

Paul Tweed Band is from the Chippewa Valley (Luddington if you must know) blues, rock, and originals outfit. "It's all about the groove, the feeling, the tone, and the emotion when it comes to blues" is the most accurate way to look at this group of veteran musicians. This line-up comes with a deep history of experiences playing in more bands than they care to mention all over the U.S. Paul and the band take a few well known songs, some not so well known songs, and originals, wrap them up in blues, rock, and jam packages for delivery. Take a trip down memory lane, and make some new memories at the same time because you never know what style, what groove, or what song is next. When it comes to the blues it comes from everywhere, be ready to go there.

Paul is joined by Bob Whelihan on Bass and Bill Weiss on Drums.



Tuesday Night Blues 2023

All shows begin at 6:30

May 30: Paul Tweed Band

June 6: Kyle Renfro

June 13: Jay Stulo

June 20: Bridget Kelly Band

June 27: Joyann Parker

July 4: Lamont Cranston w Nick Foytik

July 11: Sue Orfield Band

July 18: Howard 'Guitar' Luedtke & Blue Max

July 25: Tommy Bentz Band

August 1: Stefan Geisinger Band

August 8: Mark Cameron Band

August 15: Left Wing Bourbon

August 22: Avey Grouws Band

August 29: Mojo Lemon

Find out more about the bands at:

TuesdayNightBlues.com



Tuesday Night Bluesletter

May 30, 2023

Paul Tweed Band



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A Little About the Blues

John Baldry was born in 1941 and was given the nickname 'Long John' in childhood. When he grew to 6 feet 7 inches as an adult, the nickname followed him through life.

Long John had a voice that was made for singing the blues. He began performing at 16. Early in his career he mainly sang folk-inspired and jazz-oriented material. It was only after meeting Alexis Korner that Long John became aware of the potential of R&B and made the switch that would define his future musical output.

Long John sang with Korner's band, Alexis Korner's Blues Incorporated. In 1962, the band released what is considered the first blues album made by a British group. It was titled R&B from the Marquee.

Alexis Korner's Blues Incorporated had a fluid membership that included future stars like Jack Bruce and Charlie Watts, as well as Baldry. When Watts left to become the Rolling Stones' drummer, Ginger Baker took his place.

Baldry was able to meet and perform with some of the hottest upcoming young musicians and singers working in London. Future stars like Eric Clapton, John Mayall, and Zoot Money benefitted from their early links with Alexis Korner.

The Rolling Stones performed their first gig at the Marquee Club in 1962. Long John Baldry put together an informal group to be the support act. He maintained his contact with the Stones, acting as an announcer on their Got Live If You Want It album in 1966.

Cyril Davies was a friend of Korner and was a member of Alex Korner's Blues Incorporated. Cyril had split from Alexis and formed his own band Cyril Davies R&B All Stars. In 1963 Long John joined the band as a singer, taking over the reins when Cyril died in 1964. The band was renamed Long John Baldry and his Hoochie Coochie Men featuring Rod Stewart as a vocalist alongside Long John.

The Hoochie Coochie Men changed their name to Steampacket in 1965. Long John and Rod Stewart continued as vocalists and were joined by Julie Driscoll as a female vocalist.

After Steampacket split up Baldry formed a new band called Bluesology. He recruited Elton Dean as a saxophonist, a keyboard player by the name of Reg Dwight and saxophonist Caleb Quayle. The band Bluesology had a strong influence on Reg Dwight. When he decided to go solo, he adopted a stage name that took Elton Dean's first name and Long John's given name to become Elton John.

(continued)

The mid-1970s were a difficult time for Long John, as he suffered bouts of mental illness. His recovery and return to performing was celebrated in 1978 with the release of the album Baldry's Out. The title referred to his decision to openly declare his homosexuality.

During the later 1970s he formed the Long John Baldry Band which included the singer Kathi McDonald. In 1980 the pair had a hit with "You've Lost That Lovin' Feelin'."

Long John's homosexuality was an open secret in the music industry in the 1960s, although mostly the record-buying public were unaware. In the 1960s, homosexuality among men was illegal in the UK, so it was quite common for gay men to keep their sexual orientation secret. Conviction would often result in imprisonment.

One result of his link with Elton John was that he was instrumental in saving Elton's life. Elton suffered as a consequence of his confused feelings about his sexuality. His relationship with a woman had caused Elton such distress that he attempted suicide.

Long John, together with Bernie Taupin, found Elton just in time. Long John talked with Elton and convinced him that suicide was not the answer to his problems. On the album Captain Fantastic and the Brown Dirt Cowboy, Elton included the song "Someone Saved My Life Tonight."

Long John spent the last years of his life with his partner Felix Rexach, 'Oz' to his friends. They lived in Vancouver on Canada's west coast. Long John Baldry contracted a severe chest infection and died on July 21, 2005.

- Abridged article by Rocks Off Magazine

Next Week (June 6)

Kyle Renfro

Up and coming blues artist Kyle Renfro brings a high energy blues rock guitar show. His setlist is a mix of high energy originals, and classic blues rock covers. Based in La Crosse, WI, Kyle is expanding out as far as he can reach with his newly revamped trio, featuring local powerhouse players Dave Orr (Drums) and Tim Powers (Bass).

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