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Issue 73

Sep 2017

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Sep 2017 MAGAZINE

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Unit 3a, Lowesmoor Wharf,

Worcester WR1 2RS

Telephone: 01905 26660

editorial@slapmag.co.uk

For advertising enquiries, please contact:

adverts@slapmag.co.uk

EDITORIAL

Mark Hogan - Editor
Kate Cox - Arts Editor
Emily Branson - Sub Editor
Christopher Murphy - Sub Editor

CONTRIBUTORS

Andy O'Hare
Will Munn
Graham Munn
Geoffrey Head
Emily Branson
Rita Dabrowicz
Steve Glazzard
Dan Knight
Steven Glazzard
Dazz Green
K Massey
Heidi Murphy
Holly Burman
Toni Hollings
Suz Winspear
Ian Passey
Kate Cox

Design

Mark Hogan

Web & Social Media

Ant Robbins
Katherine Harris

Publisher Printers

The Whole Hog
Vernon Print



@slapmaguk

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Hello everyone, August has come and gone in a flash it seems, as the festivals all blurred into one big crazy party, one which the inclement weather couldn't spoil.

In this issue we take a look back at just a few of those wonderful weekends such as the fabulous Jinney Ring Blues Festival, the hugely successful Drunken Monkey Rock Festival which raised a staggering £14K for Air Ambulance, the incredible Lakefest at Eastnor of course, and finally the Old Bush Blues Festival, where we took our front cover image of performer Lorna from Northsyde.

We're not quite at the end of the festival season just yet, there's still plenty to look forward to. Take a look at the local festival guide on page 36 and see what takes your fancy. Although we are beginning to move indoors for a few of them...

The big one, outside of Birmingham, is of course the Worcester Music Festival which celebrates its 10th year this September. It's bigger and better than ever before with new venues getting involved and exciting new features such as Spoken Word & Comedy events. Please check out the guide on the centre spread for a sneaky overview of what to expect in a couple of weeks...

We are also over the moon to help spread the word about the very first Worcestershire Pride event taking place this month, supporting the LGBT community and promoting equal rights but above all acceptance for sexual and gender minorities. Check out our preview on page 8 and visit the website for up to date information.

For fans of sculpture and large art installations, there's the Jinney Ring Annual Sculpture trail as well as the Elemental Sculpture Park near Cirencester both open to the public throughout September - see pages 10 & 11.

So if you're bored this September, tell someone else 'cos I ain't listening...

Deaf Ed



Front cover image - Lorna Fothergill of Northsyde at The Old Bush Blues Festival - photography by Graham Munn

Re-Deco-Rating Building

The University of Worcester have announced plans for a new arts and design centre for the city to be based in the former furnishings, car dealers and carpet premises in Castle Street. The appropriately art deco styled building was originally built in 1939 and features the distinctive clock tower. New studio and exhibition spaces are planned for the inside with the exterior retaining the period styling!

Boomtown Set to Explode

In contrast to most of the 'veteran' bands still doing the circuit - **The Boomtown Rats'** appearance at the **Concert Of Legends** at New Road on September 8th is almost unique in that the band actually still consists of the core four of the six original members. The Rats formed in 1975 and enjoyed probably the greatest chart success of any of the new wave acts - calling it a day in 1986 before reforming in 2013...



Our House in the middle of Malvern

Something a little different at **Malvern Theatres** from 11-16th September with performances of the 'Madness Musical' *Our House* by **Tim Firth** - the writer also of *Calendar Girls* and *Kinky Boots* - interesting!



Hollywood to Perrywood

It's your last chance to see a taste of the golden age of Hollywood on offer at **Worcester City Art Gallery and Museum** until 9th September. Among the many personal items and showbiz props on display at the Celebrity exhibition will be Fred Astaire's dancing shoes, Marilyn Monroe's little black dress and Doris Day's bracelet. There's also more recent signed items from Chuck Berry and Oasis - plus a Michael Jackson tour jacket - not to be missed...

Folk Singer for Malvern Folk

Acclaimed folk singer **Kate Rusby** will celebrate her 25 years in music with a stopover at **Malvern's Forum Theatre** on Thursday 19th October with a supporting cast of the 'cream of British folk musicians' - more at malvern-theatres.co.uk

Loud & Proud

A sharp rise in the number of reported homophobic hate crimes in the South Worcestershire region in the last couple of years was the prompt behind the pride event scheduled for Saturday 23rd September on the Copenhagen Street car park featuring stalls, dance tent and live music on the main stage. **Daniel Somerville** of **Worcestershire Pride** said that cities which host pride events have lower rates of hate crime - here's hoping!

Uke Kidding Me??

Worcester Ukulele Club are celebrating after being rated by US website Ukulele Music Info as the 14th best ukulele club in the world! Formed six years ago the club play about 80 charity fundraising gigs a year and meet every Monday evening at Fownes Hotel. Enthusiastic club member **Eirlys Hughes** added "We just love what we're doing. When we do a performance people hear us playing and just want to join us". New members always welcome! worcester-uke-club.co.uk

Happy Birthday Bromyard Folk

Congratulations to **Bromyard Folk Festival** for reaching its 50th year - the event which takes place at Bromyard Town FC and at various venues around the town runs from 8th-10th September features acts from around the world - a long way since starting as a 'ceilidh in a shed' in 1968!! bromyardfolkfestival.co.uk

LAZY SUNDAY 10TH SEP'17

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Friday 1 September



BENNETT FAMILY SINGERS

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+ BRYN TEELING

Friday 29 September



CHRIS PUREKA

(Portland Oregon)

+ ESTHER TURNER

Friday 20 October



EAST OF THE SEVERN

Pete Williams – Liz Berry - Mish Maybe
Black Country String Orchestra

Friday 10 November

SARI SCHORR
and
THE ENGINE ROOM



Friday 6 October



ROGER McGOUGH

Thursday 12 October



T'PAU



Sunday 8 October



GRAHAM GOULDMAN

Friday 13 October



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www.musicinthehall.co.uk – www.bewdleyfestival.org.uk

Recovering from the truly and totally fantastic **Nozstock The Hidden Valley**, then wild times at the immersive capital of festivals **Boomtown** (see image below), followed by lush tranquillity at **Green Man Festival**, I'll be following on from one crazy 6 weeks at festivals with two events this month. Starting of course with the fabulous **Worcester Music Festival (15-17th)**, where I shall be promoting a night of beats and grooves on Fri 15th Sept at **St Swithuns Institute**, with music from **Capas**, **King Solomon Band** and another act TBC (sadly Bandini have had to cancel). And look out for those **Tinkle Me** pianos, a collaboration with **Capas**, dotted around the city..



Plus a unique opportunity to enhance your drawing skills with **Life Drawing with Acrobatics!** Don't expect anything to stay still for long! Working from a (clothed) moving model, capture the essence of movement working from a live acrobat-performer.

Sat 9th Sept. £35. Studley Parish Centre, Old Vicarage Gardens, Studley, B80 7SG
artistsworkhouse.com

Arts at Worcester Music Festival

With the **Worcester Music Festival** in its 10th year this month, here is a brief look at some of the arts taking place alongside all the fine bands and performances. There is a new spoken word event taking place on **Sunday 17th at Drummonds**, featuring **Casey Bailey**, **Nick Lovell** and **Jake Scott**. It also offers us a performance from **St Paul's Hostel Creative Group**, formed six years ago to provide patrons of the hostel with the opportunity to express themselves. Get creative with **Spare Room Arts** for a whole range of kids activities all day sat and sun from 11am til 5pm, including festival fashion and band badge making, and a **Worcester Music Festival** mural. Then on Sunday night at **St Swithuns Institute** there is a new comedy night, featuring **James Cook**, **Masai Graham**, **Pete Teckman** and **Karen Bailey**. And remember to look out for the **Tinkle Me pianos** in the city, a collaboration between **Click Click Collective** and **Capas** to encourage access to music making! worcestermusicfestival.co.uk



Derren Nugent@safeconcerts

Then on 27th of the month, get along to **Bottles Winebar**, Worcester for an immersive Speakeasy and gin tasting evening, where I'll be producing the immersive pop ups and playful characters. The evening also features a performance from **Collective 43**. klikklikcollective.com

Artists Workhouse

A new solo exhibition features this month with works by **Emma Safe**, inspired by **Stravinsky's The Rite of Spring** (and the title of the exhibition) exploring his music through a series of shifting elemental abstractions punctuated by dancing and disappearing figures.

1st - 10th September 2017.
Artists Workhouse, Studley, Warwickshire, B80 7AU. 11-4pm (closed Mon & Tues)



Conquest Art

Conquest Art is a charity, inspiring people with disabilities and long-term health issues to discover their creative energy and build self-confidence through art. They are running a new group starting on **Tuesday 3rd October** with sessions at just £1 per week (the first session is free) and all materials and refreshments provided.

St Mark in the Cherry Orchard, Orchard Street, Worcester, WR5 3DW. 1:15 to 4:15pm.

For further information on becoming a member or volunteer please phone 020 3044 2731 / email enquiries@conquestart.org or see our website www.conquestart.org



**For Arts Submissions
& Events email Kate at
arts@slapmag.co.uk**

Baby Blues

Forthright Theatre present *'Baby Blues'* inspired by true stories about postnatal depression. Told with humour and honesty *'Forthright'* use movement and spoken word, integrated with blues music, to explore how actions can reveal thoughts we would rather keep hidden. Written by **Andy Higgitt** (in collaboration with director **Naomi Said**) *Baby Blues* is the second of a trilogy of work



on mental health, the first being *Gary & Robert Blues*, a one man show looking at men's mental health. **Forthright Theatre** is the production arm of **Jestaminute Community Theatre CIC**. *Baby Blues* is funded by **ACE** and **Worcester County Council**.

Cheltenham Everyman 22nd 23rd September 7.45pm. £5. Box Office - 01242 572573 www.everymantheatre.org.uk

Artrix Bromsgrove 24th September 2.30 pm. £5. Box Office - 01527 577330. www.artrix.co.uk

A poster for 'Circle of Swords' featuring the title in a large, ornate, golden font against a dark blue background with a subtle sword pattern. Below the title, the text 'GOOD • HONEST • TATTOOING' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. Further down, the address '2-4 TRINITY STREET, WORCESTER, WR1 2PW' and the times 'TUESDAY - SATURDAY: 10:00 - 18:00' are listed. At the bottom, the phone number '01905 780606' is provided. Social media icons for Facebook and Instagram are also present, with the handles 'CIRCLEOFSWORDSWORCESTER' and 'CIRCLEOFSWORDS' respectively.

CIRCLE OF SWORDS

GOOD • HONEST • TATTOOING

2-4 TRINITY STREET, WORCESTER, WR1 2PW

TUESDAY - SATURDAY: 10:00 - 18:00

01905 780606

CIRCLEOFSWORDSWORCESTER CIRCLEOFSWORDS

Call for writers young and old!



Evesham Festival of Words is running a short story competition, with an open theme and several categories: adult (16+) with a word count of 2500 words, and two Junior categories: 8 – 11 years and 12 – 15 years, with a word count of 1000 words. With prizes up for grabs too, please submit previously unpublished work by email to info@eveshamfestivalofwords.org between 1st November 2017 and 23rd March 2018.

Entry fee: Adult £5, Junior free

More information available at www.eveshamfestivalofwords.org

Dancefest new term!

Dancefest's autumn term starts on **Wednesday 13th Sept**. They have weekly dance classes for all ages, a range of performance companies and regular guest workshops.

There are lots of new classes starting this term, including **Adult Ballet Barre** - Beginners at the **Angel Centre** in Worcester on **Tuesdays at 6.15pm**, a **Gifted and Talented** class for 7-10s on **Thursdays at 4.15pm** at the **Riverside campus** of the University of Worcester, and **Worcester Dancefest Fit** for 18+ on Thursday evenings at **The Green Centre**.



There's an audition for a new **Worcestershire Youth Dance Company** for 11 to 14 year olds at 5.30-7pm on Thursday 28 September at the University of Worcester, and Dancefest's performance companies have lots of projects planned for the year ahead, starting with performances for **Worcester Victorian Fayre** alongside **Klik Klik Collective**, and **Friends of Fort Royal Winter Solstice** celebration.

You can find out more and book on to all of Dancefest's classes and projects at dancefest.co.uk or by ringing 01905 611199.

Worcestershire Pride

Saturday 23rd September will see the first **Worcestershire Pride Festival** take place at South Quay and Copenhagen Street Car Park, Worcester.

There will be a whole host of live acts and music performances for your entertainment, a riverside market, an outside bar, a dance tent, a chill out zone, local vendors, food stalls, face painting and family fun. This FREE event will start at midday with a speech by the Mayor of Worcester who will open this LGBT+ event on the main stage! Live entertainment will go on throughout the day until 8pm.

There will be a multitude of artists performing on the main stage situated in Copenhagen Street car park. Included in the line up will be girl band **Fuzzbox**, **Beth Prior**, **Muddy Summers**, **Dan Brown**, **Zara Sykes**, **Stuart Woolfenden**, **Elea Calvet**, **George Howes**, **Roosa** and **Jared**, **Nth Cave** and the **Wymsical Theatre**. There will also be performances to enjoy by local drag artists **Yshee Black**, **Woofy Powder** and **Jenna Divinci**.



Your compères for the day will include Worcestershire's own bearded wonder **Prinxx** and the incomparable **Ginny Lemon**, who, has been taking the world by storm since winning the Midlands Drag Idol competition 2017. Ginny will also be showcasing her talents as a contemporary queer vocalist and comedian - expect alternative pop with plenty of glamour!

The event is being organised by a group of local Worcestershire residents who have formed the **Worcestershire Pride Committee**. The committee believe in supporting, empowering and connecting the LGBT+ community and promoting equal rights and acceptance for all sexual and gender minorities within our county.

Everyone is welcome to the event to help celebrate love, diversity, inclusivity and togetherness. There will also be a **LGBT+ Arts Festival** between 18th-29th September at **The Hive** and **Cafe Bliss**. See worcestershirepride.org for further details.

K.Massey



worcester arts workshop

From Henry VIII to OKCupid: Portraits, The Original Selfies



Portraiture has been around since the Roman times, and for centuries, it was used in European society as a way of flaunting wealth and stature. It was a way to immortalise your memory as someone who mattered in the grand scheme of things.

Portraits were also able to tell suitors in far off lands what you looked like, which was helpful in times of political marriages between royal families. Famously Henry VIII's fourth wife, Anne of Cleves reportedly did not

look like her portrait; and this led Henry to annul the marriage 6 months after their wedding in 1540.

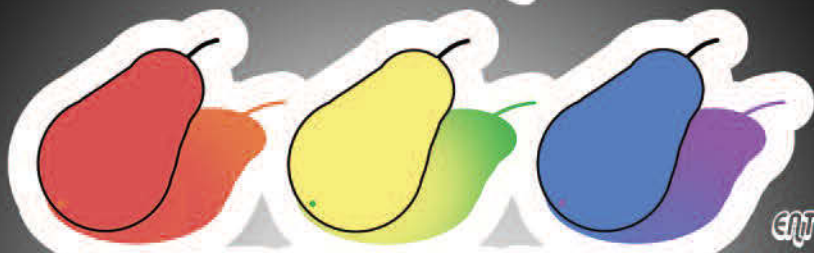
After the industrial revolution, and as social mobility began to take a bigger hold in England, portraiture became more socially available; although the skill was still primarily the domain of men. In the 1800s, young women would share their 'likeness' with potential suitors. These were small portraits that were commissioned by the upper middle classes with the hope that it would help their available daughters marry into money and stability. Think every Jane Austen novel.



This brings us to 2017 and the portrait course at the **Worcester Arts Workshop**, a course run by artist **Andrew Clacher**. It builds on classical learning from portraiture's rich past; whilst being open and welcoming to all regardless of experience. So, if you would like a Tinder profile photo that helps you stand out from the crowd; the course runs on Thursdays, 7-9pm in term time.

More information can be found on our website at www.worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk

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The Elemental Sculpture Park Somerford Keynes, near Cirencester

I walk along a wooded path in the hazy sunshine until I come upon a beautifully manicured clearing in the trees. There are dragonflies everywhere. Suddenly one flies straight over my shoulder and lands on a bird's back - a swallow. The swallow doesn't move...it's made of wire and glass.

The Elemental Sculpture Park - home to almost 150 works of art - sits on the edge of the **Cotswold Water Park** near Cirencester. For a fine arts exhibition and saleroom it is singularly unpretentious - an entrance you could easily miss, as two cars ahead of me do, and a small gravelled car park leading to a neat tearoom and outdoor eating area.

But twenty metres down the pathway, you're into a completely different dimension. Huge flowers spring up directly from the earth, figures rest in between bushes, faces surround you, there's delicacy here, and power too with unfamiliar colours standing starkly out against the muted green and brown of the woodland backdrop. The stainless steel leaves of **Stuart Stockwell's** silent, dazzlingly beautiful mobile "*Oak*" move gently in the slight breeze, twisting, turning and rotating with great serenity.

Stainless steel also forms the medium for some of the most striking individual exhibits - **Hillary Cartmel's** "*Janus*" glares menacingly, while **Carole Andrews'** massive, organic flower sculptures "*White Villosa*" and "*Red Villosa*" tower above you like alien life forms, while her stunning blue aluminium work "*Glandiflora*" piles flower upon flower as it lifts skyward. To my relatively untutored eye, Andrews is the star of this particular show - magnificent work.



As you walk deeper into the wooded areas, the natural copses and breaks in the trees are utilised for some pretty outstanding statuary. **Peter Garrard's** startling ceramic busts, "*Adam and Eve*" and an untitled large bust with the top of its head sheared off like a boiled egg have particular impact. Down a short fork in the path, the face of **Pete Tatham's** huge "*Atlas*" strains at the weight of the World on his shoulder.



The animal kingdom is represented by **Tanya Russel's** stately "*Leopard Portrait*", while in a rather more domestic vein, her "*Yorkshire Terrier*", extremely finely detailed, looks up expectantly at you while insects, ceramic and real are drawn to the riot of colour in **Renee Kilburn's** "*Flowers*".

There is literally something to interest everyone here.



The whole park will take you an hour or so to walk round, and the paths of two alternate routes are well marked, or like me you could just zig-zag randomly along, drawn to whatever piece catches your eye. It'll cost you a fiver to get in, with children under 13 at half that price. The Park is open until **30th September**, but is closed on Tuesday and Wednesday.

www.elementalsculpturepark.com

Geoffrey Head



Roll of the Dice - David Hartland

The Jinney Ring Annual Sculpture Trail

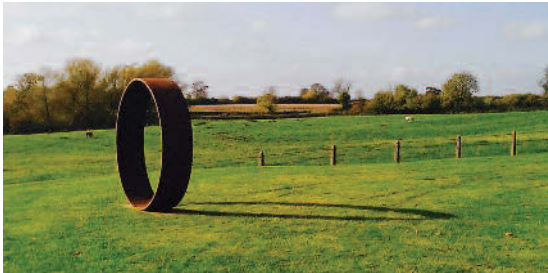
The **Sculpture Trail** around the gardens and ponds of the **Jinney Ring Craft Centre** has been running for over 10 years and usually exhibits over 100 different works of art. This trail is firmly fixed on both the general tourist and the art lover's map, and provides a great reason to plan a visit to the Worcestershire craft centre this September.

The trail features new as well as returning artists from around the country, creating an exhibition of dramatic sculptures with a range of media and subject matter, set against the stunning backdrop of the Malvern Hills. The placement of each piece offers inspiration for adding sculptural art to your own garden. All sculptures are for sale or commission, with prices to suit most pockets.

Key pieces on the trial are the striking abstract structures by **Simon Probyn** from Herefordshire who has been awarded a gold

The **Jinney Ring Craft Centre** is situated in the picturesque village of Hanbury near Bromsgrove and is one of the most visited working craft centres in the West Midlands. It is home to 12 craft studios including glass blowing, textiles and woodwork.

The trail is an ideal opportunity for the centre to display



medal this year for his garden display at the **Hampton Court Flower Show**. New to the trail are **Liz Dixon** who will exhibit a fisherman created from recycled materials, and Evesham artist **Wendy Stafford's** giant fused glass flowers.



larger works of art than they usually accommodate within their 200 year old barn buildings.

The 2017 Sculpture Trail is open daily from 10am to 5pm from 25th August until 30th September. Entry is free of charge. Refreshments are available from the Farmhouse Restaurant. Further details at:

www.jinneyring.co.uk

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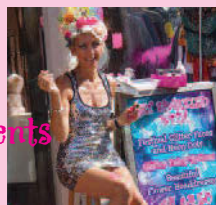
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HOGAN'S

Suz Winspear

So farewell to another disappointingly soggy August! I'm hoping that the weather will improve one our so-called 'summer' is over. September is always an interesting transitional sort of month, with the Equinox heralding both longer nights and the annual countdown to Halloween (my favourite time of the year!)

As usual, there are plenty of Spoken Word events going on in Worcestershire, and a particularly notable event is happening on **National Poetry Day, Thursday September 28th**, as part of the Autumn in Malvern festival. **'Voices of 1919'** is a performance of poetry by twenty different poets, performed by actors, capturing a time six months after the end of the First World War in a small rural village somewhere in the heart of England, presenting the voices of ordinary people from all strata of society, particularly the women, the people who didn't go to fight but were still affected by the terrible war that turned their lives upside down. This is going to be a memorable and moving night. It will be held at **Elmslie House**, 8 Avenue Road, Malvern WR14 3AG. Tickets are £8, available from The Box Office, Malvern Theatres. Telephone 01684 892277

Suz Winspear



Also in September, we have our regular Spoken Word events –

Thursday 14th – SpeakEasy at Cafe Bliss, Worcester Arts Workshop. Poetry from a wide range of local poets. Open Mic slots available on a first-come, first-served basis. They're popular, so get there early! £3 admission, 7.30pm. Full disabled access.

Wednesday 27th – 42 at Drummonds Life, the Universe and Everything – prose and poetry – Gothic horror, science fiction, fantasy, storytelling, comedy, reportage, genre fiction, and a few categories that haven't yet been given a name... You never know what you might see and hear at 42! Free entry. 7.30pm.

Ed Surname

£47 budget from a laptop in Gloucester to the red carpet!

Ed Surname is a comedian from Gloucester who legitimately filmed his life for 20 years. He edited the footage himself into a real-life tragicomedy about whether following a childhood dream is the meaning of life or an unrealistic waste of time. Ed Surname's *Unsolicited Material*, which has seen the filmmaker go from editing on his laptop to the red carpet. That's right: a **Grand Jury** nominated movie on a budget of £47.



"Fans range from a professional psychiatrist to a diagnosed psychopath... surely SLAPmag readers will fall somewhere in-between, and as such will love the movie."

Ed explains, *"for the press, the story is 'here's some nutter who filmed his life non-stop'. For me, and as fans of the film confirm, the story is what I actually did with the footage. I edited it into a satire on the masks that comedians wear. It exposes the illusion of fame."*

Indeed, the offstage parts are what drive the narrative, which is *"51% funny, 49% serious introspection"*. It speaks to our fame-hungry social media generation.

"The artists that my generation grew up with taught us that 'you can follow your dreams, never give up, you can do it'. I think that's a really important message but that a tweak or warning needs to be added to address the personal costs. My film adds that caveat."

It's very misunderstood, but that's the price of doing something that's literally never been done before. Is it a documentary or a mockumentary? It's both and neither. *"Part cabaret, part performance art, part satire, part reality, part comedy, part tragedy."*

"I edited the raw material in such a way that paints me as a deluded video blogger. I lived that story, but it's part of a more serious overall grassroots project designed to psychoanalyse why some people feel compelled to make a room of strangers laugh."

A personal victory for Ed and for the vlogging generation was Ed walking the red carpet at the **IFF** film awards in London, having been nominated for the **Grand Jury** award. *"I didn't win, but it didn't matter. I was nominated for 4 awards, it's played around the world and I'm sat with people who are teams of lifelong professional filmmakers with £20k budgets. I am one person, and I did it myself with Pinnacle Studio 14 and by not compromising my vision whatsoever."*

"If you go for something where the chance of failure is spectacular, you've already won."

"But never before, and never again".

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Amazon VOD <http://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B06XGSKY1V>

Amazon DVD <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B01LT11HEE>

You can listen to the full talkRadio interview here at:

imdb.com/video/vi617854489?ref_=ttvi_vi_imdb_6



The Humdrum Express The Rose Theatre Tewkesbury | 8th Oct

The Humdrum Express (aka singer/songwriter **Ian Passey**) is preparing for his biggest headline show to date at **The Rose Theatre**, Tewkesbury on Saturday 7th October.

Since the departure of Sid and Sand from **The Boar's Head**, Kidderminster now sadly finds itself without a platform for regular live music, and Ian hopes the 180 seat venue could help fill the void.

"It's something I've been planning for a few months, a one-off gig with the chance to expand on my usual format. It will be my last hometown date for quite a while and I'd like to make it really special. The Rose boasts a huge stage with great facilities, and I'm hopeful there could more musical events there in the future."

It's been a productive couple of years for The Humdrum Express with regular airplay on BBC 6music, the release of last year's album *The Day My Career Died*, followed by the recent *Lookalike Bond* EP.

"I'm planning to release another new single (and video) in November and will be airing the song for the first time on the night. Without giving too much away about the show, it will be much more than a standard gig and I'm looking forward to trying out some new ideas. Joy, intrigue and surprises are promised!"

The Humdrum Rose Theatre Extravaganza will start at 7:30pm, finishing at 9:30pm with a planned after show celebration, at a location to be confirmed shortly.



Tickets are available from www.rosetheatre.co.uk or the box office on 01562 743745

Nick Parker The Marris Bar, Worcester | Sunday, Sept 10th

Glastonbury based **Nick Parker** started gigging in his early teens playing mandolin and singing in folk/rock/skiffle band **'Why?'**, and spent the next 10 years bouncing around on stages at hundreds of venues and festivals around the UK and Europe. In 1998 Nick called it a day with Why? and started guitar band **'Tobermory'**. After various false starts, a few flirtations with industry 'big' boys and a few tours in Germany, Tobermory played their last gig in 2004.

In 2010 Nick embarked on a solo career and has since released two full-length albums, 2010's *'The King of False Alarms'* and 2014's *'Angry Pork and the Occasional Bird'*. His third album *'Besta Venya'* was released this year.

Over the years Nick has had the pleasure of sharing the stage with The Wedding Present, Bright Eyes, Ben Marwood, Frank Turner, Mike Peters and Mike Scott among others, and he regularly tours with Bristol based Gaz Brookfield (as a separate act, but also playing mandolin in his band).

Nick's songs are often tongue-in-cheek and cheerful, and on the rare occasion when fun is poked it is always with a wry smile and an element of satire.

Although primarily a solo effort Nick often plays with his band **'Nick Parker and the False Alarms'** which is a folky/rocky/country affair using guitars, fiddle, pedal steel, mandolin, bass and drums.

Over the last few years they have played at many festivals including Farmer Phil's, Chagstock, Glastonbury and Lakefest among many others. For this gig Nick will be joined by friend and fiddle player Ben Wain.

Cost: £4 in advance £6 on the door
eventbrite.co.uk/e/nick-parker-tickets-36247814188



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Floating Lotus presents White Feather Collective Sundra, Martin Thorne, Alien The Orchard Venue, Malvern | 23rd Sept

This is an event that you cannot afford to miss! **The Orchard Venue**, situated in the heart of the Malverns at the foot of **Midsummer Hill**, is hosting a **Floating Lotus** event - offering an afternoon and evening of music and activity. This will be a rare opportunity for all ages to experience music in nature with a festival vibe, catering for the whole family.



by Dazz Green

This brand new event kicks off at 2.00pm with tunes selected by **Alien** to get everyone in the mood for festival fun. Followed by; **Poets Corner**, **The Speaking Tree Storyteller**, **Face/Body Art** and many more activities to be confirmed to help you relax and enjoy the moment.

23rd September 2017
Near Ledbury, Herefordshire

2pm till late

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WHITE FEATHER COLLECTIVE
*Sundra (supporting)
Others to be confirmed*

Mr Hej
Alien

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Full day pass (includes day activities and evening bands)
£12 advanced booking
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£10 on the gate
Day pass only (2pm-7pm)
£5 day ticket
Under 5's go free
Family pass available

For more information
Phone number - 07962718479

Email - theorchardvenue@outlook.com
or see floating lotus facebook page

There will be a cafe open from 2.00pm till late, offering hot and cold beverages including Chai made from traditional spices. An amazing selection of homemade cakes and ice cream for the children also available. There is also a licensed bar serving until late and a BBQ. There will be live music throughout the afternoon and evening with bands including **White Feather Collective** - a young local band that is certainly spreading its wings in all directions! When asked how they would describe their music the response was "garage surf". The White Feather Collective is a surf rock band from Malvern the band members include: **William Turner** (vocals, guitar), **Christopher Reynolds** (Drums), **Josh Lambe** (Vocals), **Roo Macphee** (Bass, Organ) formed in 2014. Another new local Malvern band **Sundara** will support.



Sundara are an acoustic collective, fusing Indian melodies with folk music to create a unique combination of conscious lyrics and mantra sound vibration. Also **Martin Thorne** being a senior musician, an improviser, working with a variety of instruments, interested in blues and eastern music creating the heady mix of cross-culturally cohesion. Others to be confirmed. Check out the **Floating Lotus Facebook** for updates and line-up.



by Carl Freeman

Floating Lotus is a community interest charity aiming to support Local Arts & Performers in our local community.

Tickets: Full day pass: (includes day activities and evening bands) £12.00 advanced, £15.00 on the gate. Evening Bands Only: £8.00 advanced, £10.00 on the gate. Day pass only (2.00pm till 7.00pm) £6.00 under 5's go free. Family Tickets available!



Skating Polly & Hands Off Gretel The Prince Albert, Stroud | Sat 12th Aug

The glorious musical oasis that **Lotte Lyster** and **Miles Connolly** have created at **The Prince Albert** on top of Rodborough Hill in Stroud attracts the most amazing variety of top quality acts – the amount of bands especially that top and tail their UK and International tours here is staggering. The latest in that long and distinguished list are **Skating Polly** from Washington, on their third UK tour and another in a string of fine bands I've seen this year from Leeds, **Hands Off Gretel**.

Hands Off Gretel are a perfectly self-contained DIY cottage industry, who have built up a tremendous following by solid gigging and releasing a stream of very darkly humorous and startling videos produced in-house with impeccable quality and shot by singer Lauren's mum, **Helen Tate**. The theatricality that makes the videos stand out is carried onto stage as singer **Lauren Tate** makes her entrance. She is dressed rather like a deranged Victorian gothic doll, complete with mismatched bedsocks and in these times of ripped jeans and elderly favourite band tee-shirts,



she is a woman who clearly isn't afraid to stand out. She is also responsible for the band's in-ye-face graphics style, complete with eye-catching/watering colour palette. Very bold. Very effective.

She starts by explaining about the lack of a regular bass player - the excellent **Becky Baldwin** has been touring with them – then proceeds to strap on a bass, picks out the first thunderous notes and we're off... For a three piece, this band makes a big fat sound and even in the confines of The Albert the place is soon bouncing. The music straddles a line between grunge and post-punk, much of it drawn from their excellent debut album "*Burn The Beauty Queen*".



Sean Bon on guitar ramps up the sonic blast in fine style, his sparse but very long dreads making it seriously hazardous to stand too close when he's in full flight (I certainly got a clip round the ear with one, and I suspect I wasn't the only one) while drummer **Sam Hobbins** cracks out a fierce beat, quickly discarding his cap in the heat to reveal a fine toxic waste coloured mop. Tate's voice is amazing, growling, shrieking, coaxing - simply wonderful. And her bass playing? You'd be struggling to spot that she wasn't a regular. Thoroughly professional.

So, so difficult to pick out highlights such is the quality of the music but the intensely grungy '*Bad Egg*' and the flat out belter, '*One Eyed Girl*' probably shade it. Astonishing.

And we're all still reeling when **Skating Polly** take the stage and proceed to just about finish us off.

This is another three-piece sonically punching well above its weight with step-sisters **Kelli Mayo** and **Peyton Bighorse** joined by Kelli's brother, **Kurtis** on drums. They've been established quite a while and are two albums and an EP to the good and if you're looking for comparisons, which I rarely do, I suppose Bikini Kill and Babes in Toyland would be your nearest point of reference. This means that there's a solid post-punk core to the music, but the thick swathes of melody and the crashing transitions from muted harmonies to startling bursts of power move the performance way, way above its origins. They call it 'ugly pop' and that's a pretty apt description.



And there's the vocals - oh my word... Mayo, as well as sporting a bass unusually shorn of its bottom string, takes the lead at the start of the set and she does have a fabulous voice with her very slender frame frequently going up on tiptoe to fire the vocals out. Bighorse starts off supplying top quality support vocals but as the set progresses the lead begins to shift to the guitarist and finally settles on a dual attack the like of which I haven't heard in a long time. Forget gentle two-part harmonies, '*Ugly*' virtually takes your ears off, '*Perfume For Now*' has crescendo and best of all the out-and-out attack of '*Alabama Movies*' just leaves you breathless. There's much subtlety as well with '*Protective Boy*' and '*Louder in Outer Space*' outstanding.



And driving all this on is a very fine performance indeed on drums by **Kurtis Mayo** - some of this music is very complex in terms of time change and variations in volume but he's always spot on with just the right amount of balance between subtlety and aggression. Ace sticksman. But right at the end of the set, there's a surprise – Mayo leaves his drums, Bighorse leaves her guitar and they swap places - something I haven't seen for a long time. So skilful are the two of them that the transition is seamless but Mayo does take one of his sticks with him, using it both to thump the strings and to use like a violin bow. Impressive from the pair of them. We get a much requested encore, with a guest appearance from **Lauren Tate**, then the merch desk is rightly enveloped in a rugby scrum of delighted fans.

One of those evenings when you wish the music could go on forever - absolutely outstanding.

Geoffrey Head

Matt Woosey and Band The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury | 30th July

I've had the pleasure of listening to Matt's solo sessions on countless occasions and with **Dave Small** at his side on innumerable times but here in the fabulous little Ledbury pub, Matt had brought his mostly German band along to squeeze in to the tight confines of the POW.

Hogging far too much space at the rear was **Dave Small** with his drum kit and to the left was **Michael** with keyboard and guitar to hand whilst on the right I found **Ralph** on guitar with **Lukas** on bass. Meanwhile, Matt sat with his array of acoustic guitars, primed and ready. He 'warmed' the audience with a solo and, forever a Rory Gallagher fan, 'Out On The Western Plane' followed and Matt's own superb 'Elsie May'.

Matt dialled back through his recordings to pull out the ever popular 'Cruel Disposition', just the 'Same Old Blues' really. 'Let It Flow' glided by as a whipped cream topping, revealing Lukas and Dave setting a funky rhythm that was smoothed over by the layering of 3 guitars. This was the last day of the UK tour so spirits were high and, with whiskey at hand, they were going to play straight through before rushing off for the flight back to Germany, leaving just Dave playing with his sticks. 'I've Seen The Bottom' pulses out, the lyrics painting a familiar picture for some as the darkest of blues is quickly erased by the soft floating clouds and clear light of 'One Love' from Matt's *Desiderata* album.

Desiderata took Matt on new journey. For many, it was a sort of Marmite album but I happen to love Marmite. Embedded in that landmark recording is 'Lighthouse', a strangely haunting and ethereal, sometimes disjointed even, track. I've heard it played many times, each time it seems to reveal different nuances,

hidden cracks and beautiful curves. Here, in the tight confines of the POW, where the acoustics are as remarkable as the pub, 'Lighthouse' was about to be powered up by a full-on band. Does this one song deserve a full paragraph? It's an unreserved yes: the synergy between Ralph, Matt and Michael was outstanding as Dave and Lukas laid down an outstanding rhythm for the complex lattice to be woven. Meanwhile, Wildest Dreams brought us 'Don't Tell Nobody' which shares the bittersweet taste of a velvety Noire chocolate, dark and threatening but superbly unwrapped and offered up.



There was only one way a Woosey gig was going to end. The European collective had almost played itself out so it was time to gather up the kindling, light the fire and watch the 'Black Smoke Rising'. Matt was driving hard, beads of perspiration on his face as his voice fill every corner of this Blues church, a final prayer for the Sunday congregation who spellbound in the glorious **Prince Of Wales**.

Graham Munn



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Roving Crows

Evesham Arts Centre | Saturday 16th Sept

Roving Crows play original Celtic folk-rock: Frenetic fiddle playing intertwined with guitar, bass, percussion, electronics & vocals. Strong, vibrant lyrics are at the core of this entertaining & charismatic outfit that brings together many genres, influences and rhythms to create a driving and determined sound.

The band have been carving out their niche in the UK folk music scene since early 2009. Their powerful live performance and unique sound has seen them receive several awards and achieve national airplay on BBC Radio 2.

As well as almost constant national touring, the band has released 2 albums and 2 EPs since their launch in 2009. Their 2013 album *'Deliberate Distractions'* received 4-star reviews in the Financial Times and R2 Magazine, amongst many others. The band are in Evesham touring the recently-released & much-acclaimed follow-up album *'Bury Me Naked'*.

They have achieved a 'ones to watch' status in the UK folk scene performing alongside artists such as Kate Rusby, Steeleye Span, Levellers, Jamie Cullum and Bellowhead. They have entertained crowds at many national and international festivals including Cambridge Folk Festival, Trowbridge Village Pump Festival, Sark Folk Festival, Les Traversées Tatihou (France), Lakefest and Kings



Lynne Hanse Festival amongst others, gaining a reputation as one of the most hard-working bands on the scene.

In 2014 they received the award for 'Best Live Act' from Spiral Earth, followed by 'Band of The Year' in the FATEA Music awards, adding to their numerous awards from previous years such as 'Best Folk Act'. **The Roving Crows** have just been named 'International Artist of the Year' at the 2017 Australian Music Awards.

Tickets price £12 are available now from Evesham Almonry, Abbey Road, WR11 4BQ, 01386-446944 and online from www.eveshamartscentre.co.uk

Folk in the Foyer

Clive Gregson

Evesham Arts centre | Thur 28th Sept

Genre-spanning songwriter & musician **Clive Gregson** brings his brand of pop-folk to Evesham's *Folk in the Foyer* on Thursday 28th September.

From 1980s indie-pop to folk-rock, from all-electric-band to solo-acoustic-guitar, Clive Gregson is one of the most respected & prolific songwriters of his time. Clive's had his songs recorded by Kim Carnes, Fairport Convention, Claire Martin, Norma Waterson, Smokie & Nanci Griffith.

An accomplished singer, musician and record producer of world-renown, he's named as one of Guitar Player's 1000 great guitarists and has toured with Richard Thompson, Eddi Reader, Boo Hewerdine, Nanci Griffith & Dennis Locorriere. Clive started his professional music career in 1980 as front-man of cult indie-pop band **Any Trouble** with a contract from legendary Stiff Records, branched into playing "the state of the art in British folk-rock" (Rolling Stone magazine) before beginning a career as a music producer in the USA. Now back in the UK, Clive is performing & releasing both old & new music - both solo and with his original band & other collaborators.

All the way from Manchester via the USA, this is a chance to hear him playing solo - live in Evesham. Plus support from south coast singer/songwriter Mike Reinstein

"More musical expertise than is usually good for one man." - *Time Out*

"Adult pop from one of the most emotionally literate songwriters around." - *Guardian*

The music starts at 8pm. Tickets are on sale priced £10 Conc £9 from Evesham Almonry, Abbey Road, WR11 4BG 01386-446944 and online from www.eveshamartscentre.co.uk



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Drunken Monkey Rock Festival

The Drunken Monkey Rock Festival roared into Upton-Upon-Severn at the weekend for its fourth year and has raised a staggering £14,000 for the Midlands Air Ambulance charity, four times more than last year.

Held in memory of local man Ian Downton, the event attracted more than double the amount of people than 2016. They travelled from all parts of the country to come to rock with the 50+ bands, ranging from **Piggy Doo Dar** (three 11 year olds from Evesham) to Saturday night headliners **Steve Grimmer's Grim Reaper**.

Steve Grimmer officially opened the show on Friday afternoon and, despite losing his leg only a few months ago, performed a magnificent 90 minute set with his band on Saturday night.

"The atmosphere was fantastic, we had a great show. I stood up for many of the songs but had to sit down for some as it takes up so much more energy when you have a prosthetic limb."

"Everyone was really enjoying themselves, it was laid back, very easy going. My wife and I are thinking about going back next year and camping!"

Another highlight was a fly-over by the Red Arrows on Sunday afternoon. Their timing could not have been better as Motörhead tribute band **Motörheadache** had just finished playing their penultimate song "Bomber" when the aircraft stunned the crowd by flying right over the main stage.

Steve Coyne, chairman of the Festival committee says he is so proud. *"The whole event is run by volunteers who are helped by the bands and numerous local businesses donating time, supplies and generosity for free in recognition of a fantastic local cause."*



"I would like to thank everyone who helped us in any way and of course the people who bought tickets and came and rocked! We hope to see them all back next year plus many more."

"The Festival has raised £25,000 so far for the life-saving Midlands Air Ambulance Charity and we are already planning for 2018 and beyond. Music is a great feature of Upton-Upon-Severn with its traditions of Jazz, Blues and Folk. Now Rock, too, has well and truly arrived."



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Lost Tiger to the Wild

Jokingly referred to as the rock and roll version of the Thompson Twins (who were not real twins mind you!) brothers **Alfie** and **Zack Jeavons-Fellows** are on the straight way to stardom. Their sudden appearance on Worcester music scene less than a year ago was a true musical knock out. Powerful riffs, rhythmic beats combined with talent for writing songs you cannot get out of your head, proved to be a winning combination. We have caught up with the skilled duo to speak about their early success, getting noticed and their upcoming music.

SLAP: You are identical twins, we are not seeing double, are we?

Alfie: (laughing) Yes, we are identical twins; born a minute apart. I'm the older of us both.

SLAP: Lost Tiger to the Wild is an interesting name for a band - half poetic and half cryptic. Can you explain where it came from?

Alfie: We found the phrase in a book. The quote read "We have lost a tiger to the wild". We liked the way the words worked together, so we went with 'Lost Tiger to the Wild'. For us the name is about being free and independent.

SLAP: Are you working with any other local musicians? Do you have a backing band that is supporting you on stage on special occasions?

Alfie: Yes, we do. We've added a bass and lead guitarist for a recent live gig, which was really good for us because we were able to experiment with the solid guitar sound that Lost Tiger is about.

SLAP: BBC Introducing gave you one of the best recommendations we have seen in years. "Great guys, great melodies, great live shows, great future ahead of them". It is not easy to impress people who listen to music for a living.

Alfie: (laughing again) People who listen to live music for a living are our best critics. Honest feedback is what helps us drive forwards. The BBC Introducing chaps were really good to work with, funnily enough we bumped in to Andrew Marston after our Coventry University gig and we see Andy O'Hare all over the place. Good blokes.

SLAP: You are represented by prestigious Coalition Talent Entertainment Agency in London, responsible for shaping careers of well-known acts such as Shoala Ama, Pixie Lott, The Wombats or Artful Dodger. How did your partnership begin?

Alfie: Once our social media started to kick off, we found several agents were getting in touch. Rather than leap at the first offer we have received, we waited for a proven talent management team that could help push our careers on. Coalition got in touch in February, making some really positive noises so we met with them in London and soon agreed to work together. Being part of the Coalition stable gives us a chance to perform with lots of other professional artists.

SLAP: We have to ask about our favourite track, Remember to Breathe. You played it at the BBC session at the Railway in Redditch to rave reviews and great compliments from the crowd. It is a powerful track with thoughtful lyrics. Tell us more about this song.

Zac: I have had the chorus riff for ages and loved the way it sounded with a decent fuzz pedal. Alf developed the song without lyrics a lot and it still sounds exactly the same. Coming up with lyrics to compliment the gritty sound was a struggle until I heard a bluesy song called "Remember to Breathe" written by Australian busker, Owen Campbell. It just clicked. With a little bit of tweaking, the lyrics fitted perfectly over my verse and chorus. We love it. Hope Owen will too, when he hears it.



SLAP: Lost Tiger was only founded in November 2016 and you have been performing extensively ever since. Your achievements are most impressive: on 17th of May you played at the sold out CUSU Summer Ball 2017 at the legendary Coventry University Students' Union supporting Tinie Tempah; on the 10th of June you supported Lethal Bizzle at University of Essex and recently you headlined a gig for UNCOVER sessions night in Worcester. Where are you going to play next?

Alfie: Our next gig is the Monmouthshire Filthy Girl Mud Run After party at the beginning of September. We played the sister event in Derbyshire about a month ago which was great fun. The crowd was really up for it. Top gigs are all about the audience.

SLAP: On 22nd of September you will return to Marris Bar in Worcester to take part in Musicians Against Homelessness initiative in support of Crisis (charity combating homelessness). This nation-wide musical event is championed by Alan McGee, the founder of Creation Records and manager of Primal Scream, Oasis and The Libertines. Are you preparing anything special for the night?

Alfie: The Marris Bar is the home of original music in Worcester so we'll definitely be playing our own music. If everything goes well, we're hoping to debut a couple of new tracks. We're really pleased to be part of the event.

SLAP: Outside of your musical careers, you are very keen on sports, especially rugby. You both play for Stourbridge RFC, also with great success. We hope you are not thinking about a sudden career-change.

Zac: No, don't worry! We're really into music; it's what we really want to do.

SLAP: Last but not least – the fun question. Tell us the most rock and roll thing that has happened to you so far.

Zac: I think it'd be best if we keep that one to ourselves... if you ask us face to face we may answer differently.

By Rita Dabrowicz/Vanadian Avenue

For the full interview and more visit:

cocamidemea.wordpress.com/category/indieterraria/

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Piano - Tim Sidford
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Guitar sensation Remi Harris
Saturday 23rd September
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Doors open 7.30pm

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Eventbrite, Carnival Records & Malvern TIC,
Elmslie House, 8 Avenue Road, Malvern WR14 3AG

the friday BEER

E

Worcester Music Festival returns for its 10th year from Friday 15th - Sunday 17th September. And what a year they have planned with over 200 original artists booked to perform in 20+ venues! Full line-up details can be found at www.worcestermusicfestival.co.uk but here's an idea of what you can expect...

Friday

Bottles Wine Bar @ Bottles

Jess Silk, James Matthey, Resident DJ

Cardinals Hat @ The Cardinal's Hat

Every Thread, BASSE

Chestnut Tree @ The Chestnut

Voodoo Stone, Dan James, Voodoo Stone

Worcester Acoustic Music Sessions @ The Dragon Inn

Dragon Folk Club Residents, Paul Rose Dictatorship, Colin Baggs, Horizon Lights, Victoria Crivelli, Set em up Joe, Worcestershire Levellers

Benjamin Dallow @ The Firefly

Plastic Scene, Ghosts in the Photographs, Elephant Peel, The Pink Diamond Revue, The Actions

Faithful City Shows @ Heroes

Thousand Mountain, Bathtub, The Overcast, SaltWounds

Two Crafty Brewers @ The Lamb and Flag

To be confirmed

The Task In Hand @ The Marrs Bar

Rosebud, Hogg's Bison, To The Wall, Esteban, Population:7, Theo

No Poetry Promotions @ Monroes Cellar Bar

Valence, Defeat Statistics, Pretty Vile, Camulus, RAVENS

So Sue Me @ The Old Pheasant

The Poet with Passion (Poetry), Hipflask Virgins, Kissin Kippers, Fishin Club, Vinny Peculiar, Erica, Chevy Chase Stole My Wife

UnCover @ Saracens Head

Nuns of the Tundra, Twist Helix, Feet, Skewwhiff

Klik Klik Collective @ St. Swithun's Institute Halls

Capas, King Solomon Band

Acoustic Humm (Darren) @ Swan With Two Nicks

Tyler Massey, Tom Callinswood, Kyle Parsons, Peters & Dog

Fierce Deity Promotions @ Worcester Arts Workshop

Fury, We Come From Ashes, Koncept, The Loved and Lost, Grizzleroot

Worcester Brewing Co Presents @ Worcester Brewing Company

Tom Colne, Bitterroots

Saturday

Lazy Weeken @ Cafe Bliss at Worcester Arts Workshop

Renaissance Grrl, Pre Sleep Monologue, We Signal Fire, Mischa & His Merry Men

Cap n Gown @ Cap 'n' Gown

Blank Parody, Kill For Eden, Our Propaganda, Karpets Kickers, Chevy Chase Stole My Wife, The Miffs, Dogs of Santorini

Cardinals Hat @ The Cardinal's Hat

Samuel Rogers, Riverside Sid, Ellisha Green

Chestnut Tree @ The Chestnut

Mark Leedham, Open Mic Sessions, Bitterroots, Mr Avery's Bonkers Nylons, Pablo, The Miffs, Hump De Bump, Ray Stroud, Hump De Bump

Surprise Attacks @ The Firefly

Gareth Griffiths, Pablo Alto, Hanzo, Howlin' Bones, Insomnichord, ...and Upstairs, Nurses, Falling Stacks, Black Boxes, Repo Man, Soden, The Hungry Ghosts, Firesuite

The Pumpkin Sessions @ The Fountains at South Quay

The Rosellies, Teddy Matthews, Sophronie, The Poor Boys of Worcester, Elea Calvet, Tyler Massey

The OLPRO Stage @ Guildhall Outside

Howard James Kenny, The Magpie Cafe, Martin Thorne, Chloe Mogg, Chewie, Collective 43

Heroes @ Heroes

Funky Navigation (DJs)

Two Crafty Brewers @ The Lamb and Flag

Benjamin Dallow, Patched Up Parachutes, Cymbeline

WSRP @ The Marrs Bar

Worcester School of Rock and Performance,

Slap @ The Marrs Bar

Doozer McDooze, Calm Like a Riot, Vienna Ditto, Malarkey, The Americas

Young Pop Things Presents @ The Old Pheasant

The Spoox, Jazzy Heath, Redwood, Michael D. Wynn vs. Charlie Baxter, The Purple Shades, nth Cave, Bekah

Front Room Records @ The Paul Pry

Neil Morris, Heartwork, B-Sydes

Sun & Stars Management @ Saracens Head

Fracture Zone, Mutant Vinyl, Colin Baggs, Hitchhiker, Mr Jacob Oneill, Freeborn Rising, Caroline 7, Recovering Satellites, Chewie, Silent Jack, Carly Dee, Lost at Home, Stevie Jones and The Wildfires, The Naughty Corner Ukulele Band, Huffy, Duck Thieves, Jerry Chester, The Shaggy Dog Raconteurs

Dragon Music @ St. Swithun's Institute Halls

Jemima, IzzyB, RVRMN, Rosita, Tash Hurdiss, Hopeless Wanderers, Tazmin, Bethany Roberts, Ben Hughes, Chloe Mogg,

WMF Folk @ St. Swithun's Institute Halls

Josh Okeefe, Anne-Marie Sanderson, Town Musicians of Bremen, Double Denim, Bethan and the Morgans

Boneyard Sessions @ Swan With Two Nicks

Happy Bones, Scott Freeman & The Tokyo Sex Whales, RVRMN, SOLSARA, Junior Weeb

Shuddervision @ Worcester Arts Workshop

Colin Robot & Digits McPhee (DJ's), Sister Sandwich, Yes Man Jellyfish, The Stiff Joints

Worcester Brewing Company Presents @ Worcester Brewing Company

Black Cat Bone, The Poor Boys of Worcester, Big Fat Shorty

Sunday

Bottles Wine Bar @ Bottles

Josh Kemp, Lycio, Lady Sanity, Population:7(Acoustic)

Lazy Weekend @ Cafe Bliss at Worcester Arts Workshop

The Arboretum, Magik River, Khamsina, Sundara, Familiars
Cap n Gown @ Cap 'n' Gown

Dead Frequency, Jacklines, Ryan Webb, Scribble Victory,
Red Shoes, The Players, Perry Foster, Tom Colne

Graham Munn @ The Chestnut

Vo Fletcher, Big Fat Shorty, Jenny Hallam,
Ben Vickers Collective, Lounge Toad, Fireballs,
The Hawthornes, Arcadia Roots, Big Wolf Band

BBC Introducing in Hereford & Worcester @ Drummonds

Drew Darcy, Ross Angeles, Oriel Aps, Liberty Artillery

Cynical Thrills @ The Firefly

The DC Spectres, Raphaella Kornarskis, Chambers,
Teddy Matthews, Sleuth, Turning Black like Lizards

The Pumpkin Sessions @ The Fountains at South Quay

Alex Rainsford, Trevor Babajack Steger, Bitterroots, Matahari,
Colin Baggs, Lucy Jarrett

Fierce Deity Promotions @ Heroes

Grave Altar, Obzidian, Embodiment

Two Crafty Brewers @ The Lamb and Flag

To be confirmed

Rhythm & Booze @ The Marrs Bar

Girls Love Ponies, Harry & The Howlers, MeMe Detroit,
The Boston Shakers, The Whipjacks

Mytacism Music @ Monroes Cellar Bar

The Archivists, Tell Me I'm Pretty, ClayToRide, The Clause

Ben Vickers @ The Old Pheasant

Noughts And Crosses

Barrie Scott @ The Paul Pry

Mark Stevenson, The Brickshed, Martin Thorne, Ajay Srivastav
and Karmic Blues, Trevor Babajack Steger, Black Cat Bone, Lorise
Eton & the Stealers

Sun & Stars Management @ Saracens Head

Smokin' Ashes, Mark Leedham, Garrington T. Jones, Daisy Hill,
Lucy Jarrett, The Magpie Cafe, Smokin' Pilchards, imaner, The
Jack Fletcher Band, Katie Ellen, THEIA, Ellisha Green, Influens

Family Ceilidh - WMF Folk St. Swithun's Institute Halls

Family Ceilidh at St Swithins Institute Halls, Belly Fusion, The
Whole Caboodle

Stuntdog @ Worcester Arts Workshop

Marie-Claire Berreen & Her Husbands, Vonhorn, Stuntdog,
Les Trunkwell

NB: There are still some acts to be booked or confirmed and therefore this is not the definitive guide. Please pick up a free copy of the official Worcester Music Festival guide widely available from the 8th September following the beer launch at the Paul Pry. All the latest info & set times @ worcestermusicfestival.co.uk



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The Naughty Corner | Changing Behaviour

Weather wise, this summer has been changeable at best. Sure, in June we had a few sunny spells, July was a write off and this month... well at times it's felt more like Autumn. But as I throw the second album by 'ukulele fundamentalists', **The Naughty Corner**, on the player, the sun is shining, the temperatures on the rise and once again there are smiles on the street. A coincidence? somehow, I think not!

Much like the band's debut, *Ukulele Fundamentalists*, the band's follow up *Changing Behaviour*, is a summery mix of well known covers and instant, hook-laden originals featuring three part harmonies, strummed and plucked strings and the odd kazoo solo thrown in for good measure.

Opening the ten track album with a cover of Cannon & Ball's old theme tune *Together We'll Be OK*, seems an odd yet inspired choice. The song is a summery foot tapper that's perfect for the **Naughty Corner** treatment with her trio's harmonies shining from the off. The aforementioned Kazoo makes a welcome appearance around the half way mark adding to the fun factor, and as ever with The Naughty Corner, the group sound like they're having a blast, you can almost see them grinning from ear to ear as the two minute ditty plays out. The band's own *First World Problems* continues that wonderfully upbeat vibe as they lament such problems as losing the remote and only being able to buy creme eggs at Easter,

before delivering their own contagious, care free manifesto that includes such sing-a-long couplets as *"let's all sing like no one's listening, let's live for today, let's all dance like no ones watching, we don't care what they say"* accompanied by those ever infectious Ukes.

From there, the album continues to be an absolute joy, from the retro crooned title track to the wonderfully silly, acappella led, *Love My Hats* (complete with such addictive lyrical nonsense as *'I Adore Your Fedora, you thrill me in your trilby, you never frown in*

a crown'). It's nigh on impossible to control your foot from tapping and the desire to join the band on harmonies. Whilst the choice covers of Johnny Burnette's *Your Sixteen* and *Save Your Kisses For Me*, really play to the band's strengths. The former features a whistled intro and a superb, heartfelt, crooned lead. Whilst the latter has always been an obligatory guilty pleasure, hum-a-long and it's no different in the hands of the **Naughty Corner** who once again use the opportunity to showcase those (should be award) winning harmonies. Whilst the likes of the Corner's *The Girl Upstairs*, a spritely, ragged take of *Folsom Prison Blues* and a hidden cow punk bonus track

proves, an ever growing, diverse and rich array of influences seeping into an already potent, engaging and above all fun melting pot.

Changing Behaviour should be the summers official soundtrack, as **The Naughty Corner** once again deliver an addictive, smile inducing set of undeniable sing-a-long Uke classics.

Will Munn



The Teme Valley Brewery,
The Talbot, Knightwick,
Worcestershire WR6 5PH

Tel: 01886 821 235

Fax: 01886 821 060

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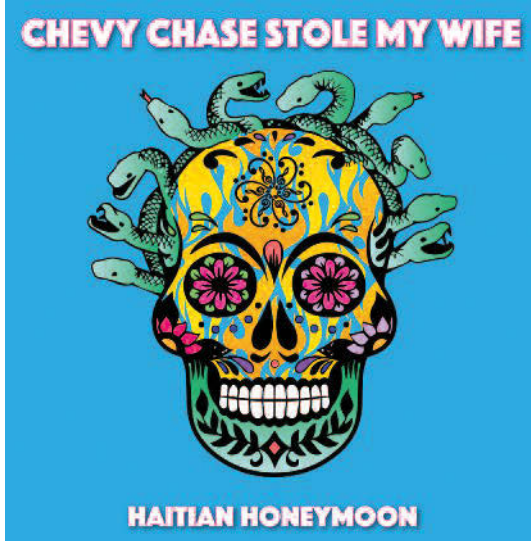
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Chevy Chase Stole My Wife Haitian Honeymoon

Having seen Worcester alternative fizzy popsters **Chevy Chase Stole My Wife** for the first time at this year's Lakefest, and instantly falling for their energetic set, I was more than intrigued to hear whether the band could capture their addictive live sound on CD. So having a copy of the band's brand new, third EP, *Haitian Honeymoon* thrust into my sweaty palms, I was eager to get home and dive right in.

From the first spin the CD had me grinning like a loon (or indeed CCSMW's own lead smiler, I mean singer, **Emma Howett**), the four-track is bubbly, fun and damn addictive. Opening with **Saff Box's** elastic bass groove and **Neil Burton's** tapped out rhythm. *This Is Art Calling* is rather akin to opening a pre-shaken can of coke that erupts into a gloriously, frothy fountain of contagious fizz, complete with sugary pop harmonies and a rush of spiky (**Stu Silcock**) indie guitars. One sip is never enough as that bubbly sound has coming back for more.



Likely Story continues the impressive start, opening with a thunderous rumble around the kit, before a striking, buzzing riff joins the mix. Howett enters the fray delivering a cool as ice lead vocal complimented by the cooed harmonies of Box, creating an intoxicating sound that had me reminiscing Swedish indie pop heroes (and personal favourites) The Sounds - (high praise indeed). And like their Nordic neighbours CCSMW soon had me humming along in delight. *Dust* is three and half minutes of serrated pop perfection that really sees the band cut lose. Silcock (and Howett) dish up a glorious collection of instant riffs and tasty solo thrills, whilst throwing in subtle key changes. Box and Burton groove and anchor, driving the song onwards and then there's those glorious harmonies and 'catchier than the common cold' refrains that have you searching for the repeat.

If the three previous tracks weren't already impressive enough, the EP's grand finale, *I Fell In Love With A Tightrope Walker*, seals the deal with a frantic, near two minute punky rush that'll have you practically bouncing off the walls in glee. It's a fun, frenzied closer, that much like a **Chevy Chase Stole My Wife** gig will have you panting for more.

I maybe late to the CCSMW party, but with releases like *Haitian Honeymoon*, I sure won't be leaving anytime soon!!

www.chevychasestolemywife.co.uk

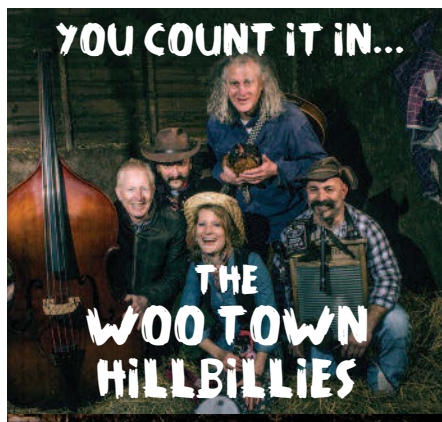
Will Munn

The Woo Town Hillbillies | You Count It In...

Worcester's favourite rustic hillbillies return with a new album, having released their first *'Hayfever'* back in 2015. Since the band's debut they've been busy performing anywhere that will have them, recently completing a mini tour of Scotland, between regular hoedowns around the county.

The Woo Town five (and friends) found time in their busy schedule to record a brand new thirteen track affair at **The Session** with **Alex Daw**. Much like the aforementioned *Hayfever*, the band weave an intriguing mix of country, blues, bluegrass and jug band influences to create a warm, welcoming rustic sound over a series of covers and originals.

Opening with a stripped back rendition of Led Zeppelin's rootsy rockabilly ode *Hot Dog*, **The Woo Town Hillbillies** quickly set their stall with **Bert Bassarach's** double bass and the washboard of **Goose Goldberg** laying the foundation for **Mr Meaner**, **Luke Warm**, **Emmy-Lou** and the guesting **Fiddling Bob** to whip up an acoustic melee of strummed and plucked strings. **Warm** delivers a rollicking, weathered lead, as the band amplify the country roots of the Plant & Page original. *Letter From My Darling* - one of two Memphis Jug Band covers on offer - follows and is a wonderful slab of foot tapping, infectious, rootsy swing, complete with bluesy harmonica and a thigh slapping choral sing-a-long that's pretty much guaranteed to raise both a smile and glass in salute.



The first of the band's own material, *Life Moves On (Goose Baby)* is a slower, more measured, harmonica led country lament with a laid-back, lead drawl and hazy acoustic strum that sees the Hillbillies lounge out on the back porch for chilled out jam. Whilst in direct contrast and proving the band's diversity, *It Don't Mean Shit*, sees the band break out the mandolin for a fun filled, two and quarter minute, tongue in cheek romp that's bound to become a call and response live favourite.

You Count It In... continues to offer a number of unexpected highlights, as the band twist and turn from the bluesy harmonica led duo of *Prison Wall* and *Spiders & Snakes*, to the moody Americana of *Down To The River*. On to *The Chestnut* to raise a pint or three to Mad Pierre on the suitably bonkers *Get On With It!* (featuring the man himself on Trombone), as **The Woo Town Hillbillies** serve as guides to a varied, engaging and fun packed ride through the various forms of what we call 'acoustic roots'.

Whether you enjoy a stripped back lament or a good old fashioned sing-a-long knees up, the 'Hillbillies have it covered, so head on down to your local watering hole next time they're in town, join the party and take a piece of the **Woo Town Hillbillies** home with you on the way out, you won't be disappointed!!

www.wootownhillbillies.co.uk

Will Munn

Jinney Ring Blues Festival | 5th Aug

The blues festival is now a well-established weekend festival at the gorgeous setting of the **Jinney Ring** in Hanbury, Worcestershire. The Friday evening had seen **Big Joe Bone** entertain the campers here for the weekend. Campers is not really a true description as most seem to be motorhomes - whatever happened to leaky canvas, primus stoves and baked beans? The essence of the festival is the Saturday with its field based Cider and Beer marquee alongside the 'kitchen' where arguably the very best of festival food can be found.

Self-professed bluesmaster, funkateer and master of wit & repartee and Guv'nor of Ealing, **Robert Hokum** opened the stage asking the same question as many of us: *'Why The Hell Wasn't I Born Rich'*, before **Johnny B Goode** walked by doing *'The Lambeth Walk'*. Ever popular, Robert has been delivering his blues, whether electric with a band, or solo acoustic for many years, there's plenty of serious, classic blues to add to the lighter stuff. Blind Willie Johnson's, spiritual *'Nobody's Fault But Mine'* is one covered by many, from Nina Simone to Led Zeppelin and here by Bob Hokum.

Stompin' Dave lives up to his name. A multi-instrumentalist who happens to wear steel tipped wooden soled shoes which are put to plenty of use astride his stomping platform. He brandished guitar, banjo, fiddle and harp, not all at the same time, playing everything well, explaining why Dave has reaped so many awards.

A bit of Scott Joplin Ragtime sets the scene but *'Now's The Time'* naturally lead to a bit of tap. A swampy *'What Am I Supposed To Do'* adds the harp to the guitar as the clogs keep working, just squeezing in a personal favourite *'St James Infirmary Blues'* before switching to the banjo. A stunning banjo driven instrumental of *'Bonaparte's Retreat'* and, as the rain drifted in, Dave played on with a quick boogie before getting back to the guitar to *'Bottle Up & Go'*.

Greg Coulson was new to me. He brings his own style of R&B along with his band which he fronts with vocals and a mix of guitar and Hammond organ. There's plenty of funky drum and bass for *'Stitch Me Up'* with Greg turning to his keys for a dynamic, organic



Greg Coulson

even, swirl of organ to drift across the fields. More funk was revealed in the lost and regained love of a jazz fused *'Sick Note'*. Greg has a fine voice to go with his dynamic keyboard attack whilst not forgetting the Fender Jazzmaster slung across his shoulders. Greg reached back in time to an old 1930's song that was later brought to prominence by Peggy Lee: the jazzy blues of *'Why Don't You Do Right'*. It was a steamy song that also featured in the film *Who Framed Roger Rabbit* which Greg also plunders for the madassed *'Squatt That Rabbit'*. Greg is about to release his first album *'What's New'*, it's worth waiting for I suspect.



The Della Grants

The stage became a hive of activity as it was reset for **The Della Grants**, a band that is rapidly making headway in the blues arena. Most of their material comes from within and is played with the effervescent fizz of a glass of Andrews! The line up at the Jinney Ring included **Terry Robinson** on keyboards and an occasional, but significant, trumpet. Andy is on bass, **Tom Walker** on percussion, **Tom Best** on guitar and vocals and Max on lead vocals and guitar. Tom B also adds a mean harp to the mix, evident in the hard driving *'Backbiter Blues'* from their *First Fix EP*.

Not sure who the *'Weaker Man'* is but Terry came in with a lovely muted trumpet adding extra colour. Though the Della Grants write some fine, crowd pleasing music, there has to be the odd cover to tantalise the taste buds. Tom takes on the lead for a stunningly good *'Stormy Monday'*, a song that wrings out every drop of emotion. If I'd heard nothing else this day, I would have come away satisfied. But, there was still more to come, not least a new, yet to be released on record *'Sunrise'*. Inspired by the young families of Max and Tom B, it reaches down into the soul with Max's finely grated voice dripping with passion. Terry adds some muted notes and turns back to the keyboard in time to rock out on *'The River'*, with its tribal rhythm set by Andy and Tom W.

How do you follow that? Why not bring on the **Willde** man of harmonica, **Will** that is. Next to Will stood the colossus **Danny Giles** with guitar in hand, ready to rock. A pulsating *'If I Get My Hands On You'* found Will's vocals dove tailing with his harp. Another Willie provides a follow on in the form of Willie Dixon and the soulful blues of *'I Can't Hold Out'*. His rendition of Gary Moore's, *'Parisienne'* Walkways' is jaw dropping, before he provides another great classic, taking a tin opener to Canned Heat's *'On The Road Again'*. For me Will's albums never seem to quite capture hearing him perform live, the energy and reed bending ability are unquestionable.



Will Wilde

The evening was destined to close on music to get everyone up and dancing into the dark with Birmingham based **Souled Out To Funk** bringing back the memorable sounds of James Brown, Stevie Wonder, Al Green and many more.

Graham Munn

Dream State

The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham | Friday 11th Aug

Dream State are a five-piece from South Wales, who on the strength of only a handful of (admittedly excellent) videos and one EP have built up a very healthy following indeed.

About two minutes into the first song at a well attended **Frog and Fiddle**, it's very easy to see why and very easy to understand why they're heading for the Reading and Leeds Festivals later this month.

"Dynamic" scarcely covers it - they absolutely launch themselves at their music without compromise, it's not overloud but the power just blows you away. They also launch themselves physically, being one of the most mobile bands I've ever seen, except thankfully drummer **Jamie Lee** who contents himself with propelling the music forward with a thunderously pinpoint display. Bass player **Danny Rayer** links up with him perfectly to provide a dense backdrop for the twin guitar attack of **Aled Rhys Evans** and **Rhys Wilcox**, who both also provide excellent support vocals, to lay down some fierce and highly memorable riffs over the top.



Evans also adds economical and precise solos with a sound bixtral technique.

Which of course, leaves the main vocals – and what a vocalist that is. The enigmatically named '**CJ**' is a diminutive powerhouse of a frontwoman with a truly extraordinary voice.

Neither a shouter nor a screamer, there is just a smooth progression up the volume scale to a fearsome crescendo and unlike a lot of singers I've seen this year, her pitch doesn't degrade when she switches from clean to guttural or when she hikes the power up. And power is required as well – this is post-hardcore music but with a distinctly melodious alt-rock influence. She makes several incursions into the audience, joining in with the small but recklessly enthusiastic mosh at one point, and when she stops and sings right in front of you, briefly skewering you with a stare, it's wonderfully disconcerting.

The set is tragically short, but we are treated to the "*Consequences*" EP in its entirety, plus a brand new song and the recent single '*White Lies*' - but they undoubtedly leave the best until last with a long version of '*Rebuild, Recreate*', for my money the outstanding track on the EP.

Facebook tentatively suggested I might like this band – Facebook was right.

One of the best performances I've seen this year.

www.dreamstateofficial.com

Geoffrey Head

Howard James Kenny

The Old Pheasant, Worcester | Thurs 24th Aug

The cosy calm of **The Old Pheasant** in Worcester was the setting for a performance by local singer-songwriter **Howard James Kenny**. Howard's music takes influence from diverse and eclectic sources: folk, pop, ambient, post-rock and more. Like many singer-songwriters, he is equipped with acoustic guitar and voice, however he has another trick up his sleeve: at his feet is a pedalboard boasting an impressive array of effects.

The first half of the set is comprised of covers, the pedalboard barely touched, deft, languid guitar and pure, falsetto vocals bringing Howard's own style to familiar tunes. Songs by *Dolly Parton*, *Bruno Mars* and *Jack Johnson* get the audience into a laid-back, upbeat vibe. Queen's *Crazy Little Thing Called Love* and Al Green's *Let's Stay Together* are personal highlights of this part of the set. Howard's impressive vocal range and subtle yet precise guitar work more than do these songs justice.

After a quick break, the second half of the set begins, and this is where Howard really shows off his remarkable musical ability. From now on he plays his own original compositions (with the exception of a sublime cover of Massive Attack's classic 1998 single *Teardrop*). His clear



vocal style is reminiscent of singer-songwriters such as Nick Drake and Elliot Smith, while his moody and atmospheric instrumental arrangements evoke Sigur Ros and Brian Eno.

Howard's songs typically begin with sparse guitar melodies, before building gradually to grand crescendos, each part (guitar, vocals, claps, percussion) performed by himself and layering over each other with the use of a loop pedal. The result sounds more like a full band performing than one man sitting on a barstool in a pub with his guitar.

Tracks from his 2011 album *Shelter Songs* are performed, from *Good Fortune* and its ghostly backwards-tape effect to *Insects*,

complete with haunting looped vocal chants that build to create a hymnal sound to accompany peaceful fingerpicked guitar. Howard skilfully uses this combination of technology and compositional talent to construct hypnotic soundscapes which balance folky, organic guitar music with ethereal textures. The end result is both introspective and expansive.

As *Insects* fades out in a dreamlike haze, Howard sings a brief acappella extract of The Carpenters' 1970 hit *Close to You*, which echoes to silence to end the evening. The set displayed Howard's considerable talents at both accessible acoustic pop and more experimental original compositions.

Dan Knight

Big Wolf Band The Prince of Wales, Ledbury | 6th Aug

Jonathan Earp and his Birmingham based band are making serious inroads into the UK Blues scene. **Big Wolf** has topped the Amazon Blues Singles charts in 2015 with '*Depression Blues*' and 2016's '*Stop Right Now*'. The debut album '*A Rebels Story*', has received great reviews from around the world. Essentially a rock blues outfit, here at the POW Jonathan's well-crafted songs and covers are to be exorcised on his guitar, ably assisted by **Mick Jaynes** on bass, **Tim Jones** on percussion and **Paul Brambani** on keys.

The resulting combination is measured but scintillating electric blues which fill out **The Prince Of Wales** in the Sunday sessions. The pearly gates are open for business and '*Heavens Got The Blues*'. Jon's guitar talks as his strong vocals, suitably etched by sand blasting, fill the air.

A shuffling, piano induced '*Done Wrong By You*' feeds you in gently toward a fabulously rocking '*Hot Headed Woman*'. A simply beautiful, soul drenched and passionate '*Darkest Of My Days*' weeps out as a spell is cast. The sultry '*If I Ever Loved Another Woman*' eases through the aged timbers of the Prince, every

nuance squeezed from the plummy Yamaha. These 3 songs penned by Jonathan Earp are worthy of seeking a copy of the album as they are simply spellbinding. Here, live, in this wonderful old Sunday church of the blues, they sound sublime, stretched, embellished and performed with passion. A biting hard, driving ZZ Top's '*I Been Up I Been Down*' show Mick and Tim push the rhythm hard as Jon weaves his guitar over the top, a prelude to the storm coming in '*Rolling With Thunder*'.



'*Depression Blues*' is a lovely honey edged pulsating blues with a suitably haunting yet hypnotic feel. The guitar cries, taking us on a tough journey as Paul's Hammond feeds in and subtle guitar notes feather us down. Just the strings pulse, keeping it alive in the hushed bar as Tim applies the shock, kicking it back into life. The band powers in for a brilliant run to the close. Forced to leave

for the train, I just catch the R n' B of '*Long Time Mary*', Paul's Boogie piano notes decorating the effervescent feel of the song.

It's good to catch up with **The Big Wolf Band** again, Jonathan sings his *Rebels Story* in style and the guitar totally absorbs you as Mick Tim and Paul create the full package: live music at its best.

Graham Munn

Swampcandy The Chestnut, Worcester | Sun 20th Aug

Now an annual event, American duo **Ruben Dobbs** and **Joey Mitchell** in the guise of **Swampcandy**, dropped in for their Sunday Evening session of raw edged, high energy swamp blues. For the benefit of those who have never stumbled into a cement mixer full of broken bricks, Ruben is the big guy, playing resonator and acoustic guitars, gritting out hard edged lyrics. Joey is the long haired, tub thumping, double bass player kicking hell out of his foot drum. I do happen to know he managed to break the duplexed chain drive of the pedal before Gloucester Blues, a riveting bit of info for you all.

'Mad Pierre' had been chewing through his trombone in anticipation of this gig, sadly the trombone still worked, though I think he'd been rehearsing his lines.

I am going to attempt to work in some songs that are on the latest, 'exclusive' album recorded live in *The Land Of Horses And Divorces*. But first, Joey is punching out the rhythm as Rubin warms into the session with '*If You See My Baby*', before slipping into the depths for '*Devil Devil*' to the deep metallic twang of the res, straight from the new CD. Needless to say, with such satanic reverence, you could pack your bags and put the '*Devil In A Suitcase*', tearing off like a rocket. Nearly time for some '*Positive Drinking*', a gentle lament that requires glasses to be charged, which they were, ready for the malty notes of '*Drink Whiskey With Me*', cheers. Glasses drained, magically a bottle of Islay appeared!

By now I'd given up trying to ID the new songs, but recognised the familiar lyrics of a classic '*Death Letter Blues*' rattled out like loose change in an empty bean tin. Ruben and Joey soon had her

laying on the coolin' board. Did they do '*Hard Times*' off that CD? Damned if I know, but they should of done, a really soulful slow burner by Swampcandy standards. The tribal rhythms of '*Heard Somebody*' wailed out, but the pace soon picks up, for *the meanest woman You ever seen, asked for whiskey, gave me gasoline*, doubt Fred McDowell would recognise his song.

'*Its A Good Day*', as near to gospel as your gonna get with Swampcandy, and 'Pierre' awoken to the calling, the trombone is out again, he could have an eye out with that in this crowd. Time to '*Tell The Boys*' to go home, Joey raps the big bass, Ruben gets the finger picks to work, only two strings broken this evening, that's quite good. Having just thrown everyone out, perversely, '*Baby Please Don't Go*', stopped the flow.

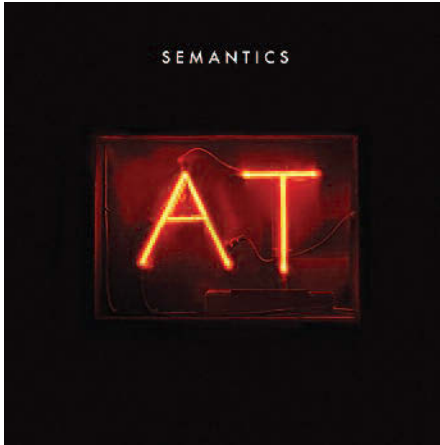
Disappointed not to be bludgeoned by, '*Baseball Bats And Bear Traps*', it had nonetheless been a 'barstorming' evening, which, just maybe, will be repeated next year.

Graham Munn



Semantics | Acid Test

Semantics are a four-piece Birmingham based band who first formed back in 2014, immediately making a splash with their dark brooding mix of post-punk and striking indie noir. The band quickly picked up support in their home town leading to a series headline shows and support slots with the likes of The Vryll Society, Holy Esque and Field Studies among others. The band continued to turn heads with the release of their debut EP in 2016, gaining the attention of such taste makers as **Louder Than War**, **Counteract** and **The Independent** whilst the rest of the year saw the band continue to hone their craft live, showcasing brand new material along the way.



Following a bout of recording with Ryan Pinson, the Semantics return with a brand new EP entitled '*Acid Test*' which, if the title track is anything to judge on, is set to propel the band into the indie loving nation's conscience as the foursome up the ante with a startling, attention grabbing opening salvo. The track, with its suitably grey and moody video, opens with a repetitive, driving, icy riff courtesy of **Bridie Green** before the rumbling bass of **Josh RB** joins the mix. That's followed quickly with the drums of **Simon Lees** and the brooding, bruised vocals of **Rob Lilley** as the band conjure memories of Joy Division at their peak (Lilley summoning the ghost of Curtis), whilst a downcast Morrissey documents the seance) or in more recent times, fellow Birmingham blackened soul indie act, The Editors.

The song bodes well for the rest of the EP as that memorable, jagged riff and Lilley's croon hang heavy in the air, long after the four plus minutes have played out, urging the listener to plunge back between the shadows for another blast of indie noir.

The Acid Test EP is released on September 9th
www.soundcloud.com/semanticsuk
www.facebook.com/Semanticsofficial
www.semanticsofficial.bandcamp.com

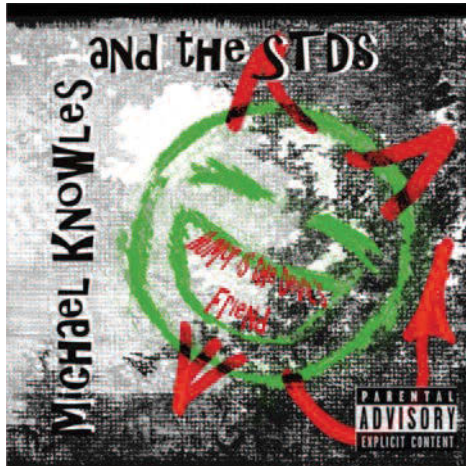
Will Munn

Michael Knowles & The STDs Humor Is The Devil's Friend

This is the first full album from Mike and his band which they launched at the Marris Bar in Worcester a couple of months ago - now I don't often listen to recorded music as I'm completely incapable of multi-tasking in any way - so it's taken a little while for me to actually sit down for a while and check this rocking offering out - but very glad I did!

Many of you will know Mike as the Jack Sparrow-esque rock-god character who's guaranteed to amuse and offend in roughly equal proportions (a good balance we think!) when he's performing with his support outfit the STDs - named of course after individual members Steve, 'The' Jack and Dean. Ok I'm already pushing credibility a bit but you probably guessed that was going to happen sooner rather than later with any Mike Knowles-related event - so best we get it out of the way now... But in all fairness he's very capable of playing a smoother set of less contentious numbers when in solo mode - though perhaps weddings and barmitzvahs are a little remote at present...

2017 has seen Mike take a wholly more professional attitude to his undoubted guitar and entertainment skills - he's moved on from being the linchpin of the Marris Bar House Band to festivals and headlining gigs and this his first full album is evidence of this development - kicking off with with the speed-metal *Addicted To Crazy* and *Lost My Mind* which tells you straight away that this is a chap with quality, classic and original riffs in abundance!



Tomorrow and *Prey* slow it down a little but give Mike's vocal capabilities more scope with some inventive and thoughtful lyrics. *The Joker* is a psychobilly-ish heavy thrash and nicely sets up the stunningly standout track *Scars On The Inside* which with a radio edit would easily deserve national airplay - in my view alone worth getting this record for! More thoughtful ditties to close off this standout recording with *Overtime*, *Feels Like Home* and *Mouldy Lung* with no let-up in the quality of melody or lyrics.

The CD design looks great but there's absolutely no information on the artist, lyrics, music, date, content or contact inside the sleeve - easily amended but should have spotted and corrected! Mike's debut album isn't totally perfect (and of course isn't for the easily-offended) but this is a magnificent compilation of medium-core metal-rock with many incredible and original riffs from an extremely talented very live, local and original musician - very well worth checking out!

AOH

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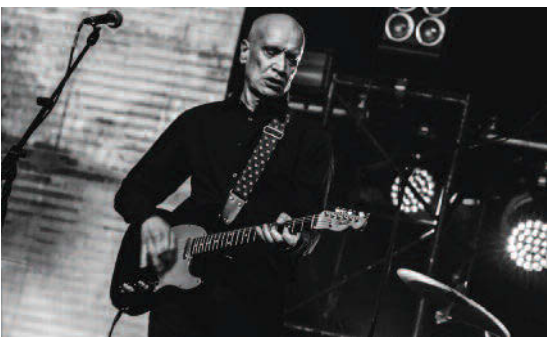
Lakefest | 10th-14th Aug

Lakefest, now in its second year at Eastnor, is fast establishing itself as one of the must go events of the year. With family activities from the ever popular circus workshops, to the various rides and crafts through to a new spoken word tent, a huge childrens area run by **Sarah Edwards** with **Spare Room Arts**, a creche and of course all that lovely live music on offer, the festival pretty much caters for everyone. It would seem that with a busy Thursday night (complete with the likes of **[Spunge]** on entertainment duties) for all those early birds, the flocks are eager to kick start the party as early as possible.

Between main stage bands, I paid a number of visits to the BBC Introducing tent starting with an energetic set of youthful, infectious, indie pop from **Stuart Woolfenden** who had an appreciative crowd, bopping to the likes of Letting Go and Seen It All. Hereford's **Last Tree Squad** followed and had the tent rocking as they mashed up a glorious combination of hip-hop, reggae, dub and jungle, rousing the crowd to shout along to the likes of *Skills* and *Join Us*. **Haunted Souls** brought the first day in the Introducing tent to a close with their effervescent, foot-stomping brand of bluesy country.



Over on the main stage, London based, widescreen electro indie pop act **Colouring** gripped with their effortless blend of skittering beats, subtle synth melodies and soaring lead vocals. The explosive angular post-punk of **Yak** grabbed the audience by their collective lapels and shook violently as the band thrashed at their instruments, often thrillingly threatening to career out of control as the band delivered one of the most memorable sets of the entire



weekend. **Wilko Johnson** unsurprisingly packed them in for a full tilt set of strutting blues infused rock 'n' roll. Using his guitar as a machine gun, every duck walk was rightfully greeted with chorals of approval as the powerhouse trio (completed by **Norman Watt-Roy** on elastic bass, **Dylan Howe** on drums) swaggered through the likes of *So Confused* and *Going Back Home*.

Whilst the hordes hung around the main arena for **Feeder**, I took leave to check out a stunning set by percussion heavy, indietronica hopefuls, **Passion Bel Cannon**. They mixed an alluring combination of Bat For Lashes, Bjork and Florence & The Machine to bewitching effect on the likes of former singles *Stranger*, *Lights* and newbie *Ashes*, drawing day one to a sensational close.

Day Two kicked off with a bang as main stage openers **Moses** cleared any cobwebs with a festival stealing performance. Hitting the stage running, the London based foursome stole all the best bits from the Brit-pop era, threw in a punk **Molotov** and exploded with a frenzy of reverberated soaked riffs, high leaps and swaggering hooks. After such a frenetic start, **Tors** over on the **Floating Globe** offered a more subdued distraction, delivering a lovely set of harmony enriched folk before my first appointment back at The Introducing tent revealed the intoxicating tones of **Willow Robinson**.

The BBC sponsored stage continued to hold the attention with young blues band **Sweet Talk** delivering an impressive array of **Hendrix** and the three **kings** (that's Albert, BB and Freddie) inspired originals with frontman **Owen Whittall** delivering a six string masterclass despite his years. And later on I returned to the Introducing tent for BBC H&W's final band of the day, **Arcadia Roots**, a band that never fail to find a groove the entire audience can dance to. Sure enough, a rammed tent was throbbing to the bands bewitching roots and reggae beat, urging the band (hyped by front man **Dave Small**) for one more song after the band should have wrapped things up.



Away from the Introducing stage, I caught the ever wondrous **Elles Bailey** at **The Floating Globe** delivering her majestic husky blues and roots to a typically entranced audience. A dip into the new **Pen & Parchment** spoken word tent revealed the punk poets whilst over on the main stage, first **Turin Brakes** had the audience swaying to the likes of *Painkiller* and then acid-gospel-country-blues band **Alabama 3** broke down musical barriers to an appreciative, bouncing main arena.

By the final day of **Lakefest** there may well have been some muzzy heads and aching limbs out there but people were still very much in the party spirit of things turning out in force for the likes of **Nuns Of The Tundra** who once again had a hot and sticky tent simultaneously grooving and rocking. Straight after the Nuns, another local favourite in the form of Floating Globe **Marie-Claire Berren & Her Husbands** dazzled with their wide screen, harmony-enriched folk. Back with the Beeb the impossibly youthful **Riscas** hit the right notes with *Sugar* and their 1975

inspired infectious indie pop to a seemingly ever growing audience.

Badly Drawn Boy proved it was possible to hold the attention of the main arena with one guitar (and a seldom used piano), a beanie and a collection of thought provoking acoustic laments as he picked at his impressive back catalogue. **No Coward Soul** beckoned back to the 'globe with a stirring rendition of *Wagon Wheel* and holding their own infectious *Scarecrow*, before the draw of **Seth Lakeman** had me scurrying back to the main stage for a stunning set, gripping the audience with one of the



most captivating sets of the weekend. Between Seth and festival closer **Imelda May** there was just enough time for a quick punky thrash with **Under A Banner** who duly delivered a rousing set of politically and socially aware anthems. And what can I say about **Imelda May** other than wow... it's been a while since I last caught Imelda and her change of direction and circumstances have been well documented but that voice is magnetic, drawing every single person in and holding them bewitched.

Congratulations to the organisers of **Lakefest** for another storming year and I'm already looking forward to the first announcements of 2018. Don't delay, book that time off work, snaffle an early bird ticket, see you down the front next year.

Words by Will Munn Photography by Roy Jenks apart from [Spunge] (Duncan Graves, Wilko Johnson by Dazz Green

Glazz's Birthday Gig

China Shop Bull, The Cracked Actors, The Humdrum Express The Marrs Bar, Worcester | 30th Sept

If **Glazz** makes it to 50 (5 days before this event) it will become a celebration of his favourite acts of the moment and not a birthday party. No need for any presents, just presence at an event to celebrate hard working talent. Cynical thrill seeker, **The Humdrum Express**, will kick off proceedings with his witty observations slicing through British culture like a Rotten knife through Country Life. **The Cracked Actors** will ramp up the dance stakes and prove that they are so much more than just a ska band - skunk rock anyone? And bringing us to a close are Yorkshire's finest purveyors of ska/rave/hip-hop rock, the one and only, **China**



Shop Bull. If you know the old codger drop him an email at glazz@hotmail.com for guest list; if you don't know him, come along anyway to witness three of the finest and most diverse performers around.

<http://www.wegotickets.com/event/411346>

Bomber Brown



Old Bush Blues Callow End | 18th-20th Aug

Whilst most festival Fridays limp into life, reaching a crescendo for the headlining band to close the evening, here at **The Old Bush**, **Matt Williams** has conjured up an incredible cluster of artists to throw at us from the get go. When I arrived, Old Avengers were playing. They've been around a while and know how to present classic blues to the early starters and steady influx of revellers.

Elles Bailey provided a pleasant surprise for those yet to hear her. She and her band **Joe, Zac** and **Matt** are great, that's a given, but Elles really uses the stage, involving her audience and was lighting a 'Wildfire' to warm them up. Despite the eulogy to Joplin, Chess and Muscle Shoals, its 'Spoonful' and 'Let Me Hear You Scream' that has us all 'Howling' for more. Meanwhile **Five Field Holler** was warming up. **Chris Saunders** voice drifted across to me but it's the rhythm and funk of **Robin's** drums and **Emile's** bass that will pass the distance test as **Marco's** boogie notes fill in the hollows. The band offered up blues that have a jazz fusion and a soul synergy woven in.



they had superb percussion, electric lead, thumping bass and great vocals. Stepping back across into the Car Park stage I found **Ian Parker** carrying out an impressive sound check. This is a man who is quite simply on the rise. Ian knows how to eke out the best, most beautiful sounds from his Strat whilst being accompanied by sublime drums from **Al Cormell**, **Dave Jenkins** on bass and the unmissable sounds from **Morg Morgans** keys that brought a stunned the crowd into reverential silence.



Another quickly rising band who is storming all the festival stages is **The Rainbreakers** and they were set to bring their totally absorbing style of play to The Old Bush. Everything about The Rainbreakers shouts of quality and a synergy that would disgrace many more established bands –

Trafficker, a hard rocking sometimes blues band fresh from Upton, ensured that as rain filled the air, spirits weren't dampened as the garden stage was packed as tightly as a sardine can. Closing the evening was another rising band who are generating a lot of interest - **The Tom Walker Band**. I had work to do, but will catch one of his gigs and maybe take home his new recording Into Space for some sweet guitar and the soulful voice of Tom.

Friday was phenomenal so how can you dig out a super Saturday or even stunning Sunday to follow? It's true to say just sticking in **Northsyde** will satisfy most, but Saturday started with a superb set from **Steve Whalley**. Essentially acoustic, though he picked up his electric at the end, he plays some lovely acoustic blues that adds slide before moving to mandolin. This along with the characterful voice that can grit out the lyrics left me wondering what else you need.



Then the lovely tones of **Lucy Zirens** are drifting across the lawn. This is apparently the first standing gig in 10 years and Lucy is limbering up for an electric guitar.... sacrilege? We'll see, meanwhile **Northsyde** took the stage, picked it up and gave it and shaking.



This was one of those nights that stay etched in the memory for ever. Jules, Ian, and Hayden tease the best from Lorna as she



covers the stage like a spider, spinning a web. **Northsyde** draw in the collective energy of the whole festival that is crammed into this one arena. They use it, abuse it, transform it, tossing it to Lorna as she blasts it out with her coffee grinder voice and back into the open arms of the bobble-hatted electrified listeners.

Sunday morning would bring **Kyle & Shaw** with an acoustic, traditional blues set – a fine way to ease you in to the day. The **Delray Rockets** were sure to have the girls up and dancing to the rockabilly roll - a local and very popular band. **Lavender Rouge** was listed for later. I'd missed them in Upton and, due to prior engagements, was about to miss this eclectic, colourful band again; soon maybe? Closing this year's festival was **Troy Redfern** who I had seen the weekend before. It was going to be quite an experience for those who have not yet seen Troy and his band. It was another excellent year with **Matt Williams** and the staff at **The Old Bush**, giving all a memorable weekend.

Words & Photography by **Graham Munn**. Except **Delray Rockets** (above) & **Lavendar Rouge** (right) by **Roy Cano**



The Boneyard Sessions

The Firefly, Worcester | 24th July

Boneyard Sessions yet again prove how on the cusp they are of the local music scene as they put on a fantastic afternoon of acoustic music. And, as the sun set over the firefly's garden, the radiating faces of the audience confirmed that Boneyard got it undoubtedly right.

The afternoon was started with **Happy Bones** dreamy morbidity. The solo artist was definitely better as a by himself as he debuted new tracks that show he's nearly mastered the acoustic style despite his apparent lack of practice for the day's gig.

Following him was the king of the acoustic dreamscape – **Sam Clines**. Armed with whimsical dreams, he's been everywhere recently, again highlighting how on the cusp Boneyard are on Worcester's upcoming talent. I can say one thing about Clines – for one person he makes a lot of noise.



Next **Jess Silk** who showed off that perfectly rasped voice as she delivered songs that are hard-hitting and inspirationally relevant. With pitch perfect melodies and a voice that sticks to the mind, I was impressed and so glad I could see her again after catching her at a previous **Uncover**.

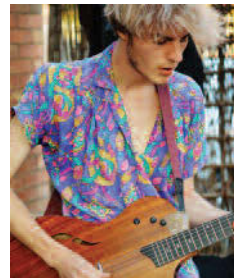


The penultimate set was delivered by the incredible **Benjamin Dallow**. Boasting Arctic

Monkey's inspired vocals that were matched by calming riffs, Dallow brings to the table something very enamoring and is set to take him far.

After Dallow had wet the pallet, the main attraction for the afternoon took to the stage area with his guitar and pedals. From the very beginning **Tom Forbes** set to work on blowing the audience away with his dizzy set full of layered gold. It was the right sound to conclude the sunny Monday afternoon to.

Emily Branson



Troy Redfern Band

The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury | 13th Aug

Don't expect to come to a **Troy Redfern** gig for a quiet evening of gentle conversation and a diet coke because the reality is going to be hard edged, biting raw, rock blues. Troy, modelled on an early version of John Mayall with brimmed hat, long wild hair and short beard, carries a selection of weapons: a Gibson Les Paul, Gibson 335, Fender Strat, and a 60's Silvertone. Troy is very ably assisted by **Alex Bridge** on percussion and **Stjohn Milinczuk** on bass.

In the close atmosphere of this great little pub, the sound was going to be galvanising. The windows rattle to the opening of thunderous rock before shuffling on to a superb rhythmic drum intro to the highly appropriate 'Shake Em'. The energy loaded openers make way for the slow burning blues of Troy's 'Salvation', taken from his *Back Door Hoodoo* album. It slides and twists as Troy's nut grinder voice spits out the grit before Albert Collins' 'Black Cat Bone' is chewed over ahead of a smouldering 'Double Trouble' that saw Troy wringing the neck of his Les Paul.

The old Silvertone is given a rock n' roll workout for 'Jelly Roll', loosening up for the tonal testing and guttural mutterings of 'Backdoor Hoodoo'. We all watch and listen, heads are nodding as feet are tapping to the primeval, lava flowing, rock forming, creativity that is the **Troy Redfern Band**. Alex and Stjohn generate the strata as the guitar and vocals percolate from the molten core, bursting and streaming through every fissure before 'Madman Blues' shifts and dodges, robbing lyrics and riffs.



The band restarted with a good dose of 'Spoonful', needless to say a fully spiked Redfern edition which would have seen Ewan McGregor well and truly round the U bend. A crackling, sparking 'Wildfire' raged with Alex and Stjohn blasted through. Stjohn is like a caged bull, wanting to charge across a ring but The Prince forces all to play close to their chest with no room for a rampage. I took my leave, unfortunately not hearing the raging seas conjured up for 'Wade In The Water' or even the glorious 'John The Revelator', but I will be catching up with Troy again at the imminent **Old Bush Blues**. Here at **The Prince Of Wales**, it had been a revelation. After a little while since seeing the band, this seemed so much better: better sound, better environment and better beer!

Graham Munn

Huntingdon Hall & The Swan

Huntingdon Hall and **The Swan Theatre** have a lot wonderful shows coming up in September. Over the course of the month, many will grace their stages, including the Official UK No. 1 tribute to Phil Collins: **And Finally... Phil Collins** – 10th Anniversary Tour that will hit The Swan Theatre on Thursday 21st. Featuring a truly amazing eleven-piece band, including the **And Finally Horns**, the show faithfully recreates all the classic hits from the Phil Collins and Genesis timeless back catalogue. The 22nd will also be seeing The Spice Girls taking stage in the form of **Wannabe - The Spice**



Girls Show. This is the first major tour of a Spice Girls themed theatre show, and will feature all of The Spice Girls highlights.

Over at Huntingdon Hall, September 15th will see **The Upbeat Beatles** performing. As the name suggests, The Upbeat Beatles are a rockin' band with tight musicianship and powerhouse vocals. There isn't a band to touch them – eight bars of *Twist and Shout* and you will know why; no other band performs this song like the Upbeat Beatles. And, in the words of K.K. Downing from Judas Priest, it's "not to be missed".



The Chris Barber Band will be following up on the 16th. In early 1917 the very first jazz record was released by Original Dixieland Jazz Band: **Livery Stable Blues**. Now, in 2017 and a century later, British jazz legend Chris Barber and his band The Big Chris Barber Band, will celebrate the record's 100th birthday and a Centenary of jazz. The 10-piece Big Chris Barber Band features everything from New Orleans to blues to late 20s Ellington, played with extraordinary panache and skill. Chris Barber OBE is one of the last British Jazz legends around and an icon of traditional jazz in the UK, making this one not to be missed.

At the end of the month on the 29th will see **Voodoo Room** perform a night of Hendrix & Cream. Paying homage to the first super groups of rock, Hendrix and Cream, are Voodoo Room. Featuring all of your favourite Hendrix and Cream songs, they perform with an energy and virtuosity that transcends tribute band status. The sheer musical ability of the band is a force to be reckoned with and you will see and hear why their CVs include Stevie Winwood, Massive Attack, Ben E King, Thunder and Fish, amongst others. This is definitely not a wig-wearing, dress up, pantomime style tribute band – it's simply great music performed by great players of genuine pedigree. Their refreshingly energetic and unpretentious live show is not to be missed!

Artrix September 2017

An alt-folk band, 60s legends and top-quality tribute acts are amongst the highlights for folk fans at **Artrix** this September.

Kicking things off for September are **Kim Lowings** and **The Greenwood** with the official launch of their new album, *Wild and Wicked Youth* on Friday 8th September, followed by rip roaring Alt-



folk band **The Noble Jacks** and **The Total Commitments** on Saturday 9th September. Pianist **Paul Morton** presents **Spitfire** on Sunday 10th September.

Audiences can enjoy an intimate evening of songs and stories from **Richard Digance** on Thursday 14th September and 1960s legends **The Manfreds** perform on Friday 15th September.

Saturday 16th November sees **Northern Soul Live** performing classic Motown, Soul and Northern Soul hits, plus special guests.



A fantastic flurry of tributes round off September, starting with international impersonator **Paula Randell** as Dame Shirley Bassey, on Sunday 17th September. Audiences can experience Led Zeppelin and Deep Purple all in one show with **Purple Zeppelin** on Saturday 23rd September. Direct from London's West End, **The Simon and Garfunkel Story**: 50th Anniversary Tour will be wowing fans with renditions of the duo's best-loved hits on Thursday 28th September and **The Counterfeit Sixties** will be helping audiences relive the swinging sixties on Saturday 30th September.

Swedish jazz quartet **Örjan Hultén's Orion** comes to Bromsgrove on Friday 29th September and also on 29th September; **Castalian String Quartet** explores the sounds of Beethoven, Haydn and Dutilleux.

For further information or tickets please visit www.artrix.co.uk or call the box office on 01527 577330.

Folk At Worcester's Tudor House Museum

Four unique performers are joining forces for an evening of contemporary Folk Music at Worcester's atmospheric **Tudor House Museum**. Russian folk singer **Daria Kulesh**, Midlands trio **Town Musicians of Bremen**, rising star **Emi McDade** and Worcestershire's own **Mike Weaver** will take to the stage on Saturday 23rd September.

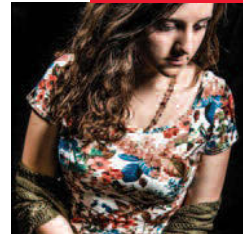
With her striking voice and strong Russian and Ingush heritage, **Daria Kulesh** is making a name for herself as a unique and exciting singer/songwriter. Her solo debut *Eternal Child* was described as 'phenomenal' by FATEA magazine and the recently-released second album *Long Lost Home* has already won awards in the UK and Russia. Reviewers have described it as a 'masterpiece', a 'definite contender for the best album of 2017.'

Self-taught from a guitar lying around in the family home, **Leon Gormley** has gained a growing reputation for his accomplished voice and distinctive technique. He will be bringing his **Town Musicians of Bremen** trio to Tudor House, which comprises Leon (guitar/cittern and vocals), Jarv Lowings (bouzouki) and Lewis Jones (nyckelharpa and melodeon). BBC's Genevieve Tudor described Leon as having 'more fingers than average!'



Emi McDade grew up in a musical family and has been songwriting since 14. Emi has performed on stages such as BBC Introducing, Ronnie Scott's, Guildhall, Sofar Sounds, Thekla, The Bedford, and many others, headlining the Acoustic Stage of Dot to Dot Festival. Emi recently made her debut at Cambridge Folk Festival. "Effortlessly flicks between haunting and gorgeously sweet," Alex Rogers, Radio 1 and 1Extra.

Mike Weaver returned to the live music scene four years ago to national radio play, coverage in Acoustic Magazine and praise from fellow musicians. Mike has supported the likes of Ange Hardy, Tir na nOg, The Jennifer Crook Trio and Steve Ashley. "Mike always records his music live to reflect the directness and simplicity of his gigs, creating a strong focus on the lyrics." Acoustic Magazine.



The music starts at 7.30pm, with doors open at 7.15pm. There will be a bar. Tickets are £10 each and can be booked by calling 01905 612309 or visiting www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/folk-at-tudor-house-tickets-36025367845

For further enquiries, email manager@tudorhouse.org.uk or visit www.tudorhouse.org.uk



What's On?

at The Swan Theatre
and Huntingdon Hall





The Big Chris Barber Band
16th September
- £22.50



Tom Stadel
22nd September
- £17.50



Tribute to The Blues Brothers
23rd September
- £15



Voodoo Room: A Night of Hendrix & Cream
29th September
- £17.50



Live American Wrestling
23rd September
- £12.50

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Arts, Exhibitions & Cinema

2nd Sept Stourport Land & River Carnival @ Riverside Meadows

Until 9th Sept - Celebrity Worcester Museum and Art Gallery

Until 10th Sept - Embroidered Bodies,
 Ashmolean Museum Broadway

Until 11th Sept - Art from the Dark, Hereford Library

1st Sept - 5th Nov Rita Thorn - Atmosphere Earth Ocean.
 Evesham Arts Centre

6th - Comedy at the Kings Head, Worcester

1st-10th Sept - The Rite Of Spring, Artists Workhouse, Studley.

9th Life - Drawing with Acrobatics. Studley Parish Centre,
 Old Vicarage Gardens, Studley, (artistsworkhouse.com)

9 Sept til 12 Nov - The Hop Pocket, MAC Birmingham

9th - Cube Shuffle, Malvern Cube

11th-16th - Murder in Play, Coach House Malvern

15th-17th - Worcester Music Festival
www.worcestermusicfestival.co.uk

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Local Festivals

1-3 September 2017: Moseley Folk Festival
[see moseleyfolk.co.uk](http://see.moseleyfolk.co.uk)

8-10 September 2017: Bromyard Folk Festival
[see bromyardfolkfestival.co.uk](http://see.bromyardfolkfestival.co.uk)

9 September 2017: CUBE sHuFfle (FREE Family Festival),
 Betsy Harmony, Martin Thorne, Jack Of All, Amoeba Teen,
 Lounge Toad, The Hills Angels, Carnival Records DJ's,
 Liberty Artillery
 Malvern Cube, Malvern

16th Sept til 28th Oct - Worcester Society of artists 70th Anniversary Exhibition, Worcester City Art Gallery.

22nd/23rd - Forthright Theatre present Baby Blues,
 Cheltenham Everyman Theatre

23rd - Worcestershire Pride - www.worcestershirepride.org

24th - Forthright Theatre - Baby Blues, Artrix Bromsgrove

27th - Immersive Speakeasy and gin tasting from Klik Klik Collective featuring Collective 43, Bottles Winebar, Worcester

29th - 8th Oct - Creative Synergy - Artist Dara Williams
 & Composer Liz Johnson. Elmslie House, Malvern

29th - Screening of Supersonic
 Under the Arches, Farrier Street, Worcester

Until 30th Sept - Jinny Ring Sculpture Trail,
 Jinny Ring Centre Hanbury.

For an Arts listing you can email Kate
arts@slapmag.co.uk

15-17 September 2017: FrogFest 2017
 Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

15-17 September 2017: Worcester Music Festival
 Various venues, Worcester. [see worcestermusicfestival.co.uk](http://see.worcestermusicfestival.co.uk)

15-17 September 2017: Beyond The Tracks Festival
 Eastside City Park, Birmingham. [See beyondthetracks.co.uk](http://See.beyondthetracks.co.uk)

23-24 September 2017: Underground Festival
 Guildhall, Gloucester. [See underground17.co.uk](http://See.underground17.co.uk)

29 September - 1 October 2017: Green Hop Festival
 The Talbot, Knightwick. [See temevalleybrewery.co.uk](http://See.temevalleybrewery.co.uk)

Music Sessions/Open Mics

Every Monday - Open Mic

Royal Oak, Ledbury

Every Monday - Open Mic/Jam Night

Cock & Magpie, Bewdley

Every Monday - Folk Night

Worley's, The Swan, Stourport

1st Mon of Month - Acoustic Session

The Pickled Plum, Pershore

4th Mon - Singaround

Pidele House, Wyre Piddle, Worcs

Fortnightly Mon & Wed (check website) - Folk Nights

Three Horseshoes, Frampton-On-Severn, Glos

Every Tues - Jazz Night

Worley's The Swan, Stourport

Every Tuesday - Plug n Play

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

First Tues - Open Mic with Andy Lindsey & Zoe Devenish

The Millers Arms, Pershore

Last Tues - Folk Night

The Millers Arms, Pershore

First Tues - Folk Session run by Phil Knowles

Rose and Crown, Feckenham

First Tues - The Courtyard Open Mic Night

Cafe Bar, The Courtyard, Hereford

Every Tue Perdido Street Jazz Band

The Fox & Hounds, Lulsley

First Tues - For 12-19 year olds 7pm

Pershore Library

Every Tue - Open Mic Night with Pete Kelly

The Queen's Head, Wolverley

Every Tue - Open Mic

The Firefly, Worcester

3rd Tues - Acoustic Jam Night with Ian & Kevin Fuller

The Millers Arms, Pershore

Every Tues - Enzo's Open Mic

Great Malvern Hotel

Every Tue - Acoustic/Singaround (Folk, Blues, Country)

The Falcon Hotel, Bromyard

2nd Tue of Month - Acoustic Session

The Farriers Arms, Worcester

3rd Tues - Folk Evening

The Crown Inn, Longtown, HR2

3rd Tues of Month - Acoustic Session with Mick Morris

The Bell, Pensax, Worcs

1st Tues of Month - Acoustic Session with Pauline Molloy

The Cardinal's Hat, Worcester

1st Wed Every Month - Sing/Playaround

The Talbot Hotel, Knightwick

Every Wed - Electric Jam Night

Worley's The Swan, Stourport

Every Wednesday - Ukulele Session

The Old Cock Inn, Droitwich

Every other Wednesday - Open mic/Sessions

Green Dragon, Bishops Frome

Every other Wednesday - Open mic/Sessions

Rose & Crown, Severn Stoke

Every other Wednesday - Open mic/Sessions

Fox & Hounds, Breden

Every other Wednesday - Folk Sessions

The Crown, Colwall

Every Wednesday - Irish Session

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Fortnightly Wed Open Mic

The Queens Head, Redditch

First Wed - Open Mic

The Jailhouse, Hereford

Every 4 wks on a Wed - Acoustic Session

The Rose & Crown, Severn Stoke, Worcs

Every Wed - Olá Samba Drumming

All Saints Academy, Cheltenham

Every Wed - Folk Jam Session

Prince of Wales, Ledbury

Every Wed - Marzys Jam Night

Marrs Bar, Worcester

3rd Wed of Month - Acoustic Session

The Admiral Rodney, Berrow Gn

3rd Wed of Month - Celtic folk session

The Fleece Inn, Bretforton, Worcs

Last Wed - Under 18s open mic

Reet Petite, Leominster

Every Thursday - Drumlove Adult Workshop 7.30pm

The Angel Centre, Worcester

Every other Thursday, Open Mic with Dan James

The Chestnut, Worcester

1st Thurs - Folk Session

Farmers Arms, Wellington Heath

1st Thurs - Black Hill Tune Club

The Crown Inn, Longtown, HR2

Every Thurs - Troublesome Trio

Cock & Magpies, Bewdley

Every other Thursday, Bromsgrove Folk Club

Catshill Club, Bromsgrove

Every Thur - Open Mic Night/Jamming Session

Three Horseshoes, Frampton-On-Severn, Glos

Every Thurs from 9.30 - West Malvern Music Night

West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

1st Thursday Polly Edwards Open Mic Jam Night

Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

First Thurs - Open Mic

The Oddfellows Arms, Astwood Bank

Every Thursday - Acoustic Session

The Fleece Inn, Bretforton, Worcs

Every other Thursday, Open Mic

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Every Other Thursday - Open Mic

The Firefly, Hereford

Every Thursday - Spoken word 7-9pm

Abbey Road Coffee, Great Malvern

Every Thursday - Folk Night

The Fleece, Bretforton

Every Thursday - Folk Session run by Bob Chance

Black Swan Muchdew Church, Hereford

3rd Thur - Mainly Irish Session

The King's Head, Tenbury Wells

3rd Thur - Jam Session

Reet Petite, Leominster

3rd Thursday - Malvern Storytellers

The Great Malvern Hotel - £1.50. See malvernstorytellers.co.uk

Every 4th Thursday - Open mic night with Blue Street

The Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Every 4th Thursday - Session

New Inn, Malvern

Alternate Thurs - Mainly Irish & Scottish Session

The Morgan, Malvern

Every Friday - Somers Trad Folk Club weekly folk night

The Alma Tavern, Worcester

Every Friday - Open mic 7-9pm

Abbey Road Coffee, Great Malvern

Every other Friday, Karaoke with kim

Royal Oak, Ledbury

1st Fri - Acoustic Session

The Camp, Grimley

2nd Fri - Open mic

Reet Petite, Leominster

3rd Fri (usually) - Beginners/Improvers Session/Workshop

The Methodist Church, Ledbury

Last Fri - Acoustic Session

The Fox, Monkwood Green, Worcs

Every Fri - Irish Session

St Ambrose Hall, Kidderminster

Every Friday Lunch Time - Folk Session

Three Kings, Hanly Castle

Last Friday - Resident band The Future Set

The Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

2nd Sat (3rd Sat in Feb) - Rushwick Folk Club

Rushwick Village Hall, Worcester

Every Sunday starting at 3:00pm

The Morgan, Malvern

Every Sunday Acoustic Sunday at 7.30pm

The Wharf, Stourport

2nd Sun - Singaround Session

The Yew Tree Inn, Peterstow, Herefordshire

Every Sun 9.30-Midnight - Acoustic Session

Social Club, West Malvern

Every Sun Lazy Acoustic Afternoon with Liz Kirby 4pm

Red Lion, Market Place, Evesham

Every Sunday Unplugged 3pm-5pm

The Iron Road Rock Bar, Evesham

2nd Sun - Acoustic Session

The Hop Pole, Droitwich

Sunday afternoon jazz 12.00 - 3.00

Lichfield Vaults

Last Sun - Mixed Acoustic Sessions

The Bowling Green Inn, Stoke Prior

1st & 3rd Sun - Singaround format Session

The Galton Arms, Himbleton, Worcs

Jazz every Sunday 12.30 till 2.30 ish

Pickled Plum, Pershore

2nd Sun - Moonshine Acoustic Jam Club

Piddle House, Wyre Piddle, Worcs

Friday 01 September 2017

Missing Lynx

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye

Something By Friday

Drummonds, Worcester

Tom Forbes

The Anchor, Pershore

Witcher

The Blue Bell, Ryall

Izzy The Push

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Alaska Alaska

Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Bungalow

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

AKA That V The Jersey Boys

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Ray Lewis

The Civic, Stourport-On-Severn

Hotrox

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Bad Names

The Sebright Arms, Worcester

The Strangers

Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Joby's Bon Voyage Party

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Monogram

The Crown & Sceptre, Stroud

Mother Popcorn

Drummonds, Worcester

Le Boolaheads

The Queen Vic, Stroud

Black Knight

The Millers Arms, Pershore

Party For People In Motion: Daniel Boden, Grant Meeson,

Rachel Bloomer, Ewan Pollock, Answer Back

Ravenmeadow Golf Centre, Worcester

The Follies

The Hop Pole, Bewdley

Matahari

Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

Planet Rock UK

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

The Uncanny Travellers

The Three Horseshoes, Malvern

Steve Ajao Blues Giants

Queens Head, Wolverley

Izzy The Push

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

The Disciples

The Maltster, Worcester

Shades Of Grey

The Red Lion, Evesham

Ub40 Tribute Night

Gaudet Luce Golf & Leisure, Droitwich

The Delray Rockets

The Saracens Head, Worcester

A Foreigners Journey

The Iron Road, Evesham

Alex Rainsford, Redwood, Chris Taylor

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Fifteen English Pounds

The Swan Inn, Evesham

The Uncanny Travellers

The Three Horseshoes, Malvern

Lounge Toad

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

The Stoned Cherries

The Globe, Hay On Wye

Blues Night With Damon T

Reet Petite, Leominster

Chalky

The Swan (Barbourne), Worcester

Bryn Thomas

The Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Sierra Noble Band

St Georges Hall, Bewdley

Woo Town Hillbillies

Plesse Of Piddle, Wyre Piddle

XL5

Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

Lewis Clark & The Essentials

De Koffie Pot, Hereford

Sam Gwinnell

The Swan With Two Nicks, Worcester

Saturday 02 September 2017

The Dreamers & Everly Brothers Tribute

Ludlow Assembly Rooms, Ludlow

The Outcasts

Ye Olde Bull Ring Tavern, Ludlow

Miles 2 Darby

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye

38 SLAP SEPTEMBER

Lounge Toad

Prince Of Wales, Malvern

The Way

The Foley Arms Hotel, Malvern

That Friday Feeling

The Cricketers, Worcester

Dave BS Rockin Years

The Oast House, Redditch

Hybrid

Woodland Cottage, Redditch

Genesis Arc, State Of Ember, Mammoth Temple, Artemis

The Railway, Redditch

Blind Lemon

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

OCD

The Express Inn, Malvern

Dan Pinkney

The Angel Inn, Stourport-On-Severn

Missing Lynx

The Hollybush, Stourport-On-Severn

Ricky Jay

Stourport Workmens Club, Stourport-On-Severn

Gandhi's Walrus

The Chestnut, Worcester

Dark Island

Stroud Brewery, Stroud

The Rooters

Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Hvmm EP Launch With: Tokyo Taboo

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Vo Fletcher

The Green Dragon, Malvern

Stella Thomson, Dr Grr And The Surgery, Arankas Cackle,

Will Killeen, Daniel Billings Band, The Forgetting Curve,

Thee Pulsations, Les Burnadettes (From 2pm)

The Crown & Sceptre, Stroud

Flying Ant Day

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

2 Tone Revue

Little Lakes Caravan Park, Bewdley

After Dark

The Wheelhouse, Upton-Upon-Severn

Primetime

New Inn, Pershore

Black September, Spectrum 4

Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Tom Forbes

Monty's, Cheltenham

Mad Isaac E.P Launch! Plus WBD, Tide and Flashhouse

2Pigs, Cheltenham

The Demon Barbers – The Lock-In 'Remixed'

Town Hall, Cheltenham

Black Cat Bone The Trio

The Earl (Boat), Worcester, South Quay, By The Fountain

Charlie Dore & Julian Littman

Burton Hotel, Kington

Pure DC + The Wilde

The Iron Road, Evesham

The Stiff Joints, Broken 3 Ways, Dharma Bums

Stourport Civic Hall, Stourport

Big Fat Shorty

The Swan Inn, Evesham

The Kitchen Island Band

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

The Dropouts

The Valkyrie Cafe Bar, Evesham

Call Of The Kraken

Reet Petite, Leominster

The Legend Lives On Gordon Davis As Elvis Presley

Guildhall, Gloucester

Risky Galore

The Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Fabulous Bordellos

The Cross Keys, Malvern

Cookie & Co

The Bridge Inn, Worcester

Woo Town Hillbillies

The Stag, Llanidloes

Dj Jimdog Playing Classic Hip Hop, Funk And Breaks

Heroes, Worcester

K-Klass

The Swan, Kidderminster

Sunday 03 September 2017

Kevin Donaldson

Alestones, Redditch

Andy and Debbie. 6pm

The Cap N Gown, Worcester

Institutions

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Hill's Angels 5:30pm

The Chestnut, Worcester

Nicole Sherwood (5pm)

The Imperial Tavern, Worcester

Forever Sabbath, Violent Liam

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Hvmm (Live Instore) 1Pm
Rise, Worcester

Woo Town Hillbillies
The Mount, Llanidloes

Tyler & Vo
Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Steve Ajao Blues Giants (4pm)
The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Kev Donaldson (2pm)
Alestones, Tardebigge

Monday 04 September 2017

Germsons Engels
Ye Olde Bull Ring Tavern, Ludlow

Tuesday 05 September 2017

Three Cane Whale
The Roses, Tewkesbury

Faster Pussycat + Emperor Of The Wasteland
The Iron Road, Evesham

Dante Miller
Tank, Gloucester

Paul Drakleys All Star Big Band
Kingsford Public House, Wolverly

Wednesday 06 September 2017

Big Jim + American Eric
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Faith - The George Michael Legacy
The Palace Theatre, Redditch

Voodoo Room - Hendrix & Cream
The Courtyard, Hereford

Thursday 07 September 2017

Aaron Booton
Ye Olde Bull Ring Tavern, Ludlow

Micky Moody & Ali Maas Band
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

The Dowling Poole
The Marris Bar, Worcester

The Steve Ajao Blues Giants
The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Bob Bowles
Tank, Gloucester

Bowie Starman Show
The Courtyard, Hereford

Vo Fletcher
The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Friday 08 September 2017

The Reporters
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye

Essential 80's
Drummonds, Worcester

The Delray Rockets
The Yew Tree, Cannock

The Hill's Angels
Three Horseshoes, Malvern

Black Heart Angels
The Unicorn, Malvern

The Jaguars
The Blue Bell, Ryall

Charlie Healy
The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Joe Longthorne
The Palace Theatre, Redditch

Elements
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

D-Ran D-Ran
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Luke Doherty
The Millers Arms, Pershore

Kim Lowings And The Greenwood
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Piano Man - Music Of Billy Joel - Jules Benjamin & Band
Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

Worcester Music Festival Beer Launch 2017
The Paul Pry, Worcester

The Follicles
The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

The Live Aid Experience
Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Jasper In The Company Of Others, Burnz, Elephant Peel,
Joe Knight

The Mar's Bar, Worcester

The Festivals Experience
Drummonds, Worcester

Safehouse
The Hop Pole, Bewdley

U2-2
Croft Farm Waterpark, Tewkesbury

Plastic Scene
The Talbot, Bewdley

Mother Popcorn
The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Bluzebox
Queens Head, Wolverley

Kim Lowings And The Greenwood
Artrix, Bromsgrove

The Hawthornes
Smokey Joe's Coffee Bar, Cheltenham

The Troubadours
The Red Lion, Evesham

Andy Fairweather Low & The Low Riders
Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham

Iron Bastards (France)
The Iron Road, Evesham

Mel & Him
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

The Searchers Live
Regal Cinema, Evesham

Felix & The Funk
The Swan, Staunton

Piano Man - The Music Of Billy Joel
Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

Woo Town Hillbillies (Ticketed)
River Boat Gig On The Earl, South Quay River Severn

The Hush
Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

Social State, Skewwhiff, Phones, Sam Clines
Firefly, Worcester

Jimmy Moore Jazz Pianist
Left Bank, Hereford

Roger Roberts
The Swan With Two Nicks, Worcester

Saturday 09 September 2017

Secret Cabaret
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye

Chevy Chase Stole My Wife
The Unicorn, Malvern

Vo Fetcher
Red Lion Inn Stiffords Bridge, Malvern

Open Day - Live Acts And Demonstrations (9Am-6Pm)
Music City, Worcester

The Deadshots And The Uproars
The Crown Green Suite, Redditch

The Shakes
Woodland Cottage, Redditch

Rod Stewart No 1 Rod Stewart Tribute
The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Clyde Spencer Motown
The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

The Mersey Beatles
The Palace Theatre, Redditch

Fukdust4, Nosebleed, The Atoms, The Youth Within
Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

The Subterraneans
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Noble Jacks
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Total Commitments
Artrix, Bromsgrove

The Delray Rockets
Railway Inn, Studley

Hybrid
The Express Inn, Malvern

The Usual Suspects
The Waggon & Horse, Stourbridge

Sean Smith
Stourport Workmens Club, Stourport-On-Severn

Will Killeen Band
The Chestnut, Worcester

Gotta Groove Band
The Holybush, Stourport-On-Severn

Madi Stimpson Trio
Stroud Brewery, Stroud

Recovered
Clifton Upon Teme Village Hall, Clifton Upon Teme

Skrood
Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Without Flight
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Kitchen Island Band
The Green Dragon, Malvern

Concert Of Legends: Billy Ocean, Paul Carrack (Mike & The Mechanics, Ace & Squeeze), The Boomtown Rats (Ft. Bob Geldof), The Legends Of 90's Dance, Livin' Joy, N-Trance, Baby D, Ray Lewis' Drifters, Odyssey, The Gt's
Worcestershire County Cricket Club, Worcester

Damn The Weather
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

The Roy Orbison Story
The Roses, Tewkesbury

Gene Genie & The Lemon Squeezers
The Barn Venue, Bewdley

Better Than We Look
Croft Farm Waterpark, Tewkesbury

Chloe Mogg
Button Oak Inn, Bewdley

Izzara
The Wheelhouse, Upton-Upon-Severn

Taylor & Co

New Inn, Pershore

The Underdogs

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

The After Dark Band

The Oak Apple, Worcester

Noble Jacks

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Total Commitments

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Beaver & The Foghorns

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Stevie R, Pearce & The Hooligans + The Senton Bombs

The Iron Road, Evesham

Hennesea

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Steve Teacher

The Swan (Barbourne), Worcester

Vini, Lindsay & Isaac

The Globe, Hay On Wye

Andy Margrett and Alex

The Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Thunder Chunky

The Cross Keys, Malvern

Locked and Loaded

The Bridge Inn, Worcester

Welcome Back Delta

The Cross Keys, Gloucester

Woo Town Hillbillies

Salt Festival, Droitwich

Into The Shadows

The Courtyard, Hereford

Slightly OCD

The Bayshill, Cheltenham

Soul Sessions Playing Rocknroll, Punk, Ska, Rockabilly,

Motown And Northern Soul

Heroes, Worcester

XL5

Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

Last Tree Squad + Guests

Firefly, Hereford

Re Booted Official

The Fighting Cocks, Stottesdon, Kidderminster

Leanne & King Rich

Ye Olde Seven Stars, Kidderminster

Alvin and The Angry Barrels

Reet Petite, Leominster

Sunday 10 September 2017

Journeyman (6pm)

The Cap N Gown, Worcester

Lazy Sunday (1pm)

Café Bliss, Worcester

Glam Rock Show (2pm)

The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Jeff Toye Cradley To The Pub

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Paul Morton: Spitfire

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Rudeboy Reggae Boat Party (5pm)

The Earl Boat, Worcester

Ralph Allin Quartet (5:30pm)

The Chestnut, Worcester

Nick Parker

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Jack Blackman

The Cross Keys, Alcester

The Lindsay Martin Trio

The Roses, Tewkesbury

Absolute Blondie

The Wheelhouse, Upton-Upon-Severn

Paul Morton: Spitfire

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Neil Ivison (5pm)

The Imperial Tavern, Worcester

Janis Joplin & Friends in The Woodstock Experience

Town Hall, Cheltenham

Howard Harper

Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Warren James (4pm)

The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Tuesday 12 September 2017

Hurry Up Harry

Tank, Gloucester

Wednesday 13 September 2017

Adam Scriven

Café Rene, Gloucester

Sullivan & Gold At The Prince Albert

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Rockin' On Heaven's Door

Artrix, Bromsgrove

The Usual Suspects

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Thursday 14 September 2017

Faye Bagkey

Ye Olde Bull Ring Tavern, Ludlow

Agents Of Evolution

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Richard Digance: Golden Anniversary Tour

Artrix, Bromsgrove

The Black Feathers

Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Dave Sharp

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

The Zero Day

No 23 Bar & Bistro, Stroud

Vinny Peculiar

The Plough, Worcester

Andy Thomas

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Richard Digance: Golden Anniversary Tour

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Adrian Litvinoff's Interplay

Albany Social Club, Coventry

The Kelly Line & Friends

Smokey Joe's Coffee Bar, Cheltenham

Faith – The George Michael Legacy

Town Hall, Cheltenham

Ruf Records Blues Caravan 2017: Blues Got Soul

The Iron Road, Evesham

Lewis Clark

Tank, Gloucester

No Poetry: Return To Rome, Valliers + Support At The Victory

Victory Pub, Hereford

Friday 15 September 2017

Gin Annie

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye

The Institutions

Drummonds, Worcester

Eva Jacobs

Anchor, Wyre Piddle

Roughcut Ruby

The Blue Bell, Ryall

Jitter

Café Rene, Gloucester

The Delray Rockets

Worley's The Swan, Stourport

Ultimate Coldplay

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

The Manfreds Makin Tracks Tour

Artrix, Bromsgrove

The Upbeat Beatles

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Whole Lotta Led

Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Rattlesnake Voodoo

The Crown & Sceptre, Stroud

Under A Banner

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Stroud Hip Hop Showcase: Presented By Bomb Skwad

Stroud Valleys Artspace, Stroud

Stone Farm

Drummonds, Worcester

The Executives

The Millers Arms, Pershore

The Executives

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Midnight City (Soul Band)

Queen's Head, Wolverley

The Strange Doors Tribute Act

The Broadway, Peterborough

Idestroy Blow Up

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

The Manfreds Makin' - Tracks Tour 2017

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Stone Farm

The Maltster, Worcester

David Bowie Tribute Night

Gaudet Luce Golf & Leisure, Droitwich

Griff Collins

The Red Lion, Evesham

Daily Thompson (Ger) + Grifter, These Wicked Rivers

The Iron Road, Evesham

Trevor Stiger And Vo Fletcher

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Live/Wire

Regal Cinema, Evesham

Martin & Ciara O'niell

The Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Lady And Sax

The Hop Pole, Bewdley

Maz Mitrenko

Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

The Maz Mitrenko Band

Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

Saturday 16 September 2017

The Nitecrawlers

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye

Mister Wolf

The Bell Inn, St.Johns, Worcester

Mumbo-Jumbo

Village Hall, Martley

Echo Beach

Woodland Cottage, Redditch

Supreme Queen

The Palace Theatre, Redditch

The Hush

The Express Inn, Malvern

Elo Again

The Civic, Stourport-On-Severn

David Kneal

Stourport Workmens Club, Stourport-On-Severn

The Bob Porter Project

Stroud Brewery, Stroud

The Big Chris Barber Band - Centenary Of Jazz

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Blanc Generation

Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Nightshift

The Green Dragon, Malvern

John Mouse

The Prince Albert, Stroud

The Abbaholics

The Fountain Inn, Stroud

Taylor & A Co

The Wheelhouse, Upton-Upon-Severn

Emptyhead

New Inn, Pershore

The Delray Rockets

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Steve Tilston

The Ale House, Colwall, Colwall

Leftstock Blues (Afternoon)

Left Bank, Hereford

Imar

The Fleece Inn, Bretforton

Northern Soul Live

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Beaver & The Foghorns + Uncalled Four

Pin Hide Map Smokey Joe's Coffee Bar, Cheltenham

Witcher

Dubs Of Anarchy, Evesham

Walkway

The Iron Road, Evesham

Led Hendrix

The Swan Inn, Evesham

Robert Blunt

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

The Roving Crows

Evesham Afts Centre, Evesham

Matt Peplow

The Swan (Barbourne), Worcester

Oas-Is

Guildhall, Gloucester

Sax Appeal

The Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

2 Tone Revue

The Cross Keys, Malvern

Come Together

The Bridge Inn, Worcester

Bartoune

The Globe, Hay On Wye

Rock 'N' Roll Paradise

The Courtyard, Hereford

No Poetry Presents: Save Your Last Breath (Switz) & More

The Imperial, Hereford

Boondoggz

Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

Jibbafish

Upton Social Club, Upton Upon Severn

Under A Banner

Reet Petite, Leominster

Sunday 17 September 2017

Biggefest (From Noon)

Alestones, Redditch

Two Tone Review

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Kate Bush - Them Heavy People

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Mad About The Musicals - Starring Jai Mcdowell, Winner Of Britain's Got Talent, And Michael Courtney

Swan Theatre, Worcester

Worcester Music Festival: Rhythm & Booze: The Boston Shakers, Harry & The Howlers, Meme Detroit, Girls Love Ponies, The Whipjacks

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

5:15 Band

The Wheelhouse, Upton-Upon-Severn

The Haunted Souls (5pm)

The Imperial Tavern, Worcester

The Dame Shirley Bassey Story

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Jon Eselle

The Nottingham Arms, Tewkesbury

Trevor 'Babajack' Steger

Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Jeff Chapman'S Roosters (4pm)

The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Tuesday 19 September 2017

Answer Back

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Russell Watson

The Courtyard, Hereford

Wednesday 20 September 2017

Hang11

Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Answer Back

The Cross Keys, Gloucester

Thursday 21 September 2017

Steve Yeomans

Ye Olde Bull Ring Tavern, Ludlow

Tone Tanner's Musicon Evening

The Cap N Gown, Worcester

Neville Staple

Subscription Rooms, Stroud

And Finally... Phil Collins - 10Th Anniversary Tour

Swan Theatre, Worcester

Honeyboy Hickling

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Neville Staple Band

Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Graham McKenzie

The Fleece Inn, Bretforton

Tapestry - The Concert

Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham

The Blueswater

The Iron Road, Evesham

Lucy Spraggan

Guildhall, Gloucester

Steve Ferbrache

Tank, Gloucester

Haunted Souls

The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Friday 22 September 2017

Loose Lips

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye

Black Heart Angels

Drummonds, Worcester

The Rubies

The Blue Bell, Ryall

Paul Chowdhry

The Palace Theatre, Redditch

Elton John Tribute

The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Multi Instrumental Mayhem With Rich Evans

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Davefest

Cafe Rene, Gloucester

The Bon Jovi Experience

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

The O.B Band

The Pheasant Inn, Toddington

Tom Stade: I Swear

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

The Marley Experience

Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Wannabe - The Spice Girls Show

Swan Theatre, Worcester

The Ragged Edge Soul Band

The Crown & Sceptre, Stroud

Musicians Against Homelessness: Thousand Mountain,

Rita Lynch, Lost Tiger To The Wild, Vinny Peculiar,

Nth Cave, Humdrum Express

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Come Up And See Me

Drummonds, Worcester

Dire Streets

The Roses, Tewkesbury

Codas

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Neville Staple Band

The Assembly, Leamington Spa

Squeaky Pete's Liquor & Pokor Band

Queens Head, Wolverley

Sex Pistols Experience

Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Solid Gone, Hot Tubes & Rob Duncan

2Pigs, Cheltenham

Come Up & See Me

The Maltster, Worcester

Little Dave

The Red Lion, Evesham

Killin' Baudelaire + Reece

The Iron Road, Evesham

Steve Lindforth

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Fred Astaire & Ginger Rogers

Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

Omega Two

The Globe, Hay On Wye

Woo Town Hillbillies

Coach And Horses Festival, Harvington

Rocky Road To Ruin

Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

Beyond The Barricade

The Courtyard, Hereford

Tom Davies

The Swan With Two Nicks, Worcester

Skrood

The Millers Arms, Pershore

Saturday 23 September 2017**Jack Brett**

Ye Olde Bull Ring Tavern, Ludlow

Persuaders

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye

White Feather Collective, Sundara And More (2pm - Late)

The Orchard Venue, Near Ledbury

The Quik Beats

The Oast House, Redditch

Part Time Heroes

The Cricketers, Worcester

Showaddwaddy

The Palace Theatre, Redditch

Arcadia Roots

The Civic, Stourport-On-Severn

Witcher

The Express Inn, Malvern

Ricky Jay

Stourport Workmens Club, Stourport-On-Severn

Big Fat Shorty

The Chestnut, Worcester

Wildwood Jack

Stroud Brewery, Stroud

Born in Chicago - Tribute To The Blues Brothers

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Midnight Sun

Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Junction 7

The Green Dragon, Malvern

The Elo Encounter (Electric Light Orchestra Tribute)

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Still Crazy

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Locked & Loaded

The Barn Venue, Bewdley

Whitney - Queen Of The Night

The Roses, Tewkesbury

Ruzz Guitar's Blues Revue

The Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Notorious Brothers

The Wheelhouse, Upton-Upon-Severn

Autumn

New Inn, Pershore

Leon Gormley

The Tudor House Museum, Upton-Upon-Severn

The Festivals Experience

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Red Hot Boogie: The Sixties Experience

Conquest Theatre, Bromyard

Jon Gomm

Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Waco, Fighting Wolves, Limiter, Saltwounds

Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Remi Harris

Elmslie House, Malvern

The Everly Pregnant Brothers

The Broadway, Peterborough

Wizards Of Oz

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Chloë Elliot

Montys, Cheltenham

Purple Zeppelin

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Kamikaze Test Pilots

The Iron Road, Evesham

Folk At Tudor House: Daria Kulesh, Town Musicians Of

Bremen, Emi Mcdade, Mike Weaver

Tudor House, Worcester

Mister Wolf

The Swan Inn, Evesham

Toby Wren And Lee Clifton (The Way Acoustic).

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Dan Forman

The Swan (Barbourne), Worcester

42 SLAP SEPTEMBER**Ruzz Guitars Blues Revue**

The Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

D N A

The Cross Keys, Malvern

The Outcasts

The Bridge Inn, Worcester

Motorboat

The Cross Keys, Gloucester

Woo Town Hillbillies

Suckley Beer Festival, Suckley Worc's

Slightly Odd

Harry Cook Free House, Cheltenham

Death Disco - Electronica, Alt Disco and Post Punk Funk

Heroes, Worcester

Angie Brown

The Swan, Kidderminster

The Usual Suspects

The Red Man, Kidderminster

57 Fury

Reet Petite, Leominster

The Ronaldos

The Bell, Leominster

Sunday 24 September 2017**The Darling Crew**

Alestones, Redditch

Sunfire 6pm

The Cap N Gown, Worcester

Vines Lane Street (Day Time)

The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Will Jay

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Maddie Stimpson (5:30pm)

The Chestnut, Worcester

Sarah Mcquaid + Natalie Holmes)

Subscription Rooms, Stroud

River Chickens (3.30Pm)

The Wheelhouse, Upton-Upon-Severn

Joe O'donnell's Shkayla

Zephyr Lounge, Leamington Spa

Loz Rabone (5Pm)

The Imperial Tavern, Worcester

Elkie Brooks

Town Hall, Cheltenham

The Heron Terry Trio Jazz Music

Bottles Wine Bar & Merchants, Worcester

The Paul Rose Dictatorship, 4pm Start

The Red Lion, Evesham

Jon Eselle

Albion House Club, Cheltenham

Dave Beale

Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Jimi Whitewolf & Band Of Tramps (4pm)

The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Monday 25 September 2017**Amy Roberts / Richard Exall Band**

Kidderminster Harriers FC, Aggborough Suite, Kidderminster

Tuesday 26 September 2017**Russ Poole**

Tank, Gloucester

Wednesday 27 September 2017**Mel & Him**

The Unicorn, Malvern

Conibear

Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Coasts

Guildhall, Gloucester

The Bottles 'Speakeasy' Feat Collective 43 & Klik Klik

Collective with Gin Tasting £25

Bottles Wine Bar & Merchants, Worcester

Thursday 28 September 2017**Joe Seagar**

Ye Olde Bull Ring Tavern, Ludlow

Sally 60'S Night

The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Clive Gregson - Folk in The Foyer

Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

Lensmen Over Rodborough

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Andy Richards Band

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Bonnylou

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Ghouls, King Tuts Revenge, Ready 5, The Run Up

Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

The Simon and Garfunkel Story: 50th Anniversary Tour

Artrix, Bromsgrove

The Three Degrees Live

Regal Cinema, Evesham

Mad Dog Mcraea

Guildhall, Gloucester

Ruben Seabright Live 9pm Free Entry

Bottles Wine Bar & Merchants, Worcester

Friday 29 September 2017

Mr Ben

Drummonds, Worcester

Chicago Bytes

The Blue Bell, Ryall

Led Hendrix

The Oasthouse, Redditch

Rebel Heroes

Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Barefoot Serpents

The Foresters, Stourport-On-Severn

Voodoo Room: A Night Of Hendrix & Cream

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Mia And The Blackhawkes

Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Sinatra Spectacular

Swan Theatre, Worcester

The Virginia Slims

The Crown & Sceptre, Stroud

Amoeba Teen

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Blind Lemon

Drummonds, Worcester

Fred Zeppelin

The Marris Bar, Worcester

The Delray Rockets

The Plough, Upton-upon-Severn

Talon

The Roses, Tewkesbury

2 Tone Revue

Horn & Trumpet, Bewdley

Serpents

The Royal Forester, Bewdley

The Ron Jeremy Band

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Bourban Alley

Queens Head, Wolverley

Green Hop Beer Festival

The Talbot, Knightwick

Ember Weir, Milk & Lotus Pool

2Pigs, Cheltenham

Castalian String Quartet: Bromsgrove Concerts

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Neil Ivison

The Maltster, Worcester

Witcher

Millers Arms, Pershore

Dr Hook Starring Dennis Locorriere

Town Hall, Cheltenham

Wolfren Riverstick

The Red Lion, Evesham

Stacie Collins (U.S.A) + Medicine Hat

The Iron Road, Evesham

Beaver & The Foghorns

Ruby Jacks, Evesham

Petter Jagger

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Amy Lavere, Will Sexton

St Georges Hall, Bewdley

The Future Set

The Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

The Woo Two

The Berkley Arms, Tewkesbury

Seasons Hollow W/ Theia, Last Hounds & Born Zero

The Imperial, Hereford

Damien Russel

Reet Petite, Leominster

Matt Bowen

The Swan With Two Nicks, Worcester

Little Rumba

The Clive, Ludlow

Saturday 30 September 2017

Jacqui McShee's: Pentangle

Ludlow Assembly Rooms, Ludlow

Nikki Rous

Ye Olde Bull Ring Tavern, Ludlow

Missing Lynx

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye

Legend - Tribute To Bob Marley + Dub Thieves

Malvern Cube, Malvern

Mel & Him

The Old Oak, Pershore

Mumbo-Jumbo

Conquest Theatre, Bromyard

Playback

The Cricketers, Worcester

Captain Jeffrey

Woodland Cottage, Redditch

Have A Go Heroes

White Heart Inn, Redditch

Nicole

Stourport Workmens Club, Stourport-On-Severn

Bourbon Alley Blues Band

The Chestnut, Worcester

Ghost Trail

Stroud Brewery, Stroud

The Wind in The Willows: A Folk Opera

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

High Roller

Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Tom Findlay (Groove Armada)

Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Chantry Dance Company Presents: The Sandman

Swan Theatre, Worcester

Journeyman

The Green Dragon, Malvern

Glazz's Birthday Gig: China Shop Bull, Cracked Actors,

The Humdrum Express

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Break Out - Worcester's Alternative Club Night 11:30pm

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Rhino And The Ranters

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

The James Taylor Quartet

The Roses, Tewkesbury

Foreign Quarter

The Wheelhouse, Upton-Upon-Severn

Final Warning

New Inn, Pershore

The Reflections Beatles Tribute

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Alice Jones

Kempsey Village Hall, Kempsey

Green Hop Beer Festival

The Talbot, Knightwick

The Counterfeit Sixties Show

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Johnny Kowalski & The Sexy Weirdos

The Iron Road, Evesham

Isolation

The Valkyrie Cafe Bar, Evesham

Kylie Tribute Night

Amber, Evesham

The Black Pears (Carol Lee Sampson)

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Mike Skilbeck

The Swan (Barbourne), Worcester

Amber Run

Guildhall, Gloucester

Reloaded

The Cross Keys, Malvern

Kevin Rhodes

The Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Panic Switch

The Lower George Inn, Gloucester

The Disciples

The Bridge Inn, Worcester

Gin Annie

The Barn Venue, Bewdley

Woo Town Hillbillies

The Saracens Head, Worcester

Funky Navigation - Afrobeat, Soul & All Things Funky

Heroes, Worcester

The Roving Crows

Hellens Manor, Ledbury

Inclosure, Terminal Rage

Reet Petite, Leominster

Early Warning

The Black Swan, Leominster

Trio Ebano, Tim Sidford - piano, Nicola Shorland - flute,

Hannah Caldecott - french horn

Elmslie House, Malvern

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THE MARRS BAR

SEPT
OCT 2017



Nick Parker
Sunday September 10th

Friday September 1st

Alex Rainsford, Redwood, Chris Taylor
£5 in advance

Saturday September 2nd

Hvmm EP Launch plus Tokyo Taboo
£5 in advance £6 on the door

Sunday 3rd September

Forever Sabbath, Violent Liam
£6 in advance £8 on the door

Thursday September 7th

The Dowling Poole
£9 in advance £12 on the door

Friday September 8th

**Jasper In The Company Of Others,
Burnz, Elephant Peel + Joe Knight**
£7 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday September 9th

Without Flight
£6 in advance £8 on the door

Sunday September 10th

Nick Parker
£4 in advance £6 on the door

WORCESTER MUSIC FESTIVAL - FREE

Friday September 15th - Task in hand:

**Population:7, Hoggs Bison, Theo,
Rosebud, Esteban, To The Wall**

Saturday September 16th - SLAP:

**The Americas, Malarkey, Vienna Ditto,
Doozer McDooze, Calm Like a Riot**

Sunday September 17th

**Rhythm & Booze: The Boston Shakers,
Harry & The Howlers, MeMe Detroit,
Girls Love Ponies, The Whipjacks**

Thursday September 21

**A tribute to Chris Cornell: Ultamegaok,
Dead Dad's Club, Jay & Eli + Becky Rose**
£5 in advance £7 on the door

Friday September 22nd

**MAH: Thousand Mountain, Rita Lynch,
Lost Tiger To The Wild, Vinny Peculiar,
Nth Cave, Humdrum Express**
£5 in advance £7 on the door

Saturday September 23rd

The ELO Encounter (ELO tribute)
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Friday September 29th

Fred Zeppelin
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday September 30th

**Glazz's birthday gig: China Shop Bull,
Cracked Actors, The Humdrum Express**
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Break Out-Alternative Club Night 11:30

£5 on the door

Friday October 6th

Stipe (R.E.M. Tribute)
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday October 7th

Guns Or Roses
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Sunday October 8th

Daniel Kemish
£5 in advance £7 on the door

Thursday October 12th

Limehouse Lizzy
£13 in advance

Wednesdays - Jamming night

Late Saturdays - Midnight till 4am

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