

DR HOOK GET A NEW PATIENT

Record Mirror

QUEEN

Exclusive
colour poster

ABBA

-Waterloo
Sunset

**THIN
LIZZY**

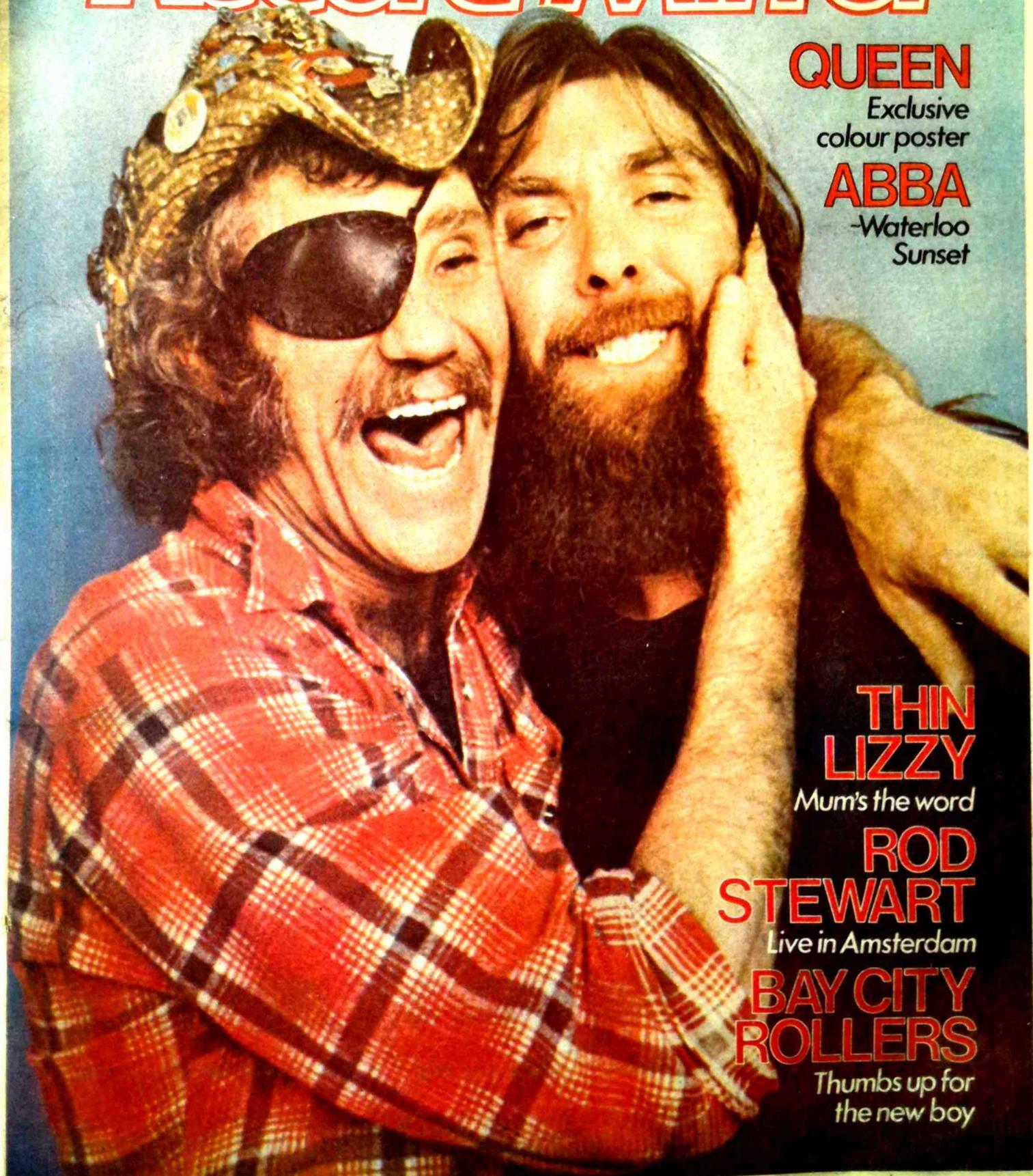
Mum's the word

**ROD
STEWART**

Live in Amsterdam

**BAY CITY
ROLLERS**

Thumbs up for
the new boy





QUEEN

Record Mirror

British Top 50 Singles

1	1	IF YOU LEAVE ME NOW, Chicago	CBS
2	3	UNDER THE MOON OF LOVE, Showaddywaddy	Arista
3	2	YOU MAKE ME FEEL LIKE DANCING, Leo Sayer	Chrysalis
4	-	SOMEBODY TO LOVE, Queen	EMI
5	5	IF NOT YOU, Dr Hook	Capitol
6	4	MISSISSIPPI, Pussycat	Sonet
7	9	PLAY THAT FUNKY MUSIC, Wild Cherry	Epic
8	20	LOVE ME, Yvonne Elliman	RSO
9	15	LOST IN FRANCE, Bonnie Tyler	RCA
10	34	MONEY MONEY MONEY, Abba	CBS
11	19	ROCK 'N' ME, Steve Miller Band	Mercury
12	8	DON'T TAKE AWAY THE MUSIC, Tavares	Capitol
13	23	LIVIN' THING, Electric Light Orchestra	Jet
14	13	BEAUTIFUL NOISE, Neil Diamond	CBS
15	47	GET BACK, Rod Stewart	Riva
16	12	LOVE AND AFFECTION, Joan Armatrading	A&M
17	10	COULDN'T GET IT RIGHT, Climax Blues Band	BTM
18	7	SUBSTITUTE, Who	Polydor
19	6	HURT, Manhattans	CBS
20	35	SO SAD THE SONG, Gladys Knight & The Pips	Buddah
21	11	WHEN FOREVER HAS GONE, Demis Roussos	Philips
22	25	SORRY SEEMS TO BE THE HARDEST WORD, Elton John	Rocket
23	24	SPINNING ROCK BOOGIE, Hank C Burnett	Sonet
24	33	STOP ME (IF YOU'VE HEARD IT ALL BEFORE), Billy Ocean	GTO
25	26	DON'T MAKE ME WAIT TOO LONG, Barry White	20th Century
26	14	DANCING WITH THE CAPTAIN, Paul Nicholas	RSO
27	28	FAIRY TALE, Diana	GTO
28	43	WHEN A CHILD IS BORN, Johnny Mathis	CBS
29	27	SAILING, Rod Stewart	Riva
30	22	WITHOUT YOU, Nilsson	RCA
31	17	JAWS, Lalo Schiffrin	CTI
32	18	HOWZAT, Sherbet	Epic
33	50	LITTLE DOES SHE KNOW, Kursaal Flyers	CBS
34	16	SUMMER OF MY LIFE, Simon May	Pye
35	37	TEENAGE DEPRESSION, Eddie & The Hot Rods	Island
36	36	HOT VALVES, Be-Bop Deluxe	Harvest
37	30	DANCING QUEEN, Abba	CBS
38	-	LEAN ON ME, Mud	Private Stock
39	-	PORTSMOUTH, Mike Oldfield	Virgin
40	44	SAY YOU LOVE ME, Fleetwood Mac	Reprise
41	41	LOVE SO RIGHT, Bee Gees	RSOK
42	49	SECRETS, Sutherland Brothers & Quiver	CBS
43	42	STONEY GROUND, Guys & Dolls	Magnet
44	45	LOVE IS A PRIMA DONNA, Steve Harley & Cockney Rebel	EMI
45	39	DO YOU FEEL, Peter Frampton	A&M
46	46	YOU'RE MY BEST FRIEND, Don Williams	ABC
47	48	I CAN'T LIVE A DREAM, Osmonds	Polydor
48	-	WE CAN WORK IT OUT, Four Seasons	Warner Bros.
49	-	YOU'LL NEVER GET TO HEAVEN, Stylistics	H&L
50	-	HANG ON SLOOPY, Sandpipers	Satril

UK Disco Top 20

1	1	DON'T TAKE AWAY THE MUSIC, Tavares	Capitol
2	3	YOU MAKE ME FEEL LIKE DANCING, Leo Sayer	Chrysalis
3	2	PLAY THAT FUNKY MUSIC, Wild Cherry	Epic
4	4	IF YOU LEAVE ME NOW, Chicago	CBS
5	6	ISN'T SHE LOVELY, Stevie Wonder	Motown
6	5	DANCING WITH THE CAPTAIN, Paul Nicholas	RSO
7	7	RUBBERBAND MAN, Detroit Spinners	Atlantic
8	-	UNDER THE MOON OF LOVE, Showaddywaddy	Bell
9	8	JAWS, Lalo Schiffrin	CTI
10	15	STOP ME, Billy Ocean	GTO
11	13	LOWDOWN, Boz Scaggs	CBS
12	10	BEST DISCO IN TOWN, Ritchie Family	Polydor
13	12	ROCK 'N' ME, Steve Miller Band	Mercury
14	19	DON'T MAKE ME WAIT TOO LONG, Barry White	20th Century
15	18	GET UP OFFA THAT THING, James Brown	Polydor
16	11	DISCO DUCK, Rick Dees & his Cast of Idiots	RSO
17	16	24 HOURS A DAY, Barbara Pennington	United Artists
18	-	GIMME SOME, Jimmy Bo Home	RCA
19	-	GET BACK, Rod Stewart	Riva
20	-	SUBSTITUTE, The Who	Polydor

Star Choice



Barrie Masters of Eddic And The Hot Rods

- BURLESQUE, Family
- RIDERS ON THE STORM, Doors
- TRAVELLIN' BAND, Creedence Clearwater Revival
- THE KIDS ARE ALRIGHT, Who
- SCHOOL'S OUT, Alice Cooper
- FOX ON THE RUN, Sweet
- JUMPIN' JACK FLASH, Rolling Stones
- GIMME SOME LOVIN', Spencer Davis Group
- FAMILY AFFAIR, Sly & The Family Stone
- DISCO DUCK, Rick Dees & His Cast of Idiots

Record Mirror/ BBC Chart

Supplied by British Market Research Bureau / Music Week
 UK Chart supplied by **Billboard**. UK Soul Singles by Blues & Soul. UK Disco Chart compiled from nationwide DJ returns

Yesteryear Charts

5 YEARS AGO

- COZ I LOVE YOU, Slade
- JEEPSTER, T Rex
- ERNIE THE FASTEST MILKMAN IN THE WEST, Benny Hill
- GYPSIES, TRAMPS AND THIEVES, Cher
- JOHNNY REGGAE, The Piglets
- TILL, Tom Jones
- I WILL RETURN, Springwater
- THE BANKS OF THE OHIO, Olivia Newton-John
- MAGGIE MAY, Rod Stewart
- SURRENDER, Diana Ross

10 YEARS AGO

- GOOD VIBRATIONS, The Beach Boys
- GIMME SOME LOVING, The Spencer Davis Group
- GREEN, GREEN GRASS OF HOME, Tom Jones
- REACH OUT, I'LL BE THERE, The Four Tops
- SEMI-DETACHED SUBURBAN MR JAMES, Manfred Mann
- HIGH TIME, Paul Jones
- HOLY COW, Lee Dorsey
- STOP STOP STOP, The Hollies
- WHAT WOULD I BE, Val Doonican
- IF I WERE A CARPENTER, Bobby Darin

15 YEARS AGO

- HIS LATEST FLAME, Elvis Presley
- BIG BAD JOHN, Jimmy Dean
- TAKE GOOD CARE OF MY BABY, Bobby Vee
- TOWER OF STRENGTH, Frankie Vaughan
- THE TIME HAS COME, Adam Faith
- MOON RIVER, Danny Williams
- WALKIN' BACK TO HAPPINESS, Helen Shapiro
- TAKE FIVE, Dave Brubeck
- THE SAVAGE, The Shadows
- MIDNIGHT IN MOSCOW, Kenny Ball

Star-Breakers

- SING ME AN OLD FASHIONED SONG, Billy Jo Spears
- SIDE SHOW, Barry Blue
- HEY MR. DREAM MAKER, Cliff Richard
- LEAVING NEXT DOOR TO ALICE, Smokie
- SLEEP WELL MY SON, Frank Topping
- BIONIC SANTA, Chris Hill
- SAVE ME, Clodagh Rodgers
- ONE FINE MORNING, Tommy Hunt
- ONE LOVE IN MY LIFETIME, Diana Ross/Tamla
- RUN TO ME, Candi Staton

British Top 50 Albums

1	5	20 GOLDEN GREATS, Glen Campbell	Capitol
2	1	22 GOLDEN GUITAR GREATS, Bert Weedon	Warwick
3	4	100 GOLDEN GREATS, Max Bygraves	Ronco
4	2	SONGS IN THE KEY OF LIFE, Stevie Wonder	Tamla Motown
5	3	SOUL MOTION, Various	K-Tel
6	-	ARRIVAL, Abba	Epic
7	7	20 ORIGINAL DEAN MARTIN HITS, Dean Martin	Reprise
8	6	THE SONG REMAINS THE SAME, Led Zeppelin	Swansong
9	10	THE INCREDIBLE PLAN, Max Boyce	EMI
10	21	GREATEST HITS, Hot Chocolate	Rak
11	12	GREATEST HITS, Abba	Epic
12	-	DEEP PURPLE LIVE, Deep Purple	Purple
13	8	THE STORY OF THE WHO, The Who	Polydor
14	9	BLUE MOVES, Elton John	Rocket
15	14	BEST OF THE STYLISTICS VOL 2, The Stylistics	H & L
16	11	FOREVER AND EVER, Demis Roussos	Philips
17	13	FRAMPTON COMES ALIVE, Peter Frampton	A&M
18	18	JOAN ARMATRADING, Joan Armatrading	A&M
19	15	HIS 20 GREATEST, Gene Pitney	Arcade
20	28	SOUNDS OF GLORY, Various	Arcade
21	32	FORTY MANIA, Various	Ronco
22	-	NEW ENGLAND, Wishbone Ash	MCA
23	-	ALL THIS AND WORLD WAR II, Various	Riva
24	23	CHICAGO X, Chicago	CBS
25	22	A LITTLE BIT MORE, Doctor Hook	Capitol
26	42	SING SOMETHING SIMPLE 76, Cliff Adams Singers	Warwick
27	19	JOHNNY THE FOX, Thin Lizzy	Vertigo
28	35	THE GREATEST HITS OF Frankie Vallie and the Four Seasons	K-Tel
29	16	COUNTRY COMFORT, Various	K-Tel
30	24	ATLANTIC CROSSING, Rod Stewart	Warner Bros
31	17	A NIGHT ON THE TOWN, Rod Stewart	Riva
32	30	L, Steve Hillage	Virgin
33	33	20 GOLDEN GREATS, The Beach Boys	Capitol
34	37	FLEETWOOD MAC, Fleetwood Mac	Reprise
35	34	BEAUTIFUL NOISE, Neil Diamond	CBS
36	-	OUT ON THE STREET, David Essex	CBS
37	-	LOVE IS A PRIMA DONNA, Steve Harley and Cockney Rebel	EMI
38	-	GREAT ITALIAN LOVE SONGS, Various	K-Tel
39	48	STRATOSFER, Tangerine Dream	Virgin
40	20	TECHNICAL ECSTASY, Black Sabbath	Motown
41	31	GREATEST HITS 2, Diana Ross	Tamla Motown
42	42	DEREK AND CLIVE LIVE, Peter Cooke and Dudley Moore	Island
43	-	DAVID SOUL, David Soul	Private Stock
44	-	ENDLESS FLIGHT, Leo Sayer	Chrysalis
45	40	LAUGHTER AND TEARS, Neil Sedaka	Polydor
46	38	SKY HIGH, Tavares	Capitol
47	26	HENRY MANCINI, Henry Mancini	Arcade
48	27	HAPPY TO BE, Demis Roussos	Philips
49	-	INSTRUMENTAL GOLD, Instrumental Gold	Warwick
50	39	JAIL BREAK, Thin Lizzy	Vertigo

US Disco Top 20

1	FOUR SEASONS OF LOVE, Donna Summer	Oasis
2	DOWN TO LOVE TOWN, Originals	Motown
3	CAR WASH, Rose Royce	MCA
4	MAKES YOU BLIND, Glitter Band	Arista
5	ISN'T SHE LOVELY, Stevie Wonder	Tamla
6	WELCOME TO OUR WORLD OF MERRY MUSIC, Mass Production	Cotillion
7	MIDNIGHT LOVE AFFAIR, Carol Douglas	Midland International
8	MY SWEET SUMMER SUITE, Love Unlimited Orchestra	20th Century
9	SORRY / THAT'S THE TROUBLE, Grace Jones	Beam Junction
10	DANCING / SEARCHING FOR LOVE, Crown Heights Affair	De-Lite
11	GOIN' UP IN SMOKE / MUSIC MAN, Eddie Kendricks	Tamla
12	YOU + ME - LOVE, Undisputed Truth	Whitfield
13	YOU'RE MY DRIVING WHEEL, Supremes	Motown
14	DON'T LEAVE ME THIS WAY, Thelma Houston	Tamla
15	SOUL CHA-CHA / SWAHILI BOOGIE, Van McCoy	H&L
16	DAYLIGHT / SHOULD I STAY, Vickie Sue Robinson	RCA
17	CHERCHEZ LA FEMME, Dr Buzzard's Original Savannah Band	RCA
18	FREEDOM TO EXPRESS YOURSELF, Denise La Salle	ABC
19	I DON'T WANNA LOSE YOUR LOVE, Emotions	Columbia
20	DAZZ, Brick	Bang

US Top 50 Singles

1	1	TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT, Rod Stewart	Warner Bros
2	2	THE WRECK OF THE EDMUND "ITZGERALD, Gordon Lightfoot	Reprise
3	3	LOVE SO RIGHT, Bee Gees	Polydor
4	4	MUSKRAT LOVE, Captain & Tennille	A&M
5	6	THE RUBBERBAND MAN, Spinners	Atlantic
6	5	DISCO DUCK	RSO
7	8	JUST TO BE CLOSE TO YOU, Commodores	Motown
8	9	BETH, Kiss	Casablanca
9	12	MORE THAN A FEELING, Boston	Epic
10	11	NADIA'S THEME, Barry De Vorzon & Perry Botkin Jr	A&M
11	7	ROCK 'N' ME, Steve Miller Band	Capitol
12	14	YOU ARE THE WOMAN, Firefall	Atlantic
13	15	NIGHTS ARE FOREVER, England Dan & John Ford Coley	Big Tree
14	18	YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A STAR, Marilyn McCoo	ABC
15	10	DO YOU FEEL, Peter Frampton	A&M
16	22	YOU MAKE ME FEEL LIKE DANCING, Leo Sayer	Warner Bros
17	19	THE BEST DISCO IN TOWN, Ritchie Family	Marlin
18	20	I NEVER CRY, Alice Cooper	Warner Bros
19	28	SORRY SEEMS TO BE THE HARDEST WORD, Elton John	MCA/Rocket
20	25	STAND TALL, Burton Cummings	Portrait/CBS
21	23	LOVE ME, Yvonne Elliman	RSO
22	29	AFTER THE LOVIN', Engelbert Humperdinck	Epic
23	13	FERNANDO, Abba	Atlantic
24	26	LOVE BALLAD LTD	A&M
25	16	IF YOU LEAVE ME NOW, Chicago	Columbia
26	17	(Don't Fear) THE REAPER, Blue Oyster Cult	Columbia
27	31	HOT LINE, Sylvers	Capitol
28	32	LIVIN' THING, Electric Light Orchestra	United Artists
29	33	HELLO OLD FRIEND, Eric Clapton	RSO
30	40	DAZZ, Brick	Bang
31	21	MAGIC MAN, Heart	Mushroom
32	36	IT'S ALONG WAY THERE, Little River Band	Harvest
33	24	TONLY WANT TO BE WITH YOU, Bay City Rollers	Arista
34	27	PLAY THAT FUNKY MUSIC, Wild Cherry	Epic/Sweet City
35	30	NICE 'N' NAASTY, Salsoul Orchestra	Salsoul
36	34	A FIFTH OF BEETHOVEN, Walter Murphy	Private Stock
37	35	YOU ARE MY STARSHIP, Norman Connors	Buddah
38	42	JEANS ON, David Dundas	Chrysalis
39	37	SHE'S GONE, Hall & Oates	Atlantic
40	48	WHENEVER I'M AWAY FROM YOU, John Travolta	Midland International
41	43	THAT'LL BE THE DAY, Linda Ronstadt	Asylum
42	-	SHAKE YOUR RUMP TO THE FUNK, Bar-Kays	Mercury
43	39	GIVE IT UP, Tyrone Davis	Columbia
44	41	LOWDOWN, Boz Scaggs	Columbia
45	-	SOMEBODY TO LOVE, Queen	Elektra
46	-	DON'T TAKE AWAY THE MUSIC, Tavares	Capitol
47	-	LOST WITHOUT YOUR LOVE, Bread	Elektra
48	-	SATURDAY NITE, Earth, Wind & Fire	Columbia
49	-	I KUNDA MISS YOU, Manhattans	Columbia
50	-	DO WHAT YOU WANT, BE WHAT YOU ARE, Darryl Hall & John Oates	RCA

UK Soul Top 20

1	2	DON'T TAKE AWAY THE MUSIC, Tavares
2	5	CATHEDRALS, D C Larue
3	13	PLAY THAT FUNKY MUSIC, Wild Cherry
4	4	DON'T MAKE ME WAIT TOO LONG, Barry White
5	1	HURT, The Manhattans
6	6	SO SAD THE SONG, Gladys Knight & The Pips
7	8	I'LL PLAY THE FOOL, Dr Buzzard's Savannah Band
8	7	RUBBERBAND MAN, Detroit Spinners
9	-	PUT YOUR MONEY, Rose Royce
10	19	LOWDOWN, Boz Scaggs
11	12	KILL THAT ROACH, Miami
12	3	JAWS, Lalo Schiffrin
13	-	JUST TO BE CLOSE TO YOU, The Commodores
14	18	KEEP ON CRYING, Al Green
15	9	LOVE AND AFFECTION, Joan Armatrading
16	-	YOU + ME - LOVE, Undisputed Truth
17	16	FROM NOW ON, Lou Rawls
18	-	FUNNY HOW TIME SLIPS AWAY, Dorothy Moore
19	10	HAPPY BEING LONELY, The Chi-Lites
20	-	ENERGY TO BURN, B T Express



YVONNE ELLIMAN

US Top 50 Albums

1	1	SONGS IN THE KEY OF LIFE, Stevie Wonder	Tamla
2	2	THE SONG REMAINS THE SAME, Led Zeppelin	Swan Song
3	3	BLUE MOVES, Elton John	MCA/Rocket
4	4	BOSTON	Epic
5	6	SPIRIT, Earth, Wind and Fire	Columbia
6	7	A NIGHT ON THE TOWN, Rod Stewart	Warner Bros
7	5	FRAMPTON COMES ALIVE, Peter Frampton	A&M
8	8	CHILDREN OF THE WORLD, Bee Gees	RSO
9	9	ONE MORE FOR THE ROAD, Lynryd Skynyrd	MCA
10	10	FLY LIKE AN EAGLE, Steve Miller Band	Capitol
11	11	DREAMBOAT ANNIE, Heart	Mushroom
12	18	A NEW WORLD RECORD, Electric Light Orchestra	United Artists
13	14	K.C. & THE SUNSHINE BAND Part 3	TK
14	16	SUMMERTIME DREAM, Gordon Lightfoot	Reprise
15	15	NO REASON TO CRY, Eric Clapton	RSO
16	17	BIGGER THAN BOTH OF US, Daryl Hall & John Oates	RCA
17	12	CHICAGO X	Columbia
18	-	THE BEST OF THE DOOBIES, Doobie Brothers	Warner Bros
19	13	SILK DEGREES, Box Scaggs	Columbia
20	21	NIGHTS ARE FOREVER, England Dan & John Ford Coley	Big Tree
21	23	THE CLONES OF DR. FUNKENSTEIN, Parliament	Casablanca
22	22	HOT ON THE TRACKS, Commodores	Motown
23	19	FLEETWOOD MAC	Reprise
24	24	FREE FOR ALL, Ted Nugent	Epic
25	32	ROCK AND ROLL OVER, Kiss	Casablanca
26	27	LONG MAY YOU RUN, Shills - Young Band	Reprise
27	20	HASTEN DOWN THE WIND, Linda Ronstadt	Asylum
28	28	RINGO'S PHOTOGRAPHY, Ringo Starr	Atlantic
29	38	THEIR GREATEST HITS 1971-1975, Eagles	Asylum
30	34	FOUR SEASONS OF LOVE, Donna Summer	Casablanca
31	37	YEAR OF THE CAT, Al Stewart	Janus
32	26	BICENTENNIAL NIGGER, Richard Pryor	Warner Bros
33	35	ALICE COOPER GOES TO HELL	Warner Bros
34	42	IT LOOKS LIKE SNOW, Phoebe Snow	Columbia
35	45	OHIO PLAYERS GOLD	Mercury
36	36	GREATEST HITS, War	United Artists
37	41	DON'T STOP BELIEVIN', Olivia Newton-John	MCA
38	39	HAPPINESS IS BEING WITH THE SPINNERS	Atlantic
39	-	THE PRETENDER, Jackson Browne	Asylum
40	40	ALL THE WORLD IS A STAGE, Rush	Mercury
41	48	DR. BUZZARD'S ORIGINAL SAVANNAH BAND	RCA
42	-	SPIRIT, John Denver	RCA
43	-	BEST OF LEON, Leon Russell	Shelby
44	44	SONG OF JOY, The Captain & Tennille	A&M
45	47	FLOWERS, The Emotions	Columbia
46	-	VICKI SUE ROBINSON	RCA
47	43	FIREFALL	Atlantic
48	49	GREATEST HITS, Abba	Atlantic
49	30	LONG MISTY DAYS, Robin Trower	Chrysalis
50	50	BREEZIN', George Benson	Warner Bros

US Soul Top 20

--

Record Mirror

EDITOR
ALF MARTIN

ASSISTANT EDITOR
Rosalind Russell

NEWS EDITOR
David Brown

CHIEF SUB
Seamus Potter

EDITORIAL
Barry Cain
Jim Evans
Sheila Prophet
Robin Smith
David Wright

CONTRIBUTORS
Greg Edwards
James Hamilton
Robin Katz

CARTOONIST
J Edward Oliver

PHOTOGRAPHER
Steve Emberton

MANAGING DIRECTOR
Jack Hutton

EDITORIAL DIRECTOR
Mike Sharman

ADVERTISEMENT DIRECTOR
Peter Wilkinson

ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER
Alan Donaldson

ADVERTISEMENT PRODUCTION
Michael Hitch

TELEPHONE SALES MANAGER
Eddie Fitzgerald

Distributed by Spotlight Magazine Distribution Ltd, Spotlight House, 1 Bernwell Road, London N7 7AX. Tel: 01 607 6411.

Published by Spotlight Publications Ltd, Spotlight House, 1 Bernwell Road, London N7 7AX, and printed by South Eastern Newspapers Ltd, Lorkefield, Maidstone, Kent ME20 6BG.

Where's me shirt ?

AS CHRISTMAS draws near, invitations to festive gatherings are beginning to mount on my mantel piece (and that, I should add, is all that's being mounted in my apartment just now).

This past weekend saw yours truly in Amsterdam, taking in a concert by a certain Mr Stewart and friends. Now Carmine Appice is a handsome hunk of man, but he was in trouble with Britt Ekland (an actress) over what he should wear on stage. Carmine wanted to wear a nifty little chiffon top, but Britt said no, it would make dear Carmine look too poofy. Carmine poofy! What a thought. But anyway, he did as the dear lady wanted and refrained from wearing the garment in question. Quite what he did wear, I wasn't too sure. From my seat near the back, I'd swear he was just sporting his Y-fronts.

At the apres-gig party, Mr Stewart made a brief appearance, but young Linda Ronstadt didn't and the party was supposed to be partly in her honour. C'mon Linda, play the game.

You'd think Monsieur Charles Aznavour would have his affairs under control, wouldn't you? Well, it appears he has run into problems with France's federal tax bureau which is



HEREBY HANGS a tail. Abba in a den of iniquity, getting the brush-off. Said Basil later. "A bird in the hand is worth two in the brush." Boom, boom!

charging him with concealing more than 3,000,000 francs in income. Where'd you hide it, Chas, under that old four-poster?

I'll bet Julia Morley and friends were a little surprised to find that their new Miss World, Cindy Breakspere, was Bob Marley's old lady - well one of them at least. "Bob is the kind of person who just doesn't want to be looked up with only one woman," confides his manager. "He believes he can have as many women as he wants and he takes full advantage of it."

Don tells me that Bob has seven children by his

wife Rita and five or six by girlfriends. "None of the children or the girlfriends want for anything. He looks after all of them." Hmmmm, so it would appear.

Talking of marriages and wonderful relationships, I hear that Dean Martin has been granted a divorce from his third wife, Cathy Hawn. Under the settlement, she, poor dear, will get no alimony. I wonder why?

Nice to see that well-known recluse Bob Dylan coming out of hiding to attend Rory Gallagher's concert in Los Angeles, and

what's more, he actually went backstage to congratulate young Rory.

And so to Chelsea's Carlton Tower Hotel for Thin Lizzy's thrash...

Name dropping time, that's more or less all that did drop... First time I've spotted Don Powell of Slade for a long time...

Roger Chapman and Charlie Whitney looking bored... ninety nine per cent of Record Mirror's staff who all thought they were on to a good thing until they discovered they had to pay for their drinks...

Punks galore were in attendance, much to the annoyance of Brian Robertson who seemed to have had more than a few stiff ones.

Anyone who thinks he or she is anyone wants to get along to Rod Stewart's London shows. I shall be there of course, to furnish you with full reports and among those seeking tickets (by fair means or foul) are Sandie Shaw and George Best (a footballer) whom I spotted recently in Chelsea's "Duke of Wellington" public house.

Some unkind person rang me over the weekend to say that he'd spotted ol' Greek Beefcake Rousos in a London restaurant, eating like it was going out of



Juicy Luicy

fashion. Apparently he ordered everything on the menu.

Where have all the good drinkers gone? Maddy Prior drinking grapefruit juice and soda after her Birmingham show. I find that hard to swallow, as she must have done.

Doesn't it make you want to weep department... Young Pat McGlynn, the new Roller, says "Many of my pals have either been in prison or borstal."

And, dear O me, the lad goes on, "I used to hang about street corners with a local gang looking for trouble. I drifted aimlessly into a life of petty crime. I graduated from smashing windows to house-

breaking and shoplifting." I can't stand much more of this.

Reds Under the Bed department... Russian rock group 'Pesnyary' kick off a nine-day American tour on November 30. Apparently the group are big in the land of caviar and vodka. Their biggest hits have been 'Oh, The Wound On Ivan' and 'The Willow In The Field'.

Who was the hysterical lady-fan in the balcony at wholesome Cliff Richard's Albert Hall concert? It can't really have been Mary Whitehouse, can it? Elton John took his Mum, as did Tim Rice, and Denis Waterman was looking as handsome as ever.



THIN LIZZY: all that gold but no gin and tonics



"It was nothing," says Harry Nilsson as he shows off his baby son Beau and his wife Oona, who doesn't look as tired as old Harry

“It's not often that a totally unknown band grabs you so hard by the balls that you're left scratching your head wondering where they've been all you're life.”

SOUNDS 14-8-76

WE WOULDN'T HAVE THE NERVE TO SAY IT OURSELVES.



Check it out, 3 great tracks for 70p

Alta Loma Road
The Lone Ranger
No American Starship
WOT 9

Titles taken from the album
"Quantum Jump"
TRIX 1



QUANTUM JUMP

Marketed by Decca. Distributed by Selecta Personal Management, Rod Smallwood



Gallagher and Lyle giant tour

GALLAGHER AND LYLE are set for a mammoth British tour in January and February. They kick off their month-long trek at Blackpool Opera House on January 22 and finish in Dublin Stadium on February 17. They are also releasing an album on A&M to tie in with the tour. Other dates are: Leeds Grand Theatre, January 23; Newcastle City Hall, 24; Edinburgh Playhouse, 25; Dundee Caird Hall, 26; Aberdeen Capitol, 27; Glasgow Apollo, 28; Preston Guildhall, 29; Manchester Palace, 30; Sheffield City Hall, February 1; Leicester De Montfort Hall, 2; Birmingham Odeon, 4; Ipswich Gaumont, 5; Bristol Colston Hall, 6; Cardiff Capitol, 8; Bournemouth Winter Gardens, 9; Portsmouth Guildhall, 11; Oxford New Theatre, 13; London Hammersmith Odeon, 14; Croydon Fairfield Hall, 15.

Carpenters live album

THE CARPENTERS will rush release a live album of their London Palladium concerts in time for Christmas.

The album, the first live work Richard and Karen have recorded for an English speaking market, will be released by A&M on December 9 a week after a BBC TV special on the group is screened.

The new record will feature a 45-piece orchestra and include Richard's rendering of the 'Warsaw Concerto', Karen's version of 'From This Moment On', her solo

drum spot and a combination of 'Coming Through The Rye' and 'Good Vibrations'.

Edmunds joins Man

DAVE EDMUNDS' band 'Rockpile' will be guesting at the 'Man' concerts at the London Roundhouse on December 10, 11, 12. The band has Billy Bremner on guitar, Nick Lowe on bass and Terry Williams on 'Man' on drums, as well as Edmunds. Welsh group 'Alkatraz' are also on the same bill.



10CC: Lol Creme, Eric Stewart, Graham Gouldman, Kevin Godley

TWO QUIT 10cc

Eric and Graham carry on

LOL CREME and Kevin Godley have quit 10cc. The two remaining members, Eric Stewart and Graham Gouldman have a new single out under the name of 10cc on December 3. It's titled 'The Things We Do For Love'.

Creme and Godley have left the band to work on a three album set using a new instrument they have invented and developed. It is called a Gizmo. The album will be written and produced by them and titled 'Consequences'. It will be released in the New Year.

The next 10cc album, to be released early in 1977, will feature Stewart and

Gouldman, drummer Paul Burgess and other musicians. It was recorded in Strawberry studios south.

A spokesman for the band said: "Kevin and Lol went into Strawberry Studios north to experiment and develop the Gizmo. They quickly became excited with the music they were producing and eventually decided they must leave 10cc in order to develop the instrument's full potential and to write, produce and record a major work with it."

Meanwhile, 10cc will continue to function, and a worldwide tour, including some British dates is being planned for them in the near future.

Dr Hook add new member

DR HOOK are back to strength having added a new guitarist to their line-up.

The band, originally a seven-piece, have worked as a six-piece since the departure of George Cummings last year.

When guitarist Rik Elswit was taken into hospital recently for a minor operation, Bob 'Willard' Henke stepped in to enable them to continue live gigs, and he has now joined the line-up full time.

The band have confirmed they will be touring Britain again next year, following the success of their singles, but no dates are confirmed as yet.

A new album will be released in early 1977. Meanwhile, group member Ray Sawyer has completed his first solo album from which the single 'Daddy's Little Girl' is released this week. Ray has refused to perform the song live, even if it became a number one, he says, because on the one occasion he did sing it, at Nashville, he broke down and cried and couldn't complete it.

FEELGOOD'S CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

DR. FEELGOOD will be playing two special Christmas party dates in this country after their three week European tour.

On December 19 they appear at Hammersmith Odeon supported by Clover and the new band formed by ex - Hot Rods harp player Lew Lewis. Tickets are now on sale price £2.

The second date is at Feelgood's home venue, Southend's Kursaal Ballroom on Christmas Eve. The rest of the bill is yet to be finalised.



DR FEELGOOD

The band will start work on a new album in January before setting off to the States for their second major tour of that country to promote 'Stupidly' which is released there on New Year's Day.

NEWS IN BRIEF

JIMMY JAMES and the Vagabonds, 'Do The Funky Conga' single has been banned by the BBC because they claim the words sound rude.

'MARScape', A new work by Jack Lancaster and Robin Lumley which was due to take place at the New Victoria Theatre this Saturday, 27th, has been postponed. A new date will be announced shortly.

ELTON JOHN made a surprise appearance at Kiki Dee's Bradford concert. Just back from the States, Reg arrived fifteen minutes before Kiki was due on stage.

ABBAS' album 'Arrival' has gone platinum. It has notched up sales of over one million in the UK alone.

CHICAGO'S new album, 'Chicago X' has just gone silver.

RANDY EDELMAN tour in April next year following his chart success here. His first album 'Prime Cuts' is re-released in this country on December 3.

NEIL ARDLEY is to perform his work 'Kaleidoscope Of Rainbows' live at London New Victoria theatre on December 10. Tickets £2 and £1.75.

JIGSAW won the most outstanding composition title in Japan's Yamaha Song Contest with their song 'Paint The Smile On'.

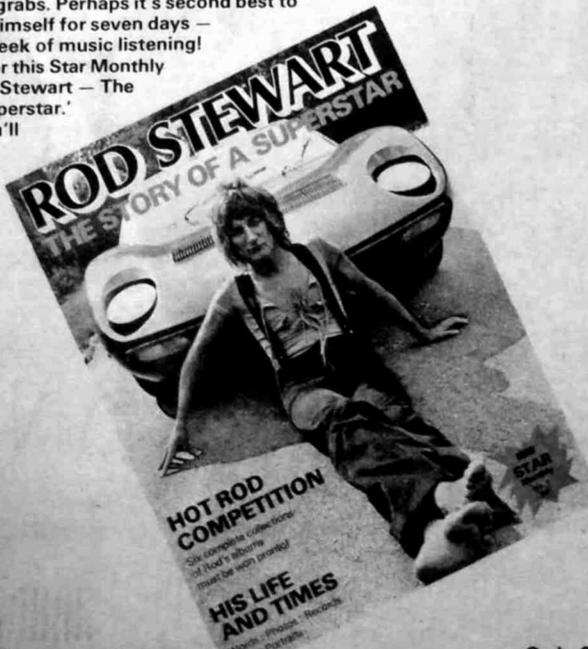
STREETWALKERS are planning a special Christmas party at London's Roundhouse for December 19. It will be the UK debut of the current lineup. Their party — complete with games — is from 3.30 - 11 pm and other bands are to be announced. Tickets cost £1.90. There will be a new LP and tour from the band in the New Year.

WIN ROD FOR A WEEK

Star Monthly is a new all-colour magazine, and the current issue is all about Rod Stewart — his life and times... family tree... historical pix... discography... quotes... amazing colour portraits.

And we're running a great competition. Six sets of 12 albums — the complete Rod Stewart collection — are up for grabs. Perhaps it's second best to having Rod himself for seven days — but what a week of music listening!

So look out for this Star Monthly special: 'Rod Stewart — The Story of a Superstar.' We know you'll love it.



On Sale at Newsagents now

Only 30p

Floyd's 'Animals'

PINK FLOYD'S new album 'Animals' is scheduled for release in mid-January, according to Floyd drummer Nick Mason. "At the moment," said Mason, "we are trying to put the finishing touches to the album and then rehearse for a tour."

Mason was cagey about the sort of material they'll be playing on tour, adding, "I don't want to play 'Dark Side of the Moon'. After two years we want to give it a rest."

Earls Court or Wembley are possible venues for the group's British dates next year.

TODD'S TOUR

TODD RUNDGREN'S Utopia will play six British concerts early in the new year as part of their major European trek. The tour will include two nights at London's New Victoria Theatre on

February 1 and 2. The other dates are Exeter University January 26, Lancaster University 28, Salford University 29 and Glasgow Apollo 30. A new album 'Ra' will be released on January 14.

Windy Genesis

A NEW Genesis album — 'Wind And Wuthering' — will be released on Charisma on New Year's Day to coincide with the opening of their new

world tour which kicks off with three concerts at the Rainbow Theatre. There are nine new tracks on the album co-produced by David Hentschel.

SHOWADDY ALBUM

SHOWADDYWADDY HAVE their 'Greatest Hits' album released on December 10 and they'll be recording a new single before Christmas.

December are: Keele University December 6, Blackburn Baileys December 9, 10, 11, Stafford Dingley Hall 12, Derby Baileys 16, 17, 18.

Essex, Miles, Thing concert for TV

DAVID ESSEX will headline a special TV concert to be held at Bingley Hall, Stafford on January 8. Also on the bill are John Miles and the Real Thing.

The concert, which precedes the Status Quo show at the same venue

on January 9, celebrates the first annual British Rock and Pop awards organised by the Daily Mirror Pop Club.

Tickets are priced at £2, £2.50 and £3.50 and are available from the Hall itself, Virgin outlets and Mike Lloyd record shops.

Postal applications can also be made to the Mirror Pop Club.

The Club is also operating a get-you-there-and-back coach service available to members and non-members from various centres in London and the provinces.



DAVID ESSEX: bill topper

NEW QUO SINGLE

STATUS QUO release a new single on the Vertigo label on December 3 entitled 'Wild Side Of Life' and backed by a Francis Rossi Song 'All Through The Night'. The single was produced by ex-Deep Purple Bassist Roger Glover. Quo are currently touring Japan, Australia and the Far East.

TOURS...TOURS...TOURS

RORY GALLAGHER has added further dates to his forthcoming British tour. They are: Liverpool Empire January 16, Manchester Free Trade Hall 17, Hammersmith Odeon 18 and 19, Brighton Dome 21, Reading University 22, Bristol Colston Hall 24, Cardiff Capitol 25, Aberystwyth University 26, Stoke New Victoria 27, Lancaster University 28, Leeds University 29, Wolverhampton Civic 30. The gigs at Belfast Ulster Hall are now set for December 5 and 6 and the Derry Rialto date on 6th has now been cancelled. DRIFTERS: London Palladium November 28, Stafford Top Of The World 29, Liverpool Grafton Rooms 30,

Eastbourne Kings Country Club December 1, Coventry Tiffany's 2, Bournemouth The Village 3, West Runton Pavilion 4, Reading Top Rank 5, Charnock Richard Park Hall Club 6, Bradford Locarno 7, Edinburgh Playhouse 9, Spenny more Top Hat Club 10.

RACING CARS announce further dates to their new tour London Chelsea College November 27, Southampton Glen Eyre Hall 28, Bournemouth Town Hall 30, London Marquee December 1, Middlesex Poly 2, London Philippa Fawcett College 3, Lincs Kesteven College 4, Oxford Westminster College 9, City of London Poly 10, Berks Bulmershe College 11, Dorset Weymouth Pavilion 13.

FLYING ACES kick off their debut tour at Dundee College of Technology November 26. The band, led by ex-Man star Martin Ace go on to play Aberdeen University 27, Accrington Leighton Lounge Club 76 December 3, Leicester University 4, Fulham Greyhound 5, 6 and 7, London Rochester Castle 8, Durham Tech 9, Wakefield Bretton College 10, Barry Memorial Hall 11, Swansea University 15, Maidstone Tech 16, Mansfield College of Education 17. They will also do a series of special shows with Bob Harris at Swansea Patti Pavilion December 23, Plymouth Top Rank January 7, Bournemouth Top Rank 14 and Cardiff Top Rank February 4.

BREAD REFORM

BREAD HAVE reformed! The band in its original line-up have just completed a new single for Elektra called 'Lost Without Your Love' which is written, arranged and produced by David Gates. It will be included on a new Bread album set for January release.

Bread split in May 1973 and it was only six months ago that they decided to get back together. David Gates will not now be undertaking any more solo ventures. Negotiations are underway for a series of European concert dates in the Spring.

GLADYS CONCERTS

GLADYS KNIGHT and the Pips are to perform four concerts in London in January. There will be two performances on January 7 and 8 at 6.30 and 9 pm. Tickets are £5, £4, £3 and £2 and are on sale from Saturday.

Supporting will be the Biddu Orchestra.

Skynyrd back in January

LYNYRD SKYNYRD return to this country in January for a major 12 date tour which will include appearances at London's reopened Rainbow Theatre on 28 and 29.

Ticket prices for all dates except London, Lancaster and Leeds Universities range from £1.10 to £2.20. The Rainbow concert prices range from £1.75 to £2.80. Postal applications will

be accepted. The full tour is: London Rainbow 28 and 29, Bristol Colston Hall 31, Portsmouth Guildhall February 1, Birmingham Odeon 2, Manchester Free Trade Hall 4, Sheffield City Hall 5, Liverpool Empire 6, Newcastle City Hall 8, Glasgow Apollo 9, Lancaster University 12, Leeds University 13, Leicester De Montfort Hall 14.

Widow Maker, Cafe Society split

STEVE ELLIS, vocalist, has quit 'Widow Maker' for personal reasons. He plans to carry on as a solo artist.

Steve's replacement is John Butler (22) who used to front his own group 'The John Butler Band' where he was both singer and keyboards player.

Widow Maker have just returned from their first American tour. They go into the studios next month to start work on a new album due for March release.

CAFE SOCIETY have split. Tom Robinson, founder member of the band, has quit after three and a half years because of disillusionment with

their record and publishing companies and a desire to return to live work.

Meanwhile Robinson has a new band called simply Tom Robinson and they will be appearing at the Hope and Anchor this Sunday, 28th, and The Golden Lion, Fulham on December 1.

Pistols open Roxy

THE SEX PISTOLS will be the opening attraction at London's newest rock centre, the 2,000-seater Roxy Theatre in Harlesden. Special Christmas shows have been arranged for December 26 and 27.

Released for the first time
as a single

MATRIMONY

b/w You Don't Have To Tell Me
by
GILBERT O'SULLIVAN

MAM 155

From the forthcoming album
Gilbert O'Sullivan's Greatest Hits MAMA 2003



MAM



PAT McGLYNN is perched on the edge of a chair in his publicist's office, looking slightly uncomfortable in a tartan-edged outfit that doesn't quite fit.

"These are Leslie's clothes I'm wearing," he tells me. "I don't have any of my own yet — they're just being made up now."

Not having a thing to wear is just one of the problems you encounter when you've been a Bay City Roller exactly nine days.

Pat's due to fly out to New Zealand in three days to start a tour that will also take in Australia and Japan. His passport is being rushed through right now — he's never needed one before, because he's never left Scotland.

Everything's happened very quickly for him. Maybe a bit too quickly — talking to him, you get the impression that he's not quite aware yet just what he's got himself into.

Although Tam Paton apparently had him secretly lined up as a prospective roller for about six months now, Pat says he only found out about it three weeks ago.

"I was in the recording studios in Edinburgh with my last group, What's Up, just playing about," he says, "and Tam and Woody came up and asked me if I'd like to join the group. I thought they were kidding me on, so I said aye!"

"Tam said he was making the Rollers up to six, and he wanted me to join. But I never thought it would be this quick!"

Lost

Talking to Pat brings back memories of a similar meeting with Ian Mitchell in April. On that day, Ian was very like Pat — still a little lost, but happy and confident about his future with the group.

He couldn't know then that six short months later, he'd be leaving the Rollers, his dreams shattered, saying he couldn't cope with the pressures.

Pat often visited Tam's house, where Ian was living while he was a Roller, so they got to know each other quite well. But he says he never suspected that Ian was about to leave.

"I didn't know he was unhappy," he says. "He always seemed all right to me."

But he has seen Ian since he quit, and he says he's looking much happier now.

"I met him down here," he says. "He was in London with his group (the Young City Stars) trying to get a recording contract. He seemed much calmer, and not so tense — and he wished me well with the group."

So what does he think caused Ian's final decision to leave?

"I think he just made up his mind he couldn't stand the pace," answers Pat.

But he doesn't see it happening to himself. "No, I think I can cope. In my last band, we spent a lot of time locked away in rooms, so I know what it's like. It wasn't as big as this, of course, but I'm sure I'll manage."

Pat's been playing with What's Up since he met up with Woody Wood at the age of 14, and Woody

Thumbs up to the new boy

Sheila Prophet talks to the new Roller, Pat McGlynn



BAY CITY ROLLERS teaching Pat the numbers

PAT McGLYNN: "These are Leslie's clothes I'm wearing. I don't have any of my own yet."



asked him if he wanted to join the group he was forming.

They started playing in clubs and discos around Edinburgh — sometimes on the same bill as the Rollers, who at that time were made up of Alan and Derek Longmuir, and three other musicians who've long since left.

Through those dates, they met up with Tam, and he started to take an interest in them.

"He kept an eye on us, and helped us to get bookings," says Pat.

Then Woody left What's Up to join Kip, and finally the Rollers, and Pat stayed with What's Up for another three years. The group gradually built up a following in Central Scotland, until, by the time Pat left, they were on the brink of landing a recording contract.

Because they were playing mainly in discos, What's Up's music was very different from the Rollers'. Pat describes their stage show as 'mostly James Brown funky stuff and a lot of soul', and says his own favourite singer is Barry White.

So will the BCR's be going funky in future?

"We were talking about this just the other day," he says. "In fact, they've already done one track for the disco market, but it was never released in this country — just in America."

Worry

"It would be nice if they did some more funky songs. I wrote a couple of songs for the last band, and I'm going to show them to Eric to see what he thinks. And I'm hoping to write some songs along with Eric and Woody."

But all that's still in the future. At the moment, Pat's biggest worry is learning all the existing songs in time for the start of the tour!

He's only had one real session playing with the others, in the studios the night before. The boys were up till three in the morning, recording backing tracks for 'Supersonic'.

"It went all right," says Pat. "I know some of their songs, like 'Shang-A-Lang'. Well, everyone knows them, don't they?"

"And What's Up used to do 'Summerlove Sensation' on stage, so I know it. But I'm still learning the rest. Woody's made a tape of them, so I've been listening to it at the hotel."

"The hardest part is the harmonies. You can't learn those on your own! So we're going out to New Zealand two days early to give us a chance to practise before the tour."

Two days' preparation isn't much for such a big tour, but Pat doesn't seem too worried. "No, I'm not nervous," he says. "I'm looking forward to it."

He seems a bit vague about the group's plans after they come back from Japan, but he does know they're due home again the day before Christmas.

That means he'll be over a month away on the other side of the world — a long time for someone who's never really been away from home before. He says he's not homesick yet, but admits he's missing his mum and dad "a wee bit".

How will the new Roller cope with life as a pop star? Maybe it's too early to tell. But one thing's for sure. Pat's got a long way to go — and a lot to learn.

'I'm not a monster' says Tam Paton

TAM PATON wants it known — he's fed up of being the baddie!

"People seem to think I'm some kind of monster," he complains. "They seem to think I go around hotel corridors, brandishing keys and locking the boys in their rooms for the night!"

"But of course, it's not true. I don't run their lives."

But maybe that's not quite true, either. In the past, because the Rollers were all so young, Tam had a lot more control over their lives than the average manager.

Now, all the original members are in their 20's, and experienced enough to look after themselves.

But when a very new 18-year-old like Pat or Ian comes along, it's Tam who's responsible for him



TAM PATON

while he's on the road. It's his job to protect the boy from the pressures he's bound to meet on tour.

With Ian, it seems Tam's failed — and he admits that worries him a lot.

"When Ian joined, I said I didn't know if I'd

given him a blessing or a curse," he says. "Well, it's turned out to be a curse."

"I'm just very sorry I had to put him through it all. He must have been going through hell towards the end. The trouble was, he never told us — he always kept things to himself."

Tam first realised things were going really wrong about eight weeks ago, and he began to wonder what to do about Ian.

"In the end, he made the first move," he says. "And I'm glad it happened that way. I'm glad he came to me, instead of me having to go up to him and say, 'My God, what's up with you?'"

"There was always the worry that he might go off and do something drastic. When you've already had two overdoses in the

group, that thought's always at the back of your mind."

So it seems everyone was relieved when Ian finally went home to Ireland, and decided he wasn't coming back.

"Ian's a lovely kid," says Tam, "and I'm going to do my best to help him in the future. I'll still be in touch with him. And he knows that, if he ever wants to talk to me, I'm just at the other end of the telephone."

So it looks as though we haven't heard the last of Ian Mitchell! But, meanwhile, as far as the Rollers are concerned, it's goodbye Ian, hello Pat.

When did Tam first decide on Pat?

"To tell you the truth," he says, "it was when Eric took an overdose. I thought then that he was reaching the danger

point, and that he might leave. That's when I thought of Pat."

"But Eric got past that difficult time, and pulled through, so I didn't say anything to Pat."

So this time round, Pat was his first choice.

"He's a very good guitarist, you know," says Tam. "He's been playing since he was 11, and he's really very good."

But the obvious question is — how can Tam stop Pat going the same way as Ian?

"It's difficult," he admits. "It's hard for someone so young to understand the sort of thing that happens on the road. But all we can do is warn Pat about the problems, and tell him about all the things that can happen."

"Maybe, by doing that, we can make sure he's a bit more prepared for it than Ian was."

Paul Nicholas

Grandma's Party

Flat Foot Floyd

M'Sax And The Girl

Shufflin Shoes

2090 216

As seen on the 'Arrows'
and 'Snop Shop'
TV Programmes



ONLY
69p
RRP

E.P.
Available
Now!

Produced By Christopher Neil

For more information on Paul Nicholas send a SAE to
RSO Records 67 Brook St London W1



MANUFACTURED BY POLYGRAM, LIMITED

Roddy & The

IT'S APRES gig in Amsterdam. Britt is sitting in the ante room to the dressing room wearing a slinky red dress and gold ankle bracelet and complaining that her hair's gone straight after she's spent hours trying to curl it. It's comforting to know the famous also have these little problems.

Inside the dressing room, Rod is jubilant. He's wearing a giant - sized Scottish flag. It's near the end of the Continental dates, but this show was special. There were 400 imported British fans in the audience and their enthusiastic response gave some idea of the reaction he can expect as from this Friday, in Manchester.

Dwarfs

The new band is quietly pleased, and pulling on the long red velvet cloaks 'teach with a "seven dwarfs" hood and the initial of the owner embroidered on the back in gold) which is now their uniform. Drummer Carmine Appice, with wild black curly hair, looks more like Zorro than ever.

And they should be pleased, because the show was a knockout. Anyone who comes along expecting a new Faces is in for a surprise. The sound is fuller, more intricate. Hardly surprising, considering there's three guitarists where once there was just Ronnie Wood, but the discipline is tighter. At times, when Gary and Jim slide up to Rod, lean back and sing together at the front mike, it almost looks like the old fix of Rod with Woody and Ronnie Lane.

But that's as far as the similarities go. There are none of the mistakes that made the Faces so endearing. But you won't miss it - the new band is perfect.

Stripper

Even before the show started, the British contingent (forking out over 140 each for the trip) was showing the locals just who Rod really belongs to. Their possessive attitude seemed to subdue the Amsterdam fans. UK Stewart look alikes bounced all over the Edenhal (a covered ice rink) tanked up like football supporters away from home.

up like football supporters away from home.

The show opened to the tune of 'The Stripper' (Past - in Britain, the opener will be 'Big Spender'). The huge white curtains drew back and the band went straight into 'Three Time Loser' from the album 'Atlantic Crossing'.

Rod, wearing a red harem pants outfit, brought guitarist Jim Cregan up to share the vocals. Guitarist Billy Peek looked even less like a rock star than usual in his black beret and striped jersey, but his playing is top class. It's a good opener, an out 'n' out rock 'n' roller, and dispels any idea that Stewart's gone soft with the new image.

Boss

'You Wear It Well' was for the British fans and they responded by singing it themselves all the way through. They were all superb.

A couple of weeks ago Rod said he liked working with his new band, partly because he was the boss. He hasn't got to cope with other personalities in the



LIBERTY BELLE

band, he was well in control.

Rod sounds more integrated with his band. He's not only a front man, he works closely with them - and they do have distinct personalities. The chief and the indians have found the right combination.

The numbers were well dispersed, four coming

from the 'Night On The Town' album. Someone down the front was even waving a straw boater, like the one Rod wears on the sleeve pic.

Jim Cregan and Gary Grainger came to the front for 'Tonight's The Night.' Gary has showed an astonishing change in his playing - a far cry from his last band

Strider. 'Big Bayou' and 'Wild Side Of Life' were also included from the 'Night' album.

The first particularly showed the hard work that had gone into rehearsals. The Faces, however exciting, did not usually take a lot of time over rehearsals and you'll hear the difference.

'This Old Heart Of Mine' is a classic for Stewart fans, but this version has a difference. It starts off straight - smooth funky rock, then bass player Phil Chen takes over for his solo spot. A bass solo is unusual, but this is something else again. You might have expected the audience to get restless but they loved it.

By contrast to the softness of the bass, the next song was 'Sweet Little Rock 'N' Roller' featuring Billy Peek's duck walk. Billy worked with Chuck Berry, the walk's inventor for some years. They were obviously well spent. At one point all four guitarists line up with Rod (again reminiscent of the Faces) for a hairy chorus line.

Lump

The next song was the emotional highlight of the evening (as opposed to the others which come later). 'I Don't Want To Talk About It' is a heavy one and when the UK fans started to sing it back to Rod, it obviously brought a sizeable lump to his throat. He slipped off to the side of the stage for a couple of minutes and recovered himself. No corn, honest. It was lovely.

'Maggie May' was a must, a touch of the old to go with the new. But again, the arrangement had been changed. Where Rod's used his songs that have become well known, he's introduced enough extra interest to let them belong to the new band. 'Maggie' has a beautiful reggae section. It sounds weird, but when you hear it, you'll discover how well it works. Could be the Jamaican influence of Phil Chen.

The Scottish flag was brought out for 'Angel' and produced roars from the English fans who



CLOSE-UP: Cregan, Snow White and Grainger

have adopted the Scotia Nostra. Caledonia rules.

Now this is where we get to the bit that surpassed anything else Rod has ever done, either with a band or solo. 'You Keep Me Hanging On' was a biggie for Vanilla Fudge 10 years ago. Their drummer, Carmine Appice now finds himself working with the song again.

There's a strong build-up, a tight spiral of

percussion, keyboards and guitar, tying in with excellent lighting, to the dramatic pay-off. Stewart steams in with the vocals, backed by the stabbing morse rhythm that holds the arrangement together. This number, more than any other, is one that could wipe the floor with any band you care to mention.

'The Killing Of Georgie' worked well in the show. It does slow things down but perhaps would have been better placed earlier in the programme.

Climax

'Losing You' is the song that gives Carmine the chance to do his thing. Drum solos have become, an overworked attraction, but the exception is Carmine. He's already built up a following from his reputation with other bands, notably Beck, Bogert and Appice, and it's well deserved. Towards the climax of the solo, he gives an impressive wallop to a J Arthur Rank giant gong.

'Sailing' is the final song and a good one to exit on. It's gained all the emotional appeal of 'Amazing Grace' and will probably still be with us

for years. Rod, by this time in a gold lame harem number, was dancing across the stage. For the encore, 'Stay With Me,' he was all over the place. But the Glasgow show on New Year's Eve looks as if it's going to be the best - lucky you, if you have a ticket!

Before the concert, Carmine was talking about the band. Had he been worried about the



ANY MORE bum notes like that and you'll all be playing naked to the waist!"



"I AM de boss!"

Hoods

Rosalind Russell's
verdict on
Rod Stewart's
new band —
KNOCKOUT!

possible reaction from Faces' fans?

"We were slightly worried in case people would shout out for Ron Wood during the show, but it hasn't happened yet."

Carmine has toured Britain before with Beck, Bogert and Appice.

"I was busted when we played Manchester Free Trade Hall," he said.

"We were playing and this kid in the audience handed up a joint to Timmy (Bogert) and he had a hit and handed it to me and I had a hit and handed it to the roadie. Next thing I looked round to get new drumsticks from the roadie because mine had broken — and there was nobody there. I thought that was a bit strange. When we came off, the tour manager said he had to walk me across the road to the police station. The police had taken the roadies from the stage, but the tour manager had persuaded them not to stop the show to take us.

Shoe-Shine

"The police at the station were really nice. We told them we'd thought it was an ordinary cigarette."

He returns to the States after the tour to make a solo album. Well, not exactly solo. He'll have some of the ex-Fudge and maybe Beck as well.

So don't be too surprised if you see Jeff Beck at the London concerts.

The Continental gigs have gone well and the band seem to have had parties every night. They must have been good, because keyboard player John Jarvis woke up the other morning with five shoeshine machines in his bedroom.

"I suppose I put them there," he said. "I didn't remember. I didn't damage them."

Jim Cregan has done the traditional thing while in Amsterdam. He's bought a diamond engagement ring for Linda Lewis, his girlfriend. They hope to get married in March, while they both have a month off work. When Jim comes back to London, he'll be producing Linda's new album.

Offer

The less committed members of the entourage spent their spare time looking round the infamous red light area of the city. The chief bodyguard went out, took one look at one of the girls who was on offer in her window, and said: "Sorry love, I haven't got any loose change."

Letters from home are important to a band on the road for any length of time. Rod doesn't need them — Britt is with him on the tour — but the band look forward to them. When they called to collect their mail forwarded from London,

John Jarvis found it was his lucky day. His consignment of Trident chewing gum had arrived.

"I was getting low," he said with relief. "You just can't buy this stuff outside of America."

Rod's PR man was on the phone, organising the food for the after-show party. Linda Ronstadt was also in town for a gig the following night, and was to be a guest. She came to the show, watched a few numbers, and walked out. She didn't show up at the party. But the Dutch guests didn't seem to bother and when Rod walked into the room, they all stood and clapped.

Mobbed

Rod looked embarrassed and insisted on praise for the "orchestra" too.

The party at the hotel where the 400 fans were staying was less restrained. Rod had promised to look in for a while, but when he was mobbed by enthusiastic crowds, he had to cut the visit short.

By the time he gets to the UK, those fans will have multiplied. Everyone will be able to see for themselves that Rod has succeeded in pulling together a band good enough to overcome any bias towards the Faces.

Boobs

Of course, Britain will be different from Amsterdam. You won't be able to walk round the corner and find a shop that sells strap-on plastic boobs. And it's unlikely you'll be driving along behind anyone who keeps a lifelike dummy of a woman's head on the back window of their car. Especially a head which has eyes that light up red when the brakes are applied.



"WHO'S THAT poser in the corner?"



All Aboard Abba

IT'S TRUE what they say about Swedish birds — busty, blonde and beautiful. Last week, as the autumn sun set over the Thames, Abba's Anna, dressed in virgin white, golden locks tumbling round her shoulders, took a seat in the bows and spoke to your drooling correspondent.



ANNA

(We were on this riverboat you understand, having indulged in the well-known nautical exercise 'Waiting For Abba' or 'Battersea Power Station Revisited', available from CBS and all good booksellers).

"The secret of our music," explained Anna, "is that it appeals to people of all ages, and it's easy listening. All age groups like our music, especially the sevens to 14s and the over-twenties." Abba are a hit world-wide, aren't they, Anna? "Yes, but we've yet to make it in Japan. But we're just starting to take off in the United States where 'Fernando' has been released. We always sing in English, it's the international language everyone understands. We did record 'Waterloo' in French and German, but they weren't so successful as the English versions.

The Abba story must rank as one of the pop phenomenons of the decade. In the two and a half years since their emergence on to the international music scene — when they won the Eurovision Song Contest with 'Waterloo', Abba have established themselves as one of the most successful and consistent pop groups ever.

In that short time, Benny, Bjorn, Anna and Frida have sold almost 30 million singles and 12 million albums — these figures do not include their new 'Arrival' album, nor the single taken from it, 'Money, Money, Money'.

Continental groups

rarely make much of an impression on these shores, but cop a load of Abba's performance this year alone. In January they hit Number One with 'Mamma Mia' and sold more than 500,000 copies in the process.

In May they followed it up with 'Fernando' which went to number one at the same time as their 'Greatest Hits' album topped the platters' chart and resided there for nine weeks.

'Dancing Queen' came next, shooting straight to number one and as a result reinstating 'Greatest Hits' to the top of the album charts. Now their latest album 'Arrival', which went gold on advance sales alone, is destined for the top as is the single 'Money, Money, Money'.

So that's Abba's vital statistics, how about Anna's? They're just as impressive, if not more so, figure-wise. I shan't print her exact measurement since, though her English is very good, we met some confusion of metrication of hip measurements. Take it from me, she is as beautiful in the flesh as in the pictures.

Pictures, occasional TV and records is all the loyal British Abba fans have been given since the start. No tours, no concerts. A raw deal when you consider all the hard earned cash that's been splashed out on their waxings.

"Oh but we will be

coming in February," smiled Anna, "We play Albert Hall, Birmingham, Manchester and Glasgow." Hardly a mammoth tour? "Ah but we have other television commitments."

Abba give the impression of being a well-oiled, well-run and shrewdly managed hit-making machine. But the only power behind them, apart from a lot of unnecessary hangers-on, is themselves. Benny (the one with the beard) and Bjorn write most of their songs.

"No, Frieda and I don't get involved in the writing. We leave that to the boys. They get the lyrics and the melodies together and bring them to the studios where we all sort them out and get them together."

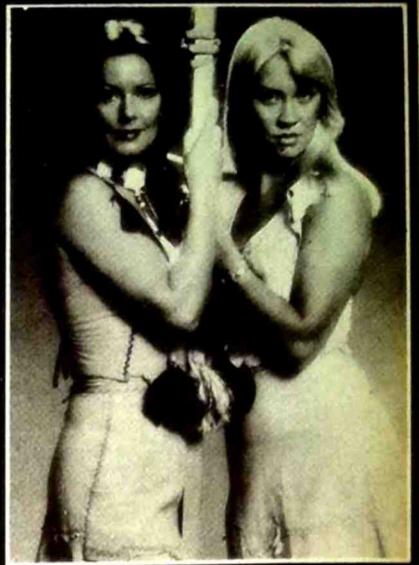
By now, many millions of other journalists have

realised that Abba are giving 'interviews' downstairs in the bows. Reluctantly leaving the bar amidships, they have joined my goodself and the faithful few, firing questions at the lovely Anna.

"No... yes... sometimes... Anyone got a Marlboro... We spent the summer on our island home near Stockholm... In March we're going to Australia... I like listening to jazz... It was because of the fog."

Right, that's all ladies and gentlemen, they're going to do another photosession now. Thankyou.

Abba were in London for four days for, and I quote CBS, "An extensive and exhaustive promotional schedule" — and a ballised-up press conference. JIMEVANS



ANNA and FRIDA



THE GANG

MORNING GLORY
The
WURZELS

Glory be,
it's the Wurzels with
a rousing new single

b/w
Rock Around The A.38
EMI 2568

OUT NOW

EMI

Be Bop 'N' Holla

with

ANDY FAIRWEATHER LOW

*No longer wide eyed & legless but loose as a goose
& hot to trot on a Booga of a new album "Be Bop 'N' Holla"
and a major nationwide tour.*

NOVEMBER

23rd Edinburgh, Leith Theatre
25th Dunstable, Civic
26th Salford University, Manchester
27th Loughborough University
30th Liverpool, The Empire

DECEMBER

2nd Ipswich, The Gaumont
4th Nottingham University
7th Swansea, Brangwyn Hall
9th Brighton, The Dome
11th London, Shaftesbury Theatre



AMLH
64602

Hurry! First 15,000 albums pressed in blue.
In your shop now.



Robin Smith talks to Hot Chocolate's Errol Brown



ERROL BROWN was a humble clerk until he discovered music.

Many's the time he'd be flinging something away and a tune would come into his head. There was only one thing to do, give up the 'old nine till five and start writing ideas down. Errol's very glad he did, his band Hot Chocolate have met with constant success ever since 'Love Is Life'. Their greatest hits album notched up silver status even before it was released.

A green Cadillac parked outside Rak Records shows that Errol is in residence. Despite his gangster like appearance, he's polite and friendly offering to get a cup of tea.

"Until I discovered music I was unfulfilled," he says. "There was always something nagging at the back of my mind that I wanted to do and for a long time I couldn't put my finger on it. Then these ideas came floating along. I realised that music would have to be my career."

Errol met up with former Chocolateer Tony Wilson and they started

writing songs, including changing the lyrics to John Lennon's 'Give Peace A Chance.'

"The tune was alright but the lyrics were pretty bad," says Errol. "We took our version along to the Apple Records and apparently John loved it. Somebody in his office christened us Hot Chocolate and the name stuck. From there we met up with Mickie Most who was knocked out by our songs. He's been a great help to us."

From there the rest has been very successful history. But like most stars Errol's had his share of the bad times. Born in Jamaica he came across to Britain while he was in short trousers and boasting a full head of hair. After his mother struggled to put him through school he had difficulty finding a job because of his colour.

"With an anonymous name like Errol Brown they'd give you an interview but I could see their faces drop as I walked in the room," he says. "I can understand prejudice though. I remember back home in Jamaica there was a

white guy in the class and he was treated the same. Anyway I managed to get a job with the Treasury and that's really when most of my musical ideas began to form as I filed stuff away."

"The difficulties of my life have affected my songs and it's also made me think about a number of topics from pollution to love. I hope I've been able to change people's points of view and at the same time entertain them."

After a hectic past few months touring Hot Chocolate are having the rest of the year off. Errol's going to get married, honeymooning in the Bahamas. The band plan to have a new album out in March.

You can't resist asking Errol why he shaves his head.

"My hair was falling out anyway," he says. "At time of 'Love Is Life' I shaved it as a gimmick and it attracted a lot of interest in the band. People said I'd suffer from flu in the winter, but I usually wear a hat and I've only had two colds in the past seven years."

ERROL BROWN can understand prejudice

THE BROWN BOMBER

NEXT WEEK IT'S YOUR CHANCE TO VOTE

YOU'VE HAD a whole year of us telling you what's good and bad about rock and roll. Now it's your turn to tell us what you think about it, by voting in Record Mirror's Poll next week.

Last year Queen swept the boards, winning top place in two sections and scoring in almost all the rest. Have they lived up to your expectations? Will they get your vote again this year, or do you think that another band deserves top billing?

David Essex was voted top male singer - it's your opportunity to keep him there, or let someone else have that place.

It's all up to you - you're the one with the power, and every vote counts. Your favourite star is depending on you.

Order RECORD MIRROR today and get your chance to vote.

DON'T MISS BRITAIN'S MOST COLOURFUL MUSIC WEEKLY

FLIP FLIP FLIP FLIP FLIP FLIP
FLIP FLIP FLIP FLIP FLIP FLIP



YOU'LL FLIP WHEN YOU HEAR THE NEW JESSE GREEN SINGLE FLIP

THE FOLLOW UP TO HIS HIT SINGLE "NICE AND SLOW" EMI 2564

THE HAMMERSMITH Odeon can be quite fun in the evening, when it's packed to the door with eager fans, and the latest superstars are onstage, showing what they can do.

But at half past three on a Monday afternoon, it's the last place you want to be.

It's cold (the heating's turned off), dark and eerily silent — in fact, it couldn't be less welcoming if they'd installed a vampire in the balcony.

And on the stage, boredom is rapidly setting in.

Thin Lizzy are here making a film to promote their latest single, 'Don't Believe A Word', and it's proving to be a long, slow business. The boys have been hanging around for nearly an hour now, and they've reached the point where they've nothing much left to say to each other.

They're standing around, huddled into their jackets and stifling yawns. Guitarists Scott Gorham and Brian Robertson are chain-smoking and staring glumly into thin air.

Only Phil Lynott is active; striding around the stage, breaking the silence of the hall by yelling curses at the sound crew at the back of the hall, who respond by muttering rebelliously to each other.

The film crew consists of two men, one with a hand-held camera, the other whose sole purpose seems to be to clap the clapperboard and announce, 'Thin Lizzy — take six'. This ain't no 'Ben Hur'!

The group are miming to cut the cost of the film, and they have to perform to exactly the same backing track over and over again, until the man with the camera has taken them from every possible angle.

It's nearly five before they've finally finished, and they wander back to the dressing room. Brian's complaining of a headache, and searching for the Veganin tablets, and Phil is changing from one pair of bright red boots to another: "Me feet are killing me," he moans. But there's no time to put them up and have a well-deserved rest — the soundcheck for tonight's show has still to be done.

"I'll be back in 10 minutes," promises Phil as he heads out of the door. But it turns out to be three quarters of an hour before things are sorted out to their satisfaction, and they troop back into the dressing room — Phil first, followed by Brian, clutching his toy dog Derek, which he takes everywhere with him.

It can't be easy having to share your life with a dog like Derek, but Phil says he's found a simple solution to the problem.

"I just ignore it," he says firmly. "I've told him I think it's childish and silly. Sometimes I wonder about this bunch — what with him and his dog, and Downey (drummer Brian Downey) sucking his thumb. He does, honest!"

Lizzy's three dates at Hammersmith are coming at the end of a British tour which has taken in 26 dates in 28 days — a gruelling schedule for Phil to undertake so soon after his bout of hepatitis. So how's he feeling?

"Very tired," he admits. "My doctor

You all know Phyllis. Well, this is her son Phil



PHIL LYNOTT: off the booze

advised me not to do the tour, but I didn't want to disappoint our supporters. I knew he was right in some ways, but our supporters have been so good to us, and I knew I'd be letting them down if I didn't go ahead with the tour.

"But I've been very good — I haven't been with any women, or touched a drop of alcohol!"

It turns out Phil isn't allowed to drink for another six months. "I was stopped from drinking for six months before," he says, "but I gave in and drank after three months."

"Then I felt ill again, so I went back to the doctor, and now he's stopped me for another six!"

After Hammersmith, the band are doing one night in Dublin, and then going straight out to America to fulfil the dates they had to cancel when Phil first became ill.

"There's a different kind of strain out there," Phil tells me.

"Over here you can plan your tour so you don't have to far to travel at once, but in America, you're going thousands of miles, and it's always changing. One day you can be in some laid-back southern state, and the next in New York, where it's all incredibly fast-moving."

"So it all adds up to a very different kind of

pressure. But I'm looking forward to it, all the same."

The boys will be in the States till the middle of December, but Phil says they should be back in town in plenty of time for Christmas.

"We're having Christmas off," he says happily. "Scott's flying to California to see his parents, and I'll probably go up to my mum's place in Manchester."

His mum, Phyllis, who runs a hotel in Manchester, is becoming quite a star in her own right these days.

"Yes," he agrees with a grin. "She's coming to see the show tonight, but I've told her not to come backstage, because she always steals the limelight."

"I remember the first time I went to George Best's club, Slack Alice, in Manchester. I went up to the doorman and said, 'Phil Lynott, lead singer of rock group Thin Lizzy, appearing at the Free Trade Hall'. He looked me up and down, said 'Wait a minute' and left me standing there."

"A minute later, he came back, all smiles, and said, 'Why didn't you tell me you were Phyllis' son?'"

Phyllis, it seems, also introduced him to some of his footballing heroes — people he seems to regard as real stars. George Best and Stan Bowles are amongst the people who were invited

to Lizzy's party after their concert the next night, and he seems really proud to know they're his friends.

But though he's star-struck about football, when it comes to the pop world, he's totally down-to-earth about it all.

"Well, I've been through the whole star thing before, when 'Whisky In The Jar' was a hit," he explains. "I was really big-headed then — you couldn't get in the same room as me!"

"But that only lasted till the next single came out — and flopped! So this time round, it just doesn't affect me that way. Of course, I'm happy that we're doing well at the moment — everything just seems to have come together really well."

"But quite honestly, I'm happier for our supporters than I am for myself. There are so many people who've stuck with Lizzy all these years, and I'm just pleased that they've been proved right, and their faith in us has paid off."

"Well, it's always nice when you bet on something and it turns out to be a winner, isn't it?"

And as far as Lizzy's race to the top is concerned, the odds are getting better all the time!

by Sheila Prophet



Great New Single

'LAY YOUR LOVE ON ME' CBS 4710



NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, Mayfair Rooms
SPENNYMOOR, Top Hat
SOUTHPORT, Theatre
HANLEY, STOKE ON TRENT, Jollies Club
WATFORD, Bailey
LONDON, Ham
WATFORD, B
WATFORD, P

DECEMBER

EAST
Co

4th



Singles

reviewed by DAVID 'WHITE BEARD' BROWN

HO HO HO OH NO NO NO

PAUL NICHOLAS: 'Grandma's Party' (RSO 2090 216). Now here's a jovial little trotter. Ooh and there's four tracks on this record. What fun! The main 'Party' track starts off with a tinselly tune and magically turns into another of those catchy, toe tappers which he's assaulted the charts with of late. Good clean fun. +++
GREG LAKE: 'I Believe In Father Christmas' (Manticore K13511). I've heard this one somewhere before. Oh yes, it was the most unusual of the Christmas rush last year wasn't it? No, dear don't pull my beard like that. Do you believe in Greg Lake? +++
JETHRO TULL: 'Ring Out, Solstice Bells' (Chrysalis CXP2). That nice Mr Anderson says that 'Christmas spirit is not what you drink' on one of these four tracks. Ho, ho how cheerful kiddies. Quite a nice stocking filler this, you

can dance round the tree to 'Pan Dance'. What do you mean their singer looks more like Santa than I do? Get out of my grotto! +++
THE MORMON TABERNACLE CHOIR: 'Hark The Herald Angels Sing' (CBS 4787). This would make a lovely present for granny. Pass the collection plate. +
THE WOMBLES: 'Wombling Merry Christmas' (CBS (2842)). No one has written to me asking for Wombles this year. They all want Muppets or something. +
SLADE: 'Merry Xmas Everybody' (Polydor 2058 422). Why do they spell Xmas with an 'X' and with a backwards 's'? Does it mean anything to you kiddies? No? Norme. ++
GENE AUTRY: 'Rudolph The Red Nose Reindeer' (CBS 4739). 1949 cowbody with tinsel on his boots and a fairy on top of his stetson.



RAY SAWYER: tears on your turkey

SLIP IT UP
WILL FLIP IT UP

FREE ALBUMS

This is the eighth Giant Parrot Coupon for you to collect. Cut it out now and save it with Coupon Nos. 1-7 which have already appeared! Next week coupon No. 9 will appear.

When you have collected your last coupon, No. 10, we will publish a complete list of all the albums from which to choose and give full details of how you will receive your free album.

HO HO, children, gather round while old Santa tells you about all the seasonal goodies those record companies have in store for you to spend your pence on. My oh my, they have been busy this year. Everyone's entered in the festive spirit.

There are all those old favourites that they bring down off the shelf and give a quick dust every year and put out to bring joy to our hearts and a tune to our lips.

Then there are some new artists who want to impress upon us the importance that this time of the year has for us all.

The idea is that you feel so jolly you go out and buy all their gleeful records called 'Christmas this', 'Christmas that' and even 'Christmas the other'. Ho, ho, what fun.

So come closer to old Sant and I'll open my sack of treats to one and all. Ah, the nice little girl with the ponytail can sit on good old Santa's knee. Hmmm. Now where shall I begin.



Brilliant. +++
LINDA LEWIS: 'Winter Wonderland' (Arista 82). My, how Christmas brings out the worst in everyone. Jim Cregan produces lovely Linda out of a vale of strings. A bit slow to get going. Especially after helpings of pie. +

RAY CONIFF: 'Ring Christmas Bells' (CBS 4759). The older generation's Jethro Tull. It's the bells, Esmerelda, the bells. +

LENE LOVICH: 'I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus' (Polydor 2058 812). Well, cough, you'd better not let Daddy hear this one had you? Sounds like a little girl, but doesn't look that little judging by the pic on the cover. Hmmm. Now where was I? +++

CHATANHOOGATIN: 'Xmas Reggae' (Safari SRE3). Snore, oh dear Santa dropped off there kiddies. Sorry about that. Must adjust the central heating in me grotto. +
CHRIS DE BURGH: 'A Spaceam Came Travelling' (A&M AMS7267). Space natively with a la-la chorus. At least it's its origina. +++

RUDY AND THE RIALTOS: 'Xmas Tears Will Fall' (Gull GULS 46). Atmospheric US teenage type ballad with Wolfman Jack guesting on a song all about a poor lad who can't make his connection, phone call that is. +++
BILL FREDERICKS: 'What Are You Doing New Year's Eve?' (Polydor 2058 817). Is that an offer? Didn't know you cared Bill? Well, if you must know, I'll put me feet up and watch Andy Stewart on the telly. ++

MCCULLOCH: 'Keep Christmas Alive' (Polydor 2058 809). Bring back Plough Monday I say. ++
SALSOUL ORCHESTRA: 'Little Drummer Boy' (Salsoul SZ2015). Funked up. ++
NICKY SCOTT: 'Pasadena' (BCS 0001). Not a bell or a reindeer in sight, but it's still pretty awful.

GEORGE HARRISON: 'This Song' (Dark Horse K16856). Cocking a snook at his recent trials and tribulations and telling its story in a rather boring manner. Eh wait a mo, that tune at the end sounds familiar. ++
GEORGE HARRISON: 'My Sweet Lord' (Apple R5884). This one sounds just like his 1970 hit. ... and it is. ++

ROBERTA FLACK: 'Killing Me Softly With His Song' (Atlantic K10845). Two goodies for the price of one with 'The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face' on the flip. Essential soul if you don't already have it. +++
LIVERPOOL EXPRESS: 'Everyman Must Have A Dream' (Warner Brothers K16854). Smooth slowie from persistent Mersey bunch. Big production job, not obvious hit. +++
RUBY KEELER AND DICK POWELL: '2nd Street' (United Artists UP36190). Busby Berkeley rules OK? Well he did in 1933 anyway. +++
CANNED HEAT: 'On The Road Again' (United Artists REM 407). A best of Canned Heat's early UA stuff, four on an EP and just count the beats to the bar on 'Wooly Bully', 'Going Up The Country' and 'Let's Work Together' (Who is this Bryan Ferry fella anyway?) +++
ARTHUR ADAMS: 'Reggae Disco' (Fantasy FTC137). Disco - gusting. +
JOHN VALENTI: 'Anything You Want' (Ariola AA 108). Strong presentation but sounding a little too much like Stevie Wonder Esq. +++

INCOGNITO: 'Happy Days' (Sairil SAT115). Cover version of Pratt and McClean song. ++

XANADU: 'Zsa Zsa' (Jester JX10001). Tribute to screen queen. Diabolical lyrics. ++

COUSIN JOE: 'I'm Cousin Joe From New Orleans' (Big Bear BB2). And what is more he's 'hotter than a plate of red beans'. Old blueser trying to do da modern blues and his boogie woogie piano sadly gets lost in the process. ++

BOBBY DAZZLER: 'Dance, Dance, Dance' (Big Bear BB1). Comes on strong with good beat and chorus. Not bad. +++

WISHBONE ASH: 'Outward Bound' (MCA 261). If Bert 'Laid-back' Weedon can top the charts with an instrumental LP why can't WA do it with a musical single? Their Shadows influence shows here. +++

TED NUGENT: 'Dog Eat Dog' (Epic SEPK 4796). What a great way

to wake you Dad up on Christmas Day. Heavy metal-lurgy eats its way into your grey matter. Enough to make a poodle vegetarian. +++
STEELEYE SPAN: 'Fighting For Strangers' (Chrysalis CHS2125). Sounds like the hymn tune which we primary school rebels would sing 'To be a grim pill' to. At least they've not given us 'Gaudete' again - yet! ++

ROBIN TROWER: 'Caledonia' (Chrysalis CHS2124). Robin 'Wah Wah' Trower puts his foot down on the pedal and pumps out some hot 1970s blues. But whose gonna buy it? ++

GARY SHEARSTON: 'A Whiter Shade of Pale' (Transatlantic BIG559). This is a good, contrived version of the Procol Harum classic, but the original is such a much - played revived 45 it could hold up this one's progress. Or then again it could even help. Give it a listen anyway and make your own mind up, 'cos my beard's getting in knots trying to make up my mind. +++

RAY SAWYER: 'Daddy's Little Girl' (Capitol CL15901). This is it, the pre-Christmas tear-jerker done by the one with the eye patch from Dr Hook. Sickly stuff about a little girl with little time left on God's earth. Done by anyone else this would be awful, but this one will climb the charts or I'll eat my sleigh. +++

THE BOTHY BAND: 'Fionnghuala's Bothy' (Polydor 2058 829). Scottish mouth music would you believe. Great hook and just right for November cellidins. ++

THE DRIFTERS: 'You're More Than A Number In My Red Book' (Arista 78). You have to hand it to these guys they pick a winner every time. +++

HARVEY MASON: 'The Masse' (Arista 80). Ordinaire. ++

TINA CHARLES: 'Dr Love' (CBS 4778). Consistent hitmaker gives us another Hit that is. +++

JANIS IAN: 'In The Winter' (CBS 4788). Dark, mean and moody, but cold. ++
STRETCH: 'Loves Got A Hold On Me' (Anchor ANC1034). At least this gang rock good. Infinitely preferable to snowbell slush. Heads down lads. +++
FREDDY FENDER: 'Livin' B Down' (ABC 4155). Country Weepee, lyrics a letdown. ++
THE BLUES BUSTERS: 'Sweetest Thing' (Dynamic DYN117). Nifty Barry Biggs chugger. +++
KING SPOTTY: 'Reggae Rock Road' (Miami MIA 408). Not reggae, not rock and certainly not a road leading anywhere. ++
TANYA TUCKER: 'Here's Some Love' (MCA 362). Pleasant, but not outstanding. +++

THE RAWTENSTALL CONCERTINA BAND: 'The Dam Busters' (Virgin VS166). March (Virgin VS166). Chocks away mate. Len Nicholson soars into the clouds, concertina gleaming in the sun and bango bandits at two o'clock. Eric Coates never had it so good. The grand. +++
JIMMY JAMES: 'Silver Boat Jenny' (Power Exchange PX240). Suitable for an LP track by Tom Jones. ++
ELVIS PRESLEY: 'Suspicion' (RCA 2766). Vintage EL. His mama wanted it and now they've got it, and they're welcome. It'll be a hit though. ++
MAN: 'Bananas' (United Artists REM



PAUL NICHOLAS: knock the tinsel off your toes

to wake you Dad up on Christmas Day. Heavy metal-lurgy eats its way into your grey matter. Enough to make a poodle vegetarian. +++
STEELEYE SPAN: 'Fighting For Strangers' (Chrysalis CHS2125). Sounds like the hymn tune which we primary school rebels would sing 'To be a grim pill' to. At least they've not given us 'Gaudete' again - yet! ++

ROBIN TROWER: 'Caledonia' (Chrysalis CHS2124). Robin 'Wah Wah' Trower puts his foot down on the pedal and pumps out some hot 1970s blues. But whose gonna buy it? ++

GARY SHEARSTON: 'A Whiter Shade of Pale' (Transatlantic BIG559). This is a good, contrived version of the Procol Harum classic, but the original is such a much - played revived 45 it could hold up this one's progress. Or then again it could even help. Give it a listen anyway and make your own mind up, 'cos my beard's getting in knots trying to make up my mind. +++

RAY SAWYER: 'Daddy's Little Girl' (Capitol CL15901). This is it, the pre-Christmas tear-jerker done by the one with the eye patch from Dr Hook. Sickly stuff about a little girl with little time left on God's earth. Done by anyone else this would be awful, but this one will climb the charts or I'll eat my sleigh. +++

THE BOTHY BAND: 'Fionnghuala's Bothy' (Polydor 2058 829). Scottish mouth music would you believe. Great hook and just right for November cellidins. ++

THE DRIFTERS: 'You're More Than A Number In My Red Book' (Arista 78). You have to hand it to these guys they pick a winner every time. +++

HARVEY MASON: 'The Masse' (Arista 80). Ordinaire. ++

TINA CHARLES: 'Dr Love' (CBS 4778). Consistent hitmaker gives us another Hit that is. +++

JANIS IAN: 'In The Winter' (CBS 4788). Dark, mean and moody, but cold. ++

STRETCH: 'Loves Got A Hold On Me' (Anchor ANC1034). At least this gang rock good. Infinitely preferable to snowbell slush. Heads down lads. +++

FREDDY FENDER: 'Livin' B Down' (ABC 4155). Country Weepee, lyrics a letdown. ++

THE BLUES BUSTERS: 'Sweetest Thing' (Dynamic DYN117). Nifty Barry Biggs chugger. +++

KING SPOTTY: 'Reggae Rock Road' (Miami MIA 408). Not reggae, not rock and certainly not a road leading anywhere. ++

TANYA TUCKER: 'Here's Some Love' (MCA 362). Pleasant, but not outstanding. +++

THE RAWTENSTALL CONCERTINA BAND: 'The Dam Busters' (Virgin VS166). March (Virgin VS166). Chocks away mate. Len Nicholson soars into the clouds, concertina gleaming in the sun and bango bandits at two o'clock. Eric Coates never had it so good. The grand. +++

JIMMY JAMES: 'Silver Boat Jenny' (Power Exchange PX240). Suitable for an LP track by Tom Jones. ++

ELVIS PRESLEY: 'Suspicion' (RCA 2766). Vintage EL. His mama wanted it and now they've got it, and they're welcome. It'll be a hit though. ++

MAN: 'Bananas' (United Artists REM

VARIOUS: 'Having A Party' (Power Exchange PX236). Having a party at Christmas? Here's four soulers to get people up and dancing, paper hats and all. Music provided by the O'Jays, H. B. Barnum, Ann Byres and Paul Davidson. +++

SHERBET: 'I Had My Way' (Epic EPC4777). Not the obvious or the best follow up to 'Howzat' and lacking impact. Slow and disappointing. ++

THE MAN EZEKE GRAY AND TONY GREIG: 'We're The Greatest' (Virgin VS166). Shame on ya Virgin, we thought we could at least rely on you, but cricket results to a calypso beat, well I'm stumped for a comment. It's just wicket, I mean wicket. + (not out)

BUDDIES: 'Love Is Coming' (Soldo on SDR018). Having been anaesthetised by all this Christmas muck this reawakens me tired parts. Sit still on me knee little girl or I'll not give you your blessed parcel. This happy popper fairly bounces along. Very pleasant on the lugholes. +++

BARRY DE VORZON: 'Nadia's Theme' (Arista 81). Cinema interval music. A drink on a stick and a choc ice please. ++

BARRY DE VORZON AND PERRY BOTKIN JUNIOR: 'Nadia's Theme' (A&M AMS7268). ... and a packet of popcorn. ++

HARVEY MASON: 'The Masse' (Arista 80). Ordinaire. ++

TINA CHARLES: 'Dr Love' (CBS 4778). Consistent hitmaker gives us another Hit that is. +++

JANIS IAN: 'In The Winter' (CBS 4788). Dark, mean and moody, but cold. ++

STRETCH: 'Loves Got A Hold On Me' (Anchor ANC1034). At least this gang rock good. Infinitely preferable to snowbell slush. Heads down lads. +++

FREDDY FENDER: 'Livin' B Down' (ABC 4155). Country Weepee, lyrics a letdown. ++

THE BLUES BUSTERS: 'Sweetest Thing' (Dynamic DYN117). Nifty Barry Biggs chugger. +++

KING SPOTTY: 'Reggae Rock Road' (Miami MIA 408). Not reggae, not rock and certainly not a road leading anywhere. ++

TANYA TUCKER: 'Here's Some Love' (MCA 362). Pleasant, but not outstanding. +++

THE RAWTENSTALL CONCERTINA BAND: 'The Dam Busters' (Virgin VS166). March (Virgin VS166). Chocks away mate. Len Nicholson soars into the clouds, concertina gleaming in the sun and bango bandits at two o'clock. Eric Coates never had it so good. The grand. +++

JIMMY JAMES: 'Silver Boat Jenny' (Power Exchange PX240). Suitable for an LP track by Tom Jones. ++

ELVIS PRESLEY: 'Suspicion' (RCA 2766). Vintage EL. His mama wanted it and now they've got it, and they're welcome. It'll be a hit though. ++

MAN: 'Bananas' (United Artists REM

+++++ Unbeatable
 ++++ Buy it
 +++ Give it a spin
 ++ Give it a miss
 + Unbearable

408). '73 live at London Roundhouse on what must have been a good night. Wave a fond farewell to the old fruits and wipe a tear away from your eye. Sob, sob.

+++
FLAMIN' GROOVIES: 'Slow Death EP' (United Artists REM406). Give us 'Tallahassee Lassie' yelled the bloke behind me at the Roundhouse. 'Ere you are son four of their goodies. And don't Cyril and the boys just kill you? Just give them a chance mate. +++

JOHN TRAVOLTA: 'Whenever I'm Away From You' (Midland International MID 4) US TV actor tries it on. ++

NANA MOUSKOURI: 'Simple Gifts' (Phillips 6042 225). Simply awful. +

DREAMSELLER: 'Three Little Mice' (UK 159). Squeek bloody squeek. +

BARRY BIGGS: 'Side Show' (Dynamic DYN118). Sub standard sound, flip is better. ++

THELMA HOUSTON: 'The Bingo Long Song' (Tania Motown TMG1059). The film wasn't a hit and nor is this. ++

TED TAYLOR: 'I'm Gonna Hate Myself In The Morning' (Contempo CS2098). Man who cries on his pillow gets damp pillow case. ++

REUBEN BELL: 'I Still Have To Say Goodbye' (Contempo CS2097). The toes tapped merrily (on high?) to this. ++

KEN DODD: 'I'll Never Forget You' (EMI 2558). Thankyou Ken. ++

RICHIE HAVENS: 'I'm Not In Love' (A&A M7266). Yes, the 10cc song and what a waste of talent. His and theirs. ++

DOLLY PARTON: 'Shattered Image' (RCA 2764). Fair country from a fair country gal. +++

THE ARTISTICS: 'I'm Gonna Miss You' / **GENE CHANDLER:** 'There Was A Time' (Brunswick BR39). Double Northern soul from '72 and '68 respectively, which previously fetched 30 bob on Wigan station in plain covers. ++

WILLIE MITCHELL: 'The Champion' (London HLU 10545). Disco dynamite — or then again she might not. ++

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: 'Goose Walk' (RCA 2752). Paul Gallico didn't like Camel's music inspired by his book 'The Snow Goose' but it was a damn sight better than this. More of a Swan song. +

VICKY SUE ROBINSON: 'Daylight' (RCA 2756). Useful if trite soul offering. +++

CRAZY CAVAN AND THE RHYTHM ROCKERS: 'Sweet Little Pretty Thing' (Charly CS1021). Recorded in an L.A. garage in 1958 or in a London studio this year? Welsh rocker has a case of vocal hiccups. +++

THE SALSOU ORCHESTRA: 'Nice 'N' Naasty' (Salsoul SZ2011). About as much bite as a toothless corgi. Oops sorry your majesty. ++

SILVER CONVENTION: 'Everybody's Talking 'Bout Love' (Magnet NAG81). Not their best. Could nudge its way into



ROBIN TROWER



TED NUGENT



TINA CHARLES



LENE LOVICH



GARY SHEARSTON

Chi-Lites

Album 9100 027



Their first album on...



On Tour

OCTOBER	25th-30th WYTHENSHAW, Golden Garter (Manchester)	19th NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, Mayfair Rooms
NOVEMBER	2nd SOUTHEND, Zero Six	20th SPENNYMOOR, Top Hat Club
3rd	WOLVERHAMPTON, Civic Hall	21st SOUTHPORT, Theatre
5th	BRIGHTON, Top Rank	22nd HANLEY, STOKE ON TRENT, Jollees Club
6th	DUNSTABLE, California Ballroom	27th WATFORD, Bailey's
7th	READING, Top Rank	28th LONDON, Hammersmith Odeon
9th	MIDDLESBOROUGH, Madison Club	29th WATFORD, Bailey's (late show)
11th	PORTSMOUTH, Tiffany's	30th WATFORD, Bailey's
12th	BIRMINGHAM, Barbarella's	
13th	ST. IVES, Cambridgeshire, St. Ives Centre	DECEMBER
14th	BOURNEMOUTH, Village	1st EASTBOURNE, Congress Theatre
15th	STAFFORD, Top of the World	2nd 4th WATFORD, Bailey's
18th	NOTTINGHAM, Palais	

marketed by
 phonogram

New single **Happy Being Lonely**
 016 410

Gladys Knight & the Pips

Their first new album for over a year

'PIPE DREAMS'

BDLH 5017 ZC/Y8 BDS 5017
 featuring their current Hit Single
'So Sad The Song'
 BDS 448



DIAL
 01-409 2635 or
 01-493 2905
 and hear Gladys
 Knight
 in
 'Pipe Dreams'



BARRY WHITE
 Is This Watcha Want?
 BTH 516
 ZC/Y8BT 516



REAL THING
 Real Thing
 NSPL 18507
 ZC/Y8P 18507



JOHNNY WAKELIN
 Reggae Soul & Rock 'n' Roll
 NSPL 18487
 ZCP 18487



ZC - cassette
 Y8 - cartridge

Listen to Gladys Knight & The Pips on Black Friday on Radio Luxemburg

Mum's

BEHIND EVERY successful man (so they say) is a great woman. That woman is usually his mum — and it doesn't just go for men. A girl needs her mum too, even though you might not think so sometimes when she's telling you the washing up has to be done first, even if you are going

out with next doors' version of Bjorn Borg.

The same goes for pop stars. You might think they float several feet above the surface of the planet, but to a mum, they're still the menaces they always were.

ALVIN STARDUST



ALVIN STARDUST's mum doesn't even think of herself as Mrs. Jewry any more. To the customers who pop into her sister's restaurant, where she helps out, it's "Mrs Stardust who makes a fine cup of tea." It's the same when she attends the Mother of the Year Lunch, held in London every year. "I sit with Lulu's mum and David Essex's mum, she says. "The others were a bit above us."

And she doesn't call her famous son Bernard (his real name) or even Alvin. To mum, he's Shane, the name he came to fame with years ago when he performed as Shane Fenton and the Fentones.

"He used to have lovely suits," mum recalls. "There was one with tiny mirrors all over it so that it caught the

ALVIN STARDUST

light when he moved. The hours I sat and sewed on all those mirrors. And all the teenagers used to scream and I'd get so worried. But I'm very proud of him. I never thought he'd go as far as he did."

Mrs Stardust worries more than Alvin about his records — and she usually has something to say about them. However, she thinks Alvin's new single 'The World Is Out' is just great.

"Mum thinks they should

all go to Number One," smiled Alvin. "If they don't, she panicks."

Mrs Stardust keeps all the silver discs up on the wall at home.

"I'd like him to come home and live with me, but he won't," she smiles. "Mind you, although he's good to me now, he was a terror when he was small. We'd go into shops, he'd cry for a toy. And if he didn't get it, he'd scream and scream!"

Mrs Stardust used to run a theatrical boarding house, so young Alvin was brought up in the atmosphere of the theatre. And later on, when he was touring, he and the rest of the entourage used to stay with her.

"Mum used to come in and collect all the dirty washing," recalled Alvin. "She'd wash and press it all for the next night."

"Rolf Harris was my favourite," said Mrs Stardust. "He used to come, long before he was famous. Once he bought me an ironing board and I still treasure it."

REAL THING

MRS AMOO is the proud mother of the Real Thing's Chris and Eddie. Chris still lives with her at home, so when the band isn't on tour, she sees quite a lot of him — unlike other mums who hardly ever see their famous sons and daughters.

"Oh, I'm very proud of them," said Mrs Amoo fondly. "I've always encouraged them in their music."

Did they take their love of the stage from her?

"I think they took it from their dad," she answered. "He used to play in a band."

By now, she must be used to seeing them briefly when they come back to play in their home town of Liverpool.



CHRIS & EDDIE & MUM

GUYS & DOLLS

GUYS AND DOLLS gal Julie Forsythe was a natural for the music business. Her mum, Penny, was a singer, dancer and her dad, TV star Bruce Forsythe. Penny started out in the traditional way — in the chorus line.

She met her husband when they both appeared at the famous Windmill Theatre in London. They found they got on so well, they left to become a double act, doing Summer seasons and pantomime.

Theatrical

Julie, who's 18, started out at ballet school and then went on to theatrical school. All her friends used to come round to the house and Mrs Forsythe would have a free floor show as they tried out all their parts.

"One time," began Mrs Forsythe, "I told them all to stay away from the swimming pool because it was frozen over. The next thing, I heard a scream. When I got out they were fishing Julie out of the pool. She's tried to do a 'Jesus' and walk on the water. She's always been the comedy one in the family. You know, the one who would stick peas in her ear or get locked in the lavatory."

"Another day, when she was four, a friend took her



PENNY & MOTHER

shopping in Mill Hill. The friend came back nearly in tears, saying Julie had wandered off. I phoned the police and they told me they'd found her. She came home between two big burly policemen. When I asked her what had happened, she said 'I gave myself up, mum'."

Did Julie worry when she started out that people would expect her to follow in father's famous footsteps?

"I did at first. But when I joined the group, I didn't tell them. They didn't find out for a while, although it was meant to be kept a secret."

Mrs Forsythe was pleased when Julie chose her career, but it came as no surprise.

"I'm thrilled with Julie," said Penny. "The first time I saw the group was in Plymouth and they were on a big bill, but when I got there and found they were at the top of the bill, I was terrified. But they were brilliant; a lovely group of youngsters all looking so clean and tidy."

"I love the way she works. She's got great style."

Julie blushed. "Oh mum!"

"Well," said Mrs Forsythe, "She's so shy. When she got her silver disc she hung it up back to front because she didn't want people to think she was showing off!"

Travel

"I don't see a lot of them, but I do travel to see them when I can. I've been everywhere to see them play. The first time I saw them was in a church hall. I was worried because I didn't think they'd do well, but they did. I was really pleased."

Of course, all the neighbours know about the local lads made good, but did she have fans come round to the house?

"Oh yes. I do get girls coming to the door, but as I'm working all day, I'm not too bothered."

Mrs Amoo works at Lime Street station in Liverpool, so when the boys come down to see her, there's nearly a riot. Everyone at work knows about Mrs Amoo's boys and are nearly as proud of them as she is.

You can imagine that the best of news for Mrs Amoo was hearing that the Real Thing had managed to hold their Number One position in the charts with 'You To Me Are Everything' for so long.

"I was really shocked, were you?" she asked. "I didn't think they'd make Number One again."

The Word!

THIN LIZZY

PHIL LYNOTT'S mum Phyllis must be one of the rare ladies who has actually toured with a band. Phyllis went with Thin Lizzy on their recent tour of the States and tied it in with a visit to her friends and relations while she was there.

"It was unbelievable," said Mrs Lynott, a diminutive figure beside her tall son. "We had four days in Chicago and then flew out to Georgia to see a couple of shows there. When we were in Los Angeles, we met up with George Best, who's an old friend of the family. I came back home then, and Phillip took poorly."

"I was petrified when I heard he was ill, but he's basically a strong character. He's not completely better, but he wanted to come down to London when he got out of hospital to start work again."

Mrs Lynott runs a hotel in Manchester but it's for show business people only.

"We don't take what we call any normal people," she explained. "I've had the Bonzo Dog Band, the Troggs, the Searchers, so I can't remember them all, stay here. So I'm used to the boys in the band. I don't allow amplifiers, but at night they sit all hours trying out their songs."

Phil was raised mainly by his grandmother in Ireland and from the age of 12 wanted to be a singer. He started out in a local group called the Black Eagles.

"He's only learnt to play an instrument in the last five or six years," said Mrs Lynott. "I've always encouraged him in anything he wanted to do. When he left school he was good at drawing and sketching, designing things, and he might have gone that way."

Mrs Lynott, of course had seen the band before she went to the States with them.

"We were amazed at first how good they were. We saw them on the stage at the Manchester Free Trade Hall when they were supporting Slade. The place was packed and they were all shouting for Slade. I nearly cried. Then Phillip plucked up the mike and said 'Aw give us a chance' in his Irish accent and it seemed to work!"



PHIL LYNOTT & MUM

OUR KID



KEVIN ROWAN

FOR MRS ROWAN, the excitement of having a pop star in the family has come earlier than to most mums — because her son Kevin is only 12 and a member of the very successful Our Kid.

"I don't see much of Kevin," she said, "because he's been away a lot lately. And now he's away until September in Great Yarmouth. I'm hoping to go for a week with another mum — Les Brians' mother — to Yarmouth to be with them. Kevin is the youngest, but I miss my others who have left home too. I think I feel it because I know it's the beginning of quite a few partings."

But Mrs Rowan has no worries about young Kevin.

"Mr Davies, their personal manager, looks after them and I believe a lady goes in and does for them."

"Kevin's been with him for three years because he started out as a solo singer. He really loves it and I'm very proud of him. I used to sing but I never had his confidence. Kevin puts himself forward for these things."

"The first time was at a talent competition at a Butlins' Camp. He put his name in himself. He was only seven."

Her only worry now is about Kevin's education.

"He was at a grammar school here in Liverpool and he was supposed to go to one at Great Yarmouth. But there was some trouble. He had been accepted for it, but I don't think the headmaster realised who he was. When he knew, he said it would disrupt the rest of the class, so Kevin had to go to the other school with the rest of the boys."

It must be funny for a mum, getting all these phone calls at home about her young son.

"Oh yes, the phone never stops and we're seriously thinking about changing the number. I don't want to, because they're nice girls, but it can be a bit much when you're working all day, then come home and have 35 calls in an evening. One Sunday, we counted them and there were 87. We take it in turns to answer now. Sometimes, if one fan comes to the house, we let her stay and be secretary and deal with the calls. One girl even did all my ironing!"



ALVIN & MOTHER

BAY CITY ROLLERS

A CERTAIN mum by the name of Mrs Wood must be the most popular school canteen supervisor in the country. Because her son is the Roller's Woody, Mrs Wood used to be in nursing but gave it up to look after her three sons.

When we spoke to Mrs Wood, she was waiting for Woody to come home from Canada — and he arrived right in the middle of the conversation. Mrs Wood was delighted to have her 'wee boy' home again. Woody brings her presents from all over the world — a doll in national costume from each country. But being a famous mum has its drawbacks. Mrs Wood hardly gets a minute's peace.

"Most of the girls who come to the door are awfully nice," she told us. "We had three the other weekend who came from Denmark and three from the States. I enjoy seeing them and I get lovely letters. I've always said that the Rollers' fans are the greatest. They travel all these miles to see them. The only time I get the police is when they make an awful noise. There's not a day goes by without someone coming."

"Last summer we had a break in. I found three boys in the house and I was

screaming at the top of my voice. They were after Stuart's gold disc."

Woody's younger brother, Ronald, is one of the most popular boys at his school, so you might imagine, Gordon, the other brother, is 21, so he doesn't get bothered as much.

But it was a worrying time for Mrs Wood and the family when Woody became ill in Australia.



STUART & GORDON

"I could just have jumped on a plane and gone to him," she told me. "Tam did say that if things had got worse, he'd have put me on a plane. It was a virus and dehydration and just knocked him out. Stuart can't stand the heat."

Apart from the worry about Woody's health, Mrs Wood is thrilled about her son's success.

"We always had great faith in him. He's always been keen on music. He never had any lessons apart from the recorder and the clarinet. He did take up the trumpet for a while but it drove me up the wall. He was 14 when he took up the guitar. He had saved up and bought one. It cost £2 and you should have seen it. It had no strings and the neck was broken. His dad told him to take it back, but he fixed it all up himself. I used to sing while he played."

Mrs Wood worries about all the fans that crowd round the band when they arrive anywhere.

"He gets a bit frightened," explained Mrs Wood. "And I can't stand crowds. When I went to see them it was very frightening — but I was crying along with the fans! I'm very emotional."

MUD

LES GRAYS' mum would have been disappointed if one of her sons didn't turn out to be a star in the music business. Originally Les's brother Peter played drums with Mud, but when they went professional and started touring, Peter decided to give it up as he didn't like being on the road.

Mrs Gray is fond of music herself and sings with a local concert party.

"Leslie was always involved with music," she remembers. "When he was seven, we sent him to piano lessons. His teacher was in the operatic society and so Leslie eventually got a part in the Gondoliers. I think that was his first public appearance. Then he sang at school and was a choirboy."

Mrs Gray, who comes from Northern Ireland, says Les does a great Irish accent — we'll have to look out for that in future, he's been hiding his light under a bush.

"We always go to see Mud when they play in London, but we don't usually go anywhere else. I'm very proud, but nervous in case something happens — like him losing his voice! He always laughs at me saying I always like the slow songs, but my favourites are 'The End Of The World' and 'Lonely This Christmas'."

Did Mrs Gray have problems with lots of enthusiastic fans?

"Not so much now — more when Leslie was at home," she said. "But there are two girls from Manchester who keep ringing up and they're like real friends now. When some girls came round while I was out, my husband had his photograph taken with them, he's a bit of a lad!"

Did Les take after his mum or his dad? "Well, he looks a lot like me, but I think he takes after his dad. My husband's terrible — the life and soul of the party," she laughed.



LES GRAY & MUM

DO THE FUNKY CONGA
Jimmy James & The Vagabonds

7N 45647

RECORDS GROUP

A great follow-up single, and a smash party hit for Christmas

Did 01-493 7272 and hear Jimmy's new single

ABBA ARRIVAL

ABBA ARRIVAL



GET
ABBA'S
LATEST
ARRIVAL

**50 ALBUMS
TO BE WON!**

You can win one of 50 albums from ABBA called ARRIVAL. Just complete the coupon below and send it with your name and address to ABBA/ARRIVAL COMPETITION, Spotlight Publications, Box 195, London N7 7BB. The first 50 correct entries will be declared the winners. The editor's decision on this is final.



ABBA COMPETITION

1. Name Abba's last three Number One hits.
.....
2. Which couple in the band are married?
.....
3. In which year did Abba win the Eurovision Song contest?
.....

Name

Address

THERE'S REALLY only one way to get a half Nelson — and that's to talk to him.

Bill is the first to admit that you'll never find out what goes on down Nelson Street unless you get behind his songs.

He doesn't reveal all in simple face-to-face confrontations. Bill leaves that to the imagination of the record buyers.

"Some people find it hard to equate the records with the person. I appear pretty down to earth, what with the suits and everything — but that's one of my little contradictions.

"I've got a strange interest in the darker side of life. I suppose I'm a melancholy person. With Be-Bop Deluxe I've been to lots of different places and seen lots of different things.

"But I don't find them amazing anymore. I guess I'm a bit jaded. When you have gone through every excess in your head — not physically but in my imagination — everything seems an anti-climax.

"The concerts in my mind are far more exciting than real life — they are totally inferior by comparison."

Bill is talking on the line from Los Angeles. Is he happy to be a Nelson in the sun?

"I still feel the same about the States. But now I've come to an understanding — you've gotta live with it. I find the people here very plastic, two dimensional beings who have just come out of a movie screen. So I've developed a tongue-in-cheek attitude to it all. I take the mick.

"But there's no way I could tolerate living here."

Bill then spills the beans about his secret marriage. "I flew home to Yorkshire last week and married Jan, the girl I've been living with for two years.

"I didn't want it in the papers. It was just close family and a few friends."

This is Bill's second marriage — his first ended in divorce. "I feel very confident about this. Jan and I have our ups and downs, but I'm sure we can pull through.

"She helps me a lot. When I've had a lot to drink after a gig she puts me to bed."

Be-Bop have been supporting Blue Oyster Cult on their current US tour. "We've been going down very well and getting across to a much larger number of people.

"You are totally misled about the States the moment you step off the

'I see no stars'

says **Bill Nelson**,
Be-Bop Admiral

plane. You're thinking: 'They talk like me so I'll understand what's happening. It's just like home only bigger.' But how wrong can you be? You might just as well be in India.

"We've been whisked around from town to town, stage to stage. It's often difficult to remember where you are and what day it is."

He was pleasantly surprised to hear of the success of the 'Hot Valves' EP. "We couldn't even get the 'Made In Heaven' single on the BBC playlist so you can imagine how happy I feel.

"Although it's very nice when one of

our records gets into the charts I don't regard it as important as getting across to a live audience.

"At gigs we go straight for the heart — but I'm not too worried if it's forgotten the next day. If you try and make a concert memorable it becomes silly."

He has the same outlook on stardom. "There are so many bands who regard themselves as stars simply because they read somewhere that they are.

"Then they have to start acting in a certain way — being seen at the right parties and so on. But if you look back at the real stars, like Hendrix and Garland, you find they were real people, born into stardom.

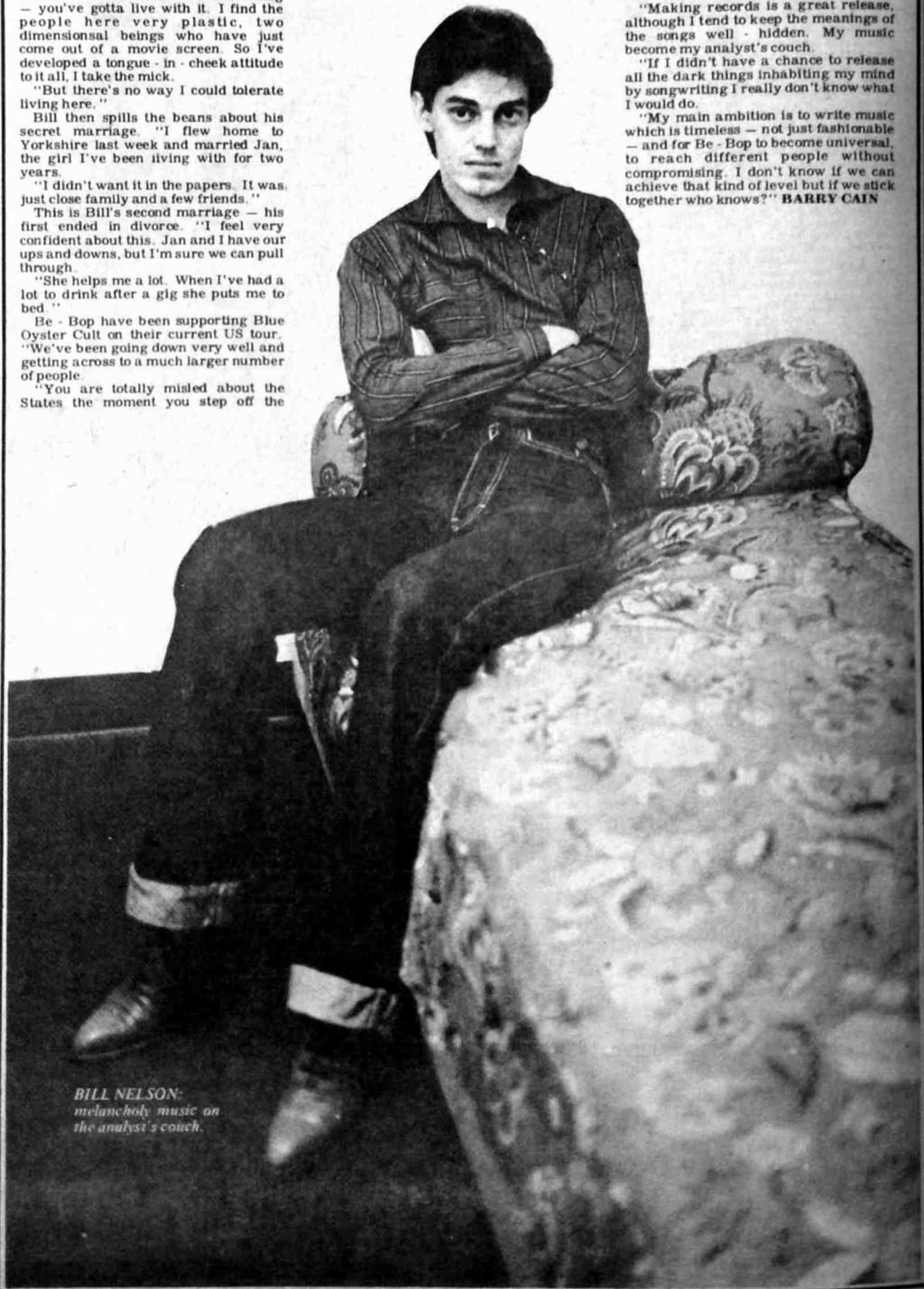
"If Be-Bop had been created by some management company, brought out an average single that went to the top because of great publicity, all really hyped-up, and then someone called me a star — I'd be insulted.

"I've worked really hard to get where I am now. Of course I'd be disappointed if it all fell through — but it wouldn't be the end of the world. I would feel strong enough to sing in little folk clubs on my own. The size of the audience doesn't matter. There is always someone somewhere prepared to listen."

"Making records is a great release, although I tend to keep the meanings of the songs well-hidden. My music become my analyst's couch.

"If I didn't have a chance to release all the dark things inhabiting my mind by songwriting I really don't know what I would do.

"My main ambition is to write music which is timeless — not just fashionable — and for Be-Bop to become universal, to reach different people without compromising. I don't know if we can achieve that kind of level but if we stick together who knows?" **BARRY CAIN**



BILL NELSON:
melancholy music on the analyst's couch.

ALKATRAZ

DOING A MOONLIGHT



ROCK BREAKOUT FROM SOUTH WALES
Will Youatt, Jimmy Davies, Jeff Singer and Stu Halliday
breakout with their debut album. Available Now.
On tour with Man (November/December)
Agency: Byron Orme at Marshall Arts 01-226 8551

TOUR DATES

NOVEMBER	Wed 10 - Liverpool	Fri 26 - Victoria Hall, Hanly, Nr. Stoke	Tues 7 - Essex University, Colchester
Fri 12 - Salford University, Manchester	Sat 27 - York University, Central Hall	Wed 8 - Guildford Civic Hall	Wed 8 - Guildford Civic Hall
Sat 13 - Sheffield University	Mon 29 - Top Rank, Swansea	Thu 9 - Sussex University, Falmer, Brighton	Thu 9 - Sussex University, Falmer, Brighton
Mon 15 - Colston Hall, Bristol	DECEMBER	Fri 10 - Roundhouse, London	Fri 10 - Roundhouse, London
Tue 16 - Winter Gardens, Cleethorpe	Thu 2 - Town Hall, Cheltenham	Sat 11 - Roundhouse, London	Sat 11 - Roundhouse, London
Wed 17 - East Anglia University, Norwich	Fri 3 - Corn Exchange, Cambridge	Sun 12 - Roundhouse, London	Sun 12 - Roundhouse, London
Fri 19 - Cardiff University	Sat 4 - Kursaal Ballroom, Southend	Tue 14 - De Montfort Hall, Leicester	Tue 14 - De Montfort Hall, Leicester
Tue 23 - Town Hall, Birmingham	Sun 5 - Fairfield Halls, Croydon	Wed 15 - Royal Hall, Harrogate	Wed 15 - Royal Hall, Harrogate
Wed 24 - Apollo, Glasgow	Mon 6 - City Hall, St. Albans	Thu 16 - Fullercrum Leisure Centre, Slough	Thu 16 - Fullercrum Leisure Centre, Slough

UAS 30001
UA
LIMITED ARTISTS RECEIVED
ROCKFIELD



Albums

DON'T MESS WITH THE BEST!



"BECAUSE the best don't mess, see?"

PATTI SMITH GROUP: 'Radio Ethiopia' (Arista Sparty 1001)

She walks a very thin line between creative, free soul-baring music and the murky depths of pretension. Patti and band are best when laying down some biting hard rock such as the opening track 'Ask The Angels' and when evocative as on 'Pissing In A River'. At other times they tend to get more than a little lost in their own ideals, which while they may well be very worthy are often too personal for the outside listener. Like all radio shows there's some good and bad songs, but don't be afraid to tune in. +++ David Brown

THE TYMES: 'Turning Point' (RCA RS 1091).

Strange title 'cos this is typical Tymes. They certainly don't change with 'em. Lush orchestration smoothes many tracks and tends to compete with the impeccable harmonies that is the group's trademark. Their unusual line-up of three guys and two girls sets them apart from the rest of the smart soul market and they take full advantage, blending into the atmosphere that leader George Williams creates with his distinctive vocals. +++ Barry Cain

WILMA READING: 'Wilma Reading' (Pye NSPL 18508)

A rather awful album consisting of slushy superclub songs with a heavy-handed orchestra and sub Shirley Bassey dramatic vocals. Ms Reading adds little to familiar fare like The Capt and Tennile's 'The

Way I Want To Touch You', 'What I Did For Love' and 'With These Hands'. No stars. Robin Katz

PUSSYCAT: 'First Of All' (Sonet SNT 725).

Predictable but pleasant offerings from the Dutch group who brought you 'Mississippi', genuine and regular Europop. In fact 'Mississippi' is the outstanding track with their follow-up single 'Smile' coming second. Lead singer Tonny Wille has an interesting and sexy voice. Without her, the band would be nothing out of the ordinary - which is just what they are when one of the boys takes the lead vocals. Try 'Bad Boy' and 'What did they do to the people' and you'll see there's more to Pussycat than meets the eye. Major criticism is the album cover which is far from

EDDIE AND THE HOT RODS: 'Teenage Depression' (Island ILPS 9457).

You've heard the single, now meet the album. Barrie Masters and the boys crash and bash their way through 11 rockers. It's tough and meaty and loud, a mixture of guitarist Dave Higgs compositions and classics from the rock files - Sam Cooke's 'Shake' and Peter Townshend's 'The Kids Are Alright' are

given the straightforward, no messin' Rods treatment. There is what's called a sixties feel to the music that's a vague generalisation over-used by record reviewers trying to pigeon-hole groups. Eddie and the Hot Rods don't need classification, they're out on their own and their music has its own feel. Get hold of this album and you'll see what I mean. ++++

Jim Evans

flattering to the young ladies. +++ Jim Evans

TOMORROW (Harvest Heritage SHSW 2010).

Hear yesterday's group of the future today! Featuring the then unknown guitarist Steve Howe, now of Yes fame, and Keith West, the 'Excerpt From A Teenage Opera' man, this is a psychedelic, acid rock strip including their single 'My White Bicycle', recently revitalised by Nazareth. Their inclusion of the Beatles' 'Strawberry Fields Forever' shows where they were at. Halcyon days, but not '76 music at all. ++ David Brown

ALKATRAZ: 'Doing A Moonlight' (United Artists UAS 30001).

A Four-piece rock band from Swansea with a commendable first album produced by Anton Mathews who has done the honours for Hawkwind and Brinsley Schwarz, among others. Will Youatt (lead guitar and vocals) used to play with 'Man'. The other three members of the group are unknowns, but shouldn't be for much longer if their latest single, 'Nito Bendito' (from this album) takes off. The tracks are all written by the group and most memorable are 'Red Lights', 'zen Cookies' and 'Ti Jean', dedicated to Jack Kerouac. +++ Jim Evans

NATURAL GAS (Private Stock PVL 1007).

Who says they don't make supergroups any-

more? The problem with super line-ups in the past has been one or more members wishing to exert their leadership, but it doesn't seem to be the case with this group. The members are Joey Molland, (ex-Badfinger), Mark Clarke (ex-Uriah Heep), Jerry Shirley (ex-Humble Pie), and Peter Wood (ex-Quiver), and the producer is Felix Pappalardi (ex-just about everything that rocks). The result is a competent, fruitful first LP, not great, but showing plenty of good signs for the future. At the moment that's enough. +++ David Brown

JALN BAND: 'Life Is A Fight' (Magnet MAG 3017).

Having taken all one side up explaining the struggles of life, the JALN boys then put us in a happier frame of mind with some honest shuffling along the lines of their dance hit 'Disco Music - I Like It', which has a prime spot here. The second side comes off best - the concept side is a bit over confident in its aims and shows no new light on a well covered theme. ++ David Brown

VARIOUS ARTISTS: 'Wizard's Convention' (RCARS 1085).

Gathered at this convention, which took place in April and May of this year, were the following: Ric Lee, Roger Glover, Jon Lord, Rick Van Der Linden, David Coverdale, Glen Hughes, Tony Ashton, Chris Barber Band, Mike D'Abbo, Eddie

Hardin, Pete York, Ray Fenwick, Mike Smith, Jimmy Helms, Mark Nauseef, Mo Foster, Leslie Hinks and Henry Spinetti. As you might have guessed, there are some interesting-unusual arrangements, with most of the songs written by Eddie Hardin. Particularly liked 'Money To Burn' with David Coverdale on vocals and Tony Ashton's singing and piano on 'Swans and Swells'. An unusual album, to say the least. +++ Jim Evans

VARIOUS: 'Out On The Streets Again' ABC ABCL 5192).

A must album for true blue soul fans and northern soul enthusiasts. 16 tracks distinctive because of their 1) obscurity and 2) quick dancing tempo. Amid the dusted-off relics are 'It Doesn't Matter How I Say It' by the late Florence Ballard, 'I Love You' by Eddie Holman and 'I Do' by The Marvelous. The third star, as always is for Adam White, whose detailed liner notes are fascinating. +++ Robin Katz

THE DRIFTERS: 'Every Nite's A Saturday Night' (Arista Arty 140).

The usual, predictable songs about movies and girls that quickly drift in one ear and out the other. The Drifter's formula has become as worn as a shabby suit. 'Another Kind Of Sorrow' is at least a little different, but when they deliver the immortal lines 'Just when I was sure we were getting to know each other, you say your mother was expecting you for tea' on 'Do You Have To Go Now' it's time to switch off. The songwriters must have had a bad day. ++ Robin Smith

THE SALSOUL ORCHESTRA: 'Nice 'N' Naasty' (Salsoul SZS 5502), 'Christmas Jollies' (Salsoul SZS 5507).

The credibility of the first album is somewhat blown by the crass assumptions of the second. Their 'Naasty' set is an album for dancing, not to sit around and listen to. Their 'Christmas' collection is best forgotten. ++ David Brown

JACKIE LOMAX: 'Livin' For Lovin' (Capitol EA 11538).

Come back Jim Capaldi, all is forgiven.

++++ Unbeatable
+++ Buy it
++ Give it a spin
+ Give it a miss
+ Unbearable



HARRISON: Isn't it a pity

GEORGE Playing the numbers game

GEORGE HARRISON: 'Thirty Three And A Third' (Dark Horse K50319).

He's 33. He's an ex-Beatle. He's self assured, confident and the composer of innocuous music. He's happy. He's looking better than ever. He's the one you listen to when you're feeling relaxed and at peace with the world. The fascination with all things religious is still evident, but not quite so obvious, apart from 'Dear One' 'Dear one show me - simple grace move me toward thee...' Somehow his attempts at self-revelation never quite come off, mainly because of the basic weakness in his voice. 'This Song' which takes a tongue in cheek look at the 'My Sweet Lord' copyright controversy, is a highlight along with his version of Cole Porter's 'True Love'. All things must pass, and this album will pass straight through your mind without leaving too many memories. But with Gary Wright and Billy Preston on hand the ride is fun. +++

Barry Cain



ELECTRIC LIGHT ORCHESTRA: 'A New World Record' (UA Jet UAG 30017).

Combining electric guitars with highbrow symphonies is a pretty crazy combination, but for the ELO it works. Often the music borders on clumsiness and the lyrics are sometimes silly, but the band's sense of fun carries them through. 'Tightrope' starts with a rushing violin theme before breaking

off into guitar and Jeff Lynne's thick vocals. A lot of the album has a 'Sgt Pepper' feel, particularly 'Telephone Line' where Lynne sounds like he's singing through a megaphone. 'So Fine' is the most effective track starting with angelic harmonies which pave the way for a variety of styles including bits of funk. If you like eccentric bands then this album is for you. ++

Robin Smith

Mr Lomax, the first artist signed to the Beatles' Apple label in the good 'ol' days, sounds remarkably like the ex-Trafficker which would be nice if his songs weren't so bad. He was always threatening to break through, alas it's probably a bit late now. ++ Barry Cain

THE SYLVERS: 'Something Special' (Capitol ST 11580)

The similarities between the Jackson Five and the Sylvers are obvious - right down to 14-year-old Foster, who they're hoping will be the new Michael. They're hoping to repeat their Stateside success in this country - and judging by this album, there's no reason why they shouldn't. It's a thoroughly polished col-

lection of songs, ranging from frantic, funky rockers like 'High School Dance' and the single, 'Hot Line' to sweet smooth ballads like 'Got To Have You (For My Very Own)' and 'Ain't No Doubt About It'. But whatever the mood, the band matches it perfectly. Quality pop music. +++ Sheila Prophet

HOT TUNA: 'Hoppkorv' (Grunt FTR 2006).

What a waste of power! The band create one hell of an unholy noise, but it's a pity they aren't able to channel it into some positive direction. As it is they just bash away, seemingly for the sake of it, and ruin a few songs like 'Holly's It's So Easy' and Berry's 'Talkin' Bout You into the bargain. ++ David Brown



JONI MITCHELL: casual love

JONI More blues

JONI MITCHELL: 'Hejira' (Asylum) K 53053).

A winter album. Cold and barren, the words are scattered across the bleak terrain of each song. "As snow gathers like bolts of lace, Waltzing on a ballroom girl." This is in stark contrast to the comparative warmth of 'Summer Lawns' and a natural progression. The musical accompaniment is sparse - a simple guitar and drums is all she requires. A Joni Mitchell album usually takes about a year to sink in and then another year to appreciate. On first hearing the two tracks that have immediate impact are 'Coyote' and 'Blue Motel Room' which, in their dealings with casual love, are very similar. I'd like to award five stars now, but give me a couple of years first.

Barry Cain

friends of enemies like Leroy Brown and Rapid Roy, giving a flavour of American bar-room life. ++++ Robin Smith

BILLY PRESTON (A&M AMLH 64587).

While Billy may have earned his wings as a R&B leader, and augmented Beale / Stones member he seems to go round in circles getting nowhere fast. The latest album is fairly typical - a couple of goodies, a handful of reasonable tracks and some downright duffers. ++ David Brown

PARIS: 'Big Towne, 2061' (Capitol 11560).

Wait till you get an Eiffel for Paris! The three piece Californian band look like freaky fugitives from one of those misty Dubonnet TV ads - all stripes and white strides. And their music ain't bad either, chérie. Very electric with intriguing choppy guitar bobbing around on a sea of synthesizers. A band to watch for. ++ Barry Cain

BACK IN THE STREETS: Compilation Album (DJM 22051).

Soul package with 20 titles. Included are 'Every Beat Of My Heart' by Gladys Knight and the Pips and 'Billy's Bag' by Billy Preston. The album draws from the vaults of the old Vee Jay Record Company - the largest black record company until the arrival of Motown. Soul freaks would love this in their Christmas stockings. ++++ Robin Smith

MICHAEL DINNER: 'Tom Thumb The Dreamer' (Fantasy FTA 3006).

A pretty, pretty platter. You can't really get your teeth into Dinner but he certainly won't give you indigestion. He's got an interesting voice and a bunch of fine West Coast musicians behind him. The combination makes for a very listenable slice of vinyl. +++ Barry Cain

OSCAR: 'Twilight Asylum' (DJM DJF 20484).

Come and meet Captain Kevin, Jeremy and many other weirdies who are the brainchildren of Oscar. The album is a macabre

GIL SCOTT HERON AND BRIAN JACKSON: 'It's Your World' (Arista AL 5001).

Gil Scott Heron is the black Bob Dylan. What he has to say is important, eloquent and unusually effective in making everyone else sound trite. On this double live album specially imported yet cheaply, Heron gives us a lengthy rendition of 'The Bottle' with its anti-alcoholism message hidden in a disco beat, plus the poignant 'Home Is Where The Hatred Is' and the finger-snapping street poem 'Bicentennial Blues'. Musically, the infectious latin rhythms that are Heron and Jackson's trademark work nicely, but not as well as they do live. Critically, Heron could have crammed more into this album. Record one goes on a bit, but lyrically there is no man more powerful or potent passing the word. ++++ Robin Katz

SPRIGUNS: 'Revel, Weird And Wild' (Decca SKL 5262).

The first album from a five-piece electric folk rock band who take their name from a small Cornish pixie-like creature. Tim Hart of Steeleye Span produced this and 'Spriguns' sound like early Steeleye and early Steel-eye. Singer Marty Morton is the king-pin of the group. She plays 12-string guitar, writes most of the material which is largely based on traditional tales of knights and lords and ladies, and has a beautiful clear voice. A mention too for Chris Woodcock's drumming and John Collins electric violin playing. +++ Jim Evans

JIM CROCE: 'Photographs and Memories, His Greatest Hits' (Lifesong ELSLP 5000).

Jim Croce was killed in a plane crash in 1973 - strange the way that death makes artists more popular. Within weeks of his departure all three of his albums were in the American Top 15. If you're a romantic then this is an album to send you, if not you'll pass most of it off as slosh. Jim had a sensitive heart and included on the album are 'Operator' and 'I'll Have To Say I Love You In A Song' both telling of girlfriend problems. Away from the sentiment Jim also sings of

Sherbet

NEW SINGLE!

' If I



Had



my



Way'



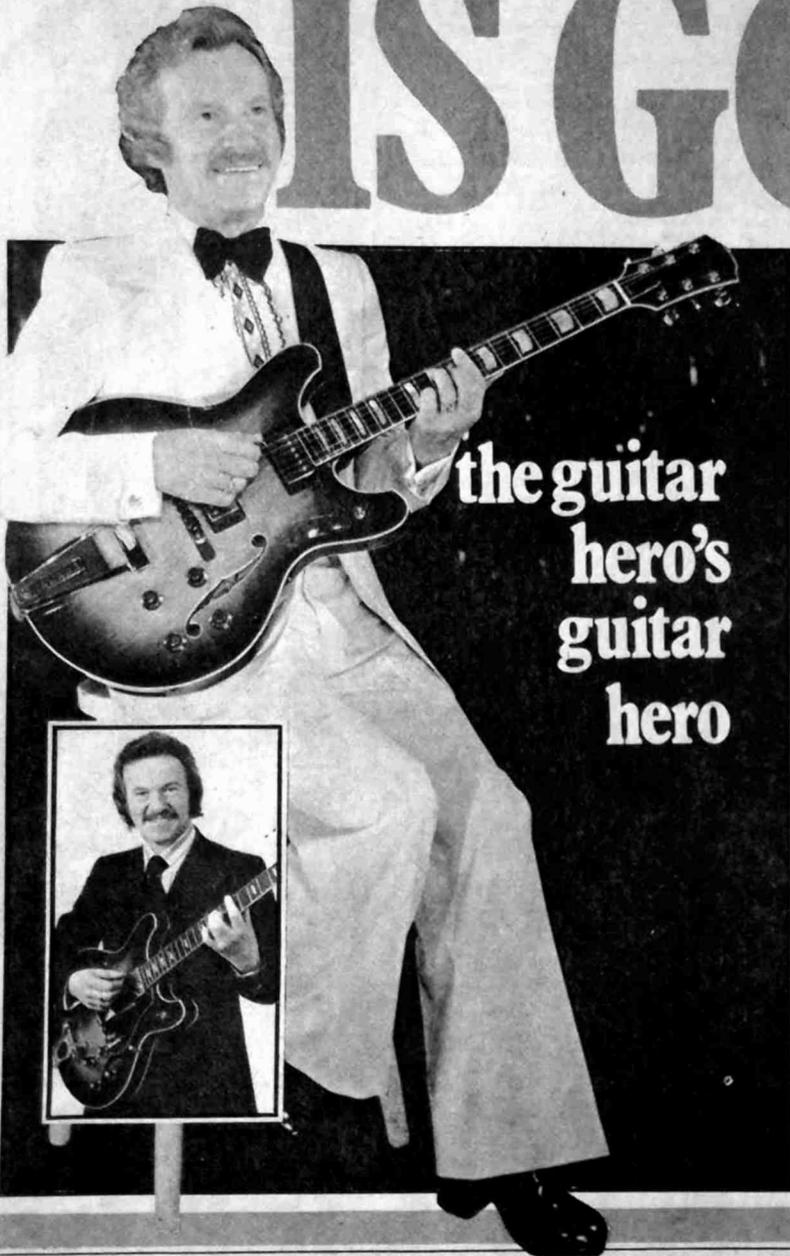
'If I Had My Way'- another great track from ...



Sherbet's new album 'Howzat'



TWEEDON IS GOD!



the guitar hero's guitar hero



IN THE centre of London there's a very in club where the punkos safety pin the night away to the heaviest sounds in town.

The stairs leading down to the bar are narrow and cold. But there's a slogan daubed across the wall in giant letters that would warm the cockles of anyone's heart:

BERT WEEDON IS GOD!

Yes, the ancient axeman is back looking sharper than ever. Bert's new album '22 Guitar Greats' has just knocked Zeppelin's latest for six and is the biggest selling record on the market.

At 56 he's a legend, known to many as the man who taught the world to play electric guitar. But do any of you out there who have been digging the Weedon for all these years really know what he's about?

Lights, action, music. Over to you Bert.

"I've been selling records for years, but they haven't got into the charts because they were budget priced. I haven't been in the hit parade (that's an old 'un) for 15 years.

"And now I've got a number one selling album. It's fantastic. I've just heard it's gone gold as well."

Bert's looked after himself over the years and it shows. His curly red hair and Zapata moustache are the only concessions he makes to being a trendy. Sorry Bert, carry on.

"When the group scene came along in the early sixties they really gave the solo artists like me and Russ Conway a terrible pasting. We just couldn't get back into the charts. So I've just kept plugging away doing shows up and down the country a summer season here a TV programme there.

"During all this time while bands like Led Zeppelin have been playing to an audience of five million I like to think I have been catering for the other 50 million left out.

"After all these years I have finally got through... on playing alone. I've never been one to go in for way out behaviour or dress. I wouldn't like the life style of these modern groups.

"You won't catch me driving a motor cycle into a swimming pool or biting off

a chicken's head. I'm in the business of guitar playing and not for outrageous goings on.

"I want people to admire me for my music and nothing more."

Flashback, Bert was born in East Ham. He bought his first guitar at the age of 12 for 75p in Petticoat Lane. He was taught to play classical music at first and then went on to join big bands of the day like Ted Heath, Mantovani and The Squadronnaires.

He backed early rock stars like Tommy Steele, Cliff Richard, Adam Faith and also the established artists like Sinatra, Judy Garland and Tony Bennett.

"I used to do quite a few rock and roll shows and today I still get groups of original teddy boys coming to my concerts. I became a cult figure with them. And at the same time I have collected the biggest following of middle of the road fans in the country.

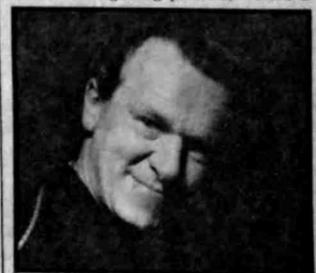
"I never try to compete with the Jimmy Page's or Eric Clapton. If I played on stage with Zeppelin I'd feel a right berk. I know my market and stick to it.

"My favourite guitarist is John McLaughlin. He is a great, great player. But there have been a lot of bad things done with the guitar. Some people have turned it into an electronic gimmick and have forgotten it's a musical instrument.

"Some of the sounds they can achieve fascinate me. I never dreamed such things were possible with a guitar."

Bert on drugs

"I NEVER take them. I really don't know how rock stars can derive any benefit from getting pillled up before a



BERT looking sharper than ever

GO ON GIVE IT SOME RECORD MIRROR GO ON GIVE IT SOME RECORD MIRROR GO ON GIVE IT SOME RECORD MIRROR GO ON

Get This Exclusive Giant Parrot Sweat Shirt



The shirt, in Caribbean Beige, features V-neck, collar, pockets and is fleece-lined. The parrot design is printed in two colours.

Only Giant Parrots can wear these special sweat shirts which cost just £3.90, including p&p, and come in Medium Size.

Just complete your order, enclosing a cheque / postal order made payable to RM T-SHIRTS for £3.90 for each shirt and send to:

GIANT PARROT T-SHIRT OFFER, RECORD MIRROR, SPOTLIGHT PUBLICATION LTD, 1 BENWELL ROAD, LONDON N7 7AX. Allow 21 days for delivery.

The offer is open to all readers in England, Scotland and Wales while stocks last.

Record Mirror reserves the right to change the colour of the sweat shirts if this becomes unavoidable.

Please send me Giant Parrot Sweat Shirt(s) I enclose

cheque / postal orders for made payable to: RM T-Shirts. Please send my order to:

Name

Address

(please repeat for return)

Name

Address

GIVE IT SOME RECORD MIRROR GO ON GIVE IT SOME RECORD MIRROR GO ON GIVE IT SOME RECORD



If I played on stage with Zeppelin I'd feel a right berk. I know my market and stick to it'

concert. They obviously must be lacking in confidence, but artificial aids can only be detrimental to your playing.

"There are a lot of pressures on these kids today. Look at the Rollers. Unless you are a strong person you can't possibly last. I have survived longer than any guitarist in modern pop history. I go back to 1945 and I am still topping bills. If I'd have been born 20 years later I'd be a millionaire now."

"I try and run my life as normally as possible. If I was 21 and saw that 'Weedon is God' slogan, I guess it would go straight to my head. But I have kept my feet firmly on the ground and my fingers firmly on the guitar strings."

Bert on groupies

"HOW CAN I talk about my past experiences with my wife Maggie sitting here? Let's just say that modern groups have not invented sex. There were always wild scenes as far back as the days of Marie Lloyd.

Bert on his 'Play In A Day' books.

"IT'S THE biggest selling guitar tutor book in history. The Beatles, the Shadows, the Who have all come up to me after concerts and said they learned how to play with my book."

"I've got a small footing in the rock world because most of the bands started with 'Play In A Day'."

"I suppose I've made quite a lot of money out of it all. I have a big house with a square swimming pool in the grounds, with the emphasis on the word 'square'."

"One good thing about being a musician is you can go on and on. A singer's voice often fails him, but musicians only improve with the years. I consider myself to be the luckiest man alive, because I get paid for doing my favourite thing . . . strumming a guitar."

Bert Weedon may not be God, but he's definitely created his own little heaven down here on earth. **Barry Cain**

BERT "leave chickens outta this" Weedon was probably the first man to bring the electric guitar to the masses and many of today's leading exponents of the instrument owe him a debt - or so you would think.

We asked various guitarists what they thought of Bert, and some of the replies were surprising to say the least.

Most obvious choice - Led Zeppelin whose Song Remains The Same album was knocked off the top by Bert's album.

JIMMY PAGE - (he just smiled).

JOHN BONHAM - "I learned how to play guitar from Bert's 'Play In A Day' book - that's why I'm a drummer in Led Zeppelin."

STEVE HILLAGE - "Bert was the first person I ever saw play electric guitar on TV Crackerjack I think (I never appeared on Crackerjack, it was 'Five O'Clock Club', says Bert) so he must have had a great invisible influence on me."

RITCHIE BLACKMORE from Down Under - "No comment."

CARLOS SANTANA - "Me and ze Bert 'ow you say Wedding used to bite parrot's heads off together. Nice man. Neva knew 'ee play guitar though."

ARIEL BENDER - "I still play 'Guitar Boogie Shuffle' at soundchecks. He deserves this success after all these years."

MARC BOLAN - "I think he's pathetic, he's

just not punk enough. Besides, I prefer Duane Eddy."

JOHN MILES - "Great influence on me. I'm very pleased for him."

BILL NELSON - "I bought the 'Play In A Day' book and strummed my very first guitar with a Bert Weedon plectrum. On the first few pages it was quite easy playing 'Jingle Bells' and 'There's A Tavern In The Town'. But when he started getting into the theory of it all he lost me. But I guess I learned my C, F and G Majors from him."

MICK JONES (guitarist with Clash) - "Bert Weedon? I fort 'e was a tailor or sumfin'."

MIKE OLDFIELD - "Bert was the first guitarist to make any real impression on me. I saw him on a TV show called 'Tuesday Rendezvous' - or was it 'Thursday Rendezvous' - when I was seven and immediately persuaded my father to buy me my first guitar. In fact, if it wasn't for Bert I might never have taken it up in the first place."



JIMMY PAGE



JOHN BONHAM



STEVE HILLAGE



CARLOS SANTANA



ARIEL BENDER



MARC BOLAN



JOHN MILES



BILL NELSON



RITCHIE BLACKMORE



MIKE OLDFIELD

ROBIN SARSTEDT is 'Sitting in Limbo'

His new single is titled "Sitting in Limbo", but he certainly isn't! This is the other side of Sarstedt, calypso type rhythms, brass, swirling organ all of which combine to give you Robin at his very best.

To hear this great single dial 01-499 9618/9441

Upfront

Record Mirror's weekly guide to
Concerts, TV, Radio, Books and Films

Wednesday

November 24

ABERDEEN, Capitol (2314), Victor Borge
ABERYSTWYTH, The University (4242), Cajun Moon
BATH, The University, Jess Roden Band/Krazy Kat
BIRMINGHAM, Mermaid, Spark Hill, Crazy Cavan 'n' the Rhythm Rockers
BOURNEMOUTH, Winter Gardens (2644), Mud
BRADFORD, The University (34135), George Hatcher Band
BRANSFORD, Bank House Fod Club, Bridget St John
BRISTOL, Colston Hall (291768), London Wainwright III/Joanna Carlin
BUSHEY, Harspring Community Centre, Stefan Grossman
COVENTRY, Lanchester Polytechnic, Main Hall, George Melly and the Feetwarmers
FARNWORTH, Blightys, Gene Pitney
GLASGOW, Apollo Centre (041-332 6055), Man/Alkatraz
GLASGOW, City Hall (041-552 5961), Kursaal Flyers/Barlesque
HATFIELD, Hatfield Polytechnic, Stray
HEREFORD, Crystal Rooms (67378), Vince Hill
HULL, Baileys (24000), Johnny Guitar Watson
KETERING, Freshwater, Dalkeith Place, JALN Band
LANCASTER, The University (65201), Mike Harding
LIVERPOOL, Empire (051-709 1555), Kiki Dee
LONDON, Fanes Praed Street, Geno Washington
LONDON, Hammersmith Odeon (01-748 4801), Steele Span/Martin Simpson
LONDON, Man in the Moon, Kings Road, Carol Grimes
LONDON, Marquee, Wardour Street (01-437 6603), Jess Roden/Ferret
LONDON, New Victoria, Wilton Street (01-834 0671/2/3), Linda Ronstadt
LONDON, Palladium (01-437 7373), Carpenters
LONDON, Popular Civic Centre, Bow Road, Sasfras/Loving Awareness
LUTON, Caesars Palace (51357), Drifters
MANCHESTER, Electric Circus, Collyhurst Street, Eddie and the Hot Rods
MANCHESTER, Palace Theatre (061-236 0184), Tommy Steele
MILTON, New Olympic Variety Club, Acker Bilk and his Paramount Jazzband



JUDGE DREAD at Scunthorpe, Saturday

NORWICH, University of East Anglia (52068), Split Enz
ORMSKIRK, Edgehill College of Education, Strangers
PLYMOUTH, Woods Hall, Doctors of Madness
READING, Top Rank, (57262), Giggles
SALTBURN, Philmore Disco, Labi Siffre
SHEFFIELD, Polytechnic (21290), Moon
STOKE HANLEY, Jollees (317492), Chi-Lites
WATFORD, Baileys (39848), Showaddywaddy

Thursday

November 5

BANGOR, The University (51835), Stranglers
BELFAST, Queens University (42124), Mike Absalom
BRISTOL, Tiffanys (34057), Noel Edmonds
CHEADLE, Highwayman Club, Trapez
DERBY, Tiffanys, Jimmy James and the Vagabonds
DUBLIN, National Stadium, Canned Heat
DUNSTABLE, Civic Hall (051-229 7607), Andy Fairweather Low/Christine Howe
EDINBURGH, Usher Hall (031-229 7607), Cliff Richard
FOLKESTONE, La Clique
JALN Band
GLOUCESTER, Roundabout Club, Roogalator
HAYDOCK, St Oswalds Club, Labi Siffre
HEREFORD, Crystal Rooms, Vince Hill
HIGH WYCOMBE, Nags Head (21758), Helibound/The Boys
INVERNESS, Eden Court Theatre, Victor Borge
LONDON, Froebel Institute, Roehampton Lane, Stefan Grossman
LONDON, Hammersmith Odeon (01-748 4081), Steele Span/Martin Simpson



ROOGALATOR at Gloucester, Thursday, Portsmouth, Saturday and Guildford, Tuesday

LONDON, Kings College, The Strand, Cado Belle
LONDON, Marquee, Wardour Street (01-437 6603), Loving Awareness/Oppo
LONDON, Nashville, North End Road (01-603 6071), Derelicts/Vibrators
LONDON, Palladium, Argyl Street (01-437 7373), Carpenters
LUTON, Caesars Palace (51357), Drifters
MANCHESTER, Band on the Wall (061-832 6625), Mike Westbrook
MANCHESTER, Palace Theatre (061-236 0184), Tommy Steele
MOTHERWELL, Civic Hall, Kursaal Flyers/Barlesque
PORTSMOUTH, Locarno (25441), Steve Hillage/Nova
SCARBOROUGH, Penthouse (63204), Split Enz
STOCKPORT, Town Hall, Edward Street, Acker Bilk and his Paramount Jazzband
STOKE, Jollees, (317492), Chi-Lites
SWANSEA, The University (24851), Jess Roden Band/Krazy Kat
WATFORD, Baileys (39848), Showaddywaddy

Friday

November 6

BARNSTAPLE, Queen's Hall, George Melly
BIRKENHEAD, Mr Digbys, Screaming Lord Sutch
LIVERPOOL, Erics, The Damned
LIVERPOOL, The Polytechnic (051-227 5881), Jess Roden Band/Krazy Kat
LONDON, City University, St John Street (01-253 7191), Supercharge, Boom-baya, Cimaronas
LONDON, Dingwalls, Camden Lock (01-267 4967), Bees Make Honey
LONDON, Imperial College (01-589 511 ext 1042), Foster Brothers
LONDON, Marquee, Wardour Street (01-437 6603), Little Bob Story
LONDON, Nashville, North End Road (01-603 6071), Max Merritt and the Meteors
LONDON, North East Polytechnic, Livingstone House, Stratford (01-534 5208), Pacific Eardrum
LONDON, Palladium (01-437 7373), Carpenters
LUTON, Caesars Palace (51357), Drifters
MALVERN, Winter Gardens (2700), Caravan/Oscar
MANCHESTER, Bellevue (061-223 2927), Rod Stewart
MANCHESTER, Palace Theatre (061-236 0184), Tommy Steele
NEWCASTLE, The Polytechnic (28761), Geno Washington/Gonzalez
ROSS ON WYE, Harvey's Room, Real Thing
SALFORD, The University (061-736 7811), Andy Fairweather Low/Catherine Howe



TOMMY STEELE at Manchester until Friday

LOUGHBOROUGH, The University (31717), Andy Fairweather Low / Catherine Howe
LUTON, Caesars Palace (51357), Drifters
MANCHESTER, Electric Circus, Collyhurst Street, Stray
MANCHESTER, The University, Jess Roden Band/Krazy Kat
NORTHAMPTON, County Cricket Ground, Wantage Road, Eddie and the Hot Rods
NOTTINGHAM, Boat Club (869032), Dirty Tricks
NORWICH, University of East Anglia (52068), City Boy
PORTSMOUTH, The Polytechnic (819141), Roogalator
READING, The University (808222), Doctors of Madness
SCUNTHORPE, Baths Hall, Judge Dread Spectacular
SOUTHEND, Kursaal (66276), Steve Hillage/Nova
ST ANDREWS, The University, Silly Wizard
STOCKPORT, Davenport Theatre (40404), Victor Borge
STOKE, Jollees (317492), Chi-Lites
TAUNTON, Odeon (2283), Kiki Dee
TEESIDE, The Polytechnic, The Damned
WARRINGTON, Lion Hotel, Meal Ticket
WIGAN, Casino (43501), George Hatcher Band
YORK, The University (56128), Man/Alkatraz

Saturday

November 27

BATH, The University, Curved Air
BIRMINGHAM, The University (021-472 1841), Mud
BRADFORD, The University (34135), Cado Belle
BRISTOL, The University (35035), George Melly
CAMBRIDGE, Grandad Club, Desmond Dekker
CARDIFF, Capitol (31316), Steele Span/Martin Simpson
CARDIFF, The University (39642), Canned Heat
CLEETHORPES, Bunnies Place (67128), Jimmy James and the Vagabonds
FARNBOROUGH, Recreation Centre, Real Thing
GLASGOW, Apollo (041-332 6055), Cliff Richard
GLOUCESTER, Roundabout, JALN Band
HULL, City Hall, Mike Harding
KENDAL, Brewery Arts Centre, Mike Westbrook
LONDON, Hammersmith Odeon (01-748 4081), Marshall Tucker Band / Grinderswitch / Bonnie Bramlet
LONDON, Hope and Anchor, Upper Street (01-359 4510), Plummet Airlines
LONDON, Imperial College, Prince Consort Road (01-589 5111 ext 1042), Split Enz/Hellhound
LONDON, London School of Economics, Houghton Street (01-405 4872), Cajun Moon/Andy Roberts
LONDON, Marquee, Wardour Street (01-437 6603), Dogwatch
LONDON, Nashville, North End Road (01-603 6071), Max Merritt and the Meteors
LONDON, Palladium, Argyl Street (01-437 7373), Carpenters
LONDON, Rochester, Stoke Newington High Street, Razorbacks

MANCHESTER, Bellevue (061 - 223 2927), Rod Stewart
NORWICH, Theatre Royal (28205), Mud
NOTTINGHAM, Palais, Jimmy James and the Vagabonds
OXFORD, New Theatre (44544), Steele Stan / Martin Simpson
PORTSMOUTH, Centre Hotel (27651), Stefan Grossman
SHEFFIELD, Top Rank, City Boy
SOUTHAMPTON, The University (556291), Racing Cars
SOUTHEND ON SEA, Queens Hotel, Ogre Tales / Mad Shadow / Highly Strung / Vest / Fourth Channel / Arctic Sun / Soho / Dune / Hazy Jane / Gypsy Rock Squad / State Express Co / Diamond Jack Band / Low Lewis Band / Mickey Jupp Band
SOUTHPORT, Southport Theatre (40404), Victor Borge
SWINDON, Wyvern Theatre, Labi Siffre

Monday

November 29

BATLEY, Variety Club, Gene Pitney
BIRMINGHAM, Golden Eagle, Cryer Street, Plummet Airlines
BIRMINGHAM, Odeon (021-643 6101), Bonnie Bramlett / Marshall Tucker / Grinderswitch
BRIGHTON, Severn Club, Foster Brothers
BRISTOL, Colston Hall (201768), Steele Span / Martin Simpson
CAMBRIDGE, Lady Mitchell Hall, City Boy
CHARNOCK RICHARD, Park Hall Club, Drifters
EDINBURGH, Tiffanys (031-556 6292), Max Merritt
EXETER, The University (77911), Caravan / Oscar
GUILDFORD, Town Hall (67314), Eddie and the Hot Rods
LONDON, Nashville, North End Road (01-603 6071), Bees Make Honey
LONDON, Rock Garden, Covent Garden (01-240 3961), Derelicts
MANCHESTER, Free Trade Hall (061-834 0943), Victor Borge
SOUTHAMPTON, Gaumont (2201), Kiki Dee
STAFFORD, Top of the World, Drifters
SWANSEA, Brangwyn Hall, Steve Hillage / Nova
SWANSEA, Top Rank (53142), Man / Alkatraz

Tuesday

November 30

BIRMINGHAM, Odeon (021-643 6101), Rod Stewart
BIRMINGHAM, Town Hall (6021 - 236 2339), Jess Roden Band / Krazy Kat
BOURNEMOUTH, Town Hall, Racing Cars
CARDIFF, Top Rank (3538), City Boy
GUILDFORD, The Place, Roogalator
IPSWICH, Gaumont (53641), Kiki Dee
LIVERPOOL, Empire (051-709 1555), Andy Fairweather Low / Catherine Howe
LIVERPOOL, Grafton Rooms, Drifters
LIVERPOOL, The University, Vin Garbutt
LONDON, Dingwalls, Camden Lock (01-267 4967), Cado Belle
LONDON, 100 Club, Oxford Street (01-636 0933), Stranglers / Clemens Pull
LONDON, Marquee, Wardour Street (01-437 6603), Charlie
LONDON, Nags Head (01-739 5059), Waveband
LONDON, Nashville, North End Road (01-603 6071), Dust on the Needle
LONDON, Red Cow, Hammersmith Road, Out to Lunch
PLYMOUTH, Fiesta, Caravan/Oscar
SHEFFIELD, City Hall, Mike Harding
UXBRIDGE, Brunel University, Stefan Grossman
WREXHAM, Tivoli Ballroom, Moon

HEAR IT!

RADIO FORTH has launched a new competition to find the Pinball Wizard of Forth Country. The Radio Forth Pinball machine will be touring East Central Scotland giving listeners the chance of winning the title. The top scorer at each venue will go forward to a Grand Final in Edinburgh next month and the winner will receive an exclusive jacket from The Who. "Hear Me Talkin'", Radio Clyde Saturday 10.02 pm, features Ringo Starr talking about his 'Rotogravure' album. Still with Radio Clyde, Sunday's 'Country Sounds' (2.30 pm) has an interview with Charley Pride.



CADO BELLE, Radio One, Saturday, 6.30 pm

SEE IT!

IT'S YOUR chance to see the new Bay City Roller, Pat McGlynn on Saturday's 'Supersonic'. Also on the bill are Mud, Babes and the Kursaal Flyers. 'Arrows' on Tuesday features Jonathan King and The Dodgers. Don't forget Sunday's third part of the excellent BBC blues series 'The Devil's Music'. Jimmy Savile introduces Thursday's Top of the Pops.



GEORGE HATCHER at Bradford, Wednesday

To scream or not to scream?

DAVID ESSEX
Stratford-on-Avon

"TO BE or not to be, that is the question," was David Essex's only surrender to his surroundings, as he made history by appearing with his hand on the boards at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre.

The David Essex Band was the first ever pop / rock show allowed at

the RST and it marked the last date in a remarkable tour.

Considering they had done some 40 gigs the band still sounded agile and exciting in their new surroundings, but seemed a little shocked by the reactions they met.

They received a warm enough reception from the three tiered audience and for perhaps the first time ever, you could hear almost every word and note uttered from the stage. It was without doubt the most attentive, polite audience at a David Essex concert yet. There was hardly a scream or shout to be heard. The band seemed stunned that something they had wanted for some time finally happened.

Perhaps the Stratford audience are more attuned to remaining calm and collective during plays by the bard than by rock bombardment by the Earl of Essex. It certainly made a pleasing change.

Their set has remained about the same throughout the tour, though comparing it with the Streatham gig earlier on, several numbers seem to be being more relaxed and looser.

David was, as usual having a whale of a time and could get close to his audience for once - indeed the front row looked a bit apprehensive at their hero standing inches away.

The singalong was of course 'Hold Me Close' plus a quick burst of 'I Do Like To Be Beside The Seaside' (Stratford on - Sea?).

There were a few calls for numbers such as 'If I Could' towards the end - but they had to make do with the more serious tones of 'Out On The Street', which still contrasts sharply with some of the earlier material.

The new single 'Ooh Love' met with respect - those interesting rhythms sound pretty good live with two basses and guitar making up the weight of the backing.

All too soon it was all over, but the behaviour of the crowd held good for the event being repeated in the not too distant future. For the time being there's a special treat in store at London's Palladium next month.

The music will remain the same but there will be all the trimmings: dancers, clowns and so on. Until then there will be many fond memories in Stratford of the time David Essex and band played - as you like it.

DAVID BROWN

Essex finds his labour of love isn't lost



DAVID ESSEX: Cool, calm and collected audience

Roadshows

CLIFF RICHARD London

WANT to know where to find the weirdest audience in town? Forget the punks and posers down at the Marquee - try a Cliff Richard concert!

Since he regained his respectability with the 'I'm Nearly Famous' album, you found a few trendies scattered about the hall, but otherwise, his audience seems to be the widest cross-section of humanity you'll find anywhere. They range from little old ladies in coats and fancy hats, down to little girls in party dresses who've been brought by their mums.

But whatever the age, they all adore Cliff! As he bounces around the stage, cracking corny jokes, they sat spell-bound, hanging on to every word.

Naturally enough, Cliff's stage show is superb - the old favourites, right through to the latest hits like 'Devil Woman' and a lovely version of 'Miss You Nights'.

The show builds to a rocking finale, with Cliff and the band covering the stage (and the front rows of the audience) in a thick web of coloured streamers. All good, clean fun.

As Cliff says his goodbyes, some ladies even rush the stage - at a fairly dignified pace, of course!

SHEILA PROPHET

KIKI DEE BAND Glasgow

DESPITE the rival attractions of the Carpenters and the Scotland v Wales World Cup match, Kiki Dee managed to fill 3,000 seats on a damp and dreary winters' evening.

She swept onstage draped in a huge Scottish banner and made an immediate impression. Her set started off much the same as her Edinburgh Festival gig, running through a series of tried and tested material -

'How Glad I Am', 'Step By Step', 'Sugar On The Floor', 'Amoreuse', 'I Am To Be There' and 'Once A Fool'.

She carried off a trio of new songs - 'In Return', 'Chicago' and 'Night Hours' without losing any momentum and the audience reaction surprised Kiki herself.

Thereafter the show stormed to a finish with 'Lovin' and Free', 'Standing Room Only' and, of course, 'Don't Go Breaking My Heart'.

What a night! Kiki's more than just a pretty face - she's a talent in her own right and she handles her band in much the same way as Linda Ronstadt handles hers. What more can I say?

RICHE ROBERTS

STEVE HILLAGE Bristol

ALTHOUGH YOU won't see Steve Hillage on 'Top of the Pops' there are quite a few people to whom he's famous, and it was almost a full house at the Colston Hall on Monday.

Most of the audience were obviously there to hear his excellent album, 'T', and it was just what they all wanted when he played the entire set.

They were extended versions, of course, but quite close to the originals. On stage Steve is accompanied by a second lead guitar, bass, drums, and then three sets of keyboards, two of which are synthesizers.

Sometimes the creative energy was channelled more into finding new sounds than into the music - this was particularly true in a guitar/effects solo by Steve near the end which went on far too long.

Otherwise it was a fine evening. Although the music was planned and rehearsed, there was ample scope for the development of individual ideas.

HOWARD FIELDING

SHOWADDYWADDY Watford

SOME KNOCKERS might say that Showaddywaddy aren't the genuine article. Everyone to their own; their show at Balys Watford was a fast-moving, slick rock 'n' roll revue.

They dance, jive, leap about and still manage to sing and play their instruments. Among the numbers they served up on Monday night were Buddy Holly's 'Rave On', 'Three Steps To Heaven', 'Rock 'N' Roll Music', 'Heartbeat', 'Jailhouse Rock' and their reworking of Curtis Lee's 'Under The Moon Of Love' - the current hit single.

LOUDON WAINWRIGHT III London

PROBABLY the best thing about this concert is that it was being recorded for a potential live album. Loudon's record company, Arista, have yet to fix the release date.

Inspired by patriotic fervour, Loudon started the gig with 'Bicentennial' from his current album 'T Shirt'. He devoted the main part of the evening to old numbers, mostly from 'Attempted Moustache' and 'Unrequited'.

'Bicentennial' was followed by 'I Am The Way' which determined the atmosphere for the rest of the show.

He continued with 'a medley of travel songs', which included 'Plane Too', 'Whatever Happened To Us', 'Classiquito To The Nip Degree' and 'Old Friend'.

He then changed from guitar to piano, played a brief parody of Elton John's 'Crocodile Rock' and went into 'Red Guitar'. He provided effective percussion by means of taps, steps and little stamps, which became especially apparent in 'Clockwise Chateausse'.

For an audience participa-

such well-chosen phrases as "Get off your asses, get on your feet," and "C'mon everyone, sway - just pretend you're pissed" and for 'Heartbeat', "Sing yer balls off".

The standard of playing and vocal harmonies were tight throughout. They do play some of their own material as well as the classic rockers. Notable was their 'Kling Of The Jive'. Showaddywaddy are eight strong, and all play their part. I must mention Romeo's drumming. He must be fit to keep going like that.

JIM EVANS

JOHNNY 'GUITAR' WATSON Hammersmith

IT'S A shame when something you've been looking forward to fails to grab you by the throat and leave you gasping for more.

Being a prolific songwriter and veteran soul axeman Johnny 'Guitar' Watson's gig on Saturday at Hammersmith Odeon promised to be a goodie.

The feeling of high anticipation was kept up by his backing band, the Watsonian Institute, with fine brass versions of 'Hard Work' and Herbie Hancock's 'Chameleon', they put the set on a strong opening footing.

The man himself appeared wearing red glitter pants and a narrow-brimmed Hendrix titer.

Watson is a flash, jazzy funkster and the notes trickle from his guitar smoothly. All the upside-down, over-your-shoulder, intricate handed guitar acrobatics weren't really necessary, but as I say, he's flash.

Apart from his four best-

tion number 'Wine With Dinner' proved to be extremely entertaining; the whole Victoria Theatre (slightly off key) singing.

He seemed to get through an incredible number of songs in a short space of time.

A highly enjoyable evening was concluded with the encores 'Motel Blues', 'Ruhus Was A Tit Man' and with the inevitable 'Dead Skunk' for which Loudon now has a second, reggae version, 'Dread Skunk'!

ANGELA RIPPET

STEELEY SPAN Birmingham

THEY TOOK a little time to get it together, but overall, Steeley produced an interesting, enjoyable and, at times amusing, set at the Birmingham Odeon last week.

It's carefully worked out to show off all the features of the band - fiddle jigs from Peter Knight, harmony singing from all, and a good deal of solos.

Maddy Prior is still the group's focal point, but the other members seem to be getting more action. In particular, liked Bob Johnson's strong vocals on 'Sir James The Rose'. Generally, their standard of musicianship is excellent, but at times Nigel Pegrum's drumming was over-long.

Numbers included 'London', 'Black Jack Davy' and 'The Hard Times Of Old England' - seems they never had it so good in those days either.

From a slow start, they gradually built the show to its climax. Maddy didn't really get into her dancing shoes until they launched into 'Cam Ye O'er Fra France', an up - tempo Scottish jig, when I thought she might deposit herself on the laps of the front row of the stalls.

Enticed by Maddy, mass-audience participation followed. Clapping, reelin' and dancin' along with the lively music - everyone was havin' a ball.

Enticed by Maddy, mass-audience participation followed. Clapping, reelin' and dancin' along with the lively music - everyone was havin' a ball.

BRITISH GIGS London's Hammersmith

IT'S A shame when something you've been looking forward to fails to grab you by the throat and leave you gasping for more.

Being a prolific songwriter and veteran soul axeman Johnny 'Guitar' Watson's gig on Saturday at Hammersmith Odeon promised to be a goodie.

The feeling of high anticipation was kept up by his backing band, the Watsonian Institute, with fine brass versions of 'Hard Work' and Herbie Hancock's 'Chameleon', they put the set on a strong opening footing.

The man himself appeared wearing red glitter pants and a narrow-brimmed Hendrix titer.

Watson is a flash, jazzy funkster and the notes trickle from his guitar smoothly. All the upside-down, over-your-shoulder, intricate handed guitar acrobatics weren't really necessary, but as I say, he's flash.

Apart from his four best-

known tunes, which were inevitably the most appealing, there seemed to be a shortage of good material.

But 'Gangster of Love', with its theatrical build-up, 'Superman Lover', his latest single and the aggressive 'Ain't That A Bitch' all came on strong.

He closed, naturally, with the recent hit 'I Need It'. But the applause subsided all too quickly and he returned to enquire with... what? "Would you like some more of 'I Need It'?" And that's what we got.

It's obvious he's a guy who ain't used to large concert halls. The crowd never really got off because his attempts to get them moving were too intimate for the Odeon's size.

SEAMUS POTTER

ANDY FAIR WEATHER Low

ANDY FAIRWEATHER Low has boogied a long way since he came round the Amen Corner. Gone are the days of that bouncy happy-go-lucky pop songs. Now he's letting rip with a fine blend of raunchy good-time rock, country and reggae.

Andy reached a new high last Saturday when he played to a packed hall at Reading University. He sent the audience home happy after a blistering rock and roll encore.

Live, his voice is not as distinctive as the singles that made Amen Corner a chartbusting band in their day. He's no great guitarist either - but the music's twice as good.

They played several tracks from Andy's new album 'Be Bop 'N' Holla', but still threw in the chart hit 'Wide-Eyed and Legless' and the double track from his last waxing, 'La Boga Reggae'.

GEOFF STOVOLD

FLAMIN' GROOVIES Uxbridge

THRILL TO the Flamin' Groovies tuning up for five minutes before each song. Quiver as they massacre Beatles songs. Cringe as hordes of rampaging decibels bludgeon your eardrums.

The students' union at Brunel University isn't an ideal place for a gig. The ceiling would make a dwarf stoop and the stage is little more than hardboard, but even so the Groovies could have done better.

Wearing vintage Beatle gear with haircuts to match, they don't live up to the promise of their outlandish clothes.

They sounded flat, attacking their instruments rather than playing them. They lumbered through a selection of Beatles songs that would have made McCartney cry with pain and blazed out fire versions of their own songs.

But surprise, some people enjoyed it. Not just the punks in the audience, but some head shaking hairy students. For the rest of it, it was sheer punishment.

ROBINS SMITH

CHI-LITES Newcastle

IF YOU took the average American soul group seriously, as what's become of the blues you'd probably weep. But if you want a crazy time full of bad taste and high-energy insincerity maybe you can get into them.

That's how I enjoyed the Chi-Lites. Somehow they've got less musical and more convincing since I saw them a year ago in their band, which had appeared to be in the last throes of river mounds, has now come alive again.

In two warm-up numbers they suggested they could probably out-sing and out-dance their leaders and Marshall and the boys bounded on in absurdly filled white outfits. There was a lot of "thank you, thank you", each of the group was introduced as a "young man" (even Marshall and Squirrel who launched the Chi-Lites 18 years ago) and they began to strut and twirl and, once in a while, sing.

Marshall never let the pace drop for much, mopping the sweat out of his eyes and smiling as bright as the sun or Hughie Green. A real pro and it WAS entertainment - but black music soul?

SELMA BODDY

KAREN WINS... BUT ONLY ON PONTS



CARPENTERS: destroying the myth

CARPENTERS Edinburgh

NO SOONER had Richard and Karen Carpenter stepped from their plane at Glasgow last Tuesday than they were hard at it destroying, they claimed, the myth that they are goody-goody.

So it was fair to assume we'd see something of the new image at their Playhouse concerts the following night. And, sure enough, Karen came on with the biggest pair of boobs anybody ever did see. Falsies, of course, but this bizarre send-up of the sweated all-American high school co-ed did help throw a fresh light on the previously unimpeachable brother and sister duo.

Richard roaring on stage on a motor bike also helped make their act just a little bit different.

They seemed to try to throw in a bit of everything. The peculiarly American

stuff, when they attempted to recapture the pop / rock of the fifties and sixties, was overcome for a British audience.

What really was unaltered was the Carps captured the sound of their records. It came over loud, clear and beautiful in 'Close To You', 'Superstar' and 'Only Yesterday'. The sound system was well high perfect.

They devoted a lot - maybe too much - of their time telling, with musical illustrations, how they grew up. Richard indulged in a lot of flowery piano for seven minutes in 'Warsaw Concerto'.

And the chatty Karen, who'd appeared in various white suits and gowns, slipped into a T-shirt and jeans for her drum special (on three different kits) in a Gershwin medley.

They confirmed they've got the music in them but the show was too much of a pot-pourri to be rated unforgettable.

JOHN GIBSON

Super stars

SCORPIO
(Oct 24 to Nov 21)
No good in brooding - you'll only lay an egg and think how the neighbours will talk.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov 23 to Dec 21)
Beware of young ladies breathing extravagant compliments; they're after something and it's not going to come cheaply.

CAPRICORN
(Dec 22 to Jan 21)
W...e...ll, who's been doing a naughty, going behind the best friend's back. Watch out, it's a dangerous occupation and in this case, it's not even worth it.

AQUARIUS
(Jan 22 to Feb 18)
You set your heart on it, you didn't think you'd ever get it, but don't give up so quickly.

PISCES
(Feb 19 to March 20)
Life is about as exciting as a cold kipper, but don't worry. Things are due to get better after the weekend.

ARIES
(March 21 to April 20)
If music be the food of life, you'd better get out and hear some before you starve to death. All this self denial is giving everyone else a pain in the neck.

TAURUS
(April 21 to May 21)
Kicking the cat won't help. Get out and grab yourself some of the action before it's all bought up.

GEMINI
(May 22 to June 21)
If you're thinking about doing a competition in a paper, or taking a chance - do it! This is a lucky time for you and the best day is Monday.

CANCER
(June 21 to July 22)
Younger people are going to get on your nerves on Saturday, but try not to belt one round the ear.

LEO
(July 23 to Aug 23)
Public transport might not seem the ideal place to have a happy meeting, but that's where your best chance lies on Saturday.

VIRGO
(Aug 24 to Sept 23)
You'll never find out if you don't ask. No good keeping yourself in suspense when some straight talking will solve the mystery.

LIBRA
(Sept 24 to Oct 23)
Of all the signs, you are the luckiest this week. You might get away with something you've been hoping no-one will find out about.



Mailman

Write to Mailman, Record Mirror, Spotlight House, 1 Benwell Road, London N7 7AX

WHY WASTE VINYL?

I WISH to express my disgust at the recent trend of issuing singles in 12 inch form. It is wrong that vinyl should be wasted on publicity gimmicks and only those with very expensive hi fi equipment can possibly benefit. I hope that record companies will come to their senses and stop wasting vinyl.

David Jennings, Gorleston On Sea, Gt Yarmouth, Norfolk.

● A few thousand of the Who's 'Substitute' were issued in LP form. John Entwistle says that recycled vinyl is used so there's no waste. You also get a much better sound quality.

High voice

I THINK Roy Martin must be the only Our Kid fan in existence. How he has the nerve to say they are the most professional and talented band around I don't know. They are nothing but a group of high-voiced over acting kids, who can't even dress properly let alone sing. I, like many others, would like to thank the 'Beeb' for not playing their single.

Pantomime

HOW CAN David Essex expect to gain recognition from his more mature

fans when he played solely to the children in the audience at Manchester! He treated the whole thing like a pantomime and I expected the Ugly Sisters to come running on at any moment. Come on David where do you really stand? How about playing some venues for the over 18's next time?

Jean Botley, Shipley.

Horrors

WE'VE GOT a new statue for the chamber of horrors at Madame Tussauds - Paul Layton the New Seekers member who resembles an ape. We really love his rubber lips (talk about Mick Jagger) and his greasy hair and bitten fingernails. We also dig the nursery rhymes he writes for the group.

Clive, Leeds.

Jelly legs

ISN'T IT about time Frankie Miller received the recognition he so rightly deserves? I suggest to anyone reading this letter that you go out and treat yourself to all three of Frankie's albums. Hats off to Frankie - you're the only one who can turn my knees to jelly. You've sure got what it takes - class.

Chrissie, Staffs.

Is this the future of rock 'n' roll?

WHO ARE going to be the really big bands of the future? It seems that new promising names are very thin on the ground. Can anyone imagine the Sex Pistols filling Earl's Court?
Patrick Merrill, Doncaster.

ANY PERSON who says the Sex Pistols produce music must have a bad case of tin ears. If people discuss punk rock then they should include the New York Dolls who are the only punk rock band with any musical originality.
Steven Morrissey, Manchester.

Not stale

HOW CAN James Hamilton say that Queen's new single is already stale because it has been over exposed on radio? I listened to Radio One for a week and I only heard it played twice while many other records were played four or five times a day. The record is another brilliant effort from Queen and I'm sure the public will prove James Hamilton wrong.
Mrs Joyce Carter, Suffolk.

Wrong again?

I AND many of my friends find Record Mirror to be rude, ignorant and disgusting and a disgrace to the human race. You put everybody down and the section devoted to newly released singles stinks. You said 'I Only Wanna Be With You' would never make the top spot. Well, my bird brained friends, you were wrong. If you dare print anything awful about our dear beloved Rollers again, I will personally vomit in your face.
Roller fan from Canada.
● You can't always be right.

Fine work

MAY I congratulate you on the fine work you did on Steve Harley and Cockney Rebel. You give him large write ups, fabulous record reviews and great colour pin ups.
Angie, Birmingham.

Fickle fans

HOW DARE David Moody call Gary Glitter's fans a fickle lot? Gary was by no means dropped after two years. He was at the top for four years and when he returns he'll be at the top for another 10 years. Loyal fans will always support him.
Shirley Fox, Dublin.

Big boy

WHY DO Francis Rossi's jeans and waistcoat fit perfectly when there is a half - inch gap between mine?
Susan, London.
● He's bigger than you.



SEX PISTOLS' Johnny Rotten: can he fill Earl's Court?

Hot Ash

WE WENT to Manchester Free Trade Hall and saw the best rock band in the universe, Wishbone Ash. After two years absence from these shores they are still brilliant. Thanks a billion - we wish you well.
Phil and Tony, Lanes.

Joe's cocky

WHY IS it we never hear or see anything of Joe Cocker? I think Joe is one of the most talented singers and one of the best looking guys around.
Joy Preston, Leicester.
● Good looking? Do you need glasses?

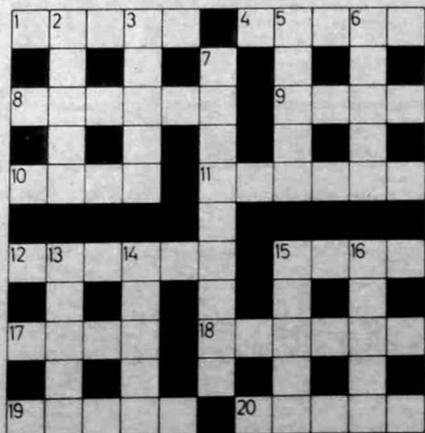
Discword

ACROSS

- 1 Smokey Robinson's tearful character (5)
- 4 Beatie road (5)
- 8 Group all at sea? (6)
- 9 A bit Bohemian, like Mr. Garfunkel? (4)
- 10 Low name in the band youngsters like (4)
- 11 C + W's Chet (6)
- 12 Stony stuff from Guys and Dolls (6)
- 15 A saxophone for the singer (4)
- 17 The one the Drifters sang at? (4)
- 18 Author of paperbacks (5)
- 19 A name to go with Fenton (5)
- 20 Miss Reddy? (5)

DOWN

- 2 " — How To Fall" (Paul Simon) (5)
- 3 Big cockey fellow (5)
- 5 Arkansas Oak colour (5)
- 6 Blue Moves man (5)
- 7 Nervous collapse after calypso (9)
- 13 McTell or McDonald? (5)
- 14 Like that famous spaceman (5)
- 15 Celia changes Mr Cooper (5)
- 16 Nadia has one in the charts (5)



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

Across: 1 Sherbet. 7 Clone. 8 Norma. 9 Over. 10 Ideal. 11 Pie. 12 Edgar. 14 Gang. 17 O'Jays. 18 Alive. 19 Singles.

Down: 1 Stone. 2 Eyes. 3 Bonne. 4 Tur-Mc. 5 Octobers. 6 Gallagher. 11 Prison. 13 Grass. 15 A-miss. 16 Karl.

Feedback

FEEDBACK answers your questions. Send your letters to: Record Mirror, Spotlight House, 1, Benwell Road, London, N7 7AX. Please don't send a stamped addressed envelope as we cannot answer letters individually.

Light Wood

I WOULD like to know the line up of the Electric Light Orchestra. When were they formed and did Roy Wood ever play in their line up? Chris Williams, Newcastle.

● They are Jeff Lynne guitars and vocals, Bev Bevan drums, Richard Tandy keyboards, Kelly Groucott bass and vocals. Mik Kaminski violin, Hugh McDowell cello, and Melvyn Gale cello. The original line up was formed in 1972. Yes, Roy Wood was in the band during the early days. He also used to be in the Move with Bev and Jeff.

Leo's married

HAS LEO Sayer got a fan club and is he married? Sue Williams, Stockport.
● Write to Angela Miall, 8 Bamborough Gardens, Shepherds Bush, London W2. Yes Leo is married.

COULD YOU give me the address of the Tony Monopoly fan club? Beverly Winters, Norfolk.
● Write to Wendy Hunter, 2 Shirley Rd, Luton, Beds.

WHERE WAS Georg Kajanus of Sailor born? Sailor freak, Margate.
● He was born in Trondheim, Norway.

Disco Kid

Disco Special

New Spins

RAWTENSTALL CONCERTINA BAND: 'The Dam Busters March' (Virgin VS 164). Possibly this year's big party toomer, it's a great lively rave along rumpy - rumpy reading of the old war movie march, a must for MoR jocks!

WIP 6352. Cockey Wally like wreck me pum pum, y'know? Suggestive reggae!

VICKI SUE ROBINSON: 'Daylight' (RCA 2756). Bobby Womack's lovely slinkier now hustles nicely.

ROLAND ALPHONSO: 'Phoenix City' / SKATA-LITES / BABA BROOKS: 'Guns Fever' (Maxi City) (Maxi Trojan TRM 3007). Three of THE classic ska dancers from the mid-'60s, chicha chooca chicha!

MARYANN FARRA & SATIN SOUL: LP 'Never Gonna Leave You' (Brunswick BRLS 3022). Muddily recorded but fine for roller rinks etc, the New York hustle rhythm dominates all three long tracks on Side 1.

JACKIE MOORE: 'Disco Rudy' (RCA 2759). Jittery nupt beat TK tucker with obvious appeal.

KING SPORTY: 'Reggae Rock Road' (Miami MIA 008). 'Disco Music Pt 2', especially the instrumental flip!

MARILYN MCCOO & BILLY DAVIS, JR.: 'You Don't Have To Be A Star' (ABC 4147). Lovely catchy semi-slowie, very pretty.

TED TAYLOR: 'Stick By Me' (Contempo CS 2098). Solidly thumping Tyrone Davis - type B - side bouncer.

RUTHIE LANE: 'The Nearness Of You' (SRT SRTS 76380). Exquisite strings and sophisticated phrasing (by a 16-year-old!) on a truly classy hustler.

THE DAMNED: 'New Rose' (Sitt BUY 6, via UA). Frantic Punk-Rock, not so much a dancer as an event.

RONNIE McNEIR: 'Goodbye After Sunday' (LP 'Love's Comin' Down' Motown STML 12041). This happy swinger holds the exact same tempo as 'Isn't She Lovely', and there are other Stevie Wonder - ful sounds too!

IMPORTS

LOVE ON LOVE: 'Makin' Love On The Phone' (Power Exchange PX 25). Cooling chix and mellow sax on a sensuous groin-grinder.

ROSE ROYCE: 'Car Wash' (US MCA 40615). Hailed by many as the 'Funky Street' of its age and already in our UK Disco Top 20 although an import, this funky fave is as big as it is thanks to its catchy clap rhythm pattern. It should be out here soon on an album.

ARTISTICS: 'I'm Gonna Miss You' (Brunswick BR 39). Classic sweet soul slowie from '66, c/w GENE CHANDLER's fast 1968 version of James Brown's 'There Was A Time'.

SALSOU ORCHESTRA: 'Salsoul 3001' (US Salsoul 12D-2011). Flipped by 'Nice 'N' Naasty', this 12 inch starts and ends with rumbling freakiness and does for the '2001' theme what Schifrin did for 'Jaws'!

RICHE HAVENS: 'I'm Not In Love' (A&M AMS 7266). Nice new treatment of 10cc's huge groper.

FUNKADELIC: 'Coming Round The Mountain' (LP 'Hardcore Jollies' US Warner Bros BS 2973). Fairly typical Parli-funkadelic tang, but with a long yowling rock - style guitar break.

VINCE HILL: 'When I Fall In Love' (CBS 4781). 'Classy MoR smoocher.

EL COCO: 'Let's Get It Together' (US Avi AVIS 115). A casually lolling instrumental reminiscent of 'Rock Steady' with its lovely brass and synthesiser tones.

JOHNNY BRISTOL: 'Do It To My Mind' (Polydor 205884). Lou Rawls - ish chinka - chinka semi-slowie, noisy but effective.

PRATT & McCLAIN: 'Whatchersign' (US Reprise PRO 674). Promotional 12 inch of a 5:5; album cut that's surprisingly soulful and cool like Boz Scaggs' 'Lowdown'.

FAY BENNETT: 'Big Cockey Wally' (Island



MASS PRODUCTION: out in January

BRASS vs MASS

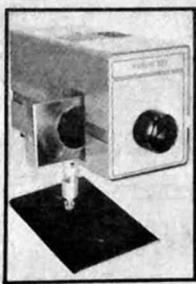
THE BATTLE is on and confusion reigns as Brass Construction's new 'Brass Construction II' album (UA UAS 30016) is rivalled in DJs' affections by the similar sounding (and looking!) hot new import album by hitherto unknown Mass Production, 'Welcome To Our World' (US Cotillion SD 9910).

Already many funky jocks have come out in favour of the latter, saying that it's more the way that they thought the new Brass Construction set would sound. As BC are out here now and MP won't be available until January, the situation will have to simmer for a while. But what do the albums offer? Unlike their rivals, BC this time have nothing over six minutes long, and of the eight tracks only two are dancers that maintain their intensity: 'Ha Cha Cha' — the 'Movin' of the set — and 'Sambo' (the 'Changin'?). MP also do eight tunes, with more vocal emphasis and several slowies, but come up with three strong dancers all on Side 1: 'Welcome To Our World (Of Merry Music)' — their 'Movin'! — and 'Wine Flow Disco', which segues beautifully on the record into 'I Like To Dance'. We'll have to wait and see who are the ultimate winners, while meanwhile it's safe to say that both are equally good and funky!



BRASS CONSTRUCTION: out now

Meteor



METEOR LIGHTING of Byfleet, Surrey, have launched a new effects projector designed with discos in mind. Adjustable to many applications, the Meteor 100 features long lamp life, variable intensity, built-in transformer, thermal cut-off, internal condenser lens focusing, and easy lamp or effect change. The many accessories include choice of lens and over two dozen interchangeable cassette effects, together with several clip-on image splitters. Full details from Byfleet 411-31.

DJ Hotline

BARBARA PENNINGTON: '24 Hours A Day' (UA) goes Pop, Funky and Northern for Malcolm J. Cliff (Haleworth), Chris Archer (Norwich), Richard Bradshawe (Colwyn), Stewart Hunter (Preston) and more. Mark Rymann (South Wales), Alan Brown (Newport), Mike Stewart (Glasgow) and others tip **BRENDON** 'Gimme Some' (UK), countered by Kevin Blamire (Ruperts, Birkenhead) on the original by **JIMMY BO HORNE** (RCA) **ULTRA-**

FUNK 'Gotham City Boogie' (Contempo) gets instant reaction for Jon Taylor (Cromwells, Norwich), Stuart Swann (The Cat, Nantwich), Roy Hughes (Pentagon Night-scene, Leeds), Stuart Hodgson (Raquels, Wakefield) **CHRIS HILL** 'Bionic Santa' (Philips) already gets laughs for Dave Porter (Oscar, Liverpool), Steve Day (Chingford), Tom Amigo (Cardiff) **JIMMY JAMES** 'Do The Funky Conga' (Pye) gets Willy Cash (Appleby), Phil Dodd (Horsham)

DJ Top Ten

CAPUCHINO — real name Cino Berigliano, of Bromley — is resident every Tuesday at Lewisham's Black Bull, and mobile the rest of the time. Next Friday, Dec 3, he'll be with soul group Blooblo at the London College Of Furniture, E1, where his sounds will be much like this chart.

- 1 CAR WASH, Rose Royce MCA
- 2 CA-THE-DRALS, D. C. La Rue Pye
- 3 KNIGHTS IN WHITE SATIN, Giorgio GTO
- 4 BLACK KILL A BLACK, Gregory Issacs Morpheus
- 5 DOWN TO LOVE TOWN, Originals Motown
- 6 24 HOURS A DAY, Barbara Pennington UA
- 7 KEEP ME CRYING, Al Green London
- 8 POLICE & THIEVES, Junior Marvin Island
- 9 KEEP IT COMING LOVE, KC & Sunshine Band Jay Boy
- 10 I'LL PLAY THE FOOL, Dr Buzzard's OSB RCA

- BREAKERS**
- 1 PUT YOUR MONEY, Rose Royce MCA
 - 2 LIKE HER, Gentlemen & Their Lady Pye
 - 3 HOT LINE, Sylvers Capitol

Dial 01-493 8166 & hear the SYLVERS fabulous new single

'HOT LINE'

CL 15892

The SYLVERS

If you would like a HOT-LINE to the Sylvers, information about the group including a full colour poster of Foster, please write to

Debbie Bennett, Capitol Records, 20 Manchester Square, London W1.

Disco Dates

THURSDAY (25): Radio 1's Noel Edmonds visits Bristol Tiffanys; Roy Hughes has a special Motown promotion night at Pentagon Nightscene in Lower Briggate, Leeds, with lots of freebies. Stuart 'The Hat' Hodgson gives reduced admission charges to RECORD MIRROR bearers every Thursday at Raquels in The Bull Ring, Wakefield; JALN Band play Folkestone's La Clique; Jimmy James does Derby's Tiffanys, and Chi-Lites stay till Saturday at Hanley's Jollies Club.

FRIDAY: Brenda Marshall is the new exotic go-go girl every Fri - Saturday at London's Sundown, Charing Cross Road; John 'Kojak' Harvey brings his soul alliter to Bistey Pavilion, Real Thing hit Harveys, Ross - on - Wye, while their relations The Chants do Letford's Portchouse; Jimmy James spends two nights at Bunnys, Cleethorpes.

SATURDAY: JALN Band play Gloucester's Roundabout, Heatwave hit Buckley's Rivoli Ballroom, and Real Thing reach Farborough Recreation Centre.

SUNDAY: Johnny Daylight awards a cup and three months' free admission at the Affair, Theatre Square, Swindon, to the winning Wiltshire Pop Expert of the finals to his Pop Mastermind Contest; JALN Band play Brighton Top Rank; Jimmy James does Nottingham Palais, and Chi-Lites stay at Watford Baileys for Sun/Mon/Tuesday.

MONDAY: Capital Radio's Kerry Juby spins the hits and awards freebies every Monday at the Village, Glen Fern Road, Bourne-mouth.

TUESDAY: Muscles funk it up at Swindon's Bazel Rooms, and

WEDNESDAY: Place. Johnny Daylight presents Punk Rock at Swindon's The Affair with the Vibrators.

Disco Kid

by GREG EDWARDS

Disco Special

WOULDN'T YOU just love to have a really good, local disco? Discos seem to be changing — and not for the better. They're almost ghost places — just a dance floor and a bar. I'm sure you'd like something a bit cosier, somewhere to sit with your girlfriend and have a drink.

And no wonder there are fights. People get bored when they have to stand up all night, just drinking or dancing and nothing else. The trouble is, the good discos like Valbonne or Tramm are too expensive. Discos used to be great and that's the way they still should be. Sometimes it's only a case of putting in some decent furnishings. When you go out, you want to feel different, like somebody in the movies.

Often there's no atmosphere. Occasionally you get a club like the Lacy



GREG EDWARDS

Lady in Ilford where DJ Chris Hill gets all the people dressing up, but you have to do that kind of thing because the place itself, in most cases, doesn't have enough to offer.

At first when people came up to me and moaned about having nothing different to do, I thought they were complaining about me! Then I realised you all want your own discos improved. If you have any ideas on this, or if your local disco has come up with special attractions, write and let me know.

THE BLACK Prince is one of my regular discos.

It's in Bexley in Kent and has lots of bars. Food is available at one of the bars, but not in the biggest, which holds the disco itself. It's open seven days a week. I am there on Sundays. Thursday is a good night, with DJ Tony Stevens on.

The music going down there is 100 per cent soul. I always have something new for the audience, but they do come up and ask for certain records. I concentrate mainly on album tracks and mostly imports. I wouldn't buy import singles because I think 90p or 11 is a ridiculous price to pay. And anyway, the album it comes from is more likely to be released in this country sooner than the single, so there's more scope there.

I play records from 8.30 pm to 10.30 pm. The audience is mainly the hip people from the local area and the guys are into wearing skin-tight Lurex T-shirts, very fancy.

The hot records there at the moment includes an import by Mass Production called 'Welcome To Our Merry World Of

Music'. It's on the Cottillon label, but I understand Atlantic may release it here next month. It's a bit like Brass Construction's hits, but even better. I don't usually wait for the record company to decide what track they're going to release off an album. I knew months ago they would bring out 'I Wish' from Stevie Wonder's 'Songs In The Key Of Life' album. Sometimes a record company will let me have an interesting album they don't know what to do with, and let me try it out on my audiences.

DOWN AT Skindells in Maidenhead, where I was earlier this month, the music is also 100 per cent soul. They are into the same music, but more on the lookout for something that's new. They are very aware. You know some places you go and play the same records you've been playing elsewhere, but because the usual DJ hasn't played them, the audience think it's new.

For a change, DJ's should try out some new sounds. For instance, instead of 'Jaws', play 'Peter Gunn' by Deodato and instead of 'Don't

Take Away My Music', try 'When Love Is New' by Arthur Prysock. The last is a 12in 45 and is a beautiful record, dynamite. It's an import on Old Town Records.

Skindells is a very big place, like a dancehall, but is broken up by the stage and the seats round the bar. The people who go there are trendy, with their hair dyed two colours. It's a mixture of 1980's and 1950's, but everyone boogies. They are really appreciative and if I play something new that's good, they'll stand up and clap.

It's good to find DJs that keep ahead — like Chris Hill. They keep music alive. You know, I've heard 'Carwash' by Rose Royce so often it's coming out of my nostrils. But it's good to know that music can be kept alive like this without the help of Tony Blackburn.

GREG EDWARDS' hot records: 'Dancing', by Crown Heights Affair, 'Open Sesame' by Kool & The Gang, 'Gotham City Boogie', by Ultra Funk, 'Flight 76' by Walter Murphy and 'Boogie Nights' by Heatwave'.



STEVIE WONDER



KOOL AND THE GANG

j.a.l.n.
band

Life is a fight...



...Life is a fight and life is a party...
on side one the mood is the struggle
from birth to old age;
the daily fight to keep going...
on side two we're out of the storm and
into the party...
music to dance to and music to live with...



MAG 5017. Also on cassette: ZC MAG 5017

Their new album:
Featuring the hit single
DISCO MUSIC (I like it)
MAG 73

And the NEW single,
the title track
LIFE IS A FIGHT
MAG 78



MAGNET RECORDS

DANCE YOUR ASS OFF TO THE SALSOUL ORCHESTRA

Gyrating, pulsating, what I'm insinuating is that The Salsoul Orchestra will move everything - but everything, you have on your body. Get on to it now!



NICE 'N' NAASTY

The album Nice 'N' Nasty SZS 5502 Cassette SZK 5502 Also available "Christmas Jollies" The most original Christmas album ever. SZS 5507 Cassette SZK 5507



MARKED BY RCA

Disco Kid

The year

Dustbin liners, carrier bags, PVC, fishnet tights, lurex cardigans. They get you in at the Lacy Lady in Ilford

IT'S SATURDAY night and Kathy Hannan is getting ready to go out. She puts on her make-up, brushes her hair, slips into black stockings and then selects her favourite dress . . . a polythene dustbin liner!

A pair of wollen mittens give the finishing touch and 17-year-old Kathy from Hornchurch in Essex is ready to join the other polyteens at the weirdest nite spot in town-Lacy Lady.

Everyone is into a different bag at the Ilford disco - whether it's from a dustbin or a departmental store. But if plastic isn't your bag you can always plump for PVC.

"I've been wearing plastic for two months now," says Kathy. "I've got two dresses, one short and the other long. My friend wears a Marks And Spencer carrier bag.

"I suppose I'm trying to attract a punk rock guy because they're the type of men I go for. I just don't like straight guys. They bore me.

"But there's one drawback when wearing plastic bags, they tear when you take them off!"

Kathy made the dress herself and it's held together with safety pins.

But there are a number of shops around that sell plastic and PVC clothes. Alan Mariotto from Tottenham paid £16 for his denim-lined PVC trousers from a Kings Road shop.

"In the last four weeks I've spent £80 on clothes," says 18 year-old Alan who is a draughtsman. "I like PVC because it's shiny and sexy. I love looking at myself in the mirror when I'm wearing it. I feel good.

"I like people taking notice of me. I'm attracted to good looking girls and it doesn't matter what they wear. I don't regard myself as a punk and I haven't got a motorbike."

His girlfriend Michelle Davis from Southgate is wearing a PVC skirt, lurex cardigan see-

through blouse and fishnet tights. "I'd never wear clothes like this to the office," she says.

"I've paid £90 for a plastic jumper but you can spend a lot more. My mum has got used to the idea now but my dad thinks that all the boys look queer. I just laugh it off.

"I've never dressed the same as everyone else. Most people haven't got the nerve to wear something like this but I don't care. And I don't like punk rock."

Then the two decide to dance. Alan is sweating heavily in his mohair jumper. His massive silver ear-ring gets caught up in Michelle's lurex cardigan as they glide across the floor.

Imitation snakeskin T-shirt, PVC trousers, winklepickers, a badge saying 'Santa Is A Punk' heavily tattooed arms and

an ear-ring aren't usually associated with stock-brokers.

But 20 year-old Key Cammack from Romford who is decked out in that apparel joins the sober city brigade every morning at 9 sharp. "The worst part about wearing the gear is getting here.

"You get the strangest looks while hanging around waiting for a train or bus. But people never actually say anything. But you know what they're thinking.

"Okay, so I'd never go to work dressed like this. But that's only because I like to feel different at night than during the day. Going out is a big thing and the clothes should reflect this. I get most of mine from sex shops.

"My parents live in Devon. I guess they'd kill me if they saw me."

His friend Paul Gibson is a nazi freak. He wears plastic but hasn't got any on tonight. "Plastic is artistic. If you're thick you don't wear any, but if you're creative you can really get into it. It shows flair," he says with conviction.

In the corner the Stevenage slinkers giggle. "Our clothes look sexy and slinky," declares Barbara Murphy



Disco Kid

Disco Special

of the polyteens

looking very Patti Smith in black PVC bomber and skin tight slacks.

"We love to be noticed, for people to say 'Hey, those girls are really modern'." Her friend Sally Holmes resplendent in pink PVC trousers adds, "Our parents get really worried about it all."

"But we have got a new way of life. We're not easy lays and we don't take drugs — we get off on the music."

"Whatever stuff we wear," slinker Sue Riley says, "other people follow

suit in a couple of years. We are trendsetters."

There are one or two 'straights' dotted around the club, Christine O'Shaunessy from Stratford doesn't really like the set up. "I only come here for the music," she says. "One of my friends was turned away the other night because he was too old. He is only 19."

"You'd never catch me jumping into a plastic bag."

It's 2 am. The floor is clearing. Time all good polyteens were in bed. DJ Chris 'Blonic Santa' Hill

packs away the records.

"The music is basically black and American. Bands like Parliament, Funkadelic and The Ohio Players are what the kids down here really go for," he says.

"Some of them spend a lot of money on records. I've just come back from the States and was surprised to discover that the kids here know more about American black music than the Americans."

How did the plastic look first start, Chris?

"With the forties Glenn

Miller look last year. People finally realised that they could dictate their own fashion trends. It was the first really straight fashion thing for a long time.

"Then they started to experiment with leather, rubber and plastic. I think there's a parallel with the mod thing in the mid sixties. The kids come from the same type of social background. They're not the types to go into flash West End clubs — those are full of boring old farts."

"It's also a reaction

against the sexual roles. Fellers now no longer worry about looking masculine. They don't have to look butch anymore.

"They're not into drugs at all and they're not big drinkers, but it's very sensual. Some of the girls well..."

"The bouncers here pay me," says the manager Ken Faulkener. "I never get any trouble with the kids and the local law have just congratulated me on the place."

"We did have a spot of trouble up here the other

night. One of the doorman told this guy who was dolled up in plastic that he would be banned for two months. The guy was in tears. 'Where else can I go?' he sobbed."

"We even get coachloads of people from up North pull up outside. It's amazing. But I try to dissuade people over 21 from coming in. They might end up taking the mick out of the others and that could cause problems."

Outside plastic bags rustle in the cold night breeze.

Report:
BARRY CAIN

Pictures:
STEVE EMBERTON



Get into the Madhouse...

...with Silver Convention



Silver Convention's eagerly awaited new album **'Madhouse'** (MAG 5013) featuring their LATEST SINGLE **'EVERYBODY'S TALKING 'BOUT LOVE'** (MAG 81)

Also available on Cassette: ZC MAG 5013 Cartridge: Y8MAG 5013



Discoscene

MAKE YOURS A KNOCKOUT SHOW

With the fantastic **FOG** effect from a **GLOBE** generator. Choose from our range of **FOUR SIZES** of sturdy GRP bodied machines with superior fittings.

- 1 The Globe Concert for large theatres and pop concerts, holds 150 litres of water, 40 kilos of dry ice and has 4 heating elements. £125 + VAT.
- 2 The Globe Giant for large clubs, halls or demonstration work, holds 66 litres of water, 17 kilos of dry ice and has 2 heating elements. £75 + VAT.
- 3 The new Globe Maxi for medium sized clubs, discos or group work, holds 33 litres of water + 8½ kilos of dry ice. £40 + VAT.
- 4 The new Globe Mini for mobile discos and smaller venues, holds 23 litres of water + 3½ kilos of dry ice. £33 + VAT.

Enquiries to Custom Conversions
63 Palfrey Place, London SW8
Tel. 01-735 5941

Sorry, no catalogue as yet, but call and see our range of TUAC, FAL Pulsar, Pluto, Optokinetics, Citronic Capper, Shure, AKG, Goodmans, plus lots of DIY gear.

COOKIES DISCO CENTRE
132 West Street
CREWE
Cheshire
Phone (0270) 4739

MONSTER MUSIC

OK so we admit we haven't got everything... but what we have is very reasonable. For example: 100W Disco Systems (complete) £215 100W 2x12 Column (pairs) £151 Traffic Lights (pairs) £38.00 4x12 Cabs (unloaded) £31.00 Plus various Disco Effects and reduction of secondhand equipment.

Why not come round and see us at
MONSTER MUSIC
107 AVENUE ROAD
BECKENHAM, KENT
or phone Sid on 01-659 2214
If we haven't got it - we'll get it for you.

STORY TIME FOR DJ'S

We at Roger Squires Disco-Shop, Manchester, are really proud of our new super improved Disco Centre.

We have had a few problems over the last 12 months getting ourselves really sorted out and well organised - but by golly you should really see our new shop now!

More products on display and demo than ever before. Really helpful advice from our new sales staff, Frank, John and Ian. And the fastest after-sales service this side of Spaghetti Junction.

We have just opened our brand new studios department, with 3 complete studios ready wired for demonstration and use. To celebrate our first anniversary we are giving away money! Not in suitcases, but in discounts and special offers.

Visit the new super improved Roger Squires Discoshop in Manchester for some very pleasant surprises. As an added bonus free coffee will be on hand for all customers between now and Christmas. See you soon.

ROGER SQUIRES
251 DEANS GATE
MANCHESTER 3
TEL. 061-831 7676



T-Shirts 4 DJs

"DON'T SHOOT ME - I'M ONLY THE DEE-JAY" or "WARNING - DJ AT WORK, DO NOT FEED" £1.95 each. Sizes: Small, Med, Lge. Also - Our best-selling book "All You Want to Know About Being a Dee-Jay" 65p.

New - This comical DJ car pendant, only 60p. Get all 4 products in a bumper package, only £4.90.

Prices include postage. Cheques/POs to: **BARTON ENTERPRISES**
104 HARFIELD ROAD
UXBRIDGE, MIDDXX.
UB8 1PN

LIGHT ROPES

WE ARE THE SPECIALISTS
TOP QUALITY, LOW PRICE
All colours and multi colours

30ft (10 metres) £27.00 + £1 p.p.p
15ft. (5 metres) £18.00 + £1 p.p.p

Flow Box with speed & reverse control £27 + £1 p.p.p
Compare length and price before you buy P.O. or cheque to:

SATURN LIGHTING
28a CHUDLEIGH ROAD
KINGSTEIGNTON
NEWTON ABBOT, DEVON

To advertise in Discoscene ring 01-439 1647

LIGHTING WHEELS & CASSETTES

Repaired. Send them to **PYROTECHNICS**
1 Bevon Road, Dalkeith
EH22 5QE
Repair Quots by return

LEEDS DISCO CENTRE

5a THE BALCONY, QUEENS ARCADE
LEEDS 1

TELEPHONE 451220

Open Monday-Saturday 10.30-4.30

We stock a large range of top disco equipment including S.A.I., Carlsbro, Cloud, Pulsar, Citronic, Optokinetics, etc.

TOP TRADING AND CASH DISCOUNTS

Why not call in or phone Yorkshire's only Disco Centre.

NEWHAM AUDIO



THE CAVALIER

Slider Feders for Deck 1 Deck 2 and Aux • Deck Motor Switches • Bass, Treble and Slider Volume for Microphone • Bass, MIDDLE, Treble and Slider Volume for Music • VU Meter • LED Signal Indicators • Electronic Autofade • High Quality PFL and Monitor • Pre-fade Level Comparator System • Complete with Lid •

MONO £220 STEREO £250

Also available with built-in amplifiers
Visit our showrooms for a demonstration of our mono and stereo systems - or send for leaflets.

NEWHAM AUDIO

52 Romford Road
London E15

Telephone
01-534 4064

LIGHTING CONTROL DESIGNS AVAILABLE FOR SALE TO NEW & EXISTING COMPANIES IN THE LIGHTING CONTROL FIELD

Seugral designs already available using the latest Microcircuit technique. Full engineering support.

Apply: R. Dalton, B. Eng. MIEECE
DREAM MOOD LIGHTING
Tel. Rugby 3372 (0788)

R.T.W. MUSICAL SOUND PRODUCTS

4 x 10 col. 50 watts	£42.00
4 x 12 col. 200 watts	£110.00
2 x 12 100 watts	£65.00
1 x 12 50 watts	£39.00
1 x 12 Mini Bin with Horn	£63.00
1 x 15 Folded Horn Bin	£87.00

TUNBRIDGE WELLS 35800

Full Range of Cabs & Bins Available Loaded or Unloaded
Trade Enquiries Welcome

DISCOLIGHTS

Are yours RELIABLE?

For both the keenest prices and the most personal service, call on AARVAK. Here are some prices: 3-channel sound-to-lights (1000W/chan) £17.50 (P/p 90p). Very powerful 4-joule strobes £30 (P/p £11). Fuzzlights £19 (P/p 90p). Sirens £3 (P/p 75p). (These prices include VAT). Trade & Export Welcome.

Send for Free Cash 'N' Carry/Mail Order Catalogue:

AARVAK ELECTRONICS (Disco Division)
12a BRUCE GROVE, LONDON N17 (TOTTENHAM)
(Tel. 01-608 8923)

Lightmaster 3000

See the new Lightmaster for Mobiles & Clubs
Try the new deal for D.J.'s at £68.00 +vat
Collect the new colour brochure from...

Zero 88 Lighting Limited 115 Hatfield Road, St. Albans, Herts.

TOGETHER WE MAKE GREAT SOUNDS!

The range of SAI Disco equipment is designed to suit every DJ's needs, from the new economy Maverick to the highly sophisticated professional Stereo Deck. And at SAI we don't just sell hardware - we offer sound advice and a full service on every aspect of Disco and P.A. equipment, both sound and lighting. Come and see for yourselves.

Just off the M6 - Junction 27. Late night opening. Mon & Weds till 9pm. Ring Steve or Bob on 0257 791645

NEW! MOIREMATIC EFFECTS SYSTEM

WHAT IT IS
A new concept in effects projection, the Moirematic Effects System is a simple, effective device which answers most existing effects problems. The Moirematic Effects System is comprised of a Moirematic Drive Unit and a range of Moirematic Pattern Slips. Each pattern in the range comes as a pair of Slips, which are small, neat, easy to handle and store, and virtually unbreakable (no more broken glass or seized bearings).

HOW IT WORKS
With the Moirematic Drive Unit easily fitted to your projector, just slide two Moirematic Pattern Slips into position and switch on. Not only does the effect rotate but a linear motion is also obtained, and this action has enabled the makers to produce new types of effects designs.

WHAT IT DOES
No longer must the pattern radiate from its centre. Squares, dots, triangles, lines, ovals and many other hitherto unobtainable designs are now possible with this amazing device, allowing the user to "mix and match" different combinations of slip patterns to suit individual requirements, and OBTAIN HUNDREDS OF EFFECTS! Even your own trade mark, brand name or logo, at low cost. Write for details. Project effectively with the Moirematic Effects System. £29.50 plus VAT for a Moirematic Drive Unit complete with a pair of Moirematic Pattern Slips. Change the effect again and again, by mixing and matching from the Moirematic range of Pattern Slips at £2.50 plus VAT per pair of Slips.

IMPORTANT - Please specify the make of your projector and voltage required.

Free! Dealers Display Board
FOR A LIMITED PERIOD ONLY

To maximise your promotion, the first of the exciting new Moirematic Effects Systems that you order will be supplied mounted on a free display board, ready to plug in, so that the Drive unit operates to rotate the Pattern Slips in it, and the pattern is illuminated.

The range of Pattern Slips are packed in pairs in clear plastic bags and different patterns can be seen. The bags are on hooks for easy removal and refill. Write for details and dealer price structure.

NOTE: In order to make possible improvements we reserve the right to alter any item, without prior notice. Therefore details may differ from those described in this advertisement.

MOIREMATIC, 12 Westow Street, London SE19

SAI SOUND ADVICE INSTALLATIONS CO LTD
Regent Street Showroom,
Coppull, Chorley, Lancs

Soul Mirror

by ROBIN KATZ

Thompson marshalls the Chi-Lites forces

SEATED in the coffee shop of the Holiday Inn Hotel, Marshall Thompson of the Chi-Lites, flagged down his favourite waitress and ordered an omelette with the specific detail that Phil Spector would use to instruct an orchestra, after that it was business as usual.

The Chi-Lites (minus Eugene Record) have just released an L.P., 'Happy Being Lonely', produced by Thompson and featuring a menagerie of songwriters to replace Record. There's a Sam Dees song - 'Vanishing Love', some newsies from Motown writer Kathy Wakefield and a couple of J. Boyce babies. From whence came the material?

Flooded

"It was submitted," said Marshall coolly. "We were flooded with songs and there was no criterion or preference, except to pick the best ones. I don't care where they came from."

Thompson's first priority at the moment is to keep the Chi-Lites name going. After 16 odd years

forces

the vocal dance troupe are a soul institution - and that's how it's going to stay.

Thompson hired two new Chi-Lites, organised the album and is the man who stops the buck before it gets passed. While the other three members live in Chicago, Thompson has moved to Los Angeles to be closer to the office and possible opportunities for expansion.

"It doesn't affect the group at all," says Thompson. "All you have to do is pick up a phone or get on a plane if anything needs ironing out. You gotta be willing to spend some bread if you're gonna make some."

In chronicling the Chi-Lites career, Thompson quickly skipped through the early stuff. "I formed the group," he said proudly, "and we spent most of our early years searching for an identity."

"We went through a period sounding like the Impressions, then the Temptations. Heck, we sounded like everyone until



CHI-LITES: painless switch to disco

'Have You Seen Her'. Then we stamped ourselves with that sweet vocal style."

The Chi-Lites soft sound was deliberately abandoned by the group in order to hang with the times. They went disco with as much skill as any good group.

Distinctive

But in staying timely they have lost their distinctive sound. Are the fans upset? Sure, some are. But Thompson isn't.

"You have to stay with the times," he asserted. "I know I can sing pretty tunes, we still do. But disco's important and we plan to stay with it. Disco may die out, but let me tell you something, people will always want to dance. The harder times

get, the more people want to get on their feet and move. I don't see times gettin' no easier, do you?"

"And as long as I'm still kicking there's gonna be a Chi-Lites. Squirrel and I are from the original outfit, but if he should ever leave, I'll still carry on. The future of this group isn't based on its members. Sure, loyal fans, hate to see a line-up change, but if you make good music that's secondary..."

After this tour the Chi-Lites head back to the States for Christmas. Marshall hopes to work on his new west coast home, then there's another album to record and a tour. They'll be back here to break some more records in April.

Happy being lonely? I don't know. But certainly busy....

Yakety Yak

Minnie Riperton had a breast removed in April although she has only just announced the operation. Ms Riperton is now fine and continuing a course of chemotherapy just to insure future good health. Her next album 'Stay In Love' is soon to be released, containing compositions from herself and husband Richard Rudolph as well as songs from Leon Ware and close friend Stevie Wonder. Says Riperton of the surgical experience. "My husband says the scar is the most beautiful one in the world, because I'm still alive."

UR Loretta McGee of 'Sparkle' fame is signed to play opposite Mohammad Ali in his upcoming biographical film. McGee will play Ali's wife... Bill Cosby the proud dad of kid No 5, Evlin Harrah... the other Cosby kids are Erika, Erin, Ennis and Ensa... Pooch Tavares has seemingly fallen in love with dried and shredded octopus since the group's Japanese tour....

Shirley Bassey is favoured to play the lead in the film of Josephin Baker's life story... meanwhile on the long-touted Bessie Smith film front, Aretha Franklin slated to star in the Gordon Parks Sr Version and Thelma Houston in another.

Lamont Dozier producing Ben E. King... new lead singer of Harold Melvin And The Blue Notes named Bo... Johnny Taylor to score and star in a new film called 'Disco 90000'... Stephanie Mills works 'The Wiz' at nights and is now at The Juillard School of Music by day... CBS have signed Leon Haywood and Jimmy Ruffin... The New York radio station who changed their format from progressive soul to West Indian sounds have lost most of their listenership. No reggae, no cry says New Yorkers....

Diana Ross being seen around tinsel town a lot lately with the 'one man in her life-time', Motown boss Berry Gordy... will they marry?

Ben Vereen has portrayed Louis Armstrong in a recent American TV film. One person is a little unhappy over it - and that's Armstrong's widow, Lucille.

Hi Fi and
Eric Faulkner
a BCR talks to Hi-Fi Weekly

THE REEL THING!
Price Guide and How to Choose Your
REEL TO REEL
10 MIKE OLDFIELD BOXES
To Be Won!

**TOP HI-FI FOR LONDON'S
TOP DISCO**
Seeing is Believing

**ADVERTISE & SELL YOUR UNWANTED
EQUIPMENT NOW FOR JUST
£1.00**

**ALL THE WEEKLY PRICES!
ALL THE BARGAINS!**

OUT NOW
It's all in

Hi-Fi Weekly

MAIL ORDER PROTECTION SCHEME (LIMITED LIABILITY)

If you order goods from mail order advertisers in this magazine and pay by post in advance of delivery, this publication RECORD MIRROR will consider you for compensation if the advertiser should become insolvent or bankrupt, provided

1. You have not received the goods or had your money returned; and
2. You write to the publisher of this publication RECORD MIRROR explaining the position not earlier than 28 days from the day you sent your order and not later than 2 months from that day.

Please do not wait until the last moment to inform us. When you write, we will tell you how to make your claim and what evidence of payment is required.

We guarantee to meet claims from readers made in accordance with the above procedure as soon as possible after the advertiser has been declared bankrupt or insolvent up to a limit of £4,250 per annum for any one advertiser so affected and up to £10,000 pa in respect of all insolvent advertisers. Claims may be paid for higher amounts, or when the above procedure has not been complied with, at the discretion of this publication RECORD MIRROR; but we do not guarantee to do so in view of the need to set some limit to this commitment and to learn quickly to readers' difficulties.

This guarantee covers only advance payments sent in direct response to an advertisement in this magazine (not, for example, payments made in response to catalogues etc. received as a result of answering such advertisements). Personal advertisements are excluded.

Results of Trivia Time competitions

'How Do You Mend A Broken Heart?'

COMPETITORS were invited to submit a succession of song titles that would be a sure-fire cure for a broken heart. These six people came up with the most convincing (if not the most varied) 'cures'. They each walk away with albums by Silver Convention, The JALN Band and Alvin Stardust, courtesy of Magnet Records.

From C. Wood of South Wales: 'Doctor's Orders' / 'Swing Your Daddy' / 'Blow Your Whistle' / 'Sound Your Funky Horn' / 'Ride A Wild Horse' / 'Dial L For Love' / 'Love Is The Drug'.

From C J Hinchcliffe of Barrow-In-Furness: 'Don't Worry Baby' / 'Get Away' / 'Sea Cruise' / 'Whisky' / 'Girls Girls Girls' / 'Dance To The Music' / 'Whole Lotta Love' / 'Matrimony'.

From Rebecca Garland of London: 'Love Hangover' / 'Hang On In There Baby' / 'It's All Up To You' / 'It Only Takes A Minute' / 'Call Rosie On The Phone' / 'Say Wonderful Things' / 'Hello Happiness'.

From Steve Elliott of Coventry: 'Love Potion No 9' / 'Honey' / 'A Whole Lot Of Jelly' / 'Pinch Of Salt' / 'Spanish Wine' / 'Silk Milk' / 'All Shook Up'.

From Elizabeth Rubb of Hants: 'Pick Up The Pieces' / 'Dum Dum' / 'You Ought To Be Having Fun' / 'Get Off Your Ass And Dance' / 'Try It On' / 'Swing Your Daddy' / 'Shake Your Booty' / 'Alright Now'.

From Valerie Wardhaugh of Cirencester: 'Dance Little Lady Dance' / 'Baby Hold On To Me' / 'Shout Shout' / 'Knock Yourself Out' /

'Stop Me If You've Heard It All Before' / 'Everybody Has The Blues' / 'Baby We'd Better Try' and 'Get It Together' / 'I'll Meet You At Midnight'.

'Barnyard Chart Flusters'

ENTRANTS were asked to give an appropriate hit record to a famous animal. Only seven entrants got the gist of this one right, but between them they submitted dozens of hilarious entries. Winners walk away with two albums each from NEMS.

Best of the bunch to Roger Hawke of Plymouth for The Beatle 'Piggies' singing 'Swill You Still Love Me Tomorrow' ('Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow'). Then onto Edwin Marshall, West Midlands for having Michael Jackson's 'Rocking Robin', The Plastic Ono Band's 'Cold Turkey' and Lobo's 'Dog Named Boo' all singing 'Smawk Cackle and Howl' ('Shake Rattle and Roll'). Regular Ron Melhuish submitted an admirable list including Smokey Robinson and the Miracles 'Mickey's Monkey' singing 'Chim Chim Panzee' ('Chim Chim Panzee') plus the Beatles 'I Am The Walrus' crooning 'One Woman's Skin Is Another Woman's Boar' ('One Man's Ceiling Is Another Man's Floor'). C M Standere, Ipswich had Smokey Joe Baugh's 'Signifying Monkey' singing a double A side of 'Too Much Monkey Business' c/w 'I Go Ape'. East Ham's Barry Black had The Osmonds' 'Crazy Horses' singing 'Saddle Be The Day' while Donald Gregory of Mersey-side had the Stones' 'Wild

Horses' singing 'Na Na Neigh Neigh Kic Him Goodbye' ('Na Na Hay Hay Kiss Him Goodbye').

'Why Do Fools Fall In Love'

COMPETITORS were asked to give one song title in response to the plaintive cry by Frankie Lyman and the Teenagers. A special prize goes to Miss Oz Trier of West Horsley, Surrey who answered the competition with 'I Don't Know Why', which was recorded as the answer to the above title by Lewis Lyman and the Teenchords. Lewis was Frankie's younger brother. Ms Trier informed me of such info to pass onto you. Thanks Oz.

As for the rest of you... well, I guess great minds think alike. The most popular answer was 'God Only Knows' by the Beach Boys. 'Fun Fun Fun' was another answer. Thunder-clap Newman's 'Something In The Air' was on several lists as was 'For The Love Of Money' by The O'Jays, 'Too Much Monkey Business' by Chuck Berry, 'Purely By Coincidence' by Sweet Sensation and two of you mentioned 'Can't Tell The Bottom From The Top' by the Hollies.

But here are the three winners: First prize: A bundle of goodies from our kind friends at MCA Records to A H Watering of Lowestoft for 'A Note As Good As A Wink To A Blind Horse'. Second prize to B Trickett of Accrington for 'It's Better Than Walking Out' (Marlena Shaw) and third prize to Malcolm Loring, Morden for 'Smoke Gets In Your Eyes' (by The Platters / Bryan Ferry).

Small Ads

Personal

JANE SCOTT, for thoughtfulness, friends, introduction opposite sex, with sincerity and thoughtfulness. — Details free, stamps to: Jane Scott, 3RM, North Street, Quadrant, Brighton, Sussex BN1 3GJ.

DATING / PEN-FRIENDS, marriage, thousands of members, England / abroad. — Details SAE SFE, 74a Amhurst Park N16.

PENFRIENDS WEEKLY (50p) contains hundreds of people of all ages. From here to Alice Springs, all seeking new friends like YOU. Send your name and address and pay after receiving five issues. — THE PEN SOCIETY, Dept RN 38, Chorley, Lancs PR7 4BS.

UNUSUAL PEN-FRIENDS! EXCITING DIFFERENT! Highly comprehensive services available. Confidential and other departments. — For brochure send SAE: (RM3), Bureau des P.O. Box P.O. Box 54, Rugby, Warwickshire.

MUSIC FANS CLUB for pen friends, interesting newsletters and much more. Join now! — SAE MFC, 10 Charlton Road, Tetbury, Glos.

REGISTERED FRIENDSHIP! Marriage members of permanent sincere contracts. — John Jean's Bureau Ltd, Sidwell Street, Exeter T4 4AB.

STEPHEN (21), seeks sincere girl. — 399 1819, 5-7pm.

GLASGOW GIRL, 16-19, for lonely male. — E. Mullen, 76 Bowman Street, Glasgow.

GLASGOW STUDENT, 24, shy, seeks girlfriend for sincere, mutual relationship. — Box No 903R.

CONGRATULATIONS GAYNER & CHRIS Peace & Love with you all at FULLSAR.

GIRL, 17, seeks boyfriend, Kent area, photo appreciated. — Box No 904R.

TEDDYBOY SEEMS sincere faithful affectionate girl 17+ with views towards marriage. Yorkshire area Box No 905R.

SINCERE GUY, 21, seeks affectionate girl 18 plus, for steady friendship. Medway area. Box No 906R.

1949 STRAY Male, Pedigree, house-trained, even tempered, loveable disposition only two previous owners, going free to a genuine lady. Animal lover. Oxon, Berks, Bucks area. Box No 907R.

ALAN 25 YRS seeks girl in London 20+ yrs. Ring 946-2321.

AMERICAN BEATLE FANATIC would like correspondence and exchange possibilities with other like-minded fans. Michelle, 3501 South Pacific Avenue, San Pedro, California 90731, USA.

TRUE FRIENDS wanted for Malta International Friendship Club members. Send B.P.O. £1 (US / 2 dollars) to M.I.F.C., 108B Viani Street, Sliema, Malta for lists and joining details.

Computer Dating... Find Friendship, Love or Marriage. Dateline, Europe's largest most successful and reliable service for all users in all areas. — Send for free colour brochure & details Now To: Dateline Dept (RM) 23, Abingdon Road, London W3 Tel: 01-937 6503

Dateline

SINGLE GIRL early thirties would like to meet a fellow any status, on boys Pubs and Socials. Box No 908R.

WORLDWIDE PEN-FRIENDS. Write for free details. Pen Friend Service, PL 27, SF-20801, Turku 00, FINLAND.

CAROL, 16, seeks young man between 17-20, photo if possible, must live in Norfolk or Suffolk. Box No 909R.

Records For Sale

NEED IT? I'll find most records. Send wants list — Box No 876R.

IN HI-FI WEEKLY CLASSIFIEDS you can place an ad this week and sell your surplus hi-fi equipment next week.

And now, Hi-Fi Weekly, Britain's only weekly hi-fi mag, offers you a 3-line classified for only £1. — Full details on 01-439 4061.

CHARTBUSTERS! GOLDEN Oldies available, 1956-1976, a must for collectors. Gonsend for DIs. — SAE Diskery, 86/87 Western Road, Hove, Brighton. Callers welcome.

LARGE SELECTION ex-jukebox records and others. — SAE: 47 Chemsford Street, Weymouth, Dorset.

DISCO DISQUES. First single list out now. — SAE 13 Ewanrigg Road, Maryport, Cumbria.

EX-TOP THIRTY records (1955-76). From 10p. Thousands of titles, hundreds of stars. — SAE for free list: 82 Vandike Street, Liverpool L80RT.

LPs FROM 20p 45s from 5p. — Large SAE Thompson, 24 Beaufort Avenue, Blackpool.

PASTBLASTERS! Always 1000's of rock, soul, pop, Tarnia. — SAE 24 South Walk, Middleton, Sussex.

SINGLES AND ALBUMS. — SAE huge list. — P. Stevens, 77A Gaisford Street, Kentish Town, London NW5.

DISCO OLDIES. As new. — SAE Sun Records Sales, 63 Greenoaks, Lancing, Sussex.

OLDIES SALE. — Many rare items. — SAE Dave, 23 Lyndhurst Road, Chesham, Bucks.

SQUARE RECORDS PRESENTS DELETED POP. 180 U.L. LISTS. S.A.E. to 9 Hart Road, Erdington, Bham.

LARGE PRIVATE COLLECTION 1957 onwards. SAE for lists, Robinson, 31 John Bright Street, Blackburn.

PRIVATE COLLECTION. Oldies from 10p. SAE 37 St Margaret's Avenue, Horsforth, Leeds.

COLLECTION 700 singles 1958-1976. Mint condition, 20p also 200 LP's. Cheap, large s.a.e. — Peter, 28 Kilner Close, Unsworth, Bury BL9 8AD.

COLLECTORS RECORD FAIR. Sunday 5th December at the Ivanhoe Hotel, Bloomsbury Street, London WC1. 12-8 pm. Stall enquiry ring 01-690 7712.

CAN'T FIND the records you want. That's because we've got them! Rollers, Cliff, Elton, Wings, Beatles, Stones, Bee Gees, Osmonds, Film Soundtracks, Old Rock 'N' Roll. Enclose S.A.E. stating wants. Don, 137 Southend Road, Wickford, Essex.

CLEF / ELVIS / POP / Tarnia / Rock / R&B LPs, 45s. Mint / V.G. S.A.E. 28 Galaways, Guildford.

LPs AT Fantastic discounts. Vintage 45's, 78's for the collector. Large S.A.E. — Mole, 28 Bellamy Farm Road, Shirley, Solihull.

ROCK, POP, Tarnia oldies, also recent hits. Large S.A.E. — 92 Dutton Lane, Eastleigh, Hampshire.

For Sale

JAMES DEAN. Unusual collection for sale, send 50p uncrossed PO plus SAE for rare postcard photograph and list. — Simmons, 25 Rutland Court, Henley, Sussex. Also vintage material, Monroe, Beatles, Diestrich etc.

THE HI-FI MAG WITH THE MARKET PLACE. Now you can reach the right buyers for your surplus hi-fi gear in Hi-Fi Weekly, the hardest working mag in this whole bargain hungry world, gets the fastest results in the business.

T REX PHOTOS — SAE for full details: Steve, 5 Main Street, Stanton By Dale, Ilkeston, Derbys.

COLOR UR ROCK PHOTOS: NEW BRYAN FERRY IN STUDIO available at LAST? AND ALSO ENO / MANZANERA, ROXY, STEWART, KISS, ESSEX, WINGS, HARLEY, PURPLE AND BLACKMORE, BOWIE, WHO, STONES, HARVEY, SAILOR, 10CC, YOUNG, DYLAN, ELO, ETC. PLEASE STATE INTEREST AND SEND SAE for full personal service — Dick Wallis, 23 DULWICH WOOD AVENUE, LONDON SE 19.

NEW GIANT 40 x 30 blow-ups. Write for free proofs. SAE please and state interests. Bowie '73-'76, L. Reed, N.Y. Dolls, Mott, Kiss, Queen, Sparks, L. Sayer, J. Miles, Showaddywaddy, Glitterband, Essex, Cassidy, Slade, Mud, Rollers, Wizzard, Bolan, H. Chocolate, Sailor, T. Lizzy, Bad Company, Skynyrd, Purple, Faces, R. Gallagher, Yes, Wakeman, Tull, Quo, Nazareth, Argent, Pie, Family, Entwistle, V. Joe, L. Feat, Dr Feelgood, Wishbone, Heep, ELP, Stones, Earring, Beach Boys, Supertramp, Be-Bop, Elton, Kiki, Harley C. Air, D. Gillespie, Winkles, H. M. Kids, Bill Haley, K. Ayers, Kinks, L. Ohen, R. McTell, Mahavishnu, Steeleye, — Ian Clegg, 96 Occupation Lane, Staincliffe, Dewsbury, W. Yorks.

TRANSMITTERS FROM 12.50. Ready to use. S.A.E. Details: Osborn Electronics, 5 Vicarage Parade, West Green Road, N.15.

JIMMY DEVLIN. Happy Birthday lots of love, Jan ka and Jan.

Songwriting

HOLLYWOOD COMPANY needs lyrics for new songs. All types wanted. FREE details — Musical Services, 1306 R. North, Highland, Hollywood, California, 90028, USA.

Tuition

DRUM CASSETTE Course, learn to play the drums at home. Also advanced course including written arrangements. Send S.A.E. to — S. L. B. Drum School, 42 Arkwright Road, Marple, Cheshire.

Situations Wanted

TWO D.J. Urgently seeks Soul Club to Portrait Talent, any area considered. — Telephone 01-437 - 0444 Ex. 105 Work, daytime, Bert Rogers.

CASSETTES AT £2.00. Rollers, Lizzy, Abba, many greatest hits type. S.A.E. — John Crosby, 19 Moncough Road, Moneyrue, Newtownards, Down N.1.

ROCK STAR PHOTOS. Colour 3 1/2 x 5 and 10 x 8. Black & White 10 x 8 and **BADGE COLLECTORS** Read on. Alex Harvey, Wings, Wings over Wembley, Bad Co, Led Zeppelin, Black Sabbath, Bowie, Heep, Yes, Deep Purple, 10CC, Pink Floyd, Rory Gallagher, ELP, Who, Santana, Genesis, Stones, Queen. New design: Roxy, Bryan Ferry pic. Wishbone Ash. Status Quo. Badges sent by return post, 15p each plus S.A.E. Hope to hear from you soon, love and peace. — Sent to: Julie Williams, 7 CANDY STREET, LONDON E3 2LH.

Special Notice

HI-SPEED, HI-EFFICIENCY, HI-FI WEEKLY CLASSIFIEDS. Now Britain's only weekly hi-fi mag offers you not only the fastest, hardest working small ads in the business, but also a bargain that means you can advertise that unwanted gear for only £1 — and, as always, get results in record time! Place your ad now on 01-439 4061.

Special Notice

HI-SPEED, HI-EFFICIENCY, HI-FI WEEKLY CLASSIFIEDS. Now Britain's only weekly hi-fi mag offers you not only the fastest, hardest working small ads in the business, but also a bargain that means you can advertise that unwanted gear for only £1 — and, as always, get results in record time! Place your ad now on 01-439 4061.

TRANSMITTERS FROM 12.50. Ready to use. S.A.E. Details: Osborn Electronics, 5 Vicarage Parade, West Green Road, N.15.

JIMMY DEVLIN. Happy Birthday lots of love, Jan ka and Jan.

Songwriting

HOLLYWOOD COMPANY needs lyrics for new songs. All types wanted. FREE details — Musical Services, 1306 R. North, Highland, Hollywood, California, 90028, USA.

Tuition

DRUM CASSETTE Course, learn to play the drums at home. Also advanced course including written arrangements. Send S.A.E. to — S. L. B. Drum School, 42 Arkwright Road, Marple, Cheshire.

Situations Wanted

TWO D.J. Urgently seeks Soul Club to Portrait Talent, any area considered. — Telephone 01-437 - 0444 Ex. 105 Work, daytime, Bert Rogers.

Musical Services

LYRICS WANTED by music publishing house. — 11 St Albans Avenue, London W4.

SONGWRITER MAGAZINE explaining copyright publishing, song-writing, competitions. Free from — International Songwriter's Association (RM), Limerick, Ireland.

MAKE THE FASTEST DALE with a Hi-Fi Weekly Classified. Britain's only weekly hi-fi mag brings you buyers for your unwanted equipment faster than any other mag. — Ring 01-439 4061 to find out how to advertise for £1 with Hi-Fi Weekly's special offer.

ATTENTION LYRIC WRITERS! Make the most of your material. — Details, SAE, 1 Aquamemnon Road, London NW6.

SPARE GEAR? Now Hi-Fi Weekly gets you the fastest results in the business for only £1. Yes for a limited period £1 buys a 3-line classified in Britain's only weekly hi-fi mag. — Phone 01-439 4061, now.

LYRICS INVITED. Composing/recording/promotion submit to Donovan Meher, Excel House, Whitcomb Street, London WC2 7ER.

MAKE MONEY as a writer details: B.C.M. Leebor Music, London WC1V 6XX.

Records Wanted

RECORDS WANTED! All types. Will collect. — 560 2390, evenings.

UP TO £1.20 each cash paid for LPs and tapes. Bring them or send them by post to: Record & Tape Exchange, 90 Goldhawk Road, Shepherd's Bush, London W12. Tel: 01-746 2930.

ALL YOUR UNWANTED 45s and LPs bought or part exchanged for new record. Large collections urgently required. — Send record or lists with S.A.E., F. L. Moore Records Ltd, 167a Dunstable Road, Luton, Bedfordshire.

Fan Clubs

DENNIS WATERMAN Fan Club. — SAE details Susan, 127 Croydon Road, Penge, London, SE20 7TT.

WURZELS OFFICIAL FAN CLUB. — SAE to Mary Witten, 6a Marina

Buildings, Stoke Road, Gosport, Hants.

DUST FAN CLUB. — Contact Chris, 120 Dudley Road, Tipton, West Midlands. 021-557-9872. Latest single now available. Order now.

WAVELENGTH No. 7
Now on sale the November edition of the international magazine for radio listeners. Featuring Rocks, Dutch Radio, Sensational audience survey results, shortwave news, free classified advert service for all radio fans and a FREE JINGLE record! Send 50p for a copy (including postage) to: WAVELENGTH 77 NEW BOND STREET LONDON W1

SWISS MADE FOOTBALL WATCH ONLY £5.99
ELECTRONICALLY TIMED CIRCULATING FOOTBALL SECONDHAND
BACK OFF ON TIME! This one is the most exciting watch you've ever seen. A fantastic time-meister, designed and expertly engineered, specially for soccer fans, players and supporters. The face depicts an ACTION PACKED SOCCER SCENE involving an expertly brought about to life by the unique CIRCULATING FOOTBALL SECOND HAND. AN IMPRESSIVE, STYLISH MARVEL. Swiss made with undetectable metal spring and diamond leading to give constant of trouble free service. Electronic provides accurate "ON THE BALL" time-keeping (you'll even be able to tell the ref when time's up). And full clear figures (including SHOOT TRACK) for INSTANT, PRECISE TIMING OF GOALS. Impressive gift case with a hand mirror strap. COMPRESSIVE 12 MONTHS GUARANTEE. £3.49 + 25p P&P. Money refunded if not absolutely delighted. Allow 14 days for delivery. Cheques/PO to: YOUNG LONDON WATCHES (2848) PO Box 131, London W8A 3SD

NEW No. 4 POSTER
2 HUTCH £1.30 EACH
3 STARSKY £1.30 EACH

NEW No. 5 NEW No. 6 (4-5 & 9p EACH)
+Add 25p Total Order
+5 IN TEE SHIRTS
£1.95 + 25p per Total
+PHOTO KEY RINGS
65p Each Post Free
CARDS & POSTERS
22 MOOR STREET
BIRMINGHAM 4

WHOLESALE ENQUIRIES WELCOME

COLOURS AVAILABLE IN THIS ADVERT: BLACK, WHITE, BLUE, RED, GREEN, YELLOW.

T-SHIRT ZIP FRONT STATE CHEST OR BUST SIZE ONLY £4.50 INC P&P

T-SHIRT LACED SIDE STATE CHEST OR BUST SIZE ONLY £4.50 INC P&P

P.V.C.

TROUSERS SIDE FASTENING STATE WAIST SIZE ONLY £5.50 INC P&P

MINI SKIRT ZIP FRONT 10, 12, 14, 16 ONLY £4.50 INC P&P

Cheques & PO's payable to: Image Unisex Casual Gear SD 6 Medway Street Chatham, Kent Tel: 084 467230

Rates and Conditions

Under the headings: FAN CLUBS, PEN FRIENDS, SITUATIONS VACANT, RECORDS FOR SALE, INSTRUMENTS FOR SALE, SOUND EQUIPMENT, and other private announcements.

8p per word
Under the headings: SPECIAL, NOTICES, PERSONAL, TUITION, RECOMMEND, and other trade announcements.

10p per word
TRADE ADVERTISEMENTS under any heading.

10p per word
After first hour
all words in BOLD type.

5p per word extra
BOX NUMBERS
Allow two words plus 40p service fee (SEMI DISPLAY advertising)

£5.00 per single column inch
SERIES DISCOUNTS
5% for 6 columns
7% for 10 columns
10% for 20 columns
12% for 50 columns

The Publishers reserve the right to withdraw advertisements at their discretion.

PLEASE PUBLISH my advertisement under the heading _____ for _____ (insertion) commencing issued dated _____ to cover the cost, made payable to RECORD MIRROR & DISC.

I enclose a cheque/postal order for _____

ALL SMALL ADS MUST BE STRICTLY PRE-PAID

Name _____

Address _____

Send completed form to: Small Ads Dept M, RECORD MIRROR & DISC, 12 Sutton Row, London, W1.

Record Mirror & Disc for the best results

RM takes a look at the new entries and the

Breakers Yard

breakers behind the singles chart

Just an old-fashioned fender lizard (See below for details)

BILLIE JO Spears was born in Beaumont, Texas, a city about 90 miles east of Houston. She was brought up on country music, listening to the likes of Loretta Lynn and Tammy Wynette.

She released her first record when she was just 13. It was called 'Too Old For Toys, Too Young For Boys' and made quite a name for the little girl. But during her first public appearance, at a Houston auditorium, she got such a severe case of stage fright she couldn't sing a note.

After graduating from high school, Billie Jo travelled around a bit, later settling back home in Texas. She did many jobs, none of them remotely connected with singing, including a four-year stint as a 'fender lizard' at a Beaumont drive-in. (A fender lizard, in case you didn't know, is an usherette of sorts).

She later met Jack Rhodes, the now deceased and once famous country writer, who persuaded her to come to Nashville. She cut some demo discs, signed a recording contract and had a country hit with 'Easy To Be Evil'.

Further efforts include 'Blanket On The Ground', 'Stay Away From The Apple Tree', 'Silver Wings And Golden Rings' and 'What I've Got In Mind'. Now she's about to make the charts with 'Sing Me An Old-Fashioned Song'.

Earlier this year, Billie Jo married (for the second time) Mike Edlin, pedal steel player in her band. They don't live in a blanket on the ground, but in a six-bedroom Spanish style



BILLIE JO gives 'em a wiggling

house in Nashville. She has two sons - Kevin and Bonnie - from her first marriage. They are both keen on music - one plays drums and the other guitar. They could be in Mum's band before too long.

YOUR TASK, Jim, should you choose to accept it, is to write a breaker on Mike Oldfield, just the usual - 200 words. This tape will self-destruct in 10 seconds...

Two words in your ear, mate - 'Tubular Bells'. Right, 198 to go.

'Tubular Bells' was conceived in late 1970 when Oldfield, then 17, was lead guitarist in 'Kevin Ayers And The Whole World'. His career at that date had consisted of a short-lived folk duo with his sister Sally and a barely existent group called 'Barefoot'.

He borrowed a tape recorder from Ayers and with a little help from composer David Bedford, Oldfield cut a demo tape and took it to Virgin's Manor Studio in 1971. A 'Don't ring us, we'll ring you situation' followed. Lo and behold, a year later, they rang. Oldfield then returned to Manor Studio to start work on what was to be one of the biggest selling albums of the decade.

A month after its release, Oldfield staged a concert performance of 'Tubular Bells' at London's Queen Elizabeth Hall. The cast included Mick Taylor (then of the Rolling Stones), David Bedford and Kevin Ayers. It has now sold over eight million copies, one and



OLDFIELD: over the ridge

Mike's next port of call

a half of them in Great Britain. Despite the fact that Oldfield has only performed 'TB' twice, it topped the charts in virtually every country where it appeared.

In the autumn of '73, Oldfield moved to a remote part of Herefordshire, near the place which provided the title for his second album - 'Hergest Ridge'.

Whatever Oldfield came up with, it was bound to be compared with 'Tubular Bells'. Although removing 'TB' from the top of the album charts, 'Ridge' failed to convince the critics. A more restrained and pastoral collection, 'Hergest Ridge' went gold instantly. But

Oldfield was unhappy and retreated, disgruntled.

Two years later he re-mixed the album... 'The main intention,' he said, 'was to cut on the unnecessary trimmings and in some cases, eg the snare drum, erase them entirely.' And, more profoundly: 'There is nothing wrong with repetition if you regard it as worth repeating.'

OK, so I've gone over the 300 word limit, but too bad. Oldfield's next opus was 'Ommadawn'.

He built a special studio in his basement and here he worked, mostly by himself, for over a year putting 'Ommadawn' together. He built up each section of the music by meticulously over-dubbing track upon track. He tried to play as many instruments himself as possible. Whenever outside musicians were needed he tried to rely on locals and friends.

Last Yuletide, he had a single hit with 'In Dulci Jubilo'. He looks like doing the same this year with 'Portsmouth'. Mr Oldfield likes riding horses, walking, drinking, dogs and parrots. The tape has now self-destructed.

J. Edward Oliver

"Feathers a will, there's a way"

SINCE THE EDITOR REFUSES TO GIVE ME A RISE, THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO. INSTEAD OF GETTING MORE MONEY FOR THE SAME AMOUNT OF WORK, I'LL HAVE TO CUT DOWN MY WORKING TIME FOR THE SAME AMOUNT OF MONEY. I'LL JUST HAVE TO TRY AND PRODUCE MY CARTOON STRIP IN THREE DAYS INSTEAD OF THE USUAL FOUR.

HMM, IT'S NOT GOING TO BE EASY. WHAT I NEED IS SOME SECRET, SUBTLE, ALMOST UNNOTICEABLE METHOD OF REDUCING MY WORK LOAD BY ABOUT A THIRD.

IT'S BATTY BOOKS! "SING AT ELEVEN IN EARLY LUNCH"

MEANWHILE, AT THE HOME OF FRESCO-LE-RAYE, THE WORLD'S SECOND MOST FAMOUS DINOSAUR - NOBODY LOVES A TWO-MILLION-AND-THREE-YEAR-OLD DINOSAUR.

IS IT ASKING FOR TOO MUCH? ALL I WANT IS SOMEONE TO LOVE ME, SOMEONE TO NEED ME, SOMEONE TO HOLD ME, SOMEONE TO CARE FOR ME.

GOOD GRIEF, WITH ALL THE BILLIONS OF FEMALES IN THE WORLD, YOU'D THINK I COULD FIND JUST FOUR.

HOW TO BE HIND TO A FRIEND

WHILST, IN A CERTAIN CASTLE, SOMEWHERE IN TRANSYLVANIA - A COLONY OF GNATS DECIDED TO HOLD A RALLY. TEN OF THEM SHOULD BE ABLE TO SEE WHO COULD BE THE FIRST TO CHEW THROUGH A SIX-INCH PLANK OF WOOD. UNFORTUNATELY, HOWEVER, NONE OF THE INSECTS HAD ENOUGH MONEY TO BUY A PLANK.

FINALLY, ONE OF THE GNATS SAID, "I ALREADY HAVE AN OVERBANK, BUT I'LL TRY AND GET THE BANK TO LEND ME SOME MORE" AND IT GAVE HIS REQUEST TO THE BANK MANAGER. AND HIS EXPLANATION AS TO WHY HE NEEDED THE MONEY, THAT INSPIRED GILBERT O'SULLIVAN TO WRITE HIS FAMOUS SONG - "A LOAN AGAIN (GNAT CHEW RALLY)"

END OF PART ONE

J. EDWARD OLIVER'S **garbage** COLUMN

ROCKER DOODLES RECORDING ARTISTS

THE CAPTAIN AND TEN-CEL

FEMALE VOCALIST

REGULAR CLERK

FROM JOHN BALL (OF JOHN BALL FAMS), NEW 5 HAM ROAD, TIVDLE, W. MIDS

INTERLUDE

PART TWO

A GIRL NAMED AGATHA GARDENING/ING LOVED EATING FISH SO MUCH THAT SHE WOULD SWALLOW THEM WHOLE. ONE DAY, SHE SWALLOWED TAD FISH AT THE SAME TIME.

WHEN THEY REACHED HER STOMACH, ONE FISH TURNED TO THE OTHER AND SAID, "HELLO, WHAT'S A NICE PLACE LIKE YOU DOING IN A GIRL LIKE THIS?"

IT'S A BAD PLACE. I'VE BEEN HERE SINCE I WAS BORN. I'VE NEVER SEEN A GIRL LIKE THIS BEFORE.

AT THAT MOMENT, IN AN ADJUDICATING CHAMBER - IT'S JUST WITHIN THE REALMS OF POSSIBILITY THAT ROD STEWART'S NOSE MIGHT NOT BE HIS BEST FEATURE.

AND HIS NEARBY-DNEP RED HAIR COULD BE TAKEN BY CERTAIN PERSONS TO INDICATE A SLIGHT LACK OF GOOD TASTE.

SHIRLEY BASSEY'S FACIAL GRIMACES CAN BE QUITE APPEALING, PROVIDED YOU CLOSE YOUR EYES.

JOHNNY ROTTEN MAY NEVER BE INVITED TO A GARDEN PARTY AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

IT'S NO USE I'VE LOST MY POWERS OF INSULT!

SWITCH WHEN YOU MUST HELP ME! LISTEN TO THIS!

TONY BLACKBURN IS... ER... UM... AH...

LEAPIN' LIZARDS, THAT'S AMAZIN'! I THOUGHTS THAT EVERYBODY COULD FIND SOMETHIN' BAD 'TA SAY' ABOUT TONY BLACKBURN!

"I'VE BEEN HERE SINCE I WAS BORN. I'VE NEVER SEEN A GIRL LIKE THIS BEFORE."

I MUST CONSULTS MY BOOK OF SPELLS. AH, HERE IT IS! THE SECRET OF RESISTING THE POWER OF INSULTS WAS DISCOVERED BY THE ANCIENT FRENCH RELIGIOUS SECT DAT WORSHIPPED MONSIEUR EDOUARD LA FEM. THIS RELIGION WAS THEREFORE KNOWN AS (YOU GUESSED IT) CHURCH & LA FEM.

IT SEEMS THAT YOU HAD TO SEARCH FOR THE CREATURE DAT THIS SECT HELD SACRED, A LARGE BIRD THAT RESEMBLES A PARTRIDGE.

YOU HAD TO GO ON A QUEST 'A SEEK - THE HOLY QUAIL!

"I'VE BEEN HERE SINCE I WAS BORN. I'VE NEVER SEEN A GIRL LIKE THIS BEFORE."

Boredom is...

~ FIVE MINUTES OF "THE WATER MARGIN" ~

AMAZING COINCIDENCE BOTH RAQUEL WELCH AND MADELINE SMITH HAVE

COMPILED BY GILLIAN WYNNON, STONEYBROOK FARM, BUNFRIES (1-4); ALASDAIR MURRIE, ABERDEEN (5-6) AND THE COINCIDENCE DESK (7); JOHN RICH (8); STANISLAW, MOSCOW (9) AND THE RECORDING

334/65

© BATTY BOOKS BY JOHN BALL (NO RELATION), NEW 5 HAM RD, TIVDLE, GLEBE, W. MIDS & N. HANTS. (BUY LESS THAN 7?) SEND ALL STUFF TO: J. EDWARD OLIVER, RECORD MIRROR, SPOTLIGHT HOUSE, 1 BENJAMIN ROAD, LONDON N7 7AX. ©

NEXT WEEK: For making fun of religious groups, RECORD MIRROR is sued by The Sects Discrimination Board



© 1976 QUEEN PRODUCTIONS LTD

A Day At The Races

EMTC 104 Also available on tape

EMI