



# 'Improvisations'



The newsletter of the Gold Coast Jazz & Blues Club  
 January - February 2008  
[www.goldcoastjazzclub.com](http://www.goldcoastjazzclub.com)

## Coming Events



**January 18: Pippa Wilson  
 with the Clare Hansson  
 Quintet**

**15th February: The Music  
 of New Orleans with Jo  
 Bloomfield, Mike  
 Hawthorne and friends**

**14th March: Legends of  
 Australian Jazz with Bob  
 Barnard, Kate Dunbar**

**18th April: The Geoff Bull  
 Olympia Jazz Band**

## Target '08

We go into the new year in an enviable position. We have a respectable bank account; we have a stable, dedicated, harmonious committee; we have a strong membership.

But your committee does not intend to sit on its laurels. We have set ourselves a target of a membership of 300 by this time next year. Currently we have 264 paid - up members with a surge of new members joining your club over the past couple of months. So we need 36 more members. That's three a month over the calendar year. Achievable ! Isn't it?

Our strategy is to retain existing and attract new members by maintaining high standards. That means booking quality bands and singers and by continuing to present jazz in a warm, welcoming environment where there is not only entertainment but fun and friendship.

The jazz club belongs to you and we ask you to play your part in helping us achieve our goal of 300 members. Tell your friends how much you enjoy belonging to the Gold Coast Jazz & Blues Club. Invite them to join you at our gigs and see and hear how much fun we have. Won't you join us and help our jazz club achieve **Target '08**.

*Roy McKeen  
 President / Editor*



## Teresa Brewer dead at 76

Teresa Brewer, “the little girl with the big voice” who popped to the top of the 1950s hit parade with perky, relentlessly cheerful songs, then reinvented herself as an exuberant jazz singer in the 1970s, died on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2007 at her home in New Rochelle, N.Y. She was 76. Born in Toledo, Ohio in 1931, Brewer topped the charts with such hits as ‘*Music, music, music*’, ‘*Gonna Get Along Without Ya Now*’, ‘*Let me go lover*’, ‘*Into Each Life Some Rain Must Fall*’ and ‘*Till I waltz again with you.*’ She sang with Tony Bennett and had a burgeoning film career including ‘*Those Redheads from Seattle*’ with Guy Mitchell before scaling back her work to raise a family. She re-emerged in the 1970s to perform with jazz greats Duke Ellington, Dizzy Gillespie and Wynton Marsalis.

Her second husband was Bob Thiele who co-wrote ‘*What a wonderful world.*’



**Clare Hansson** will be the musical director and pianist for the visit by Pippa Wilson to our jazz club on Friday 18th January.

Billed as ‘Queensland’s First Lady Of Jazz’, Clare Hansson has led her own jazz trio since 1980.

Introduced to jazz by her late bass-playing husband, Bernie Hansson, Clare has forged an identity within the jazz scene as a charismatic leader of her trio of piano, bass and drums. Clare is also a skilled accompanist greatly in demand for festivals and backing top local, interstate and international artists through her ability to play in any style or setting.

As part of her musical journey, Clare gained a Masters degree in Jazz Studies at the Queensland University of Technology in 1996. She then embarked on a PhD on the professional career of New York jazz pianist, Marian McPartland.

Marian McPartland, active in American jazz for six decades, is a pianist, composer, educator, writer, broadcaster, advocate and mentor for all musicians. Clare’s PhD, in the format of a Website, is a groundbreaking approach to jazz studies from her perspective as a performer and as a researcher steeped in jazz knowledge. Clare is the first and only Australian guest to appear on McPartland’s popular radio program *Piano Jazz* in 1999.

This popular guest appearance has been re-broadcast three times since.

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# Kate Dunbar

## Legendary Australian Jazz Singer



Kate was born in 1923 and so grew up in ‘The Jazz Age’, hearing all the good Tin Pan Alley tunes as they were written during her teenage years and singing them at the local milk bar when she was 16 and before that on the radio after school on 2SM on “Uncle Tom’s” show. She has always loved to sing – at school, both solo and in school choir. When she was 16 her parents agreed that she could learn singing at the NSW Conservatorium of Music under the guidance of Cecily Atkins. She studied with her for about 8 years and taught her a great love of all music, but occasionally would tell her to “Stop crooning Kathleen”! About this time she changed teachers and began learning from Madam Marianne Mathy – a wonderful teacher and voice producer. Although she was a mezzo soprano at the time, Madam Mathy wanted to re-train her as a contralto but at that stage of her life she was about to get married and so gave up formal lessons.

After hearing the Paramount Jazz Band in their early formative years she became interested in jazz again and tried “sittin’ in” a couple of times with them. Pat Qua formed a band to attend the first Cootamundra Jazz Convention and asked her to join her band and play guitar and sing a song. This she joyfully did and then one night in the pub where they were staying Pat and she were mucking around on their piano and Kate sang “*Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight*” and Ian Cuthbertson and Peter Neubauer came over and asked them to do it again. Then some time later the banjo player in the Paramount Jazz Band, Doug Lampard became ill and had to leave the Band. Kate was asked by Ian Cuthbertson to join the Paramount on guitar and vocals and of course she said “Yes please”. She was with the Band for many years and during that time also sang with Ray Price’s various groups including the famous Port Jackson Jazz Band and also with Graeme Bell’s Band.

Kate has been singing jazz now for most of her life and wouldn’t have it otherwise. Her love of most music still includes all forms of sound, classical, jazz and blues, folk and some rock and roll. During her years she has been president of the Sydney Jazz Club, treasurer and chairman of the Jazz Educator’s Association, and with five other singers established the Jazz Singers Workshop which has now been working for twenty years.

Kate was honoured with the Order of Australia for work in the jazz field in 1996.

Kate has recorded on various labels with various bands including The Pix All Stars, The Port Jackson Jazz Band, The Eclipse Alley 5, Women ‘n’ Blues and, of course, The Paramount Jazz Band.

On the evening of Friday 14th March we welcome Kate Dunbar to the Gold Coast Jazz & Blues Club where we salute some of the legends of Australian jazz.



## Death of Oscar Peterson

Canadian jazz great Oscar Peterson died at his home west of Toronto on Christmas Eve. He was 82. Peterson was born in Montreal, the son of a railroad porter.

He began playing the piano at the age of five and 10 years later he won first prize at a talent show. He was then invited to play weekly at a Montreal radio station.

He was renowned for his speed and virtuosity as a pianist, making hundreds of recordings even after his left hand was disabled by a stroke in 1993.

He played with such jazz stars as Charlie Parker, Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington.

During his career, he racked up seven Grammy awards, an International Jazz Hall of Fame Award and was named a Companion of the Order of Canada. To many, he was known as the king of jazz pianists. He died at his home in Mississauga, west of Toronto, of kidney failure.

## Byron Bay Blues & Roots

### Music Festival 2008

The 19th annual festival will take place in Byron Bay between Thursday 20th March and Monday 24th March 2008 over the Easter weekend.

Artists appearing at the festival include blues legend Buddy Guy, Sinead O'Connor, Don McLean of *'American Pie'* and *'And I love you so'* fame, John Butler Trio, The Black Crowes, Keith Urban and many, many others.

Festival director Peter Noble says "We couldn't be happier with the line-up announced so far with great people still to come. We've really hit on a winning formula that provides something for everyone with a passion for the blues and roots music from all around the world, and we're particularly proud to have recently picked up another award—this time for being a green, environmentally responsible event."

The festival was pronounced an international winner in The Greener Festival Awards for 2007. These awards were allocated by the website [www.AgreenerFestival.com](http://www.AgreenerFestival.com), an influential UK based not-for-profit organization.

The New Zealand Blues & Roots Festival will be held at Whitianga on the Coromandel Peninsula on 22nd March 2008.



# Pippa Wilson

with the Clare Hansson Quintet  
Friday 18th January 2008



We are delighted to start off the new year with one of the best jazz singers in Australia and a warm favourite with Gold Coasters. Pippa lived on the Coast for a time in the 1980s before returning to Melbourne where she is now based.

Hearing Pippa Wilson is about experiencing a singer with immense vocal technique. The notes dip and flow with the ease that comes from artistry of a high calibre which has made her one of the most sought after and admired performers on the Australian jazz scene. Long term residencies at Menzies at Rialto, Radisson President, The Regent Hotel and numerous appearances at Hyatt on Collins and Decanters late night Jazz Club at the Hilton Hotel have consolidated her reputation as one of the hottest singers on the jazz circuit. Pippa has appeared at many jazz festivals around Australia.

For this evening's performance Pippa will be supported by the Clare Hansson Quintet : Clare Hansson (piano), Ian Cocking (double bass), Geoff Ovenden (drums), Paul Gibens (reeds) and Brad Esbensen (trumpet).

Members \$15: Visitors \$20

*Bringing you the cream of jazz talent from all over Australia*



# Festivals, Conventions and other Jazz Events



Details are subject to change so please check with organizers

Jan 12—13	Coolart Jazz Festival	(03) 5989 7517
Feb 8—10	Grampians Jazz Festival	(03) 5572 2116
Mar 7—10	Inverloch Jazz Festival	0409 220 864

## Friday 15th February 2008

### The Music of New Orleans



**Louis Armstrong, King Oliver, Fats Waller  
Mugsy Spanier, Bix Beidebecke**



Mike

### Jo's Boys

Jo Bloomfield (piano),  
Mike Hawthorne (trombone)  
John Braben (trumpet)  
Bill Croft (reeds)  
Dennis Ashton (bass)  
Wally Furst (banjo/guitar)  
Mike Ross (drums)



Jo

**Members \$10    Visitors \$15**



**Welcome to our new members to the jazz club:**  
 Jo and Gretel Breytensbach, T.S & K.A. Davies,  
 Jim Russell, Fiona Atken, Murray Kent, T. Ghushn,  
 Darry & Elaine Hennig, Turk & Elizabeth Humphrey,  
 Ross & Heather Wall, L.N. & J.G. Sherlock.

**Current Membership: 264**

**Gold Coast Jazz & Blues Club Committee**

President/Editor	Roy McKeen	55-359-105
Vice President	Keith Brown	55-355-535
I.P.P.	Jim Oxenford	0413624722
Treasurer	Bob Mirams	55-387-626
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**25 January: Roger Bourke Quintet**

**Greenhills-on-Tweed,  
 River Street, Murwillumbah**

**Ph: (02) 6672-1697**



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The Jazz Action Society Gold Coast Inc. t/a The Gold Coast Jazz & Blues Club meets in the ballroom at the Surfers Paradise Golf Club, 1 Fairway Drive, Clear Island Waters on the third Friday of each month. The bar and restaurant open at 6p.m.. Music from 7.30p.m. until 10.30p.m..

Visitors and reciprocal members welcome.

Website: [www.goldcoastjazzclub.com](http://www.goldcoastjazzclub.com)

Bookings: [bookings007@goldcoastjazzclub.com](mailto:bookings007@goldcoastjazzclub.com) or  
Ph: 0405-143-720. Please do NOT telephone the Golf Club.



# *Legends of Australian Jazz*

**Friday 14th March 2008**

**starring**

**Bob Barnard, Kate Dunbar, Paul Williams,  
Derek Capewell, Harry Price, Jo Bloomfield, Bob Watson**



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**gold coast  
JAZZ & BLUES CLUB**

meeting at the Surfers Paradise Golf Club