



*Patron:*  
*Rt Hon Sir Anand Satyanand*  
*GNZM. QSO. KStJ.*

**MARCH 2024**

**Meow Event Venue, 9 Edward St, Wellington.**  
**Members - \$20; Public - \$25; Students - \$5.**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024, 5pm to 7pm.**

**LIBERTY SWING BAND**



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

What a fantastic start to 2024. Our first gig for the year saw John Rae on drums, faultlessly lead Lucien Johnson (Saxophone) and Patrick Bleakley (Bass). Each of these three musicians displayed musicianship on a whole new level. With a mix of standards and their own compositions, the audience experienced the best Jazz music has to offer. The John Rae Trio will long be remembered as one of our top gigs ever.

It's time for our Annual General Meeting. During the break at our March gig, we will hold the 2024 AGM. We will make it as quick and painless as possible. This is your opportunity to elect new people to the committee. We have room and would welcome anyone who is willing to give a small portion of their time to help ensure we run a Jazz Club that Wellington can be proud of and that continues to provide world class entertainment to our membership.

For the March gig we swing from a trio to an 18 piece band, with The Liberty Swing Band. This should be another great night out. Details are published further on in this newsletter.

Please remember to book early – we have sold out at all of our most recent gigs. There are some tickets available at the door each night, but these are sold on a first come, cash only, basis. So if you really want a seat and a table, please use Moshtix to book.

We are reinstating the membership programme we started last year, whereby new members who sign up at a gig, will have their ticket fee converted to a membership. So, if you bring a guest and they are thinking about joining, please encourage them to sign up on the night.

Graham Kelly recently recommended a great You-Tube documentary to all of us. It is really interesting and I also highly recommend any of you who are interested in the history of jazz to watch it. Just google 'The Genius of Jazz' to watch Wynton Marsalis and Jon Batiste

discuss and perform a history of jazz music. It is just over an hour long, and that passes very quickly.

Enjoy jazzing in Wellington.

Justine Croft  
President/Secretary

*Remember that a Members' 10% discount is available at Music Works in Ghuznee St on production of Club Membership Card.*

**OUR NEXT GIG – 17 MARCH  
AT MEOW EVENT VENUE**

**LIBERTY SWING BAND**

The Liberty Swing Band is an 18 piece big band with a female vocalist, based on the classic format of the Count Basie, Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey bands.

The Band was formed in 2005 from professional and semi-professional musicians from the Greater Wellington Area, all sharing a love of performing big band music. Music Director is John Jones.

Liberty has performed concerts, fund-raising events, balls, private functions, corporate functions and dance competitions and has a regular concert / dance at the Porirua Club on the first Sunday of every month from 6.00pm to 8.00pm.

Numbers for this gig will be chosen from a repertoire that includes favourites such as: Bye Bye Blackbird, The Lady is a Tramp, It's Only a Paper Moon, Embraceable You, How High the Moon, Come Fly With Me, Cheek to Cheek, Mack the Knife, and Minnie the Moocher.

## **NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

An Annual General Meeting of members of the Wellington Jazz Club Inc will be held on Sunday 17 March 2024 at Meow Cafe, Edward Street, Wellington, commencing at 6pm.

### ***Agenda***

Apologies

Confirmation of Minutes of 2023 AGM

Matters Arising

President's Report for Year ended 31st December 2023

Treasurer's Report for Year ended 31st December 2023

Appointment of Auditor

Election of Officers and Executive Members

General Business

## **COMING SOON - GIGS IN 2024**

21 April – Ben Hunt presents an Art Blakey album.

19 May – Nick Granville Quintet. Nick Granville - Guitar,  
Louisa Williamson -Saxophones, Leonardo Coghini -Keyboards,  
Umar Zakaria - Bass, Mark Lockett – Drums.

16 June – Anita Schwabe.

Further details about each of these gigs will appear in subsequent Newsletters.

## **FINDING OUT ABOUT UPCOMING JAZZ GIGS IN WELLINGTON**

We encourage members to join Nick Tipping's distribution list to be informed about upcoming jazz events in Wellington. His email address is 'wgtmjazzclub@gmail.com'.

## ENCOURAGING NEW MEMBERS

The Jazz Club is an excellent venue for entertaining friends and celebrating special events while enjoying some great jazz. Members are encouraged to take advantage of the opportunity to come together and to support the excellent jazz musicians who are keen to perform for us. We would also like to see an increase in membership as it all helps to support live jazz in the Capital and keep the finest jazz musicians engaged. Members are encouraged to bring a guest to the gigs and invite them to join the Club to help keeping the live jazz ball bouncing along.

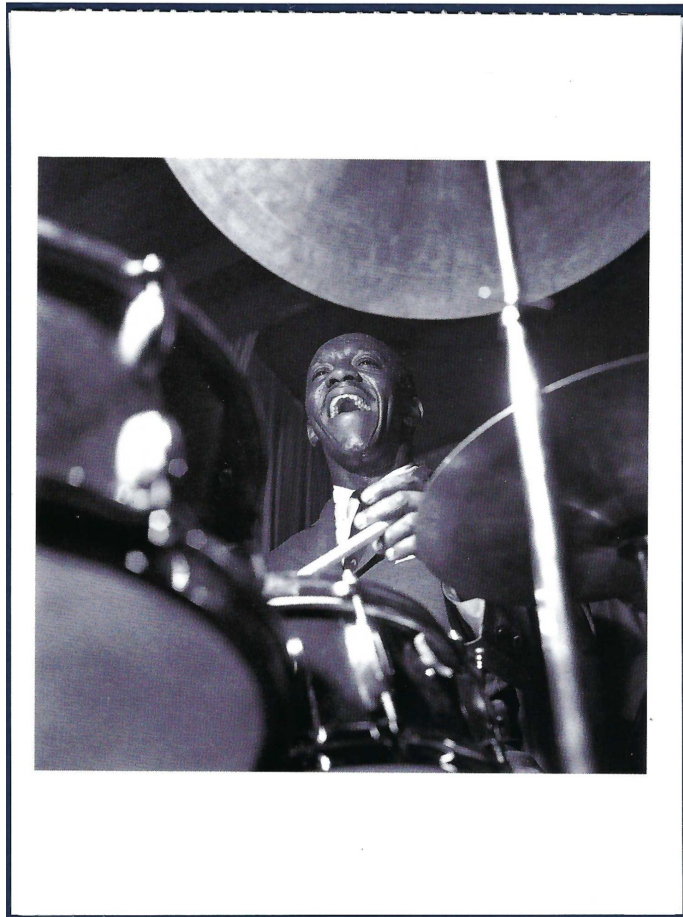
## ART BLAKEY

Art Blakey (1919-1990), drummer and band leader.

Our April gig will feature Ben Hunt and his fellow musicians playing some music from an Art Blakey album (your editor is not aware of the actual album as this newsletter is written, however some background information about Art Blakey seems appropriate).

Blakey formed the Jazz Messengers (originally with Horace Silver) and there were numerous groups with this name led by Art in subsequent years from the 1950s onwards. They became perhaps one of the leading hard-bop groups of their time. The authoritative “*New Grove Dictionary of Jazz*” describes Art Blakey as ‘a major figure in modern jazz and an important stylist on his instrument.’

Some of his most famous and important albums included the 1954 Volumes of “A Night in Birdland”, “Art Blakey’s Jazz Messengers with Thelonious Monk “ (1957 – probably my personal favourite), and amongst many others - “Mosaic” and “Buhaina’s Delight” (both 1961) showcase the band’s superb musicianship and his excellent drumming. It will be a gig to look forward too!



*Picture postcard from the Big Beat Session, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey 1960  
(photo Francis Wolff).*



*Picture postcard, Lee Tanner photo, 1962.  
Both postcards from Brian Vincent's postcard collection.*

## MEOW BOOKINGS - MOSHTIX

Meow uses booking service “Moshtix”.

Please go to <https://moshtix.co.nz> to make your bookings.

Those **members who do not have access to the Internet** can phone the Club Secretary Justine Croft on 021 239 9674 to make bookings, and then can pay by cash at the door.

*Door sales (cash only) will normally be available, however members will need to take a chance with seating.*

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

To join the Wellington Jazz Club (Inc.) complete this form, add payment, and return to:

Michael Bain

Treasurer, WJC (Inc.) 12 Albert Street, Island Bay, Wellington 6023.

Name(s) .....

Address: .....

Ph.: .....

Email <sup>1</sup>.....

- Student \$10 (include photocopy of ID), - Single \$25, - Double \$35

Payment may be made direct to the Wellington Jazz Club  
Account No. 030531 0533738 00 (confirmation of payment to  
[mgbain@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mgbain@xtra.co.nz)).

*<sup>1</sup> Newsletters are distributed by email.*

## THE WELLINGTON JAZZ CLUB (INC)

<b>Patron</b>	Sir Anand Satyanand, GNZM, QSO, KStJ	
<b>Honorary Members</b>		
Terry Crayford	John Joyce	Rodger Fox
Kevin Clark	Paul Dyne	Colin Hemmingsen
Erna Ferry	Margaret Layton	
<b>President/Secretary/Membership</b>	Justine Croft wjcsec@outlook.co.nz	021 239 9674
<b>Treasurer</b>	Michael Bain	021 299 0785
<b>Vice President</b>	Graham Kelly	027 277 0069.
<b>Joint Gigs Manager</b>	Nik Straugheir	021 297 2928
<b>Joint Gigs Manager</b>	Arthur Grimes	027 248 9389
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Brian Vincent	04 478 5941
<b>WJC Website</b>	Nik Straugheir	<a href="http://wellingtonjazzclub.org.nz">wellingtonjazzclub.org.nz</a>
<b>Email information distribution</b>	Nick Tipping	<a href="mailto:wgtjazzclub@gmail.com">wgtjazzclub@gmail.com</a>



*The John Rae Trio at the Jazz Club in February.*