



Dear Jolson Enthusiasts

May I extend an invitation to all Al Jolson enthusiasts to attend the **2013 Al Jolson UK Festival** which this year takes place over the weekend of **18th, 19th & 20th October 2013** at our **Bromley Court Hotel** venue in Kent.

This year's Festival will be packed with interesting items for Jolson enthusiasts to enjoy. As usual we start the Festival on Friday evening with our friendly **Al Jolson Welcome Evening** where old friends can meet up, plus meeting first time attendees in a social environment (chat, food and drink!). There will be Jolson music playing in the background and for those brave souls that wish to sing there will be plenty of opportunity during the evening with our **Jolson Karaoke**.

The Festival registration opens on Saturday at 12 noon with the programme of events commencing at 12:30pm and running through to approximately 5pm. The doors open again at 7pm at which time you can settle in for an evening of entertainment with our **Jolson Cabaret**. The Jolson Cabaret will feature our usual entertainers **Jolieanna Davis, Stanley Blum, John Carter, Claire Curran, Joe Sharman, Mel Thomas, Nigel Lowe** and of course our Scottish Minstrel **Mr Bill Campbell**. The Cabaret is due to finish at 11:30pm but with Nigel Lowe and myself hosting the evening - who knows!!!

Sunday has always been the main Jolson Festival day and registration will commence at 9.45am with the programme starting at 10:15am.

The **Al Jolson** weekend will include screening of two Jolson feature films: **Wonder Bar** on Saturday and **Rose of Washington Square** on Sunday. Sunday will also feature a Jolson Mastermind Quiz hosted by popular Jolson biographer **Michael Freedland**.

In addition to the above, presentations for the weekend will include: **The Twentieth Century Fox Years** - looking at the films Jolson made for the Fox Studios in the late 30s, **The Honeymoon Express** - a celebration of the show that cemented Al Jolson's reputation as a Broadway star 100 years ago, and **The Singing Fool** - Jolson's second feature film which celebrates its 85th anniversary this year. It is not confirmed yet but I am hoping that Jens will be with us from Germany to talk to us about the latest Jolson programme in production by AJ-Images.

Several people have asked if I can organise a meal on the Sunday evening so this year we are going to try it. I only need to know if you want a place reserved and no payment is required upfront as you can make your selection and payment at the time. Please inform us on the booking form if you wish a place reserved. Hope those that stay on Sunday night will join us for a friendly farewell dinner.

There will be plenty for all to see and hear so make a date to come along to the 2013 Al Jolson UK Festival in Bromley and enjoy the voice and music of **The World's Greatest Entertainer - Al Jolson**.

Regards

*David*