

VJAZ



Quarterly Newsletter of the Victorian Jazz Archive Inc.
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 Registered No. A0033964L.

MYER FOUNDATION GRANTS \$20,000.

The Myer Foundation has recently responded to an application by the VJA for funding to assist in the completion of capital works at the Archive. The Chairman and the Committee acknowledge this generous gift with thanks.



THE MYER FOUNDATION

- Myer Foundation \$20,000 grant for capital works.
- VJA Chairman, Dr Ray Marginson welcomes members to the 2nd Annual General Meeting.
- Members see the progress of the repository, reference library and the offices
- Exhibition of instruments including the trombone played by Ade Monsborough.
- Foundation Committee Member Don Boardman loses fight with cancer.

AGM & OPEN DAY AT REPOSITORY A GREAT SUCCESS.

On Sunday, 29th November, 1998, fifty members of the Victorian Jazz Archive and their guests attended the Archive's 2nd Annual General Meeting and Open Day held at the repository in Wantirna. It was a chance for members to see for themselves the progress of the work of the committee since the signing of the lease last February.

In his address of welcome, Chairman, Dr Ray Marginson, praised the work and the donations of sound equipment of Don and Michele Boardman. The sound

room is now known as "**The Don Boardman Sound Room**". Ray also thanked all the generous benefactors who gave time, jazz material and finance to ensure the future stability of the Archive.

The meeting was held in the yet to be completed Reference Room, which houses the library of jazz reading and reference material, along with two of the six showcases fitted out with memorabilia especially for the meeting. One case displayed the trombone played by Ade Monsborough, with the Graeme

Bell Band in the late 1940's and kindly donated by Roger Bell.

Also included is a clarinet donated by its owner Keith "Honk" Atkins. The Archive is now the proud possessor of the trumpet belonging to Benny Featherstone, kindly donated by Nigel Buesst on behalf of Mrs Jean Johnstone.

After the meeting members were given a guided tour of the facilities. All were impressed with the size of the building, and the work the committee had done so far.

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VALE DON BOARDMAN *by Ron Halstead*

Donald David Boardman (generally called "Bawdy" by his many friends) died on 10th February as a result of cancer, just after his 60th birthday. With a very friendly personality, Don was a popular and good drummer of Sny Chamber's Bayside Jazz Band, 22 years with Frank Traynor's Jazz Preachers, Dick Tattum, Smacka Fitzgibbon, Bob Whetstone's Maple Leaf All Stars, and most recently with the New Melbourne Jazz Band. As an alternative career, Don was qualified in electronics, and a highly respected and extremely competent sound engineer for many films, documentaries, and TV. He did a lot of work with Crawford Productions and worked with directors such as Fred Schepesi and Keith Hounslow. He had his own business, Champion Sound Services, recording music and hiring sound amplification systems. Don was noted for his willingness to participate on Executive Committees of many jazz associations, including the old Melbourne Jazz Club, The Victorian Jazz Club, The Jazz Musicians Benefit Fund, and most recently, the Victorian Jazz Archive, as well as several Australian Jazz Convention committees. The Victorian Jazz Archive honoured Don during 1998 by naming its sound equipment room the "Don Boardman Sound Room".

Bawdy loved travelling all round Australia and overseas with his wife, Michele, and visiting his two children, Jacqui and David. There was a permanent spot at Jerusalem Creek, Eildon, where he would meet with many friends. Don will be sadly missed by all, as a friend, as a technical expert, as a person you could converse with at any level, from the frivolous to the most serious. He was always an entertainer. Vale Don.

GRAEME BELL TRIBUTE CONCERT DONATION TO ARCHIVE

The Melbourne Farewell Tribute Concert to Graeme Bell A.O. M.B.E was held at the Dallas Brooks Hall, on Saturday February 6th, 1999 at 8pm, as part of the Melbourne International Jazz Festival.

A portion of the proceeds from ticket sales were donated to the Victorian Jazz Archive Inc, by Ms Diana Allen of Jazz Australia to help the ongoing funding of the Archive. This amounted to a cheque for the sum of \$3860. The Committee and members wish to thank Diana for this most generous donation.

The VJA mounted an exhibition of Graeme Bell Band memorabilia in the foyer. This consisted of awards, photos, recordings and the display of the valve trombone played by Ade Monsborough in the band in the 1940's.

Committee members also manned the ticket box and acted as ushers in the auditorium.

The concert was a huge success, with a near capacity audience, who enthusiastically enjoyed the nostalgia and humour of the host, and the music of the hand picked musicians.

A cameo appearance of Roger Bell was greeted with appreciative applause.

Bob Barnard and Paul Furniss came from Sydney, Ian Pearce from Hobart, whilst the early Bell Band sound was represented by Steve Waddells Creole Belles.



Ms Diana Allen presenting Chairman Ray Marginson with a cheque for \$3860 for VJA funds.

BOB CLEMENS "LOST" COLLECTION

The first collection to come to the Archive, came via the good graces of Barry Buckley, bassist with the Ted Vining Trio, who in 1995 after the death of Bob Clemens, of Clemens Music Shop fame, collected a good quantity of jazz material from the new owners of the musical instruments and record shop. But let Barry tell us all about it.

"The shop was opposite my dental laboratory business in Russell Street, and I used to spend a deal of time talking to Bob. When he died unexpectedly, I asked the new shop owners what was to become of the material displayed in the shop. They said that it was to be thrown out and taken to the tip. So I asked permission to remove the material to my laboratory, to which they readily agreed, and the trek back and forth across Russell Street began. I think it took me some weeks to get all of the records, posters, reel to reel tapes, photos, programmes, etc, to my office.

"After a period of time, Allan Leake suggested to me that I contact Don Anderson at the VJA, which I did."

Amongst the jazz material that Barry donated to us, included many JazzArt recordings, all in mint condition; Downbeat Concert programmes, plus the Downbeat Concert ledger, containing details of musician payments, audience numbers and various costs in running the popular Downbeat Concerts. There are a number of photos from those concerts and also from the Big Shows at Festival Hall, including the first Louis Armstrong concert. There are reel to reel tapes that are presently being logged and include an excellent Len Barnard concert, and an interview with Louis Armstrong by 3XY's John Storr.

The VJA wishes to thank Barry for his foresight in rescuing this wonderful collection, that was feared "lost" and would have been consigned to the tip and oblivion.

ARCHIVE'S DATA BASE READY TO BURN

Ron Halstead, VJA computer manager, responsible for the transfer of the archival information to an accessible medium for the data base, is preparing for the process of burning to CD-R.

The contents of the data base will then be available to members, researchers and interested public at the touch of a mouse, so to speak.

Contents of the CD-R will, in a read only form, present all aspects of recordings, publications, photos etc, in a searchable form, with cross indexing enough to make a discographers heart melt.

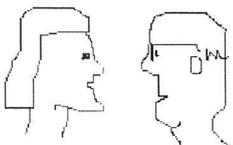
Data information can be entered from data sheets, or by entry on to a computer then transferred to the data base via floppy disk.

Volunteers are required for both these projects.

HAVE A TAX PROBLEM? CULTURAL GIFTS PROGRAM. (Previously Taxation Incentives for the Arts Program.)

In addition to tax deductibility of gifts of money in excess of \$2.00, the Commonwealth has a scheme whereby gifts in kind can be deductible against taxable income. The VJA is an approved recipient in this scheme. This means that a collector can, if it would help on the income tax front, donate an item or a whole collection under the scheme, and reduce your tax. The gift has to be unconditional, and the gift has to be valued by two approved valuers. There is an excellent pamphlet on the scheme, with a list of these valuers. Please contact

ARCHIE



HOW MANY TRAILER LOADS OF
YOUR DAD'S 78'S DID YOU SAY?

THERE'LL BE SOME CHANGES MADE

The committee at recent meetings decided on two changes to the way the Archive operates.

NEWSLETTER

Firstly, the VJAZ Newsletter will from this issue become a quarterly publication. It was felt that with so much happening at Wantirna that members should be kept informed of the Archive's activities

SUBSCRIPTIONS

At the November committee meeting it was decided to simplify the handling of annual subscriptions. Subsequently, all annual subscriptions will now fall due on the 1st May each year, and the renewal form will be included in the April VJAZ Newsletter.

For the year 2000, renewals will be formulated on a pro-rata basis where the initial subscription falls later than the month of June.

We hope that these changes meet with members approval, for it will add to the smooth administration of the Archive.

It should be pointed out that the Archive relies very heavily on membership subscriptions to fund our ongoing costs, such as insurance, postage, VJAZ production costs, phone, archival materials.

Life Membership is a one off payment of \$200, which is placed in our capital interest bearing account to help with those ongoing costs.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

New members since the last newsletter are:-

LIFE MEMBERS. Denis Ball. Royston Coldicott. Monica Coldicott. Alex Hutchinson. Tony Newstead. Tom Wanliss.

ANNUAL MEMBERS. R.J. & M Ball. Tony Bardsley. Brian Brown. Susannah Dax. Judy & Mike Doyle. Geoff Forrest. Caryl Haslem. Tim Harding. Kim Harris. Ron Jobe. W & J Mobilia. Roy & Beverly Jennings. Allan Killock. Dr. Phillip Law, A.C, C.B.E. Allan Leake. Sam Meekin & Evelyn Perks. Astini Newstead. Jane Newton & Steve Sedergreen. Nick Polites. Marina Pollar. Ramo Poloso. Charles Powell. Harry Price. James & Prue Richardson. Jess Vincent. Jilly Ward. Ian Walkear.

DONATIONS OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS by Tony Newstead

The Victorian Jazz Archive is building up a collection of musical instruments donated by Australian jazz performers, or their subsequent owners. They are housed in splendid glass display cases – acquired from the former Museum of Victoria – and form part of the permanent exhibition of jazz memorabilia at the VJA repository.

Their condition on arrival varies widely and some require many hours of work to restore them for presentation.

The aim is to repair the ravages of time whilst still retaining their essential age and character.

To date, the collection comprises:-

Valve trombone played by Ade Monsborough in the early Bell Band, and donated by Roger Bell.

Ade's finger organ – designed and constructed by Ade. Mechanics unclear! Donated by Don Boardman.

Benny Featherstone's original Buescher trumpet (mezzo) and case.

Keith "Honk" Atkins clarinet, donated by the owner.

Tambourine owned by the late Bill Linton and autographed by many well known local jazz personalities.

Willie McIntyre's portable pedal organ, which is presently being restored, donated by Jess Vincent.

Soon to be acquired is a silver cornet belonging to Bob Barnard, whilst bequests have been promised for Roger Bell's and Tony Newstead's trumpets, and Keith Hounslow's pocket cornet.

"The last time I saw Benny's cornet, it was stuck down a toilet. He was disgusted with his playing that night"

Bob Barnard
1999

ACETATE ACTION

The Victorian Jazz Archive is urgently seeking the loan of acetate recordings of Australian jazz material for transfer to an appropriate archival medium, (e.g. DAT tape or CD-R) for the preservation of these unique one off jazz recordings. Most of these recordings are now over 50 years old, and with the breakdown of the recording surface, will mean the irretrievable loss of precious jazz material.

Since its inception, the VJA has been committed to the preservation of this unique form of recorded performance, and urge all jazz record collectors with acetate recordings in their possession, to have the performance transferred, cost free, to the appropriate archival medium as soon as possible. The VJA guarantees the security and safe return of the recording. No access to the performance will be given without the donors agreement.

MARKETING

The following items are available from the Archive for members at special discounted prices.

VJA Logo polo shirt, Navy. M-XXL. \$30.00.

Logo Caps Navy. \$20.00

More Australian Jazz On Record 1981-1996 by Jack Mitchell. \$35.00.

Australian Jazz On Record 1925-1980 by Jack Mitchell. \$10.00.

Bodgie Da Da & Cult Of The Cool by John Clare. \$10.00.

Add \$3.50 for packing & postage.



Display showing Benny Featherstone's cornet and the Ade Monsborough valve trombone, at the Archive

Please Note that the Victorian Jazz Archive is open by appointment only

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WE ARE ON THE WEB!

WWW.VICNET.NET.AU/~VJAZARCH

Donations of \$2.00 and over made to the Victorian Jazz Archive Inc., are tax deductible.
Ref No. DGR 900444123.
Membership subscriptions do not apply.

VJA Benefits of Membership

Members have access to the spacious Jazz Archive facility during scheduled opening times or by appointment, to:

- ◆ Peruse the listing of all archival material on the computer data base; included are recordings in various disc and tape formats, articles, photographs and other jazz memorabilia.
- ◆ Listen to selected items and view video material.
- ◆ Purchase VJA merchandise, including CDs, publications and VJA logo apparel at discounted prices.
- ◆ Refer to the selection of jazz books in the Reference Library, some of which may be available for loan.
- ◆ Meet friends for coffee and relaxation in the lounge area.
- ◆ Specialist assistance is available from archive staff.
- ◆ Attend VJA talks and recitals, held from time to time, at concession prices.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

DONATIONS OF JAZZ MATERIAL

Tom Wanliss, convenor of the Australian Jazz Interviews Project, has recently donated 107 audio cassette tapes of the 70 interviews that the AJIP personnel have recorded with Australian jazz musicians and personalities. Some of these interviews are with musicians who have recently passed on, such as Don Boardman, Neville Stribling, Bob Cruickshanks, Alex Frame, and Bill Howard.

Adrian J Cook has kindly donated his video "History of Australian Jazz".

Doug Unmack of Beecroft, NSW has through Jeff Blades donated two marvellous scrapbooks.

Ray Brown of Tallangatta, brought 5 scrap books to the recent AGM, and donated them. Graeme Bell has donated six of his awards, five of which were the centrepiece of the Bell Band memorabilia exhibition at the recent Graeme Bell Farewell Concert. Graeme has also kindly given tapes of many of his interviews along with record covers, and Bell Band promotional material.

The National Film and Sound Archive in Canberra has forwarded 247 Voice of America tapes, mostly with the original scripts by Willis Conover and Leonard Feather. These tapes will be a most welcome acquisition to our Reference Library.

Ray Bradley has donated some 62 jazz library books, and a host of magazines.

A video of the film made in Prague 1947, of the Bell Band has been donated by Diana Allen, along with her Club 177 double CD. Robin McCulloch also donated a promotional video of his band.

Ron Halstead, has made a key donation of 38 volumes of "60 Years of Jazz - 1917 to 1977" a discography by Walter Bruninycxk.

Sid Bromley, Qld., donated 6 rare posters, which will feature in a later newsletter.

Tony Bardsley, for the Minute Book of the Melbourne University Rhythm Club, covering the period 1939 to 1953. This fascinating document will also be featured in a forthcoming newsletter

Allan Leake, Tim Stevens, Anita Harris, Fred Parkes, have sent copies of their latest CDs.

Special thanks to Keith Atkins of the donation of a SLR camera and copy stand for use in the archive.

Tony Newstead for a Canon Inkjet Printer, along with 4 of his overseas LP's and an autographed photo of Tony with the Eddie Condon Jazz Band.

Jeff Blades for a new card index system and drawer for the reference Library. The Victorian Jazz Musicians Benefit Fund donated a microphone tree for the VJA P.A. system, and the "Give A Stuff For Bob" promotional sign.

Keith Hounslow has given the working papers and related material for his forthcoming 6 CD based musical autobiography "My Jazz Life".

CASH DONATIONS.

The following have made cash donations to the Archive since the last Newsletter.

Diana Allen.

Keith Atkins.

The Hon. John Button.

Dr Pat Corbett.

Ron Halstead.

Ray Marginson.

Max Marginson.

The Myer Foundation.

Jane Newton & Steve Sedergreen.
Ian Walkear.



The Victorian Jazz Archive is supported by the Victorian Government, through Arts Victoria, Department of Premier and Cabinet and the Community Support Fund.