

SLAP

Issue 25

Apr 2013

MAGAZINE

FREE



SLAP Supporting Local Arts & Performers

MOSELEY PARK
BIRMINGHAM

5TH-7TH
JULY 2013

MOSTLY
JAZZ
FUNK
SOUL
FESTIVAL



FEAT

NILE RODGERS

BONOBO

CRAIG CHARLES



SOUL II SOUL

CANDI STATON THE BLOCKHEADS

THE FANTASY HYPNOTIC SMOOVE

FUNK BAND BRASS ENSEMBLE & TURRELL

STUBBORN HEART TROUMACA SNARKY PUPPY

HIATUS KAIYOTE THE INITIATIVE THE HAGGIS HORNS

BJ YES LOKKI THE SOUL GOGO MAMMAL LEIGH JES TROPICALIA TERRI JESS ROBERTS ALTERNATIVE
SMITH KING TERRA CIRCLE GANG PENGUIN HANDS COLEMAN ROBERTS SOUND SYSTEM SHALTIEL & THE SILVER RAYS DUESTEP ORCHESTRA

JAZZLINES ENSEMBLE MARTIN TROTMAN BAND GREG BIRD & FLAME FLAMINGO DUBCHERRY
ANTHONY MARSDEN BAND RICHARD FOOTE MARCHING BAND STELLA ROBERTS BAND ANTELOPE

MOSTLYJAZZ.co.uk

Purity
BREWING CO
www.puritybrewing.com

nightspout
Jazzlines

OXFAM

Big Cat

THSH
TOWN
SYMPHONY
18th August 18th October

THEYARDBIRD



hmm
HOLLYWOOD MONSTER
EPIC SIGNAGE AND GRAPHICS

SLAP

Apr 2013 **MAGAZINE**

SLAP MAGAZINE

Unit 8, Lowesmoor Wharf,
Worcester WR1 2RS
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
Clive Dee
Richard Clarke
Ralph Tittley
Toni Charles
Anya Pulver
Corina Harper
Bob Jones
Craigus Barry
Bill Oakey
Graham Munn
Naomi Preece
Matthew Tilt
Nick Taylor

Design

Mark Hogan
Richard Clarke

Sales

Paul Robinson

Web & Social Media

Dave Marston

Cover Image

'Struggle' by Adam Daffurn

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 thanks for picking up the latest edition of Slap. The big news here is that we have moved to new premises which should give us more scope to expand this year.

It made for a difficult deadline this time due to the Internet God needing more than six weeks notice to move the line, incredible!

As usual we take a look back at March highlighting some of the great gigs and events and of course we look forward to the month ahead for more of the same...

With some great local festivals to look forward to such as Wychwood in Cheltenham at the end of May, Mostly Jazz Funk & Soul Festival in Birmingham and Lakefest near Tewkesbury, its shaping up to be a good summer already.

Slap Night returns on the 20th with Halluminate at the Worcester Arts Workshop, so hopefully see you there... Enjoy the read!

- Sore Eads



**'LIKE' SLAP
ON FACEBOOK**



LISTINGS IN CONJUNCTION WITH:



In Love - with Peace

High-flyers Peace returned from playing SXSW in Austin, Texas to launch their debut album - and have been confirmed for both T in the Park and Reading/Leeds - where they've secured higher billing than Palma Violets - who pipped them to the NME Newcomers of 2012 award earlier this year!!



Siblings set for Stardom

Sibling trio Done By Sunrise are racking up the appearances on the Forum Live stage at the LG Arena with support slots to Westlife, Girls Aloud and One Direction - they're also involved in the forthcoming monthly Severn Sounds promotions at the Talbot in the Tything - busy guys!!



Babajack rise to challenge

Congratulations to Babajack from Malvern who represented the UK at the third European Blues Challenge in Toulouse, France - just being pipped to the post by the Italian entry! More European adventures up and coming over the summer



with festival appearances booked for Germany, France & Belgium - as well as host of domestic events!!

Local girl for local festival



Headliners have been announced for the Upton Music Festival - the family-friendly festival takes place from August 23 to 25 and will feature appearances from Bucks Fizz, Slade and now-local lass Toyah Wilcox!

Drumming up Funds at Tower

Chris Harvey of Tower Studio in Pershore shown here presenting a cheque for £1673.53 to the Air Ambulance. The well needed cash was raised during a 36 hour 'Drum-a-thon' which took place at the studios back in December. A big thank you to all who took part.



Worcester Music Festival

Music festival charities make perfect 'sense'

THE count is in and we are super pleased to announce that our 2013 festival charity - or should we say, charities - are Sight Concern Worcestershire and Worcester Deaf Children's Society, who will both benefit from fundraising at this year's showcase of live, original music in August.

Before we explain why, we'd like to thank everyone who nominated a charity. We had 21 to choose from, many of which are doing great things to incorporate music into what they do and who put forward some fab ideas about how they could promote our humble, but pretty fantastic, festival.

Introducing our two chosen charities of the year, Sight Concern Worcestershire helps blind and partially sighted people from across the county lead independent and fulfilling lives, giving them the confidence to reach their potential. We like to think music can play a big part in this.

According to Fiona Blake from Sight Concern, which is based in Sansome Walk, sound, audio and music is particularly important to those experiencing significant sight loss.

"We'd really like to provide access to the joy of live music through regular trips to local venues, develop a programme of visiting musicians to our Bradbury Centre, set up a music appreciation club and match service users to volunteer musicians in one on one and group sessions," she said.

"We'd also love to set up a Sight Concern choir or band that could perform at Worcester Music Festival and the Victorian Christmas Fayre, as well as explore adaptations of musical instruments for sight loss e.g. 'bump-on stickers' to indicate keys and aid playing."



Worcester Deaf Children's Society, a voluntary group run locally by parents of deaf children, provides social as well as emotional support to families, including teaching children and parents to sign to pop songs and then perform them at meetings. We saw them signing Christmas carols with Deaf Direct at the Victorian Christmas Fayre and it was clear how much they got out of music.

While the charity is not looking to fund anything music-related, specifically, it needs financial support to continue to offer its invaluable services, which include organising day trips for families.

Fundraising for our two charities will begin forthwith, but, in the meantime, if you feel your musical capabilities could make a difference, please email:

lisa-marie@worcestermusicfestival.co.uk

Last year's annual festival raised £6,000 for New Hope children's respite centre in Ronkswood. The total raised through donations, raffles, collections at performance venues and merchandising sales since our first outing six years ago is almost £25,000.

Last call for band applications

Okay, this is it. The last drive before our trusty wagon wheel of promoters start putting together the line-up for this year's Worcester Music Festival from August 30th - September 1st.

Remember, we can't pay you, but it is the opportunity to be part of one of the fastest growing festivals of live, original music in the UK. Just ask the hundreds of bands and artists who perform each year at our multi-venue event in pubs, clubs, cafes, historic buildings and on outdoor stages across the city, a veritable marathon of music covering as many genres as possible.

We've had almost 600 applications so far - if you want the chance to secure a slot, get your application in by Tuesday, April 30th. Forms are available at

www.worcestermusicfestival.co.uk/artistsapply/

For more information and to keep up with this year's festival plans, visit www.worcestermusicfestival.co.uk, join our Facebook page or follow us on Twitter.

Words - Mel Hall Photography - Emily Humphries





There is a lot happening this month as we all start to revitalise ourselves and get ready for some hopeful sunshine!

Firstly in the galleries this month we have two very diverse exhibitions. In the Cafe **Adam Daffurn**, whose artwork ranges from dark and surreal to striking and vibrant, with bursts of colour and thought provoking imagery. It seamlessly fuses the fresh and modern with an appreciation for the classic and renaissance. Traditional Pre-Raphaelite styles of oil painting are combined with uncontrolled, abstract drips and splashes of pigment. An ever evolving collection of pieces make for intriguing viewing from this rather talented man who teaches oil painting here at the Workshop too!



www.adamdaffurn.co.uk

In addition '**Scrawl**' is a fantastic collection of work from local children and families who have been part of our Saturday children's gallery workshops (see opposite). Both shows run until 27th April.

On Friday 12th The Arts Workshop's resident theatre company **Vamos Theatre**, in a co-production with The Courtyard, Hereford, is delighted to present its new full mask touring production, **Finding Joy**. Joy is creative,

funny, loves to dance, and is losing her memory: her grandson Danny is rebellious, fearless, bright, and always getting into trouble. When out of the blue, Danny decides to become Joy's carer, where will their unexpected and playful bond lead them?

Suitable for 12 years and upwards. £10/£8 concs. 7.30pm.

Sunday April 14th we have a theatre event '**Jump Start**' for practitioners, promoters and writers to come and share ideas and collaborate, followed by a '**Pilot Night**' with the chance to perform or view a short piece of work. 12noon til 8pm. For information please contact:

kate@worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk

This month sees the return of a couple of favourites....on Sun 14th we have **Lazy Sunday** headlined by special guests **Uncle Frank**. Uncle Frank is a conceptual band fronted by Fun Lovin' Criminals drummer Frank Benbini and Naim Cortazzi aka Blue Bada-bing Steel.



They are promoting their soon to be released album '**Smiles for Miles**' the follow up album to 2005's orgasmic debut '**Ideal Food for Love**'. From their hometown of Leicester, Frank and Naim produce, perform and write all the classic, quirky and love struck tunage. On stage, the baritone tones of Frank are complimented by a full range of classy musicians. Come check out this powerful acoustic set.

"A technicoloured live show of pure entertainment of the Barry White and Benny Hill kind".

www.facebook.com/UncleFrankMusic

Then on 20th a brand new **SLAP** night starring from Derbyshire, Hallouminati! Over the last couple of years Hallouminati have been carefully blending their unique and high octane gypsy/ punk/ ska/ Greek/ ragga/ jazz/ klezmer mash-up and sweating it out for all to hear. Mixing the gritty realms of skankin' ragga punk with



traditional Greek vibes and throwin' deranged beats, they create an unforgettable live show that goes above and beyond the usual gypsy punk show. They've played Bestival, Boomtown and all manner of shanty town festivals, right to busking the Olympics, Amsterdam and squats all over the Netherlands, they've fine tuned a sound adaptable to everything and anything; from the midnight guerilla dance floors of gypsy nights up and down the country to the soundtrack of a champagne-doused ballroom soiree. If these boys and girls have got anything to say, 2013 will be a year that will leave people stroking their beards, smashing plates and clothes spontaneously bursting off all who encounter this mighty sound. And they can't wait. <http://www.hallouminati.com/>



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

Splendid Cinema

7th April - *'To Rome with Love'* (Woody Allen, 2012, US) 112 min. 12 cert. Woody Allen's latest Euro-Comedy sees several interweaving stories all focusing on the Italian capital. Stars Allen himself, Ellen Page, Jesse Eisenberg, Alec Baldwin and the great Roberto Benigni. Not to be missed!



28th - April

Cosmopolis (David Cronenberg, 2012, Canada) 105 min. 15 cert. Robert Pattinson stars in the new film by David Cronenberg, and based on the acclaimed novel by Don DeLillo, about a 28 year-old billionaire who is confronted with the lives he has destroyed as he crosses Manhattan in his limo.



Films showing at
 6.30pm £5 Entry.

Sunday breakfast in Cafe Bliss 21st April 'Los Rancheros Breakfast Club 9.30am - 2pm' Come sort out those hangovers from the night before!!

Plus new courses after Easter including felt making, textiles, photography, ceramics, oil painting, life drawing, watercolour, painting and drawing and more.....

Come see us soon x

www.worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk

Kate Cox

GALLERY FEATURE - Scrawl

'Scrawl' is a 4 week exhibition at The Worcester Arts Workshop of artwork produced by local families at their 'Family Gallery Workshops'.



Opening with a private view from 4-7pm on Wednesday 27th March 2013 the exhibition will run until Saturday 27th April in the Cellar Gallery.

'Scrawl' is a playful exhibition displaying freedom of expression, engagement from professional art and the chance families had to investigate new materials and techniques.



REVIEW

Perry Foster's Open Mic - 28th Feb The Chestnut, Worcester

This second weekly session had a good audience, whose enthusiasm was rewarded by one of the best country blues trios I've seen in a long time. Trum are Phil Linnell and Rachel Poloni, guitars and vocals, with Chris Cole on bass.

Martyn 'Run Honey Run', Robert Plant 'Train Fare Home', and a couple of originals, featuring shared vocals by Rachel and Phil.

I particularly liked the imaginative and well-crafted 'RJ Jam', a tribute to Robert Johnson.



Phil's guitar wrenches you out of your seat and pummels you into submission, and his and Rachel's singing is spot on – Rachel had a bad cold but still sounded fine to me, I look forward to hearing her when her sinuses have cleared.

Perry served up a tasty selection of traditional blues, and a surprise item: 'Macphersons Farewell'. Performed acapella, "This is one we used to sing", Perry explained, "over a bookshop in Dale End, Birmingham with the Campbells and Luke Kelly of the Dubliners, late 50s. We were young communists at the time, not that our singing made the slightest difference to the political scene."

by Bob Jones

THE WHOLE HOG DESIGN PRINT WEB



A6 Flyers

100 Full Colour £12
Then just £5 per 100



Posters

50 Full Colour A4 - £15
20 Full Colour A3 - £10
A2-A1-A0 Prints from £8

CD/DVD

Duplication
& Insert & Sleeve Printing specialists

Serving the Art Community
with Cards & Prints
Now stocking Envelopes,
Cello bags and specialist
Card and Paper

www.thewholehog.biz
01905 26660

Unit 8 Lowesmoor Wharf, Worcester WR1 2RS



AUGUST 9th-11th 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 CROWS ★ 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**



UK2012
TOP THREE IN
4 CATEGORIES

Remembering 11:47 a.m. by Craigus Barry



"Way back in the back in the back in the day" was a phrase a chap used the other night to hold court over his past experiences – an interesting way of recounting chronology. This got me thinking about early days in Worcester way back in the back in the day. Well around 2003 to be precise.

In those days I didn't know about an awful lot going on plus was still pretty shy towards playing live, so being introduced to a small informal open night called 11:47 a.m (acoustic music), seemed a good place to gain experience. I headed down with my multi-instrumentalist mate Jez and the very first night met Ed Steelefox, a local drummer/ DJ (who I ended up befriending/working with throughout my stay in Worcester), plus also comedy performers Toby Thorpe, James Willis & Barney Harker. In addition to this there was early makings of Pete Adams' long term project AWWBLOT, who had a history in art rock outfits and even then had an ear for melody and catchiness that he happily retains today.



Delivering perfect indie sensibilities were the likes of Richard Clarke, sans The Rafters. Rich was much the same in his sincere approach to writing, even today "Only Us" is a staple part of The Rafters set.

Providing the avant garde were the likes of Andhi Gee, a guy who dared be completely acapella with songs about such unlikely subject matter as a lover wanting to kill him by cutting the break pedals on his car "Murder's Just Your Way Of Saying Goodbye". He even wrote mantra that got the crowd singing along, the only words being "STOP APOLOGISING STOP APOLOGISING FOR BEING ALIVE".

I'm sure the sentiments are still valid today. 11:47 nights were also prone to acoustic performances from the likes of George Pringle who has since moved onto more electro spoken word stylings. She was however, always linguistically descriptive and expressive even then.

The 11:47 nights were governed loosely by hopeful inclusive rules :-

NO HEADLINERS, IT'S NOT ABOUT THE MONEY, IT'S NOT ABOUT THE EGOS, (words to live by)

The nights were set up/run by James Perry & Edward Dark as a means for performers to break new ground away from the sanctuary of their bedrooms, to have the opportunity to play through a PA Each night you were given a set time via text and an envelope containing the rules

on various designs or a single page from a Shakespearian play. One night we were even given a pack of 11:47 performers top trumps EACH, I still have mine. They said my special ability was "epic songwriting" and I was nicknamed Gollum...

Although not uncommon at all today (in such a thriving climate open mics are commonplace), but this preceded Slap!, Worcester Music Festival & local H&W BBC Introducing did not venture this far.

There are plenty of highlights of 11:47 as it was joked by Ed & James "always the highlight of the night" I felt it apt to recount a few more :



*Dave The Book Guy: or Dave Ryles as he is now known had sets dotted with covers, self penned, frenetic fretboard workouts but one night he covered the murder ballad Stagger Lee and Tom Waits in the very

same set ending with an open tunin' standard that was so fast he claimed it was better than sex, the daring direction and intensity of his sets was always a draw.

*Poor Bob Jones : Bob, a seasoned blues player, renewed his interest somewhat in the local scene through 11:47 and was just as appreciative for the platform as the other attendees that often packed in the Cellar Bar, eventually this enthusiasm lead to more players of his ilk being drawn to the evenings and in turn Bob establishing his own Blues Night he runs to this day.

Photography: King Dave

My final mention would be Rachel Clutterbuck or as she's known on stage, Rachel By The Stream.

Back in the days of 11:47 she dabbled with finger picked existential ballads drawing upon heavy influences from the likes of Joni Mitchel & Martha Tilston very much in the songwriter tradition. Soulful, catchy and often quirky, with songs about everything from light & shadows, Sweet Chilli stains to tumble dryers eating socks. In 2006 she moved onto percussion laden experimental stints throwing in everything from egg shakers, glockenspiel, wind-chimes, handclaps, melodica & immense vocal layering. This was afforded to her by the use of a Boss loop station she leaped on this freeing form & drew upon influences from the likes of Manu Chao.



She has since relocated to Melbourne Australia where she extensively gigs and tours full time as a musician just as she has always dreamed of doing so. In Melbourne she helped set up a community collective of her own, Kinship Records.



Much like 11:47, Kinship provides a firm platform for artists local to the area & allows them to develop their music & form. Through Kinship, Rachel has just released a crowd funded EP titled 'Smooth Like Butter', which beautifully showcases her progression from humble cellar bar nights. Breaking away somewhat from her influences, whilst retaining occasional nods towards hip hop, soul & roots music that inspired her. She is finally making a sound for herself. Without giving too much away, you can catch up with her sonic adventures at the link below. *Smooth Like Butter* is also now available on iTunes.

<http://www.kinshiprecords.com/rachelbythestream>

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

artrix APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

FRIDAY 12TH APRIL
MISSY MALONE
Burlesque Revue

SATURDAY 13TH APRIL
NICK PYNN & KATE DAISY GRANT

WEDNESDAY 17TH APRIL
FINDING JOY
Vamos masked play

THURSDAY 18TH APRIL
ALBERT HAMMOND
Legendary songwriter

WEDNESDAY 24TH APRIL
ALBERT LEE
Top-rated guitarist

www.artrix.co.uk
01527 577330
Free Car Parking Gift Vouchers available
Artrix, Slideslow Drive,
Bromsgrove, B60 1PQ

Worcester writer

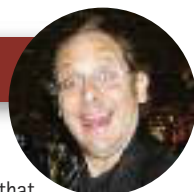
The Accidental
MONEY
LAUNDERER

How to make a billion dollar fortune completely disappear

John Fisher

Find it on Kindle

Slings and Arrows... - Andy O'Hare



Very interested in a recent article by the almighty Nick J Townsend (of Weak 13) in Ryan's Guide - berating the Battle Of The Bands format - and of course 'talent' contests in general where he recounts his experience some time ago of taking part in a 'competition' they discovered to be blatantly rigged and how they reacted!

Now of course many people have mentioned their view that 'competition has no place in music' - while I understand this sentiment (say when comparing two very different genres on the same stage) - I think that's perhaps a bit too simplistic as the music industry has had a certain element of competition that probably was carved in stone when the first music charts were compiled in the Fifties.

Now while I'm sure there are some honest competitions out there - it's fair to say that there are just so many horror stories that you've got to wonder how BoBs and other formats are still continuing and attracting entries. I think a major reason is that organisers are becoming increasingly creative in how these events are constructed - they're hardly ever called Band Battles any more - rather 'festivals' of 'unsigned and new talent' or something like that... But the aim is generally the same - to part you and your supporters from as much cash as possible with a seemingly endless succession of 'regional semi-finals' and the vague promises of jam tomorrow.

And while we're at it I really hope that no bands ever get again drawn into the rash of 'Official <insert celeb name here> After-gig Parties' that spread like a contagion across the region last year - yeah it was just pay-to-play under another name...

One big problem that I have is that it's become increasingly harder to distinguish the awards and competitions that are possibly worth participating in from the myriad of blatant rip-off events. I think that if I could see some sort of proof that one of these competitions was actually geared towards actively searching for a great new talent and helping them progress - while covering their own costs and perhaps making a respectable return for their efforts - then no doubt I and many others wouldn't be so cynical about them...

Yes I'd love to see musicians getting a fair return for their creative efforts - and it still rankles a little that it seems sometimes that the only reliable way of doing this is to tread the covers/tributes circuit - 'cos that's what our Friday & Saturday night punters want to hear' - and have to say that I don't blame some bands for taking that route - though it's always heartwarming when they slip

in one or two of their own numbers into the set-list!!

But it's important to remember that it ain't covers and tribute bands that make the charts - despite common misconceptions record companies are still desperately looking for new music - and have in the last year or so been on a bit of a 'feeding frenzy' to sign up acts - rock and pop music has always been pretty much recession-proof - in one way or another anyway...

Now while it's great if original bands can earn money - and there's plenty of local outfits with the presence, talent and sheer bloody-mindedness who do just that - I think a great first step is to try and avoid actually losing money to the swarm of sharks and shysters who essentially just prey on newbie musicians - and couldn't give tuppence about the actual music they're producing

- an excellent test is if the first question a venue asks isn't 'what sort of music do you play' but 'how many people can you bring' - get used to just putting the phone straight down!!

Right now having said all that - I'm probably going to sound like a complete arse when I say that I really appreciate it when musicians give their time and efforts for free to play charity events - because they're bloody good at doing their bit to raise funds for well-worthy causes!!! And yes I'm thinking Worcester Music Festival here which has worked wonders over the last few years

for local charities - as well as being a great showcase for our wonderfully talented musos by getting marked as one of the Top Ten free metropolitan festivals in the UK. Hopefully this will mean that in the very near future - the A&R people may actually venture up from the smoke and realise that something very special is happening 'over here' - which as you know I firmly believe is down to the magical restorative powers of the waters of the Severn and the Wye...

Now I know I've mentioned this a few times in recent months - we've been talking to some record company representatives recently (who as I mentioned are very hungry for new talent) but when asked what was the Number One problem they had when dealing with bands/acts - it was simply them not replying to emails or phone calls!! It's a problem we experience on a daily basis ourselves - so guys please keep an eye on the contact information you've supplied (and especially the email address on your FB site!!) - if they can't get through to offer a recording deal to you - someone else will have it...

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



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

THE BHG

THE BOARS HEAD GALLERY

The Circus is again leaving town as poet Brendan Hawthorne and illustrator extraordinaire Jason Fullwood pedal on their exhibition to further locations. A big congratulations to both on their first venture together and big respect to Brendan for bringing poetry to the Boars on a lively Saturday night.

Spinning on to our next track, I mean exhibition, it's the turn of something a little different in the gallery in April. Some of you may have heard about or even contributed to our 12" Art Amnesty, an exhibition created using old vinyl records. The BHG has been inviting artists, musicians, film-makers and general creative folk to respond to the challenge of creating one piece of art using one 12" record. The results will be on display in the gallery throughout April.

Melo DJ, will be spinning and scratching his own vinyl (Don't paint that one!!!) on the launch night as well as co-curating and contributing his own artwork. He has said, 'With an abundance of records filling up charity shop backrooms this exhibition highlights the potential use of materials that may have been otherwise wasted. Such classics as James Last, Cliff Richard and The Best of the Bachelors have all received 21st century make-overs. And we won't lie, we've had fun going mooching through the donations!'. The launch night will be on Friday 5th April, with tunes in the gallery from Melo DJ plus guests and Live Music from Alex Round downstairs in the Boars afterwards. The event is free and there will also be an art auction on the night too.



In other news

Plans are still bubbling away for Kidderminster Arts Festival in August with a lot of events in the pipeline including those made by KAF Creatives who meet regularly at their base here in The BHG.

Life Drawing classes are running on the first Thursday of every month with a great relaxed atmosphere to get creative energy going, likewise with the Knit & Natter that will be on the 18th this month. Last month I made a hat, never knew I could!

The Art Market and Bric-a-Brac Fayre will be on April 6th, when the gallery will be open too for visitors of all ages, so do join us! And of course not forgetting 'Mouth & Music' on Tuesday 9th April, starring our favorites, Shambollix and Dotti Bluebell.

Plenty there to keep everyone busy! For more information or to get involved either email gallery@boars-head-kidderminster.co.uk, find us on facebook or visit our website here: www.boars-head-kidderminster.co.uk

Many Thanks and See you Soon

Coz & Melo



- ★ 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
We are online at www.carnivalrecords.co.uk

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

A PHYSICAL SHOP IN A DIGITAL WORLD!



The GREAT MALVERN HOTEL

**ENZO HOSTS
TUESDAY NIGHT
OPEN MIC NIGHT
EXPERIENCE!**

EXCELLENT FOOD

Every 2nd
Thursday
of the Month is
Ruben's X-Box
Night

**plus LIVE MUSIC
FROM LOCAL ARTISTS
EVERY SATURDAY
FROM 9.30 TILL LATE**

NEW - SUNDAY LUNCHES

GRAHAM ROAD, GREAT MALVERN, WORCESTERSHIRE WR14 2HN
01684 563411 | sutton@great-malvern-hotel.co.uk | www.great-malvern-hotel.co.uk

CD REVIEW

Trap Floors – Clozapine With Confidence

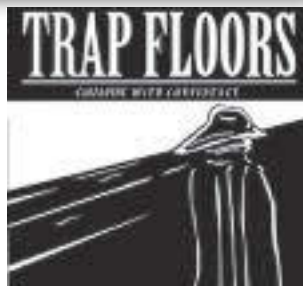
Praise Be! Modern Music that sounds like it was conceived and produced in this young century!

Clozapine With Confidence is an EP brimming with invention, sonic surprises and ideas aplenty.

OK 1st track Cellophane is a total homage to Portishead complete with Barry-esque background moves, but it's a worthy tribute beautifully executed and a million grateful miles away from all the blues based bores currently cluttering the spheres.

And so this confidence flows throughout the 3 tracks with Insult An Angel being totally filmic in scope and ambition: a shimmering, shivering soundtrack searching for a film.

3rd track Glands abounds with analogue synth treats which took me back to early Human League and that beauteous beyond.



It's great to hear such breadth in soundscape and intention and Trap Floors manage proper progression in these pieces, at once conjuring up unsettling, creepy, alienating yet inviting & enveloping musical environments.

The varied & vampy vocals are another massive plus, coming on like Grace Jones in places but again originality abounds in this department also.

This is music that gleefully acknowledges the invention of electricity and all it's exciting instrumental offsprings.

Music that doesn't sound like it's escaped from a flea-ridden farmstead in West Virginee plucked by desperado careerists posing as hobos. No 12 bar, Mumford & Plaid infested bearded boredom here thankfully!

NB: re face fungus – don't get me wrong I like to wake up with a Brian Blessed looker-likee spooning me as much as the next man but there are beards and there are BLOODY BORING BUGGERY BASTARD BEARDS!!!

I digress – inhale/exhale deeply – let the light in and positivity be with me once more.

Trap Floors are a breath of fresh air but the atmosphere is also foetid and claustrophobic, in a good way, like a favourite horror film. They are an exciting and original trio who can be found lurking at bandcamp so go to it too-de-sweet.

Because they're worrrrrrth it.

Welcome to the 21st Century!

Words by Bill Oakey

PREVIEW Saturday 20th April

Carmina – Playing live at the Fold

Carmina's music blends folk, jazz and celtic themese in powerful original songs. They have released five albums to date and toured all over the world.

Tickets: £8 in advance & seniors – £10 on the door for all available from The Fold cafe or by calling 01886 83112

The fold will open for food from 6.30pm (£7/£10) and our fully licensed bar will be open before the performance and at half time

"Carmina took the Guinness Festival Club by storm with a superb mix of jazz, folk and celtic crossover music – taking the audience on a bewitching journey full of melodic grace and inventiveness – a brilliant band superbly fronted by vocalist Pippa Marland and guitarist Rob King" Jack McGouran, Artistic Director, Guinness Jazz Festival, Cork
www.carmina.co.uk





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

**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

E: chrisharve.drum1@yahoo.co.uk

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

Wychbold Legion



De Wych Rd
Wychbold
Droitwich
WR9 7PN
01527 861397



Up to 5 Award Winning
Local Ales from £2.40 a pint
Function Room Available
Snooker & Pool Tables



Families and non members welcome

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+

REVIEW

THREE MINUTE TEASE & OLD HOLLOW *at Re-con, Malvern. 16 March.*

Expectations set high? Check! And why not when musicians of this pedigree are in town.

Malvern's own Old Hollow got the evening going with a set of music rooted but not limited to the sounds of the "high" 60's and 70's. The songs are tuneful and warm with themes of compassion and generosity and a few "bouncers" are included to keep up the energy levels.

Headliners Three Minute Tease have a few things in common with Old Hollow – Anglo American lineups, shared amps and influences and a shared drummer, the great Morris Windsor.

Three Minute Tease are the latest project of former Soft Boys and Robyn Hitchcock collaborators Andy Metcalfe and Morris Windsor together with cult American singer-songwriter Anton Barberau.

The Three Minute Tease sound brings together the neo-psych and power-pop classicism of the Soft Boys, the whimsical styling's of XTC and their predecessors, a high power space rock and Kraut-rock kick and a punkish intensity.

The joyful set was full of power but underpinned with a great spirit of un-stagey theatricality, sing-along tags – "look at me go" and "bananas", impossible arms in the air

clap-alongs and name-checks to the pitchshifter pedal that stood in for the sounds Stornoway added to the self-titled debut album. There was product placement for the debut full release CD but also for near impossible to get records (does anybody have the "League of Psychedelic Gentlemen" 33rpm 7 inch EP to hand – I need to know!).

Where Morris Windsor anchored the Old Hollow set he came to the fore with TMT providing great harmonies and propulsive grooves locked in with Andy Metcalfe's melodic, percussive bass. Anton and his FX pedal were the epicentre but never to the cost of the fantastically tight but expansive whole. The acoustic and mix in Re-con were great too.

Were expectations too high? No way. It could have been louder and longer but not I guess in these compliant days. The crowd could have been larger but there are plans for another appearance in the summer to support the second yet-to-be titled TMT album – not to be missed.

As in the title of one of the Three Minute Tease album songs – "Thank You for Lifting My Leg".

by Clive Dee Photos by Joy Harrison



REVIEW

Stomp & Holler at Artrix, Bromsgrove - 6th March 2013

Last year at Worcester Beer Festival, I saw and listened to Stomp & Holler's first 'outing'. Oliver and Abby had evolved from the Blues Tribe, were playing alongside Chris in 'Mumbo Jumbo' and had gathered a drummer, Martin, guitarist, Lee, and saxophonist, John. It had been a good evening, though possibly not fully appreciated by the ale enthusiasts glued to the muddy fields of last 'summer'.

Enjoyable as the evening was, I felt Martin, the drummer, was not fully relaxed into his role. I saw a more complete and accomplished show at Ledbury theatre a few months later, and now here I was at the Artrix to see the band again, I knew Martin was a drummer of repute, and am pleased to say he has, in my humble opinion, grown roots in the band.

John I had seen before when guesting with the old Blues Tribe, and can really appreciate his breathing life into an array of sax's, as well as some very nice touches on the flute.

Lee is a talented guitarist who has a distinctive influence on the overall sound of this Orleans style band.

The 'Mumbo Jumbo' element, Abby, Chris, and Oliver, fit well together as you would expect, but the style and direction is much livelier, with a mix of Blues, Jazz and Swing.

They open at full bore with signature piece 'Crazy Up In Here', with strong vocals from Abby and Oliver. Abby takes lead vocals, and she has a fine voice, in 'Start It Up', with Lee stepping forward for a spot in 'Lucky Man'.

This is the aperitif for one of my particular favourites, sung with some real Cocker mouth grit (that's Joe, not the little place in Cumbria), 'St. James Infirmary Blues'. This is played at a funereal pace, suitable perhaps for the opening dirge at a New Orleans procession; it fits Oliver's gritty vocals as if tailor made.

The first set ends with a strong driving blues of 'Webstop Checker', with leads coming from Lee, supported with Oliver's trumpet and John's sax, Martin firing up the furnace with Chris shovelling in the coal!

Second set kicks off with a heartfelt 'Lonesome Town', with Oliver's unique vocal qualities coming to the fore.

'Why's It Always Me', is a more cockney lad style, with Chris taking the vocals, feeding in back to Oliver for a gravel laden 'Hadn't Been For Love', back in blues mode.

The evening seems to rush through, as is always the case when enjoying good music, Abby taking lead again with 'Tell it Like It Is'; a chorus of 'Happy Birthday', were there really that many birthday's in the Artrix that evening? A crowd pleasing 'Evangeline', running through to a reprise of 'Crazy Up In Here'; which is where we came in. The difference here is the interwoven, layered vocals from Abby, Oliver, Lee, and Chris.

Overall a good night's entertainment from 6 very accomplished musicians that have gelled well together since inception.

The music is eminently suitable for getting up and dancing, which I suspect many on the night would have liked to do, I believe the original plan was for the Artrix to leave a floor area and partial seating. For whatever reason, it was fully seated, which meant much 'squirming' in seats, the standing ovation was inevitable, lets have more!

Words & Pics: Graham Munn



SLAP

Live at
Worcester Arts
Workshop

PROMOTIONS PRESENTS

HALLOWMINATI

PLUS
SUPPORT



Saturday 20th April 2013

£4 Door

8.00pm - Late

21 SANSOME STREET, WORCESTER, WR11UH

PREVIEW THE ARTRIX

MISS MALONE & FRIENDS BURLESQUE REVUE

Friday 12th April | 8:00 pm

The Performing Arts Genre of Burlesque makes its debut at Artrix on Friday, April 12th, when Missy Malone and her Friends present a glorious show, widely regarded as the best of its kind currently in the U.K.

The performance brings together the very best authentic burlesque artists for a superb evening of tassles, tease, music and cabaret.

"Sassy, sleek, chic and all done in the best possible taste – a great girls night out !!"

The show starts at 8.00.p.m. and tickets, at £17, are available from the Box Office on 01527-577330, or you can book online at www.artrix.co.uk

www.missymaloneandfriends.com



AAKASH OEDRA *presents* RISING

Monday 15th April | 8:00 pm

The Artrix is leading the way for staging Contemporary Dance in Worcestershire. Aakash Oedra, the rising star of British South Asian Dance, brings his new work, "Rising", to the Arts Centre.

Aakash performs astounding solos choreographed by Russell Malaphant, Sidi Larbi, Cherkaoui and Akram Khan, with lighting created by Michael Hulls and Willy Cessa.

In addition, a self choreographed work using Aakash's

Background in Kathak and Bharatanatyam creates a new flavour of contemporary dance.

Judith Mackrell, the dance critic of "The Guardian", wrote "It's the dance equivalent of a red carpet event and establishes Aakash as a dancer to follow".

The performance starts at 8.00.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.

www.aakashodedra.com



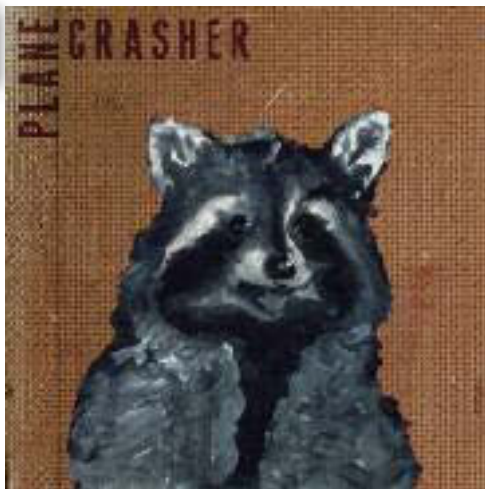
CD REVIEW PLANE CRASHER

Plane Crasher might like the actual noise of plane crashes – which aren't known to be quite as catchy as this – but with their disjointed mix of discordance and melody they do a pretty good job of causing a racket.

Opener Mouthful of Lips sets the tone for the whole E.P., smashing you in the face with a chunky riff before slowing things down; deconstructing it, recklessly throwing out chords and then speeding things up. By the end of the song it reaches almost garage rock levels of catchiness before Edd's gruff vocals kick in, bringing with them a dirty, punk feel that holds tight throughout the next five tracks.

They play it straighter on The Man Who Said No; adhering to a more straight forward pattern with an awesome guitar line running underneath the whole time. Surgery reminded me so much of long gone Stoke noisemakers The Midnight Lycan Party; Edd's vocals hitting fever pitch over a moody backing beat before slamming things into gear with chaotic break ups between verses. It's moody, and not without the influence of post-punk, especially on the guitar tone that accompanies the closing build up.

Strike a Match and Chances Are... both fly by after this; threatening bodily harm with razor sharp riffs and broken cymbals all of which builds up to the closer: Krokodil. The whole production feels more muted on this final track, which suits the dirty feel of the music, its five minutes of



noise rock and it ends the E.P. in style. Switching tempos several times before escalating into a glorious mess of distortion. Plane Crasher assert themselves here, adjusting themselves amongst their peers with an excellent mix of punk and noise. Plane Crashers e.p is available from...

www.planecrasher.com

Words by Matthew Tilt

See



For bookings ring
01905 621842

MAIN ROAD, OMBERSLEY, WR9 0JG
e-mail: thereindeeratomersley@gmail.com

**Live music
Every Sunday
in April**

See Listings for
more details



£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





BIG BIRTHDAY BASH

Blue Radio Records is back for 2013's Birthday Bash with 5 top acts; each plucked from the underground scene currently erupting across the midlands area. With strong intent to fuel the aspirations of dedicated musicians, Blue Radio Records plans to ignite from the heart of its origin, and home to many great bands – Worcester.



The much loved Marris Bar will host this FREE show, headlined by one of Worcester's most promising, This Wicked Tongue (www.thiswickedtongue.com). Having recently opened the Green Man Festival's main stage, as well as gaining large label interest, this is a 'we are proud to say have been spawned from our hometown' moment.

They certainly know how to tear up a crowd; the delicately balanced musical components give anyone with a heart for great live music something to grasp. The band's incredibly loyal local following pretty much speaks for itself – you will not be disappointed.

It's a night full of favourites for us, with slightly less local boys, God Damn (www.facebook.com/goddamtheband) these guys first struck our interest back in 2011 at the Worcester Music Festival. Having previously praised Worcester's music scene, we are more than happy to welcome back a band who instigate instantaneous intrigue; another riveting live act, comprising dual guitars, a fascinating drummer who solidifies every contour of each song and vocal hooks that will mull in your mind for days.



Also not so gracefully gracing our ears during the evening will be Worcester-bred three piece, Mansize (www.facebook.com/mansize); a grunge inspired culmination of make-shift musicians making horrible, loud, angst-driven noises at whoever may care to listen. The band have played some great venues (and a few shit ones) in their first year together including a recent endeavour at The Kasbah, Coventry which marked the release of their new single, Pineapple Milkshake (available now on iTunes, Spotify and Amazon).

The next band are one who, despite living in Bewdley, seem as local as the rest - Vault Of Eagles (www.vaultofeagles.com).

These guys are wonderfully DIY and quirkily arty; seriously, check out their merch! Powerful, riff-y, 70s-esque rock is all I can describe that seepes from the unsuspecting sisters taking bass and guitar; fulfilled



BLUE RAD
RECORDS

by a kit pounded precisely in a Grohl era Stone Age manner and warmed by the soaring vocal harmonies that we know will keep you captivated throughout their set. The incredible EP '*Plastic Culture, Human Vulture*' will be on sale at the show and if you fancy a little of the more mellow side of this band, check out their Unplugged EP available online now.

The completion of this line-up is a band that has not yet been implanted into the Worcester scene, but having received much professional praise are sure to make an impact. We welcome John J Presley (www.johnjpresley.com) to their debut appearance at The Marrs Bar. 2012 has been a busy year for the band - a full summer of festival dates, a UK tour with The Jim Jones Revue, and many coveted shows with Band of Skulls, Joe Gideon & The Shark and The Brute Chorus to name a few. Studio time is ahead; an album is on the horizon.

There you have it - 5 incredible acts for FREE. Any like-minded music enthusiast would be somewhat insane to miss it.



ARTS FEATURE

CAROL BOWSHER

AT THE OLD JOINT STOCK THEATRE

Above the beautiful Old Joint Stock pub on Temple Row Birmingham is a theatre. It's a lovely little venue hidden away up many stairs and it exhibits art by local artists which visitors can peruse if they stumble across it and patrons can buy in the interval.

As I arrived breathlessly at the top of the stairs I was struck by the dry-point engravings and mono- prints by Carol Bowsher that currently adorn many of the walls in the corridors and bar area of the theatre. Standing out in beautiful contrast to the dramatic red painted walls, the black and white brilliantly detailed engravings evoke scenes of city and countryside and feature many themes, from the cathedral opposite to scenes of Venice. Each of the engravings is one of only four prints from the single etching while the mono-prints (eerily black with a dark quality) are one-off paintings.

Carol who began as a student of fine art many years ago and now works full time at the city's Infirmary Museum was really pleased to be able to display her work. She was especially happy that some of the pieces have already sold and are now adorning the walls of someone else's living room.

The exhibition ended in March but the remaining prints are still for sale directly from the artist Carol can be contacted at - www.carolbowsher.wordpress.com or by email - carol_bowsher@yahoo.co.uk.

The next exhibition at the Old Joint Stock theatre can be viewed 11.00am-5.30pm Monday to Friday and 11.00am-3.30pm Saturdays. Admission is free but why not stay a while in the popular bar downstairs for a little refreshment as you pass through.

Words & Photos - Sarah Ganderton



ARTS FEATURE

EASTER EGG HUNT IN BIRMINGHAM TOWN CENTRE

In celebration of Easter this year Birmingham joined in with the biggest Easter egg hunt in the world! 101 of the two-and-a-half-foot high fibreglass eggs were 'hidden' around the city for children (of all ages) to find. Designed by artists and designers such as Sam Taylor-Johnson



(formerly Taylor-Wood), Alexis Harding, Billy Childish and Michael Petry each egg features a different design or favourite children's character including modern favourites such as Peppa Pig, Moshi Monsters and Ben 10 as well as old staples such as Humpty Dumpty.

Those children lucky enough to find Humpty Dumpty could enter a daily draw to win some tasty Lindt chocolate in time for Easter. The eggs turned up all over the city, some sprinkled around the city's shopping area, some even hidden away inside tourist venues such as the Symphony Hall and city's art gallery and museum, confusing patrons who hadn't yet seen the rest of the eggs around town. But following the trail towards the city



centre, the perceptive egg hunter turned the corner in front of the Town Hall to find an incredible display of painted eggs in all their brightly painted glory in the chilly sunshine. Children and adults seemed to be enjoying the hunt, adults taking photographs while children filled in egg-hunting forms to prove how many they had found.

And the reason for all this Easter themed fun?

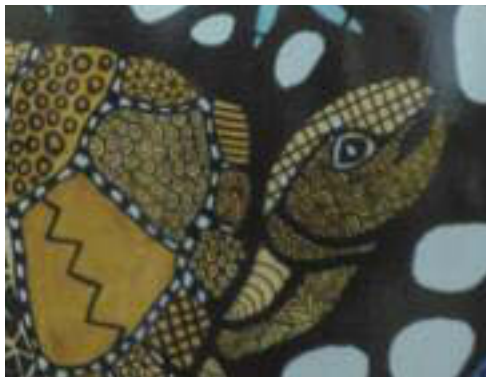
Raising vital funds for leading children's charity, Action for Children, which supports over 250,000 children, young people, parents and carers each year.



Last year the hunt was based only in London where it set two Guinness World Records: raising over £1 million for charity and engaging more than one million people. But this year even more people can join in the fun as the eggs have appeared in Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow, returning to London in time for Easter. And it's never too late to join in. Here are some of the eggs spotted by our reporter on her travels around Birmingham for you to enjoy.



As a virtual egg hunter you might like to text the word EGG to 70123 to will donate £3 to Action. For more information or to see more of the eggs, you can look online at <http://www.thebigegghunt.co.uk/>.



Words & Photos - Sarah Ganderton

PREVIEW

REBEL ROCKERS

AT MALVERN CUBE

Versatile Productions unleash a pair of not to miss events at Malvern Cube this Spring, following on from last seasons sell out events, Peatbog Fairies and the 4th Annual poetry slam. The Versatile Arts team have secured the only Midlands dates on two exciting tours. Saturday 27th April sees the first tour for years by political reggae rockers Radical Dance Faction (RDF), founded by Chris Bowsher in Hungerford in 1986. RDF's blistering reggae sound is a real crowd pleaser, with Bowsher's incisive spoken rather than sung lyrics, dealing with life's weightier issues.

RDF were a regular act on the UK free festival scene. The band reformed in 2006, and played various festivals around the UK during 2007, the band reappeared at The Bearded Theory festival in Derby in May last year and now commence on a short tour to promote their new album - Ammunition.

Then on Friday 17th May, the Cube plays host to Shooglenifty one of Scotland's most unique musical exports, credited with being the originators of "acid-croft," a fiery and infectious blend of Celtic traditional music and dance grooves that band members describe as "hypno-folkadelic ambient trad."



Their fiery instrumental lyricism, pulsating with infectious rhythm and drive, creates a sound that is at once epic and inclusive, soulful and stirring; and commands a musical presence that takes the crowd by the hands and dances them on an exhilarating romp through uncharted and fiercely exciting new territory.

"This is tradition standing on its head... doing cart wheels and pole vaulting over every barrier in sight..." -- The Irish Times. "...a bit like a jam between the Tannahill Weavers, Phish and The Chemical Brothers." -- Chicago Tribune

RDF, Saturday 27th April. £9.00 from Malvern theatre box office or on the door. Doors open at 8.00PM
Support from Aristocrats.

Shooglenifty, Fri 17th May, £15.00 From Malvern theatres box office or on the door. Doors open 8.00PM

More Info,
versatileproduction@yahoo.co.uk
07854918783





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



Cannon Royall Brewery

Uplampton Ales

Your local award winning Brewery



Cannon Royall Brewery Ltd

Uplampton Lane

Ombersley

Nr Droitwich

Worcs WR9 0JW

Telephone: 01905 621161

Babajack bathed in sunshine

Whilst all here at home shivered in the arctic winds and battled through snow blizzards, Babajack were enjoying glorious sunshine, warm 'early summer' temperatures, with only a sniff of the wet stuff in the early hours of Saturday morning.



I know, because fortunately I had boarded the same plane bound for Toulouse and the European Blues Challenge. The difference was I only had to watch, as 'Blues' bands from all over Europe musically jousted for the crown; a sort of Eurovision Song Contest, only talented musicians, without the razzmatazz, TV orchestrated, politically weighted, clap trap we all love to hate?

No flag flying stuff here, an appreciative blues loving audience and a panel of 'expert judges' from some differing backgrounds and nations, but only a panel of 6.



Each band had 20 minutes to present a set, with intervals of only 5 minutes to change around the bands; 2 nights would see 22 bands cold starting, trying to go straight to full power and wow the gathering, along with the panel holding court.

First band was a 3 piece with boogie woogie piano, double bass and drums from Latvia, Gints Zilinskis Trio. They reminded me of a regular trio from Upton Blues of past years Danny McCormack, Al Gare and Dean Beresford, though probably not as good (my opinion). Probably tough opening the party, a short set and off; the artists of nations followed on, Luxembourg, Heavy Petrol, bordering heavy metal; Austria complete with a brace of sax; Romania, Soul Serenade, a young nervous trio, with a folk style reworking of blues such as 'Smokestack Lightning', a good female vocalist with guitarist and mandolin player.

Enter stage right, Babajack, and straight into 'The Moneys All Gone' from Rooster. The 20 minute set gave

us 'Running Man' and 'Hammer & Tongs' from the forthcoming album, along with 'Sunday Afternoon' and 'Skin & Bones' as a finale. The crowd loved them, certainly they stood out as the best act presenting roots blues complete with self penned music. Hammer & Tongs, I particularly like; it pitches Bec's exceptional vocals, alongside Trevor who lowers his handmade wine box guitar and concentrates on the harmonica. Now I have to say, the harp did not come over that strongly, and would have been more prominent with a bit of lift, this seems to me to have been the case throughout with any harp playing being slightly subdued. It may have been just my position but I've certainly been more aware of Trevor's ability on harmonica, and here it seemed a bit low. Skin & Bones is always popular, and so it remains, a good fast run down the home stretch, with Becky on cajon, with her powerful voice and Trevor back on the wine box, slide, and harp, it was a grand finish, everything I would expect from this great professional band, they never fail to give 100%.

I saw 2 more bands before the last Metro at the stroke of midnight, The Sunnysiders from Croatia, and Chino and the Bet Band from Spain, good fun band that seemed to go down well. The following evening would prove longer, I had till 01.00 for transport back to the city but there were some impressive performances. Raw hard hitting blues from a female bass playing singer with attitude, all

the way from Helsinki. A fun frenetic, crowd pleasing band representing the host nation of France, Shaggy Dogs. A superb young Dutch band, Sugar Boy & The Sinners. Head banging blues rock from Switzerland with Fabian Anderhub, followed by the surprise winning band from Italy. Femme fatale Veronica Sbergia and her band The Red Wine Serenader's. The style was Romany camp fire folk with the personable, visually magnetic, vocally expressive,

Veronica wowing everybody; blues it was not, wonderfully entertaining it was. Veronica's main instrument, her voice aside, one battered washboard, rubbed and beaten with a pair of wired hairbrushes!

Overall, for me a very enjoyable weekend of music, what really impressed was how smoothly the organisation worked, like the proverbial well oiled and fully tested machine. The timing of the evenings were well controlled, 5 minute turnarounds between bands, a top quality sound system in a superb setting, Le Bikini.

I spoke briefly to Becky following their hectic round trip, she says that although not winning an award, it was an extremely productive visit, fuelled by their 20 minutes on stage. Plenty of potential for future festivals on the continent, and serious interest in their promotion and forthcoming album, Running Man. The Blues have grown out of America, laid deep roots in Britain and spread throughout Europe, where its producing a fantastic yield, as EC said in one of his songs 'Let It Grow'.

Words & Pics: Graham Munn



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.

Carnage Club Presents - Opium Lord EP Launch	05th Apr 2013
Nostalgia - Monthly Classic 80's club night	06th Apr 2013
Hot Foot - Local rock/blues cover band	12th Apr 2013
Scary Canary re launch party (Open to public)	13th Apr 2013
Isolated Atoms Ep launch	19th Apr 2013
Moochers House band (Rock Night)	20th Apr 2013
Fred M Promotions Presents - Sondura	25th Apr 2013
Bungalow - Monthly Indie club night	27th Apr 2013

See our website for more details.

M VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR FULL GIG LISTINGS WWW.MOOCHEERS.CO.UK
11 NEW ROAD, STOURBRIDGE, DY8 1PH / TICKET HOTLINE: 01384 394794 / TWITTER: @MOOCHEERSUK



SLAP RADAR

...HOT SIGNALS FROM THE SLAP RADAR



BOO HEWERDINE

Huntingdon Hall | Wednesday 10th April

Boo Hewerdine is widely regarded as a song writing legend. After fronting cult band The Bible until the mid-90s he went on to make numerous solo albums - most recently *God Bless The Pretty Things* for Navigator Records. He performed songs from this on The Andrew Marr Show and Songwriter's Circle on BBC4. For the last 18 years he has played with, written for and produced Eddi Reader (including her seminal *Burns* album.) Other artists who have performed his songs include Kris Drever, Heidi Talbot, KD Lang, Chris Difford, Jerry Douglas, Mary Chapin Carpenter, The Nashville Bluegrass Band, Duke Special and many, many others. This year he released *State Of The Union* with American guitar genius Brooks Williams. He has written seven songs for Radio 2's *Ballads Of The Games* along with the likes of Jez Lowe, Chris While and Julie Matthews. A truly amazing singer, guitarist and performer (and very funny too!).



REVERE

with support from Inca Hoots + Rich Clarke & The Rafters
The Marris Bar | Friday 12th April

The distinctive sound of London-based seven-piece REVERE is a monument to the backgrounds and musical loves of its members - who originate from across the UK; from London, Newcastle and Liverpool, to as far afield as the Orkney Isles.

Drawing on influences as diverse as Ennio Morricone, Broken Social Scene and Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds, REVERE bind together the traditional back-bone of guitar/bass/drums with an unlikely approach to the violin, cello, and piano. Elsewhere, the line-up is complimented by colliery-style brass sections lamenting over layers of fractured vocal samples and distorted keyboards.

As they roll out new material from their upcoming second album, REVERE continue to pull together varied influences into a now more frantic, grittier onslaught. The edgy new-wave guitars of Magazine merge with the industrial clatter of Joy Division and Battles; the expansive soundscapes have morphed into euphoric flashes that would vie with the most uplifting elements of Everything Everything or the Maccabees.

Angular stabs of synths surge up out of waves of strings - all the while the voice sails through the mêlée, itself sounding both urgent and sea-worn; part Jeff Buckley, part Bon Iver. Imagine Ian Curtis singing Scott Walker, set against the varied skylines of England's industrial docklands.

20 YEARS OF THE BARFLYS

Huntingdon Hall | Friday 26th April

The Barflys, one of Worcestershire's most prolific acoustic bands, are this year celebrating 20 years together and what better place to do it than on their own doorstep? Singer/songwriter and rhythm guitarist Andy Hiseman and gifted acoustic and slide guitarist and harmony vocalist Pat Allen have developed their own distinctive style over the period entertaining audiences all over the country and further during this process. They will be joined by the hugely talented and experienced Richie Shelton on drums; Moseley's very own star, the fabulous Spike Barker on double bass; and from south Gloucestershire, one of the finest harp players in the country Jody Veal - to form one of the tightest quartets around, playing their own take on jazz and country blues.



ENJOY THE MUSIC DURING THE SHOW STOP THE RINGING AFTER

Whatever music you like to listen to or play Worcester Hearing Centre custom make headphones for all MP3 players and smart phones. We also have a full range of Custom made musicians products including in ear monitors and filtered hearing protection, designed to stop you damaging your hearing.

Stop the ringing. Enjoy the performance without the pain.

For further details call **01905 617803**
or visit our website **www.worcesterhearingcentre.co.uk**

Worcester Hearing Centre, 5, The Cornmarket, Worcester, WR1 2DR



- Family run independent business with 20 years experience
- Friendly impartial advice on all aspects of hearing health care
- Ear wax removal clinic & tinnitus counselling
- Latest hearing aid technology from all leading manufacturers

- Custom made specialist in ear products for musicians and hearing protection for shooting, industry, motorsport and swimming

REVIEW

Task in Hand - Marris Bar 28th February 2013

Mike Watt & Il Sogno Del Marinaio, Virals, Skewwhiff & Broken Oak Duet

The much anticipated appearance of the legendary Mike Watt at the Marris Bar was no disappointment. And a lovely unassuming guy he was too. It was very humbling to see him watching all the support acts along with his band Il Sogno Del Marinaio.



Ollie Montez

The first act were Broken Oak Duet who played on the dance floor itself in front of the stage. With Thomas Morgan on Baritone guitar riffing perfectly around the mad timing and rhythms of the amazing Howard James Kenny on drums this certainly made for an interesting gig.



Next up were Marris Bar locals Skewwhiff who played an upbeat set enjoying every minute. Especially bass player Sammy the Hat who was grinning from ear to ear the whole evening having been told he was to play through his hero's rig!

Shaun Hencher's Virals were next on stage for their debut Worcester gig. Very tight and melodic they careened through a catchy set - think summer, think Teenage Fanclub, think Ultra Vivid Scene and you get the vibe.



The Guardian intoned 'There's a sun-kissed, slothful energy to this one-man band's infectious music that evokes the sound of late-70s power pop. You have to agree

apart from they are no one man band. With Matt Pugh on lead and ex Zebs Danny and Josh making up a formidable rhythm section this is a band in every way. In between



short US tours as I type, there is a lot more to come from Virals.

Congrats must go out to promoters The Task in Hand for getting Mike Watt and Il Sogno Del Marinaio to the Marris Bar. Mixing some more traditional punk style tunes with a more minimalist type of 'Jazz Punk', Il Sogno... are taking Mike in a new



direction, whilst he retains his distinctive 'thunderstick' style.

Maybe the audience weren't expecting quiet moments from the ex Minuteman's band but they were a little raucous through some of the more delicate break downs which was noticed on stage. Having read the tour diary though, it's clear they have many fond memories of their Worcester gig.

As I'm sure the people of Worcester have fond memories of the time this little-known legend came to our city.

wychwood festival

31ST MAY - 2ND JUNE,
CHELTENHAM RACECOURSE

'BEST FAMILY FESTIVAL' 8 YEARS RUNNING.
OVER 100 BANDS ACROSS 4 STAGES

THE HUMAN LEAGUE
BILL BAILEY ★ SOUL II SOUL
UKULELE ORCHESTRA OF GREAT BRITAIN
KATE NASH ★ TOPLOADER ★ THE BEAT
CARAVAN PALACE ★ JOHN OTWAY
SAM LEE ★ MOULETTES ★ DREADZONE
LUCY ROSE ★ EDDIE & THE HOTRODS
PUBLIC SERVICE BROADCASTING
CRAIG CHARLES DJ SET ★ MR BLOOM
THE DUALERS ★ SADIE & THE HOTHEADS
LO'JO ★ CLEMENT MARFO & THE FRONTLINE

A MAGICAL SUMMER WEEKEND OF MUSIC, COMEDY,
WORKSHOPS FOR ALL AGES, CINEMA, KIDS LITERATURE
FESTIVAL, HEADPHONE DISCO, REAL ALES, GREAT FOOD,
HEALING GARDENS & IDYLIC CAMPING.

WWW.WYCHWOODFESTIVAL.COM

DAY & WEEKEND TICKETS AVAILABLE
UNDER 10S & PARKING FREE.



New Internationalist

HEALTHY
apply innovation™

W
The Wychwood



A Brummy, a Belly and a Man with a Carrot

The first ConFab at Re-con 19th March

There are some things in life that one never expects to see. A man playing a hollowed out carrot as though it was a recorder fits firmly into that category. Still, there he was, in plain sight, for all to see and hear. If this is the sort of thing that ConFab is going to be known for then long may it continue. ConFab, for those unused to melodious root vegetables, was a night of spoken word, cabaret and comedy interspersed with contributions ad libitum from the er... confab. Malvern's laureate poets Catherine Cresswell and Amy Rainbow, decided to put on an evening of entertainment that *they* would want to attend and, in doing so, demonstrated just how deliciously deranged they are. For the night was one of unhinged lunacy from start to finish. Like a much loved aunty, Dolly Grip knitted her way through a loveably amusing monologue delivered in a satisfying Brummy brogue, telling of her misadventures and misinterpretations. She concluded with a delightful duet alongside her (we assume husband) Trevor on guitar; Sonny & Cher's classic hit given a Midlands makeover as '*I Got You Bab*'. Sublime! Now, I have to admit that belly dancing has always had me slightly confused. What exactly is it? Eroticism? Exhibitionism? Exercise? Whatever it is, we were treated to a fine display of it by the mysterious, veiled Salma, who had travelled, so we were told, all the way from dusky West Malvern to demonstrate her midriff dexterity. A feature of ConFab is 'Prepare to Share' where members of the public are given exactly two minutes to do... well to do whatever they want. So we had poem and song, even a cross beer-tap delivery from Barman Sam. It's a risky business though. If the audience disapprove or are unimpressed by the contributions, the wannabe performers can be unceremoniously ejected from the stage. If they hoot, you get the boot! However, the offerings were sound and all managed to see out their allotted time without incident. The next act was grim. Very grim. Adrian Mealing and John Denton, both performers of experience and repute, are collectively known as the Very Grimm Brothers. They gave us a half



Dolly Grip



Salma



Sam Ware



Four Tart
Harmony



Very Grimm
Brothers



A man in
a coat



Carrot Man



Spoz

hour of funny poetry, song and political satire. This included advice on the wisdom (or otherwise) of taking one's husband's speeding points along with the hazards thereof and the rights of cyclists to progress without restraint through the Downing Street pedestrian gate. Sometime during the evening Amy and Catherine held what was billed as the Silliest Raffle with such desirable prizes as a bottle of red, a Tolkien game and a loo roll. Having gained a B grade in my maths O Level and with around fifty people in the room I figured my odds were good. So I bought five tickets. I've never been lucky with raffles but my arithmetic intuition proved accurate with not one, but two winning tickets! I am now the proud owner of a stack of Marstons Pale Ale beer mats. I could have walked away with a cheap plastic toy as well but that would have just been greedy. Several husky-voiced hussies took to the stage next as Four Tart Harmony performed a capella ditties (ditties I said!) to a delighted and appreciative (or drunk) audience. And then it was time for the man with the carrot. I suppose that if one carves out a living from making flutes and recorders then turning a vegetable into a wind instrument is no difficult task. To the rest of us, it is nothing short of miraculous especially as Tim Cranmore was able to magically disappear and reappear said carrot with amazing sleight of hand (and the aid of an orange shirt). Tim and his carrot played a selection from the legume classics, *Eine Kleine Carrot Music* being my personal favourite, and was to my mind the herbaceous highlight of the night and a hard act to follow. It fell to Birmingham's former Poet Laureate to do the following. I didn't know Birmingham had a Poet Laureate let alone a former one but Spoz certainly lived up to expectations. His right-on, political poetry has a hint of John Cooper Clark to it; angry rants mixed with the downright funny. However, I have to reveal my heresy: I quite like *Top Gear*. So when Spoz resorted to calling Jeremy Clarkson a 'twat' in rhyme, I was less amused than I wanted to be. The first ConFab was a resounding success and Amy and Catherine, those sultanas of syntax, priestesses of prose, have created a fantastic feast of spoken word and cabaret that should be double underlined in everyone's diary. Don't miss the next one, coming to Re-con soon. RT

March- you were good to us. Very good. 29th of March was our official birthday, our fourth year providing to all of you lucky Circuit Sweeties, and we thank you for all your constant support. And thank you SLAP for having us!- We intend to become even bigger and better. To constantly supply you with the best talent on your doorstep and from afar, to unite all music lovers and to continue to share a personal touch to daily music news, reviews, interviews and more. We also promise that despite our schedule's with attending gigs, daily life and full time jobs- we will bring you more and we will give you more back for the love you give us. A 2 man operation with Naomi managing acts, providing the articles, listening to the submissions, keeping the shop running and discovering talent whilst Oli travels with the gig photography and videography bookings, then has the busy task of sorting all pictures and editing all videos as well as maintaining the online store- we still vow to bring you only the best. April marks the year anniversary of our online store and revamped look (so be sure to check our website and facebook on APRIL 21st for goodies as a celebration- be it one day sale, giveaways and more). Last April we unveiled our new look and direction on Record Store Day 2012- which means in the next Slap we will be talking about RSD 2013!!! April 20th make sure you get to your local record store and divulge vinyl, then let us know what goodies you've bought.

Talent in Worcester is everywhere- at the start of March after picking up our bundles of SLAP to distribute throughout Herefordshire- we found ourselves walking through the streets and hearing a band in the distance. The closer we got the more we fell in love. Echoes of Local Natives flew through the atmosphere, questioning where this band and their music was coming from, we walked closer and closer until we stumbled upon a live session being filmed on the cobbles of Worcester. Standing still in awe of this talented acoustic act stood opposite in what felt like a personal preview- were FITZ. Singer/Songwriter Sam Fitzpatrick fronts a collective of musicians and friends performing sincere and intricate acoustic/alternative folksong. With their wistfully folky sound, these boys bring a special sort of energy to their music, gracefully waltzing between the "get up and dance" and the "sit down and listen". During their live session filmed for the Worcester/Birmingham based Croft Sessions we ended up appearing at the end of their performance for 'The Garden of England'. Find Croft Sessions on facebook and introduce yourselves to them and Fitz - head over to <http://www.fitzofficial.co.uk/> to find out just why they made us stop everything we were doing to swoon over them. This acoustic act are also giving away a free EP on their website too.

In March's Slap edition from ourselves, at the time of going to print, we were excited to share a room with the one and only Mike Watt. Thursday February 28th, Circuit Sweet traveled to Worcester to join the company of the legendary Mike Watt. The man needs no introduction.

Joining Mike was his new band **Il Sogno de Marinaio** - the latest musical venture from ex-Minutemen bassist. A highly respected figure in contemporary music and the embodiment of the D.I.Y punk spirit, Watt is regarded as being one of the most original and influential bassists of all time. His four-decade spanning career has seen him

utilize this legendary status and bring in a full crowd of adoring fans and musicians looking up to Mike. The performance given by Mike, drummer **Andrea Belfi** and guitarist **Stefano Pilia** was nothing short of mesmerizing- simply authentic, passionate, tentative and



powerful. Supporting **Il Sogno De Marinaio** saw the likes of the powerful Worcester power-pop **Virals** (Mike is the influential bassist, but second best is **Danny Meigh** and to see him perform with such an iconic bassist was rightly due) think grunge beach boys, Worcester's talented

and soulful **Skewwhiff** who provided an upbeat and melodic performance and an instrumental duo who opened the show and stole our hearts- **The Broken Oak Duet** are on the edge of stealing Don Cab's fanbase.

Can we also show some recognition for **Virals** on their return from SXSW?! Very jealous we weren't smuggled in their backpacks but what a fantastic and deserved experience for all the musicians involved.

We also returned back Sunday 17th March as **Embrace the Chaos** took over DNA for another promising live night. Full of all things experimental, sludgy and loud. **Embrace The Chaos**, passionate promoters born from the remnants of several promoters in the local area, pushed they're abilities further afield when they hosted our very own **Aulos**





- their first live return after a 6 month hiatus - and London's own Sedulus who bring with their own brand of heavy, riff based grooves blended with psychedelic guitar. A full photography feature is set to hit the site shortly.

March was also a big month for us as we were honored to join **The M J Price Moment** on the airwaves. Matt Price is the mastermind behind his fortnightly radio show **The M J Price Moment** which showcases the best music and conversation live on **Purple Radio**. You can tune in Sunday April 7th and 21st on www.purple-radio.co.uk between 9pm and 11pm to hear our new outing as Matt hands over a few minutes of his great show to us- where we talk about what's been going on all things Circuit Sweet in the past fortnight, what gig we've been to and who we're listening too.

Last month we also mentioned a great local charity **The Music Pool**. 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. 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 2nd April 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!

Be sure to keep an eye on our facebook page and twitter @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 OR if you want a band photo shoot either live or on location, for budget gig photography and music shoots email oli@circuitsweet.co.uk

All images by Oli Montez and 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

www.facebook.com/TheChestnutInn
@TheChestnutInn

PREVIEW

Bright Side Music Promotions – April programme

Cole Stacey & Joseph O'Keefe:
Saturday 20th April 2013
Rowney Green Village Hall, B48 7QP

Tickets: £8 From Bright Side Music

Doors open 7.15 show starts at 8pm

Cole Stacey is an acclaimed singer and songwriter hailing from Devon. His rapidly growing reputation has led him to have; opened sell-out shows for award winning acts such as Midge Ure, Hayseed Dixie, Cara Dillon & Martin Simpson, had continued airplay on BBC Radio, and performed headline tours and major festivals. In September 2011 he was asked by Acoustic Magazine to perform at The London Acoustic Guitar Show, after which he embarked on a joint tour with critically acclaimed instrumentalist Chris Woods.

Cole Stacey & Joseph O'Keefe release their much anticipated debut album together 'On Hire' on November 12th. With gigs throughout Europe during the winter they return to Rowney Green as part of 5 week UK Spring Tour. Their album and versatile live shows draw from their Devonshire acoustic routes, blended with Parisian Café violins around a supple joining of voice and instruments.



Visit the 'Watch' page to view a video of Cole and Joseph performing at Rowney Green in November 2011.

'Quality musicianship and passion in equal measure....heartfelt lyrics, distinctive and soaring vocals, high quality compositions, natural charm....delightfully strong' Acoustic Magazine

The Hummingbirds
Friday 26th April 2013
The Slade Rooms – Wolverhampton

Doors: 7pm

Tickets: £7 from Midland Box Office & Ticketmaster

The Hummingbirds are a 6 piece Skiffle inspired band from Liverpool. An organic musical collaboration of John Lennon and John Mayer combine to bring a completely fresh sound that has already propelled the group to cult status on Merseyside.

Influenced by music from a simpler time, The Hummingbirds capture that 'Liverpool sound' as well as putting an interesting twist on conventional folk and blues music, bringing it to a more mainstream audience.

Aged between 20 and 21 the lads have all grown up in the heart of Liverpool and absorbed all its football and musical traditions, which is reflected in their superb harmonies, creative melodies and gifted lyrics.



Currently in the running for the 2013 Barclay Mercury Music Prize the band have recently enjoyed Snow Patrol, Ade Edmondson and Ben Elton appearing in the audience at their shows. The band is set to make themselves a big name in the music scene.

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

Umphff Presents

FARRIERS FIRST FRIDAY

- 5th April Mark & Beanie (Skewwhiff)
- 3rd May Richard Clarke
- 7th June Machine Breakers
- 5th July Gastric Band

Open Mic last Wednesday of the
month with Dodgy Nige & Mr Umphff

Real Ales & Drinks Promotions
 The Farriers Arms, Fish Street, Worcester, WR1 2HN

BLUE



LOTUS

Tattoo Studio

Christian



Loz

www.bluelotustattoo.co.uk

5-7 The Hopmarket
 Worcester WR1 1DL

01905 731884

Monday 1 April 2013

Gandhi's Walrus
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Lisbee Stainton, Richard Clarke
Marrs Bar, Worcester

Tuesday 2 April 2013

Jim Lockey & The Solemn Sun, David Young
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham

Blues Session
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Open Mic
Queens Head, Wolverley

Open Mic with Nigel Clark
Millers Arms, Pershore

Open Mic
The Courtyard, Hereford

Open Mic
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Wednesday 3 April 2013

Marzys Jamming Night
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Open Mic with Mikey Mann
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Music @ The Morgan
The Morgan, Great Malvern

Umphff
The Crown, St Johns, Worcester

Lewis Craven Band
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Musicians & Songwriters Acoustic Jam
Pack Horse, Bewdley

Irish Session
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Thursday 4 April 2013

Hannah Dallas and Richie Yeates Acoustic
The Conservatory, Worcester

Open Mic
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Ben & Greg
The Talbot, Bewdley

Open Mic with Tyler Massey
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Acoustic Brew
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

The Troublesome Trio
Cock n Magpie, Bewdley

HoneyBoy Hickling
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Jam Night hosted by Jonny Gracie)
The Royal Oak, Studley

Friday 5 April 2013

Alex Round
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

The Official Receivers
Drummonds, Worcester

Howlin Lord
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Hotwyred
The Royal Oak, , Kinnersley

Carnage Club Presents Opium Lord EP Launch
Moochers, Stourbridge

The Laurence Jones Band
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Eddie Morton
Cock n Magpie, Bewdley

Cole Stacey & Joseph O'Keefe
Wotton Under Edge Arts Centre, Gloucester

ELO Experience
The Swan Theatre, Worcester

Heroes of Hanoi (album Launch), Rufus
Marrs Barr, Worcester

The Reflections
Bar 12, Worcester

The Official Receivers
Drummonds, Worcester

Reaching Distance, tbc
The Pig & Drum, Worcester

The Hitmen
Millers Arms, Pershore

The Delray Rockets
The Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

Bonnylou Band
Queens Head, Wolverley

Bleeding Hearts
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Nothing Like A Whale
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Mark & Hannah (Skewwhiff)
The Farriers, Worcester

Saturday 6 April 2013

Nostalgia – Monthly Classic 80's club night
Moochers, Stourbridge

Re-Load
Rainbow Hill Club, Mayfield Road, Worcester

Hump De Bump
Chestnut, Worcester

Small Engine Repair, Russell Underwood (solo gig)
O'Neills, Worcester

Junction 7
Pavillion In The Park, Worcester

Stiff Joints
The Star Inn, Pershore

Three Blind Mice
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Massive Head Trauma, Dogs of Santorini, Cyberstan
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Vo & Tyler
The Morgan, Great Malvern

Devoted To Rock
Pillar Of Salt, Droitwich

Aeonian Dog, Gringo, Defy All Reason
The Pig & Drum, Worcester

Jez Lowe & The Teacups (Tickets Only)
The Fold, Bransford

Crazy Legs
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

The Way
Unicorn, Malvern

Surf's Up and Friends
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Kinver Edge
Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Matt Woosey
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Vincent Flats Final Drive
Callow End Club, Callow End, Worcester

Dale Von Miniker Band, Paul Fearless Fingers
Boars Head, Kidderminster

King Pleasure & The Biscuit Boys
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Sunday 7 April 2013

Folk, Pop, County etc Session
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

The Sunday Session
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Mine hosted by Clive Fokes
Oast House, Redditch

The Barrell House Blues band
The Reindeer Inn, Ombersley

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

Umphff
White Bear, Tewkesbury

Monday 8 April 2013

Dave Onions
Cock n Magpie, Bewdley

Big Boy Bloater, Al Gare, (Imelda May Band)
Dean Beresford (Richard Hawley Band)
The Norman Knight, Whichford nr Shipston-on-Stour

Open Mic
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Tuesday 9 April 2013

Open Mic
Queens Head, Wolverley

Mouth & Music feat Shambollix & Dotti
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Open Mic
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Wednesday 10 April 2013

Boo Hewerdine
Huntington Hall, Worcester

Acoustic Music Session
The Farriers Arms, Worcester

Marzys Jamming Night
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Musicians & Songwriters Acoustic Jam
Pack Horse, Bewdley

Irish Session
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Open Mic with Mikey Mann
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Music @ The Morgan
The Morgan, Great Malvern

Folklaw
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Thursday 11 April 2013

West Malvern Open Mic
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Brothers Groove
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Jam Night hosted by Jonny Gracie
The Royal Oak, Studley

Acoustic Brew
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Perry Fosters Open Mic Night
Chestnut, Worcester

Friday 12 April 2013

Skewwhiff
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Music @ The Legion
The British Legion, Cradley, Malvern

The Ron Jeremy Band
Drummonds, Worcester

Flat Stanley, Kim Lowings
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Sax Appeal
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Hotfoot
Moochers, Stourbridge

Manalishi
Millers Arms, Pershore

The Delray Rockets
The Swan, Thornbury, Bristol

Revere, Inca Hoots, Richard Clarke and the Rafter's
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

11:11, Happy & The Nice People
The Pig & Drum, Worcester

Urban Folk Quartet
The Regal Theatre, Tenbury Wells

Northern Soul & Mowtown
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Voodoo Blue
Queens Head, Wolverley

Sabbath To Hell & The Project
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Missy Malone & Friends Burlesque
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Saturday 13 April 2013

The Lady And The Sax
Rainbow Hill Club, Mayfield Road, Worcester

Parkin Lot, The John Steeds
The Ketch, Bath Rd, Worcester

Feast Of Fiddles
Huntington Hall, Worcester

Nigel Clark
The Star Inn, Pershore

Freaky Tiger
Unicorn, Malvern

Black Heart Angels
Cock n Magpie, Bewdley

Soultown
Callow End Social Club, Worcester

The May Dolls
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

The Quik
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Scary Canary re launch party
Moochers, Stourbridge

Drongos For Europe & The Erection Police
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Nick Pynn & Kate Daisy Grant (Studio)
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Oasis UK, Hannah Dallas
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Brassick
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Bebe & The Trojans
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Gareth Forsyth
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Big Que & more
The Black Lion, Hereford

The Capital
Pavillion In The Park, Worcester

True Colours (Jayne & Andre)
Queens Head, Wolverley

The Delray Rockets
Gloucester Rock n Roll Club, Gloucester

Music, Movie Classics & More
Number 8, Pershore

Sunday 14 April 2013

Folk, Pop, County etc Session
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

The Sunday Session
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Mine hosted by Clive Fokes
Oast House, Redditch

Hugh Thomas tenor sax and clarinet
The Reindeer Inn, Ombersley

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

Monday 15 April 2013

Big Joe Pleasure Band
The Norman Knight, Whichford nr Shipston-on-Stour

Rising
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Open Mic
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Tuesday 16 April 2013

Open Mic
Queens Head, Wolverley

Stourbridge Folk Club presents Jess Morgan, Kim Lowings
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Open Mic
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Wednesday 17 April 2013

Marzys Jamming Night
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Open Mic with Mikey Mann
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Music @ The Morgan
The Morgan, Great Malvern

Matt Woosey, Damon T, Jake Watson
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Musicians & Songwriters Acoustic Jam
Pack Horse, Bewdley

Irish Session
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Thursday 18 April 2013

Answer Back
The Slug and Lettuce, Worcester

Open Mic with Tyler Massey
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Beck Downes & Her Band
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Jam Night hosted by Jonny Gracie
The Royal Oak, Studley

Albert Hammond
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Acoustic Brew
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Jenny Blackheart
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Friday 19 April 2013

**Sophie Bohanan, Stomp'n' On Spiders,
Dale Von Minaker**
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Suggs
Dudley Town Hall, Dudley

Isolated Atoms Ep launch
Moochers, Stourbridge

Gunrunners
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Irish Night
Bridges Entertainment Venue & Carvery, Worcester

All Stars Dub Band
The London Inn, Cheltenham

Quo Motion
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Ronin
The Robin 2, Bilston

The Executives
The Royal Oak, Kinnersley

Kevin Underwood
Cock n Magpie, Bewdley

Undercover
Millers Arms, Pershore

Sugar Mama
Drummonds, Worcester

Karpetkickers & Friends
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Passengers, Ass Pasty, Hey You Guys!!, Rattling Doors
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

BSN [420], Two Days Late
The Pig & Drum, Worcester

Land Of The Giants
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Sam Sweeney & Hannah James
House Concert, Lower Brailes, Warwick

No Exit
Cap n Gown, Worcester

Cracker & The Woodpeckers
Queens Head, Wolverley

The Delray Rockets
The Kings Head, Tenbury

Saturday 20 April 2013

Babajack
Re-Con, Great Malvern

The John Steeds
The Pillar Of Salt, Droitwich

Swinging Rock n Roll
Bridges Entertainment Venue & Carvery, Worcester

All Star Dub Band
The Star Inn, Pershore

Mike Parker
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Perry Foster
Chestnut, Worcester

Ujahm
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Kirsty Jane
Rainbow Hill Club, Mayfield Road, Worcester

Answer Back
The Plough and Harrow, Malvern

Paul Parker & Friends
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Lyve Wyre
Callow End Club, Callow End, Worcester

Cole Stacey & Joseph O'Keefe
Rowney Green Village Hall, Alvechurch

Sweet Billy Pilgrim, The May Dolls
St Faith's, Church Lane, Overbury

The May Dolls
Carnival Records, Malvern

Heart Full Of Songs
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Moochers House Band
Moochers, Stourbridge

Ital Sounds
Unicorn, Malvern

Soultown
Franché Social Club, Kidderminster

Slap Night Presents – Hallouminati, plus support tbc
Worcester Arts Workshop, Worcester

This Wicked Tongue, Vault Of Eagles, God Damn,
Mansize, John J Presley
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Babajack, Dave Arcari
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Carmina Playing Live
The Fold, Bransford

The Collective Soul Band
Pavillion In The Park, Worcester

The Cavern Beatles
Number 8, Pershore

The Delray Rockets
The Beauchamp Arms, Malvern

The Lobster Band
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Sunday 21 April 2013

Folk, Pop, County etc Session
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

The Sunday Session
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Mine hosted by Clive Fokes
Oast House, Redditch

Josh Widdicombe
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Hannah Dallas
The Reindeer Inn, Ombersley

Katiefest Guitar Festival
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Kevin Underwood
Cock n Magpie, Bewdley

Monday 22 April 2013

Open Mic
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Tuesday 23 April 2013

Dave Onions
Cock n Magpie, Bewdley

The Fureys & David Arthur
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Stourbridge Folk presents St Georges Day
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Open Mic
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Wednesday 24 April 2013

Marzys Jamming Night
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Open Mic with Mikey Mann
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Music @ The Morgan
The Morgan, Great Malvern

Live – Glos Acoustic Night
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Musicians & Songwriters Acoustic Jam
Pack Horse, Bewdley

Albert Lee & Hogans Heroes
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Irish Session
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Dodgy Nige & Mr Umphff Open Mic
The Farriers, Worcester

Thursday 25 April 2013

Fred M Promotions Presents; Sondura
Moochers, Stourbridge

Open Mic with Tyler Massey
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Perry Fosters Open Mic Night
Chestnut, Worcester

Rose Redd
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Acoustic Brew
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

The Steve Ajao Blues Giants
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Jam Night hosted by Jonny Gracie)
The Royal Oak, Studley

Mark Steel
Artrix, Bromsgrove

The Counterfeit Stones
The Swan Theatre, Worcester

Friday 26 April 2013

Retroflector
The Bell and Talbot, Bridgnorth

Journeyman
The Millers Arms, Pershore

Musical Youth
Artrix, Bromsgrove

The Reflections
The Hanbury Turn, Bromsgrove

Nancy Boys & Duke
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Crisis Blues Band
Cock n Magpie, Bewdley

The Hummingbirds
The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton

Gary Slade's Salute to the 50's / 60's
Bridges Entertainment Venue & Carvery, Worcester

The Barflys
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Underdogs
Queens Head, Wolverley

Vo & Tyler
The Wellington Inn, Chances Pitch, Colwall

Stone Farm
Drummonds, Worcester

The John Steeds
The Cross Keys, Tewkesbury

A Poetic Yesterday, Stop Stop
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Smokefarm, tbc
The Pig & Drum, Worcester

Thomas Ford
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Dale Von Minaker Band
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Saturday 27 April 2013

Crackin
Bridges Entertainment Venue & Carvery, Worcester

Guy Young
Rainbow Hill Club, Mayfield Road, Worcester

Heed The Thunder, The May Dolls
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Midnight Movers
The Castl, Droitwich

Bungalow
Moochers, Stourbridge

Liquor & Poker Band
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Ian Luther Band
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Skewwhiff, Rufus
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Shred Perry 5, Roller Girls with Plane Crasher
Aj's, Hereford

Moonshakers
Pavillion In The Park, Worcester

Risky Business
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Nigel Clark & Umphff
Unicorn, Malvern

Highroller
Callow End Club, Callow End, Worcester

Ital Sounds Reggae Night
Chestnut, Worcester

TBC
The Star Inn, Pershore

Sunday 28 April 2013

Open Mic & Jam Night
The Mount Pleasant, Malvern

Jamie Knight
The Reindeer Inn, Ombersley

Folk, Pop, County etc Session
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

The Sunday Session
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Vo & Tyler
The Three Kings, Church End, Hanley Castle

Mine hosted by Clive Fokes
Oast House, Redditch

Wishbone Frenzy Jazz Ensemble
Queens Head, Wolverley

Mayors Charity Concert
Number 8, Pershore

Four Girls Four Harps
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Ranagri
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Monday 29 April 2013

Open Mic
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Tuesday 30 April 2013

Enuff Z'Nuff
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Open Mic
Queens Head, Wolverley

Rythmic Drumming Workshop
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Buddy Whittington
Huntington Hall, Worcester

Open Mic
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern



Listings in conjunction with www.notjustsaUCE.com

THE MARR'S BAR

APR 2013



Enuff Z'Nuff
Tuesday 30th April

Easter Monday 1st

Lisbee Stainton

Support from Richard Clarke

£8.00 ticket £10.00 on the door

Friday 5th

Heroes Of Hanoi Album Launch

Support from Rufus

£3.00 ticket £5.00 on the door

Friday 12th

Revere

with support from Inca Hoots and

Rich Clarke & The Rafter's

£3.00 ticket £5.00 on the door

Saturday 13th

Oasis UK

with support from Hannah Dallas

and The Button Down Souls

£6.00 ticket £7.00 on the door

Friday 19th

Tower Studios Presents:-

Indie Funk n Punk Night

The Passengers, Ass Pasty,

Hey You Guys and Rattling Doors

£3.00 ticket £5.00 on the door

Saturday 20th

Blue Radio Records Presents:-

This Wicked Tongue, God Damn,

Mansize, Vault of Eagles

& John J Presley

Free Entry

Saturday 27th

Bingo Wings plus Support

£3.00 ticket £5.00 on the door

Tuesday 30th

Enuff Z'Nuff

£10 a ticket and £15 on the door

Wednesdays - Jamming night
Dates available for private hire

Tickets available from
Marr's Bar and Music City

www.marrsbar.co.uk
01905 613336

Worcester's Premier Live Music Venue