

# BOROUGH BLUES

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**This Month at the BBC – 6<sup>th</sup> April 2013  
“Laurence Jones Band”**



The Laurence Jones Band, visiting Borough Blues on 6<sup>th</sup> April, is a young trio with Laurence on guitar and vocals. They may be young but they have a confident maturity to their playing which is not surprising as they recently won the Northwest regional heat of New Brunswick Battle of The Bands. They play some really good blues with a funky edge, and Laurence has a good stage presence ensuring the audience warm to him and the band. Luke Dolan on drums leads a rear guard action adding textures and backing vocals with Pete Rycroft on bass reinforcing the rhythm section giving Laurence the perfect sounding board for showcasing his guitar skills and accomplished vocals. His biography found on the bands web site states that he plays a blend of Blues and Rock with a groovy and catchy modern edge. Laurence began playing the classical guitar at the age of 8 and has gone on to achieve grade 8 distinction. In 2006 he started to play the electric guitar and was influenced by Jimi Hendrix, Eric Clapton, Tony McPhee, B.B King, Gary More and Albert Collins.

**'Get ready to Rock Magazine'** - gave the album a 5/5\*\*\*\*\* rating "Laurence Jones is a wise musical head on young shoulders and 'Thunder in the Sky' is an excellent start to a very promising career and worth five stars".

**'Classic Rock magazine'** quoted Laurence as "Blues Rocks youngest Talent" and was featured on the "Blues Fury" C.D along with Joe Bonamassa, Kenny Wayne Shepherd, Popa Chubby and many more.

**Classic Rock Magazine** "Laurence Jones is head boy of the new blues breed"

<http://www.laurencejonesmusic.com>

**Next Month at the BBC – 6<sup>th</sup> April 2013  
“Giles Robson & the Dirty Aces”**

Giles Robson and The Dirty Aces – are visiting Borough Blues on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May - what a treat for members and visitors alike.

This band is led by the cream of Harmonica players Giles Robson who combines this skill with a delightful voice. The Dirty Aces are a team of superb blues musicians - Filip Kozlowski's virtuoso guitar has been likened to "The Hoax' at their brilliant best" by Blues Matters. There is also Ian Jennings on double bass who's CV includes live work and record sessions with Jeff Beck, Robert Plant, Champion Jack Dupree, Jools Holland and Eric Clapton; on drums we have Mike Hellier, a British blues supremo, whose credits include supporting Sherman Robertson, Lisa Mills and James Hunter.



## Some quotes: -

*September 21st, 2012: Giles Robson & the Dirty Aces at The Old Town Hall Hemel Hempstead tomorrow night! We're looking forward to returning and "Breaking it wide open!" blues style. Don't try to meet us there.... try to beat us there!!!*<http://www.dacorum.gov.uk/arts/>

*This is so good! -Chris Evans BBC R2 Breakfast Show.*

*There are many living harmonica players of note, from Stevie Wonder to Giles Robson and back again. - Paul Jones, BBC Radio 2*

*The Dirty Aces approach..... a radical reworking of American music forms reassembled with a distinct European feel... a very original crossover sound - Blues In Britain Magazine*



**Tickets £10 or £8 members, great value - get your tickets tonight...**

**GIG REVIEW: Chantel McGregor***Gig Review and photos: Liz Aiken, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2013*

With a packed and excited house once again Chantel worked her charm with the audience at Borough Blues. From the first note she sang and chord she played everyone sat back to be entertained supported by the solid mastery provided by Rich (bass) and Keith



*Chantel McGregor - March 2013 Borough Blues Club  
Liz Aiken copyright 2013*

(drums) who played their instrument of choice with style and a little bit of magic. Rich Ritchie introduced some funky sounds and the 'thwang' of the strings being slapped on his five string bass provided groove and tonal depth, whilst Keith McPartling played his drums with a well- paced, superbly timed and judged percussive performance. At times he had a surprisingly gentle touch for such a hard hitter. The band was completed with axe-woman extraordinaire Chantel, the bubbly young Yorkshire lass whose smile and delightful turn of phrase would brighten up anyone's day. Chantel's set included lots of tracks of her debut acclaimed album '**Like No Other**', and for many this was an opportunity to purchase their own signed copies. Opening the evening with 'Fabulous' she set the club alight with the cheerful lyrics, and a display of jaw-droppingly good guitar playing. Whatever song she is playing - whether her own compositions or well-loved covers - she delivers them with ease, making guitar playing look simplicity itself; a display of virtuosity that is not self-indulgent but inclusive. So there were no long overplayed lead guitar breaks, simply a band that were in unison and delivering music the audience really wanted to listen to. Chantel delighted the crowds with requested numbers and despite having no acoustic guitar with her, played acoustic style on electric with a stellar cover of Bruno Mars 'Grenade'. This is what makes sets from Chantel so interesting; she

changes and adapts her set to entertain the audience. No wonder she sells out, people feel engaged with her, they love



*Chantel McGregor - March 2013 Borough Blues Club  
Liz Aiken copyright 2013*

the way she remembers them and includes songs they love. A Chantel gig is a three-way conversation which includes Chantel's witty asides, and the audiences delighted responses. The main conversation the live music which touched hearts, minds and souls of the crowd, lifting the spirits on a cold March evening. It is without doubt that Chantel will be welcomed back to Borough Blues again and again.

Quote of the night was from Mike: *Yet again Borough Blues leads the way. Chantel McGregor was superlative - sublime and a truly great artist. Blues? - Well in that you put your soul into what you do - then YES - purists might disagree but we don't live in 1920 Mississippi Delta anymore and this lady sings Northern 2013 Blues - if you accept the premise that The Blues comes from the heart. Chantel McGregor plays from inside her soul and loves it.*

**FORTHCOMING GIG's**

6 <sup>th</sup> April	Laurence Jones Band £7/£5 <i>A blend of Blues and Rock with a groovy and catchy modern edge. Laurence released his first professional album "Thunder In The Sky" in June 2012.</i>
11 <sup>th</sup> May	Giles Robson & the Dirty Aces
1 <sup>st</sup> June	Tres Hombres
6 <sup>th</sup> July	FESTIVAL + The Idle Hands
3 <sup>rd</sup> August	DSW
7 <sup>th</sup> Sept	The Motives feat Matt Taylor
5 <sup>th</sup> October	Willie and the Bandits
2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	Tommy Allen Band
14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Danny Bryant's Redeye Band

**Borough Blues News**

A reminder that the **AGM** is on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2013, 7pm at the RFC. We would really like anybody who is interested to come along and hear see how we run things. Hope to see you there!

Don't forget **Borough Blues** is now on **Facebook**. To be kept up-to-date with all the club's news and events... *becomes a friend*:

<https://www.facebook.com/boroughblues.club.1>

It would really help the club if every time you see a posting from Borough Blues *share* it. This improves our presence on the web so that Google will send people browsing for Blues in South Wales to our club first; a click only takes a second but will have a lasting effect on the Borough Blues Club!

*That's all Folks...*

Borough Blues Club: Tickets - **01633 483238**

More info at: [www.boroughblues.com](http://www.boroughblues.com)