



PRESS RELEASE

Greenwich Summer Brews and Blues...

Greenwich Beer and Jazz Festival finalises exciting line up - Old Royal Naval College

Thursday 27th May – Monday 31st May 2010

The Greenwich Beer and Jazz Festival, now in its 3rd year, has completed its line-up and the final band confirmed promises to be a lot of fun!

Adrian Edmondson's band 'The Bad Shepherds' have confirmed that they will open the show on Sunday 30th August. He describes the band; 'The Bad Shepherds play punk songs on folk instruments. Not as a gag, but because we really like the noise. We think the songs are better than people remember. We love folk instruments. It works. We do songs by The Sex Pistols, The Clash, The Stranglers, The Jam, Sham 69, The Undertones, The Buzzcocks, The Ramones, The Specials, Talking Heads, Squeeze and others, even Kraftwerk! Alright, they're not all punk, but they come from roughly the same era. We've mostly given the songs a kind of Celtic feel, and we've stuck in the odd reel and jig here and there. But occasionally we just thrash! I've always thought the excitement of a reel taking off is the nearest thing to the excitement of watching punk live in the 70's.'

This final slot completes the 15 bands that can be seen over the five day festival at the Old Royal Naval College which offer a wide range of musical styles to support the headliners **Fun Lovin' Criminals**, **Spandau Ballet's Tony Hadley** with his Swing Band, **Brand New Heaves**, **Incognito** and **James Taylor Quartet** who will be joined by Snowboy and the Latin Section.

But as well as the music the Beer forms an integral part of the Festival. Over 200 real ales, ciders and summer brews will be on offer from Cornwall to Edinburgh via many of the counties across the UK.

Jon Rogers, Director of the organisers PWR Events said 'We are delighted with the line-up for this year's Festival. It truly gives something for everyone and the inclusion of the Bad Shepherds finishes off the line-up brilliantly. I can't wait to see the crowds flooding in and the beer flowing. It is a perfect way to spend a lazy summer's day.'

Tickets are available from www.greenwichbeerandjazz.com or by phone with SEE or Ticketmaster (booking fees apply). Advance booking is highly recommended to avoid disappointment.

For all press enquiries, please contact Steve Porter at PWR on 07957 362363 or 020 8241 2365 or email steve.porter@pwrevents.com

Greenwich Beer & Jazz Festival Press Passes are available on request.

NOTES TO EDITORS

Greenwich Beer & Jazz Festival

Thursday 27th May

James Taylor Quartet, supported by Snowboy and the Latin Section

Ticket Price - £15

Friday 28th May

Fun Lovin' Criminals, supported by Hayseed Dixie

Ticket Price – £20

Saturday 29th May

Brand New Heavies

Ticket Price - £20

Sunday 30th May

Tony Hadley and his Swing Band

Ticket Price - £27.50

Monday 31st May

Incognito, supported by Omar

Ticket Price - £20

Concessions - £1 off all the above prices for CAMRA Members, Students (over 18), OAP's and Unemployed. Appropriate ID must be shown!

Opening Times 12.00pm – 10.30pm

Doors open each day at 12.00. There will be 3 live band slots per day and the headliner will be on between 7.30 and 10pm.

Ticketmaster phone number - 0844 847 2497 (booking fees apply)

See phone number - 0871 230 7133. (booking fees apply)

Please note:

- All persons under 18 years must be accompanied by an adult
- No persons under 18 years of age will be permitted to the event after 5pm
- Booking fees apply for all online bookings
- Groups and Corporate Bookings please call 020 8241 9818
- Official Festival Glass £3 at the venue (refundable on exit)

Website www.greenwichbeerandjazz.com

Please see website for location and directions.

Brief history of the Old Royal Naval College

The Old Royal Naval College began life as Greenwich Hospital, which was established in 1694 by Royal Charter for the relief and support of seamen and their dependants and for the improvement of navigation. Sir Christopher Wren planned the site, described as "*one of the most sublime sights English architecture affords*", and, during the first half of the eighteenth century, various illustrious architects, such as Hawksmoor and Vanbrugh, completed Wren's grand design.

In June 1705, the first Pensioners arrived and, by 1814, a total of 2,710 lived there. They lived on a diet of bread, beer and boiled meat and smoked their clay pipes or 'chalks' in the Chalk Walk, now the Skittle Alley. The Pensioners were given pocket money of 1s a week, which they supplemented by acting as caddies at Blackheath Golf Club and guides for visitors to Greenwich.

For three days in 1806, 5 – 7 January, Admiral Lord Nelson 'lay-in-state' in the Painted Hall. The Upper Hall was draped in black and arrayed with symbols of state mourning: banners, armorial escutcheons and sconced candles whilst the Lower Hall windows were draped and barriers erected to channel the expected crowds. Huge crowds were admitted (estimates range from 15,000 to 30,000) in a renewed outpouring of grief since the victory at Trafalgar. On the morning of the 8 January Nelson's coffin was borne to the River where it was taken in a huge procession up the river to St Paul's Cathedral for his state funeral. In 1869 the Hospital was closed, and in 1873 the complex of buildings became the Royal Naval College, where officers from all over the world came to train in the naval sciences. The Navy moved out in 1998 to merge with the RAF and Army at a new Joint Services Staff College in Shrivenham.

With the departure of the Royal Navy from Greenwich, responsibility for the Old Royal Naval College passed to the Greenwich Foundation. The Foundation is a registered charity established to look after, and interpret, the buildings and their grounds for the benefit of the nation.

