



Newsletter No 403, April 2023

Website: [www.newcastlejazz.com.au](http://www.newcastlejazz.com.au)

Correspondence:

The Secretary, PO Box 2262, DANGAR, NSW, 2309

[enquirieshjc@gmail.com](mailto:enquirieshjc@gmail.com)

Treasurer: [treasurerhjc1@gmail.com](mailto:treasurerhjc1@gmail.com) Memberships: [membershipshjc@gmail.com](mailto:membershipshjc@gmail.com)

**Facebook:** Newcastle Jazz Club and Festival

Submissions/gigs for inclusion in the newsletter by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month to:

The Editor, Doug Saxon [newsletterhjc@gmail.com](mailto:newsletterhjc@gmail.com) or to the club post box.

*Opinions in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editor or club committee.*

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Newcastle and Hunter Jazz Club presents:

## THE LICORICE ALLSORTS



**Sunday, 26 March, 2023**

**Central Leagues Club Charlestown**  
(Bula Street, Charlestown)  
2.00pm - 4.30pm

Entry \$15 jazz club members, \$20 Guests

Peter Buckland: Reeds  
Paul Furniss: Reeds  
Jack Ward: Reeds  
Rachel Hamilton: Keyboard  
Peter Boys: Bass  
Lawrie Thompson: Drums



Newcastle and Hunter Jazz Club presents:

## THE NEW ORLEANS RAMBLERS



Rachel Hamilton: Keyboard, Will Goeldner: Drums  
Eric Gibbons: Trombone/Sax/Vocal, Peter Buckland: Reeds,  
Greg Griffiths: Banjo, Guy Thomson: Bass.

**Sunday, 30 April, 2023**

**Central Leagues Club Charlestown**  
(Bula Street, Charlestown)  
**2.00pm - 4.30pm**  
Entry \$15 jazz club members, \$20 Guests

## 34<sup>th</sup> Newcastle Jazz Festival Newcastle City Hall

**Friday 25, Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 August, 2023**



Photos - 2022 Newcastle Jazz Festival – Left Toby Hall, Middle: Some of the Dancers & right: Heather Price.  
(photos: Carv Bennett (Hall & Price) Doug Saxon (dancers). Don't miss the 2023 Newcastle Jazz Festival.

## **FROM VICE-PRESIDENT SHERIDEN**

We are pleased to announce that at our resumed AGM on 26 February most of our Executive Committee positions were filled along with 6 General Committee positions and that of the Public Officer. We are pleased and extremely relieved that this means our club will continue. Phew!

The current positions are:

Vice President – Sheriden Nelson

Secretary – Val Jones

Treasurer – Casey Sherry

General Committee – Doug Saxon, Murray Scoble, Paul Ward, Alan Hunter, Kylie Fischer and Marianne Cummins.

Public Officer – Ann Gibson



I warmly welcome our new committee members Casey, Kylie and Marianne. I'm sure you will all make a valuable contribution to our club over the coming year. Thank you Ann for giving your time again to the club, we are pleased to have you back on board.

I was fairly confident that we would be able to fill all of the positions and keep our club going. At the time of writing we do not yet have a President and that is why you are hearing from me. I'm sure that by our next Newsletter we will be able to announce our President for 2023. Stay tuned.

I am very pleased to let you all know that our former President Judy Preston and Membership Officer Joanne Taylor have volunteered to assist the current committee by taking on some of the tasks they performed in their former roles. Jo will continue as our Membership Officer and Judy will assist in a Welfare and Fund-Raising role. Jo has been flawless as our Memberships Officer and the current Committee are delighted to have her assistance in this role. Judy will continue to help with the raffles and reaching out to members with compassionate care and as a warm welcoming friendly face to our members. To Judy and Jo, the Committee are very grateful for your ongoing support. The offer by both Jo and Judy for ongoing assistance shows great support and trust in our current Committee and we couldn't be happier.

I would personally like to extend my thanks to our former President Judy Preston, who held the position of Vice President in 2010 and then President from 2011 until 2022. Judy, your work for our club has made such a great contribution to the continuation and growth of the club over the years. I recall when I first joined the club and started coming to events and concerts, you made me feel so welcome and included me as if I had been in your jazz family for many years. I've enjoyed many fun chats, a few dances and the odd naughty joke with you over the years and I look forward to many more over the coming years.

I'd also like to thank Val Jones for stepping back into the breach as Secretary, possibly on a temporary basis but more on that at a later date. Val's years of experience in this role and at the club will help our new Committee find our feet so that we can continue to present great live jazz and events here in Newcastle.

Following the resumed AGM the popular Swing Company performed 2 sets of some of our favourite big band swing tunes. I was asked to fill in for Renee Berger who was otherwise engaged on the date. I did a couple of rehearsals with Neville and band and it all came together on the day. I hope that everyone enjoyed the afternoon of fun and upbeat music as much as I did.

The dates for the 2023 Newcastle and Hunter Jazz Festival have been set and will occur, as is tradition, on the last weekend of August. The Festival will take place from Friday 25<sup>th</sup> until Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> of August. We will let you know when tickets go on sale. Work has begun on Festival business and Murray has already been burning the midnight oil on planning and preparations. We look forward to another spectacular Jazz Festival in 2023.

I also welcome new members Barbara Heaton and Doug Hoeppe. Doug is a musician and I'm pleased that we are increasing our ranks of musician members. Doug is in the process of putting together an 8-piece jazz ensemble. I look forward to having another jazz outfit in the area. Welcome Doug.

I would like to thank all of our members for their continued support of our club so that we are able to support live jazz music in Newcastle and the Hunter.

Here's to a fun and fabulous 2023.

**Contributions to our newsletter from members are always welcome.  
Please email to the Editor, Doug Saxon at [newsletterhjc@gmail.com](mailto:newsletterhjc@gmail.com)**

*Sheriden*

## New Committee Elected

At the meeting held on February 26 a new management committee for 2022/23 was elected. All positions were filled except for that of President. We have welcomed some new faces to the committee so welcome to: Marianne Cummins who will be Assistant Secretary, Casey Sherry, who will be the Treasurer and Kylie Fischer who will be Minute Secretary.

Val Jones agreed to stay on as Secretary and Ann Gibson accepted the role of Public Officer. Other members of the committee are Sheriden Nelson, Vice-President, Alan Hunter, Chairperson, Murray Scoble: Compere and Jazz Festival Coordinator, Paul Ward, Functions Entry/Committee, Doug Saxon: Newsletter/Band Coordinator. Although not on the Management Committee Joanne Taylor will continue as Membership Officer.



Marianne Cummins, Casey Sherry and Kylie Fischer and Ann Gibson

**Volunteers:** A number of members have volunteered to assist in a number of ways. Thanks to Judy Preston, Joanne Taylor, Susan O'Henly, Kevan Steward and many others who have said they will assist at our concerts or with the Newcastle Jazz Festival.

### President Needed.

Only one of the committee positions remains unfilled - that of President.

If you would like to nominate, please contact our Vice-President, Sheriden Nelson 0408 296 046 or Secretary Val Jones 49296315

Right: The colourful Eric Gibbons playing at Carrington last month. The April first gig has been brought forward one week to Saturday 25 March at 2pm. (Pic: Jo Taylor)



## Swing Company - Sunday 26 February 2023



I-r: Jason Nelson, Dave Jones, Jo Cadman, Chris Gill, Warren Shaw, Neville James, Chris Dawson, Sheriden Nelson, Adam Ferrier

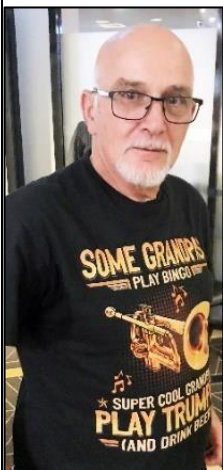
Another capacity audience was on hand (we had to get extra seats from the dining room) to hear 'Swing Company' at Central Leagues Club on 26 February .

The band played a wide variety of songs and there were vocals by Sheriden Nelson and a couple from Dave Jones. The first half of the program included *Misty*, *Bill Bailey*, *Bye Bye Blackbird*, *I'm beginning to see the Light*, *I've got You Under My Skin*, *Summertime* and *They Can't Take That Away from Me*.

The second half got off to a great start with some Glen Miller classics including *In the Mood* and *American Patrol*. Sheriden sang *At Last* followed by the band playing *The Brothers Go to Mother's* (from Peter Gunn), Dave sang *L.O.V.E Love* followed by the band playing a great version of Caravan. Sheriden then sang a few songs including *S'Wonderful*, *Fever*, *Nice Work if You Can get It* and *The Lady is A Tramp*. The afternoon concluded with a toe tapping version of, 'The Saints'.



Gordon and John Maley, and Gary and Sherrel Oakey, Di Taylor



L: New member, Doug Hoepper, Nancy Minton with Chris Dawson, Robyn Shaw & Astrida Scoble

### Lucky Door:

Anne Haydon,  
Lyn Farrell,  
Gordon Maley.

### Raffle:

Wendy Davis,  
John Crawford,  
Pat Wise,  
Kylie Fischer,  
Elizabeth Hughes,  
Lesley Walker,  
Anne Haydon,  
Alan Thomas,  
Jenny Joyce,  
Beverley Dean,  
Bev Henderson,  
Avril Roulston.

## Judy Preston- Thanks for Your Service to the Newcastle and Hunter Jazz Club

Judy Preston stepped down as President of our Jazz Club at the AGM in February after serving as President since 2011. I'm sure that everyone will wish Judy well and thank her for her many years of service to our club. Below are some pics from the history files of Judy's time with the club. The middle picture shows Judy with the late former Club President, Maggie Dunne and the late Alby Heathcote at a Newcastle Jazz festival. Pictured far right: with Wendy Jones, and being 'Saved' when the New Wobbly Boot played with vocals by Rob Coxon.



## Jazz Jam- Thursday 9th March, 2023 with the Heather Price House Band Heather Price, Jo Cadman, Ben Barnes

A great night's entertainment was provided by the Heather Price House Band and 15 jammers who added great variety to the night making it very enjoyable. There were vocalists, flautists, trumpeters, trombonists, drummers and guitar/vocal. Pictured right are Jo Cadman, Dave Thompson, Heather Price, Ben Barnes and trombonist Amanda Yuill. Amanda has returned to Australia after spending a number of years living in Denver, Colorado.

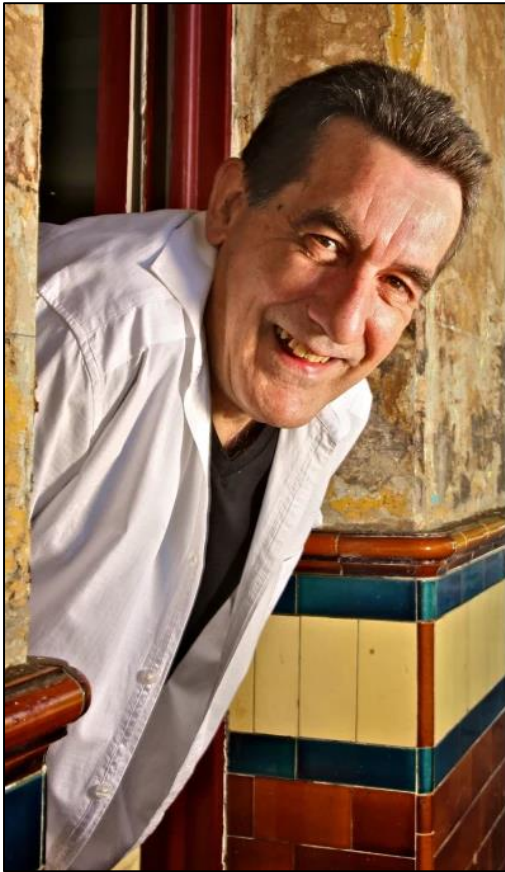


Above: Anthea Wikstrom from Cygan Groove. left From HSPA young violinist Gus, right trumpeter and trombonist Blade and Fin and drummer Max.  
(Photos: Steve Gaul, Doug Saxon)

Capree Gaul played, and Sheriden Nelson sang.

## Vale Garry Walford: New Orleans meets Balmain in spectacular send-off for local jazz legend

Sydney Morning Herald February = 2023. Story Nick Galvin.



A New Orleans style send off with a procession of musician friends in the streets of Balmain for jazz legend Gary Walford  
(Credit: Marco Del Grande, Jessica Hromas, SMH)

‘The passing of major public figures is traditionally marked by all the hoopla of a state funeral. But in Australia, even the greatest luminaries are not accorded the ultimate musical send-off: a genuine New Orleans brassy jazz procession. That singular distinction, which briefly brought Balmain to a standstill on Wednesday, is reserved only for jazz royalty. And no one fits that description quite so well as the legendary pianist Gary Walford, who died last week aged 74.

Every week, for the past 50 years Walford and a revolving cast of some of Australia’s best jazz musicians played at Balmain’s Unity Hall hotel in what became the longest running gig in the world. It has become a Sydney institution and Balmain’s St Augustine’s Church was packed with mourners, many of them the cream of the Sydney jazz scene.

After the service, about 20 musicians formed up to escort the hearse along Darling Street to the Unity Hall pub, leading off with *Nearer My God to Thee* before swinging, inevitably, into *When The Saints Go Marching In*. Leading the parade was veteran trombonist and bandleader Dan Barnett who, more than 20 years ago, got his first big break playing with Walford.

“When Gary asked me to join the Unity Hall band, it changed my life,” he says, adding that being on the bandstand with Walford and so many veteran players was a baptism of fire. “I was getting a real jazz education, like a Louis Armstrong type education. If you didn’t know something, the guys would either get cranky with you or help you out depending on who was on the gig.

”Barnett says Walford had a uniquely recognisable sound on the piano, born from his early love of rock ‘n’ roll. “He had his own way of playing,” he says. “He defined the sound of the band from the piano he played. It’s a really distinctive semi rock ‘n’ roll way to play he learnt from listening to people like Jerry Lee Lewis.”

Walford’s own big break came when his mother hired Geoff Bull’s Olympia Jazz Band to play at his 21st birthday party. Walford played a few numbers and Bull immediately recognised his potential. Before too long he was a fixture in that band. “He became, as far as I’m concerned, and I think everybody else, the best New Orleans style piano player in the country,” says Bull.

Beyond his music Walford loved rugby league (Balmain Tigers) and a daily punt. Even when he wasn’t playing, he was a familiar face at the Unity Hall hotel, nursing a schooner of Carlton Draught. Known for his modesty and never comfortable in front of a mic, he preferred to drive the music along from the back of the bandstand rather than taking the limelight.

“You know, in some ways he would probably be a bit embarrassed that we’re talking about him,” says Barnett.

**\* You can view a video of the jazz parade after the funeral by Googling ‘Garry Walford’. Our patron Bob Henderson was one of the musicians in the parade as well as Paul Furniss, Eric Gibbons, Geoff Bull and Andrew Dickeson.**

## Jason Half Nelson Official 50<sup>plus</sup> Birthday Bash at Bartholomew's. (From Sheriden Nelson)

On Sunday 5 March (we) Half Nelson presented a birthday gig in honour of our fearless leader Mr Jason Nelson. The event took place at Bartholomew's in King Street Newcastle. The venue was formerly known as Babylon but had to undergo a name change to avoid litigation. Blame the lawyers! Half Nelson played at the opening of Bartholomew's (Babylon at the time) back in August 2018. Since then, we have had an ongoing romance with Bartholomew's and have played there on a regular basis. We were discussing with the venue about some new dates earlier this year and it was decided that we should have a gig on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March and could make it a birthday celebration for Jason (trombone).

You may have seen my incessant posting about the gig on Facebook and Instagram. If you didn't you probably are not following me, and I need you to go to Facebook and Instagram straight away and follow me!

The band were in fine form with Tim Evans on drums, Carter Smyth on piano and Adam Ferrier on trumpet. We also had the fantastic Andrew Wallace (Wal) on bass for the gig and we had some local favourites do guest spots. A highlight of the day was a beautiful rendition of Cole Porter's, I've Got you Under My Skin featuring Andy Firth on clarinet. It was a captivating performance with an outstanding solo from Andy. The line-up was later joined again by Andy Firth and also Jeremy Borthwick on trombone for Mack the Knife and Bohemia After Dark. The crowd were wowed by the four-piece horn section. Wish we could have that all the time. I'll have to speak to management.

The show was attended by a full house downstairs including jazz club members Barb Bucknor, Trevor Burndred and Val Jones, local jazz fans, some old friends of Jason's from his art school days in the 1980's and also our parents Carmel and Ian Nelson. Members Casey Sherry and Simon Baker kept the dancefloor warm. They were accompanied on the dancefloor by local trumpet player Laura Sands' two daughters Billie aged 6 and a half years and Annika aged 5 years who busted out some pretty cool moves. Great to see our up and coming jazz fans hitting the live gigs. Laura plays with Fish Fry and performed at our free concert last year with the band. Laura was appointed official photographer for the day and she is responsible for the great photographs that accompany this piece.

I promised that there would be cake for the gig and I was assisted by my friend and local singing lawyer Lauren O'Brien in constructing a three-tiered cake decorated with edible discs printed with various pictures of Jason's face, two of his favourite trombone players Frank Rosolino and Carl Fontana and also a trombone playing cat. Yes, that's what I said! See accompanying pics. The cake was played into the hall led by 13-year-old Miles Street from Sydney who played happy birthday on the trombone. Not a single piece of cake was left and even Jason didn't get a piece!

Thank you to all who came and made this a great day of live jazz and fun. I love being in a band with my brother and I wanted to make his birthday a special celebration, and I think we achieved that. We had a few apologies from friends and members, we know who you are. Thank you to Bartholomew's for their continued support of live jazz in Newcastle. Happy birthday Jason!

Left: Sheriden and Jason with their parents Ian & Carmel.  
Right: The great 'Trombone' birthday cake.  
Below: Left Casey Sherry and Simon Baker on the dance floor. Below right: Enjoying the music- Barb Bucknor, Val Jones, Trevor Burndred.



**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2022- 2023**

PRESIDENT: Vacant  
presidenthjc@gmail.com  
VICE-PRESIDENT: SHERIDEN NELSON- 0408 296 046  
[PUBLICITY] - publicityhjc@gmail.com  
SECRETARY: VAL JONES - 4929 6315,  
enquirieshjc@gmail.com  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY: MARIANNE CUMMINS

MINUTE SECRETARY: KYLIE FISCHER

TREASURER – CASEY SHERRY –  
treasurerhjc@gmail.com  
MEMBERSHIPS – JOANNE TAYLOR - 0416 031 412  
memberships@hjc@gmail.com  
FUNCTIONS ENTRY – PAUL WARD – 0474 294 187  
CHAIRPERSON: ALAN HUNTER – 0409 156 568  
FESTIVAL COORDINATOR -  
MURRAY SCOBLE - 0419 290 432  
[em-esconsultancy@bigpond.com](mailto:em-esconsultancy@bigpond.com)  
BAND COORD/NEWSLETTER-DOUG SAXON  
0419 415 814 newsletterhjc@gmail.com  
PUBLIC OFFICER – ANN GIBSON -0407 703 518  
Auditor: To be Advised  
Patron: Bob Henderson

**Half Nelson Jazz Band**

Nima- Tuesday 4 April 8pm Grand Hotel  
Goldfish Bar and Restaurant  
Pokolbin 6.30- 9.30pm, Sat 8 April  
Bartholomew's- 14 May (Mother's Day)

**Central Coast Leagues Club  
Jazz League – Gosford  
Jazz – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of month.  
2pm-5pm \$10 Entry**

**HENDO & FRIENDS**  
The Flynn, Bligh St. Sydney  
First Sat. each month  
Noon till 3pm \$10 entry  
Lunch Menu

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Bridge City Jazz Band and Guests  
7.30pm Fridays**

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The Freeway Hotel  
115 Reserve Road  
Artarmon**

Our lunch time jazz concerts, held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month, are designed to allow guests to enjoy live traditional jazz whilst having lunch and refreshments at the club venue. Special concerts are also held as advertised. ALL ARE WELCOME.

Admission is \$12 for financial members of the SJC and \$15 for others.  
Lunch (where applicable) and refreshments are at guests own costs.

**2<sup>ND</sup> WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH  
THE FREEWAY HOTEL  
12.30 – 3.30PM**

Sydney jazz Club Co-op Ltd -  
P.O. Box 186 Broadway NSW 2007  
Tel. (02) 9719 3876 - email:  
[sydneyjazzclub@tpg.com.au](mailto:sydneyjazzclub@tpg.com.au)  
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**NEW ORLEANS QUARTET- CARRINGTON BOWLING CLUB  
1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAY OF THE MONTH 2PM - 5PM  
BOOKING RECOMMENDED**

**\* PLEASE NOTE- THE USUAL GIG ON THE FIRST SATURDAY IN APRIL  
HAS BEEN MOVED TO SATURDAY 25 MARCH.**

**NIMA- Tuesday Evening Gigs -  
The Underground  
Grand Hotel, Newcastle 8pm  
Entrv \$27/\$22**

**Frenchman Street Jazz  
Band has resumed at  
Earp's Distillery-  
Thursdays  
7pm-9pm**

**Al Davey and the Groovers - Freeway  
Hotel Artarmon 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of Each  
Month – 2pm-5pm Free Underground  
Parking. Great Bistro – Dance Floor  
\$10 entry includes a house beer or wine.**

**Merimbula Jazz Festival  
9-12 June 2023**

[www.merimbulajazz.org.au](http://www.merimbulajazz.org.au)

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Monday and Friday  
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Wednesday  
12noon -3 pm  
**Kelly Moylan:**  
Friday  
12noon – 3pm

**Russell Thornton:**  
Wednesdays  
8pm-10pm  
Saturdays  
8am-12 noon

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P 0403 469 344 | E [sheriden@nelsonlawyers.com.au](mailto:sheriden@nelsonlawyers.com.au)  
PO Box 3119 Merewether NSW 2291  
[www.nelsonlawyers.com.au](http://www.nelsonlawyers.com.au)