

MART RODGER MANCHESTER JAZZ

NEWSLETTER NO. 72 March 2014

JOAN PENDLEBURY: Widow of trombonist, Alan Pendlebury, and mother of our drummer, Chris, Joan celebrated a "big" birthday recently. One of her relatives told her he would like to take her out for lunch that day and as they approached the restaurant he told her that as they were a bit early they could pop into a nearby pub for a drink first. To Joan's enormous surprise as she walked in the door, the band started playing "Happy Birthday" to her, following it with "Celebrations". She could not believe that all her family were there, together with her many friends! The band played all afternoon and everyone had a brilliant time! Joan's sister-in-law, Marcia Pendlebury, sang a couple of numbers with the band too. During the afternoon Joan and Janet were reminiscing about the two-week cruise on QE2 that the Alan Pendlebury Band played on in July 1984. As Alan's clarinet-player was unable to go on the cruise, Mart was asked if he would like to take his place. Mart was delighted to do this and it was the first time that he and Janet visited Norway (36 times with the band since!) The cruise took in the whole distance of the Norwegian coastline from Stavanger to North Cape, including visiting the fiords at Geiranger and Vik. A lovely two-week trip!

ALLAN DENT: Everyone will be pleased to hear that Allan has returned to the band now after his recent illness and he is feeling much better. We always remember that in one of Humphrey Lyttelton's weekly programmes on BBC Radio 2, Humph told his audience that Allan's playing "slips and slides like a bar of soap in the shower"! What a great remark from a fellow trumpet-player.

HENRY HOLLOWAY: Henry presents his radio music programmes in South Africa and he has always been very interested in the band, often featuring our CDs on his shows over the years. He e-mailed Mart recently with his playlist for a recent programme which listed a track from "Allmart". His programme is called "Sing, Swing And All That Jazz". Henry has been a broadcaster since 1974 when he started with a programme on Glenn Miller. His "Miller Magic" programmes have also been played frequently. As a result of all his shows featuring jazz and big bands, he was presented with the prestigious "Golden Bandstand Award" in Los Angeles in 2003. To read his interesting abbreviated memoir (soon to be in book form) you can Google "Henry Holloway South Africa".

SOLOS: We gave a copy of the CD, "Solos" to the raffle at a gig a few months ago in Knutsford. This prize was won by the wife of the organiser of the event and he telephoned the next evening to say they had been playing it and were very impressed with the music! We are in the process of having it reprinted right now as it has proved very popular recently.

CINNAMON CLUB: As some dates at this venue have become unavailable to us we have decided to move our 4th Thursday of the month residency to another address. We cannot be at Cinnamon on March 27th as a band is booked to play there in the evening, and our date there will be Monday, March 24th at the usual time of 2.00 p.m. This will be our final date there. The first new venue chosen was advertised to our friends, but then we were told by some of them that parking there is very difficult, made worse by the parent-parking for the nearby school. Our friends in Timperley, Stan and Betty Turner, have introduced Mart to another venue and we will now start playing there on Thursday, 24th April at 2.00 p.m. and the address is "Branksome Function Suite", Altrincham Masonic Hall, 36 Clay Lane, Timperley, Altrincham. WA15 7AB All the dates will be on the 4th Thursday of the month, except December as the 4th Thursday is Christmas Day! A new December date is to be arranged.

LOUIS LINCE: Each year Louis and Jill, his wife, take their holiday in New Orleans and when they returned this time, Louis had treated the band to a lovely new set of ties he had bought there. They are really good, Louis, thank you very much. We are glad that Louis and Jill had plenty of chances to catch up with all their friends there.

MART RODGER MANAGEMENT:

18 FLETCHER DRIVE, DISLEY, STOCKPORT.
SK12 2ND

PHONE, ANSWERPHONE: 01663 763532

E-MAIL: jazzmart@manchesterjazz.co.uk

WEB: www.manchesterjazz.co.uk

PLEASE NOTE: We do not use a Post Office Box Number any more.

BOWDEN ASSEMBLY ROOMS: Now known as the Cinnamon Club. At one of our recent gigs there Mart recalled to the audience that the band was booked to play with Humphrey Lyttelton one night many years ago. There was a power cut and the band played on without microphones, in fact completely acoustic. By coincidence, one of the audience that afternoon came up to Mart later and he said he had been the organiser of the event and that he was the one to tell the band to play on, regardless of lack of electricity! He also mentioned that the gig was for "Cheadle and Gatley Smokers" and that at one point young ladies came round with clay pipes for all the men! Yes, it was a long time ago.

RADIO LINCOLNSHIRE: Our friend, Peter Stapleton, who used to come over to see the band regularly from his home in Lincolnshire, has told us that Howard Leader still plays tracks from our records on his Sunday afternoon radio programme which runs from 3.00 to 6.00 p.m. Howard's programme also goes out at the same time on Radio Humber-side. (94.5 FM and 014.7 FM)

SEFTON SAMUELS - PHOTOGRAPHER: Our friend, Alan Salem (who was at Heaton Moor College with Mart a few years ago!) let us know that Sefton Samuels has brought out his book, "Jazz Legends - Up Close". When Marion Montgomery used to sing with the band at concerts, Sefton would turn up with his camera. He has taken some great photos of many musicians visiting Manchester over the years and one of the photos in the book is of Marion and Mart together. Sefton also took the picture which is on the cover of our CD with Marion, "Makin' Whoopee".

EATON HALL: The home of the 6th Duke and Duchess of Westminster is at Eaton Hall at Eccleston, near Chester. The charity, NeuroMuscular Centre at Winsford has invited the band to play at their Fundraising event in the Long Room and the Wolf Room on the Eaton Estate on Wednesday, 25th June. The band played at a charity fundraising gig at a different venue on the Estate some years ago, which was very well attended. We have the advertising fliers for anyone interested.

MORE PLACES TO SEE THE BAND:

1st Monday of every month:

High Lane Conservative Club, SK6 8DR 7th April, 5th May, 2nd June, 7th July etc. 8.00 p.m.

3rd Thursday of every month:

Poynton British Legion Georges Rd. West SK12 1JY 20th March, 17th April, 15th May, 19th June 8.00

4th Thursday of month: Branksome Function Suite, 36 Clay Lane, Timperley. WA15 7AB 2.00 pm 24th April, 22nd May, 26th June, 24th July etc.

- 3rd Apr. Burton-on-Trent jazz club 8.30
- 5th Apr. Coal Aston Village Hall, Dronfield
- 10th Apr. Glossop Jazz Club 8.30
- 13th Apr. Buxton Arts Theatre 1.00 p.m.
- 19th Apr. Boston Spa jazz club 8.30
- 21st Apr. Eagley jazz club 8.30
- 25th Apr. Heysham Hall 8.00
- 8th May Keswick Jazz Festival 12.00 mid-day
- 18th May Rochdale jazz club 8.00
- 26th May Barnsley jazz club
- 30th May Sale Conservative Club 8.30
- 10th June Saga Hotel, Blackpool 8.00
- 12/13 June Kircudbright Jazz Festival
- 22nd June Lymm Music Fest. At Lymm Golf Club 8.00
- 26th June Eaton Hall, nr. Chester
- 28th June Heald Green Village Hall—afternoon
- 5th July Fulwood Old Chapel

BUXTON FRINGE FESTIVAL: We are joining in the Fringe Festival again this year and have two bookings, one afternoon and one evening. We were not too happy with the pub we played in previously so our venue this time will be at Buxton Methodist Church, which has a wonderful piano for Roger to play. The dates are: Tuesday, 22nd July at 2.00 p.m. and Saturday, 26th July at 7.30 p.m.

FRIENDS OF WALTON HALL: The band was invited to play to play at Walton Hall, near Warrington, recently. It was a very pleasant evening and we were able to meet up with a number of friends from some years ago who were in the audience.

JAZZ FESTIVALS:

We are looking forward to taking part in the Keswick Jazz Festival again on Thursday 8th May. This will be an afternoon gig and we will be in the Skiddaw Hotel, as we were last year. Start time will be 12.00 mid-day.

We will also play at the Kircudbright Jazz Festival