

Crowd left feeling anything but Indifference over band

Celebrate:MK music columnist Vicki McCarthy went along to the Eight Belles pub in Bletchley to watch a lively covers gig from Indifference





wo years ago there were 52,750 pubs in the UK, the lowest figure for a decade. Furthermore, 29 pubs are closing every week across the country, which is sad indeed.

But pubs are fighting back, with many enticing custom by providing food, quiz nights, TV sports and also the offer of regular live music.

There may not usually be a stage or lighting – and the dancefloor has to be created by dragging tables and chairs out of the way – but pub gigs are seemingly more popular than ever!

So last month, I attended one these gigs, when the Eight Belles in Bletchley brought us local band Indifference.

Yards from the famous Bletchley Park, the pub's décor taps into the 1940s theme neatly; tastefully decorated and filled with props that escort you back to yesteryear.

Formed in 2012, five-piece band Indifference are regulars



on the local gig circuit. With a set-list that spans many genres and decades, they offer something for everyone.

With the pub heaving, the band quickly caught everyone's attention, starting off loudly with the Sex Pistols' Pretty Vacant.

Storming through classics from The Clash, Babybird, James, Pulp and Blur, Indifference firmly proved themselves as talented musicians, with each cover version having the band's stamp imprinted on it.

It didn't take long for the impromptu dance floor to fill up, as punters cheered, pogoed and sang along with great gusto to the impressive 25-song set list.

After two hours of great music, you'd think everyone would be glad of a chance to sit down, but the crowd had other ideas – cheering for an encore.

After getting the nod from the landlord, Indifference were only too happy to oblige, closing proceedings with Teenage Dirtbag.

Spilling out onto the street afterwards, I witnessed some smiling, exhausted women sat on the wall, taking their heels off and rubbing their partied-out feet, a great night was certainly had by all.

So Indifference is the name of the band, but not the feeling felt by the exuberant crowd supporting our vibrant local music scene on the night.

You can catch Vicki McCarthy Monday to Thursday on MKFM from 7pm to 10pm on 106.3FM and mkfm.com. Twitter: @VickiMcCarthyFM