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Issue 96

Oct 2019

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SLAP

Oct 2019 MAGAZINE

SLAP MAGAZINE

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September came and went in a flash and what a month it was for the local music scene...

The Worcester Music Festival was a huge success and had the whole city buzzing with excitement. Early indications are that the chosen charity, Worcester Foodbank, will be very pleased with the donations collected. The grand total will be announced at the WMF Photography Competition awards and presentation, to be held at Annie's on the 20th October. In this issue we take a look back over the weekend at just some of the spectacular performances.

We also look back over Frogfest with a photographic review by Geoffrey Head. It looked like an amazing event held at the Frog and Fiddle in Cheltenham. It's so good to see in these times of division so many people coming together to celebrate such a diverse music scene and long may it continue.

Some potentially bad news has reached us regarding the Upton Jazz festival which, despite it's long running success, is under threat due to rising costs. That would be a great shame after 34 highly successful years.

The arts is well featured in this issue as we take a look at the upcoming Kidderminster Arts Festival as well as Dancefest. There is a call for artists in arts news for the new Pitt Studios creative space and the highly regarded Mail Art at Droitwich Library. The Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum exhibition *Living Ruins* is now open which features artworks from the eighteenth century to the present day. For lovers of the spoken word there's, Suz Winspear's usual round-up. of events.

Have a great October, hope to see you at a venue somewhere...
Prorogat-Ed



Cover image: Maria Ilett of *The Other Dramas* taken by Jack Thorpe at Annie's during the Worcester Music Festival.



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SLAP OCTOBER 3

Great Grannies

The amazing (and still alarmingly young) traditional folk trio **Granny's Attic** celebrate the last decade performing together with a nationwide tour (also with gigs in Ireland and Portugal) - plus a special Tenth Anniversary concert at Worcester's **Huntingdon Hall** on Saturday 19 October. Cohen, Lewis and George have had many award nominations, major folk festival appearances and a 'reputation for producing music with energy and maturity way beyond their years'. They've also recently been made patrons of Bromyard Folk Festival - new album *Wheels Of The World* out now see: www.grannysattic.org.uk

The Fake News Blues

ITV News's political editor Robert Peston has claimed that most newspapers have 'abandoned the truth and just become propagandists' - while highlighting the new global Journalism Trust Initiative intended to distinguish the trustworthy from the malign. Craig Newmark (of craigslist) is among organisations including the BBC, Guardian and Associated Press who are backing the scheme saying that '*we are in a serious fight for truth, a free press, an informed public and a strong democracy*'. Just hope that we're doing our own little bit here to help...

Jonesing For Jones

Plenty of variety on offer at Bromsgrove's **Artrix** for the coming months with the venue inviting punters to 'step into the unknown on occasions'. Besides established acts such as Griff Rhys Jones and a screening of the *Downton Abbey* film there'll be workshops and courses for all ages - artrix.co.uk

Core Blimey

It's the 30th anniversary of the Big Apple celebration of all things apply in nine venues around **Much Marcle** on 12-13 October with music, dance, bike rides, talks and food and drink of an apple-related variety being honoured - more at bigapple.org.uk

The Sound Of Science

Not quite our remit but worth mentioning that those with an interest in matters scientific might want to check out the **Malvern Festival of Innovation** which features Marcus Chown talking on Monday 7 October on '*Bonkers Things about the Universe*' (<https://www.festival-innovation.com>) - also astronaut Don Thomas will be appearing at The Hive on Tuesday 8 October to chat about his four space flights, sci-fi films and comics - www.astronautevent.co.uk

Space Ace


Oh wait a minute... Congratulations are due to Malvern youngster **Elin Day-Thompson** who successfully saw a clarinet she designed lifted to the edge of space where it was played using an air supply and amplifier she'd also designed and modified for use at an altitude of 35km and a temperature of -63C! The first clarinet in space was launched from Derby and later recovered near Scunthorpe - and Elin's achievement were celebrated in the national press and also an issue of the *Beano* which saw her starring beside Dennis the Menace and Gnasher - not bad for a ten year old...



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Friday October 4

UNCOVER PRESENTS

VELVET TIDES
THE SILVER LINES
BENEDICT LUDLOW

Friday October 11

WORD OF MOUTH (SINGLE LAUNCH)

ZILCH
LUNA ORCHID

Saturday October 12

UNCOVER PRESENTS

GEORGE N THE GIANTS
THE SPACE
SUNGLO
THE EARNEST SPEARS

Sunday October 20

**WMF Photo Competition display
& Charity cheque presentation**

Friday October 25

SOLID STATE
SILVERLAKE
CHARM OFFENSIVE

Friday November 1

THE HUMDRUM EXPRESS
SMOKIN' PILCHARDS
+ TBA

Friday November 8

FCS

INWARDS
MUTANTE
ROSEBUD

Friday November 15

ONSIDE CHARITY GIG

Saturday November 16

X-RAYS
THE VHT'S

Tuesday November 26

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Clik Clik is busy this month planning and preparing for winter installations! **Gin Lane** will be back at the **Worcester Victorian Fayre** in November where you can find all kinds of shady shenanigans down the ol' alleyway as well as get your face snapped by the friendly flower seller!



Love the Arboretum

Earlier this year around Valentine's Day, Worcester's Arboretum district organised an amazing light event, featuring residents displays in their front windows. **"Love the Arboretum"** showcased spectacular creations of all sorts, taking the winter blues away and bringing together the community and other visitors all excited to be on the light trail!

After such a success, the **Arboretum Residents Association (ARA)** are planning to run the event again next February and are calling out to all people who live in the Arboretum area to take part. It's really easy to get involved; you could attend a free workshop prior to the event or create your own fabulous idea. There may even be options for someone else to make something for your window so what are you waiting for!

Let's make the Arboretum full of light next February!

To find out more and register your interest in being part of this wonderfully magical evening, email: lovethearbo@gmail.com



Call for artists

Nathaniel Pitt & Company is a new R&D arts space opening in November in Worcester, comprising of a new gallery and three sister spaces for research, development and display; **Electric Cellar**, **Pitt Studio** and **Division of Labour** will operate from a 5-storey town house in the historic Edgar Street in the City.

They are interested to meet local artists from Hereford & Worcester and the surrounding area. Pitt Studio is working with collectors from the UK and abroad with an interest in developing artistic practice outside the traditional centres for art. They would like to meet artists who wish to share their work and potentially develop their career or vocation in Contemporary Art with us.



Our first meeting will take place at 4 Edgar Street on Thursday 24th October, please contact us at info@pittstudio.com to reserve a place.

trade

BAFTA and **Olivier** award-winning playwright **Debbie Tucker Green's** drama about relationships, power and sex tourism comes to Bromsgroves **Artrix** on 10th October in a new production from East Midlands theatre company **New Perspectives**. **trade** is set on a Caribbean island and tells the story of three women, each distinct from the others. As the sun beats down their three very different stories emerge. On the surface, they have little in common, but despite their apparent differences, it gradually becomes clear their lives are all shaped by the same thing: transactions.

Artrix. 10th October - 7.30pm. Tickets £12 or £10 for concs. For tickets or info visit www.artrix.co.uk or call 01527 577 330.

Mail Art exhibition in Droitwich Spa

Droitwich Mail Art is going strong and this October the library in the town centre will be host to the 5th **International Mail Art** exhibition. Over 150 artists from 27 countries has responded to this year's theme "Draw me your favourite book ". Artists gave their own vision of the literature they enjoy, describing a favourite character, subjects, or just follow their feelings about the written words. The exhibition will show over 200 artworks in various techniques and styles, all sent to organisers in a form of 'snail mail' - as postcards, art envelopes, or art books.

Pop in to **Droitwich library** and take a look at the display of art coming from Italy, Germany, Mexico, Romania, Brazil, Turkey, Norway, Poland, USA, and many other countries.

The exhibition will be open from 7 Oct until 1 Nov (Thursday and Sunday closed, for opening times please check Droitwich library). For more information : droitwichmailart.wordpress.com



October at Dancefest

Dancefest are really looking forward to working with **infuseDANCE** at October half term, when they'll be leading fun movement and photography workshops for all ages. They'll use movement to create images with you, which will then be photographed, and you'll have a polaroid photo to take away, as well as being part of a larger polaroid wall.

The workshops take place on Tuesday 29 October at 10am-11am & 11.30am-12.30pm at **Horizon Hub** in Midland Road and 2-3pm & 3.30-4.30pm at **The Angel Centre** in Worcester City centre.



So go along - either on your own or with friends and family (but leave the dog at home!) - grandmas, toddlers, teenagers, uncles - everyone is welcome (anyone under 14 must be with an adult) and you don't need any dance experience to take part.

This is the start of an exciting project to celebrate Dancefest's 30th anniversary next year, when they'll be gathering photos and stories from a wide range of people.

Dancefest will be popping up with performances too - Worcester and Tenbury Gifted and Talented groups are performing at **KAFF (Kidderminster Arts and Food Festival)** on Saturday 2 November, and **Rock Creative Chance to Dance** are excited to be performing at Kidderminster Town Hall for the finale event, **Under The Moon Festival**.

Dancefest's new term has just started, but there's still time to join if you'd like to go along to their weekly classes for all ages, an **Animal Flow** workshop led by **Be ProHuman** on Sunday 10 November, or join one of their community performance companies.

More at dancefest.co.uk or give them a ring on 01905 611199.

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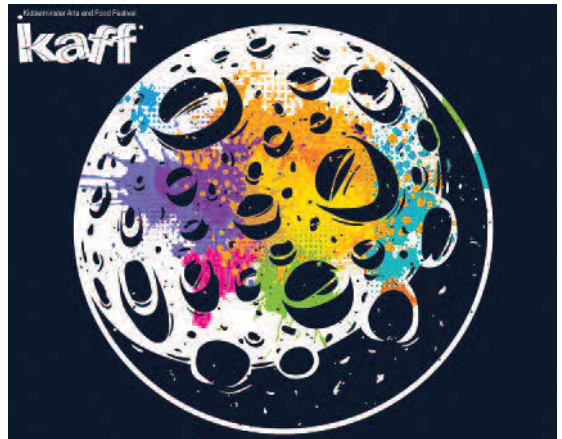


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KAFF prepares for blast off!

Saturday 19 October until Saturday 2 November

The final countdown is well and truly on until the revamped **Kidderminster Arts and Food Festival** blasts off. There are big changes this year to the annual festival, not only has the event moved to October it now has a second "F" which stands for Food and will include a host of delicious and tasty culinary events. With a theme of "to the moon and back" this year's event will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the moon landings with exciting and innovative professional performances to showcase the amazing 'up and coming' local talent.



The finale of the 2019 KAFF is the "**Under the Moon Festival**", an all encompassing, vibrant and fun filled event celebrating live music and performances, food and drink makers, arts and craft creators, activities for all ages, walkabout theatrics and more. This showcase of local creatives and businesses is coupled with a diverse programme of exciting and interactive entertainment.

Heading up the entertainment will be local space-raiders **The Mothership** with their cosmic madness, beautifully sonic soundscapes from electronic mastermind **Inwards**, mesmerising moves courtesy of **Dancefest** and space-themed creative making from **Spare Room Arts**. Other performances yet to be announced.

Kidderminster Town Hall. Sat 2nd Nov. 5.30pm - 10pm.

Tickets £5, £2 children (aged 3-16). Under 3's Free.

Early Bird deal (up until 19th Oct) Family ticket £10 (2 adults and up to 3 children ages 3-16yrs).

You can check out the full programme of vibrant and interesting events happening in Kidderminster this month via the **KAFF** website. For information on all events including the **Under The Moon Festival** and to book tickets, go to: kaffestival.org.uk

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

Arts at Pershore Number 8

There are three diverse exhibitions this month in the galleries at **Pershore Number 8** from an open exhibition, a series of architectural paintings and a selection of curious military miniatures!

'Number 8 Open Exhibition 2019' - Until 16th October

Showcasing the work of the very best artists and photographers from within and beyond the county of Worcestershire, this exhibition includes a variety of different styles and mediums. Each piece featured in the exhibition was selected following an open call for submissions. This year's exhibition is dedicated to the memory of art fair organiser and long-time Pershore resident Angela 'Bunny' Wynn.



Judith Long - 'The Streets of Pershore' - 17th Oct - 6th Nov

A series of paintings detailing the variety of shape, size, colour and architectural style to be found in the buildings of our wonderful town including all the houses, shops, offices, etc. from Station Road down the High Street then along Bridge Street. A snapshot of our town in 2019.

Alan Mulholland - 'Mo's Military Miniatures' - Until 6th Nov

An exhibition of military miniatures assembled and painted by award-winning designer the late Alan Mulholland of Pershore. The models range from the ancient to modern times and represent part of a large collection he built up over the years, assembling and painting them all himself. Several won awards and featured in the modelling press. We hope you enjoy them and give one a good home! All proceeds to Number 8.



For more information visit: www.number8.org



Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum

26th September - 30th November 2019

Living Ruins has been curated by Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum and Meadow Arts

See website for programme of Living Ruins events and activities www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk

Nominate your Living Ruin on Instagram and Twitter using #livingruin

@worcestermuseum

@museumsworcestershire

@meadowarts

Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum
Foregate Street, Worcester WR1 1DT
01905 25371

Image: © Gad Quinn, *Bala Forgets the Scissors* (detail)

LIVING RUINS



John Ellerman Foundation

Art Fund



meadow arts



Living Ruins Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum 26 September-30 November 2019

Anyone who enjoys a visit to historic sites, whether intact or in ruins will love the next exhibition opening on 26 September at **Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum**. *Living Ruins* features artworks from the eighteenth century to the present day which explore the lure of the ruin and our fascination with what has passed.

Curated in partnership with **Meadow Arts**, the exhibition draws on work by contemporary artists including **Ged Quinn**, **Alex Hartley** and **Mark Fairington** alongside important artworks from the museum's collection and includes a series of exciting works on loan from Tate.

Ruins have the power to fascinate like few other subjects. They confront the viewer with essential questions about our time on earth; inviting us to reflect on what has passed and to consider what may follow. As a result, ruins place us firmly in an unavoidable and highly defined present that we must confront, and where crucial questions are raised: What must be preserved? What will be lost? What has value?

Although present in art from the 16th century, the motif of the ruin became increasingly popular from the 18th century onwards, thanks to artists who engaged in the Grand Tour, the formative trip to see Italy's classical monuments and landscape. Painters like Richard Wilson, included in the exhibition, indulged in the genre to respond to an insatiable desire for more ruins. In the 19th century the Romantic movement was a huge consumer of ruins and this influenced artists all over Europe and beyond; a real lust for ruins was born and continued well into the 20th century by artists such as John Piper.

The exhibition also explores ruins that sit outside the mould of the traditional classical aesthetic. Ruins can often be remnants of political and social turmoil, surviving debris of intended destruction. Such ruins act as warnings and symbolise the fact that all societies, even the most self-assured, are constantly in danger of collapse. Ruins as a result of natural disasters act as reminder that at any given time all can be lost. The warning is against complacency, overconfidence and vanity. Today artists take up the baton of the ruin to warn and alert our society of the

new dangers ahead such as climate change. Living with ruins reminds us that nothing is fixed but rather that our man made environment is in a permanent state of collapse, building and shifting.

A programme of family activities begins at the Art Gallery & Museum on Saturday 28 September with a *Recycled Ruins* workshop with artist **Mark Riley** making 3D buildings. On from 11am – 1pm the workshop costs £5 per child, to book call the Gallery on 01905 25371.

The popular Museum after Hours returns on Friday 11 October, 5.30 – 8pm



On Saturday 9 November families can take a tour of *Urban Ruins* in Worcester and enjoy a fun ruins themed activity at the Art Gallery & Museum with artist **Andrew Howe**. On from 11am – 2pm, tickets for adults are £6.50 and children and concessions £5, to book call the Gallery on 01905 25371. For a full list of *Living Ruins* activities please visit www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk

Local residents are also asked to nominate their *Living Ruin* on Instagram and Twitter using #livingruin

Living Ruins is free and open Monday – Saturday 10.30am – 4.30pm. For more information contact the Art Gallery and Museum on 01905 25371 or visit www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk or follow @worcestermuseum

This exhibition has been made possible through the **Ferryman Project: Sharing Works of Art** which is supported by National Lottery Players through **The National Lottery Heritage Fund**, the **John Ellerman Foundation and Art Fund**.

Image: Ged Quinn, *Bela Forgets the Scissors*, courtesy the artist and Stephen Friedman Gallery

October at Worcester Arts Workshop

With the very best mix of music, theatre and creative workshops.

On 2 October **DJ Ed Steelfox** returns, this time with **Blackout Sessions**, an intense near darkness two hour dance mix.

There's WAW Live Lounge on 5 October, followed by WAW Band Night on 19 October and WAW presents guitar virtuoso, **Eduardo Niebla Duo** In Concert on 26 October.

Poetry And A Pint Night returns on 16 October and there's provocative live theatre from The Order Of Disorder, to mark World Mental Health day on 11 October.

Enjoy Wine Tasting & A Movie with the cult classic **'Withnail And I'** on 12 October and then come and do the time warp again with a Halloween screening of **The Rocky Horror Picture Show** on 31 October.

WAW Creative Youth Theatre begins this month, plus Creative Courses and Camps for young people during October Half Term, including an **Art Camp For Looked After Children**.

The Autumn Term of creative courses for adults continue during October, along with one day workshops in **Modern Calligraphy** on 3 October

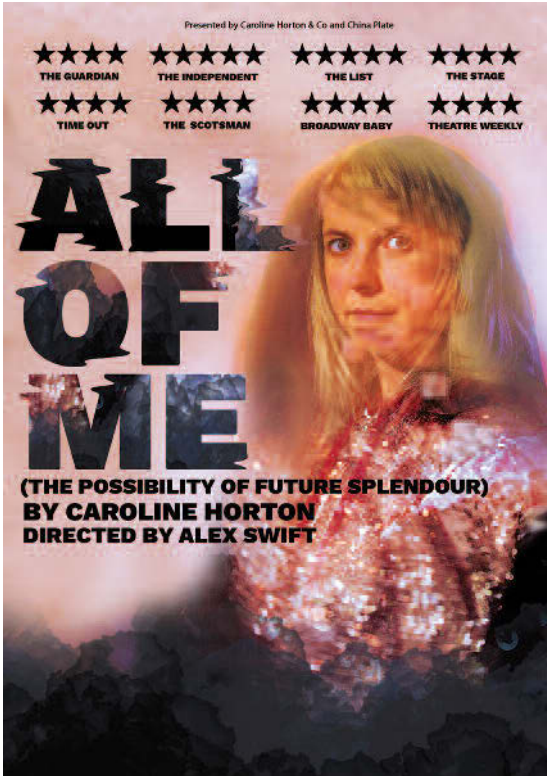
Day Of The Dead Masks on 4 October
Learn Tai Chi In A Morning on 9 October.

Looking ahead to November and as the dark nights draw in, come and share a ghost story with **Rock With Terror** on 2 November, presenting two terrifying ghost stories, followed by live music from the Midlands' only gothic country group.

www.worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk

FEAST

FEAST is back with four days of extraordinary theatre and experiences. **FEAST 2019, 14th - 17th November** promises to challenge, move and inspire you. FEAST is a warm and welcoming space so whether you are alone or with friends, a theatre veteran or a first timer we hope you will feel at home. FEAST celebrates life in all its diversity, all its ugliness and all its glory. For the opening night we invite you to join with us in a mass earth healing meditation, dance performances and spoken word. Day two brings back the **Shropshire Inclusive Dance company** with its latest piece *'Being Seen'*.



When choreographer Jo Fong was asked: *'Do you see the disability or the person?'* She said *"I saw humanity in all its diverse beauty"*. This will be a piece you won't want to miss. Friday evening kicks the festival into another gear with **Friday Night Bite**, a wild eclectic night of bite sized theatre, dance and dark cabaret including Bristol based dance company *'Impermanence'*. Day three is a movable FEAST with an all day workshop with the UK's leading forum theatre practitioners **'Cardboard Citizens'**.



The main Saturday night show this year *'All of me'* comes from Olivier award nominee **Caroline Horton**. *'An intimate and absurd exploration of wanting to live, wanting to die and what can happen if we all sit together in the dark'*. ***** **"Theatrically alive at every moment"** Independent.

Sunday is our **FEAST Family** day including puppet workshops, dance explorations, adventure walks, sensory space stories and our main show **Tom Thumb** by **Lyngo Theatre**. This is an amazing way to introduce your little ones and yourselves to the wonders of theatre at a great price. Sunday evening closes **FEAST** ambitiously with *'Motherland'* from **Jo Tyabji** in association with **Milk Presents** - *'Punching fascists in the face through the medium of drag'*. We hope you can join us for one. We'll be there all weekend if you fancy a **FEAST**.

Bar and café open throughout the festival. Tickets on sale at www.malverncube.com Full festival line up on Facebook **FEAST Theatre Festival**.



FEAST

14-17TH NOV 2019 THEATRE FESTIVAL



EARTH HEALING MEDITATION

BEING SEEN SHROPSHIRE INCLUSIVE DANCE COMPANY

FRIDAY NIGHT BITE CABARET, THEATRE & MUSIC

CARDBOARD CITIZENS WORKSHOP

ALL OF ME CAROLINE HORTON & ALEX SWIFT

MOTHERLAND JO TYABJI

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Suz Winspear



October at last! This is always an important month for poetry – **National Poetry Day** on October 3rd means that the first week is always crammed full of spoken word events, and many of us will be calling in on schools and community groups to spread the passion for poetry to those who might not think that it matters to them. Halloween is also on its way – always a delightful time of year for me, although this year it might be tainted by the current political chaos – but I remain optimistic, anything might happen between the time I'm writing this and the 31st October, and whatever else happens I'll merrily be carving my pumpkin and planning new costumes to wear. So I wish you all a fabulous National Poetry Day and a wonderfully spooky Halloween!

And if you want to watch or participate in a Spoken Word event this month, here are some Worcestershire possibilities –

Tuesday 1st October – The Long and the Short of It – at Caffè Bolero St Nicholas Street, Worcester Pprose and poetry, with short-form and longer performance slots. Open mic slots available! 6pm, £3 admission.

Thursday 3rd October – Chapter and Verse – at the Hive Poetry by David Clarke, Ross Logan and Amanda Bonnick. Three established and award-winning poets taking you on a thought-provoking word-journey. 7pm. Free entry.

Thursday 3rd October – Bewdley Fringe Spoken Word – at The Retreat Bar, Load Street, Bewdley Spoken word and poetry – all ages and levels of experience welcome at a friendly and inclusive event! The guest-performer will be former Worcestershire Poet Laureate **Betti Moretti**. 7pm to sign up for open mic slots. Start time 7.30pm. Free entry.

Friday 4th October – National Poetry Day – Truth and Confession – at the Hive Not quite National Poetry Day – Worcestershire LitFest and Fringe and Worcestershire Poet Laureate **Charley Barnes** will be taking over the studio Space at **The Hive**, Worcester, to reveal the results of the Truth and Confession competition, in which poets have been invited to submit completely anonymous work that will stay anonymous even when the work is revealed and put into print. On October 4th the long-listed pieces will be displayed in The Hive's Studio space. Attendees will have the opportunity to sign up to read a poem and, keys in a bowl style, they will be randomly given one of our winning poems to familiarise themselves with ahead of a reading taking place. 7pm. Free entry.

12 SLAP OCTOBER

Thursday 10th October – SpeakEasy – at Paradiddles, 61/61a Sidbury WR1 3HU Our second month at our new venue - eclectic poetry from a wide range of local poets. The featured performer for October will be confirmed nearer the date. Open Mic slots available on a first-come, first-served basis. They're popular, so get there early. Oh yes, and there will be our legendary raffle (involves a goth poet and an orange bucket . . .) Come and see us in our new location! £3 admission, 7.30pm.

Saturday 12th October – Mental Health Awareness & Wellbeing 'drop-in day – at the Angel Centre Presentations, talks and workshops about mental health and wellbeing. The day includes an open mic spoken word session, presented by Worcestershire Poet Laureate Charley Barnes. Come and share your own words and listen to poems on themes of mental health, coping and survival. Free entry. Begins at midday.

Wednesday 16th October – Poetry and a Pint at the Third Space, Worcester Arts Workshop A relaxed evening of poetry hosted by the inimitable **Spoz**. Open mic slots available – contact marketing@worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk 7pm Free entry.

Thursday 17th October – 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. There will be a featured performer, whose identity is currently being kept secret . . . Who will it be? Come along and find out! I'm really looking forward to this! £3 admission. 6.30 – 8.30pm.

Thursday 24th October – Along the Avon – in the Foyer at Number 8, Pershore. Songs and stories inspired by the River Avon, presented by local writers **Sue Johnson** and **Bob Woodrooffe** and singer-songwriter **Colin Pitts**. Books and CDs for sale. Free entry. 8pm.

Wednesday 30th October - 42 - at Drummonds Bar, behind the Swan with Two Nicks **Life, the Universe and Everything** – prose and poetry – Worcester's only alternative genre spoken word night - 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'll hear at 42 . . . This month's theme is 'All Hallows Eve'. The Halloween 42 is always a special night – expect to see writers in unusual costumes and all sorts of random weirdness! Write a piece that you can deliver in 5-7 mins and come along to read it if you're lucky enough to get a performance spot. To ask for a spot email: list@42worcester.com . . . Free entry. 7.30pm.

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Mary Quant evening

The swinging sixties comes to Droitwich in October with an event celebrating the life of miniskirt pioneer **Dame Mary Quant**.

Currently the subject of a major exhibition at London's V & A Museum, Mary Quant is known for her sleek, streamlined and vibrant designs that revolutionised womenswear and defined the look of London in the 1960s. Her garments borrowed from men's clothing, took risks and blurred gender lines to create 'unisex' clothing. She is credited with defining the look for a new generation of women who rebelled against pressure to dress like their mothers.

Examples of her work are being brought to Droitwich by V & A contributor **Ruth Lowe**, who will talk about the early life, career and designs of this iconic British designer. She is an avid collector of all things Quant, including an original Mary Quant designer mini car.

Organisers of the local event, **Droitwich Arts Network (DAN)** are keen for all generations to buy tickets and come dressed in Mary Quant inspired clothing if they can.

Chair of **DAN Helen Karakashian** said, *'It's time to dig out those fab mini-skirts and vintage suits to relive an era that truly broke new ground in fashion and music. Mary Quant is an incredibly exciting designer and we are thrilled to welcome Ruth Lowe who will bring a slice of the V & A to Droitwich.'*

Saturday 19 October, 7.30 pm at Ombersley Memorial Hall. Tickets £10, to include light refreshments. Contact : info@droitwichartsnetwork.org



The Courtyard, Hereford look for creative individuals

The Courtyard will be hosting a **Rags to Riches Trashion show** this November to celebrate its annual pantomime which, this year, is *Cinderella*.

The Trashion Show will be held at the **Hereford Round Table** Firework event at Hereford Racecourse on Saturday 2 November.



FEELING CRAFTY?

The Courtyard are looking for creative individuals from the community who are willing to make and model garments with the theme of 'Ball attire' completely out of recycled materials (e.g. trash).

"We're really excited to be organising the Trashion Show with the help of Hereford Round Table and Sunshine Radio" says Marketing Officer Ruby Thorogood, "It's a great opportunity for us not only to promote our pantomime, Cinderella, but also highlight the importance of being an environmentally friendly organisation"

The Courtyard have recently established an Eco Group who work together to ensure that the arts venue is as ecologically sound as possible. From encouraging visiting companies to consider their carbon footprint to educating staff on reducing energy consumption, the Eco Group are committed to making sure The Courtyard remains as environmentally friendly as possible.

"We are currently road mapping to becoming carbon neutral by 2030." says Operations Manager Phil Pearcy, "Our Eco Group are also undergoing full carbon literacy training to help us achieve our goals."

For more information about getting involved in The Courtyard's **Rags to Riches Trashion Show**, contact **Ruby Thorogood** at ruby.thorogood@gmail.com or call 01432 340555.

Vienna Festival Ballet Artrix, Bromsgrove | Sun 13th Oct

Classical ballet takes centre stage soon when the highly acclaimed **Vienna Festival Ballet Company** returns to **Artrix** on Sunday 13 October with their production of **Snow White**.

Vienna Festival Ballet will perform their original production of this timeless fairy-tale based on the traditional **Brothers' Grimm** story. Snow White's journey through a magical world of hip-hopping dwarves, an enchanted mirror, and a poisoned apple, in pursuit of her Prince Charming will dazzle the whole family.

Choreographed by **Barry McGrath**, and set to an array of orchestrated pieces by composers including Fari and Gounod, the music was specially written for VFB's production of Snow White. Notable for the continued freshness and strength of their dancing casts, VFB attract highly talented dancers from all over the world. Returning by popular demand, Vienna Festival Ballet's Snow White promises to be a delightful treat for all the family whether you're a fan or experiencing ballet for the very first time, and offers an ideal opportunity to introduce children to the beauty of ballet.

The company are taking part in a meet and greet after each show at **Artrix** and are welcoming audience members to stay and meet the stars of the show.

Sunday 13th October at 2pm and 5pm. Tickets £20 each, with family tickets available. For further information and to book, visit www.artrix.co.uk or call Box Office on 01527 577330.





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Upton Jazz Festival is in doubt

Dwindling volunteer numbers and rising costs means the future of the festival, which was first staged in 1986, is uncertain.

For 34 years, international jazz stars have flocked to the riverside town of **Upton-upon-Severn** to entertain tens of thousands of music fans over the last weekend in June. It has appeared on ITV's **Good Morning Britain** and Channel 4's **Sunday Brunch**, and, through its Best of Young Jazz programme has supported thousands of young jazz musicians and helped launch successful careers. But now, following the loss of long-time festival stalwart **Paul Lawrence** and the retirement of some committee members, the Council of Management is considering whether or not this year's four-day jazz festival was the last.

"After 34 great years of the Upton Jazz Festival, questions are being asked about its future," said a spokesman for the Council of Management. They are similar questions to those being asked of other UK jazz events, which have enjoyed mixed fortunes in recent years. We are currently weighing up some very positive feedback from the 2019 festival - attendance was up on 2018 and, musically, it was incredibly successful. The Fringe festival, in particular, attracted significant crowds.

"But costs are rising. Setting up marquees and staging and managing the diverse and quirky venues, for which Upton is justifiably renowned, is expensive. We now have to pay people to carry out vital jobs once done by volunteers. And our reserves will not withstand a drop in audience figures, which could easily result from bad weather in 2020. Our Best of Young Jazz team is standing down after 10 brilliant years. And to continue successfully, we need to recruit both a treasurer and a chairman."



In recent years, a lively **Fringe Festival** has sprung up along the riverside, raising money for Worcestershire mental health charity **The Nathan Tomkins Trust**.

And a New Orleans-style parade through the town, gospel-style church service and riverboat shuffles aboard the **MV Conway Castle** have drawn the crowds.

The Council now believes the future of the festival hangs on three key elements. They are calling on venues in the town to be willing to contribute to band costs; need additional sources of funding including grants and sponsorship and are asking for new faces to come forward to take on key, voluntary Council roles.

"We would love to hear from anyone who is willing to offer support, but we need to hear from them soon," said the spokesman. A final decision about the future and the shape and size of any subsequent festival will be taken in mid-October. The festival has brought so much to Upton over the past 34 years. We hope we may count on the jazz community's continued support."

Dazzle Ball Event

Saturday, November 2nd 2019

The **Centenary Choir, Malvern** has great pleasure in announcing its very own Dazzle Ball to commemorate the **Original Dazzle Ball** of 1919.

This was flamboyant fancy-dress event given by the Chelsea Arts Club at the Albert Hall. It was based on the principles of 'Dazzle', the method of camouflage used during the First World War in the painting of ships to disguise them against submarine attacks.

Malvern's connection with **Dazzle** is through **Barry Jackson**, who founded the Birmingham Repertory Theatre in 1913. He was a Malvern resident (who's house still stands behind the **Malvern Hills Hotel**). During the First World War he was in the Royal Naval Reserve but transferred in 1917 to the new **Dazzle Painting** unit which was transforming naval and merchant ships to make it harder for U boats to torpedo them.



This event has also been supported by **Chase High School** Pupils who have prepared Dazzle illustrations for which Prizes will be awarded during the event.

Our event at Mount Pleasant Hotel will take place as follows:-

Ticket Prices:- £10 or £16 to include sandwich supper.

Licensed bar available.

Itinerary:-

- 6.00-6.05 pm Introduction
- 6.05-7.15 pm History of Dazzle – a short talk by Dr. James Taylor & presentations to Chase High School Pupils
- 7.15-7.40 pm Break for Sandwiches and refreshments
- 7.40-8.00 pm Centenary Choir
- 8.00-9.00 pm Malvern Jazz Band
- 9.00-9.20 pm Centenary Choir
- 9.20-10.30 pm Malvern Jazz Band



Rock And Roll Night Raises £1,500 In Memory of "Gerry From Worcester"

THERE was a 'lot of love in the room' at a fundraising tribute evening for a man who was at the heart of Worcester's Rock and Roll community. Friends and family of **Gerry Richardson** packed out Gilt Edge Club in Kidderminster to remember the man who was well known to all as "**Gerry from Worcester**". The night raised £1,500 for **Primrose Hospice** which supported Gerry and his partner Eve in the last months of his life.

In April 2017, Gerry was diagnosed with Pulmonary Fibrosis. He died in November 2018, aged 76. His partner Eve, from Wire Hill, Redditch, said: "*Primrose supported Gerry and myself so well during the last months of his life, neither of us could imagine how we would have coped without them.*"

Gerry was well known and well-loved in the rock and roll community, having been on the scene since the 1970s. He ran the very popular Rock and Roll Club at Christopher Whitehead School for 12 years up until 2009.

Eve said: "*People talk about him as a lovely man and a true gentleman. The dance was his idea and I promised him that I would make it happen. He wanted all of his friends to come together and remember him, to enjoy a really good evening and to raise money for Primrose.*" She explained the biggest challenge was to make sure everyone who knew Gerry had heard about the dance.

However, word quickly spread and the next challenge was making sure they all could fit in the room. "*People came from all over the Midlands,*" Eve said. "*Extra chairs and tables were brought in from other rooms and there was a brief spell when we worried that we would have to turn people away but, just as we reached capacity, no more arrived. It was a phenomenal evening, with a lot of love in the room and the floor was constantly full.*"

Gerry's favourite band, **Mark Keeley's Good Rockin' Tonight** performed during the evening and, along with **DJ, JD (Just Dec)**, kept the floor full all evening. Mark delivered a lovely message



from **Colin Paul**, a good friend of Gerry's, who unfortunately could not be there. Eve added: "*There was a real buzz in the room - as if someone had sprinkled magic dust. There were a few tears at the end of the evening, when we formed a huge circle for Colin Paul's American Trilogy - one of Gerry's favourites. It was immediately followed by The Ovaltineys, which had the opposite effect.*"

Sarah Harris, community fundraiser at Primrose Hospice, said: "*The rock and roll night sounds like it was a wonderful tribute to Gerry. It is humbling to hear what a difference Primrose Hospice's support makes to a family going through a difficult time. This support is only possible thanks to the fundraising efforts of our wonderful community.*"

Primrose Hospice supports people with life-limiting conditions and their families living in north east Worcestershire and offers a range of free services including clinics, benefits advice, therapies and family support. It costs £1.75million annually to run the hospice, of which 85 per cent has to be raised through the local community, trusts and grants.

Men In General

Elmslie House, Malvern | Fri 18 Oct

Men In General are quadruplets separated at birth, recently reunited by a social networking site and now talking & singing Billy Joel, Lou Reed, Red Molly, Meghan Trainor, Marvin Gaye, Joe Jackson, Coope Boyes & Simpson, Rodgers & Hammerstein, Stephen Stills, Tom Jones, The Beach Boys, The Spooky Men's Chorale & many more top lyrics.

Features members of The Singing Sous'Chefs, The Spooky Men's Chorale (Australia), A Fistful of Spookies, Mumbo Jumbo, plus a Geography graduate and a Bargain Hunt expert.

Men In General mix à cappella classics with comedy, advice on relationships, fashion, home baking and the tender side of Man. Includes highly interactive flights of fancy. Fast-moving and funny.

A four-piece force of male vocal antics not to be missed. The show features indoor parachute jumping, a road movie, a painting by Edward Hopper, unusual hobbies, a pub at midnight and mistakes anyone could make.

Previous show *Alive Again!* was directed by John Nicholson of Peepolykus Theatre Company and played 200 shows across the British Isles.



Tickets £12.50 www.elmsliehouse.co.uk

Versatile Arts and Mu Mu Audio present **Peatbog Faeries** Malvern cube | Saturday 26th Oct

"Welcome to the weird but wonderful world of The Peatbog Faeries, Skye's finest, where you should always expect the unexpected. Gloriously unpredictable, a band to treasure." fRoots

Following three decades at the forefront of Scottish music... Following the release of their latest album *Blackhouse* the legendary **Peatbog Faeries** will once more be back on the road in 2019 to delight audiences countrywide.

Hailing from the Isle of Skye, the Peatbog Faeries are the figurehead trailblazers of the Celtic Dance Music renaissance. Drawing upon a dazzling myriad of influences from traditional jigs and reels through jazz, hip hop, reggae and more, they take traditional Scottish music and bring it fresh-faced and breathless into the 21st century.

They are **Peter Morrison** (pipes and whistles), **Ross Couper** (fiddle), **Tom Salter** (guitar), **Innes Hutton** (bass, percussion) **Graeme Stafford** (keyboards) and **Stuart Haikney** (drums).

They have toured the world taking their inventive and unique brand of music and light show to audiences far and wide, never failing to fill the floor and delight the crowd.

Support comes from singer songwriter **Elliot Prichard**. *"Honest, building and energetic, Prichard exudes his genuine and unadulterated desire to entertain, and does just this."* He tells stories of his life with pure honesty with a voice that makes you listen. Doors open at 7.30pm with proceedings commencing at 8.00pm with support The Peatbog Fairies take to the stage at 8.45pm

Tickets available from www.versatilearts.co.uk

Also Malvern cube, Malvern TIC, Carnival records, Ice Bytes Ledbury.

For more info please contact Versatile Arts on 07854 918783



Elmslie is both an elegant venue and a private family home in Great Malvern. We open up part of the ground floor for music performances, art exhibitions, contemporary craft fairs, weekly exercise classes and lots more. For full listings check out our Facebook page or website.



ELMSLIE HOUSE
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NOVEMBER 2ND 2019 | 7.30PM

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Brittany King - Soprano
Justine Parsons - Piano
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ELMSLIE HOUSE, LAVENHAM ROAD, MALVERN

Mendelssohn
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FRANK (MENDELSSOHN) PINTSEL

SONGS
FELIX (MENDELSSOHN) BARHOLDI

HELEN CAWTHORNE
PIANO
JOHN BARKER
(Violin)

3.00PM SUNDAY 3 NOVEMBER

Tickets £11. Free refreshment contribution
www.elmsliehouse.co.uk or on the door (free & paid)

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THESE GEMMAUSKALIGEN SIEGELTUNGEN... ERGÄNZT MIT ANDEREN
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Ticket requires 07789 470190 £12.90
Also available on line at www.elmsliehouse.co.uk

Men In General
Friday 18th November
at 7.30pm, £12.50

The Art of Song
Sat 2nd Nov
at 7.30pm, £12

Mendelssohn
Sunday 3rd Nov
at 3.00pm, £12

Keith James
Saturday 9th Nov
at 7.30pm, £12



Please check website for ticket prices and running times - these vary. Tickets available from www.eventbrite.co.uk, Carnival Records & Malvern TIC



www.elmsliehouse.co.uk

'The Way We See' - is an exhibition featuring the work of five local artists, printmakers and painters.

Opening Friday 11th October and running on Fri/Sat/Sun the 11th/12th & 13th, 11.00 - 4.00pm

Monday and Wednesday 14th & 16th from 1.00 - 4.00pm and again on Fri/Sat/Sun 18th/19th & 20th, 11.00 - 4.00pm.

A tearoom will be available on weekends only.

www.elmsliehouse.co.uk

Skewwhiff | Cancelled Rearranged

The elephant's gestation period is nearly two years, yes, that's right: two years! For **Skewwhiff** the period between the first album, *Nice Little Upper* and their new album – *Cancelled Rearranged* – is over five years. With such a prolonged hand-wringing wait, until the band was happy, you know that the album is going to be worthwhile.

While it is worth pointing out that this is my difficult second paragraph, I have no qualms about reviewing a band that I have never listened to before and although my skin is not as thick as a pachyderm's, I relish the challenge of reviewing an album that for some linked to our little magazine, might be emotionally attached to this particular long player...

The emotional focus of the album is as focused as it is encyclopaedic. The title track - *Cancelled Rearranged* - tackles the, at times, insufficient help offered by mental health provision. A contentious and political issue that has become more prominent as more of us become accustomed to opening-up and being prepared to articulate just what the mental health issues are faced by us as individuals. The lyrics are damning and the exasperation at the reality of the situation is - "*If you disengage with us, we will disengage with you.*" - one of a sense of being let down and made to feel as if you are in the way. The very words are the distillation of genuine experience that coruscates like a fuse wire throughout the track. Contemporary politics are never far away from this musical think tank.

In these highly-charged political times and let's be honest the political landscape is somewhat skewed, with more than a whiff of desperation in the air (*I see what you did there - Ed*). Research shows that dance music will always become more popular. It is no coincidence that Disco rose to prominence in England in the turbulent 1970s (just look at the charts!) because people knew



how dire life was with a four day week and electricity strikes: why would we want to listen to protest songs narrating the severity of the situation? Sod that, people want to dance and forget. **Skewwhiff** acknowledge and reflect this need in their very contemporary music. The Ska infused tracks (*Picture Perfect*), the punchy rockabilly-esque drum beats (*Hey Mr*), the choppy guitar chords and the notable solos allow for a chance to bop, pogo and skank on the dance floor, even if the intelligent lyrics are asking you to think about so much more...

The band are keen if not desperate to connect with their listeners. So many lyrics contain the pronoun "you" and "your" - second person narrative - thus engaging the listener in the lyrics and the content. We are questioned, accused, invited and threatened throughout: "*your silence*"... "*your perfect picture*"... "*do you want to play with me?*"...this album is both personable and personal.

The highly personal *Doll Parts* is an invitation for others to think about how they attempt to choreograph their partners, into producing an ideal image and not an invite to manipulate "her" into your latest distraction. The

forthright comedienne Jo Brand used to perform a skit where she stated: "*she always felt like her boyfriend was acting out a porn movie he had once seen.*" Ditto.

You will not need the memory of an elephant to remember this album's qualities - the voice, so reminiscent of Miss Echobelly, Sonya Madan and Chrissie Hynde - is the ideal accompaniment to an intelligent, emotional, political and engaging album that is both danceable and, yes, well worth the wait. But don't take my cheap journalistic word for it - cancel your plans and rearrange your diary - and pell mell along to **Marr's Bar** on the 18th of October for a night with **Attila the Stockbroker** and of course **Skewwhiff** who are trumpeting the release of their new album on the night, with I am sure a great sense of achievement: only achieved over three years.

The Swigate Scuttler

"*This Is Halloween*" would have been the perfect soundtrack for a Hammer Horror classic and, much like the films of yesteryear, the song creaks and lurks in the shadows, raising a smile or two when you realise it's only a man with a sheet over his head!

Will Munn

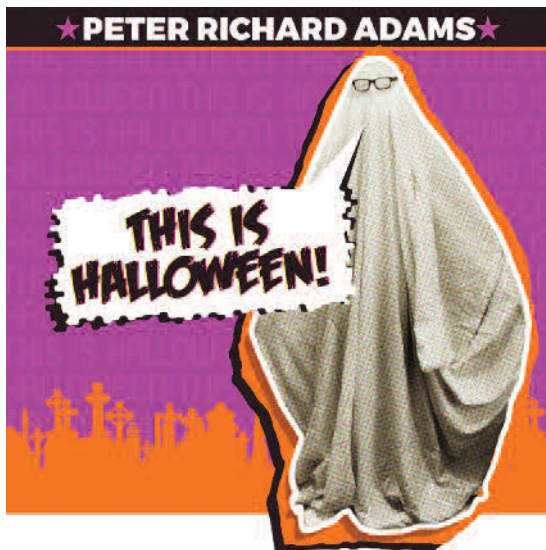
Peter Richard Adams This Is Halloween

Following recent releases like *Oh No... It's Block*, a new **Evilwitch** EP and **Hey You Guys' Difficult Second Album**, you might have thought that the prolific **Pete (Adams)** would be running out of steam, but London life seems to have stirred the creative juices, with Adams writing and recording at a steady rate of knots.

"*This Is Halloween*" is another of those seasonal jingles that Pete seems so fond of ("*Bring Me The Head Of The Man Dressed In Red*", and "*Christmas In Market Towns*" come to mind), this time embracing all things macabre and spooky.

Pete plucks out a somewhat sinister guitar melody, before adding slow, brooding percussion while delivering tales of kids dressing up and laughing as "*world's collide and the other side breaks through at Halloween*". Adams builds toward a climatic vocal hook, imploring the listener to "*scream, scream, scream as tonight is Halloween*", complimented by an array of atmospheric screams and half-whispered samples for the duration of the five-minute track.

18 SLAP OCTOBER



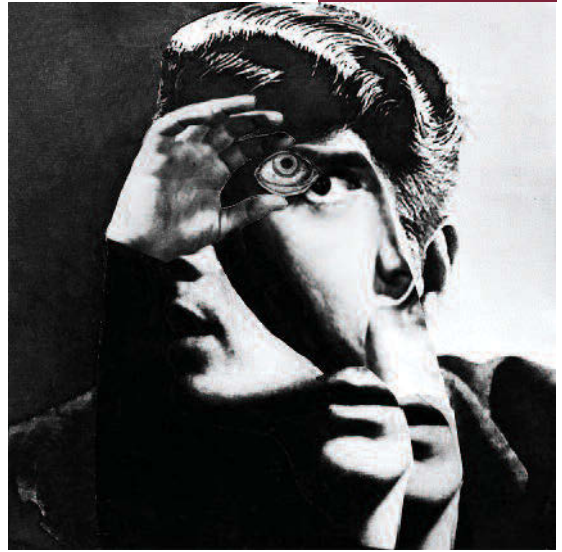
Pablo Alto | Amnesia

With a scream of feedback **Pablo Alto** punch themselves back onto the local scene with a force akin to that created at the 'CERN' hadron collider. Their brand new album *Amnesia* is a post-punk crusade that explores the human psyche. The Ledbury three piece have been around for a good while now, exploring the filth ridden, dust laden, rear end of Garage Punk.

The opening track '*Breathe*' crashes in with a sleazy bass line that propels the song forward and immediately takes a sharp edged blade at the current attitudes towards climate change. The track will us to breathe and lyrically takes no prisoners, pointing the finger of blame straight at the government.

Throughout the album you can hear influences from the likes of Joy Division and The Stooges. These are cleverly sewn through music like Saville Row suit made of noise to create a perfectly cut punk ensemble. 'Warning Signs' has the sort of driving bass that Peter Hook would be proud to have written and 'Fever' furiously drives us towards the end of the album with urgency of a man waiting to clock off on a Friday afternoon.

Listening to the whole album, as it should be, I couldn't help but feel that this could easily be placed on a 'Peaky Blinders' soundtrack, nestling in amongst the likes of Nick Cave and PJ Harvey, maybe that's just lazy journalism or maybe its just that good. The atmosphere created by the album is both foreboding and engaging with an unmistakable undercurrent of chaotic



drama. As the story unfolds you are drawn in to the melancholy guitar and pulsing rhythm section. This new release is a good find and I encourage you to seek out a Pablo Alto gig and give them the attention they deserve.

Captain OneEye

Knife Crime | Shoulda Bloody

Knife Crime are here with their first double single. Residing in Redditch, Knife Crime are not for the faint hearted. Straight to the point with their aggressive punk music, "*Shoulda Bloody Known*" and "*Remove the Heart*" will grab you in with their 'refusing to be ignored' strategy. Knife Crime are a trio that recorded the singles at The Pit with Lozz Hightower. For fans of early Nirvana (Bleach-era), Absu, Baptists, and Graham Coxon, what will enchant you the most about Knife Crime is their ability to get their views across. Filled with angst and a whole lot of anger, the two singles are quick to the story and feature gorgeous melodies. With a sort of doom metal sound, the punk vocals bring it back to the realm of fire. Progressive like guitar riffs mixed with a powerhouse drum sound, the debut singles couldn't have been better for the rebels.

Can you imagine the mosh-pits for these numbers? I'd wear armour if I was you. Looking forward to hearing how their sound will progress in the near future.

Chloe Mogg



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New Release

Capitol Slush | Douzy

Septet band **Capitol Slush** are here with their debut EP *"Douzy"*. Comprising of past and present students at Kidderminster College, they're giving jazz fusion a whole new face. Freshly faced and coated with pure musicianship, this band are one to watch out for because they're doing something different. Not falling into the 'indie rock' category, they're bringing funk back and with the dual female fronted singers, **Capitol Slush** are simply unique and that's exactly what the music scene needs.

Starting off with a James Brown like groove, the fast paced verses in *'Bounce Back'* are ones to make you get on your feet from the get go and boogie on down. Hook line *'always bounce back, just like a rubber band'* plays a big part in the contagious melody, which won't be leaving your head anytime soon. Highly energetic and showcasing the band's pure chemistry, it's a great EP opener. *'Summer Nights'* starts off with what feels like a jingle for an advert. Before entering to the song's main core, we're transported to jazz's first days. Complimenting



the jazz roots, the band give the genre a modern day favouring. Lucy's voice features a soulful, unique rasp that melts around the arrangement like ice cream on a warm 'summer night' (pardon the pun). Circulating the atmosphere with luscious harmonies, it includes a more chilled back vibe to the first track.

'Pass By' enters with a killer Tower of Power-esque groove before finding it's feet with the female fronted vocals that bounce one another. Whereas Lucy's vocals feature a unique rasp, Mackenzie's vocals situate with a soft tone, and the two voices together are absolutely beautiful. Filled with chemistry, the Kidderminster College students have definitely been taught the ropes within the genre of jazz. Last track *'Please'* begins with a Miles Davis like arrangement until it leads up into a soulful production. Drawing you in, the musicianship that all the instrumentalists bring to the table is simply breathtaking. With an elevating rhythm section, infectious guitar melodies, spacious brass parts and soulful vocal lines, the debut EP is a strong one for the outfit.

Chloe Mogg

Y!KES | Halcyon

For fans of Muse, My Chemical Romance and Enter Shikari to name a few, Y!KES are the new alternative rock collective that you didn't think you need in your life until now. Residing in Birmingham and only being around since the beginning of the year, the band have already released a string of releases including music videos. After the success of "Uncanny Valley" and previous Slap featured "Shadow Gallery", the band return with the highly energetic "Halcyon".

Defined by fast paced guitar melodies, a powerhouse drum set and lyrics that will simply haunt you, the new single is a funky fuzz anthem. Gaining attention for their eccentric nature, "Halcyon" could well be the track that puts the band on the map. As for the

music video there's a sense of a 'punk' attitude to the rebellions. Set at Uprawr Studios, the live performance sets a lively tone for the even livelier track. Another exceptional track from a band that simply just keep on giving.

Chloe Mogg



Boat To Row | Rivers That Flow In Circles

The second album by Brummy-based pastoral folk band **Boat To Row** has had something of a laboured birth. The group originally attempted to self-finance the release of *Rivers That Flow In Circles* via a Pledge Music campaign but, like many other acts, saw money invested by their fans disappear overnight following the collapse of Pledge. Thankfully, local label **Static Caravan** came to the band's aid, helping to fulfil their commitment to pledgers and release the album into the wider world.

Since their debut album *I Found You Here*, Boat To Row's line-up and sound has morphed and expanded around chief songwriter and frontman **Michael King**, alongside regular cohorts **Benjamin Gilchrist** (guitar), **Anna Bennett** (violin), **Dan Cippico** (keys) and **Lydia Glanville** (drums). The band are further augmented by the vocals of acclaimed singer-songwriter **Katherine Priddy**, as well as additions of flute, trumpet, clarinet and viola to create an expansive, intoxicating sound, melding jazz and 60's inspired prog into an evocative mix.

"*Moth To Light*" opens the album, a two and a half minute track that twists and turns, driving 60's styled percussion to searching violin and delicate, plucked guitar, bewitching listeners with its multi-faceted textures. "*On Your Own*" has an almost upbeat,



summery vibe, mixing hazy psychedelic folk, jazzy percussion and bright bursts of horn (French and Trumpet), as Priddy wraps cooed harmonies around King's already welcoming lead.

Flights of vibrant flute infiltrate the progressive folk tones of "*Stranger Of Mine*", while Bennett's violin soars, weaving between acoustic and electric guitar. King's compelling lyrics pull at the heart strings, as he purrs out such couplets as "*I never did understand just why, you had to leave like a thief in the night.*"

As the album unfurls, **Boat To Row** only enchant us further. The five and a half minute "*Lift Your Head*", with its shuffling, brushed drums and near classical strings, is followed by an equally beguiling "*Forest Flaws*"; haunting pedal steel, rising strings and inventive stick-work holds the listener within its mesmeric peaks. Then there's "*Fledgling*", a four-part, ten-minute, psychedelic folk relationship suite. It's an epic that dazzles with originality; King navigates the highs and lows of a relationship, summing the stunning heights of instrumentation.

Rivers That Flow In Circles is an aptly-named, intoxicating disc; it ripples and flows, full of clever, deft textures, subtle meandering hooks and winding instrumental turns, guiding the listener on a beautiful, hazy folk trip, revealing more with every (well-deserved) return.

Will Munn

Evilwitch | The Opposite Of Art

Perusing through the many band applications for this year's **Worcester Music Festival**, I happened upon something of a blast from the past. A local name that had seemingly been resigned to the annals of history; seven years had passed since melodramatic indie pop purveyors **Evilwitch** had last shared a stage. But there, down in black and white and leaping from the screen, that once familiar moniker. Scrambling to the band's previously dormant facebook page, it was confirmed Evilwitch were back, and not only for WMF, but armed with a brand-new EP, *The Opposite Of Art*.

For local music fans, any project involving **Pete Adams** is worth celebrating, but one involving former regular right-hand, **Chris Wemyss**, back behind the kit, and accompanied by **Rich Owens** on bass and **James Perry** on keys, now this is a reason to party! You see, back around 2010-12 you'd find me hanging round the likes of **The Marrs Bar**, scribbling notes (no change there!) or promoting, whilst hollering back the likes of *Oh My God!* and *Stare At The Sun*, with scores of like-minded, indie-pop loving weirdos, united by the infectious, punky riffs, adrenaline-fuelled rhythm and massive choral hooks that the band became renowned for.

Opening with a somewhat ominous hum and a rumble of drums, "*Not A Plane In The Sky*" kicks off proceedings; a subtle vocal and



murmur of bass soon join the mix as the track begins to build. Buzzing guitar and Perry's keys provide the melody, as Wemyss continues to assault his kit, leading to a chanted refrain and a wordless vocal hook as Evilwitch explode back into life with a typically thrilling burst of dramatic indie rock.

"*Ship Went Down*" builds in much the same way; a melodic, restrained vocal, crashing drums over rumbling bass and a threat of guitar welling up in a sudden surge of power, propelling the track to high velocity. Urgent call and response vocals and frenzied, instrumental abuse as the 'Witches show they've not lost a step during their absence. "*Rose McCain*" is akin to aural heroin, with its elastic bass and delicious, mantra-like chorus, it's nigh impossible not to get caught up by the addictive buzz. You might even find yourself chanting the insatiable refrain; "*I want you to comprehend that, you are nothing special and you are doomed to fail.*"

"*Choke*" has everything you could possibly want from an Evilwitch song; a big, brash opening, bubbling bass, inventive and busy stickwork, punchy harmonies, omni-present keyboard melodies and an anxious sounding Adams, delivering another essential lead. Evilwitch prove that even before the final polish, their songs have that edge and thrill factor that we've become accustomed to, as they round off the six-track affair with demo versions of both "*Not A Plane*" and "*Ship Went Down*", both of which are more than worthy of inclusion on the EP. After a long hiatus, **Evilwitch** are back with a bang, a hook, and a damn fine EP. Let's hope we don't have to wait another seven years for the next sighting of the 'Witch!

Will Munn

Stiff Joints+Counting Coins Iron Road, Bar 57, Pershore | 7th Sept

Jamaican folk music has changed a great deal over the decades, thanks, in no small part, to the Specials, Madness, Bad Manners and bands of that ilk. Imagine Ska mixed with contemporary issues or upside down R & B infused with modern humour or Punky reggae blended with nonsense and you are somewhere close to the bands filling the stage - and I mean filling the stage! - that evening.

The aged and questioning beer sipper in a trilby next to me exclaimed to no one in particular: "...that the bands hadn't dressed up." For these lads, it was, cliché aside, all about the music...and having a bloody good time, with no time for fashion statements. Far from being fashionable, it would also be easy to dismiss Ska music as just being easy to dance to: simply lift one foot then the other. Unfair.

Fair play to **Counting Coins**, who gamely brought their own energetic brand of Ska from Hull and with a greater emphasis on the 2nd and 4th beat, **T' Coins** set about determining their own currency with a confident swagger and a trumpet that filled the air with a clarion call to the loitering skankers.

Pauline Black of the Selecter quoted on numerous occasions that the Ska revival bands of Two Tone all had one or two more members than was strictly necessary. As Stiff Joints, a local band with nothing to prove, hijacked the stage, I ran out of fingers as 11 (eleven) disciples crowded around the microphones. The calamitous spectacle was one of a box of frogs being electrocuted. The mayhem and chaos that ensued was irresistible...

The Len Price 3 + The Humdrum Express Marr's Bar | 6th September

The main act is a garage band. Not a garish plastic fronted garage that sells cheese flavoured corn snacks and microwaveable meals but a garage that with sagging door hinges, displays a very unPC- calendar ("...check out Miss July!"), and employs a mechanic called Len that knows how to strip down a Lambretta engine, in under an hour, and can tell how well a two stroke engine is running just by looking at the spark-plug alone. This garage band is a secret, back-street, kind of a garage band...ladies and gentlemen **I present the The Len Price 3!**

As far as memorable introductions go, the expletive ridden intro from Weller's Father at every Jam gig must be a contender and Lemmy pointing to a huge model of a Lancaster Bomber hanging over the Motorhead stage, on the first night of their German Bomber tour and proclaiming: "*I bet you haven't seen one of those in a few years?*" - must be up there? Contemporarily, the lead singer of TLP3, explaining that they were "*Not bothering with the safety instructions and were just going to take-off*" - must be one for the archive. And take-off they did...

It would be too easy to pepper my review with an army of adjectives, verbs and nouns marching across the page - energy, adrenaline, frantic, blistering, power pop - but the Medway 3 deserve more, so much more. The Catherine wheel of chords, the rampant Merlin engine of drums and the brooding distant thunder of bass notes is a live set that you must witness first hand.

The proffered songs are witty, personal, caustic - poking insults at other acts and singing about joyous Saturday morning cinema clubs for starters - and catchy like an unexpected, flirtatious, backward glance, but at times this is not enough: as the night proved.

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Mayhem and chaos on the stage gave way to chaos and mayhem on the dance floor "Hup, hup, hup!" ANY band that can fill a dance floor by their second track has my respect and both bands achieved this Beer was spilt. The air was punched. Unique covers were offered up, and even a tribute to taking a dump as the chaotic mayhem erupted on the dance floor in the form of lager sweat involuntary grins and athletic rhythmic akimbo "Hup, hup, hup!" Lifting one foot then the other with a number of variations on offer as the respective bands pummelled, prodded and provoked the attendant believers who came in their numbers. Naked torsos. Broken glasses. Time and time again the horn section would draw the crowd in to a frenzy of wanton forgetfulness of work responsibility and the boring humdrum of reality "Hup, hup,hup!" With the aid of a sound man who must have had to rely on years of experience and training to channel this chaotic musical mayhem. It would have been bad manners on this special night of madness to not have celebrated two bands that came to party and did just that. What a night, punctuated with Ska, beer, dancing and all out fun -no matter what the cost.

Nicholas David Burford

Adorned in their uniform Paisley shirts, suggesting a collective sense of intention the band worked the room; the passive beer drinkers' sat on the dancefloor edge were content to engage in a voyeuristic trance, the performing band were far from content with this arrangement. With the guitarist, **Glenn Page**, descending on to the floor and prowling defiantly he worked the room like a seasoned street-seller. The pay-off was a buoyant crowd that the trio had earned, deserved and yes, had worked bloody hard for!

It must be a challenge supporting **The Len Price 3** but the faintly oxymoronic **Humdrum Express** made the opening-slot their own and were a genuine support act, even this final paragraph is supporting the review. The Humdrumers have been compared to "Billy Bragg meets Half Man Half Biscuit", lazy journalism I know but I can't do better than that. However, I will allow Ian Passey the final word, or outro if you will, before exiting the stage for the headlines he graciously proclaimed: "*The Len Price 3 are the best live band in the country!*"- you can't get more supportive than that. And as for his wry observations this must be one of his more illuminating moments; even more illuminating than an SX Lambretta with a 12v conversion.

Nicholas David Burford



Worley's Up & Coming

Dead Dad's Club, The Queen Has Two Heads

Poppy WS & Redwood

Worley's The Swan, Stourport | September 5th

To start off your month in the right way, the first Thursday of each month sees a showcase of original artists at Worley's Swan in Stourport. September's edition included a range of different music types, but they all connected to one thing - a set of passionate original talent. Hosted by **Hannah Law** and I, we're so honoured to present these nights to the public and the first one in our instalment certainly set the bar high.



Shortened down to a 7 piece on the night, **The Queen Has Two Heads** will still in full reign. A wonderful performance ranging through a folk/celtic rock fragrance. Soaring harmonies from Deb and Emma-Lou blossomed the atmosphere like a smooth silk material. As a whole, the musicianship in this band is simply off the chart.



Kicking off the night was the tremendous **Redwood**. Circulating an aura of indie-pop with an ethereal approach to songwriting, the voice in this girl is one that always brings the audience to a halt.

Drawing you in with her unique ability to tell a story, her on stage presence and humorous nature is one that will simply leave a smile on your face for the rest of the night. Next up, we had the always amazing **Poppy WS**. Mixing reggae, soul, jazz and pop, is there anything this lady can't do? Looping each instrument and blending it with her diverse vocal range, every song told a different tale but all linked back to the audience being truly mesmerised. Once again, an artist that will leave you grinning throughout the night to come.



A collective that we'd never get tired of hearing. Our last act of the night were the unbelievably tight **Dead Dads Club**. Bringing garage rock clearly to the table, the indie band tore the roof off the Swan. It's like The Stooges had a lovechild with the Stone Roses and created Dead Dads Club. Fusing big choruses with on stage banter, the outfit made the audience chuckle continuously. Producing song and after song that the whole room could sing along too, it was sad for the night to come to an end. A fantastic evening with a whole different spectrum of creative artists. See you at the next one!

Words by Chloe Mogg, Photos by Alan Mellor

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Frogfest 2019,

Organised by Oliver Roylance at **The Frog and Fiddle** in Cheltenham, took place over three days from 20-22 September. More than 60 bands and artists took part on three stages at this excellent venue. Here's a few images of some of the artists onstage.

Left to right, top to bottom
Cupcake Diaz and the Felt Tip Pens;
The More You Know;
Everything is Teeth;
Lazybones;
Skora; London Black; Second Self;
More Human Than Human; Ruben Seabright; Stonecutter



Hardwicke Circus The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

I can't recall ever receiving an email from Russ, at Ledbury's POW before, but this gig was a change of program, they conjured up the energetic and rapidly rising **Hardwicke Circus** to play their Sunday evening slot. The band had been touring all over the South, playing anywhere and everywhere, and would eventually head home to Carlisle. There's a buzz about the band, a confidence, a band that was going places, check out their website, its impressive for such a 'young' band. They are guided by **Dave Robinson**, co-founder of **Stiff Records**, and in his day, road manager for Hendrix, it's hard to believe you could have a better man behind you, 'If it Ain't Stiff...It Ain't Worth A F***'



They take a couple of songs to settle into their positions, tight as they were with literally *'Nowhere Left To Run'*. Jonny has that warm thick voice, formed in Cumbria, bit like woolly Southerners with a cold!. Jack is like a caged tiger, he wants to move with those

guitars, but there's nowhere to go. Andy a statue, breathing into his silver sax while Ben is bolted down. The only activity is Tom bouncing around at his drums and Lewis whose all over those keys, sliders and knobs, the busiest hands in the band? The band are firing on all 6 cylinders, and its sounds pretty bloody good, as they dabble with the devil, *'Way Down In The Hole'*, Tom Waits, fully wired.

Jonny has the wiry look and swagger of a young Jagger, don't know about the moves with no space, but there's a nice touch of humour in his tales of the road. Most of their songs are theirs, taken from a couple of EP's, with the inevitable 'borrowed' and remoulded worthies to add to the mix. We're all chorusing to, *'Addicted to Your Love'*, the sound in this tiny pub is amazing.

A lovely funk rhythm fires up for the *'Ballad Of Skinny Hull'*, a legendary character, you don't want to cross. They close out the first set on a cracking pop/rocking, *'Woman'*.

Hardwicke Circus are soon somersaulting through a second set, we all lift a glass for *'In Vino Veritas'*. It bubbles like champagne under Lewis's fingers, before pouring into an anthem on the rocks, *'Walda'*, rocks you like a Glaswegian kiss. They wind the clock back to '78, riding the Jags for *'Back of My Hand'*, before we're all pulled into chorusing, *'Hands Up'*, hands up, don't shoot, brilliant.

You can't help but feel the band are standing on the precipice of the big stage, they have real presence, an easy manner, humour, and above all else, some bloody good music. For the first time in my memory, there was a collective decision to 'do' a third set Well it would have been a real challenge to pack everything together and get loaded into thier ex-riot van.

I hope to have the opportunity to see this band again soon. Here is a final thought, they sometimes have a trombonist to add, he's on the EP, a dangerous weapon in such a tight space as tonight, could have had your eye out!

Graham Munn



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Sketches from the Worcester Music Festival

As decisions go, heading for **Annie's Burger Shack** and staying there on the Friday night was probably the best one I made all weekend.

After a faltering start to my Festival, I stopped chasing gigs and settled down at this exciting new venue and purveyor of top nosh. But three two-piece female fronted outfits billed in a row - what could possibly go wrong?

Absolutely nothing, as the booker tonight at Annie's Burger Shack backed his judgment, and my goodness, did we all benefit from the chance he took...



Liars at the Witch Trial are from Brum and they're in the very early stages of a career that on this splendid showing should rapidly go from strength to strength. A crisp, modern sound with blues and garage influences, the set was based around their EP, "*Stormy Seas*" (Bandcamp only, unfortunately or else they'd have cleaned up on the merch front) released earlier this year. I'll be seeing this band again, hopefully often...

Leisure Tank are an Anglo-German outfit now based in London - this is bright, raw, energetic stuff with much skilful use of looping to add to **Katarina Cenker's** tremendous voice and Budi's complex and inventive drumming. The bulk of the set was taken from their debut album "*Wetsuit*", which consolidated three previously online only singles with a raft of new material and at a fiver a pop will probably be my bargain of the year. Brilliant.



This was my fourth view of **The Other Dramas** from Oxford and probably their most complete performance I've seen. They're garage pop writ large, a wonderfully cohesive and thoroughly hard rocking unit, superbly blending **Maria Ilett's** brisk, choppy guitar style and abrasive vocal attack with **Richie Wildsmith's** pinpoint



drumming and excellent backing vocals. The evident joy with which they deliver the songs is wonderful to see. Recent single '*The Future is a Holiday*' probably shaded it for best track of the set but the consistency and strength of the material is just one of this band's many great assets. Wonderful to see them again!



Now despite headlines, **Skewwhiff** being my editor at SLAP, **Mark Hogan's** band, this is the first time I've ever seen a full set by them - dancing broke out right from the first few bars with **Connor Turner** from Annie's at the head of the melée and the pace was maintained throughout in front of a packed audience.

They play a hugely lively mix of punk and indie, with a side helping of ska and have managed the difficult feat of incorporating political and social themes into the music, without disturbing either the beat or the message. Impressive.

They've got a new album arriving very shortly, a follow up to their debut "*Nice Little Upper*" and the set was a great balance of the old and the new. My favourites? '*Bittertaste*' (and probably always will be...) '*It's Obvious*', at its abrasive best and a new song '1942'. Brilliant end to a great night at this excellent venue.

The booker for this great feast of sound turns out to be none other than WMF and SLAP's own **Anthony Robbins** and as a contributor to SLAP, I can't really describe the feeling of confidence it gives me to be working with a management team so steeped in music.

It's so hot on the Saturday morning that I have to trot back to my B&B to change into my shorts after sitting alfresco at the **Worcester Arts Workshop** for my first gig of the day. Having missed **Hannah Law** playing solo on Friday, I'm very happy to catch her with her band, **Tree of Wyrd**. I'm no stranger to Hannah's music but this is an astonishing departure, about as far away





from her ukulele-playing solo persona as it's possible to get. It's a pulsating set, with a strong alt rock base with distinct psych elements and an opportunity to explore the full power and potential of her wonderful voice. And the guitarist seriously shreds...and plays viola!

A set full of strong original material, but their cover of Alanis Morissette's 'You Oughta Know' could have stripped paint at a hundred paces. Exhilarating stuff!

We've come to expect the unexpected from Stourport singer/songwriter **Chloe Mogg** but this was pretty special, as she delivers a set of immense power, creativity and beauty on the main outdoor stage. She's the very antithesis of so many talented but 'safe' solo artists – the music veers off at curious angles, her voice leaps and plummets, the lyrics and subject matter are often oblique and other-worldly, the sparing and sudden use of chorus and reverb has the capacity to make you jump – the whole performance leaves you speechless. She closes with a relatively new song, 'The Only One' which brings all these elements together and which may be on her debut album to be released early next year. If there's any justice, this will be the point at which she'll get the wider recognition that her unique approach to music and prodigious talent deserves.

Ajay Srivastav's blues chart topping debut album "Karmic Blues" - reviewed in SLAP 92 - is undoubtedly one of the releases of the year so far. Part Indian folk music, part delta blues woven together to produce a unique sound, beautifully reproduced on the outdoor stage at **The Lamb and Flag** in front of a packed and



attentive audience. The combination of Srivastav's resonator guitar, with it's distinctive hiss and tabla player **Vinod Kerai's** hypnotic beats, thunder from the left hand and a whip crack from the right, produces an intensely calming atmosphere. And with the lyrics' examination of self-awareness and our reaction to the surrounding environment, the whole performance becomes like floating in a spiritual immersion tank. Very special indeed.

This is a festival of contrasts and none could be more startling as I head to **The Firefly** to watch metalcore masters, **Skora**. Since the wonderful **Nycosia** are taking a break, this band represents pretty much the heaviest music I listen to - but through the wave of noise come the subtleties and excellent musicianship that makes this band stand out – the insistent, driving beat counterpointed by complex riffs, lightning fast soloing and more extended fluent legato passages from the twin guitarists, **Dom Jones** and **Will Broome**. They've completed one EP, "God in Absence", from which tonight's standout track 'Chimaera' comes and there's another nearing completion. If you can stand the aural assault, this band's as good as any I've seen in its field.

There's been a hiatus of several months in the music of Worcester's **Nuns of the Tundra** but my goodness, it was a triumphant return at **St. Swithun's Institute**. The place was packed in anticipation, and the band duly delivered. Oh, this band has riffs, and it has movement, and it has constant audience engagement - and it now has **Harriet Wadeson**, perfectly balancing being a bass Nun with being a bass witch in **Häxan**. **After Jim Smith's** departure for **The Roving Crows** (well done, Jim!) it needed a solid signing to continue the band's forward progress and that's just what they've got. There's not enough space to document the many highlights of this performance, but the mass display of mobile phone torches and dynamic frontman, **Troy Tittley's** vigorous excursion into the audience, costing him a radio jack and a string in the process simply served to ramp up the excitement. Great end to day two.

Sunday was supposed to have been my day of quiet contemplation in the sunshine after a packed Saturday, but **The VHT's** didn't get the memo... This splendid and jaw-droppingly young band have been one of my discoveries of the year - part rock 'n roll, part garage, part rockabilly and part post punk. They're a thoroughly modern outfit but with one foot firmly and respectfully planted in the past and **Jasmine Randall** has one of the most distinctive voices I've heard in a long time, a gravelly rasp which both startles and amazes. Wonderful...

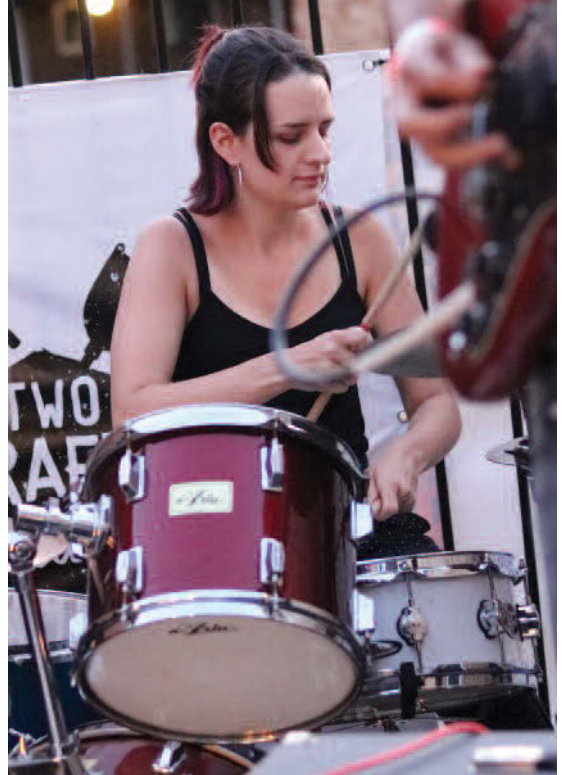




I get a text from a friend, **John Weller**, a great supporter and documenter of live music in Birmingham - he'd just seen a set by a brand new band, **The Blue Jays** and they're playing again shortly - he thinks I might like them. He's right. I arrive at **St. Swithun's** just in time to catch a little gem of a set from **Bethany Roberts**, who despite being a tad nervous, manages among a string of self-penned songs to pull off the best solo

interpretation of The Cranberries' *'Zombie'* that I've ever heard. Keep an eye out for her!

The Blue Jays are simply wonderful. This turns out to be only their second performance, the first having been in the morning! Simple, uncluttered arrangements and glorious harmonies, which recall early material by Lily and Madeleine and latterly, **Wednesday's Wolves** are both easy on the ear, while avoiding drifting into dullness - not an easy balance to achieve. I'll be seeing more of them. Both these acts have a connection with **Brian Hoggard** of the Bromsgrove Rock School, whose students have performed with such distinction before at WMF.



Chambers called it a day (drummer **Eleanor Cara Churchill's** new band, **China Moon** played WMF on the Friday) former guitarist **Aeris Houlihan** has continued to explore the more Gothic and dark side of life with her new project. There is a brief acoustic prelude, the calm before the storm, then she and her tremendously hard working drummer launch themselves into what proves to be a most intense and visceral set, an unholy amalgam of industrial rock, grunge and doom. The material is drawn primarily from her album *"Queen of Insecurity"*, but to my great delight there's a couple of old Chambers numbers thrown into the mix. The song that defines the set for me though is the new single *'When You Fuck Me'*, a profoundly dystopian view of the destructive power of sex that sits right up there with Marianne Faithfull's, *'Why D'Ya Do It?'* A scarily brilliant performance and everything I'd hoped for.

Clashes, clashes everywhere... I've already missed performances by the excellent **Ecco Gecco**, **nth cave**, **Abi K**, **White Noise Cinema** and **Ria Plays** and goodness knows how many others this weekend and I end up missing almost all of **Tyler Massey's** set of muscular Americana at St. Swithun's - he's put a marvellous band together and the two songs I do get to hear leave me wanting to see him play again at the earliest opportunity.

Just one more to see.

There was a spectacular finale to my weekend with a truly breathtaking performance by **Will Lawton** on piano and vocals, **Weasel Howlett** on percussion and **Benny Fonzarelli** on a very hi-tech double bass.

Drawn from their debut album *"Fossils of the Mind"*, the set was melodic, inventive and satisfyingly lengthy - based loosely around a jazz framework with Lawton's sparkling piano work to the fore but incorporating ambient, psych and spoken word elements, it was one of those magical performances that you never wanted to end - we did our best, but after two encores, time finally ran out on us.

Reviews to write now, images to process and wonderful memories to take away with me..... Same time next year? Oh, go on then...

words & Photography by Geoffrey Head



Stopping for a pint and a sit down in **The Alma** (nice pub...) I realise I'm really flagging after three days as I walk just over the road to **The Firefly** to watch **Witch of the East**, one of my most eagerly anticipated events of the weekend. Since the wonderful

Hipflask Virgins @ Paradiddles, Friday

Following up their recent release of killer single *"Unintentional"*, local duo **Hipflask Virgins** headlined the same venue in which they filmed the video to the aforementioned track. Filling the **Paradiddles** gig room until there was no space to move - let alone headbang - the duo tore through a spectacular set of what was described by the band themselves as "approximately rock". Comprised of guitarist/vocalist **Jay Kimber Lawson-Pearce** and drummer **Will Diment**, the pair balanced louche desert-rock grooves with raw, grungy chaos, performed with all the style and presence necessary to end the first night of **Worcester Music Festival** with a bang.



Raptor @ Annie's Burger Shack, Saturday

Made up of brothers **Kurt** and **Adam Fletcher** and bassist **Nick Osborne**, Bristolian trio **Raptor** appeared onstage looking like a rock 'n' roll version of the Three Musketeers. Their sound was similarly skilful and flamboyant, evoking the off-kilter, classic-rock-meets-psychedelic heavy riffage of bands like Pond and King Gizzard and the Lizard Wizard. With effortless charm, Raptor packed out Annie's gig room and got the crowd moving on the second day of Worcester Music Festival. With groovy-yet-anthemnic garage-rock tracks like *"Dynamite (is Freedom!)"* and *"Escapism"*, these guys displayed impressive musical chops, infectious energy, and a knack for a good hook. Based on this performance, the future looks bright for **Raptor**.



The Jericho Racks @ Paradiddles, Saturday

Headlining the Saturday at **Paradiddles** were Worcester's own The Jericho Racks, made up of vocalist/guitarist **Jack Monopoli**, drummer **Rich Chaudhury**, and bassist **Jack Biltcliffe**. The **Jericho Racks'** brand of fuzzed-up, speedy blues riffs got the room moshing and the sweat dripping down the walls as all

suzzy rock bands should. Tight as a top E string and unrestrained as a tiger off the leash, the boys smashed their way through songs like *"Ten Tentacles"*, *"Easy to Be Afraid"*, and *"Kill Billy Elliot"*, before ending in a now-traditional crowd-surf. If you like your blues heavy, this is the band for you.

Tyler Massey Quartet @ St Swithin's Institute, Sunday

The **Tyler Massey Trio** are true Worcester Music Festival veterans, building up a loyal local fanbase over the last couple of years with their smart, anthemic folk-rock. Performing in the hallowed hall of **St Swithin's Institute**, and joined this time by violinist **Tilly Chester** to make up a quartet, the band played a blinding set of old favourites from well-known singalongs *"Whipping Boy"* and *"The Devil You Know"* to newer, more orchestrally-inspired compositions like *"I Was Wrong"* and *"Waltz for Lily"*. As ever, Tyler's voice and guitar were clear and strong, the rhythm section of **Alex Knight** and **Eric Hej** was tight and accomplished, and Tilly's violin added an incredible new dimension to the band's established sound.



HEY YOU GUYS! @ The Marr's Bar, Sunday

By the end of the Sunday, many of us were starting to flag after three days of dancing and headbanging in sweaty rooms with beer-sticky floors. Worcester four-piece "popular beat combo" **HEY YOU GUYS!** showed no signs of tiring, and brought a shot of energy back to the room in **The Marrs Bar**. Hot off the heels of the release of their *Difficult Second Album* (which is actually the name of the album), the band brought charismatic stage presence, crowd interaction (tracks like *"Record Deal"* had the room chanting the chorus), and a bunch of well-written, melodic rock songs with personality and humour.



Words: Dan Knight. Photography: Hipflask Virgins: sarah lissemore john
Raptor: Cerys John, Tyler Massey: James Green,
HEY YOU GUYS: Cerys John

Ruf Records Blues Caravan The Iron Road, Pershore | Friday 13th Sept

Another year, another summer, and another caravan on the road. This touring caravan is one that's welcomed with open arms. Three artists each with their own album to present, backed up by a great rhythm section have toured Europe before a series of dates around the UK. If ever there was a good example of cross European collaboration, this is it. The cast is of course international: From the US, Texas 'gunslinger', **Ally Venable**,; from Helsinki, feisty Finn **Ina Forsman**; and from Serbia, purring pianist **Katarina Pejak**. The rhythm boys are **Elijah Owings**, another Texan, and our own **Roger Innis** on bass, a man needing little introduction on these shores.



All three Ruf starlets have released albums this year, Ina released *Been Meaning To Tell You*, Katarina, *Roads That Cross* and Ally tempted us with *Texas Honey*. So no shortage of material for the show. Ally joined Elijah and Roger as guitarist for the evening, and Katarina dipped in to all the sets with her keyboards. Ina's instrument is her voice, a weapon of mass destruction. Ally's guitar dances over the pulsating rhythm to get the caravan rolling. Ina leads the way with *'They Say I'm Different'*, a guarantee to sign up for the caravan club. It pops and fizzles as the girls take turns to slot in their blues influences, from Elmore James all the way through to Betty Davis, totally riveting attention.

Ally is staying on stage throughout, scything her way through on guitar. Katarina takes vocal lead and introduces Roger to a loud cheer, she climbs aboard with her lovely piano for *'She's Coming After You'* - a sultry song that has a delicious tango rhythm, reminiscent of some of Caro Emerald's sweepings from the cutting floor, purred out by Pejak. She delivers the sassy Joplin *'Turtle Blues'*, and gives it a hip swaying swagger, caressing her keys with slender fingers. Ally adds sweet honeyed guitar, a tasty combination. Katarina has the style of the soulful blues singers, the likes of Billie, Dinah and Nina. Her voice closes around you like a warm fleece. A rocking *'Chasing Summer'* changes the tempo, time to dance before the floor is ceded to Ally.

Ally I'd seen a year back at 19 years old, joining Mike Zito and Bernard Allison on stage in the 'Big Apple'. I have to say, I'm blown away by how far she has come in that time. For me, her voice has found a rounder, richer, timbre, maybe more confidence, and her guitar seems to have extra bite, maybe its just me? She fires off with a fiery *'Texas Honey'*, a hard rockin' blues, Texas style.

Ally moves deeper into her set and changes to her Telecaster, and a fat slide sits across the neck, ready to get down and dirty for



the *'Devils Daughter'*, she's ready to "pack her things and go". But before she surrenders the vox to Ina, Ally produces a mesmerising Stevie Ray, *'Lenny'*, just pure guitar heaven.

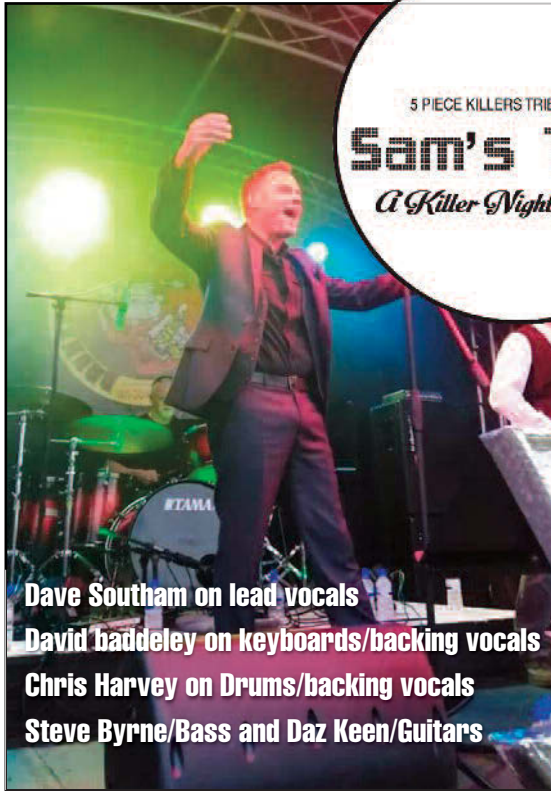
Ina has terrific stage presence, tightly swept back hair, smart jacket, culottes and wild spangly boots giving her the appearance of a pretty but severe business secretary. She delivers a jazz edged *'Why You Gotta Be That Way'* in an Winehouse like style with Roger adding funky bass with Katarina on piano. *'All Good'* follows with laid back, sumptuous, jazzy blues. A frothy *'Genius'* fills the floor with avant garde dancing as Ally bubbles up through the surface.



The Blues Caravan chicks take over with Bonnie Raitts *'Love Me Like A Man'*, as they swap vocal leads about, harmonising the chorus lines. A harmonic acapella opens into *'Sixteen Tons'* before they up the tempo. The girls finally sign out on a stonking *'The House Is A Rockin'*, and truly it was, before putting the cork back on the triple barrelled 2019 vintage **Blues Caravan**, and a dazzling evening at **The Iron Road**.

The Caravan has now departed back into Europe with dates in many countries, we are left with pondering on who will be aboard for 2020.

Graham Munn



5 PIECE KILLERS TRIBUTE BAND

Sam's Town

A Killer Night of Music

Dave Southam on lead vocals

David baddeley on keyboards/backing vocals

Chris Harvey on Drums/backing vocals

Steve Byrne/Bass and Daz Keen/Guitars

**At the
Marr's Bar
Sat 5th October
£8 tickets 8pm**

**Proceeds to
Oscar Saxelbey-Lee In aid of Leukaemia
Support - Ruben Seabright
& featuring Hannah & Emily**

A high energy show capturing the raw power of the killers. Taking the audience to the floor to celebrate the songs that are made famous by chart toppers the Killers. The set list is made up of all the hits from the last 20 years. We come equipped with pa and lighting. We are taking bookings for festivals, corporate events, theatres, weddings etc

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Glovebox Presents... **Over The Hill** Cogges Farm, Witney | 26th Sept

As ever, the summer months bring the nation alive to the sound of music, with the ever-growing popularity of festivals, it seems like every field is given over to merry makers for the long weekend of May – August. We may have seen a number of events sadly drop off the yearly line-up, but you don't have to look far to find a replacement.

Of course, with such a deluge of festivals it becomes a little harder to choose which to attend. When Oxford based promoters **Glovebox** announced **Over The Hill**, my attention immediately piqued, having been regularly seduced by their curated stages at the likes of Wychwood, as well as nights over in Witney and Oxford. By August Bank Holiday, **Over The Hill** had sold out, following their announcement of a who's who of UK Americana, topped by personal favourites, **Danny & The Champions Of The World** for their only UK gig of the year. 400 likeminded souls descended on the beautiful **Cogges Farm**, its Tithe Barn stages set for a sun-drenched day of music.

Continuing the Americana theme, the two stages (only metres apart) were aptly named Austin and Nashville, and it was the former that saw local country hero **Ags Connolly** kick off proceedings with a set of honky-tonk ballads that could have been beamed directly from a Texan bar. Plucking out a mix of old favourites, and taking the opportunity to road test his soon-to-be-released third album, Ags' warm baritone and acoustic strum held the early birds, enrapt by the likes of *"The Meaning Of The Word"*, *"Wrong Again"* and *"Haunts Like This"*. Connolly finished off with a knowing grin and the infectious, *"I Hope You're Unhappy"*, to the audience's delight.



After a quick detour to the bar, it was time to head next door for the inaugural act of the larger **Nashville stage** for **The Niall Kelly Band**. After the stripped back, purist set by Ags, it was exhilarating to watch as Niall and his cohorts mixed and matched blues, rock 'n' roll, folk and of course Americana. Lashings of funky Nord keys, a driving rhythm section, twin electrics and roving violin united for a rollicking *"Burned By A Little Love"*, whilst the preceding title track of Kelly's latest album, *Promenade*, proved the band equally adept at the stripped-back, gorgeous, rootsy slice of contagious, Celtic-tinged Americana. Kelly and his band continued to engage throughout their well-received and diverse set, filled with instant hooks, searching solo spots and well-mannered, tongue in cheek banter.

A hushed barn welcomed **Sian Chandler** and **Ray Hughes**, otherwise known as **The Black Feathers**, to the Austin Stage. Sharing one mic, the duo proceeded to deliver a mesmeric set of intimate folk laments and acoustic, bluesy southern rock. The attentive audience gathered in close, as delicate strums and intertwining vocals swooped and soared between husband and wife, delivering a beautiful *"Down By The River"*, followed by the equally beguiling *"Holy Water"* and *"Ghosts Have Eaten Well"*. An

unexpected and stirring rendition of Portishead's *"Glory Box"* comes before the hook-laden twang of the newly released *"3 Stars (And A Country Song)"*, bringing the curtain down on yet another memorable performance by the ever impressive **'Black Feathers'**.

Within the opening bars of **William The Conqueror's** set, it became apparent why the trio have become firm **Glovebox** favourites. Fronted by acclaimed singer-songwriter **Ruarri Joseph**, the trio use blues and Americana as their base point, stirring in a hefty dollop of indie and even grunge, to create a compelling sound that hints at such unlikely bedfellows as The Lemonheads, Springsteen and The Doors. Cranking up the guitar, the opening *"Madness On The Line"* delivers a bolt of electricity through the audience, inspiring the collective to kick out any lingering inhibitions. Joseph pawed at his guitar knowingly, dispatching gravelly words of wisdom as the rhythm section of Naomi Holmes and **Harry Harding** (bass and drums) pound and coo in unison. The likes of the addictive indie rock of *"Path Of The Crow"*, the half spoken, half drawled *"Bleeding On The Soundtrack"* and the stripped back roots of *"The Burden"* further seduced the audience, so much so that the band were encouraged to deliver the first encore of the day!



Rutland troubadour **Paul McClure** was next to tread Austin's boards, with Clubhouse Records alumni the **Tipping brothers (Danny and Tristan)** for company. Opening with *"Market Town"*, McClure settled into a stripped back set of folksy laments that once again left the barn hushed and attentive, lapping up Paul's typically witty onstage patter between songs. McClure left a little *"Ray Of Sunshine"*, encouraging an infectious sing-a-long before exiting with an equally enticing, *"This Must Be What They Mean (When They Sing About The Blues)"*.

From Rutland, we head to the Appalachian Mountains for **Naomi Bedford, Paul Simmonds** and **The Ramshackle Band**, who deliver an inspired set of country and folk ballads. Opening with *"Hangman"* (or *"Gallows Pole"*, in the hands of Led Zeppelin), husband and wife duo Bedford and Simmonds traded vocals across a fascinating set of ballads, such as the traditional *"Rich Irish Lady"*, *"In Pines"* and *"Hands On The Plough"*, with their own *"Ramshackle House"* sitting comfortably between tales of yesteryear.



Whether a full on electric band (**Niall Kelly, William The Conqueror**), or the stripped-back acoustic of **The Black Feathers**, the audience remained enamoured, responding accordingly and filling out the twin stages. The final Austin band, duo **Trevor Moss** and Hannah Lou, shared a mic to trade lines, delivering a gorgeous set of lowkey laments. Both *"We Should Have Gone Dancing"* and *"Fair Lady London"* proved early highlights as the duo exchange words, wrapped in a bed of delicately plucked guitar.

After a short delay, **Danny & The Champions Of The World**

took the Nashville stage, rounding off proceedings. An extended run through "The Colonel And The King", the band quickly shook off any thoughts of ring rust, as lap steel, saxophone, keys and guitar helped lay foundations. **The Champs** wowed the crowd with something of a fan favourites set, from "This Is Not A Love Story" to "Stay True, Leave It All Behind", the band stretched out, taking their cues to deliver impassioned solos, led by a smiling Wilson. The appearance of compare and Glovebox cohort



Adrian Phillips signalled the audience to lift their voices to the heavens, as the Champs returned for a run at "Over The Hill", before sending us out into the night.

The first (and hopefully now annual) **Over The Hill Festival** was a resounding success on every level, meticulously organised so you could see every minute of every band, if you should choose (and I did), the sell-out audience were all there for the music, helping to enhance the experience. The idyllic setting couldn't have been better and as for the programming, well with **Glovebox** it's satisfaction guaranteed.

Checkout the Glovebox website for their regular nights
www.gloveboxlive.uk

Will Munn

Live @ the Lamb & Flag

The Tything, Worcester
Sundays 8-10pm

October Listings

6th - Claire Boswell

13th - Will Killeen

20th - Jeremy Johnson

27th - Jake of Diamonds



@SugoLambAndFlag



lambandflagworce

Simon Deeley's *Blue Haze*

THE BARRELS
HEREFORD

69 St. Owen Street
Hereford HR1 2JQ

Wednesday
30th Oct 7.45pm



Special Album Launch Night

In this feature night at The Barrels, the borders based group will perform the tracks from their new CD **Afan's Dance** (just released). The album contains 9 tracks, all originals, composed by leader and keyboard player Simon Deeley. Rhythm-packed, in-the-groove, jazz-fusion tracks, alongside gentle atmospheric ballads. Catch the heady vibes of **The Velvet Blue**, **Smooth Groove Jozano** and **Hey! C.C.**, and the reflective, gentle flow of **Weaver of the Tales**, **On Afan's Dance** and **Dream Reflections**.

Tickets £6 Tel: 07890 303681 & 01432 274968



Press Club

Annie's Burger Shack | Sept 3rd

Strewth! Bloody oath! Ripper! What a night! This Aussie quartet who play a mixture of punk/post-punk with a slight metal/rock tinge at times hail from Melbourne and formed in 2016, although all had performed in various local bands previously.

Holed up for 10 hours a day for weeks on end, their first release "*Late Teens*" is a delight and did not go unnoticed locally and on the back of their small European tour earlier this year, a return to these shores was always on the cards. Selling out on a Tuesday night at **Annie's Burger Shack** is no mean feat but with performances at both Reading and Leeds festivals under their belt this may have generated some welcome interest. Way to go Worcester! Great support from **Watch Commander** and **The Earnest Spears**, both impressive and very entertaining and they more than turned it on. The crowd were eager with anticipation for the star attraction and you could literally feel it. From the Mohican haired punk, Goth girls, young lads, all wearing **Press Club** T's with excitement etched on their youthful faces and a varied mixed-age audience we waited with bated breath.

Let the onslaught begin. **Natalie Foster**, the powerhouse vocalist moves slowly towards the front of the stage and gingerly almost seductively removes the band from her ponytail, a blonde mass cascades down her shoulders and then steely-eyed, focused and looking into the faces before her, some just inches away, she's transformed into some sort of punk goddess when the first bars of *Separate Houses* kick-off. This first track from their recent release "*Wasted Energy*" does not disappoint. The band are so tight it's simply joyous. The amazing talents of guitarist **Greg Rietwyk** who plays effortlessly, bassist **Iain Macrae** so in synch, and drummer extraordinaire **Frank Lees** just blend beautifully



together that you feel it's just one glorious instrument. You could instantly feel that this was going to be special and something you don't get to be part of every day.

The set was fast and furious at times, excuse the pun, but also slowed down for tracks *Suburbia*, a personal favourite from "*Late Teens*" and "*Thinking About You*" from "*Wasted Energy*". Playing a blistering set covering 8 tracks from the new release and 6 from their debut, the 90 minutes or so flew by. Highlights were the aforementioned young lads who went crazy, jumping around, slam dancing and creating their own little mosh pit and Natalie's stage presence was something extra special. She had everyone eating out of the palm of her hand right from the start. When she said jump, we jumped in unison and it instantly took me back to my youth of the 70's. Punk ruled. The little pocket rocket, writhed on the floor, still singing perfectly in tune, every word crystal clear, hair everywhere, sang to individuals close up and breathed heavily into the mic between songs which was sexy in a good way.

As Melbourne music icon Molly Meldrum often says, "*Do yourself a favour*" so please do check out the **Press Club**. You will be far beyond happy. It's on repeat in my household and my favourite track changes daily as the quality and calibre of every track is just phenomenal. - Reliving my youth and it feels good.

Words: Karen Mulhearn Photo: Jack Thorpe

Wayne Hussey + Evi Fine

The Marris Bar, Worcester | 27th Aug

The Mission have always been one of those band's I've been aware of, listened to a few tracks, but never fully committed to, despite spending more time with contemporaries, *Sisters Of Mercy* and *Bauhaus*. So, when **Wayne Hussey** announced a long-awaited return to **The Marris Bar**, I thought it must be time to delve a little deeper.

A packed-out venue of mostly unfamiliar faces greet regular Hussey supporter and collaborator **Evi Fine**, alongside guitarist **Steven Hill**, for a short opening set. Lifting from her most recently released album *Black//Light//White//Dark*, Vine and Hill set about creating shimmering effects-driven soundscapes, whilst Evi emotes with a voice that, at times, conjures memories of both *Beth Gibbons* (*Portishead*) and *Julianne Regan* (*All About Eve*). One minute she's haunting, the next she's soaring majestically over the wall of glacial guitars. By the end of Vine's thirty-or-so minute turn, Evi has managed to seduce a good portion of the partisan Hussey faithfuls, with her bewitching tones, leaving the stage to a greatly-deserved show of appreciation (though it's a shame this level of respect wasn't given throughout her set).



A polite surge towards the front signals Hussey to the stage, accompanied only by guitar, keys, a bank of pedals and backing triggers, and opening with *Bowie's "After All"* before delving into his solo back-catalogue. Early call-outs for *Mission* favourites are brushed away with the respect they deserve, as Hussey reaches for his recently released autobiography, *Salad Daze*, for a reading involving *Madonna*, *Joey Ramone* and a brush with customs. Guitar back in hand, Hussey masters a delicious run through "*Love Me Two Times*" (*The Doors*), followed by *The Mission's "Garden Of Delight"*, the audience mouthing words back in delirious appreciation of their hero.

Whether exploring his own catalogue or paying tribute to other musicians, Hussey can do no wrong. A stark piano rendition of "*Hurt*" (*Nine Inch Nails*, or *Cash*, if you prefer) proves that Wayne is equally at home behind the keys as he is with six string in hand. A stirring "*Like A Hurricane*" (*Neil Young*), *The Mission's "Belief"* and "*Wasteland*" are all met with rapturous applause, before a further reading from *Salad Daze* is delivered to the transfixed room. "*Severina*" sees Hussey bring Evi back out to float over his own weathered lead, before bringing the curtain down on a captivating evening with "*Tower Of Strength*".

As I head out to leave, I notice the number of old *Mission* shirts queuing at the merch table for a replacement or first copy of *Salad Daze*, while I make a mental note to check out Wayne Hussey/*The Mission's* back-catalogue, leaving as enamoured as an old faithful.

Will Munn

Tuesday 01 October 2019

Masterworks Concert
Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham

Wednesday 02 October 2019

Bell Lungs, Deathly Pale Party
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Franc Cinelli
Café Rene, Gloucester

Andy Thomas
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Huw Chidgey
Carpenters Arms, Miserden, Stroud

The Dragon Folk Club: Resident's Night
The Draggon, Worcester

Thursday 03 October 2019

We Bless This Mess, Connor O'rouke, Ash Lewis
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Howling Tides, Kikamora, Night Laser
The Iron Road, Pershore

UB40 Solo Tribute
Arches, Bewdley

Tim Grimm
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Steve Steinman's Anything For Love
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Dave Sharp
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Dan Graham
Tank, Gloucester

Fear
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

White Noise Cinema, Chube, Esther Turner, Jessie Reid
Worley's At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Alice Wallace & Her Band, Marzy & The Marr's Bar House Band
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Vinny Peculiar
The Plough, Worcester

China Crisis - Retrospective
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Alvin & The Angry Barrels, Cheating Lights
Left Bank, Hereford

Weirdshire With C Joynes
Babar Cafe, Hereford

Kidderminster Jazz Club Featuring Wendy Kirkland
Kidderminster Town Hall, Kidderminster

The Silver Dollar Honkytonk
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Polly Edwards
The Oil Basin, Worcester

Huw Knight Viv Bell
The Barn, Ledbury

Luke Doherty & Simon Parratt
The Barn, Ledbury

Friday 04 October 2019

Gloucester Country Music Festival Taster
Multiple Venues, Gloucester

Hannah Law, Immy & The Boatman
Archway 49 (Worcester Brewing Co.), Worcester

Uncover: Velvet Tides, The Silver Lines, Benedict Ludlow
Annie's Burger Shack, Worcester

Hannah James & The Jigdoll Ensemble
Malvern Cube, Malvern

Joe Wheldon
The Anchor Inn, Eckington, Pershore

Chloe Mogg
Cock & Magpie, Bewdley

Riché
No.3A, Bromsgrove

The Ron Jeremy Band
Bromsgrove Rugby Club, Bromsgrove

The Reflections
The Hanbury Turn, Bromsgrove

Wingwalkers
The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Fawner, Iii Will, King Cove
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Texas Tick Fever
The Crown & Sceptre, Stroud

Ferris & Sylvester, Roseanne Reid, Demi Marriner, Harry Daniels
Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Bryn Thomas
The Bell, Tewkesbury

Seething Akira, Rollin Sixes
Althelt, Cheltenham

Union Of Strings
The Royal, Cheltenham

The Bon Jovi Experience
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Charlie Waterford Cabaret Night
Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Harry Baldwin
The Longlands Tavern, Stourbridge

Felix Rabin
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Voodoo Blue
The Talbot, Knightwick

Jon Townley
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, The Lye, Stourbridge

The Hypothetics, Brian Wilcox
Café Rene, Gloucester

Paul O'neil
Tank, Gloucester

Jay & Eli
The Bush Inn, St. Johns, Worcester

The Murmur
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Jack & The Vox
Hallmark Hotel, Gloucester

The Revolvers
Saintbridge Sport Centre, Gloucester

Danny McMahon
Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

Two Ways Home
The Fountains Inn, Gloucester

Hay Nawr
The Globe, Hay On Wye

Con Jovi
Gordon Bennett's, Hereford

Percy Veer Band
The Millers Arms, Pershore

Tasha Leaper As Madonna
Swan Theatre, Worcester

Andrew Marc
The Wobbly Brewery, Hereford

The Goldblums
Secret Garden, Hereford

The Secret Cabaret
The Sociable Beer Company, Worcester

Gordon Hendricks As Elvis
The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Luke Daniels
The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Viv Mclean On Piano
Royal Porcelain Works, Worcester

Quill
The Rose, Kidderminster

Fret Wolf
The Maverick, Stourbridge

Polly Edwards
The Bell, Pensax, Worcester

Orchestra Of The Swan: Mozart in Cuba
The Market Theatre, Ledbury

Ben Wildsmith
The Barn, Ledbury

Midnight City
Queen's Head, Wolverley

Melvyn Hancox
Red Lion, Evesham

Biffy Mcclyro (Biffy Clyro Tribute)
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Saturday 05 October 2019

Oktoberfest - Live Music From Middy
The Bluebell Inn, Malvern

The Oddfellows
The Black Boy Inn, Bewdley

The Oohz, The Lost Path
Archway 49 (Worcester Brewing Co.), Worcester

The Fabulous Bordellos
Cross Keys, Malvern

The Tyler Massey Trio, Liz Pearman, Hannah Law
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Mel & Him
The Unicorn, Malvern

The Fearless Scoundrels
The Cross Keys, Alcester

Elkapath, Ria Plays, The More You Know,
The Lower George Inn, Gloucester

Chaos
Headless Cross Green, Redditch

Cao Laru

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Country Music Bonanza

Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

Fret Wolf

The Rose And Crown, Wordsley, Stourbridge

Sons Of Navarone

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Vintage Inc.

The Swan, Evesham

Facestealers

The Cavalier, Kidderminster

Lekan Babalola's Sacred Funk Featuring Clarinettist Kate**Luxmoore**

St Laurence Church & Hall, Stroud

Stephen Hough Plays Rachmaninov

Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham

Leveret

Lansdown Hall, Stroud

Bell Lungs, Scotton Drive

The Museum in The Park, Stroud

Brennie Richards

Stroud Brewery, Stroud

Dire Streets

Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Binomial

The Albion, Tewkesbury

Angie King Duo

Dumbleton Village Club, Tewkesbury

Thirsty Work

The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

The Pagans

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Noughty Nineties

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Malvern Roots Club Tribute To The Emperor: Ital Sounds,**Drum Love**

Newtown Club, Malvern

Fret Wolf

He Rose & Crown, Wordsley, Stourbridge

Cult Fiction

The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Railroad

Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

The Starving Rascals

The Talbot, Knightwick

Abba Tribute

Stanton Village Club, Evesham

Angie King Duo

Dumbleton Village Club, Evesham

P2M

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, The Lye, Stourbridge

Vintage Inc

The Swan Inn, Evesham

Jay & Eli

The Swan, Barbourne, Worcester

JP Band

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Stevie O'connor

Café Rene, Gloucester

Demi Marriner

Brewhouse & Kitchen, Gloucester

J O B

The Cross Keys, Gloucester

Benny Jay

The Old Beams, Stourport-On-Severn

The Fireballs Uk

The Chestnut, Worcester

Polkadot Robot

The Pillar Of Salt, Droitwich

Custard Connection

Gordon Bennett's, Hereford

John Robins: Hot Shame

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Cream Limousine

The Cricketers, Worcester

Hills Angels

The Green Dragon, Malvern

Waw Live Lounge

Worcester Arts Workshop, Worcester

Sultana Brothers

Secret Garden, Hereford

Two Push Charlie

The Vaga Tavern, Hereford

Gordon Hendricks As Elvis

The Artrix, Bromsgrove

36 SLAP OCTOBER**Duotone**

The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Red Hot Riot

Northwick Arms, Worcester

Witcher

Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Quill

The Rose, Kidderminster

Virtually Jay Kay

Pin Wolverley Sports And Social Club, Kidderminster

Fret Wolf

The Rose & Crown, Wordsley, Stourbridge

Mandolin Orchestra

Hobsons Brewery, Kidderminster

Rod Picott

St George'S Hall, Bewdley

Dave Peabody And Regina Mudrich

The Fold, Bransford, Worcester

Ruffnecks

The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Classic Candy

The Kingsford, Wolverley, Kidderminster

Superfuz

Far Forest Caravan Park, Kidderminster

Rise

The Barn, Ledbury

Sams Town (Killers Tribute)

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Tom Davies

The Swan Inn, Barbourne, Worcester

Sunday 06 October 2019**Rock For Heroes**

Number 8, Pershore

Men in General - A Capella Quadruplets

Feckenham Village Hall, Redditch

Tyler & Vo

Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Mik Artistiks Ego Trip

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Buddy Holly And The Cricketers

The Sub Rooms, Stroud

Non Jovi

The Albion, Tewkesbury

Cover Charge

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Meg Shaw

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Dave Peabody (5:30pm)

The Chestnut, Worcester

Claire Boswell

The Lamb & Flag, Worcester

The Lower Deckers (5pm)

Babar Cafe, Hereford

The Delray Rockets

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Hannah Law

Bottles, Worcester

The Gts

The Weavers, Kidderminster

Nicole Sherwood (5pm)

The Imperial, Worcester

Stuart Davies

Red Lion, Evesham

Katy Hurt & Band (4pm)

The Barn, Ledbury

Tuesday 08 October 2019**Don Giovanni**

Number 8, Pershore

Alessi'S Ark

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Fairport Convention

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Wednesday 09 October 2019**Sumer, Fractions**

Althelt, Cheltenham

Mark Cole, Liam Ward

Café Rene, Gloucester

Ct Riders

Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Anna Tivel & Jeffrey Martin

Guildhall, Gloucester

Amy Goddard

Carpenters Arms, Miserden, Stroud

Andy Fairweather Low & The Low Riders Featuring The Hi Riders Soul Revue
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Porcupine Trees, The Tirth, Hey Jester
Kidderminster Town Hall, Kidderminster

Thursday 10 October 2019

Millie May
Arches, Bewdley

Genesis Legacy
Palace Theatre, Redditch

The Strays
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Mallory Knox, Led By Lanterns, Elessar, Midweek
Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Fun Lovin' Crime Writers
Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

The Achievers, The Shaggy Dog Raconteurs
Smokey Joe's Coffee Bar, Cheltenham

Hot Stuff Coming Through
The Lucky Onion, Cheltenham

Whitney - Queen Of The Night
Malvern Theatres, Malvern

Black Country Brass Band
Stourbridge Town Hall, Stourbridge

Ian Silk Trio
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Loz Rabone
Tank, Gloucester

Headspace
The Fountain Inn, Gloucester

Orchestra Of The Swan Present: Tales Of The City
The Courtyard, Hereford

Simply Rered
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Mark Cole & Liam Ward
The Barn, Ledbury

Friday 11 October 2019

Raptor, With Special Guests:, Nuns Of The Tundra & Moon Goose,
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Iain Matthews (With Ian Clayton) Songs & Stories
Malvern Cube, Malvern

Sammy K, Arms And Hearts, Mixtape Saints
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Word Of Mouth Single Launch, Zilch. Luna Orchid
Annie's Burger Shack, Worcester

Doomsday Outlaw Daxx. Roxanne Surrge Hired Guns
The Iron Road, Pershore

The Westenders
Number 8, Pershore

Shades Of Grey
The Old Chestnut Tree Inn, Pershore

Jack Goodall + Friends
Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

Rhiannon - A Tribute To Fleetwood Mac
Palace Theatre, Redditch

Chloe Mogg
No.3A, Bromsgrove

Dan Greenaway
Holiday Inn, Bromsgrove

Scott Mickelson
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Folk In The Foyer: The Redhills
Conquest Theatre, Bromyard

No Violet, CIt Drp, Quite Pills
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Gaz Brookfield, B-Sydes
Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Gareth Lemon
The Cheltenham Stable, Cheltenham

Mitch Benn: Ten Songs To Save The World
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Lung Money, The Vigil, Second Self, Death Is A Girl
2 Pigs, Cheltenham

Sax Appeal
Bluebell Inn, Malvern

Bootique
London Inn, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham

Alesund, Sleuth, Grand Valise
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Ultimate Coldplay
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

The Streamers
Red Lion, Stourbridge

Crow Black Chicken
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Sauce City Jazz
The Ark At St Laurence Church, Alvechurch

Arcadia Roots, Alan Sheward
The Rocklands Club, Redditch

Final 4
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, The Lye, Stourbridge

The Swamp Stomp String Band
Café Rene, Gloucester

Alex Chapman
Tank, Gloucester

Chicago Bytes
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Roy Carter, Soul & Motown Charity Night
Walls Club, Gloucester

The Humdrum Express
The Black Boy, Bewdley

Megan Dixon Hood
The Globe, Hay On Wye

Dan & King Rich
The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

Lung Money, The Vigil, Second Self, Death Is A Girl
The 2 Pigs, Cheltenham

The Violets
Gordon Bennett'S, Hereford

Good Knight Hall Duo
Left Bank, Hereford

Pwca
Left Bank, Hereford

A Band Called Malice
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

The Ferrets
The Millers Arms, Pershore

True Gold
Swan Theatre, Worcester

Oasis Vs Stone Roses
Hallow Village Hall, Worcester

Ensemble Échos: Paris J'Taime
Be The Change Foods, Worcester

Bromsgrove Concerts Navarra String Quartet
The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Kerry Smyth
Hickory's Smokehouse, Worcester

Ewan Pollock
YE OLDE TALBOT HOTEL, Worcester

11 Little Eagle
Hagley Golf Club, Worcester

Terry
The Bush Inn, St. Johns, Worcester

Martin And Eliza Carthy And Friends
The Mercure Hotel, Bewdley

Radio Rumours
Cleobury Mortimer Social Club, Kidderminster

Lost Cat, Martin Thorne, Tone Tanner
Foley's Cafe, Worcester

Melvin Hancox Band
Queens Head, Wolverley

Jay & Eli
Red Lion, Evesham

Saturday 12 October 2019

Freeway
The Swan Inn, Barbourne, Worcester

Chewie, The Hills Angels
Barnards Green Cricket Club, Malvern

Uncover: George N The Giants, The Space, Sunglo, The Earnest Spears
Annie's Burger Shack, Worcester

Jake Martin, Toby Charles, Redwood
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Mel & Him
Cross Keys, Malvern

Anne-Marie Sanderson
The Ale House, Colwall, Malvern

Bang Bang Billie
The Unicorn, Malvern

American Hitmen, Tba, Trident Waters, Black Tree Vultures
The Iron Road, Pershore

Foyer Folk: Chris Elliot & Caitlin Jones
Number 8, Pershore

Imaner, Garth Kirkham, Alan Sheward
St Stephens Church, Redditch

The Marwills
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

C-Jam

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Alice Wallace, Broken Bones Matilda
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Mad Dog Mcrea
The Sub Rooms, Stroud

Cheltenham Symphony Orchestra
Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham

Molly-Anne
Shambles Market, Stroud

The Dirk Spangle Five
The Queen Vic, Stroud

John Broomhall
Stroud Brewery, Stroud

Simply Rered
Rosés Theatre, Tewkesbury

The Members // Plus The Q, Rebel Station
Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

The Sounds Of Broadway
Watson Hall, Tewkesbury

Chimp On A Bike
The Bayshill, Cheltenham

After Dark
The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

London Black
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Gaz Brookfield
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

The Charlton Blues Kings
The Exmouth Arms, Cheltenham

George Michael - Randall Butler
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Dan & King Rich
Red House Boutique, Stourbridge

Rattlesnake Jake
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, The Lye, Stourbridge

The Salt Road
The Green Dragon, Malvern

One Dementia
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Bryn Thomas
The Lower Lode Inn, Gloucester

Jive Talkin
The Civic, Stourport-On-Severn

The Dudettes
The Club At Tuffley Park, Gloucester

Anne-Marie Sanderson, Lynn Lee, Ken Appleby
The Ale House, Colwall

Lenny James And The Gaitor Squad
Woodland Cottage, Redditch

Bright Shiners
The Globe, Hay On Wye

XL5
The Chestnut, Worcester

Motown'S Greatest Hits: How Sweet It Is
The Courtyard, Hereford

Polkadot Robot
The Virgin Tavern, Worcester

Fronrunner
Gordon Bennett'S, Hereford

Jordan Au
Left Bank, Hereford

The English Dulcimer Duo
Great Malvern Priory, Malvern

Strictly Nashville
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Quadrophenia Night
The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Kidderminster Festival Orchestra - Autumn Concert
Kidderminster Town Hall, Kidderminster

Crows & Crosses, Electric Raptor
The Boar's Head, Kidderminster

Midland Youth Jazz Orchestra
Trinity High School, Redditch

Rob Lloyd
The Kingsford, Wolverley, Kidderminster

Kemastree
Reet Petite, Leominster

Anne-Marie Sanderson
The Ale House, Ledbury

Dave Beale
Callow End Club, Worcester

Guns Or Roses (Guns N Roses Tribute)
The Marris Bar, Worcester

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Sunday 13 October 2019

Edd Donovan - Album Launch
Shush Bar, Cheltenham

Mice in A Matchbox
Nottingham Arms, Tewkesbury

Make Mine A Double
Red Lion, Evesham

Shed Reckers (3pm)
Richmond Place Club, Hereford

Chloe Mogg
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Ben Jay
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Lenny James And The Gaitor Squad
Vaughans, Redditch

Another Country (5:30pm)
The Chestnut, Worcester

Will Killeen
The Lamb & Flag, Worcester

John Paul Ekins
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

The Outcast (5pm)
The Imperial, Worcester

Dave Beale
Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Tuesday 15 October 2019

Si Connelly
Smokey Joe's Coffee Bar, Cheltenham

Tommaso Starace All-Star Power Trio
Chapel Arts, Cheltenham

Wednesday 16 October 2019

That'LI Be The Day
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Jack Flint
Café Rene, Gloucester

Big Q Fish
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Dark Island
Carpenters Arms, Miserden, Stroud

The Dragon Folk Club: Set 'Em Up Joe
The Draggon, Worcester

Thursday 17 October 2019

Andrew Riverstone
The Barn, Ledbury

Fcs Presents: Proud Mary + Support
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Soul Sensation Dayton
Arches, Bewdley

Esmé Quartet
Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham

Once in A Blue Moon, Luna And The Moonhounds, Beaver & The Foghorns, All Dead, All Dead
The Bottle Of Sauce, Cheltenham

That'LI Be The Day
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Gareth Lemon
The Botanist, Cheltenham

Folk in The Foyer: Slainte
Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

Lewis Clark & The Essentials
Tank, Gloucester

Mark Stevenson
The Plough, Worcester

The Fragile Hearts
Babar Café, Hereford

The Terry Clarke Band
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Friday 18 October 2019

Men in General
Elmslie House, Malvern

Ruben Seabright
Colwall Park Hotel, Malvern

Nwocr, Matt Long Band, False Hearts, 3Sixty
The Iron Road, Pershore

Legend - The Music Of Bob Marley
Palace Theatre, Redditch

Chessi O'dowd
No.3A, Bromsgrove

Legend
The Dog And Pheasant, Bromsgrove

Tokyo Station
The Hanbury Turn, Bromsgrove

Free Spirit Sounds

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Rich Dickenson Driving Force

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Stroud Shindig

The Sub Rooms, Stroud

Hermans Hermits, The Merseybeats, The Marmalade, Wayne**Fontana And The Mindbenders, Love Affair S – Steve Ellis**

Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

The Rheingans Sisters

Ruskin Mill College, Stroud

Tobias Robertson

The Cheltenham Stable, Cheltenham

Union Of Strings

Chapel Arts, Cheltenham

The Ex-Kittens

2 Pigs, Cheltenham

Bleed Again, Break Fifty

Aitchelt, Cheltenham

Far From Home

The Feathered Fish, Cheltenham

Van Ray

Red Lion, Evesham

The Rhythm Slingers

The Royal, Cheltenham

Funke And The Two Tone Baby

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

The Reflections

Droitwich Working Men's Club, Droitwich

Winchcombe Live: Stompin Dave

White Hart, Winchcombe

The Phonics

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

David Laine

Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Shenanigans Showcase: Tokyo Riot Police

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Out Of The Shadows

Amblecote British Legion, Stourbridge

Voodoo Blue

Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Adam Langham And Friends

The Rocklands Club, Redditch

The Missing Lynx

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, The Lye, Stourbridge

Cut Throat Francis

Café Rene, Gloucester

Sam Draisey

Tank, Gloucester

Jay & Eli

The Bell, St. Johns, Worcester

Area 51

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Linforth & I

The Lower Lode Inn, Gloucester

The Follicles

The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

Michael King'S 'On Tour With Elvis' Show

The Courtyard, Hereford

Cheating Lights, Cupcake Diaz, El Monstro

Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

The Forfeits

Gordon Bennett'S, Hereford

Steffan Thould

Left Bank, Hereford

Soul Stripper

The Millers Arms, Pershore

Michael Buble Tribute Evening

Three Counties Hotel, Hereford

Chronicles Of Zee

Hogarths, Hereford

The Desperados Uk

The Sociable Beer Company, Worcester

The Ferrets

Bluebell Inn, Malvern

The Ron Jeremy Band

Drummonds, Worcester

Jenny Sturgeon

The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Swinghoppers Performing Live And Dj Phat Sam

Whitehouse Hotel, Worcester

Uncle Jim

The Redman, Kidderminster

Dan & King Rich

Hobsons Brewery, Kidderminster

Peas Duo

Land Oak, Kidderminster

Skewwhiff, Attila The Stockbroker

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Kick The Fridge

Queens Head, Wolverley

Saturday 19 October 2019**R.E.M.\Stipe**

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Fifty4 Soul Band

Cross Keys, Malvern

Fifty4

The Cross Keys, Malvern

The Jericho Racks, Building Giants, The Sunlight Machine

Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

The Julie July Band

The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Witcher

The Express, Malvern

Son Of John

The Black Boy, Bewdley

Just Adam

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Simon Goodall & The Bourne Again Shadows

Number 8, Pershore

Granny's Attic

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Death Is A Girl + Others Tbc

Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

Bee Gees Fever

Palace Theatre, Redditch

Times Are A-Changin

Palace Theatre, Redditch

Quo Motion

Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Nicholson

The Winyates Bar & Grill, Redditch

Kerri Hoffman

The Golden Lion, Bromsgrove

The Db End Of The World Band

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Will Killeen Band

Archway 49 (Worcester Brewing Co.), Worcester

Euco – Romantic Music For Strings

The Sub Rooms, Stroud

Live On Mars: A Tribute To David Bowie

Malvern Theatres, Malvern

Liam Ward Band

The Ale House, Stroud

Greg Brice

Stroud Brewery, Stroud

Press To Meco, Chapter & Verse, I The Lion, Common Spit

Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Wishbone Ash

Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Steve Place

Dumbleton Village Club, Tewkesbury

The Quick Beats

The Railway Inn, Studley

The Hush

The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

The Rockarolas

Albion House Social Club, Cheltenham

Risky Galore

Charlton King's Club & Institute, Cheltenham

Monkey Jam

Harry Cook Free House, Cheltenham

Tameka Jackson As Diana Ross

St Andrews Town Hotel, Droitwich

He Sound Of Springsteen

The Regal, Evesham

Buzzfest 2: Tyrannosaurus Nebulous

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Bomba Rock

The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Witcher

The Express Inn, Malvern

Steve Place

Dumbleton Village Club, Evesham

Wingwalkers

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, The Lye, Stourbridge

 OCD

The Swan Inn, Evesham

Ian Luther

The Green Dragon, Malvern

Gavin Miller
Archway 49, Worcester Brewing Company, Worcester

Boo Hewerdine, Yvonne Lyon, The Last Train
Spaces, Gloucester

Big Fat Shorty
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Robinson-Stone: The Music Of Clifford T. Ward
The Civic, Stourport-On-Severn

The Gatecrashers
The Cross Keys, Gloucester

James Baker
The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

Leo
The Pilot Inn, Hardwick, Gloucester

The Luke Doherty Band
The Globe, Hay On Wye

Derek & The Checkmates
The Chestnut, Worcester

Cheating Lights, Luna Orchid, Hollywood Eyes
Firefly, Hereford

Fired Up
Gordon Bennett's, Hereford

Mike Ruddick 'The Perfect Way'
Left Bank, Hereford

The Overtones
Holme Lacey Hotel, Hereford

The Lightweight, Social Outcasts, The Bears
Worcester Arts Workshop, Worcester

Indian October
The Fold, Bransford, Worcester

Ronnie Scott's All Stars
The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Sundown Jazz Society, Sproatly Smith, T.R.E.B.L.E.
The Black Lion, Hereford

Tom The Frog
Wolverley Sports And Social Club, Kidderminster

Rockaway Record Fairs Record And CD Fair, Open 10.00-16.00, Admission £1.00,
www.Facebook.Com/Rockawayrecordfairs/,
Rockawayrecordfairs.Tumblr.Com/
Imperial Hotel, Stroud

Orphan Colours And The Pete Williams Band
The Mercure Hotel, Bewdley

Michael Brooks
The Kingsford, Wolverley, Kidderminster

The Rebels
Reet Petite, Leominster

Ajay Srivastav
The Barn, Ledbury

Sunday 20 October 2019

WMF Photo Competition Display And Charity Cheque Presentation
Annie's Burger Shack, Worcester

The Bonny Lou Duo
Alestones, Redditch

A Vision Of Elvis
Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

Rob Powell & Pete Hodge
Red Lion, Evesham

The Three Degrees
The Regal, Evesham

Fleecey Folk: Sherburn, Bartley, Sanders
The Fleece Inn, Bretforton, Evesham

The Shambolics
The Bonded Warehouse, Stourbridge

Kezza Belle
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Perry Foster (5:30ppm)
The Chestnut, Worcester

Jeremy Johnson
The Lamb & Flag, Worcester

Keri Hoffman (3pm)
Babar Cafe, Hereford

Easy Sundays – Music, Film, Food
The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Sabb-Earth (5pm)
The Imperial Tavern, Worcester

Trevor 'Babajack' Steger
Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Wednesday 23 October 2019

Thunder Unplugged And Unscripted
Palace Theatre, Redditch

The Jake Leg Jug Band
Beoley Jazz Club, Redditch

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Death Is A Girl, Mark Illingworth
Café Rene, Gloucester

Greenmathews Present: Witty Ditties
The Courtyard, Hereford

Billy Brandt (Usa)
Carpenters Arms, Miserden, Stroud

October Moon
Kidderminster College, Kidderminster

Mike Peters Presents The Alarm
The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Thursday 24 October 2019

Hayley Louise
Arches, Bewdley

Along The Avon
Number 8, Pershore

Isaac Birituro And The Rail Abandon
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Jonah Matranga (Far), Damn Cargo, Death Is A Girl, Nudes
Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Les Carter
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Mike Davids Band
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Lewis Clark & The Essentials
Tank, Gloucester

John-Joe Murray And Friends
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Les Mckeown's Bay City Rollers
The Courtyard, Hereford

Vo Fletcher
The Plough, Worcester

The Pitmen Poets
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Juan Martin Flamenco Trio
Hellens, Much Marcle, Hereford

Word Of Mouth
Babar Cafe, Hereford

Friday 25 October 2019

Jay & Eli
The Beauchamp Arms, Malvern

Upfront
The Frog, Bidford-Upon-Avon

Orchestra Of The Swan: O Albion
Number 8, Pershore

Dan Graham, Amaretto Lounge
Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

Keith Slater's Sinatra Celebration
Palace Theatre, Redditch

Midtown Groove
No.3A, Bromsgrove

Thirsty Work
The Hóp Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Stop Ecocide: Pretty Things' Phil May And Dick Taylor
The Sub Rooms, Stroud

Rob Bowden
The Cheltenham Stable, Cheltenham

The Westenders
The Bacon Theatre, Cheltenham

Devil's Playground, We Come From Ashes
Altchelt, Cheltenham

The Hush
The Blue Bell, Ryall, Upton On Severn

Shades Of Grey
Red Lion, Evesham

Tracey Curtis
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

The Ska45's
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Ugnius Pauliukonis
Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

Rich Evans
Red Lion, Stourbridge

Highway
The Green Duck, Stourbridge

Whitney Houston Tribute
The Gate Inn, Honeybourne, Evesham

Primetime
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, The Lye, Stourbridge

The Display Team, Vonhom
Café Rene, Gloucester

Joe Summers
Tank, Gloucester

Free Spirit
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Blue Street
Tall Ship, Gloucester
The Leon Daye Band
The New Inn, Gloucester

Ailsa Tully, Gillie
The Globe, Hay On Wye

Flatworld
The Pavilion, Colwall

Bowie Experience
The Courtyard, Hereford

The Lost Chord
Gordon Bennett'S, Hereford

Black Knight
The Millers Arms, Pershore

Caravan
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Come Together
Drummonds, Worcester

John Otway
The Bush Inn, Hereford

Trip For Biscuits
The Cosy Club, Worcester

Solid State, Silverlake, Charm Offensive,
Annie's Burger Shack, Worcester

Purple Zeppelin
The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Jamie Knight
YE OLDE TALBOT HOTEL, Worcester

Anita & The Moody Tuesdays Jazz & Blues
The Strand, Cheltenham

One Dementia
The Loom And Shuttle, Kidderminster

Raggedstone, Dow
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Saturday 26 October 2019

Mel And Him
The Swan Inn, Barbourne, Worcester

John Coghlan'S Quo
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Blu Town
Cross Keys, Malvern

Whippasnappa
Dick Whittington'S, Gloucester

A Tribute To Ariana And Jojo Swia
Palace Theatre, Redditch

Peatbog Faeires
Malvern Cube, Malvern

Fishheads
The Village Inn, Beoley, Redditch

Jack Hopkinson
The Holly Bush, Gorcott Hill, Redditch

Uncle Jim
Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Mouse Police
The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Shoot The Moon
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Vintage Inc.
The Cricketers, Worcester

Return Of The Living Mockers
The Sub Rooms, Stroud

Woo Town Hillbillies
The Crown & Sceptre, Stroud

Wildwood Jack
Stroud Bewery, Stroud

Brandon Block, Trevor Fung, Colin Hudd, Garry Williams And Arris Da Kat
The Manor, Tewkesbury

The Roy Orbison Story
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

The Big Bash 2
Watson Hall, Tewkesbury

Genesis Legacy
The Bacon Theatre, Cheltenham

Aaron Cook
Dumbleton Village Club, Tewkesbury

Hiplask Virgins, Six Seconds To Run, Wylde
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

The Delray Rockets
The Railway Inn, Studley

Jaguars
The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

Neil Diamond Tribute
The Boat House, Upton On Severn

Monkey Jam
Charlton King'S Club & Institute, Cheltenham

Smoking Pilchards
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Leo
Harry Cook Free House, Cheltenham

Dan & King Rich
Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Dexter
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Satellite Down
Evesham Hospital Club, Evesham

The Ultimate Amy Winehouse Tribute Show
Golden Cross Harvington, Evesham

Slyder
The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Simply Floyd
Stanton Village Club, Evesham

The Stanford Hill Mob
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Supernova
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, The Lye, Stourbridge

Aaron Cook
Dumbleton Village Club, Evesham

Chimp On A Bike
The Swan Inn, Evesham

Mice in A Matchbox
The Green Dragon, Malvern

Underground Festival
Guildhall, Gloucester

Bo Walton And Red Alert
The Civic, Stourport-On-Severn

Memphis
The Cross Keys, Gloucester

Mzleading (5 Piece Covers Band)
The Globe Inn, Stonehouse, Glos.

Hoodoo Blue
The Globe, Hay On Wye

Witcher
The Unicorn, Malvern

Arcadia Roots
The Chestnut, Worcester

Polkadot Robot
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Call Of The Kraken
Gordon Bennett'S, Hereford

Foxtite Mirrors Single Release, These Five Years, Everyone And Anyone
Firefly, Hereford

Eduardo Niebla Duo In Concert
Worcester Arts Workshop, Worcester

Barbara Dickson & Rab Noakes
The Artrix, Bromsgrove

The Follicles
Royal Fountain Inn, Kidderminster

The Disciples
The Loom And Shuttle, Kidderminster

One2many
The Ducker, Leominster

Terry Stevens
The Kingsford, Wolverley, Kidderminster

The Rogues
Reet Petite, Leominster

David Gibb
PLAYHOUSE CINEMA, Leominster

Voodoo Blue
Queens Head, Wolverley

Sunday 27 October 2019

Melvin Hancox Band (4pm)
The Barn, Ledbury

Steel Wizard
Vaughan'S Tapas & Cocktail Bar, Redditch

Mons Wheeler And The Tone Kings
The Boat Shack, Bromsgrove

Bryn Thomas
The White Bear, Tewkesbury

Drew
Red Lion, Evesham

Merrymaker Presents
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Sons Of Delta (3pm)
Richmond Place Club, Hereford

Inglorious
Guildhall, Gloucester

James Baker
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Daz Saxon
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Vo Fletcher (5:30pm)
The Chestnut, Worcester

Jack Of Diamonds
The Lamb & Flag, Worcester

Weirdshire: With Howie & Eleanor (2pm)
Babar Cafe, Hereford

Bacchus
The Lichfield Vaults, Hereford

Pretty Nasty (5pm)
The Imperial, Worcester

Howard Harper
Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Monday 28 October 2019

Pop Divas
The Sub Rooms, Stroud

Pengshui, Griz-O, Karl Phillips & The Rejects, Buck Junior
Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Tuesday 29 October 2019

Fara
The Fleece Inn, Bretforton, Evesham

Iota
Worley's At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

The Drifters
Swan Theatre, Worcester

What Planet Are You On?
Kidderminster Town Hall, Kidderminster

Wednesday 30 October 2019

Little Geneva
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Andy Irvine
Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham

The Primitive Noise Band
Vonnies Blues Club, Cheltenham

Magic Of Motown
Malvern Theatres, Malvern

Orchestra Of The Swan Present: Family Concert – Saint-Saëns' Carnival Of The Animals
The Courtyard, Hereford

Crazy Goat
Carpenters Arms, Miserden, Stroud

Graham Smith's Jazz Allsorts
Pershore Jazz Club, Pershore Town Football Club

Thursday 31 October 2019

Vo Fletcher
The Barn, Ledbury

Bomba Rock
Arches, Bewdley

Chris While & Julie Matthews
Bromsgrove Folk Club, Bromsgrove

The Garry Allcock Trio
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra
Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

Rob Bowden
Centaur, Cheltenham Racecourse, Cheltenham

Arts, Exhibitions & Cinema

Until 6th Oct Herefordshire Open & Young Open Exhibition 19
The Courtyard Hereford

Until 16th 'Number 8 Open Exhibition 2019', Pershore Number 8

Until 3rd Nov Meadow Arts present In Ruins, Witley Court

Until 3rd Nov Graham Wilson, Living the Dream, Artrix, Bromsgrove

Until 6th Nov Alan Mulholland - 'Mo's Military Miniatures Number 8

5th Worcester Alternative Artists Market, Heroes Bar, Worcester

7th until 1st Nov Mail Art Exhibition Droitwich Library

8th Drink and Doodle, The Paul Pry Worcester

9th Wilderland Film Festival, The Courtyard Hereford

10th trade, Artrix, Bromsgrove

10th until 3rd Nov, Caged Arts Young Photography Exhibition, Worcester Arts Workshop

11th & 14th Mrs Lowry and Son, Artrix, Bromsgrove

11th Museum After Hours, Worcester City Museum and Art Gallery

11th- 20th The Way We See - exhibition five local artists, printmakers and painters - Elmslie House, Great Malvern

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Gareth Lemon
The Botanist, Cheltenham

Locked And Loaded
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

The Swamp Stomp String Band
Tank, Gloucester

Bars & Melody
Guildhall, Gloucester

Frank Sinatra – His Way
The Civic, Stourport-On-Severn

The Upbeat Beatles
The Courtyard, Hereford

Alvin And The Angry Barrels, Terminal Rage, Last Tree Squad
(Reggae/Hip Hop)
Firefly, Hereford

The Unthanks
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

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- 11th until 27th Mediaship present: Under Deconstruction**
Beneath the Surface, Beneath the ether. The Courtyard Hereford
- 12th Withnail & I screening with wine tasting,** Worcester Arts Workshop
- 16th Poetry and a Pint night** Worcester Arts Workshop
- 17th until 6th Nov Judith Long - 'The Streets of Pershore**
Pershore Number 8
- 19th-Nov 2nd - KAFF (Kidderminster Arts & Food Festival)**
Various venues, Kidderminster.
- 19th Mary Quant inspired evening.** Ombersley Memorial Hall.
- 19th & 28th The Wicker Man,** The Courtyard Hereford
- 20th Benjamin Zephaniah- the life and rhymes of**
The Courtyard Hereford
- 26th Spookyard,** Over Farm, Gloucester
- 30th The Strange Case of Dr. Jeckle and Mr Hyde,** Artrix, Bromsgrove
- 31st An American Werewolf in London,** The Courtyard Hereford
- 31st The Commandery After Dark- Torch Lit Tours,** Worcester
- 31st Halloween Lantern Procession,** Kinver Edge

For Arts listings email: arts@slapmag.co.uk

Music Sessions/Open Mics

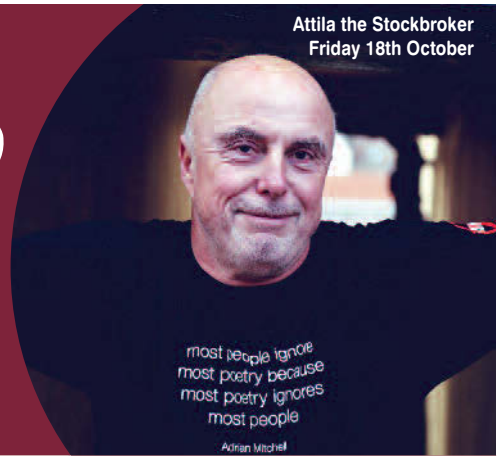
- Every Monday - Folk Night**
Worley's, The Swan, Stourport
- Every Monday night - Acoustic Night**
The Rollin Hills Restaurant, Upton Upon Severn
- 1st Mon of Month - Acoustic Session**
The Pickled Plum, Pershore
- First Monday - Open Mic**
The Sociable Beer Company
- 1st Monday - Pub Quiz**
Volunteer Inn, Hereford
- 4th Mon - Singaround**
Piddle House, Wyre Piddle, Worcs
- Fortnightly Mon & Wed (check website) - Folk Nights**
Three Horseshoes, Frampton-On-Severn, Glos
- 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
- Acoustic/Folk Session, Every Tuesday**
The Plough Inn, Wollaston, Stourbridge
- Every other Tue Perdido Street Jazz Band**
The Talbot, Knightwick
- 1st & 3rd Thursday of every month,**
The Cross Inn, Kinver, Stourbridge
- First Tues - For 12-19 year olds 7pm**
Pershore Library
- 2nd & 4th Tuesday - Open Mic Night with Pete Kelly**
The Queen's Head, Wolverley
- Every Tue - Open Mic**
The Firefly, Worcester
- Last Tuesday - Eclectic Open Mic**
Volunteer Inn, Hereford
- Every Tue - Plug and Play**
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham
- 3rd Tues - Acoustic Jam Night with Ian & Kevin Fuller**
The Millers Arms, Pershore
- Every Tues - Enzo's Open Mic**
Great Malvern Hotel
- Every Tue - Open Mic**
The Swan, Port St., Evesham, Worcester
- 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 Paulline 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 Wednesday open mic**
The Imperial, Worcester
- Every other Wednesday - Open mic/Sessions**
Rose & Crown, Severn Stoke
- Every other Wednesday - Open mic/Sessions**
Fox & Hounds, Bredon
- Fortnightly Wednesday - Bluegrass & Americana acoustic session**
The Crown, Colwall
- 2nd Wednesday Permission to speak - spoken word & poetry**
Clap Trap The Venue, Stourbridge
- 2nd Wednesday Unplugged Night**
Paraddiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester
- 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
- Every Thursday - Open Mic**
The Victory, Hereford
- 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**
Kempley village Hall
- 3rd Thursday - Eclectic Open Mic**
Wobbly Brewery and Taphouse, Hereford
- 1st Thurs - Black Hill Tune Club**
The Crown Inn, Longtown, HR2
- 1st & 3rd Thursday of every month,**
The Cross Inn, Kinver, Stourbridge
- Open Mic with Johnnie Gracie**
The Jubilee Inn, Studley
- 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
- Every Thursday Open Mic**
Gardeners Arms, Droitwich
- First Thursday - Jackson's Bar open mic - by The Third Verse**
The Northwick Hotel, Riverside, Evesham
- First Thurs - Open Mic**
The Oddfellows Arms, Astwood Bank
- Every Thursday Open Mic Hosted by Polly Edwards & Ben Hall**
The Old Pheasant - Worcester
- Every Thursday Open Mic**
The Eagle Vaults, Worcester
- Every Thursday - Acoustic Folk 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 Session run by Bob Chance**
Black Swan Muchdew Church, Hereford
- 3rd Thur - Mainly Irish Session**
The King's Head, Tenbury Wells
- 3rd Thur - Jazz Session**
Reet Petite, Leominster
- 2nd 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
- 3rd 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
- 1st Sun - Open Mic**
The Queen's Head, Sedgeberrow
- 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
- 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 lsh**
Pickled Plum, Pershore
- 2nd Sun - Moonshine Acoustic Jam Club**
Piddle House, Wyre Piddle, Worcs

Please let us know if any of the above are no longer running or if your regular event isn't listed

THE MARR'S BAR

OCT NOV 2019

Attila the Stockbroker
Friday 18th October



Thursday October 3

Silver Follar Honkytonk show
Alice Wallace & Her Band,
Marzy & The Marr's Bar House Band
£13 in advance £15 on the door

Friday October 4

Biffy McClyro (Biffy Clyro tribute)
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday October 5

Sams Town (Killers tribute)
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Friday October 11

Raptor, Nuns Of The Tundra
& Moon Goose,
£6 in advance £8 on the door

Saturday October 12

Guns or Roses (Guns N Roses tribute)
£10 in advance £12 on the door

Thursday October 17

FCS presents: Proud Mary + Support
£15 in advance, £18 on the door

Friday October 18

Skewwhiff, Attila the Stockbroker
£5 in advance, £7 on the door

Saturday October 19

R.E.M. \Stipe
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday October 26

John Coghlan's Quo
£15 in advance £18 on the door

Friday November 1

Gaz Brookfield, B-Sydes, John Diment
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday November 2

Ultimate Leppard (Def Leppard trib)
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Sunday November 3

Hawklords
£16 in advance £19 on the door

Friday November 8

Ultimate Coldplay
£10 in advance £12 on the door

Saturday November 9

The Leylines
£10 in advance £12 on the door

Sunday November 10

The Wave Pictures, Skewwhiff
£13.50 in advance £16 on the door

Friday November 15

Dreadzone
£19 in advance

Saturday November 16

Bourbon Alley

Thursday November 21

Matt Owens
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Wednesdays - Jamming night - FREE entry

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