

hightide

A full-page background image of a surfer in a yellow and black wetsuit riding a wave. The surfer is leaning forward, and the water is splashing around them. The title 'hightide' is overlaid at the top in a large, yellow, lowercase font. Below the title, the date 'SEPTEMBER 2008' and the subtitle 'SCARBOROUGH'S ESSENTIAL GUIDE' are printed in a smaller, white, uppercase font. The main headline 'SURF'S UP!' is in a large, bold, purple font with a white outline. Below it, 'British Longboard Club Champs' is in a smaller, bold, purple font with a white outline. Further down, 'Scarborough goes Pine nuts' and 'Ryedale's live and kicking' are in a bold, yellow font. At the bottom, 'AND: music arts theatre comedy film exhibitions poetry food & drink' is in a white font. The website address 'www.hightidemagazine.com' is at the very bottom in a white font on a blue background.

SEPTEMBER 2008

SCARBOROUGH'S ESSENTIAL GUIDE

SURF'S UP!

**British Longboard
Club Champs**

**Scarborough goes Pine nuts
Ryedale's live and kicking**

**AND: music arts theatre comedy
film exhibitions poetry food & drink**

www.hightidemagazine.com

What is it about music and sport that makes poetry? The best moments always seem to have a soundtrack running behind them, the most beautiful stylists always a perfect ease.

So get that backbeat in your head as you watch – or take part in, for that matter – the British longboard surfing champs making poetry in South Bay this month.

And if your backbeat is jazz, you'll be in hog heaven as this year's festival returns to the Spa with another brilliant line-up. Over in Ryedale it's a little more low key, but a new music venture is packing in the crowds.

As ever, just get out and get doing.

Cover pic: Colin Coupland

SEPTEMBER 2008

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Film society plans anniversary shows

Scarborough Film Society has announced a brilliant line-up of movies for its 50th anniversary season.

The society started life in 1959 and, with Tony Davison at the helm, has shown the best of the world's cinema to Scarborough audiences ever since. Starting on 26 September with *The Kite Runner*, the society will be showing 17 films over eight months, ending with *Moliere* on 1 May 2009.

The extraordinary programme includes Ang Lee's *Lust, Caution*; *Love In The Time Of The Cholera*; *Persepolis*; and *I Served The King Of England* as well as *Atonement*.

The society will also be presenting the fifth



Scarborough Silent Film Festival, scheduled for 10 to 14 October. Films so far listed include *Tabu*, Murnau's 1931 classic set in the South Seas; *Tempest* with John Barrymore

Ang Lee's *Lust, Caution*

and Frank Wilson's 1913 *A Throw Of The Dice*.

Membership of the film society costs just £32, or £10 for students aged 16 to 20.



Acoustic Gathering III will ring the changes, as none of this year's acts have appeared at the festival before. The one-day free music feast will be held in Peasholm Park on 14

Acoustic Gathering features brand new lineup

September with lots of out-of-townners, including headliners 3 Daft Monkeys, as well as a good helping of Scarborough bands. It's a beautiful setting and a great way to see out the summer.

Designer visits

Internationally renowned industrial product designer Richard Seymour will be coming to speak in Scarborough on 7 November.

This is the latest in a series of design lectures organised by Patrick Argent and featuring some of the world's most innovative and important designers. The talk will take place at the library.

Litfest launch

This year's Beverley Literature Festival will run from 2 to 23 October, with more than 30 events for writers and readers.

Ryedale's live and kicking

A new music venture is packing out our under-used village halls, finds Janis Bright



No jokes please about whether there is life in Ryedale. As an ambitious music project gets underway, rural residents are proving once again that they can do culture every bit as well as the metropolitan types.

Rob Davies is a man on a high after the sell-out success of his first event in July. His Ryedale Live! venture packed out the Bandroom in Farndale for six sessions with excellent musicians. The idea is to have three established players alongside three up-and-coming locals.

The formula has been an instant hit, Rob says. 'The local players really raised their game and there was a great



Henwen at Farndale's Bandroom

atmosphere.' This month the event moves to Hovingham, then on to Hutton-le-Hole in November.

He's hard put to say what kind of music is played because it's pretty eclectic. It's not strictly unplugged – acoustic guitars can be miked, for instance – but 'anything that's not a racket' is Rob's taste. He's a player himself and says musicians are drawing on world music as well as local traditions. 'It's not all tales of woe and death, folk music is changing too,' he adds.

The venues, village halls, are part of Ryedale Live's appeal. Rob has deliberately chosen well known music venues such as the Bandroom and Hovingham, home to The Shed, to get his own plans underway. He's been pleased to find that not everyone who came to the first gig was a regular, though: there is certainly a new audience to be found.

There are new venues to be found as well. Rob says there are no fewer than 64 village halls in Ryedale – 'a fantastic, under-used resource' – and he wants to bring music to a good number of them. There are more plans for next year, with a songwriters' forum to encourage new talent, and a chance for the writers to perform in smaller, inviting settings to give them a start.

'It's all very exciting,' says Rob. 'This takes things up a level from playing in pubs and combining musicians from elsewhere with local people is a great opportunity.'

Friday 5 September's gig at Hovingham Village Hall features 17-year-old Anna Leddra-Chapman, Holly Taymar, and David Swann. Also performing will be local singer/songwriter Em Whitfield and Scott, Scarborough-based Alastair James, and Samuel Gilderdale from Malton.

Details at www.ryedalelive.co.uk.



Surf's up!

Roger Osborne previews this month's national championships

Fix that tune in your mind right now. Maybe it's the Beach Boys' Barbara Ann, or Dick Dale's surfadelia grunge classic Misirlou. Or a little chilling with Booker T and the MGs. Whatever, get that soundtrack playing in the background because Scarborough will be at the centre of British surfing this month. That's when the spectacular British Longboard Club Championships comes to town.

Longboarding is the traditional form of surfing, using boards over nine feet long, and is a favourite on this coast. Phil Thacker, chairman of Scarborough Malibu Surf Club, explains: 'Longboard or Malibu surfing is ideally suited to the waves we have in our area. The board gives you a better chance of taking off on the wave long before the it breaks. That gives

you a longer time on the wave before the surf breaks and spoils it.'

The club championships were last held here in 2002, when Scarborough's own club was newly-formed. The event was a brilliant success; our surfers came eighth and since then have steadily climbed up the rankings – they're now second.

There'll be eight clubs, with up to three teams of six each, in this year's competition for the annual perpetual trophy. Teams come from Devon, Cornwall and Sussex with members drawn from Jersey and The Isle of Wight. The Royal Marines will also send a team. Surfers take part in 20-minute heats against each other, with winners scoring for their teams on style and moves.

Holding the championships here is a great coup for Scarborough. The east coast is well known, but not so well used. As Phil says, 'The surfers who come up north for practice are the hardcore international types who like to surf the various point and slab breaks around our area, which are well known among the experienced surfers.' But this event will give the area more exposure in the surfing world, and a lot of that will be down to the Malibu club and its nurturing of surfing talent: 'We as a surf club are doing well because of the youngsters that have grown up with us hitting the water every time there is a surfable wave.'

It would be poetic justice if the Malibu club were to win, but whatever happens it will be a fantastic sight, and a triumph for Scarborough.

British Longboard Club Championships 20 & 21 September South Bay, outside the Spa

listings

HIGH FIVES

Tons of art shows to be had this month, take a day and get round a few. Rachel Howfield's video and installation at Scarborough Art Gallery is quite something, not to be missed.

The film society gets its 50th season underway, there's a special event at Robin Hood's Bay, the jazzfest takes off and so do the surfers

Art shows are listed first. Timings are as correct as we can make them, but check our website for updates or call the venue.

19 July - 24 September
Punch & Judy Puppets
Scarborough Art Gallery

19 July - 19 October
Rachel Howfield: Left Behind
Scarborough Art Gallery

29 Aug to 16 Nov
The Naked and the Nude: Works from the Tate Collection
mima (Middlesbrough Institute Of Modern Art)

29 Aug to 16 Nov
Forward Thinking: Eric Bainbridge
mima (Middlesbrough Institute Of Modern Art)

30 Aug to 1 Oct
Exhibition: Two Plus One
Blandscliff Gallery

6 to 24 Sep
Natural Layers
Moors National Park Centre

8 to 16 Sep
Fleeting Moments
Moors National Park Centre

13 Sep to 18 Oct

Paula Zimmermann
South Street Gallery

16 to 30 Sep
Exhibition: Linked
Pocklington Arts Centre

17 to 24 Sep
Different Points of View
Moors National Park Centre

26 Sep to 8 Oct
Brigantia Art Exhibition
Moors National Park Centre

22 Aug to 4 Sep
Prince Caspian
Stephen Joseph Theatre

25 Aug to 6 Sep
Scarborough Cricket Festival
Scarborough Cricket Club

28 Aug to 4 Sep
Get Smart
Hollywood Plaza

29 Aug to 4 Sep
Hellboy 2
Malton Palace Cinema

29 Aug to 4 Sep
The Dark Knight
Futurist Theatre

29 Aug to 4 Sep
Mamma Mia!
Futurist Theatre

29 Aug
Three Tenors In The Park
Peasholm Park

29 Aug to 4 Sep
The Mummy 3
Hollywood Plaza

3 Sep Scarborough Jazz:
Jim Birkett
Sigma at The Cask

4 Sep to 4 Oct
Woman in Mind
Stephen Joseph Theatre

4 Sep Scarborough
Poetry Workshop
Valley Bar

5 Sep
Ryedale Live
Hovingham Village Hall

Magic from the movies

Stephen Wood reviews Scarborough Symphony Orchestra's performance on 19 July.

A scattered showers and sunny intervals sort of evening as I set off to The Spa. Much to my shame, I've never heard the Scarborough Symphony Orchestra playing, indeed my classical concert going is limited.

The programme at The Spa was entitled 'Moments from The Big Screen'. Is film music the most underrated musical form there is? The programme started with the 'Gladiator Suite' from Hans Zimmer's wonderful music from the film starring Russell Crowe with some great work from the percussion section. This was followed by 'Dances with Wolves' which even I could recognise as the work of John Barry. This section didn't quite hit the spot - might that have something to do with me hating the film? I'd travel quite

a distance to avoid seeing Kevin Costner!

Then for me the highlight of the night. Gabriel's Oboe from 'The Mission'. Morricone must be one of the greatest composers of film music, indeed as I write this I'm listening to the soundtrack of 'Once Upon A Time in America'. Peter Walser's oboe playing was quite wonderful, very moving.

The second half started with a rousing selection of 'James Bond' themes which the orchestra were clearly having a good time playing. This was followed by Khachaturian's Adagio from 'Spartacus' and Mascagni's Intermezzo from 'Cavalleria Rusticana'. They were really getting into their stride now.

I could have done with more music from 'The Fellowship of the Ring'. These are glorious films with some breathtaking music very finely played, marred for me, sitting very

close to the sound desk, by a badly miked Elaine Dave (Soprano) which was a disgrace. I've never seen such a large desk for a venue that size. The one time you needed to hear the singer, they failed.

The Raiders March from 'Indiana Jones' was played with gusto and a fitting way to end the evening before a 'Stars Wars' encore.

Did I enjoy it? Yes, hugely, with some reservations. We should be proud that Scarborough has a Symphony Orchestra. The standard of playing seemed particularly high. Shaun Matthew, the conductor, has clearly worked very hard with the players, the strings were particularly expressive. Would I go again? Yes. The memory of Peter Walser's oboe playing lives on.

Scarborough Symphony Orchestra's winter programme starts on 1 November.

5 to 11 Sep The Edge Of Love

Stephen Joseph Theatre

10 Sep Scarborough Jazz: Stony Jazz

Sigma at The Cask

11 to 14 Sep Heritage Open Days

Various locations in Scarborough

12 Sep Chickens and Cockerels Willow Weaving

Moors National Park Centre

12 to 18 Sep Mamma Mia!

Stephen Joseph Theatre

14 Sep Acoustic Gathering III

Peasholm Park

17 Sep Scarborough Jazz: Frank Brooker

Sigma at The Cask

19 to 25 Sep Gone Baby Gone

Stephen Joseph Theatre

20 to 21 Sep British Longboard Club Championships

South Bay Beach

21 Sep Bard at Bay

St Stephens Old Church

24 Sep Scarborough Jazz: Damon Brown

Sigma at The Cask

26 to 28 Sep

Scarborough Jazz Festival 2008

The Spa

26 Sep Lunchtime talk: Geology in Paintings

Scarborough Art Gallery

26 & 27 Sep Man On A Wire

Stephen Joseph Theatre

26 Sep Film Society: The Kite Runner

Scarborough Library

29 Sep to 2 Oct The Waiting Room

Stephen Joseph Theatre

See our website for full event details

Scarborough goes Pine nuts

Roger Osborne profiles one of this year's jazzfest headliners, Courtney Pine



Saxophonist Courtney Pine is not simply a part of the British jazz revival, he is the guy who kicked the whole thing off. In the late 1980s Pine burst on to a jazz scene populated by dedicated, if ageing, white enthusiasts. The idea that young black musicians would be into jazz, and would want to follow a jazz career, would have seemed unlikely to say the least.

Pine bucked the trend. His debut album *Journey to the Urge Within* became the first serious jazz record to hit the Top 40, and suddenly Courtney Pine and jazz were cool. The follow up made an impact in the US as well and Pine became an international star, and an inspiration to young black musicians, and to young jazz musicians everywhere.

Part of Pine's appeal is his refusal to be fenced in. In 1990 he went to Jamaica to record the reggae-influenced *Closer To Home* album. The single *I'm Still Waiting* helped make this another best-selling album among jazz and wider audiences alike.

Ten albums later Courtney Pine is still pushing the boundaries. Most recently working on the BBC series *Made In England* he left the urban environment we associate with jazz and travelled to Holy Island in Northumberland. The result was a jazz soundtrack drawing on the folk traditions, history and landscape of this special place.

At Scarborough Jazz Festival Courtney Pine will be

presenting his *Transition In Tradition*, a tribute to the legendary Sidney Bechet. Born in New Orleans in 1897, Bechet played cornet and clarinet before mastering the soprano saxophone. He is credited as the man who brought the saxophone into jazz, and so beginning a line of great musicians, of whom Pine is the latest. Jazz festival organiser Mike Gordon says, Philip Larkin sums it up in his poem *For Sidney Bechet*:

On me your voice falls as
they say love should
Like an enormous yes.

Pine is keenly aware of jazz history and his tribute to Bechet is intended to show that jazz is both a historic achievement and an ever-developing art-form. Mike Gordon adds: 'Courtney Pine is a fantastic musician who, although having wide appeal, is highly respected by jazz purists. I'm delighted he is doing a tribute to Sidney Bechet, one of my early jazz heroes who touched me emotionally.'

**Scarborough Jazz
Festival 26 -28
September, The Spa**