

NATURAL GAS JAZZ BAND AUSTRALIA JAZZ/SIGHTSEEING TOUR AUGUST 25 - SEPTEMBER 7, 2009

TRAD JAZZ: Alive & well in Australia

Natural Gas Jazz Band, accompanied by nearly two dozen fans and friends, recently completed a memorable two week tour of Australia. A weekend festival in Newcastle was followed by a mid-week concert in Sydney featuring Bob Barnard. Next was a concert for the Brisbane Jazz club, then the tour concluded with another three-day weekend festival in Noosa. A good turnout of enthusiastic traditional jazz fans, the majority of them age 50 or over, was evident at nearly all trad venues. It was my impression that there was generally more enthusiasm and better attendance for Our Kind Of Music in Australia than we have experienced at similar events here in the U.S. in recent years.

Newcastle & Hunter Jazz Club 22nd Jazz Festival featured many varieties of music including blues, rock, some youth groups, and swing. Of the four venues used, all of them located in the Newcastle City Hall, one was devoted primarily to traditional jazz and was usually well attended.

NGJB Sydney Concert with special guest, Bob Barnard A capacity crowd of 400 turned out for this mid-week event. Appearing on stage with a talent and reputation like Bob's, you simply can't miss.

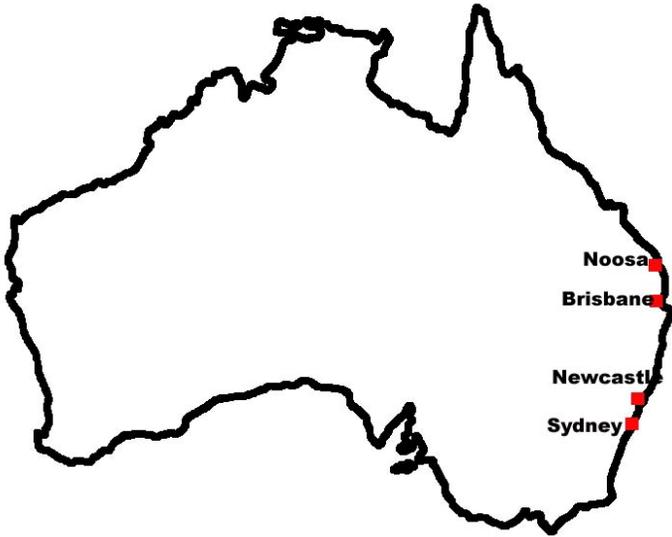
Brisbane Jazz Club- This club was established in 1972 and is the proud owner of its own building overlooking the Brisbane River. This was the second concert that NGJB had performed here, having first appeared in 1995 on the first Australian tour.

19th annual Noosa Jazz Festival -- *Program notes: 2009 sees us taking a step back into the festival's history showcasing its traditional foundations in which the festival was built.*

The immense popularity of Bob Barnard was again evident at this festival when a special river cruise was scheduled to honor his 75th birthday; also a likeness of his face was on the official Noosa Festival souvenir shirt, poster, and program. A number of Australian headliners were featured plus small groups, vocalists, swing, blues, and funk. At the trad jazz venues attendance was rewarding and CD sales were very brisk.

Given the chance, the gassers would return to OZ in an instant.

NEXT PAGE FOR PHOTOS
more photos to be added in a few weeks



Jazz spots in Oz.



Newcastle Program



GINNA CRUMLEY, MARK SHAFER, DEBBIE OWENS IN FRONT OF THE SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE AND BRIDGE.

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JAZZ CONCERT

John Buchanan presents

Direct from the USA



**NATURAL GAS
JAZZ BAND**

with special guest **Bob Barnard**



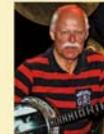
Phil Crumley



Bob Murphy



Jim Mailhack



Carl Lunsford



Bill Carson



Rich Owens

NORTH SYDNEY LEAGUES CLUB

8pm **Wednesday**
2 September 2009

Tickets \$20 Bookings 0438 654 267
or through the club on 9245 3000

(Floor plan over page)



Warren Perry

Sydney concert with Bob Barnard.



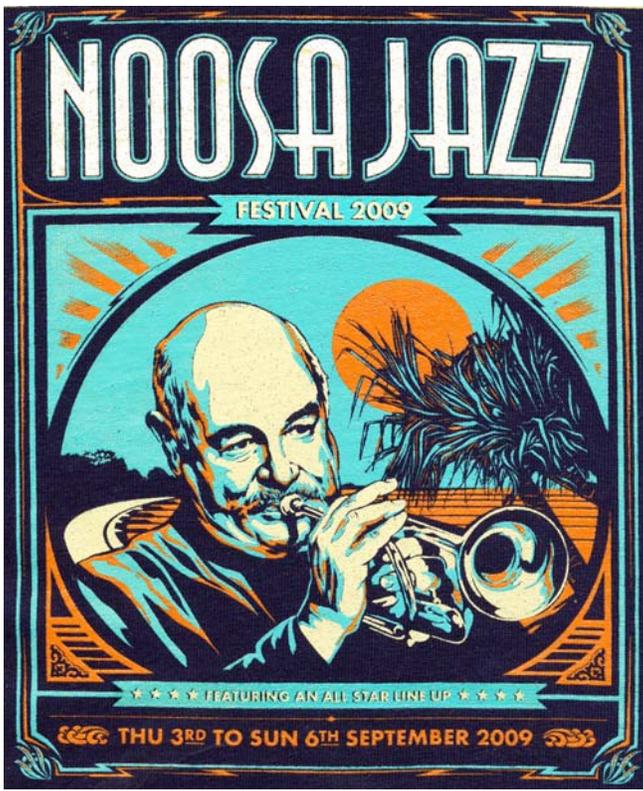
Koala



Wombat



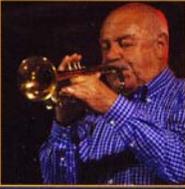
Brisbane Jazz club



Noosa Festival program cover, poster, and shirt imprint.

PERFORMER BIOGRAPHIES

BOB BARNARD QUARTET (NSW)



Bob Barnard's playing is notable for his big, rich sound and the consummate ease of his flowing solo lines. Although his name was made, and his fame spread, through his forceful playing in the traditional jazz style this is by no means the extent of his huge talent. Bob's style has been compared to the likes of Louis Armstrong, Bobby Hackett and Billy Butterfield, but many say that comparisons are perhaps not so appropriate... unique is the word! Bob has recorded with some of the world's best musicians, received the Order of Australia and won two MO awards. Bob will be programmed with the cream of Australian Jazz talent throughout the 3 day festival and will lead each group into a truly spontaneous mix of all jazz genres, as well as play exclusive sets with his own Sydney band.

Bob's Bio in program



Tour director, Jenny, with ol' whtsisname.



The band, band wives, and tour group.