

Looking for a gig? Please read this first...

Okay. Here's how it is.

We're not a **folk club** as the term is usually understood. We don't have floor spots where anyone can get up and have a go. We're a **concert venue** that generally charges £7-£11 admission, which means we have to exercise some kind of quality control over who plays on our stage.

We only put on 8-10 events per year and usually have a very clear idea of which acts we want to book for these. We don't as a rule book anyone who we haven't seen live elsewhere. We generally try to book acts who will pull a creditable amount of audience in addition to our regulars. Some venues that programme music are charities - we aren't. Ultimately if the venue loses money then we, the organizers, lose money.

All of which is a rather circuitous way of saying please don't send us CDs in the post! **Maudslay Thursday** is run by a very small team of people who lead multiple lives, wear lots of different hats and have many fingers, toes and other appendages in many pies, flans and other baked metaphorical comestibles. To be blunt, if you send us a CD we won't listen to it as we simply don't have time (and I've already moved house once this year because my CD collection got too big.)

However, we do often put on a **support act**. The support will usually play for 30-40 minutes at the start of the night. Obviously the support is more than welcome to sell CDs and merch, and in the case that an act is coming from distant climes then we can sort out accomodation and possibly some money towards fuel costs.

If you think you might like to be considered for a support at **Maudslay Thursday**, please email an mp3 to **maudslaythursday 'at' yahoo.co.uk**. Before you do this - please take the time and trouble to look at and listen to the kind of acts we book, and pause to reflect whether your music will complement theirs. To put it succinctly, we're not interested in listening to long whingey songs in A-minor that are all about how you feel about unpleasant things that have happened in your personal life unless your name is Neil Young, Jackson Browne or Joni Mitchell (in which case please also disregard all of the above and may we grovellingly offer you a booking?)

Sorry if all this sounds a little forthright, but we always work on the basis that for most musicians when asking for a gig, a swift 'no' is the second-best answer. If you have any issues with any of the above, please drop us a line at the above address. And hey, even if you can't turn up and play, you can always turn up and listen! :-)

Chris and the team

PS - Please don't call **Jude** on the box office number and ask for a gig. Jude has nothing to with booking artists (and, it must be said in all fairness, is only running the box office as she drew the short straw after Lucy the Box Office moved to London). The only thing that is more likely to torpedo your chances of a gig is sending us a recording of 'Agadoo' on melodeon, tea-chest bass and washboard. You have been warned...