

JAZZ AUSTRALIA

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JAZZ AUSTRALIA CRUISE

to the South Pacific on The Sun Princess, June 5th – June 17th 2017

*with 'State Summit' and special guest vocalist Helen Fenton
from Sydney to Sydney*



Bob Henderson

Paul Furniss

Chris Ludowyk

Bruce Gourlay

Helen Fenton



and the famous
'Smithy' aka Ian Smith

Well it is becoming more exciting by the week as we enter the home-straight for the first Jazz Australia winter cruise ever. To date we have over 80 confirmed bookings and as I've mentioned, I'm only taking 100 delegates on this inaugural cruise, which should be a comfortable number for all concerned. Therefore we still have a few good 'staterooms' [cabins] available for those still making up their minds or still unaware of this exciting *event*, so do consider helping us fill the quota with a few friends if you can, or at least spread the news for us.

I'm planning to work our 10 x 2 hour daily jazz sessions around other shipboard activities and entertainment where possible. This may not suit everyone *all of the time*, but hopefully it will for most of the time. I will not know what the other entertainment on the ship is likely to be until much closer to the date, but I will do my best to obtain this information as soon as I can and take it into consideration.

I've already booked performance venues that will hold 100 people *comfortably* and I've asked for a dance floor to be made available at one side of each of these rooms.

I'm delighted to announce that we have one of Australia's most respected jazz pianists the legendary Bruce Gourlay from Launceston now joining 'State Summit', and the musicians and I are delighted that he has accepted our invitation. This of course also makes the band *a three* 'State Summit' of leading Australian jazz musicians. The Jazz Australia *delegates* themselves to date are from NSW, Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, Tasmania and NZ, so we're a very cosmopolitan *ensemble* in every respect and I'm delighted at the response to this inaugural Australian jazz cruise.

The band's ten concerts will each be quite different and Bob Henderson is enthusiastically planning these already, he can't wait! He learned his great band leading skills from his famous former boss of over twenty years, Graeme Bell. Bob was Graeme's right hand man during that time, so we are in very good hands music-wise, that's for sure!

Re the excursions, all tours are carefully selected and provided by reputable tour operators who meet the high standards of Princess Line and they all offer good value, and will appeal to diverse interests, whether it be history or sightseeing.

Vila, the capital of Vanuatu, is an archipelago of some 83 islands in the Coral Sea. Many of us will remember when it was called The New Hebrides, the name given to it by Captain Cook. Vanuatu is known for its easy-going charm, superb white beaches and its rainforests. The Islands are also well known for big game fishing.

Noumea, the capital of New Caledonia is described as a little piece of France in the South Pacific. Travellers are drawn to its scenic beauty, and its Barrier Reef is the world's second longest! In 1744, James Cook thought the island's rugged hills resembled those of his native Scotland, so christened it New Caledonia.

There will be six stopovers in both of these locations in the South Pacific during our 12 day Cruise and full details will be provided to all of these. The weather is expected to be between 26o and 30o throughout our time there, and dry. Heaven!

Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any queries. The Cruise fee balance is due by February 24th and Albert Park Travel's phone number is 9690 3511 if you wish to settle earlier. Either Sue McNiece or Amy will be there to help you.

Diana Allen