

Live music:

Young talent is set to take off

The Flying Acid Donkey Tour @ The Solstice, Saturday, May 20

ACOUSTIC music fans are preparing for The Flying Acid Donkey Tour to descend on the city.

And, with a name like that, it's easy to believe that the troupe of travelling troubadours will be an eclectic mix with one very important thing in common – lots and lots of talent.

Tomorrow, the Folkwit Records nine-date, nationwide tour will hit The Solstice, in Northminster Road, central Peterborough.

Eleven different acts will line-up for the gig, organised by the small-scale independent label which is at the forefront of showcasing some of the best new talent on the Acoustic Roots scene. And one of the Folkwit artists will be a very familiar name to music lovers – it's none other than BBC Radio Two Young Folk Awards finalist, James Chadwick.

The Ufford-based singer-songwriter has been making waves across the country in recent months – gigging harder than most seasoned pros, averaging about four performances each week.

Meanwhile, his EP Serotonin has won rave reviews from critics everywhere with his bluesy guitar-playing and hauntingly beautiful songs.

And the 19-year-old's loving every moment of his association with Folkwit.

Speaking about the independent label to The Guide, James said: "It's personal and I love that. I found out about Folkwit about a year ago when an artist called Bailey (also signed to Folkwit) came along to the acoustic nights we run at The Millstone Inn in Barnack.

" I e-mailed them and joined last year's tour. The last tour was amazing and I'm beginning to see a change in the music scene.

"Until recently, the only gigs I seemed to get were supporting full bands at rock clubs. Acoustic acts just didn't seem to get placed higher up the bill. But that's definitely changing now.

"I'm really looking forward to Saturday. It's going to be one big acoustic party.

"The line-up for tomorrow will also include impressive live performer, Andy Whittle, multi-instrumentalist Catherine Anne Davies, James Yuill; Palava, Jinder; and Sam Kirk, Jackie Oates. A finalist in the BBC Radio Two Young Folk Award 2003, Blackwaterfoot and Maggie's Craft, will also play on Saturday.

The Flying Acid Donkey Tour show will run from 3pm until 11pm at The Solstice. Admission is free.