

Elaine talking to 'The Rhythm Buddies'

Elaine: I'm talking to Vikki and Dave, otherwise known as 'The Rhythm Buddies' about the music that they get together and play. So, to start off, when and how did you actually form your little duo?

Dave: We met last year; June or July last year wasn't it?

Vikki: Yes.

Dave: At, um, a bar not far away and I was doing a bit of an 'open mike' session type thing. We were messing about because you've probably heard I've got Yorkshire roots and we, somebody was saying "Sing Ilkley Moor Bar Tat", which we were doing, and Vikki had popped in to the bar for a drink and heard us singing it and she stuck her head round the corner and basically didn't know that we were doing this open mike thing in her local pub. So she said "I'd like to do it". She had three songs that she knew and said "Can I do 'em?" So she did them and that's how we met. I heard her singing at the open mike and we got together after that and got a more few songs together and we love it.

Elaine: So how would you describe what you play and perhaps the range of instruments because I understand that actually, er, Vikki, I think, you've got quite a few talents in that direction.

Vikki: Yeah. We both play the guitar. Dave plays the guitar in every song but I play it on some. And I play the tambourine. And I, because we're called 'The Rhythm Buddies' we, I've got a foot drum; and I've got some sticks, a cow bell (which we haven't put in yet)...

Dave: It's going in - don't worry.

Vikki: ...and a didgeridoo that's about to go in.

Elaine: And so you both of you, you play both play guitar and then you go on and play all these other ...

Dave: Yeah

Elaine: ... including your guzoo. So do you write your material or do you do covers?

Dave: No - it's all covers. Neither of us are talented enough to write music. I've, I've tried in the past - I just can't do it. So, yeah, we just stick to covering other peoples' songs that we like and that, that's one of the things - it's got to be a song that we both like. We said, right from the beginning, if you don't like the song - if one of us doesn't like the song - it gets kicked out. Plain and simple. Because there might be songs that I love and Vikki says 'Nah - not keen on it' and vice versa. So, all the songs we do, we both like.

Elaine: So in an evening, at a sort of average gig, how many songs would you cover?

Vikki: Between 40 and 50 songs.

Dave: Usually we have two sets of about 16, 17 songs in each set. And then if they want us to do some more we generally do so ...

Elaine: You keep going?

Dave: ... 40, and yeah, sometimes 50 songs.

Vikki: You keep going until your fingers get too sore to play any more.

Dave: Yeah, yeah. They do as well.

Elaine: So what venues do you play?

Vikki: Um, we do bars and restaurants - French and English. Private parties, we got a wedding party, birthday parties...

Dave: British.

Vikki: Did I say 'English'?

Dave: Don't forget. Anywhere, really. We've played private parties, haven't we; we've played birthday parties. We've done bars, restaurants. We've played campsites. So, we just put the word out. People see us and they say 'Oh, come play at our'. We'll do anything.

Elaine: So how much time is it necessary to spend rehearsing then, when, if you're doing about 50 covers? Um, While you're obviously going to be repeating the same songs, you're learning new ones all the time as well, aren't you?

Vikki: We often... If we haven't done our songs for a while we put a set together for a particular venue we go to Dave's and he's got all his music all set up in his house and we go there and practice and usually go run through all of the songs and make sure we've remembered everything, and ...

Elaine: So, you've been together for about a year then.

Dave: Yes, that's gonna be it.

Elaine: Do you have any direction that you're going off in? Any future plans?

Dave: No idea.

Vikki: We just enjoy what we're doing and just keep doing it, yeah.

Dave: That's one of the biggest things we said from the beginning. It's got to be fun otherwise there's no point in doing it. We don't take it too seriously. We're forever hitting bum notes or I am and I certainly get a look from you, don't I, when I do and I get a little nod.

Vikki: But if he plays a bum note it makes me sound like I'm singing out of key, that's why.

Dave: That's what she says but I think it's the other way round.

Elaine: She gives a look.

Vikki: He says no-one notices and I say "I notice."

Dave: But what we said ... We do. But what we said right from the start - if we do it wrong - so what? You know, if we hit a wrong chord, just laugh it off, and it don't really matter to us and we've had a lot of comments from people who've come up after gigs and said 'You two look like you're having fun' and it makes us have fun.

Elaine: That's the main thing

Dave: So we try to stick to that.

Elaine: If you're entertaining people then you've got to be having fun yourself.

Dave: Oh - we have a right laugh - yeah, yeah.

Elaine: So how can people get in touch with you if they need to book you for an event?

Dave: The best way is to email me on davidedge978@gmail.com. It's all lower case - davidedge - 'e d g e'.
davidedge978@gmail.com.

Elaine: Thank you very much. Well, I look forward now to hearing a sample of your playing.

Dave: Do you want some bum notes in it - I can do that.

Elaine: Oh - absolutely! I'll sing along with you.

Dave: OK.

