

# Cash Back in Fife – new festival celebrates the legacy of Johnny Cash – his music, influence and his family connections to Fife (Mar 2020)



Music legend Johnny Cash was immensely proud of his family's Fife roots. The US singer-songwriter behind such hits as *I Walk the Line* was a regular visitor to Falkland following a chance discovery that his family name was indelibly linked to the rural community and the neighbouring settlement of Strathmiglo, and played a special televised concert at Falkland Palace in 1981.

**Cash Back in Fife** is a new festival to celebrate his enormous legacy of music, inspiration and his family connection to the area.

Spread over **Fri, Sat and Sun, 6-8 Mar 2020**, the line-up is an exciting mix of established musicians and quality up and coming ones (most with a strong Fife connection) – **Rab Noakes, Dean Owens**, England's **Hannah Rose Platt, Martha Healy, David Latto** and **The Marriage**, featuring Big Country/Skids frontman Stuart Adamson's daughter **Kirsten Adamson**; plus celebrated author **Ian Rankin**, talking about one of his favourite records by Fife musician **Jackie Leven**. What they all have in common is a love for Cash's music and acknowledge his influence on their careers, particularly as singer songwriters. This is NOT a tribute festival. Artists will mostly be performing their own material, but with some classic Cash tunes mixed in.

**Cash Back in Fife** is curated by award winning Scottish singer songwriter (and frontman of The Felsons) **Dean Owens** (in collaboration with Scary Biscuits Promotions and the Woodside Hotel), and inspired by his album, *Cash Back (Songs I Learned From Johnny)* - songs written, inspired, or covered by the Man in Black.

**Dean Owens:** *After playing a show at the Woodside Hotel in Aberdour earlier this year I went for a wander round the village and fell in love with the place. I remembered reading an article about Johnny Cash and his family connection to Fife. His ancestors left Fife and set up home in the US. Being a massive fan of Johnny I thought it would be great to celebrate his legacy in Fife by putting on a small festival there. I put the idea to John at the Woodside and my manager Morag Neil and they got very excited about it. I then reached out to some amazing artists I know, including Rab Noakes and Ian Rankin - both of whom have strong connections with Fife, and they all loved the idea.*

**Ian Rankin:** *I remember as a kid being stunned when I saw photos of Johnny Cash in our local Fife newspaper - he was on a visit to Falkland and seemed to have been beamed down from another planet. As a long-time fan of his music (my big sister played Live at San Quentin on heavy rotation in those days!) it's a distinct honour to be asked to participate in a festival celebrating the man and his music. The great Fife troubadour Jackie Leven was a fan of the Man in Black - so much so that he wrote a song about him and even called the subsequent album *Elegy to Johnny Cash*. I'll be reciting my favourite lyrics by Jackie Leven, including many from that album - and maybe talking a bit about how important music (as well as the other creative arts) has been to Fife. We've even spawned a few mavericks, rebels and hell-raisers - not unlike Johnny Cash himself!*

**Rab Noakes:** *Having been aware of Johnny Cash from Rock'n'Roll onwards I became acutely informed of his expansive range and output in the second half of the 1960s. As an East Fife native (who lived in Strathmiglo for a while) I'm looking forward to Cash Back in Fife, and referencing these connections through song choices and anecdotes.*

**Kirsten Adamson:** *Coming from a strong musical heritage in Fife, I grew up listening to, and being inspired by, country music, especially Cash and Carter's material. When I started writing my own material at 15 years old in my bedroom it was a country twang that emerged and it has never left me.*

The festival will take place in the charming, cosy and historic **Woodside Hotel, Aberdour**, which has recently been making a name for itself as a go-to venue for interesting touring musicians. Aberdour itself is a short train ride from Edinburgh, and is easily accessible from many parts of the country.

Owner **John McTaggart** says: *We are very excited about hosting this festival, which ticks so many boxes for us, combining great music with Fife's unique links with one of the world's greatest musicians.*

**For more press information, interviews, hi res photos, CDs, MP3s etc,** please call **Morag Neil** on **0771 288 0965** (email [info@scarybiscuits.com](mailto:info@scarybiscuits.com))

[Hi res photos for press, downloadable via Dropbox](#)

**Cash Back in Fife** [www.deanowens.com/cash-back-in-fife/](http://www.deanowens.com/cash-back-in-fife/)

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## **Cash Back in Fife**

**6-8 March 2020**

**Woodside Hotel**

High St, Aberdour KY3 0SW

### **Fri 6 Mar, 8pm**

**Dean Owens & The Celtabilly Allstars + Martha Healy** as support (with Al Shields) and as special guest.

The Celtabilly Allstars are Dean with his former Felsons bass buddy Kevin McGuire (who currently lives in Fife), with guitarist Craig Ross and acclaimed fiddle player Amy Geddes.  
£18

### **Sat 7 Mar, 2pm**

Join celebrated Scottish author **Ian Rankin** as he talks about his favourite record by celebrated Fife singer songwriter Jackie Leven: *Elegy to Johnny Cash*  
£10

### **Sat 7 Mar, 8pm**

The Ring of Fire - Songwriters Circle

with **Rab Noakes, Hannah Rose Platt** and **Dean Owens**

Nashville style Songwriters Circle with participants trading songs and banter  
£18

### **Sun 8 Mar, 1pm**

Sunday Afternoon Coming Down with

**David Latto**

**The Marriage** (Kirsten Adamson and Dave Burn)

Grab yourself a lazy brunch in the Woodside's atmospheric restaurant, then chill out for a couple of hours with 2 of Fife's finest.  
£12

Weekend Pass - £45

This entitles you to attend all the concerts and events, but doesn't include food or accommodation.

Tickets can also be purchased separately for individual gigs and events.

A limited number of special deals which include accommodation are available direct from The Woodside Hotel. (Contact John McTaggart on 01383 860328) and website

<http://woodsidehotelaberdour.co.uk/>

**Cash Back in Fife website (inc ticket links) – [www.deanowens.com/cash-back-in-fife/](http://www.deanowens.com/cash-back-in-fife/)**

### **Artist Weblinks**

Ian Rankin [www.ianrankin.net/](http://www.ianrankin.net/)

Rab Noakes [rabnoakes.com/](http://rabnoakes.com/)

Hannah Rose Platt [www.hannahroseplatt.com/](http://www.hannahroseplatt.com/)

Martha Healy [www.marthalhealy.com/](http://www.marthalhealy.com/)

The Marriage [Wethemarriage.com](http://Wethemarriage.com)

David Latto [www.davidlattomusic.com/](http://www.davidlattomusic.com/)