

Fishing 4 Compliments

'Yorkshire's hidden gem'

Folk North West



'Tip for 2026'

RnR Magazine (4 star review)

Fishing 4 Compliments are a Yorkshire-based five piece Indie folk band that formed organically around lead singer-songwriter's Eileen's emotive & relatable songs and retro-vibe. Drawing on an eclectic mix of influences including; The Beatles, XTC, Tom Petty, Mark Knopfler, The Cure, The Smiths, The Sundays and The Cranberries to name but a few the band have developed their own quirky, uplifting sound to feed the soul.



The band have been bringing their songs to an array of live music venues, pubs and festivals across the North of England and beyond since 2011 and in 2020 they released their debut album 'Off The Isle Of Somewhere.' which led to a nomination within the category of best Folk/Acoustic Act as part of the Radio Wigwam Awards 2020. This initial record of their work was enthusiastically received by reviewers earning them a reputation for creating catchy folk-pop songs.

Examples: [Drunken Tree](#) [You're Not The Only One'](#)

'F4C specialise in catchy, hook-laden folk/pop songs written by Eileen, which features her clear, natural voice, sometimes with vibrato, which gives the band's music a distinctive unique sound. Eileen is also a fine songwriter who is able to combine intriguing, personal lyrics with a shiny pop sensibility'
[Peter Cowley, Fatea Magazine - 'Off The Isle Of Somewhere' Album Review](#)

October 2025 saw the release of their second album 'Lost In Good Intentions' accompanied by a mini tour of local independent live music venues they love to play and their local record store. This second record of their work brings the 'light and shade' dimension of their music to the fore with reviews expressing a warm enthusiasm for Fishing 4 Compliments and their music picking up on; their; community-based live performance roots, individuality, versatility and genre crossing musicianship together with lead singer-songwriter Eileen's capacity to express an array of emotions. Both albums are produced by J & D Dunwell of the highly successful Leeds-based band Indie Folk band The Dunwells following an expression of their interest in recording Fishing 4 Compliments.



Examples: [Hard To Please](#) [Ghosts](#)

'Whilst I'm only three tracks in, I'm already seeing a real versatility to the band, mixing simple elements to craft something brilliant, it's an incredibly easy listen and something I imagine that you would hear in a beer garden in Summer, whilst supping on your beverage of choice and feeling very chilled out, it's a good feeling... Overall a fantastic album, produced by J & D Dunwell of The Dunwells, full of versatility, fun elements and they are genuinely talented musicians, I look forward to see what else Fishing 4 Compliments come up with'

[Hayley Grice, RGM Magazine-Album Review](#)

"As a general impression they offer up high-quality and engaging pop inflicted folk-rock, but to leave it at that will be to do a disservice to the range of influences that make themselves felt across the album...but it is Eileen's voice that carries the song, whether she is channelling 60s pop, showing us her soulful side, or elements of country it is just captivating throughout...As a final note a listening companion was moved to say that the whole album had a really summery feel to it, like running through a field of daises. It's is hard to say fairer than that!!"

[Damian Liptrott \(of Merry Hell\) -Folk North West](#)

Reviews of all their music to date and audience feedback report calling to mind an array of fantastic artists upon listening to the Fishing 4 Compliments sound including; All About Eve, Aztec Camera, The Bangles, The Beautiful South, The Bluebells, The Cranberries, The Sundays, Fairground Attraction, Fleetwood Mac and Florence and the Machine and Eileen's voice has been remarked on as reminiscent of; Eddi Reader, Maddy Prior, Jacqui Abbot, Kirsty McColl, Sandy Denny and Mary Hopkins. [Link to all reviews](#)

Fishing 4 Compliments have brought their music to a number of local legendary live music independent venues several times including: The Parish, Huddersfield; The Puzzle Hall, Sowerby Bridge, The Grayston Unity, Halifax and Northern Guitars, Leeds and were invited by award winning independent record store Loafers Vinyl & Coffee (having previously played instore) to open a folk night event headlined by Chris Helme of The Seahorses located in Yorkshire's unique architectural and cultural landmark that is The Piece Hall. In 2023 they were also invited to play Kirklees Music Cities Forum thanks to the support of Kirklees Year of Music. The band offer a uniquely special energy to feed the soul, filled with light and shade, they are highly experienced in live performance and are particularly well suited to the community and family friendly festival/event environment.



"Beautiful folk music, with sounds of Fleetwood Mac, The Cranberries and The Cardigans. Dreamy Melodies and harmonies, weaved together with great musicianship and songs that take you away from everyday life. Great band who love playing live and the audience can't do anything but enjoy it and want to hear more" (Mark Richardson-Owner of [Loafers Vinyl & Coffee](#), The Piece Hall, Halifax)

Live Video examples of Fishing 4 Compliments



['Feeling Lucky'](#)
[Dreaming](#)

['Baby Blue'](#)

[Shell](#)

[A compilation of songs by Fishing4Compliments-Lawrence Batley Theatre](#)

Concept Video ['Mystic Moonlight'](#)



The band also adapt their formation from duo to trio to full band to suit the event space and venue with Eileen's songs and retro vibe voice always being pivotal. While predominantly focusing on showcasing their original material they are also able, when required, to offer their unique take on a sprinkle of indie-folk cover songs that blend seamlessly with their own sound by artists including; The Cure, The Smiths, The La's, Green Day, Dolly Parton, Amy McDonald and Lily Allen.



Fishing 4 Compliments are: Eileen Wattam a.k.a Eileen Alanna (Singer-songwriter); Ashley Wattam (Rhythm Guitar); James Alexander (Lead Guitar & Backing Vocals), Steve Dyson (Bass Guitar & Backing Vocals) and Dave Simpson (Drums). All music to date has been recorded with their previous Drummer / Percussionist and great friend and supporter of the band David Sharp.

Parting thoughts about Fishing 4 Compliments

'Eileen's lyrics pull at personal threads yet cover universal themes. There are explorations into desire, hope, relationships. The things we all encounter. Ultimately, Fishing 4 Compliments are about togetherness. Despite the often-introspective nature of the lyrics, their sound is, you feel, best enjoyed in company, not in isolation. They are very much a band's band, a band for the multiple senses, a band to be seen as well as heard.'

"Fishing 4 Compliments harness the spirit of old folk – perhaps not so much musically, but culturally. Their experiential band energy harks back to a time when community was everything; when art, family and entertainment would melt as one, in the local pub or on the village green. That is their enduring sentiment. Fittingly, their songs are like little lost treasures."

[Stephen Desmond -Dirty Sunbeams](#)

Fishing 4 Compliments Social Media

[Fishing 4 Compliments Website](#)



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[@fishingforcomplimentsband](#)

Fishing 4 Compliments Music Links

[Bandcamp](#)

[SoundCloud](#)

['Off The Isle Of Somewhere' -All Streaming Platforms](#)

[Lost In Good Intentions -All Streaming Platforms](#)