

Boston Original
Bands Initiative

50
PENNY DREADFUL
JUDGE
HAPP

SINCE 2024

The Collective Band



Austin T

**Ace of
Kings**

BOBI Gig Number 21
Saturday 31st January 2026
Blackfriars Revue Bar,
Boston



ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

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BOBI #21: WHO HAVE WE GOT LINED UP FOR YOU THIS TIME?

The Collective Band

Grantham collective The Collective Band will be making their debut in Boston tonight and an eclectic set is anticipated.

THE COLLECTIVE BAND

The Collective Band are a group of musicians who are pretty much impossible to tie down to one particular sound. Usually you see them portrayed as "Cross Genre Hip Hop" which is as accurate as you are gonna get! Taking in a folksy, Country Rock sound at times, a Hip Hop style running through it all plus the odd glimpse of Ska/Reggae and Funk or Indie ... very much the sort of band you can imagine checking out at a festival in the countryside when the summer comes round. Here's your chance then to have a look at 'em in more intimate surroundings!

Austin T



A welcome return to BOBI for these rowdy and rebellious reprobates! The raucous rumpus they brought to

Boston in the days of early Autumn last year was nothing short of sensational! Blasting through a set of hard-hitting R&B that brought to mind the direct, stripped to the bone, proto-Punk Pub Rock of Dr Feelgood and Nine Below Zero they were an immediate hit. So much so that the merch stall was inundated with excited punters afterwards, keen to invest in the smashing collection of hard harmonica

hi-jinks and what not that is the brilliant "Going Out" album on Yellowbelly Records. Rocking 'n Rolling Lincolnshire style. 'Erd it!

Ace of Kings



Scunthorpe Metal Warriors Ace of Kings are bringing their headbanging chaos to Boston for the first time! After the

success of previous BOBI Metal Nights, we welcome further Metallic mayhem to Blackfriars in the shape of the powerhouse five piece who take their influences from across the history of the Metal world. Lee Gristle – my go to man on all things Metal – suggested "*heavy groove/stoner metal with melodic tendencies. A clear nod to the classic bands but with a modern vibe to their songs*". You may well hear a bit of Metallica one moment, a hint of Alice In Chains the next and a pinch of Blackstone Cherry afterwards. If you miss the infamous Axe and Cleaver you may well be in to Ace of Kings!

Wanna get in touch?

The **BOBI** website is your first port of call! Read back issues of Penny Dreadful, find the latest line ups and of course, buy tickets online.

<https://bobi.boston/>

Gadgie Fanzine is the Punk Rock zine that Marv has been writing since the 90s. Read reviews, interviews, articles and daft tales of misadventure, and order paper copies at the Gadgie Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/Nowthen>

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TERRY'S TALK

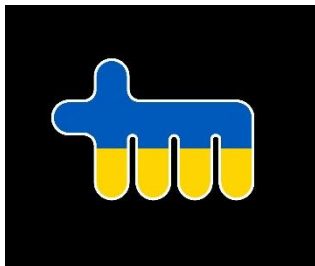
The right to speak ... whatever age.

An up and down year for BOBI, but every gig was great regardless of who was playing or who turned up to watch. We lost the Queen of Spades as our main venue but gained a couple of more prestigious venues in Blackfriars Revue Bar and Ellenders Bar & Restaurant. Both very different, but adding variety to Boston's grassroots scene. That these two locations were more than happy to give BOBI their support and share future gigs is a credit to the local community.

With a grant from the Arts Council and a further grant from BTAC, BOBI was able to start a podcast, which stalled with technical difficulties but which will kick off again this year. BOBI was able to buy a new powered mixing desk, two new speakers, additional lighting, and able to pay bands without worrying about going in the red. This year BOBI ups the guaranteed payment to bands, payment being one of BOBI's self-imposed criteria, and reducing the number of bands at each gig to three, four meant that often the headline band were playing to a much

reduced audience. With an earlier finish we hope that everyone will now stay to the very end.

What will this year bring? A wealth of talent and mixed genres to please everyone at some time. BOBI plans to feature young bands with guest spots to give them an opportunity to play amongst experienced musicians.



What about the team? Marv Gadgie continues to edit and put together this fanzine, Penny Dreadful, for each gig, a feature that we're not aware any other promoter supplies. They are collectable and a bit of a unique program for each gig. Simon Barnabas has the unenviable job of booking bands which, if you've ever tried arranging a gig, can be a major headache. Terry Martin looks after the website, produces the posters, which are also becoming collectable, mixes the sound at the gigs and DJ's when he can but Liz Martin has started taking over vinyl spinning when not manning the doors and paying the bands at the end of the evening. Oh, yes, she also sets up the drum kit too and keeps the paperwork in order.

BOBI gigs move into their third year in March. With your support we can continue to build the grassroots scene in Boston.
Terry Martin



Marv Gadgie Quite good ...

Mondegreen Mayhem! Everyone has misheard lyric tales to tell, don't they? I've been documenting them, as some of you may well know, for yonks now. The latest Marv misheard mania comes from a new split 7" that accompanied a recent issue of Safety Pin zine, who have been doing a fine line in "glossy magazine quality issues and a 7" single" packages for 25+ issues now. It's always worth a geg for fans of Punk Rock old and new alike. If you attend Rebellion every year and enjoy the Introducing Stage as much as the more established acts, then you should really be checking out this fine publication. The latest issue arrived right at the start of the Easter Holidays to be met with some excitement as the enclosed vinyl treat this time had a Channel 3 track on one side. The front cover looked suitably tough and aggro, most befitting of a song called "**Put 'Em Up**". A stencilled image of a bare-knuckle boxer sorta fella is, indeed, "*putting 'em up*" and is all set to ruck ... and ruck it does! A right good stomping, burning barrage of tough as old Army Surplus boots Punk Ruddy Rock. Lyrically it's about, by the look of things, the erosion of civil rights in the onslaught of far-right fascists rising to power. Put 'em up in a sort of "*Guns of Brixton/How you gonna come?*" fashion. Admittedly, the fact that there was a Channel 3 song on here was



the big attraction for me this time out and the flipside track by Welsh Punks NVS was merely a nice bonus I thought. Well, until I gave "**How's Harvey?**" a spin and was delighted to find that it was a fuzzing and a buzzing, speed freak of a '77 Punk smasher! Not unlike Spizz and the various iterations of the band most famous for the search for, not Spock, but Captain Kirk! Youthful attitude abounds in the high energy rumpus which details some rascal, the titular Harvey, who is something of a gad-about, all pinching your pencils(!?) and filling his face with grub and what not. A schoolboy scamp who goes by the name of Raccoon and gets up to all manner of anarchic antics, while they are also at pains to point out that their band – NVS – are the "*New Punk Sound*" and they're ready to play a gig. Just one thing though: they want to know "*How's Harvey?*" Of course, they do but on first listen I could not get beyond the fact that I was convinced that they weren't enquiring as to the wellbeing of this Raccoon chap, but were actually hollering "*Dad's Army*" down the microphone. Surely that can't be I figured? Well, obviously not. The song title aside, singing about the decrepit bunch of pensioners who were instrumental in fending off the baddies in WW2 (or so they believed) is surely the furthest you could get from the minds and inspiration sphere of such modern day, young whizz kid Punk Rockers? Can't imagine Clive Dunn pogoing to the 'Pistols can you? I wondered if NVS would have a further

raft of beloved sitcoms from before they were born themed songs in their arsenal ... surely Wolfie off of Citizen Smith is due a Punk Rock anthem? All Power to the People and what have you? Or what about George and Mildred's wayward tenants in Man About the House having a secret party that George doesn't know about but Mildred gets her glad rags on and hits the sherry with a vengeance? Could be mayhem! On the Buses does not immediately shout Punk Rock, does it? What with all the saucy antics that are now known more as scandalous sexist shenanigans, but if Blakey is "*The Man*" then the rebellious road warriors – calling 'em "*The Kids*" is a stretch - who he's always out to catch up on could feature in an anthem where the crowd shout back "*I'll get you Butler!*" when played live? Molly Sugden famously went Punk in a classic episode of Are You being Served, not to mention her colleague John Inman's New Wave makeover! Department Store D-Beat is a genre just waiting to happen ... the possibilities are endless. Highly, highly unlikely, but endless nevertheless. **Marv Gadgie**

DRIVELHEADS

Interview

Drivelheads, a trio out of the fair city of Nottingham, have impressed greatly of late. Two visits to Boston for the Adi Whiting memorial gig and then the rumpus that was the Punk 4 The Homeless Christmas caper saw their blend of melodic Punk and Elastic-esque spiked Indie tuneage go down very, very well. BOBI has them lined up for a visit in the summer, so in that awkward "what day is it period" between Christmas and New Years Eve, Marv had a natter with the trio over a Baileys and Selection Box breakfast.

DRIVELHEADS

So, "Drivelheads"? I take it you are *Elastica* fans? I bloody love 'em me. That debut LP is smashing. (Tell us about your influences/other influences and that, how did you get together and start the band and so on). Did you see *Elastica* back in the day? Any memories of the band or that Britpop era?

Sarah: Well, for me I did like them, they were on my radar at the time but I revisited them properly later. I love the name Drivelheads as it's a derogatory reference to a groupie, but we're reclaiming it because we have a female in the band. The Britpop era was a pivotal time when women really felt like they could take the reins and be in bands rather than, err bands be in them so to speak. Gosh, how crude. The ladette culture of the time never really resonated with me. I really liked Lush, on reflection another word that's derogatory to women but reclaimed by a band with females in it.

Dave: Yes, definitely love that album. "*Line Up*" is one of my favourite songs on there, it's so visceral, and I like the fact it was the first song they ever wrote together, I never got to see them live. Other than *Elastica*, we're not really influenced by Britpop, more influenced by bands like UK Subs, The Clash, Distillers, L7 and Nirvana. We have a couple of overtly political songs in our set as well. When Sarah asked me about starting a band I immediately thought it would be good to write songs with both melody and a message. We've all known each other a while, so I already knew I liked Sarah's voice. After a gig in Nottingham recently, a photographer posted his pictures and described us as

“melodic punkers and Margaret Thatcher haters” so I think we’ve achieved that.

The debut Drivelheads single is out now! Tell us about “Proxycotin” ... themes, lyrics, sound and so on. Are there any more tracks lined up for the Punk Public?

Sarah: “Proxycotin” was the first song that we jammed together at our first rehearsal, I had the bones of it and Dave did the bass line and Dickon smashed out a cracking drum sound, I think we all felt it at that first practice, like ‘*yeah this combination of people in this band is going to work*’. So, I have fond associations with it for that reason. The word itself is a portmanteau of proxy and oxytocin, so like, the big prize is oxytocin being released for a ‘*pleasant mental feeling*’ but if the chips are down, making do with the next best thing, that’s where the proxy word is smashed in front of it. It’s essentially a song about how things can fluctuate but these things are fleeting so don’t get too fraught about it. All of us had input to make it what it is.



Your new single is available as streaming and download, but are there any plans for a physical format release in the future? What’s your take on the streaming vs physical vs downloads thing? A few folk are

avoiding certain streamers at present but is it realistic in this day and age?

Dave: Yes, CDs and vinyl are still really important for independent bands and we’ll be releasing on physical formats at Playlists are the main way people are listening to music now though, so we want to be on those playlists. If you’re talking about Spotify, I’m not on there either. We’re on the other platforms as well. There will be a video out for Proxycotin soon too.

Vocals are shared in the live set between two of you – Sarah and Dave – which sounds marvellous. Is it a case of “who writes it sings it” or is there more to it than that!? Talking of songs, you have a few demo tracks on Youtube ... care to tell us about some other songs?

Sarah: For me, this is where the magic happens with Drivelheads. I think we can honestly say we have every combination of each of us writing a song and each of the others singing it. Apart from Dickon re: the singing, although he does have a shouting part on our song ‘*The Price*’ so I affectionately refer to him as our singing drummer. Dave has written riffs for me that will sound cool with my style of playing, that’s a luxury that I enjoy. Dickon writes stuff that has pushed me guitar-wise which I made a big noise about at first (not on guitar!) but am so glad now I can do it. Sometimes we just jam at rehearsal and join in with singing and we keep it. Dickon was the one who noticed that when Dave and I sing together it sounds good, so it spurred us on to keep going in that direction.

Dave: Thanks Marv! The demos we put on Youtube are pretty scruffy, but basically the idea was to have the 21st century equivalent to a demo tape we could point people to. We’ve got songs about self-medication, revenge, austerity and eco-warfare.

You've recently started playing a few gigs and quite a few of them benefit gigs. Is this a deliberate thing? Wanna tell us about the gigs and the causes? How has your sound gone down with the Punx?

Dave: We've played two Punk 4 The Homeless gigs in Boston, those guys do really good work and we've known Dan for years. We're always up for playing benefit gigs to support causes we believe in. Having a message in a song that might inspire someone is great, but without action it doesn't mean much. We've played a few which weren't fund-raisers as well, we seem to be going down ok with the Punx, and we've made a few new friends. Shout out to the promoters who have booked us so far!



On your Bandcamp you describe yourselves as "No frills, melodic Punk Rock energy - riffs, big choruses, a distortion pedal, amp and a chip on

our shoulder!" What have you got a chip on your collective shoulders about?

Dave: Have you seen the state of the world these days? Even a night in the pub costs a fortune. It's the same chip that punks have had on their shoulders forever.

Have I got this right? Did I see Sarah modelling t-shirts recently?

Sarah: Ha! Yes, modelling is a heck of a word for larking about with a mate with a camera, but my friend upcycles t shirts to save them from landfill and promote slow-fashion, so it fits well with what I'm into. Unwantees devised their logo at a similar time that Drivelheads did actually, you might see more than a bit of homage to Drivelheads in their branding. There's always a benefit, or fundraising aspect to these sales too.

How does the potential Drivelheads fan get in touch and listen to your stuff?

Website and contacts and that ...

Dave: We're on Instagram, Facebook, Bandcamp, Youtube, easy to find searching "Drivelheads" and we have a mailing list, people can get on that by giving us an email address, however they want to do that. We're on all the main streaming sites, and people can always can come and say "Hi!" at one of our gigs!



BOSTON ORIGINAL BANDS INITIATIVE UPCOMING GIGS



BOBI 22
Saturday 28th February
TV Romance (*Indie*)
Sacred Starfish (*Metal*)
Scumbus (*Punk Rock*)
At Ellenders Bar

BOBI 23
Saturday 28th March
Matthew Aylett Band
(Americana)
LA85 (*Classic Rock*)
Scarlet Joy (*Grunge Rock*)
At Ellenders Bar

BOBI 24
Saturday 25th April
Siren (*Jazz Folk Blues*)
Steven Tanner Band
(Americana/Country)
PLUS! ONE MORE TBC
At Ellenders Bar

BOBI 25
Saturday 30th May
Milk and Honey (*Indie*)
Spekkoids (*Punk Rock*)
Hedgehog Reality (*C86*)
At Ellenders Bar

Photos: Graham Campling from BOBI
#20 Top to bottom: Type Forty, Bat
Flattery, Jack Stephenson and The
Band



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