



CREATIVE HUB

COOLSTAR is an exciting combination of young newcomers – and experienced musicians, formed to feature the work of songwriter/producer Gethyn Jones – working alongside Producer and Engineer, Nicholas Bowen. The pair have been working out of Nick's Quay West Studios in Gosport, Hampshire, UK for the past 3 years.

The band includes musicians who've had many Top 20 hits between them and a handful of young brilliant players – creating a potent and fertile musical cocktail.

Liam Wakefield: Vocals

As a serving soldier in the British Army Liam saw combat in Afghanistan and deployed all over the world for eight years. Then, from nowhere, a debilitating medical condition brought an abrupt end to his Army career. This spurred him on to pick the guitar up again and continue his music career with a renewed energy.

Mike Hugg: Keyboards, Drums, Vibes

Best known for his continuing work with The Manfreds (**Manfred Mann**). Mike is an accomplished pianist, drummer and vibes player. He's also a successful songwriter responsible for many hits including the iconic **5-4-3-2-1**. Between 1964 and 1979 Manfred Mann scored three British Number One hits – plus two more Number One hits in America plus another seven that went Top 5 and six more that made the Top 10 - **The Mighty Quinn** (Quinn The Eskimo), **Do Wah Diddy Diddy**

Ian Duck: Harmonica, Guitar

A highly respected guitarist and harmonica player - he was guitarist in **Elton John's** original backing band, **Hookfoot** for most of his early recordings for DJM. He had a global hit single in 1970 playing harmonica on **Groovin' With Mr Bloo!**

Graham Preskett: Graham is an accomplished musician, composer and arranger. He arranged part of - and played on **Baker Street**, by **Gerry Rafferty**. He's worked with **Cher**, **Paul McCartney**, **Tom Jones**, **Jon Bon Jovi** and many more. He's happy on stage too with many appearances ranging from



classical guitarist **John Williams**, through **Deep Purple**, **Mott the Hoople** and **Gryphon** to **Hans Zimmer**. He played mandolin in the motion picture Captain Corelli's Mandolin – and in Bridget Jones's Diary.

Nicholas Bowen: Guitars, Keyboards

A multi-instrumentalist coming from a talented musical family Nick is also a highly accomplished producer and co-owns Quay West Studios in Gosport, Hampshire, UK.

Alan Finlan: Vocals

Award-nominated UK Country Artist from South Coast.

Erin Newman: Vocals

Jack Turnbull: Bass

Joe Smith: Pedal Steel

Joe, from Bournemouth, has performed and recorded pedal steel with hundreds of acts and regularly performs up and down the country. A couple of years ago he went on tour in North America with Grammy-nominated artist, Yola.

Brass Players: Teddy Edwards (Trumpet), Alex Wilson (Alto), John Rennie (Tenor), Jamie Wilson (Tenor), Jim Cutts (Baritone)

Gethyn Jones: Guitars, Keyboards

Gethyn plays a variety of instruments and contributes to all Coolstar releases. With Jugg Music he has written music for a variety of BBC and ITV soaps, dramas, current affairs and game shows.

MUSIC 'S TOO CHEAP

Gethyn: "The music industry is unrecognisable from the one I knew when I first got involved in making radio programmes and writing TV scores.

"Composers and musicians who aim to make a living in the 2020s have a tough job on their hands. Whilst the industry's dissolution presents a more level playing field where any artist can potentially have a hit, it also throws up more problems.

"Music has become a cheap commodity which fewer people are prepared to pay for. This is reflected in massively lower global sales figures for music. It's now all about music streaming – where composers and artists have low expectations for royalties or income.

"The music business as it is today is an industry more than ever," he says. "The Top 40 is dominated by hits that rarely stray from the formula that succeeded for their predecessors."



OPTIMISTIC

"In my tiny corner of the globe, I write songs that move me. Country, rock, big ballads, hymns – anything goes as long as it has emotion. It's very liberating. My work resonating with people who really seem to appreciate it, is simply the best reward."

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Web: www.coolstar.uk

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5yY9YK1Gq9fCLmkWZoSLgA>

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