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Fiction

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20th SOLD OUT Chester Academy / 21st SOLD OUT Loughborough Academy

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NEWS

SHOTS

PICS OF THE WEEK

The latest from the world of rock'n'rol

Edited by Julian Marshall.
Newsdesk: 020 7261 5818

KURT!



KURT'S TURNED INTO A DOLL...

Here's the first look at the forthcoming **Kurt Cobain** action figure.

Based on **Nirvana's** classic video for breakthrough single 'Smells Like Teen Spirit', the doll comes with a guitar and a gym-floor base. Although currently unconfirmed, the item is likely to go on sale in the summer.

Despite the fact that some hardcore fans might not be too happy about Cobain being remembered in such a way, in the US it's considered something of an honour - with the likes of **Red Hot Chili Peppers**, **My Chemical Romance** and **Green Day** all having been made into plastic figures in recent years.

www.necaonline.com



COURTNEY!



...WHILE COURTNEY LOVE HITS LONDON

Courtney Love made a rare visit to London last week - and checked out **Dirty Pretty Things** live.

Courtney, who met up with **Carl Barât** and co backstage at King's College, worked with **Anthony Rodriguez** on music for her forthcoming album. "I'm in a gown and everyone else is in skinny jeans," she said. "I really

wanted to see them. It was great." While in the UK, Courtney also found the time to discuss a West End acting role, a possible new record deal and a new TV documentary about her life. She also revealed she's planning on selling a stake of her rights to **Nirvana's** back catalogue. www.courtneylove.com



RADIOHEAD ALBUM MOVES CLOSER

Radiohead are nearing completion of their new album – and next week's *NME* will feature an exclusive announcement from the Oxford quintet.

The band have been in the studio for much of the year with U2 and Björk producer Mark 'Spike' Stent, and have been keeping a photo diary on their blog at www.radiohead.com/deadairspace.

The group seem to be slowly whittling

down tracks for the follow-up to 'Hail To The Thief', with working titles including 'House Of Cards', 'Down Is The New Up', 'Nude', 'Reckoner' and 'Go Slowly' all being considered.

Radiohead are planning to make a special announcement soon, so ensure you get next week's issue of *NME*, out nationwide on March 22, for full details. www.radiohead.com



BLOC PARTY GET UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

Here's **Kele Okereke** meeting his fans at **Bloc Party's** smallest show in years.

The band are on a secret tour to road-test songs from the follow-up to 'Silent Alarm', and they're loving every second of being back in the kind of venues they haven't played in ages.

At the show at the 400 capacity Nottingham **Rescue Rooms** five new tracks were played – opener 'Waiting For The 7.18', 'Hunting For Witches', 'Uniform', 'Atonement' and 'Blue Moon', while other dates on the tour have seen further new songs played.

Kele told *NME*: "We're playing five new songs a night, and are rotating what we play to see how they're working. There's about 16 that we have so far, but we've only been playing 12."

Expect more new tracks when the band play a charity gig at the London Royal Albert Hall on March 29. The new album is set for release in the autumn.

www.blocparty.com

NEWS

Showtime: headliners **Boy Kill Boy** will be joined on the road by...

NME NEW MUSIC TOUR 2006

THE HOTTEST NEW BANDS HIT THE ROAD

Boy Kill Boy lead the way on this May's top new talent trek

This year's NME New Music Tour is set to be the best ever, with **Boy Kill Boy**, **The Automatic**, **¡Forward, Russia!** and **The Long Blondes** signing up to play.

With the annual tour previously introducing fresh talent like Maximo Park and The Cribbs, the four bands are looking forward to the May jaunt.

"It's fucking great to be on the tour - we're all made up about it," explained Boy Kill Boy's **Chris Peck**. "It's going to be wicked."

South Wales whizzkids **The Automatic** added that they were looking forward to bonding with the three other bands.

"The tour's a great thing," said singer **Rob Hawkins**. "We're looking forward to playing with ¡Forward, Russia!. I'm very into them. I'll definitely wear one of their trademark [exclamation mark] T-shirts!"

With ¡Forward, Russia!'s **Whiskas** keen to check out his tourmates, a football-style shirt exchange could be on the cards.

"We said, 'Hi' to **The Automatic** when we played with them last," said **Whiskas**.

"I'm intrigued by them, to be honest."

Having received the Philip Hall Radar Award at the ShockWaves NME Awards, **The Long Blondes** are now looking forward to playing to a wider audience.

"We've never done a big tour!" declared frontwoman **Kate Jackson**. "It's great as we'll be able to reach other parts of the country for the first time."

However, with the tour kicking off at Bristol University on May 6 (see panel for the full dates), **The Long Blondes** are missing the first three shows due to a prior gig commitment in Mexico, so to compensate for their absence in Bristol, Cardiff and Wolverhampton, the excellent **Howling Bells** are stepping into the breach.

"It's nice to get to play on a bigger stage," said singer **Juanita Stein**.

"We'll be doing our best to make a real impact on these three dates." *YePG Proudly

...Welsh gonzo-punks **The Automatic**...



...disco-metal loonies **¡Forward, Russia!**...



...and virgins to the "proper" tour **The Long Blondes**



NME NEW MUSIC TOUR 2006

THE DATES:

Bristol University (May 6)*
Cardiff University (7)*
Wolverhampton Wulfrun (8)*
Glasgow QMU (10)
Middlesbrough Empire (11)
Manchester University (12)
Portsmouth Pyramid (14)

Leicester University (15)
Cambridge Junction (16)
Norwich UEA (18)
Sheffield Leadmill (19)**
Liverpool Carling Academy (20)
Oxford Brookes University (23)
London Electric Ballroom (24)

Tickets for the NME New Music Tour are on sale exclusively through **NME.COM** until March 16. Go to **NME.COM/GIGS** for more information and ticket availability

*Howling Bells replace The Long Blondes **¡Forward, Russia! do not play this date

MEET THE BANDS

CHRIS PECK

BOY KILL BOY

Who will you get on with on the tour?
"We're all quite excited about ;Forward, Russia! - we've bumped into them here and there. I don't think there'll be any rivalries, I just want to meet up and have a laugh."
Where will you be at the end of the tour?

"The single 'Suzie' is coming out in May, so by that point we should have got the word out there. We're still a relatively new band, so hopefully the tour will chuck our name out some more and we'll be elevated to the next step."
What's your trademark? Last year we had blood from The Crips and combovers from Maximo Park's Paul Smith.
"We'll judge our success by the amount of legwarmers we see in the audience. I did a gig the other day and a girl came up wearing black legwarmers and a polka-dot scarf and said, 'Look, I've got what you wear!'. That was quite frightening. But if we can get some lads into the leg warmers it will be a beautiful thing."



Best rumour you've heard about the other bands?

"I haven't heard any. If The Long Blondes are playing I'd like to meet some of the ladies in that band - they have a little shimmer in their eyes."
A year on from Ricky Wilson saying he'd "wank off a tramp" for success, how low would you go for fame?

"I'd make a champagne cocktail with a garnish of the black bits between our bass player's toes! A toe jam from Captain Kevin's stinky feet."

Who'll get the most groupies?

"Us - we're all stunningly gorgeous. It's going to be disco versus rock versus us - it all depends on who gets there first. It will be a drool fest."

ROB HAWKINS

THE AUTOMATIC

Who will you get on with?

"I haven't met the other bands, but we've worked with a guy who worked with Boy Kill Boy."

What's your trademark?

"Our human superball on keyboards, Alex Pennie! Whenever he's not playing keyboards, he's roaming the stage with a mic in hand."

Where do you predict a riot?

"Scotland! Ladies were throwing their knickers at me last time! Some girls had gone out and bought big Y-fronts and written my name on them."

Best rumour you've heard about the other bands?

"Whiskas has fleas in his beard!"

A year on from Ricky Wilson's 'tramp' quote, how low would you go for success?

"Would I wank off a tramp like Ricky Wilson? No, but I'd definitely suck the crotch of a tramp's pants for success!"



Who will get the most groupies?

"I'll say us. We're irresistible!"

What would be on your rider if you could pick absolutely anything?

"A shrine to David Hasselhoff. His film *Bail Out* is amazingly bad. Actually, it might be really bad karma. We might end up only being big in Germany and supporting Hasselhoff on tour."

WHAT'S ON THE NME STEREO?

Franz Ferdinand
L. Wells (*Domino*)

The other side of the new Franz single is Technicolor pop almost bold enough to stop us cringing at Alex Kapranos' food column in *The Guardian*.

Snow's Rock

Rick Rubin (*Big Dada*)

Apparently the only song in the oeuvre of the Baltimore booty-bass trio not about "pussy" is this tribute to knob-twiddling beardo Sir Rick of Rubin.



Absentee: like a drink or 12

WHISKAS

;FORWARD, RUSSIA!

Who will you get on with?

"I don't really know much about the other bands personally. I know The Automatic are kind of angular and dancey."

Where will you be at the end of it all?

"I believe it's London! (laughs). I'm sure it'll help us."

Where do you predict a riot?

"The only northern date is Glasgow. Anywhere south of Leeds is a bit poorer - and I include Leeds in that because it's becoming a fashionable city. I love Scotland and I love the North East - they're the best places to play."

Best rumour you've heard about the other bands?

"The Automatic were raised from birth to follow Kaiser Chiefs' success."

Who will get the most groupies?

"The Automatic - young thriving boys, the young girls will flock to them... and The Long Blondes are taken obviously. We ignore it as we're all partnered up... apart from my sister [drummer Katie], which I can't really think about because it's my sister. But let's just say I turn a blind eye to it."

What would be on your rider if you could pick absolutely anything?

"A packet of Square crisps and a couple of Bounty bars. Simple pleasures really."



KATE JACKSON

THE LONG BLONDES

Who will you get on with?

"We played with ;Forward, Russia! and we know them a little bit as we go out in Leeds. The guy from The Automatic trod on my foot at the Astoria recently, but he was very apologetic and sweet about it."

Where will you be at the end of it all?

"Hopefully with a single out. That would be ideal, but at the moment we can't plan too much because we're still without a record deal."



A year on from Ricky Wilson's 'tramp' quote, how low would you go for success?

"Sleep with Ricky Wilson - no not really! (laughs) He'll be upset now."

Who will get the most groupies?

"(laughs) I'm sure it will be us because we'll have all the boys. Surely there's an equal amount of boys and girls who go to the tour and all the other bands will get the girls and we'll have the boys! So we'll win by 50 per cent, piece of piss!"

What would be on your rider if you could pick absolutely anything?

"I'd have a postcard from each place we visit. I collect postcards from airports and cities. Very boring, but that's what I want."

JUANITA STEIN

HOWLING BELLS

Who will you get on with?

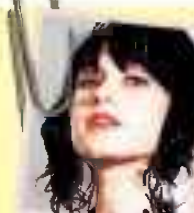
"We've played with ;Forward, Russia! a few times and they're amazing!"

Where will you be at the end of it all?

"Our album is out in April, so it will all be very close and there's another single, so hopefully that will help."

What's the best rumour you've heard about the other bands?

"That Whiskas from ;Forward, Russia! is the coolest cat that ever was."



A year on from Ricky Wilson's 'tramp' quote, how low would you go for success?

"No tramps! Our drummer Glenn is a cowboy, so I'd go horseback riding with him, backwards, naked, through the venue."

Who will get the most groupies?

"Are you crazy? Us! I don't know, do girls get lots of groupies? At our gigs there are either really, really shy young boys or we get lots of men all aged 50."

What would be on your rider if you could pick absolutely anything?

"Green tea-flavoured ice cream. It's a new flavour, it's really strange at first, but then you become addicted."

Absentee

Schmotime (*Memphis Industries*)

Velvets fuzz, country slide guitar and plenty of "do dos" decorate these wondrous tales of love'n'drink, all sung by a man with the Artful Dodger's wardrobe and Barry White's pipes.

Snow Patrol

Set The Fire To The Third Bar (*Fiction*)

Martha Wainwright duets with Gary Lightbody on what is the undisputed highlight of the band's eagerly awaited new album 'Eyes Open'.

Rathan Fake

Superpositions (*Border Community*)

Blissed-out electro - feels like having your ears syringed with Mountain Dew.

Whitey

Wrap It Up (*1234*)

Not just a funky cocaine anthem, this is an indie-disco classic in waiting: 'Somebody Told Me's uglier older brother with a disgusting runny nose.

The Upper Room

Black And White (*Sony BMG*)

It's about as cutting edge as a cotton bud - in fact it sounds like Snow Patrol 'doing' The Corrs - so why, vicar, can't we stop playing it?

Shut Your Eyes And You'll Burst Into Flame

Amputee Smile (*Dance To The Radio*)

The perfect example of band-name-as-summary-of-listener-experience: Leeds screamo-funk at its finest.

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NEWS

IN THE STUDIO



MUSE: "SOMETHING BIG IS ABOUT TO HAPPEN"

Muse eventually put down the child's bendy abacus and got on with the new album

NME gets in the studio to hear the follow-up to 'Absolution'

Muse's fourth album sees the band getting political for the first time. *NME* visited the group as they completed mixing on their as-yet-untitled fourth record at London's Sanctuary Townhouse Studios, and as well as premiering the new tracks, **Matt Bellamy** explained how this time, recent world events have influenced him.

"There's a song called 'A Soldier's Poem', written from the perspective of a soldier, who kind of thinks, 'I'm out here risking my life, for what?'," he said.

Bellamy added that the themes of impending apocalypse also visited on their last album 'Absolution' are more specific now. "There is a theme on the album, it's that kind of connection to the cycles of history where the tension builds up and then it's released," he said, "whether it's catastrophic like a nuclear war, or aliens come down and it's brilliant. But there's definitely a sense that something big is about to happen."

Muse decamped to Miraval Studios in the south of France to start the album, before heading to New York to record the songs

with long-time producer Rich Costey.

Virtually cut off without cars or television in France, Bellamy admitted that the band were in danger of going "off the rails", and enjoyed hitting the big city.

"One song's written from a soldier's perspective. It's about current world events" Matt

"I was going out dancing in clubs around New York," said the singer. "That helped create tracks like 'Supermassive Black Hole'. Franz have done it very well, with that whole dance-type beat going on mixed with alternative guitar and I've always wanted to find that for ourselves."

Tracks for the record include 'Hex', a looping epic that morphs into a twitchy gothic fairytale, while the aforementioned

'A Soldier's Poem' finds Bellamy wailing "There's no justice in the world, and there never was" over backing that recalls Granddaddy and a barbershop quartet. 'Supermassive Black Hole' has Bellamy crooning, "You are the queen of the superficial, but how long before you tell the truth?", while 'Starlight' is a souped-up cousin of The Strokes' '12:51'.

Other tracks previewed include 'Invincible', a romantic melody built around a military marching beat that sees the band issuing the following rallying call: "Tonight we can truly sing, together we're invincible", while 'Knights Of Cydonia', named after a region on Mars where life might have existed, mixes classic Muse rock with Ennio Morricone-style choral segments.

The album is due out in July, with Bellamy confident that people will react to its more topical themes. "Some of the songs are directly informed by things that are going on at the moment," he declared, referencing the Iraqi war, "which is something we've not really done before. But it's impossible for anyone to ignore it."

UPCOMING RELEASES

2
WEEKS

MARCH 27

Yeah Yeah Yeahs Show Your Bones (Polydor)

Karen O leads her band through their second full-length offering. See page 32 for the definitive *NME* verdict.

Be Your Own Pet

Be Your Own Pet (XL)

Straight out of Nashville, the teenagers unleash their debut album full to the brim with aural earthquakes and vomit.

Secret Machines

Ten Silver Drops (Warners)

Prognostic Secret Machines release their follow-up to 'Now Here Is Nowhere' after some bear-infested recording sessions.

3
WEEKS

APRIL 3

The Flaming Lips At War With The Mystics (Warners)

It's been a long time in the making, but Wayne Coyne and his merry bunch of musos let us know exactly what's been going on in their heads... be very afraid.

Morrisey

Ringleader Of The Tormentors (Sanctuary)

The Mozfather continues his comeback with a new album, his eighth solo effort - this time inspired by Rome and love.

4
WEEKS

APRIL 10

The Streets The Hardest Way To Make

An Easy Living (679)

Mike Skinner unveils the celebrity soap opera for all to see, as his third album delivers a frank account of the ups and downs of fame.

The Charlatans

Simpatco (Sanctuary)

Baggy's last men standing serve up their ninth studio album.

Count down the days to see her bones. Not long now...



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www.beyourownpet.net

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NEWS

CARLING WEEKEND: READING AND LEEDS FESTIVALS TO PARTY ALL NIGHT

ING WEEKEND
READING
CARLING WEEKEND
LEEDS

Festivals
2006
Uncovered!

Plans are unveiled to keep the event going into the early hours of the morning

Music lovers at this year's **Carling Weekend: Reading And Leeds Festivals** will be able to party into the night, with organisers unveiling plans to extend the entertainment curfew.

The move has been put into motion following last year's sporadic outbreaks of violence on the final night of the Leeds leg.

During a set of NME-organised festival forums last week, where readers could field their questions to the festival organiser **Melvin Benn**, he said that he hopes that the extension of the entertainment will stop any repeated incidents of trouble this summer. "It's very much what I want to do," he said. "I want to be going through until 3 o'clock in the morning. Last year everything stopped on the Sunday night when everyone was on a high. It's the last night of the festival, and all of the summer festivals."

The festivals are set to take place this year between August 25-27 at Reading's Richfield Avenue and Leeds' Bramham Park.

Explaining his efforts to continue the party later for 2006, Benn said: "The root cause [of the trouble in previous years] has been the lack of entertainment. I want to create the feeling that there are no rules."

Benn also revealed plans for a change in security presence following concerns about the policing of last year's event.



The NME forum: making your voice heard

"We'll be deploying less 'security' and more festival support staff," he said. "The staff will have a brief to be helpful and not a hindrance with information, and to protect you from the people who you wouldn't want in the site."

This year's festival will also be bigger, with Reading's capacity rising by 15,000 people and Leeds' up by 5,000. The Leeds leg of the event will also see a return of the New Bands Stage to promote young groups, while the Lock-Up Stage will be held at both sites.

Tickets for this year's Carling Weekend: Reading And Leeds Festivals will go on sale on the evening of April 3 - the same night the full line-up is announced.

"Reading and Leeds is edgier than every other festival," Benn said of last week's festival forums. "I'm hugely passionate about the festival, but it's great to know that there are festival-goers who are passionate too."



Franz are rumoured to be one of this year's headliners

24-hour party people: Reading and Leeds festival-goers will be able to rock the night away this year

Camden Crawl announced



London's urban festival the Camden Crawl returns again this year, with shows taking place across NW1 and punters able to go to gigs as they please. Taking place on April 20, **The Spinto Band**, **Arab Strap**, **The Mitchell Brothers**, **Morning Runner**, **White Rose Movement**, **The Paddingtons** and **Plan B** are confirmed, with more acts to be announced soon.



NME'S SXSW BBQ is go



NME and its sister publication *Uncut* are set to host two parties at the first music festival of the year, South By SouthWest. NME and *Uncut*'s barbecues are taking place on March 16 and 17 at the Mean-Eyed Cat with the following bands performing: **Perry Farrell**, **Dirty Pretty Things**, **Forward, Russia!**, **The Like**, **Drive By Truckers**, **Living Things**, **Martha Wainwright**, **The Go! Team**, **The Longcut** and **Vietnam**, plus a very special secret guest. Highlights from the parties will appear later in an NME.COM podcast.

Raconteurs confirm first full single



Jack White and **Brendan Benson**'s new group **The Raconteurs** are to release 'Steady, As She Goes' as a full single on April 24. The track originally appeared as a limited-edition seven-inch in January, but will now get a full release, backed by tracks including 'Bane Rendition', 'Store Bought Bones' and 'Call It A Day' spread over several CD and vinyl formats.



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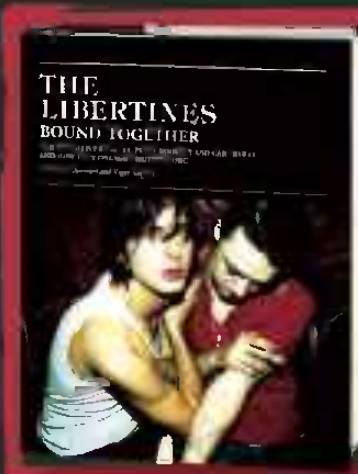


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NEWS

Axl pioneers his, erm, classic "look" on GN'R's massive Use Your Illusion World Tour



Young Guns: an early shot of the classic line-up, with Slash (far right)

GUNS N'ROSES—NEW SONGS FINALLY APPEAR

Tracks set for 'Chinese Democracy' leak – and NME sneaks a listen

Songs set for **Guns N'Roses'** long-awaited 'Chinese Democracy' album have leaked online – and record label sources are saying it's looking increasingly likely there'll be a release this year.

The titles of the tracks, 'IRS', 'TWAT (There Was A Time)', 'The Blues', 'Catcher In The Rye' and 'Better' have been circulating for a while. But last week audio files appeared, giving fans the first real taste of the record.

'Chinese Democracy' will be the first Guns N'Roses album since the stopgap covers project 'The Spaghetti Incident?' in 1993, which followed their last 'proper' albums 'Use Your Illusion I' and 'Use Your Illusion II' in 1991.

A band insider told NME: "I don't think the leak was deliberate on Axl [Rose]'s part, but my guess is that he'll want to see what people's reaction to the music is. If it's positive, then there's a very good chance the album will be released this year."

The band have already confirmed details of a European tour to premiere the album.

The only date scheduled for the UK so far is a headline appearance at the Download Festival at Donington Park in June. NME understands that a second live date is also planned around the same time – possibly a club show in London.

Rumours continue to fly about the album – the latest of which is that 'Chinese Democracy' could actually be a triple album. According to an American newspaper, Rose was at the Roxy Theatre in Hollywood recently, where he hinted that the album would be the band's longest. There's



Brian May: where's a KFC bucket when you need it?

definitely no shortage of tracks. Rare live appearances in recent years have showcased other new material with working titles including 'Madagascar', 'Silk Worms' and 'Rhaid & The Bedouins'.

However, this contradicts earlier statements made by Rose that of the 32 songs that are being worked on, only 13 will feature on the final tracklist.

One unnamed track features former **Queen** guitarist **Brian May**, who said working on the album was "a blast".

"If the reaction is positive, there's a good chance an LP will be out this year" Band insider

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'CHINESE DEMOCRACY' THE FIRST LISTEN

CHINESE DEMOCRACY
I.R.S.
T.W.A.T.
(THERE WAS A TIME)
THE BLUES
BETTER
CATCHER IN THE RYE

IRS

Over a trip-hop beat and a riff similar to classic GN'R single 'You Could Be Mine', Axl vows revenge on an ex-lover by setting not just the Inland Revenue on them, but also the entire US federal justice system (including the President). Sounds like classic late-period Guns N'Roses – rooted in early '90s excess.

TWAT (There Was A Time)

Despite the unfortunate title, this reassuringly overblown six-minute mini-epic is easily the best song in the batch, not to mention the only genuinely new track – since others have been played live. Very much in the 'Estranged'/'November Rain' mould, its Slash-like guitar hooks, soaring strings and falsetto vocals build to an agreeably grandiose climax tailor-made for a windswept, edge of a cliff-style promo clip. Take that, Justin Hawkins!

The Blues

The leaked version of 'The Blues' is rumoured to be a re-touched live recording from 2002 and combines plaintive piano parts, glam-rock riffs and glistening guitar solos that variously recall Elton John, David Bowie and Brian May. Sadly, it's not actually as good (or gloriously awful) as that would suggest.

Better

Another heavily-processed beat quickly gives way to a grinding guitar riff ironically reminiscent of Velvet Revolver frontman Scott Weiland's first band Stone Temple Pilots. Unfortunately, the leaked version of the track stops just as a much more interesting sounding chorus kicks in.

Catcher In The Rye

Based around melodic piano, this song, which takes its name from the novel by JD Salinger, is the one that takes longest to get under your skin. Constantly evolving, the best bit is the outro – which features a Beatles-style singalong chorus.

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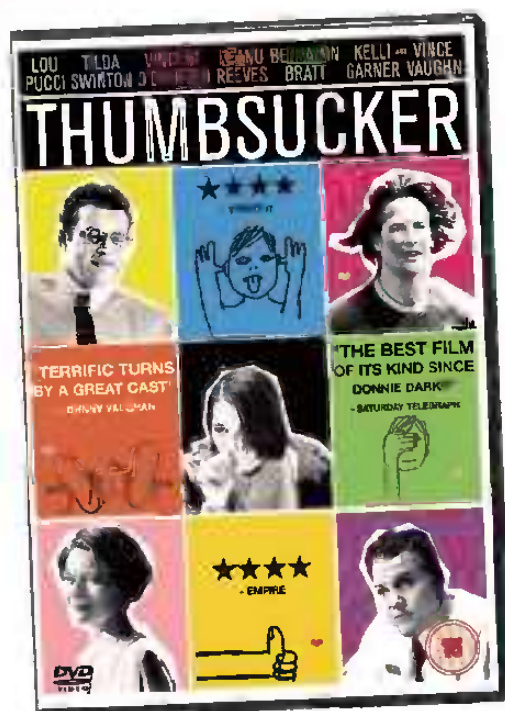
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Peter Robinson

ANDY Rourke

A Smiths reunion, his own radio show and a bassist supergroup. All true. Sort of

Hello, Andy. At some point we are going to have to invent some Smiths reunion rumours, shall we do the 'Are you doing it?'/'No' bit now?
"Yes."

Are you doing it?

"Well, I've got a stock answer for this."

Please tell me it.

"Never say never. For the moment it's quite unlikely. But, you know, when we're 65, we might be bored and the phone will ring and it will be Uncle Mozzer, with his false teeth, deciding that we should get back together."

Is it correct that you don't get any royalties from The Smiths?

"Yes - I mean I get money off Johnny [Marr, Smiths guitarist] but, er... Well, yes, there have been a few complications with Mozzer's money."

I would look into that.

"Yes, I am, but you have to go softly softly with this sort of thing, you can't grab the bull by the horns. You get used to it after a while."

I suppose there aren't many jobs where you continue getting paid for something you did 20 years ago. A teacher doesn't get money each year because a pupil they taught in 1985 has got a quite good job.
"Well, that's why I'm not a teacher."

You've got a show on the new Xfm Manchester station. Will it be good?

"I'll be doing Saturday nights, from 7pm until 10pm. It's called *The Weekender* - it's basically music to listen to while you're getting ready to go out clubbing. I'm hoping for people singing into hairbrushes. I'll be playing classic indie and old classics."

Will you have a 'posse' in the studio, whooping and hollering?

"I'll keep it simple to start with and let the music do the talking, but as the show evolves I'll try different things."

How about some comedy phone-ins and the like?

"Eventually I'll be doing phone-ins - maybe people phoning in requests, or, eventually, perhaps Hooky [New Order bassist] will be in America and he'll be phoning in. Or I could phone him up and do a few prank calls."

You could get Hooky to phone up with different voices, pretending to be different people.

"Hooky doesn't do comedy."

"When we're 65 the phone will ring and it will be Uncle Mozzer deciding we should get back together"

Did you hear New Order's last album?
"Ooh - miaow (Guffaws)."

What do you make of modern music, of the variety favoured by 'the kids'?
"Some of it's great, some of it's not."

Controversial!

"I like Kaiser Chiefs... and Arctic Monkeys..."



...and as the bass monster he is today



Fresh faced and on the bass: Andy in his Smiths prime...

If I was playing interview bingo I'd be well on my way to shouting 'HOUSE!' by now.

"Arctic Monkeys? Yeah... Well, I do really like them. But I've ruined it for myself because I've got it in my head that he sounds like George Formby and now I can't shake that thought."

The Smiths never went down the dumper. Would you advise Arctic Monkeys to quit while they're ahead?

"Well, it's a difficult game to play, isn't it? You don't know how people are going to receive a new album. But that is my advice. It's frustrating because after you've quit you get quite itchy feet. I'm sure the next Smiths album would have been amazing, but it just wasn't to be."

That makes me quite annoyed at you and your Smiths mates.

"Well, it just wasn't to be. I'm sure there will be a load more reissues, though - and there's likely to be a box-set coming up with unreleased material and tracks where we'd try, for example, a saxophone which didn't make it to the final cut. More experimental stuff."

What music are you making at the moment, Andy?

"Well, slowly but surely me, [Primal Scream's] Mani and Hooky are getting this Freebass thing together. It started off

quickly - we got like 18 ideas together - and then it all kind of went off the boil."

This is what happens when you put three bassists in charge of a band.

"Well, exactly. And then we needed to find a singer, but we've found one now. It sounds inevitably a bit like The Smiths, New Order and Primal Scream."

Do you line yourself up in the studio according to how low your basses are?

"We should do. But I'd get backache from playing like that. Even Hooky's getting a bit creaky these days."

Have you signed a pre-nup with them?
"That would be a great idea."

I mean, ideally, it would be far preferable to go into a band without any creative types, because then they can't fall out over creative differences.
"Hmm..."

FYI

- Andy has over 1,000 friends on MySpace.
- Although his former agent has changed the password and now Andy can't get into the account.
- Andy's birthday is January 17.

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EDITED BY:
RICK MARTIN

Sommat on your mind? Do we look like Trisha? Only kidding. Send us an email

Barât's entertainment... or is it?

LETTERS FROM DIRTY PRETTY THINGS LOVERS

Where many would have fallen by the wayside and disappeared into obscurity to live off their royalty cheques, Carl Barât has shown real balls in coming back with Dirty Pretty Things. If the riotous shows I've witnessed in Oxford and Portsmouth are anything to go by, he's about to surpass everything he's done before – even with, whisper it, The Libertines. He quite simply looks a reinvigorated rock'n'roll force and 'Bang Bang You're Dead' and 'Gin & Milk' are already classics in waiting. OK, so the chaos and chemistry of yore are gone but DPT, unlike Babyshambles and their persistent no-shows and half-arsed dirges, are a band that Libs fans can believe in again. Carl's looking to the future and I'm liking what he's seeing.

Flonn O'Sullivan, Winchester

How good were Dirty Pretty Things in Liverpool last night? Shitting ace! Carl was on top form and 'Bang Bang You're Dead' and 'Deadwood' are two of the best songs he's ever written. The boys look like a real rock'n'roll gang and it's great to see Gary Powell back behind a drumkit. And thank fuck Didz has finally found a band where the music's infinitely more important than a shit £200 Toni & Guy haircut. All hail – King Carl has returned to reclaim his rock'n'roll crown.

Jenny Thompson, Liverpool

LETTER FROM DIRTY PRETTY THINGS HATER

I never thought I'd say this but I'm falling out of love with Carl Barât. I know, it's shocking and some of my mates won't speak to me anymore but the thing is, I reckon Dirty Pretty Things are just... alright. I went to see them at Norwich Waterfront last night and yeah, Carl's a decent singer and performer, but the only interesting thing about him is the Pete saga he's still dwelling on in most of his new songs. He just doesn't give you that eerie feeling that watching Pete does. Pete is a natural – honest and poignant words

seem to fall out of him. DPTs' lyrics are laboured, written by a man who has something to prove and is trying too hard. Carl Barât is a talented man, but it looks like he's about to be consigned to history as the 'Sensible Libertine'.

Charlotte, via email

Personally, I'm with Flonn and Jenny on this one. While his old chum Pete continues his new job as a one-man walking (or should that be staggering?) police training exercise, Carl's been getting back to business on Dirty Pretty Things' debut tour. Granted, there's always been more of a whiff of showbiz about Carl, something slightly less dangerous. But by getting a band of, y'know, competent musicians together and keeping his own habits in check, the 'Sensible Libertine' might manage to put out a post-Libs record that's a little more inspiring than 'Down in Albion'. Which is surely what this rock'n'roll game's all about, no? – RM

LETTER DISSING ARCTIC MONKEYS

Will the nation please remove their lips from Arctic Monkeys' arses for one second and see that they're just a poor man's Strokes with Yorkshire accents? All that 'saviours of British music' rubbish is making me feel ill. There are so many better bands out there and once the hype's died down you'll all feel like idiots for falling for it! If you want originality listen to Arcade Fire, or The Flaming Lips, or anything that's not so awful it makes you want to rip off your ears!

Sarah, via email

I've finally bitten the bullet and bought 'Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I'm Not'. It's really good (y'think? – RM). However, on behalf not only of myself, but also the rest of the NME-reading public, I demand answers and I think you have them. Tell the truth now... are they a manufactured band? My theory hinges on two points. The first is Alex Turner's lyrics – it's surely preposterous to think that any



Good Lib's army:
Dirty Pretty Things

"It looks like Carl is to be consigned to history as the 'Sensible Libertine'"

19-year-old can pen these verses. Secondly, and here's the clincher, nowhere on the album's literature does it mention who wrote the songs! It only states who owns them! I've figured it out! Do I get a prize?

Steven, via email

A prize? How about a job shining the shoes of the hapless Guardian hack you stole this idea from, Steven? Surely it's more preposterous that Britain's broadsheet press still trade on patronising and tired stereotypical notions of northerners and their supposed levels of intellect? When a southern public schoolboy, lets say Tarquin from Larrikin Love or whatever he's called, quotes Larkin in his lyrics, no-one bats an eyelid. But

when Alex, a 20-year-old northerner, dares to reference Shakespeare, two shite '80s records and that little-known comedy *Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em*, he's treated with snobbish suspicion. Speak of the devil, here's our hero now... – RM

A LETTER FROM ALEX TURNER!

Until recently I quite enjoyed having the name Alex Turner. It's nothing amazing I know, but I liked it. That was until some young upstart from Sheffield ponced up with the same name (oh... – RM) and suddenly every fucker I know is cracking gags about the Arctic fucking Monkeys and suggesting I'll have to change my name. So I'm asking you lovely folks at NME to help me out. I'm officially challenging Alex to a fight to the death over which of us gets to use the name. I live in London and propose we meet at a halfway point. How about the car park of Sainsbury's in Peterborough? **Alex 'there can be only one' Turner, via email**

Don King-style, we contacted Alex's 'people' to try and arrange this, but

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"This is me with Tom from Kasabian. I was well trying it on but he was having none of it. Nice bloke though."



DAN & BEN, LONDON

"This is The Pavlovs (us) with Russell Lissack after Bloc Party's gig at Brixton."



RAMSO, SUNDERLAND

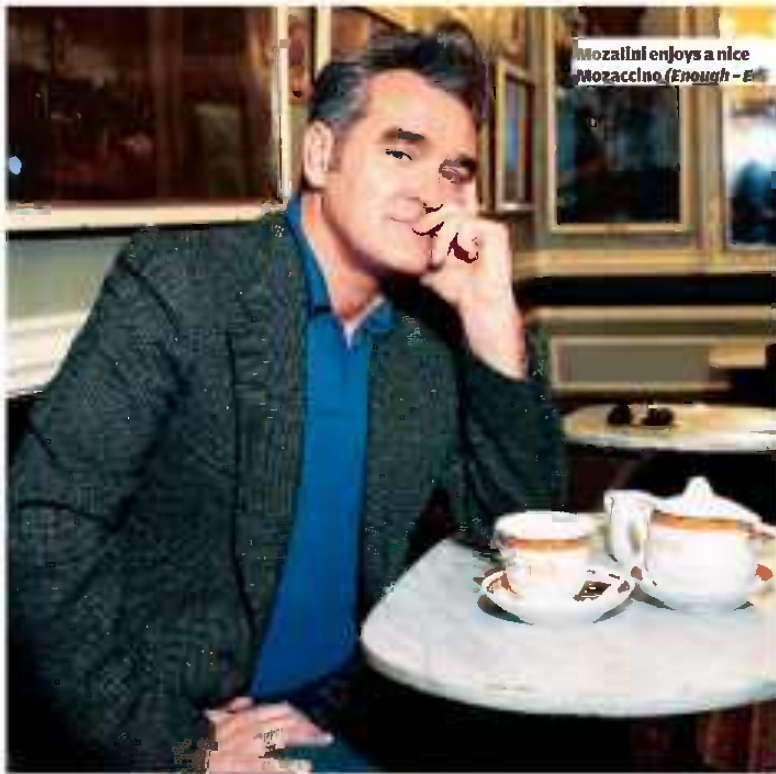
"This is my mate Keith with Eddie 'Fatty' Argos in Newcastle after The Chalets' gig. What a nice chap!"



BELLA, LONDON

"This is me with Luke from The Kooks after we filmed the video for 'Naive'. The guys were awesome, they deserve to be massive!"

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Mozalini enjoys a nice
Mozacchino (Enough - E)

...AND ANOTHER THING

Dear James Jam, I'm sure you could tongue passionately with Fern Britton if the price was right (NME, March 4). It just depends how much you are prepared to pay. A bit like an Arctic Monkeys ticket.

Bryan, via email

Forget Fern, it's all about Sarah from Doctors in the daytime TV hotty stakes - RM

Well done on getting Babyshambles to turn up to the ShockWaves NME Awards. Shame the tune couldn't make it.

Nick, Sefton

Imagine if Henry Harrison of Mystery Jets wrote a love song for the band about his wife. Blaine would have to sing about doing his own mother!

Chris, via email

apparently he's not available for a good while. Off conquering America or something. Though you do have my sympathy - sharing a pop star's name must suck balls (But Rick! We thought you were livin' la vida loca! - Ed) - RM

SOME 'SHEFFIELD'S ACE' LETTERS

I've seen Bromheads Jacket live a couple of times now and they are indeed splendid. One thing is slightly worrying, though - their bassist has a striking resemblance to notorious James Bond villain Jaws.

Ben, King's Lynn

The Long Blondes are the best and most exciting unsigned band in Britain right now. Not only are they stylish, sexy and sassy, but they've also got a knack for writing brilliant pop tunes. An open plea to all record companies - SIGN THEM NOW.

Alex Munro, Woking

MOZ: "MADDER THAN JACKO" LETTER

"Lambs are simply children," says Morrissey (NME, March 4). Well, my friend has just given birth to her first and 8lb 8oz was quite enough, she tells me, without the thought of hooves. It's official: Mozza is madder than Jacko!

James Blaby, Leicester

No-one can hold a candle to Morrissey when it comes down to good old-fashioned virtue. It's always been one of his best traits, but now even more so. The only thing outweighing my adulation is my extreme gratitude that not everyone in the world is completely spineless. He is unafraid of principles, a trait which, recently, is about as common as common sense (ie not very). Thank you for publishing an interview in which the interviewee is not a self-obsessed cess pool of half-political half-truths and rock'n'roll clichés. Welcome back, Mozalini.

Oscillating wildly, via email

REVENGE OF THE NERDS LETTERS

This is the year of the geek! Think about it: the incredible new Belle & Sebastian album, the beautiful shouldn't-work-but-it-does Isobel Campbell/Mark Lanegan duet,

Clap Your Hands Say Yeah's debut LP and the stunning Broken Social Scene record. Then we have the veterans, with Sparks and Mozzer releasing new material this year. Fuck you cool! Raise a pint to the nerds!

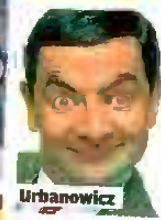
Bakey, Geotville

The strangest thing has been happening to me over the last few months... I've been turning more and more into a full-blown indie geek! Whereas I mainly used to listen to hip-hop, that's now taken a back seat ever since I picked up a copy of NME. My jeans have been getting tighter and tighter, my hair is getting longer and my whole musical outlook is changing! Thing is, my mates are starting to reject me and even my mam is telling me to cut me hair!

Chris, via email



Bean



Urbanowicz

Anyone else noticed that Editors' guitarist Chris Urbanowicz looks like a fit Mr Bean?

Laura Dalton, via email

Mike Sterry's cat tears Andy Capper's cat to pieces.

Anthony, via email

OBLIGATORY PETE DOHERTY LETTER

According to Pete Doherty's solicitor, young Peter is more of a danger to himself than anyone else. Yes, because as we all know the production and smuggling of heroin and crack cocaine are perfectly harmless activities that hurt no-one.

Isn't it obvious to anyone whose mind hasn't been destroyed that this individual lacks either the sense or the courage to do anything else other than piss his life away?

Well, I wish he'd fucking get on with it, as his self-martyrdom is becoming tedious.

Dave, Exeter

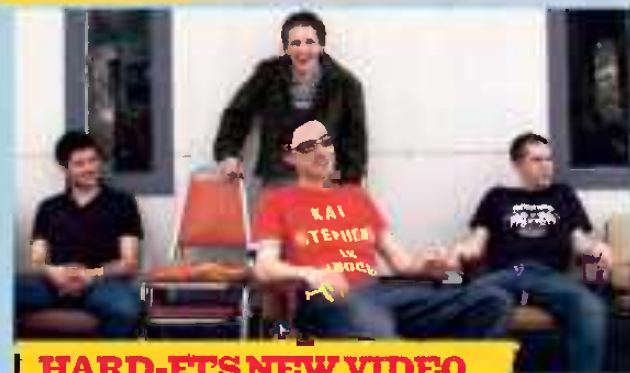
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Schlock Horrors! (l-r): Tom, Phyl, Faris, Josh and Joe



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The Horrors

They dress like dandy executioners and their hero is Jack The Ripper. Hallowe'en has come early to the East End

Libertine revolutionaries or a vicious affront to society? It's the choice people had to make about The Horrors' heroes like "depraved"

Lord Rochester, and it's the choice you'll have to make about the band sooner than you think, as this remarkable-looking bunch of garage-goth-noise fiends play live every night of the week. When the witching hour arrives you can usually find them in a bar making girls swoon with their big hair and small bodies and upsetting the swooning girls' boyfriends with their 15-minute sets and penchant for white noise.

"We had two rehearsals," explains keyboardist Rhys Webb, "and after the second one we agreed that practising was boring, so we decided to go out and play gigs instead. We haven't had a proper rehearsal since. We learned how to play our instruments by doing gigs."

The frenzied tour schedule has hardly resulted in massive financial dividends – today, gathered in a shabby East End boozery, they roll their own fags and, comically, all share a single glass of water. But cash can't buy the simultaneous approval of the Hoxton fashion set (who love them for their pointy shoes, spray-on jeans and candyfloss hair), the MySpace indie girls (who love them

because they can swap make-up tips) and the retro-rocking garage crowd (who love them because they mangle cool old '60s covers in their set).

"The way that we dress is a blend of every interesting look from the last 50 years," says drummer Coffin Joe (presumably as long as it's black – The Horrors shrivel at the notion of colour). "All of us dress the way we did before we met each other," explains bassist Tom Furse, hurriedly scotching any suggestion of contrivance. "It wasn't like there was one member that dressed differently and we made them put on black trousers and a shirt." Dressing like

even stuff like Lightning Bolt."

The Horrors are way more than hipster clotheshorses with good record collections, though. Their debut single 'Sheena Is A Parasite' is a deranged 100 seconds of paint-stripping vitriol, complete with gutter-fuzz guitar and unintelligibly ranting lyrics. Better still is the B-side, a cover of Screaming Lord Sutch's shlocko classic 'Jack The Ripper' reimagined as a cockney *Clockwork Orange* droogfest. It's remarkable for the fact that, although softly-spoken singer Faris Badwan is also in The Rotters ("we're badly put together punk – I play

"People take an instant dislike to us. It just spurs us on to upset them even more" Joshua Von Grimm

rock'n'roll hangmen in Southend, The Horrors were bound to end up sticking together for safety and soon discovered they shared a disdain for the modern music scene. "It seems like bands now don't know anything about music that's more than 10 years old. But we met because we all dressed in a similar way, and then we discovered that we all loved '50s rock'n'roll, surf, '60s garage, '70s and '80s no-wave –

the drums even though I can't"), the only member of The Horrors that has been in a band before is guitarist Joshua Von Grimm. "I was fired for breaking the singer's arm. He was behaving like a dick during a gig so I hit him with my guitar."

The band's confrontational attitude, *Edward Scissorhands* image and deliberately retarded garage-rock grind has been known to perturb less enlightened audiences, as Tom reveals: "We played last week and someone was so upset by the noise that they poured a pint over Rhys' organ."

"We've always been more interested in energy and the sounds that we can make with our limited ability over being able to learn our instruments properly," shrugs Rhys. "This means that people can often take an instant dislike to us," cackles Josh wickedly, as if about to metamorphose into a bat. "It just spurs us on to upset them even more." **Pat Long**

THE HORRORS: NEED TO KNOW

Who: Faris Badwan (vocals), Tom Furse (bass), Joshua Von Grimm (guitar), Coffin Joe (drums), Rhys 'Spider' Webb (organ)
What: Gothic garage noise from five Southend kids who've read too much romantic literature, watched too many Hammer horrors and listened to just the right amount of rock'n'roll.

Buy: The single 'Sheena Is A Parasite' out March 27 on Loog records.
Live: London 333 Club (March 31), Leeds The Warehouse (April 12), London Holloway Rocket (April 15), London The Garage (May 5)
Burn: 'Jack The Ripper' from www.myspace.com/thehorrors
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HORRORS' HEROES

A veritable rogues' gallery of the gothed-up gang's influences

JACK THE RIPPER

Faris: "Obviously so much has been written about him but I like the idea that he never got caught. Plus ['60s novelty record] 'Jack The Ripper' was the first song we ever played together."

JOE MEAK

Rhys: "He made all of his records in his flat above a shop on Holloway Road in north London. He used to create his own effects and push things – if there was a guitar solo it'd be speeded up or distorted. Everything he did was extreme – right down to shooting his landlady dead – something we try to achieve in our music."

RASPUTIN THE MAD MONK

Faris: "He was an advisor to the Russian royal family, but when his influence over them got too great he was assassinated. He was fed cyanide cakes but that didn't work so he was shot five times. He still wouldn't die so they chucked him in a river."

SHOCK HEADED PETERS

Faris: "Well, first of all the band ['80s indie types] Shock Headed Peters are one of my favourite groups. But they took their name from this collection of strange Victorian cautionary tales intended to scare small children into behaving well by being so grisly."

THE SCARLET PIMPERNEL

Faris: "Around the time of the French Revolution when the peasants were executing aristocrats, The Scarlet Pimpernel was renowned for getting condemned prisoners out of their cells before they were killed. They used to vanish and he'd ride off into the night."

LORD ROCHESTER

Faris: "He was pretty funny just because he engaged in such disgraceful behaviour. He only lived until 32 but I admire his air of debauchery. He wrote what is thought to be the first piece of pornography and tried to get his pet monkey knighted by Charles II. I'm not sure if the powdered wig is a very good look, though."



DEAN CHALKLEY



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Sniggered at thanks to Alan Partridge and stuck firmly in the arsehole of nowhere, Norwich may not strike you as the place for great new music. But thanks to a DIY mentality and some kicking clubs, new bands are thriving. The boozy Ferryboat provides new music every night of the week, with the Arts Centre giving kids the chance to swoon at the latest nu-folk and nu-gaze from bands like Sennen. Then there's the ever-reliable Waterfront. As Partridge would say, it's premier league.



The Pistolas

(www.pistola-pistola.com)
Their 'Listen Listen EP' is chock-full of killer riffs, Sex Pistols attitude and a bizarre but heady concoction of '80s electro and Interpol-tinged indie.

Kaito

(www.kaito.co.uk)
A riotous concoction of thrashing guitars, off-kilter vocals and bubblegum pop.

Fun! Yeah!

(www.myspace.com/funyeah)
A band mixing techy brilliance with an unadulterated passion for AC/DC. They also have the advantage of the best band name. Ever.

Joe Minihane was responsible for booking bands at Norwich's hottest night One More Spotlight



VVATV (l-r) Vincent, Vincent Vincent, Vincent and Vincent

THE BUZZ

Club promoters, label honchos and indie DJs, Young And Lost's Sara and Nadia pick the best bands on the London underground

If anyone had wandered backstage during the recent **Vincent Vincent And The Villains** (www.vincentvincentandthevillains.com) tour, they'd have been greeted with a slightly perplexing sight. All four band members were prancing around like modern day Gene Keliys, foreheads furrowed in concentration, performing a pre-gig ritual. Watch the video for their single 'I'm Alive' and you'll see their penchant for choreography has paid off.

If you heard last year that the band had split then worry not. It was less of a break-up

and more of a shake-up. Vincent Vincent and original drummer Alex have returned with two new Villains, and an almost entirely new set. Vincent speaks of the band's sound with venomous intent: "We take early rock'n'roll as our template, mix in razor-sharp guitar hooks, beats you can dance to, intelligent lyrics, then we fuck with it until it sounds like tomorrow." Vincent himself continues to be a captivating presence, a bold combination of the looks and charisma of Dylan and Richard Hell.

First Ludes then Larrikin Love: it seems that almost everyone is partial to a bit of gypsy punk in London Town these days. The latest band are **William Kay** (www.myspace.com/williamkay), four ludicrously pretty boys

Xerox Teens: in an alternate universe



who rip through their sets like amphet-addled 16-year-olds. Catch them soon and watch them valiantly trying to ignore the hordes of excitable girls who remember the lyrics better than they do.

Meanwhile, an audience consisting of every London up-and-comer is testament that **Xerox Teens** (www.xerozteens.com) have rapidly become

the thinking bands' band. Not that Xerox Teens themselves are aware of this. They live in an arts-y alternate universe and probably think Mystery Jets is a dodgy budget airline.

We'll leave you with the fabulous **Fear Of Flying**. They have caught the attention of Stephen Street (Blur, Kaiser Chiefs) and by the time they leave school in June they'll be one of the bands to watch this summer.



William Kay: sleeves are so last year

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"Lillian Borne is Johnny Rotten with politeness." VILLAGE VOICE

"If Green Day walked it like they talk it they'd sound something like the Living Things." 8/10 VICE

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DEMO REVIEWS



South Street

Four-song demo
www.southstreetmusic.co.uk

Like Oasis having a stab at a Buzzcocks song, there's a riotous fever at play within the faux yob clatter of this Newcastle five-piece that earmarks them out as a very good thing indeed. Especially closer 'To Your Left I'm Right' which is absolutely brilliant. Seek out and enjoy.



Material Project Immersed

www.materialproject.co.uk

There are some decent tunes on this demo album but they don't half ramble on. We're thinking Muse. We're thinking Jeff Buckley. We're thinking, "Has anyone got any S Club? We're BORED." Mind you, if they allowed their crafty, creepy melodies to break through the veneer of muso bullcrap, we'd be up for giving them another go.

Six Toes

Four-song demo
www.sixtoes.co.uk

London folk troupe Six Toes' demo sounds like Antony And The Johnsons reinterpreting the collected works of Syd Barrett, yet utilising only an acoustic guitar, a cello, and a choir of gremlins. It's both preposterously poppy and jarringly unsettling, while also providing ample reaffirmation of faith for the unison of skunk, ideas, and the Nick Drake back catalogue. **James Jam**

TESTING TESTING

Are you in a band? Are you any good? Send your demos to *Radar*, NME, 25th Floor, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS

The Pigeon Detectives

► Joseph's Well, Leeds
 ► Wednesday, February 22



"I detect a Pigeon!/
 I detect a Pigeon!"

It's testament to Leeds' ranking as The Coolest City In The Entire World™ that bands there can start getting away with such awful names as The Pigeon Detectives. But at the epicentre of New Yorkshire anything seems possible right now, and The Pigeon Detectives are the latest example of unbridled aceness.

Young, beautiful and gloriously wasted, tonight these five upstarts effortlessly throw out one multi-coloured pop gem after another in a set of juddering, shuddering, rambling, shambling perfection. Well, maybe not quite perfection, but then the fact you're never quite sure if lead singer Matt is swaggering or staggering about the stage all adds to the charm. Because under the mess are the kind of infectious tunes The Strokes would flog their Converse for. 'You Know I Love You' is The Cribs mugging The Killers, while debut single 'I'm Not Sorry' doesn't just predict a riot, it is one – a bottle-brandishing assault on the senses. Only in a fun way.

The Pigeon Detectives, then. Horrific name, but, jeez, what a band. **Collin Drury**
www.thepigeondetectives.com

The Loungs

► The Rampant Lion, Manchester ► Friday, February 24

The Loungs want to fuck with your head. Firstly, they've got a name that only those in the know can pronounce properly (it's pronounced Lungs, so you know) and secondly they enjoy threatening to inflict Ocean Colour Scene covers on tonight's suitably rowdy Acoustik Anarkhy crowd (luckily, it's only a threat). But, most of all, they mess with your mind by making the kind of foot-tapping, heart-stonking trippy folk that melds your brain into a big mush of unbridled, bearded love. Owing a not unsubstantial debt to local heroes

The Earlies and Elbow, the St Helens six-piece bring the sound of summer to a dull northern day, sun visors and all, as harmonies bounce off chugging keyboards for the catchiest tunes this side of The Beach Boys. Best of all is when jaunty new single 'I'm Gonna Take Your Girl' descends into a mass singalong, leading a devoted few to attempt crowdsurfing and cracking various limbs on the ceiling for their trouble. Not that they seem to mind; bruised bones are a small, small price to pay for a band as downright sublime as this. **Molly Jones**
www.theloungs.co.uk



The Loungs came straight to the gig from the office via their weekly poker evening

Polytechnic

► Leadmill, Sheffield ► Friday, February 24



Polytechnic: next stop, The OC

Polytechnic are just as comfortable playing DIY house parties as they would at The OC's The Bait Shop. So they're not to be fazed by having to take the stage mere minutes after the doors have opened at the Leadmill. Rather, the five members of the band create perfect shimmering pop that owes as much to 'Pet Sounds' as it does to 'Daydream Nation'. Tucked in the corner, bassist Yuri has the

enchanting riffs without smacking stationary guitarist Denry on the back of the head with his instrument. The hopeful 'Still Spinning' and the devil-may-care rush of forthcoming single 'Running Out Of Ideas' are delivered with perfect precision. And thanks to the vocal interplay between frontman Dylan and keyboardist Peet, it doesn't matter how much room there is on the ground, those harmonies are headed skywards. **Lianne Steinberg**
www.myspace.com/ukpolytechnic



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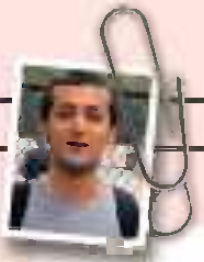
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WORDS: MALIK MEER PHOTOGRAPHS: DAVID ELLIS

"I'm a celebrity get me out of here!"

In the past 18 months **The Streets'** Mike Skinner has scored a Number One, shagged famous girls, taken his bodyweight in drugs and become the Elvis to Arctic Monkeys' Beatles. So what's making him so unhappy?

"I HATE YOU MIKE SKINNER. "MIKE SKINNER, YOU'RE A CUNT" – *Random Streets fans at the Lowlands Festival, Amsterdam, July 2004*



It's early evening at Holland's annual answer to Glastonbury and The Streets' Mike Skinner has just walked offstage and into a barrage of abuse. The crowd isn't happy that he spent all day stumbling around the beer tent, passing out under the main stage just before he was due on. They're angry that when he *did* make it on to the stage he spent the hour ranting at them for wearing "shit-hole fake Streets hats" when unbeknown to him the merchandise was distributed by his record company. And they're furious that he's just put on a shoddy, pissed-up performance which they've waited all day to see. Either way, it's the final straw, the wake-up call that Mike Skinner needs. He knows things have to change. A few days earlier the tired and emotional MC had thrown one of

many strops and walked off the bus as The Streets' 10 Rounds tour rolled into Germany. Six months of endless touring and caning have taken their toll on the singer once compared to Dostoevsky and Samuel Pepys by an English literature professor in *The Guardian*. "We were the most hated band in Amsterdam," he recalls sadly. "You never normally get that kind of

response even if you've played a shit gig. I'd like to go back there. I think I need to, maybe just for my own head."

Since the last time we saw him, Mike Skinner's head has had lots to deal with. First, his dad died of a long-term illness just before the release of 'Fit But You Know It' ("Some people say I'm still in denial about it," he says later). Then, with a proper chart hit under his belt and a Number One, 'Dry Your Eyes', fast around the corner, Skinner advanced to daily rotation on daytime radio and the UK tabloids, becoming a bona fide celebrity. If the red tops

weren't running sleazy stories about his manhood, they were giving away EXCLUSIVE! posters that crowned him King of the Chavs. In just a few months Skinner went from the hipster indie MC to a full-on pop cultural phenomenon who touched UK garage heads, *Guardian* readers, beer boys and teenage girls alike. Mike responded to this new-found

fame by going on tour and getting wasted more than ever. Along the way he shagged a famous pop star (more on this later), turned into a rock'n'roll

"After 'Dry Your Eyes' it really was a totally different world"

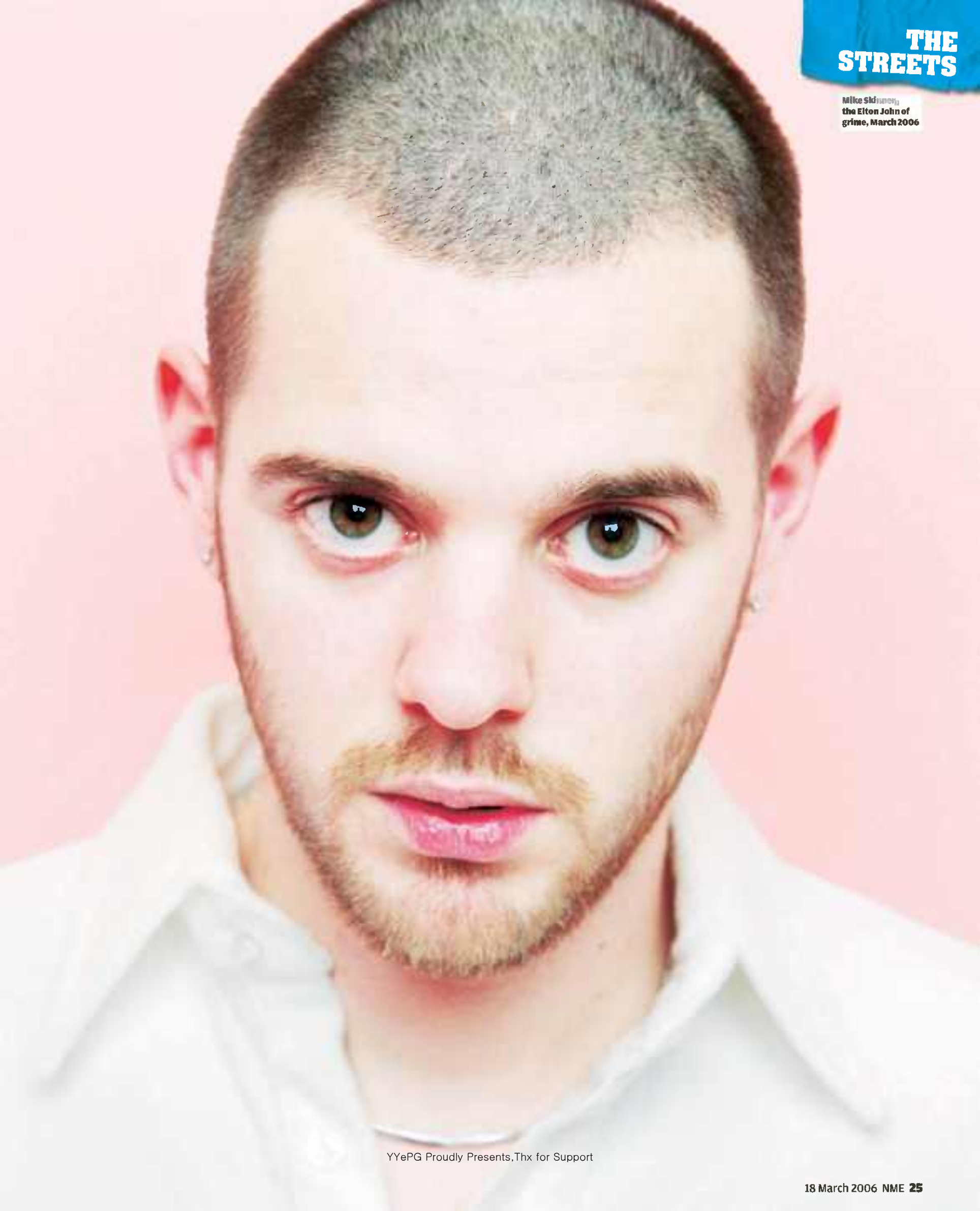
cliché and Lost The Plot.

Now he's back and in true Skinner style he's taken the madness of the last few years and exposed it, warts and all, on new album 'The Hardest Way To Make An Easy Living'. It's only a matter of time before it's repackaged as a documentary entitled *Mike Skinner's Drugs, Death And Celebrity Hell*. If The Streets' first record, 'Original Pirate Material',

was a groundbreaking debut that injected social realism into pop back when the Monkeys were in even shorter trousers, and the second, 'A Grand Don't Come For Free', united generations thanks to its ace pop soap opera concept, this one's already massively dividing opinion. Some think it's Mike's self-indulgent 'Poor Me, Fame Is Hell' record. Which it actually is, but it's still easily the best breakdown record you'll hear all year.

NME: When did you realise you were having a breakdown? Mike Skinner: "The big moment was the end of the festival season, it's always pretty mental. It's like the end of the year in Ibiza, people push it that bit extra. I hit a wall and thought, 'Right, I think I need to have some kind of responsibility', and that's what I've done with The Beats [Skinner's label, to which he's signed The Mitchell Brothers and British MC battle champ Professor Green]. When you're an artist you make an album, then do what the fuck you like. It's why I don't think most rock stars mean to die, there's just nothing to stop you carrying on taking loads of drugs."

Mike Skinner,
the Elton John of
grime, March 2006





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▶ You're 27 now. Did you realise you were approaching the age of the Rock Star Death?
 "Yeah, I've actually thought about that whole thing quite a bit. You either come out the other side or you don't. Most of 'em don't. I think it's the combination of no-one being above you in the responsibility chain coupled with an ever so slight 'I'm getting old' feeling. You spend your youth doing more of everything and your body just gets used to drink or drugs. As rock stars we can stay up for three days if we want, and all of that together equals rock star death. I suppose the ones that do mean to die do it because their body's just completely destroyed, because their mind state is not a sane mind. I can identify with that."

Was rehab ever an option?

"I suppose a bit of therapy wouldn't go amiss, but for all my problems I'm just a backward-thinking northerner or Midlander. I'm quite honest with myself. Hopefully I'll never need it, but watch this space to be honest 'cos anything can happen. That's another thing I've learnt."

When *NME* first catches up with him at a west London flat following the covershoot Mike's a bit edgy but on good form, relieved at not having the stress of an unfinished album hanging over his head. He says he's had a year to live with these songs so he's dealt with his issues and isn't as fragile as people think. Decked out in a bespoke grey pinstripe Savile Row tracksuit, he fiddles with his phone and strokes his three silver rings a lot. He's less geezery than you might expect and hasn't had a drink for months. During the course of the interview he'll chat about feeling sorry for *Big Brother* contestants ("They become famous people and the rate it drops off is so, so horrible"), express awe for Posh Spice ("How unbelievably strained is her life, through her own choice? It's just a weird existence") and tell us he feels a sort of kinship with Carl Barat after *The Streets* and *The Libertines* toured Japan together early on in their bands' careers ("There's been the same kind of arc, 'cos when I see Carl now he doesn't seem to be as crazy as either me or he was back then"). He'll also jokingly describe himself as the "Elton John of grime".

Mike's laptop, unlike his life, is a beach



"You become so self-conscious and unstable, you get this underlying sense of paranoia all the time"

Many of the lessons Mike Skinner has learnt resurface on 'The Hardest Way To Make An Easy Living'. But where other breakdown albums have failed due to their whining

introspection, 'THWITMAEL' succeeds because it's genuinely inspired and self-mocking. It's funny, moving, self-aware and as hardcore as pop music gets. It was recorded towards the end of 2005 (partly in New York to get away from his mates) and although he describes the Amsterdam incident as one of the most shameful, there's plenty more where that came from. The track 'Hotel Expressionism' tells of robbing and tying up a dealer, while opening track 'Pranging Out' documents a drug-fuelled panic attack and is the

most brutal song Skinner's ever written, with lyrics about "suicide being an easier option" and how this time "I'm drying my eyes and a fucking nosebleed". On the title track we're treated to a day in the life of Mike Skinner The Artist, updating his mum over breakfast about making beats and signing off artwork. There's also (hit alert!) this album's BIG ballad 'Never Went To Church', a track about coming to terms with his dad's death ("I think he'd be proud that I turned it into a really good song").

IF IT WASN'T FOR THE STREETS YOU WOULDN'T HAVE...



RICHARD ARCHER

You work in Shoeworld on Staines High Street. You use your weekly paycheck to boss it up on Friday nights at the local Ritzy's nightclub. Listen up, people, Richard Archer is your Morrissey - put your Byrte loyalty card away, lay down and worship.



ALAN DONOHOE

Wetherspoons, regretful one night stands and badly paid media jobs - is Alan Donohoe actually inside your head? No, because then it would be a fun place to be and you wouldn't spend most of your lunchtime in the loos crying.



TOM VEK

Like Tom Vek with all the boring bits taken out, T sings like a rapper who can't work a deck. His vignettes about sadly dysfunctional suburbia are spot on. Except when he does it in patois. He's from Wimbledon, you know.



ALEX TURNER AND FRED WEST

The chancers and lowlifes in the average Monkeys song make the idea of a ballroom dancing class with Fred West seem appealing. But Alex Turner's poetic lyrics are funny because they're true. Now you can't say that about the Sugababes can you?



DAZ SAMPSON

Daz Sampson - a man on the wrong side of 40, who looks naggingly familiar, like a court artist's impression of a petty criminal - is our Eurovision hopeful with a song called 'Teenage Life'. An apt summation of Britain today, then.

Five hours pondering and Mike still couldn't think of any words good enough to get in the dictionary



"Shakespeare invented thousands of words. That's an amazing thing to have done"

Drug-fuelled breakdown albums are rarely any good – did that worry you?

"I don't think it's about what you do, it's how you do it. I got to the point of looking back and thinking, 'This is what I need to be writing about, 'cos it won't happen again.' There was a big difference between the second and the third albums. After 'Dry Your Eyes' and 'Fit But You Know It' it was a totally different world."

If you hadn't had the breakdown, what do you think you'd have written about?

"I'm just trying to be a really good songwriter. What I was really proud of with the early Streets was that I had to work really hard to make the mundane things interesting because I didn't have anything but mundane. The challenge with this album was the opposite. I could have written three albums of stuff that's happened. But people don't have much sympathy for you if you're in the public eye, which I totally accept."

You seem quite down on yourself, you're hardly a hated figure...

"Yeah, no, I know, but when you're actually in my position you're more acutely aware, you become so self-conscious and so unstable, you get this underlying sense of paranoia all the time. I should probably try and get rid of that."

Has the paranoia got worse?

"Yeah, and you see it in the eyes of everyone really, it's why famous people have stroops 'cos inside they're scared all the time and the stroop is where the fear goes, 'I can't handle this.' There's a big mirror in front of you all the time..."



He pauses, checking himself as though an internal bullshit detector has sounded. "Oh my God, I sound... I always said I

wouldn't rant on about it," he sighs, "because it's not that bad, really. No-one in this country has got any real reason to feel down, anyway. It's irrelevant, moaning is irrelevant."

Mike Skinner might not be so paranoid if he wasn't always washing his dirty laundry in public, you might be thinking. But he counters it by saying it's better to get the stories out there so no-one can make stuff up. "I've been tortured enough, it's quite liberating," he proudly explains. "I think it comes as a result of living a life in fear of what people are gonna say about you, so it's like, 'Why not think of everything bad you can think of yourself?'" Which is why on the first single from the new album – the lo-fi pop ragga-tinged 'When You Wasn't Famous' – he reveals an affair with a pop star who smokes crack and teases the 'Daily Toilet Papers' for failing to report and pap it. The internet messageboards and tabloids have already worked themselves into a frenzy over who the lady in question might be. "Yeah, it's a true story," he admits. "But I don't want to go into it." He shuffles in his seat, drops eye contact and plays with his phone. "I'm trying to be honest really," he continues, "it'll probably be my downfall, but fuck it. Some things end up being bigger than you think. It was a bit of a piss-take. I mean she doesn't give a fuck, but I don't wanna slip up."

NME tells him we've heard it's about (Snip! – Legal Ed).

"Do you think it's her? Well, yeah, it could be," he grins. "But it's more than my life's worth. Allowing people to eliminate it is as bad as giving it away. That's as much as I'm gonna say. I'll never crack."

YYePG Proudly

When The Streets' debut was released in 2002 – into a music scene rejoicing in the new rock revolution – he was a lone sing-song voice articulating a life of being young and wasted in modern Britain. Now singing about having a kebab on the way home from a club (The Rakes), trying to pull girls (Arctic Monkeys) and being broke (Hard-Fi) is standard issue. Does Mike feel like he paved the way for bands like the Arctic Monkeys?

"It's luck, being in the right place at the right time. There was a certain amount of courage doing what I did that I'll take credit for 'cos it wasn't cool doing what I was doing then."

Skinner saw the Monkeys in New York early on (as a label boss he has to know what's happening) and even thought about trying to sign them. He's pleased they namecheck him as an influence, but is well aware that his musical patch is getting crowded and he needs to push things forward. "I'm like, 'Well, I can't do that anymore. Thanks, I had

a little thing going on here!'" he laughs. Hence the reason he's given up on the Polo shirts and casual clothes and gone all Day-Glo '80s fashion. He chose the *Miami Vice* look because he wants to distance himself from the whole chav thing. It "does his head in" that middle class people have decided wearing casual clothes somehow makes you "fucking scum".

If that isn't going far enough, he claims his next musical project is likely to be a, er, country album. While in New York he went to see country legend Kenny Rogers and describes it as the "best concert I've been to. The guy is a pro. I'm more influenced by country in lyrical style than anything else."

His only other ambition right now is to get into the *Oxford English Dictionary*. "Shakespeare invented thousands of words," he says excitedly, "but as soon as you hear them you know what they mean. That's an amazing thing to be able to do." Which is why the album opener is called 'Pranging Out'. "Prang" is when you're getting a bit prangy. And Charlie's change, so prang is just what it ended up being called. I like the word. It'd be nice if there was an equivalent to 'It's all gone Pete Tong' 'It's all gone Mike Skinner'."

What would it be?

Britain's greatest living pop star laughs, makes a wasted face and pulls an imaginary duvet over himself. "It'd be lying in bed, feeling suicidal: 'Aw, I'm really Skinned!'"



The video for new single 'When You Wasn't Famous' is on NME.COM now Presents.Thx for Support

WHEN ROCK STARS GO WRONG

The Top Five mental breakdown albums



Blood On The Tracks

Dylan's best album candidly documents his acrimonious split from wife Sara, from 'Idiot Wind's relentless character assassination – "You're an idiot, it's a wonder that you still know how to breathe" – to the winsome regret of 'You're Gonna Make Me Lonesome When You Go'. Painful listening.



Tonight's The Night

Devastated by the loss of bandmate Danny Whitten through heroin, Young retreated into alcoholism and recorded this sparse tribute. He's audibly drunk on just about every track, and frequently warbles in and out of key, but songs like 'Borrowed Tune' make it essential.



This Is Hardcore

Frazzled by overnight fame and drug addiction, Pulp's follow-up to 'Different Class' was an entirely darker – and commercially under-performing – affair, documenting everything from druggy post-fame paranoia to the champagne hangover of the Britpop fallout on 'The Day After The Revolution'.



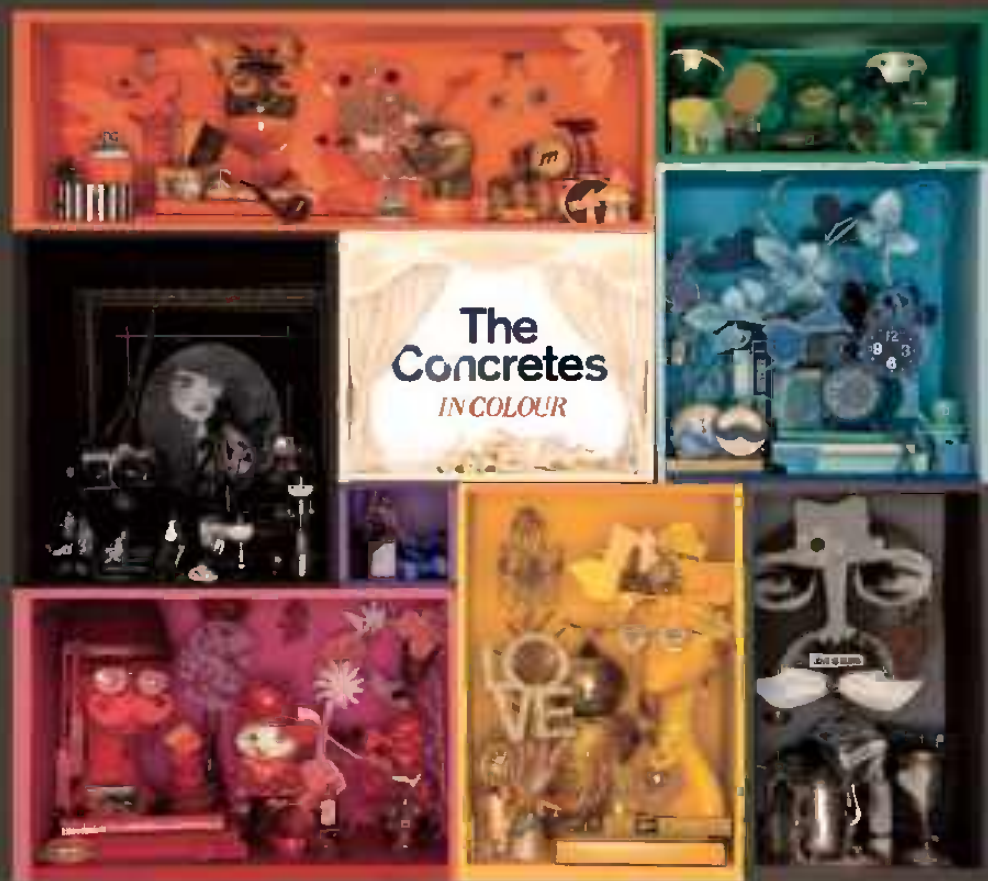
OASIS Standing On The Shoulder Of Giants

Suffering their own Britpop morning-after, Oasis' fourth album was primarily influenced by Noel Gallagher's cocaine psychosis, and it shows on songs like the eerie 'Gas Panic!' and the pretty much self-explanatory 'Where Did It All Go Wrong'?



BLUR 13

About as far away from 'Parklife' as you can get, '13' lays bare Damon Albarn's split from Justine Frischmann, culminating in the fairly harrowing and morbidly candid 'No Distance Left To Run' – "I hope you're with someone who makes you feel safe in your sleeping tonight/I won't kill myself trying to stay in your life".



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Everybody has injuries

Ryan Cribbs doesn't have the monopoly on bizarre and painful wounds sustained in the call of duty, you know. Here he rates rock'n'roll's most gruesome injuries



What looks really good on the dancefloor? Kate Jackson's spotty neckerchief? Ricky Wilson's tweed waistcoat? Or a bloody great crevice in your forehead incurred by falling six feet off the stage? When Ryan from The Cribbs backflipped across a table at the

ShockWaves NME Awards 2006 like the lo-fi Eddie 'The Eagle' Edwards, it wasn't just a snazzy move, it was the continuation of rock's 50-year-plus love affair with accidentally debilitating oneself.

"Sure, I needed 14 stitches and the doctor said I was lucky I didn't die," gorges our hero down the phone, still lying in bed tranquilised up to the tits two weeks after the event. "But what I did, I did for the love of indie."

Ryan might not be the first to offer his teeth, backbone and kidneys up for the greater good of rock'n'roll, but he definitely does it the most regularly. So who better to rate the bloody carnage of rock's battlegrounds past? Just remember kids, please don't try these at home.



The spoils of Ryan's NME Awards evening...



...and The Cribbs on a quiet night. Will they ever learn?



DEV TEST ICICLES

Splicing hip-hop, hardcore and grotrock is one thing. Slicing up your big toe is quite another. Dev from disco punks Test Icicles severed his toe from his foot when he jumped on some broken glass during a show in London in March 2005. A bloody mess? Yes, but some would say that describes their music, too.

Ryan: "Hurting your foot isn't that bad, at least you can still play." Pain rating: 5/10



KARENO

At a Yeah Yeah Yeahs show in Sydney in October 2003, Karen fell headfirst offstage. Ever the trooper, she climbed back onstage to perform 'Maps' with an ice pack on her head, before being rushed to the emergency ward to be treated for concussion. She returned the next night, wheeled onstage by former-boyfriend Angus Andrew of support band Liars.

Ryan: "I think it was really cool when she was wheeled on the next night to play. It just showed that she cared." 7/10



YYePG Proudly Presents Thx for Supporting



JACK WHITE

Jack broke his finger in a car crash with then-girlfriend Renée Zellweger of *Bridget Jones's Diary* fame. In a bizarre turn of events, Jack posted pictures and video footage of the subsequent operation to fix his shattered digit on the internet. Download the sicko movie (with doctors discussing how many bolts Jack needs) here: http://www.tripletremelo.com/sightssounds/video_misc.html **Ryan:** "They cancelled their shows because of this? I'm sure the car crash wasn't nice, but I've broken my finger before and played the next night." 2/10



WORDS: PATEL ELAN PHOTOGRAPHY: GUY AROCH/REUTERS/PHIL WALLIS
SAM JONES/REUTERS/PHIL WALLIS



RYAN ADAMS

The alt.country chess-playing mate of The Strokes fell six feet off a stage into an orchestra pit in Liverpool in January 2004. Not only did he hurt his leg, smash his lip and nearly paralyse himself, his broken wrist also halted any further performances of his dodgy '80s soft rock album 'Rock N Roll'. Every cloud, as they say...

Ryan: "That thing he had to wear on his arm looked horrible!" 8/10



DIDZ, DIRTY PRETTY THINGS

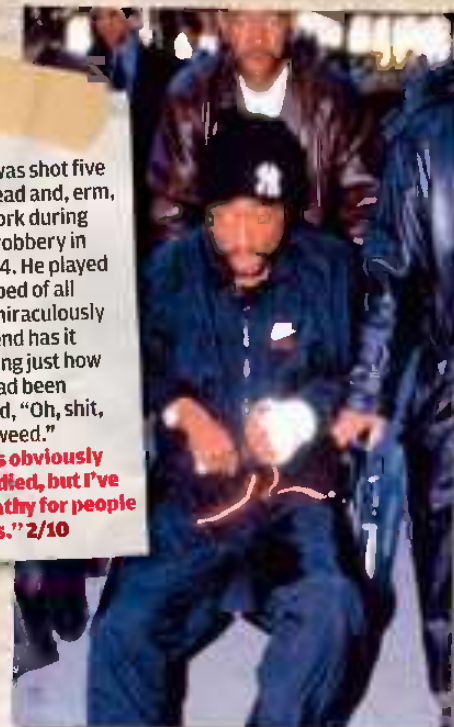
During his time in Reading electro-punks The Cooper Temple Clause, Didz discovered something bad was happening 'down below'. The doctor suggested he might have a problem with his appendix and booked him in for an operation, but that didn't cure his ailment. Before long, a strange smell started to emanate from his side. It was the smell of poo. He had a hole in his gut and it was leaking shit.

Ryan: "(laughs) That's horrible! You'd just be really self-conscious the whole time and worried about 'accidents' happening." 9/10

TUPAC

Tupac Shakur was shot five times (in the head and, erm, balls) in New York during an attempted robbery in November 1994. He played dead, was robbed of all his bling, but miraculously survived. Legend has it that, on realising just how seriously he had been injured, he said, "Oh, shit, roll me some weed."

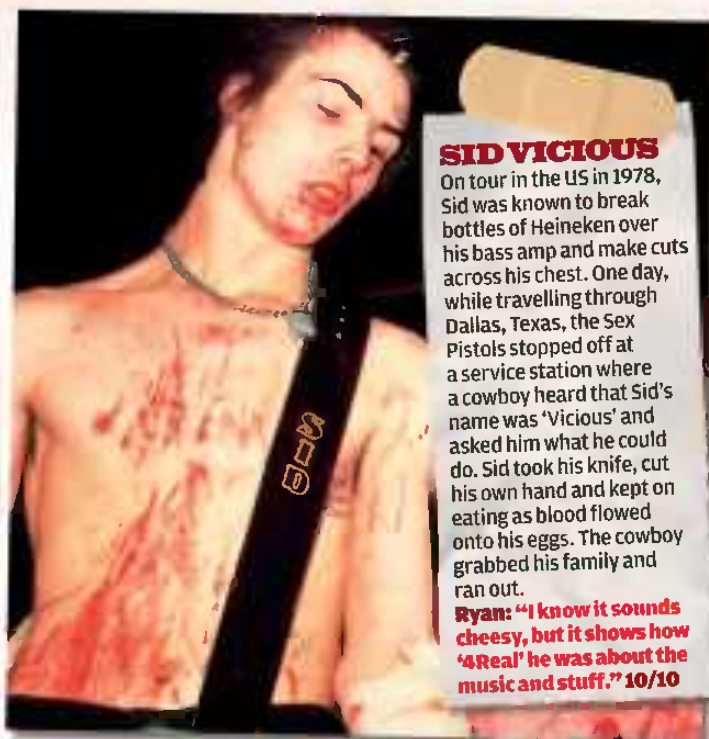
Ryan: "It was obviously sad when he died, but I've got no sympathy for people who use guns." 2/10



CARL BARAT

During the sessions for the Libs' ill-fated second album, Carl took a bath with a bottle of whiskey. He got out, slipped and cracked his head on the sink, damaging his cheek. Concussed and not realising what had happened, he staggered to bed. But the next morning's bloody bedsheets suggested something wasn't right. He was rushed to hospital and diagnosed with a fractured cheekbone and a damaged tearduct.

Ryan: "He had to get internally sewn up. When that happens it's really bad." 8/10



SID VICIOUS

On tour in the US in 1978, Sid was known to break bottles of Heineken over his bass amp and make cuts across his chest. One day, while travelling through Dallas, Texas, the Sex Pistols stopped off at a service station where a cowboy heard that Sid's name was 'Vicious' and asked him what he could do. Sid took his knife, cut his own hand and kept on eating as blood flowed onto his eggs. The cowboy grabbed his family and ran out.

Ryan: "I know it sounds cheesy, but it shows how '4Real' he was about the music and stuff." 10/10



DAVID BOWIE

"Bastard!" cried The Dame, after a member of the audience at his Oslo gig threw a lollipop into his eye. Bowie winced in agony as the stick shot between his left eyeball and its lid.

Ryan: "Is that why his eyes look weird? I like David Bowie, but that was just hilarious. How un-rock'n'roll can you get? Imagine someone asking him, 'How did you injure yourself?' and Bowie replying, 'I got hit in the eye with a child's sweet.' Just funny!" 2/10



MICHAEL JACKSON

Michael Jackson's hair caught fire in a freak accident during the filming of a 1984 Pepsi commercial. Too much hairspray? Bubbles left in charge of the Aga? No, a firework display erupted behind the superstar, showering him in sparks and setting light to his barnet. He was taken to hospital, where he was treated for second degree burns. Cha-mone!

Ryan: "That's just funny. Did it mean that he had to get a better haircut?" 4/10



RICKY WILSON

All together now: "WOOOOAAAAA-ouch!" Parva may have been their Achilles' heel, but it was Ricky Wilson's foot that got the Kaiser Chiefs into bouts of trouble. The ginger scamp tore his ankle tendons on the band's first US tour, then re-injured it when he jumped off the stage in Portugal. During last year's South By Southwest festival, he had to hop around like an indie-rock pirate.

Ryan: "It just shows how proud they are of their sound and how much they love it." 5/10

HEY NURSES!

Ryan Jarman talks us through his run-ins with health and safety

SMACK IN THE MOUTH!

"During one song, a crowd surfer hit the mic into my mouth and chipped my teeth. The thing is, it's never really healed and it's just kept on hurting. It's been bleeding on and off for about a year now."

STARTING A BIST!

"At the Liquid Rooms in Edinburgh a fight broke out between security and the kids, then the stage collapsed. It was fucked up - people were fainting and being dragged out. We were mainly scared for the audience."

THE SHOW MUST GO ON!

"I broke my hand at the start of an NME Tour and a doctor said it would have to be set, but I carried on and did the rest of the tour with a broken hand. It was so, so painful, but I really wanted to finish the tour. Now it's got a right weird lump on it that hurts."

ELECTRO-CRASH!

"I kept on getting these huge shocks from the mic when we were playing Newcastle. I'm not talking like little shocks but big, blue sparks. I had to leave the stage in the end, because I think I could have got seriously hurt if I stayed."

PRIZE-WINNING DIVE!

"The NME Awards injury is the worst I've ever had. It's just taking so long to heal, because of the internal bleeding. Now it's infected and the painkillers are making me feel sick. I think I'm going to stop taking them."



ALBUMS

The Like Wire

Edited by
Anthony Thornton

YVYs (l-r Nick, Karen, Brian): Karen will be showing the rest of her triceratops' bones next week in *NME*

SUPPLEMENTARY INCOME

What Yeah Yeah Yeahs do when they're not doing the Yeah Yeah Yeahs



Karen O

After splitting from Spike Jonze, Karen's now allegedly stepping out again with her pre-'Fever To Tell' beau, Liars' Angus Andrew (left). Is

this a side-project? Phwoar, you bet! She's also putting together a solo LP with Squeak E Clean, apparently.



Nick Zinner

Despite releasing a book of Terry Richardson-style photography and playing with Bright Eyes, Zinner has also found time to collaborate with

members of The Blood Brothers and The Locust on noisecore super-group Head Wound City (left).



Brian Chase

Were it not for his talent at hitting things quickly at a set tempo, where would The Normal Yeah find himself? Probably turning repetition into an

artform with his other band The Seconds (left). That isn't meant to be a dig at 'em, it's what they actually do.

We love you... Yeah Yeah Yeahs

Surviving the NYC clearout, they're back, better than ever

YYePG Proudly Presents, Thx for Support

Yeah Yeah Yeahs

Show Your Bones

(Polydor)

REVIEWED BY
MIKE STERRY



First things first, we need to deal with the elephant in the room, to dispel the thick fog of rumour that hangs heavy over this release. 'Show Your Bones' is not, repeat not, a concept album about Karen O's pussy. Perhaps we should clarify. Despite earlier reports by producer Squeak E Clean (aka Sam Spiegel, brother of Karen O's ex-flame, Spike Jonze), the LP is not titled 'Coco Beware', and is hence not a concept album detailing the rise of the titular cat in Karen O's affections. No friends, what we have is something far grander than that. What we have here is 2006's Yeah Yeah Yeahs presenting themselves as a band that have cut themselves free from the fetters of a movement they helped birth and wrapped up warm in the robe of reinvention.

And what a reinvention. Unlike 'Fever To Tell', itself painted with the shocking pinks and threatening purples of post-coital contusions, 'Show Your Bones' is resolutely autumnal. It's gutsy, bruised, womb-warm, simultaneously tender and defiant, and just about as sprawling as you can get in under 40 minutes. Brilliant, in short.

Though they've shed the cheap – but undeniably fun – Day-Glo immediacy of

'Fever...', it's been replaced by a range of expressions that most artists will only stumble upon by their fifth release. That's not to say the Yeahs have lost any of their distinctive vitality, this time around it just happens to find itself dancing bare-chested round a bonfire in the middle of the desert, rather than having spontaneous, unprotected sex in the cloakroom. Hence those pining for reimaginings of 'Date With The Night' and 'Y Control' will be left to their pining; even their closest up-tempo equivalents, found in 'Honey Bear's' brusque Tex-Mex stomp and the Beck-like charm of first single 'Gold Lion', are drastically distinct from anything found on the Yeahs' debut. They have, to quote Ms Orzolek, gone "rustic". Though, granted, this is probably

But the album's most bizarre "What the fuck was that I just heard?" moment comes in the guise of the show-stealing 'Phenomena'. We swear that Karen's partially lifted the chorus from LL Cool J's 1997 Top 10 hit 'Phenomenon', and simply fiddled with the pluralisation. Even better, it sounds like she's grinding her crotch against our ears, and is probably where fans of Yeah Yeah Yeahs' debut will find their gateway into 'Show Your Bones'.

But the clincher is closer 'Turn Into', which starts as a rootsy, tumbling early '90s Belly-type affair before Zinner's guitar transforms into a 20-foot-high Theremin and it's BAM! – you've forgotten where you are, what your name is and have never even heard of a band called Arctic Monkeys. Needless to say, it's a blissful few seconds.

Unfortunately, just as your spine is working through its 12th paroxysm of shuddering ecstasy, bonus track 'Déjà Vu' kicks in, doing its damndest to meddle with this hard-won afterglow. However, if you have a working knowledge of laser-optics, this is easy enough to correct. Y'know, one day we'd like to see a bonus track properly inserted into the flow of an album, rather than

tacked on like a half-hearted addendum. Why has nobody realised this yet? Madness. But woe of woes, friends! Nick Zinner said in a recent interview that he doesn't imagine Yeah Yeah Yeahs will be together in, uh, five years. Sure that seems like, five years away, but it means they've only got 1.6 albums left in them. Which means if you haven't yet given Yeah Yeah Yeahs your cash, it's time you started, bucko. Right. Now.

NME.COM
Yeah Yeah Yeahs' new album can be heard from March 20 on NME.COM

You're thrust into a swirling dust and the faint silhouette of Karen O tearing pieces of her clothing off

how most New Yorkers describe going without hot water for a few hours. Much like their video for 'Gold Lion', 'Show Your Bones' thrusts you into a place of swirling dust, flaming drumsticks, and the faint silhouette of Karen O tearing pieces of her clothing off. So when 'Sweets' slouches by like PJ Harvey singing Calexico in the shower, you just know that somewhere out there, Josh Homme is chewing his bottom lip, pencilling KO into his Desert Sessions dream team. Case in point: track 'Fancy', in which Karen wails like she's trapped down a well while Nick Zinner piles slab after frenzied slab of distortion on top of her, could very well have crawled its way out from the Rancho de la Luna.

Nathan Fake

Drowning In A Sea Of Love

(Border Community)



Laptop rock? Strange but truly brilliant

It starts quietly. For the first few tracks, Norfolk's Nathan Fake (yes, his real name) conjures lovely, languid and, at times, breathlessly intense electronica. But, then, like a hand-grenade lobbed into a still summer garden, 'Superpositions' explodes. It has the energy and drum sounds of an early Strokes single – it rocks. Except, its pretty melody is half-drowning in ugly swirling noise, the contrast between the two creating a dizzying tension, echoing Fake's heroes My Bloody Valentine. Several warped "rock" songs built from binary code follow. 'You Are Here', in particular, is beautiful – a soaring, bastardised epic. **Tony Naylor**



Drive-By Truckers

A Blessing And A Curse (New West)

Workmanlike. It's hard to say it without sounding like you're sneering, but it is so bad for something to be well-made, to do what it's meant to? Drive-By Truckers build their songs to satisfy an acquired taste, and it'll slot into your heart as snugly as a hand-turned dove joint. Their fusing of the worldview of Mötley Crüe to the sound of good-era Rod Stewart on 'Aftermath USA' and the struck-off Doctor Hook feel of 'Easy On Yourself' might appeal beyond their cowboy-booted audience, but you might need to drive across the Deep South to take it to heart. **Simon Hayes Budgen**

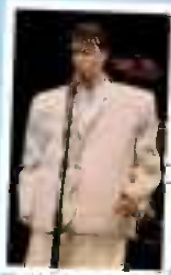
Living in the pre-punk '70s

FROCK 'N' AWE

Pop stars who've had way too much fun with fashion

David Byrne

We'll never know what was going on in David Byrne's mind when he donned The Big Suit for Talking Heads' Stop Making Sense tour. Some say it was meant to be a grotesque parody of every white rock star who dared shake some tail at a concert. Others say he just lost a few stone. Sadly, the truth remains elusive.



Kevin Rowland

Back in '99, the erratic ex-Dexys ringleader realised the only way he could recapture his past glory was by donning a silky nightie and performing Whitney Houston's 'The Greatest Love Of All' at the Reading, prompting several thousand unlucky fans' eyes to spontaneously haemorrhage.



Madonna

Fishnetted Hooker Madonna, Madonna does Marilyn, Chromed-bosomed Madonna, Icy Goth Bitch Madonna, Madonna does Evita, Cowboy Madonna, Spanish Harlot Madonna, S&M Madonna, Leg Warmers'n'Things-Like-A-Goddamn-Thoroughbred Madonna... Need we continue?



Karen O

Considered a blank canvas by her dress designer Christian Joy, Karen O's wardrobe is a perpetual cacophony of colour, fabric, and more often than not, good taste. We'd say it to her face, only we're worried she'd kick us in the nuts and laugh as we fell to the floor.



Fickle Public

Bucko (Small Town America)



Glaswegians get not-very accessible

There are a few things you can pretty much guarantee from a band who choose to open an album with a math-pop puzzle called 'Just Like I Got Used To Saying Courteney Cox Arquette'. Three of them aren't hummable choruses, big laughs or many friends. But Glasgow post-hardcore trio Fickle Public are nothing if not a minor angst-punk miracle. 'Bucko' might not secure them a slot on the next Kaisers tour, but at least 'Five Four To The Floor' and 'Another Exit Ruined By Stairfalling' prove that brains, time signatures and the late '80s scene can work with a sense of humour too. **Priya Elan**

"an album you really need to buy" - The Sunday Times
 "their finest, most achingly beautiful work to date" - The Fly
 "an engaging, unashamedly poppy pearl that deserves
 to be heard" - Classic Rock
 "the music is fantastic" - NME

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The Trip Curated By

Jarvis Cocker &
Steve Mackey

8



The Trip Navigated

By Joey Negro

6

LP collection
raiding with
Jarv and
Joey Negro

So in theory, we live in a musical democracy, a utopia of file-sharing, virtual mixtapes and blog-critics, where each person's opinion is as

valid as the next. The reality though, is that most campus bedroom Lester Bangs wannabes know sweet FA compared to the years of experience and taste that someone like Jarvis Cocker can muster.

An effortless saunter from '60s country (Arlo Guthrie) to '80s gothic post-punk (The Birthday Party), it's a stolen lorryload of aural swag that finds time to unearth some overlooked classics (Screaming Lord Sutch's 'Flashing Lights'), and throw in some inspired covers (OMD's electro reworking of the Velvet's classic 'Waiting For The Man', Dion's flute and bongo rendition of Hendrix's 'Purple Haze' and The Fall's excellent cover of Sister Sledge's 'Lost In Music' for starters).

Dance artist and Lionel Richie/Mariah Carey producer Joey Negro's effort is equally as true to his own career. Heavily marinated in soul (Erykah Badu, The Isley Brothers), it's also more shameless than Jarvis', featuring Jackson 5 at their candy-coated cutest ('Looking Through The Window'), cheesy '80s disco/rock crossover artist Christopher Cross, Jethro Tull and The B52's. Despite concessions to The Divine Comedy and some secret agent soundtracks (007 and *The Avengers*), we're left wondering if we really need to be reminded of Dusty Springfield/Pet Shop Boys' collaboration 'Nothing Has Been Proved'.

Nevertheless, buying either will lead you down several garden paths you never knew existed. **Tim Chester**

Nine Black Alps Glitter Gulch EP

(Island)



Named after a
Vegas strip
joint, y'know

This rather early B-sides comp goes all out to answer disses that top Manc spitemeisters 9BA's debut 'Everything Is' had its rock fangs blunted by expensive Californian production. Returning to the Manc basements that birthed them might resonate authentically, but once again it's the songs that win. Indeed, giving a proper shot to lost anthem 'Over The Ocean' justifies the indulgence alone. Meanwhile, 'String Me Along' is their finest slowie yet, and 'Coldhearted' packs a '60s punch that points to Sam Forrest's songwriting blooming even better next time round.

Dan Martin

6



"Like, this is a bit high for us now. Like. Get us down!"

The Like-ly ladies

Look good on the dancefloor, sound good (mostly) on record



The Like Are You Thinking What I'm Thinking?

(Geffen)

When The Like first shimmered onto the UK radar last November with debut single 'What I Say And What I Mean', there was much speculation that this all-girl LA trio were a little too perfect to be true. Before you even got to the music (a dizzy slab of superior fuzz-rock, as it happens) there was an avalanche of glossy press snaps, deluxe artwork and US magazine cuttings to coo over. The former looking like a high-end

fashion shoot, the latter reading like a Pamela Des Barres fairytale of A-list adventures on Sunset Strip. Scroll forward four months and it's finally time to find out whether The Like really are consistent manna from indie-rock heaven or mannered indie-rock haridians.

The answer, to begin with at least, is a happy one. When 'Are You Thinking...' is good, it's exceptional. Opening shot 'June Gloom' is The Pretenders meets Veruca Salt - singer Z Berg's cracked Chrissie Hynde vocal flowing like warm treacle through layers of grunge guitars, while 'So I'll Sit

Here) Waiting' is a select alchemist's mix of girl-fronted dream-pop (The Sundays, Belly) through the ages. The problems come towards the middle ('Bridge To Nowhere', 'We Are Lost') when producer Wendy Melvoin's over-polished approach smothers and softens the punk edges, leaving a handful of dirge-grey ballads behind.

So, are we thinking what Z and co are thinking? Not exactly, they may reckon they've got a superb debut; we know that this is an album that you'll like rather than actually love. **Krissi Murison**

7

Deltahead

Deltahead (V2)



They got the
blues from a
laptop

Clearly, Stockholm isn't quite a magical land of pixies, castles and sugar canes because natives Deltahead have caught the digital blues from somewhere. The duo's debut throws all manner of bass-heavy, distorted, and just plain weird instruments into the fuzz to create a fully dirty grind of electro-twisted bluegrass. The pulsing 'I Smile At You' is so threatening, neither your stereo system or your mental health comes away undamaged, while 'Help Me!' veers from the drippingly gothic to sounding like some sort of demented carousel ride. This is as royally scuzzed-up as music gets. Go to your happy place, and take Deltahead with you - they could definitely do with it.

Molly Jones

YyPG Proudly Presents The LP for Sean Chester

6

Loose Fur

Born Again In The USA (Drag City)



Wilco off-shoot
in alt.rock slow
grower shock

Made up of Wilco's Jeff Tweedy and Glenn Kotche, along with legendary producer and erstwhile Sonic Youth bass player Jim O'Rourke, Loose Fur are something of a supergroup. 'Born Again In The USA' is their second collaborative outing, and takes some persistence (the title alone makes you want to run a mile). It's worth the effort though, for the '80s metal/delicate plucking guitar schizophrenia of 'Pretty Sparks', the cheery whistles on 'The Ruling Class', or 'Thou Shalt Wilt's' piano-driven scamper, which brings out the bumptious side of alt.rock. The peak though is 'Wreckroom', an eight-and-a-half-minute epic that broods and explodes and then peters out into space-rock introspection, a microcosm of the

6

The Blue Aeroplanes

Altitude (EMI/Harvest)



Comeback
from late '80s
'British REM'

A full 22 years since they formed, Gerald Langley, the Bristolian poet-savant of alt.rock has infused The Blue Aeroplanes' comeback LP with a local attitude. With 'A Tree Full Of Starlings' reflections on death, and 'Star Below's' lo-fi hoedown, there's also a whiff of countryside air. And, when he aims at celebrities with a twisted envy that's almost becoming, with 'Bright Star Catalogue', old town/metropolis tensions surface. Yet The Blue Aeroplanes - 'Up In A Down World', 'Bristol Byzantine/Raise The Roof' - never forget to rock, rocket-fuel style. Cheeky with it, too, as the recycled '80s riff on 'Beautiful Is As Beautiful Does', a Hollywood death tribute delivered in trademark Brit tones, clearly testifies. **Dele Fadele**

7

**REISSUE
OF THE
WEEK**

Wire you're here

Meet the band that helped invent your record collection



Wire

Pink Flag (Harvest)

Being influential, really, has got to be rubbish. As driven and as visionary as you may be, you spend your formative years being thought of as a weirdo by most, your only consolation being 'critical acclaim' (hurrah!) and a vague sense of satisfaction 30-odd years later when every other young buck is shamelessly aping your antics (except now they get all the groupies, good drugs and commercial success they can manage). Being able to say, "I told you so," is good, but not *that* good.

Spare a thought for Wire then, who, having ghost-written a substantial proportion of the Britpop regalia's back catalogue (most notably Elastica's), now find themselves in a musical age when, on a seemingly bi-weekly basis, the cover of *NME* is decorated by a group utterly in thrall to their minimal art-rock. And if that description now feels over-used, don't blame them. Blame Maximo Park, Franz Ferdinand, The Strokes, The Futureheads, Bloc Party, The Rakes - the list of your favourite bands who wouldn't exist without Wire, and in particular their staggering debut 'Pink Flag', truly, is endless.

Having formed at Watford Art College in December 1977, Wire were smart enough - while most were chasing punk's long-since departed bandwagon - to realise that things needed to move on, to evolve. 'Pink Flag' is very much a punk album but, with its jagged, uncomfortable starkness, its 21, minute-and-a-half each tracks and the very fact that, in the midst of the DIY ethos, it was released by the Sex Pistols-shunning suits at EMI, it's one that goes to far greater



Wire '06 (l-r) Paul Smith, Alex Kapranos, Dave Hyde, Alan Donohoe: or is it?

obtuse extremes. To put it simply, Wire had much more to say than, "We don't care".

So while the buzzsaw guitars and bellowed backing vocals of opener 'Reuters' and 'Ex Lion Tamer' may be rooted in punk, by the time you reach 'Lowdown', the title track's off-kilter grooves and the likes of 'Strange' (later covered by REM), which features producer Mike Thorne bashing a fire escape door and some super-paranoid couplets ("Joey's nervous and the lights are bright/There's something going on that's not quite right"), it becomes apparent that this is a unique, anxious-yet-alooof record far removed from the world of safety pins'n'seven-inches.

This, however, was just the start. By the time of their second and third albums (1978's 'Chairs Missing' and 1979's '154' - both now reissued along with this debut), Wire had progressed even further into their own world, fusing 'Pink Flag's' cold (yet always hook-laden) dynamics with touches of eerie electronica on the former, while on the latter moving into realms that baffled

Franz, Strokes, Bloc Party, Rakes... the list of bands who wouldn't exist without Wire is endless

both their audiences and, crucially, their record company. Despite garnering considerable critical acclaim (hurrah again!), the album flopped and Wire were relieved of their record contract, forcing them into a five-year hiatus.

'Pink Flag' remains Wire's defining moment, its follow-ups more interesting yet ultimately nowhere near as coherent. But that's what art-rock (and specifically the 'art' part) *should* be about: taking risks, challenging accepted views and fucking with people's heads. Let's just hope that the skinny-tied hordes we so cherish today remember that when it comes to their second and third albums. **Hamish MacBain**

WHAT NME SAID

“Wire are unique among the '77 front-runners (curse these abject terms!) in that their first release was an album with a 21-track set which delivers such a staggeringly coherent picture, it really brings the whole singles fetish - to which I myself usually subscribe - into question.”

December 17, 1977
Phil McNaell



No pun(k)s please, we're Wire.

WHY I LOVE WIRE

PAUL THOMPSON, FRANZ FERRER

“Wire were great. Experimental, musically rich and with a refusal to be pigeon-holed, Wire took music forward at a time when many of their contemporaries remained rooted in and paralysed by the punk dogma.”

ROB WILLIAMS, THE FUTUREHEADS

“Wire were always the punk band who seemed to take being obstinate to a whole other level. There was an art-school influence but in reality they wrote some superb pop songs. And such a blatant rip off by Elastica too...”

**BEST
OF THE LAST
FOUR WEEKS**



Graham Coxon
Love Travels At Illegal Speeds (Parlophone)
“Shy, romantic, funny, sad, charming, upbeat on the surface but confused at its heart, and perfectly represents its creator.”



Soledad Brothers
Hardest Walk (Loog)
“This is a great break-up album. It's their best and most complete yet.”



Megwai
Mr Beast (PIAS)
“Beast? It's a monster of a record.”



My Latest Novel
Wolves (Bella Union)
“More than just the new Arcade Fire... it rewards multiple visits.”

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**TEN TO
DOWNLOAD
FROM THIS
WEEK'S ALBUMS**

- 1 **Turn Into Yeah Yeah Yeahs** (Show Your Bones)
- 2 **June Bloom** (Are You Thinking What I'm Thinking?)
- 3 **Five Four To The Floor** (Fickle Public) (Bucko)
- 4 **Over The Ocean** (Nine Black Alps) (Glitter Gulch EP)
- 5 **I Smile At You** (Deltahead) (Deltahead)
- 6 **Wreckroom** (Loose Fur) (Born Again In The USA)
- 7 **A Tree Full Of Starlings** (The Blue Aeroplanes) (Altitude)
- 8 **Aftermath USA** (Drive-By Truckers) (A Blessing And A Curse)
- 9 **(So I'll Sit Here) Waiting** (The Like) (Are You Thinking What I'm Thinking?)
- 10 **Phenomena** (Yeah Yeah Yeahs) (Show Your Bones)

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CREATIVE

"The Zen Vision:M is probably the ultimate commuting gadget."

(Evening Standard, 26th January 2006)

"Creative's Zen Vision:M knocks the Apple's iPod Video into a cocked hat."

(Times Online, Jan 13th)



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TRACKS

The week's new downloads, radio tracks and videos
Edited by Mark Beaumont

Hope restored

Chichester's finest:
both big and clever

HOPE OF THE STATES



Blood Meridian EP (Sony)

Self-conscious but still revelling in their own self-importance, prone to meaningless soundbites expressing bewilderment at world events, clinging to credibility via association: yup, Chantelle's tawdry efforts to "live the dream" will surely soon result in an abrupt wake-up call. Hope Of The States, however, provide a different proposition. Having seen the operatic art-rock of 2004's 'The Lost Riots' go down about as well as a bare flame at a Towers Of London hairstyling session, Sam Herlihy and company have taken stock and decided to take drastic measures.

Gone is the Napoleonic self-absorption and claustrophobic string-laden arrangements and in their place on 'Blood Meridian' comes a pulverising rock sensibility. The politicised polemic of yore is still there, but crucially it comes with new found self-awareness. "There's quiet on the streets today/I think I know what's going on", sighs Sam, curiously reminiscent of Bernard Sumner, "but I'm too scared to say in case I've got it wrong/And I've made a bad mistake". The band meanwhile pound into a doom-laden throb which will send shivers down the spine of everyone from Interpol to Editors, and which brings to mind, inevitably, those other redeemed souls, the Manics.

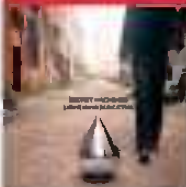
Having tackled their demons with 'The Lost Riots' - with its inevitable comparisons to 'The Holy Bible' - 'Blood Meridian' serves as proof that they are finally set to reap their reward. "Stand up for the put upon/The worried and the anxious", croons Sam at the close. For those appalled at the downward slide into trash culture, fresh hope. **PM**

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The timid hope of the state has to graze in herds in case it comes under attack from a voracious tower of london

SECRET MACHINES



Lightning Blue Eyes (679)

Personally, we wouldn't have said that lightning is blue - if anything can be learned from the brand names of inexpensive ciders marketed generally at tramps, we'd have said it was white. That aside, this is a spiffing slice of galloping Big Rock and, if we're willing to forgive the colour-based errata, then "I was overwhelmed/Lightning blue eyes against the daylight" is probably one of the more lovely lyrical images we're going to hear in the death throes of a harsh winter. They obviously picked up a few tricks supporting U2 in Mexico and will probably end up wearing cowboy hats and generally looking like tossers, but for now, their rock is just the right size for nuzzling up against. **PC**

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ARTHUR BAKER FEAT TIM WHEELER



Glow (Underwater)

Tim Wheeler seldom tops most beat-makers' 'Would Like To Work With' list, which is presumably connected to the fact his attempts to hit that requisite 'soaring' note sound rather like a man drowning in treacle. Still, it never stopped Bernard Sumner, and this - a collaboration with the sonic visionary behind tracks from Afrika Bambaataa's 'Planet Rock' to Mogwai's 'My Father, My King' - is very much in the New Order mould, right down to the low-slung bass and Dad's-down-the-disco "Wooh!". It doesn't really work, at least until the remix by ex-Underworld man Darren Emerson that peppers the original with Kraftwerk bleeps. **LP**

CD OUT MONDAY

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THE STROKES

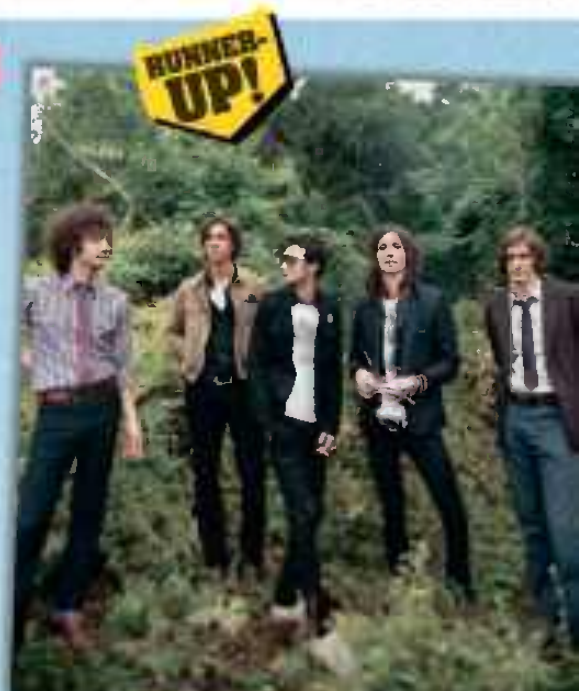


Heart In A Cage

(Rough Trade)

Swiss finishing school educations! Supermodels on speed-dial! Enough NME Awards to start a bric-a-brac stall! No wonder The Strokes look so pissed off all the time. And what a right old bummer it must be knowing that you can ignore the two best tracks on your new album ('Razorblade' anybody? Wherefore art thou 'You Only Live Once?') and still melt the heart of the charts. This is an absolute belter of a tune, reminiscent of the creative goldmine of 'Is This It'. Just so we know that knocking out this stuff isn't easy, Julian draws: "Well I don't feel better/When I'm fucking around/And I don't write better/When I'm stuck in the ground". A great tune, some rotten lyrics, and a sense that their mid-career wobble may well be behind them. What more can we ask for? **PM**

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THE HOLLOWAYS



Garrulous urchin-pop from London town

Happiness And Penniless (Sensible)

More young gentlemen for whom Chas 'N' Dave were not simply the authors of rowdy sing-alongs about the potting of snooker balls and the whereabouts of beer (note: generally found on sideboards), but sage-like mystics with the keys to the mysteries of life itself. A hymn to the essentially transitory nature of capital – OK, about being skint but cheerful – 'Happiness And Penniless' comes on like The Libertines nicking Noddy's car

and taking a joyride round Trumpton, all jaunty-jangle guitars and drunk-on-a-unicycle tempos. Somewhat tinpot, although if you're the sort to dance with thumbs through belt-loops wearing a snaggle-toothed grin, one suspects you'll be laughing. As usual. **LP**

CD OUT MONDAY

RUNNER-UP 2!

NELLY



Suddenly it's getting hot in here, etc

Adam Sandler in American football flick *The Longest Yard*. The well-tuned sense of the absurd which saw the simultaneous release of albums 'Sweat' and 'Suit' gets another outing on 'Grillz', a bass-heavy drone in which St Louis' finest delivers an homage to bling's love affair with dentistry. "My teeth gleamin' like I'm chewing aluminium foil/I put my money where my mouth is and brought a grill/I got my mouth looking somethin' like a disco ball!" he confesses, sparking a million interviewers asking if his metallic molars set off airport security alarms. Tasty. **PM**

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Grillz (Island)

Twenty million album sales into his career, Cornell Haynes Jr (aka Nelly) recently confirmed his status as hip-hop überlord by

appearing opposite

NME CLASSIC SINGLE OF THE WEEK

January 20, 2001



THE STROKES

The Modern Age EP (Rough Trade)

Modern? Well, maybe in 1975 it might have been. Actually, in 1975 they probably would have thought this sensational single sounded like The Velvet Underground and The Stooges, too. It would have been left to future generations to say it sounded quite like Television and a bit of every New York band of that era as well.

New York's Strokes sound like they think 'garage' still refers to where parents keep their cars, a place where gangly teens scrape out edgy proto-punk. You



suspect they'd rather eat their own sick than wear loose-fit. But the beauty of it is, The Strokes aren't just a sound perfectly preserved in retro. They're plundering their city's unimpeachable rock heritage for the best parts. But there's an urgency to the music they make – a crackle to their pop – that says right here, right now. **Kitty Empire**

MAPS



Lost My Soul (Last Space)

Fragile, sugar-frosted, shoegazey lo-fi that sounds like it's been trapped under

Nu-gaze niceness from Northampton

a snowdrift since approximately 1991 – and as Maps mainman James Chapman hails from the cultural freeze-out that is Northampton, that's probably not that far from the truth. Maps' gossamer-thin grooves evoke the breathy heyday of such terminally fey outfits as The Field Mice and Slowdive, bands who pioneered the fusion of shambling indie-pop with programmed beats, largely because, you suspect, they were too weak to lift a drumstick. 'Lost My Soul' is so lightweight that it almost floats by unnoticed, but B-side 'Sparks In The Snow' packs more of a punch, coming on like a trancier Hot Chip. Just remember to bring a shovel. **SR**

CD OUT MONDAY

CLEARLAKE



Neon (Domino)

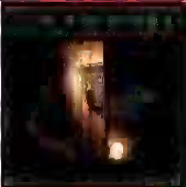
Lordy! You would normally dismiss out of hand any single that starts with a harmonica riff but it soon becomes apparent that 'Neon' is a bird of altogether

Currently blowing Crimea offstage. Probably

different plumage, as massive riffs and a thunderous martial drumbeat usher in a quite fantastic anthem of urban isolation. "Somewhere something wonderful is happening tonight/So come and stand in line/Underneath the neon sign" it roars, at once rousing and slightly depressing, music to both riot and slit your wrists to, which is a pretty good trick. The tender, downbeat 'What's It Like Where You Are' proves that the chaps can do more than just approximate the sound of cities burning too. **PC**

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FOO FIGHTERS



No Way Back/Cold Day In The Sun (RCA)

Somewhere in an alternate universe a cleaned-up and teetotal Kurt Cobain slays stadiums with Nirvana while Dave Grohl seethes silently behind his drumkit, plagued by strange dreams where his toothy retro-rock reaps similar benefits. This time the King Of Colgate Rock returns with another bruising burst of power pop in 'No Way Back' so ruthlessly tuneful you could probably bury it in the garden and it would still sprout fuzzy-stemmed ferns spelling out the word 'dude'. 'Cold Day In The Sun', meanwhile, sees drummer Taylor Hawkins take over vocal duties amid an acoustic guitar free-for-all. You can try and argue with it, but you won't win. **PM**

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BUBBA SPARXXX



Ms New Booty (Virgin)

Trailer-park MC Bubba Sparxxx was an ambassador for Dirty South good taste (strip clubs, gothic font tattoos) and culinary excellence (fried chicken, case of beer)

Hick-hopper back with an eye on your buttocks

way back before 'crunk' became a buzzword for hip-hop innovation. Makes perfect sense, then, that for 'Ms New Booty', he's hooked up with Atlanta crunk duo Ying Yang Twins for a low-slung anthem to the delights of the female posterior that clings to the genre's sonic hallmarks – sluggish boom-boom-crack percussion, high-pitched sirens – like a hick wrestling a pig. Fun like a crystal meth binge, although the sound is well-worn enough that Bubba's latest can't summon up the shock of the new that characterised, say, his Timbaland-tweaked 'Ugly'. **LP**

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LUPEN CROOK



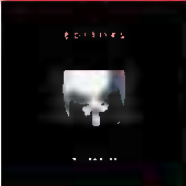
Love 80 (Tap N' Tin)

'Love 80' may sound like a thoroughly improbable Tim Henman scoreline, but it's actually an itchy, twitchy, slight but also rather spiky articulation of lust. "What's her name, what's her name? Everybody say her name" goes the nagging chorus, as child's keyboards, disembodied vocal samples and xylophones scurry all around the undergrowth of the song like centipedes. Centipedes in skinny-fit T-shirts, for the sake of argument. 'Washing Blood From My Hands' is, despite that title (which probably shouldn't find its way onto your romantic mixtapes any time soon) a Syd Barrett-esque ballad of pain, just Mr Lupen and a barely-there acoustic guitar. You'll be wanting to get the vinyl-only version too, for the deathly tango of 'Blood Letter Baby', and because you can snort coke off it. **PC**

Officially 'beautiful' according to The Sun

CD AND VINYL OUT MONDAY

EDITORS



All Sparks (Kitchenware)

Ah, the flexibility of the humble cigarette. When Supergrass sung "Smoke a fag/Put it out", they were singing about the essential beauty of time-wasting, the simple delights of inhaling carcinogens into your lungs. On 'All Sparks', however, Editors take a rather dim view of such inconsequential fripperies. "You burn like you're bouncing/Cigarettes on the road" goes vocalist Tom Smith, in that cold Ian Curtis bark that sounds like a freshly-departed spirit trying to bargain his way out of the mausoleum: "All sparks will burn out/In the end". And what began sounding like a sturdy album track yields its dark secrets, all sparse guitar lines and drums like the Grim Reaper ascending your staircase. **LP**

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IN THE SHOPS THIS WEEK

WATKINS VAGUE

I'm With You (Peacefrog)
CD1: 1. I'm With You
2 Teenage Kicks

SUNNY DAYS SET FIRE
Brainless (Brik A Brak)
7": 1. Brainless
2. Nations Underground

THE MODERN

Industry (Mercury)
CD Maxi: 1. Industry (Radio Edit) 2. Industry (Bimbo Jones Vox) 3. Industry (Bimbo Jones Dub) 4. Industry (Sebastian Ingrosso Mix)
CD Single: 1. Industry (Radio Edit) 2. Closing Door
7": 1. Industry (Radio Edit) 2. Modern Love

DIA MOND NIGHTS

The Girl's Attractive (Kernado)
Single CD/Download: 1. The Girl's Attractive 2. All Your Lovin' 3. The Girl's Attractive (Glimmers remix)

PLACEBO

Because I Want You (Virgin)
7": 1. Because I Want You
2. Because I Want You (Ladytron Remix)
CD Maxi: 1. Because I Want You 2. 36 Degrees 2005 3. Because I Want You (Ladytron Remix)
CD Single: 1. Because I Want You 2. Because I Want You (Russell Lissack From Bloc Party Remix)

See page 41 for the latest releases from Virgin Megastores



NEW TO MTV2 THIS WEEK



Dirty Pretty Things
Bang Bang You're Dead
(MTV2 Exclusive)



Foo Fighters
No Way Back



Two Gallants
Heavy Rolling



Broken Social Scene
7/4 Shoreline

THIS WEEK'S VIDEO TOP 10

| | | |
|----|---|---|
| 1 |  | Yeah Yeah Yeahs Gold Lion This week's chart topper is actually an ode to Karen O's love of stodgy English desserts. Unfortunately a song called 'Lyles Golden Syrup' researched badly in American focus groups. |
| 2 |  | Arcade Fire Tunnels The band are named after the time Win Butler torched a Pacman machine, and this song's about the fairground rides (Tunnel Of Love, Of Horror etc) they hid in for six hours afterwards. |
| 3 |  | Editors All Sparks All Sparks was the name of the cheerleading team Editors joined during the crazy 'lost' years they spent at an American university. Happy days... |
| 4 |  | Franz Ferdinand The Fallen War-themed names before Franz included Captain Mainwaring and Hermann Gurning. The dance anthem 'Do The Trenchfoot' is available in the US, with a remix by actor Philip Seymour Hoffman. |
| 5 |  | The Zutons Why Won't You Give Me Your Love? Abi Harding kept hearing this phrase at gigs and when the house lights went up at KOKO she recognised the NME sub editors team drooling. |
| 6 |  | Guillemots We're Here What started off as a casual interest in ornithology has become an obsession for the Guillemots' drummer. These days he eats stale bread and seeds and will only answer to the name Coooo. |
| 7 |  | The Streets When You Wasn't Famous Mike Skinner's old English teacher at posh boarding school Eton is currently facing tribunal for giving him six of the best upon hearing the poor grammar on this track. |
| 8 |  | The Young Knives The Rumour Mill The Rumour Mill is a machine the band have set up by the Thames - pop down on a Tuesday and you can get the gossip on Razorlight, for the price of a bucket of water and a shiny sixpence. |
| 9 |  | The Kooks Naïve "The most naive thing we've ever done," admitted singer Luke Pritchard recently, "is spend three days at The Rumour Mill and come away believing David Bowie is actually a baboon called Keith." |
| 10 |  | Maximo Park I Want You To Stay This track is named after the voices Paul Smith hears in his head in the early hours when he's at parties, nightclubs and petrol stations. |

BEHIND THE VIDEO



The Zutons get bored of waiting for their mojitos

The Zutons
Why Won't You Give Me Your Love
Director: Scott Lyon

"I wanted to do some sort of musical number without making it look too fey. I thought of *West Side Story* and came up with the idea of splitting the band into two gangs who have a fight/dance off. It's one of those ideas that a band either really go for or run a mile from. They went for it.

We shot it in Cuba. When we were looking into it and running budgets, someone said Cuba was cheaper. The dancers, the choreographers, the locations. We needed to close some streets off. When you try to do it in Britain, it has to go through councils and it takes a lot of time and money. In Cuba, it was much easier.

And the look of the locations was better. Even though *West Side Story* was set in New York, there is a great look to Cuba, the inner-city can sometimes be hyper-real which makes it look like the backlot of a movie studio which we liked.

With dancing in the video, the original idea was not to have the band dancing - just have gang members dancing. But Abi used to be a dancer and wanted to do more. She's great.

The shoot was tough. On the morning of the first day, at least 10 of us got food poisoning. We got through it though!"



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Jonathan Ross, Film 2005.

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LIVE!

The week
Edited by Pat Long

DEAD WOOD
DOCTORS & DEALERS
IF YOU LOVE A WOMAN
WONDERING
GENTRY COVE
GIN & MILK
BLOODTHIRSTY BASTARDS
YOU FUCKING LOVE IT
DEATH ON THE STAIRS
THE ENEMY
PLAYBOYS
BANG BANG
FRANCE
I GET ALONG

Dirty Pretty Things

► The Cockpit, Leeds
► Friday, March 3



Carlos gets his toes sucked
by the faithful. And loves it

The Libertines may be no more, but the search for Arcadia continues

If there is one thing that Babyshambles have taught us, it's to think twice before making a king out of a Libertine. In 18 months the Arcadian dream has been tarnished by everyone from drug dealers and policemen to smut-peddling tabloid hacks, and as we go to press it's a real possibility that Mr Doherty will soon be rejoining General Santana *et al* in the Pentonville crime zoo.

But as one hero is taken, another has returned. The red tops may not have his lawyer on speed-dial and Ladbrokes don't give odds on his arrest. You'll find no supermodels rubbing disco salt into their eyes at his gigs and, presumably, your mum can't even name the guy. Fortunately, the only people who matter (ie, all of us) don't give a shit about all that. Rebekah Wade probably doesn't understand why the return of Carl Barât is every inch as important as the Pete Doherty circus of shame and misery, but you do.

Outside The Cockpit, even a blizzard hasn't stopped the faithful queuing to get in early. "I don't want to miss a minute of the evening," says a shivering devotee. "We want Carl to know how much he means to us." Bands come and go, but the fans are here for eternity. Tonight they come as proud Libertines, excited to see

their old comrade back in action. The question is - can Dirty Pretty Things rise to the challenge and become the band that the Libertine generation so greatly deserves?

As they crash into their set it is clear that this is a band with fire in their belly. Where sometimes Babyshambles look like they could pass out onstage at any second, Dirty Pretty Things are upright and raging. Opener 'Deadwood's' charged outlaw punk sets the tone for the evening. "Mark my

words, something's going to change," promises Barât as the track kicks along in the vein of 'Last Post On The Bugle'. The leather-clad gang of Barât, Didz Hammond and Anthony Rossomando (each clasp a cigarette between their teeth) deal out their three-minute assaults relentlessly; smashing through 'Doctors & Dealers' and 'If You Love A Woman' at a rate that makes the Libs look like Zero 7. An enthusiastic start is compounded by 'Gin & Milk', which sees Carl underlining his singularity in a world that lacks passion and belief.

"No-one gives two fucks about the values

**Upright and raging,
this is a band with
fire in its belly**

I could kill for', he sings. It's a call to arms, an irate revamp of 'Time For Heroes' which draws the nutters onto the stage. It could be the Rhythm Factory circa 2003.

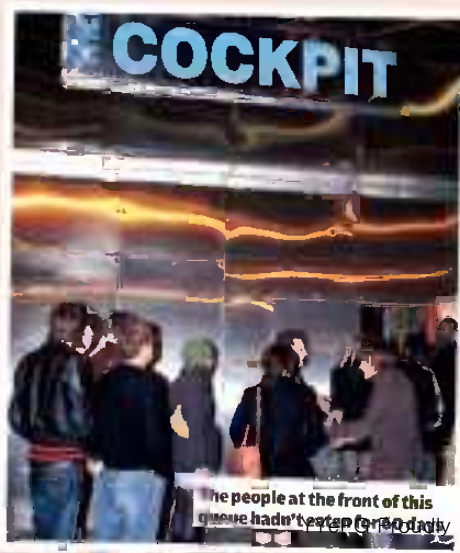
New single 'Bang Bang You're Dead', a jaunty pop track in the mould of 'Boys In The Band', stands out like an old favourite tonight. The gin palace swagger of its slurred singalong chorus is belted out by the raucous crowd with

boozy enthusiasm. The soulful 'If You Were Wondering' is as close to a slow song as they get but when 'Death On The Stairs' makes a surprise appearance mid-set, it's a reminder that this man carried The Libs around the world for six months without his celebrity partner.

"Oh. My. God!" screams a girl beside NME as she recognises the bassline of final encore 'I Get Along' and charges forward. Our sentiments exactly. For three minutes the place tears itself apart in a sweaty rush of blood and excitement. Then, flinging his guitar to the ground Barât launches himself into the throng before security can pull him free. "Carlos! Carlos! Carlos!" chant the crowd, swaying with breathless cheer.

Backstage, Carl's triumphant. "It's a return to the fury of The Libertines," he says. "People have kept the spirit in their hearts. We've been missing it and they've been waiting for it. Two of this band were in The Libertines, so obviously there is an essence of what was there before. We just weren't sure whether or not it was going to make people fucking jump on each others' heads and invade the stage, but now it seems that it does."

Indeed, and more besides. While it is unlikely that he'll be following Pete onto the front pages, the power of what Carl Barât helped invent with the Libs remains. At a time when Mr Doherty may well be spending a sizeable portion of 2006 in prison, DPT's arrival could not have been timed better. Tonight they've proved that even if the captain may have changed, the good ship Albion is back on course. **Alex Miller**



The people at the front of this queue hadn't waited for Dirty

Momentarily forgetting which band he's playing with, Didz is shocked to see his singer's actually OK hairdo

BACKSTAGE WITH...

DIDZ HAMMOND BASS

He has the Powell; post-show and Gary is all smiles

"IT'S GOOD TIMES ALL OVER!"

Is it weird for you playing old Libertines songs in the set?

"Not really. I don't play on 'France' because I'd never heard The Libertines version. But 'I Get Along' was always Carl's anthem and 'Death On The Stairs' is a song that I always really liked. I spoke to [former Libertines bassman] John Hassall the other day and he told me I was doing a good job."

It must be weird being in a new band with so much baggage...

"The tour's been going really well, though. We have faith in the songs that we've written. We know what we're doing with the songs and they are strong."

How have audience reactions been?

"Most people in the audience only know two songs - 'Bang Bang You're Dead' and 'Deadwood', but the crowds have been going insane anyway. In Cork there were massive stage invasions, then we played guitar round at someone's house after. It's good times all over!"

WHAT YOU THOUGHT

Alex, 20, London

"The Libertines numbers were the highlight for me, but there was still a great energy. I didn't pay much attention to Babyshambles when they came out - I was way, way too bitter that The Libertines had split - so I'm with these guys."

Michael, 18, Halifax

"Obviously it was great to hear the Libertines songs - a Libertine is not the sort of thing you stop being, y'know? But when you look at Carl's band and look at Pete's band you see two different sides of The Libertines, sides that were both best off when they were mixed together."

Charlotte, 21, Accrington

"I was a Libs fan so 'I Get Along' was definitely the highlight for me. It's too early to tell if they are going to be as good as The Libertines - ask me in a year's time."



The new T-shirts: Pete's getting his by mail order

NEXT GIGS

Oxford Brookes Uni (April 21, SOLD OUT), Bristol Anson Rooms (22, SOLD OUT), Preston 53 Degrees (26), Leicester Uni (28), Liverpool Carling Academy (29, SOLD OUT), Brighton Concorde (May 3, SOLD OUT), Southampton University (5, SOLD OUT), Coventry Colosseum (6, SOLD OUT), Cambridge Junction (7, SOLD OUT), Nottingham Rock City (10), Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall (12, SOLD OUT), London WC2 Astoria (14, SOLD OUT), Leeds Metropolitan Uni (17, SOLD OUT), Middlesbrough Town Hall (18), Edinburgh Liquid Rooms (19), Glasgow Barrowlands (20), London Kentish Town (20), The Phoenix (20), Presents, The Phoenix (20)

Do the 'Sart' man: Dan grows at the dressed down faithful

Dan Sartain

► The Harrison, King's Cross, London
► Sunday, March 5

Skinny Elvis? Mini Johnny Cash? Held onto your tumbleweeds, Sartain's in town

Did you guys not get the memo?" draws the bastard child of Bruce Lee and Johnny Cash, Alabama's very own pint-sized rock'n'roll dervish, Dan Sartain. "It's casual Sunday, guys!" he grins, which goes some way to explaining why today he's decked out in old trousers and a battered T-shirt with a print of Ol' Dirty Bastard's mugshot on it, instead of his usual slick 1950s army gear and leathers. Today his fringe flops over his eyes instead of being gelled up on top of his head in an almighty quiff, but he's still punker than The Clash and more stylish than all of Franz put together. It may only be the afternoon, but Sartain, a whiskey in hand and a big dumb grin on his face, has come to rock the socks off the assembled long-haired crowd munching on vegan roast dinners.

Crashing into the saucy punk rock samba of 'Walk Among The Cobras Part 1' he's suddenly no longer in a busy London pub, but transported to somewhere in the Mexican desert, surrounded by threatening-looking cacti, bandits with flick knives and the biggest bottle of tequila you've ever seen. It's rockabilly, but not as you know it. When he's not singing in his Southern man twang, he's pulling inane faces and ping his head back from his guitar like a rock ninja and chuckling knowingly to himself. 'PCB 98' is the undoubted highlight, a blues-sodden trip that's sharper than a flick knife, just as dangerous but lots more fun, and, y'know, legal. He even throws in a knowing cover of Spanish classic 'Besame Mucho' which



Sartain's female contingent had an unexpected guest

shows he can do pure latino just as well as his own fired-up, ballsy clatter-shot version that has the indoor temperature rising to equatorial levels with the girls swooning and the boys wondering why they're nowhere near as suave as Sartain. He downs the drink resting on his stool and with a cheery wave he's done and dusted, looking like Elvis before the pies and pills. A rock'n'roll legend. **Leonie Cooper**

WHAT YOU THOUGHT

Grace Wood, 25, Oldham

"Dan was amazing. When the sweat ran down his cheek I wanted to get up there on the stage and lick all of it off."

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Canvas

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Proud Gallery

07.00

Labbin Love

Barfly

11.00

Dirty pretty things

Carling Academy
Islington

14.00

The Ordinary Boys

Hammersmith
Palais

16.00

Razorlight

Shepherds Bush
Empire

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| 19 | BRIGHTON BARFLY THE GREAT ESCAPE | 01273 325 440 |
| 22 | PORTSMOUTH WEDGEWOOD ROOMS | 023 8296 3811 |
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| 15 | NORWICH ARTS CENTRE | 01603 900 357 | 25 | SHEFFIELD FUZZ CLUB | 0114 222 8777 |
| 16 | NORTHAMPTON SOUNDHAUS | 01604 330 898 | 26 | LIVERPOOL BARFLY | 0970 907 0999 |
| 17 | NOTTINGHAM SOCIAL | 0115 956 3078 | 30 | EDINBURGH CABARET VOLTAIRE | 0970 109 0100 |
| 19 | BRISTOL LOUISIANA | 0117 930 8000 | 31 | GLASGOW KING TUTS | 0970 100 0100 |
| 20 | BRIGHTON THE GREAT ESCAPE | 0870 907 0999 | JUNE | | |
| 21 | SOUTHAMPTON JOINERS | 0203 8022 5613 | 01 | LEEDS ROCKET | 0113 245 5970 |
| 22 | LONDON SCALA | 020 7387 0932 | 02 | MANCHESTER ACADEMY 2 | 0161 933 0111 |

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Tuesday 16 May

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- 28 Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms
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- 29 Lezard Guitars
- 31 Manchester Academy 3
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- 29 SHEFFIELD THE PLUG GOLD SET
- 30 GLASGOW BARFLY 0870 907 0999

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- 03 PRESTON 53 DEGREES 01772 893 000
- 04 YORK FIBBERS 0870 907 0999
- 05 LEEDS COCKPIT 0113 245 5570
- 06 NOTTINGHAM THE SOCIAL 0115 958 8484
- 08 BRISTOL BLUE FLEECE 0117 929 9008
- 10 CARDIFF BARFLY 0870 907 0999
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- 20 BIRMINGHAM THE OLD FIRE STATION 0870 040 6565
- 21 BRIGHTON PRESSURE POINT 01273 325 440
- 23 LONDON 100 CLUB 020 7403 3331

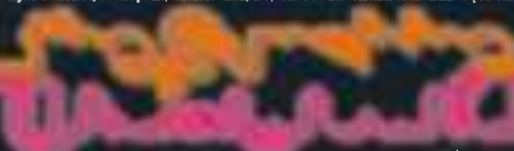
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- APRIL
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- Thu 27 LONDON Let's Boppl @ Brixton Windmill wegottickets.com
- Fri 28 HASTINGS Loaded @ The Brass Monkey 01424 442408
- Sat 29 IPSWICH Cease2Exist @ The Drum And Monkey 01473 439181
- MAY
- Mon 01 LONDON Art Rocker Club @ The Garage 0870 080 3777
- Tue 02 LONDON Buffalo Bar 020 7388 8181
- Wed 03 DERBY Victoria Inn 01189 129 000
- Thu 04 MANCHESTER High Voltage @ Music Box 0161 832 1111
- Fri 05 EDINBURGH Cabaret Voltaire 08700 800 100
- Sat 06 SCUNTHORPE The Baths Hall 01724 277 744
- Mon 08 YORK Fibbers 0870 907 0999
- Tue 09 LEEDS The Tunnel Club @ Leeds Uni leedsclubtickets.com
- Wed 10 NEWCASTLE Academy 2 0870 771 2000
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- Sun 23 April NOTTINGHAM Rescue Rooms 0115 958 8484
- Mon 24 April BRISTOL Anson Rooms 2 0117 929 9008
- Tue 25 April EXETER Cavern Club 01392 425 308
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- Fri 28 April BIRMINGHAM Bar Academy 0870 771 2000
- Sat 29 April MIDDLESBROUGH Empire 01642 253 553
- Tue 02 May GLASGOW King Tuts 0870 169 0100
- Wed 03 May MANCHESTER Late Room 0161 832 1111
- Thu 04 May LONDON Dingwalls 020 7287 1577
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- 26 WINCHESTER RAILWAY 01962 867 795
- 27 WOLVERHAMPTON LITTLE CIVIC 01902 552 121
- 28 LEICESTER THE CHARLOTTE 0116 2553 556
- 29 LONDON 100 CLUB 020 7403 3331
- 30 SALISBURY OLD ALE HOUSE 01722 333 113

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Wednesday 17
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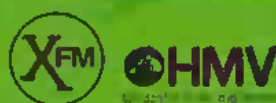
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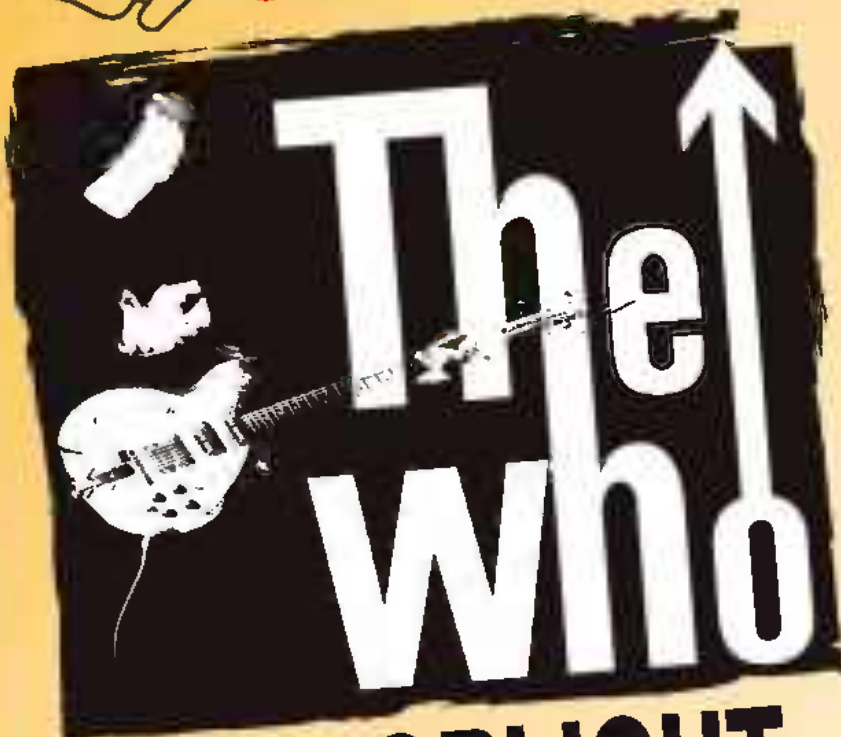
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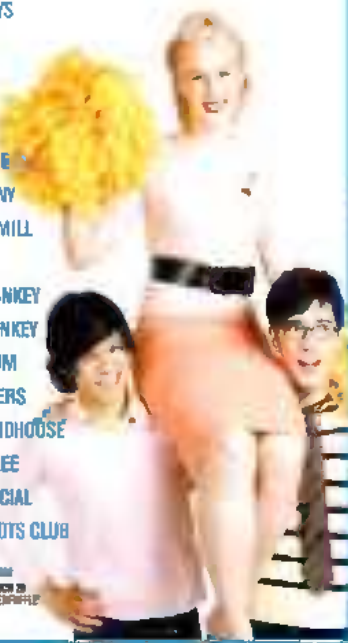


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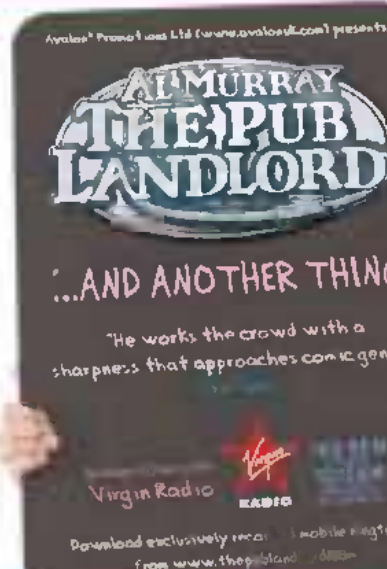
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THE SOUND

Alex Turner's rapid-fire delivery owes more to hip-hop than Sheffield indie. He favours the same social realism as The Streets, ditching hearts and flowers in favour of bouncers, birds and, er, coked-up bands.

THE KIT

Having your guitar hoiked up around your nipples is usually the territory of funk players, but then there's a hint of jazz-funk to Alex's style. He plays an Arctic White American Series Strat through an Orange AD30T amp. Jamie Cook plays a '62 Reissue Edge Bound Telecaster or a white Mexican Telecaster and runs them through a Brit-made Hiwatt Studio/Stage Mk II 2x12 combo. This is switchable between 20 and 40 watts by taking out two of the output valves by way of a switch on the back, and is equally beloved of Joe Walsh of the Eagles. Pedals include an Electro-Harmonix Pulsar, which acts as a tremolo, a Big Muff Pi and an MXR Distortion Plus.

IN THE STUDIO

Those precocious demos were recorded at 2Fly in Sheffield with Alan Smyth, who has also worked with fellow Sheffield acts Pulp and The Long Blondes. When it came to recording the album proper, producer Jim Abbiss needed to capture the raw, live energy of the band. He did this by recording the backing tracks live at The Chapel Studio in rural Lincolnshire, before adding on the vocals and overdubs.

TECHNIQUE

A main characteristic of the Arctic guitar style is fast chord changes – and proper chords that utilise all fingers, not powerchords. If you need to become more dextrous, try setting a metronome at a slow speed and playing along to the jazzy intro of 'When The Sun Goes Down': B, D#7, Ema7, Ebm, C#m, F#, E, G#m, Bm, G. Gradually build up your speed, using fast, hard downstrokes. To strengthen your wrist and fingers, you could invest in a Gripmaster, which isolates each digit on an individual spring-loaded button and gives it a full workout.

BEST TRICK

While no Arctic song would be complete without a blistering solo, it's unlikely Alex had a misspent youth skipping back Eric Clapton CDs, as the band grew up listening largely to hip-hop. His solos are more like a hit of speed: out of control, scratchy and packed full of anxious adrenalin. To cop your own solo, try experimenting within one key, using snatches of scales and bending those strings to buggery. Don't worry if at any point you hit a bum note. That's just jazz.

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NEXT WEEK: SOUND LIKE... YEAH YEAH YEAHS

Words by Jenny Valentish from

Guitar

April issue
out now



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Drummers

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Guitarists

GUITARIST, QUALIFIED AND EXPERIENCED, available for work, Midlands Based, all work considered. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 149657

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GUITAR PLAYER WANTED for leading duo, approximately 3 gigs per week, East Anglia, Lincolnshire area. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 502496

GUITARIST URGENTLY WANTED FOR EX NAMES NEW BAND, album recorded, top-notch management, tours waiting, Public Enemy, Sex Pistols, The Prodigy. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 393923

CAMBRIDGESHIRE BASED GUITARIST WANTS TO FORM A BAND, guitarist, bassist, drummer and singer required, aged 22-30, influenced by REM, Radiohead, Athlete. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 398790

GUITARIST AVAILABLE, INTO RADIOHEAD, Stone Roses, White Stripes, Led Zeppelin, The Smiths, The Killers, Nick Drake, London based. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 363176

Bassists

YOUNG BASSIST AVAILABLE FOR LIVE AND STUDIO WORK, 8 years playing experience, plus experience with record labels. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 341855

TALL, GOOD LOOKING BASS PLAYER FOR POWERFUL, FEMALE FRONTED rock group, in development, producer, major label interest, booked gigs, must be able to groove with top drummer. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 829227

BASSIST REQUIRED, influences such as Jeff Buckley, Ryan Adams, on a production label, looking to gig ASAP. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 105053

BASSIST WANTED, WITH STYLE AND ENERGY FOR SIGNED LONDON BAND, aged 18-25, influences The Clash, Manics, Foo Fighters, Libertines. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 766683

SIGNED BAND REQUIRE BASSIST SCHEDULED TO RECORD ALBUM, with named producer this Summer, Radiohead, Buckley, U2, commitment, experience, image essential. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 858277

BASS PLAYER WANTED FOR LONDON BAND, with finished album and proper management. 20-30 years, experienced, Wilko, Dinosaur Junior, The Band. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 204568

LONDON BASED, TALENTED BASS PLAYER AND BACKING VOCALIST, seeks indie rock band, plenty of experience, good image, serious projects only, influences are Strokes, Interpol, Yeah Yeah Yeahs. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 216334

ENTHUSIASTIC BASSIST, FOR GUITAR, DANCE BAND, LABEL INTEREST, chilled professional 20-30, London, influences Roses, Charlatans, Chemical Brothers, drum 'n' bass. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 583514

TALENTED BASSIST REQUIRED FOR IMAGINATIVE NEW BAND, influences My Bloody Valentine, Arcade Fire, Joy Division, Stereo Lab, East Kent area. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 811590

COMMITTED BASSIST WANTED FOR BUSY SIGNED LEEDS BAND, influences Siouxsie, Nick Cave, Franz, Echo and the Bunnymen. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 511799

Singers

FEMALE SINGER WANTED FOR READING BASED, funky, dance band, influences Deee-Lite, Groove Armada, Soul II Soul, Morcheeba etc. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 993843

SINGER/RHYTHM GUITARIST, 22, seeking to form a band, influences The Clash, At The Drive In, Bob Marley, The Beatles. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 216300

COOL, STRIKING FEMALE SINGER WITH UNIQUE VOICE AND LOOK wanted by London based, cutting edge songwriter/producer, highly connected in the music and film industry, influences Depeche Mode, Nine Inch Nails, Cure, Bowie, Cardigans, Muse, Garbage. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 874939

GORGEOUS, VIBRANT, FEMALE, BALLSY BABE VOCALIST WANTED by a kick arse songwriting, production company in London for a creditable rock project, influences Blondie, Led Zeppelin, Green Day, Police, Gwen, Smashing Pumpkins. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 642705

LONDON VOCALIST NEEDED, looking for style, charisma, hunger, love the old Talking Heads, loves the new Arcade Fire. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 463421

FRONTMAN, LOOKING TO FORM AN INDIE BAND, IN THE BARNESLEY AREA, influences Oasis, Stone Roses, Suede etc, must have attitude, no timewasters. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 517267

Turn the page for more adverts and instructions

FORM A BAND

ALIENATED SINGER 20-30, SOUGHT BY GUITAR PLAYER, to share song-writing duties and to enlighten the world with their interpretation of the truth, for a dark, yet highly melodic guitar band, Alkaline Trio, Smiths, Manics, Nirvana, Joy Division, Baby Shambles, London, Instrument a plus. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 932328

YOUNG FEMALE, SINGER/SONGWRITER, writes rock songs, wants musicians, to be in a band. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 932726

SINGER/SONGWRITER 26, WITH 50 ORIGINAL SONGS, LOOKING TO FORM BAND, influences Bonham, Lennon and Weller, East London based. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 261763

SINGER WANTED, Nick Drake, John Martyn style, for recording project, South London. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 762562

BOTTLE ROCKET FORMERLY KNOWN AS BISCUIT SITUATION are looking for a new lead singer and rhythm guitarist, if you're male, 18-25, please apply. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 478692

SINGER REQUIRED FOR NORTH WEST based studio project, influences Primal Scream, Happy Mondays, New Order. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 731965

PSYCHEDELIC POP BAND IN BRISTOL, we have management, album and label interest, you have talent, good voice and commitment, we like Supergrass, Pixies, Liams and Pink Floyd. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 607009

GUITARIST/SONGWRITER, SEEKS LYRICIST, FRONTMAN, TO FORM INDIE BAND, in Liverpool and surrounding areas, main influences The Smiths, Morrissey, New Order, Joy Division, Teenage Fanclub etc. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 518396

VOCALIST WITH STRONG WRITING ARRANGEMENTS skills wanted for London based original rock band, Soundgarden, Tool, material written, more to come. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 981056

FEMALE SINGER AVAILABLE to work with songwriter/producers/band, London based, influences, Yeah Yeah Yeahs, Garbage, Iggy Pop. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 439328

I PASSIONATE SINGER looking for a band, who think big, have big talent with big ambitions, big music head and most importantly assured determination and gung-ho-ness needed to fulfill big visions, I have lots of ideas, enthusiasm, dedication, very strong voice, good falsetto, good range, also play guitar, give me a call, U2, Radio Head, The usual suspects. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 164048

SINGER 22, LOOKING FOR PEOPLE TO FORM A BAND with in the Dartford South East London area, influences At The Drive In, Doors, Mars Volta, The Beatles and many more. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 965430

EDINBURGH FEMALE LEAD VOCALIST, AGED 25, seeks band or band members to work with, influences Interpol, Joy Division, Pixies, Rolling Stones, PJ Harvey, loves performing, wants to gig and record. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 445607

YOUNG FEMALE SINGER LOOKING TO BE IN A ROCK BAND like Fightstar, Green Day or Be Your Own Pets. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 269833

SONGWRITERS LONDON BASED SONGWRITER IS LOOKING FOR A SINGER, male/female, who can play guitar as well, to form a band, Jeff Buckley, Pink Floyd, rock/pop. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 231176

WOULD BE GILBERT (UPDATED) SEEKS SULLIVAN. Music to songs and musicals. On spec. I'm based London NW7. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 118958

I'M WRITING THE BEST LYRICS IN THE WORLD AND I CAN TEACH YOU THE SAME. I'll get your writing classics and teach you many writing skills, influences are The Doors, Beatles, Jam and Oasis. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 678441

Bands

STYLISH FEMALE BASS AND KEYBOARD PLAYERS WANTED for signed and gigging artist, acclaimed new album out soon, must be committed and London based with own gear, influences Beck, Pulp and Cornelius. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 238978

SONGWRITER, GUITARIST, LOOKING FOR LEAD GUITARIST, BASS, DRUMMER AND SINGER, to form a band, influences Oasis, Smiths, Stone Roses. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 742038

LOOKING FOR A GUITARIST, BASS PLAYER AND A DRUMMER, TO START A NEW BAND, in the West of Scotland area, influences are The Rolling Stones, The Jam, Sex Pistols, Oasis, Stone Roses, Happy Mondays. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 927409

NEED A BAND, TO MAKE MUSIC, like Long Blondes, Jackie Wilson, Roxy Music, Dexies, Blur, Metallica, sing in all sorts of voices, shake, wriggle etc, amazing taste and write lyrics that are something else, but I don't play anything. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 521415

GUITAR PLAYER/KEYBOARD PLAYER WANTED, for London based, female fronted band, influences Blondie, Pulp and Garbage. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 941888

DRUMMER AND BASS PLAYER WANTED, FOR MELODIC INDIE BAND, influences Oasis, Razorlight, Kaiser Chiefs, Weller, Small Faces, gigs lined up, Wimbledon, South West London area. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 497155

DRUMMER AND BASS PLAYER WANTED, nothing flash, Bowie meets Burn at Shockheaded Peter as filmed by Tim Burton, Kent/London area. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 726825

SERIOUS RAPPER WITH R'n'B, hip-hop and regga influences, seeks a band, drum, bass, guitar, keyboard. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 575195

BASS PLAYER AND DRUMMER 20-24. Creative and dedicated required for London based alternative band, influences Bowie, Velvet Underground, Radiohead. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 269194

Keyboardists

23, MALE, KEYBOARD PLAYER GRADE 4 PIANO with B vocals, seeks professional working band, tour work ready, willing to relocate. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 582801

SERIOUS KEYS PLAYER NEEDED FOR SERIOUS GIGGING BAND, atmospheric, melodic, Depeche Mode, Keane, Killers, commitment and drive essential. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 271751

KEYBOARD PLAYER WANTED, for London based, female fronted band, influences Blondie, Pulp. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 399004

LONDON BASED BAND LOOKING FOR KEYBOARD PLAYER for industrial blues project, influences Ministry, 80s/90s rock, B Line Disaster, Iggy Pop and The Stooges etc. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 274778

Misc

WANTED! LONDON BASED MANAGEMENT FOR NORTH EAST BASED, guitar band with a very British feel, think Ray Davies meets Pete Shelley, then add the full throated vocals of Paul Weller in the Steve Murray tradition, the Jam meets Motorhead. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 200084

WANTED LONDON MANAGEMENT FOR NORTH EAST GUITAR BAND, Ray Davies/Motorhead, with full fronted vocals of Steve Merriot, supported Futureheads, Subways, Field Music, Rifles and Bluetones. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 575431

I'M AN ORIGINAL YOUNG ARTIST, style pop/alternative, with interest from Universal and I'm looking for management. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 689139

DEMOS WANTED for forthcoming compilation album, all styles considered. Tel No: 09052 302 093 Box Number: 822961

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SEXY, Liverpool lad 21, bisexual, looking for new mates, for gigs, pubbing, clubbing and a good laugh. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 416593**

JUST moved to the North London area, straight female, looking for new friends, for going to gigs, pubs and having fun with. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 970879**

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When you see this symbol it means the advertiser can accept SMS replies. Simply text **NEW** the Box number and your message then send to **69003**, e.g. **NEW 401911** Hi there saw your advert fancy going to a gig sometime?

INDIE male, 23, seeks new gig mates, West Midlands area, interests The Smiths, Bloc Party. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 528336**

SLENDER, easygoing female, with long blonde hair, 5ft 5ins, up for a laugh, enjoys listening to music and watching live bands. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 727965**

STRAIGHT female, late 20's, just moved to Central London, looking to meet friends to go to gigs and pubs. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 859353**

UPTIGHT, indie male 19, seeks weird and wonderful gig mates, around Newcastle and beyond, likes Radiohead and Coldplay. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 898375**

Friendship

FEISTY, cheeky young lady, GSOH, up for a laugh, loves moshing out at gigs, chilling and listening to music. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 793531**

LONDON male 25, looking for a female or male friends, interested in music, films, reading and writing. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 807349**

WITTY, effervescent, mad but not unhinged, petite blonde, with blue eyes, enjoys gigs, socialising, art and reading. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 644952**

MUSICMAN, cool, looking for friends, punk, fun, experimental, progressive, Birmingham area. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 616371**

BLOWN tall, indie girl, 22, WLTW girls and guys into indie music and going out in Edinburgh. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 603620**

BROWN-EYED female, with longish hair, quite tall, funny personality, sometimes shy, likes rock and gothic music. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 177300**

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EMO girl, small, pretty, GSOH, WLTW Vaseline Kid, Near Salisbury for good, clean, straight edge fun. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 663612**

SEXY black female, 5ft 11ins, with curly hair and brown eyes, slim-curved build, pleasant personality and a GSOH. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 903268**

DO you like pina colada and getting caught in the rain? Lonely ladies, looking for fun, Winchester. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 517180**

UNDERGRADUATE, loves life, would love to hear from you if your up for a good times and laughs. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 630794**

Girl of the week

COOL-AS-FUCK-BIRD seeks bloke, bring your hang-ups but don't let it interfere with our fun, lets do something different. Kent area. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 624610**

CUDDLY indie girl, from North Staffordshire, likes going to gigs, concerts etc, WLTW a young man, preferably indie style. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 746647**

BLUE-EYED blonde, slim, 5ft 6ins, enjoys most things, going out, looking to meet someone into rock and heavy metal music. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 921464**

BUBBLY, honest, Leo lady, single mum, 5ft 7ins, N/S, enjoys dancing, reading, cinema, WLTW a Sagittarius, Libra, Gemini male. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 370644**

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UPBEAT, 24yr old, Asian female, adores rock, indie, cinema, gigging, WLTW stranger in my dreams, for a drink, London. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 230292**

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DO you believe music started with The Doors and ended with the Arctic Monkeys? Then this Indie chick WLTW you. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 229158**

I'M just wicked to be with what more can I say! 5ft 4ins blonde, medium build, with a great personality. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 411705**

LEEDS female, bubbly, with blue eyes, seeks a male, for gigs and nights out. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 833998**

SCOTT also known as Ian, in Leeds, please get in touch with me, it's Pink Bra, miss you so much. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 537269**

MORRISSEY, Smiths, Oasis loving female, 22, indie fan, seeking a similar aged guy to share interests with. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 412111**

MICHELLE 25, with dark hair and blue eyes, WLTW get back to me if you dare! **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 565358**

SHY redhead, into indie music, new and old, seeks friends, North Wales. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 975353**

INDIE girl, likes music, pubs, looking for someone to go to gigs and have a laugh together, East London area. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 620480**

RED-HEAD, single mum, 5ft 2ins, curvy, attractive, likes a laugh, looking for friendship and laughter, Essex. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 157446**

Girls seeking girls

CURVY, sensual, bi sexual babe, into indie and cool music, seeks similar babes for fun and sexy times, Sheffield area. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 928772**

ENJOYS cultural pursuits, reading and cinema, N/S brunette looking for a female 35-50. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 493429**

GIG MATES

TEXT PEOPLE IN YOUR AREA!

TEXT GIG TO 69119

SLENDER, brown-eyed brunette, gay, into live music, festivals, African drumming and travel, WLTW a similar female. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 798567**

SHY, gay female 23, likes animals, music, nights in/out, cinema, WLTW a genuine woman 20-30, for friendship and maybe more. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 339978**

Boys seeking girls

FOR FUN ON THE PHONE, call the instant message exchange, where you can talk and date up to 60 girls and guys who are on the phone at the same time as you. **TEL: 09052 300 309.**

PREFER TO TXT? Always on the move? No problem. Text potential dates in your area by sending **GIG** to 69919 now.

ORIGINAL 70s punk, tattooed, pierced, 6ft, blue eyes, looking for a crazy girl for gigs, fun, travel and possibly more. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 878858**

EX-INDIE, single guy, into My Bloody Valentine and The Sarah Record Label, Hertfordshire. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 938138**

Looking for someone right now? Call Speed Match on...

09052 300 308

ARCTIC Monkeys fan, 25, looking for a nice girl to go to gigs with, friendship and maybe more. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 301132**

Boy of the week

COMEDIAN man 24, 5ft 11ins, likes gigs, sports and the pub, looking for an Irish female. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 209536**

FUN-LOVING male, likes going out to pubs and gigs, loves the Kaiser Chiefs and Arctic Monkeys, looking for a fun girl. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 565119**

SHY male, loves gigs, reading and going to the cinema seeks indie loving woman, Kent woman. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 358880**

WLTW a nice girl, to accompany me to Billy Bragg or David Gilmore tour and for friendship, Kent area. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 959399**

RANDOMLY weird, average-looking male, enjoys playing guitar, going to gigs and hanging out with mates. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 667252**

LOYAL male, 5ft 6ins, with a medium build and short dark hair, likes walking, music, cinema, TV and videos, WLTW a N/S, South Wales. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 174088**

EASYGOING guy, looking to Festival hop this year, wondering if anyone wants to do it with me? **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 587550**

ROCK'N'ROLL looks, wild, adventurous, spontaneous male, 6ft 11ins, with a dazzling smile, enjoys alternative film and live gigs. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 267763**

ROCK-LOVING lad 22, tall, blond, loves the Foo Fighters and Arctic Monkeys, loves going to pubs and gigs, Ipswich. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 654367**

DARK-HAIRED male, with a GSOH, quite shy, musician, loves writing songs and going out, WLTW someone. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 955565**

CRAIG, comical, loves football, clubbing and partying, wants to meet someone tall and really nice. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 106318**

I'M exactly what you're looking for, give us a call! Blue eyed male, down to earth, blond, VGSOH. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 973250**

GEEKY indie warrior seeks someone who believes in important things, wants to change the world and find our place within it. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 868224**

STILL loves new music and can still be found near the front at 20-30 gigs a year! Dorset/Hampshire. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 886230**

WITTY, good-looking bloke, 5ft 10ins, medium build, seeks a groovy bird, aged 23 plus, for gigs, clubs, drinking and football, Midlands. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 675843**

MAD lad, hilariously funny, good-looking, from the North East, seeks a female, for fun times. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 728899**

IAN, nice guy, ex tribute band singer, looking for a very nice lady 22-38, to go to the current Morrissey tour in May. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 565161**

AVERAGE-LOOKING, nice guy, from Southampton, loves alternative music, art, dance, seeking a female, for gigs, chats and more. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 664771**

SUPER cool, black dude 19, student, into all sorts of music, Leicester. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 375363**

WHITE, single chap, very smiley and easygoing, desperately needs to get out clubbing and giggling, enjoys pubs and other socialising. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 713776**

TYPICAL indie guy, tall, with short black hair, outgoing, laidback and funny, enjoys going to indie clubs around London. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 378720**

TOMMY-THE-MACHINE, chubby male, heavily into films, enjoys The Smiths, Morrissey, looking for a male for roly poly fun. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 951207**

UP for a laugh, 18yr old Glasgow boy, 5ft 8ins, slim build, enjoys shopping and going out with friends. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 580127**

Boys seeking boys

MASCULINE, good-looking lad, GSOH, likes a drink and having a good time, waiting to meet you. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 706111**

MOPEY, depressing, single, 5ft 10ins boy, WLTW guys, up for gigs and a laugh, Manchester. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 484863**

No-one here catch your eye? Try the NME browse line where you can search profiles by your local area and listen to ads not even in print yet.

09052 302 169

How to use the service

Each week one lucky new registration will be chosen in a random draw to win an NME Goodie Bag

To place free advert

Simply call the 08000 630 006 and leave your 20 word message to appear in print followed by a longer message for people to listen on-line. If you want to receive FREE text alerts every time you receive a reply remember to leave your mobile number.

To reply to an advert

Call 09052 300 306 and enter the 6 digit number of the advertiser you are interested in, then leave them a message! You can also hear other members or swap instant messages online!

To retrieve messages

To pick up messages callers have left for you call 09052 300 305 now! You'll need your membership number and PIN handy.

Think safe!

- When seeing someone for the first time take along a friend of yours or make sure a friend knows where you're going.
- Meet in a public place like a gig venue or pub. Never meet at your house.
- On your first meeting, make your own way there and back, it's risky to accept a lift from a total stranger.
- Don't invite people back home or give them your address until you're sure about them.
- Trust your instincts. If something feels a bit wrong or weird, end things and don't see them again.

Calls to 09052 cost £1/min at all times. SMS to 69119 cost 75p per msg billed in increments of 3 msgs. Reply messages sent to 69003 cost £1.50. As an advertiser, these messages are free to receive. If you wish to reply, standard network rates apply. Calls may cost more if you are not calling from a BT landline. You must be over 18 to use this service. Service provided by Erkoh, HP3 9HW. To unsubscribe from a text messaging service, send the word "stop" to the relevant short code e.g. 69119. WLTW 130306

Got tickets for The NME Awards tour and no-one to go with? Try placing an advert in gigmates!

24hr Helpline

08710 433104

Calls cost 10p/min

LUCY, with long hair and green eyes, quite slim, down to earth, loves listening to music and travelling. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 993275**

MICHELLE, looking for someone nice to talk to, friendship, having a laugh, then see what happens. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 364401**

CUDDLY female, seeking an indie male, for gigs, festivals, cinema etc, Chester area. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 132862**

COMICAL female, with a good personality, likes going shopping, smoking, drinking, clubbing, swimming, cycling, Clublands and R'n'B. **Tel No: 09052 300 306 Box Number: 348146**

GUIDELINES AND DISCLAIMER: We reserve the right to refuse or edit any personal advert for any reason. We assume no liability for the content of, or any replies to, any personal advert. You must not leave any messages or recordings of an offensive, obscene, defamatory, misleading or threatening nature. You agree to indemnify and hold us harmless from all costs, expenses (including reasonable legal fees), liabilities and damages you may incur as a result of the content of any personal advert you place or any reply you make to any personal advert. Adverts are updated on a regular basis and may be used in other IPC titles. Please ensure you have the latest copy of the Newspaper. This service only works with a tone phone.

NME GIG GUIDE

PICK OF THE WEEK



Graham Coxon

El Coxo embarks on his first proper tour of brilliant new album 'Love Travels At Illegal Speeds'. Expect nothing less than high-energy, shouty power-pop and bespectacled genius from the ex-Blur guitarist.

Where: Newcastle University (Mon), Liverpool Carling Academy (Tues)

POP STAR SCREW-UPS



Fightstar

Charlie ex-Busted broke the hearts of millions of teenage girls by quitting to form indie band Fightstar. But was it worth it? Well, their debut album is out this week and they're currently on tour, so you decide!

Where: Birmingham Carling Academy (Thur), Manchester Academy (Fri), Glasgow Barrowlands (Sat), Newcastle University (Sun), Bristol Carling Academy (Tues)

EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT



The Ordinary Boys

Not that NME cares about Preston's torso, or which Primark-Paris Hilton he dates, but The Ordinary Boys are back. So if you can't get tickets for their very sold-out UK tour, sit back and enjoy the paparazzi scrum.

Where: Dublin Ambassador (Thur), Belfast Mandela Hall (Fri), Glasgow Barrowlands (Sun), Manchester Academy (Mon), Nottingham Rock City (Tues)

RADAR BAND



Bromheads Jacket

Steel City students Bromheads Jacket are Arctic Monkeys' favourite new band and they sing subversive songs about McDonald's and muffs. What more could you ask for?

Where: Edinburgh Cabaret Voltaire (Tues)

ROCK LEGENDS



Thin Lizzy

Catch hairy old rockers Thin Lizzy on their first tour in 20 years, since singer Phil Lynott died of a heroin overdose. This tour includes only two original members, but they're sure to play 1976's former NME Single Of The Week 'The Boys Are Back In Town'.

Where: Manchester Academy (Sat), Newcastle City Hall (Mon), Glasgow Carling Academy (Tues)

WEDNESDAY

March 15

BATH

Jim Bob/Chris T-T Porter Cellar Bar 01225 404445

BEDFORD

We Start Fires Esquires 01234 340120

BIRMINGHAM

Imperial Vipers/Dead Idols/Waster/Sixty Barfly

0870 907 0999

Patrick Duff/Jim Moray Carling Bar Academy 0121 262 3000

Sophie Solomon/John The Revelator/John James Glee Club 0870 241 5093

BRIGHTON

The Pharcyde Concorde 2 01273 673311

BRISTOL

Aspen Woods/Spencer Fleece 0117 945 0996

CAMBRIDGE

Light Colour Sound/Linda's Nephew Portland Arms 01223 357268

Mr Zed/Colonel Bastard/The Beards Junction 01223 511511

CARDIFF

We Are Trees/Luke Toms Barfly 029 2066 7658

CHELtenham

28 Costumes Hub 01242 238001

DERBY

Jacob's Fable/Enemo J/1000 Scars/Hoof Bite/Blind Ignorance Victoria Inn 01332 740091

EXETER

Sonic Boom/Knowledge Of Bugs Cavern Club 01392 495370

GLASGOW

Avenged Sevenfold ABC 0870 903 3444

Crowbar/Will Haven/Through The Eyes Of The Dead/The Seventh Cross King Tut's Wah Wah Hut 0141 221 5279

Kill The Young/Blitzhoney/Wildlife Barfly 0870 907 0999

Lucerna/Manta Nice'n'Sleazy 0141 333 9637

LEEDS

Club NME Presents... Shit Disco Faversham 0113 245 8817

Saturn Stow Vine 0113 203 1821

LEICESTER

Tauracine/Minus Sam/Aisle 13/Retroscopic/Lazy Love Makers Attik 0116 222 3800

Things In Herds Musician 0116 251 0080

LONDON

The Bluetones/Neat People Highbury Corner Garage N5 020 7607 1818

Bring Me The Horizon/Azriel/Architect Camden Underworld NW1 020 7482 1932

Capdown/Dave House/Boom In The Diamond Industry/Kill Kill Disconnect King's Cross Water Rats WC1 020 7336 7326

Christian Kjellvander & The Lazy Grace Frontier/Claire Toomey Camden Barfly NW1 0870 907 0999

The Marzipan Man/The Wows/Toby Keane Betsy Trotwood 020 7336 7326

Mobile/Lorraine Oxford Street 100 Club W1 020 7636 0933

Mrs Burns/Afterview/Joe Driscoll/Divine Intervention Camden Dublin Castle NW1 020 7485 1773

Parke Davis/The Khe Sanh Approach/The Green/Idiolect Old Street 333 EC1 020 7739 5949

Simple Kid Old Street Old Blue Last EC1 020 7613 2478

Howling Bells/Dega Brakes/White Man Kamikaze/The Circuits Holloway Road Nambucca N7 020 7272 7366

Jaffa Rose Tufnell Park Progress Bar N19 020 7272 2078

Kat Vipers/Havana Guns/Blankiss/Legion Of Filth/Vocoder Bethnal Green Pleasure Unit E2 020 7729 0167

The Kill For Kicks/The Fighting Cocks/Trash Fashion/The Thought Criminals The Luminaire NW6 020 7372 7123

Lindy/Bob Kemmis/Danny Michel 12 Bar Club WC2 020 7916 6989

Loveninjas/The Legends Aldgate East 93 Feet East E1 020 7247 6095

Lucky/John James Newman Charing Cross Road Borderline WC2 020 7734 5547

The Marzipan Man/The Wows/Toby Keane Betsy Trotwood 020 7336 7326

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Simple Kid Old Street Old Blue Last EC1 020 7613 2478



Howling Bells, Holloway Road Nambucca, London

City Lights/Unused

Toys/Return Of The Furies/David Sanders Highbury Corner Upstairs At The Garage N5 020 7607 1818

Cloudbase/Salvo/Obisura/The Low Edges Clerkenwell Turmills EC1 020 7250 3409

Ego/Letcher/Adam Keshner Plan B 08701 165421

Heat From A Dead Star/Igneous/The Hungry & The Hunted/Hours Piccadilly Circus Comedy SW1 020 7839 7261

Howling Bells/Dega Brakes/White Man Kamikaze/The Circuits Holloway Road Nambucca N7 020 7272 7366

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Lucky/John James Newman Charing Cross Road Borderline WC2 020 7734 5547

The Marzipan Man/The Wows/Toby Keane Betsy Trotwood 020 7336 7326

Mobile/Lorraine Oxford Street 100 Club W1 020 7636 0933

Trivium Charing Cross Road Astoria WC2 020 7434 0403

VVF/Good Shoes Notting Hill Arts Club W11 020 7460 4459

The Wonder Stuff Carling Academy Islington N1 0870 771 2000

Youngblood Brass Band Old Street Cargo EC2 020 7613 7731

MANCHESTER

Club NME Presents... Larrikin Love University 0161 832 1111

Cosmic Rough Riders/The 515s Roadhouse 0161 228 1789

The Dead 60s/The Rifles Academy 2 0161 275 2930

The Deadbeats/Dirty Circus/The Vxxx Night And Day Café 0161 236 1822

The Riverclub/Chaser/Astro Boy Phoenix 0161 272 5921

NEWCASTLE

The Healing/Kid:coda/The High Rise Diaries/The Following The Other Rooms 0191 261 9755

Help She Can't Swim Cluny 0191 230 4474

POOLE

Martin Harley Mr Kyps 01202 748945

PORTSMOUTH

Room Six/Sister Ray/The Visitors/John Walbrin Wedgewood Rooms 023 9286 3911

SHEFFIELD

Oncoming Traffic/The Fuckwits/Chiggy Chone/The Beautiful Disaster Boardwalk 0114 279 9090

SOUTHAMPTON

Scarlet Soho/Faetal/Volume/Sion Joiners 023 8022 5612

STOKE

The Open Sugarmill 01782 214991

TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Kill Kenada Forum 08712 777101

YORK

Evelyn/Angel Bass/Tsunami/Teststone 3 Fibbers 01904 651 250

IF YOU CAN'T MAKE IT TO A GIG...



Snow Patrol toast their success and watch for flying pigs

TV Snow Patrol: Video Exclusive

12.05am, Channel 4

Lighters at the ready everyone!

RADIO Get Up For James Brown

9pm, BBC Radio 2

It's the '80s and hip-hopers are sampling his back catalogue while he makes no money. Boo hoo.

TV The Charlatans

1.30am, Channel 4

Lovin' Them Is Easy with this 2004 set from Brixton Carling Academy.

TV Wake Up With Wilem

9am, E4

Betty Bo and Blur bassist Alex James yakkity-yak and pickity-pik musicky-music vids.

437 GIGS ACROSS THE UK AND IRELAND THIS WEEK

THURSDAY

March 16

BATH

28 Costumes/Das Wanderlus/
Voo Moles 01225 404445
Gabby Young Porter Cellar Bar
01225 404445

BEDFORD

Aktualsize/His And Herpes
Esquires 01234 340120

BIRMINGHAM

Fightstar Carling Academy
0121 262 3000
Liarbilities/Selotape/
Abstemious/Drumule Carling
Bar Academy 0121 262 3000
Regeneration/Blak Twang/
Lowkey & Stylah Barfly
0870 907 0999
Sunset Cinema Club/Computer
Club Medicine Bar 0121 693 6001

BRIGHTON

Neville Staple Concorde 2
01273 673311
Republic Of Heaven/Enid Blitz
Pressure Point 01273 702333

BRISTOL

The Open University
0117 929 9008

CAMBRIDGE

Fastlane/Self Inflicted Portland
Arms 01223 357268

CARDIFF

Bring Me The Horizon/Azriel/
Architects Barfly 029 2066 7658
Youngblood Brass Band Club Ifor
Bach 029 2023 2199

COVENTRY

The Dead 60s/The Rifles
Colosseum 024 7655 4473

DERBY

Crosby/Petty Thieves/Second
Man Victoria Inn 01332 740091

DUBLIN

The Ordinary Boys Ambassador
Theatre 00 3531 456 9569

EDINBURGH

Spies In The Wires Cabaret
Voltaire 0131 220 6176

EXETER

Noon Layer Drive Cavern Club
01392 495370

GLASGOW

2 Many DJs Carling Academy
0870 771 2000

Futuro/Kobai/Stereo Oblivion
Nice'n'Sleazy 0141 333 9637

Rodrigo Y Gabriela King Tut's Wah
Wah Hut 0141 221 5279

Smokescreen/Mindset/Oescene
Barfly 0870 907 0999

These Guys/Glasgow Glam
Bangers Upstairs At The Barfly
0870 907 0999

HERTFORD

Seine/Magic 8 Marquee Club
01992 414242

LEEDS

Break The Mould/Exotik Vine
0113 203 1821

Stark/Charles Davison/Craig
Bevan Fenton 0113 245 3908

LEICESTER

Cardboard Radio/Big
Wednesday/The Mile/The
Superlatives/Slipper Eyes/
Screaming Mimi Attik
0116 222 3800

LIVERPOOL

The Holloways/Major Major
Barfly @ Masque 0151 707 6171
Julia Harris/Livid/Joy & Roger
Askew Cavern Club 0151 236 1964
Patrick Duff/Jim Moray Carling
Academy 2 0870 771 2000
Shitdisco/I Pinata Barfly Loft @
Masque 0151 707 6171

LONDON

Action Plan/Ivich Lives/
Eraserhead/Little Death
Piccadilly Circus Tatty Bogle W1
020 7734 4475
Avenge Sevenfold Kentish Town
Forum NW5 020 7344 0044
Beckett/Sons Of Merrick/Diesel
Sky/Asylum Field Camden
Underworld NW1 020 7482 1932
Belarus/Luxembourg/The
Sunset Gun/Carters England
Highbury Corner Upstairs At The
Garage N5 020 7607 1818
The Clerks/Satellites/The
Exgirlfriends/The Weather
Underground Stoke Newington
Ryan's Bar N16 020 7275 7807

The Code/Murmur Shoreditch On
The Rocks E2 020 7278 1074
Davey Graham Aldgate East Spitz
E1 020 7392 9032

Dead Flowers Tottenham Court
Road Metro Club W1
020 7437 0964

Emil Bulls/Darwin Theory/
Armstrong Highbury Corner
Garage N5 020 7607 1818

Fortune Drive/Flipron/Ox
Wimbledon Watershed SW19
020 7792 8101

High Child/Scaria O/Creeps
Bethnal Green Pleasure Unit E2
020 7729 0167

Liars Milk Street ULU WC1
020 7654 1000

Maceo Parker Carling Academy
Islington N1 0870 771 2000

Mower/Smack Miranda &
Spinmaster Plantpot
Betsy Trotwood 020 7336 7326

The Opera House Kingston Peel
020 8546 3516

The Osmonds Hammersmith
Carling Apollo W6 0870 606 3400

Red Hand Band/Sketchbeat/The
Council Angel Lark In The Park N1
020 7278 5781

Roland Shanks Brixton Windmill
SW2 020 8671 0700

Stateschool/Speedway 5
Purple Turtle NW1 020 7383 4976

Story One/Scully King's Cross
Water Rats WC1 020 7336 7326

Swimsuit Issue Fox & Firkin
020 8690 8925

Trivium Charing Cross Road
Astoria WC2 020 7434 0403

Zion Train/Cundynation
Soundssystem Aldgate East 93
Feet East E1 020 7247 6095

Zuma/Aerials/Tamerlane
Camden Dublin Castle NW1
020 7485 1773

MANCHESTER

Against Me/Murder By Death
Academy 2 0161 275 2930

The Cardinals/The Pioneers
Night And Day Café 0161 236 1822
Help She Can't Swim/Smarty
Pants Music Box 0161 832 1111
One Of Many/Without A
Reason/Riot Squad Riot Season
Roadhouse 0161 228 1789

MIDDLESBROUGH

Club NME Presents... Voom
Blooms/Vanlustbader/Dead
Disco Empire 01642 253553

NARBETH

Euros Childs Queens Hall
01834 861212

NEWCASTLE

Good Shoes/Rumble Strips Cluny
0191 230 4474

NOTTINGHAM

Club NME Presents... Larrikin
Love Stealth 0115 958 0672

PMX/Mr Wolf/Weeble/Sheriff
Fatman Junktion 7 0115 911 6959

Plans And Apologies Social
0115 950 5078

Wishbone Ash Rescue Rooms 0115
958 8484

OXFORD

The Black Velvets/Winterville
Zodiac 01865 420042

PORTSMOUTH

The Inbreds/Vallen Brosa
Wedgewood Rooms 023 9286 3911

SALISBURY

Misty's Big Adventure
Old Ale House 01722 333113

SHEFFIELD

Buzzcocks/Gear Leadmill
0114 221 2828

The Edgar Broughton Band
Boardwalk 0114 279 9090

SOUTHAMPTON

Glass & Ashes King Alfred
023 8023 1183

Thomas Truax/Tri City
Presidents/The Half Rabbits
Joiners 023 8022 5612

TRURO

The Hitchcock Rules Bunters
01872 241220

WINCHESTER

International Karate Plus
Railway Inn 01962 867795

YORK

Cosmic Rough Riders/Elin Ruth
Fibbers 01904 651 250



The Dead 60s,
Colosseum, Coventry

FRIDAY

March 17

BEDFORD

Rattlesnake Remedy/Scared
Mother Tongue/Son Of A Gun
Esquires 01234 340120

BELFAST

Help She Can't Swim Laverys
028 9087 1106
The Ordinary Boys Mandella Hall
02890 973106

BIRMINGHAM

Every1else/Lady Rain
Flapper & Firkin 0121 236 2421
Riot/Astro Lounge Barfly
0870 907 0999

BRIGHTON

Cosmosis/Superstrings
Concorde 2 01273 673311

BURY

10 Acre/The Wombats Hark To
Towler 01204 883856

CARDIFF

Make Good Your Escape/Exist/
Straw Dogs Barfly 029 2066 7658

CARLISLE

Alfas/Dreaded Faeries Richmond
Hall, Brickyard
01228 512220

CHESTER

Skin Imps/Templeton Peck
Shropshire Arms 01244 321194

DERBY

The Backgrounds/Devourer
Victoria Inn 01332 740091

GLASGOW

Amber Souls Nice'n'Sleazy
0141 333 9637

Good Shoes/Rumble Strips
Barfly 0870 907 0999

My Pilot Soundhaus
0141 221 4659

Skin King Tut's Wah Wah Hut
0141 221 5279

Youngblood Brass Band/Joe
Driscoll Arches 0141 221 4001

HERTFORD

Perfect Distortion/The Gourami
Marquee Club 01992 414242

LANCASTER

Flamingo 50/Armug Farmers
Arms 01524 36368

Misty's Big Adventure Korners
Bar 01524 36368

LEEDS

The Rise/The Windup Birds/The
Call/Zapped By A Million Volts
Vine 0113 203 1821

LEICESTER

Lorraine Charlotte 0116 255 3956

LIVERPOOL

Cosmic Rough Riders University,
Carling Academy 3 0151 256 5555

Koopa/Break Away Charlie/
Area 15/3 Years Hiding Barfly @
Masque 0151 707 6171

Maceo Parker Carling Academy 2
0870 771 2000

The Remedies/Butch Ryan/
Sinister Footwear Cavern Club
0151 236 1964

LONDON

The Barker Band Brixton Windmill
SW2 020 8671 0700

Chumbawamba Croydon Cartoon
020 8239 1616

Clayhill Acton King's Head W3
020 8992 0282



The Holloways,
Fibbers, York

Club NME Presents... Larrikin
Love Camden KOKO NW1
020 7388 3222

The Coal Porters/Kitty Daisy &
Lewis The Luminaire NW6
020 7372 7123

God Is An Astronaut/At The Lake
King's Cross Water Rats WC1 020
7336 7326

The Goodbyes/Harley 12 Bar
Club WC2 020 7916 6989

Hadleigh Ford/Ben Dugard
Betsy Trotwood 020 7336 7326

Ideation/Pocket Promise
Tottenham Court Road Metro Club
W1 020 7437 0964

If I Had A Hi-Fi/Mr
Happychainsaw/Biftek Angel
Lark In The Park N1 020 7278 5781

Keeler Gap/The Seed/Adalta
Charing Cross Road Borderline WC2
020 7734 5547

Lethal Bizzle/Klaxons Camden
Barfly NW1 0870 907 0999

Lodestone/Ventriloquist/The
Earthed Aldgate East Spitz E1
020 7392 9032

The Mardous/Plastic Passion/
The More Assured Bethnal Green
Pleasure Unit E2 020 7729 0167

The Men They Couldn't Hang/
Fast Lane Roogalator Oxford
Street 100 Club W1 020 7636 0933

No Comply/Steel Rules Die/
The Mercury League Camden
Underworld NW1 020 7482 1932

The Race Purple Turtle NW1
020 7383 4976

Runner/My Friend Eject Kingston
Peel 020 8546 3516

Shimmy Rivers And Canal
Piccadilly Circus Tatty Bogle W1
020 7734 4475

Sickboy/Zealot/Aleko/Kilo Echo
Camden Dublin Castle NW1
020 7485 1773

Trencher/Fixit Kid/Ann Arbor
Buffalo Bar N1 020 7359 6191

The Venus Guns/Electric Brain/
Jimmy Diehard Highbury Corner
Garage N5 020 7607 1818

MANCHESTER
Charlotte With Robots/Freely
Moving/Exit State/Rush To The
Yukon/The Mode Night And Day
Café 0161 236 1822

Fightstar/Reuben/Last Days Of
April Academy 0161 275 2930

Freed/The Rays/The Beacon
Roadhouse 0161 228 1789

I Love You Baby/Anna Harison/
The Green Tree Riot Dry Bar
0161 236 5920

Sultans Of Ping/Mark Radcliffe
And The Family Mahone
Academy 2 0161 275 2930

MANFIELD
Kardomah/Photobooth Mill
01623 652451

NEWCASTLE
Shitdisco/Guessmen/The Illegal
Waste Cluny 0191 230 4474

NORTHALLERTON
Syncronized/Modeliste New
County Arms 01609 775 733

NOTTINGHAM
The Bezerker Junktion 7
0115 911 6959

We Start Fires/Bromheads
Jacket Trent University
0115 848 6200

OXFORD
Hartlette/All You Miss Zodiac
01865 420042

PORTSMOUTH
The Aviators/The Stations/
Sallyforth/Golden Section
Wedgewood Rooms 023 9286 3911

Scarlet Soho Frog On The Front
023 9279 9977

PRESTON
Things In Herds/Ivan Campo/
The Uncomfortables Adelphi
01772 897961

SHEFFIELD
Against Me Corporation
0114 276 0262

Tracie Hunter & The Hornets
Boardwalk 0114 279 9090

SOUTHAMPTON
The Flying Alexanders/The
Generators/The Reason Joiners
023 8022 5612

STOKE
Buzzcocks/Gear Sugarmill
01782 214991

SWINDON
Axis Of Evil/Ventflow/Buried
Beneath/Prometheus Furnace
01793 534238

TUNBRIDGE WELLS
Belasco Forum 08712 777101

YORK
The Holloways/Mobile Fibbers
01904 651 250



The Mozalini (copyright NME,
2006) rocks out. Geddit?

RADIO South By South West
5pm, BBC Radio 2

The Texas megafestival begins, with
live music from Morrissey.

RADIO Shake Rattle And Roll
9pm, BBC Radio 2

Mark Lamarr pays tribute to late
guitar legend Link Wray.

TV The Culture Show
7pm, BBC 2

With Sheffield singer-songwriter
Richard Hawley

TV The Killers
9.30am, The Biography Channel

Includes detailed info on Brandon
Flowers' skin-care routine, maybe.



Lip-synching: Wayne
joins The Zipper on
the Gonzo couch

TV Gonzo
7pm, MTV2

You voted it Best TV Show at the ShockWaves
NME Awards 2006. And this week's show is
a real corker.

Zane talks to Wayne Coyne about all things
Flaming Lips and there's a rare TV appearance
for our very own Krissi Murison previewing the
Texas hoe-down that is South By South West.

Book now with **NME Tickets** www.nme.com/gigs or 0870 1663 663

Calls are charged at
national standard rate

SATURDAY

March 18



Larrikin Love, *the new sound of Stoke*

ABERDEEN

Good Shoes/Rumble Strips
The Tunnels 01224 211121

BARNESLEY

OFM/Blood Red Honeymoons
Arches 01226 203421

BATH

Imperial Vipers Moles
01225 404445

BEDFORD

The Crimea/The Replays/Red
Dollar Esquires 01234 340120

BIRMINGHAM

The Priory/Photo Flapper &
Firkin 0121 236 2421

BLACKBURN

Karma Celler Bar 01254 689111

BOURNEMOUTH

Kano Old Fire Station
01202 503888

BRENTFORD

Les Incompetents Brentford FC,
Stripes Bar 07966 167755

BRIGHTON

Help She Can't Swim Freebutt
01273 603974

BRISTOL

AFGM Fleece 0117 945 0996
Breakestra/Babyhead Carling
Academy 0870 771 2000

Martin Simpson/Katey Brooks
Folk House 0117 926 2987

BURY

Karma Destination/Sidewinder
Hark To Towler 01204 883856

CAMBRIDGE

The Shivers/Breezer Portland
Arms 01223 357268

CARDIFF

Halfnight/Big John Barfly
029 2066 7658

COVENTRY

Lunar Mile/Three Years Waiting
Golden Cross 024 7622 2311

DARLSTON

Goats Don't Shave Green
0121 526 5051

DERBY

Distopia/Twinkie/The Faster
I Drive Victoria Inn 01332 740091

DUBLIN

Dragonforce Ambassador Theatre
00 3531 456 9569

EASTBOURNE

Dry Rise/Captain Snake Eyes
Stringbendys 01392 730015

EDINBURGH

Chris Difford Cabaret Voltaire
0131 220 6176

EXETER

Secret Machines University,
Lemon Grove 01392 263519

Trivium University 01392 263519

GLASGOW

Club NME Presents... Howling
Bells School Of Art 0141 353 4530

Eoghan Colgan ABC2
0141 204 5151

The Holloways/The Fridays/The
Jurors Barfly 0870 907 0999

Koba/Dresden Nice'n'Sleazy
0141 333 9637

Too Much Texas/Ampersand King
Tut's Wah Wah Hut 0141 221 5279

HARLOW

The Catch It Kebabs/Weight
Loss Square 01279 305000

HITCHIN

Fruition Club 85 01462 432767

HULL

The Upper Room Welly Club
01482 221113

LEEDS

The Sugars/The Motorettes
Faversham 0113 245 8817

Things In Herds/Jackson Palmer
Mixing Tin 0113 246 8899

This Black Velvetine/The
Experts Vine 0113 203 1821

LEICESTER

The Fallout Theory Charlotte
(Early Show) 0116 255 3956

The Infested/A New Days Enemy
Attik 0116 222 3800

Scratch Perverts Charlotte
0116 255 3956

LIVERPOOL

The Kicks/Belle Vue Carling
Academy 2 0870 771 2000

LONDON

The Antec Sonata/The Ailbi
Betsy Trotwood 020 7336 7326

The Black Crowes Shepherds
Bush Empire 0870 771 2000

The Black Velvets/Winterville
Islington Carling Bar Academy N1
0870 166 3663

Chineapples/Strange Idols
Kingsland Road Spread Eagle E2
020 7253 6356

Crowbar/Will Haven Charing
Cross Road Mean Fiddler WC2
020 7434 9592

Daddy G Camden Jazz Café NW1
020 7916 6060

The Etc's/National Snack 12 Bar
Club WC2 020 7916 6989

The Extenders Camden Dublin
Castle NW1 020 7485 1773

Flook/Silent Moves Holloway
Road Nambucca N7 020 7272 7366

Gary Numan Kentish Town Forum
NW5 020 7344 0044

Klaxons/The Pigeon Detectives
Piccadilly Circus Tatty Bogle
020 7734 4475

Mirmis/Climbsyke Kingston Peel
020 8546 3516

Motel Hero Charing Cross Road
Borderline WC2 020 7734 5547

Sultans Of Ping Highbury Corner
Garage N5 020 7607 1818

Thee Jenerators Tottenham
Court Road Metro Club W1
020 7437 0964

The Vibrators/The Duel/Dr Filth
The Luminaire NW6 020 7372 7123

Wanderlust King's Cross Water
Rats WC1 020 7336 7326

The Wutas/The Indigos Camden
Underworld NW1 020 7482 1932

MANCHESTER

Buzzcocks/Gear Academy 2
0161 275 2930

Thin Lizzy Academy 0161 275 2930

Whateverend/Grace Night And
Day Cafe 0161 236 1822

NEWCASTLE

Stiff Little Fingers Carling
Academy 0870 771 2000

NORWICH

Kill Kenada Arts Centre
01603 660352

NOTTINGHAM

The Dead 60s/The Rifles
Ballroom 0115 978 8674

My Latest Novel Social
0115 950 5078

The Open Rescue Rooms
0115 958 8484

Sludgefeast/The Smears/Dead
Souls Junction 7 0115 911 6959

OLDHAM

Voom Blooms/Tiny Dancers
Castle 0161 626 4237

OXFORD

Youth Movies/Foals/Tired Irie
Zodiac 01865 420042

PERRANPORTH

The Hitchcock Rules/Es Vedra
Watering Hole 01872 572888

READING

The Southpaw Jinx/Chokehold
Rising Sun 0118 957 2974

SHEFFIELD

The Bluetones Leadmill
0114 221 2828

Shitdisco Plug 0114 276 7093

STOKE

Club NME Presents...
Larrikin Love Underground
01782 219944

SOUTHAMPTON
Jarvis Fields Joiners
023 8022 5612

SOUTHEND

Neville Staple/Columbo
Chinnery's 01702 460440

STRATFORD UPON AVON
Take The 5th/The G Men Cox's
Yard 01789 404600

SWINDON

Belarus/Last Calm/Charlie
Furnace 01793 534238

TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Misty's Big Adventure Forum
08712 777101

WOLVERHAMPTON
Cosmic Rough Riders/Elin Ruth
Little Civic 01902 552121

YORK

The Bridewell Taxits Fibbers
01904 651 250

SUNDAY

March 19

BEDFORD

Mojo Esquires 01234 340120

BELFAST

Dragonforce Spring & Airbrake
028 9032 5968

BIRMINGHAM

Against Me Carling Academy 2
0121 262 3000

The Holloways/Resound/
Skatch/Onyesblue Barfly
0870 907 0999

Rodrigo Y Gabriela Glee Club
0870 241 5093

BRISTOL

Help She Can't Swim Louisiana
0117 926 5978

Oceansize Fleece 0117 945 0996

CARDIFF

Anterior/Through Solace/The
Beckoning/Joyride Manoeuvrea
Club Ifor Bach 029 2023 2199

Cosmic Rough Riders/Elin Ruth/
The Loves Barfly 029 2066 7658

Secret Machines/Prefuse 73
Solus 02920 781 456

CORK

The Beat/The Pharcyde Cyprus
Avenue 00 35321 427 6165

EDINBURGH

Good Shoes/Rumble Strips
Cabaret Voltaire 0131 220 6176

GLASGOW

Abrasive Wheels/Barackca
The Mispelt Soundhaus
0141 221 4659

The Deltas/The Fear/Suicide
Underground 13th Note Café
0141 553 1638

The Ordinary Boys Barrowlands
0141 552 4601

KETTERING

Shitdisco Steps 01736 366316

LEEDS

Buzzcocks/Gear Cockpit
0113 244 3446

Robin Grey/Nick Barratt
Faversham 0113 245 8817

Whores! Whores! Whores!/
Tigers/Concentration Champ/
The Mos Easley/The Author The
Title/The Escape Route Fenton
0113 245 3908

LEICESTER

Kirk Brandon/Kevin Huwick
Attik 0116 222 3800

My Latest Novel Charlotte
0116 255 3956

LIVERPOOL

The Open Stanley Theatre, Carling
Academy 2 0151 709 9108

Tigerbombs/Satans Little Heart
Breakers/Blue Shack/The
Eventide Cavern Club
0151 236 1964

LONDON

The Black Crowes Shepherds
Bush Empire 0870 771 2000

The Dead 60s/The Rifles Charing
Cross Road Astoria WC2
020 7434 0403

Die So Fluid/Flylow
Angelcry Camden Barfly NW1
0870 907 0999

The Edgar Broughton Band
Oxford Street 100 Club W1
020 7636 0933

Gene Drayton Unit Aldgate East
Vibe Bar E1 020 7377 9880

Headless/Anonymous Tip/
Madam Oxford Circus Social W1
020 7636 4992

Heavy Trash Aldgate East Spitz E1
020 7392 9032

John Hegley & The Popticians/
The Chavs King's Cross Water Rats
WC1 020 7336 7326

Lazy Lester Tottenham Court Road
Metro Club W1 020 7437 0964

Lech Janerka Highbury Corner
Garage N5 020 7607 1818

Liam Gerner/The Backbeat
Magnets/Will Reid Islington
Carling Bar Academy N1
0870 166 3663

Pete Duggan/Burnt Ash/Duncan
Long/Maria Singer Barfly
(Afternoon) 020 7691 4245

Plans And Apologies/Roland
Shanks/The Strange Death Of
Liberal England Buffalo Bar N1
020 7359 6191

The Pony Collaboration/Pacific
Ocean Fire/Lionshare The
Luminaire NW6 020 7372 7123

Tripped And Falling/Signified/
Dead But Still Dreaming/
Twisted Camden Dublin Castle
020 7485 1773

Useless ID/Route 215/Short
Warning Camden Underworld NW1
020 7482 1932

MANCHESTER

The Bluetones Academy 2
0161 275 2930

Crosbi/Dirty Years Night And Day
Café 0161 236 1822

NOTTINGHAM

Lost Alone/Hot Puppies/Beats
Capri/The Screening Rescue
Rooms 0115 958 8484

Youngblood Brass Band/DJ
Vadim Social 0115 950 5078

OXFORD

The Crimea Zodiac 01865 420042

PORTSMOUTH

Crowbar/Will Haven/The
Seventh Cross/Kingsize Blues
Wedgewood Rooms 023 9286 3911

SHEFFIELD

Skin Leadmill 0114 221 2828

SOUTHAMPTON

Archie Bronson Outfit Joiners
023 8022 5612

YORK

Exist/Standing In The Shadows
Fibbers 01904 651 250



Secret Machines,
Solus, Cardiff

IF YOU CAN'T MAKE IT TO A GIG...



Lamarr, fresh from his Fame
Academy success. Oh, right

RADIO **Mark Lamarr**
7pm, BBC Radio 2

ML continues his evangelical
mission to make everyone love The
Boxcar Preachers.

RADIO **Liz Kershaw**
10am, BBC 6Music

Liz is "Speaking In Tongues" as she
looks at Talking Heads' brilliant
1983 album.

RADIO **Songs From The**
Big Sky

8.30pm, BBC Radio 2
Texan songwriter Darden Smith on
his home state's musical influence.

RADIO **6Music Chart**
4pm, BBC 6Music

Andrew Collins revisits Pavement's
'Crooked Rain, Crooked Rain', truly
one of the all-time great albums.



Aphex Twin:
massive weirdo

TV **The Nation's**
Favourite Lyric

11pm, VH1
"I would like some milk from the
milkman's wife's tits" - Aphex Twin
(1996). This may not make the Top 5.

RADIO **The Remix**
7pm, Xfm

More Sunday worship from the
Temple-Morris.

TV **100 Greatest**
Movie

7am, VH1
Bet the soundtrack to Tom Hanks'
That Thing You Do is Number One.

RADIO **Stuart Maconie's**
Freak Zone

5pm, BBC 6Music
A man who has eyelids on his nipples.

Book now with **NME Tickets** - www.nme.com/gigs or 0870 1663 663

MONDAY

March 20

The Kooks, Wedgewood Rooms, Portsmouth

BATH

Don't Do Tuesdays/Marmaduke/
The Commies/Do Not
Resuscitate/A Phyrrie Victory
Moles 01225 404445

BIRMINGHAM

The Black Velvets Carling Bar
Academy 0121 262 3000
Stiff Little Fingers Carling
Academy 0121 262 3000

BRIGHTON

Rodrigo Y Gabriela/Tammi
Garcia Komedia 01273 647100
Secret Machines/Prefuse 73
Concorde 2 01273 673311

BRISTOL

The Fall Carling Academy
0870 771 2000
Mississippi Witch Louisiana
0117 926 5978

CARDIFF

Duckstap/Atomgveittr/
Dispatch Clwb Ifor Bach
029 2023 2199
The Holloways/28 Costumes
Barfly 029 2066 7658

DERBY

Jimmy The Squirrel/
Mr Wolf/The Yoghurt Bombers/
Fallen Story Victoria Inn
01332 740091

GLASGOW

Lorraine/Mobile King Tut's Wah
Wah Hut 0141 221 5279

LEAMINGTON SPA

Great Blind Degree/Dharma
Drive/Al Britten Jug & Jester
07961 919756

LIVERPOOL

Oceansize/Pure Reason
Revolution Barfly @ Masque
0151 707 6171
The Raconteurs Carling Academy
0870 771 2000

LONDON

Billy No Mates/Wonk Unit/
Beyond Reasonable Doubt
Brixton Windmill SW2
020 8671 0700
The Black Crows Shepherds
Bush Empire 0870 771 2000
Blue Raccoon/Earl/Junes Ally
Rats King's Cross Water Rats WC1
020 7336 7326

Double G & The Traitorous/
Baxter Dury The Luminaire NW6
020 7372 7123
Enter The Haggis/The Marble
Index Charing Cross Road
Borderline WC2 020 7734 5547

The Ghost Of A Thousand/
Anemic/Ella Kingston Peel
020 8546 3516

Kids In Tracksuits/Suffrajett/
Clynder/Sound/Hotel Ukraine
Aldgate East 93 Feet East E1
020 7247 6095

Marnier Brown/The Needles/
The Circuits/The Embassy Row
Bethnal Green Pleasure Unit E2
020 7729 0167

Nizlopi King's Cross Scala N1
020 7833 2022
Red Nettle/Furthest Drive
Home/Bless The Assassin/
Blue Meridian Camden Dublin
Castle NW1 020 7485 1773

Schikker Wi Lot/
She/Koyokh/Moishe's
Bagel Aldgate East Spitz E1
020 7392 9032

Spinmaster Plantpot/
Smokers Die Younger/From
The Wreckage Oxford Circus
Social W1 020 7636 4992

The Strange Idols/Monster
Bobby/C90s Piccadilly Circus Tatty
Bogle W1 020 7734 4475

MANCHESTER

Denis Jones/The Rise And Fall
Of Rockets/Bitterly Ironic/Tom
Barnes & Band Night And Day
Café 0161 236 1822
The Open Academy 3
0161 275 2930
The Ordinary Boys Academy
0161 275 2930

NEWCASTLE

Club NME Presents... Vooms
Blooms Other Room 0191 261 9755
Graham Coxon University
0191 261 2606
The Printed Sound/The Rigg/
The Tabloids/Summertime
Blues Cooperage 0191 233 2940

NORWICH

Youngblood Brass Band Arts
Centre 01603 660352

OXFORD

Crowbar/Will Haven/Kingsize
Blues/Seventh Cross Zodiac
01865 420042

PORTSMOUTH

The Kooks/Jamie T Wedgewood
Rooms 023 9286 3911

SHEFFIELD

Club NME Presents... Larrikin
Love Plug 0114 276 2676
Medico Miller/Karma Vega/
The Irritants/Nuggie & The
Outlaw Breakers Boardwalk
0114 279 9090

SOUTHAMPTON

Bury Tomorrow/Chin Music/All
Day Service/Bellakiss Joiners
023 8022 5612

SOUTHEAST

The Crimea/Hot Puppies
Chinnery's 01702 460440

TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Contra Las Aras/Elven Days
Ago/Stowaway Sterling Forum
08712 777101

TUESDAY

March 21

ABERDEEN

Buzzcocks/Gear Lemon Tree
01224 642230

BATH

The Soda Men/Alison Clash
Porter Cellar Bar 01225 404445

BIRMINGHAM

The Kooks Carling Academy 2
0121 262 3000

BRIGHTON

Shitdisco Freebutt 01273 603974

BRISTOL

Fightstar Carling Academy
0870 771 2000

OMISSION/MUDHEADS FLEECE

0117 945 0996

CAMBRIDGE

Stiff Little Fingers/Blood Or
Whiskey Junction 01223 511511

VIDEOSTARR PORTLAND ARMS

01223 357268

COLCHESTER

Club NME Presents...
Vanlustbader Underground
01206 863211

DERBY

The Upper Room Victoria Inn
01332 740091

EDINBURGH

Bromheads Jacket/The Needles
Cabaret Voltaire 0131 220 6176

EXETER

Lisa Li-Lund/Oil Rig Caterers
Cavern Club 01392 495370

GLASGOW

Make Good Your Escape
Soundhaus 0141 221 4659

Mendeed/The February Solution
Barfly 0870 907 0999

Oceansize King Tut's Wah Wah Hut
0141 221 5279

Pitchshifter University
0141 339 8855

THE RACONTEURS ABC2

0141 204 5151

The Rip-Offs/Nu Ground/Modo/
Buttweiser Upstairs At The Barfly
0870 907 0999

Thin Lizzy Carling Academy
0870 771 2000

HUDDESFIELD

Club NME Presents... Larrikin
Love/The KBC Tokyo
01484 432100

LEEDS

The Objects/The VC's/Neon
Plastix Atrium 0113 242 6116

LEICESTER

C'Bob/Sidecar 46/The
Motorcity Daredevils Charlotte
016 255 3956

Preset Addition/Back On
The Streets/Young Casual
Gentleman Attik 0116 222 3800

LIVERPOOL

The Blackout/Soon to be
September/Fall & Run Barfly @
Masque 0151 707 6171

The Epicureans/The Flicks/
Issue:Six Magnet 0151 709 6969

Graham Coxon/Duels Carling
Academy 0151 256 5555

LONDON

Against Me Charing Cross Road
Mean Fiddler WC2 020 7434 9592

Ann Arbor/The Furious Sleep
Aldgate East Vibe Bar E1
020 7377 9880

Cosmic Rough Riders/Elin Ruth/
The Sofa Club King's Cross Water
Rats WC1 020 7336 7326

Feeder/Goldie Lookin' Chain
Hammersmith Carling Apollo W6
0870 606 3400

The Gwyn/Stutz Bear Club/Neon
Betsy Trotwood 020 7336 7326

The Imbeciles The Luminaire NW6
020 7372 7123

Indigo Moss/Deep Elem Health &
Happiness at Social 020 7636 4992

Jade Fox/The Soundcarriers/
The Ruins Plan B 08701 165421

Jeff Klein 12 Bar Club WC2
020 7916 6989

The Mourning After/Somebody's
Mind/Idioverse/Birdpen/
Retrospekt Aldgate East Rhythm
Factory E1 020 7247 9386

The Open Kings College
020 7834 4740

Paddy McGuinness/The Dark
Side Shepherds Bush Empire
0870 771 2000

The Playback/The Twice/
Chasetown 9/No Self Control
Highbury Corner Upstairs At The
Garage N5 020 7607 1818

Rod Jones & Inara George
Camden Barfly NW1
0870 907 0999

Shaker Heights Putney Fez Club
SW15 020 8780 0123

Soma/The Skallywags/Every:
Friday/Eastroad/False
Pretences Bethnal Green Pleasure
Unit E2 020 7729 0167

Vincent Vincent And The
Villains/The Horrors/William
Kay Soho Madame Jo Jo's W1
020 7734 2473

Who Killed Lucy/Reverie/
Brickwork Lizards/Masters Of
Disguise Piccadilly Circus Comedy
SW1 020 7839 7261

MANCHESTER
Good Shoes/Rumble Strips/4ft
Soldiers Night And Day Café
0161 236 1822

Skin Academy 2 0161 275 2930

NEWCASTLE
Mortis Carling Academy
0870 771 2000

NOTTINGHAM
The Ordinary Boys Rock City
0115 941 2544

The Pharcyde/Lost Project
Rescue Rooms 0115 958 8484

SHEFFIELD
The Agents/Charists/Mantank/
King Quentin Boardwalk
0114 279 9090

SOUTHAMPTON
28 Costumes/Pinstripe Legacy/
One Man Rescue/Othello Joiners
023 8022 5612

YORK
Bad Shots Reunion/(Digi) Core/
All Sexy But Ginger/I'm Sorry
Callfield Fibbers 01904 651 250



Goldie Lookin' Chain,
Hammersmith Carling
Apollo, London

HAS YOUR GUITARIST GOT COMMITMENT ISSUES?

Call band search FREE on 0800 063 0008 to find
the musician your band deserves!



Hot Chip: not as good as
hot jacket potato, trust us

RADIO Tom Robinson's
Evening Sequence
7pm, BBC 6Music

The completely excellent Hot Chip
are in session all week. Get on that.

RADIO Lamacc Live
9pm, BBC Radio 1

Lammo hops aboard the BBC
jamwagon to get his fill of SXSW.

TV Making The
Video
8.30pm, VH1

Behind the scenes of Britney's best
song, 'Toxic'.

TV Top Of The Pops
7pm, BBC2

Check out where The Strokes'
new single 'Heart In A Cage' is in
the chart.



Marc Riley: Rilo Kiley's name
is a tribute to him. Fact!

RADIO It's The Same Old
Song
9.30pm, BBC Radio 2

Marc Riley walks the fine line
between pastiche and plagiarism

TV Let The Games
Begin
12pm, E4

So Solid rapper Michael Harvey's
favourite workout tunes.

TV 100 Greatest One
Hit Wonders
7pm, VH1

William Shatner captains this
enterprise to remember the best
fleeting single.

TV Unplugged
11pm, VH1 Classic

Simon Le Bon waits while an
electrician fixes the power supply.

GET IN THE
GIG GUIDE

Do you want to get your gig included in the biggest and best weekly music gig guide? Click on to NME.COM/
gigs and submit your free listing. Entries must be made at least three weeks in advance of the gig date.

Worried? Proudly presents. Thanks for support

CLUBS

The world of indie disco

KARATE BOOTS, LONDON

High-kicking its way into the hearts of hip Camden types and east London trendanistas every month, Karate Boots, slap bang in the centre of town, is a rock'n'roll nirvana with a surprise at every turn. **What music do they play?** "Rock and its extended family" is the tag line, which almost guarantees that everything will be ace, be it AC/DC, Johnny Cash, The Shangri-Las or The Sonics, all courtesy of DJs Karate Konrad, Dirty Omar and Stiletto. **What about these surprises then?** Take your pick from hip-hop tap dancers, a contortionist, strippers, opera singers doing Guns N'Roses covers and sneaky acoustic sets from undercover rock stars. And look out for Karate Boots' attempted takeover of Ibiza later this year... **Any celebs ever show up?** Only twig-like actress Keira Knightley, Sadie Frost, Lisa Moorish, and erm, jazz minx Amy Winehouse. Graham Coxon is also a club fixture, and even DJs from time to time as do New Zealand rockers The Datsuns.

When: Saturday March 18, and monthly, 9pm-3am
Venue: The Phoenix, Cavendish Square, off Oxford Circus, London W1G 0PP **Cost:** £5
Website: www.myspace.com/karateboots



Karate Boots: It licks all the competition



CLUB OF THE WEEK

Rock music: seems you either love it or hate it



We couldn't get a picture of Karate Boots, so here's our office on a Monday morning...

DJ PROFILE

NICK, THE GOULAG BEAT



We think Nick's the one on the left. If we're wrong, his scratching skills must be ace

Who are you?

"Nick AKA. I started DJing at house parties, then got asked to do The Goulag Beat. The Goulag Beat almost always ends with a day-long house party. I can't say what goes on, but it's a bit like Shitdisco's house, if you've heard the stories..."

What do you play?

"Punkoid disco, new records, old records... I'm as likely to play Prince Paul or Prince Buster as Prince. My top three now are 'After Parting' - Pro Forma; 'Naked' - Comaneci; '4 Horsemen' - Klaxons."

What's been the best night you've played?

"I guest DJed last time White Heat came to Scotland. That was a killer night. The crowd were well up for it and White Heat subsequently made up a poster that said 'Scotland's much better!'"

What's the best thing about being a DJ?

"Giving the thousand yard stare when people ask for requests."

When: Nick DJs at The Goulag Beat, Cocteau Lounge, Edinburgh, last Thursday of every month, 11pm-3am

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Email club listings to clubguide@nme.com

BATH

Thursday
Go Ape at Moles Club
 George Street, 10pm-late, £4.50/5
 Das Wanderlust and 28 Costumes rock the Ape Stage.
www.myspace.com/goape

BOGNOR REGIS

Wednesday
Goo at The Mud Club
 The Esplanade, 8pm-late, £3
 Dead Dead Dead play live.
www.goonight.com

BRIGHTON

Saturday
Da Doo Ron Ron at Sussex Arts Club
 Ship Street, 10pm-2am, £5/7
 A 1960s girl group fest.
www.dadooronronclub.com

BRISTOL

Thursday
Club Stutter at Manhattan Bar
 St Nicholas Street, 10pm-2am, £3/4
 A tasty indie pick'n'mix.
www.club-stutter.co.uk

FRIDAY

Winky at Manhattan Bar
 St Nicholas Street, 10pm-3am, £3/4

An alternative hot spot for "homos who hate hard house!"
www.clubwinky.com

CAMBRIDGE

Wednesday
Club Goo at The Soul Tree
 Guildhall Place, 8pm-2am, £5
 Score top grades in indie cool.
www.clubgoo.co.uk

CARDIFF

Wednesday
Popscene at Chwb Ifor Bach
 9.30pm, £2.50/3
 Classic indie plus funk'n'disco.
www.chwb.net

DUBLIN

Wednesday
Antics at Crowdaddy
 Harcourt Street, 11pm-3am, 4/5 Euro
 Worship at the altar of indie.
www.anticsindienight.com

EDINBURGH

Thursday
Born To Be Wide at The Street
 Picardy Place, 9pm-1am, free
 A self-described "iPod of the arts'n'music scene"
www.born tobewide.co.uk

FRIDAY

The Goulag Beat at Cocteau Lounge
 Picardy Place, 11pm-3am, £3
 A dirty scuzz-punk garage haven.
www.myspace.com/thegoulagbeat

SUNDAY

I Fly Spitfires at Cabaret Voltaire
 Blair Street, 8-late, £4
 Good Shoes and Brinkman play live.
www.myspace.com/ifflyspitfires

GLASGOW

Sunday
Optimo at The Sub Club
 Jamaica Street, 11pm-3am, £5/6
 Banging avant-electro and indie.
www.optimo.co.uk

LEEDS

Wednesday
Rebellious Jukebox at Wire
 Call Lane, 10pm-2.30am, £2.50/3/3.50
 Leeds' naughtiest disco
www.rebelliousjukebox.co.uk

FRIDAY

Strangeways at Wire
 Call Lane, 10pm-3am, £3/4

Celebrates the synth-clash and new wave night's 5th birthday.
www.gojonygogogogo.co.uk

SATURDAY

Bad Sneakers at The Faversham
 Springfield Mount, 7.30pm-3am, £4
 The Sugars and The Motorettes play live. The Long Blondes DJ.
www.thefaversham.com



Flower power's not dead

LIVERPOOL

Friday
Evol at Korova
 Fleet Street, 10pm-4am, £4/5
 Kings Have Long Arms play this mutant punk funk indie partay.
www.clubevol.co.uk

LONDON

Wednesday
You Do The Maths at Nambucca
 Holloway Road, 8pm-2am, £5
 The ace Howling Bells play live.
www.youdothemaths.co.uk

THURSDAY

Southern Harmony Club at The Lounge

Kentish Town Road, 8pm-2am, £3/5
 Classic rock night with Mystery Meat live.

FRIDAY

Bosh at Barfly
 Chalk Farm Road, 10.30pm-3am, £5/8
 Lethal Bizzle, Klaxons and Rubicks kick off this top grime, pop and rock bash.

www.myspace.com/boshclub

FRIDAY

Dirty Water Club at Boston Arms
 Junction Road, 8.30pm-3am, £6
 Live punk from The Cynics, Thee Jenerators, The Chinese Lungs and The Cannibals.
www.dirtywaterclub.com

FRIDAY

Slash at Catch
 Kingsland Road, 9pm-2am, free
 Indie, punk, funk and ska.
www.slashclub.co.uk

SATURDAY

Big Sexy Land at Downstairs At The Albany
 Great Portland Street, 8.30pm-2am, £3/5
 Acid, electro, new wave and pop.
www.bigsexyland.co.uk

SATURDAY

After Skool Klub at The Quad
 Houghton Street, 10pm-3am, £5/6
 Cheap as chips booze up.
www.afterskoolklub.co.uk

SATURDAY

Feeling Gloomy at Bar Academy
 Parkfield Street, 10pm-3am, £5/7
 Weep into your beer at London's saddest club.
www.feelinggloomy.com

SATURDAY

The Birthday Party at Tatty Bogle
 Kingly Court, 9pm-3am, 9pm-3am
 Punk rock, noisy pop, Klaxons and The Pigeon Detectives.
www.thebirthdayparty.co.uk

MONDAY

Trash at The End
 West Central Street, 10pm-3am, £5
 The holy grail of indie discos.
www.trashclub.co.uk

MONDAY

Airport at The Roxy
 Rathbone Place, 10pm-3am, £1/3/4
 Your indie delivered by women dressed as air hostesses.

TUESDAY

White Heat at Madame Jo Jos
 Brewer Street, 8pm-3am, £4/5
 Vincent Vincent And The Villains headline.
www.whiteheatmayfair.com

MANCHESTER

SATURDAY

Smile at Star & Garter
 Fairfield Street, 9pm-3am, £3/4
 Your classic no frills indie night
www.starandgarter.co.uk

NOTTINGHAM

FRIDAY

Hot Renault Traffic Club at Cabaret
 Fletcher Gate, 7.30pm-2am, £5
 Dead Disco and Model Morning play this new music night.
www.hotclubnight.com

SOUTHAMPTON

THURSDAY

Long Live Rock And Roll! at Lennons
 Onslow Road, 9pm-2am, £3
 Indie old and new.
www.longliverockandroll.com



**THIS WEEK'S HOT TOPIC:
WHICH FESTIVAL ARE YOU MOST
LOOKING FORWARD TO?**

BACKSTAGE AT CLUB NME



THE UPPER ROOM LONDON, FRIDAY, MARCH 3

How was Club NME for you?
Alex Miller, vocals: "Brilliant. There were 2,000 pretty pissed teenagers having a good time."

Do you get nervous?

"We've been doing gigs for 18 months, but I still shit myself every time. We're a bit anal and go for all the vocal warm-ups. I've also become slightly dependent on getting pissed."

What was it like backstage?

"Normally we don't even get a backstage room, we just sit in a van outside the gig. We were opposite The Go! Team and got a rider for the first time: loads of bagels, quadruple chocolate chip cookies and beer, which people we didn't know stood around drinking. We didn't know what had hit us."



Josh, 18, London:
"V Festival"



Peet, 23, Liverpool:
"Glasto [?]/Reading"



Mile, 18, London:
"Glasto '07"



Jazzie, 18, London:
"Download"



Roxy, 18, Ireland:
"Reading"



Jamie, 26, Bethnal
Green: "Wharfedale"

THIS WEEK AT CLUB NME

LEEDS NEW VENUE

The Faversham
1-5 Springfield Mount, LS2
Wednesday, March 15
Shitdisco

NOTTINGHAM

Stealth, Masonic Place, NG1
Thursday, March 16
Larrikin Love

LONDON

KOKO, 1a Camden High Street, NW1
Friday, March 17
Shy Child

SHEFFIELD NEW VENUE

The Plug, Matilda Street, S1
Monday, March 20
Larrikin Love

STOKE-ON-TRENT

The Underground, Morley Street, ST1
Saturday, March 22
Larrikin Love

GLASGOW

School of Art, Renfrew Street, G3
Saturday, March 23
The Howling Bells

MANCHESTER

Club Academy, Manchester University
SU, Oxford Road, M13
Wednesday, March 25
Larrikin Love

MIDDLESBROUGH

The Empire, Corporation Road,
TS1 2RT
Thursday, March 26
Voom Blooms + Vanlustbader

HUDDERSFIELD

Tokyo, The Old Court House,
Queens Street, HD1
Tuesday, March 21
Larrikin Love + The KBC

OLDHAM

The Castle, 38 Union Street, OL1
Saturday, March 28
Tiny Dancers + Voom Blooms

NEWCASTLE

Digital, Times Square, NE1
Monday, March 20
Voom Blooms

COLCHESTER

The Underground, University Of Essex,
Wivenhoe Park, CO4
Tuesday, March 21
Vanlustbader

BOURNEMOUTH NEW VENUE

Consortium, 3 Richmond Hill
(off The Square), BH2
Thursday, March 23
Voom Blooms + Shitdisco



£2

This voucher entitles the holder to £2 off the door price
LIVE BANDS, THE HOTTEST DJs,
CHEAP DRINKS AND ROCK'N'ROLL MAYHEM!

This voucher entitles the holder to £2 off entry and is valid for all Club NME nights* except Glasgow
*PLEASE NOTE Valid at KOKO in London after 10.30pm only. Only one voucher per person.
Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer. The venue reserves the right to refuse
admission. Check venues for full offer details.



YYePG Proudly Presents, Thx for Support

BOOK NOW!

FUTURE GIGS ON SALE

Benicàssim



"¡Hola España! ¡Somos Franz Ferdinand y somos de Escocia!"

The British Invasion Of Benicàssim Part II: last year it was the Kaisers and Kasabian, this year the sun-blissed Spanish festival gives you Franz Ferdinand, Depeche Mode, Morrissey and Echo & The Bunnymen. Sizzling!

When: July 20-23. Benicàssim, Valencia

V Festival



With Thom and Moz at V this year, don't expect any cheery singalongs

This year boasts a line-up even Michael Eavis would be proud of, with no less than Radiohead and Morrissey as headliners. V Festival could well fill the Glastonbury-shaped hole in your heart during summer 2006.

When: August 19-20

Embrace



Come back to what you know with Danny and co

Danny McNamara and brothers might be the old Snow Patrol, but theirs is still the comeback story of the last five years, after a hit with the Chris Martin-penned 'Gravity'. Experience heartfelt warmth and fuzziness over actual tunes on this spring tour.

On tour: April 15 to April 18



Fall Out Boy: getting emotional in a town near you soon

The Datsuns

Stoke Sugarmill (April 18), Bristol Fleece (19), Newcastle Carling Academy 2 (21), Liverpool Carling Academy (22), Glasgow ABC2 (23), Sheffield Leadmill (25), Manchester Academy 3 (26), Birmingham Carling Academy 2 (27), London Underworld (28), Oxford Zodiac (29), Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms (30)

Dirty Pretty Things

Oxford Brookes (April 21), Bristol Anson Rooms (22), Preston 53 Degrees (26), Leicester University (28), Liverpool Carling Academy (29), Brighton Concorde (May 3), Southampton University (5), Coventry Colosseum (6), Cambridge Junction (7), Nottingham Rock City (10), Wolverhampton Wolftrun Hall (12), London Astoria (14), Leeds Metropolitan University (17), Middlesbrough Town Hall (18), Edinburgh Liquid Rooms, Glasgow Barrowlands (20)

Embrace

Preston Guildhall (April 15), Halifax Victoria Theatre (17), London Victoria Bush Empire (18)

Fall Out Boy

Manchester Carling Apollo (May 23), London Brixton Carling Academy (24), Leeds Millennium Square (27), Edinburgh Corn Exchange (29), Wolverhampton Civic Hall (30)

Flaming Lips

Edinburgh Usher Hall (April 19), London Royal Albert Hall (22), Birmingham Carling Academy (24), Manchester Carling Apollo (25)

Foo Fighters

London Hyde Park (June 17): (Motörhead/Queens Of The Stone Age/Angels & Airwaves/The Subways), Manchester Lancashire County Cricket Clubs Old Trafford (18*) (with The Strokes)

Funeral For A Friend

Exeter University (May 15), London Shepherds Bush Empire (16), Bristol

Carling Academy (24), Liverpool University (25), Southampton Guildhall (27), Reading Hexagon (29), Edinburgh Corn Exchange (31), Newcastle Carling Academy (June 1), Birmingham Carling Academy (2), Manchester Academy (3), London Hammersmith Palais (4)

Larrikin Love

Leeds Faversham (March 22), Peterborough Met Lounge (23), Bedford Esquires (24), Coventry Colosseum (25), Bristol Fleece (27), Southampton Joiners (29)

Damien Marley

Birmingham Carling Academy (March 1), Manchester Academy (2), London Brixton Carling Academy (4), Bristol Carling Academy (5), Nottingham Rock City (25), Leeds University (26)

GOING TO SEE THE YYYs?

Find someone new to catch you when you stagedive! Call Gigmates FREE on 0800 833 0008 to find a rock'n'roll partner in crime

Mudhoney

Nottingham Rescue Rooms (May 10), London Shepherds Bush Empire (11)

The Organ

Sheffield Leadmill 2 (March 28), Cambridge Soul Tree (29), Cardiff Barfly (31), Oldham Castle (April 1), Glasgow King Tuts (2), Leeds Josephs Wells (3), Nottingham Social (4), Manchester Academy (5), Coventry Colosseum (8), Bristol Louisiana (9), Southampton

Lennons (10), Bournemouth Opera House (11), London Garage (12)

Pretty Girls Make Graves

Manchester Club Carling Academy (April 3), London 100 Club (4)

Primal Scream

London Astoria (April 6), Wolverhampton Wolftrun Hall (26*), Manchester Ritz (27*), Glasgow Queen Margaret Union (28*)

The Raconteurs

Liverpool Carling Academy (20*), Glasgow ABC (21*), Newcastle Sage 2 (March 22), London Astoria (23)

The Streets

Manchester Carling Apollo (April 27), Glasgow Carling Academy (28), Edinburgh Corn Exchange (29), Aberdeen Music Hall (30), Newcastle Carling Academy (May 2), Nottingham Rock City (3), Bristol Colston Hall (4), Liverpool University (6), Birmingham Carling Academy (7), Southampton Guildhall (8), Exeter Great Hall (10), London Brixton Carling Academy (11), Leeds Metropolitan Uni (12)

Yeah Yeah Yeahs

London Forum (May 16 & 17), Glasgow Barrowlands (19), Manchester Academy (20), Birmingham Carling Academy (21)

The Zutons

London Shepherds Bush Empire (April 26), Sheffield Octagon (May 4), Carlisle Sands Centre (5), Preston Guildhall (6), Newcastle Carling Academy (7), Glasgow Barrowland (9), Perth Concert Hall (10), Aberdeen Music Hall (11), Greenock Town Hall (12), Edinburgh Queens Hall (15), Leeds University (16), Birmingham Carling Academy (18), Cambridge Corn Exchange (19), Cardiff University (21), Bristol Colston Hall (22), Southampton Guildhall (23), Folkestone Leas Cliff Hall (25), Stoke Victoria Hall (26), Manchester Academy (27), Truro Hall For Cornwall (29), Reading Hexagon (30), Nottingham Rock City (31), London Apollo (June 16*)

FESTIVALS

All Tomorrow's Parties

Camber Sands: Devendra Banhart/Mudhoney/Yeah Yeah Yeahs (May 12-14) Dinosaur Jr/Sleater Kinney/The Shins (May 19-24)

NEW Benicàssim

Valencia (July 20-23) Morrissey/Franz Ferdinand/Depeche Mode/The Rakes/Echo & The Bunnymen

Download

Castle Donington Donington Park (June 9-11): Guns N' Roses/Metallica/Tool/Korn/Deftones/The Prodigy/Clutch/Trivium/Bullet For My Valentine/Lacuna Coil/InMe/Hatebreed

Eden Sessions

St Austell Eden Project: The Magic Numbers (August 12) and Goldfrapp (25)

Heineken Green Energy

Dublin Castle: Snow Patrol (April 29), Ian Brown (30), Kaiser Chiefs (May 1)

Hi-Fi Festival

Newcastle Matten Estate (May 27): Ian Brown/Maximo Park/Editors/2 Many Djs Winchester Matterley Bowl (27-28): Hard-Fi/Ian Brown

Insomniacs Ball

London SE One Club (April 13): British Sea Power/Dogs/Art Brut/The Holloways/Battle/Black Wire

Isle of Wight Festival

Newport Seaclose Park (June 9-11): Lou Reed/The Prodigy/The Rakes/Editors/Primal Scream/Dirty Pretty Things/The Kooks/747s/Goldfrapp/Placebo

O2 Wireless Festival

London: The Strokes/Belle & Sebastian (June 21) Massive Attack/The Flaming Lips/DJ Shadow/Pharrell Williams (23) James Blunt/Zero 7/Eels/Nile Rodgers & Chic (24), and Depeche Mode/Goldfrapp (25) Leeds: Harewood House: Goldfrapp/Pharrell Williams/DJ Shadow (24), The Who/The Flaming Lips (25)

Oxegen

Punchestown Racecourse Naas (July 8-9): The Who/The Strokes/Arctic Monkeys/Paul Weller/Richard Ashcroft/Primal Scream/Red Hot Chili Peppers/Kaiser Chiefs/Franz Ferdinand/Editors/Clap Your Hands Say Yeah/The Go! Team/Eels/The Kooks/Sigur Rós/Manu Chao/Damien Marley

T In The Park

Balado, Kinross (July 8-9): Red Hot Chili Peppers/The Strokes/The Who/Arctic Monkeys/Franz Ferdinand/Kaiser Chiefs/Richard Ashcroft/Placebo/The Magic Numbers/Primal Scream/Arctic Monkeys/The Ordinary Boys

NEW! Triptych

Edinburgh/Glasgow/Aberdeen (Apr 26-30): Belle & Sebastian/Aphex Twin/The Long Blondes

NEW! V Festival

Chelmsford Hylands Park & Staffordshire Weston Park (Aug 19-20) Morrissey/Radiohead/Hard-Fi/Rufus Wainwright/Kubb

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WITH IPOD AND ITUNES

WHAT'S NEW?

Great Scots! Belle & Sebastian and (below) Mogwai prove it's cold oop now!



► Scots indie legends a go go. Firstly, **Belle & Sebastian** get collected - head to the iTunes Music Store for their essentials. There are a lot of classics to choose from!

► Secondly post-rock legends **Mogwai** pick some of their favourites for their Celebrity Playlist.

► Check out hotly-tipped nu-soul rockers, **Kubb**, and their live release. It's an exclusive EP recorded at the Apple Store on Regent Street, London.

► Dance legend **Joey Negro** has an exclusive, pre-release club mix of his new single 'Make A Move On Me' available now.

► Also on a dance tip, **Leyo and Bushminka** have their new album 'Feels Closer' available now, plus an exclusive UNKLE remix available for iTunes.

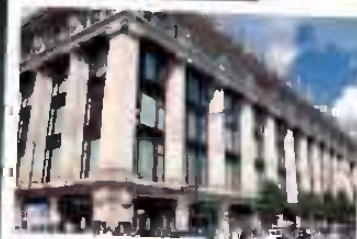
AND FINALLY...

Posh shirt makers **Thomas Pink** has begun selling a limited-edition tie with iPod holder built in! Watch those City dudes groove to their favourite music on the commute. You can hear Lord James Blunt whisper a sigh of relief. Visit www.thomaspink.co.uk/uk/product-details/770104057P2X to have a sneaky look.

IPOD SPEEDPOD TUNES WITH PACE!

Pushed for time, or just can't be arsed to load your iPod? Then SpeedPod could be the very thing for you

"Tell us again, how many Oasis B-sides you got on your iPod?"



"Anyone for Morrissey?"



Is this it? No, I have plenty more Strokes songs now!



No, **SpeedPod** is not the name of the new natural high sold 'exclusively' from a darkly-lit stall at Glastonbury from the wrinkly hand of a middle-aged woman in a kaftan who looks like Courtney Love - it is, in fact, the new bespoke service from Selfridges for those who are too busy to load their entire **Smile** collection onto their iPods, too indecisive to ponder which **Oasis** B-sides to add to a playlist and too damn cool to collect those **Strokes** tracks all in one place.

For £2.50 per CD a SpeedPod specialist will load all your favourite songs on to it while you sit and wait. Alternatively they will send a bike to pick up your selected favourites before returning your iPod fully-loaded and raring to go.

Just go to www.selfridges.com/index.cfm?page=1009&articleID=4778 and see.

Another service that will help you choose your favourite songs, download them for you and put them on your iPod, is **Music Guru**. Check out www.musicguru.co.uk for details. Now there is no excuse for not having all your favourite tunes constantly at your fingertips and show off to all your mates about your bulging iPod.

In the money!

And the winner of the billionth iTunes download goes to...

Well, what could it have been? 'Yesterday'? Nope. 'Bohemian Rhapsody'? Not even close. 'You're Beautiful'? Thank the softrock underlords, no. The mantle of the billionth iTunes download fell to **Coldplay**'s 'Speed Of Sound'. On February 23, Michigan native Alex Ostrovsky bought the song, according to the *New York Times*. To celebrate, Ostrovsky will get a 20-inch iMac computer, 10 iPods and a \$10,000 gift card. Nice.



A rush of tunes to the Pod: Smile lads, you've won

GET READY FOR THE MOBILE MUSIC REVOLUTION - MARCH 28 THE REVOLUTION IS COMING!

Now it's easy to download full-length tracks straight to your mobile



music to your mobile



Hear that distant rumbling of thunder? That can only mean one thing - it's time to get ready for the MobMusic mobile music revolution!

That's right comrades - the days when you had to overload your pockets with a mobile phone and a portable music player are finally a thing of the past, just like gramophones and The Darkness.

With phone memory increasing, it won't be long before your mobile can store as many songs as an MP3 player. That means you're going to want someone you can rely on to fill it up with all the best music available, and that's where MobMusic comes in. With MobMusic you'll be able to buy the hottest tracks directly from your phone at the MobMusic Store.

GET YOUR CD COLLECTION ONTO YOUR MOBILE

MobMusic also provides you with a FREE 'CD 2 Mobile Music Ripper', a brand new PC program that'll help you transfer the music in your beloved CD collection straight on to your mobile. Sounds too good to be true, right? Well you've not heard the best news - it only costs £1.50 a week to become a MobMusic member. That'll give you premium access to the staggering 500,000 (and counting) tracks available from all genres, with songs to buy at just £1.50 each. Just go to www.mobmusic.com. Your favourite indie labels will be catered for too, with MobMusic providing a section dedicated to breaking the hottest new acts.



COME INTO THE MUSIC ROOM.

That's not all, though. Members of MobMusic can visit The Music Room™ on their PC. Discover music that you love 24-7-365, download tracks straight from PC to your mobile, have your own personal Music Locker™, build your Music DNA™, enter your Music Universe™, get the exclusives, gig tickets, unplugged sessions and much, much more.

You can also customise your ringtones, which means you'll get to hear 'Mardy Bum' every time your best mate rings rather than an annoying sequence of beeps'n'bleeps. You'll also get free independent advice on getting the best phone and data deals, meaning you might end up saving money by joining!

KEEP YOUR MUSIC SAFE.

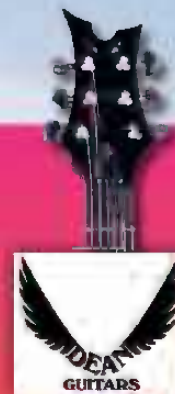
There's no need to worry about losing all your music, either. Thanks to MobMusic's Music Locker, all your songs are stored safely so you can download them again onto your existing or new handset.

And that's before we've even mentioned all the exclusive pre-releases, secret gig tickets, and competitions.

So join the music liberation front and free the music onto your mobile. It's not just MobMusic, it's a way of life.

WIN STUFF!

In line with their commitment to real music fans, MobMusic are offering one lucky NME reader the chance to win a Dean Hardtail Select guitar worth £560! For more information on Dean Guitars, please visit www.deanguitars.uk.com. MobMusic are also offering two runner ups a Pure Evoke Digital Radio. The Pure Evoke-3 is the most advanced digital radio in the world. Its features include support for all DAB standards, worldwide capability, you can pause and rewind live radio and record 15 hours of radio, using the PURE ReVu™ feature. The Evoke-3 can even be used to amplify your MP3 player. To enter this great competition simply visit www.mobmusic.com/nme



YV G Proudly Presents,Thx for Support

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A SIGNED MONKEYS GUITAR!

If we see it on eBay, we'll send the boys round

WIN!

Last month saw the Arctic Monkeys make history twice, both with their gazillion-selling debut album, and for winning both Best British Band and Best New Band at the same Shockwaves NME Awards ceremony. They were the first to do that, and quite possibly the last. But what's that? You could do better? You've got the melodies, the provincial lyrical wit and the charisma to boot? You've created the best album since the beginning of time but you just need some equipment to make it real? Well, how about nabbing a Fender® guitar for starters?

We collared the Monkeys backstage at the Awards and got them to sign it, so even if your

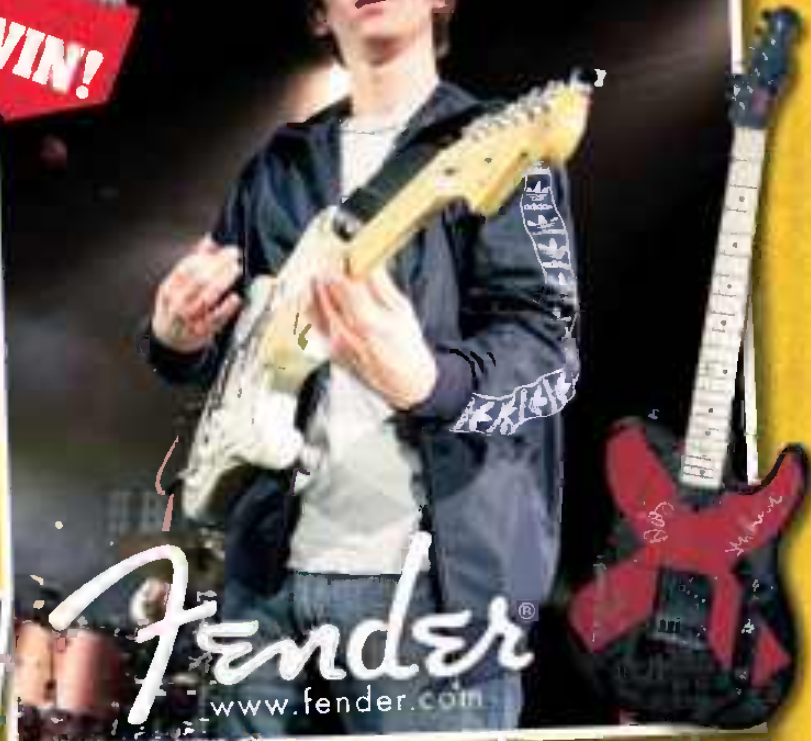
musical talent doesn't extend beyond that of bedroom boyband, it's a piece of red-hot memorabilia.

To put your money (or at least your brain) where your mouth is, and make the first step towards that NME cover, stop by NME.COM/WIN and answer this:

Which of the following is not a type of Fender® guitar?

- a) Stratocaster
- b) Plastercaster
- c) Telecaster

For more info on Fender® Guitars visit www.fender.com
 IPC Media Limited's normal terms and conditions apply (available at NME.COM). The Judge's decision is final and there is no cash alternative. The closing date is Monday, March 27.



WINNER!

Freidrich won a signed copy of *The Libertines: Bound Together*, written by NME's Anthony Thornton (NME Feb 25). Freidrich says: "Ace! Cheers you guys."

WIN! A £35 OHMV GIFT CARD

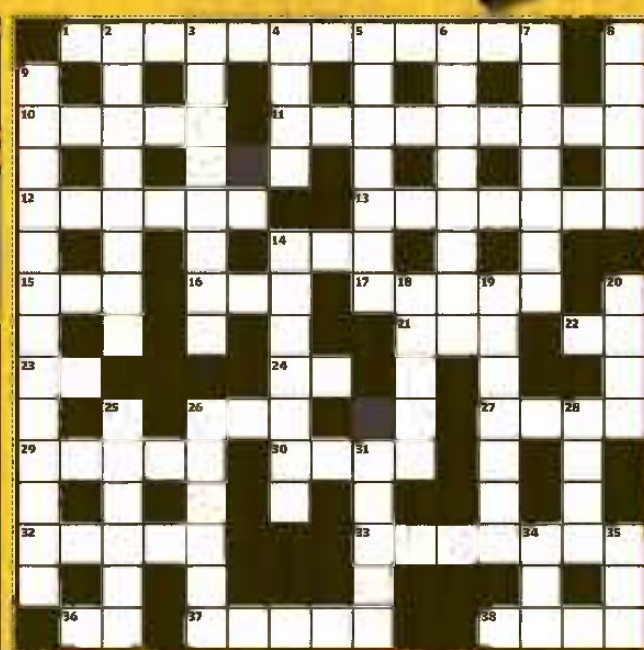
Got a pen and half a brain? You too could be a winner

CLUES ACROSS

- 1+20D Well, he was 'Making Dens' but now he's scarpereed (3-3-3-4)
- 10 'Drums Not Dead' they are claiming, but there's good reason to doubt them (5)
- 11 Editors are firing everyone! (3-6)
- 12 European country named by Tangerine Dream for recording an album (6)
- 13 Only runner-up for Best New Band at NME Awards, but already two mentions in the crossword! (7)
- 14 More, or less, it's Blur (1-1-1)
- 15 (See 27 across)
- 16 (See 9 down)
- 17 Heavens above, that's what's missing from The Shining's album 'True ____' (5)
- 21 Rapper who started off 31 down (3)
- 22 Missing bit from Monkees' hit '... Washburn' found in the middle of a sandwich (1-1)
- 23+25D Yo! Record turned out by US singer/guitarist (2-6)
- 24 (See 33 across)
- 26 Interpol, Hope Of The States and The Bravery all have one (3)
- 27+15A There's no-one with me for this Patti Labelle and Michael McDonald hit (2-2-3)
- 29 There's no-one with me for this Lasgo hit (5)
- 30 US diva born Alecia Moore in 1979 (4)
- 32 Not sounding as though they could be relied on, but they turned out a 'Good Enough' song (5)
- 33+24A The hit single that would totally break The Damned (5-2-2)

CLUES DOWN

- 36+38A 1970 one-hit wonder self titled in 'Groovin' With ____' (2-4)
- 37 He was at sea in Roxy Music (5)
- 2 Had a long break with drummer from The Lemonheads (8)
- 3 This is Eminem's own work (8)
- 4 (See 9 down)
- 5 Each elder statesmen includes reference to the Arctic Monkeys (7)
- 6 I rate PIL terribly doing a Strokes number... (9)
- 7 ...Or not so bad with a Faithless album (2-5)
- 8 Band who were winners of Best Video at NME Awards (5)
- 9+16A+4D Applaud a verbal agreement made between five people from New York (4-4-5-3-4)
- 14 'What you gonna do with all that junk, all that junk inside that trunk', 2006 (2-5)
- 18 They just knew how to do it with 'My Sharona' (5)
- 19 Perhaps Tesco's about right for Liverpool band who were a bit part of the '60s Liverpool scene (7)
- 20 (See 1 across)
- 25 (See 23 across)
- 26 Yes, Xfm is mad about this Prince number (4-1-1)
- 28 Main difference for The Stone Roses (4)
- 31 The kind of girl that Notorious BIG, P Diddy and Nelly have got involved with (5)
- 34 Three quarters of a half of an Irish band (3)
- 35 Naughty entertainment including Alien Ant Farm's bass player (3)



ANSWERS TO FEBRUARY 11 ISSUE

Across: 1+5A+26A+1D Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I'm Not, 8 Albion, 9+13A Special Needs, 10 I Try, 11 Ellis, 12 Road, 16 FEAR, 17 Days, 19 This Time, 20 Poison, 21 Robert, 22 Wings, 24+28D The The, 31 Sash, 32+27D Hell Yes.
Down: 2 Amber, 3 Veneer, 4 Resolve, 5 Pressure Point, 6 Otis Redding, 7 Lullaby, 14 Eric B, 15+33A Saturday Night, 16 Fame, 18 Song, 21 Roses, 23 Sling, 25 Exit, 29 All, 30 Sin.

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THE RECOMMENDER

This week: **Brandon Curtis, Secret Machines**

WHAT I'M LISTENING TO RIGHT NOW

MY FAVOURITE NEW BAND



Smile José, Secret Machines love yer!

1 José González Deadweight On Velvet

"I listen to his record 'Veneer' every day, and I don't usually listen to things over and over. There's something timeless about it, it speaks beyond years and ages in music and it touches me."

2 Mastodon Seabeast

"They're one of the best metal bands around and this is really sick sounding."

3 School Of Seven Bells Hypnotized

"This is minimal electronica with dreamy vocals. Camarillo Bell interprets dreams and delivers messages from the future and the past and the melodies kind of creep, twist and fold in and break apart and reconnect in patterns that mystify me. It turns into a drone, but it's music that changes continually."

4 David Bowie Ashes To Ashes

"I love the candour and sense of humour of David Bowie, and his ability to transmigrate souls within a few years. I love the way he morphs but always stays truthful and never tells you what he's thinking."

5 Growing Freedom Towards Death

"They're instrumental normally, but this has vocals, and it haunts me when I hear it and even when I don't."

6 Sisters Of Mercy Floodland

"I hardly ever feel guilty about playing music, but I think if I was playing this and someone walked in unexpectedly I would probably frantically reach over to the volume knob. Actually, I might get up and do my goth dance."

GUILTY PLEASURE



Sisters Of Mercy: "Guilty pleasure, you say? Hmmm"

7 Tinariwen Aldachan Manin

"This is a cross between desert music and British blues; it's as if someone discovered a Rolling Stones record in the nomadic desert."



knows Major Tom's a winkle, this lad

8 Townes Van Zandt Marie

"Really, really dark and heartbreaking. It's the story of disenfranchised American desolation."



Sum O))) we'd prefer something a bit more intense, but each to their own

9 Sum O))) Candle Goat

"It's droney metal, and sounds like you're standing by Hell and they're closing the gates behind you. I saw them live, and before they came on they flooded the stage with smoke machines. It was an intense experience. They were wearing black hoods and started playing guitars and a Moog, and it was like the shattered remains of rock'n'roll; like scraping the floor with broken glass and sprinkling it all over your body. It was really inspiring."

10 Earth High Command

"This is bareboned, minimal rock'n'roll at half speed."

BIGGEST INFLUENCE

OTHER STUFF

TV Arrested Development

"I visited my parents and rented the first two series, and watched 30 episodes in three days. It's really addictive, and brings out the obsessive compulsive in me."



Arrested Development: like, the funniest thing ever

BOOKS His Dark Materials Trilogy by Philip Pullman

"It's a children's book, but, man, what a great story! It's kept me up half the night, and I've just got the second one. I couldn't put it down, it's incredible. It seems to have so much depth, such complicated descriptions of the world around. It's way beyond the reach of normal children's fiction."



HIS DARK MATERIALS
The award-winning trilogy
Philip Pullman

FILM 4

"It's set in a post-apocalyptic world, where industrial land has been reclaimed by nature. It's got quite a non-linear narrative, but there's some stories of a few people wrapped together, bound only by time."

FANBOY



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David Bailey www.fermountpleasant.com

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70 songs scrapped!
Studio fights!**

YEAH YEAH YEAHS

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EXCLUSIVE!

RADIOHEAD

**Thom Yorke
breaks his silence—ONLY in NME**

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