



**STAINSBY**

*49th Festival*  
21<sup>st</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2017

It's that special time in Stainsby when the daffodils are in bloom everywhere (and we assume the rest of the UK – we don't think we're that special!), the moles are awake and tunnelling and the farmers have started their pungent brand of muck spreading around the highways and byways of our magical little corner of Derbyshire. Ah! Those harbingers of Spring. The blood stirs, the spirits rise. If Spring is here can Stainsby 49 be far behind? [If you class March 21st as the official start of Spring then it's exactly three months behind – to the day. Sorry to be picky but I do like to be exact in this era of Fake News! - Ed]. Quite.

So what have we got in our pocketses (© JRR Tolkien) for this year then?  
Read on....

**Friends of Stainsby Newsletter**  
**March 2017**

100% NOT FOR PROFIT VOLUNTEER RUN

## Pocketses Section

Well now – where to begin? You asked for *The Hut People* – we've got The Hut People. You said, what happened to the Band last time The FOS Brothers came? We really liked them but we like the Band too - so we've got the Band AND the FOS Brothers which in our view clearly adds up to *The FOS Brothers Band* [Watch it! Nobody likes a smart arse! - Ed]. OK, but we've also got *Edwina Hayes* AND *The Mile Roses* which kind of makes them into a band and kind of doesn't either. Edwina will perform solo but so will *Kate Bramley* and *Simon Howarth* AND then they'll perform together as The Mile Roses with their Nashville influenced contemporary folk thing – so they're kind of a band and then again not – clear? [Clearly unhinged! - Ed].



What is definitely clear though is that *Kabuntu* are a band. And what a band. Formerly known as *Project Jam Sandwich* (© Earl of Sandwich) neither name prepares you for the South African/Celtic/Brazilian/Balkan fusion they play on a mixture of classical and indigenous instruments. One to see [and hear! Ed].

## Drinks & Entertainment Section

Now a couple of years ago we staged a revival of the original *Tale of Ale* in The Hat Block with *Musica Inebriata*. It proved so popular that it was asked to tour other venues. As a result of its popularity we're giving it a slot in the Main Marquee this year to ease the strain on The Hat Block's less ample capacity. The downside of course, is that it's a longer walk to the bar when all of this liquid history requires some urgent practical research work. Stock up before the set- you read it here first. Don't say we don't look after you. [They didn't! Less of the paranoia - Ed]



So as usual at this time of year the programme is steaming ahead with bands like *SteamChicken* (see what we did there?) [See previous smartsarse warning! - Ed], the return of *Enda Kenny* and the first visit of *Sarah McQuaid*. We're also pretty pleased to see *Jasper* again after his stateside tour precluded a return to the festival last year. What more he's coming *In the Company of Others* and for the sake of clarity we need to point out that these are the same Others he was in the company of last time. It's just that grammatically things can get a bit tangled so these are not different Others but the same Others – by and large that is, we're not denying that there could be the occasional personnel changes without that making them other Others [Does all this so-called clarity matter in a post-truth age? Or are you just short of copy? - Ed].] Hell no! Right now we're about to move on to the Finance and Business Section [What next a colour supplement? – Ed].

## Finance & Business Section

All this lovely stuff you say, OK, what about the sponduliks? What's the damage? Ok guv, you got us bang to rights, we'll come clean [Is it just me or are there far too many police dramas on TV these days? – Ed]. But first a bit of a digression (we're going the pretty way) - you may have noticed that this year's newsletter is a bit earlier than usual. We normally try and get it out in April, sigh, throw up our hands, complain about hours in the day, blame the day job and finish up sending it out in May, but here we are still only March - just. [Doesn't that depend on when you're reading it not when it was written, or am I just being picky again? - Ed]. So what gives?

*"You can dance until midnight  
in your wellies"*

**George Colebourne**





Well, last year's festival was a real stonker and everyone turned up in droves. What could be better than selling out? Which we did. But as it turns out there's an

unexpected consequence to laying on such a great event. Everybody bought weekend tickets, in advance, which means we couldn't sell many session tickets and there's a hidden cost to that. As we never tire of saying about ticket prices, you save yourself a bundle if you buy a weekender and you save even more if you buy in advance and even even more [Is that even grammatical? – Ed] if you buy an EarlyBird.



So what, you might say? Well as a volunteer run charity we budget to break even. In a good year we make a surplus. In a bad year, we use up previous surpluses and all in all we come out quits. Last year we had a good year - but we also made a loss because all of you are so savvy that you booked up well in advance and shot our careful calculations [Ah! the back of a fag packet sums? – Ed] to pieces. So reluctantly our weekend ticket prices are going to have to go up - a bit - though they're still a bargain for the whole weekend. And which is kind of where we came in on this, because the EarlyBird deadline is going to be earlier and we needed to get the newsletter out earlier so that you all had early warning that the EarlyBird deadline would be earlier this year. What was that? Oh err... yeah... it's May the First.



## Ticket Prices 2017

EarlyBird (before May 1st)	£60
Weekend (after May 1st)	£70
Weekend On the Gate	£80
Sessions	£25 & £30
Youth Weekend (12-17)	£35
Youth Sessions	£20

## Motoring Section

Now doing all the hard sums and suffering the related ache in our fingers and toes, meant we pored over our figures and came to another doozy. The car park is costing us quite a stack. We get it from the farmers for free (thanks guys!) and we began charging to try and make ourselves green [Just drink the cider-job done! – Ed] by running a free bus paid for from the car park takings. But looking more closely, we realised we also have to put in all that metal roadway and the stand-alone lighting and it don't come cheap. So anyone bringing a car and parking for the weekend costs more. So to be fair to those that are greener and come by public transport, use the festival bus or are dropped off by friends/parents/relatives or estranged partners, the charge needs to go up – but only to three quid. It's not a big charge as parking costs go. We're not looking to make money on it but we need to make sure we're not losing it either. We want fair dos all round. Fair enough?



## Fair Comment Section

And really that's what Stainsby's all about. Its ethos [Isn't he one of the Three Musketeers? –Ed] is what makes it the way it is. As we never tire of saying, this is a community-run, not-for-profit event where everything goes back into the putting on the best festival we know how. But it's more than that. Our electricity is 100% renewable and we return the site to green fields after we've gone, treading on the land as lightly as possible. We ensure all our performers, trying to earn a living, get paid AND we have a fair wage policy that means there's a maximum and minimum fee whoever's playing. We try to be open about everything the festival is and does. Above all remembering that we're guardians of something that's hugely important to lots of people. People like You [© Jarvis Cocker] and me.



That's it! See you all soon - and if 49 is nearly here, can 50 be far behind? [You don't look 50-honest - Ed]

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