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## **SLAP MAGAZINE**

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#### DISCLAIMER

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that adverts and articles appear correctly. Slap Magazine cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage caused directly or indirectly by the contents of this publication. The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of its publisher or editor. Hello and welcome to the November edition of SLAP, the penultimate issue of the year, in which we take a look back on October shenanigans around the counties as well as looking forward to what this month has to offer us.

Our front cover features the video shoot for our favourite local bard, Ian Passey, aka The Humdrum Express, taken during Stourbridge's own zombie apocalypse.

In the arts we look at the American Prints from Pop Art at Worcester Museum, news of exhibitions at The Wilson in Cheltenham and the Broadway Museum and Art Gallery. There's also news of exciting projects at Gin Lane, Dancefest and Studley's Artists Workhouse as well as Meadow Arts and Garage Studios lecture series at the Hive.

We look forward to an exciting month in Hereford as we feature a preview to the upcoming Hereford Blues Festival at the Left Bank. We also eagerly anticipate the Heart of Anarchy Punk Festival, this year to be held at the Grapes following the closure of Booth Hall.

We'll have no more talk of venue closures for the time being, as for once we have news of a new venue, the Marshall Rooms in Stroud has opened it's doors to some interesting gigs. Great news too that the Pig and Drum in Worcester has re-opened as a dedicated rock bar. Also Pershore's Number 8 has opened their newly refurbished foyer and performance space. Exciting times!

As usual we bring you reviews from many of the brilliant new releases from around the shires. Always with one eye on the unusual we feature 'Ore' - a new project by Sam Undewood which we shall follow up next month with a review.

We now at long last have our own comedy editor, as we welcome on board Alex Redmond who will be keeping us up to date with all things comedic.

So that's it for now, enjoy your November and keep supporting the Local Arts & Performers...

Trick or Treat-Ed



Front cover image - Humdrum Express video shoot in Stourbridge for the single *Gonna Start An E-petition To Stop Spam From E- petitions*. Photography by Nick J. Townsend

#### NEWS

## **Pomp and Pride**

Praise all round for the first-ever Worcestershire Pride event which took place on South Quay at the end of September! The family-friendly event drew scores of locals and visitors who were treated to a mini-fest of musical talent from acts including Zara Sykes, Beth Prior, Freddie Parker and of course X-Factor 2017 sensation Ginny Lemon. Worcester Mayor Steve Mackay said there had been a 'great atmosphere' and the event 'showed that at heart Worcester has a tolerant and supportive community'.

#### The Largest Pro-ject in Worcester

After being signed as world-wide tour artist by Ministry of Sound earlier this year, James Newman's house music promoter Pro-ject celebrated with their biggest-ever event at the Crystal Warehouse in Worcester featuring artists like CamelPhat, eNAHS, Attack & Release and Arran Wells. Duo CamelPhat's record 'Cola' was earlier this year picked as BBC Radio 1's Hottest Record In The World...

## Hawkwinders Wind into Worcester

Space rock legends Hawklords return to Worcestershire in November with two gigs - The Iron Road in Evesham on Thursday 9th and the Marrs Bar on Sunday 19th - as part of their nationwide tour to promote their latest album, 'Six'. Promising an 'out-of-thisworld' sound and lighting experience - the band still features original Hawkwind members Harvey Bainbridge, Jerry Richards and Ron Tree.

#### Trio 'Maida' a Good Impression

Good times ahead for ex-Worcester now Bristol-based grungeheavy trio Soeur featuring Anya Pulver, Christina Maynard and James Collins! Following their appearances on the BBC Introducing stages at this year's Reading/Leeds festivals they're off to Maida Vale studios to record a session for transmission on Daniel Carter's BBC Radio 1 Rock Show in late November!

# Jazz Hands in Notice

The Friends of Upton Jazz Festival have called it a day after 31 years of supporting the annual event since it started with secretary Paul Lawrence saying that 'although jazz is eternal, many of the Friends are not getting any younger.' Hats off to them though as the four-day event now attracts thousands of jazz fans from across the world with this year's headliners being the reknowned Temperance Seven combo!

## **Lemon Leaves Sour Taste**

Sadly, star of Worcestershire Pride Ginny Lemon's run in this year's X-Factor has ended after failing to get through the 'boot camp' stage of the show - shouting 'Bitter Lemon!' at judges Simon Cowell, Sharon Osbourne, Nicole Scherzinger and Louis Walsh after being eliminated. The zany star (previously known as Lewis Spelt Backwards) is upbeat about the experience however saying that it would open more doors for him, and that his only disappointment was that although Cowell had described him as 'hideous', behind the camera they'd actually got on well!

## Bellowhead Moves into No. 8

Former Bellowhead frontman Jon Boden makes a stop-off at Pershore's Number 8 venue on Monday 13 November to publicise his first solo album 'Afterglow' after calling it a day with the progressive folk outfit who've played venues including the Royal Albert Hall and have won 12 BBC Folk Awards - including Boden himself as Folk Singer Of the Year.

## **WMF Total Announced**

**Worcester Music Festival** was the highlight of September for many. Organisers brought together 250 bands in over 20 venues in aid of this year's chosen charity, **St. Paul's Hostel**. Festival goers, volunteers and venues donated their money throughout the weekend, leading to the festival raising an impressive £4109 for the charity, which supports the homeless in Worcester.

**Nicola Boraston**, Festival Director said, "We are absolutely delighted to be able to present this donation to St Paul's Hostel. The entire team pulled out all the stops this year to raise the total and we know that the money will go a long way towards supporting this really worthwhile cause."

**St. Paul's Hostel** has been striving for the past 40 years to support the homeless by providing 24 hour emergency care whilst also supporting those at risk of homelessness. Within the last three years, the amount of people needing support has increased by 30%, demonstrating how crucial the festival's support has been. The charity is planning to put in place a scheme in which they help those in their care learn to play a musical instrument.

Jonathon Sutton, Chief Executive of St Paul's Hostel said, "On behalf of everyone at the charity, I would like to say a big thank you to Worcester Music Festival for supporting us through this year's event. The money raised will make a huge difference to us and will be put to very good use in months and years to come."

Over the course of the weekend, volunteers could be found with donation buckets whilst the charity team caught eyes and attention in their fantastic fancy dress. From Vikings and Les Trunkwells to butterflies and 1920's flappers, they were an impressive sight that helped raise the sum.

Nicola continues, "The festival team would like to offer their thanks to those who helped to make the weekend a success and those who came to experience all that it has to offer and we promise that next year will be even better."

## **Charity Applications**

Applications have now opened for **Worcester Music Festival's** charity of the year 2018. Every year the festival chooses to support a different local charity with all money raised going towards their cause. Their profiles will also be raised extensively through the festival weekend from 14-16th September. Applications must be in for Thursday 30th November and the form can be found via the Worcester Music Festival website.

**Nicola Boraston**, Festival Director: "Every year we are absolutely blown away by the fantastic charities that apply to benefit from the festival. So much incredible work is done by truly inspiring people in our city! We would love to support everybody if we could and we would encourage all charities to apply to be in with a chance to get involved."

Past charities that have been supported by the festival include St. Paul's Hostel, Acorns Children's Hospice and Worcestershire Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre. And, with the festival committee already working on next year's event, the future is looking very bright indeed.

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#### ART NEWS by Kate Cox

Clik Clik is now full steam ahead into preparations for Gin Lane at Worcester Victorian Christmas Fayre; I can't believe its almost here!

But first of all, I'm putting on a night collaborating with the gorgeous **Paul Pry** in Worcester on Sunday 5th November. It's a

Halloween/seasonal event so imagine a dark circus freak-show inspired world with **Clik Clik** touches, featuring live music from the fabulous **Pink Diamond Revue**, magician **Ben Inett** and a macabre troupe of characters bringing you sideshow games, fortune telling (fake), and a bloody photo-booth.

I also wanted to look back on the speakeasy night at the end of September in conjunction with **Bottles Wine Bar** and thank the simply stupendous photography talents of **Duncan Graves** and **Andy Burton**. I'm so grateful for your amazing images! And of course to Bottles for hosting and everybody involved in making it a very authentic 1920's prohibition feel evening! Bottles are really keen to put on some similar themed events working with **Clik Clik** again, and ideas are flowing so keep a listen out for news and get along to the next one!



Above: Scarlett O'Sparkle by Duncan Graves & Dan Bramall of Collective 43 by Andy Burton

#### Jump Start and FEAST

The next **Jump Start** performance evening takes place at **Malvern Cube** as part of the **Feast Festival** this month, with five exciting plays (four are by writers new to **Jump Start**), trialling original work by local performers on Thursday 9th Nov from 7pm.

Jump Start is part of the **FEAST** festival which takes place from the 9th-12th and features **Golden Thread** on the Friday night, a family day Saturday with puppetry, performance and much more, **Hijinx Theatre** on Saturday night, and a theatre-writing workshop by **Pentabus** on Sunday from 5pm. (You need to book a space on this as they anticipate this will be very popular). To book please go to www.ticketsource.co.uk/reactiontheatre

For all info check out the Malvern Cube Facebook page or reactiontheatremakers.com



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

# Arts Social

Creating Space warmly invites you to their 'Drink and Doodle' night, second Tuesday of each month at **The Paul Pry**. Drink and Doodle presents to you the opportunity to come together for some light-hearted fun and creativity. In groups or on your own, come for a sociable drink, grab some art materials and draw a

pretty picture, a caricature or nothing in particular. Let your mind wander and relax after a stressful day. No pressure no judgement. Just for fun. Share it with others, or keep it to yourself. The choice is yours. Materials are



provided and you will find us in the back room 7-9.

Look for **@CreatingSpaceSessions** on Facebook where you can find an album of what we have been up to since April (including our plaster scene creations who live on the Pry piano, make sure you take a look next time you pop in for a pint!). This month's doodle is Tues 14th Nov. creatingspacesessions.com

#### Metropolis 90th Anniversary screening

With its dizzying depiction of a futuristic cityscape and alluring female robot, **Metropolis** is the mother of sci-fi cinema being an influence for a whole host of classic sci-fi films, such as Blade Runner. Directed by Fritz Lang with iconic imagery and modernist grandeur, Metropolis depicts a dystopian future in which society is thoroughly divided in two: while anonymous workers conduct their endless drudgery below ground their rulers enjoy a decadent life of leisure and luxury. Plans of rebellion begin and a beautiful robot is created to incite the workers into a self-destructive riot.

This extra special 150 minute reconstructed and restored 2010 version includes 25 minutes of footage previously thought lost to the world. Thursday 23 Nov. 7.30pm. The Artrix, Bromsgrove. £8 ( $\pm$ 7 - over 60s & students).





Prepare to step back in time and into the dark world of 'Gin Lane': a Victorian alleyway with its debauched inhabitants, cast out of society due to their unsavory behavior! You'll find them nestled inside the city as part of the Worcester Victorian Christmas Fayre. Back for its third year, this immersive and playful installation, produced by Kate Cox (Clik Clik), brings you shady characters, performances and sing-songs to provide an alternative Victorian experience.

**Gin Lane** features local artists and performers including **'Play it again Dan' (Dan Bramhall)** tinkling those ivories, and 'Worcester Theatremakers' accompanied by mischievous urchins from their youth theatre and after school clubs.

This year **Clik Clik** is working with digital artist **VURFX** to create some illusionary effects plus collaborating with **Dancefest** to deliver some extra special surprises popping up in the city on Saturday (see below).

**Gin Lane** also welcomes members of the public with little or no performance experience to come and get involved, dress up and have fun, making it a truly immersive experience for all. Dressing up and being someone else for a little while can be a liberating, fun and sometimes life-changing experience.

Clik Clik is a Worcester based producer, creating unique

immersive installations and pop up experiences, through both solo work and by bringing together a diverse range of freelance artists and performers.

You can find **Gin Lane** between **New Street** and **The Shambles** at dusk on Fri 1st and Sat 2nd December. Plus look out for the 'Victorian Flower Seller roaming photobooth' offering you a free photo. Don't be shy! (Thurs 30th Nov & Sun 3rd Dec) www.clikclikcollective.com



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# DANCEFEST 'Letting the Light In'

**Dancefest** will be performing at the **Victorian Fayre** this year bringing pop up performances with a contemporary twist, inspired by the eerie, mysterious streets of Dickensian England.

23 dancers from two of Dancefest's community companies conjure up macabre and magical scenes inspired by a steampunk world, where music box ballerinas totter and twirl. Things change when they meet characters whose ordinary lives are being transformed by the new-fangled machines of the Industrial Revolution, and where the light and magic of Christmas bring warmth and generosity.

Collaborating with **Clik Clik Collective**, they'll lead intrigued visitors to stumble upon the unsavoury characters that inhabit the immersive installation, **'Gin Lane'**. Saturday 2nd December.

www.dancefest.co.uk





#### **Autumn Shows**

Following on from the award-winning Gloriator, **Glorilla** is the hilarious new show from French/English comedy duo **Spitz & Co**. Directed by **Angus Barr**, it was developed as part of **Bristol Old Vic's Ferment** with support from **Arts Council England** and comes to Worcester for one night only in early November.



Acclaimed French actress and International Animal Communicator **Gloria Delaneuf** returns to the UK to share her life-changing experience with the gorillas of the Kungalunga Jungle. Assisted by her UK tour manager **Josephine Cunningham**, she is determined to show that man and gorilla can live "sans frontieres".



In December JOAN, by Milk Presents in association with Derby Theatre, comes to us after winning The Scotsman's Fringe First Award, Stage Award 2016 and Spirit of The Fringe (2016). The story of Joan of Arc like you've never seen it before, by drag king champion Lucy Jane Parkinson with guys, hearts and well placed couscous.

Both shows are part of the **Shindig** rural touring initiative and tickets £9.50 available online at: worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk



## **Garage Lecture Series** The Hive, Worcester

#### Selected Wednesdays, 15 Nov 2017 - 14 Mar 2018, 4:30pm

**Meadow Arts** and the University of Worcester's Fine Art department, **Garage Studios**, are delighted to continue their successful series of artists' talks for the third year in a row. Some of the most exciting contemporary artists working in the UK will be visiting Worcester's state-of-the-art library, **The Hive**, to talk about their artwork, ideas and the processes they use in a series of eight free talks.

This year's talks take place across two terms, starting with four talks in November and December and a further four beginning in February. First to speak will be **Emily Speed**, whose interests lie in the relationship between people and buildings, Emily says, *"The idea of shelter and the inhabitant is at the core of much of my work; how a person is shaped by the buildings they have occupied and how a person occupies their own psychological space."* 



London based writer and critic **Chris Fite-Wassilak**, who contributes to major publications such as **Art Monthly, Art Papers, ArtReview, frieze, Tate Etc.** and others, will visit on the 22nd November, followed a week later by **Mark Titchner** who explores systems of belief, often using slogans from advertising, religious iconography, club flyers, trade union banners, prog rock and political propaganda; removed from their original contexts the words he presents to the world find new significance.



On 6th December there will be a visit from British artist and Royal Academician, **Stephen Chambers** who makes prints and paintings and has collaborated on three contemporary dance productions with The Royal Ballet, London. His work has been exhibited internationally: most recently his work *'The Court of Redonda'* was an official collateral event of the 57th Venice Biennale.

Talks take place on selected Wednesday evenings from 4:30pm to 6:30pm, and include a chance to ask questions after each presentation. The talks are free and open to all, though booking is recommended for the public via www.meadowarts.org - where you'll find more about the artists and a full list of dates are also available on the website.





# Feature Suz Winspear

And so begins the dreary month of November, which for me means trying to avoid both the dismal weather and the ghastly Christmas adverts that flood the television. November may not be the most enjoyable month of the year, but nevertheless, there are spoken word events to look forward to –

Thursday 9th - SpeakEasy at Cafe Bliss, Worcester Arts Workshop. Poetry from a wide range of local poets. Our Featured Performers for November are Amy Rainbow and Jeff Cottrill. Amy is a well-known poet and performer from Malvern; always enjoyable and worth seeing! I haven't seen Jeff before, but I'm told he's very good, so I'm looking forward to his performance. 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.

Friday 24th – There is a choice of performances on the 24th! There is a Music and Poetry Night at the Jinney Ring. This begins at 7pm and includes dinner, and there will be performances by poets Matt 'Man' Windle, Steve Soden and Kieran Davis,



and musicians Deborah Rose. Marie Randle and Danielle Cawdell. Tickets available from www.jinneyring.co.uk

Also on Friday 24th there will be a different sort of music and poetry night at the Marrs Bar. The wonderful **BABAL** will be performing, and I'll be going on as the support act!

> Wednesday 29th – 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.

> Oh yes, and remember those ghastly Christmas adverts I was talking about? Well when you're buying Christmas presents. bear in mind that you don't have to throw huge amounts of money to the corporations in order to get something special. Worcestershire has a diverse and lively creative community, so instead of buying something mass-produced, how

about investing in a piece of art or craftwork, or even commissioning a piece of music or a poem from a local artist or maker? You'll get something unique and personal, and big business will hate you for it! Suz Winspear

## ArtistsWorkhouse needs your help !

ArtistsWorkhouse is aiming to raise funds for a community project called 'On the Map' through a postcard auction. 'On The Map' is a community project that will focus on making Studley a destination place through wayfinding signage and a brand new website, collating and presenting all that is great about Studley, it's heritage, what's on, where to go and how to find it (including AW!)



ArtistsWorkhouse is a self funded project and relies upon everyone's continuing support, the 'On the Map' project will help them to attract audiences for their arts events, improve our visibility and potentially their sustainability.

The auction will consist of original art, on a postcard (or post card size), they are hoping for as many original postcards as possible to be auctioned at a public event at ArtistsWorkhouse on Sat 18th November, (auction begins 7.30pm, viewing from 5.30pm onwards). In return for your postcard donation they offer very sincere thanks for your support and will publicise your artwork and any connected personal or group website.

They hope that this is an opportunity for us all to help each other in some way.Donations to be received at AW by Thursday 16th November

Please visit artistsworkhouse.com for more info or send/deliver work to: Artists Workhouse, The Royal Victoria Works off Redditch Road, Studley, Warwickshire B80 7AU.

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#### Feature

# The New Foyer at Number 8

The Pershore arts centre Number 8 unveiled their newly refurbished foyer in September, having had a major facelift over the summer which transformed the box office, coffee-bar, bar and gallery space.



The layout of The Foyer has been completely changed, décor and furnishing have been updated and a new performance space has been created.

# **Skyscape** 13 September–17 December 2017 Broadway Museum and Art Gallery

Writing to his friend the Revd John Fisher on 23 October 1821. John Constable famously observed that, 'It will be difficult to name a class of landscape in which the sky is not the key note, the standard of scale and the chief organ of sentiment'. Inspired by Constable's statement, Skyscape focuses on aerial rather than terrestrial landscapes in art, selected from the outstanding collection of the Ashmolean Museum.

The exhibition begins with examples of the sky as a stage for allegorical figures, classical and Christian narratives of judgement and divine glory, including superb prints by Dürer and Rembrandt. Subsequently, landscape gained recognition as a discrete artistic genre and with the emergence of meteorology as a scientific discipline in the late eighteenth century, the sky became a subject in its own right. Artists such as J. M. W. Turner and Constable developed innovatory techniques to capture fleeting effects of light and weather with greater precision and apparent spontaneity. Yet the sky retained its capacity for heavenly symbolism and increasingly became a vehicle for emotional expression. Clouds

# The Wilson, Cheltenham

Two new exhibitions start at The Wilson in Cheltenham this month exploring the inner-workings of the museum, and at the same time creating its future. Both exhibitions are pay-what-youwant with all donations gratefully received.



A Window into The Wilson - discovers more about The Wilson and its collections; take a glimpse into its visible store and explore unexpected objects and stories that would be otherwise hidden from view. This exciting exhibition provides a behind the scenes look at some of the processes involved in looking after the

collections housed there. 11th November - 22nd July 2018



Number8 are planning to host bands, artist talks, local musicians, poetry nights and sing-alongs in the new performance space over the next few months. The overall idea is that The Foyer will become a destination in its own right, a place where people will go for a drink in the licensed bar even if they aren't attending a show or film at Number8.



could suggest transience or magnificence, storms might embody threat or drama, while sunrises and sunsets often evoked meditations upon death and renewal. The spiritual and emotive aspect of skies persisted in the work of artists as diverse as Samuel Palmer and John Ruskin in the nineteenth century, and Paul Nash and John Piper in the twentieth.

This is an exciting opportunity to view the art of landscape from a new perspective through a succession of masterpieces that span 500 years of European art.

**Breaking New Ground** is about exploring where they are and where they could go. It's about the stories they hold in their building. It's about them, and it's about you. This is an exciting time at The Wilson and they want to throw open their doors and invite you to be part of their living exhibition.

Join them in their temporary pop-up space, in which anything can happen. Exhibition services provided by Spike Island. 11th Novr - 17th Dec 2017. Clarence Street Cheltenham GL50 3JT

cheltenhammuseum.org.uk



## Feature Word up!

Worcestershire's exciting Word Up competition is appealing to teens to put to pen to paper and compete for the coveted title of being the County's next **Young Poet Laureate**.

There is a call out for young poets aged 13-19 with something to say and who love saying it with words. You don't have to be the next Shakespeare or Kate Tempest but if one is found, they won't be turned away!

Worcestershire's Young Poet Laureate is a prestigious title that will last for one year. The winner of the Word Up competition will be asked to:

• Act as a champion for poetry to encourage and inspire other young people.

 $\mbox{ \bullet}$  Write poems to celebrate special events or occasions in Worcestershire

• Perform at events in libraries, schools, festivals, and other community events.

The competition is open to 13-19 years olds who live in Worcestershire or attend school, college, University or youth club in Worcestershire. Young people need to submit two poems, one on the subject of **'Freedom'** and the other can be on any subject. The poems can be any length, and in any shape or form you like. Entry is free but only one entry per person.

As well as being known as Worcestershire's Young Poet Laureate (a brilliant thing for future CVs!), the winner will get a great trophy. They will also be paid to write and perform more poems throughout the year.

The closing date is Midnight on 31 December 2017

The entries will be shortlisted down to twelve finalists by Friday 5th January and the winner will be announced at agrand final at The Hive on Sunday 14th January 2018. All finalists will be asked to perform both of their poems at the final. Coaching will be provided for nervous or inexperienced performers.

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact Natalie McVey on

07876 144905 or email wordup@worcestershire.gov.uk

Find out more at www/worcestershire.gov.uk/wordup



The Worcestershire Young Poet Laureate for 2017 is Oakley Flanagan. Here is one of his winning poems:

#### A message to my father - Dad #2

1. Whenever I try and speak to you you never actually end up saying anything to me unless you're drunk on rum and talking about rock 'n' roll then you talk for hours but even then you'll never talk to me, only at me

2. Your daughter has perfected the art of your small talk and she can steal whole fistfuls of your soil cramming them deep into her pockets. She's saving them for one of the bad days where she'll ration out a portion of your love to quieten the graves in her ears you dug for her when you decided to eat your tongue

3. When I'm away and call home and mum will put you on the phone but I don't know whether or not she's hung up on me and when I call back later my call goes to answerphone

4. When I'm back home and it's bad the silence screams loud at the dinner table and the words we do say to one another are as hollow as our manhood

5. I long to hug you and tell you that I have made peace with your nature.

I understand what this world has done to you I just wish both of us could move on from this I recognise it within myself because I am screaming out to be touched held as closely as a woman does and I know that must come from you because I am your son. I am your son.

 Until the day you can reconcile with the woman inside you that you murdered I'll converse with you in the coded language of your small talk

7. I do not doubt at all that you love me I just wish you could accept that part of you that would speak it

- unreachable: a message to my father / closing the gap - I don't think the gap will ever close / what manhood does to us

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## Review

Robert Rauschenberg

#### Warhol to Walker: American prints from Pop Art to today Worcester Museum & Art Gallery | 4th Nov-6th Ian 2018

Coinciding with the major British Museum exhibition "The American Dream: Pop to Present", this exhibition which opens at Worcester Art Gallery & Museum on 4th of this month explores great American printmaking from Pop Art to today, including work by Andy Warhol, Robert Rauschenberg and Jim Dine.

A revolutionary and enduring change in the production, marketing and consumption of prints took place in the 1960s. Inspired by the monumental, bold and eve-catching imagery of

post-war America, a young generation of artists took to printmaking with enthusiasm, putting it on an equal footing with painting and sculpture, matching their size, bright colour and impact. The growth of an affluent middle class in urban America also opened a booming market for prints that was seized upon by publishers. enterprising print workshops and artists.

Focussing on modern and contemporary American printmaking, this British Museum Partnership Exhibition. generously supported by the Dorset



Foundation, features nine key works from the British Museum's print collection. The exhibition opens with the bold image making of three of the greatest printmakers from the Pop period: Warhol, Johns and Rauschenberg.

most dynamic and turbulent years in US history is followed right to the present day, with prints by a relatively young African -American artist Kara Walker, and the recent work of one of the giants of the field, the octogenarian Jim Dine.

Alongside the prints on loan from the British Museum, the exhibition will also feature works from the Worcester City Collection including pieces by Eduardo Paolozzi, Howard



Hodgkin and Richard Hamilton. These vibrant treasures of the city's collection highlight how artists have pushed the boundaries of printmaking and explore diverse subject matter.

Emalee Beddoes-Davis, Museums Worcestershire Curator, says: "We are pleased to be working with the British Museum to bring these internationally renowned artworks to Worcester. It also The progress and creativity of printmaking through some of the gives us the opportunity to highlight the quality of work within our own collections too."

> Warhol to Walker: American prints from Pop Art to today runs from 4th Nov until Jan 6th 2018

> Free admission. The Art Gallery & Museum is open Mon-Sat 10.30am-4.30pm. For more information contact

> 01905 25371, visit www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk or follow @worcestermuseum

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Try to imagine the slow churning growls of Black Sabbath's Iron Man mixed up with the orchestrated sounds of Gustav Holst's The Planets and you're nearly there. It's bloody big.

But it wouldn't be fair to describe 'Ore' in a couple of sentences, so I won't. It's far more complicated than that. It's a 'Doom Metal' project from local musician and artist **Sam Underwood** of '**if wet**' fame. Again, I fail to conjure

up its intricacy. Sam has thrown away the guitars and replaced them with brass. He calls it "a doom tuba project". I ask if he's crazy and he just stares back at me for what seems like an age. We're in the middle of the Worcestershire countryside and I'm more than a healthy walk from home, so I should know better than to ask stupid questions. Sam is an interesting fellow, looking like the younger brother of Michael Eavis with the abilities of a polymathical musician. I'm pretty sure he's certifiable.

From Its inception several years ago in a pub and taking its name from the raw form in which metal is extracted, the idea of **'Ore'** grew. That's where most ideas end, but Sam states that this is something he's good at; turning an idea into a reality. Starting a band and only using brass as an instrument is no mean feat but this is made even harder when you don't actually know how to play your chosen instrument. It does give an earthier, organic sound and with three members, **Beck Baker** on Baritone Horn, **Thomas Stone** on Contrabassoon and Sam himself on Tuba, what you end up with is metal instruments making dark and powerful metal music.

Sam freely admits his own capabilities as a tuba player have held him back, as did his previous inability to read music. To tackle these issues head on, he decided to do what any member of a doom metal outfit would do - he joined Malvern Hills District Brass Band. His abilities as a musician have thrust him forward in his experiment, so far that Newcastle label Box records are releasing the album which is entitled '*Belatedly*'.



The album was originally sketched out 4 years ago but the death of Sam's father, from whom he drew great inspiration, put paid to that and the project was put to bed. Now, finally, Sam has got his mojo back and thank God he has. Some of the early songs are still available online but for this first full instalment the drawing board has been cleared and we are left with an entirely new set of songs. The album is split into two parts: side one containing Ore in all its glory, but on side two 'seeds' of music were sent to other musicians around the world and sent back to Sam to complete, like a musical Chinese whisper. 'Belatedly' has been described as having a sense of positive melancholy; the positivity encompassed by Sam's relationship with his father and the melancholy coming from his passing, which seems to stir through the heart of the album itself. Pieces of the album have already been aired on Mary Anne Hobbs' and Stuart Maconies' BBC 6music programmes respectively and on BBC Radio 3's Exposure programme. Also, look out for a review in Slap next month.

The album is due for release on Box Records on November 24th with a launch event at **Centrala**, Unit 4, Minerva Works, Digbeth, Birmingham on Friday December 1st in conjunction with **Supersonic Festival**.

Chris Murphy





# **The Grunge Tour**



Midland bands **WEAK13**, **Buzzard** and **Naked Sunday** have teamed up for a triple headline tour called '**The Grunge Tour**' which will throw all three acts together on the road for a fortnight.

**WEAK13** frontman and guitarist **Nick J Townsend** states "Basically this is an example of how bands can work together and

I expect we'll be doing lots more of these type of tours in the next thirteen months".

The tour will see the three bands hit venues in Nottingham, Birmingham, Deeside, Sheffield, Dudley, Whitchurch, Stourbridge and Telford with more dates and areas to be added but the three acts have plans to engage like this more often.



Martin Stanyer the frontman and guitarist of three-piece dirty rock band Naked Sunday stated "Each band is bringing something different to the tour; we all get on and it's healthy for our fans because they get to see more of who we enjoy doing shows with".



According to **Jimmy Croutear** who fronts Dudley punk rock band **Buzzard** "The tour begins in our hometown Dudley at the Lamp Tavern on October 29th at our band's album launch for 'Valium Gorillas'; then we head out and promote our new album on a split tour with two very experienced bands. Should be very fun"

For more info on tour dates go to: weak13official.com buzzarduk.com naked-sunday.co.uk





Remi Harris Trio 24th lovember - £14

th November - £17

King Pleasure & The Biscuit Boys 25th November - £17.50

- £15

November - £17.50

ET THEATRE LIK

Band 2nd November - £16

Simon McBride and his band will be taking stage at Huntingdon Hall on Thursday 2nd. McBride's guitar skills have made him a go-to guitarist on the British blues-rock scene, admired among professionals, followed by enthusiasts, and endorsed by some of the biggest brands on the guitar scene. Observers of the blues-rock scene are calling Simon McBride the natural heir to Rory Gallagher and Gary Moore. Like these icons he hails from Ireland and from Moore's hometown, Belfast, McBride is not only an astoundingly good guitarist,

but also a fine singer and a prolific songwriter. Don't leave getting your tickets (£16) Down to the Wire; you won't want to miss this!

Eddie Reader and special guest Dan Whitehouse will be next to call at the Hall's doors on Thursday 16th. The award-winning songstress grew up in Glasgow and Irvine where she learned to use music as а vehicle for communication through busking and performing at local folk clubs. She even famously harmonised with Annie Lennox touring with the Eurythmics after her time with successful punk outfit Gang of Four.



Awarded the MBE in 2006 for services to singing, what sets Reader apart is the depth and quality of the emotional performance: her ability not only to move the listener but to connect her experience to that of her audience. Tickets are £22.50.

#### Worcester BOX OFFICE: 01905 611 427 live www.worcesterlive.co.uk

On Friday 24th, Remi Harris Trio will be returning to Worcester for his last gig of the year. After eight years of touring, the Remi Harris Trio are about to take their first short break... but not before playing a special send-off gig at Huntingdon Hall, Worcester this November. "Concert goers can expect a night of virtuoso guitar-based Gypsy Swing, with influences from Jazz, Blues, Rock & Roll, Funk and World Music, and a repertoire ranging from Django Reinhardt to Jimi Hendrix, plus all things in between!" a spokesperson said. Tickets £14 (Concessions £13).

The following night will see King Pleasure & The Biscuit Boys enthral the Hall. Dazzling musicianship, riveting stage performances, more than 50 TV appearances (including, somewhat bizarrely, five episodes of Teletubbies) and 75 radio broadcasts have established King Pleasure and the Biscuit Boys as the undisputed 'Kings of Swing'. 2017 is the year that these Kings are celebrating a remarkable 30 years on the road. In that time they have opened shows for B. B. King, Cab Calloway and His Orchestra and Ray Charles, and toured with the Blues Brothers Band, Tickets £17.50.



Box Office: 01905 611427 www.worcesterlive.co.uk

#### Preview

# Arttix Round-Up

Audiences at **Artrix** can expect top-quality music, big name comedians and playful pre-school theatre this November.

The unique and inspirational **Anjali Dance Company** will visit Artrix on 1st Nov with **Genius**, performed by an exceptional group of six dancers.



Musical highlights include **Dominic Kirwan & Lisa Stanley** on 2nd November, **Ghost Variations** on 3rd November, **Raymond Froggatt** (avove) on 5th November, Tenors Unlimited on 11th Nov, Hitz From The Blitz on 12th November, **Ensemble DeNote** on 17th November and **Ricky Cool & The In Crowd** on 25th November.





Fans of folk can enjoy Lady Maisery (above) on 15th November, The Urban Folk Quartet on 24th November and The Night Watch on 25th November. Top tribute acts for November include, Carpenters Gold on 4th November, ELO Experience on 10th November and Money For Nothing on 18th November.

Pre-school theatre-goers can enjoy the nature-inspired performance of **Leaf** on 5th November and families with older children can play along with the interactive comedy game show, **Wifi Wars** on 26th November.

Comedy at Artrix this month includes **Steve Bugeja** (right), **Tom Stade**, **Phil Jupitus**, **Sofie Hagen** and **Paul Sinha** and films on offer include **American Assassin** and **NT Live Encore: Follies** starring Imelda Staunton.

For further information on all the shows in November please

visit www.artrix.co.uk or call Box Office on 01527 577330.



## **J W Jones** The Marrs Bar, Worcester | Nov 27th

On a UK tour from Ottowa, one of Canada's finest guitarists is on a whistle stop UK tour to promote his latest album, *High Temperature*. Playing consecutive days, he is dropping in for a session at The Marrs Bar on November 27th, a Monday evening. Where else are you going to find a Billboard listed gun slinger on a Monday night, with an advanced ticket price of £8 (£10 on door)?

*High Temperature* is his 9th album, and though he may not be a household name over here, he has earned considerable plaudits in both Canada and the USA. Grasp the opportunity, find your way to The Marrs Bar, and listen out for **J W Jones**. Meanwhile, check out youtube:

https://youtu.be/a63rwD00llg

https://youtu.be/11pjf-dJpr4



#### **Kit Hawes & Aaron Catlow** The Marrs Bar, Worcester | Nov 16th

Kit Hawes and Aaron Catlow are a Bristol based duo playing

acoustic, folk and roots music. Best known as the virtuoso guitar and fiddle players from the band Sheelanagig, they draw on their many influences to created unique arrangements of traditional music, as well as their



own compositions. The live show is a musical journey through Europe, America and beyond; combining dazzling playing with a fine sense of musicality and showmanship.

Kit Hawes and Aaron Catlow's debut album *The Fox* has been received with critical acclaim. It explores the relationship between fiddle, guitar and voice, using the fertile ground of the traditional music of the British Isles as its starting point. The product of decades of musical experience, the track listing combines self penned tunes and folk tales all intricately arranged and heartfelt.

www.eventbrite.com/e/kit-hawes-and-aaron-catlow-tickets-37499615359 Cost: £8 in advance £10 on the door

#### Review

## **Papa Roach** O2 Academy, Birmingham | 5th October

Californian rockers **Papa Roach** hit the UK in support of their ninth studio album '*Crooked Teeth*' and further to frontman **Jacoby Shaddix's** recent vocal cord surgery, it confirms a healthy return to touring.

Flanked by the ever shape-pulling guitar maestro **Jerry Horton** and a fully charged bassist **Tobin Esperance**, Jacoby mounts his ego riser for the title track from the latest album. It begins as an energy filled performance showing that Papa Roach are not only eager to enjoy themselves, but to please their loyal fans. Steaming into '*Getting Away With Murder*' and '*Between Angels and Insects*', this is a band at full tilt, along with a Birmingham crowd well and truly along for the ride.

Able to rely on a stable set of classics, more recent material cements the continued evolution of Papa Roach. The industrial electronica of *'Face Everything and Rise'* is followed by a taster of something brand new with *'Geronimo'*, more a nu-metal offering which has multi-instrumentalist and touring member **Anthony Esperance** beating the merry hell out of a floor tom.

Around Europe for the last five weeks, video footage has been shot for 'Born for Greatness', and tonight is no different. Desperate to be part of it, virtually every hand is in the air, followed by a wave of surfers heading towards the stage. "You guys are mental!" screams Jacoby, a compliment they appreciate for sure.



"Are there any old-school Papa Roach fans out there?" is a query to bring on a reliably thundering version of 'She Loves Me Not' – the only song to come from the 2002 album 'Lovehatetragedy' tonight. Jacoby introduces the band prior to 'Scars', which from the opening line "I tear my heart open ..." gets a huge singalong. This is prior to a brief lull in proceedings with the lighter numbers 'Periscope' and 'Gravity'.

Coming out of left-field is a cover of Blur's 'Song 2', which is OK but to be perfectly honest should make way for something inhouse. Perhaps a little too old-school for my own good, or just more metal than Britpop, I would much prefer to hear the likes of 'Broken Home' or 'Time and Time Again'.

Early in September reports and videos began to surface about the Papa Roach tribute to **Chester Bennington**, with Linkin Park's *'In The End'* attached to their own *'Forever'*. Despite the expectation, it's certainly emotional, and you can't knock the



message and encouragement from Jacoby Shaddix for anybody with mental health issues to seek help. *"We've lost some good ones this year"* he says, with a tip of his hat to late greats Chris Cornell and Tom Petty.

There's an emotionally charged slow version of 'Lifeline' before the up-tempo, but equally as dark anthem 'Help' finishes with the band leaving the stage to a three-minute sonic hum. They return for a last batch which includes 'None of the Above' and the muchcraved infestation of 'Dead Cell' and 'Last Resort'. "You've been the craziest crowd on this tour Birmingham!" says Jacoby "And it's the first time I've said that!" he insists.

'To Be Loved' completes the show and a very satisfied crowd leaves the O2 Academy with the final chants of "whoah-oh-oh" ringing in their ears. I guess satisfaction was always guaranteed, as nearly a quarter of a century into their existence (yes, really!) **Papa Roach** have become seasoned pros, always delivering and always entertaining. Steve Johnston



#### Mark Morriss (The Bluetones) + The Humdrum Express Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge | Friday10th Nov

Fans of the Britpop era will be in for a treat when indie hero and **Bluetones** front man **Mark Morriss** returns to play in Stourbridge.

With fourteen hit singles and three top ten albums under his belt, he'll take to the cellar bar stage at **Katie Fitzgerald's** on Friday 10th November, just over a year since his first visit to the town.

It may be more than 20 years since The Bluetones first shimmled into our lives, but Mark continues to sieve poetry from the colander of everyday life in a unique and engaging manner.

"I always try to add little things that most songs wouldn't use," he says of the lyrics of his 2013 solo album, A Flash Of Darkness.

"If I can squeeze a mention of Bergerac into a song then I'm happy."

Expect a mix of new material and old favourites on the night, served up with infectious humour and affable charm, in the intimate Enville Street venue.

#### The Leylines + Dave Malone The Marrs Bar, Worcester | Friday, Nov 10th



Preview

Support comes from sardonic singer/songwriter **The Humdrum Express**, fresh from his recent sell out Rose Theatre show, who will be celebrating the release of new single, *E-Petition*.

Advance tickets are available from:

http://www.wegottickets.com/event/410018

£8 in advance / £10 on the night. Doors from 7:30pm.

whilst remaining an album by a band which have forged their own sound and identity.

With a fiercely loyal and ever-growing fan base, The Leylines guarantee to have their audiences up on their feet – and they will



West-country collective established in 2013, with a genredefying, eclectic sound that ranges from traditional folk to full blown festival rock. **The Leylines** are: **Dan Thompson** (electric guitar); **Dave Burbidge** (drums); **Hannah Johns** (violin); **Matthew Wilkins** (acoustic guitar); **Sean Booth** (bass); and **Steve Mitchell** (vocals/guitar).

The Leylines was founded by a group of musicians in Westonsuper-Mare (via Bristol), wishing to combine their individual musical styles into something that isn't quite folk, sort of punk, 100% heart-pounding revelry. This unique sound, combined with frontman Steve Mitchell's lyrics centred around life on the road and the state of society, has launched the band into the heart of the live music community and made them firm favourites of the festival circuit.

The band released their debut album, 'Along The Old Straight Track' in June 2016, produced by **Sean Lakeman**, recorded at The Metway studios in Brighton and mixed by Al Scott. With this team on board, inevitably the record has drawn strong comparison to the likes of The Levellers, Mad Dog Mcrea and Ferocious Dog,

be having as much fun as their audience while they're doing it!

The Leylines aren't exactly work-shy. In addition to their first ever national tour, the band were booked for **Glastonbury Festival**, where they performed six sets in as many days. They also had to temporarily leave the festival to perform in Dorset, only to return to Glastonbury and perform again the very same night! In 2017, the band have also played stages at Beautiful Days, Goldcoast Oceanfest, Something To Smile About Festival, The Godney Gathering and The Big Feastival, as well as many other music festivals across the UK.

In November 2016, The Leylines signed with booking agency, Midnight Mango, who also coordinate bookings for artists such as The Boomtown Rats, The Bad Shepherds, Molotov Jukebox, Sheelanigig, Mad Dog Mcrea, Ferocious Dog, Big Country and The Blockheads.

Their album '*Along The Old Straight Track'* is available to stream on all major streaming sites.

Cost: £10 in advance £12 on the door www.eventbrite.com/e/the-leylines-tickets-38854004373

## **New Release** Gwyn Ashton | Solo Elektro

With a look and title sounding more like a vintage magneto powered washing machine, Gwyn Ashton has formulated a raw, sharp edged, ballsy recording splashed with the psychedelic colour of late 60's Brit rock blues. Using flangers and phasers, dirty distorted chords and a kickdrum used on Black Sabbaths first

album under Bill Wards pedal. Recorded in a Czech hotel room during tour, this is as near as you get to the purity of prehistoric 3 chord valve burning rock, there's no tracking and layering of sound this is Gwvn on a hard hike over rocky trails to uncover his very soul.

Those psychedelic vibes come into play on the ethereal opening track where stretched. humming guitar brings a soundtrack from 'Walkabout', crashing into a Lennon-like vocal trip on a magical mystery

solo elektro

tour. 'Metaphysical Journey' gritted sand etched across thick case, it's a wonderful throwback to a time of Grundig tape strings as it is a time to light up and chill out, just don't take it in of course. It has a Reprise version to close. It's slightly longer but I will settle for the 6 mins+ of this hummer. Completely contrasting to that is the short, sharp, punchy 'She Won't Tell', ripping guitar riffs it's brash like taking a spin in a tumble drier full of stones.

## Paul Bridgewater | 7 Songs

Paul, best known as front man for Slowburner, is renowned as one of the UK's finest vocalists with his smoky tone and superlative delivery. Bridgewater has recorded a new treat for fans: a solo offering simply titled 7 Songs.

Guest musicians include Tony Baylis and Simon Neale on drums and bass throughout and keyboards looked after by Jared Bryant. There are also four guitarists at work across the 7 tracks such as Luther Grosvenor, Lee Thomas Evans, Troy Redfern and Jerry Christopher. 7 Songs is produced by Jared in his Severn Valley Studios.

'The Worlds Gone Crazv' is a dirty, punchy rock blues track where Paul grits out the lyrics in a gasoline mad planet. Gritty vocals demand gritty guitar and Troy steps up to the plate, sliding his way through the insistent drum and bass rhythms. Jared's on key and it's steamy stuff with Paul in



full rock mode creating one of those songs that will be buzzing in your head for days.

Lee warms up for 'Setting Sun' with Paul firmly in soulful mode. Jared switches to piano while Tony and Simon set the steady rhythm of this chilled out song. That low sun sets up long 'Shadows' for Luther to slip in with floating, ethereal guitar that

'Dawn Of Tomorrow' drips with heavy reverb. Dream like opening bars are gatecrashed by the kickdrums thumping rhythm and dirty guitar chords, making for impulsive listening. 'In Your Blood' keeps the pulse going, pumping hard for gritty rock blues.

It's getting dark so don't get caught after midnight: it's 'Late Night' and full of swampy dark blues. The mangrove roots are alive with creatures of the night but it's a good vibe so hang on in there.

> The reverb and fuzz are turned up again for the ebb and flow of 'Kind To Be Cruel' but be careful of the dangerous rifttides.

> In 'Shine Lover Shine' the kickdrum pumps like a pneumatic road breaker. Lyrics are rapped out as the song springs along like a speedball workout, breaking sweat into lovely but dirty slide play. The 11th track is the reprise of the first.

> A remarkable, straightcut, 'what you hear is what you get album': Solo Elektro is a complete contrast with Gwyn's last release, a superb, acoustic Ragas. This is almost primeval crude oil before it reaches the sanitizing refinery. It's why petrol heads still add a spot of Castrol R to their fuel because it smells good. In this

recorders, crystal microphones, guitar overload into a Dansette and Mullard valves, hot enough to burn there Bakelite asses off. The recording desk was the kitchen table, big enough to hold the Grundig or even a fancy new Sony! Not sure it will appeal to everyone, but if you like Vegemite? I do.

somehow seems unsettling whilst intriguing. Paul pours his heart into this song as Jared brings in some lovely boogie piano.

'Long Time Love' could just as easily be Rod Stewart at his peak. Paul pitches this to perfection with stripped back acoustic guitar and Jared on piano - a simply beautiful track. Back into Blues mode for 'I Got The Train'. Paul is superb while Lee uses his slide over the

funk induced rhythm. This is a cracking track that will have everyone rocking out with Paul as he swings and drags the microphone stand with him; classic Bridgewater stuff.

Jerry Christopher steps up for a soulful 'Desensitise Me' which opens gently - a 'slowburner' that grows in strength with weeping guitar and Jared's distinctive keys. It goes without saying that Paul's in fine form in this soul ballad. 'Ride On Over' is a raw edged acoustic blues. Double edged vocals cut through cleanly with sparse guitar that cuts away, leaving the vocals to carry the load. Overall, it's a song that has a spiritual, elemental quality with Paul providing his own minimalistic, acoustic guitar:pure, simple, superb.

The album is a shop widow of Paul Bridgewater's vocal talents: rock, blues, soul and ballad. He has rightly been compared with Paul Rogers and, as indicated, I think a bit of Rod Stewart just without the tartan scarf. It's a diverse set with a core rhythm section and guest guitarists, but most of all he's one of the best UK vocalists out there.

Available through http://www.slowburner.co.uk

Graham Munn

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## New Release Terminal Rage Where's Our Democracy?

The penultimate track on the CD is called *Supposed to be Upside Down* takes the band into anarcho territory and features Raph on lead vocals. Opening with a chugging bass line, a rockabilly drum beat and chugging guitar riff, it sees Ralph unloading two barrels of pent up anger and cynicism regarding politicians and authority.

Herefordshire punk band Terminal Rage formed little over two years ago and consists of Rich on guitars/vocals, Bob on drums/vocals and Raph on bass/vocals. The band were brought together by a shared need to make music that allowed them to get their message across regarding their frustrations and anger in life (and let's be honest, in these days of austerity and political climate there is plenty to be angry about). After two years of constantly gigging the band recently released this mini album.



*Where's Our Democracy*? opens with the scathing swipe at far right ideals that is **Casual Racist**. This is the first of four tracks to feature Rich on lead vocals and is a hefty slice of anti-fascist Oi replete with thought provoking lyrics and a catchy chorus.

Track 2, *Class Crime*, is probably my favorite song on the CD. Again featuring Rich on vocals, it is a hard hitting profanity-laden socio-political street punk song that really hits the nail on the head and then continues to drive it in with a huge hammer blow! Subject matters as abject poverty, food banks and homelessness are all tackled leading to the chorus of *"they won't f\*cking listen because they don't f\*cking care"*. Never a truer word has been sung about today's self centered society and those who govern it.

Third up is *Guilty*. This song has more of a '77-78 punk feel to it and musically reminds me in places of SLF and even The Damned (which is no bad thing in my book). Rich's gravely vocals sit nicely on top and yes he still sounds angry at the world.

Terminal Rage sees Bob take over on vocal duties. It's another cracking slice of '77 style punk. Bob's slightly mellower voice really suits this track. The infectiously catchy chorus of *"Terminal Rage, breaking out of the cage, we've paid our due, we've come of age"* is a statement of intent to the old guard. Yet another great song!



The chorus of *"so turn our flag around... it's supposed to be upside down"* symbolizes the act of being in *'Distress'* and in this case, relates to the state of the nation.

Rounding things off is the title track, *Where's Our Democracy*, a song that sees Rich return on vocal duties. As you can gather from the title, there is no let up in the band's vitriolic political commentary. This song is a call to arms against a government that they didn't vote for. It cuts through the hypocrisy and asks questions of today's so called democratic process.

This mini album is a 6 track passionate letting off of steam from a trio of angry, frustrated working class blokes who, having seen the dark days' of the Thatcher years in the past, feel the need to stand up and shout as history repeats itself some

30+ years later. **Terminal Rage** have taken this anger and frustration and created one hell of a body of work and one that I can thoroughly identify with at that!

*Where's the democracy*? is available on CD at gigs or via the Terminal Rage Facebook page. A digital download of the release is also available from the band's Bandcamp page at terminalrage.bandcamp.com/releases. Jason K - Punk by Nature



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#### New Release

#### **The Humdrum Express** | E-petition!

Friday 10th November sees the release of the brand new song by indie singer-songwriter, and master of wry observational

cross hairs. From the person who dashes to the early morning train carrying a coffee cup holder to why there always seems to be someone vacuuming in a seaside arcades, it's all fair game. Its witticisms such as these that form the backbone of the song and

humour. Ian Passev aka The Humdrum Express. Worcestershire The musician debuted the song, E-petition, at his recent sold out hometown show at the Rose Theatre in Kidderminster and it went down a storm. Now having heard the studio version of this song I can honestly say that fans of lan's quirky humorous musings are in for a treat.

The song opens with the spoken warning "Please note that the filming of tonight's gig on smartphones will be ridiculed by the performer". This sets the tone for an absolute



stonker of rant and an infectiously catchy one at that! Lyrically this song is The Humdrum Express at his finest and little escapes his

lead nicely onto the sing-along chorus of "Don't stop me I'm on a mission, gonna start an e-petition!" This in turn changes in the final chorus to the brilliant chant of "Gonna start an Epetition to stop spam from E-petitions".

Musically the song reminds me of the legendary Half Man Half Biscuit, replete with a jangly guitar sound and driving rhythm. It's a perfect fit for lan's spoken lyrics on the verses. Though this song sits in a different ballpark in its styling to the whimsical pop of the Lookalike Bond EP, it is still undoubtedly The Humdrum Express. Personally, I love it when he is fired up and letting loose with both acerbic barrels! The song is a must buy and is up there amongst lan's finest work.

E-petition is released on the 10th of November and will be available as a

digital download from all good digital music stores.

#### Jason K - Punk by Nature

## Molotov Souls | Reptiles EP

Warwickshire band Molotov Souls are a real interesting prospect and their debut EP Reptiles does not disappoint in showcasing this bands distinct blend of musical styles. Centred

around of frontman Stuart Monger and player/drummer hass IP Jones, the band went through a number of line up changes before stabilizing on the current line up that features Tony L on guitar and Tony O on drums. With this stability has come much more gigging with the band becoming regular performers on the Midlands DIY punk scene and lead to the band recording this. their debut EP. Two of the tracks on the EP (Little Man and Hiding from the Sun) were cowritten by Molotov Souls original bassist Max Mongoose during the bands earlier days.

The EP opens with the title

track Reptiles, a tune that starts with a thundering bass line, tight drum beat and a grunged up ska rift before being accompanied by Mongi's soulful alt-rock vocals. The tempo then cranks up as the chorus blasts out and Mongi's vocals become far more gravely showing a real variety to his vocal range. The song is a fine mix of styles that works amazingly well.

Track two Quicksand is a song that continues the mash up of styles with hints of metal, ska and alt. rock all thrown into the pot. The end result is a wonderful tune with yet another catchy bass

hook and some great guitar solos. I hate to draw comparisons. but on this song Mongi's vocal, at times, remind me very much of Andy Cairns from Therapy? (which is no bad thing in my book?).

Third up is Little Man. This song adopts a somewhat slower approach and is slightly musically reminiscent of some of the early

> 90's grunge bands such as Soundgarden with perhaps a pinch of The Cult. Yet the song still retains the freshness and musical originality that is Molotov Souls. When the tune goes up a gear it has real depth and power. I've got to say that this song is a real grower and has become one of my favourites on the EP.

> Rounding the EP off is Hiding from the Sun. It's a hard rocking number that chugs along nicely whist being periodically punctuated by some great guitar breaks, with one such solo seeing song and the EP out in fine style. Again the musicianship of all the band members is tight and on form and the vocals are once again excellent

> I've got to say I've thoroughly enjoyed listening to this EP over the

past few weeks and Molotov Souls are definitely a band that I am looking forward to hearing more from. Although the band plays quite regularly on the punk circuit they really are something more. If you are a fan of grunge, metal, alternative rock or punk then I really do suggest you check these guys out, you won't be disappointed.

The Reptiles EP by Molotov Souls is released on Friday 1st September 2017 and is available from Bunny Boiler Records

www.bunnyboilerrecords.co.uk/)

the nucleus

## New Release Tokyo Marching Band | Pastel

Well they're neither a marching band or from the Far East -  $\it Pastel$  is the latest EP from the Evesham-based indie trio who

debuted on the local scene with their well-received 'Monster' EP from a couple of years ago, it's a marked departure from their previous guitarbased more indie rock melodic sound with a slightly further shift towards an electronic format and a more commercial feel - which is always a well worthwhile consideration for any up-and-coming outfit!

Tokyo Marching Band now comprise original members Thom Parry on guitars/keys and Ella Brown on vocals joined by Ty Bonson on bass - they've already had a recording session with BBC Hereford & Worcester's Introducing show as well as being station's track of the week

with '*Reason*' from their 2016 TMB EP. They've also appeared on BBC Introducing in the West's A-Z showcase of local talent and have performed regularly in London and across the UK - so a promising start...

First track 'In Fairer Sun' nicely sets the tempo and feel of this chill-out synthy record and immediately reminded me of the very excellent Muchuu from a couple of years back with Ella's breathy vocals to the fore. There's a vacancy at present for this

#### Arcadia Roots | The Long Awaited EP

Arcadia Roots features Dave Small, Danny Gauden, Tom Callinswood, Josh Terry and Maddie Abbotts. The five-piece bring us a 6 track EP of hypnotic, glorious, mixed roots music, and about bloody time! The band have built an indefinable following with a wide fan base that encompasses all ages from today's

youth culture through to old sods like me. The music draws on world music, African rhythms, Reggae, Blues and Americana, the resultant concoction has become a drug of choice for many, and I'm one of those junkies.

Fresh off the burner, this untitled recording allows you to grow a little in the comfort of your home, in the car, or maybe just party out. Most of these will be familiar and, indeed, if you were at the



WMF gig, you would have heard these songs played in spectacular form, but I'm going to expand on them anyway, so just 'Where You Gonna Run To?' Dave counts it in and the reggae beat underpins the song on his African Drum and Josh punching in those big base notes. I'm not sure whether it's Dan or Tom taking lead but I do know it mesmerises completely. As Dave's throat warble sees us out, you have already taken the bait - the hook's in and you're being hauled in.



understated spacey and perhaps slightly ghostly sound since the Herefordshire siblings fell off the radar - if you were a fan then (I was!) you'll be very taken with this number!

I hope that TMB have sent all these tracks to the BBC Introducing Uploader as I guess that the melodic and atmospheric '*Inevitable*'

with its very catchy chorus and nice stereo separation could well appear as background or themed music on a TV show - surprisingly this happens to quite a lot of Uploaded tunes. And of course half-decent royalties are paid for every play - so hopefully TMB are PRS/PPL registered!

Title track *Pastel* is easily the paciest and upbeat number on this impressive offering with a more guitar-based suggestion back to the *Monster* EP very much a Pencil Toes feel I thought to this catchy and melodic ditty. Of course another Marches outfit from a few years back who briefly flickered then again inexplicably vanished...

Final number *Fall 4 U* returns to the more thoughtful and ethereal feel of this excellent EP as a whole and is another track from this very promising and talented outfit, showing they're heading in the right direction towards success with this late-night very-listenable offering. No this isn't an album to get you up and bopping in the aisles but it's amazingly well-produced, crafted and thoughtful and definitely one you'll have on standby to come back again to!

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

Lovely stark guitar notes open like a stairway to heaven that bursts into rhythmic drumming for '*Big Man*'. Electric guitar decorates as Daves hands work over the tight skin of his drum as The African beat drives harder and the song builds, *Tell Me What Your Feeling* looses my soul.

about bloody time! The band have built an indefinable following *'Keep Burning'* has been alight for a while now. If you've seen with a wide fan base that encompasses all ages from today's the band, you've heard this music: pulsating waves of guitar, drum

and bass create the tidal surge which carries Dave's nicely smoked voice punching out his message and, of course, the warbling finale.

The next song is, I believe, much more recent and 'Dream On' introduces the angelic, honeyed tones of Maddie to accompany Dave's lead, a dirty guitar solo sneaks briefly in. Maddie's siren call will have you floundering on the rocks as the song ramps up and takes on a rock beat.

Time to go 'Searching' and that rich caramel of Maddie's voice takes the lead for the rockier rhythm. She's on her way as Dave shadows her vocal lead before duelling. Gotta keep on searching or 'Loose My Mind'. Dave is rattling out the lyrics as the song bustles and surges us forward into its rock strewn framework. There's some serious electric guitar here and the drum is being hammered as Josh is laying down those ambient base notes. It's

an insistent driving end to the EP, like falling off a cliff: Graham Greene's *Brighton Rock* in musical form!

What can I say, my description is completely inadequate (you will know that if you've seen **Arcadia Roots** at a live gig). Make sure you get yourself a copy at a gig to take home as what could be better? I only have one massive reservation to make and it's simply this: it's not enough, I want more.

#### **The Humdrum Express** Rose Theatre, Kidderminster | 8th Oct

Lured by the promise of posh seats and a multimedia extravaganza, we headed up North to **The Rose Theatre** (the one in Kiddy, not the one in Tewkesbury - *Ed*) for an evening of acerbic wit and musical delights. Having seen SLAP Mag poster boy **Ian Passey**, aka **The Humdrum Express** entertain the crowds of many a pub or club, I was intrigued. Needless to say, it was well worth the ticket price. The show opened with a series of songs and sketches set in the recording studio of radio station "Totally Wyred - 66.6FM" The self-deprecating Humdrum Express and DJ **Paul Smith** wooed the audience by beautifully and eloquently ripping the piss out of each other between songs.



The middle part of the show was the familiar blend of fabulously cutting lyrics crafted into great songs. This time, however, the songs were heard through a fabulous sound system which did far better justice to the guitar sound than we are accustomed to hearing. The final part of the show, roused the crowd as lan was joined by Andrew Boswell on Bass. Christopher Taylor-Ashcroft and Carl Bayliss on Drums to form a full band off

Humdrum lookalikes. In addition to the trademark Humdrum cap and specs, the band modelled the latest retro footie T-shirt from the wonderfully whimsical Humdrum Express range of merch!

The home crowd were warmly appreciative and the evening ended with a great atmosphere as we were treated to the latest (and possibly the best ever) new single *"Gonna Start An E-petition* 



Photo: Duncan Graves

*To Stop Spam From E- petitions"* - Once again, The Humdrum Express delivers pure observational genius to a terrific toe tapping tune!

So when Ian invited the crowd to assist with the latest video shoot the following weekend, I knew it would be an afternoon to remember......

The brief was to turn up, dressed as Zombies, at the stylish, convivial **ClapTrap** in Stourbridge. We were met by a team of talented makeup artists and offered a banquet including Bombay Mix and Vietnamese Whirls. The song was performed in front of about forty zombified old Black Country punks as they viewed the performance, as directed through their mobile phones. Under the masterfully smooth direction of video director **Nick J Townshend**, the crowd embraced their roles with deathly groans; the sombre sounds, belying the tremendous fun we were all having.

And then it was time to hit the streets of Stourbridge. Cutting a fine figure as the pied piper of zombies, the majestic **Humdrum Express** led his gruesome troupe of fans, family, friends and neighbours through the streets and subways, calling in at Gregg's and Wilko's on the way. And in a beautiful spectacle of life imitating art, the people of Stourbridge watched in amazement..... through their mobile phones.

The new standalone digital single "*E-Petition*" will be available from 10 November 2017. Buy it! It will make you smile!

Maria Baldwin



#### **Preview**

# Tankus The Henge+ The InstitutesThe Marrs Bar, Worcester | Friday, Nov 3rd

Tankus the Henge is the London based, five wheeled, funk fuelled, open top, custom paint job, rock 'n' roll jalopy that comes careering round the corner on a tranquil summer's day. Ruining the silence and disturbing the bats.



Having played over 1000 shows all over the world the **Tankus the Henge** live experience is something to behold. Combining wild showmanship and musical dexterity their sound incorporates rock, funk, blues, ska, roots and gypsy rhythms and their songs tell stories of wonder and woe.



"...I love that. It reminds me of a mixture of early Kinks, Squeeze and a bit of Blur mashed in. His voice is his own, ...so great. I love it." Dave Davies – The Kinks

"....a virtual carnival of sound that's high on energy and deep on soul. With copious helpings of R&B blues, funk, disco, Django, a dose of Dexy's, a drop of Ray Davies and a pinch of Madness emerging throughout the eleven tracks – it's an exciting mélange of sound." – The Guardian. Simon Wells

Cost: £10 in advance £12 on the door

www.eventbrite.com/e/tankus-the-henge-tickets-37580577519 https://youtu.be/tv0t6mXDbjM





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#### **BABAL + SUZ Winspear** The Marrs Bar, Worcester | Friday 24 November

**BABAL** bring their unique mix of psyche rock to the Marrs Bar on Friday 24th November 2017.

Capturing the angst of 21st Century Britain with **Karen Langley's** sharply observed lyrics, laced with the manically haunting guitars of **Rob Williams** and enhanced by **Zoie Green's** trippy keyboards, plus groove drivers **Ben Balsom** on bass and **Jon Sharp** on electronic drums, BABAL deliver a theatrical, barbed performance that defies categorisation.

After a great Summer playing festivals, including the Phoenix Alternative Steampunk festival in Wales and Beautiful Days in Devon, BABAL will be playing an extended set, premiering many new songs from their forthcoming 4th album, *"The Circle of Confusion of Tongues"* on Dgenerate Records (Seattle)

Supporting BABAL will be performance poet Suz Winspear, former poet Laureate of Worcester. An acute observer of the absurd and alternative, Suz's work always enthrals and veers from the wistful to the weird in a sentence.

This is a must see event for lovers of original entertainment.

Also the Zenjen Lighting Experience will provide trippy lighting and hellish backdrops.

# The Courtyard, Hereford

A selection of 'What's On' in November...

The month kicks off on **Sunday 12th November** with a night of 1970's pop nostalgia courtesy of **Les McKeown & The Bay City Rollers** when they return to the venue. We recommend that you join Les on a nostalgic ride back to when the world turned tartan in the mid 70s and re-live those teenage wonder years as he recounts the stories behind the Rollers dramatic rise to fame and fortune. They'll be performing songs that influenced the original group as they forged their way into the music business as well as Roller hits.



A couple of days later on the **16th**, you'll find folk duo **John Tams & Barry Coope** taking centre stage. **John Tams**, who is well known for playing Daniel Hagman in the ITV series Sharpe, has made over 50 albums as singer, musician or producer and continues to tour festivals and concert stages throughout the UK and Europe. **Barry Coope** is a gifted accompanist and singer, formerly of Coope, Boyes and Simpson, the celebrated acapella trio celebrated throughout the UK and Europe. Coope's career has encompassed at least a dozen albums and numerous tours and festival appearances. They make a unique collaboration bringing experience, new writing and traditional music to their humorous and captivating performances.



Preview

Tickets Are £4 in advance eventbrite.co.uk/e/babal-tickets-37970280130), £5 on the door



Friday 17th will then see The Courtyard hold host to Madeleine MacMahon when she will perform her show Alto-

Holic. It's seventy five minutes of songs and stories from the talented actress and singer, lamenting the highs and lows of her alto range and her life, and learning how to embrace what makes us all different. The event has been organised in memory of Alex Evans, a treasured staff member at The Courtyard and part of the Herefordshire creative community who sadly passed away this year. All proceeds from the performance will go to support young people in



Herefordshire seeking to develop skills in performing arts and to counselling services for young people in the area.

To book tickets, or for more information contact the Box Office on 01432 340555 or visit www.courtyard.org.uk.

#### Review

#### East Of The Severn Pete Williams, Liz Berry, Mish Maybe and the Black Country String Band St George's Hall, Bewdley | Fri 20th October

Personally, I tend to run a mile from Nationalism but get excited about Regionalism. I love accents, food and any healthy expression of culture that shows a region's identity. From Cornwall to Scotland this little island has a richness of diversity like I've never seen anywhere else.

On Friday night, courtesy of first time curator **Roy Williams**, we bathed in the sounds of the Black Country. Not the finger in the ear polar neck sweater stuff of traditional folkies but a living breathing treat of singing and poetry from now but with a nod firmly to the past. In St Georges hall by the banks of the River Severn in Bewdley a sold out crowd enjoyed an evening the like of which most had not been to before.

**Pete Williams** kicked off the evening in top voice that left you wondering who had influenced who between him and his longtime associate in Dexys Midnight Runners Kevin Rowland. Pete let his roots show early sharing how at 16 he'd started an apprenticeship in a heavy metal factory in Smethwick that had drop forges, the lot. Fortunately for all Pete escaped his pattern maker's job and took instead to making patterns with musical notes.



One of the great things about good singers is that they just keep getting better and he's a classic example of that, assured and not afraid to take vocal risks he cast a spell on the audience that had me wondering: how do you follow that?

Next up was honorary Black Country lady for the night **Mish Maybe**. I've loved Mish's singing for years as the voice of the Alternative Dubstep Orchestra but with light backing of three fine acoustic guitarists she had the chance to show that she's becoming one of the finest song stylists in the Midlands and her easy charm wowed everyone who'd not heard her before.



During Mish's set she introduced Black Country poet Liz Berry and for a magical half hour we were taken from the power of the sung word to the power of the spoken word as Mish and l iz traded songs and poems one after another.

Liz Berry is spellbinding, her soft delivery in a rich Black Country accent of her own poems about where she grew up is unique and well beyond the wit of



this reviewer to do justice to. Suffice to say that Liz has caught the ear of BBC R4 producers and already has several broadcasts under her belt, a rising star indeed.

Following an interval to recover we were taken somewhere else again by **The Black Country String Band**, a bunch of senior gentlemen with a variety of stringed instruments who clearly got together for their own fun and then found that other people had fun hearing them too.



It could have been all wrong but they had the chutzpah to sing their adaption of the John Denver classic which they'd turned into 'Black Country Roads' and pull it off. Much singing along from the loving audience and a guest appearance in the middle of their set from Mish to sing one of her own songs that these chaps heard for the first time three days before, no slouches these old boys.

Also during their set **Liz Berry** came forward with another spell binding poem, accompanied by the double bass player from the band which segued into the band leading the audience in a spine tingling version of *Goodnight Irene*.

They finished with a cracking version of '*It's A Working Man I Am*', oddly a song written in Nova Scotia but so right for the Black Country and all those in the audience lucky enough to have seen the Black Country at full throttle up to the seventies knew just who they were singing about.

In a brilliant move to end the evening **Liz Berry** gave us a poem about new life coming into the world that left the lucky audience with a smile on their lips and a loving tear in their eye.

#### **New Release**

# Bourbon Alley | 100 Times

There's always a sense of excitement in the local blues scene (yes, there is one,) when an original album is released. That's exactly what Worcester based band **Bourbon Alley** have offered us. I'll admit to not having heard them live before, something I'll put right in the near future, at **Marrs Bar** on November 25th. Though Bourbon Alley is/was a three piece, for this album, they're a quartet. **Mark Archer** is on guitar and vocals, **Graham Thatcher**, bass & backing vocals, **Charlie Lyons**, percussion and **Ian Richards** joins them on keys. All lyrics and music are written by Mark bar one co-written piece.

It opens with a Southern Blues shuffle, 'One Hundred Times', that listen. Staying down South, a swampy, '40 Days & 40 rolls along slickly. Martin Willmott introduces a few bars of rattle snakes, sand and women. This track has a wh harmonica, complementing the title track. After this, we're invited about it. Which is quite the compliment in my eyes.

to jump into a '57 Chevy', for a petrol headed, rock infused ride which propels us like an insistent engine. The driving theme continues next, as we pick up a hitcher in 'A Girl Called Gasoline.' There are so many blues songs with a car theme, but this one mixes in a rock groove, and its a hotter ride than an old Chevy could ever give. Heavy guitar, drums and cow bell complement a driving bass line and this girl certainly burns brightly and stands out as a great track.





'Someone Out There' is more of a smouldering blues track. It feels heartfelt, offering some tasty honeyed guitar licks to sweeten the bitter pill. Then, time for a road trip to Memphis and a Johnny Cash styled, 'Green Eyed Lady.' Worth the trip? You'll have to listen. Staying down South, a swampy, '40 Days & 40 Nights' offers rattle snakes, sand and women. This track has a whiff of 'Jolene', about it. Which is quite the compliment in my eyes.

'You've Gotta Move' is the only co-written and harmonised track. Mark wrote this song alongside Charlie, Bassist Graham adds grit to the pulsating blues and Ian's piano is picked out for this rawer edged song.

The album closes in a surprisingly vintage pop sound. '*Love So Strong*' is reminiscent of 60's beat, and, just maybe, it should have been left there. Though personal taste is hard to measure, I'm not sure this track adds anything to the album. Having said that, there is certainly plenty to satisfy the bands fans. I look forward to seeing them perform live.

The album is nicely packaged, with simple black on white graphics, and is recorded at The Old Smithy, FFG Hillbrook Studio, and mastered by 1581 productions. Graham Munn

Graham Munn



# Feature Photo Competition Winners Announced

Music lovers and keen photographers came together on Sunday 29th October for the opening night of a new exhibition at the **Worcester Arts Workshop** showcasing the best of the photos entered into this year's **Worcester Music Festival** photography competition.

As part of the evening, judges announced the Top 3 winners of the competition and also commended all entrants saying that this year has seen the highest quality of photos submitted so far. "It was an incredibly hard decision this year," said Steve Johnston, one of the judges and a professional photographer in his own right, "All judges felt that the standard of entrants had gone up a notch this year and it made for a very interesting – and difficult - task for us all."



Steve's fellow judges were **Andy Burton** and **James Watkins**, also professional photographers with many years' experience photographing live music and events. The winning shot was taken by **Chris Bowley** who perfectly captured **GrizzleRoot** at Worcester Arts Workshop, carrying across the raw energy they pack into their set. Using black and white, the image was as eye-catching as it was atmospheric and a deserved winner.



Second place was awarded to **Adriana Vasile** with her incredible shot of **Harry and the Howlers** at The Marrs Bar. Using a great angle and capturing the lighting perfectly, it's an enrapturing shot. **Brendan Stephen's** shot of **Howlin' Bones** at The Firefly was a brilliant third place. Considering how hard The Firefly is to shoot, the photographer definitely proved his skill here.

Chris earnt a £100 camera store voucher that was kindly donated by festival sponsors, **Child Care Bureau**, with £50 and £25 vouchers going to second and third place respectively.

# WORCESTER MUSIC FEStival 15-17 September 2017

The exhibition will continue at Worcester Arts Workshop throughout November.

## Standard Lamps Prince Of Wales, Ledbury | 1st Oct

Unusually on this particular Sunday, we found not only **The Standard Lamps**, but also a support duo, Birmingham's **Every Thread**, who stitched us up with some delightful folk music from their aptly titled '*Leaves*' album: perfect autumn music. Zoe, vocalist and acoustic guitar, alongside Mike, with a magnificent looking Rickenbacker bass, left us with an upbeat '391' that put Mike's bass to good use and suitably warm enough to switch on those Standard Lamps.



Our headliners were all supping pints of water as I guiltily slid down a rather nice German craft ale, especially matured for lovers of dark, full bodied beer. **Mike Wilton** was also on his drug of choice, Shropshire honey, claiming it is for his voice but what were

## **Mumbo Jumbo** The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury | 12th Oct

It's Thursday evening and the 12th night. Friday the 13th looms, so what are you going to do? You just know it's all **Mumbo Jumbo**, so why not get out, grab a fine ale, and join in the entertainment with Oliver, Chris and Phil. Let's put Mumbo Jumbo to the test.

Just to warm us up, Oliver gargled with hot coal tar before posting up '*The Letter*'; as ever, a first class delivery despite claiming '*We're Gonna Regret It*'. There's already an element of banter, both between the three protagonists and an audience determined to chip in. It's live, it's fun and you would not expect anything less. Phil takes lead on piano, Chris cradles his guitar and Oliver lifts a dirty, muted horn (what else are sink plungers for). The scorching, killer of '*Electric Chair*', a fabulous bluesy roaring 20's song, switched into life by an equally fabulous Bessie Smith. Just the place for the slippery Ally Sloper to park his backside, lifted by his red weasely nose from the shadows of Victoriana, but despite 'Ally Sloper's Half Holiday', he fell from grace in The Great War. Next up, the crew set the scene for a 'Hosedown', a riotously funny social observation of home care; funny it may be, but is all too real in our society today.

Time out, step off the planet into an ethereal state, and just 'Hold On' for this wonderful, psychedelic trip, as Chris takes us into an unknown world, Phil works his magic on the keyboard and Oliver brings in a haunting, trumpeted filling. Having sanitized us all, it was time for Chris to bring up his 'Bald Spot', which weirdly seems to have grown and been polished. With plenty of ad-hoc comments from both musicians and the listeners, this is definitely a sprinkling of magic dust (or could it be dandruff!)

those bees on? Rock n' Roll! James lifts a now seemingly boring Fender JazzMaster bass (nice bright red though), Matt settles behind his drums and Mike tunes in his Gibson SG's, one of which was destined not to see the session through.

'*Meet Me on the Corner of 1215*' fills the air with the exuberant sparkle of a good Squeeze and maybe a dash of Tom Petty, nicely stirred with the jangling joy of the Gibson. Looking out on the girl, Mike declares '*I*'*m A Little Bit Scared Of You*' and bang goes that string! Fortunately, as Valerie Singleton used to say, this is one he prepared earlier, so though requiring re-tuning, the custom painted guitar filled the slot.

A bit of rockin' rhythm is conjured between Matt and James in '*Portland Punk*' with Mike giving the guitar a good thrashing before switching to a '*Dim & Dismal*' bit of indie that would have suited those troublesome Gallagher boys.

The drums are punching hard as Mike brings in the opening lyrics and James joins in before all hell breaks out as the grooving blues rock of '*The Harmonica Song*' cuts loose.

A quick spoonful of the sweet stuff and we're taken deep into the blue world of '*Need Your Love So Bad*' which sounded good to me. Matt rolls the drums, opening up the indie infused rock of '*Cracks*', as you get the feeling that the band are a little constrained in the tight confines of the Prince; the long coiled pick up leads are probably stretched a bit on stage.'*Living With Mum & Dad*' sings out, the guitar rocks and the drum n' bass bring a thunderous close.

The Lamps have toured with The Who, and why not as they're a wonderfully entertaining band who have some great songs. Take a pinch of indie, add a chip of rock, a slice of punk, essence of Beatle, stir it through with bloo, and don't forget a spoonful of honey. To hell with solar - you have turned on The Standard Lamps.



Phew - time for a beer, and then Chris is away again. As a guitar dealing spiv earning a crust with second hand guitars, the ones he's carrying seems to have buffed up OK. The ale is taking over and one by one the trio become more intoxicated. Phil is keeling over on the piano and goes off on an eclectic mix of chords and keys which I know nothing about. It's a lovely image of a band in full control of their destiny but who's driving? *Nice Work*' if you can get it but *'Later Somehow'* there will be dark deeds and coldly savoured revenge! My train home could just about save me from flying in a bloody rocket but as I prepared to leave, that gritted surface reveals Oliver finding '*No Devil At The Crossroads'*, just a bunch of musicians waiting to sell their soul to no avail, so they will just have to make do with you out there. If you have never stumbled, by accident or design, into a Mumbo Jumbo gig, it's about time you damned well did, you will be royally entertained.

Graham Munn

#### Preview Jon Boden Pershore No.8 | Monday 13 November

Described by 'The Guardian' as "One of the most venerated of the younger Brit Folk generation", former **Bellowhead** frontman, **Jon Boden** strolls into town, Pershore town to be precise. As part of his 'Afterglow tour', Boden will be performing solo at Pershore's **No.8** on Monday 13th of November, with doors opening at 7.30pm.



*Afterglow* is Jon's 3rd solo release, but 1st since leaving Bellowhead, following on from his 2009 concept-album, which led to his BBC folk singer of the year award. Using fiddle, guitar, concertina and his trademark stomp box, Jon will not only be playing stripped back songs from his latest album, but will also be drawing on material from his fifteen-year career.

With Jon's vocal talent and musical arrangements, Bellowhead spearheaded the new folk boom and transported the genre into unknown musical territory winning BBC Radio 's 'Best live act' five times. Jon's Unique song writing ability make him stand out as one of the best folk performers of his generation.

Tickets are priced at  $\pounds 20$  and are on sale from the box office at No.8 or online at number8.org

#### **Frigg** Colwall Village Hall, Mill Lane, Malvern + Finnish fiddle tunes workshop | Fri 24 Nov

Named after the Norse goddess of love and fertility, world renowned Finnish folk septet **'Frigg'** will be freewheeling their way into Worcestershire on the 24th of November. After tours taking in the likes of Australia, Japan, Europe and North America, Frigg are set to fire up sleepy Colwall on the back of their latest release *'Frost on Fiddles'*, which was released on October 5th.

Not content with raising the roof at the Colwall village hall, 'Frigg' will be setting up a musical workshop prior to the show, with band members offering a stirring stringed experience. You'll be shown the finer point of jigs, reels, polkas, schottisches and waltzes taught by ear, but with offer of scores for future reference, this is open to beginners, intermediate and established players of all genres.



With an array of awards under their belt and fans such as, BBC radio's Mark Radcliffe and Fairport Conventions Simon Nicol, **Frigg** are set to bring the house(village hall) down.

Catch these Scandinavian sultans of string at Colwall village hall at 8pm, with the workshop running from 5.30pm until 6.30pm.



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#### Bonfire Night - Sat 4 Nov, from 7pm, Free Entry Bonfire, stationary engines, and vintage Tilley lanterns. Free Entry

#### Fleecey Folk: Jess Morgan - Sun 19 Nov, 8pm, £12

The songs are intimate, but not in that earnest, quiet way. There's fire in Jess' voice, the way it soars between notes like a bird in flight. It's intimate, but it's end of the night, lock-in at the bar, let's get the nice whiskey out, intimate. "gorgeous country folk" The Guardian

> Fleecey Folk: Talisk - Tue 28 Nov, 8pm, £12 A captivating, energetic and dynamic sound. "Setting scary standards" Simon Mayo, BBC Radio 2

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#### Hannah James + Grace Petrie The Cube, Malvern | 1st Oct

What do you get when you cross a clog dancing, yodelling folkie and a biting, political singer-songwriter? One of the live musical highlights of the year, obviously.

Hannah James is fast becoming something of a renowned folk musician She offers numerous collaborations from Kerfuffle to Ladv Maisery and guest appearances with everyone from The Demon Barbers to The Levellers and Bella Hardy. She has graced the stage with her accordion across the globe. Then, there's her own unique 'Jigdoll' project to consider. This inspired solo show incorporates the aforementioned accordion with Hannah's, gorgeous at times. ethereal vocals and a tapped-out clog dancing rhythm, which, quite frankly, has to be seen to be believed.

**Grace Petrie** on the other hand, is an acoustic guitar wielding, political and social commentator. With her sharp pen and a barbed

wit, she is a performer not afraid to challenge perceptions or proclaim her lefty persuasion in front of festival audiences far and wide. She boasts a series of acclaimed albums and performances with fellow left wing enthusiast, comedian Josie Long.

On paper these performers are from different sides of the folk fence. However, together on offering each other stage, musical accompaniment, harmonies and support, James and Petrie deliver a spellbinding, thought-provoking evening's entertainment. Opening with Uriah S Smart's broadside ballad 'A Poor Man's Lamentation' (a track that Hannah performed on the highly recommended 'Songs of Separation' compilation) Grace strums and offers harmonies, whilst Hannah's lead floats beautifully. From such an impressive opening, James follows with the hypnotic instrumental Tuulikki's Tune before Petrie takes the spotlight with a somewhat poignant, almost punk inspired, 'Making America Hate Again.'



As the gig proceeds the duo continue to dazzle. Hannah offers a couple of verses of another traditional broadside in the form of 'An English Refugee' before she segues into her own Treasures. Grace pledges her allegiance to left wing writer Owen Jones in her song 'Pride.' Jones, stormed off a Sky News discussion on the shooting at the Pulse nightclub, in Orlando, when the interviewer

refused to name the shooting as an attack on the LGBT community. This is followed by an impassioned plea to share the wealth on the caustic 'God Save The Hungry.'

The set pushes on and sees Hannah deliver '*The Carpenter*' from the '*Jigdoll*' project. This track showcases her stunning voice. The song opens with a lone metronome accompaniment to her before she dons her accordion once more. Hannah also performs a couple of yodelling pieces, highlighting her incredible range. She then changes into a pair of clogs, lighting up the floor with a dazzling display of tap.

Not to be outdone Petrie delivers the infectious fun of '*Ivy*,' a tale of harking back to Glastonbury (2014) as she rushes back to the birth of her niece, bursting with pride. However, equally grateful that she received the call during Kasabian ('who the fuck

wants to see Kasabian anyway?') and not Dolly Parton. Next, the duo deliver odes to impostor syndrome (Petrie on 'Nobody Knows



I'm A Fraud') and nature ('Woodman Spare That Tree/Copsing' by James) before bringing the curtain down on an invigorating night with a rousing sing-a-long of 'Sing John Ball' and a final encore of 'If There's A Fire In My Heart.'

Folk music has many different forms and yes **Grace Petrie** and **Hannah James** may come from different corners of genre, but when they meet in the middle (or is that the left?) they deliver one of the performances of the year, whether together or apart, I highly recommend you catch the young guns of folk next time they head our way.

Will Munn

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For further info contact: Mark 07583 410254

#### **Review Daniel Kemish/Yasmin Taylor** The Marrs Bar, Worcester | 5th Oct

A good number of month's back, British born/Portugal based singer - songwriter **Daniel Kemish** rolled into town on the back of his debut album *Fools And Money*. With a full band in tow, he dazzled the Marrs Bar with a wondrous set of rootsy, hook-laden Americana. Since then, Daniel has continued to tour the globe, only stopping for an isolated cabin retreat where he started laying the foundations for his second album before returning to the road (this time as an unaccompanied travelling troubadour). Here, he road tested some of the new material as well as performing all the first album favourites (at a selection of handpicked venues from his previous tour).

Prior to the headline slot of Kemish, the candlelit venue was treated to a set by local newcomer (or at least to these ears) Yasmin Taylor, a young singer-songwriter showcasing her wares along with a few choice covers from the likes of Sam Smith and Ariana Grande The likes of her own Revolution and Break Your Fall showed promise and Yasmin's confidence seemed to grow as she progressed through her set



culminating in a lovely rendition of *Issues* by Julia Micheals (that had me scampering to hear the original). For now, Yasmin needs to continue to gain the experience of performing under her belt and perhaps use her lower range a little more to add variety to her sound but Taylor is certainly worth keeping an eye on in the future.

**Daniel Kemish** took to the stage armed with an array of guitars, a kick drum and a trusty harmonica and proceeded to entrance the small congregation from the off. With crystal sound (courtesy of James Willis), Daniel's weathered yet soulful croon soared from the speakers as *Wandering Man* opened, making for a lengthy yet enthralling set. Rather than relying on a band to

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

embellish the sound, the stripped back arrangements not only showcased the sharpened penmanship of Kemish but also his impressive vocal range whilst the clever use of kick accompaniment still gave each song the necessary drive.

During Daniel's set he performed the majority of the aforementioned



debut with a few new songs and a handful of choice covers scattered in the mix. Of the new material the likes of the hookladen folky shuffle of *Working On The Line* should resonate with anyone stuck in a dead end nine to five whilst *Why We Gotta Fight* (it's current guise but could change names) and *Local Town* were welcomed like lost friends by the attentive audience. A call from the back saw Kemish deliver a mesmeric *Troubled Girl* from his debut followed by impassioned cover of Springsteen's I'm On Fire before an equally impressive run through his own *A Thousand Miles Of Rail*.

Much to the delight of the assembled, Kemish was in full flow, seemingly wanting to leave it all on the stage as he continued to play through his songbook, pausing for an inspired take on Cash's *Man In Black* complete with a suitably worn lead vocal. He then returned to his own *Travelling Man* and further debut album highlight *The Name Of The Game* before finally bringing an epic set to a close with a couple new songs, *Rodeo* and the aforementioned *Local Town*. He cut loose on the electric for a spirited dash through **Freight Train** (Fred Eaglesmith), drawing the evening to a sensational end with one final flurry.

Having seen Kemish with a full band and now solo, the man never seems to fail to impress. His voice draws you in, holding you captive, as his rootsy originals slowly reveal their hooks, leaving his audience smitten. With a brilliant debut under his belt and a second album seemingly well on its way, I highly recommend you help swell the numbers next time Daniel roles into town.

Will Munn

#### Back to the Planet Dissident Noize Factory The Cracked Actors The Wagon & Horses, Digbeth | Friday 13th Oct

I love Digbeth. The industrial heartland of Brum always gives me an oo. Yet it wasn't tea on my mind when crossing the threshold of the **Wagon & Horses**. The bar is old school blue-nose and there was a few who hadn't made the journey towards Small Heath watching the game on the big screen.

Out the back though is a different world - a **Barnbopper**s world transporting the festie vibe into an urban courtyard. British Rail (showing my age) and shanks' pony got me there just in time for **the Cracked Actors** and it was great to see **Fil Planet** bopping along to brum-country's finest. They played Tea too. Oo. **Dissident Noize Factory** fiddled a more folky take on the barn before headliners **Back to the Planet**.

They've only written four songs in 25 years but BTTP's new songs from the EP, *Kick Out*, stand out so it's great to hear they are planning to lock themselves in a soundproof room for a bit and



either kill and eat each other, or make some songs happen. Tonight they are on blistering form with 13 'oldies' jostling for position with Kick Out on a lucky Friday the 13th in Britain's second city. Blues won too.



#### Hereford Blues Festival The Left Bank | November 18th

Following on from last year's success, **The Hereford Blues Festival** returns to **Left Bank** in the city with doors opening at 1.00pm and music through until 11.00pm. There are five bands lined up plus a session with **Troy Redfern**, renowned for his slide attack and gritty vocals, alongside his daughter Violet on percussion.



The bands included are: a revamped rock edged blues band **Red Butler** who have featured in the annual **British Blues Awards** and continue with regular appearances as festival favourites, both here and in Europe.



The Rainbreakers, another festival favourite, who continue to gain ground in the blues world, though this Shrewsbury band would say their music is a fusion of garage rock, soul and R&B. However you read it, they are unmissable.



**The Della Grants**, a fresh, raw edged blues rock band from Leicester, will be playing infectious music that demands attention. Once bitten, you will come back for more.

One band I have yet to see, **The Kyla Brox Band** has a reputation that goes before them. Kayla puts the soul into blues as a passionate, powerful diva and a vocally stunning performer.



Suffice to say, if you like a big measure of rock in your blues, **Tommy Allen and Trafficker** are made to measure - you should have witnessed the thousands who crammed into the field stage at this summer's Upton festival. Bags of soaring guitar, funky bass and thumping rhythm are guaranteed to get even the most leaden feet moving.



**Hereford Blues Festival** has an enviable line up for 2017. Tickets are available online at www.herefordbluesfestival.co.uk at an advance price of £15 or £20 on the day. But be warned, tickets sold very quickly last year so don't leave it until the last minute. Also available at music stores throughout Hereford or you can contact **Dave Butler** on 01873 860679



#### Preview Heart Of Anarchy Punk Festival 2017 The Grapes, Hereford | 18th Nov

17th November 2017 will mark ten years since **Raphael La Roche** lost his brother **André** to an undetected artery condition which resulted in his heart failing.

"My brother André and I shared a passion for punk music. In fact he introduced me to it all those years ago, and many a raucous night was had at various gigs up and down the country celebrating our love of it.

He was my big brother- my idol from childhood- and we were as close as two brothers could be. Best friends. Until his sudden and unexpected death in November 2007 from undiagnosed Atherrosclerosis – a condition of the heart which causes the arteries to harden and cease to function."

Back in the good old days of the 1980s André took his little brother Raph out for the day to see a band. That band was The Damned and little Raph came back with one Dr Marten and a passion for punk, something he has always been truly grateful to his big brother for ever since.

Since losing him Raphael and his family have tried to keep André's fun loving spirit alive; which is why back in 2015 they threw a punk party to try and raise a few pounds to put in the British Heart Foundation pot in his memory. They had 3 local bands volunteer to play, a box full of records and a bar full of cans. Local music lovers turned up in their droves and helped them to raise over £500 for the charity. The second event, held at The Booth Hall in November 2016, saw eight bands volunteer to play, a whole pub donated to play in for the day and a lot more music lovers. 2016's event made around £1500 for the British Heart Foundation.

"With 2017 marking the 10th anniversary of André's death we wanted to pull out all the stops and really go for it. The Grapes in Hereford have kindly allowed us to take over the pub on November 18th from midday and arranged a hearty donation from a national brewery to boot. Our printing has all been sponsored by the lovely guys at Barrington Print and this year we have TEN bands who have stepped forward to offer their time and talents for free to raise awareness of heart disease and funds for research"

This year's event will see local acts **The Youth Within, Alvin** and the Angry Barrels, Terminal Rage (for whom Raphael plays bass guitar) and **Purple Flavoured Death** return for another year alongside new folk-punk additions **Freeborn Rising**. The event also welcomes back **Rebellion Punk Festival** regulars On Trial UK for the second year as well as touring bands **The Blissetts**, **Prisoners of War, BLEED** and international punk rockers **Knock Off**. The acts have all donated a track for a special album, which will launch on the night, to be sold for the cause.

Food and drink will be available to purchase at the venue at a discounted price. A silent auction will take place throughout the evening for prizes donated by local businesses, artists, musicians and crafters offering merchandise, festival tickets, artwork and memorabilia. 100% of money raised from this will go directly to BHF. All artists and organisers are giving their time for free to stage this event, allowing 100% of the money raised to go directly to the British Heart Foundation.

Donations for this are still being received and welcomed, please get in touch via the Facebook page @Heartofanarchypunkfest to pledge an auction lot.

Donate via JustGiving: justgiving.com/fundraising/HOA2017

Heart of Anarchy will take place at The Grapes Hereford on November 18th, starting midday. Entry fee will be £5 and 100% of the money will go directly to British Heart Foundation.

Emily Branson - Mytacismmusic.com


# **John Cooper Clarke** Malvern Cube | October 27th.

What a cracking venue **Malvern Cube** is! It's actually a community centre but turns its hand to staging gigs impressively well. A great buzz, a vinyl DJ and even 'live wallpaper' with film projected onto the bar-room wall. A capacity crowd packed the place to see '**The Bard of Salford**' himself, **Dr. John Cooper Clarke**. The last time I saw JCC perform was over 30 years ago and have to say that none of his machine gun rapidity has deserted him or indeed any of his fans. An older audience nowadays as, like me, they have continued to follow this literary genius and enjoy the incredible wit and verbosity of the man. Supported by the impressive **Luke Wright** and **Toria Garbutt**, John's anecdotes and humourous tales were punctuated by some of the classic performance poetry such as '*Evidently Chickentown*', '*Beasley Street*' and '*I Want To Be Yours*'.

Afterwards, before being was whisked off in a car, I managed to grab a few words from John for Slap Magazine and he asked if he could get a copy sent to his office. I was taken with just what a polite and caring gentleman he is. A copy will definitely be in the post!

There is still time to go and catch him for yourself as his tour continues through November with more dates to follow in February 2018 but, if you are in this area, I would urge you keep your eye on what **The Cube** has to offer too. Hopefully, he will return at some point but for now....Enter the dragon, exit **Johnny Clarke!** 

Pablo Raybould

# Arts, Exhibitions & Cinema

Until 28th The Fence and the Shadow, MAC, Birminghm Until 7th Jan 2018 Knights of the Raj Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery 1st Anjali Dance Company presents Genius, Artrix Bromsgrove

1st until 10th Dec Penny Turner: The Art of Poetry, Artrix Bromsgrove

1st (until 3rd Jan) Herefordshire Arts & Crafts Society present Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed.

2nd UNCORKED! Poetry/Spoken Word Evening - Melanie Branton, Scott Cowley, Raja Khan, Armitage Spode - Bottles, Worcester

3rd The Head Wrap Diaries, The Market Theatre, Ledbury

3rd 'Gorilla' Worcester Arts Workshop

3rd Contemporary Arts Fair, Stratford Town Hall

4th (until 6th Jan 2018) Warhol to Walker: American prints from pop art to today. Worcester Museum and Art Gallery

5th Clik Clik presents The Paul Pry Psycho Sideshow, The Paul Pry Worcester

8th Permission to speak, ClapTrap the Venue, Storubridge

9th Jump Start (part of Feast) Malvern Cube

9th-12th FEAST theatre festival Malvern Cube

11th Brother Wolf Theatre Company Presents

A Lesson From Auschwitz , The Courtyard Hereford

**11th (until 22nd July) A Window into the Wilson,** The Wilson Gallery, Cheltenham

11th (until 17th Dec), Breaking New Ground, The Wilson Gallery, Cheltenham

13th Licensed To Rhyme, Artrix Bromsgrove

14th Drink and Doodle, The Paul Pry, Worcester

14th Bite Sized Talk Introduction to Warhol to Walker exhibition by curator Emalee Beddoes-Davis. Worcester Museum & Art Gallery 1pm

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MAGAZINE

15th Garage Lecture Series, The Hive, Worcester

16th The Work (film) Malvern Cube

17th-20th 'Etsy' Pop Up Shop, Left Bank Village, Bridge St, Hereford

18 – 22nd Loving Vincent (12a) The Courtyard Hereford

18th Social Sew and Clothes Swap, The Pump House Environmental Centre, Worcester

18th The Great Winter Fairy Hunt, Hillfield Gardens Gloucester

19th Welcome to the '60s – Illumination Theatre, Artrix Bromsgrove

20th-29th French Film Festival The Courtyard Hereford

21st Exhibitions on screen present David Hockney The Courtyard Hereford 7.45pm

22nd Garage Lecture Series, The Hive, Worcester

23rd Fritz Lang's Metropolis: 90th Anniversary, Artrix Bromsgrove 25th Moseley Light Festival, Birmingham

28th Dicken's A Christmas Carol, Worcester Cathedral

30th (until Dec 3rd) Worcester Victorian Christmas Fair

# For an Arts listings please email Kate arts@slapmag.co.uk



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#### Wednesday 01 November 2017

Rick Wakeman – Piano Portraits Town Hall, Cheltenham Rodney Branigan Cafe Rene, Gloucester **Chewie** The Foresters, Malvern

# Thursday 02 November 2017

Motorhead - Ace Of Spades River Rooms, Stourbridge Lucas D And The Groove Ghetto The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Sunjay Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge Ukulele Orchestra Of Great Britain Town Hall, Cheltenham

Simon Wallace The Arches, Bewdley Fcs: The Toasters, The Stiff Joints, Population 7 The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Folk in The Foyer: Tir Na Nog Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham Dominic Kirwan in Concert With Lisa Stanley Artrix Arts Centre, Bromsgrove

Kossoff - The Band Plays On The Iron Road, Evesham

The Bohemians Queen Tribute The Broadway, Peterborough

Pierre Kwenders The Marshall Rooms, Stroud

Ben Harrison The Tank, Gloucester Velvet & Stone The Prince Albert, Stroud

Howard James Kenny The Plough, Worcester

Noble Jacks, Huw Eddy & The Carnival, Harry Daniels Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Howlin' Matt The Prince Of Wales, Ledbur

Voodoo Stone Worley's At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn Simon Mcbride Band Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

### Friday 03 November 2017

Chris Pottle The Three Horseshoes, Malvern Sam Gwinnell The Swan With Two Nicks, Worcester Chloe Mogg And Ashley Field The Talbot, Bewdley Arcadia Roots, The Drakelow May St George's Hall, Bewdley Fred Zeppelin River Rooms, Stourbridge Sarah Martyn The Hop Pole, Bewdley The Institutions Drummonds, Worcester Dr. Cornelius The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove Louis Bennett The Red Lion, Stourbridge Neil Ivison The Red Lion, Evesham The Follicles The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn Hired Guns Cafe Rene, Gloucester Jibbafish Live & The Cotty The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham Junction 7 The Millers Arms, Pershore Arms Money For Nothing Bacon Theatre, Cheltenham The Underdogs The Queens Head, Wolverley Miss Pearl And The Rough Diamonds The Bluebell, Rhyll Woo Town Hillbillies Iron Road, Evesham The Corduroy Kings Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

**38 SLAP NOVEMBER** 

# Come Together The Maltster, Worcester

Hobogoose Boars Head, Kidderminster Lounge Toad Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern Ghost Variations: The Strangest Detective Story in Music Artrix Arts Centre, Bromsgrove Dodgy - Acoustic, Woo Town Hillbillies The Iron Road, Evesham

The Furtives The Sebright Arms, Worcester

Gary Hall Reet Petite, Leominster

Bellow Presents: Syd Arthur & Cousin Kula The Marshall Rooms, Stroud Secret Affair Guildhall, Gloucester

Moscow Drug Club Subscription Rooms, Stroud Keith James: Duende! The Poetry Of Federico Garcia Lorca Subscription Rooms, Stroud

The Uncharted, Roads To Nowhere The Lower George, Gloucester

Stolen Chocolates Brewhouse And Kitchen, Gloucester

Narco Lounge Combo Crown & Sceptre, Stroud The Strays Bengeworth Club, Evesham

Come Up And See Me Angel Hotel, Pershore

Sultana Brothers Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

The Daggers Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

The Travelling Band, Rook & The Ravens, The Rumble, Leah Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Sunjay St Georges Hall, Bewdley Four Fighters - Foo Fighters Tribute Town Hall, Kidderminster

Neen Sollars Live & Let Live Inn, Kidderminster

Tankus The Henge, The Institutes

The Nitecrawlers Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye

2 Tone Revue The Prince Of Wales, Worcester Forever Sabbath, The Pale Kings The Wharf, Stourport

Come Together The Maltster, Worcester

The Fireballs Uk Worley's At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn Jibbafish The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Cellissimo Elmslie House, Malvern Rob Heron And The Tea Pad Orchestra The Prince Albert, Stroud

Come Up And See Angel Hotel, Pershore Colin Stone Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

The Strays The Bengeworth Club, Evesham Paul Chowdhry: Live Innit Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

# Saturday 04 November 2017

Jon Townley HR's Sports Bar, Bewdley

Steve Ajao And The Blues Giants Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge Witcher The Trumpet, Evesham Two Push Charlie The Grapes, Hereford

Michael James Button Oak Inn, Bewdley Definitely Mightbe, Adored River Rooms, Stourbridge Leanne & King Rich Old Waggon & Horses, Bewdley 5:15 The Retreat, Ledbury Rattlesnake Jake The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove The Pete Harrington Experience The Queensway Bar, Stourbridge Elvis Tribute Karl Memphis Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn Common People Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove The Summer Of Love The Roses, Tewkesbury

Marty Wilde'S 60Th Anniversary Town Hall, Cheltenham

Chimps The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham Faure Requiem, Poulenc Gloria Tewkesbury Abbey, Tewkesbury

The Memphis Sundogs Harry Cook Free House, Cheltenham

Midnight Sun The Wheelhouse, Upton-Upon-Severn The Youth Within, Billy Whizz, Pablo Alto, Offal Club The British Legion, Ledbury

Without Flight The Express Inn, Malvern

Vince The Camp Inn, Worcester The Julie July Band - Concert

The Julie July Band - Concert For Peace West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

The Face Stealers The Valkyrie Cafe Bar, Evesham

Chicago Bytes Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Jamie Jones The Swan, Barbourne, Worcester Stroud Record And CD Fair, Open 10:00-16:00 Imperial Hotel Station Road, Stroud

The Midnight Idols The Cross Reys, Malvern

Groovyhead The Chestnut, Worcester Chris & Jamie Jones Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Van Rockman The Iron Road, Evesham

Carpenters Gold Artrix Arts Centre, Bromsgrove Madi Stimpson Trio Stroud Brewery, Stroud

Big Fat Shorty The Swan, Evesham

Miss Pearl And The Rough Diamonds The Bluebell Inn, Ryall, Upton-Upon-Severn

Dusk Brothers Cross Keys Inn, Gloucester Weisenheimer/Huckworm Reet Petite, Leominster

Ceilidh: Captain Swing Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Democratus&Control, The Storm The Lower George, Gloucester

Bartoune The Prince Albert, Stroud

The Funky Mojos Baker Street, Gloucester

Rubble Gordon Bennetts, Hereford The Uproars, The Strays The Night Owl, Birmingham

The Night Owl, Birmingham Julie July Band

Julie July Band West Malvern Social Club, Malvern Midlife Kicks 9Pm The Westcroft, Droitwich

Gene Genie & The Lemon Squeezers The Station Inn, Kidderminster

Spoilers, The Kimberly Steaks: Healer Of Bastards, The Atoms, Sweet Diego Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

The Secret Cabaret Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye

Rule No. 1 Worley's At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn Faux Fighters The Marrs Bar, Worcester Dogs Of Santorini The Foresters, Malvern Aardvark Stew Bridge Inn, Worcester Stroud Fringe Party With... Solomento And More The Marshall Rooms, Stroud Oujamaflip Number 8, Pershore The Top Ten Beatles Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

### Sunday 05 November 2017

Christian Cox Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Adam Higgins The Red Lion, Evesham Institutions The Waharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Matt Sayers The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn A Celebration Of John Denver The Roses, Tewkesbury

Creed'S Cross: The Celtic Journey Town Hall, Cheltenham

The Charlton Blues Kings The Charlton Kings Club, Cheltenham

Air Of The Dog Folk Trio (4pm) The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Leominster Record And Cd Fair, Open 10:00-16:00, Admission £1:00, Buy, Sell And Exchange Records And Cd's, Rockawayrecordfairs.Tumblr.Com Talbot Hotel West Street, Leominster

Nicole Sherewood (5pm) The Impetrial, Worcester

Bury Tomorrow, Loathe The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Jenny Hallam (5:30pm) The Chestnut, Worcester

Nicole Sherwood (5pPm) The Imperial Tavern, Worcester

Raymond Froggatt Artrix Arts Centre, Bromsgrove

Idlewar (U.S.A) + Florence Black, Brood Mother The Iron Road, Evesham

Terry Walls Piano & Vocals 8Pm Free Entry Bottles Wine Bar & Merchants, Worcester

Adrian Marx - The 80S Experience 5Pm The Westcroft, Droitwich

Luke Doherty Band (4pm) The Prince Of Wales, Ledbur

Clik Clik Presents The Paul Pry Psycho Sideshow With The Pink Diamond Revue The Paul Pry, Worcester

#### Monday 06 November 2017

Uzzard, Weak13 & Gunners Law Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

# Tuesday 07 November 2017

Gilmore & Roberts The Roses, Tewkesbury Future Kings, Hollow Dreams, Gomme, Motus Illusion Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

An Evening With Southern Rock Royalty - Jay Johnson Acoustic The Iron Road, Evesham

Damon T The Tank, Gloucester

Margo Cilker, John Pout The Prince Albert, Stroud

Justin Sullivan (New Model Army) Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

#### Wednesday 08 November 2017

Ella Fitzgerald At 100 With Martin Taylor & Alison Burns Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham Interested Bex Jazz Trio Theoc House, Tewkesbury Jim Blair Cafe Rene, Gloucester Paul Johnson, Russ Poole, Dot3 The Bayshill, Cheltenham Big Gilson (Brazil) Feat Del Bromham The Iron Road, Evesham

Pete Greenwood De Koffie Pot, Hereford

# Garrington T Jones The Green Dragon, Malvern The Dreamboys The Palace Theatre, Redditch

# **Thursday 09 November 2017**

Gigspanner Huntingdon Hall, Worcester The Magic Of Motown The Palace Theatre, Redditch

Dave Onions Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge The Melvin Hancox Band The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

The Elo Experience The Roses, Tewkesbury Chew (Usa), Stonecutter, Mountain Passes Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Uncover: The Rpms, Ivory Wave, Thousand Mountain, Polly Edwards + Kringo Blue And The Lightweights The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Andy Lindsay & Debbie Parry Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Ukulele Orchestra Of Great Britain Regal Cinema, Evesham

Hawklords The Iron Road, Evesham From The Jam With Bruce Foxton Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Rob Mcewan The Tank, Gloucester

Nine Years Difference Brewhouse And Kitchen, Gloucester Lycio, Navajo Ace & Guests 8Pm Free Entry Bottles Wine Bar & Merchants, Worcester

Sweet Fanny Adams Worley's At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Leonie Evans The Prince Albert, Stroud Fridav 10 November 2017

# Neil Ivison The Swan With Two Nicks, Worcester Brynley Thomas The Red Lion, Evesham The Geckos The Talbot, Bewdley Sari Schorr St George's Hall, Bewdley

Mayfli The Hop Pole, Bewdley A Tribute To Jagged Little Pill River Rooms, Stourbridge

Essential 80'S Drummonds, Worcester The Chris Bowden Quartet The Bonded Warehouse, Stourbridge

Vehicle The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

The Leylines, Dave Malone The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Secret Cabaret The Waharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Just Keith Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn 2Tone Revue Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Nightshift The Blue Bell, Ryall The Hawthornes Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Pretty Addicted, Novacrow, Hollow Dreams The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham Mark Morriss, The Humdrum Express Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge Monkey Jam Harry Cook Free House, Cheltenham

Lenny James And The Gator Squad The Queens Head, Wolverley

The Delray Rockets The Crew, Nuneaton Terry Walls The Maltster, Worcester

Hennesea Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

**40 SLAP NOVEMBER** 

The Elo Experience: Back Into The Blue Tour Artrix Arts Centre, Bromsgrove Crow Black Chicken The Iron Road, Evesham Ferocious Dog, Neck & Borrowed Time The Marshall Rooms, Stroud

Mark Walby Brewhouse And Kitchen, Gloucester

Med's Marvellous Music Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Linerunners Richmond Club, Hereford Anticlone The Pig & Drum, Worcester

Watercolours, Floorboards, Hot Beige, Harry Daniels Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham Linerunners De Koffie Pot, Hereford

Sam Cooper, Jess Silk And Kitchen Collective Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

The Barrelhouse Blues Band Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye

Showaddywaddy Forum Theatre, Malvern Big Jim & The Black Cat Bones Worley's At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Pretty Addicted, Novacrow, Hollow Dreams The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Toby Bar 57, Pershore

# Saturday 11 November 2017

Logicaltramp Huntingdon Hall, Worcester Jon Townley HR's Sports Bar, Bewdley Locked & Loaded The Barn Venue, Bewdley Maz Mitrenko Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

The Decades Band River Rooms, Stourbridge

Krazy Legs The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Journeyman....To Celebrate Sue's Birthday! The Green Dragon, Malvern Alexander Philips Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

Worcester Guitar Orchestra, Worcester Youth Guitar Orchestra, Worcester Guitar Quartet, St. George's Church, Barbourne, Worcester

Tenors Unlimited Www.Tenorsunlimited.Com Artrix Arts Centre, Bromsgrove

And Finally... Phil Collins The Roses, Tewkesbury

The Zeppelin 3 The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham Truck Stop Trixies, Connie Gordon St Peter's Church, Malvern

Eva Jacobs The Fire Station, Cheltenham

Gun Runner The Wheelhouse, Upton-Upon-Severn

The Charlton Blues Kings Harry Cook Free House, Cheltenham The Executive's The Express Inn, Malvern

Forever Sabbath Services Club, Cheltenham

That Friday Feeling The Cricketers, Worcester

Miss Pearl And The Rough Diamonds The Unicorn, Malvern

Worcester Acoustic Music Sessions Present:, Viv Bell & Huw Knight, Paul Jeffery, Air Of The Dog, Barry Walmsley St Swithun's Institute Hall, Worcester Monkey Ride Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Glow Worms Stoke Orchard Community Centre, Stoke Orchard

Mel And Him The Swan, Barbourne, Worcester Macka B, Rooted 'N' Booted, Royal Roots, Tallawah Sound, General Theory Of Dub Zephyr Lounge, Leamington Spa The Delray Rockets The Yew Tree, Cannock Kemestree Set Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove 'Kinfest, Black Cat Bone The Marrs Bar, Worcester The Usual Suspects

The Usual Suspects The Cross Keys, Malvern Big Fat Shorty

Big Fat Shorty The Chestnut, Worcester Rick Wakeman: Piano Portraits Regal Cinema, Evesham Tenors Unlimited – Venice To Vegas Artrix Arts Centre, Bromsgrove

Danadra Stroud Brewery, Stroud

The New Roses (Ger) + New Generation Superstars, Blind River The Iron Road, Evesham

O.C.D. The Swan, Evesham Ruzz Guitar's Blues Revue Cross Keys Inn, Gloucester

Last Train To Mockersville The Marshall Rooms, Stroud

Sham 69 Guildhall, Gloucester

Four Harmonies Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Chris Quinn Subscription Rooms, Stroud William The Conqueror The Prince Albert, Stroud

Offthegrid Baker Street, Gloucester

Trevor 'Babajack' Steger Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle Call Of The Kraken Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

The Uplifter Stroud Valleys Artspace, Stroud

Charity Abba Tribute Night De Koffie Pot, Hereford

Gordon Dean 9pm The Westcroft, Droitwich

Ashesfest Vi: Metaprism, Outright Resitance, Ascaris, Kinasis, Mordrake, We Come From Ashes Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Rattlesnake Jake The Barn Venue, Bewdley

Vehicle White Hart, Redditch Worcestershire Saxophone Quartet Elmslie House, Malvern

Suzi & The Backbeats Worley's At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn Slightly Ocd Lower Lode Inn, Tewkesbury

Hannah & Brian Reet Petite, Leominster

# Sunday 12 November 2017

The Maggini Quartet Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Kevin Spittle The Red Lion, Evesham Mother Popcorn Acoustic The Waharf, Stourport-On-Severn Gloucestershire Young Musician Concerto Concert Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham Les McKenyun & The Pay City Pollore

Les Mckeown & The Bay City Rollers The Courtyard, Hereford Eva Jacobs Whittle Taps, Cheltenham

Neil Ivison (5pm) The Impetrial, Worcester Will Killeen (5:30pm)

Will Killeen (5:30pm) The Chestnut, Worcester Beyond Faith: The George Mic

Beyond Faith: The George Michael Tribute Regal Cinema, Evesham Hitz From The Blitz Artrix Arts Centre, Bromsgrove

His Way: The Story Of Frank Sinatra Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Thom Colne, Acoustic Music 8pm Free Entry Bottles Wine Bar & Merchants, Worcester Tyler & Vo Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle Amos Richmond Club, Hereford Tim Lovett 5pm The Westcroft, Droitwich Trevor Burton Band (4pm) The Prince Of Wales, Ledbur

Chewie Cap n Gown, Worcester Sam Robinson Acoustic Worley's At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn Jon Eselle Albion House Club, Cheltenham

# Monday 13 November 2017

Jon Boden, Afterglow Number 8, Pershore

# Tuesday 14 November 2017

Mugenkyo Taiko Drummers The Roses, Tewkesbury Future Kings The Tank, Gloucester Jon Boden Assembly Rooms, Ludlow Follies Assembly Rooms, Ludlow

# Wednesday 15 November 2017

Gaz Brookfield Cafe Rene, Gloucester The Black Aces (Aus) The Iron Road, Evesham Lady Maisery

Lady Maisery Artrix Arts Centre, Bromsgrove Martha Reeves & The Vandellas Guildhall, Gloucester

Guildhall, Gloucester Ruben Seabright The Green Dragon, Malvern Jazz Night With Mark Latimer & Ruth Bowen Reet Petite, Leominster

# Thursday 16 November 2017

Lenny James And The Gator Squad The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove Sunjay Pelsall Cricket And Sports Club, Walsall John Tams And Barry Coope The Courtyard, Hereford

Burnt Out Wreck + Fifteen English Pounds The Iron Road, Evesham

Stuart Elwin The Tank, Gloucester

Surprise Attacks Presents:, Proto Idiot, Slumb Party, Elephant Peel, As Mamas Heroes, Worcester

Kit Hawes And Aaron Catlow The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Prone To Madness The Old Bank, Stourbridge Cellar Door Moon Crow

Cellar Door Moon Crow The Pig & Drum, Worcester Islands in The Stream – The Music Of Dolly Parton & Kenny Rogers Forum Theatre, Malvern Eva Plays Dead, Black Orchid Empire, Eden in Progress Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham Eastwood Worley's At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn Cirrhi The Prince Albert, Stroud

# Friday 17 November 2017

Barry Steel As Roy Orbison The Palace Theatre, Redditch Bootleg Blondie Huntingdon Hall, Worcester From Carbon And The Summertides The Queens Head, Redditch

Tom Davies The Swan With Two Nicks, Worcester Melvin Hancox One Man Show The Red Lion, Evesham Gig Eor Gambia

**Gig For Gambia** Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Mister Wolf The Lamplighter, Rother Street, Stratford Upon Avon 7Side South The Hop Pole, Bewdley Dreams Of Fleetwood Mac River Rooms, Stourbridge Something By Friday Drummonds, Worcester The Usual Suspects The Maverick, Stourbridge Vaseline The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove Mother Popcorn The Waharf, Stourport-On-Severn The Ferrets The Blue Bell, Ryall Bowie Experience Town Hall, Cheltenham Vampires Rock: Ghost Train The Roses, Tewkesbury Hambling & Lloyd The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham Gravy Train The Millers Arms, Pershore Arms Kathleen Turner Overdrive The Pheasant, Toddington Alto-Holic The Courtyard, Hereford Worry Dolls + Support Malvern Cube, Malvern Tom Forbes Monty's Bar And Brasserie, Cheltenham Monkey Jam Harry Cook Free House, Cheltenham Trever Burton The Queens Head, Wolverley Blues At BTP Boston Tea Party, Cheltenham Woo Town Hillbillies Sociable Beer Company, Worcester Massive Head Trauma, Grizzleroot The Marrs Bar, Worcester The Delray Rockets Barbourne Ex Servicemens Club, Worcester. Jay And Eli The Maltster, Worcester Jay & Eli The Maltster, Worcester The Ray Mytton Band Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern Ensemble Denote: Bromsgrove Concerts Artrix Arts Centre, Bromsgrove The Wilde + Bigg The Iron Road, Evesham Gravaly Hill The Sebright Arms, Worcester Martha Tilston Stroud Valleys Artspace, Stroud Smerins Anti Social Club The Marshall Rooms, Stroud Lucy Rose Guildhall, Gloucester Johnny Kowalski And The Sexy Weirdos Cafe Rene, Gloucester The Final Clause Of Tacitus The Lower George, Gloucester The Revolutionaires, Support Josie And The Outlaw Subscription Rooms, Stroud Nine Years Difference Brewhouse And Kitchen, Gloucester Dusk Brothers The Golden Fleece, Stroud Will Killeen De Koffie Pot, Hereford 3 Daft Monkeys, Arcadia Roots West Malvern Social Club, Malvern Echoic, Catch Fire, Home Wrecked, Fawner, Lightblue Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham The Baby Factory Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge Rosie Hood Sitting Room, Ludlow Population:7, Liberty Artillery The Old Pheasant, Worcester

Fastlove: A Tribute To George Michael Forum Theatre, Malvern Vehicle Worley's At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn Professor No Hair And The Wig Lifters The Prince Albert, Stroud

#### Saturday 18 November 2017

Nathan Carter And His Band The Palace Theatre, Redditch

Rod Stewart Tribute By Gary Pease The Oast House, Redditch The Barron Knights Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Arcadia Roots Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Two Push Charlie The Volunteer, Hereford

Thunder Daze The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove The Debbie Parry Band [High Heels & Sneekers] The Green Dragon, Malvern

Flatworld, Connie Gordon West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Cheshire Brooks The Pheasant, Toddington

Novatines, Delicate Holly, Midnight in England, Sapphire Blue Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

4 The Record The Wheelhouse, Upton-Upon-Severn Miss Pearl And The Rough Diamonds The Express Inn, Malvern

Woo Town Hillbillies The Forresters, Malvern

Jibbafish Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury 3 Pears Charity Night With Dj Dean The Swan, Barbourne, Worcester

The Famous Red Shoes Folk Band The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Heart Of Anarchy Punk Fest 2017 Presents: Knock Off, On Trial Uk, Terminal Rage, The Blissetts Bleed-Punk Degenerates The Youth Within, Purple Flavoured Death, Prisoners Of War, Alvin And The Angry Barrels, Freeborn Rising The Grapes, Hereford

Whatever Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove Fifty4 The Cross Keys, Malvern

The Whipjacks The Chestnut, Worcester

Red Shoes The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich Dead Dads Club Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Money For Nothing Artrix Arts Centre, Bromsgrove

Scopyons + Disarm Goliath The Iron Road, Evesham

Blind River Scare Stroud Brewery, Stroud

**Skrood** The Swan, Evesham

The After Dark Band The Valkyrie Cafe Bar, Evesham

No Parkin Blues Cross Keys Inn, Gloucester

Torous The Lower George, Gloucester Hereford Blues Festival Left Bank, Hereford

Signing Off Railway Inn, Studley The Outcasts 9Pm The Westcroft, Droitwich

Bon Jovi Tribute Night Talbot Hotel, Leominster

Jack Brett Music Ludlow Brewery, Ludlow Tonto Malembe Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

The Secret Cabaret Inkberrow Village Hall, Worcester Jay & Eli The Swan, Barbourne, Worcester

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#### The Geckos Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye Welcome Back Deleta The Pig & Drum, Worcester

**Oysterband** Forum Theatre, Malvern

Liza Sings Streisand Festival Theatre, Malvern

The Executives Worley's At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

The Final 4 The Unicorn, Malvern Freeborn Rising Reet Petite, Leominster

Oswaldovi The Prince Albert, Stroud Griff Collins Number 8, Pershore

# Sunday 19 November 2017

Ian Luther Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle Guy Challenger

The Red Lion, Evesham Doozer McDooze, Mark & Beanie (Skewwhiff) The Lamb and Flag, Worcester

The Follicles The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn Some Haunted Souls (5pm)

Some Haunted Souls (5pm) The Impetrial, Worcester

Hawklords The Marrs Bar, Worcester Jay & Eli (5:30pm) The Chestnut, Worcester

Fleecey Folk: Jess Morgan The Fleece Inn, Bretforton

The Linzi Martin Trio, Jazz Evening 7:30pm Free Entry Bottles Wine Bar & Merchants, Worcester

Sons Of The Delta (4pm) The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

A Night Of Dirty Dancin Forum Theatre, Malvern Jenny Darren And Muddy Man

Jenny Darren And Muddy Manninen Acoustic Worley's At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn Steve "Big Man" Clayton Alestones, Redditch

# Monday 20 November 2017

FCS: Wonk Unit, Brassick, Aerial Salad The Marrs Bar, Worcester

# **Tuesday 21 November 2017**

Leon Daye The Tank, Gloucester Wednesday 22 November 2017

Eddi Reader - Plus Special Guest Dan Whitehouse Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Steve Clayton Trio Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Brew22 The Somerset Arms, Cheltenham The Graham Bonnet Band + The Brink & Kings Of Broadway The Iron Road, Evesham Tyler Massey The Plough, Worcester Lewis Boulton Trio The Green Dragon, Malvern

# Thursday 23 November 2017

Jess Silk Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

C-Jam The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Alexander O'Neal Town Hall, Cheltenham

A Tribute To Alanis Morissette's Jagged Little Pill, Ellisha Green The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Steve Ferbrache The Tank, Gloucester Jay & Eli Worley's At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

# Friday 24 November 2017

Remi Harris Project - Gypsy Swing, Jazz And Blues Huntingdon Hall, Worcester Terry Walls The Swan With Two Nicks, Worcester Andy Marlow HR's Sports Bar, Bewdley Jo Silver The Red Lion, Evesham Mister Wolf The Plough Inn, Upton Upon Severn Remi Harris Huntington Hall, Worcester Come Up & See Me Drummonds, Worcester Babal The Marrs Bar, Worcester The Core The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove Fred Zepplin The Waharf, Stourport-On-Severn Steve Heathcock Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn Gotta Groove The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn Come Together The Blue Bell, Ryall Roy Orbison & The Travelling Wilburys Tribute Show Town Hall, Cheltenham Gunrunner The Millers Arms, Pershore Arms Welcome Back Delta Cafe Rene, Gloucester The Hush Harry Cook Free House, Cheltenham Vo & Tyler The Wellington, Malvern The Wurzels Malvern Cube, Malvern Roni The Boat House, Upton-Upon-Severn Brew22 The Royal, Cheltenham Camilla Lewington The Retreat Wine Bar, Cheltenham The Future Set (Open Mic Night) Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury Rule No1 The Maltster, Worcester Frigg Colwall Village Hall, Malvern The Hills Angels Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern The Urban Folk Quartet Artrix Arts Centre, Bromsgrove Chop Suey + Machine Head Uk, Down With The Sickness The Iron Road, Evesham Mr Tea And The Minions The Marshall Rooms, Stroud Meal With Poets Matt 'Man' Windle, Steve Soden And Kieran Davis, And Musicians Deborah Rose, Marie Randle And Danielle Cawdell Jinney Ring Craft Centre, Hanbury Feel The Fret West Malvern Social Club, Malvern The Secret Cabaret Gainsborough House Hotel, Kidderminster Synergy The Clive, Ludlow Loose Lips Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye Eastfield, Swaktang, Devils, The Meatbeaters The Haygate, Wellington Vehicle Queens Head, Wolverley Black Heart Angels Hanley Swan British Legion, Malvern Liquor & Poker Band Worley's At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn Louise James Singer Piesse Of Piddle, Pershore Blackballed Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge Duran The Oast House, Redditch **SLAP NOVEMBER** 43

#### Saturday 25 November 2017

King Pleasure & The Biscuit Boys Huntingdon Hall, Worcester Steve Ajoa Blues Giants The Barn Venue, Bewdley The Quik Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge Mister Wolf Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove Tunky Pig The Holly Bush, Stourbridge Gin Annie The Retreat, Ledbury Nightshift The Green Dragon, Malvern Cada The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove The Final 4 The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn The Sarah Meek & Guy Shotton Duo The Globe, Hay On Wye Erica, Verity White, Jacob Coley Croft Farm, Tewkesbury The Songs From Leonard Cohen The Courtyard, Hereford Louise Eaton & The Stealers The Wheelhouse, Upton-Upon-Severn Hybrid The Express Inn, Malvern Chameleon The Stable, Cheltenham The Face Stealers The Drum & Monkey, Upton-Upon-Severn Roving Crows Conquest Theatre, Bromyard The Ferrets The Cricketers, Worcester Dave Curtis Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury Six Pool Draw. The Swan, Barbourne, Worcester The Delray Rockets The Black Lion, Hereford The Undercovers The Cross Keys, Malvern Bourbon Alley, The Sitting Room The Marrs Bar, Worcester Black Cat Bone The Chestnut, Worcester Bye Bye Baby: Oh What A Night! Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham Dinosaur Squeak Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern The Simmertones The Iron Road, Evesham Ricky Cool & The in Crowd Artrix Arts Centre, Bromsgrove The Night Watch - Drive The Cold Winter Away Artrix Arts Centre, Bromsgrove Dead Dog Cider Stroud Brewery, Stroud Satellite Down The Swan, Evesham The Hush Cross Keys Inn, Gloucester Mohd. Rafi And Kishor Kumar Night - Dostana (Friendship) Guildhall, Gloucester The Rollin' Clones Subscription Rooms, Stroud The Model Folk The Prince Albert, Stroud Off The Grid Railway Inn, Studley Skynt, Hot Roxx Ludlow Brewery, Ludlow Final Coil The Pig And Drum, Worcester Play It Again Sam Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye Talon – The Best Of Eagles 20th Anniversary Tour Forum Theatre, Malvern Slightly OCD The Bayshill, Cheltenham Polkadot Robot The Pillar of Salt, Droitwich

Hotfoot Worley's At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn Midnight Idols Reet Petite, Leominster Blackballed

#### The Bull Inn, Fernhill Heath, Worcester Sunday 26 November 2017

#### Bard & Boogie Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Liz Kirby The Red Lion, Evesham Loz Rabone The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove Polly Edwards (2pm) The Camp Inn, Worcester Jay And Eli (5pm) The Impetrial, Worcester

Howard James Kenny The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Maddie Stimpson (5:30pm) The Chestnut, Worcester The Bob Dylan Story Malvern Cube, Malvern

Fairey Band Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Ewan Mclennan The Prince Albert, Stroud Poppy Waterman Smith Acoustic Music 7:30pm Bottles Wine Bar & Merchants, Worcester

Voodoo Stone (4pm) The Prince Of Wales, Ledbur

#### Thatched Roofs & Open Flames Worley's At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn Monday 27 November 2017

The FB Pocket Orchestra Kidderminster Harriers FC, Aggborough Suite, Kidderminster An Evening With Jaz Coleman Town Hall, Cheltenham

JW Jones The Marrs Bar, Worcester Tuesday 28 November 2017

Fleecey Folk: Talisk The Fleece Inn, Bretforton

Frazer Lepford The Tank, Gloucester

# Wednesday 29 November 2017

The Sensational 60's Experience The Palace Theatre, Redditch Martin Harley Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge JB Jazz And Blues Theoc House, Tewkesbury Howlin' Mat Cafe Rene, Gloucester Nick Harper And The Wilderness Kids The Prince Albert, Stroud Lost Cat The Green Dragon, Malvern

# Thursday 30 November 2017

Matt Bowen The Swan With Two Nicks, Worcester Esther Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge The Maz Mitrenko Band The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove Mytacism Music Presents: Jump The Shark, The Archivists, Foreign Dog, Yasmin Taylor-Haroun The Firefly, Worcester Folly, Uorcester

Sally Hosts Droitwich Divas Ladies Night Live Music The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich Sham 69 (Tim V) The Iron Road, Evesham

Bellow Presents: Jono Mccleery Stroud Valleys Artspace, Stroud

George Montague The Tank, Gloucester Dr John Cooper Clarke Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Villanelles The Fountain Inn, Gloucester

I Destroy The Pig & Drum, Worcester Michelle Williams The Old Bank, Stourbridge

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# **November Comedy Listings:**

### **Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham:**

Raw Comedy - Fri 24th November, 8pm

Half a dozen stand-up acts from the comedy club circut, plus a headline act, with MC Alex Hylton. 16+

#### Artrix Arts Centre, Bromsgrove:

Sat 4th, 8pm - Barnstormers Comedy Professional scallie, Nige, Paul Ricketts, offbeat anecdotalist, Chris Kent, and Barnstormers MC, Kevin Precious.

#### Weds 8th, 8pm - Tom Stade – I Swear After a hiatus from touring, get ready for another epic blast of Tom Stade!

Fri 10th, 8pm - Phil Wang [SOLD OUT]

Fri 17th, 8pm - Secret Life of the Audience: Foghorn Unscripted Improvised comedy.

Sat 18th, 8pm - Steve Bugeja: Summer Camp Join BBC New Comedy Award winner for his third solo show following two critically acclaimed sell-out runs at the Edinburgh Fringe.

Fri 24th, 8pm - Sofie Hagen: Dead Baby Frog Unguestionably one of the most talked-about comics of the moment.

Sun 26th, 2pm - WIFI Wars

Wifi Wars is the World Record-Breaking live comedy game show where the entre audience play along. Hosted by comedian Steve McNeil.

#### Sun 26th 7.30pm - Phill Jupitus: Juplicity

Join the legendary comic for an evening of tales, laughs and diversions. Wach in delight and/or horror as this experience funny man drags laughs out of the chaos of his own life and the uncertain world that surrounds it.

#### Thur 30th, 8pm - Paul Sinha: Shout Out to My Ex

Edinburgh Cornedy Award nominee, Rose D'Or Radio Cornedy Award winner, Chortle Best Club Comic winner, but more imporantly, The Sinnerman from ITV's The Chase.

#### Malvern Theatres, Malvern:

Fri 3rd, 7.30pm - An Evening With Pam Ayres

Join Pam Ayres as she discusses her 40 year career in comedy.

#### Huntingdon Hall, Worcester::

#### Fri 3rd, 7.30pm - Paul Chowdhry: Live innit (plus support)

Following his 2015 100 date sell-out tour, comedy powerhouse and star of Taskmaster and Live at The Apollo, Paul Chowdhry brings his highly anticipated new stand-up show to Worcester.

#### Fri 10th, 7.30pm - Matt Forde: A Show Hastily Rewritten In Light Of Recent Events – AGAIN!

The UK's leading political comedian presents a show completely changed by events which haven't happened yet.

#### Swan Theatre, Worcester:

Fri 17th & Sat 18th, 7.30pm - Doreen: Rise of the Yam-Yam A mix of stand-up, sit-down, video surprises and unforgettable music.

#### **Redditch Palace Theatre, Redditch:**

Fri 10th, 7.45pm - Magic Al

Award winning magician Alex Crawford brings his adult stand-up show to the intimate space of the Palace studio.

Tue 14th, 7.30pm - Jim Davidson: Forty Years On Britain's most controversial comedian celebrates 40 years in show business. Tue 28th, 8pm - Andy Parsons: Peak Bullsh\*t As seen on Mock the Week, Live at the Apollo and Ol.

# The Exmouth Arms, Cheltenham:

Thur 9th - FREE ENTRY. Pro headliner, plus support.

The Beehive, Cheltenham: Thur 16th - FREE ENTRY. Pro headliner, plus support.

The Stand, Cheltenham: Thur 30th - FREE ENTRY. Pro headliner, plus support.

# Hereford Left Bank (Hereford):

#### Sat 4th - Speakeasy

Sat 4th - Farcical Comedy Presents: Clinton Baptiste, Death Hillarious and Hannah Silvester

**Sat 18th - Farcical Comedy Presents: Laughter in the Dark** 9 comics and the audience is blindfolded raising funds for Royal National Institute for the Blind.

# The Red Lion, Great Chatwell

Fri 24th - The Red Lion Comedy Night Tickets are £10 with a meal and drink included.

# Open mic comedy nights (Various):

The Holly Bush, Cradley Heath

FREE, every Thursday, 8pm. Pros and newcomers try out new material. Visit bushcradley.co.uk

# Comedy JAM - Firefly, Worcester

FREE, Wednesday 8th & 22nd November 7.30pm. Pros & newcomers try out new material. facebook.com/comedyjamworcester/

# November Highlights

# Phill Jupitus: Juplicity The Artrix, Sun 26th

Join the legendary stand-up, poet, improviser, and TV stalwart Phill Jupitus for over an hour of tales, laughs and diversions. Watch in delight and/or horror as this experienced funny man drags laughs out of the chaos of his own life and the uncertain world that surrounds it.



# Sofie Hagen: Dead Baby Frog The Artrix, Fri 24th

A modern legend in her native Denmark, Sofie Hagen burst onto the British scene by winning Best Newcomer at Edinburgh Festival 2015, and completely selling out her 2016 follow up show. Former host of Guilty Feminist and current host of Made of Human podcasts, she has appeared on The One Show, The Now Show and Live From the BBC. '



# ComedyJAM

The Firefly, Worcester, Weds 8th & 22nd

Join pro-comics and complete newcomers as they test out some new material at Worcester's premier free open mic comedy night.

### Comedy at The Holly Bush The Holly Bush, Cradley Heath, every Thurs

Every Thursday is free open mic comedy at The Holly Bush, Cradley Heath. One of the best loved and most chaotic comedy nights in the area, this night is hosted by local comic Dave Dinsdale. Previous performers include Joe Lycett and Gary Delaney.

# For all things Comedy email Alex: comedy@slapmag.co.uk

# **Music Sessions/Open Mics**

Are these listings up to date? Let us know at editorial @slapmag.co.uk Every Monday - Open Mic Royal Oak, Ledbury Every Monday - Open Mic/Jam Night

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 **Every Other Tuesday - Open Mic** The Firefly, Hereford 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, Colwal first and third Wednesday - The Dragon Folk Club The Dragon in The Tything, Worcester 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, Worceste 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 Open Mic 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 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 Malver 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 **Every Sat - Disco** Ducker Bar & Beer Garden, Leominster 2nd Sun - Singaround Session The Yew Tree Inn, Peterstow, Herefordshire Every Sun 8.30-Midnight - Open 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

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**BUTTONS** 

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Thursday, November 2nd FCS: The Toasters (USA) + The Stiff Joints, Population 7 £9 in advance £11 on the door

Friday November 3rd Tankus The Henge, The Institutes £10 in advance £12 on the door

Saturday, November 4th Faux Fighters (Foo Fighters tribute) £6 in advance £8 on the door

Sunday November 5th FCS: Bury Tomorrow + Loathe SOLD OUT

Thursday November 9th Uncover: The RPMs, Ivory Wave, Thousand Mountain, Polly Edwards + Kringo Blue and The Lightweights Cost: £6 in advance £8 on the door

Friday November 10th

The Leylines, Dave Malone £10 in advance £12 on the door Saturday November 11th

'Kinfest, Black Cat Bone £5 in advance

Thursday November 16th Kit Hawes and Aaron Catlow £8 in advance £10 on the door

Friday November 17th Massive Head Trauma, Grizzleroot £5 on the door

Sunday November 19th Hawklords £14 in advance £16 on the door

Monday November 20th FCS: Wonk Unit, Brassick+Aerial Salad £7.50 in advance Thursday November 23rd A Tribute to Alanis Morissette's Jagged Little Pill, Ellisha Green £14 in advance Friday November 24th Babal, Suz Winspear £4 in advance £5 on the door Saturday November 25th Bourbon Alley, The Sitting room £5 in advance £7 on the door Sunday November 26th Howard James Kenny £4 in advance £6 on the door Monday November 27th JW Jones £8 in advance £10 on the door Friday December 1st Dreadzone, Ital Sounds SOLD OUT Saturday December 2nd Moretallica, Motorboat (Motorhead trib) £7 in advance £10 on the door Friday December 15th The Official Receivers £8 in advance £10 on the door Saturday December 16th Soul Stripper (AC/DC tribute) Electric Circus (W.A.S.P. Tribute) £8 in advance £10 on the door Sunday December 17th FCS: Graveyard Johnny's, Rock-It Dogs £7 in advance

Wednesdays - Jamming night Late Saturdays - Midnight till 4am

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