

SLAP

Issue 19

SEP 2012

MAGAZINE

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SLAP

Sep 2012 **MAGAZINE**

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magazine are not necessarily those of its publisher or editor.

Having developed the biggest Worcester Music Festival
hangover imaginable, I'm finding the editors notes an
arduous task this month. Its difficult to know where to
start as we reflect on the mad month of August.

In this issue we take a look back at Nozstock, Loaded,
Green Man, Malvern Rocks & Bulldog Bash with fond if
not somewhat blurred memories.

The bank holiday weekend found Slap involved in the
best WMF to date. The place was buzzing as hundreds of
original acts rolled into town to entertain and enjoy the
festival. Attendances surpassed expectation with many
venues reporting record breaking figures. The Slap stage
on the Sunday at Cafe Bliss and the Arts Workshop was
no exception. All the acts, handpicked by ourselves,
played to a bursting garden in the afternoon followed by
a raucous evening session in the theatre downstairs. We
will be bringing you all the highlights of 'Super Slap
Sunday' in our next issue. It was heart warming to see so
many people of all ages enjoying the 'free' music, art,
workshops, activities and performances on offer
throughout the City over four great days. A massive Slap
thank you goes out to the WMF committee and all of its
hard working volunteers including stewards, sound
engineers, money raisers and promoters as well as over
300 acts who performed for free to raise money for this
years beneficiaries New Hope.

We will bring you as many highlights as possible in the
next issue. You can help us by emailing your photographs
and even a short review of your stand out moments. Or
just share your memories, we will print as many as we can.

I'd like to thank once again all of Slaps contributors,
distributers and supporters who help to spread the news
that we have so many talented artists, musicians and
writers around these parts that its difficult to understand
why you would want to go anywhere else.

We have Moseley Folk and Snodfest amongst others to
look forward to but until then its back to the day job to
work off the hangover!

- Slap Eds



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LISTINGS IN CONJUNCTION WITH:



Number 8 Arts Bursary Deadline Extended

Number 8 Community Arts Centre has extended the deadline for applications for the 2012 'Ray Steadman Bursary' for young people going on to pursue further study in the arts. The annual bursary awards £250 to a different student each year to help cover the costs of books and course materials in their first year of further or higher education in subjects such as drama, music or art. It is open to anyone whose home is in the WR10 postcode area.

The bursary is in the name of Ray Steadman MBE, one of the original founders of Number 8 who sadly passed away in 2008 and was a great supporter of the arts and initiatives to encourage young people to take part in arts activity.

Applicants must be planning to embark upon their first year of a further or higher education course in an 'arts' subject in 2012. To apply for a bursary young people should obtain an application form from marketingassistant@number8.org or collect one from Number 8 Box Office. Completed forms need to be returned to Number 8 by the closing date of Saturday 15 September 2012.

Nozstock 2012 Best Ever!

After a number of near wash-outs in recent years Nozstock organisers Pete and Ella Nozworthy declared this year's event the best-ever with an estimated 4900 attendees (just short of the 5000 limit) enjoying music from headliners The Proclaimers, Dreadzone, The Futureheads and fast-rising star Jake Bugg - plus a host of other great local and national acts and performers. Here at SLAP Towers we're still not sure whether to feel happy or sad for the two individuals who tried to get into the site illegally and were chased up a tree by new volunteer steward *Bouncer the bull...*



Beer, Cider, Perry & a Festival Vibe

An estimated record 13,000 attended the 13th CAMRA-organised Worcester Beer, Cider & Perry Festival on Pitchcroft with the musical accompaniment including locals acts Gwen & Ken, Stomp & Holler and East Of The Sun. No shortage of local presence either in main musical attraction The Move featuring guitarist Tony Kelsey from Kidderminster and Cohen Brothers frontman Jules Crook!!



Focusing on Gig Photography

Thanks to Gareth 'Redbook' Griffiths and Benn & Carl of punksters 11:11 who got themselves a whole bunch of great promo pics when they answered a late call for musos willing to play at short notice at the WMF Gig Photography masterclass at Worcester Arts Workshop. Your SLAP newshound was in attendance (disguised of course as a pile of newspapers) at the event hosted by experienced snappers Mark Hoy, Joe Singh and Steve Johnston and picked up some valuable tips - and not just about removing the lenscap either...



There's still doubts about whether Big Chill will return in 2013 in the format of previous years - with head of organisers Festival Republic's Melvin Benn appearing unwilling to commit - saying that there are 'no set plans' and that FR are still 'looking into options'. Running since 1994 - Big Chill followed Glastonbury this year in choosing not to hold an event due to the Olympics - but Ledbury townfolk have expressed concern that the event may not return - we're crossing our fingers as well guys...

'Eagle' eyed amendment!

Some photographs used by SLAP magazine's August edition were incorrectly attributed to Sarah Ganderton. The article about student art in a show entitled Flood Alert included photographs taken by James Eagle.



Photographs from the fashion show were taken by James to add to the portfolio for his new venture, **A&J Photography**, alongside fellow student graduate from the University of Worcester, **Andreaa**. For more details about these two new artists, check out their facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/ajphotopage>

Youth services facing cuts

Worcestershire County Council are decommissioning youth services across the county as we speak. By the end of this year there will be no county funded youth services remaining. The county has been split into six areas. Worcester, Bromsgrove, Redditch, Wychavon, Malvern and Wyre Forest.

Each area has been given a pot of Money that is much smaller than the original youth services budget used to be. Each area has a group of commissioners made up of local County Counsellors and young people advising on the process. Youth Provision is being (and has been depending on what area you live in) put out to tender for interested providers to apply. The commissioners will decide what to spend the reduced pot on for their area.

The results may see some interesting solutions to issues of youth provision, but much of the structure already in place will be lost and many of the trusted workers that young people have built relationships with will go. As well as youth centres and provision that have traditionally been popular safe spaces for young people to access. Some youth workers are trying to form not for profit businesses to maintain services but the sad truth is youth workers are youth workers not business people.

We hope that there is still quality provision left for young people at the end of this process as County seeks to reduce its outgoing again.

Valley Radio Launch Party Friday 17th August

Slap Magazine were privileged to attend the launch party of Bridgnorth based radio station Valley Radio



which is entirely run by volunteers, held a grand launch party at the prestigious Astbury Hall, home of rock legend and ex-Judas Priest member KK Downing.



We were treated to some great music by local 5 piece band Midset Buka throughout the evening, Simon Golding the Vice Chairman and Events & Marketing director Grace Bailey did a great job of making everyone feeling welcome.

The night was a huge success as it promoted awareness of the project and raised funds through sponsorship and donations.



Chairwoman Nikki Brown said 'We are always on the look out for new volunteers and key skills so anyone who wishes to get involved should get in touch via our website www.thevalleyradio.org.'

The Valley team wish to thank everyone who has helped and supported the project so far.

More info: www.thevalleyradio.org



PREVIEW VIRGIL & THE ACCELERATORS @ THE ARTRIX BROMSGROVE

SATURDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER

Artrix in Bromsgrove has landed possibly the musical coup of the year by coaxing one of the country's leading young musical talents to perform on Saturday Sept the 8th.

"As a local band, they have been on our radar for a while but scheduling has been difficult with their busy UK/European touring schedule"

Virgil And The Accelerators, a power trio from Catshill, Bromsgrove fronted by 20-year old guitar prodigy Virgil McMahon have swept the board with plaudits since their debut album *The Radium* was released in 2010. Music critics have been scrambling for their keyboards to try and announce that 'they saw them first' because the circuit hasn't seen anything quite like them for many years.

For fans of Stevie Ray Vaughan, Jimi Hendrix, Eric Clapton, ZZ Top and the like, this is a show not to be missed. Extensively an originals band, they also throw

in a couple of covers that defy belief. Seasoned artists would struggle to deliver the same jaw dropping performance. They have a uncanny ability to get inside a song, turn it inside out and back again. True masters of the Blues Rock genre, yet they are impossibly young Virgil McMahon (20), brother Gabriel (18) drums and Jack Alexander Timmis (21) on bass.

They have recently toured the UK and Europe in their own right and have a busy summer festival circuit and also supporting Michael Schenker, Dr Feelgood guitarist Wilko Johnson, Uriah Heep, Blackfoot, and are now heading out on their own and selling out across the country.

If you have not been to see this band before, hold on to someone who has, you will be blown away. Young, local and insanely talented, what more does one need to buy a ticket!

Tickets: www.the-artrix.co.uk



Photography by Marco van Rooijen

Worcester Music Festival

24th to 27th AUGUST 2012
Message from the Worcester Music Festival Organisers

AFTER yet another wonderful Worcester Music Festival, what can we say but the biggest Wumu thank you to all the bands, artists, venues, promoters and volunteers that gave up their time for free to deliver an exceptional showcase of music, as well as the fans who came to watch a gig or take part in a workshop over the weekend. This live, original music marathon couldn't be done with the mammoth effort and love for music put in by all. But it's not over quite yet. The next date in the diary is the post fest party on Saturday, September 22 at the Worcester Arts Workshop, a time to reflect on this year's event, catch another raft of brilliant music from the area, and find out who has won this year's Worcester Music Festival photography competition. There will also be an exhibition of the top 25 photographs taken at this year's festival at the Worcester Arts Workshop over the coming weeks, please come along and take a look.

Lots of love

The Worcester Music Festival 2012 committee x

www.Worcestermusicfestival.co.uk

CD REVIEW

Reinforced – Milestone

This Ledbury four piece have been rocking since 2006 and their musical compatibility and tightness is abundantly evident on this ahem forceful album.

Reinforced have a refreshingly strong female presence with Ali on vocals and Aimee bangin' the skins. I LUV female drummers and Aimee can proudly take her place in the pantheon alongside the likes of Alice de Buhr, Sandy West, Sheila E and the wonderful Mo Tucker. NB Look em up if you need to & do yourself a favour!

The girls are more than ably abetted by da guitar & bass boiz Alex n Rob and collectively they really do riff up a storm throughout the 8 trax herein.

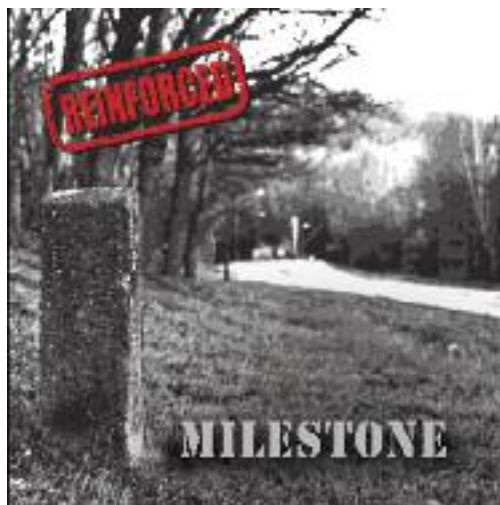
There's more than a touch of Evanescence to this band & indeed they name them as an influence together with the likes of Skunk Anansie, Rage Against The Machine, Muse and Metallica.

So if any of the above ring your musical bell you're in for a treat.

Milestones is a consistently strong album with Ali's confessional and open-hearted surgery vocals to the fore and in nice contrast to the ever guttural guitar.

Standouts include Gamble with it's enigmatic opening and strong, thrusting melody and All I Want To Say with Ali's lyrics at her most nakedly honest.

This album is well worth a spin and you can find it and them in all the usual lovely, fluffy places like facebook, bandcamp and myspace.



Words by Emerlist Davjak

ARTS NEWS



worcester arts workshop

Ahh, we are just recovering from another fantastic Worcester Music Festival! This delivers us gently into autumn with new courses and workshops, super live music and splendid visual arts to tickle those creative taste buds.

Vamos Theatre, the Worcestershire-based full mask theatre company is making a new home at Worcester Arts Workshop from this month.

Vamos will be based here as independent tenants

feeding ambition and commitment towards The Worcester Arts Workshop. With both national and international tours,

taking its unique style of innovative and engaging theatre to small and large

communities alike: Vamos is theatre that brims with visual inventiveness, original music, puppetry, dexterity, and hilarity!

Fancy learning a new talent or getting creative for the autumn? Come and enrol on a course or workshop ! With stacks to choose from including oil painting, photography, Iyengar Yoga, creative writing and much, much more, please take a look at the website or pop by for info. Whether you are looking for a one off workshop or a series of sessions, we are here to help you learn an exciting new skill.

On the 9th, Lazy Sunday returns with a good dose of acoustic tunage. This month includes Kings & Folk, Bob Jones Stripped Down Blues and more to be announced.....

In the galleries this month, still on display til 16th you can see Mark Hoy's music based photography exhibition 'Worcester in Music'. Then the new shows open on the 21st with The Prequel, an exhibition of urban arts from 5 artists featuring graffiti art, illustration, photography and graphic design. Check out the public opening on Friday 21st which includes live music and open mic hosted by The Sub-kon Allstars, 6pm til 11pm. Free.

Also running will be the Worcester Music Festival photography competition winners showing the shortlisted entries by local snappers who captured moments from the festival weekend. There will be a ceremony on the 22nd between 7pm and 9pm to announce the winners.

Both exhibitions run until the 29th Sept.

A big hurrah for The Splendid Cinema which returns for the autumn season this month! Beginning on the 23rd September with *A Dangerous Method* Cert 18. David Cronenberg's adaptation of Christopher Hampton's stageplay about the falling out between Freud and Jung over a female patient, played remarkably well by Keira Knightly. Viggo Mortensen is Freud & Michael Fassbender is Jung - and both give truly wonderful performances. 7.30pm. £5.



After an extensive tour and after a successful night here earlier in the year, we welcome back The Roving Crows to the Workshop on Sat 29th. Featuring some fiery fiddle playing, trumpet, guitar, drums, bass and vocals, The Roving Crows inexhaustible energy gives a unique and uncontrollable sound with influences including jazz, ska, folk, klezmer and blues. 7.30pm. £6.

The Roving Crows



And remember to get those postcard art entries to us for the exhibition later in the year. All entries by October 24th.....

Check out our website and come and say hello!



www.worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk
WORCESTER ARTS WORKSHOP
 21 Sansome Street, Worcester
 WR1 1UH Tel: 01905 25053



ARTS FEATURE - The Prequel

An exhibition of urban arts, *The Prequel* is the brain child of recently graduated graphic artist Elliot Parker. The exhibition will be showcasing a number of local artists on the rise from a graffiti and style writing background into various fields including illustration, graphic design and fine art by *TEN ONE*, *DISE*, *CUJO*, and *THE HORES* as well as Elliot Parker himself.

The technique and style of these artists vary widely, from digital graphic design to water colour but all are bound by a desire to make their art openly accessible and affordable. The exhibition is free and will commence with a opening night on the 21st of September with live music and open mic hosted by local hip-hop crew *Sub-Kon Allstars* plus live artwork from *Secret Walls Birmingham*



semi finalists *LISK BOT* and *THE HORES*. The exhibition runs until the 29th of September.

MUSIC PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP by Reg Richardson

Worcester Arts Workshop – Sunday Aug 5th

This 3 hour workshop was organised ahead of the Worcester Music Festival by three local photographers, *Steve Johnson*, *Mark Hoy* and *Joe Singh*, all of whom have a considerable amount of experience in music photography.

The workshop was aimed at anyone with an interest in music photography, whether they simply wanted to learn how to do it or to improve their techniques and knowledge; I fall somewhere towards the latter of these two extremes (I think).

Around twenty people attended the workshop which was broken down into topics, each presented by the organisers. Topics included explanations into ISO, aperture and shutter speed (and the relationship between them), lighting, technique, composition and editing with an interlude for photographing some musicians.



The band that were originally scheduled to play while the students photographed them were unfortunately not able to attend but live entertainment was provided at very short notice by local band *11:11* as well as *Gareth Alexander Morgan Griffiths* with an acoustic set.

After most of the short presentations were complete, students had the opportunity to photograph the musicians – I chose to go with *11:11* featuring *Benn Foster* and *Carl Sampson*.

Lighting was typical of a small local venue/pub; so just about bright enough for photographs without using flash....but only just. After 20 minutes the music was over and the band posed for additional photographs.



The final session concerned editing photos and the essential elements needed to make a good (or perhaps even great) music photograph. Student efforts are currently being posted on the workshops' Facebook page.

For a first attempt the three hosts did a really good job, not getting too technical for the beginners nor too boring for those with a little bit of experience. I picked up a tip or two which made the event well worth attending and hopefully they'll do it all over again next year.

Thanks to all involved in arranging the workshop as well as all those who attended.

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Worcestershire
COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

Thursday 27th Sept

Bill Wooland

"Few clean comedians come close to this man's depth and breadth of material"



Andy White

"He can do material that's clever, cheeky, sick or just silly. His performance can shift from deadpan to loud and physical."



Ben Davids

"Ben Davids has established himself as one of the brightest new acts on the circuit in recent years."



MC – Andy Kind

Friday 26th Oct

Tim Clark

"An unsung hero of stand-up comedy - the current master of this underrated art"



Chris Stokes

"Genius... Cheek-achingly funny"



Noel James

"Liberates the lunatic side to our personalities - brilliantly!"



MC – Tony Vito

Doors open 7pm

Hot Walk-up buffet

available until 8pm

Comedy Acts on at 8.30pm

Candle Lit Tables

Tickets in advance £12

WCCC Members £10

Pre-Ordered Food £8

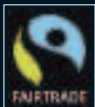
Call 01905 337933 for tickets

Or email comedy@wccc.co.uk
for more information

Over 18's Advised

Acts are not guaranteed

Tickets are non-refundable



Friday 30th Nov

Paul Kerensa

"attitude, style and diamond-sharp wit"



Craig Murray

"An instant crowd pleaser with a charismatic, mock-confrontational style"



Ro Campbell

"Hugely entertaining and funny as hell"



MC – Tony Vito

Stand Up Comedy
in the Graeme Hick Pavilion
at NEW ROAD



On Saturday 15th September, the fifth SnodFest will be happening. What other small festival has over 10 hours of continuous live music? With 18 bands performing there's something that will be to everyone's taste.

Held in Upton Snodsbury Park in a beautiful village setting with free parking, why not come & join us for the day? If you want a break from all the fabulous music, there are loads of free workshops, kids entertainment, food and of course, a real ale bar also serving Tardebigge local cider.

Introduced by Andrew Marston, BBC Hereford and Worcester with the gates opening at 11.45am, the line up is fantastic! Bands include Johnny Kowalski & The Sexy Weirdos, Skewwhiff, Becky Rose, The Cohen Brothers, The Chris Whiting Band, Lost Boy Scout, Hornswaggles, Hitchhiker, Tom Forbes, Macaroni Penguins and many more....

New to SnodFest this year, we are offering you the chance to leave the car at home and help reduce our carbon footprint by catching the SnodBus - provided and run by Dudleys Coaches. The SnodBus will offer picks up from Worcester, Pershore and surrounding villages. To book seats on the coach please ring 01386 792206. Alternatively why not camp on Friday & Saturday to make a weekend of it? For more information ring 01905 381511. For Tickets go to www.snodfest.com

Adults £12 - under 18's £6 - 5 & under FREE

KATIE DOOLAN PHOTOGRAPHY



www.katiedoolanphotography.webs.com
07765816667 katiedoolan1@virginmedia.com

The KFO Show

Friday 10th August and moments before the kick off of the show, the visual history of the KFO crew is still being attached to The BHG walls. This vibrant display of photographs and paper drawing details the history of the Worcester based graffiti crew.



Not only canvas work was on display but also custom made belt buckles, caps, jackets, busts and cans. The party didn't stop there as the SubKon Allstarz took to the stage downstairs at the Boars Head pub.



The Night was a massive success and a great kick off to Kidderminster Arts Festival, that is now in its 9th successive year, growing bigger and brighter every year.

The exhibition is running up until mid September. Do call the venue on 01562 861870 to confirm opening times.

Photography by Toni Charles

Founded in 1989 after the breakup of the infamous TWP, they regrouped, sat down one night and came up with the craziest of names. Dedicated to true graffiti art, expression and to influence others by means of a spray can, some members go back as far as 1982. The Line Up - Cel, Cask, Cier, Cartune, Zare, Ergo, Knel, Phe, Pice, 4-Eva, Sore, Nero, Lock 22, Reny, Hems, Gusa, Jim 13, Hash and all the others we forget to mention that have represented the Knowing Flowing Ongoing Clique.



The display itself spans from floor to ceiling with not a bare space in site. As onlookers arrive to the opening night they scan the wall identifying locations and artists alike, pointing, crouching and balancing on tip-toes. Into the main gallery itself the walls are full of canvas work by the crew. Everyone visiting the opening party expressed how impressed there were with the stunning range of colours that adorn the canvasses and the intricacy of the line-work involved.

Life Drawing Sessions at The Boars Head Gallery

At The BHG we offer a unique Life Drawing Experience. The sessions are open to adults of all age and ability. We pride our sessions on being informal and untutored where participants are welcome to enjoy a pint and listen to music whilst drawing together and offering critiques to one another.

We have regular models that pose for our class.

Although limited materials are available, we recommend you bring your own. The gallery does not charge for this class, but we ask that participants offer a minimum £3 donation to our model.

Thursday 2nd August

Thursday 6th September

Thursday 4th October

Thursday 1st November



The Boars Head Gallery
39 Worcester Street
Kidderminster
DY10 1EW
Tel: 01562 861870

Above Boards

As if the day wasn't exciting enough, in the last few hours we were lucky enough to be joined by Bristol artist, Ian Boyd-Walker (IBW) and Belgian artist Vera Denil (DinDin) who had sat through the traffic to come and enjoy the day, both of whom had taken part in the previous 'Subway Deluxes'. As the sun went down,



To say 'Above Boards' Live Paint Jam outside the Boars Head Gallery/ Boars Head public house kicked off to a rather dreary start may be fair. The sky was full of grey clouds, rain had been in the air and even our artists were stuck in traffic. But this rather uneasy start was not to be a reflection of the rest of the day. Inside the venue our art bazaar soon began to fill up with all sorts of interesting stalls consisting of many little handmade treasures. As promised the artists for the Jam started claiming their boards and sketching out their outlines (whilst occasionally dashing for shelter, clutching soggy stencils!).



the artists finished off their boards and began to unwind and relax to the sounds of some tunes from inside the Boars Head. All in all this was a fantastic event. Although due to excess rain, the boards have temporarily been brought inside (where they are still visible). We hope to be bringing them out on show again soon.

Joining the Jam to begin were Mike Flight, Dom 'Deeds' Dunlea, Andrew May, Sian Davis aka Project Unknown, Conuke, Cozza, Melo and even Boars Head Landlord Sid Palmer. Many of the artists had previously been involved in the 'Subway Deluxe' projects, founded and organised by 'Deeds' himself, with the art now going 'Above Boards' to continue the link with the artists involved. Both projects have been part of this and previous Arts festivals.

As the artists get underway and the smell of paint fills the air, another visitor joins us; the sunshine and with it, the crowds come too. Children and adults alike are welcomed to get creative on the 'Doodle Bomb' board whilst upstairs in the gallery gluing, sticking and painting was on offer too.



The day would not have been possible without the help and support of not only the artists but the local businesses who sponsored the event including Inkspiration Tattoo's, Bagleys Estate Agents, Wilkinsons, B&C, Simply Charming, S&C Furniture and The Boars Head Kidderminster.

For any information about future events at The Boars Head Gallery find The BHG on facebook, email gallary@boars-head-kidderminster.co.uk or call 01562 861870

Photography by Katie Doolan

Worcester's tenth festival started with the usual beer festival and by the first Sunday had chilled out to a nice walk along the river. Luckily the weather held off and children were able to run about in the fountains at South Quay beside the river. The Artists' Market, was full of colour and excitement as local artists displayed their work for all to see, and hopefully some to buy. The works were as beautiful as they were varied: from photography to oil paintings, pencil and watercolour, and even some pottery and glassware. There were abstracts, local landscapes, portraits and wildlife, and even caricatures on the day while the subject waited. And for those who couldn't afford an original art work for the wall, there was plenty of delightful art to see, and beautiful jewellery or postcards to buy as a memento, while the more adventurous visitors took a free taster session in a dragon boat and local teenage folk trio Grannies Attic provided entertainment for the crowds.



MEDICAL MASTERPIECES

The Charles Hastings Education Centre hosted an open day at the George Marshall Medical Museum on 26th July entitled "The Art of Medicine". The museum was open as usual for visitors to see, but there were also activities for budding artists, and those interested in history, with hands on activities for kids, arty trails and a rare chance to see some of the gruesomely illustrated historic medical books. Even the Museums Worcestershire Museum on the Move bus joined in, with its Just Art exhibition including arts, objects, images and activities for all the family. Throughout the day three artists created some impressive art works, and visitors were able to watch and chat to the artists while they worked. Jose Santos, Joanne Henderson and Lorna Flight are all recent art graduates from the University of Worcester. They

created a range of work during the day inspired by the medical history books and artefacts on show, as well as by their previous work. Joanne and Lorna unusually worked together taking turns to add medical- and disease-inspired shapes and patterns to the haunting interiors for which Joanne is already famous, having recently exhibited at the Hive in the student art show. The artists commented that this was a very different way to work as they were feeding off each other's ideas as well as the medical books for inspiration, not knowing what the works would look like when it came to their turn to add detail, and that they had really enjoyed this stimulating experience. This was also a rare opportunity to access many of the books held at the Charles Hastings Education Centre, with hand drawn anatomical drawings dating back hundreds of years, and they found the books very interesting. The finished works show that the books clearly inspired their work today. Meanwhile Jose Santos, who also exhibited at the Hive, drew charcoal chalk and pastel drawings inspired by the skeletons shown in the anatomy books, and also really enjoyed this unusual opportunity to be involved with the museum.

The artworks were on show in the Charles Hastings Education Centre until the end of August. The museum is open 10am to 4pm every day in the Charles Hastings Education Centre beside the Worcestershire Royal Hospital on Newtown Road, it is free to look around. Group tours and object handling sessions can be booked with Louise Price the museum's curator at www.medicalmuseum.org.uk or on 01905 760738. Photographs from George Marshall Medical Museum.

by Sarah Ganderton



REVIEW - Filmaddict 6

The BHG Kidderminster - 20th August

Tonight The Boars Head Gallery is host to Filmaddict, a celebration of independent film and a first for this year, some stop motion animation. Already On its 6th outing and as part of 2012 KAF (Kidderminster Arts Festival) people who turned up were to be subjected to nuns on a rope swing, murder, the obligatory vomit scene in a music video and some documentary style dark comedy. Starting with the music video 'Ron Salmon' which saw a masked yob causing havoc to the sound of a little ditty by thrash metal band The Bental Interlude, directed by Tom Rutter. Next up was a contribution from the co-founder of filmaddict Alex Bakshaev. Now living back in Russia Alex sent 'Videohunter'. A murder caught on VHS, and a captive who's been set-up taking revenge with her suspected mute partner, made for a good not yet been released short! Thank you to Alex Bakshaev for the preview of 'Videohunter' all the way from Russia. White Raven Films based in Kidderminster submitted 'The Rogue Filmmaker'. Makers of black comedy horror this independent film saw the director himself Bazz Hancher the subject of a spoof documentary where actors and extras from his films including his own brother and



mother in law give frank and horrifying accounts of the twisted and depraved mind of the man behind 2011 short film 'Leon's Broken Mind'. Hancher's films aren't for the faint hearted

or easily offended, so be warned and expect to be grossed out..... excellent! The film was co-directed by Bazz Hancher and Mike Scott.

Another music video by Andrew Rutter for the band Dreamers Nightmares 'You Choke Fur Coat'. Next a bit of stop motion animation by Joel Taylor and Joe Scott. 'Doodle' Depicted the curious nature of a blue snake like character, evolving from paper idea to physical form. The disturbing short starring the masked poet Bobby Parker, 'Jo's Teabag' portrays Bobby's rubber faced character eerily lit by candle light, frantically piecing together bits of stories and events inspired by the 'teabag full of words'. combined with jerky camera this made for a weird and compulsive watch, as can be expected from Tom Rutter who's sequel to Carnie Film Productions 'Nuns' finished of the night with a tale our lord would be proud of. Ever wondered what a nun munching on a sausage looks like? Well look no further! sister Moype and sister Gloype return in 'Nuns Nemesis Nutbutter' AMEN!

by Toni Charles

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The advertisement features a photograph of The Hop Pole Inn at night, with its lights on and a sign that reads 'HOP POLE INN'. The text is overlaid on the image in various fonts and colors, including white, yellow, and red.

Get It Outta My System... - Andy O'Hare



Well it's just about the end of the wettest summer ever - at the time of penning this it's not looking great for Worcester Music Festival - but as it's the festival the weather just can't spoil (who said that?) - I'd still rather



spend the holiday weekend giving my bunions a good workout on Worcester's cobbles than listening to a endless succession of Leeds bands at some other festival! But what's amazing is that when it's really mattered - somehow most of the festies I've been to so far this summer - Wychwood, Linton, WCFC, Mini-Fest, Droitwich, Rock The Ford, Colwall, Upton Blues, Nozstock, Malvern Rocks, B-Fest and the BeerFest have somehow escaped a drenching with only Upton Jazz really suffering - and have to say that in terms of local music this 'summer' has been amazing - and sure I'll not be the only one singing to the rafters in praise of WMF in the next SLAP!

Now I get a lot of requests to do reviews of bands EPs and albums - but as you probably know I'm more a fan of live gigs - and have always been a singles rather than an album person. Until a couple of years ago this well-worthwhile job used to be superbly handled by Toxic Pete (www.toxicpete.co.uk) until he decided to hang up his headphones - still well worth checking his site out though for some amazing reviews!! But what's desperately needed I feel is for someone to pick up where Pete left off - they'll need to be capable of the 'flowery'

language needed for this type of work (I can think of a couple of people who fit the bill already - but they're already far too busy!) There must be someone out there who's good with English, with a bit of time on their hands and who'd appreciate getting lots of free music through the post each day!

There was an article by Ben Cardew in a recent issue of the excellent Stool Pigeon about the 'decline in the music festival' (well not round these parts mate!) - but he made an excellent point about festivals having to rely on ever-older acts to fill their headliner slots due to the lack of guitar/rock music breaking and/or entering the charts and I couldn't agree more!! Now I don't have a downer on urban/dance/electro music in particular - but when I go to a gig or a festival my boat isn't really floated by seeing a bloke or two on stage twiddling their knobs for an hour or so - no matter how good the sound or light-show is (with the possible exception of Fuck Buttons of course!!) And I don't reckon I'm alone in this - festival audiences in particular still want to see guitar acts - even with the crappy weather and no Glasto/Big Chill etc this year festival attendances have stayed really healthy - can't see them dying real soon! What is the problem is that I guess the last 'proper' act to break through really fast and headline major festivals was probably the Arctic Monkeys - and that was a few years ago. It's been a struggle for up-and-coming rock bands for probably the last ten years now - and I think it's going to need a major mindshift from the record companies, national radio stations and festival promoters to get away from the easy options of established acts and the cheap alternative of bedroom DJ's - trouble is I can't see that happening overnight...

I've had a few people getting back to me (so-sue-me@live.co.uk) about my 'little issues' with band names a couple of SLAPs ago - thanks folks! There's an Evesham band called Smoke Pilot who used to be called Medamaki - and they chose that name because their band would be top of a Google search (doesn't work with Smoke Pilot though guys!!) Now I thought that this was a pretty shrewd move at the time - and I have to say that I've been a bit baffled in recent years why outfits like November And The Criminal and the excellent Herefordians Brandon Steep changed their band-names to Peace and Apples respectively - doesn't seemed to have hurt Harry's lot much but Apples have since called it a day!! I buttonholed Doug of Peace a few weeks ago and asked him about this - and his view was that if fans really wanted to find out more about Peace then they'd have to put in more effort than just a straight-forward Google search. Now I think he's got a point here - but knowing that my own personal attention-span is only slightly greater than an average-sized flea - what do you think?



COMEDY AT HUNTINGDON HALL, WORCESTER



FRED MACAULY – Legally Bald

Friday 28th September at 8pm | Tickets £15

As seen on TV's Have I Got News For You, QI and Mock The Week, the stand up comedy legend Fred MacAulay is back with his new one man show full of great stories and witticisms.

BEATING BERLUSCONI!

Thursday 18th October at 8pm | Tickets £12.50

(Concessions £11)

For the football fan in your life – Beating Berlusconi is based on the famous true story of a real Liverpool fan who ended up sitting next to Silvio Berlusconi at the Attaturk Stadium.



ANDREW LAWRENCE IS COMING TO GET YOU

Friday 19th October at 8pm | Tickets £15

As seen on BBC 1's Live at the Apollo, now a regular on Channel 4's Stand Up For The Week, Andrew Lawrence is back on the road following a sell-out fifty date tour of the UK.

JENNY ÉCLAIR – Eclairious

Thursday 25th October at 8pm | Tickets £17.50

Professional Grumpy Old Woman, writer and panto star Jenny Éclair is back with her new stand up show.



DANNY BHOY – Wonderlurst

Wednesday 31st October at 8pm | Tickets £15

After a campaign which successfully saw the return of Roast Beef Monster Munch, Danny's hilarious new stand up show is loosely-based around a handful of letters that have been penned out of frustration, with mixed results.

ROB ROUSE – Life Sentences

Friday 30th November at 8pm | Tickets £15

(Concessions £13)

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Comedy Zone

with Adam Montgomery

As I write, the Edinburgh Festival is drawing to a close. Four frenzied weeks of comedy, theatre, film, street performance, music and virtually every other art form you can imagine. Every pub, club, cafe and spare room in the city is transformed into a performance space. It's a global cultural experience second to none and if you've been lucky enough to attend then it's a memory that you will carry with you for the rest of your life.

And yet we humans as we are, are not content to simply celebrate the experience, the diversity, the event in itself. Like we do in virtually every industry or art form, we feel the need to decide who has "won". Of the many thousand performers, who was the best? Who was the funniest? The Edinburgh Comedy Awards (formerly the Perrier Awards) are the pinnacle of the festival to many and a distracting sideshow to others.

I have to confess I had not heard of this year's winner, American clown, **Doctor Brown**. But by all accounts his show was extraordinary, despite the lack of any words! He joins an illustrious cast, as previous winners of the award include **Steve Coogan**, **Stephen Fry**, **Dylan Moran**, **League of Gentleman** and many others who have all become established household names.



Daniel Simonsen

Doctor Brown



There is a Best Newcomer Award too and I am pleased to see that the winner was **Daniel Simonsen**, a Norwegian comedian, now based in London, who at The Comedy Zone in Worcester last year.

Awards are great of course, if you win them. But the nature of them is that most don't, and I include myself amongst an elite group of comedians who have never won an award. As the brilliantly controversial and ever-so-

slightly-scary **Ian Cognito** once bitterly remarked "In a pub the other day I ate an award-winning sausage. Christ! Despite years of blood, sweat and tears I've never won an award. Nothing. Yet even a sausage can win an award. How does that make me feel?"

I tried. In 2001 I found myself through to the televised semi-final of the BBC New Comedy Awards. In a packed theatre in Bristol, I gave one of the best performances of my career. The audience loved me. The judges didn't apparently! The evening's plaudits were garnered by a little known comedian at the time, called **Russell Howard**. It was clearly a pivotal moment in both our comedy careers. I'm not sure what he's doing now.

I do sometimes wonder whether, had I won the award that night, I would be selling out the O2 today. If I am honest I doubt it. But who can tell where it might have led? I gave up on chasing awards shortly afterwards and decided to simply enjoy what I was doing and I have loved every minute of it.



Tom Binns

The next Comedy Zone show at the Marris Bar is on Thursday 6th September and features the incredible talents of prize-winning comedian **Tom Binns** who has notched up many awards for his comedy including Top 50 Most Memorable Gigs of the Decade, Chortle 2000-2010 and Top 10 Fosters Comedy God 2010, Tom Binns performs both his infamous Hospital Radio DJ **Ivan Brackenbury** character and the spirit medium, **Ian D Montford** for one night only. He is joined by undoubted future award-winner **Gary Delaney**, king of the one-liner and fresh from his debut appearance on *Mock the Week*. The season continues on October 4th where there will be more comedy and doubtless more present and future award-winners!

Tickets available from www.ticketweb.co.uk or on the door subject to availability.

Gary Delaney



Versatile Arts

Versatile Arts are Caitlin Belgard and Dee Davidson, they have worked creatively together for four years 'They do it because they love it.'

Versatile have promoted many events including sell out shows by Ian McMillan and John Cooper Clarke. They created the *'Smoke and Mirrors Cabaret'* a mixture of Music, poetry and Open mike performances.

Versatile published the *'Smoke and Mirrors Anthology'*, a collection of poetry and recording, including local and nationally known poets who have performed in Malvern. Available from Aspect Design.

Caitlin also produced Reaction Theatre Company's *'The Slip'* last year; she is currently working on a series of Malvern specific designs.

Versatile have been quiet in the early part of 2012 working as part of Malvern Youth and Community Trust. The trust seeks to transform the former Malvern Youth Centre, now renamed Malvern Cube into a thriving youth and community space/venue. There are two performance spaces within the centre and the Versatile Arts autumn programme experiments with both.

The 4th Malvern Poetry Slam takes place in the Café Bar. 12 poets go head to head over two rounds with the last poet standing judged the winner. Poets are scored by judges selected from the audience on the night and marked on poetic style, audience response and performance.

This year slam night includes a set by the legendary Attila the Stockbroker.



Attila is inspired by the spirit and 'Do It Yourself' ethos of punk rock, and above all by The Clash and their overtly radical, political stance. Attila loves humour, wit, wickedness, satire, subversion.

In the main hall, Versatile are excited to be promoting the only midlands show by 'Peatbog Fairies', the Peatbogs are Based on the Isle of Skye and have been nominated for Best Live Act at the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards 2012 they are described as 'the future of Celtic dance music'. Their music incorporates many influences. Their inventive and

unique approach always brings a true flavour of traditional Scottish music whilst offering a high octane experience 'Nothing prepares you for the high octane music of the Peatbog Faeries' - The Scotsman.



The Poetry Slam and Attila the Stockbroker, Fri 5th Oct doors open 7.30 tickets £7.00

Peatbog Fairies, Thurs 11th Oct, doors open at 7.30 Tickets £16.00 from Malvern theatres box office 01684 892277.

Both events at Malvern Cube, Albert Rd North Malvern, WR14 2YF.

PREVIEW Johnny Cash Roadshow Swan Theatre 9th Sept

The Swan Theatre welcomes Malvern's own singer/songwriter Clive John in one of the most talked about shows in the UK 'The Johnny Cash Roadshow' on Saturday 8th September. The band features award winning Clive John as Johnny Cash, Jill Schoonjans as June Carter, and musicians Nick Davis, Dean Elliott and Jim 'E' Williams in a celebration of one of America's greatest music performers.

The Johnny Cash Roadshow will perform material from throughout Cash's career including 'Walk the Line' and 'Folsom Prison Blues' to Johnny Cash's last release in 2002, 'Hurt'. There are many stops in between bringing the audience all the favourites such as 'Man in Black', 'Boy named Sue' and 'The Ring of Fire'. The show also brings a focus on the duets Johnny and June sang, including 'Jackson' and 'If I Were a Carpenter'. 2011 has seen new songs introduced to the show and a very special feature with Jill Schoonjans on Autoharp performing as June Carter would have.

From start to finish the band take the audience through the Johnny Cash live show experience. The chemistry of Johnny and June is also brought to the stage through the accompanying video projection which brings evocative images to each song to complete the story of the life of a 'legend'.

For tickets and more information contact the Box Office on 01905 611427 or visit theswantheatre.co.uk.

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CD REVIEW

The Dale Von Minaker Band – You Are Here

Well you're off to a good start with a name like Dale Von Minaker: manly, mysterious and surely minor Euro royalty at least?!

Sebastian Von Minaker would have been slightly better but I nitpick.

And would you credit it the band sound like their name: powerful and lyrical.

Mr DVM not surprisingly is the main boyo here and thusly writes and sings all the songs in addition to axe-slinging and ivory-tinkling.

And what a thoroughly bloody good job he does of it all, together with thoroughbred cohorts Garry Gibbons on bass and drummer Steve Smith.

At times this Kidderminster trio come on like an amped up Tom Petty and others, such as on opener I Cannot Begin, somewhat akin to the Manics, especially in the vox & song structure department.

The eleven tracks here are of a consistently high standard and interest never wanes as the energy plus variety keep yer lug'oles pricked and toes-a-tapping'.

Faves for me were Casual Sex (obviously! Ed) where the Pettyness reigned supreme with it's muscular power-pop feel and classy melody; Jackie Let Go, yet another excellent, tuneful winner and Odd One Out which strut-boogies in fine style, showcasing this well-drilled rhythm section plus some cool organ swells (ooh-er).

Dale has quite the range in his larynx and uses it to sterling effect throughout this quality album, with melodies sometimes sounding familiar but on the right side of 'influenced by' as opposed to 'borrowed from'. You know wotimean: naggingly familiar but original enough to get away with it.

The chugging riffage factor is also high throughout but this is a good thing as together with the tight as drums'n'bass everything keeps motoring along nicely.

If melodic but muscular rock is your kettle of bananas then come hear the Dale Von Minaker Band.

Have a butcher's at their webbo www.dvmband.com and buy their album.

Why not pop along and see em at the following venues:-

Kidderminster Town Hall	Sept 14th
Un-Plug Birmingham	Oct 27th
Adam and Eve Birmingham	Nov 14th

Words by Ronnie Pudding



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REVIEW

A Brief Alternative Take On Green Man 2012 - Craigus Barry



Friday

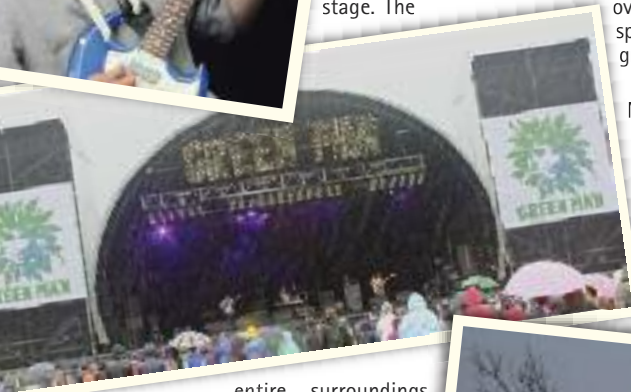
We entered the festival from the back, which I won't go into too much. This happened partly due to my having been in a band with a drumming banana last year {see Slap! August 2011,} who is better known for being



the bassist with This Wicked Tongue (his loss) who in turn were now opening Green Man 2012 having won the unsigned competition. I mention this only because I had no idea of the size of this festival until I had trotted round to the front of the main stage. The

vocals. I was taken aback by the professionalism on show here, in spite of the understandable nerves from all involved, the Tongue came across as tight as a cross dressing nuns crotch. At one point Tina pirouetted around on the spot and effortlessly slung a guitar over her shoulder as the intro to the next song played out. Which was sheer class!

Other highlights include two new songs - 50 Shades Of Diff and one untitled that were both a much punkier fare than the usual material. I felt this was a much needed addition to the already interesting set as although they consistently engage the crowd there was a certain element of intensity missing until now. I don't know how, but on the chorus of 'House' {a truly discordant monster of a tune!} the bass and guitar sound like shards of over driven metallic rock ricocheting off an orbital spaceship at high speed with a satisfying clunk! A great start to the festival, make no mistake!



Later that day a colleague (Taylor) described Mogwai as "Morigami, folding music into delicate structures" which is probably the best description I could have hoped for. Mogwai did not fail to deliver on expectations, as they produced an enormous sound that was at times hypnotic, and all encompassing. I was pleasantly surprised to hear a live rendition of Hunted By A Freak {a track they rarely play} and was taken aback by the washing sound-scape of pure ethereal bliss.

At times they seemed to bend and slow the ebb of time itself, but this could have been the strobe lights and my own over indulgence.

Saturday

Highlights would be: Willie Mason - a man who proves that lights and big sound system do not make the show, and has one of the best song books I have ever heard. Consistent and memorable, a testament to the power of a good song!



Another high point was Yann Tiersen, probably best known for his sound track work to the film Amelie. Most of his set was synth lead ambient prog but half way through he took out his fiddle and brought the often rowdy crowd to stunned silence. A true master at the height of his prowess!

Sunday

We took a trip to Future Generations - a section of the festival aimed mostly at kids but there were lots of adults not acting their age here. There was giant hungry hungry hippos and Buckaroo to play with, it was here we

entire surroundings resembled a surreal theme park of delights with the usual festival shacks dotted around. Memories are sketchy from there but here's a few highlights, starting with T.W.T.

There has been tons of praise thrown at this energetic progressive band, consisting of: Haydn Rodgers on guitar/vocals (Blue Radio, Ancient Addicts), Rob Taylor (former aforementioned drumming banana of The Strange) on bass, power house Ben Pemberton on drums and are fronted by the talented Ms Tina V on vocals, keys and guitar.

The set opened with one the heaviest sounds of the whole weekend: 'In Collusion' riffing slabs of distortion slap you round the face in this tour-de-force that puts you in mind of Tool straight off the bat. The crowd (quite a lot of people considering the early midday slot) seemed undecided as to what to think of the noise but by Cape Palorum they had made up their minds. Probably one of their strongest songs, it seamlessly melds perfect pop sensibility with an infectious stoner rock chorus and soul



discovered the mystery behind the sub sonic bass that seemed to emanate mysteriously around the festival over the weekend. It turned out to be a tent {mostly for kids mind,} that was

literally crammed with tactile circuit bent devices and switches, so you spun the wheel to a position and you got a satisfying BAB0000000000000M that travelled for miles and miles.

The experimental hip hop stylings of Dizraeli And The Small Gods was another major highlight of the whole festival! Late I hurried wading through the torrential mud surrounding the Chai Wallah tent {that had by now, after three days of on/off heavy rain fall become an adhesive Mississippi mud pie} to arrive at a completely rammed venue, where they had also just gotten off to a blinding start. The band comprises of multi instrumentalists taking it to the extreme. Dizraeli fronts the whole shebang on vocals/Mc'in/guitar/ melodica, not a strum dee strum guitarist by any stretch this guy deftly finger-picks and plays with utmost feeling. His lyrical word play and humour constantly engaged the crowd while his humble attitude brought the late Brady Nowell of Sublime to mind.

Backing him up there's no shortage of musical brilliance each adding their own stamp on the sound in particular: Beatrix is a beat boxing cellist who showed off a range that is unprecedented to anything I have witnessed before. I was fooled into believing the guy on the decks and korg was responsible for those noises, but no it was a human voice blowing raspberries in close quarters which was used to stunning effect. The musical eclecticism and inventiveness of this band is as strong as its firmly projected message: berating modern society while musing on the themes of equality and love, the crowd took this to heart and pogoed around like happy loons!

A while later the Green Man himself {see picture} was ceremoniously torched and fireworks were abound. Overall, there's not enough space to regale everything on show here, (The live IDM of Three Trapped Tigers, the off the wall mashups of Mr Scruff, DJ SWITCH super fine turn-tablist "And now for your listening pleasure Justin Beiber will be ripped apart by live wolves", or the crazy kraut rock stylings of Islets, for instance!) for the most part it was a mesmerising time of being mullered in the mud, being moistened with musical mysteries and other things that begin with M. One word of warning though - when venturing into this kind of fare it's best to bring Wellies because gentlemen's shoes (and I can whole heartedly say this from experience,) just don't cut it.

Photography: Ela Rodgers

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REVIEW

The Jam DRC – Friday
17th August 2012

So I'm seeing a band.... at a snooker club... hmmmm... despite my concerns that we were going to the wrong place, as we turn off the Pershore Road in Stirchley, a blackboard proudly boasts 'Tonight, The Jam'. As I set foot onto the car park I am alerted to the familiar sound of Beat Surrender seeping from the building that is Perfection Snooker Club. It takes me a verse or two to discover this is not the original version being played, but the band from within. I turn to my companion for the evening with a look of 'are we late - or have they started early?!' A couple of strides through the door confirms that an ear-splitting sound-check is in full effect.

Immediately impressed by South Birmingham's newest, and perhaps most unlikely live music venue, I check out the facilities on my way to the nearest of two bars. The ample floor-level stage is intersected from the long tables and high stools by a wooden-laminated dance floor. Hidden around the corner from the second bar is a stylish eating area, slowly filling up with punters eager to forget about their week in the rat race.....are you sure this is a snooker club?!

The Jam DRC end their sound check and return 10 minutes later, urging me to wind-up my catch-up with a couple of old friends.



A few thundering seconds into The Modern World and I find my foot is uncontrollably slapping against the carpet. My curiosity is satisfied at this point as I spy the illuminated, green tables through a window to the left of the stage behind the band....game on.

The Jam DRC are clearly a no-nonsense tribute band here to do the business. David King on vocals/lead guitar has no desire to convince you he is the Woking Wonder Weller, neither do Daz Batt (bass) and Ricky Cox (drums) crave you to double-take, mistaking them for Foxton and Buckler. They're here to re-create the sound, power and passion of arguably the most potent and prolific 3 piece ever to grace the Hit Parade....and they do not disappoint. As replicas go, this triumvirate are as accomplished and professional as they are endearing. As any self-respecting Mod will tell you - it's all about the attention to detail!

For the masses there are the familiar, sing-a-long number one hits, Town Called Malice, Going Underground and Start, plus the ever-popular Eton Rifles and Down In

The Tubestation. For the boys and girls who saved their coins and pound notes for the many vinyl album treats, there are spot-on renditions of Monday, Life From A Window, and Running On The Spot, hell, there's even the classic B side, Liza Radley. Thrown in for good measure is the band's own stripped-down version of Precious (the lesser-known little brother of fellow A- sider Town Called Malice), revealing the true quality of Weller's song-writing craft, perhaps not obvious on the original 7 inch.



The Rubery/Northfield lads are joined on stage for 8 songs, when required by Ange Lloyd, providing trumpet and keyboards on songs such as Beat Surrender and Absolute Beginners, bringing a much-needed authenticity and depth to these fine tunes.

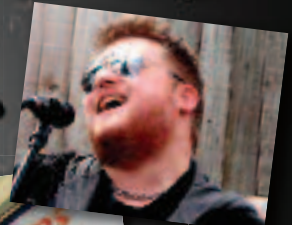


Near-on 30 songs and two hours later, frontman King's Brumsdale t-shirt is gripped to his thin, wiry frame. Sweat dripping from his head onto his slaving Rickenbacker. In contrast, Daz on bass looks freshly blow-dried and ready for a night on the tiles. The encore draws more of the mod-smattered crowd onto the dancefloor to indulge in some Northern Soul bopping and, ahem, Dad-dancing. That's Entertainment, after all. I am unwilling to leave my seat, it's been an overdue and welcome trip down memory lane - it feels like a celebration of The Jam's full repertoire. The Jam DRC have made this die-hard Jam fan smile, dance.....and nip off home to rediscover his vinyl.

by Colin Insley

FLIGHT into FEAR

Several years ago I took a flight from Cape Town to Durban. Virtually every day during the South African summer you can expect a thunderstorm on the veldt but as we taxied towards take off the pilot explained that there would be some extra serious turbulence throughout the flight. He was right. To avoid the worst of the buffeting we climbed to 42,000 feet, about as high as a passenger plane can fly. Riding above the storm, we had an enviable sight of the relentless lightning bolts and flashes illuminating the clouds. Quite a thing to behold. The plane was bouncing all over the place, wings flexing wildly, the floor dropping away leaving you weightless for a few seconds before rising up, making you impossibly heavy. All in all, an intense and exhilarating experience. There was only one way to deal with the situation; partake of the free whisky and ginger while imagining you were travelling across a ploughed field in the back of a Land Rover.



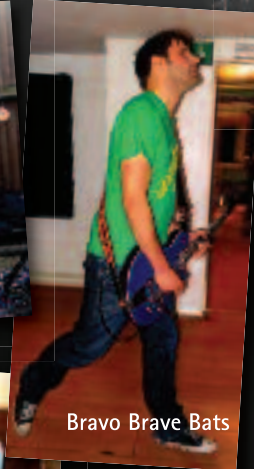
A Nancy Boy



The Misers



Threshing Ground



Bravo Brave Bats



Troy

The feeling during that flight was very similar to how I felt during Malvern Rocks. The casual observer would have seen someone enjoying the sights, seemingly relaxed and in control. The truth was more like that South African flight; intense and exhilarating. Malvern Rocks was organised by a small team of people over a period of around seven months. Some of us had been involved with similar things before but nothing on this scale. With over one hundred performances in sixteen venues over three days the hardest part was the logistics. Getting the right band in the right venue at the right time with an appropriate pa system, enough microphones and someone to operate the mixing desk seems a simple enough task but the turbulence created by bands pulling out and several no-shows made for a bumpy ride. That's not to say it was unenjoyable. In fact it was damned exciting, just like that flight.



Enzo at the GMH



Chuck Harriot Trio

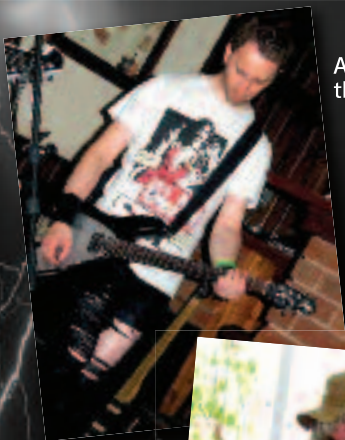
The vast majority of the venues were full (some close to bursting) with fantastic line ups all round. Reports came back of interesting occurrences: Plane Crasher playing so loud at Oliver's that bottles of spirits were shaken off shelves, the Chuck Harriot Trio struggling to be heard over the Bravo Brave Bats in the upstairs bar at the Great Malvern, the Pewke Band and Phatty Mango turning the Red Lion into a raucous den, Calm Like a Riot shaking the very foundations of the Unicorn with their special brand of hip hop, the Dogs of Santorini mini tour - four gigs in four days, the busiest Saturday afternoon ever at the Morgan, the mighty Vo Fletcher hosting a fabulous night at the Glosters, Troy, reformed after some thirty years playing at Mt Pleasant, the same venue where they debuted in 1981 while the Slap stage at the Wyche Inn rocked and rocked with Reinforced, Aesthetics and Black Russian. Acoustic acts played through the day, outside and in, with the now legendary Lounge Toad drinking his way from venue to venue until unable to perform due to his decreasing sobriety. He ground to a halt mid song during his set at the Unicorn and declared 'I can't remember the feckin words!' After three days hard partying, there was still plenty



The now Legendary Lounge Toad

in attendance at the late night wrap party at Oliver's. A party featuring the delightful indie-ska of Skewhiff, the frolicking funk of Freaky Trigger and the hastily assembled Malvern Rocks All-Stars closing the festival with aplomb. The other similarity with that South African flight was the coping strategy. While there was no need to imagine oneself to be traversing a field in a 4x4, the specially brewed Malvern Rocks ale sure eased the tension. And, to cap it all, raising money through the sale of badges, wristbands and prize draw tickets netted £2,500 for Acorn's. Nice. I love flying. RT.

Photos by Paul Boyce & Joy Harrison



Against
the Wheel



Martin Thorne

REVIEW

Buster Shuffle @ Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove. 3rd August 2012

There's a great atmosphere in the Hop Pole tonight, perfectly complementing the upbeat, cocky ska that Buster Shuffle entertain with tonight. Starting off sans four members; vocalist Jethro, drummer Terry and Tim on the double bass get the juices flowing with some rock 'n' roll covers.

When the rest of the band hits the stage they break into the originals; taking from both albums and infecting the audience with some seriously catchy tracks. An obvious Madness influence shines through with a genuine sense of humour and this is mixed with a Chris Difford lyricism that walks the fine line between ridiculous and relatable.

The whole band pop with energy; laughing and interacting with the crowd and keeping energies high by slipping covers of classics like A Message to You, Rudy in between their own tales of London buses and relationships gone bad.

By the time they start their second half the whole pub has broken off into groups dancing and singing along and this becomes more than just another pub gig. This is an actual show; one you would pay good money for. The whole band are so in tune with the songs, with what they are doing that while anyone would find it difficult to keep seven rowdy members on task this lot do it effortlessly.

It's all over a bit too soon, even after the three encores that the band have happily given, and they instantly head into the crowd to interact with the folk they just spent the best part of two hours entertaining. It's great to see a band put this much effort into a show many would write off, and it's just as nice to see the proprietor put a band not for the profit but for the opportunity to throw a real good night.

Matthew Tilt
Photography by Becky Williams



PREVIEW

Karnataka - Artrix 23rd September

From powerful to ethereal, breathtaking to haunting – just some of the words used to describe female fronted rock band Karnataka, which visits Artrix in Bromsgrove on September 23rd.



Winning plaudits from a rapturous press and media, the band has performed alongside Robert Plant and "Porcupine Tree", whilst lead singer Hayley Griffiths won best Classical Crossover Artist in 2010. (www.karnataka.org.uk).

The show starts at 8.00.p.m and tickets at £15 are available from the Box Office on 01527-577330 or online at www.artrix.co.uk

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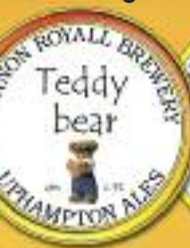
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REVIEW THE BULLDOG BASH – Shakespeare County Raceway, Stratford-upon-Avon.

9TH-11TH
AUGUST 2012



The 26th annual Bulldog Bash got under way on a very warm and sunny Thursday evening with four bands playing the main stage, well three actually if you consider there was one band in two guises! We started with Scottish rockers 'Bags of Rock' followed by 'Boot Led Zeppelin' with the evening being rounded off by AC/DC tribute band 'Hells Bells' who started their set as 'HellRazor', a rock covers act. These midweek slots was supported by a modest but vocal crowd of bikers getting ready for two further days of musical mayhem that would follow. By 11pm, the bands had finished but the music went on till the very early hours in the form of the rave tent; I was off home to bed. Day 2 and two stages were in operation, the Area 81 stage during the early part of the day and the main stage which kicked off around 4pm with a couple of hours overlap between the two.

I somehow contrived to miss the first band of the day, 'Codejak' (sorry lads) who had recently supported 'Fozzy' but made it in time to see Bristolians 'Alien Stash Tin', previously described as "the druid band from hell", and who I'd seen a few months ago at the Area 81 Rock Club. Next up were 'Skam' a Leicester-based, hard rock trio playing original songs influenced by the likes of Iron Maiden, AC/DC and the Foo Fighters. After a beer break, my next

appointment was with 'Hellbound', a Gloucester-based band who I'd planned to see at the Heaven & Hell Festival in Gloucester in October. They gave a half hour of good quality metal interspersed with some alcohol fuelled shenanigans. I never realised Cap'n Jack Sparrow (otherwise known as Benn Bojangles or Benn Lee to his friends) could play the guitar quite so well! By now, the main stage had opened so it was a frantic dash between the stages to see the bands I fancied seeing most.

'Guns 2 Roses' were already getting to the end of their set when I got to the main stage. These are one of the better tribute bands and went down very well with the crowd. A good selection of cover tracks gave the crowd something to sing (I use the word 'sing' quite loosely) to.

A technical hitch delayed the arrival of 'Henry's Funeral Shoe' on the main stage so that was my cue to go and have another pint or two of some very good real ale. So good in fact that I didn't get to see the latecomers so jump one act further to 'The Union', a brilliant 'classic rock' duo supported by some talented session musicians.

The penultimate band of the night, and one of the most bizarrely entertaining I've seen for a long time, was the 'Urban Voodoo Machine' who brought together so many genres of music that I lost count. Hugely entertaining, they got the audience involved and gave a relentless barrage of songs some of which involved a young lady playing with an instrument that was far bigger than she was!

Headline band for the night was Nico Tamburella and his brand of guitar-fuelled rock and blues. This time around he's gone heavier than previously heard but no less entertaining, a great set from a great guitarist surrounded and supported by some extremely good musicians.

Day 3 kicks off at 12.45pm when Evesham lads 'Fifteen English Pounds' hit the Area 81 stage with their rocking mix of new, original material and popular covers, just right to get the crowd going. These were followed by 'X UFO', a group of well established and experienced rock musicians, some previously with monsters of rock, UFO, providing a lively set of UFO covers.



Next on stage we had 'Virus', an energetic thrash metal band and another band from North of the Border, 'The Lost', giving over some classic rock in a 1970's/80's style reminiscent of bands such as Thunder, Airbourne and Motley Crue.

'Mothers Ruin' fronted by ex-Heavy Pettin' drummer Gary Moat who has evolved from drummer to guitarist/vocalist followed 'The Lost'. A great sound from a band I first saw at the Area 81 Rock Club in Bristol.

Time to race over to the main stage to see 'Rammlied', the Rammstein tribute band giving a full helping of industrial heavy metal and pyrotechnics. This was the first time I'd seen these and I have to say I enjoyed every song despite not understanding a word of it. Another trip to

the beer tent gave me a break and the next band I watched was 'The Sex Pistols Experience'. No description is needed really, they did a full set of Sex Pistols tracks infused with the usual obscenities directed at the crowd.....which were flung straight back at the band with added humour. The headline band for the festival was all that was left and it was a band who needed no introduction. 'Bad Manners', still fronted by Doug Trendle aka Buster Bloodvessel, gave the crowd a lesson in ska that had everyone singing (I still use that term loosely), shouting and dancing along. Buster might be half the man (literally) he used to be but the energy and sheer personality shone through. A great end to a great weekend of music.

Words & Pics by Reg Richardson



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THE PIG & DRUM, LOWESMOOR WORCESTER

REVIEW

Concrete Belly + TCH + Left Hand Cuts off the Right Temple of Boom, Stourbridge. 18th August 2012.

The Temple of Boom usually puts on bands, although god knows how because it's cramped tonight with only one man bands playing. Left Hand Cuts off the Right begins proceedings and everyone squeezes into Room 2 to sit on the floor and watch Robbie Judkins create some seriously intense soundscapes.

Starting off with swirling loops that wouldn't be out of place opening a Gasper Noe film and slowly but surely bringing in layers of distortion that become aggressive and discomforting as it progresses. Flashes of voices can be heard as the ever changing sounds are built upon with handheld percussion instruments and loops of feedback. There's no talking during the set, no stupid jokes or macho heckling, everyone just lets the noise wash over them.

Vastly different is TCH, who we are rapidly pulled into Room 1 for, consisting of pedals, a guitar and a rudimentary drum set up. Playing sparse melodies before looping them and turning to the drums to lay down an almost tribal back beat to each song; it's a strange set up and one that isn't as fluid as it could be but one that shows the man behind TCH, Tim Holehouse, to be passionate and intuitive when it comes to his music. It's telling that he can seamlessly move from his thoughtful brand of drone to ending his set on a crushing heavy doom track.

Concrete Belly changes the pace once again, ending the night on a hedonistic mix of dance, Sonic Youth guitar fuzz and shoe gaze ambient. Completely controlling the crowd, Ashley Cole shows a mastery of his equipment as he switches from high octane beats that has the crowd dancing and showing off some questionable MC talents before flooring them with a slab of guitar feedback and dark moments of ambient that are over far too quickly.



by Matthew Tilt

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ARTS FEATURE

YOUNG POP THINGS PRESENTS... Tom Roberts Exhibition
@ THE FIREFLY 24th August 2012



Slap caught up with Tom Roberts, Illustrator, Artist extraordinaire at the firefly for the launch of his show during the music festival.

Tom is an Illustrator who has become an artist, working primarily for himself not for big clients. The paintings he makes are open to interpretation but are riddled with coded messages and symbolism that can be read into however you like.

His work is affected by mythology and iconography and interprets fantasy and religious imagery in the mundane and in everyday life. Whimsical landscape scenes incorporate elements inspired by the rolling hills and forests and woodlands of rural Hereford, where he currently resides.

Tom is working on several painting commissions and several murals including walls for a nightclub. You can

find Tom on Instagram / Twitter and Facebook as well as on his own tumblr site here:

www.tomrobertsillustration.tumblr.com/

"...As an illustrator you are working with an obvious message unlike the kind of work that I'm doing at the moment..."



REVIEW

Marrs Bar Friday 3rd August – The Task In Hand Presents...
Tokamak | Mansize | The Broken Oak Duet | Age



There was a welcome familiar feel to the proceedings at the official return of The Task In Hand. The crowd at the Marr's Bar created a friendly and appreciative atmosphere and it was a nice touch to have the interactive iPhone juke box running on the big screen. Thankfully no one opted to put Bat Out of Hell on repeat, so the music selection was kept nice and varied.

Tokamak were first up, stepping out in only their second live performance. Featuring ex-members of Farewell Vera, Titus and Diego Garcia the four-piece bill themselves as not being a post-glam speed folk band from Worcester. Instead they offered a very accomplished and tight set of interesting instrumental numbers. They are definitely one to look out for, especially when they delve into their more summery output.

Things did not go anywhere near so well for Mansize, who had a number of technical issues and a fondness for knocking over mic stands. As it became increasingly ramshackle singer and guitarist Anya Pulver decided she'd had enough and stormed off the stage. A rather red faced

band were left to draw the song to a close and offer apologies.

The Broken Oak Duet got things back on track in brutal and captivating fashion. Set up on the dance floor, the duo armed only with baritone guitar and drum kit, set about blowing the socks off everyone gathered around them. It was a spectacular way to announce the release of their debut EP and set the benchmark very high for the night's headliners.

That job fell to Evesham's Age and their cathcy pop-rock tunes. Bursting with energy and enthusiasm they showed they were certainly up for the challenge. Happy faces in the crowd signalled that the all-twirling performance and almost Brit Pop sounds were a good way to round off the night and whet the appetite for the next Task installment.

Words - Neil Watts

Photos - Joe Singh www.snaprockandpop.co.uk





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REVIEW

LOADED FESTIVAL KIDDERMINSTER
Royal Exchange, 11th August 2012

On Saturday I attended the 5th annual Loaded music Festival at The Royal Exchange in Kidderminster. Having attended last years festival I have to praise the organisers for making this the most entertaining day out that Kidderminster has seen in some time. 18 quality bands/artists all giving up their time and talent for what turned out to be a very special day. The organisation was spot on.

The transition from main stage to acoustic stage and back again was seamless.

The PA System and concert equipment could have powered Wembley Stadium! All the performers were of a high quality and also varied in style. There was something for everyone with the Rock of 'Rogue', the soul of 'Sally Haines', the cool of 'Luke Huntley', the sultry 'Sister Shotgun', the youthful 'The Damage', the metal of 'Thunder Lion' & 'Khaos Theory', the pop rock of 'AKA Wyoming', and the sheer class that is the European rock giants, 'Liberty Lies'! I could honestly go on and on.

People attended in their masses with both families and revelers mixing with no trouble whatsoever. There was facepainting, a raffle, a BBQ, a cake stall and even a Photography studio. A total of £790 was raised for The Georgia Basson Appeal & Cords4Life charities.

The real winner was Kidderminster itself. Loaded gave the Town the very best of local music and all for free!

Everybody left smiling from a day to remember.

Photos by Katie Doolan





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RETURN^{to} NOZ

Amid shrieks of delight and hastily prepared cocktails mixed atop the tailgate of a hatchback, we arrived at Rowden Paddocks. With an increasing number of regimented vehicles parking in the field, there was an atmosphere of barely contained anticipation. The sun sank slowly, turning orange and casting a net of evening warmth, having finally evaporated away the months of rain and grey that up until that moment had been the defining feature of this pitiful summer. Like stepping off a plane into tropical heat, everybody knew that the vacation started now. After quick progression through passport control and a short walk to our accommodation (a quick-pitch fold-out three man tent) we were ready to relax with friends, chatting about our journeys to this island state, this republic known as Nozstock. Several cosmopolitans later, with the incessant sound of inflating balloons creating some bizarre jungle soundtrack, we headed off to town, ready now to leave the secluded safety of our hotel, ready for bright lights and urban din. Considering its size of around 5,000 people, there is always plenty to see and do at Nozstock. With its twists and turns, its paddocks and orchards, there is always something around the corner. Whether it's an old friend or some fancifully dressed wonder, surprise is to be expected and, when least expected, something tumbles in; a fabulous singer; a beautiful dancer; a drunken cleaning lady; a petite acrobat. Soon, the wonders cease to amaze as one finds that a





permanent grin has become affixed to the face as the experiential mayhem begins to wash around you like river water flowing around a rock; not moving you but slowly reshaping you, eroding away the edges, taking away the harshness and making you feel . . . well, smooth. And that is what the festival experience is all about. It's not about the music, although that's the surface level justification, it's about being there. The music was, of course, brilliant. From the mighty Dreadzone, through to the folksy Jack Raven and the superlative Artstar, everyone was able to find themselves a gig that would have made any weekend special. The Correspondents had the Orchard heaving while in the Garden Sick Note demonstrated that they really were on the wrong stage as hordes of their

psycho-punk-hip-hop fans ground the lawn into a fine powder. Against the odds, Calm Like a Riot managed to play several songs in a row without cursing while being recorded on the BBC Introducing stage. Their set being a perfect explosion of intelligent, energetic energy. Again and again as one wandered from stage to stage there was something to see and something to hear. But, like I said it's not all about the music. There is also the food. Wherever you take your holiday, one of the highlights is always trying the local cuisine. At Nozstock the local cuisine is a mishmash of cultural fusion; stone fired pizza, curry, burgers, pasta, doughnuts, noodles and a hearty full English breakfast. Festival food has improved so much since the dodgy vegan mush of yesteryear that I actually look forward to eating out while abroad. On Saturday afternoon we were treated to an impromptu



cocktail and canapé party hosted by Mr and Mrs Noz. Having had some lean years, particularly with the mud-fest a couple of years ago, it was great to see Noz amid a well attended, well deserved, sunny festival. His daughter, Ella, explained that she works full time for the festival now. After two weeks cleaning up and a week off she will be back at it, planning Nozstock 2013. She is very keen to keep the festival a local affair, preferring to book bands from nearby than to go farther afield. Her mother agrees, that is what makes Nozstock special. Yes, there's room for big name acts and up and coming bands from all over but ultimately, Nozstock is a local festival for local people, wherever they come from. Having gone to school in Bromyard and having grown up less than ten miles from Rowden Paddocks, I find





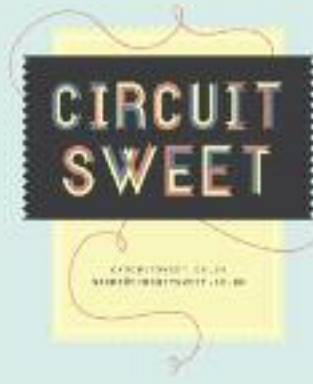
that nicely reassuring. They have no plans to make the festival bigger either. It would be a simple thing to grow it and turn it into something resembling it's great uncle in Pilton but none of the Nozworthys can see the point in that. It's been done. So on to Saturday night and an hour spent in the bar overlooking the psychedelic glade bedecked with ultra violet beauty and populated by infra red ravers, then on to the burlesque theatre tent where scantily clad performers performed in a glory of scanty cladness. Now, I have to admit I'm a little confused about this burlesque thing. I'm sure that when I was growing up, my right-on, feminist parents would have disapproved mightily of that scant cladding but now it's seems to be not only ok, but some kind of affirmation of said feminism. Like I said, confusing for a middle-aged post-modern

man like myself. Still, I didn't let my self-loathing and confliction spoil my enjoyment of the show, they'd taken so much trouble after all. Sunday brought a couple of rabid but mercifully short rain storms that punctuated the sauna intensity of a sun-drenched tent. There is something exquisite about a sunny Sunday at a festival. Everyone wanders around with an air of contented exhaustion tinged with impending sadness as the end inevitably rolls nearer. Folks lie around drinking sensibly where last night they quaffed with wild abandon and conversation is muted. As it began, so it ended for me as I sat on the grass watching the sun sink lower, knowing that soon I would be negotiating the border controls between the republic and the real world, desperate to book my ticket for next year's excursion. Once more to the Land of Noz.

RT



THE LATEST NEWS FROM HEREFORD



What a fantastic month for Live events in Hereford July we reported on v a r i o u s happenings in our city, from festivals to GZA headlining the Jailhouse. We stated there's so much going on that nobody can complain, we were turning down dates. Thankfully August was no different-

with more people putting on live gigs in our area now is the time to support the live scene which needs that consistent backing in order to thrive. We also welcome new music venue AJs. Now open at 15a West Street Hereford, AJ's is a new larger venue full of potential. We are extremely excited to enjoy all of these forthcoming events in our city and even more so to report and feature them back on our site.

We've had a very productive month on the website and in person- over the past few weeks we've been busy on the road with Hereford duo Aulos. Touring in Bristol and playing shows alongside instrumental math rock band You Slut!, the live proceedings for the month came to a great finish as we joined the band for the live commotions at the notorious Worcester Music Festival. Aulos headlined The Pig and Drum Sunday 26th. Joined with Hereford four piece Artstar, the stunning sounds of We Used To Have Horses and various other talented acts. All of our live photography throughout each evening can be found in due course on our website.

We were also honored to have been invited to the sold out show of Deer Tick, when they performed at Bristol's The Louisiana. Their label chose us to come down and feature the show on our website. The energetic Rhode Island roots-punk quintet Deer Tick are currently touring in support of their latest release 'Divine Providence' their fourth album in just five years, and is the first release recorded in their home state. It's a follow-up to their fantastic 'Black Dirt Sessions'. After years of critics mainly praising them for their "folk" and "country" sounds and not touching on their other musical styles, the band wanted to make a record that was true to their live set (which has gained some notoriety): raw, loud, heartfelt, and completely uninterested in whatever the hell the rest of the music industry is up to. The results are unlike anything you've heard on a Deer Tick album. Portraying that album live proved easy to the band. Unfazed by the sheer volume of fans in awe of the musicians, singing back their lyrics and applauding their efforts- for a full live review and feature on the night and more details of the occasion simply visit our website. And finally our month finished with a live interview with American act Listener. We are currently

editing the film which took place Friday 24th at Birmingham's Actress and Bishop during the bands tour. Keep checking the site for more information regarding its published date.

Over the last month we've also been booking several dates with local bands for photo-shoots. We offer kick starter services such as budget photo-shoots, artist development, music videos and video shoots. These services are on your doorstep. If you want a band photo-shoot either live or on location, for budget gig photography and music shoots please don't hesitate to get hold of us before we are fully booked.

In the mean time we would like to thank everybody and every band who are submitting us their work. We would like to assure you we are listening and will be featuring your submissions shortly. We've received lots of emails and physical submissions from local artists both Hereford and Worcester, which we happily welcome. These are being heard and it's our promise here that you will find yourself on our website soon in your own introducing features. All releases we are given are of such high standard that we are really proud of the hard work these unsigned acts are putting into their act. It will pay off.

Finally we are calling out to you. We want you to be involved with us. If you have a label or a band with multiple flyers/posters/business cards and you would like us to give you free promotion and distribution then please get in touch. We would like to hand out your information within our shop orders and at events. If you would like to know more then email: naomi@circuitsweet.co.uk or visit us on face book or [twitter @circuitsweet](http://twitter.com/circuitsweet).

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CD REVIEW

Introducing.....The Crescent

A lesson to any musician in the Shire is to upload your music to the BBC Introducing website (one of Andy O'Hare's mantras!). From the central database they will alert YOUR local station to YOUR talent.

This is exactly what The Crescent did and it has paid dividends. After an initial play by Andrew Marston on BBC Hereford & Worcester's Friday Session, 'River Scent' (from debut album 'Pictures of a Floating World') somehow found its way into the hands of Guy Garvey. Elbow's main man not only played the song but also said that he absolutely loved it!

Spurred on by this success, the driving force behind the The Crescent, multi-instrumentalist Alec Wood, has had to arrange for all the musicians that have contributed to new LP, 'Sirens', to all meet for the very first time! You see, this is a 'band' that does not need to record together and is not likely to ever perform live.

Alec is (occasionally!) joined by Tim Mawer (guitar), Ben Craig (keyboards), Ben Lee (cello), Chris Barber (clarinet and saxophone) to create a layered, textural sound reminiscent of modern day classical music. The listener is encouraged to live in the moment and be carried along with the flow, "which is reflected by the calm, often minimal nature of our music."



This is (yet another!) genre of music that this writer is not qualified to critique but the reference point that may give you some idea of what to expect would be Brian Eno. What I do know is that my experience of Sirens has been whilst driving and it has had a pronounced effect - by reducing the usually boiling road rage - and may have even prevented a few road traffic accidents!

Find out more at: www.the-crescent.org

Glazz



Photography by Joe Singh

Saturday 1 September 2012

Hats Off To Led Zeppelin
The Marris Bar, Worcester

CoverJunkies
The Cross Keys, Malvern

Rich Goble
The Gloster Arms, Malvern Link

Ronin
Bromyard Hop Fest, Bromyard

Aquarius
The Blackpole Inn, Worcester

CoverJunkies
The Cross Keys Inn, Malvern

Festivals Experience
Keystones Cafe Bar, Worcester

Madi Stimpson Trio
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Mal Practice
Callow End Social Club, Worcester

Beatles One (Tribute)
The Railway, Evesham

Umphff
Berkley Arms, Tewkesbury

The Notorious Brothers
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Sunday 2 September 2012

Jazzenco (1-4pm)
Queens Head, Wolverley

Dee Acoustic
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Monday 3 September 2012

Umphff
White Bear, Tewkesbury

Open Mic
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Tuesday 4 September 2012

Open Mic Night
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Open Mic
Millers Arms, Pershore

Rhythmic Unity African Drum Workshop
The Boars Head Gallery, Kidderminster

Open Mic Night
Queens Head, Wolverley

Wednesday 5 September 2012

Marzys Jam Night
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Wild Irish Band
Queens Head, Wolverley

Nick Toone DJ
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Wild Irish Band with Pete Kelly
Queens Head, Wolverley

Thursday 6 September 2012

Jules Benjamin and Friends
Keystones Cafe Bar, Worcester

SJS Band, Open Mic
The Crown Inn, Worcester

Pearl Necklace, Ancient Addicts
The Brewery Tap, Worcester

The Boy With Tape On His Face
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Charity Event - Bling and Foundations Presents
DJ Torchman, MC Juiceman and many more
Priors Croft, Malvern

Honeyboy Hickling
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Friday 7 September 2012

Rich Goble
The Bakery Inn, Malvern Link

The Bar Flys
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

BabaJack
Redditch Palace Theatre, Redditch

Naked Remedy
Wishing Well, Bromsgrove

Cohen Brothers
Queens Head, Wolverley

The Delray Rockets
The Somerset Arms, Cheltenham

Jack The Biscuit
Millers Arms, Pershore

Risky Bizness
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Breach Of The Peace
Keystones Cafe Bar, Worcester



Hawker
The Railway, Evesham

TreeFrogs
The Anchor, Eckington

Case Closed, Richard Clarke, AKA Wyoming, Emma Ross
The Pillar Of Salt, Droitwich

Mood Elevators
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Saturday 8 September 2012

Hitchhiker
The Unicorn, Malvern

Aquarius
The Plough Inn, Pershore

Virgil And the Accelerators
The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Erection Police
Boars Head, Kidderminster

The John Steeds
The Pavilion in the Park, Worcester

This Wicked Tongue
ArtsFest, Birmingham Centenary Square

Junction 7
Callow End Social Club, Worcester

The Official Receivers
Keystones Cafe Bar, Worcester

Punk'd
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Tasha
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Misanthropic Existence, Horsebastard, Infanticide, P.E.N.G
The Pig Et Drum, Worcester

Hitchhiker
The Unicorn, Malvern

Naked Remedy
The Square, Birmingham City Centre

Richard Clarke and the Rafters, Wes Dance
The Crown Inn, St Johns, Worcester

The Delray Rockets
The Bridge Hotel, Tenbury

BoogieStreet
The Railway, Evesham

HorseBastard, Infanticide
Pig Et Drum, Worcester

Ian Bennett from Ocean Colour Scene
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Sideways Glance
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Sunday 9 September 2012

The John Steeds
The Old Sickly Wicket, Redditch

BabaJack
British Blues Awards, Newark, Notts

Jazz Sunday (1-4pm)
Queens Head, Wolverley

Wooden Horse
The Fir Tree, Dunhamsted, Nr Droitwich

Open Mic Night
Old Cock Inn, Droitwich

Si Cook
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Monday 10 September 2012

Ukulele Night
Keystones Cafe Bar, Worcester

Dave Onions
Cock n Magpie, Bewdley

Open Mic
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Tuesday 11 September 2012

Open Mic Night
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Open Mic Night
Queens Head, Wolverley

Wednesday 12 September 2012

Marzys Jam Night
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Vivo
Queens Head, Wolverley

Steves Jukebox
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Thursday 13 September 2012

Outland Slickers
Speed The Plough, Tibberton

Jules Benjamin and Friends
Keystones Cafe Bar, Worcester

This Wicked Tongue, A Poetic Yesterday, tbc
The Brewery Tap, Worcester

Gerry Across The Mersey
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Johney Cash & The Bleeding Catfaces
Boars Head, Kidderminster

C-Jam
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Friday 14 September 2012

The ExPresidents
The Kings Head, Riverside, Upton, WR80HF

Hats off To Led Zeppelin
The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Guilty Pleasure
Bluebell Inn, Ryall, Upton on Severn

Pure Instinct
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Ben Webb
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Dirty Thirty DJ Night
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Rocket Fuel
Cox's Yard, Stratford upon Avon

Gwyn Ashton
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Raymond Froggatt
Artrix, Bromsgrove

The Delray Rockets
Queens Head, Wolverley

Undercover
Millers Arms, Pershore

Mike Lane & The Exiles
Old Cock Inn, Droitwich

Umphff
Antelope, Warwick

Massive Head Trauma
Pig & Drum, Worcester

Vo & Tyler
Speed The Plough, Tibberton

Saturday 15 September 2012

SnodFest
See Preview on page 11

The Matchless
The Old Beams, Stourport On Severn

The Delray Rockets
Drakes Broughton Village Hall, Drakes Broughton

Becky Rose, Hitchhiker, Hornswaggle, Chris Whiting,
Macaroni Penguins, UnkleFunkleMunkle, Tom Forbes
Upton Snodsbury Park, Upton Snodsbury

The Pull
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Omnia Opera & Aulos Live
The Malvern Cube, Malvern

Viva Santana
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Hump De Bump
Callow End Social Club, Worcester

Jets To Zurich, Sam Forrest (Nine Black Alps), Tallulah Fix
& Fustercluk
The Crown St. Johns, Worcester

Stone Farm
Keystones Cafe Bar, Worcester

Long Grass
The Railway, Evesham

This Wicked Tongue
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Case Closed
Salt Day, Vines Park, Droitwich

Riff Raff
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Star Of The Sea
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Sunday 16 September 2012

Dinner Dance in aid of St Richards Hospice with
James Alexandra
The Reindeer Inn, Ombersley

Umphff
Grapevaults, Leominster

Remy Harris Trio (1-4pm)
Queens Head, Wolverley

Monday 17 September 2012

Open Mic
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Deborah Rose
Speed The Plough, Tibberton

Tuesday 18 September 2012

Open Mic Night
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Rhythmic Unity African Drum Workshop
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Open Mic
Queens Head, Wolverley

Wednesday 19 September 2012

Marzys Jam Night
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Pirate Day
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Vincent Flatts
Queens Head, Wolverley

Ian Parker
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Thursday 20 September 2012

Jules Benjamin and Friends
Keystones Cafe Bar, Worcester

Slug Rocks
Case Closed, Rich Clarke & The Rafters, AnswerBack
Abbey Inez & Josh Wood

Ben Montague
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Suzi And The Backbeats
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Friday 21 September 2012

The Reflections
The White Hart, Redditch

Hats off to led Zeppelin
Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

Stomp & Holler
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Straight Aces
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Otis Mack & The Tubby Bluesters
Queens Head, Wolverley

Hitchhiker
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Sistersandwich
Pig & Drum, Worcester

The Delray Rockets
The Wishing Well, Bromsgrove

Lost Highway (was New Jersey)
Millers Arms, Pershore

Dave Onions
Piesse Of Piddle, Wyre Piddle

The Undercocks
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

East of the Sun, Red Devide, Clockwork Rifle
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Saturday 22 September 2012

Bluestack
The Treacle Mine, Hereford

GAGA
Number 8 Community Arts Centre, Pershore

Answerback plus support
The Crown, St Johns, Worcester

Hot Fuss (Killers Tribute)
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

The Indigo Rings
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Babajack
Speed The Plough, Tibberton

Aquarius
Sebright Arms, Worcester

Naked Remedy
O2 Academy 3, Birmingham

Alex Kid
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Hot Wyred
Callow End Social Club, Worcester

The Delray Rockets
The Unicorn, Malvern

Umphff
Callow End Festival, Worcester

Hybrid
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Liquor & Poker Band
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Sunday 23 September 2012

Karnataka
The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Dave Onions
Queens, Belbroughton

Strumpet (1-4pm)
Queens Head, Wolverley

Steves Jukebox
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Monday 24 September 2012

Dave Onions
Cock n Magpie, Bewdley

Open Mic
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Tuesday 25 September 2012

Open Mic Night
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Open Mic
Queens Head, Wolverley

Wednesday 26 September 2012

Marzys Jam Night
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Steves Jukebox
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Thursday 27 September 2012

Jules Benjamin and Friends
Keystones Cafe Bar, Worcester

The Delray Rockets
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Wooden Horse
Seamus O Donnell's, Bristol

Dave Onions
David Murphy's, Stourbridge

Martin Harley
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Friday 28 September 2012

The Reflections
The Hanbury Turn, Bromsgrove

The Chuck Harriett Trio
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Hitchhiker
Redditch Trades & Labour Club, Redditch

Naked Remedy
Millers Arms, Pershore

Underdogs
Queens Head, Wolverley

Spandex Bellend
Keystones Cafe Bar, Worcester

Funky Skunk
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Grisslefoot
The Railway, Evesham

Wooden Horse
The Royal Oak, Kinnersley

Dave Onions
Cock n Magpie, Bewdley

Trap Doors, IHYM, Massive Head Trauma, Mahoney
Boars Head, Kidderminster

The Schemers
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Saturday 29 September 2012

Naked Remedy
The Swan Inn, 76-78 Port Street, Evesham

Aquarius
Barbourne Ex Servicemens Club, Worcester

Sugar Mama
Callow End Social Club, Worcester

Jasper in the Company of Others,
James Warner Prophecies, Whitemoor
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Aerosmith Tribute
The Railway, Evesham

Wooden Horse
The Green Dragon, Malvern

Roving Crows
Worcester Arts Workshop

DJ Night
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Skrood
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Bebe & The Trojans
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Mumbo Jumbo
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Sunday 30th September 2012

Kevin Underwood
The Reindeer Inn, Ombersley

Inspector Gadjo Trio (1-4pm)
Queens Head, Wolverley

Matt Bowen
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Eddy's Birthday
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Monday 31 September 2012

Open Mic
Boars Head, Kidderminster

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Saturday 8th

Sideways Glance

£5 ticket £6 on the door

Friday 14th

Gwyn Ashton

£5 ticket £7 on the door

Saturday 15th

Riff Raff

£5 ticket

Thursday 20th

Ben Montague

£8 ticket £10 on the door

Friday 21st

East of the Sun, Red Divide

Clockwork Rifle

£3 tickets £5 on the door

Saturday 22nd

Hot Fuss - Killers Tribute

£5 ticket £7 on the door

Thursday 27th

Martin Harley (Solo)

£8 ticket £10 on the door

Friday 28th

Funky Skunk

"Farewell and Good Night" Gig

£5 admission with FREE

souvenir t-shirt

Saturday 29th

Jasper in the Company of Others

James Warner Prophecies

and Whitemoor

£3 ticket £5 on the door

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