

Dixie Street All Stars



Brett Iggulden (Trumpet, Alto & Soprano Saxophone). Brett learnt violin as a child and took up trumpet late 1950's. Brett was "apprenticed" to Ade Monsborough at 15 and studied trumpet with Norm D'ath. He co-founded the Red Onion Jazz Band (1960) with drummer Allan Browne and Trombone player Bill Howard in Melbourne (so named as a mark of respect for the Louis Armstrong/Sidney Bechet Red Onion Jazz Babies). The Red Onions became one of the best known Classic Jazz bands in Australia, touring overseas a number of times. During his long and distinguished musical career Brett has been described as one of the 'hottest' players on the Australian Jazz circuit. In January 2002 he was awarded the Order of Australia Medal for "Services to Music".



Geoff Speed (Reeds). It was in Gunnedah in the 1950's Geoff formed his first Jazz Band, the 'Zodiacs'. The 60's saw his aviation work taking him to Papua New Guinea where he joined other Australians playing jazz throughout the Highlands. Returning to Australia in the 70's he performed regularly with Sydney and Canberra Jazz ensembles. Since moving to the mid-North Coast of NSW, he formed the Bellingen-based 'Lounged Wizards'.



Bruce Gourlay (Piano). Bruce has a classical musical training. Born in Tasmania, he began his professional musical career in 1952 when he performed in dance and cabaret bands. Gradually he developed his distinctive style that has been inspired by Teddy Wilson along with Errol Garner, Art Tatum & Oscar Peterson. He played in the Jazzmanians for 23 years and various other groups. He received an award in recognition of his substantial contribution to Tasmanian Jazz. He regularly performs at most Australian Jazz Festivals and Jazz Clubs. Bruce toured overseas with the Dixie Street Jazz Band in 2011 and again in 2014.



John Cox (Banjo/Guitar). John started playing in Melbourne in the 60's being influenced by the Vintage Goodman LP & the Duke Ellington Flaming Youth LP. He loved the early 20's music. His first band was Junction Jazz Band with his brother. He went on to play with various Melbourne bands before moving to Brisbane and joining the Vintage Jazz Band. For the next 25 years he played at various concerts that included the Dutch Swing College, Stephane Grappelli and Kenny Ball Bands. Moving to Noosa in 1990 found John in Frank Johnson and Ken Evans bands whilst also undertaking numerous tours of America and Europe with the New Melbourne Jazz Band, Hot Gossip and Golden City Bands. John is now back in Melbourne and still working with bands, and loving it.



Don Blainey (Tuba). Don started a lasting love of jazz as a child listening to Graeme Bell & Ade Monsborough. At school, he played pipe organ and cornet in Brass Bands. But he didn't get to his natural instrument, the Tuba until he hit mid-life crisis. Always a keen sailor, he left partnership in a large legal firm in the 80's to circumnavigate the world in his yacht, accompanied by a battered Tuba. Scales for the fishes! He now gets his biggest buzz playing with muso's & bands from all over Australia at Festivals & Conventions.



Rod Andrew (Percussion/Vocals). The 1950's jazz scene in Melbourne started Rod's interest in the rhythms of Jazz. He still has his membership medallion from 431 St Kilda Road, one of Melbourne's great late night jazz haunts. The 1980's saw Rod heading bands 'Satin Swing' & 'Capital Jazz' in Canberra. His Canberra based playing lasted until his retirement in 1998 when he returned to the Melbourne Jazz Scene. The early jazz of Louie's Hot Fives and Sevens and the inspirational percussion of Len Barnard were the irresistible forces that lead to him forming the Classic jazz bands "Hot Peppers" and "Dixie Street All Stars".