

## REVIEWS

# Fascinating evening with much to savour

### ■ Jazz by the River, Boat Club

FOR those whose appetites were not over extended by the concentration of jazz piano players during the Festival, Jazz by the River offered a fitting reprise at the Boat Club on Saturday night.

Dave McKenna provided an immaculate

display of keyboard skills in the style with which his name has become synonymous — a combination of percussive, rhythmic yet melodic interpretations where technique, though always present, remained subservient to the music.

Playing a series of medleys, each based on themes such as love and location, he succeeded in producing a fascinating programme where

variety of mood and tempo contrived in a delightful way to bring a "name that tune" element to the proceedings.

Superb though McKenna was, I was equally, if differently, impressed by the performance of the opening set when the locally based Linley Hamilton quartet occupied the stage.

Hamilton's playing on flugelhorn and trum-

pet has developed a pace and achieved a maturity beyond that of any of his contemporaries, while his piano player, Dave Patrick, proved a revelation, an amazing talent.

This foursome, on the basis of Saturday's showing, could I believe perform anywhere and in any company with complete assurance.

Solly Lipsitz