

Guitar Students of All Ages... Rock!

Over 50 musicians will take part in an all ages performance showcase called Hive Live 3 at the Annandale Hotel on Sunday October 22.



Hive Live is a performance showcase by Guitarhive students (and a few guest singers and drummers) as a result of four to five months of workshopping and rehearsing.

"Hive Live started out by fulfilling the need and desire of most of my students to play and jam with others," says Ben Little, organiser and owner of the Guitarhive. "So I started workshops where they could do just that. Those workshops quickly evolved because the students wanted to take those experiences a few steps further – to be in a band and to perform.

The first Hive Live had 8 bands and was held at the Australian Youth Hotel in Glebe in April 2005. About 120 people packed out the venue and it was immediately apparent that Hive Live was a concept worth repeating. The second Hive Live was held in October 2005 at the Annandale, had 10 bands, and brought in over 200 people. The event has grown again, and Ben expects between 250 and 300 people to come see Hive Live 3 to see and hear what his students can do.



"Of course, families come for support, but the audience for Hive Live is actually more diverse than that. A lot of music students, mine and others, came just to see other students play – playing opportunities like this are rare – and it is also a really entertaining day – there are some real stars here." said Ben.

Ben believes the Annandale Hotel is a great venue for Hive Live for lots of reasons. "It is a popular live music venue; offers a professional stage, sound and lighting; and has enough space for all of the students and their gear. The Annandale has always been supportive of live music, and is also really supportive of young musicians by providing all ages access for events like School of Rock and Hive Live."

Ben stresses that Hive Live is not just for kids. About half of the Hive Live 3 participants are adults. Ben is proud of the fact that, challenging most statistics on guitar based rock music, 20 of the Hive Live performers are female.

Hive Live gives local music retailers an opportunity to engage as supporters. **Jackson's Rare Guitars**, **The Bass Player**, **Music 101**, and **Sydney Guitar Setups** have all helped out for a raffle, and **Guitar Factory Parramatta** is providing the big raffle prize – a top range electric, acoustic guitar – make and model still TBD.

Doors open at 11:30, performances from 12:00-5:00, all ages welcome.