

# Something for the Weekend



## HAVE MERCY LAS VEGAS

**WHO:** Crispin McAlpine (vocals/guitar/ukulele/mandolin), Ellidh Trotter (vocals/glockenspiel/mandolin/guitar), Stephen Scott (banjo/mandolin/harmonium/vocals), Marc McLean (bass/guitar/vocals), Andrew Napier (fiddle/vocals), Phil Plunkett (drums/vocals)

**WHERE:** Loch Lomond

**FOR FANS OF:** Mumford & Sons, The Lumineers, The Civil Wars

**JIM SAYS:** With Mumford & Sons currently on hiatus, the charts are awash with Mumford wannabes. Gary Barlow, Avicii, One Direction and Boyzone are all touting country folk sounds. Hopefully that will open the doors for emerging bands playing real music rather than synthetic pop. Scotland boasts stacks of rootsy groups on the verge of making the step up. Three Blind Wolves, Dante and Anderson McGinty Webster Ward and Fisher are among my favourites. After catching Have Mercy Las Vegas at Edinburgh's Liquid Room for Haddow Fest this year, I reckon they're another band that can take advantage of this shift.

Ellidh said: "Mumford & Sons' music is an inspiration. When other acts change their style in two years to suit current trends, we'll still be doing our own style."



Have Mercy Las Vegas have been in the studio recording their first album.

Last year's debut EP showed the breadth of their songwriting, and with current single Pappy further enhancing their reputation, I figure the album's going to be pretty special. But it's the live performance that really makes them shine though.

Crispin said: "What you hear on stage is 100 per cent live and we have no backing tracks or fancy effects. We enjoy playing anywhere and everywhere."

Mixing traditional and contemporary sounds with stacks of energy, they are an ideal festival band.

Crispin said: "We usually end up orchestrating acoustic sessions in the campsites, staircases, vans or wherever we can find."

Have Mercy Las Vegas play King Tut's New Year's Revolution festival next month. The Glasgow venue's annual 14-day showcase of emerging talent sees the band headline on January 5. They also have three dates with Scots blues legend Dave Arcari in February, and play Brew At The Bog at Bogbain Farm near Inverness on May 3, and are returning to Eden Festival in June.

**MORE:** facebook.com/havemercylasvegas

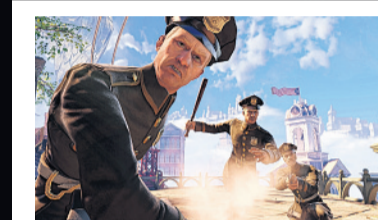
● Jim will be playing Have Mercy Las Vegas on in-Demand Unleash this Sunday from 7pm on Clyde 1, Forth One, Northsound 1, Radio Borders, Tay FM, West FM & West Sound FM.

**Sum** Watch the band at thescottishsun.co.uk



## ASSASSIN'S CREED IV: BLACK FLAG

**1** Released October 29.  
**WE SAID:** "With fluid mechanics, beautiful graphics, almost non-existent loading times and a twisty, turny story, I would even say this is the best Assassin adventure so far."



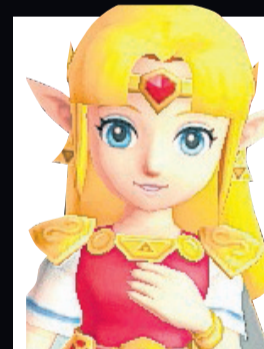
## BIOSHOCK INFINITE

**4** Released March 26.  
**WE SAID:** "If this is the future of gaming, then we've got a lot to look forward to."



## SUPER MARIO 3D WORLD

**6** Released November 29.  
**WE SAID:** "I have had a PS4 sitting under my telly for a few days now and I've barely touched it. As Sony and Microsoft release their new consoles of mass destruction, Nintendo has piped up with a 'Remember me?'."



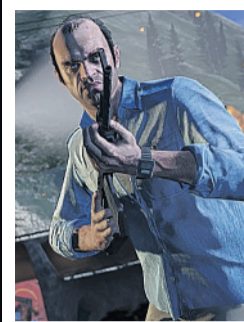
## THE LEGEND OF ZELDA: A LINK BETWEEN WORLDS

**8** Released November 22.  
**WE SAID:** "If you have a 3DS, then get Zelda straight away. Ten out of ten? Not enough – I give it 20 out of ten."



## THE LAST OF US

**2** Released June 14.  
**WE SAID:** "If ever Sony could send out a clearer signal to their loyalists to stick with them for the next generation of consoles, then The Last Of Us has just delivered a knock-out."



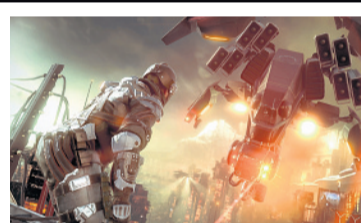
## GRAND THEFT AUTO V

**3** Released September 17.  
**WE SAID:** "Rockstar North has made one of the most accomplished and satisfying GTAs to date."



## NBA 2K14

**5** Released October 4.  
**WE SAID:** "If having the stage to yourself for so long is meant to make you lazy, clearly nobody told the team behind NBA 2K14... this is the NBA game."



## KILLZONE: SHADOW FALL

**7** Released November 29.  
**WE SAID:** "The stand-out next-gen launch title. The best demonstration of PS4's power. A truly brilliant, rounded shooter."

# 10 FROM 2013

AS years go, this has been a particularly special one for gamers across the globe.

It was significant for the release of next-gen consoles Xbox One and PlayStation 4, and the equally long-awaited

next Grand Theft Auto. And with the re-emergence of Nintendo, thanks to some inspired 3DS releases, gaming standards were high.

Here, LEE PRICE reveals our top ten games of 2013.



## RAYMAN LEGENDS

**9** Released August 30.  
**WE SAID:** "One of the few games this year that will make you want to go back to every level."



## ROCKSMITH 2014

**10** Released October 25.  
**WE SAID:** "If only all guitar teachers were this entertaining – and affordable."

## SUN PANEL'S GAMES OF THE YEAR

THE Sun gaming panel reveal their individual game of the year choice.

**LEE PRICE, Gaming Editor:** Assassin's Creed: Black Flag just ticks all the boxes.

It's an incredibly polished and accomplished title.

It looks and works great on the next-gen, too, but hasn't short-changed those buying on Xbox 360 or PS3.

Imaginative, ambitious, and fantastic fun. A worthy winner.



**DREW GIBSON:** Bioshock Infinite is not only one of the best games of the year, but one of the defining games of our entire generation.

The perfect blend of storyline, setting and imagery makes it stand head and shoulders above all others as my game of the year.

The storyline is so gripping that when I completed it, I felt compelled to immediately replay it from the beginning. How often do you say that?



**JAMIE NIGHTINGALE:** Nothing this year has come close to how Grand Theft Auto V makes you feel.

We have multiple open world games to explore, but none that feel as alive as this.

I could easily spend hours just roaming the wild, competing in triathlons, street races, rampages and I've even helped a nice drunk couple by driving them back to their motel. GOTY? More like Game Of The Generation!



**DEREK BROWN, Sunday Games Columnist:** I always find it difficult to nail down one game of the year, so I'm going to cheat – I have three.

The Last Of Us is a lovely swansong for the PS3, while Fire Emblem: Awakening is the best strategy game of the year by a mile.

And then there is the wild card, PixelJunk Monsters HD on the Vita. It passed many by, but it is the most ridiculously addictive thing I've ever played.



BY CHRIS SWEENEY

## THE Foo Fighters with t\*\*s.

That self-description says it all about new rockers Fake Club.

They're bolshie, upfront and all girls. And right now, they're all over the big screen in new Brit movie Powder Room – starring Sheridan Smith and Jamie Winstone.

Their new single Midnight At Koko is the film's big track.

Lead singer Rosie Bones raved: "It's an amazing platform for us as a new rock band to have our music heard. We had fun at the premiere, it was messy – we've been more sober, put it that way."

## Wicked

"The director MJ Delaney came to one of our gigs randomly in Camden and said she loved what we were doing. She told us she was doing her first feature film and wanted us to get involved."

"So we worked out what we would do – we did the whole soundtrack in the end and it's wicked. There's six of our songs on there. We read the script and thought about what songs would be appropriate."

"Then we wrote a song for it and picked all the other bands – it was a big job but a lot of fun."

"That's why the girls are all about – enjoying the ride."

But they have got an edge to them. Rosie, 24, snarled: "Someone mentioned us being The Spice Girls with guitars. But we are definitely, 100 per cent not The Spice Girls with guitars."

"We're more like The Foo Fighters with t\*\*s. I don't understand the amount of times people find the need to say 'new girl band' about us."

"We're a band and we just happen to be girls. We're not a girl band. You never hear about an all male indie band being called a



# Grrrrrrl band

boy band. We understand it's unusual to be all girls in a rock band, but we'd rather just be known as Fake Club."

Even being a bit different hasn't made things easy. It's a lean time out there for bands, due to the electro pop craze dominating the charts.

Rosie said: "On the VMAs, pen to be girls. We're not a girl band. You never hear about an all male indie band being called a

hell'. Since when did rock music become alternative? But we're up for the challenge."

The girls have been busy and their debut album is all ready to go – with single Bullet Brain getting lots of attention.

The album is out in February and 2014 will see them hit the road hard. Rosie added: "A lot of time people now work out how to do it live after making an album."

"For us, it's the other way around. We make rock music, we're about big solos and really dirty rhythm guitars. We're just going to be on tour next year. All we want to do is go out and play."

"We'll be all across Europe and there's plans for America. Scotland is on the list. We're so lucky to do what we do, we can't get enough."

● For more info, check out: fakeclub.co.uk

## ONE 2 HEAR

WELSH dragons Catfish and the Bottlemen started rocking to get out of home town Llandudno.

And their new single Pacifier is going to get them a good bit further away.

It's a dirty, dark rock anthem.

Not polished, but raw and honest.

It's out now – give it a listen at catfishandthebottlemen.com.

## ONE 2 SEE

MILES Kane racks up more miles than a truck driver delivering turkeys to supermarkets in the week before Christmas.

But that's not putting him off at all – and he's announced another big tour for 2014.

It hits Edinburgh's Picture House on March 21.

Ticket are on sale via gigsinscotland.com.

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