

## JAZZ



Cleo Laine, Jeffery Lockett and John Dankworth who compered the evening at Pizza on the Park last December. Photo: Colin de Chair

### THE EVENING WAS YET ANOTHER SUCCESS WITH A FULL HOUSE – some late arrivals, fortunately not members of the Company, had to be turned away!

The line up comprised two trombones, piano, bass and drums. Everyone present was given a voting slip to select their choice for the medal. Mark Nightingale just scraped home by one vote ahead of Richard Busiakiewicz on piano. Following the vote of the Jazz Committee, Mark, who was also the 'fixer' for the night, hung on to his lead and was therefore chosen for the Silver Medal.

He follows Humphrey Lyttleton, elected for his outstanding contribution to jazz.

The other part of his prize is another gig, sponsored by the Musician's Company, at Pizza on the Park. This will be held on Sunday 23rd June.

Pastmaster Jeffery Lockett has very kindly donated a further £1,000 to the Jazz award adding to the modest profit at the December evening.

## Adieu

The Company has suffered a sad loss in the death of Sir Andrew Carnwath at the age of 86. Sir Andrew joined the Court in 1973 and was Master in 1981/2. He will be affectionately remembered within the Company for his wise counsel and generosity (the Carnwath Award is his enduring memorial) and for his wide-ranging interests outside it. His daughter, Felicity Guinness, and one of his sons, Sir Robert, are members of the Livery, and another son Francis is, of course, the present Master.

We also remember the following Members of the Court and Liverymen who have died in recent months: Wing Commander Roy Davies, Cyril Davis, Kenn Golightley, Professor Ivor Keys, George Linley, Frederic Lloyd, Stanley Pope and Anthony Waley.

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Telling me of his earliest days in London my trumpet professor, Ernest Hall, explained that as a student at the Royal College of Music – where he began in 1904 – he was sent to deputise in the West End theatres by one William Short. "Called himself the King's Trumpeter. Rather a conceited man, I'm afraid..." Ernest seemed not to know the source of Short's title. Now it becomes clear. Short was a signatory of the petition.

Well, the Queen's Band presumably still exists, though its members are dead. Will some future John Anderson be required to summon Musicians in Ordinary? I hope so.

The existence of such an ensemble would enhance the orchestral profession immeasurably. In that sense the petition of its forebears to King Edward may be read with as much relevance today as ninety years ago. With the best of today's players from which to choose, what a Right Royal Band it would be!

## BAND OF HOPE & GLORY

27 August, 1960

British Consulate-General  
Muscat

My Lord,

I have the honour to refer to Your Lordship's despatch No. 8 of July 29, in which you requested me to ascertain, on behalf of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, whether the B flat clarinet music, enclosed with your despatch, was a correct and up-to-date rendering of the National Salute to the Sultan of Muscat and Oman.

I have encountered certain difficulties in fulfilling this request. The Sultanate has not since about 1937 possessed a band. None of the Sultan's subjects, so far as I am aware, can read music, which the majority of them regard as sinful. The Manager of the British Bank of the Middle East, who can, does not possess a clarinet. Even if he did, the dignitary who in the absence of the Sultan is the recipient of ceremonial honours and who might be presumed to recognise the tune, is somewhat deaf.

Fortunately I have been able to obtain, and now enclose, a gramophone record which has on one side a rendering by a British military band of the "Salutation and March to His Highness the Sultan of Muscat and Oman". The first part of this tune, which was composed by the bandmaster of a cruiser in about 1932, bears a close resemblance to a pianoforte rendering by the Bank Manager of the clarinet music enclosed with Your Lordship's despatch. The only further testimony I can obtain of the correctness of this music is that it reminds a resident of long standing of a tune, once played by the long defunct band of the now disbanded Muscat infantry, and known at the time to non-commissioned members of His Majesty's forces as (I quote the Vernacular) "Gawd strike the Sultan blind".

I am instructed by the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs that there are now no occasions on which the "Salutation" is officially played. The last occasion on which it is known to have been played at all was on a gramophone at an evening reception given by the Military Secretary in honour of the Sultan, who inadvertently sat on the record afterwards and broke it. I consider, however, that an occasion might arise when its playing might be appropriate: if, for example, the Sultan were to go aboard a cruiser which carried a band. I am proposing to call on His Highness shortly at Salalah on his return from London, and shall make further enquiries as to his wishes in the Matter.

I am sending a copy of this despatch, without enclosures, to His Excellency the Political Resident at Bahrain.

I have etc.

## The Great Jazz Guitarists



Liveryman Ivor Mairants with his wife, Lily, and Barbara Davis at the launch of his new book. It records the early jazz era of the '20s to the present day, with examples of the most innovative jazz guitar playing and artists' work transcribed and notated. This was possible due to his own standing as a guitarist and vast knowledge, but most importantly, because there are few jazz guitar notables, past and present, that he cannot count among his friends. With only 1000 signed and numbered copies produced, it runs to 660 pages. It is leather bound and slip-cased and at £250 is published by Music Maker Books, tel. 01353-665577.