

# POP

MONTHLY  
TEN 1/-

No. 2



BOBBY DARIN · ADAM · BILLY · CLIFF · ELVIS



Editor and Publisher:  
A. HAND, 2 West Street, Heanor, Derbyshire.  
Tel.: Langley Mill 3842

London Editor:  
D. CARDWELL  
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FIRST SERIES

ISSUE No. TWO

## POP-TEN TOP THREE AS EXPECTED! . . .

but behind the scenes came shock shock shock!

Elvis, Cliff, Billy, Adam. These are the top four, and no eyebrows will be raised. Elvis's lead over Cliff was only matched by Cliff's lead over Billy, but I have a feeling that the Cliff fans will pull out every stop and cascade their votes in to narrow the gap next time. And Adam fans will hide their pain at Billy's unexpected big lead over him, and launch a postal attack too.

In short, the battle has only just started.

The remaining six artistes who made the Top Ten should have a battle royal, as they run very close together. Already the fan clubs have raised their banners and are urging their various members to shower their votes in, and I have a feeling that this may have a big bearing on the results next month.

One factor that has been gratifying to your editor, is the fact that his suspicions regarding some artistes have been proved beyond doubt: that just because people recognise a certain artiste as "the tops", they do not necessarily wish to read about him.

Frank Sinatra received a big vote of one!

Shirley Bassey received ditto.

Anthony Newley, Neil Sedaka, Perry Como, Frankie Laine, Jerry Lee Lewis, Ella Fitzgerald, Fats Domino, Matt Munro, Craig Douglas all got the big brush-off, yet their discs invariably sell exceptionally well.

On the other hand, Fabian—probably the States' biggest flop disc-wise over here, was voted No. 14 in the top ten listings. Shane Fenton also did exceptionally well, and Kookie—surely no disc king—hit No. 11 spot.

Jess Conrad, Buddy Holly, Connie Francis, Lonnie Donegan, Hayley Mills, Mark Wynter, Del Shannon, Chubby Checker, Russ Conway, Joe Brown, Pat Boone,

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Marty Wilde, Gene Vincent, and the irrepressible Tommy Steele all had their fair share of votes, and I have a sneaking feeling that Roy Orbison and Bobby Rydell will be rolling up their sleeves too.

And what's the betting Jimmy Dean hasn't captured a few hearts after his superb performance on "Sunday Night at the London Palladium"?

All in all, next month's list should prove exceptionally interesting.

In this month's issue, owing to the lapse of time between printing and putting "Pop-Ten" on the counters, a three-day "rush-vote" had to be taken, but as from next issue everything will be just what the doctor ordered . . . .  
OR SHOULD I SAY WHAT THE READER ORDERED.

So pile your votes in !

The Editor's hands are tied !

I CAN ONLY PRINT THE ARTISTES YOU VOTE FOR !

*The Editor*

#### POP-TEN PHOTO CAVALCADE

*The sources of the photographs used in this issue are as follows:*

##### ELVIS PRESLEY:

Front page, 20th Century-Fox, from "Wild in the Country".  
Page 4 & 19, from "Blue Hawaii".  
A Hal Wallis Production. A Paramount Picture.

##### CLIFF RICHARD:

Camera Press Ltd. Photo by Tom Blau.

##### ADAM FAITH:

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##### BOBBY VEE:

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*Remaining photographs of other artistes by courtesy of the artistes' record companies.*

England's

## Pop-Ten TEN-TOP ARTISTES

(As at March 1st, 1962).

Position	Artiste	No. of Votes
1	ELVIS PRESLEY	1,890
2	CLIFF RICHARD	1,308
3	BILLY FURY	732
4	ADAM FAITH	462
5	BOBBY VEE	369
6	EDEN KANE	219
7	HELEN SHAPIRO	207
8	THE SHADOWS	189
9	JOHN LEYTON	120
10	EVERLEY BROTHERS	75

#### On the Brink:

KOOKIE	69
RICKIE NELSON	63
JESS CONRAD	60

The above artistes were voted the top stars of to-day by the readers of "Pop-Ten Monthly", and as a result of this vote these artistes will be allotted an appropriate number of pages in NEXT MONTH'S

#### POP-TEN MONTHLY

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##### Special Note:

The Editor has absolutely no control over which artistes appear in Pop-Ten Monthly. IT IS ENTIRELY UP TO THE READER. Whenever you write to POP-TEN MONTHLY, write the name of your three favourite stars in the top left hand corner of the envelope. Alternatively write your three favourite stars on a POSTCARD, and send it to:

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**YOUR VOTE May Do The Trick!**





# "POP-TEN"

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# LULU

In this era of electronics used in recording, sound chambers, voice qualifiers, wind tunnels, magnetic tapings, etc., and various other devices employed on the backing of discs, it is a surprising fact that so much of the current trend in music is to go backwards rather than forwards.

Records, in particular those concerned with the 20's period, are selling as the trad jazz enthusiasts would say, "like crazy, man!" Clubs are springing up all over the country featuring up-to-date-numbers (?) such as the Charleston!

Unless one is inclined to carry out a gigantic survey as to this phenomenon there is no answer for this sudden surge to fringed dresses, cloche hats, and various other mannerisms of the Roaring Twenties! Or is there? Could it all really be due to one frail little blonde bombshell, known to thousands of disc fans and televiewers as 'Pinky'?

Obviously, a large slice of the disc public have thought so, as Pinky, or rather Dorothy Provine, as she should be called, has captured their hearts to the extent of getting her flapper-age, *Don't Bring Lulu* into the top twenty.

Her first appearance on the television series, "The Roaring Twenties", had hundreds of people enquiring as to whether or not she had made any discs. Warners were not slow to meet the challenge. With *Don't Bring Lulu* high in the charts, they rushed out two albums by Pinky and the Playmates,



"The Roaring 20's" and "Vamp Of The Roaring 20's", both of which raced up the best-selling albums lists with a speed which almost matched that of Dorothy's dancing!

But, who is this young, undeniably beautiful young miss, who has warmed the hearts of millions of British folk? If she hadn't got everyone practically eating out of her hand, Pinky might be classed under the heading of a "Hollywood weirdie". Why? Well, who else goes round wearing the same clothes off-stage as on?

Says Dorothy, "I wear my Charleston dress off-stage as well as on for the same reason I give parties with a '20's' flavour, because I love everything about those years! Let people think I'm weird, but if I had the opportunity to live in this age or go back to those years, believe me, I'd go back like a shot!

If I can make only a few people happy, then I'm happy. I nearly cried when the series came off television, but I'll continue to make records as long as the people want them".

But—a cruel blow for Dot came a few weeks back. With *Don't Bring Lulu* just out of the charts, and her three track new single, the top "A" side, *Looking For A Boy* almost entering the charts, her proposed visit to Britain to top the Palladium show was cancelled at the last minute with our own Helen Shapiro deputising for her.

The trouble was that Dot in her usual tearing hurry, fell over and injured her back. But nothing daunts this vitally-alive "flapper". Although ordered by her doctor to cancel all her British, French, Dutch and German engagements, she still expects to be over here in the next few months, certain in the knowledge that her British fans, old and young, won't have forgotten the pleasure she hands out.

PROVINE





# PLAYING IT COOL



Y'know, these last few weeks I don't know whether I've been on my head or my heels! The main fault is really due to my film, "Play It Cool", though it's not really a fault, far from it! See, in the film I play the leader of a Twist group called the Satellites. I'm known, if you haven't already heard, as Billy Universe.

Fine! O.K.! Except that, as many of you know, a couple of weeks back I picked a new backing group for the current tour I'm on, known as the Tornadoes! In the past, when someone used to say, "What group are you using to back you now?", I would be able to rattle them off straight away. Now, when someone asks who my current group is I'm never certain which one to say!

Talking about "Play It Cool" has set my brain box in motion, reminding me so many of you have written to me asking for something new about the movie. Well, all I can add is the numbers I sing in the production (plus the one I mentioned last time) *The Twist Kid*, are, *I Think You're Swell*, *Once Upon A Dream*, the title song *Play It Cool* and *Let's Paint The Town*.

I don't know about "Play It Cool", this film was nearly titled "Keep It Cool". Reason? They wanted me to have a cropped hair-cut! They reckoned it would suit the film better. It's lucky I didn't get mad—or I would have

turned into the first Fury-ious Satellite! Seriously, they were very nice about it, and thank goodness, the matter was dropped!

By the way my friend Danny Williams was rehearsing his number for the production, he looked as if he'd been dropped! No, that's not being very fair! What happened, just before we began shooting he had had a small-pox vaccination and every time he emphasised a break in the melody by lifting his arm, he must have felt like passing out! No disrespect, Dan!

On the subject of songs, more particularly discs, surprise! surprise! I never knew so many of you wanted me to sing a rhythm-and-blues number, but judging by your letters and the way it entered the charts, you are certainly keen on this style! Remember I said not long ago, last month to be exact, that I very much like the rhythm-and-blues stuff?

You certainly didn't have to wait long, did you! Personally, I think *Letter Full Of Tears* is a great number, and it did pretty well in the States by one of their singers. Your letters certainly weren't "full of tears".

Back to the film for a moment. The reason I want to talk about the film is not because I've gotten big-headed over it, but I'd like to tell you just a little bit more of the story plus something about my co-star, Anna Palk. I think personally that she is tremendous, not only as a person but as an actress, who let's face it, is not one of our more established stars.

BILLY

To me, and I know to practically everyone else, Anna was an enormous help. Although she has been acting quite some time now, this was also her first film, though I don't think she was building up as much tension inside as I was! As you are aware, many actors do not 'get on' with their leading ladies, this though was delightfully the reverse with Anna and myself.

I admitted that I hadn't seen a lot of her work—and she said she'd never heard of me, so we ended up the best of friends! In the film I play this pop singer who is supposed to be representing the South of England in an amateur contest in Brussels. I'm supposed to be in Belgium at a certain time, but fog delays the 'plane and I end up sitting beside Anna in the 'plane at Gatwick Airport.

I don't think in your own interests, I should tell you any more of the plot, at this period. I mean, it's always spoilt a film for me when someone has told me the story just before I've gone to see the actual production. Don't you agree? Not that I'll be getting the chance to see many pictures until about May, I'm still busy on this tour until the middle of April. Actually—just thought! I won't

have so much time to myself in May, as I've got 13 quarter-hour shows for Radio Luxembourg for my own show to record. Unlike last year I won't be having any guests.

They haven't fixed a date yet for "airing" it, but when they do I'll let you know. I should think about late June. Thinking on June, there is a young lady called June at least I think she's a young lady, who must have written about one hundred letters to me since *Letter Full of Tears* was released!

In every one she mentions, or rather asks me whether I've recorded this song a long while ago. No, I didn't actually have it released as a disc, but I did record it some time back, about Christmas. It wasn't considered then a safe risk for the charts, as rhythm-and-blues isn't the most popular of styles, but I'm glad to say Decca are always encouraging me to try different styles and new sounds all the time, especially Dick Rowe, their Chief Singles A&R man.

It was Dick incidentally, who said that *Letter Full of Tears* was a good song for me. Thanks a lot, Dick!—and everyone! Well, must be off now, folks, 'bye!



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# **BOBBY LOVES BRITAIN** ★ ★ ★

# ★ ★ ★ **BRITAIN LOVES BOBBY!**

“Gee, what a great country this is. Everyone wants to help me so much I guess I’m beginning to feel like an invalid! Everything seems to be completely different and new. I only wish I could thank all the fans I’ve met, especially those who waited at the airport, but anyway, my sincere thanks to everyone for all their kindness”.

The speaker, dynamic young Bobby Vee, whose highly successful tour of Britain was ample proof that he will be ever welcome to these shores. It was a memorable occasion for Bobby’s fans a short while ago, when he stepped off the plane to start his British tour. Before being given a chance to catch up on some rest, he was rushed off to a northern TV studio to pre-record a “Thank Your Lucky Stars” programme.

The first surprise for Bobby was the presentation on the show of a Silver Disc for his platter, *Take Good Care Of My Baby*, which zoomed unerringly to the top three in British best-sellers. It was obvious to everyone present that the Disc was a great surprise and tremendous thrill to this popular artist.

The only comment he would make was, “Any more going spare?” There shouldn’t be any worry for Bobby on

that score, for in his home town he is being hailed as the artist likely to win top honours in future polls both here and in the United States.

To further this belief, only a month ago he was voted by American disc fans as “Teenager Of The Year”. At present his career is progressing in leaps and bounds, so much so that before he reaches 21, he is all set to be as established an artist as Elvis. Since *Devil Or Angel*, he has hit British and US best-sellers with almost monotonous regularity. From *How Many Tears*, *Rubber Ball*, *Baby Face*, *More Than I Can Say*, *Take Good Care Of My Baby*, to his latest hit *Run To Him*, which at the time of writing was slowly dropping, enjoying a lengthy stay in both top tens.

A great disappointment, happily, the only one when he toured here, was his performance, or rather the critics remarks about his performance on the London Palladium. I’m certain that not only Vee fans but music-lovers of every singer will agree that these remarks were not justified!

**BOBBY V**



One newspaper TV reviewer, who should have been experienced enough anyway to notice what was wrong, finished his review with, "Young Mr. Vee had better get used to appearing before so many people. His nerves seem to be gradually making his voice get fainter and fainter!" This kind of criticism makes me boil! It was perfectly obvious to those viewing and those actually present that the mike was in bad shape, secondly, for some unknown reason, the usually brilliant Palladium orchestra were lagging through Bobby's songs at least two bars behind!

Although very disappointed, Bobby said after the show, "It could have happened to anyone. Anyway if one's career went perfectly easy all through life, I reckon I wouldn't have so much fun. I don't want to get a swelled head now or any other time, so it's better to have one or two shortcomings."

I'm glad to report that such an event as Bobby becoming swell-headed is not likely to occur. A small instance of his wanting to remain as normal as other guys his age came when his manager Snuffy Garrett asked him just before his British tour whether he would like a new Cadillac. Bob gave one of his typically disarming answers. "What do I want with a Cadillac? I'd have nothing to live for then!"

Not that Bobby spends a great deal of dollars on anything. Snuffy remarked, whilst in Britain, with more than just a touch of pride in his voice that, "Bob gets along on only a few dollars a week. Most of his spare time he spends writing songs".

The latest Vee composition is the Crickets new single, *I'm Feeling Better*. Perhaps it's not surprising that Bob should pen a melody for the Crickets, as not only is he one of Buddy's greatest fans, but one of his (Bob's) backing guitarists Tommy Allsup, was with the original Crickets team.

Whilst over here Bob has also managed to fulfil one of his dreams, and that is to record his own radio show. The astounding fact that Bob had never had his own radio programme was quickly put right by London's Radio Luxembourg. Vee fans were exultant! If they couldn't get to see Bobby, a quick flick of the wrist and they were rewarded with a great selection of Bob's hits!

Bobby gave his final views on our country before flying back to the States. "I've had a ball! I only wish I could have stayed longer. I hope some of my fans will manage to catch me in the movie, "Swinging High" when it is released". So saying, one of the most popular Americans to visit Britain departed to catch his plane.

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# “-Think I'd make a good mechanic?”

asks

## Cliff Richard



Hallo! I'm writing this article a few days before my current tour finishes (March 11). We've been 'on the road' now for about six weeks, and everything, due to all of you, has made this one of the most successful, if not the most successful tours we've ever

done in Britain!

I'm very sorry if we didn't manage to include your particular town, but even a six-week tour can't hope to cover every locality, though we have certainly covered some ground. From time to time, various people have mentioned that personal appearances were not so certain of success now as they were when rock was first introduced to this country—but I wouldn't mind betting they'd have changed their minds if they'd have been on this tour!

My congratulations to Bobby Vee as well, for the great shows he gave with Tony Orlando and Clarence Henry. Seems like they had as much fun on their tour as we did! Talking about Bobby, I dropped in on his first British recording session a few weeks back. Although the

session didn't start 'til around midnight, Bob looked as fresh as a daisy, and boy! was he on form!

There are not many artists who can tape a disc in one 'take', most singers usually take three or four at the least, but Bobby went through them like a bomb! His A&R man, Snuffy Garrett, reckons it's very unusual for him (Bobby) to have more than three 'takes'.

Obviously, I can't tell you what the titles are, but he did wax through until the early morning, so as you can guess, he has cut quite a few—and I sincerely hope they are all best-sellers.

Thanks for the letters after we had finished our 'gusting', that is the Shadows and I, on the "Parade of the Pops" a couple of weeks ago. It's a rare occurrence for both me and the boys to guest on there, but as those of you who heard the programme know, this was a special occasion. Back in 1960, we had the privilege of being the first artists to transmit for the programme, and this last occasion was the 100th edition of the show!

Say! Think I'd make a good mechanic? Reason I'm asking is that in my new film, I play the role of a mechanic—and a bus mechanic at that! Tedd Green Richard O'Sullivan and Melvyn Hayes who you'll probably remember appeared with me in "The Young Ones", will be in this one as well.

I can't let you into the script too much but the general theme runs along the lines that the bus I'm supposed to be

**CLIFF**

repairing, well, gets repaired and me and the boys 'borrow' it and go for a joy-ride throughout the Continent with four girls! Should be a real gas! I hope you all like it as much as you did "The Young Ones". We start shooting somewhere about the 1st of June, so it really should be a "summer holiday".

Gosh! I nearly forgot to mention something that happened two weeks ago that gave me as much a thrill as when it happened to me two years ago. You probably know what I'm talking about, my stage appearance at the Royal Film Show, before Her Majesty The Queen. It's moments like this when I realise how very lucky I am—and very proud!

That is one engagement that still makes me feel nervous, so you can guess how glad I was to have an old friend there with me, Pat Boone. It made me feel a bit better to know that Pat was going through the same feeling of tension that I was!

While I'm on the subject of old friends, I should be meeting up with quite a crowd of them at Wembley on March 25, when the annual Record Star Show is held by the Stars' Organisation For Spastics. Helen Shapiro will be there, (Isn't her latest disc great?) John Barry and his group, Adam Faith, my mate, and Matt Munro, and a host of others! I hope you all get there for the show—

for it reminds me of a special instance that I've never forgotten.

A long time ago, I did a personal appearance up North, and having finished my act, went back to my dressing-room to wait until I was wanted for the final curtain. Now my dressing-room was not very far down the corridor from the stage door. Outside I heard the stage-door keeper arguing with someone that he or she couldn't come in for my autograph.

Well, as I don't usually get very tired on one-nighters, I thought I might as well pop down the corridor and sign whoever's book it was, hoping that a crowd wouldn't turn up, and make it a "free-for-all". I only got halfway down the corridor when the stage doorman met me. He said that there was only one girl out there, but he wouldn't let her in.

To cut a long story short, the young lady in question was a spastic in a wheelchair—and yet she was a delightful speaker, and we chatted in my dressing-room for the rest of the show. Admitted, the doorman was wrong in this case, but he maintained that he was only doing his job of keeping anyone from mobbing the stars. So, please, when you do happen to get round the door, please realise that someone might get hurt if there is a rush. Anyway, look after yourselves! Cheerio!



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Oh, by the way . . . The address of the Cliff Richard Fan Club is:-  
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# EVERYTHING HAPPENS TO ELVIS

Scene: Main Street of typical small town in the 'Southern' state of Tennessee. Time: Saturday night, the traditional night for 'going out', when old and young alike prepare to enjoy themselves. But this is a different township to others that border it. The reason is displayed in the next few minutes, as a long white Cadillac glides along the dusty road.



The fantastic gleaming white monster slows outside the local drugstore and out clambers a tall well-dressed young man. The next five seconds show the white Cad literally covered in girls of every size and shape, all yelling, screaming, shouting, with one universal voice, "Elvis!"

Yes, Elvis was back from filming his latest movie, and didn't the town know it! By the time passers-by had recovered their wits, the car was speeding back to Elvis's home Graceland. That small instance was some time ago—but time has not changed anything!

The almost miracle-like success of his discs and movies has brought little or no peace to Elvis's life. Yet perhaps the most amazing thing is that Elvis doesn't regret one second of the time spent in forcing his way through hundreds of people, or dodging regular meals so that a few extra minutes could be spent entertaining the small groups of men and women who wait outside in all weathers.

Questioned recently on how many guards he has around his Memphis home Elvis shrugged and said, "Ah, well, guess I really don't know. Most of them are personal friends of mine who like to help me out, or relatives". If he is not too tired, El invites one or two 'spectators' in for coffee and a chat.

One time he did this Elvis has never forgotten. "I looked out of my window one night, and saw this girl standing outside looking at the house. So I asked Mom if it was O.K. to have her in for tea. Well, anyway, we had the girl in for tea—and would you believe it? She was talking about how long she had been there and she just fell asleep!"

There have been some times that have not been so pleasant, however, one amongst them when Elvis walked out of a hotel where he was staying to complete a film, and walked straight into a fist coming the other way! It turned out that the fellow on the other end had done it, as he said later in court, "because my wife prefers Elvis's singing to mine".

One little thing that Elvis has learnt since he started movie-making, which has given him as much satisfaction as probably anything he has done, is his ability to hold the floor at a Press conference without the Colonel being there. Ever since the beginning of his career, Elvis has been plagued by Hollywood 'scandal' columns berating him for always having the Colonel in attendance at any big meeting.

There was only one way to quell these rumours, and Elvis took it. From then on the Colonel stayed modestly in the

ELVIS

background. On one occasion, however, Presley came up against a young Pressman whose idea of questions was to ask the most personal he could think up.

He had not reckoned though, with Elvis's quick wit. One of his less personal questions was, "Who in your opinion, is the most beautiful girl you have ever escorted for an evening out?" Before the words had hardly left his mouth, Elvis came back like a shot with, "Who is the best girl you've ever taken out?" Bewildered, the reporter muttered, "I work hard. I don't have much time to take girls out". "Neither do I", grinned Elvis, "looks like we're in the same boat".

That is an answer so typical of Elvis. Where many other artists would have taken offence at questions of this category (and rightly so) Elvis takes them all with a smile and a quick comeback. At the moment, both Presley and the Colonel are too busy to hold many Press Conferences. Colonel Tom Parker is reputedly turning down offers of TV for Elvis, unless the proposers are prepared to pay something in the region of £55,000! For one performance!

At the same time, film companies are bidding with each other for Elvis to appear in a movie which with his other film commitments, could not possibly be started before the end of this year. As stated last month, films so far confirmed are "Pioneer Go Home", re-titled "Follow That Dream", "Kid Galahad" (which by the way, is a United Artists movie and *not* for MGM), and "Jambalya", which has now been re-titled as "Cumbo Ya Ya".

Yet another movie confirmed is "Mister Will You Marry Me?" Somehow I don't think Elvis would need an answer to that question . . . .

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# TWIST KING CHUBBY

To hold a so-called 'title' in the show business 'jungle' of today is virtually an impossibility. Take Elvis, for example. Is he the "King" of Rock? "Yes," say his many followers. "No," scream hundreds of others, all claiming Bill Haley or Gene Vincent for the respective 'crown'. Is Cliff the "King" of Ballads? Again, a mighty "Yes", backed up by an equally resounding "No", from Sinatra fanatics. And on, and on, and on!

But at long last a singer has broken through the barrier to become an undisputed "King", and at the same time scored a double achievement! None other than "Twist King" Chubby Checker, whose double achievement lies in the fact that he holds the title to both the singing and the dancing performances of this frantic craze that is sweeping Australia, Africa, France, Britain, Germany and the United States!

The originator of the dance and the discs to back them, Chubby's platters are selling like the proverbial, 'hot cakes'! In his own country until very recently, his recording of *The Twist* hit the No. 1 slot, a fantastic achievement alone, as at that time, the U.S. top ten contained no fewer than four twists!

Over here he fared even better. Two waxings in the top ten, the *Twist* and his follow-up, *Let's Twist Again*, while two rush-released albums swung high into the best-selling LP charts, one of which this versatile artist recorded in no less than seven languages!

When twisting couples had danced themselves into shock, they relaxed at the cinema watching—yes, you've guessed it, Chubby's cherubic face in the fast-moving movie, packed with celebrities, "Twist Around The Clock".

Just to make sure everybody was doing the twist properly, in flew "Twist King" Checker himself, to fulfil crowded TV engagements and hastily-lined up, personal appearances. At the time of going to press, Chubby had just finished playing to packed houses, whilst his TV appearances had the viewing audience figures rising sharply.

But, perhaps the most amazing point, that *still* has Checker shaking his head wonderingly, is, why has it taken so long for the "Twist" to catch on, and why the twist? The reason for all this amazement is easy. It was almost sixteen months ago that the *Twist* and Chubby's recording at that, was released both both here and in the United States!

"This", chuckled Chubby, "must have been the longest "sleeper" ever heard of in the disc field".

Since that period, Checker has revived the song and dance here and back home, and again, his first waxing has gone to the No. 1 spot in the States. During the time it died out in his own country, however, and before it caught on here, Chubby hasn't been idle. He helped to promote the other discs and the dances which have all swept America. The Slop, the Fly, the Hully-Gully, the Fish, and the latest rather oddly titled, the Pop-Eye, have all had something to do with Checker.

On his recent tour here, Checker quoted, "Nearly all of those dances had tremendous success back home, and I don't think it will be long before this country follows the pattern as well". Somehow, I just can't picture me Slopping!

**CHUBBY**



# “Singing’s Real Hard Work”

says **John Leyton**

Hi again! Seems like ages since I had the time to sit down and spend a few quiet moments writing. I’ve just been thinking of how a person in one form of occupation always envies the other person’s job. You all know what I mean, the number of times you repeat to yourself, “I wish I had his (or her) job. Mine’s nowhere near as good as that”.



The truth of the matter is that all the faults of that ‘marvellous’ job are not quite so apparent at first sight. This thought struck me a long time ago, before I turned to singing, in fact when I was still an actor in the “Biggles” series.

After a long day of rehearsals, I used to mutter to myself about the easy life the singers had. Just waxing records, then relax all day before going on to a quick personal appearance, then home to bed. Needless to say, I’ve now changed my mind! Don’t get the wrong idea. I’m not cribbing about how hard I work! If you like anything a lot, then you gain more satisfaction out of doing it better.

I must admit though, that it looks as if I’ve got a hectic year in front of me. Apart from the usual one-nighters, some of which I’m still concentrating on with Billy Fury, Joe Brown, Karl Denver and Eden Kane, the heaviest part of my schedule comes at the beginning of October.]

Then I start one heck of a tour throughout Europe. When I’ve finished that, which will be at the end of October,

I’m off on another one to the Far East, China and Japan, Israel, then Australia and New Zealand.

It’s a pity I can’t take my recording manager, Joe Meek, with me. He’s one of the back-room boys who never ‘get the laurels’, so to speak, but he has done one tremendous job in helping my career. My discs, *Johnny Remember Me*, *Wild Wind*, *Son*, *This Is She* and *Lone Rider* were all recorded in his private recording studio.

I know many musicians deplore this kind of ‘homemade’ recording, but take it from me, Joe is the most brilliant man I’ve ever met in this field. One bar in a melody doesn’t sound right, and back we go through the whole song again.

A short while back, Joe literally worked himself to a standstill rush-recording, *Son*, *This Is She* in French and German for release over there. Some of you may have seen a film ‘short’ I made showing me making *Son*, *This Is She*. We’re, that is Joe and I, going to get these same scenes done in different languages for showing in the countries I plan to tour, as many as possible on their television.

After all, it’s a bit ridiculous singing an English song to people who only understand Arabic, or something like that. Don’t you agree?

Still, I’ll let you know more about my tours when I get back. It’s always easy to say what places are like and the people when you’ve actually met them. I know one thing. They’ll have to go like good ‘uns to beat my British fans! Cheers!

**JOHN**



# EDEN PLAYS BOXER!



ex-boxing champion Freddie Mills!

I've just been learning there are harder things in show biz than I thought possible, such as a great big boxing glove trying to spread part of my nose to match the rest of my face! I wouldn't mind so much if the fellow on the other end wasn't

Well, I reckon I asked for it—literally! Actually, it's all in aid of my new film, we haven't titled it yet, but I play the lead role of a boxer! I didn't know what I was letting myself in for, but really it's quite exciting. I bet I must have driven Freddie up the wall, trying to learn his different boxing techniques, and at the same time keeping myself away from his fists!

It's a pity Elvis's film in which he plays a boxer hasn't been released yet, I hear he's very good with his fists, and I might have picked up some tips. Suppose I'd better not say too much about Elvis, or I'll end up in some argument—I usually do! The reason is, as you know, I'm probably one of the biggest candidates for El's No. 1 fan!

That's something I'm glad I got round to. I want to thank every one of you for helping to put my disc, *Forget Me Not* in the charts, a disc which caused me more anxiety than all the others put together. I suppose every artist gets the same feeling when the schedule release date for his (or her) third waxing is looming up.

You see, for some inexplicable reason, an artist's second platter usually gets in the charts, but Bang! when the third comes out, nobody—artists, disc companies, managers—are really certain whether it will reach the best-sellers or not.

Believe me, to have the feeling I got when I saw, *Forget Me Not* up among the top five, you'd have had to win the pools or something! My nervousness was increased by the number of people who wrote to me telling me to stick to exactly the same sound as I used on my other two recordings, *Well, I Ask you*, and *Get Lost*.

In my opinion, no matter how much success a singer has with a particular sound, that is to keep on using the same backing, similar lyrics, etc., he should change to new sounds, for instance using string backing as opposed to a guitar one. Elvis is one of the best examples I can give you of what I mean.

Hey! That's something I'd nearly forgotten! You see, I'm going to the States later this year for about four weeks to do some TV shows and personal appearances. (I hope I don't get too home-sick!) Must be off now, do some limbering up to ease my aching bones!

EDEN



2 x 2 =

## THE KNIFE

"Big-headed" ? Yes, I suppose I seem to be to a lot of people. I know for a fact quite a number of musicians whom I've never worked with say I 'over-work', if you want to call it that, the backing groups I use when I'm recording. So quoted recently Bobby Darin, star of stage, discs, radio, cabaret, television, and it is generally admitted, "the most versatile American film actor to hit the screens since the late James Dean."

Re-iterated Bobby, "It's just that I demand perfection in everything I do. Heck, all the musicians that have worked with me, whether it's on an album using a full orchestra, or a six-man team in a night-club act, know I want every detail exactly right, no matter how long it takes or how many times we have to go over it".

That is Darin. Self-assured, even cocky to a point, but the facts are there. Discs? Smash hit after smash hit ! Top ten singles and best-selling albums. Cabaret ? Absolutely wowed every person who had the opportunity to see him. It is reputed that he could live on the earnings of his cabaret solos alone. Stage shows ? Fantastic—breaking box-office records wherever he appears.

And so it goes on. Radio, television both say the successful story. As to his movie career, let it suffice to say that he turns down more film roles than older experienced actors have ever seen.

From his world-wide hit, *Mack the Knife* (from which, incidentally, he collected a Gold Disc) to his latest American best-seller, *Irresistible you*, (the flip-side was the hit here) Bob's

future, like his discs, is really swinging along. His happiest moment, though, as Darin will tell you regardless of whether you want to know or not, was, "Playing opposite my wife in 'Come September'. It was the easiest role I've ever played—I think the same goes for Sandy."

Anyone having the misfortune to have missed this film, will know that Bobby says that 'tongue in cheek', for in the actual movie, Bobby and Sandra Dee, his young actress wife, were to, or so the script demanded, "fall in love !" Laughed Bobby at the premiere. "I remember the producer telling us to look as if we loved one another".

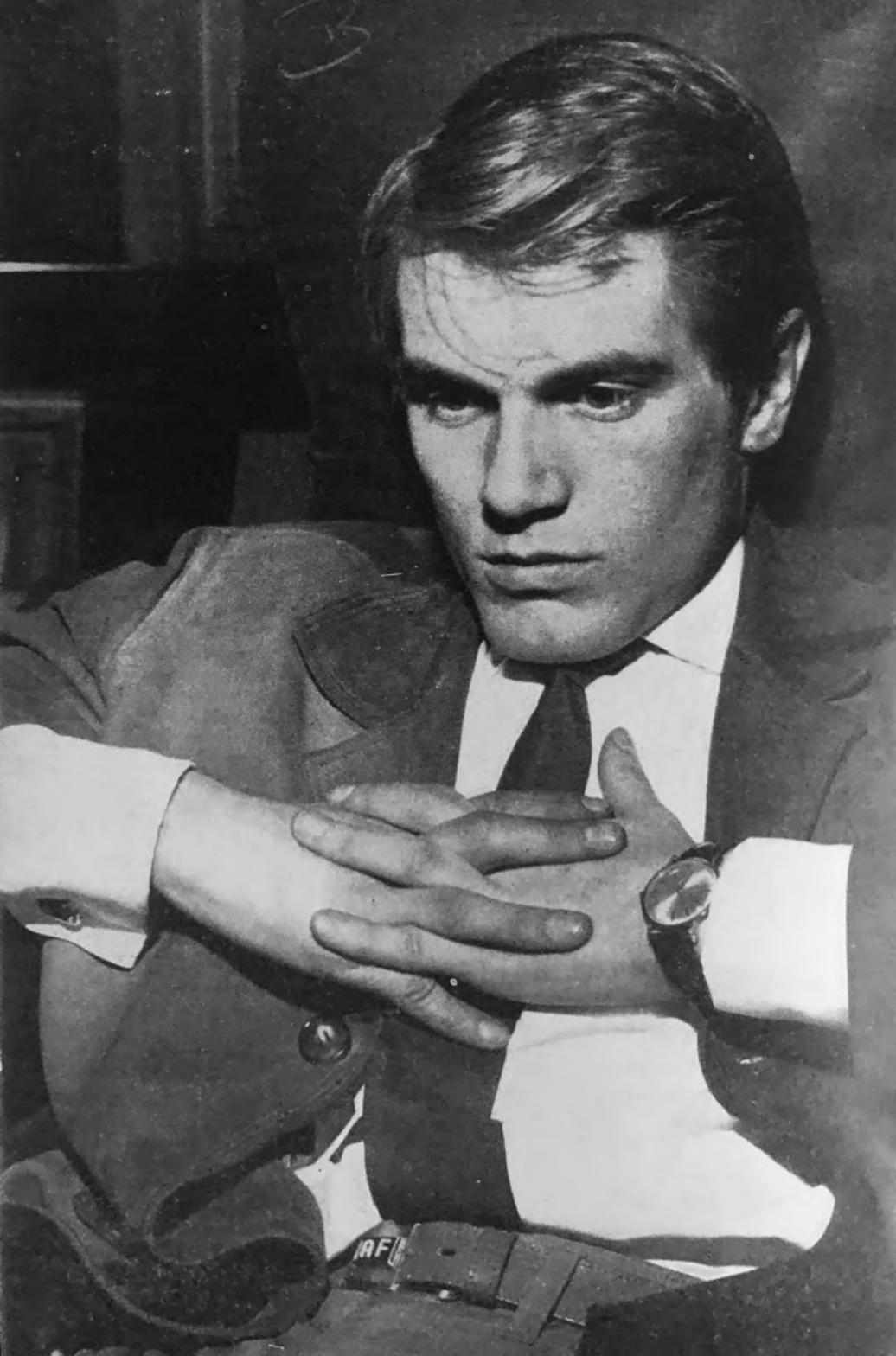
An example of Bob's demand for perfection was displayed in "Come September". Not only did he play a lead role, he also composed the theme music behind it, wrote a vocal version of the number, and waxed *September* with the Bobby Darin Orchestra. In the States it reached the top thirty, subsequently selling well over here.

Then, to cap it all, while negotiating for his next screen-play, he learnt that *Multiplication*, a number he had sung in a night-club sequence in the movie had brought an avalanche of letters from his fans, and non-fans !

Needless to add, the platter reached the top five both here and in the US "Hot Hundred". It's a near certainty that if his next movie with his wife, "If A Man Answers", contains any melodies, that his fans won't be long in requesting those too !

Darin also has another film lined up with James Cagney, "The Last Westerner", while his co-starring role in "State Fair" with Pat Boone will be seen shortly. Asked to sum up his life at present in a few short words, Bob let go with, 'State Fair' !

DARIN



# RIDING? I LOVE IT!

## BUT IT HAS ITS SORE POINTS

says Adam Faith

**Shh-Pow-WoW!!!** If anyone would like an interpretation, or they're not quite sure what those words constitute, I will now endeavour to explain! Remember last month I mentioned I'd like to act in some more films in the near future? Wow! I never knew so many of you wanted to see me on the old moving screen again!

Everybody has really put their heads down sifting possible material, bless their hearts! Anyway, 'fraid there's not much I can add to what I said last month except that there is one film definitely lined up. I'm not quite certain of the actual date, but we've had everybody racking their brains like mad to think up an appropriate title, and we've now tentatively called it, "Mix Me A Person". Like it? I reckon it's "fair dinkum", as our friends down under say!

By the way, many thanks for the letters you all wrote in when I was a bit under the weather a few weeks back. I had quite a reading session sitting in bed, but they bucked me up tremendously. Ooh! While I'm on the subject of letters, quite a few of you wrote and asked me if I'm going abroad for my holiday this year.

To be truthful I don't know whether I'll have time for a holiday but if I do, I'm making for a place where there is plenty of horse-riding. When I was a lot younger, I never had a great love for horses, but after I tried some riding last year, I've gone absolutely potty on them!

I can't think of many more enjoyable ways of relaxing than riding through the countryside. It was a big thrill to me when I finished learning how to ride, and I was let out alone. I made sure I kept tight hold of the reins, though. I'd have looked a right idiot coming back without the horse!

But there is a point in riding—and it gets pretty sore! Caught on? Learning to ride is O.K., if you remember to go up in the air when the horse gallops! In fact, you could say the horse teaches *you* how to ride!

Something else I like doing when I can spare the time, and that's having a look round the old antique shops hidden in little corners of the city. Many of you have written and asked me whether it's true that I collect antiques. Yes and no! Yes, I do collect antiques, but no, I haven't got hundreds!

I'm waiting for the day I buy an old chair and find it's worth thousands of pounds. I'll tell you if I ever do, but 'til then my new West End flat will have to put up with the less expensive, more modern sort.

I'll let you into a secret. They're a darn sight more comfortable!

ADAM

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