

Chris de Saram 10th June 1946 – 21st August 2018



A life lived for jazz

It is with great sadness that Wakefield Jazz announce that Chris de Saram, Wakefield Jazz promoter, has died aged 72.

Chris de Saram was the mainstay of Wakefield Jazz from 2004, when he took over from Alec Sykes as the club's Promoter, booking bands, hosting the gigs and making Wakefield Jazz such a welcoming experience for musicians and audiences alike. After studying at Durham University, Chris taught sciences at secondary level at Crawshaw School in Pudsey. He also spent some time living and teaching in Bogotá, Colombia in South America. From early retirement he devoted himself to Wakefield Jazz, being a frequent presence at jazz clubs and festivals all over the country in search of

contemporary jazz talent. Chris was also involved in promoting the local Wakefield live arts scene and music education and was chair of NorVol (Northern Voluntary Jazz Promoters Network).

Wakefield Jazz spokesperson says "Chris had health problems for a number of years, but very much played down the seriousness of his condition. He leaves a big hole in the jazz world which will be profoundly difficult to fill. Our thoughts and good wishes are with his family, in particular his daughter Katrina, at this time of shock and great sadness"

Chris asked that his Funeral and Wake details be made available at the same time as the notice of his death, with an open invitation to attend either or both events.

The cremation will be at York Crematorium at 12:20 on Friday 7th September and there will be a Wake at Wakefield Sports Club from 2pm, with food and live music. In celebration of Chris's life you are invited to wear bright colours, or perhaps just a hint of his favourite colour, orange. To help with the arrangements please visit <http://www.wakefieldjazz.org/remembering-chris-de-saram/> to let the family know your plans.