

# SLAP

Issue 24

Mar 2013

MAGAZINE

FREE



**SLAP Supporting Local Arts & Performers**



# **TOWER STUDIOS**



Home of **Drum Mechanics**

Rock School  
Exam Centre

*Chris Harvey*

**T: 01386 555 655**

**M: 07899 880 876**

**[www.tower-studio.co.uk](http://www.tower-studio.co.uk)**

**Fully furnished rehearsal rooms  
available for hire**

**From 10am-6pm, Mon - Fri **£7** per hour**

**From 6pm-Midnight **£13** per hour**

**Recording studio with in-house  
engineer Dave Draper**

****£200 per day****

****Open 7 days a week****

**Lessons in Drums, Guitar, Bass & Vocal**

**2 minutes walk from Pershore railway station**



**[stores.ebay.co.uk/Drum-Mechanics](http://stores.ebay.co.uk/Drum-Mechanics)**

**E: [chrisharve.drum1@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:chrisharve.drum1@yahoo.co.uk)**

**UNIT 31b • PERSHORE TRADING EST • STATION RD • PERSHORE • WORCS WR10 2DD**

# SLAP

Mar 2013 **MAGAZINE**

## SLAP MAGAZINE

Unit 3E, Shrub Hill Industrial Estate,  
Worcester WR4 9EL

Telephone: 01905 26660  
editorial@slapmag.co.uk

For advertising enquiries, please contact:  
Paul Robinson on 07852 247 970  
adverts@slapmag.co.uk

### EDITORIAL

Mark Hogan  
Paul Robinson

### CONTRIBUTORS

Andy O'Hare  
Kate Cox  
Steven Glazzard  
Ant Robbins  
Mel Hall  
Sarah Ganderton  
Richard Clarke  
Ralph Tittley  
Toni Charles  
Corina Harper  
Bob Jones  
Craig Barry  
Reg Richardson  
Peter Blandamer  
Maria Callous  
Graham Munn  
Nikki Boraston  
Naomi Preece  
The Magic Christian  
Matthew Tilt  
Piers Ricketty  
Nick Taylor

### Design

Mark Hogan  
Richard Clarke

### Sales

Paul Robinson

### Web & Ebook

Dave Marston

### Cover Photography

Joe Singh - snaprockandpop.co.uk

### ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

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

### DISCLAIMER

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

Hello and welcome to issue 24 of Slap Magazine. It has to be said, that was the craziest deadline to date, late nights and early starts. With so much going on we really had to thumb in the listings this time.

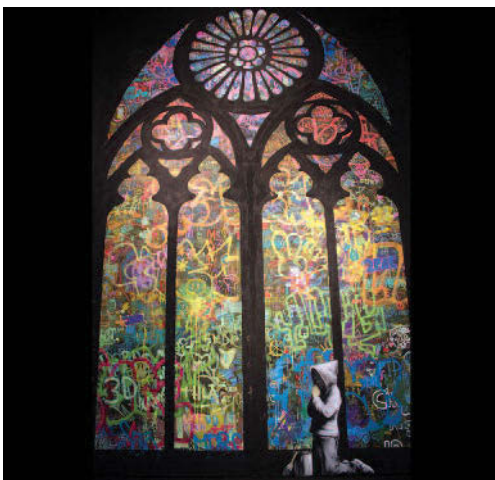
The Mad month of March is upon us but with so much to do we won't rabbit on. Its encouraging to get so many CDs landing on the our door mat. We try and review as many as possible but we couldn't get through them all.

Thanks once again to all our wonderful reviewers and photographers who give up their time for the cause. We still want to encourage more contributors in all areas so please get involved if you get the urge!

We are looking forward to St. Patricks day, you'll no doubt find us in a certain pub on the Tything enjoying the best Guinness around and having the Craic! There's lots more to look forward to this month so take a peek inside this issue where you'll find something for everyone and more besides. Wether its Blues, Folk, Classical or Rock you'll find it here. So no need to put all your Easter Eggs in one basket, variety is the spice of life.

Our legendary Slap Nights at The Arts Workshop kick off again in April so look out for news of that, in the meantime enjoy all that March has to bring including warmer weather we hope. We're off to top up the blood in our alcohol streams, catch you soon...

- *Piss Eds*



**'LIKE' SLAP  
ON FACEBOOK**



LISTINGS IN CONJUNCTION WITH:



## Writing on the wall for Library

For 12 months, 'Kidderminster Gallery Friends' have been fighting to save the only purpose built publicly owned arts facility in Wyre Forest. However, by 4th March, Kidderminster Library Gallery will be destroyed forever and replaced with offices.



Despite the overwhelming support of local people, the man responsible John Campion, from Worcestershire County Council, has ignored them.

Friends Secretary Stephen Brown said *"The council are doing this to save £68,000 a year from the library budget and in the process destroy a gallery that cost £326,583 to build, while spending another £300,000 to build offices and a worse gallery. It's an offensive waste of taxpayers money in times of austerity. There are plenty of empty offices in Kidderminster they could use, and if the council had worked constructively with us, we believe we could have kept the existing Gallery and made the savings the council says it needs to make."*

## Malvern cooks up a summer treat!

Puns galore as Malvern Rocks announces that one of its featured acts for the second year will be celebrity chef and Through The Keyhole host Loyd Grossman fronting up his band New Forbidden - also on the bill is Lisbee Stainton but 100+ other acts will also set the Hills rocking over the weekend August 2nd-4th...



## The shape of Festivals to come

Plans have been announced for the first-ever asparagus-themed musical festival!! Aimed at bringing music, food and farming together in a family-friendly event Asparafest - first weekend in June - in the Vale Of Evesham of course!!



## Peace Release

Peace release their debut album 'In Love' on March 25 - *'the best they've ever made'* according to their very well-oiled tongue-in-cheek publicity machine! A week before there's a re-release of 'Follow Baby' - named by Radio 1's Zane Lowe as the *Hottest Record In The World* - good to hear that's settled then...

## Mappfest raises £2K

A big woop to all the acts and bands who performed at the Mini-Mappfest at the Re-Con in Malvern and raised over £2000 for Acorns Children's Hospice - a great time had by all - and hats off to the legendary Andy Mapp for bringing it all together!!

## Controversial Bull

The subject of a ditty by Pershore punksters Hey You Guys! - problems still surround the controversial Hereford Bull statue in the centre of High Town - as a



youngster banged her head against the 'dangling appendage' whilst playing around the plinth. It's now a matter of concern that more severe injuries could possibly be inflicted by the statue's 'undercarriage' - but a spokesman for Herefordshire Council say they plan to undertake a comprehensive risk assessment very shortly...



# Worcester Music Festival

## Put yourself forward for festival of live, original music

More than 350 bands and artists from across Worcestershire and beyond have applied to play at Worcester Music Festival 2013 – but organisers are keen to hear from more 'home-grown' talent.

Festival chairman **Ant Robbins** said the quality of bands and artists that had put themselves forward to perform at the multi-venue explosion of live, original music from Friday, August 30 – Sunday, September 1, was very high, but more local bands should go for a slot.

The total raised by the annual festival through donations, raffles, collections at performance venues and merchandising sales since its first outing six years ago is almost £25,000.

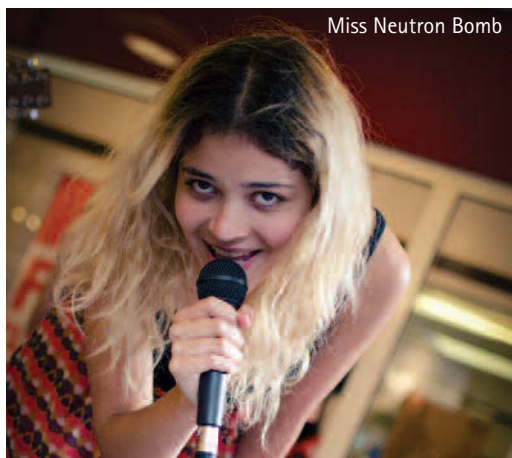
As a sneak peek of what to expect at this year's event, Worcester Music Festival recently provided the entertainment at the city's first Homelessness Action Day – Homeless, Not Helpless – at the Guildhall, with local festival favourites Colin Baggs, Paul Jeffery, Kings & Folk and Done By Sunrise joining musicians from the YMCA in performing at the event.

To apply to play or volunteer at Worcester Music Festival 2013 or to check out some of the artists who played in 2012, visit [www.worcestermusicfestival.co.uk](http://www.worcestermusicfestival.co.uk).

You can also stay up-to-date with plans by signing up to our new e-newsletter via the website, joining our Facebook page and following us on Twitter.

Worcester Music Festival, which takes place in pubs, clubs, cafes, restaurants and historic buildings, as well as on outdoor stages across the city, is run entirely by volunteers.

*Mell Hall*



Miss Neutron Bomb

"Our promoters will start looking at applications in June and we need our wonderful Worcestershire musicians to make sure they are in the pot," he said. "Yes, we love having bands from other towns and cities across the UK, but showcasing local talent is what we are primarily about."

"A quarter of the acts who have applied so far are from the county, we can do better than that. It doesn't matter what type of music you play, you just have to be original and a great, live act."

As applications continue to come in, festival organisers have just closed the nominations for the 2013 event's official charity of the year, which will be announced in the next issue of SLAP.

Last year's four-day festival of live, original music over the August Bank Holiday weekend, which attracted thousands of music fans of all ages to 400 performances and 30 free workshops at more than 30 city venues, raised £6,000 for New Hope children's respite centre in Romswood.

**Learn to play at:**

## music city

Run **BY** musicians **FOR** musicians

**Electric Guitar Packages**

**Drum Kits**

**Worcester's largest PA dealers**  
**Solo artists our speciality**

- **Guitars**
- **Drums**
- **Amps**

**Stockists of:**

- **PEARL DRUMS**
- **IBANEZ**

**Tel: 01905 26600**

52/53 Upper Tything, Worcester WR1 1JY

**WWW.MUSIC-CITY.CO.UK**



It's been a busy year so far with lots of classes, kids activities, film screenings and general goings on. If you are new to the Arts Workshop, as well as being a city centre arts hub for live music, exhibitions, performances and creative opportunities, we can offer rooms for hire for private bookings, arty things, parties, meetings and events, as well as studio space to rent. And if you missed out on a course or workshop this term, everything starts again after Easter so come and take a look. With felt making, photography, painting and drawing and much more, there is something for you all.

We are also launching our crafty kids parties for the spring so if you are looking for something different and inspiring for your little ones to do for birthdays, then get in touch. We offer a whole package of arty activities to get messy with!



There will be two family gallery workshops this month, come along with your children and get creative. The work made at these workshops will be presented in an exhibition at the end of the month.

Saturday 2nd March under 5's / Saturday 9th March over 5's. Both are £3 per family and run from 11am until 12.30pm.

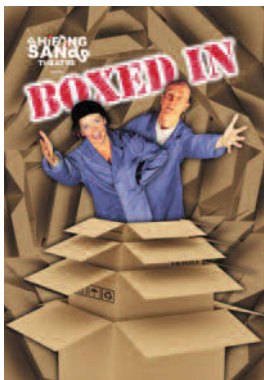
Don't forget the Saturday morning art club and pottery class for kids. Both run from 10am til 11am. £4 per child per session.

So, what else is going on this month?.....

On Friday 8th March Shindig presents a Shifting Sands production 'Boxed In'.

Shifting Sands is a Derbyshire-based theatre company with roots in physical comedy and clowning. Their style is a blend of Laurel and Hardy, Buster Keaton and Basil Fawlty. This is a comic theatre show about warehouse life where two workers, their obsessions and a whole lot of boxes make for slapstick chaos.

7.30-9.30pm for ages 9+. £10 (£8 concs)



Splendid Cinema presents : Sunday 3rd March  
'Mugabe and the White African' 12 Cert. 6.30pm.

A very powerful documentary about a white Zimbabwean family's opposition to Mugabe's land reform legislation on the grounds of racism and discrimination. £5.

Sunday 17th March  
'Berberian Sound Studio'  
15 Cert. 6.30pm.

A thriller about an English sound technician (Toby Jones), working for an Italian film company, who begins losing his grasp on reality. £5.



In the galleries this month we have a really eclectic mix of work on show. Upstairs you can see Peter Rooke (UK) with a collection of pencil sketches, watercolours and oil paintings in the Cafe and graduate Kate Moon-Martyr (see opposite) with her stunning figurative canvasses downstairs in the cellar space.

Both run until 23rd March.

Keep your eye on the website where you can find out about all the stuff we are up to plus future events.

Look out for April with the first Slap night for 2013, Vamos theatre's new production Finding Joy, and a new Lazy Sunday so come on down....

[www.worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk](http://www.worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk)



[www.worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk](http://www.worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk)  
**WORCESTER ARTS WORKSHOP**  
21 Sansome Street, Worcester  
WR1 1UH Tel: 01905 25053





## ARTS FEATURE Kate Moon-Martyr

"I come from a rather crazy family of artists so being a painter isn't really my fault." Kate was offered a place at the University of Birmingham to study Psychology, but ended up doing a Foundation course at Worcester College of Technology School of Art and Design at Barbourne. She has an interest in people and how they work, their mannerisms and language, and this is conveyed in her work, as are her influences with touches of Lucien Freud and Gerhard Richter.

"At Barbourne I mostly burnt paintings and sat by the duck pond. I then drove to France to a tiny village somewhere in the Pyrenees mountains and stayed there for a few months to do up an old barn and house. I came down from the mountains, travelled around a bit and now work in a bar, as well as masquerading as an artist."

Humble she is. She does not see herself as an 'artist' and is challenging in her views on the subject of art itself, that perhaps we shouldn't try to attach meanings to art but rather let it just be.

"Instead of trying to get something out of it, is it that impossible to just appreciate whatever we see on that level? We don't have to try and reach some sort of higher consciousness of understanding or try to comprehend all that perhaps the artist is bullshitting about."



Last summer, the workshop went along to the Barbourne School of Art and Design end of year show and came across Kate Moon-Martyr, a rather humble yet vibrant young lady, whose impressive canvasses wowed us so much that we offered her a slot in the galleries just a couple of weeks later.

I've been looking forward to this and was not disappointed when she came along to set up this week. Her figurative oil paintings are fascinating and uncomplicated; dark in subject matter like *'Girl Shot Down'* based on a Palestinian war scene, bright and colourful simple imagery and some life sized figures which make you feel as if you are part of them, intermingled between murky shadows and still life.

We can lose the ability to see the actual simplified 'beauty' of art in the search for some deeper meaning and this is why I like Kate's work. It says what it needs to and is unpretentious, using oils scratched, layered and rubbed in, with familiar imagery but adding an edge, a touch of darkness that we see in everyday life.

I was surprised to learn that she is not going to University to study art, instead to study linguistics. Though once she begins to explain a little of why, it makes sense. She already knows a bit about 'art' and it is something we can continue to learn personally, linguistics however is something new, a different knowledge and insight into sociology, people, characters.

Kate Moon Martyr's work is really impressive and I hope she continues to explore. Come check out her show while you can! The show runs until 23rd March in the Cellar Gallery. <http://kmmartyr.wordpress.com>

by Kate Cox



# REVIEW

MARTYR DE MONA  
plus supports

@ The O2 Academy 3, Birmingham.  
Saturday January 26th 2013



In Alchemy



Captain Horizon



Captain Horizon

Five bands in one evening....oh, go on then! This was **Martyr de Mona's** final gig in Birmingham prior to going off to record a new album and it was my first time in their company. The venue was the O2 Academy 3 in Birmingham where the rather small queue for this gig was swamped by the rather larger crowd assembling to see Ali Campbell of UB40 fame in the adjoining room. I'm guessing the couple that found themselves amongst the Martyr de Mona supporters but who actually wanted to see Ali Campbell were not happy on finding out they were in the wrong queue because the queue for Ali Campbell was probably a couple of hundred yards long snaking back towards Holloway Circus... and they had to go to the back of it!

I digress; so, five bands, **Martyr de Mona**, **Captain Horizon** and three additional local bands were on the menu and I was looking forward to a night of mixed rock genres.

A small crowd saw the first few bands; **In Alchemy** are a new, young, 4-piece rock band displaying a number of influences including grunge but they could certainly hold their own with rock ballads. This was their first gig and they gave a very creditable performance, one which the band should feel proud of because there's a lot there to build on. Next up was the 3-piece **Slave to the Beast**. The band rate themselves as an alternative rock outfit and the thumping bass lines backed this up. The vocals were somewhat 'industrial' at times but the music flowed well and the small crowd were appreciative. Third

band on were **Severed Ties**, another new band from Birmingham. This 4-piece group of metalheads did a very good job indeed, blasting out a half hour of mainly thrash metal that passed a little too quickly. These four lads gave a pretty polished performance for a band that has been together for less than a year and we should be hearing more from them in the future.

One of my favourite Midlands bands was on next, **Captain Horizon**. I'd seen these several times before when playing in a Battle of the Bands event in Evesham and if you haven't seen them then do so because you will be entertained! Front man, **Steve 'Whitty' Whittington**, provides an ideal focus for the band and gave a great performance with his on-stage antics drawing the crowd in which by now had reached close to 150, perhaps more. Half an hour really isn't long enough to fully appreciate this band, and the set came and went in no time at all.

Last on were the headline band, **Martyr de Mona** who I missed last time around. This was to be their last gig for a time while they go away to record a new album so they needed to leave their audience with something to remember them by until their return. They didn't disappoint. They gave us 45 minutes of music that doffed its hat at several music genres; hard rock edging towards metal, tinted with modern riffs.

Overall a fabulous night of music for those in attendance, if you weren't there then you missed something special. Go and see any of the bands that appeared in this show, they won't disappoint you and some of them have a very bright future.



Martyr de Mona

Words & Photography  
Reg Richardson





## CD DUPLICATION/REPLICATION

### Example prices

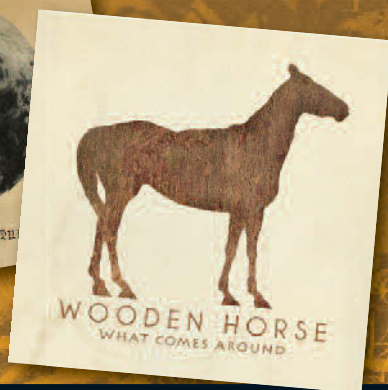
Options	50	100	250	1000	3000
CD inc. full colour print in pvc wallets	0.99	0.84	0.74	0.33	0.24
CD inc. full colour print in full colour card wallets	1.80	1.42	1.32	0.39	0.35
CD inc. colour print in jewel case 4pp booklet/rear tray, cellowrap	1.99	1.59	1.34	0.53	0.45
CD inc. full colour print in 4pp digipak	2.79	2.39	2.15	0.75	0.51

Above prices exclude £6 delivery and vat

**We offer a full professional duplication service. No quantity is too small or too large from just 1 copy to 1 million. All copies include a full colour onbody print.**

Full packaging service offered. Visit:  
**[www.doublevisiongroup.co.uk](http://www.doublevisiongroup.co.uk)**

where you will find our full price list along with helpful templates and artwork information.



**TEL:.(01886) 830084    [sales@doublevisiongroup.co.uk](mailto:sales@doublevisiongroup.co.uk)**

**The Studios, Halfkey Farm, Halfkey, Malvern, Worcestershire, WR14 1UP UK**

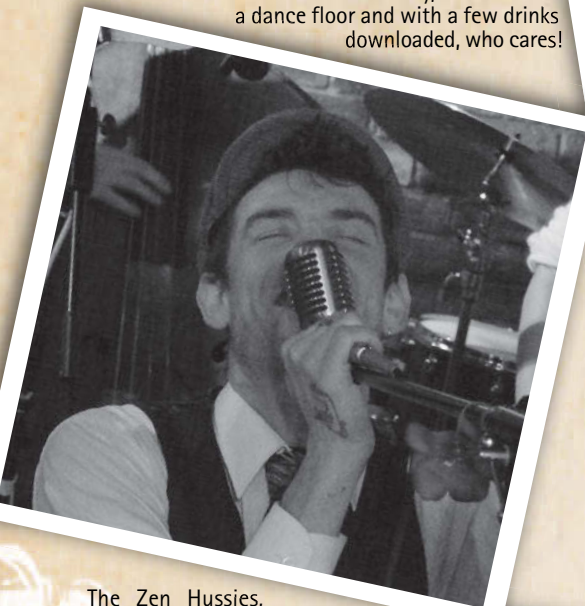
# REVIEW

Cafe Rene,  
Gloucester

30th January 2013

First time to this atmospheric barrel vaulted bottle walled café, fabulous bar like stepping back to a pre-war era, and that's 1939 not the Falklands. The band, squeezed into the 'drinking' area, were going to fit into this environment beautifully, all it lacks is a dance floor and with a few drinks downloaded, who cares!

## Zen Hussies



The Zen Hussies, brazen without a bra so I was told (too much information) are a Bristol/Bath based band with a mix of strings, brass, drum and wonderful gruff warm vocals; somewhere between C S Stoneking and Paolo Nutini, with shades of Suggs. Jules Landau is the man with the nutmeg grater voice, evocative of the crooners from the swing era of the 30's and prohibition. Charlotte Ostafew swings a baritone sax that's all but towers over her, Jonny Bruce breaths life into his trumpet, both add to the vocals. Behind these hide the engine room of Sebastian Guetez, guitarist, Tom Allen, Double Bass and Matt Brown on drums. Much of the material is penned by Jules, whose character and style are entertaining. We blast off with 'Communal Viper' a honeyed swing number, lovely (find it on youtube, worth a look).



'My Kinda Lady' follows, a distinctly jazzy edge, feeding in to 'Kelly's Eye', that pays homage to ska, and includes some very nice trumpet from Jonny. 'Wild Swan', a train driven along by the bass and rhythm of Matt and Tom, set in the times of silent movies and a track tethered damsel waiting for her hero to turn up with his swiss army knife. This is a blast from start to finish, party material, a band to get locked in a bar with, an evening of fun. Jules is an astounding, eccentric front man who plays to his audience, it's an intoxicating invitation to let your hair down and join in the melee. R & B, swing, jazz, ska and blues are all blended together, the result is a

wonderful brew worth tasting. We shall certainly be looking for the Zen Hussies again, and if there's a dance floor, it would be hard to resist, finding space may be a problem.

They played at the PST club in Birmingham on the 22nd Feb. along with Jonny Kowalski & co; sounded like hell of an evening, don't tell anyone, we got there first.

Words & Photography:  
Graham Munn





**AUGUST 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> 2013**

**CROFT FARM WATERPARK, NR. TEWKESBURY**



# LAKEFEST

**LINE-UP 2013**

**PERFORMING ON 3 COVERED STAGES**

**OCEAN COLOUR SCENE ★ LEVELLERS ★ THE BEAT**

**CHAS & DAVE ★ DUKE SPECIAL ★ THE CRAZY WORLD OF ARTHUR BROWN**

**COSMO JARVIS ★ MISSING ANDY ★ 3 DAFT MONKEYS ★ THE ROVING GROWS ★ BAKA BEYOND**

**JIM LOCKEY & THE SOLEMN SUN ★ WILLE & THE BANDITS ★ CHIP SHOP BOYS**

**AVERT FRANCIS ★ RUFFANTI ★ ERICA ★ GAZ BROOKFIELD ★ FRAZER KENNEDY & FRIENDS ★ FUNMILAYO**

**UK FESTIVAL AWARDS TOP TEN**

**BEST NEW FESTIVAL ★ BEST FAMILY FESTIVAL ★ BEST GRASS ROOTS FESTIVAL ★ BEST SMALL FESTIVAL**

**DJ SHIPPERS' 90S DANCE TENT ★ REAL ALES ★ TRADITIONAL CIDER**

**FOREIGN BEERS ★ WATERSPORTS ON THE LAKE ★ CHILDREN'S AREA**

**HEALING AREA ★ WORKSHOPS ★ ARTS & CRAFTS ★ CHILDREN'S RIDES**

**OTHER ATTRACTIONS INCLUDE:- THE FAMOUS SANGER'S STAGE SHOW  
BUSKERS WALL ★ SILENT DISCO ★ STREET ENTERTAINERS ★ FAIR RIDES**

**AND FOR THE FIRST TIME AT LAKEFEST**

**'CROFT FARM'S FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR'**

**CAMPING, GLAMPING AND TIPIS AVAILABLE**

**FAMILY  
TICKET  
£190**

**WITH  
CAMPING**

**TICKET HOTLINE:  
07585 180723  
WWW.LAKEFEST.CO.UK**

**JUST  
£79  
FOR ADULT  
WEEKENDER**

LAKEFEST PROUDLY SUPPORTING

**STAY STRONG**

AND

*Winston's Wish*

**UK2012**  
TOP THREE IN  
4 CATEGORIES



# REVIEW

At the O2 Academy 3, Birmingham; Feb 9 2013.

## WHISKEY SYNDICATE / MY GREAT AFFLICTION

Our friends had been banging on at us to go and see the Whiskey Syndicate saying that we'd love them but knowing some of the stuff our friends like, I have to say we were a bit dubious. I managed to listen to some of The Whiskey Syndicate online and it sounded really pretty good so when the opportunity came along to see them co-headlining with My Great Affliction at the O2 Academy, Birmingham, how could we say 'no'?

In fact, the line-up assembled by Emma Scott turned out to be outstanding with local lads Resin and London-based Mordecai supporting. I'd heard some good things about Resin but knew nothing of Mordecai; so I tracked down some of their material too and was highly impressed. A very good night was on the cards, made better with a photo pass from Emma (thank you Emma).

First on was Mordecai, a bunch of hard rocking hairies from London who gave us a 35-minute set of all original US- style rock crunched together with good old British heavy metal. A lot of influences heard here, including Pantera and Alter Bridge, all of which made for a cracking opening salvo. The band have recently been confirmed for this year's Download Festival playing on the Red Bull Stage so if you're going check them out.

Resin came on next; we'd missed hearing these a couple of times in venues more local than the O2 so I was keen to see them play. The band have gained a reputation for giving fantastic acoustic performances, but tonight was not an acoustic set. Instead they gave us a set of mainly original material that had some of the vocal elements of Alice in Chains, some of the guitars of bands such as Daughtry and all this wrapped up in a very tightly delivered package. The evening had just got better and by this point the room had filled quite nicely!

Next up was The Whiskey Syndicate, the band that our friends had been gagging for us to see - and we soon understood why! Front man Ant Wright engaged with



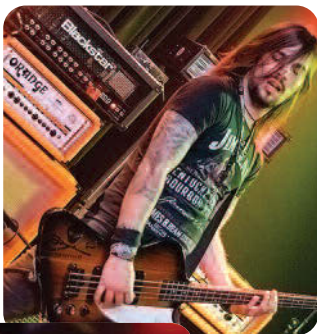
the audience right from the start of the 45 minute set of head banging rock as the band delivered track after track of great songs. There were plenty of influences on display, too many to mention by name, but if you want music that hits you like a jackhammer The Whiskey Syndicate deliver it in spades.

Final band of the night was My Great Affliction and with all that had gone before they would have to be very good indeed just to maintain the standard....the band did not disappoint! A fine set of US-influenced rock in which I could make out riffs in the style of Black Stone Cherry and Metallica; for a 3-piece unit they produce a fine sound and one you would be well advised to go and hear live. Their 45-minute set went over like a shot but the crowd were unwilling to let the band go without one additional song - so the band finished with Led Zeppelin's Rock & Roll, a fitting end to the night.

I can honestly say that any or all of the bands at tonight's gig would be worth going to see. So go on, make the effort

and keep live rock music alive because if at least one band out of this lot doesn't blow you away, you must already be dead!

Words & Photos by Reg Richardson





# PREVIEW

## Bright Side Music Promotions - March programme

Bright Side Music Promotions was set up in 2011 by Erin Green. After quitting university in 2010 in order to follow a career in promoting of which she had no experience. Now mentored by Tim Parsons, who used to own MCP, one of the biggest concert promoters in the country, Erin is dedicated to bringing roots/acoustic music gigs to the West Midlands.

*'Tim is helping me to realise my dream of leaving behind my minimum wage waitressing job - which I currently use to fund my promoting, and becoming an established concert promoter.'*

[www.brightside-music.co.uk](http://www.brightside-music.co.uk)

### Miranda Sykes and Rex Preston: Saturday 9th March 2013

The Room Upstairs at Redditch Palace Theatre

Tickets: £10 From the box office or call:

01527 65203

Miranda, well known as the third member of **Show of Hands** and one of the few female double bassists in England, is an accomplished singer in her own right. Miranda holds her audience spellbound: it is the emotional quality of her voice that makes her musical partnership with Rex so engaging, rather than the novelty of such an unusual musical pairing as the double bass & mandolin. Rex has a reputation as a fine and imaginative



mandolin player and is a leading light in a new wave of British Bluegrass musicians. Together, they create a rare fusion, described by Mike Harding as "a real cracker". Miranda & Rex interweave timeless, well chosen covers with one or two Preston originals. Their backgrounds, as well as skilful instrumentation & warm engaging vocals have shaped their unique sound. For more information contact [press@sykespreston.com](mailto:press@sykespreston.com)

### Phil Beer: Saturday 16th March 2013

Rowney Green Village Hall, B48 7QP

Tickets: £12.50 From Bright Side Music

Phil Beer is a multi-instrumental part of the West Country's award winning acoustic duo **Show of Hands**.

With a professional career of over 36 years, Phil has a great deal of material to draw on for his solo appearances which are an eclectic mix of traditional tunes, covers of Springsteen or The Hollies, together with a mix of his own compositions and songs from his contemporaries.

All are songs and music of memory and significance sung in the subtle



and melodic Phil Beer style and interjected with musings and amusings to an almost personal audience.

It is a treat of past and current favourites from one of the most popular musicians on the acoustic circuit.

# REVIEW Counterfeit Stones - Artrix Theatre - 27th February 2013

Well what can you do when Jagger, Richards, Watts, Wood and co. still desperate to fund their lifestyles and pay the alimony, will only play the big arenas at a price that would require me to take out a small mortgage for the tickets. Not forgetting to take a good pair of binoculars and a set of step ladders. What you do when you cant get no satisfaction is make do with a substitute.....Who, well these guys have been around a time, but it was fresh ground for me, The Counterfeit Stones, playing at a theatre near you! A full house (both nights) were weaned into the opening 'Route 66', with a tongue in cheek video trailer; videos being used throughout as the band passes through its various stages, both dress and line up. We see a subdued Brian, guitar and sitar, a 'young' Mick, strangely ageless! A youthful enthusiastic Keith, a Cool Charlie, who has seen it all, and Bill, oddly managing to stay with the band to-date; why man? Start to finish this show is a polished rock riot, plenty of humour, outfit and 'line up' changes (Brian Jones/Mick Taylor/Ron Wood seem all very familiar!) but the era's are covered well. 'Brian's' Sitar opens 'Paint it Black', many of the Stones greatest songs are featured, but 'White Horses', 'Gimme Shelter' and personal favourite, 'Sympathy For the Devil' stood out. The band played to a sell out, partisan audience and could do no wrong; Keef may not have the dexterity of the real thing, and Mick could do with a stretching and loosening on the rack, but this was start



to finish an entertaining evening. My biggest regret is not seeing the Stones in my earlier years, when they were accessible, and I had no cares, could travel to London for a few quid and a beer was 2'6d.....in a club. They may be counterfeit and on close inspection, look suspect, but it sounds and feels like the real thing; or as close as I'll ever get. At a theatre near you, they are playing Worcester Swan on April 25th, it will be a sell out, so dust off your drainpipes, dig out the shades, roll that joint and get your tickets now for a nostalgic trip into the legend that is The Stones, counterfeit or not!

*Words and Photography  
Graham Munn*



**thesession**  
music studios

**RECORDING, REHEARSAL  
CD/DVD DUPLICATION  
PA & LIGHTING HIRE**

**A spacious purpose built studio complex based  
in Worcester, 10 minutes from the M5**

**State of the art recording studio for making or mixing  
any sort of recording and four sound-proofed and  
air conditioned rooms for bands to practice.**

**[www.bandpractice.co.uk](http://www.bandpractice.co.uk)**

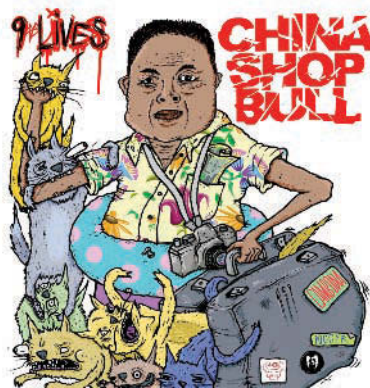
## PREVIEW - Marris Bar 29th March

### Johnny Kowalski and the Sexy Weirdos / China Shop Bull / The Nutters

After the rip roaring sell out success of the Slap Mag Christmas Party last December, the Sexy Weirdos have decided to make their live return to Worcester with their very own show at the Marris Bar on Friday 29th March .



Co-headlining the show are the very wonderful China Shop Bull. This lot have been tantalising and terrorising audiences both here and abroad with a unique blend of styles they call "ska rave" - an eclectic hybrid that has seen them win support slots with Dreadzone, Goldie Lookin Chain and US ska punk legends Voodoo Glow Skulls, as



well as slots at Boomtown Fayre and Rebellion. If that's not enough to convince you that they're a great night out, I suggest you go online and check out their "Nine Lives" single - you won't be doubting for long.

Johnny Kowalski and the Sexy Weirdos will be back with their usual carnival punk shenanigans, and a slew of new material for your entertainment, bringing their six piece army of fools to the Marris Bar for a hometown show before setting off on another European tour.

Support comes from brand new soul/garage punksters The Nutters featuring Robber from Gaye Bykers on Acid. With local reggae SoundSystem Ital Sounds also on the bill, it's going to be busy - advanced booking is advised.

Words by Glazz

## Softly Spoken . . .

As if there is not enough going on at Malvern's newest nightclub, fabulous cabaret and spoken word looms at Re-con on Tuesday 19th March. The first *ConFab*, hosted by the verbally ebullient Amy Rainbow, will display the entire spectrum of variety performance. Featuring former Birmingham Poet Laureate Spoz, The Very Grimm Brothers, Dolly Grip, Salma, Tim Cranmore and his freshly carved carrot, Four Tart Harmony and, maybe you. For the chance to be publically humiliated in front of an appreciative audience the organisers invite punters to *Prepare to Share*; a post-modern Gong Show style cabaret spot. Anybody can take to the stage to recite a poem, sing a song, whistle a tune, tell a joke, perform a trick, boil a kettle or assemble flat pack furniture. Just prepare for the boot if the audience hoot! Nothing is out of bounds so long as it takes no longer than 120 seconds. So, if you are feeling bold, this may be the time to dust off that unicycle, polish your juggling balls, groom your grammatology and brave the public arena with your cabaret turn. The fun begins at 8pm with entry by donation.

RT.





## What I'd Like To See (Part 94)... - Andy O'Hare



Fair to say that when I go to gigs I always appreciate great musicianship, a kicking live act and stage presence – and a good clean sound and classy lighting never goes amiss. But what I'm really looking for is killer original songs with a great hook – and it almost doesn't matter what genre they're delivered in! It's what inspired the title of the Old Grey Whistle Test – back in the days of Tin Pan Alley – bands would be wheeled on stage – play a couple of numbers and if the house doormen (the 'old greys') could whistle back the tune then it passed first base at the audition. Well my own grey hairs are rapidly increasing in number – and for me a memorable riff or lyrics is still what it's all about!

If a band has plenty of catchy numbers that's great – very rare indeed but extremely handy! However over the years (and probably even more nowadays) the charts have been filled with one-hit wonders – and I don't think that should be a drawback for an act – most performers would settle for just one week in the charts though more would be very handy indeed!

Ok – assuming you've got the first requirement for conquering the world – what next? Well you may strike it lucky and get spotted in your local venue by a major record company's A&T person – but as far as I know they're pretty thin on the ground round these parts! Of course there's also a chance your number will go viral on Youtube or the like – there's been a couple of local examples recently – (Laura 'Lola' Cowley's 'Gag Reflex' comes to mind!!) but again this is always going to be a bit hit-and-miss – but I reckon the best way forward is to increase the odds yourself on being noticed...

Which is why I've become really more convinced that if you want to break your act in the music industry (who are ALWAYS looking for new talent) the first thing is to make a full-time commitment to promoting your talent – and if that means kicking the 9 to 5 into touch then I think it's a step worth taking!! If you've got a philanthropic employer who's willing to grant you a sabbatical then that's a bonus – but probably a pretty rare beast nowadays I guess! This 'big step forward' doesn't necessarily mean burning all your bridges – I'm reminded of Brian May who in the early 70's was half-way through a PhD at Imperial College when Queen started taking off – 30 years later he returned and completed his thesis on Astrophysics – being awarded his Doctorate purely on academic merit – respect!!

Making this move involves considering yourself/yourselves as professional musicians first and foremost – and that means getting paid for what you do!! Now it still pains me when I see bands getting caught in the pay-to-play trap, gigging at venues that had their heyday many years ago and are trading on past glories – or being suckered by promoters that only see acts as a vehicle for their own ambitions – if in doubt ask other musicians about their experiences with venues and promoters

(another reason not to leave straight after playing your set – hang around and support the other acts and do a bit of networking!!)

I think a local act who are a great example and well worth studying when it comes to 'taking the plunge' are Malvern's Babajack – about a year ago I was speaking to Trevor and Becky at Droitwich Music Festival and I was really impressed when they stressed their determination that music was now their full-time job – and they were going to make it work! Well – it certainly seems to have been justified as they've had a fantastic year with shedloads of awards and have a whole bunch of festival appearances already lined up for the summer – but of course they do also tick box #1 with plenty of great numbers in their catalogue!!



Graham Munn

I think if you've made up your mind to make music your profession – it's possible to ease yourself into it provided you're focussed on that as your main aim – Peace come to mind! Until about a year ago they were still doing their 'day-jobs' – but that was only to earn money to put diesel into their tour-bus to take them to gigs all round the country – and in my view that's what musicians have to do – yes of course we love seeing you play venues in H&W but that big break has a greater chance of happening if you play as many venues as possible round the country – and yes that really means London as well – but watch out for those 'tourist-trap' venues!!

But why stop there? You can increase your chances even more of being spotted by playing abroad – and there's a number of local acts like Fights & Fires and Johnny Kowalski who are spending time on the continent. You only need to make that one connection – and the more and wider-afield you play – the better are your chances! Or maybe go the whole hog (that's for Mark) and like Andy Robinson and Dan Greenaway decamp for half the year to the USA? If you've got the talent – and I know that there's bucketloads out there – you've got to share it round as widely as possible!!

AOH

(your comments please to so-sue-me@live.co.uk)



# Re-con

MALVERNS ONLY FULLY LICENSED ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT VENUE

**Wednesday - Open Mic**

**4 Church Street, Malvern. WR14 2AY  
01684 300720**

**Thur/Fri/Sat - Live Bands / DJ's**

( MON-THU 11.00 am - Midnight )

( FRI-SAT 11.00 am - 1.00 am )

**Sunday - Sunday Session**

( SUN 11.00 am - Midnight )

[www.re-con.org.uk](http://www.re-con.org.uk)



**LIVE MUSIC | GREAT SELECTION OF DRINKS  
SPECIAL OFFERS | ALL SPORTS ON TV**

cap  
n'gown

Open  
Mon-Fri  
3-10  
Sat & Sun  
12-12



**Upper Tything | Worcester  
01905 28914**

## REVIEW – The Gastric Band

### The Chestnut, Worcester 26th January

The Gastric Band must be one of the more unusual acts in Worcester. A tight three piece consisting of Gaz Le Bass, Luke Umphff and Lizzie Rocket that belt out songs from many genres that span several decades including numbers by one of my favourite song writers Shel Silverstein.. With Gaz rocking his double bass and Luke deftly handling guitar, banjo and Mississippi saxophone the Gastrics entertain from the get go. So to see them at The Chestnut was a treat not to be missed.

Now that the Chestnut is in the hands of Mad P I'm sure we can expect not only a healthy line up of live bands a couple of times a month, as well as an open mic night hosted by the one and only Perry Foster but also real ales and damn fine Sunday roasts.

The Chestnut was packed to the gunwales as two stalwarts of the Worcester music scene entertained the assembled crowd with wit, banter and of course a diverse selection of songs delivered with what one can only describe as gusto and aplomb. Over the course of a couple of hours the Gastrics went from strength to strength, the ale flowed and Mad P even put on a rather nice curry to top off a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

*Words: Magic Christian Pics: Nikki B*



## CREATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL BAND PORTRAITS

As a band, artist or musician, publicity and social networking is essential to raise your profile, so its important to have some great photographs to really sell yourself.

As a professional music photographer with years of experience and a fully portable lighting studio, I can provide you with just that. Contact me if you are interested in competitive rates and some fantastic imagery that has the potential to further your career in the music industry.

**snap  
rock  
and  
pop  
.co.uk**

M : 07834782850  
E : [joe@snaprockandpop.co.uk](mailto:joe@snaprockandpop.co.uk)  
W : [www.snaprockandpop.co.uk](http://www.snaprockandpop.co.uk)

Find me on Facebook & Twitter





- ★ Rare and collectable LPs & 45s!
- ★ New and reissue vinyl!
- ★ Extensive artist catalogue CDs!
- ★ Deluxe issues & box sets!
- ★ Buy, sell & trade. Collections bought!
- ★ Order your new CDs from us - 48-hr turnaround!

## CARNIVAL RECORDS

### MALVERN, WORCS

Find us in the heart of Great Malvern; at 83 Church Street, a few doors down from Cafe Nero. Free parking available at Waitrose (two mins' walk).

Coffee and wi-fi. Open weekdays 11am-5pm, Saturday 10am-5pm

Tel: 07435 963 894 ★ Email: [info@carnivalrecords.co.uk](mailto:info@carnivalrecords.co.uk)

We are online at [www.carnivalrecords.co.uk](http://www.carnivalrecords.co.uk)

 [facebook.com/carnivalrecords11](https://facebook.com/carnivalrecords11)  [twitter.com/carnivalrecords](https://twitter.com/carnivalrecords)

**A PHYSICAL SHOP IN A DIGITAL WORLD!**



# The Easter Bunny Blues

## at the Great Malvern Hotel

**29th, 30th & 31st March**

29th March

Pushing the Boundaries  
of Blues. Part 1

Hosted by Martin Thorne and Sam Ware.  
Brain Neil, Tim Cranmore, Dave Ryles,  
Peter James Siviter and Samuni.

30th March

Pushing the Boundaries  
Of Blues Part 2

An evening with Will Kileen  
guest Staring The Poor Boys.

31st March

Pushing the Boundaries  
of Blues Part 3

Hosted by Gareth Forsyth.  
Special guest To be confirmed.

Fri and sat 8.30 till 11pm Sun 7.30 till 10.30

Graham Road, Great Malvern WR14 2HN

**Tel: 01684 563411**



## ARTS FEATURE Sam Fenner

Sam Fenner is a Worcestershire based commercial artist who specialises in several diverse mediums. After finishing her foundation at Hereford Art College she studied Art History to degree level and Life Drawing at Worcester College of Art and Design.



As a painter, she is currently enjoying huge success with her 'Quirky Animal Series' a collection of fun animal faces oozing with life and vivid character, a must for any animal lover! "My current, somewhat bizarre involvement with painting quirky animals arose out of a single commission a few years ago which fortunately gave rise to a steady demand for similar works. It's a fun



series as I only choose to paint slightly quirky animals with a distinctive character and personality, and am continually surprised and motivated by people's enthusiastic response to the paintings. I still get a buzz when someone buys an original or orders a print – knowing that someone likes my work enough to display it in their

home is a huge compliment for me." Sam is currently working almost exclusively on producing more of these paintings for an upcoming exhibition at Malvern Theatre which runs from April 21st to 2nd June.

As well as her painting and drawing, Sam Fenner also makes hand crafted gifts using driftwood collected from the beaches of France, handmade hearts and wooden plaques.

She undertakes many private commissions from vintage cars to favourite photo moments to driftwood sculptures.

Take a look at her website: [www.samfennerart.co.uk](http://www.samfennerart.co.uk)

## ARTS FEATURE Bridging the Years – Foregate Street Railway Bridge

How lovely to see the railway bridge across Worcester's Foregate Street finally emerge in its newly renovated splendour. The cast and wrought iron under-structure of the bridge was first hidden behind construction workers'

curtains in June of last year, unfortunately just before the queen's visit to our city and it took until February for work to be completed, but it is a job well done. The under-structure of the bridge, a haven for pigeons, was becoming dangerously corroded due to Worcester's weather, with paint and even small pieces of rusted iron falling from its heights. The iconic bridge has fared well. Having been erected in 1906 to replace the previous nineteenth century structure, this bridge was produced by Worcester's own Hardy and Padmore Iron Foundry which once stood on Foundry Street off City Walls Road. The company was responsible for producing the decorative street lamps along Worcester's bridge, the



fountain which now stands in Cripplegate Park but began life inside a covered market opposite the Guild Hall, and the clock that still hangs there. They also produced the decorative gates in front of the old

infirmary building which once stood at the entrance to Worcester's arboretum gardens off Barbourne Road, and television watchers might remember seeing the dolphin shaped street lamps along the Thames in London, and these were produced at the same Worcester factory.

The grade II listed bridge itself has now been restored to its former glory, repainted in almond green with cream inserts and red highlights with a bright red underside. The badges and shields of the city of Worcester stand out brightly from its pristine base as a brilliant welcome to the city centre for drivers, pedestrians and train passengers alike, and it looks especially beautiful in the spring sunshine.

by Sarah Ganderton



# The Lamb & Flag

The Tything,  
Worcester

March 20th - *Inn Verse*

11th, 17th & 25th - *Folk Session*

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

*...you either get it, or you don't!*



# REVIEW

## MARCUS BONFANTI

It has to be something a bit special to entice us out onto the winter roads and a 200Km round trip (that's 130 miles to those who haven't embraced Europe) into the depths of Bristol and back in an evening. Well it was in our opinion rather special, this was Blues Awards winner Marcus Bonfanti on the first night of his acoustic tour. (Sadly the Worcester area has been overlooked, come on Mr Marr, Marcus is made to measure and would surely be a good draw.)

The venue of The Old Bookshop is a regular promoter of live music, not sure about old books, it's more an olde curiosity shop, with an eclectic set of memorabilia scattered around, typewriters, box cameras and old cine projectors etc. Crammed into this tiny café were 65 music lovers with only just enough space to raise a glass. Surely we can match that!

Marcus has a thick bitter chocolate with cocoa nibs, voice, coarse sand rather than gravel, he is an exceptional performer, if you missed him at Upton last year, it was definitely at your loss. To me, as a stand alone singer, accompanied only with his guitars, he is at his best, opening with 'God Only Knows', a cross between blues and gospel, with harmonica only. Devil Girl, and Honey fed through to end the first set with 'Hard Times' his first recording and reflecting his struggle as a musician trying to make his mark. Most of his lyrics are rooted in his life experience of which anecdotes and tales interlace the music. I like this, it's a connection to his audience that sadly gets lost as venue size grows and fame and fortune tap on the shoulder.

A short break and a few cigarettes later and we are into the second set, and a particular favourite of mine, heard at said Upton Blues, 'Run Long' is an out and out gospel call, courtesy of The Blind Boys of Alabama, close your eyes and your in that mission hall and Marcus is preaching as one possessed; wonderful stuff.

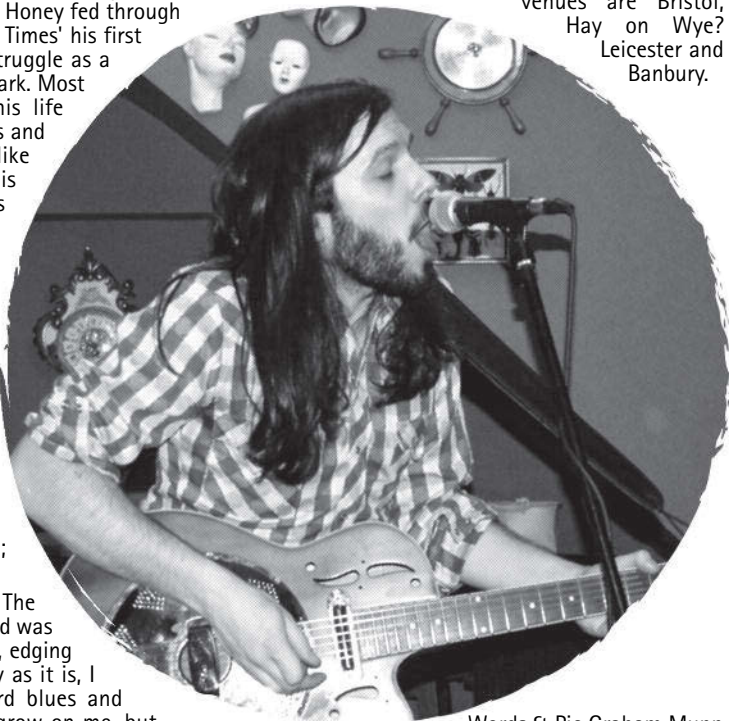
We come to 'Bittersweet'. The lyrics for which the Blues Award was given, this is decidedly 'softer', edging toward folk, and for me lovely as it is, I have a preference to his hard blues and gospel style. It will probably grow on me, but

### At The Old Bookshop Bristol 31/1/13

would not be the song that pops into mind if I see the name Bonfanti.

'Give Me Your Cash', is on the other hand, a full on blast against the greedy capitalists and the tax system, very fitting for today's times, and a rip roaring song as Marcus starts to wind up his session. Naturally you can't walk away from a stage without protest from a now slightly merry crowd, who were having a great time; especially as there was nowhere to go to, so we ended on 'Sweet Louise' and 'Bad', a soft lyrical ballad, blown aside by a final broadside that Michael Jackson would probably not recognise; we all wanted more. It was a long journey and a tiring return up the motorway with all its diversions and restrictions, would we have given it a miss? No, this was a memorable gig with an artist who is highly regarded in the blues world, he warrants a wider recognition, but selfishly, let's keep in the small intimate venues, just let us have priority ticket allocation, we will be there. Come on you local promoters, lets get some dates around here, it's hard to

believe that the nearest venues are Bristol, Hay on Wye? Leicester and Banbury.



Words & Pic Graham Munn

# DROITWICH LEGION CLUB

Salwarpe Road | Droitwich | WR9 9BH | 01905 770080



Large Bar Area | 200 Capacity Function Room Available  
Skittle alley | Award Winning Local Ales

**JIM BEAM**  
Bourbon Whisky  
Red Stripe

state your

**INDIE PENDENCE**

every thursday at velvet nightclub  
open 10pm

£2 entry with this voucher b4 midnight

for updates join our facebook group -  
**STATE YOUR INDIE PENDENCE**

the management reserve the right to refuse  
admission/withdraw these this offer without notice

live bands  
last thu of every month

3 ROOMS  
of the best indie,  
rock & metal

angel place . worcester . wr1 3qn . 18+

worcester  
rocks



## PREVIEW Film at the Hive

### "Sheila Rowbotham: Remembering Dorothy and Edward"

Worcester, 7pm Friday 8 March 2013

Start: 7.30pm, doors open 7.00pm

Admission: £3 / £1 concessions

Dorothy and E P Thompson Remembered

"Remembering Dorothy and Edward", a film of a lecture by Sheila Rowbotham about her friends Dorothy and E.P. Thompson, will be premiered in The Hive, Worcester on Friday 8 March 2013, as part of International Women's Day.

Dorothy and Edward Thompson, who lived in Rushwick, Worcestershire, were internationally respected historians. Edward is best known for his work "The Making of the English Working Class", a classic of social history still in print 50 years after it was first published. Dorothy Thompson, his wife, was an authority on Chartism, a movement that campaigned for political reform 175 years ago.

Sheila Rowbotham was a friend and student of the Thompsons. Sheila helped to found the Women's

Liberation Movement in 1969. She is currently Historian in Residence at the British Library.

The documentary was directed and edited by Hayley Moore as part of her University of Worcester film-making degree. Hayley will complete her degree in May before starting work for a production company in Oxford.



After the film the audience will have the opportunity to speak to the film's producers and share their memories of Dorothy and Edward Thompson.

It will be screened in the Studio, a lecture theatre on the ground floor of The Hive, from 7.30pm on Friday 8 March. Entrance will be charged at £3 and £1 (concessions) payable at the door.

## PREVIEW Seas of Mirth, Wes Dance

Marrs Bar 16th March



St Patrick's Day celebrations this year come with all cannons blasting towards the Marrs Bar. Get your muskets at the ready, and lock up your daughters for Seas Of Mirth, a 9 piece group of debauched and maniacal buccaneers that have been plundering the British Isles far and wide for the last several years. Combining hilarious live shows with pounding dance music, Seas of Mirth are a party band unlike any other around. With high speed gypsy beats, a thrashy folk influence and some majestic bellowing, they even manage to throw in a bit of old- school hip-hop for good

measure. Imagine Gogol Bordello getting Mumford and Sons in a headlock, whilst Flogging Molly steals their lunch money and Grandmaster Flash kicks them in the shins. Their show gets rather theatric in an absurd and rowdy sense, behold GIANT CRAB WRESTLING and an actual full-on TUG OF WAR.

Support to come from Wes Dance and one other tbc. Pirate/Nautical/Paddy's Day fancy dress more than encouraged. 5 doubloons on the door. Land lubbers need not enter.



Words by Nikki B

[www.seasofmirth.com](http://www.seasofmirth.com)  
[seasofmirth.com](http://seasofmirth.com)

A treasure trove of nautical nonsense

## REVIEW – Trio Rosbiff

### Thurs 7th Feb – Lamb & Flag, Worcester

For reasons unknown Les Rosbiff decided to disband, so this was to be their last stand and I can honestly say it's a great shame.

Upon entering an intimate, yet rammed room the band was in full swing and conjured up a seething atmosphere, one punter described the quartet as "a kind of happy blues". Which was true as the accumulative impact of sped up 12 bar was one of joy and bliss. Essentially playing jazz/swing standards with great vituroso skill and sublime personality the level of musiciansmanship was second to none and made for a trully blissful encounter. From Paul Smith on standup bass providing the only rhythm with delicate modesty to the dual assault of Simon Othen and Chris Tolly there were nods to John McLaughlin (Mahavishnu Orchestra/Miles Davis fame) and plenty of Django Reindhardt in equal meassures. Speaking of Django, Matheis Svensson embodied the spirit of Grappelli's gypsy workouts on the fiddle to such a degree that with closed eyes you could almost feel as if you were transported to the glory days of Café de Paris.

The interplay was but one string to the bow however, the good humour of this outfit; the running

jokes of there been not enough fretboard on any instruments; the off the cuff vocal vamping of tricky lines; the musical quotations, all gave the impression of an all encompassing performance of collective personality rather than just a jam but it retained those edge of seat moments of the unexpected reserved for such group intimacy. In short, it is said that a picture can say a 1000 words which is just as well as words fail me on this occasion. An outfit that will be sorely missed but has widened my appreciation of the form ten fold. Some things are better seen live. Who will fill the gap?



Words by Craigus Barry Photography by Mike Woods

**Cannon Royall Brewery**

**Uphampton Ales**

**Your local award winning Brewery**

**Cannon Royall Brewery Ltd**  
Uphampton Lane  
Ombersley  
Nr Droitwich  
Worcs WR9 0JW  
**Telephone: 01905 621161**

The advertisement features a large, central image of a glass filled with beer. Surrounding this central image are several circular beer labels from Cannon Royall Brewery. The labels include: 'FRUITERER'S MILD', 'CANNON ROYALL BREWERY LTD', 'ARROWHEAD BITTER', 'SLAP MAGAZINE Ale', 'KING'S SHILLIN', 'Teddy bear', and 'ARROWHEAD EXTRA'. Each label also mentions 'UPHAMPTON ALES' and an 'ABV' percentage.

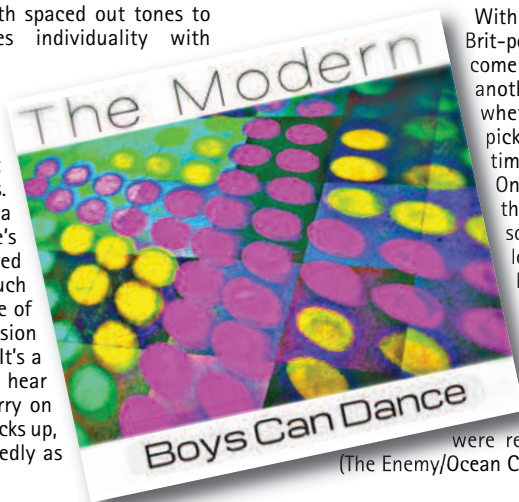


## EP REVIEW - The Modern

That these boys have done their time with some big names in the Brit-pop scene (Ocean Colour Scene, Noel Gallagher) won't surprise anyone who hears these tracks. Seamlessly mixing the themes and sounds of the bands that dominated the mid-90's with spaced out tones to create something that carries individuality with mainstream potential.

Their latest single, Boys Can Dance, reminisces The Rolling Stones briefly before dropping a perfect, quirky guitar line that prances around the bass and vocals. The bulk of the track sounds like a Stone Roses tribute with Luke's vocals capturing that almost bored sounding, youthful abandon. Much Love, the B-side, carries the theme of a night out to its logical conclusion and they push for a longer party. It's a song of excess you don't really hear anymore; that desperation to carry on despite the protests. Musically it picks up, picking up the Roses wholeheartedly as the chorus builds over the verses.

After a few listens of these two tracks you'll feel like you've known them your whole life, the melodies sinking in deep, bringing back those memories of drunken indie bars. The Modern really come into their own with Love is Blind, their newest track (due out in May), which carries the same influences but steps out of the shadows. It's not hard to imagine the track blaring out of a P.A. at a venue bigger than the ones within Worcester's walls.



With the cast of the original Brit-pop explosion all making come backs in one shape or another time will tell whether these boys have picked the best or worst time to aim for the top. One thing is for sure, those 90's sounds haven't sounded this fresh in a long time, so these guys have got a fighting chance.

*by Matthew Tilt*

The Modern's album is currently being mixed. The tracks were recorded by Matt Terry (The Enemy/Ocean Colour Scene)

# GUITARSTUDIO

## 10 Year Anniversary

REPAIRS, SET-UPS, SERVICING & CUSTOMISATION  
PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOP  
FAST TURNAROUND  
OVER 5000 PARTS IN STOCK  
RETAIL - HOT BRANDS AT COOL PRICES  
60 TOP QUALITY GUITARS ON DISPLAY  
AMPS, EFFECTS, CABLES & CASES

**Gibson  
Fender  
& Epiphone  
wanted for  
CASH**

[www.guitarstudio.co.uk](http://www.guitarstudio.co.uk)  
email: [guitarstudio66@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:guitarstudio66@yahoo.co.uk) Tel: 01386 861873

Craycombe Retail Park, Fladbury, Pershore WR11 4EG



## REVIEW - The Crooked Empire Album Party - Marris Bar 9th February 2013

with Hoden Lane, Passengers Band and The Artois

So it was another wet weekend in Worcester and I really didn't fancy going out, so unless I was going to see one of my favourite bands at one of my preferred venues then trust me, I'd have stayed in.

It must have taken a while to get off my sofa because the first thing I noticed as I wandered in, was the Passengers Band on stage, meaning I'd missed the Artois... Shame it seems, by all accounts they were amazing! The second thing I noticed was the queue at the bar, I hadn't even noticed the place was heaving until that point! The discombobulated Vikki came good with a couple of ciders, game on!

So I wandered through the melee to snap the brilliant Passengers when I noticed something else, the familiar Marris Bar back drop obscured by the Crooked Empire banner, aye aye Marzy ain't here then!

I've seen the Passengers a few times now and they were great, tonight, raising the bar on a good stage, good sound system and good sound engineer was easy for this three piece.



Hoden Lane up next and another polished performance it was too. With plenty of friends in the crowd they looked and sounded relaxed and at home on the Marris Bar stage.

But it was The Crooked Empire's night. Copies of the album were flying out as folk couldn't wait to get their hands on them, smiles all round from the management and Sean and the boys as they relished their performance. This band write great songs which is why they are getting noticed at last. Most of the songs on this album have been around for a while... Lets not go into that now! But with Bye Bye Baby and Run Run in your repertoire you have nothing to worry about especially with fine sing-a-longs such as Jagged Souls to call upon.



In fact the Crooked Empires back catalogue would excite any band of any note and if you can pen a track such as Too Pretty for the City which doesn't make the cut for the same titled album, you must be doing something right.

We were also treated to a few new compositions giving us an insight to their next album

The Empire, it seems, are holding out for world domination, as we are subjected to new material which sounds as wonderful as the old, or new, oh god I'm confused!

They follow up this Album Party with five back to back dates in London, the pinnacle being a packed out 100 Club, not bad for an Indie band from the Shires eh?



The Crooked Empire photography by Joe Singh [www.snaprockandpop.co.uk](http://www.snaprockandpop.co.uk)

# No Small Feat



Tina V



Dogs of  
Santorini



Black  
Russian

For several years, the convivial Andy Mapp has held a one day music festival in his back yard. A somewhat exclusive affair, Mappfest has become a highlight of the Malvern music scene and getting an invite to play is considered a badge of honour for musicians from far and wide. Raising money for Acorns Hospice, the first Mini Mappfest was a three day event held at Re-con (where else?). Running from Friday evening to Sunday night on the 8th to 10th of February Mini Mappfest hosted a who's who of talent from the local music scene. Friday kicked off with *AnswerBack* and some high energy pop-punk before *Clockwork Rifle*, *Hitchhiker*, *Tiger Province* and *Jet Black Cadillac*. Then it was time for some theatrical mayhem as the post-apocalyptic *Massive Head Trauma* exploded onto the stage followed by the most dramaturgical front man ever as *Slack Granny* expertly executed their usual trade of bringing the house down. And that was just day one. Saturday saw *Stompin' on Spiders*, *Jenny Hallam*, *Retinal Circus*, *Gandhi's Walrus*, *Reinforced*, *Ancient Addicts*, *Mansize*, *Dogs of Santorini*, *Black Russian* and *This Wicked Tongue*. With the post watershed line up dominated by female fronted rock bands you might be forgiven for expecting some quiet, introspective offerings. But there was none of it! This was an evening of Rock with a capital R. *Black Russian* have perfected the extravagant burlesque with over the top rock poses and shirtless abandon. But they manage to pull it off because their musical skills match the performance. *This Wicked Tongue* deservedly took the headline slot with rock goddess Tina V delivering

the goods as always while bass, drums and guitar meshed perfectly behind her like a well-engineered machine. For me though, the stand out performance that night was from Anya Pulver and *Mansize*. Quiet and polite off-stage, when on it she takes ownership of the whole room and demands your attention. But it's not just her stage presence. *Mansize* have developed into a fantastic song-writing unit with inventive ideas backed up by musical capability and a capricious vocal style. Every time I see them I like them more. It's said that on the Sabbath, one should rest. Andy Mapp obviously never got the memo as bar staff and crew, now close to exhaustion, opened up for day three. The Sunday menu included *Martin Thorne*, *Four Tart Harmony*, *Tyler Massey*, *The Nancy Boys*, *Tone Tanner*, *Michael Knowles*, *Black Hill*, *11-11* and *Freaky Trigger*. The curiously named *11-11* proved to be a surprise. Catchy songs, well played with a nod to the *Stooges* and the *New York Dolls*. What's not to like? With a guest appearance from the still legendary *Lounge Toad*, *Freaky Trigger* closed the first Mini Mappfest with their funk-punk fusion giving the throng one last chance to dance before Monday morning dawned. Now tell me again why is it called *Mini Mappfest*? RT



Mansize



This Wicked Tongue



And all for a good cause



# Con-test

Amid great anticipation, Re-con unbolted its doors for an unofficial low-key opening night just before Christmas. The club is Malvern's newest and best equipped venue and a curious crowd came to see what the club that has been closed for eight years had to offer. Situated beneath Great Malvern's Post Office, the venue used to be home to the town's Conservatives but the Con Club, as it was affectionately called, shut down when its lease expired. Dark, damp and vandalised, the premises remained empty, a silent reminder of past glories when the club as a music venue was Malvern's best kept secret. But now it's back and a secret no longer. Neil Collins has taken the reins in both hands and installed a fantastic PA in an impeccable performance space. Re-con is what Malvern has been waiting for: the right size venue bang in the middle of town. The honour of playing first on the unofficial opening night went to Martin Thorne with a set of his hypnotically melancholic blues. Journeyman took the headline slot and got the punters moving with their high energy folksy vibe. It was the 21st of December and the Mayans couldn't have been more wrong; this was just the beginning, as Old Hollow demonstrated the following evening. The



Cardiff based Atoms at  
Re-con Feb 7th 2013

actual proper official opening night came on the 28th with a hastily prepared acoustic support slot from Freaky Trigger and a stand out headline performance from Cocksure. The infectiously danceable ska, reggae and psycho soul of this gang had the place heaving as though the lunatics had taken on the management at the asylum. On New Year's Eve, the resident house band Cover Up, comprised of some insanely talented musicians, took the stage and made the night memorable, although not as memorable as the shirtless antics (some call it dancing) of one or two Slap Mag contributors. The New Year has seen more and more happening at Re-con. From the first of regular hip-hop and rap night to the Dogs of Santorini's EP launch. Not to mention the weekly Sunday Sessions, the Wednesday open mic night and blues on a Tuesday. Early February saw something on every night of the week culminating in a great dancey set from Atoms on the Thursday preceding the weekend of Mini Mappfest, proving that there is enough musical appetite in Malvern for night after night of music. Even the BBC have got involved with Andys Marston and O'Hare recording an Introducing Session in the venue. I really hope that someone is keeping a list of everyone who has played at Re-con because already I am losing count. There have been dozens of bands and performers on stage since it opened, more than I would have thought possible. And there is more to come with puppet shows, comedy nights, poetry, variety, spectacle and music. Music until it comes out of your ears. And the best thing is that every time you go to Re-con it is crowded, but with a different crowd each time. The venue is pulling people in from all over with a mixed and exciting programme of events, gigs and shows. This is what Malvern has been waiting for and the success of the club shows that Re-con is the best venue in town. No contest.

RT

# MUSIC47

WORCESTER'S BIGGEST MUSICAL INSTRUMENT AND SHEET MUSIC STORE HAS CHANGED.

- Authorised Fender, Gretsch & Takamine Dealer
- Martin Guitars Coming Soon
- Website with Live Stocking Information
- Take it Away 0% Finance Scheme available for Under 25's
- 10% Discount on Sheet Music for Teachers
- 2,500 New Sheet Music Titles
- Regular Instrument Demo Day's
- Guitar School now Open
- Repairs Available

E: [sales@music47.co.uk](mailto:sales@music47.co.uk) | T: 01905 22958 | 31 Sidbury, Worcester, WR1 2HT

MUSIC47.CO.UK



# PREVIEW ARTRIX

Another fine folk music and dance show comes to Artrix on Sunday, March 31st, when " Morris Offspring ", driven by the mighty sound of folk powerhouse band " Faustus ", featuring Benji Kirkpatrick and Paul Sartin of " Bellowhead " and Saul Rose of " Warhorse ", captures the dual Morris traits of power and grace.

" The Furnace " is all at once joyful, arty, ballsy, dark and elegant

*Morris Offspring Et Faustus Present...*

## THE FURNACE

– expect rich harmonies, cracking tunes, speed, sticks and bounce. If you liked " The Demon Barbers " recently at Artrix, then this show is also for you !!

The show starts at 7.30.p.m and tickets, at £12 (£10), are available from the Box Office on 01527-577330, or you can book online at [www.artrix.co.uk](http://www.artrix.co.uk)



## REVIEW Focus at Artrix Tuesday 29th January 2013 by Peter Blandamer

Proof (if you needed it) that there are still a load of fans of 1970's "prog rock" when Focus played a fantastic, (almost) sold-out gig at Artrix as part of a 3 week UK tour to promote their new album; Focus X.

With two original members; Pierre van der Linden on drums and Thijs van Leer on Hammond organ and flute, and supported by a great bass player and guitarist Menno (sadly Jan Akkerman no longer tours but Menno was very good) they played a blistering set of old favourites and new material.

They opened with Focus 1, House of the King and Eruption which set the scene for the whole evening. All had fantastic instrumental breaks – every song seemed to have a drum solo in it – but they are first and foremost great songs rather than meandering excuses to show how good they are at playing, which

some of their peers seem to resort to. In particular the sound of a Hammond organ being played properly was like welcoming back an old friend. The first half closed with a brilliant version of Sylvia – a song you will know even if you don't know you do.

Second half focused a bit more on the new album – (vinyl copies were available in the foyer with Roger Dean designed cover!). This sounded good although they were certainly preaching to the already converted. Their major UK hit Hocus Pocus rounded things up, affording the opportunity for us all to yodel a little.

It would be naïve to suggest that Artrix should make Dutch prog rock bands a key part of its schedule. However now and again, on this evidence, it would be a bloody good idea. As always with Artrix, the sound and lights were spot on – I think Chris and the team enjoyed doing this one.





# CD REVIEW

## Our Mutual Friend - Ambition

It's not an EP, it's not an LP, ooh what is it?

It's 19 minutes and 3 seconds long, is it an EEP (Extra Extended Player) or a LLP (little long player)??

This is the first clue that **Our Mutual Friend** are different, individualistic, fond of ploughing a furrow of their own making.

Having heard, loved and reviewed their song *Middlesex* on the compilation Ep *Hinterland*, I leaked in anticipation (uurggh! Ed) when this disc landed on the shagpile.

I wasn't to be disappointed as this is right up my strasse.

Inventive - eccentric - angular - enigmatic - English in the best sense, throughout the 5 tunes herein the band constantly startle with their sonic uniqueness and compositional ingenuity.

From the battling, burbling synths of opener *Friday Downday*, through the singular standout *Middlesex*, via the driving bass led closer *Time Is To Blame* and plaintive violin of *Forgotten*, *Our Mutual Friend* continually surprise and excite.

Cut from the same cloth or at least using the same tailors as Young Knives, that sharp via Gang of Four guitar permeates throughout and provides a touchstone; I also hear echoes of other such inventive indienesters as Wild Beasts, Sparklehorse and firm faves of mine David Devant & His Spirit Wife.

There's a theatricality and ambition (ha!) to the sound which elevate OMF above the musical hoi-polloi and each song reveals another of their multiple personalities.

Lead singer Jack Goodall mentions Breathing Room as one of his 'instruments' but if I've got it right the nail is firmly whacked, because it is the space always the space which makes songs and so it is here.

The dynamics and production display a musical maturity oh and I do like a female drummer - there has never been a bad band with a female drummer in - now there's a statement, a challenge to some I'm sure, but it's true!

*Ambition* is intelligent but gutsy, heartfelt stuff - proper soul - and there are interesting minds at work here that makes for an endlessly rewarding listening experience.

Go find a copy and become a mutual friend (sorry!) at all the usual social media outlets.

*Words by Harvey Maria*



# REVIEW Sax 'n' Axe 14th Feb 2013

## The Reindeer Inn, Ombersley

A Slap up meal for 2 with live music was on the menu for a Thursday Valentine's evening at the Reindeer Inn, Ombersley. This was a relaxing alternative as we were treated to a lovely 3 course meal whilst Bryn & Julie who are Sax n Axe were delivering a packed few hours of Rock, Pop and Soul.

After playing guitar in the pit for musicals and theatre shows, Bryn started gigging as a solo artist in venues near to his home Town of Llandudno to help pay the way. He made backing tracks on an old Fostex x26 that used to slow down as it heated up and change key throughout the gig. As time progressed and mini discs led to DAT, then moving to mp3 he ended up playing in bands in Spain and the Middle East, notably working in top class hotels such as The Inter Continental in Muscat and The Crowne Plaza in Dubai.



They first met whilst Bryn was working in Benidorm, Spain. Julie was looking to join a band in Benidorm as a clarinet player. She had been a highly successful student of the clarinet and saxophone at school, but had not played for a few years.

Bryn and Julie hit it off both musically and romantically and it wasn't long before they formed their highly successful duo 'Sax n Axe'. After a long stint abroad playing as gigging musicians, they returned home to the UK.

The Reindeer in Ombersley is a cracking venue with amazing food, drinks and service. We had a smashing time. Look out for more top acts playing here on a regular basis.

## PREVIEW The Johnny Cash Roadshow

### at Number 8, Pershore

Number 8 in Pershore is welcoming back the UK's best known Johnny Cash tribute, fronted by respected singer/songwriter **Clive John**, for The Johnny Cash Roadshow on Saturday 2 March, 7.30pm.

Celebrating the career of the legendary 'man in black' the show will take you through Cash's career from hits *Walk the Line* and *Folsom Prison Blues*, recorded with Sun Records in the 1950's to *Hurt*, Cash's last release in 2002, recorded by Rick Rubin for his American Recordings label. There are many stops in between bringing the audience all the favourites, *Man in Black*, *Boy Named Sue*, *The Ring of Fire*. The show also brings a focus on the duets Johnny and June sang, including *Jackson and I* and *I Were a Carpenter*.

The Johnny Cash Roadshow is the only tribute show to be endorsed by the Cash family. From start to finish the band take the audience through the Johnny Cash live show experience accompanied by a backdrop of evocative images and shots from Cash's life.

The band features award winning **Clive John** as Johnny Cash, **Jill Schoonjans** as June Carter and **The Spirit Band**. Aside from his performances as Johnny Cash, Clive John is also a songwriter and his latest album 'The Spirit' was nominated for Best British Country Music Album of the year 2011, with title song voted best song of the year.

For more information see:  
[www.johnnycashroadshow.com](http://www.johnnycashroadshow.com)  
or [www.number8.org](http://www.number8.org)

Tickets priced at £17.50  
Full/ £16.50 Friends of  
Number 8 are on sale  
now from Number 8  
Box Office on 01386  
555488.

## REVIEW

### Blues Night at The Cellar

The Cellar Bar, Worcester – Feb 19th

**PERRY FOSTER** was on fine form, keeping the audience giggling ("I haven't played this song before ; I see now why.") with a selection of Delta and Georgia style blues picked with grace and style on his 6-string acoustic.

Our special guests were **BLACK CAT BONE**. Stuart and Barrie on their best form played an extended set of Chicago and R&B songs featuring fine harmonica and singing, alongside one of the most consistently accomplished guitars around here.

**SOPHIE MARIE** stood alongside **STRIPPED DOWN BLUES**, singing soulful backing vocals and adding a touch of class to an otherwise phallogentric lineup.

Next month, March 19th, we have the **CHUCK HARRIETT QUINTET**, **DAVID RYLES**, **TONE TANNER**, & **JUKE JOINT JOHN**, a fusion of jazz and roots.

In April we'll be celebrating the centenary of **Muddy Waters**. Time to polish up those slides).



# Moochers

DJ'S

ACOUSTIC  
NIGHTS

HAPPY  
HOUR  
4-8PM  
WEEKDAYS

LIVE  
BANDS

PLUS  
MUCH  
MORE!

MOOCHERS JAILHOUSE IS A NEW VENUE FOR MUSIC AND LIVE PERFORMERS NOW OPEN IN STOURBRIDGE. WE HAVE A CAPACITY OF AROUND 250 IN THE LIVE MUSIC VENUE. WE WANT TO SHOW CASE REAL TALENT, PROPER MUSICIANS, BOTH ESTABLISHED, UPCOMING AND BRAND NEW. WITH A SOUNDCRAFT VII LIVE DESK, OHM LINE ARRAY PA SYSTEM, A LARGE STAGE AND SEPARATE BACKSTAGE AREA, WE HAVE ONE OF THE BEST VENUES AROUND.

Blind Lemon	01st Mar 2013
King Pleasure & The Biscuit Boy's	08th Mar 2013
Seconds from Ruin	09th Mar 2013
Fred M Productions presents...	12th Mar 2013
BATTLE OF THE BANDS HEAT 1	14th Mar 2013
Variety Show An evening of comedy & variety	15th Mar 2013
Paddy's Day with Moochers house band	16th Mar 2013
Liquor & Poker Band	30th Mar 2013

See our website for more details.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR FULL GIG LISTINGS [WWW.MOOCHERS.CO.UK](http://WWW.MOOCHERS.CO.UK)

11 NEW ROAD, STOURBRIDGE, DY8 1PH / TICKET HOTLINE: 01384 394794 / TWITTER: @MOOCHERSUK





## CD REVIEW **Matt Telfer** - Landmarks

I usually like to get some background info gleaned from social media before reviewing, but something about the simplicity of this offering whispered - no just play - so I heeded my inner voices (disturbing Ed) and so I come to Matt Telfer fairly untainted by biography etc which helps me, well, just listen.

Admittedly there are a couple of Matt's influences stated on the inner blurb so I (& you) know that he names Mumford, The Stones (Rolling not Roses), Ben Howard, and The Kinks as musical touchstones. However I'm not so sure mentioning names helps as you then can't help play "Spot the Cop" whilst listening.

Luckily there are no such overt steals on these four songs but there is an unmistakable englishness inherent which echoes the above named acts.

Lyrical especially Matt has a tasty line in observational Ray Daviesisms and this is certainly no bad thing. There's also a slight croak of voice which again reminds one of The Great Kinksman but also of more contemporary Brit eccentrics such as Robyn Hitchcock.

There is enough good songwriting going on here to keep you interested, especially when the mixing deck livens up somewhat on 3rd & 4th tracks Motions and Snow Story with the embellishments of double tracked vocals and stereo panning.

The soundscape on Landmarks is simplistic: acoustic guitar, understated percussion (bongos?) plus a smidge of harmonica. This gives the songs a demo-ish feel and I prefer the more aforementioned produced tracks because with only three elements at most, let's hear em loud and proud!

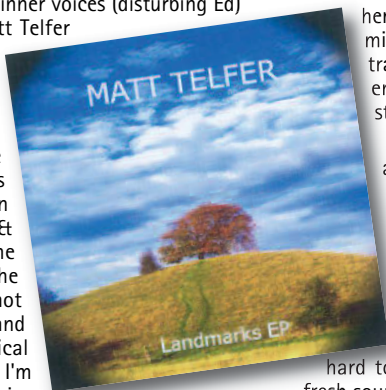
Also with so many solo acoustic singer-songwriter types out you have to strive hard to stand out and this can be achieved with fresh sounds and original arrangements.

Overall Landmarks is a creditable effort and worthy of your attention. Matt can be found at:

[www.reverbNation.com/matttelfer](http://www.reverbNation.com/matttelfer)

[www.soundcloud.com/matt-telfer](http://www.soundcloud.com/matt-telfer)

*Words by Maria Callous*



**STEAK & ALE HOUSE**

**For bookings ring  
01905 621842**

MAIN ROAD, OMBERSLEY, WR9 0JG  
e-mail: [thereindeeratombersley@gmail.com](mailto:thereindeeratombersley@gmail.com)

**Sunday 10th March**  
**Live music from**  
**"Sax 'n' Axe"**

**Live Music every Sunday**

**BREAKFAST, LUNCH,  
DINNER AND  
A LA CARTE MENU  
AVAILABLE  
ALL DAY EVERY DAY  
9am - 11.30pm**

**£8.95 Carvery**

"Grill" Night every 1st Monday in the month  
**FREE** bottle of house wine for a table of 4  
Sunday Carvery 12 - 6 pm



# march

**FRI 01** **GARAGE FLAVA**  
*UK Garage/ House/ Classics*

**SAT 02** **PASSION & PAIN**  
*Andy King- Tanz- Gav Luce*

**FRI 08** **AFTERGLOW** *Student*  
*Exploring the elements of Drum & Bass*

**SAT 09** **SWERVE**  
*Celebrity Couture/ Urban Sounds*

**MON 11** **GENETICS** *Student*  
*Underground House for the Educated*

**FRI 15** **MODS & SODS** *Live*  
*Sounds of The Who/The Small Faces & many more*

**SAT 16** **MOTOWN & NORTHERN SOUL**  
*Legendary DJ Steve Descher/ DNA Records*

**SUN 17** **SEDULUS** *Live*  
*Sludge/ Progressive Doom*

**FRI 22** **TWO WEEKS NOTICE** *Live*  
*Indie/ SKA*

**SAT 23** **TRANSMISSION**  
*The finest Techno/ DJ Chris Finke*

**SAT 30** **ALL LUV'D UP**  
*Dirty House/ DJ ill Phil*



*Mods & Sods*



*Sedulus*



*Two Weeks Notice*

**dna**

**57-59 Lowesmoor  
Worcester  
WR1 2RS**

**[www.dna-worcs.co.uk](http://www.dna-worcs.co.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/dnaworcester](https://www.facebook.com/dnaworcester)  
@DNAworcs**

### Massive Head Trauma/ Barberos/ Ultra Zook

Massive Head Trauma (MHT) have come on in leaps and bounds since their formation a few years ago. Evil Dave on guitar seems to have a never ending lexicon of twisted Hades riffs that bring to my mind a 90s wrestling match been carried out on hot coals, Random Dave has become a far muscular drummer with plenty of panache and Phil completes the tasty riffage with viper vamping and concise counterpoint.

Sonically they are essentially a sci-fi tinged rhythmical 8 bit slinky traversing down the spiral staircase of the mind's eye. A geometric fractal beast pawing with its 12 insectoid limbs over a math Escher tessellating dreamscape. Dual drums are offset into the disc skipping delirium of an old faithful CD scratched to hell by Cthulhu.

We were most surprised as the last **Embrace The Chaos** was strictly metal; this was closer to (if anything) Intelligent Dance Music, though by no means did it lack intensity and brute strength and executed perfectly by two anonymous drummers and a dextrous clandestine synth player.

The dual drums match scintillating synths at every turn - crisp, precise and snappy throughout, relentlessly driving each cyberkinetic punch home wrapped around a focussed supermassive hive-mind of astounding muscle memory. The end result was so polyrhythmic and tight that a prog drummer in the smoking area afterwards remarked he couldn't follow the time signature (if they even had one) so he was, if anything, willing to either explore this new form of discipline or give up. Maybe an off the cuff comment, but all things considered, well observed.

As with fellow Scouse experimentalists Americans (Slap 2012), this isn't an act that is easy to put into words but I gave it a damn good try none the less. Check out their eclectic discography here and see if you can fare any better.

[www.barberos.bandcamp.com](http://www.barberos.bandcamp.com)

Still fronted by the good Reverend Ghenghis Memphis; still wielding a personalized cricket bat like a circus carnie taking issue with a thieving punter round the back of a sideshow. Still quipping witty epithets: "Thanks to you all who have voted for me to be next pope: Memphis for Vatican!"

Memphis' idiosyncratic stage presence comes to the fore once more "I'm a reasonable man but if you ask me for spare change one more time I'll spare change you". All 4 are caked in theatrical greaspaint and blood. Post punk licks perhaps drawing strong influences equally from Kiss/early 90s grunge, 80s metal and PIL without the dancing'.

**Barberos** show that image isn't just about theatrics. They instantly bring their own mood to the room: lycra clad regalia is the regimental dress of this Liverpoolian experimental trio. The figure hugging forms are definitely striking: are they some kind of Lynchian hallucination or pale guides through an unseen needle of the netherworld?



ULTRA ZOOK

Visually the final act of the evening have an enlightened backdrop of 2 dozen black lights on stands spelling out in giant glowing letters U T Z so anything white glows. This gives the illusion you have been invited to some pretty weird post punk disco toy factory rave where spinning tops are having quite a time with pixelated Lego pirates.

Photo: Rhys Bevan



Photo: Vik Young



Photo: Vik Young



Stand out track 'Pasta Diva' (dedicated to "Wiki") starts with pitch shift spoken word, it is built on a solid bass line that seems to speed up/slow down regardless to allow precision runs of the very best of Rachmaninov played about 100 times, wrong speed. Incredibly, this excursion is like a catchy secret level on an 80s arcade machine – it all passes swiftly in 3 minutes.

Jittery and insistent, almost certainly progressive, this is music that none the less defies stock genres and is almost beyond comparison. 'No Phono Sound' clearly shows this fidgety solid trio can hold abstract Primus on amphetamines down no worries. Closer to Japanese psychedelia than anything French IMHO.

Influences are (I'm guessing) erm, Zappa circa his Sinclavier era, Mr Bungle writing a schizoid middle 8? PAH! Describing music like this is like trying decipher a Rubik's cube with misshapen tentacles in zero gravity. Or eating gumbo soup with a fork. So have a listen here.

[www.ultrazook.bandcamp.com](http://www.ultrazook.bandcamp.com)

Next Embrace The Chaos is Stig Noise Sound System  
5th March @ Pig And Drum Free ENTRY!

Facebook/[embrace.the.chaos.wr1](https://www.facebook.com/embrace.the.chaos.wr1)



**SATURDAY 30TH MAR**

**all♥'dip**  
PRESENTS

**ILL PHIL**  
(HECTIK / SLUGGER)

**SKINNY**  
(BUDICUSSY)

**NICK FISHER**  
(LIVE PERCUSSION)

**MIKE FROST / RICK NEWMAN / JAMES LEE**  
10 - 4.30pm admission £5

BROADCAST LIVE ON  
**TNG**  
RADIO  
LUXURY TROGLODITE CO. UK

FIRST 50 IN BY 09.00 GET AN EXCLUSIVE ALL PHIL GUEST MIX CD!

**facebook** **dn** **WITCHAM OFFENDER**

**57-59 LOWESMOOR, WORCESTER, WRI 2RS**

**Pete and the team would like to invite you to**

**The Hop Pole Inn**

*'Bromsgrove's best live music venue by far'*

**Live music every Thursday  
Friday, Saturday and Sunday  
with open mic night every Tuesday**

**All music events are free entry, unless stated otherwise**

**Great real ales and a number of quality, local ciders  
all to be enjoyed in our beautiful beer garden**

**Follow us on Facebook, or check our website at [www.hop-pole.com](http://www.hop-pole.com)**  
**Telephone 01527 870100**

## REVIEW

BABAJACK

AT THE OLD COCK INN, DROITWICH 25th Jan 2013

We had been disappointed the previous week with the cancellation of this gig, extreme weather conditions had snowbound Babjack; so without hesitation we were going to make this session. First time at this venue for music, nice room, if a little dark, and a good selection of beer!

Babajack were present in their core setting, Becky & Trevor, tuned in and ready to go. Opening to 'The Money's All Gone' from the Rooster album, never known for holding back, Becky's powerful vocals and rhythmic drumming accompanied Trevor's wonderful guitar with slide and harmonica. Trevor is very much the powerhouse of this band quite, accomplished, leading the music. Vocals are in the main left to Bex, who layers Trevor's guitar with the driving percussion of her African drum, stomp box and cajon. The exception is Trevor growling his way through 'Going Down To Brownsville' an old John Estes song.

Rooster provided most of the songs, including a nod to Zep with *Hangman's Pole*. We were also treated to the title track from the planned forthcoming album, 'Runnin Man', a middle distance fast paced track.

Becky related her tale about Ledbelly recordings and Son House, breaking into the superbly interpreted 'Death Letter Blues'. Having enjoyed Babajack gigs many times before, we have heard this tale a few times; I hope we hear it many more, it sits very well in Babajack's roots blues style and I can happily switch it to repeat play! Highlight of the evening, Trevor, string-less and slide abandoned, gave full effort to some superlative harp as Bex sang 'Hammer & Tongs', let's have more!

One of the best live bands around, original music consistently performed at the highest level. If you have yet to see/hear them, I suggest checking out their website, babajack.com, listen to some tracks, order a CD, make a pledge if you want to (help support the forthcoming release) but most of all SEE THEM LIVE, you will not be disappointed.

Words & Pic: Graham Munn





# THE BHG

## THE BOARS HEAD GALLERY

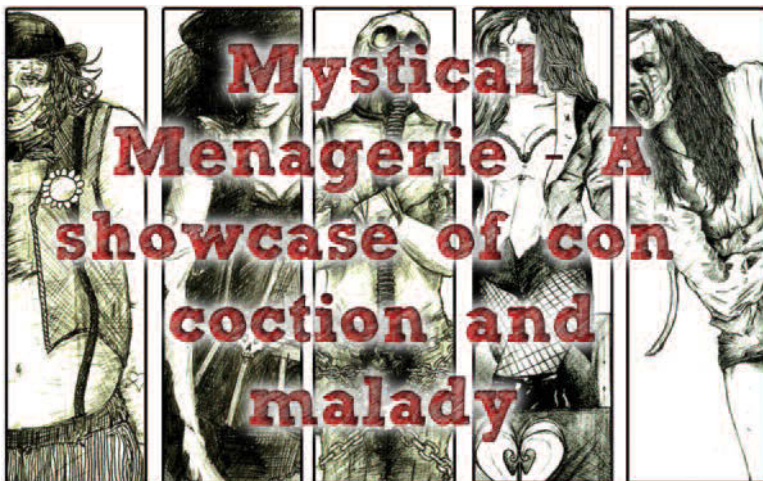
Hello all from The BHG. As March draws in, we have unfortunately had to swiftly remove our last exhibition, 'Meating People is Easy' as we have found the meat featured contained high levels of Seal DNA. Joking, aside what a fantastic show and all of us at The Boars were blown away and seduced by the charms of 'Lewis Spelt Backwards'.



From the dinner plate to the circus ring our next show, 'Mystical Menagerie: A Showcase of Concoction & Malady'. Wolverhampton-based illustrator and artist Jason Fullwood has ventured in a new direction with this inventive creative collaboration with poet and musician Brendan Hawthorne. Mystical Menagerie: A Showcase of

Concoction & Malady is an exhibition of 24 pencil-based macabre images and accompanying nightmarish poems in the unlikely setting of a pub. The Boar's Head in Kidderminster is bucking the recent trend of public house decline by offering a wide range of events, from live music to exhibitions, to attract punters. It appears to be paying off as the clientele is expanding. This latest exhibition, which runs from 2nd to 31st, March, features a circus of characters, such as trapeze artists, jugglers, contortionists, clowns and magicians, who lay their personalities bare before an audience. The launch event from 7 to 9pm on Saturday 2nd March will invite people to hear the poems performed as each image is unveiled. The artists will be on hand to discuss their inspiration and thought processes over a pint during the evening. With the party carrying on downstairs with music from Retinal Circus and Sick Boys Club.

Our regular Arts market will also be making a grand return during the day on Sat 2nd March too. Please do email [gallery@boars-head-kidderminster.co.uk](mailto:gallery@boars-head-kidderminster.co.uk) to book a stall. Last month's Life Drawing also produced some great results and we will be holding another class on Thursday 7th March.



And finally, we are excited to launch our new open competition. Our very own 12" Art Amnesty! It's a simple competition that we would like everyone to enter. Just pick up an old 12" vinyl record (we have plenty here), make your mark on it and bring it back to us! We are very excited to see the results and shall look forward to dishing out prizes!

Thank you all and see you soon!

Coz & Melo



So what a month! And once again where does the time go? This month has really kicked us into a promising new year. We are currently booking up our schedule for the forthcoming months; this includes covering gigs local, national and international- we are booking gigs and festivals for the acts we manage (has everyone applied to play Worcester Music Festival yet?) and we are planning our diaries with media appointments covering the photography and videography services we offer to all. Without getting ahead of ourselves too much March has some fantastic gigs to offer! This means April's edition of Slap will be bursting with gig pictures news and reviews!! But enough of wishing the next few weeks away let's enjoy what February has had to offer us.

Firstly we want to make everyone in Hereford aware of a brilliant music charity with a dedicated team and a fantastic prospect right on your doorstep. Circuit Sweet have come together to work with The Music Pool and whilst our members take onboard their new challenges with the charity - We at Circuit Sweet have taken it upon ourselves to promote awareness of this inspirational music charity and the passionate members who put the Music Pool first. For those unaware, The Music Pool is an established Community music charity for Herefordshire (and its borders) that passionately dedicates time to providing chances for people of all ages and abilities to make music together. For over 20 years, Music Pool has provided creative ways for those with least opportunity to connect with others, mostly through music and music-making of all kinds, but also with dancers, dramatists, writers, poets, puppets, painters, potters and carnival artists - always making new opportunities for everyone to join in. All kinds of music and song are played with all kinds of people, right across the board, because it's such a powerful way of enriching people's lives, of boosting the life of our communities, and of creating a sense of belonging. Worked with professional musicians and teachers to provide an essential lifeline to a broad range of vulnerable people who are marginalised or isolated from mainstream society. This provides an extraordinarily wide range of activities - whether for just a day or over several years, whether you're 2 or 102, and across such a broad spectrum that you may

well have come across what they do without even realising it! Another area The Music Pool promotes is the power music possesses. Music, as we are all aware unites people. With this Hereford welcomes back The Courtyard's Open Mic Night. February saw the return and revamped evening based at Hereford's finest centre of arts, The Courtyard in Edgar Street. Nicky Jaques of The Music Pool runs The Courtyard Open Mic Night's with assistance from loyal Courtyard employees and musical helpers. The night is set to run every first Tuesday of the month in their Café Bar from a new and improved time of 7.30pm. Opening its doors to an array of talented Herefordians. Be it from poets, musicians and comedians. You are all welcome to show your talent, or appreciate talent on your doorstep, the next Open Mic night will be on Tuesday 5th March and we encourage you all to attend this free event. Tell your friends for next time and make sure you put a date in your diary. We will be at as many of these open mic nights as we can- rooting for our hometown!

Hereford is also thriving with live events throughout the next month so make sure you check Slap listings- AJ's and The Black Lion are home to Shred Perry 4 with local acts: Disability, Black Veins, Skin Horse, Fetus Christ and Rails. Also, The Black Lion later on in March is home to Skinhorse, Fetus Christ, Smog and Negative Mindset so be sure to get yourself to a gig and support these bands.



Circuit Sweet shop welcomes its latest addition stocking up our shelves. Last month we spoke about finding a French duo who have already made our BEST OF this year list- weeks into 2013. Now we can announce we are thrilled to have the debut EP from **Quadrupède**. **Joseph & Damien** are the powerful force behind the captivating **Quadrupède**: a two-piece Instrumental rock band that flirt with electronics to create their enchanting compositions. Hailing from Le Mans, West-side of France. Their beautiful debut EP can now be found at [circuitsweet.bigcartel.com](http://circuitsweet.bigcartel.com) and we really are delighted to have a new act in our shop. We are always on the look out to get some local artist releases to join our distribution team.



The site has been buzzing with reviews and music submissions over the past month which always keeps us busy and happy! Please don't hesitate to email us at any time with release news and previews, gig dates and tour news and we will get around to getting you some promotion on [circuitsweet.co.uk](http://circuitsweet.co.uk). Our friends and music Edils Records introduced us to this insatiable act a while ago; **ALTA**. And now we've fallen in love- get ready to hear Alta this Alta that. 2013 is proving to be THE year for music and Alta's vinyl release of '*Places*' has confirmed this. **Aram Heil, Justin Gaworski, Eric Ash and Josh Rardin** together make up this Milwaukee based, enigmatic line up. This post hardcore, post punk, supertalent outfit will have you hooked within the first beat. We urge you to check out this review and album stream on our website amongst many other acts local and afar.

At the time of going to print we will be in the company of **Mike Watt, Virals, Skewwhiff and Broken Oak Duet** at The Marrs Bar, following this we plan to get to **Fights & also Fires FREE** album launch at The Marrs Bar And our very own **Aulos** return to Worcester playing alongside **Sedulus** and **Enos** as **Embrace The Chaos** present another great live night at DNA on the 17th and we are excited!! Don't be afraid to say hello to us at any of these events as we are always supplied with Circuit Sweet merch and love receiving demos and mix tapes. So we will see you in March sometime.

Be sure to keep an eye on our facebook page and twitter [@circuitsweet](https://twitter.com/circuitsweet) for up to date news, reviews, interviews, gig photography and more. If you are based in Herefordshire and we've missed you out receiving SLAP and you'd like to stock SLAP mag each month, put your release in our online shop, submit a review, request an interview, want us to cover your live gig- then email [naomi@circuitsweet.co.uk](mailto:naomi@circuitsweet.co.uk) OR if you want a band photoshoot either live or on location, for budget gig photography and music shoots email [oli@circuitsweet.co.uk](mailto:oli@circuitsweet.co.uk)

All Press Releases to be sent to [naomi@circuitsweet.co.uk](mailto:naomi@circuitsweet.co.uk)

Music Submissions to [naomi@circuitsweet.co.uk](mailto:naomi@circuitsweet.co.uk) or MAIL to Circuit Sweet @ Rosedene Cottage, Hereford, HR2 8JT

Interested in being featured in our shop/pedal boutique? A boutique of one off releases. Our next step to promote, introduce and provide talent to more.

Email [naomi@circuitsweet.co.uk](mailto:naomi@circuitsweet.co.uk)

CIRCUIT SWEET MEDIA Brings you Music Videos/Live Filming/ Gig Photography. We shoot gigs/promo/music videos at cost price.

Interested in a photo shoot, live film or music video email: [oli@circuitsweet.co.uk](mailto:oli@circuitsweet.co.uk)

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/olimontez/>

[www.circuitsweet.co.uk](http://www.circuitsweet.co.uk)

<https://www.facebook.com/circuitsweet>

<https://twitter.com/#!/circuitsweet>

<http://vimeo.com/circuitsweetmedia>

by Naomi Preece

## WARNING!

This Pub May Contain NUTS!



### The Chestnut

17 Lansdowne Road,  
Worcester, WR1 1SS

---

New Look Chestnut  
With Hosts Mad Pierre & Dann

---

Live Music  
~  
Real Ales  
~  
Sunday Lunches  
~  
Beer Garden  
~  
Traditional Pub Games  
~  
Record Player  
~  
Sky TV  
[Coming Soon]

---

3PM-11PM ~ Mon-Thurs  
12PM-12AM ~ Fri-Sat  
12PM-11PM ~ Sunday

---

Tel: 07598393109  
E: [Dannrush@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Dannrush@hotmail.co.uk)



@TheChestnutInn



[www.facebook.com/TheChestnutInn](http://www.facebook.com/TheChestnutInn)

# PREVIEW LISBEE STANTON

## MARRS BAR THURSDAY 21ST MARCH + NEW ALBUM "GO"

Following on from her excellent support slot at Ben Montague's Marrs Bar gig last Sept (see Slap review Oct '12) Lisbee Stainton makes what will undoubtedly be a triumphant return to said venue.

Not to be outdone our own venerable organ spoke thus of LS in above-mentioned review: "Unsurprisingly the whole attractive Stainton package soon has the audience hanging on every note" & "She is a very accomplished guitarist with an unusual picking style, which helps her stand out in the very crowded arena of singer-songwriters".

Lisbee's Marrs Bar stop off is part of her pretty extensive Spring 2013 Tour which takes in 22 venues throughout the Queendom, wherein she takes only ONE day's break!! There's hardworking for ya! However if you are unable to hot-foot it to the M-Bar have a butchers at [www.Lisbee.com](http://www.Lisbee.com) for all your Ms Stainton needs.

That brings us neatly to the new album behind the tour called "Go" and after a couple of listens I'm looking forward to getting to know it better.

The array and variety of melody, texture, talent and instrumentation on offer is quite overwhelming. The constant touchstone is Lisbee's distinctive voice and her USP, the eight-string guitar helps her stand out from the crowd even further.

Songs such as The Archives is such a multi-layered masterpiece that it leaves one quite drained and in awe of the accomplishment.

Lisbee has been writing and performing from a young age and this wealth of experience and maturity in the writing shines through track after track.

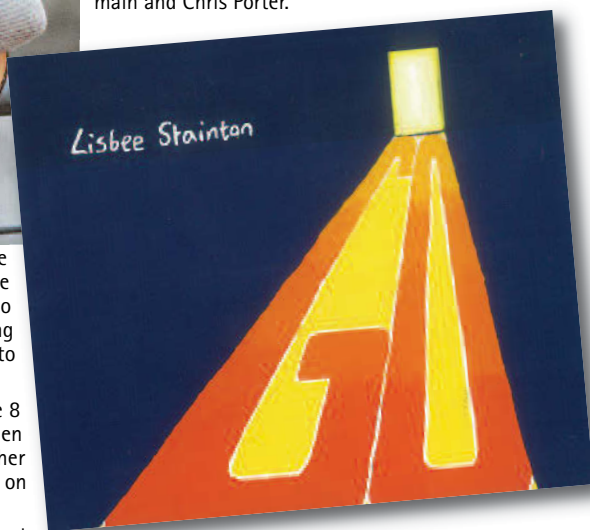
The dynamism of this classy album is further enhanced by the superb production skills of Mikko Gordon in the main and Chris Porter.



I urge you to put this one in your diaries because the superb combination of Lisbee's octave spanning voice, refreshingly skewed approach to songwriting plus her quite original guitar playing makes this singer-songwriter one definitely not to miss.

Lisbee is known as "The English Rose With The 8 String Guitar" and got her deserved break when Radio6 incumbent Tom Robinson championed her cause ensuring that her debut single also aired on Radio 2.

Ms Stainton has been lauded in publications such as Daily Express: "Ridiculously Talented" and The Independent on Sunday: "Melodic, Earnestly Upful Pop" and has gained plaudits from The Crown Prince of West Country Nu-Folk Himself, Seth Lakeman who described Lisbee as "A fantastic singer-songwriter".



Treat yourself to a copy of Go, it's widely available then GO show your support to a worthy talent at the Marrs Bar on 21st March

Tell em Slap sent you!

*Words by Piers Ricketty*



**BROMSGROVE'S THEATRE, CINEMA,**  
**LIVE MUSIC AND COMEDY VENUE**

**artrix**

**FOLK & BLUES AT ARTRIX IN MARCH**

**MONDAY 25TH MARCH**  
**FAY HIELD**  
Acclaimed traditional English Folk singer

**SATURDAY 30TH MARCH**  
**CHANTEL MCGREGOR**  
Multiple British Blues Awards winner

**SUNDAY 31ST MARCH**  
**THE FURNACE**  
With Morris Offspring & Faustus

**COMING SOON**  
Albert Hammond, The Fureys, Albert Lee,  
Clutching At Straws, Paul Brady, The Blues Band,  
Show Of Hands, Steve Howe, Gretchen Peters

**www.artrix.co.uk**  
**01527 577330**  
Free Car Parking      Gift Vouchers available

**Artrix, Slideslow Drive,  
Bromsgrove, B60 1PQ**

## Friday 1 March 2013

**The John Steeds**  
Worcester Warriors, Sixways Stadium, Worcester

**Answer Back**  
The Pillar Of Salt, Droitwich

**Christopher Rees & Band, Wes Dance**  
The Marris Bar, Worcester

**Hidden Witness, The Miffs**  
Keystones Cafe Bar, Worcester

**Midnight City**  
Queens Head, Wolverley

**Christopher Rees & Band, Wes Dance**  
Marris Bar, Worcester

**Blind Lemon**  
Moochers Jailhouse, Stourbridge

**Souled Out To Funk**  
Drummonds, Worcester

**Laurence Jones Band**  
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

**Umphff**  
The Albion, Worcester

**Tina V**  
Bushwackers Piano Bar

**Kings And Captains**  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

**Evolution Of Man, Gringo, We Are Goose**  
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

**Cantalooop, Inches From The Ground**  
Re-Con, Great Malvern

**Dave Onions**  
Piesse Of Piddle, Wyre Piddle

**Barrel House Blues Band**  
Millers Arms, Pershore

**Zelig, Mark Leedham**  
The Pig Et Drum, Worcester

**Eddy Morton**  
Cock Et Magpie, Bewdley

**Stripped Down Blues**  
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

**Pure Instinct**  
Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**S.P.Y + SP Mc**  
The Jailhouse, Hereford

**Mumbo Jumbo**  
Ledbury Market Theatre, Ledbury

**Pillars of The Community (part 11)**  
featuring The Callout, Answer Back plus support  
The Pillar of Salt, Droitwich

## Saturday 2 March 2013

**The Johnny Cash Roadshow**  
Number 8, Pershore

**Keith Dunn, Homesick Mac, Michael Roach**  
Artrix, Bromsgrove

**Sarah Warren Band**  
Callow End Social Club, Worcester

**Crimson Child**  
Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**The Excutives**  
The Star, Pershore

**Stacy**  
Rainbow Hill Club, Worcester

**Ital Sounds Reggae Night**  
The Chestnut, Worcester

**Killerstream**  
The Pavillion, Worcester

**Journey Man**  
Unicorn, Malvern

**Answer Back**  
The White Hart, Redditch

**Stripped Down Blues, Done by Sunrise**  
O'Neills, Worcester

**Sick Boys Club, The Retinal Circus**  
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

**Cracker**  
Stagborough Arms, Stourport

**Seth (Daniel Butler)**  
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

80's & 90's Night  
The Jailhouse, Hereford

Acoustic Blues House Party  
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Rouen  
Cock & Maggie, Bewdley

The Sarah Warren Band  
Callow End Social Club, Worcester

Umphff  
Malvern Football Club, Malvern

Delray Rockets  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

## Sunday 3 March 2013

Open Mic & Jam Night  
The Mount Pleasant, Malvern

Pete Diaz Trio (1-4pm)  
Queens Head, Wolverley

Open Mic, Kevin Jenkins, SpaceBetween, Hitchhiker  
The Swan Inn, Worcester

Alan (60's Covers)  
The Reindeer Inn, Ombersley

Stripped Down Blues, Chuck Harriett Qunitet  
Dave Ryles, Juke Joint John, Tone Tanner  
Cellar Bar, Worcester

The Sundays Sessions  
Re-Con, Malvern

## Monday 4 March 2013

Tap Jam  
The Brewery Tap, Worcester

Open Mic  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

## Tuesday 5 March 2013

Embrace The Chaos with Stig Noise Sound System  
(Liverpool), Staer (Norway), Backpackers (Norway)  
The Pig & Drum, Worcester

Fights And Fires, This Wicked Tongue  
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Open Mic with Nigel Clark  
Millers Arms, Pershore

Open Mic  
The Courtyard, Hereford

Open Mic with Pete Kelly  
Queens Head, Wolverley

Open Mic  
The Retreat, Ledbury

Pretty Things  
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Black Cat Bone, Lewis Boulton, Juke Joint John, Tone  
Tannor, Stripped Down Blues  
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Open Mic with Enzo  
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

## Wednesday 6 March 2013

Marzys Jamming Night  
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Open Mic with Mikey Mann  
Re-Con, Great Malvern

The Mash Up! Open Mic with Skewwhiff & The Miffs  
The Crown Inn, St Johns

Steve's Jukebox  
Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Kristy Gallagher  
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Irish Session  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Musicians & Song Writers Acoustic Jam  
Pack Horse, Bewdley

## Thursday 7 March 2013

Vue Bar Open Mic  
Severn View Hotel, Worcester

The Dilemma Council  
The Conservatory, Worcester

Comedy Zone  
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Acoustic Brew  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

The Steve Ajao Blues Giants  
Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Dave Onions  
Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

The Murmur  
Talbot, Bewdley

Talon  
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Open Mic, Stiff Joints  
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Sco-Fam Jam - Vo Fletcher, Sam Eden, Atoms,  
Lewis Boulton + Special Guests  
Malvern Cube, Malvern

## Friday 8 March 2013

Symphonical Worlds  
Number 8, Pershore

The John Steeds  
The Royal Oak, Kinnersley

Ben Stancombe  
Old Cock, Droitwich

Umphff  
Antelope, Warwick

Stuntdog, Mudball, Cyberstan  
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Budapest Café Orchestra  
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**Batleours**  
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

**This Wicked Tongue**  
Actress and Bishop, Birmingham

**Rattlesnake Jake**  
Cock & Magpie, Bewdley

**The Festivals Experience**  
Drummonds, Worcester

**House Party 3 with Kei Clarke and Friends**  
Boars Head, Kidderminster

**The Karla Milton Collective**  
Re-Con, Great Malvern

**The Reflections**  
The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

**Tina V**  
Bushwackers Piano Bar

**Jibbafish**  
Millers Arms, Pershore

**Jet Black Cadillac, 13 Shots**  
The Pig & Drum, Worcester

**Indigo Kings**  
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

**Sweet Fanny Adams**  
Queens Head, Wolverley

**King Pleasure & The Biscuit Boys**  
Moochers Jailhouse, Stourbridge

## Saturday 9 March 2013

**Answer Back**  
The Bridge Hotel, Tenbury Wells

**Seconds From Ruin**  
Moochers Jailhouse, Stourbridge

**Babble, The Retinal Circus**  
Re-Con, Great Malvern

**Umphff**  
The Star Inn, Pershore

**Ital Sounds**  
Unicorn, Malvern

**The Notorious Brothers**  
Callow End Social Club, Worcester

**Midnight City**  
Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**Stomp & Holler**  
On The Steps Theatre, Bridgnorth

**Mods & Sods**  
The Cross Keys, Malvern

**Open Mic hosted by Perry S Foster**  
The Chestnut Inn, Worcester

**Clarksville Mountain Band**  
The Chestnut Inn, Worcester

**Izzy The Push**  
Stagborough Arms, Stourport

**Rubicon**  
Cock & Magpie, Bewdley

**Are You Experienced**  
The Marris Bar, Worcester

**Jersey Boys / Frankie Valli Tribute**  
The Swan Theatre, Worcester

**Kinx**  
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**King Mantis**  
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

**The Reflections**  
Pavillion In The Park, Worcester

**Cracker & Jim**  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

**Hereford Soul Choir Live**  
The Jailhouse, Hereford

**Small Engine Repair**  
The Globe, Hay on Wye

**Hey You Guys, Das Sexy Clap, The Joy Of Sex**  
The Pig & Drum, Worcester

**Sam Holmes**  
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

## Sunday 10 March 2013

**Steeleye Span**  
The Swan Theatre, Worcester

**Sax n Axe**  
The Reindeer Inn, Ombersley

**The Sundays Sessions**  
Re-Con, Malvern

## Monday 11 March 2013

**Tap Jam**  
The Brewery Tap, Worcester

**Open Mic with Dave Onions**  
Cock n Magpie, Bewdley

**Folk Sessions**  
The Lamb and Flag, Worcester

**Open Mic**  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

## Tuesday 12 March 2013

**Fred M Productions Presents..**  
Moochers Jailhouse, Stourbridge

**Open Mic with Enzo**  
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

**Mouth & Music – Emma Purshouse & Al Barz**  
Boars Head, Kidderminster

**Open Mic with Pete Kelly**  
Queens Head, Wolverley

**Open Mic**  
The Retreat, Ledbury

## Wednesday 13 March 2013

**Acoustic Music Session**  
The Farriers Arms, Worcester

**Marzys Jamming Night**  
The Marris Bar, Worcester



**Open Mic with Mikey Mann**  
Re-Con, Great Malvern

**Steve's Jukebox**  
Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**Musicians & Song Writers Acoustic Jam**  
Pack Horse, Bewdley

**Mark Abis**  
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

**Irish Session**  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

## Thursday 14 March 2013

**Vue Bar Open Mic**  
Severn View Hotel, Worcester

**Al Lewis**  
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

**Mark Abis**  
Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**Skynt**  
Talbot, Bewdley

**Battle Of The Bands Heat 1**  
Moochers Jailhouse, Stourbridge

**Hannah James and Sam Sweeney**  
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**Open Mic hosted by Perry S Foster**  
The Chestnut, Worcester

**Acoustic Brew**  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

## Friday 15 March 2013

**Mudball, Inches from The Ground**  
The Pig & Drum, Worcester

**Answer Back (Acoustic)**  
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

**Mods & Sods**  
DNA, Worcester

**Comedy Evening**  
Moochers Jailhouse, Stourbridge

**Sugar Mama**  
Base Studios, Stourbridge

**Done By Sunrise, Lauren Wright**  
Severn View Hotel, Worcester

**Keith Thompson Blues Band, Black Cat Bone**  
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

**Mark Steel - Mark Steel's In Town**  
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**Hancoxx**  
Drummonds, Worcester

**Tina V**  
Bushwackers Piano Bar

**Donna and the Red Light Runners**  
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

**The Last Exit**  
Re-Con, Great Malvern

**Open Mic with Answerback**  
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

**Jet Black Cadillac**  
The Kings Head, Cross Street, Tenbury Wells

**The Undercocks**  
Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**Geckos**  
Cock & Magpie, Bewdley

**Poor Old Dogs**  
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

**Journeyman**  
Millers Arms, Pershore

**Mumbo Jumbo**  
Eastham Village Hall, Nr Tenbury

**Dizzy Lizzy**  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

## Saturday 16 March 2013

**DelRay Rockets**  
The Pavillion, Worcester

**Linerunners**  
The Pig & Drum, Worcester

**Voodoo**  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

**Red Dog, The Humdrum Express**  
The Cock & Magpie, Bewdley

**Seas Of Mirth & Wes Dance**  
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

**Devoted To Rock**  
Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**Paddys Day with Moochers House Band**  
Moochers Jailhouse, Stourbridge

**Shred Perry 4, Disability, Black Veins, Skin Horse**  
Fetus Christ & Rails Live  
AJ's, Hereford

**Spooke Deville**  
David Murphy's, Stourbridge

**Pete Coe**  
The Globe, Hay on Wye

**Michael Bubl  Tribute**  
The Swan Theatre, Worcester

**Wilde & The Wildcats**  
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**The Social Ignition**  
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

**Three Minute Tease , Old Hollow**  
Re-Con, Great Malvern

**Southern folk, Dublin Jacks**  
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

**The Pewke Band**  
The Star Inn, Pershore

**Mill Promotions**  
Unicorn, Malvern

**Kinver Edge**  
Stagborough Arms, Stourport

Journeyman  
Callow End Social Club, Worcester

## Sunday 17 March 2013

Embrace The Chaos – Aulo, Enos, Sedulus (London)  
DNA, Worcester

The Other Covers Trio, Kazlon  
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Strumpit  
Queens Head, Wolverley

Folk Sessions  
The Lamb and Flag, Worcester

Umphff  
Grapevaults, Leominster

St Patrick's Day with Murphy's Law  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Dublin Jacks  
Re-Con, Great Malvern

St Patricks Day Special – Hagglegag  
The Chestnut, Worcester

Brotherhood Of Grove  
Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

St Patricks Day – Irish Folk Group – The Exiles 7pm  
The Old Cock, Droitwich

## Monday 18 March 2013

Tap Jam  
The Brewery Tap, Worcester

Open Mic  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

## Tuesday 19 March 2013

ConFab Cabaret, Spoz, The Very Grimm Brothers,  
Dolly Grip, Salma, Four Tart Harmony, Tim (Carrot)  
Cranmore & , Amy Rainbow  
Re-Con, Church Street, Malvern

English String Orchestra  
The Swan Theatre, Worcester

Open Mic with Pete Kelly  
Queens Head, Wolverley

ConFab Cabarat  
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Stourbridge Folk Club presents Steve Tilston  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Open Mic  
The Retreat, Ledbury

Open Mic with Enzo  
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Stripped Down Blues, Chuck Harriett Qunitet, Dave  
Ryles, Juke Joint John, Tone Tanner  
Monroes Cellar Bar, Worcester

## Wednesday 20 March 2013

Marzys Jamming Night  
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Musicans & Song Writers Acoustic Jam  
Pack Horse, Bewdley

Kris Dollimore  
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

The Manfreds Five Faces Tour  
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Open Mic with Mikey Mann  
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Inn Verse  
The Lamb and Flag, Worcester

Quiz Night  
The Chestnut, Worcester

Steve's Jukebox  
Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Irish Session  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

## Thursday 21 March 2013

Vue Bar Open Mic  
Severn View Hotel, Worcester

Lisbee Stainton  
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Acoustic Brew  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

The Sunny Days Blues Band  
Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Forever Michael – Michael Jackson Tribute  
The Swan Theatre, Worcester

Richard Herring: Talking Cock  
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Sweet Fanny Adams  
Talbot, Bewdley

Will Killeen  
The Star Inn, Pershore

Saints & Singers (part 6) – 11:11, A Promise To Forget  
The Slug & Lettuce, Worcester

## Friday 22 March 2013

Richard Clarke & The Rafters  
Millers arms, Pershore

Luke Round, Dale Hanson, Time Of The Mouth  
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Bonny Lou Band  
Queens Head, Wolverley

Disciples Of Tone, Hitchhiker, James Gwynne  
The Pig & Drum, Worcester

Sugar Mama  
The Oast House, Redditch

Broken Oak Duet & Hey You Guys  
Marris Bar, Worcester

Mumbo Jumbo & Theo Theobald  
The Fold Cafe, Bransford

Done By Sunrise, Becky Rose  
The Royal Oak, Kinnerseley, Worcestershire

**Gallops, The Broken Oak Duet, Hey You Guys**  
The Marris Bar, Worcester

**Cracked Actors**  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

**Tina V**  
Bushwackers Piano Bar

**Rickshaw Brides**  
Cock & Magpie, Bewdley

**The Underdogs**  
Drummonds, Worcester

**The Straight Aces**  
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

**Lewis Boulton**  
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

**6Fears7**  
Cafe Rene, Gloucester  
**Mother Popcorn**  
Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**The Robin Nolan Trio**  
The Globe, Hay on Wye

**The Navarra Quartet**  
Artrix, Bromsgrove

**Delray Rockets**  
The Wheelhouse Marina Bar, Upton

## **Saturday 23 March 2013**

**Johnny Kowalski & the Sexy Weirdos**  
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

**Hard Ride**  
Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**The Robin Nolan Trio**  
The Globe, Hay on Wye

**Dave Roberts & Toby Parker**  
Shell House Gallery, Ledbury

**Herefordshire Performing Arts Festival**  
The Courtyard, Hereford

**Skinhorse, Fetus Christ, Smog, Negative Mindset**  
Black Lion, Hereford

**Junction 7**  
Green Dragon, Malvern

**Calm Like A Riot, The Humdrum Express**  
The Unicorn, Malvern

**Rawk Headboom**  
The Marris Bar, Worcester

**Steve Ajao**  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

**Sugar Mama**  
The Star Inn, Pershore

**Clare Teal**  
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**Johnny Kowalski & The Sexy Weirdos**  
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

**Lisa B's Birthday Bash – Answer Back, Enzo**  
**Lewis Boulton, Rachel Stone**  
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

**The MayDolls**  
The Chestnut, Worcester

**Hancoxx**  
The Pavillion, Worcester

**Hotfoot**  
Stagborough Arms, Stourport

**Kinver Edge**  
Kings Head, Brierley Hill

**Thrill Collins**  
Callow End Social Club, Worcester

**Umphff**  
Black Cross, Bromsgrove

## **Sunday 24 March 2013**

**Amy Rigby, Wreckless Eric**  
The Marris Bar, Worcester

**Eberle String Quartet**  
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**Adam & Dan (Blue Scene Ocean)**  
The Reindeer Inn, Ombersley

**Big B Swingtet**  
Queens Head, Wolverley

**Birmingham Chamber Orchestra**  
Artrix, Bromsgrove

**Delray Rockets**  
The Cross Keys, Alcester

**The Sundays Sessions**  
Re-Con, Malvern

## **Monday 25 March 2013**

**Tap Jam**  
The Brewery Tap, Worcester

**Open Mic with Dave Onions**  
Cock n Magpie, Bewdley

**Faye Hield & The Hurricane Party**  
Artrix, Bromsgrove

**Folk Sessions**  
The Lamb and Flag, Worcester

**Open Mic**  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

## **Tuesday 26 March 2013**

**Madama Butterfly**  
Number 8, Pershore

**Open Mic with Enzo**  
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

**Open Mic with Pete Kelly**  
Queens Head, Wolverley

**Open Mic**  
The Retreat, Ledbury

## **Wednesday 27 March 2013**

**Marzys Jamming Night**  
The Marris Bar, Worcester

**Flash – A Tribute To Queen**  
The Swan Theatre, Worcester

**Open Mic with Mikey Mann**  
Re-Con, Great Malvern



**Irish Session**  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

**Steve's Jukebox**  
Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**Musicians & Song Writers Acoustic Jam**  
Pack Horse, Bewdley

**Acoustic Night**  
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

## Thursday 28 March 2013

**Vue Bar Open Mic**  
Severn View Hotel, Worcester

**Ben Montague**  
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

**Acoustic Brew**  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

**C-Jam**  
Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**Open Mic hosted by Perry S Foster**  
The Chestnut, Worcester

**The Tedesca Quartet Live**  
The Courtyard, Hereford

## Friday 29 March 2013

**Johnny Kowalski & the Sexy Weirdos, China Shop Bull**  
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

**Enzo**  
Cock & Magpie, Bewdley

**Come Up And See Me**  
Drummonds, Worcester

**The Funkinsteins**  
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

**Honey Boy Hickling**  
Queens Head, Wolverley

**Tina V**  
Bushwackers Piano Bar

**Henry Cluney: The Original Stiff Little Finger, Alcohol Licks**  
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

**Two Dollar Salad**  
Re-Con, Great Malvern

**Stiff Joints**  
The Pig & Drum, Worcester

**The Easter Bunny Blues Part 1 – Brian Neil, Tim Cranmore Dave Ryles, Peter James Siviter, Samuni**  
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

**Jim Fox**  
The Chestnut Inn, Worcester

**Dave Onions**  
The George, Bridgnorth

**Hybrid**  
Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**Matt Woosey and Dave Small**  
Pack Horse, Bewdley

**Rattlesnake Kiss**  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

## Saturday 30 March 2013

**The Reflections**  
The Castle, Droitwich

**Ital Sounds Raggaie Night**  
The Chestnut, Worcester

**Heymoonshaker**  
The Jailhouse, Gaol Street, Hereford

**The Gabbidon Band**  
Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**The Quik**  
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

**Delray Rockets, Polecats**  
The Irish Center, Digbeth, Birmingham

**Aquarius**  
Callow End Social Club, Worcester

**Jonah & The 45's**  
Stagborough Arms, Stourport

**Liquor & Poker Band**  
Moochers Jailhouse, Stourbridge

**The Easter Bunny Blues Pt 2 – Will Kileen, The Poor Boys**  
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

**Sunshine Band**  
Cock & Magpie, Bewdley

**Dave Onions**  
Masons Arms, Wadborough

**Done By Sunrise, Russell Underwood, Charlie Boswell**  
The Talbot, Worcester

**The John Steeds**  
Pavillion In The Park, Worcester

**Spandex Bellend**  
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

**Time Of The Mouth**  
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

**Mansize**  
The Star Inn, Pershore

**Miss Pearl & The Rough Diamonds**  
Unicorn, Malvern

**The John Steeds**  
The Pavillion, Worcester

**Chantel McGregor**  
Artrix, Bromsgrove

## Sunday 31 March 2013

**Coilguns (Germany), Pathois, Eaglers Born Vultures**  
DNA, Worcester

**Open Mic & Jam Night**  
The Mount Pleasant, Malvern

**The Sundays Sessions**  
Re-Con, Malvern

**Hop Pole Cider Festival – Tommy Gun 2pm, Memory Tones 5pm, DelRay Rockets 9pm**  
Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**The Easter Bunny Blues Part 3 – Gareth Forsyth + guests**  
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

**Soultown**  
Pack Horse, Bewdley

**The Furnace**  
Artrix, Bromsgrove

**Sunday Super Session**  
The Retreat, Ledbury

# THE MARR'S BAR

MAR 2013



**Friday 1st - St David's Day**  
**Christopher Rees & Band**  
**plus special guest Wes Dance**  
£7 ticket £9 on the door

**Tuesday 5th**  
**Fights And Fires Album Release Party**  
**FREE ADMISSION**

**Thursday 7th**  
**Comedy Zone Presents:- Loretta Maine,**  
**Nathan Caton and Sully Sullivan**  
£10 ticket £12 on the door

**Friday 8th**  
**Undercurrent Presents:-**  
**Stunt Dog and Mudball**  
£3 ticket £5 on the door

**Saturday 9th**  
**Are You Experienced (Hendrix Tribute)**  
£8 ticket £10 on the door

**Thursday 14th**  
**Al Lewis**  
£7 ticket £10 on the door

**Friday 15th**  
**Keith Thompson Blues Band**  
**with support from Black Cat Bone**  
£8 ticket £10 on the door

**Saturday 16th**  
**Seas Of Mirth & Wes Dance**  
£5 on the door

**Sunday 17th**  
**The Other Covers Trio and Kazlon**  
£3 ticket £5 on the door

**Thursday 21st**  
**Lisbee Stainton**  
£8.00 ticket £10 on the door

**Friday 22nd**  
**Task in Hand Presents:**  
**Broken Oak Duet & Hey You Guys**  
£3.00 ticket £5 on the door

**Saturday 23rd**  
**RAWK Music Episode 3: The Meltdown**  
**(Themed Electro, Glitch/Hop, Dubstep)**  
Tickets £6 Doors £8 10pm-5am

**Sunday 24th**  
**Wreckless Eric & Amy Rigby**  
£8 ticket £10 on the door

**Thursday 28th**  
**Ben Montague**  
£8 ticket £10 on the door

**Friday 29th**  
**Johnny Kowalski & the Sexy Weirdos**  
**China Shop Bull & The Nutters**  
£5 ticket £7 on the door

**Saturday 30th**  
**Spandex Bellend**  
£2.00 Admission

**Wednesdays - Jamming night**  
**Dates available for private hire**

Tickets available from  
Marr's Bar and Music City

[www.marrsbar.co.uk](http://www.marrsbar.co.uk)  
01905 613336

**Worcester's Premier Live Music Venue**