

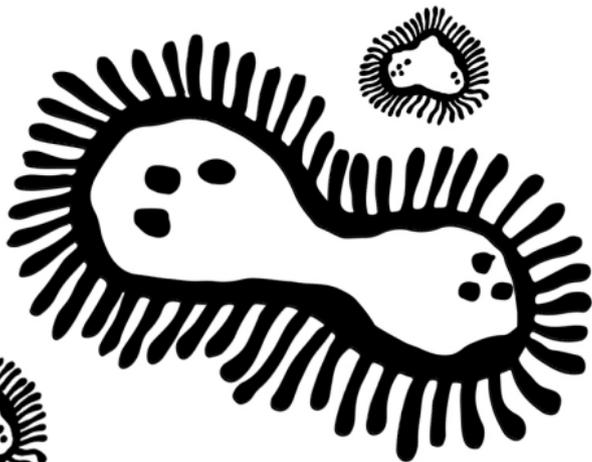
CONNECT NOTHING WITH NOTHING

#2- FREE ZINE



**WEIRD SOUNDS
FOR MARGATE**

**FEB/MAR LISTINGS
SOLIDARITY &
NON-HIERARCHIES
GUITAR PEDALS 101**



CONNECT NOTHING WITH NOTHING WEIRD SOUNDS FOR MARGATE

We're Connect Nothing With Nothing, gig promoters in Margate. We don't really focus on any particular genre- more on a particular vibe and atmosphere. Weird stuff, heavy stuff, intense stuff, surprising stuff. Lots of psych, drone, doom metal, post-punk, electronica, but also sometimes political indie pop or techno. You never know. Fall down the rabbit hole- we promise to not be boring.

We also strongly focus on DIY, non-hierarchical and Mutual Aid based approaches to organising music. We're certainly not getting rich off doing this, so it might as well be fun and rewarding for everyone. There's an introduction in this zine to our approach. We want **you** to get involved. Start a band, put on a night, let's get things going.

We also try to make sure we are inclusive and widen our net when it comes to the musicians we put on. Music is not a straight white cis boy's club, and there is a whole wealth of talent out there beyond that demographic. We also will not tolerate racism, misogyny, homophobia, transphobia or other kinds of bigotry at our events.

Big thanks to: Sammy, Ciaran and Alex at Elsewhere for their support and hosting; Obar and Kate at Radio Margate; Dean and Carlotta at Stretch Outsider Art Festival, our friends and family, and all the bands past and present who have played or will play for us.

ABOUT US:

Kevin: I'm a devout Discordian, Anarchist and arch piss-taker. I love extreme music made by people who don't take themselves too seriously and a patron of all things noisy, fun, and funky. But I'm also a huge fan of sounds and art that's just plain grim. I'm a Scorpio/ Sagittarius cusp. So I blame the universe for my split personality. When I grow up I want to live on Mars

Emma: Did you think you saw Emma? You're mistaken. It was your mind playing tricks. Close the door behind you, just in case. Turn the light on.

**TICKETS AND INFO AVAILABLE AT
WWW.CONNECTNOTHING.COM**

TICKETS: £5-10 DEPENDING ON GIG

**NO-ONE TURNED AWAY FOR LACK OF FUNDS
IF YOU ARE STRUGGLING FINANCIALLY,
PLEASE COME ANYWAY**

WE WANT YOU THERE

(You can give a token donation of change if it makes you feel less awkward)

IN

CO-OPERATION

Help other people! Work together! Collaborate on projects and create a fertile field. Other people's success helps you to be successful- they can give you advice and contacts.

GENEROSITY OF SPIRIT

Mutual Aid creates a virtuous circle where people help each other out with no strings attached apart from basic respect. It makes the world feel happier and less daunting.

INCLUSIVENESS

Say hi to the shy new people. Invite them in. Make them feel welcome and included. There's no dress code.

SKILL-SHARING

If you know how to do something and others don't, why not arrange a skill-share session? If you admire someone else's skills, ask them for some tips. Decent people will be happy to share and help- especially if you're a beginner.

SUPPORT AND SOLIDARITY

The world is hard enough. Let's support and celebrate each other's projects, and be supportive and kind when times are tough. Provide a safe haven from the bigotry of the world.

ACTION

Have a go. Not everything needs to be perfect, and it's ok to try things out. Let's create an atmosphere where people feel comfortable to try new things out and have fun.

OUT

RIVALRY

People in the same field are potential collaborators and supporters, not enemies. Creativity is not a game of winners and losers. Someone else's success is not your failure.

MEANSPIRITEDNESS

Cutting others down. Always taking and never giving. Leave it to the Tories, we're better than that.

EXCLUSION

Music and other types of creativity aren't exclusive for any race, gender or group. Cliques are for 12 year olds. Don't lock people out and make them feel unwelcome and un-included. It's not your private clubhouse.

GATEKEEPING

Don't keep others out or act like information or skills are a state secret only to be shared with the initiated few. You don't need to be *this cool* to enter, or have *x years* of experience to join in. Let people have a go and get involved.

JEALOUSY AND SPITE

Somebody else being good at something takes away *nothing* from you. If you feel your own work looks less in comparison, up your game rather than tearing others down, and everyone benefits. Jealousy just poisons the well.

TALK THAT GOES NOWHERE

You want to do that thing, right? Why aren't you doing it? If you need help from others to start, why not just ask them?

SOLIDARITY AND NON-HIERARCHY

“Don’t compete! — competition is always injurious to the species, and you have plenty of resources to avoid it! In the long run the practice of solidarity proves much more advantageous to the species than the development of individuals endowed with predatory inclinations.”

Peter Kropotkin

We are living in a society that since the 1980s has been taken over by conservative neoliberal political ideas: **Everyone is out for themselves; survival of the fittest; everyone is an island in competition with the others; if it doesn’t make a profit, it isn’t worth anything; the “market” is everything; if you’re poor or suffering you must have done something wrong; greed is good**

Although it’s presented to us as a default setting, an unchangeable law of nature, this is isn’t actually true. Even within living memory things were different in the UK- the post-war social democrat policies gave never seen before opportunities to millions of ordinary people.

We’ve been living under a decade of Tory-inflicted austerity, where money and resources have been stripped away from ordinary people and redirected towards the already rich, with the press encouraging people to turn on foreigners and the disabled instead.

We’re also in the middle of a technological revolution, led by Silicon Valley tech bros who have too much money and not enough life experience and empathy for others. Progress from their perspective is “disrupting” or “innovating”

industries by using technology to strip away worker protections or bypass the law to reap huge personal profits off the back of a large casualised workforce like something out of the **Ragged Trousered Philanthropists**.

So what does this have to do with gig listings? The days of easy money in music are long gone. The choices are either go full corporate, follow the micro-managed template given, and possibly earn a lot of money by having little creative input (still not guaranteed success) or go DIY and do it yourself and not make much money if any, and do it for the joy of it.

But what does DIY culture involve? If the money aspect of capitalist music production is gone, what else is different?

The most important aspects of DIY are **community** and **equality**. There is no money to be made by capitalist competition, and there is nothing to be gained from selfishness or competition except the disdain of others in the community. It’s not a zero-sum game where there can only be one loser and one winner, or everything has to be hoarded to the benefit of a small clique. There is no fame and no heroes who are “above” other people.

Someone’s else’s success doesn’t take something away from you. There isn’t one cookie that everyone is fighting over. It’s too easy to keep up ingrained capitalist habits and end up with the worst of both worlds:

DIY finances = (no money)

+

Corporate jealousy, competition and distrust = (no fun)

There is a national and international DIY music network based on openness, generosity and trust. We are able to bring these bands to Margate because we treat them well, are honest and create trust and they are willing to take a lower fee than they would get in big cities. They don't have to play here. They want to. This then creates a virtuous circle where we get recommended to new people.

This creates a network of people who know, like and trust each other, and continually expand the network by introducing you to interesting new people who are open to friendship. It's not a closed shop or an exclusive clique in any way.

Of course the flip side to this is that anyone who is dishonest, rude or otherwise unpleasant starts to find doors slammed in their faces, and the party going on without them. When it's not about the money, it's all about the personal bonds. If you're not running the gig/space/label for profit-only love, rudeness becomes a slap in the face to your hospitality.

The famous author Ursula le Guin wrote a novel, *The Dispossessed* (text available for free online at libcom.org), imagining life in a society run on anarcho-syndicalist lines. Money and property ownership don't exist. Meals, goods and accommodation are provided free communally. It's easy to switch jobs or enrol on a course at any time. Everybody has to do public cleaning once a week. There's no rationing, official laws or prisons, but social pressure and upbringing stops people taking more than their fair share or not pulling their weight.

People are equal and generally treat each other decently, but it's not paradise- it's a harsh desert environment where survival means hard work, and human nature is not entirely improved.

The main character of the story, Shevek, is a physicist, and he goes back to the very hierarchical and capitalist society his rebellious ancestors were thrown out of to take part in a ground-breaking research project (and be accidentally caught up in an uprising). The story flips back and forth between his life story on the anarchist planet and his culture shock on the capitalist planet where he is suddenly "rich" and "important" as a visiting scientist but surrounded by poverty and inequality he can't ignore.

A famous quote from the book is:

"Nothing is yours. It is to use. It is to share. If you will not share it you cannot use it."

FAQ:

Why should I care about other people?

Are you sure this is the right place for you? You might be better off joining the Young Tories.

If you don't understand why you should care about others, then I don't really know where to start.

But, but, I really am more important...

No you're not. People are fundamentally equal.

But I'm in a BAND!

And?

PEDALS!

Guitar pedals are a lot of fun, but there's a mind-boggling selection when you're just starting out.

SOME CLASSICS:

Tuner pedal- get one with a light up display so you can see what you're doing

Ibanez Tube Screamer- crunchy overdrive and gain

Pro Co RAT- the go-to dirty distortion pedal

Boss DS-1- The RAT's slightly pricier rival

Electro-Harmonix Big Muff- the classic warm fuzz pedal

Electro-Harmonix Pog- play in harmony with yourself

Boss Loop Station- loop yourself playing

Electro-Harmonix Holy Grail- heavenly reverb

Boss Space Echo- intergalactic tape loop emulation

All of these are from mid-priced solid brands that will be reliable and last a long time.

There are a lot of very cheap brands like Joyo and Mooer available online now. Some of their pedals are great, some are great but do something different to what you ordered, and some are terrible. You don't really know until you try them. Same with multi-effects- Jack of all trades, master of none.

TC Electric, Danelectro and Behringer are good low-priced brands. Plastic pedals are however much less sturdy than metal ones.

There are also companies like Strymon and a whole host of tiny cottage industries producing beautiful expensive pedals.

SIGNAL CHAIN:

The order you arrange the pedals (the signal chain) also makes a huge difference to what kind of sound you get out. Each pedal changes something about the sound, which is then passed on to the input of the next one so different orders can create very different effects.

Pedals labelled "True Bypass" don't affect the sound when they are turned off. Cheaper pedals without it still change the sound when they're off.

Tuner pedal first: you don't want the effects confusing it

Basic principle: Dirt Before Decay

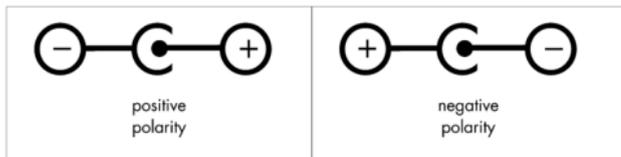
This isn't a hard and fast rule, it's just what often works best. Delay and reverb pedals can confuse or overpower other effects. Of course the fun is in trying different combos out and finding a surprise new arrangement and sound.

A classic signal chain is:

Tuner → Volume/compressor → Overdrive/Distortion → Fuzz → Flange/Chorus/Octave → Reverb/Delay (Loop pedal goes anywhere you want)

Example from Chris from Lazy Pilgrims:

Crowther Hotcake (overdrive) → **Barber Trifecta** (fuzz) → **EHX Soul Food** (overdrive/distortion) → **EHX POG 1** (octave) → **Korg Pitchblack** (tuner) → **EHX Superego** (synth sound) → **Danelectro Big Spender** (rotary speaker) → **Way Huge Supa Puss** (delay) → **Digitech Obscura** (dark delay) → **Biyang Flanger** (cheap Chinese one) → **Strymon Blue Sky** (reverb) → **TC Electronic Flashbackx4** (classic delay emulation) x



POWER:

The majority of pedals use 9v DC power, and many also take 9v batteries. Some want 12v. Check the voltage.

Power adaptors have a pin in the centre of the plug which can be wired up positive or negative. Nearly all pedals have a negative pin (and a sticker with the negative polarity symbol). Don't mix up different polarity gear and plugs.

DAISY CHAINING AND POWER BLOCKS:

The simplest way to connect multiple pedals to one power supply is to get a cheap daisy chain cable. This isn't ideal though as it can create annoying buzzes and static and be unreliable.

The better option is to get an isolated power supply like a Fuel Tank or Fuel Tank Jr. It's a block with multiple 500mA 9v and 12v outlets, and each one is insulated and separate so it doesn't interfere with the others. (Ignore any cheap online ones you see for £20 or so- they're just loose cables inside a box! Stick with a reputable brand rather than risk your pedals)

ROLAND AND BOSS:

Roland and Boss pedals like you to use their own special filtered power cable. It has a little ferrite block halfway that blocks interference. You **can** use a cheaper power supply, but it's much more likely to get annoying hums and static.

MAS:

Amperes aren't so important if you're directly powering each pedal, but if you daisy chain them together they become important. Each pedal needs so many milliamps which varies by pedal type from 20-300mA. The power supply will tell you on a label underneath how many mA it can give (usually 500mA/0.5A for a simple 9v supply). If the combined equipment draws too much for the power supply, everything is going to get overheated and dangerous.

VERY IMPORTANT: If you're swapping power supplies between equipment like pedals, pads and synths it's very important to check that the voltage (and whether it's AC or DC), polarity and max mA draw **ALL** match up, or else you're looking at equipment that either does nothing or dangerously overheats

Also if you buy anything with a power supply from abroad, check the voltage before use! Europe and Australasia use 220/240v, but North America and Japan use 110v.

If the power adaptor says 110-240v, 220v or 240v, you're fine. If it says 120v only, you need to get a UK power cable for it first.

SAT 16 FEB STRETCH GALLERY- MARGATE

**LARSEN, LISLE AND WEBSTER + LUNATRAKTORS +
POOR CLARES - BY DONATION**

Wild saxophone, guitar and drums! Free noise freakout with
Raw Tonk Records alumni Larsen, Webster and Lisle

FRI 8 MAR ELSEWHERE - MARGATE

**MOON RELAY + YOU WILL FLOOD THE RIVER +
ARCHDRUID £9**

Eerie cosmic disco from Norway. For fans of Can, Devo,
Tangerine Dream, and Brian Eno.

SUN 10 MAR ELSEWHERE - MARGATE

**BEIGE PALACE + TINY GHOST + TRASH MAMMOTH
+ TERRITORIAL GOBBING £9**

All hail the return of our Drab Overlords from Leeds.
Hypnotic post-punk for fans of Life Without Buildings

FRI 15 MAR ELSEWHERE - MARGATE

ORIZA + TRAPS + SCREEN WIVES £8

Thanet's favourite grindcore/powerviolence/noise/hawaiian
shirt wearers

+

TRAPS- brand new Don Caballero-esque post-hardcore joy
from members of OHHMS

FRI 22 MAR RADIO MARGATE

YERBA MANSA £5

Wild freeform guitar freakouts from members of Irma Vep
and Sex Hands. Down from Manchester/the Astral Plane to
treat your ears. FFO hypnotism, space travel and home
trepanning.

SAT 30 MAR ELSEWHERE - MARGATE

LUMINOUS BODIES + SUPPORT TBC £9

Psychedelic filth for Butthole Surfers and Melvins fans.
Members of Part Chimp, Gum Takes Tooth and Terminal
Cheesecake.

ACCESSIBILITY INFO

ELSEWHERE - Venue is in a basement- Gender-neutral
toilets, currently no disabled toilet.

RADIO MARGATE - Venue is on one level. Toilets are
separated by gender and no disabled toilet.

**STRETCH OUTSIDER ART GALLERY (NEXT DOOR TO
ELSEWHERE)** - Venue is in a basement- Gender-neutral
toilets, currently no disabled toilet.

**WE DO NOT USE STROBE LIGHTING. THERE MAY
SOMETIMES BE NEON OR FLASHING COLOURS.**

Please email us at connectnothing@gmail.com if you have
any other accessibility needs we can help with