

#14  
MAY 2016

# GOOD ON PAPER

An independent, free monthly guide  
to Music, Art, Theatre, Comedy,  
Literature & Film in Stroud.

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[goodonpaper.info](http://goodonpaper.info)

# Coming up this month...

**MAY 2016**  
Book at the Box Office  
01453 760900

## EDITOR'S NOTE

WELCOME TO THE FOURTEENTH ISSUE OF GOOD ON PAPER  
- YOUR FREE MONTHLY GUIDE TO MUSIC CONCERTS, ART  
EXHIBITIONS, THEATRE PRODUCTIONS, COMEDY SHOWS,  
FILM SCREENINGS AND LITERATURE EVENTS IN STROUD...

Last month's issue pretty much 'sold out' in its first two weeks (!) so we've yet again increased our circulation in preparation for this year's Select Festival and Trail, and the SITE Open Studios in which local galleries, shops, venues and workshops open their doors to showcase the impressive amount of striking artwork being produced in the Stroud valleys. As well as witnessing art being exhibited in unconventional spaces it also offers a unique opportunity to talk to the artists and see where their work is created.

With a limited amount of pages we unfortunately cannot list every event taking place over the two weekends in May but turn to our arts section for a sneak preview and be sure to pick up free programmes available throughout Stroud to plan your art viewing excursions.

Over the past year our little magazine has increased in popularity and it's refreshing to see that readers still appreciate 'old school print', a brief respite from constantly staring at pixels. We are currently pursuing further sponsors enabling us to increase our circulation and seeking to add to our expanding pool of contributing writers. If you feel like you would like to get involved or help in any way please get in touch.

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### WE NEED YOUR SPONSORSHIP!

We are currently pursuing further sponsors enabling us to increase our circulation and also widen our reach to the surrounding areas around Stroud.

If you would like your logo and website to appear here and to support an independent local magazine, get in touch.



**Bremner Duthie sings the songs of Kurt Weill**  
with the David Patrick Trio  
Sat 14<sup>th</sup> May

8pm £12/£10concs

**Cautionary Tales for Daughters**  
(Songs Your Mother Never Taught You)

Fri 20<sup>th</sup> May

8pm £14/£12concs Age recommendation 15 +



**Harlem Street Singer**  
(a film about the Rev Gary Davis) +  
concert with Woody Mann

Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> May

7pm film/8:45pm concert £6.50film/£9.50concert/£15 both



**JOE SUMMERS**

Black Book Cafe presents  
Radio 2's 'Act of the Week' with Steve Lamacq  
**JOE SUMMERS**  
"You need to check out / buy Joe Summers' EP (Ryan Adams should watch his back!)  
- THE FLY MAGAZINE  
"Wally's finest singersongwriter"  
- Steve Lamacq (Radio2 and 6music)  
"This is music to teach your soul"  
- Stephen Morris (BBC Introducing)

Saturday  
7th May 2016  
Doors Open 7:30pm  
**£7 Entry**  
(BYO -£3 corkage)

Black Book Cafe

**WES FINCH**

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May Doors Open 7pm £5 (b.v.o corkage fees)

For more information visit: [blackbookcafe.com](http://blackbookcafe.com) or [www.wesfinch.co.uk](http://www.wesfinch.co.uk)

# ARDYN

BY AMY FLEMMING

**BROTHER AND SISTER, KATY AND ROB PEARSON, ARE SITTING IN BLACK BOOKS CAFE, REELING OFF WITH GREAT EXCITEMENT THE LIST OF FESTIVALS THEIR BAND ARDYN WILL BE PERFORMING AT THIS SUMMER. LATITUDE, SECRET GARDEN PARTY, GREEN MAN, TRAMLINES, THE GREAT ESCAPE AND DOT TO DOT ARE ALL CONFIRMED SO FAR, ALONG WITH, MORE LOCALLY, FARM FEST, NEAR BRISTOL, AND BARN ON THE FARM IN GLOUCESTER.**

The duo, who are two-thirds of a set of triplets, proudly see themselves as a Stroud band through and through. "We both attended college in Stroud, and our first gigs were at the Prince Albert, in Rodborough" says Katy. "It's so lush, we love it there. Lotte and Miles have been our champions, supporting us at every stage." They currently rehearse there when the pub is closed. Rob chips in: "We're lucky to be in a band in Stroud, because there's so much going on, to have an amazing music scene on our doorstep, and to be around so many different bands."

The pair were formerly known as Kitten and Bear, a name they had to come up with on the spot when they suddenly started playing live, five years ago. But now they're twenty, they have a suitably more sophisticated handle. Ardyn happens to be Latin for enthusiastic, but that's not why they chose it. They have a relative called Ardyn. "She's an artist and has loads of peacocks in her garden," laughs Katy. "And we were sitting there one day and were like: Ardyn? Can we name our band after you? And she was like: Yes! Do you want to pose naked in the garden with the peacocks?"

Friday 29th April sees the release of *Over the River*, a single from their second EP, and momentum is gathering for the pair. In a few weeks they're getting the classic young buzz-band treatment and being flown to Los Angeles, for a change of songwriting scenery, and to meet a potential producer. "We've never been to America before so, I can't believe we're going," says Katy, like the cat that got the cream. Already they have worked with Rodaidh McDonald (among others), who has created sounds for bands including the XX, Daughter and Savages. He has produced both of Ardyn's EPs.

Listening to these incredibly polished records, one wonders how they compare to the demos of the songs that McDonald would have initially heard. "He sped them up a hell of a lot," says Rob. "They had been really folksy because we'd demoed them with members of a folk band."

(In fact it was Hot Feet featured in issue #3 of *Good On Paper*). "The aim was to get it sounding like a duo with instrumentation - a Kate Bushy vibe, and it really worked well," he says.

The pair are largely self-taught. Their dad makes music for a hobby, so they started picking up his instruments when they were little, and eventually progressed into writing songs. Rob plays guitar and Katy recently taught herself piano, to add another dimension. And as for her mighty voice, "I kind of made it up as I went along," she says. "I used to sing all the time. When I was 14, I was always singing along to YouTube karaoke. But I didn't really know that I could sing until I started doing gigs, and people said I could sing in tune." And Rob's backing vocals weave soulful harmonies. He seems a little quieter than his sister, but he says "Katy's keen to get me singing a song on my own. We'll see." There's a side of him that loves to be a front person, but he thinks their duo works best as is. He has been the lead singer in other bands, though. "They were a bit more loud," he says.

Katy, meanwhile, has only ever worked with Rob. "We are together all the time," she says. "Living together, like we're still in the womb." In fact they reckon the longest they've ever been apart in 20 years is about two weeks. "Crazy," says Rob. They've always been in the same class at school, and share the same friends. Being so familiar with each other has its benefits, now their careers are also entwined. "We're lucky, because we know how to deal with being with each other all the time," says Katy.

Their dad has perhaps got the biggest kick out of their success so far. "Having recorded us for years, he loves seeing what we're up to," says Katy. "We asked him what his best moment of it all has been so far, and he said it was 'finding out it wasn't just me who thought you had something.'"

*Over the River* the new single from their forthcoming EP will be released via Aesop Records ([aesoplabel.com](http://aesoplabel.com)) on the 29th April. You can follow the band on [facebook/ardynband](https://www.facebook.com/ardynband) and twitter [@ardynband](https://twitter.com/ardynband) for further news and updates, and listen to songs from their debut EP *Universe* via [soundcloud.com/ardynband](https://www.soundcloud.com/ardynband)

*Amy Fleming was a writer and editor at the Guardian for 12 years, and now writes from home in Stroud, also contributing to Intelligent Life, Vogue, the FT and the Telegraph*





Image by James Kriszyk

# THE PRINCE ALBERT

BY JAMIE BALDWIN

IT'S A VERY SPECIAL PUB THAT BUMPS UP THE HOUSE PRICES IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD. IT SITS WITHIN RATHER THAN THE OTHER WAY ROUND. BUT HEY IT'S THE PRINCE ALBERT, NORMAL RULES DO NOT APPLY. I MET UP WITH THE TWO VERY SPECIAL PEOPLE -- LOTTE AND MILES -- WHO ARE CELEBRATING 20 YEARS RUNNING A STROUD MUSICAL AND SOCIAL INSTITUTION.

The Prince Albert bar seems Tardis-esque, bigger on the inside than from the punters side of the counter. This is good, given the propensity for heaving crowds of musically-literate Stroudies to descend upon this little public house haven. And the Albert really does feel like a public house, it's like walking into a family friend's living room whose grown up kids are having a jam in the corner.

The 'kids' tonight are Sam Green and the Midnight Heist, albeit Sam Green-less for tonight's entertainment. They're upstairs tucking into a spicy pre-gig Shepherd's Pie, that Lottie's cooked - its part of the deal.

**GOOD HOME-COOKING, SO IS THIS THE SWEETENER THAT GETS ALL THESE GREAT BANDS TO PLAY AT THE ALBERT?**

**Lotte:** Well, yes, kind of - the deal is food and lodging, and some cash thrown in depending on how we do on the night. We can't really afford the bands we attract, but it works for them if they're on tour anyway and are looking for a midweek gig venue. Who wants to be in a soulless service station eating crappy food when we've got this! We're in a good position really, and have about seventy bands a week asking to play here which is great because it means we can be quite selective. The booking side of things runs the pub, and it is an absolute skill.

Joe - the double bassist from the Midnight Heist - pipes up: "It's like coming home this place. The fun-est and best-est place to play in the West Country." [He's got his eye on second helpings, but he's probably still being sincere]

**SO THIS IS THE NORMAL SCENE ABOVE THE ALBERT - A MENAGERIE OF FAMILY MEMBERS, MUSICIANS AND VARIOUS PETS?**

**Lotte:** Oh yes, this is totally normal. It's a lifestyle choice running a pub. This is our life. The children enjoy it, and are involved in the day-to-day running of the pub - the eldest daughter practically runs the bar. The bands are integral to it all too. They stay in the spare room, along with Eric the albino hedgehog. He once climbed into bed with Tankus the Henge.

**WHO HAVE YOU BEEN MOST EXCITED ABOUT PLAYING AT THE ALBERT OVER THE LAST TWO DECADES?**

**Lotte:** Ooo, there's been so many. That's a hard one. I guess the stand out for me was when Huun-Huur-Tu played. They're a Tuvan throat singing band from the Mongolia-Russia region. They played at WOMAD one year and we just loved them so invited them to the pub. This is The Kit were also pretty special. I got chatting to a woman at school who said one her friends was in a band. It only took four years from that conversation to get them in the Albert but it was worth the wait. Oh and Keith Allen, he's obviously great too.... [as Keith wanders into the room].

**HOW DID YOU END UP RUNNING THE PUB?**

**Lotte:** I visited Stroud 30 years ago now with no intention to stay, but I loved it and never went back. I was working at The Pelican for nine years, but decided that with three small kids in tow it was time to do something different, away from

the town centre. When I moved in twenty years ago the place was split into seven tiny rooms, and came with its very own bowling green. Stroud has always had a great music scene and we've both wanted to uphold that tradition here in the Albert. It's not easy - you have to try and do different things and see what works. We used to do food but it didn't really work for us.

**Miles:** I came into the pub a bit later but I've always been aware of the Stroud scene. It's not easy running a pub and I think in Stroud there's a good feeling that we're all in it together. One of my best mates is Ian who runs the Retreat, and we're borrowing the racking from the landlord of the Ale House for the beer festival on the May bank holiday.

**YOU MENTION THE BEER FESTIVAL - WHAT ELSE IS COMING UP FOR THE ALBERT THIS YEAR?**

**Lotte:** We'll have a 20 year anniversary party at some stage, in between going to the summer festivals. From May onwards we've got the guys from Bison Kitchen setting up a food outlet in the back five days a week (Wednesday to Sunday). We're also going to put on Sunday sessions where local bands and musicians curate stuff together. The normal kind of stuff...

And with that it's back down to the faded bunting, the stage spotlights sharing ceiling space with chintzy candelabras and chandeliers, and the poster paraphernalia of Stroud's most public of public houses.

[theprincealbertstroud.co.uk](http://theprincealbertstroud.co.uk)

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*Jamie Baldwin is a renewable energy specialist with a background as a freelance journalist for the BBC, Discover Channel and Panos International*



## PERHAPS CONTRAPTION

BY ALEX HOBBS

WHEN READING THE PRINCE ALBERT'S LISTINGS YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED THEIR PENCHANT FOR FREQUENTLY BOOKING ARTISTS WHO DO NOT EASILY FIT INTO ONE PARTICULAR GENRE. IT SEEMS EVERY MONTH BRINGS FORTH SOMEONE INDESCRIBABLE AND A PRIME EXAMPLE IN MAY COMES IN THE FORM OF THE LONDON DWELLING MUSICAL MENAGERIE PERHAPS CONTRAPTION. I CAUGHT UP WITH THE BANDS VOCALIST, FLAUTIST, GUITARIST AND MANAGER CHRIS SQUIRE PRIOR TO THEIR FIRST PERFORMANCE IN STROUD...

**IN ITS CURRENT FORMAT PERHAPS CONTRAPTION IS A MANY LEGGED BEAST INCORPORATING A MYRIAD OF DIFFERENT INSTRUMENTS, HOW DIFFERENT IS THE BAND IN 2016 TO WHEN IT STARTED BACK IN 2004?**

This device has been through so many changes over the years, it's now incredibly different to the 4 piece standard rock band it once was. Though our songs are still very much derived from guitars, we rarely perform with them. Being a guitarist myself, I gradually became very numb to the colours and textures they would create, and so decided to try and perform without them. I also really enjoyed playing acoustically, so was trying to dream up ways of performing without amps and sound checks.

**THE GROUP'S MUSIC INCORPORATES LOTS OF DIFFERENT STYLES FROM JAZZ, PROG, BRASS AND CLASSICAL - WHICH ARTISTS HAVE BEEN YOUR MAIN INFLUENCES OVER THE YEARS?**

Personally, lots of my core influences comes from the 70's; Captain Beefheart, King Crimson, Henry Cow and Frank Zappa have all had a huge bearing on my musical interests. Though more modern 'other' bands like Sleepytime Gorilla Museum, Hella and Godspeed! You Black Emperor provide inspiration too. Mickey Bones, who writes lots for the band too often distils his love for Cardiacs, Oingo Boingo and Raymond Scott into his songs.

With the change of our instrumentation, key influences have shifted more to modern and 20th Century classical, particularly from John Adams (we do an arrangement of his masterpiece 'Short Ride in a Fast Machine') Steve Reich, Stravinsky, Prokofiev and David Lang. I feel like we are trying to find a way to take elements from this world and merge them with the freedom of jazz and footholds of art pop.

**YOU'RE LIVE PERFORMANCES HAVE A TENDENCY TO ADOPT LESS CONVENTIONAL METHODS MORE IN LINE WITH STREET PERFORMERS AND MARCHING BANDS, HOW DOES THIS DIFFER TO PERFORMING ON A STAGE?**

It's mainly about the great impact that comes from changing a banal situation to a celebratory one, the contrast and spontaneity.

I love the element of surprise and that audiences are often dictated by chance. There's also something very special about performing completely acoustically; no PA or stage as a barrier. It means that 8 singers can surround a small crowd and deliver the vocals just for you, or that we can weave freely through a crowd to create a sense of chaos. The experience is much more powerful for both audience and performer as it is so direct.

**IT SEEMS THIS WAY OF PLAYING HAS BEEN A KEY IN ENABLING YOU TO PERFORM IN MORE UNUSUAL PLACES, WHICH SHOWS HAVE BEEN MORE MEMORABLE THAN OTHERS?**

We've certainly been on some great adventures. The most memorable was performing on a giant rock at about 3000 metres in the Dolomites last year for Sudtiroil Jazz Festival. The band was split in two and took chairlifts at two opposite ends of a mountain trail. We then improvised separately and paraded for about an hour to the rock in the middle. It took some real dedication to get to that show! But we had a good crowd joining us for the hike...

Another favourite is performing in Glastonbury's secret venue 'the hole' or 'the piano bar'. It's an electricity free venue dug into the side of a hill. It's like some sort of medieval court. We are sure to pay that place a visit when in Pilton; the atmosphere is incredible.

**THE FESTIVAL SEASON IS AN IMPORTANT TIME FOR THE BAND WITH REGULAR SHOWS AT GLASTONBURY, BESTIVAL, SECRET GARDEN AND APPEARANCES AT FESTIVALS IN AMERICA, SPAIN AND ITALY - HOW DO UK FESTIVALS DIFFER FROM OTHERS AROUND THE WORLD?**

We love festivals. Though in the UK, it's hard to make them work for us financially. Being a large, DIY and fairly unknown band it's hard for us to secure the funding we need so that we don't make a loss. On the whole we have found that artists are treated better in Europe and USA. We find it easier to survive financially out there. Even just that fact that you are fed really well at all shows makes a big difference!

Slightly different from that scene is a network of festivals in USA (and increasingly the world) called Honk! Through community fund-raising we've had the chance to visit the states to tour a couple of times; playing in parks, streets,

homeless shelters and schools. It's an incredible grassroots network that's helping to connect the street music community and advocate positive social change. We have goals to create a Honk! festival in the UK soon...

But saying all that, you still can't beat potent sense of mirth and silliness at a UK festival, it's where our uptight English-ness dissolves and people get feral!

**YOU HAVE EMBARKED ON VARIOUS TOURS WITH AMANDA PALMER FROM THE DRESDEN DOLLS EVEN OCCASIONALLY JOINING HER ONSTAGE, ARE THERE ANY PLANS FOR FUTURE COLLABORATIONS?**

Amanda is this incredible creative whirlwind; a conduit for so many artists. We've been on some amazing adventures with her. She has recently had a beautiful baby boy so is very busy being a mama, but she is on her way to the UK this summer and there have been talks about potential shows and recording projects...

**THE DIZZYING VIDEO TO I AM I THE OPENING TRACK FROM THE LATEST ALBUM MUD BELIEF WAS FILMED WITH PROJECTION MAPPING IN 360 DEGREES VR. HOW DID THIS COME ABOUT AND HOW DOES IT WORK?**

Our bass trombonist Matt Jolly is also a fine video editor and all round tech wizard. We've always been interested in new tech developments and using them to inform our videos. This was first explored with Perambulations, our interactive video using YouTube annotations. You can choose which performers to journey with through the video.

The burgeoning virtual reality revolution is very exciting for music, I think many more videos and live events will be filmed this way. The intensity of the experience is far greater. The amazing thing is that it's already began (and that many people don't seem to know about). With Google cardboard and any smart phone you can now experience VR (albeit in its most basic form). I am, I is intense when viewed in this way, it's like the whole band are around you rocking out.

**WHAT CAN THE AUDIENCE EXPECT FROM YOUR STROUD DEBUT AT THE PRINCE ALBERT LATER THIS MONTH?**

We will be running most of our new album, Mud Belief, plus some brand new songs! There will likely be a flurry of the colour yellow, and a huge amount of brass and singing. I'm happy to be playing in the South West again, the band began in Bristol, so it feels good to come home!

Perhaps Contraption play at the Prince Albert on Saturday 21st May, visit [goodonpaper.info/music](http://goodonpaper.info/music) for our monthly YouTube playlist featuring the 360 degree VR video to I Am I and [perhapscontraption.co.uk](http://perhapscontraption.co.uk) for further info

# MUSIC LISTINGS

## ALE HOUSE

### THURS 5TH

#### Ben Harrison

Acoustic guitarist & singer - covering classics tunes and a few choice numbers you don't hear often but will love 8:30pm Free

### SAT 7TH

#### Subduction

Superb local 5-peice creating a complex and bouncing fusion of reggae, roots and rock grooves 8:30pm Free

### THURS 12TH/26TH

#### The Human Jukebox

Aron Attwood and friends continue the increasingly popular Thursday session - you request the tunes but if you can't think of anything Aron will pull a belter out of the bag 8:30pm Free

### SAT 14TH

#### Nothin' but Trouble

After a hugely popular performance in February, Nothin' But Trouble return with their rocking blues 8:30pm Free

### THURS 19TH

#### The Reverend Stretch

Noted corrupted clergyman worshiping the church of Johnny Cash, Neil Young and all things American, acoustic and sinful 8:30pm Free

### FRI 20TH

#### Patsy Gamble Quartet

World class Jazz & Blues from local - but globally travelled - saxophonist 8:30pm Free

### TUES 24TH

#### Bob Dylan 75th Birthday Celebration

Charlie Graham curates an evening of song to celebrate the 75th birthday of Bob Dylan 8:30pm Free

### FRI 27TH

#### Shooting the Crow

Stomping Americana and Bluegrass 8:30pm Free (the Ale House Sussex Downs Beer Festival)

### SAT 28TH

#### Swing from Paris

Described as "The Cotswold's best gypsy Jazz quartet" Swing from Paris bring the sound of a Chic Parisian Café, and the French jazz of Django Reinhardt 8:30pm Free (the Ale House Sussex Downs Beer Festival)

### SUN 29TH

#### Steve Ferbrache

Ale House favourite (or so he thinks) who usually gets gigs in Stroud when other musicians drop out days before press listings are due 8:30pm Free (the Ale House Sussex Downs Beer Festival)

## BAR GREYHOUND

### SAT 7TH

#### Notorious

Bringing the best of Hip-Hop & RnB from the 90's & 00's, always a popular night with the party going on till 2am, Dubbu & Mendoza selecting the tunes 8pm - 2am Free

facebook.com/BarGreyhound

## BLACK BOOK CAFÉ

### SAT 7TH

#### Joe Summers

Joe Summers has toured Europe with the legendary Steve Winwood, been invited to support Joan Armatrading, and was also featured on Steve Lamacq's Radio Two show as his 'Act of the week'. His approach to song writing has been generously compared to the likes of Cat Stevens, Ron Sexsmith, Nick Drake and Johnny Flynn among others 7:30pm £7 (bring your own booze/corkage fees apply)

### FRI 13TH

#### Teenage Open Mic Night

This is a free event and is a build up night for youngsters to gain confidence to progress to the Black Book's famous Open Mic night and to perform in various venues/events etc 7:30-10pm Free

### SAT 21ST

#### Wes Finch

Making his debut at BB on what will hopefully be the (start) of a lovely summers evening! Wes will be bringing a mix of Folk and Americana, some covers and some of his own material. His musical influences are from the likes of Tom Waits, Elliot Smith, Ryan Adams, The Bellows and Pavement, to name a few 7pm £5 (bring your own booze/corkage fees apply)

### SAT 28TH

#### Open Mic Night

Black Book's popular Open Mic night! You know the drill...7:30-10.30pm Free and you can bring your own booze! (corkage fees apply)

blackbookcafe.com

## THE CROWN AND SCEPTRE

### FRI 6TH

#### Charlton Blues Kings

Six piece blues band from Gloucestershire playing authentic Chicago and West Coast influenced Blues 8:30pm Free

### SAT 7TH

#### Square Bomb

Stroud's own situationist New Wave band featuring Pav (Paviny!), Nick (Thee Ones) a drum machine and artist/performance poet Uta on vocals 8:30pm Free

### FRI 13TH

#### The Dukes of Mumbai

Bristol based instrumental four-piece playing loud '60s surf-related/TV & film theme tune based stuff 8:30pm Free

### SAT 14TH

#### The Bob Porter Project

Stroud based Americana with a fine blend of mellow Alt Country and gritty Roots Rock 8:30pm Free

### FRI 20TH

#### Thee Ones

Raised on a diet of Dr John, The Meters and Captain Beefheart their all about the groove...8:30pm Free

### FRI 27TH

#### The Worried Men

"Think of Thorogood, Gary Moore, Wilko Johnson. These boys can show 'em all a clean pair of heels" British Blues Connection 8:30pm Free

### SAT 28TH

#### Americana Festival Preview Night

A preview to this year's Stroud Americana Festival (3rd - 5th June). Artists TBA 8:30pm Free

crownandsceptrestroud.com

## THE GOLDEN FLEECE

### SAT 7TH

#### Global Beats (DJ)

The best beats from across the globe - cumbia, bhangra raga, ska, Scandi, Afrobeat and much more...8:30pm Free

### SAT 14TH

#### The Gin Bowlers

The Gin Bowlers are storming the country with their big swing tunes and fun, dance floor driven charisma! Slamming drums, slapping double bass grooves, smoking guitar lines and hooks by some of the hottest solo players around 8:30pm Free

### SUN 15TH/29TH

#### Afternoon Jazz: The Tristan Watson Duo

An equally relaxing and rousing afternoon of superb jazz led by Stroud guitarist Tristan Watson 2-4pm Free

### SAT 21ST

#### Eddy Allen Duo

It's impossible to pigeon hole this well-travelled and multi-talented duo - expect mixed elements of pop, latin, ska, & pan-European traditional music 8:30pm Free

### SAT 28TH

#### Stroud Calling: Juke Joint

Another instalment of the busy and popular DJ night of dusty beats and funky treats - strictly good time Vinyl 45s 8:30pm Free

facebook.com/goldenfleecebar

## THE PRINCE ALBERT

### SUN 1ST

#### May Day Morris Dance Off

Sarah Kelly and the Uke Can Ukelele team will perform and show you their skills before handing over 50 - YES FIFTY ukes and showing the way to uke heaven. ALL welcome and if you have your own uke bring that too. Scuffed Up Boots: Acoustic trio from Blackwood playing good old fun

time music, with double bass, guitar and great percussion. Solomonto: All hail Dave Andrews and the coolest reggae outfit in (our) world. The Soggy Bottom Boys: Mark and Jig the Albert's regular acoustic duo with the best set list since Neil Young popped in...Free (The Prince Albert Beer & Music Festival)

### MON 2ND

#### Stroud & Gloucester Vinyl Connection

Neil Wilson and Darren collate a day of vinyl - come along, you can play three tracks and get the chance to hang out with record heads and some of the nicest DJs in the county 2pm Free (The Prince Albert Beer & Music Festival)

### WEDS 4TH

#### Alice Phelps Band + Gentrifuge

Alice Phelps Band: Influenced by folk from near and far, Celtic to Eastern she experiments with delay, blues motifs, and intricate melodies and rhythms to create a melting pot of contemporary and traditional styles, traversing the territories between psychedelic folk and cosmic jazz. Gentrifuge: A Ghent (Belgium) based indie rock jazz trio 8pm Free

### THURS 5TH

#### Open Mic with Emily Wood

Singer songwriter extraordinaire Emily Wood will be hosting tonight's Open Mic and giving tips on performance and mic control. Emily is a member of the Bandit team providing guidance to young musicians in Stroud on twice yearly workshops the Prince Albert are delighted to sponsor 8pm Free

### FRI 6TH

#### Garance Louis and The Mitochondries

Former Circus singer and performer Garance and her merry band play impeccable and baffling Gallic music with such eccentric beats you will find very hard not to wiggle along to...8pm Free

### SUN 8TH

#### Small Town Jones

Jim Jones is a singer from North Devon and sometime member of The Peter Bruntnell Band. His new album 'Sky Down to the Ground' sees Jones carving out a sound of his own with an eery soundscape of honest intensity and real heartfelt and emotional content, and Stroud's own Emily Barker guests on a track or two 8:30pm Free

### TUES 10TH

#### Gill Sandell

Formerly of Emily Barker and the Red Clay Halo, Gill is at her most potent performing her own captivating blend of delicate but lyrical modernist folk which is making waves on the UK grasstoos folk and acoustic scene 8pm £7

### THURS 12TH

#### Brooke Sharkey

Stunning. Creative. Talented. Spellbinding. Multi linguist Brooke was brought up between England and France and she alternates at the drop of a hat her singing language. A long time performer at The Albert with long

### FRI 27TH

#### Cocos Lovers

Hugely fantastic Kent band return for a night of dancing, smiling and hopefully a rendition of one of Lotte's top tunes ever - the beautiful 'Emily'.

Free gig and it will be packed so come early and wear comfy shoes 8pm Free

### SUN 29TH

#### Lewis Barfoot

Half Irish, half English songbird with a beautiful voice deeply ensconced in the roots of Folk 8pm Free

### SUN 15TH

#### Moscow Drug Club

MDC is a curious musical place where elements of 1930's Berlin cabaret, Hot Club de France, Nuevo Tango and Gypsy Campfire meet, drink a few and then stagger into the darkness of some eastern European bar looking for Django, Jacques, Tom, Bertolt and Leonard...The result is this intoxicating and intimate experience 8pm Free

### THURS 19TH

#### Morning Star + Mistrella

Jesse D Vernon is the main man behind Morning Star. With an ever changing line up, sometimes a trio sometimes a full blown orchestra Jesse collects musicians from his travels, and tonight is playing with Parisien band Mistrella. Slightly folkly and always interesting 8pm Free

### FRI 20TH

#### The Soggy Bottom Boys

Mark and Jig on fiddle and guitar playing tunes we love and hate 8pm Free

### SAT 21ST

#### Perhaps Contraption

See p71 8pm Free

### SUN 22ND

#### Rodborough Playgroup Bike Day and Fundraiser

Music, bikes, a barbeque, kids fun, adult stuff and all for the good of our local playgroup. From midday until 5ish.

### WEDS 25TH

#### Rory Mcleod and The Familiar Strangers

Lovely Rory has graced the Albert's stage a few times but it's a bit special tonight as he brings for the first time his band The Familiar Strangers. Playing his songs with a fresh new approach and bringing a new musical depth as harp, clarinet, sax, and double bass are added to the offering straddling the borders of folk, world, soul, jazz and Latin 8pm £TBC (see website for details)

### THURS 26TH

#### Hot Feet + Leonie Evans

Hot Feet are a Stroud band with each member having grown up in the valleys but now based here, London and Bristol, they have spent the last few months recording and will be introducing new songs from their forthcoming release. Leonie Evans is a member of Rae and collaborates with some of the Albert's favourite artists up and down the country. Her album kickstarted and released last year featured Honeyfeet, Adam Beattie and a whole host of terrific artists 8pm Free

### FRI 27TH

#### Cocos Lovers

Hugely fantastic Kent band return for a night of dancing, smiling and hopefully a rendition of one of Lotte's top tunes ever - the beautiful 'Emily'.

### SUN 29TH

#### Lewis Barfoot

Half Irish, half English songbird with a beautiful voice deeply ensconced in the roots of Folk 8pm Free

### MON 31ST

#### The Jagged Ostrich Charity Fundraiser

The popular charity event returns for its third outing! Line-up and times TBC..

theprincealbertstroud.co.uk

## STROUD BREWERY

### SAT 7TH

#### Plucking Different

A ukulele band performing popular infectious, feel-good, foot-tapping songs. The band's popularity is defined by their unique approach to classic songs, which differentiates the aptly named Plucking Different from your average covers band 7:30pm Free

### SAT 14TH

#### Luke Philbrick

Luke Philbrick from Solid Gone and Gloucester's NYC-born king of blues, Damon T, unite for a night of blues and roots music. Soulful vocals, raw delta blues guitar, wailing harmonica and an almost tribal foot-stomping beat combine to create a special atmosphere 7:30pm Free

### SAT 21ST

#### Counter Measures

A four part singing group from Cirencester with material ranging from contemporary spoken word poetry set to music, to classic male voice choir numbers sung in welsh 7:30pm Free

### SAT 28TH

#### Mr Love and Justice

Swindon-based English acoustic guitar-driven folk/pop collective, fronted by singer-songwriter Steve Cox. Layered guitars and vocals evoking influences from Beatles, Floyd, XTC, Weller, Byrds et al melded into a unique warm predominantly acoustic soundscape 7:30pm Free

stroudbrewery.co.uk

## SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS

### SAT 7TH

#### Whole Lotta Led: 20th Anniversary Tour

With twenty years under their belt the band have good cause to celebrate! Come along and enjoy five professional musicians perform the incredibly diverse and exciting music of Led Zeppelin in this two and a half hour show 8pm £15adv/£18otd

### SUN 8TH

#### Bad Manners

Fronted by Buster Bloodvessel, Bad Manners were formed in 1976 and spent 111 weeks in the UK Singles Chart between 1980 and 1983 also achieving chart success with the first four studio albums. Max Splodge joins them as very special guest for the ultimate ska party! 8pm £18adv/£21otd

### SAT 14TH

#### Weill At Heart: Bremner Duthie sings the Cabaret songs of Kurt Weill

Acclaimed cabaret singer Bremner Duthie, and a swinging trio led by pianist David Patrick, celebrate the dark, decadent and always lovely music of Kurt Weill 8pm £12adv/10otd

### SUN 15TH

#### Blowzabella

A dance workshop followed by folk legends Blowzabella; a genuinely unique band that makes an inimitable, driving, drone-based sound played with a fabulous sense of melody, rhythmic expertise and sheer feeling. All the band members compose and many of their tunes are "standards" in the modern British/European folk repertoire and are played by people all over the world 2:30pm £16/£8 16-25yrs/£3 15yrs & under (see website for info on Dance Workshop)

### SAT 21ST

#### GSO presents A Free Summer Concert For Children

Gloucestershire Symphony Orchestra returns for another free children's concert following its sell-out success last year. BBC Radio Gloucestershire presenter, Richard Atkin, will be the narrator for Tom Sawyer's Saturday by John Dankworth - based on Mark Twain's famous novels. Children will be invited to submit poems to go with Saint Saens' Carnival of the Animals and the programme ends with a rousing version of Rossini's William Tell Overture with children on percussion! 4pm £10/£8concs/under 18's Free

### SUN 22ND

#### Harlem Street Singer - A film about the Reverend Gary Davis + Woody Mann

Harlem Street Singer tells the story of Reverend Gary Davis, the great blues and gospel musician whose unique style and remarkable skills on the guitar inspired a generation of musicians. Woody Mann is a New Yorker who plays an enticing mix of American acoustic blues, roots and jazz guitar 7pm Film/8.45pm Performance £6.50film/£9.50performance/£15both

### SAT 28TH

#### The Remi Harris Project + Lewis and Dav

Remi Harris is regarded by many as one of the UK's top up and coming young jazz guitarists with a unique style blending elements from Gypsy Swing, Jazz, Blues, Rock'n'Roll, Hip Hop and World Music 8pm £10/£8concs

subscriptionrooms.org.uk

## SVA

### THURS 12TH

#### Stroud Jazz Sessions

THE jazz hub, taking place every 2nd Thursday of the month featuring special guest set followed by a stonkingly energetic jazz jam for all players and singers, aficionados and improvers, to participate in. All are welcome, to listen or perform 8:30pm-11pm £3musicians/£5otd (John Street)

### WEDS 18TH

#### John Street Blues

Monthly blues night with a full set from invited guest plus open mic, archive footage andblues on vinyl. If you are a musician with a blues song that you feel needs to be heard then just turn up and find a slot somewhere in the evening! 8.30pm £5otd/£3concs/Performing musicians free (John Street)

### SAT 21ST

#### John Metcalf

For this show Metcalfe is performing music from his latest solo album 'The Appearance of Colour', out on Peter Gabriel's Real World label. Described as "effervescent, divinely beautiful, packed with Enoesque passages of ambience and glistening guitar lines worthy of Vini Reilly" by Clash magazine and 'staggeringly beautiful' by 6Music's Mary Anne Hobbs. For these live shows Metcalfe's has assembled an incredible line up of musicians from the worlds of post-classical, electronica and pop: Rae Morris' drummer Daisy Palmer, Red Snapper's bassist Ali Friend and the exquisite voice of Rosie Doonan, fresh back from touring with Birdy 8pm £10adv online and from SVA/£12otd (Goods Shed)

### SAT 28TH

#### Mon 30th Jazz Stroud

Live Jazz spread over three days taking place in various Stroud venues including Duffle, Golden Fleece, Ale House, Meme, SVA, the Goods Shed and Subscription Rooms. Friday: Tetraphonic, Swing From Paris. Saturday: Ramses, The Tadbli Collective, Stroud Jazz Jam Sessions, Vels Trio, Maskelyne, Tristan Watson & John Broomhill, Meme Bar solo jazz sessions, The Mighty John Street Ska Orchestra. Sunday: Andy Sheppard and the Pushy Doctors, Michelson Morley, Jazz Friday Special exhibitions and film screenings all weekend in collaboration with David Corio, Fred Chance and the Museum in the Park. More to be announced, see website for info and tickets...

### SAT 29TH

#### The Pushy Doctors

The Pushy Doctors are Andy She

## UNIT 2

## SAT 14

## The Funk Jazz Show

Oh for funks sake! Not another wicked Jazz Sessions night at Unit2... All details including line up to be announced shortly. Please do not contain any excitement 8pm

unit2studio.com sva.org.uk

## THE CONVENT WOODCHESTER

## SUN 15T

## JigDoll

A full-on show, combining dance, music, song, and digital layering, with few breaks, and even less interpretation 9pm £10

## TUES 3RD

## JD and the Straight Shot

The continued evolution of JD & The Straight Shot now sees singer-songwriter Jim Dolan fronting a four-person group as the band explores a stripped-down version of its sound, which is steeped in the quiet fire of Americana, with distinctive elements of the blues and mystical, rustic New Orleans-flavoured roots music 9pm £10

## THURS 5TH

## Cale Tyson

A singer, songwriter and guitar player from Nashville, Tennessee producing a melancholy, and undeniably whiskey-soaked sound 8pm £10

## FRI 6TH

## Moulettes

The Moulettes charismatic, idiosyncratic yet poppy brand of progressive, psychedelic neo-classical folk rock has enthralled crowds at many festivals as varied as Bestival, Glastonbury, End of the Road and Cropredy 9pm £15

## SAT 7TH

## Tom Mcrae

Singer-songwriter Tom McRae with his regular touring musicians: The Standing Band, has been quietly moving up the ranks of the most respected songwriters in the world today after releasing 6 critically acclaimed studio albums over the last 15 years and writing for a variety of artists and singers

9pm £15

## SUN 8TH

## Shook Twins

Born and raised in Sandpoint Idaho, Shook Twins are an Indie folk-pop band now hailing from coniferous forested Portland, Oregon 8pm £15

## THURS 12TH

## Ben Savage and Hannah Saunders

Singing intimate duets with just mountain dulcimer, dobro and guitar Hannah Sanders & Ben Savage are a folk duo that look & sound classically timeless 8pm £10

## FRI 13TH

## Manran

With a central ethos built around the band's traditional Celtic roots, fiery tunes from fiddle, accordion, flute, uilleann and Highland bagpipes bind

powerfully to a rhythm section awash with elements of funk, jazz and rock to create some of the most innovative and uplifting instrumental music around 9pm £25

## SUN 15TH

## Don Gallardo

Walking the line between classic 70's singer-songwriters and more contemporary flavours of folk and Americana, Gallardo is a diverse and multi-faceted performer with a lyrical depth and a warm, unique vocal style, which helps him weave between genres and become immediately relatable 9pm £10

## THURS 19TH

## Bella Hardy

Prolific and ingenious artist touring with her new With The Dawn Band featuring regular stage companion Anna Massie (Blazin' Fiddles), Ben Seal (Urban Farm Hand), Tim Lane (The Hidden Orchestra) and Tom Gibbs, in a powerful and evocative collaboration of voice and fiddle, banjo and guitar, piano and keys, electronics and drums 9pm £25

## FRI 20TH

## Simon McBride

Predicted to be the next Irish guitar hero in the footsteps of Rory Gallagher and Gary Moore 9pm £25

## SAT 21ST

## Sarah Jane Morris and Antonio Forcione

This duo have each been compared to an impressive array of musical geniuses including Janice Joplin and Tom Waits. Channelling their energies together, they share audiences in Italy, Britain, and all over the world 9pm £25

## SUN 22ND

## Rura

Rura are at the forefront of Scottish folk. Rugged yet disciplined, and refreshingly contemporary but rooted in tradition 8pm £10

## THURS 26TH

## Ian Siegal and Jimbo Mathus

A combination of roots, blues and folk Americana delivered with irreverent humour and nuggets of folklore 8pm £15

## FRI 27TH

## Fairport Convention + Jess Morgan

Fairport Convention have won a coveted BBC Lifetime Achievement Award; Radio 2 listeners voted their ground-breaking album Liege & Lief 'The Most Influential Folk Album of All Time'; and their story has been celebrated with a major documentary on BBC Four television. Jess Morgan is a songwriter's songwriter inspired by storytelling songwriters like Nancy Griffith, the playfulness of Devon Sproule and upfront British voices like Billy Bragg 9pm £25

## SAT 28TH

## Jo Harman

Recently voted 'Female Vocalist of the Year' at the British Blues Awards, Jo Harman is widely regarded as the UK's most exciting blues/soul/roots artist 9pm £15

## SUN 29TH

## Adam Beattie

Scottish singer songwriter Adam Beattie's "folk stews and dirty blues" mixes Celtic folk, American blues, country and early jazz balladry 9pm £10

theconvent.net

## CHRISTCHURCH NAILSWORTH

## SUN 22

## Escher Quartet

Joining in the festivities all the way from New York with a programme featuring music by Haydn and Britten as well as Schubert's 'Death and the Maiden' 7:30pm £14 (Nailsworth Festival)

nailsworthfestival.org.uk

## NAILSWORTH SUB ROOMS

## SAT 28TH

## Ma Polaine's Great Decline

Recently been nominated for a British Blues Award and winners of the Reveal records emerging artist competition described as 'like a young Billie Holiday gate-crashing a Tom Waits Swordfishtrombones recording session' 8pm £8.50 (Nailsworth Festival)

nailsworthfestival.org.uk

## VILLAGE INN NAILSWORTH

## FRI 6TH

## Threebagsfull + Special Guests

Threebagsfull and a whole heap of guest DJs will be bringing a heavy heavy soundsystem back to the Village Inn for another night of strickly reggaematal pressure from way back when up till right now. Mic Man on the night will be Jos Fletcher of Arankas Cackle Collective + other guests including Utopian Sound and Shireman Sound 8pm

villageinn-nailsworth.co.uk

## THE HOG AT HORSLEY

## SAT 7TH

## Black Cat Bone

Newly formed band from Stroud featuring some of the most noted local players - a unique blend of gypsy, swing & blues...this is their debut gig and not to be missed! 8:30pm Free

## THURS 12TH

## Steve Ferbrache

A night of acoustic music featuring songs from the 50s to 00s. A discerning choice of classic songs - many you'll know, many you'll know you know but can't place, and many you didn't know you liked but do now 8:30pm Free

## THURS 19TH

## Jim Reynolds

Long standing legend of the Bristol (and national) Acoustic scene garnering a recent loyal following in the Stroud area - and justifiably so. Jim is superb finger-style with a unique approach that has audiences asking 'How does he do that?' 8:30pm Free

nailsworthfestival.org.uk

## FRI 27TH

## Peeky Blinders &amp; The Bob Porter

The Peeky Blinders are a Stroud-based acoustic duo best known for their sweet harmonies and original arrangements in a musical style they describe as 'popgrass' 7:30pm

The Bob Porter Project: Leading Stroud Americana band - a fine blend of mellow alt. country and gritty roots rock 8:30pm (Hogfest)

## SAT 28TH

## Swing from Paris &amp; The Blues Breakout

Swing from Paris: The sounds of a chic Parisian café and the French jazz of Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli. Expect music by Edith Piaf, Charlie Parker, Duke Ellington and more - stylish gypsy jazz and vintage swing, with violin, guitars and double bass 4pm

The Blues Breakout: Superb young Blues outfit covering the Great blues classics and many more. From foot stomping delta classics to swinging Chicago blues, these guys are sure to get you moving 8pm (Hogfest)

## SUN 29TH

## Steve Ferbrache

Acoustic guitarist singing soul classics and great songs from 50-80s - a laid back vibe, perfect for Sunday beer! 4pm (Hogfest)

## MON 30TH

## Weston &amp; Harris

Two of Stroud's most prominent and talented traditional instrumentalists - driving folk reels and laid back instrumentals in equal measure 4pm (Hogfest)

thehogathorsley.co.uk

## RUSKIN MILL

## FRI 13

## Rant

Four fiddles, a dash of Shetland, a drop of the Highlands, a handful of hypnotic harmonies: this is RANT, Scotland's chamber folk quartet 8pm £15/£12under 25's

## TUES 24TH

## Sam Lee

Since his Mercury Prize nomination in 2012, Sam Lee has blazed a trail as an outstanding singer, song collector, and founder of the award-winning folk club, The Nest Collective. His two critically acclaimed albums are centred around songs he has collected first hand from the Gypsy and Traveller communities, bringing their ancient music to life for 21st century audiences through his unconventional, radical interpretations 7:30pm £16 (Nailsworth Festival)

rmt.org

## 3 IN 1 HORSLEY

## SAT 21ST

## The Jazz Friday Big Band

Local Big Band, Jazz Friday, will be bringing their own eclectic mix of Big Band Swing, Funk and Jump music to opening of the Nailsworth Festival. Cabaret-style seating, bar and opportunity to dance 7:30pm £8.50 (Nailsworth Festival)

nailsworthfestival.org.uk

EVENTS IN MAY AT THE CROWN AND SCEPTRE 01453 762588

MONDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> Big Charidy Quiz FROM 7.30PM

FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> Charlton Blues Kings LIVE BLUES FROM 8.30PM

SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> Square Bomb LIVE FROM 8.30PM

WEDNESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> Steak Night BOOKING ESSENTIAL

FRIDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> The Dukes of Mumbai LIVE FROM 8.30PM

SATURDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> The Bob Porter Project LIVE FROM 8.30PM

MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> Meat free Monday Extra FOR NATIONAL VEGETARIAN WEEK

FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> Thee Ones LIVE FROM 8.30PM

WEDNESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> Curry Night BOOKING ESSENTIAL

THURSDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> Roddas Hairy Craic IRISH ACOUSTIC SESSION WITH TIM POTTS

FRIDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> The Worried Men LIVE FROM 8.30PM

SATURDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> Americana Festival PREVIEW NIGHT

MONDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> Meat free Monday BOOKING ESSENTIAL

WWW.CROWNANDSCEPTRESTROUD.COM

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Sunday session with special menu - 2pm

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28th Juke Joint (Stroud Calling)  
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29TH JAZZ: TRISTAN WATSON DUO  
Sunday session with special menu - 2pm

Free entry - 8:30pm

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www.stroudamericanafestival.co.uk



Matthew Harris

# SELECT - FESTIVAL AND TRAIL

BY KATE MONTGOMERY

LIZZI WALTON IS A CENTRAL FIGURE OF THE STROUD ARTS SCENE, A STALWART FOR STROUD AND THE ARTS AND A POWERHOUSE OF A LADY. SHE GETS THINGS DONE. LIZZI HAS SPENT THE LAST 30 YEARS WORKING IN THE ARTS AND HER CV IS IMPRESSIVE TO SAY THE LEAST. FROM RUNNING HER OWN RETAIL BUSINESS TO GALLERY OWNERSHIP TO OPENING AND MARKETING THE LYRIC THEATRE IN HAMMERSMITH, LIZZI'S CAREER SHOWCASES HER ABILITY TO SUPPORT THE ARTS INDUSTRY UNWAVERINGLY. HER EXTENSIVE LIST OF CURRENT PROJECTS EXHAUSTS ME JUST FROM HEARING ABOUT IT. HOW ON EARTH DOES SHE MAINTAIN HER DRIVE I ASK HER? "SIMPLE," SHE REPLIES, "I HAVE A REAL PASSION FOR THE ARTS."

Running an organisation like SIT select maintains this passion. When Lizzi returned to Stroud from London, there seemed to be a gap in Stroud, a lack of focus on applied arts, particularly textiles. The roots of the area are deeply embedded in the heritage of the textiles industry. Now SIT select

focuses on all applied arts and crafts, although textiles were originally at the heart of the festival, it now covers all the crafts.

The arts industry is a fickle mistress. Woefully underfunded and yet cited as the single most important skill we can encourage in our children, creativity is a tricky subject for most people. Most artists have to take a second job to fund their careers so who would encourage their child into this industry? And yet for the pure job satisfaction, the freedom and sheer joy it brings; who wouldn't? Lizzi doesn't hide her anger when it comes to discussing the latest round of Governmental cuts to the industry. "It's been unbelievable, it's like they just don't get it! It's not just about drawing or painting, it's part of recognising the world around us. The pleasure, the satisfaction of creating, too have a hands on education... It's essential for a young person's growth." Lizzi's belief isn't just bluster, her extensive work with Universities and Graduate programmes in the South West brings a wealth of new emerging artists to the fore in the Select Festival. Following on from last year's success, second year textile students from Stroud College will also be exhibiting their work at Victoria Works in Chalford.

**"WE WANT TO SUPPORT EMERGING ARTISTS BY HELPING THEM TO PROMOTE AND SELL THEIR WORK. WE LOOK AT CHAMPIONING GOOD DESIGN, ENCOURAGING THE PUBLIC TO SUPPORT THE HANDMADE MOVEMENT AND INVEST IN LOCAL ARTISTS."**

The 2016 Select trail is better than ever and Lizzi is keen to place emphasis on quality over quantity. The carefully produced Select Trail and Festival brochures are stunning in the simplicity of their design. Lizzi credits Chris Bailey with the design of the brochure, which is distributed all over the UK. "The whole thing from the layout to the photographs really capture the essence of the diversity and quality we get to enjoy each year."

**"STROUD IS BIG ENOUGH FOR EVERYONE TO TAKE A SHARE OF THE SPOTLIGHT HERE. THERE IS A REAL NATIONAL FOCUS. STROUD IS A JEWEL IN THE CROWN FOR THE UK APPLIED ARTS AND CRAFTS INDUSTRY WHICH IS CLEAR FROM THE AMOUNT OF CURATORS, BUYERS AND INDUSTRY TASTEMAKERS WHICH FLOCK TO THE REGION EACH YEAR."**

"We are so pleased to have so many venues involved in this year's festival." Lizzi tells me, "We have the Museum in the Park, Victoria Works in Chalford, Frogmarsh Mill in Woodchester as well as Atelier in Stroud." Visitors come to the festival from all over the UK and the local economy is boosted over the month of May.

But even when pressed Lizzi can't choose her favourite. "There's so much to see this year. I'm really looking forward to seeing what's produced by the Seam Collective which will be exhibited in participating shops all over Stroud. Part of it is the graffiti dress, whereby the public are encouraged to make their mark on one of the dresses."

I can see why Lizzi is hesitant to pick just one. For me, highlights from this year's exhibitions, talks and events are Cleo Mussi and Fi Henshaw exploring the human impact on the environment exhibited in the Ecocity window and The Sewing Machine project with Studio 21 at the Lansdown Gallery. There is also an exciting programme being run by Atelier at their space in Lower Street. Soft Engineering is an artist led collection of work from three renowned textile designer-makers at The Museum in the Park. Not to mention the Museum's exciting new 'Artist in Residence' Annie Hutchinson. The programme is exhaustive and exciting with a firm nod

to its textile heritage, it seems there really is something for everyone.

"I truly believe that the festival is getting better and better," Lizzi tells me as we sip cappuccinos in Meme Arts Cafe in Stroud. The Select Trail has attracted a fantastic selection of local artists to throw open their studio doors to the public over two weekends. Acclaimed artist Matthew Harris will be open as well as The Great Pottery Throwdown finalist Tom Knowles-Jackson. "We keep attracting the best Stroud has to offer. The talent we have in these valleys... It's unbelievable."

Select Festival and Select Trail runs from 30th April to 22nd May 2016. Select Trail Studios will be open Saturday 7th & Sunday 8th May and Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th May. Please see brochure and website ([sitselect.org.uk](http://sitselect.org.uk)) further details.

.....  
*Kate Montgomery is a writer, artist and blogger. She lives in Stroud with her husband and two daughters. She hosts creative writing groups and wastes far too much time instagramming her food @clevermonty*



Gill Hackett



Annie Hewett



Susan Early



Annie Hewett



Ellys Beale

# SITE OPEN STUDIOS

BY LEAH GRANT



Sean Heather



Christina Bingle



Alex Merry



Sonic Evolutionary Arts

2016 MARKS THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF SITE FESTIVAL OPEN STUDIOS – AN EVENT THAT NOT ONLY ALLOWS VISITORS TO PURCHASE WORK DIRECTLY FROM PARTICIPATING ARTISTS, BUT ALSO GIVES THEM THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCOVER MORE ABOUT THE TECHNIQUES AND IDEAS UTILISED IN A VARIETY OF DISCIPLINES INCLUDING SCULPTURE, PAINTING, PERFORMANCE AND ILLUSTRATION.

To celebrate this major milestone in Stroud's artistic history, this year's Open Studios will feature 99 artists in 53 locations across the district, the biggest number the event has ever seen.

**"THE FIRST OPEN STUDIOS TOOK PLACE IN 1997 WITH A HANDFUL OF ARTISTS AND HAS NOW EXPANDED INTO ONE OF THE BEST RURALLY BASED OPEN STUDIO EVENTS IN THE UK."**

JO LEAHY  
SVA

Organised by Stroud Valleys Artspace, Open Studios 2016 will be held on the 7th-8th and 14th-15th May. A handy directory will be available from local shops and cafes as well as from Stroud's Tourist Information Centre and the SVA itself, enabling visitors to plan their weekend itineraries in order to get the most out of the exciting array of studio exhibits on offer.

**"AS A NEW MEMBER OF SVA AND A FAIRLY NEW RESIDENT OF STROUD TOWN, I FEEL THAT THE STUDIOS HAVE CONNECTED ME TO MY SURROUNDINGS... OPEN STUDIOS BRINGS PEOPLE TOGETHER TO SHARE IDEAS AND MAYBE EVEN SELL A THING OR TWO!"**

ELLYS BEALE  
TEXTILE DESIGNER MAKER

One of the highlights of the event is the Open Studio Hubs where visitors can find artists working collaboratively or individually in a variety of venues across the Stroud area. This year, young graduate artists renting space at SVA will have the opportunity to showcase their work as they open their studio doors to the public: "SVA already work with lots of young people - 15-19 years old - through MOULD, SVA's young contemporary art group and by supporting young bands, but there was a gap of provision and representation of artists between 20-30 years old because there isn't a degree level art college in Stroud. However, a lot of young artists were moving back to the area after being away studying and working in London and SVA began to let our subsidised studio space to this age group to encourage this new dynamic to the work environment."

Graduate artists participating this year include mixed-media artists Sean Heather and Holly English; visual artist, puppetry specialist and performance maker, Isabel Lyster; textile designer maker, Ellys Beale; and painter and drawer, Lorna Bamsey. Discussing the benefits of Open Studios, Sean Heather emphasised the importance of SVA in giving recently graduated artists a platform for their work: "As a young artist, the SVA has offered me the opportunity to continue my artistic practice in an environment where I can explore, develop and realise my ideas. Open Studios is a great way to showcase work and engage with the public through art, also it helps and supports up and coming local artists."

In Piccadilly Mill, visitors will uncover the works of poet and performance artist, Uta Baldauf; oil painter, Christina Bingle; drawer, painter and etcher, Colin Glen; and enamel artist, Anita Brayford; as well as the cards, books and ink drawings of Bill Jones (aka Miserable Malcolm). Similarly, at Hilles Studio in Painswick, Alex Merry will once again showcase her figurative oil painting, stained glass and 3D folk giant and beast making, whilst her sister Kate Merry's unique illustration, painting and sculpture is sure to keep visitors enthralled.

**"OPEN STUDIOS CONTINUES TO NURTURE CREATIVE TALENT IN STROUD AND HAS ENCOURAGED ARTISTS TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES IN A RANGE OF WAYS THAT WOULD OTHERWISE BE DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE."**

ALEXANDER CAMINADA  
SONIC EVOLUTIONARY ARTS

There is also a strong emphasis on performance art during Open Studios. In St Mary's Mill in Chalford, Gareth Brock and Alexander Caminada will perform improvised electronic music against a backdrop of original video and Optikinetics. After first meeting at last year's Open Studios, Gareth explained that a shared interest in electronic music became the basis for the pair's collaborative offering at the 2016 event: "We have not been practicing together for that long but have found that by pooling resources, we have a good range of tools to make unique and inventive synthesized soundscapes. This intention for the Site Festival and Open Studios is to perform a relaxed style of music to complement the visuals and create a pleasant and interesting place to visit."

**2016 VENUES INCLUDE:**

**SVA**  
4 JOHN STREET,  
STROUD GL5 2HA

**PICCADILLY MILL**  
LOWER STREET,  
STROUD GL5 2HT

**HILLES STUDIO**  
SEVENLEAZE LANE,  
PAINSWICK GL6 6N

**ST MARYS MILL**  
CHALFORD GL6 8PX

*Leah Grant is a writer and photographer with a keen interest in art and literature. On her blog, Bellyful of Art, you can find reviews of exhibitions, installations, dance performances and literary events as well as her own lovingly created pieces of short fiction [artbellyful.wordpress.com](http://artbellyful.wordpress.com)*

# ART LISTINGS

## ATELIER

### SUN 1ST

#### William Kroll: Jeans – A Design Story

William Kroll, founder of Tender jeans and lecturer in denim at Central St Martins & University of Westminster, will introduce some of the history of jeans design and talk about the ideas behind the world's favourite trousers. Discuss production techniques, early branding and marketing in the American West, contemporary Japanese reproduction culture, and innovative recent examples of jeans design 2pm £6

[atelierstroud.co.uk](http://atelierstroud.co.uk)

## THE BLUE ROOMS GALLERY

### SAT 7TH/14TH/21ST/28TH

#### Oliver Vivian

Exhibiting Oliver Vivian's expressive abstract paintings in oils on canvas, evocative of the primal forces of the natural world. Also open for SITE Open Studios 10am – 3pm and by appointment 07532071457

[facebook.com/The-Blue-Rooms-Gallery-Stroud](https://www.facebook.com/The-Blue-Rooms-Gallery-Stroud)

## GALLERY PANGOLIN

### MON 18TH APR – FRI 27TH MAY

#### Nature of the Beast

Throughout the ages, Man has used images of the beast as a means of understanding himself and even today in the 21st century, animals continue to be an important vehicle for artists of many different backgrounds. The exhibition is a powerful demonstration of this relationship and celebrates the diversity of expression alive in contemporary art featuring the work of Nick Bibby, Christie Brown, Ralph Brown, Jon Buck, Lynn Chadwick, Michael Cooper, Terence Coventry, Steve Dilworth, Damien Hirst, Marcus James, Jonathan Kingdon, Bryan Kneale, Anita Mandl, Eduardo Paolozzi, Lorraine Robbins, Steve Russell and Deborah van der Beek Mon-Fri 10am – 6pm/Sat 10am – 1pm

[gallery-pangolin.com](http://gallery-pangolin.com)

## JUNKROOM RECORDS

### FRI 22ND APRIL – SAT 22ND MAY

#### JunKroom Art Projects Presents: Louise Howlett Exhibition

JunKroom Art Projects exists within JunKroom Records offering artists the opportunity to exhibit works, that relate exclusively to the world of recorded music and vinyl lps. For the opening exhibition, London based artist Louise Howlett has been commissioned to create work that is informed by the distinctive

style of Classical and Jazz record sleeves of the 1950s and 1960s, using a repertoire of re-appropriated imagery, incidental markings & collage Fri + Sat 11am–5pm/Sun 12pm–4pm or by appointment: 07969 488818 (SITE Festival)

[facebook.com/junkroomrecords](https://www.facebook.com/junkroomrecords)

## KENDRICK STREET GALLERY

### SAT 7TH – SAT 21ST

#### Holly Saunders

Recent oil paintings by local artist Holly Saunders Mon-Sat 9:30am–5:30pm

[kendrickstgalleries.co.uk](http://kendrickstgalleries.co.uk)

## LANSDOWN HALL

### TUES 3RD – SUN 22ND

#### Studio 21 Present: The Sewing Machine Project

Studio 21 is a well-established group of textile artists that aims to challenge and support its members and to provide regular opportunities for exhibiting at a professional level. The group was formed in 1997 to develop and extend innovative techniques and to push the boundaries of traditional expectations in textile art and stitch. Many members undertake personal research, studies and courses; others work as teachers, lecturers and are authors of books and magazine articles. Studio 21 aims to produce a new body of work for exhibition bi-annually and The Sewing Machine Project is their latest venture. Tues-Sat 10am – 4:30pm/Sun 11am – 4:30pm (Select Festival)

[lansdownhall.org](http://lansdownhall.org)

## THE LINE GALLERY – SVA

### FRI 6TH – SAT 14TH

#### Spot and Stripe

An exhibition exploring a connection between fine art and pattern. Martin Heron a Nottingham based sculptor will be showing alongside Sam Marsh, both use paint and colour in an expressionistic way Open Fri and Sat 11am–4pm/Preview Fri 6th 6–9pm

### FRI 20TH – SAT 28TH

#### Zig and Zag

Line Gallery will be celebrating all things pattern during the month of May! Come along to Zig and Zag with a chance to see work from Juliet Chadwick, Sarika Thakorlal and Martin Heron Open Fri and Sat 11am–4pm/Preview Fri 20th 6–9pm

### MON 30TH MAY – SUN 12TH JUNE

#### Alexandra Darbyshire: Flood

Alexandra's paintings are a collage of paint, photographs and found images on the internet. These layered paintings have a surreal and mystical intrigue about them. Open Fri and Sat 11am–4Sunpm/ Private View Fri 3rd

[linegallery.co.uk](http://linegallery.co.uk)

## MEME

### SAT 30TH APR – 22ND MAY

#### Pamela Bowden

Working with domestic objects Pamela looks for the imprint, the record of exposure, left inscribed on an object by a previous life and function. In Through she presents the ubiquitous dishcloth as relic, a manifestation of time embodying beauty and loss (Select Festival)

[memecafebar.co.uk](http://memecafebar.co.uk)

## MUSEUM IN THE PARK

### SAT 30TH APR – SUN 22ND MAY

#### Soft Engineering: Textiles Taking Shape

Soft Engineering brings together, for the first time, the work of Alison Ellen, Ann Richards and Deirdre Wood. Having pursued separate careers in knitting and weaving, they find many common threads that have now inspired them to work together on this joint exhibition. Throughout the exhibition there is a central theme of textiles taking shape through the interplay of raw material and structure with pleating, folding, twisting, double-sided fabrics. Finished pieces of work will be complemented by explanatory materials including loomstate pieces, photographs and paper models, showing the processes of making and finishing. The exhibition is accompanied by talks and artist-led workshops Tues-Fri 10am–5pm/Sat,Sun & Bank Holidays 11am – 5pm(Select Festival)

### SAT 28TH MAY – SUN 26TH JUNE

#### Fred Chance and David Corio: Keeping Time

Over the years, David Corio has documented musicians from the world of rock, reggae, hip hop, jazz, blues and world music along with portraits of many people in the arts and has worked with the likes of NME, Time Out, City Limits, The Guardian, Q, Mojo and Rolling Stone. Fred Chance has made photographs with musicians relaxing, rehearsing and performing for over 30 years. He lives in Stroud with his family and has and has been curator of a range of important exhibitions including work by Don McCullin and Andy Goldsworthy. The exhibition will be accompanied by film screenings and musical happenings - keep an eye on the website for further info...

[museuminthepark.org.uk](http://museuminthepark.org.uk)

## SELECT FESTIVAL

### SAT 30TH APR – SUN 22ND MAY

#### Solving For Pattern

"Restraint – for us, now – above all: the ability to accept and live within limits"

Cleo Mussi (mosaic sculptures) and Fi Henshall (automata) in the window of Ecotricity on Russell Street

### SAT 30TH APR – SUN 22ND MAY

#### Seam Collective: shiftWORKS

A shop trail in Stroud Town Centre by the Seam collective, a contemporary textile collective based in Bath, England. They are emerging printers, embroiderers, knitters, weavers, dyers, fashion designers, eco-designers, makers and artists

### SAT 30TH APR – TBC JULY

#### Exhibition of Contemporary Textiles

Exhibition of contemporary textiles – opening with Michelle House and Carole Waller (The Malt House Bar & Kitchen, Salmon Springs)

### SAT 30TH APR – SUN 1ST MAY

#### World Textile Weekend

Ten collectors of world/ethnic textiles and artefacts gather to sell and talk about their ware at Bisleys Village Hall. Cafe on suite by Woodruffs Stroud

### FRI 6TH – FRI 27TH MAY

#### Bailey Curtis

Bailey uses vibrant mix of colours with interesting textures of wool or silk and wool mix. The work is landscape based. Meet the artist on Sun 22nd May 11am – 4pm (The Canteen, Nailsworth)

See p12-13, pick up free programme and see website for full listings!

[sitselect.org](http://sitselect.org)

## SELECT TRAIL

### SAT 7TH – SUN 8TH /SAT 14TH – SUN 15TH

See p12-13, pick up free programme and see website for full listings!

[sitselect.org](http://sitselect.org)

## SITE OPEN STUDIOS

### SAT 7TH – SUN 8TH /SAT 14TH – SUN 15TH

See p14-15, pick up free programme and see website for full listings!

[sitefestival.org.uk](http://sitefestival.org.uk)

## SVA

### SAT 30TH APR –SUN 15TH MAY

#### Open Studios Taster Exhibition

Stroud Valleys Open Studios is a fantastic way to not only enjoy the beautiful Cotswold countryside but also engage with the amazing variety of art on offer. The Taster Exhibition provides the perfect opportunity for planning your visits to the studios, workshops or homes of the artists to see and buy their original artwork Millets, 20 High Street Sat 30th Apr 6-8pm/Tues-Sat 10am-4pm/Sun 8th & 15th May 10am-4pm

[sva.org.uk](http://sva.org.uk)

## UPPER LOCK

### SUN 1ST – SAT 28TH

#### Hazel King: Animal Magic

Originally from Surrey, Hazel lived in Canada for fifteen years, and has lived in Stroud for over thirty. She



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

## VICTORIA WORKS STUDIOS

### STUDIOS / COURSES / EXHIBITIONS / WORKSHOPS AND COURSES

## JUNE

Sat 4th Felt Butterflies 10am-4pm £50

Sat 11th Lino Cut Printing with Lizzie Mabley 10am-4pm £55

Sat 18th Printing with Stencils & Rollers with Sophie Rae 10am-4pm £50

Sun 19th Tapestry with Sarah Beadsmoore 10am-4pm £55

Sat 25th Start that Novel with Kate Montgomery 10am-12.30pm £25



For more information or to book please visit [www.VictoriaWorksStudios.co.uk](http://www.VictoriaWorksStudios.co.uk) or email [bookings@VictoriaWorksStudios.co.uk](mailto:bookings@VictoriaWorksStudios.co.uk) London Road, Chalford, GL6 8HN

In partnership with South West Art Workshops [www.southwestartworkshops.co.uk](http://www.southwestartworkshops.co.uk)

## STUDIO MARU

[www.studiomaru.uk](http://www.studiomaru.uk)

## PICTURE FRAMING

### ART SERVICES

Custom framing for artists  
Hand made moulding  
Standard framing  
Canvas stretching  
Cold laminating

Artists  
Designers  
Photographers  
Single prints available

### FINE ART PRINTING

## GALLERY SPACE FOR HIRE

56 Silver Street  
Dursley - GL11 4ND  
01453 548490  
[info@studiomaru.uk](mailto:info@studiomaru.uk)

### FREE PARKING

(Across the street)

## Nature of the Beast

An alternative look at the animal world through sculpture prints and drawings by a diverse group of artists

Until 27th May



Walrus Nick Bibby

## GALLERY PANGOLIN

CHALFORD - GLOS - GL6 8NT 01453 889765  
[gallery@pangolin-editions.com](mailto:gallery@pangolin-editions.com) [www.gallery-pangolin.com](http://www.gallery-pangolin.com)

## Spot & Stripe

6th–14th May

Line.

## Zig & Zag

20th–18th May



Image: Martin Heron

Open Friday & Saturday 11–4pm

4 John Street, Stroud



worked as a draughtswoman and has drawn and painted in her spare time for as long as she can remember. Hazel studied botanical illustration and ceramics for five years, but now paints many subjects in various media. She has chosen animals as her subject matter for her current exhibition Mon - Sat 9am-4pm/Sun 10am - 3pm

[upperlockcafe.co.uk](http://upperlockcafe.co.uk)

#### VICTORIA WORKS

**SAT 7TH - SUN 8TH/SAT 14TH - SUN 15TH**

**SITE Open Studios and Select Trail**

Many of the Victoria Works residents and visiting artists will be taking part this year showcasing a fabulous selection of paintings, ceramics, glass, felt, textiles, candles and so much more...Visit website for further info!

[victoriaworksstudios.co.uk](http://victoriaworksstudios.co.uk)

#### WETPAINT GALLERY

**FRI 1ST - SAT 30TH**

**A Celebration of Spring**

An exhibition celebrating spring in all its glory. An uplifting collection of original works by some of Wetpaint's best loved artists including Vanessa Bowman. Further details about participating artists to be announced soon

[wetpaintgalleryonline.com](http://wetpaintgalleryonline.com)

#### THE CONVENT WOODCHESTER

**TUES 12TH APR - TUES 28TH JUNE**

**Mel Cross**

Creativity, Spirituality and Surrender is the latest exhibition by artist Mel Cross, currently Artist in Residence at The Convent in Woodchester. The exhibition looks at how we connect to the space of infinite possibility from where creativity emerges and parallels this with how we connect in a similar way to our own spiritual nature. The exhibition was inspired by the creativity, music, spirituality

and art of the incredible space at the Convent, and was created to be shown there. General public opening: Tuesdays 4-8pm/Exhibition open every day to members and gig visitors

[theconvent.net](http://theconvent.net)

#### RUSKIN MILL HORSLEY

**SAT 16TH - SUN 8TH MAY**

**Deborah Cox: Exploring Lansdcape**

An artist/printmaker inspired by landscape and the forces that have shaped the land, whether glaciers, weather or human industry. She uses a variety of printmaking techniques, deploying mostly water based materials such as acrylics, pastels and inks, together with collage, to create texture and surface 10am - 4pm

[rmt.org](http://rmt.org)

#### NEW BREWERY ARTS CENTRE

**SAT 16TH APRIL - SAT 7TH MAY**

**New Brewery Arts Student Showcase**

Gifted, skillful, accomplished, inspired, proficient... A round of applause for the 800 plus students who attended courses and workshops here over the last year. In this exhibition we proudly present the very best of our tutors and students. Raw Talent gives New Brewery Arts students an opportunity for professional development, and presents the wealth of ability cultivated during our classes. Many pieces are available for sale

[newbreweryarts.org.uk](http://newbreweryarts.org.uk)

## THEATRE LISTINGS

Juju Alishina

#### COTSWOLD PLAYHOUSE

**THURS 5TH - SAT 7TH**

**Cotswold Players Youth Theatre: Peter Pan Jr**

Peter Pan JR. is the story of the boy who wouldn't grow up and the girl who has to. After finding his shadow in the Darling family nursery, Peter teaches Wendy, Michael and John how to fly and sweeps them off to Never Land, where they meet Lost Boys, mermaids, indians and, of course, pirates. Peter Pan JR. features classic songs from the 1953 film such as, You Can Fly!, Following the Leader and The Second Star to the Right as well as songs from the Pirates of the Caribbean ride and the 2008 Disney film Tinker Bell Thurs - Fri 6pm/Sat 2:30pm £8adults/£5under 16 and over 60

[cotswoldplayhouse.co.uk](http://cotswoldplayhouse.co.uk)

#### LANSDOWN HALL

**FRI 6TH**

**Juju Alishina: Nuit Rouge Red Night**

Juju Alishina is one of the veterans of Japanese Butoh dance having had a professional career spanning 33 years and danced on more than a thousand stages in Japan, Europe and the USA. Her work is appreciated as a fine blend of the traditional and the avant-garde and its trademark is the paradoxical combination of both the shadow and the celebration. Usually she performs with her dancers and musicians but for this occasion she has composed a solo dance show especially. The first part is a part of her choreography Sweet Beasts and the second part is Desire for Infinity accompanied on violin by Thol Mason. The theme throughout this evening is red and you will journey through an exciting red nightmare of aesthetic confusion where you may find experimental images that are heart piercing. Finally you may experience a zen state of mind of calmness, stability, and clarity. Japanese tea and snacks are available in the bar and you will find some DVD's of her other dance pieces and the book written by Juju Alishina and recently published

in English 8pm £120td/£10adv from [trybookingc.o.uk/423](http://trybookingc.o.uk/423) or from the Star Anise Arts Café

**SAT 21ST**

**Stroud Song: Our Song**

Stroud Song (one of Stroud's community choirs) gives another performance of Our Song last seen in June 2015. The choir's musical director, Jo McAndrews, commissioned local writer and theatre director, Jo Bousfield to write a piece about what a community choir means to its participants.

Choir members talked to Jo Bousfield and she gathered their stories, writing the play throughout the autumn, and passing lyrics on to six Stroud composers to put to music. The result is a heart-lifting and often amusing account of life in a community choir, punctuated with 15 lively and moving songs on such subjects as protest, dogs, bereavement, birth, and knitting 3pm and 7pm £8adults/£4children available from Star Anise Arts Café

[lansdownhall.org](http://lansdownhall.org)

#### SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS

**FRI 6TH**

**Otherstory Theatre: Escape Was On Everyone's Mind - The Tale of Jack Sheppard**

A paper theatre show by Otherstory for adults and older children (age advice 10 + the show lasts 70 mins). See how an ordinary apprentice carpenter from East London became the legendary jailbreaker and hero of the people, whose fame spread across oceans. Witness his daring escapes! Watch him outwit judges, jailers and the Thieftaker General - until the hangman's noose beckons and it's now or never, neck or nothing...A playful, political tale of daring and resistance. The show will be followed by a post-show discussion with guest speaker Stuart Butler from Radical Stroud

(Part of the George Room Theatre Season) 7:30pm £8/£5concs (including post show discussion)

[subscriptionrooms.org.uk](http://subscriptionrooms.org.uk)

#### NAILSWORTH TOWN HALL

**FRI 27TH**

**The Pantaloons: Gulliver's Travels**

Join Lemuel Gulliver on a fantastical and hilarious voyage into the unknown...meet the tiny people of Lilliput and the giants of Brobdingnag; visit the floating island of Laputa and a country peopled (or horsed) entirely by talking horses... A brand new, adventurous and delightfully innovative adaptation of Jonathan Swift's classic satirical story loved by adults and children alike. Just please don't step on any Lilliputians in the rush to get tickets. "Part alternative rock band, part thespian ...wholly charming" The Times. Suitable for all ages 7:30pm £15 (Nailsworth Festival)

[nailsworthfestival.org.uk](http://nailsworthfestival.org.uk)

#### THE PAINSWICK CENTRE

**FRI 20TH**

**Spaniel in the Works Theatre Company: The Life and Times of Jack Sheppard/The Sentence**

First performed at the Museum of London, the Life and Times of Jack Sheppard is a 45 minute solo performance which looks at the infamous life of the thief and jail breaker. Notorious as the only man to escape from the inescapable Newgate Jail three times, this performance incorporates traditional songs to reveal his life, from his early small thefts to his battle with Jonathan Wilde, the thief-taker, his friendship with Daniel Defoe and his tragic death on the gallows as a national hero. Part drama part pantomime it offers an exciting insight into the story of one of the 18th century's most notorious characters.

The Sentence is the story of John Scrivener who, in the 16th century was sentenced to death by burning. His crime was to translate the Bible into English. His daughter Joan was sentenced to light the fire. Both are the victims of illogical and unreasonable rules which have angry echoes for anyone confronted by an insane enforcement of law which is outdated, outmoded and cruel. This powerful play explores themes of

language and justice looking at the difficulties facing people who dare to challenge authority. Age advice 10+ 8pm £10/£7concs available from TicketSource and the Painswick Centre

[painswickcentre.com](http://painswickcentre.com)

#### PREMA ARTS CENTRE ULEY

**SAT 21ST**

**Flabbergast Theatre: Tatterdemalion**

Tatterdemalion introduces loneliness and (be)longing to a rip-roaring sense of joy and exhilaration through one man's quest for a friend in a world that can, at times, feel mightily chilly. Riotous hilarity ensues as Henry Maynard (originator of the Balkan bad-boys Boris & Sergey) creates our loveable fool who may know more than he lets on - without ever saying a word! A really brilliant night out for audience members over the age of eight 7pm £7/£5concs £6friends/£4(concs) £20family/£18concs/£12otd

[prema.org.uk](http://prema.org.uk)

#### VUE CINEMA

**SUN 1ST**

**Royal Opera House**

Lucia Di Lammermoor 1:50pm (15)

**TUES 10TH**

**Globe On Screen**

Measure for Measure 6:45pm (CTBC)

**THURS 12TH**

**National Theatre**

A View From The Bridge 6:50pm (12A)

**WEDS 18TH + SUN 22ND**

**Royal Opera House**

Frankenstein Weds 7pm/Sun 1:50pm (12A)

[myvue.com](http://myvue.com)

## OUT OF THE ART ROOM

**EXHIBITION AT WYCLIFFE COLLEGE**

**FEATURING WORK FROM EX-PUPILS AND CURRENT STAFF OF THE WYCLIFFE COLLEGE ART DEPARTMENT, THE OUT OF THE ART ROOM EXHIBITION WILL RUN CONCURRENTLY WITH THE SITE OPEN STUDIOS WEEKENDS.**

**7TH - 8TH MAY AND 14TH - 15TH MAY FROM 11AM UNTIL 4.00PM**

Over the years the senior school Art Department has produced many artists who have gone on to develop successful careers in the visual arts. They are delighted to have this opportunity to welcome a select group back to Wycliffe to celebrate their work, as well as to show current students and the wider community what they are doing now.

**Exhibitors:**

Duncan Beedie (OW 1988 - 1996) / James Bingham (OW 1986 - 1992) / Freya Gabie (OW 1995 -2002) / Colin Glen (OW 1978 -1986) / Nikki Green - Wycliffe Staff / Steven Hubbard - Wycliffe

Staff / Oliver Marsden (OW 1984 - 1991) / Alexandra Merry (OW 1989 - 1997) / Katherine Merry (OW 1988 -1997) / Alex Norman-Walker - Wycliffe Staff / Asya Segalovich (OW 2008 - 2013) / Sabrina Shah Hakim (OW 2006 - 2010) / Rose Wordsworth - Wycliffe Staff

The exhibition will be in the Atrium, School House on the weekends of 7th - 8th May and 14th - 15th May from 11am until 4.00pm and is open to the general public, so please feel free to bring friends, family and guests.

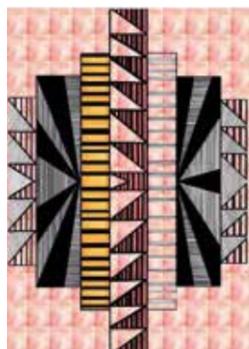
[wycliffe.co.uk](http://wycliffe.co.uk)



Colin Glen



Alex Merry



Sabrina Shah Haksim



Oliver Marsden

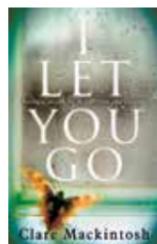


# NAILSWORTH FESTIVAL

BY NIKKI OWEN

AS FESTIVALS GO, NAILSWORTH FESTIVAL SEEMS INCREASINGLY LIKE THE PLACE TO BE. JUST DOWN THE ROAD AND NESTLED IN THE LUSH GREEN GLOUCESTERSHIRE VALLEY, 21ST-29TH MAY THIS YEAR WILL SEE NOT ONLY A HUGE ARRAY OF LOCAL FOLK PERFORMING MUSIC AND SHOWS, BUT IT'LL ALSO BE A CHANCE FOR YOU TO CATCH THE SORT OF BIG LITERARY NAMES OFTEN ONLY RESERVED FOR THE LIKES OF MAJOR ARTS FESTIVALS.

One of those big names appearing at the festival this year is Clare Mackintosh. Author of Sunday Times bestseller *I Let You Go*, Clare Mackintosh is no stranger to Gloucestershire. A former copper (she spent 12 years in CID), the acclaimed writer is also a columnist for *Cotswold Life Magazine* and is the founder of a festival herself – the now very popular Chipping Norton Literature Festival. She'll be appearing on Tuesday 24th May at 7.30pm over at Egypt Mill, and with tickets at only £6, it's an amazing opportunity for literature lovers to see a major author without breaking the bank.



So, with her first psychological crime thriller selected in 2015 for Richard and Judy's Book Club, and the novel translated into over 30 languages, what next for Clare? "I met with my publishers to discuss the plans for *I See You*, which comes out on the 28th July. As

part of the meeting we approved the final cover design, and I can't tell you how much I love it!" Fans will indeed love it too, as *I See You* is hotly anticipated to become another huge bestseller, which is why Clare appearing at Nailsworth Festival this year is such a big deal. She'll be there talking about her life from crime fighter to crime writer, with *Cotswold Life* journalist, Katie Jarvis, and it's not only us book lovers who are excited to be at Nailsworth Festival – turns out Clare is, too. Says Clare of her appearance, "I'm delighted to be involved in the Nailsworth Festival this year, and honoured to be part of such a wonderful line-up."

And, a wonderful line up it is indeed. Not only because of the appearances on offer, but also because the Nailsworth Festival committee, chaired by the very experienced Mary Saunders and helped by a wonderfully dedicated team of volunteers, has ensured prices for the public are very accessible. And so, with such manageable entry prices that big festivals can only dream of, other literary talent for us to enjoy will also be writer Wendy Cope. Author of *One Wedding and a Funeral*, festival-goers will have a chance to hear Wendy talk about her wry, ironic poetry over at Nailsworth Town Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 26th May (tickets are just £12.50 and that includes wine and canapés!). And if it's talks of nature you're after, then Wednesday 25th May at 7.30pm will see broadcaster Miranda Krestovnikoff, resident expert of BBC's *The One Show*, discuss her *A Whistle Stop Tour* around the Coast (tickets only £8).

This exceptional literary talent for us to enjoy is also paralleled by the great work of Nailsworth Library, where for kids and adults alike there'll be plenty of books, displays and activities to take part in all through the festival and especially on the Family Day on 21st May. Plus, speaking

of family, another great literature event is The Pantaloons present: *Gulliver's Travels*. Suitable for all ages, The Pantaloons (described by The Sunday Times as, "Part rock band, part thespian... wholly charming") will be performing a brand new, adventurous and innovative adaptation of Jonathon Swift's classical satirical story loved by grown ups and young ones alike (27th May, 7.30pm).

With so much going on, I think it's the sheer amount of amazing arts events that makes Nailsworth Festival feel as if there's a real buzz about it this year. I mean, just check out the cracking international mix of music. There'll be, from New York, the sublime classical group The Escher Quartet (22nd May); from London, the amazing Ma Poliane's *Great Decline* (27th May); and, straight from winning a Mercury Prize, folk singer Sam Lee (24th May). All this plus an eclectic mix of acappella bands, Jazz groups, craft workshops, Saturday street performers and guided walks, it looks like the 32nd Nailsworth Festival isn't just going to be huge – it's going to be mighty good fun, too.

I guess it's like Clare Mackintosh said, "it's a wonderful line up," and she's a bestselling author and pretty dab handy with words, so who are we to argue? Yep, bring on the summer, people, and the books and the music and the glorious Stroud Valley walks. Yep, it's May. It's Nailsworth Festival time.

For all events & bookings see [nailsworthfestival.org.uk](http://nailsworthfestival.org.uk)

Nikki Owen is an author and writer. Her debut thriller, *Subject 375* (Harper Collins), is out now. Catch her at [blog.nikkiowen.wordpress.com](http://blog.nikkiowen.wordpress.com) or website [nikkiowenauthor.com](http://nikkiowenauthor.com)

## LITERATURE LISTINGS

### ALE HOUSE

#### WEDS 4TH/11TH/18TH/25TH

##### Rick Vick: Writing Group

A weekly writing group run by Stroud Festival's Rick Vick. Discover your hidden voice, all welcome! 7-9pm £5 for further information contact Rick on 07973 225 694

### ATELIER

#### TUES 24TH

##### Radio Cinema

A sound event that will try to give another way to experience spoken-word radio by lifting it out of its traditional settings and celebrating it in new and exciting ways. – and to celebrate stories told by words and sounds. A listening event, lasting around an hour where we will listen to one of the many interesting podcasts available today 7pm £3

[atelierstroud.co.uk](http://atelierstroud.co.uk)

### BLACK BOOK CAFÉ

#### SUN 22ND

##### Transition Stroud Book Group

Exploring the psychological barriers to action on Climate Change via a discussion of George Marshall's book "Don't Even Think About It - why our brains are wired to ignore climate change"

Transition Stroud is a dynamic group of volunteers who are supporting the local community to strengthen its' local economy, reduce the cost of living and prepare for a future with less oil and a changing climate. Join them for a cup of coffee and a stimulating discussion! 12 - 2pm Free

[blackbookcafe.com](http://blackbookcafe.com)

### HAWKWOOD COLLEGE

#### MON 2ND

##### Bard of Hawkwood Contest

Find out who will be the Bard of Hawkwood 2016 at the Hawkwood College Open Day!

#### WEDS 4TH/11TH/18TH/25TH

##### Wild Writing with Kevan Manwaring

This rule-breaking writing workshop is designed to encourage you to explore the untamed fringes of your desires and fears, to express that inner howl, to give voice to that long-denied cry. You'll be supported in a friendly, safe environment to venture beyond comfort zones and tap into words that can electrify, shock, motivate and move. All you need is a pen and paper and a willingness to be wild! 7-9pm to book a space call 01453 759034

#### WEDS 11TH MAY – WEDS 22ND JUN

##### Fiona Longsdon: Creative Writing Toolkit

There are words and stories in abundance but what if getting them on the page was as simple as having the right tools with which to craft them? This six-week course, run in weekly sessions of 2½ hours, will get you writing beautiful and fluent prose, fire up your imagination and give you the confidence to write in an accomplished and uninhibited way. Suitable for beginners and those with some writing experience. Fiona Longsdon wrote for newspapers and magazines before turning to fiction. In 2013, she completed the Bath Spa Creative Writing MA and was shortlisted for the Janklow and Nesbit prize. She has read her work at Novel Nights, a Bristol based showcase for debut authors, and helped compile the shortlist for the 2015 Bath Short Story Award. She has now finished her first novel, *Mother Love*, and is currently writing her second x6 2 hour sessions 9:30-11:30am £70

[hawkwoodcollege.co.uk](http://hawkwoodcollege.co.uk)

### MUSEUM IN THE PARK

#### FRI 13TH

##### Ghostly Tales of Gloucestershire

Whether it's white ladies or old ladies, monks or miners, blacksmiths or beggars, horses or hounds, priests or poltergeists, unwilling brides or all too willing femmes fatales, Gloucestershire's hidden places are seething with spooks. Fire Springs storytellers Anthony Nanson and Kirsty Hartsiotis tell a spooky selection of the county's creepiest ghost stories. You won't look at Gloucestershire's towns and landscapes the same way again, especially after dark. Not suitable for under 12s. Booking advised to be sure of a seat, please call on 01453 763394.

Part of Museums at Night, the annual UK-wide festival of inspiring after-hours events, designed to encourage people to see arts, culture and heritage in a different light 8pm £5

[museuminthepark.org.uk](http://museuminthepark.org.uk)

### SPACEHOPPERS

#### SUN 15TH

##### One Day Writer's Retreat

The hardest part of writing can be actually turning up at the desk and getting on with it. This one day writer's retreat is designed to give you the space and time you need to get away from the distractions of daily life and to focus on your work in the quiet company of a handful of like-minded writers, keen to make some headway on their own projects. With no embarrassing read-outs or feedback, this retreat is for any writer, working at any level 9:30am-4:30pm for more information and to book, contact [writingspacestroud@gmail.com](mailto:writingspacestroud@gmail.com)

[writingspacestroud.wordpress.com](http://writingspacestroud.wordpress.com)

### SVA

#### SAT 14TH

##### Mr Fluffypunk's Penny Gaff

Cracking alternative cabaret with a spoken word spine. This month featuring comedian Jack Stratten as Malcolm Head poet and part-time police archivist; fantastic spoken word from Anna Freeman, sketch comedy from Brewhaha, Stroud's female improv trio and Malcolm Jones, being miserable. Plus film, silly quizzes and your host, Jonny Fluffypunk! 8pm £8.50 advance online and from SVA/£10otd

[sva.org.uk](http://sva.org.uk)

### CALCOT MANOR

#### TUES 10TH

##### Meningitis Now: Evening in Conversation with Joanna Trollope, Katie Fforde and Fiona Fullerton

The Stroud based charity Meningitis Now are delighted to announce a very special literary event that is taking place to support their 30th anniversary. Three celebrated authors and supporters of the charity; Joanna Trollope, Katie Fforde and Fiona Fullerton - will be sharing their insights into writing. The evening, hosted by the charity's President, Andrew

Harvey, consists of an intimate dinner and conversation in the beautiful surroundings of Calcot Manor. Every penny raised from the event will help fund vital vaccine research and invaluable support to those whose lives have been torn apart by Meningitis 7pm £95 (which includes a drinks reception and a gourmet three-course dinner served with wines) email [events@meningitisnow.org](mailto:events@meningitisnow.org) or call 0345 120 4530

[meningitisnow.org](http://meningitisnow.org)

### NEW BREWERY ARTS CENTRE

#### SAT 7TH

##### Rona Laycock: Travel Writing Workshop

A day spent exploring the opportunities of writing travel articles. Using your own experiences of travel at home and abroad to give colour and life to your work 10am-4pm £75

#### SAT 28TH

##### Rona Laycock: Writing Poetry

This workshop will offer opportunities to explore and write poetry through discussion and written exercises. Look at where to find ideas for your poetry, writing from memory and the imagination, rules and how to break them 10am-4pm £75

#### MAY 31ST

##### Writers in the Brewery with Kevan Manwaring

A regular event that takes place on the last Tuesday of the month in the cafe. Everyone is welcome to come along, share their ideas and writing or just enjoy meeting writers and listening to their fiction, poetry, articles and autobiographical writings. This month's guest is Kevan Manwaring a Hawthornden fellow who teaches for the Open University and writes for the *London Magazine*. From Fosseyway to Wolden Pond, be taken on a journey as Kevan reads from and discusses his latest collection published by Chrysalis 7-9pm £4 (incl. free tea and coffee; other drinks at bar prices)

[newbreweryarts.org.uk](http://newbreweryarts.org.uk)

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# IMPROVISATIONAL COMEDY:

**HELEN WOOD AND  
KERRY UPCHURCH**

BY CHRIS HEAD

IMPROVISATION WORKSHOPS AND SHOWS ARE BRINGING A TOUCH OF SPONTANEITY TO THE BURGEONING COMEDY SCENE IN STROUD. I RECENTLY CAUGHT UP WITH KERRY UPCHURCH (GROUP LEADER OF GNK IMPROV STROUD; A WEEKLY WORKSHOP INTRODUCING AND PRACTISING THE BASIC ELEMENTS OF SHORT-FORM COMEDY THEATRE IMPROV) AND HELEN WOOD (A COMIC ACTOR, WRITER AND IMPROVISER) TO FIND OUT MORE...

**FIRST UP, IMPRO OR IMPROV? I GATHER "IMPROV" IS AMERICAN BUT I FIND MYSELF INCREASINGLY USING IT.**

**Helen:** I've always tended to say improv, but improv definitely seems to be getting more widely used in the UK.

**Kerry:** I have never really known improv as anything but 'improv' so the agony of choice never came my way.

**HMM. OKAY, I'M GOING TO GO WITH IMPROV. SORRY HELEN. KERRY, YOU'VE JUST MOVED TO STROUD. WHEN DID YOU MOVE TO STROUD AND WHY?**

**Kerry:** Stroud was a fresh start for me and for my partner Gill. We felt the beauty of the countryside and the art-house feel of the town was an attractive combination. We finally moved here in late January. I felt the gods had conspired to make it rain well... each and every day really. But pah... it brought the flowers on early.

**HELEN, HOW DID YOU GET INTO IMPROV?**

**Helen:** By watching the 1990s TV programme, *Whose Line is it Anyway?* I got the book of the show and started playing the games with friends. At the same time I learned how useful improvising was when devising shows. I was living in London and there were a lot of opportunities to go to improv classes offering different forms of improv.

**OKAY, I SEE YOU'RE STICKING WITH 'IMPRO'. KERRY, HOW DID YOU GET INTO, ER... IMPROVISATION.**

**Kerry:** I first discovered it by a roundabout route. I stumbled into

amateur dramatics around five years ago when a member of a local group was so impressed with my sales patter (I was collecting for an air ambulance) that I was invited to the stage and I took to it like a fish to water. A random search on the internet threw up a fledgling comedy theatre improv workshop group in Bath and I thought I'd give that a try. That was 2013. I love improv and actually became the group leader for around a year in 2015. The move to Stroud has encouraged me to set up a brand new workshop right here with Gill. This might lead to occasional public performances or simply be a drop-in.

**WHAT DO YOU GET OUT OF IT HELEN?**

**Helen:** Where to begin? There's just so much. There's such a sense of freedom when performing improv, you go where the spirit takes you, you don't know what's going to happen and you don't need to over think. I love it that you can take risks and make mistakes. In fact there's often much hilarity when you mess up. You can learn some great life lessons from doing improv, such as not blocking and making offers. It's made me more courageous about doing all sorts of things in life as well as when performing. With improv I've surprised myself, laughed a lot,

cried at times and been very happy that there are no scripts to learn...

GnK improv workshop takes place every Tuesday at 7 to 9 pm in the Blue Room at the Centre for Science and Art in Lansdown for just £3 a session.

Brewhaha will next be performing their comedy improv show, *Village People*, at the British School Hall on Saturday 21st May at 8pm. Tickets are £5 and available from Star Anise Café. They will also be joining Jack Stratton, Anna Freeman and Miserable Malcolm at Jonny Fluffy Punk's next Penny Gaff at the SVA earlier in the month on Sat 14th May (see listings for further info).

I'll also be running my own Live Sketch Comedy: Improv to Script to Stage course on Friday evenings from the 10th June - 29th July at the Black Book Café, but more on that in next month's issue!

*Chris Head has established himself as one of the UK's leading comedy coaches and has nearly twenty years' experience as a director of live comedy. Visit [chrishead.com](http://chrishead.com) for further info*

## COMEDY LISTINGS

### BRITISH SCHOOL HALL

**SAT 21ST**

**Brewhaha! Presents: Village People**

A hilarious, quick-witted, fast-paced, improvised comedy show. Meet eccentric characters, visit unusual locations and experience bizarre village pursuits during an evening of spontaneity, fun and laughter 8pm £5 available from Star Anise Arts Cafe

### SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS

**FRI 20TH**

**Cautionary Tales For Daughters (Songs Your Mother Never Taught You)**

What is the right advice and when and how should you deliver it? This witty new show of song and animation premiered to outstanding reviews at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and is a foray through music and animation

into the dark heart of growing up and the dark arts of parenting. *Cautionary Tales for Daughters* is written by composer and mother Tanya Holt, who turns an unflinching eye on the mistakes she has made. The audience will be invited to submit their words of caution or advice anonymously on a postcard in the interval. Some of these will be read out in the second half. 8pm £14/£12concs Age advice 15+

**THURS 26TH**

**John Williams: My Son's Not Rainman**

John is a stand-up comedian and single dad. His son is twelve years old and autistic. He isn't a genius. His only special power is making his Dad laugh. A lot. This is their true story of Lego, magic trains, the number 75 bus. All proceeds to Stroud Court Community Trust.

"An incredibly funny man... well crafted, funny and full of heart. Go and see it!" *The Skinny* 8pm £10adv/£8concs/£12otd/£10concs

[subscriptionrooms.org.uk](http://subscriptionrooms.org.uk)

**SVA**

**SAT 14TH**

**Mr Fluffypunk's Penny Gaff**

Cracking alternative cabaret with a spoken word spine. This month featuring comedian Jack Stratton as Malcolm Head poet and part-time police archivist; fantastic spoken word from Anna Freeman; sketch comedy from Brewhaha, Stroud's female improv trio and Malcolm Jones, being miserable. Plus film, silly quizzes and your host, Jonny Fluffypunk! 8pm £8.50 advance online and from SVA/£10otd

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Cheltenham Improvisers Orchestra  
Swing From Paris, Dave Ayre Trio  
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With more announcements to come  
check web for event info & updates**

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