

NESWLETTER No. 86 – September 2017

SOMETHING RATHER DIFFERENT!!

The new CD by The Sweet&Hot Quartet is rather different musically from almost anything I've ever recorded. However there is so much superb jazz here that it's bound to appeal to any true jazz enthusiast.

It is also rather different in its packaging. For the first time I have released a CD in one of the modern eco-friendly (hate that term!) packages. It's called a "Digipack". It's a full colour four page rigid card sleeve with a pocket to hold the CD; and it's cellophane wrapped. The reason this packaging was chosen was to make it easier for Jeff and Anne to ship or take copies to the USA (half the bulk and about half the weight).

However for those of you who prefer the traditional packaging I am making PKCD-411 available in the usual CD jewel case and removable four page booklet.

It will cost just £10 in a Digipack, or the normal price of £11.75 in a jewel case. Please indicate your preference on your order form.

WHERE HAVE ALL THE NEW ORLEANS STYLE BANDS GONE?

I've been aware for some time that very few New Orleans-style bands seem to be wanting to make recordings. The last N.O.-style CD in my catalogue (not counting the Brian Carrick re-issues) is PKCD-383, Brian Carrick's Algiers Stompers, recorded almost four years ago. Fortunately The Yacht Club Four Plus One recording in May was successful and their CD will be out in time for Christmas, but other than that - nothing in the N.O idiom.

One or two bands whom I'd very much like to record now make their own CDs, and one or two have folded - sadly it happens. The proposed recording of the Muskrat Ramblers has been cancelled, I'll try again sometime.

So if any of you are in touch with bands, especially New Orleans-style bands, who might like to make a recording, perhaps you could point them in my direction.

BRIAN CARRICK

I've just spoken to Brian on the phone and I'm delighted to pass on the good news that he's making excellent progress. He is free of infection; no longer taking antibiotics and is able to move around the house and garden. He said he'd just taken a look at his clarinet and it needs a good clean and overhaul. He hopes to be able to drive again soon and says he's looking forward to playing again next year. I know we all wish him continued recovery and a speedy return to playing in 2018.

LOOKING AHEAD

There's not much to look ahead to just now on the recording front.

The recording of Dave Rance's Rockin' Chair Band with Richard Leach went very well. I didn't realise that Dave and Richard go back musically over 50 years. That CD plus the Yacht Club Four album will be released in time for Christmas.

As for next year - well I need to find some bands to record don't I?

In the meantime enjoy your jazz.