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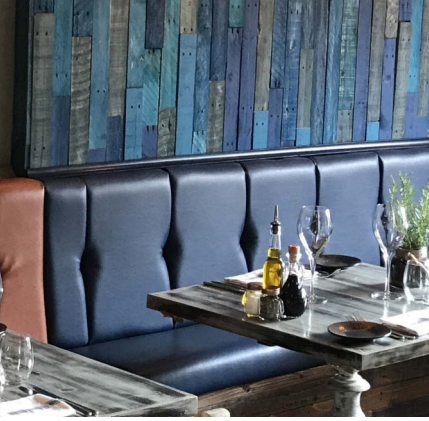
Issue 80

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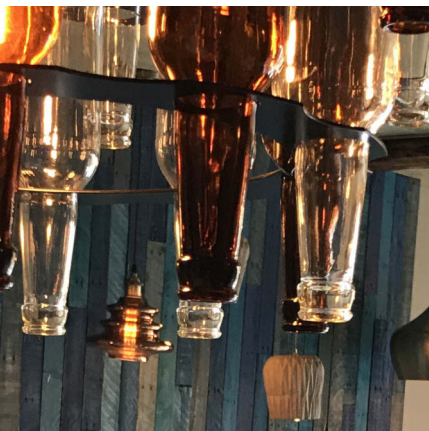
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May 2018 MAGAZINE

SLAP MAGAZINE

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Despite the weather's best efforts, it seems that summer is
around the corner and if this bumper issue of Slap Magazine is
anything to go by, event organisers and promoters are feeling
the vibes already. At a time when the national press are
reporting venues closing and organisations like the Music
Venue Trust are campaigning to support grassroots venues, it is
heartwarming to see so much happening in the region.

According to our resident geek, in 2018 alone, Slap has listed
almost 3000 events. If that doesn't show you what a hotbed of
talent we have here, nothing will! There is clearly no excuse not
to get out and support your local scene.

You'll find information about a multitude of events and
exhibitions, like The Ring – an arts programme based on the
canal ring between Worcester and Droitwich - running through
the summer with an ever changing programme of events and
installations. The Empathy Museum's A Mile in My Shoes will
be installed in Worcester's Cathedral Square for ten days at the
end of the month, after successful residencies in London, San
Paolo and Western Australia. As if this wasn't enough, we have
listings from over 200 venues across the region with a jam
packed programme of music, theatre, dance and spoken word.

We've also been inundated with news of new releases from
musicians including Stourbridge's own Jess Silk who's hosting
an album launch on 11th May and prodigal son Vinny Peculiar
with Return of the Native (on regular rotation in the Slap office
right now). We're also featuring the new releases from Liberty
Artillery, Wille and the Bandits, Poppy WS, Ed Strong and Inkubus
Sukubus. More information on these later in the issue.

Exhaust-ed



Front cover: *The Malvern Winter Gardener* - Vinny Peculiar taken by
Andy Squiff in Newnham, Gloucester - Malvern Council wanted £900 to
film on the hills with a drone!



Spotify

Search Slap Magazine

SLAP MAY 3

Population: 1.5 billion

Congratulations to **Population:7** and **Time Of The Mouth** drummer **Carl 'Carlos' Browne** for his performance with **Lady Sanity** at the Commonwealth Games closing handover ceremony in Queensland Australia as a representative of the 2022 Birmingham Games - live in front of an estimated global audience of 1.5 billion people!! Good on yer mate!!

PRS-ing Issue

The **Performing Rights Society (PRS)** have confirmed that a 'small number' of its members were recently overpaid live music royalties and that the emails sent requesting repayment weren't yet another online scam. Some musos were paid ten times more than was intended and plenty of confusion ensued with **British Songwriters Academy** CEO **Vicky Bain** declaring that *'PRS had one job to do - make timely and accurate royalty payments to its members - they now need to build up trust again...'*

Jazzing Off

The 33rd **Upton Jazz Festival** will be rebranded for 2018 'with a bold new look' as the riverside town will host more than fifty gigs over the weekend June 21 to 24 - plus a fringe event 'packed with up-and-coming outfits'. It'll also celebrate the 10th year of its **Best Of Young Jazz** showcase featuring many local rising stars performing live with professional musicians - uptonjazz.co.uk

Pride & New Place

Worcestershire Pride are hoping that their 'unofficial home' **Cafe Bliss** will soon find a new base in the city to continue its role as an open-all-day hub for the LGBT community and meeting place for organisations such as **Pride** and **Out2Together** - they've already raised £1200 towards finding a new venue via crowdfunding and there's more info on worcestershirepride.org

Old Dog, New Tricks

More good news for the vinyl fiends - Austrian firm **Rebeat** has announced that the *'high definition Vinyl'* technique featuring longer playing time and more precise reproduction of studio recording as a result of converting audio to a 3D map inscribed onto the vinyl stampers by laser - Rebeat predicts the first HDV records will be in the shops by summer next year...

Sisters Sledging off Cliff

Good to see that ex-Kidderminster resident and reggae legend **Jimmy Cliff** will be returning to the Midlands to headline the ninth **Mostly Jazz Funk & Soul Festival** in Moseley Park in Birmingham from July 6-8! Other acts confirmed for the event include **Candy Staton** and **Sister Sledge** - mostlyjazz.co.uk

Hay Fever

The program for this year's **Hay Festival** has been announced with speakers including **Michael Morpurgo**, **David Walliams**, **Jilly Cooper**, **Rose Tremain**, **Ruby Wax**, **Germaine Greer** - plus **Gordon Brown**, **Michael Gove** and **David Miliband** (though probably not on the same stage). To mark the centenary of the armistice, Hay has commissioned a new round of 'war poets' with festival director Pete Florence saying that 'we need to hear the wisest voices, not the loudest' - Hay runs from May 24 to June 3 - hayfestival.org

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BMU Have Been Warned

A music company scam has left artists thousands of pounds out of pocket, with one singer saying she now faces being made homeless because of her losses. In an apparent fraud, management firm **Band Management Universal (BMU)** charged up to £4000 for services and continued to sign clients despite having numerous complaints about not meeting promises. **Musicians' Union** chief **Horace Trubridge** called it the worst scam he had seen in the past 20 years. Registered in Farringdon London, BMU has now shut its website and email accounts and cancelled its phones.

Cap n Gown the Hatches

Fair play to genial **Cap'n Gown** mein-host **Ted Marshall** for offering the pub as a year-round space for local artists to exhibit their talents. Working with **Worcestershire Open Studios** he's put aside an 'art wall' at the pub with the works on display changed on a regular basis - with the next opportunity to meet the artists in person on August Bank Holiday weekend - www.worcestershireopenstudios.org.uk

Clogging up the Arteries

Upton Folk Festival chairman **Helen Ablitt** is promising the 'best-ever' bash this year with 57 acts, 58 morris 'sides' and a host of other entertainers over the bank holiday weekend Friday 4 to Monday 7 May - there'll also be singing, writing and clog dancing competitions and the Sunday procession will include members of the Sealed Knot - uptonfolk.org

Martin can't get Wood

More dire news for the US guitar industry as an international crackdown on illegal logging in tropical forests is affecting the supply of rosewood to luthiers such as **Martin & Co** who use small amounts of the wood in their 200 different guitar models. Chairman **Chris Martin** said that 'other woods can work but guitar builders and players know there is something special about rosewood's richness of sound'...

Buckets out for Carnival

Worcester Carnival returned to the city last year after an extended break (24 years) and this year's event on Saturday 7 July will see the parade assembled and starting from its original base at Pitchcroft before winding its way round the city. There'll also be a funfair, live entertainment, trade stalls and this year's chosen charity Worcester Play Council will benefit from a bucket collection during the parade - www.worcester-carnival.co.uk

Big growth in British Phonography

According to the **British Phonographic Industry (BPI)** the UK music industry is celebrating its fastest growth since Britpop days with record labels reporting an income increase of over 10% from last year - due in part to the success of established artists like **Ed Sheeran** and **Little Mix**, but also newbies such as **Rag'n'Bone Man** and **Stormzy**. Also feeding in was a 45% rise in streaming subscriptions and vinyl sales. BPI chief **Geoff Taylor** expressed caution however - noting that services like YouTube still pay artists far less than outlets such as Spotify (recently listed with a value of £20bn) and warned that Brexit could raise costs for UK acts which can currently tour freely in the EU - full report in the **BPI's All About The Music 2018** yearbook...



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Clik Clik will be putting some cheek into the **Worcester Gin Festival** this month, with a handful of mischievous characters and pop up entertainment to compliment all that lovely gin on offer at the Guildhall, Worcester on 5th & 6th May. Check out if there are any tickets left on: worcesterginfestival.com



Clik Clik is offering a double helping of playfulness and creativity with a package that will provide your party with a photo-booth to capture all guests plus an arts activity thrown in to keep the younger people busy. Please drop me a line for more info: kate@clikclikcollective.com



Noz at Hereford River Carnival

Nozstock will be running a stage at the **Hereford River Carnival** on Sat 5th May with live music and arts giving you a teaser taster of what's on offer at the main event, **Nozstock The Hidden Valley**, an eclectic music and multi-arts festival in Bromyard July 20th-22nd. Hereford River Carnival has loads happening including a street procession, arts, dance, stalls and music on 4th & 5th May. www.rivercarnival.org.uk



Family Totem Workshop

To celebrate **Heather** and **Ivan Morison's** *The Long Afternoon of Earth* residency at **the Hive**, **Meadow Arts** is running a drop-in art workshop for the whole family this month. This fun family creative occasion is led by experienced Worcester based workshop leader and artist **Sarah Edwards (Spare Room Arts)**, who will be working with children and adults to make an installation in the form of a giant totem pole, allowing artworks to be carefully stacked on top of each other to make a piece of work that evolves over the course of the day. Inspired by the new papercrete and Bonsai sculptures by the **Morisons** currently on display at **The Hive**, the structure will grow in size and stature as more people take part. Everyone who participates in the project will make a piece of work to go onto the totem and people can create something as simple or as complex as they like. The work

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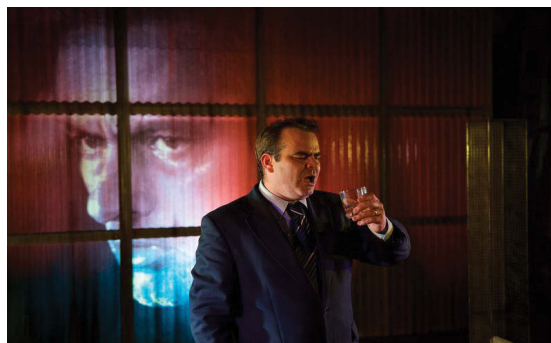
could take many forms and will be prompted by questions such as 'tell us what you know', topics such as the environment, space, travel, oceans, history, music and more will be used, some serious, some fun and playful. Come along for free and help us make some art!

Sat 12th May, Children's Library at The Hive, Worcester 11am-2pm. (Drop in anytime, but please arrive by 1:30pm). Free.



Football in theatre

Sport and the arts meet this month when the **Red Ladder Theatre Company's** production *The Damned United* comes to the shire. Adapted from David Peace's best selling novel about Brian Clough's disastrous 44-day period as manager of Leeds United football club, *The Damned United* takes you inside the tortured mind of a genius slamming up against his limits.



A sell-out success when it received its premiere in 2016, *The Damned United* tours nationally for the first time, bringing to life the beauty and brutality of football, the 'working man's ballet'.

Sat 19th Courtyard, Hereford www.courtyard.org.uk

Sun 20th Artrix, Bromsgrove www.artrix.co.uk

Marches Makers Festival



Marches Makers are a group of artists and crafters based in and around Kington who are hosting a brand-new festival showcasing the wealth of talent in and around the area, from professional artists, crafters and the creative community. Over the May Day bank holiday the Festival will be spread out over a variety of venues and include music, story-telling, textiles, jewellery, craft workshops, painting, print-making and more.

5th to 7th May For more info: www.marchesmakers.co.uk and www.facebook.com/marchesmakers

Icelandic Saga Slam

Back again due to popular demand, the **5th Berkeley Poetry Slam** returns in a new reincarnation with a random theme, loosely based around the Viking sagas. They might be Norse creation myths, tales of heroic doings, cruises for the elderly or an insiders look at the office supply chain, degenerating into the wonderfully eclectic free for all that makes poets from the masses. Fancy Dress optional and it's free!



The Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury 18th May 2018. 7.30ish-Late.

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Dancefest

Dancefest are really looking forward to working with **infuseDANCE**, a leading UK dance, film and photography company, this summer. Co-Director of **infuseDANCE**, **Mark Anderson**, will be running workshops to create dance based on their *Bodyguards – Protect and Serve* piece, for pop up performances in Worcester city centre on Saturday 21 July - you may have spotted them at Watch Out Worcester last year! Mark will be leading youth dance sessions for dancers aged 13+ on Saturdays 30 June and 7 July at 10am-3pm.

He'll also be working with **DFA (Dancefest Adults)**, a group for experienced dancers, on Sundays 24 June and 8 July at 10am-4pm. Both projects cost £35 to take part and are a great opportunity to learn more about site-based, outdoor choreography and performance.

Dancefest's next **Develop and Deepen** class for adults is at 7.30-8.45pm on 17 May at Riverside, University of Worcester, led by Worcester-based dance lecturer and choreographer, **Rachael Alexander**. It's a class for experienced dancers looking to develop their contemporary dance skills in a fast paced, challenging class and costs £6.90/£5.90 concessions.

You can find out more about Dancefest at dancefest.co.uk or on 01905 611199



Number 8 call for artists

Number 8 is calling for submissions from artists and photographers interested in exhibiting their work for two individual opportunities. Number 8 is a community arts centre based in Pershore with a programme of film, theatre, dance and live events. Number 8 also hosts a programme of art exhibitions set within a coffee bar/gallery area. It is the aim of the Number 8 gallery to promote high quality semi-professional and professional visual arts from within and beyond the county of Worcestershire. The gallery space also provides the local emerging visual arts community with an opportunity to exhibit and sell their work.

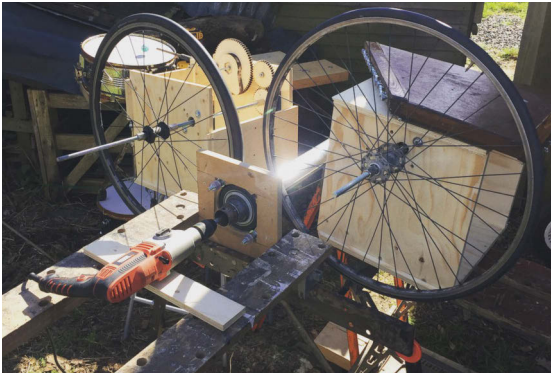
Number 8 is calling for exhibitors that would like to submit up to two pieces of work to an **Open Exhibition** happening from 4th – 24th Oct 2018, and for artists that would like to have a solo or group exhibition in 2019. The deadline for submission is Mon 9 July, 11am. You can find further details and download submission forms here: www.number8.org/downloads/ or contact exhibitions@number8.org / 01386 561906

Aural double-dose

Worcestershire based sound artist **Sam Underwood** has been a busy bee recently with two current sound art projects on the go. He received **Arts Council England** funding to develop a modular mechanical musical instrument with fellow artist **Graham Dunning**. The project called '**Connected Devices**', began with a period of research at the **Horniman Museum** which houses a fabulous musical instrument collection and library and now they are busy building an initial prototype of the instrument to be revealed later this year.

"Creating something so ambitious is what I live for as a musical instrument designer. It's really taxing at the same time, with many aspects at the edges of my understanding but that's what makes it so exciting!"

You can peek at the progress - [devicesconnected.tumblr.com](https://www.tumblr.com/devicesconnected)



Sam has also been selected as one of two artists for **Green Lungs 2018**, run by **Ampersand Projects** and aimed at 'Introducing Birmingham's new arrivals to the city's green spaces'. Plans involve a sound walk in **Cannon Hill Park**, followed by workshops to build instruments and listening devices based on the artists experiences.

From **7th May - 28th July** you can visit the **MAC** in Birmingham to view the items made and the inspirations garnered. This exhibition will also include artworks created in response to this experience.

www.ampersandprojects.org/latest/2018/3/15/announcing-green-lungs-2018

International Art Installation comes to Worcester

At the end of the month new local arts organization, **The Company of Others**, present their first major project in Worcester– the **Empathy Museum's** 'A Mile in My Shoes'. On 25th May this extraordinary international project will open its doors in Worcester's Cathedral Square where it will stay until 3rd June. It is FREE to take part so come along and try on someone else's life for size.

A Mile in My Shoes is a shoe shop where visitors are invited to walk a mile in someone else's shoes - literally. Housed in a giant shoebox, this exhibit holds a diverse collection of shoes and audio stories that explore our shared humanity. From a Syrian refugee to a sex worker, a nurse to an automotive engineer, visitors are invited to walk a mile in the shoes of a stranger whilst listening to their story. The stories cover different aspects of life, from loss and grief to hope and love and take the visitor on an empathetic as well as a physical journey. **The Empathy Museum** launched the project in London in 2015 and it has since been presented in Sao Paolo, Brussels and the Houses of Parliament with stories collected in



each location. Worcester has now been added to this venerable list where **The Company of Others** have worked with a team of audio producers to record 20 new stories from Worcestershire people.

This is the first of many exciting international projects that this new venture will be presenting in the region and sets a benchmark for the scale and ambition of work to come. It is an extraordinary installation and they are thrilled to be adding Worcestershire voices to the growing international collection.

A Mile in My Shoes was originally conceived and developed by artist **Clare Patey**, with writer and philosopher **Roman Krznaric**. The Worcester stories have been recorded and produced by audio producers **Mair Bosworth, Rob Eagle, Karen Gregor, Eliza Lomas and Tom Bonnett**.

This project is made possible in Worcester through support from **Arts Council England, the Elmley Foundation, the Bransford Trust, Worcester Arts Partnership and Worcester City Council**.

Cathedral Square, Worcester. 25 May – 3 June, 10am to 5pm.
For more info: www.thecompanyofothers.co.uk



Lazy Sunday

Grand Finally

20th May 2018

12 - 6pm



Muddy Summers

& the dirty field whores

Arcadia Roots

Flatworld

The Hannah Law Band

£5 Ian Passey £5

Open Mic

Cafe Bliss, 21 Sansome st, WR1 1UH

Dare The Limits | Relaunch Art Show

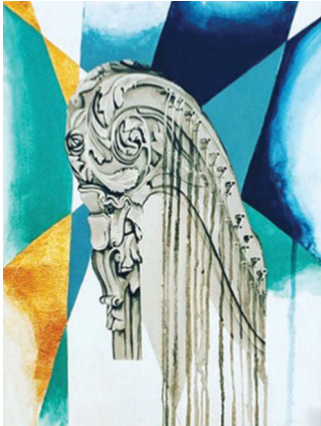
Come and join us at the best art show in Worcester! Local artist **Bonny Rose** began her art business, **Dare The Limits**, after having to take time out of professional dancing training in London for a foot operation. After months of hard work it is time to show what Bonny has been working on.

After many years exploring art and different styles Bonny has found a style that suits her perfectly, her artwork is geometric, bold and quirky. Not only can you get your hands on some original pieces at the event, there are also prints for sale and commission orders can be taken on the night too.

At the event we will have the wonderful Chloe Mogg, Ellie Williams and a trio of the Connor Maher Quartet playing. So not only is there great art work there are some brilliant local bands playing too.

As if this wasn't enough, there will be a photo booth and many other quirky ideas which are a must see.

Paradiddles Café Music Bar in Worcester on the 25th May 2018. Tickets, which cost £6, are available on the door or at www.ticketsource.co.uk/darethelimits.



Explore Diglis Island as major art work comes life

People are being invited to a unique tour of **Diglis Island** on the River Severn in Worcester lead by sculptor **Rich White**, currently constructing a major new sculpture on the site.

Rich began his residency in February, progressively building a temporary, large-scale sculpture, entitled 'Occupation'. Visible from the towpath, the work evokes a period of activity on the island, harking back to when it was used for construction, maintenance and defence. The structure will evolve further with new sections being added at regular intervals, culminating in the completed piece in June, remaining in-situ until September.

Rich's work is part of **The Ring** – an arts programme and cultural first for Worcestershire that celebrates the rebirth of the region's canals and rivers. The project, run by the **Canal & River Trust** - the charity that cares for the nation's waterways, will see a series of new art commissions created by local and internationally



celebrated artists in response to the 21 miles of waterways encircling Droitwich and Worcester, namely the Worcester & Birmingham Canals, the Droitwich Canals and the River Severn.

To provide more context to 'Occupation', and to give people an insight into the history and significance of the island, Rich hosted the first tour last month, with further tours on 23rd June and 30th

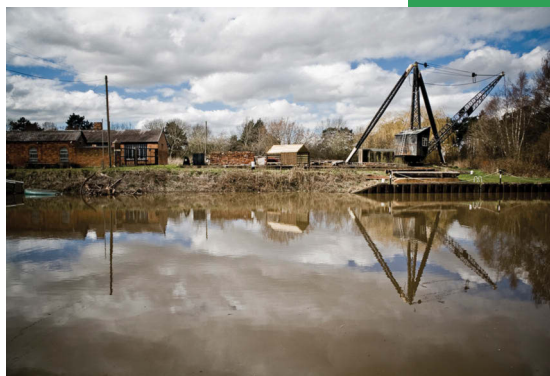
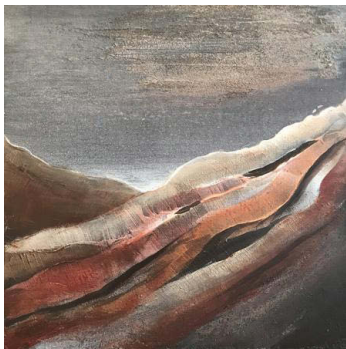
Abstract exhibition in Pershore

John Phillips is a painter of abstract and representational using acrylics, oils and mixed media influenced by the exploration of long coastal and country walks. The paintings are a response to the raw energy and nature he encounters.

"I have been very lucky to have been brought up within an artistic background. My father was an artist and as a child I visited many artists studios and galleries and enjoyed sketching and painting outdoors with my father."

A huge follower of contemporary Cornish artists (such as Neil Canning, Matthew Lanyon and Henrietta Dubray), John visited St Ives in the sixties at the time of the more iconic early 20th century artists. *"Visiting Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth, Picasso and Braque's studios were some of my happiest memories of my childhood"*.

John studied Graphic



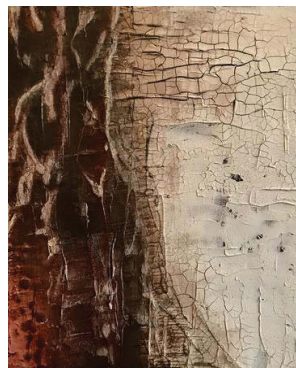
August. It will be a rare opportunity to get up close and personal with the buildings and structures on the island. Places are limited, but to book your spot visit <https://theringart.org.uk/events/island-visit-days/>

Just a short walk from Worcester City centre, Diglis Island has changed little since it was first used in 1815 to lift heavy timber, boats and coal between boats and the striking crane used remains today.

You can take a look at more of Rich White's work here: counterwork.co.uk/ & For info on the Ring: www.theringart.org.uk



design and illustration at college and pursued freelance career after leaving. However while working in London, he missed finding the time to paint so after a move to the south west he developed his painting skills. From here he exhibited and had work in galleries in and around the South West including Exeter, St Ives, Penzance and Totnes, briefly running a gallery himself on the quay in Exeter.



"My paintings have evolved in two different directions. The abstract approach has helped me explore the spaces and textures that speak to me using the experiences from the coast and countryside I now reside in. Secondly I keep revisiting the representational work, reflecting my love of drawing and interpreting the forms and colours in a more direct approach".

John's work has recently been on display in Hereford, Hay on Wye and Dorset and you can see his recent paintings currently until 31st May at **The Showell Gallery** in the Civic Centre, Pershore.

For more info: johnphillips.artweb.com

Suz Winspear



It's nearly May, so we're almost half way through this peculiar year, which seems to be getting more peculiar by the day. Who knows how the rest of the year will pan out? Of course, in complicated times like these, we have most need of art, to hear a diversity of voices and come to understand different lives and experiences. So it seems ironic that one of the

effects of the Austerity Crisis is that opportunities to be a creative artist and make a proper living from our work are becoming ever more restricted to those who already comfortably-off and whose voices are already being heard. From unpaid or underpaid work in the cultural sector, to unaffordable audition-fees for Drama schools, to artists and performers being expected to work for nothing, it often seems as though most of us are being excluded and our experiences are being overlooked. Yet despite difficult times and circumstances, we keep on working, making our art, poetry, music and stories. It's what we do, it's what we have to do, and somehow the Worcestershire arts scene remains vibrant. Long may it remain so!

Here are some Spoken Word events for May

Wednesday 3rd – 'I am John Clare' at the Almonry Museum, Evesham. John Clare was a major nineteenth century poet, who wrote exquisitely-observed poetry, mostly on themes of nature and his working life as a farmer, and he was one of the few working-class poets of the era to achieve recognition. After suffering with his mental health, he was committed to the Northampton Lunatic Asylum. This is a one-man play about his life, written by **Stephen Loveless** and performed by actor, singer and fiddle-player **Robin Hillman**. Tickets are £6 and can be obtained from eveshamfestivalofwords.org . 7-10pm.

Thursday 10th – SpeakEasy at Cafe Bliss, Worcester Arts Workshop. Poetry from a wide range of local poets. Our featured performer this month is **Sarah Leavesley**, a fabulous poet who has performed throughout the country and is regularly published. It'll be a treat to hear her! . . . 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.

Thursday 17th – Dear Listener at Boston Tea Party, Angel Place. This is an early-evening event of eclectic poetry and spoken word, from both new and established voices. The identity of the Featured Performer will soon be revealed, and Open Mic slots can be booked at dearlisteneropenmic@gmail.com £3 admission. 6.30 – 8.30pm

Wednesday 30th – 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.



Main Weekend Friday 29th June - Sunday 1st July

Plus year round fringe!

All the fun of the festival: Stuff for readers and writers, open mic for performers, exhibition for photographers and... stuff for the kids too!

Evesham Festival of Words has something for absolutely everyone!

Friday Headliner - Author of the best-selling page turner, Mistress and Commander, Amelia Dalton

For more information and tickets visit www.eveshamfestivalofwords.org, email info@eveshamfestivalofwords.org or like us at



@eveshamfestivalofwords or join in the Twitter chatter at @InfoFow



A Brave Face

a new mask theatre performance tour VAMOS 2018
Hereford College of Arts | 26 March

Vamos Theatre is a Worcestershire-based full mask theatre company which tours nationally and internationally, taking a unique style of innovative and engaging theatre to small and large communities. Vamos is currently engaged in an extensive tour with its latest story concerning Ryan, a young man from the north-east of England who, alongside two friends (Ravi & Jimmy) signs for the Forces. The three are drafted to Afghanistan and it doesn't take long for them to realise that war is far from glamorous.



The story doesn't pull punches in its depiction of the grimness of Post-Traumatic Stress but it also, injects hope and humour into the compelling narrative.

For me the depth of emotion is so well evoked by the five actors, as ever, through mime and gesture. Ryan's relationship with his sister Katie, is not short of beautiful and the soundtrack adds further layers to the tender portrayal of a complex issue.

A Brave Face is a special story which is being told throughout the UK and into Europe, including upcoming performances in Malvern, Tewkesbury and Worcester.

Thursday 24th & Friday 25th May - 7.30pm Swan Theatre

Tickets from £12.50

Contact Box Office on: 01905 611427

Or go to: <http://www.worcesterlive.co.uk/the-swan-theatre>

Justin Hughes

Studio Morison countywide installations

Artists **Heather** and **Ivan Morison** have several beautiful things to explore around Worcestershire and Herefordshire over the coming months.

Their exhibition at the **Hive** Worcester, "*The Long Afternoon of Earth*" commissioned by **Meadow Arts** on display until July 2018, has been a response to the building and its users. The artists created a miniature forest of sculptural vessels containing mature Bonsai trees that contribute a unique sense of calm to reading spaces within the cutting-edge library, which complements the architecture of the building. The artwork is the result of a year long residency involving students from the University of Worcester's Fine Art degree, who are now helping to care for the trees.

Studio Morison have another installation at **NT Berrington Hall**

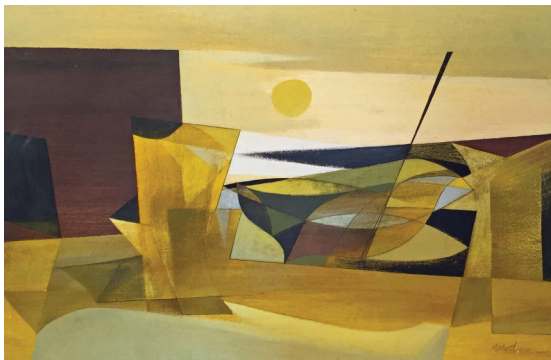
Herefordshire called "*Look Look Look*". It is a large pink structure situated inside the walled garden (the only walled garden to have been designed by Capability Brown) at the National Trust property near Leominster. The artists wanted to create a contemporary 'folly' in keeping with the Georgian architecture. The 'pinapple pavillion' is used for performances, events and activities throughout the summer o, r just go and explore. Until Dec 2019.



A poster for the Circle of Swords performance. The title "CIRCLE OF SWORDS" is written in a large, stylized, golden font. Below the title, the words "GOOD • HONEST • TATTOOING" are written in a smaller, white font. The background is dark blue with a pattern of white lines. At the bottom, the address "2-4 TRINITY STREET, WORCESTER, WR1 2PW" and the times "TUESDAY - SATURDAY: 10:00 - 18:00" are listed, along with the phone number "01905 780606". There are also social media icons for Facebook and Instagram.

'The Art of the Fifties'

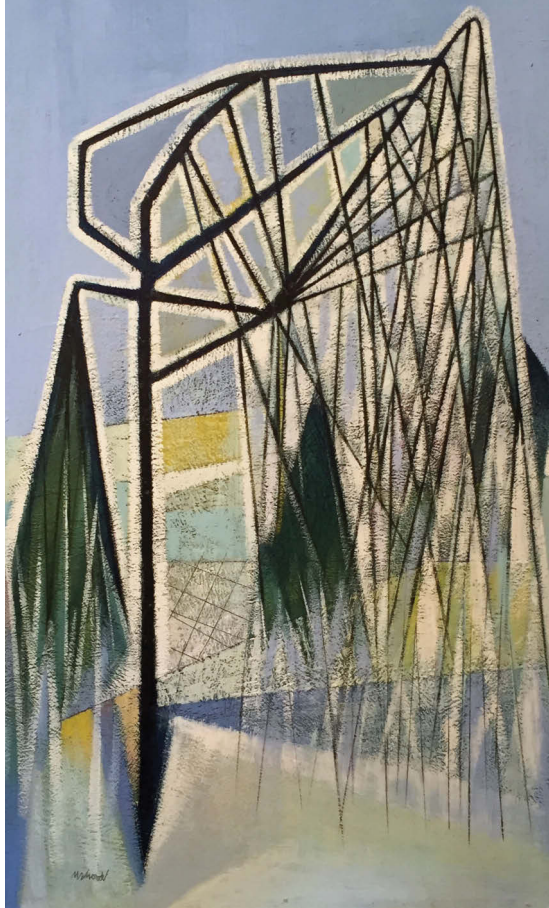
A major exhibition and sale of original paintings, prints and posters
Saturday 26th May - Sunday 3rd June 2018
Elmslie House, 8 Avenue Road, Great Malvern, WR14 3AG



This free exhibition reviews the range of work produced in this crucial decade when British society made the transition from war to peace; through austerity to normality. British artists played an important role in post-war reconstruction promoting good design and greater access to art for all.



The exhibition brings together over 50 fabrics, paintings, prints and posters from across Britain, Europe and the United States. It includes such well-known artists as **John Bratby**, **Fernand Leger**



and **John Piper** and the less well known - especially women artists - who have received little recognition.

The exhibition will be held in the hall at **Elmslie House**, a restored and award-winning Grade II family home located in the centre of Great Malvern, close to the railway station.

This free exhibition will be open daily from 10.30 am – 4.30 pm with late opening on Friday 1st June until 8 pm, but may be opened at other times by arrangement.

A café will be available from 11 am offering light refreshments.

For more information, please contact Richard Turkington on 07714 106386 or richard@fiftiesart.com, or for directions, please visit: www.elmsliehouse.co.uk



The Weeping Window at Hereford Cathedral



The sight of the poppies pouring from the window of **Hereford Cathedral** was quite breath taking. This touring exhibition has been very popular with visitors while on display at Hereford. Originally displayed at the Tower of London as part of the installation called **'Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red'**, in 2014, to commemorate the centenary of the outbreak of World War I, now in the final year of commemorations the poppies are touring the country. The closest they passed to Worcester was at Hereford between 14 March and 29 April 2018.

The stems of the poppies have been bent and reshaped to point the beautiful handmade clay flower heads in different directions, and attached to scaffolding on a building to look as though they are tumbling down the wall of the cathedral and across the grass and path below.

Accompanying the Weeping Window by artist **Paul Cummins** and designer **Tom Piper**, the cathedral put on some exhibitions, and highlighted memorials around the building. There were also exhibitions around the city along a self guided walking tour, most notably the exhibition at **Hereford Museum and Art Gallery**, with beautiful works by local war artist **Brian Hatton**. Meanwhile the cathedral and several other sites around the city hosted a display of artworks, poems and stories by local school children inspired by the poppies which were equally beautiful.



Although it is now finished the art installation can still be viewed online at: herefordcathedral.org/News/poppies-weeping-window
Sarah Ganderton

Broadway Museum & Art Gallery Exhibition: Art of The Great War 1914-1918 Thurs 7 June - Wed 12 September 2018

In partnership with the **2018 Broadway Arts Festival**, the **Broadway Museum and Art Gallery** at 65 High Street, Broadway, WR12 7DP is delighted to be hosting the major Festival Exhibition, *Art of The Great War 1914-1918*, to honour the Centenary of the Armistice of November 11th 1918.

The Exhibition will open on Thursday 7th June, and the good news is that it will remain with the Museum for a season, until Wednesday 12th September.

The works on show will comprise original art and prints of the period, all from the **John Noott Collection**, in an attempt to portray the horror – and some of the humour – of a conflict that devastated the lives of millions of people.



John Noott was born in 1932, and amongst his earliest memories is talk of the Great War – his father Stanley spent four years in the Royal Army Medical Corps, and young John was fascinated when his father attended Remembrance services, bowler hat and service medals on display. The second war followed, from 1939 to 1945, and at age seven John was well aware of the danger the country was in, and his memories of that period are still clear.



For the last fifty years, John has been a successful art dealer, and when, during that time, artwork depicting either war has come his way he has put it to one side, enabling exhibitions of this type to be mounted. He sees them as an opportunity educate, to explain something of the history of the Twentieth Century.

Broadway Museum and Art Gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am until 5 pm (last entry 4.30 pm). Please see the website for details at www.broadwaymuseum.org.uk.

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

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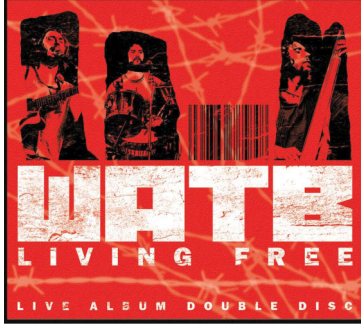
Wille And The Bandits | Living Free

Previously only heard at live gigs during their recent tour, **Wille & The Bandits' *Living Free*** is now available through the WATB online store, so if you've not been fortunate enough to get to a show this is surely the next best thing. Recorded on the road by **Adam Whalley**, who had been eager to work with them since a 2015 Team Rock radio show promoting the band's *Grow* album. The end result is a two-disc live album that certainly does not disappoint.

My personal interest dates back to earlier days when, like Adam Whalley, I found myself intoxicated by the band's unique sound. And as with all the best vices, once you've been bitten by their sound you will crave another hit!

Living Free blasts off with "Bad News", a punchy opener that is sure to grip the listener from the start, before we are bathed in the searing, awesome glow of "Scared of the Sun", which carries with it a stark warning. Part of the joy of listening to this live album is in hearing interaction between the band and their excited crowd, making for a truly atmospheric listening experience. Wille introduces the title track "Living Free", with its opening hippy vibe, that gradually gains momentum before exploding into a rock crescendo. Next up is "Hot Rocks", and Wille pedals the metal while Matt and Andy surf the big waves.

With the tongue drum tapping out the tattoo, Wille's guitar creeps alongside the low rumbles of Matt's bass for "Chillout". Wille's voice raps through, echoing the mellow atmosphere, before we hear he beautiful, throbbing, and unmistakable opening bars of Mammon. The Djembe at Andy's hand brings rhythm, while Matt adds a soft chorus; this is as close to an acoustic song as you'll get with WATB, and it is truly mesmerising, a personal favourite, it "won't let you go, won't let you down."



Matt takes the bow to his stick bass for an elegant solo that purrs lower and lower, before Wille joins him, spitting out the passionate lyrics of "Forgiveness". The track sears and surges in a tide of deep bass notes, before spinning off into orbit. And as if all that wasn't enough, we're not through the first disc yet!

With opening bars that lull you into a false sense of security, all hell breaks loose in the rat race that is "Virgin Eyes"; a depiction of innocence in a hard-edged world, and we are only half way through! With eight more fabulous tracks embedded in disc 2 to uncover, hopefully I have wetted your appetite. The stunning "Angel" truly stands out. It is dedicated to Wille's mother, and she really must have been an angel to have inspired such a spine-tingling track; one that builds slowly until you find yourself floating in clear sky, climbing the cumulus nimbus into the heavens. Andy beats the Djembe, Wille slides and pedals his lap steel guitar, while Matt adds his rich, gorgeous bass notes. Once heard, it will never be forgotten; the siren calls and a heavenly storm gathers. If this were vinyl it would need a whole side, and you would wear the groove out.

With an ecstatic crowd driving them on, Matt and Andy go in for a macho drum off, with Matt on the African drum and Andy at his drum kit, ringing in the tribal "Kubolor", a unique gem, before the album draws to a close with the rip roaring "1970", tearing off into the night.

I'm also pleased to say that an old favourite of mine is included as an extra treat; "Black Magic Woman", with its own WATB makeover, of course! Borrowed from the great Peter Green, the band pay tribute to Fleetwood Mac, world-renowned blues band.

"Gotta Do Better?" Not likely, this is almost as good as the real thing; just close your eyes and turn the volume up, right up and you're there in the crowd. A must-have for any **Wille And The Bandits** fan, and everyone else for that matter. This is a band that continues to 'grow', exponentially, and once you have taste of WATB you will be hooked. Don't fight it, whether you're "Jack The Lad", or "Miles Away", just "Chillout" and try "Living Free".

www.willeandthebandits.com

Graham Munn

Liberty Artillery | Ghetto City One Love

Since completing their line-up back in 2015, Worcester five-piece **Liberty Artillery** have been on something of an upward trajectory, performing a number of high profile slots around the county.

Including performances at the likes of **Mello Festival** and **Worcester Music Festival** have seen the band's profile continue to rise, helped along by critical acclaim for the band's six track debut EP *So Passe Valesquez*, which has received regular spins on BBC Hereford & Worcester's Introducing show since its release about a year ago. In a bid to maintain the buzz, the band decamped to the studio with renowned production maestro Dave Draper in tow, for another bout of recording that materialised as brand new single "Ghetto City One Love".



With their EP serving as an impressive introduction to the band's infectious brand of funk-fuelled indie hip-hop, the new single is more of a statement of intent, and the band deliver an absolute

belter. Once again, we see the five-piece mix and meld influences to form their own unique vision, opening with a filthy slab of scuffling guitar, courtesy of **Jake Aprea Price**, alongside the thunderous drum and bass combo of **Jamie May** and **Sean Gandy** that soon come crashing into view. "Ghetto City One Love" begins as a dirty indie-rocker, complete with a lip-curling, swaggering lead vocal courtesy of **Mark Ballard**, before a choppy riff and an elastic rhythm signals a swerve, as fellow vocalist **Josh Newey** makes an appearance. He spits out an urgent barrage of rapid fire rhymes, showcasing that aforementioned urban influence in full effect, before May signals in the contagious, hook-laden chorus with a heavy bombardment of his drum kit. The insatiable choral hook really hits home and the track continues with the band bouncing between adrenaline-fuelled indie rock and potent rapped verses. A megaphone effect only adds to the rush, and the band bring the curtain down on this essential four-and-a-half-minute blast.

With new material like this, and a repeat booking at this year's Mello Fest, **Liberty Artillery** should continue to see their stock rise as one of the must-see local acts doing the rounds. Catch them whilst they're still treading the local boards, before the rest of the country catches up and demands some heavy artillery.

www.facebook.com/libertyartillery

Will Munn

The Fidgets

Chasing Deer, Lost Tiger

The Marr's Bar, Worcester | 6th April 2018

Worcester's famous **Marr's Bar** was the setting for a Friday night of great live music headlined by local music scene stalwarts The Fidgets. The room was bustling with a wide variety of people ready to celebrate the end of the working week with a pint or few and some infectious rock 'n' roll music.

Starting the night were local guitarist and vocalist/drummer duo **Lost Tiger**, who kicked things off with their brand of Kasabian-esque indie rock. I hadn't heard Lost Tiger's music yet but had heard good things about them, and their performance here certainly justified their growing reputation.



Their set was characterised by pounding drums, steady rhythm, and singalong vocals, and sounded incredibly tight and rehearsed. In addition to this, the boys have a natural ear for a good hook, and I could easily imagine hearing their songs at indie/rock club nights in the not-too-distant future (particularly their last song *Friend of Mine*, which sounds built to be chanted by festival crowds!).



Next up were London four-piece rock band **Chasing Deer**, who emerged from behind a rising curtain, dressed in matching navy blue shirt-and-trouser combos (and at one point, matching synchronised steps across the stage). Their set was defined by

theatricality: most notably the bold, anthemic vibrato vocals. The band's sound was polished and rehearsed, and their songs upbeat and danceable (notably new single *Silence Hurts*), giving me impressions of power pop/arena rock acts like U2 and The Killers. These guys clearly know what they're doing, and I'm sure their success will continue!

The Fidgets took to the stage to a well-warmed-up crowd. The core duo of Max and Ryan, both wielding guitars and sharp vocals, were joined by bassist Alex. They kicked off with catchy Kanye-West-namedropping new single *Them*, which combines their '60s and rock 'n' roll influences with a modern pop sheen. Next came last year's release *Everywhere I Go* (my personal favourite of their songs), with its laid-back guitar riffs and heart-on-sleeve vocal harmonies.

Their new single *Again* displayed a successful incorporation of Rubber Soul-era Beatles sound, combined with an American twang reminiscent of old western film soundtracks. The bouncy guitar pop of *Hey* got plenty of the crowd dancing by the stage, and *She Should Stay* continued the good vibes. New tracks such as *Why Don't You Like Me?*, *Make You Mine*, and the clever rhymes and stop-start dynamics of *She Was Different* worked every bit as well as familiar favourites like main set closer *I'm Alright*.



The Fidgets' set went down a treat for the crowd, who showed their appreciation by cheering for an encore. **Max, Ryan** and **Alex** tore through *The Girl With Diamond Eyes* before closing with Chuck Berry's classic *Johnny B Goode*, a nod to their rock 'n' roll and blues influences. Anyone who has seen Max and Ryan busking on the high street won't be surprised to know that their vocals were pin sharp and their guitar skills impressive throughout the whole night. The setlist was incredibly well-thought-out, with a variety of melodic and upbeat numbers keeping the crowd moving, and occasional slower and quieter tracks such as *Perfect Lie* providing a change of pace. Tonight's performance showed just how well-oiled the Fidgets' live show has become: the tightly rehearsed performance, varied setlist, and smart yet playful songs.

Dan Knight

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Vinny Peculiar

Return of the Native

Over the past couple of years, acclaimed singer-songwriter **Vinny Peculiar** (or **Alan Wilkes** if you prefer) has been busy working on *Silver Meadows*, a concept album based loosely on his time working as mental health nurse, for which he is also developing a musical theatre production. Having spent his childhood in Worcestershire, Vinny has recently returned after spending over twenty years living up north. It was during this time that he worked on collaborations with some big names; member of The Smiths, Oasis, The Fall, and Aztec Camera, as well as releasing a number of often quirky, autobiographical, guitar-fuelled folk pop albums. As no stranger to radio playlists, Vinny caught the attention of the media and music lovers alike.

Since returning to Worcester, Vinny has set about writing and recording *Return Of The Native*, and album based on his childhood, drawing on everything from school life in Bromsgrove to gigs at the **Malvern Winter Gardens**, the ups and downs of relationships and a few surreal stories thrown in. One in particular comes to mind; that of Eminem ending up in Droitwich after having taken the wrong plane, and being held hostage by a local gang. As should be expected, the album has plenty of clever turns of phrase, tongue in cheek wit and instant winning hooks to keep his cult following firmly in place, whilst perhaps offering enough charm to find favour with fans of the equally observational Ray Davies, Jarvis Cocker, Chris Difford and Robyn Hitchcock.

The album opens with a sudden howl of feedback, before a collision of guitars, both electric and acoustic, kick off the stomping *"The Grove & The Ditch"*. We hear mention of the NME, Sounds, Tony Blackburn, puppy love and pills 'n' thrills during this glorious, urgent indie rock opener, sure to grab at the listener from the off. Producer Dave Draper barely lets the dust settle, with jangly guitar and infectious sixties inspired melody introducing the *"Malvern Winter Gardener"*. Vinny reminisces here, alluding to Budgie, Ozzy, The Clash and perhaps his own long-lost band; ghosts of those who once stood upon the boards of the Winter Gardens. The gardener sweeps away leaves, *"trying to keep the weeds at bay and the wolf from the door"*. *"Blackpole"* looks even further back, to a time of the Cavaliers and the Roundheads. Vinny tells the tale of a civil war re-enactor who, after poignantly losing his life to a 'crazed cavalier', must spend eternity floating around the fields of Blackpole, or the local alehouse, where he listens to live music whilst keeping one eye on his girl, and the undertaker she married.

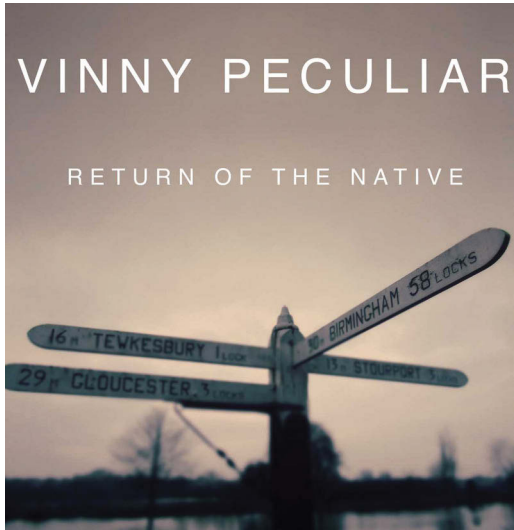
Nostalgia carries the album further, with Vinny describing a number of characters from his past. There's *"A Girl From Bromsgrove Town"*, who a young Vinny falls for, only for her to find 'a different path', after kissing the girl next door!! Then there's the inspiring Singer Schoolteacher (**Clifford T Ward**), who abandoned

discussions on John Donne, Wordsworth and the bard in favour of Bronco and Dandelion Records, before landing a spot on Top of the Pops, offering hope to his pupils, including Vinny. The stories are wrapped up in keen melodies, whilst his clever use of words and imagery allow the listener into the heart of the narrative. You can vividly imagine Vinny's excitement at seeing his teacher on Top Of The Pops and ultimately the sense of loss when Clifford passes away.

The aforementioned tale of Eminem in the semi-rapped, alternative, absurdist, and not to mention bloody brilliant, disco hit *"Detroitwih"*, proves there's more to *Return Of The Native* than just a retrospective look at Vinny's backpages, whilst the reflective, subdued and startlingly honest *"On Rainbow Hill"* allows a closer look at modern-day Vinny. The album closes with the aptly named *"Game Over"*, leaving the listener with a stunningly emotional heart-breaker, complete with soaring six string and an emotive performance from Vinny that is second to none.

Vinny Peculiar continues his rich trend of delivering varied, compelling, observational, and poignant pop at its absolute best. *Return Of The Native* is a triumphant return for one of the sharpest song-writing pens in the business. If you want to catch Vinny at an intimate sole performance, head to

The Plough on Deansway, Worcester on the 10th May *Will Munn*



Hellensmusic

Hellens Manor, Much Marcle | 16th-20th May

World-class concerts, masterclasses, tango at the church and a trip to the pub. The sixth Hellensmusic is the most varied to date. Firmly established as a main event in Herefordshire's musical calendar the festival starts 16th May with an evening of tango's star instrument, the bandoneon. Argentinean virtuoso **Omar Massa** performs at **St Bartholomew's Church** offering a musical journey from Bach and Vivaldi to tango Master Astor Piazzolla.

17th brings **Christian Blackshaw's** much-loved piano recital to the Church including three of his favourite sonatas: Mozart's 15th, Beethoven's 30th and Schubert's Sonata in C minor. 18th and 19th May Hellens becomes the venue for concerts featuring the music of Tchaikovsky, Brahms, Mozart and Mahler performed by Hellensmusic's extraordinary resident artists: **Christian Blackshaw, Maya Iwabuchi, Markus Däunert, Máté Szűcs, Bruno Delepelaire** and leading clarinetist **Matthew Hunt**. Afterwards the **Walwyn Arms** plays host to a night of tango, folk, classical and world music guaranteed to set your feet tapping!

20th May, 2 concerts complete the Festival with a celebration of **Hellensmusic's Masterclass**.

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Also from, Ledbury (Ice Bytes), Ross-on-Wye (River Music), Much Marcle (Premier Stores), Malvern (TIC) and Monmouth (TIC at Shire Hall). Masterclasses are free - visit website for complete programme.



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Woody Pines + Tyler Massey The Malvern Cube | Friday 25th May 2018

From the USA **Woody Pines** comes to the **Malvern Cube**. Woody sounds like Willie Nelson singing a Johnny Cash song in a 1930's Alabama juke joint! Wildly addicting!" (With No Depression!)

And if you're wondering where the music of Nashville troubadour Woody Pines comes from, then look to the streets! It was on the streets as a professional busker that Woody first cut his teeth, drawing liberally from the lost back alley anthems and scratchy old 78's of American roots music, whether country blues, jug band, hokum or hillbilly. Heavy, rollicking street performances are the key to some of today's best roots bands, like **Old Crow Medicine Show** (Woody and OCMS' **Gill Landry** used to tour the country in their own jug band), and they're the key to Woody's intensely catchy rhythms, jumpy lyrics, and wildly delirious sense of fun. Woody travelled all over the streets of the States road testing his songs, drawing from the catchiest elements of the music he loved and adding in a hopped-up vintage electrification to get that old country dancehall sound down right.

This is gonzo folk music, the kind of raise-the-rafters, boot-shakin' jump blues that used to be banging out of juke joints all over the South in the late 40's. It's tempting to call his newest music rockabilly, but it might be more accurate to call his new songs "hillbilly boogie", a rarely remembered genre of American music made famous by the Delmore Brothers. It's at the exact moment when the buzzed-out, electrified hillbilly country music of Appalachia first hit the sawdust-floored honky tonks of old Nashville and Memphis. It was the moment exactly before the birth of rock 'n' roll.

Supporting Woody is Malvern's own Mr. America, **Tyler Massey** a long time resident of Malvern originally from the USA and still sporting his accent, with a little twist of the 'Shire.

"When showtime comes, you just know these guys will rip it up!" (Acoustic magazine)

"Fiery moonshine spirit that sparkles with feelgood freshness!" (Maverick Magazine)

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Rachel Parris - KEYNOTE The Artrix, Bromsgrove | 30th March

I was quite excited to find that **Rachel Parris** was playing in Bromsgrove. A few friends had shared clips of her from the BBC's **The Mash Report** which had really made me laugh. She had mastered the perfect delivery of dark sarcasm with chirpy cheery optimism and a unique charisma. (To be honest, I had a bit of a girl crush on her!)

So I was rather pleased to be greeted by the artist herself as I entered **The Studio at The Artrix** (Although it did take me a few seconds to realise that the young woman in jeans and a jumper was her!) She thrust a piece of paper in my hand and asked me to write a piece of 'advice for life' on it. No pressure there then! This was clearly going to be part of the show and I felt an inexplicable need to be validated by her! I'd better write something deep to save myself from crushing disappointment.

The show started and I found out that in addition to clever comedy, she sings beautifully and plays piano! When she then mentioned that she had studied Music at Oxford University, I did start to wonder whether I should actually start to hate her!

She played a few songs during the course of the evening. Opening with a song to the tune of "Starry Starry Night" the audience warmed immediately to "Hen do on a train" ("The maid of honour is clearly on

cocaine!") But my favourite song has to be "I don't like your child" where she expressed her fears that her godson is not human and will one day actually kill her!

The show was carefully crafted around the theme of a speech which the artist had been invited to deliver to girls at her old school and she wanted some help. (So THAT is what the slips of paper were all about!) She had studied the common themes of rousing speeches and broken them down into categories: dreams, love, fear etc.

(Un?) fortunately, the projector overheated and the AV presentations of famous rousing speeches, which divided the show into categories, was thwarted. After the sound guy made several trips up a ladder to blow down the back of the ailing equipment, the show was clearly not going to be delivered as planned.

It was at this point that I fell back in love with **Rachel Parris**. Having eloquently improvised her way through the ladder action taking place in the middle of the studio, she decided to make up for the loss of visual display by lip syncing to the audio clips of Michelle Obama, Tom Jones, Scarlet Johansson, Jim Carey etc. It was hilarious.....and undoubtedly funnier than the original clips.

The show concluded with an improvised piano piece based on the slips of advice for life, collected from the audience. Would she read mine? Would I have anything profound to offer this amazing woman? My heart jumped when she read it! "Support Local Artists and Performers!" to which she added "Absolutely"!

Thank you, **Rachel Parris**, for an absolutely wonderful and hilarious evening!

Maria Baldwin



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The Task In Hand presents

Bare Jams + Capas

The Marris Bar, Worcester | Sunday, May 13

Self described as "Underground Rock Pop with a tasteful hint of Reggae, Ska and more. Organic and freshly brewed party vibes, one for all the family (at times)". **Bare Jams** is: **Ollie** (Lead Vocal/Guitar), **Dave** (Bass), **Sam** (Drums), **Dom** (Percussion), **Seb** (Trumpet), **Nick** (Trombone), and **Oscar** (Saxophone)

On the live side of things **Bare Jams** have supported and shared stages with Will & The People, La Pegatina, Natty, By The Rivers, The Beat, Tree House Fire, Wille & The Bandits, Yes Sir Boss!, Bigtop, Too Many T's and many more.



Founded by Ollie and Sam in 2011 as a busking duo, **Bare Jams** quickly grew into the 7-headed party phenomenon we know today. After releasing their first EP *Cold Treats* in 2015 they have enjoyed significant radio play and Spotify streams in The

Netherlands, leading to many tours there over the last few years. They are currently working on their next EP with Goodtimes Music, due for release soon. Following the release of the first single *Strange Mind*, they set out on their first week-long headline club tour in The Netherlands drawing in fans new and old.

Exciting things are planned for 2018 through a collaboration of This Could Be Your Music Label and Bombarda Agency, so keep an eye out for their fun and funky vibes at all your favourite festivals next year!

Support comes in the shape of **Capas** aka **Phil Wilkins**, a multi instrumentalist and producer based in Worcestershire, focusing on electronic and live recordings to create a cinematic sound.

Cost: £6 in advance £8 on the door 7pm - 10.30

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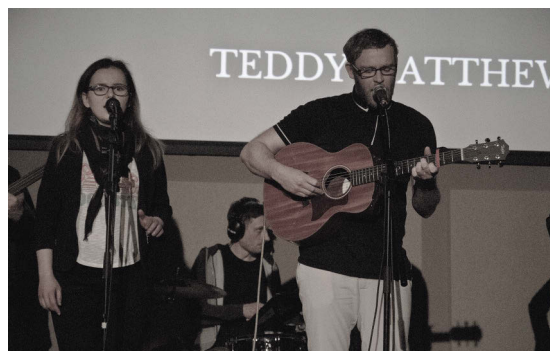
Son of John and John Parker Teddy Matthews, Ben Webb St George's Hall, Bewdley | 2nd April

The occasion was the launch of the new EP by **Son of John** and **John Parker**. Since the release of his 2016 debut album *Autumn's Hymn*, **Son Of John** (Bewdley-based singer-songwriter **Jake Johnson**) has continued to develop his sound, most recently through a perfectly-judged collaboration with double bassist extraordinaire (and one-time member of **Nizlopi**) **John Parker**. But before **Son of John** took to the stage, we were treated to a solo set by **Ben Webb**.



I'm used to seeing Ben perform with layers of loops but tonight he chose a stripped-back set-up of acoustic guitar and vocals. There was an inexplicable glitch at the start where he was introduced with the wrong surname. Ben dealt with this graciously and professionally and went on to perform a powerful set of mainly original songs, often segueing one into another.

Ben was followed by **Teddy Matthews** and his band. I've seen Teddy and his band perform a couple of times before and this was probably the most spirited performance I'd seen of theirs. The lead guitarist looked like she was really enjoying herself but I still find the band's apparent lack of emotional expression disconcerting. The drummer is outstanding but you get the impression everyone else is deliberately holding back in order to showcase Teddy's songs. I would love to see a bit more texture and adventurousness in the lead guitar, the bass lines and the backing vocals and I think this would enhance rather than detract from Teddy's words and music. Come on, the **Teddy Matthews Band** – loosen up a bit and let those songs soar!



Finally, **Son of John** and **John Parker** took to the stage, opening with the traditional cowboy brawl of *Wild Bill Jones* before Jake's delicate song *The Waves* (both tracks from the new EP Live at Fieldgate Studio). They were then joined by someone described as the "resident drummer", Jack. (When I later asked Jack his full

name, he told me, mysteriously, it was **Jack Guerrilla**. It seems something very weird was happening with surnames in St George's Hall that night.) One of Jake's great strengths is his willingness to experiment with different line-ups and the addition of Jack on drums subtly enhanced **Son of John** originals like *Homeless* and *Baseborn*. Jack even provided backing vocals which meant showstoppers *John the Revelator* and *Let Me Rest* were transformed into even darker-than-usual ensemble pieces.



Son of John (with his John Martyn and Martin Simpson-influenced singing and guitar-playing) is one of the freshest singer-songwriters to emerge from the Wyre Forest music scene in recent years. Jake is shortly to set off gallivanting around Australia, so catch **Son Of John** and **John Parker** live while you can.

Words: Anton Gillespie
Images: Phil Richards



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3Sixty + 52North

Iron Road, Evesham | April 7th

Tonight sees the launch of local band **3Sixty's** debut album *#truestories*, a project that has been a 'work in progress' for the past couple of years.

Before **3Sixty** grace the Iron Road stage we have another local band, **52North**, to get the crowd warmed up. 52North are: **Jamie Taylor** (formerly of Terasunda) on guitar, **Pete Fisher** (formerly of Fifteen English Pounds) on bass, **Ant Quinerry** on drums and **Dave Tomkotowicz** (aka Dave Tonk formerly of HMP somewhere allegedly) providing the vocals.

With plenty of musical skill and witty banter (not my words) the band delivered a set of new, original material that rocked and rolled the crowd (and it was a good crowd) into submission. Admittedly some of the faces pulled by the band were worthy of Spitting Image but that didn't take anything away from the entertainment value, some might say it added to it. I've known the band since its formation and I have to say that the performance tonight topped anything I'd seen previously. The music was tight, the vocals strong but the jokes were still lousy! The material the band have written is worthy of an album in its own right and I hope that happens for them.



3Sixty next. The band is the culmination of a partnership that started more than 30 years ago with a band called Black Dog, the first band that **Mark Grimmett** and **Nick Singleton** played in together and wrote music together. Fast forward 30-odd years and they're back together in 3Sixty and are joined by some well known local heroes including **Juey D. Hill** on bass and brothers **Russell** and **Mark Simon** on guitar and drums respectively. The band's brand of rock is fairly melodic with lyrics that have meaning and the album that has it's official launch tonight, *#truestories*, is based on a series of life events that have affected the band members in ways that were good, and bad. To say that the night was emotional is an understatement.

The band played every song off the album, yes, all 12 of them and someone had pressed the 'random order' button so not in album order. Mixed in with the album songs were 4 new songs which seem to be destined for the second album.

Things were going swimmingly until mid set when **Mark Grimmett** introduced 'Stronger' at which point the emotions took hold and the song had to be stopped so he could gather himself before re-starting it again. Families were central to most of the songs and I guess the theme that runs through them all makes this something of a concept album.



Time for an encore and before Mark Grimmett could open his mouth the crowd insisted they play 'Stronger' again, which they did in full control, or so it seemed, of their emotions and this was followed by a second rendition of 'Mine All Mine', also from the album.

These are great blokes making up a great band playing great, relatable songs. Where do they go next one wonders? I hope I'll be there to find out. It was nice to see **Steve Grimmett** (from Grim Reaper) at the show lending support to Mark and his family. If you don't know **3Sixty** or know them but want to know more you can find them on Facebook and on their website at: www.3sixtyrockband.co.uk, oh, and don't be afraid to buy the album, it's a cracker. Both bands put on a tremendous show, get out and see them next time they're playing somewhere near you.

Reg Richardson (RSR Photography)

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Trevor 'Babajack' Steger

Unsung Hero Finds His Voice

Trevor Steger was one half of **Babajack** for more than 10 years – a Worcestershire group, with a distinct folk/blues/roots sound that matches their quite exotic-sounding name. Together with his then partner, Becky, Trevor steered the band to international recognition through tireless gigging, focused promotion and live performances that never failed to get an audience dancing. The band was showered with awards and rewarded with a loyal following across Europe and beyond.

Since leaving the band, Trevor has been working hard, writing new songs and gigging under the name **Trevor 'Babajack' Steger**. And it's starting to pay off, with performances at several major festivals secured for 2018, and his album, *Sawdust Man*, set for release on May 1st.

Quite recently, on a cold evening in February, I caught up with Trevor and his new partner (jewellery designer, **Emma Pell**), on the narrowboat they share on the River Avon. Trevor played me his new album and brought me up to date with all that has been going on...

Richard Wall (RW): So, Babajack? What happened?

Trevor Babajack Steger (TBS): *Becky and I separated, but we carried on with the band for a couple of years. New people came in, the musical direction and the band dynamic changed, and really my heart went out of it. I felt my creativity and input had dried up. That's when I began writing for myself.*

RW: The origin of the name Babajack is well documented, and you're taking it forward in your new solo career. How does it feel to see your old band still using the name?

TBS: *Becky and I grew Babajack to the point where the name had gained recognition across Europe and the UK. For them, it's become a brand. I can understand why they want to keep it and I wish them the best of luck. However, Babajack was the name given to me, so that's why I'm using it.*

RW: The last couple of years have been turbulent for you, domestically and musically. To a bluesman, that's bread and butter song material. Has it influenced your writing?

TBS: *Very much so. There are a couple of songs on *Sawdust Man* that reflect how I have been feeling. What doesn't kill you makes you a better bluesman.*

RW: The new album will be your solo debut. What can fans expect?

TBS: *More blues, more roots. More of a feeling. Babajack, the band, became a performance; an act. Nowadays my live shows are more random – often improvised and spontaneous. I think this is reflected in the diversity of the songs on the record. It's the start of a new process. Just me and a guitar. New beginnings. And I love playing live. No two gigs are the same.*

RW: You rarely sang with Babajack. A solo career must have been daunting...

TBS: *I sang a couple of times, but it wasn't encouraged. Perhaps I should have been more assertive. And yes, going out on my own was extremely daunting, as I was very nervous at first and sang too quietly. But, over the last year my confidence has grown, especially after recording the album. Emma has always believed I could do it, and I'm grateful for her support.*



RW: You've previously mentioned that within Babajack, the band, writing songs was a collaborative effort. You would come up with an idea, and then other band members would add to it and sometimes take it in a different direction. How does it feel now you have 100% control over things?

TBS: *I feel liberated. I love the purity of my music, and I love the absolute freedom to take a song from start to finish with no external influence. It's exciting, but it's also intimidating, because I will stand or fall based on the choices I make.*

RW: You and Emma recently set up home on a narrowboat. How much has that been an inspiration to you?

TBS: *I'm convinced that the rhythm of your life, and environment in which you live, has a real and profound effect on the music that you make. In the past, I've written hard, electric, urban blues, but living on the Avon has brought me closer to the music that's in my heart – like the flowing, syncopated acoustic finger-style of country blues artists like Mississippi John Hurt.*

*On *Sawdust Man* I have two songs that were directly inspired by this new life. I would like to think that in time, like Siddhartha (the eponymous hero in the novel by Herman Hesse), the Avon will show us more of her secrets. I love the connection we enjoy with the changes of the seasons, and the effect it has on nature and our life together. This is the happiest that I've ever felt.*

RW: Your early musical influences are well documented: you were in a punk band, then you mentioned that Nine Below Zero showed you the light and guided you towards the blues. Like many blues enthusiasts, you worked backwards until you found Charley Patton. Are you still influenced by the old blues legends?

TBS: *Definitely. When I need inspiration, I go straight to early blues. I still find it refreshing. How I'm feeling will dictate how I play, so I often listen to blues just before a gig.*

RW: Do you listen to any modern blues performers?

TBS: *I listen to a wide range of music, but I especially like Chris Witley, Kelly Joe Phelps, Tom Waits and The Black Keys. I also like African music, and Emma has recently turned me on to Nick Cave, who I think is brilliant.*

RW: Songwriting: Which comes first, music or lyrics?

TBS: *It depends. Either, or both. Sometimes a riff will happen which needs words. Conversely, a phrase or a sentence will spark a song idea.*

RW: What do you think could be done to attract young performers to the British Blues Scene?

TBS: *Make it more accessible, and be open to other influences. For example, my son Jack is a hip-hop artist and often gets up onstage to rap and beat box with me. I'm thinking of recording this next, maybe as an EP. I've also suggested that Jack's crew do a blues-related street art event at Upton Blues Festival. It could develop as the festival takes place.*

Sawdust Man

It's easy to imagine the spirits of long-gone blues legends catching a fleeting ride on Trevor's music, nodding in approval that their legacy is in safe hands. What you hear is what you get, and the only thing better than listening to it is to see Trevor playing it all live.

Recorded in the tradition of early delta blues, *Sawdust Man* is just one person, a guitar, a stompbox and a harp rack. From the eponymously titled first song, right through to the riffing final track, it's a tour-de-force that captures Trevor's musical integrity, leaving the listener richer for having heard it.

So, starting at the beginning with the title track, '*Sawdust Man*' is inspired by Trevor's life as a woodworker. Trevor describes it as having begun as random thoughts on what he could bring to a relationship. About how he tries to give everything he has. With a few double-entendres thrown in...



It's actually a fine example of the Charley Patton-esque, rural blues tradition of singing about what you know. It's a no-frills, trance-inducing, foot-stomping, lowdown-Bo Diddley rumble of a guitar riff, that sets the backdrop. When the vocals kick in, Trevor's trademark stage growl – Howling Wolf meets Screaming Jay Hawkins – is carried on the wings of a wailing slide guitar. It's a sound reminiscent of a

circular saw cutting through an oak beam, complemented by a raw blues harp that will make any purist yelp in appreciation.

For all its raw simplicity, the song does have depth. Listen carefully and the subtle intricacies of Trevor's guitar playing reveal themselves like the details on a fine woodcarving. Blues for the purist and a fine way to open a debut album. Charley Patton would surely approve.

Now, no blues album is complete without a "train" song, and '*Runaway Train*' – already a crowd pleaser at Trevor's live shows – ticks that box nicely, with a chugging back beat and a howling harp whistle. But it ain't no blues cliché. It's Trevor's anthem to strong women everywhere, especially when they go off the rails...

Next up is '*Black Dog*'. Conceived, written and recorded in a single day, its' dark subject matter is about the effects of



depression. But that darker tone is countered by the distinctly upbeat, West African sound of Trevor's homemade "winebox" guitar.

Echoes of Bert Jansch and a distinctly folkie feel convey Trevor's sentiments of life on the river and a recollection of childhood memories in '*River Song*', while '*Red Boots*' is a dark, angry murder ballad about the oldest story in the world: woman betrays man; man kills woman. The whole tune is set to the backdrop of a slide riff that sounds like an axe being sharpened. Brutal.

From here, Trevor explores two blues tropes. But, as always, with his own feel. First up is the old school, swampy blues tune '*Cat Scratch Fever*', which is based on a true story of catching a fever from – yes, you guessed it – a cat scratch. Naturally, though it has been reimagined as having been caught by a blow from a predatory cat woman. Of course. Trevor moves into a minor-key blues tune next, with a funky thumb-played bass line. It's a song of realisation and apology for lost love. It's actually based on words he wrote to a girlfriend 30 years ago.

For me, the next track on the album is its strongest. Opening with a slide riff that's redolent of Furry Lewis' Judge Harsh Blues, '*Stranger In The Hall*' lays Trevor's emotions bare. He describes it as "the exorcism of breakup demons." Delivered in a voice that's a sob away from breaking down, it is a harrowing tale of suspicion and betrayal. The slide guitar screams words that dare not be spoken, portraying the anguish of a love ripped to pieces. Forget your 12-bar rinse and repeat, "woke up this morning" clichés. This is the real blues, y'all. Magnificent.

Not to waste a second, the last two tracks bring even more dynamic to the record. '*Something On My Mind*' features a rockabilly slide guitar ditty, while the lyrics ponder religion and other big questions. Then, to sign off, I'll let Trevor talk you through the last song: "*It's pure improvisation, from start to finish. It began as an idea that had no real structure. In fact, until the recording light came on I had no clue how it would sound, but sometimes it's good to put oneself under pressure.*"

In sum, *Sawdust Man* is a fine collection of original songs that showcase Trevor's skills as a writer, musician and performer. The unsung hero of Babajack has finally found his voice.

Sawdust Man is available from www.trevorbabajacksteger.com

Richard Wall is a Worcestershire writer, and author

Fat Man Blues. www.richardwall.org

Photography: Emma Pell

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Jess Silk

The month of May will finally see the release of the debut album from one of the most articulate young singer/songwriters to emerge from the West Midlands for quite some time.

With a summer of festivals ahead of her, Jess Silk's album, *Break the Bottle*, is a stunning piece of work. With hints of Billy Bragg and Frank Turner, 22 year-old Jess also possesses the singing voice that either would probably kill for!

We caught up with Jess ahead of her launch night...

For those new to your work, it's always good to give an insight into your musical history. How long have you been writing songs and playing live?

I wrote my first song when I was eleven and it was terrible. I think it was probably about 2012/13 when I properly started writing and maybe a year after that when I started gigging regularly. I wrote 'Is This Poetry?', the second track on the album, when I was still at school, so that one must be about five or six years old now.

The album's been funded by the Stourbridge Foundation for Music. Can you tell us a bit about it?

It's an organisation set up by Eddy Morton, Ian Marrey and Pete Lowe. Its aim is to help musicians who might not otherwise be able to afford recording, gigging, instruments or whatever.

It's been a major help to me because, after three years at University, I was absolutely skint and probably wouldn't have been able to produce it without their help.

You've already built up an impressive list of artists you've supported with the likes of **TV Smith**, **Justin Sullivan**, **Steve Ignorant** and **Attila the Stockbroker** to name a few. Have you got a particular favourite?

It's always weird (in a good way!) supporting Justin because the audience is so quiet you can hear a pin drop and, as someone who's used to playing covers sets in pubs, that's something I'm really not used to. I don't think I've got a favourite person to gig with, but I definitely prefer the originals sets to the covers!

Your launch night is at Katie Fitzgerald's in Stourbridge. Are you looking forward to it?

I can't wait! It's been a long time coming and I'm really excited that the launch is going to be at a place that's had such a big hand in shaping the type of music I play. I always enjoy gigging at Katie's and I'm really looking forward to having a couple of pints of Thatcher's and a sing song with everyone on the night.

I've noticed a lot of new songs in the sets of your recent gigs. Does this mean album number 2 might not be too far away?

I've already written it. It's gonna be called 'Preaching from the Barricades', unless I change my mind. I started writing 'Break the Bottle' when I was still at school and finished it in my second year of Uni, so listening to the album you can kind of tell how my style has changed. I think I've figured out where I'm going a bit more with the second one. I'd like to get it out there by this time next year at the latest. I don't like sitting on songs for ages; I get very impatient.

lan Passey

just her trusted acoustic guitar. There is no need for additional instrumentation on this album it really wouldn't add anything. As debut albums go, it is reminiscent of *Life's a Riot with Spy V's Spy* by Billy Bragg. Obviously Jess's vocal style is different but the passion and the strength of song writing is comparable.

It's an album that encapsulates Jess's thoughts, feelings and emotions gained from growing up in austerity hit Britain. As much

as it is in part a protest album it is also an album about sharing the good times and life's positives. One such feel good song is *And We'll Sing*, a song which was penned after an evening spent with friends in the local pub singing along to an Adele album that was played pretty much on repeat all evening. Many songs that have become live favourites appear on this album from the moving title track *Break the Bottle* to the fan favourite sing along *Suggestions Welcome*. Every song on the album is a winner and worthy of mention but sadly I haven't the space here to enthuse about them all on an individual basis. *Break The Bottle* really is an album of the times and one that will long live in my stereo.

The album is available to pre-order on CD or digital formats from jesssilk.bandcamp.com/album/break-the-bottle with online outlets to follow shortly or available at the album launch gig at **Katie Fitzgerald's** in Stourbridge on **Friday 11th May**.

Jason K - Punk by Nature

SLAP MAY 29



Jess Silk | Break the Bottle

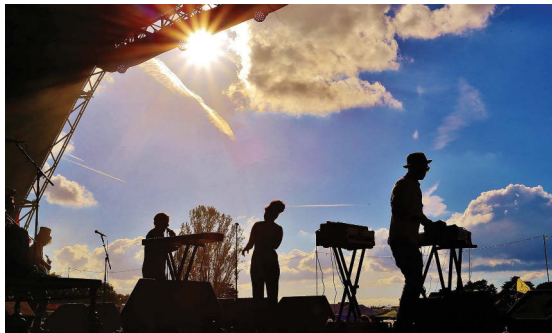
Friday the 11th of May sees the release of *Break the Bottle*, the highly anticipated debut album from talented young Black Country singer-songwriter **Jess Silk**. Jess has spent the past few years gigging tirelessly throughout the Midlands which has led to support slots for such established artists as **Justin Sullivan** and **Attila the Stockbroker**. During this time she has penned and finely honed a truly great collection of songs, many of which appear on this debut album. Jess is an artist that sings from the heart and that heart is worn proudly on her sleeve.

Break the Bottle features 12 songs that cover an array of topics from introspective moments to the daily happenings of everyday life through to modern day socio-political concerns. The latter being perfectly represented in the albums closing number *Hold Off On Your Bombs*. The album perfectly captures the raw feel of Jess's live performances and the production is absolutely superb. The power of Jess's passionate, soulful and sometimes gravely vocal is perfectly accompanied by



Wychwood Festival Cheltenham Racecourse | June 1st-3rd

As I sit down and take a look at one of my personal favourite events, the annual **Wychwood Festival**, the UK is experiencing its first mini heatwave of the year. As the temperature spirals into the twenties, the anticipation is ever increasing. With just over a month to go by the time you read this, this year's line-up should see revellers from the Midlands and beyond near fever pitch for the new-look three-day event.



Wychwood always prides itself as a family friendly festival and this year is no different, with new areas such as **The Hullabaloo** and **The Village Hall**, the festival offers up alternatives to the live entertainment for adults and children alike, with opportunities for hula-hooping, yoga, drum circles, learning a new instrument, how to beat box or even a spot of swing dance. **The Wheelbarrow** offers magicians, science shows and street theatre to keep the family entertained and, if that wasn't enough, kid's entertainers Dick and Dom will be performing on the main stage on Saturday morning so expect to hear the call of "bogies" echoing from the field!

The mainstage itinerary is loaded over the weekend, with performances from the likes of **Baxter Dury**, **The Gypsy Kings**, **Shed Seven**, **Feeder**, ska legends **The Beat**, **Jah Wobble** and **The Real Thing** all due over the weekend, supported by the likes of **The Go! Team**, **Hollie Cook**, **The Correspondents**, **Wychwood house band**, **Thrill Collins** and **Toyah** to name but a few.

Away from the main arena, **Wychwood** always offers up a number of new and soon to be favourite names, **The Big Top** offers the likes of fast rising indie rockers **Lucia**, the summery vibes of **Sea Girls** and the bittersweet charms of **Gizmo Varillas** to name but three acts to keep an eye out for, while over at **The Hobgoblin Stage**, the **New York Brass Band**, **Immigrant Swing**, **Forest Of Fools** and **Shelby And The Dharma Blitz** will be offering up an eclectic mix of funk, jazz, ska, hip-hop, punk and folk that'll see the tent swaying all weekend.



The comedy stage will be offering laughs from TV Presenter **Matt Richardson**, hilarious and engaging topical and observational material from **Patrick Monahan** and comedy gold from the mighty **Andrew Bird** as well as **Amy Howerska**, **Johnny Cochrane**, etc), silent disco, the best in street food, numerous stalls, signing sessions, book readings, the annual procession and a whole heap more to keep you entertained, your summer truly starts in Cheltenham!!

Tickets and info are available from www.wychwoodfestival.com



Win a family ticket to Wychwood Festival

To win a family ticket, (that's two parents, two children including camping) answer the following question:

What is the name of the album that Baxter Dury appeared on the front cover when he was five years old?

Send answers to competition@slapmag.co.uk with subject 'Wychwood Competition'. The competition will close on Saturday 12th May at 12pm. The winner will be notified by Monday 14th.

Good Luck!!!!



1-3 JUNE, 2018
CHELTENHAM RACECOURSE

wychwood Festival

FRIDAY

BAXTER DURY

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JAH WOBBLE & THE INVADERS OF THE HEART

NINA NESBITT - THE REAL THING - JERRY WILLIAMS

KASAI MASAI - GIZMO VARILLAS - BETTER THAN NEVER

FENNE LILY - CASEY LOWRY - HEAVY BEAT BRASS BAND

AT HOME WITH THRILL COLLINS & FRIENDS

SATURDAY

THE GIPSY KINGS

FT. NICOLAS REYES & TONINO BALIARDO

THE GO! TEAM

FIELD MUSIC - PIP BLOM - DICK & DOM - SKERRYVORE - TOYAH

EASY LIFE - NEW YORK BRASS BAND - SPEAKMAN SOUND

YASSASSIN - THE BAR-STEWARD SONS OF VAL DOONICAN

PINK KINK - HARPER'S FERRY - HARRISON STORM

AK PATTERSON - THE BOMO SWING

SUNDAY

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LUCIA - DR AND THE MEDICS - EDWIN STARR BAND

SEA GIRLS - QUEEN ZEE - NERINA PALLOT

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New Release

Ed Strong | Again & Again

Again & Again is the first single from female fronted indie pop band **Ed Strong**.

The beauty of listening to new music is that the meaning behind the lyrics are open to the interpretation of the listener.

After a short guitar intro, singer Emily's vocals kick in, to tell me a tale of how repeated past mistakes have given her the determination not to fall into the same relationship traps as before, being more prepared and not as easily led this time around. Beautiful silky vocals that develop and reveal a gritty edge as the song ups tempo briefly halfway through, when the storyteller declares she can see through the lies and smiles and won't be wasting her time. The gentle, catchy guitar riffs, quirky funk segments and soft drum beats behind the story flow beautifully, and are reminiscent of the current on trend country vibe brought to us by the likes of bands such as The Shires. As the lazy hazy days feel of the song comes to an end, we are left with a claim that if you don't laugh then you'll cry, and a shimmer of the cymbals to close, drawing a conclusion on a tune I will listen to again and again.

Again & Again is hosted on many sites including, Spotify, iTunes, Google play and so on. The band aim to release a new single each month for the next 6/7 months.

Kate Ford

For more info: www.edstrongmusic.com



MAY 19 Cox's Yard Stratford Upon Avon

MAY 26 The Starving Rascal Stourbridge

JUN 09 Bilston High Street Bilston

JUN 28 Ye Olde Foundry Dudley

Poppy WS | Rep

Poppy WS (or **Waterman Smith** if you prefer) is a singer-songwriter originally hailing from Brighton but currently residing here in Worcester. I first encountered Poppy performing a few songs at **Café Bliss** as part of their regular **Lazy Sunday** sessions, and was instantly struck by her warm, soulful vocals that worked alongside a winning combination of jazz, reggae, blues, folk and even a touch of classical. Made up of a host of instantly contagious, breezy originals, the set saw Poppy move effortlessly between piano and guitar. Last year Poppy released a sell-out, self-recorded acoustic album that was met with glowing plaudits from her ever growing fanbase. Not one to rest on her laurels, Poppy began to experiment with live loops, expanding and honing her sound during performance, and then decided to capture the essence of her live shows by once again writing, recording and self-producing a brand new five-track EP.

The interestingly titled *Rep* (perhaps a representative of her current live sound) opens with "Drown", where delicately strummed acoustic guitar is built upon slowly as Poppy unveils a beautifully phrased, soulful lead to the laidback jazzy number. Plucked guitars, gorgeous self-harmonies, subtle piano and the shake of a tambourine all serve to embellish an already bewitching lead track, and Poppy captivates from the outset. "Mercury" follows, and is every bit as charming, as Poppy takes her place behind the piano and embraces her inner Nina (Simone) to deliver an aching, emotive vocal, backed by hushed harmonies, a complimentary electronic rhythm and a guitar lick or two to frame those sultry tones.

As the EP continues, Poppy reveals further influences through the welding of unlikely bedfellows to thrilling effect. "Someone Else", for example, has an obvious upbeat reggae tilt, with its choppy guitar, elastic bassline and what sounds like Melodica, before she adds an unexpected jazzy piano break. Whilst her vocals are more reminiscent of the unique soul of Amy Winehouse, "Shotgun" again features a reggae slant, only this time round Poppy weaves bluesy picking and jazz piano into the groove. Her vocal wavers all the way from a tear-stained croak to an almost urban, hip-hop influence, showcasing soul and even a touch of folk and creating a rich, unique and addictive sound that grips and urges repeat spins.

Poppy concludes *Rep* with "Bella", a track originally written on a ukulele while travelling in Bali, longing for home (I recommend reading about the song's origins on Poppy's website for further insight). It is a song that, despite it's backstory and origin, can't help but raise a smile and should probably be available on the national health service or, at the very least, playlisted on radio stations across the nation as the feel-good song of the summer. It opens with a slice of classically inspired piano, before dancing across a Caribbean beach, picking up a blues journeyman along the way who adds the occasional lick, and a touch of harmonica, as they head towards an insatiable choral hook that will have you ooh-ing and ahh-ing as our protagonist laments her injured feet!

Rep is the sound of a singer-songwriter doing everything her own way and sounding pretty bloody good for doing so. With her original sound, beautiful voice and collection of obvious hooks, **Poppy WS** has produced a brilliant, varied and engaging affair, that's well worth seeking out.

www.poppyws.com www.poppyws.bandcamp.com

Will Munn



Inkubus Sukkubus Vampire Queen

Inkubus Sukkubus are a critically acclaimed goth and pagan band, first formed in Cheltenham back in 1989 by **Candia Ridley** and **Tony McKormack**. Over the years the original duo has been joined by a plethora of different musicians in a bid to capture their vision, which is evident through their succession of albums. During the band's distinguished career, they've performed across the world, showcasing their sound at darkwave and alternative festivals including the likes of **Amphi**, **M'era Luna** and **Wave-Gotik-Treffen** among others. Back in 1996 the band received their two minutes of fame when they scored an appearance on **Channel 4's Big Breakfast**, performing the track "*Heartbeat Of The Earth*", a rendition that served to wake up the nation but also saw host Mark Little join a circle dance to see out the show. In recent times the band have not only continued to write, record and perform, but Candia has also seen herself become something of a muse for both fantasy artist **Larry Elmore** and painter **Russell Haines**. Last year saw the band, between gigs, playing host to a weekend event at **St Briavels Castle** in the Forest Of Dean, in celebration of midsummer, a night of storytelling, history and even a handfasting ceremony!



This year has seen Candia and Tony joined by bassist **Roland Link** in recording a brand new album *Vampire Queen*, their twenty third to date, at **Gallows Lanes Studio** in their native Gloucestershire. Scanning through the track listing and the inlay, you're encountered by titles such as "*Wolf Boy*", "*Angel Of Lust*", and "*Here Come The Dead*", alongside artwork perhaps a little atypical for a release of this nature, which leaves me with little doubt of what to expect within the hallowed grooves of the disc. Sure enough, the album's opener "*Bathory*" confirms my expectations. A near four-minute instrumental mood setter, the track begins with McKormack's soprano melodica and evolves into an ominous cinematic throb, complete with foreboding drums, mournful classical strings and the kind of menace you'd expect from a soundtrack to the golden era of Hammer Horror.

The album continues in much the same fashion, as the intro to "*Let The Night Last Forever*" gives way to punchy guitar that bursts from the speaker (from McKormack again), while the pace quickens and Candia's striking and seductive lead beckons the listener into the shadows. "*Let the night last forever, let the darkness never end*," she demands, while Link's bass moves the song towards a suitably 'gothic' instrumental break before they race towards the finish line. Sure, it might be a little generic, but there is no denying Candia's ability to entice with those ice-cool vocals, whilst the instrumentation's rise and fall is more than commendable. "*Angelus Mortis*" follows in its wake, again opening with a meaty, almost metallic riff that continues to chug through the entire song. Candia continues to bewitch, and McKormack explores his fretboard while adding a haunting vocal chant that sees the band hitting their stride with an instantly memorable hook that will echo around the noggin long after the track ends.

Both "*Dancing The Night Away*" and "*Wolf Boy*" showcase something a little different from the band, and they strip things

back for a couple of welcoming acoustic folk numbers, not only illuminating McKormack's versatility as guitarist and arranger, but also allowing Candia to really express herself, proving her range and diversity outside the distractions of atmospheric rock. And talking of something a little different from the norm, fellow highlight "*Angel Of Lust*" hints at a new wave influence, while the sinister, swirling goth presence remains. Candia delivers her most direct vocal to date during the infectious choral mantra hook, and it isn't hard to imagine a crowd hollering the vocals back in a live setting. **Inkubus Sukkubus** draw the curtains on this album with their seven and half minute title track, a truly spell-binding finale that unites their cinematic and near-orchestral tendencies with a collection of molten rock riffs, atmospheric synths and the ever spine-tingling vocals of Candia, a truly gothic epic (in every sense of the word).

Long serving fans of **Inkubus Sukkubus** and gothic rock will find plenty to get hot under (the frilly) collar about. Candia's vocals are icy cold and seductive throughout, whilst McKormack's arrangements and use of instrumentation not only frame Candia's lead but also keep up the momentum. Newcomers would be advised to checkout both "*Dancing The Night Away*" and/or "*Wolf Boy*" as an entry point, before succumbing to the shadows. Personally, in spite of the formulaic nature of the art work and song titles, I found myself embracing the album's shadowy nature and plan on returning to the catacombs (of Spotify) to dig around the crates of Inkubus Sukkubus and discover more.

www.inkubussukkubus.com

Will Munn

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Preview

Tenbury Music Festival

One of the great events being held this summer, in support of **Teenage Cancer Trust**, is **Tenbury Music Festival**. The peaceful riverside setting of Tenbury's Burgage, in the beautiful Teme Valley will be buzzing with festival goers on 30th June as the town comes alive for the fourth Tenbury contemporary music festival.

With the headline act of the **Lightning Seeds** topping the bill, and the event being halfway through this year's World Cup, their million-selling hit '3 Lions' (Football's Coming Home) will be a popular number - let's just hope England are still in with a chance!

With pre-booked ticket prices at £22 this one day event is free to under 16 year olds (under 13s must be accompanied) for further info and tickets go to www.tenburymusicfestival.co.uk/home.

This year, with the support of an **Arts Council England** grant, the scope of the event is being widened out to support other parts of the community. The Festival has teamed up with the Grapevine project (<https://en-gb.facebook.com/events/1019269811506460/>) which is holding a number of workshops for young performers leading up to the festival where they will perform live on the



festival's River Stage. In addition there will be some powerful spoken word sessions including Worcestershire's own youngest poet laureate **Rachel Evens**.

While the Festival takes place on the Saturday there will be a showing of the Who's Rock Opera "**Tommy**" at the splendidly restored art deco cinema the Regal in Tenbury. Tommy stars Teenage Cancer Trust patron Roger Daltrey together with a string of famous names such as Keith Moon, Tina Turner, Elton John, Eric Clapton, Jack Nicholson and others – it's bound to be a sellout – tickets from: regaltenbury.co.uk/RegalCinemaTenbury.dll/Home

Kyshona & The Remedy Club

St. George's Hall, Bewdley | Friday 4th May

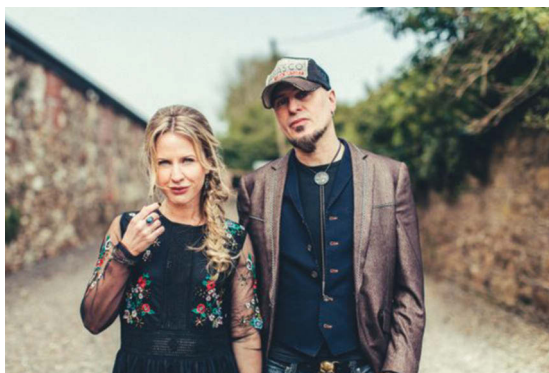
Music in the Hall at St. George's Hall, Bewdley presents a double headline with Nashville's newest star **Kyshona**, as well as Ireland's acclaimed husband and wife duo, **The Remedy Club**.

With a background in musical therapy, it should come as no surprise that emotions play an integral role in Kyshona's approach to songwriting. Returning for her second UK tour, **Kyshona** brings her fusion of Soul and Americana back to captivate British audiences for second time. Having fully embraced the repetitive internal rhythms of her music she now steps seamlessly into the role of activist while drawing on the intrinsic healing properties of songwriting. With a soulful voice reminiscent of the greats, Kyshona is sure to deliver a powerful politically and emotionally charged show.



Having recently released their album *Lovers, Legends & Lost Causes*, husband and wife duo **KJ McEvoy** and **Aileen Mythen** have received rave reviews in their native Ireland, as well as in the UK and beyond. McEvoy has been recognized as a highly expressive guitarist, while Mythen is revered for her stunning vocal performances, and together **The Remedy Club** are an exciting, captivating duo, with their performances veering from intimate and soulful, to full on hoedown mode!

The evening will be opened as usual by a local youth artist. This week will feature **Isabella Gregory**. Bewdley is in for an amazing night!



Tickets are £12.00 at www.musicinthehall.co.uk, www.thehall-bewdley.org.uk or from Hall Café. Doors open 7.30pm.

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Malvern

Saturday 19TH MAY 2018

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16-18	£9	£11	£14
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King King

Huntingdon Hall | Sat 14th April

King King, a band so good they named them twice? Well, they can definitely sell out venues like the Birmingham Town Hall and Symphony Hall, two shows that I was lucky enough to witness. Here at the lovely **Huntingdon Hall** they seem to be a slight mismatch, but nonetheless the hall is filled with fans, many proudly wearing **King King** t-shirts.

The band take the stage to a resounding roar of approval. **Alan Nimmo**, suitably kilted and booted, steps forward, and the band burst into life with “(She Don’t) Gimme No Lovin”. Rhythm section **Wayne Proctor** and **Lyndsay Coulson** drive the drum and bass hard, as ‘new boy’ **Jonny Dyke** tickles the keys on his Hammond, the big Leslie cab that lurks in the shadows. Their majesties warm up with a few old favourites, before the pulsating rhythm and searing Hammond expose the *Exile And Grace* tour album. “Broken” begins with Alan taking lead on his Gibson while assailing the microphone as the music swirls around the aged timbers and high ceiling.

The tempo drops down for a moody blues number, and “Long History Of Love” washes out across the full stalls and boxed pews. I’m always keen on learning from history, and this is a soulful lesson indeed. With sweet piano, mellowed guitar, and ticking drum, we are introduced to the equally soulful, beautiful “Rush



Hour”, before the band drive up the pace and rock out to a thumping “Long Time Running”. Everything gets a little bit funky before KK’s signature piece that sees Alan taking his guitar down to its bare, un-amped strings, captivating the now hushed and reverential crowd, hardly daring to breathe for fear of overwhelming the sound. Of course, this is the wonderfully delicate “Stranger To Love”. I’ve heard it many times, and it never fails to strike me as such a superb piece of music. Tonight, it gains a standing ovation from the audience, demanding more from this Glaswegian band.

King King return to the stage to “Let Love In” drawing a close to the first date of their spring *Exile And Grace* tour. It might be the smallest venue on their list, but **Huntingdon Hall** provides a warm welcome from Worcester for this award winning, premier rock blues band.

Graham Munn

The Little Unsaid

Howard James Kennny

The Marris Bar, Worcester | 12th April

Each month I grab a copy of SLAP and browse the gig guide, looking for any upcoming bands that I’ve not yet encountered. The Little Unsaid stood out to me from the back-page listings for The Marris Bar. After doing some research, I found that the band had just signed a deal with longstanding purveyors of taste Reveal Records, home of Joan As Police Woman, Lau, Blue Code Rose, etc. I mused for a moment, before heading to a music video, and within the first minute the band had me in the palm of their hands. They play a wonderful mixture of indie-folk, a smattering of electronics, piano, viola and guitar, with both organic and programmed percussion, meshing beautifully alongside the haunting vocals and lyrics of John Elliot.

Before the main event we are treated to a rare solo outing from local loop-maestro and singer-songwriter Howard James Kenny, who you may have seen more recently bashing the drums for The Broken Oak Duet. Blessed by perfect sound from the house board, Howard sets to work in majestically building his set, by layering carefully strummed, plucked and tapped acoustic guitar with stunning self-harmonies. His songs gradually unfurl, blossoming before the transfixed audience with their swooping vocals, finger clicked rhythms and complex melodies. Every intricacy seems planned and precise for the duration of this mesmerising set, which is topped off with a stunning rendition of Massive Attack’s “Teardrop” and his own “Insects”.

Howard has set the mood perfectly for The Little Unsaid, who humbly take to the stage, thanking the audience for attending as they take their positions. Elliot opens the proceedings with a piano melody before he is joined by Tim Heymerdinger’s brushed drums

and the sweep of Alison D’Souza’s viola, all underpinned by the Moog bass of Mariya Brachkova and subtle electronica that flutters in and out of sight. From the moment Elliot delivers his first vocal the hushed audience are captivated. Electronic beats compliment those of Heymerdinger, and the band deliver a spine tingling “In This House”, with D’Souza’s classically inspired viola, majestically weaving between Elliot’s piano melodies and his gorgeous, bruised vocal. From there the band continue to astound us, mixing bubbling electronica and striking organic instrumentation to dazzling effect. “Can We Hear It?” sees the band incorporate a sampled children’s choir blended with a dazzling slice of trippy folk, and Elliot’s passionate lead reaches a near falsetto while the band provide layers of strings and keys to create a bewitching sound. “Chaingang Mantras” sees John’s vocals move from hushed whisper to strident vocal hook, complimented by Brachkova’s gorgeous, pure tones, and the dramatic rise and fall of the band.

Throughout the band’s set the audience are completely enthralled, intent on listening to Elliot and his cohorts spill their soul. The band respond perfectly to both Elliot’s lead, and to their spellbound audience, by pouring their heart and soul into each and every song. The penultimate number of the night, “Day Is Golden”, is performed as a piano-led lament by Elliot, alone, and wringing out every last drop of emotion for all to see and hear. It seems almost impossible to follow, but Elliot responds to the rousing applause, leading his band back on stage for one final flourish. Heymerdinger takes over Moog duties while Brachkova places herself at the piano, and the band somehow summon the energy to deliver one last hurrah with “Alive As”, before signing off one of the most impressive Marris Bar debuts in memory. Here’s hoping The Little Unsaid are invited back soon, but for now I’ll content myself with the excellent Selected Works compilation, available now.

www.thelittleunsaid.com www.revealrecords.co.uk

Will Munn



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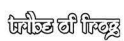
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The Humdrum Express Skewwhiff, Raphaella Kornarskis Claptrap the Venue, Stourbridge | Sat 12th May

The **Humdrum Express** (singer/songwriter **Ian Passey**) has been documenting the quirks of modern times as a solo artist for quite a while. After putting a band together for last autumn's prestigious show at Kidderminster's **Rose Theatre**, the **BBC 6music** favourite managed to persuade astute loan signings **Carl Bayliss** (drums), **Andrew Boswell** (bass) and **Chris Taylor-Ashcroft** (keys) to stick around for a handful of dates throughout 2018.

The upcoming show at **Claptrap** will be the latest of these, with the full band adding a buoyant backdrop to the cutting, observational wit. Special guests on the night come in the shape of those fine purveyors of indie post-punk, **Skewwhiff** and the **Sophie Lynch** fronted rising stars **Raphaella Kornarskis**.

£4 on the door, with an early arrival highly recommended.



Saturday 12th May

the humdrum express Plus special guests

SKEWWHIFF **RAPHAELLA KORNAISKIS**

"Brilliant, observationally... Part of me just wants to stand up and applaud" - Steve Lamacq, BBC 6music

Admission £4 on the door

Claptrap the Venue
108a High St, Stourbridge DY8 1EE

Claptrap the Venue

It's hard to believe that **Claptrap the Venue** has only been open for twelve months; such is its standing and popularity amongst the Stourbridge music community.

Taking over the building that was previously the much loved **Scary Canary**, local gig goers were soon thrilled to discover that the new venue had retained a similarly cool vibe with the added bonus of an upgraded stage and sound system.

For those yet to experience it, Claptrap is modern, multi-purpose and proudly independent, boasting quirky décor, a wide range of drinks and a warm, welcoming sense of fun. Bands, DJs, comedy and poetry nights continue to thrive while new events such as UV ping pong (yes, just that!) have **Sean and Sarah** (the owner's) personality stamped all over it.

Having already hosted the likes of New Model Army front man **Justin Sullivan** and garage rock grebos **Crazyhead**, fellow established favourites such as **The Cravats** and **Ian McNabb** are among those set to grace the Claptrap stage in 2018.

Of equal importance, however, is their continued support for the grass roots scene. **The Sunday Shenanigans** open mic night may have already been well established in the town, but the ever popular platform for the region's up and coming talent has never had a more fitting home.

Discreetly hidden away on the town's High Street, Claptrap the Venue boasts a fabulous green room and recording studio, also offering the live streaming of future events.

Terence Stomp

The Rutles | Major Happy Tour 2018 The Iron Road, Evesham | 17th May

The legendary **Rutles** are set to take to the stage at The Iron Road on the 17th of May, bringing their own unique brand of musical "Pork Pies" to Evesham as part of a rare UK tour. Originally formed as a spoof act for the cult TV show "**Rutland Weekend Television**", from **Neil Innes**, the musical genius behind **Bonzo Dog Doo-Dah**, and **Monty Python's Eric Idle**, **The Rutles** continued, starring in "**All You Need Is Cash (The Rutles)**", a film featuring cameos from the likes of George Harrison, John Belushi, Dan Ackroyd, Mick Jagger, Paul Simon, and Bill Murray.

Still firmly denying any accusations of being a Beatles parody group, the fabulous "Fake Dudes" are back by "Popular Demand", in salutation of the Sovereignty of Silliness, to play their best-known, "**Make Believe**" chart-toppers including "**I Must Be In Love**", "**Cheese And Onions**", "**Piggy In The Middle**", and "**With A Girl Like You**".

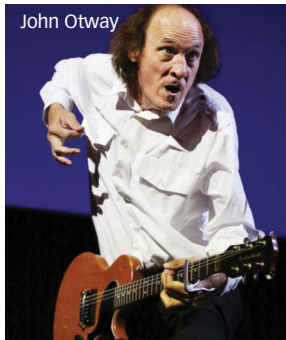


The Rutles promise an unmissable and unforgettable night of singing, dancing, and general harassment by sickeningly happy people, an incredible evening is guaranteed for all! Tickets available online at £22.



Artrix theatre in Bromsgrove presents a super month of theatre, music and comedy this May.

Music this month includes singer-songwriter **Eddi Reader** on 3rd May, one of Britain's top folk musicians,



John Otway



Eddi Reader

Ange Hardy, performs on 11th May followed by tribute act, **The Small Fakers** on 12th May, **John Otway** on 18th May and **Clare Teal & Her Trio** on 25th May.



Clare Teal

Theatre highlights include **Crimes Under The Sun** - a murderous and hilarious Hitchcock inspired romp on 9th May, an artful adaptation of **A Dolls House** on 17th May and **The Damned United** brings to life Football legend Brian Clough on 20th May.

Comedy during May includes **One Woman Sex And The City** on 10th May, **Eleanor Conway** on 12th May & **Shazia Mirza** 26th May.

Film screenings during May include Matthew Bourne's **Cinderella** on 15th May, NT Live presents **Macbeth** on 16th May, **I, Claude Monet** on 24th May and half-term screenings of **Peter Rabbit** on 26th and 30th May.

Artrix welcomes families and young people this month with shows including **Disorder**, a young people's mental health arts festival on 22nd and 23rd May and **Old Macdonald** and **The Three Pigs Plus** during half term on 29th May.

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

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Mike Francis

The Marris Bar, Worcester | 31st May

Mike Francis is appearing at **The Marris Bar**, who is he, I hear you say... Well, Mike Francis may not be a household name in the UK, but he has been in direct competition with Matt Anderson and Seasick Steve for **European Blues Awards**, and that's no mean company.

Rolling Stones biographer Martin Elliott is quoted as saying "If *Woody Guthrie and Robert Johnson were alive today they'd probably sound like this guy*" about Mike. "It's easier to say who *Mike Francis hasn't played with*", John Peel.

Mike Francis has been, 'on the road', since 1970, with rock, blues and soul bands, across the world, though he currently is on a solo tour. A 12 string aficionado, Mike performed at **Upton Blues** last year, and has featured, 25 out of the last 27 years at the iconic **Colne Festival**. So, here is your opportunity to catch up with Mike, at **The Marris Bar**, and find out what he's all about.



Set 'em Up Joe

Pershire Number 8 | Sat 12 May

Set 'em Up Joe is a well-known Malvern based band with a vast repertoire of folk, country and jazz songs. Featuring vocal harmonies and great instrumental backing, their sound is upbeat and infectious.

Foyer Folk takes place on the second Saturday of the month at 8.00pm in Number 8's foyer. Tickets: £4 available to pre-book

Keep updated on acts performing and ticket prices through the Number 8 website: www.number8.org and Facebook/Twitter pages.



Wille And The Bandits & Blackballed The Guildhall, Gloucester | March 29th

WATB, along with **Blackballed**, were unable to reach Gloucester on the scheduled date, while we were in the grip of 'The Beast From The East'. Word soon got out that the lads from Cornwall, who had of course never experienced snow before, were stranded in Nottingham, with Wille no doubt sliding uncontrollably on the powdered white stuff. Both bands rescheduled and we were promised our gig on March 29th

With songs taken from their stupendous *Fulton Point* and *Colossus* albums, **Blackballed** ripped through their set, barely stopping for breath between songs. The heavy rock, a sort of merging of Black Sabbath and Deep Purple's Machine Head, riveted the crowded Guildhall from the first strike of drums and thunderous bass.



Wow, follow that Wille! Well, we all know they can, or we wouldn't be here! I have had the privilege of watching WATB grow, from a long-haired band with dreadlocks, clustered together on a stage to bring their own special sound, to performing immense, polished, classic reworks. Today they own their space, and have become much more expressive as a result. Matt bounces around, with hair flying, on his mighty 6 string bass; Andy comes in with Djembe in hand, slapping out the rhythm; and even Wille seems to have discovered his own legs, and now stalks the stage between vocals. Hell, he's even sporting a Gibson Les Paul at times!

Scene set, the boys slowly build into "*Bad News*", rocking the Guildhall to its very foundations, before drifting off, taking us "*Miles Away*". Star lighting splashes across the stage; a perfect backdrop for "*Scared Of The Sun*", a salutary warning of the fragility of life, played out moodily by Andy's 'soft' hammers on the cymbals, and Wille on steel lap guitar. Next they lighten the load, taking us back to their roots of life drifting along on the road, playing gigs on beaches; "*Living Free*".

The truly beautiful opening bars of "*Mammon*" seep out, with Andy on Djembe and Matt on stick bass. This is a tune that always manages to hush even the rowdiest audience, intent on hearing every heartfelt nuance. Andy's Tam drum, (blocks of African wood nailed to a plank) announces the exotic opening of "*Chill Out*", before the song explodes like an egg in the microwave, splattering everyone with the awesome sound of Wille's slide, while Andy scowls at his waiting skins. "*Jack The Lad*" struts about the stage with serious attitude, but is watched by ever-present "*Virgin Eyes*". Wille cranks the pedals, his slide hard at work, and the sound cuts



through the air while the floor seems to move beneath our feet as a tidal wave of sound crashes across the auditorium. It's a stupendous, totally intoxicating song that stays with you, etched in your mind.

Phew, time to trim the wick on the burner; there's twelve or fifteen minutes of fuel left, just enough of the soft glow to fire up, "*Angel*", a fabulous, slow-building favourite, dedicated to Wille's mother; a stairway to heaven.

But they're not going to escape that easily, and Matt and Andy step back in for a tribal drumming session between Djembe and drum set, and "*Dolorous*" pounds out. Wille comes back to the stage, and it's time to take us back to "*1970*", a hard-rocking blast that blows us back into the hedonistic era of good times.

The new double album, *Living Free*, recorded live on the road by 'new' convert and sound man **Adam Whalley** is available at the **Wille and the Bandits** online store from April 1st.

Graham Munn

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Ian Siegal Band The Dawn Brothers Huntingdon Hall, Worcester | 18th April

Multi award winning, and internationally lauded bluesman **Ian Siegal** brought his renowned band across the Channel for a UK tour, dropping in on this old Georgian chapel to preach the blues. **The Dawn Brothers** from Germany opened the evening. Their music is steeped in Americana, with guitarist Bas and bassist Levi sharing vocals, alongside Rowan's keyboard that produced some outstanding solos under his command. A talented and entertaining band, the Brothers showcase some interesting, original songs that provoke enthusiastic applause, closing with the superb country blues hit, *"Shotgun Rider"*.

Ian arrives on stage with guitarist **Dusty Ciggaar**, bass player **Danny Van Hoff**, and drummer **Rafael**, facing a disappointing turn out for such a highly regarded artist; it's certainly not an easy living on 'the road'. Those present certainly appreciated the opportunity, and Ian was not about to let them down. His newly released *All The Rage* album is thunderous from the outset, as the pulsating, dark menace of *"Jacobs Ladder"* throbs out in tribal rhythm. *"The Sh*t Hits"* the fan, and slow blues paints a vivid picture of what's to come; a cautionary tale, ripped from strings of Ian's guitar under his heavy slide makes for a superb, and maybe not so tongue in cheek, swampy delta song. Next up, a Latin rhythm brings a lovely exotic feel to the conversely black lyrics of *"Ain't It Great"*, a lively dance to the tune of the warmongers, but irresistible!

An old favourite, *"The Train"* rattles past while Dusty goes full steam ahead, stoking his Telecaster. Militaristic drum rhythms underpin the bright, frothy guitar notes of *"Eagle-Vulture"* that soar high towards certain death and destruction before Ian steps back, allowing the band to take us into a hotfooted, shuffling, jazz



excursion. Dirt-flecked guitar bars fuel the rhythm for the Judgement Day blues of *"One Eyed King"*, with a deathly embrace. Ian takes us back to one of my particular favourites, the delicious temptation of a Mississippi hill-billy blues, *"She's Got The Devil In Her"*, this is absolutely superb, whether seducer or seduced, temptation takes over.

Back to *Raging*, and Ian takes us for a walk around his Portsmouth home town with a sassy, punky, funk-painted *"Sailor Town"*, written in conjunction with Jimbo Mathus, you have no choice but to tag along for ride, or be pulled along backwards. Like lots of things in a sailor town, this is truly infectious! Rowan returns to the stage, bringing his swirling keys to the last vestige of Rage, and the lovely, soulful lament of *"Sweet Souvenir"* to close the set... Well of course not, we're invited for an all-out jam with both bands sharing the stage; two leads, two basses, drum and keyboard, and Ian Siegal stretching, extending, and soloing their way through *"Don't You Break My Heart"*. An absolutely brilliant finale to another superb evening at **Huntingdon Hall**. The shame of it is that Ian is unlikely to return, unless we can convince him it's viable, with the tour supporting two bands on the road and a long way from home. If we don't support original, live music, we will lose it, and be left with only machine-generated, generic ear worms. There is enough of that already, so let's keep it Live.

to the room as the *"Wizard"* goes walking by, casting a spell over the crowd. Check out Will's website, there's a video better than anything I can describe; it is hair-flying, drum-thrashing, strat-strangling brilliance.

Talking of wizards, the witching hour is within sight, meaning **The Will Wilde Band** will soon be driving back to Brighton, and the humdinger, harp-bending blues must come to an end. Will and Danny ping-pong the lead for *"Girl I Love"*, taken from the Live album, which also delivers *"38"*, with its Clapton-like guitar riffs. The inevitable demand for more is met by the flip of a coin; Rory Gallagher's blistering *"Bad Penny"*, which features in Will's new album, *Bring It On Home*. A wonderful gig of the finest harp-powered rock blues. To get a flavour of what you may have missed, go to www.willharmonicawilde.com, and follow the video link.

Graham Munn

Will Wilde Iron Road, Evesham | Thurs 12th April

As a complete contrast to the recent acoustic session with sister Dani in Malvern, **Will 'Harmonica' Wilde**, brings his band to **The Iron Road** in Evesham, promising to rock the place out. As Will juggles harps, bassist **Victoria Smith** brings a touch of glamour to the rhythm roll, and drummer **Alan Taylor** hits us hard with his rhythm sticks, while the Stratocaster appears as a mere toy in the hands of big bear, **Danny Giles**. Judging by his expressions, I'm not sure which suffers more, the tortured Strat, or Danny's hard-working fingers! Their opening song, *"If I Get My Hands On You"*, seems entirely appropriate!

Will is soon in his groove, and the hard-rocking *"Angel Coming Down"* gives Alan a chance to stretch the skins, and doff the high hats. A dark, smouldering *"Paranoia"* sets in, seeping into our heads and drawing us into a world of suspicion.

From his new album, and recently reviewed, Jack Bruce's *"Politician"* thunders out with all the menace of House Of Cards (original pack, Ian Richardson, of course). Will's *"Jealous Woman"* steps aside for a fabulous walk along *"Parisienne Walkways"*, a sumptuous harp-led stroll that stuns the audience into awestruck admiration; maybe less really is Moore.

Danny simmers on, for the beautiful and moody, *"Love That Burns"*, before Will voices the new *"Bonnie To My Clyde"*, with its heavy throb conjured up by Vicky and Alan, the effect is much like dropping a slab on your foot, that heavy pulse stays with you. But there's magic in the air, and the spirit of Black Sabbath is brought



Preview

On **Friday 4th May** **Sari Schorr** will be gracing the stage at **Huntingdon Hall** for an emotionally charged evening of soulful, rocking blues. This New York Blues Hall of Fame singer-songwriter blends together blues, rock and soul with concrete melodies, poetic lyrics and, of course, her unforgettable vocals, culminating in performances likened to those of Janis Joplin and Tina Turner. After reaching No. 1 in the UK Official Jazz and Blues album charts, the deeply personal debut album *A Force of Nature* has clearly resonated with audiences across the world. Expect an emotional, inspiring, and unforgettable evening of the best in blues Tickets £15



Next up at **Huntingdon Hall** is **The Joni Mitchell Song Book**, on the **11th May**. Presented on stage by **Both Sides Now**, and led by singer **Sarah Miller** and keyboard player **Aidan Goldstraw**, the **Song Book** promises to be more than just a tribute act, but an evening spent in the beautiful Hall exploring the genius of Joni Mitchell. Come along, and let the talented **Both Sides Now** take you on a tour of Joni's career, including the best-loved hits, "*Big Yellow Taxi*", "*River*", "*A Case of You*", "*Free Man in Paris*", "*Coyote*", and many more. Tickets available at £16

Once the rhythm section of Canadian powerhouse band **Tanglefoot**, best friends **Steve** and **Rob Ritchie** and **Al Parrish** have reformed alongside percussionist **Beaker Granger** as **Ritchie Parrish Ritchie**, and are due to bring their raucous and passionate live performance to **Huntingdon Hall** on the **15th of May**. With their truly charismatic stage presence, the band promise a night of great music (old and new – so you might hear some Tanglefoot favourites), storytelling & humour, not to be missed. Tickets £15

Join the **Royal Air Forces Association Concert Band** at the **Swan Theatre** on the **19th May** for an evening in commemoration of the RAF Centenary. Formed in 1998 by volunteers, the RAFA Concert Band seeks to raise awareness and funds in support of the RAF family, which includes all serving and ex-serving personnel and their dependants. The band are well-established, and perform concerts across the UK for a worthy cause, as well as for their own enjoyment. Tickets available at £15, £12 for concessions and service members past and present.

Finally, on the **26th May**, **John Broughton** will be bringing the UK's biggest folk band to **Huntingdon Hall** for their eagerly anticipated annual Worcester show. **The Conservatoire Folk Ensemble** were formed in 1997 at Birmingham's prestigious Conservatoire, and are renowned for their always vibrant, often spontaneous, and infamously unrivalled concerts. Made up of a grand total of 50 members, you can expect to hear flutes, fiddles, and even a harp, as the band merge English and Celtic folk with a colourful mix of funk, jazz, hip-hop, ska and reggae, for a unique, eclectic brand of 'Power Folk'. Tickets £17.50 (£16 concession)





What's On?

at The Swan Theatre
and Huntingdon Hall



 <p>Sari Schorr 4th May - £15</p>	 <p>Ritchie Parrish Ritchie 15th May - £15</p>	 <p>An Evening with Mark Stanway - Ex-<i>Magnum</i> 18th May - £13</p>
 <p>A Brave Face 24th & 25th May - £14.50</p>	 <p>Roxy Magic: A night of Roxy Music and Bryan Ferry 25th May - £17.50</p>	 <p>Joe Broughton's Conservatoire Folk Ensemble 26th May - £17.50</p>



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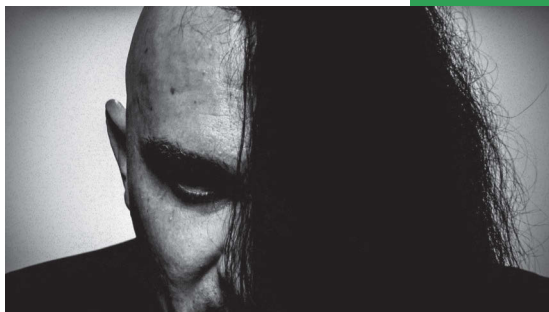
DIY musicians

By Nick J Townsend

I purchased my first video camera four years ago; went to University for a laugh to learn about film theory and I used that knowledge to produce and direct music videos for own my band **WEAK13**; they've done pretty well and I consider videos a useful tool for promoting my music. From the get go some folks laughed at the idea of me doing this; I encountered snobbery from the film geeks as in their eyes I was just a musician invading their territory; but what was surprising is that I discovered an awful lot of incompetence and spin from the filmmaking community.

Fifty percent of people I've met calling themselves a filmmaker haven't actually made a film before and about a quarter of them bizarrely attempt charging young and near penniless self funded DIY bands anything from up to £3000 upwards to film them. I've met thousands of bands with great songs praying for a recording contract; pretty much all of them could never afford or justify spending that much on a music video unless they already had a record deal so inevitably the majority never have music videos produced and therefore a lot of talent is never seen. Music videos in my experience actually help save many bands on the verge of calling it a day, often because they've hit a career wall after three to four years and they desperately need something to boost the profile of their band. A music video is normally that missing springboard.

It's crazy; these filmmakers rarely get any work from musicians; their target rich clients are far too established for them to work with so nothing happens a lot. After some digging I worked out why some figures quoted by directors were priced so high; believe it or not, most of that money is used to hire the camera



equipment, meaning that a lot of these filmmakers (who've never made a film) don't even own their own camera! It's all talk and ego mixed with a really unrealistic business model.

Just think; if all those filmmakers actually purchased their own gear and charged a more realistic workable cost then more upcoming bands would be seen and they the filmmakers, as a result, should get more work. I know from experience that if a band wants some kind of promotional video that it can totally enhance their music career. For example, a recent music video that I directed for a Midlands based band helped them receive an offer for a US distribution deal for their album.

I personally do enjoy working and collaborating with other filmmakers but I often prefer to direct music videos for my own band; my honest advice is that if a filmmaker charges you an extortionate and truly unfair amount of cash to make a basic music video then you may as well buy your own camera; learn how to use it, do research, work out realistically how to make your vision happen and do it yourself. However; be warned; if you want top results then it will take time; arguably the same speed that you learnt how to produce your own music. Good luck.

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WORCESTER MUSIC FESTIVAL

14-16 September 2018

Midsummer Ceilidh with The Organ Grinders Grimley & Sinton Green Peace Hall, Hallow Saturday 16th June

As many of you may know **Worcester Music Festival** are organising a series of lead-up events heralding the main Festival in September.

This is an important way of not only hopefully raising awareness of the Festival itself, but more importantly these events will raise much needed funds for this year's chosen charity, **The Worcestershire Association Of Carers**.

The next event is a midsummer celebration of one of the area's long-standing and celebrated ceilidh bands **The Organ Grinders**.



Before we continue I should point out for the uninitiated that a Ceilidh (pronounced Kay-lee) is the Gaelic word for gathering or party and for our purposes basically means Barn Dance. Therefore expect a night of rousing music, wild dancing, great company and much flowing of ale: a great craic (crack) indeed!

The original idea came to **The Organ Grinders** when they realised how long they had been plying their trade throughout the land, whilst also getting through more band members than the Fall!

They've also played with such luminaries as British Sea Power, on the Severn Valley Railway station platform, as well as the dubious pleasure of playing before the likes of clueless buffoon (and PM apparently) David Cameron and much more importantly the dear and darling Ruth Madoc of Hi-De-Hi fame.



This drink and dance fest takes place on Saturday 16th June at **Grimley & Sinton Green Peace Hall**, Worcester WR2 6NP from 8.00pm til Midnight. Tickets are 3 of your English pounds and as aforementioned, all proceeds from the Ceilidh will go to **Worcestershire Association Of Carers** via **WMF**.

There will be a Real Ale & Cider Bar in operation with other drinks available and food in the form of assorted cobs and bar snacks.



These will doubtlessly sustain you throughout the dancing and please do not fear if this is your first Ceilidh, as there will be plenty of friendly instruction on hand from the various Callers on duty.

The Caller is the leader of the Ceilidh who talks everyone through the various dances, before, during and with much deserved praise afterwards.

Your Callers and musicians for the evening will comprise of many past and present **Organ Grinders** including **Alan, Ian, Jon, Mark, Pete, Phil, Dom, Liz, Bill Brewer, Jan Stewer, Peter Gurney, Peter Davy, Dan'l Whiddon, Harry Hawk, Uncle Tom Cobley** and **All!**

So come one and all, join us, grab a partner for a *Do-Si-Do* and a *Left Hand Star*, to celebrate the amazing longevity of The Organ Grinders and help swell the coffers for Worcester Music Festival's very worthy charity.

Ticket are available from **Music City** on The Tything in Worcester or by grabbing any passing **Organ Grinder** who you know!

Also online at <http://www.wegotickets.com/event/438343>

See you all there for some Midsummer Madness!

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THE BRETHRYN'S COCKTAIL BAR

Uncover presents Theo, Alex Lleo, Myra, Keys The Marrs Bar | 5th April

Not quite the weekend, not feeling as relaxed and refreshed as the beginning of the week. It's easy to forgive anyone who wants to stay in and wallow into nothingness.

But, what happens if.... you venture out? From experience, as I crawl closer to my next day off, the thought of rushing home from work to eat, get ready and go out when I have work again the next day, is not one I enjoy. However, also from experience, I often end up so glad I did make the effort.

First up was a young guy going by the name "**Keys**". With what I noted down as "epic hair", he oozed coolness as he and his guitar took to the stage. Unassuming on stage, he treated our ears to a collection of haunting ballads with silky soft vocals. All but one of the tracks performed were from his new EP, *24 Miles*, although we did get one song not from the release, and performed without a backing track. His music offered a promise of the sound of the ocean's waves, laid back, transporting us to a different, calmer, warmer and almost psychedelic place. His final track, and last track on his EP, *Platforms*, was my favourite of his set, a tap along, plinky stringed tune, which had me thinking of gentle raindrops in the aforementioned ocean. A nice little start to the evening.



With an upbeat musical intro, next to take the stage were **Myra**, a four piece band from the West Midlands, offering a little set of covers, some I knew, some I didn't, (I can only fool myself that I'm 40 going on 20 for so long!) The female vocalist was sassy and on trend, and I particularly liked their grungier, drum beat heavy version of *R U Mine* by The Arctic Monkeys, and the crowd pleasing "*I bet you look good on the dancefloor*", with *Hash Pipe* by Weezer thrown inbetween. I love a good sing along and Myra offered that on the night with youth and enthusiasm, superb musicians who clearly have a future ahead of them, especially if they venture into original material too. From the covers they offered, I think I'd like the musical direction they take.

Third on the agenda was **Alex Lleo**, a musician I've had the pleasure of seeing before, most recently down by the river during Worcester Music Festival. Replace the river with the sea and a sun soaked beach and that's exactly where Alex's self penned, heartfelt music and lyrics will take you. Think cruising along a



beachfront with the soft top down, wind in your hair, and you'll get the chilled out vibes I'm describing. Musically on a par, for me, with Paulo Nutini mixed with a little James Morrison, Alex is well known and loved in Worcester, and rightly so. With songs such as *This Time Last Year*, which spoke of how things have changed, to tales of looking out over New York from a penthouse apartment, we were taken on a journey through his life, a scrapbook in song form. His last song was about his 94 year old Grandad, tugging at our heartstrings with the story of visiting his empty home, described as an Aladdin's cave, but without the man himself.

Headline act of the night was **Theo**. I'd never seen him perform before, but as he set his drum kit up on the floor in front of the audience, not on stage, I was intrigued. I moved closer, having a feeling this would be something kinda special. I wasn't wrong. I stopped taking notes in the first minute as I was in awe of this guy. One guy, a loop pedal, a guitar and a drum kit. He started off with a few gentle notes on the guitar, then played a riff over the original few notes, looping in the background, then added more, layer upon layer. As the intensity of the looping layers of guitar riffs grew, Theo jumped wildly onto the drums, and the whole, already electrifying performance, went up another notch. Each



layer forming an epic musical parade, if I hadn't seen and heard for myself, I would've been forgiven for thinking several musicians stood in front of us. As each tune came to an end, Theo stripped back the layers to start a new one, fading out the drumming, right back down to a gentle strum, but never stopping, one flowed seamlessly into the next, his energy unwavering, pausing only to swig at his drink as the kaleidoscope of sound vibrated around us. His music was inspiring, my 14 year old son went away from that night with ideas forming in his own musical brain.

I would've sat at home doing nothing. Instead, for less than a tenner, I saw four awesome artists, and had a brilliant night out with family and friends. Life's too short to literally Netflix and chill. Get out. Do more. You won't regret it. Love live music? Then support your local venue.

Words: Kate Ford Photos by Lissywitch

Sanctuary - The Pale Kings Boars Head, Kidderminster | 12th May

Remember the days before clubbing? By the 1980s, the big discos were beginning to lose their appeal, and nightclubs began experimenting with live acts, especially in relation to the burgeoning punk/post punk movements. Alternative nights were extremely popular in the 80's to early 90's – nurturing a culture away from the mainstream.

The Boars Head, Kidderminster is hosting its own alternative night on 12th May in homage to those past days. **Sanctuary** will feature live music from **The Pale Kings** and a play list that will throw you right back to the height of the alternative music scene covering goth, industrial, alternative rock and punk. It's FREE entry from 8pm. All you need to do is search the dark recesses of your



wardrobe, heat up your crimpers, dust down your winkle pickers and come along and throw some shapes on the dancefloor.

Thee MVP's Elephant Peel, As Mamas The Firefly, Worcester | 10th May

Want to start May off with a bang? Head down to **The Firefly** on May 10th and witness something special. London garage-punks **Thee MVPs** will be bringing their frantic live show to The Fly's intimate upstairs room. The foursome is well known for their ability to explode into nasty, dirty numbers that immediately hook, generating a raw energy that makes you move to every rocking riff pounded out of their kit.

MAY 10TH



THEE MVP'S

FUNDER OF THUNDER TOUR

DOORS OPEN 7PM **ENTRY £5**



THE FIREFLY
54 LOWESMOOR
WORCESTER

SUPPORT FROM
ELEPHANT PEEL &
AS MAMAS



On this leg of their Funder of Thunder tour, they'll be joined by local boys **Elephant Peel**, dubbed as a highlight from many of the Worcester Music Festival crowd, Elephant Peel are a five piece who are just as gritty as the headliner. Their music is uncontained, and anguished release from every band member.

Evesham band **As Mamas**, recently becoming a trio, were formed between the four walls of a caravan. Based in Evesham, they come together to create psych blues that won't stop until it's given every ear an experience like no other. And and will undoubtedly make for a corker of an opening set. Doors open at 7pm and tickets are £5. Don't be late.

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HOGAN'S

May Comedy:

Evesham Arts Centre (Evesham)

Sat 5th May, 20:00

Jeremy Hardy: Live '18: Returns for his 4th decade in stand-up.

Fri 25th May, 19:30

Lee Nelson: Tour extended to cover legal fees for Theresa May stunt. Untameable prankster & world-famous blagger returns.

Artrix Arts Centre (Bromsgrove)

Thurs 10th May, 20:00

One Woman Sex and the City

Clues in the title – a parody on love, friendship and shoes.

Sat 12th May, 19:30

Eleanor Conway: Modern Addict (work in progress)

The critically acclaimed and award nominated stand-up returns with a new show.

Sat 19th May, 20:00

Barnstormers Comedy May 2018

Featuring: Rob Rouse, Christ Stokes

Three top comedians from London/National stand-up comedy circuit, plus a fantastic Barnstormers MC.

Sat 26th May, 19:30

Shazia Mirza: With Love From St. Tropez

Following her critically acclaimed sell-out 2016 world tour, Shazia Mirza returns with a brand new show.

Huntingdon Hall (Worcester)

Alfie Moore – Getting Away With Murder

Former Detective Sergeant turned stand-up Alfie Moore comes to Worcester for a thrilling and interactive journey through the art and science of murder investigation.

Thurs 24th May, 19:30

Jeremy Hardy: Live '18: Returns for his 4th decade in stand-up.

Redditch Palace Theatre (Redditch)

Weds 9th May, 19:30

Lee Nelson: Tour extended to cover legal fees for Theresa May stunt. Untameable prankster & world-famous blagger returns.

Sat 19th May, 19:45

Joe Bor – A Room With A Jew

An hour of stand up from Joe Bor - award winning comedian, Jewish Comedian of the year and star of BuzzFeed's hit YouTube series 'Worth It UK'.

Wed 23 May, 8.00pm

Paul Chowdhry

Back by popular, back with an extra date in May. ('Live Innit' tour.) Following his 2015 100 date sell-out tour, comedy powerhouse and star of Taskmaster, Live at The Apollo and Stand Up for the Week, Paul Chowdhry brings his highly anticipated new stand-up show to venues nationwide.

Tues 29th May, 20:00

Kevin Bridges: Work in Progress

Catch Kevin as he tries out material ahead of his forthcoming UK and Ireland Tour. Plus support.

Hereford Left Bank: The Speakeasy (Hereford)

Sat 5th May, 19:30

Farical Comedy: George Egg & Jake Lambert

with MC, James Ryan

The Courtyard (Hereford)

Fri 11th May, 20:00

Heineken Comedy Club

Acts TBA.

The Marshall Rooms (Stroud)

Sunday 13th May

The CrazyBird Comedy Club: Hal Cruttenden & Support

Live At The Apollo star Hal Cruttenden will perform a headline set. First on the bill is Birmingham born Susan Murray followed by the supremely talented 'Alf. With Legendary resident MC Geoff Whiting

Open mic comedy nights

The Holly Bush, Cradley Heath

FREE, every Thursday, 20:00. Pros and newcomers try out new material. Visit bushcradley.co.uk

Sun 6th May, 18:00

Project Mayhem, The Holly Bush, Cradley Heath

Enjoy an avalanche of the finest comedians, magician's, cabaret trying out their hilarious new material for this Bank Holiday Special! Free entry, then pay what you want after.

Tues 15th May, 20:00

Bedford Street Comedy Club, Bedford Street Bar

Free monthly comedy event featuring: Celya Ab, Alex Black, James Crawley, Alex Hylton, Katie Pritchard, Sarah Lee, with MC Adam Beardsmore and headliner Craig Deeley.

Weds 23rd May, 19:30

Comedy JAM: Firefly, Worcester

FREE. Pros and newcomers try out new material.

Visit facebook.com/comedyjamworcester/



COMEDYJAM
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FREE

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EVERY MONTH
7:30PM**

Contact info:
comedyjam@hotmail.com
(book a slot)

[f comedyjamworcester](https://facebook.com/comedyjamworcester/)

Tuesday 01 May 2018

Marty O'reilly & The Old Soul Orchestra, Martin Callingham
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Sam Draisey
The Tank, Gloucester

Luke Daniels
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Herefordshire Youth Music - Bands Concert
The Courtyard, Hereford

Wednesday 02 May 2018

All Our Yesterdays
Palace Theatre, Redditch

Jon Boden & The Remnant Kings
Town Hall, Cheltenham

Hmt Fundraiser, Flashhearts, Skull Fox, Seventh Syndicate
Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Sam Brookes, Christof Van Der Ven
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Indigo Glitch
The Green Dragon, Malvern

Will Pound'S Through The Seasons - The Music Of Morris
And Folk With Debs Newbold, Benji Kirkpatrick, Ross Grant
The Fleece Inn, Bretforton

Featuring Guest Bob Jones
The Dragon Folk And Roots Club, Worcester

Thursday 03 May 2018

SA: Six Hands, Poisonous Birds, A-Tota-So, The Arboretum
The Firefly, Worcester

The Hippcats
The Cosy Club, Cheltenham

May Chavo (Prince Albert Beer Festival)
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Temperance (Italy)
The Iron Road, Evesham

Rob Mcewan
The Tank, Gloucester

Astaria String Quartet
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

From The Jam
Guildhall, Gloucester

Eddi Reader
The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Thom Colne
The Oil Basin, Worcester

The Guvnors
Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Rock For Heroes
The Courtyard, Hereford

The Martin Daly Band
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Friday 04 May 2018

The Reflections
The Vernon Inn, Hanbury, Bromsgrove

The Harvesters
Sixty Degrees, Bromsgrove

Locked And Loaded
The Unicorn, Malvern

Chimp On A Bike
The Millers Arms, Pershore

Vertigo Violet, Alvin & The Angry Barrels, Drunk in Charge
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Louis Bennett
Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

Kyshona And The Remedy Club
St George's Hall, Bewdley

Bruk Off
UNDER The PROM, Cheltenham

Mark Walby
Kings Head, Bishops Cleeve, Cheltenham

Legend - Classic Rock
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

The Ragdolls - A Tribute To Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons
The Bacon Theatre, Cheltenham

Professor Nohair & the Wigglifters (Prince Albert Beer Festival)
The Prince Albert, Stroud

The Lurkers
The Iron Road, Evesham

Jim Onslow
Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

The Dead XIII + Shadowflag
The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Mur Mur
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

The Official Receivers
The Marris Bar, Worcester

50 SLAP MAY

Westenders- World'S Greatest Musicals
Regal, Tenbury Wells

Faith - The George Michael Legacy
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Saint Loe
The Tank, Gloucester

The Haunted Souls
The Boat House, Upton Upon Severn

The Allergies
Café Rene, Gloucester

Loungetoad
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Sari Schorr
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

The Strays
The Abbey, Gloucester

Hvmm, Junior Weeb, Tom Forbes
The Firefly, Worcester

Subway Band
The Hare And Hounds, Churchdown, Gloucester

Amy Skelly
The Bedwardine, St. Johns, Worcester

Final Four
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Keith James - The Songs Of Nick Drake
Elmslie House, Malvern

Ewan Pollock
The Old Pheasant, Worcester

Thirsty Work
The Bluebell, Ryall, Upton Upon Severn

Re-Booted
Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

The Rogues
Mamma Jammass, Hereford

The Delray Rockets
The Queen's Head, Wolverley

Gravelly Hill
The Red Lion, Evesham

Paul Jeffery
The Talbot, Knightwick, Worcester

Black Heart Angels
Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

The Lizzy Legacy
Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

Tequila Mockingbird
The Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

Texan Peacocks
The Royal Oak, Alcester

Come Together
The Swan & Drummonds, Worcester

Chinese Burn, Pizzatramp, Gagreflex
The Marshall Rooms, Stroud

The Works
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Saturday 05 May 2018

Skabucks
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Pete Harrington
The Royal Oak, Bromsgrove

Aardvark Stew, The Executives
Droitwich Canal Festival, Droitwich

10 Guitars, The Sunset Beach Hut, Velum Break
Muthers Studio, Birmingham

James Baker
Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

Common People
Woodland Cottage, Redditch

Steve Ajao Blues Giants
Button Oak Inn, Bewdley

Sweet Diego, Skiv, Swaktang, Swan Prince
The Railway, Redditch

2Tone Revue
Little Lakes Holiday Park, Bewdley

Glamatize
The Oast House, Redditch

Elvis Tribute Night
Treetops Pavilion, Bewdley

Emotive Concept, Skilla Mitch, Loveridge
The Queens Head, Redditch

The Mouse Outfit
Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Rockaway Record Fairs Record and CD Fair, Open 10.00-16.00,
Admission £1:00, Buy, Sell And Exchange Records And CD's,
Rockawayrecordfairs.Tumblr.Com/
Imperial Hotel Widemarsh Street, Hereford

Time Of The Mouth

The Earl, Worcester

U2 Baby (U2 Tribute) + Tash Hurdles

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Abba - Swede Dreamz

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Bryan Panks

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Starving Rascals

Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

The Fezz

The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

The Outcasts

The Swan Inn, Evesham

Rewind 80s

The Cross Keys Inn, Malvern

Satellite Down

The Bridge Inn & Ferry, Evesham

Claire Louise

Hampton Ferry, Evesham

Matt Bowen

Railway Inn, Studley

Sarah Warren and Nick Lyndon

The Boat House, Upton Upon Severn

Peter Jagger

Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Folk Festival

Rollin Hills, Upton Upon Severn

Gordon Henricks Stripped Back

The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Primetime

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Erica

The Cotswold, Cheltenham

Witcher

The Unicorn, Malvern

Arcadia Roots

Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Cory's Angels

The Bakery, Malvern

Chicago Bytes

Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Chris Hutchison

Green Dragon, Malvern

Bad Spaniel

The Imperial, Hereford

Jimmy Pullen

The Swan, Barbourne, Worcester

Miss Pearl And The Rough Diamonds

The Kings Head, Worcester

The Skastuds

The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Paprika Blues Band

The Cavalier, Kidderminster

Danadra

Stroud Brewery, Stroud

Jon Eselle - Olly Murs Tribute

Croft Farm Waterpark, Bredon's Hardwick, Tewkesbury

Behind The Music, Tyler Massey, Rhi Mills And Connifer

Padgett, James Chaffield, F.F Ivanovski, Ewan Pollock
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Cafe Del Kitsch

Kitsch Coffee & Wine Bar, Stroud

The Troy Redfern Band

Reet Petite, Leominster

Sunday 06 May 2018

Sons Of Yoda

The Bell Inn, Leominster

Mapfest Warm Up

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Emily Abbiss

Wildmoor Oak Pub & Restaurant, Bromsgrove

The Cravats, Turning Black Like Lizards

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Soul Brother Soul Sister

The Oast House, Redditch

Rockaway Record Fairs Record and CD Fair, 10.00-16.00

The Cube, Malvern

Elrow style club night 'Back To Ours' 7pm - 4am

Bedrock's Nick Muir, Stelios Vassiloudis and Luke Brancaccio & Residents Ryan McCormack, Kiz Pattison.
Birmingham's 'Tunnel Club'

Eddi Reader

Tithe Barn, Cheltenham

The Superskas

The Iron Road, Evesham

Tunky Pig

Crabmill Oldswinford, Stourbridge

Am I Winehouse?

Ye Olde Crown, Stourport-On-Severn

Tribute To Queen

JAX Bar And Nightclub, Gloucester

Stealth, Jenny Hallam, Jack Monopoli, Ruben Seabright (4pm)

The Brickroom, Worcester

Supernova

Drummonds, Worcester

One Tree Canyon

The Hop Pole, Bewdley

Arrbie J. (1pm)

Left Bank Village, Hereford

The Clear Waters (5:3pm)

The Chestnut, Worcester

Haunted Souls (5Pm)

The Imperial Tavern, Worcester

The Delray Rockets

Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Trevor 'Babajack' Steger

Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

The Hush

Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

G&T Mix Sunday Special (3pm)

The Red Lion, Evesham

Graftonbury 2018 (1-11pm)

The Golden Cross, Alcester

Dan & King Rich (3pm)

The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Synergy

Ludlow Brewery, Ludlow

Jon Eselle - Olly Murs Tribute

The Bell, Coleshill

Paul Lamb Trio (4pm)

Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Notes On The Boat, Tyler Massey Trio

The Earl, Worcester

The Lizzy Legacy

He Clothiers Arm, Stroud

The River Dogs

He Kingswood Tavern, Nuneaton

Sons Of Yoda

The Bell, Leominster

Baroque Music From Georgian England (12:30pm)

Music In The Pineapple Pavillion, Berrington Hall, Leominster

Monday 07 May 2018

Gypsy Jazz Quartet - Bon Accord (2pm)

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Population 7

The Earl, Worcester

Oliver Driscoll-Hill (3:30pm)

The Red Lion Amblecote, Stourbridge

Pedigree Jazz Band

Harriers Arms, Hoo Rd, Kidderminster

Evening Of Jazz With Jazz Mosis

The Talbot, Belbroughton, Stourbridge

Dave Ayre's Jazz Gazzam

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Natalie Hobs

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

James And Ash

The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

Ub40 Karaoke

Ye Olde Crown, Stourport-On-Severn

Soul Town

Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Bank Holiday All Day Open Mic

The Queens Head, Wolverley

Tuesday 08 May 2018

Baroque Evening

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Russ Poole

The Tank, Gloucester

Wednesday 09 May 2018

Ewan Pollock

The Oil Basin, Worcester

Show Of Hands

The Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Thursday 10 May 2018

Clive Gregson, Liz Simcock

Bromsgrove Folk Club At Catshill Club, Bromsgrove

Andy Thomas

Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Gimme Shelter Refugee Fundraiser: Demmi Marriner & Robbie Cavanagh, Jules Rendell, Nigel Clark (Dodgy), Wes Finch Plus Compare Spoz
Palace Theatre, Redditch

Rock & Roll Dreams Came True-Meatloaf The Show
Palace Theatre, Redditch

Simon Spillett Fourtet
Smokey Joe's Coffee Bar, Cheltenham

Vinny Peculiar
The Plough, Worcester

Dan Everett
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Jizzy Pearl, Love/Hate, Doomsday Outlaw
The Iron Road, Evesham

King For A Day: The Nat King Cole Story
Regal, Tenbury Wells

Jonny Daniel
The Tank, Gloucester

Uncover: The Loved And Lost, Dead Agents, The Vergers, Meme Detroit
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Dharma Bums
Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Thee Myp's, Elephant Peel, As Mamas
The Firefly, Worcester

Sons Of The Delta Duo
Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Rory Mcleod
The Marshall Rooms, Stroud

Friday 11 May 2018

Journeyman
The Sociable Beer Company, Worcester

The Interpreters
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Ben Stancombe
The Hop Pole, Bewdley

Bar Fight
Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Sean/Hitchiker
The Earl, Worcester

Jess Silk
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Definitely Mightbe V Adored
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Witcher
Lamplighter, Stratford

Zhivago Ep Launch Gig
Base Studios, Stourbridge

Hot Red Chili Peppers
The Iron Road, Evesham

Charlie Waterford
Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

The James Brothers
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Beyond Faith - George Michael
The Civic, Stourport-On-Severn

Under The Hill Fest - Battle Of The Bands
Amber, Evesham

Molly-Anne
The Tank, Gloucester

The Hush
The Bluebell, Ryall, Upton Upon Severn

Both Sides Now Presents: The Joni Mitchell Song Book
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Mark Leedham
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Nice And Sleazy
Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

The Everly Brothers & Friends Tribute Show
Swan Theatre, Worcester

The Miffs, 16 Choke Start, The Flames
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Albums Show, Elio Pace's Billy Joel Songbook - David Brown
The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Ange Hardy
The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Bush Fire, Woo Town Hillbillies
The Bush, St. Johns, Worcester

Wingwalkers
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Pons Aelius
Conquest Theatre, Bromyard

Wiseneheimer, The Speedgums
De Koffie Pot - Left Bank Village, Hereford

Mister Wolf Band
Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Conspiracy Of Kings
Mamma Jammass, Hereford

BotBs: Voodoo Stone, Hate.System, Vintage Inc, Ranstone
The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

The Troubadors
The Red Lion, Evesham

Jay & Eli
The Maltster, Worcester

Tyler Massey
The Talbot, Knightwick, Worcester

Inme
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Hattie Briggs, Frankie Wesson
The Globe, Hay On Wye

The Revolver
The Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

A Tribute To Frankie Vali And The Four Seasons
Hogarths Stone Manor, Kidderminster

The Cracking Rockin 88's
The Queens Head, Wolverley

London Calling, Give 'Em Enough Rope
The Subscription Rooms, Stroud

John Fairhurst
The Marshall Rooms, Stroud

Harmonica Nick & Friends
Crown & Sceptre, Stroud

Saturday 12 May 2018

The Lost Chord
The Bell Inn, Leominster

The Rain Trees
The Bakery Inn, Malvern Link

Woo Town Hillbillies
The Express, Malvern

The Codas
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Rumours Of Fleetwood Mac
Malvern Theatres, Malvern

Jasper in The Company Of Others, Desert Boots, Connor Maher Quarter, Poppy WS
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Foyer Folk: Set 'Em Up Joe
Number 8, Pershore

Sarah Martyn Acoustic Duo
Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

Freddie Mercury Tribute by Pure Magic
The Oast House, Redditch

The Reflections
Beoley Village Hall, Redditch

Bellevue Days, Guillotine, Ten Tombs, Hot Beige, King Cove
Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Bleeding Hearts
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Jon Eselle - Olly Murs Tribute
The Rainbow Hill Club, Worcester

Running With Wolves, Pinup
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

The Rabbit Foot Spasm Larry Garner & The Norman Beaker Band
Vonnies Blues Club, Cheltenham

Leanne & King Rich
Red House Boutique, Stourbridge

Jenny Darren
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Stone Trigger, Stillroom, Sykko Dollz
The Iron Road, Evesham

Bon Jovi Tribute
Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

Drew 'N' Jez
The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Final Warning
The Swan Inn, Evesham

The After Dark Band
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Common People
The Cross Keys Inn, Malvern

DJ Luke Barham's Disco
The Ducker Bar, Leominster, Herefordshire

Skabucks
Railway Inn, Studley

Forever Eagles
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Murray Gardiner
Guildhall, Gloucester

Simon Goodall And The Bourne Again Shadows
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Gloucester Fake Festival
Gloucester Park, Gloucester

52 SLAP MAY

Steve Linforth
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

The Revolvers
Coney Hill RFC, Gloucester

Memphis Band
Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

The Ray Mytton Band
Rollin Hills, Upton Upon Severn

Eruption
The Black Cat Bar, Gloucester

Jay & Eli
The Earl Of Worcester, Worcester

The Small Fakers
The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Tribute To Marc Bolan Of T-Rex - Rob Cairn
Sapey Golf And Country Club, Worcester

Liquor & Poker
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Black Market Beat, Kick The Clown, Ready 5
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester, Worcestershire

The Humdrum Express, Skewwhiff, Raphaella Kornarskis
Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Clarksville Mountain Band
The Chestnut, Worcester

Hereford Fc Live Multi Artist Festival (12pm)
Edgar Street, Hereford

Michael Jackson Tribute Evening
Three Counties Hotel, Hereford

Vo Fletcher
Green Dragon, Malvern

Sally Halsall
The Swan, Barbourne, Worcester

Larkham & Hall
The Globe, Hay On Wye

Black N Blues Band
The Plough Inn, Hereford

The Pale Kings
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Molly-Anne
Stroud Brewery, Stroud

Just Charlotte (3pm)
The Weavers, Kidderminster

Site Festival : Film And Live Music
The Goods Shed, Stroud

Uncle Jim
The Franche Club, Kidderminster

Shakatak
Assembly Rooms, Ludlow

Jem Stones
Ludlow RFC, Ludlow

Methods, Titans Of Doom, Ever Hyde
The Sunflower Lounge, Birmingham

Three Cane Whale 'At The Pictures'
The Goods Shed, Stroud

Chimp On A Bike
Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Unity Gathering
West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Lewis Leighton
The Fountain Inn, Stroud

Mean Business
Reet Petite, Leominster

Lost Chord
The Bell, Leominster

Sunday 13 May 2018

Band Autumn (3pm)
Ye Old Crown Inn, Stourport-On-Severn

Meg Shaw
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Danny Bryant, Steve Hill
Tithe Barn, Cheltenham

Jake and Immy
The Earl, Worcester

Elessar, Halfway Hope
Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Young Waters
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Lawrie Jean
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Band Autumn
Ye Olde Crown, Stourport-On-Severn

Hannah James – Jigdoll
The Fleece Inn, Bretforton

Walk Right Back: The Everly Brothers Story
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Connor Peel
Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Jazz Express (5:30pm)
The Chestnut, Worcester

Jay & Eli (5pm)
The Imperial Tavern, Worcester

Vo & Mary
Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Griff Collins Plays Lazy Sunday Acoustic (4pm)
The Red Lion, Evesham

The Marc Davies Band
Richmond Place Club, Hereford

Ttih: Bare Jams, Capas
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

The Big Bad Wolf Kids Concert
The Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Jon Eselle
The Nottingham Arms, Tewkesbury

Earl (4pm)
Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Steve Page
Little Vic, Stroud

Monday 14 May 2018

Albert Lee
The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Tuesday 15 May 2018

Indigo Marshall Live
Atréss & Bishop, Birmingham, West Midlands

Imar
The Fleece Inn, Bretforton

Spence Cater
The Tank, Gloucester

Ritchie Parrish Ritchie
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Wednesday 16 May 2018

Michael Jackson History Show
Palace Theatre, Redditch

Tyler Massey and Vo Fletcher
The Plough, Worcester

Bandoneon Concert: From Baroque to Piazzolla; Omar Massa
Hellens, Much Marcle

Featuring Guests Flatworld
The Dragon Folk And Roots Club, Worcester

Thursday 17 May 2018

Martine Mccutcheon
Palace Theatre, Redditch

Wreckless Eric
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

The Tom Johnson Band
Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Remi Harris Trio
Ludlow Brewery, Ludlow

The Rutles
The Iron Road, Evesham

Marcus Corbett, Nitin Gaikwad
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Country Folk - Martin Thomas & Gareth Owen
Regal, Tenbury Wells

Magic: A Kind Of Queen
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Alex Chapman
The Tank, Gloucester

Lewis Boulton
The Oil Basin, Worcester

The Rocket Man - A Tribute To Elton John
The Courtyard, Hereford

The Peas
Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Piano Recital By Christian Blackshaw
Hellens, Much Marcle

Jazz Night with Mark Latimer and Peter Cabara
Reet Petite, Leominster

Friday 18 May 2018

Mother Popcorn
Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

John Coghlan'S Quo
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Eyes, Ten Teeth, Haden Tye
Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Bach To The Future
Number 8, Pershore

The Unconventionals
The Hop Pole, Bewdley

Legend - The Music Of Bob Marley
Palace Theatre, Redditch

The Reuben Lovett Confusion, Plush Replica, Jaded Youth,

Laggy Strides

Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Ital Sounds/Drumlove

The Earl, Worcester

Micah Schnabel & Vanessa Jean Speckmann

Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

The Upbeat Beatles

The Bacon Theatre, Cheltenham

Remi Harris Trio

Weobley Village Hall, Herefordshire

Dan Greenaway

The Talbot, Belbroughton, Stourbridge

Surreal Panther

The Iron Road, Evesham

Locked And Loaded

The Shovel Inn, Lye, Stourbridge

Jim Stokoe Ska/Reggae One Man Band

Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

The Frenzies

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

2Tone Revue

Old Rose & Crown, Stourport-On-Severn

Chicago Blues Brothers: Back in Black

Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Polly Rorison

The Tank, Gloucester

An Evening With Mark Stanway - Ex-Magnum

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Terry Walls

Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Tasha Leaper As Madonna

Swan Theatre, Worcester

Saltwounds, Radical Suckers, Vultures, I Can I Can't

Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Incursion

The Lower George, Gloucester

John Otway & The Big Band

The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Jon Townley

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Face Stealers

The Bluebell, Ryall, Upton Upon Severn

Wildwood Jack

Left Bank Village, Hereford

The Underdogs

Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Poetry Slam

Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Kick The Fridge

The Queens Head, Wolverley

Melvyn Hancox

The Red Lion, Evesham

Skrood

The Millers Arms, Pershore

Mice In A Matchbox

The Talbot, Knightwick, Worcester

Zervas And Pepper

The Globe, Hay On Wye

Worried Men

The Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

James T

Land Oak, Kidderminster

The Magic Badgers

The Wheatsheaf Inn, Ludlow

Chamber Works By Tchaikovsky And Brahms

Hellens, Much Marcle

Saturday 19 May 2018

Led Hendrix, Soul Stripper

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Krazy Legz

Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Mia & The Blackhawks

Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Wizz Jones

The Ale House, Colwall, Malvern

The Searchers

Palace Theatre, Redditch

Ben M Webb

Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

Barclay Blues Brothers

Redditch United F.C., Redditch

Chloe Mogg

Button Oak Inn, Bewdley

Tribute UB40

The Oast House, Redditch

54 SLAP MAY

Motion Enterprise, Baast, JPDL, Prime

Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Reuben Seabright

The Earl, Worcester

Healthy Junkies, Pollypikpocketz

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Remi Harris Trio

Ledbury Market Theatre, Herefordshire

Mute The Flute

The Freemasons Arms, Droitwich

Jon Townley

Windsor Castle Inn, Stourbridge

Rum Buffalo

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Sally

Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

The After Dark Band

The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

The Refections

The Swan Inn, Evesham

Obscure

The Cross Keys Inn, Malvern

Off The Grid

Railway Inn, Studley

Tenbury Town Band

Regal, Tenbury Wells

Locked And Loaded

The Bridge, Tenbury Wells

Jibbafish

Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Ags Connolly Acoustic Night

The Boat House, Upton Upon Severn

UK Guns N Roses

Guildhall, Gloucester

Yes Please!

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Elliot Seabright

Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Raf Association Concert Band

Swan Theatre, Worcester

Dave Onions

Rollin Hills, Upton Upon Severn

Toby

The Bedwardine, Worcester

Roy Orbison & The Travelling Wilburys Experience

The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Test Drive

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

The Whole Caboodle Spring Ceilidh

St Swithuns Institute Hall, Worcester

"Do They Know Its Mappfest Time" Single Launch

Priors Croft, Malvern

Lowri Evans & Lee Mason

Elmslie House, Malvern

The Royal Bedding Gig For The Homeless (2pm)

The Garrison At The Grapes, Hereford

6 Appeal

The Cricketers, Worcester

2Tone Revue

The Plough Inn, Hereford

Big Fat Shorty

The Chestnut, Worcester

Chewie

Green Dragon, Malvern

Nikki Rouse

The Swan, Barbourne, Worcester

Dan And King Rich

The Weavers Real Ale House, Kidderminster

Mimosa

Royal Oak, Alcester

Common People

The Red Man, Kidderminster

Bad Spaniel

Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

Troy Redfern

Ludlow Brewery, Ludlow

All-Star Chamber Music Evening

Hellens, Much Marcle

Máté Szűcs

The Walwyn Arms, Much Marcle

Arcadia Roots, Tyler Massey Trio

West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Ceri Ridge Trading Company

Reet Petite, Leominster

Sunday 20 May 2018

The James Brothers (3pm)

Ye Old Crown Inn, Stourport-On-Severn

Lee Mead

Malvern Theatres, Malvern

Tuery Sessions: Amit Dattani, Hannah Woof

The Cross Keys, Alcester

Meg Shaw

Worcester Riverboat Cruises, Worcester

Black Country Radio's Omma N Chain And Blues Show

Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Mik Artistik

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Two Tone Review Aka Buster

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

The Will Killeen Band (4pm)

Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Hellensmusic Masterclass Programme Finale (Parts I And II)

Hellens, Much Marcle

The James Brothers

Ye Olde Crown, Stourport-On-Severn

Ash Mandrake

Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Vo Fletcher (5:30pm)

The Chestnut, Worcester

The Toucans

The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

The Exiles

Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Daniel Davies Plays Lazy Sunday Acoustic (4pm)

The Red Lion, Evesham

Matt The Guitarist, King Rich & The Stiff Joints (Acoustic) (3pm)

The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Jon Eselle

The White Bear, Tewkesbury

The Unconventionals (5pm)

The Imperial Tavern, Worcester

Monday 21 May 2018**Elm Tree Circle, Death By Shotgun**

Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Arkhive, Phibes, Ky, Monrroe, Residents

UNDER The PROM, Cheltenham

Tuesday 22 May 2018**English Rhapsody**

Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham

Leon Daye

The Tank, Gloucester

Sláinte (Celtic)

Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Les Amazones D'afrique

The Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Wednesday 23 May 2018**Mistrusted, Angry Lennox & The Sunset Limited**

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Dan Baird & Homemade Sin, The Last Great Dreamers

The Iron Road, Evesham

The Humdrum Express, High Horses, Victoria Louise Major,

Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton

Thursday 24 May 2018**Trevor Burton Band**

Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

The Harcourt Players (Live Music To 'The Goat' + 'Pay Day')

The Marris Bar, Worcester

The Michael Jackson History Show

Town Hall, Cheltenham

Andy Richards

Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

The Steve Nimmo Trio

The Iron Road, Evesham

Steve Ferbrache

The Tank, Gloucester

Perry Foster

The Oil Basin, Worcester

Antiquity

Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Woody Pines

The Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Luke Doherty Duo

Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Friday 25 May 2018**Mister Wolf**

Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Ultramegaok

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Polly Edwards

Colwall Park Hotel, Malvern

Dave Onions

Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

Orchestra Of The Swan

Town Hall, Cheltenham

Lewis Hamilton Band

Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

The Follicles

The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

Pilchards

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Ben Vickers

The Earl, Worcester

Embodiment, I, The Lion, Rollin Sixes

2 Pigs, Cheltenham

The Courtbetweeners

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Codex Alimentarius, Turbyne

The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Mckenzie Duo

Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

Art & Music - Dare The Limits by Bonny Rose, Music from

Chloe Mogg, Ellie Williams & Connor Maher (Trio)

Paradiddles Café Music Bar, Worcester

Wing Walkers

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Woody Pines + Tyler Massey

The Cube, Malvern

Bashema

The Tank, Gloucester

Locked And Loaded

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Roxy Magic: A Night Of Roxy Music And Bryan Ferry

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Mel & Him

Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Hickory Stick Boys

Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

Jamie Knight

Ye Olde Talbot Hotel, Worcester

Claire Teal & Her Trio

The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Bandeoke With Polkadot Robot

Heroes Bar, Worcester

Gun Runner

The Bluebell, Ryall, Upton Upon Severn

Sheelanagig

The Courtyard, Hereford

The Yoruba Women Choir

The Courtyard, Hereford

Big Jim & The Black Cat Bones

Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Buzzing Hornets

The Queens Head, Wolverley

Will Killeen

The Red Lion, Evesham

Black Knight

The Miller's Arms, Pershore

Paul J Rose

The Talbot, Knightwick, Worcester

Miss Pearl And The Rough Diamonds

The Hunters Inn, London, Tewksbury

Boogiemen

The Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

Rhythm Street

The Cross Keys, Alcester

Leanne & King Rich

Ye Olde Seven Stars, Kidderminster

Ariwo, Anchorsong

The Goods Shed, Stroud

Mover And Friends

Reet Petite, Leominster

Saturday 26 May 2018**Nils Lofgren**

Malvern Theatres, Malvern

Cada

Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Witcher

The Cavalier, Kidderminster

Bourbon Alley, The Sitting Room

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Rosebourne Duo

Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

Jessie J Tribute

The Oast House, Redditch

From The Wall

The Earl, Worcester

Voodoo Blood, Mad Isaac
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Steps
Whaddon Road Stadium, Cheltenham

Fatman Alley
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Debrief
The Royal, Cheltenham

Dan & King Rich
Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Jacques Farmer & Ben Benson
Windsor Castle Inn, Stourbridge

Mongrel State
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Ace
The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Robbie Williams Tribute
Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

Bon Jovi Tribute Night
The Mitre Oak, Stourport-On-Severn

Boogie Street
The Swan Inn, Evesham

Ed Sheeran Tribute Night
Amber, Evesham

Swim With Sharks
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

The Blues Brothers Revue
The Cross Keys Inn, Malvern

Jade Henderson
Hampton Ferry, Evesham

Face Stealers
The Drum And Monkey, Upton Upon Severn

Joe Broughton's Conservatoire Folk Ensemble
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Lemonade
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Vo Fletcher
Rollin Hills, Upton Upon Severn

The King of Pop Starring Navi
The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Good Thing Going
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Blackheart Angels
Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Wolves And Renegades
Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

XL5
The Chestnut, Worcester

David Bowie Tribute Evening
Three Counties Hotel, Hereford

Rubble
The Volunteer, Hereford

Half Of Phoenix
The Dog House, Hereford

Sax Appeal
Green Dragon, Malvern

Steve Teacher
The Swan, Barbourne, Worcester

Ed Strong
The Starving Rascal, Stourbridge

The Tristan Watson And Pasty Gamble Jazz Trio
Stroud Brewery, Stroud

Voice Squad
St Peter's Church, Kidderminster

A Petite Festival
Reet Petite, Leominster

Vehicle
White Hart, Redditch

Sunday 27 May 2018

The Lost Boys (3pm)
Ye Old Crown Inn, Stourport-On-Severn

Uncover: Monarchs, Junior Weeb, King Purple, Indigo Glitch
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Surie - Eurovision Unplugged
Palace Theatre, Redditch

Helta
Kempson Playing Fields Party in The Park, Bromyard

2Tone Revue
Horn & Trumpet, Bewdley

Dreams Of Fleetwood Mac
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Jon Townley
Windsor Castle Inn, Stourbridge

Silken Same
The Prince Albert, Stroud

56 SLAP MAY

Bryn Teeling
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

The Lodge
The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

The All Tones Band
The Ducker Bar, Leominster, Herefordshire

Shades Of Grey (4pm)
The Red Lion, Evesham

The Lost Boys
Ye Olde Crown, Stourport-On-Severn

East 17
Baker Street, Gloucester

Macca & Cross (3pm)
Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

The Blue Haze Quartet
Elmslie House, Malvern

Cheating Lights (1Pm)
Left Bank Village, Hereford

Liquor & Poker Band
Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Ben Vickers Collective (5:30pm)
The Chestnut, Worcester

Locked + Loaded (5pm)
The Imperial Tavern, Worcester

The Delray Rockets (2pm)
Upton Social Club, Upton Upon Severn

Wychwood
Broom Hall Inn, Alcester

Sugar Hill Gang
The Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Kent Duchaine & Leadbessie (4pm)
Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

A Petite Festival
Reet Petite, Leominster

Monday 28 May 2018

The River Rea Duo
The New Inn, Malvern

A Petite Festival
Reet Petite, Leominster

Jon Eselle
Albion House Club, Cheltenham

Ben Jones
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Tequila Mockingbird (3pm)
Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

Coat Of Many
Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Bank Holiday All Day Open Mic
The Queens Head, Wolverley

Luke Doherty Band, Bush Pilots, Krissy Mathews (2pm)
Richmond Place Club, Hereford

Tuesday 29 May 2018

Awfully Nice
The Tark, Gloucester

Wednesday 30 May 2018

Journey Man
Green Dragon, Malvern

Jeremy Huggett & Gethin Liddington The Chosen 5, Jeremy Huggett, Gethin Liddington, Richard West – Piano, Federico Leonori, Eddie John (8.00pm)
Pershore Jazz, Pershore Town FC, Pershore

Thursday 31 May 2018

Bluesman Mike Francis, Swampchamps
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Make Mine A Double
Smokey Joe's Coffee Bar, Cheltenham

Steve Ashley, Mike Weaver
Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

Kent Duchaine
Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

True Strays
The Prince Albert, Stroud

The Amorettes, Tequila Mockingbyrd
The Ironroad, Evesham

Three Halves Of A Duo
The Tank, Gloucester

Politically Incorrect - The Songs Of Tom Lehrer
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Terry Walls
The Oil Basin, Worcester

Pasadena Roof Orchestra
The Courtyard, Hereford

Slightly OCD
Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Leanne & King Rich
Tappeto Lounge, Kidderminster

Arts, Exhibitions & Cinema

- 3rd - I am John Clare, Almonry Museum. Evesham.
- 4th & 5th - Hereford River Carnival
- 5-7th May - Marches Makers Festival, Kingston
- 5th & 6th - Worcester Gin Festival, The Guildhall, Worcester
- 6th Elrow style club night 'Back To Ours' 7pm – 4am
Bedrock's Nick Muir, Stelios Vassiloudis and Luke Brancaccio
Residents Ryan McCormack, Kiz Pattison.
Birmingham's 'Tunnel Club'
- 7th - Marvellous Modroc sculpture workshop
Artists Workhouse, Studley
- 7th - 2th July - Green Lungs 2018. MAC, Birmingham
- 8th - Idle Women of the Waterways - The Fingerpost, Pelsall
- 8th-12th - David Walliams' Gangsta Granny The Courtyard Hereford
- 12th - Family Totem Workshop The Hive, Worcester. 11am-2pm.
- 13th - Steampunk & Vintage Spectacular Stourport Civic Centre
- 15th - 'Great Big Poetry Read'
Wallace House Community Centre, Evesham
- 17th - A Dolls House - Artrix Bromsgrove
- 18th - Poetry slam - Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

- 19th - The Damned United The Courtyard Hereford
- 20th - The Damned United Artrix Bromsgrove
- 22nd & 23rd - Disorder, a young people's mental health arts festival
Artrix Bromsgrove
- 23rd- 17th - June Mike Crockett: A Painter's View of the World
Artrix Bromsgrove
- 24th - I Claude Monet, Artrix Bromsgrove
- 24th & 25th - A Brave Face, The Swan Theatre, Worcester
- 25th May - Art show - Dare The Limits by Bonny Rose.
Music from Chloe Mogg, Ellie Williams & Connor Maher (Trio)
Paradiddles Café Music Bar, Worcester
- 25th – 3rd June - A Mile In My Shoes, Cathedral Square, Worcester
- 26th – 3rd June - 'The Art of the Fifties', Elmslie House, Malvern
- Until 9th - Pershore Arts - 'Passion for Art', Pershore No8.
- Until 20th- Invisible: A new look at M.E by Anne Nicholls.
Artrix Bromsgrove
- Until 31st - John Philips exhibition The Showell Gallery, Pershore
- Until 1st July - The Long Afternoon of Earth - Heather & Ivan Morison,
The Hive Worcester
- Until Dec 2019 - Look Look Look, NT Berrington Hall, Herefordshire

Early Summer Festivals

- 4-5 May Hereford River Carnival, see rivercarnival.org
- 4-6 May Upton Folk, Upton-upon-Severn uptonfolk.org
- 4-6 May KatieFest, Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge
- 4-7 May St Richard's Canal Festival Vines Park, Droitwich
- 4-6 May Big Love Festival Hay-on-Wye biglovefestival.co.uk
- 24-7 May Dubs in the Middle Ashdown Farm, Evesham see
dubsinthemiddle.co.uk

- 24-27 May Breaking Bands, Stoke Prior Sports & Country Club,
Bromsgrove, see breakingbandsfestival.com
- 24-31 May Hay Festival, Hay-on-Wye, see hayfestival.com
- 25-27 May Lechlade Festival, lechladefestival.co.uk
- 25-27 May Mello Festival, Hanley Castle mellofestival.co.uk
- 25-28 May HowTheLightGetsIn Hay-on-Wyehay.htlgi.lai.tv
- 25-27 May Jazz Stroud 2018, The Goods Shed, Stroud
- 26 May The Camp house inn Cider fest, Grimley
- 26-7 May Out to Grass, Woodend Farm, Bromyard Rd, Malvern
- 1-3 June Wychwood Festival, Cheltenham Racecourse

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WORCESTER



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Music Sessions/Open Mics

Every Monday - Open Mic/Jam Night

Cock & Magpie, Bewdley

Every Monday - Folk Night

Worley's, The Swan, Stourport

Every Monday night - Acoustic Night

The Rollin Hills Restaurant, Upton Upon Severn

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

First Tues - Jazz Night

Worley's The Swan, Stourport

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 other 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

Every Wednesday - No Poetry Open mic with Cheating Lights

The Garrison at the Grapes, Hereford

1st Wed Every Month - Sing/Playaround

The Talbot Hotel, Knightwick

Every Wed - Swan Sessions - Open Mic

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

Every Wed Music night - Andy Lindsay & Debbie Parry

The Green Dragon, Malvern

Fortnightly Wed Open Mic

The Queens Head, Redditch

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 Thurs - open mic hosted by Andy Lindsay

The Bakery Inn Malvern Link,

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 Thur - Open Mic Night/Jam Night

The Swan, Barbourne, Worcester

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 (8.15pm)

Bishop Allenby Hall, St Stephen's Church, Worcester

Every Friday - Open mic 7-9pm

Abbey Road Coffee, Great Malvern

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

MAY

Friday 4th 1st - 8:30pm

The Dead XIII |
Shadow Flag
FREE ENTRY

Saturday 5th - 9:30pm

The Fezz
FREE ENTRY

Friday 11th - 8:30pm

Battle of the bands:
Voodoo Stone | Hate.System
Vintage Inc | Ranstone
FREE ENTRY

Saturday 12th - 9:30pm

Drew 'N' Jez
FREE ENTRY

Saturday 19th - 9:30pm

The After Dark Band
FREE ENTRY

Sunday 20th - 8:30pm

The Toucans
FREE ENTRY

Friday 25th - 8:30pm

Codex Alimentarius |
Turbyne
FREE ENTRY

Saturday 26th - 9:30pm

A.C.E
FREE ENTRY

LIVE DJ
EVERY FRI/SAT NIGHT
UNTIL 3AM!

OPEN MIC
SECOND & LAST TUES
OF EVERY MONTH!

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Sunday 13th May
Bare Jams

THE MARRS BAR

MAY JUN 2018



Friday May 4

The Official Receivers

£8 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday May 5

U2 Baby (U2 tribute), Tash Hurdles

£8 in advance £10 on the door

Sunday May 6

Mappfest Warm Up

£4 in advance £5 on the door

Thursday May 10

Uncover: The Loved and Lost, Dead Agents, The Vergers, Meme Detroit

£5 in advance £7 on the door

Friday May 11

Faithful City Shows: InMe

£15 in advance

Saturday May 12

Jasper In The Company Of Others, Desert Boots, Connor Maher Quarter, Poppy WS

£7 in advance £10 on the door

Sunday May 13

The Task in Hand: Bare Jams, Capas

£6 in advance £8 on the door

Thursday May 17

Wreckless Eric

£8 in advance £10 on the door

Friday May 18

John Coghlan's Quo

£14 in advance £17 on the door

Saturday May 19

Led Hendrix, Soul Stripper

£8 in advance £10 on the door

Thursday May 24

The Harcourt Players (Live music to "The Goat" + "Pay Day")

£10 in advance

Friday May 25

UltramegaOK

£5 in advance £7 on the door

Saturday May 26

Bourbon Alley

£5 in advance £7 on the door

Sunday May 27

UnCover: Monarchs, Junior Weeb, King Purple, Indigo Glitch

£5 in advance £7 on the door

Thursday May 31

Bluesman Mike Francis, Swampchamps

£7 in advance £9 on the door

Friday June 1

Fury, 13 Black, Aramantus

£7 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday June 2

Moretallica (Metallica tribute)

£7 in advance £10 on the door

Sunday June 3

Lemonade Jazz/Funk/Soul session

£4 on the door

Friday June 8

Wrong Jovi (Bon Jovi tribute)

£7.50 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday June 9

Under A Banner

Thursday June 14

Cosmo Sheldrake, Split Milk Society

£8 in advance £10 on the door

Wednesdays - Jamming night - FREE entry

Late Fridays & Saturdays - Midnight till 4am

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