

## Newsletter No 404, May 2023

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Submissions/gigs for inclusion in the newsletter by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month to: The Editor, Doug Saxon <u>newsletterhjc@gmail.com</u> or to the club post box. Opinions in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editor or club committee. Reproduction of material is permitted provided the source is acknowledged.

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: Banio, Guy Thomson: Bass.

# Sunday, 30 Apríl, 2023

# **Central Leagues Club Charlestown**

[Bula Street, Charlestown] 2.00pm ~ 4.30pm Entry \$15 jazz club members, \$20 Guests Newcastle and Hunter Jazz Club presents;



Andrew Wallace: Bass, Ian Dunn: Guitar Justin Collins: Vocal, Kim Pink: Saxophone, Laura Sands: Trumpet

SUNDAY, 28 MAY, 2023 Central Leagues Club Charlestown Bula Street, Charlestown

2.00PM - 4.30PM ENTRY \$15 JAZZ CLUB MEMBERS, \$20 GUESTS



Bookings are now open for the 34<sup>th</sup> Newcastle Jazz Festival which will be held at the Newcastle City Hall from Friday 25<sup>th</sup> August to Sunday 27 August.

One of the conditions of hiring the City Hall is that tickets must be booked via the Civic Theatre booking Office - except for the special weekend pass deal offered to members which is contained inside this newsletter- payments for this offer to be made direct to the Jazz Club - either at our monthly concerts or by direct debit. Tickets can be purchased with card only at the door via City Hall booking staff. Full details inside this newsletter and on our web site.

## FROM VICE-PRESIDENT SHERIDEN

#### Hello Jazz Lovers

Planning continues for our 34<sup>th</sup> Newcastle Jazz Festival that will go ahead in the last weekend in August 2023. Doug has received a number of expressions of interest for new bands for our Festival. I love that we are broadening our taste a little, while still keeping all of our favourites for the festival.

Another thank you to Judy Preston for keeping our raffle going. I suddenly realised on Sunday that I had no idea where all the raffle prizes come from. Yes, I'm still pretty new at this. Judy told me that the prizes are donated by our club members, including Judy herself. I am so grateful to all of our members who continue to donate raffle prizes. The funds raised from our raffles help us to present live music every month and also our annual Festival. Without the extra funds raised from raffles and the like, we would not be able to provide so much live jazz for our members. I would like to say a very large THANK YOU to our members who have donated prizes and continue to do so. If you would like to donate any prizes for the raffles, please speak to Judy at our next concert. We appreciate every donation.

Our other fundraising events will continue, and I am pleased to announce that we will again take a bus trip to Gresford on Sunday 18 June 2023. Music will be provided by the Bob Henderson Jazz Band. Tickets are \$60 for members and \$65 for guests travelling by bus. There are also some seats available for those who would like to drive themselves to Gresford- \$25 Members- \$30 Guests. Contact Val Jones to book on 4929 6315.

Our March concert featured the always entertaining Licorice Allsorts. The band was uplifting and entertaining and provided a fun afternoon's entertainment. Most notable for me was Paul Furniss producing something that looked like a cross between a clarinet, a saxophone and piece of plumbing equipment. When asked by a member of the audience what the instrument was, I took a stab in the dark guessing it was a Bass Clarinet. Imagine my surprise when I discovered I was correct! The audience loved the sound, and we were all fascinated by the instrument.

During our March concert I had the wonderful honour of presenting a Life Membership award to two of our members, Joanne Taylor and Susan O'Henly. Jo and Susan have both served on our committee over the years and have worked tirelessly to help keep our club going. We are so thankful for Jo and Susan's past efforts and the Club is very fortunate that both have agreed to continue volunteering behind the scenes. Thank you, Jo and Susan. We are thrilled to have you both as Life Members. Congratulations.

Last year our club commenced a collaboration with the Newcastle Improvised Music Association, known as NIMA. NIMA and our club share a passion for bringing live jazz to our local audiences. Through some discussions with Capree Gaul, a founding member and driving force behind NIMA, our committee decided to join forces with NIMA to present a weekly Jazz Jam at The Grand Hotel on Thursday nights. Lucas, who runs the pub, allowed us to trial the Jazz Jam last year, and it was such a success that Lucas agreed to continue this year. Each week there is a house band, which changes on a rotating basis. Musicians can bring their instrument and a song choice and get up on stage to play with the house band. For some musicians this is the first time they have ever played with a real-life band. We also have some local professional musicians who come and have a jam. This is such a great initiative, where musicians get to feel that terrifying thrill of getting on stage, and also of watching more experienced players. The audiences have really enjoyed the range of players, for some, their first experience of live jazz. We are grateful for the support that Lucas and The Grand have shown to NIMA and our Club to get this program going. Our role is mainly to provide a volunteer each week to check tickets at the door. It's not a difficult task, and one that is really fun. I have regularly wo-manned the door and always enjoy the night. If you would like to give a few hours on a Thursday night, please contact me at the publicity email or on my mobile or talk to me at one of our concerts. You know I love a chat! We would like a few extra volunteers to put on our roster. You can volunteer as much or as little as you like. Full training will be provided.

Welcome to our members Tony and Terena Druce. Take care and see you at the jazz.

Contributions to our newsletter from members are always welcome. Please email to the Editor, Doug Saxon at newsletterhjc@gmail.com



## Sheríden

**LIFE MEMBERSHIP**: Just prior to the start of the second half at the Licorice Allsorts Concert Life Membership plaques and badges were presented to Joanne Taylor (I)and Susan O'Henly. Vice-president Sheriden made the presentations.

Joanne and Susan have given many years of service to our jazz club with Sheriden saying that, ' they have enhanced the standing of our club through displaying genuine goodwill and care for our members and guests. Joanne has served as treasurer, committee member and memberships officer and Susan committee member, vice president and club raffles.







Ticket Prices - 34<sup>th</sup> Newcastle Jazz Festival (All tickets will incur a booking fee payable to Civic Theatre Ticketing)

> Full Weekend Passes: If paid by 30 June - \$120 If paid by 31 July - \$125 From 1 August or at the door \$130

Friday Night Pass: 5pm-10pm \$40 Saturday- Day Pass: 10am-5pm: \$55 Saturday Evening Pass: \$40 All Day Saturday Pass:10am-10pm: \$75 Sunday Pass: 10am-5pm: \$55 Tickets can be purchased online via

www.civictheatrenewcastle.com.au

Tickets can be purchased at the door-card only. See attached flyer for the special deal for Jazz Club Members

Just some of the great bands you can hear at the 34<sup>th</sup> Newcastle Jazz Festival

- Nicki Parrott Quartet- Nicki Parrott, Double Bass/Vocal, Peter Lock, piano, Andrew Dickeson- Drums, Tessie Overmyer, Saxophone.
- Gregg Arthur Quartet, Tony Bennett Tribute Gregg Arthur, Vocal, Peter Lock, Piano, Craig Scott, Double Bass, Andrew Dickeson, Drums.
- Lee Gunness and the Geoff Power Jazz Band
- 'You and the Night and the Music'- Dungeon Big Band
- 'From Paris to New Orleans'- The Emma Hamilton Quintet
- Bill Dudley's New Orleanians
- **Bob Henderson Quintet** Bob Henderson, Trumpet, Dave MacRae, Piano, David Seidel, Double Bass, Lawrie Thompson, Drums, Joy Yates, Vocal.
- Unity Hall Jazz Band Dan Barnett, Trombone/Vocal, George Washingmachine, Violin/Vocal, Bradford Child Reeds/Voice, Stan Valacos – Bass, Graham Hilgendorf - Drums Bradley Newman – Piano
- Steve Edmonds Jazz and Blues Band

### Licorice Allsorts (Plus Bob Henderson) Sunday 26 March 2023.



I-r Peter Boys, Rachel Hamilton, Peter Buckland, Eric Gibbons, Paul Furniss, Bob Henderson, Lawrie Thompson

Another large crowd was on hand when a wonderful afternoon's entertainment was provided by the Licorice Allsorts when they played for our Jazz Club on 26 March. Jack Wiard was unable to attend, and his place was taken by Eric Gibbons on clarinet and saxophone.

The afternoon began with *The Dippermouth Blues*, other tunes *included Floating Down that Old Green River*, *The Mooch*, two Sidney Bechet tunes *Georgia Cabin* and *Dans les Rue D'Antibes*, *Yearning, Mood Indigo* and *Stranger on the Shore*.

Each of the front line played a solo piece –Peter Buckland – *Red Wing*, Eric Gibbons, *I Believe in Miracles* as recorded by Fats Waller and Paul Furniss/Lawrie Thompson - *Indian Love Call*.

When the band was finishing *Indian Love Call* the sound of a trumpet rang out and Bob Henderson emerged and joined the band. When Bob joined the band Eric reached for his trombone and we were treated to some toe-tapping tunes including *The Shiek of Araby* and to conclude the afternoon *Just a Closer Walk with Thee.* 

It was a great afternoon for those fortunate enough to be in the audience. You can see the Licorice Allsorts at the 34<sup>th</sup> Newcastle Jazz festival on Sunday 27 August.

Lucky Door: Shirley Peters, Liz Tocque, Beverley Dean. **Raffle:** Jenny Joyce, Mert Leebruggen, Gail Grace, Susan O'Henly, Jill Bunt, Pam Parsons, Vivienne Marjenberg, Di Pilgrim, Dianne Parker, Ray O'Connor





Dianne Parker, Rachel Hamilton, Kathy Hamilton, George Puzey

Above left: new members, Tony & Terena Druce,

Above Right: (I-r) Nancy Minton, Don Quested, new minute secretary, Kylie Fischer, new life member Susan O'Henly, Helen Endicott, From Queensland- Di Pilgrim and, Sandy Farrow, Patti Cox. And another Queenslander Pam Lomas. Right: Helen Endicott and Di Pilgrim. (Pics; Doug Saxon & Sheriden Nelson)





One of these roles is to manage the timing in one of the rooms where the music is happening. This means you are in the room to ensure the band starts on time and are there at the end of the set to ensure that the band finishes on time. The good news is that you don't miss any of the music. If you are willing to assist, please speak to Murray Scoble at one of our concerts, call him at 0419 290 432 email - em-esconsultancy@bigpond.com

## Jazz Festival – Stages at the Newcastle City Hall 2023.

This year at the Newcastle Jazz festival there will be music in four rooms. The Concert Hall, Cummings Room and Mulubinba Room are all on the same floor making it much easier to move from room to room. The Banquet Room will be used for music, meals, and bar and is easily accessible by lift if you don't want to use the stairs.

# The untold story of Fish Fry, Newcastle's jump jive legends

'Fish Fry' have been a popular band who have played at many Newcastle Jazz festivals. In 2023, they are celebrating 30 years of performances. *Last year they performed at one of our regular Sunday gigs and were extremely popular and we have had many requests for a repeat performance. This will be at Central Leagues Club on Sunday 28 May from 2pm-4.30pm*. They will also be playing at this year's 34<sup>th</sup> Newcastle Jazz festival. Set out below is an abridged version of a feature article that was printed in *The Newcastle Herald* on 12 February 2023. The author was Nick Milligan. Photo Right: Vocalist Justin Collins and bassist Andrew Wallace.(Paul Dear)



'Two dollars gained you entry to Fish Fry's first show. Two dollars also got you a cold beer. The venue was the Grand Hotel's underground disco room, and the date was November 5, 1993.Fish Fry had only played two shows - a mate's party and a wedding - before this first public appearance, but they still packed the joint. "Two bucks to get in and two bucks a beer," recalls double bassist Andrew Wallace. "And I negotiated a deal with the owner for a hundred bucks each and a carton of beer on the stage before we played. It was boiling hot, and everyone smoked, and we were wearing three-piece suits."

Fish Fry's career was off to a sweaty start. But the group - which featured Wallace, singer Justin Collins, saxophonist Dave Kelly, alto saxophonist Lloyd Davies, trumpeter Stuart St Hill, drummer Scott Chapman, guitarist Ian Dunn and keyboardist Gordon Hogan - were no greenhorns. Fish Fry comprised the principal line-up of established pub acts like Housequake and the new-wave band Yes Commissioner.

The emergence of this new project elicited high praise from then *Newcastle Herald* music journalist Chad Watson. "He called us the jazz supergroup of Newcastle," Collins says. "There was a conglomerate of musicians that all knew each other. Wal [Andrew Wallace] and I met through the new-wave band called Yes Commissioner and I met the guys from Maitland and Raymond Terrace to form Housequake."

Three decades later they are yet to tap the brakes. Wallace says the band has played, on average, once a fortnight ever since that 1993 debut. If mathematics serves correctly, that average puts their total gig tally conservatively around the 750-mark.

A brief Wednesday night residency at Fanny's soon followed their debut. "It was always during Origin," Collins recalls. It was at Fanny's where they once supported the late - and very great - Renee Geyer, on what Wallace coyly refers to as "a fateful night".

They also established an avid scene through regular shows in the intimate band room at Hamilton's Northern Star Hotel. Years later, in February 1999, they'd be booked as one of the opening acts for Dame Shirley Bassey at Wyndham Estate (now Dalwood Estate)."It was a fantastic show," Collins says .Fish Fry became a staple of the Jazz in the Vines festival, often called upon as the closer. Even James Morrison became a fan.

**JIVE TALKIN'** Collins spent many nights during the '80s watching his fellow University of Newcastle theatre friends perform in legendary cabaret act The Castanet Club. Inspired by the now legendary vaudeville act, the aspiring front man started the new-wave band Yes Commissioner with friend and guitarist John Harris, bringing his own theatrical sensibilities to the microphone. Future Fish Fry member Wallace became the band's sound mixer.

Collins would later form another band, Housequake, with future Fish Fry members Kelly, Chapman and Dunn. Despite their popularity, Housequake went their separate ways in the early '90s. Kelly relocated to London, where he secured a regular gig amidst the resurgence of 1940s swing and jump blues.

"He'd been playing [sax] in places all over England doing this jump jive stuff," Collins says. Wallace adds: "Joe Jackson started the revival. But there was a West End show going around, *Five Guys Named Moe*, and that kicked off a Pommy scene of spin-off bands. Dave was playing in one of them. He came back [to Newcastle] with this idea. "According to Collins, that idea was to create a jump jive band in Newcastle, and this "resonated" with the group of Newcastle musicians and friends. They were already fans of jump jive legend Louis Jordan and his contemporaries, like Louis Prima and Big Joe Turner.

"We'd go to Nash Trading," says Wallace, referencing the long-closed Newcastle second-hand retailer, "and spend our remaining dole money, after beer consumption, on the *Atlantic Rhythm and Blues* collection. "The vinyls were marked "not for sale", as they had been intended for industry promotion and submission to radio stations. The *Atlantic Rhythm and Blues* collection spans from 1947 to 1974 and features the cream of Atlantic Records' roster across the decades, from Ray Charles to The Coasters, Ben E. King, Solomon Burke, The Drifters, Sam & Dave and Otis Redding. A spectacular bounty of music, the collection formed the blueprint of Fish Fry's sound.

"We also threw in music from London in the '60s," Collins says. "Like Georgie Fame and the Blue Flames. We were looking at [Fish Fry's repertoire] as covering how jump jive morphed into rhythm and blues and rock 'n' roll."

Along the way various band members would contribute original songs, some of which remain live staples, such as Wallace's *Love Pill* and Dunn's *Nobody Mess (With My Baby)*.

The name "Fish Fry" is, in part, a reference to the Louis Jordan song *Saturday Night Fish Fry*. But the inspiration for the name came when their first show was at a private party thrown by Kelly after his return from London. The invitation mentioned that the shindig would feature a "fish fry" barbecue. Indeed, it did.

The line-up hasn't changed all that much in 30 years but has featured many great musicians such as drummer Nic Cecire and keyboardist Daryl Aberhart.

All 30 years of gigging is present on stage, everyone in the pocket, the tunes hanging off Fish Fry like an old leather jacket. "Our longevity is remarkable," Collins tells me. "But we get along really well. We've been involved in the music since the early '80s and relationships have developed - I married the drummer's sister."

It's not uncommon to see young people have a ball at Fish Fry gigs, a testament to the band's musical prowess and the evergreen qualities of jump jive. "Most of the kids think they're originals," chuckles Wallace. "Because they're period pieces from the '40s, '50s and '60s. But Justin's a fantastic frontman and there's an energy that comes from being a tight band - we've been doing it for so long we'd wanna be!"

Collins adds: "It's a great band, the pick of musical knowledge in town. And they're all wonderful players. I'm a good performer - and if I perform, the whole band performs."



Farewell Vic Gleeson and NeridaTaylor

One of our keenest jazz fans and his partner Nerida Taylor are leaving Wangi after almost 10 years to return to Canberra to be closer to their families. Vic is well known to many of our members because of the jazz courses he ran at his local U3A.

Vic completed a Law Degree from The Australian National University and a master's degree from the University of Alberta. He was a Barrister and read in chambers with Neville Wran, later to be Premier of NSW. His main mentor was Terry Higgins who was later the ACT Chief Justice. As well as working as a

barrister, mainly in the Magistrate's courts Vic was a lecturer in Law at the University of Canberra for 25 years.

Vic had a varied background in music. He learnt the piano and did very well. His father exempted him from washing up if he practised the piano. A new piano teacher who had a different approach caused Vic's father to remove the exemption from the washing up because he said that Vic was enjoying the music too much!

Trumpet playing was next on Vic's list, and he played with the Canberra City Band. He had an unfortunate embouchure so he could only play for 1½ hours before he completely blew his lip. He listened to jazz particularly Louis Armstrong and his Hot Fives and tried to play from the music but found that he wasn't up to it. "I could play it, but I became a real jazz fan from when I discovered there were people who could play it far better than I could'.

After being seconded into National Service he played the Flugel Horn in the 18<sup>th</sup> Training national Service Battalion. In more recent times Vic has taken up the ukulele and recorder.

Vic's extensive jazz record collection led him into broadcasting. A friend of Vic's, Phil O'Rourke ran the 2XX Community Radio Station in Canberra. When a presenter left Vic was recruited. He presented a two-hour program every fortnight. Being a teacher, he tried to; 'make each program a type of lesson- a comparison of clarinet players- there were gaps, so I collected more records.' Vic's broadcasting career lasted about 7 years until he left Canberra.

Vic aspired to grow grapes and make wine, so he retired from lecturing early to settle south of Braidwood. Vic says that he made a bad site and weather selection and was not a successful vigneron and had to grow other produce - with mixed success. When he retired from farming, he joined other family members at Wangi. [From an interview with Vic Gleeson in 2017, Doug Saxon]

All the best for the future Vic and Nerida in Canberra.]

Right – Vic Gleeson and our Vice-President, Sheriden Nelson in 2022.



#### 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

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Half Nelson Jazz Band Bartholomew's- Sun 14 May (Mother's Day) Goldfish Bar- Half Nelson quartet- 8-10pm Saturday 17 June, Saturday 8 July, Saturday - 12 August

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

Club Ashfield Jazz Bridge City Jazz Band and Guests 7.30pm Fridays



All That Jazz 2NUR FM 103.7 THURSDAYS 9pm- 11pm



### Sydney Jazz Club Monthly Lunchtime Jazz 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: <u>sydneyjazzclub@tpg.com.au</u> <u>www.sydneyjazzclub.org.au</u>





<u>Richard Puxty:</u> Monday and Friday 3pm - 6pm Wednesday 12noon -3 pm <u>Kelly Moylan</u>: Friday 12noon – 3pm

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

You can listen on your radio, online or via a phone ap that you can download.

Peter Cowden

Swingtime

**Radio 24/7** 

jazzology.

com.au

ABC Classic Fm- 106.1 You can also listen on line. Jazztrack with Mal Stanley Saturday & Sunday 5pm Repeated Tuesday & Wednesday 2pm & 9pm

Introducing 'The Dinner Set'! Hungry for some swingin' sounds? Monica Trapaga shares her favourites from the ABC Jazz collection - on air every Friday night. 7pm

You can find ABC Jazz on digital radio (DAB+), digital TV (channel 201), or ABC Listen App on your phone, ipad or desktop computer.

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

Al Davey and the Groovers - Freeway Hotel Artarmon2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of Each Month – 2pm-5pmFree Underground Parking. Great Bistro – Dance Floor\$10 entry includes a house beer or wine. Extra gig in April-Sat 29.

Merimbula Jazz Festival 9-12 June 2023 www.merimbulajazz.org.au

### Correction: The Frenchman Street Jazz Band is no longer playing at Earps' Distillery on a Thursday evening.

**NEW ORLEANS QUARTET-**

CARRINGTON BOWLING CLUB

1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

2рм - 5рм

**BOOKING RECOMMENDED** 



Sheriden Nelson LLB Principal

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