

# Record Mirror

## Sex Pistols

Johnny Rotten  
wants YOU  
dead!

JOHN MILES  
Exclusive review  
Album and single  
PLUS  
Great colour poster

PAUL NICHOLAS - MUD - SMOKIE



TINA CHARLES

# Record Mirror

## British Top 50 Singles

1	1	UNDER THE MOON OF LOVE, Showaddywaddy	Arista
2	4	SOMEBODY TO LOVE, Queen	EMI
3	6	MONEY MONEY MONEY, Abba	CBS
4	2	IF YOU LEAVE ME NOW, Chicago	CBS
5	5	LIVIN' THING, Electric Light Orchestra	Jet
6	3	YOU MAKE ME FEEL LIKE DANCING, Leo Sayer	Chrysalis
7	7	LOVE ME, Yvonne Elliman	RSO
8	14	WHEN A CHILD IS BORN, Johnny Mathis	CBS
9	8	IF NOT YOU, Dr Hook	Capitol
10	9	LOST IN FRANCE, Bonnie Tyler	RCA
11	12	GET BACK, Rod Stewart	Riva
12	25	STOP ME (IF YOU'VE HEARD IT ALL BEFORE), Billy Ocean	GTO
13	11	SORRY SEEMS TO BE THE HARDEST WORD, Elton John	Rocket
14	16	LEAN ON ME, Mud	Private Stock
15	13	ROCK'N ME, Steve Miller Band	Mercury
16	26	PORTSMOUTH, Mike Oldfield	Virgin
17	17	DON'T MAKE ME WAIT TOO LONG, Barry White	20th Century
18	22	LITTLE DOES SHE KNOW, Kursaal Flyers	CBS
19	23	FAIRY TALE, Dana	GTO
20	10	MISSISSIPPI, Pussycat	Sonet
21	38	LIVING NEXT DOOR TO ALICE, Smokie	Rak
22	21	SFINNING ROCK BOOGIE, Hank C Burnett	Sonet
23	20	PLAY THAT FUNKY MUSIC, Wild Cherry	Epic
24	46	DR LOVE, Tina Charles	CBS
25	29	YOU'LL NEVER GET TO HEAVEN, Stylistics	H&L
26	27	SO SAD THE SONG, Gladys Knight & The Pips	Buddah
27	48	GRANDMA'S PARTY, Paul Nicholas	RSO
28	43	BIONIC SANTA, Chris Hill	Philips
29	15	BEAUTIFUL NOISE, Neil Diamond	CBS
30	19	SUBSTITUTE, Who	Polydor
31	40	HEY MR. DREAM MAKER, Cliff Richard	EMI
32	-	WILD SIDE OF LIFE, Status Quo	Vertigo
33	24	HURT, Manhattans	CBS
34	34	WE CAN WORK IT OUT, Four Seasons	Warner Bros
35	36	SAILING, Rod Stewart	Riva
36	31	LOVE AND AFFECTION, Joan Armatrading	A&M
37	-	THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE, 10cc	Mercury
38	28	DON'T TAKE AWAY THE MUSIC, Tavares	Capitol
39	47	MAGGIE MAY, Rod Stewart	Mercury
40	32	HANG ON SLOOPY, Sandpipers	Satril
41	45	SIDE SHOW, Barry Biggs	Dynamic
42	35	SECRETS, Sutherland Brothers & Quiver	CBS
43	-	ANARCHY IN THE UK, Sex Pistols	EMI
44	49	ONE FINE MORNING, Tommy Hunt	Spark
45	44	HOT VALVES, Be - Bop Deluxe	Harvest
46	-	HAIRSPIN DIVORCE, Steely Dan	ABC
47	-	THE CHAMPION, Willie Mitchell	London
48	-	RING OUT SOLSTICE BELLS, Jethro Tull	Chrysalis
49	-	KEEP IT COMIN' LOVE, KC & The Sunshine Band	Boy
50	-	SING ME AN OLD FASHIONED SONG, Billie Jo Spears	UA

## Star Choice



SCOTT GORHAM of Thin Lizzy

- IT'S YOUR SONG, Sam and Dave
- I SHOT THE SHERIFF, Eric Clapton
- LONG DISTANCE LOVE, Little Feat
- TWO GUITAR LOVES, Dave Mason
- BABY PLEASE, Dave Mason
- BLOODY WELL RIGHT, Supertramp
- HIGHER GROUND, Stevie Wonder
- FLAME, David Bowie
- GOOD VIBRATIONS, The Beach Boys
- STOP IN THE NAME OF LOVE, The Supremes

## US Top 50 Singles

1	1	SONGS IN THE KEY OF LIFE, Stevie Wonder	Tamla
2	2	ANIGHT ON THE TOWN, Rod Stewart	Warner Bros
3	3	BOSTON	Epic
4	4	SPIRIT, Earth, Wind & Fire	Columbia
5	5	THE SONG REMAINS THE SAME, Led Zeppelin	Swan Song
6	6	BLUE MOVES, Elton John	MCA / Rocket
7	9	THE PRETENDER, Jackson Browne	Asylum
8	8	FLY LIKE AN EAGLE, Steve Miller Band	Capitol
9	10	A NEW WORLD RECORD, Electric Light Orchestra	United Artists
10	7	FRAMPTON COMES ALIVE, Peter Frampton	A&M
11	13	THE BEST OF THE DOOBIES, Doobie Brothers	Warner Bros
12	12	SUMMERTIME DREAM, Gordon Lightfoot	Reprise
13	11	CHILDREN OF THE WORLD, Bee Gees	RSO
14	14	ONE MORE FOR THE ROAD, Lynyrd Skynyrd	MCA
15	15	DREAMBOAT ANNIE, Heart	Mushroom
16	21	ROCK AND ROLL OVER, Kiss	Casablanca
17	17	NO REASON TO CRY, Eric Clapton	RSO
18	18	SILK DEGREES, Boz Scaggs	Columbia
19	19	NIGHTS ARE FOREVER, England Dan & John Ford Coley	Big Tree
20	24	CHICAGO X	Columbia
21	16	BIGGER THAN BOTH OF US, Daryl Hall & John Oates	RCA
22	20	THE CLONES OF DR FUNKENSTEIN, Parliament	Casablanca
23	22	HOT ON THE TRACKS, Commodores	Motown
24	27	THEIR GREATEST HITS 1971-1975, Eagles	Asylum
25	25	PART 3, KC & The Sunshine Band	TK
26	26	HASTEN DOWN THE WIND, Linda Ronstadt	Asylum
27	28	YEAR OF THE CAT, Al Stewart	Janus
28	29	ALICE COOPER GOES TO HELL	Warner Bros
29	30	FOUR SEASONS OF LOVE, Donna Summer	Casablanca
30	34	DON'T STOP BELIEVIN', Olivia Newton - John	MCA
31	32	OHIO PLAYERS GOLD	Mercury
32	33	IT LOOKS LIKE SNOW, Phoebe Snow	Columbia
33	36	DR BUZZARD'S ORIGINAL SAVANNAH BAND	RCA
34	-	THE BEST OF GEORGE HARRISON	Capitol
35	39	BRASS CONSTRUCTION II	United Artists
36	48	NIGHT SHIFT, Foghat	Bearsville
37	38	SPIRIT, John Denver	RCA
38	43	SONG OF JOY, The Captain & Tennille	A&M
39	44	LEFTOVERS, Kansas	Kirshner
40	41	BURFALL	Atlantic
41	46	BURTON CUMMINGS	Portrait / CBS
42	42	MESSAGE IN OUR MUSIC, O'Jays	Philadelphia International
43	49	I HOPE WE GET TO LOVE IN TIME, Marilyn McCoo & Billy Davis Jr	ABC
44	-	CAR WASH, Rose Royce	MCA
45	-	FIRE, Jefferson Starship	Grunt
46	47	LONG MISTY DAYS, Robin Trower	Chrysalis
47	-	JAMES TAYLOR'S GREATEST HITS	Warner Bros
48	-	A STARTS BORN, Barbra Streisand & Kris Kristofferson	Columbia
49	-	THIS ONE'S FOR YOU, Barry Manilow	Arista
50	23	FLEETWOOD MAC	Reprise

## UK Soul Top 20

1	4	CATHEDRALS, DC Larue
2	6	PUT YOUR MONEY, Rose Royce
3	5	SO SAD THE SONG, Gladys Knight and The Pips
4	2	PLAY THAT FUNKY MUSIC, Wild Cherry
5	1	DON'T MAKE ME WAIT TOO LONG, Barry White
6	9	JUST TO BE CLOSE TO YOU, The Commodores
7	10	KEEP ON CRYING, Al Green
8	3	DON'T TAKE AWAY THE MUSIC, Tavares
9	13	DOWN TO LOVE TOWN, The Originals
10	-	YOU + ME = LOVE, Undisputed Truth
11	20	NICE 'N' NAASTY, Salsoul Orchestra
12	8	HURT, Manhattans
13	11	RUBBERBAND MAN, Detroit Spinners
14	19	KEEP IT COMIN' LOVE, KC and the Sunshine Band
15	18	GOTHAM CITY BOOGIE, Ultra Funk
16	12	LOWDOWN, Boz Scaggs
17	-	LIKE HER, Gentlemen and their Lady
18	-	YOU'LL NEVER GET TO HEAVEN, The Stylistics
19	-	LOVE AND AFFECTION, Joan Armatrading
20	7	I'LL PLAY THE FOOL, Dr Buzzards Savannah Band

## British Top 50 Albums

1	1	20 GOLDEN GREATS, Glen Campbell	Capitol
2	3	ARRIVAL, Abba	Epic
3	2	22 GOLDEN GUITAR GREATS, Bert Weedon	Warwick
4	8	THE GREATEST HITS OF, Frankie Valli And The Four Seasons,	K-Tel
5	4	100 GOLDEN GREATS, Max Bygraves	Ronco
6	5	SONGS IN THE KEY OF LIFE, Stevie Wonder	Tamla Motown
7	41	DISCO ROCKET, Various Artists	K-Tel
8	9	GREATEST HITS, Abba	Epic
9	22	20 ORIGINAL DEAN MARTIN HITS, Dean Martin	Reprise
10	-	A NEW WORLD RECORD, Electric Light Orchestra	Jet
11	15	FOREVER AND EVER, Demis Roussos	Philips
12	6	GREATEST HITS, Hot Chocolate	RAK
13	25	DAVID SOUL,	Privata Stock
14	7	SOUL MOTION, Various Artists	K-Tel
15	24	THOUGHTS OF LOVE, Shirley Bassey	United Artists
16	13	BEST OF THE STYLISTICS VOL 2, Stylistics	H&L
17	14	THE SONG REMAINS THE SAME, Led Zeppelin	Swan Song
18	17	THE INCREDIBLE PLAN, Max Boyce	EMI
19	37	DEREK AND CLIVE LIVE, Peter Cooke and Dudley Moore	Island
20	11	THE STORY OF THE WHO, The Who	Polydor
21	10	SOUNDS OF GLORY, Various Artists	Arcade
22	19	BLUE MOVES, Elton John	Rocket
23	16	A LITTLE BIT MORE, Doctor Hook	Capitol
24	20	FRAMPTON COMES ALIVE, Peter Frampton	A&M
25	34	ALL THIS AND WORLD WAR TWO, Various Artists	Riva
26	27	THE PRETENDER, Jackson Browne	Asylum
27	23	SING SOMETHING SIMPLE '76, Cliff Adams Singers	Warwick
28	21	CHICAGO X, Chicago	CBS
29	29	20 GOLDEN GREATS, The Beach Boys	Capitol
30	12	MADE IN EUROPE, Deep Purple	Purple
31	18	ENDLESS FLIGHT, Leo Sayer	Chrysalis
32	30	JOAN ARMATRADING, Joan Armatrading	A&M
33	33	A NIGHT ON THE TOWN, Rod Stewart	Riva
34	36	HIS 20 GREATEST, Gene Pitney	Arcade
35	31	JOHNNY THE FOX, Thin Lizzy	Vertigo
36	47	THEIR GREATEST HITS, The Eagles	Asylum
37	40	GREATEST HITS VOL 2, Diana Ross	Tamla Motown
38	46	FORTY MANIA, Various Artists	Ronco
39	-	HEJIRA, Joni Mitchell	Asylum
40	-	HAPPY TO BE, Demis Roussos	Philips
41	-	44 SUPERSTARS, Various Artists	K-Tel
42	28	LOVE IS A PRIMA DONNA, Steve Harley	EMI
43	45	TUBULAR BELLS, Mike Oldfield	Virgin
44	-	DEDICATION, Bay City Rollers	Bell
45	43	ATLANTIC CROSSING, Rod Stewart	Warner Bros
46	38	L, Steve Hillage	Virgin
47	44	BOXED, Mike Oldfield	Virgin
48	32	BEAUTIFUL NOISE, Neil Diamond	CBS
49	-	DEVINE TIME, Sydney Devine	Philips
50	-	HASTEN DOWN THE WIND, Linda Ronstadt	Asylum

## US Top 50 Albums

1	1	SONGS IN THE KEY OF LIFE, Stevie Wonder	Tamla
2	2	A NIGHT ON THE TOWN, Rod Stewart	Warner Bros
3	3	BOSTON	Epic
4	4	SPIRIT, Earth, Wind & Fire	Columbia
5	5	THE SONG REMAINS THE SAME, Led Zeppelin	Swan Song
6	6	BLUE MOVES, Elton John	MCA / Rocket
7	9	THE PRETENDER, Jackson Browne	Asylum
8	8	FLY LIKE AN EAGLE, Steve Miller Band	Capitol
9	10	A NEW WORLD RECORD, Electric Light Orchestra	United Artists
10	7	FRAMPTON COMES ALIVE, Peter Frampton	A&M
11	13	THE BEST OF THE DOOBIES, Doobie Brothers	Warner Bros
12	12	SUMMERTIME DREAM, Gordon Lightfoot	Reprise
13	11	CHILDREN OF THE WORLD, Bee Gees	RSO
14	14	ONE MORE FOR THE ROAD, Lynyrd Skynyrd	MCA
15	15	DREAMBOAT ANNIE, Heart	Mushroom
16	21	ROCK AND ROLL OVER, Kiss	Casablanca
17	17	NO REASON TO CRY, Eric Clapton	RSO
18	18	SILK DEGREES, Boz Scaggs	Columbia
19	19	NIGHTS ARE FOREVER, England Dan & John Ford Coley	Big Tree
20	24	CHICAGO X	Columbia
21	16	BIGGER THAN BOTH OF US, Daryl Hall & John Oates	RCA
22	20	THE CLONES OF DR FUNKENSTEIN, Parliament	Casablanca
23	22	HOT ON THE TRACKS, Commodores	Motown
24	27	THEIR GREATEST HITS 1971-1975, Eagles	Asylum
25	25	PART 3, KC & The Sunshine Band	TK
26	26	HASTEN DOWN THE WIND, Linda Ronstadt	Asylum
27	28	YEAR OF THE CAT, Al Stewart	Janus
28	29	ALICE COOPER GOES TO HELL	Warner Bros
29	30	FOUR SEASONS OF LOVE, Donna Summer	Casablanca
30	34	DON'T STOP BELIEVIN', Olivia Newton - John	MCA
31	32	OHIO PLAYERS GOLD	Mercury
32	33	IT LOOKS LIKE SNOW, Phoebe Snow	Columbia
33	36	DR BUZZARD'S ORIGINAL SAVANNAH BAND	RCA
34	-	THE BEST OF GEORGE HARRISON	Capitol
35	39	BRASS CONSTRUCTION II	United Artists
36	48	NIGHT SHIFT, Foghat	Bearsville
37	38	SPIRIT, John Denver	RCA
38	43	SONG OF JOY, The Captain & Tennille	A&M
39	44	LEFTOVERS, Kansas	Kirshner
40	41	FIREFALL	Atlantic
41	46	BURTON CUMMINGS	Portrait / CBS
42	42	MESSAGE IN OUR MUSIC, O'Jays	Philadelphia International
43	49	I HOPE WE GET TO LOVE IN TIME, Marilyn McCoo & Billy Davis Jr	ABC
44	-	CAR WASH, Rose Royce	MCA
45	-	FIRE, Jefferson Starship	Grunt
46	47	LONG MISTY DAYS, Robin Trower	Chrysalis
47	-	JAMES TAYLOR'S GREATEST HITS	Warner Bros
48	-	BARBRA STREISAND & KRIS KRISTOFFERSON, A Star is Born	Columbia
49	-	THIS ONE'S FOR YOU, Barry Manilow	Arista
50	23	FLEETWOOD MAC	Reprise

## US Soul Top 20

1	1	DAZZ, Brick
2	2	CAR WASH, Rose Royce
3	3	ENJOY YOURSELF, The Jacksons
4	5	HOT LINE, Sylvers
5	4	KEEP ME CRYIN', Al Green
6	6	SHAKE YOUR RUMP TO THE FUNK, Bar-Kays
7	8	DO IT TO MY MIND, Johnny Bristol
8	10	I KINDA MISS YOU, Manhattan
9	13	OPEN SESAME, Part 1, Kool & The Gang
10	7	CATFISH, Four Tops
11	9	YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A STAR, Marilyn McCoo & Billy Davis Jr
12	11	LOVE BALLAD, Ltd
13	16	I DON'T WANNA LOSE YOUR LOVE, Emotions
14	15	WITH YOU, Moments
15	-	SATURDAY NITE, Earth, Wind & Fire
16	20	LOVE ME, LOVE ME, LOVE ME, The Staples
17	19	DON'T TAKE AWAY THE MUSIC, Tavares
18	-	FREE, Deniece Williams
19	14	SO SAD THE SONG, Gladys Knight & The Pips
20	12	THE RUBBERBAND MAN, Spinners

## Record Mirror/ BBC Chart

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

## Yesteryear Charts

### 5 YEARS AGO

11 December, 1971			
1	ERNIE (FASTEST MILKMAN IN THE WEST)	Benny Hill	
2	JEEPSTER	T Rex	
3	COZ I LOVE YOU	Slade	
4	TOKOLOSE MAN	John Kongos	
5	GYPSIES, TRAMPS AND THIEVES	Cher	
6	BANKS OF THE OHIO	Olivia Newton - John	
7	THEME FROM SHAFT	Isaac Hayes	
8	TILL	Tom Jones	
9	NO MATTER HOW I TRY	Gilbert O'Sullivan	
10	JOHNNY REGGAE	The Piglets	

### 10 YEARS AGO

10 December, 1966			
1	GREEN, GREEN GRASS OF HOME	Tom Jones	
2	GOOD VIBRATIONS	The Beach Boys	
3	WHAT WOULD I BE	Val Doonican	
4	MY MIND'S EYE	The Small Faces	
5	GIMME SOME LOVING	The Searchers	
6	MORNINGTOWN SUB	The Drifters	
7	SEMI - DETACHED SUBURBAN MR JAMES	Manfred Mann	
8	JUST ONE SMILE	Gene Pitney	
9	FRIDAY ON MY MIND	The Easybeats	
10	HOLY COW	Lee Dorsey	

### 15 YEARS AGO

9 December, 1961			
1	TOWER OF STRENGTH	Frankie Vaughan	
2	TAKE GOOD CARE OF MY BABY	Bobby Vee	
3	HIS LATEST FLAME / LITTLE SISTER	Elvis Presley	
4	MOON RIVER	Danny Williams	
5	THE TIME HAS COME	Adam Faith	
6	BIG BAD JOHN	Jimmy Dean	
7	TAKE FIVE	Dave Brubeck	
8	WALKIN' BACK TO HAPPINESS	Helen Shapiro	
9	I'LL GET BY	Shirley Bassey	
10	MIDNIGHT IN MOSCOW	Kenny Ball	

## Star-Breakers

SUSPICION, Elvis Presley	RCA
YOU'RE MORE THAN A NUMBER, Drifters	Arista
SAVE ME, Clodagh Rodgers	Polydor
SLIP, Jesse Green	EMI
SMILE, Pussycat	Sonet
I WISH, Stevie Wonder	President
EVERYMAN MUST HAVE A DREAM, Liverpool Express	Motown
POLICE AND THIEVES, Mervin	Warner Bros
MONTY PYTHON ON SONG, Monty Python	Island
	Charisma

# Record Mirror

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# They're all joining in

**MARGARET THATCHER** freaks out at Sex Pistols gig sensation... As you might have guessed, there's not a word of truth in that opening statement, but one or two other politicians are getting tuned into good sounds.

Take handsome Canadian Prime Minister **Pierre Trudeau** who was recently spotted at a **Blood, Sweat and Tears** show in Ottawa. And after the show, the PM he would a - lliging go with **David Clayton Thomas**.

Before winging their way to Swaziland for Christmas, **Osibisa** will play in front of France's debonair **President Giscard d'Estaing**.

Talking of flying, a 40ft inflatable pink pig drifted over my penthouse on Saturday. The flying bacon burger had been imported from Germany (home of the Zeppelins) to be used in the photographs for the cover of **Pink Floyd's** album, 'Animals'. But the pink porker was not keen on being chained to **Battersea Power Station** and broke loose from its moorings and headed back off for **Deutschland**.

where **Karen and Richard Carpenter** (a brother and sister combo) recently paid a visit to Dachau former concentration camp.

I hear that the **Fife Tourist Board** have banned the sale of **Billy Connolly's** album 'Atlantic Bridge' from the **Carnegie Hall** **Dunfermline**. Apparently, they are most offended at **Billy's** disparaging remarks about the aforementioned hall on side two of the album.

Now I don't like to see beautiful young things getting into trouble and therefore must warn teenage band **Eater** that four gentlemen in long raincoats were watching their drinking activities at the **Hope and Anchor** last week. Oi! **Nik's** watching you lads.

More on the **Carpenters**, well aren't ya sick to



Letting it all hang out in Paris.

"Don't look now, but they're still undone."  
"And who's fault's that, Kojak?"



death with so called punk rock? Let's keep it clean for Christmas. Anyway, the dynamic duo left behind 'excess baggage' in the shape of 21 gold disc awards when they returned to America last week.

Said a spokesman, "The plan was to have all 21 discs presented onstage at the **Palladium**. But the car in which they were being carried was towed away from outside the theatre on Saturday night. It was recovered too late for

the discs to be sent as freight with the rest of their equipment. And they were too heavy to take as excess baggage by **Richard and Karen** personally when they went home on Monday." Shame that.

Who was the mystery purchaser who paid £100,000 for the **Renoir** painting 'Jeune Garcon'? Why, none other than young **Paul Simon**. The price was somewhat above the auctioneers' expectations.

**Bonnie Tyler** may be lost in France, but over the weekend **John Miles** was not only lost but also wide-eyed and legless in Zurich. Our own happy snaps photographer, **Steve Emberton**, is tying the knot this Friday, to **Julie Webb**.

And so to **Searcy's**, **Knightsbridge** for **Steve Harley's** apres-gig party. **Marc Bolan**, **Gloria Jones**, **Phil Lynott** and **Scott Gorman** of **Thin Lizzy**, **Alvin Stardust**... all the regular liggers. Diminutive **Harley** still shooting his mouth off with boring, hackneyed old clichés about the **Music Press**. I'm getting seriously worried about the boy.

There they were, at the **Palladium** taking in the **David Essex** show, **Mike Batt** sitting in front of **Joe Bugner**. All the young things wanted **Joe's** autograph, but no one asked **Mike Batt**. Seems they didn't know who he was. Perhaps if he dressed up as **Uncle Bulgaria** he might get more recognition.

Welcome back... **Brian Wilson** appeared on stage with the **Beach Boys** in New York. The surfers have recently completed two albums, 'New Albums' (no marks awarded for an original title) and 'Brian Loves You'.

# Record Mirror says...

## Press is a five letter word

'WERE THE PISTOLS LOADED?' screamed the page one headline of Friday's 'Sun'.

The story was the same for the rest of the popular National Press. Punk Rock hit Fleet Street. A few four-lettered words on the small screen and they went bananas.

It carried on into Sunday's Press, where Punk and the Pistols overtook other matters of national importance.

The Media - Press, Radio and TV - have the power to make or break a cult. With their 'Shock Horror Filth' outrage, they have made sure that Punk Rock isn't going to leave us just yet. In fact, they have helped to establish the music industry's biggest money-spinner for 1977.

Fleet Street might have seemed to be outraged, but really they loved it. Tales of sex, drugs and violence sell papers. With the Sex Pistols, **Bill Grundy** and all the punk ingredients which have surfaced, the papers had a field day.

But what of the TV programme that started the 'Great Controversy'? It would seem that the outburst of swearing by the Sex Pistols was just what those connected with the programme wanted. Well at least what **Bill Grundy** wanted. He said afterwards, "The object of the exercise was to prove that these louts were a foul-mouthed set of yobs."

Does such an exercise have a place in a TV programme? Not according to **Jeremy Isaacs**, **Thames TV** Director of Programmes who described the 'feature' as "A gross error of judgement caused by inexcusably sloppy journalism."

There was further comment from **Grundy**: "There is no way that I can be accused of encouraging offensive language on TV." Why, then, did he ask one of the Pistols to repeat a four-letter word which, first time round was inaudible?

Getting them to swear live on TV as they did, seemed deliberate.

It seems peculiar that **Bill Grundy**, after being judged innocent, was suspended.

One thing's for sure, when the dust has settled, the Sex Pistols have had more publicity in a few minutes TV than most bands get in a lifetime.

**ROBIN SARSTEDT is**  
**'Sitting in Limbo'**

His new single is titled "Sitting in Limbo", but he's certainly breaking with his previous style. "Sitting in Limbo" is the thing Robin has done, a new musical path... certain for success.

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

**DECCA**

# EMI TO DROP THE PISTOLS?

FOLLOWING THE Sex Pistols' controversial TV appearance last week EMI are debating whether to sever their connections with the group and their planned UK tour has been drastically reduced.

Answering a call by shareholders to end the Pistols' contract Sir John Reid, EMI Chairman said at a meeting last night (Tuesday): "They are the only punk rock group under direct recording contract to us."

"Whether EMI release any more of their records will have to be very carefully considered."

Told of the latest upset during their performance at Leeds, in which they insulted the Queen, Sir John added: "This will obviously influence the board decision on whether or not the contract was ended."



BILLY IDOL of Generation X

AT THE time of going to press the tour was as follows: Manchester Electric Circus December 9, Norwich 10, Liverpool Cavern 12, Dundee Caird Hall 16, Maidenhead Skindies Club 18, Guildford Civic Hall 19, Birmingham Bingley Hall 20, Plymouth Guildhall 21, Paignton Penelope Ballroom 22, Plymouth Woods Centre 23.

Due to a constantly changing situation fans should check with the venue before going. Dates pulled out include Bristol (13), Aberdeen (14), and Glasgow (15). The latest cancellation is London's new rock centre the Roxy at Harlesden.

Roxy manager Terry Collins said: "The date has been pulled out

## Now London's Roxy cancels punk gig

because of the group's behaviour and what they represent. They have rehearsed here and it has been brought to my attention that they have written all over the gentlemen's toilet walls. They're a joke. If they represent the music of '76 I'd rather close my theatre."

But a new punk venue - also called the Roxy - has appeared in London, in Neal Street, Covent Garden, which opens with a new band Generation X and Slouxsie Sue and the Banshees on December 14. It is hoped that the Pistols and the Damned

### Rock films

TWO NEW rock films get a Royal premier in London at the end of January

The films 'White Rock' and 'Genesis' will be screened at the ABC Shaftesbury Avenue on January 31, attended by Princess Anne.

Following the premier the films will be screened at the cinema and national release will follow.

'White Rock' features the score of Rick Wakeman to a film of the Winter Olympics, while 'Genesis' features the group's 1976 tour.

will play there at a New Year's Eve party.

Generation X play their first London gig on Friday at Central London Poly, and play the Hope and Anchor on December 22. The promoters of three dates by the Vibrators have pulled out because of the punk rock backlash.

Bass player Pat Collier said: "We are suffering the worst but we are not going to give in. There is nothing that the Establishment can do to stop punk coming through, but punk does not necessarily mean throwing glasses at people."

## BOLIN DEAD

AMERICAN GUITARIST Tommy Bolin died in a Miami motel on Saturday, probably of a drugs overdose. The 25-year-old former member of the James Gang and with Deep Purple until their split earlier this year, had formed his own band and was currently touring with Jeff Beck. His 'Private Parts' album has just been released here by CBS.

## MARLEY HIT

Reggae singer Bob Marley narrowly escaped death when gunmen broke into his Kingston, Jamaica home and shot him. He was hit in the arm and is currently recovering. It is believed the attack was politically motivated.

# All change — or no change?

RUMOURS ABOUT a split in Black Sabbath and a possible Mott reunion were denied by the groups' record companies this week.

The latest round of rock follies was started by the departure of Nigel Benjamin from Mott last week.

At the same time he left and the band were looking for a replacement, former Mott leader Ian Hunter happened to be in town making arrangements for his new band - including former Bowie guitarist Earl Slick - for his next album.

A CBS spokesman said:

"People have been putting two and two together. It's easy to see how the story got started, but to our knowledge the two events are not connected. It's sheer coincidence." The next rumour to emerge had Black Sabbath's lead singer quitting, to be replaced by - Nigel Benjamin!

"I don't know how that one got about," Nigel

Benjamin told RECORD MIRROR on Tuesday.

"I do have some plans for the future, but I'm not giving anything away at the moment."

Phonogram said about Sabbath: "Everything in the camp is happy. We have no idea where the rumour came from."

Sabbath played a sell out concert at New York's Madison Square on Tuesday night.

**MUD:** Additional dates to tour: Bedford Aite Spot, December 12, Ebbw Vale Leisure Centre 14.

**STYLISTICS:** In addition to the dates announced in last week's RECORD MIRROR, they play Leicester De Montfort Hall March 27, Birmingham Odeon April 6, Liverpool Empire 7, Blackpool Opera House 8, Croydon Fairfield Hall 17, plus Stoke-On-Trent Jollies March 28-April 2, and Luton Caesar's Place April 10-16, and 25-May 2.

**OUTLAWS / STEVE GIBBONS BAND:** Leeds University January 28, Glasgow Apollo 29, Newcastle City Hall 30, Manchester Free Trade Hall 31, Birmingham Odeon February 1, Bristol Colston Hall 3, London Rainbow 4. Both bands

release new albums to coincide with the tour.

**SUPERCHARGE:** Walsall West Midlands College December 9, Doncaster College of Education 10, Manchester Wythenshaw College 11, Manchester Technical College 16.

**U-BOAT:** London Marquee December 9, Newcastle Polytechnic 10, Wigan Casino 11, Loughdon College of Education 17, Northampton Lintz Forum 27.

**THE SURPRISE SISTERS** who were added as support group for the current Steve Harley and Cockney Rebel Tour, headline at North London Poly on December 14.

**BANDIT:** Have been added as special guests on the Manfred Mann's Earth Band

three concerts before Christmas.

**RACING CARS:** Glamorgan Memorial Hall December 20, Rhondda Sports Centre 21, Newport Sloway Club 21, London Nashville Rooms 23.

**BURLESQUE:** Poulton-Le-Flyde Technical College December 9, Central London Poly 10, Bristol Old Craney 11, Chalfont St Giles Newlands Park College 13, Abertillery, Six Bells 14, Swansea Circles 16, Wolverhampton Lafayette 17, London Rochester Castle 19, London Nashville 31.

**MUSCLES:** Gravesend Wings Club December 9, Stafford North Staffs Poly 10, Stockport Town Hall 15, Cheadle The Highwayman 17/18, Leeds Cinderellas 23, Middlesbrough The Madison 28-31.



ABBA: stars of their own radio show

## ELTON, ABBA, ROD OVER CHRISTMAS

RADIO ONE'S Christmas attractions include Elton John as a DJ, Abba talking about their favourite music and Rod Stewart's concert from Olympia.

The Rod concert will be broadcast live on Christmas Eve in stereo on the John Peel show, and simultaneously on BBC2 TV.

Elton John does a stint as a DJ on Boxing Day at 1.31 pm with a personal choice of records in a two hour show.

Abba talks to Tom Browne on December 28 at 12.45 in a 75-minute show which includes many of their hits.

Two new series beginning in the New Year on January 1 are the Stevie Wonder Story, a four-part series, at 1.31 pm, and a 13-part series devoted to the blues, broadcast at 5.31 pm on Saturdays and introduced by R&B expert and musician Alexis Korner.



GENESIS: with da new boy

GENESIS HAVE found a new drummer, Chester Thompson, to fill the vacancy open since the departure of temporary member Bill Bruford.

Chester, 28, an American, has played with many noted jazz and rock bands including Frank Zappa's band, Weather Report and the Pointer

## Genesis name new drummer

Sisters. He has been playing music professionally since the age of 13.

His public debut with the band will be at their London Rainbow sell-out concerts in the New Year.

## TOURS...TOURS...TOURS

# The BAND

great new single

## 'LAY YOUR LOVE ON ME'

ram BAND

NEWSDESK...NEWSDESK...NEWSDESK...NEW

# JALN BAND ADD THREE MEMBERS



**BIRMINGHAM** based soul group the JALN Band have augmented their line-up with three brass players. Joining them are Alan Holmes on sax, flute and clarinet, Laurie Brown on trumpet and Rob Goodale on trombone. Alan was a member of Sounds

Incorporated, who supported the Beatles at their famous Shea Stadium concert, and he played on the 'Sgt. Pepper' album, and later joined The Kinks. Laurie also played with The Kinks, and Rob was a former member of The Foundations and The Fantastics.



# Rubettes join Essex bill

THE RUBETTES are to appear at the Daily Mirror Pop Club Awards concert with David Essex topping the bill at Stafford Bingley Hall on January 8. It represents the group's first major concert in Britain for almost two years.

## Lee joins Joan

GUITARIST Albert Lee, formerly with Heads, Hands and Feet and in Emmylou Harris's US tour band, has joined Joan Armatrading's group for her UK tour.

He joins Jerry Donahue, guitar, Pat Donaldson bass, and Dave Mattacks on drums.

## G&L add date

ALONDON concert at the Royal Albert Hall has been added to Gallagher and Lyle's UK tour on February 21. Tickets for the concert are £3, £2, 50, £2, £1.50 and £1. Their new LP 'Love On The Airwaves' is released on January 7, and a single 'Runaway' will be released from it the same month.

## Bert 'n' Basil

FOLLOWING HIS success with chart topping album '22 Golden Guitar Greats', Bert Weedon has been added to the Basil Brush Christmas Show at Croydon Fairfield Hall from December 24 to January 15. Boom boom!

## More Lindisfarne

THE TWO Newcastle concerts by the reformed

Lindisfarne have completely sold out and a third concert has been added. The concert on December 22 will be filmed by the BBC and Newcastle's Metro Radio will broadcast the concerts after Christmas.

Tickets for the concert are available by post for £2.75 and £3, made payable to M.B.M. Associates Ltd., with a s.a.e. from Lindisfarne '76, M.B.M. Associates Ltd., PO Box 117, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE99 1LT.

## Solo Dennis

BEACH BOY Dennis Wilson is to release a solo album next year. He has signed to Caribou Records in the States as a solo artist, but will continue to work as a member of the group, who are currently touring the US.

## Dave pulls out

DAVE EDMUNDS has withdrawn his group Rockpile from the Man concerts at London's Roundhouse, due to rehearsal problems.

They will be replaced by Hinkley's Heroes.

## Zappa next year

FRANK ZAPPA is to make two London concert appearances with his band, named simply Zappa, in February, and plans at least three other provincial appearances. The London dates are at Hammersmith Odeon on February 9 and 10.

# NEWS IN BRIEF

ELO's new LP 'New World Record' has gone platinum in US, silver in UK. British dates planned for late Spring.

Lynyrd Skynyrd have sold out their two London Rainbow concerts. Atlanta Rhythm Section to tour in February and March next year.

Todd Rundgren's Utopia release new album 'Ra' on January 14.

Santana play Hammersmith Odeon on December 15.

Gene Roddenberry, creator of 'Star Trek' TV series and recent LP in London working on 'Star Trek' film plans.

America finished recording latest LP in Hawaii, produced by George Martin, with guests including Art Garfunkel and Jimmy Webb.

Capricorn goodies for 1977 include new Marshall Tucker album in February, Gregg Allman LP in March, May LP from Richard Betts and debut from Sea Level.

Streetwalkers new LP 'Vicious But Fair' issued on January 20 - Guests for their Christmas Party at London's Roundhouse will be Crazy Cavan 'N' The Rhythm Rockers, Steve Gibbons Band and The Darts, on December 19.

Kenny replaced Smokie for their opening German dates at the last minute, following Chris Norman's illness.

Heron, formerly Mike Heron's Reputation, lead by the ex - Incredible String Band member, have signed to Bronze and have debut album 'Diamond Of Dreams' released on January 28.

Rubettes members Alan Williams and John Richardson guest on John Lodge's new LP.

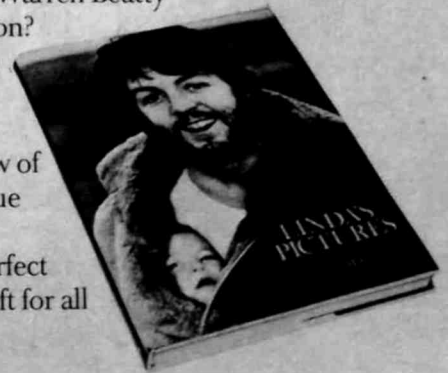
# LINDA'S PICTURES

a collection of photographs by Linda McCartney

What have Mick Jagger, Jimi Hendrix, Bob Dylan, Janis Joplin, Mama Cass, John Lennon and Warren Beatty got in common?

They're all in Linda's Pictures - a personal view of Linda's unique world.

The perfect Christmas gift for all your friends.



# Jonathan Cape/£7.50

Production and presentation MPL Communications  
Published by  
Jonathan Cape, 30 Bedford Square, London WC1

**THE SEX PISTOLS** are about as subtle as a sawn-off shotgun.

Like hit men they have come out of the night to shoot the legs off a tired music industry that has relied on crutches far too long.

They are a great fat threat to complacency in a cocksure, candid and utterly contemptible way.

The single 'Anarchy In The UK' is the most vital, electric record to be released in a long time. It craves attention... and gets it.

But are Mr Rotten and co dedicated anarchists - or just grimy kids let loose in an ice cream factory and liable to get too sick to do anything constructive?

Ready, aim, fire! "We are totally against apathy of any kind," says self-styled prince of punk Johnny Rotten.

"We have got to fight the entire super band system. Groups like the Who and the Stones are revolting. They have nothing to offer the kids anymore."

"All they're good for is making money. You just read the balance sheets of any of these. Life has really become safe for them. They are just so pathetic."

He spits out the words. And when they land on target they spread out like phlegm. Reminiscent of the time he used to bowl down the Kings Road and gob on the posters.

"When the Pistols first started we found it impossible to get gigs. The business bends over backwards to help the big bands. If you're not established you've got no chance."

"But by hook or crook we forced gigs onto people. And now we're in. All the big bosses think they've got us sussed - no way. They only took us on because they could see something was going on. But now we're fighting from the INSIDE."

Dragged up in Islington council flats. Kicked out of Catholic school "because they thought I was a rocker". Squatter. Dole queue Johnny.

The Pistols were spawned in the famous 'Sex' shop in Kings Road, Chelsea, owned by Malcolm McLaren, now the band's manager.

Sex sells everything from PVC strides to rubber gloves. "I only went to the Kings Road for sex. I used to despise the fading posers that walked up and down."

"London is supposed to be one of the most entertaining capitals in the world. It's full of nothing clubs where people can spend their money to see so called 'new' bands."

"Why doesn't just one guy who's made a lot of money out of the music business plough some of it back into rock? It's just take, take, take. All they're interested in is buying a country house. It's just greed. Life is much easier if you let things over-ride you rather than fight against it."

"And we don't want things easy." Cries of "Anarchy!" have always been associated with bored, middle class students who followed each other like sheep.

But the Pistols are spearheading, or hoping to, a backstreet backlash of working class kids who have never really had it hard, but are still put down.

*'I feel sorry for the people who stand up for what they believe and get kicked in the teeth. That's what would have happened to me if I hadn't joined the Pistols. I would have been locked up, put quietly away, classified as insane'*

# Johnny knows he's not mad. Can you say that?



STEVE JONES



PAUL COOK



GLEN MATLOCK

**Barry Cain talks to the band everyone's talking about, the Sex Pistols**



JOHNNY ROTTEN

*'The only constructive thing left for Surbiton bores to do is kill themselves'*

"They try to ruin you from the start. They take away your soul. They destroy you. 'Be a bank clerk' or 'join the Army' is what they give you at school."

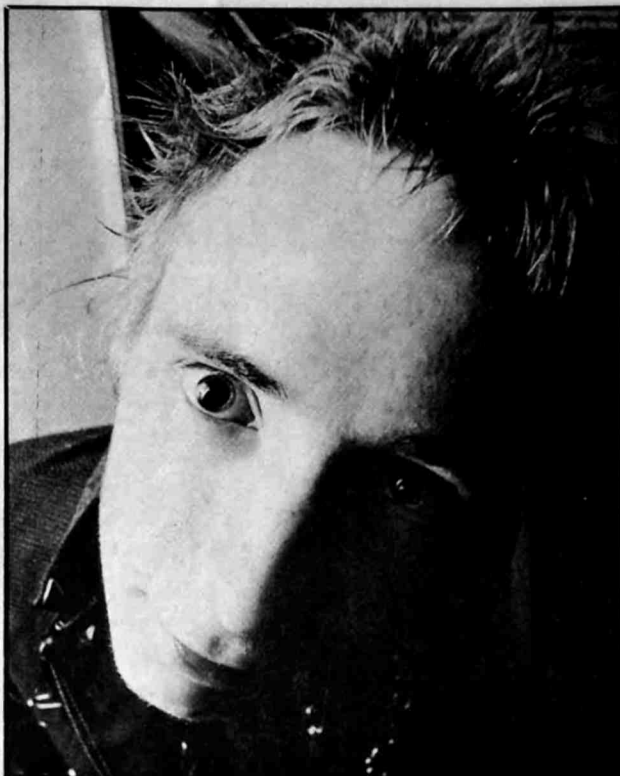
"And if you do what they say you'll end up like the moron they want you to be. You have got to fight back, or die."

"You have no future, nothing. You are made unequal. Most of the time the kids who fight back

don't use their brains and it's wasted. Join a band is one way, or teach yourself is another. It doesn't take very much."

"Every kid who gets to a comprehensive school isn't worth bothering about half the time. They are taken as mugs, and don't realise until it's too late."

Basist Glen Matlock is the only member of the band who went to a grammar school.



*'We have got to fight the entire super band system. Groups like the Who and the Stones are revolting'*

factory. It's not hard enough and the more problems you have the better.

"Me, I never stop complaining. Everyone should question things and that's unheard of these days."

"The Pistols are sticking their necks out all right. I don't know why it should be us and I don't really care. And we ain't in it for lining our pockets either."

"So many of my old mates from school come up to me now and say they're married," says drummer Paul Cook. "That's very frightening. I mean, none of us is older than 20."

"I don't believe in marriage, mortgage or houses in the country," says Johnny.

"It's awful. It's disgusting. All these bores who have crawled out of their little Surbiton huts."

The only constructive thing left for them to do is kill themselves.

"You've met one - you've met them all. Their personality is

governed by what they do and they do nothing worth talking about. They don't like people to have notions because they accept how they live."

"They're the ones who make it so much harder for us. But don't ever tell me I'm the same. The Pistols are presenting one alternative to the apathy and if you don't like it that's just too bad."

"I just get so f--- off with those little b--- who love to put you into slots. Anything you're supposed to say these days is a hype to those sort of people."

"Oh that's all happened before in the sixties and fifties. You're not any different. I am being myself and that's all I ask of anyone. Anarchy is self-rule and that's better than anything else."

"If everyone accepts everything in the same quantities, that's meaningless. But that's what happens now. People wear clothes very similar to those of their friends. They're just not thinking."

It's the attitude that matters, not the established kind of form."

Is there anyone he feels compassion for?

"I feel sorry for people who stand up for what they believe and get kicked in the teeth. And that's what would have happened to me if I hadn't joined the Pistols. I would have been locked up, put quietly away, classified as insane."

"I know I'm not mad. Can you say that?"

Does he think that blacks could play punk rock?

"There hasn't been a very 'white' thing in music for years. It's pretty bad when whites have come to accept themselves as nothing, but it's all so easy when the music is done by someone else."

"And it's done by blacks for whites. I hate disco music. I don't like to think that whites are going there to hear their music."

"But I guess blacks could play punk rock. It doesn't matter what colour your skin is. There is a pause. Then Glen speaks. "I like people to surprise me. To come out with shocking things like the Bay City Rollers have got spotty arses. But don't quote me because I wasn't passing comment then."

What does he think of the Bay City Rollers?

"They've got spotty arses."

The band refuse to look into the future. People won't accept things for what they are now," says Johnny.

"They want to know what it will be like 10 years from now. Why can't they live for today? At 30 it's too late. Most people are clapped out with beer guts. Just look at Michael Jagger. I don't think of getting old - it doesn't bother me."

"Look, we really want to do something for our own sakes as much as anyone else's. We want to be people, people with a mind of our own. We are just doing our bit to punch the rest of 1976 away."

"Our songs are ideas. Just spend one night in London and you'll become f--- off with the old ways. You're bound to get ideas from that."

"And soon this whole country will be just one city. What'll happen then?"

POSTSCRIPT. This was the last interview with the Pistols before the Bill Grundy controversy. Because of that their new tour with The Damned and Clash lies in shreds.

Production of their single has ground to a halt because the people involved are too disgusted to package it.

And our national press has cut the band to ribbons with articles boasting such headlines as 'PUNK JUNK SKUNKS!'

OK, so punk at times does smack of contrived lunacy, wasted violence and heavy shock tactics. But it's young, fresh and very much alive. There are many more obscenities in this country today that people close their eyes to - just look at the Government.

Most important of all, punk rock is a threat to the music establishment. And if that doesn't deserve to be threatened I don't know what does.

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Are you with the Sex Pistols all the way or do you hate what they stand for? The best five letters we receive win a record token. Send your letters to: Sex Pistols, Record Mirror, Spotlight House, 1 Benwell Road, London N7 7AX.

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- CHAIN GANG
- JOHNNY REMEMBER ME
- KING OF THE JIVE
- TROCADERO
- HEY MR CHRISTMAS



Album ARTY 145  
Cassette TC ARTY 145



Produced by Mike Hurst for  
Solid Gold Organisation

# MASTERMIND

## Contestants: Smokie

HOT FROM posing their way through 'Living Next Door To Alice', not once, but three times, Smokie made their way from the Top Of The Pops studio to dressing room number 117B to take off their make - up, change their clothes and take part in a game of 'Mastermind'.

First contestant please. Your name? "Pete Spencer." Occupation? "Drummer." Your first question, Mr Spencer, on matters of little significance, were you ever a sailor?

"I used to play on Shaw Savill liners, cruising the Mediterranean, amusing rich old ladies with show numbers like 'Fly Me To The Moon.' I nearly went to the Pacific too. I'd been offered this job on a ship out there, but at the time I was on the point of getting married. I couldn't arrange for my wife to come along for the ride, so I didn't go. Anyway, a year later I joined Smokie."

Played in any other groups? "I've played with a lot of bands, done cabaret, all sorts. Until I joined Smokie I was a musical nomad."

Do you get lonely, just sitting at the back tapping the skins? "No far from it. Actually I've just written this Ringo Starr sort of song, it's a bit tongue in cheek really. Called 'Remember Me'.



SMOKIE in the hot seat

ber Me', it's all about no-one ever seeming to recognise the drummer. It could be on our next album."

Thank you, Mr Spencer, you didn't pass on any questions, round two will take place in the bar upstairs later this evening. Next contestant please. Name? "Chris Norman." Occupation? "Vocalist."

You first question on being a singer in a rock 'n' roll band, what's the matter with your voice?

"It's some sort of throat infection, the doctor says I've got trahellitis. I'm

taking penicillin and hoping for the best. We've had to cancel two gigs in Germany. We don't like letting the kids down like this, but there's no way I could have done them. They were big gigs too, audiences of around 3,000 each."

What do you think of your current single?

"It's a great song, perfect for this time of year."

Why don't you play more in this country?

"You're right (thankyou), we've hardly done any gigs here at all lately. It's a matter of

getting the right promoter for a tour. People like Elton John, the Rolling Stones have no trouble at all, but ordinary groups like us, it's different, more difficult."

As a vocalist, who are your greatest influences?

"When I first started years ago I'm showing my age now, aren't I? Yeah, I'm married with two sons, Brian and Paul. How old?

"They're eight and four. No, when I started, my voice wasn't as gruff as it is now, I used to sing Joe Cocker type songs. The one group that have influenced me more than

anyone are the Beatles. I like singers like Steve Marriott and Paul Rogers of Bad Company."

Thankyou Mr Norman, all of us here at the BBC hope your voice recovers before too long and, my oh my, that's a nice black velvet suit you're wearing. Next contestant please.

Name? "Alan Silson." Occupation? "Lead guitarist." OK, Mr Silson, your first question on great axemen of history, who were your first influences?

"Eric Clapton, Jimmy Page, Ritchie Blackmore. Actually it all started at school. The Beatles were the big thing then and I went out, bought a guitar and found I could play it. No, not Bert Weedon, he had this TV programme, but I couldn't understand it."

This next question carries double marks. Have you made a lot of money?

"Well, I'm finding things a lot easier now. You know, I can go out and buy a few drinks or a meal for my friends. I don't know what a lot of money is in this business. Our ambition now is to crack America."

And the final contestant please. Name? "Terry Uttley." Occupation? "Guitarist." Your first question on European geography, Mr Uttley...

What's it like playing on the continent? (OK, so these questions aren't very original, but there's not long to go now, the nine o'clock news will follow shortly.)

"The audiences out there are like the mid-sixties in this country. They go quite berserk, bouncing up and down. They have iron crash barriers at the front of the halls."

What's next on the agenda?

"We're going back to Europe, then in January we go to America to do our next album and maybe a few promotional gigs. It'll be our third time there. We've made the last album and the last three singles over there. 'Alice' was recorded over there for the American market. Originally we had no intention of releasing it here."

Do you get much fan mail, any dirty letters?

"Yes, we get a lot. Many say, you know, 'Next time you're down my way, look me up and we'll do so and so together. Of course (naturellement) we're not allowed to take them up. I mean in Sweden recently, we had this girl ringing us up all over the place and offering literally everything."

Thank you Mr Uttley, kindly remember this is a family show, we don't like to encourage smut. Now, the result of tonight's contest is a four-way draw. Follow me up to the bar on the fourth floor to take part in round two. How it goes is this. You buy me a drink and, hello, hello, isn't that Tina Charles over there. Thought I recognised her, um, er, profile. Aah, thankyou, a large one please."

# DAVID SOUL

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# Singles reviewed by Sheila MacProphet

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

**MARK RADICE:** 'Monkey See, Monkey Do' (United Artists XW897-Y). Stamped in the centre of this single is the immortal message 'To Edna Goldberger'. Mark used to be a child protegee, but he's now grown up into a fully fledged singer/songwriter. He's got a good voice, but although quite funky, this track's not really strong enough. Still, I bet Edna likes it. + + +

**WHISKY GALORE:** 'One For The Road' (Magnet Mag 82). What a horrible noise. The road's the best place for it... preferably with a 10 ton lorry on top of it. +

**DANA:** 'It's Gonna Be A Cold, Cold Christmas' (GTO GT 45). Haven't I heard this before? Oh yes, of course, last year. Sorry dear - try again in '77. + +

**KENNY NOLAN:** 'I Like Dreamin' (Pye BTC 2290). I kept expecting this to get somewhere, but it didn't. If he's dreamin' of having a hit with this, he'd better dream again. + +

**JACKIE LOMAX:** 'Peace Of Mind' (Capitol CL 15897). Quite a

# THE THINGS THEY DO NOW THEY'RE 5cc

**10cc:** 'The Things We Do For Love' (Mercury 6008 022). Now reduced to half their cubic capacity, 10cc have come up with a romantic lightweight ditty that's OK but not half as good as some of their earlier efforts. A hit, though. + + +

pleasant song in the vein of Jim Capaldi's 'Love Hurts'. + + +

**ANDY FAIRWEATHER LOW:** 'Be Bop 'N' Holla' (A&M AMS 7268). The title track from Andy's latest album, and typical of his sound. Nice 'n' easy on the ears. + + +

● See page 13

**BREAD:** 'Lost Without Your Love' (Elektra K12241). These guys have been loafing

around not doing anything for a while now, but they've risen again and given us a tasty slice of music with all the old ingredients sandwiched into it. Here's a toast to them. + + +

**THE ENGLISH CHORALE:** 'Countdown To Christmas' (DJM 10735). It's getting a bit late for Christmas singles now, but a few are still oozing onto our unsuspecting ears. Average. + +

**MEMPHIS SOUNDS ORCHESTRA:** 'Sleigh Ride' (RSO 2090 212). Perfect for its (super)market. One to buy the turkey and the Christmas Pudding. + +

**DJ ROGERS:** 'On The Road Again' (RCA 2755). Rather dreary soul single with nothing very new to offer. + +

**THE ELECTRIC CHOIR:** 'To All Mankind - Doobey Doob' (Cube BUG 73). Profound words of wisdom. + +

**STOKESLEY COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN'S CHOIR:** 'The Broken-Hearted Donkey' (SGR 101). Avoid at all costs. +

**THE MERCURY BROTHERS:** 'Day Of Love' (Victor PB 50307). On one side you get the Mercury Brothers singing 'Day Of Love'. On the other side of this disc you get the Mercury Brothers And Daughters singing - yes, you guessed it - 'Day Of Love'. Side one is marginally better - it's three seconds shorter. + +

**CANNED ROCK:** 'Ho! Ho! It's Christmas' (Barn 2014 104). With Chas Chandler producing this, and a Jim Lea/Noddy Holder song on the flipside, you begin to wonder just



5cc: Graham Gouldman and Eric Stewart

who Canned Rock might be. But whoever they are, they make quite a jolly noise (much better than the usual trash). + + +

## WOMAN'S WORLD

**JILL IRELAND:** 'Hello And Goodbye' (UA UP 36189). Not content with getting herself a man like Charles Bronson, Ms Ireland wants to be a pop star too! This isn't a bad effort, but certainly not a hit. + +

**SHIRLEY BASSEY:** 'Can't Take My Eyes Off You' (UA 36200). Shirley makes a fair attempt at murdering this old classic. + +

**LELly BOONE:** 'Serenata' (PEN 921). The press release says that Lelly is 'a singing housewife who put down the washing up mop four years ago to take up the microphone'. That was a mistake. + +

**EYDIE GORME:** 'What I Did For Love' (UA UP 36202). A song from the show, 'Chorus Line'. A pleasant enough MOR track, but will only mean something to those people who've seen the show. + + +

## Seeger out on the streets



BOB SEGER: infectious

**BOB SEGER:** 'Mainstreet' (Capitol PSLP 193). A sound that will warm the cockles of your heart, no matter how cold it is outside. Taken from Bob's super album, 'Night Moves', it's a lovely, infectious song. Probably not a hit, but it might turn some people on to one of the best LP's of '76. + + + +



THE SYLVERS: cast of thousands

**THE SYLVERS:** 'Hot Line' (Capitol PSLP 194). A good chunk of funk from these Jackson Five soundalikes.

Maybe not a hit this time round, but keep at it, fellas. + + +

"Little do you know that we know that you know that **Little does she know** (CBS 4689) isn't the only great song on the illuminating new album from the...."

# KURSAAL FLYERS

# Golden Mile

CBS 81622

Featuring the Hit Single "Little Does She Know"



# Things that go ring in the night

LES GRAY is tucked up in bed reading the 'Beano' when the phone rings.

Mud's Les Gray tells Robin Smith his problems

It's a young lady who says she's wearing French knickers and very little else. As you might have guessed, discussing the weather is the last thing on her mind.

"It's mind-boggling," says Les. "As Record Mirror is a family newspaper I can't tell you what she says, but it's rather naughty. It doesn't bother me, as a matter of fact I find it quite amusing. She's traced me to most of the hotels I've stayed at and I got the first call in Bayswater. She's even introduced herself to me at a concert and I didn't twig who it was at first."

Not only does Les receive interesting phone calls. In his fan mail you'll find requests for his hair and offers of marriage, including one from a 50-year-old lady who's offered to divorce her husband.

"I'm flattered but I don't think I'll accept", says Les.

Weighed down with baggage he's staggered into a pub not a million miles away from the Charing Cross Road. Nearing the end of a lengthy tour he's tired but anxious to talk. The announcement that he's going in for a solo career has sparked off all sorts of

rumours about a split with Mud.

"It's just what I was expecting," he says. "I'm a bit fed up with answering questions about it. Mud are not going to split, it's just that I had an offer to do some solo work and I accepted. Some guys in the biz said my voice was strong enough to stand on its own. I know it sounds a bit mercenary, but it's also going to give me a chance to make some more money."

"The other members of the band are going to be doing their own things, but really we're going to be like satellites floating round a nucleus. It's the healthy thing to do because it means you can develop fresh ideas."

He's also involved in launching a new superstar, Barrington Talbot-Short. It's an unusual name but Barrington's going to be dynamite. He's going to be dressed in Edwardian gear and sing bizarre songs.

"Barrington will bring a bit of romance back to music. That's what's lacking these days, really smoochy ballads. You can keep all your punk. Actually we travelled with a punk band to the Continent. On board the plane they were really nice guys and spoke with

posh accents. As soon as they stepped off, they started swearing and spitting and being rude to people. They say that punk rock isn't manufactured, but it's as manufactured as Gary Glitter posing across the stage in big silver boots and his ridiculous costume."

Les has a single out in January and it's a comment on the music business.

"It's about a manager who reckons he's being ripped off by a band when he's taking them for a ride himself," says Les.

"It's a fast rocker and was written by a guy called Roy Hill who works for Virgin. Roy's a pretty quiet guy and lives in the country so I haven't had a chance to meet him. I may use some more of his songs in the future, but for an album I'm going to be recording all oldies. Thing by Brian Hyland and Connie Francis.

"They just don't write songs like that these days. Today you either get a good melody or a good lyric - it's very rare that you get them combined. I haven't got any plans for doing a solo tour, I'd feel a bit nervous appearing on my own."

"This year we celebrate our ninth or tenth birthday - Christ you

know I've forgotten how many years we've been together. In those years we've rarely had any arguments. I think we've survived because our build-up has been gradual. There's two ways to begin in this business - the quick kill which means instant success but you don't last very long or a slowtrudge like us and Slade. We both celebrate our birth-

days on April 1 which is nice.

Before that Mud are doing a special afternoon gig at the Streatham Odeon on December 18. It'll cost a pound to get in and you won't be able to reserve tickets - just turn up at the door. It's going to be the cheapest concert in London.

"I wish we could do more cheaper concerts, but we'd probably be on the headline. Actually we've tried to lower ticket prices by cutting down a bit on lighting, we don't use so many because we've found them unnecessary. I think it's something a lot of bands could do. Many bands cart too much stuff

around which means they're limited to where they can play. They probably sounded 10 times better when they started on a scruffy set of microphones. We're making an effort to get back to our roots."

Les is a bit annoyed that they didn't release 'Under The Moon Of Love' from their last album now that Showaddywaddy have a Number One with it.

"We considered it but we didn't think it had the potential - how wrong can you be? George Harrison has also released 'True Love' which we thought about doing years ago. That'll probably go to the top as well."

"Our main ambition now is to conquer America. One of the reasons we signed to Private Stock is because they're an American owned company and we thought it would be easy for them to get us over there but nothing has ever been arranged. I'd also like to tour Japan and Australia and see what a really vast audience is like."

"I feel sure we can combine our solo careers with Mud. We all thrive on work, particularly me. If I'm indoors for more than two days I go out of my head. I have to keep doing things. Now, I wonder if that girl will ring again tonight..."

LES: flattered by those naughty phone calls



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# Albums

## EAGLES' FAULTLESS TOWERS!

**THE EAGLES: 'Hotel California' (Asylum K53051)**

For me, the Eagles can do no wrong. So it's easy discovering all the wonderful things about their new album. The title track is a cracker. It comes very close to 'Desperado', hitting almost the same peak. It's a weird song, a bit scary in that all the characters aren't quite real, but real enough to frighten you, a bit like a nightmare. The music is just great. The other song that stands out is 'New Kid In Town'. Well, it stands out for the music, but it gets a little tedious listening to stories about the difficulties rock and roll stars have. The strings arrangements were occasionally obtrusive, and new member Joe Walsh makes some fine contributions on guitar. It's a fine album and rates as highly as their previous output. + + + + Rosalind Russell

**VARIOUS ARTISTS: 'Son Of Morris On' (Harvest Heritage SHSM2012)**

The art of Morris dancing is not just for hanky-waving pansies, but a manly fertility rite and one of these eccentric customs that makes you proud to be British. The original 'Morris On' set came as a something of a shot in the arm to the trad folk, and as here the musicians make effective use of modern instruments alongside their more traditional counterparts, so electric bass and drum kit emphasise the natural dancing beat. The shock value has died down a bit since the first set, but this album should still make a good party piece. + + + + David Brown.

**STEPHEN BISHOP: 'Careless' (ABC ABCL 5201)**

For his debut album, Stephen Bishop was assisted by a number of musical worthies - Art Garfunkel, Eric Clapton, Chaka Khan and Andrew Gold to name but four. Bishop has been songwriting for some time, but is only just starting to get the recognition he deserves, with 'name' artists starting to record his songs. Despite the illustrious names on the credits for most of the tracks, I found 'Madge', which he plays with just himself on guitar and a string backing, the most enjoyable track. Eric Clapton plays a commendable guitar solo on 'Save It For A Rainy Day'. + + + + Jim Evans

**JOHNNY BRISTOL: 'Bristol's Creme' (Polydor 2383430)**

For grunts and groans, Johnny Bristol rivals beefy Barry White. I counted 10 on the first track alone and there's a fair sprinkling throughout the album. Still, it's very listenable - the range of Johnny's voice keeps you interested. 'Do It To My Mind' opens with bongos before expanding with strings, which Johnny's voice gently nudges away. Especially attractive is track two: 'I Love Talkin' Bout Baby' with its mournful sax, lazy bass and rasping vocals. + + + + Robin Smith

**GILBERT O'SULLIVAN 'Greatest Hits' (MAM MAMA 2003)**

You'll already know most of the songs on this LP - they include 'Aloha Again (Naturally)', 'Clair', 'Get Down' and 'No Matter How I Try'. He's never been in the pop stars screamy bracket, more the Las Vegas type, but the



THE EAGLES: Unreal qualities in the eyrie

emotional consistency of his music will see him through for years. Shame this couldn't be a brand new album. + + + Rosalind Russell

**ARCHIE BELL & THE DRELLS: 'Where Will You Go When The Party's Over' (Philadelphia PIR 81567)**

Production line soul. Slick, very professionally put together, catchy, nice voices, good harmonies, excellent musicians, but all so heartless and pre-conceived. There are just so many of these records around that they begin to mean absolutely nothing. Dey all sound de same to me man. + + Barry Cain

**LOGGINS AND MESSINA: 'The Best Of Friends' (CBS 81692)**

Like Seals and Crofts, Loggins and Messina haven't really made much impact over here. They're something of a poor man's Crosby, Stills Nash and Young with similar harmonies. Most of the songs revolve around freedom and nature - often

sounding corny as on 'Be Free'. Lyrics aside, this track has an almost olde English feel with mandolin playing. Best known of the cuts over here is 'House At Pooh Corner', about the celebrated bear. It's utterly ridiculous, but I next time. + + Robin Smith

**VARIOUS ARTISTS: 'The Old Grey Whistle Test - Take Two' (Beeb BEDP001)**

A double album featuring many of the rock acts to appear on the TV programme, with one album dedicated to UK artists and the other the pick of the US. There is little to fault the selections, with the British contenders including Rory Gallagher, Camel, Be-Bop Deluxe, Dave Mason and Genesis. The American half is split into rock acts such as Joe Walsh, Little Feat, Nils Lofgren and Jimi Hendrix, and a cool selection featuring Jackson Browne, Janis Ian, The Eagles, Linda Ronstadt and Dan Fogelberg. Generally, an intelligent variety of rock and one which

would make a welcome stocking filler for the right person. + + + + David Brown

**DAVE SWARBRICK: 'Swarbrick' (Transatlantic TRA 337)**

Perhaps best known for his electric fiddle and mandolin playing with Fairport (Obnvention), Dave Swarbrick returns here to the more traditional side of folk music. It's a change from the wah-wah pedal experiments of latter days and while the style may seem simpler to some listeners, the incredible dexterity should not be overlooked. It also marks a reunion with former colleague Martin Carthy on guitar, with whom Swarb did much pioneer work in the folk clubs. Other musicians include the inevitable Fairport side-kicks and members of his first ceilidh band. The tunes are mainly his own favourites, but if you've lived through the folk/rock scene you'll probably find most of them are your favourites too. A refreshing work. + + + + David Brown

**NEIL DIAMOND: 'And The Singer Sings His Song' (MCA 2777)**

A compilation album from Neil Diamond's previous label, MCA. No particularly well known tracks, just a smattering from assorted albums. Diamond fans, I would imagine, already have most of these tracks on any of the original albums. The overall mood is pretty serious except for a moment of abandon on 'Walk On Water'. The production is good but new fans will have several better LPs than this to choose from. And if you haven't guessed from the title, Neil wrote all the 12 songs. + + + + Robin Katz

**THE BEACH BOYS: 'Stack O'Tracks' (E-ST24009)**

Why on earth anyone should want the backing tracks to Beach Boys songs is beyond me. It's most frustrating when you expect them to start singing and they don't. The idea is for you to do the hard work for a change and sing the lyrics provided. Though personally I think I'll stick to their '20 Golden Greats' - they can do a much better job of it than I. + + David Brown

**JOAN BAEZ 'Gulf Winds' (A&M AMLH 64603)**

However steamed up Joan Baez gets with politics, she has got a beautiful voice. This album is much easier to take than 'Diamonds

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

And Rust' which I found a bit sickly sweet. The songs here are pure and nearer in style to the 'Any Day Now' double album, released some years ago. The music is simple, with nothing fancier than double tracked vocals. A perfect gem. + + + + Rosalind Russell

**HEATWAVE: 'Too Hot To Handle' (GTO STL 013)**

Soul fans rejoice. Here we have an English band with nine pumping tracks, lots of harmony work-outs and a rich American production. Heatwave deserve to follow the Average White Band's success in dishing out first rate danceable soul fare to the world without the tedious cliches of slushy orchestras or corny lyrics. Several potential hits here. At last an album whose musical content lives up to the title. Keep an eye out for one of their gigs. + + + + Robin Katz

**TAMMY WYNETTE: 'Christmas With Tammy Wynette' (Epic EPC 69214)**

A heady sentimental selection from Tammy, the lady with the sweet and sour songs. She goes for the extremes in life - joy and desolation. Included on the side of the angels are 'Silent Night', and 'Away In A Manger'. We have a choice of colour - 'Blue Christmas' and 'White Christmas'. And on the side of the devil are 'We Must Be Having One' and 'Lonely Christmas Call'. What more could you ask for during such an emotional season? + + + Rosalind Russell

**ANDREW GOLD: 'What's Wrong With This Picture' (Asylum K5302)**

Andrew supported Linda Ronstadt on her recent tour and I bet they couldn't wait until he'd finished judging by this offering. It's a clumsy album and the producer must have had a nightmare with such weak basic material. After 'Hope You Feel Good' the record improves but not a lot. 'Passing Thing' starts tastefully with Andrew accompanied by piano before being ruined by clumsy instruments, including one that sounds like George Zamfir's warbler. Better luck next time. + + Robin Smith

## More golden greats from the girls

**ARETHA FRANKLIN 'Ten Years Of Gold' (Atlantic SD 18204)**

You just can't fault the Queen of Soul. Just listen to 'You Make Me Feel Like A Natural Woman', recorded in 1967 and hear the power in her voice. 'Spanish Harlem' has always been a standard that no-one's done as well as Aretha. But topping them all is 'Respect' - It's as near perfection in soul as you'll ever get. There are 12 tracks on this album and every one amazing. + + + + Rosalind Russell

**LINDA RONSTADT: 'Greatest Hits' (Asylum K53055)**

Girlfriend / boyfriend run off with somebody else? If you're sitting down searching for a suitable consolation album then may I recommend luscious Linda's greatest hits? All the tracks run rich with emotion and there's an excellent rendition of the Eagles' 'Desperado'. Buddy Holly's 'It Doesn't Matter Anymore' is given a most interesting treatment, turned into a slow ballad with lilting guitar. Then there's 'Tracks Of My Years' - 'scuse me while I reach for a handkerchief + + + + Robin Smith

# The

# BAND

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# Be Bop 'n'



## Solitude

'Twas a time when Andy Fairweather Low took cases of clothes with him on tour.

Now he carries a small flight bag with a few colourless shirts and some music books.

A few years ago he wouldn't have been able to sit quietly in a hotel bar, because of the screaming fans. But that's all behind him now — the colourful stage image has been replaced by plimsolls and a safari jacket.

Andy was the heart-throb of Amen Corner, named after a club in Wales. In '68 similar scenes greeted their concerts as do the Rollers' today.

"We only used to play for ten minutes at a time," he says. "The girls would rush on stage and the bouncers couldn't hold them back. There was so much screaming we couldn't hear what we were playing."

"I had most of my clothes made in Carnaby Street then. I was really ultra trendy — with flared trousers and frilly shirts. I was looking at some old photographs the other day and realised what terrible taste I had."

"Our road manager used to give my clothes away to score with girls. I'd get to a gig and one of my suits would be missing. He'd say I'd left it at the last place we'd played and then one night a girl would thank me for letting her have my jacket. He got through a lot of gear so he must have had a good time."

"Like most bands at the time, Amen Corner were taken for a ride — none of us ended up making very much money. I knew we were going to be ripped off, but there was always someone else to take your place."

"In a way groups have it easier today, because they know the pitfalls. When we started the rock boom was just beginning and we weren't as wise to what could happen. But it's more difficult for a group to tour these days because the disco boom has killed off so many clubs. That also helped kill off Amen Corner as well as financial reasons and because all of us were disillusioned."

"We weren't moving on from the Top Rank Suites and I wasn't writing or playing anything. Fans were camping out on my doorstep and it got too much. That's why I have no hostility towards the Rollers. I can appreciate their problems, but I think we were better."

Andy admits drinking a lot in his Amen Corner days. Now he's cut

*Andy: 'I don't think I'd make a bad punk'*

back after losing his driving licence last year.

"I've never regarded drink to be an evil," he says. "It helped me to overcome my shyness. Before I started drinking I just used to curl up in a ball in the corner. I must have had a hangover in every town we played. Nowadays I can get by without a vast amount — I've grown up."

"After the break-up of Amen Corner a lot of people thought I went into retirement, but I was writing and producing all the time. I formed a band called Fairweather but that was short-lived. Then I went to America to record 'Spider Jivin'. I've always been fond of American music, so it was like a dream come true."

What did an old campaigner like Andy think about the current scene?

"To be honest I don't follow it that much. The sort of people I listen to for hours are J.J. Cale and Ry Cooder. They may not sell many records but everything they do is perfect."

"I'll give punk rock my congratulations if it lasts more than two years. It seems to be very unskilful — just a loud noise and a nasty image. Actually, I don't suppose I'd make a bad punk. I'm pretty small in stature and my hair's quite short."

Since his comeback Andy has had two hit records and has just released the title track of his latest album 'Be Bop 'N' Holla' as a single.

"The records I least expect to always make it," he says. "Having hits provides me with satisfaction and money but the real enjoyment comes from creating."

"I like moving on to new things. Melodies come easy to me but lyrics take a long time. I once spent six months on a song."

Doesn't Andy ever miss the days when he was the centre of teenage attraction?

"Absolutely not," he says. "I'm in charge of my destiny now. I live a quiet life in Cardiff and I only really go out to play tennis. The only thing I lash out on is Dap shoes. I've got thirteen pairs."

ROBIN SMITH

# VIXEN



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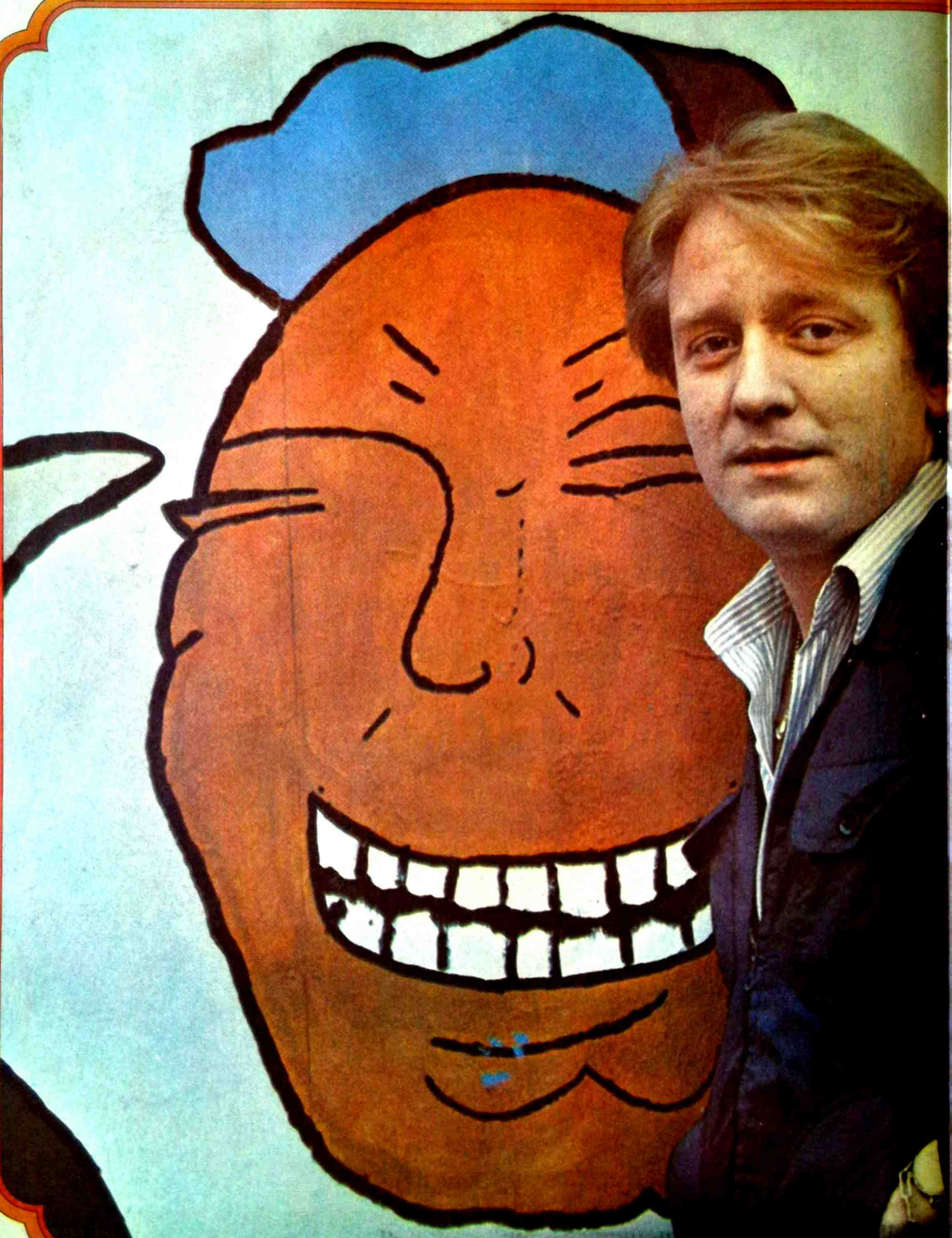
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# MILES, SWISS STYLE



**MILES AWAY** in a snow covered land of gnomes a blonde Geordie remembers yesterday in front of icy statues.

With his blow-torch music he slowly breaks the ice. The Zurich audience, subdued by years of prosperity and watchmaking, are taking time out to warm to the concert.

John Miles has got a Swiss movement going for him and he turns in one jewel of a performance.

'Music' has been in the Swiss charts for the last 15 weeks and 'Highfly' is still floating around the Top 20. And the album 'Rebel' is clocking up more sales than 'Frampton Comes Alive'.

So you might have expected a better reception in this financial centre (where half a lager costs

12) The venue was little better than a school assembly hall.

Flags lined the walls but the audience were at half-mast. Swiss rock fans must be the most disciplined on earth. With precision timing they clap at the end of each number and stay deathly quiet during the performance.

Tick, tick, tick — on comes the support act, a Swiss folk singer who's never played in public before. All short trousers and yodels. He's very nervous and keeps stroking the rabbit's foot strategically placed at the end of his cheap guitar.

Meanwhile John Miles tells a joke as he's changing backstage. "There was this Pakistani found dead in a Birmingham back street with 39 stab wounds in his back and his legs cut off. The coroner said it was the worst case of suicide

he'd ever seen."

John, two weeks into his European tour (playing much of the time with Dr Feelgood) has changed into bright red trousers and a white shirt. He walks onto the stage and breaks into a track from the forthcoming album. It's called 'Slow Down' and shock of shocks! — is that a voice-bag a la Frampton he's playing?

Too right. The lighting is terrible. Most of the time Gary Moberley on keyboards is hidden in shadows.

"Next up is 'Rebel'. The crowd readily identify with it but still clench their teeth and remain in their seats. 'Pull The Darnin' Thing Down' quickly follows with nice use of synthesiser. John comes in with a staccato guitar finale.

"My God, you are quiet. Are you still there?" asks John

before introducing the next song from the new album 'Manhattan Skyline' — a rocker as loose as the new falls of Alpine snow.

Miles is very reminiscent of McCartney in the way he manages to change his voice when the song demands it. On the next number he sails along with his crisp guitar work, raising and lowering his voice with the notes.

'Remember Yesterday' is well appreciated by the fans — but they are stone cold sober again. "Misty silence in the early morning..."

'Highfly' gets the biggest cheer of the night, beating even 'Music' which has John at the piano and alternating on guitar.

But the best number of the set follows. 'Glamour Boy' will make the perfect single with its killing synthesizer hook and

great chorus. A hit if ever I heard one.

John finishes off the set with the title track from the new album 'Stranger In The City' (released next week) and 'Rebel Park Two', which has some particularly inspired Barry Black drumming.

There are two encores consisting of three rock 'n' roll numbers — 'Roll Over Beethoven', the self-penned 'Sweet Lorraine' and 'Jailhouse Rock'.

A memorable performance, marred only by the disgusting lighting and occasional muffled sound. John is a true professional and doesn't need to resort to the well worn rock finale or voice-bag technique.

Left to his own devices, he'll always get by. As he says, 'Music is my first love.'

**BARRY CAIN**

**SPECIAL!** *Soul Mirror* By Robin Katz

# Roberta—Heartburn healer

SOFT, SOOTHING, intimate. These are words we use when love has crept into our hearts and turned even the most outgoing of us into peaceful souls.

Robert Flack smoulders when she sings. Her kind of soul is the last embers of the fire that others, like Aretha, Gladys and Natalie used to burn at full flame. To play her records is to unwind and to see her in concert is to relax.

Roberta Flack didn't enter most people's lives the way that new artists usually do. Soul fans drool when they recall the first time they heard Aretha Franklin belt out 'Respect'. It might have suddenly leapt out of the radio or a discotheque, as they were then called. Roberta Flack didn't achieve THAT kind of impact until she already had two albums out — 'First Take' and 'Chapter Two' which turned up in the dormitory rooms of an awful lot of college students.

Little was known about her except that she was a former school teacher from Washington DC and she sang like an angel.

Then it happened. Clint Eastwood starred in a new movie called 'Play Misty For Me' and in the background there, unmistakably, was Roberta singing 'First Time Ever I Saw Your Face'.

It became an unlikely hit and Flack was on her way. As the public bought

up the first two albums, she released her third: 'Quiet Fire'. This time the tempo was faster, but the jazz-backed sensuality was not lost.

Roberta teamed up with Donny Hathaway and looked to be the most potent of musical duets. They did an album together which brought another hit, 'Where Is The Love'.

1972 was Flack's launching year and '73 continued the success story. For her next album Roberta continued to use Emir Deodato as her string arranger.

She heard an album by Lori Lieberman and took from it 'Killing Me Softly With His Song', Lieberman's impression of seeing Don McLean in concert. The song again became a major hit and now Flack was in the ring for Aretha's coveted crown.

The 'Killing Me Softly' album is considered by many to be her finest effort. In addition to



THREE FACES of Flack: serene, sensual and smiling

'Killing' is 'Jesse' — an album track by Janis Ian who was trying to rebuild her career at that time.

'Smile' was used in Diana Ross's stage show that year and 'Suzanne' has become one of her most requested tunes.

Flack was outspoken on the subjects of being black, being a woman and most of all — being a black woman.

She gave identity to the scores of young girls who could not envisage themselves as a Diana Ross or an Aretha Franklin. But then suddenly, with 'Feel Like Making Love' high up the singles charts, Roberta seemingly disappeared.

For 18 months the top female contender to the soul throne shut up shop. Why?

"A lot of people thought it was crazy", she said later. "But more than ever I felt the need to grow as a musician. I came from a background that requires practice and I couldn't do that. I was in a rut."

"I was on the road, recording in New York, going back on the road, doing TV appearances plus the European tour obligations. After a while I was coming to hate what I had once loved. I had no choice but to stop."

Flack never did make the film about Bessie

Smith, in which she was supposed to play the title role.

But she practiced her classical music every day and lost over 40 lbs.

She also produced her own album 'Feel like Makin' Love,' under the nickname of Rubina Flake. It incorporated an all-star-cast of studio musicians and unearthed such soul fave raves as Joshie Armstead and Rhetta Hughes as well as Wonderlove's Denise Williams and Lani Groves singing back up vocals.

If Roberta suffers from anything, it is her slow pace. Eugene McDaniels, who provided her with 'Rivers' and 'Reverend

Lee' to name but two Flack classics, moans Flack's crawling pace. And indeed there are times when the 'Quiet Fire' of soul does roll downhill towards a musical monotony. But the line between that simmering intense stimulation and boredom is thin.

When Flack returned to London recently she avoided interviews and a few sceptics were heard to mutter 'has been' under their breaths. Yet, a replay of her albums show her to be marvelously ahead of her time. 'First Take' and 'Chapter Two' retain their intimate tenderness, 'Killing Me Softly' is consistently

heart warming, 'Quiet Fire' is patchy and 'Feel Like Making Love' is still more tedious than tantalising.

There are few artists who would open their act with a soft ballad, but at her London concerts she did just that. She brought the entire audience down to one peaceful level and achieved the same magic as those early LP's. Her new album will be out soon and it promises to convey the rejuvenation that the time off has given her.

It's good to have you back again Roberta. May you continue to soothe the wounded soul for many years to come.

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**SPECIAL!**

Part two of our monthly series . . .

# THE TIDAL WAVE



LITTLE STEVIE Wonder: powerhouse

IN 1929 the New York Stock Market crashed and America fell into a depression the likes of which one hopes never to see again.

When executives were selling apples on the street and stockbrokers were jumping out of windows, one segment of American life prospered — the movie industry. People may have had to scrape for their dinner, but films were a form of escape.

I make the point to bring us to the second American crash — 1964.

Up until 1964 the various Motown labels had enjoyed sporadic success, but so far there was no distinctive 'Motown sound'. One of the reasons was that between '61 and '63 Motown pretty well blended into the other sounds of the day. When Elvis went into the army in the late fifties he was replaced by an army of girl groups, male soul singers and wholesome boys — next — door'. Early Motowners like Mary Johnson, Mary Wells and the Miracles fit in alongside The Shirelles, Ben E King and the Drifters effortlessly.

## Tinny

In 1964 the Beatles fronted a wave of talent which flooded the American charts. It started slowly the previous year and by the group's much-heralded American arrival in February of '64 there was hardly an American group left on its feet. In the months to come those girl groups, the soul singers and the 'boys — next — door' would be washed away, save for The Four Seasons and The Beach Boys.

The field was clear for something new to slip in alongside all those tinny-sounding British groups. And lo and behold, in early '64 a record called 'The Way You Do The Things You Do' by a new group called The Temptations was the first to dent the solid wall of UK hits.

Mary Wells had a hit with 'My Guy' and a new group called The Four Tops slipped in with 'Baby I Need Your Lovin'. Spring '64 meant the end of school and summer was to see the debut of The Beatle's first

## Trivia Time

### No English

COMPETITORS are invited to submit a list of song titles which are 1) completely in a foreign language or 2) have a few foreign words in the title. No lists of Françoise Hardy's hits, please. The songs have to be by artists whose native language is English. Bueno Sueno (good luck).

First prize: winner will receive a copy of the following three albums — Al Green's 'Have A Good Time', Joe Cocker's 'Live In LA' and Joan Armatrading's 'Whatever's For Us'. Five runners-up will each receive a copy of Al Green's 'Have A Good Time'. All records are supplied courtesy of Decca Records.

Send your entries to Robin Katz, 'No English', Record Mirror, Spotlight House, 1 Bonwell Rd, London N7 7AX. Entries must be in by Wednesday December 22.



DIANA ROSS: front lady Supreme

movie 'A Hard Day's Night'. Two records came out by two 'unknown groups'. One was called 'Remember (Walking In The Sand)', a dramatic scenario with seabird sound effects by those catholic juvenile delinquents, The Shangri-Las. But it was the second that really turned heads: 'Where Did Our Love Go' by the Supremes. So the Motown 'Sound' was born.

The Supremes moved in on the girl group territory. They had a string of consecutive Number One hits, 'Baby Love', 'Stop In The Name Of Love', 'Come See About Me' and so on. 'They all sound alike' moaned the critics of the day. But nobody stopped dancing and more important the records kept selling. Between 1964 and '68 Motown had an unbreakable winning streak.

## Swank

But they weren't the first to have their very own sound. Brian Wilson and the Beach Boys had theirs and certainly Phil Spector's productions could be sensed as his and his only.

Motown had won popularity in the hip black community while keeping on top in the massive white market. The world's first black-owned record company was getting their artists into swank nightclubs and on to TV shows that blacks had never really played before.

A 'sound', in Motown's case, was created by a team who all put in their best to come up with something incomparable.

Motown was renowned for having some of the best 'B' sides around. If a single bore a map of Detroit, then the music couldn't be bad.

One of the best examples comes from Phoebe Snow who recorded an old Supremes B-side called 'Goin' Down For The Third Time' — a tribute to the black kids in her high school who used to play it on the juke box in the cafeteria, every lunch hour. When Berry Gordy said 'It's what's in the grooves that counts', he wasn't kidding. The sound penetrated everywhere, as Americans

blasted their radios from the unemployment offices to the car washes. When race riots broke out in major American cities, it was Martha Reeves' searing 'Dancing In The Streets' that got a lot of kids to put down their rocks and pick themselves a partner.

Smokey Robinson and the Miracles became the definitive 'make out' music and when everything went wrong with your true love there was always a Temptations or Four Tops record to cry along to.

If soul music is something that hits you spontaneously in the gut and the heart, then Motown as a family and a company knew how to make those studio machines feel the emotions.

The Motown sound was a tidal wave itself. The individuals were secondary to the music — if you don't believe that, try naming all the different girls who sang with the Vandellas during their heyday, or all of the Four Tops. Lead singers aside, most American fans couldn't — and it didn't matter.

## Fickle

Motown in the sixties was a very successful singles company. In those pre-'Sgt Pepper' days, albums were a luxury, but owning the Top 20 soul singles was almost a necessity. And singles fans are fickle, especially in the States.

Perhaps the greatest compliment one can give any group is that they've earned a 'Greatest Hits' album, because the music speaks for itself. Motown have their cake and are able to eat it too, for they have the 'Charbuster' series which gives you an assortment of singers bonded by the same infectious sound.

Motown's most consistent (and therefore most popular) artists of the mid-sixties were The Four Tops, Marvin Gaye,

The Marvelettes (originally Gladys Horton, Katherine Anderson, Wanda Young, Georgeanna Tillman and Juanita Cewart), Martha Reeves and The Vandellas (originally Rosalind Ashford and Annette Sterling), The Miracles, The Supremes (Diana Ross, Mary Wilson, Florence Ballard), The Temptations (originally Otis Williams, Paul Williams, Marvyn Franklin, Eddie Kendricks and last minute addition David Ruffin), Jr Walker (real name Autry de Walt) and his All Stars (Willie Woods, James Graves and Vic Thomas) not forgetting that bastion of energy, 'Little' Stevie Wonder.

Or course, there was more to Motown than that. In the mid-sixties they absorbed a growing rival Detroit company called Golden World and with it Ric Tic Records and Edwin Starr, Laura

Lee, JJ Barnes, Al Kent, The Fantastic Four, The Mark III Trio and — wait for it — The San Remo Strings.

Starr became a Motown hitmaker in his own right and Laura Lee showed up later with Holland, Dozier and Holland's 'Invictus' Efforts. But if Ric Tic gained nothing in its own time, let's give it credit for being one of the first ever sounds to be snatched up by northern soul fans. More about that in the British chapter, but until then check your local record racks for a copy of 'Ric Tic Relics' — it will tell you all you need to know.

## Happy

The above were Motown's major American stars. Right behind them were a group of what could affectionately be termed the great under-achievers. Hitwise, they didn't score as many hits. Ideally, a hit record is not the last word on talent, but in 1965 it got you top billing.

These folks were somewhat under the thumb of the company stars. When Motown was

hot, we assume the bigger artists were happy because the chart success of the rest was more erratic. Some moved on better for the experience, some disappeared. But all the records they made were gems. And a lot were injected with more r & b than the pop and soul market was happy to handle.

The two who moved on and were much better for it were Gladys Knight and the Pips (Merleand Knight, Ed Patten and William Guest) and The Isley Brothers (them O'Kelly, Ronald and Rudolph). Both groups had made records before signing to Motown, both had a handful of hits and

both have come into their own with the seventies.

But things were not so fortunate for the likes of Brenda Holloway, Kim Weston (now an actress), The Velvettes and the late Tammi Terrell, who died of brain injuries before her potential as a solo artist could be fulfilled.

● NEXT MONTH: A look behind the scenes at some of those names on your record labels . . . who they are and where they are now. Among them Holland, Dozier and Holland, Norman Whitfield, Johnny Bristol, and what happened to Motown when music went psychedelic!

# Barry Biggs Side Show

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# Mailman

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

## VIOLENCE

### Do we need it?

BEING A decent, wholesome Stones fan, I am not entirely in tune with the latest punk rock craze.

As far as I can make out it seems to entail a crowd of art school drop outs dressed in plastic bags kicking hell out of each other. The music is very poor quality and incidental to their image. Fans only seem interested in seeing who can wear the silliest clothes

### STAR LETTER — wins £3

and maiming as many people as possible.

In a recent television interview, the Sex Pistols' manager said that kids today want violence and would sooner have a bottle smashed over their heads than watch television. I don't want this and I know many more who feel the same.

Punk rock seems totally concerned with stupidity and violence. It can only be enjoyed by ignorant morons who like making

fools of themselves. If punk rock is going to take over British music, then I'll join the Foreign Legion.

John Clare, 11 Silverthorn Drive, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.

● Do you want to punk or does the thought of sticking a pin through your nose make you want to throwup; is punk going to grow in '77 or fade out? A record token for the best three letters printed.

### Oh Mud

I WOULD like to congratulate Mud for ruing another brilliant record. Not satisfied with spoiling 'Oh Boy' they had to go one better and wreck the beautiful Bill Withers number 'Lean On Me'. This record was never meant for harmonies, so do us a favour Mud and leave the classics alone.

A Bill Withers fan, Barry, South Wales.

of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir's single. He should realise that Mormons don't have collections.

Maureen Patterson, Warwickshire.

### Idiotic

THE PRIZE for the most idiotic writer of 1976 must surely be awarded to the Roller fan who began her letter by abusing your

paper and criticising your singles section. She should get her facts right. The Rollers' single 'I Only Wanna Be With You' did not get to Number One — thank God.

Beatles fan, Sheffield.

### Drift away

I'VE GOT to complain about Robin Smith's Drifters album review. He says it has the same predictable songs about movies and girls. Well, that's surely what men like hearing about. I think what he says is rubbish. I could sit down all day and night and listen to their music. They produce music of taste.

A mad Drifters fan, Chester.

### Overweight

SO MARC Bolan thinks that Bert Weedon is "Pathetic, he's just not punk enough." Well it's Bolan who's pathetic, prancing around on programmes like an overweight fairy. He just pretends to be a guitarist. If Marc bought a copy of Bert's 'Play In A Day' he might learn something. Stick to grunting Marc, it's what you're good at.

Chris Sambrook, Sussex.



### Good things to come

A felt sad when I read that 10cc were splitting. But instead of one great band we're now going to have two. It can only make music stronger.

Jimmy Sykes, Lanarkshire.

### No plate

DAVID BROWN mentioned passing the collection plate after his review



PATTI SMITH



NEW YORK DOLLS

## Waking up to real rock 'n' roll

WHEN IS Record Mirror going to ditch its housewife image and wake up to real rock 'n' roll? Patti Smith and the New York Dolls are excellent artists who produce brilliant albums, but because they are not constant chart occupants the slightest

chance of them being featured in RM is right out. It would be interesting to know exactly what true artists must do to gain Record Mirror recognition.

Steven Morrissey, Stretford.



### Roller trouble

IT'S TERRIBLE that the new Roller should tell the papers he's been arrested 10 times. The Rollers have had many troubles in the past and it would have been better for him to have kept his big mouth shut. The Rollers have had enough bad publicity already.

Ian McKay, Ayrshire.

● Don't you want to know the truth?

### Ignored

ONE OF Britain's most talented stars, Steve Harley is being ignored by deejays. It's laughable when you look at some of the rubbish in the Top 30 today. All you hear is Rod Stewart, Queen or Abba.

Emann Evans, Chelmsford.

### TV time

I SEE that Record Mirror has resorted to depending on TV personalities for its posters. Since when have Starkey and Hutch delivered an album as good as Steve Hillage's 'L'. Admittedly you ran an article on my hero, but what about a colour poster?

Janice Williams, Merseyside.

● Who's depending? We only did it once.

### Wake up

SO CALLED British music lovers should be ashamed of themselves. If you take a look at the album charts Glen Campbell, Bert Weedon and Max Bygraves are at the top. On the other side of the Atlantic big British stars top the charts — Led Zeppelin and Elton John. Come on music fans pull yourselves together.

Susan Clegg, Lincoln.

### Sweet'n'sour

WHEN WILL people realise what a superb band Sweet really are? They are one of the biggest rated hard rock bands in Europe and they've been recognised in America. But in Britain people only associate them with their juvenile early stuff and not their superb recent efforts. Andy, Steve, Brian and Mick, I'm with you all the way.

John Gardner, Blackpool.

### Shake up

IT'S ABOUT time there was a big shake up of ideas at Radio One. They should play more album tracks than singles because there are over twice as many albums than singles sold every week. They should also get rid of Tony Blackburn and David Hamilton. They don't know a thing about modern rock music and Tony Blackburn has admitted in a newspaper that the only time he ever listens to music is during his show.

Yours angrily, a Framp-ton freak, Edinburgh.

### Grow up

WHY THE hell doesn't Thin Lizzy's Brian Robertson show some responsibility. Getting involved in a fight like a 10 year old and having to cancel an American tour. Grow up Robertson. Fred Silver, Crowthorne.

## 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.

### Brass history

I would like to know the history and line-up of Brass Construction.

Paul Turner, Wembley.

● They were formed at junior high school in east New York, thinking that music was a good way to keep off the streets and out of trouble. They started playing at parties and dances before moving on to bigger things. Their debut album broke in America last year notching up gold sales and reaching number nine over here.

Brass Construction are Randy Muller on keyboards, flute, drums, bass, guitar and vocals. He is the leader, songwriter and arranger. Wade Williamson is on bass, Sandy Billups percussion, Jesse Ward tenor sax, Mickey Grudge, saxo-phones and clarinet, Joseph Arthur Wong, guitar and Wayne Parris trumpet. Wayne suffered from polio and believes he overcame his affliction through mental power. He still works as an X-ray technician at a New York Hospital.

### Cado country

Where do Cado Belle come from and what is their history and line up?

Stewart Porter, Leeds.

● Cado Belle hail from Glasgow and were formed in October, 1974. Since then they've had as personnel changes and they are Micky

Reilly lead vocals, Alan Darry guitar, Gavin Hodgson bass, Stuart Mackillop keyboards, David Roy drums and Colin Tully sax, flute and clarinet.

### Drifters

Could you give me a list of the albums the Drifters have released on Bell?

Ted Felix, Andover.

● The Drifters New! (Bell 219), 'Love Games' (Bell 146), 'There Goes My First Love' (Bell 289).

### Bristol born

Where was Johnny Bristol born?

John Hart, Swansea.

● He was born in Marganton, North Carolina.

### Fan clubs

Can you give me the address of the David Essex fan club?

D. Potter, Belfast.

● Write to PO Box 27, Waltham Cross, Hertfordshire.

Could you give me the address of the Johnny Mathis fan club?

Jane Norman, Potters Bar.

● Write to 3 Links Rd, Marple, Stockport, Cheshire.

What is the address of the Gilbert O'Sullivan fan club?

Hilary Palmer, Abingdon.

● C/o Mrs Rita Lee, P/O Box 151, Newnham-under-Lyme, Staffs.

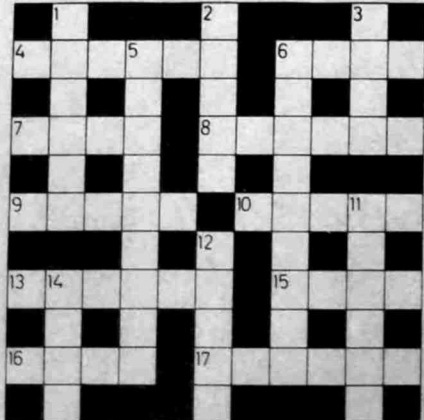
## Discword

### ACROSS

- 4 Jazzman Chris from Seville? (6)
- 6 "—of Earl" (Bergen White). (4)
- 7 Joan sang a farewell to Angelina. (4)
- 8 Convention metal. (6)
- 9 Tina's instruction to the little lady. (5)
- 10 Mrs. McCartney. (5)
- 12 Flash Cadillac ask if you did. (6)
- 15 Pliney name. (4)
- 16 Big Mama. (4)
- 17 David Essex is out on it. (6)

### DOWN

- 1 Womble rock fruit. (6)
- 2 Hard stuff from Tia Juana. (5)
- 3 That character from Muskogee. (4)
- 5 Get the lowdown from this group. (3,6)
- 6 Old gangster with cocaine in his brain? (9)
- 11 A meal with Michael. (6)
- 12 Green or James? (5)
- 14 Rock in the shop alone. (4)



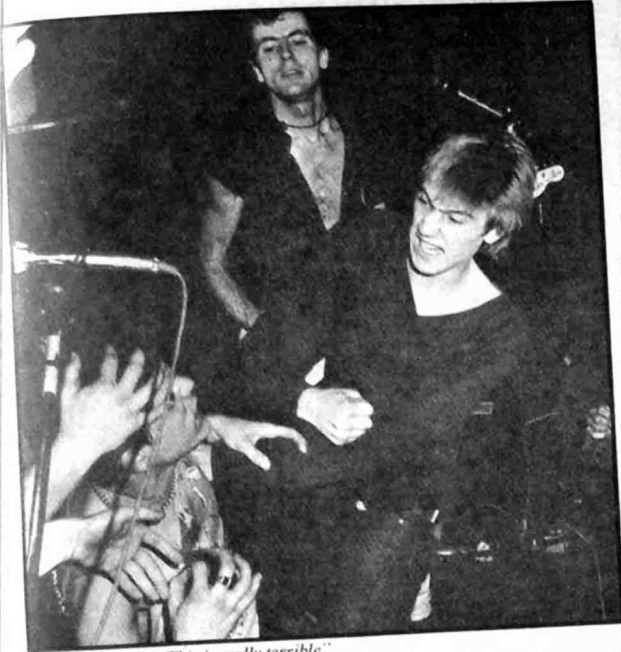
### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Tangerine. 8 Laine. 9 Begin. 10 Poet. 12 Gentry. 13 Secret. 17 Hank. 21 Ly-res. 22 Elvis. 23 Blunstone.

DOWN: 2 Alice. 3 Grey. 4 Rubber. 5 Night. 6 Clap(ton). 7 Andy. 11 Ode. 13 Run. 14 Season. 15 Silk. 16 Carol(e). 18 Alvin. 19 Kiss. 20 Heat.

# Strangled by violence

Barry Cain reports on a nasty Stranglers gig



STRANGLERS: "This is really terrible"

WHERE'S THIS great revolutionary movement that's supposed to be grabbing Britain by the throat? This punk power that hacks away at the wafer-thin limitations of people with a blood stained razor and leads to the total submission of authority?



*All I can see is a guy lying face down in a pool of blood with slithers of glass embedded in his head*

"Anyway, The Stranglers were really playing well. They looked a bit surprised 'cos they're not really a punk band, but they 'ad to prove they were up to it. I mean, there were a couple of Sex Pistols there.

"The bassist played on top of the speakers in case anything got outta hand. The singer got the needle when someone threw a dog-end into his eye. But

I mean, I'd really like to know.

Because all I can see from where I'm standing is a guy lying face down in a pool of blood with slithers of glass embedded in his head.

'Y'know the scene - a typical Saturday night special in any pub or club up and down the country. The sort of scene that transcends all age and ethnic groups.

"Hey Eddie, what we gonna do 'bout these punks then?"

"Dunno".

"I reckon we oughta go down to one of their gigs all tooled up. Some of 'em deserve a chiv across their faces.

"I saw The Stranglers the other night. Nice band. But this bunch of geezers called the Finchley mob 'ave bin following them about. Down that 100 Club where punk bands 'ave been banned - they were right up the front jumping about.

"They all 'ad the dyed barnets, made up minces safety pins. Looked like a right bunch of clowns.

"Then they started climbing onto the stage, singing with the band. He was there as well, that drummer with The Damned - Rat Rabies."

"Scabies?"

"Yeah, that's right, Scabies Rabies. He was

gobbin' at the lead singer who was bringing up flob himself and hurling it back. Then the beer started flying. Real anarchical, y'know?

they carried on and came back for an encore.

"Then this bundle started. A geezer smashed a pint mug on a table and the glass showered over everyone. He started throwing tables and chairs around. One fella who hadn't done anything got a bottle across his nut.

"And the first geezer ended up flat on his back with glass all over him. The band stopped and got out a bit sharpish."

And you know what was funny? The band, Mr Scabies and the rest of them were all so shocked. "This is really terrible. I don't know why it should have happened," was the general feeling.

Crap. Why don't you own up lads? Spitting and tossing drinks around doesn't exactly inspire friendliness. Accept the fact that: 'if the boys wanna fight, you better let them', as the song says.

And also accept that punk is never going to show anyone the light. People will use anything as an excuse to have a wild night on the town...

Punks crawl out at night. Come sunrise and they're no different from anyone else - give or take a dole queue or two.

You can't blame The Stranglers - they've never been associated with this kind of thing. They are part of the 'new wave' that's liable to drown in a sea of safety pins. Their music is taut, intelligent and infectious and it would be a pity if their name became entangled with the punk set-up.

"So this ambulance come down the club and 'ad a look at the geezer. His boat was really smothered with ketchup."

"So - what's new?"



Now listen here Cratchit...

It was Christmas day in the workhouse in Big Towne 2061.

The Starz were out above us and the festivities had begun.

The paupers were Wheelin' and Dealin' and Night Moves were afoot.

I put my hand right up the chimney and pulled down three tons of soot.

I realised that Livin' for Lovin' was the only thing to do,

So relenting my feelings for Christmas, I further unblocked the flue.



Big Towne, 2061  
PARIS  
EA-ST 1156S



Starz  
STARZ  
EA-ST 11539



Wheelin' and Dealin'  
ASLEEP  
AT THE WHEEL  
E-ST 11545



Night Moves  
BOB SEGER  
EA-ST 11557



Livin' for Lovin'  
JACKIE LOMAX  
EA-ST 11558



# Upfront

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

## Wednesday

**DECEMBER 8**  
**BECKENHAM**, Tites, Bouncer  
**BIRMINGHAM**, Odeon (021-643 6101), Steve Harley & Cockney Rebel  
**BLACKBURN**, Lodestar (Ribblesdale 400) Teezer  
**BRADFORD**, St Georges Hall (32513), Steelee Span  
**BROCKENHURST**, Brockenhurst College, Split Enz  
**COLCHESTER**, University of Essex (44144), Heart/Cado Belle  
**FOLKESTONE**, Leas Cliff Hall (53193), Deaf School  
**GLASGOW**, Apollo (041-332 6055), Joan Armatrading  
**GUILDFORD**, Civic Hall (67314), Man/Alkatraz  
**KEELE**, The University (Keele Park 371), Medicine Head  
**LEICESTER**, Baileys (26462), New Seekers  
**LEICESTER**, The University, College Hall (5000), Moon  
**LONDON**, Dingwalls, Camden Lock (01-267 4967), Meal Ticket  
**LONDON**, Hope and Anchor, Upper Street (01-359 4510), Damned/Eater  
**LONDON**, Palladium, Argyll Street (01-437 7373), David Essex  
**LONDON**, Rochester, Stoke Newington High Street, Flying Aces  
**LONDON**, Rock Garden, The Piazza, Covent Garden (01-240 3961), The Darts

**LONDON**, Ronnie Scotts, Frith Street (01-439 0746), Linda Lewis/Tony Kinsey Quartet  
**MANCHESTER**, Palace (061-236 0184), Steve Hillage/Nova  
**SOUTHAMPTON**, Gaumont (22001), Rod Stewart  
**SOUTHAMPTON**, The University (556291), Mungo Jerry  
**YORK**, The University (Eddie and the Hot Rods / Aswad

## Thursday

**DECEMBER 9**  
**BIRKENHEAD**, Mr Digbys, City Boy  
**BIRMINGHAM**, Barrel Organ, Hooker  
**BLACKBURN**, Baileys (662662), Showaddywaddy  
**BLACKPOOL**, Opera House (25252), Joan Armatrading/Prelude  
**BRIGHTON**, Dome (682127), Andy Fairweather Low/Catherine Howe  
**BRISTOL**, Baileys (292658), Cissy Stone  
**CLEETHORPES**, Winter Gardens, Eddie and the Hot Rods/Aswad  
**COVENTRY**, Coventry Theatre (23141), Hawkwind/Strapps  
**DUNSTABLE**, Civic Hall (60326), Steve Hillage/Nova  
**EDINBURGH**, Playhouse (031-5567226), Drifters  
**EDINBURGH**, West End Club (031-229 8308), John Otway/Wild Willy Barrett  
**GRAVESEND**, Battle of Britain, Northfleet (517200), Muscles

**HARROW**, Technical College, Watford Road (01-422 52066), Fabulous Poodles/Pigsty Hill Light Orchestra  
**LEICESTER**, Baileys (26462), New Seekers  
**LEICESTER**, Gilbert Hall, Mungo Jerry  
**LONDON**, Dingwalls, Camden Lock (01-267 4967), Ray Froggatt Band  
**LONDON**, Duke of Clarence, Holland Park Avenue (01-603 543), Streamliner  
**LONDON**, Edwardian Club, Loughborough Hotel (01-274 1271), Hellraisers  
**LONDON**, Marquee, Wardour Street (01-437 6603), U Bary  
**LONDON**, Matilda's Old Swan, Kensington Church Street, Skyport Ade and Friends  
**LONDON**, New Victoria, Wilton Street (01 934 0671), Heart / Cado Belle  
**LONDON**, North East Polytechnic, Forest Road, Walthamstow, Blooblo  
**LONDON**, Orange Tree, Friern Barnet Lane, Cadillac  
**LONDON**, Palladium (01-437 7373), David Essex  
**LONDON**, Red Cox, Hammersmith Road, Max Merril and the Meteors  
**LONDON**, Ronnie Scotts, Frith Street (01-439 0747), Linda Lewis/Tony Kinsey Quartet  
**LONDON**, Royal Garden Hotel, Kensington, Pasadena Orchestra  
**LONDON**, Speakeasy Margaret Street (01-580 8810), Gonzales  
**MANCHESTER**, Electric Circus, Collyhurst Street, Johnny Thunders' Heartbreakers/Clash  
**MIDDLESBROUGH**, Teesside Polytechnic, Split Enz  
**OXFORD**, Westminster College, Racing Cars/Warren Harry  
**PLYMOUTH**, College of Education, Charlie  
**PORTSMOUTH**, HMS Collingwood, Crazy Cavan 'n' the Rhythm Rockers  
**POULTON**, LE FYLDE, Technical College, Burlesque  
**SALFORD**, Condren Club, Broughton Road, Matchbox  
**SCARBOROUGH**, Penthouse Club, St Nicholas Street (63204), Dana Gillespie  
**SHEFFIELD**, Baileys (29519), Chans  
**STOCKTON**, Fiesta (553046), Rockin' Berries  
**STOKE ON TRENT**, The Highwayman, Medicine Head  
**SWANSEA**, Circles O Band  
**WALSALL**, West Midlands College, Supercharge  
**WELYN GARDEN CITY**, Cherry Tree, Grind  
**WORCESTER**, Swan with two Necks, Plummet Airlines



SPLIT ENZ: Brockenhurst, Wednesday

**HORNCASTLE**, Town Hall, Crazy Cavan 'n' the Rhythm Rockers / Hellraisers / Flying Saucers  
**HUDDESFIELD**, Polytechnic, Flam'n' Groovies  
**LEEDS**, The University (39071), Moon  
**LONDON**, Bedford College, Regents Park, Giggles  
**LONDON**, City of London Polytechnic, Racing Cars  
**LONDON**, Dingwalls, Camden Lock (01-267 4967), Count Bishops / Sahara  
**LONDON**, Goldsmiths College, Twisham Way, (01-692 0211), Fabulous Poodles  
**LONDON**, Hope and Anchor, Upper Street (01-359 4510), Stone Cold Sober  
**LONDON**, Kings College, The Strand, City Boy  
**LONDON**, Nashville, North End Road (01-603 6071), Strangers  
**LONDON**, Palladium, Argyll Street (01-437 7373), David Essex  
**LONDON**, Polytechnic of Central London, Generation X / Eater / Soulie and the Bananas  
**LONDON**, Roundhouse, Chalk Farm Road (01-267 2564), Man / Dave Edmunds Rockpile / Alkatraz  
**LONDON**, Royalty Disco, Southgate (01-886 4112), Tremeloes  
**LONDON**, Western Counties, London Street (01-723 0685), Tidal Wave Band  
**MAIDSTONE**, Medway Club, Clarendon  
**MANCHESTER**, Electric Circus, Collyhurst Street, Tiger  
**MANCHESTER**, Palace Theatre (061-236 0184), Joan Armatrading  
**MANCHESTER**, Russell Club, Royce Road, Hulme, JALN Band  
**MELROSE**, Corn Exchange, John Otway / Wild Willy Barrett  
**NEWCASTLE**, Polytechnic (28761), U Boat  
**NOTTINGHAM**, Boat Club (869032), Scratch  
**NOTTINGHAM**, Trent Polytechnic (48248), Curved Air  
**PERSHORE**, College of Agriculture, Hooker  
**PRESCOT**, CF Mott College, Liverpool Road, Plummet Airlines  
**PRESTON**, Charter Theatre (21221), Sex Pistols / Damned / Johnny Thunders' Heartbreakers / Cissy Stone  
**SALISBURY**, College of Technology (23711), Pink Fairies / Blue Angel  
**SHEFFIELD**, The University (24076), Deaf School  
**SLEAFORD**, Castle Club, RAF Coningsby, Strange Days  
**SOUTHAMPTON**, Gaumont (22001), Steelee Span  
**SOUTHPORT**, New Theatre (40404), Mud  
**SPENNYMOOR**, Top Hat (815237), Drifters  
**STOKE ON TRENT**, Highwayman Sparrow  
**UXBRIDGE**, Brunel University (39125), Kokomo  
**WAKEFIELD**, Bretton College, Flying Aces

## Friday

**WORCESTER**, College of Education, Mungo Jerry

## Saturday

### DECEMBER 11

**AYLESBURY**, Friars, Vale Hall (86948), Strangers / Deaf School  
**BARRY**, Memorial Hall, Flying Aces / Days of Grace / Blue Printz  
**BIRMINGHAM**, Odeon (021-643 6101), Joan Armatrading/Prelude  
**BLACKBURN**, Baileys (662622), Showaddywaddy  
**BRIGHTON**, Polytechnic, Medicine Head  
**BRISTOL**, Baileys (29658), Cissy Stone  
**BRISTOL**, University, Pasadena Roof Orchestra  
**BURTON ON TRENT**, Paradise Rooms, Roogaalator  
**CARDIFF**, Capitol (31316), Rod Stewart  
**CARMARTHEN**, Trinity College, City Boy  
**CRENGESTER**, Corn Hall, JALN Band  
**COVENTRY**, Coventry Theatre (23141), Steve Hillage / Nova  
**DUDLEY**, JB's (53597), Stray  
**EDINBURGH**, Playhouse (031-5567226), Steve Harley & Cockney Rebel  
**GLASGOW**, The University (041-339 8697), Trapeze  
**GLASGOW**, University of Strathclyde (041-552 1270), Streetwalkers  
**HARLOW**, Technical College, Mungo Jerry  
**HATFIELD**, Polytechnic, After the Fire  
**LEICESTER**, Baileys (26462), New Seekers  
**LEICESTER**, Polytechnic (27662), 20th Century Steel Band  
**LONDON**, Chelsea College, Manresa Road, Strife  
**LONDON**, City University, Great Hal, St John Street, Mud / Janie  
**LONDON**, Green Man, Plumstead High Street, Flying Saucers  
**LONDON**, Hope and Anchor, Upper Street (01-359 4510), Derelicts  
**LONDON**, Imperial College, Prince Consort Road (01-589 5111, ext 1042), Flam'n' Groovies  
**LONDON**, Nashville, North End Road (01-603 6071), The Darts  
**LONDON**, Palladium (01-437 7373), David Essex  
**LONDON**, Rochester, Stoke Newington High Street, Manics  
**LONDON**, Roundhouse, Chalk Farm Road (01-267 2564), Man/Dave Edmunds Rockpile/Alkatraz  
**LONDON**, Shaftesbury Theatre (01-836 6596), Andy Fairweather Low / Catherine How  
**LONDON**, Westfield College, Moon  
**MAIDENHEAD**, Skindies, Eddie and the Hot Rods/Teazer  
**MANCHESTER**, Wythenshaw College, Supercharge

**NORTHAMPTON**, County Cricket Club, Wantage Road, O Band  
**NOTTINGHAM**, Boat Club (869032), Cado Belle  
**Ship Inn, John Otway / Wild Willy Barrett**  
**READING**, Bulmershe College, Racing Cars / Gonzales  
**SCUNTHORPE**, Priory Hotel, Fabulous Poodles  
**SOUTHEND**, Kursaal (66276), Hawkwind / Strapps  
**WEST RUNTON**, Pavilion (203), Carol Grimes and the London Boogie Band  
**WIGAN**, Casino (43501), U Boat  
**WOLVERHAMPTON**, Polytechnic, Hooker

## Sunday

### DECEMBER 12

**AYLESBURY**, John Hampden, Left Hand Drive  
**BEDFORD**, Nite Spot, Mud  
**BOURNEMOUTH**, Winter Roebuck, (26446), Hawkwind/Strapps  
**CARDIFF**, Top Rank, Eddie and the Hot Rods / Ultravox  
**CARLISLE**, Market Hall, John Otway / Wild Willy Barrett  
**LEICESTER**, Beaumont Working Mens' Club, Flying Saucers  
**LONDON**, New Victoria, Wilton Street (01-934 0671), Joan Armatrading / Prelude  
**Victoria Victoria Palace**, Victoria Street (01-834 1317), Steve Goodman  
**SHEFFIELD**, Top Rank (21927), Stray  
**WOLVERHAMPTON**, ON TEEs, Thornaby Pavilion, Flinlock  
**WOLVERHAMPTON**, Civic Hall (21359), Steve Hillage / Nova

## Monday

### DECEMBER 13

**BIRMINGHAM**, Town Hall (021-236 2339), Eddie and the Hot Rods / Aswad  
**BRIGEND**, Recreation Centre, Mud  
**DEESIDE**, Leisure Centre, New Seekers  
**LONDON**, Birds Nest, Kings Road, Max Collier's Rhythm Aces  
**PRESTON**, Guildhall (2121), Steve Hillage / Nova  
**RETFORD**, Aquarius II Club, John Otway / Wild Willy Barrett  
**RUNCORN**, Cherry Tree, New Victoria  
**SHEFFIELD**, City Hall (27074), Flinlock  
**SUTTON IN ASHFIELD**, Golden Diamond (2690), Stray  
**WELYN GARDEN CITY**, Pavilion (33225), Racing Cars / Warren Harry

## Tuesday

### DECEMBER 14

**BILLINGHAM**, Forum Theatre, Pasadena Roof Orchestra  
**BIRMINGHAM**, Odeon (021-643 6101), Steve Hillage / Nova  
**CANTERBURY**, University of Kent, Elliot College (65224), Cissy Stone  
**EBBW LEISURE CENTRE**, New Seekers  
**EGGW VALE**, Leisure Lonsdale (303766), Mud / Bomer  
**LEICESTER**, De Montfort Hall (22850), Man / Alkatraz  
**LONDON**, Dingwalls, Camden Lock (01-267 4987), Cimarrons  
**LONDON**, 100 Club, Oxford Street (01-635 0933), Derelicts  
**LONDON**, Jam  
**John Rochester Castle**, Stoke Newington High Street, John Otway / Wild Willy Barrett  
**NEWCASTLE**, City Hall  
**Nottingham**, Rod Stewart  
**NORWICH**, St Andrews Hall, Eddie and the Hot Rods / Aswad  
**NOTTINGHAM**, Albert Hall (4971), Joan Armatrading

## HEAR IT!

GENERALLY a thin week on radio... Saturday on Radio One looks the best bet with Linda Ronstadt's 'Top 17' at 1.31pm. The Pirates queuing on 'H's Rock 'n' Roll' (5.31pm) and London Wainwright III 'In Concert' at 6.59pm. Listeners north of the border will want to tune to Radio Clio at midnight on Friday for 'The Warran and John Christie Join The Arrows' on December 14.

## SEE IT!

HEARIT, Bonnie Tyler, Sutherland Brothers and Quiver, Paul Nicholas and Liverpool Express appear on 'Supersonic' on Saturday December 11. The Warran and John Christie join 'The Arrows' on December 14.

Thursday's 'Top Of The Pops' is introduced by ageing disc jockey David Hamilton. Bryn Haworth and his band can be seen on BBC2's 'Songs Of Searching' at 6.15pm on Sunday December 12.

Sunday's edition of 'The Devil's Music' (BBC late night) is titled 'Sticking With The Blues' and discusses the blues since the Second World War and tells how blues became part of a past blacks want to forget.

## READ IT!

(The Devil's Music, Giles Oakley BBC 15). A study companion to the BBC's disappointing history of the blues series.

A fascinating story such as that of the blues, its origins, characters and development, deserves a more dynamic approach than the one we have. There's a massive good staff there, but you have to dig for it. It's a story that has been told before - and better by authors such as Paul Oliver, and who could ask for a better introduction to the blues than his book 'The Story Of The Blues' published by Penguin in paperback.

For those of you who have begun to discover the world of jazz music, then 'The Joachim Berend Jazz Book' is highly recommended. (Paladin £1.99). Not only does he give some comprehensive details on the styles, personalities and instruments of the music but he also has time to consider the outside influences, such as pop fused with jazz, as well as the main stream names there in room for Blood, Sweet And Tears, Chicago, John McLaughlin and even Uncle Frank Zappa. A valuable and readable book.

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# 'Hollow' Harley on heat

STEVE HARLEY  
London

NOW MR HARLEY come in, lay down on that couch over there and tell me about it...

Steve swept onto the Hammersmith Odeon stage like Harley on heat wearing ridiculously oversized check trousers held up with braces and looking for all the world like a sick Max Miller.

And right away you're hooked. 'Here Comes The Sun' is the springboard into a pool of neurosis. He stretches every emotion any kid on the street has felt at one time to its full limit - and then some.

Watching Harley is like theatre. He contorts his body to slide into every word he utters. On 'Mr Soft' he looked vaguely like an angry chimp squatting next to Cockney Rebel guitarist Jo Partridge.

The first thing you notice about Harley is his hands. Huge, expressive hands soaring up into the spotlights as in 'Red Is A Mean, Mean Colour' - 'Like a disease he grows in stages'...

His fans are noisy - 'We love you Steve' - impatient and very, very devoted. 'Get the words right' cried one guy in the audience when Steve fluffed a line in the magical 'Best Years Of Our Lives'.

But the highlight of the show was 'Innocence And Guilt'. The stage was drenched in darkness as strange nursery noises tipped out of the speakers. A single light and Steve shuffled onto the stage in a bulky check jacket and red clown's nose.

He carried a broomstick. Looked lost. Furlorn. Foreboding. 'Innocence And Guilt' stands apart from anything Harley has written.

The agonising crawl on the 'Prima Donna' album is probably the most suffocating and terrifying thing ever to be gauged into a slice of vinyl.

And Harley's live rendition was no let

down. Standing in a strobe afflicted snow fall he sang of overpowering maternal love. "I feel nothing save death."

Hollow pop idol is his next guise in another track from 'Prima Donna' 'Is It True What They Say' which finds our hero doing a partial, gimmicky striptease act.

'This is the first explicit love song I've written in three and a half years of ups and downs in this business.' So Steve introduces a third cut from the new album ('Love) Compared With You'.

The flop single 'Love Is A Prima Donna' followed by 'If This Is Love' Give Me More' Elvis style screams from his young girl fans wearing pre-'Best Years Of Our Lives' Rebel bowler hats and masks.

The elegant 'Sebastian' was the big finale with 'Tumbling Down' and 'Make Me Smile' providing the encores.

A great concert - though that's Harley surprising. BARRY CAIN

JACKSON  
BROWNE  
Glasgow

ONE OF the seventies most eagerly anticipated events began last weekend - Jackson Browne's first real British concert tour. Not even the bitterly cold evening would prevent the audience enjoying themselves and Jackson ran through a faultless set.

The first half of the show featured the quieter, more introspective side of Jackson's music with such songs as 'The Fuse', 'Further On', 'For Every Man', 'Only Child', 'Fountain Of Sorrow', 'Rock Me On The Water', 'Late For The Sky' and 'For A Dancer'.

David Lindley, whose contribution to Jackson's status is immeasurable, then played a truly remarkable viola solo, which ushered in the second half of the set.

Those of you who think of

# Roadshows



HARLEY: you need hands

JACKSON as merely a singer of quiet, sad songs should disregard this next sentence. Showing a commendable power, the band launched into 'Take It Easy', 'Rocking Slow', 'The Road And The Sky' and a storming finish with 'Before The Deluge'.

This still wasn't enough for the audience, and it took three encores, 'These Days', 'Doctor My Eyes' and 'The Pretender' before they let Jackson leave the stage.

Look out London, he'll be with you soon. BERT MUIRHEAD

MAN/ALKATRAZ  
Cheltenham

ONE DOOR closes, another opens...

Saying goodbye are Man, the Welsh wonder rock combo who have decided to call it a day as they say that after many years on the road they aren't really going anywhere, a brave and admirable decision. It means that we will be minus one of our best rock bands though, and just how deeply they will be missed could be easily gauged by the rapturous reception this concert received.

The current line-up seems to contain the essence of all that's been good about Man, and they mix with ease the cream of their last album 'The Welsh Connection' with all the old favourites they've established over the years. By now they must be fed up with playing 'C'mon', 'Many

Are Called, But Few Get Up' and their hippy anthem 'Bananas', but if that is the case they certainly don't let it show.

They were working against the odds at this particular show, the generator for the lights they use didn't work and the hall authorities seemed anxious to bring the show to a close dead on time, but as usual it was Man who came away victors. If you've not seen them yet then you've still a few days yet - don't miss the chance. They'll certainly die with a past.

Born with a future are Alkatraz who are saying hello on this tour as support act.

They highlight most of their recommendable first album 'Doing A Moonlight', and prove to be a band to keep an eye out for in the months to come.

If they seem to capture some of that Man spirit it's not all that surprising since their guitarist, Will Youatt, was an important member in one of the most influential stages of Man's development. They also have an exceptionally talented drummer in Stuart Halliday. So, while the loss of Man is a sad one, it is at least reassuring that the great Welsh rock tradition will survive through at least one good offspring - and who knows there could well be more? DAVID BROWN

AL STEWART  
London

IT WAS like an old hippy reunion at the New Victoria.

Everywhere you looked there was vintage long hair, kaftans and even a few beads. Al Stewart, one of the few remaining songsters thrown up by flower power, was playing to a packed house.

They've given him a sparkling light show and a loud PA so many of his delicate lyrics were lost, but Al braved the storm and everyone went home with a song in their hearts. I find him a bit self indulgent. Nearly every song is introduced with an anecdote about himself and his material is the sort of stuff you imagine people listening to in lonely bedsit land.

Still, he held the audience spellbound kicking off with the rocky 'Apple Order Reconstitution' before singing the 'Dark And The Rolling Sea' about a girl who turns into a ship and sinks

after hitting a rock - pretty mystical eh? Al's acoustic guitar was joined in a gentle harmony by his lead guitarist.

'One Stage Before' was spilt by a shaky guitar solo, but 'Soho Needless To Say' tightened the band up. The true highlights of the evening were 'On The Border' with flowing keyboards and guitar and Al's famous 'Roads To Moscow' about the Germans sweeping through Russia. It was accompanied by a slide show of war scenes and as the lights dimmed it was very atmospheric. Numerous encores were followed by loud applause and even a few peace signs... Oh the nostalgia. ROBIN SMITH

MIKE HARDING  
Bristol

MIKE HARDING had everything against him when his one-man show came to Bristol's Colston Hall last Friday.

The city was shrouded in fog and the roads were icy which, coupled with the fact that with the exception of 'Rochdale Cowboy', Mike Harding is not that well known in the West Country, contributed to the large hall being less than half full.

However, after inviting the audience to move down to the front of the auditorium and then treating them to an evening of almost non-stop humour, he did succeed in the seemingly impossible task of building up the relationship with the sadly small audience that Mike Harding needs if his funny act is to work.

Interestingly, although everyone had come along to be entertained by Harding's often bawdy humour, it was not only his funny songs and jokes which went down well. His monologues, like 'Grandad Arkwright's Funeral', were superb and his extremely poignant 'Christmas 1914' - a serious song about the German and British soldiers in the First World War ceasing fighting to celebrate Christmas together in 'no-man's land' - was really memorable.

This is not to say that the concert was without its faults. Sometimes his jokes were like greasing old friends and I felt his style much better suited to the more intimate atmosphere of the folk club than a large, soulless concert hall. Occasion-

# PISTOLS FIRE BIG BLANK

SEX PISTOLS Leeds

THE SEX Pistols were met with jeers on the first night of their trouble - hit tour, at Leeds Polytechnic.

Scores of fans walked out and lead singer, Johnny Rotten yelled at those that remained: "You're just a load of dummies - you're dead" but in fact it was punk rock itself that was in danger of dying. The band was met with hoots of laughter as they tried in vain to whip up excitement.

They kicked off with a swipe at Bill Grundy and the Queen, and then they broke their manager's orders by using a string of obscenities. Their music was predictably loud and crude but alas it was also

dismally disappointing - relentless and unimaginative.

When the group waited among cat-calls to do an encore, Rotten turned upon his fans and snarled: "Has the council banned you from clapping? If you don't like us, you know where the exit is."

The Pistols, who have stirred up so much controversy with their four letter tirade on TV, were left dejected and antagonistic by their brusque departure.

Certainly the show 'Anarchy in the UK' left much to be desired and the unanimous opinion of the northern fans was, "What a load of rubbish!" STEVE KENDALL

ally his act did not seem well enough planned, especially towards the end and, whilst one can well imagine how bored he might be with the song, it was quite a surprise that Mike Harding did not sing 'Rochdale Cowboy'.

KEITH CLARK.

EDDIE AND THE  
HOT RODS  
Roundhouse

LADIES AND Gentlemen, it's Sunday night and it's the Muppet Show! Starring the entire audience of the Roundhouse with string-pulling by Eddie and the Hot Rods.

No sooner had the Rods raced onstage, they were off. Banging their feet, jumpin' up and down and - sixties flashback - head-shaking at 78 rpm plus. Three minutes of that by some miracle no heads have disengaged themselves from shoulders - and vocalist Barrie Masters pulls each number to a stop.

'Allright?' 'Course they're allright, he's pulling the strings, isn't he?'

The Rods aren't punks - the differences are obvious, they're clean for a start. They're also very precise.

But they are fast. Look at our Barrie go. He's the speediest strutter ever, running all over the stage. Rumour has it the Russians are putting in a transfer bid for him to join their gymnastics team.

In spite of a bad sound problem that reoccurred every five minutes the songs came slick and fast: 'Keep On Keepin' On', 'Show Me', 'All I Need Is Money', 'Tear-drops' (those wild yicks), 'Cruisin' (just for kicks)', 'Woolly Bully' and their two best known numbers 'Teenage Depression' and 'The Kids Are 'Alright'.

A couple more and they end with 'Get Out Of Denver - go, go, go Masters' physical feats climax with yer actual death-defying leap from somewhere in the scaffolding.

Back for 'On The Run', Barrie in black T-shirt, gunner's balaclava and shades and drummer Paul Nichols in his Marx and Sparr knickers. Followed by 'The State I'm In' with surprisingly, a long strobe scope instrumental interlude minus Masters.

And, pant, gasp, it's 'Gloria'. He'd really kept them hanging on for that one. "What's her name?" "GLORIA!" Wham bam,

thankyou ma'am, you made for a sweet outro. SEAMUS POTTER

DAVID ESSEX  
London

IN THE words of the song: "Where do we go from here?" David promised something special at the end of his UK tour, an evening of music intermingled with theatrics - and that was just what we got.

Most of it worked well too, there were in the inevitable mistakes - performing dogs didn't always perform on cue, mikes cracked and smoke effects put the front stalls in a pea-souper. But if anything, a few honest cock-ups made the whole thing more enjoyable. If it had been all smooth and polished the evening would have lost some of its warmth and fun.

The songs remained pretty much the same, so whether you saw David and band at Stratford or Stratford you'd hear basically the same numbers, the stronger new material coming through even in that thick smog.

With the whole theatrical magic of the London Palladium at his feet, who can blame David for indulging in a few new tricks?

The start of his concert began with the famous revolving stage and the band playing the theme from the old TV series 'Sunday Night At The London Palladium' (Ask grown-ups about that one, younger readers), with cardboard cut-outs of Bruce Forsyth and Adolf Hitler sharing the turnable with some strange-looking Tiller girls - three of them were biokes!

Throughout the show there were surprising changes with the dancing troupe, performing animals, and David doing a few quick changes of dress.

The grand finale involved the stage being crammed full of tightrope walkers, acrobats, balancing and juggling clowns, and somewhere in the middle, David and band. Last year it was all the fun of the fair - this year it was more like a rock 'n' roll circus - with a touch of the 'Crack-erjacks' thrown in.

The balance between visual and musical achievement was mainly successful and it made for a different and entertaining evening - at least it's better than spitting on people. DAVID BROWN

# Nice 'nuff to eat

LINDA LEWIS  
Ronnie Scott's Club, London

CALL ME a male chauvinist pig if you like, hold me back if you can but don't tell me that if any full-blooded male saw Linda Lewis he wouldn't go weak at the knees. And that's before she opens her mouth. This is the place for her, a fairly small, intimate club, where she can get close to her audience, the closer the better. That's not to say she's no good at bigger venues but here it was like holding hands and your eyes could meet.

Her band were the best I've seen with her: Max Middleton keyboards, Robert Ahway guitar, Delisle Harper bass, Richard Bailey drums, Darryl Lee Que conga and Steve Gregory tenor sax / flute, but they let Linda come through on her own, just adding the right touches everywhere.

You couldn't fault any of the songs, 'Rock A Doodle Doo', 'You're My Number One Heartbreaker', 'Old



Smokey' and the song that should have been her new single, 'My Grandaddy Could Calypso'. Then she sang her current single, 'Winter Wonderland'.

Linda probably doesn't know where she stands at the moment, either being a commercial pop singer or an excellent rock / jazz singer. All I can say is whatever she does and however she does it I'll always like it. ALF MARTIN

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# Disco Kio

by JAMES HAMILTON

## New Spins

**SALSOUL ORCHESTRA:** 'Salsoul 3001' (LP 'Nice 'n' Nasty' Salsoul S2S 1502). A perfect mix out of 'Jaws' and a sure smash when issued soon on single, this powerful instrumental joins the Silver Convention - ish title track and various throbbing drummers or slick hustlers, plus a funny little jingle at the very end.

**ROSE ROYCE:** 'Car Wash' (LP 'Car Wash' MCA MCSP 278). The full 5.06 version of this huge catchy clapper, which is due out as a 3:18 single any day now.

**DEODATO:** 'Peter Gunn' (LP 'Very Together' MCA MCF 2774). Purposefully pounding 'good' new treatment has the 'Gotham City Boogie' sound.

**STEVIE WONDER:** 'I Wish' (Motown TMG 1054). Back to his monotonously funky 'Superstition' style for the first single from you-know-what.

**BAR-KAYS:** 'Shake Your Rump To The Funk' (Mercury 6187417). Overdue US funky smash in the Ohio Players bag, already much imported.

**INNER CIRCLE:** 'Jah Music' (Capitol CL 15900). Particularly solid reggae slow with slinky beat and big potential.

**NORMAN CONNORS:** 'You Are My Starship' (Buddah BDS 449) Top US soul hit finding friends here, it's a cooled - out smoocher sung by Michael Henderson.

**WCC:** 'The Things We Do For Love' (Mercury 6008022). Typical 10cc despite their split, a tempo - changing semi-slowie that works well.

**GEORGES MOUSTAKI:** 'La Phillosophie Batucada' (LP 'More Moustaki' Polydor 2489105). MoR jocks who did well with Tabou Combo's 'New York City' will love this madly gay French - sung South American romper - what a rhythm!

**ANDY FAIRWEATHER** LOW: 'Shimmie - Doo - Wah - Sae' (LP 'Be Bo 'N' Holla' A&M AMLH 64602). Great happy carnival rhythm with glibberish lyrics.

**ICE:** 'Time Will Tell' (Creole CR 135). Crisply ticking funky instrumental in the Strutt style, with flute, brass and chants.

**STATUS QUO:** 'Wild Side of Life' (Vertigo 6059153). Typically rocked up treatment of Hank Thompson's 1950 Country hit, originally done by the Carter Family as 'I'm Thinking 'Til Tonight Of My Blue Eyes'.

**M I C H A E L D'ALBUQUERQUE:** 'I Gotta Woman' (LP 'Stalking The Sleeper' Warner Bros K 56276). Sexily grooving sophisticated reading of Ray

Charles's oldie.

**BILL CAMPBELL:** 'She's My Sweetness (Instrumental)' (EMI 2552). Simple little Jesse Greentype thing.

**ARTHUR ADAMS:** 'Reggae Disco' (Fantasy FTC 137). Nothing to do with real reggae, it's a perky US dancer with trite "disco" lyrics.

**JAN HAMMER:** 'Oh Yeah?' (LP 'Oh Yeah' Emperor K 50276). Happily leaping avant-garde Jazz - Funk in the Miroslav Vitous bag.

**QUINCY JONES:** 'Midnight Soul Patrol' (LP 'I Heard That!!' A&M AMLM 63705). Mundane but lively synthesizer instrumental doing well for some funky jocks.

**BOBBY BYRD:** 'Here For The Party' (Contempo CS 2096). Trendy disco rhythm behind the gruff old Famous Flame.

**LOU CHRISTIE:** 'You've Gonna Make Love To Me' (Midland Int MID 6). Insistent little semi - slow tripper, hypocritically original - hear it all before deciding!

**PETER ALLEN:** 'I Go To Rio' (A&M AMS 7264). Sophisticated and frantic rhythms for jetsetters.

**BOBBY DAZZLER:** 'Dance Dance Dance' (Big Bear BB 1). Energetic old 'Tiger Feet' -type raver.

**BROTHER KIP:** 'Disco Dan' (Sol - doon SDR 023). Simplified bouncy UK-treatment of the Faith Hope & Charity hustler.

**YAMASUKIS:** 'A-I-E (A. Mwana)' (UK 153). Our yet again, the supposedly Japanese original of Hot Blood's reputed Afro - funkier

## IMPORTS

**BRICK:** 'Dazz' (US Bang 727). Combining Disco and JAZZ, this big US hit funky slow rhythm jiggler has high - pitched vocals and flutes over the solid beat.

**KOOL & THE GANG:** 'Open Sesame' (US De-Lite DEP 1586). The street funk originators now have to combine Brass Construction and Parliament noises to maintain the pressure.

**EMOTIONS:** 'I Don't Wanna Lose Your Love' (US Columbia 3-10347). Cool chanting and rhythm for the soulful chicks.

**ETAP:** 'Did You Mean Maybe' (US Warner Bros WBS 8286). Johnny Pate spel backwards for a medium pounding instrumental with chlx and a freaky synthesizer break.

**LeROY HUTSON:** 'Blackberry Jam' (LP 'Hutson II' US Curtom CU 5011). Herky - Jerky Funkadelic stuff with whistling synthetics and muttering raps.

## Disco Dates

**THURSDAY (Dec 9):** Muswell Hill Bird's Nest in North London is now called Pebbles after a fancy face - lift that's filled the foyer with gold discs and encouraged many of the crowd to wear smart suits! DJ David Brooks is joined there by a topless go-go girl every Thursday. Tommy Hunt is at Oldham Baileys till Sunday; the Chants are at Sheffield Baileys till Saturday; JALN Band play Wood Green Bumbles Club and Muscles hit Gravesend's Wings Club in Northfleet.

**FRIDAY:** Jason West's Roadshow visits Duxford, Cambs, and Radio Caroline Roadshow beams in on Doncaster College of Education; JALN Band do Manchester Russells Club; Sweet Sensation play Slough's Fulcrum; Drifters star at Spennymore Top Hat Club.

**SATURDAY:** Jason West brings humour and lights to Lakenheath Hall, Suffolk; Ric Simon is resident weekend jock at Warrington's Crazy Daisy, a hotspot for business and professional people; Sweet Sensation sing their hits at Saltburn's Filmore Disco.

**SUNDAY:** Doris Jones races from her

4.00 pm show at Blackpool Mecca's Heart of England Soul Club all - dayer to make Doncaster Bailey's all - dayer by 7.00 pm - will she be on time? Only if she sings at 100 mph! Jason West gigs at Ongar Community Centre in Essex.

**MONDAY:** Disco Dave Singleton presents the Detroit Checkers, a new five piece teenage black dance group, for the next three Mondays at Irlam's Nags Head Hotel, Manchester; Malcolm J Cliff takes his Paranoid Disco to Holton Village Hall, near Halesworth in Suffolk.

**TUESDAY:** Sex Pistols, Ramones, Chris Spedding & The Vibrators bring punk rock to Bournemouth's Village Disco in Glen Fern Road - but better check if they're still on first, huh? Terry Lennaine's charity party with the JALN Band is at Birkenhead's Hamilton Club in Hengy Street, but all tickets have already gone to toy - bearers; Johnny Daylight is joined by Swindon Town football team for a fund-raising evening at Swindon's The Affair in Theatre Square; Jason West yuks it up at Williams Edwards Youth Centre in Grays, Essex.

## DJ Top Ten

DISCO DAVE SINGLETON of Irlam charts early for Christmas! This is his hypothetical advance chart for the coming festivities.

- 1 XMAS IN DREADLAND, Judge Dread Cactus
- 2 DO THE FUNKY CONGA, Jimmy James Pye
- 3 BIONIC SANTA, Chris Hill Phillips
- 4 RENTA SANTA, Chris Hill Phillips
- 5 HERE'S TO LOVE, John Christie EMI
- 6 BLUE CHRISTMAS, Elvis Presley RCA
- 7 WHITE CHRISTMAS, Drifters Atlantic
- 8 IT'S GONNA BE A COLD, COLD CHRISTMAS, Dana GTO
- 9 GRANDMA'S PARTY, Paul Nicholas RSO
- 10 ROCKIN' ROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE, Brenda Lee MCA

### BREAKERS

- 1 SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN, Four Seasons (deleted Stateside)
- 2 JINGLE BELL ROCK Chubby Checker & Bobby Rydell (deleted Columbia LP)
- 3 WHAT ARE YOU DOING NEW YEAR'S EVE, Chubby & Bobby (as above)

Next week this page will have a comprehensive run-down on useable, if not useful Christmas records both ancient and modern. Be warned - many audiences find a little bit of Xmas music goes a mighty long way!

# THE EVER - SO - GAY GORDONS

CHRISTMAS AND New Year's Eve are times when people both in discos and at private parties are prepared for some traditional - type fun. Hogmanay calls for Scottish music, but a good strong version of 'Auld Lang Syne' is surprisingly hard to find.

That useful old standby, 'Party Dances' (Sydney Thompson Dance Records PDR 1) has an effective simple version, along with good 'Charleston', 'St Bernard Waltz' and 'I Came, I Saw, I Conga'd' amongst others, while its ideal partner is PHIL TATE 'Party Dances' (CBS EP 6170) with the same Onga, and 'Booms - A - Daisy', 'Honey Cokey' and 'Gay Gordons'. Appropriately, the Gay Gordons and other country dances are getting popular in gay discos at the moment, and lots of straight jocks are currently hot for the music too.



Pass us the pipe guy!

**THE GOLDEN FIDDLE ORCHESTRA** 'Reels' (Mountain TOP 13) is largely responsible, being one of the few 45s ever to feature authentic "live" Scottish dance music - not forgetting 'Dance With JIMMY SHAND' (Parlophone GEP 8641), the definitive Eightsooms Reel 45. I personally find the album 'This Is Scotland' (RCA LSA 3098) and 'Golden Hour Of Scottish Favourites' (GH 507) very useful for the former's 'Lewis Lilt etc', both's 'Dashing White Sergeant', and the latter's 'Skye Boat Song', 'Scotland The Brave' and 'De'il Among The Tailers (Eightsooms)'. For the Irish equivalent, 'The Best Of Irish

Celli Music' (One-Up OU 2147) is good for several 'Reels' and a 'Double Jig', while THE RICHMOND STRING ORCHESTRA 'Boots and Saddles' (Ronco RTS 2001) has been an Americanized woe for many party jocks since the Summer, a truly sizzling single.

THE YETTIES 'The Village Band' (Decca SKL 5253) includes 'The Jolly Ploughboy', a great rustic accordion romper, and THE RAWENSTALL CONCERTINA BAND 'The Dam Busters March' (Virgin VS 164) is a brand new 45 with immediate appeal for older dancers. Finally, 'The Campbells Are Coming' is the prime cut on 'JIMMY SHAND FAVORITES' (Waverley SZLP 2147), and ooh aye the noo to you too!

## Mix-master

SAM HARVEY of Ultra - Froid Discos, Harwich, gigs regularly at Dovercourt's Deva Restaurant and at Colchester's Regency and Embassy Suites, where he concocted this ultra - cool segue sequence: Wild Cherry 'Play That Funky Music' (Epic) / Bros Johnson 'Get The Funk Out Ma Face' (A & M) / Bazuka 'Love Explosion' (A & M) / Rosko 'Al Capone' (Trojan) / Boney M. 'Baby Do You Want To Bump' (Creole) / Stevie Wonder 'Isn't She Lovely' (Motown) / Brendon 'Gimme Some' (UK) / Boney M. 'Daddy Cool' (Atlantic) / JALN Band 'Life Is A Fight' (Magnet).

## DJ Hotline

JIMMY BO HORNE (Olympia, E. Kilbride). 'Gimme Some' (RCA) is back with a bang (bad luck BREDDON!) for Roger Stanton (Cardiff), Mike Stewart (Glasgow), Steve Tong (Gillingham), Steve Day (Shefford), Dave MacRae (Glasgow), Doctor John (Disco - Tech), Stafford, John Fuller (Norwich) and more - batting up behind it, ULTRAFUNK 'Gotham City Boogie' (Contempo) funks for Les Spaine (Timepiece, Liverpool), Billy Frew (Kilmarnock), Tommy Terrell (Birmingham), Roy Hughes (Pentagon, Leeds), Theo Loyla (Canterbury), more.

Geoff Baker is Polydor's new disco man, and is visiting clubs the country over, while Sally Ormsby leaves Trojan to join Greg Lynn at RCA - Malcolm J Cliff (Halesworth) is first on RAWENSTALL CONCERTINA BAND 'Dam-busters March' (Virgin), and Rob Lally (Glasbury) is another on AFRIC SIMONE 'Ramaya' (Galaxy).

JALN BAND 'Life Is A Fight' (Magnet), SYLVERS 'Hot Line' (Capitol) and JESSE GREEN 'Flip' (EMI) are hot new additions for combinations of Phil Dodd (Horsham), Dee Kay (Penny Farthing, Chelsea Reach), Jeff Thomas (Penthouse, Swansea), Richard Cooper (Cheltenham), Johnny Diamond (Brighton), Dave Johnson (Olivers La Clique, Folkestone), Rod Schell (Flopps, Carlisle), Colin McLean (Shuffles, Glasgow), Doug Forbes (Klouds, Warwick), Douglai DJ

(Brian Cardno (Tiffanys, Berwick), Jeff Davis (Welwyn), Chris Allen (Sadies, Derby), more).

CHRIS HILL, Phonogram's Nigel Grainge and 20th Century's Barry Manstoff have formed their own Ensign label, but not just for disco product - Colin Fenn (Palmer's Green) is first on a future smash, MANHATTAN TRANSFER 'Chanson D'Amour' (Atlantic LP) - Stuart 'The Hat' (Raquels, Wakefield) thanks his crowd for saving him from the sack over a silly misunderstanding.

BARRABAS 'Checkmate' (Atlantic) returns for Jon Taylor (Cromwells, Norwich), Keith Tyler (Genieveves, Sunderland) Capuchino (Bromley) info that a non-dancer.

PRATT & MCCLAIN 'Happy Days' (Reprise) creates a bunch of Fonze impersonators!

WEBSTER LEWIS 'Theme' (Epic) mixes for Jay Jay Sawers (Hotel De Croft, Dalry), and Mark Ryman (S. Wales) is building BRICK 'Dazz' (US Bang) - every track of DONNA SUMMER 'Four Seasons Of Love' (GTO/LP) has fans, but 'Spring Fever' pulls ahead for such as Dave Eager Beaver (Manchester) - HANK MIZZELL 'Rakin' & Scrapin' (Charly) bops for Philip Galer (Tiverton), Jason West (Cambridge), while HANK SWATLEY 'Okie Boogie' (RM) gets Les Aron (Seagull, Selsey) and HANK THOMPSON 'Rockin In The Onngo' (Capitol) pulls Chris Sheridan (Jersey).

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# Small Ads

## Personal

**SELECT YOUR** partners and penfriends. Free sample photos. SAE - Dovecote A16, PO Box No 100, Sutton, Surrey. **GUY INTO** Alice Cooper seeks girl penfriend / friend, 20 plus. - Box No 912.

**LONELY MALE**, 17, seeks shy girl, 16 plus, for sincere relationship. - Box No 913.

**DAVE**, 17, 5 ft 6 in, seeks sincere, pretty loving girlfriend. Must be same height and 15-17. Egham area. - Ring Egham 5674.

**THREE LADS** to meet three gals, Lynn district. - Paul Graham, send photos. Allan Callaway, Stoke Ferry, KINGS LYNN, Norfolk.

**30+ LIVE IN GREATER LONDON?** Yes! then dating means London Dating Services (RD), Berkeley Suite, 79 Great Titchfield Street, LONDON W1.

**QUIET GUY**, 25, seeks affectionate liberated lady for indoor pursuits. Southampton area. Photo appreciated. - Box 916.

**PETER SEEKS** girl 18+, Dorking / Horsham area. - Box No 917.

**FAIR HAired LAD** seeks penfriend. - Box No 918.

**JANE SCOTT**, for thoughtfulness, friends, introduction opposite sex, with sincerity and thoughtfulness. Details free. - stamps to: Jane Scott, 3RM North Street, Quilratt, Brighton, Sussex, BN1 3GJ.

**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.

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## Records For Sale

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**RARE OLDIES**. Collector has ten thousand old singles for sale. Send wants list and state offers enclosing SAE to - Chris, 7 Canterbury Court, St Augustine's Avenue, CROYDON, Surrey.

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## Special Notice

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**PROGRAMMES WANTED**. Any kind all letters answered. - Send details SAE Colin Ewetta, 6 Ullywater Avenue, Acklam, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, TS5 7DR.

**ANYONE INTERESTED** in helping me compile a scrap - book of his fans to present to David Essex. - Write to Sandra, 34 Western Avenue, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE4 88P. Send photos and letters about yourself.

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Write stating experience, wage required and enclosed photo  
BOX 918R


**MORE NEW STARSKY & HUTCH Colour Posters**

2 HUTCH 3 STARSKY  
£1.10 EACH

NEW No. 4 POSTER

NEW No. 5 NEW No. 6  
(4-5-6 95p EACH)  
+Add 25p Total Order

PHOTO KEY RINGS  
65p Each Post Free  
5/IN. ALSO THE QUEST  
CARDS & POSTERS  
22 MOOR STREET  
BIRMINGHAM 4

Dear Santa. 

All advert copy for Record Mirror issue dated December 25th must be a t our London office by Thursday 16th December at 12 noon.

All copy for issue dated January 1st must be at our London office by Friday 17th December at 12 noon.

All copy for issue dated January 8th must be at our London office by Tuesday 21st December at 12 noon.

*Micky X X X X*

# SMALLS - order form & advertisement rates

## Rates and Conditions

Under the headings: FAN CLUBS, PEN FRIENDS, SITUATIONS VACANT RECORDS FOR SALE, INSTRUMENTS FOR SALE, SOUND EQUIPMENT, and other private arrangements.

8p per word Under the headings: SPECIAL NOTICES, PERSONAL TUITION, RECORDING, and other trade announcements.

10p per word TRADE ADVERTISEMENTS - under any heading.

10p per word After first two 48 words on BOLD type.

50p 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 insertions, 7% for 12 insertions, 10% for 24 insertions, 12% for 36 insertions.

The Publishers reserve the right to withdraw advertisements at their discretion.

PLEASE PUBLISH my advertisement under the heading \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ (insertion/s) commencing issued dated \_\_\_\_\_ I enclose a cheque/postal order for \_\_\_\_\_ to cover the cost, made payable to RECORD MIRROR & DISC ALL SMALL ADS MUST BE STRICTLY PRE-PAID

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

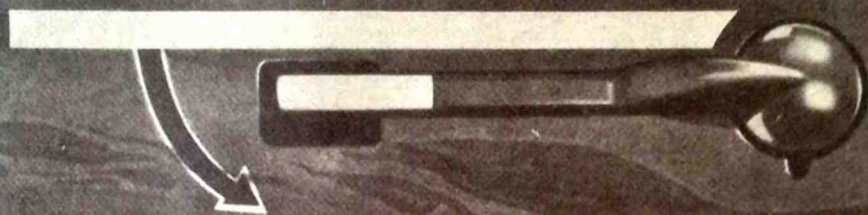
Send completed form to: Small Ads Dept M, RECORD MIRROR & DISC, 12 Sutton Row, London, W1.

Record Mirror & Disc for the best results





# WINGS OVER AMERICA



## WINGS

**ENTIRE CONCERT PERFORMANCE  
LIVE FROM THE USA  
SOUVENIR 3 RECORD SET  
30 SPECTACULAR TRACKS  
SPECIAL PRICE £6.80 (RRP)  
INCLUDES FULL COLOUR POSTER**

Venus and Mars/Rock Show · Jet · Let Me Roll It · Spirits of Ancient Egypt · Medicine Jar  
Maybe I'm Amazed · Call Me Back Again · Lady Madonna · The Long and Winding Road  
Live and Let Die · Picasso's Last Words · Richard Cory · Bluebird · I've Just Seen A Face  
Blackbird · Yesterday · You Gave Me The Answer | Magneto and Titanium Man · Go Now  
My Love · Listen To What The Man Said · Let 'Em In · Time To Hide · Silly Love Songs  
Beware My Love · Letting Go · Band On The Run · Hi Hi Hi · Soily

Album PCSP 720 Also available on tape

