

SLAP

Issue 98

Dec/Jan

FREE



SLAP Supporting Local Arts & Performers



WORCESTER'S NEW
INDEPENDENT ITALIAN
RESTAURANT

Traditional
Italian food,
cooked the
Italian way!

We create all
dishes in our
kitchen, using
only the finest
quality fresh
ingredients.



SUGO at The Lamb & Flag
30 The Tything
Worcester
WR1 1JL
01905 729415
Thetything@sugoitalian.co.uk

SUGO at Friar St
19-21 Friar Street,
Worcester
WR1 2NA
01905 612211
Friarstreet@sugoitalian.co.uk



SLAP

Dec/Jan 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 EDITOR

Jasmin Griffin, Lottie Burgess

CONTRIBUTORS

Andy O'Hare
Will Munn
Geoffrey Head
Graham Munn
Stephan Work
Kate Ford
Gavin Warr
Chloe Mogg
Suz Winspear
Nicholas Burford
Bernadette Kearney
Russell Cook
Stephan Work
Eleanor Miles

DESIGN

Mark Hogan, Richard Nicholls

WEB & SOCIAL MEDIA

Ant Robbins, Katherine Harris

Published by The Whole Hog
Printed by Vernon Print



@slapmaguk

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Reproduction in whole or part prohibited without permission.
Artwork, prints or any pictorial media for this publication are sent
at owners risk and whilst every care is taken, neither Slap
Magazine or its agents accept liability for loss or damage.

DISCLAIMER

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that adverts and
articles appear correctly, Slap Magazine cannot accept
responsibility for any loss or damage caused directly or indirectly
by the contents of this publication. The views expressed in this
magazine are not necessarily those of its publisher or editor.

Hello one and all and welcome to the December/January issue of SLAP Magazine which not only marks the start of another year, but it also marks the completion of 10 years of SLAP production.

It's been another eventful year with lot's of great local arts and music to celebrate, but one which I'm sure we can all agree has divided our communities in ways we haven't seen since the 80's. I for one am looking forward to a time when the wounds dividing our society will be healed and we can once again be united in a pursuit for a better future.

Our front cover illustrates nicely one of four brand new festivals announced for next year in Worcester by the Arches Festivals and Severn Arts. 'Light Night Worcester' takes place on the 16th January, inspired by the connections we have with each other and the world around us, with a programme of stunning light installations created by local and international artists, music by Worldbeaters LED drummers. Turn to page 13 for more information on this and three other festivals planned for next year.

Also within these pages we bring you news of the brand new Worcester Paint Festival which will feature street art, graffiti and urban art. If you would be interested in sponsoring a wall at your business that's just begging to become a canvas, the organisers would love to hear from you, there is more detail on page 6.

February 2019 saw the first 'Love the Arbo' event, with ordinary people doing something extraordinary by creating an outdoor light gallery in the Arboretum, Worcester. The Arboretum Residents Associations aim is to get as many participants as possible to really light up the area with displays in front windows and gardens. 'Love The Arbo' welcomes people from all areas and all ages to this event.

So we at SLAP get a month off in January, so be good to each other and we'll see you on the other side folks.

Light - Ed



Cover: **Spark! by Worldbeaters Ltd**, photo by Gareth Jones
Photography as part of **Severn Arts - The Light Night Festival Worcester**, Thursday 16th January from 5.30 - 10pm.



Spotify

Search Slap Magazine

SLAP DEC/JAN 3

Blowing off some steam punk

Ombersley-based EDM rockers **V2A** have headlined the Mad Max-themed *Wasteland Weekend* in the Californian desert the last couple of years and now have plans to bring a similar post-apocalyptic (PA) steampunk event to the UK next year in the form of **Haven Outpost** at the **Newark Showground Notts** from 25 to 27 September. Discounts for those who turn up with PA vehicles or motorbikes and full costume/body armour is a must! More at www.haven-outpost.com - and the V2A 'Nightmare Before Christmas' show is at the Marris Bar on Saturday 7 December!

Predictable Pop

A study of 750 pop songs by the prestigious **Max Planck Institute** in Germany has concluded that enjoyable music comes from having just the right combination of certainty and surprise. They found that when people were relatively sure what chord would come next in a sequence they found it pleasing if they were surprised by a change from that expected. Among the songs that show this feature are numbers such as *Ob-La-Di Ob-La-Da* (Beatles) and *Red Red Wine* (UB40) which they mention as examples of tunes which 'activate the pleasure centres in the brain when we're feeling blue' - hmmm...

Please don't mention Xmas

Plenty of festive fare on offer at **tArtrix** in Bromsgrove in the run-up to the 'Midwinter Public Holiday' season with Quill's Christmas Concert on Saturday 7 December featuring talent including Matt Worley, Andy Edwards and Bev Bevan representing the local music scene - www.artrix.co.uk



Blistering 'Barn'acles

Not good news for the **Barn** venue in Ledbury as they've had to call a stop to live gigs due to complaints about live music from local residents - having received 12 visits from environmental health officers since May. The council licensing committee suspended the Barn's music performing license until the end of January pending a review - with the owners hoping to get sound insulation and triple glazing installed by then - watch this space...

Jazzed off

After the recent 'rescue plan' announced for **Upton Jazz Festival** - running a reduced event for the next couple of years to save costs - it's emerged that Upton Town Council has also been discussing the possible 'fear and anxiety' caused to town residents by festivals, with **Upton Blues Festival** being particularly highlighted for 'concerns over the human cost to Upton residents...' It was suggested that worried residents could be helped through the crowds by stewards - presumably trained in dodging all the 'woke-up-this-morning-type' ditties...

Ukulele ok

Fair play to **Worcester Ukulele Club** for their great efforts in raising £10,000 for **Parkinsons UK** by performing at over 100 events across Worcestershire in just two months - including 40 members of the club taking part in a marathon four-hour gig!

LADS night out in Ledbury

More seasonal offerings at the **Market Theatre Ledbury** in the weeks around the Winter Solstice include the Budapest Cafe Orchestra on Saturday 7 December, **Ledbury Community Brass Band** on Sunday 15 December and the LADS panto 'Santa In Space' from 16-25 January 2020 - www.themarkettheatre.com

Poetic license granted

Good news also for **Ledbury Poetry Festival** as the country's biggest (and best) spoken word event is set to have a new base at the **Barrett Browning Institute** (former library) at a cost of £500,000. The site is owned by **Ledbury Places** which plans to further improve and convert the location - creating disabled access, a performance space, offices and a flat for use by visiting poets-in-residence - and to lease the building to LPF from 2021 - www.poetry-festival.co.uk

As the Knight draws in

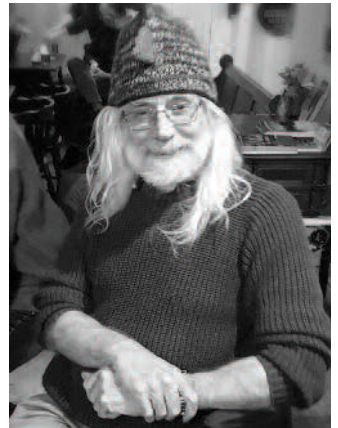
More seasonal shenanigans from local musos when Jamie Knight brings his seven-piece **Manuka Band** to the **Huntingdon Hall** in Worcester for his Christmas Show on Saturday 21 December. Jamie says that he's been '*rummaging through his festive chest for extra spice - and guarantees to rock your socks off*' - more at worcesterlive.co.uk

Goodrest for Goodrest

Good to hear of the re-opening of a community hub after a period of closure! **The Goodrest Tavern** on Barker Street, Rainbow Hill has kicked back into life after refurbishment - let's hope they also revive their enjoyable music nights!

..... Correction

In the November issue of SLAP we printed a **John Reeves** tribute to former BBC broadcast engineer and lecturer, **Ian Penniford** who spent much of his retirement running open-mike nights at a variety of venues in Evesham. Unfortunately and for reasons unknown, we published his name wrong. For this we apologise unreservedly to Ians family and to John Reeves.



The Original
ANNIE'S
Burger Shack
Since 2009

Friday December 6

SURPRISE ATTACKS & THE TASK IN HAND PRESENTS:

PLANE CRASHER
DUTCH
ZILCH

Friday December 20

WOLFGANG PROMOTIONS:

AT WAR WITH THE SUN
BROODMOTHER
DOOMICIDAL
BARON GREENBACK

Friday December 27

CHEVY CHASE STOLE MY WIFE
+ SUPPORT

Friday January 10

YIKES
ZILCH
+ TBA

Friday January 17

UNCOVER PRESENTS:

ODSMANSBOX
+ SUPPORT

Friday January 24

FROGG SOUFFLE
+ SUPPORT

Thursday January 30

IVW: BLEEDING HEARTS AGENCY PRESENTS:

GENN
TOKYO TABOO
+ SUPPORT

Friday January 31

IVW: UNCOVER

TBA

Saturday February 1

IVW:

THE JERICHO RACKS
BANZAI PIPELINE
THE SUNLIGHT MACHINE
REDWOOD

OFFICIAL VENUE
INDEPENDENT
VENUE WEEK
SUPPORTED BY BBC SOUNDS

Annie's Burger Shack
11 ST NICHOLAS ST, WORCESTER, WR1 1UW
anniesburgershack.com

SHOW YOUR TICKET AT THE BAR TO CLAIM OUR 20% PRE-GIG FOOD DISCOUNT



As the **Worcester Victorian Fayre** comes to an end for another year and **Gin Lane** goes back to being just an ordinary alleyway, **Clik Clik** is putting away the Victorian clobber (and other installations & costumes) and getting ready for hibernation in the office, with lots of planning and writing to do over the wintery months. I'll be back out at events again soon so keep an eye out!

February 2019 saw the first '**Love the Arbo**' event and what an amazing evening! The windows looked fabulous with so many people walking around on this exciting trail, it really brightened up a chilly winter evening and had such an incredible community atmosphere!

The Arboretum Residents Association is hoping to attract more visitors and to fill up even more windows for 2020, so if you are a resident, then make sure you take part on February 15th.

Their aim is to get as many participants as possible to really light up the area with displays in front windows and gardens. **Love The Arbo** welcomes people from all areas and all ages to this event and would love you to come and celebrate the fabulous creations on show!

If you are interested in taking part but unsure what to do, need some inspiration, don't think you are creative or just fancy an arts social, then you are invited along to a **FREE workshop*** on: Mon 20th Jan 6pm-8pm & Mon 27th Jan 6pm-8pm at **Worcester Baptist Church Hall**, Sansome Walk. There will be materials and support to help you create something magical! Refreshments will be available. There will be information through the Arbo letterboxes soon! (*Workshop is for Arboretum residents).

And for non-residents, please save the date and come and enjoy this creative community vibe! Maps will be available in February's edition of **Slap** and on the evening itself so you can find your way around the streets and explore the vibrant displays!

For more info please email : lovethearbo@gmail.com or keep an eye on the Facebook event page for updates via the Arboretum Residents Association page.

Saturday 15th February 2020. 6pm-8pm.

December at Dancefest

Dancefest is ending a really busy year with performances and a bit of relaxation.

On Saturday 7 December, you'll find them performing at this year's **Tenbury Mistletoe Festival** and at their own **Winter Wrap Ups** in Worcester on 17 and 19 December.



Opportunity for urban art

An exciting new festival comes to Worcester during 2020 and the organisers are looking for walls to house some beautiful urban art work. If you have an unlisted gable end with enough space underneath to get to it, or an outdoor wall you would like to see brightened up with cutting edge artwork from some of the countries best artists, **Worcester Paint Festival** would love to hear from you.

Also if you would be interested in sponsoring an event featuring street art, graffiti and urban art or a wall at your business, then please get in touch. worcesterpaintfestival@gmail.com



Artist: L7M
2018 Cheltenham Paint Festival

Love the Arboretum Light Festival -

Ordinary people doing something extraordinary by creating an outdoor light gallery in the **Arboretum**, Worcester. All are welcome to explore this free enchanted trail of light made by the residents.



And come and join them for the perfect workshop to end the year. **Tai Chi Chuan and Relaxation**, led by dance artist **Enid Gill**, will recharge body and mind, starting with energy-stimulating

exercises, followed by Qi Gong and Tai Chi Chuan Yang Short form, and finishing with relaxation exercises. It's for anyone aged 18 and over and takes place on Sunday 1 December at 10.30am-12.30pm at **The Angel Centre** in Worcester. The cost is £15.

Their spring term starts on 13 January and early bird booking opens this month. There's lots to look forward to – as well as weekly dance classes for all ages, there are some brilliant guest workshops coming up, in Bollywood, Popping and Postural Alignment. And it's Dancefest's 30th anniversary in 2020 so look out for all sorts of dance projects and events in Worcester and beyond next year to celebrate!

Find out more at dancefest.co.uk or call ring on 01905 611199.

Another Country

Bridget Macdonald continues to explore themes of rural life in this exhibition of large scale charcoal drawings, luminous landscapes and small still life paintings. The exhibition features work created in response to a recent artist's residency in a remote area of Romania, alongside paintings of Herefordshire orchards, cattle and around her home in Malvern.



Although at one time she taught at **Hereford College of Art**, this is the first time she has exhibited here. Her work is represented in the permanent collections of **Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery**, **Wolverhampton Art Gallery**, **Worcester City Art Gallery** and the **House of Lords** in London.

11 January– 15 February. The Courtyard Hereford.

The Magical World of William Simmonds: Puppets and Paintings Exhibition

Step into the magical world created by local puppeteer, artist and woodcarver **William Simmonds** (1876-1968). Discover all the fun of the circus and the enchanted realm of the woodland with fauns and clowns, nymphs, ducklings and much more drawn from Simmonds' imagination and the natural world around he saw around him at home in Far Oakridge. This exhibition brings you the full range of Simmonds' work as an artist - all designed with a desire to delight both young and old.

This major exhibition brings you rarely seen treasures from Gloucester's collections by Simmonds, his wife Eve and their many artist friends in the area, as well as loans from private individuals and museums. It paints a picture of the vibrant artistic Arts and Crafts Movement community in Gloucestershire in the first half of the 20th century - the legacy of which can still be felt today. Also includes work by **William Rothenstein**, **Charles March Gere**,



Phyllis Barron and **Dorothy Larcher** and more. The exhibition features a never before seen painting by Simmonds, newly conserved for the exhibition. *Nymphs* was painted in 1907 was discovered rolled up in Simmonds' workshop when it was acquired by the museum service in 1985. Curated by **Dr Jacqueline Sarsby**.

There will be a **William Simmonds Exhibition Talk** - "*Gimson and the Barnsleys: The start of the Arts & Crafts Movement in the South Cotswolds*" with **Mary Greensted** on 30th January.

Ernest Gimson has been described as 'the greatest of the English artist-craftsmen'; he and the brothers **Ernest** and **Sidney Barnsley** were central to the **British Arts and Crafts Movement**. In 1894 they made the radical and romantic move from London and Birmingham to the south Cotswolds, then a relatively unknown part of the country. Their work as architects, designers and makers gained them recognition worldwide and their example attracted a succession of designer-makers, including **Alfred** and **Louise Powell** and **William Simmonds** to the area through the 20th century and beyond.



As a curator at **Cheltenham Art Gallery & Museum** (now **The Wilson**), **Mary Greensted** was instrumental in building up the nationally important **Arts & Crafts Movement collection**. She has written "*The Arts & Crafts Movement in Britain*" (Shire 2010) and "*Ernest Gimson: Arts & Crafts Designer and Architect*" (with **Annette Carruthers** and **Barley Roscoe**, Yale 2019).

William Simmonds exhibition talk - 30th January 2020. 1-2pm.

The William Simmonds exhibition runs upto 18th April '20. 10-5pm. Both are £5 | £3 concessions.

Museum of Gloucester, Brunswick Road. GL11HP

www.gloucester ticketshop.co.uk or ring 01452 396131

Winter exhibitions at Number 8

John Seely - *Alternative Landscapes* - They say the camera never lies, but modern digital photography can bend 'reality'. These abstract and semi-abstract images derived from landscape and natural objects aim to challenge the viewer. John's work employs multiple exposure and other techniques in camera, combined with alternative digital processes, to produce strange and unexpected results. Until 18 December

Cut Fold Bind - *So Many Books, So Little Time* - **Cut Fold Bind** returns to **Number 8** with an exhibition of brand new inspiring creations from a group of local book artists. The group combine traditional and contemporary approaches to bookbinding utilising mixed media, textiles, drawing, painting and printing. Until 18 December



Lorraine Symms - *Living with Landscapes* - A series of paintings of wild British landscapes. From Lorraine's doorstep on the side of the Malvern Hills, to further afield as travel and her work as an interior designer took her all over the country. She cherished her painting as a mindful practice when life was at its toughest whilst facing a long-term illness and sadly Lorraine passed away last year. This exhibition arranged by her family and friends showcases a range of techniques, colour compositions, texture and mixed materials to create these landscapes. Wherever it was, sitting aside a wild coast, on top of a panoramic hillside or simply from a stroll to get some fresh air, Lorraine loved to embrace her surroundings and capture it on canvas. 19 December - 15 January



Lorraine Bates - *Enduring Evidence* - Lorraine draws inspiration from geology, working from her studio in Woodsetton which sits on land strewn with Silurian fossil, rocks and geodes collected by the previous landowner. The enduring nature of the craft of pottery has kept Lorraine investigating its myriad of techniques and forms, and rediscovering what is possible within the medium. 19 December - 29 January

8 SLAP DEC/JAN

Chris Ludlow - *Pictures Around Pershore* - Chris has been taking photographs from a young age, inspired by his father who was a keen photographer. The images in this exhibition were captured around Pershore over the last few years, with a focus on Pershore Abbey. A large presence both physically and historically, the abbey holds special meaning for the artist. 16 Jan - 5 Feb



Number 8, High Street, Pershore, Worcestershire. For more info: number8.org or call 01386 561906

CIRCLE OF SWORDS

GOOD • HONEST • TATTOOING

2-4 TRINITY STREET, WORCESTER, WR1 2PW

TUESDAY - SATURDAY: 10:00 - 18:00

01905 780606

f CIRCLEOFSWORDSWORCESTER
 @ CIRCLEOFSWORDS

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

Local Author Steve Davis | The Door

What if we had the chance to relive our lives, not to make the same mistakes again? Those of you who are happy would certainly say no chance. But what if your so-called happy life turned out to be a lie, a sham, and the opportunity presented itself? Imagine you had a second chance to try again. How many of us would take the gamble to dip our toes into uncharted waters?



Poppy Day believes that she lives a gifted life with her partner Simon. That is until she discovers the all-powerful 'door' that, unknowingly to Poppy, sends her back in time where she meets Samuel Devere.

They certainly find love, but can they find a way through the frustrations and obstacles put in the way but the 'Door'? And will they still be together by the end of their journey?

These are the questions that local author **Steve Davis** puts forward in his new book, *The Door*.

Described as "A rollercoaster ride of intrigue, love and sexual fantasy" This Kidderminster born author, who's worked in carpentry sales and has travelled the world, says that it was his 2014 injury and the four year recovery period that finally pushed him to write the book. He admits he would be the last person to have thought that one day he would write a book, let alone get it published.

Published by Austin Macauley publishers London, **The Door** is available on Amazon as a paperback or a download, also at Waterstones, WH Smith's and many other retail outlets.

**Advertise in this space for
as little as £30 per month**

SLAP

MAGAZINE

SLAP Supporting Local Arts & Performers
adverts@slapmag.co.uk

BRIGHT FIELD
WINTER 2020

**kathryn williams
& michele stodart**
Seasonal musical sisters

PERIANT: FOLK ICE AND FIRE
KIRSTI BOHATA: WINTER, WOMEN AND WALES
WEIRDISHIRE OJS: WASSAIL WASSAIL

FRIDAY JANUARY 17th
the GLOBE hay on WYE 7:30pm
£15 online/£20 on DOOR
www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-bright-field-organisation

W.A.A.M

**WORCESTER ALTERNATIVE
ARTIST'S MARKET**

WORCESTER'S ONLY ALTERNATIVE ARTIST'S MARKET SHOWCASING
LOCAL ALTERNATIVE ARTISTS & CRAFTSPEOPLE

PRINTS · PAINTINGS · JEWELLERY · ORNAMENTAL ART & BEYOND
WEIRD, WONDERFUL & UNIQUE ONE OFFS & LTD EDITION PIECES

3PM - 7PM
SAT 7TH DEC

HEROES BAR, 26-32 FRIAR ST, WORCESTER

@WAAM2018
 @WORCESTERALTARTISTSMARKET
 WORCESTERALTARTISTSMARKET@GMAIL.COM

Suz Winspear



Christmas is coming, with the usual panoply of dreadful TV adverts encouraging us to spend money we can't afford on stuff that will go to waste or landfill before the New Year.

It can be a dismal time for a lot of us, and with the current toxic politics, the family arguments are liable to get even more vitriolic than usual. But try not to

stress yourself about it. Remember that the adverts are all fake, that nobody has the sort of prosperous harmonious Christmas that they portray, so there's no point in trying to live up to them. There's no law that says you have to spend a lot of money, wear an embarrassing jumper, eat turkey or spend time with people you dislike. It's all just a social convention. So try to find time to do something that you want, whether it's watching horror DVDs, digging the allotment or just catching up on some sleep. Eat the things you really enjoy, wear your favourite clothes, and try to spend time with the people whose company you relish. You don't have to have a Christmas tree, and if you do, decorate it with whatever you want – I'll be putting Halloween decorations on mine! Christmas doesn't last long, so get through it as well as you can, don't fret about the things that go wrong, and remember that there's a New Year on the way, and with a bit of luck it'll be better than 2019!

See you all again in 2020 - whatever happens, the year will be full of amazing Spoken Word experiences!

Christmas notwithstanding, there are still some **Spoken Word events going on in Worcestershire in December** –

Thursday 5th December – Dear Listener's 2nd Birthday Party - at **Boston Tea Party, Angel Place**. This early-evening event of eclectic poetry and spoken word, from both new and established voices has been running for two years, so this is a special night to celebrate! Three special headliners, open mic slots, cake and balloons – come and join the fun, and listen to some fabulous poetry! £3 admission. 6.30 – 8.30pm.

Thursday 5th December – Bohemian Voices – at the Worcester Arts Workshop The second night of this new monthly event - come along for a memorable night out! **The first Bohemian Voices** went very well, with a lively atmosphere and an exciting mix of music, Spoken Word and stand-up comedy, so don't miss this one!. £5 admission (£2.50 students/unwaged) 8.30pm (so you'll have time to drop in after Dear Listener!)

Thursday 5th December – Bewdley Fringe Spoken Word – at The Retreat Bar, Load Street, Bewdley With special guest **Jimmy Davis**, aka **TBPES**, recording artist and Birmingham wordsmith. Open mic slots available for poetry, spoken word and storytelling. Free admission - turn up at 7pm to sign up for a slot. 7.30pm start.

Saturday 7th December – Human Rights Poetry Evening – at the Friends Meeting House, Sansome Walk, Worcester An evening of poetry for **Human Rights Day**- if you have something you would like to read, that is excellent (needn't be your own, it can be a poem from someone else that inspires you). Entry is free, refreshments will be provided (there will be cake!), collection in aid of the **Worcester Amnesty international** group

Thursday 12th December – SpeakEasy - at Paradiddles, 61/61a Sidbury WR1 3HU Yes, it's election day, but we can put politics aside for a couple of hours before the results start to come through, so come to the **SpeakEasy Christmas Special!** Our featured performer is - Everybody! Bring along your Christmas/Solstitial/wintery poems to share with good company in a friendly venue. £3 admission, 7.30pm.

Friday 13th December – A Winter's Weaving – Storytelling for Christmas-time – at Tudor House Museum, Friar Street, Worcester Storytellers, **Sharon Carr, Pyn Stockman and Cath Edwards**. An evening of " ...old stories told by the fire on a cold winter's night." Tickets: £10. Book tickets at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/a-winters-weaving-storytelling-for-christmas-time-tickets-73402357427> Starts: 7:30pm

Friday 13th December – Licensed to Rhyme at Worcester Arts Workshop An assortment of poetry and Spoken Word, with headliner **Mike Garry**, whose gritty poetry has won him admiration far and wide, and his collaboration with New Order in New York's Carnegie Hall in 2014 received five star reviews. Mike has toured with John Cooper Clarke since 2011 opening shows for him in UK, Ireland and The United States. Some open mic slots available – contact maggiedoylepoet@gmail.com £5 admission, under 18s free. 7pm

Saturday 14th DECEMBER – Book Launch – 'Patience' by Nina Lewis, at Parks Café, Droitwich Former Worcestershire **Poet Laureate Nina Lewis** launches her new poetry collection '*Patience*', published by V. Press, with featured readers, guest readers and a Christmas party vibe. Parks Café, 4, Victoria Square, Droitwich WR9 8DS. Free admission. 7PM for 7:30 start

There won't be a **December 42** – some people are apparently otherwise engaged on Wednesday December 25th – but instead we're having an online 42 storytime! If you would like to write and email a Disquieting Christmas Story, 1500-2000 words to list@42Worcester.com the chosen ones will be featured on the Worcester42 website—copyright remains with the author. Merry Christmas and a Happy (Spooky) New Year from all at 42!

Spoken Word Events for January 2020

Some regular events don't run in January, and others don't yet have details available, but here are the ones that I know of so far!

Thursday 9th January SpeakEasy - at Paradiddles, 61/61a Sidbury WR1 3HU The featured performer for January will be the new **Staffordshire Poet Laureate, Mel Woodend**. Open Mic slots available on a first-come, first-served basis. £3 admission, 7.30pm.

Thursday 23rd January Dear Listener – at Boston Tea Party, Angel Place Back to the regular time, an early evening event of eclectic poetry and spoken word, from both new and established voices. Featured performer to be announced. £3 admission. 6.30 – 8.30pm.

Wednesday 30th January - 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 '*The Shadow Waves Back*' – some pieces will be on theme, but it isn't essential! 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.

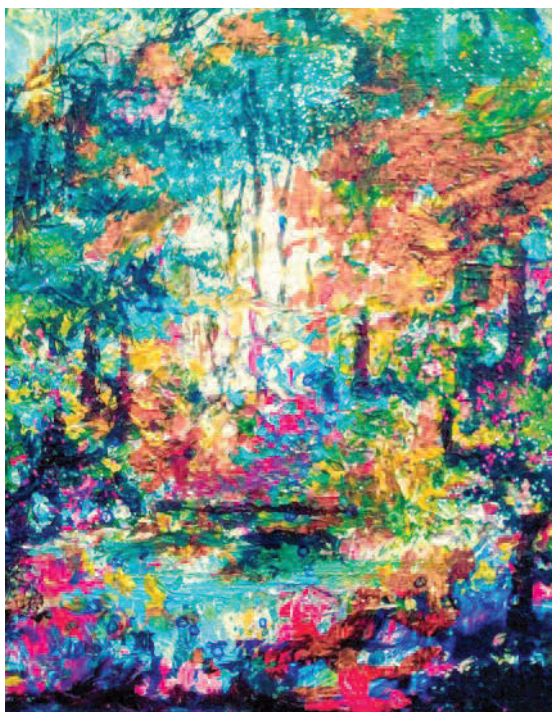
Happy New Year from all at Worcester Arts Workshop!

December at WAW sees the return of some Workshop favourites, plus some special festive events. Beginning with **Bohemian Voices** presenting their monthly mix of music, comedy and poetry on Thursday 5 December.

Licensed To Rhyme, hosted by **Spoz**, is back on Friday 13 December featuring headline poet **Mike Garry** plus open mic spots.



This term's courses and workshops continue, plus a one-off **Fused Glass Christmas Decoration Workshop** on 10 December. And December's art exhibition in the Cafe Bar is **Lucid Dreams** by mixed media artist **Gaynor Gregory**, from 3 December.



On Friday 20 December, **Worcester Film Institute** presents a singalong screening of the smash hit musical **The Greatest Showman**. Tickets for this 18+ event are £20 each and includes bottomless Prosecco!

January sees the beginning of a new term of courses and workshops including popular favourites Ceramics and Discovering Clay, Oil Painting, Life Drawing and Watercolour and much more. There's also a new term of courses for young people, with regular Saturday Pottery and Art Clubs for all ages. Sign up for a spot online!

Artist **Tim Blackburn** presents 'Malaise' an exhibition of his work throughout January in the Cafe Bar. Comprised of watercolour paintings and drawings completed 2013 through 2019, Malaise collates Timothy's passions, fears, convictions and discontent into illustrative pieces.



January sees the return of WAW's **Live Lounge** on Saturday 18 January. Live Lounge showcases local artists and bands in Worcester and entry is free. WAW is also hosting **Worcester Film Institute's** sold out screening of *Sing-a-long Grease* (with bottomless Prosecco!) on Friday 24 January. Keep a look out online for further film screenings coming soon.

Bohemian Voices was a great success and will continue to run the first Thursday of each month at **The Worcester Arts Workshop**. The next one being 5th December 8.30pm.

This New Year, you'll also find a warm welcome and good cup of coffee in WAW's Cafe, along with our regular community groups including **The Monday Nite Club** and peer support group Behind The Smile.

For all information, up to date listings and tickets visit www.worcesterartsworkshop.org.uk.

Advertise in this space for as little as £30 per month

SLAP
MAGAZINE

SLAP Supporting Local Arts & Performers

adverts@slapmag.co.uk

LIGHT NIGHT WORCESTER

16 January 2020

5.30 – 10pm

Worcester City Centre
Free Event

for more information visit:

www.thearchesworcesterfestivals.co.uk

   [archesfests](#)



the
arches
Festivals

Supported using public funding by



ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

SevernArts



University
of Worcester



worcestershire
county council



Worcester
CITY COUNCIL

Exciting additions to the festival scene in Worcester

Adding to the rapidly developing cultural calendar in the City, Severn Arts are bringing four brand new festivals to Worcester in 2020, showcasing national and international creative talent and supporting local emerging work.

The first of the four festivals is **Light Night Worcester**, a free event taking place across the city centre on Thursday 16 January from 5.30 - 10pm. **Light Night** is inspired by the connections we have with each other and the world around us, with a programme of stunning light installations created by local and international artists, music by **Worldbeaters LED** drummers, a large colourful umbrella spectacle by worldwide performance producers, **Cirque Bijou**, giant illuminated seesaws that make music as you bounce



Cirque Bijou Umbrella Project - Andre Pattenden

Disrupting the Norm from 6 – 11 July will be a free festival with a range of events taking place throughout the week across the city. The festival will feature a mix of pop up events and accidental art - making the everyday less ordinary in a fun and playful way for the duration of the festival.

Their fourth festival is **Worcester's International Story Festival** which will take place in October. The International Story Festival will be a 10-day city-wide festival dedicated to stories; old stories, new stories, our stories, other people's stories. Narrative will be at the heart of everything within the Story Festival. A mix of free and ticketed events will make up this festival; using indoor and outdoor unusual spaces across Worcester.

David Edmunds, Festivals Director said: *"I am very excited about next year and our four new festivals. They have all got very strong and distinctive themes and it is great to be able to start sharing more information about them and how each one is going to be brought to life. Lots more information will follow very soon!"*

Laura Worsfold, Severn Arts Chief Executive said: *"We are all very excited about bringing new arts experiences to the people of Worcester and in particular, the number of opportunities for young people and new creative businesses that this programme will offer. Festivals have a huge impact on cities, as we have seen through City of Culture projects in Liverpool, Hull and now Coventry. We aim to celebrate the uniqueness of Worcester through presenting outdoor spectacle, debate, challenge and innovation and to raise the profile of artists, creative professionals and new emerging talent in our city."*

For more info: www.thearchesworcesterevents.co.uk or follow @archesfests on Twitter, Facebook or Instagram.



Gareth Jones Photography

by **CS Design** and **Lateral Office** with a soundscape by **Mitchell Akiyama** and a specially commissioned graduate light-based piece of work.

Atmosphere, will take place on Saturday 25 April. Atmosphere is a festival with a strong focus on the environment and the world we live in. It is a festival with a mix of discussions, talks and live performances either inspired by the environment or with a clear message about the environmental and natural world.

A Worcester glass artist - Cumbria commission

Frans Wesselman from Vincent Road has produced nine windows for a small chapel at Larch Cottage Nurseries in Penrith.

"There is a gallery there as well," says Frans. "I had arranged an exhibition of my etchings, wood cuts and stained glass pieces there this summer and when I came to deliver the work the owner of the business asked me to have a look at the chapel with a view of doing some stained glass."

"It turned out to be a very small chapel, of a traditional design, and decorated inside with attractive contemporary murals on the theme of the Last Judgement. I was asked to consider to design and make glass for the nine windows."

Having for some time considered the possibility of doing something about the Creation story, and given the subject of the murals, Frans realised here was an opportunity.

"My proposal was accepted and from the beginning of July until two weeks ago I have been working on this project."

"From early September until the installation on October 18 I have been cutting, painting and firing the glass, soldering everything together, cleaning the windows. Taking them to Cumbria and seeing whether they would fit and look like I had hoped they would

was a bit nerve wracking, but the result was good."
www.fwstainedglass.com



Motherland

Festival of Equality in Arts and Society: FEAST

In a world where the voices of Nationalism and Identity Politics seem to drown out peaceful debate, "Motherland", which explores the theme of identity, gets the audience to question "who am I ?" in Modern Britain.

Malvern was the second of a nine stop tour of the play "Motherland", written, directed and performed by Jo Tyabji. It was the crowning moment in last weekend's Theatre festival, "FEAST" whose aim is to promote equality in arts and society through theatre. What was unique about this intelligently written and performed show, was the technique of verbatim theatre (documented words, in the form of audio clips) that were expertly mimed and animated by Jo Tyabji. One moment you were listening to David Cameron's voice, mimed, addressing a Wembley stadium full of British Indians, the next, hearing from Far Right agitators, the next from Indian Prime Minister, Narendra Modi. The relationship between Britain and India and between Muslims and Hindus was the context for the play, which is around an hour long, however, as Tyabji confirmed in the after show discussion at Malvern Cube last Sunday evening. The theme of division and extreme Nationalist identity is one that is revealing itself all over the world at this time. An enlightening audio clip from Prime Minister Modi, in which he describes how to "de-Islamify" parts of India was, as the post show discussion highlighted, none other than a 21st century form of Eugenics, or "Fascist Science" as Tyabji coined it.



The rise of the Populist leader was a theme in the play and, as each new voice is revealed (Tyabji, who identifies as non binary, and confesses that everytime Theresa May's voice pops up to mime, they are still taken by surprise), it becomes clear that the focus is thrown firmly back onto the audience. No-one can hide in this searingly honest study of identity: even the romanticised Western opinions of Hindus and Hinduism as Peace-loving Ahimsas, is dismantled. There is a particularly amusing section where Tyabji takes on the role of a famous Bollywood actor/singer and flirts with the audience.

By giving new life to the words recorded, from Cameron, Modi, various British Indians and Tommy Robinson, to name just a few of the disembodied voices we hear, Jo Tyabji challenges the audience to examine their own prejudices and stereotypes and suggests that populist leaders are skewing our real identity as human beings sharing the same planet, and that we are being manipulated by some very narcissistic leaders indeed.

Motherland is on tour till March 2020

Bernadette Kearney Photo by Sharon White

For full details of all events and the most up to date listings visit www.artrix.co.uk or call Box Office on 01527 577330.

Film & Art at Artrix

Film estivities begin on Saturday 7 December from 11am for a fun-filled family day inspired by the classic **The Polar Express** (Cert U). Come dressed in your pyjamas and be whisked away on a magical adventure to the North Pole. Festive films from the latest releases, including **Frozen 2** to sing-a-long Hollywood classics **Singin' In The Rain** and **Calamity Jane**. Encore Screening of **42nd Street** on 11 January and Exhibition On Screen - **Lucian Freud: A Self Portrait** on 14 January. For new additions to cinema listings or follow @FilmArtrix on Twitter.

Drawn From The Wood an exhibition of work by **Robin Shaw** until 2 February. Robin Shaw tells story of Hanbury Woods in black and white drawings together with a narrative which draws on the history and ecology of the area. There's also a new term of courses and workshops beginning in January, including Jewellery Making and Home **Educators Art Club**.



Live @ the Lamb & Flag

The Tything, Worcester Sundays 8-10pm

Dec 1st - Emilie Eleonore

Dec 8th - Meg Scane

Dec 15th - Chloe Mogg

Dec 22nd - Eva and the Blue Dive

Dec 29th - Anne-Marie Allen

Jan 12th - Ruben Seabright

Jan 19th - Kringo Blue

26th - Immy and the Boatman


[@SugoLambAndFlag](https://www.facebook.com/SugoLambAndFlag)


**TWO CRAFTY
BREWERS**


[lambandflagworcs](https://www.instagram.com/lambandflagworcs)

Hardwicke Circus

The Prince Of Wales, Ledbury | 5th Dec

It's a cold, damp, wet even, Thursday evening, nothing on telly, and your Netflix subscription is overdue, want you gonna do?

How about dragging your tired body over to the **Prince Of Wales**. Yes it's in Ledbury, but Ledbury's a lovely little town, they've even got a chippy! More importantly, they have the excellent pub tucked away in Church St. behind the iconic stilted Market Hall. Fine ales, and decent grub, but also a venue for LIVE MUSIC that punches well above its weight. A couple of months back, they hosted Carlisle band **Hardwicke Circus** on a Sunday evening, no mean feat, a six piece gang of fresh faced youths, who write and perform what I would term, commercial rock, or pop rock, and they're very good at it. OK



they're shoehorned into one of the smallest 'stages' out there, so somewhat restricted to a less animated performance, but, but, but, these boys are already supporting top line bands and headlining festivals. Arguably one of the hardest working bands I've met, and they are going to become very BIG.

So why not shake off the gloom of winter, grab a coat and get

over to the Prince, it won't cost you a bean, well maybe a beer, or glass of cider, wine, gin, whisky, whatever, its a well stocked house. Thursday December 5th, Hardwicke Circus, remember the name, you'll be able to tell your sons and daughters, oh yeah, I saw that lot play a pub in Ledbury, back in '19.

'If It Ain't Stiff...It Ain't Worth A F***' there will be many who remember the bold banner for Stiff records, the man behind

the label, is also behind **Hardwicke Circus**, I reckon he sees their potential, and I'm not arguing.

Matt Woosey, Home Again

Malvern singer, songwriter, guitarist, returns back to his home territory, for gigs at **West Malvern Social Club, Dec 4th**, and **Joe Joe Jims (Cofton Hackett) Dec 6th**, on his UK tour.

Matt who has settled in Germany with his wife and young family, makes his now annual winter return, bringing with him his superb German band, and of coarse dragging old side man and drinking buddy, **Dave Small (Arcadia Roots)** into the mix. Matt has stretched out from his blues roots to add some beautiful soulful and ethereal music to his repertoire. His band add an extra dimension to his songs and the combination is electric. Matt has a proven track record for beautifully crafted songs, no matter the genre. His back catalogue is extensive, the music will go from foot stomping blues through passionate love songs, and take off into the more esoteric offerings from his *Desiderata* album. More recently, Matt has released *Live At Gallaghers Nest*, a nod to his hero Rory, but is actually located at home in Germany. If you haven't got a copy of what is an excellent album, I'm sure he will have copies on hand. Its a snapshot of Matt's music over the



years, a sort of 'Best Of' live collection, with the expansive sound of his full band. Don't take my word for it, here's a snip from a serious journal, "*luminous originality and talent*" The Times.

Graham Munn

'Candelight Concerts' Seasonal concerts

Vocal quintet **Excelsa Voces**, led by soprano **Paula Evans** and described by King Crimson guitarist Robert Fripp as 'Outstanding', present 3 special winter concert experiences in December. The concerts feature a programme of seasonal music taking in medieval chant, contemporary harmonies (eg music by Eric Whitacre, Gavin Bryars) and mesmeric improvisations featuring keyboard player **Chris Long** and cellist **Tom McMahon**. **Excelsa Voces** concerts are renowned for their immersive and transcendental qualities, and the ensemble have chosen 3 beautiful venues for these concerts - the medieval **Guild Chapel** in Stratford-upon-Avon on the 6th, the **Saxon church of St Faith** in Overbury on the 13th, and the **Callow Great Hall** (a Pugin Chapel) at **Stanbrook Abbey**, Powick on the 14th. See www.excelsavoces.com for details and tickets.



Bonfire Audio Persephone

Being intrigued by both act name and album title is always a good start & so I sat down looking forward to opening the old lugholes to what is **Rob Talbot Cooper's** fourth solo album.

Ah the name may ring a bell cuz yes tis he who is the bar manager of well known Worcester boozier **The Chestnut Inn**, an establishment which has whole-heartedly supported the local music scene & beyond for a good few years now.

Rob has now re-committed to his own music so determinedly that he has even built his own studio and this passion shines through with *Persephone*.

Not only the *Greek Goddess of The Underworld* but also of Spring, re-growth & greenery *Persephone* has two distinct personalities. And so it proves with this 6 track mini-abum, which has dark and serious undertones bit also plenty of light and optimism.

I've no idea what to expect which is good and am somehow taken by surprise as title track kicks off techno style. Yes the bpm's are banging as old school arpeggiated sounds entwine with analogue oscillators to present a melodic and multi-layered palette of polyphonic magic. I hear echoes of Jean-Michel Jarre, Kraftwerk & even the dance tinged stylings of Pet Shop Boys: there is alot going on in the mix and it's all good.

Intriguing titles continue with *The Seagull That Stole My Sandwich* which begins with jaunty acoustic guitar, replete with the requisite bird sounds. It soon settles into another ear-catchingly melodic synth number, which is surprisingly relaxing given that the poor chap's had his lunch nicked by the resident gull muggers! Indeed it comes across as veritably positive and even jovial in tone. Nice drum samples throughout this one though I may be doing Rob a disservice as he could be slaving over a real kit. Who can tell these days eh?

Things get more serious with *Extinction Rebellion* and dear Greta gets her moment in the sampled spotlight. Again classy tight techno-beats abound bringing Paul Hardcastle to mind in addition to the ever influential Kraftwerk, forever The Fore/Godfathers of the synth genre.

Infinity Loneliness showcases Rob's obvious and apparent love for this synthetic soundscape and how at ease and knowledgeable of the genre he is.

Glissandos glitter as tasty horns weave around a phat, funky bass underbelly, infinity defined as touches of The Bros Chemical enter the aural fray.

Then onto *The Approach* which solidifies this album's credentials as excellent soundtrack material waiting to be snapped up by some tasteful, open-eared director. Acoustic guitar washes gives way to multi-panned phased drums as the euphoric melody brings to mind a sci-fi minded Air.

Finally to another excellently titled piece *Siren Song of The Summit* bookended with spoken samples unidentifiable by ignoramus moi but even a search for the title's origin drew a blank. Maybe it's the man himself donning American accent for the part as it's notable that he does absolutely everything else on the album alone: bravo I say.

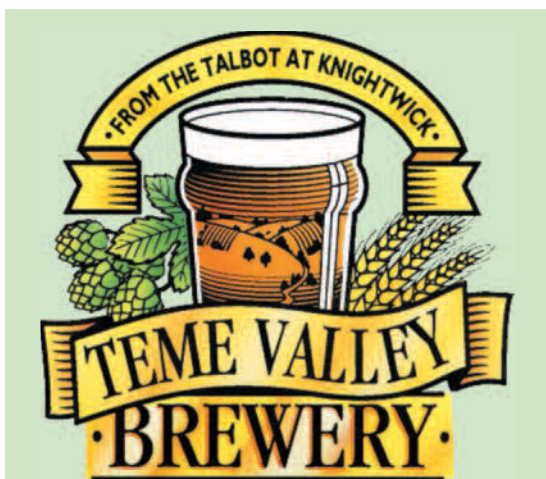
The last track brings us back to that banging beat as it whirrs, clicks and squelches in fine retro style, finishing with an optimistic flourish.

I enjoyed *Persephone* immensely and if you're also a fan of beat-driven and magisterially melodious synth music you'll love it too.

Rob has signed up with US firm Distroboy and as a result *Persephone* is available on loads of digital platforms such as Spotify, iTunes, Soundcloud and many more.

Go on treat yerself to an early Christmas present and don't forget to go buy Rob a pint when you next see him to thank him.

Words by Edgar Freeze



**Brewing great beer at
The Talbot, Knightwick
since 1997.**

**Farmers' Market second Sunday monthly
and three beer festivals every year.**

Call us for sales to trade or public on
01886 821235
www.temevalleybrewery.co.uk

Hey Jester | Hey Jester

Until the self-titled, debut album by **Hey Jester** appeared in my inbox demanding attention, I can't say I knew much about the Worcestershire based trio. Sure I'd seen their monicker attached to the likes of **Worcester Music Festival** and the alike, but I hadn't manage to catch a note so had few expectations. A spin through the attached biog piqued my interest, comparisons with the likes of Muse and Jeff Buckley and mentions of jack-sharp jazz and furious fuzz-rock, had me more than a little intrigued.

Three and half minute opener *Cleanse*, had me sat bolt upright within the first few seconds, a swaggering, fuzzy and somehow funky riff launches from the speakers and goes straight for the throat. Quickly followed by the dynamic rhythm section of **Joe** and **Nick Davies** (bass & drums respectively) who pound, pummel and propel, serving as the perfect launch pad for **Mirron Webb's** attitude soaked lead vocals. And just when I thought I had the band's sound pegged, Webb twists sharp, muscular jazz shapes from his guitar, suggesting there's much more going on than your atypical rock combo.

The title-track follows and we encounter melodic jazzy guitars, a deep seductive bass throb and Webb's crooning like the aforementioned Buckley. All the while Nick Davies embellishes



from behind the kit, driving towards a grungier hook. On paper, this eclectic mix and mash of styles has no right to work, but in practise it's a unique thrill, a three and half minute calling card that announces **Hey Jester** to the world.

There aren't many bands out there that would write a song about political correctness, censorship and running away from an Orwellian nightmare and then soundtrack the whole thing with a surreal take on mutant disco (interspersed with distorted rock riffs). Hey Jester do just that (sort of) on *Pepper Spray* and then follow that with the Thundercat inspired funk of *No Clover*, as the band continue to defy logic and indeed classification.

Elsewhere we're served up a jazz bass freak-out and a Queens Of The Stone Age like rock twist (*Extraterrestrial Love*), an angry progressive stoner rock address to an unloyal partner (*All This Time!*) and a tale about falling in love with an imaginary (or artificial) person on the closing *Sickly Sweet*, during the bands compelling ten track affair.

How do you sum up an album like *Hey Jester* or indeed the band themselves? Well after subsequent spins I'm still none the wiser. Sure I could tell you it's unique, eccentric and highly addictive, or that the trio are maverick musical alchemists who somehow blend opposing elements to form a contagious, cohesive whole. Or that I feel enriched for having been introduced to **Hey Jester** (and I truly do), but truly the only way to understand just how impressive, how different and how essential Hey Jester's debut is, is by listening and digesting yourselves.

www.heyjester.com

Will Munn

Mat Partridge | Destroying is Easy

Destroying Is Easy is the second solo album by West Midlands based, singer/songwriter and former **Soley Mourning** frontman, **Mat Partridge**, following the 2016 release of *Parts Per Million*. Much like his debut, *Destroying Is Easy* continues to see Partridge, sonically move away from the alternative rock sound of his former band and explore new avenues, adding a soul, funk, jazz and even a Latin element to his palette, creating a varied yet always infectious disc that should see Partridge build on the successes of his debut.

The title track opens the album with something of a dark brooding number. A sustained keyboard note sets the tone before layers of drums and a repetitive chant of 'build it up' join the mix along with a tinkered piano and dramatic chords. Partridge lays down a stunning soulful rock vocal warning the listener that 'it takes thought, takes everything you got' to (re)build a life but as the title suggests 'destroying is easy'. It's an engaging listen from the off, a dark, yet somehow seductive number that draws the listener in and holds the attention, a feat maintained throughout the discs duration.

Despite the addition of a Hammond organ, a brass section and a gorgeous funk licked soulful lead, *After The Lord Mayor's Show*, lyrically continues to look in the shadows, as Partridge takes a very real look at gun crime and the ease of accessibility of firearms despite the fact we 'read the same headlines'. Both lyrically and



musically the track compels, on one hand you have these bursts of brass, a short swaggering guitar solo and Mat's gorgeous lead, and on the other you have lines such as 'no leader has the balls to ever change the laws', as our protagonist proves that social commentary can be both punchy and infectious.

As the album continues Partridge shows his diversity. *Another Girl (Better Time)* is a three and a half minute slice of funk pop nirvana, with it's choppy guitars and insanely addictive choral payoff. *Copies* is an urgent sound-clash of rock, soul and perhaps even R&B with Mat telling us to stand on our two feet and 'don't get boxed and put away by society, cos society will try to label ya from your sexuality race class and gender'. While despite talk of battling addiction, *Rezzo* is musically, a gloriously unashamed, hook-laden Latin fused, pop number.

Elsewhere we're served up piano-led pop on *I Just Wanna Be Accepted* and a dose of wah-wah guitar and a warm soulful croon on *Under The Pseudonym Of*. Partridge brings the album to a close with the mesmeric bass and keys propelled soul of *The Fleetingness Of Time*, leaving with one final soaring, emotive lead vocal and a searching guitar solo that will entice listeners back time and again.

Destroying Is Easy is a rich, varied and rewarding listen, proving **Mat Partridge** can turn his hand and indeed pen to anything, forget your pre-conceptions of the singer-songwriter, troubadour, strumming alone, down your local, this album is big, bold and beautiful and deserves to be heard.

www.facebook.com/matpartridgeofficial

Will Munn

Raptor | Escapism

Following a bout of live dates and the release of their debut mini-album, psych-rockers **Raptor** unveil the title track, *Escapism* as their latest single. The near six minute track is a suitably woozy affair, that sees the band channel the early days of Pink Floyd, Sgt Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band and the fuzz and stomp of Sabbath, as the band take all the best bits of the late sixties, stir them up and add some secret Raptor seasoning, to create a lurching, infectious psychedelic masterpiece.



In a bid to capture the essence of *Escapism* and indeed Raptor, the trio have teamed up with Australia's FUZZWAH (who's collaborated with the likes of Thee Oh Sees, Pipe-Eye and Frankie

And The Witch Fingers among others) to piece together a suitably 'out there' visual extravaganza. Filming in infra-red and using a toy fisheye lens, along with FUZZWAH's lo-fi analog effects, the band have created something of a hazy, psychedelic purple wonderland. Complete with obligatory fuzz as frontman, **Kurt Fletcher** steps on the power.

The woozy, retro visuals compliment the band's sound perfectly and deserve as many plaudits as the track itself, if you've not yet delved into the fuzz and groove world of **Raptor**, may I suggest you seek a little '*Escapism*', this is one trip you're not going to want to miss.

Will Munn

www.facebook.com/Raptortheband

Sun Fire | Feel The Heat

Malvern based rockers, **Sun Fire** first formed back in February 2014 as an outlet for singer and guitarist **Ady Beckwith**. After a series of gigs and a handful of line-up changes the band settled on their current four-piece incarnation in the latter months of 2016 and since then have continued to perform across the county, whilst writing and honing their sound.

Building a reputation on the back of well chosen covers and the band's own material, **Sun Fire** have been welcomed at the likes of **Mapp Fest**, **Dubs Of Anarchy**, **Drunken Monkey** and **Worcester Music Festival**, whilst continuing to take in the local venues around the area.



predecessors, but the southern flavoured rocker is no less impressive. *Soul Rain*, the first of three seven minute tracks allows the guitars off the hook showing what the twin shredders are

capable of. The rhythm section propel the track on a Maiden-esque, meaty gallop. Another one of the weightier tracks, *Hey Now* sees the band stretch and bend from humble, melodic beginnings (complete with light touches of shimmering cymbal) into driving hard rock, interspersed with glorious flights of soaring guitar, unleashing the band's inner 'fire'.

Sun Fire may not be about breaking boundaries or keeping up with the latest buzz, but what they are doing is playing the music they love and playing it damn well. *Feel The Heat* is an unapologetic meaty ROCK album and I for one, salute them for their contagious homage.

Will Munn

Having accumulated enough original material the band retired to Mayb Studio to record their self-released, debut, full-length, hard rock homage, *Feel The Heat*. The disc proudly wears the band's collective influences on it's sleeve and sounds all the better for it, there's no band wagon jumping with Sun Fire, they've come to crank it up and rock out and they don't give a shit what year it is.

Oddly, before the dual guitars and rhythm section really kick in, the lead title track begins with a melodic introduction that nod's towards Coldplay of all people. But fear not, the thoughts of Chris Martin and his brethren are soon banished as the quartet move through the gears and Beckwith delivers a lead vocal more akin to that of Axl Rose. The rhythm section of **Clyde Martin** and the **Howard Dawson** (bass and drums respectively) drive the track, whilst Ady and fellow guitarist, **Vinnie Liotta** provide the all important riff-tastic melody that towards an obvious, yet welcoming vocal pay-off.

Sun Fire make '*No Excuses*' as they launch head first into the discs second track with a Dawson pound and those twin guitars hinting at the greats Maiden, Sabbath and Purple, whilst Beckwith's lead, channels prime time Ozzy, as the band seem to rifle through my teenage record collection pulling out the bits that first had me buying Kerrang, Raw Power and frequenting the Northwick rock night.

Hearts Of Fire maybe a little more melodic than the album's

HOGAN'S

BESPOKE HAIRDRESSING

BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT NOW

01905 936305

3 NEWPORT STREET . WORCESTER
WR1 3NR



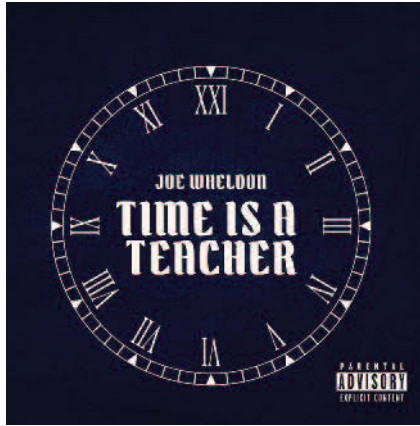
@hogansbespokehairdressing

Joe Wheldon | Time is a Teacher

Bruce Springsteen famously declared that, "I learned more from a three minute record than I ever learned in school"; hyperbolic I know but he had a point. Joe Wheldon has learnt a greater lesson, there is no greater teacher than time and it's a valuable observation, arriving at the universal conclusion with slightly more than the prerequisite three chords and the, eh, truth.

The determined acoustic opening contains an antagonistic edge that adds a greater emphasis to the content of the lyrics. The phrase "society breeds hate" is the flame that lights up how our young troubadour perceives society or as Owen Jones is keen to state: "why is it certain individuals are only happy when they have someone to hate?" Wheldon seems to have learned this too early in his young life but JW is keen to stress - "all you can do is smile back." - indeed.

Indeed, writer's first novels tend to hint at a biographical content and for our young songwriter this first single is no different. The dark year he has endured and alluded to in the biog' has clearly



informed his first single, colouring and tainting a world view that goes beyond his home village, or perhaps reflects the reality of small village life in Bredon. Lest we forget, some of these villages and towns have changed little since the Second World War (sic). Why do we insist on always looking back as a society?

Looking forward, Joe sings in a contemporary style, reminiscent of the charts but I need to remind you that before the Merseybeat sound of the 60s we Brits insisted in singing in a faux American accent. Ahem. The voice, in equal measure is confessional in tone, confiding in intent and chidingly infers we are all to blame as he stares accusingly and directly down the camera...

In the accompanying video Joe Wheldon is replicated a number of times, producing multiple images on the screen, suggesting a number of different versions of our reflective singer-songwriter. Time was there were seven ages of man, however, in these complex times the 27 ages of man must

surely be more apt? Shakespeare taught us a lot about ourselves, time has taught Joe Wheldon a great deal and he has also learnt that all the world is a stage...so make sure you catch him performing locally and he will teach you a lesson in song writing!

Nicholas David Burford nicholas.burford@virgin.net

Pete with Rosie

Nine Lessons: A Christmas Album

The weather has taken a turn, the heating is on and I'm tucked up with a glass of port (well red wine actually, but close enough!) so it would seem somewhat apt to turn my attention to the seasonal return of **Pete (Adams)** and **Rosie (Green)**. Following on from the remarkable success of *Christmas In The Market Towns*, the duo have returned to the studio to conjure a second festive songbook, entitled *Nine Lessons*, a ten-track, midwinter affair that's interspersed with readings taken from the traditional *Nine Lessons service* (read by Ann Head, Rose's mum!).

Similar to the duo's previous seasonal tome, this sees a very different Adams from the one that's been seen recently fronting the likes of **Hey You Guys** and **Evilwitch**. Electric guitars are set to minimal as Pete strips everything back to deliver to a folky and at times sparse collection. In fact so much so that the opening track, the one minute *Processional*, sets the mood with a lone church organ playing out a brief introduction, before Ann reads out the first of her stately lessons.

Woods Of Winter continues the mood, as a bewitching Rosie lead vocal is backed by an understated plucked acoustic and the natural sounds of the track's title. Pete's voice can be heard wordlessly harmonising with that of his wife, as the couple deliver a mesmeric and becalming two minute folk lament, hooking the listener in. *Wake* follows lesson two and captures that jovial mood



when the house awakens on Christmas morning, half harmonies capturing the rush to window to see if any snow has fallen over night.

Telescope sees a melancholic and weary Adams gazing at the wider world, contemplating the bigger picture and attempting to predict when 'peace will come for all man kind'. Again subtly backed, Pete's vocals create a vivid picture and you almost feel like you're there, taking in the enormity of life and it's consequences with our thought provoking narrator.

As the album continues Rosie takes over the reins for the gorgeous and aptly named *Lullaby*, delicately emoting over a child friendly melody, her coos capable of lulling the most savage of temper tantrums, rather suggests that this one should be available on the NHS!! And Rosie continues to lead on the equally enchanting, *The Long Crendon Church Window*, accompanied once more with the folky plucks of acoustic. Following a handful of further readings and a near acapella Pete (The Worcestershire Carol), the duo take turns round the mic on a relatively straight rendition of *We Three Kings* (bar a treated vocal or two), before upbeat marching drums and complimentary harmonies see Pete and Rosie conclude proceedings with a run at *Joy To The World*.

The seemingly annual festive albums by Pete and Rosie are a joy to behold, their original take on the holiday season, sees the duo uphold traditional values whilst still managing to offer a very unique spin on things. The family feel of sitting round the fire singing along to songs of praise is further enhanced by the readings of **Ann Head**, while the likes of *Winter Wood* and *Lullaby* could easily become seasonal standards in their own right. I recommend you grabbing a copy of *Nine Lessons* for when you decorate your tree and toast the silly season with a glass of the good stuff.

Nine Lessons: A Christmas Album is Available from Monday 2nd December via iTunes, Amazon, Spotify and all good streaming sites.

Will Munn

Nuns of the Tundra | Sign In Blood

After a brief sabbatical, a line-up change, a baby and a dose of writing, everyone's favourite alternative fuzz rockers **Nuns Of The Tundra**, swaggered back into view, storming **St Swithurns Institute** during **Worcester Music Festival**. A packed out venue paid witness to a return equivalent to the second coming, as the band rose again with a flurry of those thick riffs and bombarding drums we've become accustomed to.

One of the main reasons why music fans are so enamoured with the Nuns', is the band have formed a sound very much of their own making, sure there are a few noticeable influences lurking with the band's genetic make-up but few acts have managed to ride the divide between power and groove, between infectious and fuzzy quite like the 'Tundra. From the early days of *Robot Love*



through the *Minds Eye*, *Pray 4 U Slay For U* and onto *Baby's Got A Box Of Matches*, the band (have always) hit you like a ton of bricks. An instant distorted throb here, a thunderous barrage of drums there, an infectious psych-fueled melody, a choral hook that could ground the royal navy and then there's that ever-present groove that lingers long after the track fades or the band's put down their instruments, nagging and willing you to take another listen or to cry out for one more song.

Nuns Of The Tundra's brand new single, *Sign In Blood* sees the band continue that rich trend. Opening with a howl of feedback, the band settle to lay down a wonderfully off-kilter psychedelic melody, complimented by stop-start tapped drums, before stepping on the gas. Tittey delivers a magnetic and melodic lead vocal as instrumentation drops in and out of the mix. At one point we're left with the tapped out rhythm, the next a driving bass propels us on. Somewhere around the three minute mark, another twist in direction, as a barrage of drums and flurry of stoned riffs up the ante. The unexpected addition of what sounds like a theremin, adds yet another layer to the potent psych freak-out as *Sign In Blood* woozily swaggers towards it's close.

We may have been waiting a few months for the return of the Nuns' but their performance at WMF, followed by the release of *Sign In Blood*, suggest the band have been far from resting on their laurels, on the evidence gathered so far, you can expect a big year ahead for Nuns Of The Tundra, so strap in and enjoy the ride.

Will Munn

Elles Bailey Blacktop Companion

It seems **Elles Bailey** is perpetually on the road, touring the UK and Europe – that is, when she's not nipping over to Nashville to record. Her latest release is the 9-track *Blacktop Companion*, recorded as a companion to *Road I Call Home*, the album fuelling her current tour. The new record includes unreleased tracks recorded in Nashville, and three acoustic, 'live' studio recordings that were inspired by *Road I Call Home*.

It appears the direction of Elles' music has taken her down the country blues trail which, of course, leads straight to Nashville. And it's not a criticism, indeed, this collection of songs is an absolute delight to sit back and listen to. There is nothing in the songs that could hope to offend; no head-bangin' or ear-blowing rock; just Elles and her beautiful, subtle, smoky voice.

John Prine's lovely *"Angel of Montgomery"*, with its organ opening, is made to measure for *"Hendo"* – and yes, it's a cover; a gorgeous rendition delivered emphatically. Slightly more upbeat perhaps, the *"Devil Comes Knocking"* – but he's wasting his time; *"When I Go"* is fit for angels, allow yourself to be taken up by its superb, layered and syncopated chorus lines. Seriously uplifting stuff!

"Wild, Wild West" looks back at the road Elles has travelled, full of reference and allusion to her landmark releases that helped pave the way Westward, into the great unknown. We'd better *"Help Somebody"* with a more bluesy direction, and a touch of soft rock to chew on. Well, *"What's The Matter"* with that? Or rather, *"...What is the matter with you?"* Elles brings soulful passion to the noticeably darker, delicious guilty pleasure.



A couple of acoustic songs are included; the fiery *"Medicine Man"* sees Elles spit poison right back in the faces of any con-men out there, all snake oil, smoke 'n' mirrors. *"Miss Me When I'm Gone"* is the downside of being on the road, a bittersweet lament to people left behind, delivered as a bare-boned acoustic with guitar accompaniment.

The album is drawn to a close in a final flurry of country, *"Fall Under Your Spell"* is laced with piano and organ that rise and fall in an undulating journey. A slow, pulsing rhythm captures Elles falling, falling under his gaze, with eyes full of love. It's a truly lovely album, and if you're any kind of

Elles Bailey fan (and why wouldn't you be?), it's sure to find its way into your collection. A delight from start to finish, I can't help but to feel the finger as it points, asking *"what is the matter with you?"* Catch Elles at The **Lamp Tavern**, Dudley, Dec 6th. Album available now at:

<https://www.ellesbailey.com/store>

Graham Munn

Temple Street Resistance Show Us Yr Blood Lust

Two brothers of real pedigree, born to the streets of Birmingham; if Peaky Blinders played blues, this is what it would sound like! Sons of local guitar hero **Trevor Burton**, who has recently had to withdraw from the blues scene through ill health, **Oliver** and **Oscar** have just cut a 10-track album recorded in Birmingham's own Fazely Park, Digbeth. 'Nough said! It's hard-nosed, black and blue garage blues that sizzles like seared steak, in contrast to their last album, *Don't Deal With The Devil*, which came as mostly acoustic, with vocals from Oliver and just a splash of percussion.

"Get Yr Angle Straight": coins drop, selection keyed, you'd better start ducking and diving, 'cause this opening track punches like a fairground fighting booth with its thumping drums and scything slide. The drums fire out a machine-gun fusillade, while ripping guitar skims the air for a shattering "Last Thing I Remember (Part 1)", a title that sends my head spinning back through blues history. Oh well, just a thought. (Part 2) has sticks dancing on the rim, dirty guitar riffs and gritty vocals; a frenetically furious pairing. "Wooden Bones" pulls us back to more traditional, yet hard-edged blues. Delightfully grungy, infectious drumming conjures a swirling storm of grit.



A cowbell calls time, before a hint of those instrumental framing, smoky vocals tell of the "well worn path from the boozer to the betting shop". "If I'm In A Cage, I'm Getting Out Of It" expresses the determination to escape the morass of everyday life; the brothers rev their engines, ready to drive through the building. Oscar pounds out the timing and guitar snarls the wonderfully bleak blues of "Been Down So Long". The rolling thunder of the drums is echoed by steadily grittier vocals and dirtier guitar, as they flog "Fugazi T-Shirts". It's an electric storm from start to finish, don't stand under a tree! "All Night Queuing For A Cheap Suit" is an attack on your ears and senses; short, sharp and vicious – don't say you weren't warned!

Rain is falling as acoustic guitar delivers a traditional blues riff for "Money In The Gutter", bank rolls and the devil's work, but don't be fooled into thinking Oliver's thrown his guitar down and walked away, there's a debt to be paid. The final kick in the teeth comes from the dirty, rock-driven "Neighbourhood Strays", a short tempo change in the middle adds extra interest to this tear-arsed head banger.

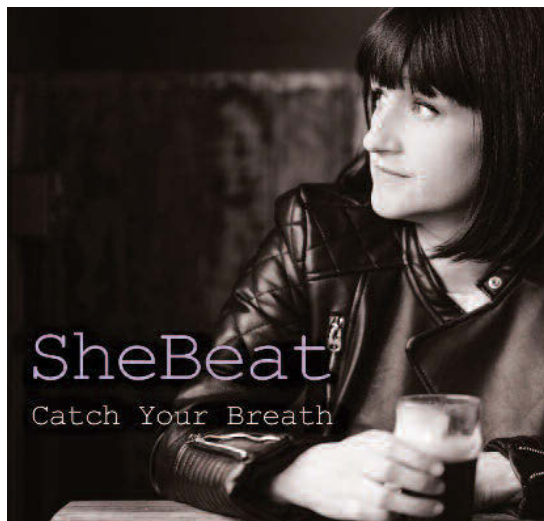
Fresh and dangerous as a back alley on a dark night, this is a beautiful collection of songs that I can't resist, conjuring images of sleazy, dimly lit cellar bars, where drinks are cheap, and deals are under the table – I love it. You can have a listen on Bandcamp, where you can buy and download it. I've done that and got the Fugazi T-Shirt, when I catch up I'll be looking for the disc. Sharp as a cut-throat razor, hand-beaten on a Brummie anvil.

Graham Munn

SheBeat | Catch Your Breath

The latest EP from indie-folk singer songwriter **SheBeat**, *Catch Your Breath*, is a delicate offering of simplistic beauty. Released on 22nd Feb, the EP was produced in Birmingham by local producer **Jack Tasker**.

Title track *Catch Your Breath* is a laid back song that epitomises the popular quote around today of "It is what it is". A beautiful guitar and percussion track to "take a moment" to, enable yourself to let go and know someone is always there for you. The vocals of singer Jodie, are simply adorable, they float softly alongside the acoustic guitar and have the magical power to make you smile.



Untethered takes on an ever so slightly deeper note both vocally and lyrically. A gentle song to ease a broken heart. This track is apparently about a break up that the male backing vocalist, Dave, went through, and his voice can be heard harmonising, almost as if hiding in the shadows, to add the depth to this tune. Despite depicting the break down of a relationship, the song still has a calming element to take on a very easy listening sound.

Impossible brings back the love with a glittery little glockenspiel. A happy little love song about a couple coming together, being there for each other despite weathering past storms. Music to make you smile, that's for sure. The shimmering delight delivered by this EP is purely made up from its simple, no fuss purity, stripped back and raw. If your head is cluttered or stressed, listen to *SheBeat* to wind down, it's a cleansing of the mind.

Keep an eye on the Facebook page and blog at:
www.SheBeat.co.uk for gig announcements.

Kate Ford

**Advertise in this space for
as little as £30 per month**

SLAP
MAGAZINE

SLAP Supporting Local Arts & Performers

adverts@slapmag.co.uk

The Strays/Miss Kill The Shakin' Nightmares Paradiddles, Worcester | 16th Nov

A year in since **Paradiddles** first opened it's doors and already the coffee bar/come venue has a reputation as the place to be, whether you're looking for a cuppa, a pizza or indeed a night of live, up close and very personal live music, 'diddles seems to have it covered.

The Strays have fast become adopted faves since they first stepped foot here in Worcester, with increasing numbers falling for the band's gritty, modern take on rock 'n' roll, so it was no wonder that the venue was filling fast.

Miss Kill, a grungy duo from Bristol, kicked off proceedings with an energetic and abrasive set of flailing sticks and dirty, driving riffs. **Alannah Jackson**, out front, attacking her guitar whilst channeling the ghost of Cobain. Her sister, **Felicity**, ferociously assaulting the drums, occasionally looking through the blur of sticks and hair to holler harmonies, the duo play with such youthful exuberance it's nigh on impossible not to be caught by the storm. With a recent support slot with Honeyblood and with the likes of *Shake It* and *Explain Yourself* in the girl's arsenal, don't be surprised to be heading a great deal more about **Miss Kill** in the future.



Northerners, **The Shakin' Nightmares** have only been together since April 2018. But since their formation, the band have been hard at work clocking up the miles up, tearing and down the country taking in slots with the likes of The Delta Bombers, Electric Six and Rascalton (as well as The Strays!!), preaching 'rock 'n' roll to The haunted soul' along the way. On the evidence of their debut at Paradiddles it's no wonder the likes of Louder Than War are



offering plaudits, frontman and six string swinger, **Ryan Pilot** launches into the crowd within the first few seconds of the sinister and swaggering (*I've Got The Shakin' Nightmares*), before returning to the mic delivering the perfect rockabilly sneer, whilst the rest of the band throw punk shapes, peeling off sharp riffs and rhythmic volleys like men possessed.

No time to draw breath as the band dive headfirst into *Unbelievin'* and then *Alien Orders*. Drummer **Glen Hodgson** already dripping with perspiration from his Herculean efforts behind the kit (and the raising heat in the room). Contagious, dark and dramatic, the band canter through the likes of *A Little Death* and *Bad Bones* to an obviously enamoured audience of new converts (myself included) convulsing in delight.

Following in **The Shakin' Nightmares** footsteps, **The Strays** singer, **Estelle Chamberlain** is quickly among her people during the band's opening number. Hyping the audience as quif-master and guitarist, **Sam Cordery** tears at his guitar, whilst the rhythm section of Krisztain Jakab and sticksman, Gary Chamberlain lock into a tight rock 'n' roll groove steering the band on. Cordery fires up another contagious riff, sending Estelle spinning across the stage as she hollers out *Hey Little Lady's* addictive refrain, holding the audience in their clasp, a clasp that tightens as the band race through *Five And Two's*.



The band knock out a kooky new track, *Munsters*, which somehow had me conjuring the image if Morticia Adams fronting The Stray Cats. The band ham it for a delicious slab of spooky rockabilly, before encouraging the entire audience to raise a 'Big Ol' Bottle Of Booze' and join in for a good bawdy sing-along, again let by an audience bound Estelle. As the band's curtain call is nigh, they stomp through *This Life* and a punchy *Night Time*, before sending everyone home on a high, with a final romp through the Beasties anthemic, *Fight For Your Right*.



Paradiddles, pop in for a coffee, a piece of cake or a pizza and stay for the free sauna (you don't have to worry about the conditions outside, the greeting is always warm in Sidbury) and live music!!!

Photography: Graham Munn Words: Will Munn

The Sunday Sessions

At Huntingdon Hall



A perfect way to spend a Sunday Evening...

Julie July & Don Mac perform and present live music in the Bar bringing together a variety of established musicians and relatively unknown talented artists for live performance. From Folk & Blues to Jazz & Americana.



The fabulous acoustic guitar & vocal trio features Jim Kirkpatrick (FM/Bernie Marsden), Lester Hunt (Climax Blues Band) and Steve Hayes (Nearly Dan & Barflys). Together, they prove a powerful combination once described as "commanders of cool" - slick acoustic blues and rock delivered alongside some relaxed banter showing off their true class and pedigree.



The beautiful Carol Lee Sampson local singer-songwriter who has an indefinable but magical formula when it comes to penning songs, her lyrics are both mature and heartfelt delivered with passion & conviction.

Relax and unwind at the end of your weekend and soak up the club atmosphere.

TICKETS: from Worcester live £9.00 or on the door



**26th
January
7:30pm**

Devon Mayson, Gina Larnier and the Rowdy Partners, Lobelia Lawson

Tower of Song, King's Heath | 22 Sept

Wouldn't it be lovely if every time you went to a gig, you could guarantee you'd see an absolute belter? OK, that's not going to happen in real life but if you go to any of Chloe Mogg's regular "Female Voices" sessions, you're going to get pretty damned close.

Our usual host, Stourport singer/songwriter, Chloe Mogg is indisposed this evening, so the highly experienced and always listenable **Lobelia Lawson** takes over not only MC duties but also the opening slot as well. She proves to be not only a witty and highly amusing raconteur, but she can also play a bit... Her main instrument is a baritone guitar, and its rich tone is soon filling this lovely performance space, as is her clear and powerful voice. It's a regrettably short set, drawn primarily from her last album, "Love or Something Like It" an in-depth examination of all aspects of love, not all of them terribly comfortable, and you find yourself unconsciously nodding in agreement with the lyrics and the sentiments expressed. Grown-up music and such a beautiful, thought provoking set to begin the evening.

I first saw **Gina Larnier and the Rowdy Partners** supporting Demi Marriner in Cheltenham earlier on this year and I thought they'd be a good fit for these sessions. Coincidentally, I caught part of their set the day before this Female Voices performance when they played at Frogfest at The Frog and Fiddle in Cheltenham - they were sounding good then and simply continued where they left off. This is a powerful set of Americana, briskly and joyously delivered, full of melody, glorious harmonies with the two women's voices completely complementing each other, and incisive and fluid violin passages from Jessie (Jellicle on her Facebook music page) and is very well received indeed. The performance doesn't suffer either from them (literally) being a man down - they usually play with a percussionist - as Gina's rock

solid rhythm playing makes up for the missing beats. They're cooking an EP up at the moment and if it includes songs like 'Red Lips', 'Hands' and the simply wonderful closer 'Don't Walk', it will be an absolute beauty. Exhilarating stuff...

Headlining tonight, **Devon Mayson** give a performance where her multi-instrumental skills - she played guitar, piano and Celtic harp - were only matched by her wonderful voice. The bulk of her set was taken from her debut album "Lie To Me", which made my journey home pass very quickly, it's a very accomplished piece of work with a lightness of touch on production, allowing her talent to be fully

appreciated, that many more solidly established artists would do well to emulate. The opener, 'Lipstick in the Limelight', sets a standard for the rest of the set that never flags for one second. There's much contrast too, not only when she switches from Americana and

ballads on guitar and piano to Celtic harp for more traditional material, but also from the knockabout humour of 'You Only Love Me When You're Drunk' to the solemn but soaring beauty of 'Fly High'. If you buy the album, don't miss the stunning solo piano version of this one, added as a 'secret track' at the end.

A superb performance.

Another great night at this excellent series of presentations - see you at the next one!

FEMALE



Lobelia Lawson



Devon Mayson



Jessica Chloe



Gina Larnier

The next Female Voices evenings are scheduled for 22 December 2019 and 12 January 2020

Music starts at 8.00 pm

VOICES

Monique-Danielle, Izzie Derry and Chloe Mogg

Tower of Song, King's Heath | 27 Oct

And so on to the October presentation. I nearly don't make this one - the thorough soaking I got at the Gloucester Underground Festival the day before is making its presence seriously felt and I'm aching like I've been trampled by an elephant. How glad I was I made it...

I'm asked from time to time why I write about so many of these Female Voices nights. There's a simple answer to this - literally, no two of these presentations are the same - the range of styles, the variety of genres, the texture of the voices are absolutely staggering. Tonight is no exception.

Our regular host, **Chloe Mogg**, kicks us off tonight. She's not been well and she's easing her way back into live performance. However, this manifests itself in a most unusual way tonight. This is the most powerful, intense set I've ever seen her play. The whimsy that infuses her music is set aside for this performance and she delivers a set full of passion and defiance. 'Blue', with its excellent opening chord progression still intact, is nevertheless taken at an unusually bracing clip, while a new song 'Heal', full of emotion and personal reference, leaves you nodding in agreement with its message. But of course, with this most unusual and inventive of artists, there's a twist. Just when you think that power chords are going to completely dominate, she produces a finale of The Beatles' song 'Norwegian Wood', the delicate, intricate finger style and wistful hippie-era lyric gently bringing a very fine set to its close.

Coventry-born **Izzie Derry**, now resident in Brighton sustains the energy, with a powerful set of blues-infused songs. She's a prolific artist, having issued two EPs and her debut album "Goodbye" while still in her teens and now, just 21 has a very full repertoire to match her positive stage presence.

There's some outstanding guitar work going on as well to match her forceful, crystal clear voice and some of the songs from the album, developed and reimagined from their original versions are wonderful - particularly the new single, 'Let This One Be Mine',

with its imaginative lyric video and the poignant 'Give Me A Reason To Stay'.

She's also got a full band, which again adds extra depth and alternative arrangements to her already imaginative songwriting. A very promising artist.

Ah now, these days I don't listen to much soul music. The steady dilution of the genre during the 80s and 90s eroded my love of this most emotive form of music. But after the most extraordinary forty minutes of stripped-back neo-soul and jazz from Birmingham's **Monique-Danielle**, it could be making a comeback in my collection.

What a voice. Even though she tells us at the outset, that she hasn't sung solo for a while, her tone is rich and varied, her phrasing perfect - at times dancing effortlessly over the words, at others extracting the last ounce of meaning and sentiment from them. She presents us with several new pieces, inviting us to critique them - you can do that with this most attentive and appreciative of audiences - the great applause after each song tells its own story.

She has a secret weapon in her armoury, and that's the dazzling keyboard skills of Stefan Adamson. Now, this is a big bloke, but my word his delicacy of touch and instinctive control of power and volume to fully complement the singer's voice is remarkable. You may think it fanciful of me to say so, but there are points in his playing where notes flow into each other creating a rippling effect not unlike water flowing over stones. Sublime playing.

Apart from the new material, she also showcases her current EP, "Thoughts On You" and it's from this body of work that my two

favourite tracks, at opposite ends of the spectrum, come. The upbeat, jazzy 'Frustration' allows both singer and accompanist to stretch out, while the exquisite 'Oxygen', slow and with huge depth leaves me emotional and breathless.

An absolutely glorious end to the evening.

Geoffrey Head

SLAP DEC/JAN 25



Gloucester Underground Festival

Venues - Gloucester Guildhall, Blackfriars Priory, The Cavern

Saturday 26 October

I'm wet. Not just damp, or soggy - I'm actually dripping all over the floor of the Gloucester Guildhall lobby as I pick up my wristband. I squelch into the café to try and warm up with a coffee and a burger and to dry my cameras off and wonder why my 'waterproof' rucksack, isn't...

Gloucester Underground Festival is a free-by-registration all-dayer taking place in the very heart of the city. This year, it's a twenty-two act, three-centre event with music taking place not only in the Guildhall, but also the historic Blackfriars Priory - a most impressive and mystical venue to watch music - and on the much smaller stage at The Cavern.

The wonderfully energetic and unfeasibly youthful **Feed Me Milk** kick us off and kept up their reputation for impressive live performance - it's rare for a band to have two such good lead vocalists and even though the crowd is still battling through the torrential rain to get to the venues, they're very well received. Young they may be, but they're also a very astute bunch and as they're playing in front of a brand new audience who don't know them from Adam, the more unconventional songs - particularly their usual closer, 'Worry!' are reserved for another day but thanks to a regular supply of belters like 'Cheat On Your Boyfriend', their impact remains undiminished. A tremendous start.

Sapphire Blues' ("but we're not a Blues band...") singer and guitarist Sam Lance Jones has a problem, in the form of a stinking cold but with the help of some honey chugged straight out the jar, they power through their set of left-field post punk with huge gusto and great stage presence. They describe themselves as a 'pre-Brexit trio' and it's no coincidence when the politically



China Bears

charged, 'Good Morning Britain' is the standout track. When the singer stands on tiptoe, barking into the mic and thrashing his guitar, you are transported back to the heyday of punk, and I don't think I can give a better recommendation than that.

Petrie are an electronic pop/dance duo from London, who manage to avoid the lethargy induced by some members of the genre by injecting pulsating bursts of rhythm, some sizzling guitar passages and some great vocals - the band have released a series of banging singles, with 'Couldn't Cry' and 'Personal Space' being particularly strong but to top it all, their brooding, atmospheric new single 'Jealousy' is one of the outstanding tracks of the day.

China Bears fronted by twins, Ivan and Frazer Proctor, are an alt rock band from Buckinghamshire, with a tremendously melodic guitar sound, strong lyrical punch and some wonderful harmonies - the entire set, based around their debut EP 'I've Never Met Anyone Like You' was an absolute joy to listen to, and the track 'Cold Shivers' was particularly fine. Definitely not the last time I see this band...

Boat to Row were simply magnificent, carrying on the performance standard from their hugely successful launch of their second album, "Rivers That Flow In Circles" that I'd been to in Birmingham the previous week. The complex, shifting patterns underlying Michael King's incisive lead vocals are mesmerising. The outstanding track on the night for me though was an older one, the eerie 'Whistle and I'll Come to You'. Go and see them and be astounded.

All day, the Blackfriars stage produced some tremendous performances and none more so than that from **Calva Louise**, who get my vote for band of the festival.

They're based in London but are a truly international act, who met up while they were all living in France. I wasn't familiar with their music before the festival but had seen them many times on



Boat to Row



Feed Me Milk



Tiger by the Tail



Dream State

the printed page and on social media, thanks to the skills of top London music photographer Keira Anee.

The music could be loosely described as grunge, but it has a dynamism that lifts it out of the rather introspective norm of the genre, as does the band's extremely mobile stage presence. The exceptionally tight rhythm section of Alizon Taho on bass and vocals, and Ben Parker on drums and vocals allows frontwoman Jess Allanic to layer most unusual guitar sounds on top of the backdrop, while providing searing lead vocals - it's a very powerful formula.

The bulk of the set was taken from their recent debut album "Rhinos", which on this performance should be seeing a sudden upsurge in sales - they were very well received by a good sized audience and there was a particularly fine display of dancing from a group of Boat to Row supporters, who'd stayed on after the band's set.

Calva Louise will be playing The Sunflower Lounge in Birmingham on 3rd December and given the size of that venue and the energy of this performance, it's gonna be like a microwave in there.

Tremendous band...

Hallelujah - it's finally stopped raining! Time to leave Blackfriars and head over to The Cavern, the smallest venue of the three, and a lovely, compact performance space to see **Tiger By The Tail** from Leeds, strongly recommended to me by Facebook friends from the area. This was a real shock to the senses - a dark



Sapphire Blues



Calva Louise



electronica duo, melding ambient, dance and trance rhythms, supplied with gusto by Callum Lewis over which Emma Ashton's unearthly vocals glide and soar. Combine this with a striking, post-hippie dress style and a performance mode just the right side of deranged and it was a winning formula. And also, they've got the most knackered cymbal you've ever seen... Brilliant.

I make **Dream State's** performance at The Guildhall my last stop of the day.

Their frontwoman, CJ Gilpin, is the Queen of any stage she steps on - an animated, passionate and charismatic performer. As a photographer, even standing three rows back in the crowd, you don't have to wait for or try and anticipate key moments in a performance that will pull a shot out of the ordinary - with this singer they just happen all the time.

It's a hugely energetic performance, but I'm not yet fully engaged with the new material from the band's debut album, "The Primrose Path" and when a sudden and unruly mosh hits me and my camera skitters away across the floor, I withdraw to a safe distance in time to fully appreciate the best, and oldest, track of the night "White Lies".

It's a measure of how successful the day has been for me that the only thing I'd change is the terrible weather. Because driving home with the heater full on, I suddenly realise this is the warmest I've been all day... What a brilliant event!

Geoffrey Head

SLAP DEC/JAN 27



Petrie

Dreadzone

Marr's Bar, Worcester | 15th Nov

Due to enforced social pressures, technical failure and a lack of communication, all conspiring to hinder my night out at the invitation of **Dreadzone**, I didn't think I was going to make this one...

Rather reassuringly, the room swelled rapidly, a full hour before the main event, inflating and morphing into every corner of Marr's ever welcoming bar- with a gang of believers all facing the stage in raggle-taggle rows and waiting impatiently - the atmosphere was, well, already there are too many literary crimes against knife clichés. I know to avoid clichés like the plague; surely, you didn't think I would let you down reader?

Dreadzone, never let you down. Once seated **MC Spee**, the Prince of proceedings, uncomfortable on his throne but comfortable in his kingdom faced a smiling wall of appreciation. He knows how to perform, with a conspiratorial wink and a knowing comment he reaches out to the fandom; our MC is schooled in how to work an audience, despite his illness. His walking cane becomes a swagger stick, employed to underline, empathise and accentuate the lyrics - or simply held aloft at times as a totem for the believers. For our MC the desire to put on a show is all empowering: *"People ask why we play these small gigs but look at this, this is my Wembley!"* Constantly communicating with the audience, supplying an edifying commentary reminiscent of Prince Buster who would introduce each song and explain what the song was about to his predominantly white audience in 60s Britain.

... one more time ...



with ... The Miffs

Sat 28th December 2019

£7 advance - £10 door

<https://www.facebook.com/tt5th> <https://www.marrsbah.co.uk/events/take-the-5th-clash-tribute>



Dreadzone's back catalogue is a powerhouse of creativity with tracks such as *Little Britain*, *Gangster*, *Castaway*, *Captain Dread* and *16 Hole* being played as if for the first time. However, for the believers the greatest hits from the last 25 years are the hits that are gratefully received and are given life, met with unconditional love and the resulting spectacle is a unifying encounter.

"Life, love and Unity are the words I live my life by with my brothers behind me, and you my brothers and sisters in front" - a typical introduction for yet another of their anthems. The song greeted with a roar that would have made Fidel Castro turn round - as it was louder than war. Within minutes of the gig starting the gig-goers are firmly entrenched in the war free zone and to borrow a line from the AF Gang- *"all is love."* At the end of this song a girl leans across and casually sweeps her male friend's hair away from his eyes, an intimate moment, and I wonder if kind words inspire kind acts?

The audience, united by their love of the zone, with a full social spectrum that politicians would be envious of, reacted volcanically to the force of music that is **Dreadzone**. With a collective one armed fist raised in celebration and defiance - *"sod the working week!"* Such was the reaction, spontaneity and energy one onlooker climbed on stage to capture the crowd doing what they do at a DZ gig on his phone. The young buck manning the t-shirt stall swayed involuntarily to the sound of a band he must have heard innumerable times. Oblivious, a young entranced dancer dropped her phone - any twentysomething breaking the umbilical cord between them and their phone is clearly lost in the moment: Dreadzone supply that moment.

We know that Dreadzone do what they do well - with a musical treasure trove that is as diverse as the band themselves. Their version of dance music is a result of musical alchemy, drip feeding Roots Reggae, grinding in Dub, infusing House and sampling with a goldsmith's eye for detail; with a bejewelled rhythmic cluster of insouciant bass and a drum beat that sparkles.

The lead-up to the night in question may well have been fraught with first world problems but dear reader the sense of dread soon subsided. Dreadzone: a band that know how to communicate and connect, employ technical know-how for effect and are directly responsible for the social glue that bonds a small screenshot of society together -albeit fleetingly.

The Swilgate Scuttler
Photos: Emelia Serravalli-Vaughan

Uncover Presents

The Wave Pictures/Skewwhiff

The Marrs Bar | 10th Nov

There are certain promoters that if you see their name attached, you can guarantee a good night out. Now, like all good promoters **Uncover** often put on new acts I have to research - names that may not be too familiar - but from time to time they manage to pull a name that has me literally punching the air with excitement. That was just the case when they announced cult faves **The Wave Pictures**, a band I've long admired and now the trio were coming to Worcester, thanks to **Uncover**.



Leading up to the night I brushed up on the 'Pictures numerous albums to date, putting together an imaginary setlist (yes I really can be that fanatical when it comes to music), almost willing the band to play the likes of *Long Black Cars*, *Spaghetti* and *Sleep Just Like A Drummer*. So I was beaming from ear to ear when the trio played each one. But then looking around **The Marrs Bar** it wasn't just me grinning like a loon or singing-a-long - the entire room was lapping every nuance - marvelling at the rhythm section of **Franc Rozyczki** and **Jonny Helm** taking their turn in the spotlight, and hanging off every guitar hook and solo from **Dave Tattersall**.

My Dad's 80th with the Delray Rockets & Will Killeen

It was my Dads 80th Birthday. 3 years ago he wrote of his first 20 years 1939 to 1959... he has a remarkable memory.

So for his birthday I decided to get his memories published into a book. Can't thank Mark enough for making it happen.

He was raised in McIntyre Road in St Johns. A dead end Street. And much of the book centres around his antics in the street or Laurghern brook or his Nan's house in Lowell Street in the Arbo.

For his 80th birthday we were pushing the boat out.....

I first met **Gary Clark** from **The Delray Rockets** many years ago. He doesn't remember me but I remember him. The best busking band I have ever seen...in The Sambles in old Worcester town, Gary on the double base, **Tim Spoon** on saxophone and **John Brandrick** on Guitar. You had to be there to understand the chemistry.

My Dad was a bit of a rock and roller in his Day. He played at the Gaulmont, he played at the **Malvern Winter Gardens**. His band was called **Pete Warr and his Warriors**. Years later, like many years later in 1983 I followed in his footsteps and played in the battle of the bands at the Winter Gardens with '**The Great Ethnics**' but thats another story. I believe my dads band were The first rock and roll band to play in there.

Knowing glances confirmed that we weren't just at a gig, we were witnessing one of those special nights, one of those 'you really should have seen...' gigs that we music geeks talk about in revered tones months (maybe even years, we music fans all do it!) later.

Ok so how do I explain it? **The Wave Pictures** are a quirky, mesmeric oddity, they move between genres with grace and ease. There's a bit of indie, some rock 'n' roll, a touch of blues, unexpected afro beat drums, etc. Then there's the quirky lyrics (who else name drops Thin Lizzy's seminal *Live And Dangerous* mid song?). The choral hooks, bass and drum solos that actually enhance the experience rather than giving the frontman time to rest. I could go on waxing lyrical the merits of **The Wave Pictures**, but if you were there you don't need me to waffle on and if you weren't well.....

There's a good few column inches written on **Skewwhiff** in recent times so I won't repeat what's already been written, but rather just echo the sentiments. Armed with their long awaited new album *Cancelled Rearranged*, the band have returned with a new arsenal of punky new wave anthems. From the driving dirty bass of *Oh No* to the urgency of *Doll Parts* and the choppy guitars of *Over And Out*, **Skewwhiff** sound better than ever.



So to sum up, and I apologise if this reads rather more like a gushing love letter than a live review, and perhaps I should have waited until I'd calmed down a bit to scrawl, **The Wave Pictures** live at **The Marrs bar**, local gig of the year? Quite possibly. Keep an eye out for the next **Uncover** night you never who they might bring along next time round, whether it's a name you recognise or someone new, satisfaction is guaranteed.

Words: Will Munn Photography: Duncan Graves

Dad has always loved early rock and roll, he was there at the start and like many people of my era I was bought up on it. Sunday lunch was often accompanied by an Elvis LP on the record player.

Who else then but the **Delray Rockets** for the party to celebrate the 80th.

Amazing set from the Delray boys inside **Stanbrook Abbey**. Accompanied by **Will Killeen**. At times both were mesmerising. And when they played together it was simply sensational. Dad danced all night. We struggled to keep up with him. Delray, Will, can't thank you enough.

Great venue, Great night, Great gig - Gav Warr



Skewwhiff, Echo Gecco, Elisha Green, Ruben Seabright Worley's, The Swan, Stourport | 7th Nov

If you've found yourself at one of the Swan's original showcases the past few months, you'll already know for yourself how vibrant the night gets. Hosted by **Hannah Law** and **Chloe Mogg**, who aim to showcase original artists doing what they do best.



Taking to the stage last month saw **Ruben Seabright** open the evening. Armed with a voice that sings for itself, the grunge lord radiates through metal and alternative rock. Drawing a strong influence to the late great Chris Cornell, the originality that Ruben illuminates is coated in a complete nostalgic presence. Every time I watch Ruben, I feel like I've been transported back to the 90s via a magic

carpet. With elements of psychedelia in his repertoire, Ruben is a force to be reckoned with and one to watch out for.



Our second artist of the night was the always amazing **Elisha Green**. Combining heartfelt lyrics with a delicate but powerful when needed performance, the audience heard some new tracks from the songstress. Taking her songwriting up to a completely new level, it's been wonderful to watch Elisha's career blossom into a stunning rose. Finishing her set off with "Keep Your Tales" brought the crowd to a stand

still and some even had to pick their jaws off the ground when her voice erupted. A powerful songwriter that fuses pop, folk and jazz intimately. Make sure to check Elisha's songs out online, they are utterly beautiful.

Vibrant and weirdly wonderful, **Echo Gecco** brought the audience to a conclusion... these guys are something else. Bizarrely different with elements of progressive rock mixed with indie-jazz (is that a thing?! it is now), they're like the lovechild of Syd Barrett and King Gizzard and the Lizard Wizard. Grabbing listeners attention and holding onto it straight until the end, the power trio simply bewitched the audience with their versatility. Bouncing off each other with pure chemistry, I'd see these guys again in a heartbeat, and you should too!



Our headliners for the evening were post-punk legends **Skewwhiff**. In presence of their new album "Cancelled Rearranged", the night saw the quartet travel through their discography with fine ease. Tight and delivering a powerful yet simple front woman stance, Beanie's vocals are like no other. With elements of Blondie jamming with Gang of Four, the exceptional songwriting kept the audience's attention with strength. Stand out track "Oh No" features a vibrant melody that will linger in your head for some time to come. It's hard to pin point an exact genre to each of Skewwhiff's numbers because they all bring something different to the table.



Overall, another colourful night filled with music, our next showcase is December 5th featuring Rockabilly legends **The Strays**, disco-funksters **Frogg Soufflé**, folk-punk songstress **Jess Silk** & singer-songwriter folk triumph **Sam Shemmell**.

Words: Chloe Mogg Photos: Alan Mellor

West Malvern Social Club
presents
Thursday Music Night
with Tyler Massey

Every Thursday 9pm - 11pm
secure your 20 minute slot in
advance at info@wmisc.org.uk

"A top place for musos and music lovers alike."
- Matt Woosey

Full PA, monitors, stage, lights, sound engineer.
Digital Piano, house Guitar, Cajon.
Average weekly audiences of between 30 - 50
Original material encouraged, no backing tracks.

Facebook WMSC @westmalsocial, www.wmisc.org.uk
145 West Malvern Rd. Malvern, WR14 4AY
Cash bar, street parking only. Life membership £5



What's On?

at The Swan Theatre and Huntingdon Hall



St Agnes Fountain
3rd December
- £20



The Pete Boddis Country Band
- And Our Love Will Exceed It All
7th December
- £14



A PICTURE OF 'ELF'



11th - 21st December, £10

English String Orchestra - Christmas at Huntingdon Hall
14th December
- £20



Belshazzar's Feast
18th December, £16.50



The Outside Track
22nd January, £14



Worcester live

BOX OFFICE: 01905 611 427
www.worcesterlive.co.uk

26-32 FRIAR STREET, WORCESTER, WR1 2LZ

ECLECTIC, ALTERNATIVE BAR
POOL TABLE, TABLE FOOTBALL, VINTAGE ARCADE GAMES
LIVE DJS EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT
SELECTED DRINKS OFFERS
FREE WIFI

f / HEROESWORCESTER **t / @ HEROESWORCESTER**

Eliana Cargnelutti and Lee Ainsley's Blues Storm Iron Road, Pershore | Sat 9th Nov

An invitation to catch Lee and her Blues Storm at **The Iron Road** is one I couldn't ignore. The band have been making waves down at their hometown of Worthing, with their recently released album finding both success and new listeners. And how many bands do you find with a mother-daughter duo on vocals? Lee and Tori make a mean pairing, alongside 'old man' Nathan, slinging a thunderous 5-string bass; 20-year-old guitarist Elliot, and the vigorous drumming of Dave Atkins.

The band explode into life with *"Bankruptcy"*; they've spent all the money, but there's just enough fuel left to blast down The Iron Road. A bit of *"Contemplation"* is called for, with a blistering opening as Elliot's fingers move, fast and furious, across the neck. Lee calls the shots and the breaks are applied for *"Breathe Slow"*, where dual split harmonies from the ladies add extra dimensions to a song that blows hot and cool. Tori takes the lead for the next track, a song that's destined for their next album out early next year. Elliot's *"Crosshair"* is an anthemic rocker, steeped in 70's style with big drums, pumping bass and soaring guitar.



Another new song demands a guitar swap, ready to don an aptly titled *"Winter Coat"*, it's full of funk and twin harmonies, it's a stylish coat; lovely fit, nicely tailored vocals and a tasty bass trim. An Icelandic cover comes next, but this is more 'hot geyser' than 'chilly glacier'; *"No Good"* is seriously heavy, with vocals that bite as Elliot skates his icy guitar neck. *"I stood all night in the pouring rain..."* Lee lends a sweet vocal to the opening bars of *"Fool"*, but don't let them fool you: bombastic blues-edged rock is soon in full flow, with Lee's voice proving itself a fierce and powerful instrument.

Lee Ainsley's Blues Storm are a band to watch; headliners in their own right, and just the start of a stupendous evening at The Iron Road. Keep an eye out for their album release in early 2020.

Hailing from Italy, Eliana is firmly stamping her mark on the international blues scene, with albums released under the iconic Ruf label. Tonight, she performs alongside compatriots **Simone Seratini** and **Carmine Bloisi**, on bass and drums. Such ethereal names somehow don't foreshadow the storming, rhythmic onslaught to come. The air throbs, squeaks and scratching sounds emitting from the stage before Eliana ignites *"The Fire"*. Simon's bass powers through as Carmine hammers the skins. Their pedigree is steeped in the world of jazz, a genre that spawns phenomenal musicians and songs that surpass borders, into fields



of rock and blues. Eliana herself has the same grounding, bringing an expressive, theatrical element to her performance.

The pure rock 'n' roll of *"Let's Have A Party"* crashes seamlessly into Gary Moore's *"Walking By Myself"*, paving the way for her new album, *Electric Woman*. Co-written by **Albert Castiglia**, *"Why Do I Sing The Blues"* seems a very apt title for a lady who seems to have found her niche in the blues scene. There's some serious funk spilling out from the rhythm section, while Eliana displays her talent at swinging the axe. Bonny Raitt's birthday is an excuse for Eliana to strip back the guitar, easing into the beautiful *"Angel Of Montgomery"*, cymbals dancing to the rhythm in the undertow. Simone sets up a pulsating base, perhaps inspired by Jack Bruce's *Politician Blues* – that's good enough cred for me. Plucked from the new album once again, *"Street Corner Talking"* is a lovely taste of blues rock.

"Too Busy", Simone sets up the bass and tears into a stunning, extensive solo, before Carmine has his shout, provoking and prodding the audience to response. Eliana chops her way in, fingers arrogantly strutting up the neck as she slices through the strings. A bit of Warren Haynes' *"Soulshine"* is lovingly exercised, before we plunge into *"Burning Organ"*, a trickster, jazz-infused instrumental. She chops and bends, wriggles and shakes out this musical bubble & squeak. It's all out guitar-burning, rhythm-pounding instrumentals that guide us toward the final bow, which finds Eliana, on her knees, poking and probing string and pedal to melodic, acrobatic effect.

All in, the mix of **Lee Ainsley** and **Eliana Cargnelutti** at **The Iron Road** has made for a fabulous display of girl power at its best. And that's why the lady sings the blues.

Graham Munn

**Advertise in this space for
as little as £30 per month**

SLAP
MAGAZINE

SLAP Supporting Local Arts & Performers

adverts@slapmag.co.uk

Ian Siegal Solo Tour

Huntindon Hall, Worcester | Tues 12th Nov

It's good to see Ian back at **Huntingdon Hall**, this time for his solo tour, alongside a pair of acoustic "antiques". The first, a nondescript, wooden-bodied workhorse Kay, with the best part of 80 years under tension. The second is a lovely old National Resonator; steel-bodied and with 93 years tuning in, it's a rich cream with the signs of age and experience (some might say rust) showing around its edges, and still sounding as full and forthright as you'd expect from a National.

Ian was already into his first song as I collected my ticket, slipping quietly into the box pews of this early Georgian chapel. By the time I'd settled, the Eagle had turned Vulture, soaring over high-flying cold war blues. Ian's last release, *All The Rage*, is followed up for this acoustic tour with its very own acoustic EP, *Naked Rage* and, needless to say, a copy came home with me.

Ian's feeling a bit uncomfortable thanks to a touch of food poisoning, so it maybe an apt choice to put slide to strings for "*The Sh*t Hit*". Sorry Ian, couldn't resist that one. And, despite popular opinion, it's nowt to do with Brexit. "*Ain't you great again, all this hate again...*" Ian points a finger at the political power moguls of today, and we're not even talking little old Britain here, though some seem to think we still have gunboats sailing up the Yangtze. Time for a ride on Ian's superb, railroading "*I Am The Train*". Stand back Casey Jones, there's an express coming through.

The lovely, Mexicana lilt of "*One Eyed King*" heralds the loss of a lover; a bittersweet song delivered with a touch of pathos and passion from Siegal. His brilliant take on "*Oh Mary Don't You Weep*" brings a cheer for the wonderful old gospel that is now an essential at any Siegal gig, and he doesn't disappoint. Apparently originating in Denmark, the song made its voyage to America before finding its way back, or so the Danes claim. And who are we to argue with the country that gave us Vikings, bacon and pastries, not to mention all those gripping Scandi Noirs.

A brief break makes way for some religion, as Ian joins the Baptist Church, his foot stomping hard and fast for this punchy hymn with a side of Southern comfort. Next up is a tale from Argentina, of staying at a farm on the border and drinking moonshine, "*If The Whisky Don't Kill Me*" pre-empting an old Irish drinking song. The long-suffering National is swapped for a hand-drum, as rhythm rains down to accompany "*John The Revelator*"; short but oh, so sweet. The aged tin can needs constant attention, tuning and cajoling, which, in spite of its impressive 93 years, still sounds full of life, bright and eager, ready to prove there's still many a tune to be played on this 'old fiddle' yet. I can't write this



without a nod to one of Ian's most-loved songs, written by Tom Russell but made his own. It's a tale of red-blooded cocks, broken beaks and broken dreams; the fabulous, fabled "*Gallo Del Cielo*".

The clock is running on, and *Naked Rage* is brought once more to the forefront, for a lovely, soulful and "*Sweet Souvenir*" – more lost love, with only a whiff of perfume left. The encore, in the true style of a drunken Irish bar, was penned with help from Jimbo Mathus. "*She's The One*" closes another superb performance from Ian Siegal. A measure of humour, a scoopful of stories from the road, and a glass full of great music; it's a cocktail to savour and enjoy.

Graham Munn

● Vintage Trax ●

Redditch' Retro Vinyl Record Specialists

LPs, 12" & 7" Singles & EPs & more

All Genres from Jazz Age to 1990s

Open Tues-Sat. See website for times.

**104 Birchfield Road, Headless Cross,
Redditch B97 4LH. Tel: 07887 525107**

www.VintageTrax.co.uk

MUSIC CITY

WORCESTER



MUSICCITY.WORCESTER.UK@GMAIL.COM

Website: www.musiccityworcester.co.uk

Facebook: [@musiccityworcester.uk](https://www.facebook.com/musiccityworcester.uk)

TEL: 01905 26600

*Wishing all our Customers
Merry Christmas
& A Happy New Year*

Paradiddles Turns Two

The music-focused café/bar, owned and run by couple **Rachel and Kit**, will celebrate its second birthday this month. It'll do so by doing what it does best: playing host to great music. So, on the 14th December, gig goers will be treated to 10 (see list below) of the venues favourite local bands, across a day's worth of music, drinks, food and a whole lot of partying.



And it's a cause worth celebrating, as Paradiddles has been serving the people of Worcester great coffee, top-notch beers, wines and cocktails, cake, damn good pizza and excellent music week in, week out, ever since its doors first opened in 2017. And there's no sign of things slowing down.

"We're really proud of what Paradiddles has become", says Rachel. "Especially at a time when venues, up and down the country, are forced to close. But it only works because the good people of Worcester come out and support it. So, we want to say thank you to everyone who does their bit to get behind live music and art in the local community".

Rachel and Kit really should be proud. In its first two years, the café/bar has become a hub for all-things art, with music at its heart – just like they intended from day one. It has hosted around 134 gigs, 241 different bands, and has even been a place where bands have formed. Some of those bands have even gone on to play their first shows on the venue's stage.



While music is at the heart of things at **Paradiddles**, it's not just about gigs and bands. Ultimately, it's about being a communal hub and open-door space that plays host to all manner of arts and events.

A particularly popular fixture is the weekly music quiz, which, after several years, is still going strong. In addition, poetry and comedy nights, art exhibitions, jam sessions and charity events are all a regular part of the **Paradiddles** calendar.

Finally, Rachel and Kit are committed to supporting local talent, which is why their onsite rehearsal space is always fully equipped to host bands. In short, they plan to stay right at the heart of Worcester's always developing local scene and do what they can to help it grow.

So, get on down on the 14th and get involved in the local scene. Oh, and order a pizza – they're effin' tasty...

Russ Cook

Start time: 2pm Entry fee: £5 Advance Tickets

www.wegotickets.com/Paradiddlesbar £6.50 On the door

The Line-up: **Mixtape Saints; Hipflask Virgins; Building Giants; The Jericho Racks; The Miffs; State of Ember; Rusty Knives; The Tyler Massey Trio; Glitch; Wylde**



CAFE MUSIC BAR

PARADIDDLES

Fresh Coffee & Good Vibes



REHEARSAL SPACE

Alternative & Creative Café/Bar

★ LIVE MUSIC

★ REHEARSAL SPACE

★ FREE WIFI

★ LICENSED BAR

★ 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/ParadiddlesBar

instagram.com/paradiddlesbar




Sunday 01 December 2019

Trevor Burton

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Passion

Three Kings Inn, Hanley Castle

Claudia

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Little Dave

The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

Simon Hall

Bottles, Worcester

2Coustix

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Iain Cother

Red Lion, Evesham

Tommy Allen's Trafficker (4pm)

Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Hugh Cornwell Electric

Gloucester Guildhall, Gloucester

Emilie Eleonore

The Lamb & Flag, Worcester

Blind River Scare

Babar Cafe, Hereford

Sheelanagig

The Prince Albert, Stroud

The Imperials

The Imperial, Worcester

Vo Fletcher (5:30pm)

The Chestnut, Worcester

Linforth & I

The Morgan, Malvern

Monday 02 December 2019

The Whiteshillbillies

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Tuesday 03 December 2019

Pomegranate Piano Trio

Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham

St. Agnes Fountain

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Wednesday 04 December 2019

Matt Woosey

West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

The Dragon Folk Club: Sue Stevens

The Dragon, Worcester

A Brief History Of Christmas

The Fleece Inn, Bretforton, Evesham

Hard Rain Band

Carpenters Arms, Miserden, Stroud

Thursday 05 December 2019

Jake Martin

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Sumo Cyco

Fog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

The Elvis Years At Christmas

Malvern Theatres, Malvern

Bohemian Voices

Worcester Arts Workshop, Worcester

Sara Colman Band

Smokey Joe's, Cheltenham

Mike Sanchez

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Kim Cypher Band

The Ivy Montpellier Brasserie, Cheltenham

Hardwicke Circus

Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Chris Lee

Tank, Gloucester

Remi Harris, Tom Moore

The Cottage in The Wood, Malvern

The Humdrum Express

The Plough, Worcester

Power-Up Promo: Turquoise Llama. Broken Earth. Jordan

De Koffie Pot, Hereford

Annette Gregory

Town Hall, Kidderminster

Surprise Attacks Presents: Blanck Mass, Violet Grace &

Frans Gender, Rosebud

The Marris Bar, Worcester

The Strays, Frogg Souffle, Jess Silk, Sam Shemmell

Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Friday 06 December 2019

Shady Past

Crown And Sceptre, Stroud

Hippo

SVA, Stroud

Thee Ones

The Ale House, Stroud

Spice Girls - Spice Forever

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

The Ron Jeremy Band

Slug & Lettuce, Bromsgrove

Very Santana

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Josie Field

No.3A, Bromsgrove

Gene Genie And The Lemon Squeezers

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Brass Beatz

The Ladybird Inn, Bromsgrove

Hoof Hearted

The Hanbury Turn, Bromsgrove

Crystalline & Others Tbc

Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

The Unconventionals

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Dan And King Rich

The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

Subhumans, Terminal Rage, Drunk in Charge

Fog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Talon: The Best Of The Eagles in Concert

Malvern Theatres, Malvern

2Coustix

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Billy Joel Tribute

Hagley Golf Club, Worcester

In Depths, Depravity, Deference, Nightlives

2 Pigs, Cheltenham

Chicago Bytes

The Blue Bell, Ryall

Free Spirit

The Old Badger Inn, Eastington

Another Country

Red Lion, Evesham

Skrood

The Millers Arms, Pershore

Big Jim And The Black Cat Bones

The Queens Head, Wolverley

Surprise Attacks & Task in Hand: Plane Crasher, Dutch, Zilch

Annie's Burger Shack, Worcester

5:15

Drummonds, Worcester

Mat Woosey

Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Wingwalkers

The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Freefall

The King Teddy, Gloucester

Hay Nawr

The Globe, Hay On Wye

Vintage Inc.

Black Star, Stourport On Severn

XL5

Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

The Wootown Hill Billies

The Sociable Beer Company, Worcester

Prone To Madness

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Troyka

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Beth Hopkins

The Weary Traveller, Kidderminster

Voxrox, Paul Cody

The Cross Keys, Malvern

Nwocr - Bad Touch, Howling Tides, False Hearts

The Iron Road, Pershore

Bungalow

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Saturday 07 December 2019

Take That Tribute

The Oast House, Redditch

Steel Wizard

The Eagle, Redditch

Ince Babies, Turning Black Like Lizards

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Flatworld, Connie

West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Killerstream

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Jibbafish

Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

Jon Eselle

The Albion, Tewkesbury

Wootown Hillbillies

The Green Dragon, Malvern

The No-Good Nancys

Watson Hall, Tewkesbury

V2A, Nightmare Before Christmas Party

The Marfs Bar, Worcester

The Liquor & Poker Band

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Quill

The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Missing Lynx

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Vinny Peculiar

Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

The Follicles

The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

The Strattles

The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

Meg Shaw

Cock And Magpie, Bewdkey

Terry

The Eagle Vaults, Worcester

The Whiteshillbillies

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

R P Mcmurphy, Dirty Vegas Guitar Band

Gordon Bennets, Hereford

The Pete Boddys Country Band

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Colla Voce

Lower Broadheath Church, Lower Broadheath

Witcher

The Three Horseshoes, Malvern

Locked And Loaded Uk

The Ridge, Cheltenham

Blondie And Ska

The Old Badger Inn, Eastington

Big Girls Don't Cry

The Regal, Evesham

Temple Street Resistance

Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

The Reflections

Offenham Royal British Legion Club, Evesham

The Last Tree Squad

Reet Petite, Leominster

Vintage Inc

The Express Inn, Malvern

Thunderdaze

The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Freeway

Swan, Barbourne, Worcester

Remi Harris, Tom Moore

Great Witley Village Hall, Great Witley

The Mode

The Riflemans Arms, Droitwich Spa

Vintage Inc

Express Inn, Malvern

Jay & Eli

The Cricketers, Worcester

Rp Mcmurphy

Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

The Sirkis, Bialas International Jazz Quartet

De Koffie Pot, Hereford

Rita Lynch

The Prince Albert, Stroud

The Jj's

The Sportsman, Kidderminster

Deborah Rose, Grey Wolf

The Cart House, The Fold, Bransford, Worcester

Deborah Rose, Grey Wolf

The Fold, Worcester

Toad

Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Bourbon Alley

The Chestnut, Worcester

Sunday 08 December 2019**Hattie Briggs**

The Sub Rooms, Stroud

Ben Smith

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Aaron Cook

Nottingham Arms, Tewkesbury

Cara Dillon

The Artrix, Bromsgrove

36 SLAP DEC/JAN**Kev From The Murmur**

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

The York Waits

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Worcester School Of Rock And Performance Showcase

Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Spitz

Red Lion, Evesham

Clive John Trio (4pm)

Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Raymond Frogatt

Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Meg Scane

The Lamb & Flag, Worcester

Becky Rose, Fix Me, Margo

Bottles, Worcester

Nakatomi Plaza (5pm)

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Jay & Eli

Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Beans On Toast

The Prince Albert, Stroud

The Haunted Souls (5pm)

The Imperial, Worcester

Ray Mytton (5:30pm)

The Chestnut, Worcester

Monday 09 December 2019**A Winter Union**

The Courtyard, Hereford

Tuesday 10 December 2019**Blake**

Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

Wednesday 11 December 2019**Ruzz Guitar's Blues Revue**

Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Pictish Trail, Matthew Lacey

The Prince Albert, Stroud

TJ Johnson Band, Ticket Only - 01527 66692 Or 01386 554235

Pershore Jazz Club, Pershore Town Football Club Function Room

Thursday 12 December 2019**The Albion Christmas Band**

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Jason & The Astronauts

Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Brother From Another

Tank, Gloucester

Will Killeen

The Plough, Worcester

Arch Garrison, Emily Jones, Libbertine Vale

Babar Cafe, Hereford

Chloe Mogg

Colwall Park Hotel, Malvern

Chop Suey (Soad Trib), Killswitch UK, Kamikazee Test Pilots

The Iron Road, Pershore

Friday 13 December 2019**Doreen Doreen**

The Sub Rooms, Stroud

Off Script

Crown And Sceptre, Stroud

Drunken Dolly

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Plucking Different

The Queen Vic, Stroud

Essential 80S V 90S

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

The Julie July Band

The Foyer - Conquest Theatre, Bromyard

Midtown Groove

No.3A, Bromsgrove

Limehouse Lizzy

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Wingwalkers

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

The Reflections

The Hanbury Turn, Bromsgrove

Wyefi

Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

Barefoot Serpents

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

The Hawthornes Farewell Show

Fog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Gaf Franks, Bobby Smith, Macca, Adam Cross

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Thrill Collins

The Bottle Of Sauce, Cheltenham

Monkey Jam

Harry Cook Free House, Cheltenham

T.Rextasy

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

The Ferretts

The Blue Bell, Ryall

The Strangers

Red Lion, Evesham

Get Down Colossus, Ruben Seabright, Lounge Toad

Archway 49 (Worcester Brewing Co.), Worcester

One Night Of Queen

The Regal, Evesham

Forty Blue Toes

The Millers Arms, Pershore

Bluzebox

The Queens Head, Wolverley

Call Of The Kraken!

Drummonds, Worcester

The Delray Rockets

Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Dry River

The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Luke Philbrick And The Solid Gone Skiffle Invasion

Tall Ships, Gloucester

The Ed Sheeran Experience

Atique - Velvet Lounge, Worcester

The Kilpecks, Emi Mcdade

The Globe, Hay On Wye

Excelsa Voces

The Saxon Church Of St Faith in Overbruy, Worcester

Jay & Eli

The Bush Inn, St. Johns, Worcester

Skewwhiff

The Sociable Beer Company, Worcester

Rubble

Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

Band On The Run

The Broadleys Pub, Hereford

Mur Mur

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

The Gatecrashers

The Golden Cross, Hereford

Anne-Marie Allen & Dominic Hyde

De Koffie Pot, Hereford

Mustard Brass Band

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Sean Jeffery

Eagle & Spur Cookley, Kidderminster

Dead Dads Club

The Cross Keys, Malvern

Saturday 14 December 2019

Big Joe Bone

Stroud Brewery, Stroud

Dan Knight

The Holly Bush, Gorcott Hill, Redditch

Johnny Coppin

The Sub Rooms, Stroud

Thee Pulsations

Crown And Sceptre, Stroud

Of Kings And Captains

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

John Coghlan's Quo

Watson Hall, Tewkesbury

Chevy Chase Stole My Wife

Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

Sax Appeal

The Green Dragon, Malvern

Soul Stripper, Cult Fiction

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Legend

The Dog And Pheasant, Bromsgrove

The Final Four

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

The Unconventionals

The Hanbury Turn, Bromsgrove

Tokyo Riot Police, Flying Ant Day

Stourbridge Cricket Club, Stourbridge

Fret Wolf

The Gigmill Pub, Stourbridge

The Geckos

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

All Dayer 2nd Anniversary Party!, Mixtape Saints, Hipflask

Virgins, Building Giants, The Jericho Racks, The Miffs, State

Of Ember, Rusty Knives, Tyler Massey Trio, Glitch, Wyld

Paradiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

The 80's Experience

The Civic, Stourport-On-Severn

Jim Lockey & The Solemn Sun

Fog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

The Jukebox Jems Trio

The Old Rose And Crown, Stourport-On-Severn

Built For Comfort

The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

People's String Foundation, Acoustic Duo

West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Cara Dillon

Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham

The Desperados Uk, Hard Stairs, Louisa Gaylard

Smokey Joe's, Cheltenham

English String Orchestra

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

David Gibb

Conquest Theatre, Bromyard

The Magic Of Mowton

The Regal, Evesham

The Oohz, The Salt Road

Archway 49 (Worcester Brewing Co.), Worcester

Dr Cornilius

The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

The Forfeits

The King Teddy, Gloucester

Melissa Butler (Mitzy)

Swan, Barbourne, Worcester

Vincent Flatts Final Drive

Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Excelsa Voces

Callow Great Hall, Stanbrook Abbey, Powick, Worcester

Vintage Inc

Virgin Tavern, Worcester

Donovan Bad Boy Smith, Jamie Rainbow, Rich F, Nice Guy

Eddie, Dj Zander

The Apartment, Cheltenham

The Knight & Hodgetts Christmas Show

The Boathouse, Upton-Upon-Severn

Kinstrife

The Plough, Hereford

Dirty Dogs

Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

Rattle Snake Jake

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Polkadot Robot

The Pillar Of Salt, Droitwich

Hotsteppas

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Fizzi

Cookley Sports Club, Kidderminster

Mzleading (5 Piece Covers Band)

The Eagle Inn, Ross-On-Wye

Jane & Tim Cranmore

Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

The Fireballs Uk

The Chestnut, Worcester

Foyer Folk: Sally Ironmonger & Brian Carter

Number 8, Pershore

Sunday 15 December 2019

Ttp Acoustic

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Us 3

The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

The Worried Men (4pm)

Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Chloe Mogg

The Lamb & Flag, Worcester

The Follicles (5pm)

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

The Magic Lantern, Pete Roe

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Sun Fire (5pm)

The Imperial, Worcester

Vincent Flats (5:30pm)

The Chestnut, Worcester

Monday 16 December 2019

A Narthen Christmas: Coope, Causley, Freya And Fraser

The Fleece Inn, Bretforton, Evesham

Tuesday 17 December 2019

The 60s All Star Band & Singers

Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

The Brightness

Parabola Arts Centre, Cheltenham

Cosmotheka

The Fleece Inn, Bretforton, Evesham

Wednesday 18 December 2019

Jack Flint

Galgos Latino, Stroud

Delights

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Belshazzar's Feast, Paul Sartin, Paul Hutchinson,

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

The Dragon Folk Club: Festive Tomfoolery

The Dragon, Worcester

Remi Harris, Darren Beale, Shane Dixon

The Hatch, Nr Tenbury Wells

Nicola Clark

Carpenters Arms, Miserden, Stroud

Thursday 19 December 2019

Noughty Nineties

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

The Garry Allcock Trio

Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Christmas Brass Band Special

Tank, Gloucester

The Lipinski Brothers

Royal Oak. Much Marcle, Ledbury

Slade Uk

The Iron Road, Pershore

Friday 20 December 2019

The Spacehoppers

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Liquor & Poker

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Gypsy Rose Christmas Balkan Bangers

Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

Bryn Thomas

Watson Hall, Tewkesbury

Dan Greenaway

No.3A, Bromsgrove

The Official Receivers

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

English Electric Lightning

The Hanbury Turn, Bromsgrove

Murmur

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

The Usual Suspects

The Maverick, Stourbridge

The Institutions

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Rick Wakeman

Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

JB's 12th Christmas Special with Spencer James & Friends

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Gun Runner

The Blue Bell, Ryall

Aaron Cook

The Dovey, Droitwich

Pure Pink

The Crown Inn Wychbold, Droitwich

Steve Ferbrache

The Old Badger Inn, Eastington

Woo Town Hill Billies

Red Lion, Evesham

Sons Of The Delta

Winchcombe Live At White Hart, Winchcombe

Glitter Shack Presents Xmas Dnb/Jungle Night, A Selection

of Top Local DJ's MC's And Producers

Newtown Club, Malvern

Voodoo

The Queens Head, Wolverley

Freefall

The Pilot Inn, Gloucester

27 Party Band

Drummonds, Worcester

Mr Wolf

The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Vaseline

Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Vintage Inc

Millers Arms, Pershore

The GTs

The Sociable Beer Company, Worcester

Black Heart Angels

Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

Arcadia Roots

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Lost Chord

The Broadleys, Hereford

Faith

The Birch And Stock Folk Club, Kidderminster

Katy J Pearson, Lazarus Kane

The Prince Albert, Stroud

Dan And King Rich

The Sportsman, Kidderminster

Raggedstone Solstice Party

West Malvern Social Club, Malvern

Beatles 4 Sale, The Rolling Clones

The Iron Road, Pershore

The Lost Dogs

Old Oak, Drakes Broughton, Pershore

Shotgun Marmalade, Chicken Fricassee Corporation

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

At War with the Sun, Broodmother, Doomicidal, Baron Greenback

Annie'S Burger Shack, Worcester

Saturday 21 December 2019

The Upbeat Beatles

Batchley Club, Redditch

Kemastree

Woodland Cottage, Redditch

Fires That Divide

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Witcher

The Unicorn, Malvern

Chimp On A Bike

Hungry Horse, Tewkesbury

Journeyman

The Green Dragon, Malvern

Fred Zeppelin

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Eastwood

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Black September

Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

Facestealers

The Redman, Kidderminster

The Smokin' Tones

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Blue Carpet Band, Ambition Demolition, Dc Spectres

Fog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Accolade

The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

The Desperados Uk

The Cotswold Inn, Cheltenham

Monkey Jam

Harry Cook Free House, Cheltenham

Jamie Knight And The Manuka Band

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Small Talk Robot, Late Night Juice

The Swan, Cheltenham

Will Killeen

Archway 49 (Worcester Brewing Co.), Worcester

The Roving Crows

Colwall Village Hall, Worcester

Mel & Him

The Express Inn, Malvern

Death Disco Vs The Task in Hand Xmas Special, DJ Sets &

Charity Tombola in Aid Of Streetinvest, 9pm - 1Am

Heroes Bar, Worcester

The Strays

The Deans Walk Inn, Gloucester

Who's Toned

Elmscroft Community Centre, Gloucester

Skrood

The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

XL5

The King Teddy, Gloucester

Lenny James & The Gaitor Squad

Black Tap, Redditch

Tom Davies

Swan, Barbourne, Worcester

Treble 4's

The Cricketers, Worcester

Vintage Inc

The Swan, Evesham

Patrick Hannon

Archway 49 (Worcester Brewing Co.), Worcester

Big Fat Shorty

The Oak Apple, Worcester

Rp Mcmurphy

Secret Garden Hereford, Hereford

Two Push Charlie

Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

The Alley Cats

The Vaga Tavern, Hereford

Starving Rascals

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Xmas Bandeoke With Polkadot Robot

Paraddiddles Music Cafe Bar, Worcester

Hells Bells
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Albino Tarantino
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Kev From The Murmur
The Sportsman, Kidderminster

The Usual Suspects
The Cavalier, Kidderminster

Ruffnecks
The Boars Head, Kidderminster

The Delray Rockets
The Cross Keys, Malvern

Hennesea
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

The Reflections
The Chestnut, Worcester

Legend - The Music Of Bob Marley
The Iron Road, Pershore

Pete Harrington
Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Sunday 22 December 2019

Woo Fest Fundraiser: Arcadia Roots, Chimp On A Bike, Immy and the Boatman, Kringo Blue, Ruben Seabright + More
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Meg Shaw
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

James Baker
The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

Rich Roberts
Red Lion, Evesham

Whiskey River
The Grape Vaults, Leominster

Dockside Acoustic
Brewhouse & Kitchen, Gloucester

Jules Benjamin Xmas Party (5pm)
Drummonds, Worcester

Eva And The Blue Dive
The Lamb & Flag, Worcester

Brendan O Brian (5pm)
The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

The Three Elvies
The Prince Albert, Stroud

Neil Ivison (5pm)
The Imperial, Worcester

The Delray Rockets (4pm)
Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Woo Town Hillbillies
The Chestnut, Worcester

Monday 23 December 2019

Michael Buble Experience
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Uncover: Xmas Gig: Time Of The Mouth, Kick The Clown, Like Giants, Zilch.
The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Dan And King Rich
The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

Busk Until Dawn
Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

The Rocker Covers
The Boat Shack, Upton Warren, Bromsgrove

Tuesday 24 December 2019

Kiel Wilkinson
The Boathouse, Upton-Upon-Severn

Follicles
The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

Meg Shaw
Brothers Of Ale, Stourport-On-Severn

Andrew Pearce
Reet Petite, Leominster

Kick The Fridge
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Lewis Leighton
The Teddy, Gloucester

The Delray Rockets
Worleys At The Swan, Stourport-On-Severn

Christmas With Toad
Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

The Ferrets
The Chestnut, Worcester

Wednesday 25 December 2019

Peter Gill
Chase Hotel, Gloucester

Thursday 26 December 2019

Dizzy Lizzy
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

White Tyger
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Facestealers
The Black Star, Stourport

Meg Shaw
The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

Andy Bennett
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Pete Harrington (Afternoon)
Swan, Barbourne, Worcester

Reloaded
The Old Richians RFC, Gloucester

The Murmur
Cookley Sports Club, Kidderminster

Friday 27 December 2019

Chinese Burn, The Loan Sharks
Crown And Sceptre, Stroud

The Straight Aces
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Pure Whitney Houston
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Jayne Peters Band
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Autumn
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Chevy Chase Stole My Wife + Support
Annie'S Burger Shack, Worcester

Ben Jones
The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

Emma Oakley
Red Lion, Evesham

Just Bono
The Gate Inn, Evesham

Foo Phonics
Reet Petite, Leominster

Percy Veer
The Queens Head, Wolverley

Steve Ajao Blues Giants
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Stanford Hill Mob
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Hot Rox
Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

Dan And King Rich
Eagle & Spur Cookley, Kidderminster

Kev From The Murmur
The Weary Traveller, Kidderminster

The Delray Rockets
The Golden Cross Inn, Heerford

Hayley Kate
Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Saturday 28 December 2019

Free Spirit
The Queen Vic, Stroud

Bebe And The Trojans
Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

Panic Switch, Skora, Others Tbc
Dick Whittington's, Gloucester

Flash - A Tribute To Queen
The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Primetime
Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Skawaddy
Crown Inn Catshill, Bromsgrove

The Jam Explosion
The Hare And Hounds, Stourbridge

The SP Band
The Maverick, Stourbridge

Witcher
The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

James Baker
The Lodge, Stourport-On-Severn

Outcasts
The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

Neon Creatures, Six Seconds To Run
The Valkyrie, Evesham

Fred Zeppelin
Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Jibbafish
Lower Lode Inn, Gloucester

Area 51
The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Matt Peplow
Swan, Barbourne, Worcester

Big Fat Shorty - Farewell Gig!
The Chestnut Tree, Worcester

Custard Connection
Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

Take The 5th, The Miffs

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Shut Up and Sing

Cookley Sports Club, Kidderminster

The Delray Rockets

The Boar's Head, Kidderminster

Debbie Harry

Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Power Room

The Cross Keys, Malvern

Big Fat Shorty

The Chestnut, Worcester

Sunday 29 December 2019

Led Hendrix

Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

The Ranters

The Black Star, Stourport-On-Severn

Meg Shaw

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Lenny James & The Gaitor Squad

Vaughans Bar, Redditch

Earl (4pm)

Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Drew

Red Lion, Evesham

Anne-Marie Allen

The Lamb & Flag, Worcester

Witcher (5pm)

The Imperial, Worcester

Clarksville Mountain Band (5:30pm)

The Chestnut, Worcester

Jay & Eli

The Morgan, Great Malvern

Monday 30 December 2019

Brendon Obrian

Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Tuesday 31 December 2019

Giant And The Georges, The Loveless

Katie Fitzgeralds, Stourbridge

The Brethryn

The Albion, Tewkesbury

Aaron Cook

The Bell Hotel, Tewkesbury

Forty Blue Toes

The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

Velvet Love & The Memphis One

The Exmouth Arms, Cheltenham

Dan & King Rich

Gardeners Arms, Droitwich

Blutown

The Old Badger Inn, Eastington

Satellite Down

The Valkyrie, Evesham

Raising Cain

The Swan Inn, Evesham

Shades Of Grey

Red Lion, Evesham

Chalky Martin

Swan, Barbourne, Worcester

Lost Highway

The Hop Pole, Bromsgrove

Steve Ajao Blues Giants

Joe Joe Jims, Birmingham

Vintage Inc

Bridge Inn, Tibberton Droitwich

Amie Woodyatt

The Boathouse, Upton-Upon-Severn

The Strays

The Golden Cross, Hereford

Covers From Better Than We Look

The Swan, Staunton

Band For Hire

Gordon Bennetts, Hereford

Blind Lemon

The Wharf, Stourport-On-Severn

Jay And Eli

The Imperial, Worcester

The Delray Rockets

The Gun Tavern, Worcester

Dublin Jacks

Great Malvern Hotel, Malvern

Malvern Roots Club

Newtown Club, Malvern

40 SLAP DEC/JAN

January

Wednesday 01 January 2020

Simon Hall

Bottles, Worcester

Hair Of The Dog

Drumonds, Worcester

Hair Of The Toad

The Chestnut, Worcester

Friday 03 January 2020

The Shaggy Dog Raconteurs

The Ale House, Stroud

Rod Stewart & The Facez

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Jon Townley

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

King Pleasure And The Biscuit Boys

The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Frankie Wesson Duo

Red Lion, Evesham

Neon Creatures

The Sociable Beer Company, Worcester

Saturday 04 January 2020

The SP Band UK

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Rule The World - Take That Tribute

The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Night Crawlers

The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

The Social Fretwork

Gloucester Rugby, Gloucester

Chewie

Swan, Barbourne, Worcester

Fiddlebop

The Globe, Hay On Wye

Vintage Inc

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Gary Priestley

The Sportsman, Kidderminster

Mel & Him

The Cross Keys, Malvern

The Strays

The Chestnut, Worcester

Sunday 05 January 2020

André Rieu - 70 Years Young

The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Sean Jeffrey (5pm)

The Imperial, Worcester

Jazz Express (5:30pm)

The Chestnut, Worcester

Tuesday 07 January 2020

Jack Mac's Funk Pack

The Globe, Hay On Wye

Thursday 09 January 2020

Oil & Grease

Oil Basin, Worcester

Millie Bah

Tank, Gloucester

Friday 10 January 2020

Ultimate Coldplay

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

The Johnny Cash Roadshow - The Man in Black Tour

The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Y!Kes, Zilch + Tba

Annie's Burger Shack, Worcester

A Country Night in Nashville

Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

Edwina Hayes

Conquest Theatre, Bromyard

Matt Bowen

Red Lion, Evesham

The Dream Collective

The Globe, Hay On Wye

Kings Of The Quaremile

The Sociable Beer Company, Worcester

AC/DC UK

The Iron Road, Pershore

The Reggulates

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Saturday 11 January 2020

Abba - Swede Dreamz

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

The Murmur

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

American Troubadour Songs And Stories

The Artrix, Bromsgrove

The Bottom Line, Bronnie, Elessar, Sunset Sunday
Fog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Risky Galore

Charlton King's Club & Institute, Cheltenham

The Wedding Present

Gloucester Guildhall, Gloucester

Simon Hall

Swan, Barbourne, Worcester

Vintage Inc

Virgin Tavern, Worcester

Planet Duran, System Eighties

The Marrs Bar, Worcester

Delta Blues Band

The Cross Keys, Malvern

The Will Killeen Band

The Chestnut, Worcester

Jay & Eli

Bar 57, Pershore

Foyer Folk: Kevin Dempsey & Marion Fleetwood
Number 8, Pershore

Sunday 12 January 2020

Terry

Bottles, Worcester

Honeyboy Hickling Band (4pm)

Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Worcester Ukele Club

Swan, Barbourne, Worcester

Ruben Seabright

The Lamb & Flag, Worcester

Facestealers (5pm)

The Imperial, Worcester

Journeyman (5:30pm)

The Chestnut, Worcester

Tuesday 14 January 2020

Daynee Lord & The Crookes

The Globe, Hay On Wye

Thursday 16 January 2020

Fleecey Folk: Field & Dyke

The Fleece Inn, Bretforton, Evesham

Chris Boman

Tank, Gloucester

Friday 17 January 2020

AC/DC UK

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Immy & The Boatman

No.3A, Bromsgrove

Hot Foot

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

Benyounes String Quartet

The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Bye Bye Baby

Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

Squawkers

The Sober Parrot, Cheltenham

Cheshire Brooks

Red Lion, Evesham

Bright Field: Winter Edition

The Globe, Hay On Wye

The Peas

The Sociable Beer Company, Worcester

Liam Ward Band

The Golden Cross, Hereford

Uncover: Odsmansbox + Support

Annie's Burger Shack, Worcester

Jay & Eli

Beauchamp Arms, Malvern

The George Michael Legacy Wayne Dilks

Palace Theatre, Redditch

Fox Fires

Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

Saturday 18 January 2020

The Ukey Dukes

Stroud Brewery, Stroud

UB40 - Labour Of Love

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

The Liquor & Poker Band

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

The Upbeat Beatles

The Artrix, Bromsgrove

C.T Riders

The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

Elkie Brooks

Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

The Book Of Genesis

Gloucester Guildhall, Gloucester

Vince Ballard, Remi Harris, Simon Smith, Jon Ballard

Pudleston Village Hall, Nr Leominster

Keith Trezise

Swan, Barbourne, Worcester

Adam Thorn

The Globe, Hay On Wye

Kev From The Murmur

The Sportsman, Kidderminster

Mr Black

Cookley Sports Club, Kidderminster

Fifty4

The Cross Keys, Malvern

Arcadia Roots

The Chestnut, Worcester

Tribute Triple Bill: Hi-On Maiden, Saxonized, Wizards Of Oz

The Iron Road, Pershore

John Lennon UK

Palace Theatre, Redditch

Sunday 19 January 2020

Garrington T. Jones

Bottles, Worcester

Kringo Blue

The Lamb & Flag, Worcester

The Disciples (5pm)

The Imperial, Worcester

Nothing Like A Whale (5:30pm)

The Chestnut, Worcester

Monday 20 January 2020

Inme

Fog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Tuesday 21 January 2020

Midnight Sun

Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Remi Harris & Friends

The Hatch, Nr Tenbury Wells

English Dulcimer Duo

Great Malvern Priory, Malvern

Wednesday 22 January 2020

The Outside Track

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Thursday 23 January 2020

Martyn Joseph

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Jack Morgan

Tank, Gloucester

Vo Fletcher

The Plough, Worcester

Quadrophenia

The Courtyard, Hereford

Friday 24 January 2020

The Terraplanes

The Ale House, Stroud

Non Jovi

Roses Theastre, Tewkesbury

Ultra 90s

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Ruben Seabright

No.3A, Bromsgrove

Skabucks

Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Wingwalkers

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

The Story Of Guitar Heroes

The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Frogg Souffle + Support

Annie's Burger Shack, Worcester

Black Coast, The King Is Dead, Blood Uncle, TBBGC

Fog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

From The Jam

Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

Dead Days Beyond Help, Ecg

Smokey Joe's, Cheltenham

Merry Hell

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Solid Stair Does

Cafe Rene, Gloucester

Will Killeen

Red Lion, Evesham

Mud On The Tyres

The Globe, Hay On Wye

The Hey Yahs

The Courtyard, Hereford

Jamie Knight

The Sociable Beer Company, Worcester

Dead Days Beyond Help & ECG

Smokey Joes, Cheltenham

Silver Dollar Honkytonk

The Marris Bar, Worcester

Popa Chubby, Sayer & Joyce

The Iron Road, Pershore

The Peas

The Piesse Of Piddle, Wyre Piddle, Pershore

Ga Ga A Tribute To Queen

Palace Theatre, Redditch

Saturday 25 January 2020

Haney's Big House

Stroud Brewery, Stroud

Ultra 90s

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

77

The Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove

Black Heart Angels

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

The Rat Pack

The Artrix, Bromsgrove

Groovy Train

The Wheelhouse, Upton On Severn

Leo

The Bayshill, Cheltenham

Bobbie Williams + Support

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

The Barebacks

The Globe, Hay On Wye

Richard Fox

Swan, Barbourne, Worcester

Collision

Gordon Bennet's, Hereford

The Follicles

The Sportsman, Kidderminster

Blu Town

The Cross Keys, Malvern

Pete Hyde & The Villiards

The Chestnut, Worcester

Fireballs Uk

Number 8, Pershore

We Three Kings - Of Rock N Roll

Palace Theatre, Redditch

Sunday 26 January 2020

Euco - Jess Gillam

The Sub Rooms, Stroud

Raging Speedhorn, Desert Storm, Grief Ritual

Fog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Worcester Concert Club Presents The Gildas String Quartet

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Bluesman Mike Francis (4pm)

Prince Of Wales, Ledbury

Immy And The Boatman

The Lamb & Flag, Worcester

Badeye And A Bloke Called Maddy (5pm)

The Imperial, Worcester

Howlin' Mat (5:30pm)

The Chestnut, Worcester

Arts, Exhibitions & Cinema

Dec

Until 18th Dec Cut Fold Bind - 'So Many Books, So Little Time'

Number 8, Pershore

Until 18th Dec John Seely - 'Alternative Landscapes'

Number 8, Pershore

Until 4th Jan Eco Exhibition, The Courtyard Hereford

Until 5 Jan Kathleen Watson and Lynne Sawyer: Inspire By Nature

Artrix, Bromsgrove

Until 2nd Feb Drawn from the Wood, Robin shaw exhibition

Artrix Bromsgrove

Until 18th April The Magical World of William Simmonds: Puppets &

Paintings Exhibition, Museum of Gloucester, Brunswick Road

1st Spectacle of Light, Sudeley Castle, Winchcombe, Gloucestershire

2nd & 5th Sorry We Missed You (15) Artrix Bromsgrove

3rd Steam in Lights, Severn Valley Railway, Kidderminster

5th Bohemian Voices, Live Music, Comedy and Poetry

Worcester Arts Workshop

5th Christmas Independent Market, Worcester Guildhall

5th-22nd Enchanted Witley Court, Great Witley

7th Local Makers Festival Market, General Office, Stourbridge

7th Tenbury Mistletoe Festival

7th Worcester Alternative Artist Market, Heroes Bar, Worcester

8th Christmas Crafts Worcester Royal Porcelain

8th Christmas Market, Bottle of Sauce, Cheltenham

13th Licensed To Rhyme Worcester Arts Workshop

14th Churchdown Arts & Crafts Fair, Community Centre, Gloucester

42 SLAP DEC/JAN

Tuesday 28 January 2020

The Sutton Brothers

The Golden Lion, Bromsgrove

The Classic Rock Show

Cheltenham Town Hall, Cheltenham

Cheltenham Songwriters Guild Vol. 17

Smokey Joe's, Cheltenham

Wednesday 29 January 2020

Fairport Convention

Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Vukovi

Fog And Fiddle, Cheltenham

Frog & Henry Jazz Band

Pershore Town Football Club, Pershore

Thursday 30 January 2020

IVW: Bleeding Hearts Agency: Genn, Tokyo Taboo + Support

Annie's Burger Shack, Worcester

The Pasadena Roof Orchestra

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Nathan Feldwick

Tank, Gloucester

Friday 31 January 2020

The Take That Experience

Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury

Los Pacaminos Featuring Paul Young

The River Rooms, Stourbridge

Elvis Tribute Night

Catshill Working Men's Club, Bromsgrove

Nexus

Sadlers Brewhouse & Bar, Lye, Stourbridge

The Whitney Houston Experience

The Artrix, Bromsgrove

IVW: Tba

Annie's Burger Shack, Worcester

Cloudbusting - The Music Of Kate Bush

Huntingdon Hall, Worcester

Hannah & Brian

Red Lion, Evesham

Nuadha Quartet

The Globe, Hay On Wye

The Goat Roper Rodeo Band

The Courtyard, Hereford

Vintage Inc

Ye Olde Black Cross, Bromsgrove

Pig Daze

The Sociable Beer Company, Worcester

The Alley Cats

The Golden Cross, Hereford

The Ronaldos

Gordon Bennet's, Hereford

Dog Of Two Head

The Marris Bar, Worcester

The Humdrum Express, TV Smith

Pin Claptrap The Venue, Stourbridge

16th/17th The Irishman (R) Artrix Bromsgrove

19th until 15th Jan Lorraine Symms - 'Living with Landscapes'

Number 8, Pershore

19th until 29th Jan Lorraine Bates - 'Enduring Evidence'

Number 8, Pershore

20th sing a long The Greatest Showman Worcester Arts Workshop

Jan

6th-9th The Farewell (PG), The Courtyard Hereford

11th Make a Paper Lampshade, Saz's ceramics and crafts,

Wordsley, West Mids

11th Edward Lear's The Owl and the Pussycat,

The Kings Theatre, Cheltenham

11th until 15th Feb Another Country, The Courtyard Hereford

14th Introduction to painting furniture and simple decoupage workshop

The Fold, Bransford

14th Exhibition On Screen - Lucian Freud: A Self Portrait,

Artrix, Bromsgrove

16th Light Night Worcester

16th "Let There Be Light" - discussion around working with "Light" in a creative context, The Hive Lecture Theatre.

16th until 5th Feb Chris Ludlow - 'Pictures Around Pershore'

Number 8, Pershore

18th Midnight Cowboy (18) The Courtyard Hereford

20th Circus of Horrors, The Courtyard Hereford

23rd Winter clothes swap. Pump House Environment Centre, Worcester

30th William Simmonds exhibition talk.

Museum of Gloucester, Brunswick Road. GL11HP

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 Perdidio 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 - Open Mic
The Swan, Port St., Evesham, Worcester

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 Paulline 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 Thur - 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, Sedgeberrow

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

DEC JAN 2019/20



Thursday December 5

Surprise Attacks: Blanck Mass, Violet Grace & Frans Gender, Rosebud
£10 in advance £12 on the door

Friday December 6

Very Santana (Santana tribute)
£10 in advance £12 on the door

Saturday December 7

V2A, Nightmare before Christmas party
£5 in advance £7 on the door

Friday December 13

Limehouse Lizzy (Thin Lizzy tribute)
£15 in advance £18 on the door

Saturday December 14

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

Friday December 20

The Official Receivers
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday December 21

Fred Zeppelin (Led Zeppelin tribute)
£10 in advance £12 on the door

Sunday December 22

**Woo Fest Fundraiser: Arcadia Roots,
Chimp on a Bike, Immy & the Boatman,
Kringo Blue, Ruben Seabright + more**
£10 in advance £12.50 on the door

Monday December 23

**UnCover: Time of The Mouth, Kick
The Clown, Like Giants, Zilch.**
£6 in advance

Saturday December 28

Take the 5th, The Miffs
£7 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday January 4

James O'Mara forever on tour
£8 in advance

Saturday January 11

Planet Duran, System Eighties
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Friday January 24

Silver Dollar Honkeytonk presents

Friday January 31

Dog of Two Head (Status Quo tribute)
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Saturday 1st February

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

Saturday 8th February

Sams Town (Killers tribute)
£10 in advance £13 on the door

Friday 28th February

Captain Starfighter & The Lockheeds
£8 in advance £10 on the door

Wednesdays - Jamming night - FREE entry

www.marrsbar.co.uk
01905 613336

Worcester's Premier Live Music Venue
Available for private hire