

RECORD MIRROR

September 4 1976 12p

3 DISC



TWIGGY- chart fashion

Manfred
lights up

Alan
Longmuir-
farmer to
farmer

Colour
poster of
Rod Stewart

British Top 50 Singles

1	1	DON'T GO BREAKING MY HEART, Elton John / Kiki Dee	Rocket
2	5	LET 'EM IN, Wings	Parlophone
3	2	A LITTLE BIT MORE, Dr. Hook	Capitol
4	3	JEANS ON, David Dundas	Air
5	4	IN ZAIRE, Johnny Wakelin	Pye
6	9	YOU SHOULD BE DANCING, Bee Gees	RSO
7	6	HEAVEN MUST BE MISSING AN ANGEL, Tavares	Capitol
8	8	DR. KISS KISS, 5000 Volts	Philips
9	17	YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO, Chi-Lites	Brunswick
10	7	NOW IS THE TIME, Jimmy James & The Vagabonds	Pye
11	18	YOU'LL NEVER FIND, Lou Rawls	Philadelphia
12	19	16 BARS, Stylistics	H&L
13	11	WHAT I'VE GOT IN MIND, Billie Jo Spears	UA
14	14	EXTENDED PLAY, Bryan Ferry	Island
15	10	HERE COMES THE SUN, Steve Harley & Cockney Rebel	EMI
16	23	DANCING QUEEN, Abba	Epic
17	13	MYSTERY SONG, Status Quo	Vertigo
18	22	THE KILLING OF GEORGIE, Rod Stewart	Riva
19	12	MISTY BLUE, Dorothy Moore	Contempo
20	16	THE ROUSSOS PHENOMENON, Demis Roussos	Philips
21	41	DOINA DE JALE, Gheorghe Zamfir	Epic
22	25	NICE AND SLOW, Jesse Green	EMI
23	29	TRY TO GET IT TOGETHER, Barry White	20th Century
24	36	HERE I GO AGAIN, Twigg	Mercury
25	26	AFTERNOON DELIGHT, Starlene Vocal Band	RCA
26	46	I CAN'T ASK FOR ANYTHING MORE, Cliff Richard	EMI
27	28	MORNING GLORY, James & Bobby Purify	Mercury
28	15	HARVEST FOR THE WORLD, Isley Brothers	Epic
29	21	KISS AND SAY GOODBYE, Manhattans	CBS
30	-	Y VIVA SUSPENDERS, Judge Dread	Cactus
31	20	LOVE ON DELIVERY, Billy Ocean	GTO
32	43	DANCE LITTLE LADY DANCE, Tina Charles	CBS
33	32	JAILBREAK, Thin Lizzy	Vertigo
34	44	ARIA, Acker Bilk	Pye
35	47	MAKE YOURS A HAPPY HOME, Gladys Knight & The Pips	Buddah
36	24	SHAKE YOUR BOOTY, K. C. & The Sunshine Band	Jayboy
37	50	HEAVEN IS IN THE BACK SEAT OF MY CADILLAC, Hot Chocolate	RAK
38	38	NIGHT FEVER, Fatback Band	Spring
39	39	LOVING ON THE LOSING SIDE, Tommy Hunt	Spark
40	33	A FIFTH OF BEETHOVEN, Walter Murphy	Private Stock
41	-	BLINDED BY THE LIGHT, Manfred Mann Earthband	Bronze
42	35	IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN, Neil Diamond	CBS
43	48	SATIN SHEETS, Bellamy Brothers	Warner Bros
44	45	IT'S SO NICE, New Seekers	CBS
45	42	LULLABY OF BROADWAY, Winifred Shaw	UA
46	-	WORK ALL DAY, Barry Biggs	Dynamic
47	-	SHANNON, Henry Gross	Life Song
48	-	MISSISSIPPI, Pussycat	Sonet
49	-	I NEED IT, Johnny Guitar Watson	DJM
50	-	I WANT MORE, Can	Virgin

Because of the August Bank Holiday, the BRMB Top 50 UK singles chart and the UK Disco Top 20 were unavailable at the time of going to press. We are therefore reprinting last week's charts.

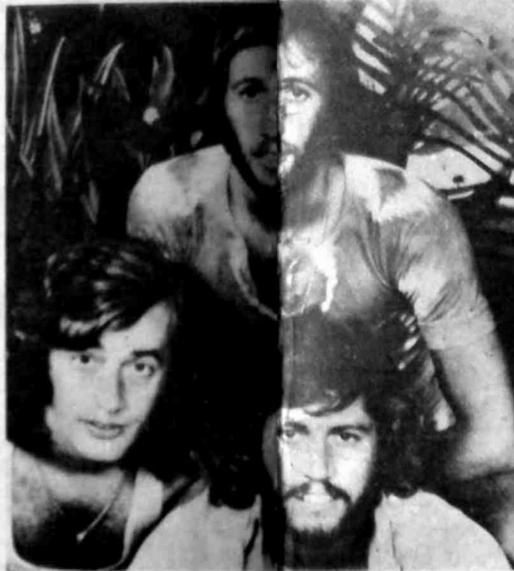
UK Disco Top 20

1	1	DON'T GO BREAKING MY HEART, Elton John & Kiki Dee	Rocket
2	2	HEAVEN MUST BE MISSING AN ANGEL, Tavares	Capitol
3	3	JEANS ON, David Dundas	Air
4	6	NOW IS THE TIME, Jimmy James & The Vagabonds	Pye
5	4	YOU SHOULD BE DANCING, Bee Gees	RSO
6	7	IN ZAIRE, Johnny Wakelin	Pye
7	11	YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO, Chi-Lites	Brunswick
8	5	SHAKE YOUR BOOTY, KC & The Sunshine Band	Jayboy
9	9	A LITTLE BIT MORE, Dr. Hook	Capitol
10	18	NICE AND SLOW, Jesse Green	EMI
11	8	YOUNG HEARTS RUN FREE, Candi Staton	Warner Bros
12	12	EXTENDED PLAY, Bryan Ferry	Island
13	-	LET 'EM IN, Wings	Parlophone
14	13	YOU'LL NEVER FIND ANOTHER LOVE, Lou Rawls	Philadelphia
15	10	HARVEST FOR THE WORLD, Isley Brothers	Epic
16	16	HERE COMES THE SUN, Steve Harley & Cockney Rebel	EMI
17	14	MYSTERY SONG, Status Quo	Vertigo
18	15	DR. KISS KISS, 5000 Volts	Philips
19	-	RUBBERBAND MAN, Detroit Spinners	Atlantic
20	-	I NEED IT, Johnny Guitar Watson	DJM

US Top 50 Singles

1	2	YOU SHOULD BE DANCING, Bee Gees	RSO
2	4	YOU'LL NEVER FIND ANOTHER LOVE, Lou Rawls	Philadelphia Int'l
3	3	LET 'EM IN, Wings	Capitol
4	5	I'D REALLY LOVE England Dan & John Ford Coley	Big Tree
5	6	SHAKE YOUR BOOTY, K.C. & The Sunshine Band	TK
6	7	PLAY THAT FUNKY MUSIC, Wild Cherry	Epic
7	8	A FIFTH OF BEETHOVEN, Walter Murphy	Private Stock
8	1	DON'T GO BREAKING MY HEART, Elton John & Kiki Dee	Rocket
9	46	LOWDOWN, Box Scrabble	Columbia
10	10	THIS MASQUERADE, George Benson	Warner Bros
11	13	SUMMER, War	United Artists
12	12	BABY I LOVE YOUR WAY, Peter Frampton	A&M
13	14	SAY YOU LOVE ME, Fleetwood Mac	Reprise
14	9	GET CLOSER, Seal & Crofts	Warner Bros
15	17	HEAVEN MUST BE MISSING AN ANGEL (Part 1), Tavares	Capitol
16	19	WITH YOUR LOVE, Jefferson Starship	Grunt
17	20	DEVIL WOMAN, Cliff Richard	Rocket
18	24	IF YOU LEAVE ME NOW, Chicago	Columbia
19	21	A LITTLE BIT MORE, Dr. Hook	Capitol
20	22	STILL THE ONE, Orleans	Asylum
21	23	WHO'D SHE GOO, Ohio Players	Mercury
22	15	LOVE IS ALIVE, Gary Wright	Warner Bros
23	25	WHAM BAM, Silver	Arista
24	11	KISS AND SAY GOODBYE, Manhattans	Columbia
25	27	SHE'S GONE, Hall & Oates	Atlantic
26	28	SHOWER THE PEOPLE, James Taylor	Warner Bros
27	29	GETAWAY, Earth, Wind & Fire	Columbia
28	18	ROCK AND ROLL MUSIC, Beach Boys	Brother / Reprise
29	31	STREET SINGIN', Lady Flash	RSO
30	33	I CAN'T HEAR NO MORE / MUSIC IS MY LIFE, Helen Reddy	Capitol
31	26	TURN THE BEAT AROUND, Vicki Sue Robinson	RCA
32	36	ONE LOVE IN MY LIFETIME, Diana Ross	Motown
33	35	YOUNG HEARTS RUN FREE, Candi Staton	Warner Bros
34	-	DISCO DUCK (Part 1), Rick Dee & The Cast of 101	RSO
35	41	MAGIC MAN, Heart	Mushroom
36	30	AFTERNOON DELIGHT, Starlene Vocal Band	Windings
37	-	ROCK N' ME, Steve Miller Band	Capitol
38	-	THAT'LL BE THE DAY, Linda Ronstadt	Asylum
39	47	DON'T STOP BELIEVIN', Olivia Newton-John	MCA
40	49	(DON'T FEAR) THE REAPER, Blue Oyster Cult	Columbia
41	43	DOCTOR TARR & PROF. FETHER, Alan Parsons Project	20th Century
42	32	I'M EASY, Keith Carradine	ABC
43	34	MOONLIGHT FEELS RIGHT, Starbuck	Private Stock
44	-	SUPERSTAR, Paul Davis	Bang
45	37	SPRINGTIME MAMA, Henry Gross	Life Song
46	-	POSSIBLE TOES, Michael Franks	Reprise
47	-	GET UP OFFA THAT THING, James Brown	Polydor
48	50	HEY SHIRLEY (This Is Squirrel), Shirley & Squirrel	GRT
49	-	GET THE FUNK OUT ME FACE, Brothers Johnson	A&M
50	48	IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN, Neil Diamond	Columbia

RECORD MIRROR



THE BEE GEES: Number One in the States

Yesterday Charts

5 YEARS AGO

1	1	I'M STILL WAITING	Diana Ross
2	2	NEVER ENDING SONG OF LOVE	New Seekers
3	9	HEY GIRL DON'T BOTHER ME	The Tams
4	5	IN MY OWN TIME	Family
5	3	WHAT ARE YOU DOING SUNDAY	Dawn
6	4	LET YOUR YEAR BE YEAH	The Pioneers
7	8	SOLDIER BLUE	Buffy St. Marie
8	15	IT'S TOO LATE	Carole King
9	7	DEVIL'S ANSWER	Atomic Rooster
10	4	GET IT ON	T. Rex

10 YEARS AGO

1	1	YELLOW SUBMARINE	The Beatles
2	2	GOD ONLY KNOWS	The Beach Boys
3	9	ALL OR NOTHING	The Small Faces
4	4	THEY'RE COMING TO TAKE ME AWAY HA HAA!	John Lennon
5	5	WITH A GIRL LIKE YOU	Napoleon XIV
6	5	MAMA	The Troggs
7	7	VISIONS	Dave Berry
8	17	TOO SOON TO KNOW	Cliff Richard
9	10	LOVERS OF THE WORLD	Roy Orbison
10	12	SUMMER IN THE CITY	David and Jonathan

15 YEARS AGO

1	1	JOHNNY REMEMBER ME	John Leyton
2	2	YOU DON'T KNOW	Helen Shapiro
3	4	REACH FOR THE STARS / CLIMB EVERY MOUNTAIN	Shirley Bassey
4	6	ROMEO	Petula Clark
5	3	WELL I ASK YOU	Eden Kane
6	5	HALFWAY TO PARADISE	Billy Fury
7	7	A GIRL LIKE YOU	Cliff Richard
8	20	AIN'T GONNA WASH FOR A WEEK	The Brook Brothers
9	18	CUPID	Sam Cooke
10	8	TIME	Craig Douglas

UK Soul Top 20

1	1	HEAVEN MUST BE MISSING AN ANGEL	Tavares
2	2	YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO	The Chi-Lites
3	7	I NEED IT	Johnny Guitar Watson
4	3	NICE AND EASY	Jesse Green
5	5	YOU'LL NEVER FIND	Lou Rawls
6	4	MISTY BLUE	Dorothy Moore
7	15	NIGHT FEVER	Fatback Band
8	6	MORNING GLORY	James & Bobby Purify
9	10	HARVEST FOR THE WORLD	Isley Brothers
10	9	GET OFFA THAT THING	James Brown
11	17	BABY WE BETTER TRY	Barry White
12	12	TEAR THE ROOF OFF THE SUCKER	Parliament
13	8	LOVING ON THE LOSING SIDE	Tommy Hunt
14	11	NOW IS THE TIME	Jimmy James & The Vagabonds
15	13	USE YOUR HEAD	Little Anthony & The Imperials
16	14	KISS AND SAY GOODBYE	The Manhattans
17	20	IT ONLY TAKES A MINUTE	Tavares
18	16	MAKE YOU'S A HAPPY HOME	Gladys Knight & The Pips
19	19	SHAKE YOUR BOOTY	KC & The Sunshine Band
20	18	IT'S BETTER THAN WALKING OUT	Marlene Shaw

Star Breakers

1	1	LET'S FALL IN LOVE	Barry Sarstedt	Decca
2	3	MOONLIGHT FEELS RIGHT	Starbuck	Private Stock
3	4	IF ONLY FOR THE GOOD TIMES	Guys & Dolls	Magnet
4	1	LIVE AT THE MARQUEE	Siddle & The Hot Rods	Island
5	5	WHEN THE TRAIN COMES IN	Sutherland Brothers & Quiver	CBS
6	1	I ONLY WANT MY LOVE TO GROW IN YOU	Strawbs	Polydor
7	7	GET UP OFFA THAT THING	James Brown	Polydor
8	8	RUBBER BAND MAN	Detroit Spinners	A&M
9	9	TRAVELLIN' LIGHT	Audley Farweather	Low
10	10	BABY I LOVE YOUR WAY	Peter Frampton	A&M

Record Mirror / BBC Chart

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

British Top 50 Albums

1	1	20 GOLDEN GREATS, The Beach Boys	EMI
2	2	LAUGHTER AND TEARS, Neil Sedaka	Polydor
3	4	GREATEST HITS 2, Diana Ross	Tamla Motown
4	-	THE FRONT LINE, Various	Virgin
5	5	A NIGHT ON THE TOWN, Rod Stewart	Riva
6	3	FOREVER AND EVER, Demis Roussos	Philips
7	9	WINGS AT THE SPEED OF SOUND, Wings	Parlophone
8	7	GREATEST HITS, Abba	Epic
9	6	A LITTLE BIT MORE, Doctor Hook	Capitol
10	8	PASSPORT, Nana Mouskouri	Philips
11	14	JAILBREAK, Thin Lizzy	Vertigo
12	13	CHANGES ONEBOWIE, David Bowie	RCA
13	11	VIVA ROXY MUSIC (LIVE), Roxy Music	Island
14	10	BEAUTIFUL NOISE, Neil Diamond	CBS
15	26	THE BEST OF GLADYS KNIGHT AND THE PIPS	Buddah
16	19	THEIR GREATEST HITS, 1971-75, The Eagles	Asylum
17	17	BLUE FOR YOU, Status Quo	Vertigo
18	12	HAPPY TO BE, Demis Roussos	Philips
19	20	ATLANTIC CROSSING, Rod Stewart	Warner Bros
20	29	FRAMPTON COMES ALIVE, Peter Frampton	A & M
21	16	LIVE IN LONDON, John Denver	RCA
22	61	BREAKAWAY, Gallagher and Lyle	A & M
23	25	ROCK AND ROLL MUSIC, The Beatles	Parlophone
24	15	SAHB STORIES, The Sensational Alex Harvey Band	Mountain
25	24	THE DARK SIDE OF THE MOON, Pink Floyd	Harvest
26	23	THE BEATLES 1962-1966, The Beatles	Parlophone
27	31	SIMON AND GARFUNKEL'S GREATEST HITS, Simon and Garfunkel	CBS
28	23	OLIAS OF SUNHOLLOW, Jon Anderson	Atlantic
29	41	I'M NEARLY FAMOUS, Cliff Richard	EMI
30	18	A KIND OF HUSH, Carpenters	T-Nack
31	30	SKY HIGH, Tavares	Capitol
32	42	DIANA ROSS, Diana Ross	Tamla Motown
33	-	HASTEN DOWN THE WIND, Linda Ronstadt	Asylum
34	28	TUBULAR BELLS, Mike Oldfield	Virgin
35	-	JOAN ARMATRADING, Joan Armatrading	A & M
36	22	WISH YOU WERE HERE, Pink Floyd	Harvest
37	35	THE BEATLES 1967-1970, The Beatles	Parlophone
38	27	ELTON JOHN'S GREATEST HITS, Elton John	DJM
39	55	GREATEST HITS, Barry White	20th Century
40	38	A NIGHT AT THE OPERA, Queen	EMI
41	36	TWIGGY, Twigg	Mercury
42	54	ROLLED GOLD, Rolling Stones	Decca
43	-	STEAL YOUR FACE, Grateful Dead	United Artists
44	40	DESIRE, Bob Dylan	CBS
45	46	A TRICK OF THE TAIL, Genesis	Charisma
46	44	SOUVENIRS, Demis Roussos	Philips
47	34	GREATEST HITS VOL 1, Don Williams	ABC
48	32	ONE MAN SHOW, Mika Harding	Philips
49	68	SGT PEPPERS LONELY HEARTS CLUB BAND, Beatles	Parlophone
50	39	COMBINE HARVESTER, The Wurzels	One-up

US Disco Top 20

1	1	YOU SHOULD BE DANCING, Bee Gees	RSO
2	1	(Shaka, Shaka, Shake) SHAKE YOUR BOOTY, KC & The Sunshine Band	TK
3	3	YOUNG HEARTS RUN FREE / RUN TO ME / DESTINY, Candi Staton	Warner Bros
4	4	PLAY THAT FUNKY MUSIC, Wild Cherry	Sweet City
5	5	BEST DISCO IN TOWN / ARABIAN NIGHTS, Ritchie Family	Marlin
6	1	YOU'LL NEVER FIND, Lou Rawls	Philadelphia International
7	7	GETAWAY, Earth, Wind & Fire	Columbia
8	8	TAKE A LITTLE, Liquid Pleasure	Midland International
9	9	DON'T TAKE AWAY THE MUSIC, Tavares	Capitol
10	10	YOU GOT THE POWER, Camouflage	Roulette
11	11	PICNIC IN THE PARK, MF50	Philadelphia International
12	12	5TH OF BEETHOVEN, Walter Murphy & The Big Apple Band	Private Stock
13	13	DAZZ, Brick	Bang
14	14	THIS MASQUERADE, George Benson	Warner Bros
15	15	ONE FOR THE MONEY, The Whispers	Soul Train
16	16	YOU + ME - LOVE, Undisputed Truth	Whitfield
17	17	I DON'T WANT TO LOSE YOUR LOVE, Emotions	Columbia
18	18	CERCHEZ LA FEMME, Dr. Buzzard's Original Savannah Band	RCA
19	19	DOWNTOWN TO LOVE TOWN, The Originals	Motown
20	20	IF YOU CAN'T BEAR 'EM JOIN 'EM, Mark Radice	United Artists

Newsdesk

01-607 6411

NEWS EDITOR: ROSALIND RUSSELL

Osibisa set 16 dates

OSIBISA ARE to tour Britain throughout September and October and have a new single and album released to coincide with the tour.

The dates are: Derby, Baileys (September 8), Stoke Baileys (9), Blackburn Baileys (10), Leicester Baileys (14) Watford Baileys (21), Glasgow City Hall (26), Newcastle City Hall (27), Sheffield City Hall (28), Manchester Palace (30), Birmingham Odeon (October 1), Cardiff Cpaital (2), Oxford New Theatre (3), Brighton Top Rank (8), London New Victoria (9), Wolverhampton Civic (10), and Reading University (October 16).

The single 'Coffee Song' is released on September 10, and the album 'Ojah Awake' on October 1.

Ex-Trem for Marmalade

PAUL MORRISON, formerly with the Tremoloes, has joined Marmalade as guitarist and keyboards player. Their single 'What You Need Is A Miracle' has just been released.

Natalie at New Vic

NATALIE COLE, the daughter of Nat 'King' Cole who had a UK hit with 'This Will Be', makes her British concert debut on September 30 at the New Victoria Theatre, London. She will also appear at the New Luxury Theatre, Southampton in October. Both concerts will also feature Tavares, presently scoring with 'Heaven Must Be Missing An Angel'.

Sisters surprise Ronnies

THE SURPRISE SISTERS, from Blackburn, Lancs, who had a hit with 'La Booga Booga' earlier this year, headline a two week season at Ronnie Scott's Club, London from Monday, September 13. They are currently recording a new single with Tony Visconti, and RCA are planning to re-release their first LP - 'Surprise Sisters' - to coincide with the London season.

ROD NAMES NEW BAND

US TV debut

ROD STEWART has announced the line-up of his new band and his plans for next year. As previously reported, Stewart will begin his world tour in Scandinavia in November with 10 dates, and then on to the rest of Europe, reaching Britain around Christmas. He plays Glasgow on New Years' Eve.

The band's line-up is: Carmen Appice (drums), Gary Grainger (lead guitar), Jim Cregan, formerly with Cockney Rebel, (guitar), John Jarvis (keyboards), Philip Chen (bass) and Billy Peak (guitar).

In April and May next year, Rod and his band will be working on a new album - the follow up to

'A Night On The Town'. A tour of the States will happen in the Summer.

The British dates will be announced as soon as they are finalised.

A TV documentary entitled 'Rod The Mod Comes Of Age' is screened in BBC2's 'The Lively Arts' series on September 26. The 75 minute long programme shows 'behind the scene' activities at rehearsals.

But the new band make their debut on US TV on September 18 on Don Kirchner's Rock Music Awards, for which Rod has been nominated Best Male Vocalist.



STEWART: busy boy



HOLLY: 40th anniversary

That'll be the week

THERE will be a special Buddy Holly Week from September 7-14.

Holly, who died aged 22 in a plane crash on February 2, 1959, would have been 40 this September 7 and McCartney Music, Holly's publishers for the last three years, have decided to hold a commemorative week.

Norman Petty, Holly's manager, co-writer and producer, will attend a special luncheon, and coming to Britain for the week.

MCA are to re-promote the double album of 33 Holly classics 'The Legend' and bring out three Holly maxi-singles this Friday. Denny Laine, Wing's guitarist, is to release a version of 'It's So Easy' coupled with an instrumental 'I'm Looking For Someone To Love'. Linda Bonstadi has released 'That'll Be The Day' as a single.

A Buddy Holly Night will be held at the Lyceum in London's Strand on September 9 with guest groups and a rock disco, plus a live competition with Holly mementoes as prizes.

THE DRIFTERS start a three month tour of the UK opening at Newcastle Mayfair Ballroom on September 24 and closing at West Runton Pavilion, Norfolk, on December 4. Other dates are: Ayr Darlington Hotel (25), Aberdeen Russells (27) and Watford Baileys (29/30).

Their new single, 'Every Nite's A Saturday Night With You', has just been released.

Bilk's six ACKER BILK, currently in the charts with 'Aria', is to play six nights at the London Palladium from September 26 to October 2.

October Harvest

BARCLAY JAMES HARVEST embark on a major 23 date British tour this Autumn, coinciding with the release of their latest album 'Octoberon'.

The tour opens at the Sheffield City Hall on October 7 and continues at: Birmingham Odeon (8), Manchester Free Trade Hall (9), Newcastle City Hall (10), Edinburgh Usher Hall (11), Glasgow Apollo (12), Leeds Town Hall (13), Liverpool Empire (14), Oxford

New Theatre (18), London Hammersmith Odeon (19), Portsmouth Guildhall (21), Cambridge Corn Exchange (22), Southend Kursaal (23), Croyden Fairfield Hall (24), Cardiff Capitol (25), Bristol Glaston Hall (26), Bournemouth Winter Gardens (27), Leicester De Montfort Hall (28), Peterborough ABC (29), Ipswich Gaumont (30), Norwich Theatre Royal (31), Hanley Victoria Hall (November 2) and Malvern Winter Gardens (4).



BARCLAY JAMES HARVEST: 23 dates

Whovenir

THE STORY OF THE Who, a double album featuring 26 tracks from the group's 11 year career is released in Mid-September. Retailing at £4.49, the album includes a souvenir eight-page booklet, plus many of their hits and extracts from 'Tommy'.

BLUE RIVER

JONATHAN KING has tactfully withdrawn his latest single 'Mississippi' in face of what he describes as "insurmountable odds". The original version by Passavay entered the charts last week.

Cardiff

SUPPORT ACTS for the Queen concert at Cardiff Castle on September 10 are Frankie Miller's Full House, Andy Fairweather Low and Ritchie Blackmore's Rainbow. Compete for the show is Bob Harris.

Feely freebie

THE FIRST 30,000 issues of the Dr. Feelgood live album 'Stupidity' will include a free single of live cuts of 'Johnny B. Goode' and 'Riot In Cell Block No 9', unavailable elsewhere.

Support band for their UK tour, which kicks off at Bradford St George's Hall on September 15, as reported last week in RECORD MIRROR, will be the George Hatcher Band.

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Newsdesk

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NEWS EDITOR: ROSALIND RUSSELL

Jimmy at the Pally



JIMMY JAMES one off released on September 10 called 'Super Soul Sister'. It's taken from their debut album 'Too Hot To Handle' - scheduled for October release.

JIMMY JAMES & The Vagabonds, Gloria Gaylor and Heatwave are to appear in a special concert at the London Palladium on September 26 at 8.00pm. Tickets are now on sale and cost from £1.50 to £3.50. James is currently in the charts with 'Now Is The Time' and Heatwave have a new single

Cliff's 'double' tour

CLIFF RICHARD begins his British tour on October 1 at the Dublin Royal Society Concert Hall.

The first leg of the tour will be gospel and the second part secular. Before the tour he will begin work on his follow up album to 'I'm Nearly Famous'.

The other dates are: Belfast Wellington Hall (2), Watford Town Hall (6), Southampton Gaumont (7), Middlesbrough Town Hall (8), Newcastle City Hall (9), Chatham Central Hall (13), Bristol Orlston Hall (14), Reading Town Hall (15) and Eastbourne Congress Theatre (16). "Secular" dates begin: Birmingham Odeon (Oct 22/23), Southend Pavilion (27), Croydon Fairfield Hall (28), Bournemouth Winter Gardens (30), Manchester Free Trade Hall (Nov 3), Southport New Theatre (4/5), Halifax Civic Theatre (6), Coventry Theatre (10/11), Leeds Grand Theatre (12/13), Stoke Jollees Club (17-20), Edinburgh Usher Hall (25) and Glasgow Apollo (26/27).



CLIFF RICHARD: dublin 'up

KOOL 13 DATES

KOOL AND The Gang return to Britain for a 13 date tour this Autumn. They will be backed by four lady singers and support group for the tour is FBI. Dates are: Cardiff Top Rank (September 15), Hammersmith Odeon (17), Bournemouth Village Bowl (18), Southampton Top Rank (19), Bristol Baileys (21), Brighton Top Rank (22), Liverpool Empire (24), Dunstable California Ballroom (25), Reading Top Rank (26), Derby Baileys (28), Stoke Baileys (29), Manchester Free Trade Hall (October 1) and Birmingham Odeon (2).

RECORD MIRROR

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RODS ON THE ROAD

EDDIE & The Hotrods, whose EP has just entered the breakers, are to play dates during September. They are: London Marquee (September 3), Dudley JB's (4), Edinburgh Tiffany's

(6/8), Middlesbrough Poly (18), London Marquee (21) and Swansea Patti Pavilion (24). The Edinburgh dates will be the band's first in Scotland.

TWO TO TOUR

TWO BANDS who appeared at the Knebworth festival - Lynnyrd Skynyrd and Todd Rundgren's Utopia - will return to Britain to tour in the early part of next year. Meanwhile, the Lynnyrd Skynyrd live double album, 'One More From The Road', will be released in October.

POCO HAVE been forced to cancel their British Autumn tour. No official reason has been given.

News in brief

Woody Woodmansey's 'U' Boat make their London debut at The Marquee on September 9. Jasper Carrott dates for October include: Worcester Swan Theatre (17), Sheffield Oval Theatre (18), Leeds Playhouse (22), Ipswich Theatre (24), Bedford Civic Theatre (26) and London Library Theatre (28). The Hollies have a new single released on September 10. Taken from their forthcoming LP, it's called 'Daddy Don't Mind'. The Walker Brothers have a new single out on September 17. Titled 'Lines', it's the title track of their new album which is due for release in October.

Joan's Odeon special

JOAN ARMATRADING, whose album has just entered the album chart, plays a special one-off concert at the Hammersmith Odeon on September 23. It is her first British concert since last Autumn. Support group is Moon.

Choppers to the rescue

THE NEW SEEKERS have found an unusual way of reaching their gigs. They are booked to appear at the Jollees Club in Stoke in September 3, but they will also be attending a CBS dinner in London on the same evening. To get round the problem, they are hiring three helicopters to fly them north directly after their London appearance.

Mail Order Marvin

MARVIN GAYE has added two extra dates to his forthcoming British tour. He will play two concerts at the Royal Albert Hall on September 27. Tickets are by postal application only from the Ember Concert Division, Suite Four, Carlton Tower Place, London SW1. Prices are £8, £5, £3.50, £2.50, £1.50 and £1. The other date is on October 5 at the Bournemouth Winter Gardens. The Midlands venue has been changed to Hingley Hall on October 2 instead of the 4th.

Where there's Smokie . . .

WHAT HAPPENS? You explode on the scene courtesy of songwriters Chinn and Chapman. You have three big hits and you're looking good.

And then . . . the doldrums. Smokie, formerly Smokey, are in those doldrums.

They started with a loosely based West Coast rock style combined with catchy hooks.

Add the desperate vocals of Chris Norman and you have a sure-fire winner.

Then came 'Wild Wild Angels' and only the few wanted to know. It made the Breakers, but the top Fifty remained elusive.

So what does happen? Especially to a group's morale when that all important magic carpet - the singles chart - is snatched away?

The Bradford-based foursome aren't too pleased, of course, but they've got answers. Like that damned pesky chart, for instance.

'The week after 'Wild Wild Angels' entered the Breakers at Number Two came the chart mix-up at Easter and that affected a lot of records. It should have gone up, but didn't.

Chris Norman's non-chalant Northern twang drops out the facts and the group agree. Their appearance on 'Top Of The Pops' in the 'new release' spot was too early because the disc wasn't even available in the shops.

He's thankful their Los Angeles recorded album 'Midnight Cafe' has so far found 25,000 buyers and will be re-promoted with the boys' next single.

That single, 'I'll Meet You At Midnight', is the watershed - and don't they know it.

there's life

By David Hancock

shoulder, the Europeans and those Germans in particular have been lapping them up - hits galore and, recently, a six-week sell-out tour.

'The idea was to become more respected as we went on and do the things we wanted to. But it hasn't been working,' he confesses.

'The 'Midnight Cafe' album, which we thought the best we'd done, didn't get very good reviews.'

The band believe people tend to bracket all Chinn and Chapman groups as the same thing. It's very annoying," is how Chris puts it.

Smokie refuse to be drawn on questions about their relationship with the famous songwriters but say that by January (if that's not too far ahead) there'll be a single 'Baby It's You' written by themselves.

Chris perks up to add that it's already been recorded.

Another thing that upsets Smokie about the British scene is that even

his groups still have to play very small time gigs, which they don't have to do on the Continent.

'We're not working at the moment,' admits Chris, 'because we don't want to go back to doing navy camps.'

And how! After years in the business they've also covered every holiday camp in the country.

'People have said we were going to be Chinn and Chapman's first unteenybop act and then they said we weren't,' adds Chris.

Appeal

'Well we're not; we're anything we want to be, like the groups in the Sixties. We want to appeal to a cross-section of fans in the same way as . . . say 10cc.'

But pop fans demand to know what type of a group you are, be it from reggae to heavy metal.

That's probably our downfall because you can't stick a label on us. We're just a band that's



ME HEAP Big Chief, you Smokie. But where are the signals?

been working for a long time," sums up drummer Pete.

'Yeah, but we want to do even better,' reflects Chris.

And they will because they've been playing far too long under too many different names to let such a minor setback as a miss single throw them.

So for all people who save last paragraph pens it's fair to say - Smokie may have been dampened down but (thankfully) the fire's not been put out!

Yellow Bird is Dead



FINALLY
STEEL
GOT
SOUL



A NEW ALBUM FROM

20th Century Steel Band

ALBUM UAS 29980 · CASSETTE TCK 29980

KEITH RICHARD and his guitar tuner move towards the hotel lift; **Keith giving a slight lurch.** Before sucking up the Rolling Stone, this London elevator spews forth one Mr Warren Duffy, resplendent in white yachting cap.

He's blasé about the appearance of one of the Glimmer Twins. After all, upstairs he's got a star of his own — the Beach Boy's lead singer, Mike Love.

"You know according to 'Billboard' the Beach Boys have five albums on the American chart and the Beatles only three," says the personal manager excitedly.

"Three ain't bad for a group that doesn't exist," you reply (to yourself, naturally).

The Beach Boys are the elder statesmen of American pop music and it's indicative of their status that a record sales rivalry with the Fab Four still exists.

It's suggested that as the Rolling Stones are still in town, they should be invited to a party for Mike Love later on that evening.

Duffy gives a firm 'No'. It's easy to see why. The difference between that figure lurching towards the lift and Mike Love is startling.

Confidence

Love is "together" with a self-confidence that could be mistaken for arrogance.

He's hungry so the limousine is ordered to a self-service vegetarian restaurant in Soho.

Love is just Fun! Fun! Fun! till your daddy takes the T. Bird away

As the neatly bearded singer tucks into his mixture of nuts and beansprouts he talks about the force behind his "togetherness" in a business full of Rock 'N' Roll casualties.

"In December of '67 I was initiated into Transcendental Meditation by the Maharishi Mahesh Yogi in Paris and I later went to India to study at his academy.

"And then four years ago I became a teacher of TM. Between recording '15 Big Ones' and other treats yet to come out, I took TM classes at a local centre in Los Angeles. So I'm active as a teacher of TM as well as being a world famous rock star," he grins scooping up a little cottage cheese with chives.

This clean living lifestyle fits in neatly with the whole Beach Boys image of fun, fun, fun, just before daddy takes that T-bird away.

And that image has been underscored with the group's new album '15 Big Ones' which in many ways is a return to their pre-'Pet Sounds' simplicity of style.

"Brian (Wilson) pur-



MIKE LOVE: clean living lifestyle

posely under-produced the album," says Mike seriously. "He could have had a traditional wall of sound and harmony like everyone's killing themselves copying, but he wanted to play the listener as another

instrument, which is an interesting concept.

"The vocals aren't as smooth as on 'Smiley Smile' but they weren't intended to be. After all Brian didn't mean for this album to be the Magna Carta of the music

business. It's more a re-emergence of himself in terms of studio activity, and we'd wanted for years to do an album of oldies but goodies purely for our own enjoyment.

"I've heard it all," says Love sipping an apricot

juice. "We're too far ahead of our time; too far back; too vanguard; too reactionary.

"Too many people knock themselves out trying to find heavy sociological implications in our music. Maybe it's all true but our purpose is just to provide enjoyment. We're not politicians, or undertakers, and we don't run the sewer department.

"Groups reflect what's going on around them and in California we have so much from consciousness expansion to surf and cars, and we reflect these things.

"Cars are vital to our whole society. The Beach Boys have all had hundreds of cars — the best available, the fastest, the most comfortable, the most luxurious, the funkiest. Four of us live on the beach and a couple of us are vegetarians.

"California is an area of awareness; a fast moving culture based on wheels and sunshine. We're not above that or below it but we're a reflection of it."

Love breaks off to sign a few autographs, and as if to add credence to what

he's said the fans who spot him are from California.

"Our music feels positive, warm and uplifting even in the worst economic times. In the worst psychological, political, sociological, negative and depressing climate. Beach Boys music is heightened in its charm because we purposely choose to deal in things that are pleasant to think about and fun," he continues. No matter how many distractions he never loses the thread of his argument; he never loses sight of California.

Carefree

Yet strangely enough while Love actively projects the carefree fun of surf in your hair, the real 'genius' behind the Beach Boys has been strung out on drugs and psychiatrists.

"Brian has been hiding in his little schizophrenic world. He's naturally a shy and introverted person and the drugs made him retreat even more.

"For the past six years he's been a basket case emotionally, and now he's reapproached life in a more dynamic way. He's been meditating for a few months and he wrote a song about TM."

Transcendental Meditation, it would appear, has cleaned up another Rock 'N' Roll casualty.

Later on at Mike Love's chic reception in London's top hotels there wasn't a Rolling Stone to be seen.

David Hancock



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WHEN LESLEY HORNBY lived in Neasden, she didn't ever think she'd be occupying a smart dressing room in the London Weekend TV studios overlooking the Thames. Even when she was a famous model the time seemed far off when she'd have a sign on her door saying "Miss Twiggy".

It hasn't changed her at all. Twiggy became a personality during her modelling career. She still seemed to be as cor Blimey as the rest of London and fans warmed to her. They are still warming to her, and are now helping her to become as famous a singer as she was model.

Freak

"I didn't have any idea when I was modelling that I'd be doing this," said Twiggy, sitting in the middle of the organised chaos that is the Supersonic rehearsals. "But I wasn't typical as a model anyway. I was criticised because I was so thin, not like any girls that went before I was a bit of a freak."

"At that time, fashion was going for the young — Biba and Quant and all that. And of course it was very fashionable to come from a working class background."

It appeared that the ambition of most models then was to work long enough to find a rich husband who could afford to keep them — both in the clothes they modelled and in the exotic countries they modelled in. Twiggy was different.

"I didn't move in that kind of company," she said. "I didn't go to parties. I still don't and I hate nightclubs. I've only been to Tramps once in my life. I'm a home loving person."

She did go to at least one party this year though — Rod Stewart's much publicised soiree.

Together

"Oh yeah," remembered Twiggy. "I don't know him very well though, but I knew David Essex there. David and I have been rehearsing together in the same dancing class — before he did 'Godspell'."

Twiggy's own career in music led on from her part in the Ken Russell production of 'The Boyfriend'. She got much acclaim, and probably surprised a few people.

"If it wasn't for that musical, I wouldn't be sitting here now," said Twiggy. "That was in 1971, so it's taken five years for me to get here. It hasn't all happened at once."

Now that she has decided to take a chance in showbusiness — and it's paying off — was she nervous about singing?

"I'm nervous whatever I do. I don't think you can perform without nerves. They seem to help get the adrenalin going."

She has done one concert — at London's Festival Hall — and brought out an album and single. 'Here I Go Again' looks as though it has a long way to go in



C. Stewart



Twiggy: Model of Success

the charts before settling. And the track that might be the next single (also from the album) is another smasher called 'Vanilla Olay'.

She sings both songs on Supersonic. Her modelling training will help her as she has to walk along the high catwalk in the studio. And it seems Mike Mansfield hasn't heard about the new drought measures. Or if he has, he isn't letting them interfere with the very pretty fountain that's playing behind Twiggy.

As it's only a rehearsal, she hasn't yet put on her make-up. That's all in a

'If it wasn't for that musical, I wouldn't be sitting here now'



by Rosalind Russell

very workmanlike box up in the dressing room. She's wearing dungarees (still looking a slim size 8) and has her long fair straight hair falling down her back.

Twiggy's songs are gentle, country sounds. The type of music she enjoys.

"I prefer country songs. I suppose you would say I was middle of the road. Look at the Carpenters, they've done well out of it, so don't knock it! I'm never going to catch a heavy rock audience. My own favour, its singer is Joni Mitchell."

Twiggy and her manager Justin are planning a few

'I'm nervous whatever I do. I don't think you can perform without nerves'

concerts early in the New Year.

"Not a full 90 date tour or anything," said Justin. "Just six or seven major cities, in January."

"I don't think I'm up to touring for any longer than that," said Twiggy. "When I recently did a tour of radio stations, my voice was hoarse from talking too much. I expect that's why you keep seeing stories about bands collapsing. And no wonder!"

Curiosity

"I think the time and the songs have to be right, before you can think of a tour. I wouldn't want to go unless the theatres were full. I'd hate to go on and no one came to see me. Perhaps they'll come out of curiosity..." Twiggy laughed.

Twiggy would like her songs to be better known before she attempts to sing them in front of an audience.

"The songs on the album are all by different people, all American, but none of them famous. I didn't want to do famous ones because they always get compared to the originals!"

Twiggy is obviously a fan of all things — and people — American. Her boyfriend Michael Whitney is American. He acted in the TV series 'Oil Strike North' and when his divorce comes through they will be married.

Boring

"We hate being apart," says Twiggy, "but it would be boring for him to hang around something like this. When he was filming in Scotland for three weeks though, I went up with him."

Twiggy is intent on making their home a comfortable one. Until the time comes when she can have her coveted cottage with roses round the door (but with tall enough rooms so that Michael doesn't keep banging his head) she is busy with their London flat.

"I've been making all the curtains for the flat," she said. "I'm money conscious like everyone else and the what you save by making them yourself is unbelievable, but I enjoy doing it. I love sewing, having a quiet evening at home. I make Michael's shirts and trousers and most of my own clothes when I have time."

"I'm a terrible cook though. Well, not that bad — but I don't enjoy cooking every day. When people are coming over, that's different."

Chords

Michael has tried to teach Twiggy how to play guitar, but she only managed three chords. She isn't the type to become another Mary Hopkins — especially as she moves so well when she's singing.

Manager Justin (who has probably lent his name to a couple of thousand trendy toddlers in this country) tapped his feet happily during Twiggy's run-through of her songs, quietly pleased at the reaction her song is getting.

Twiggy's voice has filled out a lot since her TV series. Then she came over as a bit pale and nervous. When you see her on Supersonic, you'll hear a difference. Forget the country singers like Olivia Newton John who never play here anyway — watch out instead for Twiggy, Britain's new country star.

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EAR'S A LAFF: The Earth Band with Manfred (second right)

MANN—ALIVE AGAIN

By David Brown

'BLINDED BY The Light' heralds the return of Manfred Mann's Earth Band to the singles chart after a three-year absence.

"It's the first single that I've ever done that wasn't designed as a single," admits Manfred.

"This one was designed for the album and for that reason I'm very pleased about it because it's also the first single that's representative of what the band is like."

The track is an edited version of the LP track from their new album 'The Roaring Silence', and was written by Bruce Springsteen. This is the second Springsteen number the band have tackled — the first one being 'Spirits In The Night' on the previous album 'Nightingales & Bombers'. What is their attraction to Bruce?

"They're nice songs," came the reply. "I prefer to put out what's best and the album is full of our own stuff. Some of it is very good but I think this is the best track for a single."

"There are a lot of bands who do albums full of their own material, but then maybe they don't know how to pick songs."

Roaring

The band have certainly picked a set of winners for 'The Roaring Silence'. It includes their individual interpretation of the Springsteen opus plus a very tasteful version of Mike Heron's 'Singing The Dolphin Through'.

"Neither of them bear any real resemblance to the originals," commented Manfred on the cover versions. "Listening to the album 'Dolphin' and 'Questions' have an immensely wide — but not instant — appeal."

"As a result of the single I hope people buy the album. People forget about singles two months after they're out and listen to the stuff. I hope it wakes people up to the fact that we exist — it's a very important extra."

Their new album is the seventh Earth Band LP since their conception in 1972. It was recorded at the Workhouse Studio in London's Old Kent Road and it took — according to Manfred — "an awfully long time". But he is not, he insists, a perfectionist.

"It took about five or six months probably because we over-recorded and we threw at least a side or more of the album away. There's a lot of stuff on file that we haven't used," he says.

"There are certain essential you need, but I don't mind if something is slightly out of tune. I've never found recording easy. It gets harder as the years go by. But I know what I want in the end."

"We didn't record 'Blinded' the way it appears now. We took the tape, cross faced it and edited it. It took a

long time, but it sounds right, better than the way we originally did it."

Effective use is made of a tut choir on one album track, 'Road To Babylon'. How did that come about?

"I've always had a fascination for very straight classical singing," Manfred explains. "I can't stand opera but there is something about very pure vocals that is very un-Rock 'N' Roll. It's a strange nightmare effect with a choir — like a Salvador Dali painting."

But don't expect to see a big choir on stage with the band. They may use extras for the albums but on stage it will be Manfred on keyboards and synthesizers, Colin Pattenden on bass, Chris Slade, drums, Dave Flett on guitar, and Chris Thompson on vocals and guitar.

"When we get up on stage do you like what you hear or don't you?" Manfred poses. "Is the band exciting? Is it working?"

There will be plenty of chance to see whether it works on stage or not as the band go out on the road next month, starting in Southend on September 11.

Exciting

Included in their repertoire are numbers from most stages of the band's development, plus some new numbers.

"I'm inclined to do new stuff in the act to try it out for the next album," says Manfred.

Since the departure of Mick Rogers from the line-up last October the band has found itself with two guitarists.

"I never wanted two guitars, I just needed one. But Chris Thompson plays very well and it helps a great deal. He's a very good rhythm guitarist."

"The new guys don't do just what I tell them, they throw a new perspective on the material, they have different views. The balance of the band in terms of its approach to its material has changed. Their contribution is big in that way as well as their character."

"Chris, particularly as a singer, has enabled us to do different kinds of songs because he carries them off so well. Songs like 'Questions' we might not have been able to do before, because we were more instrumentally orientated."

Manfred said there was nothing specific he wanted to do next, other than the next album and to make a bigger impression on America.

"I'd really like the album to do well in the States," he admits. "We did a tour in November and it was good."

Both of the last albums have each carried one instrumentally recorded live and then remixed, and Manfred hinted at the possibility of more in the future.

"There's a certain atmosphere to it, which you just wouldn't get in a studio."

In or out of the studio the band seem capable of generating a lot of excitement and Manfred Mann's Earth Band have progressed to a state of maturity where they can command a wider audience. It could well be that Manfred Mann Chapter IV is a very long and fruitful part of the continuing story.

THE NEWS last week that Alan Longmuir, ex-Bay City Roller, might make a small return to the pop scene got the letters coming by the score. It might be months since Ian Mitchell took over Alan's place, but he's by no means been forgotten.

The reason why attention's been focussed on Alan once again is the news that he might return to the recording studio to play bass for Bilbo Baggins (as exclusively revealed in last week's RECORD MIRROR) and to play support on six of the Rollers' UK four dates — and who's manager isn't a total stranger to Alan anyway, namely Tam Paton. How had the situation come up?

"Well, Bilbo got rid of Dev (Jimmy Devlin, bass player) and I didn't really have a replacement in mind. Tam spoke to me and asked what I'd feel about helping them out. At the moment I might go and record with them but that's it... I won't be on stage with them."

Since the line-up change within the Rollers, not too much has been heard from or about Alan. A couple of weeks ago his name did crop up again — when he was named as the other Roller apart from Eric Faulkner to have attempted suicide.

"Och, all the papers were on me again when that story came up. There's not really much to add to what appeared — I don't try to do myself in, it didn't work and I'm very glad it didn't now."

Alan was always the Roller who resented the pressures the group had to go through, the one who was most unhappy about the intrusions everyone made into his private life and the one who finally made the only decision left to him — quit.

Freedom

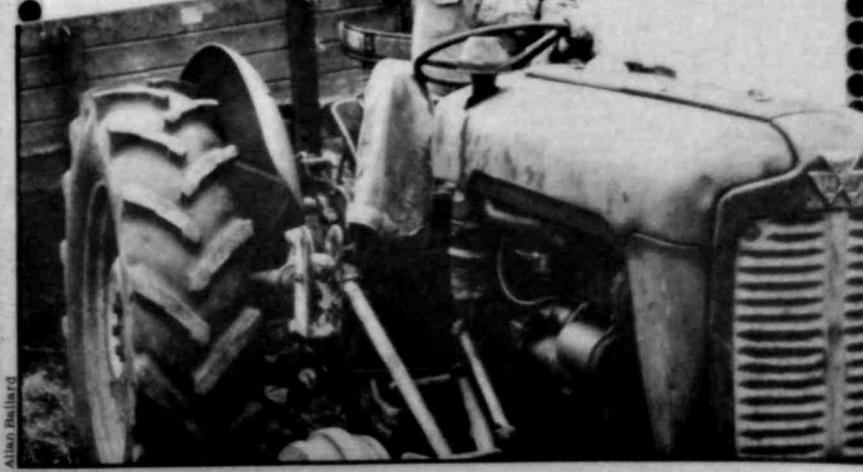
"I don't think I've got any regrets about that decision," Alan said, sounding a lot happier than the last time we'd spoken. "In fact as far as my own personal freedom's concerned, there aren't any regrets at all. The only thing I miss is playing on stage and the others — after all, we were pretty good mates. Other than that I'm very happy."

Alan still sees the Rollers on the odd days they spend in Scotland, and finds himself aware of the changes his present life has made.

"I saw Derek and Woody the other week. We all spent the day together and went horse-riding. That was all the time they had because the next day they were flying off to the States. I've got that time now, as much as I want and I feel great, never better."

"America's a tiny regret maybe... I went there twice but only for promotional visits, never to play, I'd have liked to have done that with them. But only a little bit..."

ALAN LONGMUIR down on the farm



Alan Bellard

by Sue Byrom

Return Of The Lone Roller?

of land with the house, so I'm getting some sheep of my own soon. Riding, well I've always loved horses, I've got the one I bought quite some time ago and I'm doing a lot of exercising other people's horses as well. It keeps me pretty busy," he laughed.

Even an ex-Roller can't escape completely though, and Alan admits that it's something of a problem when it comes to going out.

"Aye, I still get asked for autographs and such like. I try to go to really quiet restaurants if I want to go for a meal because otherwise it gets embarrassing. The people in the village where I live are really great though, they just accept me as one of them."

Fabulous

"I can go down to the pub and have a drink and there's no problem at all. In fact if people come to the village ask where I live, they tell them that they've never heard of me! That's fabulous!"

But won't there be problems again if he does help Bilbo Baggins out — or whatever he decides to do?

"I'm off on holiday next week for a couple of weeks in the sun, and while I'm there I'll decide what I want to do about coming back or not. If I do anything at all — and it's a big 'if' — then I'll do it at my own pace. If the Rollers had been allowed to go at a slower pace, I'd never have left. If I recorded a single or something, it would be nice if it got into the top 20, but if it didn't then I wouldn't worry. It's taken me a long time to feel like I do now, I'm not going to throw it all up again."

'The basic problem was pressure. It never stopped... we had to go there, do this, then go somewhere else'

Since it's become public knowledge that Alan was unhappy and wanted to leave the group, he's been able to make much clearer statements about the things that led up to his leaving the group.

"The basic problem was pressure. It never stopped... we had to go there, do this, then go somewhere else. Always on time, always another plane or car to get into. In the end we were just like zombies — that's what I felt like anyway. I'd bought a house and I couldn't get back to spend any time in it or get it together. It was stupid, I'm really disillusioned with the whole pop business."

"As far as I'm concerned, the best days the Rollers ever had were the old days, going around dance halls and small clubs. At least then we all felt a sense of achievement. Now everything's been done really, things get bigger but not different. I couldn't go on with that kind of scene."

He isn't particularly bitter, just matter-of-fact. And now of course, he's able to enjoy the present and look forward to the future, whatever that is.

"I've spent most of the last six months or whatever sitting home. It's the first time for a year that the house almost looks as though it's coming together... Yeah, I've been working here and riding a lot and learning about sheep farming."

Pardon?
"Oh, there's a sheep farm about four miles up the road from me, and I've been going up there and learning about sheep shearing and dragging. I've got quite a bit

'I hope it wakes people up to the fact we exist'

Singles

Sure bet for the jets Hits...

ELTON JOHN: 'Benny And The Jets' (DJM DJS 10705)

Possibly Reg's greatest hour as he puts Ziggy et al into perspective with this live masterpiece. You all know it, you will buy it and it'll be a monster.

TIM MOORE: 'Rock And Roll Love Letter' (Polydor 2001 689)

The original of the BCR's American smash isn't as crisp as our Rollers version, but it's an

insidious punk song with an arm-waving hook and a good vocal mix.

MAUREEN McGOVERN: 'You'll Never Know' (20th Cent. BTC 2283)

Sleazy, slouched, sleepy smoochie from way back given the live treatment. Where are the thinly cut cucumber sandwiches?

ALBERT HAMMOND: 'Moonlight Lady' (Epic EPC 4558)



ELTON JOHN: monster hit

A direct chart thrust with a medium paced simple plea to a young damsel. The chorus is accurate enough to please the moguls at Radio One, and the whole thing catchy.

DANA: 'Fairytale' (GTO GT 66)

Simple belter that builds up to an oft repeated chorus / title line that eventually rams its way into the brain. You can

hum it, whistle it and buy it.

CANDI STATON: 'Destiny' (Warners K 16806)

Repeat formula should have everyone dancing and singing again.

Misses..

Teddy bears' sicknic

SKIP JACKSON: 'Teddy Bear' (UK 149)

Gravensend councillor does a cross between 'No Charge' and 'Convoy'. Result: Overtong, sick and funny platter about a crippled boy and a load of trucks.

COLIN BLUNSTONE: 'When You Close Your Eyes' (Epic EPC 4576)

A Tim Moore song without the bite and attack. The former Zombie tries his best but the interminably repeated title tends to become insipid. Pity.



COLIN BLUNSTONE



CARLY SIMON

PETER TOSH: 'Legalize It' (Virgin VS 140)

Late Sixties sentiment about legalising dope guarantees no plays on the Beeb which means no sales. Anyway it's wandering reggae that gets nowhere.

CARLY SIMON: 'Half A Chance' (Elektra K 1237)

Drippy song with its fair share of limp, trite and cliched lyrics. Even MOR fans might kick this in the head. Half a hook air't good enough.

BOZ SCAGGS: 'Low-down' (CBS 4563)

Delightful relaxed glider from the 'Silk Degrees' album but hasn't got the sort of positive hooks needed.

THE WALKER BROTHERS: 'Lines' (GTO GT 67)

Scott bellows and booms through a couple of climaxes on this big production. But it hasn't got enough catchiness, and what is probably an excellent album track comes out as a slow yawn.

DONNA SUMMER: 'The Hostage' (People PEO 115)

Pre-heavy breather from Donna about a woman whose husband is kidnapped, held to ransom, killed etc. etc. Interesting concept single with spoken phone calls thrown in, but they say she's a much nicer girl now.

Maybes...

Tortured heart

LEE GARRETT: 'Heart Be Still' (Chrysalis CHS 2101)

Rippling flash of pseudo-Isaac Hayes moves into tortured piece of soul that is real class. More an album track but stands a chance.

KENNY: 'Red Headed Lady' (Polydor 2058 770)

Attempted singalong fails to grasp the summit on this totally different sound from the Bump squad. They're floundering in the what-do-we-do-next land and sinking fast.

LIVERPOOL EXPRESS: 'Hold Tight' (Warners K 16799)

Pilot sounding follow-up aimed at the teenybop market complete with a little John Miles guitar run and handclaps. Unoriginal of the week.

DOROTHY MOORE: 'Funny How Time Slips Away' (Contempo CS 2092)

Dot gives the smooth treatment to this oldie that lacks the floating hooks of 'Misty Blue'. An album track and not as good as Al Green's version — but it might get the sympathy vote.

THE TONICS: 'Love Is Forever' (Magnet MAG 74)

Less falsetto and obvious Beach Boys influenced harmonies than usual on this interesting chugger from Adrian Baker and the boys. Maybe too polished but could be a minor hit.

SPENCER DAVIS GROUP: 'Gimme Some Lovin' (Island WIP 6318)

Original Sixties rock stomper gets re-released with a 'Gimme Some Lovin' 76' on the flip.



LEE GARRETT

Difference is that the later version is more insipid. Great song — but fancy cheating by putting it on both sides!

SMOKIE: 'I'll Meet You At Midnight' (RAK 241)

Parisian-flavoured string-laden song that returns this gang to their Chinn and Chapman commercial beginnings. Chris Norman's throaty vocals are ooh-la-la.

STEVE GIBBONS BAND: 'Take Me Home' (Polydor)

Brum rocker album cut which many might think a better LP trailer rather than a single in it's own right. But Steve has a growing following and there are those who say he could be big. His previous cut, 'Johnny Cool', got some airplay but didn't make the grade — perhaps he'll have better luck this time.

QUANTUM JUMP is a new name to juggle with. Not for them the long slog to the top action — they intend to start there.

That may sound ambitious but the band is made up of four very determined gentlemen who are no newcomers to the game. And any doubts about their promising future are quickly killed by listening to their satisfying first album.

Individually Quantum Jump are Rupert Hine, John Perry, Trevor Morais and Mark Warner. Together they are a tightly-welded unit destined for great things.

Rupert Hine you may have heard of as a solo artist with two albums — 'Pick Up A Bone' and 'Unfinished Picture' — to his credit and a third on its way. He's also an established producer.

John Perry worked with Caravan during the 'Girls Who Grow Plump In The Night' and 'Caravan And The New Symphonica' period. He had his first solo outing 'Sunset Wading' released on Decca recently and is already working on its successor.

Fusion

Drummer Trevor Morais worked for seven years with The Peddlers, and guitarist Mark Warner is a much in demand session man, currently working on Cat Stevens' mammoth US tour.

The band came together through John and Rupert jamming with Trevor and realising that they had something.

"We could see that our individual identities were fusing together to give the band a sum total of our ideas rather



QJ from left: Rupert Hine, Trevor Morais, Mark Warner and John Perry.

Jump start

than four separate directions," explained Rupert.

"So, we thought, 'wouldn't it be nice working together'. We had seen Mark playing on various sessions and it was obvious he was a remarkable guitarist."

They started work on the album over a year ago. It was remixed more recently and a new track added, 'No American Starship (Looking For The Next World)', at the last minute.

From the album came the single 'The Lone Ranger' which made Number 62 in the charts earlier this year, and would have undoubtedly gone high if it hadn't been banned by the BBC. Rather late in the day, since it had been a Tony Blackburn pick of the week, until someone examined the lyrics

carefully and a found a few references he or she were not too keen on.

Chant

Featured in the song was a chant, taken from the name of a New Zealand town, which Rupert came across while reading the Guinness Book Of Records in Trevor's loo. He thought it was so good he should let it be known to the masses. It was "Taumatawhakatangihangakoauauatamatearipukakapikimaungahoronukupokaiwhenuakitanatahu". Setting that to music is some feat in itself.

A new album and single will be worked on later this year — the band are presently following solo pursuits — and released before they go on a tour of America.

John said: "All of us have our own work, but we are all very into QJ as well."

"When a band works together all the time, they can get tired and stale and they don't develop very quickly. We come into it fresh, really looking forward to working together."

"We also don't have to rely entirely on one thing for our existence," adds Rupert.

Britain should get a chance to see QJ early in the New Year.

They have a few novel ideas about the visual aspect of their show.

"We hope to use video synthesisers which will screen programmes for each guy in the band," Rupert explains. "They will give a visual interpretation of what he's playing."

"And it will give the audience something to look at other than the little red lights on the amplifiers."

David Brown

Track Down

NEXT WEEK:
BE BOP
DELUXE



Smokie



*I'll Meet You
At Midnight*

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RAK 241

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by James Hamilton

Disco Kid

FAMILY GATHERING

RITCHIE FAMILY: The Best Disco In Town (Pts 1/2) (Polydor 205877). Here it is, the great girlie group dancer that cleverly quotes key hook phrases and sounds from all the big disco hits by such as Silver Convention, O'Jays, BT Express and more. Part 2's got the best bits and the most impact.

RICK DEES & HIS CAST OF IDIOTS: 'Disco Duck' (RSO 2090204). Silliness from a Memphis DJ, who invents a new dance craze and starts talking like Donald Duck! Good novelty and a strong disco beat.

DINAH WASHINGTON: 'September In The Rain' (Mercury 6167419). Actually a Spring record if you but listen to the words, it's a lovely old romancer and great MoR. The dead slow flip's her original 'What A Difference A Day Made'.

REAL THING: 'Can't Get By Without You' (Pye 7N 45618). Kinda like a vocal version of Love Unlimited's 'Love's Theme', it's a sombre swayer that's a sensation for many although dull to my ears.

BARRABAS: 'Tu' (Atlantic K 10816). Euro-Funkers on a good slow bubbling chanter that's big already. The official plug side is 'Desperately', a brighter jerky thudder with cooling chix.

BACHMAN - TURNER OVERDRIVE: 'Takin' Care Of Business' (Mercury 6167425). Neglected here since '74, it's a great whomping stomping churner that packs a powerful punch.

JALN BAND: 'Disco Music' (Magnet MAG 73). Unlike their classic 'Street Dance', this bass and percussion-driven fast bouncer has lyrics that'll limit its appeal to discos only, which is a pity. On a par with American funk bands, they're worth seeing live.

CAROL DOUGLAS: 'Midnight Love Affair' (Midland International MID 3, via RCA). Casually crooned gentle galloper in the 'Young Hearts' groove, with subtle appeal... and a fast Northern flip, 'Crime Don't Pay'.

BOZ SCAGGS: 'Low



GLORIA GAYNOR

QUESTION: What do these four girls have in common? **ANSWER:** They all got quoted on 'The Best Disco In Town'



LABELLE

GRANK FUNK RAILROAD: 'Can You Do It' (EMI INT 523). Self-consciously punkoid stomper, produced by Frank Zappa.

New Spins



PENNY MACLAINE

down (CBS 4563). Ex Steve Miller Band, Boz is now big in the US discos with this relaxed mellow slow hustler.

CLIMAX BLUES BAND: 'Couldn't Get It Right' (BTM SBT 105, via RCA). Unexpectedly good disco jigger with a Stretch sort of feel and almost a 'Jeans On' beat.

JOHNNY FULLER: 'Haunted House' (Specialty SON 5017, via Sonnet). Lively fun from '59 (the original version), with clucking guitar and 'Jungle Rock'-type chances.

MILLIE JACKSON: 'A House For Sale' (Spring 2066713). Steadily ticking soulful thumper, evidently popular up North, dominated for me by the great dead slow and ultra-soulful double 'A' coupling, 'There You Are'.

TED TAYLOR: 'Steal Away' (Contempo CS 29090). Superbly soulful squaw-king of the Jimmy Hughes slowie, quite spine-tingling.

DAVID RUFFIN: 'Discover Me' (Tamil Motown TMG 1036). Bright



DONNA SUMMER

comes-and goes hustler with that Van McCoy beat, now getting some DJ support.

CANDI STATON: 'Destiny' (Warner Bros K 16806). Of her two other hit album tracks, this sounds less like 'Young Hearts', than does 'Run To Me', but is probably still too similar to generate real excitement.

LEE GARRETT: 'Heart Be Still' (Chrysalis CHS

2101). Faster than 'Everything' but that now familiar feel, which may hold it back.

L. J. JOHNSON: 'Ain't No Values On Your Love' (Mercury 6007110). Slowing down to just 50 mph, L.J. does the hustle.

COMMANDOS: 'The Bump' (Polydor 2058781). Lacklustre rip-off - even copying the group's name - of the Commodores' old bumper.

REISSUES

REVIVED 45s include:

BOB LUMAN: 'Let's Think About Living' (DJM DJS 10793). **ELVIS PRESLEY:** 'Girl Of My Best Friend' (RCA 2729). **LORD ROCKINGHAM'S XI:** 'Hoots Mon' (Decca F 13663). **LEN BARRY:** '1-2-3' (MCA 105). **DIXIE CUPS:** 'Chapel Of Love' / **JOHNNY & THE HURRICANES:** 'Red River Rock' / **DEL SHANNON:** 'Runaway' / **SHANGRI-LAS:** 'Remember (Walking In The Sand)' (DJM DJS 10790). **SHANGRI-LAS**

'Remember (Walking In The Sand)' / 'Give Him A Great Big Kiss' / 'Fast, Present And Future' (Phillips 6160051). **ELTON JOHN:** 'Benny And The Jets' (DJM DJS 10705). **NIRVANA:** 'Rainbow Chaser' (Island WIP 6180). **BOBBIE GENTRY:** 'Ode To Billy Gentry' / 'Mississippi Delta' (Capitol CL 1588). **TOMMY McLAIN:** 'Sweet Dreams' (Oval 1012). **JOHNNIE RAY:** 'Ory' (Epic EPC 4533). **RAY WILLIAMS:** 'It's Been A Long Time' (Vasko 53).

James' Top Ten

- 1 YOU SHOULD BE DANCING, Bee-Gees (RSO)
- 2 DISCO CRAZY, Fatback Band (Spring LP)
- 3 TRY ME, I KNOW WE CAN MAKE IT, Donna Summer (US Oasis)
- 4 NEW YORK CITY, Miroslav Vitous (Warner Bros LP)
- 5 PLAY THAT FUNKY MUSIC, Wild Cherry (US Epic)
- 6 PORCUPINE, Nature Zone (London)
- 7 GET THE FUNK OUT MA FACE, Brothers Johnson (A&M)
- 8 RAMAYA, Afric Simone (Galaxy)
- 9 HARD WORK, John Handy (Impulse)
- 10 IT, Barrabas (Atlantic)

Disco books

ROGER SQUIRE's Disco Catalogue for 1976-7 has just been published by the Disco Centre people.

Fascinating reading and well designed, it's a big 88 pages that contain illustrations of all the equipment ranges that the Squire Centres sell, plus colour pix of their lighting effects. For armchair shoppers, there are even order forms and easy terms HP application forms, while a £5 credit voucher offsets the 75p cover price (postage included). Available from Roger Squire's Disco Centre, 176 Junction Road, London N19 5QQ.

BOB BARTON's fax-crammed booklet, 'All You Want To Know About Being A Dee-Jay' is now out again in a second edition. Slightly expanded and with extra photos, it's full of sensible advice about all aspects of dee-jaying - mobile, club, radio, hospital - and includes many tips from the stars. Available for just 90p from Barton Enterprises, 104 Harefield Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 1PN.

DJ Hotline

ADAM SURF & THE PEBBLE BEACH BAND: 'Fun, Fun, Fun' (Paladin) an instant hit for Richard Alexander (ASB Discos, Glasgow)... **Les Aron** (Church Farm Club, Bognor) and **Steve Ingram** (Weybridge) both on **SILVER PONY 'Lonely Ranger'** (EMI Int), while **Capuchino Berigiano** (Bromley) says **CAN 'I Want More'** (Virgin) is gonna be big... gonna be? **funky 'Fat Man'** Graham Carter (Gullivers, London) smooches to **TEMPTATIONS 'I'm On Fire'** (US Gordy LP)... my mate, soul-singer **Sammy Small** and his funky five-piece are after mid-week gigs on Derby 266322, distance no object... **Steve Lloyd** (Llanelli) likes **MADISON 'Let It Ring'** (Magnet), as do many, while **Francisco**, as morning man for a few weeks before he puts together a UK Music special that'll last a whole weekend... also, **Brighton DJ Alan** and **TV in Chattanooga, USA**... **Mike Thomas** (Baglan), back from the St Tropez jaunt that cost him his gig at Barry's Fantasia (hiss, boo!) finds **BRYAN FERRY 'Shame, Shame, Shame'** (Island) big around Port Talbot



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Albums

ROLLERS ROAR THROUGH—AGAIN

BAY CITY ROLLERS: 'Dedication' (Bell SYBEL 8005)

What could be the most important album to date for the Rollers is finally here, and with only a couple of exceptions, it lives up to its initial promise. Produced by Jimmy Ienner and recorded in Canada, there's more depth to the songs, the singing and the playing. The album opens with an Eric Carmen number, 'Let's Pretend', followed by an Eric/Woody song, 'You're A Woman' — both mid-tempo numbers and nicely delivered. 'Rock 'N' Roller', also by Eric and Woody and the flip of their new single is the first stomper, and roars through to set some pace. Then comes the Beach Boys' 'Don't Worry Baby' — one of the best tracks and which would surely have been a better choice for a single. Side one finishes with my least favourite track — 'Yesterday's Hero'. It's not the song that spoils it — it's the fans screaming over the intro and the voice in the middle saying 'Keep back... everyone keep back' all very serious. 'My Lisa' has Les with some nicely husky vocals dissolving hearts all over the place, and then there's 'Money, Honey' and 'Rock 'N' Roll Love Letter', the latter being the last American single. 'Write A Letter', another ballad and the first airing of a McKeown/Wood/Mitchell



BE BOP DELUXE: surrealistic horrors

anything they've done before. **Sue Byrom**

BE BOP DELUXE: 'Modern Music' (Harvest SHSP 4058)

I hardly know what to make of it. It's certainly a change for Be Bop, but I'm not sure about all the murder, sorcery, ghosts and madmen that the songs are packed with. It makes me wonder what kind of a mood Bill Nelson was in when he wrote them. The songs are, as the title implies, all ahead of the times. It's like hearing a preview of what may happen in the future, and if it's gonna be that creepy, I don't think I want to know about it. They take their visions much further than Bowie, lyrically at least, but the overall impression is one of surrealistic, nightmare horror. I hope that isn't what really waiting for us. Apart from the slight Bowie touches in the actual music, Be Bop have turned in a very unusual album. I think it'll take a while to get used to it though.

Rosalind Russell

MANHATTAN TRANSFER: 'Coming Out' (Atlantic K 50291)

The Transfer prove themselves one of the truly great vocal groups with a dazzling variety of top notch songs on their second album. They



DARYL HALL & JOHN OATES: blaze of glory

Rock 'N' Roll it ain't

DARYL HALL & JOHN OATES: 'Bigger Than Both Of Us' (RCA 0698) Bigger than both of us perhaps, but not big enough. This duo started out in a blaze of glory well, a fair sized flame at least, but this has effectively quenched any interest I might have had

for them in future. You could put up with the odd boring track here and there, but when you begin to realise it's going to sound the same all the way through, you'd be as well going to sleep. It ain't Rock and Roll.

Rosalind Russell

have a rare magical quality that allows them to get their teeth into the Edith Piaf sounding 'Chanson D'Amour' (a real winner) or the lingering 'Scotch And Water'. They cover the whole field from Caribbean rhythms to early Sixties R&B with their version of Kim Weston's 'Helpless'. And there's even a Todd Rundgren tune! It's an outing that puts even their first earth shaking LP into the quietly camp bracket and establishes them as a bundle of limitless talent.

David Hancock

MOON: 'Too Close For Comfort' (Epic EPC 81456)

An agreeable first from a group who have already made some impact slogging round the country's pubs and clubs. Basically they are a tight rhythm section with an exceptionally good vocalist, 20-year-old Noel McCalla, who has already

been compared with all the singers worth being compared with. It is a varied set, but with enough identity to give a good picture of their ideals. Among the best tracks is the funky opening title 'Lone Ranger', 'Cold Nights' with its contagious and skilful title track, slow burning harp and percussion. If talent still counts, this group should make it sooner or later.

David Brown

JUDY COLLINS: 'Bread & Roses' (Elektra K52939)

Judy Collins usually only does one concert when she comes to this country (the Royal Albert Hall) and always sells it out. Her audience is a strange cross section pulling in the protesters of the Sixties, and a middle of the road crowd who like her smooth love songs. Ms Collins herself is far from middle of the road. Her singing has a strong

discipline and her music a tight perfection. The music generally takes a bit of getting used to. It's not chart material, except in rare cases, and is occasionally political. I only enjoyed two of the tracks here — the title track and 'Plegaria A Un Labrador' (Prayer to A Labourer). Even with the latter song, I have reservations. The labourers I know are more likely to shout 'get 'em off' than take his brother's hand.

Rosalind Russell

JOHN MAYALL: 'A Banquet Of Blues' (ABC ABCL 5187)

If you thought the Blues was a repeated 12 bar formula forget it. John Mayall, the legendary British bluesman, demonstrates on this platter just how far he can go. With 23 other musicians he saunters through some powerful modern rock highlighted by some fine back-up singing it's a subtle album with an intrinsic American quality coloured by the honky tonk atmosphere of 'Table Top Girl'; the funk of 'Tum Me Loose' and kaleidoscopic landscape of the 14 minute odd 'Fantasyland' with a bass guitar solo from Alex Dmochowski the like of which hasn't been heard since Jack Cassidy left the Jefferson Airplane. Definite rock quality. **David Hancock**

PHILIP GOODHAND TAIT: 'Oceans Away' (Chrysalis CHR 111)

It's a sad fact of life that an artist with little talent but an abundance of image and brass neck can sweep the boards, but the situation doesn't work in reverse. Philip G-T has always been an excellent songwriter and talented pianist. Unfortunately, he's not so good at projecting himself to the necessary degree. If he didn't appear to be so average a performer, he wouldn't have to struggle so hard for recognition. The songs here are beautiful — especially the title track which Roger Daltry rated enough to put on his own 'Rock Horse' album. The words all mean something (a refreshing change) and there's just the right amount of love and social comment.

Rosalind Russell

REDDY OR NOT

HELEN REDDY: 'Music, Music' (Capitol E-ST 11547)

Having been brought to a lot more people's attention via her enormously successful 'Greatest Hits' album, it'll be interesting to see if the pattern repeats itself with this new offering. Certainly her voice seems to be expanding on a lot of the numbers, soaring higher than before and blending well into the music. Still, there's not quite enough variation in the material to prevent odd moments of waning interest — a couple more tracks like 'I



HELEN REDDY: waning.

Can't Hear You No More' with its up-tempo feel could have done the trick. **Sue Byrom**

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Round About

Who, When & Where

The information here was correct at the time of going to Press. However, it may be subject to change so we advise you to check with venues concerned before travelling to a gig. Telephone numbers are provided where possible.

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September 2
BOURNEMOUTH, Top Rank, (20980), Buster
CLEETHORPES, Bunnies Place, (67128), Peters & Lee
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EDINBURGH, Tiffanys, (031 556 6269), Cado Belle
LONDON, Dingwalls, Camden Lock, (01 267 4967), Carol Grimes London Boggie Band
LONDON, Lord Nelson, Holloway Road, Nite Life
LONDON, Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, (01 928 3191), Horavips
LONDON, Ronnie Scotts, Frith Street, (01 439 0747), Brand X
PENZANCE, Garden Ballroom, (2475), Sparrow
PERTH, City Hall, (041 332 6055), Billy Connolly
SHEFFIELD, Crucible Theatre, (799223), Godspell
ST IVES, Guildhall, Cajun Moon
WATFORD, Bailey's, (39848), Sheer Elegance

Friday

September 3
BATH, Pavilion, (25628), Andy Fairweather Low/Kites
BOURNEMOUTH, Village Bowl, (26638), Fathack Band
CHESTERFIELD, Aquarius, (70188), Zodiac Room, First Impression
DERBY, Bailey's (363151), 5000 Volts
KENDAL, Arts Centre, Edgar Broughton Band
Liverpool, Empire, (051 709 0771), Ritchie Blackmore's Rainbow
LONDON, Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, (01-928 3191), Phil Manzanaera Band Eno
LONDON, Rock Garden, The Piazza, Covent Garden, (01-240 3961), Moon
MONROSE, Town Hall, (041 332 6055), Billy Connolly
NEWCASTLE, Mayfair, (23109), Maird



QUEEN rock Edinburgh, Thursday.

PAIGNTON, Penelope's Sparrow
SCARBOROUGH, Penthouse, (63205), Medicine Head
SHEFFIELD, Crucible Theatre, (799223), Godspell
STOCKTON, Fiesta, (533046), Leapy Lee
WATFORD, Bailey's, (39848), Sheer Elegance

Saturday

September 4
AYLESBURY, Friars Vale Hall, (88948), Andy Fairweather Low / Meal Ticket
BIRMINGHAM, Barbarellas, (021 643 9413), Mallard
CAMBRIDGE, Ragsmuffins, Beano
CARNOUSTE, Beach Hall, (041 332 6055), Billy Connolly
DERBY, Bailey's, (363151), 5000 Volts
DUNSTABLE, California Ballroom, (62804), Fathack Band
EDINBURGH, Playhouse, (031 556 7226), Ritchie Blackmore's Rainbow
LONDON, Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, (01 928 3191), Alan Price

LONDON, Speakeasy, Margaret Street, (01 580 8810), Bilbo Baggins
RETFORD, Porterhouse, (4981), Jet Harris
SHEFFIELD, Crucible Theatre, (799223), Godspell
SOUTHAMPTON, Top Rank, (26080), Buster
STOCKTON, Fiesta, (533046), Leapy Lee
WATFORD, Bailey's, (39848), Sheer Elegance
WITHERNSEA, Teddy's Club, Crazy Cavan & The Rhythm Rockers
YATE, Stars & Stripes, Johnny Wakella

Sunday

September 5
BRIGHTON, Top Rank, (23895), Buster
CHICHESTER, Festival Theatre, (86333), Curved Air
CROYDON, Fairfield Halls, (01-688 9291), Fathack Band
DOUGLAS, Palace Lido (21285), Status Quo
EDINBURGH, Playhouse (031-556 7226), New Seekers
KIRKALDY, Adam Smith Centre (041-332 6055), Billy Connolly
LONDON, Roundhouse, (01-267 2564), Kursaal Flyers
LONDON, Torrington, Lodge Lane, North Finchley, Carol Grimes London Boggie Band
MAIDSTONE, Hazlitt Theatre, Cajun Moon
MANCHESTER, Free Trade Hall, (061 834 0943), Ritchie Blackmore Rainbow
PUTSHEND, Cliffs Pavilion (351 135), Pasadena Roof Orchestra
WATFORD, Bailey's, (39848), 5000 Volts

Monday

September 6
EDINBURGH, Tiffanys (031 556 6269), Eddie & The Hot Rods/Cado Belle
LONDON, Hammersmith Odeon, (01 748 4081), Fathack Band
LONDON, Ronnie Scott's, Frith Street, (01 437 0747), Brand X
RHYL, Dixieland Showbar, Beano
SWINDON, The Affair (30670), Jimmy Helms
WATFORD, Bailey's (39848), 5000 Volts

Tuesday

September 7
CLEETHORPES, Bunnies Place, (67128), Peters & Lee
GLASGOW, Tiffanys, (041 332 0092), Eddie & The Hot Rods
GUILDFORD, Bunters, (72422), Sparrow
KIRKALDY, Adam Smith Centre, (60498), Joseph & His Amazing Technicolour Dramacast
LONDON, Dingwalls, Camden Lock, (01 267 4967), Cimarons
LONDON, Hammersmith Odeon, (01 748 4081), Ritchie Blackmore's Rainbow
LONDON, 100 Club, Oxford Street, (01 636 0833), Roogalator / Lee Kosmin Band
LONDON, Queen Elizabeth Hall, (01 928 3002), Van Der Graaf Generator
LONDON, Ronnie Scott's, Frith Street, (01 439 0747), Brand X
PLYMOUTH, Top Rank, (82479), Buster
PORTSMOUTH, Locarno, (25491), Flying Saucers
RHYL, Dixieland Showbar, Beano
WATFORD, Bailey's, (39848), 5000 Volts

CLOUD CROWD

David Brown reports on a slightly sodden Saturday and Sunday at the 1976 Reading Festival

THERE IS, it would seem, nothing like a rock festival to attract the rain. Those who got soaked listening to The Who at Charlton, and shivered to Bob Marley at Cardiff shouldn't feel unique - Reading festival got it's fair share of rain at the weekend.

But the 20,000 crowd and the bands ignored the disturbance and got on with their business, huddling together under sheets of plastic, gritting their teeth and thinking how good it was for the garden.

Saturday afternoon's down-pour came in an excellent set from Manfred Mann's Earth Band, and rather than dampen their spirit it seemed to fire their enthusiasm and the crowd lapped it up.

Though they started slowly the band were soon taking it in their stride. In Chris Thompson the band have gained not only a talented singer but also an accomplished second guitarist, and Manfred himself attacked the keyboards as they drove through an impressive collection of numbers old and new, ending with a dynamic version of 'Mighty Quinn'.

It needed someone like Van Der Graaf Generator to follow, with their faithful supporters braving the wet and putting up with the cancellation of the opening number 'La Rossa' due to water in the works. Instead they began with a new number - 'Masks' - and proceeded to perform most of their last album 'Still Life'.

Chanter

Despite being Roxy Music's guitarist Phil Manzanaera has a healthy life outside of the band with an interesting set of musicians supporting him. On Saturday they had the extra strength of ex - Roxy member Brian Eno, charismatic player and chanter.

The set featured mostly material from Phil's 'Diamond Head' LP and extracts from Eno's albums such as the exciting 'Fat Lady Of Limbourg' from 'Taking Tiger Mountain (By Strategy)'. Wood smoke drifted across the stage from fires around the site perimeter giving an added atmosphere to the sound from the stage. It all made a change from straightforward rock, though Manzanaera did bend a little by finishing with a loose

version of the Kinks' classic 'You Really Got Me'.

Camel have risen to a secure position in the top league of British bands and their appearance was a highlight for many. Using back projection, smoke and lighting effects to enhance selections from 'The Snow Goose' and 'Moonmadness' they went back to the beginning for 'Lady Fantasy' as an encore.

Rory Gallagher has not altered much. He's still wearing that checked shirt and playing his battered guitar. His set held few surprises but pleased his legion of followers who loved hearing him kick out



RORY GALLAGHER: few surprises

those phrases on numbers like 'Bullfrog Blues'.

Reading is officially a 'jazz, blues and rock' festival, though now mainly rock. But Rory showed the blues can still sound exciting.

If he was the blues representative then the jazz tag would presumably have to go to the early Sunday spot by Brand X. This occasional band formed by Genesis drummer Phil Collins were very different to everyone else on the bill and managed to win the audience's respect.

Colonials

One of the advantages of Reading is that it gives bands who have done sterling service in London's clubs an opportunity to appear before a larger audience. Those wild colonials AC/DC have packed them in at the Marquee and Sunday afternoon's appearance was both well deserved and appreciated.

Sutherland Brothers & Quiver have been festival favourites for some time - even before their recent boost in popularity. They pleased with numbers such as 'The Arms Of Mary', but you couldn't help feeling that material such as 'When The Train Comes', their last single, wasn't quite up to the standard of some of their earlier material.

Detroit guitarist Ted Nugent was the one reckoned to be the man most likely to steal the show, and he nearly did.

It's not so much what he does, but the way he does it. He plays loud, aggressive riffs and wears an insane grin united with quickfire patter to fill the gaps. An overdose of Rock 'N' Roll was what the doctor ordered, and that was exactly what Nugent delivered. A lot of rock fans have got a new guitar hero to add to their lists.

It takes a killer to follow a monster, and Jim Dandy is a deadly showman. Black Oak Arkansas' set steamed along like an express train, with hardly a minute to spare. The whole show gathered momentum, and once they had set the pace they kept it up.

Jim Dandy and Ruby Starr stole the show out front singing, moving and communicating with the crowd, who loved every minute of it.

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

LISTEN FOR:

MAX MERRITT and the Meteors are featured 'In Concert' on Radio One on Saturday at 6.30 pm. Making the selections for 'My Top Twelve' is Buffy St Marie. Sunday's 'Insight' programme is entitled 'The Wild Surf'. Traveller's Rest are guests on BBC Radio Birmingham's Gentle

folk programme, Sunday at 5 pm and Monday at 6 pm, while Sounds Country has the Down County Boys in concert on Wednesday at 6.5pm. Phillip Goodhand-Tait talks to Colin MacDonald on Radio Clyde's 'Hear Me Talkin' on Sunday at 10.02pm.

LOOK FOR:

THOSE EXPERT purveyors of '20s and '30s dance music, the Pasadena Roof Orchestra, are featured 'In Concert' on BBC2 at 9.25 pm. Top Of The Pops (BBC 1 7.20 pm) honours the same evening go to David Hamilton. There's a

chance to see Twiggy in a dramatic role on ITV on Friday at 8.0 pm when she plays the part of a phoney spiritual medium in 'The Frontiers Of Science' part of the 'Victorian Scandals' series.

Radio Mountain Music

A NEW European commercial station started transmission last week.

World Music Radio is broadcasting every Saturday on a frequency of 6230kHz in the 49 metre band short wave, from 8am to 2pm. The broadcasts - initially for three months - are coming from Radio Andorra. WMR are an independent consortium of broadcasters aiming at promoting (legally for once) international commercial broadcasting. The station presenters will include Rob Ronder.

Lee Alvin, Paul Dane, Dany Thomas and Theo Verstraeten and the formal will be international contemporary music, with a mainly English presentation.

There have been previous attempts to broadcast 'free radio' programmes from Andorra, but these have been hampered by the country's mountainous position.

Reception reports will be welcomed and should be sent to World Music Radio, PO Box 4078, Amsterdam, Holland.

by Robin Katz

Soul Mirror

CALL HIM THE BREEZE

AFTER 20 odd years of hard slog as one of the jazz community's most precious guitarists and innovators, George Benson has spread his artistic wings and earned himself some commercial success.

With commercial success comes a mortgage and Benson has moved to the spacious, unpolluted suburbs of northern New Jersey.

"I got sick of the Bronx — the taxes the politics

and promises. People make fun of New Jersey but at least the garbage gets picked up here," he claimed.

The great thing about George Benson, and his Warners album 'Breezin', are that you need no former knowledge of him to appreciate what's going on.

Benson made the album with the idea of moving jazz in with some soul,

and trying his hand at compositions by contemporaries like Leon Russell, Bobby Womack and Jose Feliciano.

'Breezin' is the first album to go to number one in no less than three American charts, including the national pop chart. "It's great," says George. "I can perform with anyone but a country singer at this point. And maybe they'll listen up one of these days."

For Benson, commercial success means he can look backwards to the days when working meant doing six shows a night six days a week.

Now he's packing stadiums and selling old albums on C.T.I., A&M and CBS with snowballing vigour. Benson's band divide their time between playing with George and other chart toppers from Natalie Cole to Grover Washington.

While Benson returns to the studios this week to begin a new album, his improvisational approach will produce an album in four to six flowing days.

Spirit

"I don't dwell on making albums. The most important thing is that the spirit of the music is spontaneous. Recording can be like a screen test. You see a pretty girl on the street, but she may come off terribly once she's filmed in front of a camera. You can destroy good music with the mixing alone.

"I know what I like and I just go ahead with it. I don't believe in getting all psyched up or lanked up and nervous. I'm a musician, and that means



BENSON: 'Recording is like a screen test'

playing an instrument every day of my life.

"The good thing about playing as much as I have is that you know what you can do. You have to be spontaneous because you can't play the same thing for customers hanging around for two or three sets. Club sets are like sophisticated rehearsals and that's how the sparks of originality first set in.

Goal

"That goes for everything from jazz to pop. I didn't like the Beatles stay up all night in those Hamburg clubs for weeks

on end? That's what I'm on about."

George Benson's 'Breezin' is a primarily instrumental album. The only vocal track on it is the current American hit single 'This Masquerade'. It melts in Benson's mouth like butter and rates as one of the year's outstanding vocal performances. He claims his goal is to bring something original into music without losing the essence of himself. Being no jazz expert, I'm in no position to say one way or another. But 'Breezin' is one exquisite piece of work.

Chart Chat

SIZZLING singles guaranteed to warm the very cockles of your soulful heart this week include 'Blacksmoke's' (Your Love Has Got Me) Screamin' (Chocolate City), Street People's 'I Wanna Spend My Whole Life With You' (Vigor),

Andrea True Connection's 'Party Line' (Buddah), Phyllis Hyman 'Baby I'm Gonna Love You' (Desert Moon), The Bar Kays 'Shake Your Rump To The Funk' (Mercury), 'rump' is not a reference to a cut of meat...

Trivia Time

Dial M for Murder

THE trivia comp expands a wee bit this week. Competitors are invited to submit a list of 6 to 8 song titles (and please name the artists) that, in sequence, will build up to a murder. You might start with scenarios: in the "back seat of a Cadillac" or "up on the roof", then try "sneakin' up behind" someone and "wham, bam" . . . get the idea? Six lucky murderers will each walk away with these killers from our generous friends at EMI — Pilot's new album, 'Morin Heights', the debut album from Australia's Little River Band and for those of you who like established faves, The Beatles 'Rock and Roll' double set.

Send your fiendish plans to Robin Katz / Dial M for Murder / Spotlight House / 1 Benwell Road / London N7 7AX. Entries must be in by Wednesday September 8. And don't forget return addresses.

Results:
All together now

THIS was the competition which had most of you really fooled.

The list ran like so: Mickey's Monkey / Second That Emotion / Ronnie White / Abraham Martin and John / Come Round Here I'm The One You Need / Love Machine / Eddie Holland / Shop Around. A quick think and you'll note that what all these things have in common are the Miracles. The first letter of each title helps to spell out Miracles. What I wanted was another list from you in which the first letter of each title or person spelled out the name of a group. The results were outrageous. However, a handful of you got the whole thing correct and three of you were exceptionally clever and walk away with a variety pack of albums from our friends at Pye. First place for spelling out Carpenters goes to Jenny Walton of Cambridge. Second place goes to Keith Maxall of Essex whose entry spelled out Chi Lites and third prize went to Colin Steer of West Sussex for spelling out Drifters.

Yakety

Yak

THE Bee Gees next album to be called 'Children of the World' . . . Ohio Players soon due in the studio to record a successor to 'Contradiction' . . . Detroit Spinners honoured with a sidewalk star on Hollywood Blvd. later on that week they met up with another star — **Mohammad Ali**, and gave him a copy of their new album.

"The Clown" track on the album is the follow up to "Living Just A Little, Laughing Just A Little"

. . . wWill Warner release Graham Central Station's 'I Got A Reason' from their 'Mirror' album? It's the best Stevie Wonder sounding track since Lee Garrett's 'You're My Everything' . . . following in our footsteps, the Isleys new American single is 'Harvest For The World' . . . Top banana in the country charts at the moment is Mickey Gilley's version of Sam Cooke's 'Bring It On Home To Me'

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Feedback

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Lennon

PLEASE COULD you tell me if John Lennon's album, 'Two Virgins' is still available?

A Lennon fan, Liverpool.
● No, it has been deleted.

Kiki's singles

COULD YOU please tell me what singles and albums Kiki Dee has released?

Geoff Wood, Wallasey, Merseyside.
● All her early material on Philips and Parloa has been deleted with the exception of 'Patterns' on Philips, which is still available on cassette only. Her two albums on Rocket are 'Loving And Free' and 'I've Got The Music In Me'. She has had six singles released

on Rocket: 'Lennie and Josie', 'Amoureuse', 'Hard Luck Story', 'I've Got The Music In Me', 'How Glad I Am' and 'Once A Fool'.

Queen fan

COULD YOU please tell me the address of the Queen fan club?

R. Harding, Enfield, Middx.
● Write to Theresa at Rocket Records, 40 5th Audley St, London W1.

Solo Sweet

PLEASE COULD you tell me if Andy Scott of the Sweet plans to release a follow-up single to 'Lady Starlight' in the near future?

Sweet fan, Dymchurch, Kent.
● At the moment, Andy

has no plans for any more solo projects.

Status

COULD YOU please tell me if Eric Stewart of 10CC is married and also how old he is?

Jean Newcasde.
● Yes, he is married and he's 30 years old.

Overdrive

HOW MANY singles and albums have Bachman-Turner Overdrive released in this country?

Stephen Griffin, Nottingham.
● Their four albums are: 'BTO', 'BTO 2', 'Not Fragile' and 'Four Wheel Drive'. Singles: 'Blue Collar', 'Stayed Awake All Night', 'Taking Care of Business', 'Welcome Home', 'Ain't Seen Nothing Yet', 'Roll On Down

The Highway' and 'Taking Care of Business' which has just been re-released.

Roussos

COULD YOU please tell me if the Dennis Roussos fan club is still operating?

J. Foulkes, W. Midlands.
● Yes, it is. Write to Gloria Harding c/o Phonogram Records, Stanhope House, Stanhope Place, London W1.

Stylish

COULD YOU please tell me all the singles the Stylistics have released in Britain?

A Stylistics fan, Chester.

● There have been 14: 'Betcha By Golly Wow', 'You're A Big Girl Now', 'Soned In Love With You', 'Break Up Is To Make Up', 'Only For The Children', 'Back 'N' Roll Baby' (Double 'A' side), 'You Make Me Feel Brand New', 'Let's Put It All Together', 'Star On A TV Show', 'Sing Baby Sing', 'Thank You Baby', 'Funky Weekend', 'No No Is The Suggestive Word', 'Can't Help Falling In Love' and '14 Bars'.

Seekers

PLEASE COULD you give me a list of singles that the New Seekers have released?

New Seekers fan, Kingsbridge, Devon.

● There are only four singles still available on Polydor: 'I'd Like To Teach The World To Sing', 'You Won't Find Another Fool Like Me', 'I Get Sentimental Over You' and 'We've Got To Do It Now'. Other singles that have been deleted include 'Circles' and 'Look What They've Done To My Song Ma'. Their new single on CBS is called 'It's So Nice To Have You Home'.

Ocean age

CAN YOU please tell me Billy Ocean's age and nationality and where I can write to him?

Sarrel Cavendish, Louth, Lincs.
● Billy is 34 and was born in Trinidad but was brought up in the East End of London. You can write to him c/o Peter Walsh Group, 74A Kensington Park Road, London W11.



Quiz

So You Think You're It!

IT'S THURSDAY again and you're watching dear old Top Of The Pops. A well-known star is going through his routine and you're falling around the floor laughing.

Perhaps you think you could do better (and who's to say you can't)? But the song ain't every thing, you've got to have the right sort of temperament to be a really outrageous rock star and make it to the top. Try our quiz and find out if you've got what it takes.

1. You've just arrived at Heathrow after a lousy American tour; the flight was four hours late and the customs have taken your luggage apart. A crowd of pressmen rush forward to meet you. Do you:
a. Swing your holdall at their heads?
b. Smile sweetly and say the bad reports were all lies?
c. Pose for the cameras and say the Americans have no culture anyway darling?

2. The show is over and it was the best you've ever done. The fans are crowding round the stage door and the dressing room looks like a florists. You've got three options on how you could spend the rest of the evening. Would you:
a. Go out with the band for a rave-up?
b. Have all the fans into the dressing room for a drink and to meet you?
c. Meet the Mayor for a late civic reception and get the keys of the city?

3. Now that you're a household name and have enough money to paper the

walls with, you can choose how you'd like to live. Would you:
a. Smash your way from time to time to have a good time and show you can afford to pay for all the damage?
b. Retire to a secluded home in the stockbroker belt and build a 20-foot high fence around the property?
c. Move into a socking great flat in the centre of town where fans will be able to see you, and within staggering distance of the top people's disco?

4. You arrive at the venue hotel to hotel to be given a crummy little dressing room and none of the light bulbs around the mirror are working. Do you:
a. Pull out of the gig?
b. Make no complaint in case the management take back the crate of beer they promised?
c. Hang your portable Persian carpets from the walls, fix up your custom built lights to the mirror and pretend you're in Las Vegas?

5. You sit down to read the papers for flattering mentions of yourself and instead you find they've printed some scurrilous rumours about your love life. Do you:
a. Sue the paper?
b. Make a donation to the Festival of Light to prove it's not true?
c. Go out and live up to their expectations?
6. You discover your hair is getting thinner and people are saying you look like Elton John without the talent. Do you:
a. Sneak off to Switzerland for a hair transplant?
b. Wear an expensive wig?
c. Shave off the hair that's left and paint a slogan on your head?

Answers:
1. a. Many people of with your terrible, you'd put so and being downright there's a difference between being outrageous and being downright outrageous. You've got to be a little bit of a showman. You've got to be a little bit of a showman. You've got to be a little bit of a showman.
2. a. Many people of with your terrible, you'd put so and being downright there's a difference between being outrageous and being downright outrageous. You've got to be a little bit of a showman. You've got to be a little bit of a showman. You've got to be a little bit of a showman.
3. a. Many people of with your terrible, you'd put so and being downright there's a difference between being outrageous and being downright outrageous. You've got to be a little bit of a showman. You've got to be a little bit of a showman. You've got to be a little bit of a showman.



ELTON JOHN

IF YOU blinked and missed Silver Convention's recent UK visit you're forgiven.

The three ladies of soul zippe, in from their native Germany to do one gig, an American air base in Suffolk.

It was strictly a one-off affair, with the girls planning to sing to playback tapes, as they have considerable trouble bringing their 21 piece band with them.

But things didn't go as planned on the night as one member hurt her arm when she slipped in the shower. So they returned to the safety of Munich.

Before this they explained some of their problems: "We would love to come and play here," said Linda G Thompson, one third of the Munich hit machine.

"But when we do, we want to be able to do it properly," insists Ramona Wolf.

"There are problems with the Musicians Union which would have to be sorted out before we could bring our musicians over here."

The last appearance by Silver Convention in this country had

been a Top Of The Pops spot with their record 'Save Me' over a year ago. Since then we've had to make do with film clips.

They use classically trained musicians on their albums. When not providing Silver Convention with disco music they could be just as much at home playing philharmonic concerts.

A third SC album is being prepared, from which will come the next single to follow 'Save Me', 'Fly, Robin Fly', 'Get Up And Boogie' and 'Tiger Baby'.

"We have recorded three tracks and have about seven or eight more to do before the album is finished," said Ramona. "There is one that could be the next single, but I'm not certain. It has to be the right one."

So far their hits have had tremendous success in the discos, consisting of the bare minimum of lyrics — often just the mere repetition of the title — with strong danceable rhythms to give them punch.

Did they ever get frustrated and feel like trying something else?

"That's what we are good at, so it would be unwise," Ramona

shrugged her shoulders. "But there will be a few different things on the new album," adds Linda. "Some with more lyrics than before."

"We like the disco sound though," Ramona says. "And now we are geared to it."

Outside their working relationship the three girls — Ramona, Linda and Penny McClean — are all good friends and while they all participate in solo ventures they admit that Silver Convention always comes first.

During their brief spell in London they managed to find time to look for stage clothes but admitted so far they had not found much to their liking.

"Look at this," Linda giggled showing Ramona one of their early publicity shots. "I look like Frankenstein's daughter," laughs Ramona. Talking of pictures what had they thought of those controversial nudie pics used on the British covers for their two albums?

"Yes we saw those," Ramona said in a disapproving tone.

"The worst things was," says Linda, "that one of them was such an ugly lady."

SKIN DEEP SILVER

by David Brown



SILVER CONVENTION: musician problems



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Mailman

Have dancing groups had their day?

DEAR MAILMAN,
Am I pleased to hear that Ruby Flipper has finally been given the elbow? I thought them diabolical and that they totally ruined any feeling in the songs they were dancing to.

Mind you, Pan's People weren't much better. They just cheapened the meaning with all their posing.

Dancing teams should have gone out with Sunday Night At The London Palladium. The Beeb have ruled us with their old fashioned ideas of entertainment for too long. From now on, I'll be watching the other

STAR LETTER - WINS £3 RECORD TOKEN

channel - at least they have some imagination. J. Clark, Clapham, London SE.

• You mean you haven't heard? About the Television Toppers?



GONE: Pan's People and going: Ruby Flipper



Sound business

DEAR MAILMAN,
Your star letter (issue dated August 14) stated that Wings are 'selling their reputation' by releasing more than one single from an album. The writer thought that 'Let 'Em In' would flop. But if the song is

commercial enough and the public like it, they'll buy it. Look at it now, a potential Number One! Also the album sells more. Look how 'Speed Of Sound' has jumped back into the Top Ten on the strength of the single. Good thinking Wings! Trev, Chelmsford, Essex.

• Why aren't you swotting up on your

commercial studies instead of writing to us. Brainbox?

Missed out

DEAR MAILMAN,
Every week I compare the present chart with the yesteryear charts and see all those great names of the Sixties, the Beatles, Beach Boys and many other greats. I wish I was old enough to experience

the rise of those groups, all in one decade. Being 15 does have its disadvantages. Gary Craven, Hull.

• But you ain't as decayed as the last decade.

Show yourselves

DEAR MAILMAN,
What's happened to all the Glitter fans? Now Gary has gone and the Glitter Hand have changed their name. So buck up and put the G. Hand back in the charts. G. Band fan, Kirkby, Liverpool.

• Why?

Price scandal

DEAR MAILMAN,
I would like to complain about the varying price of singles. There are seven different record shops in my town and none of them sell singles at the same price. In one shop they are 45p, in another 50p and in another 60p and so on. Surely there should be a standard price for singles? F. Kendrick, Oswestry, Salop.

DEAR MAILMAN,
People often complain about the high prices of singles. But at least one single costs the same as another whereas albums are a complete mystery. I have recently bought some albums and their

prices varied from £2.95 to £3.50, all in the same shop! Surely it would be fairer to the public if all albums cost the same. Mervyn Honeywood, Bungay, Suffolk.

• Wet would life be without the mystery!

Weak heart

DEAR MAILMAN,
Although the singles charts have meant less and less over the years, the Elton John and Kiki Dee single is the final humiliation. They have both proved they are capable of turning out material a thousand times better than 'Don't Go Breaking My Heart'. So why does such a feeble attempt take both the British and American charts by storm? Terry Moran, Rotherham, Yorks.

• Because a lot of people bought it, maybe.

Scruffs

DEAR MAILMAN,
Muste lovers always seem to be complaining about the standards of records but never about bands who have got the nerve to get up on stage dressed in faded jeans and plimsolls. Surely, with the money they earn, they can dress smartly. Only a few bands do - Queen, Abba and most soul groups. Penny Radley, Sheffield.

• Lionel Blair is currently appearing on 'New Faces'!

Rise and fall

DEAR MAILMAN,
Is some jiggery-pokery going on in the charts? We have recently had several examples of records beginning to decline, then shooting up for just one week, then plunging again. Examples are Don Williams (24 to 13 to 29), Alex Harvey and Mud. This sort of thing never used to happen but is now fast becoming a regular event. It is all highly suspicious, or is there some other explanation? Henry Bull, Birmingham.

• We think it's all to do with the drought.

Take two

DEAR MAILMAN,
I have what I think is a good idea, which is to reprint old record reviews. Readers could write in a request the ones they would most like to see. I'm sure everybody would be interested to see what your reviewers wrote about all the old Beatles albums at the time. Mark Slinger, Thirsk, n. Yorks.

• Most people complain about repeats.

Radio ripoff

DEAR MAILMAN,
I had a mono record player for years and having finally bought a stereo, I was really looking forward to hearing some new sounds. When I compared the difference on the radio, there was none! The sound was exactly the same on both the mono and the VHF channel. Is stereo music a confidence trick? Jeffrey Bingham, Widnes, Cheshire.

• Have you had an ear cheek recently?

Baby, I love his face

DEAR MAILMAN,
If you don't tell the Editor to print a colour poster of Peter Frampton soon, I shall make you listen to a Bay City Rollers LP! Frampton fan, Wirral, Merseyside.

• Too late, we've been inoculated.

Quiet, please!

DEAR MAILMAN,
I very often see letters on your page knocking Top Of The Pops. All right, so it's not perfect by a long chalk, but until the other channel turns out something that can beat it, I wish the knockers would keep quiet. Mel, Wilts.

• I wish David Hamilton would keep quiet.

The lowest form of wit

DEAR MAILMAN,
Why do you always put corny headings at top of all your articles? Surely the piece about the artist is more important than some sarcastic headline. Martin Cook, KEdinburgh.

• We've got to have some fun...

Super Stars

LEO
(July 23 to Aug 23)
It's hard for you to see why anyone should dislike you, what with your wonderful sparkling personality and all, but let's face it babe, it's time to throw in the towel as far as this twosome is concerned.

VIRGO
(Aug 24 to Sept 23)
OK worm, it's your chance to turn. Why should you put up with all the slings and arrows of outrageous mates?

LIBRA
(Sept 23 to Oct 23)
One of these days you'll put your Mr Spock ass in mothballs and start taking a chance or three.

SCORPIO
(Oct 24 to Nov 23)
Now look here cloth ears. You're trading on someone's toes and you just can't seem to hear the screams. Try a bit of gentle persuasion to get your own way.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov 23 to Dec 21)
The temptation to media is overwhelming, but if you don't keep your nose out, you'll get it bitten.

CAPRICORN
(Dec 22 to Jan 21)
If I were you, I'd run past the bank with your collar burned up and wearing dark glasses.

AQUARIUS
(Jan 22 to Feb 18)
If you don't get off your ass and see this project through you're going to lose a good friend, see?

PISCES
(Feb 19 to Mar 20)
Instead of going straight up in the air the next time a small crisis looms, try working out the answer for yourself.

ARIES
(Mar 21 to April 20)
Hope you've got the TCP ready 'cos it's good for burned fingers. And that's what you'll have if you don't stop playing fast and loose.

TAURUS
(April 21 to May 21)
Now there's no need to go on like this. Save your bottle for the chutney and come right out with it. With that out of the way, you can expect a big improvement in your finances.

GEMINI
(May 22 to June 21)
Just when you thought you and your nut were life partners, the stars show a quick change.

CANCER
(June 22 to July 22)
You're the type that can get home sick on a day trip to the coast, but this week you'll think you've gone through a personality change.

Record Mirror's Crossword

No. 8

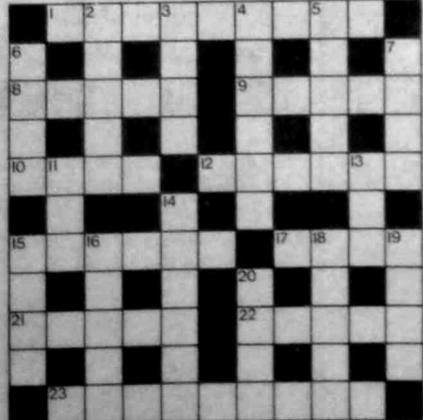
ACROSS

- 1 A lamented Saint (9)
- 8 A strange urge to see Brian (5)
- 9 "Hold On To The Feeling" (Jr. Walker) (5)
- 10 Kenny plays at the dance (4)
- 12 Home for Joni Mitchell's ladies (6)
- 13 Irving names a Lou Reed album (6)
- 17 He's among the more highbrow entertainers (4)
- 21 Those of the Ohio? (5)
- 22 Isaac Hayes played her love theme (5)
- 23 It's eaten with corn bread (5, 4).

DOWN

- 2 One missing from heaven? (4)

- 3 Mr. Alpert? (4)
- 4 Muturobi music (6)
- 5 Dread Description (5)
- 6 These stories are by Alex Harvey (4)
- 7 Tony Orlando group (4)
- 11 What Neil Sedaka went! (3)
- 13 The Spanish cheer ELO (3)
- 14 They're to be saved for me (6)
- 15 Ruth's child (4)
- 16 Drumming star, we're told (5)
- 18 Somerset home for the "My Guy" girl (5)
- 19 "All I -- Is Time", sang Gladys Knight (4)
- 20 Mr Beck, perhaps (4)



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION - No. 7

Across: 1 Rainbow, 7 Eagle, 8 Anita, 9 (n) Early, 10 Discs, 11 Six, 12 Taste, 14 Moon, 17 Shoes, 18 Irene, 19 Preston.

Down: 1 Roger, 2 Inez, 3 Brand X, 4 Waits, 5 Peter Tosh, 6 Passenger, 11 See See, 13 Sloop, 15 Ocean, 16 Riot.



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Hatching new plots

AND STILL it keeps on raining! Between the showers of beer cans at that outrageous Reading Festival the divine David Byron let it be known he's forming a new group and no doubt getting a new image.

Meanwhile at Brands Hatch on Monday (don't I get around) I couldn't help overhearing Ken Hensley (one of those still with 'Uriah Heep') saying he'd picked the two replacement members for his 'heavy group.

Of course he wouldn't let on where they were - that's not the done thing. But I am assured, dears, a single is coming from the line-up next month.

Ken said he could have

announced the new members before (match!) but he wanted to rehearse them first.

Now it couldn't be anything to do with waiting to see who is in David Byron's group first, could it? Honestly, the games people play.



When the Sniffin' had to stop

LIKE THAT Scottish MP for instance who wants to ban a record by the fabulous Ramones, everybody's favourite bunch of punks I'm informed (By the way what is a punk?)

He says their ditty 'I Wanna Sniff Some Glue' has outraged him so much it's got to stop. He claims it encourages people to sniff glue and says there

Love & Marriage

ONE THING is certain though, Beach Boys lead singer Mike Love is every inch a star.

He not only meditates between interviews and is marrying a young damsel also into Transcendental Meditation, but he eats simple vegetarian food and visits the Marharishi's ashram in India.

Mind you that huge limousine he rides around

are hundreds of young people already doing it.

That's as maybe, but you can bet that as he's been given pages and pages in the newspapers the sales of not only the Ramones album but also Airfix kits has gone up considerably.

MP's encouraging that sort of thing. I don't know what it's all coming to

in and that party his recording company threw at a very top London Hotel are so humbling. And then there's the free American flags being given away along with the badges and the stickers.

Yes, living in a material world must be so frustrating when you are so obviously committed to all that inner space and tranquillity.

Linda's Cinders?

BUT BACK to real living. Having lunch in the West End this week I happened to overhear there was going to be a black Cinderella pantomime in town this Christmas. How novel, mes enfants!

Of course it'll be the Uncle Tom version. If you know what I mean. I can't swear but I think Cleo Laine will be there somewhere and Derek Griffiths.

But guess who they want for the star of the show? Yes, who else, but lovely Linda Lewis. I hear the young girl hasn't made her mind up yet, but might turn down the offer to do cabaret instead.

A word of advice dear. Twiggy played Cinders last year and now she's in the charts. You're not in the charts.



Kiss and make-up

ALSO NOT in the charts are Kiss, although I am assured by Sophist O'Kate that they have a devoted fan following.

Here we picture two well dressed

young gentlemen in 1976 who unashamedly wear their hearts and mascara on their sleeves for Kiss. It is understood they eat live slug vol-au-vents and they know what 'punk' means. I thought you'd like that one.

Teddy fails test

AND WITHOUT even mentioning Lord Lucan we move over to those wild wild rockers Showaddywaddy, who cultivate the hard living teddy boy image with such charming panache.

Point is, Trevor Oakes, one of the leaders of this ton-up squad, failed his test for, wait for it, going too SLOWLY.

And Malcolm 'The Duke' Allured bought himself a huge powerful gleaming machine before he'd even heard when his driving test was going to be.

Mind you don't they at on them well?

Following in Reg's footsteps

AND FINALLY it seems that Rick Wakeman is trying to become Elton John.

As an enthusiast of that rather pedestrian game, football, he is hoping to become a director of Brentford Football Club.

He had a bit of a setback recently when Brentford played at home against Watford FC (of whom Reg is the chairman). Rick had to pay to get in, which is hardly form for an aspiring director, but then he had been seen drinking in the saloon bar of the local earlier on.

That's something you never see Elton John doing.

Toodle-oo

J. Edward Oliver

"Bed and Bored"

YOU MAY HAVE BEEN WONDERING WHY FRESKO HASN'T BEEN APPEARING IN THIS CARTOON STRIP VERY OFTEN OF LATE. THIS IS BECAUSE HE HAS BEEN EXTREMELY BUSY WRITING A SEQUEL TO HIS WORST-SELLING BOOK, 'LONGEVITY IS A 300-MILLION-AND-ONE-YEAR-OLD DINOSAUR' (ONE DISC 13 APR '74). THIS NEAR LITERARY MASTERPIECE ("NOSTRIFERICA" ???) HE CALLS ---

BOREDOM IS 730,001,273 EVENINGS WITH NOTHING TO DO

BY FRESKO-LE-RAYE

BOREDOM IS...

...THE OTHER PERSON'S TURN IN "SCRAMBLE".

BOREDOM IS...

...READING ABOUT RICHARD BURTON'S LOVE-LIFE.

BOREDOM IS...

...LISTENING TO THE MURRAY'S "CARRY ON SINGING" CONTESTANTS LISTING ALL THEIR FRIENDS AND RELATIONS.

BOREDOM IS...

...HAVING LUNCH WITH A CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT.

CENSORED FLOP-TER

1. LOVE TO YOU, BABY
2. FIVE DAYS TO YOUR LOVER
3. BELIEVE I'M GONNA LOVE YOU
4. LET'S GO AGAIN
5. I SEE YOU
6. DON'T GO BREAKING MY HEART
7. SHAKE YOUR BODY
8. EXTENDED
9. AFTERNOON DELIGHT

COMPILED BY (T & S) FIONA GRANT, 107 BATHING STREET, EDINBURGH AND (T & S) DAVID G. GUNDEL, SUNNYSIDE VILLAGE, KENT (A RELATION).

THE INVISIBLE MAN AT THE OLYMPICS

BOREDOM IS...

...ELEVEN "LIQUID GUMPTION" COMMERCIALS IN ONE EVENING.

BOREDOM IS...

...WATSONS THINGS DOING A STRIP-TEASE.

BOREDOM IS...

...WAITING FOR A NEW JOKE ON "WHAT'S ON NEXT?".

BOREDOM IS...

...CRICKET.

BOREDOM IS...

...LISTENING TO "DON'T GO BREAKING MY HEART" THIRTY-FIVE TIMES.

BOREDOM IS...

...LISTENING TO "COMBING HARVESTER" ONCE.

BOREDOM IS...

...DISCOVERING THAT THERE ARE 10,336 ROSES ON YOUR LIVING-ROOM WALLPAPER.

BOREDOM IS...

...DISCOVERING THAT THERE ARE 10,336 ROSES ON YOUR LIVING-ROOM WALLPAPER.

BOREDOM IS...

...BEING DENIED ROUSBOO'S HAIRBRUSH.

BOREDOM IS...

...YET ANOTHER REPEATED ITEM ON "NATIONWIDE".

BOREDOM IS...

...STUDYING YOUR NOSE-PICKING-OS.

BOREDOM IS...

...AN EXERCISE BOOK FULL OF DOODLES.

NEXT WEEK: I give up . . . what is yellow, runny and costs a great deal of money ?



Tune In To Modern Music.

Set the dial on your wristwatch tv to your favourite rock station. As the sounds pour out, you should be hearing 'Modern Music'.

'Modern Music' is today's Be Bop Deluxe album. It's magic music, from 'Honeymoon On Mars' through 'Lost In The Neon World', 'Dance Of The Uncle Sam Humanoids' to 'The Gold At The End Of My Rainbow'.

ONLY BRITISH TOUR DATES THIS YEAR

Saturday	25th	September	Odeon	EDINBURGH
Sunday	26th	September	Apollo	GLASGOW
Monday	27th	September	Guildhall	PRESTON
Tuesday	28th	September	De Montfort Hall	LEICESTER
Wednesday	29th	September	City Hall	NEWCASTLE
Thursday	30th	September	Civic Hall	WOLVERHAMPTON
Friday	1st	October	Colston Hall	BRISTOL
Saturday	2nd	October	Odeon	HAMMERSMITH



BE BOP DELUXE MODERN MUSIC HARVEST RECORDS SHSP4058