

hightide

SEPTEMBER 2007

SCARBOROUGH'S ESSENTIAL GUIDE



**That fresh
new thing
called jazz**

**Art: the
light touch**

Reel emotion

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



www.hightidemagazine.com

September is here and it's time for another great local tradition, the jazz festival. As Laura Fowles, pictured on our front cover, demonstrates, this fantastic event brings together the best in hot new talent and the masters of the genre. Read all about the art of renewal in our cover feature.

Autumn is the time for new programmes from all the area's regulars. There's an exciting show at the Art Gallery, featuring some of the best art from St Ives, on tour with the Arts Council. The inaugural Scarborough Painters Group show should open our eyes to the talent on our own doorstep too.

And as the nights draw in, the Film Society kicks off another season of the best cinema from around the world. Sit back and see a slice of life in Denmark, Germany or Iran.

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This month's special offer

The recent Hollywood biopic renewed interest in the astonishing music of Ray Charles. We have a copy of the double CD Heart And Soul to give away.

We'll draw the winner's name from our email newsletter subscribers list on Wednesday 19 September. So see our website home page and get signed up now for a chance to win.

Beating the drum for local talent

Every Sunday night, starting from 30 September, local bands get a chance to cut their teeth in live performance at the newly refurbished Ramshill Hotel.

Organiser Darrell Hooper, who calls the sessions Laid Back and Banging, says 'It's a local showcase night, that recognises the wealth and breadth of musical talent in the area. We supply a basic drumkit and PA to get them started.'

Each event will introduce two or three bands from the area, starting with My Friend Juliet, Jawline of Julianne Moore and The Launderette Poets (see our website events calendar for future

bands through the autumn).

As well as showcasing new bands, Laid Back and Banging will encourage different kinds of innovation, with visuals and live video interacting with the musicians.

Ramshill Hotel 7 to 11 pm,
30 Sep and every Sunday
Free admission.

Interested performers should contact Darrell Hooper on 07962 499933.



My Friend Juliet kick off the Laid Back and Banging season on 30 September at the Ramshill

Great chance to be part of Musicport

Would you like to get involved with one of Britain's best music festivals?

Musicport World Music Festival in Whitby is seeking volunteers to steward at this year's event, which runs from Friday 19 to Sunday 21 October. Headliners this year include Courtney Pine, Linton Kwesi Johnson and Rachid Taha.

Volunteers will get free entry on the day they work, a chance to meet some of the artists, and discounts on Musicport events in 2008.

And of course you will get an insight into the behind-the-scenes running of a great music festival, in a wonderful location on Whitby's West Cliff, and with

a terrific audience, as well as enjoying the festival itself.

To check out the festival programme visit: www.musicport.fsnet.co.uk. For more information on volunteering, or to offer your services email: sue@whitbymusicport.co.uk, or ring 01947 603475.

Open up the house

The Civic Society in collaboration with English Heritage are putting on a series of Heritage Open Days from 6 to 9 September.

Events include guided walks and behind-the-scenes tours of buildings. For details visit: www.scarboroughcivicsociety.org.uk and follow the links.

Orchestral moves

Scarborough Symphony Orchestra is moving to the Spa Grand Hall for its new season of concerts. The Grand Hall has a bigger stage and better lighting and offers more seats than their previous venue at Scarborough College.

Orchestra secretary Rachel Emerson told High Tide: 'The

front of house facilities and box office will give the concerts a more professional atmosphere, and the bigger venue will enable us to sell more tickets.'

The season starts on 3 November, with further concerts in December 2007, March, May and July 2008.

Around the world in 17 films

Roger Osborne previews the new Film Society season

Go through your TV guide and, among the plethora of channels offering oceans of tat, you will search in vain for one thing - foreign language films. In fact any film outside the blockbuster mainstream will, unless it is part of a cheap American studio package, get little exposure. This didn't used to be - those of a certain age fondly remember Alex Cox's Moviedrome showing a cracking double bill every Sunday on BBC2. But the brave new world of multi-channel viewing, instead of offering more choice has done the opposite.



Tell No One

That's the bad news but, as Ingmar Bergman might not have said, why worry? This month Scarborough Film Society begins a mouth-

watering season of films from around the world. Some are already acknowledged classics, including Oscar winner *The Lives Of Others*, *Babel* and Almodovar's *Volver*. Others, like *The Page Turner*, *King's Game* and *Offside* (about women football fans in Iran), come garlanded with awards and critical praise. Look out too for *We Shall Overcome* and Julie Christie's performance in *Away From Her*.

Altogether seventeen films from ten countries to keep your soul warmed through the winter months. And all this for a season ticket price of £32 (or £4 per night). Mind you, for that money you could get a one month subscription to eighteen channels of reality TV - the choice is yours . . .

Film Society September dates:
14 September, After The Wedding; 28 September, Tell No One. For further dates see our Events Calendar, or subscribe to our weekly email. Films start at 7:45 pm



Donkeys' years ago, army cap still on his head, Mike Gordon headed to Ronnie Scott's club in London and caught the hot piano sounds of Stan Tracey. In those days, the early 60s, Stan had a residency and was developing his outstanding reputation as a player, composer and influence on the UK scene.

Stan is in his eighties now, and his music is still fresh, energetic and vibrant - as Scarborough Jazz Festival is about to discover. This ability to renew, according to organiser Mike Gordon, is exactly what sums up the event.

Stan Tracey's music is as fresh, energetic and vibrant as ever - as Scarborough is about to discover

In all formal senses, Mike is a veteran of jazz. For 25 years he and his wife Marian have been running Scarborough Jazz Club, and for the past five they have organised the festival as well.

But Mike does not fall into any music veteran traps when he

Stan is the main man

Ruth Sleightholme talks to festival organiser Mike Gordon about British jazz, and his delight at booking the great Stan Tracey

talks. Never does he grumble about the state of jazz 'these days', instead: 'The British jazz scene is incredible at the moment,' and never, not once, does he launch into a soliloquy about days gone by. This finger is clearly on the pulse.

Take the Jazz Club. For seven years it lived in the low-lit, smoky pub atmosphere of Scholars. This year it has moved. 'At Sigma things are different,' Marian enthuses. 'A few years ago I would be the youngest one in there. Now we have a younger crowd, a lot of students.'

And this year the Spa underwent a massive £3.75 million sound and lighting makeover. It will be a real feat setting it all up. The permanent stage will not be visible, a stage will be erected on the floor, and there will be a big screen with visuals, lights, atmosphere. 'You will hardly recognise where you are, it looks like a rock stage, not the Spa.'

All this energy, it seems, has attracted huge names to festival this year, like Martin Taylor, Alan Barnes and, naturally, 'godfather of British jazz' Stan Tracey. 'We are



Stan Tracey, above, and Anita Wardell, upper left

always looking for big names,' Mike explains. 'Not necessarily in a mainstream music sense, but within jazz culture; we try to keep on the cutting edge. We read jazz magazines, listen to jazz on the radio, do a lot of contacting.'

Scarborough can call on a strong jazz tradition: 'In days gone by the Futurist used to have big stars performing for days on end: professional

musicians.' It's a tradition being maintained by a busy man determined to keep things fresh. The combination is a proven hit.

Scarborough Jazz Festival
28-30 September
Scarborough Spa
www.scarboroughjazz.co.uk
Box Office 01723 376774

Cover pic: Laura Fowles

Listings

HIGH FIVES

This month get out and about for visual art. **Angela Chalmers** in Terrington is definitely worth a visit, and **Vivien Mousdell's**

transformation of St Stephen's church will be a must-see. Come back to town at the end of the month for **Spotlight on St Ives** and the first-ever exhibition of the **Scarborough Painters Group**.

As the nights draw in the movies on offer get better, but **Acoustic Gathering** will give you a last blast of summer sounds.

High Sixes this time as the month goes out with a bang – **Laid Back and Banging** at the Ramshill.

Details are as accurate as we can get – check our website for updates. Ongoing shows are listed first.

Aug 17 to Oct 28 **Woman Is Not A Sex Symbol (Various Artists)**

Blandscliff Gallery
Blands Cliff, Scarborough

Sep 1 to 30 **Vivien Mousdell**

Old Church of St Stephen,
Fylingdales Free

Sep 8 to 29 **Angela Chalmers, Fragile Nature**



Back o The Shop Gallery,
Terrington
10 am to 4 pm Free

Sep 15 to Nov 4 **Spotlight on St Ives**

Scarborough Art Gallery
Free with pass

Sep 26 to Oct 20 **Scarborough Painters Group**

Crescent Arts
Wed to Sat 10 to 1, 2 to 4 Free

Sep 1 **Brigid Moss, Felt workshop**

Church Rooms, Glaisdale, £35

Sep 1 & 3 **Golden Door**

Stephen Joseph Theatre
7:45 £5 (£4)

Sep 1 **Friends Uninvited**

Esk Valley Theatre, Glaisdale
7:30 pm £8 (£7)

Sep 1 **Prof Peter Davis**

Spa 11:00 am £2

Sep 4 to 6 **Klimt**

Stephen Joseph 7:45 pm £5 (£4)

Sep 4 **Manfat Voodoo**

New Tavern 8:00 pm Free

Sep 5 & 12 **Face Value**

SJT Restaurant 1:10 pm £6

Sep 5, 12, 19 & 26 **Scarborough Jazz**

Sigma at the Cask 8:45 pm

Sep 6 to 9 **Heritage Open Days**

Various venues in Scarborough
From 10:30 am Free

Sep 7 **Music and Ale Train**

Whitby Station 7:00 pm £8

Sep 8 & 9 **La Vie En Rose**

Stephen Joseph Theatre
7:45 pm £5 (£4)

Sep 2 **Dinosaur Coast Walk- Staithes** 11 am

Sep 12 to 15 **Jindabyne**

Stephen Joseph Theatre
7:45 pm £5 (£4)

Sep 14 to 16 **Woodland Festival**

Dalby Forest 10am to 5pm Free

Sep 14 **Film Society: After The Wedding**

Scarborough Library
7:45 pm £4

Interested in writing for magazines? The High Tide team is running a six-session evening course at the university campus, starting 19 September, 6:30 to 8:30 pm, on how to write news, features, reviews and interviews. Phone 01723 507284 for details.

FOOD & DRINK- ON A JOLLY

The Three Jolly Sailors, Burniston

What is the restaurant etiquette for dealing with wines with screw-tops? Should the waiter unscrew at table, as they used to ceremoniously uncork the vintage plonk, or should they now simply bring the opened bottle to the table?

That thought crossed the mind as we waited for our very nice, quite reasonably priced New Zealand Merlot in the Three Jollies. A drastic departure from its carvery past, the menu was interesting and ambitious, supplemented by main course specials, although on Sunday lunch-times they do cater for traditional tastes with a selection of roasts.

Our home-made starters – vegetable soup and roll, and smoked haddock fish-cake on buttered spinach, were both delicious. A bit of a wait for our main courses, but worth it: the sea bass (expertly filleted) arrived on a bed of crunchy pak choi and baked potatoes, with sundried tomatoes and mussels: the pan-fried duck breast was served on creamed cabbage and smoked bacon. Both portions were generous and beautifully presented, so the selection of steamed vegetables including red cabbage in an oriental dressing was a bonus.

And so to our shared pudding. Honey and walnut tart with blackcurrant coulis and a spray of fresh redcurrants, topped with a very special vanilla ice cream, was to die for.

Apparently Fridays are normally quiet, due to holiday-makers having spent up in the fleshpots of Scarborough, but the restaurant can get busy,

though the staff cope well and remain cheerful and personable throughout. Bill for a splendid dinner for two was £54. Oh, and the bottle arrived already opened. *Jake Empson and Marilyn Williams*
The Three Jolly Sailors, High Street, Burniston, Tel 01723 879001

Francis Tearooms

Put your head round the wooden partitions and you're bound to spot Celia Johnson and Trevor Howard having a brief encounter. Or maybe that tinkling in the chandeliers is caused by a Bulgarian secret agent having a fight with James Bond in the next compartment.



It's that mixture of genteel and conspiratorial that makes the Francis Tearooms such an experience. This throwback to the forties and beyond has so many nice touches: glimpses in the many mirrors, stained glass casting a soft light, embroidered tea cloths.

The menu matches. Try a selection of 'reception sandwiches', or choose from three kinds of rarebit. No wartime spirit in the cream teas: these excellent scones come with a hefty pot of homemade strawberry jam and swirls of cream.

Don't bother with the fancy choice of teas – just take the regular kind, poured rich and orange through a strainer of course, this is leaf tea – and savour. *Janis Bright*
Francis Tearooms, South Street, Scarborough

Sep 15 & 16 International Gold Cup Motorcycle Races

Oliver's Mount
Details: 01723 373000

Sep 16 Acoustic Gathering

Peasholm Park
12 noon to 10:30 pm Free
Details 01723-351983

Sep 18 & 19 Vacant Possession

Stephen Joseph Theatre
7:45 pm £12.50 - £10

Sep 20 & 21 Billy Connolly

Futurist 8:00 pm £30

Sep 24 to 29 Moliere

Stephen Joseph Theatre
7:45 pm £5 (£4)

Sep 25 to Oct 6 Cider with Rosie

Stephen Joseph Theatre
7:30 pm £17.50 - £11

Sep 28 Lunchtime Talk: Lara Goodband on St Ives

Scarborough Art Gallery
12:30 pm Free with pass

Sep 28 to 30 Scarborough Jazz Festival

The Spa
Friday 7pm to Sunday c 11 pm
Go to www.scarboroughjazz.co.uk
for details
Visit www.scarboroughspa.co.uk
to book online

Sep 28 Film Society: Tell No One

Scarborough Library
7:45 pm £4

Sep 30 Laid Back and Banging

The Ramshill 7:00 pm Free

There's something about the sea

As a new exhibition arrives from St Ives, Roger Osborne investigates the draw of the waves

Ever since the Impressionists turned the world's attention to landscapes, artists have gone in search of natural light. If you were French this meant the stunning intensity of southern skies, while the British, being an island race, have always been drawn to the sea.

The interplay of light, water and sky has had a special attraction, especially for artists who've known only smoky cities. The Yorkshire coast hosted the Staithes group, and the Fylingdales Group is still going strong after 80 years. The importance of the sea to British art was formally acknowledged in 1993 when the Tate opened a gallery in the small Cornish town of St Ives.

St Ives had long been visited by artists, including JMW Turner (who also came to Scarborough), Whistler and Sickert. Then, in 1928, Ben Nicholson discovered Alfred Wallis. The seascapes of this untaught, retired St Ives seaman were an inspiration to artists responding to the thrilling abstract modernism of Matisse and Picasso.

Eleven years later, Barbara



Peter Lanyon, Soaring Flight, 1960 (Arts Council Collection)

Hepworth and Ben Nicholson settled in St Ives and established an informal community that included many of the most innovative figures in British art. Many gained international reputations, producing work that used natural landscape to inform and inspire abstract images.

As well as visual inspiration, seaside towns hold other attractions – as Scarborough dwellers know. They draw in people who favour a meaningful existence over a life in the rat race, helping artists to feel at home. So there's no better place for the Arts Council's Spotlight on St Ives exhibition to end its

nationwide tour than here in Scarborough. The show includes works by Ben Nicholson, Barbara Hepworth, Patrick Heron, Peter Lanyon, Terry Frost, Alfred Wallis and others. Painters, sculptors, photographers and artists of all kinds increasingly see the Yorkshire coast and moors as inspiration for their art and a sympathetic place to live. Maybe this much-anticipated exhibition will remind us that important art is made, not in the mainstream, but out on the margins.

**Spotlight On St Ives
15 Sep - 4 Nov 2007
Scarborough Art Gallery**