



## **BOP Blues Club Newsletter November-December 2020**

Welcome to yet another edition of the BOP Blues Club Newsletter so eagerly awaited by our fans from all around the World, (UK, South Africa, South America, Australia, Netherlands, Canada, Chicago, USA) New Zealand, Bay of Plenty and ...**Taupo-Nui-A-Tia**...

Our November Jam Night at the Citizens Club on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November was a great night for all who attended.

The welcome team from Left to Right, Lynn, Kev, Ineke, Di, and Bobby



### **NOVEMBER 2020:**

Club Member Kararaina kicked off proceedings playing 3 songs solo including "At Last" by Etta James, "Make you feel my Love" by Bob Dylan and a personal favorite of mine "Woodstock" by Joni Mitchell. A nice, laid-back way to start the night.



We were once again lucky to be graced by local regular contributor Lloyd Akroyd who also played solo and did great renditions of his 3 songs which were “Jamming” by Stevie Wonder, “Crazy” by Niles Barkley and “Summertime” from Porgy and Bess where he was joined on stage by the very talented Hirra Morgan on Saxophone. Love it when we have a touch of brass in the house.



Other regular performers on the night were “House Band” from Whakatane/Kawerau & Rotorua, “Browndog and the Muttley” from Tauranga and local band “Theory 89” who between them played an eclectic mix of rhythm and blues, soul, and rock infused blues which kept the momentum going through the evening.



A couple of younger performers were also present for the night, one being young Matahiapo Maxwell who sang beautifully with House Band and James Webb who played some fantastic rhythm and lead guitar with Theory 89. Mike Bathe who had travelled from Taupo also provided depth to Theory 89's set with his polished keyboard skills.



The night was rounded out by a last minute jam session put together by artists and club members collectively and involved the well-known Perri Grant on Harp, Ali Morgan and James Webb on Guitars, Lloyd Akroyd on Bass, Reuben Paraha on Drums and Hirra Morgan on Saxophone which was rather handy as the first number they performed was the very Sax driven tune "Lily was here" written by Eurythmics front man Dave Stewart.





Matahiapo Maxwell was also our main raffle winner on the night and she was very happy to take the Rock Shop voucher on offer as it added to the voucher she was presented as winner of the musician's prize draw.



\*\*\*\*\*

### **DECEMBER 2020:**

The BOP Blues Club Xmas Jam Night was held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at the Rotorua Citizens Club in front of a good-sized crowd with several talented musicians who had travelled from out of town to provide entertainment for everyone in attendance.

The first band up for the night were local Ukulele band the "Jamminukes" which comprise Mary Attwater and Gary Turvey on Ukulele's, Esther Turner on Bass Ukulele and they were joined on stage by our very own "Lady" Di Riddel on percussion. The 3 songs they did included two by music legend Elvis Presley "All Shook Up" and "Can't help falling in Love" and a nice cover also of The Beatles song "Lady Madonna". Again, a cool, laid-back way to kick off the night. Gary was also the winner of the Rock Shop voucher for the musician's raffle on the night which he was very happy with...



We were pleased to have a couple of members of the newly formed Taupo Blues Club travel up from Taupo and join us for the night in Tamati playing Guitar and vocals & the lovely Jo on vocals who were also joined by Hirra Morgan on Saxophone. They played just 2 songs which were The Commitments version of “Mustang Sally” and ‘Summertime” by Ella Fitzgerald. Good stuff...



Local band Theory 89 were the next band to adorn the stage and were made up of usual artists Terry Oldham on vocals and lead guitar and Deb Oldham on bass, but this time they were joined by 13 year old Sean Lurman on guitar who had come across from Hamilton, and Club Member and MC, Paul Hindrup on drums.

“Keep your Hands to Yourself” by The Georgia Satellites and “Black Magic Woman” done in the Carlos Santana style were the first two songs performed and the band were then joined on stage by Hirra Morgan on Saxophone for a superb cover of “Route 66” originally done by the legendary Chuck Berry.



I then got up on stage and sang 3 songs with a band we decided to call “Cobalt” as in Cobalt Blue...anyway, I was joined by James Webb on lead guitar, Lloyd Akroyd on Bass and Paul Hindrup on Drums. We started our set with quite a laid-back blues number by legendary Texas Blues Rockers ZZ Top, in “A Fool for your Stockings” followed by “Bad to the Bone” by George Thorogood and finished with a nice raunchy number in “Walking by Myself” by the late, great Gary Moore...picked up the tempo of the night somewhat...



Young Matahiapo Maxwell joined us again for the evening and was accompanied on stage by the talents of Ali Morgan on Guitar, Lloyd Akroyd on Bass, Ian Hunia on Drums and Hirra Morgan on Saxophone. They performed 3 more relaxed songs which were beautifully sung by the young vocalist. Boy this girl can sing and should have a huge future in front of her if that is her choice.



“Browndog and the Muttley” again travelled from Tauranga to be part of the festivities and were accompanied on stage by the very versatile Ali Morgan on Bass, Club Secretary “Lady” Di Riddel on percussion. Brownie (Guitar/Vocals) and Lindy (Harmonica) always brings such energy to the stage and tonight was no exception with fantastic renditions of “My Babe” by Little Walter, “Serve Somebody” by Bob Dylan and a brilliant extended version of the fast-paced ZZ Top tune “La Grange” which certainly had the dance floor jumping...



Lloyd Akroyd then switched from Bass guitar to Electric acoustic for the next set which he performed with his brother Bernie on Drums. Their 3-song set was made up of “What’s going’ On?” by Marvin Gaye, “Lonely Boy” by 2-piece American Band the Black Keys and finished off with “Come Together” by The Beatles. A great grouping of 3 fabulous songs...

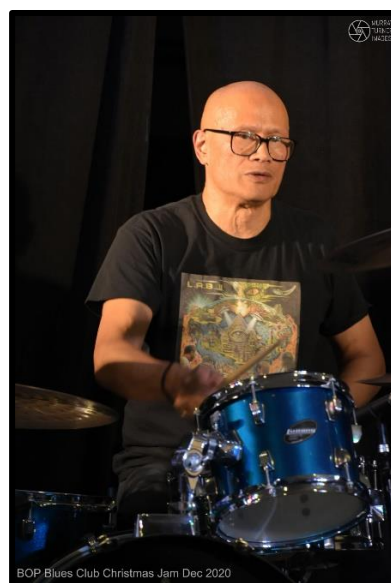




BOP Blues Club regular singer Max Ratana was then joined on stage by Ali Morgan on lead guitar, Lloyd Akroyd on Bass and Reuben Paraha from Whakatane on Drums who performed 3 rocking blues tunes in “All your Loving” by Gary Moore, “Roadhouse Blues” by The Doors and finished their set with “Tush” by ZZ Top. A lively set of songs which was well received by the appreciative crowd.



We finished off the night with another last-minute jam session with Ali Morgan on Guitar/Vocals, Lloyd Akroyd on Bass and Reuben Paraha on Drums. “Sultans of Swing” by Dire Straits and “Stormy Monday” by George Benson were the last songs played for the night and a lovely way to round out another great BOP Blues Club Xmas jam night...



\*\*\*\*\*



The BOP Blues Club Committee would also like to make mention that our Vice President, Mike McMillan is still in Rotorua Hospital after suffering a stroke almost 8 weeks ago which culminated in him being transported to Waikato Hospital for 3 days after suffering a Heart Attack.

Mike was very much missed during the Rotorua Blues Festival over Labour Weekend especially as he had put in so much hard work in the lead up to it. The Club Members and Committee wish a speedy recovery to Mike and we look forward to having him back on-board next year. Our love and best wishes also to Mike's wife Christl and family.



\*\*\*\*\*

The BOP Blues Club would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody for their continued support through this difficult year and we wish everyone a very safe and happy Christmas and a joyous festive season and a prosperous New Year.



**Just a friendly reminder that our next Jam night in will be held at the Rotorua Citizens Club on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> of January 2021 from 7:30pm and we look to seeing as many of you as we can to help kick off another great year of live music.**

Please continue to keep yourselves well, safe and happy and we look forward to seeing you all again in the very near future.

Regards,

“Humbucker Brother” Paul Verney

