

10th BOWNESS BAY BLUES – April 2022

Review - Rosy Greer – Lancashire Blues Archive/UKBlues Federation



Friday

George Shovlin & The Radars



Great to see George and the band, with a great back drop in the Boat Club. A fabulous set from the young veteran and his band, still sounding fresh. Blues at its best.

The Bella Collins Band



New to me and what a pleasure to hear this band all the way from Wales. Some very classy jazzy blues, certainly a band to watch out for.

Hiding Magpies



These Lancashire lads have certainly raised their game. Primarily Americana with a Tom Petty influence, they have certainly put their own stamp on the music. A brilliant set and they get better each time I hear them.

The Revolutionaires



You can't go wrong with these guys if you like rockabilly and R&R you can't fault them. Always an energetic set and certainly got the dancers up. From the North East they have grown in stature over the years, always entertaining.

Saturday

Mike Bowden & The A917



Mike, originally from the Northwest, now lives in Fife but continues to bring his own take on 'blues and roots' with his band, The A917. Singer/songwriter Mike Bowden delivers original material with a style of his own. A really 'laid back' vibe and enjoyable set showcasing their new album 'Timepieces'.

Night Train

I sadly missed the Night Train set, but from all accounts it went down well in the Boat Club. Alec Martin fronts the band and is a stalwart in the Northwest and has been for many years.

Redfish



A well put together set with excellent musicianship from the band, who are from Carlisle. Although they were missing the amazing keyboard player Fraser, who just got married, their replacement did a fine job. Great vocals and powerful guitar from front man Christian Sharpe. Fine blues from a well-seasoned band.

Cinelli Brothers



One of the highlights of the festival, for me, the Cinelli Brothers have a great rapport with the audience and excellent musicianship. The talent in the band is evident with all the instrument changes were to show. It was a performance with the big letter 'P' from start to finish and joining forces for a jam with Redfish was the icing on the cake. Brilliant band with blues at their roots.

Alvin Youngblood Hart's Muscle Theory



This was the American artists first gig on his tour in the UK.

Sunday

Snakewater



From Manchester, Snakewater have certainly upped their game. With the introduction of keys to the mix has raised their profile. A brilliant set from a superb band. Bobby Grant who fronts the band, has matured and has a voice that fits with the rocky blues they play. He is also a master of the guitar, just brilliant all round.

James Oliver Band



James Oliver is the rockabilly entertainment specialist. A fun set from this rising star.

Stumble



Another highlight of the festival, the Stumble never fail to disappoint. The whole texture of the band, now as a seven-piece, oozes rhythm and blues at its best. Playing some new numbers from the forthcoming album, shows they have not lost the spirit of the blues. They are certainly a band that one never tires of hearing, and they certainly proved that point at Bowness.

Daniel Darcy and the Swear Downs



The final band at the Boat House, from Hartlepool, were young Daniel Darcy and his band, playing a variety of well put together covers.

Stoney Broke

Although we didn't get to the atmospheric Hole in t'Wall to catch Stoney Broke (Jake Scott), this young singer songwriter certainly ended the festival in style with a full house and an acoustic treat.

Well done to all the Festival organisers for putting together such a fabulous event and raising money for charity. With so much going on it was impossible to get to see everyone perform but congratulations to all who played throughout Bowness and Windermere in the many venues. Here's to next year.