

1 - Temperature's Rising

A celebration of people's protest in the wake of the first Women's March in 2017 and the Build Bridges Not Walls banners. Both were protests against Donald Trump's inauguration. The lyrics 'Burning our bridges' refer to the break away from Europe in the Brexit vote, a divisive period which split apart families and showed a marked rise in the visibility of far right movements. Extinction Rebellion, Greta Thunberg and David Attenborough also started to bring Climate Change into the headlines. All of this created a fertile environment for songwriting. After a gentle start with the spoken word, 'We don't have time to waste, urgent change is needed now and it's up to us to force the government to take action', the track quickly builds into an anthemic full band folk rock number.

2 - Little Piece Of Mind

Surprisingly jaunty and upbeat, this subtle song with heavy undercurrents is about the dark moments we can all have in the small hours, when it's difficult to get life into perspective. With a 1960's commercial folk feel, including hints of The Seekers and Simon and Garfunkel, this track merrily takes you on a journey of menopause and midlife crisis.

3 - Littlefield

Littlefield is both the story of a house which had remained empty for a long while and a comment on how small things can change a mood. When a light suddenly appeared in the window one dark and bleak night, it was like a beacon of hope. With intricate 12 string guitar reminiscent of a harpsichord and pure vocals and harmonies, this memorable track has a baroque feel to it.

4 - Riding The Whale

A nostalgic, dreamlike reminiscence of a small boys' game with his dad at the seaside. Its undulating folk jig rhythm on the guitar gives a nautical feel with the clarinet echoing a whale song and the comfort of a distant fog horn. This song is a yearning to return to the safe and secure feelings of childhood.

5 - Making Progress

A stomping, folk rock full band number, this anthemic rant on 'progress for the sake of it' is witty and insightful. With influences of classic Albion Band and Steeleye Span, the rhythm of this piece is mechanical and industrial, carrying the listener along with the unceasing, fast paced take on modern life. Alluding to Jim's early career in the print industry at the start, Making Progress takes up the traditional folk baton of commenting about the state of the world and politics.

6 - Buckle Up

A true story of home sickness presented in heart rending country blues style. The lyrics allude to a final conversation between USAF Sgt Paul and his wife Jane during his doomed attempt to fly home in an illegally requisitioned Hercules transport aircraft in 1969. Soaring harmonies and resonating guitar (by Bruce Knapp) lead to a pin-drop moment ending.

7 - Turn Around

Written in France, having taken many wrong turns and seen many wonderful sights, this unashamedly upbeat song carries the message that you can always change your mind. Toe-tapping shuffle rhythm (inspired by Kenny Rogers' Ruby) drives this feel good number. Mandolin by Fred Gregory of the band Hatful of Rain.

8 - Something You Don't See Every Day (Advisory - see also radio edit)

“...political comment and deal undercurrent... ... yet so subtle and easy is the music that you don't realise the stiletto has arrived until it's slid in...” (RnR Magazine). This song describes how society has become desensitised to the horrors of the world, thanks to the media. The soft gentle arrangement of guitar and voices belies the strong message of this song, culminating with the only f word on the album.

9 - Space Time

Jangly, sparkling 12 string guitar enhanced with lush harmonies and electronic sounds by producer John Fowler give this song a trippy, etherial and atmospheric feel verging on 'prog'. This heartwarming sentimental song attempts to repeat an explanation of the theory of spacetime from professor Brian Cox (heard at night on TV). When you lose someone, they will forever exist somewhere in spacetime.

10 - We Say It All The Time

A powerful '90s feel rock ballad with a big drum sound with full band - suggestive of classic Alan Parsons project - this song recalls a black mood and a walk on a windy hilltop. Once heard the chorus will stay with you. Originally released in 2019 as a fundraiser for the charity CALM who work to raise awareness of the issue of male suicide, the track nicely complements the Temperature's Rising album style and ethos.

11 - Ghosts of Milton Hide

This multi-layered creepy and atmospheric track transports the listener to the eery nighttime woodland - reminiscent of a Tim Burton movie. The subtle sound effects and chanting conjures gothic horror images of Grimm tales. The song was created by adapting music originally composed electronically by the band for a short film.

12 - Took To Wing (Nightingale)

The heroine of this song escapes an abusive relationship seeking freedom in the forest, amongst the flora and fauna. Does she survive? You decide in this modern-day fairytale folk ballad. A song of two halves: a soft, gentle start with acoustic guitar, vocals and fiddle transforms into a full band finale, where the lead guitar plays the part of the nightingale. The fiddle takes over for the last few bars to return the song to its traditional folk roots.