

**B.O.P.**  
**BLUES**

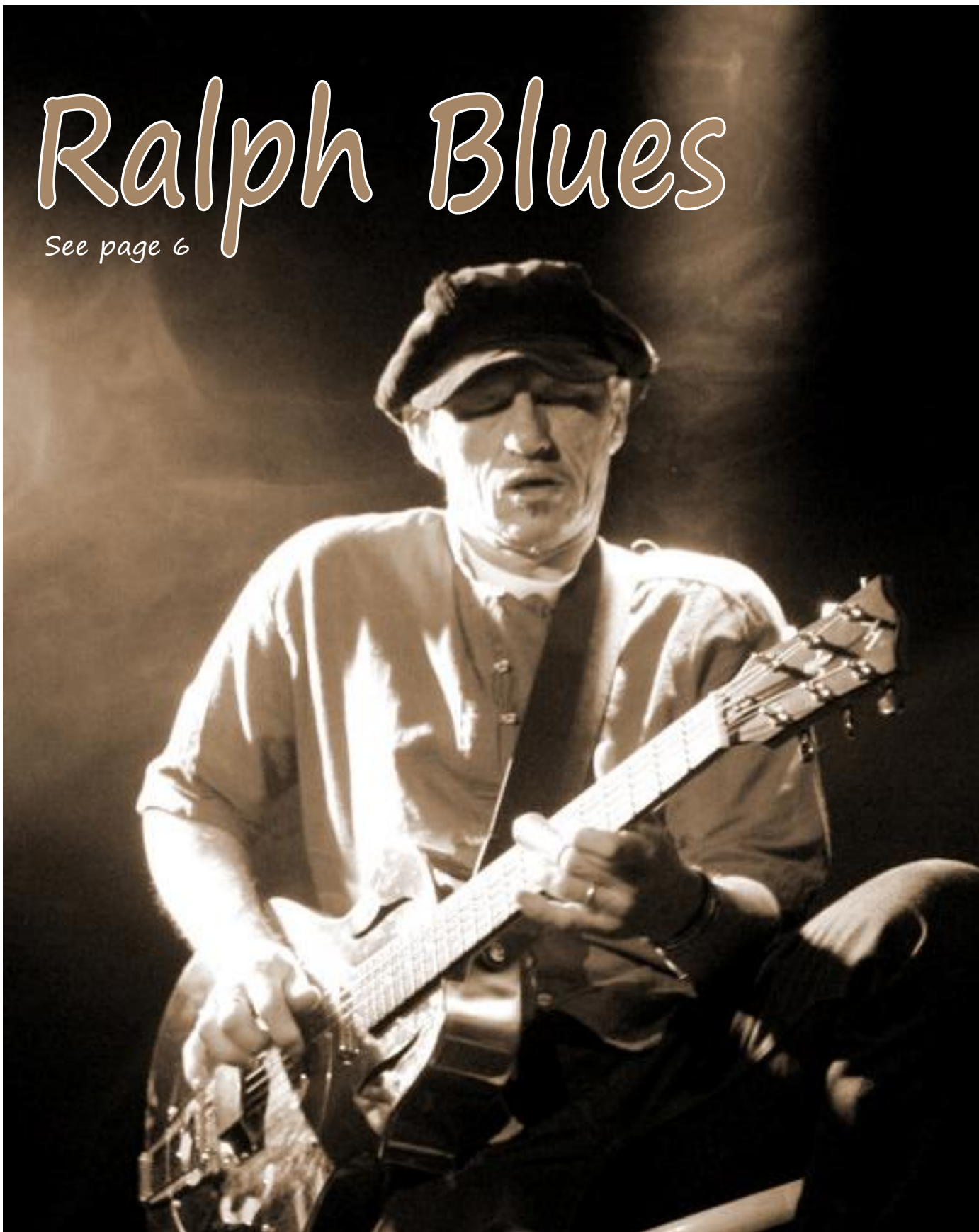
**bulletin**

Newsletter of the Bay of Plenty Blues Club Incorporated

August—September 2010

# Ralph Blues

*See page 6*





# Hot off the Prez!

## Patron

Doug MacLeod  
[www.doug-macleod.com](http://www.doug-macleod.com)

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Mobile 027 2738881  
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## Vice President/PR/Events

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[wazzme@clear.net.nz](mailto:wazzme@clear.net.nz)

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[secretary@bopblues.com](mailto:secretary@bopblues.com)

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Newsletter layout & design: Sally Garner

## Newsletters published bi-monthly

Contributions for this newsletter are welcome.

## ALL CORRESPONDENCE

must be sent to the club Secretary  
BOP Blues, PO Box 1138, Rotorua  
[secretary@bopblues.com](mailto:secretary@bopblues.com)

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This is my first column as President for the coming year. Firstly I'd like to acknowledge the officers and members of the outgoing committee. Many people are not aware of the enormous amount of time that committee members contribute to the running of the Club. Although the task has its 'moments', it can be a tremendously satisfying one.

Past President, Noel Lamberton, completed 3 terms—a mammoth effort! His expertise in the music industry is a major asset to the club and we are fortunate to retain his skills on the committee for the coming year. Likewise, Peter Jongenelen (PJ) has been our Treasurer since the Club was formed back in May 2006 — we're grateful for the huge amount of time PJ has given for the good of the Club. As proprietor of the Belgian Bar, he has a vested interest in the success of BOP Blues, but has dutifully never allowed any conflict of interest to affect his performance in either role.

John Douglas stepped in a year ago to take over the challenging role of Secretary, and although he had to develop some new skills rather quickly, he carried it off admirably. Other outgoing committee members are Allan Kilgour, Terry Norrie and John Petrie—sincere thanks for your efforts over the past 12 months.

In Addition to his role as Club Captain, Warren Houston has also taken up the post of Vice President for the coming year. As the Club's first President, Warren has a wealth of knowledge of BOP Blues and we welcome him back to the organising Committee.

Welcome also to our new committee members, Anita Loderus (Secretary), Julie Bell (Treasurer), Lynn Ussher, Julian Archer and Bill Ward. Carrying on for a further term are Marg Boielle (also on committee since day one) and Jimmy Murray, and Mike Garner has once again accepted the role of Editor. See photos of the committee members on page 4.

It's been a bit quiet over the past few months, and our Queen's Birthday Weekend festival has been a hard act to follow, but the new committee is enthusiastic and the calendar will soon start to look healthy again.

What is the Blues? Well, for me that's one of the most difficult questions I've ever been asked—and it happened on live radio back in 1995. Well, what do you say? I responded with "you said you wouldn't ask me any hard questions!" At our AGM this year, one of our members put the same question to the committee and suggested a discussion to define the boundaries for music appropriate for the Club nights. In response, we have called a Special General Meeting on the 29th August to try to come up with an answer. All current Club members are invited to come and participate in this discussion which promises to be most interesting! See calendar on page 7 for details.

Yours in the Blues, Sally

## HAVE YOU EVER TRIED TO EXPLAIN TO A FRIEND, SOMEONE WHO KNOWS YOU HAVE A PASSION FOR THIS MUSIC, JUST WHAT THE BLUES IS?

It's a question that has been much debated by historians and musicologists - there are a few academics around the world specialising in blues music, and not just in the USA.

One of the foremost ones is Dr David H Evans, professor of music in the University of Memphis' ethnomusicology program. He is also a musician in his own right (an excellent acoustic blues guitarist), an author of popular histories of the blues such as "Big Road Blues", and a frequent writer of liner notes for record companies.

In an on line discussion group, Dr Evans was debating with others the origins of the blues. How much of it came from field hollers (purely vocal, rhythmic songs), gospel, ragtime and all sorts of other folk, pre-recorded music. Here's what he had to say:

*I think that part of the very essence of blues as a genre is that it is a song (vocal) with an interactive instrumental accompaniment.*

*I don't have any problem calling many 8- and 16-bar pieces "blues." Pieces like "Pallet on the Floor" and "Don't You Leave Me Here" have all the lyric/thematic characteristics of blues and the interactive and responsive function of the instrumental accompaniment. It's perhaps significant that the twelve-bar (3-line) form, where all of the lines usually resolve in the tonic chord, won out to become the predominant blues structure. I don't think one can offer a succinct definition (such as the 12-bar form) that determines in every case whether a song qualifies as a blues or not. But I prefer to list prevalent characteristics. If most of them are encountered in a piece of music, we can fairly safely call it a blues.*

*The following would be a summary:*

- 1. The presence of blue notes.*
- 2. Instrumental accompaniment that interacts with and responds to the vocal lines.*
- 3. Lyrics from a first-person point of view, usually about personal relationships,*



**Dr David H Evans  
Professor of music, University of Memphis**

*feelings, emotions and related matters, with little or no sentimentality.*

*4. The 12-bar form, or another standard form (2-line, 4-line), or an approximation of one of these forms.*

*None of these criteria is absolutely necessary. There can be blues without blue notes, blues where the accompaniment is pretty much just musical background, purely vocal blues (by a cappella quartets, for example), blues with sentimental lyrics, and blues that aren't in anything like a standard form or are simply a series of riffs.*

So you can see, it starts to get quite technical, and a good knowledge of musical terminology and structure is required to grasp what Dr Evans is saying. The internet abounds with other resources and definitions.

Have a look at <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blues> for example - and there are many others, too. Here they say "Blues is the name given to both a musical form and a music genre .... The blues genre is based on the blues form but possesses other characteristics such as specific lyrics, bass lines and instruments." If this intrigues you - there are many books and resources you can follow up - it's a fascinating journey. If it all leaves you cold - or with a headache - don't worry, just keep on enjoying the music you love, no matter how you define it!

## MESSAGE FROM BOP BLUES CLUB PATRON

### We asked Doug MacLeod "what is the Blues?"

Hey Folks, I had the opportunity to get to know some pretty good Blues songwriters a few years back. (I ain't telling how many!) One was Willie Dixon. I once asked Willie what the Blues was to him. He said, "It's simple. The Blues is the true facts of life."

I played with Brownie McGhee in his garage in Oakland CA drinking Dr. Pepper. I asked Brownie what the Blues was to him. He said, "Blues is truth."

Now both of those answers are not complicated but when you think on them some you may start to realize just how vast and profound those few words are. Like a good blues song—a whole lot of meaning, said with feeling, in a simple way. Well, let's call it deceptively simple.

So if you've been thinking about becoming a member, let me be simple about this. We could sure use you! We need all the folks that love this music and want to keep it alive to do their part. Now because I'm so far away, I'm gonna have to thank you in advance. But I'm grateful and so are the folks that are already members.

With my best, Doug



# BOP BLUES COMMITTEE 2010-11

## *Introducing the new committee members*

The Bay of Plenty Blues Club Inc. held its Annual General Meeting on Sunday 18th July and a new committee was duly elected for the coming year. There are some new faces on the committee and some who have carried over. We welcome back Julie Bell and Warren Houston who have served in previous years.



Sally Garner,  
President



Warren Houston, Club  
Captain & Vice President



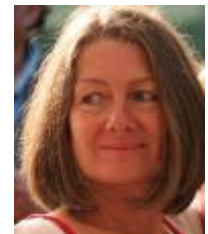
Anita Loderus,  
Secretary



Julie Bell,  
Treasurer



Noel Lamberton



Lynn Ussher



Julian Archer



Bill Ward



Peter Jonenelen



Jimmy Murray



Margie Boiella



Mike Garner, Editor

## Down Under Blues

### B-Side Band

TPRCD009

*Shame, Shame, Shame ; Remuera Cowboy; Blues, Stay Away From Me; I Like To Drink; Yeah, Don't You Know; Woo Woo Baby; Man's Best Friend; Rockabilly Hall Of Fame; All My Inlaws Are Outlaws; 21st Century Blues; Redundancy Blues; Return Of Clint (instrumental); Singin' The Blues; Land Of The Long White Cloud; Medley: Jesus On The Mainline / Bad Boy; Charlie 'Saxophone' Parker*



Tauranga's B-Side Band are a hard working local trio, consisting of Simon Elton (guitar), Paul Parkhouse (harmonica) and Carl Winters (drums). They specialise in rockabilly with a cut down drum kit and no bass but on this, their second album, they have enlisted several of the Bay's best known musicians. We have Kokomo's Derek Jacombs and Nigel Masters variously on guitars, bass and keyboards, along with Derrin Richards, John Michaelz and Lilla Washington.

This expanded lineup certainly enriches the arrangements. B-Side are still heavily into rockabilly mode, and with 16 tracks in 46 minutes, they're all at juke box, 45 rpm length! The material is mostly original, but there are blues covers of Jimmy Reed (Shame Shame Shame) and Eddie Taylor (Bad Boy). Both Elton and Parker contribute songs. " Remuera Cowboy" and others have a more country feel. Richards' mandolin adds good colour in one or two of these. " Blues, Stay Away From Me" works well in this vein, with sweet harmonies like the Notting Hillbillies. " Singin' The Blues", a 50s pop/country hit, has Masters on piano and Jacombs on slide. Parkhouses' " Redundancy Blues", too, works well with that formula.

One or two tracks are more adventurous. " Return Of Clint" has harmonica and sound effects, including cattle and horses (it's true!) with ambition to be a cowboy sound track. " Charlie 'Saxophone' Parker" (whose nickname was 'Bird', in fact) has Parkhouse doubling saxophones. It's not be-bop, but Parker's rocking tribute to his namesake, with manic Masters' piano in there too! Recorded at Boatshed Studio in Tauranga, by Masters and Jacombs, the production is excellent. It's available on line from CDBaby (www.cdbaby.com) or buy directly from the band stand at one of their gigs.

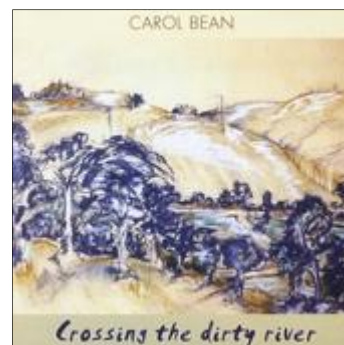
## Crossing the Dirty River

### Carol Bean

Ode CDMANU5094

*Evidence; Crossing The Dirty River; Hard Drive Blues; Power Of The People; Cartoons; Catch; Mt Misery; Kicking & Screaming; Messy Girl; Vitamin Yes; Lucky In Love; Looking Like A Holy Man*

Wellington's vibrant music scene is well represented on Bean's latest album. Along with her regular collaborators, there are numerous guest musicians forming the palette from which she creates her music. It spans 'American' from alt country to bluegrass, blues and reggae. 'Mt Misery', for example, has mandolin, fiddle and BVs over a bluegrass waltz. 'Kicking and Screaming' (about going to the dentist!) has fiddle paired with banjo in another country laced song.



Mike Petrie supplies country rock guitar on several tracks; 'Evidence', 'Crossing the dirty river', 'Hard Drive Blues' and 'Vitamin Yes'. These are strong tracks, with Petrie delivering beautiful melodic electric slide guitar on the album's first two cuts. "Power Of The People" delivers a political message over a reggae rhythm. Other material is quieter and more introspective, discussing American cartoons and their "cultural invasion" or jazzy in "Catch". We hear Bean's own guitar in "Lucky in Love" deftly playing acoustic over a wistful, quite backing. The album finishes with the beautiful 'Looking Like A Holy Man' where Bean demonstrates some wonderful story telling.

All the songs are her originals and she also arranged and produced the album. She delivers her lyrics with a voice that is sometimes soft and close and at other times punching out the words. The title track "Crossing The Dirty River" pulls together all the best features of this album, good lyrics sung with conviction and a beautiful voice, strong musicianship and searing lead guitar.

The album is available at on line outlets but is distributed in NZ by Ode so you can order it from your local CD store if they don't have it on the shelf.

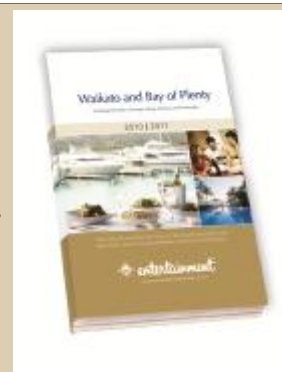
## The Bay of Plenty Blues Club is pleased to offer the popular Entertainment Book to our members and friends.

For only \$55, purchase your copy of the Entertainment Book and receive thousands of dollars worth of savings. The Book contains hundreds of two-for-one offers and 25% off the total bill for restaurants such as Seismic Gastrobar, Lime Caffeteria, Abracadabra, Ambrosia, Lewishams, Zanelli's, Indian Star Tandoori, Fat Dog Café, Freos, Solace, Ciccio's, plus many, many more, as well as great entertainment offers such as two for one admissions at Reading Cinemas, Rainbow Springs, Mount Maunganui Hot Saltwater Pools, AC Baths, Bay of Plenty Steamers, Hell's Gate, plus many, many more.

Taupo - Replete, Plateau, Huka Falls Winery, L'arte, Finn McCuhals, Dixie Brown's, Lava Rock Café

Tauranga/Mount Maunganui - Mills Reef Winery, Next Door Restaurant, Astrolabe, Naked Grape, Alimento, Bravo, Café Versailles, Halo

The best part is that \$11 from every book sold goes to the Bay of Plenty Blues Club to assist with fundraising. For more information, contact Club Secretary, Anita Loderus. m: 021440435 e: secretary@bopblues.com



# Ralph Blues

**Singer, Slide Guitarist, Ralph Blues is touring the North Island with his Band "The Honey Badgers"**

Ralph has "been playing the Blues ever since the world began" (well from about 1978).

Basing himself in Auckland, Ralph released a self titled album and toured the North Island extensively with his first band, "FAT 'n' SASSY", performing Ralph Bennett Originals and Blues.

Ralph joined up with the "HouseTrucker's Road Band" in '84-85 and got to know the Bay of Plenty while on their kaleidoscopic summer tours. He travelled with the Gypsy Fairs and wrote songs with kids throughout Waihi, Waikato, Coromandel and B.O.P. in the early 90's, as Q.E.II Arts Council's Artist in Residence.

2000 saw him run away with the gypsies, managing their travelling stage and in 2004 marrying and settling in Motueka . He put together a C.D. of his South Island Road Songs ("The Southern Journey") and began touring the South Island, writing and recording.

Ralph will be playing the Blues in Rotorua this month with 'HouseTruck' Murray Wakeman on Drums and Henry 'Honey Badger' Te Tua adding the magic with his Lead Guitar.

**Thursday 26 August at 8pm**

**The Belgian Bar, 1151 Arawa St, Rotorua.**

\$10 on the door. [www.ralphblues.co.nz](http://www.ralphblues.co.nz)



September is turning blue to raise awareness of prostate cancer. Why blue? It's simple - blue is for boys! Every year about 600 men in New Zealand die of Prostate Cancer. Fathers, sons, brothers, grandfathers. Gone!

Blue September is about getting the word out about prostate cancer and two special charity Blues concerts will held in Hamilton and Auckland to raise funds for the cause.

**Saturday 11 September—Blue September Showdown!**

**Vilagrad Winery, 702 Rukuhia Road, Hamilton**

Enjoy an awesome line-up and the finest of dining experiences/  
Featuring: Darcy Perry, Regan, Pete Fountain, Ashley Knox, Rachel Hope, The Gunsmiths, Nate Taiapa, Faith Miru, The Flaming Mudcats, Andre Ngapo, Three's A Crowd  
\$69 Dinner & Show (6pm), \$40 Show Only (8:30pm)  
Bookings Essential. Phone: (07) 825 2893  
Online: <http://www.iticket.co.nz/>

**Saturday 25 September—Blue September**

**The Winchester—24 St Benedicts Street, Newton, Auckland**

2pm – 2.40 pm Fatt Max  
3pm – 3.45 pm Mike Garner Band  
4pm – 5.00 pm Brilleaux  
5.20 – 6.00 pm Hammond Gamble  
6.40 – 7.40 pm Darcy Perry Band  
7.40 – 8.00 pm Finale Jam

Full details unavailable at time of print, but will be posted to the websites of BOP Blues and the Auckland Blues Club.  
[www.aucklandbluesclub.co.nz](http://www.aucklandbluesclub.co.nz) [www.bopblues.com](http://www.bopblues.com)



**41Above delivers musicians with attitude - blues, country-rock, classic rock, singer/songwriters - in venues outside the mainstream.**

This is a great idea! 'House' concerts where you bring your own drinks plus a plate of food to add to the shared buffet. Tables & chairs will be set up. A great night of entertainment is guaranteed.

**Bookings essential. Contact Rob McEwen Mobile: 021728875 e: [info@41above.co.nz](mailto:info@41above.co.nz)**

## THE CATTLESTOPS

**Saturday September 4, 7pm**

**Centre Stage Theatre, Matai St, Taupo, 7pm**

**\$30 at the door, cash only**

The Cattlestops are a swinging five piece band playing great Texas swing influenced country music made up of their own quirky tunes & some old standards.

Based on The Kapiti Coast, 50 Kms north of Wellington, the Cattlestops play regularly around the lower North Island and have featured at the Nelson Arts Festival, the 2007 Norfolk Island Country Music Festival, and other festivals around NZ.



## JAN PRESTON

**Friday September 24, 7pm**

**Centre Stage Theatre, Matai St. Taupo, 7pm**

**\$30 at the door, cash only**

The Queen of Boogie Woogie is no stranger to Rotorua, but this is her first visit to Taupo. She's bringing a bass player and drummer with her to rock the theatre so come prepared to dance!

Jan has sold out concerts from the tip of Australia to the very south of New Zealand in main centres as well as regional towns. Jan also writes music for films and TV.

Jan has a way of fully engaging the audience in her shows, and her mastery of the boogie woogie, barrelhouse and honky tonk piano styles leaves listeners in raptures.



# GIG GUIDE

all details regularly updated at [www.bopblues.com](http://www.bopblues.com)

## REGULAR EVENTS:

**1st Wed each month**      **BOP Blues Club/Jam night**  
From 7.30 pm - all welcome.  
free for BOP Blues members and musicians, door charge for non members

**2nd Wed each month**      **Tauranga Blues Jam**  
at Drivers Bar, 11th Avenue, Tauranga and starts at 7.00pm. All welcome.  
Enquiries to Chris Gunn 07 578 2600

**2nd Thurs each month**      **Hamilton Blues Society**  
Regular monthly jam at Biddy Mulligans, Victoria St, Hamilton  
Enquiries to John Maydon 027 205 3685    [www.blues.co.nz/hbs](http://www.blues.co.nz/hbs)

**1st Sunday each month**      **Rotorua Jazz Club — Club night**  
Arawa Lounge, Rotorua Racing Club. 6—9pm    <http://rotorujazzclub.com>  
\$5 members, \$10 non-members, enquiries to Dave Cown 07 3479438

## COMING UP:

**Thursday 26 August 8pm**      **Ralph Blues**  
From Motueka, Ralph is touring the North Island and popping in to the Belgian Bar on the way through. He'll be presenting a solo show of "road songs and blues, plus a bunch of resonator tunes and electric blues". See opposite page.  
\$10 on the door.    [www.ralphblues.co.nz](http://www.ralphblues.co.nz)

**Sunday 29 August 3 pm**      **Special General Meeting**  
Club members are invited to attend a special meeting to contribute ideas and opinions on the format of club/jam nights. The discussion will focus on the definition of what is Blues music, and define the boundaries for performance material on club nights.  
All current members are welcome to attend this discussion.  
Enquires to Club Secretary, Anita Loderus: 021440435 e: [secretary@bopblues.com](mailto:secretary@bopblues.com)

**Wed Sept 1 7.30 pm**      **BOP Blues Club/Jam Night**  
All welcome. Free entry to club members and participating musicians  
\$5 non members. Enquiries to Club Captain, Warren Houston 0274857362 e: [wozzme@clear.net.nz](mailto:wozzme@clear.net.nz)

**Saturday Sept 4 7pm**      **The Cattlestops - TAUPO**  
\$30 at the door (cash only)  
See opposite page. Enquiries to Rob McEwen 021728875 e: [info@41above.co.nz](mailto:info@41above.co.nz)

**Saturday Sept 11**      **Blue September — HAMILTON**  
See opposite page

**Sept 19 2pm**      **Have A Go**  
Our popular Have A Go days are back! This is where you get to try out your new skills on stage in front of a real audience. Club musicians are available to provide support if required. So, if you're a learner or just rusty, come along and Have A Go. In accordance with liquor licensing law, students welcome, under 18s must be accompanied by parent or guardian.  
Enquiries to Margie Boielle - (07) 3482951 email: [boiellem@hotmail.com](mailto:boiellem@hotmail.com)

**Friday Sept 24 7pm**      **Jan Preston—TAUPO**  
\$30 at the door (cash only)  
See opposite page. Enquiries to Rob McEwen 021728875 e: [info@41above.co.nz](mailto:info@41above.co.nz)  
**Centre Stage Theatre, Matai St, Taupo**

**Saturday Sept 25 2pm**      **Blue September — AUCKLAND**  
See opposite page

Unless stated otherwise, all events at The Belgian Bar 1151 Arawa St, Rotorua Phone (07) 348 6190



Check out upcoming events on our Facebook page  
[Bop Blues Rotorua](#)

# B.O.P BLUES

[www.bopblues.com](http://www.bopblues.com)

## MEMBERSHIP

Forms are available for download on our website: [www.bopblues.com](http://www.bopblues.com) Contact the Secretary if you'd like one posted to you. The financial year runs from 1<sup>st</sup> July – 30 June. Members receive 6 issues of the BOP Blues magazine each year, free admission to Club/Jam nights, reduced admission to BOP Blues special events, priority purchase for BOP Blues ticketed events — and help make Rotorua the Blues capital of New Zealand.

Full Year: Single \$30.00 Double (one address) \$40.00

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 Website: [www.unionvictoria.co.nz](http://www.unionvictoria.co.nz)