



# HARBOROUGH JAZZ

## NEWSLETTER No 12

### February 2011

#### Membership Is Important – Thank You!

We are aware that other local promoters of jazz are having a hard time. This is because grants and other financial support from Local Authorities and other arts sources are being cut back or withdrawn completely following the Government spending review. However, Harborough Jazz remains totally independent, and relies solely on the financial support provided, through the Membership Scheme, by our Members. Therefore we wish to say a big “Thank You” to our Members for enabling us to continue with our jazz programme. As long as you continue to support us, we will continue to put on our regular gigs. We do not intend to stop until the money runs out.

#### Advance Bookings

Many of you were disappointed by either being turned away at the door from the December gig, when we had a full house, or by not having your booking accepted for the January gig, which was fully booked in advance. Please remember that the limit on the capacity of the room is for an audience of 70. If you particularly want to come to a gig, then **PLEASE** you should use your **Advance Booking Form**. All Advance Bookings, which must include payment either by cheque or cash, are taken in strict order of receipt. This is the only basis on which places can be reserved. No Advance Booking Form, no payment, then no reservation, and possibly no admittance!

#### Payment For Advance Bookings

Whilst on the topic of Advance Bookings, we ask all Members to put in a separate cheque for each gig that is booked, and a separate cheque for Membership Renewal if this is falling due at the same time. Cheques for gigs should also be dated for the first of the month in which the gig takes place. There is a good reason as to why this method is preferred. Each gig is accounted for immediately after it has taken place, and an Event Return Schedule is presented to the Committee. This enables the Committee to keep abreast of the financial health of Harborough Jazz throughout the Season.

#### Provisional Programme for the rest of the 6<sup>th</sup> Season - 2010/11

<u>Date</u>	<u>Artist</u>	<u>Provisional Admission Prices £</u>	
		<u>M&amp;G</u>	<u>N</u>
13 <sup>th</sup> February 11	<b>Dr Len’s St Valentine’s Jazz Jam</b> As always, featuring your favourite local players	6	8
13 <sup>th</sup> March 11	<b>Alan Skidmore Quartet</b> British jazz legend tenor saxophonist and his band	11	13
10 <sup>th</sup> April 11	<b>Brian Dee &amp; Bill Coleman Trio</b> Return by popular demand of this amazing trio	8	10
8 <sup>th</sup> May 11	<b>Pete Harratt &amp; “Sus 4”</b> Local tenor saxophonist returns with his great band	7	9
12 <sup>th</sup> June 11	<b>Mike Sole Trio/Quartet</b> Dynamic Leicester keyboards player and his band	7	9

#### Gig Reviews – For Those Who Missed Them!

December and January saw two superb gigs - December brought Andra Sparks who, despite a cold, showed why she is one of the best jazz singers around. Her support band was in good form as well - Art Themen on tenor provided some great fills, and pianist Nick Weldon was also in fine form. Alec Dankworth enjoyed his first gig with the group - and Trevor Tomkins on

drums was outstanding. January's gig saw another full house enjoy the magnificent sound of Scott Hamilton. Pianist John Pearce provided excellent accompaniment and great solos, as did Dave Green on bass. Steve Brown on drums enjoyed several breaks and exchanges with the rest of the group. What way to start the New Year!

### Audience Numbers - 2010/11 Season – First Half

The attendance figures have been as shown in the table below.

Date	Band	Audience Numbers			
		M	G	N	Total
12 <sup>th</sup> September 10	Dr Len's New Season Jazz Jam	9	7	1	17
10 <sup>h</sup> October 10	Martin Gladdish Quartet	21	14	8	43
14 November 10	John Marshall's Milestones	22	11	5	38
10 <sup>th</sup> December 10	Andra Sparks & Her Quartet	33	18	19	70
9 <sup>th</sup> January 11	Scott Hamilton Quartet	36	34	0	70
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>121</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>238</b>

Note: M = Members                      G = Members Guests                      N = Non-Members

The figures given throughout are as compared with the first half of last season.

The total audience is **up** to 238 from 225. The average size of the audience is **up** to 47 from 45. This is an **increase** of **6%**. These marginal increases are in spite of the poor attendance in September.

The average audience comprises Members 51% (48%), Guests 35% (29%), M&G thus 86% (77%), and Non-Members 14% (23%). (Figures for last season are in brackets.) The number of Non-Members attending has been 33 as against 52.

### Clash With Arts Fresco

You will see from the table of audience numbers above that the September gig was a disaster. The main problem appeared to be that the roads into Harborough were closed for the Arts Fresco event. Your editor had words with the security guards manning the barrier by Bowden Lane, just before the Angel Hotel, and they allowed our audience to access the Hotel car park. However, the real problems started when no access was permitted down Leicester Road, or on other roads into the centre of Market Harborough. This had the effect of turning back potential members of our audience, the result of which you can see above. We will be discussing this problem with the Arts Fresco Committee to see how this may be overcome. If there appears to be no acceptable solution, we may have to cancel the 2011 September gig.

### Next Season 2011 - 2012

We have already had preliminary discussions with some artists, and it looks as if Art Themen, Greg Abate and Steve Waterman will be amongst those appearing.

### STOP PRESS

**At the January gig we asked Scott Hamilton if he would come and play for us again. He was very happy to accept our invitation. At the moment it looks as if it will be in January 2012. We will let you know the exact date in due course. So if you missed his gig here in January 2011, then remember to send in your Advance Booking Forms in good time!**

### Contact Us

Rob 01858-466737      Len 01858-446067      Jean 01858-433953      Larry 01858-466622  
Mike 01536-770122

### Website

Visit [www.harboroughjazz.com](http://www.harboroughjazz.com) and see our videos, photos, programme and artiste details.

### Sponsors

For the remainder of Season 2010/11 Harborough Jazz will continue to be sponsored by:



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The Angel Hotel



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We are grateful to our sponsors for their support, and we ask you to support them.