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Issue 95

Sep 2019

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SLAP

Sep 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

Jasmin Griffin, Michael Bramhall

CONTRIBUTORS

Andy O'Hare
Will Munn
Geoffrey Head
Mark Waters
Graham Munn
Helen Mole
Abbie Payton
Jacob Johnson
Ian Passey
Robert Ellis
Sarah Jeffrey
Jude Rogers
Chloe Mogg
Suz Winspear
Megan White
Nicholas Burford
Kate Ford
Eleanor Miles

DESIGN

Mark Hogan, Richard Nicolls

WEB & SOCIAL MEDIA

Ant Robbins, Katherine Harris

Published by The Whole Hog

Printed by Vernon Print



@slapmaguk

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Hello! How was August for you? Worn out yet? Well don't relax to soon, the summer isn't quite over yet...

In this issue we take you back to a few of last months local festival highlights from Gloucester Blues, the Worcester Show, Lakefest, and Old Bush Blues. They may have suffered with inclement weather but it didn't dampen the enthusiasm of the sell out crowds.

We look forward to the month ahead with Bromyard Folk festival and if it's something very different you're looking for, check out Cheltenham Paint Festival to which our front cover image alludes. Get along to this fabulous free outdoor gallery. Walk around and enjoy the incredible selection on display.

And now down to business... With just a few acts still to confirm the Worcester Music Festival is shaping up to be the best yet! Make sure you keep the 13th-15th of this month free, pick up a festival guide and plan your weekend. Don't forget to pop in to the SLAP night at the Marris Bar on the 14th where we have our usual eclectic mix of groovy indie, psychedelic rock, grunge punk and quirky dance to whet the appetite, all with the wonderful Vinny Peculiar to chaperon us through the evening.

As before, we want you to get involved, if you see a performance you particularly enjoy at WMF, why not write a short review, take a photo and send it in to us, we'll print as many as possible in the next issue. If you are a keen photographer, this is your chance to try your hand at gig photography, you won't be short of subject matter and you can enter the annual WMF photo competition. As always we'll publish the top three judged by professionals.

See you around...

Excit-Ed



Cover image: Girl Behind The Chemney - by WDStreetart. See our feature on Cheltenham Paint Festival. See Page 13



Spotify

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SLAP SEPTEMBER 3

Oh no, Oboe, no go

The Association of British Orchestras has said that concerns over a no-deal Brexit could mean the end of touring abroad for many UK orchestras (and obviously other musicians). Uncertainties over work permits, crossing borders and taking instruments abroad could mean touring is no longer a viable option. A government spokesman said that they '*recognise the importance of mobility and the temporary movement of goods for events, tours and productions, and we continue to engage with the music industry to ensure impacts are understood and plans in place for when we leave the EU*'. So that's all right then...

Nelson Man-Wailer

Award-winning poet **Benjamin Zephaniah** will be stopping off in Malvern as part of his autumn tour to promote his autobiography. He'll be relating stories of his friendships with **Nelson Mandela** and **Tony Benn**, his career with **The Wailers** and his political and poetical life to date. His appearance at Malvern Theatres is on Friday 13 September - more at 01684-892277

Nuns on the One

Two local bands were played on the Hugh Stephens show on BBC Radio 1 on the same night early last month. Malvern-based **Nuns Of The Tundra's** single '*Baby's Got A Box Of Matches*' was given a spin, followed by 'Uptown' by Ivory Wave who also have a Worcestershire connection, on Huw's nationwide BBC Music Introducing show which has millions of listeners across the UK and abroad. Both outfits were said to be 'excited' and 'pleased'...

Under the bridge down town

Plans have been floated by **Worcester Cultural Partnership** as part of a £4.5 million project to transform eight of the railway arches between The Butts and **The Hive** into '**spaces for creative industries**' - and four festivals based in the refurbished arches are in the pipeline for next year beginning with a **Festival Of Light** in January.

Waste of our time

Perhaps a little bit late for this year's festival season but think-tank **Powerful Thinking** have released a report saying that UK festivals are generating over 23,500 tonnes of waste each year. However they say this can be reduced by going investing in decent, reusable tents and water bottles, ditching wet wipes, travelling to events via public transport or car-sharing and most importantly of all - glamping it up with biodegradable glitter - more at www.powerful-thinking.org.uk

Sing along with the Chorus

If you fancy a bit of a sing-song this autumn, **Malvern Festival Chorus** are looking for new members to celebrate their centenary season. They'll be holding an open rehearsal on 3 September at **The Chase School** and a 'come and sing' event on 7 September at **Great Malvern Priory** - details at malvernfestivalchorus.co.uk

News of the World

After the success of this year's revamped **Worcester Carnival** organisers have announced plans for next year's event, scheduled to take place on Saturday 4 July. The theme will be **Countries Of The World** - to coincide with the 2020 Olympic Games in Japan - and chairman Phil Weston is looking for more involvement from schools and youth groups plus support and sponsorship from local businesses - worcester-carnival.co.uk

The Great Pretender

Pretenders' drummer **Martin Chambers** is organising a tribute gig to celebrate the iconic Herefordshire-based outfit and the lives of fellow original members **James Honeyman-Scott** and **Pete Farndon**. The event is scheduled for Saturday 5 October at the Three Counties Hotel in Belmont and will include 'musical collaborations with some of James and Pete's Hereford friends - as well as some special guest appearances' - more information to be announced soon...

Everything Must Stay

Worcester's **HMV** store has launched an appeal for local buskers to hit the high notes outside their store to 'celebrate' it staying open. The High Street store has been under threat of closure since May in a row over the terms of its lease for the building and '**Store Closing, Everything Must Go**' signs have been in the windows of the branch throughout the summer.

But in an apparent sign that the store will remain at the heart of the city @hmvWorcester tweeted: '*Calling all buskers! Fancy playing right outside your local hmv? We want the city to know we are staying open and need your help to shout about it on Saturday, September 7. We can also sell your CDs for you inside the shop.*'

If confirmed it would be the latest twist in a saga which saw the store saved in February after the retailer was bought out of administration by **Sunrise Records**.

Stoking Fires in Malvern

Mark Stokes from the **West Malvern Social Cub** is looking to hear from musicians/composers who are doing something different and are looking for a space to perform and meet other people with similar interests in music.

Mark, who has spent the last 20 years as a composer of music for film and theatre said '*I have always felt out on a limb with my music. It's not easy to find people with the same interests*'. The idea is to bring together people involved in music who aren't 'singer songwriters' '*I am particularly interested in electronic/classical crossover composers and performers*'

So if you are an musician/composer with interests like Penguin Café, Harold Budd, Brian ENO, A Winged Victory for the Sullen, Nils Fram, Jon Hopkins etc and you would like to meet like minded people, please email Mark at quietism24@gmail.com

CORRECTION:

Last month we wrongly attributed an editorial piece from **West Fests Dakin Diversity Stage** to **Carol James**. It was in fact supplied by **Susan Dakin**, to whom we offer our sincerest apologies.

WORCESTER MUSIC FESTIVAL

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ACTS FROM ALL
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Clik Clik had an amazing August at **Boomtown** with the crazy immersive freakish family business '**Pie n Tash**' and **Green Man Festival** with the creative woodland characters, the '**Animal Allies**'.



Trying now to settle back to some kind of sane level before the **Worcester Music Festival** arrives. I'll be curating a WMF evening on Fri 13th Sept at **St Swithuns Institute**, featuring veteran West Mids funksters **Cantaloop**, local electronic journeyman (and 6 Music regular) **Inwards**, Worcestershire newbies **Peewee** and the **One Skins**, and you won't believe your eyes and ears with the **Junkoactive Wasteman**! Come along!

Witley Court in Ruins

In Ruins is an ambitious art exhibition in the extraordinary ruins of **Witley Court** in Worcestershire, focusing on our enduring attraction to ruins and how they are still relevant today. Contemporary artworks inhabit the grounds and ruined mansion, including new monumental sculptures by **Alex Hartley**; stunning photographs by **Marchand & Meffre**, **Amelie Labourdette** and **Stuart Whipps**; further sculptures from **Tim Etchells**, **Holly Hendry** and **Jack Evans**; postcards by **Ellen Harvey** and a disused Woolworth's shopfront by **Matthew Darbyshire**. Artists have explored ruins for hundreds of years, fascinated by their value as emblems of the passing of time: like a time machine to the past, each ruin was once someone's future.



In Ruins is an exhibition curated and produced by **Meadow Arts**, delivered in partnership with **English Heritage**, supported by **Arts Council England**. Until 3rd November.

www.meadowarts.org

h.Art Present: Herefordshire Open and Young Open Exhibition 2019



Marking the beginning of **h.Art (Herefordshire ArtWeek)** on 6th Sept, **Herefordshire Open & Young Open 2019** features local artists' work, it will showcase the varied creative output from the county as well as h.Art participating venues. The exhibition is organised by members of **Framework Herefordshire**, a support network for emerging artists living, working or studying in the county.

The Courtyard Hereford. 6th September–6th October.

DAN new patron

Local editor and stand-up comedian **Tristan Harris** has become the first honorary patron of **Droitwich Arts Network (DAN)**. Tristan, Editor and Worcestershire Hub Manager for **Bromsgrove & Droitwich Standards** will now play a key role in promoting and supporting a string of arts-based community events and activities, including visual arts, performing arts, photography, media, written and spoken word, music and crafts.



This year **DAN** held a highly successful exhibition at **Hanbury Hall** and is organising a display of mail art in **Droitwich Library** later this year. The network are behind **Droitwich ArtsFest** and are currently preparing for next year's festival.

Droitwichartsnetwork.org

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

Alternative Artist's Market

The **Worcester Alternative Artist's Market** is back after a summer break on Saturday September 7th at **Heroes Bar**.



Curated by local artists **Miss Hilton Ink**, **Antidote** and **Katt Lepak**, the monthly market been a fave hangout for artists, art lovers and curious punters since it started in November 2018, and is proud to showcase the weird and wonderful, with unique one offs and limited edition pieces from a vibrant and ever changing line up of local alternative artists. It's the perfect event to pick up drawings, prints, paintings, jewellery, and some awesome ornamental art.

All are welcome, including children (parental discretion may be advised in some cases due to the nature of some of the artwork on display), in a relaxed and intimate space, Whether you're buying, browsing, networking or just hanging out, the market runs from 3pm to 7pm on the first Saturday of the month. Get involved and support local artists!

Any artists who are interested in selling at the market, please contact **Worcester Alternative Artist's Market** (WAAM) at worcesteraltartsmarket@gmail.com or Facebook page.



Dancefest's autumn term

Booking is open for **Dancefest's** autumn term of classes, guest workshops and performance companies! Their term starts on 16 September and you'll get an early bird discount on selected classes if you book and pay before the start of term.

There's lots on offer for all ages across Worcestershire and Herefordshire – weekly dance classes for children that introduce contemporary technique, with elements of other dance styles, **Chance to Dance** - enjoyable exercise-based classes for 55+, and Ballet and Contemporary Technique for adults. You don't need any dance experience to join and new dancers are always welcome.

They're holding free auditions for their youth dance companies in Hereford on 16 Sept and in Worcester and Tenbury on 19 Sept.

As well as developing contemporary technique and choreography skills, the companies give young dancers lots of opportunities to perform throughout the year - in theatres as well as unusual, outdoor spaces - and to work with guest choreographers and dance artists.

You may like to join their **Chance to Dance Company** for experienced dancers a50+, or **Jigsaw Performance Company**, their inclusive dance company for disabled and non-disabled dancers.

Also coming up are some very special guest workshops on Sundays at **The Angel Centre** in Worcester:



- 22 Sept (18+) 10.30-12.30 Pilates by Elizabeth Winter
 - 6 Oct 10.30-12.30 (18+) Postural Alignment by Eleanor Burt - Postural Alignment Therapy
 - 10 Nov 10.30-12.30 (14+) Animal Flow by Be ProHuman
 - 1 Dec 10.30-12.30 (18+) Tai Chi Chuan & Relaxation by Enid Gill
- And look out for movement and photography workshops for families at half term.
- Have a browse of their website at dancefest.co.uk and start planning your dancing autumn!



Cheltenham Paint Festival

Did our cover catch your eye? For some truly awe inspiring and wow factor large scale (and small) outdoor art, get along to this amazing weekend of street art and graffiti styles around the town, including just announced '**Rocket01 & Faunagraphic**' (see image) alongside **Inkie**, **Fabio Petani** and many many more, It's not to be missed! 7th & 8th Septeber.

Front cover story and for more see page 13.

£60,000 invested in bold arts and heritage projects across Herefordshire

Arts and heritage projects which stimulate pride in the places we live will get underway in Herefordshire after being funded through the 'A Great Place' Hidden Gems grant scheme. Hidden Gems is part of the UK wide Great Place Scheme is designed, to pilot new approaches that enable cultural and community groups to work more closely together and to place heritage at the heart of communities. Projects, which have each secured £12,000, are:

Painting with Light

Designed by the **Sidney Nolan Trust**, who will commission contemporary digital artists to work with school children from Kington, Presteigne, Pembridge, Eardisley and Kingsland, this project explores the early digital work and Polaroid's of the artist Sidney Nolan, and the heritage of The Rodd house and estate where Nolan lived and created much of his work. It will culminate with open air projection mapping on to the exterior of the Grade II listed buildings on Herefordshire/Welsh border.



Inside Out - Herefordshire Museum Service will work with digital artists and community groups to put objects from the Museum Resource & Learning Centre in Hereford on show in non-museum places and spaces in unusual and unexpected ways. The project will highlight the cultural value of the public collection.

The Stories of Ella Mary Leather - Inspired by the writer **Ella Mary Leather**, whose book **The Folk-Lore of Herefordshire** was published in 1912, this project will bring MASH Cinema together with history groups, students and artists to create immersive 360 audio-visual experiences to retell stories from Herefordshire folklore.



Gilpin 2020 - This project from the **Wye Valley Learning Network** (a collaboration between primary schools in south Herefordshire) includes contemporary responses to and a virtual version of the historic Wye Tour. It coincides with the 250th anniversary of the famous tour, which played an important role in the birth of modern tourism.

Our Man in the Moone - At the heart of this project is a boisterous re-telling of **The Man in the Moone**, an early work of science fiction written in 1638 by Francis Godwin, Bishop of Hereford. Coming 200 years before Jules Verne and ahead of Jonathan Swift's Gulliver's Travels, this tale of adventure, ethics, religion and society will be updated by **Everybody Dance**, storytellers, dancers and community groups in Bromyard and Leominster. They will create a fully accessible production of the story, a digital soundscape, animated stories and a public talk.

All five projects will use the arts and creative digital technology, from poetry and photography to virtual reality and projection mapping, to raise the profile of Herefordshire's heritage.

Great Place is co-funded by **The National Lottery Heritage Fund** and **Arts Council England**, with support from Historic England and local partners including **Herefordshire Council**, the **Elmley Foundation** and the **Brightspace Foundation**.

Discover more at www.the-shire.co.uk

Vamos Youth Theatre and Vamos Central

Serious about theatre? **Vamos Youth Theatre** and **Vamos Central** are recruiting now for this September!

Vamos Theatre, the UK's leading full mask theatre company based in Worcester. Vamos Theatre devises and tours accessible, humorous and fearless work which showcases the best in full mask performance. The company is dedicated to making work based on stories of real people, and productions are rooted in true-life experiences and events. At the heart of Vamos Theatre's ethos is a commitment to working practices that engender genuineness, generosity, respect and consideration of others.

Vamos Youth Theatre is for young people (14-21yrs) who love theatre and want to learn more - for themselves or for a future career in the industry. It is a challenging, exciting and creative place to learn new theatre skills, and members need to be committed and focussed.

Vamos Central is a youth theatre for young people (16-25yrs) with mild to moderate learning disabilities. Led by professionals Vamos Central participants learn theatre skills, have fun, be playful, and create and share inspiring theatre in a safe and supportive environment, where everyone is valued and treated with respect.

Both groups meet on a Wednesday: Vamos Central 3.45pm till 5pm and Vamos Youth Theatre 5.30 - 7:00pm at the home of Vamos Theatre; **Worcester Arts Workshop**. Cost is £60 per person and places are limited. For an application form please visit our website or call 01905 312921.

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[WWW.VAMOS THEATRE.CO.UK/YOUTH-THEATRE](http://www.vamos theatre.co.uk/youth-theatre)



Folk & Roots Music

At Bewdley Festival

Saturday 21st September 7:30 pm

“AMERICA OVER THE WATER”

SHIRLEY COLLINS

The folk legend recounts her emotional and ground-breaking journey of musical discovery across the USA with

Alan Lomax

(first performance in the W Midlands)



Friday 4th & Saturday 5th October

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Film Screenings, Film-maker Q&A,

Talks by legendary music producers:

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Friday 11th October 8:00 pm
Festival Theatre at Mercure Hotel

“EAST”

ELIZA and MARTIN CARTHY

An important new work from Eliza Carthy, who with her father Martin, presents a collection of musical and other works inspired by the East of England.

Featuring long-time collaborators Duotone, Sheema Mukherjee, and dancer Ewan Wardrop.



Bewdley Festival, St. George's Hall, off Load Street, Bewdley, DY12 2EQ
01299 404808

Details and Tickets - www.bewdleyfestival.org.uk

Suz Winspear



Summer is over and as I'm writing this, the future seems horribly uncertain, with political chaos continuing and no clear notion about how the country will get through it all. In times like these, we need the arts more than ever, and poetry and spoken word nights are flourishing throughout the UK. These are affordable evenings of live performance, where you can hear something that might move you, excite you, make you think or make you laugh, and with a range of performers on the bill, you're bound to find something that you enjoy. Here in Worcestershire, the number of events seems to increase every month; not a week goes by without the chance to hear some Spoken Word. So why not come to one of these events? They're accessible, friendly and don't cost much to attend!

And if that arouses your interest, here are your upcoming Worcestershire Spoken Word events for September –

Tuesday 3rd September – The Long and the Short of It – at **Caffe Bolero** St Nicholas Street, Worcester Prose and poetry, with short-form and longer performance slots. 6pm, £3 admission.

Wednesday 4th September – Poetry and a Pint at the **Third Space, Worcester Arts Workshop** A relaxed evening of poetry hosted by the inimitable Spoz. Open mic slots available – contact marketing@worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk 7pm Free entry.

Thursday 12th September – SpeakEasy – at **Paradiddles**, 61/61a Sidbury WR1 3HU Our second month at our new venue - eclectic poetry from a wide range of local poets. The featured performer for September is the winner of this year's LitFest Poetry Slam, Io Osborn. 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 . . .) Come and see us in our new location! £3 admission, 7.30pm.

Friday 13th-Sunday 15th September – Worcester Music Festival Among the multiplicity of events throughout the city this weekend, there will be an exhibition of album cover art, music and poetry performances taking place in the old tailor's shop in the Hopmarket – Friday and Saturday 11am-6pm, Sunday 11am-4pm. Free entry.

Saturday 21st September – Hopfest At the Hopmarket – a celebration of Worcester's hop-trade, of beer and brewing, featuring music, craft breweries and beer and pub-themed poetry. From 11am, free entry.

Saturday 21st September – Worcester Pride Poetry Stage at **Worcester Arts Workshop**. Worcestershire Poet Laureate Charley Barnes presents the poetry stage of this year's Worcester Pride, with poetry on LGBT+ and Pride themes. Starts at 2pm.

Wednesday 25th September- 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 . . . This month's theme is 'Moths and Moonshine'. Write a piece that you can deliver in 5-7 mins and come along to read it if you're lucky enough to get a performance spot. To ask for a spot email: list@42worcester.com . . . Free entry. 7.30pm.

Thursday 26th September – 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 will be the wonderful Kate Garrett, performing in Worcester for the very first time! Her poetry is often on themes of folklore, legend, mythical beings and paganism. I'm really looking forward to this! £3 admission. 6.30 – 8.30pm.

Sunday 29th September – 'Under the Stones'book-launch at **Café Nero**, Broad Street, Worcester The launch of Leena Batchelor's poetry collection. Leena is a regular performer at 42, you'll be able to hear her read from her new collection, with a selected line-up of support acts! 3.30pm.

If you're in Evesham, throughout September you'll be able to see the **Evesham Festival of Words 'Poetry in Colour'** exhibition, with illustrations by **Lindsay Tether** inspired by **Sue Johnson's** poem, and poems by Sue in response to Lindsay's paintings. It's taking place in **Evesham Library** from **2nd - 30th September**, with free admission. Sue and Lindsay will be running a workshop in Room EV2 in the Library on Monday 16th from 10am to midday. Cost £6 including refreshments. For further details, go to www.eveshamfestivalofwords.org

Hindlip Car Boot

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Wonky Artist Rosie - Illustrates her first Children's Book

Local artist **Rosie Philpott**, has realised her dream of becoming a children's book illustrator thanks to a project that hopes to encourage depressed youngsters to share their problems with others through teddy bear 'AB'.

Author Richard Bland was left 'broken' after his 31-year-old son took his own life. **Andrew Bland** of Longton, committed suicide six years ago with his family unaware of his personal problems. Now Andrew's dad, has helped to create a new book series - **Wing Commander Bear** - which will raise money for Hanley-based bereavement support and counselling charity **The Dove Service**. The book follows teddy bear Wing Commander Andrew Bland ('AB') who is a mascot for RAF Valley, in Holyhead, and travels around the world on fighter jets.



Richard, who has volunteered as a photographer at RAF Valley, said: *"After my son committed suicide we talked to The Dove Service because of its bereavement counselling. We're hoping to teach young people about the importance of talking to their parents. I think it could have been a completely different story for Andrew had he actually spoken to us. If getting this book published stops another family going through what we did then it has succeeded."*



Richard, of Meir Park, added: "The book is all about a bear adopted by the RAF which has flown all over the world - he's even been on a trip with Prince William. Because the bear was a mascot he has an official logbook. It shows that he's flown all over the world to places like Las Vegas, and at one point, he even got shot down."

Richard contacted Rosie about illustrations after coming across her work online. Rosie said: *"It has been a dream come true for me and I have loved every aspect of bringing this teddy to life. I have been in touch with Richard throughout the process and received feedback from pilots who have recognised themselves in my work. To know that it is for such a good cause has made it even more worthwhile and I cannot wait to see what the future holds for AB"*.



The book was launched on 12th August and it is hoped that it will be snapped up by schools and put into classrooms. Available through Amazon, WHSmith and Waterstones, Rosie is also hoping to sell some signed copies to customers who are interested.

If you feel you may want to take your own life, or are concerned about someone else, talk to the Samaritans on 116123 or contact your GP.

West Malvern Social Club
presents
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with Tyler Massey

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Cash bar, street parking only. Life membership £5

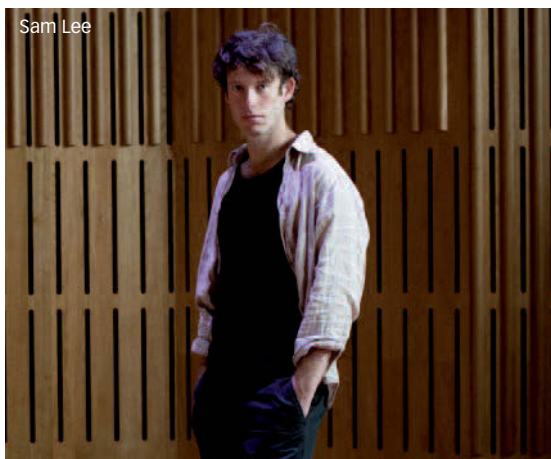
Bright Field

This Autumn, on **Friday 27 September**, the inaugural edition of **Bright Field** launches in the globe in **Hay-on-Wye**, a night that will celebrate the start of each season in music and spoken word (full disclosure: I'm in charge of what we've called **The Bright Field Organisation**). It's a night from the borders and beyond, which I hope comes across in several ways: from the literal geographical meeting points between England and Wales, and the fluid borders of genres, particularly between **folk, psychedelia, experimental music and spoken word**.

I moved to the borders three years ago, being originally from South Wales. I was struck by how progressive music and art is in this part of the world, and how close our connection is to the land around us. Our artwork, flyers and intentions are fittingly a little pagan and pastoral. Our night is also called **Bright Field** after the poem by Welsh writer **R.S Thomas**. In it, a man sees a field struck with light, and realises that possessing that moment is all he should try to seize in life. That message feels more essential than ever in Autumn 2019. The night was also inspired by my friend **Pat Long**, a music writer and DJ who ran similarly exploratory music nights in the 2000s. He died last summer, aged 40. It felt like there would be no better tribute to him than setting up a night celebrating the moment, here and now.



At **Bright Field**, we will showcase fantastic local acts, as well as more mainstream names trying out new things. In my work as a Guardian music columnist, I've met lots of brilliant artists including folk musician **Sam Lee**, who I met first at the Sidmouth Folk Festival in 2009. He also happens to be from Craswall in Herefordshire, and this is his first ever time playing at his teenage hangout, The Globe. **Emma Daman** of psychedelic band **Islet** and Faber author **Richard King**, writer of *The Lark Ascending*, about music and landscape, also come from rural Powys. **DJs Sproatly Smith and Jus' Jay** from Hereford's brilliant **Weirdshire** collective complete the line-up, playing their brilliant mixes of seasonal songs, and there will be more Autumnal murmurings on the night.



Emma Daman



Tickets are available now from the globe's website and The Bright Field Organisation on Ticketsource: www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-bright-field-organisation
Bring fallen apples, early Halloween tidings, and open ears.

CIRCLE OF SWORDS

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Cheltenham Paint Festival 2019

With 130+ artists including international and national names, emerging and local talents, from all corners of the globe, **Cheltenham Paint Festival** returns this month from 1st-8th September.

This highly successful outdoor gallery event, carefully curated by **Andy 'Dice' Davies**, continues to go from strength to strength, bringing top headline artists to the Regency Town as well as hundreds of visitors who flock to see the vibrant and diverse selection of artwork each year.

For 2019, the festival welcomes for the first time to the UK, **Wild Drawing (WD Streetart)** an Indonesian living in Greece with a focus on large-scale murals that are realized basically with roller brush and acrylic paints complementing his degrees in both Fine Art and Applied Arts (see front page image). He stands alongside Bristol legend **Inkie**, one of the most prolific graffiti writers in UK

history; Italian **Fabio Petani** whose works are characterized by a disarranged harmony of lines, shapes and volumes; **UK's Samer (Curtis Hilton)** who brings gorgeous birds and botanical delights to life; **Zabou**, a French street artist known for her giant portraits, and self taught **Irony** painting freehand with spray paints, like an oil painter with a brush.



Inkie

These are just a few of the artists who will be adorning wall spaces in and around Cheltenham during the weeklong event.

The team behind CPF support gender equality within the street scene and this is reflected by a strong female presence this year, so you can see **Sophie Long**, **Faunagraphic** and **Georgie** as well as many great females who have fought their way to the top of the game, dispelling the myth that graffiti is only a man's world (possibly linked to its edgier side - sneaking around at night, dirty, illegal and dangerous, surely not for ladies right?! Erm.. wrong!)

Other sections of the festival include workshops and activities for young people, a themed tie in with the 70th Anniversary of the **Cheltenham Literature Festival** and an exhibition at **Chapel Arts** until the 14th September. At the same venue on 6th September there is a very special screening of the 1989 BBC Documentary *'Drawing the Line - The Bristol Influence'* about aerosol art in Bristol and across the UK at that time. At the end of the screening you can listen to a panel discussion with **John Nation**, **Inkie** and **Felix 'FLX' Braun**. Tickets are highly recommended.



Fabio Petani



Zabou

The **Cheltenham Paint Festival** creations begin to take shape from 1st September with the main festival weekend on 7th and 8th. Look out for artist announcements being made regularly via social media and the website.



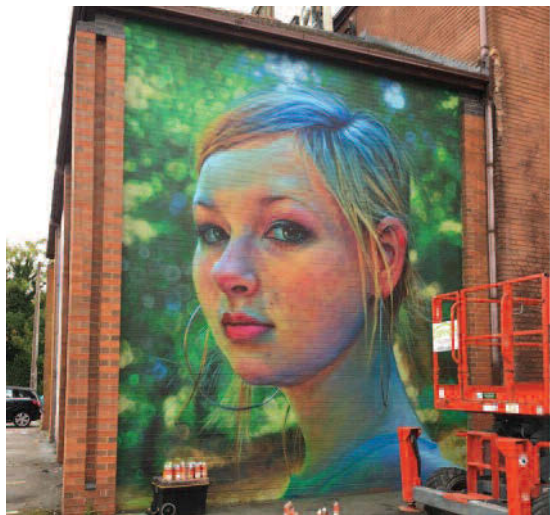
Samer

The festival shop is also up and running this year, not only can enthusiasts buy some amazing pieces (from as little as £20.00), but they can become supporters of the Festival with several exciting and affordable packages available.

cheltenhampaintfestival.bigcartel.com/products

You can buy tickets for the *Drawing the Line* screening at £10.00 per person, (online bookings only) via the festival shop page.

So get along to this fabulous free outdoor gallery. Walk around and enjoy the incredible selection on display. All of the artwork is easily accessible and there are stewards to help you with maps and information, it's a really great day out for all the family. cheltenhampaintfestival.co.uk



Irony

September at Worcester Arts Workshop

As the summer sun fades, **Worcester Arts Workshops** brings you a month full of great live music and events to make that summer festival vibe last until Autumn.

Friday 6 September sees five-piece, world music band **Flatworld** play roots 'n' grooves from Eastern Europe and beyond. WAW plays host to **Worcester Music Festival** gigs from Friday 13 to Sunday 15 September and on Friday 27 September you're invited to 'rock out' with **Six Seconds To Run**.



Saturday 28 September sees the return of **Polkadot Robot's Bandoke** – a live karaoke experience where you can front the live band, choose from a host of pop and rock hits to sing along to.

New Term of Courses & Workshops at WAW

There are so many creative courses to choose this September.

The **Saturday Pottery**, **Junior Art Clubs** and **Senior Art Clubs** begin again on 21 or 28 September, with a huge range of new skills and creativity to experience for young people aged 4+

Worcester Arts Workshop also offers **Home Educators Workshops** for groups of young people and there are regular dance classes offered every Thursday evening by **Translucent Dance Company**.

Back To School At Artrix This September

As the children head back to school this September, why not join them by signing up for a new course or workshop at **Artrix Arts Centre** to try something completely new, or perfect an existing skill or hobby with an exciting range of groups, including some brand new classes...

New for Autumn 2019 is **Calligraphy & Brushstrokes**, from 16 September. Learn how to write beautifully in the style of modern calligraphy and unlock your creativity to develop your own personal script. You will be provided with and shown how to use dip pen and ink and provided with your own starter kit.

Other adult courses on offer include **Gentle Chance To Dance**, **Songstars Showchoir**, **Beginners and Intermediate Ballet**, **Belly Dancing**, **Pilates**, **Dancefit**, **Silver Singers**, **Tai Chi**, **Drawing and Speaking In Public**.

Artrix also offers a wide variety of workshops for young people, including all new **StressBox** for primary aged children, from 18 September. Stressbox is a new wellness workshop determined to alleviate stress with music, movement and meditation for young people coping with busy lives.

Artrix's new **Theatre Explorers Workshop** is an opportunity for

Spoken word events during September include **Poetry And A Pint Night** on Wednesday 4 September, hosted by **Spoz** and **Worcestershire Before I Die** host a thought provoking conversation with best selling author and Palliative Care Physician **Kathryn Mannix**, talking about death and dying in an age of denial on Sunday 8 September.

WAW plays host to various **Worcestershire Pride** events

including the **Poetry Stage** on Saturday 21 September and theatre production **Admiring La Stupenda**, fresh from **Edinburgh Fringe**, on Tuesday 17 Sept and **University of Worcester** graduate theatre makers' **Sexuality Showcase** on Friday 20 September.

Along with a new term of one day courses and regular visual arts workshops **Vamos Theatre Company** are offering a **Full Mask Course** for students, graduates and emerging artists on Monday 16 to Thursday 19 September. And **C&T** are offering **Futureproof** on Tuesday 24 September, a digital course that offers artists, curators and educators an opportunity to explore the potential of digital for them and their organisation.

For further information on any events at WAW or to book tickets visit www.worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk.



There are simply too many new creative courses for adults to list, so there's bound to be something to inspire! From pottery and ceramics to oil painting and life drawing, there's a whole host of activities to motivate you to make something new.

The new season of creative courses begin from Monday 9 September, throughout the month.

There are also special one-off workshops including the return of **Pop Up Painting Style Event – Street Art** on 18 September, **Sunday Pottery** on 22 September and **Fused Glass** on 26 September. To find out more, go to worcesterartsworkshop.org

young people aged 14 – 19 to collaborate, discuss and develop theatre techniques, leading to a performance in the **Artrix Studio** at the end of each term. Running on Monday evenings, **Theatre Explorers** will be led by Artrix associate artist, **Naomi Coleman**.

Other groups for children and young people include **Little Song Stars** and **SongstarsJuniors**, **Artrix Youth Theatre** and **Rhythm Time**.

Artrix also welcome back **Theo's Comedy Skool** for another term of laughs from 23 September. Learn the art of stand-up comedy and perform in front of a live audience at the end of the course. Local performing arts coach **Theo Theobald** has guided many new comedians to the stage many of who were first-timers!



For further info, or to book a place please contact Box Office on 01527 577330 or visit www.artrix.co.uk/whats-on/workshops

September at Artrix

This September you can expect superb live music, comedy and cinema at Artrix.

Miranda Sykes on 6th and the inimitable **Andy Fairweather Low & The Low Riders** return on the 14th. **The Strawbs** bring their 50th Anniversary tour to Artrix on 20th, followed by guitarist **Chantel McGregor** on 21st September.



Following the huge success of **Rocketman**, there's a brand new show from **Forever Elton** on 25th and **The Counterfeit Sixties** return on 27th.

Fresh from Edinburgh there's comedy from **John-Luke Roberts** on 28th..

The rescheduled performances of **Dear Zoo Live!** take place on 22 & 23 September, with one additional performance added to the run.

Throughout the month there's the very best in cinema, including the latest family releases at the weekly Saturday Matinee, Quentin Tarantino's latest film **One Upon A Time In Hollywood** from 20th to 23rd and NT Live Screening of **One Man Two Guvnors** on 26th.

Take advantage of the amazing special ticket offer for **Folk Season 2019** receive 25% off the following shows with the **World Of Sounds Taster Ticket**; firstly **John Blek** on 5th September, Multi instrumentalist, songwriter and live-looper **Duotone** -



otherwise known as **Barney Morse-Brown** - performs an intimate gig in **The Studio** on Saturday 5 October and later that month Artrix welcomes a bright new talent on the folk and acoustic scene, singer songwriter **Jenny Sturgeon** on Friday 18 October.

NEW SEASON ON SALE

including...

- MUSIC **John Blek** - 5 September
- MUSIC **Miranda Sykes** - 6 September
- MUSIC **Andy Fairweather Low** - 14 September
- COMEDY **Paul Foot** - 27 September
- MUSIC **Ralph McTell** - 28 September
- THEATRE **trade** - 10 October
- COMEDY **Griff Rhys Jones** - 18 October
- MUSIC **Barbara Dickson** - 26 October
- THEATRE **I Wanna Be Yours** - 14 November
- MUSIC **Quill Christmas Concert** - 7 December

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Slideslow Drive, Bromsgrove B60 1GN

 [facebook.com/ ArtrixArtsCentre](https://facebook.com/ArtrixArtsCentre)

ARTRIX
arts centre



ARTRIX VINTAGE FESTIVAL
Saturday 10 August
Live Music, Vintage Fair, Swing
Dance, Sing-a-long Grease!



Rutland Troubadour aka Paul McClure Elmslie House, Malvern | 27th September

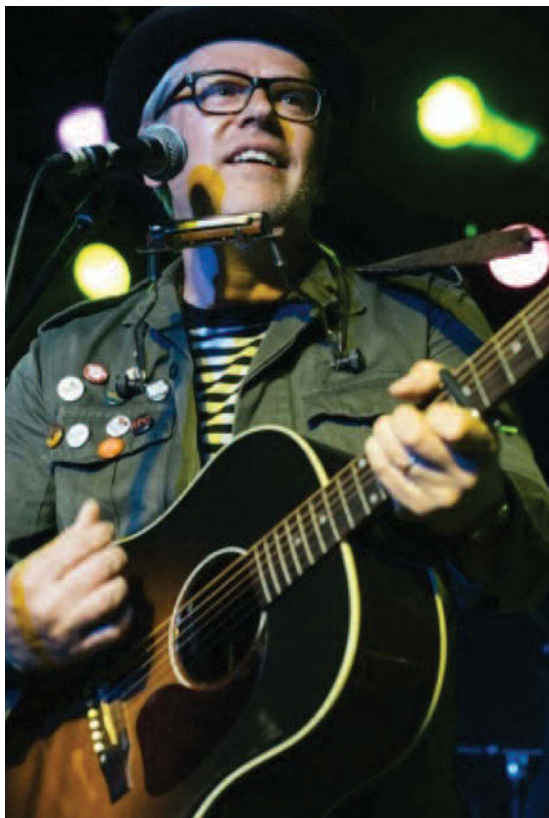
Paul McClure is a singer songwriter from Rutland, England. Known for his intimate, storytelling concerts Paul's characters and story lines - in particular the loves, laughs and losses that have come his way - though lyrically often brutally honest, nearly always allow the humorous side of any situation come forward.

"Rutland Troubadour, aka Paul McClure. A master of the stage, whether it's an intimate house concert or a full-on festival set... interspersing his trademark dry humour between some excellent and thoughtful songs his shows are a delight, making him one of the most in-demand performers in the country and a significant player on the UK roots scene." - Americana UK

McClure has clocked up the miles finding no shortage of places willing to have him play with shows at folk clubs, venues, festivals and front rooms including acclaimed performances at Cambridge Folk Festival, Ramblin' Roots, Maverick and Truck Festivals - sharing the stage with such folk and Americana musicians as Justin Townes Earle, Ian Felice, and The Young 'Uns. (extensively touring in not only venues but also a large number of house concerts hosted by fans in his attempt to both connect with his audience in a close and intimate setting and also bring the sound of live music back into the home.)

With enthusiastic support from Mark Radcliffe's Radio 2 show, more festival appearances across the summer - including Glastonbury - and with another album of new songs due for release on UK Americana label Clubhouse Records, things are looking up for the **Rutland Troubadour**...

Tickets £12 @ elmsliehouse.co.uk



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.



Rutland Troubadour aka Paul McClure
Friday 27th September
at 8.00pm, £12.00

Men In General
Friday 18th October
at 7.30pm, £12.50

Keith James -
The Songs of Leonard Cohen
Saturday 9th November



Please check website for ticket prices and running times - these vary.
Tickets available from www.eventbrite.co.uk, Carnival Records & Malvern TIC



www.elmsliehouse.co.uk

Paul O'Neill

Evesham Arts Centre | 19th Sept

Roving Crow Paul "Chief" O'Neill brings his distinctive songwriting & performing skills to Evesham on Thursday 19th for a solo acoustic evening of music.

Singer, songwriter and raconteur **Paul O'Neill** fronts the multi-award winning Celtic folk-rock band **Roving Crows**, touring throughout the UK, Ireland, Europe and Australia. His material is poignant, humorous and steeped in social conscience. Tonight he'll be performing his original songs solo & acoustic - an engaging live performance.

Performing all-original songs, Paul is known for his songwriting skill and engaging live performance. Now based in Colwall near Malvern, he was born into a musical family and has been performing all of his life. He studied drama at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York and after completing his studies put his focus on to his musical career. Paul is the songwriter and lead singer for the Roving Crows, writing mainly from his experiences working and living in Dublin, London and New York.

Tickets £9 at the door or £8 in advance from Evesham Almonry Abbey Road WR11 4BQ and the arts centre website www.EveshamArtsCentre.co.uk The music begins at 8pm



English Dulcimer Duo

The **English Dulcimer Duo** are **Sue Harris** and **Lisa Warburton**. They performed together as part of the biennial World Dulcimer Congress (2015), held in the UK (Malvern) that year. They enjoyed the experience so much, they decided to explore and expand on their music as a duo.

A repertoire of mainly English tunes, including a number of jaunty 18th century melodies, soon came together. So the **English Dulcimer Duo** was formed and with the different qualities of their dulcimers the combined sound is powerful and spell-binding.



Sue is one of the leading UK proponents of the English tradition on hammered dulcimer, and Lisa the Irish tradition. They've both been playing Welsh and other tunes for many years too. They started playing in the late 70s (Sue) and early 80s (Lisa), so they have a great deal of experience in playing and teaching. Their hammer dulcimer workshops (which often include Nonsuch Dulcimer Club instruments) cater for all ages and levels of ability, and Sue runs singing workshops too. The Nonsuch Dulcimer Club is a registered charity that promotes the playing of dulcimers (hammered and Appalachian), and supports the musicians who play.

Hear them at **Great Malvern Priory** on Tuesday 3 September (Autumn Recital Series), 1pm and Saturday 12 October at **Malvern Food Festival** 12.30pm. Or come and have a go on this insanely beautiful instrument at their workshops; there are some being held at **Bromyard Folk Festival**, Saturday 7 September (day tickets should be available). There will be instruments on hand for you to try, on a first-come basis.

Listen to live audio clips: reverbNation.com/englishdulcimerduo (includes 2 videos, live at the Dulcimer World Congress, Slovakia).

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with
special guest



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JAYNE HARRIS

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"Help! My House is Haunted"
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WITH

DAVID HODRIEN

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WORCESTER CRICKET CLUB

New Road, WR2 4QQ

Saturday 28th September 2019
9am - 5pm

FREE ENTRY

FREE PARKING

More Funny Business at WMF

For the third time, the team at **Worcester Music Festival** have extended the offering to include a stand-up comedy night. The free comedy event will take place at **Henry Sandon Hall** at the **Royal Porcelain Works** on Severn Street on Friday 13 Sept from 7.30pm.

The event will be hosted by **MC, Celya Ab**, who has been described as the most unique talent on the UK Circuit. Celya's sharp writing brings a unique look into life as an EU ex-pat living in post-Brexit Britain. With a very likeable stage presence and natural ability Celya looks destined for the top.

1st act Sachin Kumarendran

This year Sachin reached the final of the national stand-up competition hosted by Jason Manford, and has also reached the semi-finals of So You Think You're Funny, Bath Fringe New Act of the Year and the Chortle Student Comedy Award. He worked as a paid comedy writer for the Labour Party during the 2017 General Election Campaign, an election in which the party performed surprisingly well (perhaps not solely due to Sachin's involvement, but let's not rule it out).



2nd act Jo Frank

Jo trained as an actress before strutting her funky stuff in the world of comedy. She has been a finalist at Stand Up for Cider in both 2018 & 2019 and a Semi Finalist at Funny Women in 2017.

3rd act Roger Clammy:

Join freelance first aid instructor Roger Clammy on this taster course covering some of the most essential life-saving skills. His techniques have been criticised, but his trailblazing approach has won over students from Watford to Wembley. Roger worked next door to the London Fire Brigade offices for several years and was on a first name basis with many of the staff there. *"We've been trying to get in touch with him for ages"* (St John Ambulance).

4th act Danny Clives:

Danny Clives' refreshingly laid-back style and unique outlook on life has seen him supporting Joe Lycett, Guz Khan and James Acaster, get handpicked for the prestigious Pleasance Comedy Reserve at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and perform at the famous The Second City Theatre in Chicago. Danny is also a finalist of the Bath Comedy Festival New Act, of the Leicester Square Theatre New Comedian Of The Year and Birmingham Comedy Festival's Breaking Talent Award. He was also shortlisted for the BBC Comedy Award.



A fundraising success for local arts venue

The Courtyard's **I HEART CY 20** appeal has seen huge generosity from the public over the past 12 months and has raised around £50,000 towards the charity.

It has been a year of firsts for **The Courtyard Hereford** whilst it celebrated its 20th anniversary and fundraising efforts have helped support the charity and enabled the arts venue to continue to deliver its variety of community projects.

Since 18 September 2018 The Courtyard has staged its first original major drama **The Goal**, its first flying pantomime **Peter Pan** and launched a host of new programmes including a series of Inclusive Workshops and a **Mental Health Project**.

The anniversary year began with special performances from **The Courtyard's Youth Theatre**, performing extracts from **Bugsy Malone** with X-entricity and **Hereford Academy of Dance** students at a show-stopping **Gala Dinner**.

Other events included a Board-led summer ceilidh at **Ross on Wye Cider & Perry Company's Broome Farm** which raised over £1000 (and was kindly supported by Greenleaf Architecture), a staff and stewards sponsored walk which raised over £200 and a 20th Anniversary Showcase which brought in more than £3400. The Courtyard would like to thank all the groups who took to the stage and supported at the 20th Anniversary Showcase

"A really big thank you to everyone who has supported this year's anniversary appeal – whether donating directly, dropping money into our bucket collections, coming along to fundraisers,

buying raffle or 50/50 Lotto tickets or volunteering throughout the year," says Individual Giving Manager Melanie Denning. *"It's humbling to know that this hard working arts charity is much appreciated by its community, especially as we move into a new phase of fundraising to support our exciting and transformational capital development."*

Transform The Yard is a project that will see significant changes to the building including a more accessible entrance and Box Office, a new space to allow more workshops and meeting hires as well as a retail space for local arts and crafts.

For more information or to make a donation visit courtyard.org.uk/transformtheyard.



Lower Loveday | Chains

Last year whilst wandering through Lakefest between mainstage bands I was drawn to the BBC Introducing tent by an instantly infectious yet simultaneously fresh sounding indie rock combo. Scrambling for position I witnessed Evesham based foursome **Lower Loveday** come of age, with a scintillating set of stadium ready anthems that already enticed a packed out stage.

Since that first introduction to the band the quartet have continued to grow, taking in high profile support slots with the likes of Only The Poets and APRE among others. Further exposure on BBC Introducing has seen Tom Robinson (of 6 Music fame) pick up on the band and feature them on his infamous mixtape.



Capitalising on these successes and on their ever growing fanbase, the band have recently hit the studio with the renowned Northern production duo Sugar House to record a brand new single in the form of *Chains*.

The sub three-minute track is a hand built for radio, an indie anthem of the highest order. Opening with a naggingly contagious riff and a subtle electronic fuzz, the band's lead singer **Mark** soon joins the mix, seeking out his future with a striking lead, reminiscent of Brandon Flowers at his best. As the song continues towards it's dramatic choral climax, a barrage of riffs and the band's pulsating rhythm section help frame their frontman's cry for help, whilst grabbing at the listeners lapels and urging them to pay attention.

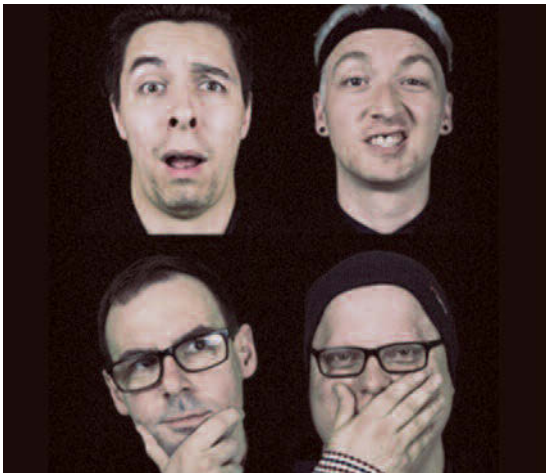
With a few more high profile gigs and handful of earworms on the level of *Chains*, it's not hard to imagine **Lower Loveday** to really make a splash on a national level. I highly recommend keeping a close

eye on Evesham's finest in the coming months.
www.lowerloveday.com

Will Munn

Hey You Guys

Where Are All My Friends? (Nine Fucking Years)



Hey You Guys have been teasing their Difficult Second Album for nigh on five years. The dynamic foursome first started recording way back in May of 2014 and since then the band have revealed the odd single here and there, teasing their hordes of fans before returning to the studio, recording others (guitarist/producer **Dave Draper**) or working on other projects (and baby-making in frontman, **Pete Adams** case) but now, September promises a flurry of **HYG's** activity.

The band reunite and return to Worcester as part of Worcester Music Festival and finally make promise on that *Difficult Second Album* and precede that sophomore full-length release, with a brand new single in the shape of *Where Are All My Friends (Nine Fucking Years)*.

Where Are All My Friends? Is a dramatic statement of intent. **HYG's** aren't waiting to be invited to the party, instead they're bombarding the door with a flurry of crunchy riffs and flailing sticks, taking the night by storm.

The two and a half minute shit kicker opens with **Draper** stepping on the power, whilst **Ben Pemberton** hammers away at

his kit prior to locking down a tight groove with the filthy four strings of **Oly Edkins. Adams** joins the mix, battling for attention with **Draper's** fuzzy riffs as the track lurches towards a gloriously bombastic, choral pay-off. Perhaps the band's heaviest to date, with the quartet battering their instruments (and vocal cords) into submission, before relenting for an infectious, groove-laden melodic mid-section and the song's final deafening crescendo.

We have waited a long time for the return of **Hey You Guys**, but if *Where Are All My Friends* and the previously released tracks are anything to go on, the quartet are set to retake their throne by any means necessary.

Will Munn



False Flags | Juggernaut

The band **False Flags** are from Stroud; at the start of Laurie Lee's memoir, "*Cider with Rosie*", based in and around Stroud, his "character" describes the surrounding alarming landscape from the perspective of a young self: as "knife-edged", accompanied with "screaming" against a backdrop of "frenzied" wild life. The landscape portrayed by False Flags, in 2019, is punctuated with "fear", "insanity" and the same threat of casual violence. Both narrator's keen to capture the human experience no matter how negative or alarming...for False Flags we can garner that their small town has had an impact on their world view.

The lyrical content speaks of "fear", lack of "trust", the warning of "insincerity" and ultimately suspicion for the mythical *Juggernaut*, the elusive *Juggernaut* portrayed as a metaphor for life? Or a simile for small town paranoia? The simplistic nature of the lyrics is perhaps deceptive – in this the age of untrustworthy politicians and consequently the loaded gun of Brexit leading us very much into the unknown – as the Juggernaut hurtles ever onwards into an unknown future.

One senses that **False Flags** are not out to deceive as their band name suggests, the videos, gigging, the new singer that is Marta and a steel-eyed determination in their group photos hint at what is to come. **False Flags** want to be taken seriously and not wrong foot their audience- that is clear. They are serious about their intentions I believe and accordingly we must take them seriously.

Seriously. The near soporific opening notes, give way to a hail of



chords accompanied by a controlled wail reminiscent of Munch's infamous caricature of life; the closing bass notes echo the pulsating beat of the human heart and you can't help but wonder what **False Flags** will offer as they grow and mature as a band...because they wear their heart on their sleeve.

Facebook @falseflagsuk website: www.falseflagsuk.com.

The Theoc Upsetter

Lordless Loneliness Is a Beautiful Thing

Worcestershire **Lordless** compliments an alternative take on dream pop. With elements of shoegaze in the breathtaking music, the multi instrumentalist sticks to pop arrangements throughout the debut EP. Circulating himself a lot of recognition around the area, it's no surprise that **Lordless** is getting a strong buzz. Titled "*Loneliness Is a Beautiful Thing*", the debut release is up close and personal to the songwriter.

'*Loneliness Is a Beautiful Thing*' summits the air with a dream pop nature that can only be described as comforting. Finely tuned vocals began a different pulse for the movement of the track. Taking the song in a different avenue, this number simply floats above your head while you relax down below. '*Walked Away*' is a refreshing take on a break up. Featuring **Loose Change** on vocals as well as **Lordless**, the two combine a gorgeous blend of two different genres into one. Transporting us back to the noughties, there's a lot of

nostalgia flying around this tune. **Lordless** sticks with the auto-tuned vocals that may not be your personal preference, but they work pretty well.

'*Tequila Rosé*' nudges towards artists such as The 1975. Sensing a pop arrangement, the momentum of the number feels slightly too slow. As a whole, the number feels slightly more personal and raw because of the simplicity of **Lordless**' vocals. '*Mimic*' starts

with a cloud of smoke filling the soundscape. It definitely could be a song to meditate to and to take you to your 'happy place'. For the first minute and a half, it feels calm and still. Slowly entering, a piano melody takes charge of the track and relaxes the mood even more. As a 5:46 length wise, the instrumentation on the track is so simple, yet so effective. It's the type of track you'd hear in a coming of age film. A perfect number for film. '*Icon*' is a completely different approach to the dream pop EP. Short but sweet, it shows that sometimes, simplicity is key. Stripped back and completely acoustic, it's a perfect goodbye. It's not goodbye

after all, only the beginning for what seems to be a successful career ahead for **Lordless**.

Chloe Mogg



The Purple Shades Blunder

The curiously titled **Purple Shades** are keen to communicate their influences from the outset – the Artie Monkeys and the Kooks are obvious contenders – but for me those harmonies and driven chord changes are so reminiscent of Fleet Foxes. Their latest self-published offering is all of the Shades' own work though.

The name of the band may need some explanation at some point – not least for me. The 60s art-house band The Creation described their "music as red - with purple flashes" – which may go some way to explain the band's persuasion? However, the writer's glasses are, on initial hearing, far from rose-tinted as the song articulates a view from a far from quixotic view of reality. The



band cannot be accused of being blinkered though: as the lyrics explore the subject of growing up, the subject of much angst over the years. It was Alan Bennet that first decreed that "it is just as well that our childhood comes at the start of our lives because if it came at any other point we wouldn't be able to deal with it." He could have a point...

The opening line of *Blunder* declares "this morning we had our lives in front of us", that hints at a world weariness that is a concern for a band so young. However, by the conclusion of our four minute track the imploring voice and beseeching lyrics make it obvious that Worcester's **Purple Shades** are content to celebrate the everyday mundanity of life after all.

The **Purple Shades** may have out-foxed the opposition with a genuinely unique sound – my partner was humming along as I researched this track – our collective attention span may only be fleeting at times but one can't but ponder that **The Purple Shades** will not just disappear down the rabbit hole of potential bands from the area. Tally-ho...indeed

Sir Gonzo

Ria Plays | Jar of Fishes 'Zine

We live in strange times, growing up and being interested in music, it was all about holding and devouring something physical, whether that was vinyl, CD (or to a newlesser degree tape). I used to love picking up a new release and dissecting the artwork and trying to interrupt the lyrics, the package was as often as important as the album or single within for the avid collector.

Sure vinyl has made something of a resurgence in recent times, but on the whole, the majority of music listeners are reduced to thumbnail artwork on their favourite streaming/download site or scrambling round the internet for a lyrical breakdown. Often we're not even sure who's even playing on the release, let alone who's written or produced the tracks in question. Somewhere along the line we've lost some of the magic of discovery when listening to something new.

Thankfully there are still artists out there who share a similar vision, release their aforementioned vinyl editions or delivering CD booklets that help tell the story of the music within.

Ria Plays goes one step further. Coinciding with the recent release of *Jar Of Fishes*, the band have pieced together a fanzine (another almost lost art form!!), featuring the EP's lyrics, a series of pieces of original art from the fertile mind



of songstress **Ria Parfitt**, photos, a spot the difference and even the guitar tabulation for the disc's title track among other delights.

The cut and paste 'zine is a fun and engaging companion piece to the EP, that really helps showcase the artistic minds behind the trio, both lyrically and indeed visually for those of us who aren't content with a thumbnail in the corner of a screen.

You can grab a copy of both the band's highly recommended EP and the accompanying 'zine from **The Marrs Bar** on September 14th when the band tread the boards as part of the **Slap** night at **Worcester Music Festival**.

Will Munn



GREEN HOP BEER FESTIVAL

AT THE TALBOT, KNIGHTWICK

FRIDAY 4th OCTOBER - OPEN ALL DAY
SATURDAY 5th OCTOBER - OPEN ALL DAY
SUNDAY 6th OCTOBER - 11am - 6pm

LIVE MUSIC

Friday evening – Voodoo Blue

Saturday evening – The Starving Rascals

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Daddy's Girl | SpitFire

"Daddy's Girl" by Gloucestershire based **SpitFire**, wastes no time whatsoever with grabbing your attention. A loud smash on the guitar leads immediately into a whining intro, almost like a siren, warning you that this is going to be dangerously good. The first verse also kicks in quickly, and as the title suggests, the song is about getting close to a girl with an overprotective Daddy. The anthemic chorus is easy to sing along to, and takes me back to old skool 80s rock bands such as Bon Jovi and Whitesnake. These bands had the ability to mix edgy and punchy music with audible and rich vocals, whilst still delivering songs to sing along to with your mates. **SpitFire** achieved this.



The midsection of the tune slows down the tempo, becoming a whisper amongst the rest of the track, which is packed full of energetic guitars and drums. Overall, an upbeat tune, which after a few listens will have you singing along. The repetition of the chorus and general theme of the song makes it slip into your head with ease, and leave you humming along, long after finishes. I love a song that can hook you from the first play through, and this is one of those songs. It's good old fashioned rock, easy on the ear, will get your foot tapping along, and one to raise a pint glass to if heard on a night out. Well worth a listen if you want an uncomplicated, sing along kind of track.

Kate Ford

Inkubus Sukkubus Lilith Rising

Following on from the recently completed *Tales Of Witchcraft & Wonder* trilogy (with the release of *Sabrina: Goddess Of The Severn* last year), Gloucestershire based pagan rock band, **Inkubus Sukkubus** celebrate their thirtieth year as a band with the release of their twenty fifth album to date, *Lilith Rising*.

The title track opens proceedings with an ominous mix of synth and strings (**Tony McKormack** and **Nick Gibbs** respectively) before a barrage of marching drums, **Roland Link's** thumping bass and Tony's six string lurch into view, driving the track before **Candia**, vocals, unveils a bewitching, icy lead as the mother of all vampires offers 'the sweetest kiss of pain'.

Wise Woman follows and immediately showcases the acoustic flipside to the band's coin based around a simplistic yet affecting strummed mantra as a brooding Candia purrs and self harmonises and the band deliver a beguiling, folky number that draws the listener further into the album's enchanting web.

As the album continues, so does the diversity: *On The Blood Red Sea* chills to the bone with its church chimes and haunting vocals and *Back To The Wild Woods* is a beautiful stripped back, six minute folk number with intricate guitar, subtle bass and a gorgeous refrained vocal beckoning the listener back to mother earth. *Amongst The Stone Angels* features a tapped cymbal introduction coupled with Celtic tinged fiddle before Tony's guitar gatecrashes proceedings, wailing triumphantly as Gibbs' fiddle rises and falls, framing a lustful vocal.

And then there's the near eight minute *Ruardean Bears*, a track that could have sat comfortably on the *Tales Of Witchcraft* compendium, that tells the tale of four Frenchmen and their dancing bears spreading joy through Gloucestershire until the

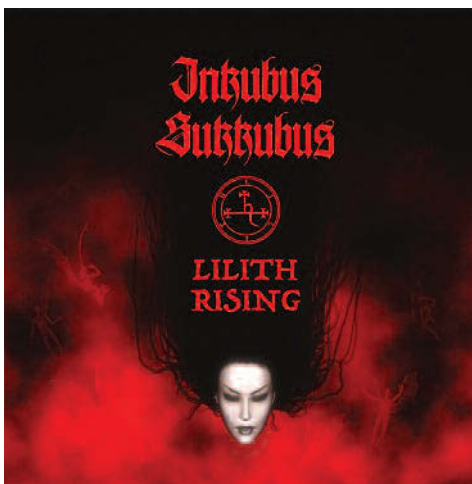
townsfolk of Cinderford claimed the bears had attacked and killed a child and took their revenge (despite it being proved later the bears were not responsible and a number of colliers and labourers from Cinderford appearing in front of magistrates for the crime). The track sees Inkubus at their best, soundtracking the story by

blending acoustic guitar, marching drums and exploitative fiddle with another captivating Candia performance that had me scrambling to discover the origins of *The Ruardean Bears*.

Few bands manage to stay together for such a long duration and those that do generally suffer with diminishing returns. **Inkubus Sukkubus** not only buck that trend but write their own rules, consistently delivering thought-provoking, bewitching tomes from the darkside and *Lilith Rising* is up there with the band's best. Give in to the vampires kiss - you won't be disappointed.

Will Munn

www.inkubussukkubus.com



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Jonathan Markwood's Hoo-Hah Conspiracy-Psychoacusic

Shropshire based artist **Jonathan Markwood** may not be a name that instantly comes to mind but you may have seen him gracing your TV screen without realising in the likes of Coronation Street, Eastenders and Fresh Meat. It is a combination of Markwood's acting work and love of music that gave him the idea for his successful London based theatre show, **The Hoo-Hah Conspiracy Secret Caberet**, which he then decided to introduce to audiences around the country.

Markwood's quirky character based songs soon found favour with BBC Introducing who have featured his music on a number of occasions and festival appearances (Funk In The Forest, Warton Music Festival, Audlem Festival, etc) have followed as well as success overseas with Jonathan becoming a multi award winner at the JPF World Music Awards over in the US.

Psychoacusic is Markwood's fourth album to date has already become something of a staple on Shropshire's BBC Introducing program and for good reason. The ten track affair is as diverse as it is infectious with nods towards Bowie, Gabriel and Squeeze giving it a quintessentially English feel, but the intriguing lyrical nature and the quirky twists give Markwood a sound very much his own.

A six and half minute opening number would normally be something of a brave move but Markwood's *The President* intrigues from the off, introduced by an enticing piano melody and military like drum rolls, the track soon spins in a new direction when Jonathan's melodic croon and (Talking Heads like) funk-

licked guitar join the mix as Markwood takes a wry look at the Tango Kid running the country across the pond. Tongue-in-cheek lyrics, a delightful side step into Bowie territory and a dramatic orchestral crescendo make for an inspired opening salvo, urging the listener on.

The unfortunate tale of *Holographic After-Life* follows and is every bit as alluring as the opener, as Markwood regales the story of a wannabe rockstar, rejection and derision over one of those oddly familiar indie pop melodies that'll rattle round your head and burrow deep, demanding to be fed with another spin.

By the time the subtle piano based introduction of *Clare* morphs into another slab of indie pop perfection, you don't know whether to whack up the volume on your headphones and soak up Markwood's compelling stories, or pull them out and dance round the living room like a loon. Either way you'll still find yourself involuntarily humming the refrain of 'I don't want, want to know you, want to know you in another life'.

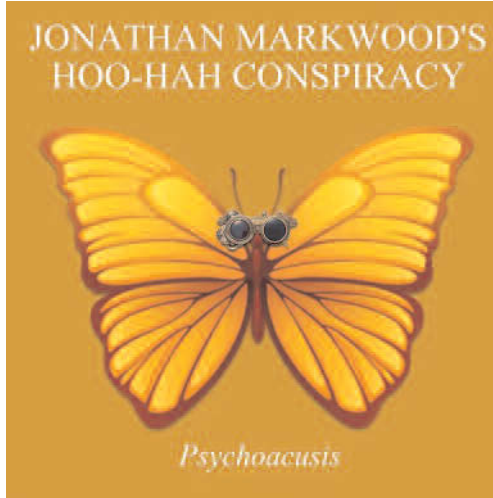
As the album continues, Markwood and his cohorts continue to introduce us to a number of compelling characters: one minute we're inhabiting the kind of 'neighbourhood' that Liverpoolian's Space dwell in, to

meet *Nicky Narcissus*, the next we're searching for *Motorbike Mona* over a delicious elastic funk bass. Finally we meet *Marlana Maid Of Plastic* for a suitably off the wall, indie-pop, love song (of sorts), as Markwood closes *Psychoacusic* with his tongue firmly in his cheek, his (lyrical) pen sharpened and an insatiable hook.

Jonathan Markwood can add maverick story teller and madcap genius to an already impressive resume. A delight from start to finish.

Will Munn

www.jonathanmarkwoodshoohahconspiracy.com



Learn to Lie | Feel

Originating from the Midlands it is easy to see how **Learn to Lie** have been influenced by the rock heritage that is so much a part of the locale. Think of the bands that reflected the presses, the furnaces, the factories and the sheer industrial volume of the area – the Sabbaths, the Priests and the Zeppelins – this gene pool is bound to keep producing rock bands that are steeped in the post - industrial noise of West Midlands.

And yet **Learn to Lie** have chosen to fashion their own five minute rock opera on an anvil of differing influences. The chosen guitar notes are subtler; the power chords are selectively chosen; the rhythm section is a little more persuasive and the vocal delivery is accordingly more measured...at times the voice is delivered in an almost conversational style. Alt-rock at its intriguing best.

As we know breaking-up with someone is awkward and difficult and the track *Feel* explores this theme with a cold and forensic scalpel. When the singer heightens the emotion with the silver bullet of a phrase – “there is somebody else” – the voice is raised perceptively to capture that moment when you hear those words,

those words that clang like a ball-hammer hitting an anvil, acknowledging that the relationship, your relationship is over. You can't help but feel for the central character, knowing that it is over...

For their willing audience, it is obvious that it is just starting for **Learn to Lie**, one has the notion that the irons are in the fire and the creativity is coruscating and that any one of the staves of pig-iron is being forged, teased and scrolled into the next rock object d' art for the rock purists to savour and celebrate.

The ghost of Lester Bangs



Gloucester Blues

Before going any further I'd like to take a moment to reflect on the life of **Damon T**, a New Yorker who settled in Gloucester many years ago. As a gifted musician, writer and performer, **Damon T** brought with him **Delta Blues** and **Slave Gang**, as well as his big heart and bigger personality. After having to cancel appearances at both Upton and Gloucester Blues, this local legend eventually lost the long battle with his health. He will be greatly missed by the many people fortunate enough to have spent time in his company.

Wed. 31st July, and an invitation to the vaulted, barrel-infested **Café Rene** to catch **Keith Thompson** follow up on a delve into his new release, *Transcendence*. But first, a small window of time allows me to drop in on **Steve Ferbrache** (Achievers)'s solo acoustic slot at **The New Inn**. Settling in with acoustic guitar and bare-bone set, he eases through a few traditional blues standards; a little John Martin and "May You Never", before settling into a set of stripped back Achievers tracks, including a spicy "Careful Sabrina", delivered with impeccable "quality". The set proves a nice warm up for **The Achievers'** weekend gig.

Drifting on down to **Café Rene** I find Keith setting up; there's just enough space for drums, amps, speakers and trio about to perform. Still, beer comes first, and an extensive offering awaits. "What You Doin' To Me" fills the room with a warm, blues funk, and cash registers ring with "Money" from the dark side of the bar.

Keith delves back into his 25+ years on the road, rolling back the clock and "Preaching The Blues". His guitar performs a call to prayer and cymbals ring in the opening bars of a gorgeous, chilled out "Little Wing", sending Keith and his Strat soaring up above the crowd, into the admittedly limited headroom of the bar. Thompson reaches deep into his pocket, plucking out his "Watch & Chain", a blues skiffle lifted straight from *Transcendence*. I couldn't stay for the whole set, but was glued to my spot for a superb Mayall, "All Your Love", before heading for the M5.

Friday 2nd August. **Wille And The Bandits** – **Café Rene Stage**.

After such an intoxicating set at Upton Blues Festival, the opportunity to see them down the road in Gloucester is too tempting to miss. Hitting the green outside Café Rene, anticipation hangs in the air while the trio set up and the crowd begin to swell.

Opening with "Victim Of The Night", the six strings of **Matt Brooks'** bass and captivating stick work of **Andy Nauman** lock into a tight groove, enticing the casual listener in. **Wille Edwards** adds layers of guitar, revealing gravelly tones as the band hit their stride. Hovering somewhere on the far outskirts of blues, the band blend up latin and world rhythms with folk and rock; an infectious sound that shakes the audience to their feet. Beaten out percussion, exploitative bass and Wille's mesmerising slide fuel the stunning "Keep It In The Down Low", before a haunting cello introduces "4 Million Days", a song that sees Edwards effortlessly move from acoustic to slide for a Floyd-inspired solo.

Few bands can hold your attention like **'The Bandits**, a point proven with an extended version of "Angel", a dizzying instrumental that glides, sweeps and soars. The band move



through gears and genres, holding the audience rapt as the three musicians twist and turn each track in a new direction.

Following some rather fine sounding "Bad News", the band are summoned back to the stage for "one more", and duly send the audience into the night, with the anthemic vocal hook of "1970" for company, and drawing the curtain on another sensational set by **Wille And The Bandits**.

Saturday evening brings about a return for the enigma that is **Vincent Flatts Final Drive**, fronted by the charismatic **Steve 'Bertie' Burton**, who's polished up the chrome work, with **Gary Harper** on highly tuned engine, **Russ Cook** on baritone exhaust, and **Rich Shelton** pumping in Nitro from the pillion seat. The full on **Achievers Band** are up next, riding the exhaust gas with their breathtaking R&B.

From the off, **'Bertie'**, Jack Daniels in hand, gees the audience, encouraging them to their feet, as Harper cranks the six string and the rhythm thunders in; this is a high-octane dose of blues boogie. By the second number the band have ignited. Harper peels off searing solos whilst simultaneously batting for the world gurning championship. Cook is bouncing on the spot as he pounds at his bass, whilst Shelton builds foundations at the back with a barrage of beats. But it's Burton who demands our attention, as he hollers out Coco Montoya's "Back In The Cadillac", owning the stage with his larger than life personality. 'Bertie' may be "Too Drunk To Drive Drunk", but he's "Road Tested", and in imperious form as the band deliver a glorious rendition of Chris Stapleton's "Tennessee Whisky", before cracking one last funk-ridden "Boogie Whip" that leaves those at the front baying for more.

The Achievers are fast becoming one of my favourite bands on the festival circuit, after being won over at Upton two weeks earlier. I find myself front and centre, soaking up the group's upbeat groove, four-part harmonies and contagious vocal hooks. "Mercy Mercy!" The full fat version of the band deliver addictive slabs of R&B peppered by the harmonica of **Rufus Fry**. **Steve Ferbrache** leads the band through an inspired rendition of traditional ear-worm, "Cuckoo", followed by the gravelly soul of "Little Girl". Fry takes centre stage for a tilt at "Long Gone Lost John", for a bellowing, frenzied harmonica solo, as the rest of The Achievers pour in their winning harmonies, marching rhythms and compelling melodies.

Having showcased the majority of their new album *The Lost Arc*, The Achievers round things off with one final dance number, "See Me Back Jesus", which leaves the song's irresistible refrain firmly lodged in my subconscious for the journey home.

G&W Munn



The Dusk Brothers @ The Cross Keys

Picture the scene from an old western, where the air of mystery is the cowboy boots under the bat wing doors and the Stetson hiding the expression of the face. Well this wasn't Carson City, it was the **The Cross Keys** in Gloucester and at the first stroke of 9, ting went the bell, a chant from **The Dusk Brothers** and like the gun fight at the O. K. Corral, they fired up their instruments and blasted out their first track, which brought the audience into what I can only describe as a frenzied awe!

The Dusk Brothers are Bristol based **Graeme and Iain (E) Moncrieff** and they have been performing, what they call, 'dark swamp blues' since 2015. Their instruments are all built by themselves, from the guitars that look like a mini suit cases, to the stomp-boxes and foot operated cymbals. It would seem anything goes, to make their unique sound, including old pots and pans. Perhaps they can put my mother's washboard into action! Add this together with Graeme's harmonica; I can only describe their sound as absolute brilliance.

Considering their variety of instruments, I was eager to hear how their set list would alter in style, and they didn't disappoint. There were the slightly slower tracks, such as 'Ladies Man' and 'Rum River' to the more powerful "get up on the table" tracks, as their gravelly voices bellowed out 'Hold On' and 'Damage Done'. Oh and I personally think that the track 'I go it alone' should be the introduction to a moody TV detective drama series.

These guys were so synchronised and their attention to detail make an incredibly unique and distinctive sound that had everyone foot tapping and swaying. This year they have released their EP, 'Storms, Rum, Liars & Guns' and I can't wait for the album. **The Dusk Brothers** are now escalating quickly onto the blues scene and performing at numerous festivals such as Buckle and Boots and Boxstock. I think they have noted a quote from John Wayne "A goal, a love and a dream gives you total control over



your body and your life". **The Dusk Brothers** are so talented and give 100% in what they do. They deserve to make their dreams become reality.

Megan White

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Hard Stairs The Swan, Cheltenham | 25th Aug

My only previous experiences with hard stairs has been rather painful, but this form of Hard Stairs is a 2 piece 'garage blues' band, with Dan on gritty vocals and guitar, and Martin, who tries his damndest to tear holes in the drum skins.

If you like blues as raw as gravel rash, then this is the band to see. Ok, it was home turf, but the enthusiastic support included bare footed dancing in the street as well as many curious passers bye who diverted into The Swan. I came to be there from a chance discovery of a hand crafted CD found buried in my workstation seemingly for a year. About to throw it out, I thought have a listen first. Suffice to say, its been in my car on constant loop since. A bit of searching and googling, exchange emails and here I was.

On the first smack of the drum and chord of the guitar, I knew it was worth the journey. Then Dan opens his mouth, spitting out that gravel, stretching up heaving his hollow bodied electric, a concrete mixer pouring out its coarsest mix, strong enough to support a rattling 'Train Arrive', and this was just the sound check. We're all aboard so may as well as carry on. What followed was a 45min roller-coaster ride with the wheels lifting off the track, hang tight and enjoy the ride. Martin sets up the familiar rap lifted from The Sopranos soundtrack, yeah well I already woke up this morning, but the lyrics have been rewritten, and 'Bella', is the beneficiary, maybe she works in Tony's club? Ch Ch Ch, 'Chicken Hearted Woman' seeps out a lovely blues riff, with Dan showing he can make that guitar cry a little as Martin sweeps those skins, blood is being spilt on these bare boards.



Out comes the slide for a taste of the Delta. Swampy rhythm is set up, we're being taken back to 'The City', and its a dark world full of corruption, dealers and sharks. I think I'll stick with the Swan, luckily Cheltenham has yet to attained city status. The song cranks up, the dancing is wild, as the sunlight streams through the door into the shaded room.

This session was sadly all too short, good food, good beer and good music. **Hard Stairs** turned to the slow burning passionate, 'Tell Me You Love Me' with Martin in the zone, Dan is upon his toes, wringing out the tears from his Epiphone and breathing the scorching lyrics into his mic.

If all that sounds sort of interest, then I urge you to find **Hard Stairs** on Bandcamp, listen ad support them, sort of Black keys on acid, simple blues with bite.

Graham Munn

SLAP SEPTEMBER 25

Lakefest 2019

Friday afternoon and the weather impeded our way to Eastnor on the side of the Malvern Hills to attend **Lakefest 2019**. Parking up and donning our nautical grade weatherproofs, we made our way to the venue in almost horizontal rainfall. Making our way through security, we found refuge from this watery onslaught in the first venue we came upon, which happened to be the BBC Introducing venue. After joining a considerable throng to get a well deserved pint at the bar, we decided that for the duration of this storm it was probably best to stay in this shelter despite it now becoming very humid within.

Seeing some old familiar faces there, we decided to remain in the BBC venue for a while being entertained by **Sapphire Blue**



and then the familiar faces of local folk band Journeyman. The rain had ceased for a while as **The Bluetones** played their well honed set which we watched on the big screen outside the main stage. This looked a better option than joining the melee inside the main tent.

By the time headliners **Kaiser Chiefs** came on stage the rain had returned, driving several thousand people into the massive but packed out tent where navigation was hampered by several hundred people insisting they remain in their camping chairs despite people falling all over them. This situation wasn't made any better by those who had bought camping trolleys into the arena. These were a major hazard for anyone trying to move around inside. However this did not overshadow the reception of the "Kaiser Chiefs" who ended the day with all their familiar numbers and a few from their new album in a high energy display of showmanship and musicianship. Absolutely terrific.

Although Saturday provided us with a slight improvement in the weather, we spent a great deal of time ducking in and out of venues in an effort to avoid the numerous showers. Taking shelter once again in the BBC marquee, we were entertained by one of the best bands we saw all weekend in the shape of **Shop Front Heroes** who gave us an eclectic mix of original numbers. The multi-talented front man played keyboards and guitar; sometimes



at the same time. The genre of music was difficult to categorize but it was good original music and a power outage did not put them off as they simply went acoustic. Great entertainment and I will definitely seek them out again. We then trotted over to the Globe to see what **Kate Lomas** was all about. She is starting to make a name for herself and after watching this pop set you can see why. A great live act and definitely one to watch.

Despite a forecast of a break in the weather on Sunday, we were greeted again by downfall after downfall. The field was by this time turning into a bog of Glastonbury proportions. The management did what they could with quantities of hay being distributed around the field but with the watery onslaught, they were always fighting a losing battle. Inside the main tent, the ground was now ankle deep mud so we again sat outside to watch the main stage on the big screen. **Los Pacamenos** treated us to a great set with their brand of country music. The last time I saw their singer Paul Young was at Live Aid and I would never have recognized him. He hasn't lost that stage craft and can still hold an audience.

The Roving Crows also did a great set. I've seen the Crows many times in the last ten years or so but front man **Paul O'Neil** who had been introducing the bands all weekend really excels on a big stage with his interesting interpretations of well known songs and a few of his own. This was by far the best gig I've personally seen the them play

Sophie Ellis-Bextor has been making music for almost 20 years. While familiar with most of her catchy tunes, I've personally never taken a great deal of notice of her before today. She really delivered a great set doing all her familiar songs, some from her new album due out soon and she rounded off the set with the predictable *Murder on the Dance Floor*. Having seen her live for the first time, I would gladly pay to see her again. Brilliant!

By the time **James** arrived on stage, some of the crowd were now wallowing and sliding around in a mud bath just outside the main stage entrance. We were becoming aware of a number of vehicles that were struggling to get away from the venue by getting bogged down. Realizing that this situation was only going to get worse, we thought it might be a good time to make our escape. Thankfully we were situated close to a tarmac track and with our car now covered in mud but as we made our way out we could see that some people were going to be there for some time to come.



All in all and despite the weather doing it's best to spoil the weekend Lakefest 2019 was a great success.

Words: Robert Ellis Photography: Sapphire Blue & James by Dass Green; Kate Lomas & Los Pacamenos by Roy Jenks

The Strays, Social Ignition Worcester Show 2019

We may not have had the expected August heat wave but when it comes to live music, this month has been hot. Starting with Gloucester Blues, despite the rain, Eastnor Castle and Upton rocked to the sounds of Lakefest and Drunken Monkey respectively and there have been plenty more gigs and festivals for music lovers to get their fill. However, when it comes to family entertainment, few could match the **Worcester Show** at **Gheluvelt Park**.

With gymnastic displays, zorbs, climbing walls, bumper cars and pony rides on offer for the younger generation and topical talks, a beer tent and live music for the adults, this free show had something for everyone and the numbers in the park paid testimony to the variety, despite the threat of showers.



Photography: by Graham Munn

A rare Sunday off work with the family was reason enough to head down to Barbourne to sample some of the show's delights, a spin round the sight and a few activities for the boy before we settled in front of the main stage for **The Strays**. But of course 'settled' isn't the right word for a Strays set because as soon as the band open with *Scratch My Back*, the feet start tapping as the itch to start moving begins to take over and the rock 'n' roll riffs of **Sam Cordery** take hold.

By the time *Estelle* leads the band through a roughed-up take of *Tainted Love* (think Imelda May more than Marc Almond), pockets of the park have given in to temptation and are back on their feet while the band strut through a delicious take on The Cure's *Love Cats*.

Strays originals such as the bluesy *Get Out Of This Town* with its robust bass solo and the swaggering *Twelve Bar Booze* (both taken from their recently released debut album, *Drop Out Zone*) proved the band's chops and showed just why their reputation seems to be growing (rightfully so) on a daily basis, before leaving those assembled with a collective grin as they rounded their set with a rock 'n' roll rush through *Right For Your Right*.

From high octane rockabilly to ska, Hinckley based 8-piece **Social Ignition** took over the reins and continued the party atmosphere with a blast of brass, a choppy guitar and those all important elastic rhythms. Led by hyperactive frontman **Wayne Hibbins**, the band initially grabbed our attention with the effervescent horns of *Don't Hold Back* before mixing up an addictive, skank inducing sound with socially conscious lyrics on the likes of *Together We Unite* and *Victim*. With a hint of a punk crunch and the aforementioned heavy horns, the band hammered



Photography: by Andy Burton

their message home while encouraging the brave to their feet, caught up in the band's undeniable groove. The band, having made new friends on their Worcester debut, wrapped up proceedings with a full bodied *Highs And Lows* to an appreciative audience that I'm sure would welcome the band with open arms the next time they land in these parts.

Having been impressed with our two band blast at the Worcester Show (and the commendable mentions of **The VHT's**, **Humdrum Express** and **The Rocker Covers** by a number of friends and attendees) and the various family activities on offer, I'll be sure to keep an eye open for next year's event and I recommend you do the same!

Will Munn



Old Bush Blues

Friday brought cool, wet conditions but it did not deter the campers and visitors for this sell out year. Notably, **Jules Fothergill** of **Northsyde**, was remembered and celebrated, his distinctive silhouette on the program, T-shirts and poster sized pictures over the field bar. As certain as Lorna has lost her soul partner, host **Matt Williams** has lost a loved member of his extended 'family'.



Jules Fothergill

Two stages and the bar delivered the entertainment. In the garden, a bar with ales and ciders supplemented the pub bar and a barbecue kitchen was set up to feed the stomach with home cooked fare, including the growing numbers of vegans and veggies.

Friday brought **The Blues Duo**, **The Delray Rockets**, **The Achievers**, **Dove** and **Boweevil**, **Vincent Flatts Final Drive** and **Tom C Walker**. I arrived to catch the Rockets whipping up the crowd and getting feet moving early in the day with their usual feast of raucous rockabilly. Ten minutes later, **The Achievers'** first appearance was proving popular with their



The Delray Rockets



The Achievers

'dancefloor gospel'. Plenty of 'Good News' about the saucy 'Sabrina' and her 'Qualities'. **Dove and Bo** brought soulful Alabama blues roots and Americana.



Dove and Bo

Sugar Mama electrified the car park with their energy charged rock blitz before we all settled in the garden for the peaceful roar of **Vincent Flatts Final Drive** with **Gary Harper** wringing every



Vincent Flatts Final Drive

drop of fuel from his axe as bassist **Russ** faced up as foil to the 'old man' **Bertie** with his wee bottle of JD to hand but never 'Too Drunk To Be Drunk'. The gang enthusiastically cut a groove in the lawn as they crowded in for the throbbing pulse of VFFD at their best (and all the girls love the drummer, Rich, so best mention him sticking it to them).



Tom C Walker

After a deep breath, **Tom C Walker** headlined. Today his line-up includes guitarist **Jack Cooper**, drummer **Jack Bowles** and bassist **George Foley**. The music is 'Garage Funk', which seems a fair description; get that funk in your face, splashing the 'Juice', tasting a soulful 'Sweet Surrender' and a gorgeous, 'Sweet Angel'. If all that wasn't enough, in the dark recesses of the bar, acoustic solo sets were locked in by a sea of faces over the whole weekend, from the 'Godfather' of blues, **Perry Foster**, right the way through to the raw, ripping kick-ass blues of **Tone Tanner**.

Saturday, and **Robert J Hunter** was up and at it with foot stomping blues rock - "miss them at your peril." -Blues in Britain, well I did! However, I didn't miss **Backwater Roll** I'm pleased to say, with **Miff Smith** on harp and vocals alongside the **Matthias** brothers on guitars, an impressive **Barry Pethers** on bass and **Stevie** and **Alan** on keys and drums. Only 1.30 and they drew the



Zoe Schwarz

crowd in, getting legs moving and hips swaying, working up an appetite for the tasty offers in the barbecue kitchen. **Zoe Schwarz** and her **Blues Commotion** took over; her powerful vocals delivering rocking blues as easily as gut wrenching soul. 'Shout', let it out, 'The Blues And I Should Have A Party' and indeed, that's exactly what we all intended to do.

Will Wilde, clobbered back in late June as he rode his motorbike, was here and ready for a reed bending performance on harp. A double spinal fracture and fracture to his neck and wrist kept him sat stiffly with a neck brace in place but incredibly, Will blasted his way through the set which included his stupendous take on 'The Wizard' that was true spellbinding magic. The Wilde man of harmonica was back 'On The Road Again', a fitting encore given his recent memorable trip down the highway. Get well soon Will.



Will Wilde

Now far be it for me to question the wisdom of one superb harpist being followed by another, but... damn me if it didn't work out fine! **Steve West Weston** brings an entirely different style that's steeped in the era of 60s R&B and he filled the garden with dancing legs and swaying hips. In a weekend awash with harmonica players, Steve was the only one to add a full chromatic to the more usual diatonic selection, offering a whole different dynamic to the sound. This is one cool cat, bringing a jazz swing to the blues.



Steve West Weston

Sunday, and the weather has picked up. Local favourite and superb vocalist **Paul Bridgewater** with his **Electric Blues Rebellion** basked in the garden, **Lucy Zirins**, was 'Changing Ground' to 'Wade In The Water' of the car park stage, but the highlights for me were **The Paddy Maguire Band**, and **For Fothers Sake**. **Paddy**, fronted by the phenomenal, **Jenna** on vocals, are absolute dynamite. It's not very often you see a bassist with an array of 4 guitars but that's exactly what the thunderous **Jamie Mallender** does as they slide seamlessly into 'Voodoo Child', with Jenna leading some audience participation to close with.



Jules Benjamin

For Fothers Sake turn out to be a conglomerate of musicians, stepping in with **Haden** on drums and **Dobby** on Bass (the rhythm boys from Northsyde), all in memory of **Jules Fothergill** (Fothers). Host **Jules Benjamin** acted as lynchpin to bring extra weight via keys and guitar. **Lucy Zirins**, **Robert Hokum**, **Matt Long** of **Catfish** and **Paddy Maguire** all took their turn while **Wayne Martin** added some fabulous slide. **Lorna Fothergill** stepped up to share her thoughts with the gathered fans before announcing that **Northsyde** would go forward, as Jules would have wanted. Mentored by Jules himself, 15 years old, and unbelievably talented, **Marcus Praestgaard Stevens** would take on the roll. Characteristically frenetic **Sugar Mama** front man **Sam Anderson** took over to 'Shake His Money Maker' and had Haden and Dobby scratching their heads but they kept it all together brilliantly.



Closing the evening, two more bands were to follow. Local favourites **Stone Mountain Sinners**, who are making waves in the country side of Americana, and **Catfish**, with **Matt Long**. I cannot add more than to say it had been a stupendous weekend. **Matt Williams** and his crew had presented the high quality festival we have all come to recognise at **The Old Bush** in Callow End. However, this year was different without Northsyde headlining but the spirit of **Jules Fothergill** was ever present and will remain that way into the future.

Graham munn



Stone Mountain Sinners

Preview

Son Of John & John Parker The Marris Bar, Worcester | 22nd Sept

After a little antipodean hiatus **Son Of John (Jacob Johnson)** is back performing with renowned double bassist **John Parker**. Last year the duo released their debut E.P "Live at Fieldgate Studio".



On the 22nd September the pair will be back performing at the Marris Bar for the first time in well over a year, bringing with them support from melancholy troubadour **Burning Salt** & local alt-folk duo **Fracture Zone**.

The duo takes Jacob's own material as well as traditional songs from both sides of the Atlantic, to create intimate yet vibrant gigs. With the mix of Jacob's "husky drawl...and.. effortless picking" (Fatea) mixed with John's ability "teasing the most amazing sounds, bowing, plucking, sawing and downright thrashing to remarkable effect" out of his instrument, the duo wander from old timey foot stompers to slower more ambient songwriter ballads.

Burning Salt is a collaborative music project headed by **Hannah Hull**, singer-songwriter and artist. Hull is known for her startlingly honest songs and distinctive low-register voice.

Burning Salt is an independent project releasing on Hull's own label, Lullaby Records.

Fracture Zone is the wayward project of Worcestershire-based singer-songwriter **Tony Gillam**. Tony sings and plays acoustic guitar and mountain dulcimer, performing his original songs and instrumentals accompanied by Bewdley-based, cajon-battering harmonicaist **Phil Richards**.

Remi Harris The Fold, Bransford | Friday 6th Sept

Internationally renowned guitarist **Remi Harris** appears at **The Cart House** at **The Fold** in Bransford as part of his 2019 tour. He has travelled to more than 30 theatres and music venues in England, Wales, and Scotland already this year, including a festival in the South of France, and is due to play in Ireland in October.

With a variety of electric and acoustic guitars and a ukulele, Remi has performed with a double bassist up and down the country from Hereford and Worcester, to Guildford, Ullapool, and Yorkshire, to Exeter and Penzance.

Remi's music has reached new audiences and he continues to gain recognition for his virtuoso talent, with the recent honour of his 1st signature model from Fylde guitars. Roger Bucknall, a well respected guitar luthier in the Lake District has handmade a 'Remi Harris' model guitar, inspiring budding guitarists to recreate the unique Remi Harris sound. This further cements Remi's reputation as a leading guitarist in his field.

Remi, 30, who was born in Hereford, says "I've really enjoyed the tour so far. It's great to be playing in our favourite venues and visiting new places, we're so grateful for the audiences who come out and see us year on year".

From the day Remi was born his mother of French origin chose the name Remi, inspired by the musical scale DO-RE-MI. His first album is called 'Ninick' in memory of his mother. Predominantly self taught with the help of his Dad's guitar magazines and records, Remi started playing at the age of 7, initially inspired by rock and blues guitarists of the 60s and 70s such as Jimi Hendrix, Peter Green and Jimmy Page. In his late teens he developed an interest in jazz music, in particular artists such as Django Reinhardt, Wes Montgomery and Stan Getz. Since then he has an increasing following on YouTube and social media around the world and a growing reputation for blending all of his influences into his own individual style of playing.

Concert goers will be treated to a spectacular night of virtuoso guitar playing - with influences from Jazz, Blues, Rock'n'Roll, Funk and World Music. Musically the show is a reflection of Remi's



artistic influences - with repertoire ranging from Django Reinhardt to Jimi Hendrix and all things in between, including The Beatles, Peter Green and new compositions from his anticipated third album. For further information please call manager: Dani Harris on

www.yarbirdarts.com | www.remiharris.com

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Miranda Sykes

Artrix, Bromsgrove | Friday 6 Sept

Miranda Sykes, the acclaimed singer and bassist with 'Show of Hands' is returning to her roots. 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 is touring as she started out: one woman, one bass, and one guitar.

Coming to **Artrix** for one night only on Friday 6 Sept, **Miranda Sykes** is back with a completely new project: *Behind The Wall*.

Building on the success of her **Borrowed Places** tour, *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 & societies & where will our actions lead us? Powerful and hard-hitting but also poignant & beautiful, this show gives us all a chance to reflect & maybe even empower us.



Tickets for **Miranda Sykes** at Artrix are £14 in advance or £16 in the door. For tickets or further information visit www.artrix.co.uk or call Box Office on 01527 577330.

Acoustic Vaudeville

The Nest, Ledbury | Friday 20 Sept

Acoustic Vaudeville comes to the beautiful 100 seater yurt at The Nest, Ledbury with top piano-led, close-harmony singer songwriting trio **Mumbo-Jumbo**.

Playing regularly across the country at festivals, blues and folk clubs and village hall shows, eclectic double British Blues Awards nominees **Mumbo-Jumbo** not only create excellent, interesting songs with three lead voices, but also a whole utilise a whole flock of instruments including piano, accordion, bass, trumpet, ukulele, guitar, washboard, kazoo and percussion.

"Having run the nest of Voices series of a capella gigs in the yurt in May I know how lovely the ambience and sound is so we are really looking forward to performing there," said **Oliver Carpenter** of Mumbo-Jumbo.



The Nest is also well known for its delicious food so we are offering pre-concert dining too from 7pm.

For more information including videos and tracks check out www.mumbo-jumbo.biz For tickets and to reserve food visit www.nestofvoices.co.uk or pop into The Nest.

Weirdshire Presents

C Joynes and Bell Lungs

Babar Cafe, Hereford | October 3rd

Taking us into double figures for the Weirdshire nights in 2019 and we don't stop. This one looks an absolute scorcher.

C Joynes, from Cambridge is a massively respected and prolific underground musician. A solo guitarist with an insatiable appetite for collaboration. He works in a direct lineage from **Davy Graham**, taking in Malian stylings and Texas Blues along the way. As much at home on acoustic and electric guitar he weaves a path through folk songs of the British Isles, minimalist classical music, and improvisation. He carries his outstanding technique beautifully lightly.

This year's album "*The Borametz Tree*" – a collaboration with the amazing **Dead Rat Orchestra** is receiving plaudits from **Mojo**, **The Wire**, **Dusted**, **The Quietus**, **BBC Radio's Late Junction**, **Tom Ravenscroft** and **Gideon Coe**.



Bell Lungs, from Scotland is a solo performer and another multiple collaborator. She uses layered vocal harmonies, electric violin, omnichord, guitar, field recordings and instrumental loops to create a psychedelic, post-folk soundscape that draws on environmental disaster and the microcosmic aspects of relationships. She is an active member of Glasgow Improvisers Orchestra, and has shared bills with legends such as Richard Youngs, Richard Dawson, Diane Cluck and Marshall Allen.

So clearly, not a night to miss. Music from 7.45pm, vinyl selections from Jus Jay and Sproatly Smith. Free entry, donations encouraged.



The Original
ANNIE'S
Burger Shack

Tuesday September 3

Faithful City Shows

PRESS CLUB
WATCH COMMANDER
THE EARNEST SPEARS

Friday September 6

UNCOVER PRESENTS

THE STRAYS
RED HOT RIOT
CHEVY CHASE STOLE MY WIFE

Friday September 13

WMF Day 1

SKEWWHIFF
THE OTHER DRAMAS
LEISURE TANK
LIARS AT THE WITCH TRIAL

Saturday September 14

WMF Day 2: UNCOVER

LEGPUPPY
RAPTOR
WHITE NOISE CINEMA
CANDID
KURABU
PARADE

Sunday September 15

**WMF Day 3: BBC Introducing
in Hereford & Worcester - LIVE sessions:**

THE LIGHTWEIGHTS
HENRY
CABIN MUSIC
RUNRUMMER
THE NEW CONSISTENT

Friday September 20

UNCOVER PRESENTS

London Black - Single launch

Friday September 27

THE PURPLE SHADES
+ SUPPORT

Friday October 4

UNCOVER PRESENTS

VELVET TIDES
+ SUPPORT

Saturday October 12

UNCOVER PRESENTS

GEORGE N THE GIANTS
THE EARNEST SPEARS

Friday October 25

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Hunt Hall/Swan September

Dillie Keane, the Olivier Award-nominated actress, singer & comedian and part of the Fascinating Aida trio, is touring her brand new solo show to a select few venues across the country, including Worcester's Huntingdon Hall on the 14th of September. She will be singing some perfectly wonderful songs by other songwriters, which she recently discovered in New York as well as a raft of her own songs. *"A rare performer who can produce sharp, piercing satire and deliver heart-breaking songs with élan"*, according to Huffington Post.



Ed Byrne performs his latest show, *If I'm Honest...* at the hall on the 19th of September. Following his biggest ever tour last year in which Ed sold out his entire Edinburgh Fringe run and many of his nationwide dates, culminating in extra dates added along the way, one of the finest observational comics in the industry announces his brand-new tour for 2019. Join him as he takes a long hard look at himself and tries to decide if he has ANY traits that are worth passing on to his children.

Premier rock 'n' roll legend **Joe Brown** embarks on his 60th anniversary tour. It was in 1958 that Joe joined his first band at the age of just 17 after which he found himself backing visiting American stars like Gene Vincent, Eddie Cochran and Johnny Cash, and Joe's rockabilly lead guitar can even be heard all over Bill Fury's classic 1960 album *The Sound of Fury*. Joe's career has gone from strength to strength as his contemporary achievements maintain momentum. His *The Very Best Of* album went gold, staying eight weeks in the UK Top 20, and in the same year his 50th anniversary tour celebrated a sold out show at the Royal Albert Hall. Joe has two shows at Swan Theatre 19th and 20th.



Witty Ditties: 400 Years of Comic Song is at The Swan Theatre on the 24th of September. Following on from their acclaimed show *A Brief History of Music*, **GreenMatthews** bring you a new show which explores our rich history of witty wordplay and melodic mirth. **Chris Green** (piano, guitar, accordion) and **Sophie Matthews** (early woodwinds, flute, saxophone) perform four centuries of chromatic comedy, ranging from bawdy Restoration ballads to stinging sixties satire via Victorian music hall variety. Featuring songs by Noël Coward, Tom Lehrer, Flanders and Swann and a host of other lesser known songwriters, this fun and fast-moving revue will have you rolling in the aisles! Following on from their acclaimed show *A Brief History of Music*, GreenMatthews bring you a new show which explores our rich history of witty wordplay and melodic mirth.




What's On?

at The Swan Theatre and Huntingdon Hall

 <p>Dillie Keane – Songs of love and other bad ideas</p> <p>14th September - £21</p>	 <p>Joe Brown – 60th Anniversary Tour</p> <p>19th & 20th September - £30</p>	 <p>THE BEST OF WHAM!</p> <p>21st September - £25</p>
 <p>Witty Ditties: 400 Years of Comic Song</p> <p>24th September - £15</p>	 <p>Oye Santana – Woodstock 50th Anniversary Tour</p> <p>27th September - £18</p>	 <p>THE TEMPEST</p> <p>24-28th September - £18.50</p>



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Female Voices

Ellie Gowers, MeMe Detroit & Chloe Mogg Tower of Song, King's Heath | Sunday 28th July

For a reviewer trying to write about a well established and ongoing series of presentations, the main problem is usually running out of new things to say. With this series of Female Voices presentations, the main problem I'm encountering is running out of superlatives to describe them.

Curated by Stourport singer/songwriter, **Chloe Mogg** this impressive monthly series aims to showcase the talents of a wide variety of women singer/songwriters and it achieves this spectacularly well.

Our endlessly fascinating host is first up tonight.

She's tells us she's not been well and indeed, delivers the set seated, but silver linings being what they are, she's turned disadvantage on its head with a huge burst of creativity, and we're presented with no less than four new songs - each of them an absolute gem.

Her voice is remarkable. The ability she has to raise or lower it by well over an octave, while retaining perfect pitch is a rare gift. I first heard Laura Nyro do this on her album "*New York Tendaberry*" in the late sixties and latterly Jeff Buckley employed this vocal device to great effect on "*Grace*".

Two of the new songs in particular have me spellbound. '*The Dancer*' is a recollection of how her first choice of career was dashed by illness but paradoxically, and to our great good fortune, it was during this time that she first picked up a guitar. The second song, '*Blue*' is a shimmering and intense mood piece with a beautiful and unusual chord structure - can't wait to hear this one again.

Packed with new material, there's little room for old favourites tonight, but when she plays '*Parrot*', her very personal theme tune, you just know it's not only a statement of intent, it's a glorious affirmation of self.



Now, being the minefield it is, I rarely mention fashion in these reviews but according to the seasoned **MeMe Detroit** watchers who comment as soon as my photo hits Facebook, her performing in a frock seems to be akin to The Queen opening Parliament wearing ripped jeans and a Sex Pistols' tee-shirt. Are we in for a demure performance from Birmingham's favourite alt rock heroine? Are we hell...

34 SLAP SEPTEMBER

The power and commitment of this performance transcends the need for amplification, and over the course of the next thirty minutes, we're treated to a tantalising glimpse of the range of this young woman's considerable talent. '*Get Down On With Me*' kicks us off, and I mean '*kicks*'... It sets the tone for the entire performance - there's no concession to it being an acoustic gig - the guitar is hit hard, the solos and fills are intact and she's in full flight right from the off.

The one thing that is slightly different from a full electric performance is that with just her and the guitar onstage, you can really appreciate the considerable nuance in her voice. Aided by the excellent PA system and great acoustics of the venue, she merges and becomes one with the mic, her trademark red eye flash obscured by a curtain of hair. Very intense.

The set list is impressive and satisfyingly includes every single one of my favourites, including the two minute sliver of punk perfection that is '*Run Riot*' - this is the one that I couldn't imagine without amplification, but naturally she aces it. There's a new song, too - so new in fact that it doesn't have a final title yet so she goes with '*I'm Not Over You*' and even in its acoustic form, you can already feel the electricity coursing through it.

The Tower of Song choir pitches in enthusiastically for the closer '*With You (Love Transcends All)*' and brings to an end a set that I suspect no-one who saw it will ever forget.

As Eric Morecambe might have said - "*Follow that...*" And that is precisely what **Ellie Gowers** proceeds to do.

From the first few moments of her stunning opener '*Robin*', the title track of her second EP, sung acapella in a crystal clear voice to a room where you could hear a pin drop, we know we're in for something special.

This is a wonderfully complete performance, full of beautiful melody, varied guitar skills and considerable lyrical bite, notably on the two brand new songs she plays. Firstly '*Liberty*', a song about the futility of war, based on letters she found in her grandmother's attic and displaying the full power of her voice.

Secondly a thought-provoking song about the parlous state of the planet, '*The Sky Is On Fire*' which manages the considerable feat of not only being extremely beautiful to listen to but also containing a subtle but effective weight of message that most songs about the ecology fail to achieve.

She's only just left University (armed with a first class honours degree) but as I mentioned, she's already two excellent EPs to the good and from these, she delivers two outstanding tracks - the forceful '*Wolf*' and the wistfully optimistic '*Better Days*'. I'm going to be playing these a lot and watching her perform live again as soon as I can. A fine end to the evening.

Three artists, three contrasting styles, one absolute guarantee of quality. See you at the next one...

The next Female Voices presentation takes place at Tower of Song, Kings Norton on Sunday 22 September. Doors at 7.30pm, music from 8.00pm.

Geoffrey Head



John Otway

Iron Road, Bar 57, Persore | 15th Aug

The background intro music, like the reason we had gathered together was low key, the Punk anthems of old may have been playing but the volume like our performer had been turned down to an unassuming level. Everything about the night was sedate...almost.

Sedately, arriving from his own audience, **John Otway** took to his stage – once he had decided how to ascend it – like an avuncular Health and Safety Officer delivering a seminar to a passive work force. The Otway of the near past may have been a force of nature but now this “old Grey,” still living off the reputation of that incident, has flowered into a lampoon of himself with the aid of the cult of celebrity, but Otway is so much more than being “famous for being famous” sake. He is every failed musician and comic in the room and there were a few of us. Dear reader, Otway filled our venerable little club for a reason: John Otway is all about the self.



The Self-effacing, approach masks an innate desire to perform and perform he did; from the staccato spoken word version of *Blockbuster* to the “nod your head along” versions of his hits; all the while introduced with self-disregarding comments: “*I have been a pop star for over four decades.*” I have a great sense that Otway is laughing at us as we laugh along with him. Otway is far too self-aware to not know what he is about.

The performance is punctuated by the interactions of his sidekick and the Tommy Cooper-esque (one for the kids there!) night is aided and abetted with visual puns, physical jokes electronic

gadgetry that complemented and detracted with equal worth and failing props that belong to another decade. Otway has been rehearsing his particular brand of spontaneity for a number of years. The performance was greeted with a spontaneous reaction that Otway had sedately worked hard for...the mild faux-explosions, the ripping of shirts and shouting, a mere nod to the past.

Dismiss John Otway's vaudeville act if you will but it is your loss – the DIY incompetence may be why many came to witness the Otway – but ignore the glorious opus, “*Poetry and Jazz*” and you are doing our man and yourself a disservice. The night's humour might jar like experimental Jazz for a modern audience but the lyrical content deserves to be studied like Poetry. Even Les Dawson could play like a classical pianist when required...I know, I know...but perhaps we are all constantly looking backwards?

The Swilgate Scuttler

Gary O'Dea

The Lamb and Flag, Worcester | 28th July

I don't like cricket. Oh no!

I was bought tickets for the 20:20 game down at New Road between Worcester and Durham so me and my boys were gonna make a day of it. The day like the game started at a light pace with a couple in the Old Rec. When we got to the ground the place was full. We decided to stand next to the bar and sunk quite a few whilst watching Worcester limit Durham to 184 in their 20 overs.

There was the usual razzmatazz whenever a 6 was scored. The predictable sounds of The Outthere Brothers with *Boom Boom Boom* or *Tsunami* by DVBBs and Borgeous. When a wicket fell it was *Dry Your Eyes Out* by The Streets and Queen *Another One Bites The Dust*, you get the picture. Music certainly livens up cricket but it was Worcester who livened up the crowd hitting their target in just 12 overs. They smashed it.

The day was in danger of being over too quick so we headed to The Quay and then The Diglis. By now a few were flagging and



arranging lifts home. But there was only one place I was flagging... **The Lamb and Flag** on The Tything. Sunday night is music night and I was ready to dance the night away!

After I assisted with the sound check **Gary O'Dea** took to the stage. I was captivated. A perfect blend of guitar harmonica and that voice. Carefully crafted songs such as *Take the Money* and *Run My Dear*, Be careful what you wish for and Interlude. Kind of Wildwood Weller meeting Van The Man. With his own take on a few covers it was foot tapping stuff and I just had to dance. Sorry Gary. Drunk dancing is not big and it's not clever.

He finished with my all time favourite song, a sing along must, *Down in The Tube Station*. I was flying high. Got a Taxi home. Collapsed.

Hungover, the next morning I had to drive to Ludlow for a job. Reflecting on the night before I wondered whether Gary was as good as I recalled or had the excesses of the day blurred my senses... I had tried to buy a CD at the end of the gig but Gary insisted on giving me one for my dancing exploits. I put it on in the car (yes my cars that old it's got a CD player) and listened to his album *FLY*. Man I was impressed. Perfect music for a beautiful morning. With the Sun shining over the Cleve Hills I listened to it all the way to Ludlow and again all the way back. And then couldn't stop listening to it all week. Get it. You won't be disappointed.

Apparently he's Flagging it again in November. Look out for him.

I Don't like cricket hangovers. Oh no. But Gary O'Dea.... I love it!

Ring Ting

My country music roadhouse

In 1998 I was a mature student on exchange in Boston USA and when living on the campus, with teenage American students, was driving me crazy, I used to get out and about as often as possible, and go listen to great live country music in local dive bars. In the US it seems like every local bar was a music venue and they always had really great live bands playing. You could rely on the fact that there would be someone amazing playing somewhere, pretty much every night of the week. When I got back to the UK I kept thinking, there's nothing much like that here for country music, and the idea for the **Honkytonk** was born. I've been planning it in my head ever since! I've always been a huge country fan and I'm on a mission to help spread the word about the best country, honkytonk, outlaw, southern rock... etc... music from the US, as well as the superb talent we have here in the UK.

Last year I finally bit the bullet and got started. The first Silver Dollar Honkytonk, a pop-up roadhouse, took place in my local village hall in rural Worcestershire last November, featuring the **East Lonesome Drifters**, an authentic honkytonk band from London. It was a brilliant show and I realised that putting on gigs is the most fun way to earn a living! (Why don't they tell you that in Careers lessons at school?)



Photo: Graham Bailey

Ags Connolly and Kate Ellis

So the next one was in my local pub in March, and I scored a big coup by getting the great **Pat Reedy**, from Nashville, to come play for us. Since then I have been in touch with several other outlaw and Ameripolitan country acts and I am in negotiations for next year with **Dallas Moore** (www.dallasmoore.com) from Texas, with **Casey James Prestwood** (www.caseyjamesprestwood.com) from California, and with several other acts who've been on my wish-list for ages.

I've also established links with the **Marr's Bar** and that is now the new home of the **Silver Dollar Honkytonk**. We have firm



dates for four shows there for the next year, so it's really taking off. Our last gig was Saturday 10 August, a double-header featuring internationally-acclaimed **Ags Connolly** (www.agsconnolly.com) and **Kate Ellis** (www.kateellis.com) from Louisiana. It was a really terrific night with some incredible performances. Please check out: silverdollarhonkytonk.co.uk, Facebook: @silverdollarhonkytonk IG: Silver Dollar Honkytonk.

The word is out about the **Honkytonk** and recently we have been approached to host the wonderful **Alice Wallace** who is currently touring in support of her new album *"The Blue"*. We just couldn't risk letting her pass us by, so outside of our regular schedule we are offering a very special bonus gig featuring Alice and her band, on Thursday 3 October, supported by the mighty **Marzy** and the **Marr's Bar House Band**.

So excited!



Alice Wallace

The Silver Dollar Honkytonk

Worcester's Authentic Country Music Roadhouse

"The best live country music from the US & UK"

Thursday 3 October: * **Bonus Gig** * Alice Wallace
plus support from * Marzy and The Marr's Bar House Band *

Friday 22 November: Artists To Be Confirmed...

Tickets and gig information: www.silverdollarhonkytonk.co.uk
Facebook: @silverdollarhonkytonk
Instagram: silverdollarhonkytonk
Email: sarah@silverdollarhonkytonk.co.uk

© The Marr's Bar, 42 Pierpoint St, Worcester WR1 1TA

I have really big plans for the **Honkytonk**. After the next gig, I'm launching a regular **Silver Dollar Honkytonk** podcast and a big online project to seek out and help to link up the many, many country fans that are out there across this country. The Honkytonk is lucky enough to have its permanent home at the Marr's Bar, the great, long-established music venue in Worcester, but because it's also got the ability to be a "pop-up" venture, one day before too long our country music roadhouse will be appearing across the country.

If you love great music – or you know someone who does – please come out and support the incredible artists we are lucky enough to be able to bring to you here in Worcester. Come join the Honkytonk Family!

Sarah Jeffrey

The Cube, Malvern

Cube Shuffle 8th September.

The **CUBE sHuffle** has become an annual event and this year is it's 6th. The idea is that when all the kids go back to school and the festival season is over, we host a **FREE** family community 1 dayfestival to celebrate and raise awareness of all the stuff that goes on at The Cube, including 'What's On' and up and coming events.

Ian Parker and Aynsley Lister (Blues double headliner) **21st September** - Enjoy an evening of full-on-unmissable blues - unique chemistry when these guys share the stage. A songwriter genuinely literate, sometimes almost literary, Ian is an original craftsman. Expressed through a distinctive bitter-sweet vocal delivery, Ian's songs hold nothing back.

When explosive natural ability collides with fiery, emotionally charged compositions, the result is Aynsley Lister; an incredible guitarist whose brand of blues-based rock delivers contemporary song writing fueled with the kind of heart and soul that's missing from so much modern music.

Miranda Sykes and Benji Kirkpatrick (Fold Double Headliner) **22nd September** - Miranda Sykes, the acclaimed singer and bassist with **'Show of Hands'** is returning to her roots. 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 is touring as she started out: one woman, one bass, and one guitar.

Benji Kirkpatrick is well known as a rhythmic driver of such outfits as Bellowhead and Faustus, with his "memorably aggressive" (MOJO) style. He started working as a soloist early on in his career though, and now brings the focus back to that.

Theatre Performance 25th September **Taking Flight Theatre** with **The Riverfront and Chapter** present **"peeling"** From award-winning playwright **Kaite O'Reilly**.

In shadow, 3 performers await their brief moment in the light. Alfa, Beaty and Coral wait... wait while once more the action plays out elsewhere.



Often blisteringly funny, at times almost unbearably painful; peeling takes us backstage into a world of secrets, a world of stories about mothers and their children, a world where these fierce, intelligent and capable women are always the chorus and never the lead.

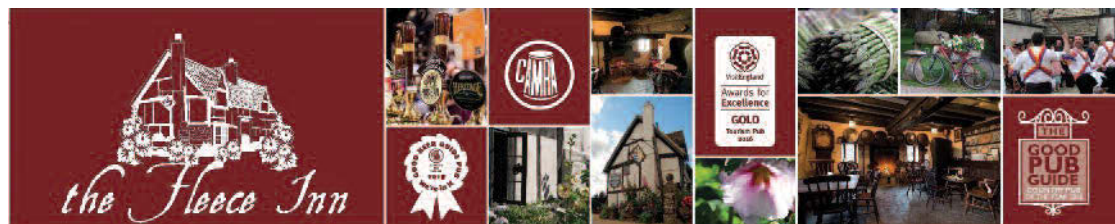
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Join us for a fantastic selection of bands and events in our medieval barn

Fleecey Folk: Duncan Chisholm: Sat 14 Sep, 8pm, £16

Nigel Night: Sat 28 Sept from 7.30pm A free drink for all Nigel's! Can we set a new World Record for the largest gathering of people with the same first name!?

Live at the Fleece: Rory McLeod: Sun 29 Sep, 8pm, £12

A Flavour of the Fleece Taste & Tour: Mon 30 Sept, 6pm, £20

Apple & Ale Weekend: Fri 11- Sun 13 Oct, Free Entry

Fleecey Folk: Sherburn, Bartley, Sanders: Sun 20 Oct, 8pm, £12

Fleecey Folk: Fara: Tue 29 Oct, 8pm, £14

The Cross, Bretforton, Nr. Evesham, Worcestershire WR11 7JE Tel: 01386 831173 Email: info@thefleeceinn.co.uk

To Book: www.thefleeceinn.co.uk

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Bromyard Folk Festival 5th-8th September

Bromyard Folk Festival is to be opened by the recently appointed High Sheriff of Herefordshire, **James Hervey-Bathurst CBE DL**, with an opening ceremony on Friday 6th September at 7.50pm. There are some events that take place on the Thursday, including a ceilidh and an album launch by the festival patrons, **Granny's Attic** called *Wheels of the World*.



Dan the Hat entertaining families at Bromyard Folk Festival – photo by Lightsmiths Photography

There will be a Procession running down the High Street at 8.30pm on Friday accompanied by the **Town Crier**. There will be more Morris men than you can shake a stick at. The guest dance sides who will be performing are **Belle D'Vain**, **Chinewrde Morris Dancers**, **JD & Folk**, **Newcastle Kingsman**, **Shropshire Bedlam & Martha Rhodens**, **Shropshire Sharpshins**, **Silkstone Greens**, and **Windsor Morris** with performances by regular sides **Soft Option**, **Faithful City Morris Men**, **Jockey Morris Men**, **Lord Conyers Morris Men**, **Shakespeare Morris Men**, **Silurian Morris Men**, **White Hart Morris Men**, **1st Sedgley Morris Men** and **Earlsdon Morris**.

There is literally a warm welcome for you on the Main Stage this year as the venue will be heated. Headliners performing on the Main Stage include **Kathryn Tickell** and **The Darkening**, **Flook**, **The Daoirí Farrell Trio**, **Rosier** plus a great deal more.

The rest of the weekend of the folk festival is packed with music, singing, dancing, workshops, stories, crafts, food and drink.

A particular feature for this year is going to be a 'Bal', a traditional French dance from Topette!!



Kathryn Tickell and The Darkening

The weekend will also have a real family feel, with a wide variety of entertainers, activities, stories and songs with the bonus of free entry for children under 10 years old.

The green field festival will continue in its aims to strive for a more sustainable future. Stainless steel bottles will be available along with freely available water refills, no plastic bottles in any of the green rooms or from the traders and any waste that is generated is being recycled by Blackpole Skip Hire who manage to reuse 85%.

The event takes place on 5th to 8th September. Tickets are on sale from the Bromyard Folk Festival website and will also be available from the on site Box Office from midday on 5th September.

For tickets line up and further information go to:

www.bromyardfolkfestival.co.uk/

Live @ the Lamb & Flag

The Tything, Worcester
Sundays 8-10pm

September Listings

1st - Kringo Blue

8th - Ruben Seabright

13th/14th/15th

Worcester Music Festival

22nd - Blue Gravy Orchestra

29th - Riché



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The Len Price 3 The Humdrum Express

The Marr's Bar, Worcester | Friday 6th September



Be it boating blazers or Breton tops, **The Len Price 3's** sharp band uniforms aren't the only thing to set them apart from their peers.

Hailing from Kent's Medway Delta, an area already steeped in garage/punk/mod history, their hugely impressive collection of melodic nuggets are thrillingly performed at breakneck speed.

With five albums under their belts and a sixth on the way next year, the LP3 have built up a solid reputation as one of the UK's most exciting live acts. Crashing guitar, pounding drums and chrome glazed harmonies create their trademark sound, but dig deeper and you'll find a lyrical content full of acid tongued, wry social observation.



It's been 12 months since their last visit to the Midlands, if you haven't seen them before – now's your chance!

Completing the line up at The Marr's Bar are fellow acerbic social observers, **The Humdrum Express**.

Having racked up close to 40 national plays on BBC 6 music, including a live session earlier in the year; main man **Ian Passey** has expanded the line up over the past 18 months to add an infectious, upbeat backdrop to his withering critique. The full band (**Andrew Boswell, Carl Bayliss, Chris Taylor-Ashcroft and Ted Cartwright**) fuse swirling indie clatter with a healthy dose of good humoured joy. With a new Humdrum album close to completion, expect a sneak preview alongside the radio favourites.

Tickets are available from wegottickets.com/event/466116

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★ LIVE MUSIC

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★ COURTYARD

★ PIZZA

Opening Times

Monday – Closed

Tuesday – Thursday 10.00 – 22.00

Friday / Saturday 10.00 – 23.30

Sunday 10.00 – 16.00

📍 Paradiddles Music Café bar,
61/61A Sidbury, Worcester,
WR1 2HU

🌐 www.paradiddlesbar.co.uk

📘 facebook.com/Paradiddlesbarworcester

🐦 twitter.com/Paradiddles_Bar

📷 instagram.com/paradiddlesbar







Sunday 01 September 2019

Woo Town Hillbillies (5:30pm)

The Chestnut, Worcester

Vintage Inc. (5pm)

The Imperial, Worcester

Chessi O'dowd (5pm)

No 3A., Bromsgrove

Max Bywater (3pm)

The Red Lion, Amblecote, Stourbridge

Adam Higgins

Red Lion, Evesham

The Unconventionals Acoustic

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Dead Roses

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

The Follicles

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

The Outcasts

The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

The Butchers Dogs

Babar Cafe, Hereford

Meg Shaw

Bottles, Worcester

Tor Phillips

The Kingsford, Kidderminster

Jay & Eli

The Morgan, Great Malvern

The Honeyboy Hickling Band (4pm)

The Price Of Wales, Ledbury

Tuesday 03 September 2019

The English Dulcimer Duo (1pm)

Great Malvern Priory, Malvern

FCS: Press Club, Watch Commander, The Earnest Spears

Annie's Burger Shack, Worcester

Kadonnut Manner

Bottles, Worcester

Wednesday 04 September 2019

Two Ways Home

Caffe Nero, Cheltenham

Two Ways Home

Café Nero, Gloucester

40 SLAP SEPTEMBER

Gruig

Carpenters Arms, Miserden, Stroud

Weirdshire

Babar Cafe, Hereford

Raepfen, Rosebud, Polakov, Monojack

Heroes, Worcester

Thursday 05 September 2019

Mel & Him

The Unicorn, Worcester

John Blek

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Chris Bannister

Palace Theatre, Redditch

Paul Beadle, Andy Lindsay

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

The Cravats, Dc Spectres

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Bryan Corbett Quartet

Smokey Joe's, Cheltenham

Triinu

The Prince Albert, Stroud

No Violet, Pollyanna Blue, Plum Jr.

Left Bank, Hereford

Garrington T Jones & Friends

Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

The Follicles

Tappeto Lounge, Kidderminster

Dead Dads Club, The Queen Has Two Heads, Poppy Ws, Redwood Uk

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

The Blues Duo

The Price Of Wales, Ledbury

Friday 06 September 2019

Remi Harris, Tom Moore, 8pm

The Fold, Bransford, Worcester

Miranda Sykes

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Quo

The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Absolute Bowie

The Iron Road, Pershore

Bennett Wilson Poole

St Georges Hall, Bewdley

A Night With The Rat Pack

The Vale Golf & Country Club, Pershore

Bacchus

The Millers Arms, Pershore

Flatworld

Worcester Arts Workshop, Worcester

The Strays, Red Hot Riot, Chevy Chase Stole My Wife

Annie's Burger Shack, Worcester

Marty Wilde

Palace Theatre, Redditch

Bedrock Bullets

The Ladybird Inn, Bromsgrove

The Rock Bottoms

No 3A, Bromsgrove

Depeche Mode - Black Celebration

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Don't Stop Fleetwood Mac Tribute

The Hanbury Turn, Bromsgrove

Persuaders

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar - The Lye, Stourbridge

Demonic Resurrection (India), Ascaris, Skora

Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Ed Conway

The Red Lion, Amblecote, Stourbridge

Little Dave

Red Lion, Evesham

Pay The Piper

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Scott Di

The Cheltenham Stable, Cheltenham

Showtime - A Tribute To The Greatest Showman!

The Civic, Stourport-On-Severn

Leo

Harry Cook Free House, Cheltenham

The Follicles

The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

Rous Lench Hall -(Trib) Grappelli & Reinhardt-Holder & Smith

Rous Lench Village Hall, Evesham

Liam Ward, Malcolm Thorne

Clothiers Arms, Stroud

14 Units, El Monstro

Café Rene, Gloucester

Vince Freeman, Dan Wilde, Nuala

Gloucester Guildhall, Gloucester

Croft And Cotes

Tank, Gloucester

The Coyote Kings

The Black Shed Slimbridge, Gloucester

The Manfreds

The Courtyard, Hereford

The Debbie Parry Band

Lowerlode Pub, Forthampton, Tewkesbury

The Polly Edwards Band

The White Pheasant, Stanford, Worcester

Hump De Bump

The Sociable Beer Company, Worcester

Funkiky Funking

Babar Café, Hereford

The Beethoven Experience

Royal Porcelain Works, Worcester

The Lost Chord

Gordon Bennett's, Hereford

Jim Smith

Bluebell Inn, Malvern

Jagged Hand

The Plough, Hereford

The Len Price 3, The Humdrum Express

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Tyler Massey

The Plume Of Feathers, Castlemorton

The Country Chix, Chloe Mogg

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Bluze Box

Queen's Head, Wolverley, Kidderminster

Saturday 07 September 2019

The Ronaldos

The Monkland Arms, Leominster

Lounge Toad

Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Tom Davies

The Swan Inn, Barbourne, Worcester

The Reflections

The Chestnut, Worcester

Playback

The Cricketers, Worcester

Skrood

The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Kimmy & The Wahoos

Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

The Stiff Joints, Counting Coins

The Iron Road, Pershore

Crush

Horn & Trumpet, Bewdley

Daniel Seth

Black Boy, Bewdley

Dire Streets

Palace Theatre, Redditch

Witcher

The Unicorn, Malvern

Steve Ajao And The Blues Giants

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Tone Locked

Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Play It Again Sam

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar - The Lye, Stourbridge

Thee Crooked Hooks, Flying Ant Day, Batbi, Mistrusted,

Pablo Alto, Bedtime Susan, Colossus Yeti, 3Legsforward,

The Snowflakes (All Day)

The Mitre, Stourbridge

One Dementia

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Black September

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Bull Boys

Reet Petite, Leominster

Faith

The Civic, Stourport-On-Severn

Vintage Inc

The Express Inn, Malvern

Meatloud Again

Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

All You Need Is The Beatles

The Sub Rooms, Stroud

Albino Tarantino

The Prince Albert, Stroud

The Shaggy Dog Raconteurs

Stroud Brewery, Stroud

Zenne

Dumbleton Village Club, Evesham

The Beachy Boys

Wickhamford Sports Club, Evesham

He Stars From The Commitments

Studley Castle, Studley

Mike Bess

Butchers Arms, Stroud

Vintage Inc.

The Express Inn, Malvern

The Stacks

The Queen Vic, Stroud

Terry

The Alma Tavern, Worcester

Zenne

Dumbleton Village Club, Tewkesbury

Bourbon Alley

The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

The Leon Daye Band

Lower Lode Inn, Gloucester

The Pleasuredome

The Kings Head, Upton On Severn

The Peas

The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

Dusk Till Dawn

Cross Keys Inn, Gloucester

Connections

The Northend Vaults, Gloucester

The Fugitives

The Malt Shovel Inn, Gloucester

Bon Jovi Experience

The Courtyard, Hereford

The Debbie Parry Band

The 3 Horse Shoes, Malvern

Pipe Dream

The Vaga Tavern, Hereford

Black And Blues Band

The Plough, Hereford

Paul Henshaw, Matt Johnson, + Support

Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

The Feelgood Band (Dr Feelgood Tribute)

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Bad Medicine

The Wobbly Brewery, Hereford

Beth Hopkins

Pockets Snooker Club, Kidderminster

Dan & King Rich
The Sportsman, Kidderminster

The Lost Chord
The Old Lion Inn, Kidderminster

Matty Jay
The Kingsford, Kidderminster

The GTs
The Oxford Arms, Hereford

Sunday 08 September 2019

Hannah Cayton
The Oak Inn, Ledbury

Cube Shuffle
Malvern Cube, Malvern

Trevor Babajack (5:30pm)
The Chestnut, Worcester

The Imperials (5pm)
The Imperial, Worcester

A Musical Evening supporting Stand Up To Cancer
Drummonds, Worcester

Emilie Eleanore, The Arquettes, Chris Hutchison, Sojourn 2pm
The Nag'S Head, Malven

Terry
The Morgan, Malvern

Mamma Mia Singalong
Number 8, Pershore

Paul McCormack (4pm)
The Ladybird Inn, Bromsgrove

Paul McCormack
No 3A., Bromsgrove

Gazza
Red Lion, Evesham

Ttp Acoustic
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Fleetwood Machine
The Civic, Stourport-On-Severn

Skabucks
Vines Park, Droitwich

The Follicles
Ye Olde Crown Inn, Stourport-On-Severn

Sam Powell's Blues Band (3pm)
Richmond Place Club, Hereford

The Eighties Experience
The Westcroft, Droitwich

Upfront
The Vineyard Inn, Abbots Salford, Evesham

Jim Reynolds
Littlevic, Stroud

Talon - The Best Of Eagles
The Roses, Tewkesbury

Bryn Thomas
The Nottingham Arms, Tewkesbury

Little Dave
The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

Stephanie Roberts
Babar Cafe, Hereford

Downside Up
The Firs, Broadheath, Worcester

Terry
The Bell Inn, St. Johns, Worcester

Jasper Malone
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Zoltan Ensemble
The Mule Shed, Hereford

Woo Town Hillbillies
Kilverts, Hay On Wye

Ruben Seabright
The Lamb & Flag, Worcester

Vicky Elise
The Kingsford, Kidderminster

Forty Blue Toes (4pm)
The Price Of Wales, Ledbury

Monday 09 September 2019

Two Ways Home
Caff  Nero, Stourbridge

Tuesday 10 September 2019

Soul Kinda Wonderful Present: The Drifters
The Courtyard, Hereford

Wednesday 11 September 2019

Skinner & Twitch
Carpenters Arms, Miserden, Stroud

Talon
Swan Theatre, Worcester

Thursday 12 September 2019

Danbert Nobacon
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Phil King
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Joni, Sandy & Me
The Painswick Centre, Stroud

George Wilding
Tank, Gloucester

Poppy Ws
The Plough, Worcester

Talon
Swan Theatre, Worcester

James Keelaghan
Bromsgrove Folk Club, Bromsgrove

Friday 13 September 2019

Worcester Music Festival
Various Venues - www.worcestermusicfestival.co.uk

Thunder Daze
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Polly Edwards
Colwall Park Hotel, Malvern

The Maz Mitrenko Band
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Ruf's Blues Caravan
The Iron Road, Pershore

Go Now! The Music Of The Moody Blues
Palace Theatre, Redditch

Signing Off
Catshill Social Club, Bromsgrove

Flashearts
Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Skye Hadley
The Ladybird Inn, Bromsgrove

Ruben Seabright
No 3A., Bromsgrove

The AC30's
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Mr Black
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar - The Lye, Stourbridge

Black Heart Angels
The Maverick, Stourbridge

2 Tone Revue
The Gigmill Pub, Stourbridge

Polly May, Louisa Gaylard
Smokey Joe'S, Cheltenham

Aaron Cook
Red Lion, Evesham

The UK Monsters Of Rock
Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

Joanne Harris & The Storytime Band
Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham

TCML
The Royal, Cheltenham

Andy Smith
The Cheltenham Stable, Cheltenham

The Secret Cabaret
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

The Ziggie Paul Band
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Hoof Hearted
Wychbold Sports & Social Club, Droitwich

Witcher
The Blue Bell, Ryall

Upfront
The Swan Inn, Studley

Rob McEwen
Tank, Gloucester

Fifty4
The Millers Arms, Pershore

The Leon Daye Band
The Black Shed Slimbridge, Gloucester

Treble
Left Bank, Hereford

Voodoo Room: A Night Of Hendrix, Clapton & Cream
Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Footprints Jazz
All Saints Church, Hereford

Sultana Brothers
The Plough, Hereford

The Rain Trees
Bluebell Inn, Malvern

Pink Tribute Show
Hogarth's Stone Manor, Kidderminster

Tom Walker
Queen's Head, Wolverley, Kidderminster

Saturday 14 September 2019

Worcester Music Festival

Various Venues - www.worcestermusicfestival.co.uk

Dave Onions

Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Chalky

The Swan Inn, Barbourne, Worcester

Dead Dads Club

The Unicorn, Malvern

The Transporters

The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

The Usual Suspects

The Cross Keys, Malvern

Volante Strings Concert

St James The Great Church, Malvern

Vaseline

Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Foyer Folk: Dampier's Round

Number 8, Pershore

Andy Fairweather Low & The Low Riders

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Soul Legends

Palace Theatre, Redditch

Face Stealers

The Village Inn, Redditch

Rev Hammer

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

One Stop Boogie

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Two's Company: Love Letters

Conquest Theatre, Bromyard

Black Mercian

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar - The Lye, Stourbridge

Code Break, Knife Crime, Tape It Shut

The The Mitre, Stourbridge

Tommy - The Album Live

Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

Barefoot Serpents

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Ragged Union

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Gareth Lemon

The Botanist, Cheltenham

James Baker

The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

Michele Stodart (3pm)

Badlands, Cheltenham

Mel & Him

The Pillar Of Salt, Droitwich

Steve Ashley, Mike Weaver

Oat Street Chapel, Evesham

Lewis & Dav

Stroud Brewery, Stroud

Tideman's Piece

The Lounge, Stroud

Duncan Chisholm

The Fleece Inn, Bretforton, Evesham

Better Than We Look

Widden Old Boys RFC, Gloucester

Hard Graft

The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

Rockin' The Joint

Wotton Hall Social Club, Gloucester

Jay & Eli

The Red Lion, Ilmington

And Finally...Phil Collins

Swan Theatre, Worcester

Gareth Jones

Baker Street, Gloucester

Bee Gees Tribute

Three Counties Hotel, Hereford

Dillie Keane

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

The UK Pink Floyd Experience

The Courtyard, Hereford

Sax Appeal

The Green Dragon, Malvern

Mzleading

The Eagle Inn, Ross-On-Wye

Vintage Inc

Bar 7, Upton Upon Severn

Black Mercian

Sadler's Brewhouse And Bar, Stourbridge

Fizzi Duo

Land Oak, Kidderminster

Paprika Blues Band

The Cavalier, Kidderminster

Jayne Peters Band

The Kingsford, Kidderminster

Sunday 15 September 2019

Worcester Music Festival

Various Venues - www.worcestermusicfestival.co.uk

Jeff Chapman's Roosters (4pm)

The Price Of Wales, Ledbury

Vo & Phil

Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

UK Pink Floyd Experience

Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

Kev From The Murmur

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Spicey Girls

The Civic, Stourport-On-Severn

Tideman's Piece

The Lounge, Stroud

Warp & Weft

The Museum in The Park, Stroud

Malvin Hancox

The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

Paul Chief O'neil

Red Lion, Evesham

Tuesday 17 September 2019

The Neil Diamond Story

The Courtyard, Hereford

Adam Lacey

Holme Lacy House Hotel, Hereford

Wednesday 18 September 2019

The Carpenters Experience

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Rock For Heroes

Palace Theatre, Redditch

Benji Kirkpatrick And The Excess, Bryony Sier

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Peeky Blinders

Carpenters Arms, Miserden, Stroud

Thursday 19 September 2019

Eddie Martin

The Price Of Wales, Ledbury

The Lurkers

The Iron Road, Pershore

Branwen And Other Tales

Conquest Theatre, Bromyard

Paul O'neill

Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

Amadou Diagne

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Rory Mcleod And Guests

SVA, Stroud

Fred Skidmore Organ Trio

Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Joe Brown And His Band

Swan Theatre, Worcester

Kongero

Hellens Manor, Hereford

Friday 20 September 2019

Apphia Campbell

The Market Theatre, Ledbury

Sultana Brothers

The Barn, Ledbury

Twisted Hits

Reet Petite, Leominster

Derek & The Checkmates

Queen's Head, Wolverley, Kidderminster

Claire Boswell

Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

The Core

The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

The Strays

Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Big Fat Shorty

The Blue Bell, Ryall

The Strawbs

Artrix, Bromsgrove

John Morrison Fowler, Lost Wave, The Adventure Club

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

The Troubadours

No 3A., Bromsgrove

U2+1 + Alive And Kicking UK

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Murmur

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar - The Lye, Stourbridge

The Usual Suspects

The Maverick, Stourbridge

Tasha
Red Lion, Evesham

The Studio Orchestra Present The Music Of John Williams
Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

Gotta Groove
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

The Velveteers (Usa), Thieves
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Nat Steele Quartet
Victory Club, Cheltenham

Black And Blues Band
Worley's At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Leo
The Retreat Wine Bar, Cheltenham

The Follicles
The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

Issy Winstanley
The Cheltenham Stable, Cheltenham

80's Mania
The Roses, Tewkesbury

Jack Moore
Tank, Gloucester

The Rhythm Slingers
Tall Ships, Gloucester

Mumbo-Jumbo - Acoustic Vaudeville
The Yurt At The Nest, Ledbury

Uncover Presennts: London Black - Single Launch
Annie's Burger Shack, Worcester

Pearl Jam Bootleg
Café Rene, Gloucester

Skrood
The Millers Arms, Pershore

Poppy Ws
Archway 49 (Worcester Brewing Company), Worcester

Blind River Scare (Solo)
Left Bank, Hereford

2Tone Revue
Left Bank, Hereford

Joe Brown And His Band
Swan Theatre, Worcester

The Ukappellas
The Sociable Beer Company, Worcester

Cory's Angels
Bluebell Inn, Malvern

The Worried Men
The Plough, Hereford

The Songs Of Nick Drake
The Globe, Hay On Wye

The GTs
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Saturday 21 September 2019

The Dick And Bob Show
The Lion, Ledbury

Hotrox
The Ducker Bar, Leominster

Blind River Scare
The Monkland Arms, Leominster

Ian Parker, Aynsley Lister
Malvern Cube, Malvern

Madi Stimpson Trio
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Melissa Butler
The Swan Inn, Barbourne, Worcester

Pete Hyde & The Villiards
The Chestnut, Worcester

Freddi
The Cricketers, Worcester

Voodoo
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Mentallica, Megadeth UK
The Iron Road, Pershore

Maggie Bell & Dave Kelly
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Pete Kelly
Black Boy, Bewdley

Dan & King Rich
Horn And Trumpet, Bewdley

John Bonham A Celebration
Peakman Street, Redditch

Coda
The Queens Head, Redditch

Chantel McGregor
Artrix, Bromsgrove

Dry River
The Dog And Pheasant, Bromsgrove

44 SLAP SEPTEMBER

Facestealers
The Pillar Of Salt, Droitwich

The One Love Band
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Highway
The Rose & Crown, Wordsley, Stourbridge

Autumn
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Dusk Till Dawn
The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Connections
Cleeve Hill Golf Club, Cheltenham

Brighter
Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

The Geckos
The Express Inn, Malvern

Duo Karadys & Michael Bochmann
Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

The Dropouts
The Valkyrie Bar, Evesham

Clear Cut
Dumbleton Village Club, Evesham

Bournemouth Male Voice Choir
Stroud Brewery, Stroud

Old Raskals
Railway Inn, Studley

Faith
Studley Castle, Studley

The Gatecrashers
The Queen Vic, Stroud

Mitchell And Vincent
The Ale House, Stroud

Vintage Inc
Virgin Tavern, Worcester

Clear Cut
Dumbleton Village Club, Tewkesbury

Mr Wolf
The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

Fracture UK
Cross Keys Inn, Gloucester

Hot Feat
Reet Petite, Leominster

Ray Sanders
Archway 49 (Worcester Brewing Company), Worcester

Bad Spaniel
Gordon Bennett'S, Hereford

Wootown Hillbillies
The Green Dragon, Malvern

Pistol Pete Werne & The Wildwood Flowers, The Dylan Marshal Project, + Support
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Kinship Carer Fundraiser
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Dan Whitehouse, Boo Hewerdine
Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

Hotrox Band
The Ducker, Leominster

Dessie Magee
The Globe, Hay On Wye

Mzleading
The Angel Hotel, Coleford, Glos.

Chloe Mogg
The Sportsman, Kidderminster

Brittlebones
The Kingsford, Kidderminster

Sunday 22 September 2019

John Snocken
The Press Room, Leominster

Miranda Sykes, Benji Kirkpatrick
Malvern Cube, Malvern

Henry Prestons Ghost (5:30pm)
The Chestnut, Worcester

Witcher (5pm)
The Imperial, Worcester

Ray Mytton
Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

The Delray Rockets
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

One Night in Dublin
Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

Matt Sayers
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Sultana Brothers (3pm)
Richmond Place Club, Hereford

Go Now! The Music Of The Moody Blues

The Roses, Tewkesbury

Son Of John

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Blue Gravy Orchestra

The Lamb & Flag, Worcester

Chloe Mogg

Cock & Magpie, Bewdley

Female Voices: Devon Mayson, Gina Larner & Chloe Mogg

Tower Of Song, Birmingham

Frankie Wesson

Red Lion, Evesham

Tuesday 24 September 2019

Witty Ditties: 400 Years Of Comic Song

Swan Theatre, Worcester

Tuesday Tribute - Freddie Mercury And Queen

The Kingsford, Kidderminster

Wednesday 25 September 2019

Forever Elton

Artrix, Bromsgrove

The Drifters 2019

Palace Theatre, Redditch

Flying Ant Day

The Maverick, Stourbridge

The Troubleshooters With Ruzz Guitar

Café Rene, Gloucester

Odette Michell

Carpenters Arms, Miserden, Stroud

Savannah Jazz Band

Pershore Jazz Club, Pershore Town Football Club

Thursday 26 September 2019

Man, Edgar Broughton

The Iron Road, Pershore

The Garry Allcock Trio

Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Memories Are Made Of This

Palace Theatre, Redditch

Andy Richards Band

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Keith James

The Sub Rooms, Stroud

Alash Ensemble

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Leon Daye

Tank, Gloucester

Perry Foster

The Plough, Worcester

Orjan Hulten

Left Bank, Hereford

Simply Rered

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Frank Sinatra – His Way

The Courtyard, Hereford

Mike Wilton, Every Thread

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Friday 27 September 2019

Six Seconds To Run

Worcester Arts Workshop, Worcester

Alex Rainsford

Colwall Park Hotel, Malvern

The Stevie Nimmo Trio, Big Ginge Blues Band

The Iron Road, Pershore

The Follicles

Horn And Trumpet, Bewdley

Punk Night

Reet Petite, Leominster

The Purple Shades + Support

Annie's Burger Shack, Worcester

The Counterfeit Sixties

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Les McKeown's Bay City Rollers

Palace Theatre, Redditch

The Reggulites

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Blackballed

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Immy & The Boatman

No 3A., Bromsgrove

Bruno - A Tribute To Bruno Mars

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Eastwood

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar - The Lye, Stourbridge

Floorboards, Laika, Blood Uncle, Chaplin Shakes

Frog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Red Hot Riot

Smokey Joe S, Cheltenham

Woo Town Hillbillies

Red Lion, Evesham

Mister Wolf

The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Johnny Coppin

The Bacon Theatre, Cheltenham

Voodoo Blue

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Soular

The Retreat Wine Bar, Cheltenham

Alex Bayross

The Cheltenham Stable, Cheltenham

Monkey Jam

Harry Cook Free House, Cheltenham

Dan & King Rich

The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

False Flags, Last Safe Moment, Stone Angels

The Queen Vic, Stroud

No Man'S Land

The Roses, Tewkesbury

Joe Summers

Tank, Gloucester

Steve Browning, Graham Barr

Baker Street, Gloucester

Boogie Bop Boys

Hillside Brewery, Gloucester

Forty Blue Toes

The Millers Arms, Pershore

Ragged Union

Café Rene, Gloucester

Rodney Branigan

Left Bank, Hereford

Oye Santana - Woodstock 50th Anniversary Tour

Swan Theatre, Worcester

Terry

The Old Pheasant, Worcester

Remi Harris, Tom Moore

All Saints Church, Hereford

Jamie Knight

Ye Olde Talbot Hotel, Worcester

Shanghai Shuffle

The Cosy Club, Worcester

Hennesea

Bluebell Inn, Malvern

The Delray Rockets

The Plough, Hereford

Ready 5 + Support

Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Syked (John Sykes Era Whitesnake, Thin Lizzy + Blue Murder)

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Sam Lee, Emma Oaman, Richard King, Weirdshire DJs

The Globe, Hay On Wye

The Rutland Troubadour - Aka Paul McClure

Elmslie House, Malvern

Tunky Pig

Queen's Head, Wolverley, Kidderminster

Saturday 28 September 2019

The Very Grimm Brothers, Sasscappella

The Market Theatre, Ledbury

Fifty4

The Strand, Cheltenham

Polkadot Robot Bandoke

Worcester Arts Workshop, Worcester

Hot Rox

Reet Petite, Leominster

Steve Linforth

Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Mike Skilbeck

The Swan Inn, Barbourne, Worcester

Big Fat Shorty

The Chestnut, Worcester

Skabucks

Malvern Town F.C., Malvern

September Song

Elmslie House, Malvern

Planet Rock

The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Get Stoned

Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Ralph Mctell

Artrix, Bromsgrove

James Reidy

The Holly Bush, Redditch

The Leylines

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Midnight Sun

Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

The Subterraneans
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Final 4
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar - The Lye, Stourbridge

Synthmachine
Kinver Constitution Club, Stourbridge

Arrival
The Bacon Theatre, Cheltenham

Slowjin
The Bacon Theatre, Cheltenham

The Institutions
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Mister Wolf
The Cookley Sport & Social Club, Cookley, Kidderminster

Gareth Lemon
The Botanist, Cheltenham

Floyd in The Flesh - A Tribute To Pink Floyd
Stourbridge Town Hall, Stourbridge

Jibbafish
The Bayshill Pub, Cheltenham

Mel & Him
The Express Inn, Malvern

Pete Harrington
Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Into Cliff & The Shadows
Evesham Arts Centre, Evesham

Pasadena Roof Orchestra
The Sub Rooms, Stroud

Satellite Down
The Swan Inn, Evesham

Nigel Night
The Fleece Inn, Bretforton, Evesham

Chris Roberts
St Mary De Crypt, Gloucester

Lee Ross
Hucclecote Community Association, Gloucester

Better Than We Look
Baker Street, Gloucester

Detroit Magic
Swan Theatre, Worcester

The Debbie Parry Band
The Green Dragon, Malvern

Tony James This Is Soul!
Red Hill Social Club, Worcester

Band On The Run
The Plough, Hereford

Accolade
The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

Showaddywaddy Elite
Welsh Club, Hereford

Behind The Music
Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Faux Fighters (Foo Fighters Tribute), Altered Voltage
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Sundown Jazz Society, The Butcher's Dogs, Jakey Boy Hughes,
The Globe, Hay On Wye

Wolverley Beer Festival
Wolverley Memorial Hall, Wolverley

Neil Harrison
Haberly Club, Kidderminster

Jayne Peters Band
The Loom, Kidderminster

Duo
The Sportsman, Kidderminster

Chloe Mogg
Cockerel Inn, Winnall Caravan Park, Stourport

Chelsea Jade
The Kingsford, Kidderminster

Sunday 29 September 2019

Mike Wilton & Every Thread (4pm)
The Price Of Wales, Ledbury

Howlin' Matt (5:30pm)
The Chestnut, Worcester

Neil Ivison (5pm)
The Imperial, Worcester

Passion
Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Bleeding Hearts
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Spitz
Red Lion, Evesham

Wannabe
Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

The Follies
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

The Charlton Blues Kings
The Cheltenham Stable, Cheltenham

Vincent Flatts Final Drive
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

2Tone Revue
Ye Olde Crown Inn, Stourport-On-Severn

Whiskey Moonface
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Rory Mcleod
The Fleece Inn, Bretforton, Evesham

Over The Hill
The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

Mike Wilton, Every Thread
Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Riché
The Lamb & Flag, Worcester

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Local Festivals

1 September Moseley Folk Festival
Moseley, Birmingham

5-7 September Onboard the Craft
Stoke Prior Sports & Country Club, Bromsgrove

5-8 September Bromyard Folk Festival
Bromyard

6-8 September Busfest
Three Counties Showground, Malvern

7 September Blackwell Music Festival
Blackwell, Bromsgrove

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7-8 September Droitwich Salt Fest
Vines Park, Droitwich

13-15 September Worcester Music Festival
Various venues, Worcester

15 September Biggfest Music Festival
Tardebigge, Redditch

20-22 September Frogfest
Frog and Fiddle, Cheltenham

27-28 September Dubs of Anarchy
Ashdown Farm, Evesham

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Arts, Exhibitions & Cinema

Until Sept Grayson Perry Exhibition at Croome National Trust

Until 2nd sept - Sara Hayward Cutting Corners: Colour works
Worcester Cathedral

Until 4th Sept Hilary Roberts - 'Flowers, Fields & Forests'
Pershore Number 8

8th Sept Drawing & Painting Workshop with David Walker
Berrington Hall, Herefordshire

Until 14th Sept. May the Toys be with you
Worcester City Museum & Art Gallery

2nd-30th Sept -Evesham Festival of Words 'Poetry in Colour'
Exhibition Evesham Library

4th Poetry and a pint night, Worcester Arts Workshop

6th until 6th Oct Herefordshire Open & Young Open Exhibition 19
The Courtyard Hereford

6th-12th Hereford Art Week

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7th Worcester Alternative Artists Market, Heroes, Worcester

7th & 8th Cheltenham Paint Festival

7th & 10th Pulp Fiction (18) The Courtyard Hereford

10th Ocean Film Festival Cheltenham Town Hall

10th Drink and Doodle, The Paul Pry Worcester

13th-15th Worcester Music Festival

14th Ocean Film Festival Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa

14th-22nd ArtistsWorkhouse Members Show, Artist Workhouse, Studley

17-22nd Pride presents Gender Materials Worcester Arts Workshop

17-24th We The Animals (15) The Courtyard Hereford

18th Ocean Film Festival Theatre Severn Shrewsbury

21st Worcester Pride Poetry stage, Worcester Arts Workshop

24th- until 29th Sept Sculpture Gardens, Jinny Ring Centre, Hanbury.

27th Bright Field The Globe in Hay-on-Wye

28th Box Tale Soup present Turn of the Screw, The Courtyard Hereford

Until 3rd Nov Meadow Arts present In Ruins, Witley Court

For Arts listings email: arts@slapmag.co.uk

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

1st Monday - Pub Quiz

Volunteer Inn, Hereford

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

1st & 3rd Thursday of every month,

The Cross Inn, Kinver, Stourbridge

First Tues - For 12-19 year olds 7pm

Pershore Library

2nd & 4th Tuesday - Open Mic Night with Pete Kelly

The Queen's Head, Wolverley

Every Tue - Open Mic

The Firefly, Worcester

Last Tuesday - Eclectic Open Mic

Volunteer Inn, Hereford

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

Fortnightly Wednesday - Bluegrass & Americana acoustic session

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

Marrs Bar, Worcester

3rd Wed of Month - Acoustic Session

The Admiral Rodney, Berrow Gt

3rd Wed of Month - Celtic folk session

The Fleece Inn, Bretforton, Worcs

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

3rd Thursday - Eclectic Open Mic

Wobbly Brewery and Taphouse, Hereford

1st Thurs - Black Hill Tune Club

The Crown Inn, Longtown, HR2

1st & 3rd Thursday of every month,

The Cross Inn, Kinver, Stourbridge

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 Thursday - Jackson's Bar open mic - by The Third Verse

The Northwick Hotel, Riverside, Evesham

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 Thurs - Mainly Irish Session

The King's Head, Tenbury Wells

3rd Thur - Jazz 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

3rd Sunday Open Mic with Tom Doggett 6pm-9pm

Thatched Tavern, Honeybourne

Sunday Live Open Mic

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Every Sat - Disco

Ducker Bar & Beer Garden, Leominster

1st Sun - Open Mic

The Queens Head, Sedgeberrrow

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

THE MARRS BAR

SEPT
OCT 2019



The Americas
Saturday 14th September

Friday September 6

The Len Price 3, The Humdrum Express

£9 in advance £12 on the door

Saturday September 7

The Feelgood Band (Dr Feelgood tribute)

£8 in advance £10 on the door

Sunday September 8

Jasper Malone

£5 in advance £7 on the door

Worcester Music Festival 13-15

September - FREE ENTRY

Friday September 13

The Task in Hand presents: Das Sexy Clap, Too Piste, Howard James Kenny, Theo, Riche

Saturday September 14

SLAP Mag presents: The Americas, Ria Plays, Elephant Peel, Killdren, Vinny Peculiar,

Sunday September 15

Uncover presents: Evilwitch, HEY YOU GUYS!, Time of the Mouth, Total Victory, Tokyo Taboo, Austerity

Friday September 20

The GTs

£7 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday September 21

Kinship Carer Fundraiser

£5 in advance £7 on the door

Sunday September 22

Son Of John

£6 in advance £8 on the door

Friday September 27

Syked (tribute too John Sykes era Whitesnake, Thin Lizzy + Blue Murder)

£8 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday September 28

Faux Fighters (Foo Fighters tribute), Altered Voltage

£8 in advance £10 on the door

Thursday 3 October

The Silver Dollar Honkytonk

Alice Wallace + Marzy & House Band

£13 in advance £15 on the door

Friday October 4

Biffy McClyro (Biffy Clyro tribute)

£8 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday October 5

Sams Town (Killers tribute)

£8 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday October 12

Guns Or Roses (Guns N Roses tribute)

£10 in advance £12 on the door

Thursday October 17

FCS presents: Proud Mary + Support

£15adv, £18 on the door

Friday October 18

Skewwhiff, Attila the Stockbroker

£5 in advance £7 on the door

Saturday October 19

R.E.M.\Stipe

£8 in advance £10 on the door

Wednesdays - Jamming night - FREE entry

www.marrsbar.co.uk

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