



48th Festival 15th -17th July 2016

Welcome

Here we are with the 2016 Newsletter and it's May already - so spring is a little late again for the second year in a row. Has this got anything to do with climate change I hear you ask? Well... we'd fondly like to pretend it has, and beat the drum for how we're fighting the rising tide of carbon by sourcing all the festival's electricity from 100% renewable resources through Good Energy. But sadly, no. It's all down to that fact that our hardworking volunteers have lives to be getting on with and that this newsletter doesn't write itself when there's fun things to be done like VAT returns and resolving disputes with mobile phone companies. Fortunately...



Friends of
Stainsby
Newsletter
May 2016



...there's always sunshine after rain (*I see you've got the obligatory song title in early - Ed*) and what could herald a more bright sunny day than the prospect of this year's fantastic line up. [Cue: Bluebirds, rainbows, smiling sun, flopsy bunnies - the whole nine yards]

"If you've never been. Go. It will change your life"

Lee Gordon

The Line Up & Some Thoughts on Small Gods

Right now we're looking at quite a coup getting *Dizraeli* to Stainsby with his great new acoustic set. Supermarkets beware! As an aside, we're not sure what his Small Gods do when he appears solo, but then they've probably got their own private Valhalla to lounge about in, y'know what gods are (*Duck! Lightning! - Ed*). In a pleasing fashion we have a complete reverse with *George Borowski*, who by popular acclaim wowed the main stage last year, now returning - this time complete with band. One not to miss.



Hang on! What are we saying; they're all not to miss. So seize the day and get your tickets in because (see what we did there?) *Seize The Day* are up from way out west for a tub-thumping set that we can all join in. We're glad to say that *Artisan* are back from their break (*well technically only one of them had the break - Ed*) after they were unable to come last year owing to an accident. So welcome back, you were missed.



More Line up & Some Thoughts on Dictionaries

Robin Williamson has loved his gigs at Stainsby so much that this year he's bringing his missus, *Bina*, so prepare for twice the incredibleness! (*Is that even a word?! Where's my OED? - Ed*). We've also finally managed to synchronise diaries with *Keith Donnelly* for the first time in several years. (*Keith Donnelly keeps a diary - can we get the rights?! - Ed*) What with *Jess Morgan*, *Lee Gordon* and the return of *The Natterjacks* this is already shaping up to be a stonking festival with lots of lovely stuff. Some of it so lovely that we don't even know what it is yet. That's one of the reasons that Stainsby has that special feel, where we try and hang loose and try and incorporate those last minute serendipitous (*Damn! And I'd just put the dictionary down again - Ed*) happenings. So keep checking back or better still sign up for our Friends of Stainsby Newsflashes and get the heads up direct to your inbox. We'll try and keep the surprises happening.



The Nitty Gritty and Some Thoughts on Cider

So... to the nitty gritty... what's the damage? Well, you may remember last year (*I have difficulty remembering last week but maybe that's just the cider- Ed*) we had to increase ticket prices in order to keep up the standard of festival you've come to expect. Well this year we're hoping to serve up an even better show for the same money! That's right, same prices as last year, and - get this - still cheaper than they were in 2010. How do we do it? (*Yeah, quite a few people wonder about that - and why! - Ed*).



And... as it's already May, there's not much time to get your EarlyBirds in. Save yourself a tenner if you buy before the 1st June. And if, by the time you've picked this newsletter up again from under the piles of bills, hearing aid offers, funeral plans, and broadband packages that come with every post, it's already June, you can still save yourself a fiver by not leaving it until you get to the gate. Besides, you wouldn't want to be one of those standing outside pressing their noses to the hedge because we'd sold out on the day, would you now?

Ticket Prices 2016

EarlyBird (before June 1st)	£55
Weekend (after June 1st)	£65
Weekend On the Gate	£70
Sessions	£25 & £30
Youth Weekend (12-17)	£30
Youth Sessions	£20

Changes at t'HatBlock & More Thoughts on Cider

For those of us getting, how shall we put it, a bit long in the tooth, you'll remember John in the Catering Tent wielding a fish slice. Some of you may remember when he became John at Information, wielding a loudspeaker and nearly all of you will remember John at The Bar (*unless of course you'd been on that cider!* – Ed). Well now he's John at Retired. But we really couldn't do without our own answer to Raymond Brigg's Father Christmas. So we won't. He'll be wielding a lounge out on the field. Oh and of course, we won't do without the Hat Block either, now under new(ish) management. Same great music, same great beer (*and the same *@\$! cider?* -Ed).

Registered Charity 509610

Things Get Thirdier & Some Thoughts on ...Things

Meanwhile the Third Thing's eclectic mix gets eclectier (*you're making this up!* - Ed). What with book launches, poets, clowns, films and ooh... even thingier things... you never quite know what will turn up here – and half the time neither do we. As we've said before, we like to keep parts of the festival hanging loose (*Yes, we know about that toilet door!* - Ed) so that we can work in as many last minute surprises as possible – and sell lots of lovely copies of our lovely programme on the day, setting it all out in lovely detail! Lovely (*That's enough, luvvie!* – Ed).



Stainsby School and Some Thoughts on Clouds

Clouds, eh? There's always one to spoil that bright sunny day. The National Trust has given the festival notice to quit the School and we expect it to be boarded up. It's been an integral part of the festival since it started there in 1969 and a key part of its back up ever since. At the time of writing we're still negotiating with them over its **future.Thoughts** welcome on where we can store our rammel... err, sorry, I mean essential festival gear, until next year. Meanwhile we're looking for that elusive silver lining (*shouldn't that be "alleged" silver lining?* – Ed)



The Fields Appeal and Some Thoughts on the Law

The Fields Appeal goes from strength to strength. The LlamaKarma Lottery was a great success and we're currently working on the next great wheeze to swell the coffers (*Oh we actually own some coffers, do we? Often wondered what they look like!* -Ed). We'll keep you posted.

Meanwhile here's a heads up (*I prefer bottoms up myself* – Ed) about the festival charity. At the moment we're an unincorporated charity, which means the festival cannot own the fields because legally it doesn't exist. Eh? ...I know, I know, sounds weird but that's the law for you. So the Trustees have been ploughing through the paperwork to convert the festival into a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. (*Does that mean I get to put CIO after my name?* – Ed). What's the difference? Well, none really except the festival becomes, legally, a "person" and able to own property. And otherwise? Doodly squat. But you'd be amazed at how much effort goes into achieving doodly squat! More news at our AGM in the autumn.

Enough! There's a festival to organise, musicians to see, a celebration to be had and those tickets won't buy themselves you know:

- www.stainsbyfestival.org.uk/booking.shtml to get some in
- www.stainsbyfestival.org.uk/news.shtml for all the latest.

Keep watching the skies! ☀

Check Out All the Latest:



www.stainsbyfestival.org.uk

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