

News and Events

Welcome to the The HopBarn's newsletter, which provides information and insights into The HopBarn, as well as offering further notification of up coming events and performances.

We hope that such information proves to be useful and informative to our readers, but if you would like to offer feedback and suggestions as to what to include or what to focus on, please feel free to e-mail or write in with your suggestions and we will try to accommodate them where best we can.

Changes to General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR):

Firstly, thank you to all, for your patience and understanding in regards to the recent changes to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

The HopBarn is grateful to you in completing and returning the consent form in order to receive monthly News and Events Publications.

The HopBarn also acknowledges the importance of such changes and will work to ensure that all data held by The HopBarn abides by the key recommendations and laws set down.

If you have any concerns however, please contact Jonathan Poole The HopBarn's Data Controller by e-mail @:

jonathan.poole@thehopbarn.org.uk

www.thehopbarn.org.uk / info@thehopbarn.org.uk / 07880973365

The HopBarn Hockerwood Lane Upton Road Southwell Notts NG25 0PZ

Continuing to battle with the adverse weather!

It was unfortunate at the beginning of February and March that *The Beast from the East* cut off the majority of the country and resulted in many missed opportunities and events. The HopBarn was saddened that the production of *Landscapes* by Mimika Theatre needed to be called off due to the company being unable to leave their homes, whilst The HopBarn was inaccessible to most traffic (tractors and farm machinery being the exception).

Following *The Beast from the East*, the UK was subjected to torrential rains and again The HopBarn did not escape. From snow to flooding, life on a farm is never a dull moment and there is always a daily challenge that must be overcome in order to continue stepping forward.



Fortunately however, the level of flooding did not breach the floor level of the main studio or accommodation block and within a day or two, the flood waters receded again

Chris, Denny and Emily.

On Saturday 21st April, True Blue Music presented an evening with Chris, Denny and Emily.



Chris Sherburn and Denny Bartley have established themselves as leading contributors to the UK's folk music scene and have been travelling across Europe and North America since the early 1990's playing at many of the top festivals.

Their distinct and individual musical interpretations with Chris (concertina) and Denny (guitar and vocals) provided a magical and exciting evening. Their gift as competent and extremely proficient musicians was coupled with lots of amusing anecdotes and bantering between them, which caused much ruckus and laughter, especially the one about a 'Willy Nelson' being a dodgy wrestling hold in Hull.



(left to right) Emily Sanders, Danny Bartley & Chris Sherburn @ The HopBarn

Emily who has recently joined the duo brings further textures and layers to the songs and music, contributing enormously to the overall audience experience whilst also doing her best to keep order and bring Chris and Denny back to the music.

This was another exceptional evening with all proceeds going to Beaumont House Community Hospice in Newark.



Spring Craft Fair 2018

Moving aside and pausing the music for just a moment, The HopBarn hosted another Spring Craft Fair following the first that was delivered in 2017.

We were delighted that over 10 artisans from the local area displayed their crafts, some returning for the 2nd year running whilst welcoming new exhibitors to this year's event.

The HopBarn would like to say thank you to the artisans who took time to display their arts and crafts, as well as members of the public who made the effort to come and view their works.



Susan J Fixter - Felt Ware

We were delighted that the Craft Fair raised over £500 which will go towards The Teenage Cancer Trust, the only charitable organisation in the UK which works specifically with young people diagnosed with cancer to offer them the best support in combating their illness.





Chris Rumsy Ceramics



Jude Raswon - Fine arts



Belle & Olive - Textiles



Carol Spall - Fine Art



Claire Brown - Silver Jewellery



Mark Greene - Woodworking



Leah Payne - Ceramics



Tom Young - Wood Turning

Returning to the Music - Gilmore & Roberts Sat 19th May 2018

Whilst Chris and Denny could be billed as having secured an important reputation and contribution to the UK's Music Scene since the early 1990's; Katriona Gilmore and Jamie Roberts have achieved similar prestige alongside a number of distinguished accolades during the past decade that they have been together.

Nominated 3 times at the BBC Radio 2 folk awards, Gilmore and Roberts released their first album in 2008 whilst studying at Leeds Collage of Music. Since then, the duo have toured extensively to Europe and Canada playing at some of the most important musical festivals as well as touring with such musical legends as Fairport Convention.



Gilmore and Roberts

The HopBarn was truly excited to be able to host Gilmore and Roberts thanks again to True Blue Music.

The June Focus - The HopYards an ever evolving story!

Back in 2010 when Stuart Poole embarked on transforming a group of old farm buildings into a purpose built music venue, a principal and guiding motivation was to create a suitable studio space in which the band he and fellow musicians had formed, could practice without causing undue stress amongst other members of the farms household. Music practices during this time had often taken place in the main front room of the farm house, and whilst every attempt was made to ensure the loudness and dynamisms of their rehearsals did not impact the remaining family members, over time an alternative and separate space away from the main house became desperately needed. Work therefore began on converting the old milling barn (now made dormant due to a change in the farms structure) into the beginnings of what would later be known as The HopBarn.

Jeff Bridges and Beau Bridges, the films style and musical focus took the band down a similar path, attempting to simulate a classy and seductive quality without appearing to be too 'in-your-face' when presented to audiences.

Here it was hoped that through their slow and often quiet depiction of popular jazz numbers, the audience's inquisitiveness would naturally cause them to listen. Getting the balance right wasn't exactly easy though and whilst the combination of piano, sax and drums did well

The bands early focus looked to create a lounge bar feel, one that would incorporate a feeling of laid back jazz presiding over evening cocktails or an intimate dinner for example. For anyone who has ever seen the classic film *The Fabulous Baker Boys* with Michelle Pfeiffer,



The HopYards (July 2017)

for a short period of time, the group set up seemed to lack spontaneity or character. The danger being that all the songs were played with the same focus and musical output.

To give the group a fresh direction and perhaps to re-imagine the leading figure Michelle Pfeiffer portrayed in *The Fabulous Baker Boys*, they were joined by a female lead singer whose classy and seductive quality was exactly what they were looking for. Shortly following, a bass guitar player also joined providing a further and much needed musical texture that resulted in a 5 piece set comprising of piano, sax, bass guitar, drums and voice. The group worked hard to offer an exciting, dynamic and varied set, whilst also offering further opportunities to follow their own direction and musical interpretation.

The band during this period did well. They played regularly within the local area and managed to secure a number of gigs. Whilst the majority were private functions, there were also a number of festivals that the band were invited to play at, helping them to gain much needed and important exposure.

In 2015 the band underwent a dramatic change. The loss of the original sax player shortly followed by the bass guitarist brought in a new energy to the group with local musician and sound engineer Mike Mellor providing a varying range of musical expertise. Mike's experience on double bass as well as bass guitar offered the band additional opportunities to explore a more diverse and varied set. Mike also brought in through his experience as a competent sound engineer further opportunities in relation to music production. The introduction of a new drummer also resulted in the band re-focusing their set numbers and prompting a re-think to the bands musical direction and purpose. Here the focus switched and there was suddenly a desire to play music that would excite and stimulate audience members. Whereas before, the group would now play directly to them and draw them in deliberately through fast paced and energetic jazz pieces as opposed to the slow and seductive sets that had been played previously.

This new direction challenged the group, requiring more rehearsal and practice time to ensure that the songs chosen were technically

perfected, with the band as a whole having to play more tightly together in order to achieve the desired effect. Fortunately, by this point the main HopBarn studio had been completed and they could practice as loud and as long as they needed, safely away from the main farm house.

Helping to bring this new direction across, a new lead singer helped to encapsulate the essence of the bands new focus through her voice and energy whilst on stage. This was a bright new beginning for the band and one that brought them out into the open.

In July 2017, the inclusion of Spanish musician Juan Pino Delgado on saxophone and clarinet brought back the loss of a vital musical component when the original sax player left the band in 2015. Pino's professional music career catapulted the musical direction to new heights bringing back the vital sound needed for Jazz and blues numbers. Pino's down-to-earth approach coupled together with his sound musical competency, offered the band a new and important musical lead, one that would complement the lead singer, bass, piano and drums whilst also presenting fantastic solo opportunities that made each set number uniquely distinct.

Finally, with the inclusion of Leona Ashley who in the spring of 2017 joined the band as lead singer, the band had now secured a real asset to the jazz and blues direction being pursued. Through Leona's sultry and seductive voice, on-stage presence and subtle banter played out between the other members of the group, the band had evolved significantly, adapting themselves to produce a truly exciting line up.

The HopYards re-launched themselves in July 2017 for an evening of Jazz and Blues at The HopBarn. Here, whilst playing to a sold out house they presented a highly emotive and charged evening that helped to establish them as important contributors to the local music scene. This was a new beginning and one that presented an exciting future for this newly re-formed and energetic quintet.

The HopYards return to The HopBarn on Saturday 8th July with support by all girl group Ethereal.

Whats on July 2018



The HopYards at Sutton-On-Trent Festival 2017

Tickets £8 from:

eventbrite.co.uk (search Summer Blues and Jazz 2018)

thehopbarn.org.uk (Whats on Music and Performance)

07880 973 365 / info@thehopbarn.org.uk

Burleys, 1A Market Place Southwell NG25 0HE

Juvenes Cantores della Cattedrale di Sarzana (Italy)

Byron Festival Concert

Mon 9th July 2018

From Sarzana in Liguria, Italy, close to the Bay of Poets, the young singers of the Cathedral Choir are a talented and versatile group of musicians.

Led by their elegant Director, Alessandra Montali, standards are high whether performing music that is sacred, classical or their own unique sound of BaRock. Linking the antique and the modern, Baroque instruments are used to perform songs from groups such as Abba and Coldplay. It produces a remarkable and exciting cocktail!



Tickets £10 from AJ Beckett & Son, 13 Market Place, Southwell

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Summer Blues & Jazz 2018

The HopYards + Ethereal
Sat 7th July 2018

The HopYards played a sold out gig in 2017 and return to The HopBarn for an exciting evening of Blues and Jazz.

This time they are joined by all girl group Ethereal as support.



All girl group Ethereal