

JAZZ AUSTRALIA

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Jazz Cruise Newsletter – January 2019 #1

Memo to Friends of Jazz Australia Cruises

Hello everyone....this is to let you know that I can at last announce the next Jazz Australia cruise, not this year as originally planned, but in 12 months time. The reason I have put the date forward a few months is in order to secure the musicians that I particularly want to accompany us to the beautiful islands of Fiji.



Jim Cullum



The Ruby Princess



Stevenson's Rockets

I am therefore very pleased to announce that the next Jazz Australia Cruise will be on The Ruby Princess departing Circular Quay in Sydney on Saturday March 21st 2020 accompanied by ***Stevenson's Rockets, plus the great American jazz cornetist Jim Cullum.*** This as you can imagine will be *extremely exciting*. The Ruby Princess has recently been superbly refurbished; *Stevenson's Rockets* are an unsurpassable classic jazz quartet in my opinion; and with the addition of the great American jazz cornetist Jim Cullum, this will be something *very special*. Jim who has been a friend of mine for over 30 years is a superb cornetist and was leader of one of America's most outstanding classic jazz bands for forty years. I did invite him to join the last Jazz Australia Cruise but for various reasons it was not possible; however this time he is very enthusiastic to be able to accept my invitation to join The Rockets as he considers this jazz ensemble one of the best he has heard. So we're in for a very exciting two weeks in March next year. Once again I plan to take 100 delegates which is a comfortable number for the venues on the ship and a good number for me to manage! I'm expecting this jazz cruise to be extremely popular and I expect that it won't take long for bookings to reach 100, in spite of it still being 12 months off, so I suggest, if you are interested, that you put your name down with a refundable deposit to secure a good position on the ship, before the best state-rooms disappear.

The line-up of the band will be leader [Dr.] *Jo Stevenson*, reeds; *Steve Grant*, piano; *Chris Ludowyk*, bass and trombone, and *Ian Smith*, drums, vocals and *special effects*, plus our exciting guest from the USA, cornetist *Jim Cullum*.

Our destination will include the islands of Lifou, Loutaka, Savusavu, and Dravini plus Suva and Noumea and the cruise is for two weeks duration.

There will be eleven concerts on the ship during the afternoons, keeping the mornings free for excursions and the evenings for a leisurely dinner and the ship's entertainment.

Once again Robert Matthews at Trans World Travel will be handling the bookings. Those who have already put a 'future cruise' deposit down on a Princess cruise for this year, will be able to transfer it to next year's cruise with Robert's assistance.

The price of this next Jazz Australia cruise begins at \$2,799.00 per person, for an Inside Stateroom, which includes \$600 for the jazz levy, \$100 for Trans World Travel's commission, and taxes. *Please note that this is the same jazz component and commission as last year's jazz cruise.*

Your booking will receive the best rates current at the time of booking for all the other State-room categories i.e. Ocean View, Balcony and Suites.

If you are interested, it is important that you contact me **first** on **03 5258 3936** or **0409 019 067** to indicate your intention, and to let me have your contact details. You will then need to contact **Robert Matthews** at Trans World Travel on **03 9670 1185**. Robert is a meticulous travel agent, as those who joined us last year will know, and he will look after every detail of your booking.

This is something very exciting to plan and look forward to, so I do hope you will consider joining in. The two previous Jazz Australia cruises have been a resounding success, as this one also has every reason to be!

You may like to refer to the Jazz Australia website [see letterhead for web address] for details of previous cruises plus Jazz Australia events and stories. It makes interesting reading!

Diana Allen
Jazz Australia