

## NYJO NEWS - July 2013

**NYJO Bands Play Summer Jazz in the Sun!** - This year's summer Evening Jazz at Lakeside Towers was very different - we had sun for a change! And wasn't it lovely? It was great to see everyone on 9<sup>th</sup> July outdoors with a drink by the lake listening to the sounds of live jazz from all the NYJO bands.



You kindly brought the right money for tickets and the al fresco food seemed to work out well. The raffle raised £131 which helps subsidise NYJO activities and costs.

Our special thanks to all the Friends of NYJO who coordinated and helped organise the Event - in particular Marianne who managed the ticket orders.

NYJO are delighted to have added a new piece of music to its repertoire - a unique arrangement of 'Down by the riverside' - which is a spiritual tune that has a long history of being played by New Orleans jazz artists and more recently by so-called Traditional Jazz or 'Trad Jazz' performers. This arrangement came about through a donation to NYJO and will get played plenty in the future, including at the forthcoming NYJO Tour to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in early August 2013. Our thanks to the donor who wishes to remain anonymous.

A video of our premiere performing this special NYJO arrangement of 'Down by the riverside' is on YouTube at:

<http://youtu.be/L-dvZdemWpc>

**Last Summer Term Rehearsal & Extra Rehearsals for NYJO1 Edinburgh Band** - Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July is the final rehearsal for all NYJO bands. The following two Tuesdays (23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>) are rehearsals for the NYJO1 players who are playing at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Edinburgh Players need to take instructions from Phil on details of arrangements for rehearsal times. All these rehearsals will be at the Nottingham Boys High School (NBHS) Music Block.

The NBHS Music Block has been 'home' for NYJO rehearsals since the start of NYJO - and has been the base for NYO for much longer still.

We all have fond memories of rehearsing in this space and are grateful for the support from NBHS Music Staff and from the Caretakers who were always most accommodating and welcoming. However, there is no longer an opportunity to rehearse at the NBHS so NYJO (and NYO) have a new home for rehearsals...

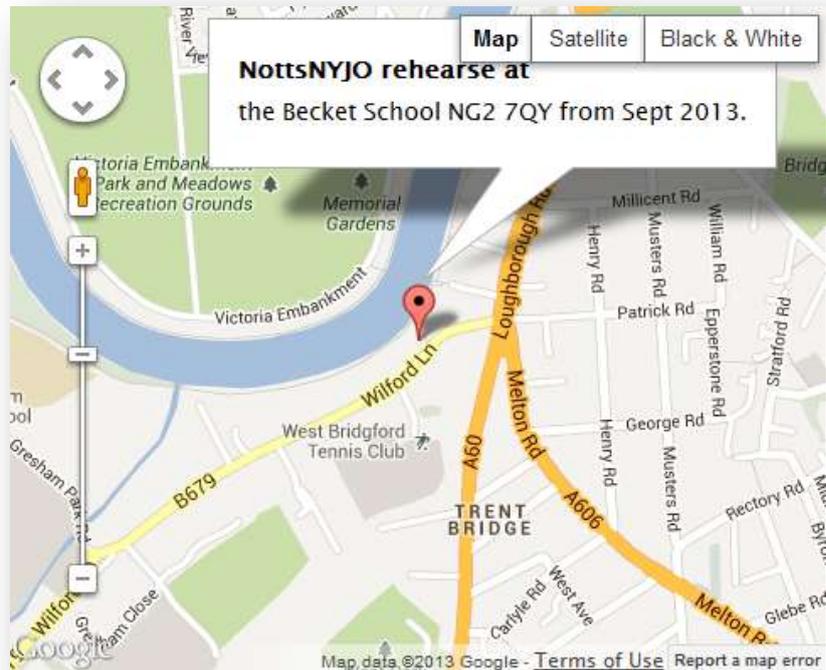


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**From September 2013 NYJO Rehearsals move to The Becket School** - As you know, from September 2013 NYJO's Tuesday evening rehearsals will take place at a new venue - the Music Block at The Becket School. Details are on the NYJO website.

Clearly, we all need to make fresh transport arrangements. For some the change involves further travel; for others it reduces the travel logistics. Whatever your circumstances, we do hope that you are able to come to some suitable arrangements early on and perhaps think about chatting with others to see where there may be opportunities to combine on travel arrangements.

The music facilities at the Becket School are great and we are pleased to use the same venue as the NYO who will rehearse there on Thursday evenings.



**NYJO 3** - We have not been marketing our NYJO3 band for younger players, starting level Grade 2 or 3, partly because of the need to determine the new venue first. However, a NYJO3 band remains an aspiration for the Autumn term and would run parallel to the NYJO2 session, i.e. 5:00 to 6:30 pm. NYJO tutor Jacques Moran is on hand to lead NYJO3. If you are interested, or know of players who may be interested, please contact via the NYJO website Contact page.

**New NYJO Players Wanted** - Word-of-mouth is the best way of spreading news about what NYJO has to offer. If you have friends or know of young players who may be interested in jazz, please invite them to contact NYJO via our website Contact Page. Thanks!

**Edinburgh Fringe Tour August 2013** - Our Edinburgh Fringe Festival Tour gets better every year and this year is shaping up without exception. Around 15 players from NYJO1 will be part of this week-long tour in early August.



We are grateful for sponsorship towards transport which is a significant outlay. Once again, we have the support of Newark Motor Auctions through one of our Friends of NYJO, our outgoing Treasurer Alison. Her son and bass-player Matt is now a NYJO alumni. He's joining NYJO for this Fringe Tour and remembers how good it was last year!

**September 17, 18 & 19<sup>th</sup> are Libraries Gigs for NYJO1 and NYJO Combo** - NYJO are back by popular demand and these gigs are well promoted and we expect big audiences!

Very soon into the start of the new Autumn term, NYJO1 and Combo players will be performing at three libraries: Workshop Library (Combo) on 17<sup>th</sup> September; Southwell Library (Combo) on 18<sup>th</sup> September and West Bridgford Library (NYJO1 Big Band) on 19<sup>th</sup> September.



**Selected events**

**Nottingham Youth Jazz Orchestra** play live at  
Workshop Library 17 September, Southwell  
Library 18 September and West Bridgford Library  
19 September. Find out more at [Jazz Steps](#).

**Save the Date - Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November: NYJO Workshops with Patron Tony Kofi** - Special efforts have been made to enable NYJO's patron, Nottingham-born Tony Kofi to be part of the Miles Ahead Education programme that NYJO benefits from. Please reserve the date of SATURDAY 9<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER as this is when NYJO players will be learning from top professional saxophonist, band leader, composer and educator Tony Kofi.



**Coming soon - Professional Tutors and Workshops for NYJO** - We are privileged to have the chance to be part of a Miles Ahead Education funded programme, starting Autumn 2013 and running into Summer 2014. [EMJAZZ](#) (East Midlands Jazz) are working with JazzSteps and NYJO to put together a programme tailored for NYJO players.



This will include two weekend sessions (workshops) in early 2014 with multi-talented players Zoe Rahman and Julian Joseph. These funded opportunities to bring in top jazz professionals are exceptional and, without the support of EMJAZZ, completely out of reach for

NYJO. However, our track record as committed youth jazz players and performing bands has helped early NYJO the privilege of these educational opportunities. These sessions will enable NYJO players to learn more about improvisation and jazz styles and will bring new repertoire to NYJO. We look forward to providing more details soon. (See (<http://www.julianjoseph.com/profile.html>) and [www.zoerahman.com](http://www.zoerahman.com))

**Changes to the Friends of NYJO Committee** - Alison Carter has stepped down as NYJO Treasurer after several years. Alison and family have been great supporters of NYJO, also assisting with Edinburgh Tour transport. On your behalf, we thank Alison and family very much. Their son Matt, now at University, is much in demand as an excellent bass player and sometimes joins NYJO as an alumni performer. We welcome (back) Julie Moran to the Friend of NYJO Committee and she will take on the Treasurer's role.

### Can you Help on NYJO's Committee?

Can you be a NYJO Friend, helping on the Committee? We meet every 6 weeks to help with planning of the activities that make NYJO so rewarding. If you would like to know more, please contact via the website.

**Hear live Jazz for Free!** - JazzSteps organise jazz gigs at the Bonington in Arnold. These feature top quality contemporary bands. To encourage young players to listen and learn from professionals playing, JazzSteps offers a limited number of tickets for free to NYJO players. You can apply up the day before each gig by emailing the Contact link on the JazzSteps website at [www.jazzsteps.co.uk](http://www.jazzsteps.co.uk) so that a ticket is reserved for you.

It is still worth coming along even if you can only stay for the first set which runs from approximately 8:00pm to 9:00pm. The Bonington is an excellent venue for live jazz and will be even better after a major refurbishment during the summer. This includes new seating, audio and lighting plus a revamped Bar area for intervals. The sound is terrific with a grand piano available for bands that feature a pianist. Parking is free and next to the venue (the Arnold Swimming Baths is on the ground floor of the building). The new programme for Autumn 2013 will be announced soon via the JazzSteps website.

**Support Gala Charity Concert 20<sup>th</sup> July** NYJO's Arjun and brother Srihari are organisers and comperes of a great musical event on 20th July with some ace young musicians including from NYO and NYJO. Tejas is accompanist for performers (apart from pianists!)

It's a Charity Concert being held at Emmanuel Church, Forest Road, Loughborough, LE11 3NW from 6pm to 8:30pm. All funds raised will be donated to the children's charity, I-India, helping to give street children in Jaipur a chance for a future. Tickets are only £5 per person.

Features the amazing talents of previous winners of the Nottingham Young Musician Of the Year, students from the Cheetham's School of Music, members of the Nottingham Youth Orchestra and the Nottingham Youth Jazz Orchestra and many more.

## Volunteer to make a difference



The poster features a rainbow graphic with musical notes and a treble clef at the top. Below the graphic, the text reads: 'GALA CHARITY CONCERT Kids for Kids! Featuring the amazing talents of previous 'Nottingham Young Musician of the Year' winners, students of Cheetham's School of Music, members of the Nottingham Youth Orchestra and the Nottingham Youth Jazz Orchestra and many more. Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2013: 6.00 pm to 8.30 pm Emmanuel Church, Forest Road, Loughborough, LE11 3NW Tickets available at venue: £5 per person. This event is for a great cause; all funds raised will be donated to the children's charity, I-India, helping to give street children in Jaipur a chance for a future. I-India Giving street children a future. daily reaching more than 2000 children ...' The bottom of the poster shows a close-up of a smiling child's face.

## **NYJO entertain at Freeman of City Event**

A small, but perfectly formed, section of the NYJO band entertained appreciative guests at a special event on 8th July 2013 at the Nottingham Council House to celebrate the admission of Sir Peter Mansfield and Dr Stewart Adams as Freemen of the City of Nottingham.

Both gentlemen are superb innovators in their respective fields and must be great improvisers in their work. Hence, NYJO thinks it's most appropriate to have some jazz, renowned for its improvisation, to accompany the event!

Sir Peter Mansfield won the Nobel Prize in Physiology of Medicine in 2003 and is closely associated with Nottingham and Nottingham University through his work in magnetic resonance. Research by Dr Stewart Adams led to creation of the pain relief drug Ibuprofen which was initially a prescription drug for treating arthritis but was subsequently sold as an over-the-counter drug by Boots the Chemist.

*"I just wanted to say thank you very much for your contribution to last night's Freeman dinner. You sounded great and I've had lots of good comments about your playing. Please pass on my thanks to all in the group."*

It was a great honour for NYJO to be invited to entertain at this celebration. We appreciated the organiser's feedback quoted above.

## **Strawberry Fest - NYJO & Southwell Care Project**

On Saturday 22nd June NYJO combo entertained in the Bishop of Southwell's lovely garden for guests who enjoyed strawberries, tea and scones as part of a great charity cause - **The Southwell Care Project** which does some fantastic work with learning disabled adults in Nottinghamshire - read more here. NYJO Combo greatly enjoyed playing on a lovely occasion and the organisers kindly wrote to say how much they were appreciated. Well done you all!

## **Music to Shop By at John Lewis**

Shopping with live jazz - what could be better? Customers in the John Lewis store in Victoria Centre, Nottingham have recently been entertained on two separate occasions by NYJO players in connection with celebrations for Easter and a department re-launch.



The reaction from customers has been really positive as captured in this quote from PR & Marketing at John Lewis, *"Just wanted to let you know that the event on Wednesday went very well and we received lots of positive comments from staff and customers about the entertainment. Please say thank you to all the musicians for us."*

***Have a Great Summer Break - see you in September at the Becket School***