

BOP Blues Club Newsletter February 2021

Welcome, Welcome, Welcome one and all to another edition of BOP Blues Club News for 2021. Still so eagerly awaited by our league of fans from all around the World, (UK, South Africa, South America, Australia, Asia, The Netherlands, Canada, Chicago, USA, and Germany) New Zealand, Bay of Plenty and...**Tikitere.**

Another brilliant night was had at our second jam night for 2021 at the Rotorua Citizens Club on Wednesday 3rd February, and we would again like to thank all the fantastic musicians, particularly those who travelled from out of town, for making this night one of the Club's biggest nights ever !!

A local newcomer to the Club "**Farmer**" **Phil Oxenham**, was the first performer for the night. Thrown in the deep end somewhat to see if would open proceedings not long after arriving, Phil did a stellar job singing solo and playing guitar and sang two blues numbers "Since I met you Baby" by B.B King and "She walks right In" by Clarence "Gate mouth" Brown. Really well done and we look forward to having him (and his lovely wife) back in the future.



The BOP Blues Club **“Committee Band”** made up of Club President Terry Oldham on lead guitar, Club treasurer Bobby Howard on keyboards, Club secretary Di Riddel on percussion and committee members Paul Hindrup on drums, Rob Gillies on bass and Paul Verney on vocals performed 3 songs from a set they were going to be playing at the Valentine’s Day Blues in the Park on Feb 14th, but more on that later.

“Riding with the King” by Eric Clapton and B.B King, “Kokomo” by BOP Blues Club Patron and kiwi blues legend Midge Marsden, and “Who do you Love ?” done in the George Thorogood style were the songs selected and were well received by a very good sized audience.



Local band **“Theory 89”** played as an acoustic trio on this occasion and the 2 songs performed were played as a tribute to Jim Park who sadly passed-away in late January from a long illness. Jim had been a part of the Rotorua Music scene for a long time particularly with the Rotorua Jazz Club and the songs the band played were a couple of Jim’s favorites.

“Ain’t no Sunshine” by Bill Withers and “Route 66” by Nat King Cole were played with style by Terry Oldham on guitar, Deb Oldham on bass and Jim’s long-time friend Carolyn Scherger on drums. A beautiful tribute, Thank you.



A quick put together combination was our next act on stage which was made up of local talent **Lloyd Akroyd** on electric acoustic guitar and **George Cook** from the Taupo Blues Club on lead guitar. The 2 songs presented were “Summertime” by Porgy and Bess and an original of Lloyd’s called “Getaway”. Just fabulous considering these two guys had only just met that night. And that is what a jam night is all about!!



Local girl Augusta Smith and her band “**Where’s Ray**” made up of Tauranga boys, Grant on bass, Brent on lead guitar, Kevin on rhythm guitar and Andrew on drums have only been together a short time and presented and played a well put together trio of songs. “Pride and Joy” by the late great blues great Stevie Ray Vaughan, “Don’t let the green grass fool You” by Ellis Bailey and “Walking by Myself” by another passed blues legend, Gary Moore were brilliantly performed and we hope they all return in the very near future with their legion of fans from the New Zealand Fire and Emergency Services to help the club have another bumper night...



The next up were **The House Band** made up of Ali Morgan on lead guitar, Rob Gillies on bass, Hartley Gabolinscy on keyboards and Ian Hunia on drums graced us with their musical brilliance and again shared the singing amongst them doing “634-5789” by Wilson Pickett, “Empty Arms” by Daniel Caestro and “Papa was a Rolling Stone” by The Temptations. We love having these boys consistently joining our jam nights as they bring years of musical experience with them.



Young local singer **Matahiapo Maxwell** was again backed by **The House Band** and among her chosen songs was a fantastically performed version of the Stevie Wonder song “I Wish”. It really is great to support young talent and to witness Matahiapo grow in confidence more and more every time she gets on stage is just awesome to see.



Having time up our sleeves **Where's Ray** were introduced back to stage to treat us all with another 3 songs. "Crazy little thing called Love" by Queen, "Mustang Sally" done in the style of The Commitments and "Ex's and Oh's" by Elle King were confidently done with little rehearsal and the crowd really enjoyed too and had the dance floor jumping. What a fantastic way to round out a cracking night!!



Very Happy Raffle and Musicians draws 😊

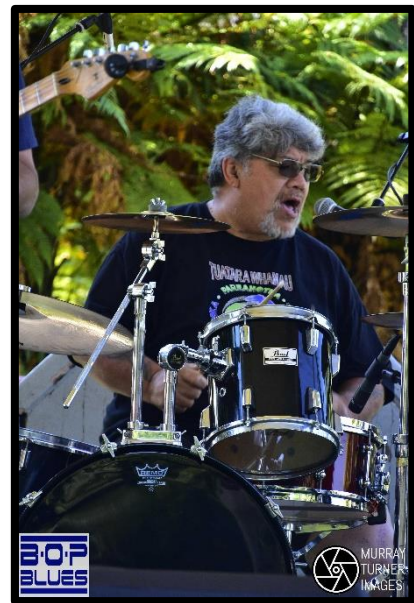
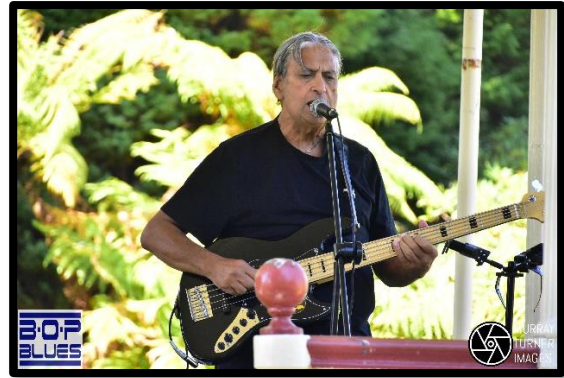


Valentine's Day Blues in the Park

Every February and March the Rotorua Lakes Council sponsor free concerts on the 120-year-old Rotunda in the Rotorua Government Gardens and the BOP Blues Club were lucky enough to be invited to have two bands perform on Valentine's Day 2021. The **Committee Band** and **The House Band** played to over 300 people on an absolutely, stunning sunny day surrounded by a beautiful garden setting with the world-famous Tudor Towers as a backdrop. What a wonderful way to spend a romantic Sunday afternoon and we thank the Rotorua Lakes Council for their continued support.







Charity Quiz Night

On Thursday 25th March the BOP Blues Club Inc are holding a fundraising Charity Quiz Night to be held at the Rotorua Citizens Club from 6:30pm for a 7pm start. We are selling 10 tables of 8 people per table at \$10 a head to help raise much needed funds for the Club.

Get your team of 8 together and join us for a fun-filled evening with prizes for best teams, spot prizes, raffles, a Main auction, and a Silent auction during the evening.

With full bar and restaurant facilities available come early, enjoy a lovely meal, and get ready for a great night of fun and entertainment for a very worthy cause.

Contact Di @027 9563105 or secretary@bopblues.co.nz for more info.

A quick update about our Club Vice President **Mike McMillan**. Mike is still recovering from the stroke he suffered back in October 2020 and is now under the care of the good folk at Glenbrae Rest Home in Rotorua. He is making steady improvement all the time and we would like to take this opportunity to again wish him, his wife Christl and the rest of the family all our warmest wishes for a continued healthy recovery.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping Blues Music alive. 😊

Our next BOP Blues Club jam night will be held at the Rotorua Citizens Club on Wednesday 3rd of March from 7:30pm where full bar facilities and a family friendly restaurant (Open from 6:30pm) are all available.

Please 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

