



Saturday February 18th. 2017
Baby Jools and the Jazzaholics

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

Our programme for 2017 began in a gudgeonorial mode when a reasonable gathering assembled to welcome Martin Bennett and his band to open our 2017 Jazz Programme - programme that has received more than a smidgen of praise for its thoughtful content! The Michael Fish style threats of fog for the weekend earlier in the week thankfully did not materialise and the evening enjoyed what could reasonably be described as unseasonal weather for Dove. Martin's band played with their usual enthusiasm and an appreciative audience were treated to a wide selection of our genre of music delivered in his own inimitable manner.

Our chosen band to entertain you in February play almost exclusively in the New Orleans mode. They are one of the most in-demand and most popular exponents on the Jazz Scene today. Julyan Aldridge, their hard working leader, has come on in leaps and bounds in recent times both as a musician and band leader. He has done well to gather around him an outstandingly experienced and knowledgeable group of musicians and he displays a fierce loyalty to the members of his distinguished troupe. We know what they will deliver musically whenever we see and hear them play live and they were responsible for issuing one of the best New Orleans style CD's in my opinion in 2016. We are pleased to be able to welcome them back to our Village Hall and trust that you will also greatly enjoy their renditions of familiar tunes from the Crescent City as well as one or two of the lesser known ones. One thing that we can be certain of is that their music will be delivered with a vibrant verve.

Much information has already been disclosed and written about this diverse group of entertainers and it is quite difficult to root out new snippets of news for you to digest about the Jazzaholics. In addition to **drummer Jools** their members tonight will include **Brian Mellor** one of the country's most respected **banjo and guitar** players and **vocalist** playing alongside a much in demand **string bass** player in the

guise of **Brian Lawrence** who departs for Jim Swinnerton. Jim continues to be on tour with the stage musical of the Million Dollar Quartet doing eight shows a week, lasting until June of this year. He tells me that after some four plus months it is rather repetitious but that the monotony is relieved to some extent by being in a different theatre each week along with his rapidly diminishing overdraft.

An immensely capable front line will contain the irrepressible **Karl Hird** who I hear is playing his **clarinet** better than ever and yet another youngish in New Orleans Jazz terms but well-seasoned **trombone** player, vocalist, and one of the best front men in the business **Mike Owen**. They are joined by our old friend **Denny Ilett** who possesses an almost unequalled musical pedigree. Born to a family of musicians in wartime Reading this outstanding **trumpeter** began his playing career at the age of 8 on the cornet. By the age of 14 he had formed the Saints Jazz Band at the Ashmead School, Reading after a staple diet of Louis Armstrong records at home along with a bit of Eddie Calvert. He played with several bands of varying styles and dispositions until in 1974 he turned pro and joined the Temperance Seven, moving on in 1982 to join the much admired Max Collie Rhythm Aces. On becoming freelance in the nineties he played with a veritable host of British Jazz Greats including Kenny Ball, Acker Bilk, Terry Lightfoot and Humphrey Lyttleton. His son of the same name is a much acclaimed professional guitarist who leads a tribute band to Frank Sinatra. In recent years Denny has derived great satisfaction from the odd proud appearance in his son's orchestra. It is a great pleasure to have you and your fiery trumpet on the Dove Podium once again.

Our usual gastric offerings will be available in the form of real ale and Butcher Burnhams Pork Pies with condiments and we trust that you will join us for this evening of outstanding entertainment ! RTM

Our next attraction - March 11th. 2017
Doc Houlind All Stars

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Dove Jazz Club

