



The 20th



BURNLEY NATIONAL

BLUES FESTIVAL

Sponsored by



Aircelle
SAFRAN Group

Easter Bank Holiday Weekend
21st - 23rd March 2008

Artists may be subject to change

**DUKE ROBILLARD BAND • HENRY BUTLER • EARL THOMAS
LITTLE WILLIE LITTLEFIELD & MIKE SANCHEZ
LITTLE CHARLIE & THE NIGHTCATS**



Burnley.gov.uk



A&B
Arts & Business *working together*

www.burnleymechanics.co.uk/blues

Aircelle Burnley

As one of Burnley's largest employers
'Aircelle Burnley' are proud to sponsor the
Twentieth Burnley National Blues Festival.



Aircelle
SAFRAN Group

www.aircelle.com

- European leader in the worldwide nacelle market
- A subsidiary of the SAFRAN Group's centre of excellence for composite engine parts
- High profile global customer base
- International commitment to quality products, customer service and innovation
- Committed to social engagement within the workforce & the community
- Highly skilled workforce

Aircelle masters the expertise for design, development and manufacture of a wide range of engine nacelles, used by leading aircraft manufacturers worldwide.

Nacelles that cover all engines

Twenty years ago...

On Thursday 21st March 1989 Little Willie Littlefield, ably supported by the Big Town Playboys, headlined the 1st Burnley National Blues Festival. Little Willie brought the house down and introduced the British public to a new and exciting generation of international Blues Festivals. From that moment the Burnley National Blues Festival became the birthplace of the modern British blues festival movement.



Little Willie Littlefield wows the crowds at the first Burnley National Blues Festival in 1989

Welcome to the 20th Burnley International Blues Festival

Sponsored by Aircelle Burnley

For our 20th anniversary we begin with the UK debut of European blues master **Thorbjorn Risager**, closely followed by the magical talent of the exquisite and multi talented **Earl Thomas**. The evening concludes with the hottest west coast jump blues band on the planet **Little Charlie and the Night Cats**.

Saturday specialises in a combination of great women of the blues and festival nostalgia. Raunchy blues diva **Angela Brown** along with multi award winning **Connie Lush** and the young fresh talent of **Dani Wilde** share the day with performers from our very 1st festival – **Johnny Mars** (who will be making a special guest appearance with the **Michael Roach band**) and the return of **Little Willie Littlefield & Mike Sanchez**.

Our final day takes a fascinating journey from the opening chords of emerging British band **The Stumble** through to the undiscovered treasure of **Boo Boo Davis** and Chicago high fliers **Nick Moss and the Flip Tops**. We finish with two established world masters in the form of New Orleans piano legend **Henry Butler** and East Coast guitarist and bandleader **Duke Robillard** both of who have influenced generations of blues lovers and performers alike.

Our 20th festival also features special appearances in Oliver's Bar by **Eddie Blue & the Ravens** and the outstanding talent of young guitar wizard **Oli Brown** along with a full festival fringe, exceptional blues boat performances and workshops.

A special big thank you goes to our major sponsor Aircelle for their support along with you the audience who have supported the festival over the past 20 years. Thank you.

Barbara Hood.

Barbara Hood, Burnley Mechanics

Friday 21st March

Main Stage

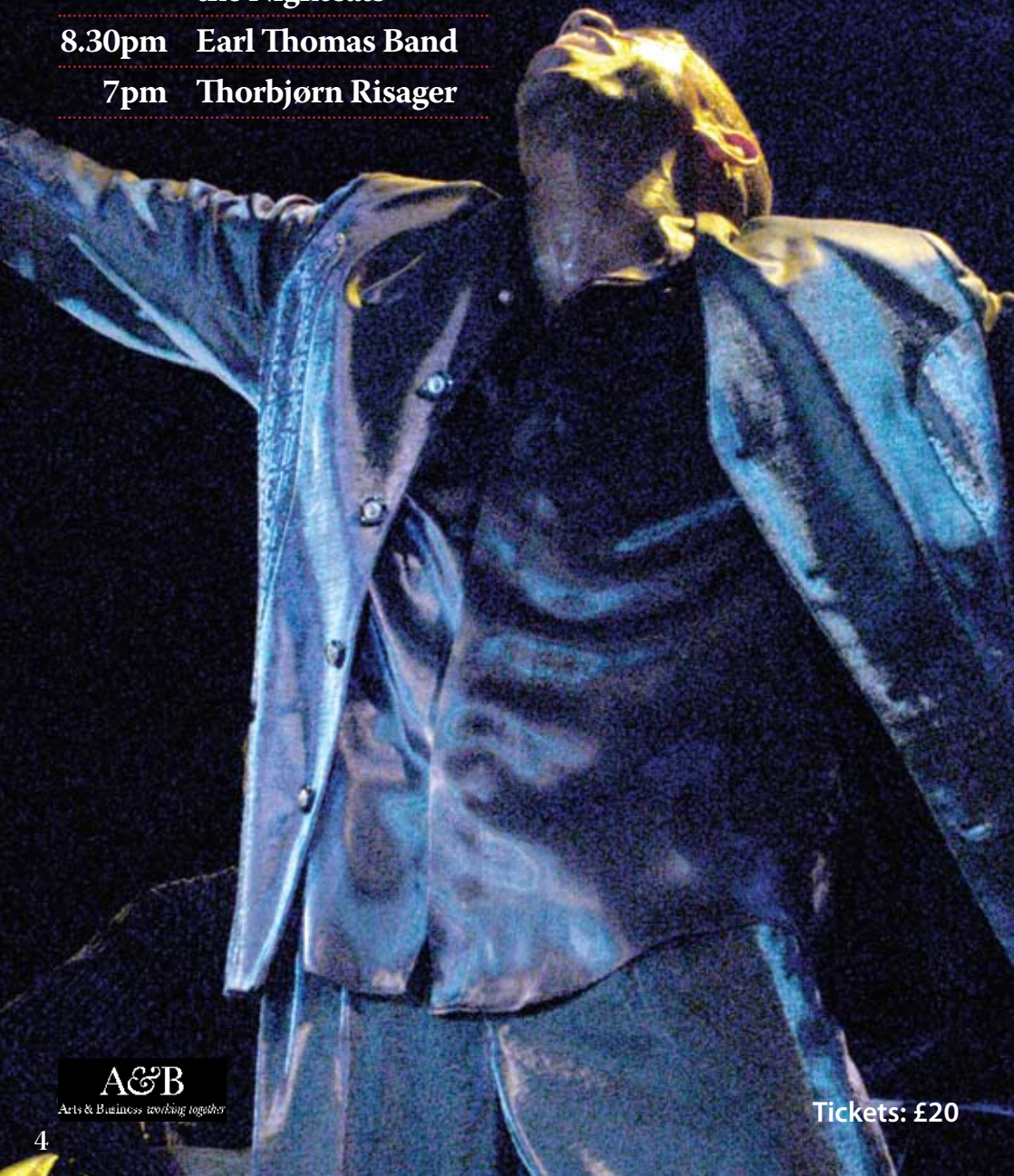
Aircelle Concert

Earl Thomas

10pm Little Charlie &
the Nightcats

8.30pm Earl Thomas Band

7pm Thorbjørn Risager



A&B

Arts & Business *working together*

Tickets: £20

Thorbjørn Risager

Emerging out of the local Copenhagen blues scene, this extraordinary band has catapulted itself into the international blues world.

Charismatic vocalist Thorbjørn Risager's exceptional bluesy and soulful voice, outstanding song writing and powerful guitar playing has earned him a reputation as one of Denmark's best performers. Expect New Orleans flavoured 1950s/60s R&B with a power that both shakes up the room and goes into the heart and soul of each individual listener.

www.risager.info



Thorbjørn Risager

Earl Thomas

Following his breathtaking UK debut in 2004 Earl has been the festival's most requested artist. His appearances have all resulted in prolonged standing ovations. Earl's gospel drenched roots shine in every show as his music travels through the soul side of the blues. His showmanship is outstanding.

Following the 2007 festival The Times reported that during Earl's performance "Time simply stood still". Now with his own hand picked British band, including the "Hornets", Earl Thomas is in his ascendancy. If you have not seen him before be prepared for something very special indeed!

Little Charlie & The Nightcats

The Sacramento-based blues, Texas swing and jump masters are back bringing you the hottest west coast jump blues on the planet.

Their utter mastery of American roots music is fuelled by Charlie Baty's jaw-dropping guitar acrobatics and driven by Rick Estrin's captivating vocals and brilliant harmonica. The bands combination of unsurpassed musicianship, inventive lyrical vision and deep understanding of blues traditions produce music that is both technically brilliant and soulfully streetwise.



Little Charlie & the Nightcats



Saturday 22nd March Main Stage

9.30pm Little Willie
Littlefield &
Mike Sanchez
& the Portions

8pm Michael Roach
Band & Johnny
Mars

6.30pm Angela Brown

5pm Connie Lush

3.30pm The Backbones

2.30pm Dani Wilde

Full day tickets: £30

Dani Wilde

Having supported artists such as Jools Holland and Gary Moore Dani Wilde is without doubt one of the countries leading young blues performers. Currently touring as one third of Ruf records' 'Blues Caravan' line-up featuring Candye Kane and Deborah Coleman, Dani takes time out to make her welcome debut at the festival. A must see!

"Blues songstress set to make it big on the international scene!"
The Times Magazine

The Backbones

Explosive, committed, sweet and soulful, The Backbones feature some of Holland's strongest blues musicians. Although well known as the backing band for many USA artists, including Mitch Kashmar and Monster Mike Welch, they are arguably at their best when led by vocalist/harp player "Big Pete" Van Der Pluym. His harmonica playing is also featured on the latest albums by Matt Schofield and Ian Siegal.

Connie Lush

Now widely recognised as one of the finest blues singers that the UK has ever produced, Connie was voted 'Best UK Female Vocalist' five times by readers of Blues In Britain, earning her a richly deserved place in the Gallery of the Greats.

Angela Brown and the Mighty 45's

Chicago diva Angela Brown's superior vocal artistry combined with the outstanding musical abilities of The Mighty 45's produce a compelling act described as the hottest live blues, soul and gospel show to be seen outside Chicago! Always a hit at British Blues festivals Angela has proved that her ranking alongside Etta James and Koko Taylor is fully justified! She's a larger than life character who knows how to get an audience eating out of the palm of hand.

Angela Brown

The Backbones

Connie Lush

Saturday 22nd March Main Stage

Michael Roach Band

with special guest Johnny Mars

Michael Roach, an internationally acclaimed country blues artist, made the transition from an acoustic performer to big band leader, recreating the resonance of the music he grew up with - music dedicated to the more soulful sound of rhythm and blues. Joining Michael for what promises to be an electrifying set will be accomplished songwriter, harmonica player and vocalist Johnny Mars. Expect nothing less than high-energy perfection.



Little Willie Littlefield & Mike Sanchez performing here in 1989

Little Willie Littlefield, Mike Sanchez Band

One of the world's greatest boogie woogie piano players Little Willie Littlefield is back in town. Piano legend Willie, started his recording career in 1949 and made his worldwide comeback in 2006. The ensuing 60 years encompassed classics such as "Ruby, Ruby" and "Kansas City". Together with Mike Sanchez, Britain's greatest Rhythm and Blues performer Little Willie promises a sensational show. This concert echoes back 20 years, it is unashamedly nostalgic and it will be a definite highlight at this year's festival.

Workshops

Tickets: £12



Michael Roach

Michael Roach

Guitar Workshop

Saturday, March 22nd – 1pm

Conductor of numerous workshops throughout the USA and Europe and founder of the European Blues Association, Michael Roach conducts an acoustic guitar master class that will focus on developing the skills necessary for finger-picking country blues. Michael will teach beginner to advanced chord progressions, using your thumb to play alternating bass patterns, rhythm, runs and 'hot licks' in country blues guitar techniques.

Johnny Mars

Harmonica Workshop

Saturday, March 22nd – 3pm

A 'master class' covering all aspects of blues harp. After an explanation of the approaches used on harmonica, Johnny will then discuss note bending, trills, improvisation, vamps and rhythms along with the basics of understanding the scale in blues.

All participants should have a C harp.

You may wish to bring along a tape recorder to record the lessons for future reference.



Johnny Mars

Duke Robillard

Nick Moss

Boo Boo
Davies

Henry Butler

Sean Webster

The Stumble



Sunday 23rd March Main Stage

9.30pm Duke Robillard Band

8pm Henry Butler

6.30pm Nick Moss &
the Flip Tops

5pm Sean Webster

3.30pm Boo Boo Davies

2.30pm The Stumble

Full day tickets: £30

The Stumble

Making their main stage debut this Preston based outfit are the perfect band to kick start the day. Explosive Chicago blues, exceptional musicianship and excellent stage presence have earned The Stumble a formidable reputation as one of the UK's most respected blues bands.

Boo Boo Davis

Boo Boo Davis is the real deal, a delta bluesman emerging from the same area, period and tradition as most of the old blues greats. Boo Boo performs traditional blues with the same intensity as the masters who taught it to us. John Lee Hooker, Elmore James, Robert Pete Williams, he remembers them all dropping by his house and rehearsing with his father Sylvester Davis. Like all these greats from the blues history books Boo Boo's singing has a timeless component that makes his message come through loud and clear.

Highly recommended!

Sean Webster

Since their first appearance at Burnley in 2005 this brilliant 3 piece outfit have earned themselves a great reputation on the British blues and rock scene. Sean's rich powerful vocals and searing guitar licks have made him instantly recognisable. His growth in the music industry continues to escalate both here and in the USA and their second CD entitled, "If Only" pushed the boundaries of blues music with Sean reaching out to a wider and (often) younger audience.

Don't miss it!

Nick Moss & The Flip Tops

This young Chicagoan stands tallest in the current generation of blues performers that honour the spirit of Chicago Blues. No less than Jimmy Rogers himself saw Nick as a protégé, a torchbearer, and a colleague.

His album "Live At Chan's" received two 2007 Blues Music Award nominations in addition to the nods for "Band of the Year" and "Instrumentalist: Guitar". Nick Moss and his Flip Tops sizzle in live performance with outstanding, superior blues.

Henry Butler

Eight-time W.C. Handy "Best Blues Instrumentalist - Piano" award nominee.

New Orleans very own Henry Butler knows no limitations. Blind since birth, he began playing piano at the tender age of six. Today he is a master of musical diversity and through his classically trained wizardry, he continues to craft a sound that is uniquely his own. Incorporating a rich amalgam of R&B and blues influences, his music is as excitingly eclectic as that of his New Orleans birthplace. This is sure to be one of the most versatile and electrifying sets of the festival.

Duke Robillard

One of this era's most acclaimed guitar players and a legend in the blues community, Duke Robillard has spanned the worlds of blues and swing since he founded the renowned big band Roomful of Blues in 1967.

He has collaborated with many legendary figures in the past including Bob Dylan, Ruth Brown, Muddy Waters, B.B. King and the Legendary Blues Band. After leading his own band until 1990 Duke went on to replace Jimmy Vaughan in the Fabulous Thunderbirds.

Duke's upbeat live performance accented by his swinging horn section is an explosive way to close our 20th anniversary festival.

Oliver's Bar – Free Entry

There is a refreshing look to the festival stage this year including the super charged blues funk of American veteran Eddie Blue and the Ravens, Chicago Style boogie blues with Khalif 'Wailin' Walter and the UK's fastest emerging blues talent Oli Brown. Acoustic performers Chris James and Jim Crawford provide their own mix of country blues and humour to ease you into the day. Along with the cream of British bands the festival stage will be a classic.

Khalif 'Wailin' Walter

Walter's stormy guitar work and brash New Orleans style vocals generate the band's traditional down-home Chicago sound, reminiscent of greats like Albert King, and Albert Collins. Fused with contemporary style and innovative original arrangements, Khalif delivers foot stomping finger snapping Boogie Blues that burns the house to the ground.

Eddie Blue & The Ravens

From the southern states of the USA Eddie Blue & The Ravens is the real deal, steeped in history and rattling out a stream of blues funk and R&B tunes guaranteed to shake up the house. Packed with top US musicians this band is a real coup for Oliver's.

Oli Brown

Oli and his band have just secured the incredible support slot on the legendary Johnny Winters forthcoming tour and will be the UK's only representative at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis.

"A real talent" John Mayall

"Oli is the most promising blues man to emerge from Britain in a long time!" Blues Matters

Friday 21st

2pm Tin Pan Alley

4pm The Convertibles

6pm The Back Porch
Blues Band

8pm Roy Mette

10pm Khalif
'Wailin' Walter

Saturday 22nd

2pm Chris James

4pm Chantel
McGregor

6pm Route 66

8pm Oli Brown

10pm Lyndon
Anderson

Sunday 23rd

2pm Jim Crawford

4pm Stone Sole River

6pm Eddie Blue Ray
& the Ravens

8pm Bill Daison Band

10pm Slowburner

Tickets: FREE



Chantel
McGregor

Slowburner

Paul Bridgewater is a "Great singer who continues the tradition of British blues soul singers" Robert Plant

"The band overflows feral blues rock" Mojo

Lyndon Anderson Band

"The band are excellent" Paul Jones

"Tougher version of Rod Piazza" Blues In Britain

The Back Porch Band


Their unique variety of humour and foot stomping acoustic blues conjure up an atmosphere of good ol' fun sat on a back porch somewhere near the Mississippi delta. If toe-tapping, skiffle and even rock & roll is your bag be sure to catch this band

Chantel McGregor

"This band takes the technicalities of Vai and Satriani and blends this with the excitement of Hendrix to create high energy Blues-Rock in the vein of Joe Bonamassa and Aynsley Lister." Blues Matters



Khalif
'Wailin' Walter



Eddie Blue &
The Ravens



Oli Brown

Blues Cruise

Aboard the Marton Emperor

Sailings take place at 12pm – 1.30pm & 3pm each day

Enjoy a relaxing hour on board the Marton Emperor with the classic combination of great music, wonderful landscapes and a refreshing drink.

Tickets: £5.50

Khalif 'Wailin' Walter

Saturday 22nd March

After touring and performing under the tutelage of his uncle and mentor Carl Weathersby, Khalif spent four years as a band alumnus for two-time Grammy nominee Lonnie Brooks.

Known for his exceptional guitar work and New Orleans style vocals, reminiscent of greats such as Albert King and Albert Collins, Khalif regularly performs his foot stomping boogie blues on the Chicago Blues circuit and festivals throughout the US & EU.

Eddie Blue Lester Supported by Alex Mays

Sunday 23rd March

Eddie Blue brings a glimpse into a lifetime spent on the road as a blues performer in the USA. This included time on the Chittlin circuit playing in the Jimmy Church Revue with Billy Cox and Jimi Hendrix.

Classically trained Eddie has shared the stage with many national acts, such as Big Jack Johnson and Magic Slim. He is the front man in The Crossroads Blues Band, which had the honour of competing in the International Blues Challenge held in Memphis, Tennessee.

Don't miss both artists performing with their full bands in Oliver's Bar.



Eddie Blue Lester



Khalif 'Wailin' Walter



Festival Information

Ticket Office Opening Hours: Burnley Mechanics - Monday – Friday 12 Noon – 5pm.
Saturday – 10am – 12.45pm – Sundays Closed.
Or book online at www.burnleymechanics.co.uk. Telephone 01282 664400.

Festival Weekend Opening Times: Friday – Sunday 12 noon – 10pm.

How to Book: By Access, MasterCard, Switch, or Visa in person or over the telephone; by cheque/PO made payable to Burnley Borough Council (there is a handling charge of £1 per ticket for all telephone card bookings).

If you require your tickets to be posted to you please add £2.50 to your total as all tickets are sent recorded delivery. Tickets lost or stolen cannot be replaced.

Toilets are located on both floors. A radar key operates the theatre level disabled toilet. If you do not have a radar key please ask a festival steward for assistance.

Festival Fringe Brochure: Incorporating a comprehensive guide to who is on and where, will be available from all Fringe Venues and The Burnley Mechanics one week before the festival.

Blues Festival Accommodation 2008: Log onto www.burnleytourism.co.uk for a complete guide to hotels, B&B's and Self Catering accommodation. Alternatively contact the Burnley Mechanics Ticket Office 01282 664400.

Burnley Mechanics: Manchester Road, Burnley, BB11 1BH is owned and operated by Burnley Borough Council.

Ticket Office:

(01282) 664400

Book online at

www.burnleymechanics.co.uk

New for 2008 Kelly's Kitchen:

Supplying all your catering needs throughout the festival weekend. Kelly offers an extensive variety of dishes made with high quality ingredients. Healthy options are also available. For menu samples log onto www.kellys-kitchen.co.uk



MC Chris Powers

Full Festival Ticket: £68
Friday Day Ticket: £20
Saturday Day Ticket: £30

The 20th
BURNLEY
NATIONAL
BLUES
FESTIVAL
2008

Sunday Day Ticket: £30
Blues Cruise £5.50
Workshops £12

The 20th
BURNLEY
NATIONAL
BLUES
FESTIVAL
2008

PHOTO CREDITS

Andy Ford – Brian Smith – Kate Moss - Nigel Cliff



Manchester Road, Burnley BB11 1BH

Ticket Office: (01282) 664400

www.burnleymechanics.co.uk/blues

We gratefully acknowledge the support given by our festival sponsors.
To all who gave support over the past 20 years to keep the blues in Burnley alive - thank you all.



Aircelle
SAFRAN Group



A&B
Arts & Business *working together*



Burnley.gov.uk

