

Notes

The Readifolk Newsletter

Reading's folk song
and music club

Issue 33

Spring 2017



*"Oka Vanga will capture the hearts and minds of
any audience"*

See them at Readifolk on **April 2nd**.

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Shows Worth Seeing

Previewing the new season of guest nights coming to Readifolk.

Oka Vanga make their first visit to Readifolk on **2nd April**.

What they say:

Angela Meyer & William Cox are an award-winning folk and roots duo who move effortlessly from playing their own music to well-known folk and roots songs. Their songs are bound by folk lore, lit by magic, and rooted in stories from their journeys far and wide. Whether singing, playing guitar, ukulele or mandolin, their relaxed banter and gift for story telling makes their music set both interesting and



memorable. Coupled with great musicianship, fans of both Folk & Roots music are sure to find something they will enjoy in their music.

What others say:

"Great musicianship and really fine songs" - *Mike Harding*. "Perfect Folk

Fayre – as someone (nearly) once said, one small step for man, a giant leap for Oka Vanga" - *Mike Ainscoe, Bright Young Folk*. "The message is clear. Oka Vanga are a truly remarkable duo, who will capture the hearts and minds of any audience" - *Pete Bradley*.

What we say:

We have heard great reports on this duo and look forward to seeing them live at Readifolk.

Hear more:

www.okavanga.com

www.youtube.com/watch?v=VTJEWDbUvGc

www.youtube.com/watch?v=rwVCkGoAYhA



The fantastic 5-piece band **The Jigantics** strut their stuff at the club on **9th April**



What they say:

5-piece, Americana-influenced, folk and roots band. Between them the band members play, and on occasions swap, a whole range of musical instruments - fiddle, mandolin, slide and acoustic guitars and together with stunning five part harmonies create a sound uniquely their own. It's a potent mix played by musicians with a formula and chemistry that brings their performance alive.

What others say:

"A fabulous fusion of blues, rock, folk and Americana that blew the socks off our audience. Absolute class" - *Steve Sheldon*, "Fantastic music. The Jigantics were a highlight act" - *Daily Telegraph*. "Still reeling from the fantastic night at the folk club last night with The Jigantics. This band is making a great impression on the festival scene and goes from strength to strength!" - *Banbury Folk Club*.

What we say:

Don't miss this opportunity of seeing this truly amazing band.

Hear more:

www.thejigantics.com

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ih24OJkb32I

www.youtube.com/watch?v=MC6uu55mlZl



The Teacups rattle along to Readifolk on **23rd April**.

What they say:

Comprising the singing talents of Alex Cumming, Kate Locksley, Rosie Calvert and Will Finn, this a capella foursome have been creating a storm across the UK festival circuit in the past few years with critically acclaimed performances at Shepley Spring Festival, Beverley Folk Festival, Warwick Folk Festival, Sidmouth Folk Week, Whitby Folk Week and many more.



What others say:

"The return of distinctive harmony singing" - *The Guardian*. "Four beautifully pitched voices are guaranteed to send pleasurable shivers down the spine. Add to that The Teacups' between-song storytelling and the result is entertainment of the highest calibre" - *Southwell Folk Festival*.

What we say:

We have watched with interest the rise of this young talented foursome. We are delighted to be able bring them to Readifolk to entertain you with their superb harmony singing.

Hear more:

www.theteacups.co.uk

www.youtube.com/watch?v=ISmzOkq_6sk

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zf0W3KwDxNM



Kit Hawes & Aaron Catlowe make their Readifolk debut on **7th May**.

What they say:

Kit Hawes and Aaron Catlow play folk music from Europe, America and beyond, combining dazzling playing with a fine sense of musicality and showmanship.

What others say:

"Fleet fingered and ingeniously arranged... deserve to be thought of as up there with the best of them" - *Songlines*. "Such dexterity, energy and passion. Mightily impressive" - *R2 Magazine*. "Never a dull moment, with imagination firing throughout and an abundance of creative energy" - *Living Tradition*.

What we say:

Hailing from the renowned band Sheelanagig, this duo are receiving rave reviews wherever they perform. We are really looking forward to seeing them in action at Readifolk.



Hear more:

www.kithawesandaaroncatlow.com
www.youtube.com/watch?v=JHhGATOP7LE
www.youtube.com/watch?v=LhevKMFvNg



On **21st May** the brilliant duo **Daniel Nestlerode & Paul Ballantyne** make their first visit to the club.



What they say:

Daniel is an American singer who performs a good mix of traditional, original and modern songs. Originally a guitar player, after moving from Pennsylvania to California he picked up a mandolin,

and was hooked, proceeding to study with some of the great mandolinists of our time. Having crossed the Atlantic, he has lived in Cambridge since 2012, worked in a few local folk clubs, and released his first CD, **More Than a Little Guitar** which received excellent reviews. Since then he has worked full time throughout England, Europe and back in the States, more recently adding guitarist Paul Ballantyne to the mix. He has built a convincing reputation for excellent vocal ability and "history-soaked original songs".

What others say:

"Daniel Nestlerode's trade mark high quality musicianship, fine voice and charming stage presence... this is real quality" - *Al Hewson, Mad Nanny Music*. "Smooth and assured vocals mixed beautifully with his mandolin, giving all those present a performance which left a warm glow. Lovely" - *Marion Fleetwood solo artist and member of Jigantics and Trad Arrr*.

What we say:

We are expecting a master class on the mandolin, lots of traditional, original and modern songs with the added bonus of fine guitar accompaniment.

Hear more:

www.nestlerode.co.uk
www.youtube.com/watch?v=99nFtQs550
www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Fn89Ftdric
www.youtube.com/watch?v=zJwlBAzVzeU



Another newcomer to the club, **Bernard Hoskin** entertains us on **4th June**.

What he says:

Bernard Hoskin is an acoustic roots singer/songwriter and multi-instrumentalist from Cambridge, England. He is an experienced performer and plays a mixture of original songs, traditional folk and covers on 6 and 12 string guitar and mandola.



What others say:

"A great night, everyone enjoyed it, lovely songs brilliantly performed and some lovely stories to go with them" - *Phil Deverall, Bradford on Avon Folk Club*. "It really doesn't get much better than this" - *Big Bang, Worlds End, Finsbury Park*.

What we say:

We are anticipating a really entertaining evening from this highly-rated performer from Cambridge.

We welcome **Sally Ironmonger** (and husband **Brian Carter**) for her first appearance at Readfolk on **11th June**.

What she says:

I am a singer-songwriter based in Medway, writing and performing with Brian Carter, my husband, guitarist, and musical director. Our aim is to entertain - and songs that make you laugh, or cry, or just think - with make a connection with listeners and audiences. We tend to get categorised as folk musicians - I guess because what we do tends to be stripped down, unplugged, story based. Let's not get into a debate about what folk music is, suffice to say that what we do is contemporary, with a nod to traditional themes.

What others say:

"Sally and Brian are an absolute one off. They have a quirky and distinctive style. Brian's accomplished and sensitive guitar is the perfect accompaniment to Sally's unique voice and their songs will make you laugh, cry and think" - *Lynne Heraud & Pat Turner*. "Teasing, thought-provoking, foot-tapping, belly-laughing, ale-swigging, murdering, schizophrenic, tear-inducing wordsmith" - *Pennyblackmusic*.



What we say:

Sally & Brian are very well known and appreciated in their local area. Fortunately they are now spreading their net to a wider audience. We are sure that you will be impressed.

Hear more:

www.sallyironmonger.co.uk
www.youtube.com/watch?v=gKk9pG2RBsc
www.youtube.com/watch?v=6YQZy1Uiycg



Sandy Brechin & Ewan Wilkinson make a welcome return visit on **25th June**.

What they say:

Driving traditional and original songs, plus breakneck-speed tune sets from the highly successful ten-year partnership of accordion ambassador Sandy Brechin and Borders singer and guitarist Ewan Wilkinson. Ewan's rich baritone voice and unique guitar style blend beautifully with Sandy's renowned dazzling accordion playing to produce a phenomenal sound.

What others say:

"Brilliant night - musically, one of the best nights we've ever had" -

Shammick Acoustic Folk Club, North Devon.

"Wilkinson's guitar-playing and singing are particularly emotive. Both his finger-picking and rhythm playing match Brechin's ferocious display. During the ballads, his sensitive baritone, which is characterised by melodic folk inflections, intones the story of each piece. His own compositions are enchanting" - *Broadway Baby*.



What we say:

We remember the fabulous evening we had on their last visit to the club. We anticipate another rip-roaring performance from this highly talented duo.

Hear more:

www.bernardhoskin.com
www.youtube.com/watch?v=JHcD7NZAhA4
www.youtube.com/watch?v=NDtELB5e9_8



READIFOLK

READING'S FOLK SONG & MUSIC CLUB



Every Sunday 8:00 - 10:30 p.m.

The Community Hall, Watlington House,
44, Watlington Street, Reading, RG1 4RJ

PROGRAMME April - June 2017

A P R I L	2nd	Oka Vanga www.okavanga.com	<i>Angela Meyer & William Cox are an award-winning duo playing their own songs, well-known folk & roots songs, exquisite guitar instrumentals plus ukulele and mandolin.</i>
	9th	The Jigantics www.thejigantics.com	<i>The Jigantics are a superb 5-piece band whom the British press have described as one of roots music's super groups.</i>
	16th	Singers Night	<i>The usual format – a song, a tune, a poem, a joke or just come along and be entertained by us. All welcome.</i>
	23rd	The Teacups www.theteacups.co.uk	<i>The Teacups are a talented young a capella foursome who sing traditional and contemporary songs from the British Isles and beyond.</i>
	30th	Theme 'Springtime'	<i>Let's celebrate the time of year with your appropriate songs.</i>

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M A Y	7th	Kit Hawes & Aaron Catlow www.kithawesandaaroncatlow.com	<i>Virtuoso guitar and fiddle players from the band Sheelanagig, they draw on their many influences to create unique arrangements of traditional and self-penned music.</i>
	14th	Singers Night	<i>Another opportunity for you to show us what you can do.</i>
	21st	Daniel Nestlerode & Paul Ballantyne www.nestlerode.co.uk	<i>Superb American mandolin player Daniel is joined by guitarist Paul to bring you traditional, original and modern songs.</i>
	28th	Theme 'Ale & Hearty'	<i>Lots of folk songs cover this theme. Let's hear what you have to offer.</i>

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J U N E	4th	Bernard Hoskin www.bernardhoskin.com	<i>Bernard is an experienced performer on 6 and 12 string guitar and mandolin, playing a mixture of original and traditional songs and covers.</i>
	11th	Sally Ironmonger www.sallyironmonger.co.uk	<i>Highly-rated singer/songwriter Sally, together with guitarist husband Brian, presents a mix of humorous & thought-provoking songs.</i>
	18th	Singers Night	<i>Yet another of our popular singers nights. Come and add to the entertainment.</i>
	25th	Sandy Brechin & Ewan Wilkinson www.myspace.com/ewanwilkinson	<i>Ewan's rich baritone voice and unique guitar style blend beautifully with Sandy's dazzling accordion-playing to produce a phenomenal sound.</i>

Admission: £6 Guest nights; £2 Singers & Theme nights

More information from our web site www.readifolk.org.uk

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Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/readifolk and Twitter www.twitter.com/readifolk

The Readifolk Radio Show is on the internet every Wednesday 7 - 9pm and Friday 5 - 7pm
<http://blast1386.reading-college.ac.uk> click on 'Listen Live'. And now on www.bluesandrootsradio.co.uk