



MELBOURNE BLUES APPRECIATION SOCIETY INC

Bluesletter

Issue 245 November 2013

The Diary

November

1st-4th – Wangaratta Jazz & Blues Festival

12th – General Committee Meeting, Royal Standard Hotel, 7.00pm

December

17th – Christmas Party

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Congratulations to Rod Paines Fulltime Lovers, winners of the MBAS Blues Challenge 2013

The band will travel to Memphis in January 2014 to compete in the International Blues Challenge



Photos Sam Tilders



B. B. King MBAS Patron



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Photo: Phil Kent

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President's Report

Hi Folks

Congratulations to Rod Paines Fulltime Lovers for taking out the 2013 MBAS Blues Challenge. The heats and the final were all close which is a testament to the quality of the acts throughout the competition. We wish Rod , Dave, Tony and Ray all the best over in Memphis , the whole of the Blues community will be cheering you on during your journey .

The final was an amazing event with 350+ attending , witnessing some fabulous artistry. This year's attendance is surely a record . A special thank you to the judges for your time throughout the competition, it is greatly appreciated. I would also like to mention Rebecca Davey from Dreamboogie has written a report on the Blues Challenge so it will be interesting reading folks, as Bec was sipping some Champers at the final.

It is so rewarding that this Blues Challenge has created so many opportunities for the participants to further their careers within the Blues industry. We at the MBAS are so pleased that we can help. Trust me people the Blues is having a serious revival

Our Christmas is going to be huge - book early folks so you don't miss out.

Cheers John

Living' the Blues

Raffle tickets are now on sale for the beautiful guitar donated by John Williams (Double Shot of Blues)

Tickets are \$5 ea. and can be purchased online www.mbas.org.au with PayPal or from Committee members at our Tuesday Night House of Blues. Raffle drawn at the MBAS Christmas Party 17th December.



MBAS is a not-for-profit organisation that aims to bring Blues enthusiasts together and support and promote Australian Blues artists locally and overseas.

We run functions such as the Youth In Blues program, jam nights and workshops where known artists provide support and guidance for aspiring musicians.

Our signature event is the annual Blues Challenge where the winner is provided with funding to enable them to compete in the International Blues Challenge in Memphis. Previous winners of this event who have then gone on to win the IBC (Acoustic division) include Fiona Boyes (2002) and Jimi Hocking (2004). Geoff Achison won the Albert Kind Award in 1995.

MBAS membership provides the member with a monthly newsletter and discounts at MBAS functions, affiliated club functions and a variety of cooperating businesses. Members can also advertise their services and gigs

MBAS Blues Challenge 2013

Rebecca Davey

Lordy, what a week it's been! The 2013 MBAS Blues Challenge lived up to the hype this year, with Blues fans all over town coming out to see some of the best the state of Victoria has to offer do their thing for a chance at the main prize – the coveted spot representing the MBAS at the IBC in Memphis in 2014. The competition was the fiercest it's ever been! All the acts involved had risen to the occasion, and it was more a week-long festival than a competition.

Heats 1 through 3 on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday saw 16 acts in total put in amazing performances. Those of us in the audience were absolutely spoilt with great Blues and fabulous shows, and when the finalists were all announced for Sunday's showdown at the GH, I think we all thanked our lucky stars that we would get a couple of days to recover before heading over to St Kilda to see the final.

And what a final it was! Zevon and The Werewolves of Melbourne kicked off the show, and with 300+ Blues fanatics eagerly anticipating what was to come, they didn't disappoint. The Detonators followed, with their smooth stylings, and looking great as always. Next up were Miss Lizzy and the Nightowls, sounding fabulous and putting on a great show! After a short break for dinner, Rod Paines Fulltime Lovers took the stage, cruising through their set with style and swagger! ... could we take any more? Of course we could!!! The Three Tones were up next, and lordy did they do it right – looking great as well, guys! To finish



Matthew Fredericks, PBS 106.7FM presenting Rod with financial assistance for their trip to Memphis..

Photo: Des Kennedy

up, Chris Russell's Chicken Walk took the stage, whipping the audience into a frenzy before we all settled in to hear who the honours would go to.

The winner was announced... "Rod Paines Fulltime Lovers" and the audience went nuts! A worthy winner in a very, very tough field! We're all looking forward to having them represent Melbs in Memphis Town! Well done, guys. Best of luck at the IBC, you're gonna love it – and they're gonna love you right back!!!

The Melbourne Blues scene has produced some amazing musicians and performers, and they all put forward their own spin on blues and it was such a wonderful feeling to be there to see it all happen. But perhaps the most exciting thing this year was to see a community of not only musicians, but music fans come together to support a scene that has exploded over the last year or so. The MBAS committee have done such an amazing job creating a community that has strengthened the Blues scene to a point where there is new music and acts appearing every week, and venues are spilling over with audiences eager to support the music! It's a wonderful thing, and very exciting to be a part of!

Well done to the musicians, the MBAS committee, the "Blues-arrazzi", and all involved in the running of this year's MBAS Blues Challenge. It was superb! Now... on to the IBC, Rod and the Boys! Do us proud. We know you will! x



President of the MBAS, John Jerman, congratulates Rod Paine on winning the MBAS Blues Challenge 2013.

Photo: Sam Tilders

MBAS Blues Challenge 2013 - Finalists



The 3 Tones



MC Greg Dodd



Chris Russell's Chicken Walk



The Detonators



Zevon & The Werewolves of Melbourne



Miss Lizzy and The Nightowls

The Age Music Victoria Genre Awards 2013

Melbourne Blues Appreciation Society was thrilled to be invited to provide a panel to judge the Best Blues Album in The Age Music Victoria Genre Awards 2013. It is very encouraging that the Blues genre has been recognised in these music awards.

Panelists nominated by MBAS to be involved in choosing the Award were Helen Jennings, Werner Martin, Max



Crawdaddy, Mathew Frederick and Mark Missen. We would like to thank the panelists for their time and assistance in judging the Award and Matt in particular for chairing the panel. The winner of the Best Blues Album was The Three Kings for the album The Three Kings.

Unfortunately, Ian Collard was unwell on the night of the presentation so President John and Secretary Pam took their Award to the Caravan Club the following weekend to surprise them.

Photos Wendv Rowe

MBAS Blues Challenge 2013

The MBAS would like to thank all the wonderful judges who had the biggest challenge on their hands

Heat 1: Jackey Coyle, Russell Morris and Barry Maxwell.

Heat 2; Max Crawdaddy, Peter Shillito and Mark Missen

Heat 3: Peter Merrett, Ray Reid and Werner Martin.

Final: Helen Jennings, Adrian Jackson, Billy Pinnell, Matthew Fredericks and Bruce Milne



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CD Release

Hot on the heels of the Australian Blues and Roots Chart #1 debut, VIC/TAS awarded best debut, and Canadian Blues Underground Network #1 smash album, **BLOW THESE TRACKS – Live on The Blues Train** with special guest Chris Wilson, comes **MR BLACK & BLUES** second full length album and third release: **LONG ROAD HOME**. Lloyd Spiegel said "It's so hot it melted my car stereo!" Salty Dog said "The new album is fabulous. Great feel, sparse rootsy Banjo and smokin blues delivery. This one is up two more notches. Love it!" Geoff Pegler from *BluesBeat Radio* said LONG ROAD HOME is. "one hot album! Usually the follow up album to a number 1 charting album is a hard act to follow, but with 'Long Road Home' Mr Black & Blues hits top gear with this very fine album of blues. World class, every track!" Duncan Smith at *TOP SHELF MUSIC 89.7FM* said "Matt Taylor invented Oz Blues & Michael Pollitt is cut from the same cloth. Long Road Home is a gritty, heartfelt work of wonder." Recorded by ARIA winner Jason McGann and Michael in a house in Colac, country Victoria, and mixed at OneMusic Asia by sonic architect genius Colin Wynne, the record is a feel-good roots blues rock "band in a room" and features founding John Butler Trio drummer McGann on kit, piano, and bass, as well as session hero and former Giants guitarist Tony Forbes on banjo and guitar, and ARIA winning Waifs bassist and Stillson's producer Ben Franz on double.



Edwards Tavern EDWARDS TAVERN WODONGA

BLUES FEST

November 23rd 2013
1.00PM TIL MIDNIGHT
ACOUSTIC AFTERNOON - ELECTRIC EVENING

Lloyd Spiegel
Chris Wilson
Geoff Achison and the Souldiggers
Fiona Boyes
Phil Manning
Mike Elrington

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Singer and piano player Pugsley Buzzard is releasing, CHASIN` ACES, his new CD album, recorded in New Orleans, Melbourne and the Blue Mountains

This recording of ten new original tunes by Pugsley Buzzard features some of New Orleans top jazz, blues and funk players including Jimmy Carpenter, Antonio Gambrell, Craig Klein, Charles Brewer, Nathan Lambert, John Fohl and Irene Sage who have performed with artists Dr John, Allen Toussaint, Bonerama, Walter Wolfman Washington, Eric Lindell and the Mardi Gras Indian Funk Ensemble amongst others. The album also features some of Pugsley's favourite Melbourne musicians including Nathan Ford, Adam Simmons, Kynan Robinson Declan Jones and Tim Kingsley and Blue Mountains artists John Stuart and Neill Duncan.



“GROUNDWELL” PETE CORNELIUS

Pete Cornelius and his band has just released their long awaited new CD and it's a corker. Pete is well known for offering a range of music at his gigs and this CD reflects that – in a really good way. It's predominantly blues based but ventures out into some rock, soul and a great little New Orleans inspired number as well.

There are eleven great tracks included here, six written by Pete and the rest covers of the likes of Tom Waits, Al Green and Otis Rush. Helping Pete out are Simon Holmes on bass and backing vocals, Henry Nichols on drums, Randal Muir on Hammond, Kelly Ottaway on a range of other keys, Paul Williamson, Jeremy Williamson, Donald Bate and Lila Meleisea on various horns and Susannah Coleman-Brown on backing vocals. The sound is rich and lush, and very atmospheric.

Reportedly, the CD was recorded at a neighbour's holiday house over a weekend and so, although recorded almost entirely live (some of the horns were recorded elsewhere), has a professional studio feel to it. Pete produced and looked after the mixing. Gorgeous artwork incorporating photography of dark seas is presented in a high quality card 3-fold cover. Credits are hand written and I found many of them very difficult to read, being very small black font on the dark background.

I caught Pete's presentation of much of this album recently at the Echuca Winter Blues festival and it blew me away. I would play this CD anywhere at any time! My fave track is the slow blues “Right Place Wrong Time” but I also love the up tempo “Repo Man”.



“LONG ROAD TO LONGWOOD” WILLIE AND THE DIXONS

Make no mistake about it – this is a good old time party record! If you're looking for a backdrop to your next barbeque or dancing CD for a party, then this is it. The CD has been dedicated to “Billie the Wonder Dog – gone but not forgotten”, who photo you will find on the front cover of the CD.

This CD includes 10 tracks, alternating tracks written by Neale Williams (Willie) with standards primarily of the blues persuasion, although Leo Sayer's “Long Tall Glasses” is an interesting inclusion.

Band members featuring on the CD include Neale Williams on guitars and vocals, Rob O'Toole on drums, Darryl Henning on bass and Chris “Darkie” Wilson on keyboards and bass on Track 7. The sound is loud and powerful. I wouldn't have minded another voice added to the vocal mix.

The album was produced by Neale Williams and Chris “Darkie” Wilson and Chris Wilson recorded, mixed and mastered the CD at his recording studio. The CD was designed and photography supplied by Neale Williams. It's presented in a standard jewel case with a small leaflet insert containing some background information and thanks, and with credits listed on the back cover.

As mentioned, this would be an ideal party album, turned up loud for a packed dance floor! It surprises me to announce that my fave track is the aforementioned “Long Tall Glasses”! I found myself singing along immediately this one started playing!!



“SHAKEDOWN” CHRIS RUSSELL'S CHICKEN WALK

If you've ever seen Chris Russell playing live, you will have a good idea what this CD is going to sound like. If you haven't – this is down and dirty swamp blues!! It romps and stomps it's way from the start of the track to the end, unrelenting and uncompromising...Chris Russell's Chicken Walk is Chris Russell on guitar and vocals – and strutting! And a drummer, pounding those drums for all they're worth. Here are presented eight longish tracks, all written by Chris with the exception of one traditional inclusion “Catfish Blues”.

Chris is a local Melbourne guy who has travelled to the US on several occasions to absorb the music and, along the way, play with the likes of Tony Joe White. Chris tells us he “stole some seeds and brought them back to Melbourne, Australia. I planted and tended them. Sometimes the crop failed and other times it thrived”. It appears now his crops are now flourishing...

Playing on the CD are Chris Russell with assistance from dean Muller on drums. He has also credited Max Crowddaddy with “Spiritual Advisement”. Recorded at Bald Hills Studios, the CD was mixed by Jez Giddings at Hothouse in St Kilda and mastered by Bernie O. A magnificent front photo of Chris in full face profile was provided by Tony Proudfoot and inside there's a great stage and crowd shot taken at Golden Plains by Mick Stylianou. The typeface and design is by Brooke Penrose and the CD released and distributed by Cobra Snake Necktie Records and Love and Theft Recordings. The sound quality's great, with vocal and instruments clear. Presentation is good quality card, with a small flyer insert containing the story and credits.

This is a great CD which you really should play at volume! It's fairly intense vocally, a great listener, maybe during a long trip when you're driving. I like the opening track “(Somebody Call the) Po Po” which rattles along like a train...



Gig Guide

Sunday 3rd

Lloyd Spiegel w/Tim Burnham, Maldon Folk Festival

Nick Charles, Maldon Folk Festival

Geoff Achison & The Souldiggers, Wangaratta Jazz & Blues Festival

Collard Greens and Gravy, Cherry Bar, Melbourne 3pm

Cold Snap, Idavue Estate, Heathcote 1pm \$15

Charlie Parr w/Doc White, Way Out West, Williamstown RSL 2pm

Monday 4th

Geoff Achison, Bailey's of Glenrowan, Wangaratta Jazz & Blues Festival

The Three Kings, Retreat Hotel, Brunswick 7.30pm

John-Luke Shelley & High Speed Steel, Wangaratta jazz & Blues Festival, John Gehrig Winery, Oxley 12noon

The Ska Vendors feat. Kerri Simpson, Way Out West, Williamstown RSL 8pm

Mr Black & Blues w/Jason Liusoon supporting Chris Russell and Old Grey Mule, Spotted Mallard, Brunswick 4pm

Tuesday 5th

Alister Turrill, Royal Standard Hotel, West Melbourne 8pm Free followed by Jam until 11pm

Wayne Jury, St Leonards Hotel 10am, yes 10am

Thursday 7th

Ian Collard & Suzannah Espie, Post Office Hotel, Coburg 8.30pm

Andrea Marr & The Funky Hitmen, Cherry Bar, Melbourne 10pm

Mr Black & Blues Band w/Johnny Cass The Tote

Friday 8th

Geoff Achison, Golden Vine Hotel, Bendigo Blues & Roots Festival

Collard Greens and Gravy, Bendigo Blues & Roots Festival

John-Luke Shelley & High Speed Steel, Bendigo Blues & Roots Festival, Brian Boru Hotel 10pm

Greg Dodd & The Taildraggers, Bendigo Blues & Roots Festival, Exchange Hotel 7.30pm Free

Dave Diprose, Exchange Hotel, Bendigo 6.30pm

Andrea Marr Band, Bendigo Blues Festival

Mr Black & Blues Band w/Johnny Cass, Flying Saucer Club

Saturday 9th

Lloyd Spiegel w/Tim Burnham, Bendigo Blues and Roots Festival

Too Cool to Cook, The Comma Hotel, Castlemaine, Free

Geoff Achison & The Souldiggers, Golden Vine Hotel, Bendigo Blues & Roots Festival

The Three Kings, Labour In Vain, Fitzroy 5pm

Collard Greens and Gravy, Post Office Hotel, Coburg 8.30pm

Cold Snap, Bendigo Blues & Roots Music Festival Rosalind Park, 6.15pm Free

Cold Snap, Bendigo Blues & Roots Music Festival Golden Vine Hotel 10.15pm \$15

John-Luke Shelley & High Speed Steel, Bendigo Blues & Roots Festival, The Metro & Puggs Irish Bar 6.15pm

Dave Diprose, Goldmines Hotel, Bendigo 2pm & 7pm (with Nine Mile Creek)

Slim Dime, Sarah Eida, Shane Reilly and Leena, The Chandelier Room, Moorabbin 8pm

Sunday 10th

The Jacqui Walker Band, Yarra Glen Grand Hotel 3pm Free

Lloyd Spiegel w/Tim Burnham, Bendigo Blues and roots Festival

Geoff Achison, Bendigo Blues & Roots Festival

Collard Greens and Gravy, Rainbow Hotel, Fitzroy 4pm

John-Luke Shelley & High Speed Steel, Bendigo Blues & Roots Festival, The Bridge Hotel 5.45pm

Johnny Cass Band w/Mr Black & Blues, Way Out West, Williamstown RSL 2pm

Blues Mountain, Mornington Brewery, Mornington 2pm

Dave Diprose, Goldmines Hotel, Bendigo pm

King Catfish, Peninsula Blues Club, Frankston 7pm \$8

Jimi Hocking, The Heritage, Balnarring 3pm

Dan Dinnen, Cornish Arms, Brunswick 5pm Free

Monday 11th

Andrea Marr & The Funky Hitmen Heart & Souls Concert, Ormond Hall, St Kilda (w/Daryl Braithwaite, Russell Morris & Tanya Doko)

Tuesday 12th

Nick Charles, Ringwood Folk Club, Ringwood East Community Hall \$12 8.30pm

Kelly Auty, Royal Standard Hotel, West Melbourne 8pm Free followed by Jam until 11pm

Dave Diprose, Burrinja Café, Upwey 7.30pm (with Nine Mile Creek)

Jimi Hocking, The Grandview, Fairfield 8pm

Friday 15th

Pugsley Buzzard, CD Show, Spotted Mallard, Brunswick 10pm

Nick Charles, Acorn on Forest, The Basin 8pm Free

Geoff Achison, Martians Café, Deans Marsh \$15 8.30pm

Collard Greens and Gravy, Burrinja Café, Upwey 8pm

Blues Mountain, Saloon Bar, Traralgon

The Leigh Sloggett Duo, Newport RSL 7.15pm Free

Saturday 16th

Pugsley Buzzard, Waratah Lodge, Fish Creek 7.30pm

The Jacqui Walker Band, 3MDR Blues Big Gig, Emerald Hall 3pm

Lloyd Spiegel, Hickinbotham Winery, Dromana

Nick Charles, Yarra Valley Grand Hotel, Yarra Glen 12.30pm Free

Geoff Achison & The Souldiggers, Barooga Sports Club NSW 9pm

Collard Greens and Gravy, Elsternwick Hotel, 8.30pm

John-Luke Shelley & High Speed Steel, The Hunt Club Hotel, Merrijig 8.30pm

Greg Dodd & The Taildraggers, 3MDR Big Gig 7.30pm \$25/\$20

Blues Mountain, 3MDR Big Gig, Emerald

Marisa Quigley, St Andrews Hotel 1pm Free

Blues Mountain, Sound Bar, Rosebud

Stewart Kohinga, Nicolette Forte, Heymus, The Chandelier Room, Moorabbin 8pm

Sunday 17th

Pugsley Buzzard, Phillip Island Jazz Festival (see program for times)

The Jacqui Walker Band, Prahran Market 12noon Free

Geoff Achison, Kyneton Musos Club (at Bowling Club) 2pm

Gig Guide

Collard Greens and Gravy, Bay Hotel, Mornington

John-Luke and Brett Shelley (duo), Gracebrook Winery, King Valley 12noon

Kelly Auty w/Lisette Payet, Laika Cocktail Lountge and Tapas Bar, St Kilda 5pm

Old Gray Mule w/Chris Russell's Chicken Walk, Way Out West, Williamstown RSL 2pm

Blues Mountain, Heritage Hotel, Balnarring 3pm

Dave Diprose, Cunninghams Hotel, Yarra Junction 2pm Free

Jimi Hocking, On Top Bar, Ormond 5pm

Mr Black & Blues Band Cherry Bar, Melbourne 2pm Album launch

Tuesday 19th

Geoff Achison, Royal Standard Hotel, West Melbourne 8pm Free followed by jam until 11pm

Wayne Jury, Irish Murphy's Geelong 8pm

Thursday 21st

Andrea Marr & The Funky Hitmen, Cherry Bar, Melbourne 9pm with Kylie Auldish & The Sweethearts)

Friday 22nd

Lloyd Spiegel w/Tim Burnham, The Bridge Hotel, Castlemaine

Cold Snap, Golden Dust Lounge, Bendigo 9pm Free

Friday 22nd

Greg Dodd & The Taildraggers, Live CD Recording, Royal Standard Hotel, West Melbourne 8pm Free

Kelly Auty, Lomond Hotel, Brunswick East 9.30pm

Saturday 23rd

Lloyd Spiegel, Edwards Tavern Blues Festival, Wodonga

Smokin Sam & Cargo Blues Band w/Bronnie Gordon, Martians Café, Deans Marsh \$10 7.30pm

Nick Charles, Hickinbotham Winery, Dromana 1pm Free

Geoff Achison, Edwards Tavern Blues Festival, Wodonga 2pm

The Three Kings, Labour In Vain, Fitzroy 5pm

Cobra 45s, Reefton Hotel, Warburton 7pm Free

Green's Diary Angel Ensemble, Melissa Main Trio, Renae Brennen, The Chandelier Room, Moorabbin 8pm

Andrea Marr w/Next Generation Fundraiser for Sri-Lanka Cancer Foundation, The Grand

Mr Black & Blues supporting Old Grey Mule Old Bar, Collingwood

Sunday 24th

Wayne Jury and the Tides of Welcome choir, Queenscliff Music Festival, 10.45am

Justin Yap Band, Sleepy Hollow Blues Club, Geelong Trades Hall Basement 3pm \$10/\$5

Collard Greens and Gravy, On Top Bar, Ormond (duo) 3pm

King Catfish, Mornington Peninsula Brewery, 2pm Free

Jimi Hocking, Bay Hotel, Mornington 3pm

Dan Dinnen, Cunninghams Hotel, Yarra Junction 3pm Free

Andrea Marr Band, The Rainbow, Fitzroy 4pm

Tuesday 26th

Ian Collard, Royal Standard YHotel, West Melbourne 8pm Free followed by jam until 11pm

Geoff Achison, Grandview Hotel, Fairfield 7.30pm

Friday 29th

The Wayne Jury 4, The Blues Train, Queenscliff 7pm

Nick Charles, Wyreena, Croydon, Concert in the Conservatory 7.30pm Bookings essential

Greg Dodd & The Taildraggers, Spotted Mallard, Brunswick 9pm Free

Cobra 45s, Kelly's Bar & Kitchen, Olinda 9.30pm Free

Blues Mountain, Gold Dust Lounge, Bendigo 9.30pm

Dave Diprose, Yarra Glen Brand, Yarra Glen 7.30pm Free

Saturday 30th

Lloyd Spiegel, End of the line festival, Belgrave

Smokin Sam & Cargo Blues Band w/Bronnie Gordon, Musicland, Fawkner, 40s & 50s Chicago Blues Swing Night, 410 8.30pm

The Three Kings, Labour In Vain, Fitzroy 5pm

Marisa Quigley, End of the line festival, Belgrave Free

Bec and Sebastian, Doc White and Pete Howell, Tim Tonic Hulsman, The Chandelier Room, Moorabbin 8pm



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MBAS Blues Challenge 2013 finals judges