

43p 4-17 DECEMBER 1985

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# SMASH HITS

HIT SONGS BY WHITNEY HOUSTON, PAUL McCARTNEY, LIONEL RICHIE & MANY MORE



# A-HA

TAKE ON THE WORLD

NIK KERSHAW / MARILLION / MADONNA / CLIFF RICHARD / PAUL YOUNG / PREFAB SPROUT / THE CULT

## F E A T U R E S

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- 12-13 TOP OF THE POPS:** Why are pop stars saying such horrid things about it?
- 16-18 MARILLION:** Which of the following is not one of Fish's hobbies: a) drinking b) arguing c) collecting furry animals d) dressmaking?
- 22-23 POP CENSORSHIP:** Must we flog this filth at our pop kids?
- 26-28 A-HA:** Why was one of them nicknamed Hakkbpetter? What were they doing in a mental hospital? And are they the next BIG thing?
- 36-37 PAUL YOUNG:** Is he a) "hunky" b) "dreemy" c) "yumilicious" d) a poster?
- 56-58 CLIFF RICHARD:** What's the rudest word he ever says?
- 64-65 PREFAB SPROUT:** Why have they got such a silly name?
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## 4-7 BITZ

60 VIDS TO BE WON - HURRAH!



## CONCERTS

- 4-7 BITZ:** What have Duran Duran, David Sylvian, Evelyn "Champagne" King, Eurythmics, Sheene Easton, Queen and Princess D got in common? Are they: a) all in Bitz b) all going out with Madonna c) all members of Prefab Sprout?
- 21 RSVP:** Is it: a) very horrible sherry your aunty gets "tiddy" on at Christmas b) a poncey french abbreviation c) a place to meet lots of super postal "pop chums" d) all three?
- 33 PERSONAL FILE:** Is D.C. Lee going out with Paul Weller?
- 43 CROSSWORD:** Is Cleo Laine in it this week? And if not, why?
- 44 SINGLES:** Sade, Bronski Beat, Elton John, Sting... but which one is Single Of The Fortnight?

## P L U S

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- 18 MARILLION:** Heart Of Lothan
- 31 DIONNE WARWICK:** That's What Friends Are For
- 34 MADONNA:** Dress You Up
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- 69 LIONEL RICHIE:** Say You Say Me
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10-11

**NICK KERSHAW**  
ANSWERS BACK - OO-ER!



56-58  
SIR  
CLIFFORD  
RICHARD  
-OF THE MUSIC!

- 46-48 REVIEW:** Which one of these isn't in Review? Back To The Future, a Tears For Fears book, a Madonna vid, Max Headroom vid and books, or a big pile of slimy washing up?
- 47 ALBUMS:** What is the new Arcadia LP like?
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- 70 MUTTERINGS:** Who's at it this time?



F E E C U L I T



Photo: Distribution International

## STAR STYLE - No. 534 EURYTHMICS

Erm, erm... well, that's all from Star Style this ish.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**Paul Rutherford** (Frankie Goes To Hollywood) 26 on December 8

**Donny Osmond** 28 on December 9

**Dionne Warwick** 44 on December 12

**Claudia Brucken** (Propaganda) 22 on December 12

**Paul Simonon** (The Clash) 30 on December 15

**Sarah Dallon** (Banana Rama) 24 on December 17



Paul Rutherford

## BAUHAUS LPs TO BE WON!

Good morning class. In today's history lesson we'll be looking at the world events of 1983. Now, who can tell me the single most momentous event that occurred in 1983? ("Oh, sir sir sir! Please sir!" Yes, Melissa? ("The Conservatives won the General Election and were returned to power for a second term?") No, no no Melissa! Anyone else? Bamsby? ("Er, was it to do with the breakdown of strategic arms limitation talks between America and Russia, sir?") Stupid, boy! I don't know why I bother sometimes. 1983 is remarkable for one thing only: 1983 was the year that Bauhaus - the gothic musical legends that changed the course of music with such dusky epics as "She's In Parties" and "Bela Lugosi's Dead" - split up! And for your term project I want you to study this new double album called "Bauhaus 1979 - 1983". It contains 23 of their best records, from "Ziggy Stardust" to "In The Flat Field" and if your parents can't afford to buy you this historical document, you'll just have to stay behind and win one in a Blitz competition, won't you? ("Oh sir how many is Blitz giving away?" Fifty! ("Hurrah!")

Now answer this question: which one of these statements is false? a) Bauhaus singer Pete Murphy was once in a TV ad for Sony tapes b) Bauhaus singer Pete Murphy was once in a pop duo with a bloke from Japan c) Bauhaus once recorded a David Bowie song d) Bauhaus once recorded a T. Rex song. Answers on a history book to **Smash Hits Bauhaus Competition** 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF.

## WHAT'S BUBBLY AND

e

velyn "Champagne" King: the first 25 years.

Evelyn was born in New York, brought up in the tough area of the city called the Bronx and moved to Philadelphia when she was 16. Here she got a job as a cleaning lady in a record company and was discovered singing while doing a bit of Hoovering. She was given a

try-out in a studio and - hey "presto" - two months later she recorded the song "Shame" which was a big hit all over the world (and her biggest to date). She likes roller skating, Billy Idol, watching breakdancers, Stevie Wonder, Adam Ant and being "wild and crazy" (hey!). She also likes Kajagoogoo - "I rilly like their style... before they split up they were ger-real!"

So what's all this "Champagne" business? "Well, my nickname was 'Bubbles' because I'm a bubbly personality. But Evelyn 'Bubbles' King sounded kinda stupid. So we thought 'what's bubbly that sounds okay?' and we came up with the name Champagne. It's kinda neat."

Suppose it's better than Evelyn "Half A Stout And A Packet Of Pork Scratchings" King, eh pop chums?





**F**ish are scaly. Eggs are oval. The Art Of Noise are daft. Life and its exquisite mystery eh, pop chums? Fish swim, eggs hatch and Art Of Noise make a record called "Legs" and spin around in their photos so you can't see them; they also make vewy strange videos and baffling t-shirts. Oh well, never averse to a bit of weirdness, *Bitz* has rather generously obtained 5 of their 12 records, 5 of their videos and 5 of their t-shirts to make themselves available to your dear selves in a competition. Answer a poser and you could get one of each thing. How many legs has a centipede? Cor, bit quirky, eh? Answers on a postcard or the back of an envelope (ha ha, fooled you!) by December 17 to **Smash Hits Art Of Noise Competition, 52-55 Garnaby Street, London W1V 1PF.**

## GREAT MOMENTS IN MARITIME HISTORY NO. 163 "Salty" Simon makes an important discovery...



Hippies group of the month award (i.e. the one everyone in London is going on about but hasn't actually heard yet) goes to **Swing Out Sister**. Their first single, out this week, is called "Blue Mood".

Don't know what to get your Auntie Hilda for Christmas then? Thought not. Have you tried a Buttoneer? Or maybe a Ronco Car Vac. Or maybe she'd like a "Now That's What I Call Christmas" LP to play on the Sound Burger you bought her last year. It features every "valentide" hit from **Bing Crosby's** "White Christmas" to **Band Aid's** "Do They Know It's Christmas" (the original, not the new **Paul Handcastle** re-mix). And what makes it even better is that part of the proceeds go to the National Society For The Prevention Of Cruelty To Children.

## SOUNDS O.K.?



**T**his playmaker, is **Grace Slick**. You may have heard her singing on the **Starship** single "We Built This City" - you know the one that sounds like something Abba left on the cutting room floor. Well, here are just five rousing facts about this grand old lady of US rawk'n'roll who has been makin' music for nearly a quarter of a century.

- She was a member of the "legendary" '60s hippie group **The Great Society** who are the only band in musical history to have staged a concert in a tree.
- She was a member of another "legendary" '60s hippie group **Jefferson Airplane** who are the only band in musical history to change their name to **Jefferson Starship** and make a concept album about having babes in outer space.
- She has a baby called **China**.
- She has another baby called something quite normal - but she used to call it **God**.
- She once drove her car into a tree and swore at a policeman.

Bravo ma'am!



Duran  
Duran  
have

pulled out of the live satellite broadcast concert that was to have taken place at Anaheim Stadium in California to be shown all over the world at Christmas. Culture Club, the proposed support group, have also pulled out. The official "excuse" is that the organisers, Transworld Concerts, "failed to meet contractual obligations to Duran Duran" (which means they wouldn't pay them enough). "In the light of what's transpired," continued the official response, "the band will be meeting in the near future to formulate the schedule for upcoming Duran Duran concerts." (Simon goes off on his yacht in the middle of February so they'll most likely mean May or June.)



*Gablers! Gablers! Can you do the fandango?! Thunder bolt and lightning, very very fighting! Scaramoosh! Scaramoosh! Or whatever it is... On our left we have Queen looking daff in their 1975 video for "Bohemian Rhapsody", and in the red corner we have them looking daff in their 1985 video for "One Vision". Some things never change, eh pop chums? And, while we're going down "memory lane" and all that, you may be interested to know that Queen have just re-released all their LPs in a boxed set. Galled "The Complete Works" (and costing a whopping £37), it includes 14 LPs (157 tracks) all with new sleeves embossed with the Queen crest thing. Altogether now - We are the champions, my friend, we are the dum dum dum (squiggly "axe" solo to fade) ...*

#### BILLY IDOL TEARS FOR FEARS WE ARE THE WORLD & TALKING HEADS VIDEOS TO BE WON!



Q. What have Billy "Sir William, You're A Toff" Idol, Tears For Fears, Talking Heads and the We Are The World mob got in common?  
A. Lots probably, but what we're talking about is the fact that they've all just released new videos, and we've

got 15 of each to give away in a competition. The TFF and We Are The World ones are a berrofa "behind-the-scenes" look at making videos - lots of sassy banter and jolly japes - while the Talking Heads one, *Stop Making Sense*, is a proper film of them playing live and Sir William's is a compilation of all his best vids. Something for everyone, as they say on stupid quiz shows. So, to lay your kippers on one of each, try answering this swizzer of a question (and bung it on an envelope):

Which one of the following acts featured on the "We Are The World" record? a) Elvis Presley b) Talking Heads c) Huey Lewis d) Are You Harry e) Prince f) a stick insect?

Send your answers to **Smash Hits Very Generous Video Competition**, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF. Have them here by December 18.

## FAN CLUBS



### MARILLION

The Web  
PO BOX 533  
London SW1

### A-HA

The Post Office  
High Street  
Headley  
Hants

### CLIFF RICHARD

PO BOX 4164  
Amsterdam  
Holland

(Please enclose in s.e.e.)

Whitney Houston is Dionne Warwick's cousin. She calls Aretha Franklin "auntie" (because her mum Cissy Houston was one of Aretha's backing singers). She was a very famous model until she was 20 and was described as the girl that "every girl would like to be, and every guy would like to be with." This last year she decided to become a singer. She had already done backing vocals for very famous American people no-one's ever heard of like Lou Rawls (singer) and Paul Jabarra and worked with Chaka Khan and recorded duets with Jermaine Jackson and Teddy Pendergrass.

Now 21, she recently released her first LP - which made it to number one in America, selling over two million copies - and a single, "Saving All My Love For You", which also made number one.

And this week, pop chums, you can "catch" her "live", so to speak, on Wags.



## SHEENA EASTON

### "Stop asking stupid questions!"

"... and you can put a spectrum analyser on something and see the frequencies drop off but if you can't hear the frequencies drop off then don't get upset about it because..."

It seems like several centuries since Sheena Easton started this sentence, and as she rattles away, *Bitz* tries hard to recall the question that sparked it off in the first place - something about Prince (who wrote and produced Ms Easton's recent single "Sugar Walls")... tum-tum-tum

"... it's like when you're mastering and the guy calls up and says 'do you realise that the frequency curve is too low and you're going to have to change your EQ?' and..."

... tum-tum-tum

"... and that's **BULLSHIT!**" Oh crumbs entirely without warning, the sentence has come to an abrupt end. Er, where were we? "So tell us," *Bitz* hears itself asking, "does Prince know any good jokes?"

Ms Easton fixes *Bitz* with a frosty glare.

"Stop asking stupid questions!"

Oh dear, this tete-a-tete isn't going very well at all. Sheena may once have *seemed* to be a giggling "wre"



Scots "lassie", but that image is long gone. She lives in Los Angeles nowadays and sings songs like "Sugar Walls" that are jolly saucy indeed.

"Saucy?" Sheena raises one of her feisty eyebrows.

"I would describe it as sensual and sexually suggestive - it's about the male/female relationship, and that does tend to involve some sexual activity." Well, that's what *Bitz* meant by "saucy", actually, but let it pass.

"I am not a wimp. I don't like wimpy people."

*Bitz* fumbles with a question about Sheena's house.

"Saucy? What do you mean, 'swanky'?"

"... another about her new 'steamy' public

image.

"I never answer questions like that."

... a third about American cheese or something.

"That's a dumb question!"

And so, admitting defeat, we move onto the one topic that Sheena wants to talk about - her new album "Do You" - ... and she's away!

"... and the live sound he got on the snare and the room sound he got on the kit... (psst, readers, Sheena has three dogs called Lady, Sparky and Piker...), ... and I couldn't tell the difference because he's known for that... (she usually has just one banana with coffee for breakfast...), ... he is able to EQ them to get a live sound or a box sound..."

Tum-tum-tum

## "A RIGHT ROYAL RAVE UP"

That's how the papers described the little shindig held at London's Air Studios in honour of all the preposterous popinjays of pop who've helped out with Prince "I'm a toff, guvnor" Charles' charity, the Prince's Trust. Princess David... sorry, Di was there too, of course, pumping the hands of people like Simon Le Bon (who flew in specially from Rome) and Gary Kemp (who went in the wrong door and ended up in Top Shop-a-half Chee). For an hour and a half has and Dave... er, Di were shown how to make a record by Midge Ure and his pals (Princess Di had a good old twiddle at the mixing desk) and then they revealed plans for the Prince's Trust Charity LP. A double LP, it features 20 tracks (mainly old but re-mixed) by Duran, Spandau, Sade, Status Quo, Imagination and Procul Harum (?), and is being rush-released for Crimbo.



Gary Kemp with his girlfriend, Sheree



Paul Weller with his girlfriend, Nicola



Midge Ure with his girlfriend, Annette



Took Hadley with his wife, Lorna



Simon Le Bon with his girlfriend, Sheree Kemp (right)



**T**he film *Back To The Future* will be the biggest thing since the Ronco Car Vac this Christmas, right? So wouldn't it be smart if you could show off with a -gasp! - *Back To The Future* digital watch? Too ruddy right it would, pop chums. And why not have a soundtrack LP just for good measure? Coo-ee, eh? Just answer this question and the first 10 correct answers get one of each thing (the next 10 get the LP). If a man is 63 and he goes back to the year 1955 and then stays there for two years and then comes back to 1985, how old does that make him? Answer - very old. How has he? You didn't really think we'd ask you that, did you? No, seriously, here's the proper question: Who sang the title song, "The Power Of Love", for the film? Was it a) Jennifer Rush b) Dame Una Nutsalf c) some French bloke with a funny name d) Huey Lewis & The News or e) Frankie Goes To Hollywood?

Answers on the back of a time machine to *Smash Hits Back To The Future (Like, Hey Wow) Competition*, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF. Have them here by yesterday.



Red Wedge is a new movement made up of pop stars, actors, writers and other "artists" who have a leaning towards the Labour Party. Those involved include Paul Weller, Lloyd Cole, Billy Bragg, Gary Kemp, Stephen Duffy, Strawberry Switchblade and The Communards, and in January they're all going on tour together (see *Concerts*, page 51 for full details.)

**Les Patterson** - or Dr Sir Leslie Colin Patterson K.B.E., to give him his full title - isn't very nice to look at, is he? In fact, *Bitz* is wondering what on earth this scrawled individual is doing scribbling these hitherto pristine pages, when suddenly the phone bells and everything becomes clear... "Hallo, Les Patterson here, you hearing me clearly, son?"

It seems that the sordid specimen from "down under" (Australia) has made an LP - "12 Inches Of Les" - plus an "Xmas" single - "Give Her One For Christmas" - and, naturally enough, is relying on the world's best-selling pop mag, i.e. us, to give it a "plug". Well, we won't because the records are rubbish! Sir Les seems unperturbed by *Bitz*'s critical response:

"The LP's a bit of a chart-buster in Australia at the moment - there's a lot of human emotion across the whole family spectrum. What's your favourite track?"

*Bitz* replies by saying that the only track on the LP with any redeeming features whatsoever is "It's Stiff Cheddar", a charming ballad about scraping cheese-dip wastage from children's trousers. Les becomes revoltingly animated.

"Ah, cheese - don't you worry about that son! Goodness me - *bréatagh!* - I'll give your readers some really good recipes that combine the delights - burp! - of cheese with the importance of personal freshness..."

At this, *Bitz* hangs up and is quietly sick into the nearest tynnetur.





# SHARP

PERSONAL STEREO

## LESS BUO





XS  
MORE  
FIZZ





“When I started people really had the barbed hooks out for me. One paper called me an ‘irritating insect’.”

## AND THAT WAS ONE OF THE NICER THINGS...

**H**e's busy writing songs at the moment. In fact, he started writing songs for his next LP – his third in two years – the minute he got back from his coast-to-coast tour of America with Paul Young. And if he's not writing, he's recording and if he's not recording he's at home in North Essex listening to his Steely Dan records (*arty farty American group*) or playing chess... Yes, Nik Kershaw has a bit of a reputation for not being exactly the most exciting pop star ever invented.

I mean, how often do you hear about him getting chucked out of the Hippodrome? Or trashing hotel rooms? Or climbing Everest? Or crashing racing cars? He's even been accused of being a “muso” – someone who spends all his time playing musical instruments (of which they have usually mastered quite a few) and knows all about things like “EQ levels” and if there's “too much top on the hi-hats”.

So is all of this true? Is Nik Kershaw, in fact, a bit boring?

### So Nik, are you a bit of a “muso”?

“Well I suppose I am a bit. But since when has being able to write a song and play your instrument properly been something that's wrong? I like playing, other people like getting drunk. I like getting drunk too, but I can't really manage the two things at once. Writing songs used to be seen as a craft – there were schools you could go to to learn how to do it. Honestly, I can't believe people think there's anything wrong with that. I could listen to a really good groove forever and I do think about melody and rhythm and I love writing songs.”

### Do you get annoyed with people always going on about your tiny stature?

“Yes, I think it's totally pathetic. It doesn't hurt me, but it is pathetic. Some people have just got a really cruel sense of humour. Height shouldn't matter, it should just be about the music. I mean, my records would hardly sound any different if I was taller, would they?”

Anyway all these criticisms are just the tip of the iceberg. When I started people really had the barbed hooks out for me, trying to end my career before it started. But they didn't succeed. In one paper they called me an ‘irritating insect’. And then there was that interview, I think it was in *The Mirror*, with Malcolm McLaren. It was totally unrelated to me and the journalist asked if he

thought it was wrong being a plagiarist and he said ‘I'd rather be a plagiarist than Nik Kershaw!’ I thought that was brilliant, really funny. Thanks Malcolm. I pinned that one on my wall.”

### People also say that your songs are a bit pretentious and/or meaningless with odd lyrics like “Common sense is as good as a cafe on the moon” etc.

“I don't think you should have to talk about how you actually make the music. It should be about a couple of hi-fi speakers round your head and listening. I mean, would it matter if I said I recorded this song standing upside down in a bucket of water? It would be interesting but it wouldn't make any difference, would it?”

### Do you listen to your own records?

“No. Not really. After you've spent so much time writing them and recording them and then playing them for 8 months on tour... no. Contemporary stuff I've been listening to of late are LPs by Sting (*“Dream Of The Blue Turtles”*) and Scotti Pollitt (*“Cupid & Psyche '85”*). I like them for different reasons: Scotti Pollitt for the technology involved with making the music and Sting for the songs. I've also been listening to a lot of classical stuff. But my records... the only

time I ever hear them is at record company receptions. They can be quite excruciating – we went to this one in Atlanta and walked into the boardroom of MCA (*this record company*) and there were all these icons walking around. You feel like Miss World after half an hour, walking round with a fixed grin. But I'm informed it's part of the job, public relations and all that. I hate it. I'd much rather be playing or something.”

### Why does your wife always go on tour with you?

“Most people on tour leave their wives at home, but in that case you might well as not be married. It's great having her around. She's in the band now, as well. On the next tour she'll be doing backing vocals.”

### How much are you going to pay her?

“It's funny you should say that as the accountants are working that out now. There are a lot of advantages in paying your wife. If you pay her above and below a certain fixed amount you get a lot of tax advantages. Don't get lumbered with VAT or something.”

### What will you be up to over Christmas?

“Writing the LP – we start recording in January. I'm writing it at home. That's another thing – we want to move house. We've got one of those ‘chocolate box’ houses – it's really cold. Actually I shouldn't tell you that or we won't be able to get the red of it. And yes, we want to stay in the same area as that's where all of our friends are.”

### Isn't it difficult seeing the same people you knew before you were famous?

“Well it is a bit, mainly for me not them. It's difficult seeing people I used to be in bands with and they ask you what you've been up to and you say ‘oh we've just done a world tour and we've been to Japan and here and there’ and then you ask them what they've been up to and they say ‘oh, I'm in between bands at the moment’. But it doesn't seem to bother them as much as it does me. I do feel a bit guilty. But then I think about it and I know I work hard, I've worked for this, so why be guilty?”

But it is hard sometimes being Nik Kershaw...

Britain's favourite pop show has gone **completely wonky**. It's on half an hour earlier, it's 10 minutes shorter and it shows the same boring video clips about one million times on each programme. So...

# What's gone wrong with TOP OF THE POPS?

It's always been easy to sneer at **TOP OF THE POPS** with its party balloons and whoop-along atmosphere and cameras peeking up girls' skirts in the audience. What with the frightful cigar-wagging antics of original presenter Jimmy Savile, the succession of extraordinarily ropery resident dance troupes (from the Go-Jos who used to frug hopelessly in their mini-skirts in the '60s, to Pans People who flitted about in hot pants in the '70s), the zillion-and-one novelty disc appearances by men in gonk suits and tiny-tot school choirs and whining stuffed ducks and comedians on stools, there's been enough to scoff at over the programme's 21 year history.

But nonetheless, **TOTP** was always entertaining. For every appearance by Black Lace and their singing bananas, for every unfunny quip by Dave Lee Travis, there's always been at least something you want to see, e.g. Sweet's platform boots or Sir William Idol's rock'n'roll mumbings or Madonna in that FRIGHTFUL wig or Janice Long being sarcastic about Red Box... Say what you will, **TOTP** has never been boring. Until now...

So what's gone wrong? Despite the fact that it is still the TV pop programme with the highest viewing figures by far, the BBC have pulled **TOTP** back to 7 o'clock, so it's now aired in the dozy "now-my-girl-just-you-get-that-table-cleared-before-you-turn-on-the-telly" slot, and they've chopped ten minutes – a whole quarter – off its length. Which, with the programme's current insistence on video "breakers", video top tens etc., leaves very little of substance between the opening and closing credits.

The running order for the November 1 edition went like this:

- Feargal Sharkey in the studio
  - Elton John on video
  - Matt Bianco in the studio
  - Chart run down
  - Breakers (3 video clips)
  - King in the studio
  - Top 10 (video clips – including Elton John again)
  - Jennifer Rush in the studio (footage from her previous week's appearance)
  - Audience dancing to Shakin' Stevens
- So of the programme's 30 minutes, only nine minutes was original "live" material. Not very exciting, was it?

WHAT



PHOTO: Steve Russell

#### Aii Campbell (UB40)

"Pathetic. Kids have been queuing for two or three years for tickets and once they get in there they are literally smothered around by the camera men. It's highly embarrassing and extremely stupid. We do it because it's the only way you can sell records in England."



PHOTO: Je Burrey

#### Siouxsie Sioux

"It's really unfair that all the Banshees got for "Cities in Dust", after being that high in the charts, was a 30 second clip from the video."



PHOTO: Steve Russell

#### Carolin (Mai Tai)

"I love it. There's lots of international people there. It's real. Dutch shows aren't bad but they've got a lot to learn."



#### Dave Gahan (Depeche Mode)

"It's very biased to the Top 10 and it's extremely short. There's not a lot of groups outside the Top 20, which is a shame. It's a real pressure, because we have to compete and we don't want to put out trash just so our records goes in the Top 20 and we get a shot at Top Of The Pops."

# THE POP STARS SAY

PHOTO: SIMON



**Andrew Ridgeley** "I'd like to see what the viewing figures are now."  
**George Michael** "Just wait till we're back on – the ratings'll shoot up!"



**Feargal Shenker**  
 "It's alright. It's not their fault that most people make terrible records and terrible videos."



**Mark Reilly (Mott Bianco)**  
 "It's really unfair on groups because there's only about three on every show. There used to be about eight."



**Kevin Rowland (Dexys Midnight Runners)**  
 "I hate the new format. It used to be a brilliant system of groups going up the charts – it was exciting. But now it's just flashy clips out of boring videos. I'm sure the ratings will start dropping off now."



**Peter Hook (New Order)**  
 "It's like *Crossroads* – you cringe when you watch it, but you still watch it because it's so bad."



**Neil Arthur (Blencange)**  
 "I find it a bit odd, but it's like *Dr Who*, it's become an institution. The last time we were on was ages ago and they've shortened it since then. I guess it's up to the bands to write shorter songs."



**Stephen Luscombe**  
 "They're so conspicuous and half the time they treat you like something the cat's dragged in."



**Cliff Richard**  
 "I think it's a pity they show so many videos. The thing is, some of those videos are keeping old records that really deserve to be in the charts."



**Paul Herculiste**  
 "I think it's ridiculous that they've shortened it when there are people like me taking such care over videos that might not even get shown. I think it should be on for an hour."



**Roland Orzabal (Teens For Feerz)**  
 "I think it's absolutely pathetic and mundane and I think it's one of the things that is dragging down the music scene – it's far too powerful."  
**Gert Smith** "It's fairly weird, it's safe and boring – the Top 50. You're lucky these days."

## ● Michael Hurll, producer of *Top Of The Pops*, answers the charges:



Michael Hurll

### Why has *TOTP* been cut to hell-in-hour?

What happened was that Michael Grade, the controller of BBC1, decided that he didn't want to have midweek programmes of irregular duration – he wants everything to be 30 minutes or an hour, as in America.

### Why are there so few acts in the studio?

The programme is now 30 minutes – 29 minutes with the trailers at either end – and there are certain things you have to put into the programme. We have 3½ minutes in charts, links and opening titles, so you're now down to 24 minutes, and you have to play the number one record, so you're now down to 20 minutes. We usually only select one full length video and we always try to have four numbers in the studio – because there's an audience in the studio it's sensible to bring them in just to see two bands – you've got to give them at least three. But you can see the problem of trying to give as much as possible within the confines of a 30 minute show.

### Why include the "Breakers" section?

I decided to bring in one item that's 2½ minutes long – the "Breakers" – so that we actually get a bit further down the charts. Otherwise you would never get out of the Top 20 in a 30 minute show.

### Is *TOTP* down the dumper?

*Top Of The Pops*' viewing figures are not dropping; the problem is that all other music shows on TV are losing viewers. *Whistle Test*, which was a brilliant programme, is down on last year. *The Tube* is down ¼, and so what the BBC controllers are saying is people don't want to watch pop music.

I'm not sure that we haven't been pushed for too long into presenting music on television that people actually don't want. Records are for listening to and with promo videos, I think the bubble will burst soon – especially while bands like Arcadia are spending £150,000 on a video. The Thompson Twins spent £100,000 on the video for the "Dr Dream" single and that was never shown!

### Why has the *TOTP* time slot been moved?

Michael Grade wasn't getting big figures with *EastEnders*, so he decided to move that away from *Emmerdale Farm* on TV. And *Top Of The Pops* couldn't be on the nights that *Wogan* was on and Tuesday is chart day so we only had the choice of Thursday before *EastEnders*. I couldn't have got the audiences that *EastEnders* is now getting. We're 8½ million and *EastEnders* is 11½ million and I know that *Top Of The Pops* couldn't match that.

### Are any further changes planned?

I've been asking for a long time to do a second edition of *Top Of The Pops* on another day. It wouldn't



Michael Grade

be an alternative version, it would be a complementary version – in other words, let's show the records that we haven't put on so we can get right down into the 40s. It wouldn't cost a lot of money; we couldn't do it on the same day because now we're doing a 30 minute show we don't use up all our studio time anyway. Sometimes we've got nothing to do. We could come out with two 30 minute shows – so tell your readers to write to Michael Grade

That's a good idea. . .

### Dear Michael Grade

Your new 30 minute trim-pack *Top Of The Pops* is completely useless and I demand that you restore it to its proper length or screen two versions or something because you might think you can get away with messing around with ratings for *EastEnders* and foisting such swizzly programmes as *Telly Quiz* on the public but you're not pulling the wool over my eyes, metey, and this time you have gone too far!

I think you're doing a grand job. Keep up the good work!!

Signed

(A Smash Hits Reader)

Tick the appropriate box, sign your name and send the coupon to:

Michael Grade, BBC Television Centre, Wood Lane, London W12.





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# "FISH LIKES A IT'S ONE OF

That's what the rest of Marillion say. They also think he has some pretty "unusual" views and can sometimes look a bit . . . er, stupid. Vici MacDonald isn't going to argue. . .

# F

ish is looking a trifle poorly. "I won't kiss you, I've just been sick," he informs his press officer, and lumbers past her into the dressing room, where he starts slarming a basketball around

with alarming ferocity. In half an hour Marillion are due onstage, and their hulking lead singer is obviously in a prickly mood. The rest of the band seem unconcerned, and let him get on with it. Fish, as I am later to learn, is often in a prickly mood.

Marillion are, as they say, "on the road". In

"I've stopped wearing make-up because I got sick of it. I don't want people coming to our gigs just to see the weird guy in the make-up."

their case, that means eight months of solid touring round the world, with their every activity planned right up until next June, and only a few days off to see family and friends. Tonight they're in Bonn, capital of Germany, and though every country must get to seem much the same after a while, the group are unanimous in the verdict that this is their "favourite country to play live". The reason soon becomes clear. Before the concert, the three thousand squeaky-clean Teutonic student types packed into the hall appear a perfectly reasonable bunch, what with their neat shiny hair and smartly ironed "leisure-wear".

But the moment Marillion set foot on stage, a terrible transformation occurs – for suddenly, as one, these stolid citizens go stark, staring bonkers. Within only a couple of minutes bedraggled figures in home-made harlequin suits are being rescued from the front, while all sorts of unlikely looking chappies in sweat-streaked Fish-style make up are stumbling bemusedly around (presumably somewhat upset

to discover that Fish isn't wearing make-up on this tour).

The rest of the crowd sing along lustily, word perfect, to every song, and at the most "emotional" moments (i.e. all the way through) everyone waves lighted sparklers aloft. No wonder Marillion like the Germans; the Germans, it is clear, simply adore Marillion.

So why, back at the hotel after a fantastically successful concert, is Fish still in a prickly mood? Everyone else – the group, the road crew, and lots of people from Marillion's German record company – is knocking back the rock 'n' roll mouthwash and congratulating each other. Fish, however, is skulking by the bar and haranguing his long-suffering press officer (the person responsible for setting up interviews with newspapers and magazines) about the evils of the popular press. Apparently *The Sun* and *The Mirror* have been up to their usual underhand tricks, trying to buy "sex 'n' drugs 'n' rock 'n' roll" stories about the tour, and hounding Fish's fiancée. Consequently, he's extremely suspicious of all journalists – *Smash Hits* ones included. Ulp!

After he's had a few more drinks, Fish corners me, and, as some kind of "test", demands to know my three favourite albums. I reply that, er, actually I prefer a good single. This, unfortunately, is the wrong answer. I'm subjected to a two hour interrogation-cum-lecture in which Fish gives his views on – deep breath – albums v. singles (the album is the "ultimate statement"), groups he hates (rather a lot), groups he likes (not very many), "musical prostitutes" (i.e. all the people he doesn't like), the music press (they "destroy people"), politics (he'd like to "burn every national flag"), fluffily toys (he says he collects them, though I'm getting a little confused by this time) and back



to singles v. albums again ("I hate singles"). Phew!

Finally, he runs out of steam. He leans back, satisfied: "I really enjoyed that."

"Fish likes an argument," explains guitarist Steve Rothery the next evening. "It's one of his hobbies." Steve and bass player Pete Trewaras are sitting in the dressing room, of the huge Frankfurt sports stadium where tonight's concert is to take place. Drummer Ian Mosley is roaming restlessly around rat-a-tat-tatting on anything that crosses his path – tables, walls, stray passers-by – while keyboards player Mark Kelly, who's gone down with a hideous tooth



# N ARGUMENT. HIS HOBBIES.”

Ver lads, left to right: Mark Kelly, Steve Rothery, Fish, Ian Mosley and Pete Trewarax.



disease (well, a cracked filling to be precise), is still in town covering at the mercy of a German dentist. And as for Fish, he's off somewhere maltreating his poor old basketball once again.

Still, Pete and Steve seem quite chuffed to be the centre of attention for once – they do tend to be overshadowed by Fish's more flamboyant personality. It's easy to forget that Steve is the man who actually formed the group, right back in 1979 when they were called Sultarillion. In fact, Fish had to audition for his job after answering an ad in a music paper, although once Steve heard his tape, there was "no competition – I was knocked out by his voice." Steve claims not to mind that Fish gets most

“We definitely have arguments about the lyrics. Fish does get a bit *obscure* at times.”

of the limelight these days: “The rest of us are really boring and normal, to be honest. Anyway, Fish gets recognised in Sainsburys by the world and their granny, which we wouldn't really want.”

“Yeah,” sniggers Pete, “we're not really into grannies. But honestly, we're all one big happy family.”

This seems a mite unlikely. I suggest given that arguing is Fish's hobby. Don't they ever have tiffs about, say, his lyrics?

“Well, we definitely have arguments about the lyrics,” admits Steve. “Fish does get a bit obscure at times. He will change them though – the group works as a democracy.” Ah, a

democracy. What about politics, then?

"Ummm, yes... Fish does have some unusual views - er, we have our differences now and again...". Humm. And what about his stage clothes - don't you ever tell him he looks a bit, er, stupid?

"Oh God, yes!" Pete explodes with mirth. "You should have seen some of the things he was going to wear on this tour!" What? What? "I can't tell you. It's more than my life is worth!" In other words, they do argue.

Back at the "after-gig party", Fish is slumped over a couple of extremely large Bloody Marys (vodka and tomato juice). There's something subtly different about him though. Could it be...? Yes! He's in a good mood. A fairly prickly good mood, to be sure, but it's not to be sniffed at. Why, he's happy to chat about his basketball, part of a new fitness drive which includes "less drinking" (I dread to think how much he used to drink). He's happy to explain about his make-up: "I stopped wearing it because I got sick of it. Image should never control a band's future - I don't want people coming to our gigs just to see the weird guy in the make-up."

He's even happy to talk about the future: "I'd like to have a massive house, a family, and the wife and the dogs, and the Remegade Jeep for messing around in the country, and the BMW3 in Suffolk. I can't deny it."

But as soon as I start to question him about music, a subject he was very happy to pontificate about a mere 24 hours earlier, Fish clams up.

"I don't want to get into slagging off bands in print. I'm a firm believer that people should make up their own minds - they shouldn't be influenced by me. Let's just say that there are too many musical prostitutes. They know who they are." Who? Howard Jones? Nik Kershaw? King? Those were some of the names he mentioned last night.

"Look, I'm not getting drawn on this. All groups think the same as we do - they think their stuff's the best in the world. But rather than playing what they want to play, too many people are playing for the sake of the Gold American Express card, which is very, very wrong. I'm a firm believer that music's an art form, a modern art form."

But hasn't music always been an art form? "Yeah, but nowadays if you call music an art form, you're labelled as pretentious."

Depends what kind of music you're talking

"Oh, yeah, I expose myself so much, emotionally. I've cried on stage. I have to hold myself back, or I get too involved. For instance, there's one section on "Fugazi" (Marillion's second album) about a guy who was one of my best friends - we were like brothers. I was in Canada doing interviews when I heard that he was dead - he'd been in a car crash, and died instantly. And I had to do nine hours of interviews. To every interviewer that came in I said 'you must excuse me if I'm untethered, but one of my best friends has just died.' And not

one of them cared. When it was all over, I just cried and cried and cried.

"And that made me very bitter. After that I felt I just couldn't take any more. But I wrote it all down, and that helped. I looked really stupid to myself. I realised that if everybody gave up, you'd never change anything."

Fish brightens visibly at the thought. "I've contributed *nothing* towards change." He perks up a little more. "Somebody's got to provoke change." He thumps the table. "I would love to change the world!"

## HEART OF LOTHIAN

On the outskirts of nowhere  
On the ring road to somewhere  
On the verge of indecision  
I'll always take the roundabout way  
Waiting on the rain  
For I was born with a habit  
From a sign  
The habit of the windawed thumb  
And a sign of the rain

Wide boys wide boys born with hearts of Lothian  
Wide boys wide boys born with hearts of Lothian  
Wide boys we were wide boys born with hearts of Lothian  
These hearts of Lothian

It's six o'clock in the tower blocks  
And the trippers of the light fantastic bowdown hooded  
Spray their pheromones on this perfume uniform

And aorochy smiles in the Royal Mile  
And they're waiting on the  
Siyboys flyboys wideboys  
Roosting tooting couboys  
Lucky little ladies at the weteriog holes  
They'll score the Friday night goals

I was born with a heart of Lothian  
I was born with a heart of Lothian  
I was born with a heart of Lothian  
With a heart of Lothian

Words and music by Marillion  
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On EMI Records

"Writing songs is a bit like talking to yourself, but it's the legal way - they don't put you away for it."

about, really.

"Well," snaps Fish, irritated. "I think what we do is *definitely* an art form. Art is about self-expression, right? And what we do is *totally* about self-expression. I'm a collector of stories and a storyteller - it's how the first poets started off, the first singers. We're like modern day troubadours."

So he sees himself as a poet?

"Yes, I do. The lyrics you hear on the albums aren't the full versions, they're scaled down. You know," he adds a touch wearily, "this business is masochism - emotional masochism."

Why does he do it, then?

"I have to do it. I have to write songs. I always describe it as 'exorcism'. Writing songs is a bit like talking to yourself, but it's the legal way - they don't put you away for it."

Fish is a pretty melodramatic fellow once he gets going - does he think he could actually go mad?



# Paul Young

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WEDNESDAY	4th	WEMBLEY ARENA
THURSDAY	5th	WEMBLEY ARENA
FRIDAY	6th	WEMBLEY ARENA
SUNDAY	8th	BRIGHTON CENTRE
MONDAY	9th	BRIGHTON CENTRE
TUESDAY	10th	SHEPTON MALLET
FRIDAY	13th	EDINBURGH PLAYHOUSE
SATURDAY	14th	EDINBURGH PLAYHOUSE
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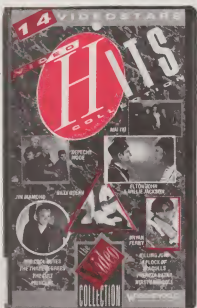
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A NEW ENGLAND  
KIRSTY MacCOLL

I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER  
JIM DIAMOND



THE COOL NOTES · THE THREE DEGREES · THE CULT

# RSVP

Want someone to write to? Send in a postcard with a few words about yourself so people can get in touch. All cards to: RSVP, Smash Hits, 52-55 Canary Street, London W1V 1PF. And please include a phone number where we can contact you. This won't be published.

● **I am 15 end would like a female to write to me.** I like soul music, especially Five Star and Sade. I would like a female penfriend aged between 15 and 20. Please write to: Jeff, 34 Mayfield Avenue, Drington, Kent BR6 6AL.

● **I'm a lonely 13 year old end I'm looking or penpals aged between 13-15.** I'm into Paul Young, Billy Idol, Sade and the Thompson Twins. So get scribbling to: Kate, 45 Morrison Avenue, Inkitt, Doncaster DN2 6PL.

● **Hi, I'm Darren end I'm looking for a girl with a nice personality between the age of 16 and 18.** If you like TFF, John Parr and Bronski Beat please send a letter and a picture to me at: 2 Boscove Road, Guildford, Surrey GU1 2LX.

● **My neme's Nige end I'm into most groups, such as Wham! Duran end Thompson Twins (to neme but a few).** Any females 14 plus please write to: Nige, White, 4 Leonard Close, Frintley, Camberley, Surrey GU16 5DU. (Please send a photo if possible.)

● **Any neme 16 plus looking for a weird female to write to?** We'll look no further. My name's Darre and I'm into U2, The Cure, The Cult, Spex Di Destiny, Simple Minds etc. I love back clothes, weird hair styles, Brookside and Aesop. If you are interested write to me at: 63 Wintonborough Lane, Hovewood, Beadford BD4 0PN. (All letters answered.)

● **Any Daad Or Alive lens out there?** We to two lonely girs looking for two boys aged 15-15. We're into Daad Or Alive, U2 and King and we both hate Wham! Write to: Lucy and Suzy, Holy Cross Convent, The Grange, Chalfont St Giles, Bucks SL9 9DW.

● **YES!** I am a 15 year old Simon in Bos looking! I'm not really but I've got to get you interested somehow! Anyway, I'm into Dire Straits and Billy Idol so write to me, James Barrett at: 29 The Fiddlers, Tapscott, Cheshire CW5 6ET.

● **I'm 16, female end would like to hear from anyone between 17 and 19 who can appreciate other people's musical tastes.** I'm a Swedish/Japanese girl and I like most types of music, especially Duran. Write to: Monika Gunnarsson at: Gullrasta 43, 24200 Eskov, Sweden.

● **I'm a 17 year old male in search of people to write to.** I'm into Depeche Mode, U2 and Simple Minds. Vince Clarke fans especially welcome. If you're aged between 15 and 18 write to: John Iqeragenen at: 740 22 Baining, Sweden.

● **Are you bored? Depressed? Need cheering up? Well, write to us!** We're two boys aged 15 looking for girls aged 15-18. Likes include Springsteen, Queen, Bryan Adams and The Police. Dislikes include Tiresias and Madonna. Send pics and letters (for Tom and Kevin) to: Tom Kirkbride, Quaxton School, Deer Grove, Nr Bridgewater, Somerset TA5 1HD.

● **My neme is Bettina and I'm 21 years old.** I'm into music, travelling, writing letters and poems. If you're interested write to me in English, Swedish, German or French. Bettina Klups, Betnehäuser, 9, D-3400 Gollinger, Germany.

● **Hi there! I'm a boy of 13 end I go to a boarding school.** The music I like includes Madonna, Paul Young and Nik Kershaw. I hate Wham!, heavy metal and Duran Duran. I'll write to anyone who writes to me (but I would prefer a girl between 12 and 14). Write to: Alexander Prescott at: Worthing Junior House, Postbrook Road, Turners Hill, Sussex RH10 4ED.

● **I am a 15 year old boy who is young free end single end into Paul Young, TFF, Wham!, FOTB, Duran, Madonna, Deed Or Alive, Thompson Twins, Kete Bush etc.** Write to me: Harshad, 49 JLN 5517/35 Subang Jaya 47500 Selangor, W. Malaysia (Please send a photo.)

● **I am a 16 year old girl looking for penpals anywhere in the world.** It doesn't matter what age you are but you must like Bucks Fizz. Write to: Sarah Moxley, 49 Hillwell Lane, Deepcar, Sheffield, S. Yorks S20 5DH.

● **I'm 14 end I like most music (but mostly The Cure, Cult end '80s).** I don't particularly like Duran Duran. Write to: Frankie or Madonna. If there are any

really groovy-looking, send out there in the big wide world please write to: Lu Grove, 289 Leads Road, 13kg, West Yorks, LS29 8LL.

● **I'm on 11 year old boy and would like to write to someone, male or female, about my age.** I am into Frankie, football and computers. If you need to write to someone get scribbling to: Terry, 15 Launceston Drive, Huggleside, Coalville, Leicestershire.

● **We need girls aged 13 to 15!** We are two boys, we're bored stiff and we're into Frankie, Madonna, King and Nik Kershaw. If you're interested, write to: Ian and Peter, 4 Wilshire Close, Bedworth, Warwickshire CV12 8EU.

● **Okay all you sexy, dark-haired, dark-eyed, hunky guys.** Get scribbling to me: I'm a Michael Frad on lead singer from A-Ha lookalike (or any old hunk aged between 13 and 18) and I like most music from The Cure to Arsiada but cannot stand Wham! and see a bit stupid (as in a bit mad and zany). Put pen to paper and write to: Claire Parker, 17 Nightingale Road, Blackrod, Bolton BL6 5JX.

● **Hi world!** Is there any Duran or Dead Or Alive fans out there who like doing weird things and who are 15 plus? (Male or female, I don't mind.) Drop me a line and enclose a photo if possible. Write to: Martin Williams, 16 Uggay Street, Nantyrnell, Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan CF32 7SA.

● **Calling all you guys - we are two happy-go-lucky girls aged 14 and 15 who are looking for two good-looking boys aged 14 plus.** Likes include most pop music. Please write to: Dargemasse and Penfold, 13 Laverings Close, Harbury, Bedfordshire MK43 7LL.

# SLADE CHRISTMAS PACK

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# 'My parents don't understand rude

How rock gone too far?" was the question we asked a couple of issues back, in our report on the activities of the Parents' Music Resource Center, the group of "Washington Wives" who wish to see a ratings system for "offensive and obscene" rock lyrics introduced in America. Since then, the PMRC have enjoyed their first success: their pressure and influence has led to 24 American record companies volunteering to place stickers bearing the warning "PARENTAL GUIDANCE: EXPLICIT LYRICS" on the covers of "dubious" records. The first of these LPs are now on sale in US record stores, but the PMRC are still not satisfied; they now want the message on the stickers to be more strongly worded; they want lyric sheets to be included with all offending items; they want records with "pornographic" covers to be sold in brown paper wrappers; they even want record companies to "reassess" the contracts of artists known to be "explicit". Meanwhile, combating the PMRC is the Musical Majority, a recently-formed anti-ratings pressure group whose members include Prince, Cyndi Lauper, Tina Turner and Lionel Richie.

And so the debate goes on - Smash Hits readers have shown by a three to one majority that they would be against the introduction of a record rating system in this country. We received around 2,000 replies to our Censorship Debate poll: these are the results...

**Do you think that pop lyrics ever contain harmful messages?**

**NO: 72% YES: 28%**

**Have you ever been offended by a lyric?**

**NO: 81% YES: 19%**

**What you found offensive:**

"Punk songs - because of violent language and abuse"  
 "Pink Floyd's 'The Wall' - 'We don't need no education... encourages kids to take school as some kind of barbaric torture.'"

"Songs about violence and sexist attitudes towards women - far too many to list."

"**Frankie Goes To Hollywood** - offensive to people who are virgins."

"**Jam** songs because they swear."

"Anything that's sexist or has references to Nazis like 'Flowers Of Romance' by **P.I.L.**, 'Bodies' by **Sex Pistols** (re abortions), 'Rabbit' by **Ches 'n' Dave** (sexist), 'Vienna' LP by **Ultravox** (re Nazis), most **Rolling Stones** songs - 'Under My Thumb', 'Yesterday's Papers', 'Brown Sugar' etc. - (sexist)."  
 "'Saddle Up' by **David Christie** - because my horse had just died."

"**ZZ Top** singles and videos because they always use women as sex objects - 'Legs', 'Gimme All Your Lovin'' etc."

"Anti-religious songs."

"'Sensamela' by **UB40** and all other songs that promote drug use."

"Subversive songs funded by the Labour Party to politically indoctrinate young people e.g. **Smiley Culture's** 'Police Man' and **Style Council's** 'Walls Come Tumbling Down'."

"Everything on the Grass label e.g. **Dead Kennedys**, **Flux Of Pink Indians**, **Discharge**, **Foetus**. Not so much because of the songs but their covers."  
 "'Onlie's Song' and anything by the **Flying Pickets**."  
 "'Suicide Is Painless', the theme from **M.A.S.H.**"



Frankie Goes To Hollywood

"When the BBC banned 'Relax', my mum said 'Good' before she'd even heard it. And when she did hear it, she didn't understand it."

because the song actually encourages desperate people to kill themselves."

"The sexist crap contained in the average **Wham!** song."

"**Rod Stewart's** 'Tonight's The Night' because sexist lyrics make me cross."

"Songs are no longer about love. They're about SEX - which isn't the same thing at all."

"The most offensive song I've ever heard is the hymn 'All Things Bright And Beautiful': The rich man in his garden/The poor man at his gate/God made them high and lowly/Each to his own estate'. YUK!"

**Also mentioned:**

- **Frankie Goes To Hollywood:** "Relax"
- **Prince:** "Daring Nkiki", "Lady Cab Driver"
- **Depeche Mode:** "Blasphemous Rumours"
- **Bronski Beat:** "An'tl Necessarily So"
- **Madonna:** "Like A Virgin"
- **Sex Pistols:** "Frigging In The Rigging"
- **Black Sabbath:** "Thrashed"
- **Will Powers:** "Kissing With Confidence"
- **Paul Hardcastle:** "Sex Over The Phone"
- **Queen:** "Fat Bottomed Girls", "Body Language"

**Have your parents ever expressed disgust at a pop record?**

**NO: 59% YES: 41%**

**What offends your parents:**

"My parents don't understand rude lyrics. They're much too innocent."  
 "I daren't play **Prince** in front of them."  
 "They'd say 'We think that 'Relax' is a bit rude'. But they still play it in their cars."  
 "When I bought the **Soft Cell** tape with 'Sex Dwarf' on it, Mum said it was a sleaze record."  
 "When the BBC banned 'Relax', my Mum said 'Good' before she'd even heard it. And when she did hear it, she didn't understand it."  
 "My Mum only listens to **Prince** records. She says they're disgusting and she loves them."  
 "They think some heavy metal records are 'hittin' - but they can't remember which ones."  
 "My Mum cringes when she hears 'Relax' and says she finds it very offensive. But she wouldn't stop me playing it."

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 'DANCING WITH MYSELF' • 'CATCH MY FALL' & 'FLESH FOR FANTASY'

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# CENSORSHIP DEBATE

## lyrics. They're much too innocent.'

"The only thing that's censored in my home is **The Krenkies**. Dad says they're perverts."  
 "My Mum's always making bad remarks about pop records. **King Kurt** and **The Meteors**."  
 "My Mum knows my heavy metal is a bit rude so she doesn't listen to it."  
 "My Mum is totally disgusted with **Prince**, **Frank Goes To Hollywood** and **Billy Idol**."

"The only thing that disgusts my parents is that most pop stars can't sing for toffee."  
 "My Dad gets angry at **Sex Pistols** lyrics. He also gets angry at Margaret Thatcher and the Pope. He is an angry old man."  
 "My Mum didn't approve of **Madonna** singing 'Like A Virgin' - but my Dad did!"  
 "My Dad says **Duran Duran**, **Boy George** etc. are a load of poofers and can't sing."  
 "My parents don't like 'Smash It Up' by **The Damned** played at full volume on a Sunday afternoon."  
 "My parents hate all pop stars and all pop records."

### Also mentioned:

- **Japan:** "Adolescent Sex"
- **Marc Almond:** "Crime Sublime"
- **Madonna:** "Like A Virgin"; "Into The Groove"; "Material Girl"; "Crazy For You"
- **Cyndi Lauper:** "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun"



W.A.S.P.

"When groups indicate that they approve of sex, drugs and violence, it encourages fans to take part in such activities themselves."

- **The Specials:** "Pearl's Cafe"
- **The Sex Pistols:** "God Save The Queen"; "Anarchy in The UK"
- **Marvin Gaye:** "Sexual Healing"
- **John Lennon:** "Working Class Hero"
- **The Smiths:** "Suffer Little Children"
- **Motorhead:** "Vibrator"
- **The Power Station:** "Get It On"
- **Divine:** "You Think You're A Man"
- **U2:** "Sunday Boody Sunday"
- **Wham!** "Last Christmas" (??); "Bad Boys"
- **Jill John:** "Jilted John"
- **The Jacksons:** "Girl I Want Your Body"
- **Paul Hardcastle:** "19"
- **Hanoi Rocks:** "Boiler"
- **Lou Reed:** "Walk On The Wild Side"
- **Paul Young:** "Sex"
- **Sid Vicious:** "My Way"

### Would you approve of a ratings system for pop lyrics?

**NO: 77%**      **YES: 23%**

"As far as I am concerned, pop stars who sing 'lily lyrics and cavort around the stage 'suggestively' may be degrading themselves, but they are corrupting no-one else. For every person offended, there are hundreds who enjoy it."

"These PMRC women must be pretty bored and/or have sick minds if all they can do is sit around listening to records to see if they're dirty or not. My Mum has better things to do."

"Music is a powerful force and is being used today to seduce kids down a road of self-destruction - through drugs, the occult, violence and sex perversion. It seems that each new pop singer tries to be more outrageous than the previous one. Where will it all end? When our country was attacked by outside forces, united we overcame the enemy. We are now being brain-washed by inside forces far more Devilish, and history shows that these are the forces that bring a nation to ruin."

"People in the music industry DO have a responsibility. When groups indicate that they approve of sex, drugs and violence, it encourages fans to take part in such activities

themselves."

"I'm appalled by the ludicrous, ridiculous and idiotic views held by the PMRC. What a ridiculous suggestion that Ms Lauper's wonderful 'She Bop' was based on the lines of - dare I say it - ssssh! (masturbation). These mindless people (PMRC) have nasty minds and just wish to kick up a fuss about nothing for the sake of their 'innocent' little kiddies."

"OK, so these 'Washington Wives' want to protect their children from reality for as long as possible, but I don't see how the 'rating' of Prince records is going to preserve anybody's innocence. I've heard all of Prince's LPs and I have never found any of his lyrics half as offensive as, say, The Paul Daniels Magic Show or President Reagan's whole attitude. Surely the moral obscenities in the lives of US Senators, congressmen or swanky businessmen are more likely to pervert a nation's youth than someone singing about masturbation? What good would a ratings system for music do when most parents don't even bother to vet their children's television viewing habits?"

"I am very pleased to see that at long last somebody has brought to people's attention the filth and very harmful messages that pop music churns out today. Take heavy metal - one can't always hear what they're singing because of the overpowering music, so it's quite easy for them to put satanic messages into the song."

"The PMRC is a joke. How can they say songs from W.A.S.P., Motley Crue, Venom and Ozzy Osbourne are all Devil-worshipping and booze and drugs? Alright, so W.A.S.P. have songs like 'Balkanusher' and 'Sex Machine'. So what? They're entertaining! Some heavy metal bands have rough stage shows and one band (who shall remain nameless) give out sex aids but who cares? It's just a laugh. Stuff the PMRC. I bet this doesn't get printed because you're a load of squares."

"Songs that deal with the occult and Satanism should be banned as kids can be easily impressed and start dabbling with powerful and dangerous forces."

"Censorship of any kind would just encourage children to listen more carefully to strong lyrics."

"It seems to me that the members of the PMRC have failed in their children's up-bringing and want something to blame it on."

"The only people offended about explicit sex lyrics are those who are sexually insecure."

# john lennon

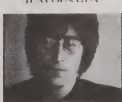
## JEALOUS GUY

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john lennon  
JEALOUS GUY



# ? GET SMART

● There is absolutely *nothing* that *Smash Hits* doesn't know about (apart from gardening and The Industrial Revolution), so if you've got a "query" write to: Get Smart, Smash Hits, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF.

## DOES PAUL KING SMELL?

**Please could you tell me what aftershave Paul King uses? I met him recently outside his hotel in Southampton, and noticed it when I kissed him!**  
Ciara, Eastleigh.

● Wooccargh, had a bit of tongue sarnie, eh? That aftershave must work wonders! It's called *Drakkar Noir*, and is made by swanky perfumers Guy Laroche, who reckon it smells "sophisticated, distinctive, stylish, fresh, sporty (eh?) and classic" (which, at a whopping £10.25 for the smallest bottle, it ruddy well should do). Paul wears it because he got sent 'loads and loads of bottles' on his birthday, but we lesser mortals can buy it in Boots, On, and the verdict of the *Smash Hits* office? "Poooooochh!"



Mmm, Drakkar (adopts deep, "macho" voice), for men who don't have to be too hard...

## IS ADAM'S TATTOO A PAIN?

**What age was Adam Ant when he got his "Pure Sex" tattoo done, and did it hurt?**  
The Heart On Adam's Left Arm, Edinburgh.

● Adam "did the deed" back in 1977 when he was a mere nipper of 22, at about the same time as he made the "punk shocker" film *Jubilee*. "Being tattooed wasn't one of my most



## WHO ARE DRUM THEATRE?

Drum Theatre, left to right: Simon Moore (guitar), Myles Benedict (drums), Ken B. (behind - keyboards), Paul Snook (in front - bass), Gan Tam (vocals) and Patrick Gallagher (keyboards). Please!

**Please could you tell me all there is to know about Drum Theatre? Recently they were support band for King and I thought their music was really good.**  
Karen Welsh, Porechester.

● You're not alone - we've had beds of mail about this lot. They were formed in 1983 by Ken B. and Gan Tam, who met "in a tiny African club in London". These days there are six of them - two Americans (Ken B. and Patrick Gallagher), one Welshman (Simon Moore) and the rest from England. Their first single, "Eldorado", was released this October; it's on the Epic label, and still available (if your local record shop hasn't got it in stock, get them to order it for you). The follow up, "Living In The Past", is due out on December 27, and the group are currently working on their first album, though it won't be out for a few months. They haven't got a fan club yet, but you can write to them c/o Epic Records, 17-19 Soho Square, London W1.

pleasurable experiences," recalls Adam, "and anyone thinking of having one done should be prepared for a certain amount of discomfort. However, I do thing tattoos are very sexy when done in moderation and in the right place." Quite where that might be most remain a mystery, however - "I'm not being any more explicit than that," he insists. *Worra* spolsport.



Adam and that tattoo...

**We're holding a Christmas jumble sale next month, in aid of the femine in Ethiopia. Where should we send the proceeds, and who should the postal order be made payable to? And have you any other information on the subject?**  
Simple Minds Fans, County Sligo.

● What with all the publicity Band Aid and its various offshoots have been getting lately, it's easy to forget that there are other charities working in Ethiopia too. The two main ones - apart from Band Aid - are Oxfam and Save The Children, both of whom have been working out there since well before the last famine happened in the early '70s. All three

charities are involved in similar work - feeding centres, medical care, transport and so on - and if you want more information, both Oxfam and Save The Children produce leaflets which explain in greater detail what they're up to. (Don't forget to include a stamped addressed envelope if you want a reply.) The addresses of the three charities are as follows:

**Save The Children/Ethiopia Appeal**  
17 Grove Lane, Camberwell, London SE5.  
**Oxfam/Ethiopia Appeal**  
274 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7D2.  
**The Band Aid Trust**  
8 Baker Street, London W1.  
(Any parcels - toys, blankets, non-perishable foods, etc. - should be sent

to **The Band Aid Warehouse**, Central London Garage, Burton Street, London WC1).

Cheques and postal orders should simply be made out to either Oxfam, Save The Children or The Band Aid Trust, depending on which charity you're writing to, of course.

## MYSTERY COMPETITION!

**On TV at the moment there's an advert for Philips videos featuring a group playing live. Who are they, and what's the song called? Is it available as a single? I've got to find out, it's driving me barmy!**  
Steven Drinkwater, Salfield.

● Fret no more, oh barmy one, for all is revealed: the mysterious combo are none other than Zerra One, an Irish group who've been knocking around since 1982. The song they play in the ad is called "Rescue Me", and since it's also their current single, you shouldn't have too much trouble finding a copy. It's on the Phonogram label and available in either 7", 12" or a special "double pack" which includes one of their previous singles, "Ten Thousand Voices". And guess what? We've had so many queries about this bit of music that we've decided to give away 25 copies of the aforementioned super duper "double pack" for absolutely *nohtpe*. Just answer this: how many people are there in Zerra One? Is it e) one b) four c) seven d) a million?

Answers on a postcard to: The Super Duper Get Smart Competition, Smash Hits, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1 to get here by December 17. Cor, it's just like being in *Blitz*, isn't it?



Three-quarters of Zerra One "throwing a few shapes" in a glass tumble-dryer (You sure about that? Ed)

... **MADONNA**  ...

New Single


'Dress You Up'



---

On 7" And Remixed 12"

---

Distributed by **WABO** Records Ltd.  A Warner Communications Co.



# a-ha

They're the biggest band to emerge from Norway since... since EVER. But that's not *nearly* enough for A-ha. No, this Scandanavian phenomenon won't rest until it's the *biggest* band in the world!! . . .

Words: Chris Heath

Pictures: Chalkie Davies

I think we always thought we'd come through in the end," says Mags smugly, sitting in one of the posh hotel rooms that A-ha seem to live in these days. He can afford to look pleased with himself. A few months ago A-ha were just another bunch of European hopefuls who no-one would take seriously – now they've been number one with "Take On Me" in nearly every country in the world that has a chart. About the only exception is Britain where Jennifer Rush's "The Power Of Love" kept them out. Singer Morten pretends not to mind about this at all – "it's the same thing for us to be number two for three weeks," he murmurs – but denim-clad Mags, the group's extrovert, is having none of it: "our record's better," he snaps.

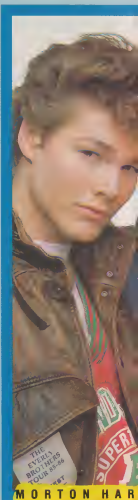
It's confidence like this that has kept him and Pål (pronounced Paul) – the group's founder members – going since the two of them, aged 10 at the time and next door neighbours, first became interested in music. As they grew up they got steadily more determined to be successful

musicians and told anyone who'd listen that soon they would be going to England to get a record contract and make their fortunes. However, when they finally arrived here in 1982, things didn't go quite to plan. They couldn't find any decent British musicians, realised that most people found the idea of Norwegian pop stars quite hilarious and ended up "just watching TV, waiting for someone to knock on the door and offer us a record contract. They didn't."

So back home they went. Meanwhile, Morten had been working in a mental hospital, learning to cope with people on the brink of suicide, had studied theology for a year ("I believe in God and I go to church when I can, but I don't want to shove it down people's throats," he says) and had done a bit of singing in the odd band. But what he really wanted to do, he'd decided a couple of years back when he'd seen Pål and Mags's previous band, Bridges, was sing with them. Morten was too shy to approach them but one day "for some reason I still don't know", Mags rang him up and asked if

he'd like to give it a go. "He'd never even heard me sing," laughs Morten, shrugging his shoulders. They rehearsed a bit, decided it sounded good and then in 1983 the three of them headed back to London, confidently expecting to have a hit "by the end of that summer".

Yet again nobody wanted to know. They tried dressing up – "I looked like a bum version of Peter Pan for a while," remembers Morten – but even that didn't do the trick. Then one day their manager-to-be, Terry Slater, heard them recording in a small studio, vowed to help them and within months they had the record contract they wanted. At least that was the end of "three months sleeping on the stone studio floors" but things *still* weren't quite right. They released "Take On Me" and... nothing happened. "It was a bum release, the timing was wrong," explains Mags. So they persuaded the record company to release it again and... nothing happened. "They didn't really give it a chance," explains Morten, but he insists that even then they didn't lose faith.



Instead of giving up, they persuaded the record company that what was needed was a really good video. Well over £100,000 later the half-animated result was released and – hey presto! – "instant" success. . .

And now the three of them are simply brimming with confidence. They're certain that the follow-up, "The Sun Always Shines On TV", will do just as well, modestly proclaim that their ambition is "to beat every band at what they're best at", and are already complaining about what a



ET • MAGS • PÅL WAAKTAAR

drag it is being recognised everywhere you go: "It really narrows down your life". But apart from that, the three of them seem to be getting on fine, different as they are.

Pål's the quietest and is obviously happiest talking about the music (which he writes most of), Mags is the "lad", cracking jokes all the time and being rowdy, and Morten is the thoughtful, polite one who spends his time away from the band climbing trees ("It's good exercise"), growing orchids ("I can sit for

hours and just breathe in the air around the plants") and drinking anything but alcohol: "I just hate that hazy feeling; I can't concentrate."

And he'll certainly need to keep a clear head if A-ha really want to become "as big as possible". How "big" do they mean by that — surely not the biggest band in the world? "Maybe," says Pål chirpily. So what does he think of their chances? "Quite good," he grins. "After all, ambitions are free, so why hold back on them?"

# Mags

**NAME:** Magne Furuholmen.  
**BORN:** 1/1/62 in Oslo, Norway.  
**HEIGHT:** 186cm. **EYES:** Blue.  
**WHERE DO YOU LIVE?** We've lived in England for about three years. We used to rent a flat but I think we're going to buy houses next year.

**ANY BROTHERS AND SISTERS?** I've a younger sister, Line (pronounced Leone) who's 20 and two half-brothers, Thorstein and Trygve, 11 and 13. My brothers think my job is great because they get all the A-ha t-shirts, watches and jackets.

**PREVIOUS JOBS:** I worked in an arts centre — interesting but boring — and in a mental ward, the same one as Morten. At the beginning, the fact that there were people my age with these problems was so depressing that I couldn't help. You have to be a "normal factor" in a sick environment and I wasn't strong to start with. In Norway we get drafted and I refused to go into the military, so I'll have to do some social work and I might go back in the mental ward. Pål was a conscientious objector too.

**WHAT DO YOUR PARENTS DO?** My father died when I was about five years old in a plane crash. He was a musician. My mother was a teacher for 20 years and she now works as an information secretary. She married again — he's in the hi-fi business — but they're divorced now.

**PREVIOUS BANDS:** Pål and I have been in all the same ones. Our first band, when we were about ten, was called Spider Empire. The most together one was Bridges. We put out an uncompromising album on our own label, then we thought about being commercial — don't make me sound like a bighead here — and we modelled ourselves on The Beatles and what they did, having tremendous commercial success initially so that whatever they did afterwards they had the whole world listening to them. When we were about 14 we were interviewed in a local newspaper and said we were going to go abroad and become internationally famous pop stars. In Norway that was unheard of so they all laughed at us at school. We've still got the clipping which is nice.

**DO YOU HAVE A GIRLFRIEND?** Yes, I'm in love. She's in Norway studying and I don't get to see her very much.

**MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT:** When I was a kid I was trying to impress a girl and I was swinging on a climbing rope as if it were a gymnastic high bar and I fell down and broke my arm. I guess that was pretty embarrassing but when I came back to school with a huge plaster cast that was pretty impressive!

**FIRST CRUSH:** Yeah, my first girlfriend. We were in the same school band marching in the streets. She was in the drilling company that walks in front — wearing short skirts and stuff — and it was hard walking in the front row of the band watching her.

**WHAT'S THE WORST THING ABOUT ENGLAND?** The worst thing about the English music scene is a certain sense of superiority and scepticism about foreign bands. It's hard when you're foreign — we haven't made any friends in the music business. Bands Like Opus and Baltimora stand out as the rotten tooth in the rest of Europe so just as they do over here.

**DO YOU HAVE ANY PETS?** I made any friends in the music business don't but my family has a lot: three dogs, three cats, a goldfish, a mouse and my brother just bought a giant tarantula. My parents think he's crazy!  
**DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOOD LOOKING?** Er, I think I can look good in some pictures but I don't think my looks contribute anything to the band. My girlfriend thinks I'm good-looking and that's the most important thing. I get depressed if I look in the mirror.

**FAVOURITE FILMS:** I love The Elephant Man and Insignificance. And I like Hitchcock — I think the violin bit in our new video ("The Sun Always Shines On TV") is a bit like Hitchcock.  
**WHAT POP STARS REALLY MAKE YOU CRINGE?** I don't want to mention names but I think it's very easy to spot whether bands have honest intentions. I like groups who have a musical impact and something to say — when The Smiths came out I thought they had that.

**WHAT HAVE YOU GOT IN YOUR POCKETS?** Nothing. Oh my God! A thousand Norwegian Krone. That's a hundred pounds.  
**WHAT ARE YOU DOING AT CHRISTMAS?** I'll be in Africa, in the Sahara Desert with some friends until Christmas Eve. On Christmas Day we usually have a traditional family thing and I suppose I'm bound to attend that.

**WHAT'S THE BEST THING ABOUT NORWAY?** It's a good place to grow up. It's a fairly well



regulated society and wealth is fairly evenly distributed, largely due to heavy taxation.

**DID YOU HAVE A NICKNAME AT SCHOOL?** Yeah, lots. Mags, Maggie, Magaroonie!  
**WHAT MAKES YOU REALLY ANGRY?** Intolerance. It's the root of a lot of the misery in the world. Also cynicism, though I enjoy talking to cynics because they're usually very witty.

**WHOSE HOME PHONE NUMBER WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO HAVE?** Big Bunny. We're on the same record label.

**WHAT'S YOUR MOST TREASURED POSSESSION?** My camera — we've all just bought new ones. Oh, and my ZZ Top key ring!  
**IF YOU COULD CHANGE ONE THING ABOUT YOURSELF WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Um... um... er... I'd like to be more decisive about things.  
**WHAT DO YOU LIKE AWAKE AT NIGHT THINKING ABOUT?** I don't — I always fall straight to sleep. I guess I must have a pretty clear conscience, eh?

# Pål Waaktaar



**NAME:** Pål Waaktaar  
**BORN:** 6/9/61 in Oslo, Norway.  
**HEIGHT:** 152cm EYES: Greenish.  
**WHERE DO YOU LIVE!** With my parents when I'm home but these last four months in hotels. I've got a good suitcase. I quite like being rootless, not knowing what we're going to do next week.

**BROTHERS AND SISTERS!** An elder sister Tonge, 26. She's studying English, communication and psychology. She's always been the one who backed me up. My parents just thought it was a nice hobby.

**WHAT DO YOUR PARENTS DO!** My father's a medical research scientist, my mother's in administration.

**PREVIOUS JOBS:** My first job was putting pills into boxes, then I worked on a camp site, scrubbing floors in factories and selling tickets on the subway. I lost most of the jobs for not being responsible.

**PREVIOUS BANDS:** Mags and I were neighbours from the age of ten so we were always in together, competing to write the best songs, play the fastest guitar. His first band had a really stupid name, Black Sapphire. Mine was Black Day. Then we had Spider Empire, Bridges...

**HAVE YOU GOT A GIRLFRIEND?** Ya. She's from America. I met her a year ago and I've only seen her for about three weeks since. I get these huge telephone bills and I literally wrote about 500 letters, three a day. Did I get many back? No—that's the problem! I think I can count them on one hand!

**MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENTS!** I had some terrible moments on live American television when people asked how I wrote a song and I went blank. My mind didn't function at all.

**FIRST CRUSH:** Yeah, that was my teacher. We have very pretty teachers in Norway. This one sort of got me

into drawing and I spent lots of summer holidays with her—between about 12 and 16. I think the whole class had a crush on her. I got over it but I actually spoke to her the other day because she sent me a letter.

**WHAT'S THE WORST THING ABOUT ENGLAND!** Well I think it's stupid the way you try to protect your own bands. When we used to tell people we were from Norway they just laughed. I'm sure it's very funny but it's stupid. I also don't like the writers and the houses—they're so cold.

**DO YOU HAVE ANY PETS!** No, just Mags and Morten. Actually, when we came to England in the second year we had a really scruffy one-roomed flat and we caught a mouse which we had as a pet for three months.

**DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOOD LOOKING!** Not really but I think I can fake it.

**FAVOURITE FILMS:** Amodus, If, Psyche, Insignificance...

**WHAT POP STARS REALLY MAKE YOU CRINGE!** Bands who are too afraid of their records not selling... like passionate music.

**WHAT HAVE YOU GOT IN YOUR POCKETS!** Lets have a look... some Norwegian Kugle, some rubbish... Norwegian sweets. Sugar-free though.

**WHAT'S THE BEST THING ABOUT NORWAY!** You can walk down the streets without people hassling you too much. People are quite reserved and they pretend they haven't seen you until you've passed. But if you turn round you'll see the whole street looking at you.

**WHAT ARE YOU DOING AT CHRISTMAS!** I'm going to Africa—I'm coming back till the 26th. I'll be in Agadir, Morocco, so I suppose I'll have a roast camel or something.

**DID YOU HAVE A NICKNAME AT SCHOOL!** Popeye. First Pope then Popeye. Did I eat much spinach? Very little. It must have been because I'm so strong!

**WHAT MAKES YOU REALLY ANGRY!** Because we travel so much stupid things like the hotel hasn't been booked, or there's no car waiting for you. You get very tired and do these small things really get you.

**WHOSE HOME PHONE NUMBER WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO HAVE!** Einstein's. He wouldn't answer! How about the author Eliaz Carmetti! I'd just buy him a beer or something.

**WHAT'S YOUR MOST TREASURED POSSESSION!** My family.

**IF YOU COULD CHANGE ONE THING ABOUT YOURSELF WHAT WOULD IT BE!** I'm too moody. The smallest things can put me in a mood.

**WHAT DO YOU LIE AWAKE AT NIGHT WORRYING ABOUT!** Over the last year it's been my girlfriend because if I hadn't made it, it would have been hard to continue the relationship because I need the money to go to America to see her. And you can't even get a visa if you don't have a job in Norway. I'm the worrying type, but somebody's got to do the worrying.



# Morten Harket

**NAME:** Morten Harket  
**BORN:** 14/9/59 in Kongsberg, Norway.  
**HEIGHT:** 182cm EYES: Blue.  
**WHERE DO YOU LIVE!** Everywhere. I lived in England but this year we've been travelling all over the place. I go back to my parents in Norway when I can—my things from my childhood are there.

**ANY BROTHERS AND SISTERS!** The oldest one's Gunvald, he's 28 and a doctor. Then there's me, then Hako who's 24. He studied philosophy and is now working as a journalist. Then there's my sister Ingrid, 22 or 21, who passes. Then there's my kid brother, 19, who's the most like me in temperament. I think he'll end up on some screen somewhere.

**WHAT DO YOUR PARENTS DO!** My father's a doctor and my mum was a housewife until about five years ago when she started to study this course including physics, mathematics, biology, environment and cooking and now she's a teacher.

**PREVIOUS JOB!** I worked at a mental hospital for a year to get money for my band.

**PREVIOUS BANDS!** I'm very much a dreamer and I've had big visions about bands that have very much just been going on in my head. This is the only band that I've been in that works. The others! One was called Mercy, another Laela Anceps which is a kind of orchid. And a soul blues band called Soldier Blue.

**DO YOU HAVE A GIRLFRIEND!** Mmmm. The question is: does she have a boyfriend? Sunny Bailey (the girl in the 'Take On Me' video)! That sounds interesting—she's a good-looking girl and also a very nice person which means much more to me. Will I get married! Probably, but not soon and I don't know to whom.

**MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT!** I don't get embarrassed very much. Honestly!

**FIRST CRUSH!** What does that mean? Oh, I think it was probably my teacher at school in my first and second year. I was six and she was twenty-something. She had this very long, blonde, beautiful hair. I'm still in love with her! No, I get madly in love with other girls and I still have the ability to fall in love.

**WHAT'S THE WORST THING ABOUT ENGLAND!** There's so many bad things about England that I don't know where to start. Your problems are very much to do with your pride but then your pride is what gets you going. The heaviest problems are the race problems and they're probably going to get worse.

**DO YOU HAVE ANY PETS!** Isn't that the same as the other question 'Do I have a girlfriend?' No I don't, but at home we had a Saluki (related to the Afghan Hound).

**DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOOD LOOKING!** Yes, I think I am. But I can look horrible as well.

**FAVOURITE FILMS!** Anything that can move me. I watched Gorky Park last night which is good. I always used to say Paris, Texas which I still like and also The Moon In The Gutter which has got Nastassia Kinski in too. And I saw Electric Dreams and liked it, and that was before I knew the director Steve Barron was going to do the 'Take On Me' video.

**WHICH POP STARS REALLY MAKE YOU CRINGE!** Like 'yucchh!'? They don't. They can't move me that much. And I shouldn't really say which ones leave me cold because I may not have given them a chance. One of the people I really do respect is Sting.

**WHAT HAVE YOU GOT IN YOUR POCKETS!** I just picked up some make-up stuff from upstairs. I've got some spare film rolls and some Norwegian Krone because I've just got back from there, and some telephone numbers.

**WHAT ARE YOU DOING AT CHRISTMAS!** I'm going home to my parents and my brothers and sisters. I think Christmas is stronger in Norway. Christmas is very big for us, cozy, with snow falling outside and pine trees inside—yours are so weak. We have turkey but some places in Norway have cod.

**WHAT'S THE BEST THING ABOUT NORWAY!** Probably the nature. It's outstanding. We live on the edge of a city and I can be in the woods in ten minutes. I like the sea-fishing, the lakes, the highland, watching reindeer and all types of wildlife.

**DID YOU HAVE A NICKNAME AT SCHOOL!** Yes, the Norwegian for 'woodpecker', Håkkspette because of the resemblance to my name Harket.

**WHAT MAKES YOU REALLY ANGRY!** Injustice does because I felt it very much in my early days at school. I'd get picked on by teachers' stupidity because they didn't know what was going on, they had no guts. I had a very hard time for many years, it was hell.

**WHOSE HOME PHONE NUMBER WOULD YOU MOST LIKE!** I'd never call anyone at home who didn't answer me. Everyone calling my parents at home and it's a big problem.

**MOST TREASURED POSSESSION!** Something material? Probably my camera. I got it a while ago. Am I going to do a book like Nick Rhodes! I didn't know he'd done one.

**IF YOU COULD CHANGE ONE THING ABOUT YOURSELF WHAT WOULD IT BE!** My looks. Be prettier! No, I don't think I would change anything.

**WHAT DO YOU LIE AWAKE AT NIGHT WORRYING ABOUT!** I don't usually do that—I wake up in the morning.

GET THE DANCE RECORD OF CHRISTMAS '85

*Colonel Abrams* THE ALBUM

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'TRAPPED'  
and the latest single  
'THE TRUTH'



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This Christmas you can give them a card that will never get left on the shelf: Casio's revolutionary new FM card radio.

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Even the speaker's a tiny earphone, with its lead doubling as aerial and on/off

switch.

Including the lithium battery, it all weighs less than an ounce.

Casio call this advanced miniaturisation technology. You'll call it amazing.

The new Casio RD-10 FM card radio. A gift at just £22.95 RRP. **CASIO**

# DIONNE WARWICK & FRIENDS / THAT'S WHAT FRIENDS ARE FOR



And I never thought I'd feel this way  
And as far as I'm concerned  
I'm glad I got the chance to say  
That I do believe I love you

And if I should ever go away  
Well then close your eyes and try  
To feel the way we do today  
And then if you can remember

*Chorus*  
Keep smiling keep shining  
Knowing you can always count on me for sure  
That's what friends are for  
For good times

And bad times  
I'll be on your side forever more  
That's what friends are for

Well you came and opened me

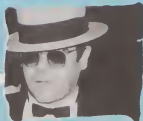
And now there's so much more I see  
And so by the way I thank you

Oh and then for the times that we're apart  
Well then close your eyes and know  
The words are coming from my heart  
And then if you can remember

Repeat chorus three times

On me for sure  
Count on me for sure  
Count on me for sure  
That's what friends are for

Words and music by Burt Bacharach/  
Carol Bayer Sager  
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If making a record is something you've always dreamt about, then here's your chance to make that dream come true.

All you and your friends need do is compose a piece of music of not more than 3½ minutes in length. Yes, the National Schools Make Music Competition, sponsored by Record Tokens, is now on.

As the outright winner you will visit the famous Abbey Road Recording Studios where your composition will be recorded.

If you have not yet entered this competition, see your Head Teacher or Music Teacher who have entry details.

# Record Tokens

**3 1/2  
MINUTES!**  
NATIONAL SCHOOLS  
*Make Music*  
COMPETITION  
Sponsored by  
**Record  
Tokens**

**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS  
EVERYONE**



**OUT NOW**

**ON 7" & 12"**

**FEATURING BLUE CHRISTMAS**

A 6769

TA 6769

## D.C. LEE

"Wham! changed drastically for a while, although they've calmed down again now. I don't like their music at all, but they know that..."



**NAME:** D.C. Lee. I don't want to give my full name — I want to keep my public life and my private life separate. Everyone calls me Dee, anyway.

**BORN:** 6/6/61 in Balham, South London. You think it's a spooky old birthdate? That's exactly what my mum said. It's the mark of the devil — 666.

**WHERE'S HOME?** I live in a flat in West London. It's spacious, and very plain. I've been there a year, but I've been too busy to do much to it. I don't like talking about it though — I'm an ex-victim of obscene phone calls and burglars, and ever since then I've been a bit paranoid. I get petrified sometimes, especially if I've been watching a scary film. That's why I want to keep my name a secret — a lady has to safeguard herself in this day and age.

**HAVE YOU GOT ANY PETS?** I've got a cat called Margate. She's a very mischievous tortoiseshell. I got her three years ago when she was a filthy little stray kitten. She literally followed me home and adopted me. I'd just been talking about a holiday in Margate, which is where she got the name.

**WHO WOULD YOU RATHER GO DOWN THE PUB WITH — SIMON LE BON, MARGARET THATCHER, SADE OR MORRISSEY?** Sade, definitely — she'd be the friendliest. Morrissey seems like a hippy, and I don't

fancy Simon Le Bon — all the other girls are welcome to him. I'd like to have a go at Margaret Thatcher, but not in the pub — I'd probably choose my own drink. I'd visit her if she was in hospital on her deathbed, though — just to check she'd really gone.

**HAVE YOU EVER WORN A DISGUISE?** I go round in disguise all the time! I stick on a pair of glasses and a big hat, and go down the supermarket. No-one ever recognises me.

**DO YOU HAVE A SECRET DESIRE TO APPEAR ON BULLSEYE?** Certainly not! For a start I don't like beer — you need a gut to appear on that. Anyway, I'd rather have a part in *EastEnders*. **DO YOU LEAVE THE DIRTY WASHING-UP IN THE BOWL UNTIL IT GOES ALL SMELLY AND HORRID?** Eeeeuuch! Never. And if I did, I'd get so depressed I'd chuck it all out and get new stuff. I'm like my mum — really, really houseproud. Actually, she keeps offering to come round and clean the flat for me, but I don't dare let her. She'd tidy everything away and I'd never be able to find anything.

**HAVE YOU EVER WRITTEN A FAH LETTER?** I wrote loads

when I was a teenager. I wrote some to Michael Jackson, but he didn't reply. Then I wrote some to Donny Osmond, but he never answered either — I was so disappointed! In fact the only people who ever answered were The Sweet — I thought they were wondrous. Of course, today I realise they're all a pile of rubbish.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK OF WHAM! THESE DAYS — HAVE THEY CHANGED SINCE YOU WERE PART OF THE GROUP?** Oh, they changed drastically for a while, although they've calmed down again now. I don't like their music at all, but they know that. We still see each other — I buy them drinks and they buy me drinks.

**IS IT TRUE YOU'D NEVER HEARD OF PAUL WELLER UNTIL YOU JOINED THE STYLE COUNCIL?** Very true, I'm afraid to admit. The Jam weren't my kind of music, I used to listen to disco stuff in those days. It was a godsend, though — if I'd known who Paul was at the audition, I'd have been completely overawed and done something stupid. But once I got to know him I soon realised how incredibly talented he is.

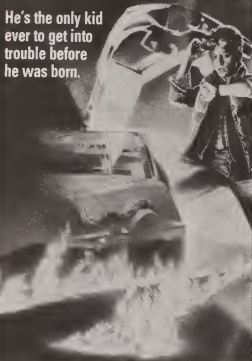
**ARE YOU GOING OUT WITH GAIL WELLS?** No! Those rumours are just not true. I work with the band, they're my friends, and that's that. But people can think what they like — their small-mindedness is up to them.

STEVEN SPIELBERG Presents

## BACK TO THE FUTURE™

A ROBERT ZEMECKIS Film

He's the only kid ever to get into trouble before he was born.



"BACK TO THE FUTURE" Starring MICHAEL J. FOX · CHRISTOPHER LLOYD  
LEA THOMPSON · CRISPIN GLOVER With ROBERT ZEMECKIS  
& BOB GALE Music by ALAN SILVESTRI Produced by BOB GALE  
and NEIL CANTON Executive Producers STEVEN SPIELBERG KATHLEEN KENNEDY  
and FRANK MARSHALL Directed by ROBERT ZEMECKIS



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ALL OVER LONDON AND THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY

# LEAVING ME NOW



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**BEAUTIFUL**  
NEW SINGLE  
IS OUT NOW!

7" POSP 776 · LIMITED EDITION 10" POSPT 776 ·  
THREE TRACK 12" POSPX 776



FOLLOW UP TO THE TOP 10 SMASH  
SOMETHING  
ABOUT YOU

# Madonna

## DRESS YOU UP

YOU'VE GOT STYLE  
THAT'S WHAT ALL THE GIRLS SAY  
SATIN SHEETS AND LUXURIES SO FINE  
ALL YOUR SUITS ARE CUSTOM-MADE IN LONDON  
BUT I'VE GOT SOMETHING THAT YOU'LL REALLY LIKE

CHORUS  
GONNA DRESS YOU UP IN MY LOVE  
ALL OVER ALL OVER  
GONNA DRESS YOU UP IN MY LOVE  
ALL OVER YOUR BODY

FEEL THE SILKY TOUCH OF MY CARESSES  
THEY WILL KEEP YOU LOOKING SO BRAND NEW  
LET ME COVER YOU WITH YELLYET KISSES  
I'LL CREATE A LOOK THAT'S MADE FOR YOU

REPEAT CHORUS

GONNA DRESS YOU UP IN MY LOVE IN MY LOVE  
(ALL OVER YOUR BODY) ALL OVER YOUR BODY  
IN MY LOVE (ALL OVER ALL OVER)  
FROM YOUR HEAD DOWN TO YOUR TOES

REPEAT CHORUS

GONNA DRESS YOU UP IN MY LOVE IN MY LOVE  
(ALL OVER YOUR BODY) ALL OVER YOUR BODY  
IN MY LOVE (ALL OVER ALL OVER)  
FROM YOUR HEAD DOWN TO YOUR TOES

(GONNA DRESS YOU UP IN MY LOVE)  
GONNA DRESS YOU UP IN MY LOVE  
(ALL OVER ALL OVER)  
DRESS YOU UP IN MY LOVE  
(GONNA DRESS YOU UP IN MY LOVE)

IN MY LOVE  
(ALL OVER YOUR BODY)  
ALL OVER YOUR BODY  
(GONNA DRESS YOU UP IN MY LOVE)  
GONNA DRESS YOU UP IN MY LOVE  
(ALL OVER ALL OVER)

DRESS YOU UP IN MY LOVE  
(GONNA DRESS YOU UP IN MY LOVE)

IN MY LOVE  
(ALL OVER YOUR BODY)  
OOH YEAH I LOVE YOU BOY  
AD LIB TO FEDE

WORDS AND MUSIC BY PEGGY STANZIALE/ANDREA LARUSSO  
REPRODUCED BY PERMISSION WARNER BROS MUSIC LTD  
ON SIRE RECORDS





SMASH HITS  
PAUL YOUNG

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## STEVIE WONDER

Her parents said girl don't leave home  
But her heart kept cheering her on  
She had a real good man a steady job  
But the two of them just weren't in her heart

### Chorus

She only wanted to be close to me  
To give me the love she knew someday I'd need  
But I kept saying girl you're wrong go home

Long days short nights when you're on the road  
For a pretty girl it's a heavy load  
And even so who'll pay your fare  
She said I'll make it on a wing and a prayer

### Repeat chorus

She said I'd no right to tell her how life should be  
Especially when the only one she ever cared about in life was me  
But she agreed to go along with my final word

As fate would have life come around  
My world started tumbling down  
I lost my family my friends and job  
And set free the only one who stuck with me from the start

### Repeat chorus twice

Go home baby you better go home right now  
(Go home little girl you better go home)  
Go on home girl  
(Go home little girl you better go)  
Ooh yeah yeah yeah yeah yeah  
(Go home little girl you better go home)  
Go home baby  
(Go home little girl you better go home)  
Go on home baby  
(Go home little girl you better go home)

### Repeat and ad lib to fade

Words and music by Stevie Wonder  
Reproduced by permission Jobete Music/Black Ball Music  
On Motown Records

## WHEN A HEART BEATS

Half way to paradise  
Or so it seems that way  
Same as anyone  
The same as any other day  
We seek eternity  
In all the things we buy  
Not top priority  
But it sure seems very high  
Who steals the real world  
Fading us all as he goes  
And who gets to heaven  
Heaven only knows

### Chorus

When a heart beats  
You can see forever  
When our lives sleep  
You can be forever (be forever)

Memorable in Coochie Land  
A most delightful place  
We look no further than  
The nose in front of our face  
The wind anywhere  
We can see only trees  
Last train for mortal refugees

### Repeat chorus twice

Don't concern yourself  
(Don't concern yourself)  
In matters past and future  
Just put your mind  
To where they meet  
But when a heart beats  
Fading us all as he goes  
Who gets to heaven  
Heaven only knows

### Repeat chorus

Be forever  
Be forever  
(Be forever)  
Oh oh oh oh oh oh  
(Be forever)  
(Be forever)  
Heartbeats  
The heart beats  
(Be forever)  
Heartbeats  
Heartbeats  
(Be forever)

Words and music by NK Kershaw  
Reproduced by permission Jobete Music/Black Ball Music  
On MCA Records



## N K KERSHAW

Jennifer Rush



RING OF ICE  
ON  
7" + 12"



A4745  
TX4745

# COMPETITIONS WINNERS

## ■ Duran Duran Competition (November 6)

Correct answer: Jane Fonda. The following each receive a copy of the Andrea video  
**Amanda Pearce**, Humberidge; **Anne**  
**Wainis**, Surrey; **Rachel Rutherford**,  
 Herefordshire; **Simone Novelli**, West  
 Midlands; **Fiona Fleming**, Dorset; **L. Adams**,  
 Middlesbrough; **Suzanne Dockett**, Glasgow; **Jane**  
**Miyar**, Thornton Heath; **Sara Denton**,  
 Surrey; **Judith Hillier**, London; **Alison**  
**Indones**, Croydon; **M. Robinson**, Corset,  
**Tracy White**, Liverpool; **John Roban**,  
 Darford; **Lyn Speck**, London; **Alton**  
**Peacock**, Leeds; **F. Maitta**, Leeds; **John**  
**Doyle**, Neasden; **A. Brennan**, Chesham; **H.**  
**Wojcieszka**, Blackpool; **Andras Dight**,  
 Bore; **Gillian Boyd**, Scotland; **Sharon**  
**Docking**, Cornwall; **Elizabeth Sloan**,  
 Wrexham; **Marian Glavin**, Holland

## ■ Pet Shop Boys Competition (November 6)

Correct answers: (1) A penning missile, (2)  
 Abenah Curse. The following each win a "12"  
 copy of "West End Girls" and a Pet Shop  
 Boys shirt: **Jennifer Vannoy**, Surrey,  
**Margaret Lawson**, Lancashire; **Annelise**  
**Swell**, Manchester; **B. Gaffin**, Lancs;  
**Karen Fletcher**, Cheshire; **Michael Pollard**,  
 Cumbria; **Barry Hurst**, Kent; **Carolyn**  
**Jones**, Reading; **Simone Laughlin**,  
 Devon; **Sarah Innes**, Suffolk; **Anne-Marie**  
**MacLean**, Glasgow; **Dawn Chamberlain**,  
 Hampshire; **S. Patterson**, Middlesbrough;  
**Jane Stockley**, Southampton; **David**  
**Fletcher**, Haris; **Tracy Dennis**, Kent; **Jo**  
**Chatterton**, H.U.; **Lynnda De La Pena**,  
 Cleveland; **Dawn Carson**, Ayrshire; **Jackie**  
**Lock**, Weybridge

## ■ Simple Minds Competition (November 6)

Correct answer: Six. The ten winners receive a  
 Simple Minds gig and LP: **Joy Cowell**,  
 St. John's; **Amanda Bane**, Co. Wick; **T.P.**  
**Cusnick**, Bucks; **Joanne Charlton**,  
 Dorset; **Caroline Saepter**, Middlesbrough;  
**Ian McCropper**, Co. Durham; **D. Bortwick**,  
 Wigan; **Leigh Haggis**, Leicester; **Andrew**  
**Buchanan**, Slings; **Trevor Taylor**, Kent

## ■ Talking Heads Competition (November 6)

Correct answer: 2/2. The following 5 winners  
 each receive a video and a 17 picture disc:  
**Steve Clark**, Perth; **J.F. Masters**,  
 Manchester; **Gary Lee**, Birley; **Andrew**  
**Hutchinson**, Edinburgh; **James Morris**,  
 Woking.  
 The next ten win a 7 picture disc: **Samantha**  
**Blakemore**, Sheffield; **Julia Taylor**,  
 Aberdeen; **M. Hayes**, London; **S. Hart**,  
 Devon; **Nicole Caswell**, Leeds; **David Meek**,  
 Glasgow; **Jillian Thomson**, Aberdeen; **B.**  
**Drew**, Kent; **Richard Taylor**, New Mill;  
**Richard Bell**, Andover

## ■ Smash Hits/Philips Competition (October 23)

The lucky winner who takes away the first  
 prize of a TV, video, hi-fi, ghetto blaster,  
 personal stereo and "credit card" radio  
 (given) is **James Stevens** from Great Bar,  
 Birmingham.  
 The next thirty win a "credit card" radio  
**Sarah-Jane Staffs**, Carolyn Diggins, Leek;  
**Nicola Hewlett**, Manchester; **Julia Smith**,  
 Cokerley; **Keith Bailey**, Leigh; **M. Brock**,  
 Hastings; **Tracy Masson**, Leicester;  
**Jonathan Foster**, Loughborough; **Andrew**  
**Haywood**, Warwickshire; **Julia Graham**,  
 Hampshire; **Chris Salt**, South; **Bevise**  
**Rogers**, Cheshire; **Nikki Hobbs**, Evington;  
**Paul Howard**, Norfolk; **Marie Hamman**,  
 Bedford; **Steven Harlowe**, Bedford; **Burgie**  
**Stevens**, Oxford; **Angeli Mayo**, Berkshire;  
**Keri Torland**, Northampton; **Andrew**  
**Kemp**, Hants; **The Price Family**, Reading;  
**David Young**, Morpeth; **Elaine Quinn**,  
 Manchester; **Greg Smith**, Essex; **Samantha**  
**Barham**, West Yorkshire; **J. Walsh**, Liverpool;  
**Janet Home**, Wilt; **Clat Furniss**,  
 Edinburgh; **Stephen White**, Walsall; **Jane**  
**Biswell**, Surrey

# ★ ★ ★ WHO THE JIGGINS HAS WON THE

# SMASH HITS READERS POLL ? ? ?

For the latest news on the most  
 thrilling and hard-fought contest of  
 the year over to our man with the  
 microphone in the Polling Station,  
 Brian Overcoat . . .

"Well, the tension is absolutely  
 electric here, Sir Robin. All the ballot  
 boxes are in and the tellers are  
 counting at a feverish pace. And -  
 ooh! - I think we're getting a result  
 from the Best Female Vocalist  
 constituency, it's been a pretty close  
 race so far between Annela Rice and  
 Madonna and . . . oh, I've just  
 heard that Jennifer Rush is  
 demanding a recount so we'll have to  
 wait for that one but in the Best  
 Male Vocalist section it's been neck  
 and neck all the way between Prince  
 and Michael Heseltine with Simon Le  
 Bon making a poor showing in the  
 early returns, hit of a shock that one  
 hot hold on a moment Sir Robin,  
 I'm just getting something exciting  
 in my ear, the Prat Of The Year  
 popular vote has gone to John  
 Taylor of Duran Duran. No, sorry, I  
 didn't hear that quite right it's erm,  
 Red Box? A-Ha? Wham? Princess  
 Michael Of Kent? Ooh, it's a  
 complete confusion down here, Sir  
 Robin, so I'll hand you back to the  
 studio for the latest up-date from the  
 swingometer . . ."

Thank you Brian Overcoat. Well,  
 it is obviously too early for us to  
 make any firm predictions and there  
 has evidently been a fair deal of  
 tactical voting - particularly on  
 behalf of the Orville, Frankie Goes  
 To Hollywood, Cyndi Lauper and  
 U2 parties - and so at this moment in  
 time it is still anyone's election.  
 So, join us again a little later when  
 all the results have been  
 finalized . . . in

SMASH HITS  
DECEMBER 18



# WHAM!



A *special* release for Christmas '85  
now featuring a unique live recording\*

**7"** *Last Christmas/Blue\**  
\*(recorded live in China) **WHAM I**

**12"** *Last Christmas* (extended version)/  
*Blue\** (live in China)/*Everything She Wants* **WHAM TI**

*epic*



# Separate lives

(THEME FROM WHITE NIGHTS)



PHIL COLLINS AND MARILYN MARTIN

You called me from the room in your hotel  
All full of romance  
For someone that you met  
And telling me how sorry you were  
Leaving so soon  
And that you miss me sometimes  
When you're alone in your room  
Do I feel lonely too

You have no right to ask me how I feel  
You have no right to speak to me so kind  
I can't go on just holding on to ties  
Now that we're living  
Living separate lives

Well I held on to let you go  
And if you lost your love for me  
You never let it show  
There was no way to compromise  
So now we're living  
Living separate lives

Ooh it's so typical  
Love leads to isolation  
So you build that wall (build that wall)  
Yes you build that wall (build that wall)  
And you make it stronger

Well you have no right to ask me how I feel  
You have no right to speak to me so kind  
Someday I might find myself looking in your eyes  
But for now we'll go on living separate lives  
Yes for now we'll go on living separate lives  
Separate lives

Words and music by Stephen Bishop  
Reproduced by permission 1985  
Stephen Bishop Music Publishing Company/  
Gold Horizon Music Corp.  
Hit And Run Music (Publishing) Ltd. On Virgin Records

# CROSSWORD



## ACROSS

- See photovist (5,7)
- See 23 across
- These that Hammered into the charts? (5,4)
- John Parr's fellow in molten
- Liza Minnelli becomes *Travelling Men* actor (6,5)
- A Marks boss like *Wesley*?  
--- if (All Yankovic)
- Band you might wear in a brood?
- Sort of contralt that has figured in the charts

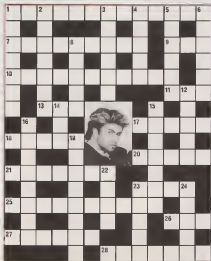
- Mick Jagger's of the rolling kind
- This Mick once wore a blue hat on a blue day  
and 2 down David O'Leary forms a band for  
Pete Dinklage (6,4,2,5)
- Think of a large land for the Scottish  
group (3,7)
- "Say I'm Your Number ..." (Princess)
- See 22 down
- A Duffy of the Tin Tin kind

## DOWN

- Did he place a writing bet on *Madness*?
- See 23 across
- Holland's body and soulmates (3,3)
- Board game that provided a hit musical
- Wane sounds like a bit of a nut?
- Could be *John* could be *Julian*
- See 16 down
- A cone leads to *Billy's* other half (6,6)
- Nonvegans and Arja Hays?
- Di-Who *Roger* the 'Alter The Fee' man

- and B Why *Power Station* installed central heating?  
(4,4,2,3)
- Neil Mole provides a hit for *Red Box* (6,4,2,2)  
and 27 across Hit to which *Biancaneige* shall their  
west (4,4,2)
- The Cars went into gear for this
- Gwyn Farry* didn't want it stopped

ANSWERS ON PAGE 54



## NEW RELEASES

REVIEWED BY PETER MARTIN



### SINGLE OF THE NIGHT

**STING**  
**Russians (A&M)** Appropriate in the light of the recent summit talks between Reagan and Gorbachov, "Russians" is full of admirable sentiment—"there's no such thing as a winnable war, it's a lie we don't believe anymore"—swathed in a sweeping giant of a song that borrows heavily from Russian composer Sergei Prokofiev. Taken from one of the best LPs of the year "The Dream Of The Blue Turtles" it's classic stuff, and another feather in Sting's cap, unlike his rather dismal display in the film *Plenty*. Still, he's made single of the fortnight.

**BRYAN FERRY**  
**Windswept (Polydor)** Bryan Ferry's always reminded me of an After Eight Mint: cool, dark, elegantly wrapped, the ideal way to end an evening. And "Windswept", like most of his songs, is an almost delicate wafer thin delight: all crisp, staccato guitars swaying to and fro on a bed of swirling synthesizers and saxophones. Irresistible.

**SADE**  
**Is It A Crime (Epic)** Sade, like Bryan Ferry, is very late night listening, dimmer switches turned as low as they can go. More Black Magic than After Eight, her music is a rich, dark confection, "Is It A Crime" being her most dramatic number to date. Still, Sade seems to make more sense on an LP and this, like her other singles, is probably doomed to Radio 2.

**VIRGINIA ASTLEY**  
**Darkness Has Reached Its End (WEA)** A song as far removed from crass commerciality I couldn't imagine. More of a hymn than a pop song, Ms Astley sounds very much the Sunday School teacher while her

merry band of acoustic guitar, cello and violins create an atmosphere so pure and holy you almost feel guilty for listening to it. Madonna meets Julie Andrews.

**THOMPSON TWINS**  
**Revolution (Arista)** A packet of Daaryles Cheese Triangles has got more chance of turning the people to revolt, quite frankly, but this cover of the Beatles' "classic" is well up to par as these things go. Still, I preferred their rendition on Live Aid when they had the not altogether unattractive and mightily talented Madonna on backing vocals. Much more preferable than a poke in the eye with a sharp stick, I can tell you.

**ELTON JOHN**  
**Wrap Her Up (Rocket)** Elton can't seem to put a foot wrong these days, this being no exception. With George Michael on very prominent backing vocals, this "uptempo number", as they call it in the business, should do jolly well this Christmas as a nice little stocking filler. Prefer a Ronco Buttoneer myself.

**PROPAGANDA**  
**P Machinery (ZTT)** Why aren't Propaganda very famous pop stars! In a decent world they would be occupying their rightful position on the throne once occupied by Abba and then The Human League, but no. Instead they're doomed to being a bit big in Spain and making the odd appearance on Whistle Test. Top yourself some reality. All I can say is "P Machinery" has been "reactivated" (i.e. it's been out once before and fopped), it's brilliant, razor sharp Euro-disco, and if they aren't on *Top Of The Pops* again soon I'll cry lots.

**JAMES LAST**  
**The Seduction (Love Theme) (Polydor)** The kind of song that gets your mum and dad "going": i.e. a very annoying saxophone makes leuuru to your lugholes while a terribly sensual synthesised backdrop helps ease away the pressures of the day. Fair puts you off your tea, it does.

**ANYA**  
**Moscow Nights (Rocket)** Picture the scene: we're sitting in the boardroom of Elton John's record company, Rocket, and some bright spark has a bitrolta brainwave... "Remember that amazing blonde lady in the "Nikita" vid? Ya! Well, how about if we made that character, the Russian soldier, into a pop star. Crikey chaps, we could clean up!" And so it came to pass that some poor video extra was shoved into a studio to

make a thoroughly useless song about the "cold nights in Moscow", balalaika z-rockin'. Bleeding capitalists.

**BRONSKI BEAT**  
**Hit That Perfect Beat (London)** What has happened to Bronski Beat? Have they had a nasty experience at a Spud-U-Like? Did someone make them appear on Pebble Mill At One? I mean, what horror could possibly have turned them into a poor man's Visage? Jimmy Somerville certainly has a lot to answer for. All the usual hi-energy electronics are there, it's just that the new singer sounds like Steve Strange and the song is daft, all "dance, dance, feel the heat" and "I got that feeling, that beat boy feeling". Shame really.

**JENNIFER RUSH**  
**Ring Of Ice (CBS)** It can't be seen: Ms Rush waltzes on the Des O'Connor show, clad in some slinky sequinned affair, riffs loquaciously with her host,

recounts a few "highly amusing" anecdotes about the days when she worked down the Shippams Salmon Paste factory and then trots off to give us her latest number, "the follow up to the song that set the charts alight earlier this year, the 'Power Of Love'", at which point your mum remarks that she looks a bit like that one off Dallas and sounds a bit like Abba. Set your videos now.

**THE CROW**  
**Geronimo (WEA)** Without a doubt the worst novelty record this side of Orville's "15 Years With A Man's Hand Up My Bottom". Mr Crow, it seems, is that divvy puppet from Saturday Superstore and the bloke with his hand in that most unenviable of positions a Judd Lander, the man who played harmonica on "Karma Chameleon" (fact fans!), so you'd think he'd know better than to make a record that sounds like Prince crossed with Keith Chegwin, wouldn't you?

**SWING OUT SISTER**  
**Blue Mood (Phonogram)** Desperately hip in London at the moment, Swing Out Sister are another one of those white funk groups who drop all the right names (Northern Soul, James Brown), no doubt but their clothes in trendy 'n' expensive South Molton Street and have a singer with an unusual name (this time it's Corinne—a girl, so I'm told), is unusual is that this, their first record, is rather good. Measured electro-driven pop with the de rigueur jazz tinge, it's miles better than your staple dancefloor fodder and with a bit of graft and less knocking around the trendy clubs they might just miss the drumset currently occupied by Blue Rondo A La Turk and their cronies.

**GRANDMASTER MELLE MEL**  
**Vice (From Miami Vice) (Sugarhill)** In America Miami Vice is the biggest thing since the Big Mac and so it's not surprising people are trying to cash in on this. This example is a bit like "The Message" (on which Melle Mel "rapped" from its opening arrest scenario to its hard nosed lyric "so its solid bump 'n' grind 'funk' beat-beat. Difference is, that one of the best records ever made: this isn't).

**FREDDIE MERCURY**  
**Love Me Like There's No Tomorrow (CBS)** This one, I suspect, is just for the mums. One of his famous propping-up-the-piano-in-the-smoky-bar routines, Sir Frederick has cast himself as the warren Valerino who must leave his lover in the morning. A load of old tripe in anyone's book. Can't wait to see the "concept" video.





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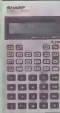
If there's one thing Bucks Fizz would have liked in their own school days, it's a Sharp pocket calculator.

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# SHARP

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# BACK TO THE FUTURE

● Most films about American teenagers seem to be about how difficult it is being your average good-looking, comfortably off American teenager, but in **Back To The Future (PG, 116 minutes)** you can't help but sympathise with hero Marty McFly. His mum is dreary and old fashioned, his dad is a dim, weak character who allows himself to be "used" by work chum and former school bully Biff, and his brother and sister are the sort of dull and boring divvies who corner you at parties and talk about their matchbox collection. Marty's chum, loony-looking Dr. Emmett Brown, has invented a time machine car and,

completely by accident, Marty zips back 30 years to 1955. Here he meets a dim, weak character who allows himself to be pushed around by school bully Biff... hang on. It can't be! It is! It's Marty's dad aged 17.

The rest of the story concerns Marty's desperate attempts to get his parents together so they can, well, have lots of rumpy pumpy – for how else will he ever get born?! And that's not going to be at all easy because – oh no! – Marty's mum fancies him a lot more than she does his dad!?!... All sounds pretty stupid, doesn't it? Well, it is – but it's also very very funny.

● Marty (Michael J. Fox) getting chatted up by his mum!



● A young Ronald Reagan lookalike practises his handshaking technique.



● Marty's dad doing a bit of "bird" spotting (knowerrmean!).



● Excuse me master. Aren't you that bloke from Taxi with a stupid wig on?



● Marty tries his best to look like one of Huey Lewis & The News.



● Dr. Emmett Brown pulls the chain on a very big toilet.

# ALBUMS

## COLONEL ABRAMS: Colonel Abrams (MCA)

Even if he *did* used to play in a band with Prince before either of them were famous and even if "Trapped" a one of the best dance records released this year, I can't say I held out much hope for Colonel Abrams' first LP. Surprisingly, it's rather good. The best are the fast songs, all quite closely related to "Trapped", and spiced up a bit by The Colonel grunting along in his gruff-voiced way. And thankfully, only two of the slow ones are bad enough to make you cringe.

(6 out of 10)

Chris Heath

## BIG SOUND AUTHORITY: Inward Revolution (MCA)

After the success of their single "This House" last January, The Big Sound Authority have been a bit quiet. Now they're back with an album full of '60s soul stompers and bittersweet love songs; the vocals are bluesy, the approach confident and the lyrics thoughtful. The best moment is "Bad Town", which comes to a peak with twiddly D-Train-like keyboards and a scorching brass section. Polished and definitely worth a listen. (7 out of 10)

Debbie Bares

## WHITNEY HOUSTON: Whitney Houston (Arista)

This is a fairly unspectacular collection of slow smoochy ballads with the odd pacer number thrown in just to make sure the listener doesn't go to sleep. There's no doubt that Ms Houston can sing extremely well, trouble is that most of the lyrics are so mundane and monotonous that she can only really provoke a reaction on the powerful cover version of "The Greatest Love Of All", a song usually associated with George Benson. Her current hit "Saving All My Love For You" is the only other song that comes close, and that's no more than a pleasant slice of lightweight soulful pop. Like the rest of the album really.

(6 out of 10)

William White

## MALCOLM McLAREN: Swamp Thing (Charisma)

I'd like to see Malcolm talk his way out of this one. Snatches of The Troggs' "Wild Thing", Billy Joel's "Just The Way You Are", a Jane Fonda-type work-out, rapped versions of Bow Wow Wow's "Sexy Eiffel Towers", and "Baby On Mars" interspersed with chunks of "Soweto" and "Buffalo Gals". And it's all mega-mixed together with hip hop rhythms, ethnic beats and Malcolm's inimitable sense of humour. Trick or treat! Both actually. (9 out of 10)

Simon Mills

## DIONNE WARWICK: Friends (Arista)

Dionne Warwick has been churning out the ballads for well over 20 years so she should be pretty good at them by now. On "Friends", as well as the wonderful "That's What Friends Are For", there's her usual selection of slushy, laid-back songs with lavish strings and choral arrangements – the sort of thing that sounds as if it belongs at the end of some incredibly sad film. It's all very predictable but at the same time very pleasant to listen to.

(7 out of 10)

Simon Braithwaite

## TWISTED SISTER: Come Out And Play (WEA)

Never let it be said that Twisted Sister are dull. Why, there are as many as two interesting things about this LP. 1) Their version of The Shangri-La's classic "Leader Of The Pack" (complete with spoken intro) has renegade panto-dame Dee Snider as the leader and it's the girl who rides off into the crash – I think this could be humour but I couldn't swear to it. 2) "Looking After No 1" contains the word "devotion" which has no less than four syllables!! If Twisted Sister keep up this rate of improvement they may make a halfway decent LP before the century is out. (- 3 out of 10)

Ian Cranva



## ARCADIA: So Red The Rose (Parlophone)

After the clanking monstrosities of the Power Station, this comes as quite a pleasant surprise. Okay, it's stuffed full of conceit – effete lyrics, some grotesque "singin'", and a couple of ill-conceived stream sequences ("Missing", "Rose Arcana") – but strip that away and you've got the bare bones of some quite "snug" pop music. It's all "tinely-crafted" (with the help of a lot of Americans), there are some proper tunes, and there's a couple of miraculous touches (e.g. the dippy pipes on "El Diablo") that make it almost JOLLY. A warmer and less clinical collection than anything yet attempted by... dare I say it! (No, I dare n't) (7 1/2 out of 10)

Tom Hobbart

## VIDEOS

## BOOKS

### ● THOMPSON TWINS: *Single Vision* (Virgin, £19.95)

The Thompson Twins aren't evenly famous for their breakdancing, but their video, which is probably why they've taken so long to release this, a compilation of all their single videos from "Lies" to "King For One Day". The early ones – full of people disappearing through walls for no particular reason – are absolutely terrible and none of them, apart from the rather weird anti-drugs video for "Don't Mess With Doctor Dream", add anything to the songs. Unless you really want to see Tom, Joe and Alannah dancing around under lots of multi-coloured lights showing off their latest haircuts you'd do better to stick to the records.

### ● TALKING HEADS: *Stop Making Sense* (Polyca, £19.95)

This sounds as if it'd be fairly boring – just a simple film of Talking Heads playing a concert for an hour and a half. In fact it's completely brilliant. It starts with David Byrne singing the first song alone while running round the stage like a domestic chicken. And then, one by one, all the other musicians come on stage until, by the end of the concert, there's nine of them all going a bit bonny. Meanwhile David Byrne does loads of very strange things like playing with a lampshade and cavorting about in a ridiculously huge suit while playing all their best songs (though not the current hit, "Road To Nowhere"). One of the best pop videos ever.

### ● BILLY IDOL: *Vocal Idol* (Chrysalis, £14.99)

Imagine, if you will, an underground cavern bathed in an unnatural, phosphorescent glow. Imagine wisps of smoke sliding up slimy, dribbling walls, into zodiacite-formed alcoves where ladies of the night pose provocatively in stinky, tight leather and slap their bums. Imagine pale, toothless zombies gaping and clawing the air as they tumble down bottomless chasms. Imagine a blond boy called Billy straddling a central rock, sneering, clenching his fists and writhing in spiky bondage combinations... Imagine all of that six times over, spin "White Wedding", "Dancing With Myself", "Eyes Without A Face", "Flash For Fantasy", "Catch My Fall" and "Rebel Yell" on your record player and – hey bungle! – there is now no need to purchase a video on which B. Idol presents all of his wonderful, shiny rock songs as HM pop-Mad-Max-gobblede-gook-soundtracks and ends up looking a buffoon.

### ● AMAZULU: *Moonlight Romance* (Hendring, £19.99)

Don't be fooled. If you're expecting a bright, breezy pop group bouncing around against smartie-coloured backdrops singing jolly little ditties like "Excitable" then this isn't what you want at all. Instead, it's an Amazulu concert recorded a good while back when they played reasonably competent but unremarkable reggae music, presumably released now to cash in on their current success. Bit of a swizz, eh?

● After being voted Least Stylish Group of 1958, Uncle Disgusting's Dancing Devils went on to become... oh, hold on. Apparently this isn't a horrible boring group from billions of years ago but actually a photo of Graduate, the mod group who set the world on fire at the beginning of the '60s (well, singed it a bit anyway). And if you look very carefully you might notice that the bloke at the front with the pointy shoes and cheery smile and his bass-twanger partner behind him look awfully like Roland and Curt from *Tears For Fears*. In fact it's one of the photos in *Tears For Fears: Tales From The Big Chair* (by Will Hall, Zomba, £3.95), one of two unauthorised biographies out this week. The other – *Tears For Fears* (by Jo-Anne Green, Bobcat, £3.50) – is shorter, better-written and looks nicer, but both of them are basically the same – the story of *Tears For Fears* told by sticking together all the different things they've said in magazines, with lots of dodgy old photos. They both look like they were thrown together rather quickly, and *Tales From The Big Chair* even manages to get Curt's birthday wrong. And they certainly don't come recommended by the group: "It just makes me sick," says Roland.

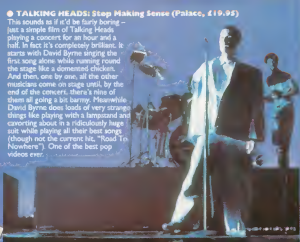
### ● MADONNA: *The Virgin Tour* (WEA, £19.95)

The way things are going it looks as if Madonna may never play in this country, but at least *The Virgin Tour* reveals exactly what she gets up to on stage. Which is dancing a lot, pouting a lot, wiggling her tummy a lot, changing her clothes a few times, getting told off at the end by a loud booming voice that's supposed to be her father and, while all this frolicking is going on, singing all her hits. It doesn't really seem to matter to the audience that her singing live isn't terrifically good or that, despite all her twirling about and occasional writhing on the floor, her stage act is actually rather tame. She's certainly "charismatic" and the songs are good enough to make the audience go bonkers anyway. And if you like Madonna, you'll probably do the same.

## M A X H E A D R O O M

● If it wasn't enough that his Channel 4 video show is coming back around February next year, Max Headroom is making himself available in all sorts of forms for Christmas. First there's a video, *MAX Headroom: 20 Minutes Into The Future* (Virgin, £19.95) which is the original film of Max's "creation" shown on TV earlier in the year (and repeated this Christmas). There's not much of Max in it and there are no pop videos – instead it's a well-filled, highly entertaining science fiction story

with an instrumental soundtrack by Midge Ure and Chris Cross from Ultravox. *Max Headroom: 20 Minutes Into The Future* (Corgi, £3.95) is simply the book of the film. *MAX Headroom's Guide To Life* (Corgi, £1.95), supposedly written by Max himself, offers useful hints on shouting at foreigners, how to build a nuclear fallout shelter in your window box and, inevitably, loads of drivel about golf. Quite funny and totally, totally useless.



WHAM!

85

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- 1 *Everything she wants*
- 2 *Freedom*
- 3 *I'm your man*

CBS  
FOX  
VIDEO

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 Oh Kate, Kate, Kate, Kate, Kate!  
 It's love I feel for you  
 Not hate, hate, hate  
 Inside my body  
 My heart goes whoosh  
 And on the floor  
 My ears go "sploosh"  
 Listening to your records  
 In Shepherd's Bush  
 O vegetarian songstress  
 Kate Bush! Kate Bush!  
 I tell the Hounds Of Love to "mush"  
 And everyone else to "stush"  
 As I listen to your records  
 In Shepherd's Bush  
 O non-meat eating songstress  
 Kate Bush!  
 They say a bird in the hand  
 Is worth two in the bush  
 But I don't believe them, no, no, no!  
 Kate Bush! Kate Bush!

# LETTERS

WRITE TO: SMASH HITS, 52-55 CARNABY STREET, LONDON W1V 1PF  
 THE BEST LETTER GETS A £10 RECORD TOKEN

Thankyou,  
 Terry Roberts

... Sob ... excuse me, students,  
 while I adjust my eye moisture  
 level with the aid of a Scotties  
 Man-Sized Tissue ... chook ...  
 it's a run old emotion in  
 "L-O-V-E", ain't it? I think it was  
 I, myself, who beat summed up  
 the whole affairs-of-the-heart  
 thing in my recent ode to that  
 reversion TV quiz disciplinarian  
 with the lethal eyebrows, Ms  
 Angela Rippon ... Keep a grip on  
 your tear ducts, viewers, because  
 this is dangerously moving ...  
 "Oh, Angela, Angela  
 Angela, Angela  
 With the hockey mistress air  
 And voice like a clothes mangle  
 Oh how I wish I could  
 Think of something that rhymes  
 With Newcafe"  
 Rightising, non?

Filling in the October section of  
 my Smash Hits Scrapbook Diary I  
 came to the most boring dream  
 category which reminded me of a  
 terrible nightmare I had the week  
 before. I dreamt that I had gone out  
 to buy my October 26 issue of  
 Smash Hits and turned to BT only to  
 find that you had gone out to feed  
 somebody's dead cat, leaving your  
 golden pages in the evil clutches of  
 a typewriter repairer who tasted of  
 seaweed and who was the most  
 boring person imaginable. Please  
 tell me that this WAS a nightmare  
 as I don't remember waking up  
 Mr Perkins, Southend on Sea.

Speaking as someone who for  
 several weeks has had a

recurring dream about being  
 stuck in a laundrette with His  
 Steve Davis, who gives endless  
 tips on how to get chalk stains out  
 of trouser pockets, I think your  
 dream sounds positively riveting!



Found this in an unspeakable  
 Sunday supplement. Don't they  
 know Morrissey is always late?  
 A Close And Personal Friend Of  
 Steven's, Rotherham.

"You're all kidding," sneered Terry "It looks as if being  
 stupid must be a more appropriate state. This match book  
 might like to see it."

Whilst looking through some old  
 books, I found this. Even in 1968,  
 Arcadia were dingy  
 Someone Who Is Friendly With A  
 Duran. Glasgow

Dear Black Type

Due to the lack of a complaints  
 department, I'm writing to you. In  
 your otherwise utterly brilliant  
 Scrapbook Diary, the May Craft  
 Corner has what seems to be a jolly  
 wizard paper! Great, now to annoy  
 Peter, I thought! BUT the  
 Egyptian Matchstick Trick is NOT a

trick! My megabeing of a father has  
 cracked it - taken two matchsticks  
 from nine and left five. LOOK!



Now, can you take ten pounds  
 from SH funds and leave me with a  
 record token?  
 Someone Who's Got Nothing Better  
 To Do Than Solve Egyptian  
 Matchstick Tricks.

Your Dad is quite obviously some  
 kind of mathematical genius.

Why, I puzzled over ye olde  
 Egyptian Matchstick Trick for  
 simply ages before having to call  
 a halt due to unforeseen  
 circumstances ... I may not have  
 solved the match trick but I do, at  
 least, know how many matches it  
 takes to set fire to one's  
 bedclothes. Mind you, the best  
 use for matchsticks ever invented  
 is for propping one's eyelids open  
 during the Saturday evening  
 televisural intrusions of Mike  
 "Smitty" Smith (though quite why  
 one should wish to do this I.e.  
 stay conscious for his dazzling  
 repartee and "HITILLARIOUS" shiny  
 bow ties, I cannot imagine).

Wasn't it simply mabrevlous,  
 dahlings? I speak, naturally, of

Fashion Aid, that starry, starry night  
 when, for a few heart-stopping  
 moments, all those so, so talented  
 fashion designers gave up some of  
 their so, so valuable time and lent  
 their so, so fabulous creations and  
 all these so, so talented pop stars  
 and thespians paraded like  
 peacocks at enormous personal  
 expense in order that oh, what  
 was it now? Oh, yes, in order that  
 someone, somewhere in Africa  
 might have a meal. What a noble  
 event and weren't the fireworks  
 dazzling?  
 Whatever next? What about a  
 Haute Cuisine Aid where all the  
 world's greatest chefs gather  
 together and create masterpiece  
 dishes such as sautéed baby  
 lobsters stuffed with venison strips  
 and caviar in asparagus sauce on a  
 bed of oysters and truffles which  
 are eaten up by lots of wonderfully  
 generous and big-hearted pop stars  
 in front of a paying audience of  
 fools like us?  
 Do you know it's Christmas?  
 Kerry Hook Twyford, Berks.

Dear Black Type

In a recent issue of Smash Hits,  
 Queen were being given a rough  
 ride (as usual). This time it was all  
 the moans about them playing  
 South Africa's notorious "Sun City"  
 Well let me tell you that after the  
 visit to S. Africa, Queen released a  
 special live album. The royalties  
 from this album (from both Queen  
 and EMI) went towards building a  
 new wing of the Kuluwamangwe  
 School for deaf & deaf-blind black  
 children. Altogether 28,000 rand  
 was raised. Queen may not be  
 donating any of the profits from  
 their new single to Band Aid, but the  
 members of the band have  
 made private donations in the past  
 So just don't forget who did a  
 concert in aid of Kampuchean  
 refugees, who did concerts for the  
 Queen's Jubilee Fund in 1977 and  
 who refused to forget about touring  
 South America before and after the  
 Falklands war

Yours faithfully,  
 A Very Disgusted Queen Fan,  
 Derby

Dear Black "Sir Bag-the-Puss-for-  
 President" Type

Talking of spooky happenings,  
 (were we?) last Sunday I was doing  
 the Star Tosses in Smash "always-  
 writing-stupid-things-between-  
 names" Hits when, just as I was  
 looking for "Stephen Duffy", Annie  
 "The-show-the-stars-listen-to"

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# RICHARD: THE MAN WHO TED ROCK'N'ROLL

(FROM ELVIS PRESLEY AND SHAKESPEARE)



**You must have been watching the bit where you whizz through the air and twirl around a lamp post . . .**

Oh, I remember that. I remember everything. I remember my first day on the set doing an acting scene with Robert Morley and being terrified. It was my very first scene and I blew a line so they yelled "Cut" and Robert Morley said "Oh, I'm terribly sorry, it's my age, always forgetting things." And he



hadn't done anything wrong at all – he was covering up for the newcomer. I thought "crumbs!" All actors are like this, it'll be wonderful. . . .

**One of your regular co-stars in later films was, of course, the immaculate Una Stubbs . . .**

Yes, she came in for *Summer Holiday* and we just laughed our way through the movies. I must admit that she is a wonderful person. . . . and *Summer Holiday* was magical, starting off in black and white and then changing to colour as the red bus came slowly closer. And the third movie, *Wonderful Life*, has possibly one of the best bits of British film ever – a twenty-minute section sub-titled

"History of The Movies", (in which Cliff, Una and the gang acted out pastiches of *Kayastone Cops* films, swashbuckling epics, westerns, Tarzan flicks etc.) A lot of what we were doing back then was similar to a lot of things in today's pop videos, though we weren't rushing around at the time saying "Hey, this is influential!" Some of today's videos are fantastic – though a lot of them go way over the top and seem just desperate and paranoiac – but I sometimes think that the new singers I admire, people like Paul Young, George Michael and Nik Kershaw, shouldn't really need videos – the songs are what's important.

**How did you feel when a Cliff Richard puppet turned up singing'n' dancing in the 1966 puppet film *Thunderbirds Are Go!*?**

Oh, I thought that was a terrific, fabulous idea. It's strange psychology, but if you appear in a puppet film as a puppet, somehow you grow in stature and importance in the eyes of the public. It's like when people do impersonations of you – it makes you somehow larger than life. I liked being represented as a puppet; it was quite flattering.

**Would you like to be "represented" on *Spitting Image*?**

*Spitting Image* can be brilliant. Sometimes it's hysterically funny – but then suddenly they'll do something that is so vicious and cruel and vindictive that you think, "oh dear, these people aren't special after all." If *Spitting Image* did me, I know full well that they'd either do some sexual thing or send up my religious beliefs in some outrageous way – they don't really care. When they do it, I bet they don't think "oh crumbs! If Cliff and his family and friends are watching this, they're really going to be upset."

**What did you think of the TV series *The Young Ones*?**

I didn't see very much of it and some of what I did see was ridiculous. I saw one where the guy nailed himself to the table. It was a bit disgusting. He nailed the table to his leg and I thought "eugh!" It made me cringe. But I didn't mind the Cliff Richard jokes. The episode I'd have liked to have seen, which someone told me about, was the one where Madness were playing and the guy who's my fan went up and said "Ere, do you know 'Summer



Holiday?" and the guy from Madness said "You hum it, and we'll smash your face in." I think that's quite funny. I like that and it was flattering to be filtered into the scripts. And it didn't seem to be malicious like *Spitting Image* often is. You see, I don't think it's difficult to live your life without malice. You might sometimes hurt people inadvertently, but that's different from doing things knowing it's going to hurt someone and just doing a V sign and saying "Well, I don't care!" The entertainment business is guilty of not caring most of the time.

**Do you find the press similarly malicious?**

Well, yes; your world is as bad, if not worse, than my world. If you think about it, politics is the most powerful force in society. TV is perhaps the next, and almost certainly journalism is the third. And so often journalism abuses its power. . . . When it's journalism about simple things like pop, it doesn't matter so much but it still makes you angry. For instance, when "Devil Woman" came out there was a review in one of the music papers that went "Devil Woman" Cliff Richard. EMI Records. . . . Devil is Satan and Evil – but not Tut. Woman is the Opposite Sex – TUT TUT TUT. Just imagine – Cliff singing about Sin and Sex! Now, I may be over-sensitive but how ridiculous; you guys are supposed to know what we're trying to do and "Devil Woman" was a warning against the occult – "beware the Devil woman, stay away, look out, you better get out of there fast" – I've only ever sued one paper, and that was another music paper, when this girl wrote a fantastic concert review that went right over the top: it was all about her sitting with Satan in the front row of the stalls – "me and my evil friend". It was horrible but it was clever: her state of mind was pretty obvious. Now, rock'n'roll's not really that important



Continued over▶

in terms of life and living, but if I know that journalists write these things about me, how can I believe them when they're writing about someone important – Kinnoch, Thatcher, Reagan? I can't ever trust them and I think that's a shame... I'm not saying this about you – I don't know what you're going to write!

## Well, I was hoping to write about your magnificent achievement of losing the Eurovision Song Contest TWICE!!



Ha ha ha. Yes, well I did lose twice (with "Congratulations" in 1968 and "Power To All Our Friends" in 1972) – but I also sold three and a half million copies between those two records. I just treated the contests as monstrous Top Of The Pops shows... "Congratulations" was not my favourite song in the world, but I knew it was a commercial middle-of-the-road song, and much as I love rock'n'roll, I also like making hit records. I'd be quite happy at this moment to be number one with a record I didn't like.

## Are you unhappy at the fact that you've never really broken through in America?

It does upset me because I've worked so hard at it and I would like to conquer the Fatherland of rock'n'roll. I'm not suicidal about it, though, and I have had nine Top 30 hits since "Devil Woman" in 1976 – but my identity isn't established there. For instance, I was buying some clothes in LA a few years ago and I picked out a real flash shirt and the guy said "Wow, where are you gonna wear that?", and I said "I'll probably wear it on stage", and he said

"Wow, are you a performer? What's your name?" and I said "Well, it's Cliff Richard". And he said "Who?" – he wasn't at all impressed – yet all the time "Devil Woman" was playing on the radio, and he was singing along with it.

So I just have to keep plugging along and be patient – I'll probably be the first 50-year-old pop idol in America... But even if I'm not, I'm quite happy with the fact that my career is littered with 86 British Top 30 hits and eleven number ones.

Elton's only had one Number One – and he shared that with Kiki Dee.

## Is it true that you once banned one of your own singles, "Honky

## Tonk Angel", thus depriving yourself of an 87th Top 30 success?

No, I didn't "ban" it, I just stopped singing it and refused to plug it. What happened was I was doing a Christian meeting and this girl got up and said "Did you know that your record is about a prostitute?" Well, crumb, I was horrified. I'd thought that a honky tonk angel was just another Amencanism for the third party in a love triangle. I phoned my manager and he phoned LA – that night the phone lines were buzzing – and we found out that in fact a honky tonk angel is not a prostitute but is a loose-moralled lady who hangs around honky tonk bars. Well, there were tens of thousands of Christian people who were going to be upset by that song, so I decided to stop singing it and I haven't sung it since that day – even though I think it's one of the nicest records I've ever made. I mean, I can be as aggressive a rock'n'roller as anybody, I can move like anybody, I've got a great band and we do stuff that's raunchy, but I like to think that anybody who comes to my shows, I will never embarrass them. And there's no way I can go on stage now and pretend that I'm not a Christian. I HAVE to say it.

## Do you think that without Christianity you might have ended up as a rock casualty or even a dead person like Elvis?

I don't really think so. Elvis' problem was that he needed the love of people around him, people who'd say "Elvis, don't eat those eight hamburgers, don't take those pills, Elvis you're making a big mistake". I have a feeling that he



was just surrounded by yes-men and it's so sad because he gave us so much and we the fans took everything from him and sucked him dry. And it's no good fans saying "We loved him" – my fans think I'm great and George Michael's fans think he's great and they do love us, but their love is not like the love of a mother or a husband or a wife... I mean, I've been suffering from viral labyrinthitis, and so isn't it strange that fans will demand you to stay there and sign autographs when in fact if they loved you, they'd say "get in the car, get out of the wet and the damp before you catch your death...".? But, of course, I was an Elvis fan and my love didn't help. I don't know that my Christianity would



have meant anything to him. He sang religious songs but I never once read a statement of Elvis' that said "Jesus is the master of my life". And my understanding of Christianity is that you commit your life to Jesus and you say "From now on, all that I do will bring You glory because my body is your temple". And I say to myself, Elvis didn't care for his body. He died drugged, overweight, depressed, pill-up, everything. As much as I loved him, I can only hope like mad that he sorted himself out spiritually before he died. But I'll never know. Not in this life... Oh, dear... Shall we move on to something light-hearted?

## Well, actually, my next question is one of the gravest import, i.e. why on earth have you not been knighted yet, Sir Clifford?

Oh crumbs! Well, I never even thought I'd get the O.B.E.! I almost made my mind up that if I was offered it I'd do the big martyrdom bit and not accept it because deep down in my heart I don't believe I've really done anything to deserve it. I've represented Britain for the last 27 years in a good way. I've managed to be scandal-free. I've been in the charts all over the world and I'm British and at the top of my profession. But I get paid for doing what I do and when I went to collect my O.B.E., there were people there who had done acts of great bravery – people who had lost their arms for their country and for their friends – for no material

reward. But I did accept the award and I loved it. It was fabulous. You mill around with two or three hundred people who are all getting honoured for different things and this kind of Sergeant Major character comes up and says "Right! All together here, by the left, quick march!" and he tells you exactly what to do: "You will face Her Majesty. You will bow. You will take two steps forward. She will pin this thing onto you. She may say something. She may not. You will take two steps back. You will bow. You will leave." Simple as that, but it was still really nerve-wracking. The Queen looks just like anybody's mother or aunt, but you know she's not. People who are anti-royalist get right up my nostrils the rest of the world would kill to have a Queen. Our history goes back to, what? 1066 and more, so we're talking about hundreds of years and she can trace herself right back there and she's connected by blood to all these people – with all their dreadful history, some of them – and that's why she's important and that's why Charles and Di are big everywhere in the world. I know it's only flesh and blood but I'm terribly royalist.

## Erm, the knighthood's in the post...

No, really, I loved getting the award: I loved the idea that the nation was saying "Well done, Cliff, thank you very much." That's nice. I know I'm no hero but I have done something perhaps no-one else will ever do. Unless they keep going and going for thirty years of more...







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Carl didn't know if it was  
a new Philips Compo or a Rubik's  
cube with detachable speakers.



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0.18% WRMS wow and flutter.'

Said Tony.

'Louder than a pair of fluorescent socks.'

Said Carl.





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# NIGHTS OUT

## LEVEL 4.2

### L O N D O N

You probably think that the only people who turn up at a Level 42 concert are the type of soul boys who wear white socks and loafers with bushy jumpers stuffed into their baggy designer jeans and say things like "well crucial" all the time. Well, you'd be wrong, for rubbing shoulders with the soul boye end girlr who file through the doore of the Hammersmith Odeon are the kind of studente and married couples you might bump into at a Phil Collins concert. Nevertheless, both groups of people are shocked at the £30 price tag attached to the official Level 42 t-shirts on sale in the foyer. OK, so they are v. fashionable nylon, Aerxay American Football style shirts with "42" printed on the front in white pleatley stuff. . . but 30 quid? Even the soul boye who might quite happily splash out £49.99 on a pair of designer pants keep their hande firmly in their pockets.

On stage, meanwhile, Merk King Je wearing one such pricey ehirt, but the

## Problem is, Mark's actually too much of a show off. . .

"42" is obliterated by the shiny base gultter strapped high on his shoulder. Cherged with endless energy end mind-boggling dexterity, Merk and his base are the stars of the show, end his 200mph funky eleppin', pluckin' style brings the audience to the feet again end again.

Problem is, though, Merk's actually a bit too much of a show-off. We ell know he's quite possibly the most brilliant base player ever invented and ell that, so does he really need to remind us of the fact every three minutes by interrupting catchy pop songs like "Livin' It Up", "The Chinese Wey" end their latest hit "Something About You" with long, clever interludes of self-indulgence? Perhaps he does - tonight's crowd certainly seem to think so. "Whoopin' it up, yelling end roaring like a bunch of frenzied heavy metal fans, they lap up every single minute of it - even though each song lasts about a quarter of an hour end ends up sounding exactly the same as the last one.

After a blistering encore of "Love Games" (surely their best song), I walked through the foyer end wondered if jazz funk fans stood in front of the mirror in the bedroom with imaginary fretless bass guitars strapped across their chests eleppin' the chunky infelible strings with their thumbs. Who knows? But there were a lot of baggy American football style t-shirt sold after the concert.

Simon Mills



## SADIE HARROGATE

Sadie Adu may have a most entrancing set of vocal chords end a face to match, but somehow this evening never really got off the ground. Perhaps it was the audience's fault: Harrogate is famous for being the poshest piece in the north of England end the people here did seem a particularly genteel bunch. A lot of furry animele must have died to keep some of them in costume, and they ell look far too well behaved to show too much enthusiasm.

Even so, all eyes are glued on the cool dark figure who steps onto the dimly lit stage to deliver a perfect version of the plaintive "Why Can't We Live Together?" But ee Sadie starts to run through her repertoire the ice doesn't seem to melt.

Sadie just doesn't look comfortable on stage; when it comes to the peelonate anti-racist song "Ter Baby" she stands there like a statue, occasionally lifting her arme in front of her, occasionally eyeing slightly from side to side. During "Smooth Operator",

## A few boisterous males in the audience indicate their approval with wolf whistles and Sadie looks understandably embarrassed. . .

while the group take their turn to run through a few dead flat end snazzy "licks", she ombie over to a bar stool near the rear of the stage and takes on a striking pose. She seems never really able to let herself go.

Her one party piece comes during "Your Love Is King", when, at the words "touch me. . .", she suddenly lets drop her red belt-boy jacket leaving herself dressed from head to toe in black. She pauses, turns round end yes, she's got one of those rather fetching beakless numbers on again. A few boisterous males in the audience indicate their approval with wolf whistles end understandably Sadie looke embarrassed.

Although each song is faultlessly executed, full of smoochy sax bits end jazzy little percussion parts, it's only when Leroy Osborne, a mountainous backing singer with a sweet soul voice, comes down to duet on "Mr Wrong" that things warm up for a bit. But then everything gets polite end restrained once more. After a first encore, "Sweetest Teboob", Sadie returns once more to round off the evening with a very cocktail bar-leh version of "Jezebel". There she is, back on the stool again, end I swear that even after an hour end a half there's not one bead of sweat on her face.

William Shew

# PREFABS

**Their singer used to work in a garage but now reckons he's "probably the best writer on the planet". And he'd like to be invisible . . .**

Paddy McAloon, Prefab Sprout's 28-year-old singer, guitarist and songwriter, is obviously relieved that "When Loves Breaks Down" is a hit, even if they did have to release it three times before it finally made it. Paddy, who has been known to refer to himself as "probably the best writer on the planet", has been trying to get his songs noticed ever since his schooldays in a seminary ("a catholic training ground for priests") near Newcastle. Here, he formed lots of bands with daft names like Grappled Institution (who used to play songs like the Beatles' "Eleanor Rigby" and David Bowie's "All The Young Dudes" as well as a few of his own early efforts to old ladies on Wednesday nights). After that he went to Newcastle Polytechnic where he "scraped through" a degree in English and History and wrote some more songs. Then he moved back home to live with his parents and spent the next five years working in a garage.

"It belonged to my dad, a small village concern that we couldn't really make anything of," he explains. "I had no interest in it - I can't even drive a car - and I hated having to work there but what I used to do was read and play the guitar all day in between serving people. All my famous songs - like "Faron Young" - I wrote either while I was at Poly or working in the garage."

Eventually the garage got so in debt that they had to close it. Luckily, after being



▲ PADDY McALOON

▲ WENDY SMITH

on the dole a while, Paddy's brother Martin (the group's bass player) got £800 for two months work as a nightwatchman which they spent on releasing a single, "Lions In My Own Garden (Exit Someone)". This got them the attention of the local Kitchensware label and by the spring of 1984 they had signed to CBS Records, released their first LP "Swoon", and were widely tipped to take the charts by storm. But it didn't happen. Instead the group (at the time Paddy, Martin and Wendy Smith on backing vocals - later joined by drummer Neil Conti) were slugged off for being wimps, "I had back", writing sixth form poetry, having a stily name and just about anything else imaginable. Even Paddy, usually extremely shy and soft spoken, gets worked up about that.

"Wimps? It's not even worth answering," he scowls. "If people mean by

that the opposite of strength then they've picked exactly the wrong word because what we do is immensely strong.

"How about 'laid back'?" "Forget it! People who say 'laid back' are the boys crew who like their rock n' roll loud and sweaty - music to them is wearing a pair of jeans or meeting a good-looking blonde girl - stereotypical masculine images. I suppose I should beat someone up who calls me that - maybe that would establish my masculinity."

"Erm, sixth form poetry?" "We are literary - in the sense that we are 'wordy' - but if we wrote sixth form poetry we would talk more about 'mystic seas', 'visions in the night', and 'clouds swirling across . . . What we are is lively language, though I'd admit that some of it is a bit top heavy.'"

It is a bit of a daft name though, isn't it? Paddy shrugs his shoulders. "I've said that I regret the day I

chose it because I've spent too much time answering questions about it, but I don't regret it really. I'm just annoyed and amazed that it's attracted so much attention in a world that's full of daft pop names and daft pop groups. Like The Thompson Twins - why are they called that if there's three of them? Frankie Goes To Hollywood, Echo And The Bunnymen, Tears For Fears - those are funny names."

And so, he agrees, is Prefab Sprout. He used to try to convince people that it came from mishearing a Nancy Sinatra song that goes "we got married in a fever / hotter than a peppered sprout". In fact, it means "absolutely nothing". Paddy having picked it years ago when he was around 14. "All the bands then had heavyweight names which meant nothing. I thought profundity lay in slapping two separate words together." Now he's stuck



▲ MARTIN McALOON

# NO UT

## WHEN LOVE BREAKS DOWN

MY LOVE AND I  
WE WORK WELL TOGETHER  
BUT OFTEN WE'RE APART  
ABSENCE MAKES THE HEART LOSE WEIGHT YEAH  
TILL LOVE BREAKS DOWN LOVE BREAKS DOWN

OH MY OH MY HAVE YOU SEEN THE WEATHER  
THE SWEET SEPTEMBER RAIN  
RAIN ON ME LIKE NO OTHER  
UNTIL I DROWN UNTIL I DROWN

WHEN LOVE BREAKS DOWN  
THE THINGS YOU DO TO STOP THE TRUTH FROM HURTING YOU  
THE LIES WE TELL THEY ONLY SERVE TO FOOL OURSELVES  
WHEN LOVE BREAKS DOWN  
THE THINGS YOU DO TO STOP THE TRUTH FROM HURTING YOU  
WHEN LOVE BREAKS DOWN WHEN LOVE BREAKS DOWN

MY LOVE AND I  
WE ARE BOXING CLEVER  
SHE'LL NEVER CROWD ME OUT  
I'LL BE FREE AS OLD CONFETTI  
AND PAINT THE TOWN  
PAINT THE TOWN

WHEN LOVE BREAKS DOWN  
THE THINGS YOU DO TO STOP THE TRUTH FROM HURTING YOU  
WHEN LOVE BREAKS DOWN  
THE LIES WE TELL THEY ONLY SERVE TO FOOL OURSELVES  
WHEN LOVE BREAKS DOWN  
THE THINGS YOU DO TO STOP THE TRUTH FROM HURTING YOU  
WHEN LOVE BREAKS DOWN  
THE LIES WE TELL THEY ONLY SERVE TO FOOL OURSELVES  
WHEN LOVE BREAKS DOWN  
THE THINGS YOU DO TO STOP THE TRUTH FROM HURTING YOU  
WHEN LOVE BREAKS DOWN  
YOU JOIN THE WRECKS WHO LEAVE THEIR HEARTS FOR EASY SEX  
WHEN LOVE BREAKS DOWN WHEN LOVE BREAKS DOWN

WORDS AND MUSIC BY PADDY McALDON  
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with it and with lots of "terrible pun headlines" like "From Brussels With Love", "Cabbage Patch Idols" and "Rotten Veg".

Still, after they've been successful for a while, people will get used to the name, he reckons. Whether Paddy will get used to being successful is another matter, however: he's rather in two minds about the benefits of being a pop star. The worst thing, he says, is that he doesn't get enough time to go home (he, Martin and his younger brother Michael all still live with their parents) to do what he really enjoys more than anything else — writing songs. And he can hardly think of anything he'd like to do with lots of money except maybe get a place in the Outer Hebrides. "I'll always live in the north of England but I want to do the Outer Hebrides for a holiday and really liked it. It's really remote, cold and bracing. I'd like to live somewhere like that." No New York penthouses?

Swimming pools? Servants? Apparently not. Paddy says he's not at all keen on that side of stardom — he hates being stopped in the street, making videos or even having his photo taken. He'd rather just carry on making records like the current (and rather excellent) "Steve McQueen" LP, and its follow-up "Protest Songs" out early next year. And if it ever became all too much for him, he claims, he would just disappear. "It'd be no problem," he says thoughtfully. "I've got the right temperament for it. I could be dangerously happy — very very happy — not to get out of my bedroom."

In fact, he says, "if we could be successful and I could be invisible that would be the perfect equation".



NEIL CONTI ▶



## SAVING ALL MY LOVE FOR YOU Whitney Houston

A few stolen moments is all that we share  
You've got your family and they need you there  
Though I try to resist being last on your list  
But no other man's gonna do  
So I'm saving all my love for you

It's not very easy living all alone  
My friends try and tell me find a man of your own  
But each time I try I just break down and cry  
'Causea I'd rather be home feelin' blue  
So I'm saving all my love for you

You used to tell me we'd run away together  
Love gives you the right to be free  
You said be patient just wait a little longer  
But that's just an old fantasy

I've got to get ready just a few minutes more  
Gonna get that old feeling when you walk through that door  
'Causea tonight is the night for feeling alright  
We'll be making love the whole night through  
So I'm saving all my love  
Yes I'm saving all my love  
Yes I'm saving all my love for you

No other woman is gonna love you more  
'Causea tonight is the night that I'm feeling all right  
We'll be making love the whole night through  
So I'm saving all my love  
Yeah I'm saving all my love  
Yes I'm saving all my love for you  
For you

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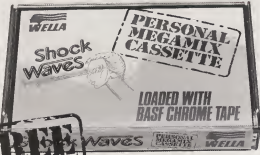
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**WELLA**

WHATEVER NEXT?



# PAUL McCARTNEY

## SPIES LIKE US

OOH OOH WHAT DO YOU DO  
 NO ONE ELSE CAN DANCE LIKE YOU  
 SO WHAT'S ALL THE FUSS  
 THERE AIN'T NOBODY THAT SPIES LIKE US  
 (HEY NEY WHAT DO YOU SAY)  
 SOMEONE TOOK YOUR PLANS AWAY  
 (SO WHAT'S ALL THE FUSS)  
 THERE AIN'T NOBODY THAT SPIES LIKE US

HEY DON'T FEEL AFRAID



OF AN UNDERCOVER AID  
 THERE'S NO NEED TO FUSS  
 AIN'T NOBODY THAT SPIES LIKE US  
 SPIES LIKE US OH

WE DON'T KNOW THE MEANING OF FEAR  
 WE PLAY EVERY MINUTE BY EAR  
 ONE FOR ALL AND ALL FOR ONE (OH)  
 EVERYBODY'S ON THE RUN (OH)  
 ESPECIALLY AT THIS TIME OF YEAR



OOH OOH WHAT DO YOU DO  
 NO ONE ELSE CAN DANCE LIKE YOU  
 SO WHAT'S ALL THE FUSS  
 AIN'T NOBODY GOT SPIES LIKE US  
 (HEY NEY WHAT DO YOU SAY)  
 NO ONE ELSE CAN LOOK THAT WAY  
 (SO WHAT'S ALL THE FUSS)  
 THERE AIN'T NOBODY THAT SPIES LIKE US

WE GET THERE BY NOOK OR BY CROOK



WE DON'T DO A THING BY THE BOOK  
 NEVER NEEDED SPECIAL CLOTHES (OH)  
 NOW WE DID IT NO ONE KNOWS (OH)  
 I GUESS WE MUST HAVE HAD WHAT IT TOOK

OOH OOH OOH  
 OH WHEN THINGS GET TOUGH  
 (OH WHEN THINGS GET TOUGH)  
 GUYS LIKE US ACT ROUGH  
 (GUYS LIKE US ACT ROUGH)



NEY NEY WHAT DO YOU SAY  
 SOMEONE TOOK THE PLANS AWAY  
 SO WHAT'S ALL THE FUSS  
 AIN'T NOBODY THAT SPIES LIKE US  
 SPIES LIKE US OH

(SPIES LIKE US) YEAN  
 REPEAT AND AD LIB TO FADE



WORDS AND MUSIC BY PAUL McCARTNEY  
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## LIONEL RICHIE

### SAY YOU SAY ME

Chorus  
 Say you say me  
 Say it for always  
 That's the way it should be  
 Say you say me  
 Say it together naturally

I had a dream  
 I had an awesoma dream  
 People in the park  
 Playing gamas in the dark  
 And what they played  
 Was a masquerode  
 From behind the walls of doubt  
 A voice was crying out

Repeat chorus

As we go down life's lonesome highway  
 Seems the hardest thing to do  
 Is to find a friend or two  
 That helping hand  
 Someone who understands  
 And when you feel you've lost your way  
 You got someone there to say  
 I'll show you

Repeat chorus

So you think you know the answers oh no  
 Well the whole world's got you dancin'  
 That's right I'm talling you  
 It's time to start ballievin'  
 Oh yes  
 Believe in who you are  
 You are a shining star

Repeat chorus

Say it together naturally

Words and music by Lionel Richie  
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# Mutterings

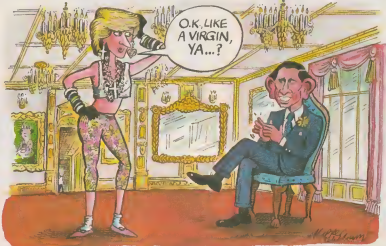
Did you know that if you laid every bar of Cadbury's Dairy Milk sold last year end to end it would stretch all the way around the world? And that in South America there is a tribe of people that believes God once walked around the earth leaving massive footprints every 1000 miles or so? It would be akin to a small boy walking around a melon, if you like. Makes you feel so small and insignificant, doesn't it? I mean, there must be billions of other planets out there — millions of alien plant-forms brimming with more intelligence than say, Noel Edmonds. Millions of species of dust that have more talent than the Stuz Bear Cats. Or Bobby Davro if it comes to that. Millions of rocks that can write better lyrics than Depeche Mode. It does make you think, doesn't it? Like looking into the sockets of the big black D — death, really. A man who knows all about that is **Simon B. Orr**. Only the other day he presented Larry "it's a sailor's life for me" Slater (the Royal Navy person who rescued him from the yacht) with a nautical award for bravery. "I owe my life to him," smiled Simon. "I didn't realize I'd saved a pop star. I'd got back," smiled Larry. "Oh, it makes you want

to cry," smiled a passer-by who came over all unnecessary. SLB 2. Nob El Norme, it seems, is to be one of the guests on **Paula Yates'** new Channel 4 late night chat show, tentatively titled *Ser Wuh Paul*. **Mick Jagger**, **George Michael** and **St. Bob Geidof** himself are also lined up for the series which, it is hoped, will get famous people to talk frankly about sex. Like, hey wow! My kinda show. Talking about you — know, what, it seems that lukewarm new pop combo **Eighth Wonder** got themselves banned from — wait for it — *Choppers Plays Puff!* And how did they manage this, pray tell? Did they say "bottom"? Or stick their tongues out at **Chiggers** himself? Nay, it was that old chestnut of the too revealing costume worn by singer **Fatsy Peppod**. A spokesperson for the BBC claimed the article of clothing (probably a cap-sleeved t-shirt knowing her standards) "was not suitable for 10 year olds". Pah. And we thought **Fatsy Kerol** was at least 15. **Syvester Stallone** is no stranger to showing off his acres of back (unfortunately). But did "Siv" as we people in the "biz" call him, is apparently having a bit

of a bad time of it lately. Since he made **Rambo**, "Siv" has got a leesy bit paranoid about safety and never goes out without at least four bodyguards. And in his office he's installed a gem metal detector which you have to walk through before you get to him. Heavy paranoid vibes, indeed. And who can blame him, in a world where **Madonna** sticks the boot in, doing a "crude" impersonation of Princess Di on American TV's *Saturday Night Live*. I mean, is nothing sacred? Opening the show with a "spoof" home movie of her own wedding, **Maddy** proceeded to "improvise" **Joan Collins**, **Marilyn Monroe** and our own dear Princess in a sketch which related to Charles telling her that she was going to have another baby. How jermily controversial. And then, before a commercial break, **Madonna** put a damper on the recent speculation that she herself was "in the family way" by saying "I'm not pregnant and we'll be right back". Worra madam, eh, pop chutte? **SPOTTED!** **Michael Jackson** getting off a plane on Los Angeles wearing a money muck. **Worldix**. **Diana Ross**, **Michael's** besse chum,

has just got herself married to a Norwegian multi-millionaire shopping magnate called **Arne Naess Jr.** (which means he must have inherited the jet from Arne Naess Sr.). He has climbed Everest and is a bit of an all round daredevil, apparently. He's got to be, really. **Howard Jones** is making a record with **Phil Collins**. It'll be a new version of the Mako showstopper "No One Is To Blame". **Whlam** have just had a 7 million dollar lawsuit slapped on them because their bouncer allegedly beat up a photographer on their recent US tour. That'll only leave them with about 187 squillion pounds if they lose. In 1986 **Simple Minds** and **U2** will each give one week of their time to the charity Amnesty International. "They will do anything, go anywhere to raise money," said a spokesperson for the charity. **Paul** (vintage-tinger-ostentatious-invidious) **King** is being taught Kung Fu by martial arts trainer to the stars (**Charles Bronson**, **"Siv" Stallone** etc.) **Joseph Cheng**, **Chengers** is also acting as King's bodyguard (he's also been a bodyguard for King Fahad and the Saudi Arabian Royal Family) and Paul had this to

say on his new minderboots. "I just hope he doesn't frighten our fans away. I don't mind the girls grabbing me, it's just the stoles I object to." That **Paul King**, it about as witty as the knobby thing on top of a beret. And last but not least, as they say in the "biz", a well known chain of bookmakers who shall remain nameless, as they say in the "biz", (G&J with it — Ed.) have, for the first time, started taking bets on what'll be the Christmas number one "pop" disc. At time of press, as they in the "biz", the **Band Aid** record was 4/6 favourites (whatever that means), but they reported heavy backing for the Children in Need charity record by **Cannad** (4/1), closely followed by "Dress You Up" by **Madonna** at 5/1 and **D.C. Lee** (**George Michael's** tip for the top, pop chums) bringing up the rear. If you pardon the expression, at 8/1, **Mubunge**'s money is on the Frank Sidebottom record and **Mer** doesn't even exist (thanks to **Elvis Costello** having stopped Frank from using "Oliver's Army" in his own inimitable fashion). So there, you bunch of capitalists, stick that up your jumper and smoke it. Till next we meet along the gigantic melon-ness, adieu!

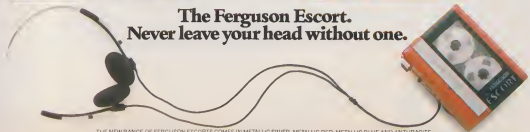


On American TV recently **Madonna** did a rather naughty impersonation of our very own lovely **Princess David**. She's still in shock.

Blah Blah Blah  
 Funny Thing happened this morning  
 Blah Waffle Blah never run on time Blah Waffle  
 Blah supper with Elsie's Mum Blah Blah  
 Best rhubarb crumble rhubarb rhubarb Blah  
 Blah Blah crippling mortgage rates Blurb  
 Blah Blah sweet peas ruined  
 Blah Blah Nigel's maths teacher  
 incredible woman Blah  
 Waffle



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