



THE HORSES MOUTH

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7th May The Amazing Mr Smith

The Amazing Mr. Smith has been described as Monty Python's answer to John Williams. His combination of mad inventions and brilliant acoustic guitar playing make him one of the funniest and most original entertainers around. The cardboard tube double bass, the musical shoelaces, the nutcracker played on the tu-tu xylophone, the blue Danube on the condom harp and his 3-minute rendition of river-dance have to be seen to be believed. As well as being on the comedy circuit for at least 10 years, he has made people laugh in every conceivable type of venue in the UK, performed on local and national TV and toured the USA five times (also Holland, Germany, Norway and Jordan). Although his act is very visual, he was recently asked to play some of his bizarre instruments on Ned Sherrin's 'Loose Ends'. "...Mr Smith is absolutely mesmerizing to watch and side-splittingly funny. He can make music from anything, including contraceptives, and the dueling banjo's was a great idea. Mr Smith quite rightly got applause after applause and two well-deserved encores..." part of a review at www.xsmalarkey.co.uk (Manchester 12/3/02) He has previously performed at the club and the Canalside Folk Festival having audiences splitting their sides at the antics he gets up to. We are really looking forward to seeing him at the club again. Apart from being a fantastic comedian, he is an awesome musician as well". For more information about him look up his website: www.the-amazing-mr-smith.co.uk Tickets are £8 on the door (£7 advance 01295 709881) Concessions £5 (£4 advance)

14th May The Harvesters

From Harbury in Warwickshire, Ian and Sue Hartland are renowned for producing a right song and dance wherever they perform. Specialising in their own witty and incisive compositions, played on a wide variety of instruments, they also include some great percussive accompaniment to some of their numbers with impressive demonstrations of Appalachian flat-footing and precision clogging dance styles. Their brand of gentle humour and wry observations on life, love and the rituals of 'Middle England' have made them a popular draw at festivals and concerts across the UK and overseas.

21st May P.S.

P.S. are Phil and Sophie Thurman. Sophie, a multi-genre performer, is probably best known in the folk world as singer / cellist with Oxford group Magpie Lane. In P.S. Sophie also plays whistles and guitar. Phil has been a regular on the Oxford folk scene for a good many years, and hosted the famous Fir Tree sessions. Phil also sings, and plays guitar, 12-string, and bouzouki. They met through folk music, got together, got married, and then realised that they could play music together too!!!! – It was almost an afterthought, hence the name P.S.!

28th May "Flower of Gloster" by Neil Gore plus support by Pete Doonan

Neil Gore first performed this one man play in the early days of the club. A chance reminiscence conversation with early folk club members at the 9th birthday party reminded me of it and the wonderful evening we had prompted me to contact Neil and he was delighted to be asked to do it again. 'The Flower Of Gloster' was about four youngsters who crew a narrow-boat from North Wales to London and their adventures on Britain's inland waterways. The tales being a mixture of plotted storylines, natural history and improvisation. The plot involved a boatyard owner from Wales who is unable to deliver a new barge to London when he breaks his leg in an accident. So his son takes the helm and is accompanied by his sister. They are soon joined by their young brother and their friend and for 13 weeks they traverse the waterways of west England, including the Oxford Canal, passing towns, cities and villages. To support the evening, Pete Doonan, who has often sang at the club and appeared at last year's Folk Festival, will start the evening off by singing and playing from his great repertoire of popular songs.

4th Jun Vicki Swan & Jonny Dyer www.smallpiper.co.uk

Currently taking the folk world by storm, Vicki is one of the best pipers in the business, able to seamlessly veer from soulful airs to driving, up-tempo tunes to set every foot tapping, and this is all aided by Jonny's brilliantly inventive, subtle yet strong guitar work. Although best-known for their instrumental skills, the duo have also added a healthy number of songs to their act, and have rightly established themselves as one of the best young duos around on the folk scene today! Vicki and Jonny's strong educational background makes their sets informative, powerful and interesting.

11th Jun Open Stage Night with Guest MC tbc

Our open stage nights have proved very successful over the past few years. They are usually fully booked a month in advance! At the last one we were delighted to have three bands, two duo's and a comedy solo. Most of these acts will almost certainly have a future booking either at the club or the festival so by coming along to our Open stage nights, not only as performers, but as a listening audience gives you the chance to preview the acts first. There are only six spots, so if you want to perform in one of them, please book it well in advance on 01295 709881.

18th Jun Blue Coyotes

Blue Coyotes – a folk/country band with a classy retro feel. Blue Coyotes entice you to dance to rocky rhythmic songs, tug your heartstrings with sad tunes, and lift you up again with folk and country classics from the 50s to the 70s. Blue Coyotes are: **Gill Allcock** - guitar and vocals, **Nicole Alderson** - guitar and vocals and **Tony Ecclestone** - bass and vocals. At a Blue Coyotes gig you can expect an eclectic mix that shakes the cobwebs from the back catalogues of Patsy Cline, Linda Ronstadt and the Byrds. Add a hint of Irish traditional and you know you're in for a good night.

25th Jun "Suntrap" www.suntrap.org/index.html

If you want performance ranging from sweet melancholy to out and out power; if you want to be wooed, thrilled, moved and above all entertained then you must see this band! Featuring some of England's strongest young singers, Suntrap will dazzle you with their big harmony sound. Sometimes spiky edged, sometimes achingly beautiful. Their material ranges from the richly textured to stripped back solo a cappella. This is handcrafted music played by a double fiddle section, guitars, accordion, bodhran, whistles and harmonica, carefully woven around shimmering, slipsliding vocal harmonies.

Suntrap perform a mesmerizing array of music including their own material and the best of the traditional and contemporary folk repertoire. The songwriters (Sara Byers and Paul Hoad) create original, innovative works drawing on English song tradition and American Folk & Country. Suntrap play all over the UK and Europe at major folk festivals, folk clubs and arts centres. When not headlining, Suntrap have supported such major artists as Kate Rusby, Kathryn Tickell, Waterson Carthy, The Albion Band, The Oyster Band and Vin Garbett. Suntrap have been privileged to open Cambridge Folk Festival, Skagen Folk Festival and Warwick Folk Festival. Radio features have included the Mike Harding Show and a live performance on Radio 4's Loose Ends.

2nd Jul Scaley Ceilidh Band

The Scaley Ceilidh Band developed in 2007 from the regular monthly music sessions at The Fox Hotel, Chipping Norton. A group of them decided to get together to see what happened. They are mainly a band for folk dances rather than folk club performances but they will put together a set of tunes that will most certainly will be appreciated and because John is a good singer, you never know, there may be a song or two thrown in! Between them they have a wealth of music that they hope you will enjoy and will get you on your feet dancing. The line-up consists of Caroline Jordan : Melodeon, Liz Teall : Whistles, Ian Hall : Guitars, John Leslie : Melodeon, and Jo Taylor : Fiddle and Recorder.

9th Jul Caliko www.caliko.net/index.html

Caliko vocalist Jo Giles and songwriter Jon Winter are on the road for 12 months hawking their uncompromising songwriting across the UK. In a style that blends the storytelling of traditional song with the honest, laid-back feel of acoustic roots music, Caliko's coffeehouse folk recounts the extraordinary lives of ordinary people. Expect songs about school friends turned assassins, shaggers, ship-wreckers and cross-dressing sailors in a performance stripped back to two voices, guitar and accordion. "Perfectly crafted, folky songs that rock – albeit quietly" Reading-festival.org.uk "Talented musicians with some superb songs, see them while they're still playing small venues" Daily Mirror. "Jo Giles draws her folk from a deeper well than many of her yankee counterparts . . . June Tabor comes to mind, but Jo's voice and vision are her own."

16th Jul Scarecrow

They came to play at the clubs' Halloween party last year and it was so good that we have invited them back. The band consists of original "Ravens Taunt" member, Dave Moore (whistle, flute and hummelchen bagpipes), Gordon Raitt (guitar and bouzouki) and Rey Lear (bass guitar, flute and whistle). The band had previously played at the clubs open stage night earlier last year and was a great feature at Music at the Crossroads at Hook Norton, the Banbury Canal Day and our own festival. A fantastic combination of instruments which makes for great sounding haunting tunes.

23rd Jul Carter Chapman Band

The voice just oozes a sweet seduction, and you're listening to the arrival of a new British star. As pianist, guitarist, drummer, ballet dancer, but most of all the vocalist, she has a CV too varied to mention. A journey from Italy to Holland, and a recent trip to the USA, Carter Chapman is now back on mainland Britain, and taking up residence in Warwick - the place of her birth. Carter Chapman is a stunning performer with a beautiful voice, considered by many as Britain's answer to Emmylou Harris. The goddess-like voice brings venues vividly to life; audiences and critics are raving about her, and she creates a buzz wherever she goes. Carter Chapman has got something very special.

30th Jul starting at 7pm on The Mill Patio - Annual Bar B Q & Festival Fundraiser night

What greater way to end the summer season with a grand Bar-B-Q on The Mill patio and a concert in the theatre. It will feature Tom Leary & Kevin Dempsey, annA rydeR, Keith Donnelly (M.C.), The Tindall Family, wRants and more including Adderbury Morris during the Bar-B-Q. Feast of Fiddles star Tom Leary (fiddle) & ex Whippersnapper musician, Kevin Dempsey (guitar) did a sell-out concert at the club earlier in the year and will also feature at the festival 10-12 October. Multi- instrumentalist and fine singer annA Ryder, who has supported Fairport Convention on Tour and who often appears on stage at the Cropredy festival, also did a very impressive concert at the club in April and will be appearing at this year's festival. Great musician and talented comic, Keith Donnelly, will be getting the audience going by being the MC for the night and doing a performance spot as well. To complete the line-up will be the fantastic family band The Tindalls, which features young musicians and singers Sarah & Kathryn with mum and dad Paula & Stuart. Also dynamic local young musicians band "wRants". Both bands have featured at previous Banbury Canalside Folk Festivals and Banbury Canal Day concerts as well as at other prestigious festivals. All in all, it makes for a great night of outstanding entertainment. Don't miss..... (Concert in The Mill theatre starts 8pm)

August - Club Closed

3rd Sep Club re-opens with Scrowther/Wright