



**NEWS:** It's not right but it's OK - Retail remains update about business on the High Street in the Christmas season



**NEWS:** NME editor STEVE SUTHERLAND is moving to a new role as the title expands into radio and TV



**TRIBUTE:** The story behind how Jim Moir and RADIO TWO shook off its old image and became a key player



Supplement inside

SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL OUR READERS

FOR EVERYONE IN THE BUSINESS OF MUSIC

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# music week

## New plan to thwart CD pirates

by Barry Fox

A revolutionary technology that promises to stem the tide of CD cloning and online piracy sweeping the record industry could be launched as early as next summer.

The breakthrough system, previously called AudiLock, is the result of research carried out by two small companies, UK-based C-Dubs and TRR Technologies of the US, which specialise in copy-protecting computer CD-Roms.

The system, which adds digital code to standard music CDs, makes them playable only on nor-

mal audio hardware and not PCs - effectively preventing them from being copied on to a blank CD or "ripped" on to the PC's hard disk or a blank CD. CDs would also be non-copyable on dual-deck CD copiers.

Macrovision, the US technology company which makes the system that blocks VHS video copying, has bought the rights to AudiLock and is now funding extensive tests. These will determine whether there is any risk of AudiLock preventing music CDs from being played back on existing CD and DVD players. If these tests are successful, senior Macrovision sources expect to see

the system adopted by major record companies next summer.

Although the technology has largely been kept under wraps, Macrovision has started to present it to key record industry figures. A senior new media expert at one of the majors describes the development as "significant" since it could effectively put a stop to casual and CD-R copying.

"I don't think the music industry has come to a consensus yet and is still working on a combination of initiatives such as copyright law and better education, but of all the systems currently being brought

forward, this is a good one," says the source.

Dedicated pirates may find a way round the system, but Macrovision is confident it will deter casual home copying - and will also prevent people from ripping copies on to a PC and then sending them as MP3 files.

The downside of the technology is that the growing number of consumers who like to listen to music CDs from their PC would no longer be able to do this.

Moreover, record companies recently agreed via the Secure Digital Music Initiative (SDMI) with

electronics companies to allow owners of CDs to "rip" copies into a PC and from there to MP3 portable.

SDMI spokeswoman Isabel Kaldenbach says, "The beauty of SDMI is that it is completely voluntary. If anyone wants to use a different standard of protection from the one many folks are using across the digital music industry, that's up to them."

"If a company feels that the AudiLock system is a good business decision, then it is free to use that system and nothing about SDMI precludes that," she adds.

Westlife were yesterday (Sunday) looking to fight off a determined challenge from Cliff Richard to give RCA its first Christmas number one single since Return To Sender by Elvis Presley in 1962. The group's I Have A Dream/Seasons In The Sun was a comfortable 23,000 sales ahead by the end of business last Thursday with Richard's The Millennium Prayer heading a chasing pack which included John Lennon's reissued Imagine and the Cuban Boys' Cognoscent Vs Intelligentsia. Westlife's attempt to secure the rare feat of four number one singles in a calendar year followed their victory two Saturdays ago at the Britania-sponsored Record Of The Year, where they beat their co-manager Ronan Keating's When Say-Nebbing At All into second place. The group are pictured with the show's host, Denise Van Outen. See story, p3



### Ashcroft splits with manager Summers

Ex-Verve frontman Richard Ashcroft has split from his manager JAZZ Summers.

Summers says Ashcroft telephoned him "out-of-the-blue" last Wednesday to tell him that he wanted to take charge of his own career. "I don't know [what's happened]," I think Richard thinks they were to look after his own career. I had a long conversation with him for about half an hour," says Summers, whose Big Life Management last week moved to new offices in Chilton Street, NW1.

"It's not often an artist phones up and says he doesn't want to do it any more. It's usually a lawyer's letter. I appreciated that. It's a fantastic album he's made and I wish

him all the best with it."

Summers adds, "A lot of people are in shock about it." He continues to manage hotly-pitched Baby Driven Boy and ex-Go Beat act Fridge and has Damage signed to EMI through his Afterlife label. He resigned as manager of Eternal eight weeks ago.

Hut managing director David Boyd, who A&R's Ashcroft, declines to comment. The first single from Ashcroft's debut solo project is expected in early 2000, with the album produced with Chris Potter scheduled for June 5.

A source describes it as "very song-oriented, very direct, very soulful - not slavishly bolting on beats." It will prove he can stand on his own.

### Tattersfield expected to take helm at East West in January

Arista A&R director Christian Tattersfield is likely to take up his new role as managing director of East West in January.

BMG and Warner are expected to sign an agreement this week enabling him to leave his current post at Arista and its Northwesterly imprint before his current contract expires in October. Tattersfield, who took up his A&R director post just six months ago and has been on "gardening leave" for the past three months, is understood to have signed a new deal with Warner before going on holiday to India two weeks ago.

Meanwhile, deConstruction managing director, Pete Hadfield finalised his departure from the BMG-owned label on Friday.

Hadfield founded the company with partner Keith Blackhurst, releasing their first record in 1987. Blackhurst was named RCA general manager in July.

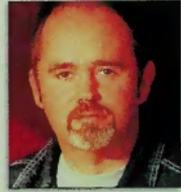
Tattersfield's expected move to East West has been the subject of intense speculation in recent months but was delayed by negotiations over his exit from BMG. The most senior appointment to be made so far by Warner UK chairman Nick Phillips, Tattersfield joins the new promotions team and senior A&R executive Cheryl Robson installed by Phillips at the label. His move to Warner also reunites him with Warner Music worldwide chief Roger Ames, for whom he worked at London Records prior to joining BMG.

### Marot claims breach of Universal contract

Maro Marot's tenure as the head of Universal Island was plunged deeper into uncertainty last week after his lawyers advised him his contract has been breached.

Sources close to the managing director say that the recent elevation of Lucian Gralange to become deputy chairman of Universal Music - and effectively Marot's boss - is thought to infringe a clause in Marot's terms of employment specifying that he reports directly to Universal UK chairman/CEO John Kennedy. An insider alleges, "He's out of contract. It's serious".

Mercury boss Howard Berman's contract is also believed to contain a similar clause and the pair are thought to have notified the group of their positions and the legal advice they have sought last week.



Marot: considering future

Kennedy claims not to be aware of this development, although he does admit "lawyers' letters" have been passed to the Universal legal department.

Marot, who has also been running Universal UK's e-commerce

department, is now in discussions with UMI executive VP of business affairs and general manager of business development Tim Bowen about widening his Internet responsibilities to a pan-European role. Insiders suggest that Universal may even spin off its e-commerce activities to create a standalone group ready for a possible stock market listing. Bowen declines to comment.

Kennedy says he believes Marot, who has run Island for a decade during which he has seen U2 become global megastars, the departure of his mentor Chris Blackwell and the merger with the Universal label, will view the new e-commerce role as a "new challenge".

Marot and Berman were unavailable for comment.

# TONY BRAINSBY

1945 - 1999

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# Retailers hold their nerve despite festive price cuts

by Paul Williams

The music industry remains generally optimistic going into the final week of Christmas trading, despite the market being hit by heavy discounting and a "disappointing" release schedule.

Album sales a week ago rose a healthy 30.7% to 5.8m units week-on-week but, while volume is holding up, initiatives such as Boots' and Sainsbury's £9.99 chart campaigns plus other heavy discounting appear to have reduced the value of sales compared with a year ago.

Price commercial director Neil Boote points to both price reductions and the lack of a huge-selling double album like last year's George Michael's Ladies & Gentlemen for the tough trading most retailers are currently experiencing. This year's biggest album, Shania Twain's Come

On Over, is widely available at £9.99. "From our point of view, the George Michael album accounted for half our current sales in value terms last year. There isn't a double album doing this sort of volume this year," he says.

However, with five trading days from today (Monday) still to go before Christmas, Boote believes this coming week will be the biggest on record. "Customers are more relaxed than they used to be, knowing they've got 24-hour shopping and Sunday openings and are also smart enough to know some of the sales start even before Christmas," he says.

Brad Assops, chairman of independent retailer Now, says information he is receiving suggests every retailer is having a tough time at present with the main feedback from customers being uncertainty over



Twain: album selling for £9.99 pricing. "What is the right price for a CD? I couldn't tell you, so the public have no way of knowing. All they get is soundbites with the price of £9.99 appearing," he says.

While value appears to be suffering at the hands of discounted volume on albums and a large number

of releases underperforming expectations, singles are experiencing the reverse with more £3.99 units in the market and more big-selling Christmas number one contenders this year than for years. BMG sales director Richard Story, whose company was leading the field by the end of business on Friday with Westlife's I Have A Dream/Seasons In The Sun, notes that it is singles that are capturing all the media focus at the moment.

Besides chasing sales, the industry's big challenge during the next day or so will be ensuring there is enough stock shipped for the holiday period. "There's a day or two between Christmas and new year for deliveries but it will be chases out on the roads so you have to make a judgement now," says Story.

## newsfile

### MW TAKES CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Music Week is dropping two issues during the Christmas and new year period. The next issue to be published will be cover-dated January 15 and will include the albums and singles charts that would have appeared in the January 1 and 8 issues.

### GREEN QUITS CHINA CONSULTANCY

China Records founder Derek Green is ending his consultancy at the now Warner-owned label at the end of the year and has plans to launch another label. Green can be contacted at Chinagreen Enterprises on 0171 731 6611.

### RUTLAND DENIES CASTLE HUMOURS

Rutland, the group which acquired Castle Music for £.7m in August last year, is denying reports that the UK Independent is up for sale. At least two groups – one thought to be Edel – are understood to have made bids of "around £40m". A company Dial in France, an insider is currently seeking a refinancing package worth £22m with the New York-based lawyer/securitising specialists C&K/Universal Credit Corporation.

### UMI STARTS MAIL-ORDER SELL-OFF

Universal Music International has hung an estimated £300m price tag around the neck of Britannia and its sister music mail order company Dial in France. An insider describes the move as a complete surprise, adding that UMI "obviously doesn't see us fitting".

### ALAN JAMES PR. RELOCATES

Alan James PR, which has just added Ash to its roster, has moved offices to 60 Weston Street, London SE1 3QJ, tel: 0171 403 9999, fax: 0171 403 0000.

### UNIVERSAL DISTRIBUTION

Universal's distribution centre will be contactable by fax, voicemail and e-mail on December 25, 26, 27 and 31, and January 1 and 2. In addition, Universal's parcel firm is Securicor, contrary to the Christmas opening times table in last week's issue.

### Chelsea and Norway striker Ter Andre Flo (centre)

witnessed the Universal Music signing of Scandinavian writing/production team Waterfall Music last week.

The Oslo-based team are currently enjoying US success with Norwegian act M2M who reached number 46 a fortnight ago with Don't Say You Love Me in the Billboard Hot 100.

As well as working on M2M's fellow Atlantic signings Babel Fish and Midnight Sons, Waterfall are writing and producing tracks for the next 5 Club 7 album and hotly-tipped new RCA pop act girl Thing. Pictured (l-r) are:

Universal deputy managing director and Chelsea fan Mike McCormack, Waterfall's Kenneth M Lewis, Flo, Universal's vice president Paul Connolly and Waterfall's Kal Robole.



## Colleagues pay tribute to PR veteran Brainsby

Tributes poured in last week following the death of music PR pioneer Tony Brainsby after a long illness. For 30 years Brainsby operated at the core of the music business with an illustrious client list including the Small Faces, Paul McCartney, Roy Wood, David Essex, Thin Lizzy.

Promoter Mel Bush, who employed the 54-year-old to publicise acts including Vanessa Mae and David Essex, says, "He was one of the good guys, one of the first great rock'n'roll publicists and probably the last. He was particularly good at creating publicity without getting the artist to do it."

Author and former publicist Keith Altham, who shared Brainsby's Pimlico offices in the Seventies, also remembers an "incredibly manic, but gentle character with glasses and red hair who worked incredibly hard."

Brainsby also had a long-term involvement with Nordoff-Robbins. "Tony was one of the guys who set the night and day to the growth of Nordoff-Robbins," says charity chairman Andrew Miller.

## Record Of The Year crowns big weekend for TV music

Record of the Year capped a bumper broadcast of music on UK terrestrial television last weekend.

The two-part ITV Saturday night show sandwiched an Audience With Diana Ross, while Channel 4 ran a 150-minute special, the History Of The Pop Video. Earlier that afternoon BBC2 aired a 45-minute TOP20 on Shania Twain with the next day's program including an S Club 7 special, plus documentaries on It's Only Rock'n'Roll charity single (BBC1) and the making of Steely Dan's classic 1977 album Aja (ITV).

Record Of The Year, which was narrowly won by Westlife's Flying Without Wings after a nail-biting race with Ronan Keating's When You Say Nothing At All, attracted an average 7.7m viewers at its peak. It helped to lift sales of the RCA act's album slightly, though it appeared to have a greater effect on their Christmas number one single contender, I Have A Dream/Seasons in The Sun.

ITV has recommissioned Record Of The Year for the next three years, scheduling next year's competition for



S Club 7: TV special exposure

Saturday, December 9. Its 7.7m rating for this year was down 300,000 on last year, which organiser Jonathan King puts down to it being run against Casualty. He says, "We did very well in the ratings, getting 8.5m viewers at our peak with a massive 47.5% of 16- to 24-year-old viewers."

Meanwhile, King's role as music executive in A Song For Europe has been temporarily suspended because of his involvement with one of the semi finalists, Six Chix's Only The Women Know. His position will be filled by Kevin Bishop until February 21, by which time the public will have judged the winning UK entry for the Eurovision song contest.

## Gurr makes surprise exit from senior V2 A&R post

Ronnie Gurr, the first senior executive to join V2 after CEO Jeremy Pearce when the company was launched in 1996, left suddenly last week.

A V2 statement says Edinburgh-based Gurr – who is credited with signing V2's biggest act Stereophonics – was "free to find a new home" for his Equio Escape imprint. It adds the severance followed "the end of Gurr's current deal with the company".

Gurr declines to comment, though sources suggest he has voiced unhappiness for some time at decisions being taken within V2. Gurr, whose name has been linked to an A&R role at EMI-Chrysalis, is understood to be considering options and remains close to V2 founder Richard Branson.

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## A NEW HOPE FOR THE NEW YEAR

Every now and then you go to a live show that exceeds all expectations, that makes you smile when you wake up the next day, that reminds you of the power of live music. One last week did that and more. The artist was Arista's soul newcomer Angle Stone (though newcomer is an odd description since she was in Sugarhill rap trio Sequence in the early Eighties and has been a key songwriter for people like D'Angelo since then).

A specialist buzz has been building ever since a sampler of songs from her debut solo album first surfaced earlier this year. Since she fits neatly into the "nu-classic soul" camp, there were suspicions that her live show might be polished, worthy but a touch bland and retro. How wrong those suspicions proved to be. From their opening James Brown likes, it was clear that her young band (in particular the 17-year-old funk drummer) were on fire. And they provided the ideal backdrop for Stone when she swanked onto the stage of north London's Jazz Cafe. Varying the pace and textures across a set that was almost an hour-and-a-half long but never dragged, her experience and quality shone through.

Although US born and bred, Stone was signed to Arista in the UK three years ago. This perhaps reflects the fact that not all UK labels are as narrow-minded as their US counterparts. What would be tragic is if UK broadcasters - radio in particular - prove every bit as narrow-minded as their colleagues Stateside.

It is unfortunate but perhaps inevitable that Stone, a striking black woman who writes her own material, will be compared with Macy Gray. The comparison is inappropriate. Let's hope that where there is a similarity is that a slow-build marketing campaign propels her Black Diamond album to the success it deserves when it is released in February.

Real artist. Real band. Real soul.

Real airplay? Real sales?

Now that would be a great start to the new year. *Ajax Scott*

## WEBBO

## BRANSON NEEDS TO THINK AGAIN

I think it must be millennium madness.

Richard Branson's call for record companies and retailers to get together and discuss the future of music retailing in this country would potentially fall foul of European cartel legislation as soon as anything even remotely relevant was discussed.

But, more importantly, he has got the problem the wrong way round. It is not record companies nor retailers who are going to decide the future of music dissemination in the future - it is the customers.

They will decide how, when and if they want to buy music. The Internet is obviously going to play a large part in this, as it will in most areas of our lives.

Record companies, albeit many of them slow off the mark, are coming to terms with this. They want to protect their rights and make profits for their owners, of course. How they get that music to their customers - whether through bricks and mortar retail, internet sales or downloading - is pretty much irrelevant to them.

Most have estimates of how long bricks and mortar retail will last. I remember one company saying that internet retail would only be 10% of the market in 10 years, leaving a large chunk for high street stores, but frankly no one really knows for sure. These things have a habit of happening much faster than people think.

Record companies also like retailers who stock and sell catalogue, a fact which has benefited Virgin and other deep catalogue retailers in the past. The question now is whether customers will keep travelling large distances to these stores, whether they will order items from their local store or whether they will prefer (as I do) to discover long-forgotten gems on Internet retail sites which are then delivered to their door. Finally Branson calls for record companies to reduce their dealer prices - I look forward to V2 leading the way with the Stereophonics' album.

Merry Christmas.

*Jon Webster's column is a personal view*

## Sutherland seeps up as papers restructure staff

by Paul Williams and Steve Hemsley  
Overseering NME editor Steve Sutherland is moving over to the newly-created position of brand director of the magazine prepares to launch his own TV and radio stations and a London venue.

Sutherland, who has occupied his present role for the past seven-and-a-half years, will take up the new job after the NME Premier Awards in February. His responsibilities will also include overseeing NME.com and the magazine's 50th anniversary celebrations in 2002.

News of his appointment coincides with BBC Worldwide's recruitment of TV Hits deputy editor Corinna Shaffer as the new editor of *Top Of The Pops* magazine. Shaffer, who replaces Ian McLeish, takes up the post in the second week of January. Sutherland, whose successor is expected to be announced early in the new year, says there are so many opportunities to develop the NME brand that it makes sense to have a specific person developing them. He has been working on these ideas in tandem with editing the paper



Sutherland: brand development

since we started on this escapade and there's not enough time in the day. I've now been given the opportunity of developing the brand across all areas and it will also give me the opportunity of bringing on a new editor," he says.

Among the projects he is working on is an NME London venue, set to be unveiled shortly, which will be permanently set up to handle webcasts.

Sutherland is also overseeing the development of an NME digital TV station and internet radio station, both of which are projected to be launched

around the end of next year.

His move comes as NME publisher IPC finalises plans to invest £25m on new online businesses under the umbrella of IPC Electric, formed earlier this year.

Shaffer's elevation to the editorship of *Top Of The Pops* magazine sees her return to the title she joined as editorial assistant when it launched in 1995.

"It has always had a close relationship with the music industry, which I hope to build on because I know the people in the business so well," says Shaffer, whose role will also include liaising with the editorial team of the German version of the magazine which is due to be launched in the first half of 2000.

Meanwhile Seven, the dance magazine launched by DMC in May, has undergone several editorial changes, including the promotion of club editor Nick Green to the post of editor, replacing Nick Jones who becomes music editor. Sarah Monk, formerly Club-on editor, becomes club editor and Dan Piracha, a founder of *MixMag* associate editor.

## Hart joins Outside for Outside plugging

The Outside Organisation is entering the second phase of its bid to establish a "one-stop media operation", following the recruitment of Jo Hart to launch its Outside regional plugging arm in the new year.

Hart is joining just four months after The Outside Organisation launched its national TV and radio wing Inside, which is headed by former Virgin Records head of promotion Tony Barker and his deputy Mick Garbutt.

Hart has been a plugger for the past 10 years representing high-profile clients such as Cher and TLC.

Outside director Caroline McAteer, whose national press clients include Boyzone and Spice Girls, says, "Outside was the missing link and it will mean we now have everything covered."

Hart adds, "Outside is really good at what its entrepreneurial team do. And together we can provide a whole promotions package for our clients. They can now use us together or still separately."

## Cyberconcerts plans roster of 20 for pay-per-view internet shows

Former Pink Floyd manager Bryan Morrison is negotiating with "20 of the biggest acts in the world" for them to participate in what is thought to be the first internet group specialising in pay-per-view concerts.

Morrison acquired a one-third share in the stock market-listed construction group Arthur Shaw earlier this year to use as a vehicle for his new venture, Cyberconcerts. In exchange for the rights to screen major gigs and events on the web, Morrison is providing the acts with an undisclosed equity stake in the listed group, which was worth around £72m based on last week's 14.75p share price.

He has already begun negotiating with several groups and has completed deals with Spice Girls, Culture Club, Jean Michel Jarre and Shirley Bassey.

Morrison says he plans to charge users up to £10 to access events when the service is up and



Culture Club: signed up for web gigs running within the next six months.

Jean Michel Jarre's Millennium Eve gig at the pyramids in Egypt will be the group's debut broadcast.

"The technology is upgrading all the time so it will be very clear and quick by the time we launch, but this should be a good practice run as it is going to be the music event of the millennium," says Morrison. Culture Club manager Tony Gordon says the group has signed a five-year deal with Cyberconcerts and, judging from recent hits on Internet concerts, could earn a "good deal of money".

## Music uncertain after GLR changes

Music's role at the rebranded GLR faces an uncertain future following a final decision last week to increase the speech output of the London station.

As the shake-up, which will come into effect in the first half of next year, the GLR name will disappear to make way for BBC London Live as part of a policy to create a single identity across the BBC's radio, TV and online services in the capital.

The changes come on the back of proposals, originally revealed in August, and public consultation exercises to overhaul the BBC's local and regional services in London and the south east. The original plans included reducing GLR's main output - which has in



Radiohead: early support from GLR

the past supported the early careers of acts such as Radiohead and Blur. Provoking the launch of a Save GLR campaign backed by figures such as departing Creation Records president Alan McGee.

Mark Thompson, national and regional broadcasting director at the BBC, says, "We will make sure that music, and live music in par-

ticular, continues to play an important part on the station. But we have not changed our view, supported by audience research, that the station has to focus more than it does now on news and speech."

At this stage, the BBC is unable to reveal how the current 70:30 ratio of speech to music will alter, nor where music will fit in the schedule. At least some music will continue to be played during daytime with a bias towards a 30 to 50-year-old age range - a move questioned by Alan James, PR radio plugger Richard Jones. "Will it be recurrent or new music, or a mixture of both? We'll have to see how it pans out, but it's all up in the air at the moment," he says.



*Happy Christmas  
& Best wishes for 2000*

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WARNER MUSIC

## RETAIL FOCUS: FOPP

by Karen Faux

no-frills approach to music retailing has paid off for the Sheffield branch of five-store indie chain Fopp, which is about to notch up its most successful financial quarter in three years of trading. As a point of principle it does not use any record company PoS material and has not installed listening posts. All product is displayed under Fopp's generic branding, and both CDs and vinyl are bulk-packed to maximise space.

"It's fair to say that we've got the student market covered around here and we cater to a very wide range of customers generally," says manager Scott McCreehy. "Although we are in a secondary shopping area and surrounded by specialist shops, we have worked very hard to build mainstream sales and that is really what we are about."

The past week has been the busiest of the year so far. "It's panning out really well," says McCreehy. "We've been rushed off our feet ever since the students came back in October. Our biggest sellers at the moment are Travis and Macy Gray and our 'Best Of The Best Of's



Fopp: using aggressive campaigns to maximise sales

campaign is generating big business for the likes of Bob Marley and John Lennon."

Fopp has been aggressive on the campaigns from this year, introducing bold ranking and sharpening its prices. In addition to its own Best Of, with product priced

## FOPP'S BUDGET BEST-SELLERS

1. Moving Shadow Sampler Vol.2 Various (Moving Shadow)
2. Love Me Or Leave Me Billie Holiday (Hillmark)
3. Merry Christmas From Motown Various (Motown)
4. This Machine Kills Fascists Woody Guthrie (Hillmark)
5. Dubwise And Otherwise Various (Blood & Fire)
6. Ghetto Style Gil Scott Heron (Candem)
7. Ghetto Life Various (Candem)
8. 1967 New York Sessions Van Morrison (Hillmark)
9. World Music: Cuba Various (Hillmark)
10. Fuck The Millennium Garu Kru (True Playaz)

between £10 and £13, it is also doing well with Vital's Best Of '99. "It has been doing a roaring trade since it kicked off last month," says McCreehy. "All the CDs are priced at £10 and best sellers currently include Roots Manuva, Mr Scruff, Blackalicious, Moby, Mos

Def and Nightmares on Wax."

Budget titles are currently an important part of Fopp's offer and it has a warehouse in Warwick which sources overstocks and deletions. "This kind of product is priced at between £2 and £3 with the idea that people will make multiple purchases," says McCreehy. "We do very well with soul and blues back catalogue and it drives impulse buys in these areas."

Although its vinyl department is quite small compared with its counterparts in Edinburgh and Glasgow, business is brisk. "We're the only store around here that offers the format and we try to keep our range as wide as possible. House, techno and drum & bass back catalogue is always in demand," says McCreehy.

Fopp will not be having a sale after Christmas as its prices are consistently low and its stock is fast-moving. "Instead we will be focusing on new albums from the likes of William Orbit and Primal Scream," says McCreehy. "There will also be a lot of buying up to be done once the mad rush is over."

## IN-STORE NEXT WEEK (from 27/12/99)

**ANNOYS RECORDS** Windows - George Michael, Ministry Of Sound, It's A Mutha Of A Sale; In-store - Paderewski, John Lennon, Festival Of Nine Lessons, Kiril To Kanawa, Future Loop Foundation, Sony Nice Price promotion; Press ads - Paul McKenna's Hypnotherapy Series, Dark Star, Paderewski, Festival Of Nine Lessons, Kiril To Kanawa, Future Loop Foundation, Vengaboys, Sony Nice Price

**ASDA** In-store - chart albums reduced to £11.99, S Club 7, Westlife, Cuban Children's Promise, John Lennon, Oubon Boys; Video - buy one get one free on Best Of Bond and Friends, Matrix, George Of The Jungle, Godzilla, Mr Bean and Rubber

**Prots** In-store - Christmas campaign offering chart albums at £9.99 and cassettes at £7.99 including Celine Dion, Robbie Williams, Five and Steps, Boyz n the Band; buy one free, chart videos (excluding Disney) for £11.99 and three for the price of two

**Red Hot Chili Peppers** Albums of the month - Best of '99 Campaign; In-store display series - Best of '99 featuring Basement Jaxx, Folk Implosion, Smog, Quannum, Blackalicious, Aim, Roots Manuva

**HMV** Windows and in-store - clearout campaign; Press ads - Adam Rickitt, Brentn Spears, Justin Dark Star, Creed, Our Lucy Pease

**MENZIES** In-store - Virgin, Best...Ever series promotion, Celine Dion, Charlotte Church; Listening posts - Jose Cura, Chris de Burgh, Supergroup

**MVC** Windows - George Michael, Genesis, James Bond, Sega Dreamcast; In-store - Best Selling Albums Of '99 promotion; Listening posts - Pete Townsend, Essential Soundtracks, Sopranos, Sheryl Crow, Very Best Of Jazz, Robert Cray; TV ads - Genesis, James Bond

**NOW** Windows - George Michael; In-store - buy one and get one free on James Bond and Friends, triple-video boxed sets at £12.99, double-video boxed sets at £9.99, party albums at £5.99 each or two for £10, CD boxed sets at £9.99

**our price** Singles - Westlife, S Club 7, Steps, Cuban Boys, South Park, Solid Gold Charabusters, Children's Promise, James, Marvin & Tamara, Charlotte Church, Heather Mills feat. Paul McCartney; Albums - Sting, Bob Marley, R Kelly, FOJ Fighters, Photo & Small, Korn; Windows - Travis, Cher, Bryan Adams, S Club 7, Celine Dion, Will Smith, Charlotte Church, Stereophonics

**pinnacle network** Selecta listening posts - Matthew Sweet, Tom Waits, Cocobun Twins, Feador, Groove Armada, Emilliana Torrini; Most recommended retailers - Luther Allison, Fleetwood Mac, Jack Bruce, Sly & The Family Stone, Spirit, Junior Kimbrough

**TOWER** In-store - George Michael, Simply Red, Shola Ame, Christmas campaign; Press ads - Kiril To Kanawa, Muse, Fathead, B\*Witched, Nitin Sawhney, Stereophonics

**Virgin** In-store - Westlife, John Lennon, Heather Mills, James, Perfect Phase, South Park, Christmas campaign offering two CDs for £22 across hundreds of titles; Press ads - S Club 7, It's Only Rock 'N' Roll, Steps, Cuban Boys

**WHSmith** In-store - Virgin, Best...Ever series promotion, Celine Dion, Charlotte Church; Listening posts - Jose Cura, Chris de Burgh, Supergroup

**WOOLWORTHS** Singles - Macy Gray, Steps; Album - Travis; In-store - Best Millennium Party Album in The World...Ever, Best of 1999 promotion with two CDs for £22, Macy Gray, Travis; Press ads - Best of 1999, All Night Party, Best Millennium Party in The World...Ever, Macy Gray, Travis

## ON THE SHELF

JUSTIN LEE,  
co-owner, Carbon,  
Kensington, West London

"We get around 1m customers through our doors in a year and around 30% probably come in during December. It has been a really good week but the atmosphere is maybe good. We've added nine listening posts to our existing five for vinyl and CD and they have been so well used, and look so good, that we will probably keep them after Christmas."

This store is all about making music accessible to people. We offer a lot of expertise about all types of music outside of the mainstream and our friendly staff make it easy for time-pressed customers to explore new possibilities.

There is a wide range of product currently selling from our listening posts. Sales are going well for Buena Vista Social Club, Outcaste compilation New Breed UK, Peter Knuder's Peace Orchestra album on G-Store and the compilation It's A Finger Lickin' Thing. There is also a lot of interest in the album from

underground Dis Layo & Bushwacka, entitled Lowlie, which features a hybrid breakfast style that is just starting to break through.

Business is currently booming for customised CDs. Customers can choose from a database of more than 2,000 titles to burn on to a CD and they can also print a personal message on the back of the package. Part of the database includes a featured artist section where we give exposure to new acts - sometimes before they are signed. We've also put together our own compilation CD entitled Reflections which is being sold as a promotional item in conjunction with Urban Outfitters, who are under the same roof.

Our mail-order service is becoming increasingly important. A lot of customers who are based in London temporarily like the service they get from us and want to continue with it when they go home. Our mail-order organisation is set up to give them the help and choice they have enjoyed from the store.



"I'm excited to be working two singles which are in the running for the Christmas number one. John Lennon's Imagine is selling extremely well through my indie accounts and I reckon a Lennon number one would be a great way to end the century. Meanwhile, Cuban Boys' Cognoscent V's Intelligencia is going strong through the big high street multiples like Woolies.

Perfect Phase's Horny Horns, on Making, was hotly anticipated and is benefiting from the fact that aren't too many dance records around at the moment. Positive have had a great year and this release is ending on a high note.

Album sales are currently being driven by a combination of new releases and the year's best performers. Queen's Greatest Hits 3 has received a big boost from recent exposure on Channel 4 and looks like being one of our biggest flyers for Christmas. Paul McCartney's Run Devil Run has picked

## ON THE ROAD

ROB WOOD,  
EMI area account manager  
for Greater Manchester

up and some dealers have been caught out by demand for Fun Lovin' Criminals' Mimosa. The Beastie Boys anthology Sounds Of Science is still doing a roaring trade in my indie outlets and Robbie Williams has no signs of slacking in a wide range of stores.

At the moment I'm selling in a new single from Dark Star, which is set for release on January 3. It has had healthy radio support and we reckon we are looking at a hit for the new year. We've also got a new single from Kraftwerk coming up at the end of January. A lot of young dance buyers are aware of them as an influence on current acts and will want to check this out.

I'm only on the road for two days next week and it will be a case of making sure all my accounts have enough stock to see them through. We have got a lot of special campaigns running with indie and a priority will be to ensure that all the product is properly cared out and looking its best."

## SINGLE of the fortnight

**DONELL JONES: I Know What's Up** (LaFace/Arista 74321-72275-2). Jones' track has been a club

favourite for so long it could be showing signs of losing its catchy popularity. But Eddie F's production sits so smoothly alongside Jones's lyrics that it is still likely to be one of the most-played club tunes during the holiday period. With a deft rap by TLC's Lisa Left Eye it has all the hallmarks of a hit. It is blisted at Radio One and is receiving heavy plays on The Box. (January 3)



## SINGLE reviews



**BRITNEY SPEARS: Born to Make You Happy** (Jive 9250022). Almost a year after Spears made the last major pop breakthrough of the 20th Century comes the fourth single from her platinum Baby One More Time album. Though not as dynamic as the 18-year-old's previous releases, its tight production sees the song through. (January 3)

**RECOMMEND** **MISSY ELLIOTT: Hot Boiz** (Gold Mind/Elektra 7559-67002-2). With the third single from one of hip hop's critically-acclaimed producers — from one of 1999's best albums, *Da Real World* — Elliott hits all the right buttons complemented by Timbaland's stuttering funky beats. Add to the equation Lil' Mo's vocals and rapper Nas's uncompromising lyrics and this should cross over from club to chart success. (January 3)

**PET SHOP BOYS: You Only Tell Me You Love Me When You're Drunk** (Parlophone CDR8533). Another great title, another great PSB single — but another inexplicably lacklustre chart impact seems likely, although this is an undeniably quiet week when such records should do well.

Drenched in their typical brand of pathos and soul, it includes remixes by Brother Brown, Tasty Tim and Attaboy. (January 3)

**CHOO CHOO PROJECT: Hazin' & Phazin'** (Defected DEFECTCD10). Hendrix and Daft Punk collide on this guitar-driven filtered house track by Harry 'Choo Choo' Romero. Causing a buzz since its US release on the Subliminal label, it now looks set to rock the UK charts. (January 3)

**KARMASTRUT: Where is the Love?** (Eternal WEA246CD). The Italian duo follow their Radio One-supported single Happiness with this track featuring vocals from Weston Foster (who has worked with the Pet Shop Boys). (January 3)

**JUSTIN: Let It Be Me** (Innocent STCDT4). Sixteen-year-old Justin unveils his third single, a cover of The Everly Brothers' 1950 hit. It comes a year after he reached number 11 with *Only You* and is backed by a four-part TV documentary titled *Justin's Story* which will be broadcast between December 28 and 31. (January 10)

**RECOMMEND** **NEW VISION: (Just) Me & You** (AM-PM CDAMP1128). Looking set to be the first house anthem of 2000, this string-laden track is the work of New York's Albert Cabrera and Sam Morales. Having spent four weeks in the Top 10 of the *MV* Club Chart, it looks set to cross over. (January 10)

## ALBUM of the fortnight

**D'ANGELO: Voodoo** (EMI 5233732). It has been so long in coming that no



one has quite known what to expect from the godfather of late Nineties soul, but it has been well worth the wait. Resisting the temptation to make *Brown Sugar Pt II*, D'Angelo delivers far deeper to produce a dark, dirty record that has moments of astonishing beauty and subtlety. This album pushes back the boundaries — though that very quality means it will be harder to make it sell in the quantities it deserves. (January 10) **RECOMMEND**



**SUPER J LOUNGE: Wire and Wheels** (Blue Dog Singles Club tbc). Having signed Creation Songs and released two singles on Fierce Panda during 1998, Super J Lounge were forced to record this downbeat single in the US after a band member was deported. An album, titled *Finally*, will be released on Pima County Records on January 24. (January 10)



**RECOMMEND** **MANIC STREET**

**PREACHERS: The Classes** (Epic 6685302). After the sweetness of *This Is My Truth, Tell Me Yours*, the Manics return firing on all cylinders with a back-to-basics punk/rock in a similar vein to their early single *You Love Us*. This low-key limited edition of 10,000 contains two other newly-penned originals and is not to appear on their next album (due for release in 2001). A blistering start to the millennium. (January 10) **RECOMMEND**

**SOLAR TWINS: Rock The Casbah** (Maverick/Chocolate Boy W513CD). This drum & bass revamp of The Clash's classic is from the label which first brought us Shanks & Bigfoot. When released first time

round in 1982, it charted at number 30, bettering this upon re-release in 1991 when it reached number 15. (January 10)

**NU GENERATION: In Your Arms** (Rescue Me) (Concept CONCDPR7). Liberally sampling Fontella Bass's 1965 soul hit *Rescue Me*, this dance track benefits from a Fatboy Slim-style radio remix by Aston Harvey of the Freestylers. Radio support includes a *Casting at Radio One*, a *Casting at Capital* and *playlisting at Kiss FM*. (January 10)

## ALBUM reviews

**JOHN DENVER: Portrait** (RCA 078636778832(7)). This mid-priced two-CD set includes 30 digitally-remastered classic Denver songs, spanning the period 1971 and 1986, including four previously unreleased performances and a brand new composition, *Don't Be Kind*. (January 3)

## Here new releases

Audio clips from the releases marked with this icon can be heard on [dotmusic.com/reviews](http://dotmusic.com/reviews)

This week's reviewers: Dugald Baird, James Brown, Toussaint Davy, Stephen Jones, Sophie Moss and Charlotte Saxe.

Wishing you a  
prosperous  
New Year

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worldpop  
your world, your





TOP 75

25 DECEMBER 1999

Pos	Artist	Title	Label/CO (Distributor)
1	COME ON OVER * 8	Mercury U203812 (U)	Mercury U203812 (U)
2	THE MAN WHO * 3	Independence ISCOM 9523X (TENU)	Independence ISCOM 9523X (TENU)
3	SONGS FROM THE LAST CENTURY * 2	Virgin CO200 2620 (E)	Virgin CO200 2620 (E)
4	ALL THE WAY... A DECADE OF SONGS * 1	Epic 496390X (T)	Epic 496390X (T)
5	WESTLIFE * 2	RCA 74321 713212 (BMG)	RCA 74321 713212 (BMG)
6	ON HOW LIFE IS * 7	Epic 494233 (T)	Epic 494233 (T)
7	SEPTUAGINT * 3	Ebu/Invi 0159442 (P)	Ebu/Invi 0159442 (P)
8	BY REQUEST * 6	Polydor 5475292 (U)	Polydor 5475292 (U)
9	GREATEST HITS III * 7	Parlophone 5238942 (E)	Parlophone 5238942 (E)
10	I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU * 8	Chrysalis 4978232 (E)	Chrysalis 4978232 (E)
11	THE GREATEST HITS * 16	WEA/Universal TV 6578020 (TENU)	WEA/Universal TV 6578020 (TENU)
12	CHARLOTTE CHURCH * 3	Classical SK 8000 (T)	Classical SK 8000 (T)
13	UNPLUGGED * 5	Atlantic 756705862 (E)	Atlantic 756705862 (E)
14	THE INVISIBLES * 4	RCA 74321 713212 (BMG)	RCA 74321 713212 (BMG)
15	YOU, ME & US * 4	Innocent CD518 4 (E)	Innocent CD518 4 (E)
16	MUSIC - GREATEST HITS * 10	Mercury 5170072 (U)	Mercury 5170072 (U)
17	S CLUB * 3	Polydor 5475292 (U)	Polydor 5475292 (U)
18	WILLENNIUM * 4	Columbia 4942620 (TENU)	Columbia 4942620 (TENU)
19	PERFORMANCE AND COCKTAILS * 2	Virgin 1049470 (U)	Virgin 1049470 (U)
20	THE BEST OF ME * 5	Mercury/ABM 4655222 (U)	Mercury/ABM 4655222 (U)
21	THE HUSH * 2	Mercury 5387222 (U)	Mercury 5387222 (U)
22	RELOAD * 3	Out GUTCO 009 (U)	Out GUTCO 009 (U)
23	TWENTY FOUR SEVEN * 1	Parlophone 5231802 (E)	Parlophone 5231802 (E)
24	TURN IT ON AGAIN - THE HITS * 7	Virgin GEN CD08 (E)	Virgin GEN CD08 (E)
25	SACRED AREAS	Philips 4628302 (U)	Philips 4628302 (U)
26	THE BARRY WHITE COLLECTION * 2	Universal TV 654782 (U)	Universal TV 654782 (U)
27	BABY ONE MORE TIME * 2	Jive 05221 0522124 (U) (P)	Jive 05221 0522124 (U) (P)
28	MY LOVE IS YOUR LOVE * 3	Alena 0192272 0192272 (E) (BMG)	Alena 0192272 0192272 (E) (BMG)
29	LOVE AND THE RUSSIAN WINTER * 1	East West 0578020 (TENU)	East West 0578020 (TENU)
30	HEART & SOUL - NEW SONGS FROM ALL MEGAL * 1	Epic 496390X (T)	Epic 496390X (T)
31	YIN YANG * 2	Sony S2 954512 (T)	Sony S2 954512 (T)
32	CLAPTON CHRONICLES - THE BEST OF * 1	Duck 936454 (TENU)	Duck 936454 (TENU)
33	SCHIZOPHONIC * 1	EMI 5210022 (E)	EMI 5210022 (E)
34	NORTHERN STAR * 1	Virgin CD08 2883 (E)	Virgin CD08 2883 (E)
35	AWAKE AND BREATHE * 1	GlowWorm/Epic 496392 (E)	GlowWorm/Epic 496392 (E)
36	THE PARTY ALBUM! * 1	Positive 495242 (E)	Positive 495242 (E)
37	FEELING STRANGELY FINE * 1	MCA/Invis 460 11023 (U)	MCA/Invis 460 11023 (U)
38	THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION * 1	Alena 4956752 (E)	Alena 4956752 (E)
39	RICKY MARTIN * 1	Columbia 4944040 (E)	Columbia 4944040 (E)
40	REMEMBER - THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION * 1	Capitol 52205 0109 (E)	Capitol 52205 0109 (E)
41	THE GOLD OF * 1	Mercury/Universal TV 7101202 (U)	Mercury/Universal TV 7101202 (U)
42	R * 1	Jive 051978205 051978205 (P)	Jive 051978205 051978205 (P)
43	HERE WE COME * 1	Columbia 4961784 (TENU)	Columbia 4961784 (TENU)
44	AFFIRMATION * 1	Columbia 4963825 (E)	Columbia 4963825 (E)
45	IN CONCERT - ROBERT ALBERT CHRISTMAS * 1	Universal 51901 0102 (U)	Universal 51901 0102 (U)
46	BACKSTREET BOYS * 1	Mercury 5471954 (U)	Mercury 5471954 (U)
47	MILLENNIUM * 1	Jive 0522222 (P)	Jive 0522222 (P)
48	ONE NIGHT ONLY * 2	Polydor 5552022 (U)	Polydor 5552022 (U)
49	SUPERGRASS * 1	Parlophone 5270962 (E)	Parlophone 5270962 (E)
50	PEACE * 1	RCA 74321 85922 (BMG)	RCA 74321 85922 (BMG)
51	FLAME * 1	LaFace/Arista 700026502 700026502 (BMG)	LaFace/Arista 700026502 700026502 (BMG)
52	SURRENDER * 1	Virgin XDUSTCO 4XDUSTMC 4 (E)	Virgin XDUSTCO 4XDUSTMC 4 (E)
53	RAINBOW * 1	Columbia 4956562 (TENU)	Columbia 4956562 (TENU)
54	ANTHOLOGY - THE SOUNDS OF SOUND * 1	Virgin 528454 (E)	Virgin 528454 (E)
55	ADGNO * 1	Sugar/Polydor 5472712 (U)	Sugar/Polydor 5472712 (U)
56	ON THE 6 * 1	Columbia 494302 (U)	Columbia 494302 (U)
57	AS TIME GOES BY * 1	Virgin CD09 89 (E)	Virgin CD09 89 (E)
58	WVW - THE MUSIC - VOLUME 4 * 1	Koch International 330612 (KO)	Koch International 330612 (KO)
59	MTV UNPLUGGED * 1	Maverick/Warner Bros 53047382 (TENU)	Maverick/Warner Bros 53047382 (TENU)
60	NEOX * 1	Northwestside/Arista 74321 705522 (BMG)	Northwestside/Arista 74321 705522 (BMG)
61	ONE DAY AT A TIME * 1	Testar TV TVCC0390 (U)	Testar TV TVCC0390 (U)
62	MIMOSA * 1	Chrysalis 5234942 (E)	Chrysalis 5234942 (E)
63	MIDNITE VULTURES * 1	Geffen 4905272 (U)	Geffen 4905272 (U)
64	THE WRITING'S ON THE WALL * 1	Columbia 4962454 (TENU)	Columbia 4962454 (TENU)
65	MY FIRST ALBUM * 1	Polydor 5478292 (U)	Polydor 5478292 (U)
66	MILLIONAIRES * 1	Mercury 5478292 (U)	Mercury 5478292 (U)
67	40 GOLDEN MOTORS * 1	James/Parlophone TV 520612 (E)	James/Parlophone TV 520612 (E)
68	DIAMOND AND STEALTH * 1	High Grade/Red Bull/RCA/EMI 41644002 (U)	High Grade/Red Bull/RCA/EMI 41644002 (U)
69	THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR * 1	Mercury 5270111 (U)	Mercury 5270111 (U)
70	LEGEND - THE VERY BEST OF * 1	Parlophone 619152 (E)	Parlophone 619152 (E)
71	GREATEST HITS * 1	Parlophone CD9 783602 (E)	Parlophone CD9 783602 (E)
72	LIFE THRU A LENS * 1	Chrysalis CD09 81127 (E)	Chrysalis CD09 81127 (E)
73	THE VERY BEST OF - CAPTAIN PEARL * 1	EMI 468272 (E)	EMI 468272 (E)
74	CLASSIC KENNEDY * 1	EMI Classics CD058692 (E)	EMI Classics CD058692 (E)
75	US AND US ONLY * 1	Universal MCD 67003 (U)	Universal MCD 67003 (U)

NEW: Highest new entry; INC: Highest; Other: Other; Sales increase; Sales increase 20% or more

TOP COMPILATIONS

Pos	Artist	Title	Label/CO (Distributor)
1	NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC! 44 * 5	Virgin UEMV CD040W144MCD044 (E)	Virgin UEMV CD040W144MCD044 (E)
2	HITS 2000	Mercury/Universal TV Sony TV RACD0154RACD0154 (U) (BMG)	Mercury/Universal TV Sony TV RACD0154RACD0154 (U) (BMG)
3	MUSIC OF THE MILLENNIUM * 1	Universal/Virgin EMI 543020149 (U) (E)	Universal/Virgin EMI 543020149 (U) (E)
4	ABBAMANIA * 2	Polydor/Universal TV 5433850 5433850 (U) (U)	Polydor/Universal TV 5433850 5433850 (U) (U)
5	THE BEST CHRISTMAS ALBUM IN THE WORLD...EVER! * 3	Virgin VTDCC 103VTDCC 103 (E)	Virgin VTDCC 103VTDCC 103 (E)
6	THE ANNUAL - MILLENNIUM EDITION * 3	Ministry Of Sound ANCD019ANCD019ANCD019 (U) (D) (MCA)	Ministry Of Sound ANCD019ANCD019ANCD019 (U) (D) (MCA)
7	HUGE HITS 99	Mercury/Universal TV Sony TV RACD016RACD016 (U) (BMG)	Mercury/Universal TV Sony TV RACD016RACD016 (U) (BMG)
8	BEST...AND FRIENDS ALBUM IN THE WORLD... * 1	Virgin EMI VTDCC266 (U) (E)	Virgin EMI VTDCC266 (U) (E)
9	RADIO 2 - SONGS OF THE CENTURY	Debut Television RACD019RACD019 (U) (BMG)	Debut Television RACD019RACD019 (U) (BMG)
10	CREAM ANTHEMS 2000 * 1	Virgin EMI VTDCC022VTDCC022 (U) (E)	Virgin EMI VTDCC022VTDCC022 (U) (E)
11	THE BEST MILLENNIUM PARTY...EVER! * 1	Virgin EMI VTDCC078VTDCC078 (U) (E)	Virgin EMI VTDCC078VTDCC078 (U) (E)
12	BEST MUSICALS ALBUM IN THE WORLD...EVER! * 1	Virgin EMI VTDCC071VTDCC071 (U) (E)	Virgin EMI VTDCC071VTDCC071 (U) (E)
13	THE BEST CLUB ANTHEMS 2000...EVER! * 1	Virgin EMI VTDCC071VTDCC071 (U) (E)	Virgin EMI VTDCC071VTDCC071 (U) (E)
14	MASSIVE DANCE HITS 2000	Mercury/Universal TV Global TV 0353441 0353441 (E)	Mercury/Universal TV Global TV 0353441 0353441 (E)
15	SMASH HITS 2000 * 1	Virgin EMI VTDCC071VTDCC071 (U) (E)	Virgin EMI VTDCC071VTDCC071 (U) (E)
16	THE BEST OF JONAS * 1	Capitol 52353 52353092 (E)	Capitol 52353 52353092 (E)
17	WOMAN 2 * 1	Universal TV Sony TV Global 5451402 5451402 (U) (E)	Universal TV Sony TV Global 5451402 5451402 (U) (E)
18	THE BEST LOVESONGS...EVER! * 1	Virgin EMI VTDCC022VTDCC022 (U) (E)	Virgin EMI VTDCC022VTDCC022 (U) (E)
19	EUPHORIA - LEVEL 3	Testar TV TVCC069TVTVCC069 (E) (TENU)	Testar TV TVCC069TVTVCC069 (E) (TENU)
20	ALL TIME GREATEST LOVE ALBUM - VOL 4	Sony TV/Universal TV M00C008M00C008 (U) (TENU)	Sony TV/Universal TV M00C008M00C008 (U) (TENU)

PLATINUM (3x) GOLD (2x) SILVER (1x) NEW: Highest new entry; INC: Highest; Other: Other; Sales increase; Sales increase 20% or more

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Pos	Artist	Title	Label/CO (Distributor)
1	KELLY Rowland	Ms Kelly	Atlantic
2	RENEE FAITHORNE	Reverend & The Dress	Capitol
3	LEIFUR LOKESSON	Leifur	Capitol
4	MARKY SPENCER	Marky Spencer	Capitol
5	MARKY SPENCER	Marky Spencer	Capitol
6	MARKY SPENCER	Marky Spencer	Capitol
7	MARKY SPENCER	Marky Spencer	Capitol
8	MARKY SPENCER	Marky Spencer	Capitol
9	MARKY SPENCER	Marky Spencer	Capitol
10	MARKY SPENCER	Marky Spencer	Capitol
11	MARKY SPENCER	Marky Spencer	Capitol
12	MARKY SPENCER	Marky Spencer	Capitol
13	MARKY SPENCER	Marky Spencer	Capitol
14	MARKY SPENCER	Marky Spencer	Capitol
15	MARKY SPENCER	Marky Spencer	Capitol
16	MARKY SPENCER	Marky Spencer	Capitol
17	MARKY SPENCER	Marky Spencer	Capitol
18	MARKY SPENCER	Marky Spencer	Capitol
19	MARKY SPENCER	Marky Spencer	Capitol
20	MARKY SPENCER	Marky Spencer	Capitol

25 DECEMBER 1999

### CHART COMMENTARY

by ALAN JONES

Shania Twain's *Come On Over* registers its ninth week atop the album chart in emphatic style, selling a remarkable 239,000 copies last week, to bring its overall tally since release in January 1998 to more than two million, more than 1.8m of which were sold this year. Twain's sales increased by around 30% last week, once again outpacing the market, which saw sales of artist albums swell by more than 24% to top the five million mark for the first time this year. Among the other winners, the top seven albums all sold over 100,000 copies last week, with Travis' *The Man Who* returning 168,000 copies, **George Michael's** *Songs From The Last Century* 162,000, **Celine Dion's** *All The Way – A Decade Of Song* 147,000, **Westlife's** self-titled debut 146,000, **Maya's** *On How Life Is* 120,000 and **Steps'** *Septacular* 100,000. For all except Steps, last week was the biggest selling week of the albums' history. In the case of Travis it pushed sales of *The Man*

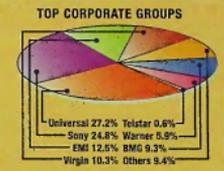


Who over the million mark to 1,143,000 (and precise) while Westlife's album, helped considerably by their fourth straight number

#### ALBUM FACTFILE

Queen are the only act ever to have two completely different 'best of' albums sell more than two million copies apiece, reaching the target first with 1981's *Greatest Hits*, and repeating the feat with 1991's *Greatest Hits II*. Their latest compilation – the logically-titled *Greatest Hits III* – may never attain the dizzy heights scaled by its predecessors, but it is off to a good start nevertheless.

It debuted at number five some six weeks ago, and has declined a little since then, though it holds at number nine, having sold over 86,000 copies last week, its best weekly total. Altogether, the album – which includes Freddie Mercury solo cuts as well as tracks by Queen – has sold 300,000 copies, and is on track to top the 500,000 mark by early next year.



also sped past the half million mark, having taken just five weeks to get there. One of the surprise successes is **Barry White's** *The Collection*, a 1988 compilation which has recently fallen off again in the last couple of weeks. Although White has had to cancel his UK tour due to ill health, the album has been double platinum in sales last week, with more than 42,000 buyers helping it to jump 39-26 in the listings. It would have sold more and jumped higher had it not rapidly sold out in most stores. With a peak position of number five, the album has been double platinum for some time, and has now sold over 750,000 copies.

When album sales were in the doldrums in the summer, **The Corrs'** *Talk On Corners* managed to reach number one with weekly sales of under 30,000. This week, all of the Top 30 albums top the 30,000 mark, while a sale of 8,000 isn't enough to make the Top 75.

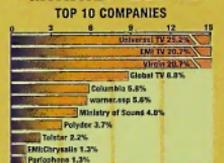
### COMPILATIONS

Now That's What I Call Music! 44 becomes the first compilation ever to sell more than 250,000 copies for four weeks in a row, returning a sale estimated by C/N at 258,514 last week – a mere 39 copies less than the previous week. Now! 44 has already 1,086,000 copies in its first four weeks on release. Now 41!, the previous fastest selling compilation, sold 277,000 copies in its first four weeks, a fact which means that Now! 44 is ahead by a massive 41.6% at the same stage of its life. Not only has Now! 44 established a new record for compilations, it has also matched the pace of the introductory self-titled Robson & Jerome album, and now shares with it the title for the fastest million seller in the UK, both albums taking just 26 days to reach that figure. For all its achievements,

however, Now! 44 is becoming less dominant over its competitors than it has been hitherto. The number two compilation last week was *Hits 2000*, which increased its weekly sales from 85,000 to 120,000, while **Musky Of The Millennium**, which retains third place, pushes its weekly tally from 77,000 to nearly 106,000.

Though there are only two albums of seasonal fare in the artist Top 75, and just one in the Top 20 compilation chart – **The Best Christmas Album In The World...Ever!** – they occupy all but three of the Top 20 places in the budget Top 20, with *Crimson's* *The White Christmas Album* compilation taking pole position with sales just short of 5,000 last week, while the same label's *Christmas Party* album by **Jive Bunny & The Mastersixers is in second place.**

### MARKET REPORT



##### COMPILATIONS' SHARE OF TOTAL SALES

Artist albums: 71.5%  
Compilations: 28.5%

### INDEPENDENT ALBUMS

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label (distributor)
1	1	STEFANICULAR	Steps	EMI/Jive 561942 (P)
2	2	PERFORMANCE AND COCKTAILS	Stargraphics	V2 VIR 100438 (DM/PP)
3	3	RELOAD	Tom Jones	Cap GUTCD 009 (V)
4	4	BADY ONE MORE TIME	Britney Spears	Jive 852132 (P)
5	6	R	R Kelly	Jive 851793 (P)
6	5	WWF – THE MUSIC – VOLUME 4	James A Johnson	Koch International 33632 (K0)
7	7	MILLENNIUM	Backstreet Boys	Jive 652222 (P)
8	8	BUENA VISTA SOCIAL CLUB	Py Cooder	World Circuit WCD 056 (P)
9	10	REMEDY	Basement Jaxx	XLR Recordings XLRCD 129 (V)
10	9	WORD GETS AROUND	Stargraphics	V2 VIR 100438 (DM/PP)
11	12	A SECRET HISTORY	The Divine Comedy	Sensu SETCOL 100 (V)
12	13	PLAY	Moby	Mute COMSTUM 112 (V)
13	13	YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY	Felony Slim	Skin Records 11CD (DM/PP)
14	14	VERTIGO	George Armada	Pepper 053332 (P)
15	15	STEP ONE	Steps	EMI/Jive 561912 (P)
16	17	VERSION 2.0	Garbage	Mushroom MUSH 29CD (DM/PP)
17	16	GREATEST HITS	ZPac	Jive 652862 (P)
18	18	STONE ROSES – 10TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION	The Stone Roses	Silverstone 099245 (P)
19	18	THE FAT OF THE LAND	The Prodigy	XLR Recordings INT 404452 (R)
20	19	(WHAT'S THE STORY) MORNING GLORY?	Oasis	Creation CRECD 185 (DM/PP)

### THE YEAR SO FAR... TOP 20 SINGLES

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label
1	1	BADY ONE MORE TIME	BRITNEY SPEARS	JIVE
2	2	BLUE (DA BA DEE)	EDELIS IS	ETERNAL
3	3	MMMBOP (A LITTLE BIT OF...)	LOU BEGA	PICA
4	4	9PM (TILL I COME)	ATB	SOUND OF MOUNTAIN
5	5	LIVIN' LA VIDA LOCA	RICKY MARTIN	COLUMBIA
6	6	TRAT GONT IMPRESS ME MUCH	SHANIA TWAIN	MERCURY
7	7	THE MILLENNIUM PRAYER	CLIFF RICHARD	PAPILLON/BLACK KNIGHT
8	8	SWEET LIKE CHOCOLATE	SHANAKS & BIGNOTT	CHOCOLATE BOY/PEPPER
9	9	FLAT BEAT	MIR. DIZO	F COMMUNICATIONS/PIAS RECORDINGS
10	10	WHEN THE GOODING GETS TOUGH	POLYDOR	POLYDOR
11	11	BRING IT ALL BACK	S CLUB 7	POLYDOR
12	11	BETTER OFF ALONE	AJICE DEJAY	POSTFINA
13	12	PERFECT MOMENT	MARLINE MCCUTCHEON	PARADEENT
14	13	ROCKA BOMB BOOM BOOM!	VENGABOS	POSITIVA
15	14	GENIE IN A BOTTLE	CHRISTINA AGUILERA	ARISTA
16	15	NO SCRUBS	TLC	LAFACARISTA
17	17	WHEN YOU SAY NOTHING AT ALL	ROBAN KEATING	POLYDOR
18	18	HEARTBEAT/THREEDY	STEPS	EBC/JIVE
19	19	MY LOVE IS YOUR LOVE	WHITNEY HOUSTON	ARISTA
20	20	BEAUTIFUL STRANGER	MADONNA	MAVERICK/WARNER BROS

© C/N Last weeks report on chart placing from the last published Top 20 for singles chart

25

december  
1999

# singles



- 1 I HAVE A DREAM/SEASONS IN THE SUN**  
Westlife RCA
- 2 THE MILLENNIUM PRAYER** Cliff Richard/Papillon/Black Knight
- 3 IMAGINE** John Lennon Parlophone
- 4 COGNOSCENTI VS INTELLIGENTIA** Cuban Boys EMI
- 5 TWO IN A MILLION/YOU'RE MY NUMBER ONE S Club 7** Polydor
- 6 BE BEHIND THE CURTAIN SAW GO SEEXTRA** Acini/Dodger feat. Craig David Public Enemy/Island/Def Jam
- 7 SAY YOU'LL BE MINE/BETTER THE DEVIL YOU KNOW** Steps Ebu/Jive
- 8 MR. HANKEY THE CHRISTMAS'S POO** Mr. Hankey Columbia
- 9 BARBER'S ADAGIO FOR STRINGS** William Orbit WEA
- 10 KISS (WHEN THE SUN DON'T SHINE)** Vengaboys Positiva



- 11 BACK IN MY LIFE** Alice Deejay Positiva
- 12 EVERY DAY I LOVE YOU** Boyzone Polydor
- 13 IF I COULD TURN BACK THE HANDS OF TIME** Kelly Jive
- 14 KING OF MY CASTLE** Wamdue Project A&P/M
- 15 I TRY** Macy Gray Epic
- 16 STEAL MY SUNSHINE** LEN Columbia
- 17 EVERYBODY** Progress Presents The Boy Wunda Manifesto Columbia
- 18 A LITTLE BIT OF LUCK** DJ Luck & MC Neat Red Rose
- 19 IT'S ONLY ROCK 'N' ROLL** Various Artists Universal TV

# THE OFFICIAL CHARTS

25  
december  
1999

AW  
music week

AS USED BY  
**BIBIC** RADIO 1  
97-99 FM



## 1 COME ON OVER

- 1 COME ON OVER**  
Shania Twain Mercury
- 2 THE MAN WHO TRAVELS** Independentz
- 3 SONGS FROM THE LAST CENTURY** George Michael Virgin
- 4 ALL THE WAY... A DECADE OF SONG** Celine Dion Epic
- 5 WESTLIFE** Westlife RCA
- 6 ON HOW LIFE IS** Macy Gray Epic
- 7 STEPTACULAR STEPS** Ebu/Jive Polydor
- 8 BY REQUEST** Boyzone Polydor
- 9 GREATEST HITS III** Queen Parlophone
- 10 I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU** Robbie Williams Chrysalis



- 11 THE GREATEST HITS** Cher WEA/Universal TV
- 12 CHARLOTTE CHURCH** Charlotte Church Sony Classical
- 13 UNPLUGGED** The Corrs Atlantic
- 14 INVINCIBLE** Five RCA
- 15 YOU, ME & US** Martine McCutcheon Innocent
- 16 GOLD - GREATEST HITS** Abba Polydor
- 17 S CLUB S Club 7 Polydor**
- 18 WILLENNIUM (W) Smith Columbia**
- 19 PERFORMANCES AND PARTS** Various Artists Columbia

"DA DA DAH DAH!"

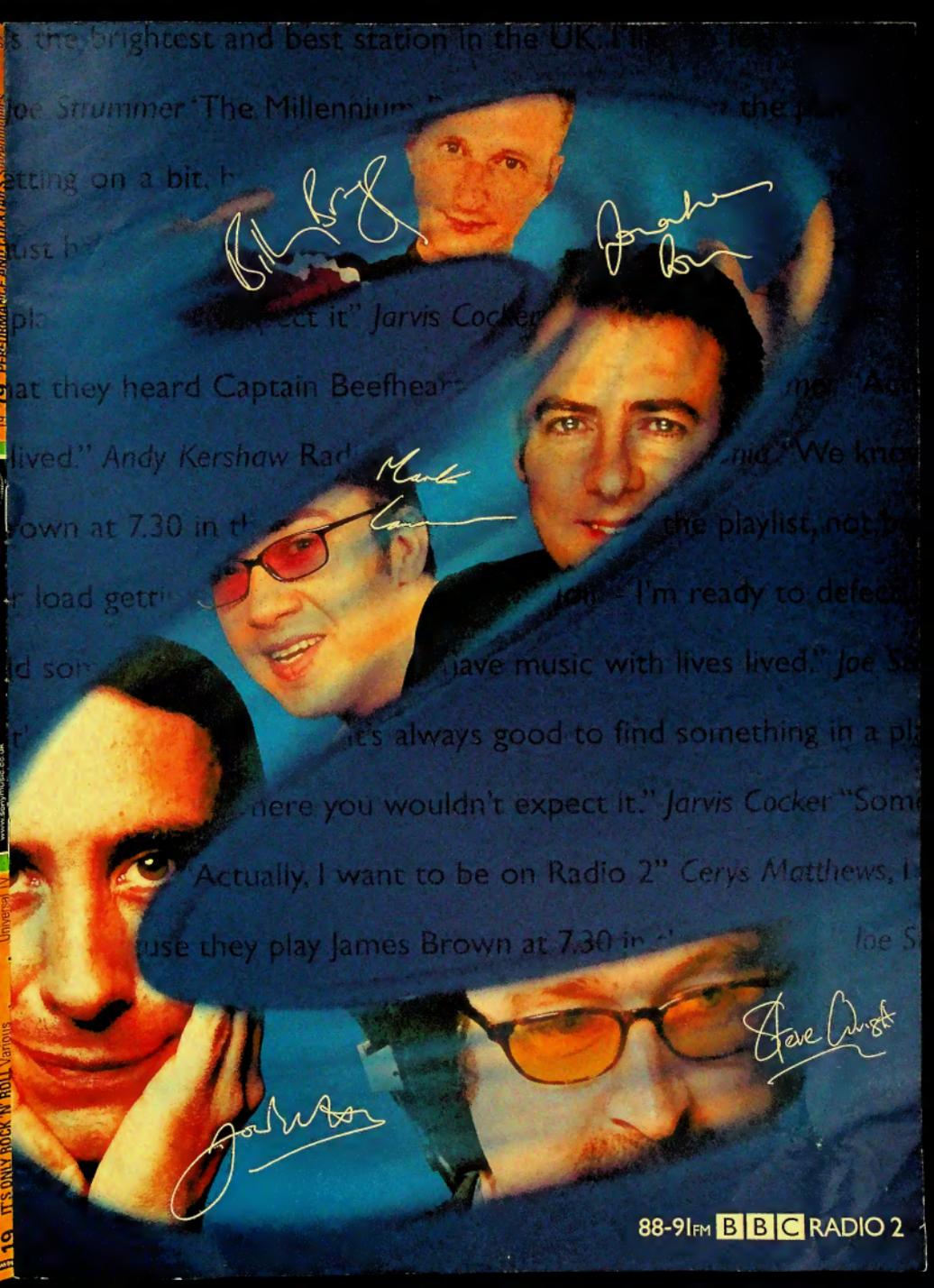
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***'I listen to things like Desmond Carrington on Sunday afternoons. He plays stuff that's been shunted off into a corner. It's always good to find something in a place where you wouldn't expect it' - Jarvis Cocker***

# Radio 2: evolution not revolution

*Jim Moir, controller of Radio 2, sets out his vision for the station*

Radio 2 controller Jim Moir's boundless enthusiasm for the station he runs and for its impressive roster of presenters and producers would sway the most cynical of critics. He describes most of his presenters as "brilliant" and uses the word "genius" to describe his trusted daytime producers. The 1999 Sony Award for Station of the Year hangs conspicuously on his office wall. It justifies Moir's pride in a station that has quietly reinvented itself over the past year to achieve its enviable position as not only the UK's most listened-to station, but as an increasingly influential fixture at the heart of the music industry.

"We do not define our audience by their age but by their enthusiasms," he says. "It is ludicrous to think that as soon as you are 60 all you want is Mantovani and a bit of light Mozart. That just isn't the case. I will be 60 in a couple of years and I can assure you I want to listen to everything from rock'n'roll and The Beatles through to the music of today. I am very keen on a lot of contemporary music and so is our audience - they don't want to be locked in a timewarp."

Moir, the BBC's former head of TV Light Entertainment, took over as Radio 2 controller from Frances Line three-and-a-half years ago. Since then he has raised more than a few eyebrows, attracting the likes of Steve Wright, Jonathan Ross, Johnnie Walker, Bob Harris and Mark Lamarr to the station, while championing new music from The Corrs and The Mavericks to George Michael and Blondie. In July he implemented the station's most profound change for many years, restructuring the daytime schedules to give Steve Wright a daily three-hour afternoon show.

"As far as the daytime schedules are concerned, we hadn't made an alteration of that magnitude for more than seven years. We also made a major change to our Saturday morning line-up by bringing in Jonathan Ross. What

these two moves signify is a desire to continue to attract listeners who have previously not favoured the station. Our desire is to serve the entire Radio 2 audience while adding new listeners from a younger age group."

Clearly it has been a hugely successful strategy, with more than 400,000 new listeners added in the past three years, and Moir's goal of casting the station as "the champion of popular music and culture" apparently within reach. To this end, Moir has added to Radio 2's coverage of live sessions - including the recent concert series from Sheffield and the popular Women In Folk broadcast - and coverage of events such as Proms In The Park and the Country Music Awards from Nashville. He also introduced a playlist, which now amounts to A- and B-lists of 14 tracks receiving 20 and 10 plays a week respectively, with a C-list of five records receiving five plays.

"In comparison to other radio networks our rotation rate is quite modest but we have increased it over the past year. Although it is not our primary purpose we can make hit records and achieve meaningful cut-through. We have a weekly policy meeting and a weekly playlist meeting attended by all the senior producers as well as a monthly review board," he says.

Moir promises that Radio 2 will continue to evolve over the next year, striving to build on its 9.5m weekly reach and 12.2% market share.

Johnnie Walker has resumed his drivetime slot and next year's events include the first BBC folk music awards in February and live coverage from the Rio carnival in March.

"The Sony award is a source of enormous pride to everyone at Radio 2 and a great tribute to the expertise and devotion of the producers and presenters who make such a fantastic contribution. But when you are on top there is a long way to fall, and we will continue to constantly review our output and monitor what we do," says Moir.



Jim Moir

## PROFILE

***'I want to be on Radio 2 - I hate the idea of barriers in music' - Cerys Matthews, Catatonia***

BALANCE



CONGRATULATES

88-91 FM **BBC** RADIO 2

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# A sleeping giant wakes

*Radio 2 has new-found power to inform mainstream taste*

Only two years ago The Corrs were facing an apparently impenetrable wall of indifference in the UK. Their record company, EastWest, scarcely knew which way to turn as press and radio repeatedly ignored the Irish four-piece and the public showed little interest. But Radio 2 championed the group from the outset and stuck with them, A-listing the first three singles from the Talk On Corners album. The network even devoted a live concert special to the band long before they finally broke through with their remix of Dreams in March 1998.

The eventual success of The Corrs was one of the first indications of Radio 2's new-found power to inform mainstream taste and a clear measure of how its influence had risen as the age of its audience dropped. If any further proof were needed of Radio 2's potential effect on the market, it was provided by Blondie's comeback single Maria. While Radio 1 initially turned a deaf ear to the track, Radio 2 A-listed it, with Ken Bruce making it his record of the week. Maria duly shot to the top of the charts.

"We are not here to sell records, but we do, because our audience is interested in new music as well as old, and the record companies are becoming more aware of what we are doing," says Ken Bruce's producer Colin Martin.

"We could play very safe at Radio 2 but that is not always the way to go. Jim Moir asked me to move the music forward because there is a lot of Eighties and Nineties music we had previously ignored, such as Elvis Costello, Scritti Politti and Mike & The Mechanics, which is ideal to carry us through from one generation to the next. In order to refresh the audience, we started to introduce more energy into the schedules. The audience was waiting to be refreshed. In the past year we have championed artists such as Shawn Mullins, Aerosmith, Lou Bega, Shania Twain, Dixie Chicks and Martine McCutcheon and Radio 2 has gone on to become a very important outlet for a lot of them."

In April 1996 Steve Wright arrived at the station and by July 1999 he had been elevated to a three-hour afternoon slot in the mould of the Radio 1 show which made him a household name in the Eighties.

"We knew that because of Steve's background and attitude we could attract the younger end of Radio 2's profile," says Wright's producer Paul Rodgers. "But it is a delicate balance because the older section of the audience need to be served as well. We play 45 minutes of oldies each day, which always proves extremely popular, and that gives us the chance to air tracks that would not be heard on daytime commercial stations. It is a

matter of blending the old and the new. Steve was one of the first DJs to play Wyclef Jean's Gone Till November and we really got behind that."

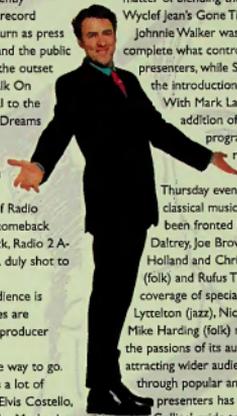
Johnnie Walker was recently welcomed back to the drive-time slot to complete what controller Jim Moir describes as a "stellar line-up" of presenters, while Steve Wright's move to daytime has cleared the way for the introduction of Jonathan Ross (pictured left) on Saturday mornings.

With Mark Lamarr already installed on the Monday rock'n'roll show, the addition of Ross gives a further irreverent dimension to the station's programming, and both DJs have been a crucial part of Radio 2's rebranding. Niche night-time programming has also been updated, with Bob Harris presenting new country on Thursday evenings and Alan Freeman giving his own individual spin on classical music for 26 weeks a year, while specialist commissions have been fronted by a roster of celebrity presenters including Roger Daltrey, Joe Brown and Suzi Quatro (on rock'n'roll), Courtney Pine, Jools Holland and Chris Barber (jazz), Trisha Yearwood (country), Tom Paxton (folk) and Rufus Thomas (soul). Meanwhile, the station's established weekly coverage of specialist genres through Humphrey Lyttelton (jazz), Nick Barraclough (country) and Mike Harding (folk) reinforces its commitment to the passions of its audience. Radio 2's strategy of attracting wider audiences to specialist areas through popular and authoritative celebrity presenters has produced series such as Phil Collins' guide to big band music, Ronan Keating's Irish selection and Jimmy Nail on songs of social change.

"What makes us different is that when Ricky Martin has a hit and everyone goes Latin we can go back to the roots and do a series on the origins of the music," says Radio 2 managing editor Lesley Douglas. "It is not just a case of playing one Ricky Martin hit and then dropping it. In the same way, Phil Collins is here now partly because of that big band history and the series he is doing explains that."

A similarly invigorating schedule is likely to continue into next year, with an avalanche of imaginative programme ideas stemming from the network's eager roster of independent companies such as Wise Buddha, Unique, Smooth Operations, Kevin Howlett and Robin Quinn, as well as BBC Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

"Jim Moir has very skilfully moved Radio 2 along," says Wise Buddha managing director Mark Goodier. "There will always be people who don't like change but Jim has been incredibly adept in bringing those changes, and Radio 2 now has an immensely powerful position in heritage broadcasting. People like Wogan, Johnnie Walker and Jonathan Ross are great broadcasters. The idea that Radio 2 is uncool is outmoded."



Martine McCutcheon - record championed by Radio 2



Jools Holland



Lesley Douglas

# OUTPUT

*'The radio in the kitchen is tuned to Radio 2 and the reason is that it's playing music that's worth listening to' - Joe Strummer*

# The on-air line-up

## PAUL JONES

He has been a pop singer, an actor, a critic and a TV star, but for Paul Jones his Radio 2 shows allow him the chance to indulge his lifelong love of rhythm and blues. His weekly slot on Thursdays from 8pm to 9pm has long been a flagship of the network's specialist music coverage. Jones' own profile as singer with Manfred Mann and the Blues Band lends great authority to a show that gives equal weight to blues classics and modern bands. BB King and Van Morrison are among the legends who have been interviewed by Jones on the programme.



## RICHARD ALLISON

Allison has won much admiration this year for the assured manner with which he has presented the Drivetime slot. The DJ had already distinguished himself in 1996, with a gold Sony Award for the late night slot he had inherited a year earlier from Derek and Ellen Jameson. Prior to that his voice had been familiar to Londoners as the early breakfast voice of Capital FM, where he had previously presented both the Chart Show and the Drivetime slot. Allison, who turned his back on a legal career to become a DJ, has also presented TV shows with Julia Carling on cable channel VH-1.



inspiring a deluge of requests and enquiries. "Even working on this show the time whizzes by," says Wright. "It seems to be over almost before it has begun."

## JONATHAN ROSS

The Film '99 host, former Virgin Radio presenter and star of TV's *They Think It's All Over* moved to Radio 2's Saturday morning slot in July and swiftly put his own distinctive stamp on the station. He replaced Steve Wright, who had moved to weekdays having already softened up weekend listeners for something out of the ordinary. Yet Ross's maverick, irreverent style was still a leap of faith for both listener and network controller. "The appeal of radio for me is freedom," says Ross. "You can more or less do and say whatever you want. On television you have to go through committees and meetings, but on radio you just sit there and talk." With current audience figures well above 2m, he is clearly making sense.



also wrote and presented Ministry Of Sound, a one-hour documentary on gospel music for Radio 1, underlining her arrival as an expert in the genre and bringing her to the attention of Radio 2. She has also been a regular member of the posse on Steve Wright In The Afternoon.

## BILLY BRAGG

When the Bard of Barking took a turn in the Saturday afternoon slot earlier this year, it was an audacious move, even by the standards of one whose commitment to socially conscious music has taken him from the Top 10 to TV's Question Time. Bragg's informed opinions, fondness for new music and informal, highly individual interviews with the likes of Joe Strummer swiftly made him a firm Radio 2 favourite. He fronted the station's acclaimed coverage of the Cambridge Folk Festival, and although he is now touring and preparing for the release of his second album of Woody Guthrie songs, he has clearly established an alternative career.



## MARK LAMARR

Mark Lamarr presented the first edition of his *Shake, Rattle & Roll* show in July 1998 and it was an immediate hit. Lamarr's idiosyncratic selection of classics and obscure titles, combined with his very presenting style and expert knowledge of rock'n'roll, struck a chord with Radio 2 audiences. The *Never Mind The Buzzcocks* host soon found himself widely regarded as the new, youthful face of the station. *Shake, Rattle & Roll* was Radio 2's biggest success at the 1999 Sony Awards, taking glories for Lamarr as Music Broadcaster of the Year and for the show in the Special Interest category.



## BOB HARRIS

"Whispering Bob" remains one of the legends of the mic, still remembered for his distinctively earnest presentation of the *Old Grey Whistle Test* on BBC2 in the Seventies and influential stints with Radio 1 in the Seventies and Nineties. Few DJs are more authoritative when it comes to rock music, but since joining Radio 2 in March 1997 he has also emerged as a country expert. Bob Harris Country, on Thursdays from 7pm to 8pm, inherits the mantle of Country Club, which was presented for much of its 25 years by the late, great Wally Whyton. While dramatically updating the old Country Club format, Harris is very conscious of its pedigree. "I hope to maintain the tradition by playing as wide a range of country as possible. I'm a fan of the new directions country is taking, so far from narrowing the focus of the programme, I am broadening the base."



## TERRY WOGAN

Radio presenters don't come any more legendary than Terry Wogan OBE who was greeted like a prodigal son on his return to Radio 2's breakfast show in January 1993. Wogan himself admits to having felt like he was coming home. He clearly loves the medium, and has strong views to match. "I hate these commercial stations which are dominated by the playlist to the extent that all the shows sound the same - it is an American idea and it doesn't work here. Our strength on Radio 2 is our individuality. I'm not conscious of the programme changing at all, yet it is a very different show to the one it was five years ago. Radio is a slow burn and the programme has developed of its own accord."



## BRIAN MATTHEW

Few presenters carry as much musical history as Brian Matthew, a BBC legend dating from the pre-irate, pre-Radio 1 days of the *Light Programme*, whose early Sixties weekend shows *Saturday Club* and *Easy Beat* were virtually the only outlet for contemporary music on the radio. These were the shows which provided most of the material for the *Beatles At The BBC* collection. Matthew showcased most of the legends of the era, his easy conversational style also providing a string of memorable interviews. Now 71, Matthew has retained his warm informality, making his Saturday morning Radio 2 show of golden gems a must for fans of classic pop.



## LYNN PARSONS

Lynn Parsons joined Radio 2 in October 1998 and her warm delivery has become a staple part of Radio 2's late night/early morning diet. Whether presenting in the early hours at the weekend or the late night slot during the week, Parsons' easy informality with requests, dedications, interviews and magazine items has made her hugely popular with night owls, lorry drivers, late workers and insomniacs alike. Ten years ago, as a Capital Radio DJ, she introduced Bros at Wembley Stadium. In 1992, after four years with the station, she moved to Radio 1 where, during the next four years, she interviewed stars as diverse as Phil Collins, Claudia Schiffer and Arnold Schwarzenegger. Parsons linked up with Radio 2 after a spell on the weekend breakfast show at Virgin Radio.



## STEVE WRIGHT

The former hero of Radio 1, Wright initially represented Radio 2 controller Jim Peir's willingness to gamble in pursuit of new audiences. Instantly Wright's weekend shows were attracting audiences of more than 2m, and the DJ is now back in his old Radio 1 afternoon slot, surrounded by his posse of surreal characters, quizzes, interviews, requests and mad chat. "I'm delighted to be back on in the afternoon," says Wright, whose producer Paul Rodgers describes him as "a real radio star, right up there with Wogan". The 45-minute older segment is the show's most popular feature, daily



## JANEY LEE GRACE

A former backing singer for artists such as George Michael, Kim Wilde and Boy George, Janey even had her own Top 10 hit in 1992 with *Seven Ways To Love* before embarking on a radio career. She graduated from traffic reporter on the old *Russ & Jono Breakfast Show* on Virgin to a daily gig guide spot, before establishing her own reputation as a DJ with the award-winning *Gospel Hour* on GLR, leading to two series of *Sounds Of Gospel* on BBC World Service. She



## JOOLS HOLLAND

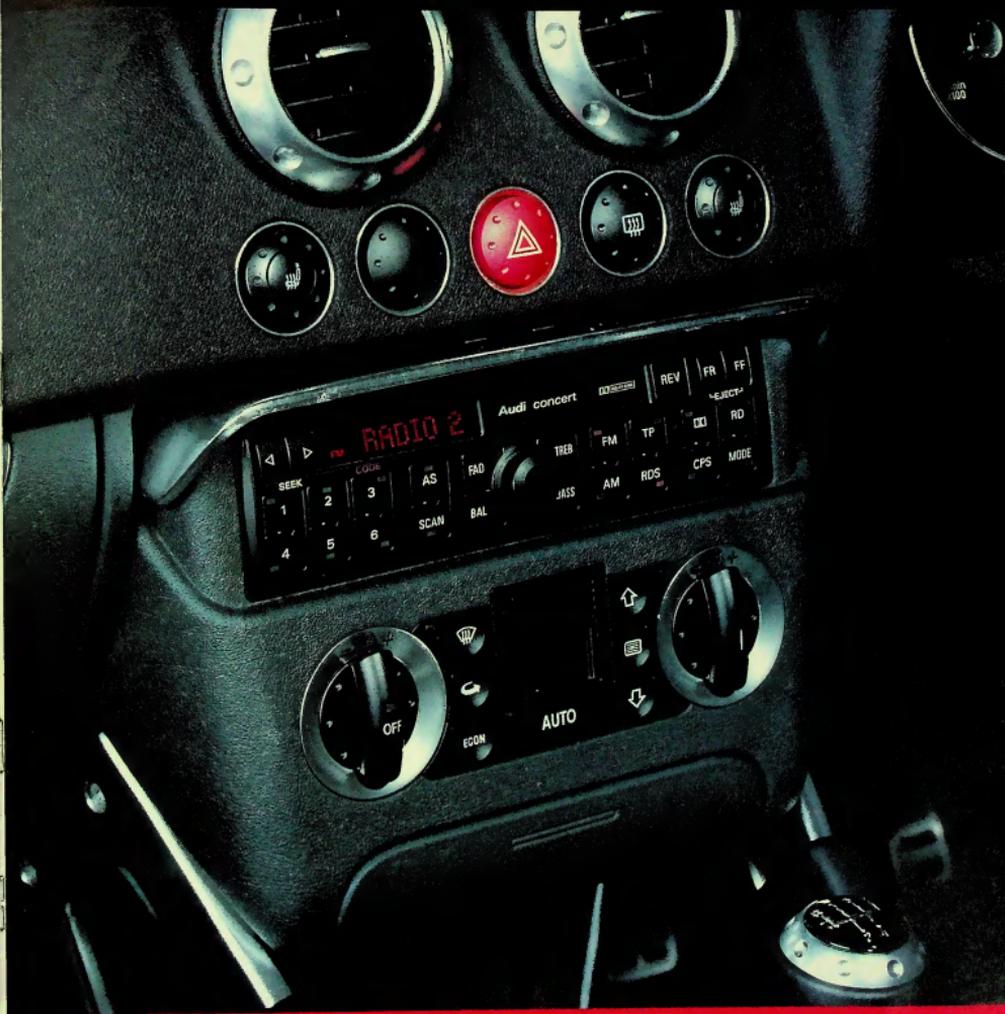
Holland has slotted easily into his latest role as Radio 2 presenter, neatly juggling his skills as admired pianist, wittily irreverent presenter and authority on everything from big band jazz to rock'n'roll, to mould a show of coherent breadth and intelligent freshness. The former Squeeze keyboard king has adapted the principles of his BBC2 TV show *Late With Jools Holland* to present a mix of music, chat and humour appealing to music enthusiasts and casual listeners alike.



# RADIO 2

'Is Radio 2 getting younger or are you just getting middle-aged?' - caller to Jonathan Ross.  
'A bit of both,' said Jonathan

with increasing frequency.



Radio 2. Station of the Year 1999.

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# Commitment to concerts

*Public service broadcasting promotes and makes the hits*

Radio 2 controller Jim Moir becomes particularly animated when the subject of live concerts arises. The network has a long and proud tradition of staging live broadcasts, both at its own theatre alongside London's Broadcasting House and on location throughout the country, and Moir is adamant that support of live music across the entire range of its output is one of its most valuable contributions to the industry.

"We not only take the great work of the industry in its recorded form, we give something back by getting behind live performance," he says. "We sometimes feel gently irritated when our commercial competitors steal our clothes by clever manipulation of their public relations and advertising, when in fact their contribution to the live music sector is very small compared to ours. They may give the appearance of promoting live music events, but we are actually doing it."

"Public service broadcasting is there promoting and making the hits, whereas commercial radio is taking them and playing them when they are hits. These

are the facts and that's why we are such a good partner to the British record industry."

This year has seen a series of highly acclaimed concerts from Sheffield by artists as varied as The Pretenders, Gary Barlow, Jools Holland, folk band Edward II and Madness – with a similar initiative planned next year in Nottingham. In addition, the station regularly features performances by the BBC Big Band ("the finest band of its kind in Europe", according to Radio 2 managing editor Lesley Douglas) and offers an increasingly imaginative approach to the specialist genres of brass, classical, country, jazz and folk. The acclaimed weekly live recordings have ranged in the past month from Elvis Costello at Newcastle City Hall to Women In Folk at Radio 2's own theatre, showcasing female folk artists Kate Rusby, Eliza Carthy and Norma Waterson.

"We believe it's very important for the station to have a serious profile at major musical events," says Douglas. "We are channelling more energy into this to show we have a real commitment to live music."



Ray Charles & The BBC Big Band



Women In Folk

# L I V E

***'I'm the bad boy of Radio 2 – even tougher than Pam Ayres!' – Mark Lamarr***

# radio



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CD EXTRA    



Terry Wogan and Beth N Chapman at the CMA Awards in Nashville



Nick Barraclough

## The perils of live broadcasting

### *R2 boosts musical events coverage*

John Leonard of Oldham-based independent production company Smooth Operations still shudders when he recalls the calamities that might have occurred when Nick Barraclough broadcast from the Mardi Gras in New Orleans at the beginning of this year. Barraclough was going out live from the balcony of his hotel room overlooking Bourbon Street, connected to London via a two-pin plug held into its socket by gaffer tape, while all manner of mayhem broke out around him. "I think the most difficult moment was when some guys blew bubbles in Nick's face while he was talking," says Leonard. "There he was with a face full of bubbles, trying to present the show."

In the event, the five-hour broadcast proved to be not only one of the most ambitious shows ever attempted by a BBC station, but also one of the most successful. The BBC received a staggering 5,000 calls about the broadcasts, as well as 1,500 requests for the accompanying fact sheet, which provided information about New Orleans and the music played.

The Mardi Gras broadcast emphasised Radio 2's determination to boost its coverage of appropriate musical events, which this year has also included shows from the Country Music Association Awards in Nashville, presented by Terry Wogan, the Cambridge and Sidmouth Folk Festivals and the entertainment surrounding the opening of the Blackpool Illuminations. The station's commitment to broadening the appeal of specialist music is further illustrated by the revamped Young Folk Awards – which took place earlier this month and were won by Yorkshire-based act 4-2-2 – and the first ever BBC Folk Awards this coming February. "To me, getting involved in live events of this nature is what public service broadcasting is all about," says controller Jim Moir.

Meanwhile, the Smooth Operations team prepares for its most adventurous night of programming yet next March, when it will broadcast live from the Rio Carnival. This time Nick Barraclough will be presenting from a hotel bedroom overlooking Copacabana Beach in a show that will feature Astrud Gilberto, Carmen Miranda and the history of the bossa nova, as well as more spontaneous, on-the-spot coverage. ■



# EVENTS

**'Mr Moir – I'm ready to defect!' – Andy Kershaw**





**'I'm gradually beginning to think that the best outlet for the truth - who you are and how it is - is the radio' - Robert Redford after featuring on Radio 2 series The Directors**

## 15 things you didn't know about Radio 2

- Radio 2 was named Station of the Year at the 1999 Sony Awards, while at the same awards Mark Lamarr won Music Broadcaster of the Year and his Shake, Rattle & Roll show won the Special Interest Award.
- The station's topical 13-hour Voice Of The Century series on Frank Sinatra won a Sony silver award, and much admiration for having been turned around so soon after the star's death. The truth is that the series was in preparation for the millennium schedule at the time Sinatra died.
- The most requested song on Steve Wright In The Afternoon is Imagine by John Lennon, while there are more requests for Paul McCartney solo material than for Beatles tracks.
- Radio 2 has attracted more than 400,000 new listeners in the past three years.
- Friday Night Is Music Night is in its fourth decade on the air - and still attracts a 10% audience share.
- Radio 2 claims the first UK play for Lou Bega's number one hit Mambo No.5. The record was famously a hit on import before its official release, but Paul Gambaccini got hold of a copy even before it was available on import and immediately started playing it.
- Radio 2 now boasts the UK's highest share - 12.2% - of all listening and a 9.5m weekly reach.
- Radio 2's audience is 50% male and 50% female.
- Of its English listeners, 36.1% are in the South, 23% in the Midlands and 27.6% in the North.
- The station plays 1,500 different tracks a week chosen from a database of 4,000.
- The 25 tracks featured weekly on the three playlists represent approximately 20% of music played on the network.
- Recent guest presenters have varied from Daryl Hall, Deniece Williams, Billy Bragg and Trisha Yearwood to Jimmy Nail, Evelyn Glennie, Cleo Laine, Rufus Thomas, Bob Monkhouse and Tom Paxton.
- Bob Harris has one of the largest private record collections in the country.
- Radio 2 also won three Sony Gold Awards in 1998 - for Michael Parkinson's Sunday Supplement, the John Dunn Show and the Richard Allinson Show.
- Former Radio 2 controller was Top Of The Pops' first ever secretary, while Jim Moir could be heard for years as the recorded voice which introduced the programme with the words: "It's number one, it's Top Of The Pops!"

## You ain't seen nothing yet

*The station that continues to evolve*

Radio 2's message to all those who enjoyed the station's 1999 output is simple - you ain't seen nothing yet.

"Yesterday's 40-year-old is 41 today, so you have to keep moving," says Terry Wogan. "If we stand still we will all die together."

It is an attitude Radio 2 as a whole has taken to heart, and while this has been a year of bold change and adventurous programming for the network, nobody will be resting on their laurels in the year 2000, least of all Jonathan Ross. Recent guests on Ross's Saturday morning show range from Tom Jones, Michael Palin and Martin Clunes to Holly Johnson, Jo Brand and Vinnie Jones, and there is always the possibility of a repeat of recent highlights such as Michael Ball singing karaoke versions of Clash songs.

"It is fantastic that Radio 2 is bringing in people like Jonathan," says his co-producer Fiona Day. "The Radio 2 audience has really taken to him. We have had some wonderful moments. Jonathan is also introducing slightly different musical styles to the station, such as ska."

Other forthcoming highlights include a series on the life and work of John Lennon, which will run throughout January; a definitive six-part Kings Of Swing series based around the great big bands and their bandleaders in January and February; the first BBC Folk Awards on February 7, and a whole evening of live shows direct from the Rio Carnival in March.

Highlights of January and February include a series on the life and work of John Lennon, a definitive six-part Kings Of Swing series based around the great big bands and their leaders, King Of The Blues - the BB King Story and concert and the first BBC Folk Awards on February 7. Coming in March is Remembering Dusty Springfield, as well as a whole evening of live shows direct from the Rio Carnival and The David Bowie Story. A raft of other programmes are still to be given a broadcast date, including Little Richard's debut as a Radio 2 presenter in a new rock'n'roll series; the Lionel Richie Soul Collection; the Steely Dan Story; the Trevor Horn Story; Oscar Peterson on the jazz piano; a series examining the musical and cultural significance of the Sixties; and a series titled "Fabulous Fifties" looking at the "lost decade" of British music and culture.

"It's essential that we keep moving and bring in contemporary talent without alienating our loyal listeners," says Wogan producer Paul Walters. "Personally, I think that is something Radio 2 does extremely well."



Terry Wogan



Jonathan Ross

# THE FUTURE

**'At the moment Radio 2 is the brightest and best station in the UK. I like to feel I haven't jumped on the bandwagon too late' - Jonathan Ross**

11

# Station of the Year?



## BBC Radio Two

Congratulations from

**EMI**

16	20	SHE'S THE ONE/IT'S ONLY US	Robbie Williams	Chrysalis
17	21	HORNY HORNS	Perfect Phase	Positive
18	22	NORTHERN STAR	Melanie C	Virgin
19	23	COMMUNICATION (SOMEBODY ANSWER THE...)	Mano Pua	Incoherent
20	24	KEEP ON MOVIN'	Five	RCA
21	25	I SHALL BE THERE B*Witched feat. LadysMith	Black Mambazo	Glow Worm/Epic
22	26	WILL 2K	Vivill Smith	Columbia
23	27	BIG BOYS DON'T CRY/ROCKIN'	ROBIN Lolly	Polydor
24	28	FLYING WITHOUT WINGS	Westlife	RCA
25	29	THAT'S THE WAY IT IS	Celine Dion	Epic
26	30	TALKING IN YOUR SLEEP/LOVE ME	Martina McCutcheon	Innocent
27	31	BABY, IT'S COLD OUTSIDE	Tom Jones & Cerys Matthews	Gut
28	32	UNDER PRESSURE	Queen & David Bowie	Parlophone
29	33	A CHRISTMAS KISS	Daniel O'Donnell	Ritz
30	34	JUST WAVE HELLO	Charlottie Church	Sony Classical
31	35	RIGHT NOW	Atomic Kitten	Innocent
32	36	BLUE (DA BA DEE)	Eiffel 65	Eternal
33	37	TURN YOUR LIGHTS DOWN LOW	Bob Marley feat. Lauryn Hill	Columbia
34	38	I LEARNED FROM THE BEST	Whitney Houston	Arista
35	39	THE FINAL COUNTDOWN 2000	Europa	Epic
36	40	GENIE IN A BOTTLE	Christina Aguilera	RCA

1	11	HOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC!	44	20	11	THE BEST MILLENNIUM PARTY...EVER!	Virgin/EMI
2	12	HITS 2000			12	BEST MUSIC ALBUM IN THE WORLD...EVER!	Virgin/EMI
3	13	MUSIC OF THE MILLENNIUM			13	THE BEST CLUB ANTHEMS 2000...EVER!	Virgin/EMI
4	14	ABBAMAMA!			14	MASSIVE DANCE HITS 2000	warner.euro/Universal TV/Global TV
5	15	SMASH HITS 2000			15	THE BEST LOVE SONGS...EVER!	Virgin/EMI
6	16	THE ANNUAL - MILLENNIUM EDITION			16	THE BEST OF BOND...JAMES BOND	Capitol
7	17	HUGE HITS 99			17	WOMAN 2	Universal TV/Sony TV/Global
8	18	BEST AND FRIENDS ALBUM IN THE WORLD...			18	THE BEST LOVESONGS...EVER!	warner.euro/Global TV/Sony TV
9	19	RADIO 2 - SONGS OF THE CENTURY			19	EUPHORIA - LEVEL 3	Virgin/EMI
10	20	CREAM ANTHEMS 2000			20	ALL THE GREATEST LOVE ALBUM - VOL 1	Virgin/EMI

17	20	THE BEST OF ME	Bryan Adams	Mercury/R&M
21	21	THE HUSH	Texas	Mercury
22	22	RELOAD	Tom Jones	Gut
23	23	TWENTY FOUR SEVEN	Tina Turner	Parlophone
24	24	TURN IT ON AGAIN - THE HITS	Genesis	Virgin
25	25	SACRED ARIAS	Andrea Bocelli	Philips
26	26	THE BARRY WHITE COLLECTION	Barry White	Universal TV
27	27	BABY ONE MORE TIME	Britney Spears	Jive
28	28	MY LOVE IS YOUR LOVE	Whitney Houston	Arista
29	29	LOVE AND THE RUSSIAN WINTER	Simply Red	East West
30	30	HEART & SOUL - NEW SONGS FROM ALY	M'BEAL Vonda Shepard	Epic
31	31	SYNKRONIZED	Jamiroquai	Sony SZ
32	32	CLAPTON CHRONICLES - THE BEST OF	Eric Clapton	Duck
33	33	3737	Clay Aiken	EMI
34	34	NORTHERN STAR	Melanie C	Virgin
35	35	AWAKE AND BREATHE B*Witched		Glow Worm/Epic
36	36	THE PARTY ALBUM!	Vengaboys	Positiva
37	37	FEELING STRANGELY FINE	Samsonic	MCA/Uni-Island
38	38	THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION	Nat 'King' Cole	EMI
39	39	RICKY MARTIN	Ricky Martin	Columbia
40	40	REMEMBER - THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION	Cat Stevens	Island/Uni-Island

the definitive magazine for chartwatchers

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- Top 200 singles chart
- Top 200 albums chart
- Top 200 artist albums of the week
- Top 50 compilations of the week
- Singles and albums of the year
- Best selling singles and albums for the year to date

\*As used by the BBC for Top of the Pops

If you want at-a-glance chart information, look no further than **HIT Music**

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# THE OFFICIAL UK CHARTS SPECIALIST

25 DECEMBER 1999

## MID-PRICE

Title	Artist	Label (distributor)
1	2 TRACY CHAPMAN	Tracy Chapman Elektra 836742 (TEN)
2	9 TOGETHER WITH CLIFF RICHARD	CHR Richard And The Shadows EMI C06M0129 (E)
3	6 THE MASTERPLAN	Creation CRECO21 (IMP/PT)
4	4 THE SCORE	Fugues Arias 70211892 (TEN)
5	7 WHO'S NEXT	The Who PolyGram 527382 (U)
6	7 DEFINITELY MAYBE	Oasis Creation CREO 189 (3MVP)
7	15 THE ESSENTIAL CAROLS COLLECTION	Various Deutsche Grammophon 4603782 (U)
8	8 DODIE	Green Day Reprise 38245252 (TEN)
9	5 THE BODYGUARD (OST)	Arias 70211892 (TEN)
10	16 BROTHERS IN ARMS	Dire Straits Vertigo 804592 (U)
11	18 GREATEST HITS	Bob Dylan Columbia 4602679 (U)
12	10 ELVIS BALLADS	Geffen GFL13298 (U)
13	17 APPETITE FOR DESTRUCTION	Various RCA MC010783 (U)
14	14 RESERVOR DOGS (OST)	Various Atlantic 75702630 (TEN)
15	13 FOUR SYMBOLS	Leti Zeppelin Columbia 4931802 (TEN)
16	12 TAPESTRY	Carole King Columbia 4602882 (TEN)
17	11 BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATER	Simon And Garfunkel EMI 498602 (E)
18	11 PARKLIFE	Blur Food 4000010 (E)
19	10 THE MILLIONNIRES GREATEST CRAZY PARTY	Various Connoisseur Collection MILLED93 (P)
20	15 BOOK OF THE BAY - DEFINITIVE COLLECTION	Otis Redding Atlantic 354631 792 (TEN)

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## BUDGET

Title	Artist	Label (distributor)
1	1 THE WHITE CHRISTMAS ALBUM	Various Crismos CRIMAC20 (EU)
2	2 CHRISTMAS PARTY	Various Crismos CRIMC014 (EU)
3	3 CHRISTMAS WITH NAT AND DEAN	Nat King Cole/Dean Martin Music For Pleasure CMP0799 (E)
4	6 CHRISTMAS ALBUM	Frank Sinatra Music For Pleasure CMP0799 (E)
5	7 A WINTER ROMANCE	Various EMI 498602 (E)
6	8 MERRY CHRISTMAS	Various Spectrum 594562 (U)
7	4 NOW STOP SING-A-LONG CHRISTMAS PARTY	Various Creation CREO0922 (SRO)
8	9 99.2	Various Moving Shadow ASHAD099620 (SRO)
9	10 ELVIS' CHRISTMAS ALBUM	Elvis Presley Camden 7421189742 (BMG)
10	10 THE CHRISTMAS CAROLS ALBUM	Various Crismos CRIMC011 (EU)

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## R&B SINGLES

Title	Artist	Label Cat. No. (distributor)
1	1 I TRY	Macy Gray Epic 6681832 (TEN)
2	2 FT I'D GIVE YOU BACK THE HANDS OF TIME	R Kelly Epic 6023134 (TEN)
3	3 FROWN YOUR LIGHTS DOWN LOW	Bob Marley feat. Lauryn Hill Columbia 4684382 (TEN)
4	4 WALK	Will Smith Columbia 5884842 (TEN)
5	5 I LEARNED FROM THE BEST	Whitney Houston Arista 7421172931 (BMG)
6	6 DEAR LEE	TLC LaFace/Arista 7421172931 (BMG)
7	9 KING FOR A DAY	Jamiroquai 52 6697333 (TEN)
8	5 THE BRICK TRACK VERSUS CITY UP	Sis N' Paga 51 702373 (TEN)
9	10 WHY	Gala'n UK WEA NWA 23201 (TEN)
10	7 ENOUGH IS ENOUGH	Y Tibe feat. Elizabeth Troy Northwest 10 NORTH0 002 (U)
11	12 HEARTBREAKER	Mariah Carey Columbia 6681882 (TEN)
12	13 BOMB DIDDY	Another Level Northwest/Arista 7421172121 (BMG)
13	11 DUBSD	LaTief/Ronnie Mackna Higher Ground/Hard Hands HAN0 05401 (U)
14	10 MS. FAT BOOY	Mo'Def Rawkus RWK0200 (P)
15	14 DEEP INSIDE	Mary J Blige MCA/Uni-Island M821 40224 (U)
16	15 SUNSHINE	Gabrielle Da'Beat 608002 23 (U)
17	15 BUG A BOO	Destiny's Child Columbia 6681882 (TEN)
18	17 BEST FRIEND	Puff Daddy feat. Mario Winans Puff Daddy/Arista 7421172121 (BMG)
19	15 SIXTA SIXTA	Beverly Knight Parlophone Rhythm Series (E)
20	20 YOU DON'T KNOW	702 Motown/Uni-Island TMG 1592 (U)
21	16 I'LL BE YOUR EVERYTHING	Youngsta's Hollywood 010702949R (P)
22	22 SWEET LEE CHOCOLATE	Shacka & Bigfist Pegasus 652030 (P)
23	21 GIVE IT TO YOU	Jordan Knight Interscope 45777 (U)
24	25 K'NOW WHAT'S UP	Dannell Jones LaFace/Arista 7421172121 (BMG)
25	23 UNPRETTY	TLC LaFace/Arista 7421172121 (BMG)
26	30 ALL M MY GRILL	Missy Elliott feat. MC Solar Elektra E374200 (U)
27	24 WHAT YOU THINK OF THAT	Memphis Bleek feat. Jay-Z Def Jam 7019251 (U)
28	17 WILD WILD WEST	Will Smith feat. Dru Hill Columbia 6675965 (TEN)
29	34 I'LL BE MISSING YOU	Puff Daddy & Faith Evans Puff Daddy/Arista (Impor)
30	30 IF YOU HAD MY LOVE	Jennifer Lopez Columbia (Impor)

© CIN. Compiled from data from a panel of independents and specialist multiples.

TW	LW	Title	Label Cat. No.
1	1	ORIGINAL CAST RECORDING: Joseph & The Amazing Technicolor	Universal Video V101833
2	2	STEPS: The Best Step - Live	Blue/Universal 320105
3	2	CLIFF RICHARD: Live in the Park	Video Collection VCA149
4	4	BOYZONE: Dublin - Live By Request	UK VCL12493
5	5	MICHAEL BAY: Live At The Royal Albert Hall	Universal Video V10262
6	8	WESTLIFE: The Story	BMG Video 742170013
7	9	SKANIA TWAIN: Live	Universal Video V159545
8	6	JANE MICHAELSON: In Concert	Universal Video V159545
9	7	ORIGINAL CAST RECORDING: Oklahoma	Video Collection VCA150
10	10	DANIEL O'DONNELL: Performing: Wexford	Universal Video V159545

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## COUNTRY

Title	Artist	Label (distributor)
1	1 COME ON OVER	Shania Twain Mercury 1700121 (U)
2	2 LEANIN RIMES	Capitol/London 857885122 (TEN)
3	4 THE WOMAN IN ME	Shania Twain Mercury 522888 (U)
4	3 WIDE OPEN SPACE	Epic 498422 (TEN)
5	6 FLY	U2 Epic 4985152 (TEN)
6	5 I AM SHELBY LYNNE	Mercury 546172 (U)
7	7 STILL CAN'T SAY GOODBYE	Charlie Linnich Ritz RZCD 0092 (RMG/U)
8	8 SHANIA TWAIN	Shania Twain The Mavericks Mercury 546172 (U)
9	11 GETTING ON TOP OF THE WORLD	LeAnn Rimes Sugar/London 586020 (TEN)
10	11 SITTS IS BLUE	Dolly Parton Cash/Hill SHCD300 (DIR)
12	15 SONGS OF INSPIRATION	Daniel O'Donnell Ritz RZCD 709 (RMG/U)
13	10 SO GOOD TOGETHER	Rae McEntire MCA Nashville MCD 7099 (U)
14	13 FORGET ABOUT IT	Alison Krauss Rounder RRCD 0469 (DIR)
15	12 EMOTION	Martina McBride RCA 7421189312 (BMG)
16	20 LOVE SONGS	Daniel O'Donnell Ritz RZCD 715 (RMG/U)
17	16 WESTERN WALL - THE TUCSON SESSIONS	Linda Ronstadt/Emory Harris Asylum 75962492 (TEN)
18	17 A PLACE IN THE SUN	Tim McGraw MCA Nashville 556112 (RMG/TEN)
19	19 THE BEST BOWL SYMPHONY	Nanci Griffith/Elektra 75962492 (TEN)
20	18 UNCONDITIONAL LOVE	Dominic Kirwan Ritz RZCD 93 (RMG/U)

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## ROCK

Title	Artist	Label (distributor)
1	1 LIVE - ERA 87-93	Chris Yell/Roscoe Geffen 495452 (U)
2	2 AMERICANA	The Offspring Columbia 4915462 (TEN)
3	3 EARLY DAYS - THE BEST OF - VOLUME ONE	Leti Zeppelin Atlantic 756783282 (TEN)
4	5 THE BATTLE OF LOS ANGELES	Rage Against The Machine Epic 491932 (TEN)
5	4 ISSUES	Korn Epic 460328 (U)
6	7 NEVERMIND	Alrvana Geffen GDCD 24425 (U)
7	6 THE MATRIX (OST)	Maverick/Warner Bros 53024992 (TEN)
8	8 EXPERIENCE HENDRIX - THE BEST OF	Jimi Hendrix Telstar TV TTYCD 2002 (TEN)
9	9 THE LAST TOUR ON EARTH	Marilyn Manson Interscope 438342 (U)
10	10 THE SCIENCE OF THINGS	Bush Trauma/Polygram 494882 (U)

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## DANCE SINGLES

Title	Artist	Label Cat. No. (distributor)
1	1 A LITTLE BIT OF LUCK	DJ Luck & MC Neat Red Rose 12R0805 (U) (IMP/UK)
2	2 BEHIND THE SCENES SAY RO SELECTA	Arsl/Adopted/Craig David Polygram/Danone/Interscope 10170007 (U)
3	3 BROTHERS ADAGIO FOR STRINGS	William Orbit WEA WEA 2077 (TEN)
4	2 EVERYBODY	Perfect Presents The Boy Wunda MCA/Interscope 494882 (U)
5	5 HUNNY HORNS	Positiva 12TV1123 (E)
6	4 ENOUGH IS ENOUGH	Y Tibe feat. Elizabeth Troy Northwest 10 NORTH0 002 (V)
7	7 COMMUNICATION (SOMEbody ANSWER THE...)	Mario Piu Incentive CENT 27 (IMP/TEN)
8	13 BACK IN MY LIFE	Kluster Neo NEO12024 (V)
9	10 MAKE A MOVE ON ME	Ariana AZN1028 (V)
10	5 28 BASS/SNAPSHOT	Roni Size Full Circle FCD103 (SRO)
11	6 ALIVE	Beastie Boys Grand Royal 10CL 818 (E)
12	9 THAT SOUND	Michael Moog hfr FX 374 (TEN)
13	10 LOST IN EMOTION	John Jo Fleming React 12REACT1719 (U)
14	12 RHYTHM AND STEALTH	Freestyles Positiva 12TV1121 (E)
15	15 COME BACK	True Faith True Faith 12TV1121 (SRO)
16	16 CARBINE	Future Groove 12F06010 (U)
17	10 KING OF MY CASTLE	Wendy Project AM-PM 12AMP/PM 127 (U)
18	11 OPEN YOUR EYES	Nalin & Kane Interscope 12IN0700 (U)
19	11 PHANTOM FORCE	Phantom Audio PHEDU01 (SRO)
20	12 MY FEELING	Junior Jack Plas Recordings P1ASS 0127 (V)

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## DANCE ALBUMS

Title	Artist	Label Cat. No. (distributor)
1	1 VOL LIFE AND TIMES OF SHAWN CARTER	Jay-Z Def Jam 5498151948154 (U)
2	4 2001	Dr Dre Interscope 4048581 (U)
3	1 BOB ACIN	Puff Daddy/Arista 7421171012/7421171104 (IMP)
4	3 ANTHOLOGY - THE SOUNDS OF SCIENCE	Beastie Boys Grand Royal - 5523404 (U)
5	7 PURE SUK - A NEW DIMENSION	Various Pure Suk - PURESMC 2 (CDR/P)
6	6 99.2	Moving Shadow ASHAD099620 (SRO)
7	8 WHERE I WANNA BE	Donal Jones LaFace 742081914 (BMG)
8	8 WILLENMUM	Will Smith Columbia 494881/494880A (TEN)
9	12 THE TUNNEL	Funkmaster Flex & Big Kap Def Jam 538287 (U)
10	10 RHYTHM AND STEALTH	LeTief Higher Ground/Hard Hands HAN0414/HAN0414 (TEN)

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## MUSIC VIDEO

Title	Label Cat. No.
11	11 MADONNA: The Video Collection
12	13 S CLUB 2: It's An 8.5 C Thing
13	14 CHER: Live In The City
14	12 ORIGINAL CAST RECORDING: Burn The Floor
15	16 VARIOUS ARTISTS: Andrew Lloyd Webber/Celebration
16	17 ORIGINAL CAST RECORDING: Burn The Floor
17	18 LIVE AT CAST RECORDING: Live In Concert
18	20 THE CONRS: Unplugged
19	18 FOSTER AND ALLEN: One Day At A Time
20	20 STEREOPIHONICS: Fear And Cactals - Live

© CIN



## CHART COMMENTARY

by ALAN JONES

For a remarkable seventh week in a row, the top two records on the airwaves are **Robbie Williams' 'She's The One** and **Macy Gray's 'I Try**. Both records are nearly 20m impressions down on their highest audience ratings but they somehow conspire to remain ahead of all comers — a particularly impressive feat given the time of the year and the fact that a huge number of big name singles have been released since they reached the summit. Both records saw a small decline in support last week while their nearest challenger, when **Are Together by Texas**, managed only a small increase in its audience. The Texas single actually shed a few plays, while **She's The One** and **I Try** logged higher play tallies than the previous week.

**Club 7** register their third CIN chart hit this week with **Two In A Million/You're My**

## AIRPLAY FACTSHEET

● Few records find themselves being played by both John Peel and Radio One's a daytime strip shows with equal regularity, but one that is enjoying major support from both camps is **Cuban Boys' Cognoscenti Vs. Intelligencia**, which jumps 50-29 on the airplay chart this week, with 22 spins on the station providing two-thirds of its total audience.

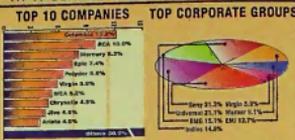
Number One debuting at number five. Ironically, although it looks like becoming their smallest sales hit (their previous singles peaked at 1 and two respectively) it's already their most successful airplay hit, with **Two In A Million** becoming the first **Club 7** track to reach the Top 10 of the airplay chart. With considerable support from Radio Two, it jumps 16-10 this week.

The double A-side **Two In A Million One**, is getting very little support from radio, however, with just a handful of plays ensuring it is completely absent from the chart. **5 Club 7** are one of several acts in the list at present who have chosen to split two tracks on their singles as double A-sides, but the evidence suggests that radio plumps for one or the other, and the track they opt to overlook invariably gets feeble support. Among the other double A-sides on the sales

● All girl group **Fierce's** cover of **Anita Baker's** urban classic **Sweet Love** explodes 149-35 this week.

This is primarily due to heavy support from Capital Radio, where 47 airplays have made it the sixth most-played disc last week, meanwhile earning it almost nearly all of its 40% share of its total United Kingdom audience.

## AT A GLANCE WEEKLY MARKET SHARES



Figures show top companies by full time audience on the Top 10 and corporate play share by full time audience of the Top 10.

chart are efforts from **Westlife, Steps, Robbie Williams** and **Marina McCutcheon**. Only **Robbie** has managed to chart both on the airplay list — and even then the early success of **It's Only Us** owed much to the fact **She's The One** wasn't issued to stations until a week later. **Oldies 4-8** this week, coming within four notches of its chart peak.

**CW Richard's** The Millennium Prayer looked set to become the first ever number one sales hit to fall short of the airplay Top 50 — but this week, while slipping 1-2 on the sales chart, it makes a small but vital improvement on the airplay chart, with 236 plays and an audience of 16.00m (compared to 217 plays and 14.3m the previous week) earning it 50th place on the airplay chart. It still has a poorer airplay record than any of the 120+ records which have topped the

sales chart since **Musique Control** introduced the airplay chart in its current incarnation in 1993, however.

Last week we highlighted the progress made by **Artful Dodger's Rewind**, remarking that it's one of a handful of garage tracks to make the top end of the airplay chart since the genre became popular. This week **Rewind** slip a notch to number nine, its highest new entry to the Top 50 is another garage hit, namely **DI Luck & MC Neat's A Little Bit Of Luck**, which, after months on the playlists of specialist dance stations, explodes 51-27. The crucial factor in the airplay chart success of both records has been massive support from Radio One, which played **Rewind** 31 times and **A Little Bit Of Luck** 27 times last week, while contributing a massive 45% of **Rewind's** audience and nearly 83% of **A Little Bit Of Luck's**.

## MTV

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	10	9	6	5	4	3	1	7
1	2	10	9	6	5	4	3	1	7
1	2	10	9	6	5	4	3	1	7
1	2	10	9	6	5	4	3	1	7
1	2	10	9	6	5	4	3	1	7
1	2	10	9	6	5	4	3	1	7
1	2	10	9	6	5	4	3	1	7
1	2	10	9	6	5	4	3	1	7
1	2	10	9	6	5	4	3	1	7

Most played videos on MTV UK/Media Research Ltd w/e 17/12/99  
Source: MTV UK

## THE BOX

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Most played videos on The Box, w/e 12/12/99  
Source: The Box

## TOP 10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Highest charting videos on The Box in advance of single release w/e 12/12/99  
Source: The Box

## BOX BREAKERS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

## TOP OF THE POPS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Final Ineq: 12/12/99

## CD:UK

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

## THE PEPSI CHART

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

## RADIO ONE PLAYLISTS

**A-List** What A Girl Wants Christina Aguilera; Back Street Girls; Bangs; Basement Jaxx; A Little Bit Of Luck; DI Luck & MC Neat; I Try; Macy Gray; Turn Your Lights Down Low Lauryn Hill & Bob Marley; Glorious Anderson Johnson; I Know What's Up Donell Jones; Left Eye; Steel My Soul; The Roots; Waiting on Myself; Jennifer Lopez; Notorious B.I.G.; Notorious B.I.G.; Barber's Adagio For Strings William Ortiz; On Your Scary Side; Scars; Will 2K Will Smith; Born To Make You Happy Britney Spears; When We're Together; Texas; King Of My Castle; Wastelle; 'She's The One'; Only Us Robbie Williams

**B-List** Cognoscenti Vs. Intelligencia Cuban Boys; 'Albino Death in Vegas; Hot Boyz; Missy Elliott; Sweet Love Fierce; 'Rise Gabilani'; 'Caught Up The Roots'; 'The Masses Against The Classes Music Street Pressmen from December 13'; Rainbow Country Bob Marley Vs. Funkstar DeLuxe; Welcome To The Dance

Des Mitchell; Ms Fat Boxy Mo De'; In Your Arms (Rescue Me) Generation; \*Go Let It Be; Two In A Million S Club 7; Dear Lie Love

**C-List** Graecelandia Dark Star; Why Did You Call Me? Macy Gray; Don't Father Me; Susanna; Lauren Laverne; Neutrasium Naxos; 'Simon Says' Pharoahe Monchi; \*Get To Get It; Snoop; \*Ole Do Super Funky Animals; \*Love Song Ush Saturs; I Have A Dream Westlife

25 playlists for week beginning 20/12/99  
\* Denotes additions

## MTV UK PLAYLISTS

**A-List** It's Only Us/She's The One Robbie Williams; Keep On Moving Five; King Of My Castle Wastelle; Project; I Have A Dream/Seasons In The Sun Westlife; Rewind Artful Dodger; Say You'll Be Mine Steps; Two In A Million/You're My Number One S Club 7; Born To Make You Happy Britney Spears

**B-List** Turn Your Light To Reach You; Why Does She? She's A Rebel; Me Against The Music; Northern Star; I Know What's Up Donell Jones; When We're Together; Texas; Rescued George Michael; What A Girl Wants Christina Aguilera; Back In My Life Artful Dodger; Dear Lie Love; I Try; Macy Gray; King Of My Castle Wastelle; 'She's The One'; Only Us Robbie Williams; 'Caught Up The Roots'; 'The Masses Against The Classes Music Street Pressmen from December 13'; Rainbow Country Bob Marley Vs. Funkstar DeLuxe; Welcome To The Dance

25 playlists for week beginning 20/12/99  
\* Denotes additions

## RADIO TWO PLAYLISTS

**A-List** Northern Star Melanie C; The Best Of Me Bryan Adams; \*Another Year Has Gone By Colin Stace; When We're Together Robbie Williams; Learned From The Best Westlife; Houston; I Shall Be There \*Elvis Presley; Lady's First Mandoz; I Have A Dream Westlife

**B-List** I Have A Dream Westlife; Radio The Corrs; God Shalude Culture Club; Wave The Old World Goodbye Simply Red; \*Now Love The Gipsy Kings; Songs From The Last Century (Album) George Michael; Two In A Million S Club 7; Baby; The Roots; Tom Jones & Cerys Matthews; The World Is Not Enough Garbage; Say You'll Be Mine Steps; Every Day I Love You Boyzone; Love My/Thinking In Your Sleep Marlene McCutcheon

**C-List** Dear Lie Love; Timeless (The Classics) Volume II (Album) Michael Bolton; If I Could Turn Back The Hands Of Time; Kinky; Music Of My Heart Gloria Estefan & 'N Sync; Just Wave Hello Charice Church; I Saved The World Today Westlife; It's Only Rock & Roll! Christina Aguilera; I'm In My Heart Phil Collins; When The Heartache Is Over 'The Turners; As Time Goes By Bryan Ferry; How Come By Baby The Marmalades; I Try Macy Gray; Double 2 Songs Of The Century (Album); Westlife; Crazy Love; Rimes; I Know I Loved You Boyzone; Garden

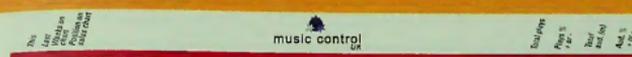
32 playlists for week beginning 20/12/99  
\* Denotes additions

**B-List** Survive David Bowie; I Know What's Up Donell Jones; Left Eye

**C-List** There is no C-List during the festive season

\* denotes split rotation in a playlist packet

25 DECEMBER 1998



1		SHE'S THE ONE		Robbie Williams		Chrysalis 2411		+3 84.21 -4	
▲	2	13	15	ITRY	Marcy Gray	Epic	2401	+2	79.97 +1
▲	3	15	15	WHEN WE ARE TOGETHER	Texas	Mercury	2006	n/c	78.83 +3
▲	4	3	15	STEAL MY SUNSHINE	Len	Work/Columbia	1825	+24	68.79 +29
5	6	4	4	RADIO	The Corrs	143/Lava/Atlantic	1729	-3	66.67 -1
5	8	14	4	KING OF MY CASTLE	Wardma Project	AM-PM	1977	-4	66.22 -8
7	4	12	3	NORTHERN STAR	Melanie C	Virgin	1744	-9	63.13 -9
8	7	14	4	WAITING FOR TONIGHT	Jennifer Lopez	Columbia	1808	-6	62.72 -3
▲	9	5	4	RE-REWIND...	Artful Dodger	Public Domain/Retless	1428	+14	59.86 +6
▲	10	2	5	TWO IN A MILLION	S Club 7	Polygram	1188	+50	51.44 +44
▲	11	11	4	BACK IN MY LIFE	Alice Deejay	Positiva	1198	+7	49.13 +1
▲	12	13	4	KEEP ON MOVIN'	Five	RCA	1935	-3	46.61 -3
13	14	10	4	GENIE IN A BOTTLE	Christina Aguilera	RCA	951	-15	44.21 -1
14	12	6	4	EVERY DAY I LOVE YOU	Boyzone	Polygram	1281	-14	43.07 -12
15	10	10	3	WILL 2K	Will Smith (feat. K-Ci)	Columbia	962	-25	42.56 -17
▲	16	14	11	EVERYBODY	Progress Presents The Boy Wonders	Manifesto/Mercury	828	+31	41.93 +26
<b>HIGHEST TOP 50 CLIMBER</b>									
▲	17	4	2	I HAVE A DREAM	Westlife	RCA	1221	+79	41.91 +132
▲	18	20	5	BARBER'S ADAGIO FOR STRINGS	William Orbit	WEA	764	+58	41.23 +32
▲	19	21	2	BORN TO MAKE YOU HAPPY	Britney Spears	Jive	950	+75	34.28 +30
▲	20	2	1	WHY	Gianna Kiwi	WEA	536	+5	30.66 +8
▲	21	5	3	TURN	Travis	Independent	887	+3	29.14 -45
▲	22	13	4	LIFT ME UP	Geri Halliwell	EMI	1321	-16	27.79 -28
▲	23	6	3	I LEARNED FROM THE BEST	Whitney Houston	Arista	697	-7	25.24 -10
▲	24	3	3	THAT'S THE WAY IT IS	Celine Dion	Epic	825	+11	25.14 -2
▲	25	10	12	IF I COULD TURN BACK THE HANDS OF TIME	R. Kelly	Jive	891	-2	23.35 -21
▲	26	14	4	DEAR LIE	TLC	LaFace/Arista	928	-18	23.18 -41
▲	27	1	1	A LITTLE BIT OF LUCK	DJ Luck & MC Neat	Red Rose Recordings	231	+16	22.38 +43
▲	28	19	19	SING IT BACK	Meloko	Epic	675	+12	22.30 +28
▲	29	2	1	COGNOSCENTI VS INTELLIGENTSIA	Cuban Boys	EMI	302	+31	21.83 +33
▲	30	6	7	THE BEST OF ME	Bryan Adams	A&M/Mercury	603	-17	21.48 -21
▲	31	10	3	I SHALL BE THERE	B*Witched (feat. Black Mamba)	Glow Worm/Epic	329	+23	20.88 +13
▲	32	14	3	MAN! I FEEL LIKE A WOMAN!	Shania Twain	Mercury	963	-13	20.70 -28
▲	33	7	1	SAY YOU'LL BE MINE	Steps	Ebu/Jive	558	+59	20.70 +96
▲	34	23	16	UNPRETTY	TLC	LaFace/Arista	663	-1	20.39 -10
<b>BIGGEST INCREASE IN PLAYS</b>									
<b>BIGGEST INCREASE IN AUDIENCE</b>									
▲	35	18	1	SWEET LOVE	Fierce	Widstar	429	+260	13.98 +297
▲	36	5	1	WHAT A GIRL WANTS	Christina Aguilera	RCA	551	+126	19.38 +39
▲	37	3	1	RIGHT NOW	Atomic Kitten	Innocent	904	-4	19.23 -25
▲	38	19	11	I SAVED THE WORLD TODAY	Eurythmics	RCA	348	-19	18.81 -11
▲	39	13	10	SUNSHINE	Garth Brooks	Go Beat/Polygram	577	-8	18.31 -32
▲	40	3	1	BOB DYIGGY	Another Level	Northwestside/Arista	523	-22	18.10 -23
▲	41	18	1	BABY, IT'S COLD OUTSIDE	Tom Jones And Cerys From Catatonia	Gut	345	+50	18.03 +26
▲	42	2	1	LOVE ME	Martine McCutcheon	Innocent	441	-24	17.93 -57
▲	43	2	1	COMMUNICATION (SOMEBODY ANSWERS THE PHONE)	Maria Piu	Incentive	428	-7	17.53 -46
▲	44	9	1	I KNEW I LOVED YOU	Savage Garden	Columbia	691	-17	16.86 -22
▲	45	1	1	MAN! I FEEL LIKE A WOMAN	John Lennon & The Plastic Ono Band	Parlophone	624	+643	16.80 +63
▲	46	25	6	THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH	Garbage	Radioactive/MCA	499	-34	16.61 -82
▲	47	31	19	BEAUTIFUL STRANGER	Madonna	Maverick/Warner Bros.	536	-13	16.31 -28
▲	48	4	1	IT'S ONLY US	Robbie Williams	Chrysalis	170	-49	16.13 -30
▲	49	13	2	TURN YOUR LIGHTS DOWN LOW	Lauryn Hill & Bob Marley	Columbia	507	+3	16.11 -30
▲	50	14	1	THE MILLENNIUM PRAYER	Cliff Richard	Papillon	235	-8	16.06 +12

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Compiled from data supplied by the following: BBC Radio 1, BBC Radio 2, BBC Radio 3, BBC Radio 4, BBC Radio 5, BBC Radio 6, BBC Radio 7, BBC Radio 8, BBC Radio 9, BBC Radio 10, BBC Radio 11, BBC Radio 12, BBC Radio 13, BBC Radio 14, BBC Radio 15, BBC Radio 16, BBC Radio 17, BBC Radio 18, BBC Radio 19, BBC Radio 20, BBC Radio 21, BBC Radio 22, BBC Radio 23, BBC Radio 24, BBC Radio 25, BBC Radio 26, BBC Radio 27, BBC Radio 28, BBC Radio 29, BBC Radio 30, BBC Radio 31, BBC Radio 32, BBC Radio 33, BBC Radio 34, BBC Radio 35, BBC Radio 36, BBC Radio 37, BBC Radio 38, BBC Radio 39, BBC Radio 40, BBC Radio 41, BBC Radio 42, BBC Radio 43, BBC Radio 44, BBC Radio 45, BBC Radio 46, BBC Radio 47, BBC Radio 48, BBC Radio 49, BBC Radio 50, BBC Radio 51, BBC Radio 52, BBC Radio 53, BBC Radio 54, BBC Radio 55, BBC Radio 56, BBC Radio 57, BBC Radio 58, BBC Radio 59, BBC Radio 60, BBC Radio 61, BBC Radio 62, BBC Radio 63, BBC Radio 64, BBC Radio 65, BBC Radio 66, BBC Radio 67, BBC Radio 68, BBC Radio 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One of these "gentlemen" is a Sixties throwback, very usually to be found dressed in the fashions of more than three decades ago. The other, we can clearly see, is comedian Lenny Beige who was kindly lent Noel Gallagher's eyebrows for the evening to entertain caddy GARY FARROW, director of artist and company relations JACKIE HYDE (left) and a host of other Sony staff and friends at the major's Christmas bash at Sugar Reef in central London. Camera-sly Lord Farrow, obviously feeling his age these days, was helped around the venue by the temporary installation of a Stena stair lift which bore a number plate with the legend GP1 - which, we have been assured, does not stand for Geriatric Folar.



Remember where you heard it: No end of chatter about EMI: is it the subject of a takeover by an established media giant, or is it looking to find a white knight new technology company to take a stake in a move that would protect its flank while offering it cash plus access to internet savvy? Watch this space... Certainly chief suit Eric Nicoli was having none of it as he attended his second Spice Girls concert of the week last Wednesday. "There's nothing going on. We're approached to comment on two stories like this every day," he noted good-humouredly...Nicoli showed up earlier than Virgin newcomers Atomic Kitten, who arrived at Wembley to see the Spices when they were actually playing **Eurts Court**...Big news from the US, where it emerges that (a) the Justice Department is **Investigating MTV on anti-trust grounds**, and that (b) Sony and Warner are negotiating with the Federal Trade Commission over

allegations that they and the other majors **pressure retailers** not to discount CDs. Expect more action on both counts...What is **Jeff Smith** planning when his **contract expires** in March? And what are **Greg Dyke's** views on the **Radio One** playlist process?... Some **uncertainty** may surround who is going to be the **big cheese** at **Universal Island** as it runs into the millennium, but at least the label saw 1999 out in style when staff tramped over to **Paris en masse** - **Marc Marot** didn't miss out on this one - to sample the delights of **Disneyland**...Nice of Creation's **Alan McGee**, cleaning out the board room, to send **Steve Lamacq** his Subbuteo table by way of thanks for his support... Which other **100%** major-owned indie label boss is **now making noises** about not renewing his contract but taking the label name with him?...

DeCon main man **Pete Hadfield** can be contacted on: hadfieldpete@aol.com ...Great to see the sporting nature of Mercury MD **Howard Berman's** PA **Patsy McKay** singing in the gospel choir at RCA at Westlife's winning record of the year

performance...Outgoing *Select* editor **John Harris** appears the favourite to get the *NME* editorship, where he could be joined by a certain **high-profile radio star** being pitched for a new role of **roving editor**...Interesting to see the *Evening Standard's* list of the **power people** of London. In addition to identifying the more obvious music industry movers like **Fatboy Slim** and **Sir Elton**, *ES* magazine also put the finger on Sony's **Dej Mahoney**, **Mo Wax's James Lavelle** and producer **William Orbit** as those most likely to... **Music** may have filled the terrestrial TV airwaves the other weekend, but it doesn't seem to have had a dramatic effect on sales of records by most of the featured artists. Despite **An Audience With... special, Diana Ross's** latest album had not returned to the Top 75 by the end of business last Thursday though a Universal-issued Ross beat had just sneaked in...As well as **Tony Brainsby's** passing, Dooley was sad to hear of the sudden and unexplained death of upcoming dance record engineer **Andy Kowalski**, who has worked with tons of artists from **Freestylers** to **Chemical Brothers**, just over a week ago...Just a coincidence maybe, but **Jazz Summers'** new offices are in the NW1 area of London known as **Somerstown**.....

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BMG top brass gave thanks to former Arista managing director **MARTIN STONE** for the first time in a while last week as they enjoyed the debut solo UK showcase by **ANGIE STONE**. Stone, signed by Heath and BMG's

R&B hotshot **MERVYN LYN** three years ago, electrified a packed house at Camden's Jazz Cafe. Since then news has been spreading fast - she has even been added to **Capital's** playlist. Pictured (l-r) are: Arista managing director **GEO DOHERTY**, **STONE**, BMG chairman **RICHARD GRIFFITHS**, BMG head of R&B marketing **Europe MERVYN LYN** (crouched), **STONE's** executive producer and head of Devco Records **GERRY DEVAUX**, Arista marketing director **CLAIRE DOWDS** and **BMG VP media NIGEL SWEENEY**.

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