

POSTAGE COSTS: For some years we have been asking all the friends on our mailing list to let us have their e-mail addresses so we can save on the cost of posting our Newsletters to them. The time has now come to say that we can no longer stamp hundreds of envelopes two or three times a year. We are sorry to have to do this but having sent out a total of 67 Newsletters in the past in literally many thousands of envelopes, the new price of stamps has definitely put a stop to this. Unfortunately, this will be the last newsletter to go out by post but it will still be available at gigs and on the website. If you are on our mailing list and have computer access, please let us know your e-mail address. Six recent Newsletters are on our website, www.manchesterjazz.co.uk and our e-mail address is jazzmart@manchesterjazz.co.uk. To all the friends who have let us have their e-mail addresses, we thank you, but would remind you that if you change your e-mail address, you will need to let us have the new one or we can't contact you any more!

**MART RODGER
MANCHESTER
JAZZ
NEWSLETTER NO. 68
JUNE 2012**

ST. ANN'S HOSPICE EVENTS FOR 2012: Since Pauline Browne's illness, the band has played some concerts to benefit St. Ann's Hospice in Heald Green, who were so kind to Pauline in her last months. An evening at Poynton Methodist Church last year raised £800.00 and on 13th November a concert at Mottram St. Andrew Village Hall raised a further £1160.00 which was shared between St. Ann's and East Cheshire Hospice. On the anniversary of Pauline's death, 21st April, the band played a concert at The Players' Theatre in Cheadle Hulme. This was a sell-out and we were delighted that £1350.00 was raised for St. Ann's Hospice. We would like to thank all the friends who turned up to support us and also the Committee of The Players' Theatre for their generosity.

TRAFFORD CENTRE ON JUNE 5TH: You will have read in our last Newsletter that we were told that some photos of Mart are framed and displayed on the wall in the Wetherspoons bar/restaurant in our large shopping mall, the Trafford Centre. Two of these pictures go back to the days of Mart Rodger's Jazz Aces, 1953 to 1955! As a result of this, Mart was offered a gig in the Trafford Centre, and this will be at the Mardi Gras bandstand near to Wetherspoons and Est Est Est on the night of the Queen's Jubilee, June 5th. This will be between 7.00 and 10.00 p.m. and a picture of the band will be shown on the big screen above the main stage to tell people who is playing.

BERT WEEDON: There was an interesting obituary to the late Bert Weedon in the newspapers recently. The Daily Telegraph listed a number of famous musicians who acknowledged that Bert Weedon was the starter for their interest in playing the guitar with his easy-to-follow instruction book. The list included Eric Clapton, who became very famous while playing in John Mayall's Bluesbreakers. However, in 1963 there was a children's television teatime programme which always featured the Bert Weedon Trio. One evening, two tiny little boys in the Rodger household were watching this programme and their mother was horrified to see the Bert Weedon Trio (guitar, double bass, drums) with Terry Lightfoot playing his clarinet miming to the new Terry Lightfoot recording of "King Kong". Apart from the fact that they were miming to a seven-piece-band, Bert Weedon was busy miming on guitar to some nice playing on the record by Paddy Lightfoot on banjo! A letter was printed in the Melody Maker the next week from Janet, and the heading was "Ludicrous"!

RADIO LINCOLNSHIRE: Mart received a letter from a lady who had been listening to Howard Leader's programme on BBC Radio Lincolnshire, which is broadcast between 3.00 and 5.00 p.m. on Sundays. She heard some of our music being played, looked at our website for details and sent an order for two CDs. Soon after, Mart had a call from one of Howard Leader's colleagues who work on the programme telling him that they had received a lot of calls from people asking about the band. Mart offered to send some more records and the next phone call was to invite him to take part in a telephone interview with Howard Leader. This took place on 11th March, and after his conversation with Mart, Howard played two tracks from the records, "Ballin' The Jack" and "Way Down Yonder in New Orleans". We hope he has played some more tunes from the CDs by now! When we were at the Jazz Club at Boston Spa on Saturday last some of the jazzfans said they had heard the band played on Radio Humberside. Looking at the BBC website we find that this programme by Howard Leader is broadcast at the same time on Radio Humberside as well as Radio Lincolnshire.

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DAVID BUSZARD – PHOTOGRAPHER: David is one of the jazzfans who comes to see the band at Poynton Royal British Legion regularly and one evening he brought his camera with him and asked if it was all right to take some photos during the evening. It appears that David is a keen photographer and we were amazed when we saw the incredible pictures he had taken of his speciality, birds in flight. The photos that he took of the band are very good indeed and Mart asked him if he minded if we used them for publicity. If you take a look at our website, all the pictures where the musicians are wearing pink shirts are photographs taken by David.

SANDY BROWN SOCIETY NEWSLETTER: Mart contacted the editor of this Newsletter and told him about one time the Mike Martin Band was playing at the 100 Club on Oxford Street in London. On this occasion Humphrey Lyttelton played with the band as he often did when he came North for music events. Humph brought his clarinet with him to play some duets with Mart, and on this night he spotted Sandy Brown in the audience. He suggested to Mart they invite Sandy to join in with them, and then Humph saw Matty Matlock also in the room so he was called up to join in as well. Matty, who played with Bob Crosby's Bobcats, came up to the stand and the four of them played clarinet together. Humph's comment to Mart was: "It sounds like a nest of starlings!" This incident has been included in the Sandy Brown Society Newsletter, www.sandybrownjazz.co.uk

OUR LATEST CONTRIBUTION TO ST. LUKE'S HOSPICE: Once again the audience turned up for our charity evening at Goostrey Village Hall. All the numbers played were greeted with enthusiasm and the resulting amount of over £400.00 was raised. This has brought our total contribution to St. Luke's Hospice at Winsford to almost £9000.00. Once again we thank our friends, Brian and Janet, who are supporters of this Hospice for making sure people know about the concert and for selling the tickets. As Ian McCann was on holiday, Charlie Bentley agreed to "dep" for him and he was warmly received by the audience.

MORE POSTAGE COSTS: Mart has had a Post Office Box Number for many years and it has usually worked well. However, he has had notification that the cost of having this P.O. Box has gone up by 62%, so he has decided that the time has come to cancel it. In future the Rodger home address will be on all things to do with the band.

MORE PLACES TO HEAR THE BAND:

1st Monday of every month High Lane Conservative Club, Buxton Rd.

SK6 8DR 8.00 4th June 2nd July 6th Aug. 3rd Sept. 1st Oct.

3rd Thursday of every month Poynton British Legion, Georges Rd.

SK12 1JY 21st June 19th July 16th Aug. 20th Sept. 18th Oct

3rd June Poynton Community Centre Jubilee Celebration 3.00 p.m.

5th June Trafford Centre 7.00 p.m.

10th June Rochdale Jazz Club

30th June Heald Green Village Hall 2.00 p.m.

5th July Unwin Road Jazz Club

7th July Fulwood Old Chapel, Sheffield Tickets required

27th July Pickering Jazz Festival

14th Sept. Cilcain Village Hall, N. Wales CH7 5NN

15th Sept. Goostrey Village Hall Tickets: 01477-537970

30th Sept. Stafford Jazz Society ST16 3BX

7th October Buxton Arts Theatre 1.00 p.m.

11th October Unwin Road Jazz Club 8.30

13th October Calver Village Hall Tickets required

29th October Barnsley Jazz Club 8.30

FUNERAL: A few of the band were playing for a funeral at Southern Cemetery, Manchester. Afterwards, Chris Pendlebury was putting his drums away into his car as the mourners were leaving the cemetery. Chris was amused to hear so many of them whistling as they passed his car. They were all whistling "Sweet Georgia Brown" which was the last number the quartet played! At another funeral a few months ago Mart and the musicians played "John Brown's Body" and the very large crowd of mourners started singing, "Glory, Glory Man United"!

FRED BURNETT: We were delighted to read on Fred's News Page that he and Barbara have been invited to a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace in June. Apparently a reader of his website www.jazznorthwest.co.uk has suggested that Fred should be included in the guest list for one of the Royal Garden Parties as recognition of his services to Traditional Jazz, and he has now received his official invitation!

SHAMELESS: Janet was making a purchase in a local shop recently when the lady serving her suddenly said, "I saw him on Shameless but I don't watch it any more"! It was in August last year that five of the band were seen playing behind a hearse on this Channel 4 programme.

2ND VISIT TO CILCAIN VILLAGE

HALL: When the band played at this Hall in North Wales a few months ago, the reception given by the audience was outstanding! As a result we had two bookings for 2012 and we travelled over there in March for the first of these. Once again we were made most welcome and everyone had a great night. We look forward to our next visit on 14th September.

BUSKING AT ASDA SUPERSTORE, STOCKPORT:

Mart was very pleased that the management of Asda Superstore in Stockport agreed to allow the trio from the band, Mart's Manjazz 3, to play for three hours on Friday, 25th May, by the entrance to the store at the upper car park. Janet and Linda were there to assist with the collection of donations in aid of St. Ann's Hospice. The generous Asda shoppers stopped by the trio to put money into the bucket and at the end of the playing time £160.53 had been collected. This money goes to the Pauline Browne Memorial Fund at the Hospice.