

For reservations & all enquiries

Telephone 020 7352 5953 Fax 020 7349 0655

Email: jazz@606club.co.uk; Web: www.606club.co.uk

90 Lots Road, London, SW10 0QD

Hi,

Well, all I can say is thank heavens for our very efficient heating system! Hopefully by the time we get to the great gigs we have lined up for March the snow will have stopped falling. But if not, no matter, we have enough "hot" gigs to warm up the coldest soul. Roll on spring!

COMING UP THIS MONTH



Wednesday 2nd, John Crawford. I don't often mention trios in this section, but this is such an unusual gig that it really deserves some special attention. John, a fantastic Jazz and Latin pianist, has also transcribed a number of classical guitar flamenco pieces for piano. They sound just amazing, and as far as I am aware John (who is himself half Spanish) is the only pianist in the country performing this music. Quite brilliant.

Thursday 3rd – Mick Hutton Band. For over 20 years Mick, a good friend and regular at the Club, was universally recognised as one of the great British bass players, working with a huge variety of world-class outfits, from Courtney Pine to Humphrey Lyttleton. Sadly he has damaged his hand to the point that he can no

longer play the bass. However, with typical resolve he set about learning a new instrument(s), and the result is this gig, which will be his first outing here as a leader on steel pan and synthesizer. The rest of the band is, naturally, made up of some of the strongest players on the scene, including Mark Edwards (Ben Castle) piano and John Parricelli (just about everybody!) on guitar. Make sure you don't miss it. We'll certainly be there!

Sunday 6th sees the return of the incomparable **Ola**. I know I mention this gig quite a bit but he really is something quite special. Why he isn't a huge star is a complete mystery to me! To my mind one of the best Soul singers in the country. If you like your music with spirit and power then this gig is definitely for you.

Sunday 20th – "Conversation Piece" with Anita Wardell and Tina May. This is a really interesting



combination of two superb Jazz vocalists. Anita, a regular at the Club, is unquestionably one of the finest "scat" singers in Europe, as well as a great standards singer. She was invited to perform in New York last year, and it went so well that she was immediately invited back. And Tina for the last 15 years has been captivating audiences up and down the country with her particular brand of swinging, sophisticated, Jazz. Two singers at the top of their game performing together, promises to be a real treat.



Wednesday 23rd – David Defries/Ernest Mothle. Through the 70's and 80's David was considered to be one of the leading trumpet/flugel players in the

country. He was perhaps best known for his work with ex-pat South African Chris McGregor's band "Brotherhood of Breath", a powerful ensemble of leading UK and SA musicians and a quite remarkable band. On Chris's death in 1990 David emigrated to Spain, so it is a real treat to welcome this fluent and creative player to the Club. And Ernest, an old and valued friend whose bass playing powered numerous township ensembles, including "Brotherhood", through the 80's returned to SA in the early 90's. These two guys haven't played together at the Club since around 1987 (the old place), so this is a real reunion in every sense of the word.

In Brief: Hamish Stuart twice this month: **JimJam Monday 7th & Hamish Stuart Band Monday 21st**. And in between **Adam Phillips, Monday 14th** (that's your Monday's sorted then!). **Dave Betts Band – Friday 18th**, This is a storming Latin/Jazz outfit based in Bristol whose only London date this is. **Andrew McCormack – Wednesday 23rd**. Kyle Eastwood's pianist with his own trio. And **Ray Warleigh – Thursday 31st**. One of the great sax/flautists whose work over the last 30 years includes Stevie Wonder, John Dankworth, Ella Fitzgerald, Paul McCartney, Charlie Watts.....

SUNDAY 20TH LUNCH TIME – PETE CATER BIG BAND

This is a big band new to the Sunday lunches here, but certainly not to the scene. One of the busiest and the best of the regular big bands working in the UK this drum-led outfit boasts some fantastic players. This is a terrific way to spend a Sunday afternoon, the music is invariably interesting and exciting and I'm careful to book bands that "swing". This is very much a family day, and children are always welcome.





EASTER BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND: IAN SHAW-SUNDAY 27TH; REG WEBB-MONDAY 28TH.

We have a brilliant double bill for the Easter weekend, starting with **Ian Shaw** on **Sunday 27th**. Ian is unquestionably one of the finest male jazz vocalists this country has ever produced. The first male jazz singer to get a deal with an American label, his singing is wonderful. A consummate musician, he is also a well respected writer and arranger, he always works with the best guys around. And if that wasn't enough he is also a record producer of some note, with around 70 albums to his name (including Jamie Cullum's first album). He is currently producing and arranging for Charlotte Church. A great friend of the Club it's always a pleasure to welcome him. Oh, and he's very funny, too. And on **Monday 28th** we have the return of one of the best kept secrets on the UK scene, singer/pianist **Reg Webb**. Reg has a fantastic voice and he

performs a wonderfully eclectic mix of songs with his trio in an assured and witty manner. If you like Liane Carroll you'll love this guy.

TUESDAY 1ST COMEDY NIGHT – JV PRODUCTIONS PRESENT STEWART LEE

We continue our season of comedy nights with the appearance of one of the UK's funniest stand-up's, Stewart Lee. Stewart is particularly interesting as not only is he regarded as one of the country's leading stand-ups (Johnny Vegas, cites him as his greatest influence) but he is also a writer (Alan Partridge) and director (Jerry Springer-The Opera) as well. The standard of the performers that JV have been booking for these gigs has been universally strong and every artist that has performed at the Club has loved the experience. It's a really good night out, and something just a little bit different.

SUNDAY 13TH LUNCH TIME – “GGG” GOSPEL GIG WITH LOIS KIRBY

The featured singer this month is the excellent Lois Kirby. As well as regular gigs with gospel choirs such as “New Vision” and The London Community Gospel Choir, she also includes work with the likes of Gladys Knight and Chaka Khan on her cv. A really powerful performer in the classic gospel style. The atmosphere on these brunches is unique - warm and relaxed, but at the same time musically very exciting. And of course children are more than welcome, which helps create a real “family” feeling. Booking is definitely advised.



SOME 606 MOMENTS.....

Last month was full of great moments, but nothing could better our Sunday lunch Tsunami Relief Fund gig. This charity was particularly close to us as one of our team, Nickie, had been forced to quite literally run from the wave (an experience she assures me she would never want to repeat!). Put together by singer Clare Teal, who also invited down her mates Ian Shaw and Sarah Moule, this turned in to a very special event. It started with singer Sarah entrancing a packed house with a mixture of jazz standards and swinging originals, and then moved on to a great duet between her and Clare before Ian took centre stage for a while. Sarah again opened the second half before Clare and Ian took over with what is fast becoming the best double act in Britain! Wickedly funny, hugely entertaining and immensely musical they held the audience in the palm of their hands. I managed to get in on the act for a number or two, before the grand finale that involved all three singers (and me!) tearing apart a blues, and then putting it back together again! The band, who all worked for free, were immense, led by Clare's regular pianist (and Sarah's partner!) Simon Wallace and the whole thing was just a blast. The staff were magnificent, particularly given that they had all volunteered to work the gig for free, so a special thanks must go to our head chef JP, the floor staff Emma, Jin, Luke & Nickie, Roz and Janet from the office, manager Richard and general manager James. Their contribution amounted to almost £500 of the £4,000 total that we raised. A memorable occasion.

SMOLLENSKY'S ON A SUNDAY



The Sunday nights at Smollensky's are starting to settle down now. The musicians appreciate the changes we have made, and the management there are really enthusiastic, which definitely helps! The line up this month is a mix of the familiar - Victoria Newton, Vanessa Haynes, who had a storming gig here the other Sunday, and my band Samara, and the new – Absolute Earth Wind and Fire which is a “tribute” band with a difference. We have included a flier for this month, have a look and pick a night to check it out.

LAST WORD.....

Jewish Buddhism (my Mum loved these!):

Drink tea and nourish life. With the first sip, joy. With the second, satisfaction. With the third, cake.
Be here now. Be someplace else later. Is that so complicated?
Wherever you go, there you are. Your luggage is another story.
Thanks for your support. See you soon,