



GOLD COAST JAZZ & BLUES CLUB



'Improvisations'



The newsletter of the Gold Coast Jazz & Blues Club

Patron : Fred Baines

www.goldcoastjazzclub.com

Ph: 0405-143-720

January - February 2009

Coming Soon

Friday 16th January 2009
VIVA THE BAND (Sydney) in our
'INTERNATIONAL NIGHT'



Friday 20th February 2009
JAMES FLYNN from Perth
'Singing and Swinging'



Making what has now become an annual visit to the Gold Coast James Flynn will sing the songs made famous by Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Michael Buble & Stevie Wonder

Unity ?

A few weeks ago we were approached by the president of the Gold Coast City Jazz Club with the suggestion that the two jazz clubs on the coast should unite. As we go to press with this edition of 'Improvisations' negotiations are continuing. Your committee has approved the basic concept with certain conditions.

In 2002 when your club changed venue to the German Club in Carrara and from a Monday night to a Friday night a few members called a Special General Meeting under the terms of our club constitution.

That meeting backed the decision by the club committee to move to the German Club but a few dissenting members formed the Gold Coast City Jazz Club. Now that both jazz clubs are holding gigs in the Arts Centre it seems logical that there be one jazz club on the Gold Coast. Watch this space !

Roy McKeen
President



JAZZ IN THE BASEMENT
Harry Lynn Quartet
 and a guest artist every week.
Every Saturday at 7p.m..
Gold Coast Arts Centre
135 Bundall Road, Surfers Paradise

10 January: Smokin' Joe Robinson

17 January: Lauren Lucille

24 January: Llew Hird

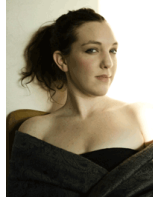
31 January: Nancy Grand

14 February: Brandon

28 February: Linda Weston



Joe



Lauren



Linda



Nancy



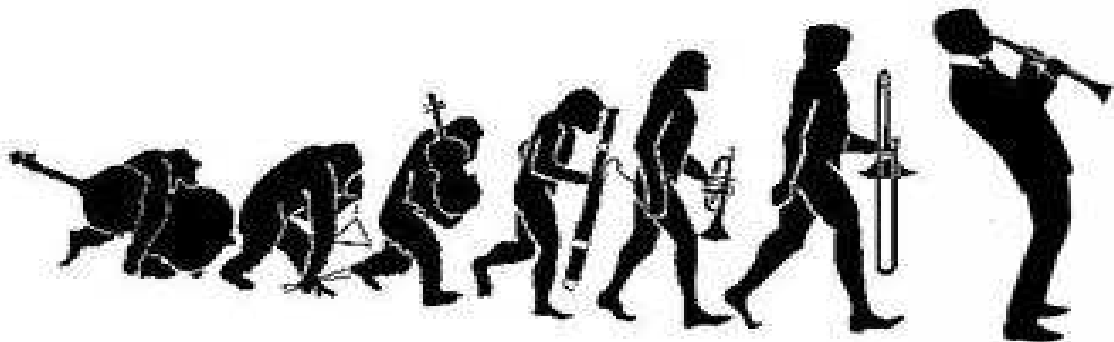
**Festivals, Conventions
 and other Jazz Events**



3—6 January
 12-14 January
 12-13 January
 19 January
 10-11 February
 13-15 February
 16-17 February
 15-17 February

Forbes Jazz Festival
 ThredboBlues Festival
 Coolart Jazz Festival
 Pearl Beach Jazz Festival
 Bunbury International
 Grampians Jazz Festival
 Middleton Jazz Festival
 Monte Carlo on the Murray

www.forbesjazz.com/6851.1450
www.thredboblues.com
 (03)5987-3078
 (03)4343-1455
www.bunburyjazz.com.au
 Halls Gap
 (08) 8554-3524
www.echucamoana.com/jazz



VIVA the BAND

Friday 16th January 2009

'International Night'



VIVA THE BAND from Sydney in our *International Night* playing the music of France, Spain, Russia, Argentina, Brazil, Britain, Ireland, USA etc.. A welcome return after a very successful appearance at the Gold Coast Jazz Festivals in 2003/2004.

The band has worked internationally and extensively through Australia. The members have performed throughout Asia with over 400 concerts to American and Australian armed forces in Sth Vietnam, Thailand, The Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Guam and Japan. The band is noted for its cultural work representing Australia at the International Chihsi Arts Festival in Taiwan in 2004. Viva the Band perform a rich tapestry of music skillfully blending a mix of jazz, swing, Latin, gypsy jazz, salsa, cabaret and classic show tunes. You'll be transported!

Reservations on 0405-143-720 or bookings08@goldcoastjazzclub.com

Members \$20

Visitors \$25



Save Our Arts Centre by Paul Fitzgerald



On behalf of the Gold Coast community, the Friends of the Gold Coast Arts Centre has been agitating for our Gold Coast City Council to finalise its protracted deliberations over the future of Evandale and additional accommodation for its ever expanding council staff.

The position expressed firmly by the Friends is that "Evandale (the site of the present Gold Coast Arts Centre) be reserved solely for the development of an outstanding cultural precinct for the community and its tourists." Historically, the Friends lobbied, agitated and influenced governments from the mid sixties to ultimately agree to the Arts Centre that we have today. The Foundation Stone after years of public-spirited action was laid in 1981. When the Arts Centre opened in 1986, the estimated population of the Gold Coast to the year 2010 was 308,000! As we know, the population in August in 2008 was 608,000! It could be argued that the community therefore has been poorly served by successive councils in providing additional and expanded facilities for the public and its 70,000 per day visitor population that occurs now.

The primary argument is that Evandale is a uniquely beautiful site for an iconic, imaginative and outstanding cultural precinct. Arts benefactor and former councilor Jock McIlwain describes the site as follows: *"My vision is that the Peninsula of land known as Evandale projecting eastward and wrapped by the Nerang River will one day become an all embracing total cultural centre worthy of the Gold Coast as a national and international tourist destination. Imagine thousands of people milling each day through Evandale enjoying live theatre, cinema, concert and performance, display and art, artisans at work and a museum displaying the history and uniqueness of the region. Arts and crafts, cultural items and books would be available. Perhaps some dining outlets, certainly transport options including pedestrian walks and bridges would doubtless support such a green, parkland site."*

Regrettably the present GCAC which occupies part of Evandale is bursting at the seams resulting in the prevalence of 'tack on proposals'. Inevitably splinter cultural activities emerge at various venues eroding the impetus for a viable cultural precinct for Gold Coast people and visitors to share.

While a civic centre - akin to a town hall - has qualified support the Friends on behalf of the community generally are opposed to the proposal that a substantial accommodation of council staff and council business needs to remain at Evandale. There are a number of alternate locations for council that have been argued including the adjacent Bundall precinct.

Club members who believe that the Friends recommendations are viable and important, might care to advise their divisional councilor of their support for the Friends propositions on the community's behalf.

*Paul Fitzgerald is the chairman of The Friends of the Arts Centre .
For further information please see www.friendsoftheartscentre.com.au*



James Flynn

'Singing & Swinging'

Friday 20th February 2009

James Flynn from Perth, Western Australia first made his name on this side of the continent at the Gold Coast Jazz Festivals in 2003 and 2004 which our jazz club organized. It is fair to say that he was the star attraction packing out the Panorama Room at the Gold Coast Arts Centre for each and every performance. Word soon spread that this young Scottish born singer was worth seeing and hearing.

Since that James Flynn has established himself as one of Australia's leading jazz vocalists, bringing to his performance a level of polish and professionalism of international calibre.

Flawless intonation, a fine sense of rhythmic swing and uncanny interpretation of a lyric, partnered with an engaging stage presence, an encyclopedic knowledge of the great American songbook and that rare ability to make his audience feel 'at home', make him the consummate entertainer.

James has developed a versatile career that has taken him to Europe, America, Asia and throughout Australia.

He has released six CDs and toured and performed at jazz festivals throughout the world.

In addition to countless stage and television performances he has performed four sell out concerts in Perth, as a soloist with West Australian Symphony Orchestra and as

support artist for the late, great Ray Charles, Tommy Emmanuel and Demis Roussos.

Over the last decade James has consolidated a significant reputation as not only a fine jazz vocalist but also as a leader of some of the most talented and exciting young jazz instrumentalists in Australia.

During that time he has presented a range of highly anticipated concerts including tributes to Bobby Darin, Dean Martin, Frank Sinatra and Nat 'King' Cole, performances with his popular quintet and the launch of his acclaimed 2006 CD release "I Thought About You".

"In the world of showbiz, where singers are a dime a dozen, James Flynn is one of those very rare performers whose hallmark of star quality is instantly self-evident and both elevates and distinguishes him from the crowd." UK Stage & Television Today .

For this evening's performance James will be backed by a band of local professional musicians led by club member bassist Andy Dowdeswell

This is the same group which recently backed Scott Martin at our club.

Members \$15: Visitors \$20



A movie about the life of Louis Armstrong entitled 'What a wonderful world' is projected to be in the pipeline

starring Forrest Whitaker (pictured) as the great jazz trumpeter / singer/ entertainer. The storyline will commence in New Orleans where Armstrong was born to his death in 1971.

Whitaker won an Academy Award for his portrayal of Ugandan dictator Idi Amin in 'The Last King of Scotland.' He also played the part of Charlie Parker in the movie 'Bird.'

The song 'What a wonderful world' has an interesting history. Intended as an antidote for the increasingly racially and politically charged climate in the U.S. (and written specifically for Armstrong, who had broad crossover appeal), the song details the singer's delight in the simple enjoyment of everyday life.

The song also has a hopeful, optimistic tone with regard to the future, with reference to babies being born into the world and having much to look forward to. The song was not initially a hit in the United States, where it sold fewer than 1,000 copies, but was a major success in the UK reaching number one on the UK Singles Chart.

The song gradually became something of a standard and reached a new level of popularity. It was re-released in America shortly after Armstrong's death in 1971 and became a top ten hit.



In 1988, Louis Armstrong's 1968 recording was featured in the film *Good Morning Vietnam* and was re-released as a single. The single charted at number one for the fortnight ending June 27, 1988 on the Australian charts. (Wikipedia).

It is such a great song with an inspirational message that it is sure to become a hit all over again for the late Louis Armstrong. And with a bit of luck a movie about his life might just resurrect the popularity of Classic Jazz in the same way as it was revived in the early '50s by Graeme Bell in Australia and Acker Bilk, Kenny Ball and Chris Barber in the U.K..

Editor



*Our congratulations to one of our favourites at the Gold Coast Jazz & Blues Club, **BOB BARNARD**, who celebrated his 75th birthday on 24th November.*

*Bob will be returning to our club on 17th April with **OZCATS** playing the music of Bob Crosby & The Bobcats.*



Welcome to our new members !

We welcome Catherine Palin-Brinkworth, Jane Kemsley, Sue and Peter Bennetts, Margaret and Tony McCann, Lorraine and Clinton Condon, Bill and Dianne McLaren, John Gardiner, Toni Grootemaart and hope you enjoy the jazz and the friendship.

Current membership : 273

Gold Coast Jazz & Blues Club Committee

President/Editor	Roy McKeen	55-293-838
Vice President	Keith Brown	55-355-535
I.P.P.	Jim Oxenford	0413624722
Treasurer	Bob Mirams	55-387-626
Secretary	Mary Oxenford	0412555008
Committee	Lester Winter	55-754-872
Committee	Diane Mirams	55-387-626
Committee	Sue Poefinger	55-353-818
Committee	Geesje Brown	55-355-535
Committee	Kay Watkinson	55-396-163

**P.O. Box 6421
GCMC 9726
www.goldcoastjazzclub.com**

**The only phone number for
bookings is
0405 143 720.
You can book
on- line at
www.goldcoastjazzclub.com**

**Please don't telephone or
email committee members.**

**Please do NOT
telephone
the
Gold Coast Arts Centre !!**



**Friday 30th January:
Mountain Bandits (Blues & Bush) plus
Acoustics Brew (duo)**

Fri. 27th February: TBA

**Greenhills on Tweed
River Street, Murwillumbah
Tel: (02) 6672-1697**



**78 Scarborough Street
Southport
Tel: 5527 1816**

"Your Search is Over"





The club meets in the **Paradise Showroom in the Gold Coast Arts Centre**, 135 Bundall Road, Surfers Paradise. The bar and restaurant open at 6.00p.m. and the music starts at 7.30p.m. until 10.30p.m.. Visitors are welcome. Members of other Australian and jazz clubs world wide are welcome and admitted at members' rates. Website: www.goldcoastjazzclub.com
Please reserve your seats at bookings008@goldcoastjazzclub.com or 0405-143-720.

Coming soon to the Paradise Showroom



Friday 20th March 2009: THE CAXTON STREET JAZZ BAND from Brisbane has been playing its particular style of **Classic Jazz** at our club for several years. The most recent appearance was when the band supported Lee Guinness. The band recently released its CD 'It's about time 2.'



Friday 17th April 2009: OZCATS from Sydney with one of the legends of Australian show business - **LITTLE PATTIE**. OZCATS features some of the best jazz musicians in the country viz. Bob Barnard, Trevor Rippingale, Paul Furniss, Bob Henderson, Ed Wilson. Playing the music of Bob Crosby's Bobcats.

Friday 22nd May: 'A Night in Bourbon Street' with the **MIKE HALLAM BAND** from Sydney. More details later.



Friday 26th June: THE SYNCOPATORS (Melbourne)
The Syncopators have been together for the past 24 years so that means the band has been going longer than our jazz club (25 years in 2010). Have been everywhere that matters, done everything a jazz band can and should do. Wildly entertaining. Peter Gaudion on trumpet is one of the outstanding characters in Australian jazz. Chris Ludowyk (trombone) who founded the band is a very talented musician. One of Australia's top bands.

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