

PRESS RELEASE:

LONDON'S LONGEST RUNNING BLUES FESTIVAL IS BACK!  
AND BIGGER THAN EVER!

## EALING BLUES FESTIVAL

22-23 July 2017 - 30 years old this year!

Founded in 1987, the 30th birthday of the Ealing Blues Festival will take place in Walpole Park, Ealing, on Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd July, with music performances between 12.00pm – 10.30pm across three stages.

Proudly presented in the London Borough which boasts the location of **Ealing Club**, meeting place of **The Rolling Stones** and where **Alexis Korner & Cyril Davies** started the country's first dedicated electric Blues Club in 1962, thus giving birth to British Rock Music.

The 2017 headline acts are **Mungo Jerry** and **The Blockheads**, alongside an array of the best up and coming and established acts in British Blues.

**The Ealing Blues Festival** prides itself on its affordability, with the admission price pegged below £10 per day, making it possibly the 'best value' event of its kind. This contributes to the festival being highly family-friendly, with the advantages and facilities that a well-managed park has to offer. The main stage is within an open sided circus tent providing shade when it's hot and wet weather cover when it's not. The Festival is served by a wide selection of food stalls and large bar area.

Sat 22 July Headline – **The Blockheads**. Very popular with the Blues & Roots audience having appeared at several other UK Blues Festivals. The observational and witty lyrics of their late frontman, **Ian Dury**, have much in common with those of many of the great blues singers. 2017 is the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the release of the album '**New Boots and Panties**'. These are the musicians who played on such iconic songs as, '**Hit Me with Your Rhythm Stick, Reasons To Be Cheerful, Sex and Drugs and Rock'n'Roll**'. Ealing Blues will be their largest London show this summer. <http://www.theblockheads.com/>

Sun 23 July Headline – **Mungo Jerry**. Musically rooted in the Blues, Jugband and Skiffle traditions, their 1970 hit '**In The Summertime**' is the 4<sup>th</sup> highest selling single of all time and is still featured in films and adverts to this day. Band frontman and founder, Ray Dorset, is from nearby Ashford and has fond memories of the local venues he played in his formative years – The Ealing Club, The White Hart Southall, and The Red Lion Brentford. He has said that he sees this gig as a 'homecoming' for him. <https://www.mungojerry.com/>

The Ealing Blues Festival has always championed and supported young and emerging Blues talent, and in 2017 we are pleased to showcase the new talents of:

- **Winnie & The Rockettes** - <http://winnieand.wixsite.com/therockettes>
- **Georgie Chapple** - <http://www.georgiechapplemusic.com/>
- **Du Bellows** - <http://www.dubellows.com/>
- **Andy Twyman** - <http://www.andytwyman.com/>
- **Tom Walker** - <http://www.tomwalkerofficial.com/>

The Ealing Blues Festival also presents the best of the 'backbone' of The British Blues scene:

- **Steve Morrison** - finalist in the 2016 Sky Arts Guitar Star series - <http://www.stevemorrison.eu>
- **Amy Mayes** - featured by Jools Holland, he described her as, 'A wonderful woman with a wonderful voice'. - <http://www.amymayes.co.uk>
- **Tim Aves** – finalist British Blues Awards 2016 - Blues Broadcaster of The Year - <http://www.timwolfpack.moonfruit.com>
- **Northsyde**
  - guitarist Jules Fothergill - finalist British Blues Awards 2016 – guitarist of the year
  - singer Lorna Fothergill - finalist British Blues Awards 2016 – female vocalist of the year
  - bassist Ian Mauricio - finalist British Blues Awards 2016 – bassist of the year
  - drummer Hayden Doyle - finalist British Blues Awards 2016 – drummer of the year  
<http://www.northsyde.co.uk>
- **Laura Holland** - finalist British Blues Awards 2016 – emerging artist of the year – <http://www.laurahollandband.co.uk>
- **Sam Kelly** – 5 times winner of Blues In Britain's UK Drummer of the year. <http://www.sam-kelly.co.uk>

For further information:

The Ealing Blues Festival Founder and Artistic Director is **Bob Salmons**, contact him via:

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Ealing Blues Festival is part of The Ealing Summer Festival which includes The Ealing Comedy Festival and Ealing Jazz Festival and is run by The Event Umbrella on behalf of the London Borough of Ealing. The Festival site, Walpole Park, Ealing is a residential park next to the famous Ealing Film Studios and behind the historic Pitzhangar Manor

[www.facebook.com/EalingBluesFestival](http://www.facebook.com/EalingBluesFestival)  
[www.ealingsummerfestivals.com](http://www.ealingsummerfestivals.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/ealingsummer>

**Editors notes:**

- **You will shortly be receiving an invitation to the Ealing Blues Festival press launch showcasing three new acts:**

**Winnie and The Rockettes, Tom Walker and Marky Dawson.**

plus Blues Festival host musician **Robert Hokum.**

**Thursday 1st June 8-11pm**

**The Red Rooms (formerly The Ealing Club)**

**42a The Broadway**

**Ealing W5 2NP**

- The Ealing Blues Festival began in 1987 as an independently sponsored 'free' event by Bob Salmons (a.k.a. Blues Musician Robert Hokum). It was subsequently developed with Ealing Council and The Event Umbrella to become one of the largest and most consistent Blues Festivals in UK
- Ealing Blues Festival Founder & Artistic Director, Bob Salmons is a Director of The Ealing Club Community Interest Company which curates and promotes Ealing's iconic Blues & Rock music heritage as well as providing opportunities for new music within the Borough. He was involved with organising a heritage plaque at the premises of the former Ealing Club, where Alexis Korner founded Britain's first dedicated electric blues club and which was the meeting place of the Rolling Stones. Bob was also involved in the placement of the heritage plaque in Hanwell (also in Ealing) where the first Marshall Amplifier was built. He also works with The Ealing Music & Film Festival, The Hanwell Hootie, West Ealing Soundbite and provides artists for Ealing Eat & Drink & Ealing Jazz Festival.

For further information about Ealing's iconic rock music heritage which includes, The Rolling Stones, The Who, Queen, Dusty Springfield, Marshall Amplification and many more go to [www.ealing-club.com](http://www.ealing-club.com)