**The UK Pun Off**

When lockdown began in March 2020, 5 pun and one liner comics got together to make a 1 off show to alleviate the boredom and keep the writing muscles flexed for a mess about on an online show. Now, 3 years later, it has developed into a live show that happens throughout the country. The format is that there are 4 comics punning on 5 different topics with the audience deciding the winner of each round. The audience also provide their own jokes with prizes for the best of each round.

The show has taken a break from online content for now to concentrate on the live shows but there are hundreds of different shows in the back catalogue on the Facebook and YouTube channels as well as via podcast for lovers of wordplay to enjoy. It has featured at the Edinburgh Free Fringe, Leicester Comedy Fetival and RAM Comedy Festival (Derby) online as well as live shows at the Nottingham Comedy Festival.

The show has been a great stress reliever during the pandemic and has kept several comics and pun enthusiasts upbeat and with a sense of purpose during the most challenging times. Many of the best one liner comics from the UK and around the world have participated in the show and it has forged its own little pun community that brought us together through the hardest of times and has enabled us to come out of the other end that little bit stronger. And funnier. Iain MacDonald has taken on the challenge of taking the show to the next level in terms of live performance after being on the original team of 5 and now produces and presents the show.

Starting comedy in 2009 from a stand up comedy course, Iain has developed a strong local following which has seen him become UK Pun Championship finalist (2017, 2018, 2020, 2022), ChampiPUNship runner-up 2019, UK Pun Off Puntest of Champions runner up 2021 and a Britain’s Got Talent contestant in 2022 as well as having writing credits on BBC Scotland’s Off The Ball and Breaking The News programmes. He has also recently released his own joke book entitled ‘Mispunderstood’ and runs a comedy workshop at Men Matter- a local men's mental health charity.

*WINNER- Best Panel Show at Nottingham Comedy Festival-* **Late Stage Comedy**

*“This is a great format and everyone was really up for it. Exceptional”* **Notts Comedy Review**

**Live show-** Kayal, 153 Granby Street, Leicester. LE1 6FE

**Dates -** Sunday 12th February

**Time** - 630pm (1hour duration)

**Tickets-** £5

Suitable for 12+

Wheelchair accessible room

<https://comedy-festival.co.uk/event/uk-pun-off/>

Media tickets available for the show by contacting Iain directly on the below contact information.

For further information, images, interviews or anything else-

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**Facebook, YouTube** - @ukpunoff