



NEWSLETTER

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Dates to Save:



13 February HBS Blues Night.....	7pm
23 February HBS Special Sunday Afternoon...	1pm
12 March HBS Blues Night.....	7pm
14 March HBS Pirongia Blues Festival	Midday
22 March HBS Sunday Afternoon Blues.....	2pm
05 April Frankton Thunder.....	Midday
09 April HBS Blues Night.....	7pm
11/12 April HBS Easter Bluestock.....	see p2

Celebrity Quote: 'Elmore James only knew one lick, but you had the feeling he meant it' – Frank Zappa



Sunday 23 February 2020

Reserve this day for a special event. A streamed concert with Hamilton Blues Society Ontario at Bidy's. More info pp 3 & 4

Saturday 14 March 2020 Pirongia Blues Festival starts at midday, running until 11:30pm, with 14 bands. Interval music from Roger McLay. Father and son team, Kitset Blues, continue from 5pm. More info p5



Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 April

Kindly hosted by Whatawhata Backyard Bar and Eatery. This year includes Boxstock Cigar Box Guitar (CBG) constructors workshop led by BigJohnny Blue with a performance of the CBG Orchestra on Sunday.

Hamilton Blues Society welcomes UK blues artist Bex Marshall to the Bluestock stage over Easter 2020. More information refer to p2.



hamilton blues society nz

Website: hbs.org.nz



Easter Bluestock : Sat/Sun 11/12 April 2020



Blues Stock

APRIL 2020

Two day Easter blues festival: Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 April.
Great headline acts feature alongside remarkable local blues artists and bands:



Saturday from midday we welcome our friends from Auckland, The Flaming Mudcats, to open the concert session for the afternoon – followed by eight bands from Tokoroa through to Auckland.



Sunday afternoon from 2:30pm we welcome four-times European Awards nominee and UK British Blues Award winner, Bex Marshall (and band), to our stage. Described as '*a musical tornado*'!



BigJohnny Blue (John Crawford) from our Sister Society in Hamilton Ontario, Canada, and band, will entertain us from 6pm. BigJohnny will also be introducing and assisting with the Cigar Box Guitar Workshop. The CBG band entertains us on stage earlier Sunday afternoon.



Boxstock national Cigar Box Guitar (CBG) constructors workshop is also part of Bluestock – register early to reserve your place. We have a number of other workshops – check our [f](#) page.



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Acts - 2 Days



Pink Themed Event : Sunday 23 February 2020

This is a shared event, shared with our cousins across the seas in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. A streaming event between the two countries - them and us:



Anti-bullying Themed Sunday Afternoon Blues at Biddy's

A Shocking Tale:

As reported: "On 7 October 2019, 14-year-old Grade 9 student Devan Bracci-Selvey was stabbed to death in front of his mother outside Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School by four fellow students. Devan's mother had driven to the school to pick up her son around 1:30pm after he called to say other students at the school had been bothering him. She arrived and saw a group of students taunting him and spraying him with an unknown substance, thought to be bear mace. The group hunted the boy down a sidewalk as he fled, with his mother following in her vehicle. A 16 year-old girl repeatedly taunted Devan demanding he hit her, to which he replied, "I can't hit you, I wasn't raised that way." These were the last words his mother would hear from her son alive. Devan attempted to rush over to enter his mother's vehicle but was swarmed and stabbed. A group of student bystanders witnessed the entire incident, recording the murder live on their cell phones, which police later sought to have turned over as evidence and not shared on social media!"

This event shocked not only Hamilton but the whole of Canada. BigJohnny Blue was later invited to help 'heal' and 're-unite' the people of Hamilton in music. Thus, a concert was planned in Hamilton Ontario involving musicians from the area, and supported by the Hamilton Blues Society Ontario.

At the moment, Hamilton Ontario is still struggling with the tragic aftermath where prosecutors and defenders alike wage a legal battle, navigating a legal minefield, endeavouring to proceed to prosecution.

This happened some 14,000km away in Canada and doesn't really affect Hamiltonians in NZ. Except that we are all connected by an invisible web of music, that great healer, music; something which transcends boundaries and oceans, ideologies, and personal preferences. Why would Hamilton NZ be involved?

A fair question. The answer is relatively simple:

HBS Ontario has organised fundraisers for survivors of the Christchurch Earthquakes, The Christchurch Mosque Shooting victims in the not-too-distant past.

HBS NZ raised funds in support of the victims of the Mosque shooting, and HBS ON is our Sister Society. Can't we work together to develop a relationship with our Sister Society Across the seas?



In Hamilton we have experienced some significant losses of our own in recent times. So why not follow the pink theme, get involved in a streamed concert/jam with our counterparts in Canada - our cousins, if you like - in a shared sentiment and theme for Anti-bullying on Sunday 23 February 2020?

The Day Itself:

Sunday 23 February will be a Sunday Afternoon Blues like any other, except that it will be PINK themed. We are going all out pink for the cause. **Continued on p 4 . . .**

Pink Themed Event Cont.: Sunday 23 February

Starting at 1pm and finishing around 6pm, performances will swap backwards and forwards between Hamilton NZ and Hamilton Ontario - starting with the first performers from Hamilton. Hamilton Ontario is one day and six hours behind, so they'll be starting at 7pm Saturday evening. Each act will perform for roughly 45 minutes, then the swap occurs to Hamilton Ontario. Halfway through the proceedings we'd like to share a poignant reverent silence and share a thought about someone lost in their recent past.



Performers at Biddy's:

Agnostic Contrarians
Mark 'Fatt Max' Hill (from Auckland)
Hybrid Blues (Tauranga)
Brown Dog and The Mutley (Tauranga)
With the Conmen on hand.

Sponsors:

Biddy Mulligan's Irish Pub:



Hamilton Rockshop:



Mental Health Foundation:



The Pink Theme: Don't be afraid to join in the fun and dress up in PINK!

Golden Mic HBS Songwriter's Award 2019

Before anything else is reported, it must be said that the standard was absolutely above all expectations of the judges. The standard of musicians and songwriters in the Hamilton Blues Society is truly amazing, very impressive.

Gold Mic

Songwriter's Competition
Entry for Best Blues song
Closes 29th November
Winner Announced at the
HBS Christmas Party



Pos	Title	Author
1	Wintertime Blues.....	Tim Armstrong
2	Life of Misery.....	Dave Wilkinson
3	That Won't Stop Me Loving You....	John Thomson
4	Life Is A Beautiful Thing.....	Haggis Maguinness
5	I Love The Blues.....	Max Macdonald
6	Playing All Night.....	Roger McLay
7	Northbound Baby.....	Al Ward
8	Spilt Milk Blues.....	John Thomson
9	Ain't Going To Worry.....	Roger McLay
10	Good Good Friend of Mine....	Roger McLay

The top three songwriter's were recognised at the Christmas Party. Winner, Tim Armstrong, performed his winning song on the night.

Pirongia Blues Festival : Saturday 14 March

This year, 2020, the HBS Pirongia Blues Festival occurs 14 March from roughly midday until late.

As usual, campervan, mobile home, or camping space, is FREE in the paddock behind the Five Stags, in Pirongia.

Five Stags also offers limited accommodation so rush in if you wish to stay close to the action – contact Five Stags to discuss a reservation there: 07 871 9838.

PIRONGIA BLUES FESTIVAL
SATURDAY 14 MARCH
 FROM MIDDAY TO 11:30PM

Bluesberries . Kim Earl . The Toads . Detour . Magic & 3am Blues . Under The Influence
 Cornett . Saints & Sinners . Agnostic Contrarians . The Dirty Tones
 The Sir Attwell Band . Showdown . Shotgun . Velvet Bulldozer

Interval Music by:
 Roger McLay
 After 5pm Kismet Blues

Ticket Prices:
 Early Bird..... \$25 ea
 Door on Day.....\$30 ea
 HBS Members.....\$20 ea
 Check with seller for family discount

FIVE STAGS
 1011 DUNE, PIRONGIA, NZ
 BAR & RESTAURANT
 07 871 9838

ROCKSHOP
 ESTABLISHED 1986

Find hamilton blues society nz on facebook

PIRONGIA BLUES FESTIVAL
SATURDAY 14 MARCH
 FROM MIDDAY TO 11:30PM

ROUGHING IT: Five Stags (Alexandra Hotel) offers limited campervan/camping FREE OF CHARGE - RSVP HBS if you need campervan/camp space

Pirongia Golf Club, just out of the village, can take overflow at \$10 per night, shower/ablution facilities open and available: 07 871 9880.

Persimmon Tree Cafe has 1 serviced site and limited non-serviced sites (\$18.50 + \$6.50 per night). Book in advance: 07 871 9288.

ROOMS: Check with Five Stags regarding their rooms and availability.

Penny Lodge B&B: 027 315 6509 Amberfields B&B: 021 663 552
 Highgate B&B: 07 224 1077 Mt Guest House: 021 131 6736
 Somersal B&B: 07 871 9199 is fully booked the weekend 14 March

Contact HBS NZ:-
 hamiltonbluesnz@gmail.com

ROCKSHOP
 ESTABLISHED 1986

FIVE STAGS
 1011 DUNE, PIRONGIA, NZ
 BAR & RESTAURANT
 07 871 9838

Find hamilton blues society nz on facebook

Alternative accommodation is also available in Pirongia, which is NOT FREE. To check availability please ring the numbers provided to the left.

If the paddock becomes full, the Pirongia Golf Club has space for any overflow, at a modest cost of \$10 per night. Individual campers will have to organise this for themselves with the club. The local Persimmon Cafe is also a possibility.

If intending to camp at Pirongia, behind Five Stags, please let HBS know either via the website hbs.org.nz, or send an e-mail to: hamiltonbluesnz@gmail.com.

Coming Event : Charity 05 April



Again this year, 2020, HBS bands will grace the stage at the corner, Lake Road and Commerce St, from midday. Support our performers.



Past Events : Cont. p9 Ladies Sing The Blues 31 October 2019

Ladies registering via the website scored a glass of bubbles upon arrival.

A great night of blues from our four fabulous blues divas, Cara Graham, Dannika Frost, Bobbi Prentice and Kim Earl.

Our fabulous audience was entertained by our wonderful *Ladies* singing some fine, live blues.



We gratefully acknowledge the support of WEL Energy Trust for the evening.

SITUATIONS VACANT

Volunteer Position #1:

HBS Newsletter Editor

Why?

"As Newsletter Editor (from idea and conception through to present time), I am hanging up my hat after 17 bi-monthly issues and passing the job on to new blood ... but I'm going out with a big B-A-N-G on an Anniversary special Edition!"

Yours Martina

A situation exists for a volunteer to create, craft, and edit our HBS Newsletter – issued every two months, a bi-monthly publication. The next due is Issue 18 covering April-May 2020. Check out our jobs on Facebook page: hamilton blues society nz and complete the details if interested.

Volunteer Position #2:

Free FM Radio Programme Host for The Blues Machine

After 13 years at the helm, Nate Taiapa stepped away from hosting The Blues Room.

During Christmas/New Year, Recorded Music NZ imposed new programme requirements which saw the incumbent host resign. Free FM is extending great opportunity to an HBS member to host a blues show. Either adopt The Blues Machine name or change it if preferred.

Again - HBS Facebook page. Vetted applications will be passed to Free FM for further action.

Past Events Cont. : Moovember Blues

Sat 23 Nov '19

Moovember 2019 was a valiant effort but just too many factors were against us. The unexpected fine weather meant many people were at the beach for the weekend, the venue's reputation is declining, and what regulars there were, have been enticed to other venues in town. And of course, Morrinsville is a long way to drive and NOT drink for the Hamiltonians.

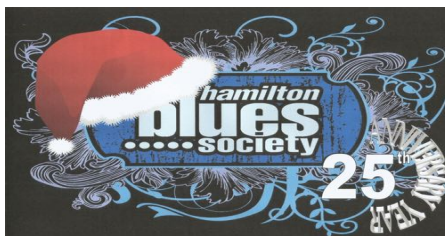
The night however, ran very smoothly without any hitches. The bands all played out of their skins and the timetable was adhered to.

Mr Greg Bailey worked the hardest the whole day, providing and setting up gear, managing sound, etc, for the event.

Bruce Tollan – We'll have you stage managing at Western springs before you know it!

The night came to a close after Shotgun around 1am Sunday.

Henceforth, Moovember will be organised by the HBS Events sub-committee.



THE HAMILTON BLUES SOCIETY, in association with
THE ROADHOUSE and doublebass promotions
presents

MOO'VEMBER BLUES 2019

		TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM Shearers Music, Hamilton Music Planet, Hamilton The Rock shop, Hamilton Online: www.doublebass.net.nz/shop/ Email: hamiltonbluesnz@gmail.com	

THE ROADHOUSE, MORRINSVILLE SAT 23th NOV
9 Hours of the Waikato's Best Blues

HBS Christmas Party

Thurs 12 Dec '19

HAMILTON BLUES SOCIETY

BLUES NIGHT & CHRISTMAS PARTY

LIVE BLUES MUSIC

Christmas attire very welcome
Prizes, raffles & visit from Santa
Drinks specials for members

Acts wanting a slot, register
at hbs.org.nz

From 7pm Thursday 12 Dec

Must have Membership card for drink specials

Gold Coin Donation

Back Stage - 17b Hood St

Biddy's

Artist Profile: Elmore James

Elmore James (born Elmore Brooks) (27/01/1918–24/05/1963) was an American blues guitarist, singer, songwriter and bandleader.

He was known as 'King of the Slide Guitar' and was noted for his use of loud amplification and his stirring voice. Elmore James was inducted into The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1992 as an 'Early Influence' inductee. James was influenced by Robert Johnson, Kokomo Arnold and Tampa Red, and he is mentioned in the Beatles song 'For You Blue', while John Lennon evokes James's signature sound with a Höfner 5140 Hawaiian Standard lap steel guitar. George Harrison says, "Elmore James got nothin' on this, baby". James died of a heart attack in Chicago in 1963 as he was about to tour Europe with that year's American Folk Blues Festival.



- \$20.00 Membership per year (renewable April) gets you:**
- Discounted house wine and beer at Biddy's (Hood St.)
 - Discount available at the Rockshop, discuss with manager
 - 10% discount off your musical purchases at Shearers
 - Chances each Blues Night to win prizes
 - Discounted entry to special HBS concerts
 - Database notifications of upcoming events
 - And access to these cool newsletters.

Membership fees are now due at the new rate of \$20 per annum.

We like you to pay your subscription at the door on an event night because then you can confirm your contact details, and HBS will give you a new card.

If you would like to pay by internet banking then please pay directly into the HBS bank account listed below, but please don't forget to put your name in the reference field: **Account: 01-0370-0080503-00**

We also have EFTPOS facilities available now!

The Hamilton Rockshop has brought its extensive range and quality to the wider Waikato area since 1999.

ROCKSHOP

Our sponsor:
342 Barton Street
CBD, Hamilton, 3204
Phone: (07) 838 3450



HBS Sponsors the community radio show 'The Blues Machine' Wednesday nights 9-10pm on free FM.

A host is needed for this show.

Please check the Sits Vac Column p6.

