

# London

## The Metropolitan, Westbourne Park, W11

The Metropolitan has hosted some form of entertainment for many years, such as quiz nights, comedy, DJ sessions, and sporting events. It was only last year, however, that the decision was taken to put on live music. Gordon McIntyre, manager of the Realpubs leasehold with Enterprise Inns, says it took a



**McIntyre: introduced live music**

while to strike the right balance, adding: "This is a notoriously difficult field to get right."

The first tentative step was staging acoustic sessions on Thursday nights featuring local artists. Four acts get the chance to perform in the upstairs lounge area, which has a maximum capacity for around 70 customers, thereby creating an intimate atmosphere. Gordon comments: "The artists know they will get a very attentive audience and that makes them enjoy it even more."

The success of the venture led to introducing live music on Wednesday nights. One artist or group gets to host the evening and often brings along a support act.

Close to the Metropolitan are the offices of the BBC and Channel 4, together with those of music companies EMI and Sony. Word soon filtered through to these organisations and McIntyre says it is not unusual to see people from the companies who are on the lookout for new talent, at the pub.