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Issue 78

Mar 2018

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Mar 2018 MAGAZINE

SLAP MAGAZINE

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Printed by Vernon Print



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magazine are not necessarily those of its publisher or editor.

First of all let's get this out of the way... I've learned it's probably best not to puncture one's lung and break several ribs in the run up to a deadline during the shortest month of the year. That said, I have thoroughly enjoyed putting this issue together thanks to the sheer diversity of its content. In the arts alone we have costume art, performance art, Asian art, contemporary art, sculpture, and even art in pubs! Check out too, our featured artist Tracey Passey, who's wonderful mixed media masterpieces are inspired by the coast.

As well as art, there's news of acting courses, a dance feature, spoken word and poetry is also covered. Last minute news just in for any budding writers of a Short Story Competition for Evesham Festival of Words - open to adults and juniors. Closing date is midnight on Friday 23rd March. For more info visit: eveshamfestivalofwords.org.

Diversity isn't just restricted to the arts as we jump from Ensemble Échos at St Martin's, Worcester to the Damned at the O2 and everything in between! As always we bring you the news, reviews, previews and features from the local music scene. Our featured band are Bewdley's Cantaloop. See mainstays Dannie & Justin on our front cover - inviting you in...

Also featured is International Women's Day which again shows the rich, mixed culture bag, where dance, comedy, film and music are all represented.

Have you started planning your festival season yet? Well Andy O'Hare has put together a quick summary of what to expect on the local festy scene this summer. In this issue we feature the uncomparable Noztock.

We reported in the February edition of the sad closure of Worcester's Rise Records; well rumours have reached Slap HQ of the possibility of an independent store opening soon. Watch this space...

Inflat-Ed



Front cover: Dannie Dee & Justin Metti of Cantaloop by Dominic Hatton www.reeferboy.com see pages 24 & 25.

Cum on feel the noise

After some recent good news for local music venues on noise and neighbouring residences - the UK's first 'live music census' carried out by the universities of Edinburgh, Newcastle and Turku in Finland (?) on 200 venues across the UK revealed that one third reported problems with increases in business rates and planning/property development - with 30% still saying that noise-related complaints were damaging their business...

Pop goes the Cricket Club

For the third year Worcestershire County Cricket Club will be hosting an 'extravaganza' of pop from the 1990s and 2000s at its New Road ground. Acts announced for the all-day bash on Saturday 30 June include Louise, Gabrielle, Boyzlife, S Club, Chesney Hawkes and Whigfield - details on the club's website

War - What is it good for - Hay

Director of this year's **Hay Festival** **Peter Florence** has said that this year's event - running from May 24 to June 3 - will mark the WW1 Armistice centenary, the 50th anniversary of the May 1968 civil unrest in France and the 'contemporary mood of disappointment, divisiveness and disagreement' - with topics including award-winning fiction, comedy, philosophy and music. Guest speakers include **Margaret Atwood**, **Philip Pullman** and **Rowan Williams**. More at hayfestival.org

National Trust the Folk

Plenty of quality folk on offer at the **Fleece Inn** at Bretforton during its **Fleecy Folk** season running from end February to the middle of May at the **National Trust** owned and English Tourism Pub of the Year - full details at thefleeceinn.co.uk

Bevan Plants in Kiddy

Rock legend **Bev Bevan** of The Move and Electric Light Orchestra says he is proud to be a new patron of the music department at **Kidderminster College** where he'll be advising students who want to pursue a music industry career. Bev joins **Robert Plant** who's been a long-time patron of the college's music label **MAS Records!**

Firmly on the Mapp

Applications for this year's **Mappfest** have closed with over 750 acts applying to play from as far away as Australia and Turkey - preparations for this year's event on Malvern Link Common on 16-17 June included the committee recording a promotional CD and video to be released shortly - mappfest.co.uk

Prosect of peace on the Natwest Bank

Prospects of a new music venue in Malvern have increased since the former NatWest bank on Church Street has finally been sold to local businessman **Mike Clarke** after Malvern Town Council withdrew its interest in the building - watch this space...

Good enough for Scousers

Nice of Liverpool FC fans to come up with a terrace anthem celebrating their Egyptian-born top scorer **Mo Salah** sung to the tune of local chap **Nigel 'Dodgy' Clark's** 'Good Enough' - check it out at <https://www.balls.ie/football/new-mo-salah-chant-383300>

The Broad Way forward

Broadway Arts Festival has announced an 'expanded programme of events' for the festival taking place in the Cotswold village thanks to a grant from the European Agricultural Fund. Running from 8-17 June speakers announced include V&A Director **Tristram Hunt**, historian **John Julius Norwich** and TC presenter **Andrew Graham-Dixon** - more at broadwayartsfestival.com

Remi on Tour

More busy times for Herefordshire jazz guitarist **Remi Harris** as he embarks on a three-month tour of the UK and Ireland with his Trio. With influences ranging from Django Reinhardt to Jimi Hendrix, Remi has had a stellar couple of recent years - playing the Royal Albert Hall, Montreal Jazz Festival and was the 2017 runner-up British Jazz Awards '**Guitarist of the Year**' category!

Behind the Music!

Starting on the 3rd of March at **Paradiddles** from 7pm is the first of a hopefully-monthly showcase of local songwriters hosted by Worcester's own **Chip Langley**. Behind the Music: A Songwriter's Exhibition is a gig night with a focus on songwriters talking about their craft and inspirations. The first night will feature **Jake Marsh**, **Chip Langley**, **Kringo Blue**, **Tobias Robertson** and **Tyler Massey**. Come along for a night of stories and songs!

Answered Back

Worcester based **Answer Back** recently submitted their summer 2017 release '*Together, Forever*' to the Nashville, Tennessee based International Songwriting Competition for 2017. From over 16,000 Global contenders '*Together, Forever*' has now been officially nominated as a semi-finalist. Songs going forward as 'finalists' will be judged by a celebrity Judging Panel with results being announced in the near future.'

Woo I Never

Woo Fest held a fundraising evening at the **Marrs bar** on the 9th of Feb raising £1,200 for St Richards Hospice via Woo Fest. It was a fantastic evening at a sell out Marrs Bar. **Chewie** kicked the evening off with his wonderful acoustic set followed by Tewksbury's **Chimp on a Bike** with high quality covers. Then **Arcadia Roots** lifted the roof with their fusion of reggae, rock and trance winning many new fans at the start of a very busy year for them. The duo **Loose Lips** from Telford closed the evening with an accomplished set of their own songs and covers. Thanks to all supporters ahead of the main event on the 7th of July.



Arcadia Roots at the Woo Fest warm up by Dazz Green



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Clik Clik will be getting out on the streets again in April but for now, I'm office bound planning, writing and scheming to bring you some healthy dollops of weirdness and fun over the lighter months. I thought I'd pop a word about **Clik Clik**, how it came about and what it is.



In 2010 **Rich Fox (Clark)** and I came up with the name as an umbrella for curating pop up arts exhibitions, which led to taking on the gallery spaces at the **Worcester Arts Workshop** for a couple of years. In 2013, I set up the name Clik Clik officially as a sole trader, moving in a new direction using my experience from festival performance to produce more immersive pop-up experiences for outdoor events.

At times, people have referenced **Clik Clik** as a 'group' of artists, but actually I work alone as a producer/director and then curate a diverse range of performers, artists, musicians (and sometimes the public) for each piece of work depending on the project brief.



I've worked in the arts for over 20 years, from personal work as a performer and visual artist, to production, management and art direction. Engagement with the public is important to me along with encouraging creativity and breaking barriers through laughter and playfulness.

Please drop me a line if you have an event or idea and would like a little quirky entertainment or weird and wonderful creativity added!

clikclikcollective.com

BLANK

Perfect Circle Youth Theatre presents a new performance this month. **[BLANK]** by **Alice Birch**, is performed as part of **National Theatre Connections** - a nationwide celebration of new plays for young people.



The play contains strong language and may not be suitable for under 13's www.perfectcircletheatre.com

23rd & 24th March - Malvern Cube, 7pm.

Tickets £5 (£2 under 18s) available on the door.

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

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Asian Arts

Bewdley Museum re-opens it's doors on sat 3rd March with an **East Asian Experience**. This free event launches an exhibition showcasing the museum's collection of Japanese and Chinese artifacts from the 19th Century including some Japanese ivories, hanging scrolls, snuff bottles and jade carvings. Throughout the day there will be **Taiko Drumming**, demonstrations of classical Japanese weaponry and Jujitsu skills plus a collection of original weaponry and armor. Complimenting this will be an installation by

Planet Art (Jo and Kate Deburgh) featuring origami birds in the foyer.

The Shambles Café will be keeping the theme with Asian dishes available. 10am-4pm.

And look out for the **Easter Egg Hunt** on April 1st plus activities for young people during the holidays from 30th March - 13th April. The East Asian Collection exhibition will run until 7th May.



bewdleymuseum.co.uk

Hop Stories

Herefordshire Life Through a Lens: Stories from the Hop Yards is the first in a series of exhibitions, made possible by **National Lottery Players**, coming from the hop-yards of the county. Bringing the work of local photographer **Derek Evans** out into the community, this exhibition features both archive and contemporary images from **Hereford College** of Arts BA students and staff, which has been housed unseen, at **Herefordshire Archive and Records Centre (HARC)** for nearly a decade. **Catcher Media** were first introduced to **Derek Evans'** work by **Keith James**, Derek's former business partner, when working on their previous heritage project **Chewing The Cud** about the old livestock market.

Rick Goldsmith Creative Director of Catcher Media says;

"Like many others we were duly entranced by Derek's photographs and when we heard that there was a studio archive of over 200,000 negatives and 700 exhibition prints. It seemed like a good idea to try and figure out a way of making this work accessible to the people of Herefordshire, as it spoke of their recent past with such affection and technical prowess. The funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund



has enabled us to achieve this." Project volunteers have been working with Herefordshire Councils Archive Services to digitize the negatives, meaning that many of the images on display will not have been seen outside of the studio darkroom until now."

The exhibition runs until 2nd April at **The Courtyard**, Hereford. For more info call 01432 340555 or go to: courtyard.org.uk

Opportunity for performing artists

Applications are now open for the new **Foundation Acting Course** at **Artrix**, which will begin in September 2018 and auditions take place next month. This new course is run by **Rose Bruford College** in collaboration with Artrix and offers conservatoire training within a professional arts setting.



Rose Bruford College of Theatre and Performance has been delivering high quality actor training in Kent for over 65 years with graduates including Gary Oldman, Tom Baker, and Hayley Squires (I Daniel Blake, The Miniaturists). This 20-week course provides a rigorous and in-depth training that will give participants skills, techniques and confidence that is invaluable for a career in the performing arts. The course is designed to support an individual's development as an actor in a rigorous and professional way.

Auditions will take place in Bromsgrove on 4th March and 24th June. To apply and for info, email admissions@bruford.ac.uk or bruford.ac.uk/courses/acting-foundation-course-bromsgrove/.

Art on the Tything

The **Cap 'n' Gown** pub on The Upper Tything is set to become a permanent exhibition space for local artists. Landlord **Ted Marshall** came up with the idea of having an 'art wall' in the pub after seeing artwork during last August's **Worcestershire Open Studios** event. He approached the organisers, wanting to get involved in the community based event and offering the pub as a year round space for displaying local artists' work. The space will be run in conjunction with **Worcestershire Open Studios**. The display will change on a regular basis, showcasing work by artists participating in the open studios event. The first exhibition, opening on 29th March, will show work by Worcestershire Open Studios organisers, **Sally Anne Morgan, Richard Nicholls** and **Cherie Mansfield**.

Ted said "I hope this exhibition will be the first of many in partnership with Worcestershire Open Studios, showing the talent and work of local artists."

Cherie Mansfield added, "With a shortage of exhibition space in the city, this is a great initiative which will allow local artists to be able to show their work to a wider audience year round."



A public opening at the **Cap 'n' Gown** takes place on 29 March from 5.30pm to 7.00pm. Artwork can be viewed during normal pub opening hours thereafter.

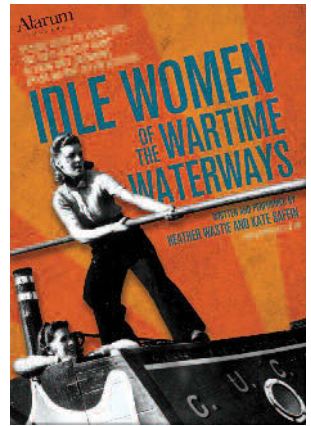
Idle Women

Former **Worcestershire Poet Laureate, Heather Wastie** has been touring her own poetry and songs by canal with **Alarum Theatre** since April 2016.

Having given around 60 performances in 2017, she is delighted to be bringing the show to Worcestershire where she now lives and the Black Country where she was born and spent much of her life. *Idle Women of the Wartime Waterways* tells the stories of women who took on the challenging job of operating pairs of canal boats during WWII when there was a shortage of crews. The show is a double bill which begins with a solo play by **Kate Saffin** and has been created using first hand accounts, diaries, archive material and audio interviews.

"The women whose stories we tell have never had the recognition they deserve," says Heather. "Most people have never heard of them. They didn't have a proper name; they were just called 'trainees', even after they'd passed their training. The nickname 'Idle Women' came after the war, and my half of the show explains where that came from. By quoting from first hand accounts of the trainees themselves, we bring to life what the women went through when they left behind their ordinary middle class lives in favour of long hours, hard labour and having to spend a lot of time in close proximity to other women in very cramped and challenging conditions."

"There's lots of humour in the show, and we finish with some gentle audience participation. Where possible, we tour by boat. This year we start by travelling up the Worcester & Birmingham Canal, to tie in with The Ring celebrations. And there will be new stories about Worcestershire woman, Daphne March, who carried flour on her family-owned boat Heather Bell from Worcester to Tipton, and coal from Cannock back to Worcester, throughout the war. Without her, the Women's Training Scheme would probably never have started."



"Kate and I met by chance on Twitter. Kate lives on a narrow boat and I live in a house very close to the Staffs & Worcs Canal. My family had a boat from when I was very young, so you could say that canals are in my DNA."

The tour begins on Friday 30th March at the **Anchor Inn**, Diglis Basin and continues with shows at **The Chestnut Inn**, Worcester (Tue 3 Apr), **Tibberton Village Hall** (Thu 5), the **Boat and Railway, Stoke Prior** (Sat 7), **Rowney Green Village Hall** (Fri 13) and **Finstall Village Hall** (Sat 14). Further dates in Worcestershire may be added. For full details see www.alarumtheatre.co.uk.



Workshop Given Grant

Here at the **Worcester Arts Workshop** we are excited to announce that we have been granted £64,000 by City Councillors. **Anne Hannaford**, the chair of trustees at the Workshop, contended for the Workshop's need for funding at the Communities Committee Meeting, successfully securing the substantial grant.

After facing closure, future plans can now finally be made to improve facilities and expand our spaces. This will help us try and raise £1.2 million in grants from other trusts and foundations over a two year period; as well as allowing us to hire a fundraiser and new senior manager.

Not only will the Workshop be able to remain open, but we plan to renovate and expand our beautiful yet dilapidated building that has been, for decades, an exciting arts hub for the community.

Fundraising will be used to establish better disability and pram accessibility by creating ground floor classrooms and an essential elevator for multiple floor access. Additionally, we plan to increase our class' intake and create a wider variety of courses available.

We aim to develop a place where everyone can access the arts, by consulting with the community to discover the most beneficial uses of the Workshop.

We thank everyone who has supported us so far and you can follow our progress on our website at:

www.worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk or find us on Twitter:

@TheArtsWorkshop

or Facebook @WorcesterArtsWorkshop

World Music Season Continues with Tantz

After the success of our first performers, **Don Kipper**, our **World Music Season** continues here at the Worcester Arts Workshop with Tantz, a six piece storm of infectious energy.

It's hard to pin **Tantz** down to just one category but their main influence is Klezmer dance – a music style of Jewish origin, originally played at weddings & celebrations. Tantz combine this style with gypsy dance, Balkan and bohemian influences, to create a sound you've never heard before. More than just a gig their performances create a party atmosphere you just have to get involved in.



Tickets cost £10 and are available at:

www.worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk or Tel: 01905 25053

Show runs Friday 16th Mar – Doors open at 7pm for an 8pm start

Our third and final act lined up as part of our **World Music** season will be **Týhai**, a Wales-based Indo Celtic trio, in April.

Don't forget that our arts classes for adults and children are still running. From ceramics to life drawing, fused glass and more there is always something new to try your hand at. Visit our website to book yourself a place.



You'll hear more about both acts in the next edition of SLAP but if you just can't wait, visit our website to learn more or book tickets.

Don't forget that our arts classes for adults and children are still running. From ceramics to life drawing, fused glass and more there is always something new to try your hand at. Visit our website to book yourself a place.

LAZY SUNDAY
18th March '18

Café Bliss

Celebrating women in music
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& the dirty field whores

zara sykes
Beth Prior

Wednesday's Wolves

£5 Entry In association with **Worcestershire Pride** **Open 1pm**

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Café Bliss invites you to one of the last of its three **Lazy Sundays** before closure in May. On the 18th March we bring you an afternoon of mesmerising performances celebrating women in music, organised in association with **Worcestershire Pride**. The launch of **Pride 2018**, dates, theme and plans for a parade will be announced on the day .

Artists rush to register for popular event



Entries from visual artists, photographers and crafts people from across the county are already flooding in for this year's **Worcestershire Open Studios** this august. Last



year, the event saw work created by over 200 local artists on show in studios, homes, shared spaces and established galleries at 70 locations across the county.

Glass artist, **Vicky Kitchen**, from **Kingcot Gallery** in Flyford Flavell was one of the participants and says, "I cannot wait to take part again. Being able to explain to people how you create your art and to see their interest just gives you a complete thrill."

Some artists are taking part for the first time this year, with others coming back year after year for the popular 3-day event which takes place over the August bank holiday weekend (Saturday 25th to Monday 27th August).

Worcester painter, **Caroline Hall** said "Having taken part last year, I wanted to again engage with people who enjoy art. It was lovely to meet so many different people who wanted to paint, who did paint or just wanted to pick up a special piece of art. Open studios give artists time and space to really engage with people and connect with other artists within the local community."



Artist and co-organiser, **Sally Anne Morgan**, said "Open studios are a brilliant opportunity for both established artists and those who are just starting out. Amongst the many benefits is the chance to share work with new audiences, raise your profile, get feedback and make some sales. And of course for visitors, the event is a unique opportunity to see a diverse range of locally made artwork and meet the people who created it."

The deadline for entries is 25th March - or sooner if all the places are taken. For more information and to register go to: www.worcestershireopenstudios.org.uk.

Images Left to Right -Artists: Valerie Briggs; Sue Wilson

Dancefest March

March is a month of performances for **Dancefest**. It starts with **ReCharge**, an evening of live dance, film and physical theatre created by established and emerging artists from across the West Midlands. There's a packed programme, including work by choreographers **Marcia Edwards**, **Hayley Guest**, **Tayla Wood** and **Anuradha Venugopal**, with **Ascension Dance Company**, **Flexus Touring Company**, **Dancefest's Chance to Dance Company** and **Jigsaw Performance Company**. There's also performance poetry by **Alice Tomlinson** and dance films by **DFA (Dancefest Adults)**, **Lauren Trim** and the University of Worcester. 17th march at **HOW College**. Tickets are £8/£6 concessions.

Circuit youth dance performances take place on Tuesday 20th March at 7.30pm at **Spires Theatre, HOW College**, Worcester,



and Wednesday 21st March at 7pm at **Hereford College of Arts**. Circuit showcases new dance by youth companies, schools, colleges and dance schools, to give young dancers the opportunity to share their work and be inspired by each other, and for audiences to see dance artists of the future. Tickets are £6/£4 concessions

Dancefest's next **Develop & Deepen** advanced contemporary class for adults is on Thursday 15 March at 7.30-8.45pm and will be led by guest artist **Anna Lines**. Anna lectured in Dance at **Kidderminster College** for many years and is now Artistic Director of **Translucent Dance Company**. It takes place at Riverside, University of Worcester and costs £6.90/£5.90 concessions.

You can find out more and book for all of Dancefest's performances and classes at dancefest.co.uk or give them a ring on 01905 611199.

Photography by Lily Price



A Tribute to **SANDY DENNY**

Foyer Folk at Number 8 Pershore - Sat 10th March

Colindale Folk Club Chandos Arms London - Mon 12th March

The Marrs Bar Pierpont Str Worcester - Sat 24th March

Kitchen Garden Cafe Kings Heath - B'ham - Wed 4th April

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Kent DuChaine

The Chestnut, Worcester | 4th Feb

Kent DuChaine, complete with his sidekick 'Leadbessie', is well known in blues circles, and regularly tours the UK before returning to his Georgia roots. Seeing him pop up at **The Chestnut Inn** in Worcester was a bit of a surprise, and I wondered how he would go down with the sometimes irreverent crowd in this local pub and music venue. But I needn't have worried, and instead I watch as Kent masterfully captivates his hushed audience, who can't help but listen intently to his tales of old blues men he'd had the good fortune to see, and sometimes to play with. The names roll out like a who's who of the 60's and 70's blues scene in the States; Howling Wolf, Muddy Waters, Willie Dixon and Booker White, to name a few.

But never mind Muddy's *Champagne & Reefer*, or the tales of a 'Big Bad Wolf', what about the music! Well, that is easily taken care of with the help of Kent's old steel bodied National Resonator, known as 'Leadbessie'. At 83 years old I can't help but think that Leadbessie has seen better days! Not quite Trigger's road-sweeping broom, Kent's beloved guitar bears welded patches, a road-weary patina (surface rust) and enough gaffer tape to hold the wing on to Delboy's Reliant. Despite this she still sounds sweet enough, with Kent artfully caressing the strings using his glass slide which he has wedged onto his finger with the aid of a Dollar bill, just to keep it snug!

Edgemont Station is picked out, with Kent cranking up the pace as the train comes rattling by, we are treated to his own classic *Tribute To Muddy*. Entranced, we listen while the picks hit those heavy strings hard, the bottleneck slides, gliding up the fret, for this Delta edged song. The Chestnut gang howls in unison for Willie Dixon's *Lil Red Rooster*, completely enraptured. Kent's stories from the road match the music with their colour and fervour; pieces of a saga of multiple wives, and even a lap-dancing Yorkshire lass.



When we are asked who had seen Muddy, Howling, McDowell, Hooker or BB, there was only one to continually raise his hand, giving a little chuckle, none other than **Bob 'Poor Boy' Jones**.

One of my all time favourites was not long in following; the glorious dirge of St James Infirmary Blues, with the old National seemingly finding her own way from off the cooling board under Kent's tutelage.

A break came for the mesmerised throng that had squeezed into the Chestnut, and I wondered whether there had ever before been a gig quite like it held within these walls. This was blues rooted in the Southern belt of America, and **Kent DuChaine**, who grew up watching the Delta and Chicago legends as they toured the bars and roadside shacks, *Preachin' The Blues*, had even spent time performing alongside an ageing Johnny Shines, to whom *Johnny's Gone* is dedicated.

Sadly, I was destined not to see the gig right through to its end, and so reluctantly I left The Chestnut Inn, to the strains of *Sweet Home Chicago* playing out on that strung out and tortured 'Leadbessie'.

Graham Munn

MUSIC@THE PAUL PRY

March 5th Will Killeen
March 12th Chip Langley
March 19th TBC
March 26th Jam Night

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6 THE BUTTS
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for updates and announcements follow us

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International Women's Day

Artrix Stands Up for Women this March with dance, comedy and film to celebrate **International Women's Day**.

International Women's Day, taking place on Thursday 8th March, celebrates women and aims to press forward and progress gender parity and inclusivity. This year's campaign aims to motivate and unite whole communities to think, act and be gender inclusive. With this in mind, Artrix is hosting a variety of events to celebrate women and encourage gender equality, beginning with the breathtaking dance production, **Virago** on the 7th March.



Internationally renowned, awarding winning choreographer, and artistic director of one of the UK's leading contemporary South Asian dance companies, Sonia Sabri presents this new solo digital-dance collaboration with post-digital arts organisation Ludic Rooms. **AVirago** is a woman of great stature, strength and courage. This performance is vibrant, compelling, brave and dynamic and Sabri uses multiple layers of sound, light and image manipulation to explore perceptions and misconceptions of the woman, gender and human identity. Exploding the concept of contemporary dance, Sabri has created her own individual dance language, blending the grace and vigour of Kathak with urban motifs, powerful projections and mesmerising movement. Tickets: £12.

This **International Women's Day Artrix** is also playing host to **Stand Up for Women** – a hilarious evening of comedy, packed with headline acts. Featuring housewife extraordinaire, **Barbara Nice** (Peter Kay's *Phoenix Nights*), up and coming comedian **Les Kershaw** and one of the UK's busiest comics **Shazia Mirza**. The evening will be hosted by MY Comedy's resident **MC, Maureen Younger**.



Stand Up For Women will be performed on Thursday 8th March at 8.00pm. Tickets cost £14 each and this show is recommended for audiences aged 18+.

Artrix will be screening **Suffragette** on Friday 9th March at 11am, 100 years on from women winning the right to vote.

Starring Carey Mulligan and Meryl Streep, *Suffragette* recounts the early 20th Century growing suffragette movement. Galvanized by political activist Emmeline Pankhurst (Streep), wife and mother Maud Watts (Mulligan) joins a diverse group of women who fight for equality and the right to vote. *Suffragette* is rated 12A and tickets are £7 each.

Tickets for all of the above events can be booked online at www.artrix.co.uk or via Box Office on 01527 577330.



The Zoe Green Band

With
Groovyhead



www.uptonbluesfestival.com

The Upton Blues Festival Fundraising evening

31st March 2018

**At the Memorial Hall
Old Street**

Upton-on-Severn, WR8 0HA

Ticket £10

Doors open 7:30pm

**Enquiries to: 01864 591 1144
07968 092479**

bluesuptonoffice@gmail.com

International Women's Day

The Firefly 12.30 - 4.20pm

The Marrs Bar 7.30pm

To celebrate **International Women's Day** and, more specifically, Women in Music. Worcester's **Uncover**, **Boneyard Sessions** and **Mytacism Music** are hosting a two part, multi-venue, all day event on the 8th March.

Kicking off at the Firefly at 12.30pm with a line-up of acoustic acts and spoken word poetry, entry to this part of the day will be free. Acoustic performances will come from the likes of **Chloe Mogg**, **Kewpie** and **Chloe Hanks**, interspersed with poetic spoken word performances from both **Ray Vincent Mills** and **Kelly Williams**.

The days celebrations will later continue on over at **The Marrs Bar** from 7.30pm, opening will be 4-piece psych-noise rock from Worcester, **Novaview**. Next up will be the delightful sounds of Bristol's **Wych Elm**, a three-piece lo-fi group.

Nth Cave will then make their much-anticipated return to the live music scene after a few months away from it, before Wolverhampton's **Jump The Shark** return to Worcester to headline this wonderful day of celebrations. Blending psychedelia with heavy riffs and bittersweet pop melodies, this is one event you definitely won't want to miss.

Entry to the **Firefly** will be free, advance tickets to the **Marrs Bar** are priced at £5 whilst tickets on the door will be £7. However, attendees to the Firefly will be stamped and then be able to buy tickets on the door to The Marrs Bar for £5.

08/03/2018 - THE FIREFLY - WORCESTER

UNCOVER MYTACISM BONEYARD
PRESENTS

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

RAY VINCENT MILLS
CHLOE MOGG
KELLY WILLIAMS
KEWP
CHLOE HANKS

FREE ENTRY

12:30pm-4:20pm

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08/03/2018 - THE MARRS BAR - WORCESTER

UNCOVER MYTACISM BONEYARD
PRESENTS

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

JUMP THE SHARK
NTH CAVE
WYCH ELM
novaview

7:30

tickets: £7 OTD / £5 ADV

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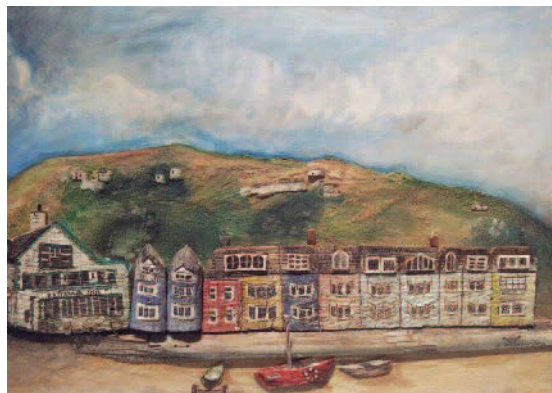
Tracy Passey | Shore Things

You couldn't get much further from the sea than Kidderminster, but an artist from the Worcestershire town has been using coastal influences as an ongoing theme for a series of inspired creations.



Tracy Passey has been fusing her artistic skills and love of the UK coastline since childhood.

"When I was young I would visit the coast with my family several times a year, always arriving home with bags of shells, sea glass and driftwood. This would inadvertently end up on a lamp base or sun catcher."

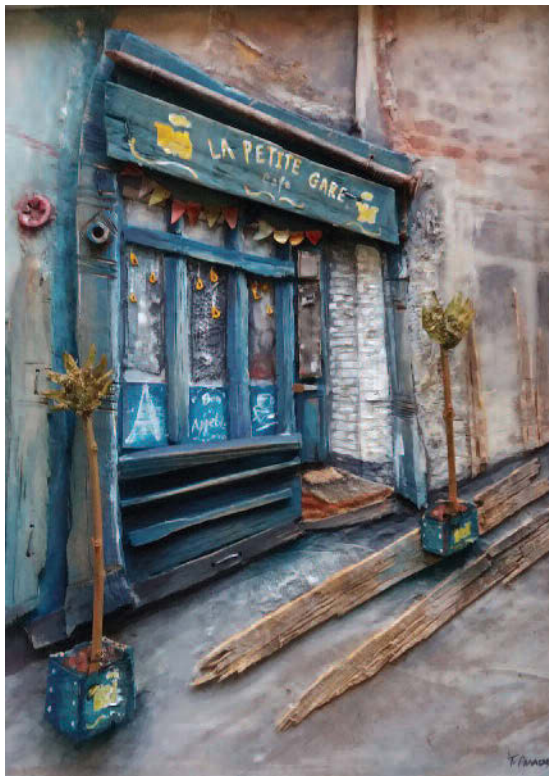


"My passion for creativity grew stronger over time and I went on to study Design Crafts at Herefordshire College of Art, specialising in ceramics and wood. I've always been heavily influenced by the expressive colourisation of J.M.W Turner's seascapes"



In 2016, Tracy decided to combine her part time administration work with the launch of her own small business and 'Shore Things' was born. The venture incorporates many mixed art medias including plaster, wood, clay, water colours and acrylic paint to create a 2D tactile effect.

Pieces are crafted together from coastal finds and local residue. This may be rusty wire from the South Wales beaches or dried wood from the Wyre Forest. Roadsides are scoured for rusty washers, nails or colourful plastic. The remnants are then used to lovingly create landscapes, local scenes or customised artwork specific to customer's requirements.



Tracy doesn't just limit herself to seaside influence though. Recent commissions have included bespoke artwork of people's homes, shop fronts, pets and camper vans along with many other personalised gifts. Her unique creations can be found in a handful of local Worcestershire galleries and some as far afield as Cheshire and The Cotswolds.

"2018 will also see me illustrate a second book with Kidderminster based poet Tony Smith and collaborations with Bewdley Pewtersmith Bernice Le Cornu Cantrill so I'm very much looking forward to both of those projects"

You can find out more about Tracy's art on her Facebook page @ShoreThingsCrafts

Suz Winspear



The long dreary winter has finally gone and Spring is here, bringing a plethora of poetry and spoken word events. There's a lot on this month, and the **LitFest** competitions are still running, though the deadlines are approaching, so if you want to enter, get writing now!

If you want to enter the competition to become the next **Worcestershire Poet Laureate**, the closing date is Friday 30th March, and the deadline for both the **Flash Fiction competition** and the **Young Writers' Awards** is Friday 27th April. Further details, and instructions on how to enter, can be found on the **Worcestershire LitFest & Fringe** website – worcslitfest.co.uk - and there are links to it on LitFest's Facebook page.

Honey

15th March - Artrix Bromsgrove
21st March - Worcester University

"A small tale, beautifully performed and lyrically told, with a big message." Hereford Times

Honey is an intimate story that intricately weaves together the lives of a young man with autism, his mother, her tattoo artist sister, and those that want to love them.

This is not so much a story of those at war, but of the break down of community and those trying to find their own peace.

As with all of their work RTM take a look at the changing landscape of people's minds and the environment.

Woven throughout is the beautiful back drop to this moving, charming and funny piece: A quilt stitched with hopes and dreams, pieced together throughout the performance as a present to root Alice's son to the earth, and a symbol of the strength of a community coming together.

Three hives help us navigate through a world that she has created. Simplicity of staging allows transition between the outer hills and home, a place to drink and a place to talk.

March Spoken Word events

Thursday 1st – Images From the Past, at the Hive Members of the English, Media and Culture department at the University of Worcester, **Dr Jack McGowan, Ruth Stacey** and **Katy Wareham Morris** reading poetry alongside poets **Claire Walker** and **Antony Owen**, on the theme of Images from the Past. I know the work of some of these poets, others are new to me but sound interesting – this is going to be good! 7.30pm – 9.30pm. Free admission.

Thursday 15th – **SpeakEasy** at **Cafe Bliss, Worcester Arts Workshop**. Poetry from a wide range of local poets. This month we have two featured poets, **Clive Oseman** and **Nick Lovell**, coming all the way from Swindon! Expect from them a mixture of serious poetry and laconic humour . . . Open Mic slots available on a first-come, first-served basis. They're popular, so get there early. £3 admission, 7.30pm. Full disabled access.

Wednesday 21st – **World Poetry Day** – with **Nina Lewis** - 'A *Wealth of Laureates*' Featuring **Worcestershire Poet Laureate Nina Lewis**, **Young Poet Laureate Rachel Evans**, Former WPL **Suz Winspear**, WPL Emeritus **Maggie Doyle**, and **Fergus McGonigal WPL 2014 & Burning Eye Books Poet**. Open Mic slots available (book a slot at worcsp1@gmail.com), Poetry Raffle and Take-Away Poetry. Yes, I'm in it, but it's a quality line-up – I'm particularly looking forward to hearing Rachel who is our youngest-ever **Worcestershire Young Poet Laureate**! Admission £3.00/£2.50

Saturday 24th – **Earth Hour** at **Café Bliss, Worcester Arts Workshop**. An evening of poetry and music to celebrate the Earth and the natural world, and to make a noise about climate change! It includes the hour-long switch-off of electric lights, so come and enjoy poetry and music by candlelight. Open mic slots available, including music slots (unplugged!) and a sustainable green raffle. Doors open 7pm for a 7.30 start. To book open mic slots, contact charley@worcslitfest.co.uk

Wednesday 28th – **42** at the **Lunar Bar**, above the **Swan with two Nicks**. **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.

Suz Winspear

Beautifully lit by inspirational lighting designer **Ben Hughes** and with an original folk musical score by Joanna Karselis you will taste the honey, feel the richness of the hills, the air and hear the music that fills this small land. The stunning, highly original choreography is by **Lizie Gireaudeaux**.

'Honey' is beautifully performed by the talented **Jemma Lewis**, **Callan Durrant**, **Vey Straker** and **Jenni Lea-Jones**.

reactiontheatremakers.com



Russel Lewis Photography

Arts at Elmslie House

The **Blue Magpie Contemporary Craft Fair** is returning to Elmslie ahead of Mothering Sunday with the aim of promoting and supporting designer-makers to bring you the very best in UK contemporary art and crafts. We have 17 exhibitors in a mixture of both local makers and further afield, some new and some returning faces who will all produce beautiful, original and wonderful work! As usual, the bar at Elmslie will be transferred into a cafe for the day, offering a selection of home-made cakes, savouries and light refreshments throughout the day.



3rd March 10.30 - 4.30. Free entry.

Wind, Waves & Water Colours is a new exhibition showcasing the work of local photographer **Colleen Donaldson**, taking



inspiration from the coast; childhood memories of summer days spent at the seaside and personal feelings when first viewing the coastal watercolours created by the 18th and 19th century artists such as **JMW Turner** and **David Cox**.

March 5th - March 16th

'**Preserving the Precious**' is a weekend workshop where you will create a unique, handstitched textile piece which will house or incorporate those small, precious things we hang onto; shards of broken pottery, a shell, a scrap from a favourite dress, a handwritten note or a feather. We will look at a variety of methods (layering, wrapping, applique and embroidery techniques) to decoratively preserve your precious items in fabric and thread. To personalise your piece you therefore need to bring a collection of small items you'd like to 'preserve'. Additional found objects will be available for you to dip into. Suitable for those with some previous hand sewing experience.



10am - 3.30pm each day. £130 per person. Includes materials & refreshments. 24th & 25th March. To book contact kathleen@murgatroydandbean.co.uk or 07971 684573

For info on all events go to: elmsliehouse.co.uk

CONTEMPORARY CRAFT FAIR



SATURDAY 3rd MARCH

10.30 - 4.30

FREE ADMISSION

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Sunday 11th March Doors 3.30 for 4.00
Saturday 17th March Doors 7.30 for 8.00

www.elmsliehouse.co.uk



International artists create new sculptures for library

Artists **Heather & Ivan Morison** have revealed their new work for **The Hive** in Worcester; *The Long Afternoon of Earth* is the culmination of a year long residency, working with the library's readers and students from **University of Worcester**, in a project commissioned by **Meadow Arts**.



The artists have created a miniature forest of sculptural vessels, made from a combination of concrete and pulped paper known as 'papercrete'. Each vessel contains a mature Bonsai tree that contributes a unique sense of calm to reading spaces within the cutting-edge library, complementing the architecture of the building and conveying a sense of the varied environments in which the act of reading occurs for different people.

Heather Morison says, "I have spent the last year at The Hive in open research with the library, the staff, the readers and the books. I have met the archaeologists, librarians, archivists, researchers and engineers that work in the library. I have observed



students study for midwifery exams, young people watch YouTube videos of skate tricks, people investigating their family history, a young homeless person asleep in a corner and listened to many parents and grandparents voices fill the central void with songs during rhyme time. This is the life of a library."

"There is much life in our libraries, and The Hive serves many people. I have thought a lot about what an artist could bring to this abundant place and cycled through many potential works and ideas. I have chopped and changed and finally decided to conceive a work that is both made of the library and brings warmth to the library. Reading is not just about what we read, it is also about the comfy chair, the soft but good lighting, the countryside rushing past on a train, the sun warming your legs on the beach, the Earl Grey in your favourite cup, the baby asleep on your chest. We have tried to capture a little of that in the commission for The Hive."

The Hive, Worcester until 1st July.

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Review

Jack Blackman, Chip Langley & the Kidgloves, Ewan Pollock Paradiddles, Worcester | 16th February

I have been lucky enough to visit **Paradiddles Music Café/Bar** for coffee a few times since its recent opening in Worcester, but tonight is the first time I have been in the evening, when it becomes more bar than café (although both beer and coffee are available at any time)! The cosy late-night coffeehouse vibes are suited perfectly to the performers and the atmosphere is laid-back yet excited.

After a couple of pre-show drinks, the evening moves into the small side-room, where microphones and guitars are positioned at the ready, the intimate setting ideal for the mostly acoustic nature of the acts. First up on the small stage is **Ewan Pollock**, equipped only with acoustic guitar and warm, husky voice. Ewan performs his original compositions *Distractions* and *Lady in the Dark* with inviting stage presence and musical skill, his songs folky and melodic. He also throws in a few covers to get the room singing along, from artists such as Frank Turner, Oasis, Paolo Nutini, and The Cranberries (his version of Linger is sublime). Ewan makes every song his own, with the ability to go from soft croons to spirited shouts in the most natural way.

After a short break, **Chip Langley and The Kidgloves** start their set. I have seen Chip play numerous times, both with and without his backing band, and his music and stage banter never



disappoints. Heavier blues-rock tracks from his EP *Line 'em up* are given an acoustic treatment here, with the more recent addition of **Em Westcott's** violin giving a new spin on well-known material. Newer songs are played too, the highlights being Chip and Em's duet vocals on *Deer in the Headlights*, and the dramatic musical and vocal crescendo of final epic *Howl*, which is sure to become a live favourite soon, especially if the reaction of the now-sizable crowd is anything to go by.

Finally, we have Bromsgrove-based singer-songwriter **Jack Blackman**, who stands like Dylan with guitar and harmonica, yet his honey-sweet voice is more reminiscent of Squeeze's Glenn Tillbrook than Dylan's trademark rasp. As his highly-accomplished folk sound touches on various styles from blues to ragtime, his phenomenal writing and performing talents are clear, his playing incorporating strumming, complex finger-picked patterns and even slide-guitar. His songs are plaintive yet optimistic, *Travelling Light* being my personal favourite.

Every act this evening was of the highest quality, and it was great to see such a new venue attracting such a wide array of talent!

Dan Knight



COMING SOON TO THE FLEECE INN, BRETFTORTON

Join us for a fantastic selection of bands and events in our medieval barn

Steamchicken - Sat 17 Mar, 8pm, £12 adv.

For over 20 years, Steamchicken have been delighting audiences with their own brand of funky folk, Piano, melodeon, harmonica, vocals and percussion combine with a tightly knit horn section to provide entertainment that goes way beyond a dance or a song.

Siobhan Miller - Sun 18 Mar, 8pm, £12

The only ever three-time winner of Scots Singer of the Year (2017, 2013, 2011), Siobhan Miller is widely regarded as one of the foremost vocalists in Scotland. Her soulful and stirring renewal of traditional song effortlessly stills and silences all spaces.

Kieran Halpin - Sun 25 Mar, 8pm, £10

Halpin's songs cover every conceivable subject from love, loss and celebration, to the more global concerns that face all of us today and is often described as a modern protest song writer. He is at once powerful and passionate, intimate and intense, underscored by an incisive wit. "Wonderful stage presence and surprising humour"

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If proof were needed that we're lucky to be located in one of the most vibrant and musically kicking parts of the country - driven in part of course by the invigorating properties of the Severn, Wye and Malvern waters - then it's in the sheer number, variety and quality of musical bashes that take place almost every weekend in our region over the summer months! Forget about Reading/Leeds, Glasto (well for this year anyway) and the 'others', because there's music and other arts for just about all tastes right here on our doorstep - with national acts rubbing shoulders with the pick of our own up-and-coming talent!

It's the time of year to be planning your summer musical treats, but also the moment for bands to be firing off those applications to play - there's usually a page for acts to apply on each festival's website - it just sometimes needs a bit of looking for!

Inevitably there's a few clashes, but usually they're of different genres - but mostly our local organisers seem to have done a fabbo job in spreading the entertainment around over the summer months and it all kicks off with the **Big Love Festival** in Hay from May 4-6 with a mix of DJs and artists, it's a bank holiday weekend so there's also **Upton Folk Festival** - now in its 29th year! It's also a bank holiday at the end of the month and there's a bewildering variety to choose from that weekend ranging from the mammoth **Hay/How The Light Gets In** words and music bash to **Mello Festival** (this year at Hanley Castle) featuring **Soul2Soul**, **Badly Drawn Boy** and **Toyah** (!) but you can also choose between **Dubs In The Middle** (Evesham) for VeeWee fans or **Breaking Bands** at Stoke Prior near Bromsgrove for a more punksome/metal experience! On the weekend of 25-27 May there's the family friendly **Lechlade Festival** along side the Thames. For fans of jazz, blues and world music there's **Cheltenham Jazz Festival** taking place 2-7 May.

Worth checking out acts like **Gypsy Kings** and **Shed Seven** at **Wychwood** on Cheltenham Racecourse from June 1-3, something different at Stoke Prior from June 14-17 with prog and space-rock from the **Sonic Rock Solstice** bash but there's also **Hopfest** in Bewdley that weekend with a Peaky Blinders theme and **Stiff Joints** headlining! Each to their own the next weekend June 21-24 when you can pick from **Mappfest** on Malvern Link Common, the 33rd **Upton Jazz Festival** or **Gillow Cider Festival** near Ross-on-Wye. The acclaimed **Ledbury Poetry Festival** of words and music runs from June 29 to July 8 but you could pop into **Tenbury Music Festival** on June 30 for a helping of **Arcadia Roots** and **Stone Mountain Sinners**!

It's the fourth **Woo Fest** at the Drum & Monkey near Upton on July 8 which supports St Richards Hospice. Also that weekend is the **Linton Festival** near Ross on Wye and from July 13-17 it'll be the 26th **Bromsgrove Folk Festival** - recommended! From July 20-22 depending on your musical proclivities you've got a choice between the oh-so-eclectic **Nozstock** at Rowden Paddocks near Bromyard celebrating its 20th birthday with **Goldfrapp** and **The Selecter** among many others (!) or the **Upton Blues Festival** - one of the best completely free events around! Those of a more classical bent might want to pop along to the 303rd rotation of the **Three Choirs Festival** in Hereford from July 28 to August 2 - but there's also the family-friendly **Wizzafest** at Stoke Prior from July 27-29 as well!

In-fact July is full of festivals, a quick round up of the rest include **Barn on the Farm** 5-8th July, **Amplified Festival** 6-8th July, **Nibley Music Festival** 6-8th July, **Cheltenham Music Festival** 3-

15th July and finally **2000 Trees** 11-14 July. July is certainly looking to be a busy time.

Early August kicks off with a pick between the 'house party' at **Truefest** near Hay or the **Drunken Monkey** bash at Upton featuring **Seasick Steve** from August 3-5. Between August 9-12 the Two Counties shut down for our biggest local event at **Lakefest** at Eastnor - acts already confirmed include **Reverend and the Makers**, **Marc Almond** and **Pop Will Eat Itself** but lots more to be announced! Also that weekend is **Down On The Farm** in the Golden Valley with headliners Dr Feelgood. Easy choices depending on your musical disposition the following weekend (August 17-19) between **Pershore Jazz Festival** and the **Old Bush Blues** at Callow End near Worcester and much the same the following bank holiday weekend (August 24-26) where the pick is between 'classic' acts **Status Quo** and **Heather Small** at **Upton Sunshine Festival** - or hardcore rock and metal at **Beermageddon** near Bromsgrove! And finally for August there's the lovely, compact and friendly Stroud Fringe Festival 26-28th August.

It's not over yet folks! From September 6-8 you've got a choice between more space-rock and prog at **Onboard The Craft** at Stoke Prior or the very-accessible 51st Bromyard Folk Festival featuring the brilliant **Granny's Attic** - before yet another wonderful summer dives into the drumkit between September 14-16 across the city with our own 11th **Worcester Music Festival** for a weekend of the choicest local, regional and national sounds around! So please do checkout one, a few - or better still as many as possible of these amazing events and help keep our local arts and music scene among the best in the UK/world/universe - and if I've missed any, the **SLAP** gig guide nearer the event will point you in the right direction - now all that's needed is great weather!!

Andy O'Hare



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Tokyo Storm | Optimistic State Of Mind

For those of a certain age, the very mention of AOR (Adult Oriented Rock) brings back memories of MTV rock videos featuring skinny, spandex-clad guitar heroes atop a butte in Monument Valley at sunset, waist-length hair flowing in the wind as a helicopter rises behind them (there was always a helicopter in MTV rock videos).

The 1980s was the heyday of AOR and bands such as Toto, Foreigner, Journey, Asia and Yes (the Trevor Horn version) ruled the airwaves and dominated TV screens until, inevitably, music trends changed, indie bands came to the fore and AOR sank without a trace. Well now it's back.

Tokyo Storm are a four-piece band from Bewdley, who are making waves on the Worcestershire and West Midlands music scene with their debut album, *'Optimistic State Of Mind'*, a collection of ten original songs with an even spread of driving rock songs and power ballads that offers something for everyone.

The album opens with the title track, a blistering, supercharged V8 engine of a rock song, which sets the tone for all that is to come, and, in this reviewer's opinion, is good enough to stand alongside any AOR classic from yesteryear.

In these modern times of Auto-Tune, manufactured bands and stardom-by-committee, releasing an album of original AOR material would be a gutsy move even for an established group. **Tokyo Storm** have risen to this challenge and in *Optimistic State Of Mind* they have delivered a debut collection worthy enough to make the most hardened cynic sit up and take note. The standard



of song writing, musicianship, and production has resulted in a polished and professional-sounding album, of which the band ought to be proud. Tokyo Storm are here to stay, and have the chops to go on to bigger and better things.

Can **Tokyo Storm** resurrect AOR? With an optimistic state of mind, I rather think they can.

www.tokyo-storm.com

Richard Wall

Richard Wall is a Worcestershire writer, and author of the novel, *Fat Man Blues*. www.richardwall.org

The Strays | Brand New Day

Cheltenham based rockabilly band **The Strays** have a new recording, a 5 track EP, to be released on 13th of April. But just to whet your appetite, a single taken from the release will be available to buy on Bandcamp from March 1st.

Sign up for their newsletter and you'll be able to download, *'Scratch My Back'* for free, so why wouldn't you!

'Scratch My Back' happens to be the opening track on the 'EP' and you'd best hold on tight for the ride, it rattles out in a cloud of floating sweetheart dresses, skinny denims and slick hairstyles.

Don't expect to find time for a breather, **Estelle** throws out the lyrics of *'Too Bad'* at a frenetic pace. **Gary's** thumping out the rhythm, helped along by **Krisztian Jakab's** bass, whilst Sam puts his Gretsch through its paces. And if I'm not mistaken, the song closes off with the help of **Gregg Wilson-Copp's** trumpet joining in. It is his **Sound Track Studio** after all.

Dance for me baby, you never know where it will lead, *'Go Go Boy'* has a thumping start but reveals a more sultry Estelle, and includes more stand out guitar licks from **Sam**. Time to retire to the *'Black Swan Hotel'* for a late night session at the drinking hole, time called by **Estelle** on full power.

Phew, a slight ease in pace and a dip into *'The River'*. The boys chorus adds a darker feel to the song. I like this one, I might even be able to keep up and follow Estelle, hubby Gary, Sam, and Kristzian down to the river side, perhaps accompanied by a distant trumpet note.

There is no doubt **The Strays** are gaining a wide following, there are plenty of fans willing to submerge themselves in the mad arsed, high rolling mix of '50's swing and the growing pains of R&R. Go to a Strays gig and its always going to be colourful and wild, *'Brand New Day'* will let you take a little bit back home, to secretly

dust off the crepes, get out the hair gel, roll back the carpet and let rip.

A well produced firecracker, to be taken as often as the mood takes you. I suggest you start off with signing up for that free download.

<https://www.facebook.com/TheStraysLive/>

Graham Munn



March at the Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

The Valkerie kick of March with **Kikamora** on Friday 2nd, a hard rock band based in the south west. Formed in 2015 Kikamora are described as a thumping fusion of classic rock and blues. Every show is 110% energy not to be missed!! Support comes from **Michael Knowles** and **the STDs**.



Then on 3rd **Midnight Sun** are coming to the Valkyrie for the first time. The band play hard driving rock covers with plenty of audience involvement. Then on 9th they are very honoured to have **Gehtika** as this is going to one of the very last shows that this amazing death metal band are ever going to do. An infectious gentlemanly facade feeds the theatrical madness that is Gehtika's live performance. Also on the bill are **Vengeful Atonement**.

On the 4th **Chris Francis** provides the late afternoon Sunday entertainment. On 10th it's the **Texan Peacocks** will be playing all your favourite tunes. On the 11th, **Tom Forbes** will be performing his unique set that could be described as *Space Pop*.

On 16th it's **Pelugion** that are an original hard rock/metal piece from Coventy, their main influences are Black Sabbath, Metallica, Alterbridge and Black Label Society. Support comes from **Ten Days Later**.

On 17th **Isolation** return with their hard hitting metal show that is a must see if you have never seenthem before. **Grey Wolves**

Grin provide the support. On 18th we have **One Last Thrill** - an original band playing hard hitting guitar riffs, punchy drums and distinct vocal melodies. 23rd is something very special for the Valkyrie for the mighty **Mordrake & Pilla** come to town. We are very excited to have these guys as they are a Viking Metal band with their very own unique sound they are amazing- musicians.



On 24th brings the Valkerie's first music festival **The Fire and Forge's** raising money for juvenile diabetes. Performing will be **Black Emerald, Bitter Divide, This Winter Machine** and **VNDTA UK**.

On good Friday, **Valous** a five piece original metal band from Birmingham grace the Valkerie stage. They pride themselves on giving 110% plus more on top!! Finally on the 31st it's **Final Warning**. Please come and support the live music scene as all these events are free of charge so what's stopping you!!



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Will Wilde | Bring It On Home

With **Will** and **Dani Wilde's** acoustic session at **Elmslie House** still fresh in my memory I've been granted access to Will's new album, *Bring It On Home*, due for release on March 9th.

The dual harp rendition of *Parisiennne Walkways* that Will played on the night features on this new album, and the video of this fabulous harmonica driven version of the Gary Moore and Phil Lynott classic is available on his website. But if you were expecting this new album to be in any way acoustic, prepare to have your head blown off, because this damned disc is hard ball rock, so lets *Bring It On Home*.

Gallagher's *Bad Penny* hits our ears first; the guitar rasps out opening bars as the harp kicks in, and Will delivers the lyrics, culminating in a blistering start to the album and a portend of what awaits.

Deep Purple's *Lazy* gives Will more opportunity to produce a harp sound driven by pure passion, and with only brief lyrics the track continues for nearing on six minutes of rockin' harp heaven. Next up, Mayall's *Witchdoctor* casts its spell, before we are treated to some heavy Tull for a thunderous rendition of *Locomotive Breath*.

Next is a sultry song from a time when Fleetwood Mac were Brit Blues Gods, and a *Love That Burns* gives way to a beautiful, mellow, and sometimes haunting harmonica from Will. This one stands out to me as one of the best from the album, and includes a lovely guitar solo from **Danny Giles**, producing a tasty and ever-satisfying 'Wilde Big Mac'.



I've always had a soft spot for Cream; an occasional guilty pleasure and the 60's super-group who provided my first ever 12" vinyl. Jack Bruce's *Politician*, a salient comment on the corruption of power, finds its place on the album, with Danny driving Will's "big black car" while **Vicky Smith** and **Man Taylor** thump out the rhythm, akin to the B52's delivering their weighty load.

We are quickly pulled back to the dark, satanic forces of *The Wizard*, making me question why the hell I ever let that glorious, Brum-forged, 1970 Black Sabbath album go. Will makes a fine job of this, and although he may not have the dark menace of Oz, his harp works powerfully alongside the guitar.

Yer Blues is pretty weighty stuff from The Beatles, and Giles' guitar has its dirty switch jammed to 'on' as Will calls out the lyrics before burning in some serious harp-bending riffs. Free's *My Brother Jake* lightens the load, allowing Will's clean vocals taking centre stage, before an interesting take on *Bring It On Home* opens as more Sonny Boy Williams than Led Zeppelin - at least before Danny gets hold of it and things get decidedly meatier and we are treated to a full rock respray.

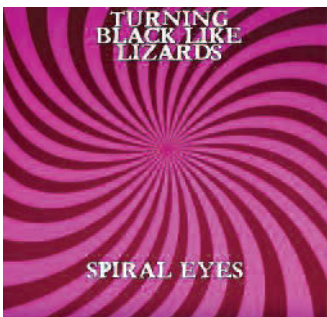
All this leads to that other stand-out track, the superb *Parisiennne Walkways*, with Will Wilde's twin decked harps that really pack a punch; a brilliant example of what the diminutive blues harp can do when in the right hands.

The whole album is a pick 'n' mix of iconic British Rock songs, given their own 'Wilde' twist. If I were to be selective, I would pick out *Bad Penny*, the ethereal *Love That Burns* and that memorable stroll down *Parisiennne Walkways* as the true stand-out tracks of this record. But with so much to enjoy here it has to be worthy of anyone's music collection.

Graham Munn

Turning Black Like Lizards Spiral Eyes (Rainy Days Edit)

Intriguing name, infatuating sound, **Turning Black Like Lizards**



could be the Black Country's best kept secret. A new name to me but having opened for post punk legends, The Monochrome Set in 2016 and shared a stage with both Big Country and The Cravets last year, the four (or is it five) piece have an obvious pedigree. Further backed

by a single of the week accolade granted by Manc Review for their debut *Turn The Screw*, a fact backed by subsequent airplay for the band's bass driven follow up *Always Staring At The Sun*.

The band's latest single, *Spiral Eyes (Rainy Days Edit)* serves as a stunning introduction to the uninitiated. The three minute forty second track opens with a spritely indie jangle before quickly twisting into something a little more potent and dare I say darker. As shimmering shards of guitar are joined by a driving garage bass and thumping drum combo before frontman **Andy Black**

swaggers to the mic to deliver a glorious vocal drawl, vaguely reminiscent of prime time Iggy or Reed as his most potent, whilst all the time the duel guitars snake and spiral towards an epic and hypnotic psychedelic wig out as the groove finally runs dry, leaving you want more, appetite suitable whetted.

Turning Black Like Lizards and *Spiral Eyes* sounds like all the best bits taken from the likes of The Velvet Underground, Spacemen 3, The Stooges, JAMC, BRMC, Wire and beyond, all condensed into one sub four minute slab of essential psych-tinged post-punk fuelled, garage goodness, just screaming out to be discovered.

Will Munn



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Various Artists | Shenanigans Music

Shenanigans have been promoting live music in the West Midlands for a wee while now, often showcasing an intriguing array of artists and indeed genres at venues like Stourbridge's **Claptrap** or **Katie Fitzgerald's**, featuring local favourites and new names (well to me at least) alike. In recent times the likes of **Patched Up Parachutes**, **Halo Of Flies** and **Crazyhead** have all graced the Shenanigans stage, whilst they have headlining slots for **Lakhota** and **Flying Ant Day** coming up over the next couple of months.

Along with the monthly gigs and the open mic sessions, the Shenanigans team decided they wanted to promote both their night and some of the artists they've featured in the past by piecing together a free ten-track sampler CD (that was and could still be available at various venues such as the aforementioned Claptrap).

Shenanigans Music, the compilation serves to highlight not only the band's that grace the promoters night, but it also serves as something of a showcase for the West Midlands scene in general and I have to say on the basis of the ten acts featured, it's a very healthy and varied scene right now. Opening with Stourbridge's finest purveyors of garage pop, **Flying Ant Day**, the disc is kicked off with a gloriously infectious, spiky anthem in the shape of *Stepping Into The Light*, a track that has your knee jerking from the off. **Linda Marita** follows and changes the mood, offering a beautiful, sophisticated slice of jazzy,



acoustic pop, complete with gorgeous harmonies and a stunning soulful lead. From there **The Long Goodbye** take the reins with a mesmeric slab of reflective, atmospheric Americana inspired indie complete with hushed, reflective vocals, strings and a fuzz-laden guitar middle, urging the listener to hear more.

Smokin' Pilchards continue the eclectic concoction of genres as they offer a contagious mix of twanging electric guitar, ragtime rhythms, sax and irresistible hook-laden indie harmonies, bringing to mind the criminally underrated Rumblestrips (praise indeed). **Patched Up Parachutes** have the lo-fi indie market cornered with the addictive, clap along *Tribes R Us*, whilst **Dead Happy** up the ante with a dose of Disco Metal complete with chugging riffs, crazed beats and a vocalist straight out of the Mike Patton finishing school. Wolverhampton's **Sleuth** are up next and prove just why they're so highly regarded, with a delightful piece of quirky keyboard led, indie pop, full of clever time changes (including a lovely waltz inducing middle) and 'catchier than the common cold' hooks.

The disc is brought to conclusion with a trio of singer-songwriters in the shape of the 'Dylan sings country' of **Pete Boddis**, the subtle yet affecting folky stylings of **Jess Silk** and long-term favourite and barbed wired bard **Humdrum Express**, rounding off a diverse and captivating compendium of the West Midlands finest.

If you happen to chance upon a copy of *Shenanigans Music*, I rather suggest you nab it, failing that get your arse over to their Facebook page and see what they've got going on, if it's got the Shenanigans seal of approval you're not going to be disappointed.

facebook.com/shenanigansmusicuk

Will Munn

Stuart Woolfenden | Waste Your Time

Stuart Woolfenden is a Redditch based, (recently turned) twenty year old singer-songwriter, who has already been making waves since releasing his debut EP, *Are You Vulnerable Or Just Insane*. Last year saw Woolfenden continue to develop, performing on the **Firestone** stage at a sold out Ed Sheeran show at **The Barclaycard Arena** in Birmingham, as well taking a slot on The BBC Introducing Stage at Lakefest. He also performed a host of shows around the local area (and further afield), between bouts of writing and recording new material.

Stuart first came to my attention with the release of the infectious *I've Seen It All*. A track that was handpicked by **Tom Robinson** (of 6 Music) for his BBC Introducing mixtape. The effortless blend of striking indie guitars and pop like melodies was difficult not to like, whilst the choral hook lasted long after the track played out. At the aforementioned Lakefest, I caught Woolfenden's set, intrigued to see if he could capture the attention live. And again Stuart (along with his live band), delivered the goods with a bubbly set of pop laced indie odes that saw a busy tent happily singing along.

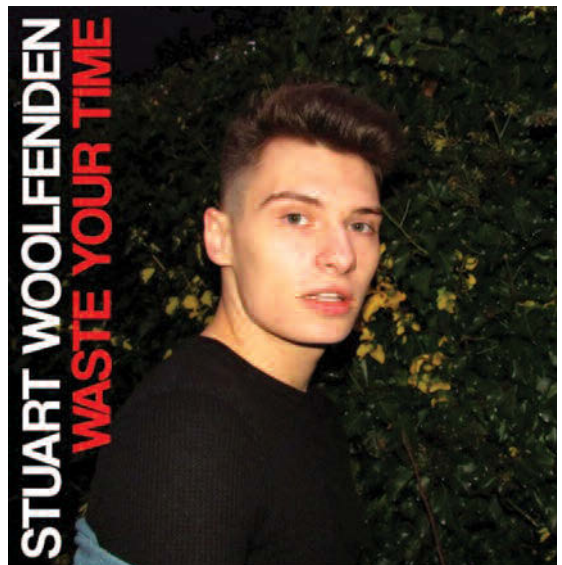
Having had an impressive 2017, Stuart continues the momentum with the release of his new single, *Waste Your Time*. A track that has already proved a hit on Youtube and found the ear of the renowned DJ **Jim Gellatly**, who gave the track airplay on his **Amazing Radio** show. It's easy to hear why the new single has already proven popular. Woolfenden takes an acoustic guitar, an electronic pop groove and a contagious slab of rhythm, layers on a clean, instant lead, stirs in a catchy choral hook and heads for charts.

Waste Your Time sees Woolfenden embrace his inner pop persona with a continuing confidence that should see his star continue to ascend to the dizzy heights of daytime radio and beyond. Keep a look out for Redditch's purveyor of pop perfection as he continues towards the bright lights of success.

www.stuartwoolfenden.com

www.facebook.com/stuartwoolfenden

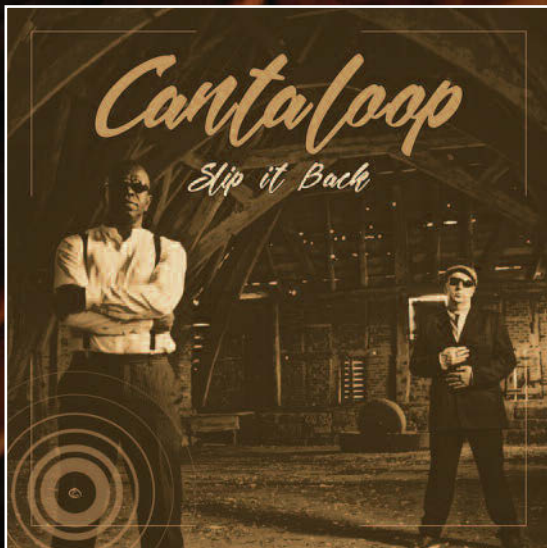
Will Munn



New Release

Cantaloop Slip It Back

What can I say about local funkfather, **Cantaloop** that hasn't already been said? they've been described as Funk! Soul! With A Hip-Hop Smile!, they've filled airwaves with funk wonder, both locally and nationally, graced the stages of **Glastonbury** and the **Montreaux Jazz Festival**, toured with the likes of **The Fun Lovin' Criminals** among others and filled dance floors across the nation (and beyond) with their infectious blend of funk up soul, R&B and hip-hop for many a year.



Last year the band dropped an instant funk masterpiece in the shape of single, *Dig It*, a track featuring the critically acclaimed **Haggis Horns** (Mark Ronson, Amy Winehouse) alongside the usual smooth, soulful seduction of **Dannie Dee** on lead vocal duties. This year sees the band return to a similar formula with The Haggis Horns returning to the mix for brand new single, *Slip It Back*, whilst Multi-Grammy Award winning, **Joe Palmaccio** (James Brown, Taylor Swift, etc) and **Derek Garten** add their expert touch to create yet another guaranteed floor filler.

The original radio mix has it all, an instant funk lick (courtesy of the guitar of **Justin Metti**, the Rhodes of **Rev Cleeve** and the **Dannie Dee** bassline), a delicious, almost tropical disco beat, the aforementioned Haggis Horns bursting through the sun-kissed groove, gorgeous soulful harmonies and Dannie Dee leading the line, towards an inevitable signature Cantaloop choral pay off, whilst 'horns man, **Atholl Ransome** adds the proverbial cherry on top with a fruity flute finale.

If the track wasn't already a floor burner the band back the single with a host of remixes, each worthy of note in their own right, the *Sam Redmore Vs Cantaloop* mix ups adds reverb and pushes the instrumentation further up the mix to give it an almost vibrant, tropical dub like edge, *Rhythmic Groove* aim squarely for



the house market as they strip away the horns to concentrate on pushing the beat and those lead vocals, whilst **Tek Gremlin** take it one step further, twisting a once three and a half minute soulful funk anthem into a near seven minute blast of throbbing drum n bass number.

Cantaloop *Slip It Back*, effortlessly into groove with another flawless funk masterclass.

www.cantaloop.net



Justin and Dannie

SLAP - So the last time I saw **Cantaloop** you were supporting **The Fun Lovin' Criminals** on their UK tour, I just wondered how you were received on that tour

Dannie - *We love those boys and we were humbled by the love they and their fans showed us. Nite after nite their fans would cheer us and nite after night Frank, Fast and Huey would look after us and take the time watch us perform a few songs before they went on even making us their killer cocktail on our way to the stage (gawd bless you Fast). We were lucky enough to be a part of their 'Come Find Yourself' 20th Anniversary show and i still don't know of anyone who can lay it down live like those boys....respek!*

Justin - *we've done a lot of our own tours and after show parties but they really did take it to the next level, we played the legendary Barrowlands in Glasgow and I can remember one tour member (who shall remain nameless) had to wear a eye patch, pirate style for the rest of the tour.*

SLAP - And what have you been up to since then?

Justin - *keeping a band together is a full time job in its self. But for Dannie and I it's a way of life.*

The Eagles may have said it the best "You can check out anytime but you can never leave" Beef and Jonny D know this to be true.

So for us there's always a rehearsal a set of gigs, recording session a campaign to put together. It's relentless, but so are we, this is because we self manage the band and that's not out of choice but you could sit on your hands waiting for shit to happen. So if there's somebody out there who can do things better then us come find us, until then we shall continue with being relentless.

SLAP - You've got a brand new single, Slip It Back, coming out can you tell us what's the track all about?

Dannie - *The track is really looking at the some of those life defining choices we all have to make. We can't ever know if it's right until it's gone wrong! But what if we could go back to that crossroads and choose again or maybe see the full picture? As a good friend once told us 'The story isn't always the story'.*

SLAP - I believe Multiple Grammy award winner Joe Palmaccio and Derek Garten were involved in the recording process what did they bring to the table?

Justin - *We've been lucky to work with some of the best like Gavin Monaghan, but it's that relentless thing in us always looking for the next step in Cantaloop's evolution. These guys are at the top of their game and based in Nashville. So we had two potential problems the logistics and would they work with us. So we asked the question and happily for us we began working with them... but sadly our budget didn't stretch to a summer in Nashville so we used the net and sent files back and fore and skyped and we are super psyched with the track.*

SLAP - The single also features the renowned Haggis Horns (Mark Ronson, Amy Winehouse) how did they get involved?

Justin - *Some years back we had a European tour lined up and our then sax player went missing (we had a few members do this to us, touring isn't meant for everyone the recreational side can really hurt some people) so we drafted in a dep Atholl Ranson. Atholl became our friend and is a founder member of the Haggis Horns. Again we made the call, happily they said yes. I think the thing is just make the bloody call they can only say yes or no! But we are not blasé about these musicians, producers working with us; it's a goal celebration when they say yes.*

Dannie - *We've also got the Rev Cleve nicing it up with rhodes and my brother Eric doing the BV's on this too! Truly blessed!*

SLAP - You've also got Sam Redmore on remix duties, tell us about a little about his mix?

Justin - *We had heard Sam on 6music and Radio 2 and bumped into him at a few different gigs we were both playing at, he was creating a new sub genre his Tropical Soundclash and he's taken the Slip It Back remix to a place we would have never even thought to go. It's chilled yet its driving but completely epic. Get over to those streaming sites, for me I just like the cut of its jib.*

We also have a Soulful House remix by Rhythmic Groove and sneaky DnB remix by Tek Gremlin all worth checkin out.

SLAP - I know you've got a single launch in Stourport, can people expect to hear more new material and can we expect to see a new album in the future?

Justin - *Yeah we do have a couple new tracks for those who haven't seen us in a while and for sure there will be more to come. We don't feel the need to go down the album route but we'll be working on another release soon and the only thing i know for sure is it'll sound like Cantaloop but with a twist! Stourport fans can expect to dance and party....hard! On stage the emphasis is always on Cantaloop being Cantaloop, doing what we do, firing up the party and bringin the funk but not as you know it!*

SLAP - What's next for Cantaloop and will we see you tread the boards during festival season?

Justin - *Yeah we will be out there and if it's not at a festival look out for us at a venue nearby, with regards to what's next we have a few more of those phone calls to make and then we will let you know!*

Thanks for your time...

Will Munn

SLAP - Has it been a case of writing and recording?

Dannie - *We try to incorporate it all really so gigs are always gonna be included in that equation for us. Creating music is not usually a conscious or predefined thing. We get together and just jam some ideas. Sometimes the ideas come from a vocal or guitar line and we'll build a track around it. Whatever ideas we're feeling we'll keep, tweak and refine until we're happy. It's a nice organic way to write.*

Syndicate | Out of the Foundations

Out of the Foundations is a 5 track EP by local one man rhymers, Syndicate.

After the first play it was obvious that he is a talented lyricist, using poetic rapping to tell his stories. On the second play, I delved deeper and really listened to the messages his rhyming mantras were delivering. "Basically" tells the tale of an argument, but the chilled out vibes of the background music cleverly contradicts the venomous lyrics. A tale most of us can relate to, despite the confrontations, somehow the storyteller is wanting to work things out, without the interference of friends. "Medicine" sees the introduction of a female vocalist, whose voice softens the strong message of addiction, with words of encouragement, promises of second chances and still being able to be who you wanted to be. The story is hard, the addict admitting they're at fault, a product of their parents mistakes, a harrowing message, honestly portrayed.

"From the Foundation" is more of an upbeat hiphop track in which we hear the vocals of a second artist alongside Syndicate, telling tales of who they are and where they're from, dropping relevant political figures into the mix. Alongside the other two tracks "9th Symphony" and "Supernova", and considering that this

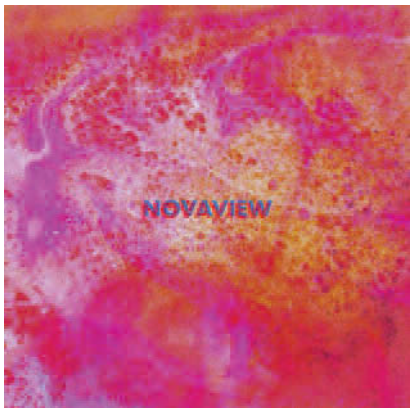


is a one man "band", so to speak, the EP works brilliantly and the artists skills are indeed, exceptional in his field.

Kate Ford

Novaview | Drink to You

Novaview's debut EP is packed full of the guttural early signs of a chaotic noise machine who will be kicking the music scene out of its slumber. In all of *Drink to You's* five tracks, it's impossible to pinpoint an exact likeness to anyone else. They shimmer through dream pop sounds that almost match up to the early daze of Worcester's own **Peace** before breaking down into a dizzying turmoil that could shake you to the core, mirroring the pandemonium of noise rock/post-punk Girl Band.



They maybe one of the youngest bands to enter the circuit, but they're already making their mark. They channel their inspirations acutely, using the music of artists such as My Bloody Valentine, Sonic Youth and

Smashing Pumpkins to generate a sound that is still wholly their own. Their debut appearance took place in October at **Boneyard Sessions**, impressing the gathering with **Joanna Edwards'** ethereal voice, shocking them with the laidback elements of shoegaze laze. It's a performance they're set to beat when they take to **The Marrs Bar** for **Independent Woman's Day** on March 8th.

The four-piece jolt you awake through a break in the fog of opening track 'Startup'. The impact on the senses is almost dizzying, creating an arresting introduction. Previous single 'In Limbo' holds you in place, it's gentle breeze, setting itself as a minor heaven between the deafening atmosphere that 'All This

Time' generates. Through that haunting setting a change of scene will be found in the way of live demo, 'Trashman / Prologue'. It kicks up dirt as it sets off on the prowl, hunting its prey before descending on a more friendlier title track. 'Drink to You' is one that shares a gentle beauty while boasting an artistic twinge that is set to wow. Keep your eye on these guys, they promise to surprise you.

Emily Branson

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Fairport Convention

The Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury | 25th January

It's 1969 and I stumble into the 6th Form common room, wrecked after a double lesson of something I never ever needed again. There's a red and white Dansette in there and the music coming out of it is like nothing I've ever heard before. The guy who's walked in with me says, "What's this stuff called?" - we didn't say 'genre' then - "Folk Rock" comes back the answer. "They're called Fairport Convention".

The Roses Theatre in Tewkesbury is packed to the seams and for once, I don't stand out in an audience - the bulk of us are of a common age, grown up with the band over many years. Fairport has been in existence for over half a century, and the current line-up has held the stage for more than twenty years.

The easy rapport between band and audience is remarkable and at times it's like having them turn up to play in your front room - violinist **Ric Sanders** has just turned 65, and his monologue on ageing, punctuated with jokes that make us laugh and groan in equal measure is a delight.

The band does present one huge problem to any reviewer. We normally look for highlights in a performance to focus around. In this performance, the highlights come in such abundance and in such rapid succession you hardly know where to start. But this is to be no Greatest Hits package - that would deny the continuing development of the band as a musical force rather than simply being peddlers of nostalgia, as so many have become.

We even get a song debuted tonight - the extremely energetic 'Shuffle and Go' - and it turns out to be one of the most memorable of the evening. The rhythm section of **Gerry Conway**, sitting so low on his drum kit that he looks like he's squatting on a yoga mat and Dave Pegg looking serenely comfortable on a perching stool play a blinder on this one.

New material from their 28th and latest album, "50:50@50", is interspersed skilfully with classics such as 'Crazy Man Michael', its brilliance undiminished by the years and an absolutely stunning

version of 'Doctor of Physick', in which guitarist and founder member **Simon Nicol's** immaculate vocal delivery of the ominous lyrics of mediaeval sexual impropriety, resonate uncomfortably with current events and revelations.

Instrumentals have always been a strong point - 'Portmeirion' and 'The Gallivant' contain some extraordinary interplay between Sanders' violin and multi-instrumentalist, **Chris Leslie's** mandolin, the sound slicing through the rock solid backdrop. The most powerful interplay though comes during an epic rendering of 'Mercy Bay', which for me takes the musical honours on the night, with gloriously rich vocal harmonies and Sanders' looped and modified violin howling like the wind. Its impact is run close by a breathtaking cover of James Wood's beautiful song 'Weightless', the haunting melody of which stayed with me long after the performance had finished.

And it's a long performance, close to two hours, but end it must - the encore, almost inevitably is 'Meet On The Ledge' and they bring back openers Winter Wilson to augment the sound, Kip Winter's voice adding an essential female dimension to this classic. And miraculously, during the course of the song, I become seventeen again... Magic.

www.fairportconvention.com

Geoffrey Head



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Dani & Will Wilde

Elmslie House, Malvern | 16th Feb

'Wilde' but not wild; an acoustic evening from brother and sister Will and Dani, taking place in more a reverential art-house 'church', rather than the rockier frontiers of festivals and beer halls. I've had the pleasure of listening to some of Dani's recordings under RUF Records, and I've seen Will many times in full rock & blues mode, bending those reeds in front of his Wilde band. But I have to say up front that this is rather special; a chance at seeing Dani live for the first time, and also to better appreciate the subtleties and nuances of Will's harmonica and his vocals too. With no need for the power play you might expect from a rock gig Will was relaxed and comfortable, sharing the load with big sister, an alchemy that produces pure gold.

Inevitably there's a bucket load of material to choose from in the jukebox of Wilde recordings, taken from both Dani and Will's albums plus a couple of new songs from an impending release from Will. The duo are joined this time by the addition of an occasional 'chorus' from Dani's newborn, cradled in Dad's arms to the rear.

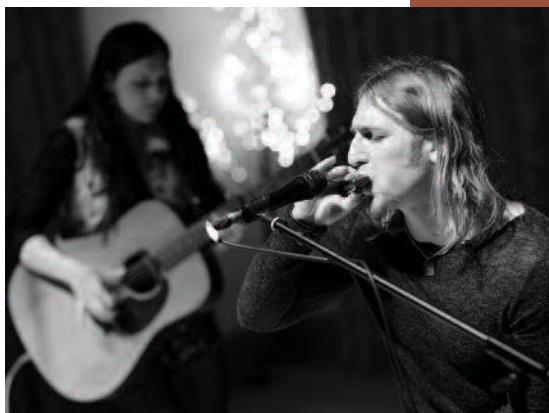


Dani leads proceedings with the lovely 'fat' *Bumble Bee*, whose guitar and accompanying harp set a very high bar for the evening. Will's grittier tune *What Makes People* stomps on afterwards with a rhythm produced by his own boots resting on board and tambourine, alongside the sounds of harp, vocals, and Dani's guitar.

More soulful blues follow with Will delivering a stunning performance of *Fly Around The World*, undoubtedly nailing his blues flag on top of that mast with a beautiful harp solo accompanying his vocals.

Later, Dani hints to her time with Canadian Sue Foley, a partnership responsible for the not too *'Empty Cup'*; her session recording of *Live At Brighton Road* is a touching eulogy to the Wilde's grandfather; *'My Old Man'*.

With the break imminent the pair play a fabulous acoustic, twin harp driven cover of Gary Moore's *Parisienne Walkways*, played out with acoustic guitar and twenty reeds, double decked. It's one hell of a sandwich, the tastiest filling you can imagine, with added mayo! Will finds enough breath to sing those bluesy vocals; it is truly a show-stopper. His soon to be released album (available at www.willharmonicawilde.com/news) features many rock and blues classics, from Gary & Phil to Led Zeppelin and even Black Sabbath. I've always held a liking for Ozzie's band, and I look forward to hearing the album, *Bring It On Home*, release date March 9th.



Next, Dani takes us for a *Wade In The Water* as we move toward a spiritual end to this *Glorious Day*. Buddy Guy's *Smokin Dynamite* brings the metaphorical curtain down, as the audience erupts in applause, hoping for more. Eric Bibb provides the gospel of the blues; *Don't Let Nobody Drag Your Spirit Down*, with Dani's superb voice following alongside that of her brother, and the whole house. The beautiful, mellow *Soul Shine* closes the evening with Will singing to Dani's accompaniment.

I've listened to a few sessions with Will on stage with his band, and in his recordings, but this evening I discovered the true quality of his voice and subtleties of his playing that could be lost within more intense, adrenalin driven, rock sessions. I have waited a long time to see Dani perform live and she has not disappointed. Taking a walk on the Wilde side has proved to be a fabulous and unforgettable evening, and one I can highly recommend.

Graham Munn

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Ensemble Échos

Old St. Martin's in the Cornmarket, Worcester

Saturday 27th January

I didn't expect **St. Martin's-in-the-Cornmarket**, so solid, almost utilitarian on the outside to have such a luminous and in places, almost delicate interior – I also didn't expect the temperature in there to be hovering just above freezing...

I'm here today to see a lunchtime concert by the baroque chamber group **Ensemble Échos**, very sensibly wearing Arctic gear for the sound check, which was formed by former students of the **Royal Birmingham Conservatoire**.

Certainly one of the main attractions for me today is that the music is being played on period instruments, not originals because so few still exist, but contemporary models producing an authentic baroque sound.



It's a strange thing that even among my classical music loving friends, baroque music is seen as lacking variation, drawing some parallels with Heavy Metal, with which elements of it have so much in common. Both genres often draw the comment that *"It all sounds the same..."*

Not really, it's just that at the time it was written, musical form and structure was so rigid, it was difficult to break out from the confines of what was expected, and it was not until Mozart and J.S. Bach began to dismantle the barriers that music became more free and diverse.

The music is simply wonderful, managing to simultaneously sound both clean and complex. The opening piece by Tellemann, possibly the best known of the baroque composers, sets the tone for the entire presentation. Highly melodic, beautifully nuanced and played with obvious joy and tremendous skill with the allegro sections played at a fierce clip, contrasting starkly with the measured and stately adagio movement.

It is slightly unusual to hear a flute take the bulk of the lead parts and **Gareth James** puts in quite a shift on an instrument completely unlike a modern flute. It's made of wood, has sound holes instead of keys and resembles a recorder played on its side. It produces a very clean and clipped sound, cutting easily through the continuo, which when all four string/keyboard players are on stage, is a formidable backdrop.

The harpsichord is the essential part of the continuo, but **Róza Bene's** instrument not only produces a constant susurrus, like leaves blowing in an Autumn wind but also stately and chiming passages, especially in one memorable exchange of lace-like delicacy with James' flute.



The undoubted visual star of the show is **Silvana Scarini's** extraordinary theorbo, which would certainly have tabloid journalists falling over themselves to be the first to call it a 'Frankenstein' instrument. The lower part is shaped like a lute with eight fretted treble strings but on top of this sits a neck half as long again with six unfretted or partially fretted bass strings. The frets are made of gut and are moveable to alter the pitch and note intervals. The overall sound falls between a lute and a guitar, heard to its best effect in Marais' *'Pièces de Voile'* where there's just the theorbo and viola da gamba left onstage in a most delightful and delicate duet.

The viola da gamba and cello may look the same in passing, but they come from two different instrumental families. The cello has four metal strings, whereas the viola da gamba has six, made of gut and also sports frets towards the headpiece. As well as the skill with which **Claire Horáček** and **Ursula Miethe** play their respective instruments, with some very fierce bowing in the allegro sections, a degree of leg power is needed to hold them in place. As neither has an extendible endpin, they are instead held off the ground by a combination of knee and calf. This reduces the resonance, producing the typical baroque sound.

An hour simply flies by in the company of these excellent musicians and this extraordinary music. It's been a wonderful evocation of times past.

Worcester is a thriving centre for early music, with regular events. Some of these musicians will return here for another recital at lunchtime on Friday 2nd March and a full festival takes place in Worcester between 27th and 29th April.

www.earlymusicworcs.org

Many thanks to **Jill Davies** of the excellent 'Severn Muses' Facebook page for the gig alert.

Geoffrey Head

The Damned

02 Academy, Bristol | 10th February

On the back of last year's 40th anniversary celebrations and with their first album in ten years, the **Tony Visconti** produced '*Evil Spirits*', due out in April; **The Damned** hit Bristol on pre-Valentine's day weekend, to a packed house of punk legend lovers.

As Gustav Holst's '*The Planets*' fires up, I can't imagine The Damned ever thought they would still be at it four decades down the line. But heading into '*Wait for the Blackout*', '*Lively Arts*' and '*Silly Kids Games*', the first three songs from 1980's '*The Black Album*', it's clear they have lost none of their enthusiasm for performance and entertaining.

While stalwarts **Dave Vanian** and **Captain Sensible** go about their business, the trio of openers is a gift for loyal fans to welcome back bassist **Paul Gray**, reunited with the band once again, having played on the aforementioned album and also the classic '*Strawberries*'.

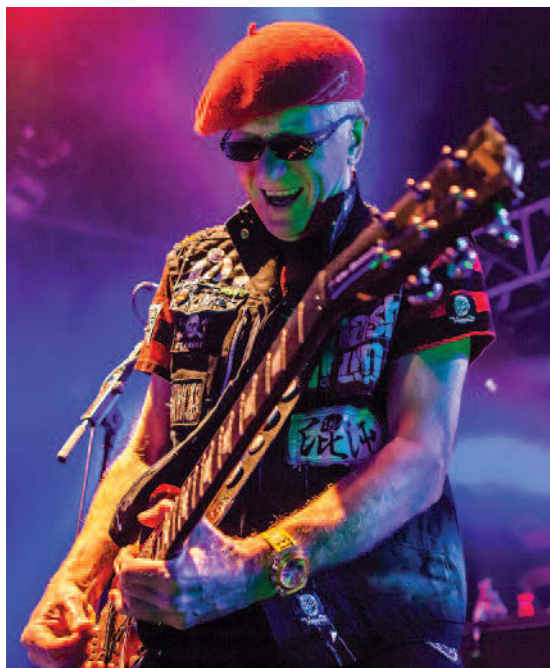


The vintage introduction to proceedings is followed by the first single from the new album '*Standing on the Edge of Tomorrow*', a wonderfully catchy and melodic slice of punkadelia, which drops into the set with ease.

Firing on all cylinders and embracing the back catalogue, The Damned head back the 70's to let it be known, along with their Bristolian family, that punk is most certainly not dead. High velocity versions of '*Anti-Pope*' and '*So Messed Up*' make way for a highlight performance of '*New Rose*' and a pogo worthy '*Love Song*'.

In addition to a sumptuous setlist comes the visual engagement of gothic ringmaster **Dave Vanian** and the absurdity of **Captain Sensible**. Both the unique vocalist and underrated guitarist are on fine form, along with **Paul Gray** and **Pinch** who drive the whole shebang along. Not forgetting crazy keyboardist **Monty Oxymoron** who dances around like a lunatic when not adding his wizardry to the party.

One indisputable crowd pleaser is the 1968 Paul Ryan hit '*Eloise*',



a long-time anthem and the band's most successful single to date. It's strange to think of this being anybody else's song, but The Damned, have made it their own since 1985, and they deliver it with style tonight.

Another newbie is the energetic '*Devil in Disguise*', again simply slotting into place before '*Ignite*' and '*Dozen Girls*' lead us to the finale. It's a blistering version of '*Neat Neat Neat*' which takes every punk here, back to the beginning, back to the height of the scene, a time when The Damned were no less dangerous or cool than the Sex Pistols, a time to celebrate.

The encore consists of '*Seagulls*', '*Generals*' and '*Evil Spirits*', before the standard '*Smash It Up*' from the 1979 album '*Machine Gun Etiquette*' resounds around Bristol Academy to leave with us the prototype for so much post-punk material. Finally, the band return for a filthy, fun-filled '*Jet Boy, Jet Girl*', marking the end of a gig to savour.

I've seen The Damned a few times in the last 10 years and they have never disappointed. With the new album soon to be released, tour dates with The Hollywood Vampires in June, and showing no signs of slowing down, if you call yourself a fan of the best of British rock music – you must go and see **The Damned**, or forever be it on your conscious.

Words & Photos: Steve Johnston



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Huntingdon Hall in March

Damian Wilson and **Adam Wakeman** will be bringing their first full UK tour to **Huntingdon Hall** on Thursday 1st March. The show sees a merging of two artists known for their work alongside some of the biggest names in music, with Wakeman having worked alongside Ozzy Osbourne and Black Sabbath, and Wilson's inclusion in bands and projects such as Headspace, Threshold and Ayreon. Their UK tour draws on inspiration from both artists' musical careers, culminating in an unmissable night of great music and laughter. Tickets £15



Saturday 3rd March sees the return of **Judie Tzuke** after her sell out 2016/17 tour, this time in celebration of her most recent album *Peace Has Broken Out*.

This intimate acoustic performance promises to bring with it old favourites as well as new releases, tied together with stories from the life and career of the artist internationally known for her timeless single, *Stay With Me Till Dawn*. Tickets are £22.50.

2018 is set to be an exciting year for **Peter Knight** and **John Spiers**, who take to the stage with their first extensive UK tour on Thursday 8th March. First brought together in 2016 for a 'one-off' performance at FolkEast Festival, the acclaimed fiddle player Knight (former member of Steeleye Span), and master of the

melodeon Spiers (ex Bellowhead member), produced a sound that their audience would not soon forget. With production under way for their debut album *Well Met*, their performance at Huntingdon Hall is set to be an exciting night that you won't want to miss! Tickets £16.50

If you're looking for the perfect way to celebrate St. Patrick's Day then look no further, as the world renowned **Craobh Rua** (pronounced Crave Roo-Ah) will be bringing their take on traditional Celtic music to the Hall on Saturday 17th March. With a sound driven by a huge array of instruments, from the banjo, mandolin, fiddle, uilleann pipes and guitar, to name but a few, these talented musicians are set to stun audiences across the country during their 2018 tour. Tickets £17.50 (concessions £16).



On Thursday 22nd March, Huntingdon Hall will play host to the internationally acclaimed **Urban Folk Quartet**, who have been dazzling audiences across the world with their globally-influenced, fiddle-driven sound since their formation in 2009. Drawing inspiration from traditional Celtic folk music as well as Birmingham's own music scene, the band are set to deliver a vibrant and culturally diverse performance unlike anything you've ever heard! Tickets are £17.50.





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 <p>Richard Herring 15th March - £17.50</p> 	 <p>The Urban Folk Quartet 22nd March - £17.50</p> 	



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Nozstock

19th-22nd July

This summer, **Nozstock: The Hidden Valley** celebrates its 20th anniversary, entering the event into a small group of festivals who have reached two decades of creating magic each summer. The family run festival is set on their working farm in the rolling hills of Herefordshire, and stemmed from an initial gathering of like-minded friends before evolving into a truly mesmeric experience of wonder and enchantment for all ages.

Ella Nosworthy, who runs **Nozstock** with her father, says: "No-one is more surprised than us that we've made it to our 20th birthday! We're planning our biggest show ever to make it a real celebration, and we're sure that anyone who has been to the festival will not want to miss this summer! We've bought back some of our favourite and most memorable artists from the past 20 years. Our Nozstock theme is whatever you feel fond about from the past. There's lots of inspiration to get really creative!"



The **Nozstock** team are incredibly proud to be revealing the first round of artists joining them for their momentous birthday celebrations. As ever, it's a kaleidoscopic mix of headline names, up and coming talent and seasoned stars forming an incredible range of styles across the event's ten intimate stages.

Headlining **The Orchard** are electronic floor fillers **Chase & Status**. As one of the most successful acts associated with drum and bass, they're a strong headliner set to draw a massive crowd. Other big names dominating the

line-up include electronic pop duo **Goldfrapp**, an enchanting force who have released iridescent, intriguing pop since 1999, and **The Selecter** are a 2-Tone ska band featuring a racially diverse and politically charged line-up.

Over in **The Garden**, rap royalty **Grandmaster Flash**, who was a member of ground-breaking hip-hop group with the **Furious Five**, developed never heard before turntable techniques, creating party rocking anthems. **Speaking of legends**, **Chali 2na MC**, painter and founding member of hip-hop supergroup **Jurassic 5** returns to The Garden alongside **Krafty Kutz**; the multi award-winning DJ and undisputed **King of Breaks**. At **The Bandstand**, **Frauds** are a post-hardcore band, whilst **Average Sex** have been snapped up by Tim Burgess' label O Genesis Recordings. **Elephants' Grave** stars **Sonny Wharton**; a firm fixture in the house and techno scene, whilst **Dom Kane's** tracks have been supported by Pete Tong, Deadmau5, and more.



The Cabinet of Lost Secrets features **7Suns'** music in an energizing blend of Afro, Latin, Caribbean, funk, jazz and rock, The **Pink Diamond Revue** are an electro-punk duo who play in front of a big screen projecting images they have cut up themselves from old B-movies, and **Collective 43** are a multi-instrumental congregation steeped heavy with New Orleans-street style and twists of blues and jazz. And across the site there's plenty more to choose from.



For tickets and other information, visit www.nozstock.com

Oxley-Meier Guitar Project

Elmslie House, malvern | 17th March

The **Oxley - Meier Guitar project** are delighted to be performing at **Elmslie House** as part of their 2018 UK tour. This gig will be a part of their third extensive tour (since Feb '7) promoting their new double-album, *'The Colours Of Time'* - a development from their previous release, *'Chasing Tales'*. On both of these albums, Oxley and Meier shared writing duties throughout, bringing to the fore their diverse influences and interests in 'orchestrating' various guitars. When playing live, they aim to recreate their broad palette of sounds, bringing at least ten differing guitars with them (nylon 7-string, steel string, fretless, 11-string fretless, sitar-guitar, 12 string, etc.).

Having clocked up hundreds of concerts together throughout the UK and Europe over the last five years, they perform with an almost uncanny empathy in their interplay. Expect lush and



scintillating soundscapes ranging from Turkey to Brazil!
Visit www.elmsliehouse.co.uk for ticket information.

Luke Doherty and Zoe Green

Iron Road, Evesham | Feb 3rd

Seems a long while since I travelled this road to Evesham, but on this occasion the magnetic attraction is too great to resist, as I head out to catch up with **Luke Doherty** and **Zoe Green** and see the two bands in action.



Luke sets up and opens the evening with the wonderfully irascible **Paul Morgan** sharing his gritty vocals and an occasional strum of his harp. They are joined on stage by **Simon Parratt**, who it seems was born gripping a pair of drumsticks, beating in his arrival, and bassist **Mal Presst**, grinding out some great vibes on his road worn guitar. Luke himself has grown in stature (well, just a bit) and maturity. Lets face it, the man can play those six packs, whether it be Les Paul or Strat.

The set is riveting from start to finish; *Bullfrog Blues* right through to the stupendous Hendrix medley of *Voodoo Child* and *Purple Haze*, where Luke gets to comb his hair back and floss his teeth on that Fender. Here Simon really lets loose, and his drum busting torrent tears through the *Iron Road* like rolling thunder.

In between Paul's *Bull Frog* and Luke's *Purple Haze* there is no shortage of superb guitar solos from both borrowed and self-penned material. A couple of new songs, destined for a forthcoming album, are tested on the mesmerised fans; *Have You*



Thought About That - it was pretty obvious they had - is just one of the songs featuring on the highly anticipated album.

Now for the final fling before Zoe takes to stage, and Paul showcases his expressive best, with his harp filling in for a bit of ZZ Top, and Simon using up the last joules of energy from his power supply.

Soon Zoe's band hit the stage, with **Gaz Morris** on guitar, an ebullient **Richard Kirk** on drums, **Tommy Gaskin** on bass, and **Ben Marshall** on keys, and in no time they are *Rollin' And Tumblin'* into their set with Zoe's voice fuelling the smoky atmosphere. *Need Your Love So Bad* eases the pace, as Zoe adds a sultry note to Peter Green's soulful lyrics. She glides across the stage, teasing us all, as the band lays down the track for her vocals. Next, Richard thumps out the rhythm for a rousing *Come Together*, before they plunge back into the soulful shadows, with Zoe delivering a beautiful rendition of *I'd Rather Go Blind* to the hushed room.

A sweet tasting solo from Gaz fills the home sourced *Bad Ass Beryl*, before Zoe brings a bit of gravitas to being Human. Richard and Tommy hammer out the beat while Gaz works his Fender with relish, while the audience are left continuously hypnotised by Zoe's effortless stage presence for *Going Down*. This is followed by *Old Love*, and the band are joined on stage by **Bertie (Vincent Flatts)** in leather trench coat and hat, still managing to look cool, rock 'n roll! The band achieve their collective moment of glory, biting into *All Along The Watchtower*. The time moves all too quickly, leaving just enough left for Zoe to give in to *Superstition*; a great end to a phenomenal evening at **The Iron Road**, with two bands performing at their best. I look forward to hearing all forthcoming releases.

Graham Munn

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Preview

Capas / Riché

Funky Navigation / Death Disco

Old Rectifying House, Worcester | Fri 23 March

There's going to be something very damned funky down by the river on Friday 23rd March as independent promoters **Surprise Attacks** bring an evening of live electronica, dub, afro, funk and trip hop - and DJs til late - at the Old Rectifying House, North Parade, Worcester.



Fronted by multi-instrumentalist and composer **Phil Wilkins** and featuring members of Worcester funk-stars **Desert Boots**,

headliners **Capas** work up immersive soundscapes with vocals, live percussion, electronics, guitars, brass - and immense, expansive soul. At turns cinematic, tribal and funky as sweet hell, Capas are on the rise. As this show will demonstrate.

Support comes from **Riché**, long-running side project of **Desert Boots'** point guy and all-round local scene luminary **Rich Clarke**. Expect ultra-chilled R&B and neo-soul in the D'Angelo and James Blake vein - with a glitchy, lo-fi immediacy that subtly overlays some serious songwriting craft. Essential viewing guaranteed.

With DJ sets of Latin, disco and rare cosmic grooves from **Funky Navigation** and eclectic underground floor-fillers from **Death Disco** to follow, this promises to be a something of a special evening. And with free entry to boot, supporting your local scene has never been freer or funkier.

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Blackballed

The Iron Road, Evesham | 17th Feb

After reading a report of Manchester trio **Blackballed** rocking a near empty pub in Fernhill Heath as if pounding the boards at Download, I thought I'd better check the band out for myself when they barrelled through the door of **The Iron Road**.

Sure I've seen the 'Road busier but surveying the stage, you could see this band mean business. A beast of a Flying V on the one side of the stage and a mountainous kit at the back - the tools of a band on a mission. Numerous Blackballed T-shirts could be seen milling around the bar, waiting for brothers **Marshall** and **Leon Gill** (guitar/vocals and drums respectively) and Tom Wibberley (bass) to take the stage, having seemingly scared off their support. Final checks, hats in place, beards groomed (well sort of), amps set to buzz.... and we're signalled by the thunderous drums and the crack of a cymbal. Leon leads the band with a monstrous display from the back, whilst Tom's amp fizzles, struggling to keep up with the bottom end as he pounds at his four strings, competing with moltenous shards of rock being hurled across the stage as Marshall flicks the V.



A rather excitable 'fan' no longer able to contain her obvious excitement joins the band onstage and we're not even through the second song... The band laugh it off, continuing their rock



groove, Leon a blur of activity behind the kit, a hint of blues collides with a Sabbath like wall of bass topped with a vocal wail. Melodic yet punchy, the Blackballed faithful mouthing back the words to *Fulton's Point* as the title track of the band's latest album is delivered with a swagger.

To the right of me someone has just dusted off their air guitar, attempting to mirror Marshall, and their number one fan is back cavorting on stage whilst the rest of us try to stay in check as the band charge into *Medicine Mouth*. Fueled by a recently downed pint of the good stuff, a touch of psychedelia here, a little more of the blues there and a heap of rock seasoning, the Blackballed medicine is a heady, an addictive mix that sure does the trick.

The band's first album was entitled, rather aptly, *Colollus* and that sums up the likes *Wasting My Time* nicely. Slabs of groovy rock that urge you on your feet, and talking of feet, Blackballed have *New Shoes* to stomp in, as they lay down a Queens Of The Stone Age like groove sprinkle in a bit of southern rock boogie and we are all marching to the contagious beat of Leon's drum.

The hour draws on and I get the impression **Blackballed** could go all night, but perhaps thoughts of a long drive home or perhaps the call of the bar sees the band call time on their set. Not before a bit of drum led tomfoolery as the band eek out any lingering energy with a tongue in cheek final flurry, sending us back to Worcester with big grins and talk of return visits next time **Blackballed** roll back in our direction.

www.Blackballed.band.org Words: Will, Photo: Graham Munn

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Fri 23rd March
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8pm, Free Entry

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The Dancing Club Waltzes through Worcestershire

A new play, comes to Worcestershire this month. Produced by **Pippa Frith** and written and directed by **Caroline Jester**, **The Dancing Club** is based around the remarkable and inspirational true story of Kidderminster legends **Frank** and **Wynn Freeman** and their selfless drive to get a town dancing.

After World War II, Frank moved back to his home town Kidderminster and with Wynn's support they realised a life-long ambition opening a dance school in 1948. Through the traditions of ballroom to the explosion of rock and roll, northern soul and disco, Frank and Wynn continued to inspire Kidderminster to move for over six decades. In their **Dancing Club** people learned the waltz one night and watched live music by Marc Bolan, Captain Beefheart and Led Zeppelin the next. Robert Plant was a good friend of the community champions.

At first Frank taught ballroom dancing and built a national reputation. A young **Len Goodman** gave demonstrations and judged the dance students at Frank's school. Dance and music trends changed, but Frank always moved with the times and introduced different dance styles. Decade after decade, new groups of young people became associated with the club.

Whether famous musicians from sunny California or young Kidderminster mums bringing their children in for dance lessons, Frank and Wynn treated them all the same. Everyone in the town knew and respected the couple and when Frank died, in his beloved ballroom in 1991, the town came out in procession for his funeral.

Caroline Jester, author and director of **The Dancing Club** and former dance pupil of Frank and Wynn's, interviewed over 100 Kidderminster residents to develop the show and said: *"Frank Freeman's dancing club didn't just teach me disco dancing. It gave me self-confidence to do what I wanted to do. But it wasn't just me that he made feel special as I discovered interviewing people aged 25 to 90."* Heartfelt and fascinating memories of Frank and Wynn unfolded and confirmed their **Dancing Club** was a safe haven for many members of the town's community. Young or old, creativity was unlocked and friends made.



Colin Hill

A cast of four – **Mark Jardine** as Frank, **Ali Belbin** as Wynn and **Laurence Saunders** and **Emma Clayton** play a range of characters– portray accounts of opportunity and trust as the dance teachers' life-long commitment to the Worcestershire town is brought to the stage.

With original music by composer **Jon Bates**, the performance will include a special recording from the **Kidderminster Male Choir**. Choreography is by **Steve Elias** known for the 2017 BBC2 series *Our Dancing Town*.

The Dancing Club highlights the importance of community spirit and hopefully the characters of Frank and Wynn will once again get more towns moving.

"I think people underestimate the value of dance schools and how important they are to the social well being of towns. I wanted to run my dance studio just like Frank ran his." Len Goodman - Dance & TV personality.

Linking up with the performance at the Artrix, Bromsgrove, budding dancers are invited to join **Steve Elias**, for a free dance workshop at 4pm on 8th March. The **Dancing Club** workshop will give audiences sneak preview of some of the dancing from the show and the chance to try out a few steps.

The tour started where it all began, in Kidderminster last month, and goes to **Artrix** on 12th March at 8pm (performances also at **Malvern Cube** - 9th and **Angel Centre**, Worcester - 17th with other shows further afield).

The Dancing Club is funded by **The Elmley Foundation**, **Arts Council England**, **Wyre Forest District Council**, **Worcestershire County Council**, the **Sir Barry Jackson Trust** and support from **Kidderminster College**.

Tickets £12 (£10 conc) Please visit www.artrix.co.uk or call Box Office on 01527 577330.

Arts, Exhibitions & Cinema

- 2nd - Banff Mountain Film Festival, Forum Theatre, Malvern
- 2nd-11th - I Think This World is Magical, Artists Workhouse, Studley
- 3rd - Blue Magpie Contemporary Craft Fair, Elmslie House Malvern
- 3rd until 7th May - The East Asian Collection, Bewdley Museum
- 5th-16th - Wind, Waves & Water Colours, Elmslie House Malvern
- 7th - Virago, Artrix Bromsgrove
- 8th-29th - Kamala Toff - 'A Colourful World', Number 8, Pershore
- 9th - Suffragette, Artrix, Bromsgrove
- 9th - The Dancing Club, Malvern Cube
- 10th - Magical colour printing workshop by Maria Boyle
Artists Workhouse, Studley
- 12th - The Dancing Club, Artrix, Bromsgrove
- 15th - Honey, Artrix, Bromsgrove
- 17th - The Dancing Club, Angel Centre, Worcester
- 17th - ReCharge - Dancefest, HOW College, Worcester
- 17th-21st - Call Me By Your Name (15), Courtyard Hereford
- 19th - Flash Fiction Workshop with Sue Johnson & Roz Levens
Almonry Museum, Eveahm 2 - 4pm - £15
- 20th - Circuit youth dance, Dancefest, HOW College, Worcester

- 20th - Exhibition On Screen Live Presents Vincent Van Gogh, Courtyard, Hereford
 - 21st - Circuit youth dance, Dancefest, Hereford College of Arts
 - 21st Honey - Worcester University
 - 23rd & 24th - Blank, by Perfect Circle Youth Theatre. Malvern Cube.
 - 24th & 25th - Preserving the Precious' Elmslie House Malvern
 - 27th The House of Beaufort & the Battle of Tewkesbury' with
Nathen Amin - Holland House, Pershore 12.30pm
 - 28th - Vincent Van Gogh: A New Way of Seeing, Artrix, Bromsgrove
 - 29th - NT Live presents Cat On A Hot Tin Roof, Courtyard, Hereford
 - 29th - opening evening Worcester open Studios artists
Cap n Gown, Worcester
 - 30th - Idle Women of the Wartime Waterways,
Anchor Inn, Diglis Basin, Worcester
 - Until - 7th March, Faceless, Number 8, Pershore
 - Until - 11th Flatpack film Festival, Courtyard, Hereford
 - Until - 4th April Crafty Volunteers, Number 8, Pershore
 - Until - 2nd April Herefordshire Life Through a Lens
Stories from the Hop Yards. Courtyard, Hereford.
 - Until July 1st - The Long Afternoon of Earth - Heather & Ivan Morison
The Hive, Worcester
- For Arts listings email: arts@slapmag.co.uk

March Comedy:

Evesham Arts Centre:

Fri 23rd March, 19:30

Jethro - *The Cornish comic returns for yet another tour.*

Artrix Arts Centre (Bromsgrove):

Sat 3rd March, 20:00

Dane Baptiste: G.O.D. (Gold. Oil. Drugs) - *Fresh from hosting Live at the Apollo and another total sell out run at the Edinburgh Fringe, Dane Baptiste brings his third hit show on national tour.*

Thurs 8th March, 20:00

Stand Up for Women - Barbara Nice & Shazia Mirza

This March Artrix is celebrating International Women's Day with a comedy show, Stand Up for Women, featuring Barbara Nice, Les Kershaw, Shazia Mirza and MC, Maureen Younger.

Sat 10th March, 20:00

Barnstormers Comedy

Three top comedians from London/National stand-up comedy circuit. Featuring: Joe Rowntree, Howard Read, Danny Deegan plus an fantastic Barnstormers MC.

Sun 11th March, 19:30

Patrick Live At The Sandy Holes Hotel

Join seaside cabaret legend Patrick as he recreates his summertime spectacular from the infamous Sandy Holes Hotel!

Fri 16th March, 19:30

Andrew Lawrence: The Happy Accident Tour

Star of BBC1's Live at The Apollo, Michael McIntyre's Roadshow, Dave's One Night Stand and Sky Arts' The Outcast Comic, as well as the hugely successful self-penned BBC Radio 4 series, There Is No Escape. The Happy Accident Tour is a gag packed stand-up show about coming to terms with fatherhood.

Sat 17th March, 19:30

Hardeep Singh Kohli: Alternative, Fact - *The Radio 4 favourite, BAFTA winner and regular on BBC's Question Time, This Week and Daily Politics tours a brand new show following its critically acclaimed run performed to packed houses at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. Join Hardeep as he gives his unique take on the political climate combined with his trademark 'quick witted patter'.*

Sat 24th March, 19:30

George Egg: DIY Chef

Following sell out Edinburgh Fringe runs in 2015 and 2016 plus a sell out UK tour, award winning comedian George Egg (the 'Anarchist Cook') returns with a BRAND NEW SHOW demonstrating more live cooking and laugh-out-loud comedy.*

Fri 30th March, 19:30

Rachel Parris: Keynote - *Rachel has been invited to be a guest speaker at her old school, but what kind of a role model is she really? Rachel is an award-winning musical comic whose songs have been played on BBC Radio 4, BBC 6 Music and who was listed in the BBC's Hot Talent List 2017.*

Malvern Theatres (Malvern):

Sun 11th March, 20:00

Sarah Millican: Control Enthusiast - *Join Sarah Millican for a night funny, frank and unapologetically filthy comedy.*

Hungtingdon Hall (Worcester):

Fri 2nd March, 19:30

Shazia Mirza: With Love from St. Tropez

Following her critically acclaimed 2016, 103 date sell-out international tour, The Kardashians Made Me Do It, Shazia Mirza announces her brand new stand-up show for 2017.

Sat 10th March, 19:30

Alun Cochrane: Alunish Cochranish

Get ready for grumpy-joyful, silly-serious stand-up and absurd storytelling from the Scottish-born, West Yorkshire-raised, award-winning comedian Alun Cochrane as he visits Huntingdon.

Thurs 15th March, 19:30

Richard Herring: Oh Frig, I'm 50!

'Podfather' (The Guardian) and star of Radio 4's Relativity, Richard Herring gets to the half century (against all odds) and looks at how his life has changed in the last decade, from irresponsible, single kidult, literally fighting his way through a mid-life crisis, to married father who is mid-way to the telegram from the Queen (though given she will be 140 in 2067, she might forget to send it)..

Redditch Palace Theatre (Redditch):

Sat 3rd March, 19:45

Stephen Bailey - *Join Stephen Bailey for a night of potty-mouthed comedy.*

Thurs 22nd March, 20:00

Daliso Chaponda: What The African Said Tour

As seen on Britain's Got Talent, Dalison Chaponda brings his comedy to Redditch.

Hereford Left Bank:

The Speakeasy (20-22 Bridge Street, Hereford):

Sat 3rd March, 19:30

Farical Comedy Presents:

Tony Law, Andy Field + Guests, with MC, James Ryan

Sat 31st March 18.00

Alan Partridge Appreciation Evening - Ah Ha!!!

The Courtyard (Hereford):

(Fri 16th March, 20:00

Heineken Comedy Club - *Comedy night featuring Carl Donnelly, David Morgan and Luke Honnoraty.*

Thurs 29th March, 19:30

Griff Rhys Jones: Where Was I?

The star of 'Not the Nine o'clock News', 'Smith & Jones' and 'Three Men in a Boat' will share stories, anecdotes, reminiscences and outright lies; from forty years of travelling - down rivers and up mountains and across the arid wastes of the BBC canteen.

Fri 16th March, 20:00

Heineken Comedy Club

Comedy night featuring Steve Bugeja, Simon Feilder and Flo & Joan. Open mic comedy nights (Various):

Open mic comedy nights:

The Holly Bush (Cradley Heath):

FREE, every Thursday. Pros and newcomers try out new material. One of the best loved and most chaotic comedy nights in the area. Many comedians cut their teeth at this night including Joe Lycett and Gary Delaney Visit: bushcradley.co.uk

ComedyJAM Firefly, Worcester:

Wednesday 8th & 22nd November 19:30

Third Weds of every month) Join up and coming comics and complete newcomers as they test out some new material at Worcester's premier free open mic comedy night. Visit facebook.com/comedyjamworcester/

Artrix Arts Centre - artrix.co.uk

Evesham Arts Centre - eveshamartscentre.co.uk/tickets

Hereford Left Bank - herefordleftbank.com

Huntingdon Hall - worcestertive.co.uk/boxoffice.asp

Malvern Theatres - malvern-theatres.co.uk/book-online

Palace Theatre - redditchpalacetheatre.co.uk/whats-on

The Courtyard - courtyard.org.uk/whats-on/

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

Thursday 01 March 2018

Leanne & King Rich
Tappeto Lounge, Kidderminster

Lawrie Jean
Arches, Bewdley

Dub Pistals
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Last Orders
The Greyhound Pub, Gloucester

Lucas D And The Groove Ghetto
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

The Transporters
The Old Bank, Stourbridge

Midweek, Kid Luna, Hot Beige
The Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Joe Brown
Town Hall, Cheltenham

Dharma Bums
Worley's The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Pelleas Ensemble
Arts Centre, Evesham

J O Carley and The Old Dry Skulls
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Abba - Forever
Swan Theatre, Worcester

Friday 02 March 2018

The Hush
Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

No-Good Nancy's
Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Dan Williams
Left Bank, Hereford

Bo Walton, Red Alert
Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

Amoeba Teen, South Of Salinas, Jess Silk
Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Usual Suspects
The Maverick, Stourbridge

Jake Of Diamonds
The Dog House, Hereford

Thirsty Work
The Blue Bell Ryall, Upton Upon Severn

Retribution
The Red Man, Kidderminster

Elisha Green
The Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

The Murmur
Kidderminster Golf Club, Kidderminster

Gravy Train
The Millers Arms, Pershore

The Marley Experience
Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Cre8 DnB Radio
Priors Croft, Malvern

Remi Harris Trio
The Leftbank Village, Hereford

Ital Sounds Djs
Cafe Bliss, Worcester

Alex Chapman
Crown & Sceptre, Stroud

Kikamora + Michael Knowles and The Stds
The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Mister Wolf
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Fred Zeppelin
The Riverrooms, Stourbridge

Wrong Jovi, Lost Tiger
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Instill, Go Primitive, Radiosaurus, 2nd Self
The Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

The Follicles
The Hop Pole, Bewdley

Leanne, King Rich
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

The Elo Experience
Town Hall, Cheltenham

Bourbon Alley Blues Band
Worley's The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Charlotte Humpries
Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

Icymi, The Pink House, King Cove, Only Cologne
2 Pigs, Cheltenham

Camilla Lewington - Just Shut Up And Dance
The Clarence Social, Cheltenham

B E A T - O N E Trio
The Royal, Cheltenham

Clare Teal
Tithe Barn, Cheltenham

Chloë Elliot
Montys, Cheltenham

The Elo Experience
Imperial Square, Cheltenham

The Gareth Lemon Duo
Yates, Cheltenham

Little Ceasar (U.S.A), Burnt Out Wreck
The Iron Road, Evesham

Surprise Attacks Presents: Death & The Penguin,
Navajo Ace, Wax Futures, Howard James Kenny

The Firefly, Worcester

Lounge Toad
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Melanie Winterflood
The Old Pheasant, Worcester

Eblana String Trio: Bromsgrove Concerts
The Artix, Bromsgrove

40 SLAP MARCH

Neil Iveson
Red Lion, Evesham

Wille & The Bandits
Guildhall, Gloucester

Wychwood Sessions
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Mello Sessions:On The Road
The Winning Post, Worcester

The Swamp Stomp String Band
The Tank, Gloucester

Saturday 03 March 2018

Fracture
Cross Keys Inn, Gloucester

Rule Number One (Blind Lemon Without Sax)
Wolverley Club, Kidderminster

Community Sings
Dr Foster's Liquor Co., Gloucester

Monkeyride
Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Smiley & The Underclass, Pisdicables
The Globe, Hay On Wye

The Delray Rockets
The Cross Keys, Malvern

O.C.D
The Swan, Evesham

Feeling It
Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

Sons Of Yoda
The Black Lion, Hereford

Sultana Brothers
The Plough, Hereford

Hathaway
The Maverick, Stourbridge

Rubble
The Spread Eagle, Hereford

Showaddywaddy
Town Hall, Kidderminster

Meg Shaw
The Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

Hmv Band
Ludlow Brewery, Ludlow

Accolade
Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Ceilidh: Committee Band
Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Cory's Angels
The Unicorn, Malvern

Uncle Frank And The Allergies
The Marshall Rooms, Stroud

Bex Jazz
Stroud Brewery, Stroud

Mused, The Switch
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Vehicle
Woodland Cottage, Redditch

5 Decades Of Sounds
The Railway Inn, Studley

Keri Hoffman
Reet Petite, Leominster

The River Dogs
The Leif Tea Rooms, Leamington Spa

Midnight Sun
The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Straight Aces
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

The MT's
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Ear Worms, Terry Hughes, Olly Blanchflower, Rob Powell,
Rob Murray Mason

Cafe Bliss, Worcester

Maetloaf & The Never Neverland Express
The Riverrooms, Stourbridge

Ear Worms, Terry Hughes, Olly Blanchflower, Rob Powell, Rob
Murray Mason

Worcester Arts Workshop, Worcester

Emptyhead
New Inn, Pershore

Black Cat Bone
The Chestnut, Worcester

Squeaky Pete's Liquor & Poker Band
The Cross, Stourbridge

GG&TLS
The Waggon & Horses, Stourbridge

The Ramonas, Chinese Burn, Cupcake Diaz, The Youth Within
The Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

The Magic Of Motown
Town Hall, Cheltenham

Sally Haines & The Sunshine Band
Worley's The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Katalina Kicks, Self Help
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Wychwood Festival Battle Of The Bands
Smokey Joe's Coffee Bar, Cheltenham

Joe Elvis
Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

Chewie
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

The Black Heart Angels
Pin The Kings Head, Tenbury Wells

Adam & Tatt
The Partridge Inn, Tewkesbury

Carousel Vertigo (Fr), Kid Harlequin
The Iron Road, Evesham

Journeyman
The Green Dragon, Malvern

Village Quire - Back To The Garden
All Saints, Hereford

You've Got A Friend: Music Of James Taylor & Carole King
The Artix, Bromsgrove

The Jaguars
The Charlton Kings Club, Cheltenham

Behind The Music: A Songwriters Exhibition: Jake Marsh, Chip Langley, Kringo Blue
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Chalky Martin
The Oak Apple, Worcester

The Magnificent AK47
The Prince Albert, Stroud

A Diamond Experience By Bob Drury
Sapey Golf Club, Worcester

Witcher
The Black Star, Stourport

Jive Talkin' Perform The Bee Gees
Swan Theatre, Worcester

Judie Tzuke
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Sunday 04 March 2018

Jay & Eli
The Imperial Tavern, Worcester

Ray Stroud (5:30pm)
The Chestnut, Worcester

Nothing Like A Whale
Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

The Worried Men (4pm)
The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Buddy Holly & The Cricketers
Malvern Theatres, Malvern

Lemonade Jazz, Funk, Soul Session
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Virtuosi Gus Band
Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Chris Francis (6pm)
The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Ygreen
Worley's The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

False Flags, Horror On The High Seas, Last Safe Moment
The Iron Road, Evesham

Future Rockstars Show
The Artix, Bromsgrove

Jon Eselle
Albion House Club, Cheltenham

Liz Kirby's Lazy Sunday Singalong (4pm)
Red Lion, Evesham

Kev Thursfield (3pm)
Ye Old Crown Inn, Stourport-On-Severn

The James Brothers (3pm)
Ye Old Crown Inn, Stourport-On-Severn

Monday 05 March 2018

Fcs: Mike Dawes
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Common People
Woodland Cottage, Redditch

Will Killeen
The Paul Pry, Worcester

Tuesday 06 March 2018

Walk
The Balance Inn, Leominster

Perdido Street Jazz Band
Red Lion Inn, Malvern

Sweet Tooth, Getrz
The Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Wednesday 07 March 2018

Victoria Crivelli
The Dragon, Worcester

Sax Appeal
The Green Dragon, Malvern

Elevesens March
Palace Theatre, Redditch

Gordon Wood
Bayshill Inn, Cheltenham

Corey Harris Band
The Iron Road, Evesham

Gaz Brookfield
Café René, Gloucester

Thursday 08 March 2018

International Women's dayAcoustic acts and Spoken Word Poetry including Chloe Mogg, Kewpie and Chloe Hanks, Poetic Spoken Word Performances From Both Ray Vincent Mills And Kelly Williams (From 12:30pm)
The Firefly, Worcester

Alice Meixner
The Royal Oak, Alcester

Craig Seeneey
Arches, Bewdley

Polly & Kringo Blue Acoustic 8:30pm
The Oil Basin Brewhouse, Worcester

47 Soul
The Marshall Rooms, Stroud

Wes Dance
The Plough, Worcester

Just Adam
Ye Olde Bull Ring Tavern, Ludlow

Captain Of The Lost Waves
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Ian Luther
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Population:7
Worley's The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Ross Angeles, Drgm, Asian Hawk
Mr Wolfs, Bristol

Uncover: Jump The Shark, Nth Cave, Wych Elm, Novaview
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Drew Bryant
Soho Bar, Cheltenham

The John Verity Band
The Iron Road, Evesham

John Mouse
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Peter Knight & John Spiers
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Friday 09 March 2018

Bones Like That, Place Nation
The Cavern, Gloucester

Sax Appeal
Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Slippery Slope
The Globe, Hay On Wye

The Rebels
Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

Footprints
Left Bank Village, Hereford

The Murmur
The Maverick, Stourbridge

Vehicle
The Blue Bell Ryall, Upton Upon Severn

The Lady And The Sax
Chester Road Sports And Social Club, Kidderminster

Anna Bale
The Hop Pole, Bewdley

Hannah Aldridge, The Bug Club, Hannah Law
St George's Hall, Bewdley

Witcher
The Millers Arms, Pershore

Dave Lacey And Buddies
Lickey End Social Club, Bromsgrove

Folk in The Foyer: Broom Bezzums
CONQUEST THEATRE, Bromyard

Michael Knowles And The Std's, Time Of The Mouth
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Guy Pratt Is The Sideman
The Marshall Rooms, Stroud

Fastlove - A Tribute To George Michael
Palace Theatre, Redditch

Lorise Eton And The Stealers
Crown & Sceptre, Stroud

Gehtika/Vengeful Atonement
The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Hoo Hah Conspiracy
Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Flying Ant Day, Kitchen Collective
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Dr Cornelius
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

The Jersey Boys V Take That
The Riverrooms, Stourbridge

Ear Worms, Terry Hughes, Olly Blanchflower, Rob Powell, Rob Murray Mason
Elmslie House, Malvern

The Ex Kittens'
The Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Stone Mountain Sinners
Worley's The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Victories, Loralie, The Strays
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Just Kaz
Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

Liquorice Lounge
The Talbot Inn, Tenbury Wells

Tim Bristow
The Britannia Inn, Tewkesbury

Oasis "Maybe"
Aggborough Suite, Kidderminster

Big Wolf Band
The Queens Head, Wolverley

Shine
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Bowie Performed By Former Strangler Paul Roberts
The Iron Road, Evesham

The Humdrum Express, Heathens, Ben Dallow
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Mark Barrett
The Old Pheasant, Worcester

Roy G Hemmings: Hits Of Motown
The Artix, Bromsgrove

Griff Collins
Red Lion, Evesham

Glas
Café René, Gloucester

Abba Sensation
The Kings Theatre, Gloucester

Saturday 10 March 2018

Echobandits
Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

O.C.D
Cross Keys Inn, Gloucester

Dave Curtis
Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Flight Brigade, Fountainhead
The Globe, Hay On Wye

The Delray Rockets
The Railway Inn, Studley

Elisabeth Zeuthen Schneider, Gamal Khamis
HELLENS MANOR, Hereford

The Fordsons, Red Ethel
De Koffie Pot, Hereford

Brendon O'brian
The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

The Undercovers
The Cross Keys, Malvern

Black Pears
The Chestnut, Worcester

A Tribute To Sandy Denny
Foyer Folk At Number 8, Pershore

Fired Up
Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

Anya Pailthorpe
Left Bank, Hereford

Sailing Stones
Stroud Valleys Artspace, Stroud

Worried Men
The Plough, Hereford

Slidewinder
The Maverick, Stourbridge

Russell Underwood
The Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

Senfi And His Contemporaries
Lion Ballroom, Leominster

The Lady And The Sax, Tenuto
All Saints Church, Bewdley

Mumbo-Jumbo
Stoke Bliss Village Hall, Tenbury Wells

Lisa Sings Acoustic
Crown Inn, Catshill, Bromsgrove

Leslie Wilson
The Maltster, Worcester

Skrood
Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Electric Swing Circus
Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Locked And Loaded Uk
The Unicorn, Malvern

A Tribute To Sandy Denny
Number 8 Community Arts Centre, Pershore

The Tribe
The Marshall Rooms, Stroud

Thank You For The Music
Palace Theatre, Redditch

Madi Stimpson Trio
Stroud Brewery, Stroud

The Ac30's
The Oast House, Redditch

A Capella Folk Singer Madeline Harwood
Jroot Bistro, Stroud

Bedrock Bullets
The Royal Oak, Studley

Vehicle
Lampighter, Stratford

Wisenhimer, Alvin And The Angry Barrels & Terminal Rage
Reet Petite, Leominster

G&T Mix
The Royal Oak Hotel, Ledbury

The Machine Rages On, Liberty Artillery
The Marris Bar, Worcester

The River Dogs
The Anker Inn, Nuneaton

Texan Peacocks
The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Behind The Bike Sheds
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Autumn
New Inn, Pershore

Sapce
The Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Prone 2 Madness
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Julie July Band
Number 8 Community Arts Centre in The Foyer, Pershore

Rule No. 1
Worley's The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Tequila Mockingbird
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

The Gatecrashers
Smokey Joe's Coffee Bar, Cheltenham

Ian Luther
Green Dragon, MALVERN

Without Flight
The Bridge, Tenbury Wells

The Kate Gee Band
The Boathouse, Upton-Upon-Severn

Hennesea
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

The Leylines
The Iron Road, Evesham

Raising Cain
The Swan, Evesham

Cwm bach Male Choir
The Artix, Bromsgrove

Green Rock River Band
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Sunday 11 March 2018

Steve Ajao Blues Giants (3pm)
Richmond Place Club, Hereford

Clarksville Mountain Band (5:30pm)
The Chestnut, Worcester

Trevor 'Babajack' Steger
Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Panic Station (4pm)
The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

The Gatecrashers (5pm)
The Lamb Inn, Stroud

42 SLAP MARCH

Dik Cadbury
Little Vic, Stroud

Tom Forbes
The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Clive Live
Red Lion, Evesham

Marie-Louise Taylor - A Tribute To Debussy
Elmslie House, Malvern

Ian Goodsmen
Worley's The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Fight Rosa Fight! Sugar Rush, Baast (1:30pm)
Smokey Joe's Coffee Bar, Cheltenham

Panic Switch, Skora, Kill For Trophies
The Iron Road, Evesham

Neil Ivison (5pm)
The Imperial Tavern, Worcester

Monday 12 March 2018

Sam Kelly & The Lost Boys
The Courtyard, Hereford

Chip Langley & The Kidgloves
The Paul Pry, Worcester

Tuesday 13 March 2018

The Strays
The Pheasant Inn, Toddington

Skerryvore
Subscription Rooms, Stroud

The Hush
Harry Cook Free House, Cheltenham

Wednesday 14 March 2018

Joel Darkes
The Pheasant Inn, Toddington

River Jam
Hereford College Of Arts, Hereford

Levellers Acoustic
Town Hall, Cheltenham

Connor Maher Acoustic 8:30pm
The Oil Basin Brewhouse, Worcester

Ginger Wildheart (2pm)
Badlands, Cheltenham

The Bullet Boys, Enuff Znuft, Budderside
The Iron Road, Evesham

Shoreline, Blankets, Horror On The High Seas
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

String Theory
Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Thursday 15 March 2018

Juan Martin
HELLENS MANOR, Hereford

Sebastian
The Pheasant Inn, Toddington

Delboy & Dave
The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Tom Williams Live!
The Marshall Rooms, Stroud

Bitterroots
The Plough, Worcester

Dan Greenaway
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Suggs - A Life in The Realm Of Madness
Town Hall, Cheltenham

Maz Mitrenko Band
Worley's The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Vlatmo
The Strand, Cheltenham

The Strays
Adam & Eve, Cheltenham

Chip Langley & The Kidgloves
Cap N' Gown, Worcester

The Underscore Orchestra
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Friday 16 March 2018

Fred Zeppelin
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Timeless
The Doctors, Gloucester

Ceri Ridge Trading Company
The Globe, Hay On Wye

Blue Sedna
Left Bank, Hereford

The Trevor Burton Band
Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

Cheshire Brooks
The Pheasant Inn, Toddington

Mister Wolf
The Bell Inn, St.Johns, Worcester

Andy Bucknall Blues Band
The Maverick, Stourbridge

Damn The Weather
The Royal Oak, Alcester

Tone Deaf And The Doors Are Locked
The Red Man, Kidderminster

Prime Time
The Blue Bell Ryall, Upton Upon Severn

Russell Watson: Canzoni D'Amore
Malvern Theatres, Malvern

Tantz
Worcester Arts Workshop, Worcester

Tankus The Henge
The Marshall Rooms, Stroud

Richard Digance
Palace Theatre, Redditch

Adam Sweet Band
White Hart, Winchcombe

Versa Vice, Nuclear Theory, Enemo J, Recall The Remains
The Queens Head, Redditch

Pelugion, Ten Days Later
The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Handwaxx
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

The Phonics
The Riverrooms, Stourbridge

Tokyo Riot Police
Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Cantaloop
Worley's The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Edgelarks (Phillip Henry, Hannah Martin)
The Fold, Bransford

Jay & Eli
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Kezzabell
Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

GG&TLS
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

The Bluebird Belles
The Civic, Stourport-On-Severn

The Desperados
Tailors, Cheltenham

Straightshooter, Sons Of Liberty
The Iron Road, Evesham

Midnight City
The Queens Head, Wolverley

Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons Tribute
Regal, Evesham

Chip Langley
The Old Pheasant, Worcester

Van Kuijk String Quartet: Bromsgrove Concerts
The Artix, Bromsgrove

Brynley Thomas
Red Lion, Evesham

Chloe And Ash
The Bedwardine, Worcester

Dreadzone
Guildhall, Gloucester

David Julien
Ye Olde Talbot Hotel, Worcester

Gas Attack
Café René, Gloucester

Edgelarks
The Fold, Worcester

Patsy Cline & Friends
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Saturday 17 March 2018

Morning Glory
St James Club, Gloucester

Craobh Rua
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Frankenstein Lobster
Cross Keys Inn, Gloucester

The Underdogs
Wolverley Club, Kidderminster

Spectrum 4
The Linden Tree, Gloucester

The Sabbath Years
The Lower George Inn, Gloucester

The Hush
Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Moon Goose, Inclines
The Globe, Hay On Wye

Steamchicken
The Fleece Inn, Bretforton

St Patricks Night Soul - Dancefloor Deluxe Ft Lynzee J
The Cross Keys, Malvern

Pete Hyde
The Chestnut, Worcester

Sons Of Yoda
The Volunteer Inn, Hereford

Bad Spaniel
The Plough, Hereford

Foney Folk
The Maverick, Stourbridge

Aaron Booton
The Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

Showaddywaddy
Assembly Rooms, Ludlow

Saint Loe, The Mono Lps
Ludlow Brewery, Ludlow

Michael James
Button Oak Inn, Bewdley

Leslie Wilson
The Barley Mow, Bromsgrove

Roving Crows
Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Pete Oxley & Nicolas Meier
Elmslie House, Malvern

Mel And Him
Red Lion Inn, Malvern

Toby
Bar 57, Pershore

As Mamas (EP Launch), Mantra, Tom Forbes
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Laid Blak
The Marshall Rooms, Stroud

Wildwood Jack
Stroud Brewery, Stroud

Planet Boogie
Queen Vic, Stroud

Small Doses
The Railway Inn, Studley

The Rogues
Reet Petite, Leominster

Ed Conway & The Unlawful Men
Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Patrick Hannon, Sid River, Murphy's Law
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Soul Stripper (Ac/Dc Tribute), Cult Fiction (The Cult Tribute)
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Isolation, Grey Wolves Gin
The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

The Goat Roper Rodeo Band, Lee Southall (The Coral)
Smokey Joe's Diner, Cheltenham

Noughty Nineties
The Riverrooms, Stourbridge

Aaron Buchanan & The Cult Classics, Wicked Stone, Gine
Annie, The Outlaw Orchestra, Black Cat Bones
The Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Locked And Loaded
The Waggon & Horses, Stourbridge

Leanne & King Rich
Red House Boutique, Stourbridge

Witcher
Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Soul Town
Worley's The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Goat Roper Rodeo Band, Lee Southall (The Coral)
Smokey Joe's Coffee Bar, Cheltenham

2Tone Revue
Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

Loophole, in Evolution
West Malvern Social Club, West Malvern

Brendan O'Brian
The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Someone Like You: The Adele Songbook
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

The Ferrets
The Cricketers, Worcester

Trevor Steger
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Samarkind, Dead Man's Whiskey, At The Sun
The Iron Road, Evesham

Macca The Concert
The Artix, Bromsgrove

The Counterfeit Stones
Regal, Evesham

Tangerine Cat
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Sunday 18 March 2018

Siobhan Miller
The Fleece Inn, Bretforton

Lazy Sunday: Muddy Summers & the Dirty Field Whores,
Zara Sykes, Beth Prior, Wednesday's Wolves (1.00pm)
Café Bliss, Worcester

The Players (5:30pm)
The Chestnut, Worcester

Malvern Hillbillies
Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

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

The Bonny Lou Duo
Alestones, Redditch

Absolute Blondie
The Wheelhouse, Upton-Upon-Severn

Liberty Slaves, Foreign Quarter, Handsome Ape
The Iron Road, Evesham

Some Haunted Souls (5pm)
The Imperial Tavern, Worcester

Blues Anoraks (4pm)
Red Lion, Evesham

Monday 19 March 2018

WCRL: Dobermann, The Foreign Quarter, The Lost Path
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Bromsgrove Area Music Centre Spring Concert
The Artix, Bromsgrove

Tuesday 20 March 2018

Warren Bailey
The Spread Eagle, Hereford

Inferno
Hereford College Of Arts, Hereford

Wednesday 21 March 2018

Paul Jeffery
The Dragon, Worcester

The Dublin Legends
Malvern Theatres, Malvern

The Odd Folk
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Ruzz Guitars Blues Revue
Café René, Gloucester

Thursday 22 March 2018

The Urban Folk Quartet
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

FCS: Ramonas, Borrowed Time
The Marris Bar, Worcester

The Jar Family
Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Dave Sharp
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Honeyboy Hickling
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

The Family, Black Art, The King Is Dead, Texas Rattlesnake
The Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Chip Langley & The Kidgloves 8:30PM
The Oil Basin Brewhouse, Worcester

Joo Yeon Sir And Irina Andrievsky
Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham

Heathens
Worley's The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Limehouse Lizzy
The Iron Road, Evesham

Remi Harris Trio
The Bristol Fringe, Bristol
Phil King
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Friday 23 March 2018

The Zoots – Sounds Of The 60s
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

The UB40 Experience
Wall's Club, Gloucester

The Corduroy Kings
Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

White Feather Collective
West Malvern Social Club

Hannah Solly, Tom Hughes
The Globe, Hay On Wye

The Delray Rockets
The Kings Head, Tenbury Wells

Will Killeen
Left Bank, Hereford

The A49ers
Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

Garance And The Mitochondriess
The Prince Albert, Stroud

The 4 Rossis
The Maverick, Stourbridge

Mayfli
The Hop Pole, Bewdley

Black Swan Hotel
THE LOST CHORD, Leominster

Black Knight
The Millers Arms, Pershore

West Malvern Social Club
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Chris The Poets Open Microwave
The Marshall Rooms, Stroud

The Fureys
Palace Theatre, Redditch

The Marsh Fires
Crown & Sceptre, Stroud

Vehicle
Queens, Belbroughton

The Magpie Cafe
Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Mordrake, Pilla
The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Teddy Mathews
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Jean Genie
The Riverrooms, Stourbridge

Vaseline
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Vehicle
The Queens, Stourbridge

Lady Maisery (Folk)
St Peter's Church, Malvern

The Vibrators
The Marris Bar, Worcester

The Unconventionals
Seabright Arms, Worcester

Witcher
The Bell, St. Johns, Worcester

Lucas D & The Groove Ghetto
Worley's The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Parkin Lot
The Blue Bell, Ryall

Jive Talkin'
The Bacon Theatre, Cheltenham

Jon Grant 70S 80S Tribute
Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

It's All About Buddy
Stourport Workmens Club, Stourport-On-Severn

Surprise Attacks Presents, Capas (Live), R I C H É (Live),

Funky Navigation (Dj Set), Death Disco (Dj Set)
The Old Rectifying House, Worcester

Fireroad, Hell's Addiction, Reece
The Iron Road, Evesham

Chris Hutchison
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Remi Harris Trio
Stroud Valleys Artspace, Stroud

Ruben Seabright
The Old Pheasant, Worcester

Emily Maguire
The Artix, Bromsgrove

Soul Manifesto
The Artix, Bromsgrove

Jay And Eli
Red Lion, Evesham

Swampcandy
Café René, Gloucester

Saturday 24 March 2018

G2 Definitive Genesis
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Memphis
Cross Keys Inn, Gloucester

Aardvark Stew
Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Richard Navarro
The Globe, Hay On Wye

Clare Ferguson-Walker, Jonny Fluffypunk
De Koffie Pot, Hereford

D N A
The Cross Keys, Malvern

Bad Spaniel
Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

44 SLAP MARCH

A Tribute To Sandy Denny
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Built For Comfort
The Chestnut, Worcester

Stoned Love
The Plough, Hereford

Dan Walsh
The Maverick, Stourbridge

2Tone Revue
Wolverley Social Club, Kidderminster

Matt Peplow
The Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

Callum Smart & Richard Uttley
Assembly Rooms, Ludlow

Common People
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Prone 2 Madness
Millfields & District Social Club, Bromsgrove

Freewater
The Red Man, Kidderminster

Clare Teal – Swing'S The Thing
Malvern Theatres, Malvern

Anne-Marie Sanderson
The Ale House, Colwall

Tonedead & The Doors Are Locked
Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

The Elo Experience
Palace Theatre, Redditch

Raymond Froggatt
Palace Theatre, Redditch

Aroha
Stroud Brewery, Stroud

Offthegrid
Woodland Cottage, Redditch

Vehicle
White Hart, Redditch

Midnight Idols
Reet Petite, Leominster

The Heels
Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Black Emerald, Vndta, Bitter Divide, This Winter Machine
The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Texan Peacocks
New Inn, Pershore

Dirty Beach
The Samson And Lion, Stourbridge

Lake Acacia, Rai Kah Mercury
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Big Wolf Band
Worley's The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Ollie James
Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

The Black Pears
Green Dragon, Malvern

Monkey Jam
Harry Cook Free House, Cheltenham

Locked And Loaded
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

An Evening With Little Rumba
The Boathouse, Upton-Upon-Severn

The After Dark Band
The Wheelhouse, Upton-Upon-Severn

Credence Clearwater Review, Delta Howl
The Iron Road, Evesham

Better Than We Look
Hucclecote Community Centre, Gloucester

Barflys
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Remi Harris Trio
The Pound, Corsham, Wiltshire

Elvis Tribute Night
Amber Cafe, Evesham

The Lizzy Legacy
The Swan, Evesham

Genesis Connected
The Artix, Bromsgrove

Singer Stuart Leigh
New Chequers, Worcester

Solana
The Prince Albert, Stroud

The Best Of Queen Performed By Flash
Swan Theatre, Worcester

Luke Philbrick, Gary Quinn And Friends
The Royal Exchange, Gloucester

Sunday 25 March 2018

Kieran Halpin
The Fleece Inn, Bretforton

Swamp Candy (5:30pm)
The Chestnut, Worcester

Tyler & Vo
Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Big O Fish (4pm)
The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Wolfren Riverstick
The Old Chestnut, Pershore

The Heels
Alestones, Redditch

Céline Dommart & Montparnasse
Webheath Village Hall, Redditch

Wolfren Riverstick 6pm
The Old Chestnut Tree Inn, Lower Moor

Thatched Roofs & Open Flames
Worley's The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

The Desperados, Tone Tanner, Voodoo Stone
The Iron Road, Evesham

Ray Stroud (4pm)
Red Lion, Evesham

Nicole Sherwood (5pm)
The Imperial Tavern, Worcester

Monday 26 March 2018

Apex Jazz Band
Harriers Arms, Hoo Rd, Kidderminster

Jam Night
The Paul Pry, Worcester

Wednesday 28 March 2018

The Country Superstars Experience
The Courtyard, Hereford

Albert Lee And His Electric Band
The Bacon Theatre, Cheltenham

Adam Sweet
Café René, Gloucester

Thursday 29 March 2018

Andy Nowak Trio
Stroud Valleys Artspace, Stroud

Will Killeen
The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Gotta Groove Duo
The Arches, Bewdley

Doctor And The Medics
Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Rodda's Hairy Craic
Crown & Sceptre, Stroud

Smokin Pilchards
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Population:7, Prime Position, Cloud9boyz
The Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Cregan & Co – The Songs Of Rod Stewart
Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham

The Elvis Presley Songbook
Dudley Town Hall, Dudley

Life
Worley's The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Kris Barras Band, Blackwater Conspiracy
The Iron Road, Evesham

Brocken Spectre, Iran Iran, Excuses, Connor Maher
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Mammothfest Battle Of The Bands 2018
Café René, Gloucester

Friday 30 March 2018

The Future Set
Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

The Delray Rockets
The Golden Cross, Hereford

The All Saints Beer Festival With Live Music
The Talbot, Knightwick

The Stoned Cherries
Left Bank, Hereford

The Delray Rockets
Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

Beer And Music Festival
Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

The Rogues
The Barrels, Hereford

Dub Thieves
The Chestnut, Worcester

Free Spirit
The Maverick, Stourbridge

The Reflections
The Blue Bell, Ryall

Re Booted
Royal Forester Country Inn, Kidderminster

The Reflections
The Blue Bell Ryall, Upton Upon Severn

Stuart From The Strangers
The Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

The Blooming Magnolias
The Hop Pole, Bewdley

Re Booted
The Royal Forester, Bewdley

Fcs: The Americas
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

The Langan Band
The Marshall Rooms, Stroud

Big Joe Bone
Crown & Sceptre, Stroud

Valous, Genesis Arc
The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

AC/DC UK
The Riverrooms, Stourbridge

The Underdogs
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Voodoo Vegas, Welcome Back Delta, Ritual King, Hired Guns, Desperados, Vajazzle Dynamite, Luke Philbrick & Damon T
The Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Lilith And The Knight, Reawaken
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Chronicles Of Zee
Worley's The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Vlatmo
The Strand, Cheltenham

Vicky Elise
Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

The Follicles
The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

Cooper & Davis
The Queens Head, Wolverley

Bandeoke With Polkadot Robot
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Black Cat Bone
The Sociable Beer Company, Worcester

Tim Manning
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Cookie, James And Poppy WS
The Old Pheasant, Worcester

Complete Madness
The Artix, Bromsgrove

Jamie Knight
Ye Olde Talbot Hotel, Worcester

Regime
Café René, Gloucester

The Neville Staple Band
Baker Street Bar, Gloucester

Saturday 31 March 2018

The Forfeits
Cross Keys Inn, Gloucester

Upton Blues Festival Presents: Zoe Green & Groovyhead
The Memorial Hall, Upton upon Severn

The B Sides
The Avenue, Gloucester

Electric Circus
Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

Hoodoo Operators
Gloucester Brewery's Easter Beer Festival, Gloucester

Chicago Bytes
Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Jally Kebba Susso, Band!
The Globe, Hay On Wye

Tinalien
Left Bank, Hereford

The All Saints Beer Festival With Live Music
The Talbot, Knightwick

Mel And Him
The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Totally 80s
The Cross Keys, Malvern

Beer And Music Festival
Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

Two Push Charlie
The Barrels, Hereford

XL5
The Chestnut, Worcester

Kinstrife
The Plough, Hereford

James Baker
The Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

Kylie Minogue Tribute Night
Leominster Sports And Social Club, Leominster

The Follicles
The Horn And Trumpet, Bewdley

Krafty Kuts, Evil Nine
Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Mia & The Blackhawkes
Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Wolfrén Riverstick
Crophorne Bell, Pershore

The Jerseys
Palace Theatre, Redditch

Binomial
The Oast House, Redditch

George Wilson
The Royal Oak, Studley

Vehicle
Talbot, Knightwick

Bulltown Boys
Reet Petite, Leominster

The River Dogs
The Big Cat Coma, Leamington Spa

Final Warning
The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Arcadia Roots
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

The Festivals Experience
The Riverrooms, Stourbridge

Rusty Sheriff
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Wolfrén Riverstick
The Crophorne Bell, Crophorne

Frontrow
The Old Crispin, Stourbridge

UB40 Tribute
Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

Godsticks, It, Quiet Wish, Midnight Sun, The Tirith & More
The Civic, Stourport-On-Severn

The Kitchen Island Band
Green Dragon, Malvern

Immy & Jake
Wychbold Sports & Social Club, Stoke Prior

Black Water County
The Iron Road, Evesham

Madi Stimoson Trio
The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Pete Harrington
The Swan Inn Barbourne, Worcester

2Tone Revue
The Gun Tavern, Worcester

The Model Folk
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Wounded Spirit
Ye Old Crown Inn, Stourport-On-Severn

Forever in Blue Jeans
Swan Theatre, Worcester

Mods Vs Rockers, The Quik Beats, The Del Ray Rockets
Artrix, Bromsgrove

www.slapmag.co.uk/get-listed

Music Sessions/Open Mics

Every Monday - Open Mic

Royal Oak, Ledbury

Every Monday - Open Mic/Jam Night

Cock & Magpie, Bewdley

Every Monday - Folk Night

Worley's, The Swan, Stourport

1st Mon of Month - Acoustic Session

The Pickled Plum, Pershore

4th Mon - Singaround

Pidele House, Wyre Piddle, Worcs

Fortnightly Mon & Wed (check website) - Folk Nights

Three Horseshoes, Frampton-On-Severn, Glos

Every Tues - Jazz Night

Worley's The Swan, Stourport

Every Tuesday - Plug n Play

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Every Other Tuesday - Open Mic

The Firefly, Hereford

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

Every Wednesday - Open mic

The Maverick, Stourbridge

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 Cleeve

Every other Wednesday - Open mic/Sessions

Rose & Crown, Severn Stoke

Every other Wednesday - Open mic/Sessions

Fox & Hounds, Breden

Every other Wednesday - Folk Sessions

The Crown, Colwall

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, Worcester

3rd Wed of Month - Acoustic Session

The Admiral Rodney, Berrow Gn

3rd Wed of Month - Celtic folk session

The Fleece Inn, Bretforton, Worcs

Last Wed - Under 18s open mic

Reet Petite, Leominster

Every Thursday - Drumlove Adult Workshop 7.30pm

The Angel Centre, Worcester

Every other Thursday, Open Mic with Dan James

The Chestnut, Worcester

1st Thurs - Folk Session

Farmers Arms, Wellington Heath

1st Thurs - Black Hill Tune Club

The Crown Inn, Longtown, HR2

Every Thurs - Troublesome Trio

Cock & Magpies, Bewdley

Every other Thursday, Bromsgrove Folk Club

Catshill Club, Bromsgrove

Every Thur - Open Mic Night/Jamming Session

Three Horseshoes, Frampton-On-Severn, Glos

Every Thurs from 9.30 - West Malvern 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 Malvern

Every other Friday, Karaoke with kim

Royal Oak, Ledbury

1st Fri - Acoustic Session

The Camp, Grimley

2nd Fri - Open mic

Reet Petite, Leominster

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

The Methodist Church, Ledbury

Last Fri - Acoustic Session

The Fox, Monkwood Green, Worcs

Every Fri - Irish Session

St Ambrose Hall, Kidderminster

Every Friday Lunch Time - Folk Session

Three Kings, Hanly Castle

Last Friday - Resident band The Future Set

The Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

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

Rushwick Village Hall, Worcester

Every Sunday starting at 3:00pm

The Morgan, Malvern

Every Sunday Acoustic Sunday at 7.30pm

The Wharf, Stourport

Sunday Live Open Mic

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

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

the VALKYRIE

Live music in evesham

MARCH

Friday 2nd - 8:30pm

Kikamora |

Michael Knowles and the STDs

FREE ENTRY

Saturday 3rd - 9:30pm

Midnight Sun

FREE ENTRY

Sunday 4th - 6:00pm

Chris Francis

FREE ENTRY

Friday 9th - 8:30pm

Gehtika |

Vengeful Atonement

FREE ENTRY

Saturday 10th - 9:30pm

Texan Peacocks

FREE ENTRY

Sunday 11th - 6:00pm

Tom Forbes

FREE ENTRY

Friday 16th - 8:30pm

Pelugion |

Ten Days Later

FREE ENTRY

Saturday 17th - 9:30pm

Isolation |

Grey Wolves Grin

FREE ENTRY

Friday 23rd - 8:30pm

Moordrake | **Pilla**

FREE ENTRY

Saturday 24th - 8:30pm

Fire & Forge Festival

Black Emerald | VNDTA UK

Bitter Divide | This Winter Machine

FREE ENTRY

Friday 30th - 8:30PM

Valous | **Genesis Arc**

FREE ENTRY

Saturday 31st - 9:30PM

Final Warning

FREE ENTRY

LIVE DJ
EVERY FRI/SAT NIGHT
UNTIL 3AM

OPEN MIC
EVERY OTHER TUESDAY

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THE MARRS BAR

MAR | APR 2018



Friday 30th March
The Americas

Thursday 1st March

Faithful City Shows: Dub Pistols
£14 in advance

Friday 2nd March

Wrong Jovi (Bon Jovi tribute)
£7.50 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday, 3rd March

Mused (Muse tribute) + The Switch
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Sunday 4th March

Lemonade Jazz, Funk, Soul session
£3 on the door

Monday 5th March

FCS: Mike Dawes
£10 in advance £13 on the door

Thursday 8th March

UnCover: Jump The Shark, NTH Cave, Wych Elm + Novaview
£5 in advance £7 on the door

Friday 9th March

Michael Knowles And The STD's, Dirty Soap + Tone Tanner
£5 in advance £7 on the door

Saturday 10th March

The Machine Rages On, Artiphunk
£6 in advance £8 on the door

Friday 16th March

Fred Zeppelin
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday 17th March

Soul Stripper (AC/DC tribute), Cult Fiction (The Cult tribute)
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Monday 19th March

WCRL: Dobermann, The Foreign Quarter + The Lost Path
Cost: £5 in advance £7 on the door

Thursday 22nd March

FCS: Ramonas, Borrowed Time
£9 in advance £12 on the door

Friday 23rd March

The Vibrators, The Miffs
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday 24th March

Julie July band A Tribute to Sandy Denny, Collin Pitts
£10 in advance £12 on the door

Friday 30th March

FCS: The Americas, Junior Weeb + Happy Bones
£5 in advance £7 on the door

Saturday 31st March

Forever Sabbath (Sabbath tribute)
£6 in advance £8 on the door

Friday 6th April

The Fidgets, Chasing Deer, Lost Tiger
£5 in advance £7 on the door

Saturday 7th April

West Coast Eagles (Eagles tribute)
£10 in advance £12 on the door

Thursday 12th April

The Little Unsaid, Howard James Kenny
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday 14th April

Guns Or Roses (Guns 'N' Roses tribute)
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Wednesdays - Jamming night

Late Saturdays - Midnight till 4am

www.marrsbar.co.uk

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