



# TRUE BLUE NEWS



[www.truebluerecords.com](http://www.truebluerecords.com)



Volume 2 – December 2005

Written by: Mike Jakins

## TRUE BLUE PROMOTIONS

**WOW!** What a fantastic end to November with a super River Cruise and the first **True Blue** gig at the Norfolk Hotel in Fremantle. It wasn't a huge crowd on the ferry, but those who came on the River Cruise will not forget the afternoon. We were serenaded off the jetty to the dulcet tones of an acoustic and unplugged RICHIE PAVLEDIS who kept us entertained with an hour of his own songs and some great old Blues standards. Richie certainly knows how to play the crowd! After a very short break the SHADDY BROTHERS took the stage (well, the front of the downstairs part of the boat) and with their percussionist, ARUN, the brothers JIM and BELLY showed why they are one of Australia's best live acts. For the final segment they invited RICHIE to join them as another percussionist, and what a sensational end to a fantastic cruise. A day to remember!

**TRUE BLUE LIVE @ THE INDI** - Our regular Saturday night gig at Scarborough's **Indi Bar** is now FREE entry, except when we have a high profile Interstate of International act gracing the stage. Check out the website Gig Guide for up-to-date details of the acts coming up.

### December Gigs

- 3rd** TREVOR JALLA, COLLARDS GREENS & GRAVY
- 10th** BRAXTON HICKS, PAUL GIOIA & CARMEL HARRIS
- 17th** MIKE DE VELTA, RESONATOR
- 24th** JAM NIGHT with RESONATOR
- 31st** HAPPY NEW YEAR

**TRUE BLUE LIVE @ THE SLUG & HARE** – down in Mandurah, the Slug & Hare Ale House has taken a liking to the Blues and there is a selection of great acts planned there for December.

- 15th** HAMISH & KAT, from Stingray
- 22nd** MATT (from Freedom)
- 27th** RICHIE PAVLEDIS
- 29th** SIDE PROJECT

This is a great venue to listen to a great selection of both up-and-coming young artists and some already established and popular acts. Come along and relax and support live Blues in West Australia.

### HOW TO CONTACT ROGER AT TRUE BLUE:

- Phone:** (08) 9529 1791, or 0413 873 174
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- Snail mail:** TRUE BLUE, PO Box 914, Rockingham, West Australia, 6168

### WHAT'S IN NEXT MONTH'S NEWSLETTER?

The updated Gig Guide for January 06; What's new in Blues CDs; A feature article on one of our artists.

## TRUE BLUE RECORDS

**TRUE BLUE RECORDS** are looking for their next project to get some more great West Aussie Blues on sale to the appreciative public. Sales of CDs at gigs is going well, but there are always more available. We are also slowly expanding the range of artists who's albums we are stocking. Recently we have taken on selling Andrew "Walter" Morgan's new offering of solo acoustic Blues, and also the new CD from Mark Vine & The Mix. **TRUE BLUE** are proud to be able to bring you such a good range of good listening. Stay watching this column in future months for more news of some great CD releases from local bands. There are exciting times ahead!

**RANDOM CHANCE RECORDS** – we have obtained a great selection of albums from the RANDOM CHANCE stable. **TRUE BLUE RECORDS** is very proud to be the West Australian distributor of these CDs, and will bring you more as they become available. We are featuring the following artists from the Random Chance stable:

- LITTLE ARTHUR DUNCAN
- CHIEF SCHABUTTIE GILLIAME
- HOWARD GLAZER AND THE EL 34S
- SAM LAY
- JIMMIE LEE ROBINSON

**TRUE BLUE RECORDS** are negotiating with other artists and record distribution companies in Australia and overseas so that there is a greater selection of top quality Blues available, to compliment the excellent local product. Jointly with **TRUE BLUE PROMOTIONS** we are also trying hard to get some of these interstate and overseas bands to pay us a visit.

On the next page is the first in what we hope will be a series of articles bringing you some information about one of the artists that **TRUE BLUE** is proud to be associated with. We hope you find this interesting, and maybe you have a favourite artist in Perth you'd like to find a bit more our about?

If you do, drop me a line at [mike@truebluerecords.com](mailto:mike@truebluerecords.com) and I will see if I can get the to "tell all" about themselves.

***If you are an independent artist, have a recording, and would like to have some assistance with marketing, sales and distribution – then visit the website and check out what we have to offer. If it looks good, then write to us for further details. We are here to help you get your music heard.***

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**TRUE BLUE RECORDS** - Providing recording, marketing, distribution and promotional activities for Blues music in West Australia, for musicians who are still independent, and for those who wish to have their music made available to the general public.



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## WHO IS MIKE DE VELTA?

**Where were you born?** I was born in Islington, London and grew up in Edmonton. Not quite within the Beau Bells but some might say I qualify as a Cockney, alright my son!

**What was the first record you owned?** The first record I bought was a Blondie single, Heart of Glass, I also had her poster, you know the one where she's wearing the Andy Warhol's Bad T-Shirt. She was my first infatuation with an unattainable. That poster literally hung on my wall for years. I went to school with a guy who claimed to be one of the members brother, Mick Stein I think, still not sure about that one though.

**Who was the first live act you saw?** Pretty sure it was Madness, I grew up with the London Ska movement and continued to follow that style of music after immigrating to Perth. A far cry from blues and folk I must say but it was the sound track to Quadraphenia which was widely accepted and adopted by the mod revival of the early 80's that struck a chord with me. The soundtrack featured Booker T and the MG's 'Green Onions' and it was played to a scene where "Jimmy" goes nuts in a Brighton club jumping off a balcony into a crowd of tripping party goers. You could say that for me it epitomized the image of a social rebel but with a touch of with class, I liked that idea at the time.

**How old were you when you discovered you could sing?** Still working that one out, I can honestly say it's not been easy to develop and was something that didn't come all that naturally for me. Even so called great singers comment on struggling to come to terms with their own abilities. However, what is most exciting about singing unlike playing any other instrument is a uniqueness of tone which begins to develop as a direct result of playing and singing frequently over many years. Only now do I feel that this is beginning to happen.

**What was your first paid public appearance?** I stepped out doing solo work for a restaurant in Point Samson, NW WA. Just instrumentals, played very long versions of tunes like Exodus, Spanish Harlem that type of thing. I couldn't believe it, being payed for a good time, I was hooked!

**What was the first car you owned?** A green 1300 Torana that I pranged on the second day I owned it. Ran into a tree on someone's front garden, took off quietly after only damaging the front wheel and little leaving rather heavy skid marks on their immaculate lawn. I can't believe no one even noticed!

**What do you enjoy doing outside of music?** Travel, photography, bush walking, that type of thing. Any experience that might teach me to see or feel more. A l'il philosophical I know but really, how much of our lives is spent in "sameness"? I get bored quite easily, always looking for new ground, conceptually, spiritually or otherwise.

**Who is, or are, the biggest influence in your music?**

Kenny Burrell	Michael Hedges	Larry Carlton	John Lee Hooker	Ravi Shankar
Taj Mahal	Keb Mo'	Blind Boy Fuller	Brownie McGhee	Ry Cooder

**Who is the biggest influence in your life?** In 2000 I spent three months traveling India, this particular event as small as it appears had a profound effect on my thinking.

*Never having ever seen an Indian Ashram I decided to visit this particular one in Kerala on was what a fine Indian day. On arrival I walked up some steps towards a courtyard to be enveloped in what could be only described as a most beautiful and peaceful feeling. As the sounds of holy mantras filled the air I walked amongst prayerful Saddhu's and colorfully dressed devotees to find one of only a few westerners leaning against a low wall. Seeking guidance I introduced myself and he said his name was Ram. With a chuckle he then surprised me by saying, "Everyone's called that around here." Puzzled I said, "What does it mean?" He said, "It means God!"*

TRUE BLUE would sincerely like to thank Mike for providing his thoughts and answers to these questions, and to reveal some things about him that very few of us, if any, ever knew. For those that have had the pleasure of seeing and hearing Mike's music it comes as no surprise that his answers are very reminiscent of his personality – quiet, cheeky, spiritual, honest, caring, gentle, and tolerant. It is indeed a privilege to be associated with Mike, and TRUE BLUE wishes him every success in his musical career – it is all well deserved.

Mike currently has two albums, "Norfolk Lane" and "on a backdrop of silence" plus he is working hard on his next CD release, due out early in 2006. He also features on the TRUE BLUE RECORDS "Pinnacles" CD.

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