

ULTRA HIP FOR DISCO ■ CHARTS ■ GOSSIP ■ RELEASES ■ PERSONAL ADVICE

WORLD

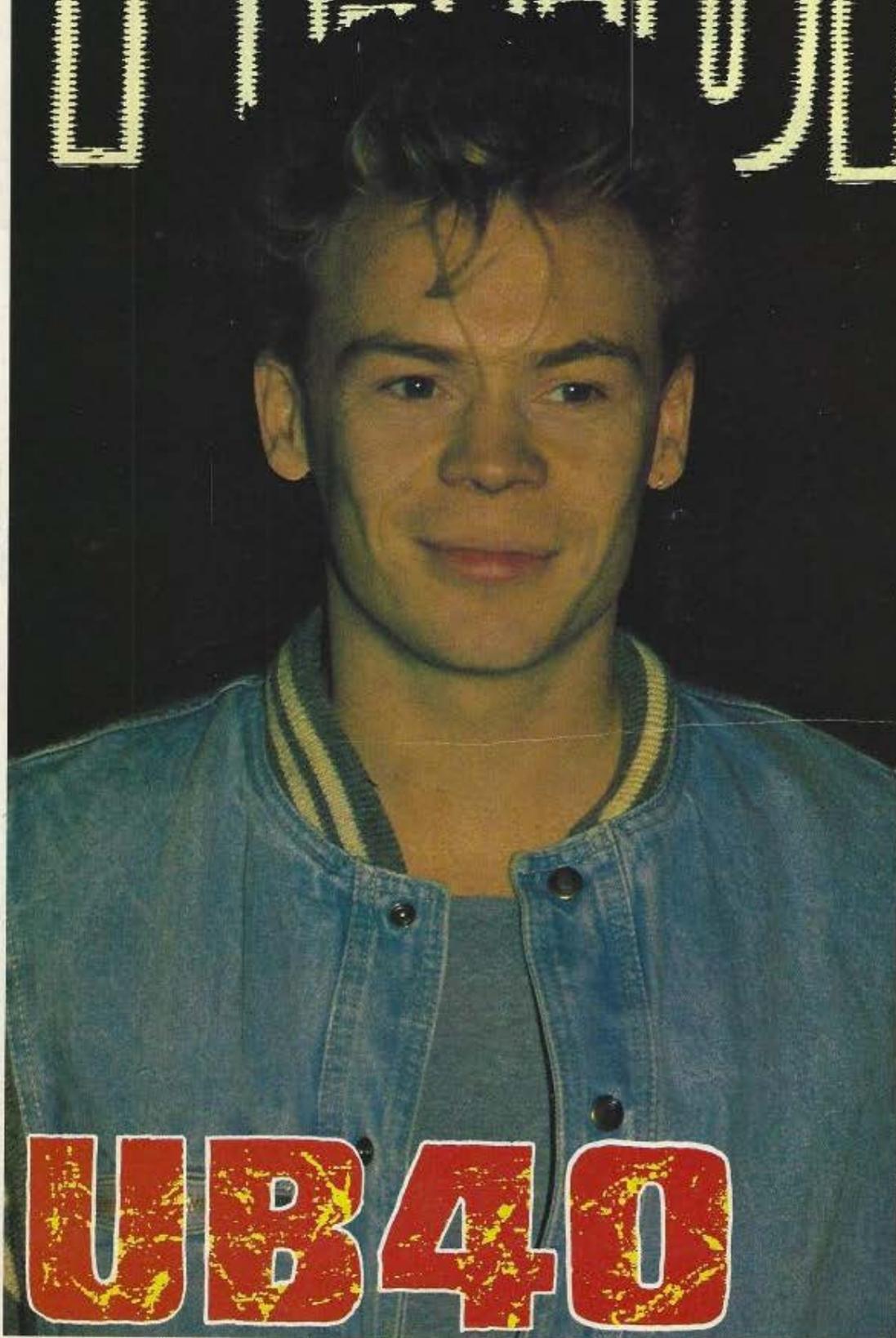
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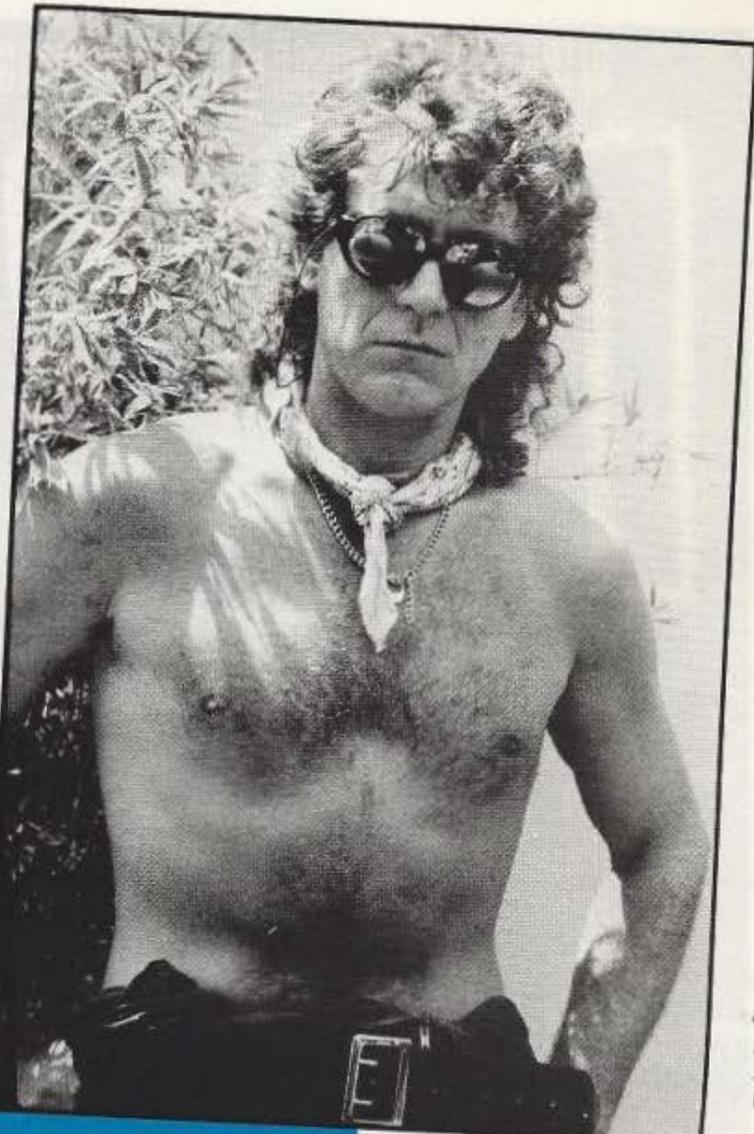
Heroes of the Blitz

King Kurt -grotesque party tips

Kool and the Gang



UB40



Pic by Joe Bangay

Private Files

CHRISTMAS? — BAH, humbug! Here at fun lovin' RM it's Xmas every day. Work? — I tell you it's a pleasure to be beavering away in our cosy little office on the eve of a shiny New Year.

Strange men in kilts are contributing to the noise around the boss's desk, whilst the ghost of John Shearlaw stalks the office searching for free booze, free ciggies and some free paper on which to write his latest book, 'Sex In The Outer Hebrides'.

But none of this is affecting me, folks. Y'see, I've forsaken drink and debauchery for a quiet life. Following the dictates of the guru of clean living (and unhealthy thoughts) Robin Smith, I have embarked on a course of steak 'n' chips and Airtix modelling.

Henceforth I shall only wear Kickers shoes and checked shirts, I shall go to bed at 10.30pm and only read books about the American Civil War. I'm going to

RIGHT FOLKS, get ready for Eighty Fourggghhh: Yep, you can throw Winston Smith, Airstrip One and Room 101 right in the dumper — '84 is going to be the year of bestial chic. The year of the Neil Kinnock mohican (being Welsh this is barbered with a lot of hot air and wet flannel), the year of the Mary Whitehouse bondage strides (to be worn over the eyes, ears and naughty bits) and the year Tears For Fears become the wild men of rock when they practise primal therapy in Bath's Mothercare. Yep, times are going to be tough. So we at your ever caring RM have provided you with a 1984 survival kit. Things are going to be so mean out on the streets that there are just two looks to pull this year. (1) The complete off the top of your head flamin' loony look, as practised by your average Alien Sex Fiend fan. (2) The mucho macho mean machine as practised by aged street warrior Robert — Big Log — Plant. Remember, in 1984 a wimp ain't worth the price of an Arsenal season ticket...

get married, settle down, stop going to pubs and start reading the 'Daily Express'.

Yep folks, life as a born again reactionary sure lifts a whole weight off your mind. No room for conscience, concern or compassion in the Smith army. So let's go...

Main worry before Xmas was how to pay the rates, send little Toby to public school (fact: 75 per cent of rock journalists go to public school — heh, heh) and get to all those marvy parties.

Madness held a whopper bash at the Wag Club for their sometime baseball team The Regents Park Seals. As the booze flowed and talk turned to Babe Ruth's seminal ska LP 'First Pitcher Of You', Bazooka Joe types strolled the dancefloor looking for their first strike.

Present, correct and in fine batting form were various Belle Stars, Sarah Bananarama, Rusty Egan, Steve Strange, Dee from the Style Council, Paul Young, a couple of King Kurts, John and Mickey, ex-Undertones, Virginia Astley and Sketch.

Now if all that baseball and light 'n' bitter wasn't enough, arty type Graham K (a man who wears his socks over his shoes) drags me along to PR Lynne Franks' party where the Flying Pickets, Sandie Shaw and designer Jasper Conran grooved away, whilst Marilyn walked around trying to figure out who everyone was.

Well, after the little PaRty young Smith has the cheek to drag yours truly along to a meal with a load of people who draw and make



Our Hogmaniac: JIM REID

designs and do things pertaining to the word ART — a word mostly prefixed by the letter F in my book, but there you go. I did my best to mind me manners, forget that I thought Picasso played inside right for Real Madrid and got on with the nosh. The menu was written in French so I didn't know what the hell I was eating, but anyhow I was given noble assistance by hip young designers David Band and Fraser Taylor, film person John Gordon Sinclair and popsters Bourgie Bourgie and the World Famous Lobster Allstars.

TWO PARTIES in one night overdoing it? You must be joking. Having bade my arty friends farewell, it was off to the jolly Camden Palace for a night of bleached roots, Bet Lynch lookalikes and pop folk being very silly. Yep, t'was the ole' Pal's 'Blondes Have More Fun' night. Yet apart from a dazzling array of platinum bewigged transvestites, including **Jayne County**, hardly anyone made the effort to go blonde.

Still, obvious attractions were marvy **Marilyn**, having his last fling before Xmas in Hawaii, being snapped with various **Belle Stars** (do they rehearse in the Palace cocktail bar?) and anyone else who wanted to stand beside his dreadlocks.

As usual **Queen blonde Roger Taylor** sported his superstar shades, held onto his bodyguard and aimlessly wandered around desperately trying to get recognised. Watching this pathetic spectacle were my fave DJ **Janice Long** and the boss's desert island fantasy **Natasha** (woarrrggg, that'll be beezee).

To the right of these two lovelies was an even lovelier **Steve Strange**, fresh from the dock. The court case Steve vs 2 Para has been referred, but on his way out from the court Steve was besieged by hacks from *Vogue* and *Company* claiming to be 'taking fashion notes'. My dears, Steve's apparel is not what the best dressed criminal will be wearing next year. . .

● **Right Choker:** Flags in the Old Kent Road were at half mast. Dun Cow dancers wore the obligatory black arm band. RM's James Hamilton bravely held back the tears. Saturday nights will never be the same now that MCA have dropped the super soulful larynx of Mr Oliver Cheatham. . .

Roll out the barrel: Mouthy **Elery Bop** vocalist **Jamie** has just bought a pub with his Ma. The spit'n' sawdust emporium is in the Dingle area of Liverpool. . .

Talking of which, those long coated manufacturers of the bog brush haircut **Echo And The Bunnymen** have just finished recording their next LP in Paris. Said record is either "brilliant" or "not bad" depending on which source you want to believe. All I want to know is (a) will any of us be able to understand the lyrics? (b) are the Bunnymen really as 'honest' as they claim to be. . . ?

● **A&R men please note:** The support act on the Culture Club tour, The Swinging Laurels, do not have a record deal, though I hear if you're not quick off the mark they may be working with Club drummer Jon Moss. . .

And finally as **PRIVATE FILES** heads for the New Year we end on a story about 83's most tedious group **King Kurt**. Y'see the home counties heh ha's got so carried away on their European tour that they (shock) trashed a hotel room in Holland and had to waste all their Xmas bonus paying for repairs. . .



GARY CROWLEY

The Ten That Got Away

THE OTHER day I found myself in my bedroom. Nothing unusual in that, you're probably thinking, but for me it certainly was. You see, I'm one of those many people who seem to be permanently out of the house. The kind of guy (I'm sure everyone's experienced it) who's forever being moaned at by his parents for "treating the house like a hotel" or "just coming and going as I please without a care in the world"! The seemingly endless rows never cease to amaze me.

Another favourite topic of theirs that they seem to revel in bringing up, is the current state of my bedroom and all who live in here. They don't seem to understand it's easily the most important place in my life — my sanctuary from the outside world — somewhere where I can retreat and be alone when I want to.

"It looks as if a bomb's hit it," is the usual cry, followed quickly by "we're sending in the demolition men tomorrow and declaring it a no-go zone."

I take the insults as well as can be expected, and waste no time in aiming my own back at them.

ANOTHER TYPE of row that is continuously raised and subsequently causes a lot of unpleasantness is the continuing saga of my record player. And what exactly is the right or wrong sound balance for it — "Oi, Cloth Ears, turn it down," I'm usually told in no uncertain terms, and I ask myself, am I going deaf?

I argue that clarity is of the utmost importance and the only way of hearing everything is through whacking the volume up a bit.

"Don't be so cheeky and just turn it down or it's going out of the window," replies an irate Dad.

If I was to be honest, I must admit there's nothing I do enjoy more than a good argument with my parents. Watching my Dad's face change colour is a particular favourite, as is the same lecture about life and my attitude to it (I can mouth that off perfectly now).

It was in my cage, however, that I recently found myself thumbing through some of my tackle (record collection!) and constantly coming upon records that I reckon (and I hope you agree) should have been hits. I've decided to list them and call them. . .

1) HOT HOT HOT, Arrow. The soundtrack for this year's London/Notting Hill Carnival. This brings back many memories of partying and dancing into the early hours of the morning. It's an infectious concoction of soul and calypso. This is an undisputed masterpiece. Only the squares of this world could fail to be charmed by this.

2) IF SHE DOESN'T SMILE (IT'LL RAIN), Fantastic Something. Hey, all you romantics out there, fancy a stroll along Lovers Walk? This is the sort of waiting that you spin when feeling in one of those decidedly melancholy moods. Reminiscent of Simon & Garfunkel at their best. I remember Nick Heyward flipping his lid on first hearing this and walking off into the night with my copy. Recently signed to the aspiring Blanco y Negro label, a duo to watch.

3) WHITE LINES (DON'T DON'T DO IT), Grandmaster and Melle Mel. Just when you never wanted to hear another rap record ever again, along comes this little beauty. If Liquid Liquid's 'Cavern' was the blue-print, then this music must be the finished product. Taking us back into the decaying urban city, this is all about sniffing and I'm not talking about those related to colds, the message simply being — don't do it! Essential listening.

4) YOU AIN'T REALLY DOWN, Status IV. I wonder how many romances blossomed during the summer while this played on in the background; too many to mention I'd imagine! A temple of happiness floor shaker; this shows up a lot of records for what they are, mindless fodder off the disco factory line. A customised groove from beginning to end, waste no time in picking this up and digging the big beat.

5) WALK OUT TO WINTER, Aztec Camera. If I was forced to make a tip as to who would be the big boys of 1984, I know my head and my heart would both say Aztec Camera. Observing their transformation from promising posters to serious contenders has been a riveting affair this year. Along the rocky road they've delivered a real peach of an LP and 45s (like this) that will deservedly be remembered for years to come.

6) TIMES ARE TIGHT, Jimmy Young. As *RECORD MIRROR*'s very own Mr Superbad James Hamilton will tell you, buying import records is a very expensive business nowadays. People with short arms and long pockets had better beware! Still, boss waxings like this you cannot afford to pass by. It's a party (!) political broadcast on behalf of the grade one funk movement. This bristles with memorable hooks, and I distinctly remember those style councillors doing a blistering version at a Radio One in Concert session. The real t'ing!

7) NATIVE BOY, Animal Nightlife. Here they come walking down the street, London Town's Jazz Pistols firing in all directions, and hitting the bull's eye every time. What exactly this bunch have to do for a hit I don't know. Actually, I've just decided to let my imagination run away with me for a moment and next year I will be arbiter of taste, the big brother who starts the fashions and has the power to stop them. Street cred Gaz, I'll be calling myself, and the first outfit to benefit from this power will be the nocturnal youth orchestra Animal Nightlife. Mark my words, 1984 will see this lot happen.

8) HONEY AT THE CORE, Friends Again. This year saw the continuation of the re-awakening of the guitar coupled with classic love songs, a manifesto originally presented by the good ship Postcard and all who sailed with her. From Botwell, just outside Glasgow, came these five forest rangers, axes in hand, with a sound throbbing with emotion and old fashioned songwriting ability. All perfectly exemplified by this their thrilling debut on Moonboot. Let's hope and pray together that next year the chart door opens to class like this.

9) I GOT IT, Jayne Edwards. Occasionally you hear a sound that cuts right through all the crap that clogs up the charts and the airwaves, a song of true quality and distinction that stands head and shoulders above the dross that surrounds it. The above was such a song — a steaming pop gospel classic that reached the parts other records didn't even know existed. Unfortunately, living in this unjust world, where mediocrity is usually greeted with open arms, this was pushed to the side by the usual pop pap. Very sad, but I feel lucky and in the know to just possess a copy.

10) GET OUT OF LONDON, Intaferon. People continuously waffling on about positive punk and all the ideals that went with it was all I heard this year. I listened, but frankly didn't like what I heard. The above, however, boast the spirit of punk without even trying. A racy, swashbuckling adventure, starring our dynamic duo, it utilises many influences (the Who, Cochran, Dylan, etc) ending up with a punch as powerful as Frank Bruno's. On first hearing, it immediately took me back to the days when I used to tune in to the John Peel show underneath the bed covers catching the latest exciting sounds from my fave-raves, the Jam, Pistols, Clash, etc. This is simply dangerous.

News

PREDICTIONS 1984 ***



Pic by Paul Cox/LFI

UB40

BRUMMIE SKANKERS UB40 will probably do a less political album than their previous offerings. The group are thinking about what direction to take following their highly successful 'Labour Of Love' LP. And it's possible that they won't go back to the political numbers that started their career. At the beginning of the year they go back to capitalise on their success in The States, with the new album out here in the early summer.

QUIET RIOT

QUIET RIOT come back to Britain in the spring to do their first headlining tour following the success of their 'Metal Health' single.

TERRY HALL

TERRY HALL is all set to go ahead with his new project, following the Fun Boy Three split earlier in '83. His plans are currently being kept under wraps, but details should be released in the middle of January.

HALL & OATES

HALL & OATES come over to Britain in the spring to play their biggest tour ever. The pair, who are high in the charts with their 'Rock & Soul Part One' album, have pencilled in London's Wembley Arena as part of their itinerary.

THE JACKSONS

THE JACKSONS still look to be set to come to Britain later in the year, although no one is committing themselves to a time. One school of thought suggests that they will arrive straight after their American dates in June, while others reckon they'll take a break and come to Europe later on—probably September.

Michael Jackson is currently in the studio with his brothers working on a Jacksons album which should be out in the early summer.



ECHO & THE BUNNYMEN

ECHO & THE Bunnymen plan to have their new LP quite early in the year. They are also one of the few groups who might well be playing some live dates at the same time.

MADNESS

MADNESS WILL bring out their new album in March, although they won't be playing any live dates in Britain until October.

Like the Style Council and Echo & The Bunnymen, they've been finishing off their LP this month, and it will probably go through its final production stages during January.

They will probably be having a quiet time until the album comes out, although a trip to America for a tour is likely.



The big mystery is the whereabouts of Mike Barson (above). Now he lives in Holland with his Dutch wife, he's often hard to get hold of to finish off records and make group decisions.

Also planned for the new year is a 12-part television series, but no details have been finalised.

QUEEN

QUEEN ARE all ready to go back on the road later in 1984.

On January 16 they bring out a single 'Radio Ga Ga' and an album 'The Works' is released at the end of the month.

The tour will probably be in the spring. And it WON'T consist of a few stadium dates. Guitarist Brian May has said that they want to play gigs in "Hammersmith Odeon-sized" venues.

Freddie Mercury is the latest in a line of stars who are due to work with Michael Jackson.

No details have been worked out, but the arrangement is likely to be similar to the one Jackson made with McCartney for 'Say, Say, Say'.

Mercury also has previous experience of teaming up with superstars — he and David Bowie joined together to make 'Under Pressure'.

DURAN DURAN

DURAN DURAN will be doing even more British shows this year... but not until after they've done an American tour.

The supergroup have a new single 'New Moon On Monday' released on January 9. It is backed with 'Tiger Tiger' and also comes out as a 12-inch.

After that, all will be quiet with Duran, as they go off to play a massive tour in America.

But Britain will not be forgotten. "I think they're planning on doing a tour with much wider coverage of Britain," said a spokesman for the group.

"They should be taking in the places which they haven't managed to fit in this year. But I've no idea when the dates will be."



CULTURE CLUB

CULTURE CLUB have decided exactly what they're going to be doing for the beginning of '84... absolutely nothing!

"For the first three months of the year they won't be doing anything," said a friend of Boy George's. "They have decided to have a complete rest until April."

"It's likely that they'll be doing a new single at the end of that period."

In May the group go off to do a tour of Australia, and after that it's likely they'll start work on a new LP although there are no definite plans other than their dates down under.



THE POLICE

THE POLICE bring out a new single on January 6.

It's called 'King Of Pain' and is backed with a live version of 'Key In The Sahara' recorded during their recent American tour. 'King Of Pain' is written by Sting and comes from the trio's 'Synchronicity'.

BECOME SARTORIALLY elegant with your very own Status Quo denim jacket. We have five of these sought after items for those who want to cut a dash and up their status. Each winner will also cop a copy of Quo's 'Back To Back' album. The 15 runners-up will also receive albums.

To win, all you have to do is answer three easy questions, indicate your answers, cut out the coupon and send it to: Status Quo Competition, RECORD MIRROR, PO Box 16, Harlow, Essex. First 20 correct entries opened on the closing date, Monday, January 16, 1984, can look really crucial!

Get the Quo denim blues

- 1) Name Status Quo's first top 10 hit. Was it a) 'Matchstalk Men And Matchstalk Cats And Dogs'... b) 'Pictures Of Matchstick Men'... c) 'Caroline'...?
- 2) Which famous royal personage saw Quo perform at the NEC Birmingham in 1982? Was it a) Prince William... b) The Queen Mother... c) Prince Charles...?
- 3) Who wrote the Quo hit 'Fockin' All Over The World'? Was it a) Bernadette Nolan... b) John Fogerty... c) Shakin' Stevens...?

Name

Address





THE STYLE COUNCIL

THE STYLE COUNCIL will finally bring out their debut album this year... and get out on the road at the same time.

Paul Weller has been in the studio for the past month recording with partner Mick Talbot as well as Wham's old singer Dee.

"The album should be out in around March, but we're not making any definite commitments," said a spokesman for the Style Council this week.

The Style Council were to have gone out on the road before Christmas, but the recording commitments meant that they had to put off the live dates, even though they went ahead with their European shows — exclusively reviewed by RECORD MIRROR.

It's not clear which tracks will be featured on the album, but it's likely that very few of the singles will be included. The main reason is that their mini-album, which was only meant to be released abroad, has been on sale so widely in this country.

Weller will also be making his acting debut in a Channel 4 film about sudeheads, according to rumours in the industry.



SPANDAU BALLET

SPANDAU BALLET are teaming up with Swain & Jolley again for an album to follow up the acclaimed 'True'.

They will probably record the new album in New York or Los Angeles. The cities will be a second choice from Stockholm, where their favourite studio is booked up during January and February when the album is being recorded.

The album should be out in May with a single possibly ready by April. It will be mixed in New York.

Spandau also go on the road during the summer for a world tour. The British dates look likely to be the first... with June being the time being touted as the most suitable.

News

Making his Marc

SOFT CELL have added another date at the London Hammersmith Palais on January 8 as concerts on the 9 and 10 have sold out. Tickets are available from the usual agents for the show.

And Marc & The Mambas play another show in London because their Duke Of York Theatre concert sold out so quickly. But that date still has to be confirmed.

Marc Almond is still considering his future, but hasn't any definite plans other than to bring out the last-ever Soft Cell album later in the year.



MICK JONES: to rejoin?

Clash shortage

THE CLASH have set a series of live dates for February... although their line-up is still a mystery.

Rumours in the industry predict that guitarist Mick Jones will rejoin the group after being sacked earlier this year.

But there is still no confirmation, even though live dates have been fixed. The line-up is a bigger mystery than ever, with Jones playing on the General Public recordings and stories that 18-year-old Bristol punk Peter Mortiboy, who was sacked from Rolls Royce, will be able to join the group if he can learn to play bass.

No one has been answering phones in the Clash office, and their press agent Cosmo Vinyl simply said that the line-up hasn't been fixed.

Tour dates start at Dublin SFX Hall on February 5 and 6. They go on to play Belfast Ulster Hall 7 and 8, Glasgow Barrowlands 10, Manchester Apollo 11 and Leicester De Montfort Hall 12.

Tickets are available from the theatre box offices.

Ready to rock it

HERBIE HANCOCK has added two London dates to his tour.

The jazz-funk artist who hit the charts again with 'Rockit' now plays the Hammersmith Odeon on January 30 and 31. Tickets for the shows cost £5.50 and £6.50 and are available from the box office and agents.



General PUBLIC

ROGER and DAVE making sure they're heard

Public address

GENERAL PUBLIC are all set to blast into action for '84.

The group, formed by The Beat's Dave Wakeling and Ranking Roger, have fixed their line-up and a single will be out in February.

And Mick Jones of The Clash will be helping out in the studio — even though he isn't a full-time member, as yet. Jones' future with The Clash still isn't clear but he should be heard on the first single.

Other members are keyboard player Micky Billingham, drummer Stoker and Horace Panter on bass. Like the Beat, they're all from the Midlands.

General Public are currently in the studio recording four or five numbers. One of those will be selected as a single.

A release date still has to be decided, but a spokesman for the group said that their debut record should be out in the middle of February.



THE WHO in their very early days

End for Who

THE WHO have finally split up after a year of doubt about their future.

Leader Pete Townshend said that he tried to make one last album with the group earlier in the year, but the songs weren't suitable.

"I will not perform live again with The Who anywhere in the world," he said. "I also tried to write songs for the next contracted Who album for

the first three months of this year and I realised after only a short time that they were not suitable for The Who."

Townshend is going to continue with his solo career. The plans of the other members, Roger Daltrey, John Entwistle and Kenny Jones aren't decided, but they will almost definitely continue with their solo work.

SELECTION

'83

The discerning journalists' hit list

GRAHAM K SMITH

Best

- 1 'This Charming Man', the Smiths — just when '83 seemed about to die a dullard's death... just when the guitar was about to be permanently pensioned off... along come Morrissey and Marr with a lesson in lovelorn jangle. I thank you
- 2 A day at the seaside (champagne 'n' swimming down West Wittering way)
- 3 Elvis the C at the Top Rank, Brighton (The King... ruling)
- 4 'The Prisoner'



- 5 'Space Cowboy', the Jonzun Crew
- 6 Amalgamated Talent Fashion Show (cos I was in it!)
- 7 A suntan at Lords
- 8 Safeways mayonnaise in tubs (mmmmmmmm...)
- 9 Madonna at the Palace
- 10 My Swatch watch (now that's design)
- 11 Elms hits Hewitt
- 12 'If The Feeling Is Right', Beverley Skeete
- 13 The Switch (best TV pop yet)
- 14 Soundtrack LP to Koyanisquatsi
- 15 Discovering Juan Gris at Essential Cubism (*Who is he? — Art Ed*)
- 16 Shakin' Arthur Baker (that's Arthur with an ART)
- 17 Cream teas on Sunday in deepest Surrey
- 18 Jim Reid's wit
- 19 Being arty, and getting away with it
- 20 The word 'Corker'

Worst

- 1 Thatcher! — back again for more right wing stomping. It could have been Ronnie's 'nuke 'em' babblings or the cynically political Cruise missiles or the Press's bestial treatment of the Peace Movement. Thatcher takes the laurels, though, for her continuing total disregard for Britain's plight
- 2 My operation!
- 3 The continuing cult status of the Bluebells
- 4 Still driving a Vauxhall Viva
- 5 Having to admit to supporting Crystal Palace Football Club!

JESSI McGUIRE

Best

- 1 Simon Le Bon's engagement — now maybe we'll all get some peace...
- 2 Discovering peanut butter and marshmallow spread sandwiches
- 3 Marilyn!!!
- 4 Dr John's Dingwalls gig
- 5 'I'm a Teapot', the Geisha Girls
- 6 Channel Four showing 'Performance'
- 7 'Script Of The Bridge', the Chameleons
- 8 My hair finally reaching below my waist
- 9 Discovering the bistro round the corner from Vernon's Yard
- 10 Naughty Miranda, Indians in Moscow
- 11 'Colour By Numbers', Culture Club
- 12 Buying a perfectly good Harmonium for only £9.90 from the local paper's small ads section
- 13 Aswad's new live album
- 14 Seeing Peter O'Toole in Baker Street
- 15 Falling over Paula Yates at the Camden Palace
- 16 The Hooray Henry embryonic spy play by Julian Mitchell at Queen's Theatre, 'Another Country'
- 17 Andrea Jaeger reaching the ladies' finals at Wimbledon
- 18 John Lee Hooker, Junior Wells and Buddy Guy at the Hammersmith Odeon
- 19 David Essex admiring my dress
- 20 Getting the Chieftains 1st album for my 19th birthday

Worst

- 1 My favourite clothes shop closing down while I was away
- 2 Chris Lloyd and Jimmy Connors losing at Wimbledon
- 3 Being called a hippy by RM staff
- 4 Going all the way to Limoges to talk to Toyah and being miserably travel-sick
- 5 Missing everything at the Antony Price show through being too small to see the catwalk



MARILYN: a young girl's dream

JIM REID

Best

- 1 Friday nights down the pub with the lads (Taff, John and Crow)
- 2 Saturday afternoons at the academy — Upton Park, home of West Ham
- 3 Sunday lunch with the landlady
- 4 'Blue Monday', New Order
- 5 My immaculate black and white chequered coat
- 6 Meeting Marc Almond
- 7 Kent Records
- 8 Dancin' — 'Space Cowboy', 'Times Are Tight', 'Get Down Saturday Night', 'You Ain't Really Down', 'White Lines', 'So Many Men, So Little Time'
- 9 Romancin': Sade Adu at Ronnie Scott's, Luther Vandross at the Dominion
- 10 Drinkin': The Ship (Rotherhithe), Surrey Arms (West Hendon), Blind Beggar (White Chapel), The Flask (Hampstead), Biddy Mulligans (Kilburn)
- 11 Graham K's style
- 12 Roddy Frame's music and manners



- 13 Spandau Ballet in Stockholm, 'Style Council A Paris'
- 14 Breakfast in New York, night-time in Toxteth
- 15 Billy Bonds at 37 — 'This Charming Man' by the Smiths
- 16 Bill Drummond's creative rock mythologies
- 17 Simon Raven books, Sid James on TV
- 18 Fighters: Greenham Common women, Denis Skinner MP, Billy Bragg
- 19 Return of the acoustic guitar
- 20 Essex girls

Worst

- 1 Media frauds: Positive Punk, Metal Music, Charlie Nicholas, Thatcherism
- 2 Dyed black hair and needle marks up the arms
- 3 People who sell their sincerity as soon as they pick up the phone
- 4 The deification of Paul Weller — good songwriters are not necessarily imbued with messianic vision or stylistic perfection
- 5 The Labour Party — for giving Thatcher a clear run and betraying everybody at the sharp end of the recession

MIKE GARDNER

Best

- 1 Being six feet away from Michael Jackson when he did those triple spins in the 'Billie Jean' video, easily single of the year.
- 2 Nearly giving up dancing after seeing the videos for 'Beat It' and 'Thriller'
- 3 Value for money 'Street Sounds' albums, especially number four
- 4 Elvis Costello proving he's no imposter with 'Punch The Clock', special commendation to Fun Boy Three for 'Waiting'
- 5 Lionel Richie for making a record that's impossible to dislike in 'All Night Long (All Night)'
- 6 Genesis and their 'Mama', Heaven 17's 'Temptation', Mtume's 'Juicy Fruit' and Will Powers for showing me 'Kissing With Confidence'
- 7 The glorious summer
- 8 Kapil Dev's match-winning catch to dismiss Viv Richards in the Cricket World Cup Final
- 9 Sitting in the Lords members friend's enclosure with the G'n'T and Telegraph brigade at a Test match
- 10 Miami Dolphin quarterback Dan Marino and Dallas Cowboys' receiver Tony Dorset
- 11 Stevie Perryman, Steve Archibald, Graham Roberts, Chrissie Hughton and the amazing Glenn Hoddle, all of Spurs
- 12 Mark Falco's vollied goal in the 5-0 thrashing against Arsenal and Hoddle's wonder chip goal against Watford
- 13 The breathtaking underwater view while snorkelling off the coast of Barbados
- 14 Kentucky Fried Chicken Sandwiches and Cafe Pacifico Mexican restaurant, Covent Garden
- 15 Vintage year for fun movies: 'ET', '48 Hours', 'Local Hero', 'War Games', 'Blue Thunder', 'King Of Comedy', 'Tootsie', 'My Favourite Year' and 'First Blood'
- 16 David Grant, Phil Fearon and Level 42 for keeping British pop soul flying while others flagged
- 17 Gig veterans like Peter Gabriel, Joni Mitchell, Steve Winwood, Madness and even Cliff Richard showing the new breed emphatically how it should be done



- 18 The second coming of Spandau Ballet and Annie Lennox
- 19 'Carrot's Lib', 'The Prisoner' and 'Soap'
- 20 Hi-NRG's 'It's Raining Men' — Weather Girls and 'So Many Men, So Little Time' — Miquel Brown

Worst

- 1 More disappointing albums than there are people who hate Norman Tebbit

- 2 The clampdown on pirate video shops in South London
- 3 Seeing part of the US battle force off the coast of Barbados before they invaded Grenada
- 4 No record from the Spurs FA Cup Final Squad and no trip to Wembley — maybe next year!
- 5 Not winning the pools, Premium bonds, Mirror, Star and Sun bingo, Millionaires' Club and all the rest

BETTY PAGE

Best

- 1 Cabaret nights at Skin II — by far the most excitingly kinky and taboo events to happen all year
- 2 Prince's '1999' played very loud on the car stereo steaming up the M1; sex music for naughty boys and girls
- 3 'The Art Of Falling Apart' — honest passion, sans fashion. Marc not compromising. Subversion and perversion with Soft Cell in New York
- 4 'Let's Dance', the dance record of the year: watching the Bowie extravaganza backstage at Milton Keynes
- 5 Watching the Spends hit big time at last and really enjoying themselves; 'True' and the Royal Albert Hall
- 6 'Gotta Say Yes To Another Excess', Yello — the most off-the-wall, stimulating, innovative epees of the year
- 7 'Forbidden Colours', Sylvian/Sakamoto. 'Merry Xmas Mr Lawrence' — single, film and Riichi's brilliantly moving and evocative soundtrack
- 8 Beefy electrophonic punk — StreetSounds Electro 1, Jonzun Crew, Whodini, Fearless Four, you know who you are. Wikki Wikki
- 9 Icehouse in Amsterdam, Berlin and Milton Keynes. Iva Davies' wonderfully dry, self-deprecating sense of humour
- 10 'Videodrome' — great film, despite Fleet St blatherings. Discovering Debbie Harry's interest in dungeons



- 11 Michael Jackson, Mr Pied Piper himself, especially, of course, with 'Beat It' and 'Billie Jean'
- 12 Annie Lennox for her voice, her image, her game playing. A woman after my own heart
- 13 'Construction Time Again' by Depeche Mode — what a nice surprise! And such nice boys!

- 14 Star insults: Boy George becoming morally indignant about my miniskirt; John Taylor telling me to sod off après a bad Duran review
- 15 'The Tube' and 'The Young Ones' for making TV worth watching again.
- 16 Tracey Ullman for being so bloody talented
- 17 Heaven 17 — intelligent pop makes it at last
- 18 'Tantalise' for refreshing the earbuds. (But whatever happened to Jimmy The Hoover?)
- 19 Blancmange for making 'Waves' and remaining unaffected by the business
- 20 My red and black hand-tooled rubber dress (thanks Billy!); my utter amazement and amusement at watching rubber, leather and studs creep into Top Shop

Worst

- 1 The Great British Public being conned into having Thatcher back
- 2 Pop turning into a heartless marketing exercise, to the complete detriment of good music
- 3 Duran Duran inexorably turning into a complete rock'n'roll cliché
- 4 'Blue Monday' and all manner of wally disco clogging up the charts all year
- 5 Michael Jackson impersonators — and they know who they are . . .

continues over

SELECTION

'83

from page 7

JOE SHUTTER



Best

- 1 Kate Garner (sigh!). A lovely girl, very interesting. Being a photographer herself, she knew exactly what to do! (mmm ... that's my story anyway!) My most stunning subject of the year
- 2 Spands in Stockholm. Great lads, wonderful gig and hysteria all round!
- 3 'Space Cowboy', Jonzun Crew
- 4 Soft Cell — Hammersmith Palais (nice 'n' sleazy!)
- 5 Marsha Raven And The Ravettes (especially Abigail!)
- 6 My MPC drum machine (hip-hop, bebop!)
- 7 Heaven 17 — nice lads, my first front cover, good music too!
- 8 'Searching For The Perfect Beat', Afrika Bambaataa
- 9 'Wikki Wikki Song', Newcleus
- 10 Kirk Brandon and Stan Stammers (Spear Of Destiny)
- 11 'Blackheart', Marc And The Mambas
- 12 Davey D scratching
- 13 'Never Too Much', Luther Vandross
- 14 Review (Kings Road)
- 15 A summer afternoon in Birmingham with UB40
- 16 'Break Dancin' — Electric Boogie', West Street Mob
- 17 Jeffrey Daniel bodypopping
- 18 An evening at Marc Almond's flat
- 19 Photographing August Darnell
- 20 Grandmixer D.ST

Worst

- 1 Clash split — will be sadly missed
- 2 Murder of Prince Far-I
- 3 A flight with Gary Numan being called off on runway because of technical problems
- 4 Not getting to meet John Lydon in Manchester
- 5 Bouncers at Hammersmith Odeon

SIMON HILLS

Best

- 1 New York — for action, the Funhouse, things being open 24 hours, music galore and being able to do what you want, when you want
- 2 Boeing — for inventing the Jumbo Jet which got me there
- 3 The Style Council — for trying a bit harder, taking risks, and writing some fine songs
- 4 StreetSounds 5
- 5 The Yowl Club — for great sounds in Deptford
- 6 Eek-A-Mouse — for being witty, original and consistent for yet another year
- 7 Sugarhill — for proving that music doesn't have to be a hype to be right on the case. Also read 'White Lines' by Melle Mel and Grandmaster and Greensleeves Records for bringing some great sounds in
- 8 Spandau Ballet — Making pop with reverence and sharing their holiday in Ibiza
- 9 The Palace — being open late, playing interesting sounds and actually assuming that the customer does want to be able to get to the bar and not have to dance up to his ankles in beer, and letting you be seen or hide in obscurity on the dance floor
- 10 The Centurion — for putting great music in a pub. Likewise The Britannia
- 11 Neil Kinnock — for a bit of humanity
- 12 Yellowman — for sheer cheek
- 13 Winston Reedy — for a new voice
- 14 Cecil Parkinson — scrabbling round in the mire, just when he thought he was safe!
- 15 'Rowan & Martin's Laugh In' — coming back
- 16 Hills Acres — sitting on the balcony watching the sun set over Peckham
- 17 Millwall — for beating West Brom 3-0

ROBIN SMITH



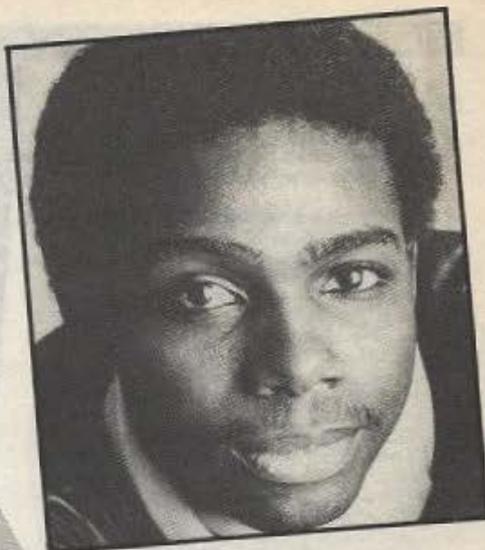
ZZ: top with Robin

Best

- 1 A kiss on the cheek from Madonna
- 2 Biting Kate Garner's jacket
- 3 Spending a sunny day with Gary Numan
- 4 Betty Page's smile
- 5 Jim Reid's legs
- 6 Marks and Spencers custard tarts
- 7 Cadbury's snack biscuits from the shop downstairs
- 8 Helping Twisted Sister finish their jigsaw puzzle
- 9 A plate of chips with Malcolm McLaren
- 10 Howling with Ozzy Osbourne
- 11 Stroking King Kurt's rat
- 12 'Terrahawks'
- 13 'Return Of The Jedi'
- 14 Howard Jones' dog Benny
- 15 The rejuvenation of Robert Plant

Worst

- 1 Paul Weller — for unbearable pomposity
- 2 An evening meal with Howard Jones — yeech, it was all vegetarian
- 3 Dave Gahan's double chins — it's horrible when he lets them wobble
- 4 Tina Turner — looks worse than my Auntie Doris when she's had a few on New Year's Eve
- 5 The family of toads who inhabit my kitchen drain



- 18 Keith Waterhouse
- 19 David Joseph — for promise
- 20 Home, Lizzie, South East London, holidays (time when time's due, Robin), hangers, The Arrows, The Ship, Greenwich Park and sweet & sour spare ribs at the New Cross Chinkie

Worst

- 1 New Year's Day — the real day after
- 2 Wheel clamps
- 3 Bowie adulation — and people taking it for culture
- 4 The 'Thriller' video — hype for someone who is the last person who needs it
- 5 Matthew Kelly (for the second year running), the Police (for the sixth year running), Jonathan King (for the 96th year running)

MICHAEL PILGRIM

Best

- 1 South London pirate radio — weekend listening at Pilgrim Towers
- 2 'White Lines (Don't Don't Do It)', Grandmaster and Melle Mel
- 3 'Gathering Sticks On A Sunday', Nick Heyward — I boldly reproduce the full wording of the year's most laughable title. I understand the record's not bad
- 4 'So Many Men, So Little Time', Miquel Brown
- 5 'Phone Home', Jonny Chingas



- 6 'Duck Rock' LP, Malcom McLaren
- 7 'Every Day I Write The Book', Elvis Costello
- 8 'IOU', Freeez
- 9 'I Love You', Yello
- 10 Plentiful supplies of Norseman lager (do I hear it for a year's free supply in return for endorsement?)
- 11 'The Devil Has All The Best Tunes', Prefab Sprout
- 12 'A Paris EP', the Style Council
- 13 'Blue Monday', New Order
- 14 'Half The Day's Gone And We Haven't Earned A Penny', Kenny Lynch — Sorry, but I honestly like this
- 15 'Wanna Be Startin' Somethin'', Michael Jackson
- 16 'Beat It', Michael Jackson
- 17 'Just Got Lucky', JoBoxers. Head and shoulders above everything else they did
- 18 'Another Man', Barbara Mason
- 19 Seeing Leslie Ash receive the attention she deserves
- 20 'StreetSounds' LPs

Worst

- 1 Any more records involving break dancin', hip-hop or electro-boogie. Bah, humbug
- 2 Anything involving U2, Echo And The Bunnymen or Siouxsie And The Banshees
- 3 Pop stars rewriting their past. If half the musicians we quoted were the Seventies soul boys they claim to be, 'Blues And Soul's' circulation would have overtaken the Sun (I make no personal claims)
- 4 'Beauty Stab', ABC
- 5 English licensing hours

ELEANOR LEVY

Best

- 1 'Soul Mining', The The. Matt Johnson's music just burrows its way into your head and refuses to go. 'This Is The Day' was the best single of the year and the fact it wasn't a hit proves once and for all there's no hope left for humanity
- 2 'Nobody's Diary', Yazoo. Just beautiful
- 3 'The Luxury Gap', Heaven 17
- 4 'Singing In The Rain' being shown on TV, just to see the God-like genius that is Gene Kelly cavorting in all that water
- 5 'Every Breath You Take', the Police. I'd never have thought the Police could produce anything with such feeling and perverse creepiness. Still sends shivers down my spine
- 6 Tracey Ullman's piss-take of Benny Hill on 'Three Of A Kind'. Been waiting years for someone to do that
- 7 'Merry Christmas Mr Lawrence' (soundtrack album), Ryuichi Sakamoto
- 8 'Introducing the Style Council', mini album
- 9 'Brookside'
- 10 'The Return Of The Dog', 400 Blows
- 11 'Dear Prudence', Siouxsie And The Banshees
- 12 'A Question Of Silence' (film). Three women who've never seen each other before kill a man they don't know. And quite right too
- 13 'Waiting', Fun Boy Three
- 14 'Land', Comsat Angels
- 15 'Zelig' (film)



- 16 'It's Raining Men', the Weather Girls
- 17 'Power, Corruption And Lies', New Order
- 18 'In The Neighbourhood', Tom Waits
- 19 'Working With Fire And Steel', China Crisis
- 20 Wendy hamburgers (no onions)

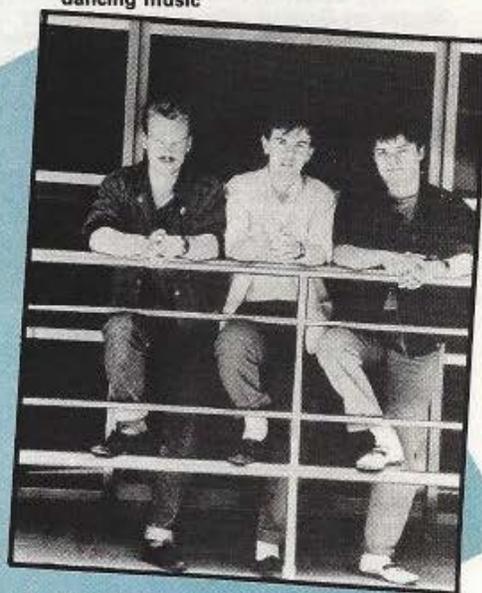
Worst

- 1 The General Election Result (everything else just pales in comparison)
- 2 'Is There Something I Should Know?' Duran Duran. It was repetitive, bland and an insult to the intelligence (and you couldn't see enough of John Taylor in the video)
- 3 Deirdre going back to Ken. If the 'Coronation Street' scriptwriters had any sense she would have rejected both Ken and Mike, become a separatist-feminist dyke and gone off with Mavis and Harriet the budgie
- 4 Peter Murphy, ex of Bauhaus, 'dancing' in the sand on 'Riverside'. A fantasy shattered
- 5 'Words', F R David. I think this is self-explanatory

ANDY STRIKE

Best

- 1 'Long Hot Summer', the Style Council. Quite simply the most atmospheric record released this year. I've played it to death this year, something I rarely do, and I'm still not tired of it
- 2 'Blue Monday', New Order. The best example of electro-funk this year. A great party record with the best two note guitar riff ever
- 3 'Thriller', Michael Jackson. Obviously the best album of the year. Every track a classic and great driving music as well as dancing music



- 4 'Tear Soup', the Questions. I'm baffled as to why this wasn't a huge hit. The best young live act in Britain destined to be big in '84. They single-handedly restored my faith in gigs
- 5 'This Charming Man', the Smiths. The only record this year to bowl me over on the first play. Those guitars are superb and even my mum and dad like Morrissey's voice. Shame it was such a hit, though, because I fear the boys won't be given time to develop naturally as a band
- 6 A day out in March on the Severn Valley Railway. Great!
- 7 The Living Room gig at the Adam's Arms in December
- 8 'The Comic Strip' on Channel Four, especially The Beat Generation
- 9 'Brookside' on Channel Four. Heather Huntingdon — yummy
- 10 My birthday party on the Isle of Wight. Phew, what a scorcher
- 11 A day out in Bath, especially the pump room and rowing on the Avon
- 12 CBTV. The best kids' show on telly
- 13 Portsmouth FC winning the Third Division championship
- 14 The Respond Tour
- 15 The 'Thriller' video, especially Ola Ray
- 16 Selina Scott on Breakfast TV. Not that I often see it
- 17 The video bar in The Dug Out Club in Bristol
- 18 Interviewing Status Quo. A life long ambition
- 19 Meeting Marc Almond's snakes
- 20 'Emmerdale Farm'. Seth Armstrong's my hero

Worst

- 1 Sleeping in a cardboard box after the Respond party. The worst night of my life
- 2 Steve Wright In The Afternoon. Insulting the nation's intelligence
- 3 Bowiemania!
- 4 Sarah Green leaving 'Blue Peter'. I cried for a week
- 5 Clearing up behind my two kittens. Pass me the needle and thread, someone

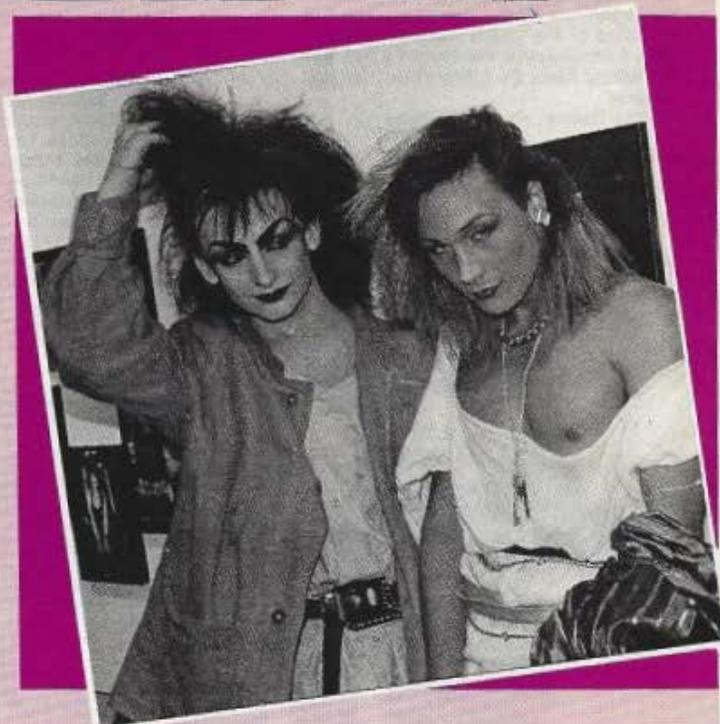
WHAT I DID AT

THE BLITZ/Covent Garden/1979-80

TO THE Sunday press it was just a bunch of kids dressing up weird. To the sussed sartorialists involved it meant perhaps just a little more . . . Transferring the format of the original 'Bowie Night' at Soho cellar Billy's — Rusty Egan bossing the turntables while Steve Strange vetted the clients at the door — The Blitz became the blueprint for a thousand one-nighters up and down the land, radically influencing fashion from the high street to high-chic while also inspiring a host of current chart toppers.

Visage, Spandau Ballet, Culture Club, Ultravox, Haysi Fantayzee, Marilyn, Blue Rondo and Animal Nightlife all owe their fledgling enthusiasm to the energy on tap at those crucial Tuesdays. Never before has the Silly Haircut so affected the course of mankind!

So let's return to the days when frilly shirts were de rigueur and Boy George was just 'an elitist poseur' to find out what this King of clubs meant to its diehard regulars . . .



Pic by Gobor Scott

GEORGE 'N' MARILYN posing furiously at an exhibition of Blitz pix. The Boy was unavailable for comment, which is probably just as well. But what did it all mean to Monroe Mk II? Marilyn: "Not a lot . . ."



STEVE IN his "I've seen 'The Devils'" black nun mode, on the door at the Blitz



Peter Godwin: "With the Blitz Steve and Rusty transformed the face of London nightlife. It was a catalyst that spurred into action young musicians, DJs, designers, writers, painters, dancers and entrepreneurs all over Great Britain. The influence of the 300 or so people who used to congregate there every Tuesday has spread all over the world — from the cover of Rolling Stone to the catwalks of Tokyo."

Midge Ure: "It meant a lot to me — it was the only club at that time where I could get in free. It made me feel very manly, 'cos all the other boys wore frocks."



MIDGE SPORTS vintage Billy's/ Blitz military look

Pic by LFI

THE BLITZ

Veterans tell their tale to our man in the field, **Graham K Smith**

Jeremy (Haysi Fantayzee): "The highlight of the Blitz was when I realised that by having a silly haircut you got a lot of attention."



Pic by Graham Smith



Chris Sullivan: "The Blitz was a meeting place for a group of like-minded people all of whom were intent on playing an active part in their own lives... and we used to get pissed there too."

Cor, did he really look such a wally?

Pic by Justin Thomas

Steve Strange: "The Blitz meant a lot to me because there was so much creativity collected under one roof — not only bands like Spandau Ballet and Visage, but young designers, photographers — even milliners. It was like a burst of energy at a time when the London scene seemed so stagnant."

Rusty Egan: "The Blitz said everything for me!"

(A man of few words, our Rusty. But please note trendy XTC disc on Blitzian turntable!)



Pic by Polhemus Procter

THE PUNTERS enjoying themselves. Yes, some people actually did pay to get in...



AND IN THE END



VISAGE IN their earliest form (spot the star!) pay their respects to the old place

Andy Polaris (Animal Nightlife): "A progression from the stagnating punk scene but using the same ethic of self promotion and motivation. It was a refreshing atmosphere at first but a lot of people got the wrong end of the panstick. It was the media trying to mass market so-called individuality and ending up with a herd of sheep in wolf's clothing."



STEVE LEAVES (gasp) for the very last time (RIP)

Pic by David Ingham

JANUARY



STRANGLERS BASSMAN

an Jacques Burnel put everybody off their turkey sandwiches and stale Christmas pudding with shock revelations about the band's single 'La Vie'. It was inspired by a Japanese man in Paris who ordered his girlfriend and kept her in his fridge to eat her on. Ugh!

LOOKING LIKE a wealthy accountant, David Bowie decided that it might be a good idea to do something more than kick his numbered Swiss accounts. He said he'd be giving dates in May or June, as well as releasing three films — 'erry Christmas Mr Lawrence', 'y Stardust And The Spiders from Mars' and 'The Hunger' — during luscious French sex Catherine Deneuve. The old devil.

OLD HIPPIES had a nostalgic or two in their eyes when it was announced that there was going to be another Isle of Wight Festival staged by local moter Roger Beswick. He said he was trying to book it, but nothing ever came of his plans and the cows were to munch in peace.

EDWYN COLLINS, the lanky man with Orange Juice, said he was being troubled by chic experiences. "There's something very strange about flat. I was lying awake the other night and a woman's face started whispering in my ear." Had Edwyn been indulging in something more than fruit, we pondered?

THE FIRST clatterings of Nicky's beads were heard when Agogoo released their debut single 'Too Shy'. "I think we could write songs in a very wide range of styles between reggae, pop and electro funk," says Beggs' proud boast.

CULTRY SWEDES Abba were down, happy together for snaps the last time. "We've had an enormous penetration," says Bjorn. "People have been in the jungle and discovered us with Abba records. I can remember watching a

remember 1983?

The year reviewed by **ROBIN SMITH**

Russian television programme and there were youngsters playing guitars singing Abba songs."

● **STIFF LITTLE** Fingers split up. Iron Maiden's drummer Clive Burr left the band for personal reasons and synth duo Blancmange were being as boring as ever. "We can't really act on stage," they droned.

● **IT WAS** up to the Belle Stars to put a bit of life into January with torrid tales of being on the road in the States where they had £500 and 400 dollars stolen from a suitcase.

● **THE AUSSIE** invasion began when bizarre act Men At Work powered into the charts with 'Down Under', faster than a wallaby treading on a hot coal.

● **TOWARDS THE** end of January the war of the dreadlocks broke out between Boy George and Haysi Fantayzee. "He thinks Haysi should be bowing and scraping towards him," claimed Kate.

● **ECHO AND** the Bunnymen's Mac was far happier at the prospect of marrying his long-time sweetheart Lorraine from Warrington. "I imagine it will break a few hearts," he quipped.

● **THE MONTH** rolled to a close with the shock announcement that Haircut 100 were splitting and little Nicky was going it alone. "We are basically glad he's left because the rest of the band couldn't get anything together," said Mark Fox bitterly.

FEBRUARY

● **SURPRISE HIT** of the early year was supplied by Joe Cocker and Jennifer Warnes with 'Up Where We Belong', taken from mega-movie 'An Officer And A Gentleman'. "I intend to be singing until I'm 60," said Jenny.

● **INDEEP** were the flavour of the month with 'Last Night A DJ Saved My Life'. Mainman Mike Cleveland said it took three years to actually get a deal for this multi-million selling single. "It's just a song about what DJs do for people's lives," he added modestly.



● **THE EURYTHMICS** were fighting fit, though, stepping out for a 30-dater and Tears For Fears held court. "We're in a position to reach far more people than ever before," they mumbled. Why can't everybody be as interesting as Ozzy Osbourne?

● **CHUBBY MARI** Wilson released her debut album 'Show People', featuring hit single 'Cry Me A River', where she sang with a 40-piece orchestra.

● **ANDY McCLUSKY** of OMD (whatever happened to them?) denied the scurrilous stories that he was having an affair with Miss UK Tracey Dodds. The only link was that she just happened to live down Andy's road. "I was being turned into Rod Stewart without even trying," he said.

● **AMERICAN HEAVY** metal bellower Pat Benatar paid a visit to these shores in an attempt to flog some singles. "In America kids come up to our house and pick flowers from the lawn," she proclaimed.

● **SPANDAU BALLET** realised their boyhood fantasies of becoming movie directors with their video for 'Communication', with chase sequences and boxer John Conteh.

● **IN A** recording first the Human League released the first ever video single featuring 'Love Action', 'Don't You Want Me' and 'Mirror Man'. It cost £11.99.

● **IN A** no holds barred feature, disco star Evelyn King told all about her love affair with Coronation Street's Brian. "We're good friends and it might go beyond that, we'll just have to see. When I get back to

the States he will be writing me letters and sending me cards." But did he?

● **COSMIC ROCKERS** Marillion struck home with a vengeance with 'He Knows You Know', but Fish's mum wasn't happy with her little boy. "She asks me why I don't write a love song," said Fish. "But I write in grey areas because that's what life is all about."

● **WHILE ON** a jaunt to America we also caught up with Michael mega-buck Jackson to watch him making his 'Beat It' video. Didn't the sensitive young artist move well?

● **BACK HOME** in London we bumped into Marvin Gaye, who wasn't a happy man. "I'm a manic depressive — I can become quite ill," he said. Never mind though, to cheer him up there were always the royalties from his 'Sexual Healing' single.

MARCH

● **FLAT CAPS**, short trousers and macho poses were the order of the day with JoBoxers bursting on the scene with 'BoxerBeat'.

● **OTHER NEW** faces were Big Country, featuring ex-Skidder Stuart Adamson, who said his band "had a lot of spiritual input." Peace and love to you too, Stuart.



● **SINGING HOUSEWIFE** Bonnie Tyler came blustering back with the Jim Steinman produced 'Total Eclipse Of The Heart'. The video was complete with shots of Bonnie in a white gown running around an old house. Very nice indeed.

● **THE STYLE** Council, featuring cutesome Paul Weller and his sidekick Tracey, had a hit with 'Speak Like A Child'. Later Tracey was to release her debut solo single 'The House That Jack Built' and said that she'd landed a deal with Paulie by sending a tape to him on the off-chance.

● **LOVABLE NICKY** Heyward got on down to a piece of solo action with 'Whistle Down The Wind' and the Kids From Fame were back for another series of dates hot on the heels of their Christmas shows.

● **DURAN DURAN** had a number one hit with 'Is There Something I Should Know' and Saxon coughed up their new album 'The Power And The Glory'. All was not well on the metal front though. UFO split after Phil Mogg had a nervous breakdown and collapsed during a concert at the Athens Sports arena.

● **BLOND HAIRE**d god David Bowie released a spanking new single, 'Let's Dance', and we went for a riotous night on the town with Bananarama. "I'd definitely like to have kids," confessed Keren after her fifth vodka and orange.

● **MALCOLM McLAREN** made the astonishing claim that the Thompson Twins would risk being stoned to death if they ever played in Zululand. "Zulus like performers to communicate with them. They don't like lyrics that don't have content," he said.

● **TRACEY ULLMAN** began walking down the path to world domination with 'Breakaway', her cover version of an old Sixties hit. A chance meeting with the wife of a record company boss at the hairdressers got her into the studio.

● **DURAN DURAN** gave a rare interview and Nick Rhodes confessed that when he was on the road he missed his cat. Never mind, though, with the money Duran Duran were making he could easily afford to give the moggie smoked salmon and prime steak every day.

● **THOSE NAUGHTY** boys Ultravox had been making slightly blue movies. A version of their 'Vision In Blue' video featured two naked young things soaping each other down in a bath and a topless ballroom sequence — all in the cause of art of course.

APRIL

● **CUDDLY CULTURE** Club released 'Church Of The Poison Mind' and Twisted Sister spent their spare time at a sleepy recording studio in the country doing a jigsaw puzzle.

● **THE CREATURES**, also known as Slouxsie and Budgie, were recording in the far more exotic location of Hawaii. At least they were getting a good tan.

● **THE HUMAN** League briefly popped up again with their single 'Fascination' and Robert Palmer talked to us from his holiday hideaway somewhere in the Bahamas. "I'm really into the physical aspect of making music," he slurred, sipping cocktails as the sun went down. Some people just make you feel sick, don't they?

● **HEAVY METAL** merchant Ian Gillan decided to pack his own band in and upped and joined Black Sabbath.



GREARHHH! Plenty of excitement was generated by the small but perfectly formed Jay Aston, of Bucks Fizz, who modelled skimpy swimwear for us at a plush London hotel.

● **NEW EDITION**, America's answer to Musical Youth, had a hit with 'Candy Girl'. "New Edition doesn't interfere with school," they said, much to the relief of their headmaster.

● **JUNIOR GISCOMBE** said that he was working with Phil Lynott and he also wanted to work with Def Leppard. No wonder we haven't really heard from him all year.

● **UNNERVING REVELATIONS** from Heaven 17, too. They might be today's suave young men but not so long ago they tottered around in stack heels. Glenn Gregory spilled the beans. "I remember when Martyn used to be the most outrageously dressed man in Sheffield. One of his most famous outfits was this bright green fur jacket." Very tasteful, I'm sure.

● **EX JAPAN**NER Mick Karn modelled for us accompanied by his svelte girlfriend Orly. He wore a £180 suit, while she was dolled up in a silk dressing gown, a snip at only £290.

● **THE BEAT** went upmarket as well, when Dave Wakeling changed into a lounge lizard suit and bow tie for 'Can't Get Used To Losing You' on Top Of The Pops.

MAY

● **DAVID BOWIE** frolicked naked in the surf with an exotic

oriental maiden for his 'China Girl' single. Obviously the BBC were outraged and the old boy got a lot of press out of it to boot.

● **STING** penned an ode to his ex-Mrs Francis Tomelty and released another hit single 'Every Breath You Take'.

● **MEAT LOAF** lost some weight, shedding a tumultuous five stone. He put it down to eating green beans and other horrible mushy things.

● **MOTORHEAD** CREATED mayhem with their album 'Another Perfect Day' and we took tea with Biff of Saxon at the Dorchester hotel in London.

● **MORE WOOARGH!** Iron Maiden blazed their way into the charts with 'Wings Of Icarus', based on no less than the Greek legend about the man who flew too close to the sun.

● **KID CREOLE'S** chum Coati Mundi said he was hoping to get elected for President, but we think this was just a wild flight of fantasy.

● **FAR MORE** interesting were Rick James proteges the Mary Jane Girls — women to cater for every fantasy, including the leather clad Maxi. Shame they didn't exactly have more whipping chart success after 'All Night Long'.

● **REMEMBER** Toto Coelo? Mid Westerners in America still do. 'I Eat Cannibals' was too much for

the bible punchers down there and it was banned from several radio stations. Little devils.

JUNE

● **WE WENT** on the tour trail with Kajagoogoo. Honestly, the things you girls were crawling on their tour bus, like, "I'm not too shy if you're not too shy". Really. "It gets awfully sweaty travelling and I don't want to arrive at places hot and tired," said Limahl, fighting off the hordes of fans and settling himself down in a comfy seat.

● **DEFINITELY NOT** the kind of thing Clare Crogan would have indulged in. She tried to make her image more sophisticated by modelling sharp black gear a la Audrey Hepburn. Pity Altered Images stopped selling singles. "I'll do anything for someone I trust," she said.

● **STUART ADAMSON** opened his heart to us. "I think I would be pretty stupid if I was playing 'Fields Of Fire' on stage when I was 30."

● **SOMEONE WHO** didn't worry about advancing years at all was that man David Bowie, who played to rapturous applause at Wembley. Golly gosh, he even did 'Space Oddity'.

● **YEEH HAH!** Those tough Texans ZZ Top were back in action for their 'Eliminator' album. Billy Gibbons said he'd been caught in a speed trap by the cops doing 140mph. Somebody had decided to put a Corvette drag racing engine in his vintage Ford coupe...

● **LEE JOHN'S** heart was also beating a little faster. Imagination's frontman had fallen in love with Carolyn Seward, the former beauty queen and one of the lovelies in the James Bond film 'Octopussy'.

● **YOUR INTREPID RECORD MIRROR** left the fleshpots of London for a while to visit a club in Leicester which specialised in that curious phenomenon Northern Soul. Good grief. Some people said they were prepared to pay upwards of £400 for an original version of Frank Wilson's 'Do I Love You, Deed I Do'.

● **JIMMY THE** Hoover had their one and only hit with 'Tantalse'.

● **FAR MORE** exciting was Roman Holliday telling us all about their on-the-road experiences. "There are groupies in every town you go to," said bassist John Durno. "They don't want your signature — they just want to tell someone they had a bunk up with you." Yes indeed, you've got to be dedicated to survive in this business.

continues over

remember 1983?

from page 13

JULY

- **OLD CODGERS** Rod Stewart, Elton John and Mike Oldfield all shook their walking sticks, while those young upstarts Duran Duran played in front of Charles and Diana. Ah, how sweet.
- **TOM ROBINSON** came from nowhere and notched up a hit with 'War Baby', which boasted some of the better lyrics of the year.
- **THE EURYTHMICS** booked a host of film star lookalikes for their 'Who's That Girl' video and Annie Lennox even dressed up as a man. Just what is wrong with that woman?



● **AFTER MUCH** struggling, Paul Young had his first major success with 'Wherever I Lay My Hat'. We caught up with him filming a torrid video in a sleazy hotel in Paddington with a gorgeous young blonde called Michele. Was Paulie a bit of a lad like the character in the song? "I've had plenty of lady friends and I might have done some bad things in the past, but then who hasn't?" was his rather coy reply.

● **ARTHUR BAKER** turned Freeez into hitmakers with 'IOU' but it was a real sweat working in America. "I lost two stone while we were there," said John Rokka. "We didn't have much money, we were eating one Burger King a day."

● **OLD TIMER** Aretha Franklin was back in action with 'Get It Right', and we had a history lesson from Shalamar's Jeffrey Daniel on the Ninja warriors of old Japan and their friends the Samurai. "If a Samurai warrior failed on a mission he would kill himself by kneeling on the floor and pushing a sword into his body," he said.

● **NICK HEYWARD** meanwhile was playing hard to get. "I shan't be available on this tour," he said. "I'll just go and sit in a room and evaluate what I've done."

● **ALF AND VINCE** of Yazoo decided to call it a day. Plenty has since been heard of Vince with his Assembly project, but not a lot from Alf, although she's said to have signed up to a record company for a massive fee.

● **DONNA SUMMER** turned her back on heavy breathing and got religion. "I had fame and success, but it wasn't enough so I turned to God," she said. More tea, vicar?

● **THE DOUBLE** Dutch skipping craze never quite took off despite the efforts of Malcolm McLaren, but it was fun while it lasted.

● **DEPECHE MODE** brought out their new single 'Everything Counts' and Elton John followed up the success of 'I Guess That's Why They Call It The Blues' with 'I'm Still Standing'.

● **WINSOME YOUNG** thing Tracie posed for pictures in the park and revealed that she had a weakness for the macabre side of life. "I've got an addiction to horror," she said.

● **ROBERT PLANT** crashed into the charts with 'Big Log' and Haircut 100 decided the time was right to lay into little Nicky. "Nicky is an insecure person who likes to be mothered," said Mark Fox.



● **WHAM!** SHOT their video for 'Club Tropicana' in Ibiza and while they were soaking up the sun, Limahl was given the boot from Kajagoogoo, much to his disgust and sorrow.

● **NO NASTY** words from Police's Andy Summers when we interviewed him at home in his garden. "I think Sting is a great songwriter and I enjoy playing his material," he said. Well, he would, wouldn't he?

AUGUST

● **TWO SPLITS** kicked off this month — Bauhaus called it a day and the Beat split up.

● **EVERYTHING WAS** happy with Spandau Ballet though, following up 'True' with 'Gold'.

● **A BAND** who said they weren't really interested in a platinum career were JoBoxers. "If you offered me a million pounds I wouldn't know what to do with it," said Rob.

● **HERBIE HANCOCK** had a hit with 'Rockit' and over in Central Park Diana Ross tried to cope with a huge rain storm that washed out her free concert. Undeterred, she performed again another night.

● **CUTE GUY** Gary Byrd enlisted the help of Stevie Wonder on his 'The Crown' single and Culture Club signed up Helen Terry to help Boy George on the high bits.

● **SOME BLOKE** called Sylvio Pozzoli was revealed as the man behind summertime funk hit 'Billie Jean'/'Do It Again' with Steely Dan vocal lines on a Michael Jackson beat. Clever, eh?

● **MADNESS RELEASED** their ethereal 'Wings Of A Dove' single featuring no less than a full scale pentecostal church choir.

● **THE STRAY** Cats tried to burst back on to the scene with 'She's Sexy and Seventeen' but couldn't quite make it.

● **EX JAMMER** Bruce Foxton got lucky with 'The Freak' and UB40 had just returned from dates in America and Canada. "It was so hot in Canada that I threw up on stage," said Ali. That's quite enough of that, thank you.

● **PAUL WELLER** slicked down his hair and seemed happy with the world. He even admitted that he liked Spandau's Gary Kemp. "I think he's a good songwriter," he said. Gary is rumoured to have nearly fainted with shock at being paid such a compliment.

● **MARC ALMOND** was so upset over the review of his 'Torment And Toreros' album that he came into the office wielding a whip and laid into Jim Reid. Silly little boy.

● **GARY NUMAN** preferred to stay at home. Despite the fact he's an international megastar there wasn't an awful lot of furniture in his house. "I spend a lot of time in my bedroom," he said. "A lot of furniture really isn't necessary."

● **HEAVY METAL** time up at Donington. 65,000 rabid fans enjoyed Whitesnake, ZZ Top, Twisted Sister and sundry other acts. Beat a night out at the Camden Palace didn't it?

SEPTEMBER

● **BOY GEORGE** said his favourite song was 'Melting Pot' and Jon Moss just loved 'Wichita Lineman'.

● **UB40 RELEASED** their new album 'Labour Of Love', a compilation of classic old reggae tracks.

● **ECHO AND THE BUNNYMEN** announced that they would be playing the Royal Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford Upon Avon.



● **TRACEY ULLMAN** released 'They Don't Know', penned by her chum Kirsty MacColl.

● **BOWIE'S FILM** 'Merry Christmas Mr Lawrence' was out, where he showed all the passion and intensity of a block of wood. But at least there was that nice theme tune which charted honourably.

● **ACTING** A bit like a matron herself was Norma Lewis, the new girl with Shakatak. She said that the Mary Jane Girls were far too sexy. "They're an instant manufactured fetish just catering for every man's whim," she claimed.

● **ROMAN HOLLIDAY** were also fretting — but they were upset at not being able to take a break. "I could do with a nice weekend in Clacton or Margate," signed Steve Lambert, looking at his pasty coloured flesh.

● **HEAVY METAL** cuties Girlschool were recovering from being trapped in a lift in Yugoslavia for an hour. They were rescued only 10 minutes before they were due to go on stage.

● **MICK JONES** was sacked from the Clash. "It is felt that Jones has drifted apart from the original idea of the Clash," read a terse statement. It was rumoured that Jones was going to form a band with ex-Clash drummer Topper Headon.

● **TOYAH RELEASED** 'Rebel Run', her first single in a year. She spent the whole of this month on location in France filming 'The Ebony Tower', based on a book by John Fowles.

OCTOBER

● **AFTER MEN** At Work came Men Without Hats, the wacky Canadian band with their 'Safety Dance' single. "Dancing in a metaphor for living your own life," said founder member Ivan sternly.

● **THERE WAS** no stopping Tracey Ullman with 'They Don't Know'. "Paul McCartney was smashing when it came to doing my video," she said. "I said to him go on, I've been in your film, you be in mine."

● **LAST OF** the summer wine was provided by Righeira with 'Vamos A La Playa', meaning run to the beach in Spanish.

● **APART FROM** his starring role in Tracey Ullman's video, Paul McCartney kept himself busy when he teamed up with Michael Jackson for 'Say Say Say', taken from his 'Pipes Of Peace' album.

● **BUT ALL** was not peace and love over in the States. Suzette Colaga won a Miss Heavy Metal Contest, but after dancing on stage with Iron Maiden she claimed that saucy Bruce Dickinson had ripped the top off her bathing costume and filed a law suit.

● **BACK HOME** King Kurt were going on the warpath with 'Destination Zululand'. "We're trying to put fun back into music," said Handsome John. "We're trying to make bored Duran Duran fans smile."

● **MEANWHILE EVER** so serious Vince Clarke unveiled his new project, the Assembly, teaming up with EC Radcliffe and vocalist Feargal Sharkey for the 'Never Never' single.

● **CULTURE CLUB** had to re-schedule their tour when drummer Jon Moss injured his hand before a concert in Sheffield. He broke his finger after a fall, the poor wee thing.

● **SPRIGHTLY OVER** 40-year-old Cliff Richard was wheeled out in front of breathless pressmen to celebrate two centuries in the biz.

● **GARY NUMAN** was on tour supported by our old friends Tik and Tok. The lads existed on a mere £3 a day and did their own washing. How's that for dedication?

● **TRACIE WAS** back on the road again but she didn't seem to be enjoying it. "Sometimes I think, what wouldn't I give for one night in watching a film with my mum."

● **THE ALARM** notched up a mega hit with '68 Guns' and they had an alarming experience when their van

overturned on a lonely Welsh road.



● **THE CURE** wiped off their frowns for a while and released 'Love Cats', the wackiest single of the year.

● **KISS STEAMED** back into Britain for a series of dates without make up shock horror, and ABC smouldered back into life with 'That Was Then But This is Now'.

● **DAVID GRANT** spent a cool £18,000 on recording his single 'Love Will Find A Way'. "All I want to do is make good soul records. Not sixties soul or seventies soul but 1983 soul and beyond that," he said. Rock on, Dave.

● **WHAM WERE** out on the road to tumultuous screams but they were a bit worried when fans started trying to claw their way into their limos.

● **SOMEONE WHO** had seen that kind of behaviour years ago was David Essex, notching up his zillionth hit with 'Tahiti'.

● **THE SLIGHTLY** less pretty Rick Buckler released his 'Cabaret' single with his new band Time UK. "There isn't a great deal of inspiring music in the charts," claimed Rick.

● **GENESIS RELEASED** another million seller 'That's All' and it seemed that Shalamar were going to split up. Sniff, sniff.

NOVEMBER

● **LIMAH** WAS happy at last after being booted out of Kajagoogoo. "I'd like you to write a happy article. I've got over my depressing stage. I'm through with wallowing in grief and waking up thinking I've got to face another day."

● **BOY GEORGE'S** chum Marilyn was a huge success with 'Calling Your Name', but life hadn't always been glamorous for him. "They used to call me a queer and poof at school," he said.

● **MUSICAL YOUTH** were out on the road but already the pressures of being superstars were beginning to tell. "I don't like interviews 'cos they can be a bit boring," said Michael. Poor lad.

● **JOHN LYDON** was in town displaying much wit and wisdom at a press conference. "I think this country is finished," he said. "We all know that." Take the money and run John.

● **ROLAND RAT**, the furry star of breakfast television, came out of his burrow and unleashed his 'Rat Rapping' single and Adam Ant scrambled back into the charts with 'Puss 'N' Boots'. Other old timers poised on the brink were Billy Joel, with 'Uptown Girl', and Tina Turner, with her revamp of Al Green's 'Let's Stay Together'.

● **MADNESS WERE** having a whale of a time in London's South Molton Street filming the video for their 'The Sun And The Rain' video. There wasn't a cloud in the sky, so they booked an old fire engine to spray them with water.



● **THOSE WACKY** Smiths were in the charts at last with 'This Charming Man'. "Situations that are considered quite surreal I find intensely natural," said Morrissey. Could he have been sniffing at too many pansies?

● **OVER IN** Paris we talked to Keith Richard, who said that Culture Club were one of his favourite bands. We also witnessed a warm up gig by the Style Council, featuring a back-up trio called the Bikinis, better known as Bananarama.

● **LIONEL RICHIE** was celebrating the success of his 'All Night Long' single and so were Aztec Camera, in the charts at last with 'Oblivious'.

● **THE THOMPSON** Twins released their hit single 'Hold Me Now' and were off to the Bahamas to record their album 'Into The Gap'.

● **KING KURT** had a spot of bother and had to cancel some gigs after they were assaulted by some thugs in Liverpool. Unfortunately they couldn't make it along to the opening of Peter Stringfellow's new club, the Hippodrome, in the heart of London.

DECEMBER

● **OZZY OSBOURNE** roared back into life with 'Bark At The Moon' and dressed up as a werewolf.

● **MICHAEL JACKSON** was feeling a bit ghoulish too and spent half a million smackers on his 'Thriller' video.

● **PAUL YOUNG** wasn't enjoying life at all. On a promotional visit to America he didn't even have enough time to visit a record shop. Ah, it's tough at the top.

● **HOWARD JONES** was holed up in a recording studio in the country working on his 'Human's Lib' album, but he took some time off to tell us about the women in his life, including one lady who went into a pub to buy a sandwich and never came back to meet him. Does she listen to his 'What Is Love' single these days?



● **THE REFORMED** Pretenders charted with '2000 Miles' and the oddest seasonal hit was the Flying Pickets (above), with their acappella version of 'Only You'. 1984 should at last bring big things for them

● **STEVE STRANGE** said that 1983 had been a nightmare for him and who could disagree? Two burly paratroopers made a citizens' arrest on him claiming that he had illegal substances about his person.

Singles



reviewed by Slade's
NODDY HOLDER

STEVIE WONDER 'Happy Birthday' (Motown) Stevie Wonder is my man. He writes some great stuff and it's good to hear this again. Everything he does is fresh and the production is always immaculate. Every time I hear one of his songs I can hear something new in it.

COMSAT ANGELS 'Independence Day' (Jive) Quite like it, quite a catchy song. But because they've brought it out again the production sounds a bit dated. Probably with a re-mix and electronic trickery it would have sounded a lot better. The sound could do with being a lot bigger. I can't see this getting much radio play.

INDIANS IN MOSCOW 'Miranda' (Kennick) Hey, I've seen this girl on TV. I don't think the song is strong enough to stand up without the visuals, but she puts it across well. She expresses it well.

CARCRASH INTERNATIONAL 'The Whip' (Crammed) This has got something about it. It all sounds as though it's got potential and it could grow on me. There don't seem to be any melodies there, but it has something and they've got some neat little tricks. I can't see the name of the band endearing them to many people, though.

KINDER 'Monkey Puzzle' (Amidisque) It has a great rhythm and it's quite a catchy song as well. I like that bass playing and the arrangements are clever. I like the way that backing fits together. They've obviously put a lot of thought into it and I think it's got a chance of being a hit.

JADE 'Bobby's Girl' (PRT) Susan Maugham, who did the original of this song, comes from where I live, in Brum. I never did like the song though, and although Jade is a lovely looking girl and they've tried to update it, there's no way I would go out and buy it. If Jade does another song then I certainly think she's got a big future. She really is a lovely girl.

MICHAEL JACKSON '9 Singles Pack' (Epic) Well, I suppose they have to get some money back after what they spent on his 'Thriller' video. All these singles were featured on his 'Off The Wall' or 'Thriller' albums but they're pressed on red vinyl, which is nice for Christmas. Don, our drummer, is the real Michael Jackson fan — he never takes his stuff off. I like him as well and if all these were played in a disco I'd really go mad about it. It seems that we're being brainwashed with Michael Jackson these days, but he's got a great voice. When you're hot, you're hot!

TOKYO ROSE 'Dry Your Eyes' (Guardian) I like it but I wish they could have gone into a bigger studio to record it. Jim Steinman could have done wonders with a song like this. There's lots of dynamics in it and they've taken care with it. They sound like a band with a really good future. I hope they find a direction and go with it. The girl's really good looking as well.

ELAINE PAIGE 'Running Back For More' (WEA) Classy song, not really my sort of music, but I can appreciate it. I'd like to see Elaine doing a raunchy rock song like Elkie Brooks did. She seems to be just bringing out songs for musicals. I'm sure a good producer could do a lot more with her voice.

THE HIGSONS 'Push Out The Boat' (Waap) Good bass playing again. I'm waiting for it to go somewhere but it just seems to be on the one level. It doesn't have any dynamic ups and downs but it's still got a nice feel to it.

HEADHUNTERS 'Impossible' (Shout) The punk faction or whatever they call themselves these days will buy it. It's one of those records where the band goes into a studio and expect to generate the same excitement they turn out on stage, but they don't.

WORLD FAMOUS LOBSTER ALL STARS 'Working For Love Again' (Streetwave) Sounds like Malcolm McLaren but it's not as good as 'Buffalo Gals'. I like these sort of records. What do they call them — scratching? The song is a bit smooth for the rest of the record but it's got a good beat and some good bass playing, which does it for me.

MARCIA GRIFFITHS 'It Hurts To Be Alone' (Solomonic) One of those songs that are great late at night in a club. When we played in the Bahamas we used to relax to this kind of thing. Sounds like an old soul blues ballad and there's loads of these records around.

ABRASIVE WHEELS 'Banner Of Hope' (Clay) I must have heard that riff a million times before, but they're making an effort and giving it some stick. The excitement makes up for the lack of a good song. I'm sure if a lot of these bands sat down with an acoustic guitar they could write better songs.

EVERTON AND TRACY KING 'Heaven' (Legacy) Smashing voices but nothing special. Runs out of steam.

MICHAEL JACKSON gets a word in edgewise



Albums

- ++++ Essential
- +++ Worth scratching
- ++ Worth taping
- + Worth selling
- Worthless

Uhur ooh!

BLACK UHURU 'Anthem' (Island ILPS 9769)

AT LONG last, Uhuru have shifted into top gear and returned to form.

'Anthem' manages to mix a commercial reggae sound with touches of roots, touches of disco (and they are only touches) and Uhuru's unique vocal style. But whereas before they've been too brash and cynical, this time the mighty riddim team of Sly & Robbie — both stunning — have steered them on a less abrasive course.

The opener 'What is Life' is pretty strong stuff, though. A simple, knife-edged number, it allows Michael Rose to spit out his vocals while the timorous Puma plays a few vocal games with Duckie Simpson in the background. The beat's taken down a bit for 'Party Next Door' to prepare you for the sleazy 'Try It', with a rolling bass line from Robbie Shakespeare that's, well, unique. And to finish, take in 'Uhuru Anthem', a beautiful dub ballad that manages to squeeze the two elements together for yet another unique number.

Side two is a bit more straightforward, but the dub element is taken a step further for the first song 'Botanical Roots' with yet another rolling bass line and lots of brass mucking about in the background. But 'Anthem' is a fine album and more important it takes reggae a step further without being crass and obvious.+++++

Simon Hills

EVELYN 'CHAMPAGNE' KING

'Face To Face' (RCA PL84725)

FIRST HAIRDRESSER: "Yeah, but it goes down well when they're hanging around with their hair in curlers, knoworrmean?"

Second hairdresser: "Yeah Renee (for it was her) it does don't it, lots of drum and synth/keyboards bouncers, if you go for that sorta lark. But a bit limited innit?"

First hairdresser: "Maybe Shir, (for it was her) but there's that one called 'Makin' Me So Proud' which is kinda smooth vocally. I don't know what kinda encouragement that would give Terry on a Saturday night" (giggles).

Second hairdresser: "P'rhaps, but that song 'Teenager' is pushing it a

DANCING TRITE...



ROCKERS REVENGE: mego

VARIOUS ARTISTS 'Dancemaster Vol 1' (Polydor/London DX1)

I HAVE this recurring dream where I become the leader of the Labour Party, score the winning goal for West Ham in the Cup Final, date Selina Scott and knock out the ultimate dance compilation all in one afternoon.

It never comes true, all I get is a cold from the Upton Park terraces, bug eyes from watching breakfast TV, permanent Tory rule and albums like this to review.

'Dancemaster Vol 1' is a nice little dustbin for Polydor and London to throw their used up floorfillers. It has no method, no consistency, no balance. Thus on one side we have the good: 'Walking On Sunshine', 'Go Deh Yaka', 'Love Town' and 'The Sun Goes Down (Living It Up)' — and the bad: New Edition, Street Angels, Major Harris and Rumble Stilt Skin.

It's an infuriating album, worth keeping for those four monster cuts, but not worth buying if you already have the singles. 'Street Sounds' can rest easy.++++

Jim Reid



EDDIE & SUNSHINE: OK

VARIOUS ARTISTS 'Dance Report' (Survival SURLP007)

IN HARSH contrast to all those expensive-sounding Froggy and Smeggy megamixes, here we have a cheapo-cheapo Wilkinsonic Razorblade Remix courtesy of pioneer indie Survival and their roster of rugged individualists.

Wacky ex-robots Tik and Tok kick off with a rather disjointed rehash of 'Summer In The City', no doubt ideal for locking to, thence to the jolly, Talking Heads-with-a-synth 'Perfect Stranger' from Eddie & Sunshine. More simple but effective electropop from 13 At Midnight, avec vocals from Valerie, then a Numanesque ditty from Faith Global. Still dancing?

TT's 'Cool Running' gets tarted down too, and then you realise that everything's over 125bpm and you can have your very own hi-NRG disco. Play get you moody, Richard Bone gets you wacky. Hardly overwhelming, but fun, and better than inflicting some of the more tedious regular dance compilations on your festive partygoers.++++

Betty Page

bit, stone me, old Evelyn must have more years piled up than the Arsenal goals against column. Y'know it just sounds a bit unimaginative."

First hairdresser: "Don't be fussy girl, I think it's alright."++++

Jim Reid

Q-TIPS FEATURING PAUL YOUNG 'Live At Last' (Rewind RLP100)

I USED to get sick to the back molars with people telling me what a bloody great live band the Q-Tips were. If they were so good, I thought, why didn't they have hit singles? The answer, of course, was simply bad marketing.

Here you get what I assume to be the very essence of a brilliant Q-Tips show, the lads in fine form back in 1981. Paul puts his all into it and the

end result is a very enjoyable slice of white r'n'b soul revue. It also proves to anyone who had a shadow of doubt that Paul knows his stuff and is indeed the fine vocal interpreter that we knew he surely was.

It must've been an absolute nightmare to market an eight piece band with no image to speak of. Absolutely obvious thing to pluck Paul out, tidy him up a bit and make him A Star. No doubt the reason why he's now so overwhelmed by his success is that he's just doing what he's always done well — singing a song.

An essential purchase for those who wish to be cleverdicks at the New Year's Eve party: "Forget that chart crap — this is when he was really good".++++

Betty Page

SHARON REDD 'Love How You Feel' (Prelude PRL 25778)

GLORIA GAYNOR 'Gloria Gaynor' (Ecstasy XTPL1)

DANCIN' DANCIN' Dancin' — so easy to do, so hard to write about. Especially when provocative body shifters occur as infrequently as on these sadly ordinary discs. Nope. Not a lot going on here. A big fat zero on the Smith Towers front room home disco prance test, only Ms Redd's unashamedly derivative title track got the feet attempting anything like a mega reaction.

One-time Queen of Disco Gloria Gaynor fares little better on her eponymously titled set of bad covers and sad originals. Despite an inkling of imagination at work on the reattempted 'Stop In The Name Of Love' the rest of the set is strictly second division — her glorious current Boystown showtime smash 'I Am What I Am' being crucially absent.

Save your money, folks.++

Graham K Smith

"Stevens is even shakin' at 4 in the morning!"



All your favourite singles, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. 4 different songs Monday to Friday, 5 at the weekends.

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London Discline available throughout the year.

Outside London, 24 hours a day except during the season's major cricket matches, when it's available at the end of play from 7.00 p.m. to 8.00 a.m.

Records this week include:—

- ONLY YOU, Flying Pickets
- LOVE OF THE COMMON PEOPLE, Paul Young
- UPTOWN GIRL, Billy Joel
- HOLD ME NOW, Thomson Twins
- MY OH MY, Slade
- LET'S STAY TOGETHER, Tina Turner



BILL NELSON 'Savage Gestures For Charm's Sake' (Cocteau JCM3)

BETTER THAN a gallon of Fernet Branca or a dozen raw eggs in milk, this six track instrumental mini-epic is guaranteed to soothe even the most aching of morning-after brows. Bill's gentle, undulating atmosphere pieces positively waft across the room, caressing all those partymix-bashed ears, in the finest traditions of Satie and Eno. Intriguing titles out of the little black book in the Echo Observatory this week include 'Another Happy Thought (Carved Forever In Your Cortex)' and 'Portrait Of Jan With Moon And Stars'.

Synths mix in with saxophone from brother Ian, xylophones, acoustics and Mr Nelson's ubiquitous E-bow singing guitar. All this intertwines hauntingly with Oriental influences, and you end up feeling at peace with the world. Sitting down and listening to

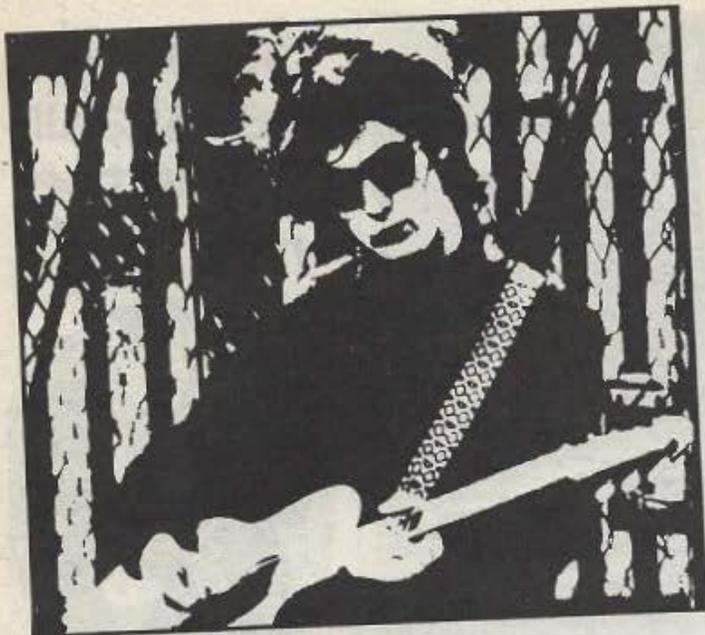
music. Staring out of picture window music. Definitely not party music. Thank God.++++

Betty Page

WOOLWORTH DISCLINE

DIAL 160

British TELECOM Guidelines



Roddy Frame — 19 year old wonderkid, produced the year's best debut LP, made the fringed buckskin jacket hip again and played the acoustic guitar like nobody's business.

"The year starts at Xmas for me. I'm going to America for Xmas. It'll be really weird spending Christmas in a warm place.

"We'll start recording on January 2nd initially for a single or EP. My material's starting to get a bit weird, the shortest song I've got at the moment is four minutes long — I don't know what the singles people are going to think about that. Next year is Aztec Camera's year of experimentation.

"My guitar playing's gonna be a lot more jagged. I can't pick up a guitar and help but impersonate Tom Verlaine.

"All the attention I've been getting recently is very flattering. It's about time I was hailed for something. I've been around a long time. Happily things are running very smoothly at the

moment. This allows me to go out on a limb a bit more, I don't have to drag my equipment all over town anymore."

Does Mr Frame every worry about impending fame and fortune?

"I've been round long enough and seen enough to do it all in a tasteful way. If I ever go to TOTP and hate it, I won't do it again. I liked TOTP when we did it recently so this year you'll see Aztec Camera doing a lot of TOTP and Pebble Mill."

What group would you most like to succeed this year?

"I hope to God that the Go Betweens do well, they're my favourite contemporary group. They should sell loads of records that've got Tom Verlaine guitars and Bob Dylan lyrics."

Any personal ambitions for the year ahead?

"I'd love to go to Japan, I'm getting the travelling bug. Also I'd love to play in Northern Ireland, I get lots of letters from people over there and I think more groups should play there."

following shortly after that. The album will consist of stuff I've been doing over the last few years. The thing is when I write stuff it usually takes six months to finish it.

"If the singles do well I'd love to tour but I'll have to wait until I sell a few records.

"I'd love to break through into the charts, I wanna be a pop star, it'll give me room to do other things — write and produce for other people. I've been harping on about writing operas and musicals for a while.

"At the moment the music scene is saturated by a lack of talent. There's nothing much in the charts that I like, I'd like to see some people writing decent songs and some people who could sing. There's some distinctly untalented people making fortunes at the moment.

"On a personal note I'd like to travel a bit more this year, I'd love to visit Bali, Japan and New York, but really the most important thing is struggling to make music I find satisfying."



Matt Fretton — 18 year old electro songsmith signed to Chrysalis and on the verge of chart success.

"I've been putting an 8 track studio together and working on a few tracks for the new single — plenty of brass on 'em. The single will be coming out at the end of January and an album will be

POP, BEING A high turnover business, relies on fresh new talent. Trouble is, its current obsession with gloss and tat has led to a parade of new bands and singers who are neither fresh nor talented. So I whipped out my crystal ball and figured out six relatively new faces for '84 — people doing it, saying it and going for the top.

Billy Bragg — Barking boy Billy received critical acclaim for his debut LP 'Life's A Riot With Spy vs Spy', toured the country from the back of a milk float and put the humour in '83.

"A year on the road has left me feeling a bit like a gypsy but with no crystal ball, so this will all be guess work or wishful thinking. It being 1984, the Year Of Big Brother, the pop scene will be choked with serious young men prophesying doom and destruction. The most successful of all these will be an androgynous pop singer with a white soul voice, who loves his mother so much that he dresses like her and whose hit singles will be '(I Work At) The Ministry Of Love' and the billion selling 'Doublethink'. His name will be Boy George Orwell and he will be discovered by Malcolm McLaren working on a factory farm in Lincolnshire. He will become absolutely MEGA and dodgy concept record company Zing Zang Zzzz will record a cover version of his biggest hit with Benny Hill and Divine duetting on 'Doublechin' and the follow up, 'Two Chins Good, One Chin Bad'.

"After herpes last year, this year's most fashionable 'H' disease will be halitosis and it will be time for all the dogsbreaths to come out of the cupboard. Conversation and the sales of toothpaste will suffer as a result. Ration books will become very fashionable and The Face will devote a whole issue on the subject of how to spend



one's clothing coupons. As things continue to get worse, at the nation's darkest hour, Princess Di will have another baby and everything will be OK again and you needn't worry about mass graves or anything like that. On the sporting front, the FA Cup will be won by eleven men in football shirts and a horse will win the Derby. John Peel will receive (deservedly) a knighthood for his services to music and I will attempt to break my record of 8 gigs in 8 different cities in 7 days.

"I will also appear in the December 31st issue of Record Mirror, on page 18. See, it's starting to come true already."

Jamie — tough talking leader of Scouse combo Ellery Bop

"1984 — forget it! We've been living it for years. Two years of funk, no fighting, everybody's now going to toughen up — oh yeah! It seems to this wild colonial boy that everybody is fast waking up to the fact that dance music and intelligence (pompous, but there you go) are not always diametrically opposed. It isn't gospel that all us newer type rock — yes R O C K — bands are all total bleaksters. We know how easy it is to fall into the sombre pseudo gothic rock trap, and thus devalue our music's true worth. It's hard not to be a parody of what a supposedly socially aware band should be like.

"It doesn't matter what instrument you play, merely that you play for a reason. The time for lightweight pop has passed, it's up to everybody to go into the New Year with a sense of



purpose. We choose to do it with guitars and words, corny maybe, but it is our only choice; we are the future.

"Too many artists in important positions prostitute beliefs for sales points, people not in bands don't get the chance to articulate their destinies and feelings. Ellery Bop is the true reflection of our particular world, it's our chance, our only way forward and we're going to use it — move through and push, kick, shove, agitate. Ellery Bop are going to get to you — we're going to win — understand?"

by
JIM REID

5 for 84



Lisa Stansfield — 17 year old presenter of *Razzmatazz*, budding actress and recording artiste with Polydor records. "I'm appearing in *Cinderella at Stockport* with Roger De Courcy over Christmas. After I've done the pantomime I want to go to drama college so I can learn a lot more about acting.

"I'd like to release another single in 1984, but I'd like to combine my singing with my acting and TV work. Everything I do is all rolled into one. I'd like to start writing my own songs but I haven't had enough time yet.

"On a personal note I'd like to visit Tunisia for two weeks and have a really big eighteenth birthday party.

"All I want to do in 1984 is to do as much as possible."

Tony Fletcher — editor of *Jamming!* magazine, Apocalypse guitarist/keyboard player and roving Tube reporter.

"Although 1983 has been a year of a void (just look at the album charts to see the lack of established new talent), it has also been the year for steady undercover work — there is now a genuine backlash against the recently-dominant, unimaginative pop-rock, and for once this change is coming from the public, not the music business. People are now demanding to see groups that can play live, that can excite and provoke, and that use emotion rather than calculation as their ace card. The last couple of months has seen *The Alarm*, *Aztec Camera* and

The Smiths all hit the big time; these acts will stay around because they play from the heart, and 1984 will prove that there's plenty more where they came from.

"For me, 1983 was rather a mixed year, beginning in a necessary re-evaluation of tactics. The outcome was that *Jamming!* Records was put aside, my own group *Apocalypse* signed to EMI, and *Jamming!* magazine at last went full-colour with a nationwide distribution. Its success since then has proved that there is a definite need for a magazine that can avoid the trends, treat music with respect and yet remain both colourful and informative.

"As the year drew to a close, I was also asked to join the team

on *The Tube*, which as well as being the most exciting pop programme in memory is proving enormous fun to do — my memories of being crushed by the teeny-Wham!-boppers won't disappear overnight!

"Apocalypse will be bringing in 1984 in the recording studio, adding the final touches to our first EMI single, 'Going Up In The World', which will be hitting your souls in mid-February. I'd like to consider that there is space for *Apocalypse* in 1984, and that *Jamming!* can continue to be so widely-appreciated by its ever-growing readership. With more and more young talent entering through the back door and threatening to take over the whole building, 1984 could just be a year to treasure."





CAMPBELL



JIM, ROBIN and Brian laugh at the fly on the wall, secretly dreaming of a pint-handed session down the legendary Eagle And Tun

THE UB40 office is in turmoil. Lights, cameras and beefy film crew persons fill the room and various members of the band comb their hair or adjust their locks. Channel Four has decided that Britain's premier reggae band deserve one of those wonderful fly-on-the-wall documentaries inflicted on them, and you can see the results for yourselves around Easter time.

Now, this is all very well, but the director, Faith Isiakpere, suddenly decides that a scene with the boys being interviewed by Britain's brightest pop weekly would be crucial stylee, so make up applied, your intrepid reporter

turns his best side to the camera and gets on with his job.

UB40 have just returned from an American tour supporting the Police, a rather thankless task you may think, as reggae has never set the States alight. Drummer Jimmy Brown explains what reggae means to the Yanks. "It's like, 'oh yeah, reggae, that's the Police', but reggae's got a good cult following over there. People like Yellowman and Eek-A-Mouse are doing really well but as far as mainstream goes, it hasn't caught on at all."

This situation is one that has made UB40 determined to carry on trekking around America whenever they can. The band are going straight back across the Big Pond again in February to carry on

the work of pioneers of reggae in the land of Stevie Nicks and Def Leppard. Robin Campbell disagrees when I suggest that the band may be banging their heads against a brick wall.

"We're working very hard at America," he says. "We've been there twice this year and we're going over again early next year. We're definitely making progress, though it's a long uphill slog."

Brother Ali agrees: "Obviously there's a big attraction with America," he says. "It's the biggest market in the world and we could earn a lot of money there."

"Apart from that we see ourselves as exponents of good music in the place that's worst off for music in the world."

ONE PLACE UB40 are not thought of as fashionable at the moment is dear old Britain where the critics seem to have taken it upon themselves to accuse the Brum boys of everything from political sell outs to commercial cash in artists, after the release of the album 'Labour Of Love'.

Jimmy was not at all surprised at the slugging the album received. "We totally expected the flak we got," he says. "We were a bit over-defensive about it which created a lot of the criticism I think." Keyboard player Mickey is more cynical. "If we'd released 'Thriller' we'd have got flak," he sneers.

Ali disagrees: "I thought the reaction to the album was quite good actually. I was waiting for this avalanche of

LADS' SUPER

politics in music is pushed out of proportion. There's room for politics in music but to think it's actually doing something just trivialises politics. I don't think organised political activity is doing anything anyway, it's a bit of a waste of time."

Aha, I pounce, a bit of a turn around, isn't it? "Well, half and half really," says Jimmy. "At first I thought maybe we could change the world, but not anymore. In actual fact I think my politics are more extreme than they used to be. I'm disillusioned with British politics and with the British working people."

OBVIOUSLY UB40 were to a man somewhat disappointed when our Prime Minister was re-elected, but they weren't terribly surprised, as Mickey explains. "It's all done with the polls isn't it?" he says. "You haven't got a choice 'cos they've already decided who's going to get in." Earl Faulkner agrees, but has to admit that Maggie knows what she's about. "She's got some wicked guys behind her, man," he says. "When it comes to wheelin' and dealin' they're the cream."

The very people in fact who were responsible for the banning of the 'Red Red Wine' video after just one showing on Top Of The Pops.

"They got hundreds of letters from irate mummies and daddies," says Ali. "They were all complaining that pop stars shouldn't get drunk, so it wasn't shown again. They're ridiculous at Top Of The Pops you know, they're at least two years behind. Anyway we'll probably release a compilation video with a couple of other X-rated numbers on it."

Ali's performance in the 'Red Red Wine' video was worthy of an Oscar nomination, so is this something that he is interested in pursuing? "Well, I've had a great laugh doing this documentary but I don't know whether I'd enjoy doing too much of it," he says. "I've been offered a few parts but it can all get a bit boring with the waiting around and stuff."

Those UB40 fans amongst you who would like to see these so called nasties (what a joke), will be pleased to hear that the band plan to release the three videos as a compilation cassette. All this talk, of videos and image, leads me to suggest that in an age of visual importance, UB40 stand out as one band who do things their own way and on their own terms. Robin is pleased to hear it.

"It's something we feel very

proud about," he says. "It's something we've striven for and we've had a certain amount of success. Business wise we've always known what we're after and we've refused to take anything less. That's why it's taken us twice as long as it would anyone else, it's been expensive in many ways."

Jimmy is equally proud of UB40's success. "It only goes to prove that you can't keep a good song down," he says. "What with all the free videos and t-shirts and picture discs you get these days. We just market our records normally with a plain bag and black vinyl, and they sell — it's very gratifying."

SOME REGGAE fans will tell you that reggae is going through a bit of a lean time with no obvious successor to Bob Marley's crown, but Jimmy does not agree. "I tend to think it's people who discovered reggae rather than were with it all the time," he says. "They're people who because of whatever trend was going around, discovered reggae and now they've discovered



by **ANDY STRIKE**

something else. "I'm not a great fan of British reggae really, though there's some great local bands here in Birmingham." Robin also disagrees that reggae is going through a sticky patch. "For such a small island there's tons of great reggae comes off Jamaica," he says. "You have to go through it all but there's some wonderful stuff about now."

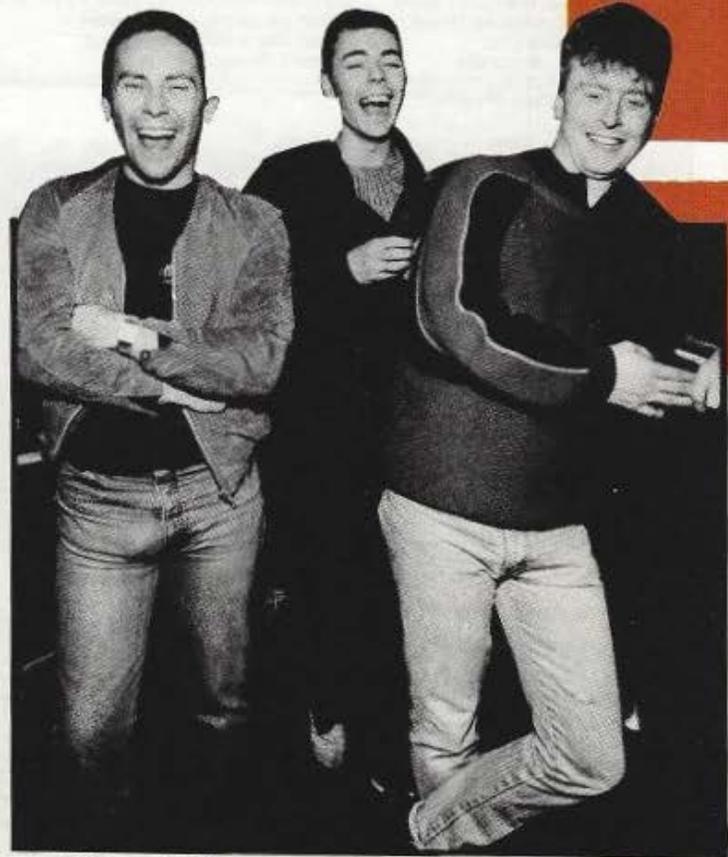
All agrees with his brother: "Reggae's going through a wonderful time at the moment," he enthuses. "There's some great bands in Birmingham like Echo Bass and Solid Vibes. People who say reggae's no good at the moment are just not exposed to enough of it. The radio won't play it and record companies are only interested in rock."



hatred, so I was really surprised because most of the reviews were surprisingly intelligent."

'Labour Of Love' was criticised by many UB40 fans as a straight commercial move, so how does Jimmy answer this criticism? "It is a calculated commercial move," he admits. "We knew the records would sell, we knew they were good pop records and deserved to be hits in the first place. At the time there was a backlash against doing cover versions and we wondered whether that would affect us or not."

Was 'Labour Of Love' a reaction against their political tag? "Yeah, it was," says Jimmy. "Not that we don't take our politics seriously because we do, but really I think the whole question of



THE LADS watch Strike mess up the bedroom scene for the third time

Mailman

**Write to Mailman,
Record Mirror, 40 Long
Acre, London WC2**

MICK OF Yorks must be a joker (Mailman November 26) — most people want to see megastars on television, not cheapo rubbish who all sound the same, which seems to be all 'TOTP' can afford these days. Play the stars, not humdrum nobodies who are all so conceited that they all think they're different, so they all end up like carbon copies of each other.

No, these little people are wonderful if they know their place. In their own town hall they're terrific, but come off it, they certainly don't belong on national network TV.

Lucy, Suffolk

● *The only stars worth watching on TV nowadays are Russell Grant's horoscopes on 'Breakfast Time'*

PLEASE CAN I have a record token if I promise not to buy a Duran Duran record?

Julio's Castanets, Wallingford, Oxon

● *No, but at least you won't get earache*

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS from "Down Under" and copious congratulations for the new release lists printed in RECORD MIRROR. That was about the only feature I missed since switching my subscription from Music Week to RECORD MIRROR a few years ago. RECORD MIRROR — half the price (of Music Week) but twice the value! Keep up the good work and please keep on listing those new releases. Thank you.
Ian Hook, Sydney, Australia



Noddy in TV land is a turn off

I RECENTLY bought a ticket for the Slade concert at Middlesbrough Town Hall on December 14. Five days before the concert, the band decided to cancel it because they had been provisionally invited to appear on 'Top Of The Pops'.

I think it is disgusting that they should desert their loyal fans to perform one song on

television. This shows Slade to be more interested in making money out of an already money-making single than to reward their fans.

I would not recommend anyone to buy a ticket to see Slade in case they release a single and cancel the concert.

Christopher Nove, Guisborough, Cleveland

● *My oh my! I bet you were slayed*

● *It must be paradise — a couple of tubes of Fosters, boomerang in your back pocket, your best Bruce or Sheila by your side and RECORD MIRROR in your hand. It must go down a treat after a good day's sheep shearing.*
Cheers though, Blue

BANANARAMA, THANK you for your singles review in the December 3rd issue, it was quite amusing to get an insight into your obvious level of intellect. I am mainly referring to your review of 'Strip' by Adam Ant. I

find it absolutely pathetic that you had to resort to snide personal remarks. But then you have obviously never heard of constructive criticism. Do you like it when a review of one of your efforts is taken up with comments about your hilarious hairstyles and clothes?

"Old fat Marco", as you so politely put it, has far more talent than the three of you put together could ever have. And as for the "horrible guitar", could this be perhaps because you are just not used to a powerful guitar sound? Let's face it girls, your songs are rather feeble. It takes three of your whimpering voices to produce a sound equal to one girl's voice.
AM

● *Is this evidence of overmanning in the music industry?*



Can you spot ace face Leslie Ash?

I READ the letter about Mods (Mailman, December 3), and I think there should be a 'Modermind' competition. To enter, answer the following three questions:

1) Is a Vespa: a) something your mum made you wear to school; b) an oriental meal in a packet; c) a thing for lighting fags?

2) Is a parka: a) somewhere to put a Vespa;

b) too cold a day for riding a Vespa; c) something to paint a target on; d) somewhere to ride a Vespa illegally?

3) Is a rocker: a) something to sit on; b) something that sits on you; c) something that mods are off of?

Nosey Parka. The Modern World Mods discuss Einstein's Theory of Relativity with reference to Marxist dialectic before playing football on Brighton beach with rocker's heads (above)

SO DENISE Helm (Mailman, December 3) reckons that compared to the Smiths, Kim Wilde is a bland has-been? In case she'd forgotten, our Kim has had more hits than RECORD MIRROR's had logos. The Smiths are good; but till they're as established as Kim is, Ms Helm should buy herself a pair of dark glasses. In any case, the reason Kim was on the front of RECORD MIRROR is that she's gorgeous — which is what counts in yer horny RM isn't it?
Kim Wilde's Left Bra Cup, Glasgow

● *I'm sure the Smiths are charming enough men not to dispute that fact*

U.S. Albums

U.S. Singles

- 1 1 SAY SAY SAY, Paul McCartney and Michael Jackson, Columbia
- 2 2 SAY IT ISN'T SO, Daryl Hall & John Oates, RCA
- 3 5 UNION OF THE SNAKE, Duran Duran, Capitol
- 4 7 OWNER OF A LONELY HEART, Yes, Atco
- 5 3 ALL NIGHT LONG (ALL NIGHT), Lionel Richie, Motown
- 6 4 UPTOWN GIRL, Billy Joel, Columbia
- 7 6 LOVE IS A BATTLEFIELD, Pat Benatar, Chrysalis
- 8 9 TWIST OF FATE, Olivia Newton-John, MCA
- 9 11 UNDERCOVER OF THE NIGHT, The Rolling Stones, Rolling Stones
- 10 18 BREAK MY STRIDE, Matthew Wilder, Private
- 11 19 I GUESS THAT'S WHY THEY CALL IT THE BLUES, Elton John, Geffen
- 12 20 TALKING IN YOUR SLEEP, The Romantics, Nempcor
- 13 10 CHURCH OF THE POISON MIND, Culture Club, Virgin/Epic
- 14 15 MAJOR TOM (COMING HOME), Peter Schilling, Elektra



- 1 2 THRILLER, Michael Jackson, Epic
- 2 1 CAN'T SLOW DOWN, Lionel Richie, Motown
- 3 5 WHAT'S NEW, Linda Ronstadt, Asylum
- 4 3 SYNCHRONICITY, The Police, A&M
- 5 4 UNDERCOVER, Rolling Stones, Rolling Stones
- 6 6 METAL HEALTH, Quiet Riot, Pasha
- 7 13 90125, Yes, Atco
- 8 9 AN INNOCENT MAN, Billy Joel, Columbia
- 9 8 COLOUR BY NUMBERS, Culture Club, Virgin/Epic
- 10 10 ROCK 'N' SOUL PART ONE, Daryl Hall & John Oates, RCA
- 11 7 EYES THAT SEE IN THE DARK, Kenny Rogers, RCA
- 12 17 SEVEN AND THE RAGGED TIGER, Duran Duran, Capitol
- 13 11 GENESIS, Genesis, Atlantic
- 14 19 YENTL, Barbra Streisand, Columbia
- 15 12 UH-HUH, John Cougar Mellencamp, Riva
- 16 16 ELIMINATOR, ZZ Top, Warner Bros
- 17 14 PYROMANIA, Def Leppard, Mercury
- 18 18 THE BIG CHILL, Soundtrack, Motown
- 19 15 PIPES OF PEACE, Paul McCartney, Columbia
- 20 20 INFIDELS, Bob Dylan, Columbia
- 21 21 GREATEST HITS, Air Supply, Arista
- 22 22 THE CROSSING, Big Country, Mercury
- 23 23 LIVE FROM EARTH, Pat Benatar, Chrysalis
- 24 24 TWENTY GREATEST HITS, Kenny Rogers, Liberty
- 25 25 FLASHDANCE, Soundtrack, Casablanca
- 26 30 BARK AT THE MOON, Ozzy Osbourne, A&M
- 27 26 ALIVE, SHE CRIED, The Doors, Elektra
- 28 31 NO PARKING ON THE DANCEFLOOR, Midnight Star, Solar
- 29 32 TOUR DE FORCE, 3R Special, A&M

- 15 12 CUM ON FEEL THE NOIZE, Quiet Riot, Pasha/Backstreet
- 16 16 SYNCHRONICITY II, The Police, A&M
- 17 27 KARMA CHAMELEON, Culture Club, Virgin/Epic
- 18 8 ISLANDS IN THE STREAM, Kenny Rogers and Dolly Parton, RCA
- 19 13 WHY ME? Irene Cara, Geffen/Network
- 20 17 IN A BIG COUNTRY, Big Country, Mercury
- 21 25 RUNNING WITH THE NIGHT, Lionel Richie, Motown
- 22 28 JOANNA, Kool & The Gang, De-Lite
- 23 24 READ 'EM AND WEEP, Barry Manilow, Arista
- 24 14 CRUMBLIN' DOWN, John Cougar Mellencamp, Riva
- 25 28 IF I'D BEEN THE ONE, 3R Special, A&M
- 26 26 TIME WILL REVEAL, DeBarge, Gordy
- 27 30 THAT'S ALL, Genesis, Atlantic
- 28 31 I STILL CAN'T GET OVER LOVING YOU, Ray Parker, Arista
- 29 32 PINK HOUSES, John Cougar Mellencamp, Mercury
- 30 22 AIN'T NOBODY, Rufus With Chaka Khan, Warner Bros
- 31 33 HOLIDAY, Madonna, Sire
- 32 44 THE CURLY SHUFFLE, Jump 'N The Saddle, Atlantic
- 33 34 STAY WITH ME TONIGHT, Jeffrey Osborne, A&M
- 34 37 GOLD, Spandau Ballet, Chrysalis
- 35 38 THE SIGN OF FIRE, The Fixx, MCA
- 36 21 HEART AND SOUL, Huey Lewis And The News, Chrysalis
- 37 39 WHEN THE LIGHTS GO OUT, Naked Eyes, EMI-America
- 38 47 THINK OF LAURA, Christopher Cross, Warner Bros
- 39 41 BABY I LIED, Deborah Allen, RCA
- 40 43 IN THE MOOD, Robert Plant, Es Paranza
- 41 23 SOULS, Rick Springfield, RCA
- 42 45 LET THE MUSIC PLAY, Shannon, Mirage
- 43 50 MIDDLE OF THE ROAD, The Pretenders, Sire
- 44 51 AN INNOCENT MAN, Billy Joel, Columbia
- 45 48 REMEMBER THE NIGHT, The Motels, Capitol
- 46 49 SEND ME AN ANGEL, Real Life, MCA/Curb
- 47 36 PYT (PRETTY YOUNG THING), Michael Jackson, Epic
- 48 63 NIGHTBIRD, Stevie Nicks, Modern
- 49 -- SO BAD, Paul McCartney, Columbia
- 50 73 YAH MO B THERE, James Ingram and Michael McDonald, Quest
- 51 56 TAKE ME BACK, Bonnie Tyler, Columbia
- 52 64 EBONY EYES, Rick James and Smokey Robinson, Gordy
- 53 53 WHAT'S NEW, Linda Ronstadt, Asylum
- 54 54 YOU DON'T BELIEVE, The Alan Parsons Project, Arista
- 55 57 BIG CRASH, Eddie Money, Columbia
- 56 35 I WON'T STAND IN YOUR WAY, Stray Cats, EMI-America
- 57 40 THE WAY HE MAKES ME FEEL, Barbra Streisand, Columbia
- 58 70 THE DREAM, Irene Cara, Network/Geffen
- 59 69 THE POLITICS OF DANCING, Re-Flex, Capitol
- 60 72 SAVE THE LAST DANCE FOR ME, Dolly Parton



- 30 43 TWO OF A KIND — SOUNDTRACK, John Travolta/Olivia Newton John, MCA
- 31 29 REACH THE BEACH, The Fixx, MCA
- 32 27 FASTER THAN THE SPEED OF NIGHT, Bonnie Tyler, Columbia
- 33 28 SPORTS, Huey Lewis & The News, Chrysalis
- 34 39 GREATEST HITS — VOL II, Barry Manilow, Arista
- 35 33 LET'S DANCE, David Bowie, EMI-America
- 36 50 RAPPIN' RODNEY, Rodney Dangerfield, RCA
- 37 37 HEARTS & BONES, Paul Simon, Warner Bros
- 38 38 1999, Prince, Warner Bros
- 39 40 IN HEAT, The Romantics, Nempcor
- 40 34 STAY WITH ME TONIGHT, Jeffrey Osborne, A&M
- 41 42 ELECTRIC UNIVERSE, Earth Wind & Fire, Columbia
- 42 44 COMEDIAN, Eddie Murphy, Columbia
- 43 35 SPEAKING IN TONGUES, Talking Heads, Sire
- 44 46 UNDER A BLOOD RED SKY, U2, Island
- 45 45 FRONTIERS, Journey, Columbia
- 46 36 SHOUT AT THE DEVIL, Motley Crue, Elektra
- 47 48 LICK IT UP, Kiss, Mercury
- 48 47 LITTLE ROBBERS, The Motels, Capitol
- 49 49 VOICE OF THE HEART, The Carpenters, A&M
- 50 41 THE PRINCIPLE OF MOMENTS, Robert Plant, Es Paranza

Bullets 61-100

- 61 85 (YOU CAN STILL) ROCK 'N ROLL IN AMERICA, Night Ranger, Camel/MCA
- 62 68 99 LUFTBALLONS, Nena, Epic
- 63 75 ALMOST OVER YOU, Sheena Easton, EMI-America
- 64 67 WET MY WHISTLE, Midnight Star, Solar
- 67 -- GIVE IT UP, K.C., Meca
- 69 80 GIRLS JUST WANT TO HAVE FUN, Cyndi Lauper, Portrait
- 74 -- YOU'RE LOOKING LIKE LOVE TO ME, Peabo Bryson/Roberta Flack, Capitol
- 79 84 TELL ME IF YOU STILL CARE, The SOS Band, Tabu
- 81 -- SOMEONE LIKE YOU, Michael Stanley Band, EMI-America
- 82 91 LET'S PRETEND WE'RE MARRIED/IRRESISTIBLE BITCH, Prince, Warner Bros.
- 85 90 SWEETHEART LIKE YOU, Bob Dylan, Columbia
- 89 -- JUST ONE MORE TIME, Headpins, Solid Gold/MCA
- 90 95 ELECTRICKINGDOM, Twilight 22, Vanguard

Compiled by Billboard

Compiled by Billboard

Product Patrol

Singles

ANDY, Horace AIN'T NO LOVE (Dub) Tad's TRD 2284 12" Only
AREMA LOVE IS HERE (Inst) City Boy CBD 005 12" Only
13 AT MIDNIGHT SKIN DEEP/Shack Up Survival SUR 017 Pic Bag; SUR 12017 12" Pic Bag
AUSTRALIAN CRAWL BOYS LIGHT UP/The Night Geffen A4104
BARB I WANT MY MONEY BACK/Sugar Cane Magnet BARB 10; 12 BARB 10 12" inc extra tracks I Want My Money Back (Special Extended Sterling Mix)/(Private Version)
BELFEGORE BELFEGORE/Heilige Krieger/Nacht In Sodom Pure Freude PF 32 CK 16 12" Only Pic Bag
BELLS, The HOKEY COKEY DISCO/DISCO SYMPHONY/Auld Lang Syne Klub KLUBX 15 12" (Inc Free 7")
BELLE & THE DEVOTIONS A LOVE LIKE THAT/I Wanna Make Love To You DJM DJS 9
BLACK LACE HEY YOU/Let It All Go Flair FLA 106
BLUE DON'T WANNA MAKE YOU CRY/Moonlight Zuna Zoom I Pic Bag
BROWN, A J HUMAN NATURE/(Version) Sunset HJ 5175
CHINESE WHISPERS EVERYTHING YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED/(Inst) Island IS 144 Pic Bag
CURFEW MAKE IT UP/I Still Love You TNT TNT 005 12" Only
DE BLANC, Ralph WAYS OF THE WORLD/Share Avatar AVAT3 Pic Bag
DEATH IN JUNE HEAVEN STREET/We Drive East/In The Night Time New European SA 29834 12" Only Pic Bag
EX/ALERTA, The RED DANCE PACKAGE (4 track EP) CNT CNT 017 12" Only Pic Bag
FICTION FACTORY (FEELS LIKE) HEAVEN/Everyone But You CBS A3996 Pic Bag
FREUR DOOT DOOT/Hold Me Mother CBS A4073 Pic Bag TA4073 12" Pic Bag
GUANA BATZ YOU'RE SO FINE/ROCKIN' IN MY COFFIN/Jungle Rumble/Guana Rock Big Beat SW 89 Pic Bag
HEWITT, Garth THE HUNGRY WIND/Red Hot 'n' Cooking Blue Moon BMS/Magnum 001
HYLTON, Sheila FALLING IN LOVE/(Version) Sunset DSR 0914
JACKSON, Steve Shade I ADMIRE YOU/(Version) M&M MMOO 1 12" Only
JADE BOBBY'S GIRL/I'm In Love Again Page One POR 007 Pic Bag
JONES, Vivian & The Pieces COULD IT BE YOU/Love Style Ironside IS 001 12" Only
KANE, Gary & The Tornado ANYBODY ELSE BUT YOU/YOU CAN'T FORGET IT/Little Miss/Ship In The Night E.S.R. SHR 0018



KING, Evelyn 'Champagne' ACTION/Let's Get Crazy RCA RCAT 383 12" Pic Bag
KRISS (KROSS HOTEL/bba Midas/Magnet 12 MID 6 12"
LAUPER, Cyndi GIRLS JUST WANT TO HAVE FUN/Right Track, Wrong Train Portrait/Epic A3943 Pic Bag
MANKIND DR WHO (THE SEQUEL/bba Motor MTR 001; MTR 001T 12"
MASSIVE HORNS COOL AND DEADLY/PAPA FACE & BIONIC RHONA: Do The Bump Fashion FAD 019 12" Only

MEN WITHOUT HATS I'VE GOT THE MESSAGE/Out Of Space Statik STAK 14 Shaped Pic Disc
ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK CLASSICS (From Vintage Hollywood Musicals) HOORAY FOR HOLLYWOOD MEDLEY/Lullaby of Broadway RCA 381 Pic Bag
PAIGE, Elaine RUNNING BACK FOR MORE/Losing My Mind WEA X 9530 Pic Bag
PARKER, Ken THE THREE BELLS/SS BAND: Time Out Clouds CLSD 007 12" Only
QUANDO QUANGO LOVE TEMPO (REMIX)/(Mix) Factory FAC 79T 12" Only Pic Bag
REGGAE GEORGE EVERYBODY BALLING/1616A D: Babylon Trap Sky Juice SJ 002 12" Only
RICCS, Glen THIS CHRISTMAS/(Version) Intense INT 012 12" Only
RUDDY & SKETTO EVERY NIGHT/Don't Stay Out Late Palma PMD 3237 12" Only
RYSHWORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL A CHRISTMAS SONG/(Inst) Reindeer JPR 2
SCOTT, Andy KRUGERRANDS/Face Statik TAK 10; TAK 10-12 12" inc extra track Krugermetal
SHAKY & BONNIE A ROCKIN' GOOD WAY/Why Do You Treat Me This Way? Epic A4071 Pic Bag
SINITTA I COULD BE/(Inst) Midas/Magnet 12 MID 4 12"
SLEIGH, Robert FIRST SNOW/Snow Bike Stiff BUY 184 (Gatefold Sleeve)
SMALL CHIMES, The EYES OF CHRISTMAS/Santa Cavendish CAV 001
SPRINGFIELD, Rick HUMAN TOUCH/Soul RCA RICK 1 Poster Bag; RICKT 1 12" inc extra track Me And Johnny
SUB MURIS HONESTY/Open Doors Dog Rock SD 104
SUCCESS ALLSTARS CHRISTMAS RUSH/SHORTY PRESIDENT: Underworld Way Success SUCCESS 175 12" Only
SUPERTEDE SUPERTEDE'S THEME AND OVERTURE/The Spotty Man Song Rainbow Communication TED 1 Pic Bag
THOMAS, Rudy ALL THIS LOVE/(Version) Tad's TRD 1184 12" Only
VICKY DECEMBER SERENADE/Won't Get Sleep (Tonight) JVF JVF 001
VIOLENT FEMMES UGLY/Gimme The Car Rough Trade RT 147; RTD 012T 12" inc extra tracks Gone Daddy Gone/Good Feeling
WANG CHUNG DANCE HALL DAYS/There Is A Nation Geffen A3837 Pic Bag; TA3837 12"
WHITE DOOR JERUSALEM/Americana CLAY 30 Pic Bag
WONDERDOG A CHRISTMAS TAIL/(Inst) ERC ERC 104 Pic Bag ERCL 104 12" Pic Bag
WONDER, Stevie HAPPY BIRTHDAY/Reverend Martin Luther King — Greatest Excerpts From His Speeches: I Have A Dream/Drum Major Instincts Sermon/Dr King's Desired Eulogy/I've Been To The Mountain Top Motown TMGT 1328 12" Pic Bag
WORLD FAMOUS LOBSTER ALLSTARS WORKING FOR LOVE AGAIN/(Inst) Streetwave KHAN 1; MKHAN 1 12"

Albums

AXXESS NOVELS FOR THE MOONS Lamborghini LMGLP 1000/ZCLMG 1000
BLUES BUSTERS, The MERRY CHRISTMAS Tower T027
BOCQUET, Didier PICTURES OF LIFE Pulse PULSE 8
BOLAN, Marc DANCE IN THE MIDNIGHT Marc On Wax MARCL 501/MARCK 501
BOOTHE, Ken DISCO REGGAE Phil Pratt SSLP 1008
BOROWSKI, George & Jan Sikorski NOBEL Samizdat Muzic SAM 1/SAMC 1
CHATEAUX CHAINED AND DESPERATE Ebony EBON 13
COMPANION ON THE LINE Strawberry SRLP 109
DANG, Ken KEN DANG Strawberry SRM 101 (Mini LP)
DE LUXE BLUES BAND, The A STREET-CAR NAMED DE LUXE Appaloosa APO 20
DE PRESS ON THE OTHER SIDE Uniton U 013
EBBEZ, Lavvi KISS ME KATE Les Disques Du Crepuscule TWI 172
GENERAL ECHO TRIBUTE TO GENERAL ECHO Mendingo MAHLP 005
HACKETT, Steve BAY OF KINGS Lamborghini LMGLP 3000/ZCLMG 3000
JOLIFFE, Steve JOURNEYS OUT OF THE BODY Pulse PULSE 9
LEE, Brenda 25TH ANNIVERSARY MCA MCLD 609/MCLDC 609
LIFETONES FOR A REASON Tone Of Life LTM 01
LOWE, Arthur THE MR MEN RIDE AGAIN INGOT INGL 001/ZCINGL 001
LOWE, Arthur THE RETURN OF THE MR MEN Ingot INGL 002/ZCINGL 002
MAD PROFESSOR DUB ME CRAZY PART 4 Ariwa ARILP 811
MATTHEWS, David GRAND CROSS PRT N 5018/ZCN 5018
MEN WITHOUT HATS RHYTHM OF YOUTH Statik CDST 10
MEN WITHOUT HATS RHYTHM OF YOUTH Statik STAT LP10/STAT C10/STAT P10 Pic Disc
MIGHTY DIAMONDS BACK STAGE Music World MW 11996
OSBOURNE, Johnny REGGAE ON BROADWAY Vista Sound VSLP 4062
RAYMONDO OUT OF REACH World International WTR 12L 704
RUNDGREN, Todd THE EVER POPULAR TORTURED ARTIST EFFECT Lamborghini LMGLP 2000
SHY ONCE BITTEN TWICE SHY Ebony EBON 15
SNOW, Hank JUST KEEP A-MOVIN' Detour 33-004
STEWART, Tinga KEY TO YOUR HEART Londisc LDLP 003
USUAL SUSPECTS, The IT'S ALL MUSIC Projection WFS 014
VARIOUS CHART TREK (2 FOR 1) Ronco RON LP 8/C RON 8
VARIOUS GROOVE JUMPING Detour DT 33-003
VARIOUS LIVE AT DSYC PART 3 Raiders RM 003
VARIOUS METAL MANIAXE Ebony EBON 8
VARIOUS METAL FATIGUE Ebony EBON 1
VARIOUS METAL PLATED Ebony EBON 14
VARIOUS METAL WARRIORS Ebony EBON 11
VARIOUS THE HMV CLASSICAL 50 VOL 1 HMV ESD 1545801/TC-ESD 1545804
VARIOUS THE HMV CLASSICAL 50 VOL 2 HMV ESD 1545811/TC-ESD 1545814
VARIOUS THE HMV CLASSICAL 50 VOL 3 HMV ESD 1545821/TC-ESD 1545824
VARIOUS THE HMV CLASSICAL 50 VOL 4 HMV ESD 1545831/TC-ESD 1545834
VARIOUS THE HMV CLASSICAL 50 VOL 5 HMV ESD 1545841/TC-ESD 1545844
VARIOUS UNFORGETTABLE CHRISTMAS M&H MHLP 203/ZCMH 203
WARRIOR FOR EUROPE ONLY Warrior WOO 1 (Mini LP)
WEATHER SISTERS, The SWEET SOUL AND INSPIRATION Sky Note SKYLP 42
WHITE LIGHT PLAYING IN A BAND Himalaya HIM 007



Plastic statistics
 Singles released — 56
 Albums released — 46

If your dealer has any trouble locating any of these releases, please tell him to consult the previous week's Music Week.

RM's derivative guide to This Week's Releases

STRAIGHT TIME

THE GANG IN SEARCH OF THE KOOL MILLIONS

ALL MOUTH and tight trousers, that's Kool and the Gang. And just lately it's got them into bother. At least, the "mouth" bit has.

Robert 'Kool' Bell tells a neat little tale of their missing man and how he had a bit too much lip. I'm asking him why it is I only spy nine Kool cats on their new album sleeve, and not the usual ten.

"There's still ten men in the group," Kool reassures me.

"It's just that in September, we were preparing to go to Asia on tour, and we had to shoot the album cover shots. One of the guys had to have an operation on his mouth, Robert, the trumpet player.

"We tried to talk him into coming to the session and hiding in the background somehow, but his mouth was just too swelled, so we had to shoot it without him." Er, sure, Kool — why not bandage his entire head, mummy style? Don't suppose anyone would notice, eh?

So, another year, another Kool album, and a towering stack of hit singles therefrom. I shouldn't wonder. Kool himself, on roughly the 7,136th interview of his career, doesn't exactly open up and tell me about his life as a member of the Soviet secret service, or how he once played triangle in the same band as Simon Le Bon. But at least he can tell me about all the wonderful places he's been to see.

"We played extensively in Asia," he says, and if you're trying to imagine the Kool and the Gang version of 'Heat Of The Moment' or 'Don't Cry', hold it right there. He's talking geography, not music. "We went to Malaysia, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Bangkok. We were the first black group to play Taiwan. But music hasn't been their top priority — there haven't been too many white acts there either. Only Air Supply and Glen Campbell." Ah, what fine musical company they keep.

The Gang's last studio workout, 'As One', earned the band foreign currency aplenty, but back home it was a tinier success. So far the newie, it was out with resident producer Eumir Deodato — he's scuttled off to do an album with Con Funk Shun — and back to group production, like the old days, and plenty of down-the-line dance hits to boost their bucks again. The Brit single isn't called 'Straight Ahead' for nothing.

Does it all mean they all turned a nauseating yellow

colour and covered away from musical adventure? "To a degree," Kool admits. "We couldn't take a chance on this album."

After all, they do have their financial safety to think of. A few hundred thousand less sales and just what would happen to their property investments in Jamaica, after all? It's a hard life.

"Unless you're Paul McCartney, you don't have the type of record deal that gives you all the money," whines Kool. "You're talking about 10

or 15 per cent, it's not really lucrative." My heart suffers great blood loss for him.

I suggest to Kool that as an alternative to their let's-go-dancin'-babe lyrics, it might be a bit more challenging to broach an important world issue, like the current nuclear lunacy, since their music reaches so many people. Not on your nelly, mate. Nothing doing. "We don't deal with the negative, just the positive side," Kool says. "It's not the proper time for us to do that," he bumbles. "For instance, I'm

Muslim by religion, but if I make a statement like that in a song, they might categorise me as a follower of Khomeini or Gaddafi."

So they'll carry on aiming straight at your feet, not your brain — and all the critics can go straight to blazes as far as Kool's concerned. "Is the critic the voice of the people?" he asks. "When he criticises a band, he might just have had a bad day. He might have had an argument with his wife."

Paul Sexton



KOOL AND THE GANG (minus one)

**Pictured by
JOE SHUTTER**

A FISTFUL

BEER

Q: WHAT'S the best party you've ever been to?

SMEGGY: The best party I've ever been to is my 21st because I don't remember much about it. Apparently I had a really good time.

MAGGOT: The party Stiff gave us when we signed up was the best. Trouble is, they forgot to invite us.

PAUL: I think it was the vicars' gig at the Brixton Ace. Great!

JOHN: Last New Year's Eve in Geneva. When we finished the gig they gave us all champagne and said, 'free beer over the bar all night' until they realised we'd drunk 59 litres. Then they stopped it. Then at six in the morning we all went jogging in our tracksuits through the snow, 'cos we'd like to be like Dexys Midnight Runners.



KING KURT's perfect party guide. Story by ANDY STRIKE

OF WALLAHS

VICARS

Q: WHAT are the essential ingredients for a good party?

SMEGGY: Lots of drink, lots of women, and remembering to invite the vicar if it's a Christmas party.

JOHN: If you haven't got me at your party you've got no chance and no party.

STRIP POKER

Q: WHAT are your favourite party games?

PAUL: Strip poker's a good one. Sit down at a nice quiet table, two of you in a dark room so you can't see the cards and you always win.

JOHN: Retiring under the table with the singer of an up and coming band with a brass section, no names though.

WRECKIN'

Q: WHAT's the best sort of party to wreck?

MAGGOT: Someone else's of course.

PAUL: Our song, 'Wreck A Party', doesn't mean wreck the party itself, or the house. We just mean liven it up a bit.

WINE

Q: HOW will you be celebrating New Year?

MAGGOT: I'll still be in bed recovering from Christmas.

ROBERT: I'll probably be weeding the garden for the local parish church. In the evening I'll share a glass of wine with the King Kurt Crazy Vicars of St Kurton's Parish.

SMEGGY: We'll all come to the RECORD MIRROR party if we're invited.

CATS

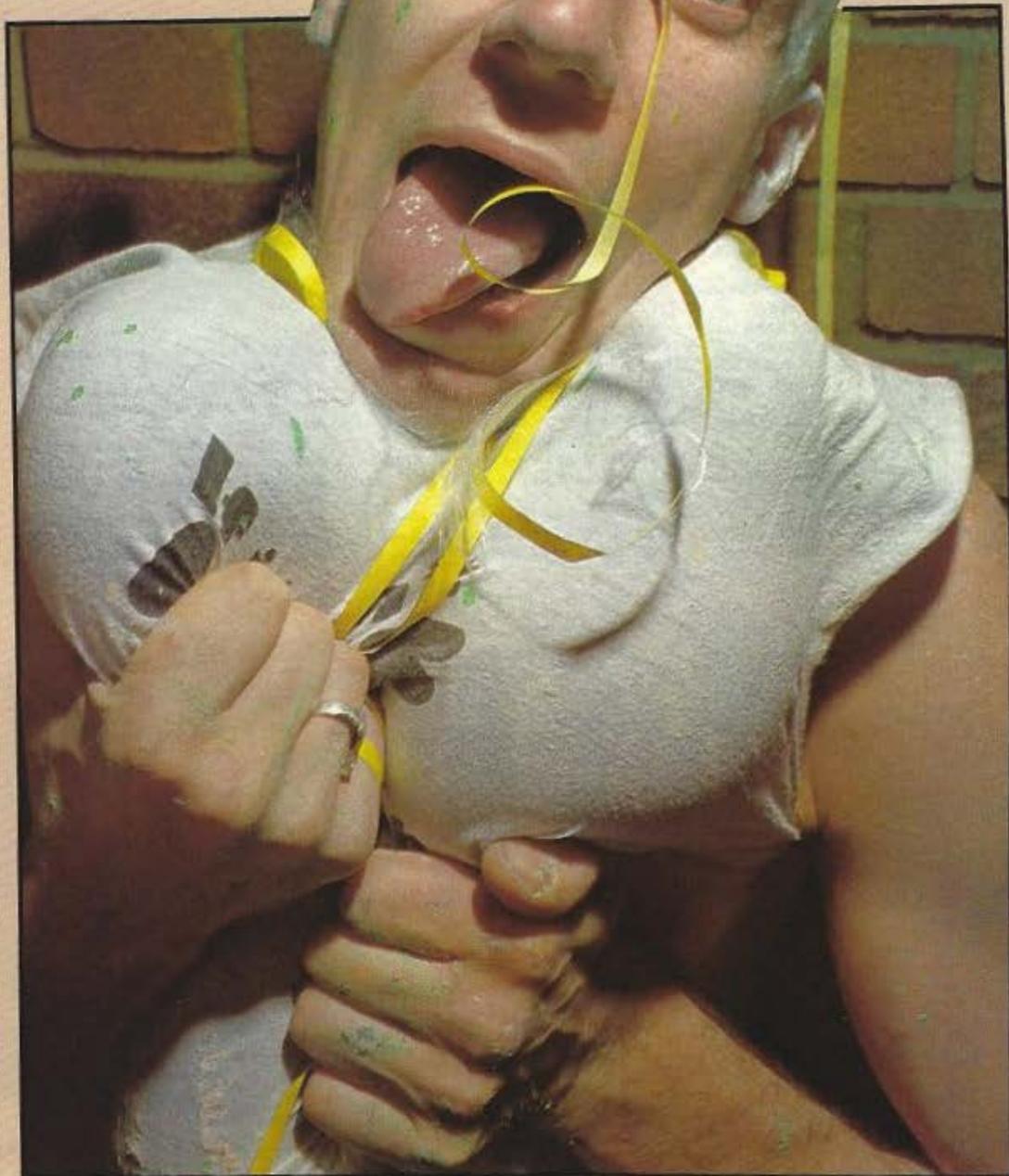
Q: WHAT are your New Year's resolutions?

SMEGGY: My New Year's resolution is to kill my flatmates and eat their dog and cats.

JOHN: To be invited round to eat Smeg's flatmate's cats. I'd like to perfect my cat swallowing act which I developed in the early part of 1983 before my cat got run over.

PAUL: I want to become a millionaire and also get Smeggy a job testing odour eaters.

MAGGOT: I want to share a room with Smeggy. Just imagine all those odours, you could stay up all night sniffing them and not get bored.



Help!

I'M 13 and wonder if there'd be any problem if I wanted to do a couple of hours work a day to earn some pocket money. My parents have told me to find a paper round or something.

John, Suffolk

● Generally, once you're 13 you can work at a paper round or some similar job for not more than two hours a day on any schoolday or Sunday, provided you don't start work before 7.00am in the morning or work after 7.00pm at night. Not surprisingly, you're not allowed to work during school hours either. To check out whether regulations are different in your area, ask your education authority.

CAN YOU tell me more about AIDS? What is it? How do you know if you've got it? I'm young, gay, proud and worried. The joke definition of gay, 'Got Aids Yet?' doesn't make me laugh.

Mark, Sussex

● Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, better known as AIDS, is a disease which involves a total breakdown of the bodily immune system, leaving the sufferer open to multiple bacterial, fungal and viral infections, including a rare form of pneumonia and a rare skin cancer called Kaposi's sarcoma. Aids sufferers lack "helper" blood cells which are essential to repel germ invaders.

AIDS is thought to be carried in the blood, although just how victims contract it in the first place isn't known. Extensive research into its origins continues on both sides of the Atlantic and new treatments aimed at restoring the shattered immune system are currently being tested.

Early cases of AIDS appeared in the New York, Los Angeles and San Francisco gay communities in late 1980 and early 1981, but other social groups including

RECENTLY I went to the matinee performance of an Imagination concert at Birmingham Odeon, but my plans to buy a sweatshirt or programme after the gig were foiled as the staff wouldn't allow me back into the merchandise sales area. Is there any way I can buy some souvenirs now?

Mike, Staffs

● No problem. Merchandisers Worldwide Promotions have full lists of what's left over from the tour.

For the latest on Imagination concert souvenirs, simply send a stamped addressed envelope to 'Imagination Merchandise', Worldwide Promotions, 48, Broadley Terrace, London NW1.

Scared of the Pill

I'VE been on the Pill for eight months now and am worried, as I've read there could be a link between using this kind of contraception and cancer in women. Is there anywhere I can get up-to-date information about which Pills are safest to take?

Colette, Chichester

● Scare stories citing the pill as a health hazard escalated earlier this year, following publication of two unconfirmed reports in medical journal 'The Lancet'.

One related the use of some pills containing high doses of the artificial hormone progestogen, when taken for at least five years by a sample of young women under 25, to a significantly increased risk of breast cancer.

The other suggested that long term use of oral contraception, for around 6 or 8 years, might stimulate the development of cervical cancer.

That controversial breast cancer report, which led to shock headlines like 'Demand For Pill Ban After Link With Cancer' was based on a University Of Southern California study of 314 Los Angeles cancer patients whose tumours were diagnosed before the age of 37, as compared with 314 healthy

intravenous drug users, Haitians of both sexes, their sex partners and children, and haemophiliacs were and still are affected. The majority of the 2,450 Aids cases in America, thought to be increasing at a rate of around 50 a month, are gay or bisexual males.

There are 27 recorded cases of Aids so far in the UK, mostly involving gay or bisexual men,

Young Free And Single

OUT WITH the old year... Readers seeking new friends for brave new 1984 include Tony, (19), from Dagenham, into Japan, Depeche Mode, The Eurythmics and Donna Summer, who loves discos, parties and gigs and would like to meet new people in his area. Meanwhile, Michael Jackson and Barry Manilow enthusiast, Paul, 18, who lives in Islington, North London, wants to hear from other readers, and Karen, 17, from Merseyside, is interested in contacting anyone who enjoys The Specimen, Alien Sex Fiend, Bauhaus, Death Cult and The Damned.

women of the same age and social background. Women who had taken high progestogen pills for at least six years before the age of 25 were found to be four times more likely to develop breast cancer than those using other contraception.

Following publication of these reports, the Department Of Health now advises all women currently taking the Pill to consult their doctor when their present 3 month or six month course of pills is completed. If you are taking a high dosage progestogen, oestrogen or combination Pill, it is safer to change to a low dose instead. But you should finish your present course of Pills and not simply stop taking them.

Contraception watchdog, the Family Planning Association has published 'Pills In Perspective' a consumer guide leaflet to low dose Pills and advises that "as with all drugs, the lowest possible effective dosage is always desirable. This may differ from woman to woman. Your doctor will advise."

and, of these, 14 people have died. One victim was a heterosexual woman with a history of sexually transmitted infection.

Symptoms of AIDS, which may take as long as four years to develop, can include a persistent feeling like a bad case of 'flu, with aches and pains, prolonged fever and swollen glands; chronic and continuous diarrhoea; a

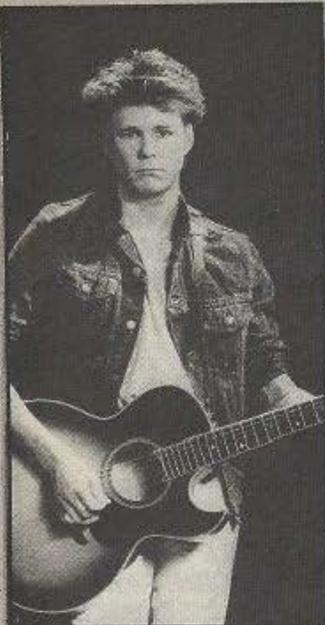
Low dosage combined progestogen and oestrogen Pills include Neocon 1/35; Norimin; Brevinor; and Qvysmen. Brands with high progestogen potency include Ovulen 50; Anovlar 21; Gynovlar 21 and Conova 30. Free copies of the interim guide leaflet, 'Pills In Perspective', offering practical information and advice for Pill users of all ages, are available from The Family Planning Information Service, 27-35, Mortimer Street, London W1N 7RJ. (Tel: 01-636 7866). They can also supply free leaflets on the full range of contraceptives, as well as breast self-examination.

Whether you take the Pill or use some other form of contraception, it is essential to have a cervical smear test at least a year after you begin sexual activity and it is also important to self-examine your breasts for unusual lumps regularly. If you do use the Pill, warns the Family Planning Association, don't smoke. The combination of the two may increase your chances of contracting cancer of the cervix.

persistent cough which cannot be explained away as the result of smoking; severe loss of as much as several stones in weight which cannot be explained away as the result of diet; severe night sweats, where the sheets may have to be changed several times, and the appearance of purplish or sometimes brown patches and blotches on the arms and legs.



LEE of IMAGINATION



Pic by Kerstin Rodgers

STUART ADAMSON, fun lover

Club Country

PLEASE HELP! I sent for my Big Country fan club membership on September 16 this year, enclosing a cheque for £4.50. I wrote again to the club on October 31, but still heard nothing. What's going on? **Virgil, Crewe**

● **Stay cool!** Your full membership package will be with you in the very near future — if it hasn't already arrived by the time you read this column.

That delay in replying is due to a change of Country Club administration. Fan club secretary Martin Somers just hasn't been able to handle the sacks of incoming mail as efficiently as he would have liked strictly single-handed.

The Country Club has moved c/o 26/40 St Andrews Street, Northampton and is now computerised. Any problems should be zapped along to this new address, pronto partners.

If you have any combination of these severe symptoms and are worried that you may have contracted AIDS, it is essential to take medical advice. Diagnosis can be difficult, and while GPs are aware that AIDS exists, it is advisable to visit a specialist genito-urinary clinic.

Central London clinics alert to the possibility of AIDS include the Middlesex (James Pringle House, Middlesex Hospital, 73-75,

Charlotte Street, London W1N 8AA. Tel: 01-636 8333), and St Mary's, (Praed Street Clinic, St Mary's Hospital, Praed Street, London W2. Tel: 01-262 1280). For more information on where to go ring Gay Switchboard on 01-837 7324, (24-hour number).

Comprehensive and accurate information leaflets on AIDS, its symptoms and how to look after yourself, are free from BM Aids, London WC1N.

IN THE past when I've made New Year resolutions, I've never managed to keep them. Any ideas on how I can do it this time around?

Ben, Devon

● **Howzabout setting yourself realistic goals instead of ultra-ambitious tasks which seem more and more impossible as the year winds on. Try achieving something small first, and move on from there. Make resolutions about things which really are important to you, otherwise you'll just lose interest. If the going does get tough, try using a magic touch of sheer willpower.**

MY FRIEND and I, sick of working for others, have decided to work for ourselves by setting-up a secondhand shop which we know can become profitable.

At present we have a reasonable amount of money to tide us over and to use for bills, rent and stock.

Our problem is the legal side of things. Do we need to employ an accountant? Would we need to register ourselves? What about handling VAT, National Insurance and so on?

Andrew, Nottingham

● **For free information and answers to any questions you may have, ring the government-backed Small Firms Service on Freephone 2444. Dial 100 for the operator and ask to be connected with this service.**

Ask for a selection of information booklets including a small business starter pack 'Starting To Run Your Own

Write to Susanne Garrett, 'Help', Record Mirror, 40 Long Acre, London WC2. Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope to ensure a personal reply. Alternatively, ring our Helpline, office hours, Monday to Friday on 01-836 1147.

Business', as well as the address of your nearest Small Firms office, who can help you locally.

Registration is no problem if you're planning to trade under your own name or any other instead of operating as a limited company.

But if you want to operate as a company with limited liability, calling yourself John Bloggs Ltd or Secondhand Bargains Ltd, you do have to register. More details from Companies Registration Office, 55, City Road, London EC1. (Tel: 01-253 9393).

For National Insurance purposes, you'll also need to register with your nearest DHSS office, who'll explain requirements in full; check out Income Tax info with Inland Revenue and VAT requirements with Customs And Excise. If your turnover is less than £6,000 a year you don't necessarily have to register for VAT although there may be advantages in doing so.

If the thought of rows of figures and annual tax returns makes you shudder, it could be well worth finding an accountant by word of mouth, thru' the yellow pages or with a little help from your bank manager who deals with accountants.

Roger Squire's

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UK Albums



Week ending December 24, 1983

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS IN CHART	ALBUM
1	1	3	NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC, Various, EMI/Virgin ☆
2	2	22	NO PARLEZI, Paul Young, CBS ☆
3	3	10	COLOUR BY NUMBERS, Culture Club, Virgin ☆
4	5	54	THRILLER, Michael Jackson, Epic ☆
5	4	8	STAGES, Elaine Page, K-Tel ☆
6	13	5	FORMULA 30, Various, Decca ○
7	9	11	KNEES UP, Chas And Dave, Rockney □
8	6	4	SEVEN AND THE RAGGED TIGER, Duran Duran, EMI ☆
9	11	9	CAN'T SLOW DOWN, Lionel Richie, Motown ☆
10	10	11	GENESIS, Genesis, Charisma/Virgin ☆
11	8	25	FANTASTIC, Wham!, Innervision ☆
12	12	5	TOUCH, Eurythmics, RCA □
13	16	16	AN INNOCENT MAN, Billy Joel, CBS □
14	25	7	THE ESSENTIAL JEAN-MICHEL JARRE, Jean Michel Jarre, Polystar ○
15	24	7	PIPES OF PEACE, Paul McCartney, Parlophone □
16	17	14	LABOUR OF LOVE, UB40, Dep International/Virgin ☆
17	7	4	UNDER A BLOOD RED SKY, U2, Island □
18	46	2	GREEN VELVET, Various, Ronco
19	34	3	THE BEST OF PHIL SPECTOR/CHRISTMAS ALBUM, Various, Impression □
20	19	5	TRACK RECORD, Joan Armatrading, A & M □
21	27	4	BACK TO BACK, Status Quo, Vertigo □
22	29	12	THE MUSIC OF RICHARD CLAYDERMAN, Richard Clayderman, Delphine □
23	15	7	HAVE YOU EVER BEEN IN LOVE, Leo Sayer, Chrysalis □
24	22	4	YOU BROKE MY HEART IN 17 PLACES, Tracey Ullman, Stiff □
25	20	7	GREATEST HITS, Marvin Gaye, Telstar □
26	14	7	CHART HITS '83 VOL 1/2, Various, K-Tel □
27	36	25	GREATEST HITS, Michael Jackson & Jackson 5, Telstar ☆
28	21	6	THANK YOU FOR THE MUSIC, Abba, Epic □
29	28	11	SILVER, Cliff Richard, EMI □
30	18	11	VOICE OF THE HEART, Carpenters, A & M □
31	35	29	TOO LOW FOR ZERO, Elton John, Rocket ☆
32	26	10	SNAP!, Jam, Polygram □
33	23	7	THE HIT SQUAD — HITS OF '83, Various, Ronco □
34	32	9	ROCK'N SOUL PART ONE, Daryl Hall & John Oates, RCA □
35	37	6	YENTL, Barbra Streisand, CBS
36	67	3	THE VERY BEST OF NEIL DIAMOND, Neil Diamond, K-Tel
37	30	10	IMAGINATIONS, Various, CBS □
38	—	—	PORTRAIT, Diana Ross, Telstar STAR2238

Music Video

1	5	NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC ON VIDEO, Various, PMI/Virgin
2	1	VIDEO EP, David Bowie, PM
3	2	DURAN DURAN, Duran Duran, PMI
4	6	LIVE OVER BRITAIN, Spandau Ballet, Chrysalis
5	10	LIVE AT WEMBLEY, Meat Lcaf, Videoform
6	3	SNAP, Jam, Polygram
7	4	VIDEO EP, Phil Collins, PMI
8	8	TRACK RECORD, Joan Armatrading, A&M
9	9	READY STEADY GO, Various, PMI
10	7	WHAT WE DID ON OUR SUMMER HOLIDAYS, Style Council, Polygram
11	15	LIVE, UB40, Virgin
12	14	LIFEBOT PARTY EUROPE 1983, Kid Creole & Coconuts, Videoform
13	—	ZIGGY STARDUST, David Bowie, Thorn EMI
14	13	LET'S SPEND THE NIGHT TOGETHER, Rolling Stones, Thorn/EMI
15	16	INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION, Heaven 17, Virgin
16	17	COMPLETE MADNESS, Madness, Stiff
17	20	SHADOW OF LIGHT, Bauhaus, Beggars Banquet
18	11	VIDEO CONNECTION, Cliff Richard, PMI
19	—	VIDEOWAVES, Various, Polygram
20	12	IN CONCERT, Jacksons, VCL

Compiled by MRIB



DIANA ROSS: portrait of the artist in a wind tunnel

39	33	6	UNDERCOVER, Rolling Stones, Rolling Stones □
40	31	5	THE BOP WON'T STOP, Shakin' Stevens, Epic □
41	56	4	FOR THE GOOD TIMES, Perry Como, Telstar
42	39	12	THE TWO OF US, Various, K-Tel □
43	38	4	GREATEST HITS, Bucks Fizz, RCA □
44	45	7	THE ATLANTIC YEARS 1973-1980, Roxy Music, EG
45	42	36	LET'S DANCE, David Bowie, EMI America ☆
46	44	29	IN YOUR EYES, George Benson, Warner Bros ☆
47	54	27	SYNCHRONICITY, Police, A & M ☆
48	47	42	TRUE, Spandau Ballet, Chrysalis ☆
49	69	2	LIVE AT THE ALBANY EMPIRE, Flying Pickets, AVM
50	40	3	BARK AT THE MOON, Ozzy Osborne, Epic
51	41	6	SUPERCHART '83, Various, Telstar
52	43	5	90125, Yes, Atco
53	50	4	CADMIUM, Sky, Ariola
54	55	9	NORTH OF A MIRACLE, Nick Heyward, Arista □
55	52	21	THE CROSSING, Big Country, Mercury □
56	72	3	EYES THAT SEE IN THE DARK, Kenny Rogers, RCA
57	49	4	PARTY TONIGHT, Modern Romance, Ronco
58	60	4	NOCTURNE, Siouxsie & The Banshees, Wonderland ○
59	—	—	JAPANESE WHISPERS: SINGLES NOV 82-NOV 83, Cure, Fiction FIXM8
60	53	4	THE GREATEST SONGS OF THE BEATLES, James Last, Polydor
61	76	2	DANCE OF THE FLAMES, Incantation, Beggars Banquet
62	51	3	THE BEST OF HOOKED ON CLASSICS, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, K-Tel
63	64	5	BEAUTY STAB, ABC, Neutron □
64	62	6	COMPLETE MADNESS, Madness, Stiff ☆
65	63	7	INFIDELS, Bob Dylan, CBS ○
66	57	6	THE STUN, Jasper Carrott, DJM
67	85	2	AL JOLSON COLLECTION, Al Jolson, Ronco
68	68	2	THE WHISPER, David Essex, Mercury
69	59	11	LOVE STORIES, Don Williams, K-Tel ○
70	90	2	THE COMPOSERS, Various, Ronco
71	61	111	RIO, Duran Duran, EMI ☆
72	58	6	STRIP, Adam Ant, CBS ○
73	70	16	KISSING TO BE CLEVER, Culture Club, Virgin ☆
74	—	—	THE AMAZING KAMIKAZE SYNDROME, Slade, PL70116
75	75	258	BAT OUT OF HELL, Meat Loaf, Epic/Cleveland ☆
76	65	5	THIS ARE 2 TONE, Various, 2 Tone
77	89	2	A TOUCH MORE MAGIC, Barry Manilow, Arista □
78	73	5	REILLY — ACE OF THEMES, Various, Red Bus
79	74	5	ELIMINATOR, Z Z Top, Warner Bros
80	48	2	STREET SOUNDS EDITION 7, Various, Streetsounds
81	80	3	CHRISTMAS JAMBOREE BAG, Chas And Dave, Warwick ○
82	96	56	RICHARD CLAYDERMAN, Richard Clayderman, Delphine ☆
83	—	—	BODY WISHES, Rod Stewart, Warner Bros 9238771
84	87	62	REFLECTIONS, Various, CBS ☆
85	86	14	FLIGHTS OF FANCY, Paul Leoni, Nouveau Music ○
86	99	2	FLIGHT OF THE CONDOR, Original Soundtrack, BBC
87	82	16	LOVE SONGS, Barbra Streisand, CBS ☆
88	—	—	SCANDALOUS, Imagination, R & B RBLP1004
89	79	15	UNFORGETTABLE, Johnny Mathis & Natalie Cole, CBS □
90	77	3	PRECIOUS MOMENTS, Various, Impression ○
91	84	24	QUEEN GREATEST HITS, Queen, EMI ☆
92	91	7	HEARTS AND BONES, Paul Simon, Warner Bros
93	81	6	OFF THE WALL, Michael Jackson, Epic ☆
94	—	—	WAR, U2, Island ILPS9733
95	92	7	THE BRENDAN SHINE COLLECTION, Brendan Shine, Play
96	88	2	QUICK STEP & SIDE KICK, Thompson Twins, Arista □
97	—	—	50 YEARS ON, Jimmy Shand, Ross WGR062
98	71	3	ALL WRAPPED UP, Undertones, Ardeck
99	78	3	LIVE AND DIRECT, Aswad, Island
100	94	6	FADE TO GREY — THE SINGLES COLLECTION, Visage, Polydor

Compiled by Gallup

☆ Platinum (300,000 sales) □ Gold (100,000 sales) ○ Silver (60,000 sales)

UK Singles



Week ending December 24, 1983

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS IN CHART	ARTIST
1	1	5	ONLY YOU, Flying Pickets, 10 Records
2	3	6	MY OH MY, Slade, RCA
3	4	3	VICTIMS, Culture Club, Virgin ○
4	2	6	LOVE OF THE COMMON PEOPLE, Paul Young, CBS
5	25	3	MARGUERITA TIME, Status Quo, Vertigo
6	5	6	HOLD ME NOW, Thompson Twins, Arista
7	8	3	TELL HER ABOUT IT, Billy Joel, CBS
8	11	7	ISLANDS IN THE STREAM, Kenny Rogers & Dolly Parton, RCA
9	6	6	LET'S STAY TOGETHER, Tina Turner, Capitol
10	7	5	PLEASE DON'T FALL IN LOVE, Cliff Richard, EMI ○
11	14	5	WHAT IS LOVE, Howard Jones, WEA
12	9	4	MOVE OVER DARLING, Tracey Ullman, Stiff
13	12	6	THRILLER, Michael Jackson, Epic
14	10	12	UPTOWN GIRL, Billy Joel, CBS □
15	23	5	2000 MILES, Pretenders, Real
16	24	3	MANY RIVERS TO CROSS, UB40, Dep International
17	20	3	READ 'EM AND WEEP, Barry Manilow, Arista
18	16	8	THAT'S ALL, Genesis, Charisma
19	30	3	STRAIGHT AHEAD, Kool & The Gang, De-Lite
20	35	3	MERRY XMAS EVERYBODY, Slade, Polydor ☆
21	15	4	CLUB FANTASTIC (MEGAMIX), Wham!, Innervision
22	54	2	PIPES OF PEACE, Paul McCartney, Parlophone
23	13	8	CALLING YOUR NAME, Marilyn, Mercury
24	17	8	CRY JUST A LITTLE BIT, Shakin' Stevens, Epic ○
25	18	11	SAY SAY SAY, Paul McCartney/Michael Jackson, Parlophone
26	52	3	WHAT ARE WE GONNA GET 'ER INDOORS, Dennis Waterman & George Cole, EMI
27	28	6	RAT RAPPING (BRILLIANT ISN'T IT), Roland Rat, Magnet
28	19	8	RIGHT BY YOUR SIDE, Eurythmics, RCA
29	29	4	THE WAY YOU ARE, Tears For Fears, Mercury
30	22	10	NEVER NEVER, Assembly, Mute ○
31	21	5	WATERFRONT, Simple Minds, Virgin
32	46	3	SWEET SURRENDER, Rod Stewart, Warner Bros
33	37	3	COLD AS CHRISTMAS, Elton John, Rocket
34	—	—	CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN, Frank Kelly, Ritz
35	32	15	KARMA CHAMELEON, Culture Club, Virgin ☆
36	42	4	I CAN HELP, Elvis Presley, RCA
37	48	3	CHRISTMAS SPECTRE, Jingle Belles, Passion
38	26	5	BARK AT THE MOON, Ozzy Osbourne, Epic
39	43	4	SINGALONG-A-SANTA AGAIN, Santa Claus & Christmas Trees, Polydor
40	27	8	OBLIVIOUS, Aztec Camera, WEA
41	45	4	RUNNING WITH THE NIGHT, Lionel Richie, Motown
42	34	13	ALL NIGHT LONG (ALL NIGHT), Lionel Richie, Motown □
43	44	5	WHERE IS MY MAN, Eartha Kitt, Record Shack
44	33	7	THIS CHARMING MAN, Smiths, Rough Trade
45	51	4	THE CLAP CLAP SOUND, Klaxons, PRT
46	55	7	RELAX, Frankie Goes To Hollywood, ZTT/Island
47	84	2	BIRD OF PARADISE, Snowy White, Towerbell
48	61	2	TIME, Frida & B A Robertson, Epic
49	38	8	OWNER OF A LONELY HEART, Yes, Atco
50	36	8	THE SUN AND THE RAIN, Madness, Stiff
51	58	14	SUPERMAN (GIOCA JOUER), Black Lace, Flair
52	40	5	THAT'S LOVE THAT IT IS, Blancmange, London
53	41	3	STRIP, Adam Ant, CBS
54	31	10	THE LOVE CATS, Cure, Fiction
55	70	2	DUCK FOR THE OYSTER, Malcolm McLaren, Charisma
56	39	6	A SOLID BOND IN YOUR HEART, Style Council, Polydor
57	62	5	INSIDE LOVE, George Benson, Warner Bros
58	49	14	REILLY, Olympic Orchestra, Red Bus
59	63	5	YOU'RE IN MY HEART, David Essex, Mercury
60	47	7	UNDERCOVER OF THE NIGHT, Rolling Stones, Rolling Stones
61	53	6	MY MELANCHOLY BABY, Chas & Dave, Rockney
62	73	2	ROCKING AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE, Jets, PRT
63	—	—	COME TO MY PARTY, Keith Harris, Orville & Dippy, BBC RESL138
64	76	3	LOVE IS A WONDERFUL COLOUR, Icicle Works, Beggars Banquet
65	94	2	I BELIEVE IN FATHER CHRISTMAS, Greg Lake, Manticore
66	—	—	WHEN I LEAVE THE WORLD BEHIND, Rose Marie, A1 A1284



15



22



19

KOOL AND THE GANG go for the 'most men in a picture' record; CHRISIE HYNDE gets her fingers caught in the guitar; PAUL MCCARTNEY: how does 'Auld Lang Syne' go again?

67	95	3	POSTMAN PAT, Ken Barrie, Post Music
68	50	9	PUSS'N BOOTS, Adam Ant, CBS ○
69	65	4	ON A SUNDAY, Nick Heyward, Arista
70	71	4	TRUE LOVE, Bing Crosby & Grace Kelly, Capitol
71	74	5	THE RULES OF THE GAME, Bucks Fizz, RCA
72	87	2	I AM WHAT I AM, Gloria Gaynor, Chrysalis CHS2765
73	78	2	CRAZY CUTS, Grandmixer DST, Island IS146
74	59	4	METAL HEALTH, Quiet Riot, Epic
75	—	—	UNION OF THE SNAKE, Duran Duran, EMI EMI5429 ○
76	79	3	THE SOUND OF MUSIC, Dayton, Capitol
77	—	—	BREAKING AWAY, Joe Fagin, Towerbell TOW46
78	—	—	THANK GOD FOR KIDS, Brendan Shine, Play PLAY150
79	—	—	CHIC CHIC CHIC CHICKEN, Natalie Casey, Polydor CHICK1
80	91	3	PAL OF MY CRADLE DAYS, Ann Breen, Homespun
81	82	3	BIRDIE SONG (BIRDIE DANCE), Tweets, PRT
82	85	2	SHAKE IT UP, Divire, Design Communications
83	88	6	I'M OUT OF YOUR LIFE, Arnie's Love, Streetwave
84	92	2	A NIGHT IN NEW YORK, Elbow Bones & The Racketeers, EMI America
85	—	—	NEW SONG, Howard Jones, WEA HOW1
86	—	—	SERIOUS, Billy Griffin, CBS A4053
87	89	3	THEME FROM TERRAHAWKS, Terrahawks, Anderburr
88	99	2	FREEBIRD, Lynyrd Skynyrd, MCA
89	80	2	HELLO MUM, Adrian Gurvitz, Rak
90	81	2	WE ARE THE BOYS, Rockers, CBS
91	77	5	STEAMHAMMER SAM, Intaferon, Chrysalis
92	—	—	HAPPY XMAS (WAR IS OVER), John Lennon & Yoko Ono, Apple R5970
93	—	—	ONLY YOU, Yazoo, Mute 7MUTE0202
94	—	—	SUNBURST & SNOWBLIND, Cocteau Twins, 4AD BAD314
95	—	—	WHITE CHRISTMAS, Bing Crosby, MCA MCA111
96	—	—	EYE OF THE TIGER, Survivor, Scotti Bros MCA111
97	—	—	THERE AIN'T NO SANITY CLAUSE, Damned, Big Beat NS92
98	—	—	CUM ON FEEL THE NOIZE, Slade, Polydor POSP399
99	—	—	I GOT THE MESSAGE, Men Without Hats, Statik TAK14
100	—	—	ALL STUCK UP, Hooray & The Henrys, Works WK2

As used on Top Of The Pops and Radio One

☆ Platinum (one million sales) □ Gold (500,000 sales) ○ Silver (250,000 sales)

Chartfile

AS YET another year draws to a close, the charts are littered with the perennial favourites which seem destined to re-chart every Christmas. But in the midst of such Yule favourites as 'Merry Xmas Everybody' and 'I Believe In Father Christmas' is Lynyrd Skynyrd's distinctly unseasonal 'Freebird', which was nudged chartwards after MCA re-pressed it in 12-inch black vinyl and picture disc formats.

'Freebird' was last in the charts in 1982, when it reached number 21. It previously charted in 1979 (number 43) and 1976 (number 31). Even when it first appeared in the singles chart it was an oldie, dating back to 1973, and Skynyrd's first album, 'Pronounced Leh-Nerd Skin-Nerd.' Outside of its occasional chart excursions, 'Freebird' is a consistent seller and is the ONLY single I know of to qualify for a silver disc without ever entering the top 20. It passed the 250,000 mark in 1980 and has now sold approximately 350,000 copies . . .

At the beginning of this year some 29 acts were lumbered with the distinction of being ultimate one-hit wonders; that is to say their first and only hit reached number one on the singles chart. For nearly all of these acts, 1983 has gone the way of previous years, and they're still looking for that elusive follow-up hit. Some, like Kitty Kallen who had her maiden hit in 1954, must surely have given up by now. But in the last couple of weeks, three one-hit wonders have broken ranks to recommence their chart careers. First to end his exile from the charts was JJ Barrie whose 'No Charge' was a chart-topper in 1976. Since then JJ has released numerous singles, including 'You Can't Win 'Em All', on which he was joined



CHRISSE: 3250 Km?

by that well-known warbler Brian Clough. Thankfully, JJ has ditched Clough and his return to the charts is in the form of a solo ballad called 'My Son'. Its success must be all the more rewarding for the Richmond domiciled Canadian, as it's the first hit on the Magic label, jointly owned by Sky bassist Herbie Flowers and Barrie himself.

Also escaping from the category of one-hit wonders are Bryan & Michael (previous hit 'Matchstalk Men And Matchstalk Cats And Dogs') and St Winifred's School Choir ('No One Quite Like Grandma') who are teamed on 'Mama'. The success of this gooeey little novelty confirms my belief that the concept of goodwill to all men should have a codicil ruling out St Winifred's School Choir . . .

CHART QUERY: "You've already told us about the songs that peaked at number 100 in the chart, but which of the many songs charted in two

THOUGH RECORDS like 'From New York to LA' and 'Fly Me To The Moon' imply much longer journeys, the Pretenders' current '2000 Miles', is the greatest distance specified in the title of any hit record. The other extreme is represented by T Rex's 1968 hit 'One Inch Rock'. Though Britain officially went metric several years ago, hitmakers seem to be fighting shy of titles like 'I Can See For Kilometres' and 'Give Me A Centimetre'.

different versions has made least impression on the charts?" writes Jerry Bennett from Bournemouth.

Well Jerry, until recently the title was held by 'Have You Ever Loved Somebody', a song written by Graham Nash, Allan Clark and Tony Hicks of the Hollies. In 1966, both Puff & Barry Ryan and the Searchers covered the song for release as a single. The Ryan brothers were first off the starting blocks, but after entering the top 50 — as the chart then was — at number 49, their version of 'Have You Ever Loved Somebody' immediately slipped out, never to return. The Searchers' cover then gained a toehold on the chart, debuting at number 48. But it never made any upward progress, stalling in

by ALAN JONES

the same position for a further week before it too disappeared into obscurity.

No other song has been charted by two separate acts with such limited success until earlier this year, when Louise Tucker and Pete Knarren's rival interpretations of 'Midnight Blue' bit the dust at number 59 and number 80 respectively.

'Midnight Blue', incidentally, gave two Dutch lyricists the year's most prestigious composer credit, linking their names (Smit and Skarbeck, if you're interested) with Beethoven, from whose 'Pathetique Sonata' the tune was lifted. The same melody was previously used for Ken Dodd's 1966 hit 'More Than Love' and has recently tuned up again on the track 'This Night' — from Billy Joel's 'An Innocent Man' LP.

Dennis Waterman and George Cole's 'What Are We Gonna Get 'Er Indoors' bears the composer credit of 'Waterman/Cole/Holst', borrowing the tune to 'In The Bleak Midwinter', written by the late Gustav Holst, whilst Greg Lake's 'I Believe In Father Christmas' borrows heavily from Prokofiev's 'Lieutenant Kije Suite', though Prokofiev receives no mention on the record label. Sky use the same tune for their current chart bubbler 'Troika', but they give Prokofiev full and deserved credit . . .

Did you know? Did you know?

THE FAIRLIGHT Synthesiser is responsible for the chorus of dog-like noises on last year's 'Ruff Mix' hit by Wonderdogs, and for the sheep simulations heard on the Singing Sheep's 'Baa Baa Black Sheep', but real animal noises have occasionally been incorporated into hit records. The first, and most ingenious, was probably the 1955 novelty hit by the Singing Dogs, which featured the painstakingly spliced barks of a number of genuine poochas. And perhaps the biggest hit to utilise the sound of non-human creatures was Minnie Riperton's 1975 hit 'Loving You'. Curiously, Britain has proved highly resistant to most of the singles to feature animal accompaniment, but in America several have made the top 40, including Deep Purple's 'Hush', which features coyotes, Aerosmith's 'Back In The Saddle' (a horse), 'Bungle In The Jungle', by Jethro Tull (a lion) and Johnny Rivers' 'Swayin' To The Music' which is sung against a backdrop of softly chirruping crickets . . . In Britain, no artists have yet had a hit with a song previously charted by either of his/her parents. In America it's happened once. In 1968, Otis Redding posthumously topped the charts with '(Sitting On) The Dock Of The Bay'. Last year, the Reddings, consisting of Mark Locket and Otis's sons Dexter and Otis III, reached number 55 with their new version of the same song . . . The vocal version of the 'Rocky' theme you all heard and liked on TV over Christmas is 'You Take My Heart Away' by DeEtta Little and Nelson Pigford. It was released on the United Artists label in 1977, catalogue number UP 36257 . . . The last live recording to reach number one in Britain was the Specials' EP, 'The Special AKA Live', which did so in February 1980. Four months later, America had its last live chart-topper in 'Coming Up', by Paul McCartney & Wings . . . Bing Crosby was one of the artists featured in Britain's first singles chart in 1952 — and he's still there now courtesy of his 'True Love' duet with Grace Kelly . . . At discotheques and clubs throughout Britain, Michael Jackson's 'Thriller', currently top of RM's disco chart, will take second place at midnight this Saturday to the strains of 'Auld Lang Syne'. 'Thriller' was penned by Rod Temperton in 1982, and 'Auld Lang Syne' is based on a poem by Robert Burns dating back to 1799 . . .



MINNIE RIPERTON: One for the birds

ELTON JOHN can reflect on 1983 with some satisfaction. His reunion with his old backing band and lyricist Bernie Taupin have brought about a major revival in Elt's fortunes. His 'Too Low For Zero' LP is his biggest seller for some time and has just topped the 300,000 mark in Britain alone. And four singles from the album — 'I Guess That's Why They Call It The Blues', 'I'm Still Standing', 'Kiss The Bride' and 'Cold As Christmas (In The Middle Of The Year)' — have reached the top 30. Elton has only pulled four hits from an album once before, that being the double 'Goodbye Yellow Brick Road', and even then one of the singles — 'Benny And The Jets' — fell short of the top 30, peaking at number 37. Elton also had four top 30 hits in 1973 and 1974.



SAY, SAY, SAY

"I don't want to be a sex symbol. I've got more in common with Norman Wisdom than I have with Simon Le Bon."

Boy George

"I might settle down when we're making a million a year."

Biff — Saxon

"I have all the qualifications to be a president. I'm a great actor."

Coati Mundi — Kid Creole and the Coconuts

"People think I go round whipping everybody."

Maxi — Mary Jane Girls

"We haven't really got where we are by wiggling our bottoms or flashing our tits."

Jill Seward — Shakatak

"I tell photographers that I'm just an ordinary girl and not a model, but they still try and get me to hitch up my skirt."

Julie Harris — Chopper Harris

"I'm never going to vegetate in a nice cosy house."

Kate Garner

"I think a sex symbol is possibly the best thing to be."

Morrissey — The Smiths

"Biting a girl's neck is very sexual. It's a fantasy all girls share."

Tik

"On average we have 40 girls fainting at each of our gigs."

Nick Beggs — Kajagoogoo

"I'm much better looking than Prince Andrew and Imagination are the black royalty of Britain."

Lee John — Imagination



"I'm a nice girl underneath this hard exterior."

Tracie



"Our songs are a means to an end and that end is having lots of laughs and pulling lots of birds."

Bobby Bluebell — The Bluebells

"I don't intend going around being a Lady Diana."

Nick Heyward

"I run like a slug."

Gary Numan

"Boy George has to dress up like a goof to be number one."

Ivan — Men Without Hats

"Perhaps Boy George, Marilyn and I could form a trio and become the new Andrews Sisters."

Divine

"I'm just a haemophilia: who can't afford to be scratched in any way."

Michael Jackson

"Rock 'n' roll is supposed to be about offending your parents and the police. If it doesn't, there's something wrong with it."

Phil — Motorhead

"The British music scene is absolute crap."

Paul Weller

"Discos are temples of despair and loneliness."

Malcolm McLaren

"I've found a 36-year-old self hiding a 23-year-old mentality."

David Bowie

"We don't write the sort of 'you can strangle me to death and beat me up every Saturday night' love song."

Alannah — Thompson Twins

"I am a musical missionary sent by the Messiah."

Peter Tosh

"I want to caress a nice smooth body, not a hulk."

Madonna

"I feel that I am in league with the Devil. I think the Pope is silly."

King Diamond — Mercyful Fate

"It's easy to hide behind characters, but if I'm being interviewed and I have to be me it's really quite hard."

Tracey Ullman

"The overcoat trade must have gone up by a thousand per cent since we came along."

Mac — Echo And The Bunnymen

"I think we've done more for the sale of double breasted suits than anybody else."

Midge Ure — Ultravox

"I'm really fed up with people treating me as though I'm some kind of stupid moron who bangs his head against a brick wall."

Ozzy Osbourne

"I was always a great big softy."

Howard Jones

"Most musicians play wimp rock."

Jean Jacques Burnel — The Stranglers

"We really are looking forward to touring again, it can get boring in paradise."

Alannah — Thompson Twins

"Fish of Marillion is a prat."

Jaz — Killing Joke

"I don't like animals in the house, smelly dogs licking me in the most personal places."

Kim Wilde



"People who go to Soft Cell concerts are the sort of people who go home and murder their parents with a cabbage."

Dee Snider — Twisted Sister