



Sydney Jazz Club Magazine

April 2026

Our Next Mid-week, Lunchtime Jazz:

Paul Furniss and

Licorice Allsorts

[See Page 3](#)

March Mid-Week Jazz Review: Bob Henderson and Joy Yates

Bob Henderson gave us a memorable day at the Freeway last month. Bringing Joy Yates along as a featured guest vocalist added so much to the music of the day that members and guests, sang and danced all afternoon. Bob and the band played many of the great songs of the golden era of jazz and Lawrie Thompson had lots of fun on drums with the Latin rhythms included in the performance.

David Seidel was his usual brilliant best on the bass and David McCrae on piano made up a rhythm section that was tight but full of interest to those who listen to rhythm sections.

Joy Yates, Kiwi Singer and performer, led the music and entertained with her improvised versions of tunes and lyrics.

We did take some photos and video of the performance but unfortunately camera skills did not equal the performance quality, several times having pressed "off" to record the band

playing and "on" to record feet and floor; however Irving Warren saved the day with a series of pictures, one of which is below and the rest have been added to the gallery of photos on our [web site](#).



Members' Lucky Jackpot Draw: Ticket 2919 was drawn on 11 March but

Patricia Buckingham (membership number 2919) was not at the gig so next month (8 April) the draw is for \$60 to the winner—be there.



The President's Report SJC President, Ian McAllister

April 2026

Monthly Gig

Last month we had Bob Henderson's jazz Band play at the Freeway Hotel. It had been some time since we last had this band since Bob generally has his own gig (now on the 3rd Saturday of the month at The Freeway).

Come along on Wednesday 8th April, bring your friends and enjoy the afternoon listening to **The Licorice Allsorts** . See elsewhere in this magazine for full details.

Jazz Bands

As we are always looking to provide good jazz for members and the general public to enjoy at our regular jazz gigs, we are interested in having your feed back, not only on the bands we have but on bands you would like us to engage. Please send us an email with any comments and suggestions.

Moving House

It may be a relatively open secret, however I advise members that our long time Director, Treasurer and until recently,

Bands coordinator, **Mary Armstrong** has decided to up house and move to be closer to her family on the Sunshine Coast.

Mary joined the SJC in June 2003, and became a Director, Treasurer and Bands Coordinator in 2006. Mary has decided to remain a Director of SJC and to carry on the duties of Treasurer for the immediate future for which we are very grateful. The Treasury role can with be carried out remotely without disruption.

On behalf of the Directors and all SJC members, I would like to thank Mary for her support and influence on the running of our club over some 23 years and wish her a great time in the future with her family and Sunshine Coast jazz.

Thank you, Mary.

"Enjoy Life and All That Jazz".

**Ian McAllister
SJC President**

Sydney Jazz Club Committee needs some help: contributions to our newsletter. Write a review of our bands and the gigs you attend and tell us of other Jazz news you hear about—gigs, people, events, history. Write an article on why you do or do not attend our gigs. Put suggestions (to be published) on what we should be doing as a Jazz Club (always remembering that someone has to do the work).

Welcome to new members.

We had no new members join in March. Please see if your friends and neighbours would enjoy the pleasure of Membership of Sydney Jazz Club.

Membership of Sydney Jazz Club

Give a gift to a friend—membership of Sydney Jazz Club—discounts on entry fees, monthly newsletter, voting rights and Great Jazz every month. Use this QR Code or go to

<https://sydneyjazzclub.org.au/membership/>



Sydney Jazz Club on Facebook

There is information about gigs in Sydney and beyond on our Facebook Group Site.. [Use the menu item on our Web site.](#)

Currently there are more than 2000 members of the Group site and posts are appearing there about (mostly) jazz but for all kinds of music events in Sydney and Melbourne and as far away as Perth.

Anyone can post on our Facebook Group page but every post is held for approval—it must be about jazz to be acceptable. Usually approvals are done at least once every day.

SYDNEY JAZZ CLUB PRESENTS:

Wednesday, 8 April 2026, 12:30 to 3:30 pm, Freeway Hotel, Artarmon.

Licorice Allsorts



Licorice Allsorts



Paul Furniss is an Australian jazz musician who has been recognised internationally. He is a noted clarinetist and saxophonist.

He has played in many bands - notably with Geoff Bull, Graeme Bell, Tom Baker, amongst others – also with the Café Society Orchestra, The Ozcats, The Australians. He has also led The Eclipse Alley 5, The San Francisco JB and various other combinations.

In 1982, Paul was chosen as clarinetist for the New Orleans based show "One Mo' Time", which ran for several months in both Melbourne and Sydney. Paul has played at numerous festivals in and out of Australia and is a popular regular at Sydney Jazz Club.

Peter Buckland is an Australian jazz clarinetist and saxophonist prominently active in the **Sydney jazz scene**. He is most notably recognized for his long-standing membership in the traditional jazz ensemble **Liquorice Allsorts** (or "Licorice Allsorts"), which features a distinctive three-clarinet frontline. His work is heavily rooted in traditional and New Orleans-style jazz. He frequently performs with various jazz societies and clubs, including the Sydney Jazz Club. While primarily known

for the clarinet, he also performs on the saxophone. He has performed and recorded with numerous Australian jazz musicians, including Eric Gibbons, Rachel Goeldner, and Graham Hilgendorf. He is described as having an "enchanting" playing style and is a regular fixture at jazz conventions and festivals across Australia. His performances often take place at venues such as the Potts Point Hotel and various community jazz events.

Jack Wiard is a prominent Australian jazz clarinetist and reed player, widely regarded as one of the country's best traditional jazz musicians. Based in Sydney, he has been a fixture in the local and national jazz scene for decades. He is known for playing traditional and Dixieland jazz. Notably, he owns and performs on one of the clarinets formerly owned by the legendary New Orleans clarinetist **Pete Fountain**. Jack has played with many of the great jazz bands including The Bridge City Jazz Band and the Greme Bell Band, and he leads his own trio.

Rachel Hamilton is a Registered Music Therapist and a professional jazz pianist based in the Newcastle and Sydney areas. She is a frequent performer in the Sydney traditional jazz scene, often playing grand piano for groups like the Bridge City Jazz Band and Geoff Bull's Olympia Jazz Band. She often performs alongside her husband, double bassist Craig Goeldner. Outside of performing, she works as a music therapist and piano teacher.

Lawrie Thompson, jazz drummer. Lawrie has played with the greats of Australian jazz and is a popular regular at Sydney Jazz Club. He has toured widely with Bob Barnard and others. He moved to Sydney from Melbourne and joined Bob Barnard's band in 1963. Lawrie played with Graeme Bell for many years.

Peter Boys. Dr Peter Boys, PhD. A music academic after graduating from Newcastle Con. He spent 24 years as a high school music director, leading concert and marching bands in Newcastle, to national shows and overseas including leading a marching band in New Orleans for the famous Rose Parade.

Peter's first degree was as an Opera Singer and his love of New Orleans Jazz was and is a part time interest—a hobby. Peter has played with most of Australia's greats of jazz from 1972, in particular Jack McLoughlan—see [this link](#). Rachel Hamilton is also on that recording.

\$20 non-members, \$15 for SJC members, pay as you enter.

The Freeway Hotel has great facilities including a large dance floor / extensive food menu, and free under-cover parking.

For the convenience of our members and guests travelling by train, the hotel will provide a free small coach pick up service from the shops side of Artarmon Station—in the Kiss and Drop zone at the Chatswood end of the station - every 10 / 15 minutes from 11.30 - 12.30 and return from 3.30 - 4.00. **Table bookings are not permitted**

Jazz Festivals—an incomplete list.

[Generations in Jazz \(Mt Gambier, SA\)](#): May 1–3, 2026, focusing on youth competitions, workshops, and guest artists.

[Newport Jazz Festival \(Victoria\)](#): May 2–3, 2026, featuring over 40 bands across the Newport cultural precinct.

[Merimbula Jazz Festival \(NSW\)](#): June 2026 (typically June long weekend), featuring a mix of jazz styles, including swing and traditional.

Winter Blues Festival at Echuca last weekend in 23-26 July

[Inverloch Jazz Festival \(Victoria\)](#): July 31 – August 2, 2026, featuring over 40 bands and 150 artists.

Noosa Jazz Festival Aug 28 to Sept 6

[Manly Jazz Festival \(Sydney, NSW\)](#): September 18–20, 2026, held at Manly Beach.

[Melbourne International Jazz Festival \(MIJF\) 2026](#): The festival will return in **October 2026**. It has already named its **Take Note Jazz Leader** for the year and is planning its largest program yet across more than 40 venues.

[Australian Jazz Convention \(Dubbo, NSW\)](#): December 26–31, 2026, the 80th anniversary of the event.

See Margaret Margennis' article on "Jazz Festivals for your Bucket List" in our [October 2025 Newsletter](#).

Another visit to the Lord Dudley, But

I wrote about seeing George Washingmachine, aka Stephen Washington, at the Lord Dudley last month. In March, with houseguests needing entertainment, we decided to go back to the Lord Dudley this time to catch the whole Stephen Washington Trio—George, with David Seidel on bass and Barney Wakeford on piano: but George was not there! He was away and had arranged for a tenor sax player and vocalist Renato Marcon to replace him. Boy were we the lucky ones. What a performance. Renato is a wonderful musician with a CV including periods playing with Tom Baker, Bob Barnard and other greats, but I had never heard of him.

I have now. Renato is up there with the crooners and singers of our golden era of jazz and with the cool backing of David and Barney, we had one of the most enjoyable and memorable nights of entertainment—and it is on from 4 pm to 7 pm—ideal for those of us who don't stay out late much these days.

During the evening, an elderly gent came in (probably not so elderly as I). He seemed to know at least David, and he sat close to the band. He was invited to play something on piano.

George Baraliakof, or George Baras as his business card says, played extraordinary piano and sang blues with a deep baritone voice. He only played two songs but brought the house down. I can find very few references to George on the internet but his business card says George Baras Music. He told me he does not play anywhere in Sydney at present but I will follow up and learn more about a wonderful musician.

Go to the Lord Dudley 4 pm Sundays for high quality cool jazz and surprises that just get better. Parking is easy Although perhaps a 200m walk is involved. The stairs up to the Guinness Room where the jazz is are steep.



I stumped them with a request for "Take Five" - their excuse was "No drummer." That's Ren with the sax.



George Baras at the piano.



[The Lord Dudley Hotel](#)

Jazz News (some of which has already happened)

[Jeff Goldblum & The Mildred Snitzer Orchestra](#): The Hollywood icon is confirmed for a [five-city Australian tour](#) in 2026.

[RISING Melbourne 2026](#): The program for this winter festival includes a considerable music component, featuring "The Birth of the Cool" in Chatswood.

Bluesfest 2026 Cancelled: In a major blow to the festival circuit, multiple sources confirmed the **cancellation of Bluesfest 2026**.

[Helpmann Academy Langley Award](#): Applications are open for this **\$7,500 award** aimed at supporting the careers of emerging jazz musicians in 2026.

[James Morrison](#): The multi-instrumentalist is touring with his big band to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Duke Ellington's passing, with upcoming dates in Sydney, Melbourne, and Brisbane.

[Joe Chindamo](#) : His new composition, *Are there any questions?*, received its world premiere by the **Melbourne Symphony Orchestra** on **19 and 21 March 2026** at Hamer Hall.

[Chatswood "Birth of the Cool" Series](#): Features up-

coming performances by the **Zela Margossian Quintet** (26 March), **James Morrison Quartet** (16 April), and Peter Locke with Kate Wadey 21 May

[Women Of Jazz '26](#): ABC Jazz released this annual compilation in March 2026 to coincide with International Women's Day, featuring new recordings from women-led Australian projects. The link is to recordings taken from this event.

[Anton Delecca](#): *Saxophonist and composer from Melbourne*, is launching a new album recorded in New York, featuring [Tessie Overmyer](#) and [Matt Clohesy](#) (bass) , with a premiere scheduled for the Melbourne International Jazz Festival 2026.

[Alex Pertout](#): The percussionist and composer released his new album *Viajes* ("Travels") in March 2026.

Vinyl Reissues: Umbrella Music has recently reissued Australian classics, including Brian Brown's *Carlton Streets* and **Don Burrows' At the Sydney Opera House**.

Something to share with the kids and grand-kids

We write and talk about the history of Jazz as if there is no future. I came across this at the National Library of Australia but available on YouTube. Its about the history but is for kids—the future jazz musicians. Share with you grand-kids and those of your 50 YO kids who have not yet come across from the Dark Side.

[Does it Swing? - An animated jazz history Part 1](#) , [Does it Swing Part 2](#), [Does it Swing Part 3](#), [Does it Swing Part 4](#), [Does it Swing Part 5](#), [Does it Swing Part 6](#), [Does it Swing Part 7](#).

I particularly like Part 6—it could be the precursor of RAP.



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Another list of Jazz Classifications from JazzFuel.com

[Early Jazz](#)

[Big Band & Swing Music](#)

[Bebop](#)

[Gypsy Jazz](#)

[Hard Bop](#)

[Cool Jazz](#)

[Modal Jazz](#)

[Latin Jazz](#)

[Free Jazz](#)

[Fusion](#)

[Modern Jazz](#)

[Visit the Australian Jazz Museum.](#)

Founded in 1996 as the Victorian Jazz Archive (VJA), the Australian Jazz Museum (AJM) came about from the strongly voiced desire to preserve Australia's jazz heritage, and for it to be readily accessible to musicians, collectors, donors and others throughout Australia.

In 2003 VJA was accredited as a Museum by Museums Australia (Victoria). In 2014 the VJA changed its name to Australian Jazz Museum – to reflect the Museum's Australia-wide mission, collection and membership.

The Patron of the Australian Jazz Museum is James Morrison AM.

Coffee with Tony Hasbani—Licensee of the Freeway Hotel, Artarmon by Dennis Harris

It all started when Al Davey (trumpeter) was looking for a venue for his band, The Groovers, to play on the North Shore. He came across The Freeway and was very happy with both the venue and the response from Tony Hasbani, the Licensee.

Al told Mary and Ian and as SJC was “between venues”, they went to see the Freeway as a possible new solution to the Sydney Jazz Club Constitutional Imperative: to provide a venue for jazz (my paraphrase of the constitution).

Since then we have enjoyed the venue, its facilities and its staff, and more jazz is now played in the Freeway than anywhere else on the North Shore.

Tony and I had a conversation last week.

He had come into the hotel to start work on a Saturday afternoon from working with his brothers on installing a secure fence at his mother’s house in South West Sydney. Tony lives in the North West of Sydney, he suffers the M2 like everyone else every morning. He is the proud owner of 2 rescue greyhounds which keep him busy when he is away from the hotel.

In the late 90s, Tony was working off the coast of the US and Mexico as a croupier on a cruise ship. He learned a lot and had a lot of fun, but on returning to Australia he needed a job and started working in hotels, eventually becoming the licensee at several of Sydney’s famous venues. The Albion in Parramatta was the biggest and had entertainment as its focus so Tony became very skilled at managing bands and musicians. He has a love of music especially dance music. He competed in the South Pacific dance championships for several years.

He also ran the Edinburgh Castle Hotel in the City and of all things said he loved working with backpackers who made up a large part of the staff.

In 2011 he started at the Freeway “The most challenging one yet”. After a couple of years, he followed an opportunity to Melbourne and suffered with the rest of us through the pandemic. He returned to Sydney and to the Freeway in 2020.

Tony’s objective is to make the Freeway the centre of entertainment on the North Shore. He is supporting jazz contributing to the bands that are now playing on Saturday afternoons, and especially by encouraging the students of Jazz Workshop Australia in the fourth Saturday gig. Tony also contributes to the bands Sydney Jazz Club hires for our monthly gig.

Tony’s objectives are much the same as SJC objectives—more jazz and more opportunities. He wants people to enjoy the experience of his hotel. He has lost some patrons by changing from the previous entertainment formula to the current music emphasis, but he has gained many new friends, especially the musicians that play there and SJC.

He is very keen to see SJC develop its presence in the Hotel entertainment package. Tony says he loves working with the committee. He would prefer that we allowed table bookings for large groups and is happy to manage the process for the

committee in order to attract groups. He knows that there are groups who would attend if they had guaranteed seats. He also, makes a point about payment options, with the introduction of electronic payment to make the process more streamlined and at the same time creating an electronic data base of members who attend the shows, allowing us to follow up with members who haven’t attended in a while. That would also work as a health check on the members. He is full of ideas.

Sydney Jazz Club has a great friend in Tony. I commented to him that his staff are one of the attractions of the Freeway. They are very popular and liked by our members.

David drives the shuttle; Rocky cooks the meals (and they are so good Rocky should appear for adulation now and then.)

The bar is run by Tira and Moana. (Moana is the one with the Kiwi accent).



Unfortunately, Moana was not there when Tony and I had the conversation.

As most readers will know, the owner of the Freeway has passed away but the future of the live Jazz at the Freeway will continue for years to come. Thanks to Tony!

In the never-ending search for things to publish (without ignoring copyright) we came across a publication called **JazzFuel**. It is American but I found it to include much more on traditional jazz than other similar publications. For example, a recent weekly update produced this article on the “42 best jazz musicians of all time”. It contains lots of ads making it a bit frustrating to wade through, but it is good reading. [Best Jazz Musicians of All Time \(42 Legendary Artists\)](#) .



115 Reserve Rd, Artarmon

The Centre of jazz On the North Shore

First Saturday Of The Month: Al Davey and the Groovers

Second Saturday of the Month: Geoff Power Jazz Band

Third Saturday of the Month: Bob Henderson and Friends

Fourth Saturday of the month: Jazz Workshop Australia

Fifth Saturday: Watch This Space

You Might Be Interested to know:

April Members' Lucky Jackpot: \$60

Be There to Win It!

Radio 2 MBS has a page at [April Jazz Birthdays - 2MBS](#) which lists Jazz musicians' birthdays. Very interesting with lots of biographical notes. There are some very big names in the April list.

Google AI Proves Its Worth

I asked Google AI a simple question: "New Orleans Jazz Legends", and in return was directed to this wonderful 75 minute YouTube collection of the greats playing the great music of New Orleans. Click on the picture.



Interesting Post on Facebook by [Jonathan Zwartz](#)

I am so happy to acknowledge Apra's new Live performance returns policy regarding jazz. This is a momentous policy change. Jazz is a unique art form and practitioners will now have their special skillset recognised in policy. A huge thanks to Apra's Board, Leadership team and all of the people at Apra that worked tirelessly to bring this to fruition, thank you for going the distance. This new policy means:

- Jazz musicians' improvisations are now recognised as compositions
- It's an added income stream for improvising musicians The bandleader can put one LPR covering all band members for the gig
- Can backdate to July 1st, 2025

It's an easy process.

There will be a 'how to' video coming soon.

I just want to say how really proud I am to be a part of this wonderful organisation that leads the fight to protect our composition and performance rights in an increasingly challenging environment. Thankyou Apra.

It is hard to understand how this change will be implemented.



8 April 2026: Paul Furniss and Licorice Allsorts

13 May 2026: New Orleans Ramblers

9 September 2026: Riverside Five

Jazz on Radio www.sydneyjazzclub.org.au

[Weekly Gig Guide](#) (updated Tuesday afternoon each week).

Please send us reviews and recommendations for jazz performances. Let's publicise good jazz and the musicians who play jazz. Send your contributions to admin@sydneyjazzclub.org.au.

Jazz Clubs Around Australia

[Victorian Jazz Club](#) next time you visit Melbourne.

[Canberra Jazz Club](#) next time you are in the ACT

[Southern Jazz Club](#) when in Adelaide

[WA Jazz Club](#) next time you are in Perth

[Noosa Heads Jazz Club](#) , [The Gold Coast Jazz And](#)

[Blues Club](#) and the [Gold Coast City Jazz Club](#)

if you go to Queensland

In Tasmania, visit [Hobart Jazz Club](#).

[Sunshine Coast Jazz Club](#) on the way north in Qld

[Illawara Jazz Club](#) On the way south.

[Ballarat Jazz Club Turns 40](#)

[Peninsula \(Morningside\) Jazz Club](#)

Many Clubs offer reciprocal rights to SJC Members.

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Music from 2pm – 5pm (doors open 1pm) Admission to each band is \$10* – pay at the door!

[Illawarra Jazz Club |book](#) for details.

4th April: Raduga Trio (actually 4 musos)

11th April: The Behllops

18th April: The Blackheathens

25th April: Short & Horny



Stephen Washington

Lord Dudley Hotel

Sundays, 4-7pm

First floor in The Guinness Room.



Canberra Jazz Club

Geoff Power's Great Gatsby Orchestra

Sunday 12 April 2026, 1 pm.

[Canberra Southern Cross Club Lounge.](#)



Sunday 5 April, 2 pm
Carolyn Packer's Stompin' Rhythm Aces

Sunday 12 April, 2 pm
Liam Burrows

[Details](#)

Sydney Jazz Club Committee

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