

Maggie's Blue Suede News

October 2007 - Issue 124

**Loudwater On Fire!**

**Bernie Wood & The Forest Fires**

Loudwater Royal British Legion

Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> August

Darrell Parsons, High Wycombe

This evening was really well attended and featured a cracking selection of tracks from DJ Jivin' George, a raffle that raised over £100 for St Tiggywinkles Wildlife Hospital, a jiving competition and top notch live music from local favourites, Bernie Woods and The Forest Fires.

After the assembled punters had been warmed up nicely by Jivin' George, the band got everyone moving in fine style with Bernie in excellent voice for a good selection of jivers, strollers, boppers and straight ahead Rock 'n' Roll. The dance floor was pretty packed from the beginning and that's the way it stayed throughout the evening, helped immensely by a fine bunch of musicians who never fail to raise a smile. These guys enjoy performing and it shows!

Numbers such as 'Route 66' and 'Boogie Woogie Country Girl' kept the party going, driven along by the solid rhythm section of Buddy Harris on double bass and drummer Ken Harris, before the pace slowed slightly for a strolling selection. The lead vocals were spread around during the two sets, with Colin House getting a chance to shine, combined with his energetic rhythm guitar playing, as well as Alex Chanter leading proceedings for some songs, in addition to providing stinging lead guitar throughout the evening. Jivin' George pitched in as well, tinkling the ivories to add an extra dimension to the overall sound, with backing vocals from all musicians completing the job. We also had guest guitarist and lead and backing vocalists at different times with, at one point, nine performers crammed on stage.

As always, the choice of tracks made popular by all the greats, from Elvis and Eddie Cochran to Chuck Berry and Dave Edmunds, was tailored to the variety of dancers, with highlights including 'Honey Don't', 'Forty Days' and 'Big Boss Man' that was given a stripped down rockabilly treatment. The temperature continued to rise as we approached the finale of 'Jungle Rock', with the rest of the band eventually deserting Ken for a bopping session on the dance floor, as he closed the proceedings with his now trademark solo burst of percussion.

Jiving George organises other regular events and jiving lessons in the Bourne End and Loudwater area. Check out his website [www.justdanze.co.uk](http://www.justdanze.co.uk) for details and photos of this and other events, providing conclusive evidence that it wasn't just me that had a superb time!

## Maggie's Blue Suede News – Issue 124

### REVIEW

by Darrell Parsons

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2007

**“Bernie Woods and The Forest Fires” which was organised by Jivin' George at JUST DANZE.**

**[WWW.JUSTDANZE.CO.UK](http://WWW.JUSTDANZE.CO.UK)**