

FULL BIO

AN UNCOMFORTABLE RIDE

This is the first public account of what has been a tumultuous journey so far for rising UK metal band, Hate System. As an on-going journey, this journal will be updated regularly.



In the summer of 2013, Daniel returned to Hereford from his second year studying in London. Re-united with his brother, Benjamin, who had been quietly building himself as a sure footed and competent drummer. On an impulse, the brothers decided to set up and play through tracks by bands such as Slipknot, Bullet for my Valentine, Trivium and Machine Head. They quickly discovered that there was serious potential.

"Within about 10 minutes of playing – little did we know – we had written a killer track. Everything just flows, it's a perfect amalgamation of who we are, musically and how we think as a unit. Hate System still was nothing more than a play about, we had officially – unofficially – started a band". Ben James

Daniel held 12 years experience playing guitar and a further 5 years of vocal work, plus performing in numerous bands in that time. With a burning passion for heavy music, Benjamin listened to heavy metal with pride and took it upon himself to create his own stamp on the genre by stepping onto a drum kit.

"Hate System has always been this perfect accident. When me and my brother Dan started playing together one weekend – cramped, shoved in my tiny bedroom with a miniature amp and crappy practice electronic drum kit – we had no intention of really starting anything. We were just curious, and in all honesty, personally, I wanted to show off a bit, show what I've learnt". Ben James

Within one week, the brothers had written a ten track album that they rehearsed religiously for a couple of weeks. Daniel felt it was the best material he'd ever written, never to have guessed it would be alongside his best friend who had been completely outdoing himself on the drums. They both made the conscious decision to form the band and create a name. The title became, Hate System. Neither knew just how important the name would become. It was designed as a method to unleash and be rid of everything that stood against them. Living in a town where heavy music had no immediate impact and more of a

frown upon it, the brothers decided to aim their creative endeavours directly at the people who in the past, had thrown hate at them for simply listening to music they believed in.

AUGUST 2013. EVERYTHING CHANGED.

Coming back from celebrating a close friends birthday, Daniel and Benjamin James were brutally attacked. Daniel was left with his jaw broken on both sides and severe lacerations across his head. Benjamin, who managed to prevent his brothers injuries from being any worse, also received a repulsive beating, ending in a gashed and bloody mouth. Daniel gained consciousness to see his brother a few feet away, covered in blood. Clambering to his feet, the eldest managed to crawl over to Benjamin. He was in floods of tears.

"I thought he was dead. I didn't really know what had happened. I remember moving towards Ben not knowing what I would find. His body was so still. As I got closer I realised his eyes were open but he was crying uncontrollably. I held his head up and tried to talk to him but I couldn't feel the lower half of my face, then I noticed my own blood dripping all over him. Next thing I see are blue flashing lights". Dan James

Both boys were taken to hospital immediately. Pain relief had been supplied to Daniel. He managed to hold a conversation with the paramedic about music, discovering he was a huge fan of heavy music, especially Alter Bridge. Upon arriving at Hereford County Hospital, Daniel was able to see his brother as he was stretchered in.

"Once I was stable, the Police had to take my clothes from me for evidence. I still had no idea what had happened. My mum and her partner were there, Ben had been stitched up at the mouth. It was then I think that I started to cry. I couldn't feel any pain, it was how scared my family looked as the Police stripped me. I couldn't believe the amount of blood that had stained my clothes. I recall looking up at Ben and saying sorry, I apologised to my mum too. Shortly after, the Police told me

that I had been attacked and that they had arrested a group of men". Dan James

Benjamin's wounds were treated fairly quickly, Daniel however had to be rushed to Worcester Royal. The lacerations on his head were stapled shut to prevent them opening any more, but his jaw had been shattered on both sides. This required specialist treatment. The injury was diagnosed again at Worcester Royal Hospital. Daniel would have to undergo a complicated surgery for his jaw to be fixed.

"I was told that they would have to insert a metal plate into the left side of my jaw, hoping that it would balance my jaw again. They said the right side would have to be looked at properly in surgery, and that's where they'd make the decision to add another metal plate if needed. I had to give them consent to do this and of course I gave it". Dan James

Luckily, only a single metal plate was fitted inside Daniel's jaw. He remained in Hospital for a few days before being discharged. Once at home, he couldn't eat anything. More treatment was needed too. Daniel was taken back to Worcester Royal for a check up. Another decision was made to have his jaw locked into place by metal and rubber. This was to ensure the bones would heal back together as they were before, and not remain deformed.

"After I had the elastic and the metal bits attached to my teeth, they locked my jaw into place and pulled it shut. This was to be in place for two weeks minimum. I asked the doctor if I'd ever be able to eat again. She told me I would if this worked, if not, then she told me they'd essentially have to break my jaw again and refit the metal plate. I was terrified because she mentioned that this kind of treatment could result in nerve loss in my face. I remember turning round to my mum and starting to cry. I said to her I won't ever be able to sing again". Dan James

For two weeks, Daniels' jaw was locked into place. He lost stones of weight as a result of not being able to eat anything solid. The pressure was on too. He was due back at University in another two

weeks. His jaw was assessed after having the elastic bands on for 14 days, and they were removed. It would now take another three months of healing.

SECTION 18.

Three men were charged. Section 18, grievous bodily harm, and Section 20, actual bodily harm. What seemed like good news for such strong charges, resulted in a let down at court. All three attackers were charged with Violent Disorder, aiming to charge them all with the same offence for them all to do time equally.

At the sentence hearing in 2015, a painful two year wait for the brothers, the three attackers were given suspended sentences. They'd walked away. Previous charges existed with each sentenced individual, and the heinous crime had damaged Daniel and Benjamin James' life forever. Justice had failed.

"As they were read their sentences, they smirked. They all shook hands with each other and smiled at their families, leaving us sat at the back of the court trying not to break down into tears. The justice system failed us. Anger, hate and sadness are all under statements". **Dan James**

"The night my brother and I were attacked, EVERYTHING changed. We know the story of what happened and those who have asked also know what happened, there's no use going over and over again and again – a loop never changes, only plays back over and over. So we didn't even start a loop, we changed and we moved in one direction on a personal and emotional level". **Ben James**

Leading up to the sentence hearing, the brothers had found a title for their album. *Heinous.*

It was an album to put forth how they really felt, revealing the darkest times of their life. It was two years of pain and let downs. But most of all, it was a combatant. Hate System became a method. It became something both boys would never have expected. It was the only way they could deal with what had happened.

"Every word in that album, be it too much for some, or too less for others, means everything for Ben and I. It was our fight,

our chance to reveal the truth behind the emotions. We didn't want sympathy, we didn't need anyone to feel sad for us, or be different with us. We wanted music to do the talking, we wanted everyone to understand how we felt then rise from it. I never thought I'd be able to sing again. I had to learn how to construct my voice again without damaging my jaw. It will never be as it was, I'll be left with that pain forever. But I will fucking die before it stops me". **Dan James**

"Hate System REALLY started to mean something. It became the elephant in the room, a hideous yet beautiful creation. Myself – I'm a fairly quiet, polite, friendly chap. I'm well tempered, and believe in manners and respect. Hate System changes me, I can be the angry fucked up individual that is boiling away inside. Fuck hiding shit, no holding back. Hate System is a part of me, and I'm a part of it". **Ben James**

HOW DO YOU BRING SOMEONE INTO THIS.

Hate System then became three, as Scott Morris was welcomed into the band, becoming their guitarist. Being brought into an unholy world of feelings and standing before two brothers who had grown up together was no easy task for Scott.

"Rewind 2 years, and I was crawling from the embers of what used to be my band. Down and frustrated, a chance conversation with my old college mate Dan, opened the door to me going for a try-out, and eventually joining Hate System". **Scott Morris**

"My brother and I started something. When Scott joined us, we became a band. What an honour it has been for me to play with these two absolutely incredible individuals who have shipping crates full of talent and just fit so well intellectually, musically and personally. Hate System was a perfect accident that turned into the one thing that I have been severely missing". **Ben James**

His determination and love for the music Hate System had produced, put Scott into the band. He wrote another chapter for the group, introducing more character, if there wasn't enough already.

"The music was fresh, by far the most technical I'd ever been involved in, and

exciting. It made me a better player by default. I vividly remember the feeling of being involved in something brand new and fulfilling, especially as at the same time my previous band, Spirit Kreek, was imploding from the inside out". **Scott Morris**

"We three have a massively tight bond, we have become a brotherhood and that is beautiful. I have expressed many times how honoured I am to be playing the loudest instrument with these boys, I have learnt so much about so many things in Hate System, my playing gets better and better with each meet and we all evolve with our music". **Ben James**

"It wasn't until I was deeply involved with Hate System that I started to actually understand the reasoning behind the band. The key to it was respecting Dan and Ben, and what they had been through – and how they were planning on venting. Once I found that, we bonded like nothing I've ever experienced before. The fact they allow me to occasionally dictate and throw out ideas and opinions to something so important and close to their hearts is a testament to who they are, not just as musicians, but as human beings too". **Scott Morris**

The trio then began to rehearse regularly, putting together a fierce and devoted set. Finding more members proved difficult.

"Guys came and went. The commitment of this band was a hard undertaking, it wasn't for some. We were let down on several occasions so we had to come up with a plan that would get us on stage quickly". **Dan James**

Daniel had studied music technology for a number of years. He came up with a plan – a set up consisting of two pre-recorded backing tracks, one for bass, one for rhythm guitar. Benjamin had to perform to a click non-stop, falling from the click would result in a tragic failure within a live performance. It was the only way the band could take to the stage without compromising their intensity.

OUR TIME, OUR TIME IS NOW.

On the 9th of July 2016, Hate System made their live debut in their home town of Hereford, at The Booth Hall. The Booth had received a grand makeover and had quickly become the best live

music venue within the city. Huge anticipation had been built for the show.

A mass crowd eagerly awaited as the bands intro played out, then it began. 'Release the Torment' exploded as the fans screamed for more.

"We built this first show up in such a way that if anything went wrong that would be it. The hard work paid off and it was one of the best nights of my life. It was the first time Ben and I were able to combat these sickly feelings inside us. I was so proud of what the three of us had achieved that night". **Dan James**

The venue backed the band completely, posting various shots from the night and featuring the band in several posts after the gig.

"Hate System played The Booth Hall, they had a fantastic following and turn out on the night and they were AWESOME! People are saying they are ones to watch!". **The Booth Hall, Hereford.**

THREE BECOME FOUR.

Hate System were then booked for their second show following the extreme success of the first. However, in their hearts they knew the restrictions of their set up. 2017 welcomed new member, Joe Rogers, on bass guitar. It took just a few meets and two rehearsals to cement Joe into Hate System.

"I first heard of Hate System back in August of last year and saw that they were advertising for a bass player and guitarist all over Facebook. I thought to myself that surely it couldn't be that hard around Hereford, it felt like guitarists were a dime a dozen to me, so I had a listen to the album and really enjoyed it. At this point I wasn't quite ready for a new band, as I was focusing on my one at the time, so I just kinda forgot about the advert. Roll on 2 months and they're still advertising, so this time I thought, I might as well. I've just left my other band and I, again, really enjoyed the album and the style they were going for. I messaged the band page saying that I was a bass player and I was really interested in filling that gap if it was still open. A week or two later I meet up with Dan. He showed me through a couple of the tracks and drilled it into my brain that this

is a serious project that they want to take somewhere. That was when I knew that I wanted to be a part of this". **Joe Rogers**

MAIN SUPPORT.

February 2017, Hate System performed on the biggest bill booked to date. Swiss metal heavyweights Atropas, were making a stop on their UK tour in Hereford. HS provided fierce support once again, stomping their feet down on the local scene.

"The drive and determination was something I hadn't felt in a band for a long time and it felt incredible. The one gig we'd had so far felt great and I was looking forward to many more – seeing where this band will take me and the rest of the guys!" **Joe Rogers**

"For what could have been a devastating end to something, this band had blossomed in all the right places. I am so proud of the guys I share the stage with – I cannot tell you how honoured I felt performing with them for the first time. For some people playing on a tiny stage with maybe thirty to forty people in front of you might mean nothing, but I got the chance to unleash all the shit we've been through, all the pent up frustration. This band means everything to me, and we've only got the world to show. Going through something like what Ben and I went through teaches you things. It was hell, but it has shown me that with patience and endurance you can overcome the impossible. You hear it all the time, how people move on through their troubles, really feeling it is a different story. I've taken everything I can from the situation and used it to make this band better, I have every hope that Hate System will achieve everything it is meant to". **Dan James**

"Those first few months were some of the most enjoyable of my entire life (not that it's not any more) and I sincerely look forward to progressing forever onwards with my HS brothers by my side!" **Scott Morris**

"Our music represents us, it tells of truths spilt in blood and, to me, reveals parts of myself that not everyone would assume. Hate System gives me a voice, and for those who can't speak up and shout about their hatred, such as myself – we are here for you. We get it, we have been there, we know how much it can change you, I sure as hell do. No use sitting in the dark mulling it over and

over, becoming scared of your own shadow, let it be known! Wear your scars like a badge of honour. I love my band. From the darkest part of my body". **Ben James**

CONTINUED: AS OF 26TH FEBRUARY, 2018.

Conor Frampton became the fifth member to join HS. Conor joined as a second guitarist, alongside Scott.

Late 2017, Hate System released their long awaited new EP, 'Dead Fractures', which had a huge impact on how the band were represented. The record had successfully planted HS and with that, led to their first ever headline show in their hometown.

In early 2018, Scott stepped away from Hate System. On purely respectful terms it was time for Scott to move away from the band and find his own path. With Conor Frampton in place as the second guitarist, the departure meant HS had only to evolve. Incoming shows across the UK were drawing nearer at a rapid pace, so Dan filled in on rhythm guitar plus lead vocals – a reluctant choice – however it worked in favour.

Thursday February 22nd 2018, Hate System performed in Birmingham for the first time, moreover this was the first time the band had played a show outside of their home town. The concert proved HS were stronger than ever and painted a positive picture for the rest of the year.

MANAGEMENT DEAL.

March 2018, Hate System signed a management deal with High Tides Booking Agency. The band had a new horizon.

The signing provided the band with the ultimate stepping stone to performing across the UK on a bigger scale. HS scaled the Midlands performing alongside bands such as PissViper, The Royal Blasphemy and many more of the rising metal acts in the area.

Mid 2018, the band were suggested by their management to record a single and pack it together with a music video to present the evolution of Hate System.

The band decided to enter the studio again with Ryan Jordan, at AR Studios. Ryan had produced 'Dead Fractures', and since the recording of that record, HS formed a close bond with Ryan, enabling a wholesome production experience.

"We needed someone local alongside someone who could try to dive into our mindset. When we recorded 'Heinous', we did it ourselves in the safety of our own surroundings. This gave us the comfort unleash absolute hell in line with the theme of that record. Ryan seemed to understand our need for this attitude straight away. It was a pleasure to work with him on 'Dead Fractures', and we were looking forward to working with him again on future releases". **Dan James**

I SEE NO CHANGE.

Hate System recorded three singles ready to strategically release alongside music videos and promotional packages. This was in aim to put together an expansive press package for record companies across the globe.

With the current line up of Dan James on vocals/guitar, Ben James on drums, Conor Frampton on guitars and Joe Rogers on bass, HS travelled to Swansea, to film their first official music video. The Bunkhouse venue cleared out to make way for the band and film crew. It was there that the video for 'I See No Change' was filmed.

January 4th, 2018. The new single was released. 'I See No Change' went live across all streaming platforms along with the video. Within ten days the song had pushed streams and monthly listeners on Spotify well above anything it had been before. On January 12th, 2019, Hate System had 890+ monthly listeners all thanks to the one single.

It was from there that Hate System put their mark on the Midlands. The band were booked to tour across the UK, including headlining slots and a main support slot to support *Grim Reaper* in Evesham.

FAMILY FIRST.

April 24th, 2019. Hate System cancel all shows until further notice.

"As some will be aware, we have pulled out of our upcoming shows. For those who don't know, myself and Ben are brothers, and last Thursday our Mum was admitted to Hospital. Our full attention, strength, and spirit, is now focused on our mother for as long as it takes to get her better. As you can understand this has been extremely tough for our family and close friends. The support from those who were already aware has been phenomenal, you know who you are, thank you dearly. Please understand that we will not be answering direct messages either through this page or through any of the band members until we have something to tell. All everyone needs to know is that as I write this our Mum is in superb hands, and is now getting the full attention she needs". **Dan James**

Putting family first, Hate System postpone every show booked for 2019 until further notice. It was an emotional and hard fought year, resulting in Dan and Ben's Mother recovering.

"It was all that mattered – nothing else came first. Another extreme hardship, but we came out of it the other end. 2019 was unbelievably difficult for everyone involved in Hate System. Our eyes turned to 2020". **Dan James**

THE VIRUS.

During the difficulties of 2019, Hate System withdrew from their management agency as every thought, emotion and fund was spent on getting Fiona James back to health again. During that time, Dan had begun writing for a new record, in which the band would return to AR Studios to make the third album.

2020 was all set with songs in the pipeline and a forceful entry into the Hate System discography. Then, the COVID-19 pandemic. In March 2020, the entire planet went into a pandemic-led lock-down.

This put a hold on everything music across the planet. Hate System would be once again forced to cancel everything in sight until some sort of tunnel exit formed.

"You just could not write it. I was also made redundant a couple of weeks before the pandemic took hold of the UK. It was back to square one for everything for everyone. The decision was made to stop writing for album three as we knew emotions would be different

during and after the multiple lock-downs we had to face. There's no point in hiding it, I thought Hate System would collapse. I thought music itself would die". **Dan James**

CONTINUED. AS OF 20TH AUGUST, 2021.

2021. CHANGE.

After several UK-wide lock-downs and many personal battles within that time, Hate System remained quiet. All contact channels were briefly abandoned in an aim to gather everyone to their feet – ready for the next chapter.

Hate System aim to enter the studio to record a full length record, album three. Keep an eye on the bands' social channels.

To be continued . . .