

BOROUGH BLUES

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**This Month at the BBC – 9th September
“Chantel McGregor”**



Album Review by Blues Matters:

Well it's out at last after waiting 3 years for this young lady to produce a CD. Was it worth the wait? I can only say for myself it's a resounding YES! The first track is the very catchy "Fabulous" which sums up the whole CD. It's a very commercial piece of work which will appeal to a wide range of Blues/Rock and dare I say it Pop audience! I let one or two young people hear it and they loved it so she has managed to reach out and touch the wider audience in music. Her acoustic version of Rhiannon has always given me goose bumps at live events, and this version with the haunting cello in the background is beautifully done. "Caught Out" has an eastern feel which continues as a background thread through the song. There is an instrumental called "Cat Song" showing off some of her undoubted talent as a guitarist. This CD really does showcase her singing, guitar prowess and writing talent as most of the songs on this are her own compositions. Some great riffs catchy lyrics and excellent production. Chantel promised that her CD would be different, she has delivered on that score it is "Like No Other". Well done Chantel and all the people supporting you this is a great first album and I

definitely recommend it to everyone, there is something for all. (Review by Christine Moore)

<http://www.chantelmccgregor.com/>

Borough Blues News

Last weekend our very own *Borough Blues Band* was asked to perform at Pontypool Jazz Festival. This was quite a high accolade for a band that had not actually performed together before in this guise. The Borough Blues Band is a refined version of our Workshop Band that performed very well at our very own Blues Festival back in July. The line-up last weekend included rising young star Gareth Leaman and Nigel Dix on guitar, Phil Avon on keys, and Pete Hughes on harp. The rhythm section comprised Paul Worthington on drums and Frank Aveyard on bass whilst Steve Savidge and the band's mentor Dave Lewis alternated between Vocals and Congas! There was quite a healthy and appreciative audience that mostly seemed to be fully paid up members of the Gareth Leaman fan-club! I even noticed some dancers at the back of the room. The band thoroughly enjoyed performing on this sort of stage and are looking forward to any future opportunities.

Our Monday night workshop sessions are ever popular and we would encourage any members that play an instrument to come along and give it a go. We do not teach people to play but we do give guidance and provide an opportunity for musicians to play the blues as part of a band.

Most of our membership has now renewed for the current year, if there are any lapsed members you are reminded that the £2 gig-night discount is for fully paid-up members only. A current membership list will be available on the door at future gigs so that we can check the status of anyone who isn't sure!

Finally our treasurer Tony Smith as always aims to inform members old and new of our forthcoming gigs and has been trialling a new "all-singing, all-dancing" email delivery system. If there are any issues with these emails please let us know as we need to make sure people are receiving them properly. Some people may benefit from adding the sender to their address book or clicking to "always show content from this sender" as otherwise the message may appear to be blank... modern technology eh!

**Next Month at the BBC – 1st October
"Tommy Allen"**

We have another cracking band for you next month! There seems to be a whole raft of young, talented, blues artists performing around the UK at the moment, and we are slowly but surely aiming to bring you them all!

Tommy Allen has been described in the past, as one of the best young blues guitarists in Britain and, it has been claimed, could be the next Eric Clapton. Tommy went from working with Marcus Malone, Nicky Moore, Sugababes, Big Joe Turner, Otis Taylor and Mojo Buford, to running his first band Trafficker. Tommy Allen and Trafficker have supported Walter Trout, Gary Moore, Mud Morganfield, Buddy Whittington and many others on UK and European Tours.



"Tommy Allen is one of the most talented songwriter guitarists to emerge from Britain in a long time". *Paul Jones BBC Radio 2*

"Tommy Allen (with The Mojo Buford Band) gave one of the finest displays of electric guitar blues I've ever seen". *Scott Duncan, former editor of Blueprint, now Blues in Britain*

"This guy is a superb guitarist; he has a real feel for the blues and a great tone". *Otis Grand*

"One of the top rated British blues guitarists". *Blues and Rhythm*

<http://www.tommyallenband.com>

FORTHCOMING GIG'S

9th Sept Chantel McGregor £10/£8
Perfect young lady in a dress, with a vocal to die for, who wields an axe like the best of the guys! Another massive coup for the club!

1st October Tommy Allen Band £7/£5
One of the UK's top Blues Guitarists has played with many Blues Legends.

12th November The Healers £7/£5
2nd gig at the club for this outfit following a great debut last Autumn

10th December Dave Arcari £7/£5
"Plays like he got his skin turned inside out, he's a real down deep player and a soul man"

7th January Jay Tamkin Band
2012

The long awaited return of this very very talented musician, who amazingly can play a guitar and keyboard simultaneously...

4th February t.b.a.

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 began playing guitar aged 15, turning professional just three years later, and in the last decade has paid his dues clocking up endless miles of travelling and approximately two thousand shows in many countries around the world.

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

GIG REVIEW: Blue Traffic
6th August 2011

Loud! Loud! Loud! The gig reviews are still outstanding for last month but by all accounts it was quite possibly the most uncomfortably loud band ever to have appeared at the club. They may have entertained us well in the past but it is unlikely that Blue Traffic will be asked to return any time soon.

We will add the gig review to the website as and when it is available.

That's all Folks