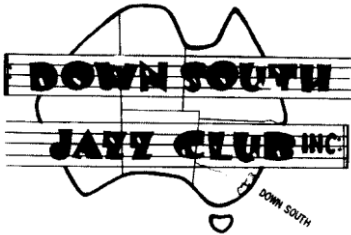


THE D.S.J.C. NEWSLETTER



No. 158 December 2014
Patron: Bill Haesler
Life Members:
John Martin
Bridget Connolly-Martin

The Down South Jazz Club, PO Box 346 Merimbula, NSW 2548
www.downsouthjazzclub.org

The Down South Jazz Club generally meets on the third
Thursday of each month at 7.30 pm at Club Sapphire, Merimbula.
Visitors are very welcome

GEOFF POWER
and
ALAN SOLOMON
with the
MARGIE FULLERTON TRIO

GEOFF POWER – Cornet/Tuba/Vocals
ALAN SOLOMON – Reeds/Vocals
MARGIE FULLERTON – Piano/Vocals
TONY FULLERTON – Bass
KEN VATCHER – Drums

Thursday 15 January 2015 at Club Sapphire, Merimbula
Admission: Members \$15, Visitors \$20.
Music starts at 7.30pm. Bistro opens 6.00pm.
Table bookings 64959853

President's Annual Report 2014

As we approach the end of the second year at Club Sapphire as the venue for Down South Jazz Club, it is pleasing to note that attendance at gigs has been steadily increasing. We have even been making a small profit at some, possibly due to the fact that we seem to get more visitors. Also, membership has increased slightly. Throughout the year we have had some exceptional gigs such as Martin Taylor (UK), Galapagos Duck, Tricia Evy from Europe and the Marvellous Miz Demeanours. We have also enjoyed fantastic nights with our local and visiting musos. A sincere thank you to Club Sapphire management for their financial support and also for making the venue available to us.

On a sad note, Tony Taylor (former newsletter editor for many years) passed away in the middle of the year. Our condolences to Anne & family. Tony spent a lot of time researching and compiling articles for the newsletter. He had an encyclopedic knowledge of jazz and I am sure we have all learnt much from him. He also inserted many funny stories, which he entitled "Another Fable". Thanks Tony, you are sorely missed.

Tony's successors, Mary & Ed Davis, had to relinquish the position at the beginning of the year as Ed was diagnosed with cancer and they were unable to continue. Happily, Ed's health has improved significantly of late and it is good to see him and Mary back at gigs.

John & Aileen Bolton then agreed to accept the position of newsletter editors and are doing a sterling job, despite the fact that John recently underwent cardiac surgery. He is reported to be making excellent progress towards recovery.

There have been a few more changes in committee this year. Ann Tranter and Paul Dion have resigned and Mark Bolsius, who looked after the sound so efficiently, has moved to Wangaratta where he has purchased a piano business. He would love to see you if you are ever in that area. He intends returning to the Merimbula Jazz Festival next year. Gloria Campbell has returned to the committee, taking over Ann Tranter's hostess duties. Welcome back Gloria.

Nick Marshall and Ian Battersby have assisted with the sound on a couple of occasions, but we desperately need someone to take it on. The sound equipment is now stored at Club Sapphire, making the job much easier.

After many years, John Martin (Mr. Down South Jazz Club!!) has vacated the post of Public Officer, his last official position with the club. John, we all owe you a massive debt of gratitude, Thank you for your incredible input over many years.

Our website (downsouthjazzclub.org.au) continues to flourish, thanks to the hard work of Col Gould. Many thanks Col.

We look forward to another great year of jazz, and it would be remiss of me not to sincerely thank, on behalf of the membership, committee members for all their hard work and dedication. Finally, a special thank you to all members for supporting live jazz.

George Pitt
President, DSJC

Events to look forward to in January 2015

Geoff Power and Alan Solomon with the Margie Fullerton Trio

On 15 January 2015 at Club Sapphire Merimbula, the Down South Jazz Club will once again proudly present Sydney musicians *Geoff Power and Alan Solomon* with Merimbula's highly acclaimed *Margie Fullerton Trio*.

This combination, featuring Geoff Power (cornet, tuba and vocals), Alan Solomon (reeds and vocals), pianist and vocalist Margie Fullerton, Tony Fullerton on bass and drummer Ken Vatcher, regularly occupies this particular part of the Down South Jazz Club's annual calendar and always attracts a very appreciative and enthusiastic audience of members and visitors. This first gig of the new year will be an event not to be missed.

Just two weeks later, on 29 January and at the same venue, the Down South Jazz Club will, with an equal measure of pride and confidence, present the Canberra-based group:

Angela Lount and The Fedoras

Vocalist Angela Lount, Dan Maclean (trumpet and flugelhorn), James Luke (bass), Wayne Kelly (piano) and Mark Sutton (drums) are all highly skilled and experienced musicians. They form a closely-knit, polished, extremely musical and professional jazz group which unfailingly attracts and excites DSJC members and visitors. This group also has become a fixture in our annual calendar. We look forward to the group's return in 2015.

The Club Sapphire Bistro opens at 6.00 pm with its extensive menu. Music for both January 2015 gigs will commence at 7.30 pm. Meals can be eaten in the Bistro or ordered, collected and eaten at leisure while listening to the music. Entry is \$15 for jazz club members and \$20 for visitors. Table bookings can be made by ringing Aileen or Kevin Walsh on 64959853, or will be available at the door.

Reviews of Previous Events

The Margie Fullerton Quintet (18 September 2014)



The Margie Fullerton Quintet treated the enthusiastic audience to a nostalgic trip through some of the best standard tunes of yesteryear: *Lester Leaps In*, *Moonglow*, *Night and Day*, *Indiana*, *The Shadow of Your Smile*, *What a Diff'rence a Day Makes*, and the ubiquitous *The Girl from Ipanema*, to name just a few from the list of almost 30.

Band leader Margie Fullerton took very much a back seat position throughout the evening which is a great pity because I for one was looking forward to hearing more of her and what she can do jazz-wise with the music. Handing over the announcing to Brian Kille (tenor sax), Margie mainly occupied herself throughout the evening accompanying and feeding musical cues to other members of the band.



Vocalist Colleen Spillane was the standout performer on the night delivering her songs with near perfect form. I say 'near perfect' because I'm convinced the best is yet to come from Colleen. Her musical sense, pitch and enunciation (my big bugbear with vocalists) were perfection itself. At times I felt that the constant sax fills behind the vocal line *detracted* from the message Colleen was delivering.

Jazz solos were short – half or sometimes only one chorus. There were no in-depth explorations of melodic or harmonic possibilities on offer. It was what is known in the music business as a safe performance. Drummer Ken Vatcher however lit up with an occasional display of technical virtuosity at various times much to the delight of the audience.

Special guest trombonist Paul Bonefin, despite his 85 years, demonstrated his innate musicality and professionalism. Trombone is a tough instrument at any age.

All in all it was a pleasant evening once again at the Down South Jazz Club.

Hats off to Peter Robertson for organising such a varied program for our musical pleasure.

[Review by Paul Dion]

Marilyn Mendez with the Peter Locke Trio (16 October 2014)

An enthusiastic audience of some 50 members and visitors was thoroughly entertained by master jazz pianist Peter Locke, bassist Steve Clark, drummer Ken Vatcher and vocalist Marilyn Mendez.



Peter Locke, who last delighted us in August 2013 when he appeared with Tricia Evy, Dan Barnett and the Anthony Howe Trio, again demonstrated his remarkable musicality and capacity for innovative improvisation. He led the group with professional assurance and sensitivity through a varied program of some 22 songs, ballads and jazz standards which included such well-known and much-loved titles as: Buddy Johnson's *Save Your Love for Me*, George and Ira Gershwin's *Our Love is Here to Stay*, *Night and Day* by Cole Porter, Carol Gibbon's *A Garden in the Rain*, Irving Berlin's *Cheek to Cheek* (written in 1935 for the Fred Astaire/Ginger Rogers movie 'Top Hat'), *Here's That Rainy Day* (music by Jimmy Van Heusen), *Day by Day* (music by Alex Stordahl & Paul Weston), *Don't Go to Strangers* (J.J. Cale), Jimmy Van Heusen's *But Beautiful Music* (introduced by Bing Crosby in the 1947 film 'Road to Rio'), *Time After Time* (lyrics by Sammy Cahn, music by Jule Styne), and Hoagey Carmichael's *The Nearness of You* to mention but a few numbers from each set.



New to Merimbula and the Down South Jazz Club, jazz singer Marilyn Mendez treated us to an arresting, somewhat deep and almost smoky voice that was faintly reminiscent of a night club piano lounge. Marilyn projected energy, vitality and depth of emotion to imbue the music with her own particular style. She was warmly received by the audience.

Steve Clark and Ken Vatcher were both at the top of their form, but then, when aren't they? Their seamlessness and coordination with each other and with Peter Locke and Marilyn Mendez, and the smoothness and polish of the whole performance would, if we hadn't known better, have led us to believe that the group had been playing together for several years.



Marilyn Mendez and the Peter Locke Trio treated us to a very enjoyable evening of top quality jazz. It was definitely a performance to savour.

[Review by Aileen and John Bolton]

George Washingmachine's 'Feel the Manouche'

(20 November 2014)

A good crowd attended and all enjoyed the 'Manouche' from the band made up of George Washingmachine (violin and vocals), Clare O'Meara (accordian, vocals and violin), George's sons Arthur and Jerry Washington on guitars and Stan Valacos on bass.



The music commenced with *Dinah* followed by *C'est Magnifique*, penned by Cole Porter, *How High the Moon* (made famous by Les Paul), *Tin Tin Deo* by Dizzie Gillespie and *Daphne* by Django Reinhardt. This tune was a riot with the two guitars and the bass keeping a fine rhythm. What a great number!

Then followed *Cherry* as featured by Louis Armstrong, and *Tiger* by Django, (and this is where George mentioned that they had found a good vinyl before leaving Narooma – St. Vinnies?). The next number was *Nouages*, with a great blues vocal from Clare. The first set finished up with *Sweet Sue, Just You*, a song from 1928 by Victor Young and lyrics by Will J Harris.

Well what a beaut set and so we all had a cool ale. While waiting for the band to settle down after the break, Jerry said he had a headache and asked ‘Does anyone have Panadeine?’. This little interlude was soon over when some kind soul came forward with a pill.

Well they hit off the second set with the Edward Claypole number *Raggin’ the Scale* and the band soon got everyone’s close attention.

Mark O’Connor’s *Swingin’ on the Ville* followed, then *Troublant Bolero* by Django and a number composed by George himself called *The Moon Has Left Town*, This number really had the ‘Manouche’.

Then came *Crazy Rhythm*, released in 1911 and played by Django in 1937. Well George and the crew really gave it some in 2014.

A dream song, *You Stepped Out of a Dream*, made popular by Nat King Cole, was followed by Django's *Nuits de Saint-Germain-Des-Pres*. Then came *Rose Room* followed by a short break while George Pitt managed the Club's raffle draw.



The third set sizzled off with *Just You, Just Me* and Cole Porter's *You'd Be So Nice to Come Home To*.

A Wes Montgomery tune called *Jingles* was produced by the band with fantastic harmonies from all.

The old Irving Berlin composition *The Song is Ended (but the Melody Lingers On)*, completed this fine rendition of the Jazz Genre along with Django Reinhardt favourites and led everyone to really 'Feel The Manouche'.

If you haven't caught up with George and the gang I can really recommend it.

Yours in Jazz

[Review by Ken Gordon, DSJC Member No. 1]

The Marvellous Miz Demeanours (5 Dec 2014)

Perhaps musicians are like many writers and film makers in feeling apprehensive about returning to the scene of an earlier success. Will the next outing be as well received? Does our material still appeal to an audience who now know what to expect? Are we still fresh? Following their 2012 Merimbula show perhaps Lisa McClelland, Gaye Reid, Jill Walsh and Karen Strahan wondered how the Miz Demeanours would travel again. To follow their well-received 2013 appearance yet again might have stretched the friendship, they may have felt. Expectations were certainly high for the Marvellous Miz Demeanours when they returned this year. But these people are professionals. Whatever uncertainties Miz Giving, Miz Hap, Miz Conduct and Miz Chief may have felt, they showed none. From the opening notes of *Bad Habits/Getting to be a Habit*, they owned the stage. From the outset the appreciative audience knew we were in for an assured, lively evening of music, comedy and just plain good fun.



Although the Miz Demeanours have only been together for about three years, it was clear that the four share a deep musical understanding built up over many years of working together in various contexts. They can draw on a reserve of shared experience, including time at the Canberra School of Music Jazz School, where three of the group met in their teacher and student roles. They have crafted a bouncy, cheeky show, full of tight harmony and impressive range, that took us on an extremely enjoyable musical journey.

The songs were chosen from a wide range of genres and eras. Early on we were treated to Duke Ellington (*It Don't Mean a Thing*), the musical Chicago (*All That Jazz*), The Ink Spots (*That Cat Is High*) and Carol King's *Natural Woman*. Then on we went, from Alberta Taylor's *Two Fisted, Double Jointed, Rough and Ready Man* to James Taylor (*How Sweet It Is*), on a playful, energetic, vibrant journey. There were witty original numbers, including *All I Have Is Me*, from the 2013 musical *Winging My Way To The Top*, produced by Karen and Jill. Tempo changes were a feature, adding dynamic range to many of the songs. We went from tender, thoughtful and mellow to raunchy and robust. We sang along and we laughed a lot.



Solos from each member, beginning with a soulful, powerful reading of *This Is My Life* from Gaye, showed their depth of talent. Jill took to the piano for *Life Is Just A Bowl Of Cherries* which also included a tap routine from Karen and which must have sent many audience members scampering fondly back into their childhood memories.

Clever use was made of costume and props, including boas, scarves and hats, all in the signature red and black, with more than an occasional sparkle. The stagecraft was tight and the banter clever.



Underlying all this lay the substantial skills of Musical Director John Hill on piano and vocals, and drummer and percussionist Ben Schumann. Both have successful recording and performing careers in their own right, and from this show it's easy to see why. John evoked Ray Charles in the vocals for *Night Time is The Right Time*, *Hit The Road Jack* and in the medley of train-related songs. Ben's drum solo late in the evening was a highlight. On previous outings they've been included in the witty headline as Mister Fied and Mister Rected, but this time were given their own names. While this may have sacrificed a little of the show's wit and whimsy, it did mean they receive well deserved acknowledgement.



The Sapphire Club auditorium presents performers with its share of challenges. The cabaret-style table layout means that staff move around clearing glasses, and audience members feel free to stroll off to the bar, and even to have a chat (which it must be said did at times become distracting here). Their ability to hold a crowd captivated for the 30 or so songs in this show is a testament to the dynamism and energy of The Marvellous Miz Demeanours. Hopefully they won't hesitate to come back in 2015, when they can be assured of another warm welcome.

[Review by Rick Sutton]

Taz Jazzfest 2014

Margie and Tony Fullerton were invited to attend the Tasmanian Jazz Festival, presented by the Hobart Jazz Club and held at the Lufra Hotel at Eaglehawk Neck, Tasmania over the weekend of 3 to 5 October 2014. This is their account:

Three months ago we had a call from Judy Levis, wife of the late Neil Levis who performed at the Down South Jazz Club several years ago. Neil brought a band consisting of himself on piano with bass attachment, Fred Bradshaw on alto saxophone and vocalist Kaye Payne. Judy had an invitation from The Hobart Jazz Club for us to attend their Festival at the fabulously situated 'Art Deco' Lufra Hotel, the origins of which date back to the late 1800s.



This was the fourth year the Hobart Jazz Club had chosen this venue. The hotel site, which features views overlooking Pirates Bay on Eaglehawk Neck, was developed by the Nuroo family in 1907. In 1946, aviation and tourism pioneer Sir Reginald Ansett built the present Art Deco style hotel, which was opened in 1949. 2007 saw the addition of 16 high-quality, self-contained apartments.

We advised Judy that Paul Bonnefin was coming down from Taree to perform at the DSJC on 18 September with the Margie Fullerton Quintet and she included Paul and his wife Maureen in the invitation, so we booked a berth on *Spirit of Tasmania*.

We combined a sightseeing tour of some of the parts of Tasmania that we had missed on previous trips to the Apple Isle. We spent three days in Hobart before driving down the Huon Valley Peninsula for two days then back through Hobart to the Port Arthur Peninsula for two nights before taking up residence in the Lufra Hotel.

The hotel is situated in a National Park. It commemorates some of the bad old days of Port Arthur. There are several natural tourist scenes within 4 kilometres including the Tessellated Pavement, Devil's Kitchen, the Blowhole, the Tasman Arch and the Dog Line. There is also a conservation park for Tassie Devils a few kilometres down the road.

Musicians were arranged into groups according to their style of play, Trad, Modern or Mainstream and we all fitted in pretty well. There was only the one venue, the main dining room which seated about sixty people. As we were the only ones from the 'northern island', we were affectionately known as the 'Mainlanders'. We teamed up with Terry Patterson on drums on Friday and Saturday and mixed with the Tassie players on Sunday for blackboard groups. We were impressed with the standard of modern music with the Dave Sikk Quartet and other players such as Charles Stengler, Matt and Don Ives, Fred Bradshaw and Kaye Payne. Interestingly, there was no charge to the musicians.

After leaving the 'Lufra' we proceeded north and stayed at Bicheno, where it was out of season for crayfish but we had plenty of scallops. We travelled back to Launceston, calling in at St Helens where we ran into our old friend Bruce Haley.

Bruce ran the St Helens' Sun Coast Festival for 21 years and he has been a regular at the Merimbula Festival for many years.

We stayed the night in Launceston and the following morning drove to Devonport where we caught up with Doug Sheehan, a fine trumpet player, and had lunch with him before boarding the *Spirit* to return to Melbourne.

We would like to thank the Hobart Jazz Club for their invitation and friendship.

Margie and Tony Fullerton

Wangaratta Jazz Festival

After 25 years of trying, I finally got to attend the Wangaratta Jazz Festival – and I had to move to Wangaratta to do it!! I chose not to be involved in any way other than as a ticket holder. I really wanted to see how it all worked.

As a newbie, I made rookie errors missing some great sets, but in a way I really didn't mind.



The sets I did see were beautiful, particularly Tony Gould's set in the Cathedral. Deliciously light and spacious, every note exactly where it should be and played with care – it reminded me of the words on the back of Canberra's Jazz bass teacher Eric Ajaye's instrument – only where he could see it – 'Play Beautifully'.

But I digress. Wangaratta venues are all generous in size, well set up and extremely well provided for in terms of production – good sound, lighting and pianos. Artistic director Adrian Jackson has an amazing eye/ear for players (not the expensive 'A' ranked international stars, but usually the players you've heard on their albums) and this makes for an intriguing program when these players are teamed with Australia's best.

And if the ticket prices are out of your reach, the public stages on Reid St were there all day with good local and interstate bands providing a cool accompaniment for the food and wine concessions selling their wares – fantastic feeling of community and a sense of occasion (something I've often felt Merimbula's festival could make more of). I won't go on about who played and what I did or didn't see, the program is on wagarattajazz.com.

In the end – I loved Wang Jazz - If you haven't been – do it – if you have, do it again, because you know what I'm talking about! Next year, we'll see what transpires, but I'm hooked. See you there!

Mark Bolsius

Death of Acker Bilk

It was sad to hear of Acker Bilk's recent death in the UK at age 85. As a young man and a 'wannabe' liquorice stick player, I was greatly impressed by Bilk's deep, rich, breezy tone and his pronounced vibrato – qualities I have since tried to emulate but without marked success.

The BBC News has published an interesting obituary on the internet. The picture below, which dates from the 1960s, was copied from the obituary.



John Bolton

Jazz Festivals 2015

<i>13 – 15 February</i>	Grampians Jazz Festival Enquiries 0429 723 443
<i>22 – 24 February</i>	Paynesville Music Festival VIC visitpaynesville.com.au
<i>28 Feb – 16 March</i>	Adelaide Festival adelaidefestival.com.au
<i>6 – 8 March</i>	Kiama Jazz & Blues Festival kiamajazz.com
<i>6 – 9 March</i>	Inverloch Jazz Festival Enquiries Ph 03 5674 6086 inverlochjazzfest.org.au
<i>8 – 9 March</i>	North Qld Wine & Jazz Festival Souths Leagues Club Mackay Enquiries Ph 07 4957 2166
<i>14 March</i>	Coolah Jazz in the Tops Festival jazzinthetops.com.au
<i>28 Mar – 1 April</i>	Byron Bay Bluesfest, bluesfest.com.au
<i>31 Mar – 1 April</i>	Maitland Food, Wine & Jazz Festival maitlandcitycentre.com.au
<i>3 – 7 April</i>	NZ International Jazz & Blues Fest jazzfestivalnz.com
<i>7 – 8 April</i>	Sun Coast Festival suncoastfest.com.au
<i>16 April</i>	Jazz in the Vineyard Cambewarra Estate North Nowra shoalhavenjazz.com.au
<i>26 – 28 April</i>	Apollo Bay Music Festival apollobaymusicfestival.com
<i>23 April – 2 May</i>	Melbourne Jazz fringe Festival melbournejazzfringe.com
<i>3 – 5 May</i>	28 th Illawarra Autumn Jazz Fest illawarrajazzclub.com

Editors' Note: Visit www.jazzscene.com.au/festivalguide for a list of all Australian Jazz Festivals.

New Members

A very warm welcome is extended to new members Brian Kille (*Tura Beach*), Rod Bryar (*Kiah*) and Angela & Stephen Nimmo (*Merimbula*).

Recent Gig Attendances:

	Members	Visitors	Total
Paul Dion Trio	37	24	55
Margie Fullerton Quintet	47	19	66
Marilyn Mendez & Peter Locke Trio	36	8	44
Feel the Manouche	57	37	94
The Marvellous Miz Demeanours	50	23	73

A Message of Sympathy

Some members will be aware that Gloria Campbell's husband, Jim, died recently. On behalf of the DSJC members, the Club Committee would like to express its very sincere sympathy to Gloria at this difficult and stressful time.

A Note from the Editors

As Christmas 2014 approaches and our first year of preparing the DSJC Newsletter draws to a close, we would like to wish all members and their families a safe and very enjoyable festive and holiday season.

During the year, we have been very grateful to those of you who have provided material for inclusion in the newsletter and particularly those who have prepared reviews of DSJC gigs. Without your help the editorial role would have been daunting indeed. Our special thanks go to Pam and George Pitt, Aileen Walsh, Bob Porter, Margie and Tony Fullerton, Robert Smallwood, Matt Kimber, Liz Watson, Ed Davis, Paul Dion, Ken Gordon, Rick Sutton and Mark Bolsius.

Aileen and John Bolton

DOWN SOUTH JAZZ CLUB COMMITTEE 2014-15

If you have any questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with any of the following Committee members:

George Pitt (President)	6495 2734
Peter Robertson (Vice President and Music Coordinator)	6492 2622
Aileen Walsh (Secretary)	6495 9853
Kevin Walsh (Treasurer)	6495 9853
John & Aileen Bolton (Editors)	6495 0356 ajbolton@iinet.net.au
Yvonne Mak (Membership Officer)	6495 0575
Pam Pitt (Publicity Officer)	6495 2734
Gloria Campbell (Hostess)	6495 1645

Disclaimer:

Opinions expressed in this newsletter by the Editors, reviewers and other contributors are entirely their own and not necessarily those of the Down South Jazz Club.