters (tribute), Altered Voltage
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Sunday September 2

Lemonade Jazz/Funk/Soul session
£4 on the door

Thursday September 6

The Willows
£12 in advance £14 on the door

Friday September 7

The Official Receivers
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday September 8

Ultimate Coldplay (Coldplay tribute)
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Sunday September 9

Steve Pledger

Thursday September 13

**Operation Blues Presents: Mike Vernon
& The Mighty Combo**
£12.50 in advance £15 on the door

Friday - Sunday September 14 -16

Worcester Music Festival:

Friday 14 - The Task in Hand

Saturday 15 - Slap Mag

Sunday 16 - UnCover

See WMF Guide - Free Entry

Wednesdays - Jamming night

Late Saturdays - Midnight till 4am

www.marrsbar.co.uk

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