



Sunday October 11th. 2026 at 1 p.m.

Rich Bennett's New Orleans All Stars

It's the font of all knowledge – some would say !

Many, many years ago, way back in the mists of time during the period when we were running our very successful 'Beer and Jazz Festivals' for '25 Joyous Years' at the beginning of July between 1992 and 2016 one 'Legendary Jazz Name' probably achieved more prominence than that of many others in our Promotional Material. That was the 'Famed Bennett Moniker' of the time. We as a Club were principally involved with Martin Bennett alongside his two remarkable musical sons Richard and Russell. Martin played a distinctive tailgate slide trombone, and was noted for his gravelly voice vocalising with his long time friend from their University Days together Phil Mason, playing with Phil's All Stars New Orleans Band for over 20 years and in later years Martin lead his own successful Band: 'The Old Green River Band' on piano after his failed embrocation brought a sad end to his 'much admired' trombone playing.

Richard and Russell were regular visitors to the Dove Jove Jazz Club and its Festivals being brought along by Martin when he was playing here with notable musicians such as Ged Hone, Chris Blount and Ken Simms. Richard always had his trusty trumpet in his hand whilst Russell had his sights set on becoming a banjo player, being guided by that 'South Country Banjo Icon, 'Father Mike Lewis', alias the 'Reverend Father Michael Pratt', but later switched to trombone emulating his father and becoming a player of Note. Sadly Mike Lewis was an orphan from birth who was raised in a variety of Catholic Orphanages - his dreadful experiences of such establishments did not endear him to the Catholic Faith, hence his derogatory use of the term Father before his 'Christian Name' for almost his entire adult life.

Both Richard and Russell began sitting in with older musicians before they were even teenagers and it wasn't too long before they formed their own Band based near Torquay, one that enjoyed the Title of 'Richard Bennett's New Orleans Band.' They also enjoyed the handle of 'Richard Bennett's Ugly Village Band' before ultimately settling for the name of the 'Fantabulous Sheep Wash Playboys' when they were taken under

the wing of that widely travelled 'Legendary Cornish Banjo Player Mike Cox' who never failed to gather around him a magnificent line up of capable talents. The brothers were noted regular performers on the Dove Podium, so much so that it is said that they were on first name terms with the stage wood worms for quite a long while ! The rest is history as they say but it does give you a little insight as to why the Bennett family have a truly special place in the heart of Dove Jazz Club..

Joining him tonight **Richard**, with his **trumpet** and unique **vocal** style, will be bringing with him to entertain us a line up of some of the most exciting names on the British Traditional Jazz Scene today. Alongside him on the front line are from Derby **Graham Woodhouse** on **Trombone** and long standing Chris Barber Reeds Maestro **Rick Exall** on **clarinet and saxophone**.

The powerful backline will see the formidable **Warren James** on **Banjo, Guitar and Vocals**, playing alongside **Simon Smith** on **Double Bass** and **drummer Steve Street** who has played with many famous names, not least among them including Mr. Kenny Ball.

All of the regular 'Dove Jazz Attractions' will be available including Raffle Tickets for 'Amazing Prizes' which can be purchased as you pay to enter the Venue, Butcher Burnham's Bespoke Pork Pies are only £3.00 with optional free condiments from the Bar, along with the usual wide range of refreshing drinks, including Tea and Coffee served in 'Ceramic Mugs'.

As the deep winter season approaches we will be pleased to have the pleasure of your 'Valued Company' on the 15th November when 'Paula Jackman's Jazz Masters' will be dropping in to see us once again no doubt playing the odd rift or two as is their wont.

RTM

Our next attraction:

November 15th. 2026 at 1 p.m

Paula Jackman's Jazz Masters

For all Club news - www.dovejazzclub.co.uk or facebook.com/dovejazzclub

