

LET'S GET JAZZY

More than 60 children, young people and adults came to the Archive in Loughton on 30 October to take part in some exciting half-term holiday activities. To mark this year's Black History Month, families were invited to follow a musical I-Spy Trail, handle original archive materials, listen to the lively sounds of jazz and create a colourful collage poster to take away. Many visitors were new to the Archive and our collections, and left with a spring in their steps and a smile on their faces!



SUCCESS FOR OPEN DAY

Around 40 people gathered in the Archive in March for the first performance by the Essex Youth Jazz Orchestra, led by Martin Hathaway from the Guildhall School of Music. A second sitting was held at 2.30pm to a capacity crowd. It was great to see so many people recalling anecdotes whilst exploring the material on display and discovering the online collections.

SUPPORT US

Visit www.nationaljazzarchive.org.uk to find out how you can give us your time or read on to find out how to become a Friend of the Archive.

- **Become a Friend** by setting up a Direct Debit on a regular or one-off basis is an easy, secure and convenient way to support our work.
- **Donate** by sending us a cheque, together with a completed gift aid form, which enables us to reclaim 25% of your donation.
- **Leave a Legacy Gift** in your will to help us make a difference for all future jazz lovers.

PEOPLE

Chris Hodgkins stepped down as Chair of the National Jazz Archive in February – we are very grateful for his commitment and leadership over many years. Paul Kaufman has taken over as Chair.



Thank you to **Angela Davies, Jo Blygthon** and **Sam Fieldhouse** (below) for all their work in managing and running the HLF Story of British Jazz project for the past three years, and to **Fiona Cormack**, project archivist for the first part of the project.



- **Easyfundraising** is an easy way to donate to the Archive while you shop online.
- **Sell your Vinyl** and support your Archive. Since 2007, Rabbit Records has been working with the National Jazz Archive to help people donate or dispose of their collections.
- **Make a Donation in Memory** of a loved one. Share with family and friends and remember together, while raising money to support the Archive and the Story of British Jazz.
- **Give in Celebration.** You can mark your celebration and help the Archive by requesting donations instead of gifts.



NEWSLETTER

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WELCOME to the latest newsletter from the National Jazz Archive, with news of the successful completion of the Heritage Lottery Fund project 'The Story of British Jazz'. There are also reports on the fundraising concerts held this year, events we have organised and attended, and highlights of new donations to the Archive.

KEEP UP TO DATE

This newsletter gives an update on the work of the Archive in 2014. Because of postage costs we produce a printed newsletter only occasionally, but you can keep up to date by signing up for our monthly e-newsletters – visit www.nationaljazzarchive.org.uk and register via the link at the top of each page.

'STORY OF BRITISH JAZZ' PROJECT COMES TO AN END

The three-year project has helped to unlock the resources of the National Jazz Archive. The overall value was £388,829, including a grant of £346,300 from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Key achievements have been:

- cataloguing 4336 books
- storing and conserving more than 40,000 archive items (documents, photos etc)
- cataloguing all journals to series level along with 36 personal and seven photo collections
- scanning and digitising journals, photos and posters for direct access via the website
- rehoming over 360 interviews in the 'jazz stories' section of the website
- making all these materials accessible via the redesigned website, which features a detailed timeline of British jazz
- training 12 volunteers in essential storage, preservation and cataloguing skills
- spreading the word at workshops, open days, lectures, exhibitions and festivals.

The Archive is now the principal national resource for jazz heritage in the UK.

CHECK OUT THE NJA WEBSITE!



Hundreds of photos, posters, programmes, and magazines can be viewed on the website. Many more are accessible in the Archive at Loughton.



FUNDRAISING GIGS END IN STYLE

Our fundraising events ended in October with two great concerts. The nine-piece Great British Jazz Band (below) played arrangements from their long career, and clarinettist Dave Shepherd delighted the audience with three numbers.



Val Wiseman and Digby Fairweather's Half Dozen presented their popular show 'Jazz Goes to the Movies'.



Two wonderful concerts in Loughton were given in September by Liane Carroll and her trio (Roger Carey and Pete Cater), who delighted the audience and got a standing ovation.



"It was amazing to listen to so many incredibly gifted performers who gave up their time, and flew in and flew out to help the Archives. The whole afternoon was a delight."

John Altman brought an all-star group of friends to play, including his namesake, singer and EastEnders star John Altman!



An audience of over 320 enjoyed a great concert at Chingford in July by Paul Jones and Digby Fairweather's Half Dozen.



The series was opened in May by the Gresty-White Ragtimers and the Kenny Ball Band led by Keith Ball.

Plans are now being made for more fundraising concerts during 2015, and for other events and talks at the Archive. Sign up for our monthly e-newsletter to find out what's on.

Grateful thanks to all the musicians who donated their services to support the Archive, and to all who organised and supported the events. The seven concerts raised around £14,500.

ON THE ROAD

Our new display cases were put to good use at the fundraising concerts to show materials relevant to each event. We also took them to three jazz festivals in the summer at Norwich, Keswick and Love Supreme in Sussex, where more than 600 people visited our display. These were a great opportunity to show items such as our original Armstrong, Bechet and Ellington programmes and to introduce jazz fans to the Archive. We received a number of donations from festival goers which will augment the Archive's representation of jazz in the North and East of Britain. The photo shows part of our display at Keswick Jazz Festival.



ALL THAT JAZZ

The Barbican Music Library in London hosted our exhibition 'All that Jazz: the Golden Age of British Popular Music 1919–50' for eight weeks in March and April. Visitors explored the social and cultural impact of jazz in Britain through items from our collection, including the first written reference to jazz performance in the UK by the Original Dixieland Jazz Band and photos from Sidney Bechet's 1949 performance with Humphrey Lyttelton's band.

JAZZ IN ESSEX ON TOUR

The exhibition about the history of jazz in Essex has been displayed in libraries in Essex this year, and continues through 2015. The Archive helped plan the exhibition and provided material. For details visit <https://essexjazzhistory.wordpress.com/exhibition-schedule>

DONATIONS IN 2014

Here are some of the highlights of the donations to the Archive during the past year.

- Photos and other items from Diana Lusher, wife of trombonist **Don Lusher**, right, below.



- Personal papers of singer **Ottile Patterson**, including scrapbooks, Chris Barber Jazz Club magazines, photos, and notebooks with sketches and poems by her.
- Material donated by the family of **Lew and Joyce Stone** – papers, diaries, scrapbooks, family history documents and photos including this one from around 1950 in Switzerland.



- Photos and negatives from **Denis Williams**, a press and freelance photographer of jazz musicians and events.
- Materials from **Nat Gonella's** personal papers, donated by his daughter, Natalie, including scrapbooks, photos and fan mail.
- More images taken by the eminent jazz and blues photographer, **Terry Cryer**.

We have also received some 50 books, and numerous financial donations, for which we are most grateful.