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SLAP MAGAZINE

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Hello folks and welcome to another edition of SLAP. Events and festivals are coming at us thick and fast, starting with, as we go to press, our annual pilgrimage to Nozstock. This year holds a special interest as we pilot our first tentative steps into SLAP TV with an interview with Noz and Ella, from surely the best loved local camping festival. If you haven't already had the pleasure, visit our website for a YouTube preview of things to come.

In this issue we highlight two urban festivals right on your doorstep! Firstly, our centre spread maps out your first weekend's entertainment in the shape of Malvern Rocks. Building on the huge success of last year's inaugural event, it's shaping up to be even bigger and better this time round – all for a very worthy cause. Be sure to pick up the very impressive tabloid style programme. The weekend after brings Lakefest, showcasing top quality acts just minutes down the road at Croft Park near Tewkesbury.

Later in the month, of course, we have the Worcester Music Festival which transforms the City into a hotspot of gigs, workshops and general entertainment of the highest standard. We are proud to be, once again, associated with this fine fund-raising event with a SLAP all-dayer at the Worcester Arts Workshop; just one of many attractions from the venues opening their doors all weekend for free.

As well as looking back at events such as Droitwich Music & Arts Festival, Upton Blues, The Fold, Minifest and West Fest, we look forward to the Kidderminster Arts Festival, the subject of this month's front cover with the 'Spurting Man' no less.

It has to be said, it's getting harder to find space in our august publication to highlight the many exciting events taking place around these parts. We still need more advertisers to help us keep going and we always welcome new contributers and new ideas, so please keep in touch...

- hectic Ed



'LIKE'SLAP LISTINGS IN CONJUNCTION WITH:





SLAP SNIPPETS August 2013

Ten out of ten for Andy

Working and playing in Southern California for the last 18 months has helped Andy Robinson tap into the soul of Americana for his third album Willamina Machine lout



on September 8th) - 'across the pond' in LA he's worked with Patrick Leonard (Madonna/Leonard Cohen) and David Kahne (Paul McCartney/Strokes/Lana Del Ray) The 10 songs on the album were recorded in just 10 days - and he's recently supported Laura Marling at several gigs in London!

144 Beats per Minister

A government minister banged the drum for Worcester during a flying visit to the city - Communities Minister Don Foster picked up the drumsticks as he took part in Our Big Jam at Worcester Arts Workshop - as a keen ukelele player the former bus conductor on the old 144 service



between Hereford and Worcester said that 'it was great to be back - and it was fabulous to see people of all ages and musical abilities take part in the event' - one of 330 Our Big Jams taking place across the country!

Worcester Beer Fest - Line 'em up

<Hic> - the 13th Worcester Beer, Cider & Perry Festival takes place in the middle of Pitchcroft Worcester from Thursday to Saturday 8-10th August - with more than 200 real ales and over 100 ciders and perries - plenty of great music to enjoy as well including Jasper In The Company Of Others, Mark Leedham and Steve Gibbons - co-organiser Bill Ottaway confidently expects to break last year's record attendance of over 13000 - we believe him!!

Babajack Album Launch & Tour

Are they blues, jazz or folk? Maybe a bit of all three but the newly beefed-up Babajack are still racking up

industry awards as they launch their forthcoming album *Running Man* with a gig at The Grove in Malvern on September 21 - followed by a first show of a UK tour at iconic venue the 100 Club in London on Tuesday



24 September - more info at babajack.com

Blobbie's Big Brother!

Larger-than-life Take Fat member Blobbie Williams AKA Tony James has started a campaign to get himself into the forthcoming Celebrity Big Brother house to prove he really is a big star! Having recently won Channel 4's Come Dine With Me - Tony reckons that he's been on TV far more than most people who seem



to get invited onto the show – and could probably be the biggest celebrity they've had in the house for some time...

Kinrade gets his kit off for charity

Frontman Kit Kinrade of Worcester rockers Ronin has



spoken about being born deaf - and only regaining his hearing when aged about five - so he was very happy indeed to get down to the bare essentials for the Worcester Music Festival naked band calendar, shot by Sarah Colquitt - as one of the two charities they're supporting this year is Worcester Deaf Children's Society!!

KAF - No holds Bard

The Mouth and Music team is looking forward to their special event during Kidderminster Arts Festival, an entertaining no holds "bard" battle of the sexes! On Tuesday 13th August at the Boars Head, Worcester Street, Kidderminster, Sarah Tamar, Heather Wastie and Bobby Parker present "Gloves Off!", a spoken word and music night with a difference. Also competing will be Ddotti Bluebell, Maggie Doyle, Kate Wragg, Al Barz, Humdrum Express, Gary Longden and William Shatspeare. The audience picks the winning team. The show starts at 8.00 but get there early for a ring-side seat! There will be limited open floor spots for people wishing to join the teams on the night. First come, first served. See pages 18 & 19 and pick up a Festival brochure for full details

Moseley Folk 8th Year...

Moseley Folk Festival returns for its 8th consecutive year! Taking place in the beautiful setting of Moseley Folk it will see the likes of Ocean Colour Scene, Edwyn Collins and The Dublin Legends (formerly The Dubliners) headlining the event whilst Lucy Rose, British Sea Power, The Leisure Society, Kate Rusby, The Be Good Tanyas, Efterklang and Goodnight Lenin plus many more make up the rest of the line up!

Promising to be the biggest to date, tickets are priced between £35 and £85!



The Lamb & Flag

The Tything, Worcester

August 12th & 26th Folk Session

August 15th

Cris Tolley Trio (inaugural gig)

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

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

ARTS NEWS



Summer! Woo Hoo.... SLAP on the suncream and get outside but don't forget to come see what we're up to at the Arts Workshop! Worcester Music Festival is the flavour of the month with lots of exciting things to take part in and loads of lovely live music to enjoy at the end of the month.

SUMMER HOLIDAY CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

We have some exciting activities for you and your children to get involved with every week throughout August!

Thurs 1st Aug Recycled Sculpture Workshop with Claire Kennedy. For 5-11yrs

Thurs 8th Aug Drawing + Illustration with Claire Kennedy. For 5-11yrs

Tuesday 13th Aug Family Ceramics with Kay Mullett. For all ages

Thurs 15th Aug Fancy dress life drawing with Sian Hughes and Amy Birch. For all ages

Thurs 22nd Aug Mask making

with Sian Hughes and Amy Birch. For all ages

All workshops cost £5 and run from 10am until 11.30am. Please book in advance by calling 01905 25053 or emailing us on info@worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk



MUSIC

Hoorah for the Worcester Music Festival this month!

Acting as the usual HQ and one of the venues, The Arts Workshop will have live music from Fri 30th August until Sunday 1st Sept. Friday night line up includes Babble 7pm til 11pm, Saturday is taken over by SLAP magazine from the daytime through until midnight, see page 40-41 for full details. Then come have a calm relaxing Sunday acoustic day from 2pm until 7pm. See the festival website or brochure for more details.

Lazy Sunday on the 11th is being hijacked by the festival also, so we see Portia Reed soundcloud.com/portiareed BJB: www.bjbmusic.com; Jenna Varndell a seven piece soul band www.jennavarndellmusic.com as well as Raju Mali and Eeek http://eeekmusic.bandcamp.com.

GALLERIES

7th til 17th. There will be a collection of paintings by William (Billy) Webber (kindly donated by Sue Toal, Williams sister), to be sold by closed auction to raise funds for AIMs (ArtinMinds). There will be a private view on Friday 9th August in the gallery upstairs in Cafe Bliss at The Worcester Arts Workshop from 6pm til 8pm. All welcome. Contact 01905 619633 for more info or email contact@artinminds.org.uk

21st til 7th Sept. The Worcester Music Festival Open exhibition. There is still time for entries so get them in asap..... (See feature).

During the festival month we will also have a collection of album covers for local bands beautifully designed by Worcester's own, Richard Clarke.

Clik Clik Collective galleries are open Wed to Sat 10am til 3pm and during the music festival.

MUSIC FESTIVAL OPEN EXHIBITION

As the music festival draws near, The Worcester Arts Workshop will be showcasing an open exhibition as part of the Worcester Music Festival in August and we are looking for your talents and inspirations to make it happen! The exhibition will run from 21st August until 7th September and we are calling for entries between now and the 15th August.

Participants are asked to submit a non refundable image in any medium providing that it fits in one of two sizes, CD size (12.5cm x 14 cm), or album size (31.5cm x 31.5cm). You can submit this on any background material: paper/plastic/3D/photo/wood etc though we ask that the work is unframed. All images MUST be clearly related to music in some form: lyrics, photography, portraits, album covers, or any image which is inspired by a song or touched by music.

We ask for a small donation for all entries of £3 per CD size and £5 per Album Size, with all proceeds from this going to The Worcester Arts Workshop and The Worcester Music Festival equally. All work will be auctioned off at the end of the exhibition and all proceeds from this will go to their designated charities of choice; Worcester Deaf Children's Society and Sight Concern Worcestershire.

THE DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS THE 15TH AUGUST. Any work submitted after this date will not be included.

For info on how to enter check out the news section on our website or take a peek at our facebook page.

Enquiries to: clikclikcollective@gmail.coma

Kate Cox



REVIEW. Our Big Jam Fri 12th July.

Our Big Jam was part of a nationwide music event called Our Big Gig, encouraging music making within our communities. The Arts Workshop organised a huge jamming session for all to get involved with and included musical input from Ed Steelefox, Philip Wilkins, Richard Clarke, Perry Foster, Justin Bryant, members of the Worcester Music Festival team and many other faces. We were lucky to have a visit from the minister for communities Don Foster who came to open the event and despite being late, stayed on at the workshop for an hour first one of these time warps was the coach trip. playing not only the ukulele but also percussion with the children! This was a great family event with adults and children alike engaging in music participation. The sun was shining and everyone had a lovely late afternoon and early evening singing, strumming, banging and shaking along to songs we all know. It was good to feel a great community vibe and this was just what we had hoped for with everyone who came along contributing to this musical melee.



REVIEW. Kay's at the Hive. Coach Tour. 20th July.

Kay's at the Hive was a day of performance and heritage based on Kay's of Worcester founded in the late 1890's and well known for years of mail order, catalogue poses and 24p a week skirts throughout the decades which sadly saw its last activity in Worcester in 2007.

Directed by Stephen Wilson and managed by Rachel Bradley, this was a strange mix of entertaining performance split into three very different styles and taking a journey to the 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's and 90's. The

I have to say, when Steve told me that this performance was set on a moving coach, despite my in built travel sickness, I knew I needed to give it go. So midday on that scorching July day and there I was, ready and waiting like a keen Skegness day tripper. Once all of the passengers had boarded (including some of Kav's former staff) we set off through the streets of our fair city with an interesting lesson in Kay's history architecturally and creatively. I had no idea that they had their own theatre company creating pantomimes since the 50's and we were reminded of this in style by these very same actors getting on board at various locations and engaging us in strange 'oh no she didn't' games which made you feel like you had not only stepped back in time but also accidentally taken some hallucinogenic substance which had multi colour in full volume! Cliff Richard would have been proud as we all sang Summer Holiday and along with our cheesy sleazy tour operator and ex Kay's employee of the month, Norman "The Rock" (played by Stephan Bessant) heading up the tour, how could we go wrong? This was a unique day and well done to all involved for providing laughter, fun and learning all in one big catalogue!

CLOD ENSEMBLE MALVERN FORUM THEATRE FRI 7TH JUNE.

There had been talk of this performance for a while around and about the shire, partly due to Michelle Pogmore and her avid passion for promoting cutting edge performance within the county (some of you may know what I mean when I say facebook promoting can work better than expected!...]! It's always exciting when there is a buzz in Worcester about something creative so going to see Clod Ensemble's performance, 'Zero' at Malvern Theatre was a must and faces were seen from all over the arts community in Malvern that sunny Friday evening.

Offering up a back drop heavy with blues, swing and soul by acclaimed live musicians playing harmonica, trombone. cello and more, this show was dominated by ten dancers from a range of nationalities with slick movement; beautiful yet eerily contorted. Clod ensemble create performance work led by a duo of choreographer/director Suzi Wilson and composer Paul Clarke and like to push boundaries between the different art forms. In 'Zero', commissioned by Saddler's Wells and Brighton Festival, they fuse music, dance and visual effects to deliver a show which is truly hypnotic. Wearing a simplistic style, the performers draw you in and hold you there, visually stunning with juxtaposed connection and mesmerising rhythms which seemed to come from another world.

I'm not sure I know what the subject was and it didn't matter, though the projections and movements seemed to imply turbulent times intertwined with personal relationships. As a viewer you felt engulfed in passion, intensity and darkness and my eyes flickered from dancer to musician and back again like a child in a sweet shop.

Clod Ensemble have worked internationally collaborating with theatre practitioners, music, visual art, photography, film and poetry since 1995. All Clod Ensemble's performances are produced in association with Fuel, who work with some of the most exciting theatre artists in the UK to develop new work for all.

www.clodensemble.comclodensemble#zero | www.fueltheatre.com



REVIEW - Upton Blues Festival - 19th-21st July

The summer months see festival season swing by and locally there's loads to be excited about from newcomers such as Malvern Rocks and Ringmaster to the established Worcester Music Festival and Nozstock, there's plenty on offer in our fair county for every ardent gig goer and casual listener alike. But for this aural fanatic there's one festival that always manages to bewitch and intrigue in equal measure, a festival that seems to grow yearly in stature, not only drawing some of the biggest named blues acts in the country but also sees attendances topped on a yearly basis. This years Upton Blues Festival again continued the astounding upward trajectory both with the bill and number of punters (just the sheer volume of campers astounded even the most outimistic of organisers!!!)

Now, to truly do justice to such an incredibly organised and professional festival I'd have to write reams, I could wax lyrical on every act I caught and a few I didn't but the easiest way to write something up is day by day and so without further ado:-

Day One

The main stage kicked off proceedings around 7.15pm with the passionate, seasoned blues of the David Rapheal

Band, the group delivered a stunning set of harp fuelled blues gathering perhaps the biggest opening act audience that I can remember. Whilst on the acoustic stage

Clair Le Broque delivered an early highlight with her powerful vocals backed with a sparse lonesome guitar, the audience were left spell-bound by a truly jaw-dropping set. Former Robert Plant side maaan Innes Sibun (and band)



closed the evening's proceedings with a devastating display of guitar grappling, shape throwing fiery blues rock all topped off with a wonderful display of gurning to go with it.

Day Two

Saturday and the first full day and where do I start, well

The Official Receivers appealed to the day's early revellers with their ever likeable set of big soul standards, with horns ablazing, the crowd were on their feet, swaggering, swaying and even



dancing. A quick race down to the sports field for a bit of slide guitar genius Steve Morrison via the memorial hall for some acoustic rockabilly in Josie & The Outlaw, before settling down to the pure pleasure that is Sarah Warren & The Fabulous Boogie Boys, a band

guaranteed to make you smile, make you sing and at the very least hop on the spot. Sure enough we boogied, we stomped and we hollered along as the band captivated the spirit of the



entire festival with a glorious set of rock n roll, blues, soul originals and sing-a-long standards. Back down to the Sports Field for the glorious rock groove of Willy & The Bandits, a band that lock into an inspired, original sound taking in elements of rock, blues, psychedelia, rocksteady and even Caribbean rhythms to mesmerise a packed out field (by the way, track down their album, it really captivates the group's unique vision). If that wasn't already enough the main riverside stage served up a performance that tore the place to pieces, The Revelator Band delivered a dark, almost feral take on the blues, laced it with with a dose

of acidic post-punk attitude and threw in a side order of Beefheart for a gloriously ramshackle combination of piano, spiky quitar and gruff vocals delivered theatrically by a larger than life swaggering front man that had to be seen to be truly believed. It might be blues but not as you know it.



Day Three

It was hard to believe that the second day could be topped for pure entertainment and diversity but you know what, day three provided more thrills and spills, with the Shout choir opening proceedings with wonderful uplifting choral renditions of The Beatles, Elbow, U2, Take That and an audience assisted Moving On Up (Primal Scream), that even saw a couple of dogs hit the stage with Simon Kemp and guys and gals for a rousing rendition. The Swaps were the only band of the entire festival I deliberately caught twice both electric and acoustic as their combination of male/female vocals, lead harmonica (up there with the

David Rapheal Band

best up and coming harmonica players out there right now) and drums simply blew me away, a beautiful set of original blues and folk delivered with such passion and drive (hope they book them again and again, having already being promoted from the pubs last year!!!). Duo with most amount of balls award goes to Tommy Allen & Johnny



Hewitt, oh my god Tommy played guitar, drums and sang whilst Johnny Hewitt blew up a storm on harmonica, by the end of their set they were dripping, the audience were dripping, I had melted...primal rock n roll blues at it's best. Dessert Rock offered up a completely different vibe creating African blues fusion as Ramon Goose and cohorts delivered a glorious percussion heavy set complete with African sing-a-longs (particularly on the track, aptly named track Africa!!!). Which brings me to to the one-two punch



of the festival closers, firstly the gravelly, harmony fused rock of WilyBo & The Mescal Canyon Troubadours and the "let's have a big party finale" stunning Earl Jackson Band, who ended the night with rock n roll of the highest order, searing riffs, behind the head fiddling, duck walking, you name it you got it.

So it just leaves me to say congratulations to the committee, the volunteers, compères, medical team and everyone that poured blood, sweat and hours into delivering such an inspired and remarkable event, the bands were fantastic each and everyone (sorry I can't mention you all!!) and the crowd responded in kind, as soon as they announce next years dates book it off and I'll see you down there, mines a cider!!!

Words: Will Munn Photography: Graham Munn

Minifest - Crpplegate park, Worcester - 30th June

Minifest, hosted by king local radio station Youthcomm Radio, has made a name for itself over the last few years as a fantastic family based community event, that brings every background imaginable as one force, just for a day, and this year was no different. With a decent weather forecast predicted days prior to the event, the sun starts to shine before the melancholy sets by the three acoustic openers Ollie Roberts, Tammy Down, and Charlie Boswell, sets that included covers of Pearl Jam and a medley of early Oasis tracks. As the sun hit heavier up to the long lasting peak of 24°, the music kept pace, as did the crowd. Up next was indie rockers Paradise Rhodes showcasing material off their brand new EP, alongside funk rockers The Warped and pop-punk duo Morning Glory not letting the absence of drummer Harry Roberts and their usual three piece dampen the spirits.

After the break came cover act and one half of Charm Aimee Vee playing tracks originally by Bruno Mars, Robbie Williams, showcasing the most powerful voice of the day, followed by the second cover act and last minute replacement, R3action. They were the first of many to play to screaming fans with their cheesy yet extremely tuneful pop covers, much like the next act The Pin Ups who have to contend with announcement that Babycakes singers 3 of a Kind had pulled out due to unknown reasons. They fit the bill and warm up well for up and coming Radio 1 star Lauren Wright who played to one of the biggest crowds

of the day with her easily accessible and fun pop singles suck as Kiss Me and I.L.O.V.E.Y.O.U..



Yeah after this the crowd slowly diminished to the true music fans, to the fans of headline acts Time of the Mouth and Ronin, the spirit doesn't stop increasing. As the former got their fans to simply dance over the illusive tape barriers to originals and covers of Green Day and Bob Marley, right before the final set from Worcester rockers Ronin blasting through their family friendly yet powerful and intense tracks, including a selection from the new EP. They don't stop for anything other than guitar change due to broken strings and the occasional comedic chat. It's a fantastic end to the best year for Minifest so far. Roll on 2014? I think so!

Dom Beale

PREVIEW - Jinney Ring at Hanbury - August 9th to 11th

Another Local Blues and Beer festival on your doorstep. This is a ticketed event with fine beers and ciders accompanying good food and some very good entertainment. Friday evening sees a gentler start with Mumbo Jumbo, some excellent ales and food, and special offers for CAMRA members.

Saturday is a full on music fest with Dave Onions; jump jiving Boperator; The wonderful voice of Sarah warren and her band; The funk and jazz grooves of Robert Hokum and the Guvnors; New Orleans style of Stomp & Holler; and Dr Teeth with larger than life front man, Steve Steinhaus. Sounds an unmissable day out.

Sunday, starting at noon, local bands, a blues rocking Retrovibe; who are followed by the W factor winners, selected from 25 entries of Worcestershire bands. To close the proceedings The Reflections, who play



favourites from the 60's to date, Stones to the Killers, Beatles to Coldplay.

Tickets are £13.50 for Saturday, and £21 for the weekend, check out the website for more details. www.jinneyring.co.uk Words:Graham Munn

HEY YOU GUYS! - Album Launch - August 17th

For about the last nine months there's been SHOUTED communiqués emanating, it transpires, from the Tower (studios) in Pershore by HEY YOU GUYS! Amongst the no-nonsense nonsense and dubious pictures of latrines, there's some serious musicianship going on. It took just two rehearsals to get nine songs together!

HYG! have already released one single, Keston Villers' Investment Club, on white vinyl that garnered a ton of radio play and put in some brilliant live shows all over Britain. Latest news is that they will be the official support for [spunge] on their nationwide tour in November. (Wouldn't mind being a fly on the tour bus

window for that one!)

Closer to home, the guys have an album in the bag and it's more Caps Lock and exclamation marks. GASP! SHOCK! HORROR! (surely a great title for a long player) is "13 sonic shots to the scrotum that you'll be begging to receive again like a musical masochist". With the 'go to' producer Draper in the band it's a no brainer to have him at the controls and they've the contacts to rope in some special guests too - cameos including vocals from Kerbdog, Dodgy, Les Carter ('Fruitbat' from Carter USM), Stillbust, Fights & Fires and many more!

The album is to be released on 17 August so there's going to be a big GASP! SHOCK! HORROR! launch party at the Marrs Bar that very night! Entrance is free if you

join the Facebook event (£3 on the door) and the album will be available at a very special price of £3 all night; support from This Wicked Tonque and Erica.

For a laugh, get further info at: www.hygofficial.com



No surprises though when you know the line up consists of Pete Adams, Dave Draper, Oly Edkins and Ben Pemberton - four seasoned local musicians not content to trade on former glories but working hard to craft an exciting future.

Photography - Joe Singh - SnapRockandPop

PREVIEW - Artrix, Bromsgrove in August

Remi Harris Gypsy lazz Project comes to Artrix

The Remi Harris Gypsy Jazz Project, an exciting playing at Artrix on 24th August 2013

Performing an eclectic mix of hot club, jazz, swing, bepob blues, world music, original compositions, and popular melodies, the band offer the audience a sensational evening of outstanding chemistry and musicianship.



Featuring Remi Harris from Worcestershire, one of the UK's top virtuoso quitarists, and joined by top jazz Birmingham's finest double bass player Mike Green and vocalist Deborah Rose, as heard on BBC Radio 2, it will be a night of exquisite melodies sang with a world class band.

Tickets are available at £12 from Artrix box office on 01527 577330 or from www.artrix.co.uk

The Creators of "Acid Croft" shake up Artrix

Shooglenifty the six man band, credited as being the young contemporary gypsy jazz collective will be originators of "Acid croft" plan to have Artrix on their feet on 25th August at 8pm



Formed in Edinburgh, Shooglenifty quickly drew a strong fan base for their energised, contemporary roots material and fast became one of Scotland's most unique musical exports.

With their fiery and infectious blend of Celtic traditional violinist, Matt Holborn, Ben Salmon on rhythm guitar, music and dance grooves that band members describe as "hypno-folkadelic ambient trad." This supremely dexterous and witty live band, who have given energetic live performances all around the world, guarantee to offer an amazing night of music and dancing.

> Tickets are available at £15 from the Box office on 01527577330 or at www.artrix.co.uk

REVIEW – Chantel Mcgregor at Robin 2 – July 3rd

A legend in her own lifetime, Chantel Mcgregor is a with the electronics young blues rock guitarist with an enormous talent that out of the way. defies her small stature. This comes with a bucketful of cheeky Yorkshire humour. She also happens to have UK session before been a Blues Award category winner in 2011, 2012, and is nominated in 2013......we will have to wait and see dates in Belgium, about that one.

Touring with bassist Richard Richie and drummer have gone down as Keith McParthing, from the same Northern region, easily as a good there is a sense of fun throughout the gig. Caught Out; Belgian beer. An Free Falling; Voodoo Chile; and Disco Lover Suicide are excellent gig from presented impeccably, no behind the back, above the this great talent, I head stuff here, just quality guitar riffs.

Outstanding for me was Chantel's short acoustic hear a lot more of session, as the boys took a break at the bar. She her in the future. performed Stevie Nicks 'Rhiannon; Jewel's 'You Were Meant For Me' and a very nicely wrapped version of wish to know more Bruno Mars 'Grenade', (have a look on YouTube) about this young

This was the last sailing for some I'm sure she will am sure we will all

Incidentally, if you



exceptionally good, it showcases Chantel's vocal talents woman, check out her web site:www.chantelmcgregor.com by Graham Munn

ANDY O'HARE - The History Of Rock - Part 1...

A lot of people have asked me what my own taste in Bob Dylan who I'd missed first music is - and to be honest it isn't that easy to explain in time round - for this I'm very the 30 seconds relative quiet between numbers at gigs - grateful!! and in between sets I'm usually to be found outside topping up my nicotine levels - yes I know that's not good but those who've met me will usually agree that it's either that or elephant tranquillisers...

The first band I ever really got 'into' was the Dave Clark Five (!) - this was about the time the Beatles were also on the rise - but somehow I never really clicked with the 'Fab Four' - and about that time (mid to late 60s) I tended to prefer edgier outfits like the Stones and The Who. Yes I know that this is heresy to a whole lot of people out there - and sure the Beatles produced some cracking songs - but they just didn't seem to have the raw feel of Satisfaction or My Generation - and the Stones/Who didn't seem to have to try to be bad lads - they were just universally slated by parents/grandparents/media in general as being deprayed and a corrupting influence on the 'youth of the day' - perfect!!

I'd had a pretty standard Welsh school classical music education - learning the basics on first the recorder and then violin until bafflingly choosing the bassoon to study at secondary school - I reached Grade 5 on this monstrous contraption until giving it up in the Fourth Year after the realisation that either blowing into the bloody thing or lugging it between orchestra practices and home would cause premature death - in hindsight a very wise move! But of course the classical music education had subliminally guided me towards prog rock in the early 70s - oh the horror - I'm sorry to the handful of adherents out there but in hindsight listening to albums like 'Bedside Manners Are Extra' by Greenslade simply robbed me of an hour of my life and the will to live for days after...

The charts at this time were dictated and filtered by the major record companies - rigging, illegal placement and nepotism was the norm and the Chapman/Chinn outfits seemed to exercise a monopoly on TOTP - the Old Grev Whistle Test wasn't much better - though it did have an occasional moment of brilliance such as when the Sensational Alex Harvey Band were unaccountably invited to perform...

But the cobwebs were finally blasted away for me in 1976/77 with the rise of punk/new wave/whatever stunningly ushered in by the heroic efforts of pub-rockers such as Dr Feelgood and Eddie And The Hotrods in this country - the Ramones/Television/CBGB experience in New York and then by being shouted into your face by the Sex Pistols/Clash - I'd been waiting for ten years to hear music like this and it really was a Road To Damascus feeling which hasn't really gone away...

The record companies moved swiftly to regain control and for me the 80s were the bleakest period of my musical listening - for me a cultural deadzone that gave me some time to go through the back catalogue of the Doors and

Another mini-renaissance in the 90s with Brit-Pop - at last some proper music again!! Also the first major challenge to the record companies' stranglehold with the new indie labels - but the focus had forever switched - you didn't need to be in London to get recognised, signed and played - though even today it's obviously still a totally unfair advantage!!

A few years later and then came the Bitchpups/ Dandelion Killers/And What Will Be Left of Them? awakening that there was some pretty awesome music being generated so close to the place I relocated to some thirty years before, mostly because it provided a central location and easy access to the motorway network to get to anywhere else in the UK relatively quickly - yep that just about why I stuck around folks!!

But in hindsight - though for probably not very worthy and altruistic reasons - it was a great decision in the end - as without doubt the H&W music scene in the last ten years or so has and continues to consistently produce easily the best music I've heard in all my time - and do I prefer a particular genre now by the way? Nope - if it's played well it's pretty much all good...

AOH (message me at so-sue-me@live.co.uk)



REVIEW - West Fest - Malvern

Charming the Malvern masses on 6th July and since 2005, West Fest certainly had the weather on it's side this year.

To be honest it didn't really matter what delights awaited us entertainment-wise, as in this, the most delightfully bucolic of settings, we were gonna have a goood time just soaking up the rays'n'vibes.

It wasn't difficult to enjoy the day with specially brewed ale at 3 quid a pop, much needed water at 50p a bottle and a great selection of fairly priced grub (my tofu-wiener was delish). No-one can accuse West Fest of being a ripoff in any way.

Musically there was the main stage & the acoustic: these were run with military precision timing so there was no noise crossover. This was typical of this brilliantly run one day event.

And as you'd imagine and as should be at a fest, there was the widest selection of musical marvellousness for our aural pleasure.

Even at West the smallest of Fests, you manage to miss some of the acts, though this was due mainly to me & my assembled throngette, dancing like arses at Silent Disco. N.B. Dear Mr DJ, no-one wants to listen to anonymous techno/trance/dubstep at 6pm, especially at an event where there is a ratio of 1 copper to every 5



people - if you get my drift! Most fun was had with cheesy anthems, thus watching/being watched aping the likes of messrs Coverdale, Meatloaf & Nicks.

So as I can't namecheck all the bands I won't single out any except a certain festival organiser's outfit who informed us repeatedly and in no uncertain terms, that they were indeed THE DOGS OF SANTORINI!!



This was my 1st West Fest but like loads of other blissfully smilin' punters I'll be back next year.

Let's just hope the sun returns also...

Words by Ray Cathode

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Blues At The Fold - July 6th

This one day festival is now firmly established, and brings quality bands to a great little venue each year. Following last years miserable weather, the action takes place under a large roofed canopy, with hard standing. This year the canopy has served as shade to the excesses of heat and sunlight, should you have wanted to avoid the wonderful spell of summer that has hallmarked July.

Stage Host, as last year was local poet Theo Theobold, who introduced Sarah Warren to open proceedings. Sarah's acoustic set was country Americana in style,



accompanied by **Nick Lyndon** on guitar and occasional double bass. Frankie Miller's 'I Can't Change It', gave voice to Sarah's deeper, mellowed blues side. 'Lovesick Blues', for me, also stood out, it was good comfortable listening to start off a warm sultry afternoon.

The Swaps upped the tempo, with a good mix of blues and country. Outstanding vocals from Beth, and fine harmonica with Tomo, marked this 5 piece band from Leamington out.

The pace is hotting up, passions rising, Wille and the Bandits is a blast start to

finish. Gritty vocals, brilliant slide guitar, thumping great drums and head banging bass make for an unforgettable performance. Elements of rock steady through to hard



rock, pepper the music of this fantastic band; intoxicating rhythms, crying chords. 'Money For Nothing' is definitely not in dire straits! Have a

peek at their website, there are some very good videos that demonstrate the band's qualities.

What do you do when you appear to have reached a summit, plant a flag? The flag is blues and Steve Ajao and his Blues giants Mike on Bass, Pete on drum, take us back to the Mississippi Delta and the blues of the likes of



Hooker, Reed and King. There is the light hearted 'Give Me Back My Wig', and diving down to the depths of 'Evil' from Willie Dixon. If you like your blues delivered well

cooked in a traditional style, Steve and the Giants will serve it up. Steve went walkabout around the assembled mass, serenading impassioned dancers on the way. Pete Hammond showed us what a washboard was really for, but had to dispose of some ladies lingerie before rhythmically beating up Hotpoint's ancestor.

Stomp & Holler slotted in nicely to blend between the blues and the swing that was about to come. The band

never fails to pull in the devotees, music lovers and foot tappers. Though Oliver plays ringmaster, all have a slice of the pie. Chris, Abby, and Lee



also have lead vocals. Martin drives them together with his drums, and John, has an excursion into the audience with his sax, nobody complains. Mr Diddy, the latest band member, who resembles an old boot, broomstick and too many beers, has gone walkabout too, with a steady thump and clink as he disappeared into the crowd.

Top billing was for Ricky Cool and his All Stars, the

first blast from the horn section had evervone uр and dancing to the infectious beat of this swing band. Ricky is the ringleader, he is going to make sure nobody sits still as the light fades on this warm hedonistic evening of musical pleasure.



Ricky is a phenomenon, he's been around for ever in some form or other, he is the magnet for top draw musicians, they play to the crowd and the crowd loves them. Bold brass, trixy harmonica, a lovely double base, guitar, keyboards and drums. What a way to close the day, everyone, young, and not so young, left with a smile on their face. Lovely weather, tasty food and drink, courtesy of The Fold, children's area, dog friendly? and a wonderful line up. There are no real head liners here, every band brought a different turn to the music. If you missed out, be sure to plan ahead next year. www.bluesatthefold.co.uk

Words & Pics: Graham Munn



REVIEW - DROITWICH MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL - 29th June

The Grimaldi Jug Bang, a trio of two guitars and female collapse saga about his home town, in which his guitar singer, were a special treat for those of us who had not seen them before. Their session abounded in fine singing and picking, and sensational harmonies, in a well-chosen mix of originals and covers.

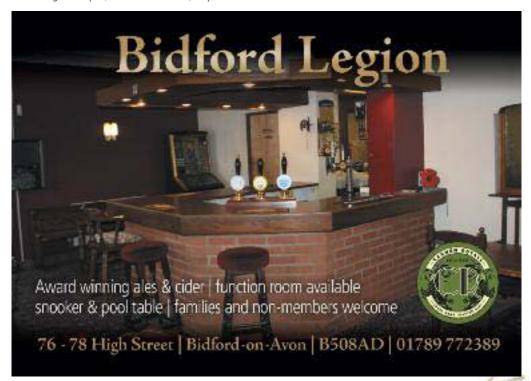
Stomping on Spiders opened the blues jam with a selection from their latest CD. Including, to everyone's delight, GT Jones's composition Kuranda Brakes, his Ozthemed masterpiece sung with great passion. And Noor Ali's magnum opus, Brasshouse Lane, a post-industrial

solos drew rapt attention and admiration.



Finally, Stripped Down Blues did our country blues thing, featuring new member bassist Tonina Westlake. Her swinging rendition of Summertime drew great applause, during which a fascinated soundman shrewdly commented that DJ Mather's harmonica-playing was 'iust like a clarinet'.

by Bob Jones





IT'S LIVE, IT'S ORIGINAL, IT'S FREE AND IT'S HERE!

AUGUST is here and that can only mean one thing. Worcester Music Festival!

A whopping 240 acts from the county and beyond are gearing up to take 32 venues across the city by storm from August 30 – September 1 and this year's line-up is an absolute corker.

Adding even more genres to the mix to open up the completely free festival to even more live music fans, we are excited to welcome the likes of heavy dub, cosmic funk and dreamy trip-hoppers Mutant Vinyl from Liverpool, whose fans include BBC Radio One's Huw Stephens, Grammy winner Simon Gogerly, Tricky and Fun Lovin' Criminals.

Representing psychedelia, we have Nottingham's Lunar Park, female vocals on top of loud fuzzy guitars,

melodic bass and repetitive drums (one member used to be in Six By Seven), while flying the flag for jazz, blues and folk, we have the likes of Estonia-born Triinu Tammsalu from Gloucester and Tequilla Mockingbird from Bedfordshire.

Bands and artists from the Woo and the county, however, are why our celebration of original music came

about in the first place and we're super proud to welcome back the likes of folk rocker Claire Boswell, teenage trio Granny's Attic, Hitchhiker, Dryftwood, Vault of Eagles, Jasper In The Company Of Others, Stuart Woolfenden, Stompin' On Spiders and many, many more, as well as scores of local newcomers wanting to showcase their own material.

WONDERFUL WORKSHOPS

Around 800 people took part in our workshops last year, from musicians hankering after a new skill or technique to those who have never picked up an instrument in their life.

From Soundscapes at Worcester Arts Workshop, giving participants the chance to create a colourful seascape, landscape or cityscape and produce sounds to accompany their work of art, to a masterclass in producing a radio show with BBC Hereford and Worcester, this year's workshop programme has a host of new and exciting opportunities for all ages and abilities.

Pics: A small selection of acts at this years Worcester Music Festival.



There are 28 workshops this year, including dance taster sessions in everything from salsa to the can can, and while you can just turn up, it's best to book beforehand to secure a place.

DON'T MISS THE BOAT

Every year, the festival gets better and, this year, it's also getting wetter! We're thrilled to introduce leisure cruise boat The Pride of the Midlands to our venue line-up, which can accommodate up to 164 passengers and has a fully stocked bar and bistro on board.

There will also be a feast of live, original music in Music 47 in Sidbury and Rise in Chapel Walk, Crowngate, this year, as well as workshops in Velvet Lounge nightclub in Angel Place.

LET'S GET NAKED!

Our naked band calendar in aid of our 2013 charities - Worcester Deaf Children's Society and Sight Concern Worcestershire – and the festival itself is now on sale for the bargain price of a fiver at:

www.worcestermusicfestival.bigcartel.com

The Session music studios, Worcester Arts Workshop and other venues to be confirmed. Please support us by buying one.

BUY SOME MUSIC ART

Worcester Arts Workshop is now ooh-ing and ah-ing over the entries submitted for a music-related open art exhibition taking place during the festival, with everything being auctioned off in aid of our charities of the year, the festival and the workshop in Sansome Street. How wonderful would it be to get your hands on your own lovingly-created piece of original art?

PLAN YOUR ITINERARY

With all gig and workshop listings in, now is the opportune time to start planning your own personal itinerary for the festival with My Guide at www.worcestermusicfestival.co.uk, where you can also tap into our new accommodation finder. Our hard copy festival guide containing all the listings will also be available in venues across the city from August 16th.

Don't forget to sign up to Facebook and Twitter for lineup updates and previews and last, but not least, we hope you have the most amazing Worcester Music Festival ever!

Melanie Hall

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ARTS FEATURE - Kdderminster Arts Festival - 10th-25th August

Kidderminster Arts Festival is now in its 10th year and Collective Unconsciousness will allow participants to is set to be bigger and better than ever before. There is a explore their own personal and social freedom, stepping programme of events bursting at the seams with locally outside the constraints of reality to gain a higher and nationally renowned events that will be gracing the understanding of who you are. Other highlights are streets, public spaces and venues of Kidderminster between 'Mash up a Masterpiece' in which you can take along the 10th and 25th of August. This year is set to have the an old tired piece of art work and give it a new lease of most ambitious and diverse range of arts that have ever life and also keeping with Kidderminster's carpet been attempted for KAF, which is extremely proud to be heritage there is a 'Weaving Workshop' that is ran by presenting work that would usually be at home at the the Museum of Carpet. larger national and international arts festivals.

The backdrop to the festival will consist of a homage to the carpet weaving history of Kidderminster. Both the inside and outside the town hall will be transformed into a 'Carpet Forest'. Inside will be carpeted trees that tell forgotten tales from the old factories whilst a kaleidoscope of light floods through the canopy along with the sounds of looms and mythical birds. Leading into the forest will be a carpet meadow surrounding the outside of the town hall, perfect for taking a little afternoon nap!



On the 17th of August the carpet meadow will form the setting for a very special guest. A giant 30ft long pig will be taking an afternoon nap on our carpet meadow between 11am & 1pm and also 2pm & 4pm. There is space on the underside of the pig for 10 members of the public to act as little piglets and witness a show inside the belly of our snoring friend.

There are a wide range of other FREE street performances to see too. You can guite literally soak up the sight of 'The Spurting Man' in which a human water feature will grace the centre of the town! There is also Kwabana Lidsay exploring the dizzying heights of Kidderminster on his slack rope.

There are also a range of indoor activities for children and families that are all under £5. There is 'Fireside Tales with Granddad' which combines exquisite puppets, captivating storytelling and an enchanting story line which more going on than there is space on this page so make is guaranteed to captivate everyone from 4 - 104.

The other cogs in the festival machine are made up of the large variety of workshops and interactive events running over the two weeks. Freedom - A workshop by



The venues and the events are now booked so all we need now is 'YOU' to come along and make KAF's 10th year the biggest and best yet! However these events are just the tip of the KAF13 iceberg as there is so much



sure to keep your eyes and ears open for more KAF information. This and our online brochure which can be found by following the links on the poster opposite.

Tom Parker

REVIEW - Skinny Lister - Robin 2 - July 16th

plus - 'Bethan And The Morgans' & 'The Bad Rats'

A warm balmy evening and a sort of reluctance to jump into a hot car to travel up to Bilston and my second trip to Robin. Hell it was **Skinny Lister**; can't resist the force.



A moderate assembly for this capacious venue were about to get an all out assault from The Bad Rats. They are a 6 piece band from Cannock, styled as folk punk, but heavy on the punk. An extremely loud thrash from a drummer fronted by 5 sets of stringed weapons, guitars, mandolins and banjo. (thinks....must get some earplugs....) The band share the vocals as they drove through there set, 'Black Velvet Band Salty Dog and Irish Rover, finishing an enthusiastic performance. I'm sure we will hear more from this band......particularly if you're within a 3 mile radius!

Bethan Morgan, heads up the next band and a more melodic softer feel to this folk/country styled band. This was very pleasant easy listening stuff, Bethan has a fine voice well suited to the folk roots, but also capable of taking us by surprise when called for. When it Falls Into Placeshowcased some nice harmonies with double bassist Lauren and guitarist David. Something New, is distinctly folk on outset, breaking into a quick country lick as it moves on, some nice subtle drumming from Rob Mcintosh sat in the shadows. I'm certain we will all hear more of Bethan and The Morgans into the future. Here they sit like an ice cream layer between two crispy wafers.

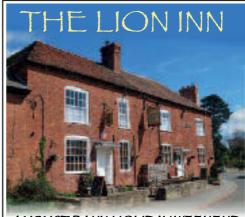
Skinny Lister, was an absolute must following on from Wychwood were they had awoken the sleepy campers of Cheltenham. Folk is a completely inadequate description, think more the Pogues. Lorna stands between Dan1, Max, Sam and Dan2, large stone pitcher in hand, ready charged for tonight with Kentucky's finest. This is a party and we are all invited!

Lorna flirts with the band and us as the band rolls through shanties, polkas, waltzs and jigs. Totally infectious, you cannot help being drawn in, and you will enjoy every second this band is on stage. If The Gaff Don't Let Us Down is a more traditional dirge, Trawler stays with the sea, John Kanaka, just a hard drinking shanty that has

all joining in. *Colours* shows a more subtle, melodic description of a day out in the summer. *17 Summers* waltz us around the stage easing off from the polka which Lorna has just joined us for. The songs are a description of life at the rusty jagged edge. *Forty Pound Wedding*, brilliant! The band is a collective of enthusiastic 'buskers' who have pulled us in off the streets to partake of some ale and stay for the 'lock in'. There is no inoculation against the fever, no cure once contracted, you just have to sweat it out. Nobody is complaining. Look out for them, find the time, go join in, it will be unforgettable.

Words & Photography: Graham Munn





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REVIEW - The Wonder Stuff - Stourbridge River Rooms - July 5th

I can honestly say I never tire of The Wonder Stuff. Cynics may disagree, of course and, by nature, I am of that breed. new single 'Friendly Company' and what has generally been But when the quality of the songs & live performance is so consistent, I feel it's a case of sod the 'why's' & 'what for's' and just enjoy it for what it is, which is invariably a bloody great night out.

Stourbridge will forever be linked with the band (the famous 'And on the eighth day God created Stourbridge' shirt saw to that one), and the fact that Miles Hunt (born in Derby) is now the only original member no doubt grinds some gears. But, after the big split at The Phoenix Festival in the 90's, the brand has been a going concern for some time now, releasing three albums of new material 'Escape From Rubbish Island', 'Suspended By Stars' and this year's 'Oh No! It's The Wonder Stuff' which (together with covers disc 'From The Midlands With Love') has given them their best reviews for over a decade. And rightly so – it's their best since the four in the original canon.

And so, to one hell of a hot night in The Stour, at the full to the rafters River Rooms. The boisterous crowd are awaiting a familiar opening track to get them going, but (and I fully admire them for this) The Wonder Stuff treat us to a duo from the new 'Oh No!' album, 'Clear Through The Years' and 'Right Side Of The Turf', Miles commenting afterwards that they had "the sheer audacity" to open the gig with two new tracks. The faithful were then rewarded with 'Red Berry Joy Town', 'On The Ropes' and 'Here Comes loved about The Wonder Stuff and go & see them. I defy Everyone' in quick succession, plus stalwarts 'Circle Square', 'The Size Of A Cow', 'Mission Drive' and 'Caught In My Shadow' following after.

The new album is dipped into again with 'Oh No!' itself, received as the 'best' of the new tracks, 'Be Thy Name', surrounded by 'Give Give Give ...', 'Donation', 'A Wish Away' (with Miles plugging Hoseasons holidays as a 'contractual obligation' beforehand), 'Golden Green' and 'Don't Let Me Down, Gently' so all concerned can hear a favourite. My personal highlights were encores of 'Can't Shape Up', 'Room 410' and a final 'Ten Trenches Deep', leaving the crowd exhausted and exhilarated.

It's easy to pick on 'missing' songs from tonight's set ('Cartoon Boyfriend', 'Ruby Horse', 'It's Yer Money ...', 'Goodnight, Though', 'Poison' etc.) but the set list is never the same from show to show and that's the main reason I still look forward to every gig by The Wonder Stuff I attend. Miles and Erica are still on their 'never ending' tour, playing Wonder Stuff highlights in with their own material, Erica has her band 'EN' on the go too, with an album released to great acclaim, and I also must honourably mention the support band tonight, a three piece called 'Nife' featuring Erica's quitarist Nicole Formio fronting a three piece outfit that, quite simply, 'rock' (don't let that put you off, please). I saw two songs, bought the album 'Chemicals' and it's an absolute stormer. Honest.

Put your cynicism aside, kiddies - remember what you you to be disappointed.

Baz Bojak

Abie's Miracle Tonic, Mellow Peaches, Glen Bartley - Artrix - Sat 7th Sep

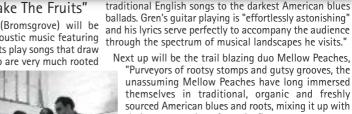
"It's The Roots That Make The Fruits"

Early next month the Artrix (Bromsgrove) will be hosting an eclectic evening of acoustic music featuring three acts who, as the title suggests play songs that draw inspiration from the past, but who are very much rooted in the now.

This promises to be very much a triple bill of musical contemporaries, featuring three local groups that have taken influence from similar musical traditions such as folk, blues, ragtime, jazz, gospel & spirituals, but each has crafted their own unique sound, taking a different focus.

Starting the night and setting the mood will be Gren Bartley, a prolific songwriter who tours

relentlessly, "Gren Bartley sits on the edge of the ever growing link between English and American folk music . A songwriter who explores a wide range of styles from



their own gumbo of exotic flavours to create a wholesome dish that aids digestion. Mellow Peaches play a whole host of folk styles with bluesy intensity, informed by pre-war country blues greats with some contemporary quirk thrown in for good measure."

And the night will be capped off in style by Abie's Miracle Tonic, "An effervescent... esoteric... energetic... and (occasionally) off-the-wall..." concoction of ragtime, blues, jazz, spirituals and novelty songs on quitar, washboard, vocal harmonies and trumpet impersonations!

Tickets are £7 or £5 concession available from the Artrix box office on 01527 577330 or online at www.artrix.co.uk.

REVIEW - Dan Owen & Sanjay Brayne - Katie Fitzgeralds - July 4th

Dan Owen was returning to Stourbridge for this gig Accompanying Dan was after the success of the recent Stourbridge Blues another young Blues artist, similarly playing acoustic

The setting in the cellar bar is intimate to say the least, but an enthusiastic crowd of blues lovers had crowded in to see this talented young blues man from Shrewsbury. Another Blues Award Nominee, we seem awash with talented young artists in this genre; I am

happy to say.

Dan writes and performs some of his own songs, as well as fitting in old favourites from Robert Johnson, John Lee Hooker, Elmore James, as well as



Bob Dylan and Willie Dixon. Dan having played with the great Willie Dixon in Nashville. Look on YouTube and you will find a wonderful 'Roll Me Up and Smoke Me When I Die', which he played this evening acoustic guitar taking its usual bending and the box being well and truly stomped. Dan has an unusual, phenomenally well smoked voice, be sure to see him before his career rises too high, a cellar bar seems eminently suitable for such a blues performance.

Accompanying Dan was another young Blues artist, similarly playing acoustic guitar, but vocally entirely different, more a subtly smoked honeyed voice. Sanjay Brayne is 19 and recently recorded his first CD. Sanjay is yet another award nominee, this time it was the BBC young folk award. He draws influence from folk and roots blues but is essentially a blues acoustic guitarist and



singer. Unlike Dan he is not such an exponent on slide but rather depends on finger picking, playing with great maturity for his age. 'Fire Down Below' is his inaugural single release alongside a live recording of a session in Kingswinford's Woodman Folk Club, 'One Night Only'.

Though differing in there style, both Dan and Sanjay are skilled acoustic artists, both play with empathy for the blues. If you want a bit more fire and grit, then Dan is the man, Sanjay delivers a smoother, articulated, but still passionate package. Keep an eye out for both over this summer, they will be playing somewhere in the region, and worth the effort of booking your place.

by Graham Munn









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20:00 Carsette Days 21:00 Europe 22:00 Sunty Day Blore Sand

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19.30 James Martey 20:15 Lackfield

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GREAT MALVERN HOTEL

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All the bands and all the venues



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THE GLOSTER ARMS

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THE NAGS MEAD

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Alabama Chrome Stompin on Spider Killi O Connell

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vern rocks

festival of music

REVIEW - Faster Pussycat at Moochers Jailhouse, Stourbridge - July 10th

a new venue for me, in fact the place has only been open since October last year. As well as a couple of bars it has a room set aside for the performing arts and tonight we were to be entertained by US sleaze band Faster Pussycat with supporting bands The Art, from Australia, and local favourites Knock Out Kaine.

We got underway with The Art, a 4-piece out of Sydney that's received some very good reviews, all of which seemed to be fully justified. A combination of Britrock. flavoured with bits of RFM and Marilyn Manson soon had the crowd warming to them. Some of their songs can be a bit 'poppy' but generally there is an edgy feel to the rockier songs all of which were delivered with some



energy by Azaria Byrne, the band's vocalist. With support from Kara Jayne on bass, Ronnie Simmons on lead quitar and Jordan McDonald on drums, the band were the ideal opener.

Local band Knock Out Kaine were next. I'd not seen these before but they're another band getting some tremendous reviews particularly following their triumph. So many influences, so little time....some outrageous behaviour, big riffs, loud vocals. They took five songs from their



most recent album, House of Sins, and with Dean Foxx leading the way the rest followed in a raucous, irreverent set. 'Somebody Save Me' was performed by a cast of thousands, well, about a dozen in reality, when KoK were joined on stage by The Art and several members of Faster Pussycat. There was actually a sixth song, a homage to Axl Rose, delivering 'Sweet Child of Mine' in the style of Les Dawson, truly awful and truly funny in equal measures!

So to the headline band, 1980's Hollywood legends Faster Pussycat. What can I say, any band fronted by someone calling themselves Taime Downe (pronounced tie-me-down for the uninitiated) wearing a pseudo German army uniform, sporting black lipstick and an electronic cigarette, has to be worth seeing. Taime, who

Moochers Jailhouse on the outskirts of Stourbridge was was camper than a campervan full of camp blokes, pouted and strutted round the stage smoking his e-fag as he and his cohorts performed a string of songs from all 4 of their studio albums, most coming from the 2006 release 'The Power and the Glory Hole'. They are an iconic band who provided us with some impressive and highly entertaining glam-rock in an extended set.

> As for the Jailhouse, it's a very good venue, one which will. I hope continue to attract some bigger names who want to play small venues (the venue capacity is around 220 bodies). They have a good sized, uncluttered stage with a great sound system, well worth a visit if you want a night out. Oh, and the beers pretty good too!

Words & Pics: Rea Richardson





REVIEW - If Wet 3

Looking at my notes and their own review (pls see www.ifwet.org.uk) I still can't quite believe the breadth and quality of what was packed into just over 2 hours at this event!

Space here dictates a mere & insufficient overview, bells - wax cylinder but really if you are interested in sonic experimentation and/or music in the widest sense of the word, read their unexpurgated blog splurge (yum) and make sure you diarise future events. (NB If Wet 5 - Sunday 25th August 2-4pm) You won't regret it I promise!

Here is a teasing, free-form taster of what went on in Callow End Village Hall that fateful afternoon; the rest is up to YOU!



Requiem for a Foghorn - 3D printed mouthpieces for sax and tuba - gather round for a clavichord recital/brief history - musical saw - theremin - ventriloquist's dummy as vocalist - puppet percussionist - the bells the bells - wax cylinder recording for gramophone -



mill clog dancing: the first techno - bizarre, self-made synth - bass three-holed pipe...



I can't recommend If Wet enough: it's wonderfully curated & run by messrs Morton & Underwood and this is only the beginning of what I'm sure will lead to even greater sonic adventures.

Words by Delia Worcestershire Pics: Pete Ashton



Feature - The Indigo Kings - When I Turn Out the Light

around a few memory cells and make room for those three words, as you might just hear them coming from that will be on the music ty channels." vour radio soon.



Vintage pop band The Indigo Kings are proud to be local. They are based near Pershore, but this doesn't mean from it. They've set their sights on dizzy heights and this summer they are performing at some of the UK's most prominent jazz, blues and vintage festivals including Callander in Scotland and Twinwood, the UK's number 1 vintage and nostalgia festival.



The really big news though is that they are officially releasing their single. The song, called 'When I turn out the light', is in a vintage pop style, similar to the likes of Caro Emerald, Amy Winehouse and Paloma Faith:

which essentially blends jazz, blues and a bit of classic 1950s pop.

For Caroline Boucher, one of the band's lead singers, the most exciting part was filming the video for it. As the song's writer (along with Carl Ward-Brassington) it has been her labour of love from its first creation and naturally, when it came to making a music video for it, Caroline took the lead in producing and directing the video. "It was a fantastic experience but an exhausting process!" says Caroline. "It took several months to get from the early days of getting funding and designing the storyboard, to booking a film maker, hiring actors, finding filming locations and props. On the day of filming we were

If you haven't yet heard of The Indigo Kings, jiggle there for 15 hours! It was so tiring but immense fun and it's amazing to think that we made a professional music video

> The song features a woman who is essentially searching for Mr Right and the lyrics tell of three possible suitors. Caroline explains the theme behind the video "We wanted something quirky and fun, vintage/retro in style and a little different to the usual music videos, so we came up with the idea for a vintage 'Blind Date' parody called 'Blind Fate', complete with cheesy 1950s game show host and some handsome young men to be the contestants. It came across brilliantly on camera."

> The song itself is being released to radio stations and will have its live premiere at Lakefest (Bredon, near Tewkesbury) where The Indigo Kings are opening the main stage on 9th August. 'When I turn out the light' is available through iTunes, Amazon, Spotify and all good online outlets on 5th August.

> The video can be seen on the band's YouTube channel (linked from their website www.theindigokings.co.uk).

To keep up with the latest developments and to be first they're only concentrating on the local music scene, far to hear about band news, The Indigo Kings can be found on facebook (theindigokings), twitter (@theindigokings) and YouTube (TheIndigoKingsBand).





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A Window on Our World: an exhibition at the Commandery by Sarah Ganderton

Commandery.

The paintings are incredibly detailed, full of colour and light that adds a lovely atmosphere to the paintings. Artists with little or no vision have created stunning effects, with their detailed careful brushwork, use of effects to create light and colour and addition of effects such as sequins to make the piece more visible to themselves as well as to express their imagination and

creativity on canvas.

One of the artists said creating art with this group has helped her engage with the world and visual memory alive. All artists have created either the tiniest details, with careful strokes, or used bright colours to create an abstract quality or delicate contrasts to show a

The exhibition by Sight Concern of work by blind and brilliant quality of light and atmosphere. Each piece is as partially sighted artists was held at Worcester's individual as the artist and their quality of sight, and each is created to an incredible standard.



Although the exhibition is now finished, original paintings by this group are available to buy for £45-£125 and prints for a minimum donation of £20 and postcards for a donation of £3-£5, all from sight concern. For details contact them on 01905 332914 or email fundraising@sightconcern.co.uk



Cathedral exhibition: The Gift of Colour with Origin Arts by Sarah Ganderton

An exhibition by Origin Arts was held in the Dean's Chapel of Worcester Cathedral from 9th to 18th July. These paintings are the end result of classes around Worcester bringing together a diverse group of people in a social relaxed atmosphere.



The themes depicted in the paintings range from fantastical painting inspired by faith, to wildlife and farm animals. There are scenes inspired by the colour and beauty of the countryside in bright colours and full of light and there are some beautiful pictures from around Worcester including Worcester Cathedral in autumn and Powick bridge









The paintings are full of light, atmosphere, imagination and movement, and all the artists whose work are displayed are incredibly talented. For more details about purchasing prints or taking classes with Origin Arts, contact Rebecca Newell on 01905 355502 or email Becky.newell71@btinternet.com

Paintings by: Joan Hayes, Debbie Evans, Julie Harries, John E Price, Richard Newton

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Gazza goes back down under

Heads up working and gigging bands and performers from Worcestershire! Have any of you hard-working musos released any albums, EP's or singles in 2013? If so, would you like me to take your material over to Far North Queensland, Australia when I make my (now) annual pilgrimage to the country that is known as "God's Own"?

For the past four years, I have made the journey to the tropics of Queensland to have a bit of a holiday, to perform a bit of live music and to help to spread the gospel that it's Not Just Sauce that originates from Worcestershire! You see I like to let the Aussies know that there is an awful lot of great original music being produced in "The Shire" and they actually allow me on to their radio stations to plug Worcestershire produced music and better still, to play it! On Monday October 7th, I will be "on-air" with radio DJ Sally

Weavers, to present the "Not Just Worcestershire Sauce" radio show on Radio Port Douglas. The show will be dedicated to playing your original music and we will be "talking up" the working bands and performers from "The Shire". The show is a prime-time I drive-time broadcast across Far North Queensland and will be available around the planet via internet radio via Tune-In Radio (8 am in the UK). I will also be visiting radio stations in Cairns during my stay and I will hand over YOUR music and YOUR profiles to the radio station play-list managers, who have promised me that they will listen to the material and if they like it, will play it on their stations too.

So if you are a gigging or working band/performer from Worcestershire, writing and recording original songs and I stress original songs and not covers, you will need to get your material to me by Sunday 15th September. Your original music should be in CD or downloadable MP3 or Way formats and must be accompanied with a comprehensive press profile of yourself or your band in a PDF format (not more than 300 words with promotional photographs if you wish), with a current gig listing and contact details for the radio stations that like your material, to get in touch with you! You can contact me by e-mail (stompinonspiders@yahoo.co.uk) and I'll send you the details of where to send your material and profiles. Now it is all up to you to get your music heard "down-under"..... so don't miss out!

Gazza Tee stompinonspiders@yahoo.co.uk









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PREVIEW – Kidderminster Stuff - Boar's Head Gallery - 16th/17th Aug

Wastie, has teamed up with local singer/songwriter, Kate Wragg, to create an entertaining show about Arts Festival. Kidderminster past and present. The title of the show, "Kidderminster Stuff", refers to a heavy weight, multi-purpose cloth woven in the town until the 1700s.

For the past eighteen months, Heather has been interviewing people who once worked in the carpet industry, turning memories into songs and poems. One of the songs is a blues inspired by local people's nostalgic fondness for the sound of Brinton's Bull which once bellowed across the town five times a day. Nineteenth century poet Noah Cooke, known as the Weaver Poet, is also represented. Heather will perform the poem he wrote for the first edition of The Shuttle in 1870; she has also set his Weaver's Song to music, accompanying herself on accordion. Kate's songs focus on Kidderminster today and she too accompanies herself, on guitar. The two singers will combine for some pieces and there will be a few surprises!

Kidderminster Stuff is at the Boar's Head Gallery on Friday 16th August 7.30pm and the Museum of Carpet on Saturday 17th August 7.30pm. Tickets are limited so booking is advised. For further information see

Museum of Carpet Writer in Residence, Heather weavingyarns1.wordpress.com. The event is funded by Wyre Forest District Council and is part of Kidderminster

> Heather Wastie, Poet & Musician Writer in Residence, Museum of Carpet, Kidderminster http://www.weavingyarns1.wordpress.com http://www.WastiesSpace.co.uk http://soundcloud.com/heatherwastie



Photo courtesy of Kidderminster Shuttle





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STOPTHE RINGINGTHE SHOW

REVIEW 11:11 at the Marrs Bar, supporting AC/DC tribute band Riff Raff - 22nd June

The last time I saw 11:11 they were a two piece consisting of Benn Foster on guitar and Carl Sampson on drums, not the ideal set-up for a rock band. Since then, however, the band has added two new members, Josh Gill on lead guitar and Rob Briggs on bass. These additions have given the band a new depth and far more rocky sound than they could ever have achieved as a two-piece.

Tonight's gig was as support to local AC/DC tribute band Riff Raff who always attract a decent sized, and very enthusiastic, crowd. According to the lads of 11:11 this was the biggest audience they'd played to live and they didn't disappoint. Benn Foster has a characteristically punky voice, supplying strong lyrics alongside some very good music produced by the band.



added a few more of their own songs plus a couple of well known covers to round off a well executed support slot.

The band make some high quality noise and have a bright future, and maybe not just as a local band! They'll be out and about again soon, returning to the Marrs Bar as part of the Worcester Music Festival appearing with Fortress, Hostile and Fury. Soon you will also be able to see, quite literally, more of Benn Foster and Carl Sampson in the WMF Naked Band Calendar (my eyes, my eyes!), a charity offering which will be available in July and costing just a fiver, so put your hands in your pockets and support the good causes!

http://www.reverbnation.com/1111rocks for song details).

Words & Pics: Reg Richardson



This was an opportunity for 11:11 to promote their

recently released EP, Chapter XI. The three songs from the

EP, 'She's All Alone', 'Lovesick' and '6 Inch Heels' all got an

airing and sounded extremely good. In addition the band

CD REVIEW 11:11 - Chapter XI

Buy Chapter XI jump and around to this unabashedly retro rock experience.

Wonderfully screached 'n' screamed vocs join the joyous shredding & pounding to make a deliciously deranged & demonic delicacy, topped off with a whipped portion of sleaze.

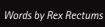
All four songs on this ep rip through your speakers with energetic urgency and the

Big Message here is FUCKING FUN!!! (Wilde is turning in his grave. Ed)

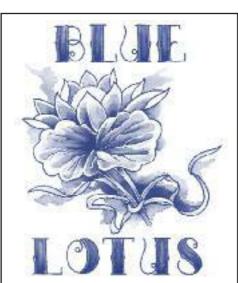
These lads know how to enjoy themselves and they're dragging you along for the helter-skelter ride whether you like it or not. So just give in - you know you wanna.

Described rather politely but accurately as "charismatic & entertaining" by the esteemed A O'Hare of this parish, you can however get no higher accolade and that's good enough for little ole me.

Turn it up to 11:11!







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REVIEW - Wooden Horse Passes Through The Gates At Symphony Hall - 27th July

A lovely setting for any gig, the foyer of a prestigious Symphonic Hall, opened to 'rush hour' sessions. This is the last of the folk afternoons, which sort of positions Wooden Horse's style of blues, i'ts what I would term armchair blues. I prefer a bit of raw grit as a choice, but that is not to dismiss this very accomplished band. They have many fine performances and resultant reviews from far more worthy people than I.

Today they have brought along friend Stu to take advantage of the Grand Piano that sits demanding attention from all who pass by.



CC Rider opens their set, an easy going, 'soft' blues with Ben Church's slide and harp coming straight into play. 'Waiting On You' brings a bit more pace with Jamie's stomp board coming through nicely.

'All Prayed Up' is a full on gospel song with Ben picking up his electric and Stu's piano adding to the feel. Roll back into the rocking chair on the cabin porch, for Robert Johnson's 'Hard Hearted Woman', a laid back country style blues, EC would be proud of.

The rain continues relentlessly in the background as Birmingham passes by, the numbers inside are growing, the sound drawing in and warming dampened spirits. 'Hell Aint Going Home' is a lively foot tapping country blues, feeding in to the excellent 'Get It Right', taken off the new Wooden Horse album. Another Johnson style, but self penned country blues. 'In My Heart' is also off the album with Ben back on electric guitar and bottle neck slide, subtle but nicely done. We are nearing a short break, CD's and EP's are being exchanged for coin, the CD has sold well and only a few copies remain, they will be gone by the close of set.

The rain has subsided, but numbers continue to swell anyway as we move through the remaining songs. Four particularly stood out for me, 'Sitting On top Of The World' has good solid rhythm and a nice bit of Stu's piano sneaking in. 'Holler and Stomp' is a well paced delta blues with Ben Back on his slide. Good strong vocals from Jamie, in 'Lonesome River' a slower ballad.



We head towards closing with enthusiastic audience support in the gospel styled 'Will The Circle Be Broken', excellent.

All in all a good early evening was spent by all, me included. I may still have a leaning to the gritty, dirty end of blues, but I can appreciate the softer approach presented by Wooden Horse. Some nice vocal harmonies, subtle slide and well crafted songs. Unsurprising that the CD is selling well and they have good support and feedback from artists and media alike. After today's performance, they will have gained many more supporters.

Words & Pics: Graham Munn



CIRCUIT SWEET HEREFORD SCENE with NAOMI PREECE

Circuit Sweet here in Herefordshire + environs.

Amongst other activities we've had multiple exclusive streams on our website, an interview with a local artist (see below), an album launch at Rise Records in Cheltenham. covered local gigs such as Keygreen at a community based event & had a week working with local charity Music Pool resulting in two performances at this year's Nozstock festival and at The lailhouse.

If that wasn't enough we've also been promoting our own act Aulos' return to Worcester Music Festival and hit the airwayes again on The MJ Price moment on Purple Radio.

Onto our exclusive interview with local act Jennifer Booton, whom we mentioned last month.

Having just released her debut EP 'Sirens', Jennifer is keen to increase her live performances thus further expanding her fanbase. We caught up with Jennifer to ask her the following Q's:-

Circuit Sweet (CS) - Hi Jennifer how long have you been playing and performing live?

I have been involved in music since a young age. I played the electone from the age of 7 to 14, I was also classically personally mean to you? trained vocally as a teenager and finally picked up the auitar at 15 and pretty much taught myself the basics & continued from there.

CS - What was it that first got you to pick up a guitar, to put pen to paper and write your own songs, to get the courage to sing those compositions and to direct your creativity?

I was the kind of kid that wrote diaries & I suppose was just always a little in tune with my artistic side. As a child I was busy performing in music groups, after school drama clubs and school concerts.

My initial songwriting was probably something very teenage-angst centric, but now hopefully my songs represent the type of music that influences me as well as giving people an idea about me.

It was initially extremely nervewracking opening out to friends and family and letting them hear what I

created, but I am very glad I did. Their support and kindness has probably been the most instrumental factor in to me expanding my music into the public domain.

CS - What outside influences trigger your creativity and create vour unique sound?

I guess a lot of influence and meaning behind the songs developed upon graduating from University. I found the transition from education to the 'real world' very hard, which is why I think I chose to sing about it. Also I write fairly

July has been a fantastic & manic month for live music & vicariously: I see how things happen to those around me & this informs my songs. Obviously other music influences me also & current faves include Ben Howard, Daughter and The National.

> CS - How would you personally describe your own sound?

> I always find this the hardest question!! I quess it's folk, perhaps contemporary pop-folk. It's melodic, quite easy aoing. That's the best I can do! You'll have to listen and decide for vourself...

> CS - With your upcoming EP do you have many live shows planned to promote it?

> Definitely: I am opening the Main Stage at Nozstock festival on Saturday morning and also playing lots of local festivals inc Ales N Bales in Little Dewchurch. The gigs have been brilliant in the way I have expanded my band and experimented with the songs. I play with two other guys at the moment who play lead guitar and bass and it's very exciting to add new layers to the tracks and develop them.

> CS - What does the final finished product of your EP

I will treasure it because it is the first thing I did professionally to make myself heard. I have learnt a lot about the recording process and myself through this project and have also got my name out there. It was all about moving forwards, upwards and onwards. I feel this EP really signifies that transition and progression.

> CS - At present you are an unsigned talent, but hopefully this won't last long. Is there a favourite label you'd like to work with?

> Loads! I always say Island because a lot of my heroes were on it such as John Martyn, but also I wouldn't mind Domino Parlophone.

> CS - What can we look forward to from you in the future?

Hopefully I will keep at it and be able to share more music with you: albums, EP's, more & bigger gigs!

There is so much I would like to do...

CS - And finally any last words from you?

Thank you for the interview and thanks again to everyone for being so supportive! I'm very lucky.

You can discover Jennifer's new EP 'Sirens' on Soundcloud and visit her of course on fbook.

Finally, if you would like to know more then email naomi@circuitsweet.co.uk or visit us on face book or twitter @circuitsweet.

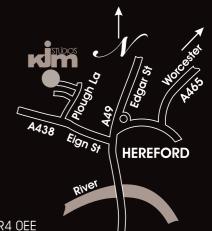






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PREVIEW SUPER SLAP SATURDAY AT WORCESTER ARTS WORKSHOP Sat 31st Aug



With the wealth of homegrown talent (and those from further afield wanting to get involved in our thriving scene), WMF presents its unique opportunity for SLAP to provide the most diverse musical discourse in the face of fierce but friendly rivalry.

Again we have teamed up with Worcester Arts Workshop and Café Bliss to bend and blend genres from folk to rock, pop to hip hop, blues to reggae, gypsy jazz to gypsy punk into an event of epic extent – all stamped with the SLAP seal of approval.

Kicking us off upstairs will be the enigma that is The

Collective. We can't really divulge too much at this stage as this would hamper the spontaneity but if you want to get involved, see that chap Phil with the huge horn!

After such potential madness it'll be a welcome relief to settle into the dulcet tones of



singer/songwriter Jennifer Ludlow who has been championed by some Dodgy geezer who lives in Pershore.

www.facebook.com/pages/Jennifer-Ludlow

It's been an unexpected coup to secure the next act from the short distance up the M5 - that there Birmingham village - for their debut for SLAP and in the City. XOVA (or Crossover!) are a six-piece band of indie-reggae fusiliers who really deserve a wider audience. Having played up and down the country, as well as in Europe, XOVA have supported such Brummie legends as The Beat and Ali Campbell, so we're really looking forward to witnessing the band in such an intimate environment. Don't miss it! www.xovalive.com



I was lucky enough to experience local Django Reinhardt acolytes, Trio Rosbif's final gig at the Lamb and Flag and left amazed but wondering why they were splitting up (and that I hadn't listened to mine host's recommendation before). Fear not for from the



ashes comes The Cris Tolley Trio - Cris and double bassist, Paul Smith, are joined by Shelley Trevelyan for some stripped down, up tempo jazz.

www.cristolleyguitar.com

Juey is a guitar, banjo, mandolin and harmonica wielding musician and singer from over the border in Gloucestershire. She has been described as a fine storyteller in the



traditional style incorporating rock and roll, country, blue grass and cajun. Warning: hearing live may induce goosebumps. www.iamjuey.com

The Machine Breakers are a powerful and passionate quartet comprising Julian Pollard on vocals and strumming guitar, Simon Othen on lead guitar, John Williams on bass and Jeremy Castle on drums. Their work is regularly played on radio throughout the country including The Mike Harding Show on BBC Radio 2. www.themachinebreakers.com



Another major coup for SLAP is the serendipitous return from Melbourne of former local girl, Rachel Clutterbuck AKA Rachel by the Stream, to headline the afternoon session. Rachel and collaborator, Mattriks, play an innovative mash-up of live looping and multi-instrumentalism to present a fresh, fun and eclectic fusion of dub grooves, folk sensibilities and r'n'b flavours; where sparkle sweet melody meets a thumping bottom end. RBTS have bookended their UK tour with Glastonbury and WMF so the Eavis family is in good company there! www.rachelbythestream.com



As evening draws in (and in the words of Paul Weller) we're going underground. Opening in the theatre Passengers, a three piece indie rock band who believe in writing songs with verv strong melodies, catchy hooks, inventive structure, loud guitar and a backline that drives. All of this is



delivered with a performance full of energy and smiles. www.reverbnation.com/newpassenger

Performing in the cellar in-between theatre acts for the whole evening, Shambollix ARE NOTHING like any other band THAT has EVER EXISTED. They bring a blend of comedy punk, performance art and genre mashups. Audience participation is obligatory.

https://www.facebook.com/shambollixcabaret?fref=ts

Next up, Mr Shankly is a Ska/Reggae/World Music band that formed in 2009 in Birmingham UK. With members from different parts of England, Greece, Canada and Jamaica, Mr Shankly, mixes the Ska with musics from all other the world in a dancing frame. www.mrshankly.com



One of the highlights of WMF 2012 were Nudvbronaue a crazv. interesting, and somewhat bizarre three piece from a little further afield in Swindon. They had energy reminded me of early The Clash or The Jam mixed with auirkiness of delivering a strange, yet fascinating live performance. There wasn't much of an

audience last year so, come on, let's show the guys the vibrant scene that their performance warrants.

www.nudybronque.co.uk



New band of the moment and another WMF debut, SLAP are proud to present The Rattlin Doors - a bitter, straight talking three-piece who enjoy purging dark thoughts on life from a farmhouse in the Worcestershire wilds. They play a caustic folk-rock, full of blunt wit, weighty riffs and galloping country rhythm; their tainted tales of country life are sardonic and short comprising characters and places as bizarre as they are comical. www.rattlindoors.com

To be bring the evening to a fitting close we have again chosen perennial favourites, Johnny Kowalski and the Sexy Weirdos, to headline Super SLAP Saturday at WMF. In a different world they would be playing at funerals in New Orleans, wedding parties in the Balkans or the musical agitators of a runaway circus. Tuba, fiddle, guitar, drums, trombone and trumpet blend Eastern European melody with the fire of punk.

www.sexvweirdos.co.uk





Please contact Bear on 07771 987 304 or 07989 130 139 or email Stephen@bearsgreatescapes.com

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The Boars Head, Kidderminster Open Mic with Tyler Massey West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

The Laurence Jones Band

Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Lewis Boulton The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Perry Foster's Open Mic Night The Chestnut, Worcester

Friday 2 August 2013

Malvern Rocks Festival (see centre spread) See Official Programme or visit: www.malvernrocks.com

Gravy Train The Millers Arms, Pershore

Green Bay (Tribute), The Bad Rats Marrs Bar, Worcester

Live/Wire The AC/DC Show Moochers, Stourbridge

The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Maid of Aces, Complete Dysfunction, Ross Lomas Adam & Eve, Birmingham

Still Crazy Queens Head, Wolverley

The Quik

Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Straight Aces Boars Head, Kidderminster

Jim Fox The Chestnut, Worcester

Allstars Dub Band The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

New Era Radio Live Dj's Eagle Vaults, Worcester

Eddie Martin, Missin' Rosie Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Aquarius Cap 'n' Gown, Worcester

The Underdogs Drummonds, Worcester

Green Bay, Bad Rats The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Heroes Of Hanoi Monroes Cellar Bar, Worcester

The Magoos Bar 12, Worcester

Saturday 3 August 2013

Malvern Rocks Festival (see centre spread) See Official Programme or visit: www.malvernrocks.com

Aquarius The Westcroft Arms, Droitwich

Delray Rockets, Vincent Flatts Final Drive – 3pm The Lower Lode Inn, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire

The John Steeds
The Oast House, Paper Mill Drive, Redditch

Rethink Mental Illness Charity Fundraiser – Goodnight, Lamplight, Wes Dance and Vince

Ballard & Marrsy's House Band The Chestnut, Worcester

High Voltage Star Inn Pershore

Dave Onions Stoke Priors Sports & Social Club

Kicks Summer Bash Adam & Eve, Birmingham

Blind Lemon Pavilion, Worcester

The Notorious Brothers Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Droitwich Legion, Droitwich

The Cock & Magpie, Bewdley

Allstars Dub Band Piesse of Piddle, Wyre Piddle

The Mock Rockers Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Cracked Actors + Support Boars Head, Kidderminster Zeppelin 3

The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove Delray Rockets
Callow End Social Club, Callow End

Sugar Mama Actress & Bishop, Birmingham

Wooden Horse The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Gazza Tee, From Reaching Distance, The Deathly Pale Party, Martin Thorne, Open Mic The Crown Inn, St. Johns, Worcester

Sunday 4 August 2013

Malvern Rocks Festival (see centre spread) See Official Programme or visit: www.malvernrocks.com

The Remi Harris Quartet - 5pm The Chestnut, Worcester

West Malvern Music Session West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

The Delray Rockets
Callow End Social Club, Callow End, Worcester

Jam night with Clive Oast House, Redditch

Monday 5 August 2013

Open Mic Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Tuesday 6 August 2013

Open mic with Enzo The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Open Mic with Nigel Clark of 'Dodgy' Millers Arms, Pershore

Open Mic with Pete Kelly Queens Head, Wolverley

Wednesday 7 August 2013

Marzys' Jam Night The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Open Mic Rė-Con, Great Malvern

Memphis

Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Irish Session Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Thursday 8 August 2013 Open Mic with Tyler Massey West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Ruben Seabright The Great Marvern Hotel, Malvern Honeyboy Hickling The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Acoustic Brew Showcase Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Worcester Beer, Cider, Perry & Music Festival Pitchcroft, Worcester

Friday 9 August 2013

Junction 7

Cross Keys, Bredon Hardwick, Tewkesbury

The John Steeds The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Worcester Beer, Cider, Perry & Music Festival Pitchcroft, Worcester

Lakefest

Croft Farm Waterpark, Nr Tewkesbury

The Delray Rockets The Anchor, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire

Blues and Beer Festival – Dave Onions; Boperator; Sarah Warren; Robert Hokum and the Guvnors; Stomp & Holler; Dr Teeth Steve Steinhaus Jinny Ring, Hanbury

Liquor & Poker Band Moochers, Stourbridge Come Up & See Me Drummonds, Worcester

Otis Mack & The Tubby Bluesters Queens Head, Wolverley

Di Night Boars Head, Kidderminster

Soul Strutters Cafe Rene, Gloucester **Peatbog Faeries** The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Paul White and Ray Mynton The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

No Exit The Millers Arms, Pershore

The Jam DRC Adam & Eve, Birmingham

Saturday 10 August 2013

Kaf & The Boars Head Present Kidderminster Fringe Festival. with The Leah Cullem Band, Kate Wagg, The Bearded Ladies, Rustling, Paul Havard, 10:49, Vault of Eagles, Dale Von Minikar Band. Boars Head, Kidderminster

The Dodford Inn, Dodford

Blues & Beer festival - Including Retrovibe & Reflections Jinny Ring, Hanbury

Idunnomate! Star Inn, Pershore

The Systematics, Supanaut + Afterparty Adam'& Eve, Birmingham

Worcester Beer, Cider, Perry & Music Festival Pitchcroft, Worcester

Not So Merry Men Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove Vue Bar Open Mic, Done By Sunrise Severn View Hotel, Worcester

Croft Farm Waterpark, Nr Tewkesbury

Hgglebag Chestnut, Worcester

The Gabbidon Band The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Houghton Weavers Huntingdon Hall, Worcester Underdogs Pavilion, Worcester

Tower Studios Presents -Skewwhiff, Rattlin Doors, Richard Clarke & the Rafters The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Bon Jovi UK The Swan Theatre, Worcester

5:15 Callow End Social Club, Callow End

Moochers House Band Moochers, Stourbridge Two Dollar Salad Re-Con, Great Malvern

Ant Cox and Guests The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Sunday 11 August 2013

The Reflections The Jinney Ring, Hanbury Road, Hanbury

West Malvern Music Session West Malvern Social Club, Malvern Dead Like Me, Black Veins

The Pig & Drum, Worcester

Remy Harris Trio & quest Queens Head, Wolverley

Lakefest Croft Farm Waterpark, Nr Tewkesbury

Jam night with Clive Oast House, Redditch

Kaf & The Boars Head Present Kidderminster Fringe Festival with Red Dog, Bo Pilar, Rubicava, Alex Round, Time of the Mouth, Hyperreality & Sucio Suzie Boars Head, Kidderminster

Monday 12th August 2013

Folk Session Lamb and Flag, Worcester Dave Onions Cock & Magpie, Bewdley

Tuesday 13 August 2013

Color Three Re-Con, Great Malvern

Open mic with Enzo The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Open Mic with Pete Kelly Queens Head, Wolverley

Wednesday 14 August 2013

Acoustic Music Session The Farriers Arms, Worcester

Will McNicol Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Marzys' Jam Night The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Open Mic Re-Con, Great Malvern

Thursday 15 August 2013

Fizzog Productions – May Contain Nutty Bits Moochers, Stourbridge

Open Mic with Tyler Massey West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Replay, Dublin Jacks The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Perry Foster's Open Mic Night Chestnut, Worcester

Acoustic Brew Showcase Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

David Murphy's, Stourbridge

Brothers Groove The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Cris Tolley Trio (inaugural gig) Lamb and Flag, Worcester

Friday 16 August 2013

XSLF Ex Stiff Little Fingers, Walter and the Softees Starlite Rooms, Hereford United FC, Hereford

Aranka's Cackle Cafe Rene, Gloucester Suzi & The Backbeats Queens Head, Wolverley

Rock against Cancer Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Poetry Night Boars Head, Kidderminster

Voice Of The Heart – The Music Of The Carpenters Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

A good old knees up and a sing along night.. The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Planet Rock UK
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove
Will Kilger Bond

Will Kileen Band Millers Arms, Pershore

Bridget & The Big Girls Blues Droitwich Legion, Droitwich

Lisa Wychbold Legion, Wychbold, Bromsgrove

Skin Deep Cap n Gown, Worcester

Saturday 17 August 2013

Aquarius The Wheelhouse, Upton upon Severn

Mother Popcorn Pavilion, Worcester

Three D
The Cock & Magpie, Bewdley

Liquor & Poker Band Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

The Emma Kotra Band Callow End Social Club, Callow End

Festivals Experience The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Dj Night Boars Head, Kidderminster

The Marabooboo All Stars Star Inn Pershore The Infamous Five

Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove
HEY YOLL GUYSLIP Launch, This Wicked Tongu

HEY YOU GUYS! LP Launch, This Wicked Tongue, Erica The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Ranagari Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Enzo and Mark.. The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Darklands Moochers, Stourbridge Executives
Bidford Legion, Bidford

Sunday 18 August 2013

Aquarius The Old Sticky Wicket, Redditch

Rio Laurenti Gheluvelt Riverside Park, Worcester

Ray Stroud Chestnut, Worcester

Steve Ajao Jazz Queens Head, Wolverley

Worcester Ukulele Club Gheluvelt Riverside Park, Worcester

Horizon Lights Band Gheluvelt Riverside Park, Worcester

Jam night with Clive Oast House, Redditch

West Malvern Music Session West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Monday 19 August 2013

Open Mic Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Tuesday 20 August 2013

Open mic with Enzo The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Open Mic with Pete Kelly Queens Head, Wolverley

Wednesday 21 August 2013

Marzy's Jam Night The Marrs Bar, Worcester Kris Dollimore Cafe Rene, Gloucester Open Mic

Re-Con, Great Malvern

Irish Session Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

The Delray Rockets The Masons Arms, Wichenford, Worcester

Thursday 22 August 2013

Open Mic with Tyler Massey West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Clockwork Rifle Re-Con, Great Malvern

Acoustic Brew Showcase Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Pure Instinct The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Emma White
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Friday 23 August 2013

Sweet Fanny Adams Queens Head, Wolverley

Upton Festival Upton Upon Severn, Worcestershire

Isolated Atoms Moochers, Stourbridge

Stone Farm Drummonds, Worcester

Anesis The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

The Delray Rockets
The Black Lion, Hereford

Skabucks The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Acoustic Brew Beer Fresival Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Ska Weekend. The Cabstars, StiffCrack Boars Head, Kidderminster

Lisa Bidford Legion, Bidford

Harriet Amos Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Fylthe Millers Arms, Pershore

Roy Orbison & Friends with Barry Steele The Swan Theatre, Worcester

Karla Milton Collective Re-Con, Great Malvern

The Wrens
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Saturday 24 August 2013

Stiff Joints Boars Head, Kidderminster

Retroflector The Black Lion, Hereford

Our Mutual Friend The Dodford Inn, Whinfield Road, Bromsgrove

The Coalition Callow End Social Club, Callow End

Acoustic Brew Beer Festival Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Plum Festival The Angel, Pershore Lion Beer & Music Festival Lion Inn, Clifton upon Teme

Aquarius
The Oak Apple, Spetchley Road, Worcester

Hanncoxx Pavilion, Worcester

Slowburner The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Terry Clarke Band Star Inn Pershore

Upton Festival Upton Upon Severn, Worcestershire

The Cross Keys Real Ale Festival The Cross Keys, Bredon's Hardwick, Tewkesbury

The Reflections Hanbury Village Hall, Hanbury Road, Hanbury

Jim Fox The Chestnut, Worcester

Junction 7 The Castle, Doitwich

Bravo Boys The Cock & Magpie, Bewdley Remi Harris Gypsy Jazz Project Artrix, Bromsgrove

The Muffin Men The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Kinver Edge Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

The Film Orchestra
The Swan Theatre, Worcester

Cabstars Cafe Rene, Gloucester Gwyn Ashton The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Allstars Dub Band The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

ABBA Reunion Show Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Sunday 25 August 2013

If Wet No. 5 – Kathy Hinde, Nikki Pugh 2-4pm Callow End Village Hall

Shooglenifty Artrix, Bromsgrove

West Malvern Music Session West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Acoustic Brew Beer Fresival Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Hop Pole Cider Festival Dan Greenaway, Stiff Joints, Dilema Council The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Gwyn Ashton Solo Show The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Plum Festival The Angel, Pershore Jam night with Clive Oast House, Redditch

Queens Head, Wolverley

Monday 26 August 2013

Dave Onions Cock & Magpie, Bewdley An Evening Of Burlesque The Swan Theatre, Worcester

An Michael Law's Piccadilly Revellers Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

The Delray Rockets - 4:00pm The Prince of Wales, Birmingham

Bank Holiday Music Queens Head, Wolverley

Folk Session Lamb and Flag, Worcester

Open Mic Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Tuesday 27 August 2013

Open mic with Enzo The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Folk Night
Millers Arms, Pershore
Open Mic with Pete Ke

Open Mic with Pete Kelly Queens Head, Wolverley

Wednesday 28 August 2013

Gloucester Studio Presents 'Best of Glos' Music Night Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Marzys' Jam Night The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Open Mic Re-Con, Great Malvern

Irish Session Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Thursday 29 August 2013

Trio Valore Moochers, Stourbridge

Open Mic with Tyler Massey West Malvern Social Club, Malvern Perry Foster's Open Mic Night The Chestnut, Worcester

Tom Walker The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Amy Sharp The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Acoustic Brew Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Friday 30 August 2013

Worcester Music Festival See festival guide for more details or visit: www.worcestermusicfestival.co.uk

Junction 7 Cross Keys, Bredon Hardwick, Tewkesbury

Jibbafish The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

The Manc Lads Boars Head, Kidderminster

Funkinsteins Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Barrel House Blues Band The Millers Arms, Pershore

The Delray Rockets The Blue Bell Inn, Ryall, Upton Upon Severn

Moseley Folk Festival Moseley Park, Birmingham

Bethan & The Morgans Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Killerstream Drummonds, Worcester

Jeff Clarke The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Saturday 31 August 2013

Worcester Music Festival See festival guide for more details or visit: www.worcestermusicfestival.co.uk

Skint Rainbow Hill Club, Mayfield Road, Worcester

Final Measure The Cock & Magpie, Bewdley

Bunter and The Vibes Moochers, Stourbridge

Mods and Sods Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Moseley Folk Festival Moseley Park, Birmingham

Music For Myriad - Fundraiser - see ad (right) Pillar of Salt, Droitwich www.notjustsauce.cor

istings in conjunction with

Two Dollar Salad Star Inn Pershore

The Fingers Callow End Social Club, Callow End

The Acoustic Folkj/Jam Session The Farriers Arms, Worcester

The Wholls
The Artrix, Bromsgrove
Over Atlantic
Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove
On The House (House DJ's)
Metro Bar, Worcester

Andre Kanix The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Missing Lynx Queens Head, Wolverley Avoncroft

Museum
Super Sur

Friday 6

Super Summer Selection Friday 6th September

A Fund rasing one night festival with

BarkerBartlett

Andy Casserley
Dan Greenaway

The Kaleidoscope Theatre Co Cuckoo's Nest A Merrie Noyse

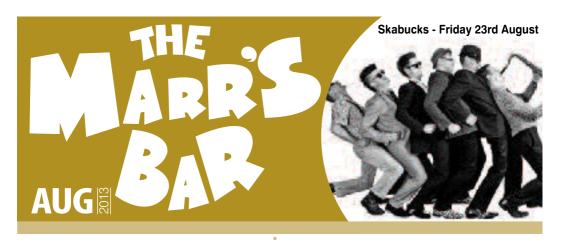
Moseley Village Band.
Alex Rainsford. Asum Gras Molly
Christeni Banacu, and many others

Tickets £15.00 07930 557 493

Avoncroft Museum

Stoke Heath Bromsgrove B60 4JR





Friday 2nd
Green Bay (Green Day Tribute)
supported by The Bad Rats
£5.00 a ticket £7.00 on the door

Saturday 3rd
Wreckless Club Night (Indie/Rock)
£2 between 11-12 or £3 12-4

Saturday 10th
Tower Studios Presents
Skewwhiff, Rattlin Doors and
Richard Clarke and the Rafters
£3.00 door or £4.00 after 9pm

Saturday 17th
Album Launch - HEY YOU GUYS
This Wicked Tongue & Erica
FREE ENTRY - If you join this
event On facebook or £3.00 door
Wreckless Club Night (Indie/Rock)
£2 between 11-12 or £3 12-4

Friday 23rd
Skabucks
£5.00 a ticket £7.00 on the door

Saturday 24th
The Muffin Men
£8.00 a ticket £10.00 on the door
Wreckless Club Night (Indie/Rock)
£2 between 11-12 or £3 12-4

Sunday 25th

Gwyn Ashton Solo Show

£5.00 a ticket £6.00 on the door

Friday 30th Worcester Music Festival Hosted by Fury Fury, Fortress, 11:11 and Hostile FREE ENTRY

Saturday 31st
Worcester Music Festival
hosted by Task in Hand
Richard Clarke and the Rafters,
The Joy of Sex, Stuntdog
& Lunar Park
FREE ENTRY

Wreckless Club Night (Indie/Rock) £2 between 11-12 or £3 12-4

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