

# Port Fairy Jazz Festival



**April 2024**

Western Victoria Jazz Productions Inc,  
Incorporation No. A0094541G, ABN 75471454678  
A 'not for profit' organisation run entirely by volunteers  
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## **SAVE THE DATE**

**The 2025 Port Fairy Jazz Festival is being held on the weekend of  
7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

### **From the President**

Thank you all for making our 2024 Festival such a success.

Your response has encouraged us to go around and do it all again in 2025 from Friday 7<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February. Your continuing support will be most welcome.

There may be some changes to our venues in 2025. There is movement with the Victoria Hotel which is a good large venue, that also generates an area off the bar that we have used in the past for informal playing. The "Stump" is under new management and apparently are interested in being involved. The Oak and Anchor will need to do something about the heat and glare if we are to use it again. From several reports it appears that the musos appreciated the reduced area in the Reardon Theatre that meant that the musos and the piano were on the same level. Whilst the parade on Saturday morning has generated a lot of interest in the past, I think the small number of musos who volunteered for the massed playing demonstrates that there will be no more parades.

The support by members of the Southern Jazz Club in Adelaide was outstanding. According to President Jenny Maslen, over 50 of their members attended. The club does a great job in encouraging young musicians to take up playing jazz.

It was wonderful to see the 14 year old saxophonist, James Eller, win the John Huf award at our Festival and a 13 year old to be the runner up. The future of jazz is assured if we can encourage more young musicians like these. I would hope that Jazz clubs would be encouraging young musicians to be playing jazz and even nominate to compete for the \$1000 John Huf award.

We have had many comments about the 2024 Festival. It is not too late to make suggestions if you haven't already done so. It is through these suggestions that we can continue to improve the Festival experience.

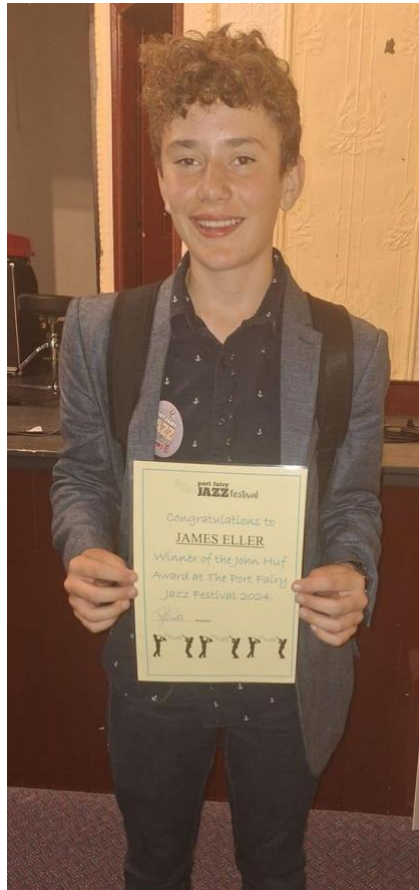
**Rod Carter, PFJF Committee**

## John Huf Award

A feature of the 2024 festival was the John Huf Award for young performers. This was staged in the Lecture Hall on Sunday afternoon and attracted a strong field of four participants this year. Ella (vocal) and Matteo Pagano (piano) were sister and brother from Melbourne who performed splendidly to open the program. They were followed by Gordon Farrugia (alto sax) from Mt Gambier and James Eller (tenor sax), who lives on the Gold Coast. The crowd in the hall were astounded by the quality of the sounds and solos that these young saxophone tyros played. They are 13 and 14 respectively.

Adjudicators Ken Collins, Chris Skepper and Barry Currie were perplexed by the necessity to decide a winner of the quest, but eventually chose James Eller to win the \$1,000 trophy donated by Cr Damian Gleeson, the generous sponsor of the event.

It is hoped that the town will be able to mount another jazz festival in February 2025 that will again include the Huf Award quest for young performers. Details for this event are located on the festival website.



## THANK YOU

Many thanks go out to all the volunteers, including our volunteer audio personnel, who gave of their time and skills in order to ensure the success of this year's festival. We could not have a festival without you!!!

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## LOST PROPERTY



Do any of these items belong to you?  
They were left behind after this year's festival.  
Please contact us if one of these items is yours.



— Preserving Australian Jazz for the future generation of jazz lovers. The Museum is opened TUESDAYS only from 10.00 to 3.00pm.

Keep checking their website for more details - <https://www.ajm.org.au/>

Their location is "Koomba Park", 15 Mountain Highway, Wantirna, Vic 3152.



## **ROUND THE JAZZ SCENE**

- **Victorian Jazz Club**
    - 11th May - Andy Baylor
  - **Ballarat Jazz Club**
    - 19th May - Maryborough Traditional Jazz Ensemble
    - 1st June - Lightning Jazz Band
  - **Sth Gippy Jazz**
    - 5th May - Sally Fields Duo
  - **Moe-Latrobe Jazz Club**
    - 26th May - Des Camm Jazz Band
  - **The Newport Jazz Festival**
    - 3rd - 4th May
  - **Castlemaine Jazz Festival**
    - 7th - 10th June
  - **Merimbula Jazz Festival**
    - 7th - 10th June
  - **Inverloch Jazz Festival**
    - 2nd - 4th August
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