

THE  
**PANTILES**  
The Jewel in the Town

**PRESS RELEASE**

REF: 373

6<sup>th</sup> May 2010

**The Pantiles announces summer Jazz line up**

**In brief**

Season dates: 17<sup>th</sup> June – 9<sup>th</sup> September 2010

Performance times: 7.30 – 10pm

Venue: Seating around the Bandstand (outdoors)

Location: The Pantiles, Tunbridge Wells, Kent

Cost: Free

Know this: Alfresco dining and drinking at Woods Restaurant and the Ragged Trousers guarantees an excellent seat.

In case of rain: Bands will be moved into Woods Restaurant, those who have booked a Woods table will be able to view the performance

If it's summer – then it's time for The Pantiles' jazz season to get under way. The Pantiles in Tunbridge Wells, Kent, will once again host a series of free Thursday evening outdoor jazz concerts from its historic bandstand. And this year the season kicks off with a bang with 'Force 10', a sixteen piece big band guaranteed to wow the audience and kick off the season!

Organised by owners of The Pantiles, Targetfollow Ltd, and sponsored by Woods Restaurant, The Ragged Trousers and Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, the Summer Jazz programme has been put together to appeal to those that really know and appreciate jazz in its various guises. Better still, many of the bands' sets combine a mix of accessible jazz designed to draw new audiences to the genre – and all while sitting outside (hopefully on a balmy evening) in one of Kent's loveliest locations.

Every Thursday, from the 17<sup>th</sup> June to 9<sup>th</sup> September, the very best of world class jazz performers take to The Pantiles' bandstand, providing an array of musical styles ranging from classical jazz standards and mellow soul through to Latin fusion and Broadway greats. Each week there'll be something different. And each week the performance is completely free!

## **The 2010 line up**

### **17<sup>th</sup> June – Force 10**

A 16 piece Big Band guaranteed to kick the 2010 Jazz Season off with a real bang!

### **24<sup>th</sup> June – Trudy Kerr Quartet**

Hailed as "one of the country's most polished singers" by The Times. Tonight she'll be joined by An equally fabulous trio of musicians: Tom Cawley from the BBC Jazz awards best band, Curios; bassist Geoff Gascoyne, who's previously toured with Jamie Cullum; and Sebastiaan de Krom on drums.

### **1<sup>st</sup> July – The Cuban Violets**

None of them are Cuban, none of them are Violet, but their sound is exotic and they swing with a vengeance. The audience are in for a treat with a Latin bravado style music combined with jazz sensibilities, hot beats and an eerie yet enchanting atmosphere. Classic tunes, movie themes and beyond, including takes on The Doors, Duke Ellington, Buena Vista Social Club & more.

### **8<sup>th</sup> July – The Ray Rich Band**

The Ray Rich Band is one of the most sought-after musical acts currently active in South-East England; A professional and dynamic band covering the spectrum of jazz, soul, blues and rock 'n roll. The members of the band have many years' experience to draw upon including work with Tina Turner, Chuck Berry, Fats Domino, Level 42 and The International Blues Brothers Show.

### **15<sup>th</sup> July – Heads South**

Heads South is a 5 piece Jazz Salsa band formed of accomplished musicians combining terrific rhythm and great new melody in a superb repertoire of original compositions and arrangements of well loved tunes. With John Harriman on piano & keyboards, Steve Waterman on trumpet, Buster Birch on drums, Chino Martell Morgan doing percussion, and Tim Robertson on bass. These musicians are busy people with diverse musical activities and significant accomplishments to their name elsewhere.

### **22<sup>nd</sup> July – Hard Lines**

Described as "leading the UK Jazz Funk outfit", a truly mesmerizing performance guaranteed to make an impact. Band leader and composer, Iain Rae is an accomplished, versatile and professional pianist. It's fun, it's upbeat and it's sure to impress.

### **29<sup>th</sup> July – John Etheridge Quartet**

John Etheridge rightly enjoys a glowing reputation throughout the jazz world and beyond and has been described by Pat Metheny as "One of the best guitarists in the world". Enjoy his eclectic and uncompromising musicianship tonight, joined by a trio of musicians playing an eclectic mix of blues, soul and funk.

### **5<sup>th</sup> August – Protect the Beat**

Fun, young and "on a mission to mix up styles and drive audiences into happy submission". This is a completely new style of jazz which will entrance audiences of all ages with its rampant energy and exciting sound. If you're looking for a fast forward sound, then this is your gig!

### **12<sup>th</sup> August – Soul Serenade**

Stunning vocalist Shireen Francis, jazz pianist Tim Richards and tenor sax Dave Blackmore have come together to create Soul Serenade. Performing the finest soulful jazz, blues and gospel from Horace Silver to Aretha Franklin, this promises to be a spine tingling performance. With plaudits aplenty, this band will definitely leave you wanting more!

### **19<sup>th</sup> August – The Alan Barnes Quartet**

Infusing a mix of hard, urban post-bop with 50s classic themes, this talented multi-reeds player's strong tone has made Alan Barnes one of the greatest jazz musicians since the late 1970s. Winning multiple awards in the British Jazz scene, Barnes performs a selection of well-known and not-so-well known standards as well as improvised originals with more contemporary approach to Jazz music.

### **26<sup>th</sup> August – Sax Appeal**

Vibrant and charismatic! Sax Appeal is an award-winning, UK-based Jazz/Fusion group. The band is currently celebrating 20 years of gigging since Derek Nash started the original incarnation of the band in Manchester in around 1980! Derek Nash is also member of the Jools Holland Rhythm and Blues Orchestra and a regular contributor to television shows and has previously performed at The Millennium Stadium and Glastonbury.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> September – Over the Edge**

This very popular Tunbridge Wells band was formed around 17 years ago by guitarist Peter Stone, bassist Paul Beeching, and friends. The music always gets people dancing and is chosen from the best funk, soul and jazz: Stevie Wonder, Amy Winehouse, James Brown, Duffy, Jamiroquai, Randy Crawford, Grover Washington Jr. and more.

### **9<sup>th</sup> September – The Kit Packham Quartet**

The summer Jazz season on The Pantiles climaxes with a band that will leave you wanting more. A one of a kind performance with a comedy twist, inspired by 1920's style jazz vaudeville, blues and a bedrock of real jump'n'jive know-how! Regulars at the well known Tunbridge Wells Jazz haunt, The Grey Lady.

For more information, visit [www.thepantilesonline.co.uk](http://www.thepantilesonline.co.uk).

**ENDS**

**Images:** Please see attached

**Press contact:**

For more information contact Lucy Wilson on 01892 513839 or [lucy.wilson@targetfollow.com](mailto:lucy.wilson@targetfollow.com)