

Nettlebed Folk Club

7:30pm • www.nettlebedfolkclub.co.uk

MONDAY 15 APRIL

Ímar – The Village Club, High St, Nettlebed, nr. Henley on Thames, RG9 5DD.

No strangers to Nettlebed they are current and former members of Mánran, Mec Lir, RURA and Talisk, whose collectively crammed trophy-cabinet includes several BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards and All-Britain/All-Ireland titles. The line up is Ryan Murphy (uilleann pipes, flute and whistle), Adam Brown (bodhran), Tomás Callister (Fiddle), Adam Rhodes (bouzouki) and Mohsen Amini (duet concertina).

Ímar have a wide reaching fanbase throughout the UK, Europe, USA and Canada. The quintet have fast become one of the trad scene's most talked about group.

THURSDAY 18 APRIL

Feast of Fiddles – Benson Parish Hall, Sunnyside, Benson, nr. Wallingford, Oxfordshire, OX10 6LZ.

Born in Nettlebed on Valentine's Day 1994 as a one-off special concert, Feast of Fiddles has done 28 spring tours, 26 festivals and has 7 CDs to its name. Not bad for a bunch of old folk-rockers! This is a band of friends that puts on a show of huge dynamic range performed with passion, joy and a liberal dose of fun. The six fiddlers bring a large range of fiddle playing styles to the rock back-line – all held together by legendary drummer Dave Mattacks. This is a live music entertainment like no other on the circuit which is guaranteed to be enjoyed by even the most doubting of friends dragged along!

"Britain's fiddling supergroup" – Mark Radcliffe, BBC Radio 2

THURSDAY 30 MAY

The Pitmen Poets – Benson Parish Hall, Sunnyside, Benson, nr. Wallingford, Oxfordshire, OX10 6LZ.

Be enthralled and entertained by the re-union of The Pitmen Poets – A night of songs and stories, laced with North East humour and humanity.

They are: Lindsifarne singer and songwriter Billy Mitchell, Warhorse Songman Bob Fox, Master of Tyneside song Benny Graham and Award winning songwriter Jez Lowe.

"Whoever's idea it was to bring these four together for a show should be awarded a gold medal for services to music." – Ed Waugh, Theatre Critic

MONDAY 17 JUNE

Cara Dillon & Sam Lakeman – The Village Club, High St, Nettlebed, nr. Henley on Thames, RG9 5DD.

Cara, an extraordinary, multiple award-winning Irish folk singer, and Sam an acclaimed musician and producer, will captivate us once again with their exquisite and enthralling live performance. Every note and word sung with a passion and confidence earned through a life of experience singing traditional songs. Throughout an enviable career which has seen them explore opportunities to tread many different paths – from releasing folk crossover albums, recording on Disney soundtracks to collaborations with orchestras and even leading dance DJs – Cara has continuously chosen to firmly plant herself within the landscape of her Irish cultural heritage and that's something to celebrate. Their enduring partnership has ensured they have remained at the very pinnacle of the folk genre for well over two decades. Tonight will feature favourite songs as well as material from her new release, *"Coming Home"*, exploring profoundly personal memories, her native Co. Derry and the people, places & customs she holds closest to her heart. Join Cara and Sam for an intimate evening full of exceptional music and warmth they bring to the stage.

MONDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

Martin Simpson – The Village Club, High St, Nettlebed, nr. Henley on Thames, RG9 5DD.

The remarkable intimate solo performances from Martin go from strength to strength – every gig is a masterclass. He travels the length and breadth of the UK and beyond, giving rapt audiences passion, sorrow, love, beauty, tragedy and majesty through his singing, playing & songwriting.

"What's it like being the best guitar player in the world...?"

Martin's modesty and grace prevented him from answering this BBC Radio 4 interviewer's question recently, but the facts speak for themselves.

Forty years after he recorded his first album, Golden Vanity, in 1976, Martin is equally at home playing English traditional folk song, American folk and blues and his own potent compositions, he is consistently named as one of the very finest fingerstyle guitar players in the world & he is listed in Gibson Guitars' Top 30 Acoustic Guitarists of all time.

Martin is a fine banjo-picker to boot and an artist at the very top of his game. Whether interpreting material from tradition or singing his own potent self-penned songs

To buy NFC tickets call 01628 636620 or 603670 [10am–8pm]