

LIVE

Biscuithead and the Biscuit

Badgers/Harrison Richards/Leeds City Rockers

**@ Fox & Newt,
Leeds**

The joyously eccentric quartet **Biscuithead and the Biscuit Badgers** have been carving their own little bastard child of Noel Coward and Bonzo Dog furrow to considerable aplomb. We're crammed into a decidedly muggy upstairs function room at the aforementioned watering hole to celebrate the launch of the band's sophomore release, a 30-month labour of love, namely the hilariously titled *Dinosaurs Ate My Caravan*.

Before that we've a mixed undercard, starting with skiffle duo **Leeds City Rockers**, followed by mind-reading act and friend of the band **Harrison Richards**. Indeed Biscuithead penned an eponymous dedication to him on their debut long-player 'The Greatest Show On Toast', aired as he takes to the stage.

Finally the wait is over and the moustachioed troubadours take to the sauna in their familiar costumes. Ukulele-strumming frontman Dean in a cream suit and pink bunny ear deely-boppers. Tuba playing backing vocalist Sam wearing a badger's head, Bob the piano player and his technicolour dream coat and Matt, the drummer, wearing a bishop's mitre. If they get through the set without fainting it will be a miracle as the Charleston-tinged 'Beige' gets the show on the road. Next up is the hugely enjoyable 'David Attenborough' the first song from their new album and yes, an ode to the king of natural history broadcasting where even brother Dickie gets an amusing inclusion. 'I'm a Triangle' is a trigonometric rockabilly delight as the packed audience do the twist better than the Friday night disco on a Saga holiday.

The subject matter for each song veers between natural history ('Land Hermit Crab', 'Venus Fly Trap') the mundane ('Cheese', 'Soy Milk', 'Tweed Jacket', 'Moustache') even combining the two on occasion ('The Duckling of Our Love') always to humorous effect particularly during 'Tweed Jacket' as a female member of the audience shares half of the garment with the lead singer. All very jolly indeed.

Mike Price

