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Issue 84

Sep 2018

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Sep 2018 MAGAZINE

SLAP MAGAZINE

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magazine are not necessarily those of its publisher or editor.

Hello folks, If you thought the festival season was at an end, think again. This year's Worcester Music Festival is taking place from 14th – 16th of this month. Across the city some twenty venues open their doors for free over the three day music bonanza. Our front cover is from last year's WMF - Liberty Artillery's Jamie May at Drummonds.

As well as the usual haunts the festival organisers have some interesting new venues at their disposal; Paradiddles, The Earl (Boat), Circle Of Swords and the Henry Sandon Hall to name but a few.

SLAP Magazine are excited to be hosting another eclectic Saturday night at the Marris Bar with Birmingham's Ivory Wave, Johnny Kowalski & the Sexy WeirDOS, South Londons electro punks LegPuppy as well as local legends Nigel Clark and Vinny Perculiar.

Remember it's not just about the music, there's Comedy, Poetry and plenty for the kids. The full printed festival guide will be available from Saturday 8th September and organisers will be on a market stall on the High Street that day where you'll be able to pick up a copy and ask any questions.

In this issue we look back at three very different festivals; Lakefest, Old Bush Blues & Worcester Beer Festival as well as look forward to Bewdley Literary Festival, Cheltenham Paint Festival and the Ring as part of Canal & River Trust Arts on the Waterways. So if it's diversity you're after - we've got it!

Diverse-Ed



Jamie May of Liberty Artillery taken by Brendan Stephens at Drummonds, Worcester at the BBC Introducing stage at Worcester Music Festival 2017



Spotify

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Retro Rewind

More news on the retro front as the **Official Charts Company** says that the sale of music on cassette is up 90% from last year - with acts like Kylie, Green Day and Metallica releasing music in tape format - and if you've got a working 1979-ish original Walkman - they're now fetching over £500 on a popular online auction site!!

Doing Worcs Proud

Following last year's successful event **Worcestershire Pride** is returning for a second year on Saturday 22nd September, starting at 1pm with a city centre parade from Copenhagen Street. There'll once again be live music, cabaret, a family fun zone, markets and more! Organiser **Andre Oldfield** said while large metropolitan areas such as London, Birmingham and Manchester have an established LGBT support structure the aim of Worcester Pride was to provide a platform and resources for our 'more rural' area. If you're interested in helping or sponsoring email info@worcestershirepride.org

A Fitting Tribute

Tributes have been paid locally and nationally to **Donald Hunt**, who served as chorus master and organist at **Worcester Cathedral** for 20 years, principal at the **Elgar School of Music** and was artistic director and conductor with the **Three Choirs Festival**. He was taught and mentored by one of Elgar's own associates - and the final performance at this year's **Three Choirs Festival at Hereford Cathedral** was dedicated to his memory.

Blink and They're Gone

A 'look Mum we're on TV' moment for Hereford punksters **Hide Your Eyes** as they featured on **BBC1's Midlands Today** when the Beeb crew and reporters turned up at **Lakefest** on the Friday evening **BBC Introducing** stage. Not all great news though, as a week or so later the band announced they were 'going their separate ways' - ahh rock 'n' roll...

New Blood Required

A slight crisis in Ledbury as the **'Ledfest' Ledbury Carnival** organisers are issuing an appeal for new committee members to assist in the planning and running of next year's event due to many long-standing members retiring after this year's AGM in the autumn. The event has been running since the 1970s and anyone interested in joining the team for its 45th year should phone 07779-432289

Arts Fest with Pride

In conjunction with **Worcestershire Pride** (see above!) there'll also be a four-day queer arts festival of theatre, fine art, poetry, film, live art and workshops run and organised by the **Provisional Act Theatre Company** at venues including **The Hive, Arts Workshop, Heroes Bar, Velvet, Paradiddles** and **The Quay** from Tuesday 18th to Saturday 22nd September - more at oitsartsfestival.weebly.com

Learn from the Best

There'll be opportunities for upcoming artists to learn about songwriting and writing, reading and appreciating poetry at this year's **Worcester Music Festival** from September 14-16, when local ace-guy **Nigel Clark** of 90's outfit **Dodgy** will host a workshop in lyric and melody writing - and former Birmingham poet laureate **Giovanni 'Spoz' Esposito** will run a **'Poetry Out Loud'** masterclass - details at worcestermusicfestival.co.uk/workshops

Mask Wearing Youths

Worcester-based **Vamos Theatre** which specialises in full-mask wordless performances is looking to develop its **Youth Theatre** profile further during September. Vamos currently works with local education providers with very positive results, performing at local venues such as the **Swan Theatre, Bromsgrove Artrix** and **Malvern Theatres** - as well as touring nationally and internationally - if you're aged between 13-21 and 'love theatre' more details via email vyt@vamos theatre.co.uk

No More Mr Nice Guy

Sad to report the passing of veteran **DJ Rick 'Rick the K' Bowen** who was well known as a thoroughly 'nice guy' always ready with a story of his pioneering adventures on the Corfu summer nightclub scene in the 70s and 80s - a chap of character who'll be much missed...

Biggefest

Courtyard Music is holding their annual charity festival, **Biggefest**, on Saturday 16th September at the **New Tardebigge Pub, Redditch**, raising money for **McMillan Cancer Care** Support. There will be food and drink, face painting and various performances from acts including **Ant Hill Mob, Fishheads, Sugarmama, Stu Woolfenden** and many more. Tickets are £10 for adults, £5 for 10 to 16-year olds and free for under 10s and available from **Courtyard Music** or **Vintage Trax, Headless Cross**.

Woo Hoo!

Congratulations to **Woo Fest** which this year broke its own record and raised over £12,000 for **St Richards Hospice** at the **Drum & Monkey** pub near Upton. Over 500 people attended over the weekend and for the second year running, two stages were in operation to allow continuous music throughout!



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WANT**

**22nd September to
24th November 2018**

Open MON-SAT 10.30am – 4.30pm

Artworks by Mark Titchner and Gillian Wearing alongside the Museum's historical collection of satirical and political prints.

Also discover street level artwork in locations across the city produced by Mark Titchner working with Worcester residents.



**Worcester City
Art Gallery & Museum**

Foregate Street, Worcester WR1 1DT

01905 25371 • www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk

MUSEUMS 
WORCESTERSHIRE



I'm feeling my feet on the floor again after a mammoth summer of festivals and events. **Clik Clik** had a super response from the public getting out and about at **Boomtown Fair** and **Green Man Festival** as well as **Kidderminster Arts Festival** last month.



Photo: Hella Phoenix

Now its time to focus on the autumn and next up for me is **Worcester Music Festival**. I'll be promoting two events this year, Friday 14th at **St Swithun's** featuring **The Stiff Joints**, **The Pink Diamond Revue** and funky vibes from **7Suns** and **Copper Feel**. Plus **Rob Williams** spinning some tunes. Then sun 16th daytime

at the **Worcester Arts Workshop** with **Play it Again Dan**, **Kringo Blue & Poppy WS** and **Collective 43**. This is a family friendly day of music and fun so get along from 12.

I'm also curating a night on sat 29th Sept at the **Marrs Bar** Worcester, in collaboration with **The Woo Town Hillbillies**. You can see them, **Collective 43**, and **The Harcourt Players** bringing some live film score to the mix. Of course there will be some playful **Clik Clik** goings on too, so grab a ticket! £5.

clikclikcollective.com

Say bye to the Giraffes!



This month is your last chance to see the beautiful and colourful giraffes dotted around Worcester landmarks around the city. Worcester Stands Tall is out and about until 16th September!

Pop-Up

Earlier this year, local artist **Jilly Oxlade Arnott** of Architectural Impressions (Archiimp) launched a great new **Pop-Up Gallery** Initiative to create temporary art spaces in unoccupied buildings and to provide new artists with support services to help them display, promote and sell their work. The next Pop-Up Gallery will take place at **16 The Hopmarket** on Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 September (during Worcester Music Festival). The venue will be open 10am-5pm each day. For more information visit <https://architecturalimpressions.uk>



h.art

Herefordshire's fabulous art event, "**h.Art**", is nearly upon us and all over the county artists, crafters and makers are preparing their work spaces for the **Open Studios** event this month from 8th to 16th.

Kington, nestled in the Welsh Marches, has artists from both sides of the border taking part, showcasing a whole range of creativity. A total of 38 artists and makers will be exhibiting their work in individual studios and venues. Aside from the studios, you can see artists in the **Old Police Station**, the **Made in the Marches Gallery** and in **St David's Church, Colva**.

For more info: www.h-art.org.uk

Workhouse workshops

The Artist Workhouse in Studley has some exciting new workshops coming up this month, so hop over and get creative.



Experimental Drawing Workshop

A rigorous day of drawing tuition designed to push your skills to the next level, including composition, measuring, perspective and mark making, with exercises to free up your hand and mind!

All abilities welcome. Sat 8th

Spinning Ring Workshop

Learn new skills to make your very own sterling silver, or sterling silver and copper spinning ring. During this course you will make four rings in total and learn how to combine them into one stunning spinning ring. Beginners' welcome. Sat 15th.

Portraits in sculpture

Explore how to depict the face in 3D, using various materials and techniques both traditional and modern. Sun 23rd

Artists Workhouse, The Royal Victoria Works, Studley, Warwickshire B80 7AU

For more info and to book, go to: artistsworkhouse.com

Dancefest

After a jam-packed and lively summer of events, working with thousands of people across Worcestershire and Herefordshire, **Dancefest** is getting ready for autumn, and really looking forward to welcoming new faces and regulars to its next term of weekly classes, which starts on Mon 17th Sept.

Whether you're looking for a dance class for fun and fitness, to meet new people, to develop your dance skills, or if you'd like to take part in performances, Dancefest have a wide range of classes for all ages. There are dance clubs for children, *Contemporary Technique* and *Ballet Barre* for 18+, and lots of *Chance to Dance* classes for people aged 55 and over - so why don't you go along and give one a try!

Their youth dance companies in Worcester and Hereford for 10-18 year olds, and *Gifted and Talented* groups for 7-11 year olds in Tenbury and Worcester, are all auditioning for new members in the first week of term at their usual class times. It's free to audition and you don't need to prepare anything - you can just go along and take part in class. They're all part of Dancefest's youth dance programme, which supports and nurtures young dancers and choreographers through all stages of dance training.



Dancefest's community performance companies - its inclusive *Jigsaw Performance Company* for disabled and non-disabled dancers aged 16+, and *Chance to Dance Company* for experienced dancers aged 50+, will be taking new members in September and they'll be working on a whole range of performance projects throughout the year, often in unusual and outdoor spaces.

There's an early bird discount if you book and pay online before the start of term, so check out dancefest.co.uk to see everything on offer - or give them a call on 01905 611199 - they'd love to see you!

Cheltenham Paint Festival Sept 8th & 9th

The return of **Cheltenham Paint Festival** will see more than 100 street artists flock to the spa town this month.

Last year's event attracted around 80 of the country's top urban artists and saw the **North Place** car park, **Lower High Street** and other locations filled with art.

Now in its second year, the main festival will be held on the weekend of Sept 8th & 9th, though the larger-scale works will start to pop up from 3rd. Festival director **Andy "Dice" Davies** revealed around 12 "huge" new walls, which will go up as well as a redo of some spots from last year.

Cheltenham's paint festival is the latest addition to the Cheltenham festivals calendar, which brings high-quality artwork from leading national and international street artists to the town centre.



This year's headliner is Californian **Beau Stanton** who will paint the side of the Bayshill. He is known for his murals and large-scale installations. As a Detroit artist-in-residency, he used remnants of the city's architectural history to create 80,000 tesserae which he turned into a collection of mosaics.

Mr Davies said: "I am thrilled to have secured Beau Stanton as the headline artist for this year's paint festival. It's a major coup for the town to attract such an artist."

Other artists include **My Dog Sighs**, **SPZero**, **N4T4**, **Philth** and **p0g0**, **Wasp Elder**, **Snub23**, **Roo**, and **Mr Feeney** and international headliners **Nol** from the Netherlands and **Chinagirl Tile** from Austria.

With around 100 artists, 25 locations, children's art workshops, and live music and dance in **The Brewery Quarter** there will be a lot to see and do.

cheltenhampaintfestival.co.uk



Beau Stanton

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

Jacob and Drinkwater Kim Lowings - Rachel Howles

Friday 7 September - 7.30 - Tickets £12 (£5 Under 18)

It's been a tremendous year so far for attendees to the Music in the Hall sessions with some outstanding moments that will live long in the memory.

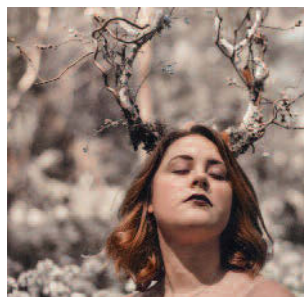
The Autumn programme promises to maintain that standard, and we venture to suggest that it may even raise the bar a bit higher!

On Friday 7th we welcome one of the hottest folk duos in the UK. **Tobias Ben Jacob** and **Lukas Drinkwater (Jacob and Drinkwater)** whose dynamic live set was recently likened to the classic pairing of John Martyn and Danny Thompson (on stage that is - not necessarily the off-stage antics!)



Lukas has performed at St George's Hall twice with Emily Barker and has knocked us out with his playing and musicianship and when we were offered the chance to be part of their Waters of England UK tour we jumped at it!

Also on the bill we feature a fantastic musician from Stourbridge who will be familiar to many of you with her band the Greenwood, and who has recently completed a project with Lukas Drinkwater. Tonight **Kim Lowings** is appearing in a duo and we are very pleased to have her performing in the Hall.



The line up is completed by one half of the holder of the current Wyre Forest Young Musician of the Year: the ultra-talented **Rachel Howles**.

This is going to be a really first rate night - see you on the 7th!

Doors Open: 7.30 pm.

Tickets at £12 or £5 under 18 are available in advance at the St George's Hall Cafe or online from thehall-bewdley.org.uk or <http://musicinthehall.co.uk>.

musicinthehall.co.uk

Coming Up (Details and Tickets on the website)

Friday 28th Sept: **Chastity Brown with Teddy Matthews**

Friday 9th Nov: **Lynne Hanson and The Good Intentions**

Friday 7th Dec: **Les Triaboliques**



Not just music at WMF

As well as a packed musical line-up with more than 200 acts, the festival will also host comedy and spoken word at brand new venue **Henry Sandon Hall**.

Friday night will feature some favourites from promoter **ComedyJAM**, including **Celya AB** about whom Joe Lycett has said, "I was shocked and appalled by Celya's sharp and annoyingly observant gags. An exciting and promising writer." Celya will be joined by **Danny Clives** ("Hilarious" - Lenny Henry) and **Good**



Kids who were described as having "Fantastically original material that shows a great creative talent" by The Metropolist.

The Saturday night will host acts from 7pm including **Joe Norris**, who will be bringing his simultaneously self-deprecating and slightly cocky style to the hall, winding his audiences up and then (usually) winning them back at the last minute. Joe will be followed by Swindon based **Scott Cowley**, aka **Rusty Goat the Poet** who has been making a big splash in the nationwide poetry pool for some time now, and then **Luke Steele**, a Worcestershire poet whose soulful style broaches the subjects of family and friends, love and loss and the true meaning of the word home. In a complete change of pace, former Grime MC **Dave Dunwell** hits us hard at 8.30pm. Headlining, we have **Jack Crowe**, a Birmingham based poet who fuses the surreal and the philosophical with a whimsical, almost hypnotic style. Definitely not to be missed.

Hummingbirds, Whale Song and some Serious Ear Worms at Artrix

On Sunday 16th September 2pm, prepare to be bamboozled by fascinating animal facts and wowed by some seriously catchy ear worms as Artrix welcomes the family friendly show, **Ensonglopedia of Animals**.

Featuring twenty-six animal songs, one for each letter of the alphabet, **Ensonglopedia of Animals** gets to grips with fascinating facts about extraordinary echinoderms, distressed damselflies, crazy corals, batty birds and amazing arachnids.



Suitable for audiences aged 5 to 105, any intrepid animal explorers journeying to Artrix to see this fascinating show should expect the unexpected - and expect it to rhyme!

This is the brand-new 70 minute long show from John Hinton, multi-award-winning creator of the 'Scientrilogy' of musical comedies about Charles Darwin, Albert Einstein and Marie Curie. **Ensonglopedia of Animals** is the follow-up to his hit show **Ensonglopedia of Science** which was nominated for a Children's Choice Award at Brighton Fringe 2017.

Tickets £9 and £7 for under 16s. To book online www.artrix.co.uk or Box Office on 01527 577 330. It's the perfect back to school treat for any budding young naturalists!

Echoes / I Imagine – double bill

The Courtyard, Hereford | Wed 12th Sept

Aakash Odedra is set to take **The Courtyard** stage this September for his latest solo double bill **Echoes / I Imagine**. Born in Birmingham, Aakash Odedra originally trained in Kathak and **Bharat Natyam** with world-renowned choreographers. He now creates original dance work using a distinctive movement style inspired by South Asian classical dance, contemporary dance and collaboration.

Echoes is a high-octane Kathak dance experience created by Kathak icon **Aditi Mangaldas** who is renowned for her artistry,

energy and for breaking new ground. *I Imagine* is a more immediate and political work; fierce and funny, melancholic and moving

It uses movement, text and a few simple props to explore the immigrant experience.

7.30pm. £15/£12
01432 340555 or visit www.courtyard.org.uk



The Dasilva Marionette Circus Troupe

The Courtyard, Hereford | Sat 29th Sept

Be amazed by aerial acrobatics, spectacular stunts, ups, downs, and cheeky clowns, **The DaSilva Marionette Circus Troupe** has been delighting audiences of all ages, around the world, for almost half a century. Each of the marionettes has been individually crafted to perform its own feat of dazzling dexterity, on the big top stage. This traditional family show has been brought right up to date with all the thrills and spills of a real-life circus. Originally constructed by **Â Ray** and **Joan DaSilva**, the show has been resurrected by their son **Nik Palmer**, an award winning puppeteer, and **Sarah Rowland-Barker**, former circus performer with **Snapdragon** and **No Fit State Circus**.



This 45 minute show uses no less than 18 beautifully crafted trick marionettes and integrates the puppeteers into the circus performance, creating a buoyant and memorable piece of theatre for all ages.

11am. £7.50 01432 340555 or visit www.courtyard.org.uk

Ocean Film Festival

The Ocean Film Festival World Tour is back for 2018, bringing an evening of inspirational ocean-themed films to more than 35 locations across the UK and Ireland in September and October.



This brand-new selection of films features seafaring adventurers rowing treacherous oceans, intrepid surfers riding the world's biggest waves, and explores our planet's spectacular hidden depths.

Now in its fifth year, 2018's UK Tour is the biggest yet and it's also first time the Tour has visited Ireland. To find out more visit www.oceanfilmfestival.co.uk.

"We're really excited that more people than ever before will be able to celebrate their love of the ocean with our largest tour to date!" says Tour Director Nell Teasdale.

The Ocean Film Festival World Tour began in Australia, with the aim of inspiring people to explore, respect, enjoy and protect the oceans. There are screenings all over the UK including this month:

8th Malvern Forum Theatre
12th Leamington Spa, Royal Spa Centre
25th Cheltenham Town Hall
26th Shrewsbury Theatre Severn

Suz Winspear

It's September already! It feels as though it was only a few weeks ago that I was watching the first spring flowers growing and changing day by day . . . and now it's September, and Autumn is on its way and the year is winding down . . . I don't know how other creative people feel, but for me, the transitional seasons of Spring and Autumn, when the day-length and the weather are in constant change, are the most inspiring and exciting times of



the year, the times when the ideas and inspiration start flowing – Summer and Winter are really boring and unproductive by comparison!

Hope you'll all have an inspiring Autumn, and here are some Spoken Word events for September...

Thursday 13th – SpeakEasy at Waylands Yard - Poetry from a wide range of local poets. (Yes, we're indoors now!) Our featured performer this month is **Kevin Brooke**, winner of this year's **LitFest Flash Fiction** slam. Kevin writes fabulous short stories and flashes, and also novels for young adults, so we can expect some lively storytelling and entertainment. Open mic slots available on a first-come, first-served basis. They're popular, so get there early. £3 admission, 7.30pm.

Sunday 16th – Poetry Out Loud with **Spoz** at the **WMF** - A workshop for young people, encouraging reading, writing, performing and enjoying poetry! **Spoz** is an inspiring performance-poet, and this workshop is going to be fun – it'll incorporate music, rap, and all the ways to get pleasure from words – I wish I was young enough to take part! **Angel Centre** 1pm – further details from the Worcester Music Festival.

Thursday 20th – 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 featured performer for September is **Anna Saunders**, bastion of the **Cheltenham Poetry Festival**! I haven't heard her performing for a while, so I'm looking forward to hearing her latest work! £3 admission. 6.30 – 8.30pm

Wednesday 26th – 42 at Drummonds Bar **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 . . . There will be a theme to the evening, and sometimes people keep to the theme . . . You never know what you might see and hear at 42 . . . Free entry. 7.30pm.

Suz Winspear

What Do We Want? Work by top UK artists come to Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum

For its upcoming autumn exhibition, **Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum** is bringing together works from the Museum's historic collection of satirical and political prints along with artworks by contemporary British artists **Mark Titchner** and **Gillian Wearing**. **What Do We Want?** explores ordinary people's voices against a world of corporate and political messages. It opens on 22nd September and runs until 24th November 2018.

Wearing and Titchner are known for their works which provide powerful commentary on everyday perceptions of who we think we are and what we want, explored through forms of expression associated with personal and political language.

The exhibition will be complemented by new, street-level works of art around the city, created by **Mark Titchner** in collaboration with Worcester residents, including representatives from Worcester's homeless community. The new artworks are inspired by Titchner's 2006 work **The Invisible Republic** (on loan as part of the exhibition).

What Do We Want? is free and open Monday – Saturday 10.30am – 4.30pm. For more information contact the **Art Gallery and Museum** on 01905 25371 OR visit www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk or follow @worcestermuseum

Join a Walk and Talk with artist Mark Titchner on Saturday 22nd September 11.30am – 12.30pm to follow the trail of artworks

around Worcester City. Tickets are £8 per person, and can be booked at the Art Gallery desk or call 01905 25371.

www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk





worcester arts workshop

The time is NOW!

As many of you know **Worcester Arts Workshop** has recently entered a period of big transformation. We're making changes to everything! From our building to our programming we're aiming big. Our vision is to make WAW the City's leading arts venue with a wider outreach programme to support emerging artists and young people all across the county.

So this month we're trying something a little different – we're handing the reins over to our **Director of Transformation Hannah Phillips** so she can share her thoughts and ideas. Plus Hannah's kicking off our **Community Engagement** campaign because we want to hear from YOU!

Hannah - what drew you to the role as Director of Transformation?

WAW is oozing with potential! Even the building has a soul! It's right in the heart of the City, and Worcester has a growing, vibrant arts scene that I'm excited to support. The whole team behind WAW are passionate about the organisation, that's why they've put in a huge amount of work already to get to this transformation period and to kick off a capital campaign for development. If ever there was a time to get involved with WAW it is now!

What has been your experience so far?

I've been struck by how much people care and are invested in the arts centre, particularly the wonderful volunteers we work with who all have a wide range of passions and skills. WAW has a rich heritage of innovative outreach work and community arts engagement which I'm excited about returning to and building on.

What is the vision for the future of WAW?

We are staying open and will continue to run classes and events while we go through our process of transformation. Our ambition is to be an inclusive arts and learning centre for a diverse future generation of artists, audiences, participants and young people in Worcester. We are particularly keen to support and develop emerging talent and we want to work with young people with a focus on vulnerable, marginalised and hard to reach individuals

and communities. We are keen to develop interesting partnerships and collaborations and are also looking to fuse art forms with a particular interest in urban street arts and digital arts. We will be kicking off a capital campaign to develop the building so we have a versatile and accessible space which is suitable for a diverse range of arts practices and people.



How can people / artists get involved?

Complete our Community Engagement survey! We want hear from as many people in the community as possible about what they want from the future at WAW. What classes / events / services do people want from us? The survey takes around 10 minutes. You can complete it online by visiting our website or our Facebook or Twitter profiles. You can also complete a paper copy at the workshop. Or you can email your thoughts and ideas for our future to future@worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk

I am really keen to meet with local emerging and established artists to discuss future opportunities and collaborations. If you want to get involved, please email directly at

hannah.phillips@worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk

What can we expect from the next few months at WAW?

We're excited to be hosting events for Worcester Music Festival again from 14th to 16th September. We are hosting our Autumn term of arts classes as usual – all of which can be booked online.

New events in our programming include Open Mic Nights and Family Raves so keep a look out on our social media for news.

And we are also currently taking bookings for private hire for gigs, events, children's birthday parties and team away days including the very atmospheric "Vaults". You can find out more by emailing info@worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk

marketing@worcesterartsworkshop.org Tel: 01905 25053

The Herefordshire's a Great Place team is encouraging people from all over Herefordshire to apply, especially people and groups who might find it difficult to cover the costs themselves.

Lauren Rogers, from the Great Place team said: *"Over the past nine months we've spoken to hundreds of creative people and local arts and heritage groups doing fantastic work in the county.*

If we can help them gain new skills and knowledge by supporting them to visit the best cultural initiatives the UK has to offer, we are going to see a wave of fresh ideas and projects springing up here in Herefordshire."

Everyone who receives a bursary will have to showcase and share what they've learned when they return from their trip.

"By asking everyone to share their findings, we all play a part in helping Herefordshire's creative and culture economy grow," said Lauren.

The Go & See Bursary scheme is now open. To find out more call 01432 344039 or apply online visit www.goandseebursaries.com.

New bursary to support the growth of arts and heritage in Herefordshire

People from Herefordshire are being encouraged to visit pioneering arts and heritage projects around the UK so they can make a difference back at home.

Herefordshire's a Great Place has launched the **Go & See Bursary** scheme to support the exchange of new ideas, knowledge and skills. By funding research trips to ground-breaking cultural initiatives around the UK, the scheme will help the county's creative and cultural scene flourish.

There are 30 bursaries of between £300 and £500 available. Anyone who works or volunteers in the arts or heritage sector can apply and the bursary will cover the cost of travel and accommodation.



The Human Voice Comes to a Yurt in Ledbury



Starting on Thursday the 6th of September with the ethereal sounds of **Excelsa Voces**. The **Nest** in Ledbury will be celebrating



the human voice, on each Thursday in September, in a series of four eclectic concerts known as the **"Nest Of Voices."** Each concert will take place in a marvellously large yurt at the venue on the Hereford Road at **Little Verzens Farm**.



Excelsa Voces performances are an immersive experience, seamlessly blending medieval and contemporary music to create soundscapes that delight. The concerts continue with a comedy a capella quadruplet, **'Men in General'** on the 13th. Men in General mix a capella classics with comedy, advice on relationships, home baking and the tender side of man creating a humorous and moving effect. Shanty specialists, **'The Longest Johns'** from Bristol, perform on the 20th mixing traditional folk with shanties and Maritime songs. The Nest of Voices culminates with the big sounds of the **Hereford Soul Choir** on the 27th of September. The Hereford Soul Choir offer vibrant vocals, fresh and funky harmonies and promise a dynamic and entertaining production to lift the spirits.

More information and tickets are available from www.nestofvoices.co.uk by phone from 01531-670816 or direct from the café at The Nest, Little Verzens Farm, Hereford Rd, Ledbury HR8 2PZ. Email enquiries oliver@ocsingstheblues.co.uk

Tickets for all of the nights are £12 or £20 to include buffet supper with multi-night discounts available. Under 14's accompanied by an adult £3 (£11 with supper). Tickets limited to 100 per night so book early. There will be a full bar.



Lucy McLauchlan Opening the Floodgates

Internationally acclaimed street artist **Lucy McLauchlan** is the latest contributor to **The Ring** - a major arts programme for Worcestershire that celebrates the rebirth of the region's canals and rivers.

The project, run by the **Canal & River Trust**, has seen 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 this year.



Lucy's work *Opening the Floodgates* will see her create an epic 92 metre long temporary mural, expected to be completed in October, along the edge of the **Diglis Oil Basin** near Diglis Dock Road.

With help of the **Canal & River Trust** Lucy has explored inside the basin using

an underwater camera to document previously unseen life hidden below, such as molluscs, zebra mussels, fresh water sponges and various colourful lichen living on the vibrant orange rusted metal piles that line the basin. Inspired by this underwater ecology and the stories of the people who have, and continue to, live and work on the waterways, the mural will be revealed by the changing water levels and varying reflections onto water. It has been designed so that anyone visiting the area will be able to see it from the walkways around the basin. Worcestershire based sound artist **Sam Underwood** will also be working alongside Lucy to create a series of interactive acoustic installations, activities and sound walks which will encourage visitors to pay closer attention to the soundscape of the waterways.



1st Bewdley Festival Literary Day

St Georges Hall, Saturday 29th Sept.

Two weeks before the main **Bewdley Festival** begins on the 12th October, the organisers have set up a Literary Day to take place on the 29th September at **St Georges Hall**. They hope to recreate this event every quarter from now on to expand the festival, and this first offering features three prominent writers with a mixture of global and local fame: **Stuart Maconie**, **Gill Paul** and **Fen Flack**

Beginning at 11am **Fen Flack** will be "completing the trilogy," as the final book in her Ironside narrative is finished. In this instalment Edmund Ironside's grandchildren, Margaret and Edgar, face the conquering Normans in this final novel which weaves fact and fiction. Were the battles in the story mirrored by battles in the publishing? Heather investigates her writing struggles alongside the struggles of her characters in a must-see talk.

The afternoon session begins at 2.00pm when, together with a serving of tea and cakes, best selling author **Gill Paul** will take the stage. Gill is an author of historical fiction, specialising in relatively recent history. Her new novel: *Another Woman's Husband*, links Wallis Simpson, later Duchess of Windsor and Diana Princess of Wales, in way you may never have expected. Her previous novel: *The Secret Wife* tells the story of the romance between



cavalry officer Dmitri Malama and Grand Duchess Tatiana, the second daughter of Russia's last tsar. Her works are varied and cover subject matter as expansive as the relationship between Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor to the lives of two sisters during the Crimean War of 1854–56. Gill also writes non fiction and her diverse writing talents are a pleasure to behold.



The first Literary day at the Bewdley Festival concludes at 8.00pm with **Stuart Maconie**. Stuart's career is well known; he is a radio presenter, author, critic and television personality. In October 2016, Maconie walked 300 miles from Jarrow to London retracing the famous Jarrow Crusade, 80 years on. Stuart is a bestselling author of travel, culture and social history books as well as one of Britain's best known radio presenters across many BBC networks. Currently a star of BBC Radio 6 alongside his co-host Mark Radcliffe, Stuart Maconie is a well loved icon of the British Music industry.

The main Bewdley Festival opens on Friday October 12th with an amazing line up including former Fine Young Cannibals front-man **Roland Gift** at **The Bewdley Mecure Hotel**. Tickets are available for the three individual events on-line from bewdleyfestival.org.uk

Lucy's large-scale monochromatic paintings have been exhibited in galleries, museums and festivals across the globe, creating work using a 'one-take' philosophy that rejects extensive preparation using digital tools.

Her commissions have adorned multi-story buildings worldwide, from Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas. Within the UK, Lucy infamously created the '*Todo es posible!*' mural in 2010 on the outside of the former brutalist **Birmingham Central Library**, while four of her works are in the **Victoria & Albert Museum** permanent collection.

Lucy McLauchlan said: "My studio in Birmingham is based on the canal. I've witnessed its lure as an escape and quiet space for many people. My immediate environment is a huge inspiration in my work. From my previous project painting murals along the canal-side in Birmingham, I got to know the waterway by canoe. Being on the water gave me a different and new appreciation of the canal. I'm looking forward to discovering the waters of Worcestershire, getting to know its communities and involving local people in the commission. I'm working in their 'back garden', so it's important they have the chance to get involved and feel a sense of ownership to this artwork."

Steve Lazarides, (former gallerist to Banksy), has represented Lucy McLauchlan since 2007. He comments: "Watching Lucy at work on her large-scale murals is fascinating. Lucy is one of the few female street artists who have successfully managed to make a name for themselves. It'll be great to see how she approaches

this new commission and bring her work to new audiences."

The Ring is a part of the **Canal & River Trust's Arts on the Waterways** programme and is funded by **Arts Council England**, **Canal & River Trust** together with support from local authorities, trusts and foundations. For full details please visit www.theringart.org.uk or follow @TheRingWorcs on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram or sign up to our e-news.

For more information about Lucy McLauchlan visit: <http://lucy.beat13.co.uk/>



Preview

Cube Shuffle - Free Family Event Saturday 8th September 12pm – 6pm

All stalls, food and bar are CASH ONLY.

A chilled Malvernese Saturday afternoon featuring LIVE music, **Carnival Records** vinyl DJs along with local ale, cider and food from the NEW **Garden Cube Cafe**. Plus arty-crafty stalls and stuff for the kids! Come along, no need to book tickets.... Various artist and bands playing during the event.

MUSIC of the day includes **Amoeba Teen** // **Dave Onions** // **The Nelson Brothers** // **Chris Lomas** // **Dead Dad's Club** // **Cello'Scool** - **Julia Palmer-Price** // **The Hills Angels**

The LATE sHuFFle Saturday 8th September 8pm - Late

This year we're extending the event into the evening with '**The LATE sHuFFle**' featuring **Arcadia Roots** and **Skewwhiff**. Tickets £5 (2 for 1 advance offer) available from The Cube Garden Cafe, Malvern Tourist Information, Carnival Records and www.malverncube.com

In response to the recent fire at the Malvern Cube, all proceeds will go towards the refurbishment of the backstage kitchen and Green Room. Any contributions will be gratefully received.

The Malvern Cube hosts a variety of clubs, groups and events throughout the year, encouraging a community spirit. Some of the events we put on appeal a wider audience, therefore investing in the local economy when people visit the town. The CUBE sHuFFle is a celebration of everything we do and a chance to raise awareness of 'What's On' and how to get involved. Please share the date and invite the whole family :-)

Merry Hell + Folklaw Saturday 22nd September 7pm-9pm

Merry Hell is a band founded on their ever-evolving Folk tradition music made by people and shared by the people. They will be performing songs from the new album "Anthems To The Wind", as well as playing brand new material and classics from the previous albums.



Folklaw will be performing as well at this amazing gig. Folklaw's music will get your feet tapping, your mind thinking and festival feet jumping. Folklaw's energised and engaging stage performance has led to them being described as "one of the most exciting acts to grace the stage"

PLEASE NOTE: This **Merry Hell + Folklaw** gig is happening before another gig in the same venue (Paris Monster). Therefore doors will shut at 9pm with a quick turnaround on stage. Music for the second gig starts at 930pm. If you would like to attend both gigs, this will be possible with an additional increase of admission on the door. See www.malverncube.com for more information



Cash bar will be available on the night

Tickets in Advance £11.00/ OTD £13.00

14 SLAP SEPTEMBER



Paris Monster Saturday 22nd September

New York alt duo based in the UK by popular demand - you've seen them go viral....now catch them LIVE!

Beat-driven, employing heavy elements of funk and soul, **Paris Monster** closes the gaps between synth-pop & garage; between modern detail and old-school grit. Solid earth. Soaring soundscapes.

Lesley Keller of Pancakes & Whiskey said, *"Each time I see them perform I'm dumbfounded at just how great they are". Paris Monster's live show is something to behold. The challenge when seeing them live is getting past the fact that there are only two people creating all that sound. Two people. A drum set. A bass. A keyboard. A euro rack modular synth. One microphone. And all that sound. Beyond this visual impossibility is a careful and deliberate balance of sounds, colours, and textures. Melodies to serve a story. Chaos to destroy preciousness. Blues-folk that's both hypnotic and engaging."*

Tickets in Advance £8.00 930-11pm

Northern Soul and DJ Tamla Night Saturday 29th September

Top specialist Northern Soul & Tamala Motown DJ's take to decks spinning the top tunes and rare vinyl records from the genre for the true Northern Soul and Tamala lover!

You'll know the DJ's from the scene and the tunes from your youth, come and join this, the first of a series of Northern Soul nights on the new rejuvenated best dancing floor in Malvern!

Advance tickets: £5.00/OTD £7.00 7pm till late

Los Pacaminos (Paul Young) Saturday 6th October

Los Pacaminos featuring **Paul Young** is one of the UK's most popular live touring bands. Los Pacaminos play the very best in Tex Mex border music from The Texas Tornadoes and Ry Cooder to Los Lobos and even Roy Orbison.

This is a tequila fuelled Tex Mex party night, as each venue becomes the perfect cantina setting for a great night's rocking with the cactus sharp, tequila filled, stetson wearing, magnificent 6, Los Pacaminos!!!

TICKETS £20adv available from The Cube Garden Cafe, Malvern Tourist Information, Carnival Records and www.malverncube.com



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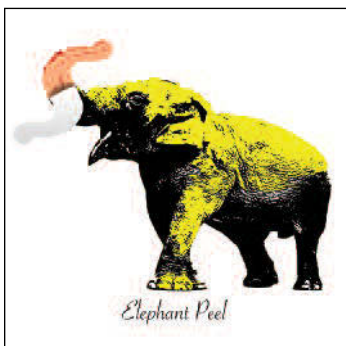
Elephant Peel | Universal Stream

What if the Kinks had written songs about the price of cheese? **Elephant Peel** are a delicious Garage rock band from Worcester whose latest release offers a tongue-in-cheek view on the everyday and the unreal.

The EP opens with, title track, 'Universal Stream' a surreal take on a love story in which a hologram finds romance. The song starts with a classic unrequited love theme, but its dreamlike qualities keep the listener captivated. The opening lyrics "looked into your eyes, everything was looking fine. You couldn't see me 'cause I was just an entity" and catchy chorus "shine a light through me" feel like they should fit the classic stoner rock love song pattern, but there is no trace of formula here. **Elephant Peel** feel funny and a little self deprecating with their fresh take on a well trodden road.

'Cheese' is by far my favourite song on the EP. It investigates the horror of a substandard packed lunch as "the price of cheese has

got you on your knees." The song has a slight sixties' vibe to it and the retro production seems to take its inspiration from the Rock and Roll your dad listens to. You can actually feel the band enjoying themselves during the wordless "la la la" chorus. The sense of whimsy is infectious.



The next track, hilariously entitled 'Bob Dylan's Bruise,' sees a harmonica thrown into the mix, which feels so fitting for a band who span so many genres and decades. The track tempo feels like a song to dance to which is completely juxtaposed to the lyrical content of the singer losing his mind. The lyrical lament "oh what a thing to do, lose it over you, when I knew exactly what you'd do" skirts around mild depression, whilst twangy bending guitar riffs make happy major chords. It feels like the ups and downs of most doomed relationships, all combined into one song.

The EP closes with "Explain Lorraine" which seems considerably heavier than the rest of the album, but still maintains the lilting vocals and bouncy tempos that fill the rest of the release. **Elephant Peel** have a clear sense of style, allowing them to produce an EP which all fits into one cohesive musical offering whilst jumping around in direction. Rather than skipping from genre to genre, the band have taken multiple influences and combined them into a raw, dynamic and energetic EP. I think they'll go far.

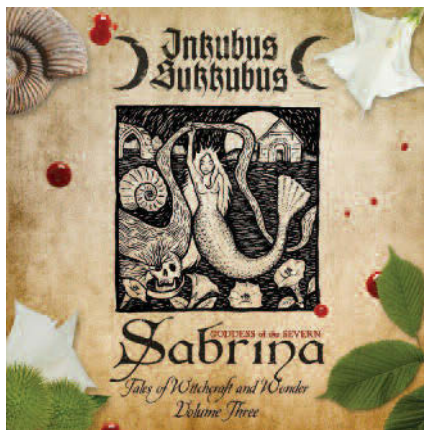
Katie Harris

Inkubus Sukkubus

Sabrina: Tales of Witchcraft and Wonder Volume 3

Following quickly on from recent electric album *Vampire Queen*, Gloucestershire based pagan rockers, **Inkubus Sukkubus** return with the final part of their *Tales Of Witchcraft And Wonder* trilogy, a series that sees the band strip things back and embrace their folkier elements and explore a number of local tales and myths.

Opening proceedings, *Sabrina Once More & Again*, sets the mood beautifully as plucked guitar and complimentary sweeping strings unite to weave a lulling and intoxicating melody, framing Candia's gorgeous, siren like lead. She summons the spirit of Hafren (*Sabrina*) the Welsh Goddess of the river Severn during a compelling, almost orchestral mood setter. Continuing the local theme, *The Wych Elm's Secret* is based around the discovery of the remains of a woman found inside a wych elm in Hagley Wood by four children back in 1943 and the subsequent graffiti that appeared a year later asking, as the songs ghostly choral hook repeats 'Who Put Bella In The Wych Elm?'. As the disc continues further local legends are set to mesmeric arrangements. *The Uley Gorilla*, **John Daniel** laments the somewhat surreal, yet true story of an adopted gorilla that for a few years lived his life as an English boy in Uley, Gloucestershire, going to school, sipping tea and being cared for by an eccentric animal lover, before unfortunately growing too big and being unwittingly sold to Barnum's circus in New York and his untimely demise. *Warrior Queen* eulogises Æthelflæd, lady of Mercia (eldest daughter of Alfred The Great) and defender of the Midlands (under the attack of the vikings, fortifying the likes of Worcester and Warwick along the way.



These stories are compelling history lessons but in the hands of **Inkubus Sukkubus** the tales are brought to life, with clever and often understated arrangements encouraging the listener to soak in the infatuating lyrics delivered by the ever engaging tones of Candia. The aforementioned, *The Wych Elms Secret* opens with a backwards incantation, instantly causing the ears to prick up as you try to decipher the hidden message. The harrowing *Garden Of Pain* with the expressive violin of **Nick Gibbs** before **Tony Mckormack** takes over with a simplistic acoustic melody interspersed with further bursts of violin and church bell chimes, whilst wordless harmonies dance beneath Candia's lead creating an provocative mournful and haunted number.

Elsewhere **Inkubus Sukkubus** deliver stunning tales of love and lust in *Datura Dreamer*, the attempted murder of two lovers on *Return To Barrow Wake* and the delicate folk plucking and harmony enriched *She Has Fled To The Sacred Land* during an entrancing fourteen track affair.

Sabrina showcases a completely different side to the band who released *Vampire Queen* only a month or two previous and as much I enjoyed the electric album, I find myself submerged completely into the *Tales Of Witchcraft And Wonder*, suggesting further investigation into the two previous volumes. Whether you're already a longstanding fan of **Inkubus Sukkubus**, have a passing interest in local folklore or fancy a thought provoking, near orchestral, immersive folk album, I can't recommend *Sabrina* enough.

Inkubus Sukkubus perform *Tales Of Witchcraft And Wonder* at: **The Fleece** in Breforton Spetember 1st & **Minsterworth Village Hall**, Gloucestershire September 8th.

Will Munn

You can read an exclusive interview with the band at:-

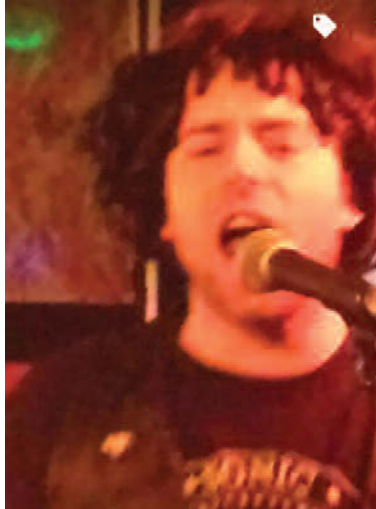
<http://rhythmbooze.tumblr.com/post/176555410686/qa-with-inkubus-sukkubus> www.inkubussukkubus.com

The Alopecia Trio | Back From The Dead

Lock up your sons, daughters and grannies, **The Alopecia Trio** are back and threatening to take it live for the first time in years, having grown tired of annoying the neighbours from the confines of their garden shed. To celebrate breaking free of their shackles frontman **Elliott Fishwarmer** has compiled a twenty-four track warning shot, setting the scene for the forthcoming live experience.

By now I know what to expect from an Alopecia Trio release, they'll be rudimentary production, rough and ready arrangements, the odd flash of melody, a hat full of hooks buried beneath the swampy stew and of course puerile punk hollering. But for those of you not acquainted with the Bewdley bashers, scan through the tracklist and you'll quickly form an idea from titles such as *Hairy Mary*, *Granny Shagger* and of course *Angelina Jolie's Tits* to name but three, if all that doesn't put you off then congratulations you have no taste, you should grab a copy of *Back From The Dead*, play spot the Ramones riff and join me down the front at the 'trios comeback gig.

But of course for those of you still sitting on a fence (and really you should get off, you look kind of silly), I'll tell you a little more about the tunes within. The album kicks off with *R. U. Ok Sweetie*



Pig, an annoyingly contagious three and half-minute Ramones knock off, complete with the obligatory the renowned 'trio fuzz coating and typical all expenses spared, no-fi production technique the band have perfected over the years. From there Fishwarmer delivers a 'cough' touching ode to *Hairy Mary*. Then the band tackle all the big issues such as invisible enemies on *Parasite*, dealing with alarming rise in missing garments on *I Appear To Have Lost My Trousers* and refreshing fruit based 'drink of the gods' on *Tesco Apple Cider*, as they set about putting the world to right with a series of two and a half/three minute punk anthems. Like all 'good' punk bands the trio toy with controversy (with their tongues buried in their collective cheeks) on the likes of the aforementioned *Granny Shagger* and *Uncle Yummy*, but the likes of the addictive *Because You Want To* and the 'catchier than the common cold closer' of *Stourport On Sea*, prove the trio are at their best when they rein it in a little and embrace their inner-Ramone.

Since the band announced their live intentions and unveiled *Back From The Dead* the trio have returned to the shed, or perhaps in this case the cellar, to knock out yet another full length album - *Down In The Basement*, in their bid to become the most prolific recording band in the universe. which can be found alongside a host of previous buffoonery on the bands ReverbNation page. I'd advise learning the songs because whether you like it or not they're coming, so you might as well join the fun when the lunatics takeover the asylum.

www.reverbNation.com/thealopeciatrio/songs

Will Munn

Glitch | HeadSpace

Five piece Worcester based, genre-crossing, original band **Glitch** settled on the final members of their line up in February this year, and have since been working on 5 songs in particular. Their debut EP, *HeadSpace* is available on Spotify, and they have recently had a single played on **BBC Hereford and Worcester**. They have also secured a gig at **Paradiddles** during this month's **Worcester Music Festival**.

10 Minutes From Anywhere, written by Ben and Dan, punches open the EP with an instantly catchy guitar twang and soft kisses on background cymbals, leading up to Claire's vocals. Halfway through the track, we get a groovy funk fusion instrumental, that launches us back into vocal break downs, that then ride out the rest of the song, over a screeching rock guitar outro. The song tells how it could only take 10 minutes for your life, your whole world, to end up going a completely different direction.



Cheap Suit winds down the ep a notch with a sound not dissimilar to Waves by Mr Probz. With a catchy chorus and lines such as "Love is not enough to see us through", it talks us through how fate is decided, not only through luck and circumstance, but through feelings and will, too. Another mid song musical section

showcases the different genres of music that **Glitch** cleverly stitch together, ending with Claire's vocals repeating infectious lines and firmly showing she could hold her own amongst the likes of female fronted 90s indie bands Sleeper and Elastica.

A softer start to *Butterflies*, which started out with a guitar riff by Ben being fused with Claire's idea for a vocal melody, indicates a heartfelt track, wishing hours and days away, comparing the sensation to that of butterflies fluttering by. The song is about the struggles of depression, and carries a message for those listening with similar issues, that they aren't alone. A delicate indie track, but there's still a hint of funk and soul thrown in behind the melodic vocals towards the end.

Final track *Your God can't judge me*, takes us right back up to the funk soul groove Glitch so wonderfully embroider into their songs, with their clever musical fusions throughout. Opening line "Tea bag floating, drifting till it's all used up" is a feeling most of us can relate to, and tells a veiled story of a break up. This track made me go back and revisit the EP as a whole, making me realise how aptly named it was. Each song talks of a different "HeadSpace", places all of us have in our minds when dealing with life and relationships. Each song a perfect piece of a puzzle of the human mind. I've decided **Glitch** are a modern day Morcheeba, and I'm very excited to hear the follow up record which is currently in production.

Kate Ford

Son Of John & John Parker Live At Fieldgate Studio

Following on from **Son Of John's** (or Jacob Johnson's) 2016 debut album, *Autumn Hymn*, the local singer-songwriter teamed up with double bass extraordinaire **John Parker** (Nizlopi, Ward N Parker, Burning Salt) for a number of bewitching gigs across the region. On the back of these successes the duo headed to **Fieldgate studios** in a bid to capture the live magic with a five track EP.

The new disc, recorded live, comprises of two reworkings from the aforementioned *Autumn Hymns*, a duo of traditional tracks, and a brand new number recorded specially for the EP. Whilst the album fleshed out Jacob's tracks with percussion, bass and electric guitar, the new EP sees **Son Of John** strip things back to the bare bones of vocals, acoustic and Parker's evocative double bass, for a sensational, intimate record. Opening with a rendition of "Wild Bill Jones", Parker mournfully saws across his bass, pummelling and caressing a deep, bewitching sound from his instrument, while Jacob continues picking and strumming, revealing a weary, weathered growl that gives this traditional roots number a battered folk blues makeover.

Brand new song "The Waves" follows, and Jacob proves himself as no mere interrupter, creating a slow, calming folk sound. The gravelly lead becomes a lulling croon, seducing the senses, while Parker's bass grows from a light ripple until the full force of the "The Waves" washes over the listener, pulling us towards submersion. "American Progress" starts in much the same sedate manner but quickly develops as Johnson claws at his guitar with increasing urgency. Parker plays a deep pulse, adding to the



atmospheric flavouring by drawing his bow across the bass; the duo produces a moody folk masterpiece full of drama. Parker opens proceedings on the final original number, "The Maid & The King", toying with his strings for an inventive, enticing soundscape. Jacob returns with those rich, gravelly tones, responding to Parker's exploitative bass with an infectious melody.

The final number, a rendition of "John The Revelator", sees the duo strip things back even further. Jacob casts aside his guitar to deliver a stark, mesmerising vocal with only Parker's double bass for company. This track, a personal favourite, is (and pardon the pun) a revelation. Jacob's lead alongside the deep throbbing of double bass breathes life into a well-worn theme, giving the song an enthralling twist, rounding off the sensational five-track affair, worthy of any self-discerning music fan's collection.

Will Munn

Robert Simmons | Deepfields

What can I tell you about Black Country based singer-songwriter **Robert Simmons**, I hear you cry? Well in truth very little, he's built a reputation for performing off-beat, poetic pop (for want of a better description), honing his craft at various open mic sessions across the region, before turning to **Moose's Music Hole** and producer **Jay Russon** to record his debut, seven track affair, *Deepfields*.

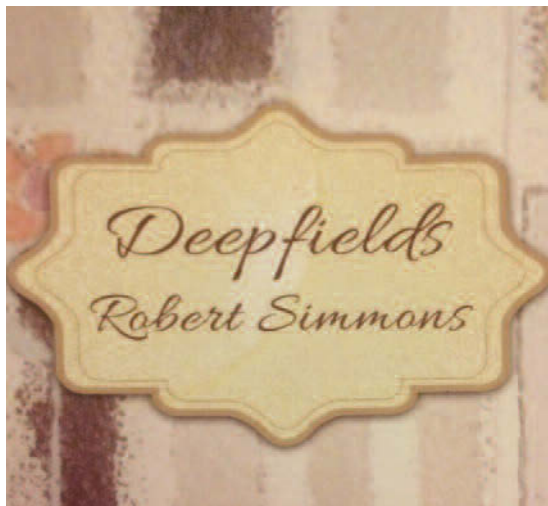
In the brief letter that accompanied the EP, Robert mentions the likes of Syd Barrett, Julian Cope and Kevin Ayers as inspirations and, listening to the EP's three-minute opening number, "Bingo Queen", allusion to the eccentric trio is undeniable. Opening with a wordless, harmonious hook, Simmons proceeds to deliver something of an autobiographical tale of growing up, hiding from Jim (or Roger) McGuinn on the TV and the Mexico World Cup (70, I'd guess) whilst lamenting the wave machine at the *Bingo Queen* during an instantly contagious yet simplistic hook. The acoustic strums and shuffling drums pepper, yet never obstruct Robert's quintessentially English tale, that's both quirky and uniquely charming. "Girlfriend" follows and has something of a bitter-sweet vibe as Simmons states that "she makes me feel complete, a nicer girl I've yet to meet" but suggests that all is not as it seems when you add drink to mix. Either way Robert again weaves one of those winning wordless hooks into the mix, that will have you humming and hooting along as it seduces the subconscious.

And just when you think you have a handle of Simmons' quirky brand of song-writing and delivery, he throws something of a curve ball with "Poem For David Jones", which is, as the title suggests, a one-and-a-quarter-minute ode to the man better known as David Bowie. "Poetry Of The Night" opens with a delicate piano motif before Robert croons and serenades the night and its unexplored

wonderment, whilst the closing, "Power Crazy Man" suggests that Simmons is more than capable of stomping with the best of them as he straps on an electric and offers noir like twangs, hinting at a possible, previously unheard Cave influence lingering somewhere in the shadows.

Deepfields is an intriguing and intoxicating debut from an unusual proposition on the open mic scene, and rather suggests **Robert Simmons** could and should be out there performing gigs of his own. For now, if you happen upon Simmons hawking his wares through the back streets of the Black Country, I rather recommend you sit back and enjoy an unsung maverick among the many sound-a-likes.

Will Munn

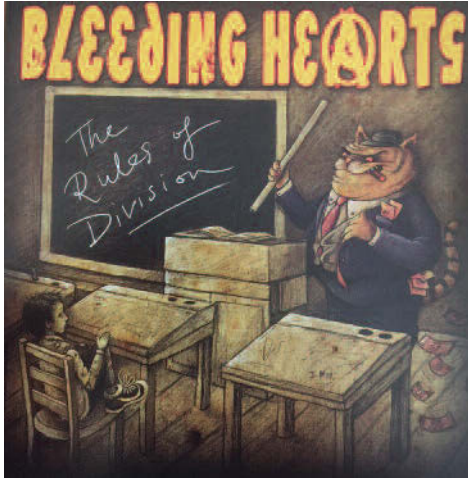


Bleeding Hearts

The Rules Of Division

Bleeding Hearts first started creating a ruckus back in 1995 and since then the band have stomped across the UK, Europe and North America taking slots at numerous high profile festivals (including the likes of Glastonbury) and treading the boards with the likes of The Levellers, The Darkness and Miles Hunt (to name but a few). Since the band's formation they've delivered a number of attention grabbing albums and EP's of fiery folk punk reporting on the state of the nation, social injustice and the human condition. In short, the **Bleeding Hearts** will simultaneously make you dance, think and holler and their latest opus, *The Rules Of Division* is no different.

Studying the cover and inlay you can pretty much guess what's going to be served up, from the fat cat teacher with his pockets stuffed with cash on the front, to the revolting student on the back. Tracks entitled *Common Man*, *Tory Attax* and *Three Wise Monkeys*, The 'Hearts are here to tell you how it is, armed to the teeth with sharpened sticks, razor wire strings, a fine array of hooks and a handful of rollicking folk punk party anthems to counter balance the politics and social commentary. *The Rules Of Division* is a fine addition to the Bleeding Hearts cannon.



Opening with a somewhat groovy, funk ridden bass line and *The Devils Mosh*, the band prove it's not all politics and punk rock as mandolin and chiming electric guitar combine to create a glorious folk rock boogie. Vocalist Foxie hollers and croons as the band attempt to dance the devil down during an addictive and at times frantic showdown between the band and beast. *Cool Cats* continues the fun, lamenting a musicians toil, with a mantra like vocal hook and a good old fashion stomp that's nigh on impossible to ignore. Later on, the band continue to party with a whiskey or two on both the drinkers shanty, *Down The Hatch* and the raucous *Whiskey Is The One*, but it's not all fun and games...

The aforementioned *Common Man* changes tack, the band lay down a deep groove as they kick back at the fat cat and his 'rules of division' with a glorious na na na....refrain that's set to stick around long after the track plays out. *Tory Attax* sees those punk tracks make their presence felt as a bile fueled Foxie spits the verses out before a unified cry off 'We say no more Tory Attax, no more cuts, no more bedroom tax, we say no more Tory attacks' whilst Ewan's mandolin weaves between electric twangs, acoustic strums and rolling rhythms, straddling that folk/punk divide during their clarion call to arms. Continuing in a similar vein, **The Bleeding Hearts** take on the Brexit fiasco and the idiot enablers on the rollicking folkability of *Three Wise Monkeys*, whilst the semi-acoustic closer (complete with flute outro), *All Fall Down* sees the band ask 'how strong must the weak become' before condemning 'all the fighting and crying, all the shooting and dying' as like us they long for change.

Whether the **Bleeding Hearts** are kicking back with a whiskey or delivering reports from the front-line, the band continue to produce infectious, thought provoking slabs of super-charged punchy folk punk at it's absolute best.

www.bleedinghearts.co.uk

Will Munn

Superhooch | Look Out

Superhooch are one of Coventry's more dynamic rock bands. They've been on the scene since 2015, even having won a place to perform at Godiva Festival 2017, but it was the departure of their former vocalist which led Superhooch to break out of the cliché rock mould, finding an organic hard-rock psychedelia sound of their own with new E.P 'Look Out!'

First single 'Look At The Rain' may shock fans of the 'old' Superhooch. It's a bold move away from their former selves with comparable influences being garnered from alternative rock bands such as The Eighties Matchbox B-Line Disaster and Queens Of The Stone Age. The single is an excellent starting point and will certainly entice any new listeners, masterfully produced by Jon Moonbear to be much like their live set – impactful with plenty of rock substance.

'Look Out!' is an E.P with no 'filler' and particular highlights include 'Feeling Sound', 'The Confessions of Mr Silver' and the soon-to-be second single 'Sir Dickie' – a song based on the scandalous Sir Richard Worsley of the Isle Of Wight, an ancestor of lead vocalist **Chris Worsley**.



A notable aspect of **Superhooch** is their diversity of vocals. Crowd-favourite 'Feeling Sound' is led by bassist **Steve Clarke** and guest vocalist **Aimee Goodall**, creating a beautifully eerie, dark psychedelia that builds to a powerful rock sing-along. Each band member steps up to the mark throughout the E.P, including drummer **Anthony 'Peanut'**

Marshall, whose backing vocals adds a little soul to closing track 'The Confessions of Mr Silver'.

Superhooch recently attracted the attention of Deerstock Festival where they played the main stage of the 2018 festival and have also supported Kerrang high-risers The Kut at Birmingham's The Castle and Falcon venue. I suggest you follow Superhooch on Facebook to catch the forthcoming music video for 'Sir Dickie' and to keep updated with their upcoming live gigs.

'Look Out!' is available through Amazon Music, Spotify and Apple Music courtesy of **Mains Spike Records**. Find **Superhooch** on Facebook for upcoming live shows.

Sophie Williams

Francis Astle | Exorcism

Stourbridge artist **Francis Astle** is not your typical singer-songwriter, part experimental pop purveyor, part visual artist, Astle mixes a variety of influences from both the world of music and art to create a surreal brand of outsider pop during an intriguing and at times disorientating five track affair.

Imagine if you will, Earthling era Bowie mixed with the squelches of Justice, throw in some 8 bit computer sound effects and perhaps Bjork's more out there moments, stir, simmer and mix. Then set the varying off-kilter results to the same time signature over the space of five individual tracks adding and removing electronic pulses along the way.



There's nothing remotely commercial about Astle's pop experiments and yet you can't scurrying around the cut and paste soundscapes, embracing the skewed melody of *Limbo*, whilst attempting to decipher Astle's Bowie like lead. *Ghosts* sees

Francis multi-track vocals, harmonising with himself. *Three's The Shame* is a mostly instrumental piece bar a few half whispered murmurs, whilst *Mind* is near industrial clanks, electronic drips and an anguished lead vocal, before a few seconds of silence (perhaps a reboot) before Astle slows things down to leave us with meandering glitches and pulses to bring the five minute track home.

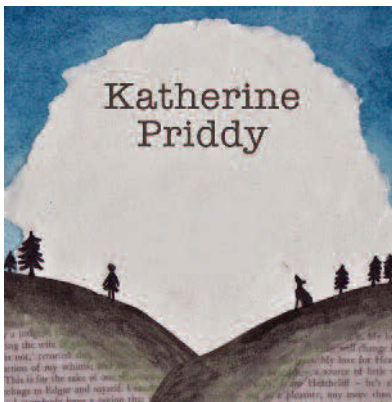
Exorcism is not for the faint of heart or lovers of big hooks or loud guitars, this is experimental electronica lurking on the furthest fringes of pop, a strange vanity project? Perhaps, an intriguing curiosity? Definitely, worth a dip for the open-minded.

www.francisastle.bandcamp.com

Katherine Priddy | Wolf

Katherine Priddy is a Birmingham based singer-songwriter, who in recent years has seen her stock continue to rise with a string of successful gigs and tours, sharing the stage with such folk luminaries as Martin Carthy, Scott Matthews, Trembling Bells and Vashti Bunyan, whilst hometown headline shows have continued to sell out in advance. In a bid to further these successes, Priddy decided to take to the studio with producer (and multi-instrumentalist) **Simon J Weaver** in tow to record her debut, self-released four-track EP *Wolf*.

Taking influences from the likes of Nick Drake, Tunng, John Martyn and Lankum among others, Katherine creates a hypnotic and often serene style of folk. Her pure and passionate vocal tone bewitches the listener with deft guitar work, and her array of backing musicians helps create a mesmeric sound that both lulls and captivates in equal measure. The title track opens proceedings with a plucked acoustic guitar and a bodhran thump (Dan Green). Priddy then delivers a gorgeous, becalmed, floating lead. As the track develops, an obvious Celtic influence emerges as subtle



strings join the mix and Katherine reveals a recognisable Irish lilt before an Irish tin whistle (courtesy of Ciaran Clifford) helps draw the curtain on a beautiful introductory number.

Ring O Roses follows and is simply sensational. The haunting track opens with distant Irish pipes and an ambient setting vocal hum that soon makes way for a deep, plucked acoustic guitar and Katherine's beguiling lead vocal. Dramatic harmonies and instrumentation rise and fall to a murmur as Priddy tells her tale and you feel yourself submerging into the songs arrangement. A reflective *Fragile* opens with yet another infectious, acoustic melody as Priddy casts her mind back to hazy summers of yesteryear, bursts of brass pepper the folky meanderings as the song blossoms, seducing the listener further. *The Old Tree* wraps up a majestic debut, much like it starts, with Katherine's beautiful pure tones oozing from the speakers accompanied by a delicate melody and enriching harmonies that caress and intoxicate, imploring another spin.

Wolf is a stunning debut from an artist well and truly on the up, with a forthcoming slot at

Moseley Folk Festival and further live dates in the pipeline, you can expect to hear a great deal more from **Katherine Priddy** over the next few months.

www.facebook.com/katherinepriddy

Will Munn

The Shaded Squares | Happy Again

Stourbridge based band **The Shaded Squares** are very versatile to say the least, with their live set up varying from a solo set to a staggering 5 piece band.

Main songwriter **Louis Bennett** has stated that he's jealous of "Beatles melodies, Bob Dylan's words and Motown's rhythm sections, but isn't everyone?" You can definitely hear the influences shining through in the latest single *Happy Again* produced by Rob Jones. There's just no doubt about it, this is a feel good song for the summer. With the track being upbeat and catchy, we automatically assume that it's, well, happy, but there's a hidden message... Louis sings about his past when he was "happier then" and he wants to be happy.. again.

The song has a simple structure that's well complimented by the instrumentation throughout. A beautiful brass section is

delicious for anyone's ear drums if it's played right, and the brass certainly is in this song. You can listen to "Happy Again" across the main social media platforms and do check out the music video for it; it's very humorous.

The track is already getting radio play on BBC Introducing in the West Midlands and I'm truly not surprised. It's fun, witty and lovable.



Chloe Mogg

Second Self | EP1

Alternative quartet from Cheltenham, **Second Self** have been causing quite a stir. With their first EP release on the horizon, due to drop on September 14th, the boys are ready for a bright future. Influences reaching through what sounds like the 00's Linkin Park era fused with heavy 90's metal, Second Self's debut EP is a warming adventure for listeners. First track, "Never Coming Home" is filled with huge distorted bass riffs, chugging guitar parts, powerful drums and soft, dominant vocals, but it's the eerie guitar parts in the back of the mix that draws us in even more. This 4 track EP has a huge production with great songs pleasing for fans of Shinedown, Theory of a Deadman and Porcupine Tree to name a few. There's a lot of alternative rock bands trying to plummet their way to stardom and some unfortunately don't make it, whereas for **Second Self**, they've certainly got a good shot. The EP is filled with clever arrangements which a fair bit of alternative rock lacks in. "Stepping Stones" is a clear example. Over half way through the track, it turns into a heavy, head banging montage showing similarities with Rage Against the Machine and Limp Bizkit vibes, before reaching the last few memorable choruses.



"Falling Backwards" is the big ballad of the mini album, which just keeps on giving with each playback. I find it quite clever that a song about falling backwards, actually moves forwards, dynamically and musically. As the track progresses, we reach a pumping bass-line fixed with a face melting guitar solo, which just glues the song together to create this powerhouse. The last song on the EP is probably the heaviest out of all. "Eat Your Horse" features powerful metal aspects with even screaming vocals quietly in the background. It feels that the EP is missing something slightly, perhaps a subject linking them altogether, as there's not really an objective confirmed for the EP.

Saying that, the songs are great and they've definitely gained a fan from me. Catch **Second Self** at one of their upcoming gigs in Cheltenham, which you can find out more details here - www.facebook.com/Second-Self-1651510894863160/.

Chloe Mogg

The Achievers | 'Live' At The SVA

Slot the disc in, and there's this wonderful gospel call, that grabs the attention, as 'Little Girl', kicks in, and when the opening song grips like this, its likely the album will be a pleasure to appraise.

The **Achievers**, based in Gloucestershire, are a 5 piece rhythm and blues band, producing music that pokes and provokes you to get up and feel the groove. **Steve Ferbach** is on acoustic guitar and vocal lead, **Aron Attwood**, drums, **Rufus Fry**, harmonica, **Ben Sutherland** on bass, and **Robert Holmes** slings a spangly blue electric guitar.



'Run On' breaks out a time worn 'gospel' that never fails to lift the spirit, given a reworking by The Achievers and as infectious as ever. It can run on for a long, long time as far as I'm concerned.

This album of delightful dancing rhythms is like stepping into a candy store, surrounded by jars of temptation. It's hard to select your favourites from so many sweet memories.

The album is live, recorded at the **Stroud Valley Artspace** earlier this year and it's exceptionally well produced. The balance of the band is bang on, formed in 2013, they are undoubtedly comfortable in their skin, striking a spark that ignites their R&B sound. Their home spun songs sit favourably alongside reworked stalwarts - all in all it's a cracking good album.

Graham Munn

As I listen to the lovely rhythms that slink out as 'Little Girl', I can't help thinking that The Achievers are setting a very high bar for the following songs to clear. No worries, this album is beautifully crafted. 'Movement' rattles through at a pace, Steve's voice brings plenty of traction to keep a grip on your attention. In some respects the sound brings to mind the Della Grants, but it's very much The Achievers, ploughing a fertile furrow.

'Lovin' Machine' cranks up the itch to grab a partner and get jiving (I think I still can, just about, but keep a stretcher handy) The funk lever is pulled, Aron gets his floor tom drumset in gear, Rufus has a flutter on his harp, Ben's bass rumbles underneath and Rob bends a few strings as Steve paints the scene. The band walk on water for a lovely soulful, 'Como Blues', the undercurrent bass flows deep, harp notes ripple over Steve's gravelly vox, Rob breaks surface over the smooth rocks - its an inviting, cool, dip.

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Lakefest Eastnor Castle 10-12th August

August and the now annual trek to **Eastnor Castle** and **Lakefest** for a weekend of music and merriment. Scanning through the line-up revealed an intriguing mix of festival favourites, newcomers and the hottest local names. Whilst aside from the music, the **Pen And Parchment** offered up a meaty stew of spoken word, comedy and interviews, BMX riders showcased their wares, children's activities, circus performances and the chance of a hot tub away from the festival's hubbub suggested something for everyone.

Friday saw heroic turns on the main stage by a couple of local faves, **The Nuns Of The Tundra** were charged with opening proceedings and took the opportunity with both hands with an energetic flurry of riffs and sticks, culminating with a glorious groove-laden *Mind's Eye*, whilst fellow local lads, **Arcadia Roots** followed, urging a rapidly filling tent to cast away the previous weeks shackles. Keeping with the local vibe (via Bristol and Australia) the BBC H&W



Introducing stage offered intriguing sets by indie electro-pop looper **Tom Forbes** and Anglo-Aussie duo **Rachel By The Stream**, book-ending a light-hearted chat between John Robb and Pop Will Eat Itself over at the aforementioned Pen.

And for me it was **PWEI** who stole the headlines on the first day (despite being followed by rock royalty in the shape of



Peter Hook, Marc Almond and a latex-free **Darkness**) with a high octave, invigorating set of Poppies anthems. Although Hook wheeled out the likes of *Isolation* and *Love Will Tear Us Apart*, Almond offered the evergreen *Tainted Love* and *Say Hello, Wave Goodbye*, whilst Hawkins and the lads inevitably had the mainstage rocking to *I Believe In A Thing Called Love*, I still headed home from day one with the twin vocals of Crabb and Mary Byker reverberating around my noggin'.



After recharging batteries at home we hit Lakefest in time to catch personal favourites, **The Whipjacks**, who despite being a bass player down, still managed to deliver a fun, energetic set of frenzied folk stomp-alongs.

Continuing the local flavour, **Erica** packed out the main arena. A little later, **Lower Loveday** proved why they're already picking up plaudits (and could be future main stage contenders) as they delivered a fine set of indie rock for the beeb.



Greenman Rising (again minus a member) delivered a delicious set of Celtic flavoured reels and sing-a-long shanties. **The Farm** invited everyone onboard *The Groovy Train*, delivered a brilliant rendition of *Bankrobber* before uniting the entire festival with a glorious *All Together Now*. **The Dub Pistols** kept the jungle drums beating and the fire burning with a high octave riotous set mashing up ska, drum and bass, hip-hop and of course dub.



3WOD | You & Him, Turning to Life

3WOD are an indie-punk quartet who are turning ripples into waves in the Worcestershire area and beyond, showing up at festivals and venues and wowing audiences.

The first treat on this double-A-side single is *You & Him*, and we are welcomed by a thundering, balls-out start. Drums, guitar, bass, building up to a powerful punk opening to what reveals itself as an epic throwback to the days of early Green Day and Compulsion; choppy guitars, blustering drums and insistent bass.



Turning to Life which a classic bubble-gum punk that bounces along with a beguiling riff that will stick in your head like the proverbial gum on your shoes. Surrounded with increasingly athletic percussion from the highly skilled drummer, with a beautifully textured bassline running like a sidewinder throughout this song of unrequited love.

Can't wait to hear more from this exciting new talent!

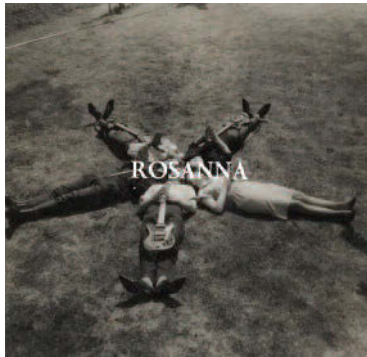
3WOD will be releasing the single at their gig on the 7th September at **Paradiddles**, Worcester, with the support acts being pop-punk act **Social Outcasts**, indie band **The Lightweights**, and acoustic artist **Elisha Green** as a special guest.

Benito Koshka

The Americas | Guitar Music is Dead

Following my review of *Come On Out* last month, **The Americas** have teased us with two more singles from their upcoming, eagerly anticipated EP, ear marked for release on 7th September. Added together with the aforementioned *Come On Out*, *Rosanna* and *American Morning* hint heavily at a country meets rock vibe from a bunch of guys who are clearly cowboys at heart.

Rosanna is a lengthy 6 minutes long, but time flies when you're having fun, and we hit the first blaze of chorus after a minute. Declaring to *Rosanna* that she needs no other man as she dances



under the midnight sun, I envisage a funky barn dance, haystacks and checked shirts in abundance. After the midway chorus, the

song enters a mainly musical section, which gradually ramps up, which caused the dancers in my mind to dance their spurred boots off. *American Morning* takes a little step back from the country vibe musically, but the lyrics are still firmly rooted in America, this time though, heading back to good old fashioned rock and roll. Dripping with nostalgia of sounds gone by, the lyrics are observational of the world and life around the singer. The three songs are of a distinctive sound, and will be instantly recognisable as classics from "The Americas" in years to come. The full track listing of the EP hadn't been released at the time of writing this, but I urge you to don a cowboy hat, take to your

saddle and have a listen when it's out. I will be!

kate Ford

....Continued



For me day two's enticing cake was topped by **Reverend & The Makers**, led by **Jon McClure**, the band promised 'non-stop bangers' and boy did they ever deliver.

The final day opened with a somewhat surreal, early call for **The Membranes** (with added choir), who proceeded to bemuse and captivate in equal measure as **John Robb** regaled post punk tales of Dark Matter and The Hum Of The Universe. Over at the BBC, **Plastic Scene** caressed sore heads with gorgeous meandering guitars and hazy psychedelia, whilst Celtic folk fusionists and Lakefest house band, **The Roving Crows**, revitalised a flagging audience.

Whilst the mainstage offered the likes of **Mel C** and **Toploader**, I went in search of something a little meatier and the BBC Introducing stage duly delivered with **Conspiracy Of Kings** followed by **Red Fire Empress**, who both cranked their instruments and promptly blew out any lingering cobwebs, proving Lakefest caters for one and all.

And talking of alternatives, the **Pen And Parchment** provided my final stop of the weekend for the sharpened wit (and double bass) of the **Anti-Poet**, who delivered poetry anthems in the form of *They Don't Need It* and *Random Words In A Random Order*.

As we were taking our final march down the field, **The Proclaimers** were aptly soundtracking the way with 500 Miles, thankfully Worcester isn't quite that far, but Lakefest is always worth the trek!!!

Words: Will Munn Photos: Roy Jenks



Me For Queen & Minnie Birch West Malvern Social Club | Sat 15th Sept

Me For Queen comes top the West Malvern Social Club on Saturday 15th September as part of her *Loose End* Album tour with support from **Minnie Birch** - two modern folk artists playing live in Malvern for the first time.



Me for Queen aka **Mary Erskine** is a Scottish musician inspired by people and their stories. Her years of classical training together with a Blues guitarist for a father make for an interesting mix of

soul and folk influences, though the result is undoubtedly contemporary. **Me For Queen's** piano-based songs draw obvious comparisons to Regina Spektor and Carol King but also have hints of Kate Bush and Laura J Martin. Her new album "*Loose End*" will be released by Seahorse Music in September.

Minnie Birch is a singer/songwriter from Hertfordshire is the support act for the evening. Drawing on influences both traditional and modern, she writes dark, plaintive, beautiful music about life, love, adventures and fairy tales. 8pm doors. Donation Entry.



Dragon Heart Rocks Drummonds, Worcester | 23rd Sept

Dragon Heart Rocks is a live music event happening in Worcester at **Drummonds** on 23rd September, and it will be raising money for three charities, The British Heart Foundation, The Brain Tumour Charity and The Daisy Garland, all of which have special meanings Kate Ford, the brainchild behind the event.

The Dragon Heart idea came about after she lost her sister in December 2013, suddenly and without warning. She was only 39.



Although "sudden adult death syndrome" was listed as the official cause, Kate and her immediate family had an agonising wait to have their hearts tested to eliminate any underlying hereditary issues. Due to this, and her sister's love of dragons, an idea formed to hold a charity event in November 2014 in her honour, in the month and year she would've turned 40.

The **Dragon Heart Ball** raised almost £1000 at a local pub, with artists **Michael Berry**, **Demi Marriner** and **The Secrets**. This year Dragon Heart is back, bigger and better and with a killer line up forcing Kate to change its name to the more suitable "**Dragon Heart Rocks**". Local bands **Come Together** and **Altered Voltage** will be joined by **Nick Capaldi** and **Mark Morriss**, the lead singer from **The Bluetones**.

Tickets are available at www.dragonheart.nutickets.com and more information can be found on my Facebook page www.facebook.com/dragonheartball

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Simon Deeley Quartet

Simon Deeley is an unsung hero of jazz. He plays piano, teaches and writes music too. He's been playing jazz and composing since the late 1980's. A regular on the West Midlands jazz scene, Simon relocated to the Welsh border country in 2014. Following this in 2015 Simon released an album *Crossing Borders*, featuring his own compositions played by his then quartet. The title of the album is significant as it alludes to Simon's move from England to Wales. Many of the tracks on the album were inspired by locations near to him. Thus we get '*Samba de Llanandras*', '*Hay Wye Not!*' and '*Down Radnor's Quiet Way*'.

Like many a great composer of the past such as Elgar and Vaughan Williams, Simon Deeley gained inspiration from his surroundings and his move to the countryside coincided with a busy period of musical creativity. Thus inspired he formed his Quartet, principally as a means of getting his own compositions performed and, most importantly, heard. Simon now considers composing to be the major part of his career in music.

With the release of his second album, *From the Blue Hills* – (the title came from his observation of the hills that surround where he lives, having a hint of blue about them) Simon brings more of his wonderful music to a wider audience. The eleven compositions as previously, reflect Simon's feelings for the land where he now lives. They are varied with infectious, colourful Samba's and Bossa Nova's sitting alongside cool-grooving jazz-fusion numbers and gentle evocative ballads. The keen listener will also notice the influence of Classical and film music elements.

Tunes such as '*Indigo Tango*', '*Soul of the West*' and '*Ballad of the Blue Waters*' are very appealing and evocative and give listeners a clear flavour of the composer's musical thinking.



Simon's strong, incisive and harmonically vivid keyboard style is complemented by his accomplished band of musicians who bring his music to life with their driving, powerful and skilled interaction.

The line-up is still a quartet, but the personnel has changed and so Simon has re-named the group to further reflect his love for the Welsh countryside and so the **Blue Haze Quartet** was born. Alongside Simon on piano, the quartet features the brilliant **Martha Skilton** on saxophones, **Ian Cooper** on bass and **Charlie Russell** on drums and congas.

The album is a true labour of love for Simon and the quartet, get your copy by emailing Simon at simon.deeley@aol.co.uk. You can also hear the music on Youtube and Soundcloud.

The band play live on the following dates:

16th Sept - The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock

30th September - De Koffie Pot, The Left Bank, Hereford

14th October - Worcester University

24th October - The Gateway, Shrewsbury

Words: Alan Musson Photo: Ann Seymour

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In Dynamics

The Frog and Fiddle, Cheltenham | 10th August

Just over two years ago in Swindon, in a wonderful and happy coincidence, I first saw two of the finest alt-rock bands I've ever seen, play on the same bill - **All Ears Avow** and **In Dynamics**.

Even though I've seen **All Ears Avow** many times since, this was the first chance I'd had to see this Sussex based outfit since then.

To say it was worth the wait barely covers it.

I saw them just after their immaculate debut album *"Everything I See"* had come out - a CD that hasn't left my car since - and when they launched into *'This Is The Start Of Nothing'*, its opening track, the recollection of that first gig snapped back sharply into focus.

The combination of strong melody, killer riffs and tight vocal harmonies always ticks all the boxes for me, and this band have all three elements in spades.



I expected quite a lot of new material in the set - the brand new single *"Happy and Honest"* was there, still strong even without its slightly off-the-wall video and a brand new track *'Avalanche'* also made an appearance but more intriguing was the inclusion of two much older EP tracks - seriously beefed up versions of *'I Never Make Sense'* and the stomping closer *'Waking Life'* to add variety to the set.

But for all the crunch of the opener and a thumping version of *'We Are Liars'*, the band's strengths were best displayed tonight in two of the quieter tracks, *'The Weight of Wait'*, with lead singer/guitarist **Beau Boulden's** wonderful tenor voice extended even further and climbing to the ceiling - difficult to maintain a counter-tenor without slipping into falsetto, but he made it sound easy.

Best of all, though there is a stunning version of *'Leviticus'*, received in a respectful silence with bass player **William Wrench** and brother Jack on drums creating a trio of contrasting but complementary voices - it was breathtaking.

I'm definitely not going to leave it two years to see them again, that's for sure... Tremendous band.

Geoffrey Head

Brooke Sharkey

The Prince Albert, Stroud | 9th August

I've seen **Brooke Sharkey** play six or seven times now, everything from a solo gig to a full band show and quite simply, this topped the lot.

She's an artist whose extraordinary scope and imagination will almost certainly ensure that she never makes two albums that sound vaguely similar - her debut *"One Dress"*, replete with Celtic, Breton and pan-European influences contrasting completely with the dreamlike mix of ambience and chanson that made up *"Wandering Heart"*. But this new material explores more fresh ground.

All the material in this set was brand new - a start to finish showcase for her as yet untitled third album, which is in the process of being recorded. And my goodness, it was powerful - stark, stripped back to pure melody, searing emotion and spartan arrangements. **The Prince Albert**, magnificent music venue though it is, can be a difficult place to play, with much background noise - you could have heard a pin drop throughout this immaculate set.



She was accompanied this time by her new guitarist, **Aksel Undset**, whose subtle and entirely complementary electric guitar work sat effortlessly alongside her sparse and sometimes extremely effective staccato acoustic style. The opener *'New Star'* sets the scene, she blows through the strings into the sound hole, loops it with a jagged treble shape, hits a rhythm pattern on a tiny beat machine and we're off on a truly wonderful musical trip.

Sharkey's voice retains its trademark smoky breathlessness, but there were sudden startling injections of power as well, with sparing but effective use of a chorus box and one jaw-dropping semi-operatic outro, with her hands cupped around her mouth, intensifying the sound. Some of the tracks hit you in the gut like a punch - *'Unbearable'* and the brilliant and breathtaking *'Ugly'* are particularly powerful, while *'Divine'* and *'Come and Go'* fill the room with melody. There was also one memorable psych wig-out at the end of one song, which both players looked like they were hugely enjoying.

The regular excursions into French which have punctuated both albums with great effectiveness (she is bilingual) were notable by their absence, I only heard one brief extract, but the lyrical depth and poignancy of the new material surely would have been otherwise lost.

I think everyone who saw this performance would have left feeling they'd seen something very special indeed. Absolutely stunning.

Geoffrey Head

Melissa Greaner Elmslie House, Malvern | Sat 13th Oct

Whether fronting her psycho-folk-rock-power trio, duo with drums, or solo-electric, **Melissa Greaner** is at once magnetic, delicate, fierce and tender. Boundless vocal dynamics soar over an atmospheric, sometimes raucous electric hollow-body guitar. A wash of cinematic guitar effects drench the senses, immediately setting fully realized scenes upon which Greaner slays the listener with the raw truth of the human adventure - loss and grief, hope and redemption.



Greaner has that distinct equine quality of being able to magnify and reflect your senses back at you, forcing you to confront and surrender to them. A seeker through song, it is with an inward gaze that she discovers the universality in us all; dancing the blurred line between the defects and the divine.

At the root of Greaner's artistry are her songs which summon their truth from the kind of inner pilgrimage that one must endure when one's outward explorations fall short of salvation.

Elles Bailey The Marrs Bar, Worcs | Sept 27th

Set the date in your diary, mark up your calendar, Thursday 27th September, Elles and her band, is dropping in on her, *Road I Call Home Tour*.

Elle Bailey is rapidly establishing a following across the UK and Europe, reaping fields of fans at festivals everywhere. She has recently appeared in **Upton Blues**, and a spellbinding session at the **Old Bush Blues**. This tour sees her calling in at the Marrs Bar, grab the opportunity to see a true star in the ascendancy, she will have you screaming for more, and send you howling into the night.

Tickets available through www.ellesbailey.com/tour and via the Marrs Bar.



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Charity Recital

Melissa Greaner

Mumbo-Jumbo

Joanna Wallfisch

Saturday 8th Sept Sunday 16th Sept

Friday 28th Sept

Saturday 13th Oct



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The Strays - The Summer Jam The Brewery Quarter, Cheltenham | 4 August

Having seen Cheltenham based Rock 'n Roll outfit, **The Strays** five or six times already, I went over to The Summer Jam 2018 at **The Brewery Quarter** in Cheltenham pretty much expecting to see what I'd enjoyed so many times before.

But no, this was way better...

Playing for almost an hour, they had room to expand their show and their sound into an entirely captivating performance in front of a highly appreciative crowd.

The opener, their sizzling anthem to inter-band co-operation, "*Scratch My Back*" comes off stage like a rocket and the pace barely drops all set. Check the eye-watering video out for this one, too - it's amazing!

Newest member, **Krisztian Jakab's** ultra-fluent basslines combine perfectly with **Gary Chamberlain's** crisp, no-holds-barred drumming style to provide the bedrock from which the band drives relentlessly forward. Jakab cuts a reflective figure onstage, in contrast to the rest of the band who are bouncing around like Space Hoppers, but his relaxed air and regular smiles show how much he's enjoying himself.



Can you bounce and play drums at the same time? No problem for Gary Chamberlain - you'd think that level of animation and keeping perfect time wouldn't go together but you'd be wrong. Rhythm sections often get overlooked as they quietly but determinedly go about their craft but there's no missing the contribution of this wonderfully gelled pairing.

And over this solid rhythm, **Sam Jack Cordery's** lush black Les Paul soars, chugs, chatters and growls - should rock 'n' roll guitarists be this good? A touch of the Duane Eddy's here and there and the odd bit of whammy bar vibrato maybe, but not some of the shimmering solos and lightning fast fills that graced this set. He's wearing his resplendent quiff in relaxed mode today, like a mighty ocean breaker - you could have driven a Mini through it without it touching the sides. Tremendous player.



The band officially describes its music as 'Post Rock 'n Roll' and the blending of the traditional format, with Cordery's much more modern style of playing is its most obvious feature. The inclusion of a few covers for this holiday crowd also puts into sharp focus how tight and fresh the band's original material is - particularly the music on their "*Brand New Day*" EP.

Estelle Chamberlain must have been exhausted after this, and I'd guess, every performance. She's a non-stop firecracker of a frontwoman, her startling yellow hair and bright red bandanna making her look a little like a punk Rosie the Riveter. This band don't do ballads, so her voice is pretty much at full stretch for the entire performance, yet it doesn't falter or crack or lose pitch at any point. Her frequent excursions into the audience provoke much dancing and waves of enthusiastic backing vocals as the glorious low, late afternoon sun bathes a packed Brewery Quarter. A truly charismatic performer and a really, really fine band.

Geoffrey Head



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Old Bush Blow Out

Another exceptional week end at the **Old Bush**, and no rain! It seems it was a weekend for the ladies, not only the bevy of brightly dressed patrons, but the terrific performance from some great female vocalists.

Friday's line-up started well with **Crossfire** - 14 year old **Marcus Praestgaard-Stevens**, demonstrating what a prodigious talent he is alongside the unbelievable voice of **Alice Armstrong**, whose vocal range is astonishing.



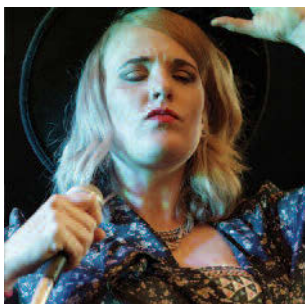
Zoe Green on the Garden Stage is a passionate soulful blues artist. **Robert J Hunter**, who had main staged at Upton, stepped up next, with bassist **James Le Huray**, standing for beard of the day. Meanwhile, Marcus and Alice, had slipped inside for a sweet-sounding acoustic set, to a jammed bar.

John Walsh and his band, brought a mix of traditional blues, from the Delta, Texas crude, and Chicago front, plus a peppering of original songs.

Out in the Carpark, 'home grown' **Gary Harper's Bush Pilots**, wowed even this old school audience. I'm going to run out of descriptive adjectives [Really? Never! - Ed], but 'gobsmackin' will do for his passionate take on Freddie King's 'Have You Ever Loved A Woman'.



Elles Bailey, with her full band, including **Jonny Henderson** on organ, performed one of the best sessions from them I've had the pleasure to hear. Closing out in the carpark, **Greg Coulson** delivered R'nB with plenty of panache. Exhilarating seems an apt description for multi-talented Greg and his band!



Saturday, and the sound gang, morphed into **5 Field Holler**, Chris on Strat and vocals, bass man Emil with Robin keeping the rhythm ticking over on drums with fellow crew member, Justin taking the vocal lead on *Long Tall Sally*.

Hiding away in the tight shadowy bar, **The Sepia Twins**, poured out old time blues, enthraling all those who squeezed in. Slipping out, I angled for **Catfish**, with a stellar performance.



Gerry Jablonski was a new band for me, now indelibly etched in my mind, a rock blues band that mesmerises with ebullient flare, and charismatic showmanship.



Northsyde, with Jules back in place, hold a special place at The Old Bush, bringing rock that invites all in for a party. This left **The Paddy Maguire Band** to close the day, another first for me, and another brilliant female vocalist, an 'in yer face' **Jenna Hooson**.



A gentler start to the day on the Sunday, weary eyed campers chatting over the detritus of their Old Bush breakfasts, ready to be eased in by the traditional blues of **Kyle And Shaw**, acoustic guitar and a wonderful looking fretless bass. **New Amen Corner** took the early afternoon slot, with **Mike D'Abo** as guest vocalist, who surprised me with his personable performance that grabbed and held tight the attention of the now crowded Garden Stage.



Back to the business of Blues, and the glorious **Spikedrivers** awaited, original, engaging, with a carriage full of rail roading songs. Time to slide over to the garden and find **Martin Harley**, and his weissenborn, hollow necked lap guitar, made by German craftsman, Andreas Cuntz. A useful name to inject a little humour into Martin's road stories, that interspaced the mesmerising, beautifully crafted, songs.



This just left time for an energetic set from **Stone Mountain Sinners** with Sarah and Neil sharing the vocal leads as dancers shuffled about the car park marquee. The band seem to grow in strength as they mark up the gigs, and with the long-awaited album imminent, continue to build their fan base.



Another year added to the target 20 years of Blues for Matt and Karen. Two more to go? Well time will tell. Meanwhile, it had been a seamless festival, tasty home cooked food, a range of craft ales and ciders, suitably drained over the weekend. Tempting though it is, I'll refrain from picking out favourites for each day, but the bite of a Chocolate Jesus, is heavenly stuff indeed!

Graham Munn

Swan Theatre & Huntingdon Hall

There's plenty for everyone at the **Swan Theatre** this month, with a whole host of amazing tribute acts including **Talon** – The Best of Eagles: Greatest Hits Tour 2018, on the 6th and 7th of September, **Wannabe** - The Spice Girls Show, on the 20th, **Oye Santana**, **Dire Streets**, and to end the month on a high, don't miss **Voodoo Room**: A Night of Hendrix, Clapton and Cream, on the 28th.

The 22nd of September brings **Andy Fairweather Low and The**



Low Riders to Huntingdon Hall, featuring the **Hi Riders Soul Revue**. With a career in the music industry that began in the 60's, Andy's history is one seeped in rock 'n' roll. Working with the likes of Eric Clapton, George Harrison, Bob Dylan and Jimi Hendrix, Andy has played a part in some of the most important concerts ever staged – The Concert for George, a celebration of George Harrison at

the Royal Albert Hall is just one of many. Andy has been making music and touring with his band The Low Riders since 2007, promising a riotously good show. Don't miss your chance to witness this remarkable band, and its remarkable front man, and the latest chapter of Andy's incredible career. Doors 7:30pm, tickets £23.

On the 29th the Hall plays host to **Quill**, a seven-piece set to share the stage with **Bev Bevan** (ELO, Black Sabbath) on percussion. With a gig sheet dating from the 70s, Quill have only grown in status, skill and creativity, honing their craft to produce a live performance like no other. This gig promises a night of powerful storytelling, delivered through imaginative and beautiful lyrics and music that leave audiences spell-bound. This stunning stage show features guitar and violin harmonies, accompanied by five vocal harmonies, creating a truly magical sound. Doors 7:30pm, tickets £16



What's On?

at The Swan Theatre and Huntingdon Hall

21st September - £18

DIRE STREETS

Seann Walsh
26th September - £15

Andy Fairweather Low & The Low Riders

22nd September - £23

Voodoo Room

28th September - £17.50

Oye Santana
22nd September - £17

Quill
featuring Bev Bevan
29th September - £16

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King Ayisoba and Ayuune Sule, ZEA The Grapes, Hereford | 16th August

The 16th August saw **The Grapes** in Hereford play host to one of the more unusual pairings of acts the city has ever seen.

I'm sorry to say I missed **Haress** for reasons that will be of no interest to anyone but me. Luckily I arrived in time for Amsterdam's **ZEA**, the side project of The Ex's frontman **Arnold de Bohr**, who treated the crowd to their typically idiosyncratic style. The band consists of de Bohr on guitar and vocals with **Oscar Jan Hoogland** accompanying him on dictaphone loops, toy keyboards, megaphones and all sorts of other bizarre makeshift instruments. Their music is sparse and angular with each song built on a disparate fragment of guitar with de Bohr's initially seemingly unrelated vocal. As each song progressed and additional instruments / effects were added they gradually began to make sense and the various musical elements coalesced into a beautiful whole.



Sadly it was often difficult to get lost in the hypnotic music as I was stood in the same postcode as a woman who spent the entire set loudly telling nobody in particular "OH MY GOD I JUST LOVE COMING TO SEE LIVE MUSIC, I LIKE TO SEE LIVE BANDS AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH, IT'S SUCH A BEAUTIFUL COMMUNAL EXPERIENCE ETC..." She clearly loved live music so much that she would do anything other than shut up for a second and listen to any of it.

But I digress...

After spending an entertaining few minutes during the interval talking to the baffled regular punters in the back bar I was reliably informed by a gentleman I now refer to as the Techno Tramp that

the only good music was drum 'n' bass and that everything else was **. After listening to his ten minute rant about how the staff of the Hereford Racecourse are fascists for not playing techno (?) I was thankfully given an out from the conversation by the beginning of **King Ayisoba and Ayuune Sule's** set.

The duo came straight outta Ghana (via Copenhagen following some last minute visa problems) playing their riveting brand of traditional Ghanaian music. I can't claim to have previously had any sort of knowledge of (or interest in) Ghanaian music but I found it fascinating how many layers of rhythm could be created by one man playing kologo and another playing percussion. The two musician's energy and charisma meant they had the crowd in the palms of their hands from the beginning and expertly sustained that level of energy for the entire show. The fact that music so unfamiliar and exotic to my ears was happening in such a provincial setting was quite disorienting too, something akin to the final scene of 2001: A Space Odyssey taking place in a Welsh chip shop.



King Ayisoba's kologo playing is truly something to behold and I would strongly recommend seeing him if he ever plays near you. Just make sure you don't stand near loudly monologuing women or the Techno Tramp.

Congratulations to the excellent people at **Ruralcore** for putting together such an unusually entertaining evening and keeping Hereford's freak flag flying. However, I do have to remind you that you're all fascists for refusing to play techno.

Words: Dr Alfred Carrol, Photos: Elizabeth Still

Steeley Span take to the road

Steeleye Span are fast approaching their 50th anniversary 2019, with a work rate to put many younger artists to shame. The bands' eighth album in twelve years - 2016's *Dodgy Bastards* - saw them return to the folk tales and characters that have always been at the heart of the Steeleye sound. *Dodgy Bastards* saw the folk-



rock pioneers continue drawing stories of murder, religion, incest, skulls, honour killings and tormented spirit. They once more create an inspired and dark take on the music of the British Isles.

Steeleye Span are an English Folk Rock band formed in 1969. Still active today, along with Fairport Convention they are amongst the best known acts of the British Folk Revival and were among the most commercially successful, thanks to their hit singles *Gaudette* and *All Around My Hat*. They had four Top 40 albums and achieved a certified gold record with sales of *All Around My Hat*.

The present Steeleye line-up is: The Legendary **Maddy Prior** (vocals), with long term member **Liam Genockey** (drums), **Julian Littman** (guitar/keyboards and vocals), **Andrew Sinclair** (guitar), **Jesse Mae Smart** (violin and backing vocals), **Benji Kirkpatrick** (guitar and backing vocals - whose father **John Kirkpatrick** played with the band in 1977-1978) and **Roger Carey** (bass)

Steeleye are working on their new studio album for their 2019, 50th Celebration, some of the new tracks will feature in the set list for the up and coming UK tour which takes in the following local shows...

- Tues 2nd October** The Subscription Rooms, Stroud
www.subscriptionrooms.org.uk
- Thurs 4th October** Swan Theatre, Worcester
www.worcesterlive.co.uk
- Thurs 18th October** The Courtyard, Hereford
www.courtyard.org.uk

CAMRA Serving Up More Than Beer To Worcester

This year's festival on Pitchcroft, has included a music stage and 12 bands over the 3 days.

Thursday saw popular local rock/blues cover band, **Locked And Loaded**, support the full on Led Zep covers band, **Fred Zeppelin**, a band openly endorsed by none other than Robert Plant himself.

24 craft ale hours later, a more rootsy offering had some of the crowd hopping around with zesty notes. **Mumbo Jumbo** opened a bottle of eclectic jollity that fizzed and bubbled, dribbling down across the well trod turf, that needed the carers to start a, 'Hose Down', and wetwipe.



Wootown Hillbillies, stepped into the spotlights, with their straw chewing, laconic country mash, armed with guitars, banjos, ukuleles, harp, kazoo, and the big bass, safely in the hands of a



respectable looking **Paul Smith. Luke** led the scything vocal harvest, supported gamely by **Emmy Lou** and **Mr Meaner**, sliding around in the *Bluegrass*. *Salty Dog* was the perfect foil for more ale, the band ploughing on through *'Dead Flowers'*, across *'Dartmoor'*, disturbing the *'Spiders And Snakes'*, all the way to *'Georgia'*.

Next, **Autumn**, with classic covers from Brit rock of The Stones and Who, through to those precursors of punk, Doctor Feelgood, as the 5 piece from Stourport shook the canvas canopy of the Shelton & Lines music marquee.

Finally, **The Poor Boys Of Worcester**, taking us back to a time of sawdust covered floors, and time worn bars, filled with foundry and mill workers, spending their pennies, before they handed the pay packet to waiting wives. Simple pleasures, and a sing song around the old Joanna.

A whole new scene, for the final day of this hopfest, with Institutes opening the doors on Post/Rock Progressive Pop, whatever that is! The acerbic up tempo pop of **Humdrum Express**, kept the ball rolling, but needless to say, my first target



was the anarchic smorgasbord of swampy blues and mystic rhythms, laced with the true tales of life that are woven into the lyrics, blasted out by **Swampcandy**. The tent magically filled, though it could have been the rain, as Joey kicked hell out of the big drum, tugging at the heavy strings of the big bass, whilst Ruben took slide to the neck of his resonator. Biased that I am, Swampcandy brought their spirit and energy into the marquee, and were warmly applauded by many new fans, not to mention a few of us old hangers on.

The hard rocking, bourbon fuelled blues, of **Vincent Flatts** brought *'Chills And Thrills'*, with Bertie blasting out *'When The Blues Catch Up With You'*. The band found themselves *'Standing On Shaky Ground'*, which stuttered to a close, 3 times over, in case once wasn't good enough with Rich, refiring the drums, to spark off the riveting guitar play of **Gary Harper** and **Russ Cook's** grumbling bass.



Outside it was dark and damp, rivulets of water crossed and pooled in the long beer hall, Pitchcroft back to 'soft going'. Inside, the crowd were enjoying the atmosphere, dancing and prancing with complete abandon, a perfect setting for the **Whipjacks**, to stir the air with their home grown punked up, take on highly charged folk.

With barrels drained of any vestige of the ciders and beers that stretched almost beyond sight in the beer 'hall', and my batteries drained too, it was time to leave CAMRA's temptations behind, and seek a more spirited close to my evening.

Graham Munn



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Singer-songwriters, top tributes & big name bands - September at Artrix

This September, things kick off with the return to Artrix of the ever-popular swinging 60s band, **The Counterfeit Sixties** on Friday 7th September at 8pm.

On Saturday 8th September, Artrix welcomes two wonderful female singer-songwriters, with Folkwords nominee **Kelly Oliver** in the Studio at 7.30pm and blues and rock guitarist **Chantel McGregor** in the Main Auditorium at 8pm.



Singer-songwriter **Fridolijn** (pronounced *Freda-Line*) comes to The Studio on Saturday 15th September at 7.30pm. Fridolijn, hales from Amsterdam and her compellingly beautiful and haunting songs blur the lines between jazz, electronic, folk and broken beats. Followed **Totally Tina**, the acclaimed tribute to the Queen of Rock and Soul returning to the Main Auditorium on Saturday 15th September at 8pm.

70s soul band **The Real Thing** come to Artrix on Saturday 21st September at 8pm. Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of their debut hit single *You To Me Are Everything*, The Real Thing, pioneers of soul, funk and dance music and come to Bromsgrove as the only West Midlands gig of their 2018 tour.



The Fortunes bring audiences an evening of stories, songs and anecdotes on Saturday 22nd September at 7.30pm, transporting you back to the swinging 60s and golden age of the 70s.

The Christians, who took the 80s and 90s British pop charts by storm, come to Artrix on Friday 28th September at 7.30pm. The face and voice of The Christians, original front man Garry Christian, performs their hits with his voice as deep, velvet smooth and soulful as ever.

Audiences are invited to step back to the 70s with **G2 Definitive Genesis** as they pay tribute to a vintage period of the band's long and colourful history and the earlier Gabriel years, on Saturday 29th September at 8pm.

Local Guitarist **Remi**

Harris returns to The Studio on Saturday 29th September at 7.30pm, this time as the **Remi Harris Trio**. The show features Remi on a variety of acoustic and electric guitars accompanied by a hot club rhythm section of acoustic guitar and double bass, and it includes solo, duet and trio playing interspersed with Remi's commentary about the history of the music and the guitars he plays.



Last and by no means least, for September, **Andy Fairweather Low** returns to the Main Auditorium on Sunday 30th September at 7.30pm. Known for his work as he lead singer in Amen Corner and 60s hits like *Bend Me Shape Me* and *Hello Suzy*, this performance at Artrix will also feature the **Hi Riders Special Soul Review**.

For further information on the music events throughout September or to book tickets, visit www.artrix.co.uk or call Box Office on 01527 577330.

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<p>FRIDOLIJN 15 SEPTEMBER</p>	<p>G2: DEFINITIVE GENESIS 29 SEPT</p>	<p>JULIE JULY BAND 19 OCT</p>
<p>THE REAL THING 21 SEPT</p>	<p>ROXY MAGIC 5 OCTOBER</p>	<p>NYA'S HOUSE OF SOUL 21 OCT</p>
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BUNKER MENTALITY

MODERN WAR STORIES

My father is 86 years old. Recently I decided to interview him on videotape about his life. The idea was to get an audio-visual record of important events of the 20th century seen through the eyes of someone who lived it. It's quite amazing to hear stories of growing up in and around Birmingham in the 1930s and 40s. Inevitably the Second World War features heavily in these recollections; The excitement of spending the night in Birmingham Town Hall during an air raid. The macabre yet comedic horror of finding an airman's severed hand in the street and using it to scare the girls at school. The utter amazement of witnessing the purple roiling smoke of the largest ever non-nuclear explosion as the munitions store at RAF Fauld blew up, producing a mushroom cloud and a shockwave that was felt in Morocco. The sheer exhilaration and relief of seeing wave after wave of allied aircraft blotting out the sky as they flew on their way to Normandy on D-Day.

And it wasn't just my father's stories. His older brother was in the RAF and whilst on a bombing raid over Hamburg was shot down. Most his crew were lost yet luckily, he parachuted into the back garden of a small house, getting entangled in a washing line. A young woman came out of the house and, after a few moments of mutual fear and surprise, my uncle legged it over a fence. Some hours later he was arrested, beaten and carted off to the notorious Stalag Luft III. He didn't get to participate in *'The Great Escape'* as he wasn't an officer and so managed to survive the war. He became a priest and lived to a ripe old age ... but more of that later.

After World War II my dad joined the army and was shipped out to Korea. In his Centurion tank, he fought at the Battle of the River Imjim. Shortly afterwards he was wounded when a shell landed near his tank while he was taking a piss. Most people's knowledge of the Korean War comes from the TV series M*A*S*H. My father saw the real thing as he was flown in to a Mobile Army Surgical Hospital on a stretcher strapped to the side of a Bell 47 helicopter. The harsh experience of war made my father embrace his Quaker heritage and pacifism. I was born shortly before he left the army. Growing up in an age of relative peace and sometimes prosperity we young punk rockers used to laugh at the disapproving looks of the old codgers and their inevitable refrain of *"I didn't fight in a World War for you to behave this way"*. Because of course, that is exactly what they fought for; our freedom. It does occur to me though that the 'war stories' I tell of things I did in my teens and twenties, which mostly revolve around music, drugs and radical art, pale in comparison. For that I am truly thankful.

My uncle, the priest, having learned some German, was asked to speak to an elderly fraulein, ill in hospital. As they chatted it transpired that as a young girl in Hamburg she came face to face with an English airman who parachuted into her back garden, getting tangled in her washing. After leaving hospital she and my uncle became friends and, in due course, got married. Proof, I suppose, of the power of love.

RT

CWM AGAIN

Tomorrow we are off to build the stage for Cwm Again, the second Cwm Fest, held on a little farm in Herefordshire. The three day festival will feature twenty bands and performers over three days. It's not a huge event, in fact the words 'homely' and 'rustic' come to mind. In many ways it's an old-skool festival. It's bring your own food, beer and tent. There's no glamping, no bright lights, no sponsors. Just a

field, a fire, a stage and some damn good music. The Funky Bunker stage and PA is ideal for this sort of thing. Compact yet deceptively full, perfect for a field full of music fans. We always say, it's not about the wattage, it's about the clarity. Which is why people tell us our stage always sounds good. I put it down to good kit, run by good people.

RT



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6th OCT 2018

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Ian McNabb

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge | Friday 12th Oct

Remembered mainly for **The Icicle Works** and their top 20 "smash" (they called them that in those days) "*Love Is A Wonderful Colour*", main man **Ian McNabb** has been a solo artist for some 25 years. Debut album '*Truth And Beauty*' was released in 1993 and Ian has released over a dozen stylistically shifting albums since then, culminating this year with the recent album '*Our Future In Space*' on which he is backed by fellow Liverpudlians '*Cold Shoulder*'.

Though **The Icicle Works** often confused their audience with a mix of psyche/Byrdsian jangle, funk grooves and straight down the line 'rock' (quite often in the same song ...), they remain one of Liverpool's finest 80's exports & deserve to be ranked alongside other more successful acts such as Echo & The Bunnymen. Indeed, McNabb often rolls out The Icicle Works name to perform two and a half hour shows of their greatest moments every other year or so with current line-up **Roy Corkhill, Richard Naiff** and **Mathew Priest**. This band helped produce what I personally regard as Ian's finest 'solo' album, 2017's '*Star Smile Strong*' which is worth the price alone for '*Clarabella (Come To The Window)*' – truly one of McNabb's top 5 song writing achievements.

As this is a solo performance, expect to hear choice tracks from the most recent albums, plus older Icicle Works gems and songs from across Ian's vast, ever growing songbook, all delivered with passion, honesty and plenty of humour thrown in. This is an intimate performance with very limited tickets and as Ian hasn't played in Stourbridge in over a decade, it is expected to sell out before the date. Don't miss out on what I believe will be a 'gig of the year'.

Baz Bojak



Tickets are available from: www.billetto.co.uk
www.facebook.com/claptrapthevenue
www.claptrapthevenue.com
www.ianmcnabb.com

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LIVE MUSIC in September

Fri 7 Delray Rockets

**Fri 14 Lenny James & the
Gator Squad**

Fri 21 Big Wolf Band

Fri 28 Judy Blu Band

**Tues 11th & 25th - Open Mic
with Pete Kelly 8.30pm**

01562 850433 | www.queensheadwolverley.com

September Comedy:

Evesham Arts Centre (Evesham):

● Raw Comedy (Fri 14th, 20:00)

Another great night of stand-up comedy. Seasoned MC Andy Gleeks will be here to introduce headline comic Lindsay Santoro and some rising comedy stars.

Artrix Arts Centre (Bromsgrove):

● The All-new Scummy Mummies Show (Fri 14th, 20:00)

Following their sell-out UK tour, the Scummy Mummies are BACK with a brand new comedy show. New songs! New sketches! New catsuits! And even some new jokes! Based on the hit Scummy Mummies podcast and best-selling book. As heard on Radio 4 and featured by The Guardian, The Sunday Times and The Telegraph.

● Dr Phil Hammond: Happy Birthday NHS? (Weds 19th, 19:30)

A decade of austerity with a Brexit cherry on top has brought her to her knees. Dr Phil charts the course of the NHS from 1948 to as long as she lasts. Come cheer the heroes, boo the villains and look to the future of robot surgeons, Fitbit nurses and iPhone GPs. Batteries not included. Dr Phil Hammond has worked in the NHS for 31 years and loves it so much he still does. He is also a broadcaster, journalist, author, campaigner and comic.

● Gary Delaney: Gagster's Paradise (Thurs 20th)

One of Britain's leading one-liner comics returns to the road with another onslaught of lean, expertly crafted gaggy. A Mock The Week regular and recent star of the new Live At The Apollo series, Gary's shows are renowned in the business for a near unrivalled volume of high-class gags.

● Barnstormers Comedy (Sat 22nd, 20:00)

Sit back and enjoy a great Saturday night out as Barnstormers Comedy' compere introduces three top comedians from the London/National stand-up comedy circuit. Barnstormers Comedy prides itself on finding the funniest, cleverest and maybe silliest comedians out there so a great night of entertainment is guaranteed.

● Pete Firman: Marvels (Weds 26th, 19:30)

Pete Firman is one of the UK's most popular magicians and he's back on the road with his astonishing new show. You've seen him on television, now experience his trademark blend of laugh-out-loud comedy and jaw-dropping magic live on stage!

● Scott Gibson: Anywhere But Here (Fri 28th, 20:00)

Award-winning (Winner of the Edinburgh Comedy Award for Best Newcomer 2016) comedian Scott Gibson was just 16 when he first tasted freedom and set course with his pals on a voyage of self-discovery. Their destination? Kavos, of course. Where else? Delivered in his breathlessly inimitable style, Gibson takes you on an epic odyssey that charts the bullheaded adventures and choppy waters of youth. A reflective and blisteringly funny treatise on the escapism and hedonism that travel promises, this is a story about friendship, love, pool parties, travel insurance, pushing your limits, plunging headfirst into the deep and the Greek third-choice goal.

Arts, Exhibitions & Cinema

Until 16th Worcester Stands Tall

3rd & 4th Heathers: 30th Anniversary re-release, Artrix Bromsgrove

5 Sept – 4 Nov The Embroiderers' Guild: Artrix, Bromsgrove

8-16th 'h-art', Herefordshire Open Studios

8th Experimental Drawing Workshop, Artists Workhouse, Studley

11th, 14th & 16th The Mis-education of Cameron Post (film), Artrix, Bromsgrove

11th Drink and Doodle, The Paul Pry, Worcester

12th Merry Wives of Windsor: RSC Live, Artrix, Bromsgrove

12th Echoes / I imagine – double bill The Courtyard, Hereford

14-16th Worcester Music Festival

15th Spinning ring Workshop, Artists Workhouse, Studley

16th Ensonglopedia of Animals, Artrix, Bromsgrove

20th Beyond the Barricade, The Courtyard, Hereford

21st Jewel Adgenda book launch. The Chestnut, Worcester.

22nd Septuntil 24th Nov. What Do We Want? British artists

Huntingdon Hall (Worcester):

● Seann Walsh: After This One, I'm Going Home (Weds 26th, 19:30)

Edinburgh Comedy Award nominee and self-dubbed 'Lie-In King', Seann Walsh is "unquestionably the best observational comic of his generation" (The Guardian). "One of comedy's hottest properties...very talented, very funny" London Evening Standard. Redditch Palace Theatre (Redditch):

● Roy Chubby Brown (Thu 6th, 19:30)

If you don't know who this is then you probably shouldn't go.

● Steve Henn – Back Again (Fri 21st, 19:45)

After an incredibly successful 2017, Steve Henn returns with another potential sell-out tour, bringing an eclectic mix of magic, comedy and mentalism back to the stage.

Hereford Left Bank: The Speakeasy (20-22 Bridge Street, HR4 9DG, Hereford):

● Farical Comedy Presents... The Left Bank Comedy Club:

Rob Deering, Jenny Collier, with support from Liam

Schwartz + MC, James Ryan (Sat 1st, 19:30)

Tickets are £10, available at <http://herefordleftbank.com/> The Courtyard (Hereford):

● Marcus Brigstocke: Devil May Care (Sun 9th, 20:00)

A new stand up show from multi-award winning comedian Marcus Brigstocke.

● Cannon & Ball: The Dressing Room (Mon 10th, 19:30)

Tommy Cannon and Bobby Ball, whose career spans over 45 years, have appeared regularly on TV starring in many series of their own, as well as appearing as guests on all the major shows.

● Heineken Comedy Club (Fri 14th, 20:00)

● Seann Walsh: After This One, I'm Going Home (Weds 26th, 19:30)

● Heineken Comedy Club (Fri 28th, 20:00)

Open mic & comedy nights (Various):

● The Holly Bush (Cradley Heath)

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

● ComedyJAM (Firefly, Worcester)

FREE, Third Wednesday of every month, 19:30. Pros and newcomers try out new material. Visit facebook.com/comedyjamworcester/

ComedyJAM: Worcester Music Festival Special (Fri 14th, 20:00)

One off comedy night featuring some of the West Midlands up and coming young talent.

Ceyla Ab: "I was shocked and appalled by Ceyla's sharp and annoyingly observant gags. An exciting and promising writer." - Joe Lycett.

Danny Clives: "Hilarious" - Lenny Henry.

Good Kids: "Fantastically original material that shows a great creative talent" - The Metropolist.

Mark Titchner and Gillian Wearing. 10.30am

Ordinary people's voices against a world of corporate and political messages Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum

22nd Sept Walk and Talk with artist Mark Titchner 11.30am Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum

23rd Portraits in sculpture, Artists Workhouse, Studley

27th Watercolour Workshop with Christopher Hughes Malvern Cube

28th The Big Green Cabaret, Falcon Hotel Mews, Bromyard

29th The Dasilva Marionette Circus Troupe, The Courtyard, Hereford

29th Klik Klik presents musical delights and film. Marrs Bar, Worcester.

29th Bewdley Festival Literary day - St Georges Hall

Until 30th Fields of Battle Lands of Peace, Cathedral Square, Worcester

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

Saturday 01 September 2018

Dr Cornelius

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Relative 3

Samson And Lion, Stourbridge

Asa Payne

Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

Cada

Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Over The Hill

The Bayshill Pub, Cheltenham

Starving Rascals

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Swing Rhythmic

Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Lorkin O'Reilly And Felix M B

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Magic Of Motown

The Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Cream Limousine

The Cricketers, Worcester

Faux Fighters (Foo Fighters Tribute), Altered Voltage

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Satellite Down

The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Chloe Mogg & Ashley Field (1pm Start)

Stourport Carnival (Bandstand), Stourport On Severn

Special Kinda Madness

Guildhall, Gloucester

Slightly OCD

Bar Severn, Upton Upon Severn

The Futures

The Wheelhouse, Upton Upon Severn

Giant And The Georges, Flashhearts, Vice Verdict

Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge

Free Spirit

Baker Street, Gloucester

The River Chickens

The Plough, Upton Upon Severn

The Jigantics At Peppers

Peppers, Gloucester

Fracture

Cross Keys, Gloucester

Behind The Music - Annit Dattani, Loose Change

Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

The Youth Within, Sad Sally, Dead Mob

The Lower George Inn, Gloucester

Without Flight

The Cross Keys Inn, Malvern

Michael D. Wynn, Charlie Baxter

The Jolly Brewmaster, Cheltenham

Witcher

The Three Horseshoes, Malvern

Just Adam

The Green Dragon, Malvern

Mzleading

The Pilot Inn, Gloucester

Wolves And Renegades

Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

Vince And Pablo

The Swan Inn, Barbourne, Worcester

Pete Harrington

West Midland Tavern, Worcester

Risky Galore

Hogarth's, Hereford

Deadbeats

The Plough, Hereford

Sundown Jazz Society (3Pm)

The Left Bank, Hereford

Vulcan Reign

The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Laura-Lee

The New Railway Bell, Kidderminster

The Ferrets

The Chestnut, Worcester

Pigdaze

Reet Petite, Leominster

Madi Stimpson Trio

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Polkadot Robot

The Express Inn, Malvern

The After Dark Band

Woodland Cottage, Redditch

Meg Shaw

Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

The Follicles

La Petite Gare, Kidderminster

Rattlesnake Jake

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Sunday 02 September 2018

Will Killeen

Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

The Space

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

7Side Little Big Band

The Queens Head, Stourbridge

The Follicles (3pm)

Ye Old Crown Inn, Stourport-On-Severn

Jazz Night

The Bayshill Pub, Cheltenham

Ben Jones, Lewis

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Thee Pure Evil Ones

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Friary Guildford Band

The Subscription Rooms, Stroud

The Naughty Corner Ukulele Band

The Earl River Boat, Worcester

Prime Time

The Wheelhouse, Upton Upon Severn

Lemonade Jazz/Funk/Soul Session

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Lost Chord

Hogarth's, Hereford

Niamh, King Rich & Paul Lennox (3pm)

Weary Traveller, Kidderminster

Built For Comfort (4pm)

Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Ralph Allin Quartet (4pm)

The Chestnut, Worcester

Meg Shaw

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

(Some) Haunted Souls (5pm)

The Imperial Tavern, Worcester

Anne-Marie Allen

Alestones, Redditch

Sid Harveyc4uhm

Red Lion, Evesham

Jon Eselle

Albion House Club, Cheltenham

Pink Floyd - Off The Wall

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Wednesday 05 September 2018

Steve Pledger

Café René, Gloucester

Thursday 06 September 2018

C-Jam

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

The Humdrum Express

The Plough, Worcester

Ruben Seabright Acoustic 8:30Pm

The Oil Basin Brewhouse, Worcester

Tamsin Quin

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Sara Dowling

Smokey Joe's, Cheltenham

Rory Mcleod

Brunel Goods Shed, Stroud

Albino Tarantino Session

SVA, Stroud

Chloe Mogg (7Pm Start)

Piccolos, Bewdley

Excelsa Voces

The Yurt At The Nest, Ledbury

Jamie Hawkin

TANK, Gloucester

The Willows

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

The Barron Knights

The Courtyard, Hereford

Kristian Chambers

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Friday 07 September 2018

Voodoo Blue

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Stacey Kay

Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

Mute The Flute

The Hanbury Turn, Bromsgrove

The Secret Cabaret

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

You Want Fox, Self Help

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Gotta Groove Band

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Peanut Shuffle Club

The Prince Albert, Stroud

The Counterfeit Sixties

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Ducking Punches, Emmett Brown, Death By Shotgun, Bright

Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Becky Elliott

The Door Youth Project, Stroud

Julian Argüelles Quartet

Brunel Goods Shed, Stroud

Rory and Johnny Host John Street Social

SVA, Stroud

Frankly Skanky

The Ale House, Stroud

Over The Influence, The Loved And Lost, Lilith & The Knight,**Gallows High**

The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Chloe Mogg & Ashley Field

The Harriers Arms, Kidderminster

The Kate Gee Band

The Boat House, Upton Upon Severn

Steve Linforth

The Wheatsheaf Inn, Worcester

These Smiths

Guildhall, Gloucester

Over The Hill

JAX Bar, Gloucester

Loungetoast

Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Christian Smith, Mark Cheeseman

TANK, Gloucester

Junction 7

Millers Arms, Pershore

Talon - The Best Of Eagles

Swan Theatre, Worcester

The Official Receivers

The Marris Bar, Worcester

On Tour With Elvis | Michael King

The Courtyard, Hereford

Immy And The Boatman

The Earl Boat, South Quay, Worcester

Hannah Davies

The Stables, Hereford

Hobson's Choice - Sea Shanty Group

Swan Brewery, Leominster

Alex Knapman, Andy Margaret

Golden Fleece, Hereford

Jagged Hands

Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

Pink Tribute Show

Hogarth's Stone Manor, Kidderminster

Decades

Reet Petite, Leominster

The Facestealers

The Blue Bell Ryall, Upton Upon Severn

The Delray Rockets

The Queens Head, Wolverley

Clumsy

Café René, Gloucester

The Chicago Blues Brothers Motown Mission

New Inn, Redditch

Elton John Tribute

The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Nicholson, Conor Hayes

The Winyates, Redditch

Woo Town Hill Billies

Red Lion, Evesham

Jacob And Drinkwater With Kim Lowings

St. George's Hall, Bewdley

Stu & Ben Green

The Hop Pole, Bewdley

Flying Ant Day, + Special Guests

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Tyler Massey

Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

The Follicles

The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Nirvana Uk, Moose Jaw

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Sophie Skipp And Dan Hodgetts

No3a, Bromsgrove

Rod Stewart Tribute Night

Catshill Working Mens Club, Bromsgrove

Harry Baldwin

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

3WOD, Social Outcasts, The Lightweight's, Ellisha Green

Paradiddles, Worcester

Saturday 08 September 2018**Polka Dot Robot**

New Inn, Pershore

Planet Rock

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Uniforms + Support

Circle Of Swords, Worcester

2Tone Revue

Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

Jibbafish

The Bayshill Pub, Cheltenham

Tokyo Taboo, Siblings Of Us

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

The After Dark Band

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Kelly Oliver

Artrix, Bromsgrove

The Hush

Albion House Social Club, Cheltenham

The Lizzy Legacy

The Swan, Evesham

Sounds For A Small Space

The Museum In The Park, Stroud

Stop, Stop!

The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Flatworld, Oujamaflip

Number 8 Arts Centre, Pershore

Bourbon Alley

The Wheelhouse, Upton Upon Severn

The Floyd Effect - The Pink Floyd Tribute Show

Buxton Opera House, Buxton

No Fit State

Baker Street, Gloucester

Small Doses

The Railway Inn, Studley

Aardvark Stew

The Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Motus Illusion

Cross Keys, Gloucester

Late Night Shuffle: Arcadia Roots, Skewwhiff & Carnival Djs

Malvern Cube, Malvern

The Blues Brothers Revue

The Cross Keys Inn, Malvern

Dave Onions

Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

The Ferrets!

The Green Dragon, Malvern

Ultimate Coldplay (Coldplay Tribute)

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Forget Me Not - Classical Charity Recital

Elmslie House, Malvern

Conor Maher

The Swan Inn, Barbourne, Worcester

The Hawkmen

The Globe, Hay On Wye

Chantel McGregor

Artrix, Bromsgrove

The Reflections

The Chestnut, Worcester

The Bulltown Boys

Reet Petite, Leominster

Gareth Jones

The Angel, Leominster

Flatworld

No. 8, Pershore

Chalky's Mod Soul & Ska Show

The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Little Mother, Baby Green, Man Punches Cloud

Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Kemastree

Woodland Cottage, Redditch

Manifesto

The Oast House, Redditch

Acoustic Afternoon Sessions (2pm)

The Chester Tavern, Kidderminster

Matt Peplow

Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

Bebe And The Trojans
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Cube Shuffle: Dave Onions, Chris Lomas (Mumbo-Jumbo),
Dead Dad's Club, Amoeba Teen, The Hills Angels, Cellos' cool
(Julia Palmer-Price), Arts&Crafts, Stuff For Kids, Cafe/Bar/Pizza
Malvern Cube, Malvern

The Follicles
Horn And Trumpet, Bewdley

Abba - Swede Dreamz
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Blackwell Music Festival 2018
Hunters Hill Technology College, Bromsgrove

Rockaway Record Fairs Record And Cd Fair 10.00 -16.00
Rockawayrecordfairs.Tumblr.Com/
Imperial Hotel, Hereford

Black Heart Angels
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Sunday 09 September 2018

Emily Abbiss
Wildmoor Oak Pub & Restaurant, Bromsgrove

Trevor 'Babajack' Steger
Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Dave Falshaw (3pm)
Ye Old Crown Inn, Stourport-On-Severn

Sons Of Eddie
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Slow Burner (3pm)
Richmond Place Club, Hereford

Alden, Patterson, Dashwood
Littlevic, Stroud

The After Dark Band (3:30pm)
The Wheelhouse, Upton Upon Severn

Steve Pledger
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Alvor Flute & Harp Duo
Great Barn, Hellens, Hereford

Vo Fletcher
The Earl Boat, South Quay, Worcester

Big Wolf Band (4pm)
Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Vinny Peculiar (5:30pm)
The Chestnut, Worcester

Don't Stop
The Imperial Tavern, Worcester

Mostly Madness Mr President 80'S Afternoon 2.00pm
The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Adam Higgins
Red Lion, Evesham

Tuesday 11 September 2018

Night Like This, Elasea
The Garrison At The Grapes, Hereford

Wednesday 12 September 2018

The Shaggy Dog Raconteurs
The Carpenters Arms, Miserden, Stroud

The Big Band With Five Star Swing
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Benji Kirkpatrick & The Excess
The Fleece Inn, Bretforton

Unplugged - An Acoustic Music Get Together
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Franc Cinelli
Café René, Gloucester

The Drifters
New Inn, Redditch

Thursday 13 September 2018

Steve Tilston
Bromsgrove Folk Club, Bromsgrove

Jimmy Aldridge And Sid Goldsmith
The Prince Albert, Stroud

He Blank Tapes + Dream Phases
The Lanes, Cheltenham

Lewis & Dav
SVA, Stroud

Bringing On Back The 60's
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Men in General
The Yurt At The Nest, Ledbury

Stuart Elwin
TANK, Gloucester

Operation Blues Presents: Mike Vernon & The Mighty Combo
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

The Follicles
Tappeto Lounge, Kidderminster

42 SLAP SEPTEMBER

Jasper Malone Solo 8:30pm
The Oil Basin Brewhouse, Worcester

Foregate Street Blues Band
Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Earth Angel
The Palace Theatre, Redditch

Friday 14 September 2018

The Bungalow
Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Mister Wolf
The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

**Chris Alfred Beauman, State Of Rush, Eleanor Ludlow,
Floorboards, Jay Mansfield**
2Pigs, Cheltenham

Charlie Waterford
Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

Folk in The Foyer: Flatworld
Conquest Theatre, Bromyard

The Zeppelin 3
Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

The Brummies, Mirages, Siracuse, Conor O'rourke
Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Careless Whisper - The George Michael Tribute
Playhouse, Cheltenham

The Corduroy Kings
The Old Courthouse, Cheltenham

Rough Six
The Ale House, Stroud

Patsy Gamble, John Broomhall
The Royal Oak, Stroud

The Inquizitorz
The Fountain Inn, Stroud

Jamie Knight
The Wheatsheaf Inn, Worcester

Durandua Ballet
JAX Bar, Gloucester

Lenny James & The Gator Squad
Queens Head, Wolverley

Paul O'Neill
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

The Peas
TANK, Gloucester

Forty Blue Toes
Millers Arms, Pershore

Beegees Experience
Aggborough Suite, Kidderminster

Some Guys Have All The Luck
The Courtyard, Hereford

Worcester Music Festival: (See Guide)
Various Vernues, Worcester

Circus Diner. Justin And Jake
The Globe, Hay On Wye

Ewan Pollock
Ye Olde Talbot Hotel, Worcester

2Tone Revue, Jay & Eli
The Bridge Inn, Worcester

The Glow Worms
Sebright Arms, Worcester

Caroline Blake
The Stables, Hereford

Coldfinger
Mamma Jammass, Hereford

Ronnie & The Reverbs
Golden Cross Inn, Hereford

Leanne & King Rich
The Sportsman Music Venue, Kidderminster

Witcher
The Blue Bell Ryall, Upton Upon Severn

Soul Strutters
Café René, Gloucester

The Four Seasons String Quartet With Alan Fairs
Malvern Theatre, Malvern

Them Heavy People - Kate Bush Live Tribute Band
The Palace Theatre, Redditch

Third Verse
Red Lion, Evesham

The After Dark Band
The Cross Keys, Alcester

Greg Wyard With Bryn Teeling And Steve Worley
St. George'S Hall, Bewdley

The Fleetwood Mac Songbook
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Poppy Ws
No 3a, Bromsgrove

The Final Four
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Saturday 15 September 2018

Matt Bowen

New Inn, Pershore

The Reflections

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Buzzard, Voodoo Sioux, Theia, Gunners Law, Wakedown,

King Corpse, Flashhearts, We Were Demons

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Rumour

The Unicorn, Stourbridge

Test Drive Rock Band

Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Purple Zeppelin

The Civic, Stourport-On-Severn

Mark Walby

The Bayshill Pub, Cheltenham

Faith

Areley Kings Village Hall, Stourport-On-Severn

Millie Manders And The Shutup

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

City Glow

Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Scott Lavene

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Fridolijn

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Uk Pink Floyd Experience

Town Hall, Cheltenham

Totally Tina!

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Noasis

The Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Gareth Lemon

Brewhouse & Kitchen, Cheltenham

Tideman's Piece - Raw Material Productions (3:15pm)

The Museum in The Park, Stroud

Raising Cain

The Swan, Evesham

Jibbafish

The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Face Stealers

The Trumpet Inn, Evesham

Thirsty Work

The Wheelhouse, Upton Upon Severn

The Floyd Effect - The Pink Floyd Tribute Show

Dagenham Roundhouse, Dagenham

Rockology

Baker Street, Gloucester

Off The Grid

The Railway Inn, Studley

Ashesfest IX

The Lower George Inn, Gloucester

The Shaggy Dog Raconteurs

Cross Keys, Gloucester

Rewind 80s

The Cross Keys Inn, Malvern

The Rain Trees

Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Sax Appeal

The Green Dragon, Malvern

Utopia & Wasteland | Greg Russell & Ciaran Algar

The Courtyard, Hereford

Worcester Music Festival: (See Guide)

Various Vernues, Worcester

Steve Descher

The Swan Inn, Barbourne, Worcester

Take That Tribute Evening

Three Counties Hotel, Worcester

The Strangers

Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

The Night Hours

GW RSA - Railway Club, Hereford

The Rebels

Reet Petite, Leominster

Dave Onions

The Barn, Ladbury

Roving Crows

Colwall Village Hall, Malvern

The West End Jerseys

The Palace Theatre, Redditch

Mute The Flute

Alestons, Redditch

The One Love Band

The Oast House, Redditch

Sarah Martyn Acoustic Duo

Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

Me For Queen, Minnie Birch

West Malvern Social Club, West Malvern

Steve Ajao

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Supernova

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Sunday 16 September 2018

Vo Fletcher

Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Band Autumn (3pm)

Ye Old Crown Inn, Stourport-On-Severn

Simon And Garfunkel Sing-A-Long

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Simon Deeley's Blue Haze Quartet

The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock

The New Jersey Boys - Tribute (4pm)

Guildhall, Gloucester

The Bones

The Wheelhouse, Upton Upon Severn

Aardvark Stew

Bumblehole, Netherton

You Win Again: Celebrating The Music Of The Bee Gees

Swan Theatre, Worcester

Melissa Greener

Elmslie House, Malvern

Worcester Music Festival: (See Guide)

Various Vernues, Worcester

Polly Edwards

The Crown, Kidderminster

Jeff Chapman's Roosters (4pm)

Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Blues Anoraks

Red Lion, Evesham

12 Bands And 12 Acoustic Acts (Noon)

Biggefest, Tardebigge

Jon Eselle - Olly Murs Tribute

The Bell, Coleshill

The Follicles

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Tuesday 18 September 2018

Paul Bridgwater & The Electric Blues Rebellion, Sari Schorr

Robin 2, Bilston

American Sign Language

Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Wednesday 19 September 2018

Jacob & Drinkwater

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Roderick Williams

Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

The Bon Jovi Experience

The Courtyard, Hereford

Martin Harley & Daniel Kimbro

The Courtyard, Hereford

Garrington T. Jones Music

The Brick Room, Worcester

Phil King

Café René, Gloucester

Jason Donovan

New Inn, Redditch

Hey Jester, Clarion, What's Left

Iglu Music Prog. Rock Night, Birmingham (Digbeth)

Thursday 20 September 2018

Perry Foster (The Blues Man)

The Oil Basin Brewhouse, Worcester

The Longest Johns - Shanty Singers

The Yurt At The Nest, Ledbury

Queer Arts in The Shires Festival

Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Steve Ferbrache

TANK, Gloucester

Wannabe - The Spice Girls Show

Swan Theatre, Worcester

Beyond The Barricade

The Courtyard, Hereford

Just Adam

Ye Olde Bull Ring Tavern, Ludlow

Eddie Martin

Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Mark Latimer

Reet Petite, Leominster

Friday 21 September 2018

The Transporters

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Mother Popcorn

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Echoic, The More You Know

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

The Real Thing: Feel The Force Tour

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Steve Ashley

Playhouse, Cheltenham

Katy J Pearson, Port Erin, The Desert

The Marshall Rooms, Stroud

Vw Festival

Clothiers Arms, Stroud

Grease: Live Sing-Along

Regal, Evesham

Beautiful Noise

Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Steve Tilston

Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

Scott Matthews

Guildhall, Gloucester

Dan Greenaway

The Wheatsheaf Inn, Worcester

The Shyteds

Baker Street, Gloucester

Million Empire, Plus Support Tbc

The Victoria, Birmingham

Big Wolf Band

Queens Head, Wolverley

The Rhythm Slingers

Saintbridge Sport Centre, Gloucester

Dead Dads Club

Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Mark Morriss (The Bluetones)

The Railway, Cheltenham

Amanda Stone

Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Sam Draisey

TANK, Gloucester

Skrood

Millers Arms, Pershore

Surprise Attacks Presents: Bivouac, Institutes, Navajo Ace

The Firefly, Worcester

Dire Streets

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Troy Redfern

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Olly Murs Tribute

Farmhouse Inns, Bluebell Farm, Worcester

Sons Of Yoda

Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

Ital Sounds - Reggae On The River

The Earl Boat, South Quay, Worcester

Puffer

The Stables, Hereford

A Hard Road

Mamma Jammies, Hereford

Big Fat Shorties

The Blue Bell Ryall, Upton Upon Severn

The Machine Rages On

Café René, Gloucester

We Three Kings - Of Rock N Roll

The Palace Theatre, Redditch

Paul Chief O'Neil

Red Lion, Evesham

The Blooming Magnolias

The Hop Pole, Bewdley

Chicken Fricassee Corporation, Odmansbox, Gary Mincher

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Black Boxes, Nothing Clean, Vile Sect, Mudhumper

The Grapes, Hereford

The Follicles

The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

Changing Man V The Police Force

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Emily White

No3a, Bromsgrove

Saturday 22 September 2018

Max Band

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Gravy Train

New Inn, Pershore

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Gene Genie And The Lemon Squeezers

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Julie Mac

Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

Voice Squad

Conquest Theatre, Bromyard

Jukes, Jenny Lindfors

The Prince Albert, Stroud

The Fortunes: Past And Present

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Nancy Kerr & James Fagan

The Subscription Rooms, Stroud

Laura Davis

The Curious Wine Cellar, Northleach

Hills Fest '18

Hilles House, Stroud

Mister Wolf

The Swan, Evesham

Silver Angel (2/3 Of The Executives!)

The Green Dragon, Malvern

Cul Fiction

The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Duran (Duran Duran Tribute)

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

The Upbeat Beatles

Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

Yolanda Brown

Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Answer Back

The Bridge Inn & Ferryin The Bridge Inn & Ferry, Evesham

The Hush

The Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Soul And Motown

The Boat House, Upton Upon Severn

The GTs

Bar Severn, Upton Upon Severn

Over The Hill

The Wheelhouse, Upton Upon Severn

The Floyd Effect - The Pink Floyd Tribute Show

Mcmillan Theatre, Bridgwater

Ruzz Guitar's Blues Revue

Cross Keys, Gloucester

Variety Night - Comedy, Spoken Word, Hip Hop

Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Who's Toned

The Kings Theatre, Gloucester

Dancefloor Deluxe

The Cross Keys Inn, Malvern

Charlie Baxter, Michael D. Wynn

Frogfest @ The Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Oye Santana

Swan Theatre, Worcester

Andy Fairweather Low & The Low Riders

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Worcestershire Pride 2018

South Quay, Worcester

Alden, Patterson, Dashwood

The Globe, Hay On Wye

Just Charlotte

Rainbow Hill Club, Worcester

Simon Wallace

The Swan Inn, Barbourne, Worcester

Madness Evening

Three Counties Hotel, Hereford

Woo Town Hill Billies

The Earl Boat, South Quay, Worcester

Ruffnecks

The Boars Head, Kidderminster

Built For Comfort

The Chestnut, Worcester

Jack Brett

Reet Petite, Leominster

The Delray Rockets

Peace Hall, Sinton Green, Hallow, Worcester

Hell & Folklaw 7-9pm Paris Monster 9.30 - 11pm

Malvern Cube, Malvern

Whitney: Queen Of The Night

Malvern Theatre, Malvern

Chewie

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Pete Harrington Total 80's Night

The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

The Little Mix Experience

The Palace Theatre, Redditch

Offthegrid

Alestones, Redditch

Sunday 23 September 2018

Dave Beale

Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

The James Brothers (3pm)

Ye Old Crown Inn, Stourport-On-Severn

The Three Degrees

The Bacon Theatre, Cheltenham

Gallowglass

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Macca

The Bayshill Pub, Cheltenham

Roy G Hemmings

Town Hall, Cheltenham

Afoot

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Horse Feathers, Recovering Satellites

The Lanes, Cheltenham

Lindisfarne

Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Little Dave

The Wheelhouse, Upton Upon Severn

Claire Boswell

The Earl, Worcester

Mice in A Matchbox

Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Dragon Heart Rocks: Mark Morris, Come Together,

Nick Capaldi, Altered Voltage

Drummonds, Worcester

Spear Of Destiny

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Steve Ajao'S Blues Giants (4pm)

Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Trevor Babajack (5:30Pm)

The Chestnut, Worcester

Tom Dibb & A Bloke Called Maddy (5pm)

The Imperial Tavern, Worcester

Guy Challenger

Red Lion, Evesham

Jon Eselle

The White Bear, Tewkesbury

Classic Rock Showcase AC/DC, Ozzy Osbourne & UFO Tribs

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Tuesday 25 September 2018

Baroque Night With Dave Ayre

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Fleur Stevenson

The Hatch, Eardiston

Microwave, Drug Church + Support

The Marrs bar

Wednesday 26 September 2018

Lizz Lipscombe

The Retreat Wine Bar, Cheltenham

Memphis

Café René, Gloucester

Tony Pitt's All Stars: Evening of Hot Foot Tapping Jazz.

Pershore Jazz Club, Pershore Football Club Function Room,

Thursday 27 September 2018

Ewan Pollock Acoustic 8:30pm

The Oil Basin Brewhouse, Worcester

Big Boy Bloater And The Limits

Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

Peter Bruntnell, Alex Lipinski

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Steve Tilston

Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

Hereford Soul Choir

The Yurt At The Nest, Ledbury

Alex Chapman

TANK, Gloucester

Elles Bailey

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Rolling Back The Years

The Palace Theatre, Redditch

Earl Okin - Acoustic Music Convention

The Old Rectifying House, Worcester

George Cummings, Trev Davies, Dayne Cranenburgh

Hopelands, Weobley, Herefordshire

Andy Richards Band

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Ange Hardy

Bromsgrove Folk Club, Bromsgrove

Friday 28 September 2018

Wingwalkers

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Crazy Dr. Bruce & The Sidewinders

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

It's All About Buddy

Stourport Royal British Legion, Stourport-On-Severn

Death Koolaid, The Polyesters

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Luca Stricagnoli

Town Hall, Cheltenham

The Christians

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Emily Sun With Gamal Khamis: Bromsgrove Concerts

Artrix, Bromsgrove

The Charlton Blues Kings

The Royal, Cheltenham

Seckou Keita: Hope, Life, Morality And Greatness

St. Laurence Church, Stroud

Make Mine A Double

The Old Courthouse, Cheltenham

The Dirty Nil + Support

The Flapper, Birmingham

Risky Galore

Café Rouge, Cheltenham

Roy Orbison And The Traveling Wilburys Tribute Show

Regal, Evesham

Talon

Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Jibbafish

The Plough, Upton Upon Severn

Mumbo-Jumbo

Elmslie House, Malvern

Roger Roberts

The Wheatsheaf Inn, Worcester

The Shyteds

JAX Bar, Gloucester

Judy Blu Band

Queens Head, Wolverley

Rhapsody - The Queen Tribute

Walls Club, Gloucester

The Fidgets

Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Molly-Anne

TANK, Gloucester

Black Knight

Millers Arms, Pershore

Voices Unlimited Presents: Welcome To The Sixties!

Swan Theatre, Worcester

Voodoo Room

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Jamie Knight

Ye Olde Talbot Hotel, Worcester

Swing Caravan

The Globe, Hay On Wye

The Unconventionals

Sebright Arms, Worcester

Just Adam

The Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Madi Stimpson Trio

The Earl Boat, South Quay, Worcester

The Future Set

Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

Lou Richardson

The Stables, Hereford

XL5

The Monument, Hereford

Just Charlotte

The Old Peacock, Kidderminster

Vague

Reet Petite, Leominster

Reflections

The Blue Bell Ryall, Upton Upon Severn

Quadrophenia

Malvern Theatre, Malvern

Swamp Stomp String Band

Café René, Gloucester

The Bon Jovi Experience

The Palace Theatre, Redditch

The Suns Of Hugh, Two Things With Strings, Ian Craigian,

Viv Bell And Huw Knight, Mice in A Matchbox

The Falcon Hotel Mews, Bromyard

Jo Silver

Red Lion, Evesham

Ant Hill Mob

The Frog, Bidford-On-Avon

Mister Wolf
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Mel And Him
Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

Gaz Brookfield, Jake Martin
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

UB40 - Labour Of Love
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

The Ron Jeremy Band
Bromsgrove Rugby Football Club, Bromsgrove

Saturday 29 September 2018

Ruben Seabright
David Lloyd, Bromsgrove

Eastwood Band
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Robbie Williams Tribute William Jack Kin
Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

The Stacks
The Bayshill Pub, Cheltenham

Wizards Of Oz, Kharmagheddon
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

G2 – Definitive Genesis
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Remi Harris Trio
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Steampunk Night
Whittle Taps, Cheltenham

Wille And The Bandits
The Marshall Rooms, Stroud

Playback
The Cricketers, Worcester

The Hawthornes
Harry Cook Free House, Cheltenham

Adam Cross
Bee Hive, Cheltenham

Molly-Anne
Stroud Brewery, Stroud

Dolly Parton Tribute Night
Amber Café Bar, Evesham

Ross Angeles
The Spice Of Life, Soho, London

Paul "Chief" O'Neill
The Green Dragon, Malvern

Toyah - Up Close & Personal
Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

Adam Kay: This Is Going To Hurt
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Offthegrid
Salford Priors, Eves

Funky Mojos
Baker Street, Gloucester

The Out Casts
The Wheelhouse, Upton Upon Severn

Signing Off - UB40 Tribute Band
The Railway Inn, Studley

Soul Stripper
Cross Keys, Gloucester

Chimp On A Bike
The Wheatpieces (Hungry House), Tewkesbury

Monkey Jam
The Avenue, Gloucester

Drunk in Charge, Kearney's Jig, Ambition Demolition
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Obscure
The Cross Keys Inn, Malvern

Jenny Hallam
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Raising Cain
Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

Jane Phillips
St James Club, Gloucester

Electric Swing Circus
The Left Bank, Hereford

Voices Unlimited Presents: Welcome To The Sixties!
Swan Theatre, Worcester

Keith James - The Songs Of Leonard Cohen
The Globe, Hay On Wye

Nikki Rous
The Swan Inn, Barbourne, Worcester

Nobby Wright
The Earl Boat, South Quay, Worcester

Red Lemon Electric Blues Band
Town Hall, Stourbridge

Better Than We Look
The King Teddy, Longlevens, Gloucester

The Doonies
Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

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The Lost Chord
The Garrison At The Grapes, Hereford

Skastuds, Nicholson
Town Hall, Kidderminster

The Jam Explosion
Wolverley Social Club, Kidderminster

Just Charlotte (3-6pm)
The Weavers, Kidderminster

Just Charlotte
St John's Social Club, Kidderminster

Clarksville Mountain Band
The Chestnut, Worcester

Autumn
Reet Petite, Leominster

The GTs
New Inn, Pershore

Click Clk Presents Musical Delights & Film, Featuring Collective 43, Woo Town Hillbillies & Buster Keaton
The Marris Bar, Worcester

Polkadot Robot
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Little Dave
Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

Dan Donnelly, Rev Hammer
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Sunday 30 September 2018

Ray Mytton
Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Izzy The Push Acoustic
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Brains For Breakfast
Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

John Coghlan's Quo
Town Hall, Cheltenham

Andy Fairweather-Low & The Low Riders, The High Riders
Soul Revue

Simon Deeley's Blue Haze Quartet
De Koffie Pot, Hereford

Night Crawlers
The Wheelhouse, Upton Upon Severn

Disco Soup
The Earl Boat, South Quay, Worcester

The Strays (4pm)
Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Pete Hyde & Friends (5:30pm)
The Chestnut, Worcester

Jay & Eli
The Imperial Tavern, Worcester

Blue Haze Quartet
The Left Bank, Hereford

Nick Lyndon And Sarah Warren (4pm)
The Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Mark Hepworth
Red Lion, Evesham

Lost Hombres
Richmond Place Club, Hereford

Eddy Morton Band, Patched Up Parachutes
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

September Festivals

01 September 2018: World in a Day Festival
The Fold, Bransford

1-2 September 2018: Mosley Folk Festival
Mosley Park, Birmingham

6-9 September 2018: Bromyard Folk Festival
Bush Bank, Suckley, Bromyard

8-9 September 2018: Salt Fest
Vines Park, Droitwich

7-9 September 2018: Busfest
Three Counties Showground, Malvern

14-16 September 2018: Worcester Music Festival
Various venues Worcester

21-23 September 2018: Dubs of Anarchy Festival
Ashdown Farm, Evesham

21-23 September 2018: Frog Fest
Frog & Fiddle, Cheltenham

22 September 2018: John Bonham A Celebration
Festival Marquee, Redditch

28-30 September 2018: Underground Festival
Guildhall, Gloucester

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

Pideale 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

First Tues - Open Mic

Bar 57, Pershore

Last Tues - Folk Night

The Millers Arms, Pershore

First Tues - Folk Session run by Phil Knowles

Rose and Crown, Feckenham

First Tues - The Courtyard Open Mic Night

Cafe Bar, The Courtyard, Hereford

Every Tue Perdido Street Jazz Band

The Fox & Hounds, Lulsley

First Tues - For 12-19 year olds 7pm

Pershore Library

Every 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

2nd Wednesday Permission to speak - spoken word & poetry

Clap Trap The Venue, Stourbridge

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

Last Wednesday Priest & The Beast Jam Night (No covers) 7pm

Clap Trap The Venue, Stourbridge

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

Marr's Bar, Worcester

3rd Wed of Month - Acoustic Session

The Admiral Rodney, Berrow Gt

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

3rd Thursday - TTs Musonic Night

The Cap n Gown, Worcester

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

Every other Sunday Open Mic with Tom Doggett 6pm-9pm

Thatched Tavern, Honeybourne

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

Sunday Shenanigans Open Mic Night 7pm every Sunday

Clap Trap The Venue, Stourbridge

Every Sunday Unplugged 3pm-5pm

The Iron Road Rock Bar, Evesham

2nd Sun - Acoustic Session

The Hop Pole, Droitwich

Every other Sunday open mic hosted by Ruben Sebright 9pm

The Oil Basin, Worcester

Every other Sunday open mic hosted by Ruben Sebright 9pm

The Unicorn, Malvern

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

If any of these regular music nights are no longer running or you run one not on this list, please let us know editorial@slapmag.co.uk

THE MARRS BAR

SEPT
OCT 2018

Elles Bailey
Thursday September 27



Saturday September 1

Faux Fighters (tribute), Altered Voltage

£8 in advance £10 on the door

Sunday September 2

Jazz/Funk/Soul session

£4 on the door

Thursday September 6

The Willows

£12 in advance £14 on the door

Friday September 7

The Official Receivers

£8 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday September 8

Ultimate Coldplay (Coldplay tribute)

£8 in advance £10 on the door

Sunday September 9

Steve Pledger

Thursday September 13

Operation Blues Presents: Mike Vernon & The Mighty Combo

£12.50 in advance £15 on the door

Friday - Sunday September 14 -16

Worcester Music Festival:

Friday 14 - The Task in Hand

Saturday 15 - Slap Mag

Sunday 16 - UnCover

See WMF Guide - Free Entry

Friday September 21

Troy Redfern

£6 in advance £8 on the door

Saturday September 22

Duran (Duran Duran tribute)

£8 in advance £10 on the door

Sunday September 23

Spear Of Destiny

£15 in advance £18 on the door

Thursday September 27

FCS: Microwave, Drug Church + Support

£8 in advance £10 on the door

Thursday September 27

Elles Bailey

£10 in advance £12 on the door

Saturday September 29

Clik Clak Musical delights & film, Collective

43, Woo Town Hillbillies & Buster Keaton

£5 in advance

Thursday October 4

SA: Poisonous Birds, Howard James

Kenny, Rosebud

£4 on the door

Friday October 5

Fred Zeppelin (Led Zeppelin tribute)

£8 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday October 6

Guns Or Roses

£8 in advance £10 on the door

Sunday October 7

Jazz/Funk/Soul session

£4 on the door

Thursday October 11

UnCover: Civilian Radio, Mallavora

£5 in advance £7 on the door

Friday October 12

Funke And The Two Tone Baby

£8 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday October 13

Dizzy Lizzy (Thin Lizzy tribute)

+ Soul Stripper (AC/DC tribute)

£8 in advance £10 on the door

Wednesdays - Jamming night - FREE entry

Late Fridays & Saturdays - Midnight till 4am

www.marrsbar.co.uk

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