

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

AUTUMN 2019

SEPTEMBER 6 – BOO HEWERDINE ■ First class performer and highly respected songwriter

Boo straddles the entire spectrum of musical styles and genres enjoyed at the Ram Club, through folk, pop, blues and country, and is one of our special favourites. Boo is one of the most highly respected songwriters of his era and is a first-class performer, too, appearing alongside such well-known artists as Eddi Reader and Chris Difford. Boo is also extremely funny, with self-deprecating tales of the various ways in which he nearly became famous. In fact, he is unduly modest – for he is the complete package. **£11 (£13 non-members)**

SEPTEMBER 13 – JAMES KEELAGHAN & HUGH McMILLAN ■ Instantly unforgettable melodies

Music as clear as a mountain stream pours from the stage when this Canadian duo is in full flow. James's singing voice is mellifluous, with an enticing hint of Burl Ives; his guitar playing floats effortlessly. Multi-instrumentalist Hugh adds delightful decoration, always thoughtful, inventive and unpredictable. And with melodies so strong they become instantly unforgettable, this is a partnership to savour and we're excited to have them back. **£10 (£11 non-members)**

SEPTEMBER 20 – BOB FOX ■ Magical entertainment from the man with the golden voice

Bob is another Ram regular who is always welcome to call in and provide us with magical entertainment. He can captivate an audience with the resonance of just his speaking voice, characterful north-east accent and gentle humour, let alone his singing. Bob has been keeping busy in recent years performing as “Songman” in the hit musical play, War Horse, as well as recording and playing his own concerts. **£10 (£12 non-members)**

SEPTEMBER 27 – CATHRYN CRAIG & BRIAN WILLOUGHBY ■ Captivating singer and guitarist

An incredibly busy duo who this year performed in New Jersey at the 50th anniversary celebrations of the Strawbs – Brian's old band. Now back focusing on their own agenda, we get to hear Cathryn's beautiful singing and Brian's restrained but brilliant guitar playing – as well as their cosy, intimate banter – between each other and the audience. Their material spans the realms of folk, country and Americana and is always captivating. **£10 (£12 non-members)**



James Keelaghan and Hugh McMillan, September 13



Salt House, October 11

OCTOBER 4 – KIT HAWES & AARON CATLOW ■ Dazzling playing with splendid showmanship

Kit and Aaron, the virtuoso guitar and fiddle players from the band Sheelanagig, draw on many influences to create arrangements of traditional music, as well as their own compositions. Their shows are a musical journey through Europe, America and beyond, combining dazzling playing with fine musicality and showmanship. A debut album “The Fox” explores the relationship between fiddle, guitar and voice, and has won critical acclaim. **£10 (£11 non-members)**

OCTOBER 11 – SALT HOUSE ■ Magnificent and gorgeous – from dramatic, to bright and breezy

The sound of Salt House ranges from atmospheric, dramatic, evocative and moody to bright and breezy – but most of all it is magnificent and gorgeous. The music created by Jenny Sturgeon (guitar and harmonium), Ewan MacPherson (guitar) and Lauren MacColl (fiddle and viola) feels both ancient and modern, conjuring up timeless images of landscapes and nature. This is an exceptional Scottish trio. Not to be missed. **£11 (£13 non-members)**

OCTOBER 18 – VICKI SWAN & JONNY DYER ■ Vibrant story-telling plus an irresistible sense of fun

Hypnotic melodies and bewitching stories are two of the elements that make this duo such a joy. Add in an irresistible sense of fun, top quality musicianship and a powerful rapport with the audience and all the ingredients are present for a truly memorable occasion. Vicki and Jonny inject new vibrancy into already vivid traditional tales – and Vicki's expert playing of the fascinating Swedish Nyckelharpa is spellbinding. **£10 (£11 non-members)**

OCTOBER 25 – THE BLACK FEATHERS ■ Mesmerising harmony and the sweetest of tunes

Ray Hughes and Sian Chandler scatter their set with mesmerising harmonies, gentle accompaniments and the sweetest of tunes – just have a listen to the beautiful “Strangers We Meet” and the moving and poignant “Holy Water”. Folk, acoustic indie rock and Americana are the genres they straddle, although they have a certain poetic beauty that is very much their own. Radio 2's Whispering Bob Harris has called them “Absolutely wonderful”. **£11 (£12 non-members)**

NOVEMBER 1 – ANDY IRVINE ■ Great Irish singer who captures the soul of his country

A former Planxty star, Andy is one of the great Irish singers, able to capture the soul of his country. A nimble-fingered player and an accomplished songwriter, Andy has a huge and broad repertoire of both traditional and original songs upon which to draw, all presented with an unmistakable Irish polish, and many of them making a powerful plea on behalf of the victims of social injustice. We can expect humour and drama in generous portions. **£11 (£13 non-members)**

NOVEMBER 8 – MICK RYAN & PAUL DOWNES ■ Duo that shifts between the hilarious and poignant

Mick, with his mighty and characterful voice and dry, ironic humour, is the perfect stage partner for sensitive and brilliant guitarist Paul, who makes a jaunty contribution with his witty asides, interjections and perfect harmonies. Audiences can relax, knowing they are in the safest of hands as this duo shifts constantly between the hilarious and the deeply moving, with the profound personal insights Mick reveals in his own compositions. **£10 (£11 non-members)**

NOVEMBER 15 – THE LOCAL HONEYS

■ Joyous bluegrass from passionate US performers

Lively and joyous bluegrass is on the agenda as Montana Hobbs, from the foothills of the Appalachians, and Linda Jean Stokley, from the rolling hills of the Bluegrass region, take to our stage for the first time. They are passionate about the preservation of old music and the creation of the new and are equally accomplished at tearing through hard driving fiddle tunes, singing the high lonesome sound, and telling a darned good story.

£11 (£12 non-members)



NOVEMBER 22 – KEN NICOL ■ Virtuoso playing, fine singing – and the richest of guitar tones

Ken has the enviable knack of extracting the richest of tones from his guitar, which he plays with virtuosity across a range of styles from folk to blues and beyond. A fine singer, too, he has worked with Al Stewart and been a member of The Albion Band and Steeleye Span. Equally comfortable as a solo performer, Ken can dazzle with his instrumental skills and stir the emotions with his singing and songwriting. **£10 (£11 non-members)**

NOVEMBER 29 – SMITH & BREWER ■ High-energy Americana duo set for a triumphant debut

With their almost-matching Alden guitars and their names emblazoned on their guitar straps, this high-energy duo will have our room jumping with up-tempo jazz-boogie-roots-acoustic-folk music, and swooning at their close harmonies and elegant ballads. Two beautiful guitars played with the nimblest of fingers, two superb voices and a batch of gorgeous Americana-style songs, Ben and Jimmy are set for a triumphant Ram debut. **£11 (£12 non-members)**

DECEMBER 6 – GRANNY'S ATTIC ■ Exceptional young trio with an energy and sound of their own

A folk trio who attack the tradition with verve, energy and a style all of their own. Cohen Braithwaite-Kilcoyne (melodeon, concertina, vocals), George Sansome (guitar, vocals) and Lewis Wood (fiddle, mandolin, vocals) are exceptional young performers of English traditional and original music. Formed in 2009, they have played widely at clubs and festivals, earning accolades for their lively, yet mature, performances. **£11 (£12 non-members)**

DECEMBER 13 – JIM CAUSLEY CHRISTMAS SHOW & RAM CLUB PARTY ■ Time to over-indulge!

What better way to end the year than experiencing the full-on Causley Christmas celebration, featuring sackfuls of wonderfully uplifting music, great dollops of festive fun with songs of over-indulgence – and even a spot of panto! As well as all this, we can enjoy the Ram's festive finger-food buffet feast in the bar, a wildly extravagant raffle with many exciting prizes, and perhaps a few surprises from the Ram's regular performers. So make sure you grab a ticket when they go on sale. **AN ALL-TICKET EVENT. DETAILS TO BE ANNOUNCED IN THE AUTUMN.**

THEN CLOSED UNTIL JANUARY 10 And we'll be back with the brilliant Reg Meuross...

■ 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 Western Railways