

DISC

THE TOP RECORD & MUSICAL WEEKLY

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Every Thursday, price 6d.

Dave Clark's gunning for the top

WATCH out for Dave Clark! He's gunning it for the top. For just as 1963 was the Year of The Beatles, so 1964 could easily be the Year of Dave Clark!

In this picture his face is dirty and his mouth is twisted into a snarl, but it's only Dave re-enacting a scene from "The Victors"—he's in the film as an extra and you can see him in several of the combat scenes—and he says the photo session for DISC was his most exciting ever!

"Glad All Over" is racing towards the top of the charts. "And in March next year, I become a full-time professional," he told me proudly. "See what happens when you make up your mind not to be rushed into things—someone comes through with a tremendous offer."

"It was worthwhile waiting for that Harold Davison contract. I can't believe my luck, and I'm still stunned!"

"When someone asked me what I wanted for Christmas, I said one of your Silver Discs for 'Glad All Over'. But to get that and a fabulous contract too was almost too much!"

£50,000 NEXT YEAR

But Dave assured me that despite the estimated £50,000 that he and the group will earn next year, nothing will change.

"I don't intend boasting about it," he admits. "And let's face it, we'll have to work very hard. The good thing is that we've been semi-professional for three years, so we've had lots of experience."

"But even then, fancy me in a summer season in Blackpool. I've never even been there!"

"And I had an offer for 'Sunday Night at the London Palladium' in January, but I told them I'm not ready for it yet, so I think I'll be doing it in March instead."

"When I do the show, I want everyone to come down and see me as I'll be so nervous and excited that they'll help calm me down."

There is only one thing that Dave Clark regrets, and that's giving up all the fun working as a stunt man and film extra.

"But it's worth it," he said. "After all, my new contract is one in a million!"

June Harris

ARTIST OF THE YEAR

(Centre pages)

Presley's future

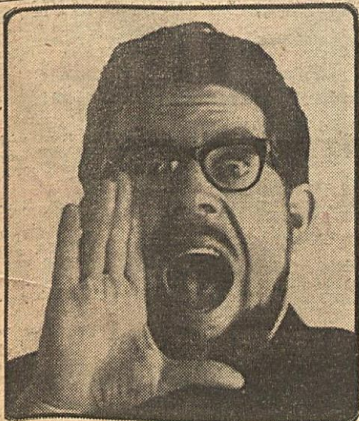
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BEATLES IN PARIS

(page 4)



D-DAY DAVE!



ROLF HARRIS

'I'VE LOST MY MUMMY'

COLUMBIA DB7166

COLUMBIA



RECORDS



POST BAG

GO ON,
NOW
BEAT
THIS!

Every week the writer of the best letter gets an LP of his or her choice, and once a month there is a bonus prize of a Ransom "Claridge" table lighter!

Is Liverpool sound coming to a halt?

PRIZE LETTER

HAS the famous Liverpool sound finally come to a halt, leaving only groups like The Beatles, The Searchers, Gerry and The Pacemakers and Billy J. Kramer and The Dakotas. Certainly these are the only ones who have enjoyed the sweet smell of success for any length of time.

Now is the testing time for Adam, Cliff and Elvis and other solo artists whose success hasn't been so tremendous since the advent of the Liverpool sound.

Or will rhythm and blues sweep the country? Or will the Beatles continue to reign supreme? Only 1964 will tell. It's going to be the most interesting year yet.—**HAROLD McMONAGLE, 7, Christopher Way, Childwall, Liverpool, 16.**

Stamping is enough

WHAT a stupid way to show pleasure at The Beatles — by pulling out your hair, fainting and screaming until you're hoarse. If the screaming idiots really liked The Beatles they'd shut up so they could hear what the boys were singing.

Clapping hands and stamping feet is, in my opinion, enough to set the group going, and you would still be able to hear them.—**GILLIAN ATHORN, 235, Longford Crescent, Balwell Hill Estate, Nottingham.**

Beatle mad in 1970?

RECENTLY a well-known disc jockey pointed out that "With The Beatles" had reached number 11 in the hit parade and so had broken Sinatra's "Swingin' Lovers" LP, which SEVEN years ago reached number 12. Last week, in a large record store in Glasgow, I noticed two

people buying the Sinatra LP within five minutes of each other.

I find it impossible to believe that people will still be buying "With The Beatles" in seven years time!—**ROSE REILLY, 26, Montrose Crescent, Hamilton, Lanarkshire.**

Cut out the double talk

WHY on earth do singers double-track on their records when they know they can't do this when appearing in public? No wonder so many of them have to mime on television.

It's just not good enough. Surely they can't think it sounds better!—**R. M. CORBETT, 5 Whitby Crescent, Haydon Bridge, Hexham, Northumberland.**

Stones are great

I RECENTLY went to see The Rolling Stones, having only heard them on record until then. Now I have seen them, I can only

praise them even more. They had the audience shouting, clapping and stamping for more. After an encore, continuous applause followed for a full three minutes — until the house lights were turned on.

Yes, The Rolling Stones really are a terrific group.—**JENNIFER NIXON, Nurse's Home, Queen Mary's Hospital, Carshalton, Surrey.**

Jerry Lee's classic

IF I had to choose a classic record of them all, it would definitely be "Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On" by Jerry Lee Lewis.

This must surely be the most performed song at any one-night stand or dance hall. Many stars have paid tribute to Jerry by copying this song, including Rick Nelson, Little Richard, Cliff Richard, Carl Perkins, Chubby Checker, Conway Twitty, to name but a few.

We don't hear an awful lot of Jerry these days but this is no fault of his. He still continues to make excellent records, and his latest, "Hit The Road, Jack," is certainly no exception.—**TONY LAKE, Chancery Dairy, Wootton Bridge, Isle of Wight.**



Frank Sinatra—his records still selling heavily. See "Beatle Mad in 1970?"

BILLY FURY FOR GT. YARMOUTH SEASON

BILLY FURY, with Rolf Harris and the Karl Denver Trio, is to headline a 14-week summer show at Great Yarmouth next year. In a brand new Larry Parnes production the show opens at the Royal Aquarium on June 12.

The same venue will also be used by Parnes for a series of eight Sunday concerts, alternating The Searchers and Brian Poole and The Tremeloes at top of the bill attractions!

The first concert will be staged on June 14, but it has not yet been decided which group will be headlining.

Parnes is also planning 13 more Sunday special shows, starting various pop artists, at the Britannia Pier.

There are still more names to be fixed for the Aquarium Show. To be selected are a leading lady, a comper, a 10 piece orchestra and 18 singers and dancers.

Billy's new group, as yet unnamed, will be appearing with him, and Billy, Rolf and Karl will also appear in several routines together.

On the air

French star Jean Sablon stars in his own BBC radio show (Home) on December 27. Among his guests are Juliette Greco and Richard Anthony.

Cliff and The Shadows have their own Light Programme record show on Christmas Day, in which they select favourite records, including "Busted" (Peter Sellers), "Any Old Iron" (Peter Sellers) and "Soul Bossanova" (Quincy Jones).

"Top Pops" of 1963, featuring the Joe Loss Orchestra, and introduced by Alan Freeman will be broadcast on the Light on Christmas Day.

The Karl Denver Trio, Clifton Ford and Dick Charlesworth guest in "For Your Young Party" on the Light, Christmas Day.

Ted Heath and his Music with Kenny Baker and the Michael John Singers are featured in "The Ted Heath Show" on Boxing Day. Frankie Vaughan, Russ

Write to "Post Bag" DISC,
161 Fleet Street, London E.C.4

The world's top pops

WEEK ENDING AMERICA DECEMBER 21

Last This Week	TITLE	ARTIST
1	Dominique	The Singing Nun
2	Louie Louie	The Kingsmen
3	You Don't Have To Be A Baby To Cry	The Caravelles
4	Three! I've Said It Again	Bobby Vinton
5	Since I Fell For You	Lenny Welch
6	Be True To Your School	Beach Boys
7	Drop Drop	Dion DiMucci
8	I'm Leaving It Up To You	Dale and Grace
9	Everybody	Tommy Roe
10	Popsicles And Icicles	Marmalade
11	Talk Back Trembling Lips	Johnny Tillotson
12	Loddy Lo	Chubby Checker
13	Forget Him	Bobby Rydell
14	Wonderful Summer	Robin Ward
15	She's A Fool	Lesley Gore
16	Walking The Dog	Rufus Thomas
17	Quicksand	Martha and The Vandellas
18	Have You Heard	The Duprees
19	Little Red Rooster	Sam Cooke
20	Wives And Lovers	Jack Jones

Christmas Singles

- 1 White Christmas—Andy Williams.
- 2 Little Drummer Boy—Harry Simeone Chorus.
- 3 Do You Hear What I Hear—Bing Crosby.
- 4 Please Come Home For Christmas—Charles Brown.
- 5 Jingle Bell Rock—Bobby Helms.
- 6 You're All I Want For Christmas—Brook Benton.
- 7 Rudolph, The Red-nosed Reindeer—David Seville and the Chipmunks.
- 8 White Christmas—Bing Crosby.
- 9 Songs Of Christmas—Bobby Vinton.
- 10 The Chipmunk Song—David Seville and the Chipmunks.

Australia

(Courtesy Music Maker, Sydney)

- | Last This Week | TITLE |
|----------------|--|
| 1 | Do You Love Me—Brian Poole |
| 2 | You'll Never Walk Alone—Gerry and the Pacemakers |
| 3 | Dominique—The Singing Nun |
| 4 | Sugar Shack—Jimmy Gilmer |
| 5 | Royal Telephone—Jimmy Little |
| 6 | Hungry Five—The Deltones |
| 7 | I (Who Have Nothing)—Shirley Bassey |
| 8 | Soul—Rob E. G. |
| 9 | Then He Kissed Me—The Crystals |
| 10 | Now—Lena Horne |

Ire

(Courtesy Irish Times, Ltd., Dublin)

- | Last This Week | TITLE |
|----------------|--|
| 1 | Don't Talk To Him—Cliff Richard |
| 2 | You'll Never Walk Alone—Gerry and the Pacemakers |
| 3 | Sugar And Spice—Searchers |
| 4 | Moments Tomorrow—Chuck Berry |
| 5 | Blue Bayou—Roy Orbison |
| 6 | Secret Love—Kathy Kirby |
| 7 | I Want To Hold Your Hand—The Beatles |
| 8 | Bossa Nova Baby—Elvis Presley |
| 9 | The Wedding—Pat McGeehan |
| 10 | There's Always Me—Dickie Rock |

Israel

(Courtesy Kol Israel Broadcasting)

- | Last This Week | TITLE |
|----------------|---|
| 1 | It's All In The Game—Cliff Richard |
| 2 | Bossa Nova Baby—Elvis Presley |
| 3 | Deep Purple—Nino Tempo and April Stacey |
| 4 | It Doesn't Mean A Thing—The Roof-top Singers |
| 5 | Say It With Flowers—Geezil Gil |
| 6 | Twist And Shout—The Beatles |
| 7 | You Can Never Stop Me Loving You—Johnny Tillotson |
| 8 | Hello Jim—Paul Arka |
| 9 | President Les Vacances—Sheila |
| 10 | Chaot, Chaot, Chaot—Sheila |

Hong Kong

Last This Week

- | Last This Week | TITLE |
|----------------|--|
| 1 | Let Us Make Our Own Mistakes—Brian Hyland |
| 2 | Wonderous Are The Ways Of Love—Paul Anka |
| 3 | Walking Proud—Steve Lawrence |
| 4 | Sugar Shack—Jimmy Gilmer and the Fireballs |
| 5 | Hello Muddah, Hello Faddah—Allan Sherman |
| 6 | Bossa Nova Baby—Elvis Presley |
| 7 | Sandwich—The Fabulous Four |
| 8 | Outsider—Cliff Richard |
| 9 | Funny How Time Goes Away—Johnny Tillotson |
| 10 | It's All In The Game—Cliff Richard |

Compiled by courtesy of the American trade paper "Billboard."

CLODA ROGERS

Personal Management: Mr. T. L. RODGERS

7, Sidmouth Court, Sidmouth Road, London, N.W.2. WIL 0276.

On the screen

ADAM FAITH, MARK WYNTER, The DAVE CLARK FIVE, KATHY KIRBY, The FOURMOST, CILLA BLACK, MIKE SARNE and AL SAXON are among the guests in a special New Year's Eve edition of "Ready, Steady, Go."

Cliff Richard, The SHADOWS, JOAN REGAN, The KING BROTHERS and KENNY BAKER are among the guests in "Christmas Swingtime" on ATV, Christmas Day.

ACKER BILK guests in "Christmas Startime" on ATV on Christmas Day.

JOE BROWN'S "They Sold A Million," which was edited to delete "Little Ukulele," will be televised by A-R TV on December 24.

MAHALIA JACKSON entertains on A-R TV on Christmas Day in a five-minute programme following "The Glass Mountain."

ROLLING STONES guest with LITTLE STEVE WONDER on "Ready, Steady, Go" on December 27.

Jury's Saturday "Juke Box" panel will consist of JIMMY SAVILE, MATT MONRO, ADRIENNE COSTA and PEGGY ELWES. PETER SELLERS and DAVID GELL have been set for the January 4 edition.

Starting on December 30 from BBC TV's Edinburgh studios is a folk series called "The Hoofbeats Show." Its cast will include NADIA CATTOUSE and guitarist FITZROY COLEMAN.

JULIE GRANT and The

BEATLE CRAZY

Bill Clifton

F 11793 45 rpm

DECCA

Big Dee and Vee to tour here in March

AMERICAN singing stars Big Dee Irwin and Bobby Vee have been confirmed for a spring tour here. They join Dusty Springfield and The Searchers.

A complete itinerary has now been set up for the package, which opens at the Slough Adelphi on February 29. Other Granada dates were published last week.

Remaining dates on the tour are Ipswich Gaumont (March 4), Manchester Odeon (5), Sheffield City Hall (7), Hanley Gaumont (8), Bolton Odeon (9), Leeds Odeon (11), Southend Odeon (13), Cardiff Gaumont (16), Worcester Gaumont (17), Birmingham Odeon (18), Nottingham Odeon (19), Leicester De Montfort Hall (22), Doncaster Gaumont (24), Glasgow Odeon (25), Stockton Odeon (26), Newcastle City Hall (28) and Liverpool Empire (March 29).

Stars to start new Luxembourg series

THE SEARCHERS, Frank Sinatra and Rosemary Squires will all be starring on Radio Luxembourg in January.

The Searchers are due to begin a series on January 24, but at present time no further details were available. Frank Sinatra will be featured on records in "Sinatra Sings," a 15-minute series starting at 8 p.m. on January 7.

Rosemary Squires will be heard in a three-week series at 9.45 p.m., beginning on January 3 in extracts from her recent LP "Everything's Coming Up Rosy."

On January 4, David Gell will host a new series called "Twinbeat" at 8 o'clock which will star guest groups each week, starting with Johnny Kidd and The Pirates and The Kestrels.



Susan Maughan flew out of London last week for her holiday in sunny Barbados. Here she sits in the airport lounge waiting for her flight.

Orbison will join Freddie on 1964 tour

ROY ORBISON will definitely co-headline the Freddie and The Dreamers' spring tour, which opens at the Slough Adelphi on April 18, and for which more dates have been set.

Brian Poole and The Tremeloes will not join this tour, but will headline another later on, probably with The Hollies.

Further dates for the Orbison tour, all on the Rank circuit, are Ipswich Gaumont (April 21), Southampton Gaumont (29), Southend Odeon (30), Worcester Gaumont (May 5) and Birmingham Odeon (6).

New dates for Freddie and The Dreamers are two Sunday concerts at the Coventry Theatre on January 19 and Leicester De Montfort Hall on January 26.

New dance hall dates are Manchester Top Ten (December 29), Camberley Agincourt (January 5) and Wimbledon Palais (February 15).

Dave Berry rushes out old Elvis song

DAVE BERRY and The Cruisers travelled from Manchester to the Decca Studios for a session on Wednesday—with a surprising result. They recorded the old Elvis Presley number "My Baby Left Me"—and it was rush-released on Friday.

Said Dave: "When The Beatles were on 'Take Box Jury' they suggested that Elvis' last record was not in the same class as 'My Baby Left Me.' If The Beatles like it, I am sure the fans will, so we rushed an arrangement together and taped it." Flip side is "Hootchie-Cootchie."

Two Bruvvers leave Joe Brown

TWO of The Bruvvers have left Joe Brown, and he is currently auditioning replacements for when he opens in pantomime at Shrewsbury on Christmas Eve.

Bass guitarist Peter Oakman, who has co-written some of Joe's recorded material, and drummer Ron Parry, left The Bruvvers on Tuesday to pursue solo careers.

HEINZ Country boy

F 11768 45 rpm

DECCA

Matt is chosen for Europe contest

MATT MONRO will represent Britain in the 1964 Eurovision Song Contest!

This nomination is a complete departure from former practice when the British representative was selected from competing singers judged by regional panels in this country.

The system of song selection is radically different this year, too. Matt Monro has picked six songwriters from a list submitted by the Songwriters' Guild of Great Britain, and he will sing their compositions in BBC TV's "Song For Europe" programme on February 7, when regional panels will vote for the song which he will perform.

The songwriters selected to write for the contest are: Lionel Bart, Leslie Bricusse, Tony Hatch, Mitch Murray, Norman Newell and Hal Shaper.

IN BRIEF

Two Sunday concerts at the Oldham Empire feature **FREDDIE AND THE DREAMERS** and **PETE MCCLAIN AND THE CLAN** this weekend (December 27), and **KARL DENVER** with **EMILE FORD** on December 29.

TOMMY ROE makes his first appearance in New York in a year when he headlines a Christmas Show at the Brooklyn Fox Theatre, opening December 25 for a week.

Oriside Records are to build a new factory in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, which will be completed by September.

Warner Brothers Records have picked up the original soundtracks for three new films. These are "Sex And The Single Girl," written by **NEAL HEFTI** and played by **COUNT BASIE**, "Dead Ringer," with a score conducted and composed by **ANDRE PREVIN**, and "America, America," with a soundtrack score created and played by **MANOS HADJIDAKIS**.

DUSTY SPRINGFIELD's current hit, "I Only Want To Be With You," has been given a Newcomer Pick of the Week in "Cash Box" on its American release.

THE KESTRELS appear in the Birthday Show at Coventry Theatre in the spring.

New Bassey disc set for January

A NEW single has been set for Shirley Bassey as a follow-up to her smash hit "I (Who Have Nothing)."

Due for release early in January, it is entitled "You," and was specially written for Shirley by her arranger-MD, Tony Osborne. It will be coupled with "My Special Dream," based on a theme from "The Victors," which Shirley recently recorded, but which was held up owing to the continued success of "I (Who Have Nothing)."

At present time, it was not finally decided which title would take priority rating, both being rated good enough to rank as "A" titles.

Says Tony Osborne: "You," as a title, seemed a natural sequence of events following the success of 'I.' And I am glad to say Shirley likes the song—which will be the first I have written for her."

Tony penned the music of the Danny Williams hit, "The Wild Wind," and has also written for Eve Roswell and Lita Roza. His instrumental, "Turkish Coffee"

was recorded by Duke Ellington. Shirley, meanwhile, opened her tour with the John Barry Orchestra at Cardiff on Saturday (21). She stars on ATV's "Sunday Night At The London Palladium" on January 19, and returns to Australia for a month's cabaret, opening on February 22. She was last in Australia in February of this year.

In addition to the dates already published, Shirley and the John Barry Orchestra play the Odeon, Leicester Square, on January 4.

Little People with John

MIDLAND beat group The Little People, appear with John Leyton in Midland ATV's "Fourteen Ages Only" on Boxing Day. In the January 2 edition will be Kenny Lynch and Australia's Ian Crawford.

Joe Brown spring tour dates fixed

A NUMBER of dates have now been set for the Larry Parnes Spring Show, which opens at the Coventry Theatre on February 15, starring Joe Brown, The Crystals, Johnny Kidd and The Pirates and Heinz.

Venues fixed on the Rank circuit are Finsbury Park Astoria (February 17), Sheffield Gaumont (18), Bradford Gaumont (19), Bolton Odeon (20), Blackburn Odeon (21), Derby Gaumont (24), Wolverhampton Gaumont (25), Worcester Gaumont (26), Cheltenham Odeon (27), Taunton Gaumont (28), Chelmsford Odeon (March 3), Guildford Odeon (5), Norwich Gaumont (7), Stockton Odeon (9), Sunderland Odeon (10), Southampton Gaumont (14), and Ipswich Gaumont on March 28.

On the Granada circuit, the package plays dates at Kingston (March 2), Harrow (6), Woodwich (13), Kettering (19), Slough (21), Wallhamston (22) and Mansfield (26).

Freddy for U. S. tour

FREDDY, one of Germany's leading recording stars, will visit the U.S. in January

Spring dates set

SEVERAL dates on the ABC circuit have now been set for Gerry and The Pacemakers' spring tour, which opens at the Nottingham Odeon on February 8. With Gerry are Ben E. King and The Fourmost.

New dates are ABC theatres at Gloucester (February 11), Exeter (12), Plymouth (14), Chesterfield (18), Carlisle (19), Stockton (21), Cleethorpes (26) and Northampton (28).

Marathon at Cavern

THE MERSEYBEATS top the bill for a rhythm and blues marathon at Liverpool's Cavern on Christmas Eve. On January 4, the group has a date in "Lucky Stars." They recently came third —to The Beatles and Gerry and The Pacemakers—in the Liverpool popularity poll.

MAKE IT A RECORD NEW YEAR!

CHUBBY CHECKER LODDY LO P890 	GARY MILLER MARIA ELENA 7N 15592 	BIG DEE IRWIN SWINGING ON A STAR PX 11010 	CHUCK BERRY RUN RUDOLPH RUN by JOHNNY B. GOODE R&B SERIES 7N25228
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Paris prepares for that

Beatle invasion

PARIS, where The Beatles open at the Olympia on January 15, is not yet Beatle-crazy, but it's getting that way! The boys' three-week season there certainly looks like being their first big success of 1964.

Jo Bergman of the Beatles Press office, just back from a three-day jaunt to the French capital, reports that French fans, young and old alike, are just dying for The Beatles to get there so they can really see and hear for themselves just what all the fuss is about!

"They're curious," she told me. "But it's a warm and friendly interest."
"Until now, The Beatles haven't made a startling impact in France, even though their 'Please Please Me' LP is number two in the hit parade."
"Basically France is an EP market, and although the boys have had three EPs released there, their LP is scoring rather more heavily."

• boost

Odeon, the French record company which releases Beatles discs, is very happy with the boys' success so far, and figure that their personal appearances at the Olympia will certainly do a great deal to boost Beatles sales and really establish them in France.
"The trouble with the French," says Jo, "is that they don't really know what the Beatles sound like! Several people kept asking me whether they were anything like Johnny Hallyday, or were they just another rock group? Liver-

pool, or the sound that comes from there, means nothing to the Parisians."

But Jo is convinced that The Beatles will be a resounding success in France. "But however big they become there as a result of their personal appearances,

that despite the appreciation, playing the Paris Olympia will be something of a rest after what they go through on one-nighters here!"

Already, several French magazines have run Beatle features, and to tie in with their arrival, Vogue is planning a fashion series using models in Beatle sweaters.

In order to get their copy, the French Press have sent representatives to Britain to watch the Beatles in action. All reports and

June Harris talks to Jo Bergman of the Beatles Press office, just back from Paris

there won't be the fanaticism there is here," she explained.
"French audiences are just not like that. They won't yell all the way through a performance. If they like you they will let you know by stamping and screaming at the end of a number."
"In fact, The Beatles will find

criticisms have been good, with a great deal of emphasis on the way The Beatles look and dress.
"French girls are already nutty over The Beatles because they think they look so chic, and in some cases, so French," said Jo. "A lot of them already wear Beatle-type sweaters, which are plain black with polo necks, but of course don't have the Beatle badges on them," she continued.
The rest is up to The Beatles themselves. They still have to show to Olympia audiences what they have which has made them the top British group of the year.
They're looking forward to the season, but John Lennon said: "We have a lot to live up to, especially being top of the bill at the Olympia."
"If we opened the show, and we didn't do so well, then we wouldn't have too much to live down, particularly as there are other acts following us. But topping the bill — well let's hope it all works out!"

ALL THE NAMES...
ALL THE NEWS...

fashion trend-setter Heinz wear a Beatle jacket on TV! ... Have the days of Christmas singles as such in Britain "had it"? ... Ernest Lecours, composer of "The Breeze And I," died in the Canary Islands shortly before Christmas. ... The Shadows arrived there to film "Wonderful Life."



JOHNNY KIDD — First single for his backing group.

The Merseybeats have chartered a special plane to enable them to do £5,000 worth of work between December 27 and 30. ... New "white Tornado" Ray Randall a hit with the girls. ... For Xmas edition of "Z Cars," The Swinging Blue Jeans join forces with Inspector Barlow's boys to sing "Nellie Dean". ... New honorary member of The Searchers' fan club: Billy J. Kramer.

MISTAKES

I won't make in 1964

JOHNNY KIDD

I HOPE 1964 will change my luck with cars. At present, my three cars and a bus are all out of commission! The Pirates and I have to keep mobile, so we have had to keep buying new cars. No more. If we get pranged, daddy, we go by mule. I have a feeling that 1964 may be our best year yet. We are starting it off right, with good concert bookings resulting from our "Never Get Over You" success and our latest, "Hungry For Love" going nicely.

KENNY LYNCH

NEVER again will I do a song that has been specially written for a girl singer! When Paul McCartney and John Lennon wrote "Mystery" for Helen Shapiro, I begged her to let me do it.

As it happened, Helen had another song in mind for a session at the time, so she let me have "Mystery".

Well, maybe it's me, or something—but that record never did get off the ground. We all know how good those songs by Paul and John are, so perhaps Helen could have put it in the charts. All I know is, I didn't.

HEINZ

I'LL never arrange any more interviews on board my boat again in 1964! The first—and the last—I fixed was quite disastrous. The newspaperman fell overboard while we were cruising around, and I only fished him out again after a lot of bother.

If that wasn't enough, the dinghy taking him back to shore after the trip capsized, and he had to be fished out of the sea again!

SUSAN MAUGHAN

HAD my hair cut short recently. I had been wanting to grow it long; but I listened to some friends and, in a moment of madness, had it cut short. Now, I'm letting it grow again.

KENNY BALL

NO more cover versions of numbers in the American Top Twenty for me in 1964, that's for sure! All my disc hits so far have been tunes I've picked up from various places which haven't figured in the charts at all at the time.

We did "Washington Square".

for instance, and were very pleased with it. It got plenty of plugs and interest, but didn't mean a thing as far as the charts were concerned.
So no more cover versions.

MIKE SARNE

I AM determined not to buy too many pairs of narrow trousers. I wouldn't be surprised if bell-bottoms were the rage before the year is out.

TONY MEEHAN

I THINK my greatest mistake of the year has been working too hard! I've promised myself it won't happen again next year.

I've seen many of my friends collapse through overwork, and I myself have been up till early hours working out arrangements, grabbing a couple of hours sleep and then hitting the road for a one-nighter.

Next year, I'm cutting down on everything, so that I'll have time always to do my best.

Stop Pressings by Peter Thomson

Mae West to play El's mum?

VETERAN blonde star Mae West offered top role with Elvis Presley in "Roustabout"—as his mum! ... When Elvis and Ann-Margret went to the movies together, nine bodyguards went too. ... You may have to wait till next summer to see "Viva Las Vegas". ... Drum chums are Brian Bennett (Shadows), Clem Cattini (Tornadoes) and Ringo Starr (Beatles). ... Johnny Kidd's backing group, The Pirates' first single will be "Johnny Oils" tune, "Castles My Spell".

EACH of the five Hollies were with separate Manchester groups until 11 months ago. ... AR TV's Merseyside documentary (produced by "Take Four's" Charlie Squires) will now be shown on Xmas Eve. ... Someone could have a hit with "Please, Mr. Postman". ... Sheffield star Dave Berry and The Crickets featured in BBC TV documentary

"Alienation of the Young" to be seen next month.

Top Merseyside A and R man George Martin has signed a group from Huddersfield—The Trends. ... The new Big Three contains two former members of Faron's Flamingos. ... Chris ("The First Time") Andrews one of today's most in-demand song-writers. ... The Beatles' favourites, The Miracles and Mary Wells will tour Europe in April and May.

★ ★ ★

PLYMOUTH born Danny Davis, lead singer with Stoke's The Marauders, once studied for a Bachelor of Science degree. ... Liverpool group Roy Storm and The Hurricanes have a fan club in Germany; Roy's first single here is "Dr. Feelgood". ... Another revival of old Drifters hit: "The Kestrels" "Dance With Me". ... Jack Jones guested on Judy Garland's TV show. ... To help her relax, Glenda Collins took up yoga; first time the hood on her head, she slipped and broke her right thumb.

Kenny Ball gave three and a half hour secret film show last week of the band's recent world tour; incidentally, Kenny's new bass player Vic Pitt is now the band's favourite comic. ... Why did

Calling all Yachtsmen

If you know about "buzzy wrinkles" and "buzzy hollows" you've a chance of winning a five entry competition sponsored by "Motor Boat and Yachting," the fortnightly magazine published by Temple Press Ltd. Cash prizes worth £500 are being given away for the correct answers to a series of questions designed to test general knowledge of all hours and yachting. First prize will be £250, 2nd £150 and 3rd £75, with 10 awards of £5. Full details of the competition and the first entry form appear in the Boat Show Special issue of "Motor Boat and Yachting," price 2s. 6d., published on December 27.



JOHN



PAUL



RINGO



GEORGE

Listen to ALAN DELL'S SHOWCASE An E.M.I. Presentation on RADIO LUXEMBOURG 200 m. medium wave 49.20 m. short wave EVERY SUNDAY AT 8 P.M.

In next Sunday's Showcase (29th December) ALAN DELL will present his selection from the past year's outstanding LP releases, plus an exciting preview of 1964

TASTES WILL CHANGE NEXT YEAR SO...

Will Elvis fade away in 1964?



PRESLEY—It takes more than luck to stay at the top as long as he has.

WHAT'S going to happen to Elvis Presley in 1964? The new year will bring changes to the pop scene—new stars will rise and new sounds will be heard.

But where does all this leave Elvis? Will he still be riding the charts and starring in films? Or will he fade quietly from the limelight he's occupied for the last seven years?

Nobody but Elvis—and his manager Colonel Tom Parker—knows the real answer to those questions. I talked to ace songwriter Mort Shuman last week about the subject. Mort has played a considerable part in the disc success of El in collaboration with his composing partner, Doc Pomus.

On top

"Obviously I don't know any more than you on the question of his plans for 1964," said Mort. "But I doubt very much indeed whether he will vanish from the scene in any degree at all."

"Sure, I know people say he happened at the right time in the right place, he's got a great man-

ager, and he gets some marvelous publicity. But, granting all that, it takes a lot more for a guy to stay on top for so long and so spectacularly."

Another criticism levelled at Elvis concerns his discs. After graduating from hard rock to ballads, he seems to some people to have marked time with a predictable mixture of both. Mort has his own theory regarding this.

"I believe it's on account of his films. His recent releases have all been centred on his pictures. You must remember that film songs are written for a specific part of the plot in a specific setting, and can't wander off into moods and sounds totally unconnected with the action."

"I'm sure there's plenty of different material around, and I'm

sure Elvis is talented enough to score with it. But while he's tied up in Hollywood on these films, I guess he won't go far from his present formula."

Mort should know what he's talking about in this respect. Doc Pomus and he have penned nearly a dozen hits for El, including the current success "Kiss Me Quick." He reckons the biggest of them were "Surrender" and the double-sided American smash "Little Sister" and "His Latest Flame."

Fantastic

Mort had no definite ideas on the question of Elvis possibly making TV appearances here, despite renewed London impresario interest in that direction.

"There's the tax problem involved in accepting a lot of engagements. People with El's

earnings pay fantastic tax, as you can imagine.

"And there's the human element, too. I was talking with Bobby Darin a while before coming to London, and he's not too keen on touring around everywhere now for a variety of reasons. One-nighters are a pretty tough proposition, and I can understand established stars thinking twice before spending most of their time and losing most of their earnings in tax doing them."

When Mort goes back to the States, he's going to make vocal records, himself, mixing folk, country and western and rhythm and blues in the material which he and Doc are preparing for his disc debut. He also plans to write a folk opera eventually.

"Elvis in a folk opera? He could certainly do it," said Mort.

Nigel Hunter

Heinz looks forward to a year to remember

by **Brian Gibson**



EVERY singer has plans for the future—but few speak of them as eagerly and enthusiastically as Heinz, who has some pretty surprising ones for 1964.

"Believe me, I intend to make 1964 a year to remember," he told me. "The kind of ideas I've got for the act are going to take everyone by surprise."

The ideas Heinz confided to me certainly surprised, but then Heinz is one singer who doesn't sit around waiting for hit records.

An act

"I want my Number One very badly, I'll tell you that," he said. "But in the meantime, I'm working on the kind of act that is going to last when I'm no longer making the charts. The kids love to hear the hits but they want a good act when they come to a theatre."

"In my present act, The Saints and I do some fast routines which are really different and we're going to improve

on them. I hate the thought of people coming along and knowing what is going to happen up there on stage."

"And I make sure everyone can hear properly. I'm always the first at whatever theatre we're playing and the boys and I test the place thoroughly to make sure that everyone can hear without getting blasted out of their seats."

Heinz's plans are certainly ambitious—especially for someone who turned solo only last April.

"We didn't get off on a particularly good footing," said Heinz. "My film and my first solo disc didn't start together and my first tour wasn't very good. People think I don't worry, but I do."

"At the start, I didn't have much confidence and who can blame me for that? Up until

then, I'd always had my guitar and been one of a group. Now I was up there on my own, no guitar and no other fellows."

But it's a different Heinz who walks, dark-suited and confident on stage now.

"I'm really loving life now and the tours I've done have been great. The travelling is hectic and you don't get the proper food or the right amount of sleep. But once I get up on stage and start singing I forget all that."

Sweden

On Boxing Day, he leaves for appearances in Sweden prompted by "Just Like Eddie" which has become a Number One hit. In February, Heinz joins Joe Brown and Johnny Kidd for a six-week tour and in April he goes to Norway and Denmark.

"Things are really moving well for me now," he said.

"I rather wish 'Country Boy' had gone a little higher but I'm hoping to have a new one out in the New Year and I've nearly finished my first album."

This has been a good debut year for Heinz and the blond star is hoping for even bigger things in the future.

BUDDY GRECO sang all four tracks featured in this NEW EP on his recent Television Show



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GERRY AND THE PACEMAKERS
Columbia SCK1482 (three LPs)
31X13146 (three LPs)



MRS. MILLS
Parlophone PCS3085 (three LPs)
PMC1332 (three LPs)



JOE LOSS
N.M.V. CLP107 (three LPs)



RAY CHARLES
N.M.V. CLP1078 (three LPs)



GENE PITNEY
United Artists ULP1043 (three LPs)

MEET THE TOP STARS OF

Beatles way out in front of Cliff, Shadows... Orbison leads the Americans

To arrive at the Top Thirty stars of 1963, the charts from January 5 to December 21 were taken and 30 points awarded for number ones, 29 for number twos, and so on.

1	Beatles	1803
2	Cliff Richard	1155
3	Shadows	967
4	Gerry And The Pacemakers	956
5	Frank Ifield	814
6	Roy Orbison	739
7	Jet and Tony	687
8	Billy J. Kramer	665
9	Billy Fury	662
10	Buddy Holly	657
11	Freddie And The Dreamers	562
12	Searchers	528
13	Crystals	522
14	Brian Poole And The Tremeloes	504
15	Elvis Presley	493
16	Springfields	472
17	Del Shannon	450
18	Brenda Lee	358
19	Ned Miller	349
20	Tornados	347
21	Ray Charles	324
22	Joe Brown	289
23	Tommy Roe	280
24	Kathy Kirby	279
25	Bobby Vee	266
26	Andy Williams	261
27	Paul And Paula	260
28	Cascades	257
28	Johnny Kidd	257
30	Bachelors	233

It was highly predictable that those four fabulous Beatles, the biggest injection of power-charged life to hit the pop scene in years, would come out supreme in DISC's Top Thirty Artists of 1963.

But they only gained their fantastic 600 point lead in the latter half of a fabulous pop year. In the early part of 1963 they were lagging behind other established favourites.

It was "Please Please Me" that netted them places as starters in the popularity race back in the late spring. And it was the tremendous success of "She Loves You," "Twist And Shout," their other EPs, their huge selling albums and their current smash single "I Want To Hold Your Hand," which ensured them their success.

Second place is taken by Cliff, followed by The Shadows who totalled just under 200 points less. In fourth place is another Mersey soundmaker—Gerry Marsden and his three Pacemakers.

And topping the list for American artists is not Elvis Presley, but Roy Orbison, with 739 points to Elvis' 493.

Impressed

Instrumentally, The Shadows led the field with an impressive total of 967 points—just 11 points more than Gerry.

If The Beatles raced ahead in the latter half of the year, Frank Ifield at Number Five, did just the reverse. He has sold quite well in recent months. But it was his big disc success at the beginning of the year which kept his name up in big lights.

Jet Harris and Tony Meehan, no longer a partnership, were the other huge instrumental record stars of 1963 and take seventh place with 687 and it is unfortunate that this may be the last year they will be chart-riding as a duo.

And the girls got a big look-in, too. Powerhouse New York group The Crystals lead the chicks—they are at Number 13—and Brenda Lee took slot 18 while our own glamorous Kathy Kirby stands at 24 after her two big hits "Dance On" and "Secret Love."

ORBISON No 6

CLIFF No 2



BEATLES No 1

In the past year The BEATLES have earned a fantastic amount of money, not all going into their own pockets—the Oxford Committee for Families, one of the charities they are out to help all they can.

BILLY J. No 8



FEBRUARY NEXT BILLY SINGLE SES

BILLY J. KRAMER who follows close behind The Beatles and Gerry and The Pacemakers in the 1963 placings, will be cutting his next single in February, and he's keeping his eyes and ears open for suitable material. So far he hasn't picked a number to follow up "I'll Keep You Satisfied," though he's listening to material all the time.

I've no idea at the present moment what the song will be like," he told me last Wednesday. "I'm keeping a completely open mind on the matter. It could be one like my previous records if the song in question is good enough."

What does seem certain is that Billy's new one will NOT be a John Lennon—Paul McCartney number.

A winner from

BILLY FURY

DO YOU REALLY LOVE ME TOO

(Fool's errand)

and a great EP

AM I BLUE

ONE HOUR 7" single EP

Wondrous place: There's enough; Tell me how do you feel; Am I blue and What am I living for



THE B THRU AT THE CA



What'd I say: Don't start it Zip-a-doo-doo-ee & Retin' and No... PRE 200 7" single

1963

NEW FROM EMI

THE SWINGING BLUE JEANS
HIPPI-HIPPI SHAKE
N.M.V. POP1242

THE DAVE CLARK FIVE
GLAD ALL OVER
COLUMBIA DB7154

BING CROSBY
DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR?
CAPITOL CL55276

BOBBY DARIN
BE MAD LITTLE GIRL
CAPITOL CL55328

ADAM FAITH with The Roulettes
WE ARE IN LOVE
PARLOPHONE R5091

THE FOUR PENNIES
WHEN THE BOY'S HAPPY (THE GIRL'S HAPPY TOO)
STATESIDE SS244

THE HOLLIES
STAY
PARLOPHONE R5077

THE INNOCENTS
A FINE, FINE BIRD
COLUMBIA S07173

JOHN LEYTON
BEAUTIFUL DREAMER
N.M.V. POP230

JOE LOSS and his Orchestra
LODDY LO
N.M.V. POP1231

GENE McDANIELS
ANYONE ELSE
LIBERTY LIB10130

THE PARAMOUNTS
POISON IVY
PARLOPHONE R5093

GENE PITNEY
TWENTY-FOUR HOURS FROM TULSA
UNITED ARTISTS UP1035

THE SHADOWS
GERONIMO
COLUMBIA DB7163

MIKE SHERIDAN and The Nightriders
PLEASE MR. POSTMAN
COLUMBIA DB7163

JOHNNY TILLOTSON
TALK BACK TREMBLING LIPS
M-G-M M061214

PAT WAYNE with The Beachcombers
ROLL OVER BEETHOVEN
COLUMBIA DB7162

E.M.I. RECORDS LTD., 6, RINGWOOD ROAD, MANCHESTER SQUARE, LONDON W.1



SHADOWS... No 3

Legionnaire SHADOWS with their not so trusty mount Henry the camel. Hank had a bit of difficulty when it came to riding him—he found it wasn't quite as easy as it might look!

SET FOR J. NION

...Beattles are so busy that... Paul don't get very... time for writing lately... anyway I know they've... quite a lot on their plate... numbers for their... wouldn't make any firm... predictions for the pop music... one in 1964... not sticking my neck out... saying what might hap... because nobody ever... weeks ahead—leave alone... months or a year... Liverpool boys will keep... popular for quite a time yet... think. Certainly The Beatles... There may be some... different sounds creeping into... records, though... ambition for 1964? To... a Royal Variety Show.

Nigel Hunter

Waiter, cowboy, soldier—Cliff plays the lot in new film

"Wonderful Life" is going to be one of the most colourful films Cliff Richard and The Shadows have ever made. After seeing the first few weeks of location work here a few miles outside Las Palmas in the Canary Isles I'm quite convinced of that.

Apart from the exotic scenery, which is really something, all the boys have been given enough changes of costume to keep the wardrobe department in work for months!

Cliff starts the film in the natty uniform of a wise waiter. Then there are the cowboy costumes. But just before the end of his second week here, he did scenes wearing a gay Foreign Legion uniform: highly-polished black top boots; white trousers; a jacket of pale blue with yellow facings and silver epaulettes.

It was striking in appearance—but pretty darned hot to wear in the blazing sun—especially as most of the men not in camera were walking around stripped to the waist.

from **Dick Tatham** in **Las Palmas**

This Foreign Legion scene is part of the film-within-a-film plot of "Wonderful Life". During another day's work on it, The Shadows also appeared as Legionnaires—which is where the camel-riding Hank Marvin came into things.

Hank explained: "It's dead dodgy, hopping on a camel. If you try it as if you were mounting a horse, the crafty so-and-so waits till you are half-turned in mid-air, then suddenly starts to get up, and you go sailing head first into the sand."

...most of my hope is to nip... sharpish—taking care to face-front every second.

But Hank's confidence was shaken more than somewhat when it was announced that the local camels were rather slow runners—and that for some scenes an Arabian racing camel was being imported from the African mainland.

"If they intend lumbering me with that one," he told me, "I'm making inquiries about the next plane home."

John Rostill is clearly living every moment of this life to the full. We sat in the sand eating our packed lunches—the terrain being too tough to allow the unit to construct the mobile canteen.

Between bites at an outside sandwich consisting of a Spanish omelette between two hunks of bread, the recently-arrived Shadow told me: "This is my first trip any great distance out of Britain. So I am fascinated by the palm trees, the cactus plants, the native people, the Spanish-type buildings and so on."

Bogging!

"As regards the film, I am most interested by what goes on in front of the camera—as I expected I would be. But my eyes have been bogging at the vast amount of equipment—and the fantastic organisation—needed on the other side of the cameras.

"So far as I'm concerned, there just don't seem to be enough hours in the day at the moment."

Incidentally, the packed lunches indirectly solved a problem for Cliff and The Shadows. They had brought movie and still cameras on location—but were worried stiff about sand getting into them. Way out: keeping them in the large plastic bags which had contained the lunches!

There is a new member of Cliff's film "gang." His screen name is Miguel y Cervantes de Don Exposito—a Spanish photographer. In real life he is Joe Cuby—born of Spanish parents in Gibraltar.

Joe has played quite a few TV and film parts. "Last year I was working at Elstree in 'The Salt'



Shapely ALIZA GUR is one of the stars of "Wonderful Life"—she plays a Spanish waitress who meets up with Cliff and his chums.

series," he said, "and was invited over to the 'Summer Holiday' set to meet Cliff."

"As I had been collecting discs by him and The Shadows for years, this was quite an event for me."

"How do I find them? Dead serious when they are working. But so much fun at other times. I can't remember a time in my life when I've laughed to much."

BIG KATHY KIRBY

FREE EARN



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and her great LP

Kathy Kirby
SINGS 16 HITS FROM STARS & GARTERS

The man I love; Who's sorry now; Acapulco—1922; I'll get by; Someone to watch over me; and 11 others
LK 4575 12" mono LP

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London SE1

reviews...

Singles

(Don Nicholl)

EPs

(Nigel Hunter)

Jazz

(Tony Hall, Owen Bryce)

GIVE IT TIME AND THIS COULD BE A HIT

George Bradley Band

March Of The Victors; A Stitch In Time... HMV POP 12451****

Sonny Webb and the Cascades

You've Got Everything; Border Of The Blues... (Orion CB 187)****

The Murmaids

Poppies And Nettles; Comedy And Tragedy... (Capitol EAP 4) 1514****

Dick and Deedee

Turn Around; Don't Leave Me... (Warner Bros WB 119)****

Adrienne Poster

Only Fifteen; There's Nothing You Can Do About That... (Decca F 11797)****

credits behind her from stage, television and film work.

Kenneth McKellar

The Bonnie Wells Of Wearie; Bonnie May Of Argyle... (Decca F 11784)****

Benny may be old fashioned, but he's still great!

Benny Goodman

The Hits Of Benny Goodman... (Capitol EAP 4) 1514****

case with Memphis Slim or with John Lee Hooker, both of whom have LPs available.

Eartha Kitt

I Had A Hard Day Last Night; Lola Lola... (Columbia DB 7170)****

Owen Bryce

Don Nicholl

Genius of the Bird

Charlie Parker

MEMORIAL VOLUME ONE... (Mercury MMC 34128)****

Smith's Back; At The Chicken Shack; Herbie Hancock's Western... (Mercury MMC 34128)****

Julian Adderley

Portrait Of Cannonball... (Mercury MMC 34128)****

Quincy Jones Orchestra

HIP HITS (12in, Mercury MMC 34128)****

The most important tune is Miles Davis' beautiful composition Nardis... (Mercury MMC 34128)****

Tony Hall



FRANK IFIELD, wrapped up warmly against the English winter, is off to find the sun in Australia.

VINTAGE IFIELD IN A COUNTRY MOOD

Frank Ifield

Lucky Devil; Happy-Go-Lucky-Me; The Way It Goes; Tobacco Road... (Columbia SEG 8284)****

The others featuring Peggy's unmistakable vocalizing with the smooth Shearing quintet sound.

Peggy Lee and George Shearing

Benny And The Beat; Mambo In Miami; If Dreams Come True... (Capitol EAP 9121)****

Trini Lopez

If I Had A Hammer; What'd I Say; Gotta Travel On, Down By The Riverside... (RCA Victor RCX 7127)****

Paul Anka

Fly Me To The Moon; Lady Of Spain; Brazil; Sorrento; Fly Me To The Moon... (RCA Victor RCX 7127)****

RATINGS

- ***** - Excellent
**** - Very good
*** - Good
** - Ordinary
* - Poor

And the really hit records that look like spinning to the top are marked by D.N.T. (Don Nicholl Tip).

Rory tries his hand at Dr. Feelgood

RORY STORM AND HURRICANES... (Orion CB 187)****

THE DOWLANDS - All My Loving; Hey Sally... (Orion CB 187)****

ANDY STEWART - Campbeltown Loch; Morning O'Dunneagan... (HMV POP 12451)****

DENNIS AND ROGERS - Blowin' In The Wind; Blue Water Line... (Orion CB 187)****

WOUT STENHUIS - Ball Hal; Aroha Hawaii... (Columbia DB 7181)****

THE TRIFIDS - Over Again; Lonely Boy... (Columbia DB 7170)****

behind Heinz's double-tracking, but none of the tracks quite reaches his later disc stature.

The Shadows

Shading; It's Been A Rise Day; Sleepwalk; Theme From A Fifted Floor... (Columbia SEG 8286)****

THIS EP represents The Shadows' ancient and modern. Side one was recorded this year with the line-up before Eric Burdon left.

The selection proves once again how far The Shadows have progressed from the status of a mere beat group accompanying Cliff to one which stands up high on its own feet.

Ken Thorne

Legion's Last Patrol; Legion's Last Patrol; River In The Night; Holiday In Madrid; Seven Sisters Of Salem... (HMV 5 EG 8839)****

A VERY pleasing quartet of instrumental from Ken Thorne's orchestra with the mellotoned trumpet of Ray Davies shining beautifully in the solo spotlight.

Nigel Hunter

Barbra—biggest star since Judy Garland?

COLUMBIA are very pleased they signed BARBRA STREISAND when they did. Already her first two albums have made the top ten and her single of "My Coloring Book" was great despite strong competition. Barbra is now being called the biggest star since Judy Garland and Ethel Merman and the next big step in her career will be appearing this coming year on Broadway playing the part of the late Fanny Brice in "Funny Girl" which should establish her once and for all. On the recording scene she has begun her next LP and is preparing for a single called "Red The Rose" which, incidentally, was written by England's Dorothy Squires.

Chris Montez, missing from the charts for some time now, is trying everything in the book to get back. He recently recorded seven numbers, all different tempos and styles, two titles of which will be chosen by his fans for his next single release early in January.

Brook Benton was deeply grieved by the recent passing of his friend and co-star, Dinah Washington. Brook recently cut with Damita Jo, who was also a good friend of Dinah's, because Dinah and

he couldn't find a suitable time to do the disc together. Lloyd Price, who has been doing big sales with his different treatment of the much recorded "Misty," is all set to repeat the success with another much-recorded song, "Won't You Come Home, Bill Bailey?" Lloyd, however, has given the song a completely different slant and has changed the title to "Billie Baby" so it can now be sung by a man to a girl. Should be a smash.

GOOD things always come in twos, they say. It sure seems that way to Mr. and Mrs. Louis Prima away. Having just had their first "happy event," a daughter called Lena Ann, Mrs. Prima (singer, Gia Maione) looks as if she might be big parade bound with her revival of "Little Sir Echo."

Composer-publisher Johnny Marks, known in the music biz as "Mr. Christmas," owing to his very big Christmas songs, such as "Rudolph, The Red Nosed Reindeer" and "Rocking Around The Christmas Tree," has now appointed a licensing agent to deal with the dozens of manufacturers who wish to put the name and likeness of "Rudolph" on their products. The latest is a chocolate version of the reindeer with a red candy nose. Seems he is even more in demand

CABLE FROM AMERICA

than Father Christmas himself! RCA Victor figure their most important signing of the year is John Gary—after a terrific build-up throughout the year young John is coming through. His first album, "Catch A Rising Star," is way up in the LP sellers and next year he should reap the benefits in singles.

Co-Ed Records' group The Duprees, who have had several big hits with revivals, the latest being "Have You Heard?" have just cut an album of this title which features a whole batch of lovely oldies such as "The Sand And The Sea," "Where Are You?" and so on.

CASHING in on his recent success on Reprise, King Records has re-issued a single by Trini Lopez called "The Club For Broken Hearts," but it isn't up to his now high standard.

Johnny Mathis will spend most of Christmas reading scripts for his forthcoming film which, probably, he will finance himself, mainly because the scripts submitted so far from the large movie studios haven't been to his

Edited by Maurice Clark

liking. He says he wants to be in a major film, act first and maybe sing, not the other way around.

Mercury Records threw a large party for DJs and the Press in Hollywood to preview a new album by ex-Harwood called "Trouble" which Lee wrote and produced. The album, Mercury think, will cause quite a stir.

CADENCE have re-released their version by The Chordettes of "True Love Goes On And On" to compete with the new one on Decca by Burl Ives. The company's always had great faith in this single by the girls and feel now is the time it might get away.

Peter, Paul And Mary, who have had three LPs issued so far, are now in possession of three golden discs, one for each album made. Very good, too, for such comparative newcomers.

The Singing Nun and a group of nuns will tape a special performance in their convent in Belgium on December 28, which will be shown on Ed Sullivan TV show on January 5. As well as singing the hit "Dominique," the Nuns will sing "76 Trombones" from "The Music Man" and "Maria" from "West Side Story."

One of New York's top DJs, Clay Cole, is getting ready to make his musical stage debut in a forthcoming off-Broadway musical to be called "You, The People," after which Clay starts a TV series which will be networked.

1963 Groups, groups all the way!

ONE straight comparison between the Top Thirty dated December 15, 1962, and the Top Thirty dated December 14, 1963, illustrates the complete pop difference between 62 and 63 . . . This December's chart contains 11 solo artists. Last December's chart contained 22!

And last December's Thirty didn't carry one Mersey group. Then in February, 1963, the pattern began to change relentlessly. The Beatles topped the charts with "Please Please Me." In March they gave way to The Shadows and Cliff Richard but another group was marching into action to hit the top line in April—Gerry and The Pacemakers. And by the time May came around there were The Beatles, Gerry and The Pacemakers, Billy J. Kramer and The Dakotas, Freddie and The Dreamers.

In June these groups occupied the first four places of the parade. Before July was out, this quartet had been joined in the charts by The Searchers, The Hollies, Brian Poole and The Tremolos and The Big Three. Subsequently along came The Rolling Stones, The Dave Clark Five and Bern Elliott and The Fourmen.

It would have been impossible to forecast such a triumph for British groups. And remember that older favourites like Johnny Kidd and The Pirates, the Springfields (before they disbanded) The Shadows and The Tornados also had a juicy cut of the parade. This was nothing less than a revolution in the pop business. Two revolutions for the price of one to be more precise—because with the fervent following of the groups came a tremendously patriotic swing that almost pushed America out of our charts altogether. As always the best-sellers have produced their oddities amid the trends. The Singing Nun is perhaps the strongest example of the past year, but there have been other surprises too. Allan Sherman's comedy disc "Hello Muddah Hello Fadduh" was one of them—and incidentally this disc made Patsy Cline's operatic melody "Dance of the Hours" one of the year's most successful tunes!

girls

For remember it had also taken Maureen Evans into the Top Ten with the lyric titled "Like I Do." Maureen was one of the few girls to succeed in 1963's charts . . . along with Brenda Lee, Shirley Bessy, Dusty Springfield, The Caravelles, Kathy Kirby, Billie Davis, Susan Maughan, Lesley Gore and Little Eva.

Among the solo men, Adam Faith managed to come back strongly after a very shaky start to the year—and Cliff Richard also kept his head in the upper brackets. Frank Ifield found himself slipping, however, after an admirable run of success when "Mute Train" failed to kick up a gallop at all.

Presley has the sort of sales no one would sneer at, but he, too, has suffered from the fact that a lot of his early faithful fans have grown out of the disbelieving frenzy.

knock

For some reason it also seems to have become fashionable to knock Presley this year and to knock him rather snidely through the material he's singing. I've a hunch, however, that Mr. P will be selling big ones when quite a lot of the current sellers have faded from the scene.

If in a few years time you wanted to recapture the sound and flavour of 1963 what discs would you spin? My own choice would be a composite of the following ten pop:

- She Loves You—The Beatles, Da Da Da—Billy J. Kramer, Do Do Ron Ron—The Crystals,
- I'm Confessin'—Frank Ifield, Summer Holiday—Cliff Richard,
- Can't Get Used To Losing You—Andy Williams,
- Say I Won't Be There—Springfields,
- Maria Elena—Los Idios Tabajaros,
- You Don't Have To Be A Baby To Cry—The Caravelles,
- Hello Muddah, Hello Fadduh!—Allan Sherman,

reviews...

ADAM TAKES ANOTHER BIG STEP FORWARD WITH THIS ALBUM

Adam Faith
For You—Adam
The Wanderer, My Kind Of Girl, Forget Him, Forget Me Not, Let There Be Love, Lazy River, Hello, Mary Lou, Glenn, Come, Lovely Things, Take Good Care Of My Baby, It Doesn't Matter Anymore, Bye Bye Love. (Parlophone PMS 121), stereo PCS 3050

ANOTHER big recording stride forward for Adam. I still remember his last LP with the John Barry orchestra for its difference and originality in material and presentation, and the same words apply here for this collection with backings by Johnny Keating.

Adam hasn't stuck with the "bye-bye" image of his big-selling single phase. He strikes out in two different directions for this album with a varied round-up of worthwhile songs. There's the country approach of My Kind Of Girl, with some Floyd Cramerish piano, favouring the accompaniment and then the accomplished punch of numbers like Lazy River with the Keating brass swinging so a storm behind Adam.

This is the ideal format for an album, breaking into new territory without tamely copying any single disc success formula. Adam deserves to do extremely well in the sales charts to encourage him—and others—to show similar ambition and enterprise on LP in the future.

Sammy Davis Jr.
A Treasury Of Golden Hits And This Is My Beloved, In A Persian Market, Baby, Oh Where's My Baby, It's All Right With Me, Stand Up And Fight, That Old Black Magic, Spoken For, They Can't Take That Away From Me, Without You I'm Nothing, Hey There, Both Of Us, Blues. (Kapp K 090)***

too before you get the full effect. You definitely get the full effect here. The Davis voice soars up and down and around the melody lines with well founded confidence, and the Mory Stevens orchestra raise the echoes resoundingly with their swinging support.

Kathy Kirby
Sings 16 Hits From "Stars And Garters"
Let Me Sing And I'm Happy, I Can't Give You Anything But Love, Someone To Watch Over Me, I'll Get By, Acapulco 1922, Following In Father's Footsteps, Waiting For The Robert E. Lee, Bill, Happy Days And Lonely Nights, When Sorry Now, Can't Help Love, Dar Man, If You Were The Only Boy In The World, The Man I Love, Miss Dynamite, On The Sunny Side Of The Street, Show Me The Way To Go Home. (Decca LK 4575)****

AS I've said before, it's very pleasant to see a big breaking through the vital male monopoly of the charts, and Kathy deserves every bit of her success. Again repeating myself, she's graduated from the hard, exciting world of the bold, vocal greats of the pop world, and that makes up a large part of the secret of her success.

This album is linked with her residency in the popular AR-TV series. She treats these songs of varying mood and lyric with cool, assured confidence, well supported by Charles Blackwell's arrangements and accompaniments.

Chubby Checker
Twistin' Round The World, La Paloma Twist, Hava Nagila, Twist With Me, Never On Sunday, Twist Marie, Let's Twist Again, Twistin' Matilda, O Sole Mio, Tea For Two, Always, Myelin. (Globe Gales GGL 0716)***

COLUMBIA certainly deserves an A for effort for this lot. He sings in French, Italian, Spanish, German, Hebrew and Greek as

well as in English, and he appears to do it all pretty well! The trouble is that this twist beat now sounds definitely old-hat and a little tired into the bargain. The LP deserves to do well for its interesting and energetic, but it's going to have a tough time of it here in the present dynamic Liverpool-dominated beat scene.

Ella Fitzgerald and Count Basie
Ella And Basie
*Honeyuckle Rose, 'Til I Do, Into Each Life Some Rain Must Fall, Them There Eyes, Dream A Little Dream Of Me, Tea For Two, Sam Dolly, I'm Beginning To See The Light, Smokey Smokin'; My Last Affair, Ain't Mitherrin', On The Sunny Side Of The Street, (Verse VLP 9050, stereo SVLP 9050)******

THAT exclamation mark in the album title is fully justified for once. This set swings from the very first note, and Ella and the Count deserve a minimum of five stars each.

The Basie set with Frank Sinatra on Reprise didn't really make it for one reason or another, but this

LPs (Nigel Hunter)

one most certainly does. In particular, dig the bouncing Them There Eyes. Ella and the Basie boys set each other slight, musically, and together they've produced one of the hottest jazz-based pop albums ever which should rate as a classic item in everyone's collection before long.

SAM COOKE—Night Beat (RCA Victor RD 75314)—The occasions when I've noticed to write that I've not enjoyed an EP or LP by Sam Cooke seem to become more frequent as time goes by; more's the pity. Once again I found this lot a complete drag. It's on a Ray Charles rhythm and blues kick, but it has none of Ray's vivid, ear-grasping sound impact and personality.

THE LIMELIGHTERS—Makin' A Joyful Noise (RCA Victor RD 75714)***—And they're definitely makin' it to the Lord in this stirring set of gospel songs and spirituals stirring song. The three boys blend well vocally, and support themselves instrumentally with their usual skill, injecting the right amount of sincerity and feeling into their material.

STANLEY BLACK—Film Spectacular, Vol. 2 (Decca stereo PES 4030)****—Again we have a superior set of film themes from Stanley Black conducting the London Festival Orchestra and chorus in a lush and lavish stereo presentation. There's a medley from My Fair Lady, and music themes from Lawrence of Arabia, Spillbound, Goss With The Wind and others.

Christmas, New York style

Ronettes, Crystals
A Christmas Gift For You
White Christmas (Darlene Love), Frosty The Snowman (The Ronettes), The Belle Of St. Mary's (Bob B. Sox & The Blue Belairs), Santa Claus Is Comin' To Town (The Crystals), Sleigh Ride (Ronettes), Marshmallow World (Darlene Love), I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus (Ronettes), Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer (Crystals), Winter Wonderland (Darlene Love), Parade Of The Wooden Soldiers (Crystals), Christmas (Darlene Love), Here Comes Santa Claus (Bob B. Sox & The Blue Belairs), Silent Night (Phil Spector). (London HAU 8141)*****

WHAT a pity this didn't arrive in time for the Christmas edition. It is something I was half expecting ever since the "New York sound" crashed the international charts.

A Christmas hit by Phil Spector is the man behind it. Briefly, it's the darkly dramatic "Da Do Ron Ron" rhythm and blues sound applied to a set of familiar Christmas favourites, and it's packed with interest and vitality.

Some tracks are better than others, but if you want an album with a difference for NEXT Christmas, I'll lay odds this one won't be all that much out of date in sound and inspiration by then.



ADAM FAITH—ideal format for an LP.

LOOKING AHEAD TO '64

Britain

That old Mersey beat will still rule the pop scene

THE Mersey beat is going to rule 1964 just as it has bossed 1963. That's the consensus of opinion among our disc makers, our disc jockeys and our disc programme producers.

At the end of '63 I doubt if I would have found a couple of folk in the music business who would have predicted that '64 was to be the Year of The Beatles. Today it's hard to find anyone who thinks that '64 won't be the Year of The Beatles, too!

There are a few warning voices to be heard however... some doubts creeping in from various quarters. BBC presenter JOHNNIE STEWART (who will be doing Top Of The Pops in the New Year) says: "I hope The Beatles' publicity doesn't kill 'em. I think they're marvellous... but I also think they are being over-sold."

And DJ ALAN FREEMAN says seriously—"I think Beatlemania has gone too far. Heavens above I like the group and I shared the early enthusiasm, but the novelty has worn thin.

By Don Nicholl

"I also expect to see further success for individuals like Matt Monro and Shirley Bassey... and for off-beat characters like Bernard Cribbins and 'K o f f Harris. What I'd like to see are better songs coming up. I'd like our leading songwriters to get down to turning out some really good material. For singles, not albums.

The cry for good songs in '64 was echoed by EMF's NORMAN NEWELL. Like many others he's alarmed at the thought of going on with so few additions being made to the list of standards.

Encourage

"It would help a lot if more people in the 20 to 40 years age group would buy more discs... I encourage the standards type of material. I admire The Beatles enormously, but I do wish there was more contrast to be found."

Disc jockey DAVID JACOBS says that what he thinks will happen in 1964 and what he'd like to see happen are one and the same thing: "The Beatles will move into more selective and glamorous presentations." He instanced their film project as one

of the "glamorous" events.

"I think these sort of appearances will definitely help us to get into the American charts. I think the whole group trend will remain throughout the coming year, but solo artists should be popular, too.

Composer-recording manager TONY HATCH of Pye thinks that whoever is dominating 1964 it will definitely be the year of "produced sounds." And he lists The Ronettes as an example.

Orion's JOHN SCHROEDER, like Tony a writer and recording manager, thinks the trend will develop into something slightly different... but still groups.

At Decca DICK ROWE believes there'll "be an unconscious swing in favour of the girls." And MIKE SMITH is sure that "nothing new will come out of Liverpool. Whatever new does happen next year it will be very different—not folk music but as different."

At Philips JOHNNY FRANZ echoes others' feelings about the group trend... more ballads making it. Every A and R man sees thousands of songs that are "pleasant" but very few "Moon Rivers" or "The Good Life". Ballads like these will always come through

to the top whatever the trend happens to be."

BUNNY LEWIS, a composer and recording manager, who has seen trends come and go like the tides since he whisked David Whitfield to pop fame, is currently enjoying the success of his artists The Caravelles. "There'll always be success for discs like this that are different," he says. "In 1964 I feel there may be more success for girls generally, and singers like Dusty Springfield and Cilla Black could last. But there will be a lot of names in the Hit Parade that we haven't heard of before.

New cycle

"What people haven't fully realised yet is the enormous change that has occurred in the business. We happen to have come to the end of a particular teenage cycle. The new one is just beginning, and The Beatles are part of it just as Adam Faith, Cliff Richard, Craig Douglas and Billy Fury were tops in the previous cycle.

"So I'm sure the new idols will be the ones to last out the coming two to three years. It's the way it always happens."



40-cps. music didn't catch on in 1963

America

It'll be a surprising year—but swinging!

A STATE of flux! That's the best short description of conditions in the music and record business in America today. And that's pretty much the direction now indicated for 1964.

This past season, for example, the industry has gone through at least five distinct trends. Some have already run their course and been virtually forgotten. Others are still holding on. But the major factor in all this is that few, if any, new and significant artists with long-term promise have emerged during the past year.

predicts Jonathan Clarke in New York

New York sound, which became really big during the year, with such artists as The Ronettes, The Crystals, The Marvelettes and The Miracles. This was an exciting, gospel-based kind of singing. But how long will it last? It was anybody's guess, particularly when at virtually the other end of the musical pole, a recording by a Belgian Nun, "Dominique," became the nation's number one record.

Gospel

During 1963, for instance, there was suddenly a gospel trend. Or people thought there was. Much talk was heard of gospel going pop. There was a lot of comment on the opening of the Sweet Chariot night club—bringing gospel talent right to the Great White Way—a fact which was supposed to assure the pop acceptance of gospel music.

It never materialised, and gospel today is still gospel and not pop.

Nineteen-sixty-three also produced the "surfing" sound—the raw, giddy, down-home music of the California beach set. It also, in turn, brought on the Hot Rod sound, a much related music, with the sound of auto engines instead of waves permeating the background.

Impromptu

The "Hootenanny" sound became a dominant factor during the year—first as something clearly associated with folk music, where folk artists and fans join hands in an impromptu sing session—and later as a phrase which became a sort of catch-all commercial expression meaning any concert of recording artists who could, by any stretch of the imagination, be identified with folk.

There was also the so-called

Good music

There are many in the business who hope next year will bring back the good music trend. The presence of Tony Bennett on various occasions with songs like "This Is All I Ask," and "Don't Wait Too Long," both good ballads well performed; Sammy Davis Jr. and Anthony Newley with the hit show tune, "What King Of Fool," indicate that we in America may be in for a better than average year of "quality."

Then, just as this view begins to gain some sway, along comes a "Louie Louie," by The Kingsmen on Roulette, an unusual a two and a half minutes as one could hear. Yet it's a smash.

So perhaps 1964 is not going to be all that much different from 1963. Virtually anything has a chance to make the grade. There will be several completely inexplicable hits. There will also be pronounced trends in almost any direction you care to name.

In short it's going to be a swinging—and a surprising—year!

FOLK

By Owen Bryce

There's a wealth of talent in this group

Ian Campbell Folk Group

This Is The Ian Campbell Folk Group

*The Recruiting Sergeant; The Scot's Tune; The Ukulele Gravy; To Hear The Nightingale Sing; The Drovers Dream; Traditional Melody; Rockin' The Cradle; The Jute Mill Song; Johnny Laid; Blow Boys Blow; Dawn In The Coal Mine; Garton Mother's Lullaby; The Bell Of Rhymney; The Apprentice's Song; Rocky Road To Dublin And Drops Of Brandy; Homeward Bound; The Waters Of Time; The Wise Cooper Of Rife; Transatlantic Records TRA 1101******

I HAVE not yet had the pleasure of seeing the Ian Campbell Folk Group in action, but it seems like an experience I shouldn't miss at any cost. They have a wealth of talent. They sing as a group, and Ian, Lorna Campbell and Brian Clark alternate with the lead and solo items. Their numbers range from Scotland to Australia; their arrangements are interesting.

On this excellent LP one track on each side is devoted to instrumental talent. They prove that the group's instrumental dexterity is as good as its vocal accomplishments.

The Campbell Group has already become one of our best folk groups. This album can only enhance their established reputation.

At The Hootenanny

CHAD MITCHELL TRIO, *Hang On The Bell Nettle; Run By Gum; Betty And The Duke; Willie Oh Willie; JO March; I Never Will Marry; Kites; Sweeter Than Wine; DAVID Hill; Made Skimmers; Blues; Daddy Roll 'Em; MARAIS and MIRANDA; Native Minstrel Song; The*

Queen Bee; THE SAMPLERS; Baby Where You Been So Long; Pull Off Your Old Coat; TERRY GILKYSOON & THE SOUTH COASTERS; Green Gull The Lullaby.

JUDGING by the vast mass of new names which appear on American folk records, the scene over there is developing as fast as our own. Unfortunately, professionalism seems to be their aim and much of the spontaneity of our own folk music is notable by its absence.

This is a Hootenanny and readers will know by now that this is a gathering of singers and interpreters and occasional guitar artists where everybody joins in.

There's something about this which indicates that this won't be in fact a get-together. I'm sure the applause was subdued in afterwards, and everything is just too perfect.

The Chad Mitchell Trio bring comedy into their performances. In March was loved in her Knees Sweeter Than Wine but there's nothing special about any of the others.

Dominic Behan

Peelers And Prisoners; The Old Triangle; The Smashing Of The Van; The Peelers And The Goat; The Mountainy Hotel.

ALL these songs are concerned with prisons—more particularly with Mountjoy Prison in Dublin where the first song originated and which is the subject of the last. It's hounded for years those literary men who had the misfortune to love their country... an Dominic does. The only accompaniment he has is a guitar on the *Peelers And The Goat*. He manages the difficult solo singing well enough.

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Gerry and The Pacemakers are in pants this year, opening at Hanley on Christmas Eve—and even their driver has a part.

These stars were so EMBARRASSED!

The Searchers

"OUR most embarrassing moment? That's hard," said Searcher drummer Chris Curtis. "We don't get embarrassed too easily."

"But my face was really red a few months ago. We were playing a date and were set up on an improvised stage. There was a drop behind me as I sat at my drum kit. Of course, I forgot it was there, stepped back—and fell backwards off stage! The others just laughed!"

Frank Ifield

MY most embarrassing moment was during my recent show on ATV. I was doing a medley, and I went straight into "I Remember You." The trouble was—Jack Parrell's Orchestra was playing "Just One More Chance."

I saw Jack's eyes popping, but we got together in the end—but not before I had sung about 16 bars!

The amazing thing is—no-one seemed to notice my mistake. But was my face red!

Kenny Lynch

WHILE I was getting tickets for a Spastics Ball a while back, I got into conversation with someone who was also buying tickets. I thought his face seemed very familiar, but I just couldn't place it.

As I left, I said: "Well, I suppose I'll be seeing you at the Ball tonight."

It was only as I got across the road I realized I had been speaking to Gary Cooper!

Johnny Kidd

IT happened the last time I was walking down Denmark Street. I saw a back I thought I recognized. I slapped it, and said: "Hiya, Tito—how are the Burns fortunes?"

It turned out to be Sam Costa!

Mike Sarne

THAT'S easy. It was when I did my first Sunday concert—at Blackpool Opera House. After "Come Outside" entered the charts, I forgot the words of one of my songs and dried completely. I wanted to die!

Kenny Ball

THE boys and I were playing at the Metropole Jazz Club in New York. We came to the end of our first session one evening, and popped outside for a drink, while Gene Krupa and his group took over.

Gene finished his spot with one of his showpieces, "Big Noise From Winnetka," which apparently brought the house down.



Kenny Lynch—he didn't recognize Gary!

We hurried in as he was leaving the stand, and started our second session with—"Big Noise From Winnetka!"

You can imagine the general hilarity. When Gene stopped laughing, he said he didn't mind us using his best numbers one bit.

Heinz

IT happened on a date in the north of England. There was a marvellous audience of mostly girls.

I got a bit too enthusiastic with my movements around the stage, and split my trousers. And it wasn't just a slight split. It was the lot!

I didn't dare to move after that. I carried on with the act, throwing frantic glances at my accompanying group. The Saints to help. Fortunately they realised what was wrong, and huddled around me when it was time to go off.

The Hollies

WE'VE had two really embarrassing moments. The first was a date in Atrincham a few weeks ago. The show was split into two halves.

"While we were backstage during the break, Tony Hicks, our lead guitarist took his shoes and socks off—I don't know why—and someone whipped the socks.

"We searched all over the place, but we couldn't find a spare pair of socks anywhere. So poor Tony had to go back on without any socks on. He was very embarrassed. We were, too, but we made a big joke of it.

"Then, there was another occasion when we were booked to appear at Bath. It was prophetic really—when we arrived the place was under about three feet of water!

become Ghoulie and the Spine Chillers!

THE loudspeaker boomed for Mr. Marsden to take a telephone call. Heads in the restaurant of the plush West End hotel turned as Gerry jumped to his feet and scurried away, leaving a trail of bread crumbs behind him.

When he returned, he flopped back in his seat, ordered a double coke, and mentioned something about "all birds being great!"

For everywhere that Gerry and The Pacemakers go, the girls go too—or find out where they are and descend in droves! And Gerry loves it!

"Makes me feel comfortable," he said, "and I never get too bothered because they generally behave themselves."

Sardines

Gerry tucked into a plate of sardines on toast, explaining that he wasn't very hungry, and anyway, he wanted to watch his weight!

I asked about his plans for next year, whether he's happy with the way things have worked out so far, and what his biggest ambition was.

"To make a horror film," he replied with a laugh. "I'm pretty about science fiction and mystery thrillers, and I'm hoping someone's going to combine the two and offer me the lead role!"

"It's a real laugh. Gerry and The Pacemakers at Ghoulie and the Spine Chillers!"

"If that doesn't happen, and I were to get offered a film, I'd just like to appear in something happy and natural. Be me in fact."

Gerry switched the conversation from films to their pantomime "Babes In The Wood," which opens at Hanley on Christmas Eve.

"Guess what?" he said with a

wide grin. "Our driver, George, has become a Pacemaker for the occasion! He gets two lines in the show, and then has to hang around the theatre for the rest of the evening so he can come on for the finale! Now I'm trying to get a part for our road manager, Les Hurst!"

"Rehearsals are going fab," he continued. "We get our own spot in the show where we do about five numbers, but we've also had to learn a big dance routine. Our feet are so heavy that we're hopping the stage doesn't collapse beneath us!"

Hit the road

Once they get through with the pantomime, Gerry and The Pacemakers hit the road again in February, and while Gerry's looking forward to this, he can't wait to make the Australian scene and get back to Sweden. He's also determined to play another week in Jersey next year, and says they had to much fun there last summer that he doesn't care if he does it for nothing!

"Then, of course, we've got the American trip. What's the scene out there?" he asked.

"I wonder if I'll react to the Ed Sullivan Show the same way I did when we played 'Sunday

Searchers talk—but about the others not themselves

THE SEARCHERS relaxed in their dressing-room and talked among themselves—not about their own records but about other groups.

They were full of praise, for instance, for The Marmalades and their recording of "That's What I Want."

"It's a fabulous disc," said lead singer Tony Jackson. "We were surprised it didn't sell better."

"We like the number very much and we will probably use it in our stage act. At least, we will try it out to see if it is suitable for us."

London

Drummer Chris Curtis went on: "Cliff Bennett and The Rebel Rousers are another group we enjoy very much. It's surprising because they come from London and their groups don't usually appeal to us."

Mike Prendergast continued: "We like the Liverpool groups, of course. We enjoy The Merseybeats."

"There a Liverpool group called Kingsley Taylor and The Dominos," cut in Tony. "I was listening to them at the Star Club in Hamburg."

"We've known them for ages and have always looked upon them as a great group. They are called The Shakers on their new disc because their name would not mean anything to the German public."

Ted Scott

Night At The Prince of Wales' last week, I felt great up to and during the show, but as soon as it was all over, my nerves got the better of me, and I practically collapsed. Les Hurst looked at me and thought I'd had a nervous breakdown!

"Sometimes it's good to be nervous about big television shows. Then you're not over-confident, and know that you must do your best."

"I'm sure I'm going to feel terrible before we do the Sullivan Show, but I'll just have to get used to it," confessed Gerry. "Anyway, it's not till March, so I've got plenty of time to think about it!"

June Harris

YES, BILLY FURY HAS GOT A NEW SOUND, SAYS ARRANGER

A NEW sound for Billy Fury? Ask Mike Leander, Decca's wizard 21-year-old producer-arranger, and he'll give you a most emphatic "yes!"

And from Billy's new release, the upbeat, "Do You Really Love Me Too," it seems as if Mike's policy, which, as far as Billy is concerned, was originally scheduled for the New Year, is already being put into practice!

Cheerful

Given a DNT on its release by Don Nichol! "Do You Really Love Me Too" is an American number written by Barkan and Raleigh. The record certainly illustrates the more cheerful side of Billy Fury, and is faster than "In Summer," which marked Billy's departure back from ballad to the more swingy stuff.

"You know, a producer who's also an arranger is faced with a problem," said Mike.

arranging that one as well.

"What I'd like to try and do is create a new instrumental sound which will be immediately associated with Fury," said Mike.

"I would like to stick to up-tempo stuff, at least for the time being, and really establish an image. Billy is extremely successful, and a new sound now will make sure he stays that way."

"I'm hoping to set a session for early in the New Year and I hope we'll kick off 1964 with something really great!"

Until the last Fury session, Mike Leander was not a particularly known name as a producer—and a lot of his work is still to be issued by Decca. He has just returned from the States where he arranged and co-produced several numbers with top producer Bart Burns, and he plans to go back to the US in March, when he'll have a stab at recording Bru E. King.



BILLY FURY—a more cheerful sound on new disc.

DISC

STARS HAVE FUN



LOTS OF TOYS! The Hollies, touring the country extensively, have put their mileage to good use—they've been collecting toys for children in hospital. Last week, they went along to Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital to present them to members of the hospital's senior staff.



A BIG HUG! Peter's a lucky man! Lovely songsters Jan and Kelly gave the DJ, Peter Murray, a big hug at the Philips Records' annual Christmas party last week.



PASTRIES! The Caravelles and Peter Jay captured in party spirit at the annual Decca Records' party. They're enjoying themselves—and the pastry, too.



A TOAST! A trio from Liverpool's Searchers' lead singer Tony Jackson shares a Christmas drink with two of The Breakaways—Vicki Heyman (left) and Margot Quantrell—as they chat about home at Pye Records' Christmas get-together last week.



PANTO PARTS! Freddie and The Dreamers are in pantomime at the Royal Theatre, Chester, this year—and judging by their faces, there's plenty in the script of interest.