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The Eighth Swanage Blues Festival 7, 8, 9 March 2008

ADMISSION POLICY

Admission is free to customers at all venues, except restaurants where conditions apply.

OFFICIAL COLLECTIONS

The festival is organised by Steve Darrington, a disabled musician who gave up touring due to an accident.

He organises the festival at his own expense.

So please give as much as possible when the Official Collectors come round, so he can afford to do it again!

- [ARTISTS and Advertisers](#)
- [Schedule of Events](#)
- [Programme](#) (download)
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-

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Friends of the Festival write:

This festival is organised by Steve Darrington, a touring musician all his life until ill health took him off the road.

He organises the festival at his own expense.

Please help him to keep it going with donations and advertising, see here.

Acts include

[The Guv'nors](#)
[Jon Walsh Blues Band](#)

[Storm Warning](#)

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[The Mustangs](#)

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[Harris, Budden & Osborne](#)

[Robert Hokum Blues Band](#)

[Chris Collins & Blues Etc](#)

[Steve Darrington](#)

[Will Killeen](#)
[Sonny Black](#)
[Angelina & JC](#)
[Grimshaw](#)

[John Crampton](#)

[Robin Bibi](#)

[The Ragtime Jug Orchestra](#)
[C Sharp Blues](#)

plus some Sorbet for the Blues Palate!

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not forgetting*

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THE GUV'NORS

Saturday evening 10pm - White Horse



The Guv'nors 20th Year Tour continues!

Led by Bluesmaster **Robert Hokum** on guitar and vocals, this seven piece outfit plays the blues with psychedelic funk, acid jazz and Latin grooves. Every year they headline the Ealing Festival's summer party in the park to audiences in excess of 20,000.

STOP PRESS Latest Reviews

...unique take on the Blues... their fusion of funk with Blues and Latin rhythms and huge percussion workouts is, for me, highly entertaining, very complex in many respects and very skilfully done. Ashwyn Smyth / Blues Matters & Digital Blues FM (review of The Guv'nors at Boogaloo Festival, 13 Nov 2005)

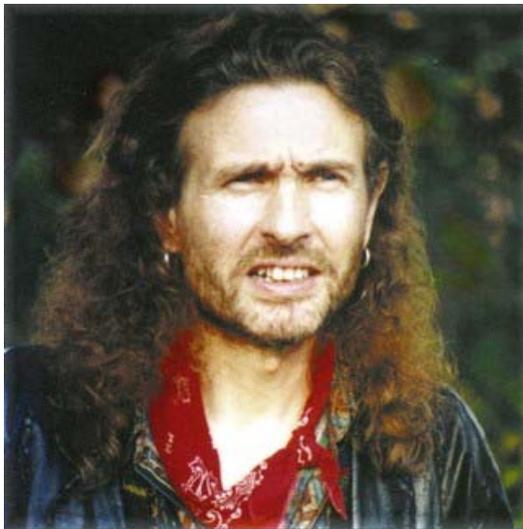
...a very soulful, grooving, enthusiastic amalgamation of funky, latin influenced Sax/Guitar led Blues. Hot stuff! Highly Commendable! Brian Harman / Blues in the South (Review of Guv'nors CD 'Kickin' It Back' Jan 2006)

Not the usual Brit-blues... but this is certainly a refreshingly different approach from a home-grown act. If you catch them at a Festival or show, just make sure you've bought your dancing shoes along. Norman Darwen / Blues & Rhythm (Review of Guv'nors CD 'Kickin it Back' Feb 2006)

'Kickin' it Back' was my first acquaintance with the Guv'nors and turned out to be a very good one. The album is packed full of songs made for dancing... The band are very tight... fresh and vibrant. Gordon Baxter / Blues in Britain (Review of Guv'nors CD 'Kickin it Back' Feb 2006)

WILL KILLEEN

Friday evening 9pm - Black Swan



A dazzling player with a huge repertoire of songs, Will is a walking blues history manual, taking you on a journey from Robert Johnson and Elmore James through to an unlikely but brilliant version of "Duelling Banjos" - all on one acoustic guitar!

It may all have been said before about Will, and his fans will know what to expect, but for the uninitiated, you will be dazzled by a brilliant mix of Elmore James/Robert Johnson and Bob Dylan and more, by simply stunning guitarist.

Irish acoustic blues player with totally unique style. Celtic roots mixed with American blues. You can expect songs from early blues

standards through to Dylan classics delivered with inimitable percussive guitar and whirling vocals. He's also considered to be one of the foremost slide guitar players in Europe today.

Will Killeen was born in Mayo, Ireland. He taught himself guitar from the age of 10 then, influenced by Howlin' Wolf, Doc Watson, The Pretty Things, Robert Johnson, Bob Dylan and the Rolling Stones to name a few. Soon he was performing around London and once replaced Rory Gallagher when Taste was formed. Will's unique-Blues guitar style shows influences from a mixture of Country, Celtic, Eastern and Rock music.

He plays regularly at countless venues and festivals around London and the rest of England, in Ireland, Wales, Scotland, Italy, Germany and the United States.

Wherever he plays, he amazes audiences with his own compositions and new arrangements of traditional songs.



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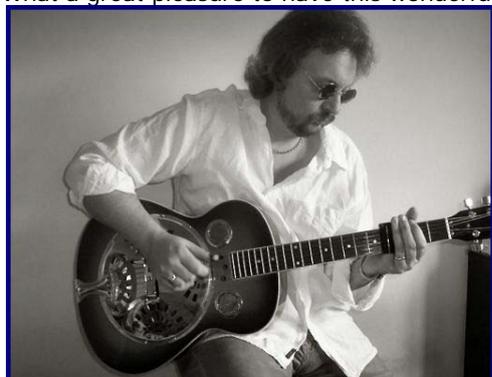


[SCHEDULE OF EVENTS here](#)

JON WALSH BLUES BAND

Saturday evening 9pm - Ship Inn

What a great pleasure to have this wonderful band again!



The **Jon Walsh Blues Band** conjures up all the different colours and moods of The Blues – it rocks, boogies, stomps, howls, cries and weeps with a wide variety of blues from the slide guitar of the Mississippi Delta to the boogies of Texas and the jazz blues of Chicago.

The JWBB hails from the Hants/Wilts border and has been playing the local circuit for about three or four years, occasionally jaunting off to Cornwall, Norfolk, Birmingham, London and Blackpool for mini tours and larger

gigs.

In 2005 they recorded and released a new live album – “*Can You Feel It?*” and are looking to record their next one. They supported Mojo Buford (Chicago) on his UK tour and have appeared at The St Ives Festival, The Annual Tregenna Castle Charity Concert, and The Summer Blues Festival in for Boogaloo Promotions.

Jon Walsh (vocals, guitars, slide guitar, harp). Jon learned music as a youngster with the RSCM (Royal School of Church Music) and now teaches others as a guitar tutor in and around Andover. As well as fronting The JWBB he plays lead, acoustic and slide guitar, and maybe a little harp when he feels bold enough! Jon also writes the original material for the band and even though he wasn't born in the Mississippi Delta all his compositions are pure Blues.

Jon also performs as a solo act playing many of the well-known and some not so well known blues songs of the 20s 30s and 40s on his Martin and Taylor acoustics and his Dobro set up for bottleneck style.

Pete Miller (keyboards, backing vocals.) Pete (affectionately known as “Mrs Mills” or “Mojo Miller” by the rest of the band) is the co-founder of JWBB with Jon. He is the maestro of the band having attained a BA(Hons) in Music and is now the Head of Music at a well-known secondary school. In the world of music, if Pete doesn't know about it – it hasn't been written.

He is a seriously brilliant pianist/organist and fortunately for JWBB, his first love is the Blues. Pete has previously played with “Soundbite” and occasionally stands in for the Basingstoke Symphony Orchestra, along with his wife, Suzanne, who plays 1st Cello.

Steve Stevens (bass, vocals). Steve has played bass with Jon on and off for years and is quite simply one of the best bass players in the South (of the UK that is, his fame hasn't quite reached Mississippi yet!).

Steve's style is that of a solid but creative bass player who can play delicately (rare these days!) for slow jazzy blues but can also lay down a bedrock of boogie when required. Steve has been there, done it and worn the T-shirt after playing with “London”, “The Vampires” and “The Raiders” on some the UK's largest stages before joining the JWBB.

Terry Michael (drums, percussion). Terry is the most recent addition to the band. He has an awesome reputation as one of the best blues and jazz drummers around. Quite deservedly so as Terry is one of the few drummers who, not only drives a band with energy and precision, but also plays with real feel and passion – essential for a blues outfit.

Previously, he played with “Canterbury Tales”, “Rod Garfield”, “Blues on Red” and “The Blues Boys”. When Jon approached Terry to join JWBB he was amazed and delighted when Terry accepted. He is now a firm fixture with the band.

If you like Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, Tampa Red, Freddie King, Albert King, BB King, Robert Johnson, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Bobby Bland, John Lee Hooker, Mississippi John Hurt, Blind Willie McTell, Son House, Willie Dixon, Elmore James, Blind Willie Johnson, Rory Gallagher, Albert Collins, and Otis Rush... you'll love the Jon Walsh Blues Band!

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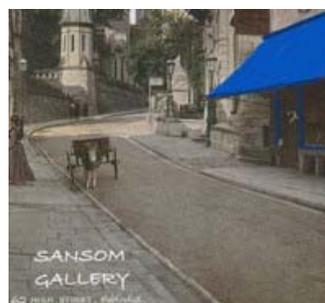
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DEBBIE GILES BAND

Saturday evening 8.30pm - Grand Hotel

"Alison Moyet meets Tina Turner"

"Powerful and Passionate Vocals, Dynamic Rockin' Rhythm 'n Blues"

"Rocking Rhythm & Blues from BB King to Guns & Roses plus some great originals"

Debbie (Lead vocals): began her musical career as a blues singer, travelling the length and breadth of the UK with a number of 'Big Bands' ranging in style from jazz, country and popular music whilst training for classical and opera. Moving on to West End Stage Jesus Christ Superstar at the Palace Theatre, Hello Dolly with Carol Channing at Drury Lane playing the second lead role of Mrs Molloy and The Streets Of London at Her Majesty's Theatre, Haymarket.

With her powerful style and passionate blues renditions her main influences have not only been from the great Bonnie Raitt, Eva Cassidy, Aretha and Ella but also Stevie Ray Vaughan, BB King and Otis Redding!

Phil Head-Smith (Lead guitar): although renowned for his hard-rocking style, started playing in '77 with west country giants The Heat and was then asked to join the original Street Circus and Fat Larry's Band working with Crystal Gale, Box Car Willie and other American Country artists. '85 - Phil fronted Fluke producing two albums (SMP World Wide Records) charting across Europe hitting no 2 in the Belgium album charts. Phil continued to play with bands and sessions in the UK until he found The One Eyed Bishops ' based in New Jersey. The line-up included Mike Burrow, Jay Adcock and Dan Tilbury (Fluke, UK Snakes) and recorded the album 'School Of Rock 'n' Roll'. "Heads" is responsible for the band's outstanding original material.

Paul Blount (Keyboards): has a range of styles (although he likes to think of himself as a "Dr John") from acid jazz, soul and rhythm and blues having played with Mickey Waller (ex Rod Stewart - Jeff Beck) and local bands that include: Midnight Blue, Funkjunkies, Fastrack, Redzone, and Spoonful.

Baz Payne (Bass): has been playing in rock and blues bands in and around London since the late sixties, and has played with and supported a number of name bands. During the early 1980s, Baz left the UK to spend some time playing in Germany, entertaining the troops and military bases around Frankfurt and later, working in clubs around Munich and Garmisch. He played with Charlie Hart (of Ronnie Lane's band 'Slim Chance') and the Fake Faces at the Ronnie Lane tribute show at the Ruskin Arms in 1997 and in 1998 the Faces Convention with the Band Stone Cold Sober.

Bob Pearce -drums/percussion and vocals: has performed with several major artists such as Don Everly, Albert Lee, Slim Whitman and Charlie Pride and in many of the famous venues including Wembley Stadium, the Albert Hall, Grand Ole Opry of Nashville, the Astro Hall in Houston and many others. Bob has had recording contracts with CBS, Chrysalis, ENU and Roxon Records, but his proudest moments were being awarded the BCMA 'Best British Band' award and the CMA USA Best British Act' award in Nashville in 1976. More recently, Bob has played with Heather Miles on her 2004 and 2005 European tours, including venues in Sweden, Holland and the UK.

The band is at present unsigned. For gig schedule and original tracks visit www.myspace.com/debbiegilesband



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STORM WARNING

If you manage to see only one gig this weekend, make sure this is it!

Friday evening 9pm - Swanage Bay View



Listen to what the organiser of the famous Bottleneck Blues Club in Kent said:

"Storm Warning presented a beautifully crafted set, weaving an intoxicating mix of the traditional with jazzier and rockier elements to keep the head in designing this set of, principally, original material and

SWANAGE NEWS
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this fresh approach, expertly executed by a great team of musicians, was more than appreciated by the members!" Well, he was happy, wasn't he?!

A solid and hard working blues-based outfit with some very contemporary and original numbers, featuring bass, drums, guitar, harmonica, piano and organ.

They have played many festivals and been guests on Paul Jones' Radio 2 show.

Storm Warning is a band of five diverse influences that happen to make distinctive, exciting music.

The blues are the heart of the sound, but the blues is a form that changes its shape and character to suit whoever is playing it.

So, like all musicians who take their blues seriously, Storm Warning has a unique sound, but one that seems to have a wide appeal.

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ROBIN BIBI

Friday evening 9pm - Barking Frog

"Blues, funk, soul, rock, reggae and jazz"

Robin Bibi is a charismatic and versatile performer who never fails to engage his audience. He has worked with Robert Plant, Jimmy Page, Ben E. King and many more.

Due to the band's growing reputation and a highly entertaining stage presentation, **The Robin Bibi Band** have become one of Britain's busiest bands. Blues, funk, soul, rock, reggae and jazz are all rolled together in their unique sound which can be heard on the album 'Blue Thrash Therapy'. This is a mixture of the bands most requested songs from the live set and their own original songs. This album received excellent reviews and extensive airplay.

Robin Bibi is exuberant, passionate, dynamic, exciting and fun. His music is played straight from the heart and will move your head, your heart and of course your feet!



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THE MUSTANGS

Friday evening 10pm - White Horse

With the release of their last album, Split Decision, the Mustangs underlined their position as one of the best and most exciting original blues rock bands in the UK today. Their blistering, high energy live sets, have quickly grown them a reputation as one of the very best live bands in England.

A Mustangs stage show is like no other, with the tireless energy and huge voice of lead singer Adam Norsworthy the focal point around which they build their shows. The band is regarded as one of the tightest in the country, playing Mustangs originals alongside barnstorming re-workings of classic blues songs.

The four-piece Hampshire based band formed in 2001. Guitarist and singer Adam, already a young 'veteran' of live performing, joined forces with harp player Derek Kingaby. Augmented by the dynamic



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drumming of Jon Bartley and the rock solid bass of Ben Mckeown, the band cut its teeth in the many music pubs and clubs on England's south coast, but has also played famous venues and festivals such as Hyde Park, The Hackney Empire, Colne Blues Festival, Boogaloo Blues Festival, Blues at the Fort, Eel Pie's Bluesquest, Swanage Blues Festival, Southsea's Blues at the Pier, the International Festival of the Sea, The South Coast HOG and many others.

Official recognition of The Band's growing stature has come in many shapes and forms. They were voted band of the year in the respected music magazine Gigbase. They were chosen from more than 500 bands to play at Guilfest and have also won the famous Eel Pie Blues Club's Bluesquest competition for new talent.

They have made three celebrated albums of entirely original material – Split Decision, Rocking Horse and Let it Roll. Split Decision is the band's latest album, released on Blues Matters, the UK's largest dedicated blues record label, it reached number 5 on the international i-Tunes blues chart, and continues to sell well on Amazon. The two previous albums were released on the band's own label and have been in the CD-Wow Unsigned top 10 for over three years.

Typical of the band's original output, Split Decision sees the band exploring the blues its many forms. Whether you want simmering, sultry blues ballads or high temp blues rock, the Mustangs deliver. Diverse songs such as the funky Can't Find A Lover, the rip-roaring Put The Lights Back On and the stunning ballad Blue Dawn Rising are already live favourites.

The band has a new album due out in the Autumn. For more information on the Mustangs please visit www.themustangs.co.uk

"Entertainment, more quality of musicianship and songwriting craft - . The Mustangs are a band that can get a crowd up on their feet or enthrall a sitting audience and that is a great combination to have in your musical armoury". BLUESMATTERS label chief Alan 'D'Pearce

"Let It Roll perfectly showcases the Mustang's ear for a good hook and blistering musicianship" Music Eye Magazine

"The Mustangs press all the right buttons...and have quality songs in abundance. Traditional hi-octane blues with a modern twist." Gigbase Magazine

"Those that like to dance will be well pleased with the Mustangs, those that like to sit and listen will enjoy, in fact this band have something for everyone no matter how you like your Blues. Glorious!" Blues Matters Magazine

"Performing a selection of blues tunes it's easy to see why they were voted best band of the year in respected music magazine GigBase. Frontman Adam Norsworthy draws his charismatic voice from some dark corner of his soul, and presumably rips his dynamic guitar mayhem from the same scary place" Blue Matters Website

"The Mustangs stand out. It is obvious these guys have their own agenda" Surrey Comet

"Good music, a tight band, a real desire to please the audience and a fabulous frontman! There are very few frontmen around who can combine a great voice and guitar-playing with a high energy stage performance, natural charisma and good looks!" Monica Madgwick, Boogaloo Blues

"Ass-kicking" Blues Pilot Radio

"The tightest blues band in the UK" CD-Wow

"One of the most exciting blues bands in the UK today" AND Magazine

"The Mustangs are the top south coast blues band" Petersfield Post

"The Mustangs have a growing reputation – time to investigate" Blues In Britain Magazine

"If you want a band that gets people up and dancing, the Mustangs are it" – Blues in Britain Magazine

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COALHOUSE WALKER BLUES BAND

Saturday evening 9pm - White Swan

Raw and Live and that's how we like it! The Coalhouse Walker Blues Band recreates the distinctive Chicago blues of the 1940s to



1970s, topped with foot-stomping Boogie Woogie piano.

This four-piece band comprises of Harmonica, Piano, Guitar and Drums, providing a distinctive sound as the energy releases and the blues rhythms capture the audience.

Stuart Webb (vocals, harmonica) played with Big Moose Walker and Luther 'Guitar Junior' Johnson before forming his own band Mississippi Rhythm Method and playing regularly at London's Station Tavern. Now with the reformed Coalhouse fronting out the band with powerful soul and love for the blues.

Ryan Lamb (guitar) is a natural player with great inner feeling expressed in his music - guaranteed to bare his soul through his music at every gig. Ryan joined Coalhouse a year ago and gelled instantly. Ryan has been playing guitar all his life, encouraged by his father, the internationally renowned Paul Lamb of Paul Lamb and the King Snakes fame. Very experienced at mixing and playing with blues legends enabled his own style to flourish early on.



Richie Biggs (piano) is foremost a Boogie Woogie pianist of 20 years experience and incorporates blues in his style beautifully. His solid and consistent boogie bass lines replace upright or electric bass and give Coalhouse their distinctive sound.

Mick Simmons (drums) not only provides the powerhouse for the band but generates huge enthusiasm too!

With 20 years of experience and regulars at the famous Ain't Nothin' But... blues bar in Soho, London you can expect an awesome experience.



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ERNIE'S RHYTHM SECTION

Friday evening 8.30pm - Grand Hotel

Saturday afternoon 1-4pm - Bankes Arms Hotel, Corfe Castle

Saturday evening 9pm - Crow's Nest Inn

Photograph: Corin Messer/Daily Echo, Bournemouth



At the last blues festival the Bournemouth Echo 'discovered' a group of young men busking outside the Mowlem where they'd attracted a huge crowd.

"Although a complete surprise, they captured the spirit of the festival, created joy wherever they went, and made a tremendous contribution to the weekend with their wonderful music.

"I just had to get them back. Make sure you include Ernie's Rhythm Section in your schedule this weekend!" -

festival organiser Steve Darrington.

"They're called Ernie's Rhythm Section and had a couple of venues veritably stomping while eschewing the use of any amplification. They have a tremendously infectious feelgood vibe and give one the feeling that this must have been what blues was like back before it went electric. Though I understand they can do electric too. A band to watch out for." - Bob Long

"Unashamedly using an old formula, but to exhilarating effect, are Ernie's Rhythm Section. If only it could be bottled, their blistering blues would breath life back into the dead and bring optimism to even the most gloomy of outlooks. It's a relentless buzz of cutting delta guitars, jubilant vocals and smoking harp that leaves the venue swaying. We're left unclear as to which Manchester crossroad this lot met Lucifer, but they've got a big payback coming a lifetime down the line. Brilliant." - Manchester Sounds

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"It takes several glimpses to be entirely convinced that the lead singer, Michael's voice is actually surging from his own mouth, such is its resonance and richness. With the improbable vocals of an antiquated delta blues singer, and garnished by startling talent of the harmonica player Rik, not forgetting the stomp of Buch Muck Buckley's big old bass guitar and the phantom like talents of G Batowski, on organ, piano, guitar or whatever else he can find. Ernie's Rhythm Section are a band who breathe foot-stomping blues, par excellence." - Johnny McDevitt, student-direct magazine

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[SCHEDULE OF EVENTS here](#)

MOTEL 6

Friday evening 9pm - Ship Inn

Dan Anderson - Guitar/Vocals. Dan has been on the music scene since the age of fourteen, playing in various bands such as Pack M Up, Triple Rock and Custers Last Blues Band. He has also played many festivals and is also highly regarded on the dep. scene.



He has also played with some of the top players in the country such as Paddy Milner, Ben Waters, Collin John (USA) and Robbie McIntosh, to name but a few.

On a small tour of the club scene in Austin Texas he cut teeth with some of the top local players, he then moved on to Chicago and met up with the legendary Buddy Guy. Dan's main concern now is the playing and the promotion of Motel 6.

Chris Page - Drums/Vocals. Chris has been a professional drummer since leaving school, playing in bands and freelancing for numerous acts of diverse styles (Psychedelic-punk to shows and cabaret). He has played all over the world with some of the finest musicians and professional acts in the business. Chris has vast experience in both studio and live recordings and can list many live albums and radio sessions, along with several TV appearances.

He has toured the USA, Middle East and Scandinavia several times over and has had many European engagements, including Spain, Germany, Holland, Belgium, France, Italy and Ireland. Chris has also played in many of the most prestigious and famous venues including 'The Whisky A Go-Go' (LA), CB-GBS, The Cat Club, Limelight (New York), The Good Morning Club (Paris), 100 Club, The Marquee, etc.

Festivals include Cork Jazz and Blues Festival, Wembley Country Festival, Glastonbury, The More Blues Festival. Acts include Max D Barnes (7 US country no. 1's), Albert Lee - Tammy Jones (UK no. 1), Ricky Valance - Steve Simpson (Meal Ticket), Bernard Manning, Roy Chubby Brown, Rocket 88, Diz Watson, Robbie McIntosh (P. McCartney, Pretenders), Big Bill Morganfield (Muddy Waters' son) Eddie Kirkland (John Lee Hooker), Phil Guy (USA), Jack Johnson & The Oilers (USA), Collin John Band (USA), Ben Waters, Paul Howard and Tender Trap, Orange, The Little Angels and Kevin McDermott.

Laurie Higgins - Bass. Laurie has been playing bass for 15 years, having studied jazz under such luminaries as Steve Berry (Loose Tubes) and Nikki Iles.

He plays in a variety of bands in many musical styles, including Lightning Head (a samba/ reggae band that has just finished rocking top London venues like Cargo and The Vibe Bar). A versatile musician, Laurie is equally at home alongside top jazzmen like Tony Roberts as well as blues men like Big Bill Morganfield, Paddy Milner and Colin John.

Laurie has performed at many top UK festivals including Glastonbury and The Big Chill, as well as occasional tours of Europe including France, Portugal and Italy. His first love will always be jazz and blues, and Motel 6 is one of the most electrifying bands he has been involved in for sheer musical excitement.

Grant Day - Guitar. Grant has been playing guitar for almost 28 years and studied and acquired a diploma in jazz. Grant has been a guitar tutor for many years, teaching all styles to adults and children around his home county of Dorset, The Strat wielder has trodden the boards all around the UK with bands such as Contraband and Flared Up, and sessioned for many songwriters and artists who require his services. Grant depped for the awesome Glen Smith with Motel 6 and is now a very happy, fully fledged member of the band following Glen's departure.

"Filling Glen's shoes has been an enormous task but I hope I can contribute a different edge to the band's sound," he said. After being offered a tour of the States with his band Bottle Up And Go in 1987 (declined due to family commitments),

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www.christwilley.co.uk**

Grant decided to hone his style with a huge array of local bands and artists in Weymouth, Dorset, and shared the stage with many successful musicians including Robbie Macintosh, Chris Lonergan and Ade Millward. Grant's first love is the blues and admits to being "ecstatic" after being invited to join Motel 6.

[SCHEDULE OF EVENTS here](#)

CHRIS COLLINS AND BLUES ETC

Sunday afternoon/evening 5.00 -7.30pm - Shell Bay Seafood Restaurant & Bar, Studland



Chris Collins has been playing "The Real Deal" since spending more than 15 years playing guitar for Southampton Blues Legend Bob Pearce.

He has toured Europe and the UK with Bob and backed or supported numerous visiting American Blues Artists including Billy Boy Arnold, Sonny Rhodes, Magic Slim, John Primer and Koko Taylor.

He is joined by his band, Blues Etc..., which consists of some of the finest musicians in the South, including Hugh Budden (ex-Producers) on harmonica and Darren Stevens on double bass, plus drums.

Their main influences are Chicago and West Coast Blues, but they often stray into Soul and Rock 'n' Roll. Many of the songs are written by Chris, quite often with some risqué lyrics. They have played all types of venues, from small, laid back trio gigs to festival stages and have travelled as far as Switzerland and The Falkland Islands.

[SCHEDULE OF EVENTS here](#)

THE RAGTIME JUG ORCHESTRA

Friday evening 9pm - Red Lion

Saturday evening 9pm - Barking Frog

"All Around Men for all occasions"



John Anderson – vocals, 6 & 12 string & National guitars, banjo, kazoos and jug

Alan Draisey – vocals, 6 string guitar, Dobro, mandolin, ukulele, harmonica, washboard and percussion

The Ragtime Jug Orchestra evokes the authentic African American sound of the early 20th century, playing a good-time mix of ragtime, country blues, hokum, skiffle and jug band music.

The **RJO** perform hits from the levees of St Louis, the Beale Street bars of Memphis, the cotton fields of the Mississippi Delta and the sporting houses of New Orleans. They feature the music of the great performers from the String band, Jug band and

blues traditions, as well as some silly 1920's pop and their own material.

Audience participation is always encouraged – the **RJO** invite the audience to sing along and to join in on the kazoos, jugs and percussion instruments they make available at gigs - and they can even teach some authentic dance steps.

The **RJO** has been playing at events, parties, folk and acoustic clubs, pubs and bars around Bristol, Gloucester, Cheltenham, South Wales, the South Midlands and their home patch of the Forest of Dean since 1999.

Regular Festival appearances include the Linton Festival, Upton Blues Festival, Two Rivers Folk Festival and the Gloucester International Rhythm & Blues Festival.

[SCHEDULE OF EVENTS here](#)

THE HIGHTOWN CROWS

Sunday evening 9.45pm - Anchor Inn

Unmissable!



Rolling in from the Purbeck Hills are the rockabilly barons of Dorset, **The Hightown Crows**. Don't be fooled by their country gentlemen names: **Hinton Admiral** guitar, **Rufus Stone** on stand-up bass, and **Emery Down**, whose curious but highly effective panoply of percussive instruments fits into one suitcase.

These guys may emanate from the blue-rinse bone yard of the south coast, but they generate wild, high-

octane, quality entertainment – Blues To Make You Sweat – and deserve their titles "The Shamen of Shake" and "The Witchdoctors of Boogaloo". Unmissable!

[SCHEDULE OF EVENTS here](#)

SONNY BLACK

Friday 7.30pm - Moonlight Bistro (Bookings 01929 475615)

Saturday 7.30pm - Moonlight Bistro (Bookings 01929 475615)



In concert he performs a wide variety of exquisite and intimate fingerstyle acoustic and slide guitar instrumentals with influences from Blues, World Music, Soul, Country and Jazz.

His albums, including "**The Corner Seat**" and latest release "**The Best Of Days**" on Free Spirit Records, receive radio play on BBC Radio 2 and many commercial stations throughout the UK and US. Numerous live

sessions on **The Paul Jones** and **Johnnie Walker** Shows help to reach a wider audience.

Sonny's CD "**Heart and Soul**" met with critical acclaim from US major publications Living Blues and Blues Revue, and was made **album of the year by the UK's Blues In Britain** magazine.

The readers of Blues in Britain magazine voted **Sonny Black guitarist of the year in 2002**.

Sonny performs with Chris Belshaw on bass and on occasion with fiddle player, drummer and mandolinist.

Recent performances have included The Brecon Jazz Festival (Wales), Bardies Blues Festival (France), Farnham Blues Festival, Crawley Acoustic Festival and Swanage Blues Festival as well as regular appearances at clubs and arts centres.

See www.sonnyblack.co.uk and www.smallplanetmusic.com for more information.

Reviews:

"If the blues is indeed a feeling, then Sonny Black's guitar conveys that feeling better than most." **Blues Revue-USA**

"Heart and Soul - the Blueprint album of the year" **Fran Leslie Editor Blues In Britain Magazine**

"An outstanding artist." **Paul Jones, BBC Radio 2**

"A Sonny Black performance takes you from the Delta to the borders of jazz and back again" **Blues On Stage**

"A quiet treasure...relaxed, uplifting almost spiritual" **Blues Revue USA**

"There is no one to touch him in this country for wringing true emotion out of his instrument. His technical mastery of acoustic and electric instruments is complete...he possesses that quality that can only be called blues soul." **Blues In Britain**

"One of the most inspired, thinking guitarists in the UK". **Red Lick Records**

"Sonny got everybody settled with an instrumental, a slide guitar conversation that

caused rapturous applause at the end" [Blues in Britain/Farnham Festival Review](#)

"Ragtime, jazz standards, all sorts flowed effortlessly and the enraptured crowd of 300 or so were so quiet you could have heard a plectrum drop." [Swanage Festival Review](#)

"Top drawer" [Time Out](#)

"You could not have hoped for a better night of guitar roots and blues tunes" [Venue Magazine](#)

"...and if Sonny Black is playing near you solo, duo or with a band, do yourself a favour, go and see something very special" [Phoenix FM](#)

[SCHEDULE OF EVENTS here](#)

JC & ANGELINA GRIMSHAW

Sunday afternoon 3.00 - 6.00pm Anchor Inn

Angelina and her brother JC have developed their sound throughout their 20s drawing inspiration from acoustic roots, jazz, folk and blues. From Russia, Japan, the USA to working with Dr John, Buddy Guy and Van Morrison – they've taken it all in their stride.

"JC's a superb songwriter and instrumentalist. Angelina? Memphis Minnie and Bessie Smith without the scratches!"



[SCHEDULE OF EVENTS here](#)

JOHN CRAMPTON

Friday evening 9.45pm - Purbeck pub

Saturday evening 9.45pm - Purbeck pub

Wow! A one-man blues explosion with a big, powerful sound of hard-hitting and danceable up-tempo blues. John plays slide or bottleneck style on a 1930s National Steel Guitar with fantastic harmonica and thumping stomp box to provide a driving rhythm. If you like John's influences - Howlin' Wolf, Bukka White, John Lee Hooker and Ry Cooder - you'll really enjoy John!

He has recently played in Florida, Greece, Ireland, Norway, Germany, Switzerland, Canada, Czech Republic, Poland, France and Slovakia.



HARRIS, BUDDEN & OSBORNE

Friday evening 9pm - Bankes Arms Hotel, Corfe Castle

Saturday afternoon 3.00 - 6.00pm - Anchor Inn

Saturday evening 9pm - Red Lion

"To find a better blues guitarist than Pete Harris you would probably have to go to Chicago" - SOUTHAMPTON BLUES SOCIETY

[PETE HARRIS](#) (vocals, guitar) has performed on stage with many American blues artistes, notably Phil Guy, (brother of Buddy Guy), Lowell Fulson, Tabby Thomas, Gene 'Mighty Flea' Connors, Mojo Buford (ex Muddy Waters Band), Byther Smith, Carrie and Lurrie Bell and Jerry McCain. He has appeared on BBC Television and many times on local and national radio.



[HUGH BUDDEN](#) (vocals, harmonica). The versatility and sheer brilliance of his harp playing has given Hugh a reputation as one of the UK's best harmonica players. He has



developed a highly individual style which lends itself to Blues, Funk, Rock or Indie. In 1991, he joined the newly-formed blues band, The Producers, which a decade later won the "Blues Band of the Year". Hugh has gigged throughout the UK, Europe and New Zealand and has performed with or supported members of Queen, Manfred Mann, Ray Charles, The Animals, Jethro Tull, Black Sabbath, Fleetwood Mac and many others.

TEEJ OSBORNE (double bass) made the switch from electric to acoustic bass inspired by Big Bill Broonzy and Washboard Sam. As a founder member of blues and rockabilly band Swamp Things with Slim Lightfoot, he has busked and gigged all over Europe, enjoyed a residency at Soho's blues venue Ain't Nothin' But and performed on Mervyn Stutter's BBC Radio 4 shows Getting Nowhere Fast.



[SCHEDULE OF EVENTS here](#)

ROBERT HOKUM BLUES BAND

Friday evening 9pm - White Swan

Sunday 8.30-10.30pm - Grand Hotel

The Robert Hokum Blues Band gets back to the roots and plays the classic Chicago and Delta Blues of artists such as John Lee Hooker, Muddy Waters, Robert Johnson and Son House.

As well as playing quite a 'purist' style of blues, the band make the most of minimalism in their stage set-up. Using small amplifiers and a stripped down kit means they project the Blues in the way it was intended.

The Robert Hokum Blues Band is a regular attraction at London's prestigious Ain't Nothin' But Blues Bar and have tracks on both of the CDs 'Blues from the Ain't Nothin' But...' Vol 1 & Vol 2.

The Robert Hokum Blues Band debut CD was released in January 2004. RHBB can also be found backing Dorris Henderson on her live CD, 'Blues on the Loose at the Moose', which has been featured by Paul Jones on Radio 2.

"This West Side (of London) four piece purveys tough, straight down the line blues. This 8 track CD proves that they do it well and with restraint and taste...on this evidence the RHBB deserve to be challenging for promotion to the British Blues Premier League." (Blues & Rhythm Magazine)

"It packs the punch of a short sharp lightning strike. Wonderfully free from clichés and dirge laden Americanisms...Uncluttered, vigorously played R'n'B throughout." (BluesArtStudio)

"From fast and furious to breathless..." (Blues Free Press)

[SCHEDULE OF EVENTS here](#)

COAST

Friday evening 9pm - Royal Oak

A relatively new band of local musicians with a long pedigree. Bassist and singer **Tommy Marsh** is widely known for his musicianship, which spans over 50 years! Credits include The Grasshoppers, Sapphires, T-Birds, Martin Johnson Band, with the late lamented Captain Boogie himself, John Falcon, and the now defunct Arcibo Blues House that graced Bishopstock and many a Swanage Blues Festival.

Also in Arcibo was Coast's drummer **Nick Hennessy**, whose history includes The Swamp Band, Graham Mack's Blues Band, and appearing at The Marquee with Sting's musicians. Completing this trio and new to the band scene is **Terry C** on keyboards and guitar.

All three members sing, and the music could be described as ideal for those who like light blues and a whole lot more!

[SCHEDULE OF EVENTS here](#)

ANDREW BAZELEY

Open Mic Sessions

Friday afternoon 2.00 - 5.00pm Red Lion

Saturday afternoon 2.00 - 5.00pm Red Lion

Sunday afternoon 2.00 - 5.00pm Red Lion



We are immensely pleased to have such a consummate performer running our Open Mic sessions this weekend.

Andrew's skill at conveying the sound and the spirit of the old acoustic blues has drawn gasps of admiration wherever he plays.

Whether it's the Son House/Charley Patton slide style (played on an authentic 1929 National) or the melodic finger picking style of players like Willie McTell and Robert Johnson (on his 1918 Gibson).

But his range is broader: the "hokum" songs from Bill Broonzy and Memphis Jug Band can be heard alongside the likes of Hoagy Carmichael and even the

soul classics of Marvin Gaye and Smokey Robinson. He even includes The Who and some reggae in his set!

As well as playing solo gigs (including spots alongside such greats as Michael Chapman, Pete Brown and Otis Taylor), Andrew appears regularly as a member of the popular trio Barrelhouse Blues.

C SHARP BLUES

Friday evening 9.45pm - Anchor Inn

C Sharp Blues is comprised of four like-minded souls dedicated to the art of the blues, but with a funky/rock retake on the genre. Seminal material from Robert Johnson, Muddy Waters, Albert King, B B King, T-Bone Walker et al is mixed with coruscatingly-compelling original material.

Mike Biggs (*guitar, vocals*) has been in the forefront of the UK's remarkably healthy blues/r&b scene for a couple of decades now. His powerful vocals and earthy guitar work has been the signature of bands such as C Sharp, Red Rooster, Time Out and many more.

Smudge Smith (*guitar, piano*) is blessed with a ferocious blues guitar sound and a remarkable skill as a boogie piano player. He was a mainstay of the Ben Waters Band for many years, when a major feature of the band's live shows was his four-hand piano duets with Ben, the acknowledged master of boogie-woogie in the UK.

Chris Lonergan (*bass*) played alongside Ben Waters and Smudge for many years as the band toured the UK, Europe, Scandinavia, Canada and Africa, playing at major gigs (Ronnie Scott's, 100 Club, Royal Festival Hall, Albert Hall etc) and festivals (Glastonbury, Cork Jazz Festival and many more). He's also been seen onstage alongside the likes of David Gilmour, Gary Brooker, John Etheridge, Mick Taylor, Andy Sheppard and the like.

Paul Fancy (*drums, percussion*) first came to prominence with John Peel favourites The Martian Schoolgirls in the 1980's and has been touring constantly since, from English stately homes to the Victoria Falls in Zambia. Paul's funk-orientated approach to the blues is a major factor in C Sharp's unique sound.

You will witness a take on the blues that has its soul in the Mississippi Delta, while its sound is firmly planted in the 21st Century

[SCHEDULE OF EVENTS here](#)

KELLYS TATTOO

Friday evening 9.45pm - Anchor Inn

Celtic Irish Blues Folk Rock Party Night (so the landlord tells me, and he usually knows what he's doing!)

STEVE DARRINGTON

Various guest appearances, Open Mic on occasions, and

Sunday evening 8.30-10.30pm with the Robert Hokum Band at Grand Hotel

Festival Organiser **Steve Darrington** was the house pianist and harmonica



player at the legendary Blues Loft, Nags Head, High Wycombe in the 60s and 70s when it played host to many visiting American Bluesmen and rock bands.

For over 40 years he has played piano for artists as diverse as Lonnie Donegan, Marty Wilde, Don Everly, Albert Lee, Brewers Droop, Roxon Roadshow, The Boogie Band, Arthur 'Big Boy' Crudup, The Mighty Flea, Billy Boy Arnold, and on over 50 albums.

Steve came to Swanage for two days in 2000, and never left! Nowadays he occasionally performs solo or sits in with different bands.

For further information, see www.stevedarrington.com

and finally, for your Delectation and Delight!

FABULOUS FEZHEADS

Saturday afternoon - outside the Ship Inn, High St, Swanage



The Fabulous Fezheads are England's Premier Sand Dance Vaudevillian Illusionists carrying on in the tradition of Old 'Blind Ned' Cleggett with his famous stage act of the 1920's and 30's, and actually starring his Great-Grandson Pete 'the Flying' Cleggett .

Under the watchful eye of Father Ken and featuring Keith the Camel, the Fabulous Fezheads blend a mixture of Dance, Danger and Music that will Astound, Astonish and Amuse.

[SCHEDULE OF EVENTS here](#)