

Written by Poppy Beresford, Freelance Critic and Reporter

Contact via poppy.beresford@outlook.com for inquiries, article post available on [Substack](#)

“Finding their roots and taking off effortlessly”

Better Dead, alongside Nova Park and Violent Crazyies
08.05.26

Better Dead shout with the sharp indie-grunge flavour of a band who knows their skill, wit and individuality. Certainly reflective of Bristol's talent for forging new bands, they can drive a room with that anticipation of musicians who are finding their roots and taking off effortlessly.

A bold choice to play 4 original songs in their short set, cementing their confidence in their own urge to drive Better Dead further into the music scene of Bristol. Crisp bass and drum lines drive forth indulgent guitar riffs, and lead vocalist Griff Power fronts the band with a laid back, commanding tone - aided by the casually-cool football shirt and tousled hair. His voice blends with subtle brightness alongside bassist Anushka Pursell's voice soaring above their heavy grunge tones, giving a massive depth to a genre which can often become repetitive.

Alongside these tracks, they covered the massive names of Radiohead, Nirvana, Temple of the Dog and The Cure with no sweat, adding subtle flecks of their personality into each to spin the crowd into a dizzying journey of indie through time - so much so a mosh pit was haphazardly transpiring only a couple songs in, a credit to the band!

It's not everyday that you find a band like this, knocking at the door of success and filling venues full-to-bursting with fans ready and waiting to dance and sing the whole set through. One for the radar, Better Dead are a name to keep an eye out for.



Initially created as a bunch of school mates wanting to find more in their love of music, Better Dead was formed. Bristol based and still in college, there is something more to this band than just a group of friends. They form a cohesive richness for such an up-and-coming band, forging indie-sleaze, shoegaze and pop into a sound which ebbs and flows, and fills the small space of The Thunderbolt with ease - they're not here to mess around.

