

# Something for the Weekend

## WIN a trip for two to



AFTER last year's glorious sun-kissed celebrations, T in the Park is back with some of the world's biggest artists heading to Balado over July 11-13.

Headliners Biffy Clyro, Calvin Harris and Arctic Monkeys will be joined by Paolo Nutini, Pharrell Williams, Ed Sheeran, Jake Bugg, Paul Weller, Rudimental, Bastille, Haim, Kodaline and more.

With all the ingredients for the ultimate festival, T in the Park is the best weekend of the summer.

Sample the finest festival cuisine in Healthy T, including venison burgers and stovies.

Ensure you're feeling fresh with a visit to the Refresh pamper parlours — [tinthepark.com/refresh](http://tinthepark.com/refresh) — with hair-washing facilities, showers and toilets.

With Tennent's Lager's Be Chilled service you can pre-order chilled cans of Tennent's Lager or Magners Original Cider — [tennents.com/bechilled](http://tennents.com/bechilled).

Don't miss your chance to be part of the best audience in the world — get your tickets now from [www.tinthepark.com](http://www.tinthepark.com).

Thanks to festival organisers DF Concerts and founding partner Ten-



nent's Lager we have the ultimate festival package to give away!

One lucky winner will win a pair of weekend camping tickets, Citylink travel to and from the festival site, Be Chilled drinks vouchers, a tent and 2 sleeping bags! To win, just tell us the name of T in the Park headliner Biffy Clyro's latest album?

- a) Puzzle
- b) Opposites
- c) Only Revolutions

● For more information and regular updates from The T Lady visit [www.tinthepark.com](http://www.tinthepark.com). For the facts about alcohol [www.drinkaware.co.uk](http://www.drinkaware.co.uk). Citylink travel is valid from designated Citylink depots, for more information visit [www.citylink.co.uk](http://www.citylink.co.uk)



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By CHRIS SWEENEY



SECOND SIGHT . . . Blood Relatives are up for T Break again

## ANOTHER CRACK AT BIG TIME

THE countdown is on — it's just six weeks until T in the Park 2014.

And every week I'll speak to one of the 16 unsigned acts who'll play the famous T Break stage, where Biffy Clyro, Amy MacDonald and Paolo Nutini all started out.



### BLOOD Relatives are gluttons for punishment.

They're one of the few acts getting a **SECOND** chance at T Break.

Back in 2010, they played the stage as Kitty The Lion.

And singer Anna Meldrum says it was horrendous.

She winced: "I normally feel a bit nervous when I go on stage but it wears off.

"I just remember being absolutely terrified that whole gig.

"Hopefully, I'll be a bit calmer this time around though."

The Glasgow band describe their style as 'sunny pop' — as the one thing they wanted to avoid is moaning.

That was evident on last year's debut album *Deerheart*.

Anna, 25, said: "It's up to the listener to decide what to call it. But we want to make fun pop.

"I try to avoid dreary

songs that are about my broken heart.

"Don't get me wrong, it's not shallow, happy nonsense.

"Some of the songs sound upbeat but the lyrics aren't necessarily as happy as that. "I just didn't want to be whining away, as I don't have much to whine about."

The group are buzzing to have made the cut after thousands of acts entered for a crack at the big time.

Anna said: "It only comes around once a year, so it's exciting to be in the 16.

"It's lovely to be recognised as worthy of it."

And while it rained during their first T Break slot the group are hoping the sun hits Balado this year.

Anna added: "I went last year as a punter and it was beautiful glorious sunshine.

"I'd packed my wellies and ended up walking about all weekend in my gym shoes.

"Let's hope it's the same again this year for us."

● Check out [facebook.com/bloodrelativesband](http://facebook.com/bloodrelativesband)

[chris.sweeney@the-sun.co.uk](mailto:chris.sweeney@the-sun.co.uk)

### ONES 2 SEE & HEAR

SEE: SCOTT Hutchinson seems to have 25 hours in the day.

Busy fronting Frightened Rabbit, he's still found time to do a solo album as Owl John.

But he's not forgetting the day job. Frightened Rabbit headline a night-time outdoor extravaganza on August 1 at Glasgow's Science Centre, linked to the

Commonwealth Games. Free tickets at [frightenedrabbit.com](http://frightenedrabbit.com)

HEAR: TO most people Jetta is a German motor, but the Scouse singer with the same name is hoping to change that. She used to sing backing vocals for Cee Lo Green but her new solo EP *Crescendo* sounds great. Check it out at: [jettaofficial.com](http://jettaofficial.com)



### NEW MUSIC By JIM GELLATLY

**THE MERRYLEES**  
**WHO:** Ryan Sandison (vocals/guitar), Simon Allan (guitar/ vocals), Lee Brown (bass), Reuben Toy (lap steel guitar), Craig Somerville (drums).

**WHERE:** Edinburgh.  
**FOR FANS OF:** The Coral, The Byrds, Miles Kane.

**JIM SAYS:** Formed early 2012, The Merrylees are fast becoming one of Scotland's hottest bands.

And it's not gone unnoticed outside our wee country. Next month they play their highest-profile gigs yet, opening for Paul Weller at the Forestry Commission's series of Forest Live gigs.

It's a dream come true for the self-confessed Weller fans. Ryan told me: "Most of us have been to see him live a couple of times, most recently at Edinburgh Castle. We grew up listening to his albums."

Weller isn't the first renowned musician to be associated with The Merrylees. Their first release *For You* was produced by former Coral guitarist Bill Ryder-Jones. The new single *Forever More* was recorded at Yellow Arch Studios in Sheffield with Arctic Monkeys collaborator and Mercury Prize nominee Richard Hawley.

Ryan explained: "Hawley's stepbrother Lee got quite into the band and put us in touch with him. He liked some demos we sent across and agreed to work with us on a somewhat limited budget, which we appreciated a lot."



The infectious jangly psychedelic pop of The Merrylees may have retro roots, but it's a sound of the moment.

With other young bands of a similar ilk like Temples and The Strypes coming through, they are in good company.

Indeed, they've toured with Temples, as well as supporting Babyshambles in Germany and dates with The Coral's James Skelly and John Power from Cast.

Not surprisingly The Merrylees were the perfect fit to support 60s psychedelic legends The Zombies at The Queen's Hall in Edinburgh last year. It's an impressive gigging CV for such a relatively new band.

Ryan said: "We've got quite an unusual mix of influences which hopefully makes us a bit unique."

Forever More, released through Edinburgh-based Neul Reekid is launched tomorrow night at The Liquid Room in the capital. Support comes from another hot property at the moment in the shape of Neon Waltz.

Ryan added: "It's a while since we've played Edinburgh, so we're excited to be playing to our home crowd again. We've been working on a lot of new material as well with a few new additions to the line-up. It's looking to be a pretty special night."

**More:** [www.facebook.com/themerrylees](http://www.facebook.com/themerrylees)

● Jim presents Drivetime on XFM Scotland, Monday to Friday 4-7pm.

[www.xfm.co.uk](http://www.xfm.co.uk)

[www.jimgellatly.com](http://www.jimgellatly.com)

**Sun** Listen to the band at: [thescottishsun.co.uk](http://thescottishsun.co.uk)

TUNING UP . . . The View are all set for their very first acoustic tour

# Playing with the Libs means we're full circle

**WILDBOYS The View are finally easing off — well, for two weeks.**

The lads are locked away, getting their new album ready to go.

They're gearing up for a support slot at The Libertines Hyde Park gig next month.

And then they'll hit the road themselves with their first ever **ACOUSTIC** tour.

Bass player Kieren Webster said: "It's going to be stripped back.

"The idea is to play a lot of the songs that we've not done for years, in particular, a lot of the ones off the second album.

"It'll be a different set from the usual gigs.

"We wanted to do the songs we don't normally do.

"We've got a lot of fans who come to all the gigs, so it'll be good for them to see something different and hear the songs that don't fit in when we normally play.

"It'll be more chilled out, more tuneful — and they'll be able to hear all the parts of the songs better.

"Instead of it being t h e full-on energy,

By CHRIS SWEENEY

recorded some of the songs — and I'm struggling to remember all the words.

Along with getting ready for the acoustic run, the lads — Kieren and singer Kyle Falconer, guitarist Pete Reilly and drummer Steven Morrison — have a few new moves up their sleeve for their next album.

And they've been relishing the chance to decompress.

Kieren, 28, said: "We've been writing and demo-ing and we've been in Liverpool rehearsing.

"We've been piling together loads of demos and doing a heavy stock take.

"We need to come up with a new record. And we're going to do something a bit different.

"Also we covered a lot of ground last year — so we needed to stock take and make sure the next album is spot on.

"We went over the whole of America. And we were out in places like Russia, Latvia — all round eastern Europe. It was a breath of fresh air.

"Sometimes you can feel you're on the circuit and then something nice like that happens.

"But we needed to take some time out and go away.

"We won't be doing festivals, as we've done the full circuit for a f\*\*\*ing good few years in a row.

"The demos could go

one way or the other. We're just honing them and it depends which direction we choose."

But The View's summer won't be all pipe and slippers as they're on the mega bill for The Libertines Hyde Park show in July.

It's a nice tie, as it was Pete Doherty, pictured below with Carl Barat, who gave them a huge break — he let them support him in Dundee back in 2006, after the then unknown band stood about outside and handed him a tape.

And Kieren is expecting a big one in front of 50,000.

He raved: "That's the biggie of the year for us."

The Libertines and The Pogues on the same bill — I never thought I'd see that.

"That's a double whammy.

"We're really looking forward to that.

"And we're huge fans of The Libs.

"It was good to get the call up.

"And even better, it's just down the road from where I live in London now so I can take a wee wander down.

"It's got that full circle vibe considering Pete put us on when we were teenagers with no record deal.

"We can't wait for it.

"It's going to be damage."

● The View's acoustic tour starts at The Lemon Tree in Aberdeen on June 4 — for full dates, go to: [theviewareonfire.com](http://theviewareonfire.com)