



THE ACOUSTIC CALENDAR: UPDATE 28/7/18

This newsletter is an attempt to keep you abreast of the latest developments in the acoustic DIY scene in the west of England (singarounds, sessions, open mic, etc.)

Hello People,

The heatwave seems to have left us alone at last, so I've crawled out of the pond and reinstalled myself in the little upstairs room known variously as 'The Music Room', 'The Computer Room' and 'Give Up Hope All Ye Who Enter Here'.

By the way, I had a close encounter with an extra-terrestrial the other day. I knew he was an extra-terrestrial because he had a reptilian head on a genetically improbable humanoid body and spoke stilted English with an American accent.

'Are you the earthling who calls himself Sancho Bramble?' he enquired.

'The same' I replied, 'but most people call me Tony.'

'Greetings, Toe Knee' he went on, 'on my planet in the constellation of Alpha Centauri there is much music making; for we are a musical people and love to jam. However, there is a problem that causes us great sorrow and it is this – nobody knows when or where these sessions are taking place. As a result, many of our species are condemned to a life without music.' He paused to let this tragedy sink in, then continued: 'Now we hear that on earth you have this wondrous oracle called Acoustic Calendar, which when consulted will reveal where music is being made on any given day of the week'

'Er, yeah' I said, 'but I'm afraid my coverage doesn't quite extend as far as Alpha Centauri. I almost bit off more than I could chew when I took on Cornwall.'

At that, his face fell, but he adroitly retrieved it and stuck it back in position.

'Then maybe you can help us create our own Acoustic Calendar' he said hopefully.

'Oh, all right then' I said (because I hate saying no to people) and I gave him one of those little cards I carry around with my email and web address on. He bowed gravely and faded through the

brightening air like that girl in the poem by Yeats. I'm waiting for him to get back to me, but meanwhile, here's news of some terrestrial stuff that might interest you...

Tony

FROM MY INBOX

*"I like the idea of a caption competition - hope you'll be ready for a lot of innuendo, if not downright obscenity, but it will be great fun! Better than b****y football anyway!" Bryony*

Too true. A bit of good clean filth never hurt anyone. I'll try and get the competition off the ground.

"The Doghouse session run on Monday by Nic Bradford is taking a break for August, as both leads are away. Café Reflections in Shirley, Focsle Music's larger venue, is being refurbished and will now open evenings for food with some background live music. It will no longer be a venue for us (and, truth to tell, in its new guise probably isn't at home in your listings). As far as we can see, all Focsle Music evenings until Xmas will be at The Guide Dog, except for football-rescheduling changes." Paul

NEW ADDITIONS

Bere Regis (nr. Wareham): Drax Arms, West Street BH20 7HH (01929 471386)

Third Thursday of the month, 9pm. Open mic.

Bristol: Duke of York, 2 Jubilee Rd. (off Rosebury Avenue), St Werburghs BS2 9RS (01179 413 677)

Shanties from the Severn Seas: Bristol Singalong (
<https://www.facebook.com/songsofthesea/>*)*: First Monday of the month (second Monday where the first is a Bank Holiday). Run by Robin Tulloch & others.

The Mutiny Shanty Session (
<https://www.facebook.com/informalshantysession/>*)*: Third Monday of the month. Informal singaround run by Robin Tulloch & others.

Southampton: The Cricketers, 34 Carlton Place (off Bedford Place) SO15 2DX (023 8022 6448, www.thefamouscricketers.com/events .

Ales and Anthems (Owen Hackett: 075 7635 7410): Every Thursday, 8.30pm. Open mic.

Jam Night: Every other Sunday, 8pm. "Please come and join us... to showcase your music. All performers welcome and get a free drink."

Next one 5th August.

RIP

Horton Cross (nr. Ilminster): The Monks Yard, Horton Cross Farm TA19 9PT (01460 200020, Neil: 01460 54759)

First Friday of every month, 7.30pm. Acoustic session.

"The numbers have diminished to such an extent that I have decided to pull the plug, at least for a while. I might try again later if I can get some feedback for the necessity." Neil

North Tawton: Rugby Club, Tawmeadow, Fore St. EX20 2ED (Dave: 07792 259338, <http://www.drjams.co.uk/>)

Third Thursday of the month, 9pm to 11pm. Open mic.

Discontinued.

BARBARA'S ACOUSTIC INSTRUMENTS NO. 6

A comb player angrily swore:
Although I have Andrex galore
No musical prize'll
Be mine without Izal,
You can't get the stuff anymore.

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