

Aidy Dibb has found his dream job And he loves it

Five Rise Records, Bingley



Growing up in the 90's, playing records and constantly talking music with his best friend, they dreamt of running a record shop. Sadly, his friend passed away at too young an age a few years ago, which is when Aidy realised he really wasn't enjoying work and decided it was now or never. Having given up his day job, his fledgling online record business quickly outgrew home, and he moved to a small store on Park Road in Bingley. As the world recovered from the pandemic in 2021 he moved to bigger premises a few doors up, which is where his customers young and old, regular and occasional, find him today. Aidy welcomes them all, but it's clearly the community of regulars who form the lifeblood of the business.



30E Park Road, Bingley, BD16 4JQ

Vinyl Appeal

I asked Aidy about the enduring appeal of a format that has seen a massive resurgence in recent years, in spite of the streamers – just under 6 million vinyl albums in the UK in 2023. He thought people really valued ownership in a world where music has never been more accessible through streaming platforms such as Spotify. These still have a place here, and he sometimes sees people looking through the racks whilst listening to a potential purchase on headphones, removing some of the risks of buying music that existed in the past. Which is important when a new record can cost over £20, and significantly more for double albums and special editions.

Record Store Day

Aidy has embraced Record Store Day (RSD) full-on in recent years, a day in late April each year that brings together fans, artists and over 270 independent UK record stores to celebrate their unique culture. And of course to shift some records. My first visit to Five Rise was on RSD 2023, and I was amazed to see the shop full of people browsing and chatting.

A lively DJ set in the afternoon and a set from a local musician in the evening made for a brisk day's trade for Aidy and his small team, and a great buzz in the shop all day. Aidy is already starting work in preparation for RSD 2025.



Early morning queue outside on RSD, April 2023



Local musician Augustin Bousfield performing a set, RSD April 2023



Bowie watching over the racks, trying not to pass judgement on Nik Kershaw fans...

Local musician & author Bob Stanley spinning records in store, RSD 2023



Hard Work

Running the business is clearly hard work, the shop is open 7 days a week and he regularly works 6 of those. There are frustrations of course. Aidy explained how difficult it is sometimes to navigate rising costs of running the business and Brexit red tape impacting online sales overseas. As a small business maintaining credit with record distributors can be a challenge.

However he still relishes it. It's made worthwhile by occasions like an album signing a couple of years ago by Philip Selway, the drummer of the mighty Radiohead. This saw people queuing up Park Road and around the block to meet him and buy his record. Aidy is keen to grow and promote his business further, for example by tapping into the trend for bigger bands to hold intimate gigs for fans who preorder their latest album. But the shop is not big enough for that, and securing a suitable local venue at a viable cost is proving challenging.



Philip Selway

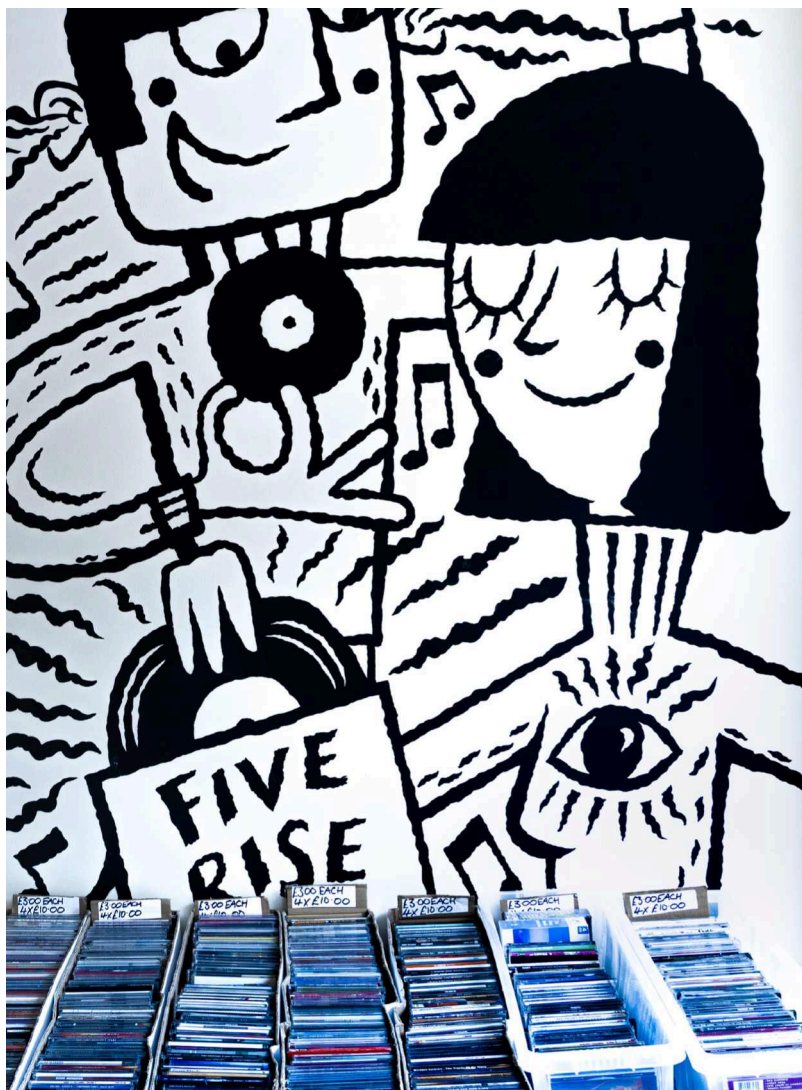
(Radiohead)

instore signing
Sunday
26th February
2 pm ~ 3 pm

Philip will be signing copies of his new solo LP **Strange Dance**

BELLA UNION

FIVE RISE RECORDS 
30e Park Rd, Bingley, BD16 4JQ
www.fiveriserecords.co.uk



Time Out

Aidy packs a lot in when he's not working, enjoying trips out in his campervan with his daughter. He's a big fan of the independent music scene, and also listens to a lot of electronic music. He plays cricket for a local team and loves running around the Haworth moors, listening to podcasts including Tailenders. And he's a regular at record fairs locally and across the north.

Busy man. Lucky man.



Article by Ron Pengelly, Bingley Camera Club. July 2024

All photos by Ron Pengelly, except Early morning queue outside on RSD, 2023 by Neil Horsley