

Spring

Times

Issue 163 August 2026

5 More Gigs in the Garden This Year. Don't Miss Out!

We've had a great time with our Gigs in the Garden season so far. We have five gigs left, including a couple of changes to our original plans.

Do try to get to see some of these acts before the summer comes to an end. Every gig here is magical!

Coming up this Friday, 7 August, is the truly excellent Steely Dan tribute called Stanley Dee.

They're a 10-piece band with a wonderful horn section, amazing keyboard player and guitarist, a top-notch rhythm section, great female backing singers and, of course, the front man who displays an uninhibited enthusiasm for every song.

Tickets are from £20.

Then, on Saturday 15 August we welcome back our good friends from Moonage for another great helping of Bowie classics. We're told this performance will be based on David Bowie's Glastonbury headline set from the year 2000. Tickets are selling fast for this, so grab yours soon!

The following Saturday, the 22nd, we have a newly announced act, ABBA Stars UK. This is a full six-piece ABBA band (pictured) performing all those singalong hits you know and love. So, if you're after a party night, this is it! On Saturday 5 September we welcome the return of Rea-Loaded, the Chris Rea tribute band who performed in the Acoustic Lounge back in early May. With all the musicianship and raspy Chris Rea trademark voice, this band will be performing Road To Hell, Auberger, Lets Dance, Josephine, Stainsby Girls, On The Beach, Fool If You Think Its Over and many, many more. Tickets are from £15.

To wrap up this season's outdoor gigs we hand the finale over to Supersonic Queen, just as we did last year. It will be another night of pure Queen

indulgence with a bumper crowd and great vibes. For more information on all these gigs and pre-ordering food for them, plus all the latest acts booked for the Acoustic Lounge, please go to our website What's On page.



Announcing Zero%, Gluten-Free Old Hooky



Hook Norton brewery has just announced the production of a 0.0% version of one of our favourite cask ales, Old Hooky, a beautiful fruity premium ale. Meticulously brewed using the original recipe and traditional brewing methods, this rich, tawny zero% ale captures the character of its classic counterpart. Brewed with the all-English trio of Fuggles, Goldings and Challenger hops, it offers a refreshing, full-flavoured, zero alcohol alternative. It proves beautifully that losing alcohol and gluten doesn't mean losing an ounce of character. On sale in bottles very soon!

DIARY

AUGUST

Sat 1: Thunderstruck. AC/DC tribute

Fri 7: Stanley Dee in concert

Sun 9: Classic Cars & Bikes 9:30-11:30am

Sat 15: Moonage, Bowie tribute

Sat 22: ABBA Stars UK

SEPTEMBER

Sat 5: Rea-Loaded, Chris Rea tribute band

Fri 11: Supersonic Queen in concert

Sun 13: Classic Cars & Bikes 9:30-11:30am

Fri 25: Slightly Plugged Night

Sat 26: Special Originals Night in the Acoustic Lounge with 3 acts: Ellie Chadwick, Folly Oh Yes and Sion Whaley

OCTOBER

Tues 6: Unplugged Night

Sat 10: Roll The Dice (Fleetwood Mac, Stevie Nicks, Tom Petty, Peter Green etc...)

Sun 11: Classic Cars & Bikes 9:30-11:30am (last of the season)

Sat 17: Rocket Kings 10 Year Anniversary Party

Sat 24: Marky Dawson Quartet feat. Derek Nash

Sat 31: Sing-along-a-Spooky Nick at Halloween

NOVEMBER

Tues 3: Unplugged Night

Sat 7: Pretty Green, The Jam tribute

Sat 14: The K&M Show: a night of original quirky music and wit with Kris King, Minch and guests

Sat 21: Vintage Voltage. 60s and 70s Rock

DECEMBER

Tues 1: Unplugged Night

Sat 5: Selina & The Howlin' Dogs - Bluesy

Kind of Christmas, with special guests

Fri 18: The Sing-along-a-Nick Christmas Show

■ Acoustic Lounge ■ Gigs in the Garden

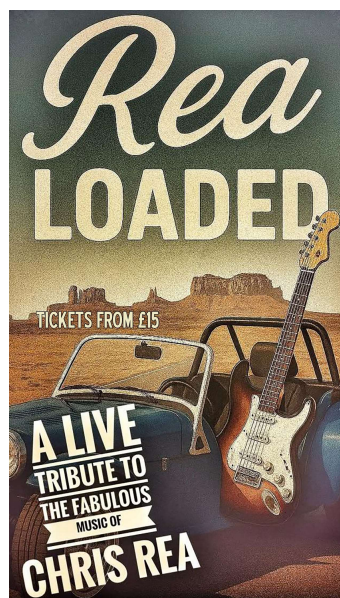
Update on our Footpath Campaign

Following many years of communications with Phillimore Estate and its agents Savills, including launching a petition in January 2024, we can now announce that progress has been made in getting a footpath from Playhatch roundabout towards the pub.

We collected thousands of signatures on our petition which was presented to Tristan Phillimore last autumn. After subsequent negotiations, Savills



are now liaising with Oxfordshire County Council. This means we are getting close to having a permissive path,



making the route safe for walkers enjoying the Chilterns and for those wishing to walk or get buses to the pub.

It is likely the path will be fenced off from the adjacent fields and dogs will have to be kept on leads, both of which are perfectly acceptable considering the landowner is giving up a slice of his agricultural land.

We're grateful to the Estate for their continued efforts, both in time and money, in getting this done.