

# What's On

## Music

### Book ahead

**A NIGHT OF DIRTY DANCING**  
Thursday, March 24:  
Hall For Cornwall, Truro  
[www.hallforcornwall.co.uk](http://www.hallforcornwall.co.uk)

**COLLABRO**  
Thursday, March 24:  
Plymouth Pavilions  
[www.plymouthpavilions.com](http://www.plymouthpavilions.com)

**WORRY DOLLS**  
Thursday, March 24: The Taphouse, St Agnes  
Saturday, March 26: Falmouth Folk & Cider Festival  
Saturday, March 27: Watering Hole, Perranporth  
[www.worrydollsmusic.com](http://www.worrydollsmusic.com)

**THE THREE DEGREES**  
Friday, March 25:  
Hall For Cornwall, Truro  
[www.hallforcornwall.co.uk](http://www.hallforcornwall.co.uk)

**THE STARS FROM THE COMMITMENTS**  
Saturday, April 2:  
Plymouth Pavilions  
[www.plymouthpavilions.com](http://www.plymouthpavilions.com)

**JOHANNA GRAHAM QUARTET**  
Saturday, April 2:  
Blisland Village Hall  
Friday, April 8: Liskerrett Community Centre, Liskeard  
Saturday, April 23: The Old School, Stoke Climsland  
West Cornwall's popular jazz outfit take their songs further up the county.  
[www.carmtocove.co.uk](http://www.carmtocove.co.uk)

### YEARS AND YEARS



**Tuesday, April 5: Plymouth Pavilions**  
One of the biggest British pop groups of the past few years bring their '80s-indebted electro-pop to the Pavilions with support from excellent Danish singer MØ.  
[www.plymouthpavilions.com](http://www.plymouthpavilions.com)

**WELSH NATIONAL OPERA**  
Tuesday to Friday, April 5 to 8: Theatre Royal Plymouth  
[www.theatreroyal.com](http://www.theatreroyal.com)

**ELECTRIC SWING CIRCUS**  
Saturday, April 9: The Watering Hole, Perranporth  
[www.thewateringhole.co.uk](http://www.thewateringhole.co.uk)

**SARAH MCQUAID**  
Thursday, April 14: The Acorn, Penzance  
A hometown gig. "Brilliant musicianship, a warm and welcoming stage presence and a voice as rich, matured and knowing as the finest thrice-distilled Irish malt whiskey." *fRoots*.  
[thecornpenzance.com](http://thecornpenzance.com)

# Sunset Sons are on the rise

## Band talk about their debut album and love for Cornwall

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SUNSET Sons first caught my attention this time last year when I stumbled across their video of Remember on YouTube.

I sat watching for three minutes as the chiming piano keys, gravelly vocals and glares of sun from the South West French coast shone through my computer screen, keen to discover more about the surf-inspired musicians.

A year later and I'm chatting to frontman Rory Williams about how he shot the video using the very same piano he played in a small bar in France which kicked-off their success.

"I saw Pete (Harper, bassist) wheeling in a piano he'd got for 100 Euros from an old couple and said if you ever want anyone to play, as a passing joke. I played three songs, he gave me food and beer and I ended up playing for a week." He laughs as he recalls the piano was actually so out of tune that the boys had to down-tune their guitars.

Playing Falmouth's Princess Pavilion on Saturday, April 2, the English-Australian four-piece formed in a little French surf spot called Hossegor, fitting for their laid-back image and still their base to date.

"We all went there off our own back. For me, I went there to get away – I wasn't enjoying my job and had had enough of everyday living. I felt I needed to pack my bags and go travelling. I'd heard of people doing seasons and thought I could do that, I could do a week and if it doesn't work out it's a week's holiday. Then one week turned



● Sunset Sons makes themselves at home in St Agnes with some pasties.

into two weeks..." From standing in a French car park with nowhere to live, to performing in a local bar called Le Surfing, which later lent its name to Sunset Sons' first self-funded EP, the guys have since supported Imagine Dragons on 36 dates of their world tour while dividing their time between France, Nashville and London to work on their second album, Very Rarely Say Die, with three-time Grammy Award-winning producer Jacquire King and producer James Lewis.

"It's not until you see it written down on paper you know they're a big deal. You get excited when Jacquire King says I wanna work on this record. I mean Kings of Leon, wow. It would have been different if we'd approached him.

"It's the same with James Lewis. He's a great producer who's really come into his own. He's worked with Arctic Monkeys and Rudimental and he wanted to work with us."

But does the process of working with a label and producers who have worked with the likes of Kings of Leon and James Bay change perspective for a band that self-funded and recorded their first EP in three days?

"You kind of forget about all the names. I think you have to. You can get caught up in who he's worked with – you need to forget and feel comfortable."

"One thing we always said is we kinda have the last say. Our debut, no one knows you or cares so you can do what you want. With the label, James helped

with the direction and we had the sound. "We go with people we trust and only work with people we generally like and have a connection with. It's all about the music, we write our own songs and people get what we're like. We're really proud of this record."

Making music that is true to their sound is the one thing that stands out from our conversation and their playground for writing is France.

"All you want to do as a band is be able to stand out from the crowd, in a good way (he adds with a cheeky laugh) and want the crowd to continue to get bigger."

"Last year was the busiest year for the band. Anytime off we were back in France. It's so peaceful playing around with a bunch of tunes there. It's miserable in the winter but they have these weird Indian summers. I love London but we have the privilege of going back and relaxing."

And back in the UK, it's not the first time Sunset Sons have played Cornwall. Last year saw them finally fight back Hurricane Bertha and perform on the main stage at Boardmasters.

"Boardmasters was so cool. We've got a lot of love for Cornwall and we're really excited to go back."

"It's our first time in Falmouth and we always get told: 'they won't buy tickets before but they will buy on the door'. That happened in Perranporth – they said there'd be a few people and it ended up being packed – 600 to 700 people turned up. It had gone from will anyone turn up to that."

Sun, sea, surf and songs about escapism; I can't think of more fitting band to play Cornwall.

Supporting Sunset Sons will be Louis Berry. For tickets see [www.crbo.co.uk](http://www.crbo.co.uk) / [sunsetsons.com](http://sunsetsons.com) (£13).

## Mark Scillies days in your diary

**THE Daymark Festival on St Martin's, Isles of Scilly, takes place on Saturday and Sunday at Seven Stones Inn.**

Those playing include Joshface, a Cornwall-based, one-man synth-rock act; Joe Keelan and his folk acoustic sound; Wag Buoys, a three-piece local band from Bryher, Isles Of Scilly; Lukas Drinkwater, a session musician based in Exeter who also plays with Cornwall's own 3 Daft Monkeys; The Little Unsaid, featuring John Elliott's string and brass orchestration with beats, electronics, and his haunting, androgynous vocals; Boundless Brothers, the renowned Cornish folk-pop band.

Making her second appearance at the festival is Stevie Nicole Brown, a singer-songwriter from a Somerset. Also playing are The June Apples, who playfully rework traditional tunes, songs and stories inspired by their wanderings around Europe. Last but not least are The Interceptors, pictured, a three-piece rock band from Falmouth, who have supported bands such as



Brother & Bones, The Computers and Land Of The Giants.

Enjoy a chill-out marquee with games, clay modelling, barbecue, beers and ciders from all over Cornwall. For more details, including boat times, see [www.daymarkfestival.com](http://www.daymarkfestival.com)



● The Beauty of Diagrams play the Jacobs Ladder, Falmouth, on Easter Saturday, showcasing a more danceable set. This follows a busy start to 2016 for the band, who have crisscrossed the area, packing in gigs this year. They have even had time to release their first music video for the song Empty Spaces which features local beauty spots; it can be viewed on their Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/TheBeautyofDiagrams](http://www.facebook.com/TheBeautyofDiagrams) Said to sound like a Cornish mash-up between Talking Heads and Clap Your Hands Say Yeah! the band are looking forward to a full summer of festivals and gigs, and working on a series of fresh tunes from the unstoppable pen of frontman/songwriter Miles Heseltine.



● Hedluv + Passman play the Watersports Centre in Falmouth on Good Friday. Hed told What's On: "I'm bringing my disco light and Passman is bringing his deck, so as well as our usual show there will be a bit of a dance at the end. It's also a chance for fans to appear on our new album. We need to get a recording of everyone shouting 'in the shape of a pasty'." Doors open at 8pm, show starts at 9pm, £5 on the door.



● Kernow Stomp 2016, featuring The English Beat starring Dave Wakeling, takes place at Zone Nightclub, Redruth, on October 7. Early bird tickets are £15 from [www.broadbeat.co.uk](http://www.broadbeat.co.uk)