

# NEWCASTLE LIVE MUSIC CENSUS 2018



Skivvy Season at Abicus  
Photo: Lazybones



Today the Newcastle Live Music Taskforce release the findings of the 2018 Live Music Census, which offers a snapshot of live music activity in June 2018 across the City.

Undertaken in partnership with venues, artists, music industry representatives and the Live Music Office, the census project mapped live music in Newcastle across June 2018 through monitoring available programs, gig guides, social media, connecting with industry participants across the hospitality industry as well as through word of mouth.

State Member for Newcastle, Tim Crakanthorp MP said “Live music in Newcastle has been under threat in recent years, that is why I established the Newcastle Live Music Taskforce. The Taskforce has brought together stakeholders from across the industry including live music venues, promoters, local artists and youth venues. One of the key objectives of the taskforce is to ensure the live music scene flourishes. In order to measure this objective and to establish a baseline of live music gigs, one of the first jobs undertaken by the Taskforce was a census of live music acts across the Newcastle LGA. The Taskforce will aim to grow the number of gigs in Newcastle over the coming years. I thank all the members who have contributed to making the census a reality. This is an important step in ensuring the live music scene does not just survive, but thrives in Newcastle and we are able to maximise the benefits the night economy delivers for the city.”

## Highlights:

- **504 gigs** were presented across June 2018 featuring **716 separate acts**.
- **80 venues** hosted live music.
- There were 57 individual performances at the Cambridge Hotel, the Hamilton Station Hotel presented 54 separate acts, and 36 artists showcased at the Lass O’Gowrie Hotel.
- Lizottes and Battlesticks bar presented the most gigs, with 19 events each.
- Hotels had 41 venues (51%), 16 Clubs had performances (20%), and there were 11 small bars with live music (13.75%).
- Newcastle city centre has the most live music venues (25), with Hamilton (7), Merewether (6) and Wickham (4).
- Carrington, Cooks Hill, Lambton, Mayfield, New Lambton, Wallsend and Adamstown all have 3 venues each.

## About

### Newcastle Live Music Taskforce

Established in April 2018, the Newcastle Live Music Taskforce comprises representatives from live music venues, promoters, local artists, youth venues and state and local government, and was formed following the live music roundtable held in February 2018.

The purpose of the taskforce is to identify issues facing the sector, and from there, laying the foundations to drive change and engaging with what all three levels of government can do to make sure live music in Newcastle thrives, and grows into the future.



### The Live Music Office

The Live Music Office works to increase opportunities for live music in Australia by identifying and advocating for better policy, regulation and strategy. Established by the Federal Government, in partnership with APRA AMCOS, the scope includes planning, licensing and regulatory policies, as well as cultural, audience and market development strategies.

### Contact:

Office of Tim Crakanthorp MP  
State Member for Newcastle  
Shadow Parliamentary Secretary  
414 Hunter Street Newcastle NSW 2300  
T: 4926 1126 E: [newcastle@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:newcastle@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

Live Music Office  
16 Mountain Street, Ultimo NSW 2007  
E: [info@livemusicoffice.com.au](mailto:info@livemusicoffice.com.au)

Alongside the independent venues, restaurants, churches and the university, many of the events were presented by the hospitality industry, with Hotels providing 41 venues (51%), 16 Clubs had performances (20%), and there were 11 small bars with live music (13.75%).

Whilst every effort was made to identify as many gigs as possible through this process, we do understand that not every event may have been captured, however we look forward to hearing from venues who may not be reflected in this years census.

Quotes from Taskforce members:

“The census of Newcastle venues and performances helps give us a great understanding of where we are, and to help frame the work we need to do to ensure that our live music industry not just survives - but thrives into the future providing jobs, ongoing economic development and opportunity in creative industries.”

**Carol Duncan - Councillor, City of Newcastle**

“After a concerted effort by local music industry members, music fans, and our local member, we now have a comprehensive census on our local music scene. The dedication shown by our local music lovers and the Music Task Force highlights the respect and real concern for protecting such an essential piece of our city’s culture. I am hopeful that this census will set a benchmark to then allow for growth and opportunities for developing our local talent into world class musicians and industry professionals.”

**Grant Walmsley – Screaming Jets**

“Newcastle was built on a foundation of live music. There was a time when our hotels, pubs and clubs were home to hundreds of live acts each and every week and it’s so important that we continue to honour and respect the soundtrack of our city.

Despite exponential residential development and an expanding culture within our city, it is imperative that we support and protect not only our existing live music venues, places like The Stag, The Cambridge, The Lass and The Wicko, but the plethora of long-serving artists and young, talented individuals who continue to call Newcastle home.”

**Nikki Taylor - Newcastle Hotels Representative - AHA NSW**

“As I had worked previously on a ‘Newcastle Entertainment Gig Guide’, it was a great and informative experience to compile the census of live music gigs across Newcastle recording the bands/artists that performed over the four week period of the census. It is great to see stakeholders from across the industry working to ensure the live music scene thrives in Newcastle.”

**Mark Tucker – Live Music Advocate**

“Doing this sort of mapping exercise to identify where the venues are and who’s playing there is incredibly insightful into what’s happening in the music scene in Newcastle right now. The Hotel sector are making a very strong contribution (51%), Clubs (20%) and Small Bars (13%), and well done to Lizottes and Battlesticks Bar for presenting the most gigs through the June 2018, with 19 events each.

Programming is also very diverse, featuring major touring acts, strong support for grass roots local bands, and a wide range of genres across rock, jazz, electronic, country, classical, blues, many of whom are presenting original music.”

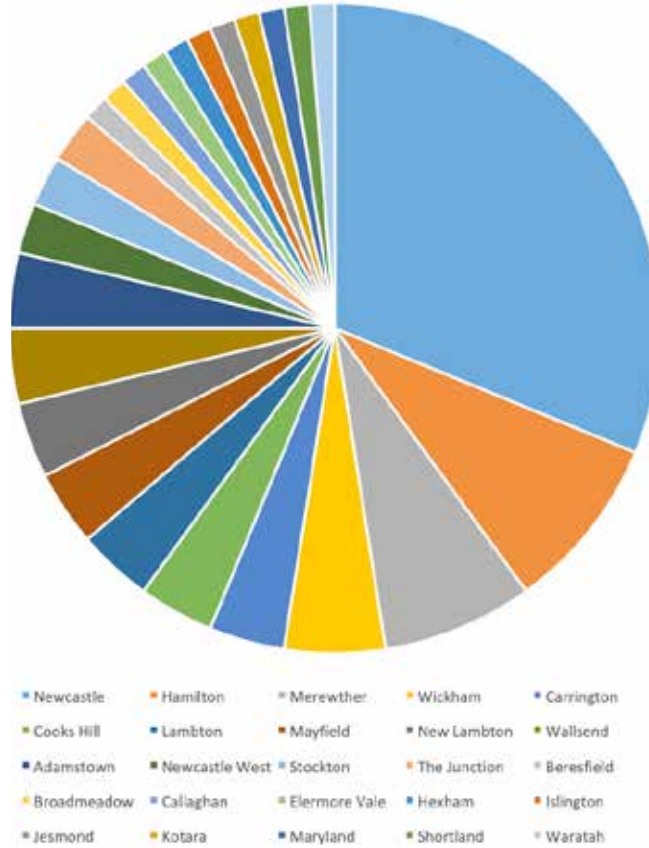
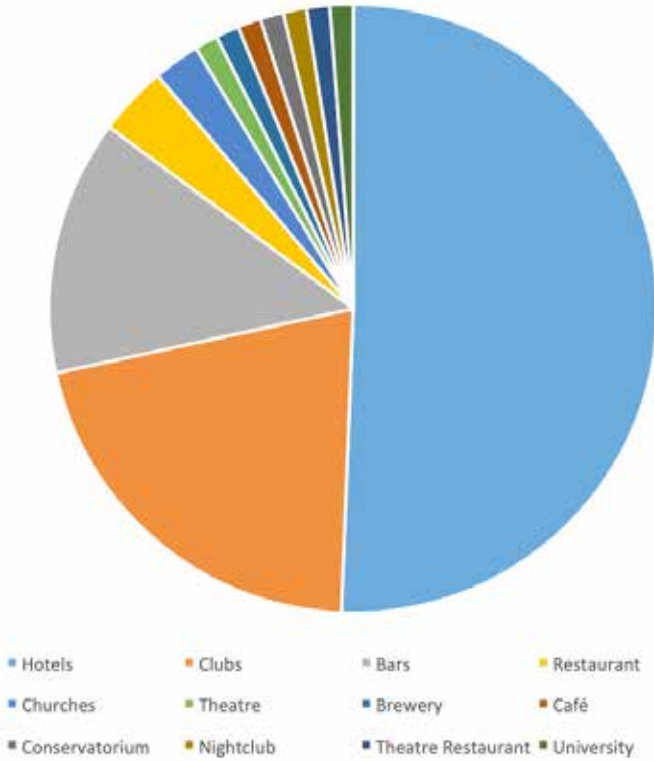
**John Wardle - Live Music Office**



The following graphs reflects the types of venues and locations presenting live music in Newcastle in June 2018:

Newcastle Venues by Type

Newcastle Venues by Suburb



Bravo Victor at Ramjet  
Photo: Gabrielle Clements

GIGS BY VENUE TYPE	
LICENCE TYPE	GIGS
Hotels	41
Clubs	16
Bars	11
Restaurant	3
Churches	2
Theatre	1
Brewery	1
Café	1
Conservatorium	1
Nightclub	1
Theatre Restaurant	1
University	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>80</b>



Photo: Swamp House Photography



GIGS BY SUBURB	
SUBURB	GIGS
Newcastle	25
Hamilton	7
Merewether	6
Wickham	4
Carrington	3
Cooks Hill	3
Lambton	3
Mayfield	3
New Lambton	3
Wallsend	3
Adamstown	3
Newcastle West	2
Stockton	2
The Junction	2
Beresfield	1
Broadmeadow	1
Callaghan	1
Elermore Vale	1
Hexham	1
Islington	1
Jesmond	1
Kotara	1
Maryland	1
Shortland	1
Waratah	1
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>80</b>



Sophia Grace at Ramjet  
Photo: Lachlan Jordan



## GIGS/ACTS BY TOTAL NUMBER

VENUE	TYPE	SUBURB	FACEBOOK	WEBSITE	GIGS	ACTS
5 Sawyers	Bar	Cooks Hill	facebook.com/5sawyers/	www.5sawyers.com.au/	17	19
48 Watt Street	Bar	Newcastle	facebook.com/48watt	facebook.com/48watt	2	2
Adamstown Uniting Church	Church Hall	Adamstown	facebook.com/AdamstownUCA/	adamstownuca.org.au/	1	1
Bar On The Hill	University Bar	Callaghan	NA	baronthehill.uonbars.com.au/	1	3
Bar Petite	Bar	Newcastle	facebook.com/barpetite	www.barpetite.com.au/	9	9
Battlesticks Bar	Bar	Newcastle	facebook.com/BattlesticksAtScratchleys/	www.battlesticks.com.au/	19	19
Beach Hotel	Hotel	Merewether	facebook.com/thebeachhotelmerewether/	thebeachhotel.com.au/	9	9
Beresfield Bowling Club	Club	Beresfield	facebook.com/berobowlo/	berobowlo.com.au/	9	9
Blackbutt Hotel	Hotel	New Lambton	facebook.com/TheBlackbuttHotel/	blackbutthotel.com.au/	7	7
Burwood Inn	Hotel	Merewether	facebook.com/BurwoodInn	theburwood.com.au/	2	2
Cambridge Hotel	Hotel	Newcastle West	facebook.com/cambridgehotel/	thecambridgehotel.com.au/	18	57
Carrington Place	Bar	Carrington	facebook.com/carringtonplacenewcastle/	www.carringtonplace.com.au/	3	3
Christ Church Cathedral	Church	Newcastle	facebook.com/christchurchcathedralnewcastle/	www.newcastlecathedral.org.au/	1	1
Civic Theatre	Theatre	Newcastle	facebook.com/civictheatrenewcastle/	www.civictheatrenewcastle.com.au	5	9
Clarendon Hotel	Hotel	Newcastle	facebook.com/ClarendonHotel	clarendonhotel.com.au/restaurant-newcastle-nsw/	3	3
Club Kotara	Club	Kotara	NA	clubkotara.com.au/	1	1
Coal and Cedar	Bar	Newcastle	facebook.com/Coal-and-Cedar-342018289231252	www.coalandcedar.com/	4	4
Colliery Inn	Hotel	Wallsend	facebook.com/thecollieryinnhotel/	NA	1	1
Criterion Hotel	Hotel	Carrington	facebook.com/CriterionCarrington/	criterionpubandkitchen.com/	6	6
Croatia Wickham Sports Club	Club	Wickham	facebook.com/thecroatianclubwickham/	NA	3	5
Crown and Anchor	Hotel	Newcastle	facebook.com/thecrownandanchorhotel/	www.thecrownandanchor.com.au/	4	7
Customs House	Hotel	Newcastle	facebook.com/customshousenewcastle/?ref=hl	www.customshouse.net.au/	16	16
Depot on Beaumont Street	Restaurant	Hamilton	facebook.com/thedepotrestaurantsnewcastle/	www.thedepotonbeaumont.com.au/	2	2
Duke of Wellington	Hotel	New Lambton	facebook.com/DukeOfWellingtonHotel/posts/1962165520461313	www.dukehotel.com.au/	7	7
Family Hotel	Hotel	Newcastle	facebook.com/TheFamilyHotelNewcastle	www.thefamilyhotel.net/	1	1
Finnegans	Hotel	Newcastle	facebook.com/finneganshotel	www.finneganshotel.com.au/	5	21
Flying Tiger	Restaurant	Newcastle	facebook.com/theflyingtiger231/?ref=br_rs	www.tft231.com.au/	3	3

## GIGS/ACTS BY TOTAL NUMBER

VENUE	TYPE	SUBURB	FACEBOOK	WEBSITE	GIGS	ACTS
Foghorn Brewery	Brewery	Newcastle	facebook.com/Foghornbrewhouse.newcastle	www.foghornbrewhouse.com.au/newcastle/	1	1
Gallipoli Legion Club	Club	Hamilton	facebook.com/Gallipoli-Legion-Club-246589245400972/	www.gallipolilegionclub.com.au/	4	4
Grain Store	Bar	Newcastle	facebook.com/GrainStoreBar	grainstorenewcastle.com.au/	8	8
Grand Hotel The Underground	Hotel	Newcastle	facebook.com/grand.newcastle/	www.thegrandhotel.net.au	5	6
Hamilton Station Hotel	Hotel	Hamilton	facebook.com/TheHamiltonStationHotel/?rf=133290476719131	www.thehamiltonstationhotel.com/	16	54
Hexham Bowling Club	Club	Hexham	NA	hexhambowlingclub.com.au/	7	9
Honeysuckle Hotel	Hotel	Newcastle	facebook.com/honeysucklehotel	www.honeysucklehotel.com.au/	12	12
Hotel Delaney	Hotel	Cooks Hill	facebook.com/HotelDelany/?rf=519511621433579		4	7
Hotel Jesmond	Hotel	Jesmond	facebook.com/hoteljesmond	www.hoteljesmond.com.au/	4	4
Junction Hotel	Hotel	The Junction	facebook.com/junctionhotel	www.junctionhotel.com.au	3	3
King Street Hotel	Night Club	Newcastle	facebook.com/kingstreetnewcastle/	www.kingstreethotel.com.au/	6	6
Lambton Park Hotel	Hotel	Lambton	facebook.com/LambtonParkHotelofficial/	www.lambtonparkhotel.com.au/	3	3
Lass O' Gowrie Hotel	Hotel	Wickham	facebook.com/lassogowriehotel?ref=ts&sk=wall	www.lassogowriehotel.com.au/	14	36
Lemon Grove Hotel	Hotel	Wallsend	facebook.com/TheLemonGrove	www.lemongrovehotel.com.au/	5	5
Lizotte's	Theatre Restaurant	Lambton	facebook.com/lizottes.newcastle	lizottes.com.au/	19	34
Lucky Hotel	Hotel	Newcastle	facebook.com/theluckyhotel	theluckyhotel.com.au/	9	9
Mark Hotel	Hotel	Lambton	facebook.com/themarkhotellambton/	www.themarkhotel.com.au/	4	4
Mary Ellen Hotel	Hotel	Merewether	facebook.com/maryellenhotel/?_rdc=1&_rdr	www.maryellenhotel.com.au/	11	11
Maryland Tavern	Hotel	Maryland	facebook.com/themarylandtavern/	facebook.com/themarylandtavern/	7	7
Mavericks On Darby	Bar	Newcastle	facebook.com/mavericksondarby/	mavericksondarby.com.au/	8	8
Merewether Gardens Sessions Club Macquarie	Club	Newcastle	facebook.com/events/210644136194812/?notif_t=event_calendar_create&notif_id=1529467287579630		1	1
Merewether Surfhouse	Bar/Restaurant	Merewether	www.instagram.com/merewethersurfhouse/	www.surfhouse.com.au/	12	12
Mex Club	Club	Mayfield	facebook.com/MexClubMayfield	mexclub.com.au/	7	7
Mezz Bar at Wallsend Diggers	Club	Wallsend	facebook.com/wallsenddiggers	www.wallsenddiggers.com.au/mezzbar	11	13
Nags Head	Hotel	Adamstown	facebook.com/thenagsheadhotel/	www.thenags.com.au/	4	4
Newcastle Conservatorium Harold Lobb Concert Hall	Conservatorium-Concert Hall	Newcastle	facebook.com/pg/NewcastleConservatoriumOfMusic/events/?ref=page_internal	www.newcastle.edu.au/community-and-alumni/arts-and-culture/the-conservatorium	3	3

## GIGS/ACTS BY TOTAL NUMBER

VENUE	TYPE	SUBURB	FACEBOOK	WEBSITE	GIGS	ACTS
Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club	Club	Wickham	facebook.com/Newcastle-Cruising-Yacht-Club-184947001549308/	www.ncyc.net.au/	7	7
Newcastle Leagues Club	Club	Newcastle	facebook.com/newcastleleaguesclub/	www.newcastlerugbyleague.com.au/	1	13
Northern Star Hotel	Hotel	Hamilton	NA	www.northernstarhotel.com.au/	7	9
Oriental Hotel	Hotel	Cooks Hill	facebook.com/theorihotel/		3	3
Parry Street Garage	Restaurant	Newcastle West	www.parrystreetgarage.com.au/?fbclid=IwAR26yFzx50JOMotputCjs1r_oM_bKUeJKpMqC05wCH9nUH_Wk1mZXg5_eRU	facebook.com/parrystgarage/	1	1
Premier Hotel	Hotel	Broadmeadow	facebook.com/thepremierhotel	www.hotelpremier.com.au/	6	8
Prince of Wales Hotel	Hotel	Merewether	facebook.com/princeofwaleshotelmerewether/	princeofwales.com.au/prince/	8	8
Queens Wharf Hotel	Hotel	Newcastle	facebook.com/queenswharfhotel	www.queenswharfhotel.com.au/	11	22
Seven Seas Hotel	Hotel	Carrington	facebook.com/thesevenseashotel/?rf=167683309925334	NA	1	1
Shortland Hotel	Hotel	Shortland	facebook.com/shortyhotel	www.shortlandhotel.com.au/	8	8
Small Ballroom Newcastle Hotel	Hotel	Islington	facebook.com/themallballroom/photos/p.1180964525379181/1180964525379181/?type=1&theater		10	26
Souths Merewether	Club	Merewether	facebook.com/southsmerewether/	www.southleagues.com.au/	4	4
Stag & Hunter	Hotel	Mayfield	facebook.com/stagandhunter/	stagandhunter.com.au/	14	16
Stockton Bowling Club	Club	Stockton	facebook.com/StocktonBowlo	www.stocktonbowlo.com/home.aspx	6	6
Stockton RSL	Club	Stockton	NA	www.stocktonrsl.com.au/rsl/	3	3
Sydney Junction Hotel	Hotel	Hamilton	facebook.com/sjshotel/	www.sjh.com.au/	8	8
Talulah	Bar	The Junction	facebook.com/TalulahBar/	www.talulahbar.com.au	1	1
The Barn	Café	Adamstown	facebook.com/thebarnadamstown/	NA	8	8
The Edwards	Bar	Newcastle	facebook.com/theedwardsbar/	www.theedwards.com.au/	1	1
The Exchange	Hotel	Hamilton	facebook.com/BeaumontExchangeHotel/	theexchangehotel.com/	1	1
The Kent	Hotel	Hamilton	facebook.com/kenthotel/	thekenthotel.com.au/	9	9
The Shaft Tavern	Hotel	Elermore Vale	facebook.com/ShaftTavern/	shafttavern.weebly.com/	1	1
Town Hall Hotel	Hotel	Waratah	facebook.com/townhallwaratah	www.townhallwaratah.com.au/	1	1
Wests Mayfield	Club	Mayfield	facebook.com/westsnewcastle	www.westsnewcastle.com.au/clubs/wests-mayfield	1	2
Wests New Lambton	Club	New Lambton	facebook.com/westsnewcastle	www.westsnewcastle.com.au/clubs/wests-new-lambton	17	18
Wests Nex	Club	Newcastle	facebook.com/NEXNewcastle	www.thenex.com.au/	6	6
Wickham Park Hotel	Hotel	Wickham	facebook.com/TheWicko	www.thewicko.com.au	13	27



## GIGS/ACTS BY TOTAL NUMBER

VENUE	TYPE	SUBURB	FACEBOOK	WEBSITE	GIGS	ACTS
West's Nex	Club	Newcastle	facebook.com/NEXNewcastle	www.thenex.com.au/	6	6
Wickham Park Hotel	Hotel	Wickham	facebook.com/TheWicko	www.thewicko.com.au	13	27
					504	716





## TOP 10 VENUES - GIGS

VENUE	GIGS
Battlesticks Bar	19
Lizotte's	19
Cambridge Hotel	18
5 Sawyers	17
West's New Lambton	17
Customs House	16
Hamilton Station Hotel	16
Lass O'Gowrie Hotel	14
Stag & Hunter	14
Wickham Park Hotel	13
Honeysuckle Hotel	12
Merewether Surfhouse	12



Photo: Swamp House Photography

## TOP 10 VENUES - ACTS PRESENTED

VENUE	ACTS PRESENTED
Cambridge Hotel	57
Hamilton Station Hotel	54
Lass O'Gowrie Hotel	36
Lizotte's	34
Wickham Park Hotel	27
Small Ballroom Newcastle Hotel	26
Queens Wharf Hotel	22
Finnegans	21
Battlesticks Bar	19
5 Sawyers	19



Photo: Swamp House Photography

## TOTALS

GIGS	ACTS
504	716