

# SLAP

Issue 89

Mar 2019

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**SLAP** Supporting Local Arts & Performers



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# SLAP

Mar 2019 MAGAZINE

## SLAP MAGAZINE

Unit 3a, Lowesmoor Wharf,  
Worcester WR1 2RS

Telephone: 01905 26660  
editorial@slapmag.co.uk

### EDITORIAL

Mark Hogan - Editor

Kate Cox - Arts Editor

Sub Editors - Jasmine Griffin, Emily Branson,  
Katie Harris, Helen Mole

Proof Reading - Michael Bramhall

### CONTRIBUTORS

Andy O'Hare

Will Munn

Geoffrey Head

Graham Munn

Chloe Mogg

Megan White

Suz Winspear

Kate Ford

Bob Jones

Ian Passey

Andy Mapp

Steve Gould

Barry Scott

Katherine Harris

Trevor price

Helen Mole

Nicholas Burford

Eleanor Miles

Emily Branson

Alex Redmond

### DESIGN

Mark Hogan

### WEB & SOCIAL MEDIA

Ant Robbins, Katherine Harris

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@slapmaguk

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Hello and welcome to the March issue of Slap Magazine, and a bumper issue it is too. 56 pages packed with local arts news, views, reviews and previews. Hopefully enough to keep you interested throughout the month.

February was an exciting month for us. It started brightly with Independent Venue Week and a visit from 6Music's Steve Lamacq helping to raise the profile of an already thriving local music scene. Check out our own Geoffrey Head's pictorial highlights of a week of IVW gigs in our centre spread.

The month ended even brighter with an early Spring to get us in the festival mood. As the festivals are beginning to announce their line ups we take a look at Lechlade and Fusion, showing just how diverse the scene can be with many more to follow over the coming months.

Spoken word, Poetry and Comedy are also well covered within these pages, with something here for everyone. So why not make the most of it folks, go to a show, an exhibition, a viewing or even a gig in the pub, there's over six hundred to choose from in this area alone!

Over the last year or so we've had numerous enquiries from people about subscribing to Slap Mag to be delivered to their door. We've listened and decided that to give our readers the option. There are of course costs associated with this, but by subscribing you'd be helping to support the magazine. For details visit [slapmag.co.uk/subscribe](http://slapmag.co.uk/subscribe)

*Subscrib-Ed*



Our cover image is Tim Lane of The Pink Diamond Review from Uncover Promotions at The, Marris Bar by *sarah lissemore john (Lissywitch)*. See pg 40



Spotify

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## No Excuse for a Pub Crawl

Brand new Worcester **CAMRA** festival celebrating the cities pubs and breweries runs from 29th - 31st March 2019

The historic city of Worcester has recently seen an explosion of new pubs and breweries enhancing its vibrant drinking scene, and the Worcester branch of CAMRA has joined forces with a dozen city venues to organise Worcester's first pub and brewery festival across the city centre. With all 12 venues within a mile of Foregate Street train station and the city's bus station.

Participating venues are: **The Arch Rivals, The Cardinals Hat, The Dragon Inn, The Eagle Vaults, The Firefly, The Imperial, King Charles II, The Oil Basin, The Paul Pry, The Plough, The Sociable Beer Company & The Worcester Brewing Company.**

With over 120 beers and ciders, some of which that will never have been seen before in the city, to go alongside the excellent food they have available. And some venues will have live entertainment.

CAMRA volunteers will be meeting and greeting visitors outside Foregate Street station and a special booklet will be available profiling each of the participating venues along with a map to help visitors find them. Members will get discounts and access to special promotions in many of the venues and there will be opportunities to join the incredibly successful campaign that members waged to get better beer in Britain.

For more information visit [www.worcesterpubbeerfestival.com](http://www.worcesterpubbeerfestival.com) or find Worcester Pub Beer Festival on facebook and Twitter.

## Estrons Estranged

**Estrons** have just called it a day out of the blue - tour dates cancelled, full refunds and it's a pretty frank statement of why it's happened on their FB page. Gutted - they were absolutely brilliant - them and **Echoic** already this year and we're not out of February yet...

## Joby Dream On

Malvern's **Carol Lee Sampson** has recorded a song in memory of the homeless chap who was sadly found dead in a shop doorway on Christmas Day. Called '*Joby Dream On*' all proceeds from the CD's sale will go towards helping other homeless people in the Malvern area. It's Carol's own tribute to **Joby Sparrey** who was known to her and others in the Malvern Link area. The CD or a download are available from the Justgiving page [joby-dream-on](http://joby-dream-on)

## Does this Festival Exist?

Billed as the world's largest music and philosophy festival this year's **HowTheLightGetsIn** from 24 to 27 May has announced speakers including mathematician **Roger Penrose**, comedian **Helen Lederer** and journalist **Dave Aaronovitch**. Among the musical accompaniment will be sets from **Anna Calvi, British Sea Power** and **The Correspondents** - plus local chap **Trevor 'Babajack' Steger!** More at [howthelightgetsin.org](http://howthelightgetsin.org)

## Severn Street Space

Plans have been approved for a new gallery space at the former **Royal Porcelain** site in Severn Street Worcester. The project - which will incorporate the old painting house and trade showroom - is sponsored by the Bransford Trust who have a history of supporting creative arts for young people.

## I've no idea how it works, but I like it

A British company has launched a regulated 'royalty revenue' music investment platform with the aim of supporting new artists and their music. Fans can invest as little as £10 on Songbook in artists of their choice and will earn royalties in the same way as record companies every time 'their' song is downloaded, streamed, placed in films, adverts or games. Income is also generated each time the song is performed live or broadcast - sounds different...

## Strangers, Scouting for Girls

More acts announced for this year's 15th **Wychwood Festival** running from 31 May to 2 June including **The Strangers** as the Sunday night headliners, plus **Geno Washington, Scouting For Girls, T'Pau, Craig Charles** and local lass **Toyah**. More at [wychwoodfestival.com](http://wychwoodfestival.com).

## Giants Stack up at Hay

More acts announced for this year's **Hay Festival** running from 25 May to June 2 - including comedian **Jimmy Carr**, filmmaker **Stacey Dooley** plus music from **The Gipsy Kings** and **The Waterboys** - more info at [www.hayfestival.com](http://www.hayfestival.com)

## Led, but not buried

After much speculation the future of **Ledbury Carnival** now seems secure with a new chairman and committee in place. This year is the 45th anniversary of the well-attended event since its revival in the 70s - and takes place on August Bank Holiday Monday with the theme '**Ledbury All At Sea**'...

## Granny's new attic

Fair play to young local folk virtuosos **Granny's Attic** who after many appearances at the long-standing **Bromyard Folk Festival** have been invited to become patrons - and were 'delighted' to accept! Festival director **Lynne Barker** said that the trio of Lewis, George and Cohen had flourished in recent years and shared the festival's enthusiasm for traditional folk music. Bromyard Folk Festival runs from 5 to 8 September.

## His Master Vacated

Mixed moods amongst local recorded music fiends as the **HMV** store in Crowngate Worcester will remain open after the retailer was taken over by Canadian company Sunrise after going into administration. No such luck for buffs in Hereford and Merry Hill though as these are among the 27 outlets marked for closure...

## Playing Gigs in the Rain

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of their hit '*Staying Out For The Summer*' Britpop outfit **Dodgy** are releasing a new version together with a UK-wide tour in collaboration with **Musicians Against Homelessness** and **Crisis**. Frontman **Nigel Clark** who lives in Pershore said the band had previously supported MAH on the festival circuit and were keen to further work with this 'fine bunch of people' to support their aims.



The Original  
**ANNIE'S**  
*Burger Shack*

**10th Mar 2019**

**CHEVY CHASE STOLE MY WIFE  
+ FRACTURE ZONE**

Chevy Chase Stole My Wife are an alternative and surreal UK band. If you like your rock catchy, or you like your pop dirty, and appreciate love songs for inanimate objects, the 'Chasers are your new best friends.

**18th Mar 2019**

**Faithful City Shows presents**

**KATIE ELLEN (USA)  
NUNS OF THE TUNDRA  
HORROR ON THE HIGH SEAS  
REDWOOD**

Katie Ellen is a collaboration of long time friends Anika Pyle and Dan Freilly (of the late Chumped), Lou Hanman (of RVIVR & Caves) and Anthony Tinnirella (of Strangepride).

**29th Mar 2019**

**UnCover presents**

**RUNRUMMER, SLOW TAPES  
POPPY WS + CHLOE MOGG**

"With Runrunner's recent single 'penny drop' steadily hooking the girls of the masses, there's a buzz in the air for this west midlands lass and rightly so." - Born Music.

**31st Mar 2019**

**UnCover presents**

**FROGG SOUFFLÉ  
+ NEXT TO EMBER**

"Frogg Soufflé are a groove-fancious original disco-funk band from Worcester & Malvern. Instantly catchy upbeat hooks and lyrics, and huge 4 part harmonies"

**18th April 2019**

**Surprise Attacks presents**

**THOSE AMONGST US ARE WOLVES  
GOWST  
ZILCH**

TAUJAW bring their epic post rock sound to Worcester. Supported by local math rockers Gowst and hot tipped power grunge trio Zilch

**28th April 2019**

**THE JERICHO RACKS  
THE TYLER MASSEY TRIO  
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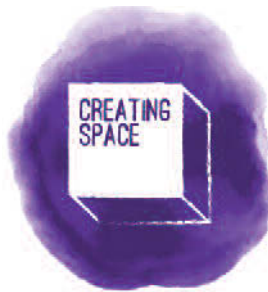




Clik Clik is prepping now for the brighter days as hibernation starts to disappear!

If you need some quirky addition for an event, please get in touch.

[www.clikclikcollective.com](http://www.clikclikcollective.com)



Following on from the success of the monthly '**Drink and Doodle**' event at **The Paul Pry**, Worcester (2nd Tues of every month), February saw the premier evening of **Creating Space's** newest creative social event '**Sip and Sketch**' - Monthly artist meet up' at **The Firefly** in Lowesmoor.

## Text & Texture Until 3rd April. [www.number8.org](http://www.number8.org)

A new exhibition at **Pershore Number 8** brings together a selection of beautiful artist books and seascapes with stitching by **Anthea Millier**, alongside a series of oil paintings on board and abstract hand-printed monotypes by **Lynsey James**.



## Fashioning Peace

The Great War changed everything. From science and medicine to art and culture to the very core of society and its values, its effects were far reaching and dramatic. This exhibition, which takes place throughout 2019 at **Hartlebury Castle**, explores these themes and their impact on then people of Worcestershire from the end of the war through the Roaring Twenties.



Worcestershire County Museum, Hartlebury, Worcestershire.

For info: <https://hartleburycastle.com/>

## Diana Curley | Biomorphica

From the 7th to the 27th of March, **Number 8** in Pershore will be showcasing **Diana Curley** with an exhibition of paintings and sculptural work influenced by childhood memories. Inspired by recollections of her mother and father, presents a reflection of personalities through two and three-dimensional work, where the contrasting modalities of paint and sculpture sit side by side.



**Claire Hilton** the founder of **Creating Space** says - "*The two events are slightly different in the sense that the Drink and Doodle is an opportunity to play with everything from plasticine to colouring pages. The Sip and Sketch is more about practising your drawing skills. We will be providing interesting objects, still life arrangements and sketching materials for people to come along and get drawing. There is the added bonus with both events being social activities rather than solitary. Working as a freelance creative or full time artist can mean that people become or can feel isolated. These events both give another option and also offer something different.*"



The new Sip and Sketch event aims to encourage artists to get together and meet each other to share their experiences. Both events are free to the public. Sketching materials and still life objects will be provided (but you are also more than welcome to bring some of your own materials and sketchbooks if you prefer). No criticism, no right

or wrong just a bit of fun! All welcome!

**Drink and Doodle** 12th March **Sip and Sketch** 28th March

For more info @CreatingSpaceSessions on Facebook

or [www.CreatingSpaceSessions.com](http://www.CreatingSpaceSessions.com)

## Banff Film Fest 29-30 March Malvern, Forum Theatre

**The Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour** is celebrating its 10th year of touring the UK and Ireland, bringing over 100 adrenaline-packed shows to almost 60 venues from January - May 2019. With two nights in Malvern on 29th and 30th March, the tour features two different collections of brand-new films from the world's most intrepid filmmakers, starring pioneers and explorers tackling extraordinary expeditions in the wildest corners of the planet.



Each night features a different collection of brand-new adrenaline-packed films, with the world's top adventurers tackling extreme expeditions in the most stunning corners of the planet. Audiences will witness incredible wildernesses, life-changing journeys and spectacular cinematography - all via the big screen!



## 17th Borderlines Film Festival 1st - 17th March

With over 250 film screenings in multiple venues, for the seventh consecutive year the **Borderlines Film Festival** returns to bring the best, most thought-provoking films from across the world to Herefordshire, Shropshire, Malvern in Worcestershire and across the Welsh Border, at Hay, Presteigne and Knighton in Powys.

Among them will be **The White Crow**, the third and most ambitious feature yet from actor Ralph Fiennes. Written by playwright David Hare (The Reader, Denial) and set in Paris in 1961, it focuses on young ballet star Rudolf Nureyev, poised on the brink of defection from Russia to the West.

Other confirmed previews are three outstanding films by women directors. **The Kindergarten Teacher** (Sara Colangelo) stars Maggie Gyllenhaal, in arguably her best role, as a teacher who discovers her infant pupil to be a poetic prodigy. A dream-like fable startlingly yokes together the past and the present in **Happy as Lazzaro** from the Italian filmmaker Alice Rohrwacher (The Wonders). **Girls of the Sun** (Eva Husson), the true story of a battalion of women fighting extremists who have conquered their small Kurdish town, was in shown in competition at Cannes 2018.

As long as gender imbalance within the film industry persists, Borderlines will continue to adopt the F-Rated badging that highlights films directed or written by women.



A major strand for **Borderlines 2019** will be Growing Up, a season of films that explore the complications, challenges – and joys – facing young people all over the world today as they come of age. In **Beirut**, impoverished 12-year-old Zain sets out to sue his parents for giving birth to him (Capernaum), while from Kenya Rafiki tackles the out-of bounds topic of lesbianism. The range of titles will be extensive.

A further theme in Borderlines 2019, **Breaking the Taboo**, investigates areas in mental health that are often off-limits. Irene's Ghost follows a son's search to find out more about the mother he never knew and the secrecy surrounding her death. Walking/talking therapies are explored in Evelyn by the family of a schizophrenic who took his own life. In **I Made This for You**, a man who has attempted suicide is surprised to discover that people have not given up on him after all.

**The Rural Media Company** will again join Borderlines for its annual showcase of work by young people taking part in the **BFI Film Academy**, and this will be complemented by a programme of short films curated by **SHYPP (Supported Housing for Young People Project)**. Meanwhile, Herefordshire filmmakers have been invited to submit their work for screening at a special event to take place at Hereford's The Left Bank.

For full programme and all tickets and info, go to : [borderlinesfilmfestival.co.uk](http://borderlinesfilmfestival.co.uk)

## Dancefest celebrating dancers of all ages in March

Spring's a busy time at **Dancefest**, working with lots of dancers of all ages in weekly classes and in schools, on performances coming up over the next few months and right into the summer.

Coming up soon is **Circuit** on 20th March at **Hereford College of Arts** and 27th March at **Spires Theatre**, Worcester, performances packed with new dance by youth companies, schools and colleges.

You'll also find their **Chance to Dance Company** popping up at Celebrating Age through the arts and across the generations, a free event on Tues 2nd April at **Malvern Theatres**. There'll be singing, dancing, lots of creative fun for all generations and bite-sized taster sessions.

Look out for news about Dancefest's summer events soon, and if you'd like to get involved as a dancer or find out more about where they'll be popping up throughout the year, check out their website [dancefest.co.uk](http://dancefest.co.uk) or give them a ring on 01905 611199.



Photo by Clare Wood

## The Art House Open Lecture Series Until 4th April

The Art House, Castle Street, Worcester WR1 3ZQ

**Meadow Arts** presents this year's programme of artists' talks in collaboration with the University of Worcester at their landmark new venue, **The Art House**. This Grade II Listed building, formerly a car showroom built in 1939 for Austin Motors, has been transformed into a dynamic arts space and is the perfect venue for our fourth series of talks with the University's **Fine Art Garage Studios**. The programme includes leading contemporary artists from across the UK and internationally, who are coming to Worcester to talk about their work, ideas and the artistic processes they use.



WillemVermaase

Talks take place on selected Thursday evenings from 4:30pm to 6:30pm, and include a chance to ask questions after each presentation. The talks are free and open to all, though booking is recommended via [www.meadowarts.org](http://www.meadowarts.org)



## Artists poised to snap up places at popular open studios event

Visual artists, photographers and crafts people are already queuing up to take part in this year's **Worcestershire Open Studios** before registration has even opened.



The popular event will take place over the August bank holiday weekend (from Friday 23 August to Monday 26 August) and is open to artists who live or work in Worcestershire.

Now in its fifth year, Worcestershire Open Studios gives visitors a unique opportunity to meet a diverse range of local artists and see where they create their work.



Last year more than 120 artists took part at 81 locations across the county stretching from Bewdley to Colwall and Badsey to Redditch. The event was highly commended in the Best Festival or Event category of the Visit Herefordshire & Visit Worcestershire Awards for Excellence 2018.



Painter and co-organiser, Cherrie Mansfield, said "Open studios offers established artists and those who are just starting out a fantastic opportunity to share their work with new audiences as well as giving insights into their inspiration and creative processes. We've already had an extraordinary amount of new enquiries from right across the county so when entries open on 18 March we're expecting places to be in high demand."



Registration opens on Monday 18 March 2018. The deadline for entries is 22 April 2018 or sooner if all the places are taken.

For more info go to [www.worcestershireopenstudios.org.uk](http://www.worcestershireopenstudios.org.uk) or follow @OpenStudios\_WR on Twitter.

*Photography by Lewis Membery - top to bottom left to right. Visitors admiring jewellery by mixed media artist Sophie Symes. Photographer Richard Nicholls explaining his creative processes. Printmaking with artist and co-organiser Sally Anne Morgan. Inside the studio of painter and co-organiser Cherrie Mansfield.*

## Cacao & Togetherness Festival Kidderminster Town Hall | 23rd/24th march

This month, join together in celebration of spring, where you can explore many forms of esoteric arts. Yoga, Tai Chi, Qui Gong, Kirtan, sound healing, Gong baths, guided meditations, talks & more. All this is complimented by a holistic & craft fair. The evening before, you can also take part in 'Cacao Ceremony & Elemental Dance'. Explore the body, being & beyond on a journey through movement. Drinking a ceremonial grade cacao concoction, releases feel good endorphins, opening the heart to really let go & embody the present.

**'Cacao Ceremony & Elemental Dance'** - March 23rd 5.30-8pm  
**'Togetherness Festival'** - March 24th 10-6pm

For more info, go to: [sandrabarnesyoga](https://www.facebook.com/sandrabarnesyoga) on facebook or email: [sandra.sofia.yoga@gmail.com](mailto:sandra.sofia.yoga@gmail.com)



# Swan/Huntingdon Hall

World class composer and guitarist Juan Martin wrote the book on Flamenco. No, really, he did! Having honed the skills of classic Spanish and flamenco guitar since the age of six, Juan is a true master of this great tradition as you'll see when he performs at Huntingdon Hall on the 7th March. This is one not to be missed! Tickets £16.50

The River Severn is a far cry from the banks of the Mississippi, birthplace of the blues, but this month Worcester will ring with the sound of raw vocal, stinging guitar and haunting harmonica of the Deep South, as blues pioneer and 'Hall of Famer' Lil' Jimmy Reed takes the stage alongside his band The 'A' Team. At 80, Leon Atkins aka Lil' Jimmy Reed is one of the last surviving performers of classic Louisiana blues, and his talents show no signs of ceasing as he continues to wow audiences across Europe. The Lil' Jimmy Reed Band will be bringing this hit show to Huntingdon Hall on Friday 22nd March, Tickets £17.50

Original Cockney Rebel Steve Harley will be performing as part of his Acoustic Trio on Friday 29th March for what promises to be an intimate and atmospheric show. With an impressive 13 original albums behind him, Steve will be pleasing fans with all-time favourites including the likes of "Mr Soft", "Judy Teen", "Sebastian", and of course the world-wide classic "Make Me Smile (Come Up And See Me)". Tickets available at £27.50


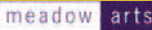



But it's not all music this month at Huntingdon Hall! Direct from the Edinburgh Festival, and following his smash-hit 2018 tour I Swear, Canadian comedy legend Tom Stade brings his new show, I Swear To... to Huntingdon Hall on Friday 8th March. 2019 finds Tom trying to adjust to a new world of feelings and FaceTime, a world he explores with razor-sharp wit and a no-holds-barred attitude. As seen on BBC's Live At The Apollo, Michael McIntyre's Comedy Roadshow and The John Bishop Show, Tom has quickly earned a reputation as one of the most exciting stand-up acts around. A night you won't want to miss! Tickets available at £17.50

Multi-award-winning TV and Radio 4 star Mark Watson returns to Huntingdon Hall on Friday 15th March with The Infinite Show. The "terrifyingly funny" Never Mind The Buzzcocks host uses the theme of empathy to explore the rapidly-changing world that his children are growing up in, offering some suggestions on how we could change for the better through his notoriously high joke-and-rant-per-minute rate. Tickets £19.

Finally, Thursday 28th March sees Rich Hall bring a mash-up of music, comedy and coloration in the form of his infamous Hoedown to Huntingdon Hall. With the Trump Era firmly upon us, there has surely never been a better time to be an American comedian in the UK. A regular on hit BBC shows Have I Got News For You and QI, as well as his own BBC Four documentaries, Rich has established himself as master of absurdist irony and rapid-fire wit. Expect a show filled with stand-up and improvised musical numbers; a hilarious, foot-stomping, good time to be had by all! Tickets available now at £17.50










THE PRECIOUS CLAY

Porcelain in contemporary art  
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[www.meadowarts.org](http://www.meadowarts.org)

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©Annie Attridge, The Divine and the Mortal. Photo: Matthew Booth





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& there will be a  
green themed raffle as ever

[www.worcesterlitfest.co.uk](http://www.worcesterlitfest.co.uk)  
The 9th Worcestershire Literary Festival June 9th - 15th 2019





# Suz Winspear

Winter is on its way out, it'll soon be the equinox, and the world is coming back to life. This is the time when the summer festivals are being planned. The events for this June's **Worcestershire LitFest** are being decided upon, and details of how to enter this year's competitions for **Worcestershire Poet Laureate**, **Flash Fiction**, and the **Young Writers' Competitions** have now been released.

A new **Worcestershire Poet Laureate** is chosen every year, giving a poet the opportunity to showcase their work and promote poetry throughout the county. Imagine your vision of what poetry could be . . . The competition for this is now open! To enter for this, you will need to submit two poems of up to 40 lines, one on the theme of *'Pathways'*, the other on any theme. Full details of how to enter can be found at [worcesterlitfest.co.uk](http://worcesterlitfest.co.uk)

Do you prefer writing prose to poetry?

Also at [worcesterlitfest.co.uk](http://worcesterlitfest.co.uk) you can find details of the **Flash Fiction** competition, for stories of up to 300 words (there are cash prizes, and shortlisted entries will be published in an anthology.)

As well as these, you can find details of the **Young Writers' Competition**, which is for writers aged between 7 and 17 in three age-categories, for stories of up to 300 words on the theme of *'Myths and Legends'*, so if you know of any keen young talent, tell them about it! There will be prizes, and once again, the finalists' work will be published in a real book!

Closing date for all competitions is 30th April 2019.

So there's a lot to look forward to, but meanwhile here are some spoken word events for March -

**Thursday 14th March – SpeakEasy at Waylands Yard**  
Eclectic poetry from a wide range of local poets. We will have a featured performer – their identity has yet to be revealed! Open Mic slots available on a first-come, first-served basis. They're popular, so get there early. Oh yes, and there will be our legendary raffle (involves a goth poet and an orange bucket . . .) £3 admission, 7.30pm

**Thursday 21st March – 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. This month's headliner is Birmingham **Poet Laureate Richard O'Brien** – I'm excited about this; I don't think he's performed in Worcestershire before! £3 admission. 6.30 – 8.30pm.

**Wednesday 27th March - 42 at Drummonds Bar**, behind the Swan with Two Nicks **Life**, the Universe and Everything – prose and poetry – Worcester's only alternative genre spoken word night



- horror, science fiction, fantasy, storytelling, comedy, reportage, genre fiction, and a few categories that haven't yet been given a name. You never know what you'll hear at 42 . . . The (entirely optional) theme for March is *'Bronze Statue'*. Free entry. 7.30pm

**Saturday 30th March – Earth Hour at The Third Space**, Worcester Arts Workshop An evening of poetry, music and fun to highlight climate change and sustainable living. Lovely Indian food will be available – vegetarian and with a gluten-free selection! During *Earth Hour* itself, the lights will be turned off and performances will happen by candlelight. If you're a poet or spoken word performer, open mic slots are available from [speakeasy@worcesterlitfest.co.uk](mailto:speakeasy@worcesterlitfest.co.uk) From 7pm, £5 on the door.

## The Berkeley Arms

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01684 290555 | [berkeleyarms01@hotmail.com](mailto:berkeleyarms01@hotmail.com)

## Cheltenham Poetry Festival preview presents Adam Vines & Reuben Lovett Smokey Joe's | Tue 5th March

**Adam Vines** is a major American poet and we are thrilled he is making a rare trip to Cheltenham and we are hosting a reading at **Smokey Joes**. Adam is editor of **Birmingham Poetry Review**, coauthor of *According to Discretion* (Unicorn Press, 2015), and author of *The Coal Life* (University of Arkansas Press, 2012).

The night also includes an open mic and a performance by the remarkably original **Reuben Lovett** He is an energetic performer with creamy vocals laced with ravenous angst, Reuben recently played with Jah Wobble at Gloucester Guildhall.

**10 SLAP MAR**



Adam Vines



Reuben Lovett



# Worcestershire's 2019 Young Poet Laureate announced

Worcestershire's Young Poet for 2019 has been announced, following a performance event at The Hive in January.

After a close competition, **Sophie Green**, 18, from Redditch and a psychology student at University of Worcester, took the title with her poems 'There Is No Filthy To This' and 'Manchester'.

The runners up were **Catherine Darwen**, aged 19, a University of Worcester student and **Cat Jones** from St John's, Worcester.

The judges included outgoing **Young Poet Laureate, Connor Evans**, who was alongside previous **Birmingham Poet Laureate** (2017-2018) **Matt Windle** and **Carol Brown** from **Worcestershire County Council's Library & Culture Service**.

Winner Sophie Green outgoing Young Poet Laureate, Connor Evans



Winner, runners up and finalists were all presented a certificate by **Laura Worsfold**, CEO of **Severn Arts**, with the result announced and trophy awarded by Councillor **Lucy Hodgson**, cabinet member for Communities at **Worcestershire County Council**.

Worcestershire's **Young Poet Laureate** competition is run by **Worcestershire County Council's Libraries & Culture Service** in partnership with **Severn Arts**. It is an annual poetry competition for young people, designed to encourage young people to express themselves through poetry and to support the development of young poetry talent across the county.

**Laura Worsfold**, Chief Executive of Severn Arts added: "We are delighted to be promoting poetry and supporting the Word Up! competition. The quality of the poetry and young people's performances were outstanding. We are really looking forward to seeing and hearing more poetry in the County. Well done Sophie."

The 'Word Up' competition is open to anyone aged between 13 and 19 living in, or going to school, college, university or a youth club in the county.

During their year Worcestershire's Young Poet Laureate is asked to write and perform five commissions to a variety of audiences as well as being an advocate for poetry, particularly for young people. Performance coaching is available to all finalists and additional mentoring is available to the winner.

Read Sophie's winning poems at [worcestershire.gov.uk/wordup](http://worcestershire.gov.uk/wordup)

On Friday 22 March there's another chance to catch a Live Lounge evening showcasing local artists and bands in the city. Admission is free to this event, from 7.30pm in **The Third Space**.

Indie/Rock'n'Roll band **Candidates** are standing up to deliver original emotionally charged but uplifting songs in The Vault Sat 23 March. Tickets cost £3 each and doors open from 8pm.



Candidates

Returning to Third Space is Multi - Instrumentalist **James Chatfield** on Wed 27 March from 8pm, with another live performance (admission free). Then **Kidderminster College** return with **One College Under A Groove** - a night of funk and groove from 7pm in The Theatre (admission free).

There's also a whole host of spoken word events, visual arts workshops and much more. For further information on any events at **Worcester Arts Workshop** or to book tickets visit [worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk](http://worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk).

Winner Sophie Green & Runners-up Catherine Darwen & Cat Jones



This is not the first time Sophie has entered **Word Up!** She has been a finalist before (2017) and a runner up last year (2018).

Sophie said: "I'm incredibly stunned that I won this competition, given how amazingly talented the entire group was. There were so many people that deserved to win and honestly, I'm just still in amazement."

"I'm so excited to start work on this title I've been given, hopefully, I make people proud by the end of it, especially the wonderful people I competed with and those that set up the event."



## worcester arts workshop

March at **Worcester Arts Workshop** kicks off with music from **Kidderminster College** on Friday 1 March, followed by an evening of **Gin & Jazz** with **Tom Hill's Jazz Funk Machine** on Sat 2 March.

Worcestershire based Indie band, **The Lightweights** play in The **Third Space** on Saturday 9 March, supported by five piece pop/rock band, **Heavy Domestic**. Admission is free to this event and doors open 8pm.

Four piece punk band, **Kick The Clown** are playing at **Punk and a Pint Night** on Sat 16 March. The Worcester based band have built a reputation for energetic shows that have left rooms dripping in sweat! Loud, savage and hardcore punk. They joined by **Hey Jester** and **Bones Like That**. Tickets £5. **The Vault** 8pm



Kick The Clown

# Catt Standen

Catt, originally from Plymouth, is a Worcester based artist, who work was seen out and about the streets of the city last year, as one of the **Worcester Stands Tall** giraffe artists. Her giraffe called 'Angelica' was standing tall outside Worcester Cathedral for a large chunk of last year before being auctioned, along with the other giraffe sculptures for St Richard Hospice. 'Angelica' was based on the design on the stained glass windows in the Cathedral itself.

With a diverse range - either rough portraits of females, a sketch or ink work with a lot of detail, Catt's style reflects her other creative venture, as a part time henna artist over the summer season. Art has always been a big part of her life and she has studied in several places, carrying a constant interest to explore new artists and techniques.

*"Fine detail itself inspires me and even if I see an intricate pattern, I feel I need to draw it and create it into something new. I guess that's why I love mandalas so much - every time you create a mandala it's different. I've always loved being creative; meeting new artists and seeing their style of work and what motivates them. I'm constantly doodling or updating my bullet journal on a daily basis and love sharing what I've done."*

*"Unless I'm painting, I always have ink pens around the place so it's easy to grab and start creating. Sometimes a biro is all you*



*need! I obviously practice a lot with henna and am still trying to find a medium with the same texture to create something 3D on canvas. The beauty of art is that there are no boundaries, you can create what you want with whatever you want."*

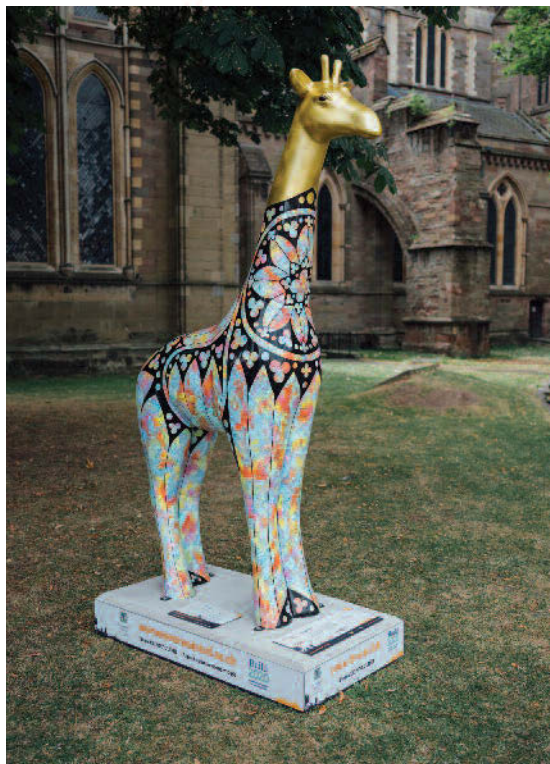
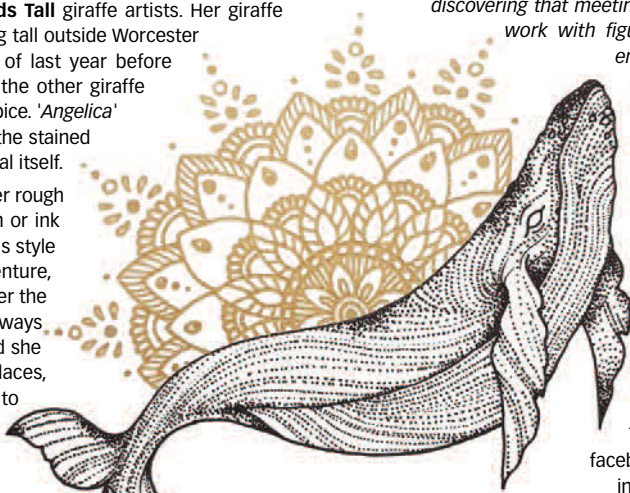
*"Currently, I am wedding planning and have a great love for calligraphy and making my own invitations. I get a lot of inspiration on Instagram and Pinterest, and am teaching myself most nights with you-tube videos. And then when I have a small break from wedding things, I am updating my bullet journal. If you don't know what a bullet journal is and you care a lot about mental health then google it! My mental health is so important to me and keeping a bullet journal really helps express how I'm feeling that way and to help map out my short and long term goals so I don't get overwhelmed."*

12 SLAP MAR

*"I'm really loving the drink and doodle and sip and sketch sessions by Creative Spaces, so would recommend those! There's nothing more great then sketching with a glass of wine and good people. I would love to either hold / go to more creative classes and exhibitions around Worcester. As for my personal artwork, I'm discovering that meeting point of merging pattern work with figures or animals, so really enjoying my latest pieces and am working on a few new designs so keep an eye out!"*

You can see Catt's work as a mural in **The Paul Pry** on the Butts, hopefully at the April Worcester **Alternative Artist Market** at **Heroes Bar**, and by following these links:

[facebook.com/hennabycatt](https://facebook.com/hennabycatt)  
[facebook.com/cattstandenartist](https://facebook.com/cattstandenartist)  
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# Art at the Courtyard this month

The **Courtyard** in Hereford has much on offer this month. From performances, theatre, exhibitions and film. Here's a round-up and you can go to their website for the full programme.

The **Borderlines Festival** takes place 1st-17th around four counties, with some screenings at **The Courtyard**. And you can catch loads of films with their programme including, **A Matter Of Life & Death** (U) With Dementia Friendly screenings, **A Dog's Way Home** (PG), **If Beale Street Could Talk** (15) **And Down To Earth** (U).

A new multi-sensory story from **Frozen Light**, specialists in making theatre for audiences with profound and multiple learning disabilities, The Courtyard presents **The Isle Of Brimsker**. A lighthouse keeper lives on a desolate outcrop surrounded by stormy seas. Duty bound to maintain the light that guides boats away from danger, she lives a solitary existence until one day a runaway lands on the shore and together they face the inevitable. 18th & 19th.

Then there is the **Inspired Festival** on 22nd & 23rd, created by and for young people. It is a platform for the Immediate Youth Theatre groups to use theatre to express what is important to them. This year **The Courtyard**, **Bromyard** and **Kington Intermediates** will be using chosen scripts from **National Theatre's Connections**.

Fun for children, don't miss **The Three Billy Goats Gruff** by **Garlic Theatre**, the simple story of three hungry goats and a grumpy old troll, told with a gentle ecological message. Watch out for the dance of the goats, the flying troll and loads and loads of rubbish. With puppets, live music, storytelling and singing, this is a perfect show for children aged 3+.. march 30th.



For visual arts there are two exhibitions this month.

**Hacs Present: Landscapes Of The Mind** - 16th-18th March

Members of **Herefordshire Art and Craft Society (HACS)** are showcasing an exhibition which covers topics from how to capture and celebrate the beauty, or even ugliness, of science and medicine in modern times and throughout the ages, to how poetry and lyrics inspire artists to create and our relationship to the sea, both literally and figuratively.



**Landscapes of the Mind** explores the artists' inner visions creating a rich and original array of multimedia work.

**Shared Future, Shared Freedom** - 21st March- 29th April

Shared Future is a **Heritage Lottery** funded project, involving students from **Whitecross School** in Hereford, who researched and produced a short dual language film on the contribution of the Polish during WW2. The exhibition includes the film, as well as archive objects and newspaper articles from the time.



## Rosie Philpott | Exhibition

Rosie, a local artist known for her 'wonky' paintings, has recently donned the walls of a local café with her artwork.

The exhibition will be held at **Park's Café** in Droitwich until 19th March, where Rosie has both prints and originals on display. Her paintings of local views, such as *"Wonky Droitwich"*, have proven extremely popular with their local characters and quirky style.

Rosie said: "I enjoy working in watercolour and fine line pen, exaggerating the scenes I see around me. It is rare that I get a chance to show my originals as they are usually already spoken for so it's exciting that I get to show to a wider public."

The exhibition is a scheme devised by the **Droitwich Arts Network**, where members can display their work for free at local venues. A different artist is given a chance to display their work each month.

Rosie, (who is also secretary of DAN), said: "It is great that, as an artist, I have these opportunities to display my work. Paul (the owner of Park's Café) is extremely supportive of the network and encourages all our artists. As such, this venue is keenly sought after by our members and it is fully booked until the middle of 2020!"

Paul Richardson commented: "It is always a joy to have Rosie's work on the walls".



Rosie is also looking forward to the **St. Richard's Festival** in May where she will launch three new paintings depicting Weston-Super-Mare, Hanbury Hall and the Lido Pool.

Why not pop in and enjoy a drink and some lovely food, surrounded by Rosie's work?

To contact Rosie and view more of her work, please visit [www.rosiephilpott.co.uk](http://www.rosiephilpott.co.uk)



## Neon Creatures Bar 57, Pershore | Sat 2nd Feb

Last September, at the **Worcester Music Festival** I saw **Louisa Bayliss** and **Andy Crump** of Evesham band, **Neon Creatures** play a gloriously melodic acoustic set on the splendid **Pumpkin Sessions** stage at South Quay, but this was the first opportunity I'd had since then to see the full strength version of the band - and they absolutely blew me away.

It needed a big stage to carry this band and it got one at this splendid venue, which is incidentally the new home of **The Iron Road Rock Bar**. The place resembles a social club more than a traditional music venue - it's certainly a very long time since I sat on a banquette to watch music - and it's a thoroughly atmospheric and welcoming place.



A six-piece band - I didn't say 'full strength' without good cause - may appear unwieldy but if all your members gel as well as this, the sound you create can be amazing. And so it proves, in a wonderful display of muscular Americana and country rock, which has already graced stages at the Mello and Sunshine Festivals.

**Graham Corbett** (bass) and **Andre Bayliss** (drums) lay down a



rock-solid platform, augmented by **Beth Tomes'** rhythm guitar, a debut instrumental performance from her although you'd never know it, and **Ania Suwalska's** keyboards adding both extra rhythm and also vibrant fills to the sound.

Now I did have a frisson of worry about the vocals before the start, as they formed such a powerful part of the acoustic performance I saw in Worcester - would they get swamped under the weight of musicians? Not a chance... It was so good to be re-acquainted with Louisa's glorious, chiming voice, which thanks to the sound tech playing a blinder, flew effortlessly over the mix. There's excellent support vocals from Beth as well, filling out the sound perfectly.

And then there's **Andy Crump**, whose electric guitar playing was an absolute delight - fluent, precise and economic. He's playing a Steve Vai edition Ibanez, the first one I've seen onstage and the sound is lovely, perfectly complementing the considerable skills of its owner.

There's some good news at the end of this satisfyingly lengthy and very well received set and that is the confirmation of an album shortly to be finished, preceded by single and video releases.

Keep your eye on them, this band is going places.

*Geoffrey Head*

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## Beth Rowley, Josh Flower The Marrs Bar, Worcester | 7th Feb

In the years since the opening of **The Marrs Bar** I've been privy to some amazing live performances that I could wax lyrical over for hours and I'm sure fellow regulars could do the same, but scoring the memory banks in not sure I could muster a name to match the vocal prowess of Bristol songstress **Beth Rowley** on her recent turn.

Prior to Beth Rowley's striking set, **Josh Flowers** was charged with warming the audience, and he did just that with a set of infectious acoustic pop ditties that stuck around long after his set had played out. With instant sing-a-longs such as *'Subway Song'* and recent single, *'Car You Drive'*, at his disposal. With Rowley duets later on in the evening, it's no wonder that Flowers is deservedly picking up new admirers along the way, from the audience reaction it would seem he's made a few new friends in Worcester too.

For a number of us, the release of last year's *Gota Fria*, is the first appearance from Beth in nigh on ten years, following the success of her debut album *Little Dreamer*. Beth toured hard following that debut and became something of a mainstay on radio playlists and we waited with baited breath for her next move. Sporadic live dates and an EP release back in 2013 went some way to satisfying the faithful before a bout of



writing and recording finally resulted in the release of the second album. Making up for lost time Rowley toured with a full band last year before being asked to support Hooks Holland on his recent trek.

This year's *Tracing The Line* tour continues the recent momentum, only in a more stripped back fashion. Beth took to the stage with only guitarist **Rob Updegraff** (and on occasion, tour support **Josh Flowers**) for company, performing the new material in their most skeletal, and perhaps affecting form.

Opening with recent single *'Forest Fire'*, Beth held the audience in the palm of her hand as her mesmeric voice soared for the first time, while Rob tastefully pawed at his six-string, framing Rowley's delivery and allowing her that space to truly express. From such beginnings the audience sat in awe, soaking up every nuance as Beth drew from the roots gene pool, taking in the blues, soul and Americana, reinventing the likes of *'Howl At The Moon'* and *'Run To The Light'* along the way.

Beckoning Josh back onstage, the duo delivered a stunning rendition of John Prine's *'Angel Of Montgomery'*. Drawing from both the original and Raitt's interpretation, before a reach of the harmonica beckoned in a stirring *'All Back To Me'*, followed by a glorious dip into that debut album for a soul fueled *'Only One Cloud'*. Rowley finished up an intoxicating set by showcasing those blues and soul influences in their fullest, with a trio of songs that left the hairs on my back standing to attention, with Jessie Mae Hemphill's, *'Go Back To Your Used To Be'*, and a gospel flavoured *'I Shall Be Released'*.

A stunning off mic acappella take on *'Nobody's Fault But Mine'*, crowning one of those bewitching 'you had to be there sets' that'll be spoken of in the **Marrs Bar** for years to come.

by Will Munn Photography by Graham Munn

## Drifter Celebrating Bob's Birthday at Joe Joe Jim's

February 6th marks what would have been the 74th birthday of **Bob Marley**, and crowds had gathered at **Joe Joe Jim's** in Rednal, where Drifter were to play a reggae set in his honour. Probably better known for their blues, the band held their breath, awaiting the return of percussionist and vocalist Dave Small, who was due to arrive fresh from touring in Germany.

An offshoot of **Arcadia Roots**, much of Drifter's music is heavily influenced by Marley's music, and the crowd eagerly awaiting some celebratory reggae are soon satiated by the infectious rhythm of *"Never Have To Worry"*. Danny is at home with his Dobro, while Dave alternates between cahon and djembe, drumming up an insatiable beat. The Marley Mob gratefully sink into the unmistakable groove of *"Exodus"*; it seems pure magic; a true movement of the people.

The dynamic duo slip effortlessly into Lee Scratch Perry favourite *"Iron Shirt"*, one worn with pride and polished to perfection. The song drives around the room, inspiring movement in the crowd and a rhythm to chase out the devil.

Arcadia Roots favourite, *"Fussin' 'n' Fightin'"* is up next, keeping the dancers on the move before the room erupts into chorus for the anthemic *"Redemption*

*Song"*. The Drifters take a quick breather, but return with ska corks, Toots And The Maytals' *"54-46"*, much to the crowds' delight.

For me the clock had whirled round all too quickly, on top of having stuck with caffeine for the drive home. Joe Joe Jim's had delivered in style through the sweet, throbbing sounds of Drifter. Sam Cooke got a quick look in with a rendition of *"Stand By Me"* before I drifted away, to the closing sounds of none other than *"No Woman No Cry"*, a fine farewell.

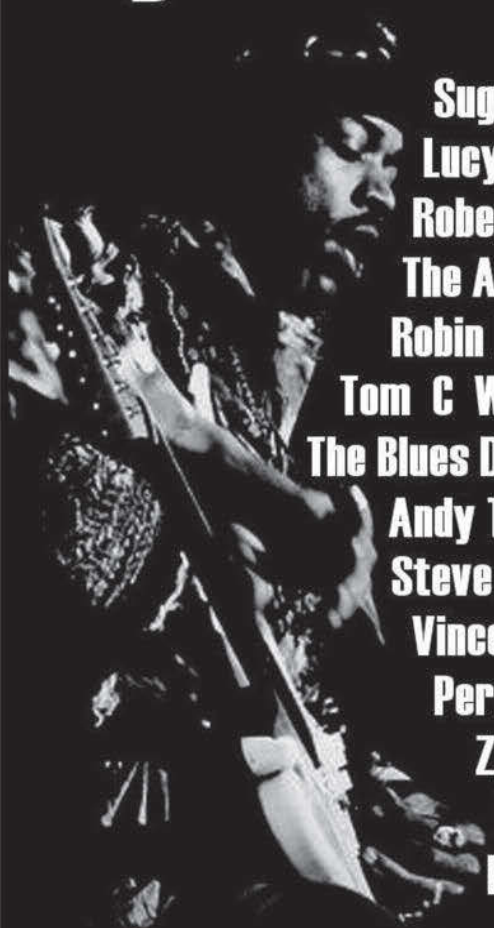
Graham Munn





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## Hey Jester

Worleys at The Swan, Stourport | Thurs 7th Feb

There's been a buzz flying around for quite a while about Worcestershire band, **Hey Jester** and I don't think it will take long before the buzz becomes a commotion.



They don't waste time setting out their stall as they rip into the first two tracks they've released, 'Sickly Sweet' and 'Pepper Spray', and you just know instinctively that you're about to witness something very special.

The musical rulebook appears to have been discarded. The nuance, the light and shade, the angularity of the songs' construction, the sudden injections of power and pace, the fine balance between the retro and the modern - such a complex and multi-faceted feast for an audience to tuck into.

Clearly evident from the start is that this is a band thoroughly enjoying itself - **Nick Davies** on drums has a wide smile across his face all set, while **Joe Davies** playing an upside down bass southpaw, bounces all over the stage - the frequent time changes demand much application throughout and they both ace the job.

Guitarist/vocalist **Mirron Webb** is a study in concentration, staying close to the mic and regularly firing out intense flurries of notes, but soon he's rocking out as well, resplendent in a lavender coloured jacket that wouldn't look out of place in an episode of Miami Vice.

The pace slows considerably for 'Cleanse' - Webb's strings heavily muted and the sound modified giving the eerie impression of someone rooting around in a cutlery drawer - an extraordinarily bold and experimental track, beautifully executed.

Hinted at before, the myriad strengths of the band come crashing together in what for me is the standout track of the night, 'Extraterrestrial Love' - a gloriously complex and lightning fast central riff is interspersed with vocal passages that evoke the style of Jeff Buckley - one of the very few influences detectable in their highly original music, the other being the very occasional hint of Mr. Big. It's a measure of the confidence they have in the overall

strength of their repertoire that this belter arrives halfway through the set - yes the standard is that high. We eventually bring them back for a well-deserved encore and eagerly begin to anticipate their next appearance.

I don't think a band has made this immediate an impact on me since I first saw the much missed Aramantus play, so those who know me well, will appreciate that I'm sitting here grinning like The Cheshire Cat writing this.

See this band - you will not forget the experience for a long time.

Geoffrey Head



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# Mark Steel

## Every Little Thing's Going To Be Alright

Stand-up comedian, **Mark Steel** is well-known for his Radio 4 show '**Mark Steel's In Town**' and appearances on '**The News Quiz**.' He's currently out on tour and SLAP talked to him just a few days after the loss of his close friend and fellow comedian, **Jeremy Hardy**.

*'Every Little Thing's Going To Be Alright' channels Bob Marley – what can we expect from the show?*

*On the face of it, everything's gone haywire, but I try to be as optimistic as possible. I'm finding it difficult now, as I've just lost my closest friend of 35 years but I'll be doing some stuff about Jeremy in the show.*

You're appearing at Evesham Arts Centre on March 29th – is that a significant day for this country in any way? It might be your last appearance as a European!

*That's a good point. I'll just be finishing my set at Evesham as we leave Europe. We'll probably be crawling about on the floor, looking for grubs to eat. At this stage anything could happen, couldn't it? They could decide that that's the day we become a part of Peru or something.*

How much of your show is nailed-down and how much responds to the audience?

*If you're a stand-up, you have to have a show and know where the laughs should be. But you never know what might happen. Last year, in Eastbourne, I'd done a bit about how difficult it is now to get normal porridge – it's always covered in rabbit droppings and stuff – and a woman got up and gave this extraordinary speech about how someone she knew had plain porridge every morning. And, of course, the second half of the show just ended up revolving around this woman and her porridge intervention! That sort of stuff is the most fun. One of the brilliant things about stand-up is you're in that room, at that time, with the audience.*

Songwriters often say it's easier to write a sad song than a happy one: is it easier to write topical, satirical comedy when things are as bad as they are now?

*It's much easier to write stuff about the news when everyone's watching the news. But everything's changing so fast, I could write something now and by the time I get to Evesham, it could be utterly irrelevant.*



Is it important for a stand-up to keep touring?

*You've got to tour if you're a stand-up. Why do the Rolling Stones keep on touring, when they've got more money than they could ever spend? It's because they're blues musicians and, if they hadn't made it big, they'd still be playing in the back of a pub in North London. Jeremy used to say that backstage before a show in some theatre somewhere was where you know who you are. You get out on stage and you think: "Ah, I'm home now!"*

Nicholas John

The Civic, Stourport on 8th March  
The Arts Centre, Evesham on 29th March  
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester on 1st June

## Cheltenham Poetry Festival preview presents Adam Vines & Reuben Lovett Smokey Joe's | Tue 5th March

**Adam Vines** is a major American poet and we are thrilled he is making a rare trip to Cheltenham and we are hosting a reading at **Smokey Joes**. Adam is editor of **Birmingham Poetry Review**, coauthor of *According to Discretion* (Unicorn Press, 2015), and author of *The Coal Life* (University of Arkansas Press, 2012).

The night also includes an open mic and a performance by the remarkably original **Reuben Lovett**. He is an energetic performer with creamy vocals laced with ravenous angst, Reuben recently played with Jah Wobble at Gloucester Guildhall.



Adam Vines



Reuben Lovett

## Jonny Squid | Rosebud

...And now for something completely different, **Jonny Squid** is an ex punk maverick, who together with a collection of like-minded musicians, have followed up debut album (TicketyBoo) with a ramshackle disc, that zig-zags across genres and boundaries.

Buckle up tight as we begin our unique journey. Keys man **Ben Crossland** and guitar guy **Ben Mcleod** (on ukulele) join forces to create a Small Faces style music hall knees-up. Squid pays homage to the simplistic ways of old as his cohorts lay down an infectious, joyful and retro melody that wiggles and worms into your conscious.

Now it's time for the title track and a complete change of direction as Squid worms his way into the brain of Jake Shears and achieves the vision that the Scissor Sisters frontman has always longed for. *Rosebud* opens as a euphoric synth led disco banger that's complimented by McLeod's choppy guitar and the uplifting harmonies from **Mari Randle** and **Deborah Rose**. When you throw in a three-horn salute and Squid's own laid-back lead it's hard not to pirouette across the lounge as we transported back to the heyday of Studio 54.



As we navigate ourselves away from the disco lights a glam drumbeat, courtesy of **Matthew Devenish**, thunders into view. This is followed blast of icy sax to kickstart *'We The People.'* As Jonny and the gang rally round, they lambast greedy money men and media moguls alike during a thrilling three and a half minute punk call to arms. After a quick diversion into the world of heartfelt pop on *'Tiny Little Fly,'* we're taken to the shadowy streets of London for a slice of seductive *'Victoriana.'*

Elsewhere, *'That Certain Something'* continues the jazzy swing vibes, with the addition of delicious Manzarek-esque keys and harmony licked choral hooks thrown in for good measure. The band stretch out a glorious jam as they utilise spoken word wisdom in a blissed out seven minute epic full of soloing guitars and circling vocals.

*Rosebud* is a wonderfully warped trip around the psyche of a true musical eccentric. The nine track affair is compelling, contagious and just a little bit bonkers. If you're looking for something different from the norm I highly recommend you

join Squid and his merry band of mischief-makers on their musical mystery tour.

[www.johnnysquid.bandcamp.com](http://www.johnnysquid.bandcamp.com)

Will Munn

## Balaban & The Bold Illeagles Going Clear

The debut album *'Going Clear'* by **Balaban And The Bold Illeagles** has been long in the making for frontman **Roscoe Balaban**. Despite the trio only forming in 2016, Roscoe's musical journey first began a decade ago when he formed Hans Gruber, before eventually joining **Matt Hale** in the much admired **Miss Helliwell**. After four years of various highs and lows, the Midlands based outfit decided to call it a day, ultimately leaving Roscoe without a band. After putting out the call to close friends **Ian "Onion" Whittaker** and **John "Cosy" Compton**, **Balaban And The Bold Illeagles** was formed.



They quickly pieced together a six-track EP and, within three months of their formation, took to **Magic Garden Studios** to record. The songs eventually materialised on Spotify as something of an introduction to the band's sound. The trio have matured as a band, both in a live sense, and with the new material. With their new sound and attitude the band have taken to **Stourbridge Studios** to record *Going Clear*.

The title track opens with a bang. An infectious introduction gives way to a swaggering post-punk riff and a rumbling barrage of drums. Roscoe lets loose with a rock, lead that's oddly reminiscent of Bruce Dickenson, and the band lurches towards a frantic choral hook. *'Music Crimes'* follows, quickly proving that Balaban are no one-trick ponies. Spiky indie-punk riffs and a pounded bass frame Roscoe's opinions on the current drivel that dominate the airwaves. *'Pearly'* continues the album's diversity as a reflective Roscoe heads to the pearly gates, floating on a hushed melody before a sudden aggressive burst hints at a post-rock influence.

Elsewhere, *'Relegation'* is a glorious swaggering slab of party, garage-rock that comes complete with a guitar/drum combo that's guaranteed to shake the dead from their eternal slumber. *'Bleeder'* sees the band strip things back to deliver their most accessible pop moment as an acoustic strum and a wordless vocal hook combine to create a contagious folk punk ditty. The five minutes plus of *'Conglomerate'* opens with a quietly tapped out rhythm, before developing into an expansive piece of atmospheric, brooding, post punk. The album's closing number, (bar a couple of bonus tracks) *'Pugilist'* is an inventive indie track that sees the band really stretch out, showcasing the band's imaginative widescreen sound in full.

It may have taken Roscoe a wee while to find the perfect output for his vision, but the Bold Illeagles do him proud. The band deliver an intriguing and infectious album, both musically and lyrically. I think the trio, given a bit of a push, could make something of a splash locally and further afield. Track them down on Facebook, stalk them on reverbnation, go to a gig, buy the album or demand your local promoter/venue to book them now. You won't be disappointed.

Will Munn



# Folklaw | We Will Rise

Gloucestershire based **Folklaw** first came to prominence around ten years ago when Nick Gibbs (vocals, fiddle, strings) and Bryn Williams (rhythm guitar, bodhran, vocals) joined forces. Since then, the duo have added to their ranks with Gaz Hunt (drums, percussion), Martin Vogwell (mandolin, banjo, electric guitar, vocals) and Lyndon Webb (mandolin, guitars) swelling the group's sound to straddle the genre divide between folk and rock.

The band soon found success with the release of their debut album *'Nation's Pride'* which helped to establish their live reputation with a number of festival and folk club performances. This feat was repeated and bettered with each subsequent release, with the likes of *'The Tales That They Tell'* and *'Smokey Joe'* courting attention from fRoots and R2 magazine (formerly Rock-N-Reel) among others.

The band's new album, *'We Will Rise'* sees **Paul Hutchinson** (of **The Old Push & Pull/Belshazzar's Feast**), **Jacquelyn Hynes** and singer-songwriter **Emi McDade** join, adding new dimensions to the band's sound.

Opening with the album's title track, the band set the mood with a song charting the life and times of Mary Macarthur. Leading off with the expressive fiddle and weathered vocals of Gibbs, the band soon add layers of strummed acoustic, driving percussion and group harmonies as the song swells into a compelling tale of the struggle for equality and the trials of the suffragettes to have their voices heard. The band pepper the track with a plucked mandolin and a brief electric guitar squall before driving on towards the track conclusion, pricking the ears with their fiery folk sound.

From there, **Folklaw** continue to tell tales and tackle the big issues. *'Folky Pirates'* attempts to tackle the scourge of plastic waste on the environment, battling back with hook-laden group harmonies, the ever trusty acoustic and a delicious mix of accordion and flute. The album's penultimate number, *'Angel's*

*Wings'*, is something of a call to arms as Gibbs delivers poignant lines such as *'Knock us down and we will return, with the strength of a thousand men'* as he urges us to stand up for what we believe in on the back of his fiery flights of fiddle and the band's edgy folk.

The new album is not all about protest and standing tall in the face of adversary, the infectious, Irish flavoured, *'Rocks Of The Burren'*, talks of life on the road *'playing sessions drinking beer, singing songs raising cheer'*. Propelled by the drums of Hunt, the three minute folk party anthem (if there is such a thing) sees Nick reminisce of Galway Bay, whilst Hynes' flute dances between the ever present fiddle and the strums of Williams' guitar and Vogwell's Mandola. The restrained beauty of the Americana tinged, *'Hills Of The Minds'*, talks of true, enduring friendship through both the good and bad times. Gibbs' grizzled lead is complimented by the pure harmonies of **Emi McDade**, whilst **Vogwell's** banjo comes to the fore as the band showcase another side of their rootsy sound. The band even deal with matters of the heart on the likes of the brilliant, tongue in cheek *'Baby You've Changed'* and the yearning, slow waltz of the piano flecked, Williams fronted, *'Love Again'*.

**Folklaw** draw *We Will Rise* to an emotionally stirring conclusion with perhaps one of the most important songs in their arsenal, *One Day At A Time*, a reflective track written and fronted by Martin Vogwell, that takes an honest and open look at the rollercoaster ride of living with mental health issues, the sensitive heartfelt number can't help pulling at the heart strings, as Martin's soulful refrain is backed by his own restrained guitar work and Nick's complimentary, classical inspired strings framing the emotive lyrics beautifully, urging the listener to simply soak and take in the song's message.

As folk albums go, *'We Will Rise'* has everything you could possibly ask for and more, we're served up stories of defiance and protest, tales from the road, letters of love and loss and of course the poignant heart wrenching finale. But not only do we have the songs and the hooks, Folklaw have to be commended on their arrangements and cross-genre pollination of styles that holds the listener from start to finish, a must have for all you folkies (and beyond) out there.

[www.folklaw.co.uk](http://www.folklaw.co.uk)

Will Munn

We are abruptly awoken from our serene dreams with *Train To Leeds*, and later the sound of chiming bells in *Sergeres*. *"Here"* returns us to our watery setting with the authentic sound of the clunk of a cassette player. For me, my love of music is about being able to relate to the lyrics, and for them to blend with music fitting of the emotion evoked. Wishing someone was just here is a feeling

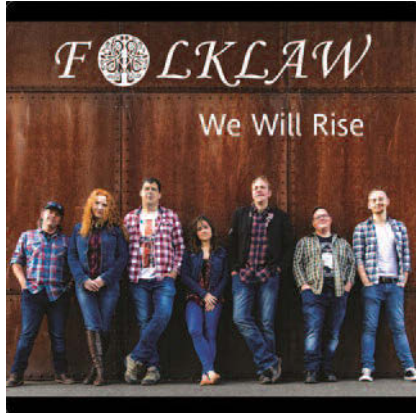
most of us know, and this daydreamy track perfectly suits that. Tweeting birds join the backing track by the time we reach *"Cash Liners"*, and the whole album gives the feeling of listening to music on a Spring Day with the window open. *"Between"* is my personal favourite, with a simple yet catchy guitar and a vocal again full of emotion. Closing track *"Suspended"* is an epic 12minutes and five seconds long, and revisits the authentic, crackle and ambience we've heard throughout.

The album is musically ambient, cleverly put together, and overall an enjoyable, relaxing listen. I'm hoping this musical magician gets the

recognition and air play he deserves.

Kate Ford

**SLAP MAR 21**



# F.F. Ivanovski | Home

*S.S Upended* is a watery musical opening to the third album *"Home."* from Worcester/Manchester musician, songwriter, producer, graphic designer and sound artist, **Alfie Newman**.

Billed as bedroom pop, the album starts with almost industrial sounds of raindrops hitting metal played over a watery trickle. A melodic chime takes us into *"I wish all you pretty people well"*, a track that was released as *"a song about all the people I know"*. As the music from delicate guitars rise, the water flows into the background and echo vocals take over, joined by relaxing synth sounds. An air play ready single. Each track literally flows into the next as the ambience continues throughout. We are treated to a few interludes that clearly show that the artist has taken his music, and us, on a European Journey.



## Mistrusted | From The Shadows

Wolverhampton based power trio **Mistrusted** have been kicking up a racket at West Midlands venues for the past three or four years, and have finally released their eagerly awaited debut album.

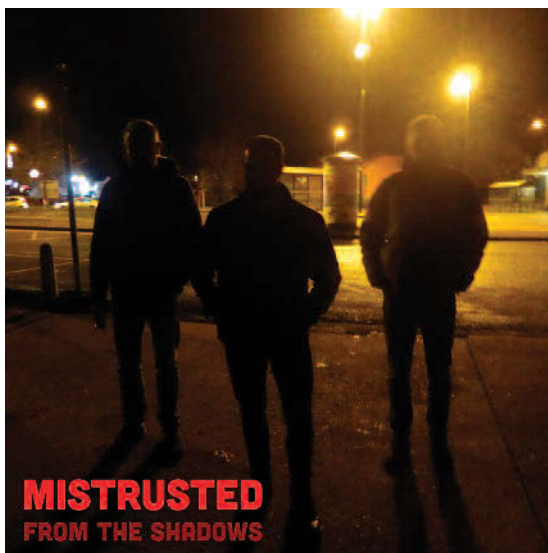
Something of a corker it is, too. The dual vocal attack of guitarist **Ken Sutura** and bassist **Ed Morton** is driven by the pounding drums of **Kai Bahia**; but it's the inventive, edgy arrangements that set it apart from many of their indie/grunge peers.

The fact that I can't put my finger on who they remind me of, can only be a good thing. Casual nods to The Pixies, Therapy? and Pearl Jam are fused with taut Futureheads style riffs and an added air of menace, grit and Black Country tension.

From album opener *Inside* to closing track *After Hours*, it's an album of real promise. The highlight, for me, is possibly the melancholic splendour of *Spiralling*, but all nine tracks on *From The Shadows* are equally impressive.

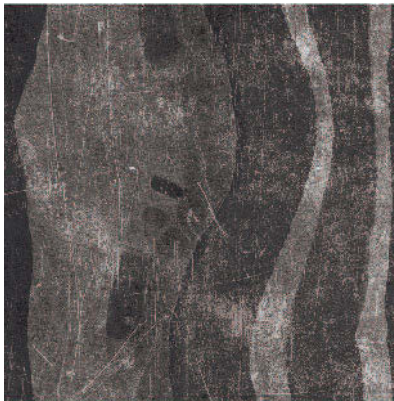
All in all, a compelling debut.

Terence Stomp



## Wood and Nails | Searching for an Exit

Back with their first release of 2019 are the indie-punk rock band, *Wood and Nails*. Based in Birmingham, the powerhouse songs radiate through and I had the pleasure of reviewing their previous single "*Lights Out*" not long back. It's nice to see that they're constantly building to bigger and better things. Reaching over 150 monthly listeners on Spotify, over 20,000 streams and a good fanbase on all of their social media sites, it's great to see a local band delivering their talents to the public.



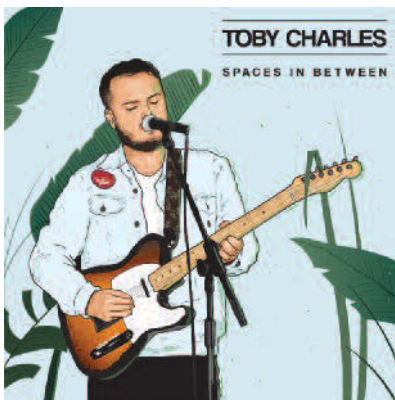
*Searching For An Exit* is really about searching for the light within the dark. A powerful metaphor that I feel a lot of people may relate too. An exhilarating production compliments all the instruments in their own light. Vocals seem a bit out of place here and there, but the imperfections really make the piece feel that extra special. With an approach more towards their indie side, *Searching For An Exit* really shows that the band can be quite versatile but still within their chosen genre. Looking forward to hearing where the band may take us next. Generating and putting content out their as a band is always one of the best ways to hear them, but also catch them live. Live music is sadly dying out and it's one of the greatest ways in which we connect with music. Support it and go listen to them live! The bands next show will be at the Flapper in Birmingham on March 2nd.

Chloe Mogg

## Toby Charles | Spaces in Between

**Boneyard Sessions** champion **Toby Charles** (real name Toby Randall) is an old hand at writing a musical ditty, after receiving his first guitar aged 11, he wrote his first song at 12. He knows what he's doing and it shows. Some artists have voices that seem to self harmonise, and from the opening of his EP, Toby's strong falsetto and lilting harmonies contrast deliciously to his gruffer masculine bass notes. He can create a soundscape. '*Same Old Thing*,' the EP's opening track and lead single, is a paired down echo and a lamenting homage to a relationship going through its death throes: "*Every time when we're together it just keeps on boiling over.*" The song effectively sums up a universal situation of the couple that aren't meant to be together but can't let go and the simplistic musical style creates a hauntingly sombre affair.

'*She Moves*,' featuring excellent drums from **Nth Cave's Hector Brazier**, is the grown up brother of a teenage love song. From the "*sensations... she gives you deep in your bones*" to the "*way she*



*moves*" Toby plays the lovesick sick suitor well by balancing it with his need to "tread lightly" and the difficulties within the relationship. 'Alcohol' urges its listener to "leave it alone" and remove themselves from what no longer serves them. The song's rhythmic strum accentuates the pared down drum beat perfectly and the album's content is beginning to sound like a combination of, break up classic, Bon Iver's "*For Emma Forever Ago*" and a soulful Paulo Nutini acoustic album.

Penultimate offering '*Gracie*' has a bluesy guitar sound and Toby's falsetto returns for a powerful, thought provoking, rebuttal to the cruel games people play with each other when they are supposed to be in love. The EP's closing track '*Shades of Green*' is a finger picking, emotional, homage to someone with the emotional power to cut "like a razor blade." The song's abrupt ending and reverberating echo shock the listener into a poignant silence. **Toby Charles** plays hurt well and this EP is definitely one to lend to your recently dumped friend. He seems to feel more deeply than many of us can.

Katie Harris



# Catch Fire

## Karma Owes Me A Lifetime Of Happiness

Probably my favourite venue in the area SLAP covers is **The Frog and Fiddle** in Cheltenham, not only showcasing local bands but also introducing us to a wide variety of acts from all over the country and indeed, internationally.

It was there, a couple of years ago that I saw Nottingham based alt-rockers, **Catch Fire**, play a brief but exciting headline set. Fast forward to the latter part of last year and teaser tracks started to be released for their debut album "*Karma Owes Me A Lifetime Of Happiness*" and it was clear in the intervening time that a promising band had begun to deliver, in spades, on that promise.

People talk about bands 'leaving nothing on stage' after a great performance - on this album, **Catch Fire** have clearly left nothing in the studio.

The uniformity of quality on this album is staggering - there's no track you want to skip or even hurry along, one simply flows effortlessly into the next, sweeping the music forward. There's riffs and shapes on this album that stay with you long after it's finished, primarily from **Neil Arkley's** guitar - they're particularly strong on



the opener '*Petrifaction*' (as perfect an example of setting out your stall as I've heard in a long time) and equally memorable on '*Faultline*' and '*Hostage*'. It's a disciplined performance throughout but he finally get to stretch out on the extended outro to '*For Those Who Fear Death*' and it's probably the standout track on the album.

The rhythm section of **Jordan Kimbley** on bass - particularly prominent in holding the slower sections together and **Ash Wain** on drums, whose frenzied intro to '*Bad Behaviour*' wouldn't sound out of place on a speed metal track, cope expertly with every subtle and not so subtle change of pace the widely differing songs demand.

There's a pervading sense of melancholy and regret in **Ash Wain's** lyrics (it's no coincidence that there's a weeping cherub on the cover) but the band manages to perfectly balance this out by the high key nature of the music, aided by a truly outstanding production/mixing job, so there's never a descent into introspection and despair.

The delivery of those lyrics, the lynch pin that lets so many albums down, is entrusted to vocalist **Miles Kent** and he pretty much nails them, always finding the correct nuance and just right amount of power for maximum impact. The world-weary delivery of the lines '*But the saving grace is/I know where the door is/Though I never thought I'd have to use it*', resonates like a cuff round the ear.

Since In Dynamics' brilliant "*Everything I See*" was released in 2016, I've tended to measure alt-rock albums against it like a yardstick - this album sits right up next to it - of its type, it's one of the most beautifully assembled bodies of work I've ever heard.

Geoffrey Head

# Emma Howell

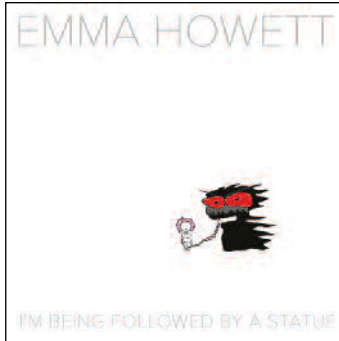
## I'm Being Followed By A Statue

**Emma Howell** first came to my attention as part of local indie pop rockers, **Will Dance For Chocolate**. Since then, she's been busy treading the boards as the lead singer of quirky, indie punk faves, **Chevy Chase Stole My Wife**. For most artists one outlet would be enough, but not one to rest on her laurels, last year she launched acoustic three-piece **Fix Me, Margo**. The trio released a Christmas single and performed a smattering of dates that have continued this year.

With continuing dates with both **CCSMW** and **Fix Me, Margo**, you wouldn't think Emma would have time to pursue any further projects, but in past few months Howell has continued to write and record, resulting in the release of her first solo affair, *I'm Being Followed By A Statue*.

*I'm Being Followed By A Statue* is a far more diverse affair, mixing and matching genres that we may not have come to expect from Howell. Sure, we're still served big pop infused hooks but there's much more besides that.

Take opener *Fever Dreams* for example. Emma creates an infectious electro groove, weaving a mix of thick throbbing bass, striking beats and synths before adding a crackle of guitar to the mix, formulating a sizzling modern day, R&B/pop soundscape. *Your Daughter* continues to see Howell experiment and flirt with



modern day pop. Opening with a sparse, reverb drenched vocal, fleeting piano and refrained beats before adding a soulful lead to create a sound more akin to James Blake than the indie buzz of CCSMW. For those of you who need your fuzzy guitar fix, don't fret (*see what you did there - Ed*) as Emma hasn't abandoned the six string. The album's second number *Goldilocks* opens with an instantly infectious riff, followed by a wandering bass and a suitably swaggering rhythm as she delivers a bold slab of ballsy hook-laden power-pop.

*Brave* continues with the same vibe as Emma strikes out at her guitar, delivering one of those top-draw riffs that instantly draws the listener in. Throughout the albums nine track duration, Emma continues to mix things up. *Lover's Ruin*, despite lyrically documenting the end of a relationship, is an uplifting, strident pop anthem. *Hush* opens with a thick, fuzzy rock riff and galloping, urgent drums as Howell delivers a spiky rocker full of rise and fall.

*The Unknown* opens with a vulnerable, solitary vocal before an electronic pulse blossoms into a glorious barrage of drums, bass and guitar, twisting and turning into a towering vocal hook that leaves you punching the air sheer delight.

*I'm Being Followed By A Statue* proves that Emma Howell has the Midas touch when it comes to music. Whether she's fronting a band with her mates, or recording a richly rewarding, diverse solo album, everything she touches turns to gold. I recommend you grab a copy of Emma's new album and prepare yourself for a few surprises and a week's worth of earworms.

www.emmahowett.bandcamp.com

Will Munn

## Gwyn Ashton Sonic Blues Preacher

I was pleased to be able to review *Ragas Blues & Mojo Hands*, an acoustic feast tasting of *Hunter Valley wine*, and *Outback tucker*.

Gwyn followed up with an early 70's styled rock breaker, full of psychedelic overload and recorded on tour in a Czech hotel room... *Elektro Solo*, brought a different direction. Now Gwyn turns down another road back to Oz, to find drumming digger, **John Freeman** and uncover a golden seam of dirty funk Blues pan washed in the muddy waters of the Mississippi.

Co written with **Gary Allen**, the album was recorded in Adelaide, and mixed at **Magic Garden Studio** on vintage analogue kit that can be traced back to gene genie, Bowie's Ziggy Stardust. The result is an album of Blues rock, full of big riffs, fat dirty grooves and plenty of bottlenecking slide, probably a few Stubbies handily at arms reach.

A big dirty chord opens *'She's What I Like'*. Dark lyrics wallow in the gritty, hard punching blues, full of crunching drum rhythms, a full throttle belter to open the account. Deliciously demonic feasts can be uncovered in *'The Candy Store'*, with insistent riff and chorused lyrics, Ashton's vocals dig deep for the temptations on offer. A *'Fool In YouGritr Life'* slides by and off the edge, into the deep blue *'Soul For Sale'*. With a lovely 12 string tingle, laced over a straight blues rhythm, a tempting offer, but at what price? The

slip-sliding twelve string jangle spits out *'The Old Fool'*, no foolin', just might be a little too familiar!!! I'll leave you to rock out for a couple of tracks and fast forward to the closing railroading blues, with Freeman's iron road rhythm, and Gwyn's sweet delta-esque slide painting the scene for an unmissable ride, with the *'Waiting Game'*.

The big filler, a meaty feast, with fat dirty guitar and dark lyrics, leading to temptation - *'Take Yourself Away'* has the sort of script Alice Cooper would love to juggle with. Heavy enough to kick ass.

Gwyn's last couple of offerings were a delight. This offering is no exception, my only criticism? Its far too short, I wanted more of this tasty cracker, that's spread with crunch peanut butter, and topped with blueberry jam. I await Gwyn's next project, with relish. Meanwhile, I'm going back to see what I find in that Candy Store!

Graham Munn



# What's On?

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## George Egg | DIY Chef Artrix, Bromsgrove | Sat 9th Feb

Banned from the kitchen due to a health scare, **George Egg** finds himself in his garden shed where he recreates a three course meal using items found within it.

The first thing you notice when entering the Artrix's studio space is the array of various tools and equipment spread out across the stage, a glimpse into the hour and half ahead. *"Eat drink and be merry, for tomorrow we may die... what a positive start to a comedy show."* Egg enters and embarks on a wild ride: using a wallpaper steam stripper to poach eggs, a paper shredder to make pasta – name a tool he'll find a culinary use for it. There are crazier things I could tell you, but I don't want to spoil the surprises. To top it all off, at the end of the show, the audience gets to sample the goods – which I can happily state were delicious. If Egg ever tires of the comedy life, he could easily set up his own DIY-esque style restaurant.

Food aside, *DIY Chef* is a seriously solid and funny show starring a pro comic. Egg knows how to work the audience and more importantly, how to tell a joke. His timing is impeccable, his call backs outstanding and his stage presence incredibly likeable. I will

admit that there were perhaps too many puns for my liking, but nevertheless, I challenge anyone to leave this show without a smile on their face.

Beneath the comedy and cooking however, there is something more profound about *DIY Chef*. At the end of the show Egg talks about thinking outside the box, alternative creativity, taking it and flipping it on its head and not going along with the crowd.

There is a positive message in being confident in who you are and not worrying about what you think people want you to be. Egg sums it up at the start: *"Eat drink and be merry, for tomorrow we may die"* before opening his Bible to reveal its been hollowed out to hold a bottle of Baileys. Don't worry about tomorrow or what people think, be confident in who you are and enjoy the now.

This isn't the first time Egg has visited the Artrix and I imagine it won't be the last. It is a lovely little venue that seems to actively welcome good comedy, with a focus on young and emerging talent. It's always a refreshing pleasure to see who they have coming up. Having been involved in the West Midlands comedy scene for a few years, the Artrix, in my opinion, has the edge on any other venue in Worcestershire when it comes to comedy bookings. You just have to see who has visited before, Sofie Hagen, Phil Wang, Mark Watson, and who is visiting in soon, Sindhu Vee, Ed Gamble, Harriet Kemsley, Keng Cheng, just to

name a few. If you are a comedy fan, the Artrix is where you need to be.

Alex Redmond

@alexredmond92 comedy@slapmag.co.uk

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**MALVERN  
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## Blackballed Katie Fitzgerald's Stourbridge | 3rd Feb

My reward after suffering dry January (and it wasn't a tube of Vagisan) was to treat myself to a triple helping of **Blackballed** at the start of their tour. These guys are a trio of Manchester based lads fronted by **Marshall Gill** (vocals/guitar) who also slings axe for New Model Army, his brother **Leon** (drums) and **Tom Wiberley** (bass) and together they produce some of the finest rock/blues music on the scene. Their magnetic high octane energy captivates the audience and once seen, you are definitely left wanting more.

**Blackballed** stand out in this genre, as I compare music to cooking, there may be many variations to a recipe, but it's the quality of the ingredients and that individual twist you add, to make it MasterChef quality. These accomplished, dexterous lads come together to blend their own individual talents with added spice to create their unique sound and I quote from Mary Berry *"if you follow a good recipe you will get success"*.

So on tonight's menu there were no slow introductions, as the band start off with their single 'Shoe's' which puts everyone in the party mood. Then pulling no punches, they play 'Losing Your Grip' and 'Follow Me' which are the fast paced head bangers. I now resort to wiggling my hips more, but after hearing 'Christine' I'm sure I will need a hip replacement soon!

Marshall really shows off his smooth chocolatey voice in *"Firelight"*. He's such a storyteller and so believable that when he sings *"It's a cold, cold night and I NEED YOU TONIGHT"* the sense of urgency would make anyone invite him in for a mug of Horlicks! Mind you, he sounds so convincing you'd feel compelled to do that even on a hot summer's day!



This venue has a very relaxed atmosphere which leads to lots of humorous banter between the band and the audience. They deviate from their set list to pay tribute to Buddy Holly - who died 60 years ago to the day, with Leon's foot stomping renditions of his songs. Then it was time for an advert break, Leon had come up with a jingle to make their fortune, to promote "TENA" man, so to the 2nd verse of 'Hey Jude', he began singing *"Sudden wee, my prostate isn't what it used to be ..."*, I will leave it there but it had everyone roaring.

**Blackballed** have a busy time ahead as they have just been signed up by German record label **'Metalville'** and I excitedly await their new album, due for release this summer. Look out for their Gorilla logo which represents the launch of this tour and a new track called 'Desert Sun'. Perhaps we will get to see Tom play bass in a gorilla outfit! However, Mr Gorilla will certainly be beating his chest with pride at all of **Blackballed's** achievements in 2019.

Megan White

## A Special Night For 'Music In The Hall' Kiki Dee and Saving Grace St Georges hall, Bewdley | 11th Feb

The audiences at the **Music in the Hall** sessions, held monthly in **St. George's Hall, Bewdley**, have been treated to many top-notch musical evenings over the past four years. However, last Monday evening's unique show at the Hall set the bar even higher with mesmerizing sets from **Kiki Dee** and **Saving Grace**.

The organisers invited their regular patrons to a night that concluded with the first-class musical skills of **Kiki Dee** and her musical partner, the guitar virtuoso **Carmelo Luggeri**, but was opened by an atmospheric and intriguing set from **Saving Grace**.

Kiki gave a master-class in her vocal skills as she transported the audience with a series of songs featuring her own writings, old and new, together with some enchanting cover versions developed in their own style. Carmelo's guitar virtuosity was quite dramatic throughout their set, his fingers moving across the strings with a dexterity that almost defied the eyes.

**Saving Grace** is a co-operative that includes **Robert Plant** and **Suzi Dian** on vocals, **Tony Kelsey** on mandolin, baritone and acoustic guitars, **Matt Worley** playing banjo, cuatro, acoustic and baritone guitars and **Oli Jefferson** on drums and percussion.

Described as *"music inspired by the dreamscape of the Welsh Marches"*, *"from a whisper to a scream"*, Saving Grace gave a performance that entranced the audience, featuring beautiful and hypnotic vocal harmonies throughout the set, including a surprise rendition of *"Ohio"* by Patty Griffin.



This was just the second ever performance from the band, although the interplay on stage was of a level that made it seem as if they had been playing together for years and, judging by the reaction of the audience, their forthcoming shows with Fairport Convention will see their stature rising sharply.

This was a wonderful and memorable night for all those involved with **'Music in the Hall'** and a tribute to the vision of the organisers and their drive to bring world class music to Bewdley.

Trevor Price Photo by Colin Hill



# Elmslie House

On Friday 8th March, **Elmslie House** and **Lovells Vineyard** present **"Row The Sea For MND"**, an evening of incredible true stories from former Special Forces soldier **John Davidson**. In the run up to his solo mission to row the Atlantic in aid of Motor Neurone Disease, John will be recounting some astonishing memories that are sure to leave you with goosebumps! With a career history that could be described as colourful at the very least, John has witnessed first-hand acts of terrorism, hostage negotiations, parachuting accidents, and life or death situations. A worthy cause, an inspirational evening and even a glass of wine from Lovells Vineyard, what more could you want!



On Saturday 9th March, **Alden Patterson & Dashwood** return to Elmslie House following the release of their self-made second album, *By The Night*. The Norwich trio spin a delicate, compelling and honest sound that's sure to capture you with dreamy melodies and soul-soothing harmonies. Guitar, dobro and fiddle meld together easily to refreshingly natural effect, holding a space between Americana and folk, alongside Christina's gently raw vocal and self-penned lyrics.

'**Pianoscapes**' will be launching on Sunday 10th March, the first in a series of monthly concerts held by pianist **Chris Long** and tipped as "eclectic music for adventurous listeners". It'll be an

hour of piano and keyboard music ranging from Bach and Debussy to Pink Floyd, played in a relaxed setting with tea and cake on hand. Doors open at 2:30 for a 3pm start.

From the 23rd to 24th of March, **Blue Magpie Contemporary Craft Fair** will be returning to Elmslie House, bringing designers



and makers from across the UK to Malvern - and just in time for Mother's Day! From jewellery to ceramics and art, here is your chance to find the perfect gift for yourself or someone special, while supporting talented UK designers and their unique work.



Alden Patterson & Dashwood



Elmslie is both an elegant venue and a private family home in Great Malvern. We open up part of the ground floor for music performances, art exhibitions, contemporary craft fairs, weekly exercise classes and lots more. For full listings check out our Facebook page or website.



Alden, Patterson & Dashwood



The Very Grimm Brothers & SassCappella



Red Dirt Skinners

Saturday 9th March

Saturday 30th March

Friday 12th April



Please check website for ticket prices and running times - these vary. Tickets available from [www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk), Carnival Records & Malvern TIC



[www.elmsliehouse.co.uk](http://www.elmsliehouse.co.uk)





# INDEPENDENT VENUE

"At the start of Independent Venue Week 2019, I set myself a goal of visiting as many venues as possible. Travelling to Bristol, Oxford, Worcester, Cheltenham and Pershore, I saw a variety of music, from classical, through folk, alt rock and more. Exhausted as I was by the end of the week, what a brilliant experience it was, which I hope convey the atmosphere."

**Top: Chevy Chase Stole My Wife, Savaterra**

**Left: The Jericjo Racks**

**Bottom: Trevino Slaxx, Soeur, Effigy For Sleep**







# INDEPENDENT WEEK

...al to see at least one gig a day in an independent venue.  
...managed to see eight gigs in seven days - everything from  
...d right through to metal.  
...ant time it was - here are some of the images,  
...osphere of the events"

*Geoffrey Head*

...annah, Nth Cave, Hattie Erawan

*Right: Halfives, The VHTs*

...p, Connor maher, White Noise Cinema





## Dvořák in a Day Holy Apostles Church, Cheltenham Saturday 2nd February

A question for you - apart from his 9th Symphony "*From The New World*", how many other works by the composer Antonín **Dvořák** have you ever heard?

I could only manage two but at this most imaginative **Dvořák** all-day at the truly beautiful **Holy Apostles Church** in Cheltenham, part of the **Cheltenham Coffee Concerts** series, myself and all the rest of the considerable audience had their knowledge greatly increased.

The format was simple. From 11.00am onwards, every hour on the hour, until late afternoon there was a selection of chamber music, choral music, leier and other incidental music by this most prolific and sometimes overlooked composer, whose entire output is so rich in folk themes and traditional airs. Each section lasted 35-50 minutes or so, just time to refuel with a range of delicious cakes and a cup of tea until the next recital.

There was some dazzling playing throughout and many moments of exquisite beauty as well, and throughout the day, we kept being reminded of the rich folk heritage that inspired the music, as familiar musical shapes and themes appeared in the various different pieces.



There were also a variety of different musical configurations on show. We had the fluent and lyrical solo piano work of the day's organiser, **Warwick Cole** whose interpretation of the Piano Pieces, Opus 52 was simply beautiful - particularly the second movement. His daughter **Sarah**, between valuable stints on refreshments, became the first electronic page turner I've ever seen! But we also had chamber music in the shape of **The Oxus Quartet** (**Kate Bailey** - violin, **Louise Graham** - violin, **Heather Birt** - viola, **Spike Wilson** - cello) who were joined by **Margaret Ozanne** on piano, playing the *Piano Quintet in A Major*, Opus 81 where again the second movement was breathtakingly lovely.

Now, leier aren't really my favourite musical format, but **James Gilchrist** (tenor) made his section of the day hugely enjoyable, not just with his vocal delivery but with his highly amusing introductions to each of the *Four Songs*, Opus 7.

**30 SLAP MAR**



And then, there were the young players. There's a section showcasing the music faculty at **Cheltenham Ladies' College**, led by tutors David Jones on piano and **Edgar Bailey** on violin, who memorably combine later for one of the *Slavonic Dances*. First up is **Maia Jones**, who accompanied by father David comprehensively nails the final movement of the *Cello Concerto in B Minor*, Opus 104 - incredibly, she achieves this playing without a score. She extracts a rich tone from her instrument and her vibrato threatens to rattle the church's magnificent stained glass. *The Four Romantic Pieces*, Opus 75 is shared between two seemingly even younger violinists, **Naomi Chang** and **Valerie Ma**, Miss Chang injecting much life into the opening two allegro movements, while Miss Ma adds gravitas to the allegro appassionato movement and her precise fingering and rock-solid bow control during the glacially slow final movement is extraordinary.

With another gig in the evening beckoning, I run out of time in late afternoon, but I will return for another presentation, because this was not only an enriching and enlightening experience, but it was also a highly entertaining day.

*Geoffrey Head*

*Left: Warwick Cole and Sarah Cole Top: Mala Jones*

*Bottom: The Oxus Quartet*







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## Wille & The Bandits Gloucester Guild Hall | 15th Feb

**WATB** return to Gloucester for what has become an annual appearance, this time without the travails of snow and ice we had to contend to the last time round. With the recent release of their latest album *Path*, the words on everyone's lips are of the official album tour, which commences in March. Always popular in these parts, and an eager crowd forms in the Hall as **Son Of Dave** take the stage as support act for the evening. Beat-boxing blues, a stamping left foot and a selection of harps hold the stage while close-to-home humour and a growling rap style uncovers the lyrics of *"Black Betty"*. It's a short but interesting set from the charismatic Canadian; a maverick bluesman.

The stage is swiftly reset, and Matt and Andy ready themselves before Wille picks up his Gibson. In these heady days, Wille has lost the seat and found his feet, opting to stand and take centre stage for a walk down the Path. The set kicks off with *"Victim Of Love"*, and the band are ready to rock the Guild Hall. *"Make Love"* holds nothing back, it's a heart-on-their-sleeves attack against power politics and gunboat threats, imploring us to embrace our differences.

Wille steps up to the lap slide while Andy rumbles into rolling percussion, before moving to the distinctive tongue drum. Matt's wielding his five-string bass, and the crowd is entranced by *"Watch You Grow"*, a lovely dedication to Wille's daughter. She's a proven life-changer, as fatherhood laid waste to the dreadlocks and stove pipe hat, allowing a more "responsible" man to emerge.

A mention of Peter Green is always sure to engage the audience, as Wille slides into a Carlos Santana-style start before the

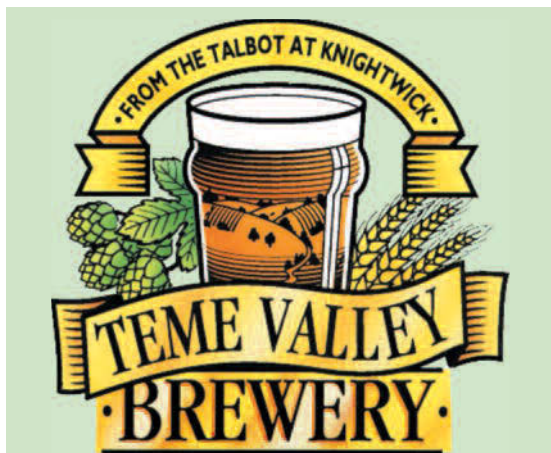


unmistakable *"Black Magic Woman"* bursts through. It morphs into a more exotic Dicky Dale flavoured, soul-soaked surf rock, before reforming towards a more familiar closing run, as stunning as ever. Lifted straight from *Path*, *"Judgment Day"* rolls out, rolling on and on, and on, stamping the sweet groove. The furrow leads the way to a funk-filled *"Keep It On The Down-Low"* and man I'm feelin' fine basking in its warm glow.

It's about time to drop in a few old favourites, and the djembe is dragged forward, stick bass readied, while Wille turns acoustic for the beautiful *"Mamon"*, from their 2012 album *Breakfree*. But right now there's only *"One Way"* down the Path, as Wille's slide unlocks rapid-fire rock, and it's time to dance the night away as fans give way to the rhythm.

Rolling back the clock, WATB blast out the fabulous *"Virgin Eyes"*, *"Jack The Lad"*, and the explosive *"Bad News"*; enough mesmerising rock rhythms to bring the evening to a close. Wille And The Bandits deliver yet another fine evening of live music, and a new album to celebrate; it's a path you're compelled to follow.

Graham Munn



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# On To A Good Sing !

For hundreds of years, people have gathered to sing and for companionship. Happily the "**Somers**", Worcester's weekly folk club, continues this tradition, **every Friday**, for over 38 years! What causes people to drive to us from Pontypool, Cheltenham, or Kinver? A good place to sing, and a warm welcome.

Traditional music has always been celebrated at the club, but is not a requirement for performers. You'll hear beautiful choruses, ballads, and rousing shanties from English, Scottish, Welsh, Irish, French, and American traditions ... and you'll also hear contemporary and self-penned songs in the folk idiom, acoustic blues, spirituals, music hall, humorous numbers, tunes, poetry and spoken word performances ... *All kinds of folk are welcome!*

The club is friendly, relaxed and encouraging. We don't have paid guests on club nights. We try to fit in everyone who wants to perform and arrives for our 8.15pm start. Our tradition is not to perform from written words or sheet music, and we don't use amplification. We're not a singaround session - we perform from the front.

We're very democratic and supportive in encouraging all to sing, but you're also welcome just to listen, join in choruses, and enjoy the fun! We create a very happy environment for those who enjoy



singing, participating in other ways, or simply being there. Numbers vary, but there's always plenty of songs and lovely harmonies.

Occasionally, we have theme nights, feature spots, guest MCs, or club swaps ... On the first Friday of the month, we start with chorus songs. In summer, we have regular visitors from **Birmingham's Black Diamond folk club**.

We've an optional Membership scheme (join in person, any Friday); we've annual Members-only Saturday concerts and Harvest Suppers. As our guest Martyn Wyndham-Read wrote about our 2018 Harvest, "*Such a joy to be there with such a great audience and wealth of good singers. A memorable evening.*"

In March we've a choruses-to-start night, two guest MCs, a visit from **Winchcombe Folk Club**, and for Members, a Saturday concert with **Damien Barber & Mike Wilson**, and **Daisybell**.

First Friday visit free! You'll be made most welcome. Every Friday at **Bishop Allenby Hall**, St. Stephen's Street (off Ombersley Rd) WR3 7HS. For map & more details, see [www.somers-folk-club.org.uk](http://www.somers-folk-club.org.uk), or phone Sam & Eleanor, 01684 561378.

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## King King, Sari Schorr Birmingham Town Hall | Friday 1st Feb

**King King** return to Birmingham to fill the Town Hall for an outstanding session on their UK tour. It's the last we will see with **Lindsay Coulson** on bass, sharing the stage and rhythm section with drummer **Wayne Proctor**. **Alan Nimmo**, true to his irascible Glaswegian character, is unrelenting as lead guitar and vocals, while **Jonny Dyke** sits behind his ivory tower of Hammond piano. Despite Lindsay's decision to move on after ten years performing with the band, all is well in King King's court, and we are in for a stonking show.



*Revolution*", as Sari is drawn onstage to explode into rock-riven lyrics. The set seems altogether too short but includes *"King Of Rock And Roll"* – a song wholly appropriate for such an evening.

**King King** take the stage, blasting their way straight into a pulsating hard rock riff. The lovely opening bars of the bluesy *"Rush Hour"* drift out to their appreciative disciples, with Jonny working hard over the Hammond and Nimmo fronting up on Fender. The band stick to a soulful groove, pulsing *"Stranger To Love"* around the packed auditorium. Lindsay's bass punches out unmistakably over Wayne's percussive strike, before the levels fall away to melodic guitar. It's a truly spell-binding effect, lulling hall into a mesmerised hush. From near silences the bass growls back to life, and King King turn up the gas to re-energise the hall of fans.

The Leslie Cab whirs away, throwing out a magical, organic sound and setting the scene for the boys to get everyone moving with the rock n roll ripper *"Gimme No Lovin"*. All seats are evacuated, and the hall becomes a moving tide as the band dips back into *Exile And Grace* for *"Find Your Way Home"*, a fitting choice to close on. A warm glow fills the room, ready to shield us from the biting cold of the night sky beyond the Hall's doors. But, of course, it's not over until it's over! We are in for a rather special encore as Jackie Williams, who once provided backing vocals for King King, is invited onstage for *"Take My Hand"*. The band fizzle through the effervescent R&B track, a fantastic finish to the evening with the true kings of rock blues. So good they named 'em twice!

Graham Munn



But before I lose control, I must mention the brilliant support provided by the **Sari Schorr band**. Sari gains more fans with every performance, a fact easy to gauge from the queue of recent converts, keen to take home an album. The combination of Sari's stunning vocal power, Ash's guitar, and Matt and Roy's terrific rhythm section, trawls shoals of new followers from every show. The band kick off the show with the opening bars of *"New*

## Claude Bourbon The Chestnut | Sunday Jan 27th

I've known **Claude Bourbon** for nearly 20 years ago, when I reviewed his first UK tour, at the **Gloucester blues festival**, shortly after he arrived here from France..

He was then a bluesman. His repertoire is now varied and mostly self-written. He is a brilliant picker, using bare fingers and an evil, talon-like thumbnail (Catfish Keith fans will recall Cat has a similar technique.)

Claude and his wife Marielle now live in Cumbria, and he gigs mostly in USA, so his appearance at **The Chestnut** was a rare opportunity to renew acquaintance.

His voice is huskier than I remember, and his first 2 choices, called, I think, *"I cannot face the Lord"*, then *"There's Still Loving In Your Heart"*, both sounded a little like JJ Cale.

*St James's Infirmary*, after taking us to Mexico and back, morphed into a long instrumental workout, the pattern for the rest of the session. Toward the end a friend and I thought we recognised a well-known (except to us!)\_ classical piece. He thought Stravinsky. *"Who wrote that?"* he asked at the end. *"Me"*, replied Claude, crisply.



Around 10-12 years ago we both played at a WMF session somewhere in the town centre. *"Let's not leave it another 15 years"* suggested Marielle as we left. At almost 76, I doubt that eventually will arise, so it was an unexpected treat to see them again.

Bob Jones



# Welcome to Fusion Music Without Boundaries 2019

Having run a successful 1-day event on March 31st last year, festival organisers **Progmeister UK** have set up a 3-day Prog Festival at **The Civic in Stourport-On-Severn, March 22nd - 24th 2019**. They decided to go to the next level this time and so here we are, with the best and the brightest on the current Prog scene.

Kicking things off on Friday we have exciting new local **Hey Jester** who are set to be the new Muse and on Saturday, cult Prog band **England** have reformed to play a one-off show where they are presenting their cult classic "Garden Shed" live, in its entirety for the very first time !!

With 16 bands on offer including the legendary **Focus** ("Hocus Pocus", "Sylvia") headlining on Friday, a superb Peter Gabriel-era Genesis tribute band **The Book Of Genesis** (complete with masks, costumes, slides etc) on Saturday and very much on the ascendant - Brum band **IO Earth** wrapping things up on Sunday with a nice early finish at 9.00pm.



Having run a successful radio show "The Lost Art" on Midlands Metalheads Radio for the last four years and a lifetime of devotion to this wonderful music, **Progmeister UK** felt it was about time the Midlands had its own seminal Prog festival and thus, "Fusion - Music Without Boundaries" was born !!!



With bands queuing to play and next year's event already booked for March 20th - 22nd, the future is bright for this new and exciting event. Be a part of the journey and book your ticket today or why not have a bash at our competition where you can WIN a pair of tickets, worth £100 !!! (See Below). With more than ample parking and seating, street food, excellent bar and loads of merch, we can guarantee an amazing time, look forward to seeing you there.

**Friday - £15, Saturday - £20, Sunday - £20. Weekend - £50.**

50% discount for any student with a current and valid ID.

Tickets available from: [ticketmaster.co.uk](http://ticketmaster.co.uk) (search: Fusion) or [thecivicstourport.co.uk/event/fusion-2019/](http://thecivicstourport.co.uk/event/fusion-2019/) or call Stourport Civic direct on 01299 823339

## COMPETITION

With five pairs of tickets (worth £100) up for grabs and a top prize including signed cd's, t-shirts etc, send your answers to: the [progmeister@gmail.com](mailto:progmeister@gmail.com). BE THE FIRST !!

What is the name of the debut album by **King Crimson** and when was it released ?

Best of luck - **Progmeister UK**

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*leafblade*

## Mappy Presents Leader Of Down Friday April 12th | the Cube, Malvern

Although **Mappfest** founder **Andy Mapp** has stepped down from the festival itself, he is determined to bring quality rock to Malvern. Remembering **The Cube** from the good old days and seeing the hard work and investment going on he couldn't resist going back to his old promotion days.



**Leader Of Down** are coming back to Malvern as part of their UK Spring tour promoting their new album '*Cascade into Chaos*' which has been released worldwide on the American label Cleopatra Records.

After headlining the Mappfest in 2017 **Leader Of Down** have gone on to release both an Album and Single which spent 10 weeks in the German Rock Charts and completed a successful tour supporting Phil Campbell and the Bastard Sons.

The brainchild of Grammy nominated former Motörhead guitarist **Würzel** and bass player **Tim Atkinson** who after forming the band, busied themselves in a London rehearsal studio writing dozens of tracks in preparation for recording an album.

The name **Leader Of Down** came from Würzel mishearing the lyrics to the Status Quo track '*Down, Down*'. He'd had been singing the wrong words "*Down Down, Leader of Down*" for over 30 years.

They started recording the initial tracks for the album which included a reworking of Würzel's solo release from the 80's '*People Say I'm Crazy*' (B side of the single "*Bess*"). These initial sessions also included a track that was always intended for Lemmy to sing on, as Würzel said "*We think it would suit him*".

## Woo Fest Warm Up The Marrs Bar | 29th of March

After a sell-out night in 2018, the fundraiser for **Woo Fest, Woo Warm up** returns to the **Marrs Bar** for a fantastic evening of live music with every penny raised going to **St Richard's Hospice**, Worcester. We know this is currently Brexit day so whatever your views come and enjoy the one thing that politics can't divide - live music, with the added benefit of raising money for a much needed local charity

The incredible **Speak, Brother** from Rugby will be bringing their indie folk sound with honest stories following the release of their album, *Young and Brave*. **In Evolution** join us fresh from their debut shows, bringing their own classic rock tunes, recently

**36 SLAP MAR**



This track eventually became '*Paradise Turned Into Dust*' with Lemmy finishing his recording at Paramount Studios in Los Angeles shortly before his own passing during a very emotional recording session.

'*Cascade Into Chaos*' boasts several guest vocalists, such as **Whitfield Crane** (Ugly Kid Joe), but the line-up is completed by vocalist **Matt Baker**, drummer **Daniel Akaoui** and guitarist **Alex Ward** who have slipped seamlessly into the fold. After Würzel's tragic death in 2011 the band continued to finish the album and enlisted the help of some friends to honour the great man.

The album features blockbusting tracks with titles such as '*Serial Killjoy*' and '*Killing Rain*', all mixed by Motörhead Grammy winning producer **Cameron Webb** at Maple Studios in California.

It is all, of course, a tribute to Würzel and the other fallen Motörhead heroes. It is also the beginning for **Leader Of Down** who after a successful appearance at Hard Rock Hell, and subsequent tour with Phil Campbell and the Bastard Sons in November 2018, will be even busier this year with their spring tour visiting Malvern Cube on 12th April.

Supporting on the night will be **Segregates**. Formed in 2011 as a cure to a burning obsession with Motorhead and pure rock n roll. The sound is often described as motorpunk rock n roll and they wear the obvious influences on their sleeves. **Segregates** released their debut album '*Burston*' (named in tribute to the late great Micheal 'Würzel' Burston) on Cleopatra records in 2017 and have the first of a series of follow up singles due out on the same label 22nd February 2019

And to complete the lin-up we have **Sun Fire** who have been going since Feb 2014, with current line-up in place since 2016. A rock orientated, highly melodic, distinctive sound. **Sun Fire** make original music, but with some real classics in the set, they're also a very competent covers band.

Tickets £10 from Carnival Records & [www.malverncube.com](http://www.malverncube.com)  
PS I'll be donating 50% of any profits to the Mappfest NPMO.

Andy Mapp

described as when Lemmy joined ZZ Top! Not to be missed. We are also joined by the indie band, **The Leaking Machine** from Stroud and the incomparable **Chewie** will be performing an acoustic set of well-loved classics with a few of his own well-written tracks thrown in.





# Lechlade Festival Full Line Up Revealed

Now in its 9th year, **Lechlade Festival** returns over the bank holiday weekend from 24th to 26th May 2019.

Jam-packed with over 100 performers, including Ivor Novello award-winning, Brit Award-nominated band **The Feeling** as headliners. The Feeling burst onto the British pop scene in 2005 and enjoyed a string of Top 10 hits, including: *Sewn*, *Rosé*, *Fill My Little World*, *Love it When You Call* & *Never Be Lonely*. The band will be playing these and more from their *Twelve Stops and Home* Album which was recently reissued celebrating its 12th anniversary.



They are supported on Sunday night by **Rob Heron and The Tea Pad Orchestra**, described as a swing-honkytonk-rockabilly band. "Expect boogaloo, ragtime hokum, country blues and more with influences from Bob Wills to Django Reinhardt, George Jones to Tom Waits," says Festival Director **Jennie Rainsford**, "we can't wait to see these guys on stage. It's such a growing genre, fusing exciting and energetic music styles from yesteryear with a contemporary twist."

Saturday night sees the return of 'That 80s Rock Show', performing 80s stadium rock anthems and power ballads with larger than life characters. Friday night is once again dedicated to tribute bands with the **Marley Experience**, **Tasha Leaper** as Madonna and **Faux Fighters** heading the line-up.

Last year's event attracted record numbers with over 6,500 festival-goers enjoying a sunny weekend in the **Riverside Country Park** alongside the River Thames at Lechlade. This year's festival promises to be bigger and better, whilst sticking firmly to the festival's roots as a family friendly event, with comedy, camping, boutique glamping, free music, dance and craft workshops, circus skills tent, burlesque and more. Fab food, real ales, stalls and rides complete the weekend.

Children 16 and under go free, whether camping or visiting for the day. Make the most of your bank holiday weekend with three amazing days in the glorious Cotswolds.

Early Bird Tickets are available until 31st March, with extra discounts for locals. Renishaw Engineering and GS Yuasa Battery return as sponsors.

Find out more at [www.lechldefestival.co.uk](http://www.lechldefestival.co.uk), on Facebook & Instagram.

## Miranda Sykes

Palace Theatre, Redditch | Fri 22 Mar  
Painswick Centre, Stroud | Sat 23 Mar

Miranda Sykes, the acclaimed singer and bassist with **Show of Hands** returns in 2019 with a new album and UK tour. After a career spanning over 20 years, during which time she has played with many of the top musicians and singers within the folk world, she will be touring as she started out: One woman, one bass, and one guitar.



Building on the success of her *Borrowed Places* tour, **Miranda Sykes** is back with a completely new project: *'Behind The Wall'*

Where *Borrowed Places* opened a window into the past, explaining where she had been, physically and spiritually, *Behind The Wall* is a roller coaster ride exploring where we are going; Miranda, you, me, all of us. What does it mean to be human today, living in our communities and societies and where will our actions lead us?

With her sensational voice, and accompanying herself, Miranda interprets the soul of the land and takes her audience on a journey that resonates with us all, wherever we live and it is one you won't want to miss.

For the latest news: [www.mirandasyses.com](http://www.mirandasyses.com)

## Seth Lakeman

Hereford Cathedral | March 30th

The highly esteemed English folk singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist **Seth Lakeman** has announced an unmissable show at **Hereford Cathedral** (30 March 2019).

Working with top producer **Ben Hillier** (Elbow, Blur, Depeche Mode), the BBC Folk Awards-winning talent and esteemed multi-instrumentalist, **Seth Lakeman** released his ninth solo album *"The Well Worn Path"* to rave reviews last year.

Now fresh from his whirlwind world tour with rock legend **Robert Plant**, the charismatic performer will be playing the headline show in support of the album which is out now via Cooking Vinyl.

Multiple BBC Radio 2 Folk Award winner and Mercury Music Prize nominee Seth is one of folk and roots music's real innovators. His albums continue to break new ground and his enviable live reputation has seen him grace stages the world over. He will be out playing these new songs for his UK fans in 2019, whilst still hopping back on and off the **Robert Plant** touring juggernaut.



For more info: [www.sethlakeman.co.uk](http://www.sethlakeman.co.uk)

## Urban Folk Quartet

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester | Sat 16 March

Artrix, Bromsgrove | Fri 19 April

The inimitable, award-winning **Urban Folk Quartet** began their 10th anniversary celebrations in February, embarking on a 13-date birthday tour that will be stopping in Worcester this spring for what are sure to be two incredible shows.

Based in the West Midlands, UFQ never fail to wow crowds with their unique brand of acoustic folk that defies every genre convention by pooling inspiration from across the globe. From African beats, funk and melodies reminiscent of the middle-east, they're a band who refuse to confine themselves by tradition. With influences that span continents, the Urban Folk Quartet's appeal has become a global affair, taking the band and their music from Europe to the Northern Pacific, at home in intimate venues and 30,000 capacity fields. Despite their international acclaim, the band remains grounded in the vibrancy and innovation of the Birmingham music scene, fusing the more traditional folk with pop, rock and dub sounds, and unifying audiences the world over!



With the impending release of their highly anticipated seventh studio album, UFQ will be surprising crowds with some new releases, while dazzling with favourites from across their decade-long musical history. Comprised of fiddle player and guitarist Joe Broughton, fiddle player Paloma Trigas, percussionist Tom Chapman and banjo/guitar player Dan Walsh, Urban Folk Quartet are a band of musicians truly in their stride. This is a band you need to experience live!

Acoustic Music Convention Presents

## Steve Tilston

The Old Rectifying House | March 28th

**Steve Tilston** is one of our most celebrated song-smiths, widely recognised within the world of folk and contemporary music; the words, arrangements and subtle, quite superb guitar playing could be no one else. The hugely talented award-winning performer presents an intimate evening of music, featuring unique arrangements of popular folksongs alongside his own critically acclaimed material.

Born in Liverpool and raised in the Midlands, Steve made his recording debut in 1971 with the classic *'An Acoustic Confusion'* and has been turning out quality albums all featuring first-class song-writing, marking him as one of this country's finest writers.

Others have also recorded Steve's songs. Here's to Tom Paine is the adopted theme song for the Tom Paine Society of America and we've lost count of the number of versions of "Slip-jigs and Reels."



Perhaps best known for his song-writing prowess, Steve is also a blinding, dazzling guitarist with a style echoing the elaborate rhythmic "folk baroque" of Bert Jansch and Davy Graham, but also drawing from classical, roots and the tradition to create a style that is typically Tilston.

Advance tickets £12.50 Available from The Old Rectifying House, Kestrel Gallery, Sidbury and Tourist Information Centre or £15 door

## Folk in the Foyer - Paul McClure

Evesham Arts Centre | Thurs 29th March

There'll be fresh live music in **Evesham Arts Centre** on 29th March - all the way from Rutland. **Paul McClure** - also known as the **Rutland Troubadour** - is bringing his brand of acoustic, alt-country music to Folk in the Foyer.

Pau is a remarkable singer-songwriter from Rutland, called "one of the bedrocks of the UK alt-country, folk and Americana scene". While he takes his inspiration from his world and the people in it, his particular style owes something to Bob Dylan & Johnny Cash. Guitar & harmonica give voice to the big, catchy melodies underpinning the humorous, rebellious & sometimes sad songs that result. A great evening of live music.

Acoustic/folk music fans can now buy a season ticket that's good for all five Folk in the Foyer events from March to July. The deal is priced at £35 to offer 5 for the price of 4 - so just £7 each.



Tickets are £9 on the door or £8 in advance from Evesham Almonry Abbey Road WR11 4BQ and the arts centre website [www.EveshamArtsCentre.co.uk](http://www.EveshamArtsCentre.co.uk) The music starts at 8pm.

Tickets £8 adv, £9 door





# The Rustic Folk

## FOLK

### Acoustic & Roots Music Festival

Friday 26th & Saturday 27th April 2019

**NICK PARKER**  
FEAT. BEN WAIN

**USHTI BABA**



**Les Carter**

**SMALL & GOLD**

**Terry Faulkner**

**TIM OT**



The Rustic Folk. Acoustic & Roots Festival is hosting 27 great acts over two days, with continuous music alternating between two stages. Incredible music, great food, reasonably priced & family (& dog) friendly - all in a lovely setting on the outskirts of Bewdley, Worcestershire. Come along for the weekend or the day. Discounted camping prices available for festival goers.



CHRIS SURGENOR AUDIO

For tickets & more info visit:  
[www.therusticfolk.co.uk](http://www.therusticfolk.co.uk)

Hopley's Campsite & The Rustic Pizza co., Bewdley, Worcs. DY12 2QL

Adult Weekend tickets £30.00 pp  
12-17yrs Weekend tickets £12.50pp  
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Weekend camping pass from £15.00 pp



## UnCover Presents The Pink Diamond Review LegPuppy, White Noise Cinema, Hey Jester Feb 3rd | Marrs bar, Worcester

What do you get if you combine Independent Venue Week with Uncovers 2nd birthday celebrations? An eccentric, unique evening of live music at **The Marrs Bar**, that's what! Four completely different acts performed on the evening of Sunday 3rd February, collectively delivering eye catching, ear pleasing entertainment.

Kicking off the evening was local alt rock trio, **Hey Jester**. Three young, stripey topped lads took to the stage and delivered a set of original material, with a hard hitting, punching beat, reminiscent of The Darkness. Each song as energetic as the last, making it hard for anyone watching not to be enchanted by this promising band. A brilliant start to what was heading to be a great night.



Next up were **White Noise Cinema**. Each of the five songs they performed defied understanding of what you thought was possible from a band in a small local venue. These guys are stadium worthy performers, and extremely deserving of their air play on local BBC stations with their first single and final song, *Unpersons*. It's impossible not to get sucked into the hypnotising melodies they produce. White Noise Cinema, yet again I salute you, You are awesome.



Third on the line up was a band I'd heard a lot about yet not seen, **LegPuppy**. The stage lights dimmed, the music started, a haunting melody, as a male and female vocalist donned light up clown masks. Eerie yet intriguing. The set brought us a cacophony of punk, electro, mixed genre of delight with hard hitting yet tongue in cheek tracks about social issues that each and every one of us can relate to. First up, "*Selfie Stick- Narcissistic Prick*" cleverly took jibes at the generation of people who upload 25



photos a day of themselves, adamant to conform to society and make themselves look slim and good looking. Following on from that was *Nominate*, again aimed mainly at social media, the ridiculous notion that we nominate each other to take part in silly online challenges. The third song, a released single by the band, was called "*She's lost her soul*" and focuses on live music venues, how they need to be used before they close down. Each song is performed over punchy, disjointed music, each with an element of fun but with a big dose of "F@#k you" to society and its followers. Other delights we heard were a song about spreadsheets and powerpoint presentations called "*Meds & Beer*" and "*Pay check*" highlighting the perils of online gambling, before the crowd was encouraged to get their phones out for "*Twit Machine*". Frantic drum machine beats, guttural keyboards and innovative lyrics made this a thoroughly weird and wonderful set.



Headline act of the night was **The Pink Diamond Revue**. A three piece band fronted by a genuine mannequin, Acid Dol - "*a model from another dimension*". The human members of the band were in the form of a visually eccentric guitarist and a drummer who literally took a back seat at the back of the stage. Guitarist **Tim Lane** stole the show in his gold suit, gold eye shadow and gold guitar strap - you'd be forgiven for thinking a Bowie tribute was about to perform - relentlessly strummed from one song to the next, teasing the mannequin with the end of his guitar, front and centre of the stage. The mannequin, diva-esque with her presence changed head gear throughout the set, and at one point was joined by **Booby** from **Legpuppy** for an intimate dance. Something that has to be seen to be believed, a little delving on Youtube will deliver the evidence. A musical Electro/ Dance/ Psych journey with vocal samples and powerful guitar riffs delivered over hypnotic drum beats produced a fitting end to the most eclectic Uncover night I've attended to date.

Kate Ford Photography by Lissywitch



## The Foregate Street Blues Band

### Henry Sandon Hall, Worcester | 6th April

After meeting on, you guessed it, the eponymous Foregate Street several years ago, an idea was born by **David, Darren and Andy**; to pool their styles and play some real blues. The result was a unique sound and style, smooth mellow blues and a sound that takes you back to the speakeasy and juke joints of the 30's and 40's.

Four years, two albums and 150 gigs later, the Foregate's are now finally returning to Worcester to launch their new album, *Love... And Other Tragedies*, at the **Henry Sandon Hall** on 6th April. The beautiful hall has an informal, cabaret-style setting, and the boys will be playing plenty of old favourites alongside the new album in its entirety.

The Foregate Street Blues Band are **David Bristow**, providing lead guitar and vocals, **Darren Mather** on harmonica, and **Andy Dent** playing rhythm guitar. The trio play a fine selection of original songs, renditions of old favourites, and reworkings of modern hits



played in a vintage style. Recorded live at **Severn Valley Studios**, both albums have been recorded as they would have been all those years ago, by playing a gig together; as honest as it gets.

So, if you fancy an evening of smooth, bluesy jazz, then get down to Henry Sandon Hall to soak up some mellowness.

To avoid any annoying booking fees, tickets will only be available at the boys' own website, [www.foregatestreetblues.com](http://www.foregatestreetblues.com)

## Boldwood

### Number 8, Pershore | Sat 9th March

If 17th and 18th century folk is your thing, or you've always wanted to hear some, **Boldwood** will be heading to **Number 8, Pershore**. Having performed across the UK and France, this classically trained four-piece promise a lively, joyful set of English folk tunes played on piano accordion, violin and viola. An event that's sure to put a spring into your Saturday evening. Tickets are £7, doors 8pm.



## Don Kipper

### Number 8, Pershore | Sun 23rd March

**Don Kipper** are next up, bringing their distinctive, award-winning folk sound to Pershore. The seven-piece band weave a tapestry of Turkish, Greek, Romani and Klezmer folk music to showcase the melding of cultures from the Mediterranean, Eastern Europe, all the way to North East London. Hailed as "impressively original" by The Guardian, Don Kipper are recognised internationally for their innovative and all-encompassing brand of euphoria. Get down for a dance at Number 8 for 7:30pm. Tickets available now at £11.



## Runrummer, Slow Tapes

### Poppy WS & Chloe Mogg

### Annie's at the Courtyard, Worcester | Fri, 29 Mar

**Uncover** will be hosting their debut at Worcester's hot new venue **Annie's At The Courtyard**, and it's not one to be missed.



Headlining will be **Runrummer**, an artist who pulls influences from 80s electro bands alongside contemporary sounds from Christine and the Queens, Lorde and Flume. It's this, paired with lyrics exploring complex subjects like gender identity, sexuality and mental health that have landed her support from BBC Introducing and sold-out performances.

Support will come from **Slow Tapes**, the project from a former member of Thousand Mountain. Describing themselves as the sounds from a decade that never existed, fans of Foals and Tame Impala will not want to miss their debut live performance.

Recently returned from playing in New York, **Poppy WS** will also be joining the bill. The solo artist whose energy and contrasts between reggae rhythms to down tone jazz influences integrated through loops and multiple instruments make for both a heart-warming and moving performance.

Opening will be **Chloe Mogg** who promises to create a musical journey through her own songs and a range of covers. Known for her quirkiness and smile, she haunts audiences with her ability to tell a story with only her voice, guitar and strange effects.

Advance tickets £4 and OTD £6.

## Karmic Blues Bound For Upton

**Karmic Blues**, featuring **Ajay Srivistav** on slide guitar and **Vinod Keral** on tabla, have proved to be big favourites of the last three **Worcester Music Festivals**. This July, we are pleased to announce, that a further, and very different incarnation of these lads, which Worcester has yet to enjoy, is **Botown**; an eight piece funk, soul and Bollywood showband that gets a crowd on its feet and dancing.

When the duo first played here at the **Swan with two Nicks**, Ajay says he wasn't sure what they'd walked into as an ale-jolly Friday night WMF crowd. They were silenced (not a common thing), at the splendid sight of a National Steel guitar and gleaming tablas being set up, a combination rarely if ever seen before. The awe and silence deepen, as the songs wash through the pub. You could say the Ganges, India's holy river, meets Mississippi Delta, birthplace of the blues, and more. They make tight and intricate music where soulful blues guitar textures morph effortlessly into the sound of sitar and carry your mind away. Ajay's lyrics examine Hindu spirituality, with reverence, soul, and thought provoking wisdom. A London geezer of Indian heritage asks questions common to us all, who are we, where does our longing for peace fit into this often troubled world, and what else is there? Ajay says his guitar is the place where, for him, these ambiguities begin to make sense. A grand enough definition of good music.

I was lucky enough to catch **Botown** at Birmingham's **Glee Club** a few weeks back, part of their annual tour. This was an Ajay we hadn't seen before, electric guitar in hand giving Bollywood some rock, funk and a taste of ska. With great dual vocals, Vinod on various percussion and a highly skilled brass.

There is a **Botown** website where you can find out more, some **Karmic Blues** videos on Ajay Srivistav's own website and this: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Viu2DNMH3s> a song called "Namaste", I recommend a listen and see what I'm on about especially if you haven't heard Ajay's music yet. Reviews contain words like multicultural and unavoidably "fusion".

"East is East and West is West and never the Twain shall meet". So said a questionable rogue called Kipling. **Karmic Blues** and **Botown** challenge this profoundly.

Barry Scott



## March 2019 at Artrix

**International Women's Day** is celebrated during March and this month's programme at Artrix reflects this with an amazing line up of female comedians, beginning with a sold out show from **Rachel Parris** on 1 March.



Stars of BBC Radio 4, **Croft & Pearce** come to Artrix on 2 March, followed by Edinburgh Comedy Award Best Newcomer Nominee 2018, **Sindhu Vee** on 3 March. Celebrations for International Women's Day are marked at Artrix with another fabulous line up for **Stand Up For Women** on 6 March with more laughs to follow on 16 March with comedian **Lucy Frederick**.



Artrix also have a strong line up of female musicians and theatre during March, beginning with the return of **Cloudbusting: 40 Years of Kate Bush** on 2 March. The top tributes continue with **Women in Rock** on 9 March, a two hour journey through the history of the greatest female anthems, **Bootleg Blondie** on 15 March and **The Girl From Tiger Bay** on 28 March.

Artrix are thrilled to welcome the folk opera **Rouse Ye Women**, about Mary Macarthur and the Women Chainmakers of Cradley Heath on 5 March.

**Georgie Fame** returns to Artrix on 3 March as one of a very select number of UK tour dates, with his much loved blend of Jazz and Rhythm & Blues and an evening of all of his hits, alongside music from the artists that have influenced him.



There's also a chance for audiences to experience an evening with England's hat trick hero and World Cup winner **Sir Geoff Hurst** on 19 March and hear the sounds of the award-winning **Bluejays** on a jiving journey through the 1950s in **Rock and Roll Revolution** on 29 March, plus much more.

More info [artrix.co.uk](http://artrix.co.uk) or by calling Box Office on 01527 577330.

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# Music Sessions/Open Mics

## **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

## **First Monday - Open Mic**

The Sociable Beer Company

## **4th Mon - Singaround**

Piddle House, Wyre Piddle, Worcs

## **Fortnightly Mon & Wed (check website) - Folk Nights**

Three Horseshoes, Frampton-On-Severn, Glos

## **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

## **Acoustic/Folk Session, Every Tuesday**

The Plough Inn, Wollaston, Stourbridge

## **Every other Tue Perdido Street Jazz Band**

The Talbot, Knightwick

## **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

## **Every Tue - Plug and Play**

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

## **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 Wednesday open mic**

The Imperial, Worcester

## **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

## **2nd Wednesday Unplugged Night**

Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

## **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**

Marris Bar, Worcester

## **3rd Wed of Month - Acoustic Session**

The Admiral Rodney, Berron Gt

## **3rd Wed of Month - Celtic folk session**

The Fleece Inn, Bretforton, Worcs

## **Last Wed - Under 18s open mic**

Reet Petite, Leominster

## **Every Thursday - Open Mic**

The Victory, Hereford

## **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**

Kempley Village Hall

## **1st Thurs - Black Hill Tune Club**

The Crown Inn, Longtown, HR2

## **Open Mic with Johnnie Gracie**

The Jubilee Inn, Studley

## **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

## **Every Thursday Open Mic**

Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

## **First Thurs - Open Mic**

The Oddfellows Arms, Astwood Bank

## **Every Thursday Open Mic Hosted by Polly Edwards & Ben Hall**

The Old Pheasant - Worcester

## **Every Thursday Open Mic**

The Eagle Vaults, Worcester

## **Every Thursday - Acoustic Folk 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 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

## **2nd 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

## **2nd & 4th Sundays 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

## **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

**Please let us know if any of the above are no longer running or if your regular event isn't listed**

# Comedy Listings:

## Evesham Arts Centre (Evesham):

**Matt Richardson: Slash (Sat 16th, 20:00)**

A lot has happened to Matt Richardson since his last comedy tour in 2013. A lot of it is quite strange. From interviewing millionaire dogs in LA, ghost hunting with Craig Revel Horwood and having his phoned nicked by Kate Moss – Matt can finally tell people about it.

**Mark Steel: Every Little Thing's Gonna Be Alright (Fri 29th, 20:00)**

The comedian, author, award-winning columnist and man behind BBC Radio's "Mark Steel's in Town" is coming to Evesham..

## Artrix Arts Centre (Bromsgrove):

**Rachel Parris: It's Fun to Pretend (Fri 1st, 20:00)**

Viral sensation Rachel Parris, star of BBC's The Mash Report, presents a comedy show packed with stand-up, song & sketches

**Croft & Pearce: Double Take (Sat 2nd, 19:30)**

Stars of BBC Radio 4's The Croft & Pearce Show and Sketchorama.

**Sindhu Vee: Sandhog (Sun 3rd, 19:30)**

Highly anticipated debut from the host of BBCR4's Comedy of the Week podcast.

**Stand Up For Women (Weds 6th, 20:00)**

Comedy night celebrating International Women's Day. Featuring: Barbara Nice, comedian Jules Oliver and Allyson June Smith. Hosting the evening will be MY Comedy's resident MC, Maureen Younger .

**Glenn Wool: Wool's Gold II (The Iron Pirate) (Sat 9th, 19:30)**

Award-winning comedian & new dad Glenn Wool delves into the archives to see how far he's come in 25 years.

**Lucy Frederick – Even More Naked (Sat 16th, 20:00)**

A show about negotiating the tricky world of emotional intimacy while wearing a giant suit of armour.

**Barnstormers Comedy March 2019 (Sat 23rd, 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.

**Tom Stade: I Swear To... (Weds 27th, 20:00)**

Following last year's smash-hit UK tour, the Canadian comedy legend is back with a new show. Welcome back to 'I SWEAR TO...' picking up just where he left off as an hour simply wasn't long enough.

**Julian Dutton: Do You Think That's Wise? (Sat 30th, 19:30)**

The Life and Times of John Le Mesurier. In this affectionate tribute to one of Britain's best-loved stars with leading impressionist Julian Dutton

**Hereford Left Bank:** The Speakeasy 20-22 Bridge Street, Here Farical Comedy... The Left Bank Comedy Club (Sat 2nd, 19:30) TBC.

## The Barrels (Hereford):

**Farical Comedy Presents: Barrel of Laughs - Featuring Death Hilarious, Dan Thomas, Charlie Webster + Support (Weds 13th, 19:30)**  
Free Entry\* This is a new act / next material night. \*Bucket donation.

## The Courtyard (Hereford):

**Heineken Comedy Club (Fri 29th, 20:00)**

Featuring Rory O'Hanlon, Chris Purchase & Steff Todd.

**Seann Walsh – After This One, I'm Going Home (Sun 31st, 20:00)**

Edinburgh Comedy Award nominee and the self-dubbed "Lie-In King", Seann Walsh is one of the best observational comic of his generation).

## Huntingdon Hall (Worcester):

**Tom Stade: I Swear To... (Fri 8th, 19:30) Plus support.**

**Mark Watson: The Infinite Show (Fri 15th, 19:30)**

Cluster-bombed with yoghurt on 'Taskmaster', and half-killed on 'Bear Grylls' Celebrity Island', Watson returns to what he's best at: being indoors.

**Rich Hall's Hoedown (Thurs 28th, 19:30)**

Rich Hall's critically acclaimed new show begins its second leg of touring.

## Malvern Theatres:

**Dave Spikey: Juggling On A Motorbike (Thurs 21st, 19:45)**

Dave Spikey celebrates the 32nd anniversary of his comedy career.

## Redditch Palace Theatre:

**Steve Henn's Henn Night (Fri 15th, 19:45)**

Open spots available, contact Steve via [standup@magichenn.com](mailto:standup@magichenn.com)

**Robert White – The Tank Top Tour (Fri 22nd, 19:30)**

Britain's Got Talent Finalist debut UK Tour.

## Open mic & comedy nights (Various):

**ComedyJAM (Firefly, Worcester) FREE, Third Wed of month, 19:45.**

Pros and newcomers try out new material. Visit [facebook.com/comedyjamworcester/](https://facebook.com/comedyjamworcester/)

## The Holly Bush (Cradley Heath)

FREE, every Thursday, 20:00. Pros and newcomers try out new material. Visit [bushcradley.co.uk](http://bushcradley.co.uk)

**Fat Theo Comedy Extravaganza (Thurs 7th, 20:00, The Rouslers Bar, Victoria Ground, Bromsgrove) Tickets £5.00.**

**Stourbridge Rugby Comedy Night (Sat 16th, 19:30)**

Comedy night at Stourbridge Rugby Club. To book, call 01384 395000.

# Arts, Exhibitions & Cinema

**2nd March Alternative Artist's Market at Heroes. 3pm - 7pm**

**7th - 2th - Diana Curley - 'Biomorphica' - Relief and sculptural work brings painting and sculpture to sit side by side - Pershore Number 8**

**8th - Inspirational Talk John Davidson - Rowing the Atlantic Solo** Elmslie House, malvern

**Until 3rd March Susan Birth, Mixed Media Exhibition.** Coach House Theatre, Malvern

**Until 31 March - 98 Lace: From Classical Beginning,** Artrix Bromsgrove

**2nd Worcester Alternative Artist Market, Heroes Bar, Worcester**

**2nd until 27 April. Matisse - Drawing with Scissors,** Worcester Museum & Art Gallery

**Until 27 April Ballets Russes, Worcester Museum & Art Gallery**

**Until 18th March Members of Herefordshire Art and Craft Society (HACS) present Landscapes of the Mind, Courtyard Hereford**

**Until 20th Mar - The Precious Clay:** porcelain in contemporary art Museum of Royal Worcester

**Until 3rd April Text & Texture, Pershore Number 8**

**1st - 10th March (members exhibition) Artist Workhouse** 'Spring Show', Studley

**1-17 Borderlines Film Festival Hereford,** Malvern, Shropshire and Welsh Marches

**7th Spoken Word event, Worcester Arts Workshop**

**12th Drink and Doodle, The Paul Pry, Worcester**

**13th Salvador Dali: In Search of Immortality, The Artrix, Bromsgrove**

**15th Jump start arts quiz, Worcester Arts Workshop**

**16th-18th HACS Present: Landscapes Of The Mind,** The Courtyard, Hereford

**18th/19th The Isle Of Brimsker, The Courtyard, Hereford**

**20th A Matter Of Life & Death (U) With A Dementia Friendly Screening,** The Courtyard, Hereford

**21st Until 29th April Shared Future, Shared Freedom,** The Courtyard, Hereford

**22nd-23rd Inspired Festival, The Courtyard, Hereford**

**23rd Sculpture Trust Art Auction and Exhibition, Lydney Park Estate,** Coleford, Gloucestershire

**23rd 'Cacao Ceremony & Elemental Dance' Kidderminster Town Hall**

**24th Togetherness Festival, Kidderminster Town Hall**

**25th-28th If Beale Street Could Talk (15), The Courtyard, Hereford**

**28th Sip and Sketch, The Firefly, Worcester**

**29th-30th Banff Film Festival, Malvern Forum Theatre**

**30th The Three Billy Goats Gruff, The Courtyard, Hereford**

**30th Litfest & Fringe - Earth Hour - Poetry Spoken Word and Music** Third Space, Worcester Arts Workshop

**20th Dancefest Circuit, Hereford College of Arts**

**27th Dancefest Circuit, Spires Theatre, Worcester,** Throughout 2019, Fashioning Peace: Life and Liberty after the Great War, Worcestershire County Museum at Hartlebury Castle

**For Arts listings email: [arts@slapmag.co.uk](mailto:arts@slapmag.co.uk)**



## Friday 01 March 2019

**Uncover Presents: No Violet, The Jericho Racks, The Space + Hipflask Virgins**  
The Marris Bar, Worcester

**Tyler Massey Trio**  
The Old Nag's Head, Monmouth

**Fleisch, Elkaphath, Her Demise**  
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

**Forty Blue Toes**  
Millers Arms, Pershore

**TB Band**  
The Queens Head, Wolverley

**Sam Draisey**  
The Tank, Gloucester

**Miss Chief & Mr Meaners**  
The Blue Bell, Ryall

**Cupcake Diaz & The Felt Tip Pens, El Monstro**  
Café René, Gloucester

**Bonfire Radicals**  
Henry Sandon Hall, Worcester

**It's Different For Girls**  
Worcester Arts Workshop, Worcester

**Black Heart Angels**  
The Sociable Beer Company, Worcester

**The Wilbur & Daddy Show**  
The Golden Cross, Hereford

**The Ray Mitton Band**  
Bush Inn, St John's, Worcester

**Two Push Charlie**  
Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

**Call Of The Kraken**  
Drummonds, Worcester

**Cheley Tackett, Ryan Sparrow**  
Music in The Hall, Bewdley

**Jukebox Jems**  
The Hop Pole, Bewdley

**Skabucks**  
Hungry Horse, Bromsgrove

**Kezasoul**  
No.3A, Bromsgrove

**Chloe & Ash**  
Old Peacock, Kidderminster

**Kick The Fridge**  
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**Andy Ska**  
Castle Inn, Kidderminster

**Gavin Miller**  
Veeno, Kidderminster

**Fabulous Swing Night**  
Smokey Joe's, Cheltenham

**Gareth Lemon**  
Brewhouse & Kitchen, Cheltenham

**Bloodstock Metal 2 The Masses**  
Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

**Sass Brown**  
Red Lion, Evesham

**Supreme Queen**  
The Palace Theatre, Redditch

**Keith Slater's 60's Celebration**  
The Palace Theatre, Redditch

**Warren James**  
Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

**Harry Baldwin**  
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, The Lye, Stourbridge

**Pure Whitney Houston**  
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

**Oxide, Support From The Mighty Wraith**  
Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

**The Hill's Angels**  
The Marlbank Inn, Welland

**Liquor And Poker**  
The Old Bank, Stourbridge

**Cara Dillon**  
Subscription Rooms, Stroud

**Big Fat Shorty**  
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

**Roger Roberts**  
The Old Pheasant, Worcester

**Mur Mur**  
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

**The Worried Men**  
Crown And Sceptre, Stroud

**The Achievers**  
SVA, Stroud

## Saturday 02 March 2019

**Depeche Mode: 101**  
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**Cory's Angels**  
Ye Olde White Hart Inn, Kinver

**The Style Councillors**  
Guildhall, Gloucester

**The Lone Sharks, Swaktang, Ambition Demolition**  
Dick Whittington, Gloucester

**Solid Gone**  
Cross Keys Inn, Gloucester

**Bits And Splits**  
Baker Street, Gloucester

**Witcher - Charity Gift**  
The Three Horseshoes, Malvern

**The Filthy Casuals**  
The King Teddy, Gloucester

**Cream Limousine**  
The Cricketers, Worcester

**Dockside Acoustic - Live At Gloucester Brewery (2pm)**  
Gloucester Brewery, Gloucester

**G2 Definitive Genesis**  
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**Polkadot Robot**  
The Pillar Of Salt, Droitwich

**Steve Ajao Blues Giants**  
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

**Wootown Hillbillies**  
The Green Dragon, Malvern

**John Kirkpatrick, Paul Jeffery**  
Henry Sandon Hall, Worcester

**Citrus Society, Jakey Boy Hughes**  
The Globe, Hay On Wye

**Cloudbusting: 40 Years Of Kate Bush**  
Artrix, Bromsgrove

**The Switch**  
Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

**Chimp On A Bike**  
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

**James Baker**  
Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

**Monkey Ride**  
Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

**Louis Bennett**  
The Golden Fleece, Hereford

**The Dirty Bangers**  
The Hungry Horse, Bromsgrove

**Bluze Box**  
Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

**Midnight Sun**  
Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

**Back in The Game**  
The Dog And Pheasant, Bromsgrove

**Planet Rock**  
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**The Straight Aces**  
Wolverley Social Club, Kidderminster

**The Jukebox Jems**  
Weary Traveller, Kidderminster

**Restless Dog**  
Catshill Working Mens Club, Bromsgrove

**The Fabulous Bordellos**  
The Old Lion, Kidderminster

**Black Bear Kiss**  
Boars Head, Kidderminster

**Mario Wandero**  
The Kingsford, Wolverley, Kidderminster

**Wingwalkers**  
The Express Inn, Malvern

**Terminal Rage, Alvin & The Angry Barrels, Choked**  
Reet Petite, Leominster

**Lounge Toad**  
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

**Sean Jeffery**  
Unicorn Inn, Malvern

**The Arkansaw Jukebox Collective**  
Smokey Joe's, Cheltenham

**Monkey Jam**  
Harry Cook Free House, Cheltenham

**The Power Room**  
The Cross Keys, Malvern

**Hollyfest 2019**  
Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

**Skam, Western Sand, Dead Mans Whiskey, The Hot One Two**  
The Iron Road, Pershore

**Make Mine A Double**  
The Lansdown, Cheltenham  
**Journey's End**  
Piesse Of The Piddle, Pershore

**Mister Wolf**  
The Wheelhouse Marina, Upton On Severn

**Choirs At The Palace 2019**  
The Palace Theatre, Redditch

**After Dark**  
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, The Lye, Stourbridge

**Amplified Heat**  
Woodland Cottage, Redditch

**Insomniacs, Bronnie, Time Of The Mouth. Knife Crime**  
The Railway, Redditch

**Act Of The Risen, No Refunds, Dylase, Totem**  
Seven Stars, Redditch

**Steel Wizard**  
The Red Lion, Redditch

**Headsticks, Jess Silk**  
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

**Pete Hyde & Friends**  
The Chestnut, Worcester

**Gin And Jazz Night With Tom Hill's Jazz Funk Machine**  
Worcester Arts Workshop, Worcester

**Opening Event The Pink Diamond Review, Dead Dad's Club,  
Plus Other Arts And Entertainment**  
The Barn, Ledbury

**Maetlive & The Never Neverland Express**  
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

**Satellite Down**  
The Valkyrie, Evesham

**David Laine**  
Hampton Club, Evesham

**The Animators**  
The Red Lion, Amblecote, Stourbridge

**Stroud Ceilidh With Bedlam Caller Nick Walden**  
Subscription Rooms, Stroud

**Autumn**  
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

**Dan Webster**  
The Prince Albert, Stroud

**Miss Chief And Mr Meaners**  
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

**Ministry Of Swing**  
Stroud Brewery, Stroud

**Forever Sabbath, Purple Jimi**  
Stourport Civic Centre, Stourport-On-Severn

**Forever Queen (Queen Tribute)**  
The Marris Bar, Worcester

## Sunday 03 March 2019

**Cate Cody**  
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**Chris Woods**  
Colwall Village Hall, Worcester

**Forever Queen (Queen Tribute)**  
The Marris Bar, Worcester

**Fran McGillivray & Mike Burke (4pm)**  
Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

**Chris Woods**  
Colwall Village Hall, Malvern

**Jay & Eli**  
The Morgan, Malvern

**The Ramonas, Rebel Station**  
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

**Thrill Collins**  
Brewhouse And Kitchen, Cheltenham

**Surco Trio**  
The Cottage in The Wood, Malvern

**Chewie (5pm)**  
The Imperial, Worcester

**Polly Edwards (5:30pm)**  
The Chestnut, Worcester

**Trevor 'Babajack' Steger**  
Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

**Ewan Pollock**  
Bottles, Worcester

**Chloe Mogg And Ash**  
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

**My Darling Clementine**  
The Fleece Inn, Bretforton

**Georgie Fame**  
Artrix, Bromsgrove

## 48 SLAP MAR

## Wednesday 06 March 2019

**The Shaggy Dog Raconteurs**  
Café René, Gloucester

**Merrymaker**  
The Carpenter's Arms, Miserden, Stroud

**Firefly Introduces Hosted By Ben Hall & Poppy Waterman-Smith**  
The Firefly, Worcester

**Gordon Wood**  
The Bayshill, Cheltenham

**Featuring: Steve And Julie Wigley**  
Dragon Folk Club At The Dragon Inn, Worcester

**Sari Schorr**  
Vonnies Blues Club, Cheltenham

## Thursday 07 March 2019

**Juan Martin**  
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**Harry Smith**  
The Tank, Gloucester

**Dusty And The Shades Of The 60s**  
Swan Theatre, Worcester

**Mark Stevenson**  
The Plough, Worcester

**Turquoise Llama, Dead Dads Club, Common Groove**  
Left Bank, Hereford

**Humble Helios, Tree Of Wyrd, Redwood, Capitol Slush,  
Ryan Sparrow**  
Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

**Eddie Martin**  
Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

**She'koyekh: First Dance On Second Avenue**  
St Peter's Church, Malvern

**Vince Freeman**  
The Tavern, Cheltenham

**Richard Digance**  
The Palace Theatre, Redditch

**Gavin Miller Acoustic 8:30Pm**  
The Oil Basin Brewhouse, Worcester

**Jake Martin**  
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

**Fisherman's Friends**  
The Regal, Evesham

**Rock For Heroes**  
Subscription Rooms, Stroud

**Ranagri**  
The Prince Albert, Stroud

## Friday 08 March 2019

**Jayne Peters Band**  
Millers Arms, Pershore

**Craig Charles Funk & Soul Club**  
Guildhall, Gloucester

**Red Light Rebels, Face Up**  
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

**Mike Skilbeck**  
The Ambassador Club, Evesham

**Thrown Together**  
The Bell, Tewkesbury

**Sun Fire**  
The Sociable Beer Company, Worcester

**Night Crawler**  
The Queens Head, Wolverley

**Dave Onions**  
OLD NAGS HEAD, MONMOUTH

**Tom Stade: I Swear To...**  
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**Make Mine A Double**  
The Tank, Gloucester

**The Martin Daly Band**  
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

**The Rubies**  
The Blue Bell, Ryall

**The Machine Rages On**  
Café René, Gloucester

**Mica Jane**  
The Globe, Hay On Wye

**Sultana Bros**  
The Golden Cross, Hereford

**Call Of The Kraken**  
Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

**Tyler Massey**  
Left Bank, Hereford

**Richard Howell**  
No.3A, Bromsgrove

**Big Q Fish**  
Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn



**Fearless Scoundrels**  
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**Rat Pack Duo**  
Hogarth's Stone Manor, Kidderminster

**Folk in The Foyer: Finbar Magee & Breige Quinn**  
Conquest Theatre, Bromyard

**International Women's Day: Milk Teeth, Häxan, Cupcake Diaz, and The Felt Tip Pens Zookeeper**  
Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

**Cheltenham Ladies' College – Spring Concert**  
Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham

**Saskia Griffiths-Moore**  
Smokey Joe's, Cheltenham

**The Sensational 60's Experience**  
Malvern Theatre, Malvern

**Blackwater Conspiracy, Mike West**  
The Iron Road, Pershore

**Woo Town Hillbillies**  
Red Lion, Evesham

**You Dirty Blue, Rubella Moon, Eachone**  
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

**Vaseline**  
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, The Lye, Stourbridge

**Row For Mnd - John Davidson Talk**  
Elmslie House, Malvern

**Chloe & Ash live at The Lodge**  
The Lodge Stourport

**Duran Duran - Duran**  
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

**Crazy Dr. Bruce & The Sidewinders**  
Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

**Stringfever**  
Subscription Rooms, Stroud

**Gotta Groove**  
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

**Christof Van Der Venn, Emma Gatrill, Benedict Benjamin**  
The Prince Albert, Stroud

**Polly Edwards**  
The Old Pheasant, Worcester

**Gene Gene + The Lemon Squeezers**  
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

**Will Killeen**  
Crown And Sceptre, Stroud

**Roy Hemmings: Hits Of Motown**  
Artrix, Bromsgrove

**The Official Receivers**  
The Marris Bar, Worcester

**Three Cane Whale "At The Pictures"**  
Ruskin Mill College, Stroud

## Saturday 09 March 2019

**Monkeyface**  
YMCA, Tewkesbury

**Lady Sings The Blues**  
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**Black September**  
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

**Dusk Brothers**  
Cross Keys Inn, Gloucester

**Saskia Griffiths Moore**  
Old Baptist Chapel, Tewkesbury

**Thirst Work**  
The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

**Jibbafish**  
Lower Lode Inn, Gloucester

**The Lightweight, Heavy Domestic**  
Worcester Arts Workshop, Worcester

**Diane Shaw Band. Johnny Boy**  
Walls Club, Gloucester

**Dangermouse**  
Longlevens RFC, Gloucester

**Glyn Martin**  
The Green Dragon, Malvern

**The Strays, in Evolution, Social Outcasts**  
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

**Kickback**  
Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

**The Bailey Sisters, Aly Rainey Fiddle**  
Alcester Academy, Alcester

**Chloe Mogg**  
Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

**The Corduroy Kings**  
Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

**Sophia Lee**  
The Golden Fleece, Hereford

**Rp Mcmurphy**  
Secret Garden, Hereford

**Skrood**  
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**Wyre Forest Big Band**  
St. Ambrose Parish Centre, Kidderminster

**Voodoo Room (Hendrix/Cream)**  
Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

**Dabbla, Griz-O, Prozac & Benofficial, Sublingual, BIs**  
Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

**Debbie Parry Band**  
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

**Dead Dads Club**  
Unicorn Inn, Malvern

**The Best Of Wham!**  
Malvern Theatre, Malvern

**Beaver & The Foghorns, Chaplin Shakes**  
The Hewlett, Cheltenham

**The Reflections**  
The Cross Keys, Malvern

**Foyer Folk: Boldwood**  
Number 8, Pershore

**Risky Galore Live**  
Charlton Kings Club, Cheltenham

**The Delray Rockets**  
The Fellows, Dudley

**Eastwood**  
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, The Lye, Stourbridge

**Ralph Allin Quartet**  
Beoley Village Hall, Redditch

**Steve Ajao And The Blues Giants**  
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

**The Fireballs Uk**  
The Chestnut, Worcester

**Alden, Patterson & Dashwood**  
Elmslie House, Malvern

**Noughty Nineties**  
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

**Prone 2 Madness**  
The Talbot, Belbroughton, Stourbridge

**The Straight Aces**  
The Maverick, Amblecote, Stourbridge

**The Secret Police**  
Subscription Rooms, Stroud

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

**The Lost Submarines**  
The Prince Albert, Stroud

**Ital Sounds Live Band Launch Featuring Jamie Irie, King David Sound, Custom Built Reggae Soundsystem, 7pm - 12.30am**  
Malvern Roots Club, Newtown Social Club, Newtown Road

**The Final 4**  
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

**Southside**  
Stroud Brewery, Stroud

**Women in Rock**  
Artrix, Bromsgrove

**Are You Experienced (Jimi Hendrix Tribute)**  
The Marris Bar, Worcester

**Mitzy**  
Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

## Sunday 10 March 2019

**Lefty & The Jam Tarts**  
Littlevic, Stroud

**Chevy Chase Stole My Wife, Fracture Zone**  
Annie's Burger Shack, Worcester

**The Tuery Sessions: Lew Thomas And Holly Perkins**  
The Cross Keys, Alcester

**Anna Davies**  
The Oak Inn, Staplow, Hereford

**Dan & King Rich**  
The Sportsman, Kidderminster

**Black & Blues Band (4pm)**  
Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

**Fugitives (3pm)**  
Richmond Place Club, Hereford

**Vintage Inc (5pm)**  
The Imperial, Worcester

**Kent Duchaie (5:30pm)**  
The Chestnut, Worcester

**'Pianoscapes' With Chris Long**  
Elmslie House, Malvern

**Will Killeen**  
Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

**4 + 6**  
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

**Alex Bayross**  
Bottles, Worcester

**The Follicles**  
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

**Ross Ainslie And Ali Hutton'S Symbiosis**  
The Fleece Inn, Bretforton

**Gordon Hendricks Unplugged**  
Artrix, Bromsgrove

## Tuesday 12 March 2019

**Dna**  
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**Collabro**  
Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

**Make Mine A Double**  
Aquavita, Cheltenham

**Neil Ivison**  
The Old Pheasant, Worcester

## Wednesday 13 March 2019

**Surprise Attacks Presents: Dame Area (Barcelona), Rosebud, Ferric Lux, Mono Jack**  
Heroes Bar, Worcester

**Will Lawton, Weasel Howlett**  
Café René, Gloucester

**Wildwood Jack**  
The Carpenter's Arms, Miserden, Stroud

**Chloe Mogg**  
The Green Dragon, Malvern

**Frazer Lepford**  
The Hewlett, Cheltenham

**Polly Edwards**  
The Old Pheasant, Worcester

## Thursday 14 March 2019

**Lee Scratch Perry**  
Guildhall, Gloucester

**Selena Jerome**  
The Tank, Gloucester

**Rock 'N' Roll Paradise**  
Swan Theatre, Worcester

**Bitterroots**  
The Plough, Worcester

**Jennifer Ludlow**  
The Brick Room, Worcester

**Winter Wilson**  
Catshill Working Mens Club, Bromsgrove

**Seven Drunken Nights - The Story Of The Dubliners**  
Holme Lacy Hotel, Hereford

**Vince Freeman**  
The Tavern, Cheltenham

**Cash & Carter**  
The Palace Theatre, Redditch

**Connor Maher Solo 8:30Pm**  
The Oil Basin Brewhouse, Worcester

**The Two Pats**  
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

**The Songs Of Leonard Cohen**  
Subscription Rooms, Stroud

**Interstate Express**  
The Prince Albert, Stroud

**Ewan Pollock**  
The Old Pheasant, Worcester

**The Phil Beer Band**  
Artrix, Bromsgrove

**The Swamp Stomp String Band**  
The Falcon, Painswick, Stroud

## Friday 15 March 2019

**Black Knight**  
Millers Arms, Pershore

**The Wurzels**  
Guildhall, Gloucester

**The Boxcar Mavericks**  
The New Inn, Gloucester

**You Dirty Blue**  
Into The Valley @The Trico Stadium, Redditch

**Mute The Flute**  
The Queens Head, Wolverley

**Matthew Bowen**  
The Tank, Gloucester

**Parallel**  
The Blue Bell, Ryall

**Jigantics**  
Winchcombe Live, White Hart Inn, Winchcombe

**Space Cowboy - A Tribute To Jamiroquai**  
Swan Theatre, Worcester

## 50 SLAP MAR

**My Tin Monkey**  
Café René, Gloucester

**Spindle Ensemble**  
The Globe, Hay On Wye

**The Woo Town Hillbillies**  
The Sociable Beer Company, Worcester

**The Bones**  
The Bell Inn, St John's, Worcester

**5:15**  
The Golden Cross, Hereford

**James Hickman**  
YE OLDE TALBOT HOTEL, Worcester

**XL5**  
Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

**Air Of The Dog**  
The Hop Pole, Bewdley

**The Troubadours**  
No.3A, Bromsgrove

**Cabin Music Ep Release Show**  
Firefly, Hereford

**The Hurling Boys**  
Bromsgrove Golf Centre, Bromsgrove

**Chicken Fricassee Corporation**  
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**Simon Wallace**  
Bush Inn, St Johns, Worcester

**Rockbottoms**  
Land Oak, Kidderminster

**Alive And Brel**  
Malvern Theatre, Malvern

**Jay & Eli**  
The New Inn, Willersey

**Talk in Code**  
The Griffin, Cheltenham

**Over The Hill**  
The Bayshill, Cheltenham

**Reuben Lovett's**  
Tailors, Cheltenham

**Gallowglass**  
Red Lion, Evesham

**Pretty Boy Floyd (Usa), Sykko Dolz, Naked Sunday**  
The Iron Road, Pershore

**The Charlton Blues Kings**  
The Royal, Cheltenham

**Dick And Bob Show**  
Anchor Inn, Eckington, Pershore

**Monkey Jam**  
Harry Cook Free House, Cheltenham

**Nathan Carter And His Band**  
The Palace Theatre, Redditch

**Missing Lynx**  
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, The Lye, Stourbridge

**3 Daft Monkeys**  
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

**Highway, Moose Jaw**  
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

**Shenanigans Open Mic Showcase**  
Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

**Spitz**  
Yumi Yumi, Evesham

**Treble A**  
The Old Pheasant, Worcester

**The Lost Submarines**  
Crown And Sceptre, Stroud

**Diio (Ronnie James Dio Tribute), Black Angus (Bon Scott Era AC/DC Tribute)**  
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

**Bootleg Blondie**  
Artrix, Bromsgrove

**Mawkin**  
Artrix, Bromsgrove

**The Follicles**  
The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

## Saturday 16 March 2019

**Brynley Thomas**  
Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

**Cara Dillon**  
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**Death Is The Girl, Mallen**  
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

**Breeze**  
Gupshill Manor, Tewkesbury

**Mzleading**  
Cross Keys Inn, Gloucester

**Salt Road**  
The Chestnut, Worcester



**Bourbon Alley**

The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

**Soulskunks**

The Lower George Inn, Gloucester

**Jay & Eli**

The Cricketers, Worcester

**Urban Folk Quartet**

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**Hopwood Junction**

Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

**The Spice Girls Experience**

Swan Theatre, Worcester

**Kick The Clown, Heavy Domestic, Bones Like That**

Worcester Arts Workshop, Worcester

**Shackleton Trio**

The Globe, Hay On Wye

**Mid Wales Opera Presents Puccini's Tosca**

The Courtyard, Hereford

**Lack Heart Angels**

Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

**Old Raskals**

Railway Inn, Studley

**Liam Tankard**

The Golden Fleece, Hereford

**Got To Be Michael Jackson**

Lickey End Social Club, Bromsgrove

**Brass Beat**

The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**Mean Business**

The Wobbly Brewery, Hereford

**Kinstrife**

The Plough, Hereford

**Witcher**

The Cavalier, Kidderminster

**Area 51**

Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

**Thunder Daze**

Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

**Amy Winehouse Tribute**

Gilt Edge Leisure /Social Club, Kidderminster

**Mark West**

Catshill Working Mens Club, Bromsgrove

**Harry Daniels, The Joey Bill. Chloe Marie**

Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

**Just Charlotte**

Kings Arms, Cleobury Mortimer, Kidderminster

**O.C.D.**

The Wobbly Brewing Co And Tap House, Hereford

**Red Hot Boogie**

The Market Theatre, Ledbury

**Trevor Babajack Steger, Jack Blackman, Claire Boswell**

Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

**Black Max And The Pirates**

Reet Petite, Leominster

**Ray Mytton**

Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

**Cso – The Grand Tour: li**

Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham

**The Desperados Uk**

Smokey Joe's, Cheltenham

**Rumbletrutters**

The Cross Keys, Malvern

**Northern Soul: The Edwin Starr Band (The Team) Feat**

Angelo Starr

The Iron Road, Pershore

**John Illsley: Dire Straits, Music & Memories**

Number 8, Pershore

**Polkadot Robot**

The Wheelhouse Marina, Upton On Severn

**Nicholson**

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, The Lye, Stourbridge

**Patrick Hannon**

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

**Ub40 - Labour Of Love**

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

**Van Rockman**

The Valkyrie, Evesham

**The Ska45s**

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

**Charity Concert - Rock Around The Musicals!**

Evesham Methodist Church, Evesham

**Dan & King Rich**

Red House Boutique, Stourbridge

**Mugenkyo Taiko Drummers The Way Of The Drum**

Subscription Rooms, Stroud

**Wheel Sea**

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

**Izzy The Push**

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

**Madi Stimpson Trio**

Stroud Brewery, Stroud

**Sparky And Sprite**

Stourport Civic Centre, Stourport-On-Severn

**Ultimate Coldplay (Coldplay Tribute)**

The Marris Bar, Worcester

**Mothership: Led Zeppelin Tribute**

Artrix, Bromsgrove

**Sunday 17 March 2019****Make Mine A Double**

The New Inn, Gloucester

**Drift Away**

Alcester Members Inn, Alcester

**Will Killeen Band (4pm)**

Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

**Bbc National Orchestra Of Wales 2019**

Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

**Stuart Davies**

Red Lion, Evesham

**Don't Stop (5pm)**

The Imperial, Worcester

**Journeyman**

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

**Jazz Express (5:30pm)**

The Chestnut, Worcester

**The Shaded Squares**

The Red Lion, Amblecote, Stourbridge

**Dave Beale**

Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

**Richard Digance**

Subscription Rooms, Stroud

**Claudia**

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

**Jack Forster**

Bottles, Worcester

**Gypsyfingers**

The Prince Albert, Stroud

**The Kings And Queen Of Inishboffin**

Crown And Sceptre, Stroud

**Dan Greenaway**

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

**Birmingham University A Capella Socety**

Stourport Civic Centre, Stourport-On-Severn

**Monday 18 March 2019****Faithful City Shows Presents: Katie Ellen (USA), Nuns Of**

**The Tundra Horror On The High Seas, Redbook**

Annie's Burger Shack, Worcester

**DS:UK**

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**Hannah James & Toby Kuhn**

Malvern Cube, Malvern

**Wednesday 20 March 2019****Luke Austin + Friends**

Café René, Gloucester

**Si Barron**

The Carpenter's Arms, Miserden, Stroud

**Dante Quartet**

Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham

**Mel & Him**

The Green Dragon, Malvern

**Kathryn Roberts, Sean Lakeman**

Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham

**The Dublin Legends**

The Palace Theatre, Redditch

**Featuring: Mike Weaver**

Dragon Folk Club At The Dragon Inn, Worcester

**Thursday 21 March 2019****Jack Cooper**

The Tank, Gloucester

**Villa Incanto, Madama Butterfly**

Parabola Arts Centre, Cheltenham

**Guillotine, Patrons, Fawner, Hot Beige**

Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

**Mark Latimer & Peter Cabara**

Reet Petite, Leominster

**The Elvis Years**

The Palace Theatre, Redditch

**Ruben Seabright Acoustic 8:30pm**

The Oil Basin Brewhouse, Worcester

**Steve Howell**

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

**The Way Of The Drum**

Stourport Civic Centre, Stourport-On-Severn

**Hélélé**

The Prince Albert, Stroud

## Friday 22 March 2019

**Eblana String Trio: Bromsgrove Concerts**  
Artrix, Bromsgrove

**Cory'S Angels**  
Colwall Park Hotel, Colwall

**Miss Chief And Mr. Meaners**  
Millers Arms, Pershore

**Jacqui Mcshee'S Pentangle**  
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**Lilith And The Knight, Rollin Sixes**  
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

**Emma Oakley**  
The Ambassador Club, Evesham

**Steve Ajao And The Blues Giants**  
The Queens Head, Wolverley

**Luke Philbrick, Damon T**  
The Tall Ships, Gloucester

**Urban Folk Quartet**  
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**Bleeding Hearts**  
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

**Chicago Bytes**  
The Blue Bell, Ryall

**Brother From Another**  
The Tank, Gloucester

**Abba - Forever**  
Swan Theatre, Worcester

**Septabeat**  
Café René, Gloucester

**Wednesday's Wolves, Velvet Circus**  
The Globe, Hay On Wye

**Bratt**  
The Bedwardine, St John's, Worcester

**The Outcasts**  
The Golden Cross, Hereford

**The Live Lounge**  
Worcester Arts Workshop, Worcester

**The Violets**  
Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

**Miss Pearl And The Rough Diamonds**  
The Sociable Beer Company, Worcester

**Daniel Seth**  
The Hop Pole, Bewdley

**Hatstand**  
Left Bank, Hereford

**Blackboxes, Mudhumper**  
Imperial, Hereford

**Dan Greenaway**  
No.3A, Bromsgrove

**The Daisy Belles**  
Hogarths Stone Manor, Kidderminster

**Free Spirit Sounds**  
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**Issy Winstanley, Gracie May**  
Smokey Joe'S, Cheltenham

**The Treatment, Airrace**  
The Iron Road, Pershore

**Gareth Lemon**  
Brewhouse & Kitchen, Cheltenham

**Troubadours**  
Red Lion, Evesham

**The Artichokes**  
Plesse Of The Piddle, Pershore

**Eden in Progress, Trep, Floorboards, King Cove**  
2 Pigs, Cheltenham

**Miranda Sykes**  
The Palace Theatre, Redditch

**Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons**  
Abbey Hotel, Redditch

**Gene Genie And The Lemon Squeezers**  
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, The Lye, Stourbridge

**The Little Easy Band**  
Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

**Nirvana Uk**  
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

**Fusion - Music Without Boundaries**  
Stourport Civic Centre, Stourport-On-Severn

**Brains For Breakfast, Fix Me Margo, Odd Hours**  
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

**The Usual Suspects**  
The Maverick, Amblecote, Stourbridge

**Neil Ivison**  
The Old Pheasant, Worcester

**Harmonica Nick and his Defibrillators**  
Crown And Sceptre, Stroud

**52 SLAP MAR**

**The Starving Rascals**  
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

**Orphan Colours**  
Music in The Hall, Bewdley

**Beatles Vs Buddy Holly**  
Stourport Marina Clubhouse, Stourport-On-Severn

**The Vibrators**  
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

**Dan & King Rich**  
The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

## Saturday 23 March 2019

**Wizards Of Oz (Ozzy Tribute), Saxonised (Saxon Tribute)**  
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

**Soul Manifesto**  
Artrix, Bromsgrove

**Bootleg Blondie**  
Guildhall, Gloucester

**The Strays, Cupcake Diaz**  
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

**Dawson Smith & The Dissenters**  
The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

**The Retrobaits**  
Saintbridge Sport Centre, Gloucester

**Jibbafish**  
Bar 7, Upton On Severn

**Logicaltramp**  
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**The Rain Trees..Andy Lindsay & Zoe Devenish**  
The Green Dragon, Malvern

**Candidates**  
Worcester Arts Workshop, Worcester

**Mr Tea And The Minions**  
The Globe, Hay On Wye

**Bach, Mass in B Minor – Hereford Choral Society**  
The Courtyard, Hereford

**The Usual Suspects**  
Railway Inn, Studley

**Fired Up**  
Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

**The Follicles**  
Horn And Trumpet, Bewdley

**The Bones**  
Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

**Stevie Gee**  
Ye Olde New Inn, Bewdley

**Ste Crump**  
Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

**Steve Ajao And The Blues Giants**  
Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

**Quo**  
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**Shirley Community Gospel Choir**  
Conquest Theatre, Bromyard

**Witcher**  
The Express Inn, Malvern

**Midnight Idols**  
Reet Petite, Leominster

**The Hills Angels**  
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

**Punkfest 2019**  
Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

**The Ultimate Commitments And Blues Brothers Experience**  
The Bacon Theatre, Cheltenham

**Bootleg Abba**  
Malvern Theatre, Malvern

**The Hush**  
The Cross Keys, Malvern

**Aaron**  
The Bayshill, Cheltenham

**Don Kipper**  
Number 8, Pershore

**The Manilow Songbook**  
The Palace Theatre, Redditch

**The Geckos**  
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, The Lye, Stourbridge

**Hump De Bump**  
The Chestnut, Worcester

**Interrobang**  
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

**Blue Magpie Contemporary Craft Fair**  
Elmslie House, Malvern

**One Stop Boogie 70s V 80s**  
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

**Rubicon**  
Evesham United F.C., Evesham



**Harry Baldwin**  
The Longlands Tavern, Stourbridge

**Fusion - Music Without Boundaries**  
Stourport Civic Centre, Stourport-On-Severn

**Shades Of Grey**  
The Vineyard Inn Abbots Salford, Evesham

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

**Prone 2 Madness**  
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

## Sunday 24 March 2019

**Malvern Hillbillies**  
Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

**The Slow Readers Club**  
Guildhall, Gloucester

**Fitzwilliam String Quartet**  
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**Piano Recital With Reiko Fujisawa**  
Great Barn, Hellenes, Hereford

**Sultana Brothers**  
The Fighting Cocks Stottesdon, Kidderminster

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

**Whisky River (3pm)**  
Richmond Place Club, Hereford

**The Lindisfarne Story**  
Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

**The After Dark Band (5pm)**  
The Imperial, Worcester

**Maddie Stimpson (5:30pm)**  
The Chestnut, Worcester

**The Fish Brothers**  
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

**Blue Magpie Contemporary Craft Fair**  
Elmslie House, Malvern

**Lemonade Jazz/Funk/Soul Session**  
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

**Fusion - Music Without Boundaries**  
Stourport Civic Centre, Stourport-On-Severn

**Aidan Byrne**  
Bottles, Worcester

**The Follicles**  
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

**The Blackheart Orchestra**  
Littlevic, Stroud

## Tuesday 26 March 2019

**Dave Ayre'S Baroque Night**  
The Prince Albert, Stroud

## Wednesday 27 March 2019

**Tyler Massey Trio**  
The Plough, Worcester

**Feast Of Fiddles**  
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**Kim Cypher Quartet**  
Theoc House, Tewkesbury

**Belle Day**  
Café René, Gloucester

**Saskia Griffiths Moore**  
The Carpenter's Arms, Miserden, Stroud

**The Maefield**  
Worcester Arts Workshop, Worcester

**Rumours Of Fleetwood Mac**  
Malvern Theatre, Malvern

**Lizz Lipscombe**  
The Retreat Wine Bar, Cheltenham

**Blues in Pershore - Bernard Allison (USA)**  
The Iron Road, Pershore

**The Brass Funkeys**  
The Prince Albert, Stroud

## Thursday 28 March 2019

**The Girl From Tiger Bay**  
Artrix, Bromsgrove

**The Humdrum Express**  
The Plough, Worcester

**Rich Hall'S Hoedown**  
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**Sean Jeffrey**  
The Tank, Gloucester

**Bennett Wilson Poole, Trevor Moss, Hannah Lou**  
Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

**Paul McClure**  
Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

**The Blues Duo (Tommy Allen & Jon Vaughan)**  
Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

**Seth Lakeman**  
Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

**Bbc Big Band**  
The Palace Theatre, Redditch

**Dinosaur Squeak 9pm**  
The Oil Basin Brewhouse, Worcester

**Smokin Pilchards**  
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

**Acoustic Music Convention: Karin Grendel-Park**  
The Old Rectifying House, Worcester

**Alex Seel, Greg Hancock**  
The Prince Albert, Stroud

**Rodda'S Hairy Craic**  
Crown And Sceptre, Stroud

## Friday 29 March 2019

**The Charlton Blues Kings**  
The Ale House, Stroud

**James Baker**  
The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

**Rock N Roll Revolution**  
Artrix, Bromsgrove

**Chicago Bytes**  
Millers Arms, Pershore

**Dancing Queen**  
Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

**Uncover Presents: Runrunner, Slow Tapes, Poppy Ws, Chloe Mogg**  
Annie's Burger Shack, Worcester

**Kick The Fridge**  
The Queens Head, Wolverley

**Dave Onions**  
Plume Of Feathers, Malvern

**Forfeits**  
The Doctors, Gloucester

**Excel Duo**  
The New Inn, Gloucester

**Bandeoke With Polkadot Robot**  
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

**Roughcut Ruby**  
The Blue Bell, Ryall

**Ebony Rose**  
The Tank, Gloucester

**Mud On The Tyres**  
Café René, Gloucester

**One College Under A Groove**  
Worcester Arts Workshop, Worcester

**Bongo Monkey's**  
The Sociable Beer Company, Worcester

**Raising Cain**  
The Golden Cross, Hereford

**Stuart From Strangers**  
Cock And Magpie, Bewdley

**Alcatraz**  
Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

**Nick Harper**  
The Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford

**The Reflections**  
The Hanbury Turn, Bromsgrove

**Midtown Groove**  
No.3A, Bromsgrove

**The Ska45's, The Selector Tribute Feat Eliza Jackson, Amy Winehouse Tribute**  
Kidderminster Town Hall, Kidderminster

**Three Disagrees, Stoned Cherries, Kitchen Island Band**  
The Falcon Hotel, Bromyard

**Islands in The Stream**  
Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

**Lewis Leighton**  
The Exmouth Arms, Cheltenham

**Tcmi**  
The Royal, Cheltenham

**Lewis Clark & The Essentials**  
Red Lion, Evesham

**Mister Wolf**  
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**Some Guys Have All The Luck**  
The Palace Theatre, Redditch

**Primetime**  
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, The Lye, Stourbridge

**Bleeding Hearts**  
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

**P!Nk - Beautiful Traum**  
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

**Balaban And The Bald Illegals**  
Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

**Olly Murs Tribute Act**  
The Gate Inn, Evesham

**The Murmur**  
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

**Matt Bowen**  
The Old Pheasant, Worcester

**Woo Town Hillbillies**  
Crown And Sceptre, Stroud

**The Secret Cabaret**  
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

**Woo Fest Warm Up: Speak, Brother; Chewie; The Leaking Machine; in Evolution**  
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

**The Goods Shed**  
Ana Silvera, Stroud

**Kitty Macfarlane**  
Ruskin Mill College, Stroud

## **Saturday 30 March 2019**

**Lynchfest: The Rocker Covers, The Straight Aces and The Escobars. Djs Ace High, Dj Unextroidaniare, Dj and Compare Big Daddy**  
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

**Erja Lyytinen**  
Artrix, Bromsgrove

**Cory's Angels**  
The Golden Fleece, Hereford

**Salt Road**  
Worcester Brewing Company, Worcester

**Malvin Hancox Band**  
The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

**The Foo Fighters Tribute**  
Baker Street, Gloucester

**Rockaway Record Fairs Record And Cd Fair, Open 10-4pm, Admission £1.00, Rockawayrecordfairs.Tumblr.Com**  
Ashcroft Church Hall Ashcroft Road, Cirencester

**Jamie Knight And The Big Swing**  
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

**Paul Bridgewater And The Electric Blues Rebellion**  
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

**Ian Luther**  
The Green Dragon, Malvern

**Come Together**  
The Virgin Tavern, Worcester

**Bad Spaniel**  
Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

**Howling Mask**  
Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury

**Seth Lakeman**  
Hereford Cathedral, Hereford

**Cada**  
Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

**Rattlesnake Jake**  
Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

**Rusty Sheriff**  
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

**Into The Shadows**  
The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster

**English Electric Lightning**  
The Dog And Pheasant, Bromsgrove

**The Murmur**  
Habberly Club, Kidderminster

**Lost Chord**  
The Old Lion, Cleobury Mortimer, Kidderminster

**Behind The Music: The VHT's, Jim Smith, Jenny Hallam, Maefield**  
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

**The Geckos**  
The Express Inn, Malvern

**Slippery Slope**  
Reet Petite, Leominster

**Magic Of Motown**  
Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

**The Way**  
Red Lion, Stiffords Bridge, Malvern

**The Way. Covers And Funk/Rock**  
The Red Lion, Stiffords Bridge, Near Malvern

**Ed Sheeran Tribute Night**  
Jurys Inn, Cheltenham

**Locked And Loaded**  
The Cross Keys, Malvern

**Monkey Jam**  
Harry Cook Free House, Cheltenham

**Polkadot Robot**  
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

**The Delray Rockets**  
The Gun Tavern, Worcester

**Witcher**  
Malvern Motorcycle & Light Car Club, Malvern

**Bacchus**  
Woodland Cottage, Redditch

**Supernova**  
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, The Lye, Stourbridge

**Django**  
The Chestnut, Worcester

**The Very Grimm Brothers & Sasscapella**  
Elmslie House, Malvern

**Undercover Hippy**  
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

**I-Party**  
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

**The Sex Pistols Experience, Chinese Burn, Dead Beats**  
Hereford Lads Club, Hereford

**Mcscraggy And The Suits**  
Crabmill, Oldswinford, Stourbridge

**John Broomhall**  
Stroud Brewery, Stroud

**Buddhafield & Friends -Refugee Fundraiser**  
Lansdown Hall & Gallery, Stroud

## **Sunday 31 March 2019**

**The Follicles**  
Ye Olde Crown Inn, Stourport-On-Severn

**Utrillo Jazz Piano Trio**  
The Ale House, Stroud

**Tina Law Sings Streisand - 2:30 Gig**  
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

**Frogg Soufflé, Next To Ember**  
Annie's Burger Shack, Worcester

**Into The Shadows**  
The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster

**Aul Lamb & Chad Strentz (4pm)**  
Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

**Ryan Cook**  
Playhouse Cinema, Leominster

**The Rain Trees (5pm)**  
The Imperial, Worcester

**Howlin' Matt (5:30pm)**  
The Chestnut, Worcester

**Paul Dunmall Quartet**  
Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

**Vo & Trevor**  
Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

**Poppy W-S**  
Bottles, Worcester

**Ellisha Green**  
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Se

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RAISING FUNDS FOR MIDLANDS AIR AMBULANCE

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PLEASE NOTE: Due to restricted space at the festival site, only the first 50 long vehicle ticket purchases will be able to park at the site. For all long vehicle tickets sold beyond 50 (and those purchased on the gate), camping will be off-site and will incur a charge (there will be a free shuttle bus service to/from the festival site). We have already sold half of those allocated tickets (as of mid-January). PLEASE BOOK YOUR LONG VEHICLE TICKET EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT!  
See website for details.

# WELLAND ROAD, UPTON-UPON-SEVERN, WORCESTERSHIRE WR8 0SW



RAISING FUNDS FOR MIDLANDS AIR AMBULANCE

# THE MARRS BAR

MAR | APR 2019



Eleanor McEvoy  
Tuesday April 16th

## Friday March 1

UnCover presents: No Violet, The Jericho Racks, The Space + Hipflask Virgins  
£6 in advance £8 on the door

## Saturday 2 March (SOLD OUT)

### Sunday 3 March

Forever Queen (Queen tribute)  
£12 in advance £15 on the door

## Friday March 8

The Official Receivers

£8 in advance £10 on the door

## Saturday March 9

Are You Experienced (Jimi Hendrix Tribute)  
£7 in advance £9 on the door

## Friday March 15

DIIO (Ronnie James Dio tribute), Black Angus (Bon Scott era AC/DC tribute)  
£10 in advance £12 on the door

## Saturday March 16

Ultimate Coldplay (Coldplay tribute)  
£8 in advance £10 on the door

## Friday March 22

The Vibrators

£8 in advance £10 on the door

## Saturday March 23

Wizards Of Oz (Ozzy Osbourne tribute), Saxonised (Saxon tribute)  
£8 in advance £10 on the door

## Sunday March 24

Lemonade Jazz/Funk/Soul session

## Friday March 29

Woo Fest Warm Up: Speak, Brother, Chewie, The Leaking Machine, In Evolution

## Saturday March 30

Lynchfest: The Rocker Covers, The Straight Aces and The Escobars. DJs Ace High, DJ Unextroidaniare, DJ and Compare Big Daddy  
£10 in advance

## Friday April 5

Syked (tribute too John Sykes era Whitesnake, Thin Lizzy + Blue Murder)  
£8 in advance £10 on the door

## Thursday April 11

Vinny Peculiar, Simon Love + Edward Rogers & Stephen Butler  
£8.50 in advance £10 on the door

## Saturday April 13

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

## Sunday April 14

FCS: Wonk Unit, Fights & Fires, The Whipjacks & 3WOD  
£9 in advance

## Tuesday April 16

Eleanor McEvoy

£15 in advance £18 on the door

## Saturday April 20

John Lennon Uk (John Lennon tribute)  
£8 in advance £10 on the door

## Friday April 26

R.E.M., Stipe, Elisha Green  
£8 in advance £10 on the door

## Saturday April 27

Leylines

£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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