



JULY 2019 NEWSLETTER SPLASH POINT JAZZ CLUB



SPJC Newsletter JULY 2019

Any Wimbledon fans out there? Then this is your month! Maybe you like your tennis balls served with a jug of Pimms or a dish of strawberries and cream, either at home or in SW19, but we're out to entice you away from the match highlights of the day and into a Splash Point Jazz Club. And that holds good for you cricket, Grand Prix and golf fans also in this summer of sport. Of course SPJC already has notable connections with the thwack of ball against racket as

Neal played this year, as every year, on Finals day at the Nature Valley Eastbourne International Tennis tournament (that's 'played' as in music of course, not tennis – as if he could! Hahaha!!). This year he took his 6-piece Band, and several of the 1,000-strong crowd listening declared it “Even better than the tennis”! 😊

So here we go with the July listings - you can record those thrilling sporting moments to watch later on, when you get back from the jazz club of your choice...

Wednesday July 3rd, Seaford

Fabulous summertime views across the Downs at The View (where else?). It's at Seaford Head Golf Club, BN25 4JS, where you can enjoy some lovely food with your jazz if you book in advance on 01323 890139. They may even be able to offer you strawberries and cream, then you won't feel so bad about the Wimbledon highlights... No need to book for a free parking space though as there are loads right on the doorstep.

And so to the music. The wonderful and exceedingly lovely **Tommaso Starace** (alto sax) returns as Neal's special guest this month. Tommaso captured our hearts when he played at Seaford in November 2017 as he's such a Jolly Nice Chap as well as an exceptionally exciting player. Also on duty in Neal's Trio are: Nigel Thomas (bass) and Chris Gwilt (drums). Game, set and match to SPJC Seaford, methinks...

The music starts at 7pm on Wednesday July 3rd. Tickets are £10, buy on the door on the night, or in advance from WeGotTickets.com (booking fee applies).

Friday July 5th, Hastings

At Bannatynes Hotel & Spa, Hastings (Battle Rd, St Leonards-on-sea TN38 8EA) you will be able to hear Neal playing solo piano/vocals for Jazz & Gin night in Maxine's Bar & Restaurant, which overlooks stunning formal gardens. Get there for 7pm. It's a free gig, you'll love the place, it's smart and stylish plus there's excellent food and lots of gins available. Plenty of on-site parking at Bannatynes too.

Sunday July 7th, Alfriston

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It's bang in the middle of Wimbledon fortnight, there's no play on the middle Sunday, and quite honestly you can't be fagged to cook the Sunday lunch. So, take yourself off to The Dining Room, Deans Place Hotel, Alfriston for lunch with Neal! Obviously he won't be eating, the gravy makes a mess of the piano keys, but he'll be playing and singing from 12.30pm, right through the lunch service.

You'll need to book, by phoning 01323 870248, but once you've done that there's nothing more for you to worry about. Just enjoy...

Thursday July 11th, Brighton

If you haven't yet dipped into SPJC at The Walrus, (10 Ship Street, BN1 1AD 01273-025749) this might well be the month to do so. First time in any of our clubs, but certainly not the last, we welcome alto saxman **Matt Wates** as special guest with Neal's trio featuring Steve Thompson (bass) and Milo Fell (drums). Now hear this! Matt has appeared with Humphrey Lyttelton, Helen Shapiro, Don Weller, Bobby Wellins, Duncan Lamont, Ian Shaw, Norma Winstone and Peter King. He has recorded with Itchy Fingers, NYJO, the Michael Garrick Big Band, Sax Appeal and Jamie Cullum. He won the Rising Star award in the 1997 BT British Jazz Awards, and the Matt Wates Sextet has recorded eleven albums and won the Best Small Group award in 2001. So to put it bluntly, Matt is no slouch at playing that alto... He also comes with a ready supply of jokes, mostly the sort you groan at, so there will be competition for Neal!

The music starts at 7.30pm on Thursday July 11th, tickets are £10, and you can buy in advance from thewalrusbrighton.com/#bookatable or on the door on the night.

Sunday July 14th, Pizza Express Jazz Holborn (their swanky new venue...)

Here you can see **Sue Richardson** in the show 'Billie Holiday Live at Carnegie Hall', put on by our friends at the Copasetic Foundation. The show recently played at the Glasgow International Jazz Festival, and critical praise for Sue was unstinting:

'However, the star turn came from Sue Richardson on trumpet, whose solo on Billie's Blues was soaring perfection.' The Scotsman.

'... and a front line of saxophonist Denys Baptiste and trumpeter Sue Richardson, the latter often the crucial foil to the singer...'

Book online at www.pizzaexpresslive.com but do it quickly – these shows sell out fast.

Friday July 19th, Southampton

The Richardsons, Neal & Sue, together at The Cowherds Inn, SO15 7NN, where they will be playing and singing from 7pm, for diners. So, here's the plan: a nice little run over to Southampton, a bit of shopping in the excellent town centre shops in the afternoon, then dinner with Neal and Sue at a lovely old country pub. You could even take advantage of the pub's special Friday night Prosecco offer (not the designated driver of course.)

Wednesday July 24th, Eastbourne

NOT the usual 'last Wednesday of the month' at SPJC Eastbourne, we're running a week earlier to fit around the packed schedule of our special guest from the USA, Greg Abate (saxes/flute). The newly re-furbished room upstairs at The Fishermen's Club (Royal Parade, BN22 7AA) is the venue, and as it often

gets very busy up there on jazz nights, please consider pre-booking to avoid disappointment.

Greg played lead alto for the Ray Charles Orchestra for 2 years before joining the revived Artie Shaw Orchestra playing tenor sax. He has also led his own bands, both big and small, and is now an annual visitor to the UK, where he plays as many clubs and festivals as he can fit into a month! Greg was inducted into the Rhode Island Music Hall of Fame in 2016, and conducts workshops and master classes throughout the US and abroad. In case you hadn't noticed, we're pretty excited about getting him as a SPJC guest! He'll be joined on keys by the amazing Leon Greening, with Dan Sheppard (bass) and Spike Wells (drums).

Doors open at 7.15pm on Wednesday July 24th and the music starts at 8pm, tickets are £10, on the door on the night or in advance from WeGotTickets.com.

(booking fee applies).

Free parking on site and drinks at club prices.

Wednesday July 31st , Battle

For once, Eastbourne and Battle don't clash! So you could fit in a visit to both in July...The Bull Hotel Battle (27 High Street, TN33 0EA) is a lovely venue, small but beautiful, and serving really good food in their intimate dining room. Which is where you'll find Neal with this month's special guest **Roger Carey** (bass guitar).

These two have been musical compadres for a great many years, though they can probably still surprise each other sometimes! Roger is probably best known for touring throughout the UK, Europe, USA and Canada with multi award winning pianist Liane Carroll, to whom he is married. He is now also a member of iconic rock/blues/folk band Steeleye Span. We only get the best for you!

The music at The Bull is free to diners but you are advised to book in advance (01424 775171) to avoid disappointment. Check their website where you can see the current menu (thebullinnbattle.co.uk). The music starts at 7.30pm on

Wednesday July 31st and it's always a good night out at The Bull.

AND FINALLY: We want to send up a huge 'hurrah' to the very nice people at Visicks Cars of Eastbourne, newly on board as SPJC sponsors. Thank you, gentlemen, we really appreciate your support. And to all of you, who support us so magnificently by coming along to gigs, another big thank you, and please consider Visicks, and our other sponsors, when choosing local services.

We genuinely look forward to welcoming you to our jazz clubs, and hope to see you again very soon. Keep supporting live jazz in Sussex!

The Splash Point mob.

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