

## OTHER STUFF YOU LIKE ABOUT GOING TO GIGS...

Experiencing new types of music and furthering my music vocabulary

I love taking photos at gigs!

The sense of community and seeing the emerging talent Newcastle has to offer

The community of musicians and creative people it brings together.

The sense of community you find attached to local venues and scenes

### MUSIC

I wanna hear good music. I wanna have a beer and watch the bands. Maybe get fucked up but I only want to leave the house to see live music if it's original and GOOD

The sense of community when everyone in the venue is invested in the bands playing

Playing at them,boosting the local economy

Atmosphere, ambience, inspirational environment, supporting local artists and businesses

The sense if community is massive, being able to meet like minded people and to be able to act on our ideas together to create something larger than ourselves is such a fantastic thing and we need to be able to open these opportunities to kids you ger than 18 is so necessary ti their development as thinkkers and doers.

Its way more fun than going to a sleazy bar or club

Seeing each individuals unique creative output. There are no two Newcastle bands that sound the same and no two individuals in those bands that don't bring their own flavour to the scene.

Socialising and seeing local musicians.

Enjoying what newcastle has to offer, getting out and enjoying the city as well

The atmosphere, listening to new original music and listening to music from different cultures.

Affordable way to go out and make memories. Can't beat a \$10 entry fee - Cheaper than a stick

## OTHER STUFF YOU LIKE ABOUT GOING TO GIGS...

Drone Newcastle was the best AA venue Newcastle has ever had. There was a huge variety of lineups genre-wise, they were on very often and they were reasonably priced.

Supporting local artists

Having a community telling important stories about itself and defining itself through its music.

random occurrences

Chilling

The art of anything performed live and you being able to participate is so unique. Nothing on a screen or through a speaker can give you this experience.

As a musician myself, meeting, watching and connecting with other musicians is crucial in developing both your knowledge and skills and also networking to move your musical journey forward. This starts at your very first gig at the local pub and continues at festivals and bigger arenas...

I took my 9 year old to his first ever live concert a few weeks ago and he has not yet stopped talking about it. For him, to be able to actually see what people were doing with instruments, costumes and lights etc will no doubt be a memory for the rest of his life.

Experiencing new things, being part of my community, contributing to cultural diversity, participating in the creation of meaning and story

Music is art we have so many talented people in this city and the surrounding areas, all we need is a receptive government to support the people and in doing so make our city a beautiful place for people to live and to visit

Tits

Sharing ideas and skills and contacts and networks. Knowing I'm part of a lively scene that I support and that supports my desire to creatively express myself. Unwinding from the stress/anxiety that can build up in life sometimes. Witnessing really cool and unique moments of creative expression.

As a Musician I appreciate a high quality of musicianship, with good production, i.e. Sound & Lighting. Original bands are my preference as they write & play their own material...

Music makes you feel... live music amplifies those feelings.

wheel chair accessible venue and facilities

## OTHER STUFF YOU LIKE ABOUT GOING TO GIGS...

music. all different kinds

watching people

young ones being able to share their skill. There are so many doing music lessons , we have a conservatorium. we have a performing arts school and others with high levels of musicians coming out . They need spaces to play! the Grain Store

sharing ideas and interests

Good venues with good vibes

Shows are one of the only reasons I do go out. They are rest because you feel inspired and connected to the ones around you when you are there. You also have something to do so you don't have to talk shut and drink so much. It really does curb the need to drink as you are occupied.

The Commons, The Drone and The Dungeon

Its the only place i feel i can be myself and be accepted for that

## NEWCASTLE'S BEST LIVE MUSIC VENUES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE, PAST AND PRESENT

The Commons - Intimate performances  
The Lass - Quintessential Newy venue  
Lizottes - especially loved as an u/18 to see great music.

The Lass, The Commons, The Dungeon, The Black Malabah, The Great Northern. They welcome local bands to play original music in many different styles from folk to punk.

The Commons, The Lass, Queens Wharf, The Underground, The Stag and Hunter, and Lizottes

The commons - it was available underage and allowed upcoming and local bands to put on events  
The Lass O'Growie - one of the best pubs in newcastle and it continues to put on amazing live music allowing new, upcoming, and more established bands and live music acts a place to play. It is also super inclusive and LGBTQIA+ friendly

Cambridge Hotel - the side bar hosts heaps of local talent, and they have all ages gigs too.  
The Lass - super cruisey vibe and welcoming for everyone!

The Lass for the small pub, alternative community vibe. The Cambridge for the capacity to hold big gigs and attract international acts. The Underground for the mix of local and international jazz talent in a cosy location.

The lass O'Gowrie - Always has original music  
The Cambridge - Nice venue  
The Hamilton Station - Similar to the lass

The Lass - For having a history of amazing artists playing there and for having an awesome vibe in Summer.

Softys - Having one of the most unique and comfortable atmosphere of any venue in Newcastle.

The Hamo - Hosting a variety of different gigs and having a large space to watch bands.

Cambridge- (The sidebar) It's a good sized room that vibes and the sound is generally damn good  
Lass- the beer garden is nice if the music is no good  
Hamo- always some people there and great social, both rooms are decent and generally vibin

The Cambridge for space  
The Hamilton station for vibes  
The lass for vibes

Softy's clubhouse, the Wickham park hotel,

## NEWCASTLE'S BEST LIVE MUSIC VENUES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE, PAST AND PRESENT

The commons, The ori, the lass, the underground(grand), Cambridge, staging hunter (though far away from town)

Hombre/Drone is where I first started performing in bands and being able to have that space definitely helped to broaden my friendships and launched me into the community that I'm in now.

The commons was the biggest and greatest live venue space for young people that I've ever attended. Being in a venue that was so much more than just a live music venue was such a mind opening experience for me! And that experience and love that radiates from the commons has passed over to softies and I wish to see softies continue to grow as the community does!

The Lass is pretty cool, I love the big outdoor beer garden as well as the intimate setting inside for shows. It would be cool to see some shows outside in the gardens as the weather gets warmer.

And of course softy's. Lax atmosphere, good people, good bands. What more needs to be said?

I really really enjoyed the vibe of the Commons! However, it wasn't accessible to everyone as it was up alot of stairs with no lift.

48 Watt street has nice acoustics, I quite liked singing there. However doesnt have the same vibe that the commons did with couches and pots of tea and boardgames etc,

The lass has been a great platform for many artists however isnt under 18s  
the Stag has a great sound system.

Oh and the dungeon on Bruncker rd are doing a pretty good job at all ages! However ive only been to one gig there.

Cambridge - the \$20 ticket entries to see triple j bands, there aren't as many gigs anymore, I would go all the time if bands I liked were playing. Small ballroom, 48 wart Street, the great northern.... small venues.

Softys- the vibe, the people, the colourfulness and the fire pole. Oh and Louie, clover and party!  
The lass- the vibe, the bands they book there are mad! The alcohol, smoking areas and the people who go there.

The dungeon- good vibes, safe atmosphere, although the feel is a bit too young for me.

Hamilton Station Hotel - Diverse music, great sound guy, excellent atmosphere

Hombre Records - As DIY as it got. Was purely run out of passion by an active musician and the love showed. So many great memories there.

The loft. As a teenager, it gave me a place to belong. I wouldn't be the person I am, without The Loft, and the music, the scene, and culture it offered. It gave you a place to make friends, start bands and play shows.

## NEWCASTLE'S BEST LIVE MUSIC VENUES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE, PAST AND PRESENT

The Swamp, all ages, lush vibes, good crew, most of the gigs fundraised for good causes. Softys (ofc) lovely humyns, great space, great music. Hombres/Drone Best all ages hardcore space, not too messy with drugs and booze, nice community pocket

Once great venues now hobbled by council regulations, the overvaluing of beige whingers who make noise complaints after moving in next to a pub, and offloading responsibility from destructive drinking culture and toxic meatheads onto music culture:

Every good live music venue that has existed here in my lifetime and likely before. Pubs, arts hubs, alcohol free all ages venues all included.

softys cos i live there

Lass O'Gowrie - because it gives any band a chance and due to the free entry, it makes people come along to also give any band a chance!

Lucky Country Hotel - the old upstairs bar was an excellent venue for original music and to meet people.

The Stag and Hunter - their new performance room is amazing and it offers a venue in size and sound quality that is between the Lass and big rooms like The Cambridge and beyond.

The lass, the croat - low pressure, relaxed vibe, non judgemental punters

The Lass, hamilton Station hotel

The great northern used to be a great spot for live music

The Black Malabar was a wonderful and unique venue for live music

Definitely the Commons - because it could alternately be all ages or 18+(ish), and it was a small vibey room that you could easily fill.

My other favourite is Chino's - a super short-lived version of what is now the Cambridge side bar. I think it was run by the Gooch Palms and, again, great vibe and a smaller room with good acoustics.

Taxi rank

Beaches hotel

THE COMMONS - Collaborative governance and community ownership.

Tiny Boat @ Softies - The general awesomeness of the vibe there

La Paz's garage - The freedom and love and general lawlessness of the place (In general everybody is taking responsibility for themselves and each other and this allows for a lot of freedom to have a good time in whatever way feels right for each person)

The lass - Fucking consistently supporting live music over the years. Anyone can get a gig and the diversity of acts on a single night means you get multiple scenes/groups/crews overlapping which in general has led to a more integrated musical community

The swamp - the few times I went are all on my "top ten nights out in Newy ever" list. Similar reasons to La Paz Garage. Community owned and operated. everyone looking out for

## NEWCASTLE'S BEST LIVE MUSIC VENUES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE, PAST AND PRESENT

Present - The Lass 'O' Gowrie, The Wicko, The Croat Club.

All of these are unpretentious & have a good vibe....

Past - where do I start.....? The Old Palais Royale.....Noiseworks, Midnight Oil, Mi-Sex, Jenny Morris etc...

The 'Original' Newcastle Workers Club.....Divinyls, Crowded House, B.B King....(awesome)...., Australian Crawl, Party Boys.....many more

The Cambridge - Too many live gigs here over the years to count. Great venue. Big enough to have a crowd, while still being intimate enough to be able to see everything up close.

The Wicko - Only been here a couple of times to see Fish Fry/Pow Wow, but it was a great little place.

Entertainment Centre - Parking aside, it's a good venue for larger concerts. Still not huge enough that you can't see what's going on, which is a plus, it still has that "arena" feel.

Civic Theatre - A nice place for more laid back concerts where you can just sit and relax rather than jump around or drink yourself stupid.

stag and hunter hotel, it is wheelchair accessible easy to get around, excellent food and staff. lots of different music to check out

I dont know so many of them. and it depends how old young is.... The Lass has been great for those over 18. Festivals that the council has run... stages, parks opportunities to showcase. the Newcastle Show... opportunity to have a go Lake Mac Speers Point Park things... opportunities, Cafes in Derby Street.... intimate , The Con... more formal., The Commons.... all age.. loungeroom feel.. loved it.I liked the Croatia club. Wests Leageus club for big audiences... local pubs... the Stag and Hunter ,Winter heat.... but the parking and transport were terrible.NIMAs gigs

only been to softys once, hello tut tut but wonderful experience, very wholesome :b)

Softys best vibes

The commons- it was just an amazing environment and was the place I saw my first local gig

The dungeon- good comfy little space

The Cambridge- large space with cool lighting

The Commons, Lass o Gowrie.

Junkyard Maitland. Coal and cedar. The oriental.

Softy's!!!!!!

## NEWCASTLE'S BEST LIVE MUSIC VENUES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE, PAST AND PRESENT

The Commons - my favourite past venue as it gave you the opportunity to perform to a listening audience. You had so much freedom as an artist. The other venues are more like playing to a pub crowd who don't always appreciate what you're doing.

The Oriental Hotel - I commend the Ori for outing on so much live music in such a small space and always paying their artists well.

The Cambridge - this venue is my current favourite live music venue. The sound is great, the room is a good size and the Cambridge are doing a great job with promotion and curation for their shows meaning you always get a good crowd.

The Hamilton station Hotel - this is actually a really great band room. I don't much like playing the front bar as it's pretty noisy but the back room sounds good. Looks good and feels good.

The Dungeon- easily accessible and safe.

Dungeon- lovely place and sadly the only place for all age gigs

Cambridge- rarely able to go there but when there is an all age gig it is really fun



## QUESTIONS FOR COUNCIL

What is being done to support Local Artists and the live music scene?

Why isn't there better support for musicians/venues especially since the construction of the light rail/new buildings?

Does the fact that the revenue generated from live music in Newcastle is less than what's generated from other cultural events (V8s, NRL etc) negatively affect your views on local music?

The neighboring venues, licenses to the venue making it easier to apply for,

How soon can kids have a place to actually practice and perform their music without worrying that it's going to get closed down in a few months?

How do we allow all age music venues to thrive when there are so many legalities put in place that restrict us from doing so.

Why are you so uptight with regulations? People are trying to make beautiful things in the world and you all make it too damn hard

Why is permission so regimented and incomprehensible

What are you doing about gender equity in the live music scene?

Newcastle is being developed at break neck speed. What is council doing to protect and enhance existing live music venues, and how is council working to ensure the development of new music venues and cultural precincts?

Will you support people in providing live music venues

## QUESTIONS FOR COUNCIL

Is there a volume switch

Why isn't there a simple, cheap and straightforward legislative framework allowing individuals, cooperatives and Not-for-profit/community organisations to host live music events in Newcastle? It seems to me that this would be the cheapest and most straightforward way to "revitalise" Newcastle's music scene.

Can Newcastle Council create the office of The Night-Mayor who's primary role is to advocate for the nightlife of this great city in council's decision making processes. Can they be given a budget that reflects that NCC understands that the ROI of money spent on music and arts is better than most ways council could consider spending rate payers dollars (eg Supercar race, TramsAt what point will NCC stop privatising its precious remaining land and building assets and give them to NFP community organisations to create artistic cultural centres?

In the "New" plan for Newcastle, are there any proposals by developers/venue owners to establish/build/develop a "NEW" dedicated "Live Entertainment" venue/club .....?

A Venue that futures & encourages ORIGINAL MUSIC?

WE SURE AS HELL NEED SOME MORE VENUES OF THIS TYPE...!

I think im too late for this sorry...

time to finish is a problem noise issues for neighbours.... what laws protect live music. Does the council want live music to bring people into town? Out of town?

What's your opinion on the current state of live music in Newcastle?

Do you feel as if this will slow the growth and passion of young emerging artists?

My name is VORN Doolette. I have performed all over Australia at festivals and supported people like Paul Kelly. I came to Newcastle and found the commons the best place to perform. Without venues like this I would be less likely to come to Newcastle. With the huge contribution live music makes to our economy will your council make sure it invests and supports it for all ages?

Just look at Melbourne's economy as an example of what the arts can do for a city. Or Hobart with Mona. The arts must be invested in. What will the council do to help the economy grow though live music?

Will they invest in the commons to make it match safety requirements?

## QUESTIONS FOR INDUSTRY PROS

What do you feel was the biggest hurdle in your local scene to overcome in terms of first garnering a following ?

Access to the venue and parking, sound distribution, memberships

When you were young, what was your favourite all age venue? Did you have one in newcastle, what happened to it? How do we stop all age venues from shutting down?

help start up level stuff

What are you doing about gender equity in the live music scene?

The punk philosophy is somewhat at odds with new development and glitz/glam. I like spaces that are old, have history and character. How and where can DIY and punk philosophies exist in a city that is being slowly eroded by gentrification?

Are kit Kats back stage

## QUESTIONS FOR INDUSTRY PROS

Why don't musicians receive fair compensation for the work they do in the music industry?  
Why aren't musicians in Newcastle unionised to protect their wages from unscrupulous venues and booking agents?

There are a limited amount of venues remaining in Newcastle since  
"The Revitalisation" ....

There are a lot of musicians very frustrated with the current situation.....a lot of very talented musicians, both up & coming as well as veterans of the industry.....they're not getting enough opportunities to play.....

Unfortunately, a significant part of the Newcastle Music Industry is & has always been run by a few "self-appointed Kings of their little Empires" .....ie Agents.....heh.....

I won't mention names here....but they know who they are.....

HOW ABOUT VENUES, i.e. Pubs,Clubs etc start booking independently again....?

Instead of "Pissing in the Agent's Pocket" .....

are you stifled because of not having places to practice and play? do you want new people doing stuff? Is there enough money to go around?

## QUESTIONS FOR SOFTYS CLUBHOUSE

In lieu of a security guard, what do you believe is the most effective alternative of security?

I feel isolated from going to gigs at Softy's as it's really targeted for alternative greeny hippy freaks. Like the posters all done in watercolours and it's always soft and acoustic nu-agers with facepaint. It has the clique-y feel of other Collective and Newy gig promoters already. Could Softy's put on more bands or just plain meat and potatoes songwriters around town? and have more of straight up gig vibe?

Memberships,raffles,volunteering cake stalls,art days,merch

How does the safety crew work? Is it effective?

What are you doing about gender equity in the live music scene?

What are your aspirations for this hub?

Who is the cute girl

Can I host a gig at Softys? Who do I talk to? Seriously tho I'm keen!!

What type of Music/Bands will you Host?

I would like to see mostly Original Type Bands representing most of the popular genres....ie, Jazz, Funk, Blues, Fusion, Blues/Rock, Country Rock, Reggae.....Hell...even some occasional Metal....

dont know this place

## QUESTIONS FOR SOFTYS CLUBHOUSE

How do you overcome the terror of cosmic loneliness and live with uncertainty without being paralyzed by hesitation?

---

---

---

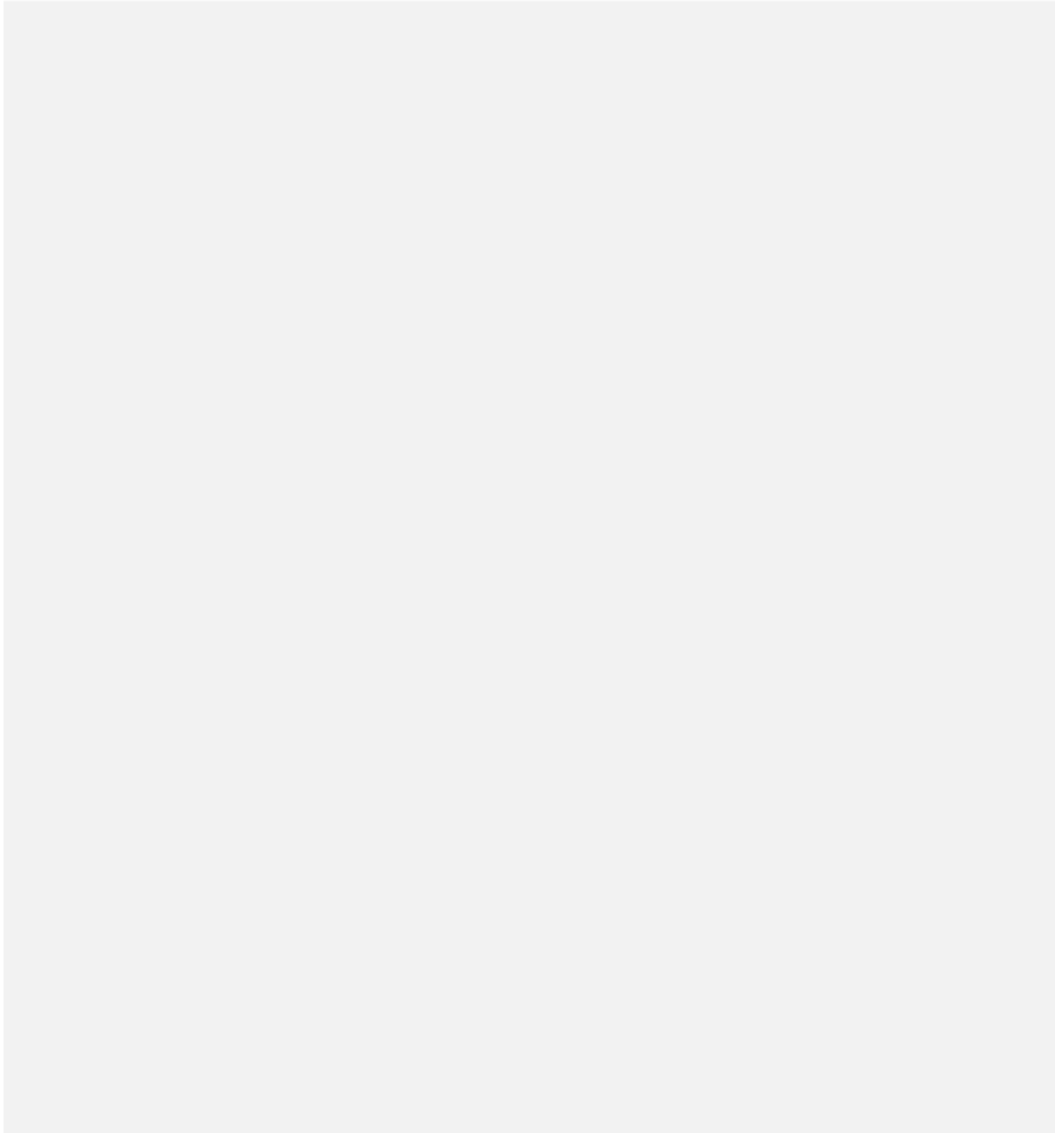
---

---

---

---

---



## QUESTIONS FOR THE UNIVERSE

When will council put up bike paths so people can ride to venues? They are so spread out and the buses aren't regular enough.

The chicken or the egg?

How to make softy more interactive and make more events, or even live streams

Why?

God?

HOW DO WE KEEP THE ALL AGE LIVE MUSIC SCENE THRIVING?!?! SOMEONE GIVE US THE ANSWEEEEERRR!

why

Wot is dark matter

Will live Music In Newcastle return to the "Glory Days" ...?

Will gigging Musicians EVER get decent pay for gigs...?

Are Musicians in Newcastle destined to forever "Lick Agent's Arses"?

## QUESTIONS FOR THE UNIVERSE

why do we pay for music lessons for kids from the time they are tiny to grown up but dont have places for them to practice or play . How do we ensure musicians are paid enough to live on.

Who killed god?



## WHAT WOULD YOU PUT IN YOUR DREAM ALL AGES VENUE

big cats wot can fly

Very regular music - so people know they can turn up without checking who is playing. Touring acts always welcome. All ages welcome at all gigs (with strict alcohol sales etc)

Live original music of all genres. Different events geared towards different audiences eg seats available for singer songwriter gigs, all ages welcome (including grandma).

My space would include a stage for live music performances, and I would allow most types of music be it covers or Original music.

An excellent venue would be the commons but the council touched it so now it's dust. Kinda want more food at venues and around venues, since I can't go into a pub and eat. Also 1000X yes to ice cream (and maybe alcohol)

Spacious, comfortable, with a wide variety of events from kids to older people. A place that deliberately supports equal numbers of diverse male/female performers and even visual artists. Licensed events for the over 18's. Facilities for self-catering.

A venue for everyone with both relaxation and learning spaces - lounges, books, art materials, cards and board games, gigs there in the evening.

I think an under-ages venue with occasional nights for it to be all ages. Something similar to the Cambridge or even if they could host under-age/ all-ages gigs.

A space that offers both all-ages and over 18+ events, but also has cheap band rehearsal spaces in side rooms fully equipped with basic instrumentation. This means ot coulfb be utilised all week and make revenue...

Capacity of band room could be max 1000 but optional to partition it to beckme more intimate.

Grog free, inclusive, nannas welcome, plenty of art, occasional youth worker / outreach service, free ping ping table fo sho

## WHAT WOULD YOU PUT IN YOUR DREAM ALL AGES VENUE

swimming pool

Bands that aren't so young. I feel all ages gigs mostly has really really young bands. I don't mean geriatric dad rockers. Just the ones in the middle. I think adult bands might be keen on the idea. Under 18rs would love it too surely. I mean I'd like a beer generally, but if the music was good enough people would go. The main deterrent for me as an adult for an all ages gig isn't that lack of alcohol, it's just the lineup has to be a bit more stellar to get me off the couch.

Art of all kinds visual, sonic, video all welcome.  
Alcohol for the adults yes

It would definitely be a room with great acoustics and enough space for a medium size crowd. Doesn't really need a lot of furniture, but if you could have removable furniture to accommodate both sit-down & standing gigs that would be sweet.  
It would be awesome if it was both all ages and could serve alcohol to adults at the same time OR be dry if appropriate for the gig.  
EVERYONE WOULD BE WELCOME. Non ageist, non classist, non sexist etc etc etc.

Obstacles coarses,quiz nights,twister,campfire stew

Recreate the commons- blue print worked well! A versatile space!

Everything above

Cameras in toilets

Firstly for the Musicians & Music Lovers.....a properly designed venue with fantastic sound.....ie designed with Acoustics in Mind.... A Mini-Theatre...with a Stage.....a High End PA with a great Operator.....Good lighting.....Comfortable Seating.....  
That would be a good start.....!

Pretty much exactly like The Commons

## WHAT WOULD YOU PUT IN YOUR DREAM ALL AGES VENUE

This is hard! My first thing would be somewhere flat so people like myself who are sometimes in a wheelchair or walker can still come and enjoy live music and a disabled friendly way to get on stage because when ever I perform getting on the stage always creates great pain! Maybe a ramp or something?

I like a venue being for all ages! I think the commons did this very well. I remember many nights being at a able of people I had just be that night with children, elderly, christian, muslims, atheists, crossdressers, travellers etc all socialising together with a pot of tea and listening to a local act.

I personally like comfy seats or couches for my back.

I think serving both tea/coffee and alcohol or BYO alcohol is good. cakes and slices , gluten free, vegan, lactose free options include everone. Maybe getting a local baker on board.

I liked that the board games at the commons brought people together however werent loud and disturbing to the performer. I think Table tennis or foosball could be really distracting to whoever was the musician. Unless it was just used when no one was performing, then it could be really fun.

Local art around the walls and some local homemade things like earrings or organic food you could buy. Again i guess i'm stealing that concept from the commons but I really liked that.

Also that local groups could use or book the space through the day like mothers groups or bible studies or yoga classes or art classes? Also I think having a sound system there that musicans can use so they dont have to bring their own speakers. But my main thing would be somewhere without steps so people with disabilities can still come and see live music. Thanks!

My dream all age venue already exists. Softys is the best all age venue in Newcastle because

-safety crew

-the vibe

-all age all inclusive!

-local original bands play there

-YOU can put your own gig on there

-rachel and jamie are the best people to exist... And byren too

-softys is the only experimental and creative arts and live music venue in newcatle that invites all ages, all races, all religions, all genders, all sexualities... LITERALLY EVERYONE (just dont be a dickhead)

It would be focused on genuine interaction with creators. It would be about encouraging people that want to try playing music to give it a crack. Possibly music lessons and rehearsal space rental during the day, music venue by night. No tacky pre-packed looking decorations - more on the side of collecting decor as it goes.

## WHAT WOULD YOU PUT IN YOUR DREAM ALL AGES VENUE

Ideal place would be a really cool place for the live music and a good amount of room for people to dance up close to the stage, a section for people to sit and chat further away so that they can hear the music but can still talk, it would be all ages therefore everyone is accepted and it is a safe space for all people no matter their differences, alcohol can be served to +18 and there is free water for everyone. But for me the music is the main attraction in this place.

A screen printing space which offers printing services, printing workshops for young people interested in DIY practices, but also serves the music community by holding shows. By offering both practical, worthwhile skills and a place for young people to hang out and watch music, this space would really benefit Newcastle.

Safer space, music is important, but having a space for people to just come and exist without having to support capitalism (like being in a pub or cafe) is really nice. lots of tea

please include granmas and coffee . some music early so people can choose early or late... food is good. different kinds of seating suit different stages in life.

I support softys as I saw it and their taste

## UNDER 18S THE ROLE OF MUSIC IN YOUR LIFE

It's everything to me, I love it, makes this world a better place

Music is the one thing that I'm really good at. Music is also the one thing I want to do with my life. Music is what heals me and what heals others when they hear it. A world without music would be terrifying... And so quiet!! Music is my path and my journey. It is my purpose.

Music is life

Music is an escape from shitty situations and emotions. It's also an exploration of the way I feel.

## UNDER 18S THE ROLE OF MUSIC IN YOUR LIFE

I play music 24/7  
It's the best ever

music helps me feel my emotions. there constantly music playing in my house or in my ears and it just makes me happy.

Music is crucial to my life. It is a way to express yourself and be yourself in a place that accepts who you are. It is one of my only sources of happiness.

## UNDER 18S SPECIFIC IMPACT OF LIVE LOCAL MUSIC

The connection with the audience and there performance and feel and passion you can feel off the music and the people behind the scenes to make it a special moment

God yes. I wouldnt be the person i am today if it wasnt for the swamp. The swamp was an all age venue on maitland road. It was just a house that a bunch of hippies lived in, but holy shit. The amount of love, support, connection, happiness and compassion i felt from that place changed me as a young girl. It moulded me and my musical experience. The Swamp held my old bands first few gigs, those nights were the best nights of my life. I seriously cant think of anything that has changed my life that drastically.

No

## UNDER 18S SPECIFIC IMPACT OF LIVE LOCAL MUSIC

I've been able to attach physical memories and genuine experience to a song.

The live music industry and music itself is crucial in my life as it has allowed me to find who i am and thankfully, the people within it are amazing because they accept everyone for who they are. It has allowed me to become creative and it is this industry that is the only source of positive social interaction(not school) and happiness. It has at an immense impact on me.



## UNDER 18S COMMENTS ABOUT TYPES OF ALL AGES GIGS

Chilled,happy friendly,lots of music

I prefer to have alcohol at all age gigs, this allows the older people to enjoy a cold one, but also forces them to not get out of hand in front of the young kids. Its all about teaching by example.

Peaceful

I prefer no alcohol because I have little to no self control, and neither do my friends.

if there is alcohol available and people over 18 get drunk it ruins the vibe and fun for the under 18s.

## UNDER 18S COMMENTS ABOUT TYPES OF ALL AGES GIGS

When alcohol is allowed to be served at all age gigs it is much more inviting for over 18s to join, therefore making the night more enjoyable with more people. I have not had any incidents so far with events serving alcohol

## AGE 18to30 COMMENTS ABOUT VOLUNTEERING AT GIGS

Provide one house volunteer and then another volunteer the performers have to provide. (Or 2 house and 2 band receipts).

Volunteering is good but I also think that people who use their skills and have learnt over time to do the things (aka sound operators, lighting techs etc) should still be paid for their labour and skills.

love this idea but i still think it is local/state/federal governments responsibility to support live and local music financially.

Positive energy in and out of the venue with stamping

Having people volunteer to somehow make sure everyone feels safe during the gig could be a good idea.

It is underused. Also a door price to gigs in Newcastle is a large deterrent so volunteering doesn't have the same inherent value.



## AGE 18to30 COMMENTS ABOUT TYPES OF ALL AGES GIGS

I am a fan of ALL ages gigs - all welcome including young and old folks. I don't recall wanting my own 'youth only' space as an u/18, just wanted to be let into the existing spaces.. Personally.

I don't mind either way, provided that the under 18 year olds are policed in their behaviour and consumption of alcohol, Including at the door.

Whether or not there is alcohol doesn't matter as much as the music. If it's a well managed gig, either model is fine.

I would like to be allowed to have a beer or two and enjoy music so i think being able to have both is better

Strict ID checks were in venues that i went to when i was younger and i think that if staff monitor this correctly then it is super effective eg. do kick people out if they have drunk too much.

Being over 18 I feel alcohol and strict ID checks is the better method of operating. With not only attracting a larger audience size for increased exposure but also increasing financial viability of performing.

Giving underage bands and audiences the chance to attend a gig with controlled alcohol sales will help easier integrate into over 18 venues and communities.

I didn't like all ages local DIY gigs when I was under 18. I never liked the bands. I just went to ticketed gigs. I'd hope it's a mix, but with the priorities of youngies met first. Adults can do anything but kids options are limited so they should be geared for them.

Make it in with a stamp

All ages with alcohol and id checks is the best thing for people of all ages to be able to get together and collaborate.

Don't personally like all ages gigs as it kind of feels like you cant let your guard down as much. Guess it depends on genre. Heavier music is more fun when you dont have to watch out for kids i suppose!

## AGE 18to30 COMMENTS ABOUT TYPES OF ALL AGES GIGS

I like the ix and strict ID checks thingy. Lets people kinda do their own thing a bit more and leaves it on the adults to be responsible.

Alcohol with strict ID checks and an audience of mixed ages. In all my years at the commons I never saw anyone abuse being able to drink and causing trouble for the younger patrons. However, if it had to be "no alcohol" it wouldnt stop me from coming. Although it may stop others.

I prefer the mixed crowd with alcohol. It allows young people to see what effects alcohol can have on older people and hopefully if the older people are setting a good example of how to monitor your alcohol intake, young people can learn from experiencing the same gig, sober.

When I was under 18 I was getting around Hombre records and the commons, so no alcohol and a mix of teen and young adults. That was good for me. We thought it was a bit odd when older people came along. Now I'm over 18 I'm just inclined to go out to see bands that I like regardless of the venue, though I am more likely to go to the pub for shows as it becomes a more diverse form of entertainment if you will. There are things to do and places to sit between acts or if you don't care if you miss one of the bands

I think these kinds of spaces work better for AA crowds. No drinking, no smoking.

When I was under 18 it made the gig seem a little less welcoming having a large amount of people much older than myself.

I think its pretty nice to have people all on the same level. I'm not a huge advocate for the culture of alcoholism "Australia" has, but people are still gonna do it so may as well let them

Defining music culture by age of drinking means that you are tying music culture to drinking culture and it's a really dumb move. It means the only value that music has as it grows is in moving units of beer. This limits everything a city can do with music. It is very dangerous and creates an expectation in punters of gigs being a place where someone else will take responsibility for your alcoholic actions and puts an onus on venues to do so.



## MUSOS FIRST GIG THAT STANDS OUT IN YOUR MEMORY

Sniddy's Restaurant on Beaumont St was first regular (ok) paying gig. 3 hrs of quiet corner covers on our terrible equipment to a dinner crowd.

Solo at The Lass, band at The Commons, through connections with muso friends.

A function for the teachers association dinner in June of this year (2018)

2013

Through music collectives doing those 12 hour shows at the Lass. Both times for both of my different bands we have opened (Beach Street, Bandapolooza etc.) Great way for a band to start and these promoters always seem keen to debut new acts.

The Commons!!! It was the perfect space to launch a new project, the space was versatile, artists could work with the space however they liked. Sound equipment and service was good, ability to record. Food and beverage options were flexible. It was ideal to create an entire evening of entertainment. No competing with poker machines or tv screens. Ability to make money with donations or tickets. It also had its own following, its own reputation for hosting artistic events. A good reputation! It had culture!!

Cruel hous but in actuality it was at the comons supporting Zappo! Playing on a stage to people who really enjoyed our music was such a fantastic experience

My first gig was at one of Miss Kates Cheese nights at the inner city wine makers with Deanna Rose. (I met Miss kate at the commons!)  
Since then I have done many gigs at different venues with Deanna and more recently many gigs with Milli Casey.

My first ever band gig was at the swamp. I suggested that we'd play for a fundraiser.

We played our first gig in Maitland as part of a mini festival, catering to AA crowds. But soon began playing at the loft.



## MUSOS FIRST GIG THAT STANDS OUT IN YOUR MEMORY

The Commons, 2017, through contacting Boys Dont Cry Collective.

Asked by a friend at the commons maybe a year ago

First Newcastle gig was at the Wiko many years ago and grew out of Merewhether Fat's blues nights. A community of players who would have a residency playing at whatever venue would best host them.

Lass O'Gowrie Hotel

Another muso, Chelsea Reed, heard that I was starting a band and offered me a support for her show. Yyyeww!! It also happened to be at Chino's, the bar I mentioned earlier, RIP.

The Lass

The Cambridge Hotel.....

work with a school

through community.

The oriental.

Playing at places like The Commons. Local Cafes and alternative bars. Not mainstream bars with pokies.

My first band started when I was in high school. We were very supported by The Loft (the youth venue) and they booked us shows. They also had a great youth radio station where we came in and did a live set which we could then use. This was an amazing space and I'm so sad for younger generations that they don't have something like this!

## MUSOS PARTICULAR THING YOU WERE GRATEFUL FOR WHEN STARTING OUT

Other musos. Attended HSPA so always had musical people/ community around.

Other musicians, venues open to giving inexperienced performers a chance to start out and play original music.

Great quality musicians and mentors to help me build my bands up as a business and help me promote myself

a friendly community

I had some nice contacts early on which guided and hooked me up with a lot. I met them from going to a pub to see live music (a lot, way more than healthy) and eventually volunteering to do sound. A great way to meet musos and learn skills which I now make money from week to week.

supportive venues and passionate comrades. I'm fortunate to have experienced the morrow park in its glory days. It was a creative hub a rehearsal space, recording studio, performance space- it was a place to make things possible. It helped me grow roots in the creative world and establish myself as a musician.

Older friends willing to support a young new band

I was grateful for open mic nights because it was a way to build confidence and practice in front of an audience without judgment.

The support of friends that like your music. And the opportunities at all age music venues like the commons and house shows.

A space that offered community, friends and a place to play. That was the loft.

? Lots of connections to other people in the industry because of the all ages gigs I had gone to in the past.

Friends

## MUSOS PARTICULAR THING YOU WERE GRATEFUL FOR WHEN STARTING OUT

Talented friends. Easily accessible gigs like the Lass back when you could actually get paid.

Friends to come watch me

I was lucky that the drummer in my band was already a prolific muso in Newy, so I had heaps of connections straight up. Most of my gigs in the early years were through connections or people hearing about me through my band members. Super grateful to have not had to start totally from scratch.

Low key community venues to try out musical ideas/bands on. A diverse and inclusive music scene. Venues offering hospitality and respect to artists.

Other musicians with PA equipment & knowledge of how to operate same....

not in music industry, am in a school that has deeply integrated music into daily life

music instruments.

Friends support.

Open mic nights and smaller non pokie venues. Nights that mixed experienced musicians with non experienced ones. So we can learn from each other.

To have support from the community, by way of gig opportunities, cheap places to record, and a space to share my music.

## MUSOS ANYTHING YOU HAVE LACKED OR HAD DIFFICULTY ACCESSING AS A MUSO

Business sense. Knowing what is reasonable pay etc. Used to play regular 3hr restaurant gigs on Honeysuckle for \$20/ hour (less than I got working at the Subway next door), with all my own gear -\_-

RECORDINGS!! This ultimately falls on me for not getting it done, but yeah, some quality recordings to use when applying for gigs/ to share.

PA to practice on! Always a shock first coupla songs hearing myself so loud at gigs - finally got this sorted at 25.

Money

My biggest issue was finding the time to get together with my band mates to get a solid musical library ready for gigs

Its still difficult for some genres and style of shows that don't fit a more traditional rock or acoustic template.

Nah had a decent run I can't complain! Maybe connections to do gigs OUT OF TOWN. Newcastle bands want to play in other places Sydney/Canberra etc. some can do it easily. I'd like to see more avenues of promotion for ease of this.

Rehearsal space! I essentially never rehearse with my band... I'd love to have the ability to rehearse and jam and record regularly

Practice spaces and venues

I guess i've lacked knowledge on whats acceptable payment for gigs. I'm lucky I had Milli to negotiate those terms as she used to be the booking person at the Lass and knew what was reasonable payment. Maybe some free talks on topics like this could be really helpful!!

I also dont know much about sound stuff!

And if ive been singing in a band or doing back up singing we have always rehearsed at Sawtooth. However, if money is tight, especially with new young musicians starting out I think a free rehearsal space that could be booked could be really good!

Now there is a lack of all age venues. They all have seemed to shut down, the only ones i know of are softys and the dungeon. We need more all age venues!!

## MUSOS ANYTHING YOU HAVE LACKED OR HAD DIFFICULTY ACCESSING AS A MUSO

More local venues.

No.

space to practise

Money.

Rehearsal spaces that were free or affordable.

Absolutely it's been hard without regular rehearsal space. We were using the Commons for a while, but now that it's closed we try and find loungerooms, sometimes Softy's have helped out.

REHEARSAL SPACE!!

Finding a Manager to help develop/support your music..... You won't get personal support from agents .....

loved the idea of writing stuff,.. havent lived up to it very well

decent cash.

Money

I would like to see more investment in non mainstream venues. The vibe at venues with pokies or gambling is pretty bad. I would like to see more cafes and alternative venues like the commons.

It's sad we don't have the ABC music awards in Newcastle anymore. That was a great way for local artists to gain strong recognition, grant money for touring and recording and meet industry people.

## 30plus ROLE OF MUSIC FOR YOU AS A TEENAGER

music was everything

Just another part of my life.

Music is encouraging to anyone in life and it doesn't stop at your teens

As a teenager listening to music was a really important outlet for all my angsty teen emotions. Learning to play with other people was also huge for my self esteem and identity, as I started to identify as a 'musician', which has stayed with me til today.

Everyone hated me until I became a music follower

Going to gigs provided me with an opportunity to meet people and hang out, develop social skills and play music and such. It gave me the opportunity to express myself and communicate ideas and feelings that were sometimes hard to communicate with words.

Live Music/Live Gigs inspired me to become intrigued by sound, visuals, & eventually to become a musician....

## 30plus ROLE OF MUSIC FOR YOU AS A TEENAGER

Music was a way to escape, sometimes with friends, sometimes not. It allowed me to "blend in", as I like a wide variety of genres, so could access a wide range of friend circles using it.

. loved choir and sitting around playing guitar. Countdown was really big for us and country radio station 2NZ . Musicals at school brought people together that would otherwise not have even met. Band at school took us out of our comfort zone to stand in front of others and perform. Uni days were in Newcastle and I busked in Hunter street and played in a pub that has burned down with friends. We rehearsed in a church hall and in a garage. We weren't very good but we were brave and had fun. We learned , we practiced, we met people. We were happy.

learnt a lot from a jazz muso

Music saved my life. Without it I'm not sure what u would have done. It has also played a major role in the lives of most of the people I know. The arts give us our identity and allow us to connect with each other.

## 30plus SPECIFIC IMPACT OF LIVE LOCAL MUSIC

band in a tiny all ages venue run by Russell Crowe - they sang "red telephone box, phone box, phone box" they were tops

No

I grew up on the central coast in an are with no real local music scene at the time, it was until I came to Newcastle that I realized that music and local music was here for the taking

I went to the Beach party at uni when I was 19, and all of the amazing bands played (seriously: Regurgitator, Cat Empire, Blue King Brown & Tortured Soul (New York). Still one of the best nights of my life. There's never been a line up in a car park full of sand as good as that since.

Loud mudic

Loads!

My first real gig was at The Lass with The Men Who Drip With Germs most of the members of this band have gone on to tour the country of not the world.

As mentioned earlier.....the "Old" Newcastle Workies....  
Fantastic local rock bands in the the late 70's, 80's & 90's.....  
Every Friday & Saturday night.....FULL DANCE FLOORS.....  
PEOPLE HAVING FUN.....



## 30plus SPECIFIC IMPACT OF LIVE LOCAL MUSIC

one guy on a guitar in a bar in Hunter Street. His original song was PCA.  
We went to see a band in a pub when I was pregnant with 2nd baby... He was bouncing. I had to go outside. that is all.

ugly music is a blight on the listeners and their circle,.

I have performed house shows in Newcastle and performed at the commons for many years. I have enjoyed connecting with the people of Newcastle through music. I believe I have contributed to the economy by spending the money I make on food and accommodation while there. Newcastle has always been a fun and important place for me to stop at because of people like Michael investing so much of themselves in the local music scene. I believe they should be supported to help the scene grow.