

JAZZ AUSTRALIA

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JAZZ AUSTRALIA CRUISE NEWSLETTER #5 APRIL, 2020

I have been waiting to send out Newsletter #5 in order to keep you abreast of unfolding news regarding last month's thwarted Jazz Cruise, and had hoped by now that there would be some sort of update that I could pass on to you. There is very little, however I am told by Trans World Travel that things *are* moving along satisfactorily but that it is taking Princess Cruises longer than they first anticipated, to handle refunds for the thousands of people on all their cancelled cruises over a period of two months. You'll be pleased to know however that everything is on track and we should hear something soon. Their offers to everyone have been more than generous I'm sure you'll agree.

In the meantime I hope you are all well and coping with this unprecedented world-wide pandemic that has effected so many people in so many ways, and although we are all disappointed by the outcome of our much anticipated Jazz Cruise, we have much to be thankful for in Australia and also that our cruise was postponed just in time!

A future *Jazz Australia* cruise is unlikely for at least 18 months [we've got until December 22 to make use of our future cruise offer] and none of us knows how we will be situated by then, except that we will all be 18 months older! As you know this was to be my last jazz cruise, as they are an enormous amount of work and I have spent the last 18 months organizing this one only to be thwarted at the last minute.

Who knows what the future holds but I will continue to keep you posted with any further developments and news regarding refunds from Princess Cruises as it becomes available. Trans World Travel as I've mentioned before is a highly regarded company that has been in business for a very long time. Their manager Sarah Tierney has taken over our file, as Robert Matthews has taken long service leave in order to have a break, so we are still in very good hands. I have instructed Sarah to refund the Jazz Levy less \$150/person. This is in order that I am partially reimbursed for the 18 months work that has been required to get us [almost] on this last Jazz Cruise. I hope you are all in agreement with this. As you can imagine I am seriously out of pocket as a result of this cancelled Cruise after a great deal of work to make it the best yet with the help of the outstanding band Stevenson's Rockets and their special guest Brett Iggulden. If you are insured you can possibly claim this expense.

Thank you all for being such keen participants to take part in what was to have been the last fabulous Jazz Australia Cruise accompanied by such a wonderful line-up of jazz musicians but who knows what the future may bring. I'm sure there will never be a safer time to cruise in the history of cruising, as it will in the future!

In the meantime I will keep you posted re future developments that I think will be of interest to you.

With every good wish for your good health and a good outcome for all.

*Diana Allen
Jazz Australia*