

THE THIRD AGE TRUST



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

U3A Jazz Appreciation Network

Subject Adviser – Mike Rance

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Hello all,

MY FIRST REQUEST IS – IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS NEWSLETTER DIRECTLY FROM U3A HEAD OFFICE, PLEASE PASS IT ON TO ANYONE IN YOUR U3A WHO HAS AN INTEREST OR A POTENTIAL INTEREST IN JAZZ. I DO NOT HAVE A LIST OF SUCH U3A MEMBERS, SO HAVE TO RELY ON RECIPIENTS TO HELP WITH NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION. THANK YOU.

IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED THIS DIRECTLY FROM U3A HEAD OFFICE, AND YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE FUTURE NEWSLETTERS FROM ME, I SUGGEST YOU TELL SHARON AHTUAM AT sharon@u3a.org.uk OR CONTACT ME.

There is really just one item for this Newsletter -- our Jazz Study Day in London on 19th September. I began to panic in early May when the venue that had been used for the Study Day over a number of years, Cecil Sharp House, pulled the plug on us, forcing a search for a new one. Long story short, we're booked into the Westminster Cathedral Hall – same date, same performers. The address is:

Ambroseden Avenue
London
SW1P 1QH

The Hall is round the left-hand side of the Cathedral as you look at it from Victoria Street. It's a bigish hall, it's affordable and it's nicely located – if that can be said of a London venue, when so many of us live perhaps hundreds of miles away. Victoria Station is a short walk away, there are lots of buses that use Victoria Street, and Victoria is on the District & Circle and Victoria tube lines. Nearby are numerous shops, cafés, restaurants and pubs – there have been many such developments near Victoria recently, as well as lots of offices.

Of course, more importantly, we have secured the services of Alan Barnes with his Octet to educate and entertain us. Alan plays clarinet, alto and baritone saxes, and has a line in entertaing talk. Here's how he describes what he'll be doing:

“An Incomplete History of Jazz”

It will be an illustrated talk and performance with --

Bruce Adams on trumpet

Mark Nightingale on trombone

Robert Fowler on saxes & clarinet

Karen Sharp on saxes

David Newton on piano

Simon Thorpe on bass

Clark Tracey on drums

That's a truly great British jazz line-up, award-winners-all in their own right. I saw them down at Swanage Jazz Festival earlier in July. A superb swinging outfit.

The 'history' part of it will be in the morning, in which Alan and the band will take us through some of the jazz styles across the years. He will include, by demonstrating styles and his approach to arranging them -- Classic jazz from the New Orleans era, Swing from the late 30s and 40s, be-bop from the 40s, plus the music of Thelonious Monk and Charles Mingus. In the afternoon, they'll play a concert of full versions of of the pieces discussed in the morning. I'm sure we will also find time for a few questions along the way.

It starts at 11am and closes at 4pm.

Tickets are selling rather nicely. They're available at £20 on the U3A website here:

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/events/educational-events> Click on Alan's picture.

I will send more information as the arrangements evolve.

Please call or (preferably) email me if you'd like more information, or wish to discuss any aspect of jazz in the U3A.

I hope you are all enjoying the jazz you like.

Mike Rance