

● IT looks like the eagerly awaited Cyberpunk 2077 will get some free post-release DLC. A fan sent a tweet asking if it will follow the firm's other hit, The

Witcher 3, in terms of DLC, and got an "Ohhh yeahhh!" in gif in reply. So maybe two big paid-for expansions and lots of smaller free DLC? The game is due out on November 19.



● CRYTEK'S Crysis Remastered will land on September 18 after being pushed back from July. You get the single-player campaign with high-quality textures, HDR support

and temporal anti-aliasing. Xbox One X and PS4 Pro versions include CryEngine's solution for ray-traced reflections and other visual treats. On Xbox One, PS4 and PC for £26.99.

JACK OF ALL SHADES

SAMURAI Jack is one of the coolest cartoons ever produced.

It has a real cult following that follows Jack's adventures through time as he battles the evil Aku.

He is so popular that it is a surprise that the tale hasn't really made the jump into the gaming world. There have been a few attempts — the last was 15 years ago — but Adult Swim are all changing that with this creation.

It apes the 2017 return of the show in that it wraps up the epic tale with an over-view of the man.

That said, if you haven't seen series five then you may be left wondering what's actually going on in places.

We recommend you hit All 4 where you can stream every episode, including the final series.

The game follows the final battle

Samurai Jack: Battle Through Time

Xbox One, PS4, Switch and PC £33.49

where Aku opens another portal, sending Jack back through time to relive his most epic fights. It is a neat plot device for the developers to cherry pick the show's best moments.

You play through some classic locations and meet old friends such as the Scotsman and his daughters and the excellently monickered Sir Colin Bartholomew Montgomery Rothchild III.

The game is a hack-and-slash affair that is, in some ways, a throwback to the era of the original Xbox where you get an eight-hour linear tale, constantly pulling off combos

until you reach Aku. Throw in a healthy upgrade tree for skills and abilities, a mix of fun and powerful weapons and a handful of collectables and there is just enough to keep you busy when you are not destroying hordes of enemies.

The visuals blend cel-shaded action with footage from the show and it works brilliantly because of the programme's strong art style.

This is a blast for fans because it pays its respects to the show as well as delivering tons of action.

This is perfect if you're looking for a big hack-and-slash rush without being weighed down by overly powerful enemies.

★★★★



NEW MUSIC

By Jim Gellatly

LIIMO
WHERE: Edinburgh/London
WHO: Kieran O'Brien (vocals), Jamie "Jamo" Robertson (guitar), Callum "CJ" Paterson (percussion)
FOR FANS OF: The 1975, Khalid, Lauv

JIM SAYS: I've had my eye on the Liimo lads for a while. In a previous incarnation I had them in my 10 for 2014 list. While they may not have set the world alight back then, they continued to progress and upped sticks from Edinburgh to London.

Their roots go back to Balerno High. Singer Kieran said: "Jamo and I met there, with CJ at a school not far away. Me and Jamo cemented our friendship staying back after school in the music department jamming on nylon string acoustics trying to play John Mayer!"

CJ came onboard after he drummed and Kieran sang in the School of Rock styled Edinburgh Schools Rock Ensemble (ESRE).

Kieran said: "The project gathered bright musicians across the area. We keep in touch with a lot of those guys to this day. We bounced around in different projects and kept in the same musical circles, but it was actually when we moved to London that everything clicked and Liimo came to be."

As the sound developed into a cool alt. pop style, they went from a 5-piece to a trio, with Liimo being born in 2018. Kieran added: "Sonically, I think we opened Pandora's box and the more we wrote the more we zoned in on the sounds we liked and wanted to use consistently. We've made a conscious effort to develop our sound so it's undeniably Liimo. We've definitely got a way to go before reaching our peak but we're on the right track."

Liimo have just released their debut album Volume 01. It's on the B-Unique label, who've put out records from Kaiser Chiefs, Kodaline and Primal Scream. That's a major breakthrough for Liimo, but their feet remain firmly on the ground. Kieran said: "We've worked enough part-time jobs that being given the opportunity to do music full-time is something we're extremely thankful for. While we realise we're very lucky, we also see it as a graduation to the lower of the big leagues. We know it's time to ramp it up even more. The hard work's only just begun!"

Volume 01 is a fine start, packed full of glistening pop including the stunning new single Miracle. It has the feel of a 'best of', and that is exactly what it is.

Kieran said: "Volume 01 is the story so far, the singles. Within ourselves I don't think we'd call it an album. We feel that would be a disservice to our fans who've been with us the whole way to only give them one new track in Miracle."

"We'd like our debut album to be an unveiling for everyone, not just new listeners. But we hope anybody dipping their toe in the Liimo pool for the first time wants to take the plunge with us for the next part of the trip after hearing Volume 01."

Hopefully Liimo will be back gigging soon, with a Glasgow show set for January. Kieran said: "We can't wait to get on the road."

MORE: liimo.co.uk
● Jim's weekly showcase of New Music on Amazing Radio Sundays 2-4pm. amazingradio.com/jimgellatly.com

Watch video of Liimo at thescottishsun.co.uk



Grit 'n' polish

PEAKY Blinders is a hard-hitting, gritty show about a criminal gang in Birmingham back in 1919.

So you would expect a game based on their exploits would be a Grand Theft Auto style affair or even an underworld crime management challenge.

But Brighton-based studio FuturLab went for a puzzler — this is like a game of chess where planning is everything.

Get it right and it all comes together in spectacular style.

Mastermind actually acts as a prequel to the first BBC series as it follows the Shelby family's rise to power in Birmingham. The tale focusses on an underworld conspiracy where one of the gang members is linked to a murder, so expect lots of revenge, betrayal and violence as you try to clear your name.

If you're a fan then you'll get a kick from it but it never quite reaches the heights of the best episodes.

It's also worth noting that the tale is delivered through comic book style cut scenes where the cast likenesses are used. They are very

Peaky Blinders: Mastermind

Xbox One, PS4, Switch and PC £19.99

well done but unfortunately none of the cast are used to voice the game roles.

The writing is well done and the soundtrack sets the mood — it is handled by the rock band Feverist who worked on the first series.

The game is spread out over 10 levels that will take about five hours to battle through. You'll need to complete a number of missions with an industrial backdrop that does capture the gritty feel of the show.

But it gets really interesting on the gameplay front when you have to complete tasks in a set time using each member of the gang's unique skills. You actually control time and you need

to sync each member's actions so that they help one another.

When you pull it off, it is great to see but it can be a tough journey with plenty of trial and error along the way before you find the perfect who goes where and when.

That's when the time control comes in. You are always against the clock, but you can fast forward and rewind.

However, if things don't work out rewinding doesn't come with a penalty so, ultimately, it feels like a constant get out of jail card.

That makes the first few missions a total breeze but things do get tougher in the second half because you need to put your stealth hat on.

You also get more access to controlling extra members of the gang and the missions get bigger. The last two are standouts and are a real taste of how good this game could have been.

It is a unique take on a much-loved series. It does pay its respect to the show, but it never rocks the boat.

Fans will enjoy it and there is enough to do to make it worth a Peaky peek.

★★★★



● THIS year has been expo hell as the likes of E3 and EGX fell foul of the Covid crisis.

Gamescom was due to take place this week in Cologne in Germany. They went for a live online show hosted by Geoff Keighley.

There were expectations of the price and release date for the next-generation consoles, or

even news on Microsoft's long-rumoured Lockhart console but we got nothing.

They preferred trailers for Call Of Duty Black Ops Cold War and details on the new branching narrative within missions, character creation and that kind of thing. There were



trailers for games like Unknown9: Awakening, Bridge Constructor: The Walking Dead, Little Nightmares 2, Star Wars Squadrons, Mafia: Definitive Edition and a VR return for Medal Of Honor: Above and Beyond

We saw the first story DLC for Doom Eternal's The Ancient

Gods Part 1. Meanwhile, Fall Guys is going all medieval and 12 Minutes will feature Hollywood stars Willem Dafoe, Daisy Ridley and Scot James McAvoy.

Finally, there was an extended look at Ratchet and Clank: Rift Apart on the PS5. Great detail and portal-hopping gameplay. Bad interview with the developer. Great question-dodging.

