



Thursday December 28th. 2017

The Harlem Hot Stompers Christmas Extravaganza

- it's the font of all knowledge - some would say !

May we take this opportunity to extend to you our Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year and also our grateful thanks for your much appreciated support in 2017 and of course your anticipated replication of the same in 2018. If you are not already the proud owner of a 2018 Jazz Club Fixture Card there will be more than enough to go round tonight. Don't forget to pick one up before you return to your abode under the cover of darkness.

To my mind our Concert on the 25th of November was memorable for three different reasons. **Firstly** the Gathering was able to witness a polished, professional performance from those popular and slightly posh people from the Cotswolds who meet on our podium from time to time to display their frequently spellbinding wares. I was certainly not on my own in admiring how much new material they performed, greatly adding to the depth and content of their already extensive repertoire. It can only be good news that they will be with us twice in 2018 with Tom also augmenting Enrico Tomasso's Awesome Band with his special talents on July 21st. Had the members of the Hot Fingers combination been born a few years earlier there can be little doubt that they would have been in line for a 'Heroes of the Empire Award' or something akin !

Secondly due to the overwhelming generosity of the supporters of our Jazz Club, the night's raffle raised the bewildering sum of £345 for the Russell Bennett Memorial Trust. As most of you will be aware this 'Trust Fund' has been set up to offer help to traditional jazz musicians who through no fault of their own find themselves unable to play and, therefore with no income. With a bit of topping up from the Club coffers we were able to send the bountiful sum of £600 to help this most worthwhile of causes. I have received an email from the Trustees asking me to convey to you their sincere thanks for you generosity. It was hoped that our endeavours would prompt other Clubs and jazz related organisations to follow suit and I am pleased

to be able to report that our good friends at Bollington Jazz Club, Bernard and Carole, will be donating to the Trust the proceeds from their raffle on the 27th January when Adrian Cox, one of Russell's oldest and closet friends, will present his new Profoundly Blue Show at the Bollington Arts Centre. Also there are a few private individuals who have made greatly appreciated direct contributions.

The third reason was the weather. When I looked out of the window on the morn of the 25th November and saw around an inch of pristine white snow and an external thermometer giving a minus reading I thought hello here we go - the curse of the Dove Jazz Club has struck yet again ! Fortunately though in spite of there being over 25 people unable to join us due to the weather we still had an audience of over 90 people again.

What can I say that I haven't mentioned before about tonight's Band, the Harlem Hot Stompers, who will be presenting their 11th consecutive Christmas Spectacular ? Their impressive line-up features **Dave Parr** on **string and brass basses**, **Fred Boggan** behind his **percussion** kit and their leader and mentor **Mr Ian McCann** strumming both the **guitar and banjo** in no particular order. On the strong front line we will have **Mike Pembroke** on **trombone**, **Dave Thomas** on **reeds** and the multi-talented **Bill Smith** on **cornet, harmonica and vocals** - simply great entertaining music guaranteed from them as always !

Our bumper Christmas Raffle will have many valued and much sought after prizes The famed Butcher Burnham's Pork Pies will alas not be available but in their place we will have tasty free hot savouries along with deep filled rich mince pies. A barrel of the exquisitely lovely golden Wainwright's 4.1% Vol real ale will be on tap. Our January offering on the 20th will be Roy Walker's Dixieland Band who are pure Dove Virgins. You are of course warmly invited to join us when we can assure you that you will not be disappointed with the new band. RTM

Our next attraction - January 20th. 2018

The Roy Walker Band

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Dove Jazz Club

