



TOOWOOMBA JAZZ SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



August, 2018
AGM Report

A REMINDER THAT JAZZ NIGHTS
USUALLY ARE ON 2ND & LAST
FRIDAYS OF EACH MONTH:

If you are coming early for a meal (\$15 two courses) at
Toowoomba North Bowls Club, please ring the club on
4639 2338 to help with numbers.

Gigs Coming:

COMMITTEE:

Pat Murphy:
(President
4635 5728)
Michelle Alroe:
(Vice President)
Ian Craig: (Band Co
-Ordinator)
John Bestman: (Sec.)
Frank Appleton:
(Treas. 0403355984)
Michelle: (Raffle
Co-Ordinator)
Trish Langan:
(Newsletter support
Lynne Murphy
(Supper)
Carol Wilson:
(Photographer)
Helen Hampton:
(C'tee
Bill Ensor: (C'tee)

102.7 FM

Community
Radio

With T.J.S.
member

PETER FOY

2 hours of Jazz
every Thursday

7-9



PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE AGM 2018

This is my sixth report as I've held the
role of President for five and a half years.

MUSIC:

This is the reason why our society exists.
We are very fortunate to have many
excellent local bands and a couple of new
groups have emerged this year.
We endeavour to cater for all musicians
who would like to play with opportunities
for established bands, bands formed for
one gig and individual musicians who
just like to jam occasionally.

Since I have been President, I have tried
to give everyone a fair go with all local
bands having at least one gig per year.

We are also fortunate to attract bands
from other areas. We often receive en-
quiries from some excellent groups from
all over Australia. We are therefore able
to offer our patrons a wide variety of Jazz
genres.

Over the years, there have been a number
of bands perform that, in my opinion,
didn't fit the Jazz category.

Some musicians give the impression they
play jazz but when given the opportunity
to perform, they play blues, rock and roll
etc. I believe these groups are better suited
to other venues.

There are also many musicians who just
wish to perform their own compositions
with the occasional jazz standard thrown
in. This format doesn't seem to work well
at our club.

Another trend is for many more modern
musicians (on a national and international
level) to play a new blend of music incor-
porating a smattering of jazz with other gen-
res. This type of music may be more market-
able to a wider audience but we have contin-
ued to offer our patrons mainly traditional
jazz, swing, latin and manouche styles.

FINANCE:

We have experienced another positive year.
I have been fortunate to be able to make
this statement each year. The Jazz Society is
now in a very strong position. Our yearly
profit is consistent with those of the Last five
years and is around 10% of our turnover.

Some of our more profitable nights have been
evenings when a school band or adult choir
has performed during the breaks. On these
evenings, we have experienced bigger
crowds.

In my first year, the committee increased the
door fee to its current level. This enabled us
to pay the bands a fee more consistent with
their talents. As everything else increases, a
future committee will have to make a similar
decision but I don't believe our supporters
would welcome a price increase in the near
future.

NORTH TOOWOOMBA BOWLS CLUB:

When I joined the committee around ten
years ago, we were losing money at an
alarming rate.

We couldn't really operate successfully at our
own premises as rising costs continued to
overwhelm our income.

The move to the North Toowoomba Bowls
Club has been mutually beneficial although
our overheads have increased since our early
days at this venue.

Web site: www.toowoombajazz.com



Many functions are performed by volunteer Bowls Club members but volunteer bar staff willing to work the Friday evening Jazz shift has diminished. Tea and coffee supplies have also attracted a small fee. This year we also discovered that incorporated organisations are not covered by the Bowls Club's public liability policy.

We now have our own policy.

I wish to thank those members who consistently support the Bowls Club by having a meal before jazz events. If the Bowls Club profits from Jazz nights, we are assured of a home.

RAFFLE:

During the past twelve months our costs have risen. At the moment, we need to make \$200 per night plus the band fee just to break even. On most occasions, we don't have high door takings so your help in supporting the raffle is appreciated.

MEMBERSHIP:

Our current membership is around 50 with a further 25 associate members.

This is similar to last year but we probably had a larger membership ten years ago.

Many of the musicians who perform at our club are not members.

ADVERTISING:

For quite some time, we have taken out a sizeable ad in the Entertainment Guide section of the Chronicle before each jazz event.

Earlier this year, we reduced our advertising budget as we incurred extra costs at the Bowls Club.

On considering this decision, we found we were spending around 10% of our turnover on Chronicle ads.

One of our members pointed out that his workplace only spent 5% of their turnover on advertising.

It was difficult to justify two ads a month especially as we only seem to see the same faces at most jazz events.

Currently we are taking out one ad each month and both nights are promoted.

I don't believe paid advertising in the Chronicle is

Evening Admission:

Many of our members don't seem to have a regular subscription with newspapers these days. Probably our most effective means of advertising is social media, emails and our website. The cost is quite small by comparison

PA:

Since having a storage area of our own, we have been able to upgrade our PA system with the addition of fold back speakers, a couple of new microphones and a CD player.

Many of our musicians have commented favourably on these upgrades.

NEW YEAR'S EVE:

For the first time in many years, our NYE gig was dropped from our agenda.

Basically, very few committee members were prepared to commit so we put it to the vote and the idea was dropped.

The previous year's gig wasn't all that successful with something like 25 bookings failing to turn up.

The NYE gig has high costs and if the new committee wish to reinstate it in our calendar of events, the regular door fee may not be enough to cover costs.

COMMITTEE:

I wish to thank all committee members for their efforts during my term as President. Many have supported me for quite some time and all make a contribution in various ways.

There has also been another core of members who don't attend committee meetings but make a significant contribution. Thankyou.

I will not be continuing as President and wish the new committee every success.

Pat

Alroe & O'Sullivan Solicitors

Accountable Suite 3 74 Margaret St Toowoomba
Accessible email: info@alroe.com.au Web: www.alroe.com.au
Experienced Phone: 0746131500 Fax: 074613061

