



James Bay will be on stage at Newbury Racecourse on Saturday

Bay's ready to party!

JAMES Bay is the final headliner of Newbury Racecourse's Party in the Pad-dock series for 2025.

Celebrating the 10th anniversary of his multi-million selling debut album, *Chaos and The Calm*, he will headline live after racing at Dubai Duty Free International Weekend on Saturday.

A BRIT award-winning and three-time Grammy award-nominated singer, songwriter and guitarist, he is one of the UK's biggest success stories of recent years.

His breakthrough smash *Let It Go* first landed a decade ago, reaching the top 10 in the UK and has tallied over three billion streams and achieved six-time platinum status.

His total career streams are just shy of nine billion, with tracks including *Hold Back*

The River, Us and Peer Pressure with Julia Michaels.

Recent album *Changes All The Time* came out in October last year and became his fourth consecutive top five record and features collaborations with Noah Kahan and The Lumineers.

This has been the racecourse's biggest summer of music racedays, with three other huge shows – Sophie Ellis-Bextor and Ella Henderson in July and Björn Again and Clean Bandit in August.

James said: "It'll be my first time playing at the racecourse and I can't wait to see you all there."

Tickets for James Bay live, which entitle admission to the racing and the show, are available from £29 for adults and £14 for U18s.

Visit newburyracecourse.co.uk

The Bell is region's finest

CAMRA's Regional Pub of the Year – now Aldworth battles for national title

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THEY did it! And now they're in the running for the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) Pub of the Year once again.

On Sunday afternoon, landlord of the Bell Inn at Aldworth Hugh Macaulay and his team were presented with the CAMRA Regional Pub of the Year award for the South Central area by Allan Willoughby and now go through to the nationals, which the pub previously won in 1990 and 2019.

The Ridgeway hostelry was among 16 shortlisted pubs, beating thousands of entries to be crowned the best in their region and will battle it out for the chance to be named CAMRA's overall Pub of the Year.

The final four pubs in the running for the overall title will be announced next month, with the winner revealed in January.

CAMRA judges look for great atmosphere, décor, welcome, service, inclusivity, overall impression and, most importantly, quality cask beer, real cider and perry.

The 16 pubs have been recognised as the best of the best in the UK and their shortlisting



The Bell Regional Pub of the Year presentation to landlord Hugh Macaulay, family, team and regulars by CAMRA's Allan Willoughby

Picture: Geoff Fletcher

for the competition is testament to their quality and commitment to their communities.

The Bell Inn, a Grade II-listed building dating back to the 15th century in the centre of the downland village, with a gate through to the quintessentially English cricket field, has been owned and run by the Macaulay family for generations, going back around 250 years.

It has two cosy public rooms, outside benches and a cottage-style beer garden.

It hosts Morris dancers, musicians, mummies and was-sailors, plus informal meets by classic vehicle enthusiasts, and is well known for its warm crusty rolls – good for soaking up the beer.

Having won CAMRA West Berkshire Pub of the Year and Berkshire Pub of the Year earlier this year, they were praised by CAMRA judges: "It's unique. It's a family-run heritage pub that's never been modernised."

"And it has very good beer –

the excellent Five Giants, and Elleorde, brewed by the landlord's son James in the micro-brewery at the back of the pub."

Andrea Briers, CAMRA's Pub of the Year co-ordinator said each of this year's top 16 pubs have demonstrated exceptional quality, warmth and dedication to their communities.

"These pubs are shining examples of what makes the Great British pub so special, from perfectly kept pints to a genuine welcome for all."

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