



**September**

- 7 Jim Beatty (USA) with Big Bob's Band  
SPECIAL £4.00 / £5.00
- 14 Gwyn Lewis & the Speakeasy Jazz Band
- 21 Norman Thatcher New Orleans Band
- 28 Alice's Wonderland Band

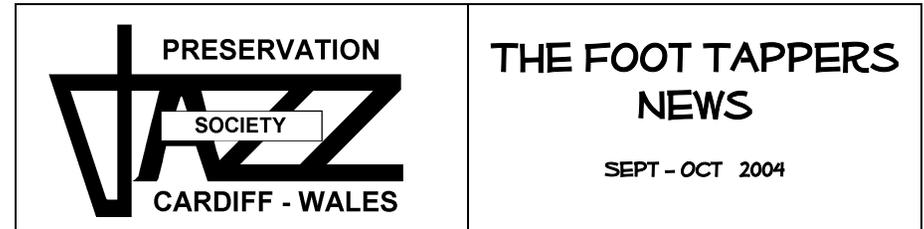
**October**

- 5 Henry Davies and his Hot Six
- 12 The Memphis Seven
- 19 Martin Butterworth & Friends
- 26 Sid Powel Jazz Band

**November**

- 2 Norman Thatcher's New Orleans Band
- 9 Martin Bennett Old Green River Band  
SPECIAL £4.00 / £5.00
- 16 The Chris Pearce Quartet
- 23 The Dick Williams Six

*Café Jazz - The Sandringham Hotel, St. Mary Street, Cardiff*  
 Admission - unless otherwise stated Specials £4 / £5 (Students £2)  
 P.J.S Members & Concessions £3.00, Non Members £3.50, Students £2.00



**Martin Bennett's  
Old Green River Band**

**November 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Jim Beatty**

**September 7th**

**Café Jazz**



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## EDITORIAL

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August 2004

With all the "horror stories" we had heard prior to Brecon, with Police curfews, street music being stooped by eight, we didn't know what to expect, but it turned out to be one of the most enjoyable Brecon's for a long time. The addition of two new venues, The Watton Marquee and Beacon's Venue has shifted the concentration of the festival from the town centre to the Theatr Brycheiniog, and canal side area. I must say playing at the Beacon's Venue was a joy, after playing so many years on the sloping stage at the Kwik Save car park.

All the Welsh contingent performed to large and enthusiastic audiences, and were well received, as was the Adamant Marching Band who, provided much of the street music, and performed at the Sunday Jazz service in Brecon Cathedral. I personally didn't have a lot of time to hear other bands, but there were excellent reports of the Kenny Davern concert, on the final night, and one of the session I did hear, were the "Bright Stars of Jazz", a Chicago style band who's average age was 27, which augers well for the future of our music.

Back to Café Jazz and our "Specials", we welcome back **Jim Beatty**, on clarinet, with Big Bob's Band, and, by popular request, **Martin Bennett** with his **Old Green River Band** - Martin, you may remember, was trombonist with Phil Mason for the last 20 years or so, now on piano and vocals.

### A.G.M.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> Sept** in the Grosvenor Room (Upstairs in the Sandringham) at **7:30 p.m.** prior to our normal Tuesday session - Everyone welcome

**Vic Partridge** We would like to wish Vic a speedy recovery to full health, after his enforced "holiday" at the Royal Gwent. Get well soon Vic and back on the jazz scene.



The Adamant Marching Band

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### Torfaen Jazz Society Jazz in the Park

Pontypool :- Friday - Saturday - Sunday, 3-5<sup>th</sup> September

The programme has not, as yet been finalised, but from the Internet artists that are scheduled to appear include :- Memphis Seven, Keith Little Hot Six, Jim Beatty, Bob Gribble & Gang, Chris Hodgkins, to name but a few. This festival is **FREE** and all the venues are at the very picturesque Pontypool Park <http://www.torfaenjazz.org.uk/index.php>

### Clevedon Jazz Club. The Long Weekend

Friday- Saturday - Sunday, 3-5<sup>th</sup> September

Friday:- Denise Lawrence Walton Park Hotel £8

Saturday :- Chicago Teddy Bears Society Band Princess Hall £10

Sunday:- Richard Bennett's New Orleans Band Walton Park Hotel £8

Details 01275 343359 <http://www.clevedonjazzclub.co.uk/>

## The Acme Jazz Band

I regret to inform PJS members that the ACME JAZZ BAND, has ceased to be an entity after over 20 years. This has come about as a result of friction between some band members which could not be resolved to everyone's satisfaction. I am inclined to think of this as a natural progression and, with hindsight, I think we should have called it a day when our good friend Roger Boswell gave up his tenancy of the Engineers Arms where we had played for about 17 years.

I am sure that Sarah, John, Norman, Steve and Phil would join me in giving sincere thanks to all our loyal supporters over the years. Without you the band would never have existed!

Mr Bennett and myself are planning to put write a history of the band for the magazine, and you may be interested to know that I have been asked to put a band together for Jim Beatty to guest with at Cafe Jazz and Pontypool Jazz Festival in September. Some ex-ACME faces will appear, so it's not all doom and gloom.

Bob Gribble

## Ian Phillips Jazz Paraders

Ian tells me that the Sunday sessions have resumed at Langton's in Newport so you can now have a double weekly helping of the band, as they are still playing to a packed house at the Hand Post every Thursday evening. The Band line up is :- **Ian Phillips** Trumpet, **Ted Topps** Clarinet, **Glyn Daniels** Trombone, **Helen Giddings** piano, **Bourke Le Carpentier**, Bass and **Mac Cambray** Drums.

## The Society Jazz Band

The Band are still playing to a small, but loyal, Wednesday audience at the Maltster's in Whitchurch and have recently been joined by Eddie Williams, mostly on banjo and the occasional trumpet, with Gwyn Lewis, Steve Davis and Alun Jones and anyone else who cares to drop in. So if you fancy a nice relaxed Wednesday, why not pop along.

## The Memphis Seven

The Band have issued their first CD entitled "**If I Could Be With You**" and will be available, when they next play at Café Jazz on 12<sup>th</sup> October, price £10. If you can't wait that long you can contact Roy Davies on 029 2056 8302 and he'll send you one £10.75 inc p&p.

## The Old Green River Band - 9<sup>th</sup> November

Martin's band was formed in 2002 after he had left the Phil Mason Band. Following some medical treatment, he had to stop playing the trombone. It didn't stop him singing though . . . He spent a bit of time working on his piano skills, bought a keyboard and some necessary P.A. equipment, and set about finding players to populate his new dream. He had a vision for the sound of the Band - it shouldn't simply replicate the other bands doing the circuit. It required players with technical and improvisational ability, and sympathy to his vision. By late 2002, he had found most of the line up. The band predominantly plays the repertoire of New Orleans but, stylistically, it sounds much broader-based, in the jazz & blues idiom.

Personnel :- **Leader - Piano & Vocals**, Martin Bennett, **Reeds**, Tony Denton, **Guitar & Banjo**, Louis Lince, **Trumpet**, Stan Williams, **Trombone**, Eric Brierley **Double Bass** Jim Swinnerton **Drums**, Peter Cotterill  
If you have the Internet and would like to hear the band and read all about them, then log onto :- <http://www.martinbennett.co.uk/>

## Jim Beatty - 7<sup>th</sup> September

USA clarinettist Jim Beatty teams up with a few members of the old Acme Band for his third visit to Café Jazz. This time the accompanying musicians will be Bob Gribble, Bill Stretton, Sarah Thatcher, Steve Davis and John Bennett. Should be quite interesting as Bob and Bill can both play reed instruments - maybe a reed trio !!

## Our Programme

Apart from the two specials we again have your favourite bands. From Bristol way, Jill Whittingham with her "Alice's Wonderland Band" pay us a visit on 28<sup>th</sup> September, as does Henry Davies with his Classic Hot Six on 5<sup>th</sup> October. Whilst on the local scene we have Norman Thatcher, Gwyn Lewis, Martin Butterworth & friends, Memphis Seven and a warm welcome return for banjoist Sid Powell. A band that is becoming very popular with Café Jazz audiences is the **Dick Williams Six**, who feature John Evans clt. from London, Dick from Narberth, Bob Tunicliffe from Cardiff, with rhythm section of Brian Jobson piano. Terry Hawkes drums and Mel Kingstone on bass. - well worth a listen if you have not heard them before.

## Pictures of Brecon

I will be putting some pictures of Brecon 2004, taken by Paul Donleavy, on the website shortly. Check out :- <http://website.lineone.net/~pjscardiff>

## COMCAN Signal Squadron. Pasir Panjang, Singapore. 1958-59.

### Reminisces of Bourke Le Carpentier

I was fortunate to be posted to the most modern barracks in the world where the NAAFI was described as being like a millionaire's bungalow in Florida.

As a musician I naturally joined any band or group that was available and as a double bass player I was in some demand, being the only recruit daft enough to encumber himself with such a stranded whale of an instrument in that difficult climate. I still have that particular bass today, among several others.

Skiffle was very much in vogue at the time and I was press-ganged into a group called the Chain Gang whose members were entirely bedded down in my barracks. We were really quite good, as we were able to practice a lot, and played on Radio Malaya and Radio Singapore.

Week-ends were usually occupied by performing at dances in Sergeants Messes around the Island, transport always being laid on, and the military tradition of all drinks on the house was most welcome.

We once had a gig in the local lunatic asylum for women, as the Governor wanted to see the effect of the music on the quests. We met one lovely Indian lady there who thought she was Winston Churchill's secretary. Apart from that I don't know what was wrong as she was very well spoken, well dressed, bright and intelligent. I was quite put-out by her predicament.

Band practices took place in our large and white tiled ablutions as the acoustics were magnificent and a crowd of fellow servicemen would often gather to listen as they did their laundry and other chores.

One of the duties required of us all was to paint buckles and other brass items of apparel in jungle green or red oxide. This was better camouflage, and in any case bright brass would very soon tarnish in the oppressive climate.

A band member and another lad were performing this duty one evening when the rather stiff paint brush wielded by one of them caused some paint to flick onto the other chap. As we were all in buoyant mood the victim flicked his brush back at the accidental perpetrator and one thing soon led to another.

We were all dressed in nothing but flip flops and a towel around our middles, as was normal practice. Soon several of us were well covered in green and red paint, there were streaks of paint down the walls and across the ceiling. We managed to encourage the two main protagonists to get to hell outside while the others panicked and tried to clean up.

Those two idiots, each with paint tin in one hand and brush in the other, one flicking red and the other green, chased each other down the main road through the barracks loosing their flip flops and towels on the way. Unfortunately there was a dinner in the Sergeant's Mess that evening and a large limousine cruised up the road with a certain Sergeant Major and his wife on board. The two streakers blazed past in the opposite direction and nothing more was heard about the incident.

Weeks passed, and the Chain Gang were playing at a Mess on the other side of the Island. A very senior



NCO engaged us in conversation during the interval and on informing him that we were from the Pasir Panjang Barracks he related to us that he and his dear wife experienced a traumatic incident there several weeks before. I nearly choked on my free John Collins, and though I tried to play innocent I think he had a hunch I knew something about it.

I've been involved in some mad happenings in my time but that one must rank among the craziest.

This story gives the impression that life there was just a bowl of cherries. In fact we were a hard working unit on active service during the state of emergency, and have the gongs to

prove it, though we did not get a hard time like some of the chaps up-country in Malaya

Bourke Le Carpentier (Taffy, would you believe it?) (and is on the left in the above photo) from Aberdare in S. Wales. National Service, 57-59. Royal Signals. Written, June 2004.