

DUXFORD FESTIVAL of Blues, Jazz and Soul

A one-day free musical event for the Duxford community to enjoy, and for our Duxford hostelrys to benefit from.

In summary:

- Four(/five) participating venues: John Barleycorn, The Plough, Graystones, The Lodge (and Duxford Community Centre)
- A programme of overlapping free-entry musical slots at the above venues, featuring a total of 8 different bands/acts
- Band fees, usually paid by the venues themselves, to be paid from part of an existing Duxford Parish Council Public Art funds, which will allow the venues to recoup some of the bar/food income lost due to the Covid pandemic
- (Similarly, the bands some of their lost income).

Bands will be invited to apply for the event, and/or approached by the organising team, featuring music from the blues, jazz and soul genres. It is hoped/anticipated that the Duxford Saturday Workshop will provide some acts, given their strong jazz interest.

Starting at 2pm there will be an act starting every hour rotating around the four/five venues, each act no longer than 2 hours (eg 2x 45-minute sets with a break in between).

Overlapping the events will allow people – if they wish - to wander between the venues and sample different acts, at the different venues, over the course of the day. The format should not however preclude shorter sets, for example a local band performing for 30-45 minutes.

Tables 1 and 2 illustrate the proposed format for four and five venues respectively:

TABLE 1 - Four Venues; 8 acts of up to 120 minutes

Start at:	Venue1	Venue2	Venue3	Venue4
2pm	Act1			
3pm		Act2		
4pm			Act3	
5pm				Act4
6pm	Act5			
7pm		Act6		
8pm			Act7	
9pm				Act8

TABLE 2 - Five Venues; 8 acts of up to 120 minutes

Start at:	Venue1	Venue2	Venue3	Venue4	Venue5
2pm	Act1				
3pm		Act2			
4pm			Act3		
5pm				Act4	
6pm					Act5
7pm	Act6				
8pm		Act7			
9pm			Act8		

Other considerations

- A website will be created through which, in its early stages, anyone interested in joining the organising team can apply, and through which bands may submit their applications. It will develop into the event's main website.
- The success of the festival will depend heavily on how well it is promoted. All venues have their own Facebook/ websites and are very keen to participate, we also have the village website and the Chatterbox newsletter as local communication channels.
- Printing of material would include posters and flyers, and three 8' x 4' banners to cover the three main approaches to the village.
- We will have merchandise in the form of t-shirts which should generate a small profit.
- As two of the venues would be using their car parks for the event, the ability to have a designated area for parking would be required - TBC
- First aid cover - TBC

Funds requested

A total of £3,000 of the Public Art funds is requested for the project.

This is primarily to cover the band fees, plus estimates for printing, logo design, t-shirts and as yet unidentified costs. Any monies not used would either be returned to the Parish Council (to be used elsewhere before their deadline of end 2022), or used as seed money for the following year – should the event be the success it is hoped for.

Many thanks for your consideration .

Ian (Mac) Macpherson – 7th June 2021