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## ***SPRING NEWSLETTER – 2018***

### ***STEVENSON'S ROCKETS***

***with a centennial musical TRIBUTE TO WW1***

***featuring Jo Stevenson, clarinet & tenor sax;***

***Joe Ruberto, piano & piano accordion; Chris Ludowyk, bass & trombone;  
and Ian Smith, percussion and vocals.***

***Sunday November 11<sup>th</sup>, Armistice Day, midday for 12.30pm  
at the Community Hall, Bowen Road, Point Lonsdale***



Stevenson's Rockets



Joe Ruberto

This will be a most wonderful afternoon of beautiful and moving music played by four of Melbourne's leading jazz musicians. The distinguished jazz pianist Joe Ruberto will join *The Rockets* for this event, deputizing for Steve Grant who will be on one of his overseas music jaunts. We are very lucky to have Joe joining the band, which he often does when Steve is away. Jo has been an entertainer since the age of 13 playing both piano and piano accordion and has frequently appeared over the years on both television and Melbourne jazz clubs and as musical director of international acts. He's a regular at the Melbourne International Jazz Festival, the Wangaratta Jazz Festival and interstate jazz festivals. He fits the Rockets like a glove and loves opportunities of performing with them. As most of you know, Stevenson's Rockets is a great favourite of mine and I very much miss hearing

them every Sunday night at the Emerald Hotel in South Melbourne where they have 'held sway' for the past ten years. I still get there whenever possible but certainly not weekly as I have in the past. Every night is different and always exciting as musicians drop in to sit in with the band as they love playing with them! All members of the band were originally in the six piece outfit *Hotter Than Six* that eventually segued into *Fireworks*, and everyone on this year's Jazz Australia Jazz Cruise to the Whitsundays enjoyed their daily concert, exclusive to the 100 jazz delegates on the Sea Princess. [There will be another Jazz Australia Cruise next year!]

On Sunday November 11<sup>th</sup> the band will feature of some of the most beautiful songs of World War 1 [and maybe a few from World War 2] such as We'll Meet Again; White Cliffs of Dover; I'll be Seeing You; Keep the Home Fires Burning and Long Way to Tipperary amongst others.

This feature will form one segment of the program and the rest will be a selection of their own amazing repertoire, great pieces that have made them famous over the years such as Twelfth Street Rag; Panama Rag; Dippermouth Blues; Russian Rag; Brazil and a few of the beautiful French tunes of Sidney Bechet hopefully.

A finger food luncheon will be served throughout the concert and once again the excellent Queenscliffe Museum's Catering Corps will provide the food in a voluntary capacity, raising funds for the QHM. This applies to the bar as well with drinks at below bar prices. It's such a good arrangement as you know.

There will be two one hour sets of music with a one hour interval to allow everyone to converse as well as be served hot food. The band have to be back in time for their Emerald Hotel performance at 7pm that evening!

To encourage you to bring your friends and introduce new people to this very special jazz event, a discount is available for tables of ten or more. I am offering a reduction of \$5 per ticket for these groups. Therefore tickets are \$75 each or \$70 in a group of ten or more. Students are \$20 each, which will all go to the QHM. I want to encourage young people to hear great musicians playing this dateless music that will survive for as long as it continues to be played and heard live and hopefully inspire the next generation to want to do the same.

Bookings to me on 5258 3936 or 0409 019 067 Payment either by cheque or cash to the address on page one, or by bank transfer to CBA Hawthorn 063 138 1001 3193

I do hope you can join us for this very special event. Remember seating in order of booking.

*Diana Allen*