

THE RAM CLUB



THE VERY BEST IN ACOUSTIC MUSIC

At the Old Cranleighan Club,
Portsmouth Road,
Thames Ditton, KT7 0HB

Fridays at 8.15pm
(bar opens at 7.30).
Non-members welcome.

Former winner of the BBC
Folk Club of the Year Award

SEPTEMBER 1 – JIM CAUSLEY TRIO ■ A budding treasure of the traditional folk world

The ripe flavours of England's West Country will fill the room when a budding treasure of the traditional folk world, Jim Causley, makes a return visit, this time as part of a trio with Nick Wyke and Becki Driscoll on fiddles. Jim, who plays accordion and has a wonderfully strong, mature voice and gentle wit, is related to the celebrated poet Charles Causley and has put several of his poems to music. A huge talent. **£10 (£11 non-members)** www.jimcausley.co.uk

SEPTEMBER 8 – STEVE TILSTON & JEZ LOWE ■ Top solo artists in a creative collaboration

Two of the finest acoustic songwriters and performers join forces to deliver an evening of musical delights. Well established as top solo artists, collaboration extends their lyrical and emotional reach with mutual inspiration and affectionate, funny on-stage banter. Don't miss two artists with a matching outlook on life and a subtle, creative and thought-provoking way of sharing their views. **£11 (£13 non-members)** www.stevetilston.com www.jezlowe.com

SEPTEMBER 15 – JOHN TAMS & BARRY COOPE

■ A magical blend of voices from this much-garlanded duo

An overdue return for the heavily garlanded John Tams – he has awards galore, has been part of the Albion Band and Home Service, and wrote the music for “War Horse”, among his many achievements. He is also an enchanting performer with an evocative voice that blends magically with the renowned Barry Coope (of Coope, Boyes and Simpson), who also shows off his keyboard skill. Heart strings will be tugged. **£11 (£13 non-members)** www.johntams.co.uk



SEPTEMBER 22 – MICK RYAN & PAUL DOWNES ■ Pair that shifts effortlessly between moods

Mick's wry observations on modern life and Paul's incisive asides make for an evening full of hilarity and engaging songs. Mick has a powerful, resonant voice and Paul is a splendid guitarist and singer and together they effortlessly shift between moods – one minute light-hearted and whimsical, the next deeply personal and moving, the next solidly traditional, all inviting interaction with the audience. **£10 (£11 non-members)** www.pauldownes.com

SEPTEMBER 29 – ENDA KENNY & DAVE O'NEILL ■ Songs spiced with humour and warmth

Lyrics spiced with humour flow from Enda's songwriting pen and are delivered with warmth and fun by these two classy musicians. Irish-born Enda moved to Australia in the 1980s and as one commentator says, he “always holds the crowd in the palm of his hand... a brilliant night's entertainment”. Multi-instrumentalist Dave O'Neill, who spent 10 years touring with Eric Bogle's band, simply adds to the joy. **£10 (£11 non-members)** endakenny.com.au

OCTOBER 6 – JIMMY ALDRIDGE & SID GOLDSMITH

■ Great storytelling put to an elegant sound

The power of storytelling is top priority for this charming pair of superb singers and players – in both the traditional songs they tackle, as well as their own compositions. It places them sturdily in the true folk culture, as does their mastery of banjo, guitar, and sweet harmonies. For a gorgeous example of just how elegant they sound, listen to them play “The Cottager's Reply”. A very welcome return to our stage. **£10 (£11 non-members)** www.jimmyandsidduo.com



OCTOBER 13 – ELLIOTT MORRIS ■ Engaging songwriter with a superb new album to showcase

Elliott made a storming and triumphant first appearance at the Ram Club, impressing all with his dazzling guitar and classy songwriting. Two years on, he brings back with him plenty of added maturity – plus his newly released album “Lost and Found”, which has been described as “one heck of a debut that never pauses to draw breath”, among many rapturous reviews. Great voice and thoroughly engaging presence. **£9 (£10 non-members)** www.elliottmorris.co.uk

OCTOBER 20 – THE MILE ROSES ■ Voices and instruments combine in beautiful harmony

A shared interest in British folk and contemporary Nashville sounds brought this trio of renowned musicians together. Edwina Hayes (a much-loved solo performer at the Ram Club in the recent past), Kate Bramley and Simon Haworth combine voices and instruments in beautiful harmony. Edwina and Simon focus on guitar, with Kate playing fiddle. Expect a heady mix, from toe-tapping folk to haunting ballads. **£10 (£11 non-members)** themileroses.weebly.com

OCTOBER 27 – THE BONFIRE BAND ■ Some great tunes with ingenious Kinks-like lyrics

A rare treat is in store as this quirky and infectiously charming trio carry with them an abundance of great tunes with sharply observed and ingenious lyrics. The band's line-up is Marcus Penrose (double bass), Jonnie Walker (the subtlest of drummers) and Ben Faulkner (guitar and harmonica), and they play folky, bluesy, shuffle-style songs, all with a very strong Kinks-like English accent. **£10 (£11 non-members)** www.thebonfireband.co.uk

NOVEMBER 3 – REG MEUROSS ■ Effortlessly perfect: everybody loves laid-back Reg

Everybody loves Reg and his easy, laid-back style. His tunes sound effortlessly perfect and his lyrics are made all the more touching by the honesty and gentleness of his singing. A fine raconteur, too, Reg can make an audience laugh or shed a tear with his heartfelt and thought-provoking song introductions and lyrics. A regular visitor to the Ram Club, Reg is a stalwart of the top quality folk scene. A must-see gig. **£10 (£11 non-members)** www.regmeuross.com

NOVEMBER 10 – GILMORE & ROBERTS

■ Refreshing and exciting approach from a delightful duo

Katriona Gilmore (fiddle, mandolin) and Jamie Roberts (guitar) are a delightful duo who refuse to be boxed into a single genre – they even ended their last visit to the Ram Club with a poignant acoustic version of Alice Cooper's "Poison". And it sounded wonderful. They each have a solid folk background, the genre that forms the backdrop for everything they do – but their adventurous approach is truly refreshing and exciting.

£10 (£11 non-members) www.gilmoreroberts.co.uk



NOVEMBER 17 – ANTHONY JOHN CLARKE & DAVE PEGG ■ Hit songs from a high-profile pair

Anthony John, a softly spoken Irishman who has written some cracking songs, including "The Broken Years", and Dave, who is credited with being Fairport Convention's longest serving member and who also spent 15 years with Jethro Tull, get together for an evening of fun and plenty of hit songs. This high-profile pair also regularly entertain big crowds at the annual Cropredy festival. **£10 (£12 non-members)** www.anthonyjohnclarke.com

NOVEMBER 24 – GIGSPANNER ■ Haunting music of great intelligence and imagination

One week it's a Fairport Convention link, the next it's Steeleye Span! Peter Knight's fiddle playing was a key feature of Steeleye's hit-making sound and now he puts it to dramatic use in the ground-breaking Gigspanner's repertoire. With a rock influence from superb guitarist Roger Flack and rhythms of the world from percussionist Sacha Trochet, they produce haunting music of great intelligence and imagination. **£11 (£13 non-members)** www.gigspanner.com

DECEMBER 1 – JIM MORAY ■ Traditional songs presented in a way that reflects our age

Jim's "mission statement" is to sing traditional songs in a way that reflects our age – and he carries it out with huge sensitivity, producing magnificent results. He is also an arch collaborator, working with, and influencing, a host of the folk world's stars. A highly skilled multi-instrumentalist with a sweet voice, Jim brings folk music bang up to date. Mojo magazine calls his new album "Upcetera" a masterpiece. **£10 (£11 non-members)** jimmoray.co.uk



DECEMBER 8 – ARCHIE FISHER

■ An evening in the presence of the master

Archie has the spellbinding voice of a singer who has honed his craft over the decades as he caresses his guitar in perfect accompaniment. Between songs, his genial tales of life in Scotland bring laughter, as do his clever and witty lyrics, while his poignant ballads are heart-rending. Many artists have paid tribute to his writing skill by covering his works, such as his stirring anthem "The Final Trawl".

£10 (£11 non-members) www.redhouserecords.com/artists/archie-fisher

DECEMBER 15 – SAM KELLY & JAMIE FRANCIS / CHRISTMAS PARTY ■ Festive fun guaranteed

Sam Kelly and Jamie Francis are proven winners at the Ram Club, having played in a trio and as The Changing Room – two fabulous performances. Sam is a hugely talented and hard-working young musician with a memorable voice and Jamie one of the best banjo players you will ever see. This dynamic duo will set the party alight with their mix of old and new. Adding to the frivolities will be a table laden with festive fayre – plus a spectacular gallery of unusual raffle prizes. Huge fun guaranteed. **This will be a ticketed event – details to follow.** www.samkelly.org

THEN CLOSED UNTIL JANUARY

Coming up in the new year: the Bully Wee Band, the Tannahill Weavers, Night Fall – and many more top-class guests.

■ More details from www.theramclub.co.uk or Bob and Maggie Wood on 020-8686 9421

■ Find us on Facebook & Twitter, and see performances of artists past and future on our YouTube channel – search for TheRamClub

■ To receive e-mail updates or tell us of address changes, e-mail ramfolkclub@gmail.com

■ Nearest stations: Hinchley Wood, Thames Ditton or Esher, via South West Trains