

Well hello everybody,

Yes, it's that time of the month again, and the next ST. ANDREWS OPEN MIC JAMM NIGHT is almost upon us.

WHICH IS, OF COURSE, THIS COMING MONDAY MARCH 3RD

By the way, we'll be celebrating an anniversary of one of our loyal regulars. Just whom it may be, well you'll just have to come and find out for yourselves. It's guaranteed to be quite a laugh. There are many celebrations coming along during 2008. The most notable is the fact that this Country officially celebrates 50 years of Australian Rock and Roll (good onya J O'K). Strangely enough there are quite a few in our little community turning the same age. So look out folks, it's the year of the fossil (Dog actually, lol).

For those who missed the last gig on February 4th, we are pleased to say it was one of the most enjoyable evenings we've had in quite some time. On behalf of Owen and myself, as well as all our regular crowd, many, many thanks to all the new People who came, saw, participated and enjoyed what happens at everybody's favourite lounge room. We greatly appreciate you hanging around for as long as possible, and sharing your music with us. We DO hope you'll be back next Monday. Let's welcome them as we run through last month's events:

DAVID JOHNSON

Kicked off the night with his acoustic set of originals being: Piece of You & Me, Days We Remember and Black, Red and Yellow. David and his partner Debbie travelled from The Patch and very much enjoyed the proceedings. The first of many newcomers, and David has the honour of being the first musician kind enough to jot down his set list on the sheet provided.

Just briefly on that subject, we'd very much like to know the titles of the songs you perform. It would greatly assist us in putting a more professional touch on our DVD's, especially when crediting original songs. More of that later.

K.J. HANSEN

Brought along his wonderful 12 string and once again displayed his unique original material. K.J. travels far and has been attending our JAMMS as frequently as possible. Next time you see him, I suggest you check out if he has any of his CD's on him.

BRETT POLLOCK <http://www.brettpollock.com/> Well this bloke does have CD's and has written a plethora of original material. Once again Brett delivered a passionate set, which included his regular favourite "She cut me loose". Don't forget to visit Brett's website and keep up to date on what's happening with his video clip for "Friday Night". Brett remains a wonderful supporter of our Open Mics and has been getting a few gigs around the traps. You can also catch him every Saturday at the St. Andrews Market. (Anyone would think he's a good mate eh? Well he certainly is. Thanks Brett).

MOLLY AND MOLLY

(or is it Mollie and Mollie?) Anyway, they didn't want to be introduced as that (come on Ladies, give us a band name. These two delightful young Ladies (quite young actually) donned their Guitars and performed their first performance on the hallowed St. Andrews stage. One of the Mollies (now I'm in trouble) switched over to bass too, can't wait to see them with a full band. Can't quite recall the songs, but they were familiar numbers popular with the youngsters. What a

great reception they received and many thanks to their families who hung around and enjoyed themselves. The Girls were quite overwhelmed when they found they didn't have to lug in their amps, and we did get them a nice sound. As a matter of interest, the Girls, as well as our own Brody, inspired a few youngsters who were watching. Welcome Mollies, we do so much want to see you back. (C'mon, one late night per month can't be all that bad, this IS rock 'n' roll you know).

WAYNE'S WORLD OF BOOGIE WOOGIE Featured the debut St. Andrews Open Mic appearance of a gifted Drummer and consummate Gentleman, Peter Lyons. Mark, Wayne, Owen and myself met Peter via the local Muso network and he loves St. Andrews. He's even had the Happy Birthday treatment during February. Accompanied by Spotswood on Guitar and Darryl on Bass, Wayne knocked out yet another memorable set which was appreciated by all. Wayne has developed a beautiful sound using his new Les Paul and his Marshall amp (I'll stick to my Strat® thanks mate). Peter came all the way from North Fitzroy with his mate George, who although didn't get up to play, has since had an informal JAMM with your humble hosts and wishes to participate this time around. Welcome to you too **GEORGE**.

Yes, it's Rock Around The Clock time with **DAVE "BREAKNECK" HALEY AND HIS GOOD OLE BOYS**

(something to do with his Greg McCainish of Skyhooks hat he's been wearing lately). What a great set he knocked out with the assistance of Peter (Drums), Spotswood (Bass), Dirty Russ (Sax), with Mark & Wayne on Guitars. Let's not forget Owen's contribution on cow bell too. History was made on Dave's set, as we finally got Markie to crack a smile which we captured on video. A special thanks also goes to our mate **MARK (Mr. Cup) LEWIS**, who is engaged in a music related TAFE course. He's been spreading the word around those parts and we're hoping to see some TAFE bods rock up. As always, Dave's own contribution to St. Andrews is invaluable, he has always been extremely helpful in putting this little show together. Dave is also riding on his own wave of popularity being the star of a rather weird, but harmless copyright warning on a certain locally produced DVD. Watch out for the next one, BWAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA.

MANGLED JOE A semi acoustic trio from Mount Dandenong also joined us for the first time. Once the bass line from The Doors' Riders On The Storm hit our ears, we knew we were in for a treat. Mark and company presented songs not yet heard on the open music scene, including a lovely cover of an America number. These guys haven't been together all that long and we certainly look forward to more

KATT, many thanks to Greg Francis for bringing her along, as well as Sarah, see below. It was also Katt's fist time along and yes, more original songs too. She left us spellbound with her delivery, despite it being her maiden appearance. Katt's set, as well as everyone else's, maintained a wonderful flow of variety throughout the evening. It's no wonder we had such a great time.

BRODY rounded up Owen, Dirty Russ and Darryl (geez he must have been desperate, lol) and delivered a pumped up set of timeless rock classics: Gloria, Louie Louie, (Uncle Darryl on vocals) and a Weird Al treatment of AC/DC's Dirty Deeds (with Uncle Dirty delivering the twisted lyrics. As always, Brody sets the scene on his set, and encourages (Bosses around, lol) his silly old mates to have fun. We certainly did, and a fair dinkum Aussie Pub Band set was belted out, what a ball we all had. Once again, we must acknowledge Brody for inspiring some young punters to pursue their own love of music. Already these young rock stars are organising a bit of a session up here in the Kinglake Hills (yeah, guess who's the bunny that has to do the work).

It was now time to cop what we affectingly call the **ZACH ATTACK**. With Brett Pollock on drums, Darryl and Dirty Russ respectively on Guitar and Sax, Zach himself played Bass on Mustang Sally. Darryl switched to Bass, Dirty Russ to Guitar, joined by Carlos the Jackal on his axe. They knocked out Prince's Kiss and something I can't remember (whoops, sorry). Zach's unique delivery is always fun, and we always acknowledge the support and help he has given.

SARAH AND FRIENDS, yet another newbie to our stage, delivered an amazing, free flowing, funky, jazzy set of original material which left us in awe. Her friends in the line up were Peter (very tasteful drumming, Katt (backup vocals) and our own Brett Pollock (first time we've seen him on Bass, brilliant mate. But that's it, you've had enough compliments in this rave, lol) Once again, thanks to Greggie for bringing both Sarah and Katt along, local support means a lot to us.

ANNI LANG, now becoming quite a regular here, and a wonderful supporter, performed a mix of originals and some Alanis Morissette, accompanied by her beautiful 12 string Guitar playing. I must apologise to Anni, as we couldn't get her vocals out as strong as required, but in all fairness, Anni herself felt she wasn't using her microphone quite right. Anni has been visiting the secret base of The Weapons Of Mass Disfunction and we're giving her a bit of a hand. This wonderful Lady already has a CD out which was recorded in Sydney and there's more to come. Poor thing, she even let Owen and I help her out arranging one of her new songs. Seriously, Anni's album deserves merit and is worth a listen. See if you can snag one when you see her, not sure of the price, but it's well worth it.

THE DIRTY RUSS CONGLOMERATE as always, patiently waited to near the end of the evening and had to be cut short as to give Carlos The Jackal another go. Owen, Darryl and Mark joined Russ to knock out two favourites: Fastball's The Way and Johnny Lang's If This Is Love. Sadly, our regulars do patiently wait till quite late for their own sets. They deserve a chance to play earlier. Bear in mind that these guys sacrifice the chance to perform their own selections as they are often called upon to assist with other acts. Owen and I feel the need to make amends to this situation and will address the matter in a fair and equitable way. Nonetheless, what a fun set we had.

CARLOS THE JACKAL

Closed the night with just one number, a medley of blues standards, Rambling On My Mind and You Shook me. Darryl knocked out Vocals and Bass, Owen on Drums and Mark (I think) on Guitar. The Jackal loves his traditional blues, travels quite a distance so he can't be there early. Carl patiently waits until there's a set that suits his passion. He is also an incredibly loyal supporter of several open mic nights, never complains, and is always willing to lend a hand. Without People such as he, these JAMMS would never exist. We are endeavouring to put together a special set of Carl's own favourites, he loves instrumentals, and being an Open Mic, he WILL get his wish, we hope you enjoy.

Obviously by this time it was time to say Good Night, despite our enthusiastic audience wanting more. Once again, this was an extremely memorable occasion, let's hope we see many more.

I must personally thank and acknowledge Leslie Avril for her heartfelt compliments on our sound. Leslie, of course is a well known Artist of the community. We love not only her music, but also her wonderful personality. Check out Leslie's website <http://www.leslieavril.com> and buy her CD's, you'll love them. It appears that our Lounge Room Sound approach has met with general approval, thanks so much everybody.

It's quite funny really, but the following day we were inundated with calls from some of our friends who couldn't make it, and those who passed on their compliments, glad we made you happy. A very special thanks is extended to two very special People, Liz Crook and Tracey O'Keefe, they are fantastic supporters. Let's not forget Mark and Lee too, these guys are here every time and have given invaluable, and much appreciated help.

The video footage from this night looks and sounds great, we got quite a bit by the way. As yet, the final DVD isn't ready and yes, you can blame me. I've been quite unwell these past weeks sorry, but I'll try to have a couple of samples for next week. We hope you don't mind the fact that we will have to humbly ask (beg) a paltry \$5.00 donation as to cover the cost of producing our DVD's. Ink, paper and media aren't exactly cheap, electricity too. Owen and I strongly believe that these moments need to be preserved, and we're doing our best to provide this non profit service. We just need a little help, that's all. Should you feel inclined, please e-mail me at red_rooster@msn.com.au if you'd like a copy. Fiona, our fabulous snack bar Lady, she had a great night too, has kindly agreed to make them available at her stand. Oh yeah, if you'd like them signed, you've probably drank too much, lol. If anybody would like a custom disc once we have enough footage, let me know and we'll work something out.

It has been suggested that we revise the way the Run Sheet is administered. As most are aware, we operate on a 15 minute time slot principle. In theory, this is fine, but we need to maintain not only variety, but a fair and even mix of Artists during the entire evening. This also applies to the audience too. Whilst we cannot force People to stay till closing time, please be mindful that if later in the night, there's nobody left except for those poor souls who have patiently and unselfishly waited their turn, we may be forced to finish early and some will miss out. THIS IS SOMETHING WE DO NOT WISH TO HAPPEN. All we ask is that if at all possible, please try to hang around and support those who are always here to support you. The policy and concept of the ST. ANDREWS OPEN MIC JAMM NIGHT is not only to provide an opportunity for People to perform, but to also encourage camaraderie amongst Musicians. Sharing the Music is our motto and there's a lot more to it as well. And please be mindful that the Hotel and Open Mic are run as a business, no customers, no entertainment, simple as that. You'd be amazed at how the St. Andrews scene has given quite a few People some real happiness and character building. Apparently your humble narrator is a prime example of how St. Andrews has changed his life for the better, and there's many more.

It's appropriate right here and now to let you know about one of these amazing People, Sue, who came to us at Easter 2005. Sue not only brought along many friends, but has helped with the Camera work, still supports St. Andrews and has now found happiness in sharing a home with one of our favourite locals, Bill. Sue celebrated an important Birthday during February (can't say how old, but think Australian Rock and Roll, lol). A few of us attended her party in Yarra Glen where we proudly witnessed an emotional moment during the speeches where Bill dropped to one knee and proposed in the time honoured way. There wasn't a dry eye in the house and fortunately Dave borrowed my camera and got the lot (yeah, guess who had to do the MC bit). With their permission, this special moment will be featured on the next DVD. By the way, Sue did say yes, congratulations to you both.

Don't forget there's more than our Open Mic nights here at the Mecca of Australian Blues (amongst other music forms). You know the website <http://www.standrewspub.com>

I'd very much like to draw your attention to two upcoming gigs. The first being this Saturday, 1st March when **RUCKUS** will be performing at 9.30 pm. Mick and Meredith have always been incredibly generous with

their support for our Open Mic. Ruckus have also hosted their own Open Mic (No More Talent Time says Mick, lol) where the St. Andrews bods have always attended. We personally owe Mick a great deal of gratitude, for his help and advice and hope to be doing some filming for them on Saturday. Ruckus are doing very well at the moment and have made quite an impact in Tamworth, Australia's Country Music Capital. If you like Foot Stompin' Country Rock, come and have some fun, there's always a great crowd. Check out their website <http://www.ruckus.net.au/>

PHIL MANNING <http://www.philmanning.com.au/> has a gig the following Saturday 8th March at 1.00 pm. Now there's a thought, why not cruise up to St. Andrews, check out the market, have lunch at the Pub and watch an Australian Blues icon take you on a musical journey. It's no secret that this Gentleman is a personal favourite of mine, he is the bloke that inspired me to play Guitar, but please don't hold that against him. Phil's acoustic material is well worth a listen, his current acoustic compilation album is a good starting point (you should buy them all). No doubt there will be one Person there in particular cheering his Hero.

One of the nicest things about being involved in the Open Mic scene is seeing one's mates get gigs of their own. I was chuffed today to hear that Dusted Orange <http://www.dustedorange.com/> are back on the scene and have an upcoming gig. We respectfully can't mention other venues, this is St. Andrews turf, but check out the website and all will be revealed. It's great to know that our good friends Alex and Damian are doing well and we'll always support them. Yes they're original too. Onya guys.

Another website potential JAMM Junkies should check out is <http://openstagenights.bravehost.com/> which is run by our great mate and supporter, Harry Tarazinski of BAZAAR. See what he and Shane are up to. Camaraderie amongst Muso's remember.

Well everybody, that's all there is, there isn't any more. Sorry this newsletter is somewhat long winded, but there has been much ground to cover. Besides that, many have encouraged me to keep going with this, and I'm very happy to do so. Just quietly, there's a remote chance that a local publication may be interested in some of this prattle, we'll let you know as soon as we know.

Hope you're all well and look forward to seeing you NEXT MONDAY NIGHT 3rd MARCH. Just to remind you we've attached a flyer.

Bye for now and BEWARE THE RIP OFF SCAMMERS (definitely not at St. Andrews). A few of our local Muso's have been victims of these People. We're doing our best to prevent this happening

Best Regards,

Darryl & Owen
C/O St. Andrews Hotel Open Mic JAMM Nights
(FIRST MONDAY NIGHT OF THE MONTH)

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