

The 'Blues over Byron' Busker's Festival. Press Release 25/3/06

In its fifth year, the 'Blues over Byron' busker's festival is bigger and better than ever.

This year we will feature the 'best of the best' buskers from the four corners of Australia. As organisers we are proud and constantly amazed at the quality and quantity of talent out there and this is even more evident for the roll up this year. It has been especially noted over the last two years that the last eight or so finalists could, in fact DESERVE to earn a full time living from their music...such is the talent.

Last year the winning busker hailed from the Northern Rivers while the previous years winner was from far northern Queensland.

The finalists will receive prizes and gigs from famous Byron entertainment establishment's venues as the Beach Hotel, Great Northern Hotel, Cocomangas nightclub, the famous Billinudgel pub as well as some of our very own Byron restaurants.

The Grand finalist will receive the 'Blues over Byron' trophy plus the very coveted spot at the world renowned 'Byron Blues and Roots' Festival. Other finalists will be permitted to busk in and around the grounds of the Blues Festival. Additional prizes will be handed out during the performances.

The Byron Business Group as a prelude to the Blues Festival initiated the Buskers 'Blues over Byron' festival. The aim was and is to set the music scene in Byron and prepare the town and visitors for the amazing, wonderful music world event aptly named the 'Blues and Roots' Festival. Byron is indeed lucky to be able to host this event every year since its humble birth in Byron Bay some 20 years. This year the festival will attract some 70,000 visitors.

This busker's festival started with our homegrown and very talented local artists then very quickly moved National. However this year with our new major National Sponsor that Queensland icon "Bundy Rum" and their cheeky polar bear, the Buskers 'Blues over Byron' is indeed a fully National event.

During the two weeks leading up to the Blues and Roots festival the Blues over Byron buskers will be set up at various vantage points in Byron Central where they will be sharing their blues themed talents with the people of Byron as well as our judges.

To add to the atmosphere, many Byron businesses will be setting out their shops and offices in the Blues theme.

So come along to the streets of Byron and enjoy some outstanding Aussie music entertainment and cheer on our great Australian artists.

The event is free to the public and is held from April 8th to 14th.