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Picture: DAVID CROSLING

Ticket to ride

Rui Regodeiro, Lisa Stuart, Wayne Woodman and Duncan Stuart are the lucky band who made the grade. BackBeat is the first Melbourne tribute act to be invited to the International Beatleweek festival in Liverpool. REPORT PAGE 11

DIAMOND CREEK

BackBeat members Duncan Stuart, Rui Regodeiro, Lisa Stuart and Wayne Woodman.
Picture: DAVID CROSLING



Four set off on fab trip

BACKBEAT PREPARES TO VISIT BIRTHPLACE OF THE BEATLES

Melissa Merrett

DIAMOND Valley's own Fab Four are embarking on a magical mystery tour to Liverpool next month.

BackBeat, comprising Diamond Creek residents Duncan Stuart, Wayne Woodman and Lisa Stuart and Mernda's Rui Regodeiro, is off to the UK after being invited to play the International Beatleweek festival.

Their gig venues include The Cavern Club – the birthplace of The Beatles in the late 1950s.

Drummer Lisa Stuart said the invite was a dream come true for the band.

"BackBeat's dream has been to perform at the holy grail of all Beatle venues around the world, The Cavern Club, a dream that is finally coming true," she said.

"We are playing 11 gigs in seven days with 70 other bands from 20 countries and we are the first Melbourne band to ever be invited and the first Australian band to go in 12 years.

"We are just thrilled and honoured to be invited and

can't believe it that we are actually going."

The band has played private gigs and community and fundraising events, including the Diamond Valley Relay For Life.

Mrs Stuart said the band shared a passion for The Beatles' obscure catalogue from the late 1950s to 1964.

"BackBeat don't wear wigs or try to do the Liverpool accent, they just play the music with passion, three-part harmonies and period correct gear," she said.

International Beatleweek takes place from August 24 to 30 in Liverpool.

The band is playing a farewell gig at the Lucky 13 Garage in Moorabbin on Friday, August 12, and when they return at Bridges Restaurant, Hurstbridge, on Friday, October 28, and Sunday, November 6, at the Flying Saucer Club in Elsternwick.

Follow BackBeat in Liverpool at facebook.com/backbeattheband

Details: backbeat-theband.com.au