

**Wellington**



*Patron:*

*Rt Hon Sir Anand Satyanand  
GNZM QSO KStJ*

**MARCH 2026**

**Meow Event Venue, 9 Edward St, Wellington**

**Members - \$25; Public - \$35; Students - \$10**

**Sunday 15 March 2026, 5pm-7pm**

**THE CUZZIES**



**Mat Enright**

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

It was a great pleasure to welcome members to our first gig of 2026, and what a gig it was! April Phillips and her 'April's Fools' presented a wonderful selection of jazz standards that had the audience spellbound. Numbers ranged from the early 1920s (I can't give you anything but Love) through to the bossa era with 'Boy from Ipanema', plus Frank Sinatra's Fly Me to the Moon, Etta James' At Last, and one of Nina Simone's biggest hits, My Baby Just Cares for Me. It would be unfair to pick out a particular favourite as every number was probably a favourite with someone in the audience.

April's voice is perfectly suited to presenting these standards; she has both delicacy and power when needed. Zac Dikvert joined April on a couple of numbers for a vocal duo (Making Whoopee and Quando Quando Quando) and also gave us a solo number, Devil May Care.

In addition to the gorgeous singing, the musicianship of the band was stunning. We had Zac Dikvert on guitar, Russell Henderson (saxophones), Miles Crayford (piano), Greg Crayford (drums) and Rory Macartney (bass). Each shone with tasteful solos and nuanced accompaniment. It was a consummate performance and no doubt the band will be invited back to the club to play for us again in future.

One of my favourite times of the year is the Wellington Jazz Festival (normally in October). I try to get to as many gigs as possible – both for the enjoyment of listening to great performers and to pick out gigs that would be a good fit for the club. At the 2025 festival, I thoroughly enjoyed 'The dads' led by Mat Enright playing a selection of (mostly early) jazz – it was upbeat and fun. For our 15th March gig, Mat will be leading a slightly different lineup – hence the new name, 'The cuzzies' – which is sure to be a fun night.

Along with Mat (guitar, trumpet and vocals), the band will include Blair Latham (reeds), Kaito Walley (trombone), Jeremy

Desmond (guitar and banjo), and Mike Duffy (bass); [note: no drums, but the rhythms are still spot on!]. They are all terrific musicians, and I can't wait to hear them playing together in March.



On very sad note for the jazz community was the passing of Geoff Culverwell at the start of this year. Geoff has long been one of the country's greatest jazz musicians and a frequent performer for our club, headlining a gig as recently as May 2025. We send all those close to him our heartfelt condolences.

The club's AGM will be held in the break between the two sets of the March gig. We try to get through the business as expeditiously as possible but will take the time to farewell our long-time patron, Sir Anand Satyanand, and to welcome our new patron, Dame Diana Crossan.

We will be looking to appoint one or two new members to the committee as it's important to keep refreshing our ideas. If you are keen to promote the club, please let me know prior to the AGM or before the start of the gig (my contact details are in this newsletter). The current committee are great to work with and it's a privilege for us to be able to bring you such high-quality jazz each month.

### **Arthur Grimes - President**

<b>BACKGROUND TO OUR NEXT GIG THE CUZZIES</b>
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Playing the swing, blues, ragtime, and piedmont of early jazz and beyond, the Cuzzies bring you a diverse selection of old-time music...plenty of foot tapping tunes to shake away your troubles, with a great band lineup featuring:

Mat Enright (trumpet, guitar, vocals), Kaito Walley (trombone), Blair Latham (reeds), Jeremy Desmond (guitar and banjo), Mike Duffy (bass).

***We are pleased to advise that a 10% discount is still available at Music Works in Ghuznee Street if you provide proof of Wellington Jazz Club Membership***

## **COMING SOON - GIGS IN 2026**

19 April	New Orleans Joymakers
17 May	Norman Meehan/Paul Dyne
21 June	Tiptet

Further details about each of these gigs will appear in subsequent Newsletters.

## **NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

An Annual General Meeting of members of the Wellington Jazz Club Inc will be held on Sunday 15 March 2026 at Meow Cafe, Edward Street, Wellington during the break around 6pm.

### **The Agenda is as follows:**

1. Apologies
2. Confirmation of Minutes of 2025 AGM
3. Matters Arising
4. President's Report for Year ended 31st December 2025
5. Treasurer's Report for Year ended 31st December 2025
6. Appointment of Auditor
7. Election of Officers and Executive Members
8. General Business

## **FAREWELL TO FORMER PATRON SIR ANAND SATYANAND**

At the AGM we will also be thanking and farewelling our wonderful patron Sir Anand Satyanand and his wife Lady Susan, who have been such great supporters of both the Wellington Jazz Club and jazz music in general. There will be more about this very much appreciated partnership in the April newsletter.

## A BIG WELCOME TO OUR NEW PATRON, DAME DIANA CROSSAN



It's been said that a really good jazz gig thrives on the tension between structure and freedom, an apt analogy for the life and career of our new Club Patron, Dame Diana Crossan.

Akaroa-born, the second of 4 girls, Diana's parents were both teachers, as were her three sisters. Yet she began her working life as a Probation Officer and began charitable work as a response to the needs she saw in that role. And despite the risks, she had the courage and commitment to justice to be on the Wellington motorway, protesting the Springbok Tour.

And so the template was set – a fierce commitment to social justice, to the need for charitable giving, and to the provision of the highest standards of Government practice and advice.

Crikey, is it any wonder she became General Manager of both the Clyde Dam, working for Contact Energy, of much-loved Charity Wellington Free Ambulance, as well as Chair of the JR McKenzie Trust!

Today she is Chair or a board member of five charities, on top of many others in the past – such as Refugee Services, and Relationship Services.

In 2019 she was made a Dame Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit, for her work in equal opportunities (EEO); as The Retirement Commissioner; and for her charitable work.

So why our Charity, The Wellington Jazz Club? Diana bemoans her inability to sing but loves the club. She attends along with the self-titled Jazz whanau and thrives on the quality and emotional connection that we all enjoy through the performances of the finest jazz musicians in Wellington and around Aotearoa New Zealand.

**MEOW BOOKINGS – New System - FLICKET**

Wellington Jazz Club members will be notified by email prior to each gig, when preferential bookings will be open for a week, after which bookings will be open to the general public.

To maximise the seating available for Club Members in the limited space available, Meow will be trialling using single seats in theatre style rows but with small tables scattered within the rows for drinks and food.

The link for booking with Flicket is as follows:

**<https://meow.flicket.co.nz/events/647e1f55-88b2-4d42-a070-30c58fa066fc/reservation?slug=611c4354>**

*Door sales (cash and EFTPOS) will normally be available; however members will need to take a chance with seating.*

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

To join the Wellington Jazz Club (Inc.) complete this form, add payment, and return to:

Michael Bain  
Treasurer, WJC (Inc.) 12 Albert Street, Island Bay, Wellington 6023.

Name(s) .....

Address:.....

.....

Ph: .....

Email: <sup>1</sup> .....

Student \$10 (include photocopy of ID), Single \$30, Double \$50  
Payment may be made direct to the Wellington Jazz Club  
Account No. 030531 0533738 00 (confirmation of payment to  
mgbain@xtra.co.nz).

**<sup>1</sup> Newsletters are distributed by email.**

<b>THE WELLINGTON JAZZ CLUB (INC)</b>	
<b>Patron:</b>	Sir Anand Satyanand, GNZM, QSO, KStJ
<b>Honorary Members:</b> Terry Crayford Kevin Clark John Joyce	Paul Dyne Margaret Layton Erna Ferry Colin Hemmingsen
<b>President</b>	Arthur Grimes 027 248 9389
<b>Secretary</b>	Pam Alderton wjcsec@outlook.co.nz
<b>Treasurer/Membership</b>	Michael Bain
<b>Vice President</b>	Graham Kelly
<b>Gigs Manager</b>	Arthur Grimes
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Helen Thompson
<b>Committee Member</b>	Brian Vincent
<b>Committee Member</b>	Katie Wilson
<b>WJC Website</b>	Neale Pitches <a href="http://www.wellingtonjazzclub.org.nz">www.wellingtonjazzclub.org.nz</a>
<b>Email information distribution</b>	Nick Tipping  wgtmjazzclub@gmail.com  <i>Do join Nick Tipping's distribution list to stay informed about future jazz events in Wellington, email as above.</i>

*The Jazz Club is a great place to meet up with friends and family while enjoying some of the best jazz Wellington has to offer. Members are encouraged to bring a guest along and invite them to join the Wellington Jazz Club to keep the live jazz ball bouncing along...*

## Great memories from February jazz club gig!



**April's Fools** – April Phillips (smooth vocals), Zac Dikvert (guitar and vocals), Russell Henderson (saxophone), Miles Crayford (piano), Greg Crayford (drums) and Rory Macartney (bass).

