

# GOOD ON PAPER

A stylized illustration of a man with long, wavy blue hair and wide, green eyes. He is looking intently at an open book held in front of him. The background is a dark blue with white, wavy lines suggesting rain or a storm. The overall style is graphic and expressive.

**ISSUE  
#32**

**INSIDE:**

**STROUD  
BOOK  
FESTIVAL**

**MOCKERS**

**MOTHER  
ART**

+

**Tasmin Treverton Jones | Kate Williamson | RATS**



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# What's on in November:

**Thurs 2nd - 8pm**  
Polly Toynbee & David Walker

**Fri 3rd - 8pm**  
Moscow Drug Club

**Fri 3rd - 8pm**  
Keith James: Duende! The Poetry of Federico Garcia Lorca

**Sat 4th - 8pm**  
Ceilidh: Captain Swing

**Thurs 9th - 8pm**  
From the Jam with Bruce Foxton

**Sat 11th - 8pm**  
Four Harmonies: A Concert In Aid of Southmead Hospital Charity

**Sat 11th - 8pm**  
Chris Quinn

**Sun 12th - 8pm**  
His Way: The Story of Frank Sinatra

**Thurs 16th - 8pm**  
Wayne Hemingway

**Fri 17th - 8pm**  
The Revolutionaires

**Sat 18th - 8pm**  
An Evening with Frank Bruno MBE

**Weds 22nd - Thurs 23rd**  
RATS Present: A Midsummer Night's Dream

**Fri 24th - 8pm**  
Jive Dance

**Sat 25th - 8.30pm**  
The Rollin' Clones

**Sun 26th - 3pm**  
Fairey Band

**Sun 26th - 7.30pm**  
Doug Scott: A crawl down The Ogre

**Thurs 30th - 8.00pm**  
Dr John Cooper Clarke

Sign up to our E-newsletter via our website to stay up to date with new shows and to receive our brochure via email. To book tickets call our box Office on **01453 760900** or visit our website [www.subscriptionrooms.org.uk](http://www.subscriptionrooms.org.uk)

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

WELCOME TO THE THIRTY SECOND 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...

This month we celebrate the return of the Stroud Book Festival which boasts over thirty events featuring the likes of Rachel Joyce, Polly Toynbee and David Walker, William Fiennes, Katie Fforde and Tom Percival to name just a few... Another author featured in the festival's packed programme (and interviewed in this issue) includes Tamsin Treverton Jones whose aptly timed book Windblown documents the great storm of 1987.

Whilst welcoming the return of one Stroud institution we sadly say goodbye to another as Mockers - the club night hosted by duelling DJ duo Pavynil and Solid Kick Nick will be retiring their legendary event after over a decade...

In arts we explore Mother Art with the Women's Art Activation System and Mother House, and peak into the intriguing world of artist Kate Williamson who exhibited her amazing work at our Stroud Fringe stage last year.

Lastly one of our writer's delves into the next production by local theatre company RATS, producing a heartfelt account of what it's like to take a giant step out of your comfort zone...

So that's it for this month, Christmas soon so better get going on the next one.

Alex and Adam

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## Sat 11th Nov – Sun 3rd Dec 2017 Cheltenham Illustration Awards 2017: Tales Through Others' Eyes



The Museum in the Park is delighted to host the 2017 International Cheltenham Illustration Awards in collaboration with the University of Gloucestershire. The theme this year is 'Tales through Others' Eyes', inviting us to imagine the world from a different perspective and reminding us that there are millions of lives beyond our own. Come and immerse yourself in this new collection of visual stories!

The Awards have been running for 10 years and have attracted an increasing number of international entries. The focus has always been one of narrative. Visual storytelling, whether sequential or single image, gives scope to the imagination and opens up possibilities beyond the present moment; what happened before? What happens next?

The Awards exhibition travels to venues such as the London Book Fair and other universities, with an accompanying full colour hardback Annual. Images are submitted from all over the world, with no entry fee, meaning that a selection of the very best of contemporary narrative image-making can be exhibited, published and made available to a wider audience..



The exhibition will be accompanied by family drop in workshops on 25th & 26th Nov and a Festive Illustrators' Fair on the 2nd – 3rd Dec raising funds for George Butler's charity Hands Up ([handsupfoundation.org](http://handsupfoundation.org))

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

The Museum in the Park, Stratford Park, Stroud, GL5 4AF

call: **01453 763394**

# Stroud Book Festival

**Book buffs get ready: Stroud's very own literary festival is back, with a line-up guaranteed to keep the pages turning.**

By Matt Shinn

Now in its second year, Stroud Book Festival is a celebration of our strong local tradition of publishing, and of the many authors who live in this area. It serves the unusually literate and literary-minded community that we have in Stroud. And it's about encouraging people to read who may never read otherwise: getting them hooked on books.

For the Festival's marketing manager Louise Brice, the community angle is an important one. "We're a community interest company, meaning that any profit we make goes back into the community. We're committed to making the festival fun, accessible and educational for everyone, and to linking up and working with other local organisations as much as we can. We have a wonderful team of volunteers who are key to making the event possible, and we hope that audiences will feel part of something that really is for the local community."

A good example of the festival's community-mindedness is the Big Read, which works a bit like a giant book group – everyone goes and reads the same book, and then talks about it together at a special event, along with the author. "We've gone to secondary schools," says Louise, "as well as to bookshops, to reading groups, to libraries – we've even placed a copy of the book we're reading in the Butterworth book exchange (housed in a former phone box). The Big Read is a great way of getting people reading, talking and engaging with books. For 2018 we're considering a Big Read specifically aimed at children."

The book chosen for this year's Big Read is *The Snow Geese* by William Fiennes, chronicling the author's intrepid journey as he follows the migration of flocks of wild snow geese from southern Texas to their breeding grounds on the shores of Canada's Hudson Bay. "The themes of the book are ecology

and nature, and it takes in a very broad cross-section of life along the way. All of these things, we think, will appeal to a Stroud readership."

So is there something particular about Stroud as a literary community? "There's something interesting in our relationship with nature: wherever you look in Stroud you're surrounded by it." Then there's a more general quality that Stroud has: a willingness to support new ventures. "One thing I've noticed," says Louise, "when I've had to pick up the phone or go into shops, and had to ask literally hundreds of people for help, is that I haven't had one negative conversation. People in Stroud are really willing to help, and don't mind being asked. That goes for the businesses that sponsor our events, through to the young people who help us out through work experience. And Stroud is one of those places where people do stop and talk to each other, which is how something like the Big Read can work. Look at the Fringe: how these festivals really take off is through word of mouth."

Stroud Book Festival takes place from 2nd to 5th November 2017 at venues around Stroud, including Lansdown Hall, the Subscription Rooms, the Museum in the Park, Stroud Library and Stroud Valleys Artspace.

The main box office for ticket sales is in the Subscription Rooms, online at [subscriptionrooms.org.uk/tickets](http://subscriptionrooms.org.uk/tickets) or telephone 01453 760900. For events at the Museum in the Park call 01453 763394. Some events are free or pay-on-the-door. For further information including the full programme visit [stroudbookfestival.org.uk](http://stroudbookfestival.org.uk)

**Matt Shinn runs Whole New Chapter Ltd, a Stroud-based editorial and design agency. [wholenewchapter.co.uk](http://wholenewchapter.co.uk)**



## Highlights:

**This year's Stroud Book Festival is another eclectic mix, with something for everyone. Here are a few highlights from the programme...**

1. Food and drink fans can go on a culinary journey through Italy, with food critic Matthew Fort.
2. Acclaimed authors Rachel Joyce and Cathy Rentzenbrink will be hosting a special event, *Writing to the Heart*, about writing with emotional honesty.
3. For aspiring authors there are writing workshops (including a half-day fiction course at the Museum in the Park, hosted by Katie Fforde and Jane Bailey), and writing competitions.
4. For anyone who wants to get into publishing, crowdfunding publisher Unbound will be providing invaluable insights, as will industry expert Anthony Burton. The Museum in the Park will also be running events on book-making as a craft.
5. Poet Adam Horovitz will be joining up with fiddle player Becky Dellow to present poems from his new book, *The Soil Never Sleeps*.
6. Children are an important audience for the festival: kids' events will include local children's author John Dougherty talking about how he got together with pupils and staff from Minchinhampton Primary School, to produce the time-travelling adventure story *A Portal Through Time* (a book that everyone in the school contributed to).
7. Other kids's events include a talk by children's author Tom Percival (with his character *Perfectly Norman*), local illustrator Martha Lightfoot making magical mini-books, Tracey Corderoy and her fairytale pets, Tracey Spiers and the hare Uley Blue, illustrator Hannah Shaw making puppet villains and baddies, Andy Seed with his side-splitting anti-boredom family fun, and Hugh Warwick talking about the charm of the hedgehog.
8. Finally, for something more left-field, join Elvis for a special 'Tonight With Elvis' Book Festival special, or enter the Gothic world of *Hopeless Maine*, based upon a beautifully drawn graphic novel. Or find a poetic cure for what ails you from the *Emergency Poet*, who will be offering consultations and treatments inside her 1970s ambulance, and dealing out advice in the form of poetry.

## Festival at a Glance

### Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup>

#### SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS

**8PM** - Polly Toynbee and David Walker: *Dismembered*, £12/£10concs

### Fri 3<sup>rd</sup>

#### LANSDOWN HALL

**6PM** - Adam Horovitz and Becky Dellow: *The Soil Never Sleeps*, £8/£6concs

**8PM** - The Big Read: William Fiennes - *The Snow Geese*, £12/£10concs

#### SVA

**8PM** - Tonight With Elvis: *Writer's Special*, £1otd

### Sat 4<sup>th</sup>

#### LANSDOWN HALL

**11AM** - John Dougherty: *A Portal Through Time*, £5adult/£3child

**12:45PM** - John Dougherty and Minchinhampton School: *The Big Write*, £5

**3:15PM** - Katie Fforde and Jane Bailey: *Where Do Stories Come From?*, £8/£6concs

**5PM** - Rachel Joyce and Cathy Rentzenbrink: *Writing To The Heart*, £10/£8concs

**7:30PM** - Tom and Nimue Brown: *Hopeless Maine*, £10/£8concs

#### MUSEUM IN THE PARK

**10:30AM** - Workshop with Andrew Morrison: *Books With Secrets*, £25/£20concs

**11:30AM** - Hannah Shaw: *Villains and Baddies! Workshop*, £2 per child

**2PM** - Tracy Spiers: *Meet Uley Blue*, Free

#### STROUD BOOK SHOP

**10AM** - Meet the Authors: Mass Signing Event and Book Recommendations, Free

#### STROUD LIBRARY

**11AM** - Tracey Corderoy: *Fairy Tale Pets*, £3

**12:30PM** - Hugh Warwick: *A Prickly Affair - the Charm of the Hedgehog*, Free

#### SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS

**12:45PM** - Sarah Hosking: *Hosking Houses*, £4/£3concs

**2:30PM** - Hugh Warwick: *Linescapes*, £8/£6concs

**4PM** - Richard Aranowitz: *An American Decade*, £8/£6concs

### Sun 5<sup>th</sup>

#### THE ALE HOUSE

**5:30PM** - Book Quiz! Quizmaster - John Dougherty, £2

#### LANSDOWN HALL

**11AM** - Rights, Rites and Writes: *Writers' Supporting Each Other*, 11am, Free

**2PM** - Andy Seed £5/£3child

**4:15PM** - Matthew Fort: *Summer in the Islands: An Italian Odyssey*, £10/£8concs

**6PM** - Tamsin Treverton Jones: *Windblown*, £8/£6concs

**8PM** - Lansdown Film Club and Stroud Film Festival: *Fahrenheit 451*, £7/£6concs

#### MUSEUM IN THE PARK

**11AM** - Katie Fforde and Jane Bailey: *Fiction Writing Workshop*, £35 (incl. light lunch)

**11:30AM** - Martha Lightfoot: *Magical Mini Books Workshop*, £2

**3PM** - Philip Rush: *Poetry Workshop - A Sense Of Place*, £20

**3PM** - Fiona Eadie: *Wise Women and Witches*, £5/£3child

#### SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS

**10:30AM** - Tom Percival: *Perfectly Norman*, £5/£3child

**12:30PM** - Anthony Burton: *Both Sides of the Desk*, £6/£5concs

**2:30PM** - Tom Cox and John Mitchinson: *Crowdfunded Publishing*, £6/£5concs

#### SVA

**8PM** - Stroud Short Stories: *All You Need Is Love. Or Is It?*, £7adv (sold out!)



# Tasmin Treverton Jones

By Jill MacKeith

**Let's get something straight, first and foremost, Michael Fish was technically right in 1987 with that infamous weather forecast, as Tamsin Treverton Jones, author, tells me: "We don't get hurricanes in the UK because hurricanes only happen in the tropics. What we do get are storms, and truly exceptional storms, such as the one in 1987, only come every 200 - 300 years. The last time a storm as big as this hit the British Isles was in 1703". I am inclined to believe her, such is the phenomenal amount of research that has gone into her latest book, Windblown, which went out on general release Thursday 5 October, 2017.**

As the storm wreaked its havoc across southern England on the night of 15th October 1987, Tamsin was not to know that 30 years later she would write a book about it. She was in fact working on an idea for another book in spring 2015, when the idea for Windblown suddenly and powerfully came to her. She had been searching for "some old family holiday snaps" when she came across a photograph, neatly preserved in its

cellophane wrapper, of a wooden sculpture that her father, the well-known local artist Terry Thomas, had designed. Commissioned by the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew in the aftermath of the Great Storm, the sculpture was carved using the wood of some of the 1,000 trees that had been wrenched from the earth in the grounds that night. It's a spectacular piece, "it's heroic, muscular, it demonstrates, absolutely, the apocalyptic power of the wind", explains Tamsin. Although Tamsin had known about the mural, it wasn't until she came across the photograph, after all those years, that she knew she had to write about the storm. Sadly, Terry passed away in 1998 and without realising it, Tamsin had been looking for a way to share her father's legacy and to discover him as a man as well as a father, "When I found the photograph of the mural, I understood in an instant that this is what my Dad was all about and I had to tell this story".

Tying together meteorological facts and environmental information with poetic prose, the stories of fishermen and lighthouse keepers, rough sleepers and refugees are woven together with Tamsin's autobiographical narrative, offering a unique perspective of the natural disaster. "It started as a poetry project", Tamsin explained, "There were so many stories that could be told, each with their own rhythmic, lyrical quality, but in the end the prose took over". Tracing the storm from its origins in the Bay of Biscay, the book follows the geographical path of the storm, and later, we follow Tamsin, as she undertakes a road trip around the South East visiting places significantly affected including Ashdown Forest (East Sussex),

Buxted Park (Sussex), the Stade (Hastings) and finally the apple orchards of Kent.

The subtitle of the book, Landscape, Legacy and Loss, gives a good overview of its key themes, and it wasn't until reading it myself that I discovered that eighteen people lost their lives across Britain due to the storm. Of the eighteen, one man, a rough sleeper, was crushed to death by a tree while sheltering under a cardboard box in Lincoln's Inn Fields, and was later buried in an anonymous grave in Camden, North London. When Tamsin discovered this she was saddened at how this man had been forgotten, "I felt his life mattered just as much as the other seventeen people; I wanted to give him a name, and then an identity, to find out why he was there". Using her formidable research skills, Tamsin traced the man's family to Seaham, County Durham, and corresponded with his daughter-in-law to piece together the story of his life which is beautifully and sensitively described.

I asked Tamsin what was the most difficult part of the process of writing the book: "It was a deeply educational period of my life. There was so much research involved I knew after a few months that I would have to give up my other work if I was going to finish the book, to do it justice. I often felt frustrated, after doing all the research and then not being able to write instantly about it, only to wake up at 3am, days later, with an idea that had to be noted immediately. There was so much information that I had to let it percolate through my consciousness until I could piece it all together in my own style".

When I asked Tamsin what she

most wanted readers to understand from the book, she replied, "We humans live on this planet for a very short time, whereas a tree can live for 300 years and more. These great storms come around every 200-300 years, they are a part of nature's cycle, and we just haven't been around long enough to remember the last one. After the Great Storm of 1987, people tidied up, planted new trees and wrung their hands about what we should do; but Nature will regenerate, Nature knows what to do. We need to work with Nature, not try and control it."

Now, on the 30th anniversary of the Great Storm, alongside the photograph of the mural her father designed all those years ago, Tamsin has been able to give her mother a copy of the book, who said he would have been very proud. Telling the story of the Great Storm of 1987 has allowed Tamsin to pay tribute to her father's legacy - and in doing so she is creating one of her own.

Windblown is published by Hodder and Stoughton and available now in all good book shops and on-line. Tamsin will be discussing the book with Adam Horovitz at the Lansdown Hall on Sunday 5th November as part of this year's Stroud Book Festival. Visit [lansdownhall.org](http://lansdownhall.org) and [stroudbookfestival.org.uk](http://stroudbookfestival.org.uk) for further info.

**Jill MacKeith is a mother of two young children based in Stroud. She is also a freelance researcher, project manager, budding writer and curator with her first art exhibition (Motherhood & Metamorphosis) showing at the Lansdown Gallery in early November.**

## LITERATURE LISTINGS

### ALE HOUSE

**WEDS 1ST/8TH/15TH/22ND/29TH**

**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

### HAWKWOOD COLLEGE

**SUN 12TH**

**Calligraphy for Greeting Cards with Fiona Mitchell**

Ever wanted to decorate your own greeting cards or gift labels with beautiful lettering? Then this is the perfect opportunity to come and try your hand at calligraphy. Using straightforward techniques and easily available materials, you will be guided through simple projects to get you started. This course is suitable for right and left handers and no previous experience is necessary. 9am £75 (incl. lunch)

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

### MUSEUM IN THE PARK

**FRI 10TH**

**Stroud Poets: Jay Ramsay and Kim Baker**

Join Stroud based poets Jay Ramsay and Kim Baker for an intimate evening as they launch two new Chrysalis Poetry pamphlets - Hafod-Y-Llyn Notebook (Jay) and The Lavinia Tree (Kim). 8pm Free

**THURS 16TH**

**Poetry Evening: Peter Owen Jones, Bill Jones, Tonia Maddison, Kirsty Pridgeon and Liz Willis**

Peter Owen Jones is an Anglican vicar who works on the northern slopes of the Sussex Downs east of Lewes. He has introduced television series, including Around the World in 80 Faiths, and has published a number of books on broadly religious themes. His recent book, Pathlands, presents humble and meditative accounts of twenty-one walks "among the villages of Britain". He will have a new pamphlet out from Yew Tree Press and will read poems from that selection. Peter will be joined by four Stroud Poets who will present work from the most recent pamphlets in that series. Bill Jones and Liz Willis write in different ways about the mysteries and wonders of everyday life, while Tonia Maddison and Kirsty Pridgeon present images which relate to the visual arts and the power of the moment. 7:30pm Free

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

### THE LITTLE GEORGE

**WEDS 15TH**

**Stroud Radical Reading Group: Naomi Klein - No Is Not Enough**

The Stroud Radical Reading Group meet every month at the Little George and aim to read a variety of articles and books on radical issues, feminism, environmentalism, trade unionism, politics, and current affairs. This month's they discuss a book that attempts to uncover how we got to this "surreal political moment". They'll also look at Klein's perspective on how we might arrive at a "radically better future". Klein is also the author of No Logo, The Shock Doctrine and This Changes Everything. 7:30pm Free

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

### SPACEHOPPERS

**TUES 7TH**

**The Gloucester Poetry Society: Villanelles Poetry Evening**

An evening of eclectic open mic poetry co-hosted between Jason Conway of The Gloucester Poetry Society and SpaceHoppers Co-Working Ltd. All are welcome, from first time performers or writers of poetry to traditional, spoken word and slam poets and poetry lovers to come along and be inspired by an evening of eclectic poetry and share a favourite poem if they like. Names will be taken on the night, for people wishing to perform, so please arrive in good time to avoid disappointment! 6:30pm Free

[spacehoppers.work](http://spacehoppers.work)

### STROUD BOOK FESTIVAL

**THURS 2ND - SUN 5TH**

Stroud's annual festival of the best in new writing from some of the finest novelists, non-fiction writers, poets, children's writers and storytellers from Gloucestershire and beyond. With a wide-ranging programme of events - Cathy Rentzenbrink and Rachel Joyce on Writing to the Heart, TV and Guardian Food critic Matthew Fort, BIG READ author William Fiennes discussing The Snow Geese - over 30 events for writers, readers, adults and children, this year's festival serves up something for everyone! Visit the website for the programme and p4-5 for further info...

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

### SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS

**SAT 18TH**

**An Evening With Frank Bruno MBE**

The Subscription Rooms are delighted to welcome the former Heavyweight World Champion boxer Frank Bruno for an intimate interview discussing his boxing career, his mental Health battles, and his life as the Peoples Champion. Frank honestly talks about Mike Tyson, Anthony Joshua, and the current boxing scene. His journey has been an interesting one and with a new book and a film in the pipeline his life story is forever changing...8pm £25

**THURS 30TH**

**Dr John Cooper Clarke**

Dr John Cooper Clarke is as relevant and vibrant as ever, and his influence just as visible on today's pop culture. Aside from his trademark 'look' continuing to resonate with fashionistas young and old, and his poetry included on national curriculum syllabus, his effect on modern music is huge. His latest show, touring across the UK and Europe, is a mix of classic verse, extraordinary new material, hilarious ponderings on modern life, good honest gags, riffs and chat - a chance to witness a living legend at the top of this game. With support from Mike Garry, Toria Garbutt and Clare Ferguson Walker. £29ad/£23.50/£19

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

### NEW BREWERY ARTS CENTRE

**MON 20TH**

**Mini Books and Ornaments with Emily Northern**

Try your hand at making these miniature books which can be made into necklaces, keyrings or even Christmas ornaments. During this 3 hour workshop you will make two different styles of mini books. 10am £45

**SUN 26TH**

**Modern Calligraphy with Emma Sunderland**

Join Emerald Paper Design on

a beginners guide to modern calligraphy. During the session, key modern calligraphy basics will be covered; how to use the essential tools, mark making drills to practice applying pressure to your new pen, and alphabet practices before moving on to whole words. Emma from Emerald Paper Design will be giving demonstrations each step of the way, as well as being on hand for individual guidance. You will also receive a goodie bag to take away! 10am £35


**TUES 28TH**

**Writer's In the Brewery Annual Party**

Writers in the Brewery is a 'pop-in' social session for everyone who is interested in writing. Poets, fiction writers, biographers and non-fiction writers - all are welcome. Guest speaker/performer each month: an author, publisher, poet, journalist, musician or groups who share their work. Open 'mic' each evening for anyone to read and share their work. It is an opportunity to meet like-minded people, learn about groups, competitions, classes and workshops and a chance to showcase your own work if you want to. So come along to share your work or just sit back, sip your drink and listen to others. 7pm £4otd

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

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Image by James Kriszzyk

# Mockers

It's no accident that the last ever Mockers club night, 11 years after it first started, is due to take place on the 11th November. And the attention to scheduling detail for the last manifestation of Nick Buckle and Pavlos Kyriacou's infamous club night is typical of their approach to the whole Mockers concept. Tongue-in-cheek, an irreverent nod to two traditionally serious sub-cultures, underpinning some pretty serious musical content.

By Sarah Phaedre Watson

The response to Mockers ending has sent ripples through Stroud (and further afield); when I've mentioned that I was writing this article, and the reasons behind it, it has been met with a genuine intake of breath. But does anyone know what Mockers actually is, and why? Could you describe it to someone? I thought I'd give it a go.

I start by asking Nick what the impetus was behind putting the night together; "Before there was Mockers, there was nothing", he says "just a barren wasteland."

Erm, right.  
"Or to clarify there were people walking around aimlessly talking about the legends of Wigan Casino or the Rock n Roll clubs of North

London, but no one was actually doing anything around here, not like they were in some of the big cities. Stroud was still recovering from its house hangover."

Twelve years ago Nick, who describes himself as "a bit of a Mod", and Pav who describes himself as "a bit of a Rocker", decided that they needed to look at putting on an alternative club night for the music that they enjoyed because no one else was and, as Nick puts it "you can't complain about there not being anything on if you're not prepared to go out there yourself and put something on". So they picked out the phrase immortalised by Ringo Starr in 'A Hard Day's Night';

when asked if he was a Mod or a Rocker Ringo replied "Um, no. I'm a mocker."

The duo DJ back to back, beside each other under a huge Mockers sign (Nick below the "M", Pav below the "R") and often have no idea what the other one is going to play, sometimes they don't even know what records they've bought along with them. The only rule for what can and can't be played is simple: it can be anything, any genre, just as long as it's pre-1972 - think rockabilly, R&B, funk, northern soul, early crossover funk... Any of the original dance music.

The exception is when they are joined by their "obscenely top drawer guests" who may choose to play an hour long set, but quite often they will embrace the opportunity to play back to back with them too - so there may be 3 or even 4 of them on the decks all at once. The guest DJs embrace the opportunity to get out the records from the back of their record box, the ones they quite often don't dare to play, those risky ones.

We talk about why the night has been such a success and come to the conclusion that it's probably because it doesn't take itself too seriously (you can leave your wankiness and arm-folding at the door). It's impossible for a

night so enthused with an air of cabaret to take itself too seriously. And then there are themes (Carry on Mockers, The Mockers Raving Loony Party...), which are normally thought up during a boozy night in the Lord John. But behind the humour, there's some serious music, the playfulness has been a way of sneakily getting people into a room and encouraging them to listen to something a bit different.

So that's it, that's how you describe Mockers: It's not about a specific genre, or aimed at a specific age-group. Mockers is about bringing people together to dance and have fun, against the back-drop of some of the most extraordinary music you've never heard before.

Add to all of the above the infamous 'Drumming Monkey' (who will sadly be unable to join us on the 11th of November as he will be away on a song-writing course apparently) and the fact that Mockers is the only night that I've ever experienced where the queues to dance in the Go-Go Cages are longer than the ones for the loos, and your part of the way to capturing the essence of this irreplaceable night.

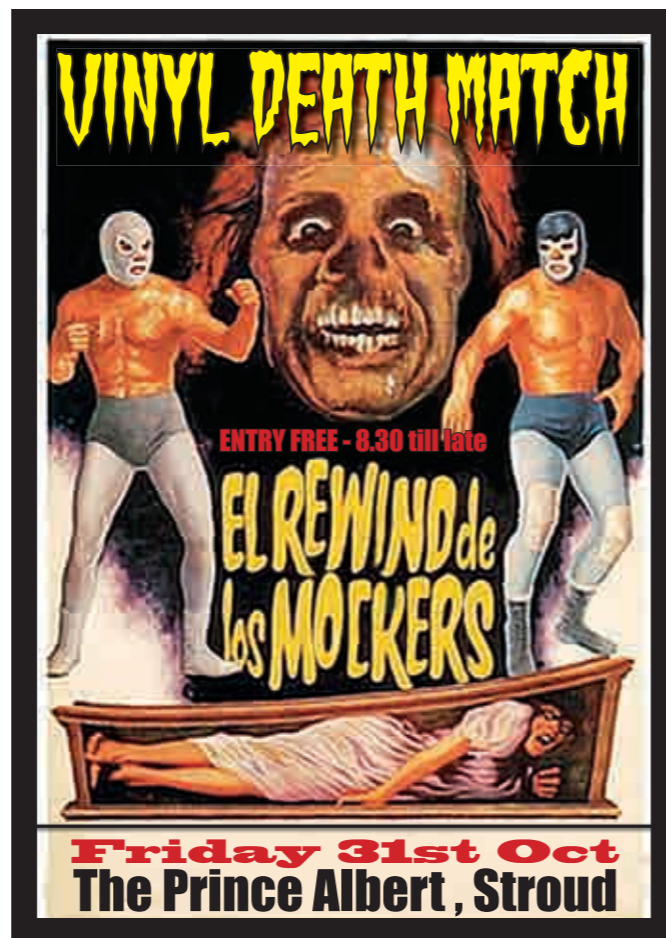
Mockers always finishes with everyone joining a circle to dance to Zorba The Greek, and my guess

is that the majority of Stroud will turn out to dance to Zorba the Greek one last time. I only hope that this time it will be the Spanish version Zorba el Griego that Pav found in a Barcelona Flea Market.

If you'd like to hear more about the history of Mockers from the very mouths of Nick and Pav, hear them talk about Margot the 65 year old Teddy Girl, me shrieking "I loved that monkey!!" and be regaled with some of their favourite tales of collapsing Go-Go cages then check out the recording of our chat on Good On Paper's Soundcloud page [soundcloud.com/good-on-paper-stroud](https://soundcloud.com/good-on-paper-stroud)

Last Train to Mockersville will take place on Sat 11th Nov at the Marshall Rooms. Tickets cost just £6 and are available from Trading Post Records. Visit [facebook.com/mockers.clubs](https://facebook.com/mockers.clubs) for news and updates.

No one knows what Sarah Phaedre Watson really does, she spends time gallivanting off to Africa to make films, writing for various publications, or passionately supporting community arts and events. She certainly gets about a bit



# MUSIC LISTINGS

## ALE HOUSE

### FRI 3RD

#### The Hawthornes

A lively folk/rock band from Cheltenham. Taking cues from folk revivalists such as Laura Marling, Eliza Carthy, Frank Turner and Seth Lakeman, The Hawthornes combine beautiful female vocal driven acoustic music with mariachi style upbeat pop/rock hooks. 8:30pm Free

### SAT 11TH

#### The Whiteshillbillies

The Whiteshillbillies return to The Ale House for another rousing night of Bluegrass, Country, Rockabilly and good old Rock and Roll. 8:30pm Free

### FRI 17TH

#### Slimline Shufflers

New Orleans inspired blues and boogie, with a fresh take on timeless classics alongside their own compositions. 8:30pm Free

### FRI 24TH

#### The Corduroy Kings

Fusing elements of Rock, Rhythm and Blues, Soul and Funk, with a little Pop and Punk thrown in, they reproduce some of the most famous songs known to man with that classic line-up of guitar, bass and drums. 8:30pm Free

## THE CROWN AND SCEPTRE

### FRI 3RD

#### Day of the Dead: Narco Lounge Combo

Face painting and Tequila fueled fun with Bristol's most handsome band, Narco Lounge Combo deftly constructing a Lynchian soundscape of noirish jazz, uneasy listening and space-age exotic. Brushed drums, tremolo guitars and voodoo marimbas create spiked cocktails in a nightclub where it is forever after hours...8:30pm Free

### THURS 9TH

#### Open Mic Night

Hosted by the Reverend Stretch, all welcome! 8pm Free

### FRI 10TH

#### Virginia Slims

Psychedelic funk explosion - prepare to get your groove on...8:30pm Free

### THURS 16TH

#### James Hollingsworth Plays Pink Floyd

A special night centred on the music of Pink Floyd performed by singer/guitarist James. 8:30pm Free

### FRI 17TH

#### The Forgetting Curve

Surf Stoner Post-Rock Power Trio! Think Shellac playing The Shadows with a dose of Kyuss for good measure. Angrily angular tunes with surreal lyrics intertwined with quirkily timed instrumentals. 8:30pm Free

### THURS 23RD

#### Kent Du Chaine

Kent has listened to, hung out with, opened up for, traveled and played with most of the great Blues men and women his whole adult life. The list is too long to name them all, but some of the major ones are: Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, John Lee Hooker. Come and enjoy a taste of the real Delta Blues. 8:30pm Free

### FRI 24TH

#### Dub Thieves

Dub in da pub...8:30pm Free

### THURS 30TH

#### Rodda's Hairy Craic

Irish acoustic session with Tim Potts. 8pm Free

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

## THE GOLDEN FLEECE

### SAT 4TH

#### Zero Day Jazz Trio

Some of Bristol's premier jazz musicians performing swing and bebop. 9pm Free

### SAT 11TH

#### Los Gusanos

Bristol based collective with hard swinging jazz, blues and hints of Latin-inspired grooves. 9pm Free

### FRI 17TH

#### Dusk Brothers

Unique Outlaw Swamp Blues Slide-Guitar British Americana music on awesome self-built instruments. 9pm Free

### SAT 25TH

#### The Vipers

Golden Fleece favourites the Vipers rework the best old blues, jazz and soul music into a hard-swingin' good time set. 9pm Free

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

## HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

### SAT 25TH

#### Stroud Symphony Orchestra

The Stroud Symphony Orchestra return to the Holy Trinity Church to perform music by Wagner (Lohengrin: Prelude to Act 3), Elgar (violin concerto ft. soloist John Pearce) and Sibelius (symphony no 2). 7:30pm £12/£10concs from Subscription Rooms

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

## KITSCH

### FRI 10TH/24TH

#### Dubbu @ Kitsch

Funked up 45's from Dubbu (aka Neil Wilson) to accompany the coolest cocktails in the five valleys...6pm Free

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

## THE MARSHALL ROOMS

### THURS 2ND

#### Pierre Kwenders

Pierre Kwenders is the stage name of Josè Louis Modabi ; a Congolese-Canadian musician. Kwenders, who sings and raps in English, French, Lingala and Tshiluba, is noted for blending both African music and western pop music influences, including hip hop and electronic music, into his style..8pm £5

### FRI 3RD

#### Bellow Presents: Syd Arthur, Cousin Kula

After a whirlwind 18 months, releasing their sensational third album 'Apricity', and touring the US with fellow experimentalists White Denim, the Syd Arthur boys asked the world, 'where should we play next..?' The answer was obvious... Stroud's new music venue 'The Marshall Rooms'. As part of a UK tour, the Canterbury based four piece will continue the promotion of their album with support from Bristol's psych-pop sextet - Cousin Kula. 8pm £8/£10

### SAT 4TH

#### Stroud Fringe Party with Solomento and more TBC

Come and enjoy an exhibition of photos from this year's Stroud Fringe, and enjoy some of the local bands that have played over the years. This is a fund raising event and profits from the door will go the Fringe. Doors 8pm, £6/£8

### FRI 10TH

#### Ferocious Dog, Neck, Borrowed Time

Punk extravaganza ft. some of the best punk bands touring...Ferocious Dog: A full-on six-piece sound that encompasses folk infused with rock, reggae and Celtic vibrations. Neck: The bastard love child of Joe Strummer and Shane MacGowan, Neck inhabit a musical niche rich in traditional Irish tunes but liberally dosed with a strong punk ethic. Borrowed Time: Gloucestershire based punkers coming to Stroud from Cheltenham and Gloucester. 8:30pm £14

### SAT 11TH

#### Mockers: Last Train to Mockersville

All aboard the last train to Mockers... Come dance and celebrate the end of a Stroud institution! See p8-9. 9pm £6adv/£7otd first fifty tickets sold come with a mystery 45...

### FRI 17TH

#### Smerins Anti Social Club

Renowned for their explosive live shows, Smerins Anti-Social Club have long been firing up festival crowds and gig-goers throughout the UK. The 10 piece line-up use the raw ingredients of ska, funk, dub, drum'n'bass and swing to full effect in their epic, brass-

heavy instrumentals. 8:30pm £10

### FRI 24TH

#### Mr Tea and The Minions

The Minions play their own unique take on high energy Balkan party music - combining Gypsy flavoured Ska, Dub and Swing with an infusion of soulful melodies, cheeky Eastern riffs and booming beats and bass to put a smile on your face and your knees up past your ears! 8:30pm £10

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

## MILLS CAFÉ

### FRI 3RD/17TH

#### Yard Sounds

Dubbu and Tunes will be supplying the latest funk and soul to get your weekend started right...6pm Free

## NO 23

### FRI 3RD

#### Grilling the Beats and Spinning the Meats

A hot feast of beats and eats with DJs Hotsauce & SPW on rotation and special guest Hector Cator (Duvet Vous).House, disco, funk, reggaeton, afrobeat, dancehall and reggae.9:30pm Free

### WEDS 8TH

#### The Zero Day

Alexander returns with another acoustic ensemble for live jazz, folk and gypsy music upstairs at No 23. 6:30pm Free

[facebook.com/No23BarAndBistroStroud](https://facebook.com/No23BarAndBistroStroud)

## THE PRINCE ALBERT

### THURS 2ND

#### Velvet & Stone

Indie-folk band from Devon combining rich vocals, acoustic guitar, bass riffs, keys and violin, to give an original take on a traditional genre. Drawing upon personal stories, melancholy tales and rugged landscapes, they create a serene, and haunting sound that is difficult to forget. 8:30pm Free

### FRI 3RD

#### Rob Heron and the Tea Pad Orchestra

Rob Heron & The Tea Pad Orchestra don't care what genre you choose to put them in - western swing, country blues, ragtime hokum or whatever else- as long as you understand that they're 100% sincere and 100% immersed in this stuff. This is no lazy pastiche, no dressing up box. They live and breathe this music and want you to get immersed with them. 8:30pm Free

### SAT 4TH

#### Bartoune

Highly accomplished Bristol based musical troupe - Gypsy Jazz, classic songs, mellow clarinet tones, and driving baritone sax , all under pinned by the tight swing of vibrant guitar and double bass. 8:30pm Free

### TUES 7TH

#### Margo Cilker

A young songwriter out to seek her fortune in the old-fashioned way. The last two years of travel and touring solo have led her to the Rocky Mountains, the Basque Country and always back home to California for a spell. Her sweet yet urgent voice will quickly lead the audience to hear what she's fixed on sharing. 8:30pm Free

### THURS 9TH

#### Leonie Evans

A multi-instrumentalist, singer songwriter and occasional session vocalist, teacher and event organiser who has been performing since the age of 5 and has never stopped... Expect beautiful haunting vocals and the odd song sung in Spanish. 8:30pm Free

### SAT 11TH

#### William the Conqueror

William the Conqueror's bluesy indie-Americana has already seen them head out to Nashville to perform at AmericanaFest, share a stage with the likes of Richard Thompson and Van Morrison courtesy of a nomination for Song of the Year at the UK Americana Awards, and sign to Loose Music. 8:30pm Free

### THURS 16TH

#### Cirrh

Andrew Lennox treats the Albert to some ethereal songs on keys and guitar, launching his solo career, and we get a sneak peek...8:30pm Free

### FRI 17TH

#### Professor No Hair and the Wig Lifters

Prince Albert regular Professor No Hair returns with his troupe of equally ridiculously talented musicians for an evening of piano boogie woogie... 8:30pm Free

### SAT 18TH

#### Osvaldovi

A two-voices-driven psychedelic rock band (guitar/minimal drums). Influences are to be found in spaghetti western soundtracks, in south European folk music, in 1920s blues, as well as in modern Agadez blues. 8:30pm Free

### THURS 23RD

#### Open Mic

All welcome to the Alberts irregular friendly bring and share session. Help always on hand to get you set up...8:30pm Free

### SAT 25TH

#### The Model Folk

A six piece band, hailing from the deepest darkest reaches of North Somerset playing rumbustious balkan inspired original folk. Entirely acoustic, from the humble washboard and the throb of the double bass via the wheezing of the harmonium and the shriek of the clarinet. 8:30pm Free

### SUN 26TH

#### Ewan McLennan

A troubadour, balladeer and storyteller

cut in the old style; a singer that can move audiences with his passion and pathos; and a songwriter for whom social justice is still a burning issue. 8:30pm £8

### WEDS 29TH

#### Nick Harper and the Coalition of Chaos

Known for his dazzling performances as a solo acoustic maestro, Nick has teamed up with acclaimed West Country space rock trio 'Port Erin' in another guise here as 'The Coalition of Chaos' to explore his back catalogue of 12 LPs, playing new songs previously unheard and old favourites with a fantastic new twist. 8:30pm £10

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

## STROUD BREWERY

### SAT 4TH

#### Madi Stimpson Trio

A mix of gypsy, jazz, bluegrass and folk roots, but with a definite emphasis on the manouche sound pioneered and made famous by the great Django Reinhardt. 7:30pm Free

### SAT 11TH

#### Danadra

From solid blues roots and world music influence, up tempo rhythms and melodies are complemented with melancholic soulful numbers to give a vibrant and inspiring set. 7:30pm Free

### SAT 18TH

#### Blind River Scare

Singer/songwriter Tim Manning plays original Americana, Alt-Country, Folk & Roots tinged bitter-sweet songs and covers.7:30pm Free

### SAT 25TH

#### Dead Dog Cider

A lively mix of English, Celtic and American song - all powered by Pru's mighty Bodhran! 7:30pm Free

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

## SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS

### FRI 3RD

#### Keith James

DUENDE! The Poetry of Federico Garcia Lorca: a performance of Spanish poetry (sung in English & Spanish) with fiery classical guitar. 8pm £13.50

### FRI 3RD

#### Moscow Drug Club

An intoxicating musical experience with elements of '30s Berlin Cabaret, Hot Club de France, Nuevo Tango and Gypsy Campfire. 8pm £12/£10concs

### SAT 4TH

#### Ceilidh: Captain Swing

Five piece band playing traditional tunes with their own Jazzy arrangements. Exciting music for dynamic dancers. 8pm £11adv/£10concs/£12otd/£11concs/£5u16's

### THURS 9TH

#### From the Jam, The Q

Band led by bassist/singer Bruce Foxton, (one of the original members of the immortal trio The Jam) will perform The Jam's album The Gift + classic hits. Support from The Q. 8pm £22adv/£25otd

### SAT 11TH

#### Four Harmonies

Vocal harmony group covering music from Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons, Beach Boys & The Temptations. In Aid of Southmead Hospital Charity (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit). 8pm £18/£16concs

### SAT 11TH

#### Chris Quinn

From traditional to contemporary British folk songs to Bluegrass and finger picking guitar solos. 8pm £12adv/£10concs/£15otd/£12concs

### SUN 12TH

#### His Way: The Story of Frank Sinatra

Robert Habermann sings the songs and tells the story of Sinatra's career. 7pm £16.50

### FRI 17TH

#### The Revolutionaires

Established in the 'hotbed' of the North East music scene The Revolutionaires are influenced by '50s, R'n'B and Swing. 9pm £12adv/£14otd

### FRI 24TH

#### Jive Dance

A great atmosphere & great dance

floor, dance the night away to top swing and jive music. 8pm £8

### SAT 25TH

#### The Rollin' Clones

The unrivalled best tribute to The Rolling Stones on the circuit today. 8:30pm £16.50/£15concs

### SUN 26TH

#### Fairey Band

British Open Champions and National Champions + BBC Best of Brass give this band a touch of distinction. 3pm £10/£8concs/£5 U16s

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

## SVAs

### WEDS 1ST/8TH/15TH/22ND/29TH

#### Funk-In Sessions

Live Funk Jam with Will Vick and Alf Tramontin...FUNK Only...Nothing but the Funk!!! All are welcome to listen or perform! 8pm Free (John Street)

### TUES 2ND/9TH/16TH/23RD/30TH

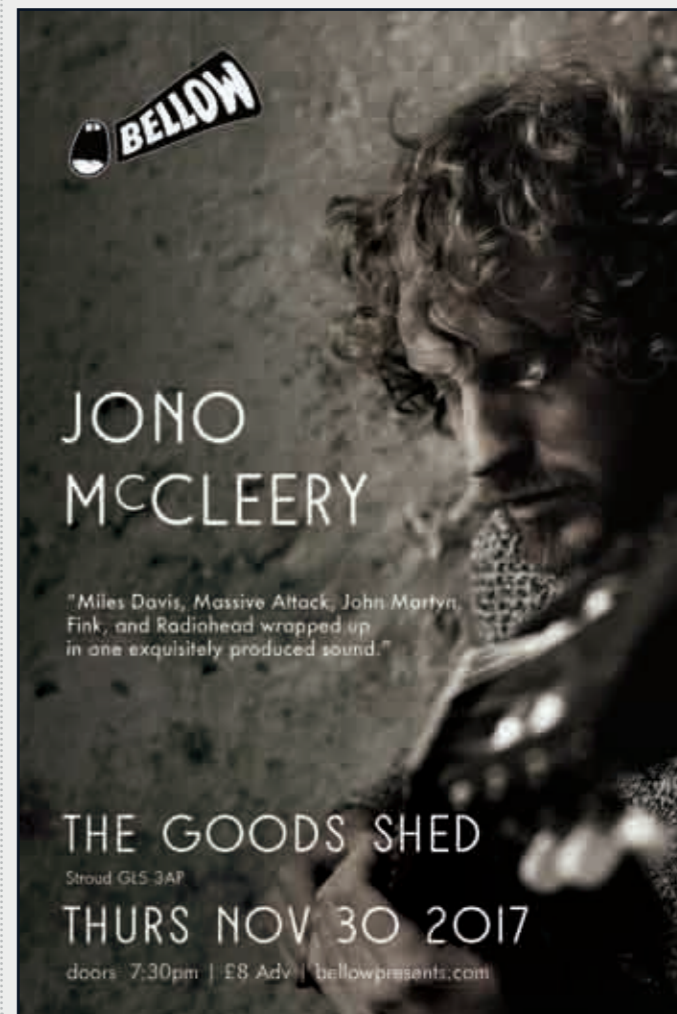
#### Introduction to Flamenco Rhythms Workshop

An introduction to flamenco rhythms for dancers, guitarists, percussionists, or anyone interested in flamenco music. 8pm £5 (John Street)

### FRI 3RD/10TH/17TH/24TH

#### John Street Social Club

A series of weekly Friday night club



socials hosted by different artists each week with visuals and audio to share. The format: decks, laptop, and a limited number of selected YouTube clips of archive footage and informative curiosities...7pm £1 membership on the door

**SAT 4TH****South of the Equator**

Disco, Funk, Acid, Brazil, Africa with Marcel Lune, Diablos Del Ritmo and Samba with Selva Romero. 9pm £6adv/£7otd (John Street)

**THURS 9TH****Stroud Jazz Sessions Presents: Jenny Darren**

Come witness vocalist Jenny Darren rock the jazz-skills as the November special guest at the monthly SVA jazz jam. All are welcome, to listen or perform. 8pm £5otd (John Street)

**FRI 10TH****Martin Melody hosts the John St Social**

Martin Melody is a reggae singer songwriter with a magnetic silk voice. John Street Social is a series of weekly Friday night club socials, hosted by different artists each week with visuals and audio to share. £1otd

**SAT 11TH****The Uplifter**

Tom brings his mix of Reggae, Ska, Dub, Dub Step and Rock Steady all topped off with a heavy dose of live percussion. 9pm £7adv/£8otd (John Street)

**THURS 16TH****Resound Presents**

Resound is SVA's programme exploring experimental sound and spoken word that includes installations, live performance, music, djs, workshops and talks. 8pm £5otd (John Street)

**FRI 17TH****Martha Tilston**

With a voice like spider-webbed hollows and lyrics that inspire and captivate, Martha Tilston has developed a successful musical career with a large and loyal following worldwide. 8pm £10adv/£12otd (Goods Shed)

**FRI 24TH****Jazz Stroud Presents: The Spindle Ensemble**

Phenomenal experimental acoustic instrumental group from Bristol performing original compositions which combine elements of Classical, Folk and Jazz, creating music of a cinematic nature. Their songs are deliberately interpretable, leaving room for improvisation and playful interaction between the musicians. Influences and comparisons include Moondog, Somei Satoh and Eric Satie... 8pm £8adv/£10otd (Goods Shed)

**THURS 30TH****Bellow Presents: Jon McCleery**

The SVA are delighted to welcome a sensational songwriter to Stroud for the first time, with his trio of

Milo Fitzpatrick (Portico Quartet) and Dan See (Nick Mulvey, Jamie Woon). Signed to Ninja Tune records, Jono McCleery honed his craft touring alongside the likes of Little Dragon, Nick Mulvey, Portico (Quartet) and Kate Tempest. His most recent record, Pagodes, was hailed as the deepest, most powerful work to date by a musician whose work has been described as like "Miles Davis, Massive Attack, John Martyn, Fink, and Radiohead wrapped up in one exquisitely produced sound." 7:30pm £8adv/£10otd (Goods Shed)

sva.org.uk

**CHRIST CHURCH NAILSWORTH****SUN 19TH****The Bristol Ensemble**

A string quartet of principals from the Bristol Ensemble is joined by the pianist Virginia Black to perform a captivating all-Bach programme including the lively keyboard concertos in A major and D minor together with the exquisitely beautiful Air on the G String from the Suite No 3. 3pm £10otd

bristolensemble.com

**RUSKIN MILL HORSLEY****FRI 17TH****The Nordic Fiddlers Bloc**

The Nordic Fiddlers Bloc comprises Olav Luksengård Mjelva (Norway), Anders Hall (Sweden) and Kevin Henderson (Shetland). Norway, Sweden and Shetland have three of the richest fiddle traditions in the world, with three distinctive fiddles styles, and documented links going back hundreds of years. The Nordic Fiddlers Bloc seek to bring those historical links and traditions alive and present them in a new, exciting, dynamic and meaningful fashion, remaining faithful to the roots of each tradition. 8pm £12/£10concs

rmt.org

**THE VAULT NAILSWORTH****SUN 5TH****Earl & Pearl**

Blues and Soul Streaked Americana. 2:30pm Free

**SUN 12TH****Steve Ferbrache**

Folk, blues and popular songs from Stroud based acoustic guitarist and singer. Expect classic songs, all instantly recognisable and delivered with Steve's distinctive bluesy tones. 2:30pm Free

**SUN 19TH****Jim Reynolds**

A guitarist and singer who writes and plays an eclectic mix of music. The individual pieces tap into blues, ragtime, rhythm and blues, music hall and folk traditions. Some are extremely sensitive songs about life, people and relationships, while others are tongue in cheek. 2:30pm Free

**SUN 26TH****Adrian Keefe**

One half of local duo The Choosy Pickers, Ade will perform a laid-back classic mix of folk, rock and country. 2:30pm Free

thevaultnailsworth.co.uk

**VILLAGE INN NAILSWORTH****SAT 4TH****Ken Wood and the Mixers**

Fresh from performing their 'music-and-more' show at the Edinburgh Fringe and Stroud Theatre festivals Ken Wood & The Mixers will be offering red-hot rhythm & blues, soul and irresistible dance music to the good people of Nailsworth. Covers and originals ranging from ska to soul via Stax and Atlantic-era R'n'B all delivered in the high-energy Ken Wood style. 8:30pm Free

**THE LAMB INN EASTCOMBE****SUN 12TH****The Usual Suspects**

4 piece covers band. Playing songs from the 60s to today. From the Beatles, Kinks, Jam, U2 Simple Minds, Rag and Bone man, Stereophonics and many many more. 5pm Free

**SUN 26TH****Steve Ferbrache**

One of the busiest solo acoustic performers in the region. Steve's eclectic and tasteful mixture of songs are all instantly recognisable, made

his own with his versatile and bluesy tones. Expect classic party songs, firm favourites, forgotten classics and some of the best songs by the greatest artists of all time. 5pm Free

thelambinneastcombe.co.uk

**PREMA ARTS CENTRE ULEY****FRI 3RD****Blowzabella**

A genuinely unique band with a driving, drone-based sound played with a fabulous sense of melody, rhythmic expertise and sheer feeling. They compose their own music that is influenced and flavoured by English and European traditional dance music. Much loved and respected, there is no one else quite like them. 7:30pm £14/£11concs/£12friends/£9concs/£18otd

**SAT 18TH****Rusty Shackles**

Welsh indie-roots band Rusty Shackles have been tearing-up stages around the world since 2010. Brandishing their distinct folk-roots sound and armed with an electrifying blend of rampant fiddle, scorching electric guitars, pounding drums, searing trumpet and banjo, the band have built up a devoted fanbase with their captivating live shows. 7:30pm £14/£11concs/£12friends/£9concs/£18otd

prema.org.uk

**OUT NOW****BUZZSAW JOINT! CUT 3 BY PAVINYL**

Get your ears around the wild n' weird sounds of the extraordinary and inimitable Buzzsaw Joint! Cut 3 compiled by Stroud's Pavinyl, a tall gent whose ride is a decked-out disco-hearse that, in his words, "puts the fun back into funerals". Here he shares 18 exotic pearls all recorded from 1955-1962. From the jungle to the orient, ancient Egypt to Native America -- hold on tight, it's quite a trip! Features: Phil Campos, Glenn And Christy, Hi-Fives, The Space Men, D.C. Washington, The Fables, Lenny Troy, Honey And The Bees, The New Starts, The Jokers, Big Brown, Jack Franklin And The Rock-Its, Buddy Bow, Eddie Hill, Ronny Goode, Lee Richards, Marc Haven And The Aquarians, and Al Nathan. Available now from various retailers including junoco.uk and amazon.co.uk

facebook.com/pavinyl

**CROWN & SCEPTRE EVENTS NOVEMBER****WEDNESDAY 1<sup>ST</sup>****Steak Night - Booking Essential****FRIDAY 3<sup>RD</sup>****The Day of the Dead - Narco Lounge Combo Live, Late License**  
*"noirish jazz, uneasy listening & space age exotica"***SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup>****Remember remember the 5th of November**  
*Fireworks, Hot Dogs & Sparklers after dark!***FRIDAY 10<sup>TH</sup>****Virginia Slims**  
*Psychedellic Funk Explosion***THURSDAY 16<sup>TH</sup>****James Hollingworth**  
*The guitarist/singer Plays Pink Floyd***FRIDAY 17<sup>TH</sup>****The Forgetting Curve**  
*Surf stoner post-rock Power Trio***THURSDAY 23<sup>RD</sup>****Kent DuChaine & Leadbessie**  
*The real Delta Blues***FRIDAY 24<sup>TH</sup>****Dub Thieves - Dub in da Pub****MONDAY 27<sup>TH</sup>****Meat free Monday - 6-8pm**  
*Erin cooking delicious vegetarian food*  
BOOKING ESSENTIAL**WEDNESDAY 29<sup>TH</sup>****The Curry Lounge**  
*With the Reverend Stretch*  
BOOKING ESSENTIAL**THURSDAY 30<sup>TH</sup>****Rodda's Hairy Craic - Irish acoustic session led by Tim Potts**

FOR BOOKINGS AND GENERAL INFO: 01453 762588

WWW.CROWNSCEPTRESTROUD.COM

**bristol ensemble**

# Tea-time concerts

Join the professional musicians of Bristol Ensemble for an Autumn series of chamber music concerts

**Christ Church, Nailsworth**

**Sunday 19 November at 3pm**  
A captivating all-Bach programme includes two Keyboard Concertos and the exquisite *Air on the G String*

**Sunday 3 December at 3pm**  
Dvořák's expressive Second Piano Quintet is paired with a chamber arrangement of Shostakovich's *Gadfly Suite*

**TICKETS** £10 on the door  
[www.bristolensemble.com](http://www.bristolensemble.com)

# THE GOLDEN FLEECE

**Zero Day Jazz Trio** SATURDAY 4TH NOVEMBER  
Some of Bristol's premier jazz musicians performing swing and bebop.

SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER **Los Gusanos**  
Bristol based collective with hard swinging jazz, blues and hints of Latin-inspired grooves.

**Dusk Brothers** FRIDAY 17TH NOVEMBER  
Unique Outlaw Swamp Blues Slide-Guitar British Americana music on awesome self-built instruments.

SATURDAY 25TH NOVEMBER **The Vipers**  
Golden Fleece favourites the Vipers rework the best old blues, jazz and soul music into a hard-swingin' good time set.

All gigs start at 9pm. Entry is Free.  
Golden Fleece, Nelson Street, Stroud.

# MOSCOW DRUG CLUB

**FRIDAY 3RD NOV**  
**£12 / £10 CONC**

Box Office: 01453 760900  
[www.subscriptionrooms.org.uk](http://www.subscriptionrooms.org.uk)

**THE STRUOD SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS**

# Mother Art

By Jill MacKeith, Sharon Bennett and Rebecca Stapleford

**For centuries, an idealised perspective of motherhood has been depicted in art but over the last hundred years there has been a significant shift towards the realist and occasionally, surrealist (see Louise Bourgeois, 'Maman'). Well known for both its excellent maternity services and the large number of resident artists, perhaps it's no surprise that mother art in Stroud is having something of a renaissance.**

In April this year, the Women's Art Activation System (WAAS) and partners, presented a one day symposium at the creative studio workshop Atelier called 'It Takes a Village - Models for Mother Artists'. The event provided a platform for discussion of a range of models for sustaining mother-artists and explored how 'the village' can facilitate the role of women who seek to sustain both an art career and children.

In August, a new initiative supporting artists who are mothers piloted in the Stroud area for two weeks. The Mother House is the brainchild of Dyana Gravina from Procreate Project. The model provides an art studio with integrated childcare where children are welcome into the working space. Local artists

Sharon Bennett and Rebecca Stapleford project managed the pilot with the aim to provide more possibilities for women artists in the Gloucestershire area.

The Stroud pilot follows the opening of the first Mother House in London. The idea was born in response to the urge of "making" within the life-changing experience of motherhood. The studio offers a collaborative yet intimate space for mother artists to continue their practice whilst ensuring that their journey into motherhood is fed in a creative and inclusive way. There are possibilities for artists to work alongside their children or independently and opportunities to work in collaboration with other artists creating a supportive and inspiring network. "Not only has Mother House Stroud created a

community of local women artists, but through being connected to other Mother Houses we are part of an expanding network of creatives and the contemporary art scene as a whole. This national network will provide opportunities for residencies, exhibitions and visiting speakers. Family events and workshops held in the studio will open up the space to the wider community." Sharon Bennett

The childcare element of the model is crucial to the success of the project. Facilitated by trained creative child educators, the children are able to explore different ways of engaging,

women's roles outside the domestic environment. Participant Michelle Grant said of the pilot, "It was totally amazing - the kids were engaged and enjoyed the activities immensely, and when they weren't making/creating they played really well together."

Rebecca relates to the project whilst thinking about her own childhood. "My father had an art studio in our house, the door was never closed to us when we were growing up. I can remember wandering up and watching him sculpting, I would ask questions and sometimes I would learn a new skill. I realise now how valuable

**"IT CAN BE VERY HARD TO REMAIN CONFIDENT IN YOUR WORK WHEN YOU HAVE A CHILD. I FOUND MEETING NEW WOMEN IN MY POSITION TO BE VERY INSPIRING. SEEING THE RANGE OF WORK THAT WAS BEING PRODUCED WAS ALSO REALLY INSPIRATIONAL."**

Rosalie Darien-Jones, Mother House participant

discovering and learning. The Model facilitates integration and exchange with the Mothers' art practice, bringing the child's development closer to art and learning about

this experience was for me and how important I think it is for my children."

Following the success of the pilot, Sharon and Rebecca are



looking for a permanent venue for the Mother House Stroud. The service will be offered two days a week on both a monthly membership and drop in basis. The long term vision of the Mother House team is to establish the model all over the UK and offer the facilities to mother artists in different communities. If you are interested in the project and would like further information you can get in contact by emailing [mhstroud@procreateproject.com](mailto:mhstroud@procreateproject.com) and visit the website at [motherhousestudios.com/stroud](http://motherhousestudios.com/stroud)

A founding member of WAAS and co-organiser of 'It Takes a Village', artist Sarah Dixon, has been working on a participatory artwork called 'Mother Bunting', selected

parts of which are currently being exhibited in an American art journal. 'Mother Bunting' is a unique and very honest look at the realities of Motherhood. The premise, that Mothers and Bunting are both jolly little floaty things batting around creating a nice atmosphere, whilst everyone else says 'oh BABIES, how LOVELY' and then turn their backs and carry on with the relevant stuff while the mothers and the bunting form part of the decorative background.

Sarah's quest with 'Mother Bunting' is that the bunting is created by mothers, but also fathers and grandmothers and grandfathers and brothers and sisters and aunts and uncles. Whilst it may look like traditional

bunting, in the Mother Bunting is the stuff that's only there if you look at it properly. The blood, the guts, the tears, the sweat, the sore backs, the aching hearts. The confusion, the pain, the joy, the mystery and the goddamn true facts of this crazy s\*\*t we call 'Mama'.

This month, there will be another chance for members of the public to create a piece of Mother Bunting at the exhibition 'Motherhood & Metamorphosis' taking place at Lansdown Gallery from Tuesday 7th to Saturday 11th. The exhibition will show work from a number of artists, photographers and makers as well as offering community workshops on the theme, including a Mother Bunting making session, a Croshare (Crochet and talk) and

an art-psychotherapy session. The exhibition will be supported by Psychotherapist Eva Karia of 'Mothers Together' and Home Start. Visit [sarahdixonfineart.co.uk](http://sarahdixonfineart.co.uk) and [lansdownhall.org](http://lansdownhall.org) for further info.

Jill MacKeith is a mother of two small children living in Stroud. Sharon Bennett is a socially engaged artist. She is a founder member of Croshare and The Women's Art Activation System and lives in Stroud with her partner and two daughters. Rebecca Stapleford is an artist whose practice incorporates movement and storytelling. Rebecca lives in Nailsworth with her husband and three sons.





## Exhibition Space:

# Kate Williamson

Dancing wolves, confused rabbit suited men, a mournful frog prince, and a flock of bird babies are among the personalities that fill Kate's unique and rather odd universe. These strange but enchanting figurative sculptures and works on paper are based on her reinterpretations of the stories, games and characters first encountered in the playground. Her alternative narratives are sometimes sinister, sometimes humorous, always intriguing.

"My imagery may stem from the landscape of childhood but it forms my response to some of the complexities and contradictions of our 21st century living."

She uses high fired unglazed porcelain for most of her sculptures and will sometimes combine it with fabric to make inscrutable doll-like characters varying in scale from a few inches to life size. She then draws and gets to know her creations before they appear in her paintings and prints.

For news and further examples of her work visit [katewilliamson.co.uk](http://katewilliamson.co.uk)



"MY IMAGERY MAY STEM FROM THE LANDSCAPE OF CHILDHOOD BUT IT FORMS MY RESPONSE TO SOME OF THE COMPLEXITIES AND CONTRADICTIONS OF OUR 21ST CENTURY LIVING."



## ART LISTINGS

### ART OF CLAY

#### Clay Sinclair

Provocative post-pop paintings on Perspex by local/international artist Clay Sinclair situated at 48 High Street. Plus prints for those on a budget and People's Republic of Stroud tat for those joining the revolution. Open Mon - Sat

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

### ELVERS STUDIO

#### SUN 1ST OCT - THURS 30TH NOV

##### Colin Heavingham

Extending 'This Tortured World' exhibition on through October and November with an special evening opening on Thursday 26th October (6pm- 8pm). Abstract to realistic visions by Colin Heavingham. With unseen additional pictures to be added through November. Also with handmade, unique jewellery by Tristana.

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

### FROGMARSH MILL

#### SAT 25TH - SUN 26TH

##### Frogmarsh Collective

Fine craft for Christmas featuring Jewellery (Maira Buckley, Fiona Hesketh, Claire Stratton, Tessa Tyldesley), Ceramics (Annie Hewett), Painting (Noela Bewry), Collage (Shireen Morris), Textiles (Sally Hampson, Henrietta Park, Anna Newton), Bookbinding (Ursula Jeakins) Baskets (Susan Early) and Mosaics (Cleo Mussi). 10am-5pm

### GALLERY PANGOLIN

#### MON 2ND OCT - FRI 10TH NOV

##### Vitalism III: British Sculpture and Works on Paper from the 50's and 60's

Surveys the work of post-war British sculptors who first came to prominence in the 1950's through the sheer vitality and power of their sculpture. Highlights include 'Hammer Head', a powerful, welded steel piece by John Hoskin, F.E. McWilliam's 'Waking Up figure' from 1962 and Bernard Meadows' eloquent 'Head of Fallen Bird' 1959. Th exhibition also features work by Kenneth Armitage, Ralph Brown, Reg Butler, Lynn Chadwick, Geoffrey Clarke, Elisabeth Frink, George Fullard and Eduardo Paolozzi. Mon-Fri 10am-6pm/Sat

10am-1pm

#### SAT 18TH NOV - FRI 15TH DEC

##### Christmas Cracker!

Gallery Pangolin's popular Christmas Cracker! exhibition returns with a colourful and exciting mix of sculpture, prints and drawings by all our gallery artists. Mon-Fri 10am-6pm/Sat 10am-1pm

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

### LANDSDOWN HALL

#### TUES 31ST OCT - SUN 5TH NOV

##### Stroud Book Festival: Hopeless Maine

Enter the world of Hopeless Maine a fictional island off the coast of Maine and the setting of a graphic novel by Tom and Nimue Brown. See original artwork associated with the project, stare at the creatures in jars - they may stare back. Explore Hopeless Maine arts and crafts and watch out for the tentacles...

#### TUES 7TH - SAT 11TH

##### Motherhood and Metamorphosis

Exhibiting work from a number of artists, photographers and makers as well as offering community workshops on the theme, including a Mother Bunting making session, a Croshare (Crochet and talk) and an art-

psychotherapy session. See page 14-15 for further info!

#### TUES 14TH - SUN 19TH

##### Johannes Steuck - Holding the Balance

Attempting to find that inner centre from which one can act creatively has become an ever greater challenge. An exhibition of stained glass and sculpture. 10am-6pm

#### TUES 28TH NOV - SUN 3RD DEC

##### Georgina Bouzyk

An exhibition of paintings by local artist Georgina Bouzyk. 10am-4:30pm

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

### MALTHOUSE BAR AND KITCHEN

#### MON 9TH OCT - SUN 26TH NOV

##### SIT Select Presents: Soulscapes by Paul Watson

Music is Paul Watson's invisible brush - his works have a heartbeat of Mid-Century American Jazz; Chet Baker, Brubeck and Be Bop. This soundscape is both urban and pastoral, melding rhythms, and improvisation yet underscored by structure that reflect nature. Jazz has an inclusive message and response which resonates with the human condition- transcending cultural, national and ethnic boundaries. This captures the aim of

## FROGMARSH COLLECTIVE

Fine craft for Christmas.

### JEWELLERY

Maira Buckley  
Fiona Hesketh  
Claire Stratton  
Tessa Tyldesley

### CERAMICS

Annie Hewett

### PAINTING

Noela Bewry

### COLLAGE

Shireen Morris

### TEXTILES

Sally Hampson  
Henrietta Park  
Anna Newton

### BOOKBINDING

Ursula Jeakins

### BASKETS

Susan Early

### MOSAICS

Cleo Mussi

25th/26th  
NOVEMBER  
10.00 - 5.00

FROGMARSH MILL, S. WOODCHESTER GL5 5ET

## Christmas Cracker!

A festive mix of sculpture  
prints & drawings

18th November - 15th December



### 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)

Images clockwise from top left: Leaf Form by Charlotte Mayer  
Girl Walking into Wind by Lynn Chadwick, Templetop Vessel by Jason Wason  
Silver Blade by Anthony Abrahams

his painting. (sitsselect.org)

#### SUN 12TH

##### A Taste Of Japan

Japanese pop-up evening featuring the stunning manga inspired artwork by Haruko Boot and a three course set menu of traditional Japanese food with a Western spin...6pm

stroudmalthouse.com

#### MELBOURNE HOUSE

#### SAT 18TH – SUN 26TH

##### Kate Loveday

An exhibition of paintings by local artist Kate Loveday open for two weekends in November. Sat/Sun 11am-5pm

#### MUSEUM IN THE PARK

#### SAT 30TH SEPT-SUN 5TH NOV

##### Anne Jackson: Certaine Wytches – Fear, Myth and Magic

A series of works exploring the history of witch-persecution in Europe, and the metaphors which the idea of 'witchcraft' evoke in modern culture, through the medium of knotted tapestry. Tues-Fri 10am-5pm/Sat-Sun (and Bank Holidays) 11am-5pm

#### SAT 11TH NOV – SUN 3RD DEC

##### Cheltenham Illustration Awards 2017: Tales Through Others' Eyes

The Cheltenham Illustration Awards competition has been running for 10 years and attracts entries from across the world. Organised by the University of Gloucestershire, the Awards exhibition travels to venues such as London Book Fair and other galleries and universities, and is accompanied by a full colour hardback Annual. The theme this year is 'Tales through Others' Eyes', inviting us to imagine the world from a different perspective and reminding us that there are millions of lives beyond our own. Come and immerse yourself in this new collection of visual stories! Tues-Fri 10am-5pm/Sat-Sun (and Bank Holidays) 11am-5pm

#### SUN 19TH NOV – SUN 3RD DEC

##### Dolores Phelps: La Nina Aurelia

This MPhil/PhD illustration research project is a visual response to a memoir left to Dolores Phelps by her late mother, who was one of the 4,000 children evacuated from Bilbao by the ship Habana to Southampton in May 1937. Dolores' images are an interpretation of her mother's memories of living in Bilbao during the Spanish Civil War - air raids, starvation, then the terrible voyage and starting life in the UK. Her work is also shaped by extensive research into the collective experiences and memoirs of other Basque refugee children who had to flee their homes and families. Opening times vary, please call ahead to check before making a special visit. Tel: 01453 763394

museuminthepark.org.uk

#### THE OLIVER VIVIAN GALLERY

##### Oliver Vivian: I'd Like To Be

The Oliver Vivian Gallery will be open every Saturday with his current exhibition, 'I'd Like To Be' - Oliver's continued adventure working with an unique process in oils on canvas. 10am - 3pm or by appointment on 07532071457.

theoliverviviangallery.co.uk

#### PICADILLY MILL

#### SAT 18TH-SUN 19TH

##### Golden Seed Hub: Winter Mixture Open Studio Weekend

Chris Bingle, Bill Jones, Uta Baldauf and Sarah Dixon open their studio doors at the top of the fire escape at Piccadilly Mill West, Lower Street for a weekend of paintings, prints, performance and poetry. There will be original paintings, prints and cards on sale, and other affordable gifts for a creative winter. 10:30am-4pm. There will be cake.

#### STEVE RUSSELL STUDIOS

#### NOV 20TH – DATE TBC

##### Steve Russell: Two In the Bush

A new show collects a varied and colourful assortment of African birds. Steve's images, captured over the course of many trips to Eastern Africa, celebrate the beauty and nature of birds with great wit and precision. All prints are mounted on aluminium and are available in an edition of 5.

steverussellstudios.com

#### STUDIO 19A

#### FRI 3RD – SUN 26TH

##### Deborah Roberts: This and That

An exhibition of images by Deborah Roberts. In celebration of the creativity evident in the Stroud Valleys, images of poets, performers and artists Deborah has encountered during her photographic projects will be displayed alongside selected pieces of their work. Sat and Sun/11am-3pm/Fri 12pm-2pm/Weekdays by appointment.

deborahroberts.biz

#### SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS

#### MON 27TH NOV – SAT 2ND DEC

##### Stroud Festival Presents: Dark < > Light

Stroud Festival is proud to present an exhibition of paintings and sculpture from local artists on the theme of Dark < > Light. The title wryly compliments the ballet The Dark Princess at the Cotswold Playhouse on Thursday Nov 30th. Artists contributing are: Jo Casling, Gypsy, Saffron Knight, Ann-Margreth Bohl and Holly English.

subscriptionrooms.org.uk

#### SVA

##### Meanwhile Space: UP This Way

UP This Way is an outlet within Merrywalks highlighting the work of furniture and accessory makers within the broader Stroud area. Open Fri-Sat 9am-6pm or by appointment 01453 297260

##### Meanwhile Space: Fungusloci

Artist and permaculture practitioner Dominic Thomas has designed and built a sustainable urban micro-farm in which oyster mushrooms are cultivated on spent coffee grounds from local cafes. Fungusloci is a project of Sustainable Creativity CIC with the help of Stroud District Food Grants taking place at Unit 23, Merrywalks. Open by appointment fungi@csccic.org

sva.org.uk

#### RUSKIN MILL HORSLEY

#### THURS 2ND – TBA

##### Kelly Kitsch: Shrines

Sarah Kelly is an assemblage artist who takes a mass-produced, discarded item and builds it into new surroundings of LED lights and fabric. She is drawn to the powerful idea of a simple box, cut off from the world that has the ability to transcend time, by the shrines of medieval Christian relics. It is this that Sarah wants to evoke in her own work. 10am-5pm

#### WEDS 29TH – TBA

##### Chloe Regan: Interiors and Exteriors

Chloé graduated with an MA in Illustration from the Royal College of Art. She draws objects, places and people, evoking and distilling life into drawings using her distinctive mark making and line. Chloé draws with pencil and pastel prolifically, enjoying the curiosity of the sketch. This exhibition includes drawings made on site of the landscape surrounding Ruskin Mill, as well as on travels to Paris, Greece, Spain, found imagery and from film. 10am-5pm

rmt.org

#### THE OLD PASSAGE ARLINGHAM

#### TUES 13TH JUN-SUN 26TH NOV

##### Passion

A New collection of artworks by thirty artists featuring Alice Adams, Catherine Aspray, Anne Bate-Williams, Chris Bingle, Susanna Birley, Carolyn Black, Georgina Bouzyk, Jilly Cobbe, Alexandra Collins, Debbie Cox, Krysia Drury, Angela Findlay, Karen Green, Sylvain Guenet, Pat Homewood, Jan Irvine, Valerie Jordan, Anna Knight, Elaine Knight, David Manzi-fe, Rachel Markwick, Annie McGill, Alison Merry, Linn O'Carroll, Arthur Penn, Kerry Phippen, Kel Portman, Vicki Portman, Chris Rose, Alisdair Shepherd, Chris Smith, Mark Stopforth and Melvyn Warren-Smith.

theoldpassage.com

#### PREMA ARTS CENTRE ULEY

#### MON 6TH NOV – SAT 16TH DEC

##### Joao Trindade

Portuguese artist Joao Trindade's work examines the "secret structures" embedded in nature and architecture, with trademark sweeping, bold lines that vanish into multiple perspectives. Recalling the futurists and vorticists who celebrated modernity almost a century ago, he produces both abstract and more figurative works using paint and mixed media.

#### MON 6TH NOV – SAT 16TH DEC

##### Tom Frost

Print maker and illustrator Tom Frost divides his time between print making, restoring his crumbling Georgian house in rural Wales and raising a young family. His work highlights a fascination for old matchboxes, stamps, folk art, tin toys, children's books and the natural world. Tom is also one half of Frost & Kin with his partner Teresa Murfin that focuses on producing affordable prints, cushions, toys and models for the young and young at heart.

#### MON 6TH NOV – SAT 16TH DEC

##### Katie Victoria

Katie Victoria works from her studio in Swansea where she creates her collections of exquisite knitted goods. Working on a hand powered domestic knitting machine she creates a variety of fabrics and products from cushions and bags to sumptuous knitwear and upholstered furniture, combining high quality merino lambswool, bamboo and cotton yarns.

prema.org.uk

#### NEW BREWERY ARTS CENTRE

#### FRI 15TH SEPT – SUN 5TH NOV

##### Jerwood Makers Open

Following a successful exhibition at Jerwood Space, Marcin Rusak, Juli Bolaños-Durman, Laura Youngson Coll, Jessica Harrison and Sam Bakewell are exhibiting new works as part of the Jerwood Visual Arts programme at New Brewery Arts. Five new commissions by these early-career applied artists brought about through the biennial Jerwood Makers Open. Each combines a high level of technical skill with imagination and intellectual adventure, constituting a fresh and exciting direction of each artist's work. Mon-Sat 9am-5pm/Sun (and Bank Holidays) 10am-4pm

#### SAT 11TH NOV – SUN 31ST DEC

##### Crafted For Christmas

A celebration of craft throughout New Brewery Arts. The Shop, Gallery and Resident Craftworkers are all participating in this opportunity to showcase and offer their unique items this season. Mon-Sat 9am-5pm/Sun (and Bank Holidays) 10am-4pm

newbreweryarts.org.uk

## Steve Russell Gallery

Presents



### Two in the Bush

A photographic exhibition showcasing a varied and colourful assortment of African birds:

Exhibition opens 20th November

Unit B9, Chafford Industrial Estate, Glos, GL6 8NT

www.steverussellstudios.com

01453 885884



## A Call For Work!

Ideas about truth and reality  
January 2018

Does what you see (or hear, or believe) depend on how you look (or listen, or think)? Is truth 'out there', or 'in here'? Is there an 'out there' and an 'in here'?

'War does not determine who is right, only who is left' (Bertrand Russell)

Is it actually possible to be right? Or wrong?

If we agree on a consensual reality, does that make it true? Can you ever know if something is true?

Any work exploring these ideas is welcome! Any medium (including sound, performance, writing etc...) can be included. The space will be 18A Kendrick Street (above Made in Stroud) during the last two weeks of January 2018.

Please get in touch to look at the space, talk about your work or register interest. **Melissa 0776778641, foksfam@aol.com**

Silver perforated bangles: Guy Royle



## Crafted for Christmas

Carefully selected gifts and homewares by exceptional makers.



11th November - 31st December  
9am-5pm Mon-Sat, 10am-4pm Sun



## Exhibition of Paintings by Kate Loveday

Weekends 18th-19th and 25th-26th November  
11am till 5pm

Melbourne House, Lower Street, Stroud GL5 2HT  
katelovedaypaintings@gmail.com

# RATS

Sometimes, we hide away. We tuck ourselves out of sight, thinking that if we put ourselves out there, it will all go belly up. But then we start to dream a little. What if we took a risk? What if an opportunity came along that made us peek out and think, maybe? Maybe that dream can pull us out of our comfort zone and, before we know it, we're signed up to appear in a Shakespeare play, even though we haven't acted for years – or at all.

By Nikki Owen

About a year ago, this is exactly what happened to me. I'm a writer. I'm not an actor. I spend my days hiding behind a laptop screen and I don't like to put my self out there – I even get a bit embarrassed about candles on my birthday cake (I know, I know...) But, for some reason, I wanted to give acting a pop. Call it a mid life moment, call it an adventure – call it crazy – but, last year, through a friend, I got brave and joined up with RATS (Ruscombe Amateur Theatre Society.) To do Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream. Two performances this November. At the Subscription Rooms. Oh my days.

Any other group, I think, would have been hard to join, but with RATS, it's completely the opposite. I turned up to be greeted by the most open, honest and talented bunch of people I think I may have ever met. And at the helm is one remarkable person: award-winning actor, Susan Lynch. Susan is a force, and by force, I mean unstoppable. To quote from A Midsummer Night's Dream, 'Though she be but little, she is fierce!' Northern Irish, with a dark pixie crop that outlines beautiful, Grecian features and porcelain skin, Susan is the lynch pin (pun intended) of the entire group. When I joined up, the gang was reading out from TV drama

scripts, so I asked Susan, why turn to Shakespeare for the major play performance this year? "I liked the idea of people who had never performed Shakespeare doing it, for the wildness and the lack of reverence automatic instinctive relationship to the text...It suited this group. I always want to do a play that caters to the strength of the players and this does it – it showcases all of them individually, but also as a brilliant ensemble."

And what an ensemble it is. I mean, I know I'm biased, but seriously, this is an amazing bunch of people that you're going to see when you come to watch the play (which, at the time of writing this article, is sold out on the second night.) We hail, you see, the RATS crew, from all walks of life. Teachers, ecologists, small business owners, photographers, managers, students, humanists, artists, computer techies, advertising directors. Different lives, different jobs, but with one thing that binds us together: we are risk takers. We all have to step out of our comfort zones and do things we don't want to do, because what is life – or acting – without adventure, right? And it's this ethos that Susan has brought to her magical version of A Midsummer Night's Dream – the ethos of adventure. This play is brave, creative, different to the

norm, and boy is it funny.

But what makes it totally soar, is the people. I had a huge wobble one day, in rehearsals. I was that crippled by the thought of performing, that – confession time – I started to cry. Oh boy. And it was in front of all the RATS crew. But, instead of frowning at me, every single one of them hugged me and said they too felt the same way. It was a turning point for me, that confession and the support the gang gave me. See, we all feel scared from time to time, but goddammit, we carry on anyway, and that's what makes this play so spellbinding to watch, that dare-do quality. That and the fact we are backed by the amazing professional actors that are Susan Lynch (Happy Valley), her husband Craig Parkinson (Line of Duty), Samantha Morton (Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them) and Simon Chadwick (Centurion).

I asked the gang what they loved most about being part of RATS. "It's given me confidence", many said. "We are a tribe." "It's like therapy." "It gives me a sense of belonging." "It is nerve racking but joyous." "I felt lonely and now I'm in RATS and it's an exhilarating experience." "I'm fulfilling a childhood dream." And that's it, really, that idea of a dream, that's what it's all about. That we can dream.

"I love the play," Susan said to me, "but I always want it to be more dreamlike. You don't question a dream, it just is, so that's what we want for the performers and for the audience – a kaleidoscopic adventure...through the bards extraordinary tale."

So, there you have it. We may be doing a Shakespeare play that acts out a dream, but what Susan Lynch's inspired direction has shown us all is that, if you just take a little risk, if you step outside of your safe little comfort zone for even just one second, that dream in your head really can come true. And before you know it, you're no longer hiding away behind a laptop, and you're out on stage. Acting.

RATS performance of A Midsummer Night's Dream takes place at the Subscription Rooms later this month on Weds 22nd and Thurs 23rd. Please note Thursday is now sold out and there are just a handful of tickets left for the Weds! Visit [subscriptionrooms.org.uk](http://subscriptionrooms.org.uk) for tickets and [ratsociety.com](http://ratsociety.com) for further info.

**Nikki Owen is an author and writer. Her third and final book in the Project Trilogy – The Girl Who Ran (Harper Collins), is out now. Follow her on twitter @nikkiwriter and nikkiowenauthor.com**

## THEATRE/ DANCE LISTINGS

### COTSWOLD PLAYHOUSE

**FRI 17TH – SAT 18TH/THURS 23RD-SAT 25TH**

**The Cotswold Players: The Government Inspector**

With its dazzling blend of preposterous and colourful characters, Nikolai Gogol's The Government Inspector is one of the great comedy classics. This timeless masterpiece has lost none of its bite – and none of its relevance. Gogol exposes the corrupt – ridicules the pomposity and unbridled greed of those in power – holds a mirror up to a society obsessed with status and appearances – all with the full vigour of his outlandish humour. Some things never go out of fashion! 7:30pm £12

**THURS 30TH**

**Ballet Cymru: The Light Princess**

A new full length ballet for 2017 with a new score by brilliant Welsh harpist, composer and recording artist Catrin Finch in collaboration with The Riverfront Theatre in Newport, The Light Princess is the lightest and brightest dance event of the year. Using elements of circus and outstanding classical choreography the story draws inspiration from Sleeping Beauty, telling the story of a princess afflicted by a constant weightlessness, unable to get her feet on the ground, until she finds a love that brings her down to earth. Featuring ground breaking video projections and stunningly vibrant costumes The Light Princess will transport you to a world of laughter, beauty and wonder...7:30pm £17/£12.50 under 18's

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

### TRINITY ROOMS

**MON 6TH**

**The Journeymen Theatre: The Bundle**

Based closely on the story of a real woman and her three young children, who escape from domestic persecution and denial of human rights in Chechnya, to find a home in the UK. Here they encounter the Home Office's 'hostile environment' to asylum seekers and refugees. The Bundle has been commissioned by QARN (Quaker Asylum Seeker and Refugee Network). 7:30pm £5-10 (Suggested donation for Gloucestershire Action for Refugees and Asylum Seekers, Welcome Group Halesowen and Lifeline Options)

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

### SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS

**WEDS 22ND – THURS 23RD**

**RATS: A Midsummer Night's Dream**

RATS is a Community Drama Group coached and mentored by Professional Actors. The aim of the group is to bring more professional theatrical attributes to Amateur Theatre. Their latest offering A Midsummer Night's Dream Directed by Professional Actor Susan Lynch – a reimagining of Shakespeare's Play. Inventive, bold and original... the versatile troop explore a physical, visual, and passionate take on the bard, making the title worthy of the word Dream...See page 20! 7:30pm £13.50/£11.40concs (Thurs sold out!)

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

### MINCHINHAMPTON MARKET HOUSE

**FRI 10TH – SAT 11TH**

**Minchinhampton Players: Murdered To Death**

Amateur theatre returns to Minchinhampton with a killing funny country house caper...Fri 7:30pm/Sat 2:30pm and 7:30pm £10/£5under 16's from the Market Stores

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

### NAILSWORTH TOWN HALL

**WEDS 22ND – SAT 25TH**

**Nailsworth Dramatic Society: Allo Allo**

Based on the hugely successful British television series that ran for seven seasons, this uproarious comedy relates the adventures of a hapless cafe owner, Rene, in occupied France. You can see all of your favourite TV characters in the flesh, including Rene's tone-deaf wife Edith, Yvette, Mimi, Michelle and the Gestapo officer Herr Flick! 7pm £9.50 from [ticketsource.co.uk](http://ticketsource.co.uk)

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

### BERKELEY CASTLE

**WEDS 29TH NOV – FRI 8TH DEC**

**Split Second Productions: A Christmas Carol**

Critically acclaimed Split Second Productions (A Midsummer Night's Dream, Much Ado About Nothing) return to Berkeley Castle to present a magical and enchanting re-telling of Charles Dickens' classic tale, 'A Christmas Carol'. This charming, family-friendly production promises to fill you up to the brim with Christmas spirit. 7:30pm £20/£15

[berkeley-castle.com](http://berkeley-castle.com)

### PREMA ARTS CENTRE

**SAT 25TH**

**PanGottic: Long Shot**

Long Shot is a stripped-back circus performance where the audience is in charge. Using handcrafted remote control contraptions, tight choreography and laugh-out-loud humour, PanGottic brings to life one man's belief in the near impossible, the almost-unachievable and the highly-unlikely. Suitable for audiences over the age of seven.

7pm £10/£7concs/£8friends/£6concs/£25family/£23concs/£15otd

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

### TETBURY GOODS SHED

**SAT 18TH**

**Don't Go Into the Cellar Presents: Terror On The Tracks**

Terror On The Tracks is a one man show set in The Railway Tavern, where the convivial landlord regales his guests with curious tales that he has heard over the years featuring a selection of weird and wonderful characters... An original stage adaptation of Charles Dickens' "The Signal-Man" and 3 other tales of menace and melodrama are the bill of fare on offer to those brave enough to join in.7:30pm £10

[shed-arts.co.uk](http://shed-arts.co.uk)

## COMEDY LISTINGS

### THE MALTHOUSE BAR AND KITCHEN

**FRI 24TH**

**CrazyBird Comedy Club and the Malthouse Bar and Kitchen Present: Christmas Comedy Cracker and Food**

Following the huge success of the first CrazyBird Comedy Club at The Malthouse Bar and Kitchen they have decided to team up again to bring you a Christmas Comedy Cracker with four

professional comedians from the UK and European circuit but also a festive hog roast running throughout the evening to ensure that you are well fed and very well entertained! Opening up proceedings will be newly crowned 'English Comedian of the Year' Nick Page, storming through the middle section will be Tim Hoskins performing as our favourite German 'Marti'. The headliner comes in the form of Alex Boardman, now one of the most sought after acts in the country due to his ability to interact with any audience and to seemingly conjure something out of nothing...5:30-7:30pm (food)/8pm (comedy) £12.50adv from The Malthouse, Trading Post and [seetickets.com/£14otd](http://seetickets.com/£14otd)

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

### SVA

**FRI 3RD**

**Stroud Book Festival: Tonight with Elvis**

"Shakespeare once wrote 'What's in a name?' He also wrote some nonsense about love, death and donkeys. He sure was a crazy English man. You writers intrigue me, man, so that's why I decided to get three Stroud Book Festival writers on my show as I figure they could tell the world what goes on in their heads. Hell, I might even put pen to paper myself, I got a few wild tales to tell, that's for sure. Anyway, we got one hell of a show lined up for you lucky people – live music, games, chat and more. Join me and my co-host Dr.Shiraz on 'Tonight with Elvis'. It's gonna be LITERALLY incredible man!" 8pm £10td

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



**OUT NOW**

## MASK: MAKING, USING AND PERFORMING BY MIKE CHASE

Drawing on the Four Temperaments, Mike Chase explores the transformative and regenerative power of masks in education, the arts and therapy. Highly illustrated throughout with colour photographs and line drawings, this exciting new book explores the history of the mask, different mask-making techniques and uses, and includes extensive workshop exercises for movement, voice work, games, improvisations and general acting skills. It also looks at the use of masks in therapeutic work. Illustrations by Allmut Ffrench, photography by Louise Stoner and Jane Chase.

Available now via Hawthorn Press ([hawthornpress.com](http://hawthornpress.com)).

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

## FILM LISTINGS

### KITSCH COFFEE AND WINE BAR

SAT 11TH

#### Kitsch Cult Classics: Lost Boys

The first in a series of cult classic films screened at the popular coffee and wine bar in Ebley starting with the Lost Boys: after moving to a new town, two brothers discover that the area is a haven for vampires...7pm Free (a £5 deposit bags you a reservation on the evening which is refunded to you on the night.) Hot dogs and popcorn available on the night!

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

### LANSDOWN HALL

SUN 5TH

#### Stroud Book Festival: Fahrenheit 451

Truffaut's 1966 classic adaptation of the dystopian novel by Ray Bradbury portrays an oppressive future society where all reading material is banned. Presented by Lansdown Film Club and the Stroud Film Festival as part of this year's Stroud Book Festival. Book Festival) 8pm £7/£6concs

SUN 12TH

#### Transition Stroud Presents: Tomorrow

The Transition Stroud annual get together and AGM for 2017 including a screening of Demain (Tomorrow) by Caryl Dion and Melanie Laurent. Climate is changing. Instead of showing all the worst that can happen, this documentary focuses on the people suggesting solutions and their actions. 2pm (film starts) Free

SUN 12TH

#### Lansdown Film Club: Radiator

A darkly comic examination of family life, marriage, age and love. 8pm £6/£5 concessions with an annual membership fee of £2

SUN 26TH

#### Lansdown Film Club: Harmonium

Toshio hires Yasaka in his workshop. This old acquaintance, who has just been released from prison, begins to meddle in Toshio's family life. 8pm £6/£5 concessions with an annual membership fee of £2

FRI 17TH

#### Syria's Disappeared

Amnesty International Mid-Gloucestershire group invites you to a screening of the acclaimed film, Syria's Disappeared: the case against Assad produced by Nicola Cutcher who will be appearing to take questions and lead discussion after the 50 minute film. Proceeds to Amnesty International for the 'I Welcome' (refugees) campaign. 7pm £5otd

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

### THE MALHOUSE BAR AND KITCHEN

THURS 23RD

#### Malthouse Cinema Club: The Grinch

On the outskirts of Whoville, there lives a green, revenge-seeking Grinch (played by Jim Carrey) who plans on ruining the Christmas holiday for all of the citizens of the town...7:30pm £15 (includes food! X1 mains and x1 side dish)

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

### OPEN HOUSE

THURS 2ND

#### Stroud Film Society: Vertigo

Alfred Hitchcock's legendary film was released in the same year that the Stroud Film Society was formed (1958!) by Jack and Grace Allington of Ebley. In the recent British Film Institute survey of the 100 best films of all time, Vertigo came first. So the Society has chosen this film to help celebrate their 60th Anniversary, when, beside the film there will be wine, some nibbles and chat, so expect a longer evening than usual! 7:30pm £6guest ticket/£40 season membership

THURS 23RD

#### Stroud Film Society: I Am Not Your Negro

This excellent documentary is based upon the writings of James Baldwin. It deals with the lives and deaths of his friends, Martin Luther King Junior, Malcolm X and Medgar Evers. It is narrated by Samuel Jackson and incorporates other media works. 7:30pm £6guest ticket/£40 season membership

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

### SVA GOODS SHED

THURS 2ND

#### Immortal Love

Set in 1932, a woman, whose (tenant-farmer) fiancé is fighting in China, is sexually assaulted by the landowner's son (Nakadai), who has returned from the war with a crippling injury, and then forced into marriage with him. In four more chapters, presented over three decades, their children undertake their own searches for love, while the parents try to make each other as miserable as possible. 8pm £5otd (under 15's must be accompanied by an adult)

SAT 18TH

#### Film and Pudding: Mindhorn

A has-been actor (Julian Barratt) best known for playing the title character in the 1980s detective series "Mindhorn" must work with the police when a serial killer says that he will only speak with Detective Mindhorn, whom he believes to be a real person. 7:30pm £5otd

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

### VUE

THURS 16TH

#### National Theatre Live: Follies

Stephen Sondheim's legendary musical is staged for the first time at the National Theatre and broadcast live to cinemas. New York, 1971. There's a party on the stage of the Weismann Theatre. Tomorrow the iconic building will be demolished. Thirty years after their final performance, the Follies girls gather to have a few drinks, sing a few songs and lie about themselves. 6:45pm

TUES 21ST

#### Exhibition On Screen: David Hockney At the Royal Academy of Arts

Intimate, revealing never-before-seen interviews with one of the world's most popular living artists. Featuring intimate and in-depth interviews with Hockney, this revealing film focuses on two blockbuster exhibitions held in 2012 and 2016 at the Royal Academy of Art in London. Director Phil Grabsky secured privileged access to craft this cinematic celebration of a 21st century master of creativity. 1pm/6:50pm

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

### THE ARKELL CENTRE

FRI 10TH

#### Nailsworth Film Club: Room

Based on Emma Donoghue's novel, this heart-breaking yet life-affirming drama is told from the viewpoint of a 5-year-old boy. The film explores the love between him and his mother, kidnapped and imprisoned in a sound-proof shed 7 years earlier, and how she creates a whole world for him in this tiny space. Brilliantly filmed with near-perfect performances by the two main characters, 'Room' will bring a lump to your throat. 7:30pm £6guest ticket/Season Membership: £27.50 single adult/£49.50 couple

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

### MINCHINHAMPTON MARKET HOUSE

FRI 24TH

#### Film Night: My Cousin Rachel

A young Englishman plots revenge against his late cousin's mysterious, beautiful wife, believing her responsible for his death. But his feelings become complicated as he finds himself falling under the beguiling spell of her charms.7:30pm check website for tickets and further info

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



**STROUD COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 2017**  
St. Laurence Church, Stroud

**SUNDAY 26<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**

With special guest **Dominic Cotter** - BBC Radio Gloucestershire presenter and music by Baily's Beads

**TICKETS £3.00** from The Church Office, The Shambles, Stroud. Tel: 01453 759099 (Tickets include light refreshments) Children under 12 free when accompanied by an adult

**PREVIEW & LIGHTS SWITCH ON AT 4.00pm**

**FREE ADMISSION**

**MONDAY 27<sup>th</sup> - THURSDAY 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**  
10am to 4:30pm

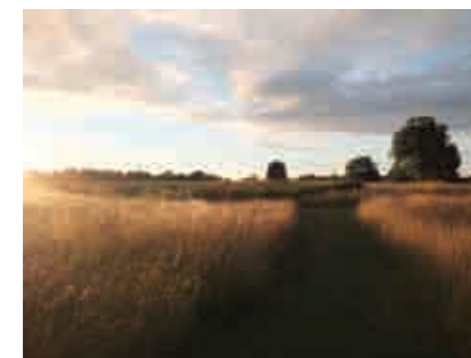
**FRIDAY 1<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER**  
9:30am to 8:30pm (to coincide with Stroud's Goodwill evening)

**SATURDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> DECEMBER**  
9:30am to 5:00pm

**SUNDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> DECEMBER**  
1:00pm to 4:00pm  
4:00pm Festival Songs of Praise (everyone welcome)

**For more details visit: [www.stroudparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.stroudparishchurch.org.uk)**

# Fieldfare Café at Thistledown Farm



*Now open & serving wood-fired lunches Wednesday to Sunday!*

Our café is set in 75 acres of beautiful meadow and woodland overlooking Woodchester Park. We serve lunch from our wood-fired clay oven & charcoal BBQ Weds to Sun, brunch Sat & Sun and evening meals, such as wood-fired sourdough pizzas, on selected weekend nights. We use local, free range and Organic produce where possible. Fine teas, coffees & delicious homemade cakes are served 9am to 4:30pm and we donate 5% of all hot drinks

sales to Stroud Valleys Project to fund tree planting in the area. Why not come up for an autumn walk and enjoy a hot drink with stunning views beside our woodburner! We are now taking bookings for relaxed Christmas lunches during December - our festive menu is perfect if you're looking for an alternative to turkey! We also stock delicious sourdough bread, our own preserves, local alcohol, Organic milk and more.

# SGS COLLEGE OPEN TO ALL!



Join us at our Open Days and find out about South Gloucestershire & Stroud College's wide range of full/part time and Higher Education study programmes, including those starting in September 2018.

- Speak with our specialist course tutors
- Meet current learners studying at SGS
- Tour the campus to see what else is on offer

Our Open Days at SGS Filton, WISE, Stroud, Berkeley Green & Queens Road are on:

**Saturday 4 November 10am - 1pm**

**Saturday 25 November 10am - 1pm**

For further details visit

[www.sgscol.ac.uk](http://www.sgscol.ac.uk)

or call 0800 0567 253



# DO WHAT YOU CAN'T AT SGS!

