

VIC GIBBONS  
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May 16th 1977

'The Great ReUnion Concert' (BLP 12140/1 on Black Lion) is AT LAST on release. As far as we are aware, distribution has been completed and the album should be in most shops that normally stock jazz records. It certainly should be available to order from those shops less disposed towards anything more hip than the Bay City Rollers.

We have undertaken not to sell the new album at concerts as a further inducement towards encouraging shops to stock it. Further motivation can be given by fans actually buying the disc and your nearest dealer is listed at the end of this newsletter. If anyone feels disposed towards helping further by buying up extra copies to help get things really moving then please let me know. (We'll pay for them, of course!)

In any event, reports of difficulty in obtaining or ordering the album will be recieved with interest.

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The Band leaves this week for a tour of Scandinavia and Germany returning on April 19th. They start work again in the UK at The Fir Tree, Wellingborough on Thursday April 21st. Then:

Fri Apr 22: Town Hall: Acton: LONDON W.3.  
Sat Apr 23: Co-Op Hall: IPSWICH: Suffolk  
Sun Apr 24: Town Hall: COLNE: Lancs  
Mon Apr 25: Mercury Theatre: Balcerne Gate: COLCHESTER: Essex

On Tuesday April 26th the Band records for BBC Radio 2's 'Jazz Club' at the Maida Vale studio in London. Free tickets are available for this session from this address and applications must be received by Friday March 25th.

Continental work is then resumed until Saturday May 14th when the Band returns to play at Wisbech, Cambs before taking its first holiday of the year.

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Some future dates, fuller details for which will appear on later date sheets:

May 22: Strathallen Hotel: BIRMINGHAM  
May 23: WHITEHAVEN  
May 24: Fairfield Hall: CROYDON  
May 25: BURY ST EDMUNDS  
May 26: OLDHAM  
May 27: PORTSMOUTH  
June 11 WAVENDON  
June 12 HARLOW  
June 20 HATFIELD  
June 21 COOMBEHAVEN  
June 22 MALVERN  
June 24 KETTERINGHAM  
June 25 BURNHAM ON CROUCH  
June 26 BUCKHURST HILL  
June 30 BRIDPORT  
July 1 POOLE  
July 2 BLANDFORD  
July 3 FOLKESTONE

The final date before the annual holiday is at The Royal Festival Hall on Monday July 4th. when the Band tops the bill for the 'Jubilee Jazz Jamboree'

It has been the Band's aim each year to bring over guests from America to work with them. Last year we had Russell Procope and Wild Bill Davis for the 'Echoes of Ellington' tour and one of those concerts was recorded and will hopefully be the subject of an album towards the end of this year.

For 1977 we are currently negotiating with Doctor John and if all goes to plan he will come over for the week of May 22nd and then join the Band in the recording studio for the following week. The outcome of our enquiries should be known within the next 2 weeks.

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In the souvenir brochure we list the name of Julian Purser who runs a useful service for those wishing to obtain deleted or 'hard to find' pre-Black Lion Chris Barber records. Julian has now moved from the address shown in the brochure and is now at:

'Onitsha'  
11 The Ridings  
Frimley  
Camberley  
Surrey

But please, don't ask him for albums that are on current or recent release or the record shops really WILL do their pieces!

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