



National Jazz Archive  
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[www.nationaljazzarchive.org.uk](http://www.nationaljazzarchive.org.uk)

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## The legacy of great British jazz musicians

Humphrey Lyttelton, John Dankworth, Ted Heath, Tubby Hayes and Ronnie Scott became well known both to jazz enthusiasts and to the public at large. They and many more wonderful musicians made an amazing contribution to jazz in Britain.

They also left a wonderful legacy for the benefit of the young musicians who followed them and for those of us who continue to enjoy the joyful results of their musicianship.

Now, the National Jazz Archive (NJA) can provide you, the jazz lover, with the opportunity to add to that legacy and to play your part in celebrating and preserving the past, present and future of jazz.

## Telling the Story of British Jazz and much more

The National Jazz Archive contains the UK's finest collection of written, printed and visual material on jazz in the UK from the 1920s to the present day. This material preserves the present and past to inspire and entertain future jazz lovers like you. Here is just a small part of what your support will enable the NJA to achieve:

- Conserving, cataloguing and digitising important parts of our collections
- Developing and enhancing our website so our collections can be accessed by researchers, musicians, writers, journalists, students and enthusiasts
- Employing skilled staff to manage and develop the Archive to professional standards.

## How to create your own legacy and be part of the Story of British Jazz

As the Trustees of the NJA look to the future, their aims are to ensure that the Archive is managed to professional standards and that the collections are made easily accessible to more people. These aims can only be achieved through the generosity of those who give their support, financially and in kind, to the National Jazz Archive.

The Archive is very grateful to Essex County Council, which provides rent-free space in Loughton Library and funds the salary of a part-time research archivist. Everyone else connected with the Archive works on a voluntary basis. This allows us to spend every penny donated to the work of conserving jazz heritage for future professionals and enthusiasts.

The Trustees, patrons, archive staff and volunteers are making considerable efforts to raise the funds required but your help would be invaluable.

### **Brian Browning – photographer and jazz lover**

*Brian had a number of passions in his life. Fortunately for jazz lovers, he combined two – the joy of photography and a life-long love of jazz. For many years, he visited jazz clubs armed with his trusty Canon camera and took stunning images of the performing musicians. Other fans knew Brian and happily made space for him to get that one shot that captured the musicians perfectly. The next time the musicians appeared at the club, Brian would present them with a copy of his best efforts, much to their delight.*

*Sadly, Brian passed away in 2016. However, he left a two-fold legacy to the National Jazz Archive to share with the jazz world: his personal archive of prints, and a proportion of the value of his property.*

*Brian's generosity means that, in addition to a wonderful record of jazz musicians performing, the Archive can employ a volunteer manager and a professional archivist for a period of time.*

*In 2019, the Archive arranged an exhibition of his photographs at a fundraising concert, which gave much pleasure to all whom came. A selection of Brian's images will be catalogued, scanned, digitised and made available on the Archive's website for everyone to enjoy.*



## **Leave the National Jazz Archive a gift in your Will**

Leaving a gift in your Will to the National Jazz Archive will enable the celebration and preservation of the past, present and future of jazz to continue for years to come. A Will is a uniquely personal document, and will give you peace of mind, knowing that your wishes will be carried out. It will ensure that those you love are provided for and but is also an opportunity for you to help those causes you have supported during your lifetime – like the National Jazz Archive.

Many people underestimate the importance of making a Will, mistakenly thinking they do not have enough money or possessions to make a Will worthwhile. In fact, making a Will and keeping it up-to-date is the only way to ensure that whatever you have – no matter how much or how little – is distributed according to your wishes.

### **Cataloguing, conserving and digitising – How you can help**

*It is not enough for the Archive simply to store magazines or boxes of photographs – making them accessible is as important as looking after them. So we are using the most up-to-date technology to enable free access to the material we hold by jazz researchers and enthusiasts.*

*The key to opening up the Archive is digitisation – where printed material is catalogued, scanned and converted into a format that can be fully searchable. The material is then uploaded to the Archive's website for all to access. Some of our collection of jazz journals have already been digitised in this way, including 'Jazz News' and 'Crescendo'. The photographic archives of Denis Williams have also been made available on our website, and those of Brian Foskett are currently being scanned for uploading in due course.*

*We also hold oral histories so you can listen directly to first-hand reminiscences about jazz.*

*Digitisation is a time-consuming and expensive process. The Archive has recruited an excellent and enthusiastic team of volunteers who undertake much of the work. But digitising runs of journals needs to be carried out by professional firms, and this is inevitably an expensive process. Your support with these costs would enable the Archive to speed up the process both enlarging the digital archive and increasing the information available to you and your fellow jazz fans in the UK and across the world.*

## Choose a solicitor or will writer

It is important for you to go to a solicitor or will writer to get sound, reliable and professional advice. Your wishes, and any practical or tax implications that there may be, can then be properly dealt with. You might find a solicitor by contacting one of the following:

- Law Society – [www.lawsociety.org.uk](http://www.lawsociety.org.uk)
- Will Aid – [www.willaid.org.uk](http://www.willaid.org.uk)

## Thank you on behalf of all future jazz lovers

We hope you have found this information helpful. If you have any queries about making a gift in your Will to the National Jazz Archive, would like to know more about our work or to visit the Archive, call 020 8502 4701, write to the address above or email using the Contact form on the National Jazz Archive website ([www.nationaljazzarchive.org.uk](http://www.nationaljazzarchive.org.uk)).

**Guidance Notes for Executors** – if you are the executor of a Will that contains a gift to the National Jazz Archive and have any questions, kindly contact the Archive.

***Disclaimer:*** *The National Jazz Archive, its trustees, officers and employees each disclaim such or any liability which does or might arise as a consequence of and inaccurate or misleading statements made in these notes. While every care has been taken to ensure that they are correct, the statements made are for explanatory and guidance purposes only. On every occasion it is strongly recommended that you seek professional advice before finally making your Will or any Codicil to it.*

*You should not take or refrain from action based upon this article alone. Each individual is unique, and bespoke advice should always be taken from a solicitor or will writer specialising in wills, trusts and inheritance tax.*