

BLACK CARROT

NOVEMBER, 2024
ISSUE 1

5 SINGLES NOW STREAMING

Whatever platform you stream your music through, you will find 5 fantastic singles to listen to now!

DEBUT FULL BAND GIGS DONE!

A look at the first two full band gigs featuring Darren, Chris & Mark.

PLUS LOTS MORE CONTENT!

Dive inside, and have a look!

LOCKED IN THE STUDIO

Recording has intensified through October & November to complete the tracks for the debut album

RADIO COVERAGE

Support from not one but TWO! of the singles has seen us get played on the radio box!

DECISION MADE

NO COVERS!

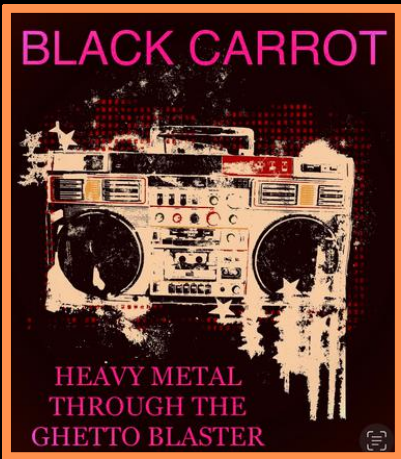
**CARROT IS THE NEW
BLACK**

Interview with Darren, on the decision to make BLACK CARROT an original material band, and say ADIOS! to covering other bands songs

ADVERTISEMENT

BLACK CARROT

CARROT IS THE NEW BLACK



5 SINGLES NOW STREAMING



BLACK CARROT

NOVEMBER, 2024
ISSUE 1

Hello! and welcome to the first issue of BLACK CARROT Magazine. A new update on what me and my band are getting up to - both as a band and individually with other projects.

My name is Darren, I am the frontman, singer, songwriter and guitarist for BLACK CARROT.

I am joined in the band by Mark Tug and Chris Reeder.

Mark, is the Bassist, Backing Vocalist and the owner of Garden City Recording Studio. It's here where we record all our songs.

Chris, is currently providing the drums for us, however he actually joined originally as our lead guitarist. Due to a severe lack of drummers in the area and his ability to play drums, he decided to fill in until we unearth a full-time tub thumper.

Each of us have separate projects we do, and in this magazine we will keep you up to date with them. As the issues roll on, we will delve deeper in to things, but for now enjoy flicking through the pages of this introductory issue.

If you are not currently following the Facebook page, then make sure to do so. Also, if you use streaming providers, like Spotify, make sure to find us on there and follow us.

In the future I hope to do interviews with interesting people, such as Musicians, feature coverage of our gigs, focus features on the band, studio updates and other people associated with our overall operation. Maybe also reviews on everything we do, see, eat and visit!

The possibilities are endless.... And videos too!

I hope you enjoy the issue.

**A CARROT A DAY WILL
TURN YOU ORANGE,
EVENTUALLY!**



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DEBUT FULL BAND GIGS!!

AFTER 3 YEARS OF DARREN
PLAYING THE GIGS LIVE, SOLO
ACOUSTIC. THIS SEPTEMBER &
OCTOBER 2024, SAW BLACK
CARROT, PLAY THEIR FIRST FULL
BAND ELECTRIC GIGS.



SEPTEMBER 28TH, OKTOBERFEST, SHEFFORD, BEDS, UK

THESE GIGS WERE THE FIRST TIME
CHRIS, HAD BEEN INTRODUCED AS
THE OFFICIAL 3RD MEMBER OF THE
BAND, ON DRUMS.

OCTOBER 6TH, THE GROVE, WELWYN GARDEN CITY, HERTS, UK



INTRODUCING, BLACK CARROT.
DARREN - LEAD VOX, GUITAR
MARK - BASS, BACKING VOX
CHRIS - DRUMS



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NEWS

LOCKED IN THE STUDIO

October saw a return to the studio to begin the next recording sessions, to complete the tracks for the forthcoming debut album.

20 more tracks are being recorded, in addition to the 5 singles already released on streaming services, with the aim of releasing the album early 2025.

A 6th single is planned for release before Christmas.

Darren has said of the new songs: "More of the same really. Big catchy choruses, cheeky lyrics and loads of pumping power chords! And so far, still no Ballad" 🎸

RADIO COVERAGE

In addition to Mix 92.6 playing BLACK CARROT, on the radio. The folks at Cambridge 105, played a couple of our songs recently too. 'Heavy Metal Through The Ghetto Blaster' and 'One Track Kind' were both played over the airwaves in recent weeks.

Thank you to Tim Willet, for adding BLACK CARROT, to his New Music Generator.

[Visit their page here!](#)



BLOCKBUSTER VIDEO!



OUR FIRST OFFICIAL MUSIC VIDEO IS NOW STREAMING ON YOUTUBE. 'TRAMPLED' IS A BIG LIVE FAVOURITE AND THIS SPECIALLY HAND DRAWN LYRIC VIDEO CAPTURES ITS MESSAGE PERFECTLY.



**JIMMY FALLON
APPROVED!**



**LIKE &
SUBSCRIBE**

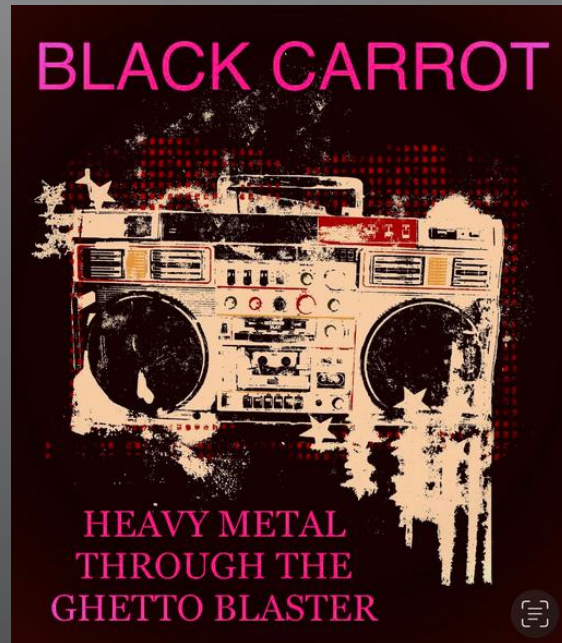


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STORY BEHIND THE SONG!

PART 1: THE DEBUT



Officially released back in May. The debut single has become the bands anthem, having been sung along to by audiences for a couple of years.

Written in lockdown, when Darren was quarantined with his first bout of Covid.

HMTTGB is a plea to the younger generation to stay young as long as possible and resist the urge to 'be a grown up'.

The innocence of youth seems to be lost now as children are eager to be streamers, broadcasting their own channels through YouTube, Twitch and Snapchat etc.

The days of cops & robbers in the garden, hide & seek in the house and making your own storylines with action man and barbie seem to be getting bypassed. We believe this is a shame. The adventures in innocence of playing with toys is important.

Why grow up? It's boring. Being an adult is way less fun.

LISTEN NOW ON SPOTIFY. CLICK HERE!



NO COVERS!

Singer, Darren explains why they took the decision to be a fully original material band & drop performing covers.

IS IT A BOLD DECISION TO NOT PERFORM COVERS?

Not really, in fact NO! There is a notion that bands need to chuck a few 'crowd pleasers' in their set to, 'Get the audience on side'. This isn't something I agree with. I am a firm believer that if the songs and performance are good enough, then you will have the audience's attention.

Of course if you are playing a pub on a Friday or Saturday night, you are probably expected to be a human jukebox, but you would know that when being booked.

The gigs we are looking for are not pub covers gigs, but part of a line up in a club, with a stage.

I feel there are so many bands now doing covers and tribute acts that we don't need to add to that scene.

I am a prolific songwriter, so we have no shortage of material. Mark (**BLACK CARROT**, Bassist & Recording supremo) has actually started to tell me to stop writing new songs as he is struggling to keep up! LOL.

I have always been a big fan of the frontman role in a band. Not just a voice who delivers the songs, but an entertainer too. My favourite bands are: **The Wildhearts, Greenday, Aerosmith, Guns N'Roses, The Darkness, The Supersuckers, Foo Fighters, Metallica, Terrorvision, Poison.....** Well, that list could go on forever, but one thing all those bands have in common is that they all have great frontmen. Not just singers.

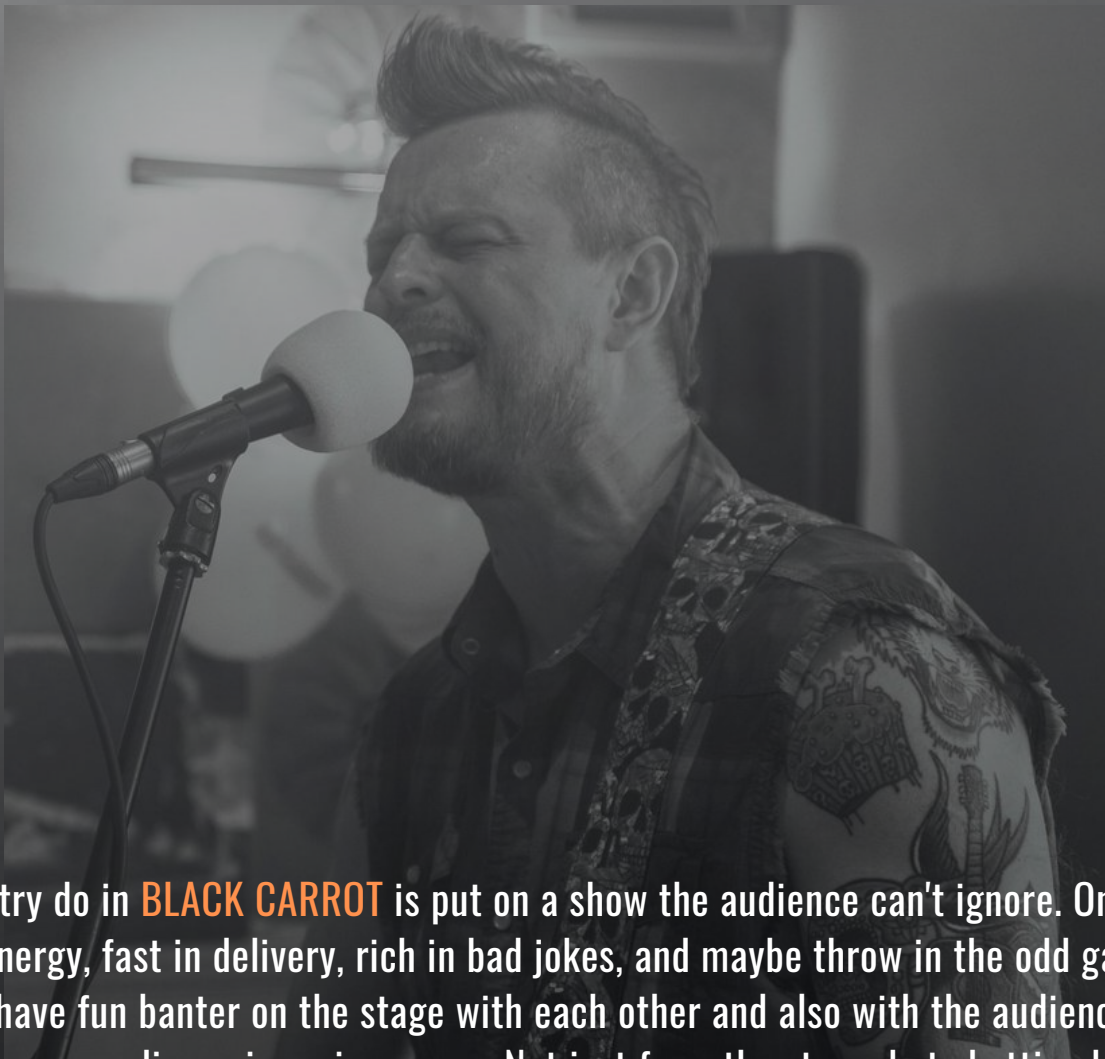
They all also have great songs that audiences can immediately get into, even the first time hearing them.

Earlier this year I went to see **GREENDAY** play a magnificent sold-out gig at Wembley Stadium. The opening band were **MADE OF ACE**. I had never heard of them before. They were on very early, at a time I was more focussed on deciding if I would buy a T-Shirt or not. However, the incredible energy of their singer had me hooked. I would go as far as saying I was captivated by them. Since that gig, I have followed them on Facebook and Spotify, and am looking to see them Live at one of their own shows when I can. To my knowledge, they didn't do any covers in their set and I loved them!

COVER FEATURE

NO COVERS!

CONTINUED.....



What we try to do in **BLACK CARROT** is put on a show the audience can't ignore. One that is high on energy, fast in delivery, rich in bad jokes, and maybe throw in the odd game as well. We have fun banter on the stage with each other and also with the audience. We engage our audience in various ways. Not just from the stage, but chatting before and after the show getting some photos with our Carrot Plushy Twins and posting to social media for them to 'Like' and 'Share'.

We are building a community of friends, rather than fans. When you have that, you don't need to be wasting your precious stage time playing other peoples songs.

At the end of the day, playing a 'Song everyone knows' is very simply, a song they have heard before. So play them your song, and then it will be a 'Song everyone knows'!

For us, it is about being confident in your material and having the personality to get the audience on your side and not playing Wonderwall, for the billionth time! LOL.



BLACK CARROT



**RECRUITMENT
DRIVE**

**RECRUITMENT
DRIVE**

EST. 2020

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POSITIONS WE ARE RECRUITING FOR:

GUITARIST: LOOKING FOR A RHYTHM PLAYER WHO CAN HANDLE SOME LEAD , MUST HAVE OWN GEAR, AND OWN TRANSPORT. ABILITY TO BE ABLE TO COMMIT TO A WEEKLY EVENING REHEARSAL IN STEVENAGE, HERTS.

MARKETING/GIG BOOKING: SOMEONE WHO CAN HELP US MOVE UP ANOTHER FEW LEVELS. WE CAN WRITE SONGS AND PERFORM AMAZING GIGS! BUT WE SUCK AT PROMOTION. LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WHO IS GREAT AT SOCIAL MEDIA, AND PROMOTING BANDS, & CAN SHOW PREVIOUS SUCCESSFUL EXPERIENCE. AND MOST IMPORTANTLY - BE REALLY INTO THIS BAND AND WHAT WE ARE LOOKING TO ACHIEVE

PLEASE NOTE, THESE ARE NOT PAID POSITIONS. WE ARE A SMALL BAND ESSENTIALLY STARTING OUT STILL. BUT! IF WE CAN START MAKING MONEY, THEN WE CAN ALL BENEFIT.

Apply at: contactus@blackcarrot.co.uk

MASSIVE INFLUENCES!

PART 1:

WEEZER



It was 1994 and “Ooh-wee-hoo, I look just like Buddy Holly, Oh-oh, and you’re Mary Tyler Moore” was the massive chorus blasting out all radio stations, and the Happy Days, accompanying music video was on more than the News!!

WEEZER had taken over. Were they pop punk? Were they Indie? Were they Alternative? Or did they create their own genre no one else ever joined them in!?

What we do know is that they have written consistently awesome tunes ever since. A whopping 15 studio albums so far, and a new one won't be far away im guessing. In front man Rivers Cuomo, they have one of the most prolific songwriters working in the music industry. This year they celebrate 30 years since the release of their debut self titled album, affectionately known as the “Blue Album”, WEEZER are one of our biggest influences. And this is shown on our debut single ‘Heavy Metal Through The Ghetto Blaster’. Not just in the quirky reminiscing lyrics or punchy muted verses, but also in the fact that the programmed drums used for the single release version, were the Pat Wilson patch! Meaning we can legitimately say we have Pat Wilson from WEEZER playing on our track.

And that is friggin awesome!



CARROT ARMY

THIS SUMMER WE PLAYED SEVERAL INCREDIBLE FESTIVALS, AND AT EACH ONE WE MET WITH LOTS OF BRILLIANT PEOPLE AND TOOK PHOTOS OF THEM WITH OUR CARROT TWINS! HERE ARE SOME OF THE BRILLIANT PEOPLE WE PERFORMED TO. IF YOU ARE IN THESE PHOTOS, THANK YOU SO MUCH AND WE HOPE YOU HAD A GREAT TIME.



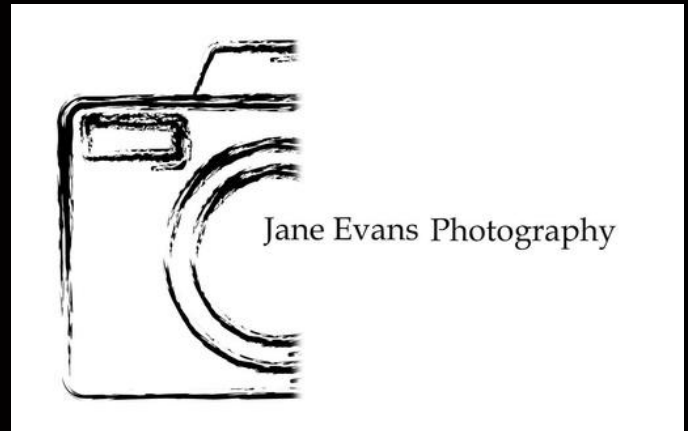
CARROT ARMY

EACH PERSON WHO HELD THE CARROTS AND POSED FOR A PHOTO WAS POSTED ON THE OFFICIAL FACEBOOK PAGE, ALONG WITH THEIR BLACK CARROT DIGITAL BADGE.



**Thank
you!**

Each issue we want to thank someone special to us who has helped in some way. Whether a large act or a small gesture. Nothing goes unnoticed.



Jane Evans is a Hertfordshire based photographer who has a real passion for music and helping to support local and grassroots musicians.

She is also a bloody good sport and has helped us loads this year by taking almost all of the CARROT ARMY photos you can see in this issue, and by watching us on several occasions.

Jane's so passionate about the bands she loves her arms are literally a tattooed roadmap of her favourites. Which also include unsigned bands too.

There is a Carrot in there which she claims isn't for us as it was done before we met. But we think it was a premonition, LOL!



If you need a photographer in the Herts/London area, then contact Jane. She can be found on Facebook, and Instagram. Just look for Jane Evans Photography. Or use the links on this page!





GET TO KNOW YOUR CARROTS!



EACH ISSUE A MEMBER OF TEAM WILL FIELD SOME QUESTIONS FOR A LITTLE INSIGHT!

FIRST UP, DARREN!

WHERE & WHO DID YOUR MUSICAL INSPIRATIONS COME FROM?

Like most people I think? I started out liking Pop. Kylie Minogue, WHAM, Michael Jackson... But the first Rock bands I got into were: Alice Cooper, Europe & Bon Jovi. Then it was Guns N'Roses, before The Wildhearts came along and signed me up for life. But Country music was there from the very start through my Dad liking Elvis & Johnny Cash.

WHO IS YOUR FAVOURITE BAND, AND WHY?

The Wildhearts, without question. They are my oxygen! LOL I love the chaos of their history, the band members, line up changes. Musically I love how they fuse so many styles together seamlessly. And as a fan of the chorus! For me they have the best choruses.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE YOU TO WRITE A SONG?

Once I get that first hit of inspiration, it can take literally minutes. I get hyper focussed and stay on it until its done. Usually it is between 30 mins and 2 hours.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE THING ABOUT PERFORMING LIVE?

The adulation! 🎤 It is great being on stage. Even when it is all going a bit wrong. Having an audience to perform to! I love it. I guess it is just in me. The itch that constantly needs scratching. I think its called ego 😊👉

WHAT IS THE WORST CAR YOU HAVE EVER OWNED?

Car?! That is easy, I have just written a song about it. My old Escort XR3i. A car I regretted buying from the moment I bought it. The convertible roof used to leak all the time. I paid loads to replace the roof and it still leaked. It was always breaking down, and I crashed it twice. But the song we just recorded about it is pretty cool. So I guess after all these years, its given me that!

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE BLACK CARROT SONG AT THE MOMENT?

POWERLESS. A new song we are recording at the moment. It has such a great drive to it. It is kind of Ramones-esq in its simplicity, but with a Wildhearts feel to it as well. I love playing it in rehearsal and cant wait to give it a Live debut.

MEETING YOUR HEROES

TERRORVISION



DARREN HAD THE HONOUR OF MEETING THE INCREDIBLE, TONY WRIGHT OF TERRORVISION! BACK IN LATE 2022 WHEN BLACK CARROTS VERY OWN, MARK! OPENED FOR HIM AT A GIG IN HERTFORD, HERTS.

"TONY WAS FANTASTIC, SUCH A LOT OF FUN. HE HAD TIME FOR EVERYONE AND EVEN DID SOME DOODLES ON THE MERCH HE WAS SELLING, SO EACH PERSON WENT AWAY WITH THEIR VERY OWN UNIQUE PIECE. NO EGO, JUST A TRUE GENTLEMAN. A REAL ROCKSTAR. HOW IT SHOULD BE, AND ONE OF MY BIGGEST INFLUENCES OF HOW A BAND SHOULD BEHAVE"
DARREN - BC.

[LISTEN TO THE NEW TERRORVISION ALBUM ON SPOTIFY. CLICK HERE!](#)



BLACK CARROT



PARENTAL
ADVISORY
EXPLICIT CONTENT

YOU'RE GONNA HATE ME
NO MATTER WHAT I DO

NOW AVAILABLE



DISTROKID

*With a little help to our
Friends!*

**EACH ISSUE WE WILL SHOWCASE A BAND/ARTIST WE
KNOW & LOVE & WANT YOU TO AS WELL.
FIRST UP!**

ESCAPE ROUTE



Escape Route are a 4-piece indie rock band from North Hertfordshire. Influenced by the 70's to modern day rock, Escape Route not only perform in their own style with a set of catchy original songs, but are excited to begin their journey to introduce their anthemic riffs and dirty blues sounds to the wider listeners in the UK

"Easy listening, charismatic and modestly brilliant"

"We loved your set, quality and diverse rock band with their own muse"

We love ER, not just the banging songs, but they are the nicest group of guys you could ever hope to meet, and with their debut single about to launch imminently, visit their website and follow their socials.

www.escaperoute.uk

DARREN CARROT

MOVIE FILM REVIEWS

Not only a Music Fanatic, Darren is also a huge Movie Fan, and he has a review page on Facebook. Make sure you follow to find out what he is doing in the Movie & TV Show World! Here is some of the things he watched the past few weeks. Full reviews on the facebook page. Address below.



www.facebook.com/darrencarrotmoviefilmreviews



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