

soundcheck

Issue 43 | May 2025 | FREE

Reading's FREE live music guide



KAT'NYA

+ live gigs for May

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Sound-check 43

The small gang of people involved here at Sound-check have at least one thing in common – we're all out at gigs, in and around Reading, a lot. An awful lot, in some cases. There are some who have an extra thing in common, though, and that's that they know their way around a camera in the dark. Every night, there they are, weaving around with all of the skills and experience (and gear!) to master the fine art of great live gig photography. And yet, for the most part, you'll only ever see those shots at the size of a phone screen, maybe bang a on ♥ it and that's the end.

We fit some into this rag each month but it's just not good enough so, we've pulled together a proper Photo Album! It's in print, it's bigger than a phone and it's for sale out there in the real world so the people putting that work in could actually get some money for their efforts – if you buy one, of course!

Keep your eye out for one or check the website to find out where to get one. – RICH



Halloran Purple Turtle, 31.03.2025
Photo: Kayleigh Fryer

[/soundcheckreading](#)
[/soundcheckrdg](#)



KAH'NYA

Words: RiCH Lucas

As we often do at this time of year, we've had a scan down the lineup of this month's Are You Listening? festival to see who's on the local end of the bill who we just don't know enough about, so that we can go and find out and tell you. So... this, folks, is Kah'Nya.

In a typical bank holiday style, when we've arranged to meet, it's kind of grey out with a touch of drizzle hanging about in the air – a stark contrast to Zimbabwe where Kah'Nya came here from, just a couple of years ago. Having released her first album, 'Uterior' back in Zimbabwe in 2022 at the age of just 16, she joined her mother, who was studying in London, and moved here to see what it might throw up in terms of her musical career.

"I think, having moved here, I've achieved a lot of things that I didn't have access to back in Zim, which I'm really grateful for – and I think I have to remind myself to be grateful because I've had the privilege of being surrounded by so many talented, experienced musicians and learning from them."

If you look up her stuff online you'll find the very produced, electronic version of Kah'Nya's songwriting but live, the performance is just herself and an acoustic guitar.

"When I'm performing, I always try to keep it true to how I wrote it. Nine times out of ten, that was just me and a guitar and I feel like, for me, when I listen to some of my favourite artists doing an acoustic set I think, "I would never have imagined hearing the song in this way". I believe that some people view my music as just like 'oh, this is very electronic and very EDM' but when you hear it live it evokes different feelings and, yeah, that's what I want to do."

When I asked about what got Kah'Nya into this whole songwriting lark to start with, there was a surprise coming. It started off straightforward enough...

"It's all I've known. Just me and my instrument. I wasn't really taught how to do it, I just did it. Just me in my room writing songs about whatever I wanted."

...and then...

"In school, musically speaking we had war cries..."

Eh?! Hang on. War cries? At school.

As my mind briefly flashes back to scenes of 20 kids trying to wring 'London's Burning' out of plastic recorders and tries to equate that with 'war cries', Kah'Nya laughs at my evidently bewildered expression and explains:

"It's like a chant. Different chants that you make at different events. They're loud, they're all over the place and they're unapologetic. Obviously, that's part of me and my culture and I think I've taken a lot of inspiration musically from that."





This time last year, Kay'Nya was about to play Are You Listening? for the first time, which went down really well, and she's about to make a second experience with considerably more experience under her belt. Between then and now, she got to play the Zimbabwe Heritage Festival in Milton Keynes – “which, obviously, meant a lot to me.” – and has since moved more into freelance songwriting and collaborating with other people as well as live performance.

One major recent collaboration has been with San Francisco-based artist/author Michael Lerman.

“He was born with cerebral palsy and he does music engineering and production. His story kind of changed my perspective, as a musician. Something as simple as clicking and dragging a sample, for him, takes a long time. Working with him was so seamless, you know, he knew exactly what he wanted and we just connected but it was also like, ‘Wow! I didn’t realise that there are musicians out there with disadvantages that you don’t really take into account. He’s an amazing person and an amazing musician.”

The end result of that project is out there now. It’s called ‘She Wrote’ and it’s something Kah'Nya is really proud of. In the run-up to this year's Are You Listening? festival, Kah'Nya has been writing a lot and performing very little so, even if you have caught the show before, there'll be new stuff for you which you can catch on Saturday 10th May at AYL? Hub, Market Place at 1:15pm. ■

kahnya.com
[@kahnyamusic](https://twitter.com/kahnyamusic)
kahnya.bandcamp.com

KAH'NYA'S TOP 5

1. Billie Eilish
2. Stromae
3. Zahara
4. 070 Shake
5. Shebad

OXFAM MUSIC SHOP



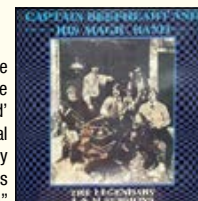
Gold!

We have had a large donation of classic new wave and indie rock on CD. Here is a selection of some classic early 1990s titles. Great British dreampop/psych from Spacemen 3, My Bloody Valentine and Cocteau Twins. A golden era and seemed so at the time.

Captain Beefheart

The Legendary A&M Sessions

Before Captain Beefheart became the undisputed doge of peculiar rock, he recorded these tracks with future 'Bread' head, David Gates. Pretty conventional by his standards but pretty out-there by everyone else's in the mid sixties. Proves my theory that notionally “easy-listening” label A&M was one of the most forward thinking of the 1960s.



Talk Talk

Laughing Stock

Post-rock begins here. The final LP from Talk Talk is a magnificent dreamy mix of ambient, jazz and everything in between. Miles away from their pop beginnings, pull The curtains, light a joss stick and turn down the lights...

Ozric Tentacles

Traveling the Great Circle: Pungent Effluent to Jurassic Shift

Before Captain Beefheart became the undisputed doge of peculiar rock, he recorded these tracks with future 'Bread' head, David Gates. Pretty conventional by his standards but pretty out-there by everyone else's in the mid sixties. Proves my theory that notionally “easy-listening” label A&M was one of the most forward thinking of the 1960s.



Open Mon-Sat 10am-6pm.

Donations of all records, CDs, instruments, Hi-Fi and other musical items, as well as films and comics/graphic novels, always gratefully received.

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THU 1 MAY

FACE BAR

Club V/New Mind/Outsider Artists

John Bramwell (I Am Kloot)

£24.80 | 7:30pm | 14+(U16w/adult)

wegotickets.com

FRI 2 MAY

PURPLE TURTLE

BrickTop

Free | 8:30pm | 18+

THE LYNDHURST

Rick Westoby

Free | 8:30pm

SAT 3 MAY

RIISING SUN ARTS CENTRE

A Beltane Concert

Daughter of the Water

£10, £7.50 conc | 7:30pm

eventbrite.co.uk

UP THE JUNCTION

Rev John H & the

Revelations

Free | 8pm | 18+

THE BUTLER

Shadow Promotions present:

The Shadow Shuffle II

Wonk Unit + Kings Alias +

Tape It Shut + The Freudian

Session + Be Nice +

Launch Control + Imperial

Leisure + Baldhead +

Almost Aliens + Lickshot

£16.50adv | 1pm | 18+

wegotickets.com

PURPLE TURTLE

Little Dave & The Sun

Sessions + Black Kat

Boppers

Free | 3pm | 18+

THE FACE BAR

Hammerdown All In

Beyond Extinction +

Enquire Within + tbc

£11adv | 7pm |

tickettailor.com

THE LYNDHURST

Brazzuckas

Free | 8:30pm

To list your gig here, for free, just email all the info to copy@sound-check.co.uk. Info is correct at time of going to press. Websites refer to where to get tickets.

bf = booking fee otd = on the door
adv = advance tbc = to be confirmed

FLOWING SPRING ACOUSTIC LOUNGE

Jewels & the Jacuzzis

Free | 8:30pm

It's free but register at:

theflowingspringpub.co.uk

SUN 4 MAY

PURPLE TURTLE

Punk Pile Up

Class of '79 + Beef + The

Deckchairs + Dead Pollys

+ Vanity Rose + Rats! Rats!

Rats! + Brioche + Rage DC

Free | 3pm | 18+

Stage times TBC!

THE BUTLER

The Final Fraud

Damien A Passmore

& the Loveable Fraudsters

+ Launch Control

£8.80adv, £10otd

7:30pm | 18+

wegotickets.com

Email listings info to
copy@sound-check.co.uk

CLUB VELOCITY/NEW MIND PROMOTIONS SHOWS AT THE FACEBAR READING 2025 WWW.WEGOTTICKETS.COM/CLUB_VELOCITY

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MAY 9TH - THE LONG TALL TEXANS + SURFIN' LUNGS

MAY 18TH - MIKI BERENYI TRIO + THE GO GO CULT

MAY 20TH - JONAH MATRANGA

MAY 29TH - SHONEN KNIFE + VOODOO RADIO

JUNE 13TH - ~~MSSV~~

EX SIOUXSIE & THE BANSHEES GUITARIST

JUNE 17TH - JOHN MCKAY'S REACTOR + SUPPORT

IN ASSOCIATION WITH GOOD WRECKING TONIGHT

JULY 3RD - THE GUANA BATZ + RED HOT RIOT

IN ASSOCIATION WITH GOOD WRECKING TONIGHT

JULY 6TH - HILLBILLY MOON EXPLOSION + THE ZIPHEADS

JULY 16TH - HEATHEN APOSTLES + UNCLE PEANUT

SEP 22ND - THE DROWNS + ^{DxSxA} OT UK THE GREENMAN PROJECT

SEP 25TH - THE SUBHUMANS

OCT 21ST - LOS FASTIDIOS

NOV 30TH - CULTURE SHOCK

DEC 11TH - JOHN OTWAY FULL BAND

MORE SHOWS COMING SOON!

Endless Idiot
endlessidiot.com
linktr.ee/endlessidiot

Turtle UNDERGROUND
 3 BANDS EVERY MONDAY
 7.30PM FREE ENTRY
 STRAIGHT INTO
CLUB RECKLESS
 PUNK, EMO ROCK, METAL

Turtle UNDERGROUND
SLUNG
 MONDAY 5TH MAY
 7.30PM FREE ENTRY / 18+ ID REQUIRED

WITH THE COLOUR BLIND MONTHS
 THE MONDAY SMILE

EMPIRES EMPIRES
 FINAL READING SHOW
 SUPPORTED BY VAN QJAN - PATINA

WEDNESDAY 7TH MAY 8PM - 11PM
 PURPLE TURTLE READING
 FREE ENTRY (18+ ID REQUIRED)

SUB CATALYST
 2005
Mystical Faya
 FRANCE

Thursday 22nd May
 FREE ENTRY / 18+ ID Required

The Jinx
 VANCOUVER CANADA

SATURDAY 24TH MAY
 ERDAGEARS
 THE MONDAY SMILE
 FREE ENTRY / 18+ ID REQUIRED

DARTZ NZ

WEDS 28TH MAY

city dog
 BOSTON

WITH **Bone-Idle** and **THE CERTS**
 Thursday 8th May
 FREE ENTRY / 18+ ID Required

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KILL COMMITTEE

Monday 19 May
 7.30pm Free Entry / 18+ ID Required

DON LETTS
 SUNDAY 25TH MAY
 3.00PM - 5PM LIVE ENTRY

COUNTY SPLURT
RUD A DUD
 Tuesday

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Friday 6th June
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UK SUBS THE REZILLOS FODIE AND THE HOT RODS
 THE SELECTOR THE GODFATHERS DEPARTMENT S

3PM TO 10PM - FREE ENTRY / 18+ ID REQUIRED

SUN 4 MAY

PANGBOURNE JAZZ CLUB/WMC

Jazz@PJC

**Simon Bates with
Terry Hutchins Qrt**

£14 | 6:45pm
skiddle.com

THE RETREAT

Andy Purcell & Dave Gray

Free | 3pm

MON 5 MAY

PURPLE TURTLE

Turtle Underground

**Slung + The Colourblind
Monks + The Monday
Smile**

Free | 7:30pm | 18+

Somewhere between Mazzy Star and Mastodon, Slung flits masterfully between thundering momentum and a vulnerability so delicate it catches you entirely off guard.

WED 7 MAY

SUB89

Newton Faulkner

£30 (General Admission)
7pm | 14+ (U18s w/adult)
fatsoma.com

PURPLE TURTLE

**Empires, Empires + Van
Quan + Patina**

Free | 8pm | 18+

THU 8 MAY

PURPLE TURTLE

**City Dog + Bone-Idle + The
Certs**

Free | 8pm | 18+

THE LYNDHURST

Mano Piano Quartet

Free | 8:30pm

Email listings info to
copy@sound-check.co.uk

FRI 9 MAY

FACE BAR

Good Wreckin' Tonight/Club Velocity

The Long Tall Texans

£16.50 | 8pm
14+ (U16 w/adult)
wegottickets.com

SOUTH STREET

Voodoo Room

£22 | 8pm

A night of Hendrix, Clapton and Cream

whatsonreading.com

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Handshake + YAANG**

£25, £16.88 (14-17yrs) | 6:30pm | 14+
(U18s w/adult)

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areyoulistening.org.uk

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METALWISE.NET

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Wednesday	5pm - 2am
Thursday	5pm - 3am
Friday	5pm - 3am
Saturday	5pm - 3am
Sunday	closed

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BLACK NOLE

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HUNDERDOGS**

PUZZLE TREE

**THE DEAD
CANTZART**

**MINGO'S
RIBBON BBQ**

Fattie & the Wolves

**ANDRAS
DROPPA**

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AMBROSE PLACE,
CHATHAM STREET
READING

**SUNDAY
25TH MAY 2025**

**NOON - 11PM
DOORS 11:30AM**

PETE'S ROCK NEWS
AND VIEWS.COM

POOLE VIGILANTES



Puma Theory Purple Turtle, 14.04.2025
Photo: Steve Axtell

FRI 9 MAY

PURPLE TURTLE
Definitely 90s

Free | 7:30pm | 18+

SAT 10 MAY

VENUES ACROSS READING

Heavy Pop presents...

**Are You Listening? Festival
Big Special + Benefits +
Coach Party + Honeyglaze
...and more**

£39.50 | 12noon

*Reading's celebrated masive one-day
festival right across the town centre.*

areyoulistening.org.uk

SUN 11 MAY

THE LYNDHURST
Northern Lightset

Free | 8:30pm

CASTLE TAP
Nasty Fishmonger

Free | 8pm

*Bristolian Folk punk. Cider and politics
of course*

PURPLE TURTLE
Conor McLain

Free | 7:30pm | 18+

WATLINGTON HOUSE
Readifolk

Baum, Maggs & Taylor

£8 *otd (cash only)* | 8pm

MON 12 MAY

PURPLE TURTLE
Turtle Underground

Free | 7:30pm | 18+

FRI 16 MAY

PROGRESS THEATRE

Jazz at Progress

**The John Horler Trio: A
Portrait of Bill Evans**

£19 (*£17 conc, £10 U16s*) +bf | 7:30pm

ticketsource.co.uk

FRI 16 MAY

SOUTH STREET
Rheingans Sisters

£20 | 8pm

whatsonreading.com

THE BUTLER

**Friday Night Blues:
James Oliver Band**

£17.60 | 8pm | 18+

wegottickets.com

SAT 17 MAY

THE BUTLER

Beat:Cancer & Church of Madness

**Witch of the Vale + Nature
of Wires + Still Forever +
Beine**

£15adv | 7pm

14+ (*U16 w/adult*)

The afterparty is 18+ and runs to 3am.

beatcancer.info

TOWN HALL CONCERT HALL

Kate Rusby

£35.50, U16s £25.50 | 7pm

whatsonreading.com

THE LYNDHURST

Stephen Carrol

Free | 8:30pm

WHITEKNIGHTS CAMPUS

**Community Festival 2025
Sundaughter + The Stretch
+ UoR Music Big Band +
The Daydream Collective
+ The Celebration Hour
+ WolfNote + Kalakunj +
Balamuty & Zorya**

Free | 12noon

ALAN CORNISH THEATRE

**Deirdre Cartwright
& the Mike Goff Trio**

£16.50 | 7:45pm

ticketsource.co.uk

SUN 18 MAY

WATLINGTON HOUSE

Readifolk

Bass & Taylor

£8otd, *cash only* | 8pm

Email listings info to
copy@sound-check.co.uk

FACE BAR

Club Velocity/New Mind present

Miki Berenyi Trio

£15.40 | 7pm | 14+ (*U16s w/adult*)

*Miki Berenyi Trio are Miki Berenyi on
vocals/guitar (Lush), Kevin 'Moose'
McKillop on guitar (Moose) and Oliver
Cherer (Gilroy Mere, Aircooled).*

wegottickets.com

MON 19 MAY

PURPLE TURTLE

**Turtle Underground
Jagged Baptist Club
+ Eat Daddy Eat
+ Kill Committee**

Free | 7:30pm | 18+

TUE 20 MAY

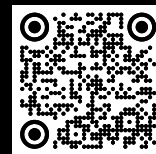
FACE BAR

Club Velocity/New Mind presents

Jonah Matranga

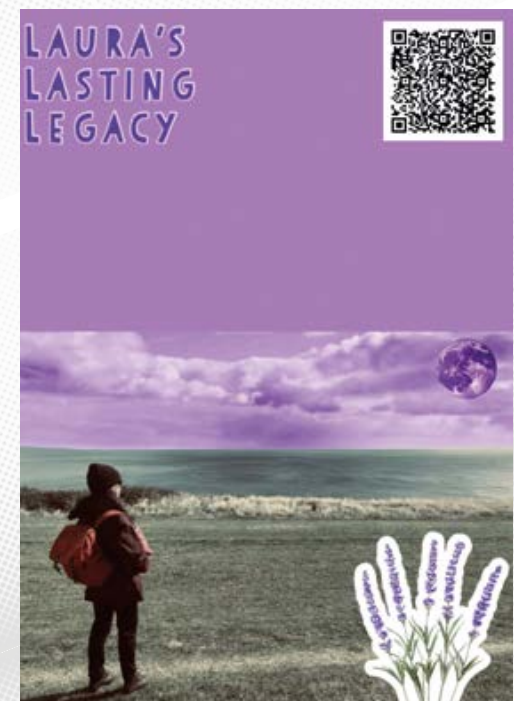
£11 | 7:30pm | 14+ (*U6 w/adult*)

wegottickets.com



For info on drum lessons,
sheet music and session
work, scan here!

charliealessandrodrummer57.co.uk



THU 22 MAY

SOUTH STREET

Boulder Fields

£15 | 7:30pm |
whatsonreading.com

PURPLE TURTLE

Dub Catalyst + Mystical Faya

Free | 8pm | 18+

FRI 23 MAY

SUB89

The Trojan Songbook Misty Roots + Pama International

£33 | 7pm | 14+ (U18 w/adult)
fatsoma.com

PURPLE TURTLE

Black Market

Free | 8:30pm | 18+

Email listings info to
copy@sound-check.co.uk

SAT 24 MAY

PURPLE TURTLE

The Jins + Verdagears + The Monday Smile

Free | 8pm | 18+

FACE BAR

Play For Ukraine 2025 Pink Diamond Revue + Natural Right + Hoopy Frood + Kryla + He Fired First

£14 | 4pm | 18+

Reading Ukrainian refugee fundraiser.
whatsonreading.com

SOUTH STREET

High Vibes #10

Nitroii + Fishy Ricky + John Christian

£8 adv, £10 otd | 7:30pm | 14+

+ audio visuals from Philip Newcombe
and Gareth Evans
whatsonreading.com

THE RETREAT

WolfNote

Free | 8:30pm

THE LYNDHURST

Said and Done

Free | 8:30pm

SUN 25 MAY

FACE BAR

Crazy Cowboy presents

Crazy Cowboy Festival '25 Hollowstar + Adam and the Hellcats + Ransom + Black Roze + James Kennedy & The Underdogs + Puzzle Tree + Eddie & The Wolves + Leadfeather

£38.50, U18 £5.50

11:30am | All ages
wegottickets.com

THE RETREAT

Stuart Henderson & Simon Price

Free | 3:30pm

MON 19 MAY

PURPLE TURTLE

Turtle Underground

Free | 7:30pm | 18+

WED 28 MAY

PURPLE TURTLE

Darts + Bollo Bollo + The Fragz

Free | 8pm | 18+

Party-punk band from Wellington, New
Zealand, known for their high-energy
and rark-heavy live performance

THE RETREAT

Jazz Singers' Night

Free | 8pm

THU 29 MAY

FACE BAR

Club Velocity/New Mind presents:

Shonen Knife

£19.30 | 8pm | 14+ (U16 w/adult)
wegottickets.com

PURPLE TURTLE

The Ding Dong Daddios

Free | 8:30pm | 18+

FRI 30 MAY

RISING SUN ARTS CENTRE

Club Velocity presents

Wilswood Buoys + Jess Tuthill + Grace Pounds

£11 | 8pm | All ages

wegottickets.com

THE BUTLER

Glimmer Records presents

White Label + tbc

£6.13 | 7:30pm

eventbrite.com

SUB89

Sanctum Sanctorium

£18.15 | 7pm | 14+

seetickets.com

PURPLE TURTLE

Rosedale

Free | 8:30pm | 18+

Looking for a video for your band?

I am a Reading based musician
and video maker. I make
cost-effective videos for local
bands.



Contact me for details:
07739 801929
digitalmck@gmail.com
@theburlyphotographer

INDEPENDENT FREEHOUSE

THE FISHERMAN'S COTTAGE



Home-cooked food,
good beer, dogs welcome

Pickin' Lunchtime Sessions

1st Sun of the month: American Old-Time
3rd Sun of the month: Irish/Celtic

Jazz
most Fridays

Bohemian Night Open Mic

Every Wednesday

To book a table for your meal,
please call 07925 336 269



thefishermanscottagepubreading.co.uk



Kulan Gath Purple Turtle, 20.04.2025
Photo: Victoria Stolyarova

SAT 31 MAY

THE LYNDHURST
Feel in Brasil

Free | 8:30pm

CASTLE TAP
Gearoid O'Meachair & Friends

Free | 4pm

THE BUTLER
Terry Bickers & The Inner Spiral + Mordecai Smyth

£16.50 | 7pm | 18+

Terry Bickers & The Inner Spiral is a new band featuring former House of Love members Terry Bickers, Pete Evans and Matt Jury, plus Dan Burke, who has toured with Astrid Williamson and The Milk And Honey Band. Playing new material plus selected tracks from the House of Love and Levitation back catalogue.

musicglue.com

THE RETREAT
The Sun Room Band

Free | 8:30pm

SUN 1 JUN

WATLINGTON HOUSE
Reading

Pete Morton

£8 otd (cash only) | 8pm

MON 2 MAY

PURPLE TURTLE
Turtle Underground

Free | 7:30pm | 18+

WED 4 JUN

SOUTH STREET
The Gymkhana
presents **Follyfoot 71-73**
+ **Skylephant**

£15.50 | 7:30pm | Under 14s must be accompanied by an adult
whatsonreading.com

THU 5 JUN

THE LYNDHURST
Elvis Tribute
Steve Singh

Free | 8:30pm

FRI 6 JUN

PURPLE TURTLE
Third Lung +tbc

Free | 8pm | 18+

SAT 7 JUN

THE BUTLER
Shadow Promotions DIY

Pizzatramp
+ **Ill Gotten Gains**
+ **Making Friends**
+ **Ritual Error**

£8.30 | 6pm | 18+
wegottickets.com

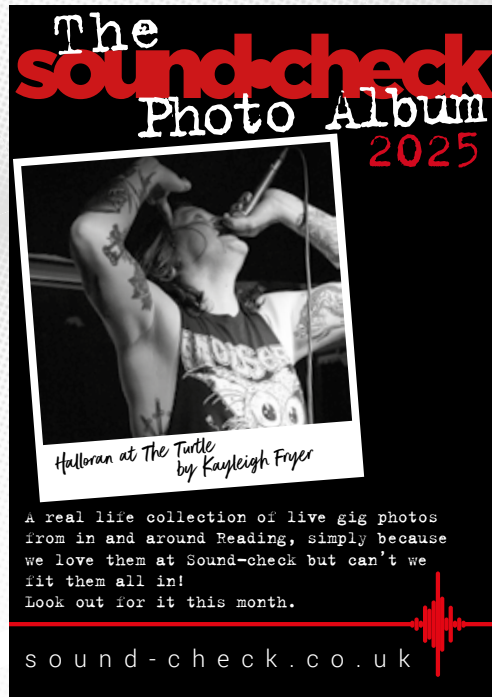
Email listings info to
copy@sound-check.co.uk



Whitehouse Studios

Production,
Recording &
Rehearsal Studios

info@whitehouse-studios.co.uk
0118 9502 102
www.whitehouse-studios.co.uk



The sound-check Photo Album 2025

Halloran at The Turtle
by Kayleigh Fryer

A real life collection of live gig photos from in and around Reading, simply because we love them at Sound-check but can't we fit them all in!
Look out for it this month.

sound-check.co.uk




Skunkworm Purple Turtle, 03.04.2025
Photo: Steve Axtell

sound-check

To advertise in Sound-check, email rich@sound-check.co.uk. Prices and ad specs are all at sound-check.co.uk. We keep it as cheap as we can to just cover the cost of keeping this thing alive. Reasonable efforts are made to ensure that all info in Sound-check is correct at time of going to press. If you're worried, though, please check with the relevant venue.

Designers: Rich Lucas, Mike Parker, Dan Li
f /soundcheckreading i /soundcheckrdg

Printed by Route1 Print.

 Route1 Print

**GO ON...
GIVE ME YOUR
BEST SHOT!**

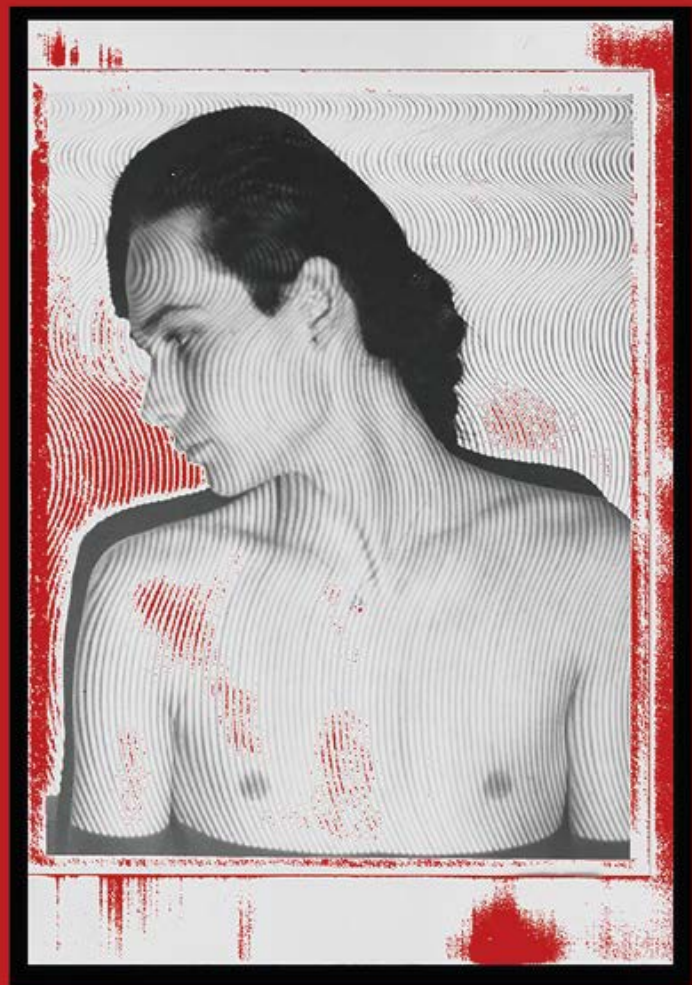


You'll have noticed we bloody love a gig photo, round here. Instagram just doesn't do a good photo justice. If you've got local act photos and you'd like to see them here, you can just email them to rich@sound-check.co.uk with band name, date, venue and photographer credit. If it's high enough resolution for real life print, and if there's space, we'll bang it in.

CLUB VELOCITY / NEW MIND PROMOTIONS PRESENT

JOHN MCKAY'S REACTOR

FACEBAR / READING



17 / JUNE / 2025

TICKETS / £18 ADV.

wegottickets.com / clubvelocity