



- <http://www.chelmsfordjazzclub.co.uk>
- Founded 1985
- President: Alan Barnes
- Chairperson Susan May-Robinson
- Honorary Members: Digby Fairweather, Derek Nash, Bobby Worth
- Trustees of the Spike Robinson Scholarship
- Charity No: 1053228

June 2019

It's unbelievable how quickly the club's summer break has come round with one gig to go and then a pause to gather breath until Simon Spillett lights up the stage with his quartet in September. That said, it would be great to see as many of you as possible on 2nd June to welcome Zak Barrett, Gunther Kurmayr and Manuel Alvarez for their first visit to the club together with Marc Cecil, a great favourite of ours.

Joan kindly emailed in to say that members might like to reminisce by watching an interview with the great John Bunch, aka Gentleman John, the pianist who was a favourite at the club in the past. He played for six years with Tony Bennett and came to Chelmsford several times, one of which was especially memorable and would have made a great record, with Alan Barnes, Dave Green, Steve Brown and Jim Hart on vibes. It can be found on YouTube under 'Interview with John Bunch by Dr. Michael Woods at L.A. University'.

Do you have any memories that you'd like to share with the club? If so, please email me or give to a committee member at a gig for inclusion into a future newsletter.

Soundbites responses were favourable for the Sweet Chorus gig with comments such as "It was good to have a change", "Good to hear the guitar / violin combo", "I really enjoyed the swapping of acoustic for electric guitar and the violin string pulling section" and "A good mix". Tunes that really connected included "All!", "The song by Al Capone and the Mercy Street Duet", "Django 42 which started the gig off at an incredibly high standard which was continued right through!" Personally I thought it was great to see musicians thoroughly enjoying themselves and not just going through the motions.

Jerry's take on the Sweet Chorus gig:

On what was a wonderful sunny spring Sunday, we welcomed back Sweet Chorus – it has been three years since their first visit to the club although we have seen John Etheridge play in other settings during the intervening period. John is a massively talented guitarist who has, and continues to, play in many styles. He has a long association with Soft Machine and many of the musicians associated with the Prog-rock, Avant-Garde and Jazz-fusion that came out of the 'Canterbury scene'. A tenure with Stephane Grappelli from 1976 led to the formation of Sweet Chorus as a tribute, following Grappelli's death in 1997. Dave Kelbie (rhythm guitar) & Chris Garrick (violin) were also founder members of the group with John, bassist Andy Crowdy joining in 2004. On this visit we had to be content with listening to the trio of Etheridge, Garrick and Crowdy for the first set due to Dave Kelbie's delayed arrival. The numbers covered in the first set were mixed and eclectic, not at all solely focused on the Hot Club de France repertoire that one might expect from this group. Whilst Django's 'Swing 42' was the show's opener, other tunes covered included Denzil Best's up tempo bop anthem 'Move', the ballad 'I saw you passing by', the Beatles 'Can't Buy Me Love' varied on the long tradition of Jazz musicians adopting popular song forms of the day as vehicles for their musical explorations, 'Estate', played as a bossa as per Joao Gilberto's famous rendition and 'Airmail Special' by another innovator of the guitar in jazz, Charlie Christian.

With the second set, we could at least enjoy the quartet in its intended glory; the impeccable swinging rhythm of Dave Kelbie's guitar really provided a propulsive foundation to urge on his band mates. Again, the numbers played were varied and covered a variety of styles – we enjoyed 'Mercy Street' by Peter Gabriel (which was once described as one of the 10 most depressing songs ever!), Sonny Rollin's calypso 'St Thomas', 'Unprompted', an Etheridge original, Johnny Smith's 'Jaguar' and a second Beatles tune, 'Fool on the Hill'. The set couldn't finish without a couple of numbers that referenced Reinhardt and Grappelli and we were treated to Django's 'Nuages' and 'Blue Drag' a tune also famously recorded by Django and which on this occasion was used a vehicle for Chris Garrick to coax unworldly sounds from his violin with the help of a deconstructed bow. The gig finished with 'Blue Moon' - a request from the audience.

This show was the opening gig of Sweet Chorus' 20th anniversary tour. Judging by the reception they received at the Cramphorn, that's going to be a very successful tour indeed.

Next concert

2th June: Zak Barrett (sax) with Gunther Kurmayr (piano), Manuel Alvarez (bass) and Marc Cecil (drums)

Future events

Chelmsford Jazz Club 12.15pm (£12 / £16 / £5 under 18 unless otherwise stated)

- 8th September:** Simon Spillett (sax), Ted Beament (piano), Alec Dankworth (bass) and Winston Clifford (drums)
6th October: Derek Nash (sax), Dave Newton (piano), Geoff Gascoyne (bass) and Emiliano Caroselli (drums)
3rd November: Matt Skelton celebrates 'Shelly Manne' featuring Mark Crooks (sax), Jim Davison (trumpet), Leon Greening (piano), Conor Chaplin (bass) and Matt Skelton (drums) **(£13 / £17 / £5 under 18)**
8th December: Jo Harrop (vocals), Tony Kofi (sax), Graham Harvey (piano), Dave Chamberlain (bass) and Matt Home (drums) **(£13 / £17 / £5 under 18)**

Spikes Place

Email: susan_may@btinternet.com www.myspace.com/spikesplacejazzclub

Advance booking: Susan 01245 420475

The Jazz Centre UK, Beecroft Arts Gallery. Victoria Avenue, Southend. SS2 6EX

01702 215169 (Thursdays and Saturdays only) or telephone 01245 420475. 2.00 -4.00pm (£10/students £5)

29th June: Matt Wates (sax) with Leon Greening (piano), Julian Bury (bass) and Matt Fishwick (drums)
Remembering the music of Stan Getz featuring Mark Crooks (tenor sax), Colin Oxley (guitar), Dario di Lecce (bass), Matyas Geyer (piano)

The Bardswell, Weald Road, Brentwood. CM14 4TJ 8pm (£15 / £12 unless otherwise stated)

11th June: Sara Dowling Quartet

18th June: From the USA Sheryl Bailey (guitar), with Andy Panayi (sax), Simon Woolf (bass) and Matt Fishwick (drums)

Saffron Walden Hotel. High Street, Saffron Walden. CB10 1AZ 8.30pm (£12)

20th June: Matt Skelton celebrates 'Shelly Manne' featuring Mark Crooks (sax), Jim Davison (trumpet), Leon Greening (piano), Conor Chaplin (bass) and Matt Skelton (drums) **(£13)**

Club Langley. 2, Hawksbrook Lane, Beckenham. Kent BR3 3SR. 8.30pm (£15 / £12 unless otherwise stated)

6th June: Matt Wates (alto sax) with Leon Greening (piano), Adam King (bass) and Matt Fishwick (drums)

13th June: From the USA Sheryl Bailey (guitar), with Andy Panayi (sax), Simon Woolf (bass) and Matt Fishwick (drums) **8.00pm**

27th June: Atila with Gabriel Latchin (piano), Dave Chamberlain (bass) and Josh Morrison (drums)

Colchester Arts Centre Jazz Club (£14/£12) 6.30pm CJC members - concessionary rate with proof of membership.

9th June: Kate Williams' 4+3 meets Georgia Mancio

7th July: Antonio Forcione + Special Guest Emiliano Caroselli + support: Yazmyn Hendrix

4th August: Darius Brubeck Quartet

And finally....

- Visit our website www.chelmsfordjazzclub.co.uk.
- Contact Chris, our webmaster at : chrisadgo@hotmail.com
- Help your club to maintain its position on the search engine ratings by submitting a review on google/Essex maps. It can be as brief as "heard a great band today...." or "looking forward to...."
- Checkout the Chelmsford Jazz Club Facebook page
- Get tweeting on: [twitter@chelmsfordjazz](https://twitter.com/chelmsfordjazz)
- Checkout the Jazz archive at Beecroft Art Gallery in Victoria Avenue, Southend. SS2 6EX. 01702 215169 Email southendjazzcentre@gmail.com Website: thejazzcentreuk.co.uk
- Any feedback? Contact us at: sallyleone@sky.com



2019 Series
Cramphorn Theatre
Fairfield Road
Chelmsford, Essex
CM1 1JG

Playing jazz
standards and
selections from the
Great American
Songbook.... not
to be missed.

Zak Barrett Quartet

With
Gunther Kurmayr - piano
Manuel Alvarez - bass
Marc Cecil - drums

**Sunday 2nd June
12.15pm**

**Tickets £16.00 (members £12.00)
Under 18's £5**

Advance Bookings 01245 606505

A £1.50 booking fee is applicable per transaction for all payment types.
Registered Charity 1053228

