

BOROUGH BLUES

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We hope you had a great Christmas, and would like to wish all of our members and guests a

Happy New Year

This Month at the BBC – 7th January 2012
“Jay Tamkin Band” plus “Mike Parker”

Whilst Jay Tamkin is a guitarist and multi instrumentalist grounded in the blues, he has got the song writing ability and musical chops to fulfil his huge potential in a very contemporary way. Classic Rock magazine commented on his 'instinctive guitar mangling' and his 'hip bucking grooves'. For make no mistake Jay Tamkin may be an up and coming rock/blues guitarist of the highest order but at heart he remains a fiercely independent musical spirit but firmly grounded in the blues.



Influenced on the blues side by SRV, Walter Trout and Albert and Freddie King, he cites Steely Dan's Donald Fagen as being equally important influence on the jazz side. Jay was further inspired by Paul Jones's BBC 2 Blues show before finding his musical conduits in the shape of Popa Chubby and Buddy Whittington. Significantly perhaps, he's already managed to play with both of his heroes.

In an era when guitar heroes have made a strong comeback, Jay Tamkin isn't about to make his pitch solely as a guitarist. Rather it's his rich musical persona that marks his out as unique. For while his restless imagination may push him into variety of styles via some fiery notes and melodic grooves, JT is treading his own path. Indeed as his first album title suggests he's just about 'Sorted'.

<http://www.jaytamkinband.com>

Support is from Mike Parker, usually singer and guitarist with a band called “Stone Sole River” but he his performing a solo acoustic set for us. The support acts are a new thing for us at the Borough Blues Club in 2012, so we are not absolutely certain on how the timings will pan out, however we are aiming to kick things off around 7.45pm.

Next Month at the BBC – 4th February
2012 “Doctors Orders”

I can remember this band from their previous experience at the club, way back in 2007. Guitarist Jon Bridger impressed hugely in an unusually quiet and unpretentious way, and was well supported by the rest of the band. Well looking forward to their return, and support is from the magnificent “Borough Blues Workshop Band”.

GIG REVIEW: Dave Arcari
Gig Review: Tony Smith, Photos: Liz Aikin
10th December 2011



The first thing was his appearance! That beard, the tats, his Ramones shirt and he's a pretty big bloke. Then his Glaswegian accent! A scary fella? Not in the least, a lovely guy, happy to talk to anyone who will talk to him. He said that in a previous life he'd been a debt collector in Glasgow

but he was far too nice to be any good at it! We are not used to solo artists at the Borough Blues Club – actually we were scheduled to have not one but two solo artists on 10 December, Ragtime Ewan.

Ragtime Ewan was spotted by Dave Leek who thought that, if he was going to push the boundaries by booking Dave Arcari, he'd really SHOVE the boundaries by adding Ragtime Ewan Haigh!

In the event Ewan had a family bereavement and he had no option but to cancel. He cancelled the day before the gig and despite Dave's efforts to find an alternative it was too late to find anyone.

Dave Arcari is a



man with a strong local following - we welcomed a lot of faces that we hadn't seen before on Saturday - many of them very familiar with his repertoire and singing along to the songs - which must be pretty difficult especially Robbie Burns's poem *Parcel of Rogues* in Scottish dialect set to a Dave Arcari "tune" - must be a bit like we English speakers enthusiastically murdering the words of the Welsh national anthem without an ounce of understanding!

Dave came to write the music for the Robbie Burns poems - *Parcel of Rogues* is the most famous of them but he also included another Burns number in his set - he was asked to set the poem to music for a BBC Scotland radio programme to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the Act of Union between England and Scotland, a programme which he also presented and interviewed some pretty high profile politicians, musicians and historians. The boy has hidden depths!

We needn't have worried about him being a solo performer, he and his three resonator guitars - the shiny one, the black one and the, erm, other one - filled our stage both physically and with sound. His guitar playing with the bottle neck is something not experienced before at the BBC and certainly owes more to punk than the Delta.

When he began "growling" his opening number, it was a concern that he could keep that up for the rest of the set without his throat seizing up. His regular fans understand that his voice needs a little lubrication so he had an



inexhaustible supply of large whiskeys delivered to the stage by the faithful. Amazingly, he was reported to be bright eyed and bushy tailed next morning - even his lady, Margaret, was a little surprised.

I'm not sure that Dave Arcari was universally appreciated by our regular audience - he's a bit of a departure from our more usual blues bands - however his fans were a welcome addition to the Borough Blues Club scene and some of them may be tempted to join us again in the future.

Dave Leek, the club's booking officer, constantly strives to bring variety within the general blues genre and this was a variety on that theme alright!

(Photos by kind courtesy of Liz Aiken)

FORTHCOMING GIG'S

7th Jan 2012 Jay Tamkin Band £7/£5
The long awaited return of this very very talented musician, who amazingly can play a guitar and keyboard simultaneously...

4th February Doctors Orders £7/£5
Very well received on their first appearance at the club way back in 2007. Excellent guitar from Jon Bridger

17th February Chantel McGregor
An excellent 2011 debut from the very endearing Chantel, fuelled by strong demand from the members, has ensured a rapid return to the club for the Bradford lass.

3rd March King King
"Softly softly" is not a maxim that King King are familiar with. Since surging into life two years ago they have barely stopped for breath, and their electrifying sound and scorching live shows have generated more of a thunderous roar than a buzz.

7th April Danny Bryants Red-Eye Band
First hailed as a 'young guitar prodigy' Danny has paid his dues in the last decade clocking up endless miles and approximately two thousand shows around the world.

5th May Matt Taylor
Matt is currently working on a new album due to be released March 2012 so a timely first appearance for this well established guitarist.

2nd June Marcus Bonfanti
According to many who witnessed his festival night performance this year, the best this club has ever seen bar none. Absolutely outstanding vocals and so much energy!

Borough Blues News

Please visit www.boroughblues.com to check out club and gig information. Additionally, you can buy tickets for all gigs online at wegottickets.com.

We would like to thank you for your on-going feedback and suggestions. We are here to provide the sort of gigs that YOU want to see, staged in the way that you want to see them! Come and chat with us on gig-nights or email us at feedback@boroughblues.com

Once again we would like to wish you all a very happy new year, and we look forward to entertaining you many times during 2012!

That's all Folks