

SLAP

Issue 27

June 2013

MAGAZINE

FREE



SLAP Supporting Local Arts & Performers

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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 CONTRIBUTORS

Mark Hogan
Andy O'Hare
Kate Cox
Steven Glazzard
Ant Robbins
Chris Bennion
Mel Hall
Matthew Tilt
Sarah Ganderton
Richard Clarke
Ralph Tittley
Alan Avery
Baz Bojak
Michelle Pogmore
Reg Richardson
Amy Dollery
Nathaniel Pitt
Dom Beale
Corina Harper
Fanny Adams
Melo
Bob Jones
Graham Munn
Naomi Preece
Mark Hogan
Richard Clarke
Paul Robinson
Dave Marston
Garden Stage at Nozstock

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magazine are not necessarily those of its publisher or editor.

As you can see from this months front cover image our thoughts here at SLAP are turning toward the festival season. Despite the kind invite, we missed out on Lechfest due to deadlining duties. The reports I heard were that it was superb, helped on by the bank holiday weather no doubt which only made me even more jealous. Ah well, by the time you read this we will be at Wychwood, so not all bad, unless in rains of course!

In this issue we look at a few 'family' festivals such as Droitwich Festival and Youthcom Minifest showing once again the abundance of energy and talent their is around along with some dedicated local organisers. The Blue Dragon III Beer & Music Festival was a huge success too raising much needed funds in their quest to bring our football team back home.

We take a look at some student art exhibitions as well as our own Arts Workshop and Boars Head Gallery of course. The collaboration between PITT Projects and Juneau projects with 'I Am The Warrior' for the Worcester Open is well worth checking out. As too is Movement on Platform 2 at Foregate Street station with Juneau Projects - *Blackbird in Infospace* who launched an album of five new songs made in response to the city of Worcester. It's uniquely accessible by pen drive throughout June at places like The Hive, The Guildhall, Rise Records, The Art Gallery and of course Movement. More on that next month me thinks...

- Eds



**'LIKE' SLAP
ON FACEBOOK**



LISTINGS IN CONJUNCTION WITH:



Misers Rise on Record Store Day

A good turnout at record shops across the region for the sixth annual UK Record Store Day - aimed at celebrating and promoting the nation's independently owned retailers. Performing live during the day at Worcester's Rise Records in

Crowngate was Portia Reed, Goodnight Lamplight, Richard Clarke, Wes Dance, East Of The Sun and The Misers - the first outing for Neil Ivison's magically restored-to-health Gibson acoustic!!

Givvi's Debut Pledge

Worcester vocalist Givvi Flynn chose the PledgeMusic format to promote her debut album *Thieving From The Magpie's Nest* - and it seems to have worked a treat - reaching 180% of the target within four days!! The album's a mix of originals and cover versions - with instruments and production by Cover Junkies Eli Cameron and Jay Clarke - more information at www.givvi.co.uk



Getting their kit off for charity...

Double entendres a-plenty were flying around as Worcester Music Festival promoter Siani Price announced that twelve local acts will bare their all for a charity naked calendar - with only strategical-placed

instruments to preserve their modesty! We'll be seeing a lot more of Shane 'Jasper' Husbands, violinist Zoe Bell, singer-songriter Sally Haines, Psyflyer's Sophia Liana, The Whipjacks, Joby Hill of BSN[4:20], The Stiff Joints(!), *Calm Like A Riot* (oh dear!), the *Sexy Weirdo* Johnny Kowalski himself, Ronin frontman Kit Kinrade, 11:11 and Tonina Westgate of *Stripped Down Blues* - will be featuring in the calendar - which goes on sale in July. Your intrepid



SLAP reporter also offered his services - but a WMF spokesman would only say that 'studio lights reflecting off his bald spot made for a difficult exposure' - hmmm...

Alby on the CD case

The Worcester Rock City team are aiming to complete their third and final Rock City compilation album this summer. Organiser **Alby Samuels** is looking for original songs from Worcestershire artists to be included in a run of 1000 CDs to be distributed free to the public (and of course on special covers of your favourite local music magazine!) More information at www.worcester-rock-city.co.uk

TV Debut for Peace

Ahead of the release of *Lovesick* (due June 23 on Columbia), **Peace** were invited to perform live on the prestigious *Later With Jools* on BBC 2 alongside Texas and Queens Of The Stone Age.

The Rocks grow in stature

Malvern Rocks Festival of Music will have more than one hundred bands and performers playing around the town over the weekend of the 2nd to the 4th of August. To give you a taster of what's to come the organisers are holding their second Malvern Rocks Warm Up gig with another three fabulous acts: *Calm Like a Riot*, *Ronin* and *Artstar*. The gig is on the 8th of June at *Recon* in Great Malvern. The organisers are also close to releasing the first Malvern Rocks compilation CD which showcases some of the fine acts that will be playing at the festival.

RIP John Brown

Here at SLAP HQ we are saddened to hear of John Brown, champion supporter of live music in the City.

In the dark days of the early eighties there were very few outlets for live music in Worcester (notwithstanding 'between the bingo' sets for bands on the Working Men's Club circuit.

John Brown's Blues Night was founded in 1981 with monthly sessions at the Coach & Horses, moving to The King's Head skittle alley some years later.

He brought 'Blues on the Boat' trips and occasional specials at the Grandstand with visiting US Bluesmen.

His contribution to live music in Worcester will not be forgotten...



Worcester Music Festival

GET JIGGY WITH IT AND TAKE A PEDICAB AT WMF 2013!

With just under 100 days to go until WMF 2013, our promoters are cooking on something hotter than gas, with 120 acts already booked for our free celebration of live, original music.

What people might not know, however, is that we don't only put on gigs at our amazing, annual festival in August, but a whole array of educational, inspirational and entertaining workshops for audiences and musicians alike to make the festival as interactive as possible.

In a new move for this year, we want you to get jiggy with it and are excited to introduce a line-up of dance workshops to accompany the usual musical feast, ranging from Appalachian clog dancing to gothic tribal belly dance. Let's get those toes a tappin' and hips a swayin'!

Also putting on a workshop for the first time are the ever popular Worcester Ukulele Club, who will be hosting a two-and-a-half hour morning beginner's workshop to familiarise complete beginners with the basics. Make sure you reserve your place as they will go fast.

We have also been working alongside the Pumphouse Environment Centre in Gheluvelt Park for the first time, who have signed up to host fun craft workshops for little ones to create their own musical instruments during this year's festival. And, to top it off, those lovely eco chaps have even arranged for a dedicated pedicab to cycle visitors over there. Awesome.

As for our three-day marathon of gargantuan gigs, it's go, go, go John Taylor, who was one of our first promoters to finalise his line-up for this year's festival. The superman of folk has confirmed 23 acts to perform at the place to find live, original folk music over the festival – St Swithun's Institute on The Trinity – plus acoustic jam sessions in The Farriers Arms.

His booked bands include Gloucester acoustic folk rock band FolkLaw, who learned about WMF after picking up a copy of SLAP during the interval of a local music showcase in Bransford Road. Enthusiasm for the festival from SLAP and then one Andy O'Hare in the bar later made them apply as soon as they got home. Look forward to having you, guys.

In Naked Band Calendar news, all of the brazen exhibitionists have now got their kit off and been snapped – thank you Sarah Colquitt – for the charity project of the year. Even better news, the WMF charity girls wanted in on the action and will appear on the front cover!

The calendar will go on sale online and in retail outlets to be confirmed in July and will cost just a fiver. Please support us and our charities of the year – Sight Concern

Worcester and Worcester Deaf Children's Society – by buying one.

Don't forget, WMF, which takes place in around 30 venues across the city from August 30 – September 1 – is run completely by volunteers and relies on donations and fundraising to survive, and we need your support to ensure it continues to evolve. To find out more, visit:

www.worcestermusicfestival.co.uk and please help us spread the word by joining our Facebook page and following us on Twitter.

Mel Hall



Acts already booked for this years WMF include from top: Ass Pasty, Defy All Reason, Key Green Music & Triinu Tammsalu.



Half a year already? What happened....The Worcester Arts Workshop has been focused on development this year, trying to get some funding and working on promoting what we do so that we can continue to offer some fine visual arts, live music, performances, film, adult learning and children's activities. We are looking for volunteers at the mo, to help with events and marketing so if you are interested or would like to support us in another way, do get in touch. Or if you are interested in booking a room with us, putting on an exhibition, gig or other creative endeavor, check out our website or call the office to make an appointment and we will show you round and help with any info you may need to get started.

Please note* we have changed the opening times for the reception so for all public enquiries, please call into the office on: Wed 12pm til 6pm or Fri/Sat 12 pm til 2pm.

You can always make an appointment by calling us on 01905 25053.

So this is what we have coming up this month....

GALLERIES: *'Cycles of a Sunflower'* 5TH til 9TH

Worcester Arts Workshop has been working in collaboration with Worcester Snoezelen delivering a



series of tactile and auditory workshops to students from New College Worcester. Starting with the initial concept of the process of the growth cycle of a sunflower and its interaction with the natural elements, we have facilitated the exploration and development of the students' own creative ideas. These workshops, which have been

running on a monthly basis since January, are now culminating in an audio sound based, interactive exhibition held in the Cellar Gallery. This opens on 5th June, with a one off special live performance from the students at the private view and remaining open until Sunday 9th June.

'The Little Curiosity Shop' 5th til 29th June.
A collection of interesting arts and artefacts from local artists and designers with work by Sarah Edwards, Joe Carver, Alex Manville, Jennie Fin and more.

"A Fish in Water doesn't know it's in Water"

- 12th to 29th June

A collection of multimedia work based on the outdoors by Worcestershire artist Amy Birch.

"I have always been fascinated by the nature of our environment, which has always been the canvas on which we experience our lives, but therefore so often taken for granted.

My work explores ways of creating different atmospheres associated with cycles occurring with the ever changing seasons, times of day and weather conditions. I approach this through the exploratory and experimental use of a wide range of techniques and mixed media in exciting, imaginative and playful ways. I exploit the use of colour and expression as a means of capturing the atmosphere and energy of the landscape at specific moments in time. Some of my work is created en plein air, incorporating materials found on site. Whilst working mainly in acrylics and oils, I also incorporate other types of media such as video and performance.

COURSES AND WORKSHOPS:

Creative Textiles for beginners. Explore colour, texture and pattern through experimental textile techniques. Starts Thurs 6th June 7 til 9pm. 5 weeks. £70 (materials included.)

Watercolours for beginners (landscapes). This course will cover the basics of watercolour painting in a fun and informative way. Focusing on landscapes with the possibility of going outdoors to work. Starts Fri 7th June 10am til 12pm. 6 weeks. £62.

To book a place, go to the website or call us.

Family gallery workshops (every second Saturday of the month). Bring the family and get messy at our drop in sessions!

Sat 8th. 11am til 12.30 under 5's/ 1pm til 2.30pm 5+

Families can cross over age groups. All are welcome. £1 per family (donations welcome).



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

MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE:



Lazy Sunday 9th June. This month's Cafe Bliss acoustic afternoon includes Sarah Warren, The Players, Mellow Peaches and Stompin' on Spiders. 1 til 6pm. Free.

'The Trouble with Trevor'. Sat 22nd June.

Performed by Voice on a Stick theatre company with original music by **Becky Lowe**, this is a musical adventure about friendship, magic, and change when Trevor Trellis refuses to move house...after all, no one asked him his opinion! Lots of joining in and some things to think about after the show! Grown-ups can participate too!

£4 on the door ages pre-school + and families

'Blueflint'. Sat 22nd June. Fresh from supporting The Proclaimers for six weeks on their UK album launch tour, Blueflint are atmospheric and evocative; a formidable live act with a strong reputation and following through the UK. The Edinburgh-based five-piece band intertwine banjos, fiddle, double-bass and drums to accompany the singers in beautifully-crafted songs, swooping easily from the dark underbelly of folk to buoyant Americana-tinged ballads



"If you are going to The Proclaimers get there early to see Blueflint." Steve Lamacq BBC Radio 2.

7:30pm til 11:00pm. Tickets £8 available on WotGotTickets.com or call the office.

<http://blueflint.org.uk/>

FILM:

The Splendid Cinema season comes to a close with 'No' (Pablo Larrain, 2012) Rated 15. Sunday 9th. 6pm.

An ad executive comes up with a campaign to defeat Augusto Pinochet in Chile's 1988 referendum.

Tickets £5 on the door

Check out our website for more information and hope to see you all soon!



www.worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk
info@worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk

The full line up is as follows:

12.00 GATES OPEN

Saturday 15th June 2013

HOPFEST FAMILY MUSIC FESTIVAL

The Main Stage
WET DESERT
THE NUCLEAR WEASELS
FLAWS
DANDY HORSE
HEIDI BROWNE AND HER BROWNIES
RUBICON

The Marquee
THE DAMAGE
ESTHER TURNER
VAULT OF EAGLES (UNPLUGGED)
BEN GREEN AND GREG BOTHAM (FROM RATTLESLAKE JAKE)

Two Stages • Young Talent Tent
Music Combined with Family Attractions

- Rhythmic Unity Drumming Workshops
- Circus Skills and Street Entertainers
- Bucking Bronco and Bungee Run Competitions
- Bubble Shows • Face Painting and more

Young Talent Tent
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I AM THE WARRIOR Vs. WORCESTER OPEN 2013

To coincide with the Worcester Open 2013 W-CA and PITT projects have commissioned Juneau Projects to show I Am The Warrior. Everyone, regardless of selection for the main exhibition, who has entered the Worcester Open will have the option of having their work displayed in this ongoing artist project. I Am The Warrior is a serial art event for an open display of creativity. During the Open Exhibition there will be a dedicated space for this event. Artists, non-artists and hobbyists are invited to share their paintings, their knitting and pottery, their processes and



ideas all in this area defined as I Am the Warrior. I Am the Warrior has been featured at the Pumphouse Gallery in Battersea, London and the John Hansard Gallery in Southampton.

Open exhibition and prize (now £1000) - at The Worcester Museum and Gallery, ground floor.

W-CA have invited six selectors to advise in the selection of work to be exhibited in the Worcester Open 2013.

Selection is an important and difficult task, so when 'selecting the selectors' for the Worcester Open it has been essential for W-CA to take into consideration each selectors' accomplishments, knowledge and professional experience as well as their relationship to Worcester. W-CA are proud to present a panel of selectors who have clearly provided a significant and innovative contribution to contemporary and critical art discourse nationwide and more specifically within the West Midlands.

Anne De Charmant (Director at Meadow Arts) Juneau Projects (Artists) Wendy Law (Director at Turning Point West Midlands) Nada Prlja (Artist) Gavin Wade (Artist, Curator and Director at Eastside Projects Birmingham)

Whether your work is selected or not, it is important to remember that each of the selectors will take time to carefully look at each artwork. Every artist wants to have their work seen, but to progress as an artist, it is important to have your work seen by professionals and your own peers. The selectors are comprised of artists, directors, commissioners, curators and collectors so it is important that you show your work in it's best light.



There are many examples from our previous open and curated exhibitions where artists have later been invited to show additional work in group or individual shows, either as selected artists or as in some cases not selected for the exhibition.

Art work that is not selected does not mean it has no value or 'is not good enough' it more likely means that it does not fit in with the exhibition vision, in relation to any shared sensibilities between the selectors or the overall collective vision for the show. Each selector will in effect be 'cold' to your work; each submission is anonymous so all the selectors will make their decisions based on the quality of the images presented to them, (or the quality of the explanation of more conceptual works).

So, be considered in your choice of documentation, avoid poor, out of focus, over/under exposed photographs or photos that do not represent or explain the work clearly. Please refer to the FAQ section for further guidance.

Research - do your research, find out more about the selectors, their work and their working history. This is important as your work may well be regarded as exceptional by your close associates but may not 'chime' with the interests of our chosen selectors.

Of course this process is not a science and selection is subjective, and often, as we all do, sometimes we like work that challenges our tastes and perceptions. Foregate Street, Worcester, WR1 1DT.

ENTER at www.worcesteropen.co.uk

DEADLINE for entries: 11th July 2013 Exhibition opens: 12th July 2013

Images: Juneau Projects, I am the Warrior, Pumphouse Gallery, London, 2011. Courtesy the artists and Ceri Hand Gallery.

The Lamb & Flag

The Tything,
Worcester

June 19th - *Inn Verse*
Poetry with Phil and Mike

3rd & 17th - *Folk Session*

8th - *Skewwhiff (acoustic)*

13th - *Bitterroots*

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

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



CD REVIEW Riots — The White EP

Tom Lynam, A.K.A. Riots, offers up this six track E.P. with less of a bang and more of a whisper but it's a rich, gorgeous whisper that builds from the gently picked guitar at the start of *Help Myself* into something that sounds fuller, more well-rounded, than should be possible for one man and his guitar.

Lynam's voice adds so much to the tracks; it's the sort of performance that is totally free of expectation or pretention, relying totally on the passion he has for his music. He tags himself as acoustic rock but this is pop music in its purest form. None of that manufactured crap, but true pop music, full of melody and lacking that ridiculous need to complicate things. Each song here is verse, chorus, verse and it's marvellous, really.

Maybe Riots is the wrong name for this project; it's more like a seduction than an outburst. With the oversaturation of moody boys with guitars it would have been so easy to dismiss this E.P., to throw it on the ever growing pile of coasters and yet those opening notes pull you in.

By the time you reach the third track, *Sell my Soul*, you're totally in tune with what's happening and the final tracks just nudge past the high bar set by the openers, then, as if to remind you, Lynam appears to revisit the entire E.P. musically as he treks across the final track *My Love*. Mixed with darker lyrics and a little added desperation in his voice Lynam ensures that his E.P. ends on a high.

Words: Matt Tilt

Having just played a sell out gig at The Barfly in London, Riots based in Redditch/Birmingham the next stop is Sound Control in Manchester on 4th June.

Set for release on 27th

July *The White EP* can be pre-ordered for £3 download or a limited numbered vinyl CD edition for £5. A preview of the ep can be heard on www.riotsmusic.co.uk as a free download for a limited period only.





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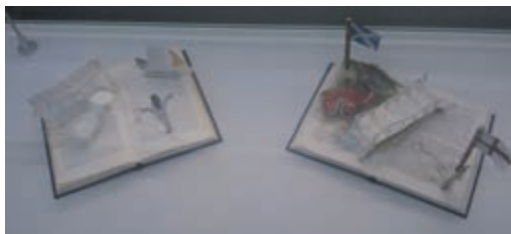
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ARTS REVIEW

by Sarah Ganderton

Student Art at The Hive

Displayed in May, there was a selection of student art in The Hive. Each piece of work in this mini-showcase was an individual response to the Hive as a space: to the building itself, its use as a library and to the history of the site on which it stands.



There was something for everyone in the show and each floor of the Hive revealed a hidden piece of work, although sometimes the pieces were so well hidden even I was unable to find them. There were signs on the third floor

columns by Jakki Carey saying 'this column could...' do various things, and casts from the trees of the Hive by Emma Starkey and amazing artistically cut outs from books.

Artist Sarah Sehra says she and other artists "explored the history of Worcester through visiting historic buildings like the Commandery and the Tudor House" and she expressed this "through writing poetry drawings and photographs."

Sarah's piece combines "a mixture of found objects, wax and poetry to tell the story of the Almshouses which once stood where the hive is now" which includes what look like shards of pottery from the Hive's archaeological site and intriguingly, a gun. Sarah hopes her piece provides viewers with "a window into how different people respond to the Hive".

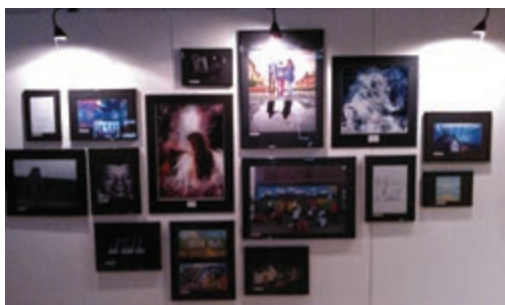
It is great to be able to see different pieces of art around the Hive by different community groups including students at the university, as this is a great place for students and Worcester residents to come together under one roof, and share their work.

Digital Art Centre Degree Show 2013 - University of Worcester City Campus

Private view 22 May, 5.45pm

Public view 23 May - 28 May

The art show for the University of Worcester's graduating students this year was displayed on the top floor of Worcester's former infirmary building on Castle Street. It is hoped this would make the show more accessible to the public - it certainly felt different to the previous year's show in St Johns.



This is an opportunity for third year students from the many arts courses at Worcester to display their hard work: Graphic Design and Multimedia, Animation, Creative Digital Media, Illustration, Digital Film Production Fine Art and Art and Design.

The many pieces on display were incredibly high quality, and the opening show on 22nd May complete with champagne was really popular with parents and students as well as local business people sourcing new talent. Here



is a selection of the many pieces that were on view at the event, showcasing the many different talents of students in many media including photography, animation, film, graphic design, illustration, even spray painting.



For more details of the students involved and their work: <http://www.worcesterdegreeshows.co.uk/#body-full>

ANDY O'HARE HERE WE GO - TWO THREE FOUR...



Well suppose really that the festival season's already kicked off for me with an afternoon drop-in at **Upton Folk Festival** for a spot of Morris dancing (to be expected) but also quite a few belly-dancing ensembles (not quite so expected!!) - but by the time this issue appears we'll have had a wonderful weekend at the **Wychwood Festival** on Cheltenham Racecourse - with a **Fab Friday** featuring eight H&W bands on our own stage including **Johnny Kowalski**, **The Delray Rockets**, **Dogs Of Santorini**, **Brassick**, **George Barnett**, **Becky Rose** and **This Wicked Tongue** - what a great lineup!!

"...a two/three track CD with reasonable quality packaging can be produced with not much more effort than one with a felt-tip scrawl and no track-listing"

That's probably the only time I'll get out of the Two Counties over the summer though - as from then on I've already got **Linton**, **Droitwich** and **Upton Jazz** lined up for June - **WestFest**, **Colwall**, **BridgeBash** (maybe), **MiniFest**, **Upton Blues** and **Nozstock** in July - and then the searing midsummer heat of August (!) will hopefully see me checking out **Malvern Rocks**, **MappFest**, **Upton** and of course **Worcester** itself - plus naturally I'll try to shoe-horn a couple more in-between this meagre selection...

We've had a lot of messages recently on the subject of dodgy band-names, offensive lyrics and the like - know that I've mentioned this subject before but well worth a reminder maybe that radio is a lot different from other media - and has much tighter rules about what can and can't be broadcast - and probably the most important is that there's no 'watershed' - hence the need for 'radio edits'. We still get bands sending us tracks (actually about one in four) which are unbroadcastable due to the content - and this applies to any mainstream radio show - not just the Beeb...

This policy of keeping the airwaves 'clean and pure' dates in part from the Cold War era - where in a national emergency you'd have been advised to 'stay tuned to your local radio for more information' and this is still much the case nowadays - sad but true! Yes we get plenty of comments about 'freedom of speech' - but this doesn't extend to just saying f***, s**t and b****cks on-air - yeah you might hear this on certain late-night shows but that's probably past the **Mary Whitehouse Brigade's** Horlicks time - and it's complaints not content that get shows taken off-air. So why not do what I prefer when I fancy a healthy helping myself of smut and innuendo - and get along to a live gig instead?

Another perpetual problem seems to be the 'getting paid' for playing - as I mentioned a couple of months ago a great start is to ensure that you don't get ripped off straight from the off - if you're starting out on the music highway it's pretty much a given that a lot of your early gigs will be unpaid or a few quid for expenses. But if you're really serious about making this your living then I think that it's only right that you treat it as a business - and that means maybe adopting a harder-nosed attitude to your own promotion - and there's a good few local acts who are doing just that!!

Have to say that I still find it a bit baffling when I mosey up to a band after they've played a fantastic set (does anybody mosey any more?) and ask if they've got a card/flyer or even a CD and get the reply 'yes but we left them at home' - this really is base one for self-promotion and costs pennies to do - and a two/three track CD with reasonable quality packaging can be produced with not much more effort than one with a felt-tip scrawl and no track-listing...

I thoroughly enjoyed myself on **Record Store Day** at **Rise Records** - and glad to hear that it was also a grand day out at **Carnival Records** in Malvern and others - but have to say that I'm still completely baffled by the vinyl brigade!! My formative years were with this medium and while ten LPs in one of those horrible cases was just about portable - toting those 25-packs were a nightmare... But I suppose in hindsight that you could at least access any track immediately by dropping the stylus (ouch!) at the appropriate point rather than having to wind and rewind like the cassette tape format that followed...

So why the current enthusiasm for vinyl? I really don't get this - I've heard many musos say you can 'tell the difference' - no what you can hear, is a clearer sound just because it's recorded on clunky and bulky retro material - you'd get the same effect if you recorded it at high speed onto quarter-inch tape - but hey who uses that nowadays? When a tune's really well-produced (and the late-lamented **Cohen Brothers** come to mind here) it doesn't matter what media it's on!! But personally I'd like to see more bands producing those mini 3" CDs - ideal to pop into your top pocket - brilliant!!!

AOH (message me for a list of swear words at: so-sue-me@live.co.uk)



Re-con

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(FRI-SAT 11.00 am - 1.00 am)

Sunday - Sunday Session

(SUN 11.00 am - Midnight)

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THE BHG

BOARS HEAD GALLERY | KIDDERMINSTER

Firstly, I must say our faces are still blushing and our mothers are still very proud, after seeing our little baby the 12" Art Amnesty make it onto the front cover of last months magazine. Very much an honor, thank you indeed SLAP magazine!

This months exhibition is turning out to be an education for me! With OPM playing here on Sunday 26th May (Heaven is a Halfpipe- see review by Toni Charles), we have decided to coincide and open our very own Skateboard Museum featuring photographs, boards, artwork and all sorts of memorabilia. We have stopped at nothing to build the collection and many young men have had to find themselves running down hill on their boards. Now my dictionary is loaded with such terms as 'Benihana' (A skateboard trick) and 'Halfpipe' (Not some sort of smoking paraphernalia). The artwork that has appeared above and underneath these boards has been fascinating to see as the stickers and scratches tell a tale of tricks and flips gone by. Even some of the in house artists have taken their turn to get all physical and take leaps from our half point. Massive Thanks to Stiff Joints who not only supported OPM but help supply half of the museum too.

The gossip on our other events is that the 'Knit and Natter' continues to grow as jumpers are made and stories are unravelled (running out of knitting puns. The next session will be on Thursday 20th June at 7pm. Our chief knitter Eira (aka waste2want) will also be holding a peg weaving workshop in the gallery on the day of our monthly market.



Life Drawing is back on Thursday 6th June with our lovely male model, and it looks like we wont be needing the heater to keep him warm this time!

And as a special treat, we will be holding monster art making workshop later in the month with Worcester Artist, John Harding on Thurs 27th June.

Right, I'm off to skate on off into the glorious sunshine!

See You All Soon - *Coz Et Melo*

Photography by *Tim Borrow Feat Joby*

Add The BHG, Boars Head Gallery on facebook to see examples of my artwork, artwork of the others involved and upcoming events:

www.facebook.com/pages/The-BHG-Boars-Head-Gallery-Kidderminster/236156199742477

For information about The BHG and The Boars Head please visit our website: <http://www.boars-head-kidderminster.co.uk/>

For Gallery information please email Coz at gallery@boars-head-kidderminster.co.uk



NEW RELEASE

Mudball - The Gamer - available at www.mudballmusic.com

What is the digital equivalent of a "slab of vinyl slapped on the turntable"? "There's a tune in your Dropbox" sounds vaguely perverse; "MP3 blasting out of iTunes" evokes compression and hints at a brand that doesn't need our assistance.

Anyways, Mudball have a new single coming out. Due for release at the end of June, 'The Gamer' is a collaboration with London based label Raven Black Music having been scouted at the Exposure Music Awards (and featured on promo compilation Chaos & Glory - www.amazon.co.uk/gp/product/B006NIKKJE).

It's a good fit too - the powerful trio have been given confidence by the recognition and delivered a mighty fine rock single with just enough twist on the genre to stand out.



There's gigs to support the release too throughout June, starting and ending at Re-Con in Malvern (1st & 29th) and taking in the Crown Inn in Worcester (5th) and Base Studios in Stourbridge (28th).

Words Glazz

For more info: www.mudballmusic.com

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PREVIEW Blues at The Fold, Bransford - Saturday 6th July

Blues at The Fold Announcement goes for its Third Sellout! www.bluesatthefold.co.uk

Following very successful sellout festivals in 2011 and 2012, Worcester's only blues festival, Blues at The Fold has announced the line up for the 2013 festival on Saturday 6th July featuring a band most recently seen touring Europe supporting Deep Purple; one of the UK's best known swing blues players in the UK; one of the top New Orleans style bands, plus local star Sarah Warren playing an acoustic set and more.

The festival has gone from strength to strength since 2009, with the quality of the line up increasing every year. And following research from the attendees of 2012 we have adjusted the format by putting the festival completely under cover so it will be totally weather proof; reintroduced a dancy act at the end of the night so everyone can have a great dance; and introduced a wider range of food options, still local and largely organic.

Held at The Fold, Bransford, WR6 5JB, the festival, set up to bring a day of nationally acclaimed blues to the people of Worcestershire, but now attracting people from all over the country, combines the best music with delicious food and drink, creating a wonderful relaxed family-friendly atmosphere. Gates open at 1pm and the music runs from 2pm - 11pm.

So who will be playing this year?



Wille and the Bandits

On the bill we have Wille and the Bandits, voted in June 2012 by The Daily Telegraph as one of the top three live acts in the UK, the band has been asked by Joe Bonamassa and Deep Purple to open on their European tours. Closing the night with a party we have Ricky Cool & his All Star Band. Ricky has long been known as one of the best front men in the business, and his swing All Stars are sure to keep you dancing.

If you've enjoyed the visits of The Big Blues Tribe to Blues at The Fold then you're going to love Stomp & Holler as Oliver and Abby return with their new band that brings the dancefloors and swamps of New Orleans to Worcester. Steve Ajao has been amazing audiences for nearly 30 years with his growling voice and spectacular guitar technique.

Top local vocalist compared to the likes of Janis Joplin and Steve Marriott, Sarah Warren will be delivering an acoustic set and we'll also have The Swaps from Leamington Spa with their really interesting electro-acoustic sound.



Ricky Cool

Tickets can now be purchased online from www.bluesatthefold.co.uk, also from The Fold Cafe or by calling the Ticket Hotline on 01886-812989. Adult tickets are £13 (until 1/7/13), Under 12's tickets for £3 and Under 5's go free. There is also camping at £6 per head for people who want to make a real day of it.



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FEATURE SHAMBOLIX PRESENT - UNIVERUUUMMM



The new film Univeruuuumm by Carnie Film Production (Tom Lee Rutter essentially), is a collaboration between Carnie Films and Worcester based comedy troop The Shambollix that incredibly took a mere cluster of three weeks to make in it's entirety from conception to final piece. This short slice of surrealist psychedelic cinema visually has the hosts as little more than floating heads & hands & intermittently bombards you with kaleidoscopic imagery. It accurately conveys the message of deep meaningful self help tapes, meditating and hoping for the best & drinking ahem.. water memories. It focuses upon the ONLY new age God worth worshipping - SKY NIGEL! The high cosmic tapeworm of nihilism!

No! It has nothing to do with 'Universum', as that is of course 'a peer-reviewed academic journal specialising in social sciences and humanities of Latin America'. According to the oracle of all knowledge, Wikipedia, Univeruuuumm is a different kettle of trout, it dares take on the universe itself! In the name of high satire - why should 'it' get off scott free?

The Shambollix have successfully sent minds on a rocket propelled journey into the stratosphere faster then a particle fizzing through an expensive set of tunnels in the bowels of an Large Hadron Collider.

They have this to say on the film; "ummm".

When pressed to elaborate further (through imaginative torture), they gushed; *"The universal language most uttered by monks and soap dodgers alike, contrary to popular belief, is NOT 'Ommm' but 'Ummm'; a long and deep vegetative state of pondering, with no fixed answer which we gather fits in nicely with most new age beliefs & pseudosciences".*



..It's in G..

And a layered choir of our voices intoning the deepest open ended rhetorical mantras of all - "Why", "What", "How", "Is", "Ummm?". All arranged using the

modular synth app ReacTable on one of those fancy hipster black mirrors that some fools use for making calls. It is only when hounded constantly we agreed to do this interview. Now go away I have to use my phone."



To see what the fuss is about pop over to Carnie Film Production page here <http://carniefilms.blogspot.co.uk/> and click like on the ever modest Shambollix Facebook page here www.facebook.com/shambollixcabaret

Shambollix & Carnie Films have a multimedia show planned for late summer for the official release, where they invite everyone to join in celebrating the almighty Cult... um Church Of Sky Nigel. Check those links above for more news...

- not by Craigus Barry



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PREVIEW

Bright Side Music Promotions



Martyn Joseph

June 22nd Rowney Green Village Hall

With special guest Nathan Neely

A gifted guitar player with a juggernaut voice, Martyn has an enviable high-level connectivity with his audience whether it's an arts centre in his native Wales or a 5,000 strong crowd at the Royal Albert Hall.

Cardiff's charismatic and unstoppable Martyn Joseph (dubbed "The Welsh Springsteen") continues to garner fans everywhere with his uncanny melting pot of material of both robust and fragile songs – roots to rock, blues to jazz, Americana to folk.



The ever inspiring singer songwriter – in demand on both sides of the Atlantic – will return from another North American tour to launch into a spring tour of England and Scotland, kicking off with a capital performance at London's Green Note, taking in cities from Bath to York.

Martyn will be showcasing one of his most affecting albums to date *Songs for the Coming Home*, released last autumn.

For this tour Martyn will be joined by the American-born producer of *Songs for the Coming Home* – the UK based drummer and multi-instrumentalist Mason Neely, who has also worked with artists including Cerys Matthews.

Neely was responsible for the big, lush arrangements on *Songs for the Coming Home* which contrasted sharply with earlier sparse, stripped back albums. On the road they should prove a fascinating and organic partnership – with Joseph's gigs often a disarming rollercoaster ride and Mason excelling as a multi instrumentalist on any given night anything could happen!

www.martynjoseph.net

www.myspace.com/masonneely

Tickets please contact Erin Green of Bright Side Music Promotions on 07543 889 758 or info@brightsidemusic.co.uk

• Hear Martyn's acoustic version of album track *Beyond Us* <http://youtu.be/vJ5YRURqoBI>

PREVIEW THE ARTRIX BROMSGROVE

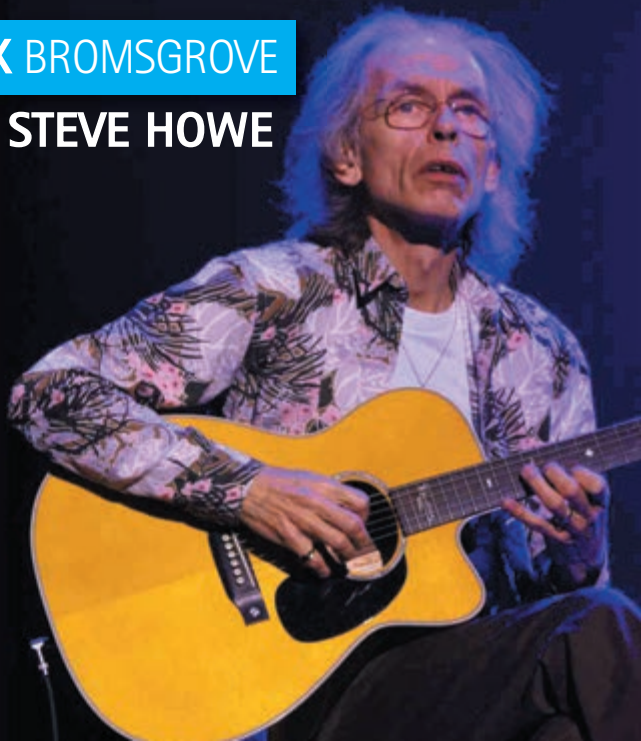
SATURDAY 15TH JUNE | STEVE HOWE

Guitar legend Steve Howe, whose career has spanned 40 years will perform at Artrix on Saturday 15th June 8pm

Steve, famous for playing in the bands, Yes, Asia and Tomorrow as well as having a highly successful solo career, will bring his unique style of blending Jazz, classical folk and country with rock and blues to his performance.

With so many accolades in his career such as "Best overall Guitarist" and an induction into the "Gallery of the greats" this is simply an amazing opportunity to see a guitar legend at work

Tickets are available at £20 from the box office on 01527-577330, or you can book online at www.artrix.co.uk.





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REVIEW Jasper In The Company Of Others - The Chestnut, Worcester 25th May

Wow what a very strange day and evening!! One of the main features of today's show was Jim Lowe's interview with **Jak Hayward** - ukulele player with Jasper who I really feel is the 'sound' of JITCOO - and I'd only just spotted that they were due to play that night at the Chestnut in Worcester - run now of course in his own inimitable style by Colin AKA 'Mad Pierre' (nice!)



This was the folksome foursome's third gig of the day having earlier played the Tall Ships Festival in Gloucester Docks and The Kemble Brewery in Cheltenham - so totally forgive them the slightly later-than-planned start...



But what a great set!! This bunch really know how to create that real feelgood and friendly vibe with classics like *Get That Feelin'* and *Heard It In Books* - along with newer sing/clap/boogie-along ditties like *Black Belt off* the new *'Dens & Diaries'* album - plus of course my own favourite *Say It's Greener* - just an almost-perfect piece of musicianship!!

Hadn't planned to get to this gig at all - but sometimes the ones that just leap out at you are the best - a sparkling band, wonderful crowd and a thoroughly heartwarming night!!

AOH

REVIEW Minifest 2013 - 30th June

Youthcomm Radio

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Presents - **BIG REUNION** at MINIFEST 2013
Cripplegate Park, Worcester

YOUTHCOMM RADIO
106.7FM | youthcomm.co.uk

Youthcomm Radio's Minifest, Worcester's stand-out music and community event returns 30th June. This year the event follows the current music trend of reunions and comebacks, by the likes of bands Five, 911 and Blue. By providing Worcester with its very own 'Big Reunion', reuniting for the first time since their song 'Babycakes' reached Number 1 in the UK charts back in 2004, 'One Hit Wonders', Three of a Kind will be performing at this year's Minifest for the first time in 8 years.



"Were so excited to get back together and show Worcester what we've got" said Nicholas from Three of a Kind, "I'm nervous and excited, feels like the good old days" added Liana from the group. "We just want to give Worcester the best performance we can and comeback with a bang!" stated the group.

Not only has Youthcomm Radio managed to get Three of a Kind back to together, this year's event includes arguably the best music line-up Minifest has ever assembled. Including Lauren Wright, who recently supported One Direction and can be heard on Radio 1. She'll be joined by Time of the Mouth, arguably one of Worcester's biggest bands, who are currently supporting The Who. Hype-O, known for his many BBC introducing appearances, as well as several music videos which can be seen on national television. The Pin-Ups, who came 4th in Open Mic UK at London's O2 Arena, and have delighted audiences across the UK, the group also contain two Ex-X factor talents. Worcester favourites Ronin will also be making a rare appearance by returning to the event as headliners.

Youthcomm Radio consultant Muff Murfin had this to say, "The young people at Youthcomm Radio have really been working hard to get this year's event together, and I guarantee this years will be better than ever. We all know Minifest is always a landmark event in the Worcester calendar and this year is no different. Minifest always offers the people of Worcester something different as it's the only event which embraces and brings together the connection of the great music, the local community, local businesses and youth in the area."

To keep up to date with all the latest announcements and updates for Minifest keep listening to Youthcomm Radio 106.7Fm and check out the Facebook and Twitter pages.

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/youthcommradio>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ycradio>

If you're a local business or enterprise wishing to take part in this year's Minifest please contact David Wooldridge at davidwooldridge@live.co.uk

by Dom Beale

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REVIEW BANGOR ON DEE BLUES FESTIVAL | 10-11TH MAY



BABAJACK

Bangor Blues and beer festival attracts high quality bands from within the UK and from the US. Friday evening and opening band was programmed for Babajack, now with full national recognition for their style of roots blues. Babajack's 'Moneys All Gone' exploded over the gathered listeners as they opened. If they had not seen Babajack before, they would remember them this weekend. 'Death Letter Blues' is firmly embedded in their play list, and is always a joy to hear. As is 'Hammer and Tongs', a chance to hear Trev giving full attention to his harp. A standing ovation and a final blast with 'Sticks and Stones'. Nobody would have complained if they had played on and they are always a hard act to follow, reflected in their having 5 industry selected nominations for 2013 awards.



BLUES BOY DAN

The stage is given over to local legend, Blues Boy Dan. Having been taken under the wing of Mick Fleetwood, been to Nashville and played with some of the great and good, jammed with Willie Nelson at his 80th, and appeared on Andrew Marr's TV show. He is a name to watch. This 'boy' plays with incredible maturity & real soul.

Last up for Friday, all the way from Indiana was the Rev. Peytons Big Damn Band. Full on hillbilly style blues, delivered in a punk fashion, in your face. The good Rev. brings his unique slant on blues and and likes to debunk the many myths surrounding the 'blues guitar'. Playing a variety of unique resonators and a cardboard cigar box 3 string, 'Ma Ma's Fried Potatoes', is manic, wonderful!

Alongside this finger pickin, fret sliding, maelstrom is Breezy, she plays a washboard fingered with red, thimble gloves. Never still for a moment she is the perfect foil for the heavily bearded woodsman opposite, assisted ably by drummer Aaron. This is a frenetic but skilled and very

effective performance; a great show closer for Friday night.

Saturday sees 'Swampcandy', bringing Mississippi Delta Blues to the stage, delivering many of their own songs in a mainly traditional blues style. Excellent and I recommend looking on the tube for Swampcandy and 'Drink Whisky With Me', not truly blues, but very nice and worth a viewing!

Spikedrivers, a colourful lively band, delivering a softer version of blues and gospel and none the worse for that. They opened in vocal harmony with a gospel song and gave a varied style of blues playing, from Robert Johnson through to Zeppelin. Particularly impressive was a bit of 12 string with slide.



BLUES'N'TROUBLE

Steve Roux and The Brass Knuckle band brought Sax, trumpet, lead and bass guitars, keyboards and of course drums. Steve's band is more the Stevie Ray Vaughan style of electric blues, with a big dose of brass.

'Black Cat Bone', and a New Orleans style 'Sick and Tired' stood out demonstrating the undoubted qualities of this top draw UK blues band.

Scottish, 'Blues'N'trouble', play a nicely varied set, bits of traditional blues, boogie woogie, jazz and rock and roll. Gritty vocals, nice harmonica, and a wicked looking guitar made for a really enjoyable performance and there was dancing in the aisles (albeit beer assisted) .



LARRY MCCRAY

Last but not least, all the way from the USA Larry McCray, Larry is a big bear of man and plays wonderful, electric blues, funk and rock on his Gibson. Accompanied by his brothers on Bass and drums.

WORDS & PHOTOS BY GRAHAM MUNN

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Clod Ensemble and Fuel present

Zero



Commissioned by Sadler's Wells and Brighton Festival in partnership with South East Dance.
Produced in association with Fuel

A turbulent mix of dance, music and visual theatre
featuring legendary harmonica-playing Bluesman Johnny Mars and
trombonist Annie Whitehead

Fri 7th June, 7.45pm

Box Office:

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malvern-theatres.co.uk



PREVIEW – Clod Ensemble presents - Zero - June 7th Malvern Theatre

Powerful contemporary performance featuring an original blues-inspired score produced in association with Fuel.

A few weeks ago I made my way to Stratford Circus to see the dress rehearsal of Clod Ensembles biggest show to date 'Zero'. Clod Ensemble has been making performance work that pushes the boundaries between art forms for over 15 years. I had seen the trailer, as myself and Stephanie Cumbley, Malvern theatre marketing and promotion have been engaged as Local Engagement Specialists by the production company 'Fuel' that 'produce fresh work for adventurous people by inspiring artists'. We're here to shout about the shows they produce and find innovative ways to inspire people to go and see something new and exciting.



The press release describes Zero as turbulent mix of dance, music and visual theatre. A world where nothing is certain, where women can be tigers and men snakes and where families, marriages and friendships are laced with sibling rivalries, frustrated desires and murderous ambitions. Visceral and emotional, Zero features an explosive cast of eleven performers and seven musicians - all at the mercy of the stormy weather.



The piece draws on an eclectic range of references - from legendary theatre teacher Jacques Lecoq's observation that 'everything moves', to the Blues, to Hurricane Katrina and King Lear - all contained within Clod Ensemble's distinctive aesthetic frame.

Legendary harmonica-playing Bluesman Johnny Mars and trombonist Annie Whitehead join Paul Clark's exemplary band of musicians. The band takes to the stage

to play a set of original bittersweet songs, with lyrics written by Clark and queer New Yorker Peggy Shaw - "the kitchen walls are bleeding", "there's a cow on the rooftop" and "Daddy, how much do you love me" - to create a distinctive, unclassifiable sound that draws on blues, punk, jazz and electronica.

I am shouting about it because Zero is an extraordinary piece. The intensity and diversity of the dancers and musicians create a world that is playful, turbulent and beautiful. It has the capacity to immerse its audience within a world soaked in blues and Jazz. As I sat on the train back from London I felt as though I had traveled to the deep south of America and experienced walking and dancing in the lives of the people who might live there. I can only say that I am very excited to be able to experience it again at Malvern Theatre for the last performance on June 7th. There will also be a free post show theatre review night hosted by Maddy Costa, writer for the Guardian at The Grove in Malvern on Monday 10th June from 7.30-9. If you get to see Zero, please come along and share your thoughts.

Michelle Pogmore

Artistic Director/performer RedDress Theatre

www.reddresstheatre.co.uk

www.thegrovemalvern.co.uk





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22nd June to 13th July 2013

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SAM HOMES - **BECKY ROSE** - **ABBEY INEZ** - **EMMA ROSS**

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SPA-TONE CHOIR AND **SARAH WARREN ACOUSTIC DUO**.

The summer music and arts festival is becoming stronger each year and is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year and has attracted the BBC presents stage on 22nd June to feature local performers and unsigned artists. This year includes the first ever Droitwich Spa Food & Drink Event, together with many varied arts / live performances throughout the whole three weeks.

OUTLINE SCHEDULE

22nd June	All over town Victoria Square	Food & Drink Festival - 10:00 - 20:00 Main Stage - 10:30 - 21:00
	Gurneys Lane	Acoustic Main Stage - 10:30 - 17:00
29th June	Parks Café	Lit Live - Daytime : 10:00-16:00 Evening : 18:00-21:30
	St Andrews Shopping Centre	Music Showcase : 10:00 - 17:00
6th July	Spa Methodist Church	Concert : Spa-Tone Choir & Blue Mondays Jazz Quartet Plus Special Guest TBC see www.droitwichspa.com for details.
13th July	All over town Old Library St Andrews Shopping Centre The Norbury Theatre	Arts for all - All Day Arts for all - 'Have a go' Clubs & Societies Showcase Music Showcase : 9:30 - 14:30 Music & Theatre : 11:00 - 16:00 Festival Show : Starts at 19:15 Rock Choir, Charlie Green & Sarah Warren Duo

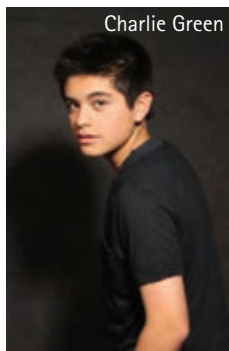
See www.droitwichspa.com for latest details & Booking for shows

PREVIEW Droitwich Spa Summer Festivals 22nd June to 13th July 2013

The Music & Arts Festival 10th Anniversary

This year kicks off on 22nd June, with a large Main stage area in **Victoria Square** 10.30 to 21.00, promoting some of the youngest and most outstanding up and coming musicians and artists in the region, enhanced by the **BBC Hereford & Worcester Radio** having a Presents stage in the afternoon. Later in the day established professionals will be taking to the stage, celebrating their own individual brands in music. There's an Acoustic stage which will be up and running for the day from 10.30 in **Gurney Lane**, giving a sample of Worcestershires 's best solo singer/songwriters and duo's – even a trio, of superb talent.

There will be other events on the Saturdays in the Festival dates being: 29th June, **Lit Live** – a day of Poetry and Music; 6th July – **Arts in View** at the Old Library, local clubs & societies in **Arts and Crafts** will show 'what they can do', so come and see them in action; 19th July – **Arts 4 All Day**, to showcase the talents of our local artists, craft clubs and societies together



Charlie Green

with musicians in the daytime in the **Spa centre** and **Norbury Theatre**. Finally culminating in a **Gala Show** in the **Norbury** featuring the **Spa's own Charlie Green, Worcestershire Rock Choir** together with the outstanding **Sarah Warren** Acoustic session supported by local **Nick Lyndon**.

The whole three weeks Festival will display the various art forms, with **Droitwich Spa Arts Trail**, Library events, **Pirate Trips** on the **Spa's Pamela May** boat, Exhibitions, **Musicals / Films / Dance** and **Drama** in the **Norbury Theatre**, **Classical** concert, **Celebration Dinner**, the **Methodist 75th Year Celebration**, **Norbury Summer Ball**, **'00' Experience** at the **Chateau Hotel**, **Treasure Hunt**, **Jazz** at **Gaudet Luce Golf club**, see the **Mosaics** at the **Sacred Heart Church**, **Bands** in the **Park** –every Sunday afternoon, and the **Pubs & club Fest** running throughout the Festival dates.

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Sarah Warren

PREVIEW Stomp & Holler album launch - The Marrs Bar - Sat 1th5 June

When it comes to strange album titles '**Dr Diddy's Patent Groove Grease**' must come somewhere near the top of the pile. This new album being launched by **Stomp & Holler** is filled with the street sounds and swamp grooves reminiscent of New Orleans blues.

Featuring Worcester's **Oliver Carpenter** on vocals and trumpet, six piece **Stomp & Holler** draws on some of the best Midlands musicians to create a big, bold blues sound with a broad range of musical colour led by strong brass and three vocalists taking the lead on different tracks. Mix that with some outrageously unusual rhythms and grooves and you get '**Groove Grease**'.

"The album features ten tracks, some ours, some unknown and a couple of reworked traditional songs, to create a colourful, cohesive and unusual album building on the vocal and rhythmic strengths of the band," said **Oliver**. "We chose to launch the album at **The Marrs Bar** because its always been a really good venue for us with some fabulous nights there over the years particularly with **The Big Blues Tribe**."

As well as **Oliver**, the band also features the vocals and piano of **Abby Brant**, who has recently been touring with

Jasper Carrott and **Bev Bevan** (**ELO**) on the **Made in Brum** theatre tour, **Chris Lomas** on bass, **Martin Ball** on drums, **John Sanderson** on saxes and **Lee Evans** on guitars.

"**Stomp and Holler** really took off earlier in the year with a tour of Midlands theatres and the call was for an album," continued **Oliver**. "So over the last two months we've been in the studio recreating the ambience and tension of the live performances."

The launch night – **The Marrs Bar**, **Pierpoint Street**, **Worcester** – is on **Saturday 15th June**, doors open at 8pm, band on stage at 9pm. Tickets (£7) available from **The Marrs Bar** or www.marrsbar.co.uk. For more information on **Stomp & Holler** check out www.stompandholler.co.uk



REVIEW THE BLUES BAND | THE ARTRIX | 8th May



Here once more at the Artrix, who are hosting what has become a regular visit from The Blues Band. What I might ask, can I add to the well documented biography of this mature and skilled gang of Blues practitioners.

Paul Jones, he of the Monday night Radio 2 slot, a near encyclopaedic knowledge of the Blues world. Who's playing where, and who's no

longer playing at all. All this, and he still finds time to tour, either with this band or parts thereof, a fine harmonica player, singing and playing since the early 60's. (that means he is actually older than me)

through the late 50's, early 60's, listening to those same Blues legends as this stalwart band.

Having said all that, I confess to doing much the same (not 50's). We are all here because these guys can still do the business, well trodden blues songs, some roots, some self penned, all played with enthusiasm and finely honed artistry. Paul, Dave and Tom tell their tales of paths crossed, stages played and the availability of their numerous CD's, as individuals, or variously formed bands, outside, for sale, in the foyer.

This is a recurring theme between songs, thankfully done with a large dose of banter and humour. Unlike many musicians of their stature, they also are in the foyer, yes to sell, always to sign, and find a bit more time to share a joke and a bit of chat. The queue was long,

"...well trodden blues songs, some roots, some self penned, all played with enthusiasm and finely honed artistry..."

sales no doubt as good as ever, and a lot of happy people. They were here to see and listen to one of the UK's most popular Blues bands, maybe to take back a few souvenirs.

A small diversion from the play list as the second set opens, Its a request from a member of the audience. Enter Paul Jones, no accompaniment, he sings 'Miss Otis Regrets', the packed auditorium didn't, regret that is, and the show moved on, all take a turn on vocal leads, with the exception of drummer, Rob. Plenty of Blues, a bit of gospel, a bit of Rock & Roll in 'Shake rattle and Roll', and one I particularly enjoyed, apparently from their 'Cross Borders' DVD, 'Lets Talk It Over.

The Blues Band, no doubt will be back, this audience will be back, and so will I. The Artrix as ever, attract fine bands, who know they will play to full houses, its arguably the outstanding theatre venue in our area, meeting the demand for top performances whatever the show.

e Z'Na' [SZtZaLg 8' KSKX @cYY



Dave Kelly, one of the finest exponents of the Blues guitar complete with slide. Another man who can dig down to the roots of blues, he has played with the greats, Muddy Waters, Howlin Wolf and John Lee Hooker. The man's got provenance!

Tom McGuinness, he's played with Clapton in Eric's early years, Manfred Mann (as did Paul of course) McGuinness Flint, and later joined Paul to form this band.

Rob Townsend, another man rooted in the 60's, drummed with Roger Chapman's 'Family', Medicine Head, and has toured with Duane Eddy. Gary Fletcher, the apparent 'baby' of the band, he has been a workman bassist over many years, had played alongside Dave in bands, and was asked along to join The Blues Band.

None of the above need an introduction, they have been around a long time, and not surprisingly, the audience, a sell out, also tend to be of a certain age. They know what to expect, are prepared to pay for it, and they know they will go home with a satisfied grin.....and maybe a few CD's. They will also be back next time, many grew up



REVIEW BLEECH & VAULT OF EAGLES - THE SUNFLOWER LOUNGE BIRMINGHAM - 27th April



In Birmingham, it seems of late, people have fallen for the local scene and the area has become a hive of 'hype' and excitement. The Sunflower Lounge in the city center is one of those venues noted as being part of that scene playing host to some of Birmingham's darlings before they became public knowledge. Always a great venue and tonight local grunge heavy Vault Of Eagles open for three piece East London band BLEECH.

As the small room steadily packed out Vault Of Eagles' heavy sound and powerful delivery of songs 'Fracture' 'Chains' and 'Insanity' from their latest EP raise the bar above and beyond. Unleashing new material with an expanding diverse set list and some awesome performances under their belts over 2013, i'm sure VoE will get some good love and vibes, like they did tonight, from their June tour with woo band Mansize in Europe.

Similarity between the two bands stops at consisting of the same three piece line up. BLEECH's hard and heavy songs are a mixture of indie rock and pop bringing together some super heavy guitar and riffs for a very loud and energetic performance by Jen-guitar/vox, Katherine-bass/vox and Matt-drums/vox. BLEECH are a band who have clearly perfected their sound and delivery into something catchy and very much their own. Drawing you into their infectious persona confidently shouting they know what they're doing and what they want to blow you away.

words - Fanny Adams. | photos - Toni Charles.



REVIEW BROOK SHARKEY TRIO - THE MARRS BAR - SUNDAY 19TH MAY

I was encouraged to go and see Brooke Sharkey as my better half had spotted her on a you tube clip years previous and been captivated by her mix of French folk and enthralling song writing.

I'll be honest, I was not sure that it was going to be my cup of tea; folk is not my music of choice though when Brooke's voice flowed after several minutes of her trio being on stage on that quiet Sunday night, I felt goose bumps from head to toe! There were moments of a Twin Peaks-esque strange bar scenario, glimpses of Edith Piaf and some gypsy guitar riffs as she bounced from English to French, delicate yet fiery. One double base, two electric guitars and Brooke's incredibly moving voice is all that is needed to silence the whole room and at times, put a tear to my eye, touching the hearts and emotions of all who watch her eerie and captivating sound, complimenting the and fabulous double base and guitar rhythms.

Her roots are in busking and they are seen on the streets of London regularly as well as all over the world. She will be touring the UK with her band in venues throughout the month of May before heading to tour the festivals in UK and Europe and a month tour in France.

The Brooke Sharkey Trio are humble and addictive. Check them out if you can. - KATE COX

'Brook has an incredible voice, amazing control and grace'

-The Observer

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REVIEW JOHN GRANT BIRMINGHAM INSTITUTE — THE LIBRARY MAY 9TH 2013

John Grant is responsible for two of my favourite albums of recent years (maybe of all time) – 2010's 'Queen Of Denmark' and this year's 'Pale Green Ghosts' which entered the 'real' album charts at number 16. After a few 'wilderness' years, he's a critics darling, a startlingly candid interviewee, and can now add commercial success to his CV.

From a strict Methodist upbringing in Michigan, the Grant family turned Southern Baptist when they relocated to Denver. Growing up gay, John loved his older brothers' taste in music (Aerosmith, Van Halen etc.) but it was Abba that made the biggest impression on the young man. Going to nightclubs, he immersed himself in 80's synth & electronica, became a linguistics expert in German & Russian (living in Germany aged 20), suffered severe depression (he's still on medication now), yet somehow formed critically acclaimed band The Czars, releasing five albums before internal relationship problems split them up after the ironically named 'Goodbye' in 2004. Fellow musicians Midlake bought John out of retirement, backed him on the lush, 70's inspired 'Queen Of Denmark' and here we are now ...

'Pale Green Ghosts' continues lyrically where 'QOD' left off (indeed, some of the bile is still directed at his ex, whose ears must be on fire by now), yet musically a different beast altogether. Recorded in Reykjavik with Gus Gus's main man Biggi Veira, it's a masterstroke in vintage sounding 80's synth pop, yet utterly contemporary. On this tour, John is backed by a full band of mainly Icelandic musicians and, at The Institute, played nothing short of a blinder.

Opening with the slow brooding 'You Don't Have To', the sound is immaculate, John's voice upfront & sounding beautiful, its deep baritone resonating through the packed venue. It was 'Pale Green Ghosts' highlight 'It Doesn't Matter To Him' with John seated at a piano that first made my tear ducts quiver, followed by 'Marz' from the first album, one of THE best songs I've ever heard, and the one that hooked me in the first place. Stunning. The set comprised of all tracks on 'PGG' with choice selections from 'QOD', introduced by Grant with humour & pathos, referencing Frida from Abba's bizarre handclapping style (arms straight out full length at shoulder height which he performs beautifully during 'I Hate This Town'), his HIV diagnosis, a story about his meeting with Ernest Borgnine when he worked

as a waiter ("Not a waitress, and not in a cocktail bar") and some choice language. Indeed, both albums contain tracks that could not be played on daytime radio due to what I can only describe as some eloquent profanities, used perfectly in context. 'Sigourney Weaver' from 'QOD' is another delight, written about his genuine feeling of being 'different' growing up, likening it to how she must have felt battling aliens in the films.

It's difficult to select other highpoints as it was a set full of them, but a special mention must go to 'Queen Of Denmark' itself, a direct diatribe against his former lover and one of the most powerful 'fuck you's' committed to record. Check out the version from earlier this year with Sinead O'Connor (who provides backing vocals on a few 'Pale Green Ghosts' tracks) on YouTube – to describe it as powerful does not do it justice.

So, I was really looking forward to this 'gig' and still left surprised at just how great it was. With the piano ballad 'Where Dreams Go To Die' and high energy style 'Sensitive New Age Guy', John Grant is the only performer who has reminded me of both Nilsson & Sylvester in the same show. In fact, I messaged him with this comment on Facebook, and I got "What a wonderful compliment, thank you Bryan!" back from the man himself, followed by a smiley face. What a bloke, what a gig.

Words - Baz Bojak.

Photo - paulbroome - www.broomephotomusic.co.uk





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NEW RELEASE - James Burnham - First Green To Gold

James Burnham is a multi-instrumentalist composer from Malvern, who you may have seen playing fiddle for Jack Raven's band amongst others. When we use the term composer, in this instance it is by no means an exaggeration as every offering here brims with dynamic arrangement & texture that is usually to be found on immersive film scores. On opener 'Tears Of A Storm' swells of his trademark strings sit side by side with

both feature snaking stand up bass), things take a more gentle tangent with a musique concrete score in it's own right 'Swallow' where fiddle returns to the foreground with the hiss of analogue tape adding atmosphere.

The scope of instrumentation throughout the remainder of this foray into world music composition is as ambitious as it is challenging with harmonica treated with long space echoes, vibes, flute (which is in itself performed with virtuoso breathy quality on 'Amour Vecu'), brass stabs, both electric & upright basses, sitar, harmonium & I swear I heard a Cymbalom (the middle eastern tinged raga esq' 'Deep Flow', the more Dead Can Dance influenced 'Dream Fusion' and the rich dirty Three tinged 'Late Night Groove' also shows James is a deft hand at Mick Harvey), plus an multitude of percussive shapes, cymbals, even finger clicks adding to the diversity.



James Burnham
First green to gold

synth/key treatments and live percussion, occasional horns and punctuated by wobbling tabla washes. Tears has an instantly defined middle eastern edge hinting towards the infusions to be found on Bonobo's 'Black Sands'. Things take on a more roots folk feel moving on to 'Morgana', with fiddle taking more of a grittier lead roll reminiscent of Angelo Badalamenti's score to the film *The Straight Story* or a rawer Penguin Caffe Orchestra. James chiefly deals in electric fiddle which affords him to stand out from other players particularly when deftly deploying EQ and generous doses of wah wah. By no means too smooth a ride, each of these musical tapas presented has it's own unexpected twists and turns that can divert from genre to genre at the drop of a single hook on a given piece taking you from spacey dub with inflections of fuzzy distant lead to beds of gentle arpeggios seething up from the ether. After two dub laden excursions ('Golden Light' & 'The Struggle' which

Perhaps one slight criticism would be the length of certain tracks as some of the shorter pieces are concisely woven together and this can be an issue with digital albums exceeding the recommended dose of an traditional LP.

Equally though this represents the sheer expanse of ideas on show here. But James has plans to gig these compositions with a live band using the hooks & melodies for lengthy improvisations that will if anything enhance the eclectic ambition that is admirably confidently portrayed here. In addition from this tour de force James has a remix EP of the album by London artist *Rootzu* which perfectly complements the open ended nature of these compositions.

All in all '*First Green To Gold*' is nothing short of a sublime triumph of production and confidently eclectic playing.

by Craigus barry

First Green To Gold can be found here

<http://routenote.com/r/freakeysounds/5051813855948#>

and Rootzu's remixes can be found here

<http://routenote.com/r/freakeysounds/5051813902093>

REVIEW EMBRACE THE CHAOS - Worcester Arts Workshop - 4th May 2013

Embrace the Chaos are creating quite a stir around these parts of late, apart from the chaotic way they breeze from venue to venue, they are actually putting on some bloody good shows. Non more so than their recent visit to the Arts Workshop, a perfect venue for Ricky Mason and his crew...



The first act was a certain Jimi Lovridge who captivated the audience with some stylish takes on songs like 'Oliver's Army' and 'Let it Be' which impressed; but a swing version of 'Umbrella' took me by a pleasant surprise. With the usual 'chaos' that goes with these gigs, Jimi was allowed extra minutes to treat us to a first time out tune, a very different version of 'Life on Mars', Bloody excellent!

Next up, Retinal Circus with a heavy mix of Shambolix thrown in for good measure! 'Melissa's World' drew me



in and left me thinking, am I just in a good mood and grinning inanely for no reason, or is this really good? I don't often get excited about 'comedy music' so it must be good, right? In true chaotic

style though, 'every now and then they fall apart', a total eclipse of the art!

Preaching to an already cybernation about cyber stuff by someone called Cyberstan sounds like rubbish. But despite dressing like Robocop and dancing like David Brent on an unclassified substance, its not rubbish at all, its brilliant! With a, dare I say it, prevalent Depeche Mode



stylee culmination of sound, I was all for extermination of any god damn virus coming our way!

There ain't much one can say about Johnny Kowalski and the Sexy Weirdos that I and many others haven't said before so I'm simply gonna say 'entertainment personified'. We were even treated to a newby song in 'Nail Biter'. So it just leaves me to say - 'Johnny, get your kit off!'



We were later exposed to the lovely Glow People. With instrumental soundscapes of psychedelic rock fused with Latin beats, they filled the room with a dance feel punctuated with intricate and possibly unrepeatable timing changes. A rather warm glow indeed.

Headliners Mansize take to the stage and they somehow captured the spirit of the whole event with an unsurpassed wall of chaotic noise using the full range of sounds available to them. Even screaming out a 'new one' as an encore (the track name fails me but who cares?). This band are not just a pretty face trust me...



A superb day for just a fiver finishing with Carnie Films Presents - *Feast for the Beast!* And so until the next time we Embrace the Chaos... This is the reason why we support local Arts and Performers! - Ed

One blink and the month has passed. As normal we've been extremely busy over at Circuit Sweet HQ. Last month we were celebrating our fourth anniversary, and we were celebrating hard! But there's no rest for the wicked. Our facebook page has received a ton of new likes, and for that we thank you all for your continued support. We've been offering plenty of competitions to win some amazing products from our online store. Our website found at www.circuitsweet.co.uk has been ridiculously busy with constant activity.

In last month's Slap article we spoke about 1/2 of Circuit Sweet's involvement with local music charity **Music Pool** and their moniker **Livewire's** Easter performance at Hereford's finest venue **The Jailhouse**. Since then The Music Pool have also been joining us with their celebrations. Incredibly they have just passed 25 years of their fantastic charity here in Hereford - uniting music lovers, The Music Pool held a successful fundraising evening at Lyde Court on Friday 10th May. Which brings us to tell all of our local loved readers about Lyde Court. Circuit Sweet had the absolute pleasure in having a lovely tour of Hereford's **Lyde Court** and without a doubt, after falling in love with the quaint venue can only urge you all to participate and visit the venue amongst their wide array of live talent being held most weeks. Lyde Court is a unique Herefordshire venue for weddings, parties, cabaret, music and functions. Throughout June Lyde Court are hosting a wide range of live events with acts such as **Martin Alvarado** - as part of his international tour your chance to hear the unforgettable tenor voice of Argentina's finest Tango Artist. June also brings **Hereford Soul Choir** to the venue. We were given a tour and not even realizing what is on our doorstep - all we can do is urge you to support this venue and their thriving live events.

Apart from our visit here, locally we've had a quiet month believe it or not. We were sad to hear Leeds based label **Brew Records** - after 6 years and 27 releases Leeds noise/prog/rock label, have decided to call it a day. Brew was home to the likes of **These Monsters** who in the past have put on a brilliant show at The Jailhouse in Hereford, and home to **Humanfly** who have only just graced Worcester. A label whose plethora of talented acts have played local gigs throughout Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Gloucestershire over the last few years and we hope these acts can find suitable homes as soon as possible so they can return to our venues and entertain us some more. We were thrilled to hear local act **Weathered Hands** announce a European tour and sign to **IATDE Records**. The band will be holding an EP release show in Hereford on June 25th at **The Herdsman** with **Crooks** band, the incredible **Black Art** (who you are about to hear a lot from), **Rails** and **Negative/Mindset**.

Easter Sunday (what feels like a lifetime ago now) we traveled to Worcester to **The Pig and Drum** for **Embrace the Chaos'** all day which featured our good friends **Alright The Captain** who travelled all the way from Nottingham. Our website this month has featured an EP review from the trio for their latest release. **Alright the Captain**, hardly need an introduction. A valued, loved and familiar name to Circuit Sweet. An act we urge all to listen to and fall in love with.

Individually, the musicians making up **ATC** are ridiculously talented- together the talent is unreal. Without a doubt **Alright The Captain** are **THE Hardest** working band in the UK. When not booking their own gigs and tours, UK and Euro based, the band's guitarist books other bands under the moniker of **Button Pusher** - and helps keep their local live scene thriving bringing in touring acts from afar and playing alongside DIY acts from their Nottingham hometown and deserving artists based elsewhere in England. Their bassist creating all the bands artwork/design being done in-house. **Alright the Captain** represents true hardworking passionate touring musicians. Dedicated to their love of music and uniting people with the love they share. The 3 piece instrumental math rock post rockers consist of **Marty Toner** on Guitar, **Todd Wood** on Bass and drummer **Jamie Cattermole** also of **Cheap Jazz** who stepped in from their original member **Ash West-Mullen**-who still has his creative input on the band (more so on their new EP). Out May 18th this EP will propel the three into a new, deserved direction and continue to honor their work with a plethora of fantastic reviews and more live dates. Frankly a fantastic follow up to their debut and one they should be incredibly proud of. They've matured as a band and from this they should receive a lot more opportunities. To capture their essence onto a record and be next to perfect is a credit to all involved. An instrumental act with a lot of visions but creating something of their own. This band are in their own league and this latest release will show the credit rightfully due. -To find out more of our thoughts on the EP make sure you visit our website under the tab reviews!! Here you will also find our live features and photography.

With the next month we are eagerly anticipating the countdown to **Worcester Music Festival** which we can confirm our own act **Aulos** will be playing- more details of their headlining WMF show will be announced in due course on our facebook page alongside some exclusive's we have the honor in hosting. June also see's us in the company of the legendary **Blondie**, very exciting. And apart from that and our continuing feed of music news, reviews and introducing posts we are still booking gig photography slots and music videography. We are also back on **The M J Price Moment** which showcases the best music and conversation live on **Purple Radio**. You can tune in Sunday 2nd June, 16th June and 30th June to hear **Circuit Sweet** have a little radio takeover where we talk about our best band/act of that fortnight. Make sure you listen in on www.purple-radio.co.uk between 9pm and 11pm.

Be sure to keep an eye on our facebook page and twitter [@circuitsweet](https://twitter.com/circuitsweet) for up to date news, reviews, interviews and gig photography plus lots more. If you are based in Herefordshire and we've missed you out receiving **SLAP** mag each month and you would like to stock **SLAP**, put your release in our online store, 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.

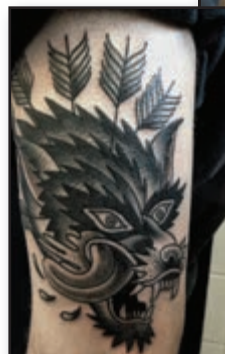
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REVIEW Martin Turner's Wishbone Ash at the Robin 2, Bilston - May 15th 2013



Getaway Club got the evening under way with a short set of their own brand of funky rock tracks. This Walsall-based quartet have received a great deal of positive acclaim and it was easy to see why. They had an easy but energetic style about them and I'd be very surprised if more wasn't heard about them in the coming months. Vocalist Leah Astbury had a very slick delivery and was supported very well by the guitar of Andy Smith, bass of Jack Foster and drums of Mitchell Vaughan.

Wishbone Ash was formed 44 years ago by Martin Turner and Steve Upton and it's fair to say there have been some changes since albums such as 'Argus' and 'Pilgrimage' were released in the early part of the 1970's. This version of the band was assembled by Martin Turner in 2004 and currently consists of Martin Turner on bass as



well as delivering lead vocals, Dave Wagstaffe on drums, Ray Hatfield on vocals/guitar and, the comedian of the band Danny Wilson, also supplying vocals and guitar.

Martin Turner was part of the original Wishbone Ash line-up until 1980 and it was this early period that spawned what are almost certainly the best known albums, many of which were sampled tonight. As might be expected anything from 'Argus' was received with much enthusiasm from the fans and right on cue the evening kicked off with 'The King will Come' from that very album. A further half dozen or so songs extracted from five albums took us through the 45 minute first set all too quickly. Following a short break the second set got under way with songs from 'Wishbone Ash' and 'Wishbone 4' followed by further contributions from 'Argus' and an unscheduled version of 'Persephone' from the 1974 album 'There's the Rub'.



Throughout the two sets Martin provided plenty of banter with the crowd, it's just a shame that he admitted to being a Chelsea supporter, while Danny Wilson clowning around and pulled faces worthy of a Spitting Image character. Both Danny and Ray are very accomplished guitarists and play off each other extremely well; all highly entertaining stuff and well worth going to see.

To round off the night I was able to scrounge the only available set-list from Martin Turner, after he'd finished signing CD's & books and posed for fan photo's, complete with the hand-written lyrics to 'Right or Wrong' - jotted down apparently in case he had a memory lapse. As we were leaving he also told my wife she had nice hair and kissed her hand; you've really gotta watch those smooth buggers!

Words & Photography Reg Richardson

REVIEW OPM & STIFF JOINTS @ The Boars Head Kidderminster - 26th May 2013

By the time you read this the memory of the May bank holiday is still fresh in your mind. Hopefully it was a lot like mine and consisted of looking at cool things in arty places, half pipes, so-cal vibes and all things skate board related. All rolled into a 90's nostalgic skate inspired package, culminating in an evening of music and laid back vibes courtesy of Californian alt rockers **OPM!** And it seems they bought with them some sunshine perfect for the local

skate boarders who set up out side **The Boars Head** in Kidderminster for the afternoon. Thanks to the guys at **BHG** as part of their new installation. The 'Skateboard Museum' launch was filled with skate inspired art. Some vintage and rare boards and some amazing



memorabilia from skater **Jim Cook** and **Joby Adams**, a **Gnar Gore** skater, along side pieces

donated by other local skaters dating from the 70s. In conjunction with the music event down stairs it was good to see a collaboration of both coming together and it seems that the **OPM** crew thought so too by getting involved with all the excitement.



Later in the day **Stiff Joints** took to the stage and played an immense set. As per usual for these guys, it goes without saying, they always bring a great dancing and singing atmosphere to any gig. clearly relishing in the opportunity to open up for **OPM** tonight. Playing songs from their **Rowdy & Stoned** ep. You could not have picked a better band for tonight's proceedings. Also i must mention that this brave bunch appear in the **WMF's** calender so get your order in now girls!



So what brings the southern Californian musicians **OPM** here to play such an intimate venue as the boars head? having played in a number of venues across the country on their European tour, tonight they're here in Kidderminster this time next week they'll be in Germany. With their reggae, hip hop, ska with a punk edge its not hard to imagine that tonight was an extremely lively and memorable gig for everyone who attended and the band. The crowd went mental for every song.... 'Brighter' 'Runaway' 'El Capitan' 'Eternity' and a well placed cover of the clash song 'Should I Stay Or Should I Go' to name a few. singing got louder, dancing got faster and the bands smiles got bigger. The crowd were won over long before the



chords to 'Heaven Is A Half pipe' were played loving every minute they were on stage. It was the perfect sound track to end an awesome day. Back when bands like sublime and rancid were order of the day and coming from the laid back so-cal lifestyle its clear to see the positive vibe and happy influence in **OPM's** style. The lovely **John E. Necro** - vocals, **Geoff** - guitars, **Jonathan** - keyboards, **Shane** - drums **Matt** - bass, are guys doing what they love to do, touring a record to as many places and people that they can. For them **The Boars Head** was a venue they'll remember for a long time, hanging out all day and after the gig like it was home from home. Maybe it was the sunshine or the English lager but afterward i asked the guys what they thought of tonight and their reply all around was **AMAZING!** The answer to that question says it all.

Words & Pics: Toni Charles

The last game at the Lane



Worcester City XI

V

Liverpool Legends XI



**Place your bid now for a
place in the Legends XI**

See website for details

Sunday 2nd June 2pm K.O.
at

St. Georges Lane, Worcester



Tickets available online via
www.worcestercityfc.com
or via the Club office
01905 23003

email: office@worcestercityfc.co.uk

Blue Dragon III Beer & Music Festival was a great success say organisers.

A massive thank you to all who helped, took part and attended the Blue Dragon III music and beer festival at Worcester City Football Club on 17th & 18th May.

The Supporters Trust are striving to keep the football club alive in this difficult time and we will prevail with your help and support.

A special thank you to Mark and Paul at SLAP, Alan, Pas, Dave and Bod, all the bands and beer donators, trust helpers and great friends.

Don't forget the Liverpool Legends XI playing at The Lane on Sunday 02 June – see club website for details – please try and be there for the last ever game at The Lane.

Cheers Bingo

The Galton Arms

Harrow Lane, Himbleton, Droitwich,
WR9 7LQ, 01905 391672



**Charity Pig Roast
and Beer Festival**

**Sat 8th June | 1pm
Home Reared**

Gloucester Old Spot Pig

**6 Real Ales
& 2 Local Ciders**

PREVIEW CONSERVATOIRE FOLK ENSEMBLE - HUNTINGDON HALL

Joe Broughton set up this incredible band 16 years ago. Long before the current trend of big folk band line-ups and crazy folk fusions this band were drawing on influences of folk, funk, classical, ska, reggae, jazz, hip-hop and everything in between. Not only is the live performance of this 45-piece band (or funky orchestra should we say?!) second to none, you will most likely see the stars of tomorrow. Joe has taught Jim Moray, Sam Sweeney, Katriona Gilmore, The Old Dance School, Jack McNeill and Charlie Heys to name just a few. The Conservatoire Folk Ensemble is forever changing, always unique, and has an energy and power that is unrivalled – it has to be seen to

be believed. Using players from the prestigious Birmingham Conservatoire ensures that the standard of musicianship is top drawer and being led by folk fiddler Joe Broughton (Urban Folk Quartet, Albion Band) means that the music has the feel of a spontaneous folk orchestra, making for a show that doesn't take itself too seriously. If you are fully-fledged folk fan, lover of any good music or just looking for a fantastic night out, we guarantee that this is the gig for you. It also comes highly recommended for inspiring young musicians!

Tickets £16 (Concessions £14.50) STARTS AT 8PM



JUNE listings

Saturday 1 June 2013

Voices Unlimited – The Way We Were
The Swan Theatre, Worcester

Ronin
The Wheatsheaf, Banbury

Wychwood Festival
Cheltenham Racecourse, Cheltenham

The Organic Lawn Management
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Brothers Groove
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Straight Aces
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Dj Night
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Wreckless Club Night
Marrs Bar, Worcester

Mudball, Resin
Re-Con, Malvern

UB40 Tribute
Wheelhouse, Upton

Sugar Mama
The Pavilion In The Park, Worcester

Di & The Echo's
The Pillar Of Salt, Droitwich

Nightshift
Callow End Social Club, Worcester

Gareth Forsyth & Jennifer Ludlow
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Brotherhood Of Blues
The Star, Pershore

The Journeyman
The Chestnut, Worcester

Knoxville Highway
Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

The Filthy Kind, Mark Leedham, Kirsten Amy
The Talbot, Barbourne, Worcester

Sunday 2 June 2013

Jam Night hosted by Clive Forkes
Oast House, Redditch

Wychwood Festival
Cheltenham Racecourse, Cheltenham

Remi Harris
The Chestnut, Worcester

Dan Greenaway
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

The Delray Rockets
Riverside, Stourport

The Delray Rockets (world domination tour..)
The Cross Keys, Alcester

Monday 3 June 2013

Tap Jam
The Brewery Tap, Worcester

Dave Onions
Cock n Magpie, Bewdley

Folk Session
Lamb & Flag, Worcester

Tuesday 4 June 2013

Open Mic with Nigel Clark (Dodgy)
The Millers, Pershore
Vo & Tyler
The Crown Inn, Kemerton

Rhythmic Unity African Drum Workshop
Boars Head Gallery, Kidderminster

Enzo's Open Mic
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Open Mic
Firefly, Worcester

Wednesday 5 June 2013

Marzys Jam Night
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Music @ The Morgan
The Morgan, Great Malvern

Daniel Seth & Friends
Hop Pole, Bewdley

Kristy Gallacher
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Open Mic with Mike Mann
Ré-Con, Malvern

Mudball
The Crown, St Johns, Worcester

Musicains & Songwriters Acoustic Jam Night
Pack Horse, Bewdley

Thursday 6 June 2013

Open Mic
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Open Mic
The Pig & Drum, Worcester

West Malvern Open Mic
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Thursday Jam hosted by Jonny Gracie
Royal Oak, Studley

Paar Thur Nack
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Acoustic Brew Showcase
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Pete Hyde & The Viellards
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Open Mic
Lady Lane Wharf Pub, Solihull

Open Mic hosted by Alex Round
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Perry Foster's Open Mic
The Chestnut, Worcester

Friday 7 June 2013

Vault Of Eagles
The Millers Arms , Pershore

Blind Lemon
Drummonds, Worcester

Woo Town & The Machine Breakers
The Farriers, Worcester

Junction 7
The Bluebell Inn, Ryall, Upton on Severn

The Delray Rockets
Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Slowburner
Queens Head, Wolverley

Martin Alvarado
Lyde Court, Hereford

Spandex Bellend, Krescendo
Re-Con, Malvern

Ronin
The Courtyard, Hereford

The Reflections
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Swift Manover
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Live Music
Kings Head, Upton

Dark Eyes
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Crisis Blues Band
The Anchor Inn, Eckington

The Reflections
The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

China Shop Bull
Boars Head, Kidderminster

The Pull
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Mood Elevators
The Millers, Pershore

Saturday 8 June 2013

Exit State, support tbc
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Stomp & Holler @ The Flying Pig Beer Festival
The Talbot, Knightwick, Worcester

Steve Ignorant With Paranoid Visions & Pax
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Nomad 67
The Star, Pershore

Sarah Warren
Wheelhouse, Upton

Slowburner
Heart Of Oak

Vault Of Eagles
The Swan, Port Street, Evesham

The Memory Tones
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

In Dantes Eclipse, Massive Head Trauma
The Ambassador Club, Avon St., Evesham

The Players
Unicorn, Malvern

Freewater
Callow End Social Club, Worcester

Skewwhiff (acoustic)
Lamb & Flag, Worcester

A.K.A.
The Pavilion In The Park, Worcester

The Adams Jovi Experience
Arts Centre, Evesham

Malvern Rocks Warm Up (Pt 2) Calm Like A Riot,
Ronin, Artstar
Re-Con, Malvern

Sunday 9 June 2013

Jam Night hosted by Clive Forkes
Oast House, Redditch

The Gastric Band
White Bear, Tewkesbury

Monday 10 June 2013

Tap Jam
The Brewery Tap, Worcester

Tuesday 11 June 2013

Open Mic
Firefly, Worcester

Enzo's Open Mic
Great Malvern Hotel, Malver

Wednesday 12 June 2013

Acoustic Music Session
The Farriers Arms, Worcester

Marzys Jam Night
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Acoustic Brew Showcase
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Open Mic with Mike Mann
Re-Con, Malvern

Musicains & Songwriters Acoustic Jam Night
Pack Horse, Bewdley

Ben & Stu
Hop Pole, Bewdley

Music @ The Morgan
The Morgan, Great Malvern

Oui Legionnaires
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Thursday 13 June 2013

Open Mic
The Pig & Drum, Worcester

West Malvern Open Mic
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Thursday Jam hosted by Jonny Gracie
Royal Oak, Studley

The Paul Steadman Band
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Bitterroots
Lamb & Flag, Worcester

Whitemore
Marrs Bar, Worcester

Its All About Enzo
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Friday 14 June 2013

Slack Granny, Massive Head Trauma
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Karla Milton Collective
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Humdrum Express, Bo Pilar, The Valley Mountain Boys
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Hereford Soul Choir
Lyde Court, Hereford

Obsidian Rain
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Live Music
Kings Head, Upton

James Hickman
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Variety Show
Moochers, Stourbridge

Jack The Biscuit
The Millers, Pershore

Rebel Rebel
Marrs Bar, Worcester

Mother Popcorn
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Saturday 15 June 2013

Hopfest
Hoppley Camp Site, Berwdley

Answer Back
The College Arms, Stratford-upon-Avon

Retroflector
The Bull Hotel, Ludlow

Nightspell
Droitwich Legion, Droitwich

Stiff Joints
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Stomp & Holler
Marrs Bar, Worcester

2 Stages all day (See page 7)
Hop Fest, Bewdley

Ronin
The Star, Pershore

Steve Howe
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Becky Rose
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Miss Pearl & The Rough Diamonds
The Wyche Inn, Malvern

Sax n Axe
Unicorn, Malvern

The Executives
The Pavilion In The Park, Worcester

Soultown
Pack Horse, Bewdley

Joules
The Reindeer, Ombersley

The Trevor Burton Band
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Pete Miln & Dan James
The Chestnut, Worcester

Voodoo
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Rickshaw Brides
Wheelhouse, Upton

Kevin Underwood
The Maverick, Stourbridge
Mizizi Live, Lovers & Rockers & Roots
Re-Con, Malvern

Sunday 16 June 2013

Ian Parker – 20th Anniversary Tour
Marrs Bar, Worcester

Jam Night hosted by Clive Forkes
Oast House, Redditch

Dave Onions
The Lock, Wolverley

Reindeer Festival – 3 Live acts (1pm–10pm)
The Reindeer Inn, Ombersley

Monday 17 June 2013

Tap Jam
The Brewery Tap, Worcester

Dave Onions Open Mic
Cock n Magpie, Bewdley

Folk Session
Lamb & Flag, Worcester

Tuesday 18 June 2013

Enzo's Open Mic
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Open Mic
Firefly, Worcester

Wednesday 19 June 2013

Marzys Jam Night
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Music @ The Morgan
The Morgan, Great Malvern

The Reporters
Hop Pole, Bewdley

Open Mic with Mike Mann
Re-Con, Malvern

Hip Route
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Poetry with Phil & Mike
Lamb & Flag, Worcester

Musicains & Songwriters Acoustic Jam Night
Pack Horse, Bewdley

Thursday 20 June 2013

Open Mic
The Pig & Drum, Worcester

West Malvern Open Mic
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Thursday Jam hosted by Jonny Gracie
Royal Oak, Studley

Soft Options / Perry Foster's Open Mic
The Chestnut, Worcester

Ray Stroud
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Acoustic Brew Showcase
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Friday 21 June 2013

Khaos Theory, The Ashun, Massive Head Trauma
Re-Con, Great Malvern

Andy Masfield Jazz Band
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Johnny Kowalski & The Sexy Weirdos
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Malpractice
The Anchor Inn, Eckington

Sax n Axe
The Millers, Pershore

Sally Haines & The Sunshine Band
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Live Music
Kings Head, Upton

BSN [4:20]
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Romans
Moochers, Stourbridge

Abba Reunion
Marrs Bar, Worcester

The Undercocks
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

April
Wychbold Legion, Wychbold

Saturday 22 June 2013

Parkin Lot
The Woodland Cottage, Redditch

Junction 7
The Green Dragon, Malvern

Nice & Sleazy
Wheelhouse, Upton

Stone Farm
The Pavilion In The Park, Worcester

Woodfield, The May Dolls, Hayley Collins
Saint Peters Church, Malvern

Jeaga
Unicorn, Malvern

A Tribute To Madonna
Amber Cafe, Evesham

The Players
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

The Crush Band
Callow End Social Club, Worcester

Martyn Jjoseph & Nathan Neely
Rowney Green Village Hall

Second Rate Angels, Driven
The Star, Pershore

Musicains & Songwriters Acoustic Jam Night
Pack Horse, Bewdley

Snakecharmer, Nightblade
Kidderminster Town Hall, Kidderminster

Droitwich Festival – Victoria Square, Gurneys Lane

Riff Raff
Marrs Bar, Worcester

Sunday 23 June 2013

Jam Night hosted by Clive Forkes
Oast House, Redditch

Grey Goose Blues Band
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Monday 24 June 2013

Tap Jam
The Brewery Tap, Worcester

Tuesday 25 June 2013

Weathered Hands ep Launch with Crooks + Black Art
The Herdsman,, Hereford

Folk Night
The Millers, Pershore

Rhythmic Unity African Drum Workshop
Boars Head Gallery, Bewdley

Enzo's Open Mic
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Open Mic
Firefly, Worcester

Wednesday 26 June 2013

Marzys Jam Night
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Music @ The Morgan
The Morgan, Great Malvern

Live @ Glos Studio Acoustic Showcase
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

David Lawrence
Hop Pole, Bewdley

Open Mic
Re-Con, Malvern

Musicains & Songwriters Acoustic Jam Night
Pack Horse, Bewdley

Thursday 27 June 2013

West Malvern Open Mic
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Thursday Jam hosted by Jonny Gracie
Royal Oak, Studley

Adam Barry & Dan Seeley
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Not The Glastonbury Festival with X-Fire Live
Amber Cafe, Evesham

Acoustic Brew Showcase
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Friday 28 June 2013

The Reflections
The Hanbury Turn, Bromsgrove

Keep The Change, I Am Ryan, The Marabooboo Allstars
Evesham Market Square, Evesham

No Exit
The Millers, Pershore

Pure Instinct
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Not The Glastonbury Festival with Fish – Dance Event
Amber Cafe, Evesham

Live Music
Kings Head, Upton

Vault Of Eagles & Friends
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Acoustic Brew Showcase
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Open Music Session
British Legion, Cradley

Taffy Was A Thief
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Cocksure
Rec-Con, Malvern

Mudball
Base Studios, Stourbridge

Are You Experienced
Marris Bar, Worcester

Woo Town
Antelope, Warwick

Madi Stimpson Trio
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Saturday 29 June 2013

The John Steeds
Callow End Social Club, Worcester

The Straight Aces
The Rainbow Hill Club, Worcester

Not The Glastonbury Festival with I Am Ryan
Amber Cafe, Evesham

Nightshift
Wheelhouse, Upton

Sunshine Band
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

The Executives
Bidford Legion, Bidford

Roo Mason, Jenny Blackett, Gareth Forsyth, Breakfast At Charlies, Answerback, Lounge Toad, Enzo
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Krazy Legz
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Sams Town
The Star, Pershore

The John Steeds
Callow End Social Club, Worcester

Rawk Episode 4 – Krosbow (Glichehop/ Dubstep)
Marris Bar, Worcester

Umphff
Unicorn, Malvern

Will Kileen & The Fluffy Pussy
The Chestnut, Worcester

Otis Mack & The Tubby Bluesters
The Pillar Of Salt, Droitwich

Skint
The Pavilion In The Park, Worcester

Mudball, Black Hill, Black Russian
Re-Con, Malvern

Faintest Idea
Boars Head, Kidderminster

Droitwich Festival – Parks Cafe, St Andrews

Sunday 30 June 2013

The Swing Commander
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Jam Night hosted by Clive Forkes
Oast House, Redditch

Are you a Venue owner?
A Promoter? A Band or Solo
Performer?

Is your gig listed above?

If not, its because we
didn't know about it!

So next time...

...let us know at:

listings@slapmag.co.uk

THE MARR'S BAR

JUNE 2013



Ian Parker
16th June 2013

Saturday 1st June

Wreckless Club Night (Indie/Rock)

£2 between 11-12 or £3 12-4

Saturday 8th

Rock Horn Presents:-

Exit State

£4.00 on the door

Wreckless Club Night (Indie/Rock)

£2 between 11-12 or £3 12-4

Thursday 13th

Whitemoor

£3.00 ticket £5.00 on the door

Friday 14th

Rebel Rebel (Bowie Tribute Band)

£6.00 ticket £8.00 on the door

Saturday 15th

Stomp and Holler

£7.00 ticket £9.00 on the door

Wreckless Club Night (Indie/Rock)

£2 between 11-12 or £3 12-4

Sunday 16th

Ian Parker 20th Anniversary Tour

£7.00 ticket £10.00 on the door

Friday 21st

Abba Reunion

£8.50 ticket £10.00 on the door

Saturday 22nd

Riff Raff (AC/DC Tribute)

£5.00 ticket £7.00 on the door

Wreckless Club Night (Indie/Rock)

£2 between 11-12 or £3 12-4

Friday 28th

Are you Experienced?

(Jimi Hendrix Tribute)

£8.00 tickets £10 on the door

Saturday 29th

RAWK Episode 4: Krosbow

(Glichehop/Dubstep/Dirty

Electro/Breaks)

£6 ticket £10 door 10pm-5am

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