

Boston Original
Bands Initiative

50
PENNY DREADFUL
JUDGE
HAPP

SINCE 2024

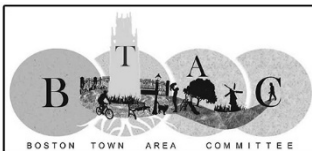


LA-85

**THE BLACK
SHUCKS**

SCARLET JOY

BOBI Gig Number 23
Saturday, 28th March, 2026
Black Sluice Cottages, Boston



BOBI #23: WHO HAVE WE GOT LINED UP FOR YOU THIS TIME?

LA-85

LA85, another band making their BOBI bow tonight, are coming to us from the Lincoln Rock scene! What we have on our hands here is, as



you'd imagine by the name, a bunch of Hard and Heavy Rawk fans in thrall to the peak of the 80s Glam Metal scene but not without influences from the intervening years in the shape of a host of Alternative Rock sounds. I imagine LA85 will be most enticing to those of you who, back in the day, patched up your denim jacket, laced up your high top Hi Tecs, brushed your big hair and hit the town with the latest Motley Crue album ringing in your ears from your Ghetto Blaster. Nowadays however, you have probably been listening to, and enjoying the likes of Foo Fighters and Pearl Jam and all these "modern bands" and what have you, while still checking the Download bill to see if Iron Maiden are playing... Yeah, you are gonna love these, if that's you, when they bring their anthemic Rock to BOBI. Echo Rebel reviewed their latest tracks, describing LA85 as a "high-gain, riff-driven powerhouse" with "all the swagger, attitude, and hooks," not to mention "Pat's powerhouse vocals." There you go Rockers. Get headbanging!

<https://linktr.ee/la85band>

SCARLET JOY

Hailing from Lincoln, Scarlet Joy are a "power trio" that fall somewhere between hard hitting Grunge and an evocative take on modern Alternative Rock. I imagine that of PJ Harvey and Florece and the Machine getting rather excited although I also hear a bit of Joy Formidable or Queens of the Stone Age in there too. Big powerful, evocative, lights flashing on, arms in the air rock anthems. The EP "Burning Days" showcased the raw emotion in the

songwriting of Scarlet Joy and the whole human condition, you know, love, loss, heartache and that hangs



heavy over the debut album "Mourning Pages". All this will be laid bare when Scarlet Joy make their Boston bow tonight! <https://www.scarletjoymusic.com/>

THE BLACK SHUCKS

Coming out of Norfolk and taking their name from the sinister hound of folklore, the Black Shucks promise hard and fast Rock n' Roll. A bunch of lifelong mates, they formed about four years ago and have only just recently unleashed their debut album on the world.



Playing festivals in their local area and building up something of a "pack" of fans, The Black Shucks play a classic RAWK style that takes in everywhere from Soundgarden to Guns n' Roses and they are ready to bring their foot on the monitor, amps up to 11, fists in the air, classic Hard Rock sound to the BOBI faithful. Rock on!

<https://www.youtube.com/@theblackshucks>

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/>

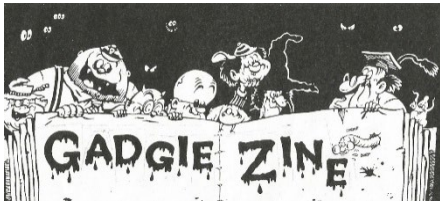
Gadgie Fanzine is the Punk Rock zine that Marv has been writing since the 90s. Read reviews, interviews, articles and daft tales of misadventure, then order paper copies at the Gadgie Facebook page.

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

BOBI

The story so far...

Marv Gadgie



When Terry, Liz and Simon invited me to join BOBI two (ish) years ago, I came on board as, I suppose, the BOBI “*Punk Consultant*”. After many years booking Punk and Hardcore gigs at the world (in)famous Indian Queen with the **Ape City Collective**, and then more recently with Warwick of **Boston Live Alternative Music Scene**, Boston was in a stale state in terms of live and original bands. Yes, you can see covers and tribute bands all over town and there is a place for that of course, but we all wanted to be doing something different, and well, “*doing something different*” we have certainly done. A music scene is not just a venue and regular bands watched by punters ... a music scene is a collective of like-minded individuals coming together to create something. Together. I think it goes beyond just turning up, paying in, watching bands and then leaving. Making friends, taking and sharing photos, creating posters/flyers, writing and contributing to zines, forming bands, promoting gigs and supporting each other’s endeavours. The legendary scene at the Indian Queen was a perfect example of this and it’s in my – and your – interest as a music fan that we build something like that again. This time though, with BOBI, a much wider net is being cast in terms of genre. “*Original*” is not exactly a genre, but it sets out our stall: support bands and musicians who write and perform their own material, be it head crushing Death Metal or whimsical acoustic Folk and then everywhere in between. I have countless friends around

the country as a result of my involvement in the Punk scene and see BOBI as a chance to create a similar network. Maybe it’s more “*localised*” at present but with support and effort from people who are willing to get involved rather than just be a consumer, we will get there. We are getting there.

My favourite BOBI moments are many from the previous two years of gigs at The Queen of Spades, Blackfriars and Ellenders. You’ll not be surprised to hear that it’s the Punk Rockers who rolled in to town that have had me getting the giddiest. Being a hardcore fan of the more “*rowdy end*” of the music spectrum, I enjoyed **Shreds** at the second show, blasting Boston with a blazing set of 80s style Hardcore (and skateboarding) plus more recently, Boston HC pin ups **Gristle** took in a BOBI gig as they continue to take the DIY Punk World by storm mixing Poison Idea and Negative Approach with Status Quo! Coventry’s **Grail Guard**, who’s new LP should be out about now, were also a blazing treat out at Ellenders, mixing raging Punk with equally raging lyrical assaults on the ills of society. Lincoln’s **Bat Flattery** are always great live and **Crash Induction** weren’t too shabby either with their blend of Cleaning Product themed Skate Punk. I could go on ... as you well know.

It’s not all Punk Rock though you know? As mentioned earlier, the BOBI team pride themselves on the variety and mix of styles on show. I have to say that the **Austin T Band**, who we’ve had twice in Boston now, have been the find of the two years for me. Blistering, hard R n’ B with equally blistering harmonica action giving them a proper nostalgic Pub Rock sound. Like watching “*Eleven Plus Eleven*” on The Young Ones all over again. Indie Rockers **Future Theory** were another band that I would’ve probably missed out on if it weren’t for BOBI and I’ve followed their Prog-Indie-Rock ever since their great set at the Queen of Spades. Taking cues from

the likes of 80s U2, Pink Floyd and a whole host of shoe-gazey/epic Indie influences to boot, they really were a surprise hit. It goes without saying that the wonderful **Alice Kat**'s performance was fabulous too, setting off a feeding frenzy at the merch table afterwards. **Thought Hooligans** were another that I would never have seen if it weren't for BOBI and their Folks-y, Indie Rock that brought to mind The Waterboys and 10,000 Maniacs, was another surprise hit for myself, someone who usually indulges in horrible unlistenable music rather than all this tuneful carry on. Again, there's been so many good bands ...

With all this in mind, and the two-year anniversary that the March gig represents, I figured I'd ask the other BOBI movers and shakers what they've made of it all.

Terry Hedgehog Reality



What do you think we have achieved in two years?

Something remarkable and different. Who else is offering

audiences such a wealth of original music in the East Midlands, and actually paying bands?

Which band(s) have been the biggest surprise?

Surprise? The songwriting and musical talent overall that more people ought to be experiencing.

What was your favourite BOBI moment/gig/band?

All the gigs have had their moments. I think **Viral Peach** are one of my favourite bands who have played at BOBI gigs. **Slava B** returning his payment to help keep BOBI going and getting grants from BTAC and the Arts Council.

Anything else you want to say?

Onwards and upwards!

Simon Tiny Forehead



What do you think we have achieved in two years?

Put on a lot of bands locally and added to the original scene.

Which band(s) have been the biggest surprise?

The Collective Band the other night were good and I enjoyed **Blunt Scalpel**'s Death Metal.

What was your favourite BOBI moment/gig/band?

Loved **Tiny Forehead** playing twice

Anything else you want to say?

Keep it local, keep it live, come on down

Liz Hedgehog Reality

What do you think we have achieved in two years?

We have succeeded in providing a platform for original bands to perform and get paid. Anything new on the scene can take a long time to embed itself in people's minds. I think that people now know who we are and what we are trying to do, the BOBI name is now being recognised and getting out there.



Which band(s) have been the biggest surprise?

I would say all of them in their own way, whether it's in their musicality, their wordsmanship, or their performance they

have all been extremely professional a delight to watch and listen to. Not being someone who is big on Punk. the biggest personal surprise for me was enjoying **Last Seasons Winners** so much that I just had to buy the T shirt, think I've become a bit of a convert.

What was your favourite BOBI moment/gig/band?

Got to be our own performance (**Hedgehog Reality**) at Blackfriars in November 2025, (we had been utterly disappointed with our first one at the Queen of Spades. Terry had been running around sorting the other bands sound that he forgot to take the echo off from the previous band, it wasn't a disaster but it wasn't good either.) My favourite Band of 2025 was an Indie band **Thought Hooligans** who performed at BOBI in May 2025. Funniest Bobi Moment? A group of rather inebriated, middle aged, Punk inspired men doing roly-polys across the stage and building pyramids of themselves.

Anything else you want to say?

We at BOBI are looking forward with optimism for what the future holds.

Graham BOBI Photographer



What do you think we have achieved in two years?

BOBI seems to have helped create a contacts/knowledge network between bands and artists in

the East Midlands.

Which band(s) have been the biggest surprise?

Burning Face ... took me back to the days of classic Metal/Rock. Lyrics were sung instead of screamed/gargled and they realise the importance of the visual element too.

What was your favourite BOBI moment/gig/band?

The human pyramid at the Queen of Spades. Being told that if I liked the band that had just been on, then I had no musical taste! Being told that I was an unusually considerate photographer, avoiding blocking folk filming the band(s) on their phones. Being threatened for "blocking my wife's view".

Marv Gadgie Quite good ...

Now then gadgie, In these days of streaming and what have you, everyone knows that the mammoth record sales of old are long consigned to history and merchandise it's where it's at! If you are at a gig these days, there's probably more "merch" than records/CDs and the likes, and in the big horrible world of the "music industry" (a big horrible world that I do my best to avoid) it's often said that t-shirt sales make a band far more wonga than music and tickets do ... Of course, badges, stickers, caps, shirts, music and hoodies and the likes are pretty de-rigueur but what of the odder side of the murky merch realm? I figured I'd have a look at some of the merch I've picked up over the years in my many gig going adventures and dust off some of the more peculiar examples.

Mad Merch #1: Hot Sauce!

It seems today that blazing hot riffs are not enough for some bands doing the rounds at present. At a recent rumpus up in Sheffield, with Boston Hardcore Heroes Gristle and our good mates Shreds. who were



playing on home turf, I noticed that the Steel City Shred-ders had their own line of hot sauce alongside their mighty fine LP (not to mention their own branded skateboards!). Bottles of Hot Sauce and Thrash! They're not the only ones either. What a time to be alive!

Mad Merch #2: Tea Towels!

Recently I was having a chat with Andy from TNS Records about me helping out with some pieces for this years Manchester Punk Festival Programme and he informed me he was busy designing a tea



towel for this years three day festival of fun and frolics in the pubs and clubs of Mancunia. Now, MPF are monsters of merch: socks, sunglasses, shorts, jogging bottoms, hoodies ... they really do go all out, but Ipswich Punk Rockers Red Flag 77 did the tea towel thing way back in that distant time known as the 90s. They played a fabulous set of classic sounding 77 Punk at The Indian Queen back in 1997 or summat and at that very gig I bagged a Red Flag 77 tea towel. Koran suggested that if that was a gift for my missus that was right sexist of me, but never fear, it has been employed as the cover that lies over the top of my record player ever since keeping the dust away from the decks of death!

Mad Merch #3 Misfits ... well, all sorts!

Misfits are probably the most "merchandised" band ever. I know someone who has a Misfits shower curtain! As a fan of the original Horror Punks, I am not averse to the Crimson Ghost's face appearing on stuff, namely a series of Misfits wallets that over the last twenty odd years have held my dosh safely

in my back pocket until it's time to come out and buy a Punk record or a beer at the bar, but my prized possession is a glow in the dark Misfits shirt that I bagged for a mere tenner when seeing them on the American Psycho Tour back in the 90s. Not the full, proper, original line up, but fun all the same. The t-shirt has the massive skull logo on and the band name and it all glows eerily in the dark. Many a time I've stumbled in from a gig and left it on the chair at the foot of the bed only to wake in the night and see the terrifying apparition staring at me in the gloom! Yikes!



Mad

Merch #4:

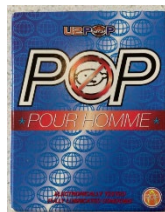
Beat Motel Squeezy Stress Bog!

Beat Motel, written by the legend that is Mr Andrew Culture over in Ipswich was a proper beefy fanzine that ran for a good



few years back in the day. It was also rather infamous for the pile of stuff that would fall out of the envelope whenever a new issue arrived. Bottle openers, key rings, badges .. you know, the usual, but most unusually, a squeezy stress ball type material toy accompanied one particular issue emblazoned with the Beat Motel logo. It was dear reader, a squeezy toilet! Yep, a stress toy toilet. And why not?

Mad Merch #5: U2 Condoms!



When seeing U2's wild over the top live extravaganza that was the Pop Mart Tour at Leeds in 1997, you'd imagine some odd merch would be available. Afterall, the album, and surrounding aesthetic, was focused on the throwaway, trash culture of modern day living and shopping carts and

whatever ... yep, there was some odd merch. Most merch at the desk, especially, t-shirts were priced with a strange number, generally two quid short of a round ten or five. Everything cost like £18 or £3 or £28 or whatever. Of course, everybody handed over a fiver/tenner/twenty to pay for their booty, to be asked round it to twenty if you like? U2 Pop Condoms are £2! Of course, everyone did and yes, I still have them and no, they were never used. Still “*mint and in box*”!

Mad Merch #6: Eastfield Mug!



It's pretty common now, but years ago I bought a mug off of Jessi, the singer and guitarist of the legendary Rail Punks Eastfield.

It was at a gig in the back room of The Ship Albion in Spalding, which many moons back, was a good venue for Punk goings on for a short while. I had met Jessi, equally many moons back, when he arrived at the Axe and Cleaver with Blyth Power and I bought an Eastfield CD from the merch table. Now a good few years on we were reunited, but this time, it was indeed Eastfield I had turned up to watch. Looking at the many CDs on display, they have something of a prodigious output, I marvelled at how the prices were all written on British Rail tickets. Very “*on brand*” I believe the kids say these days. Picking one up for a quick perusal, Jessi spied me and came over to say hello and remind me that I'd bought that one at the Blyth Power gig all those years go. Wow! He remembered that! I'd even forgotten which I'd bought ... I selected a different one and the pre mentioned mug which I often sup a cuppa coffee from to this very day was snaffled up too.

Mad Merch #7: Punk 4 The Homeless Egg Cup!

Now Punk 4 The Homeless have been doing stuff in Boston for a good few years now and have recently made The Railway Inn their home for boisterous all-day hullabaloo for which I am most grateful, what with living around the corner and that. In the never-ending quest to make more dosh for charity, the P4TH crew have come up with all manner of ideas beyond the standard t-shirts, hoodies, badges, patches, gigs and CD compilations. Lighters, mugs, coasters, pint



glasses, poetry anthologies, spoons, fridge magnets and so on ... the best though, is an item that now sits in my kitchen cupboard: a P4TH egg cup! Yes, a boiled egg for breakfast that saves kids as the saying goes! It sits proudly next to a Dr Who and the Daleks egg cup I got with an Easter Egg yonks ago. Egg-sterminate! **STOP PRESS!** *News has just reached us that they had a P4TH branded toilet brush at the last gig as a raffle prize! Oh lordy!*

Of course, no discussion of “*mad merch*” from bands would be complete without mention of our good mate Paul of Barking Mad Merch who will engrave anything with your band logo! Literally, anything. Honest! Drop him a line for t-shirts and so much more. Just search for Barking Mad Merch on Facebook or Etsy and tell him that BOBI sent you!



**BOSTON ORIGINAL BANDS INITIATIVE
UPCOMING GIGS**



**BOBI 24
Saturday 25th April**

**Siren (Jazzy Folksy Blues)
Steven Tanner Band (Country)
Matthew Aylett (Americana)
At Black Sluice Lock
Cottages**



**BOBI 25
Saturday 30th May**

**Milk and Honey (Indie Rock)
Spekkoids (Punk Rock)
Hedgehog Reality (Pop Duo)
At Black Sluice Lock
Cottages**

*Photos: Graham
Campling
Above: Austin T
Band at BOBI #21
Below: The
Collective Band at
BOBI #21*

**BOBI 25
Saturday 27th June**

**Old Boy Of The Fens (Gothic Country)
Stevie Jones Trio (Americana)
Drivelheads (Melodic Punk)
At Blackfriars Revue Bar**