

**Wellington**



**Newsletter**

**June 2011**

Next Club Meeting

**Fran Barton**

**and the**

**Kevin Clark Group**

At

the D4 Bar and Restaurant, corner  
Featherston St and Brandon St

**5 pm Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> June**

Members \$12 Public \$15 Students \$5



# Wellington



[www.wellingtonjazzclub.org.nz](http://www.wellingtonjazzclub.org.nz)

## **Committee of the WELLINGTON JAZZ CLUB (Inc)**

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# President's Message

Hello everyone,

On Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May, we enjoyed a night of excellent jazz from pianist, singer and songwriter Bruce Brown with a great line-up of Simon Jones on guitar, Paul Mouncey on bass and Greg Crayford on drums. He also featured two excellent female guest vocalists Wallis Golan and Elaine Alras, and Henrique Morales on guitar. Bruce's lyrics were entertaining and his arrangements and the skill of his backing group and guest artists were fascinating, with excellent improvisations and ensemble playing. Nice singing and soloing from Simon Jones. It was a great evening's entertainment and I hope we can get Bruce and his band of skilled musicians back again soon.

Preceding the main event, the St Pat's Wellington Jazz Quartet braved the cold by entertaining the arrivals and public outside the entrance to the Chicago. The group comprised Nick Conway on guitar, Felix Bornholdt on keyboard, James Geluk on Bass and Wikash Somasundaram on drums. Once again, the St Pat's Jazz Group played excellently, and were praised by Bruce Brown in his opening remarks. He was most impressed by the young musicians' dedication and musicianship, and he dedicated his performance to them. The Club members found his encouragement for the St Pat's Jazz Group most moving.

This month we will host a return visit by Kevin Clark with Fran Barton and a very skilled backing group including Colin Hemmingsen on sax and clarinet, Nick Tipping on bass, and Reuben Bradley on drums. Kevin performs regularly with this group in other venues and the Club is fortunate to be able to secure him for the 19<sup>th</sup> June. The Club is guaranteed a night of excellent jazz.

This month and July we will be meeting back at the D4 Bar and Restaurant, corner Featherston St and Brandon St, as the Chicago will be closed for renovations. We met at the D4 in March and found it most comfortable. There should be plenty of parking in the street close to the venue. Pre-concert jazz will be provided by the 'Wellington Jazz Club Band', viz Graham Kelly on keyboard, Chris Anderson on clarinet, Chris Caudwell on trom, Peter Gregory on bass and Bill East on drums, starting about 4.15pm, so come early to get a good seat and enjoy the pre-concert entertainment, which is sure to include American Songbook selections and some good improvising.

I still have some DVDs of the Tribute to Bob Barcham held at the James Cook in February, which feature the X7s Dance Band, the audience in attendance, the speeches, and Bob himself playing with the Band. Contact me at any time with a cheque for \$20. I can recommend them as a very good record of an auspicious event in the Club's life.

Again, don't forget to pop into Music Works cnr Ghuznee and Marion Sts with your Membership Card to take advantage of their 10% discount while the discount offer lasts. They have an excellent range of instruments, music and accessories.

I would like to see Club members actively supporting the Jazz Club meetings with their friends. The more the merrier and a full house always provides a buzz for the musos and audience alike. For those who are not yet members, you will be most welcome to join the Club and play your part in keeping jazz ball up in the air in the Capital City.

A big welcome to new members Kay Fisher and Peter Ellis, Jacinta and Antony Zogg, and Cynthia Henning Hansen.

See you all on 19<sup>th</sup> June at the D4.

*Mike Bain*

President



# This month's gig

at  
D4 Irish Bar, cnr Featherston & Brandon Sts



Fran Barton and the Kevin Clark Group will brighten up your day when they present a fun romp through the lighter side of jazz repertoire at the Wellington Jazz Club's June concert. – from New Orleans and Swing to Bop, Blossom Dearie to Peggy Lee to Diana Krall. The programme will include songs from their latest just released album such as “My Canary has Circles under his Eyes”, “Marriage is for Old Folks”, “Someone’s Been Sending Me Flowers” and others.

*“It’s remarkable that when we talk about jazz vocal albums the topic always returns to overseas acts, when in fact we have many local acts whose talents are rarely mentioned enough..... Barton and Clark have an excellent choice of material...and makes for a perfect late night listening experience”*

DomPost 19 May ★★★★★

*“....So tasty is this Kevin and Fran’s bourgeois bouquet of bodacious fun that it entices the listener into another lost time of slinky class.”*

Waikato Times 12 May ★★★★★

This CD is a celebration of a forty year musical association between songstress Fran Barton and two-times “TUI” award winning Wellington pianist composer and arranger Kevin Clark. Previous albums featuring Fran are “On Saturday” and “Don’t You Feel My Leg”

She is also on Kevin’s albums “Once Upon a Song I Flew” and “Zahara”

Their collaboration has included television and radio productions, commercial recordings and performances at major jazz festivals, corporate, private civic and diplomatic corps functions.

The group will play some exciting instrumental jazz, with Colin Hemmingsen on saxophones, 2011 TUI winner Reuben Bradley on drums and Nick Tipping on bass.



For all your musical needs  
come and see Steve at  
MusicWorks Wellington  
31 Ghuznee Street  
Ph : (04) 389 7012  
Fax (04) 389 7011  
[wellington.musicworks.co.nz](http://wellington.musicworks.co.nz)

**Wellington Music**  
WORKS  
*musicians helping musicians*

**We are keen to see young people become  
members of Wellington Jazz Club.**

For future Jazz Club events, subject to the student being a member and paying the student admission charge, accompanying parents or legal guardians will get  
**free admission**

## Book Review

### **WHERE ARE THE CAMELS ?**

By Ken Avery (1922 – 1983)

Compiler and Editor : Clare Avery 2010

**A Wellington NZ jazz musician's  
reminiscences of a bygone era.**

Clare Avery, daughter of Ken Avery has gathered her father's photos, clippings and written notes and published them into a book. It covers Ken's life in music and what was happening in NZ jazz from the 40's up until the 70's including visits from visiting overseas jazzmen. Clare hopes surviving musicians of this era will enjoy the memories and reminiscences.

The title "Where Are the Camels " is pure Ken Avery wackiness. He remembered that Laurie Paddy a post-war bandleader at the prestigious Majestic Ballroom in Wellington , came in one night and observing the very hard neon lighting and the dusting of ballroom powder on the floor and remembering Western Desert for brightness said, " Where Are the Camels?"

I found it easy to read and very entertaining and if you have lived through this same time, I'm sure you will too. The trials and tribulations as a dance band sideman and leader and a recording star are all there. He also tells you about the overseas jazz musicians he met and talked with. There are plenty of press clippings reporting jazz concerts featuring Ken and especially his group called the Darktown Strutters, the band of which he was most proud. I remember Ken as a great band organiser who was also a humourist ( I'll do the funny stuff, he often used to say)– in this regard I thought of him as the Eddie Condon of New Zealand except that he was a far better musician.

We have both Ken and Clare Avery to thank for this slice of Jazz Kiwianna and the background of a dance band era which no longer exists.

The book is available on line at <http://www.nzbookshop.co.nz/>

John E. Joyce

*"I found this book gripping, and a very good series of yarns show real life 'on the road'. I couldn't put it down until I read the last page".*

Graham Kelly, Wellington Jazz Club Committee

Wellington Jazz Club Diary	
19 June	Kevin Clark, piano with Fran Barton, vocals, Nick Tipping - bass, Reuben Bradley - drums, Colin Hemmingsen - sax & clarinet, at the D4 Irish bar, cnr Featherston & Brandon Sts.
17 July	Razzle Dazzle & Friends Frances and Daryl Prowse, Plus 2 at the D4 Irish bar cnr 143 Featherston & Brandon Sts.