



**Northern Jazz Promoter (NJP) Meeting ~  
Sat 16<sup>th</sup> October 2021 11.00 am  
Zoom Meeting**

**Present:**

Steve Crocker: NJPNetwork Chair JazzLeeds  
Gill Wilde: NJP Network Secretary Grimsby Jazz Projects  
Judith Waterhouse: NJP Network Treasurer Wakefield Jazz  
Ben Gilbert Trustee JazzLeeds Trainee NJP scheme  
Stewart Smith Jazz North East Trainee NJP scheme  
Bob Walker Scarborough Jazz/ S. Jazz Festival  
Wesley Stevenson Newcastle Fest of Jazz & Imp Music  
Phil Lee RVJB  
Laurie Stead Huddersfield Jazz  
Rosemary Holmes JazzLeeds  
Richard Gentle Website  
Ian Darrington Wigan Jazz Music Continuum (part)

**Apologies**

Hayley Jackson NQ Jazz Trainee NJP scheme  
Pete Rosser Wakefield Jazz  
Heather Spencer Jazz North Durham Jazz Festival  
Peter Woodman Marsden Jazz Festival  
Paul Smith PS Promotions Leeds  
Mike and Marion Gordon Scarborough Jazz  
Sue Bradley RVJB  
Simon Perryman Sheffield Jazz  
Steve Bootland Jazz at the Priestley  
Kyran Matthews NQ Jazz

**Item 1 Minutes** of last quarterly zoom meeting May 2021

**No Matters arising**

**Item 2 NJP Traineeship scheme Wesley Stephenson**

The one year scheme is being project managed by Wes Stephenson. It involves 5 promoters Steve Crocker Leeds Jazz, Judith Waterhouse Wakefield Jazz, Wes Stephenson Jazz NE, Kyran Matthews NQ Jazz Manchester, Phil Lee RVJB. 3 Trainees have been appointed, Hayley Jackson, Ben Gilbert, Stewart Smith, one is still pending. 16 sessions are arranged some in conjunction with Jazz North some with other sectors. There are to be 4 CPD workshops for NJP's (for whom there is a short survey to fill in as soon as possible please). There will also be 6 discussion sessions based sessions for anyone involved in promotion for idea sharing. Final part will be an ACE application by the trainees for a band to do a tour of the 5 clubs involved.

### **Item 3 Roundup of events by clubs**

**Debra Milne JAZZ COOP & GLOBE** Newcastle (by email)

The Globe's multi-genre live programme is in full swing, with jazz gigs every Sunday night & on occasional others. The jazz programme features a mixture of local, regional and touring bands, the latter often in co-promotion with JNE. It can be challenging attracting an audience to come & see bands who do not have an established local following, even when they are of high quality & the gigs have received national coverage. Several other local venues are now putting on jazz events, although not usually on a Sunday evening.

We are continuing the dual model of in venue audience & live streaming. Although the remote audience has reduced significantly, the numbers watching remotely do boost ticket revenue, and performers appreciate the opportunity to review the recording & use extracts for promotional purposes. Please do check out the livestreams and the highlights on The Globe YouTube channel! Regular jam sessions are back.... Am Jam on 2nd Sunday of the month, More Jam on the 4th Sunday and Take It To The Bridge every Wednesday night. Held in the 1st floor bar, they all provide a very welcoming environment. TITTB coincides with a newly established weekly Open Mic session held on the ground floor, and it's great to see folks coming upstairs to check out the jazz, & a few are joining in both! Future challenges include growing the jazz audience, as well as maintaining the venue financially when CRF funds end.

**Simon Perryman Sheffield Jazz** (by email)

The good news is that Sheffield Jazz re-opened with a fantastic gig by Fergus McCreadie's trio on 3rd September as part of a new Sheffield arts festival weekend. The Autumn Season then opened on 1st October with a great gig by the George Crowley Trio. We have a sell out gig with Niki Iles' Orchestra on 8 October and then a full season, closing with Yazz Ahmed on 10 December. People seem keen to come out to gigs and are enjoying listening to live music again. On COVID, we are fortunate that we have a large venue and stage, which has allowed us to safely bring back bands and our audience on a socially distanced basis. We have moved to on-line ticketing with numbered seats and we are continuing to ask people to wear masks when they are moving around the club. We are keeping a close eye on ventilation including to monitor CO2 levels as a useful proxy of whether ventilation is adequate. We are not aware of any COVID incidents linked to our gigs.

**Pete Woodman Marsden Jazz Festival** (by email)

'Following a successful crowd funding campaign and with the support of a grant from the Arts Council the 2021 Marsden Jazz Festival was able to proceed as planned. Many risks were taken in producing a radically different festival than in previous years. The ongoing threat of Covid meant that a large proportion of the festival was programmed on a specially constructed 'free' stage outside the Mechanics Hall, using Peel Street as the auditorium, as well as on the Bandstand in the park. The Saturday events on Peel Street were programmed by Jazz Re-Freshed and included performances by Gary Crosby and Camilla George. All ticketed gigs took place in St Bartholomew's Church starting on Friday night with Shri Sriram and Dennis Rollins supported by Yaatri. Saturday brought a varied 'New Stream' of Bex Burch with Xhosa Cole, the John Pope Quintet and Sloth Racket, with Xhosa Cole re-appearing in the evening with his Ibeji duo and his regular Quartet. After a lunchtime DJ set courtesy of Dan Spicer, Ivo Neame premiered his new album performing with a world class Septet. The festival was brought to a rousing close with tap dancer Annette Walker and her band putting on a fantastic show in Peel Street. Attendance numbers overall were very good and - unlike in many previous years - we were blessed with beautiful weather over the weekend which was a great success. Here's looking forward to 2022 when we will be putting on our 30th Marsden Jazz Festival!

**Gill Wilde Grimsby Jazz Projects:**

Funding is very hard to come by and access to schools is still difficult so no new projects possible. We have been able to digitise some of our projects for schools to access on line.

Wes Stephenson agreed that applications have to be resubmitted 2 or 3 times at present to get one success.

### **Wesley Stevenson Newcastle Fest of Jazz & Imp Music:**

Things are picking up with a mixed programme of 7 events and co-promotions with the Globe. The festival was successful high quality well attended and some sold out. A responsible audience with good mask wearing. The record label continues until end of 2022. A new bid to be started for next years festival in near future

### **Bob Walker Scarborough Jazz**

Restarted in July with mixed attendance but holding our own. Marian and Mike still very much involved. The Scarborough Jazz Festival was very successful in its first year back.

### **Judith Waterhouse Wakefield Jazz:**

Restarted 1st October with quite low attendance, many still reluctant to venture out. We will keep going for our weekly programme but fear some of audience may not return.

### **Laurie Stead Huddersfield**

Podcasts were the main activity throughout lockdown. A first live session will be held this Sunday afternoon at the new venue the White Swan which is where the original Huddersfield Jazz started! There is competition for 3 other gigs the same day unfortunately.

### **Phil Lee - Ribble Valley J&B**

The club are still recovering from the shock of the sudden death of the Grand Theatre organiser Matt Evans who did a lot for the Jazz Club and Festival. Their Festival was livestreamed this year. The programme for the season is arranged for every 6 weeks. Income is good as they were able to obtain ACE Culture Recovery grants. There were 200 people at their first live gig back – Nubian Twist.

### **Rosemary Holmes JazzLeeds**

Live gigs began end of May on Thursday evenings and Sunday afternoons with 2 gigs a week. 50 live gigs have been held, (many in the open air with pay as you please which worked well). The club held a 2 day Festival at 7Arts on 17-18<sup>th</sup> July with a mix of local and national artists and a Jazz picnic at Gledhow Playing Field on 5 September. Finances are ticking along OK as there has been some council support. Meanwood Valley Urban Farm Café has replaced Inkwell as the second venue.

### **Item 4 – NJP Website: Richard Gentle Website manager.**

The website has been tweaked with some colour changes to match the logo. It takes 2 hours to harvest and upload new gigs each month for the gigs listing.

A website revamp will cost between £250 and £500 depending on extent of changes. It has become slow to load and so would benefit from an update.

Grimsby Jazz Projects is willing to donate £150 toward the upgrade, Leeds Jazz will also contribute £150 and Ribble Valley are also willing to contribute. Further donations would of course be welcome as the design cost could add to the overall bill. Suggested new photos and videos would make it more exciting, Richard would need people to send up to date indexed photos to choose from Adrian Riley (Scarborough Jazz) to be approached by Steve Crocker for advice on graphic design for the site. Ribble Valley suggested John Flannigan to also be approached at RVJB.

Wes Stephenson suggested Richard send out a proforma for all the basic information required for the website.

The jazz trainees were asked for their input.

It was agreed that the website is a good resource to have all the gig data in one place.

Judith said website contributions would be best to go through the treasurer.

**Agreed to having a revamp of the site and to use up to £500 from the existing budget (one vote against).**

**AOB - none**

Meeting closed 12.00 noon

**Next meeting 5<sup>th</sup> February 2022 on Zoom**

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