

Boston Original
Bands Initiative

50
PENNY DREADFUL
JUDGE
HALL

SINCE 2024



Allie Argent Band

Sacred Starfish

**Aubrey Eels
& the Baron**

**BOBI Gig Number 22
Saturday 28th
February 2026
Black Sluice Lock
Cottages
Boston**



BOBI #22: WHO HAVE WE GOT LINED UP FOR YOU THIS TIME?

SACRED STARFISH



Pioneers of, erm
Faecal Metal,
Sacred Starfish
are a heavy trio who
have been taking
their lavatorial
themed, hard
rocking lunacy

around the ... well ... toilet circuit of these parts for a good while now. Turning out for our good mates Not That Kind Of amongst others, they are equally notable for the wide range of unorthodox merchandise they flog emblazoned with the **Sacred Starfish** logo upon. Said to have started as a joke that was a Heavy Metal song about “*bum rubbish*”, it has sort of taken on a life of its own and become a fully fledged band celebrating heavy music and yeah, turds! You’ve been warned!

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1S7WlbwCpOAvEa8EzQ-MwQ>

ALLIE ARGENT BAND



A long-awaited return to BOBI for rising local star Allie Argent with band in tow. Long time BOBI fans may well remember the fine set from Allie, that had everyone entranced at BOBI #2, who played alongside a raging ragtag bunch of Punks and impressed them all! It was a typically eclectic line up ... Two years on and Allie’s recording career has continued apace, plus live performances all over the East Midlands including busking in Boston town centre. Allie’s tunes vary from the upbeat, infectious Pop Rock, the likes of which you may well hear from Alice Kat, to more Folk-Pop ditties that tug at the heart strings as well as getting the toes tapping. Tender

self-penned songs that evoke bedsit DIY culture one moment and lounging about in a summer haze the next, the breadth of material Allie comes up with is astounding and a local talent you should all be keeping an eye on!

<https://soundcloud.com/user-511989684>

AUBREY EELS AND THE BARON

A welcome homecoming for the gruesome twosome that go by the nom de plumes of Aubrey Eels and The Baron! Where to start with this force of nature? A two piece from deep in the Fens blasting out drums and bass guitar rumble that comes straight from the original 1977 Punk explosion but, add to that the unorthodox vocals, and you have a very intriguing mix of Punk and poetry. To say the lyrics, not to mention the manic vocals delivering them, are very, very Boston is an understatement. A local flavour you could say ... Like Half Man Half Biscuit’s sideways look at life, like Sleaford Mods had enough of all this nonsense approach and well, like Pam Ayres if she’d spent an afternoon in the Axe and Cleaver.



<https://aubreyeelsandthebaron.bandcamp.com/>

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, then order paper copies at the Gadgie Facebook page.

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

dgie

Marv Gadgie Quite good ...

These days folks do like to listen to their tunes via the internet sorcery of such things as streaming and downloading and what

have you don't they?

Here in

Gadgie

Towers

though, the

physical format is still boss.

Some of the bands you will have come

across at BOBI gigs of late, plus

other local rumpus sessions

like the ones put on by P4TH and Not That

name but two, have released proper physical erm, releases recently and as you'd imagine, I was well up for a listen.

First up on the decks of death – well, it's a CD, so the tray of terror(?) – is the “*Dynamite Joe*”

CD by Jack Stephenson & The Band who were the first band on at BOBI

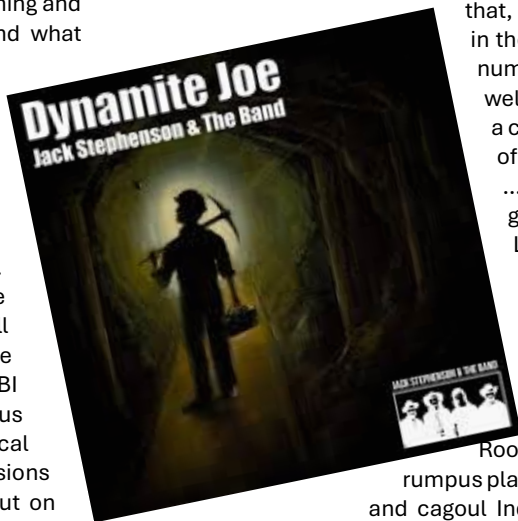
#20 and played

sans drummer that evening. This CD

finds Jack and the boys in full band

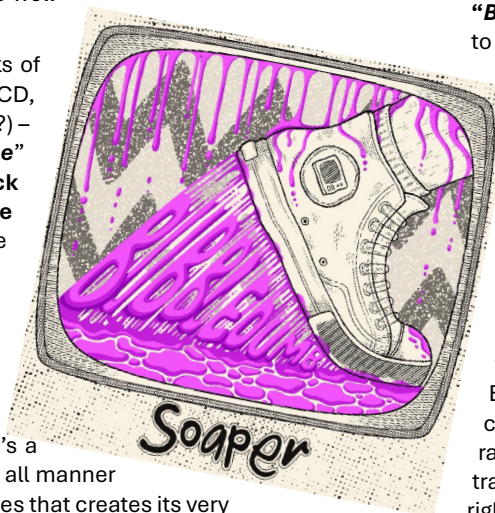
mode though and it's a refreshing jumble of all manner

of classic touchstones that creates its very own niche. Initially, I can't help but think of “*Go Johnny, Go Go Go!*” when the opener, and title track, kicks things off but it's not that simple. Yep, there's a big 50s Rock N



Kind Of to name but two, have released proper

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Roll thing going on but with a bit of a Ramones-y/Beach Boys on speed feel to proceedings in the first few numbers. Things keep bopping around and I can hear a hint of Pub Rock in “*Deadman's Hand*”

that, but for want of a harmonica in there, could be a Dr Feelgood number. Jack's vocals are very, well, English sounding, and as a consequence, I am reminded of UK Indie bands of the 2000s ... maybe a bit of The Coral or going back a bit further, The Las, not to mention an overall feel of early Stones with a nod to Bob Dylan – especially “*Gold Digging Woman*”. Yup, they're a hard lot to pin down but I'd suggest an Americana,

Roots-y, Blues-y, Rock N' Roll-y rumpus played through a 90s UK Adidas and cagoul Indie filter. In big hats. Yeah, good, upbeat tuneage!

Next up, the long awaited full length from Steaford Grunge duo **Soaper** with their “*Bubbledumb*” CD arriving to much excitement in these

parts. You may well recall seeing the husband and wife team from Shug Studios down the road, entertaining all at the Punk 4 The Homeless Halloween party a few years ago, not to mention a riotous set way back in the days of BOBI #5. They have captured the two person racket fabulously on this 14 track disc (tapes too!) and right from the off, the 90s

Grunge era sounds are there for all to see. “*Waiting For Reverence*” has a massive groove that would not be out of place on an LP by The Fluid whereas “*Stop Learning*” is

very Bleach album Nirvana. “*Nevermind*” isn’t far away either and they stay very much in the “catchier”, ore tuneful end of the Nirvana catalogue. I can imagine a track from this collection could really be something that would have been on a Sub Pop label sampler CD that I picked up on a record buying adventure in the early 90s and marvelled at the legions of unknown – to me – bands that sat alongside the few that I had heard of like Mudhoney, Tad and the afore mentioned Nirvana and The Fluid, not to mention Black Graden, a Hartlepool Grunge unit I caught at the Axe and Cleaver many, many moons ago.

Soaper have also described themselves as having some “*Math Rock issues*” which I suppose is also true, what with the bending riffs and chaotic percussion wig outs that come in and out of tunes throughout (check out live fave “*Pazu*”), while a number of other “*Alt Rock*” influences peep around the corner of other songs ...

Although the likes of Nirvana and that early 90s plaid shirt, Seattle, garage band era are still a big, enduring influence on many bands to this day, it’s not often you hear bands actually sounding like that era. Well **Soaper** unashamedly do that in a most refreshing manner and this debut album come highly recommended!

Now for a couple of Punk Rock delights ... **Rites of Hadda** played our Fenland outpost recently, where the early evening out for a pinters of the Railway and the Punx alike were both baffled, bemused and bewildered at the carry on we had all just witnessed. I’ll tell you what though, everyone ruddy well loved the carnage and

have been asking when they are coming back ever since that fateful day. To describe the sound – not to mention the live performance – of this utterly unique band is not easy, but bear with me. When I was talking to Lee from Gristle as we drove back from somewhere he enquired as to what they were like in preparation for seeing their Boston debut that was then, in a few weeks time. We had a listen to the previous album on his car’s digital music streaming internet machine thing and he

nodded, “*Hmm, decent sounding Anarcho Punk, bit of Hardcore ...*” which is a

fair summation of the sounds of the previous LP.

This new one though, the “*Inevitable Machete*”

LP on the fabulous **Grow Your Own Records**, takes that

Anarcho Punk with a bit of Hardcore in there, and goes off in all manner of directions that will

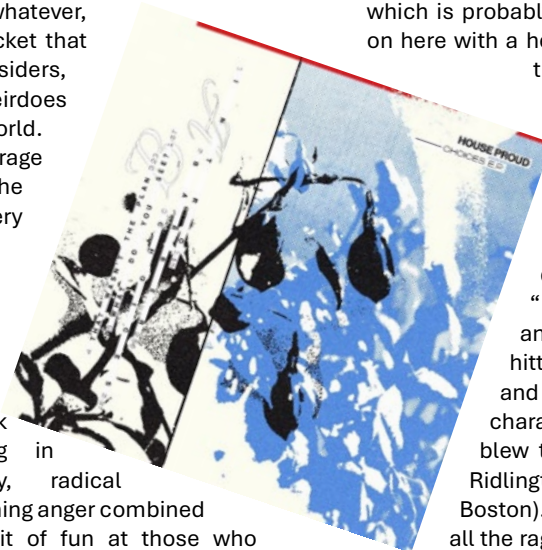
leave you exhilarated, excited, confused but

above all, entertained. Typically, the

‘**Hadda** sound is a wild, buzzing chaotic row of saxophone and blazing Punk and on this new LP (their fourth, I think) ‘tis clear that they’re not messing about and all the ingredients of the live set are present, correct and bonkers. Further investigations reveal further saxophone menace and theatrical vocals that bring to mind a strange battle ground between The Cravats and X-Ray Spex which, let’s be honest, isn’t a bad place to do battle is it? You could probably add a hint of Poison Girls, The Astronauts and maybe a bit of Post Punk oddness too as **Rites of Hadda** are one of those bands that are Anarcho Punk at heart, and lyrically very much enraged politically, yet the sound they make takes in all manner of Punk – and lawks knows what else – influences. With a singer called



Wasparella, who's live performance involves all manner of outlandish outfit changes, make up application, latex horns, an enormous wasp costume, light up wings and well, you'll just have to go see 'em yourself, the vocals are very much the focus of the sound. Tracks that reach, and go well beyond, the three minute mark you could even make an argument that they a sort of Psychedelic-Anarcho-Saxamophone-Queercore-Post-Punk unit or something ... whatever, it's a glorious racket that speaks to the outsiders, oddballs and weirdoes of the World. Resistance and rage against the machine in a very original, inventive, ferocious manner like some sort of wild ritual sending folk crackers. Taking in gender identity, radical politics and seething anger combined with poking a bit of fun at those who deserve it there's not really any other band quite like **Rites of Hadda!** Top drawer lunacy and I love it!



On to a north east band that impressed immensely at the recent riot that was the debut Yootha Presents gig in Boston, we have a crystal-y blue tape on **Serial Bowl Records** from Geordie Post Punkers **House Proud** and it's a smashing follow up to their two digital singles that to date, were all we had from them. This five tracker kicks off with an icily atmospheric intro that is all glacial guitars and what have you, not unlike Warpaint, though it doesn't last long as we are soon diving head long in to "Barber" which is a proper rollicking number that reminds me of what Sheffield's much missed Sievehead were

doing a while back. Post Punk, but less of the angular awkward and more of the fast and furious. Massive spacious guitar riffs and adventurous bass lines ... it's a powerful statement. Great stuff. "Choices" up next is more of the traditional sound of what you think of when someone says Post Punk, all swerving and pointed, though I detect a hint of the garage-y mayhem of fellow north east agitators Onlooker in there too. Ditto "That Wasn't The Plan" which is probably the catchiest number on here with a heavy intense ambience, that has seen reviewers namechecking the earlier days of Joy Division's oeuvre. The Banshees get the odd mention too. High praise indeed and well deserved. Closing track "What Do You See" is another belter, a hard-hitting squall of wiry guitar and anxious energy that characterised the set they blew the roof off with at the Ridlington in Boston (Not Boston). Post Punk seems to be all the rage again these days and there aren't many doing it better this lot I tell yer so have a go on **House Proud** now. Go on.

In this age of streaming and online listening and what have you, the days of selling loads and loads of records are long gone it would seem, so go on, help out these great bands who are still knocking out physical format releases by bagging yourself a CD/Record/Tape not to mention some merch next time you see 'em.

<https://elasticstage.com/jackstephensontheband>

<https://soaper.bandcamp.com/>

<https://growyourownrecords.bandcamp.com/album/inevitable-machete>

<https://serialbowlrecords.bandcamp.com/album/choices-ep>

BOBI PHOTOGRAPHER
Graham Campling



BOBI #18 Withered



BOBI #21 Austin T Band



BOBI #18 Electric Vendetta



BOBI #21 Ace of Kings



BOBI #18 Hedgehog Reality



BOBI #21 The Collective Band

VENUE HOPPING
With Terry

The BOBI team (Simon, Liz, Terry and Marv) began our search for a venue back in 2023 with the intention of starting our first gig in March 2024. Several places were looked at and most wanted a hire charge. Our budget, and our desire to pay the bands as

much as we could, excluded these places. We eventually had a productive meeting with Andrew Dodd, the then landlord of the Queen of Spades, a pub that years ago had been known for holding music nights. His love of live music and acceptance that he would be making decent takings at the bar meant BOBI had sole use of the “almost” perfect function room. And so, it began with a great turnout of young Boston-based bands and their fans.

In 2025 Blackfriars Theatre and Arts Centre approached us to see if we would like to hold an event in their Revue Bar. It was decided to make it a Metal showcase and on 7th June, the first BOBI event at Blackfriars was a great success. Ironically the next gig at the Queen of Spades was deemed to be BOBI’s final gig there as the pub closed suddenly at the end of June. Thankfully, Blackfriars stepped in and offered to fulfil some of BOBI’s already booked gigs and for the next three months the Revue Bar became BOBI’s home. Unfortunately, Blackfriars have other commitments, such as their pantomime season, so a rethink was needed to enable BOBI to continue holding our regular monthly gigs.

So it was that Ellenders Bar & Restaurant, based at Boston United’s Jakeman’s Stadium, stepped up to help for the final

two gigs of 2025. While this is a fabulous venue, the distance from the town centre is perhaps a contributing factor to the lower attendance. Coupled with the much bigger size of Ellenders we realised we needed to find a venue both smaller and nearer to Boston town centre.

From the outset of BOBI we had targeted the Black Sluice Lock Cottages, then still known as the Black Sluice Café, as an ideal venue for BOBI gigs. Close enough to walk from the town centre and intimate enough to make bands feel they were playing to a decent-sized audience. Unfortunately, at the time, they were unable to accommodate BOBI. Move on two years and a successful meeting was held to secure all the dates that Blackfriars couldn’t match. So, BOBI now has a new home, The Black Sluice Lock Cottages, and can hopefully continue to grow the grassroots music scene in Boston.

Blackfriars will still be home to BOBI gigs between June and September this year but all other gigs will be at Black Sluice. Please spread the word. Without you BOBI cannot survive. We are so chuffed to have been able to give bands a platform to play original music. We couldn’t survive without the bands. So, the team sends a big thank you to all of them, the support they have given us over the last two years. They are, in alphabetical order:-

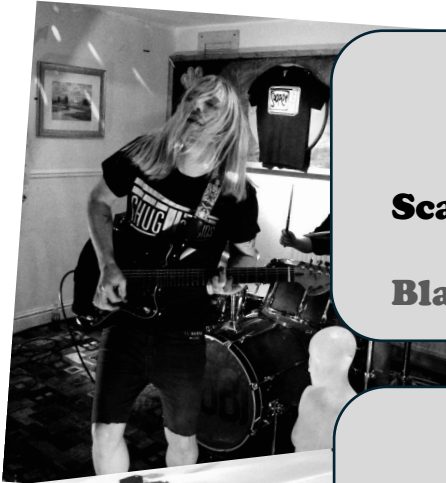
2 ELECTRIC BLUE
A GREAT NOTION
AINJIEL
ALICE KAT
ALLIE ARGENT
ARKNSAW
AUBREY EELS & THE BARON
AUSTIN T
AUTONYM
BALACLAVA
BAT FLATTERY
BLUNT SCALPEL
BONE SAW MCGRAW
BURIED BY MY HEARTACHE
BURNING FACE
CHEKHOV’S GUN
CHERRY HOLT
CHERRYSTONE

CONCRETE BADGER
CORAL SUN
COUP DE TETE
CRASH INDUCTION
CUBANS AND COGNAC
DAS KAPITANS
DAVE FAIREY
DOG EXPLOSION
DOGS! TEETH!
ELECTRIC VENDETTA
FOR I THE BADGER
FUTURE THEORY
FYZZ WALLIS BAND
GRAIL GUARD
GRISTLE
HEARTSTRUNG
HEDGEHOG REALITY
HOT SQUASH

INTERPLANETARY TRASH TALK
JACK STEPHENSON & THE BAND
JASPER CAIN
LA CHAT VIOLET
LAST SEASONS WINNERS
LOOP CYCLE
LORD FAYREBANK
MATTHEW JAMES AYLETT
MATTY G & LIL WINTER
MELANIE S JANE
MICES
MODERN HAZE
NEWSOM
NOW DISCONNECT
OLDBOY OF THE FENS
ONLY DESTINY
ONLY SOME DAYS
PINK SLIPPER

POST MORTEM
POTHOLE
REBEL HYMN
SHREDS
SLAVA B
SOAPER
SUBURBAN TOYS
TELEVISED MIND
THE DUST BUNNIES
THE HANGLAND
THE JADE CONVICT
THE TAIL LIGHTS
THOUGH HOOLIGANS
TINY FOREHEAD
TYPE FORTY
VIRAL PEACH
WHO SHOT FRANK?
WITHERED

**BOSTON ORIGINAL BANDS INITIATIVE
UPCOMING GIGS**



BOBI 23
Saturday 28th March
LA85 (Classic Rock)
Scarlet Joy (Grunge Rock)
One More TBA
Black Sluice Lock Cottages



BOBI 24
Saturday 25th April
Steven Tanner Band (Country)
Matthew Aylett (Americana)
One More TBA
Black Sluice Lock Cottages



BOBI 25
Saturday 30th May
Milk and Honey (Indie Rock)
Spekkoids (Punk Rock)
Hedgehog Reality (Pop Duo)
Black Sluice Lock Cottages

Photos: Top to bottom: *Graham Campling Soaper* at BOBI#5, *Future Theory* at BOBI #5, *Marv Gadgie Televised Mind* at BOBI #7