

# All-Star Christmas Number

**24**  
PAGES

# DISC

THE TOP RECORD & MUSICAL WEEKLY

No. 143 Week ending December 17, 1960  
Every Thursday, price 6d.

Features on:

## RICHARD • FAITH ANKA • FRANCIS

Four pages of Christmas reviews \* Win a portable radiogram—FREE!

### Children advise Costa

SAM COSTA, who now does four shows a week over Radio Luxembourg, and has two more BBC series starting when his present Monday afternoon show comes to an end, admitted to DISC recently: "I'm very square where pop records are concerned. But I get by with the rock ones by poking gentle fun at them in my scripts."

Talking about his popularity as a DJ—he's already been successful as a musician and comic—Sam said: "I place a lot of importance on the scripts of my programmes. It's not enough to put a lot of records on one after the other."

Sam never listens to other disc jockey shows because he wants his own to remain completely individual and not be influenced—even subconsciously—by other ideas.

"It's a worthwhile policy, too. I get quite a lot of mail from people saying they don't like my choice of records, but they do enjoy the comments in between and listen for that reason."

Sam is helped a lot in the selection of non-square discs by his two children, Gabrielle, who is seventeen, and thirteen-year-old David.

"They're nearly always right, too. They can't give me a reason in words why a record is going to be a hit, but it is more often than not."



SAM COSTA

(DISC Pic)

**PLUS...** 'Star Talk'—a lively, punchy gossip column that takes you behind the scenes of the disc world.

A special monthly calendar with all the important dates a record fan should know...with superb photos of the top pop stars.

Don Nicholl, DISC's pop reviewer, looks ahead to forecast the record stars of next year, and Jack Good writes a special pop panto.

And there's all the regular news, reviews and features.

### Presley's latest sells a million in Britain

ELVIS PRESLEY'S latest release, "It's Now Or Never," has passed the million mark in British sales alone. This is the first time he has achieved this figure. He has been awarded thirty-three Golden Discs, but has never sold 1,000,000 copies of a record in Britain, although several have come near that mark.

Announcing the figures, Decca said sales were still increasing.

"It's Now Or Never" was released on October 28, and it still occupies the number one slot. Advance orders for the disc exceeded 270,000, a total which beat all the other advance figures for Presley discs.

Elvis Presley's latest American release is "Are You Lonesome Tonight." This is currently number one in the U.S. charts, but a spokesman for Decca told DISC that no plans are yet in hand for releasing the disc in Britain.

The Stargazers recording of "Manhattan Spiritual" is to be played on "Cool For Cats," December 20.

### NEWPORT FESTIVAL DILEMMA

A MEETING is being held in New York this week, to decide whether there should be a Newport Jazz Festival during 1961.

The Festival, the most famous of its kind, was interrupted last year by youths rioting which brought it to an end before schedule and left the Festival Committee with an outstanding bill of 142,000 dollars.

# SAM \* COSTA

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**party**  
**TIME**

# Post Bag

Each week an LP is awarded to the writer of the Prize Letter . . . and once a month there is a bonus prize of a Ronson lighter/ashtray set. The address: Post Bag, DISC, Charles Buchan's Publications Ltd., 161, Fleet Street, E.C.4.

# THANKS for everything!

## PRIZE LETTER

I TAKE my hat off to everybody in the entertainment business. They have long, strenuous hours of work which would probably break any of us less dedicated to our jobs. They are expected to keep smiling and even-tempered when the shirt is literally being ripped off their backs.

They always give of their best, and all they ask in return is that we should be satisfied with, and like, their work. Surely this is little to ask as a reward for the long hours they put in?

In saying thank you to all these people, my thanks is extended to the stars, technicians and all the other backstage boys who are doing a great job. — MOYRA PICHATT, 18 New Park Road, Kingsteignton, Newton Abbot, South Devon.

## NO FAITH?

IN a recent interview with Daniel Fatoon, Adam Faith was asked

### GRAND CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR OFFER

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what he thought of youth clubs, and he replied that he thought they were a waste of time.

Has Adam had a change of heart? Surely these clubs help to sell his records, because the members will hear the record and if they like it, will go out and buy it. It then gets played to their friends, and so the ball starts rolling.—PAUL HENSTOCK, 38, Green Lane, Hounslow West, Middlesex.

## MISERLY

I WOULD like to say how miserly I think Don Nicholl is with his little black stars. In DISC (3.12.60), he reviewed Bobby Rydell's "Sway

and gave it only three stars, which, of course, means "good." Yet surely this record deserves an "excellent" rating. After hearing it only once on "Juke Box Jury," I went out and bought it.

I will stick my neck out and say that it will be a terrific hit.—JANE WARNER, Merryway, Kingsley Avenue, Camberley, Surrey.

## ZING TWINS

ON behalf of all the fans of the Kalin Twins in this country, I should like to congratulate the duo on their latest release, "Zing Went The Strings Of My Heart."

The arrangement by the twins' manager, Clint Ballard Jr., of this

The Editor does not necessarily agree with the views expressed in Post Bag.

# Round the PANTOS

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Empire:            | Cinderella.<br>Dennis Lotis, Edna Savage (Commencing Dec. 24).  |
| Hippodrome:        | <b>BIRMINGHAM</b><br>The Sleeping Beauty.<br>Bruce Trent (Dec. 22).   |
| Theatre Royal:     | <b>BOLTON</b><br>Mother Goose.<br>The Mudlarks (Dec. 24).   |
| Alhambra:          | <b>BRADFORD</b><br>Robin Hood.<br>John Hanson (Dec. 23).  |
| Hippodrome:        | <b>BRISTOL</b><br>Aladdin.<br>George Formby, Vanessa Lee (Dec. 24).   |
| Empire:            | <b>LEEDS</b><br>Babes In The Wood.<br>Ian Wallace, Alan Bruce (Dec. 24).  |
| Empire:            | <b>LIVERPOOL</b><br>Robinson Crusoe.<br>Bruce Forsyth, Elizabeth Larnar, Morton Fraser<br>Harmonica Gang (Dec. 23). |
| Adelphi:           | <b>LONDON</b><br>Cinderella.<br>Janet Waters (Dec. 22).   |
| Palladium:         | Turn Again Whittington.<br>Norman Wisdom, Yana (Dec. 23).   |
| Wimbledon Theatre: | Dick Whittington.<br>Adam Faith (Dec. 24).  |
| Palace:            | <b>MANCHESTER</b><br>Humpty Dumpty.<br>Harry Secombe, Roy Castle, Gary Miller (Dec. 20).                            |
| Empire:            | <b>NEWCASTLE</b><br>Goldlocks And The Three Bears.<br>Ronnie Hilton (Dec. 22).                                      |
| Theatre Royal:     | <b>NOTTINGHAM</b><br>Cinderella.<br>Lionie Donegan, Three Monarchs (Dec. 22).                                       |
| Adelphi:           | <b>SLOUGH</b><br>Mother Goose.<br>Eddie Calvert, Rosemary Squires (Dec. 26-31).                                     |
| Globe:             | <b>STOCKTON</b><br>Cinderella.<br>Mike and Bernie Winters, Don Arrol, Sheila Southern (Dec. 26-Jan. 14).            |
| Pavilion:          | <b>TORQUAY</b><br>Cinderella.<br>Ruby Murray (Dec. 26).   |
| New Pavilion:      | <b>WEYMOUTH</b><br>Dick Whittington.<br>Ronnie Ronald (Dec. 26).  |
| Connaught Theatre: | <b>WORTHING</b><br>Babes In The Wood.<br>Beverly Sisters (Dec. 24).   |



\* KALIN TWINS—Latest release could nail that "one-hit" tag.

well worn Cole Porter standard is just fabulous, and I hope that the disc will change the current opinion that the Kalin Twins were merely "one hit stars."—ROBERT HEYWOOD, 188, Fleetwood Road, Blackpool, Lancashire.

## FRESH FOLK

I THINK one of the best records to come before the public in recent months is the delightfully fresh and entertaining "Folk Song," by Bernard Cribbins.

With Tony Newley storming the disc world with "Strawberry Fair," it seems as though there is a trend towards the characteristic English folk song style. If the results are all as good, may the trend continue.—C. STILES DAVENPORT, Needham Hall, Spath Road, West Didsbury, Manchester, 20.



"Father Christmas must be your father—he's the only one who'd choose a corny record like this!"

# We need another 'Oh Boy!'

I JUST cannot understand what has happened to Jack Good's TV shows. Every Saturday night was brightened by his brilliant productions. We had "6.5 Special," "Oh Boy!" "Boy Meets Girls" and then "Whom!" — all outstanding by their unique presentation.

It was Jack Good with his careful lighting plots and unusual camera angles that brought out the best in the artists he used. The ideas he used in "Oh Boy!" are still being copied by producers today—the silhouetted girls, the vast, open-spaced look, a dark set and only the artist being illuminated with the camera panning in from a distance.

He surely introduced more young artists—and very good ones too—to show business than any other person in this country.

What's happened? His audience is still there, waiting for just such a programme as "Oh Boy!" to come back.

Jack Good hasn't gone anywhere—he's still in the country as far I know, and a new programme like "Oh Boy!" would brighten all our Saturday evenings this winter and would have the fantastic popularity it had before.

Can't something be done about it?—R. G. MEEK, Independent Producer of R.G.M. Sound Ltd.

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ALL IN TIN PAN ALLEY  
AND THE MANY FRIENDS  
she has made among  
THE PRESS, T.V. & RADIO

# JACKIE WILSON

## ALONE AT LAST



45-Q 72412 45 rpm

### AMERICAN

## TOP TENS

### JUKE BOX

These were the ten numbers that topped the sales in America last week (week ending December 10).

- |   |    |                              |           |                               |
|---|----|------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | 1  | Are You Lonesome Tonight     | - - - - - | Elvis Presley                 |
| 2 | 2  | Last Date                    | - - - - - | Floyd Cramer                  |
| 4 | 3  | Poetry In Motion             | - - - - - | Johnny Tillotson              |
| 3 | 4  | Stay                         | - - - - - | Maurice Williams              |
| 5 | 5  | A Thousand Stars             | - - - - - | Kathy Young and The Innocents |
| 7 | 6  | North To Alaska              | - - - - - | Johnny Horton                 |
| - | 7  | He'll Break Your Heart       | - - - - - | Jerry Butler                  |
| 6 | 8  | New Orleans                  | - - - - - | U. S. Bonds                   |
| - | 9  | Sailor                       | - - - - - | Lolita                        |
| 9 | 10 | Let's Go, Let's Go, Let's Go | - - - - - | Hank Ballard                  |

Based on the recorded number of "plays" in Juke Boxes throughout Britain (for the week ending December 10).

- |    |    |                                |           |                             |
|----|----|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| 1  | 1  | It's Now Or Never              | - - - - - | Elvis Presley               |
| 2  | 2  | Save The Last Dance For Me     | - - - - - | The Drifters                |
| -  | 3  | I Love You                     | - - - - - | Cliff Richard               |
| 9  | 4  | Strawberry Fair                | - - - - - | Anthony Newley              |
| 5  | 5  | Man Of Mystery                 | - - - - - | The Shadows                 |
| 10 | 6  | Little Donkey                  | - - - - - | Nina and Frederik           |
| 3  | 7  | Rocking Goose                  | - - - - - | Johnny And The Hurricanes   |
| 6  | 8  | Goodness, Gracious Me          | - - - - - | Peter Sellers/ Sophia Loren |
| 4  | 9  | My Heart Has A Mind Of Its Own | - - - - - | Connie Francis              |
| 8  | 10 | As Long As He Needs Me         | - - - - - | Shirley Bassey              |

Published by courtesy of "The World's Fair"

# DAVID WHITFIELD

## I BELIEVE



45-F 11289 45 rpm

# Steele gets 'medieval' show for ATV

"THE Tommy Steele Show," which is to be televised by ATV on Christmas Day, is to have a medieval setting with Tommy playing the Squire to a Baron, played by folk singer Bernard Cribbens.

Tommy will sing seven numbers—"Early In The Morning," "Moses Poses," "Family Tree," "Woman From Liberia," "The King, New Clothes," "Every Day" and "Boys and Girls."

In addition there will be two specially written production numbers, one of which will be for Peggy Mount, who plays the Queen of the Fairies.

Also in the cast are: April Olrich and Graham Crowder, with guest stars Dick Bentley and Anton Diffring.

### Cordell pens film score

FRANK CORDELL, musical director with HMV, has just completed the background score for ABC's film "The Rebel," which stars Tony Hancock, George Sanders and Dennis Price.

### Ella Fitzgerald for Europe tour

ELLA FITZGERALD, "the first lady of jazz," has been signed by Norman Granz for her eighth consecutive tour of Europe. It starts early next year, but she is unlikely to visit Britain.

Her first date, on February 11, will take her to Amsterdam. This will be followed by spots in Turkey, Greece and Iran, and a ten-day tour of Israel.

During her trip Norman Granz plans to tape over fifteen concerts, for issue in LP form following Ella's highly successful album, "Ella In Berlin."

For her Israeli trip, Miss Fitzgerald has been learning choruses in Hebrew.



TOMMY STEELE—plays a squire.

### Russ Conway to appear at Royal party

RUSS CONWAY, now recovered from the accident in which he injured his hand has been chosen to appear before the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh at the annual staff party of the Royal Household, which is to be held tomorrow (Friday), at Windsor Castle.

This will be his first appearance there, as it will be for the other pop personalities, The Beverley Sisters and songwriter Paddy Roberts, who have also been selected.

The show will be compered by Peter Brough, marking his fifteenth appearance there.

# TOP TWENTY

Compiled from dealers' returns from all over Britain  
Week ending December 10, 1960

**Cliff in line for yet another top spot... Tony Newley now third**

Last This Week	This Week	Title	Artist	Label
1	1	It's Now Or Never	Elvis Presley	RCA
5	2	I Love You	Cliff Richard	Columbia
6	3	Strawberry Fair	Anthony Newley	Decca
8	4	Little Donkey	Nina and Frederik	Columbia
2	5	Save The Last Dance For Me	The Drifters	London
3	6	Man Of Mystery / The Stranger	The Shadows	Columbia
4	7	Goodness, Gracious Me	Peter Sellers and Sophia Loren	Parlophone
14	8	Poetry In Motion	Johnny Tillotson	London
7	9	Rocking Goose	Johnny and The Hurricanes	London
15	10	Lonely Pup	Adam Faith	Parlophone
16	11	Gurney Slade	Max Harris	Fontana
10	12	As Long As He Needs Me	Shirley Bassey	Columbia
13	13	Dreamin'	Johnny Burnette	London
9	14	My Heart Has A Mind Of Its Own	Connie Francis	MGM
11	15	Of' MacDonald	Frank Sinatra	Capitol
18	16	Perfidia	The Ventures	London
-	17	Counting Teardrops	Emile Ford and The Checkmates	Pye
-	18	Georgia On My Mind	Ray Charles	HMV
20	19	Blue Angel	Roy Orbison	London
-	20	Just As Much As Ever	Nat "King" Cole	Capitol

ONE TO WATCH  
Little Girl - - - - - Marty Wilde

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## JOE "MR. PIANO" HENDERSON

### "SWINGIN' SLEIGH RIDE"

B/W

'Honky Tonk Concerto'

7N 15309 45 rpm.

## JOAN REGAN

WITH DR. BARNARDO'S CHILDREN

### "MUST BE SANTA"

7N 15303 45 rpm.

## EMILE FORD

### "COUNTING TEARDROPS"

B/W

"WHITE CHRISTMAS"

7N 15314 45 rpm.

## LONNIE DONEGAN

### "VIRGIN MARY"

B/W

"BEYOND THE SUNSET"

7N 15315 45 rpm.

GIVE A GOLDEN GUINEA FOR CHRISTMAS

# WIN a portable radiogram

## FIRST PRIZE

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Transistor  
Radiogram

**PLUS**  
12 EPs

**T**HIS is the magnificent first prize in DISC's easy to enter FREE Christmas competition. All you have to do is to imagine that you can have your favourite disc star to your own Christmas party. Who would you pick and why?

Give the name of the star, then **IN NOT MORE THAN 50 WORDS**, the reason you would invite him or her to your Christmas party. The first prize will go to the person who, in the Editor's opinion, gives the most interesting and ingenious reason for his invitation.

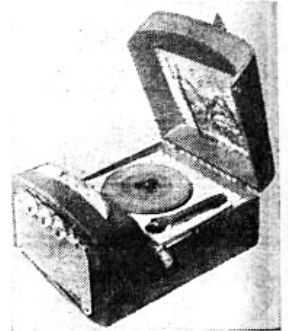
Entries must be on a **POSTCARD PLEASE**, and must be posted to arrive at the DISC office not later than first post Wednesday, December 21. The address is: Party Contest, DISC, 161, Fleet Street, London, E.C.4.

In addition to this first prize, there will be prizes of records for the two runners-up and also 19 consolation prizes of record accessories. And don't forget, entry is entirely FREE. So get that postcard off today. Don't leave it too late and miss the opportunity of winning one of these magnificent prizes.

Every effort will be made to get the prizes to the winners before Christmas, but there is sure to be some delay through the post and we cannot guarantee that they will arrive before the holiday. However, ALL prizewinners will receive a telegram indicating that they have won a prize.

The full list of winners will be printed in DISC, issue dated December 31.

One last point: **DON'T** forget to **PRINT** your own name and address clearly on the postcard.



### ABOVE

The Dansette battery-operated transistor radiogram is designed to run at 45 rpm and there is an automatic stop which operates at the end of each record. The radio has two wave-bands, with a 5in. loudspeaker. The gram lid holds six EPs and the whole unit is 11 1/2in. long, by 9in. wide, by 5 1/2in. deep. It weighs 7 1/2lb.

## SECOND PRIZE

SIX LPs

## THIRD PRIZE

THREE LPs

**Plus**

19 consolation  
prizes of record  
racks, albums  
and carrying  
cases



### LEFT

The additional prizes consist of 12 Metrak record racks holding up to 48 discs (left and right); three Alpa record albums with polythene sleeves to hold 20 seven-inch discs (front right); three Alpa seven-inch carrying cases (front left); and one TDB 5017 carrying case designed to hold 50 seven-inch discs (centre back).

No correspondence can be entered into regarding the competition and the Editor's decision is final.

A VERY HAPPY  
CHRISTMAS TO  
YOU ALL

*Thanks for making 1960  
another wonderful year for me*

*Cliff*



**THIS WEEK'S**

**EMI**

**HITS**

**Ray Charles**  
GEORGIA ON MY MIND  
H.M.V. 45-POP792

**Colin Day**  
TILL  
PARLOPHONE 45-R4709

**John Leyton**  
THE GIRL ON THE FLOOR ABOVE  
H.M.V. 45-POP798

**Matt Monro**  
PORTRAIT OF MY LOVE  
PARLOPHONE 45-R4714

**Little Bobby Rey**  
and his Band  
ROCKIN' 'J' BELLS  
TOP RANK JAR523

**Mike Sagar**  
DEEP FEELING  
H.M.V. 45-POP813

**Dion**  
LONELY TEENAGER  
TOP RANK JAR521

**The Planets**  
CHUNKY  
H.M.V. 45-POP818

CUT OUT FOR REFERENCE

# CABLE from AMERICA

Edited by MAURICE CLARK



**BOBBY RYDELL** . . . a court decision before he could buy a new car. \*

to a non-exclusive basis. He will still continue to record a predetermined number of new releases under their banner.

The making of "answer" records is far from new. But now one answer has been done by telephone. It happened when Rendezvous Records' chief **Rod Piers** finally got permission to record a reply to **Elvis Presley's** "Are You Lonesome Tonight?"

Rod was in New York at the time, and recorded vocalist **Rickey Paige** in a Hollywood studio, supervising the session by telephone. The reply is "Yes, I'm Lonesome Tonight."

**June Christy** is greatly looking forward to making her return visit to London in February, together with **The Four Freshmen** who will be making their London debut. I had the pleasure of touring with these artists earlier this year, and as well as being a wonderful bunch of people their production was the greatest.

**EIGHTEEN** year old singer **Bobby Rydell** had to ask court permission recently to buy a new 4,550 dollar Pontiac car. Bobby whose real name is Robert Louis Ridarelli, has made a net amount of \$12,000 since this October. A car is necessary for keeping his engagements said his guardian, Mrs. Judith Jamison, herself an attorney. The court said, yes.

A big concert is shortly to take place in Philadelphia in aid of a local charity. Only singing stars born in this city are to appear, but the cast reads like a "Who's Who," with names like **The Four Aces**, **Bobby Rydell**, **Frankie Avalon**, **Pearl Bailey**, **Goji Grant**, **Bill Haley**, **Kitty Kallen** and **Fabian**. Should be a sell out!

Warner Bros. Records are raving about their new find, **Shelby Flint**. He recorded a song called "Angel On My Shoulder" for a small company called Valiant Records. Somebody at Warner's heard this and at once they made plans to buy the master. Reports say they have a smash hit disc as well as a new star.

**Ella Fitzgerald** has just bought a new home in California which is stated to have cost over \$100,000.

## Communists swooning at Presley? It could happen — next year

AS 1961 approaches the American disc men are becoming more aware of the growing record-buying public all over the world. India, Indonesia, the Soviet Union and even Red China hold great potential sales for American hit records.

Although disc sales have had a very healthy year this is expected to be only a fraction of the sales obtainable one day.

**Paul Anka** has recently completed 20 new songs, many of which are already set for recording on various labels. Paul figures if he gives up singing tomorrow he could live very well just composing.

Actor **David Wayne** is to record the title song from his new Broadway comedy "Send Me No Flowers." **George Weis** and **Will Lorin** have written it for him.

**Fabian** has been added to the cast of the new **Tommy Sands** film to be made by Paramount. The title has now been changed from "The Beach Pad" to "Love In A Goldfish Bowl."

**Sammy Cahn** is to write the lyrics to **Elmer Bernstein's** title music for the forthcoming film "By Love Possessed."

The new **Larry Verne** record "Mr. Livingston" was so long—it ran for nearly four minutes—that the record company have had to send all the DJs a new abbreviated version for their studio shows.

**Frank Sinatra** will launch his new record label in mid-February. Although the name of the label has not yet been decided several artists have been working on its design. The first issues will be an album by **Sinatra** and one by **Sammy Davis, Johnny Mandell** will provide the orchestration for the initial discs.

**Sinatra** is determined to build the label into a big concern. He plans to sign many artists as well as find as much new talent as possible.

**Sinatra** is at the moment under exclusive contract to Capitol Records but in February will change

\* **JUNE CHRISTY** . . . looking forward to her next trip to England. (DISC Pic)



# LPs of the week



**THE BIG BEN BANJO BAND** "More Minstrel Melodies"  
COLUMBIA 325X1254 (Mono) SCX3320 (Stereo)

**JOE LOSS** "Party Dance Time"  
H.M.V. CLP1400 (Mono) CSD1328 (Stereo)

**JIMMY SHAND and his Band** "Step we Gaily"  
PARLOPHONE PMC122 (Mono) PCS3007 (Stereo)

**THE GEORGE MITCHELL MINSTRELS**  
"THE BLACK & WHITE MINSTREL SHOW"  
H.M.V. CLP1399 (Mono) CSD1327 (Stereo)

**'GET HI!'** The record to make your party go with a swing!  
**PAT DODDS** and his Boys, with the Michael Sammes Singers  
H.M.V. CLP1401 (Mono)



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HAPPY CHRISTMAS

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**JOHN BARRY**  
SEVEN

Love and Good Wishes  
for  
Xmas and always.

PETULA CLARK

Greetings  
from  
Lonnie



Happy Christmas  
to Everyone

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DON BLACK  
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# My Fabulous

## Cliff Richard

TALKS TO KEN JOHNS ABOUT HIS LAST  
FANTASTIC MONTHS AS A TEENAGER

**A** TIRING but tremendously exciting trip to the States, a long, prestige-laden season at the London Palladium, a £15,000 house, a £4,000 car, and, of course, five hit singles. It has certainly been a great year for Cliff Richard.

"It has been one of the happiest years of my life," he said. "A fabulous year. I have done so many things I have always wanted to do.

"I got off to a great start with my trip to the States for a five-week tour, on the same bill as Frankie Avalon, Freddy Cannon and Bobby Rydell, all great swingin' fellas. We had a ball, although I missed home very much.

"I hope to go back, and believe me, if I do I shall try to meet Elvis—that is one of my remaining big ambitions. I had hoped to meet him this year, but it did not work out.

"One of my biggest kicks this year was my season at the London Palladium. In prestige it has done me a lot of good, but I hope I don't have to do many more long seasons. Two weeks in one place is long enough for me—although, of course, the Palladium is different, isn't it?"

The would-be-move-around star then talked of "Move It."

"You know, I have not had such a great beat number since I recorded that one. Man what a beat that number had. Wish I could find

Cliff admitted that his style had changed this year.

"I had to change it for the Palladium season. You can't do beat numbers all the time for such a wide audience, so I balanced the beat numbers with ballads."

The success of "Living Doll" baffled Cliff—in a pleasant, financial way, of course.

"I thought it was horrible. It was on my Serious Charge EP, and the demand for a single release was so great that it was decided to do another single, in a different tempo. I still did not think it would go, but that just shows how wrong you can be.

"I got a Gold Disc for it last November and it has sold 1½ million.

Another Gold may be coming Cliff's way to console him for the unexpected success of the "Doll," for "Travellin' Light" has already sold about 750,000.

Although unhappy about the "Doll" Cliff is satisfied with the discs he cut this year.

"Now, if Tito Burns, my manager, Norrie Paramor and I, don't like a number then we won't record it. In the past, I have done records that I personally did not like much.

"Living Doll" was one, and I did not much care for "Mean Streak," "High Class Baby," or "Never Mind."

"What I want now is to have three consecutive No. 1s in the charts, and I would like to top the best selling long-playing record charts with one of my own albums.

"One that was released this year, 'Me And My Shadows,' has been No. 2, I think, since it was released.

"South Pacific has been on top for ages. I think a Presley LP is the only other album to top that specific chart. It is selling in its thousands, and I have sold more than 52,000 of 'Me And My Shadows.'"

**DREAM HOUSE  
COME TRUE**

But not all the kicks 1960 has given Cliff concerned personal success.

"One of the biggest personal thrills I got this year was to move my parents into a new £15,000 house, which I had built for them in North London. It had been my dream to do that since I was a little kid.

"I never thought I would be able to do it so early in my life. I am very proud of my parents and I love them dearly. I have never thought of leaving them to live on my own. We get



Greetings from his fans, but on this occasion the fans are American and the place is the U.S.A.

another as good. This year my records have been a little quieter," "...and successful?" I asked. "And successful," he smiled. Five singles by Cliff have been released this year. They are: "Voice In The Wilderness," "Fall In Love With You," "Please Don't Tease," "Nine Times Out Of Ten," and the recent "I Love You," which has become Cliff's personal favourite. And he has won a Silver Disc for all of them except the last, and that is still climbing the charts!



"I'm giving my daughter a record player, and my husband a pair of ear-plugs!"

## The Shadows



Wish you a wonderfully  
**Happy Christmas—**  
Thanks for everything

# Year



on well and I just love home cooking. The only thing my mother ticks me off about, sometimes, is the amount of washing she has to do for me. I buy dozens of shirts and I wear a clean one every day so there are piles of washing."

What else has Cliff done for his parents? Well, he bought his mother a Renault Floride, a powerful French car.

"I did not buy one for my father because he said he didn't want one—and he can't drive."  
And for himself? A £4,000 Thunderbird. It is terrific, I have always wanted a Thunderbird."

At this point, his group, The Shadows, walked in, led by drummer Tony Meehan.

"Of course I think the most exciting personality I met in 1960 was that great man Tony Meehan," Cliff joked.

Tony bowed.  
Cliff got a kick out of seeing "the boys" score with their own hit disc.

## THEY DESERVED SUCCESS

"They have deserved their success. They have worked hard for it, believe me. I suppose this year has been very good to us all, hasn't it?"

I asked Cliff of his first book, "It's Great To Be Young," had actually been written by himself?

"What we did was to put everything I wanted to say on tape, then a sister friend knocked it into the

1960 saw many ambitions achieved—one of them to own a Ford Thunderbird. It cost £4,000 and you can practically sleep in the boot.

written word. It took us about three months to do. I hear it is a sell out."  
This young man of many parts also formed his own music company in 1960.

"I call it Eogre. That is the middle name of my sister. It is a great family name, too, on my father's side. I will be writing songs for my own company now. I have done a few, but only two were published."

A slight disappointment in 1960 for Cliff was that he did not make a film. "I would have liked to have made one but I was doing the Palladium season and there just was not time. But I have no regrets about it. Films can wait. There is plenty of time for those, but it is not every day you get a six-month offer to play the London Palladium."

## BOWS AND ARROWS

I discovered, with some alarm, that Cliff's exploits in 1960 included archery.

"While we were up in Sheffield we met a fellow who lived in a place next to our digs and who made his own bows and arrows."

"He invited us into his large back garden where he has his own bow. We had a few shots and quite liked it. It was fun."

"I was pretty fair, considering I was new at it. But I don't know about joining a club. I don't want

to be a pest to anyone. You know what might happen . . ."

Of the new crop of entertainers who have made the grade this year, Cliff rates as the most talented Kenny Lynch and Ricky Valance.

"I think Kenny is a great singer, with a good, strong voice. I like him very much. But I think that pop-wise Ricky has the edge on him. I mean he has a good start by having a No. 1 disc released."

And so, 1960 draws to a close. In this year Cliff left his teens. How did he feel?

"You know, when I was a kid I wished I could be like Peter Pan and never get old. I don't want to get old. Nineteen is a wonderful



Cliff digs that earth in the garden of his new home—and finds it real hot.

age and I wished I could have stayed nineteen all my life. For me, my nineteenth year has been a memorable one.

"This year I have matured physically and mentally, but I don't think my attitude towards life in general, has changed much."

"I hope people don't think of me as a big head. I would hate that, but it is so difficult to keep your basic principles when success is constantly knocking on the door—and I hope it will go on knocking—and knocking."

Cliff's wish for the years to come: "HAPPINESS, NOT ONLY FOR MYSELF, BUT FOR EVERYONE."

"I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas" hope you are too



**EMILE FORD**  
AND THE CHECKMATES

Wishing all my friends a Wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year

Sincerely

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Sincerely,

*Frank Ifield*

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MAURICE CLARK SPENDS

# Christmas with the stars

PAUL ANKA • CONNIE FRANCIS

JOHNNY AND THE HURRICANES

First rest for Johnny and Co.

## The year she won the doll

Connie's greatest memory

WHEN you speak to lovely singing star Connie Francis about Christmas, her eyes light up, for she just loves everything about it, the parties, the meeting up with old friends and relatives that in her busy life she gets very little chance to see, and most of all doing the Christmas shopping.

Because so much of her time is spent recording, televising and touring she often has to start this the previous January!

Most of all she enjoys the last-minute rush, when the stores are full of that lovely seasonal atmosphere. Connie goes with her girl friend and secretary, flying from shop to shop, arms laden with gifts, crossing from her long list everybody in turn as she buys.

Sometimes her secretary will say, "But, Connie, you have already bought a present for so-and-so." But Connie will say, "Ah, but this is so nice, I will give them both."

During the year, as she visits new and exciting countries, she picks up novelties and puts them away until Christmas comes around—although often she can't wait that long and just gives them as soon as she gets back to town.

### Real thrill

To see her expression as she watches her friends undo the parcels is quite something. I'm sure she couldn't be more thrilled if she were herself receiving yet another Gold Record.

If you ask her to tell you her happiest Christmas of all, she at once says rather shyly, "Well, of course, it was the year I won the Fairy Doll from the top of the Christmas tree."

It seems that ever since she started going to the annual children's party in her home town of Newark, New Jersey, at the age of four, the Fairy Doll was the thing she wanted most. Even though her father bought her other fairy dolls, they never seemed the same as the one that glistened at the top of that tree, and bingo, at the age of seven, she finally got it.

For a girl to remember a thing like that after all the wonderful things that have happened to her since, goes to prove that underneath she is still Constance Francero, the little girl from Newark.

I asked her her next most exciting time. She thought for a moment and said:

"I think it was when I was 12 years old and made my first television appearance. It was on the 'Arthur Godfrey Talent Scout Show.'" She said that although she was terribly nervous, it was a thrill that has never been quite the same since. But she still gets a big kick from any show she is on, and can never quite believe that it is really she who is doing it.

Like the time she was informed by her record company, MGM, that her record of "Who's Sorry Now" had sold over a million and she had won her first Golden Disc. I said that it must have been even more of a thrill than winning that fairy doll!!! Connie thought for a minute and said, "Well, almost." But I am certain it wasn't, quite.



CONNIE FRANCIS—She loves buying presents.

CHRISTMAS is going to be a very homely one for Johnny and the Hurricanes. For the first time this year the group, and their brightly painted Volkswagen, will be taking a rest.

After a hectic round of tours, the boys are looking forward to spending some time with their folks, dating some of the girls they knew from High School and generally having a ball. It's some time since they were able to relax, as already this year they have toured Australia, New Zealand, Japan and Hawaii, apart from one-night stands all over the States.

Most people would think that all this would get them down, but the boys seem to thrive on the activity, although they got together with their manager in the summer and said whatever happened they must get Christmas off, so they could start the 1961 year fresh and full of new ideas—and before all the "girls next door got snapped up." Paul Tesluk, the organist, will, for the Christmas period, be playing again in his little local church where as a child he used to take turns in pumping the organ.

### Church choir

Both guitarist Dave Yorke and "Butch" Mattice, electric bass, will again sing in the choir in the church on the next block to Paul's and will even be arranging door to door carol-singing as they used to year after year as kids.

One thing the boys will all be doing together is playing for nothing at their old High School hop—on Christmas Eve.

The boys, who apart from drummer Bill Savich were at High School together, are good pals, and it was at school that they first started working on their great act.

They hit the American music scene in '59 with an impact practically unparalleled in U.S. show business with their first hit disc, "Crossfire." Their second record, "Red River Rock," sold well over a million in the States alone, as well as topping the hit parade in 18 other countries. The main thing that makes Johnny and the Hurricanes, apart from plenty of hard work, which shows very clearly indeed in the polish of their performances and the vigour of their showmanship, is the fact that they think as one and never argue. And for five people who see one another nearly 24 hours a day that is a hard thing not to do.

The last time I saw them, they were all busy showing me the gifts they had bought for each other. Johnny proudly showed me a German camera he had got for Dave, and I had to smile and tell him quietly that Dave had bought almost the same thing for him.

But I've no doubt they both enjoyed the giving so much that this coincidence did not matter at all.

## WILL ANNETTE BE PAUL'S SPECIAL GUEST?



ELVIS himself couldn't have written more about the girls he dates than our young singer-composer-star Paul Anka. In some American magazine you will see him gazing into Annette Funicello's eyes, in others he will be with lovely Tuesday Weld, or Gigi Perreau, or even Connie Francis, although Connie is first to say: "We are just the very best of friends."

Because of this, people get the impression that Paul might be the "play-boy type" which is in no way true. Paul has very little time to spend with the fair sex at all, and, surprising though it may seem, not much money either, for his father and his business manager handle all his earnings and he never sees a single cheque. He is just given \$50 a week for his personal expenses.

However, like any other boy at Christmas time, Paul wants to feel that he has that someone special around to join in the festivities. He gets a great kick from buying gifts for his many friends, although he won't let anybody have any idea until Christmas Eve just what he has chosen. But he did say he had something created in the way of bracelets for Connie, Tuesday and Gigi and

PAUL ANKA—In spite of those girls he's not a play boy.

something entirely different for Annette, who, between us, is, and always has been, his favourite.

He was very smitten with her, and was rather hurt when she said that although she liked him fine too, she was prone to puppy love, and therefore refused to consider her romance with Paul as eternal.

There was a time when he was touring the Continent when he telephoned her from Rome and said he didn't think he could finish his tour, he missed her so much.

Annette missed him too, but she liked dating the other boys like Fabian and Frankie Avalon, and the big amour melted down to a nice friendship—until she asked him to write twelve songs for an album.

Paul did this, and very successfully too, and the affair started again.

The big question now is: Who will Paul ask to spend this coming season with him in his new home? My guess is it will still be Annette!

By the way, there was another lady Paul had a crush on a few months back, and he didn't care if the whole world knew about it. He was appearing with her at the Sahara Hotel in Las Vegas when he fell—her name was Sophie Tucker!

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# STAR TALK by John Wells

**FRANKIE VAUGHAN** is about the only person enjoying the weather at the moment. After his ten-week stay in the blazing sun of Hollywood, where he filmed "The Right Approach," he arrived home in the middle of a raging gale. His comment: "What a wonderful welcome . . . I'm home." He wasn't being funny either. British firm is looking into the possibility of marketing a special **Edd Byrnes** comb. Idea arose because Edd said that he was besieged by fans sending him combs with the request to run them through his hair and return them. Rumoured break-up of Edd's romance with **Asa Maynor** is likely to produce even more mail.

Songwriter and singer **Jimmy Jaques** writes titles before songs. He takes these from everyday conversation, hence his recent disc titles: "Not To Worry" and "Do Me A Favour."

**Perry Como** sent a letter to the BBC congratulating them on the successful adaptation of his show for British viewers. " . . . first step towards true international television."

Gun turrets of H.M.S. **Lion** to support unusual mascot every time the ship enters harbour. Children of the ship's company officially adopted **Lenny The Lion** as their mascot. Lenny's latest record, with the help of **Terry Hall**, is "I Want A Hippopotamus for Christmas" . . . so he ends up with a cruiser!

Singer **Carmen McRae** won several scholarships for advanced piano playing. But she always wanted to sing. Don Nicholl's review last week of her latest disc, "The Very Thought Of You," confirms that she didn't make a mistake.

**LYN CORNELL**, whose semi-religious disc "The Angel And The Stranger" looks set to be one of the big Christmas hits, is no church-goer. "But I felt all holy singing 'The Angel And The Stranger,'" she says. After Christmas, Lyn leaves the Vernons Girls. Her ambition: "A little flat in London and a sports car."



**PERRY COMO** sent a letter to the BBC

**The Zodiacs** must be in the running for the title of the group which has changed its name most often. First they were **The Royal Charmsund** who had a hit in America with "Little Darling" back in 1956. Then they made a name for themselves as **The Gladiolas**. Third change to **The Zodiacs** was forced upon them when they changed labels. Their first release over here is their version of the American hit, "Stay."

The U.S. National Safety Council is considering adopting **Bob Luman's** hit "Let's Think About Living" as their official theme song.

**Pete Murray's** reaction to the news that Decca were to release "What's It All About?", the disc he cut with **Brian Matthew**: "I don't believe it . . . it must have escaped!"

**Marty Wilde** is interested in buying a new Lotus Elite sports car. It's virtually a racing car in the 150 m.p.h. class. **Chris Barber** owns one and does race it . . . but Marty's not thinking of following Barber on the track.

Confined to bed suffering from bronchitis, **Billy Fury**. Must be spending some of his time dreaming about a green Aston Martin he's had his eye on for some time. He's all set to race, but **Larry Parnes**, his manager, is not taking to the idea at all. Billy already has a car capable of 130 m.p.h. Contrasting hobby for Billy: Fishing. He likes the peacefulness of it.

**SUPPORTING** casts don't always find **Lonnie Donegan** an easy person to get on with. Showing a bit of spirit is one of the ways to gain his friendship.

**Ray Peterson**, 20-year-old singer who started the international hubbub with his waxing of "Tell Laura I Love Her"—the original hit in America, is being dubbed the male **Yma Sumac** . . . he has a range of four and a half octaves.

**Peter Sellers's** mother went to see her son in "The Millionaire" the other day. After the film was over, a woman sitting next to her praised the film and in particular Peter's performance. "Yes, he was good, wasn't he. Actually, I'm Peter's mother," said Mrs. Sellers. The reply she got was: "Yes, and I'm his grandmother."

**Spike Milligan** and **Harry Secombe** were seen going into an undertaker's establishment outside the studio after a recording session. No undertaker was around so Spike lay on the counter and let Harry call, "Shop!"

Independent record maker **Denis Preston** is to cut an LP of the new musical, "A Christmas Carol"—it's NOT a pantomime, by the way. There are 12 songs in the show, all published by **Dash Music**, but the album is to be held back for next year.

**David Kossoff** scoffs at any idea that he's a singer. About his performance on his LP "Larkin Singin"—A Sing-up Of Cockney Songs—he describes his vocalising as just "Larkin singing."

After a sudden engagement, a sudden wedding for **Bobby Darin** and **Sandra Dee**. The ceremony took place at 3.0 a.m. in the apartment of a music publisher. Darin didn't even have time to get a ring . . . he borrowed one. It was very much done on the spur of the moment. "We just wanted to get it over with," observed Sandra.

**Harold Davison's** first published song, "It's You That I Love," looks likely to be the first of many. The well known impresario, responsible for bringing many American artists over here, has already written two more songs. **Ella Fitzgerald** and **Paul Robeson** interested.

**Russ Conway** is spending a good deal of his convalescence after his fall at the Palladium, compiling his fan magazine. This is the first time he's had time to do it and is thoroughly enjoying it. He's now learning the difference between picas and pies, the magazine being professionally printed.

## A sparkling new column that takes you behind the scenes of the disc world

Pye artist **Bob Horton** was recently paid \$20,000, plus a percentage, for leading a two-day tudeo in Texas.

**Paul Anka** has become a foster parent. Through the foster parent plan he has adopted a two-year-old boy from Chile who was orphaned during the recent earthquake.

Mrs. **Harry Karl Debbie Reynolds** has a dream. It's to spend the first part of the New Year lounging under blue skies and palm trees of the Bahamas. Looks like coming true, too.



**TONI DALLI**—English as she is spoke.

**DORIS DAY** is reported to have reached the point where she need only do work that she enjoys. "Now I take time out to do the things that matter, the simple things." These include swimming in her private pool in the morning . . . cutting down on parties . . . and walking.

American fan magazines still having a ball over the **Liz Taylor, Debbie Reynolds, Eddie Fisher** sensation . . . even though Debbie is now happily remarried and Liz is over her toothache.

**Fabian's** romance with starlet **Jana Taylor** is reported to be going strongly.

**Toni Dalli**, who married recently, could speak no English when he first came to this country from his native Italy. The first thing he was taught to say when he arrived was "I love you so." He was told it meant "How do you do?"

**Sammy Davis Jr.** has converted his wife of a few weeks to his adopted Jewish faith.

Rumour is rumoured between **Vic Damone** and **Natalie Trundy**. Could be a little one-sided though. Reports have it that Vic is still keeping the flame alight for **Pier Angeli**.



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# 1961

DISC'S pop expert Don Nicholl looks ahead and picks the stars who will last

# Shadows are going to be even bigger in a year's time

EVERY time I type the words "disc debut" for the review columns of this paper I share a fraction of the apprehension which must face every new singer who steps into the pop scene nowadays.

Sometimes the debut is disappointing, sometimes it is promising, sometimes—but rarely—it is terrific.

And it is very difficult to guess how many of the new names will keep coming back long enough, often enough, to become familiar.

Every year there are newcomers who drop by the wayside—and a few who go on to take their places among the established performers.

An Adam Faith and a Cliff Richard crops up occasionally . . . but even for them it is not so easy as it may seem in retrospect.

So what of the past year? It has brought its flow of newcomers. Hardly a week has gone by without some fresh name bobbing up on a label. Already some of them are almost forgotten . . . others are fighting on, hoping for the break which will make them secure in the business. Others are sweating on the hope that they can follow-up early success.

Ricky Valance is one of these. He has topped the parade, and he has built quite a following. Tommy Bruce is another who has been in the parade this past year. But Tommy—and Valance, too—has me wondering just how much he depends upon his material. Indeed, whether he can overcome the gimmick with which he first clicked.

Russ Sainy, John Scott, Nick Benneff, Ian Gregory, Peter Jay, Chris Wayne, Ricky Baron and Eden Kane have all shown that they can be above average. Will they be among the high places in a year's time?

## This is my list

I HAVE been making a list of those whom I believe will go on next year to build securely on the foundations already laid.

Coming up now—see how many you agree with—are the names I think we will still be spinning, and buying, in twelve months' time.

**The Shadows:** They should be with us around this time next year, even bigger than they are today, because this backing group is made up of youngsters who have the commercial touch. It is apparent not only in their playing but also in their writing talents.

They have come way out from the shadow of Cliff Richard since "Apache" rocketed them to the top. And they have proved they can supply a top-selling follow-up.

**Michael Cox:** He is in there with more than three-quarters of a chance, too. But that light-voiced approach may not last too long. If Michael can show us that he can cope with other things besides the lilting "Carolines" and "Angelas" then this tip should come true next year.

**Mark Wynter:** Although his second disc, "Kickin' Up The Leaves," didn't measure up to his first, "Image Of A



**MARK WYNTER**  
(DISC PIC)

Girl," he also seems to have the stuff that stars are made of.

Somewhere in Wynter's approach I get the feeling that this boy has got the true performer's quality. I believe he will be one of those who can take a knock or two and still keep returning with the essential big ones.

**Lance Fortune:** He has already had his share of the ups and the downs. Not all the downs have been his own fault. I am positive he can come roaring back to the top at any time.

His recording musical director on "I Wonder" was Tony Hatch, and Tony has a nose for talent. He believes Fortune can grow into a really big name. I am with him.

**Jerry Lordan:** This is another name that will stick around. Not always at the top of the tree, perhaps, but enough to find regular favour. Jerry, whether as writer or singer, or both, strikes me as being flexible enough

to move with the times. And that is one of the most important attributes any newcomer must possess.

**Johnny Angel:** He has not yet made the parade. But he is one new singer with such potential that I don't think we will be able to ignore him in the coming year. Provided the disc bosses keep behind him.

**Robb Storme:** He made a very good debut disc for Decca, and again, I hope the label perseveres. Although he has chosen to give himself one of those phony surnames, Robb ought to be well in the reckoning next year.

**Tony Dunning:** He is one of the newest of all. But I am willing to stick my neck out and say that this is a voice which will build up a fine following.

**Gary Mills:** He has yet to show us he can do more than make the hit parade with "Look For A Star." I think he will. He is one of those



**JANET RICHMOND**

boys who will be relying on a good choice of numbers for some while yet, but he should stay the course.

**Jess Conrad:** He is an enigma, but I rate him as a boy who will stick around to find big success. His records haven't exactly hit the jackpot but they will before long.

Apart from The Shadows, I believe that **Pete Chester** (Charlie's son) will develop into quite a property in the group field, and that **Jim Gunner** will go on to instrumental success, too.

And then there is the harpsichord boy **Mike Hill**. Well, I feel he could have been a hit already if he had been around to plug his first disc when it was issued.

There is room for Mr. Hill among the stars and he has obviously a wealth of talent to justify his place.

**As for the Girls:** Well, there have been far fewer of them to impress us among the new British releases of the past year. Those who come most readily to mind are **Maureen Evans**, **Toni Eden**, **Lyn Cornell**, **Janet Richmond** and young **Glenda Collins**. I think all five have what it takes, and I think all five will develop into

steady performers. With luck on their side, all five could also achieve really glittering stardom. I hope they do.

But the one who gets my big tip is **Janet Richmond**. I have a hunch that this girl is going to go places in a very big way.

And, if you want me to stick my neck out still further and shorten my short list, here is my top trio . . .

Group: THE SHADOWS.

Male vocalist: JESS CONRAD.

Girl vocalist: JANET RICHMOND.

And if you want a sobering thought on this time next year, just remember that on which next year we will be looking back on another host of names which appeared for the first time on a disc label during 1961!

**JESS CONRAD**



## ALONG THE ALLEY

### Ballads are going to stay

THE ballad with a beat is going to be the dominating influence in pop music in 1961. That, certainly, is what the top brass of the music publishing fraternity think. And what would they LIKE to see? Stronger melodies and better lyrics.

Said Ben Nisbet of Feldmans Music:

"Our sheet music sales are only about 10 per cent of what they were a few years ago. Naturally the rock numbers did not sell sheet music because lyrics and melody were practically non-existent in them.

"Now Elvis Presley has caused a sensation by singing 'O Sole Mio' as 'It's Now Or Never.' What the master has done, I think the lesser lights will imitate in 1961. The ballads will have a beat, of course, but I think, and hope, this trend will boost sheet music sales again."

**Fred Jackson**, of the Tin Pan Alley Music-Planetary Kahl group, went further than this: "I believe we will hear more and more instrumentals," he said, "not necessarily rock ones either."

Not everyone was as optimistic as this, however. **Dick James**, of the Bron Music group, who believes that the personality cult will continue as far as pop music is concerned, is hopeful of more melody and better lyrics, "but every time it looks as though we are getting back to

them again, something happens to thwart it."

Film themes are another side of the business that looks to be on the up and up.

**Harold Shampan**, of Filmusic; **Cyril Simons**, of Leeds Music, and **Bill Ward** of Lawrence Wright Music, all anticipate increasing success for themes from films. And Bill Ward had a personal wish for next year that gives food for thought:

"I don't think there is the slightest hope of this happening," he said, "but I would like to see the number of pop record releases reduced so that worthwhile hits get a reasonable chance of life without being crowded out."

### NEWS

from the street of MUSIC

If film themes become popular, so, probably, will TV themes. **Cyril Simons**, of Leeds Music has just returned from America. "I heard quite a lot of TV themes which will reach Britain eventually," he told me. "And I think they stand a good chance of becoming hits."

But perhaps **Len Edwards**, of the Mellin group of companies, summed it all up when he said: "I would like true artistry to prevail over obvious rubbish, and to see the real talent in this country given more viewing time on the greatest publicity medium—television. This, in turn will help the artists, the publishers and the record companies." Time will tell if these hopes are fulfilled. N.H.

SAY MERRY XMAS WITH  
**EMBER RECORDS**  
OUR CONCERTO e/w  
IT'S ALL OVER BUT THE CRYING  
**AL MARTINO** 5119  
12 Great Newport St., W.C.2 COV 2745

# Let's have a party!

## SOME IDEAS FOR CHRISTMAS

### from MARION RYAN



**N**OT long now to Christmas... and the presents... the turkey and pudding. Already holly and mistletoe decorate hallways and rooms—and parties are being planned.

This week if I may, I would like to offer a few eating ideas for parties, something a bit different from the somewhat ragged remains of Christmas Day main meal.

Why not, for instance have a Christmas barbecue—indoors?

The utensils needed are: (a) a primus stove; (b) a small copper bowl; (c) long wooden handled forks.

Take a plate for each guest and put few heaps of spices, English and Continental mustards, sauces and salt around the edges, rather like the five-minute markings on a clock.

In a large dish place steak diced into squares of an inch and larger. Place the primus stove on a heat-proof mat on the lounge table. Fill the copper bowl with cooking oil, place the bowl on the primus stove. Light the stove to a gentle flame.

Each guest should then stick his or her fork into a piece of meat, which is put into the copper bowl and individually cooked. When "done-to-a-turn" garnish the cooked steak with your favourite sauce or spice—and enjoy it.

#### MURPHIES

**N**OW here is another idea—YULETIDE MURPHIES, a suggestion of Surrey reader Brenda Shepherd.

This provides a quick, tasty morsel for friends who drop by when the party is nearly over and the food is gone.

Take a potato for each unexpected

**A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all**  
—MARION

*pianist or guitarist for your party? A musician, if he is anything of an entertainer, will give the party a kick that could make it a real success.*

*But if you don't book a musician, then make sure that there are plenty of party-style records.*

**My own party gimmick: "Musical Note" hair ornaments by Alan Spiers, of Berkeley Sq., London.**

#### THAT DRESS

**O**FFICE party? What should you wear? I always find it wiser to wear a dual-purpose dress.

If you decide to do as I do, then I suggest you set off the dress with a piece of costume jewellery, say a large pendant brooch on a chain, or you can take off the jacket you have worn all day.

If, however, you find a closet in the office for an extra dress, then pick a gown that is chic but not flamboyant.

**L**OOKING for a present for LHER? You can't go wrong with a luxury pair of midnight nylon. Made by Morley, the price is 18s. 11d.

Sheer luxury—and very much in

high fashion at this time. Ask John "Black Stockings" Barry.

For HIM? Oh, there are countless presents! Old Spice for a deliciously manly after-shave lotion... and you can share the masculine aroma, too!

But girls, DONT. I beg you, buy him a tie without consulting him first.

There must be thousands of men who, to keep the peace, go walking about wearing ties they hate.

#### DECORATION

**H**OW about decoration of the party room? Let us take a fir-leaf from the decor book of our American cousins.

That spot over the fireplace... take down the mirror, or that painting of great-uncle Egbert.

Buy from a florist a wreath wire base (or if you are a do-it-yourself expert make one). Get fir or yew and weave it into the wire base.

It will soon look attractive, and even more so if you "inseize" the greenery.

To do that you dip an old tooth brush into silver paint and flick the bristles with a nail file. Fine, little

blobs of paint will then be sprayed on to the foliage and it has that expensive Jack Frost look in no time.

Finally, tie a wide scarlet ribbon around the bottom of the circle. It gives a lush dash of luxury colour.

#### DRINK

**D**RINK... why not something that won't make everyone squiffy?

A Tin Pan Alley cocktail was devised for the non-drinking community by Neville Wray, name host at the Alley's only pub, The White Lion.

Ray—as he is known—takes a pint of cider, a similar amount of loganberry canned juice, and the white of an egg, and adds sugar to taste.

The cider—please, in the fridge first—and the loganberry juice should be mixed well. Use a whisk, or shake up in a proper receptacle.

Serve in individual glasses and after mixing sugar with the white of egg, pour over a spoonful on the top of the cocktail.

guest and cook them in their jackets. Cut them in half and spoon out a depression in each half.

Mix the spooned out potato with scrambled egg and grated cheese and then put back on top of each half.

Garnish with pepper and salt and for a colourful "extra" impale a piece of fried and rolled bacon and a slice of bacon on a cocktail stick and mount rampant on the top.

#### MUSIC


**H**OW about music? Why not cut out a couple of bottles of drink this year and, instead, engage a

## Help a little child

**H**AVE you a young friend whom you wish to convince about the legend of Santa Claus? If so, here is a lovely idea.

Get your young friend to write a letter to SANTA CLAUS, DENMARK. You then slip in a sixpenny postal order—and Santa Claus will send the wee one a Hans Anderson fairy tale.

This excellent scheme is under the patronage of the QUEEN MOTHER and is sponsored by the official Danish Travel Association. The money goes towards providing poor British kiddies with a holiday in Denmark.



**Sends Seasonal Greetings to 'DISC' and all its readers!**

The greatest recording organisation in the world



Peter Sellers & Sophia Loren



ELLA FITZGERALD




SATURDAY CLUB



NAT KING COLE



THE KINGSTON TRIO



PARTY TIME



ADAM

**PETER SELLERS & SOPHIA LOREN**  
(Recorded in co-operation with the BBC)  
Patophone PMC1131 (Mono) PCS3012 (Stereo)

**ELLA FITZGERALD**  
'ELLA WISHES YOU A SWINGING CHRISTMAS'  
H.M.V. CLP1387 (Mono)

**CONNIE FRANCIS**  
'CONNIE FRANCIS SINGS SPANISH AND LATIN-AMERICAN FAVOURITES'  
MGM-C-438 (Mono) MGM-C9-9019 (Stereo)

**NAT KING COLE**  
'THE MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS'  
Capitol W1444 (Mono) SW1444 (Stereo)

**'SATURDAY CLUB'**  
(Recorded in co-operation with the BBC)  
Artists include: Ricky Valance; Garry Miller; John Barry; Tommy Bruce; Sylvia Sands; Ketti Kelly, etc.  
Patophone PMC1130 (Mono)

**THE KINGSTON TRIO**  
'THE LAST MONTH OF THE YEAR'  
Capitol T1448 (Mono) ST1448 (Stereo)

**RUSS CONWAY**  
'PARTY TIME'  
Columbia 353X1279 (Mono) SC3345 (Stereo)

**ADAM FAITH**  
'ADAM'  
Patophone PMC1128 (Mono) PCS3010 (Stereo)



EMI RECORDS LTD • EMI HOUSE • 20 MANCHESTER SQUARE LONDON W1

CONGRATULATIONS!

# JIM REEVES

on winning a silver disc for  
**HE'LL HAVE  
TO GO**

45, RCA-1168

45 rpm



45 rpm

RCA RECORDS product of  
THE DECCA RECORD COMPANY LTD  
DECCA HOUSE ALBERT EMBANKMENT LONDON SE11

# Conrad to cut six titles for Decca

JESS CONRAD is to cut six titles for Decca tomorrow (Friday) and next Wednesday. The two best will be issued next month as a single. Decca A and R manager Frank Lee is taking one session, and DISC columnist Jack Good will be supervising the other.

## Raymond gets top quiz job

BILLY RAYMOND, the 22-year-old Scots singer who for the past two months has been competing the Larry Parnes Rock 'n' Trad show, has been chosen by Granada TV to compete their highly successful "Spot the Tune" programme which stars Marion Ryan.

Present quiz master is Ted Ray, who will be replaced by Billy from January 2.

Billy Raymond is completely unknown to TV audiences, but he has made several recordings for HMV, as well as many personal appearances.

## Glenn Miller fans meet

TONIGHT, Thursday, the Glenn Miller Appreciation Society will be holding another of their meetings at the Shaftesbury Hotel. There will be a recital of music recorded by the late Glenn Miller.

December 15 marks the 16th anniversary of the disappearance of Major Miller on a war-time flight to Paris.

Exact details are being kept secret, "but one is a standard, and the other five are all new," Jess told DISC. "Mort Shuman, who has written for Elvis Presley, has done two of them specially for me."

It is likely that at least one number will be an up-tempo rocker. "I did some of these at my first stage appearance, at the Tooting Granada, and they were very successful. The material we are going to record works out about half British and half American."

Three films featuring Jess are due for release in February. They are, "Konga," "The Queen's Guard" and "Rag Doll." Jess sings a song in each of them and is hoping that Decca will release an EP of them plus one of the six songs he is about to record.

"I may go to Hollywood soon in connection with the 'Rag Doll' premiere," said Jess. "The idea is that I should sing the song called 'Why Am I Living?' from the film to a teenage audience before the screening."

"However, there is a possibility that the censor will give 'Rag Doll' an N certificate instead of an A. In that case, I won't be going over."

The next TV date for Jess is a role in "Dixon Of Dock Green," on BBC TV during January.

## DANKWORTH 'IN FULL'

THE full Johnny Dankworth Orchestra is to be featured in "Jazz Club" next Thursday, December 22. The orchestra, featuring singer Bobby Breen, will present their latest composition, "The Serenoe Suite," written and arranged by Dankworth and Dave Lindup.

The following Wednesday, December 28 Al Saxon and the Springfielders will be featured in "Parade Of The Pops," and the following day Eddie Thompson will be holding a jazz party for "Jazz Club."

Among Thompson's guests will be Bruce Turner, George Chisholm, Kenny Baker and Danny Moss.

## Alma for Tyne Tees TV

ALMA COGAN is to guest in Tyne Tees Television's "One O'Clock Show" tomorrow December 16. She will be accompanied by her pianist, Stan Foster.

Tonight (on TT TV) "Request Time" will introduce Ronnie Hilton, The Barry Sisters and David Macbeth.

## Rolf Harris—new single

AUSTRALIAN singer Rolf Harris, who made the British charts with "Tie Me Kangaroo Down, Sport," has another single due out soon from Columbia.

Topside is "Tame Eagle," a humorous parody of "Teen Angel."

## BARRY SISTERS LEAVE

The Barry Sisters, seen here at a reception given last week by EMI, have returned to the States after their season at the Pigalle, London. An LP featuring the sisters is to be released in February, meanwhile EMI have issued a single coupling two tracks from it, "Misty" and "Why Don't You Do Right?" (DISC Pic)



## Monro is booked for 'Stringalong'

MATT MONRO, who is due to go to Las Vegas in June for cabaret and for TV, begins a three-month residency on the Light Programme's "Stringalong" in January.

His next TV show here is "Rendezvous With Rosemary" next Monday with Rosemary Squires on A-R TV. He will sing his latest release, "Portrait Of My Love," and will also duet with Rosemary in "Let's Call The Whole Thing Off."

## Minstrels' record sale

AN HMV LP featuring George Mitchell's Minstrels from the BBC TV "Black And White Minstrel Show" has achieved a record sale in a short time. More than 20,000 have been sold. The LP, which contains 56 songs of the same type as are featured in the TV production, was suggested by HMV A and R man Wally Ridley.

**WATCH IT!**



MERRY CHRISTMAS and A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Thanks for all your support this past year...

RICKY VALANCE

BEST SEASONAL WISHES and many thanks to all kind patrons of our services for the supply of **JAZZ BANDS** JAMES TATE AGENCY 221 Acton Lane, London, W.4. CHI. 5541/8623

## BYGRAVES TO DO ONE-NIGHTERS

STARTING on January 9, Max Bygraves is to undertake a short Granada tour. He will open at Maidstone, followed by Dartford (10); Deptford (11); Harrow (12); Kingston (13); Walthamstow (14); Mansfield (16); Grantham (17); Kettering (18); Aylesbury (19); Sutton (20), and Slough on January 21.

"Roamin' Holiday," the series of six Max Bygraves programmes, filmed earlier this year in Alassio, Italy, will start its run on Saturday, January 28, at 9.30 p.m. on ATV.

## Wives 'choose' Edmundo

"HOUSEWIVES' CHOICE" compete for the Christmas week on the BBC Light programme will be Edmundo Ros. He will be followed by Robin Richmond (January 9 to 20); George Elrick (January 23 to February 3); and Reginald Dixon (February 6 to 17).

Larry Verne, American singer, has been awarded a Golden Disc for his recording of "Mr. Custer." The song was successful in the British charts with a recording by Charlie Drake.

## NEW RELEASES

Jim Reeves  
Am I losing you  
45-RCA-1214 RCA

Ray Charles  
Come rain or come shine  
45-HLK 9051 London Atlantic

LaVern Baker Bumble bee  
45-HLK 9052 London Atlantic

Donnie Brooks Doll house  
45-HLN 8253 London

La dolce vita (The sweet life)  
Fausto Papetti  
45-DC 18694 Durium

Max Bygraves  
When you come to the end of a lollipop  
45-F 11308 Decca

## BOB LUMAN

WHY, WHY, BYE, BYE  
45-WB 28 Warner Bros.

## FATS DOMINO

MY GIRL JOSEPHINE  
45-HLP 9244 London

COSY THE BEAR;  
MY CHRISTMAS DREAM  
THE CARSON TWINS  
45-F 15204 Decca

# CLIFF TAKES A WELL-EARNED REST

Two days after the end of his strenuous six-month season at the Palladium, Cliff Richard left London airport bound for a fortnight's holiday in Spain. With him are sisters Joan (left) and Jacqueline and his mother. They will spend the Christmas holiday abroad.



# LONNIE AND BEVS ON TV REQUEST SHOW

**LONNIE DONEGAN**, Chris Barber, Harry Secombe, The Beverley Sisters, Ronnie Carroll and Miki and Griff are all lined up for appearances in ATV's "Home For A While," Forces request programme on Christmas Day. The programme, which will commence at 1.25 and run for an hour and a half, is being produced by Jo Douglas, who returned to London last Monday from a three-week round the world trip, during which she collected requests and recorded several interviews with the Forces serving abroad.

Lonnie Donegan will sing "I Wanna Go Home"; Chris Barber and his band will play "Ice Cream"; Ronnie Carroll will sing "The Holly And The Ivy"; The Beverley Sisters will sing "Little Donkeys," but no number has yet been chosen for Harry Secombe.

Miki and Griff, now in Australia, will be heard but not seen. They will sing "Long Time To Forget."

Several more artists are in line for "Home For A While." At the time of going to press ATV were hoping to secure the services of Anthony Newley.

# Elektra sign Bob Gibson

**ELEKTRA RECORDS** have signed Bob Gibson, well-known American folk singer, to an exclusive long-term contract.

The contract calls for a minimum of two albums a year, and the first sessions, for March, 1961, release, will be out later this month.

Vic Lewis has added one more date to the forthcoming Dave Brubeck tour. It is at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, on January 27.

Owing to the Christmas holiday, next week's issue of DISC will be on sale on Wednesday instead of Thursday. So be early with us and make sure of your copy.

# 'He'll Have To Go' wins a Silver Disc

**JIM REEVES**—voted the "favourite male singer of 1960" by American and Canadian DJs—has been awarded his first Silver Disc (presented by this paper) for selling over 250,000 copies of "He'll Have To Go."

The record, which won him his first Golden Disc in America, was also voted "best single record of 1960." It was released in Britain on January 22 of this year, but didn't enter the DISC charts until April 9. It came in at number 15.

# MARTY WILDE IN SHELTON SERIES

**MARTY WILDE** is to join Anne Shelton in one of her new series of Luxembourg shows which are being taped next month in various parts of the country.

He appears with her at the Guildhall, Southampton, on January 16. The following day Joe Brown is her guest star at the Colston Hall, Bristol; and on January 18 Duffy Power appears with her at the Wolverhampton Civic Hall.

Other dates are Hanley's Victoria Hall (19), Sheffield City Hall (20) and Lewisham Town Hall (22). Guest stars for these latter three are not yet fixed.

Ronnie Aldrich and The Squadronaires will accompany Anne throughout the series, and Marty Wilde's Wildcats will also back Joe Brown and Duffy Power as well as Marty himself.

The series begins on February 12.

# New American musical

**DOC POMUS** and Mort Shuman, who wrote the hit "Save The Last Dance For Me," have been signed to write the music and lyrics for a new Broadway musical, which is due to open next year.

It had only a short stay in the charts—going out on April 30.

Six weeks later the disc came back, this time at number 11. This was its highest position before finally dropping out on July 2.

"He'll Have To Go," is Jim Reeves' first hit over here, although he has had several hits in the States.

In 1953 Reeves was voted the number one Country and Western singer of the year.

This week, RCA are releasing a new Jim Reeves disc, "Am I Losing You," which at the time of going to press, stood at number 34 in the American best sellers.

# Christy tour dates fixed

**A NUMBER** of dates have now been fixed for the forthcoming June Christy, Four Freshmen tour.

Promoted by the Vic Lewis organisation, the tour will open with two concerts at the Gaumont, Hammersmith, on February 11, followed by the Trocadero, Elephant and Castle, February 12.

Other dates include: Colston Hall, Bristol (February 17); Astoria, Finsbury Park (19); Free Trade Hall, Manchester (25), and the Empire, Liverpool, on February 26.

Plans are also in hand for Christy and The Freshmen to visit the Continent.

# CARSON—OSLO DATE

**JOHNNY CARSON**, young Fontana singer, has been booked to play Oslo's largest theatre, the Empire, next Saturday, December 17. In addition to this, Johnny will visit Trondheim and Bergen and fulfil engagements in Sweden.

# Jill Day in 'Spectacular'

**JILL DAY** has been added to the cast of this week's "Saturday Spectacular." The programme was originally devised to star just Paul Robeson and Emile Ford, but at the last minute, Miss Day was added.

"Saturday Spectacular" will be introduced by Ron Parry, Billy Dainty and Des O'Connor.

# Bevs will be castaways

**THE BEVERLEY SISTERS** are to guest on "Desert Island Discs" on the Home Service on January 16. Other stars lined up for next year include publisher Victor Gollancz (January 21, Kenneth Horne (9) and Jimmy Edwards.

# We hold back on LP speed singles

**BOTH EMI and Decca**, this country's two biggest record companies, have decided NOT to follow the American experiment of issuing singles at the LP speed of 33 $\frac{1}{3}$  rpm—for the moment at least.

In the States, Capitol, Dot, Mercury and RCA Victor are among the labels involved. Dot and RCA Victor discs are handled in Britain by the Decca group. A spokesman told DISC: "This is purely a domestic development in America, and will have no effect on us, as we can make masters at any speed from the tapes which are sent from the States. We have no plans at present to issue 33 $\frac{1}{3}$  singles.

Joint consultation in the British recording industry would probably be necessary regarding equipment changes and so on, before such an innovation could take place."

An EMI spokesman confirmed this: "We are watching to see what happens in America and eventually it could happen here, although not for quite some time."

RCA Victor's initial 33 $\frac{1}{3}$  single release consists of 25 discs. The series—known as The Compact 33—is in two categories. The Compact 33 Single will contain two numbers and the Compact 33 Double four, two on each side.

Dinah Shore is one of the first Capitol artists to have a single released (t 33).



# SINCERE CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Hoping to see you all in 1961

*Paul Anka*

**THE EVERLY BROTHERS**  
LIKE STRANGERS  
45-HLA 9250 London

**ANITA BRYANT**  
WONDERLAND BY NIGHT  
45-HLG 9047 London

**PAT BOONE**  
DEAR JOHN  
45-HLD 8938 London

**THE VENTURES**  
PERFIDIA  
45-HLG 9732 London



THE DECCA RECORD COMPANY LTD  
DECCA HOUSE ALBERT EMBANKMENT  
LONDON SE 11

# ALL YOUR CHRISTMAS

# This album should suit everyone

Christmas  
**LPs**  
Christmas

**CHILDREN'S CORNER**

These are great for youngsters

- ATLAS TALKING BOOKS**  
Cinderella (EN 10 008)  
Treasure Island (EN 10 015)  
Bluebeard (EN 10 017)  
The Brave Little Tailor (EN 10 018)  
The Sleeping Beauty (EN 10 019)  
Pinocchio (EN 10 021)  
Little Red Riding Hood (EN 10 027)

ANOTHER collection of these wonderful Atlas "Tale-Spinner" book and record combinations have just come my way.

These make the ideal gift for your younger brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews, in fact, any young child of your acquaintance of reading age.

As before, the players enact the story word by word in line with the accompanying picture book. As far as I'm concerned these are all five star attractions and should make a most acceptable gift.

The Atlas Theatre Company play the characters in the stories and leading performers are Marjorie Westbury, James Kenney, Donald Pleasance, Denise Bryer, Maggie Smith and Judith Scott.

It all makes me wish I was young again.

**SPARKY'S MAGIC PIANO**  
Henry Blair  
Ray Turner (Piano); Verne Smith (Narration); Music by Billy; Talking Piano by Sonovox.

(Capitol EAP 1-3003)\*\*\*\*\*  
FOR the past ten years this has been a five-star children's choice on the outmoded 78 rpm recordings and as this is a record for youngsters, what better than to own an "unbreakable" version.

This is a little condensed in order to get it more easily on to EP form but none of the magic is missing.

A very welcome record for children of all ages and I bet there will be a few "elderly youngsters" who will also thoroughly enjoy the entertaining story with a moral.

**A CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL OF STARS!**

Season's Greetings (MITCH MILLER); What Child Is This (JOHNNY MATHEIS); The Secret Of Christmas (BING CROSBY); The First Noel; Wassail Wassail All Over The Town; Hark The Herald Angels Sing; God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen (NORMAN LUBOFF); Hallelujah Chorus (PERCY FAITH); The Christmas Song (JOHNNY MATHEIS); The Star Carol (HILLO'S); The Twelve Days Of Christmas (ED. KENNEDY); O Come All Ye Faithful (MITCH MILLER); Silent Night, Holy Night (PERCY FAITH); Auld Lang Syne (MITCH MILLER).

(Philips BBL7405)\*\*\*\*\*

A STRONG line-up of artists from Philips with this collection of festive songs. I found this to be a nicely balanced album with something for everyone.

I enjoyed every track and there were some really outstanding ones which caught my ear. For example the very difference, in the lyrics, version of Twelve Days Of Christmas, by Ed Kennedy, was very amusing and entertaining.

**JOE LOSS ORCHESTRA**

**Party Dance Time**

**QUICKSTEP MEDLEY:** Anything Goes; It's Alright With Me; Night And Day; You Do Something To Me; Love For Sale; What Is This Thing Called Love; I've Got You Under My Skin; I Love Paris; Always True To You Darling; In My Fashion; Change Partners; Let's Face The Music And Dance; The Piccolino; Steppin' Out With My Baby; Let Yourself Go; Top Hat, White Tie And Tails; I Got The Sun In The Morning; Be Careful It's My Heart; I've Got My Love To Keep Me Warm.  
**WALTZ MEDLEY:** In A Little Spanish Town; Too-ra-loo-ra-loo-ral; I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now; When You And I Were Seventeen; All Alone; The Song Is Ended.  
**QUICKSTEP MEDLEY:** It's A Lovely Day Today; I'm Putting All My Eggs In One Basket; Cheek To Cheek; No Strings; This Year's Kisses; Play A Simple Melody.  
**WALTZ MEDLEY:** You Forgot To Remember; I'll Be With You In Apple Blossom Time; Mexicali Rose; Little Sir Echo; Always; What'll I Do.

(HMV CLP1400)\*\*\*\*\*

CHRISTMAS time, party time, dance time—that's about the natural run of things during the festive season and who better to supply the dance music than maestro Joe Loss who has been delighting audiences in dance halls throughout the country for more than a quarter of a century?

All favourite tunes with the emphasis on quicksteps. Some really lively music guaranteed to set your feet a-twitching.

**NAT "KING" COLE**

**The Magic Of Christmas**

Deck The Hall; Adeste Fidelis; God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen; O Tannenbaum; O Little Town Of Bethlehem; I Saw Three Ships; O Holy Night; Hark, The Herald Angels Sing; A Cradle In Bethlehem; Away In A

Manger; Joy To The World; The First Noel; Caroling, Caroling; Silent Night. (Capitol W.1444)\*\*\*\*\*

NAT "KING" COLE of the smooth and peaceful voice is very, very welcome indeed with what I believe is his first-ever Christmas album.

As one feels an air of peacefulness about this time of year it is good to hear an album of sacred Christmas songs from Nat Cole.

The singer is accompanied by various orchestral and choral combinations and there is a wonderful atmosphere about the whole performance.

**ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL CHOIR, NEW YORK**  
**Christmas Carols**

The First Noel; Come To The Manger; Carol Of The Russian Children; Gesù Bambino; Jesu, Thou Dearest Babe Divine; The March Of The Kings; Silent Night; Joy To The World; Carol Of The Bell; The Sleep Of The Child Jesus; That Christmas Long Ago; Carol Of The Drums.

(Columbia 33SX1263)\*\*\*\*\*

A FIFTY-VOICE choir comprising 30 boys and 20 men sing their way beautifully through 12 true Christmas Carols much to the delight of my ears.

The choir is one of New York's finest and understandably so.

If it is the true spirit of Christmas you are looking for in your music then you shouldn't have to look much further than this particular album.

**RUTH LYONS**

**Ten Tunes Of Christmas**

Hey, Nanny Nanny; Soon 'Twill Be Christmas Eve; Christmas Is Getting Mighty Close; Christmas Is A Birthday Time; Have A Merry, Merry, Merry Christmas; The Happy Time;



NAT COLE . . . he's on two LPs offered for Christmas listening. (DISC Pic)

There's No Time Like Christmas Time; It's Christmas-Time Again; Sing A Song Of Christmas; Let's Light The Christmas Tree.

(Parlophone PMC1123)\*\*\*

ALTHOUGH I have never before come across Ruth Lyons I believe her to be a remarkable woman. According to the sleeve note she organises an annual Christmas Fund over her American radio and TV show "50-50 Club."

Part of her annual drive is to write a Christmas song to help raise money for charity.

These ten songs came from her pen in aid of the fund, and Bonnie Lou, Marion Spelman, Peter Grant, Ruby

Wright, Bob Braun, the Bello-Larks, the Angel Choir and the orchestra from her show join Miss Lyons on organ to recall them once again.

**CHARLES SMART and JAMES BLADES**

**Organ And Chimes**

Silent Night; Joy To The World; Hark, The Herald Angels Sing; Greenleaves; Good King Wenceslas; O Little Town Of Bethlehem; O Come All Ye Faithful; It Came Upon The Midnight Clear; Once In Royal David's City; I Saw Three Ships; O Tannenbaum; White Shepherds Watched; In Dulci Jubilo; From Every Spire On Christmas Eve; The First Noel.

(Ace Of Clubs ACL1040)\*\*\*

CHARLES SMART (organ) and James Blades (chimes) are united in a very Christmassy-sounding album.

I know that many, many people associate these sounds with the season of peace and goodwill to all, etc., and if any happen to be reading this column let me assure them they will find all they desire contained within this set.

**THE KINGSTON TRIO**

The Last Month Of The Year; Bye Bye Thou Little Toy Child; The White Snows Of Winter; We Wish You A Merry Christmas; All Through The Night; Goodnight My Baby; Go Where I Send Thee; Follow Now Oh Shepherds; Somerset Gloucestershire Walsall; Mary Mild; A Round About Christmas; Sing We Noel; The Last Month Of The Year.

(Capitol ST1446)\*\*\*\*\*

**Stereo and Monaural**

A LOT of the songs we hear every Christmas come from the world of folk music, therefore it was a natural step for the famed Kingston Trio to come up with an album of Yuletide material.

As usual they are brilliantly adept at putting their material over on record and, for my money, they can chalk up yet another in a whole string of LP winners.

A very fine piece of musical entertainment from three of the brightest stars in the show business galaxy.

**THE PETER KNIGHT SINGERS**

**Sunday Best**

Onward Christian Soldiers; Dear Lord And Father Of Mankind; For All The Saints; Crimond; Thy Hand, Oh God, Has Guided; Jerusalem; Stand Up, Stand Up For Jesus; All Things Bright And Beautiful; Praise My Soul The King Of Heaven; When Morning Gilds The Skies; All Glory, Land And Honour; Abide With Me.

(Pye NPL 18055)\*\*\*\*\*

ALL those favourite hymns you have sung from early childhood at Sunday school to the present day.

Mr. Knight's arrangements are excellent and only on one track do I have any misgivings. But this is purely a matter of personal taste.

The chorus sung "The Lord Is My Shepherd" to that beautiful tune Crimond, and one of my personal top ten records happens to be the same combination as sung by the famed Glasgow Orpheus Choir—and I know that Mr. Knight will forgive me for this preference.

Otherwise I thoroughly enjoyed the album.

**THE KINGSTON TRIO**

. . . brilliant, they chalk up yet another winner.



My "warmest" thanks to you all  
**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS**  
Mark Wynter



# DISCS

## The best guide to all the holiday records—LPs, EPs and singles

### VICTOR SILVESTER

**Another Party**  
**PAUL JONES:** Varsity Drag (QS); Let Me Cull You Sweetheart (W); The Wedding Samba (SAMBBA); If You Knew Sissy (QS); You Made Me Love You (SET); After The Ball Is Over (V); NENESE WALTZ; Waiting For The Robert E. Lee (QS); Tea For Two Cha Cha; The Jolly Brothers (ST. BERNARDS); The Polka; The Lambeth Walk; Knees Up Mother Brown; Black Bottom (QS); Washington Post (TWO STEPS); For Favor (CHA CHA); The Blue Danube (VIENNESE WALTZ); Joey's Song (ROCK 'N' ROLL); When Irish Eyes Are Smiling (W); Do You Ken John Peel.

(Columbia 33SX1275)\*\*\*\*\*  
 THE dance king comes up with a really party spirited set for the festivities. A rousing Paul Jones intro and linking of "Here We Go Gathering Nuts In May" sets the mood and from there on in it's up to you to enjoy yourself.

Mr. Silvester's orchestra supplies the steady and immaculate dancing beat well known to his thousands of fans.

### SING IT AGAIN No. 3

*Sing It Again; King Of Distiland; Button Up Your Overcoat; Zing Went The Strings Of My Heart; People Will Say We're In Love; I'm Sitting On Top Of The World; Bluebells Of Broadway; Glad Rags Doll; A You're Adorable; Never Hit Your Grandma With A Shovel; Makin' Whoopee; Birth Of The Blues; Take A Letter Miss Smith; Lonesome Road; Luna Rossa; Let's Do It; I Can't Say No; Makin' Em Laugh; Happy Days Are Here Again; Down At The Old Ball And Bush; I'll Be Your Sweetheart; Daisy Bell; When You And*

*I Were Seventeen; Cuddling Down The River; My Good Old Man; High Society; Stop Yer Tickling Jock; Of Man River; Falling In Love With Love; I'm Gonna Live Till I Die; Rock And Roll; Row Row Row; On Ikka Moor; Springs, Springs, Springs; You; These Once Was A Man; 'Arvy Went To 'Ampisaid; Toot Toot Tootsie; Knees Up Mother Brown; Sing It Again.*

(Columbia 33SX1271)\*\*\*\*\*  
**VOLUME three** from the "Sing It Again" team as presented by Johnny Stewart.

There are 38 songs and if that isn't good value for money then I don't know what is.

The team is Benny Lee, Julie Dawn, Jean Campbell, Franklyn Boyd, June Marlow, Roy Edwards, The Steve Race Four, Harold Smart and Ivor Raymonde.

### MITCH MILLER AND THE GANG

**Fireside Sing Along**  
*Polly Wolly Doodle; Wait For The Wagon; The Old Grey Mare; Funiculi, Funicula; Drink To Me Only With Thine Eyes; Vive L'Amour; Drunk Last Night; O Dear What Can The Matter Be; Oh Where Oh Where Has My Little Dog Gone; My Bonnie Lies Over The Ocean; Love's Old Sweet Song; Juanita; Sweet Genevieve; Believe Me If All Those Endearing Young Charms; In The Gloaming; Sweet And Low; All Through The Night; When You And I Were Young Maggie; Annie Laurie; Auld Lang Syne.*

(Philips BBL7367)\*\*\*  
**MITCH MILLER** and his popular vocal gang from America throw in their offering for the fireside get-together.

Most of the songs are international favourites but, of course, the set is slanted mainly at the vast American public who adore this form of LP.

### RUSS CONWAY Party Time

*The Dark Town Strutters' Ball; Oh, Johnny, Oh, Johnny, Oh!; You Were Meant For Me; Toot Toot Tootsie; When The Red Red Robe; Give My*



*Regards To Broadway; Miss Annabelle Lee; Rock-A-Bye Your Baby; Put Your Arms Around Me Honey; Rolling Around The World; Painting The Clouds With Sunshine; Down Yonder; A Gal In Calico; I'm Sitting On Top Of The World; Carolina In The Morning;*

(Columbia 33SX1279)\*\*\*\*\*

**BACK** comes ivory-tinkler Russ Conway with another pile of pub piano songs. It's a must for all his fans and just right for this time of year.

This album should bring a lot more popularity to the young piano star.

### ROGER WILLIAMS Christmas Time

*Silent Night; O Little Town Of Bethlehem; Winter Wonderland; We Three Kings Of The Orient Are; The First Noel; Away In A Manger; Angels We Have Heard On High; Deck The Halls; Adeste Fidelis; White Christmas; Santa Claus Is Comin' To Town; The Christmas Song; O Holy Night; Joy To*

**RUSS CONWAY—**  
 Another pile of pub piano songs just right for the season. (DISC Pic)

*The World; It Came Upon The Midnight Clear; O Sanctissima; Jingle Bells; Hark! The Herald Angels Sing.*

(London HA-R 2283)\*\*\*

**A** MERICAN wizard of the smooth and sweet keyboard, Roger Williams, comes up with a pleasing Christmas album of favourites. Orchestral accompaniment is supplied under the batons of Frank Hunter and Marty Gold who front the Concert Grand Orchestra.

A lot of the material was arranged by Roger Williams himself and he proves talented in this direction too.

### ELLA FITZGERALD Ella Wishes You A Swinging Christmas

*Jingle Bells; Santa Claus Is Coming To Town; Have Yourself A Merry Little*

*Christmas; What Are You Doing On New Year's Eve;leigh Ride; Good Morning Blues; Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!; Winter Wonderland; The Christmas Song; nostalgic The Red-Noted Reader; Frosty The Snowman; White Christmas.*

(HMV CLP1397)\*\*\*\*\*

**CHRISTMAS** has never had it so good. It really swings along when Ella Fitzgerald and Frank De Vol combine forces.

Santa Claus gets really "hip" on this set but it isn't too far out to miss the mass appeal.

Several of the songs are not in the same class as the usual Ella material but after all Christmas is a time of fun and laughter and who cares if the songs be corny as long as we can relax and enjoy ourselves.

I wouldn't be surprised if this should become one of the season's best sellers.

### JOE 'MR. PIANO' HENDERSON Sing It With Joe

*Powder Your Face With Sunshine; When You're Smiling; Let The Rest Of The World Go By; Gilly Gilly Ossenfeffer; Shine On Harvest Moon; Lily Of Laguna; Oh Susannah; Waiting At The Church; No One; If I Had My Way; Ma He's Making Eyes At Me; Stop Yer Tickling Jock; With Plenty Of Money And You; I've Got Sixpence; You Made Me Love You, Sweet; Violets; Jingle Jangle Jingle; If You Were The Only Girl In The World; My Blue Heaven; Somebody; Swingin' Down The Lane; Together; Let's Put Out The Lights And Go To Sleep.*

(Pye NPL18053)\*\*\*

**SEVERAL** years ago I had the pleasure of "singing it with Joe" when he first started making these recordings and I am very happy to see that the formula is still paying off handsomely for this very charming fellow.

For the recording Joe takes a handful or two of favourite sing-song

Contd. on page 16

### RATINGS

- \*\*\*\*\*—EXCELLENT
- \*\*\*\*—VERY GOOD
- \*\*\*—GOOD
- \*\*—ORDINARY
- \*—POOR

EVER POPULAR

# DECCA-GROUP DISCS

FOR CHRISTMAS

**MANTOVANI CONCERT SPECTACULAR**  
 SKL 4138 LK 4277 Decca

### Mantovani and his Orchestra

MANTOVANI CONCERT SPECTACULAR  
 SKL 4138 LK 4277 Decca

**Roger Williams Christmas Time**

### Roger Williams CHRISTMAS TIME

Silent night;  
 O little town of Bethlehem;  
 Winter wonderland  
 plus two medleys and seven others  
 HA-R 2283 London

### MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM

The McGuire Sisters  
 Teresa Brewer Mel Torme  
 Johnny Desmond  
 and others  
 LVA 9137 Coral

### Jackie Wilson MY GOLDEN FAVOURITES

LVA 9135 Coral

**my golden favorites jackie wilson**

**Ricky Nelson MORE SONGS BY RICKY**  
 SA-H 6102 HA-P 2200 London

**MORE SONGS BY RICKY**

**BING & SING ALONG 33 Great Songs 33**

### Bing Crosby and his friends

JOIN BING AND SING ALONG  
 WS 0021 WM 4021 Warner Bros.

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**ELVIS G.I. BLUES**

### Elvis Presley

G.I. BLUES  
 EP 6078 RD-2702 RCA

### Johnny and the Hurricanes

STORMSVILLE  
 HA-1 2209 London



THE DECCA RECORD COMPANY LTD



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STEREO OR MONO RECORDS

# Martin-cool and casual

**DEAN MARTIN**  
**A Winter Romance—Part 3**  
*White Christmas; Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer; The Things We Did Last Summer; It Won't Cool Off.*  
 (Capitol EAP 3-1285)\*\*\*\*

**T**HAT cool and casual romance, Dean Martin, croons easily through four more songs in his **Winter Romance** series. The first two tracks are very suitable for the festive season and so the album merits a place in our Christmas run down.  
 Nice, easy and relaxing, that is the mood set by crooner Dino and the listener will enjoy every smooth note

**RONALD CHESNEY**  
**Johnny's Magic Harmonica**  
*Baa Baa Black Sheep; Sing A Song Of Sixpence; Little Bo-Peep; Three Blind Mice; Oranges And Lemons; Oh Dear What Can The Matter Be; Jingle Bells; Yankee Doodle.*  
 (HMV 7EG 8617)\*\*\*\*\*

**A** FIVE star offering for the youngsters from Ronald Chesney and his "talking Harmonica." Based on the famous "Sparky's Magic Piano" idea, the album tells the story of how a young lad's harmonica teaches him to sing. The adventures of "Johnny" and his harmonica will hold most youngsters spellbound and I'll bet that quite a few parents will be lending a casual ear to the tale as it unfolds

**TENNESSEE ERNIE FORD**  
**The Star Carol**  
*Joy To The World; O Little Town Of Bethlehem; The Star Carol; Hark, The Herald Angels Sing.*  
 (Capitol EAP1-1071)\*\*\*\*

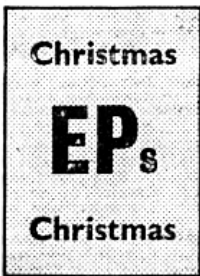
**T**HE deep rich voice of Tennessee Ernie Ford turns its attention to some favourite Christmas carols and, of course, does a fine job on them.

I don't quite know to what age group Tennessee Ernie now appeals but in my time it was the teenagers

and perhaps some of today's teen fans will also like his style.  
 Anyway this particular set will appeal more to the Mums and Dads of several generations, but try it out for size yourself.

**EILEEN DONAGHY**  
**The Lord Is My Shepherd**  
*The Lord Is My Shepherd; Abide With Me; The Old Rugged Cross; Rock Of Ages.*  
 (Fontana TFE17301)\*\*\*\*

**I**SNT it funny how one comes to associate certain singers with a limited type of material. I never really expect to hear Christmas



songs or hymns and such sung in any other language or dialect apart from standard English.

Therefore I was a little taken aback for an instant when I heard Miss Donaghy's sweet Irish voice singing the hymns on this record.

However, once I had accepted the fact that it was quite common for others to sing such songs I found myself enjoying her performance very much.

A good showing by one of Ireland's leading singers of international repute.



**PINKY and PERKY...** normally strong sellers and should do even better at Christmas.

spiritual songs and while many people may object to such material being performed in the country idiom I can see nothing in bad taste about the set whatever.  
 Good stuff for all country fans I would think.

**THE SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS**  
*O Come All Ye Faithful; Away In A Manger; Silent Night; Holy Night; Hark, The Herald Angels Sing; O Christmas Tree; The First Noel.*  
 (Warner Bros. WEP6004)\*\*\*\*

**A**ND the "sounds" in the title are those of the music box, bells and chimes bringing us a real Yuletide atmosphere.

Christmas is all tinsel, bells and a tinkling feeling in the air and this is precisely the atmosphere of this EP.  
 Good for children, good for adults and just the thing if you want to set the mood on Christmas Eve.

Could be a strong entrant in the sellers.

**VICTOR SILVESTER ORCHESTRA**  
**Plays For Your Party—No. 2**  
*The Gay Gordons; St. Bernard Waltz; Two Step—Blaze Away; The Veleza; The Charleston; Barn Dance (The Sydney Thompson Medley)—Honey-Suckle And The Bee, Daddy Wouldn't Buy Me A Bow Wow, Lily Of Laguna, Good-bye-ee.*  
 (Columbia SEG8044)\*\*\*\*

**For All Anniversaries**  
*Anniversary Waltz; Happy Birthday; Twentysome Today; And A Long Time.*  
 (Columbia SCD2147)\*\*\*\*

**T**WO from the immaculate rhythms of Victor Silvester ideally suitable for Christmas presents or for home consumption. The first sets the festive party mood and is good if you plan having a dance or two after the Christmas dinner.

The second is for all year round. If there is a birthday or other anniversary in your family then you'll find the suitable song for the occasion on this package disc.

A couple of winners from the Silvester orchestra I predict.

**RUSS CONWAY**  
**Family Favourites**  
*With A Song In My Heart; Macnamara's Band; Keep Right On To The End Of The Road; Anniversary Song; The Teddy Bears' Picnic.*  
 (Columbia SEG8048)\*\*\*\*

**R**USS CONWAY rattles the old joanna once again in a lively selection of "Family Favourites"

and kicks off with the signature tune of that popular radio request series.  
 And indeed most of the songs are favourites with all the family.

This can't be anything else but another strong seller for Mr. Conway.

**SIR MALCOLM SARGENT and THE ROYAL CHORAL SOCIETY**  
**Christmas Carols**  
*O Come All Ye Faithful; While Shepherds Watched; Greensleeves; Coventry Carol.*  
 (HMV 7EG 8612)\*\*\*\*

**S**IR MALCOLM SARGENT conducts the Royal Choral Society and Arnold Greir accompanies at the organ in a truly beautiful collection of Christmas carols.

The atmosphere is just right and the performance absolutely flawless. Just the thing to give an elder relation who owns a record player.

I can really see this being a standard best seller for many Christmas seasons to come.

**CLINTON FORD**  
**A Closer Walk With Thee**  
*A Closer Walk With Thee; I Saw The Light; In The Sweet Bye And Bye; Jesus Remembered Me.*  
 (Orion EP-7035)\*\*\*\*

**"O**LD Shen" really brought Clinton Ford to the attention of the British record public and he now follows us with some more country and western styled offerings.  
 This time Clinton has chosen four

**PINKY AND PERKY**  
**Children's Choice**  
*The Ugly Duckling; How Much Is That Doggie In The Window; Me And My Teddy Bear; The Teddy Bears' Picnic; The Rocking Horse Cowboy; I've Got Sixpence.*  
 (Columbia SEG 8058)\*\*\*\*

**T**WO of the choicest "hams" ever to grace the entertainment scene are those plump puppet pigs, Pinky and Perky. Previous recordings by them have proved very strong sellers and this will follow suit, especially when one considers the time of year.

Why not slip a copy of this into your young brother or sister's stocking at Christmas and watch the happy expressions on their faces when they come across it?

**IRA IRONSTRINGS PLAYS SANTA CLAUS**  
**Christmas Music For Those Who Have Heard Everything**  
*Jingle Bells Stamp; I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus; Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer; Frosty The Snowman.*  
 (Warner Bros. WEP6003)\*\*\*\*

**D**ESPITE the "icy" ring about some of the titles this is one of the warmest Christmas packages I've received so far. Ira Ironstrings and band beat out a hot selection of Christmas tunes in typical trad band style and as this type of music appeals to the teenagers as much as rock 'n' roll then the album must be a winner.

## HAVE A HAPPY CHRISTMAS

with



THE RECORD OF DISTINCTION

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| MAUREEN EVANS    | MALCOLM MITCHELL |
| DAVID KOSSOFF    | CLINTON FORD     |
| DICK JORDON      | JOHNNY WORTH     |
| TERRY DENE       | ADELAIDE HALL    |
| RAY PILGRIM      | THE RAINDROPS    |
| NEVILLE TAYLOR   | GORDON FRANKS    |
| THE DAY BROTHERS | PHIL TATE        |
| TED TAYLOR FOUR  | FRANK WEIR       |

### INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS

- ROCCO GRANATA  
 DOMENICO MODUGNO  
 UMBERTO BINDI  
 ORIOLE RECORDS LIMITED, 141 NEW BOND ST., LONDON, W.1.

## Christmas LPs continued from page 15

tunes and gathers some friends round him to sing out the choruses.

His lively piano style sets the mood and the voices keep the atmosphere bubbling and gay.

**JOHNNY MADDOX**  
**Crazy Otto Piano**  
*The Old Piano Roll Blues; Ain't We Got Fun; Sweet Georgia Brown; Jealous; Down Yonder; Japanese Sandman; Bully Of The Town; Melody In F; Barcarolle; Three O'Clock In The Morning; Do You Ever Think Of Me; When You're Smiling; California Here I Come.*  
 (London HA-D 2295)\*\*\*\*

**L**IVELY, rhythmic piano stylings by Johnny Maddox in the Crazy Otto vein which should attract a big share of the customers during the festive season.

Real honky-tonk foot-tapping music this which is guaranteed to set any party off with a swing.

**DANNY KAYE**  
**For Children**  
*The Little Fiddle; I'm Late; Popo The Puppet; The Walrus And The Carpenter; Laugh It Off Upsy Daisy (with Dena Kaye); The Little White Duck; Tubby The Tuba Song; The Woody Woodpecker; I Taot I Saw A Puddly-tot; Oufox The Fox.*  
 (Brunswick LAT 8350)\*\*\*\*

**A**N album full of nostalgia for most of those in their twenties who remember when the great Danny Kaye first burst upon the entertainment world, in a big way.

Practically all of the tracks contained on the record have been outstanding hits for the comedian-singer. And many of them have remained as favourites with each generation of children which comes along.

**JOHNNY MATHIS**  
**The Ballads And Rhythms Of Broadway**

**THE BALLADS:**  
*Moanin' Low; Fun To Be Fooled; I Love Dreaming; On The Sunny Side Of The Street; My Romance; Dancing On The Ceiling; I Married An Angel; Isn't It A Pity; Spring Is Here; Don't Blame Me; Take A Chance On Love; The Party's Over.*

**THE RHYTHMS:**  
*Guys And Dolls; I Wish I Were In Love Again; You Do Something To Me; Let's Misbehave; I Could Have Danced All Night; A Cock-Eyed Optimist; I Just Found Out About Love; Let's Do It; I Am In Love; Love Eyes; Love Is A Gamble.*

(Fontana SET101A-B)\*\*\*\*  
**A**ND at 39s. 9d. for the two LP combination this, together with its companion Ray Conniff set on Philips, must surely be the Christmas bargain of all time.

This set differs from the Conniff two some in that these recordings are all brand new which makes the price all the more a saving.

I know that if I woke up on Christmas morning and found this tucked into my hopefully large stocking I would brand the donor as a friend for life.

**MAHALIA JACKSON**  
**The Power And The Glory**  
*Onward Christian Soldiers; The Holy City; Holy, Holy, Holy; In The Garden; Just As I Am; Rock Of Ages; Lift Up Your Heads; My Country; 'Tis Of Thee; The Lord Is My Light; Jesus, Saviour, Pilot Me; Nearer My God To Thee; Abide With Me.*  
 (Philips BBL7391)\*\*\*\*

**MAHALIA JACKSON.** Gospel singer supreme, superbly performs this collection of sacred songs which have been loved down the years and will, I am sure, continue to

be so in the years to come.  
 Percy Faith and his orchestra are on hand with understanding accompaniments and Miss Jackson is in fine voice throughout.

I don't suppose this will really have much appeal, but those who are interested will certainly find themselves a record to treasure for years.

This album is much nearer the true spirit of Christmas than ninety per cent, or more, of the others I have received for review.

**VARIOUS ARTISTS**  
**Merry Christmas To You**  
*The Christmas Song (NAT KING COLE); Santa Claus' Party (LES BAXTER); Winter Wonderland (JOHNNY MERCER); Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer, Mamma (BILLY MAZOUZ); Silent Night (LES PAUL and MARY ORD); The Christmas Blues (DEAN MARTIN); White Christmas (FRANK SINATRA); Jingle Bells (LES PAUL); The Christmas Waltz (FRANK SINATRA); I Just Go Nuts At Christmas (YOGI YORKESSON); Silver Bells (MARGARET WHITING and JIMMY WAKELY); All I Want For Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth (NAT KING COLE).*  
 (Capitol T.9030)\*\*\*\*

**C**APITOL line up all their big guns for this bumper Christmas issue. A bunch of favourite songs, performed by a galaxy of stars, A real bumper bundle of talent

SAY MERRY XMAS WITH  
**EMBER RECORDS**  
 MILORD c/w DINJAN  
**SARATOGA JAZZ BAND** S117  
 12 Great Newport St., W.C.2 COY 2745





# Anka is back with a winner

And if it is Cockney material you want performed who better to do it than David Kossoff's dear friend from television Mr. Alf Larkin.

That wonderful character serenades his drinking companions at the local in the real old time manner and is ably supported by the Mike Sammes Singers and orchestra.

Real good old stuff this and I thoroughly enjoyed every moment.

**PAUL ANKA**  
It's Christmas Everywhere

*Christmas Greetings by Paul Anka; Santa Claus Is Coming To Town; The Red-Nosed Reindeer; Winter Wonderland; I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus; Jingle Bells; Hark, The Herald Angels Sing; O Little Town Of Bethlehem; White Christmas; O Come All Ye Faithful; Silent Night; It's Christmas Everywhere.*  
(Columbia 33SK1287)\*\*\*\*

A VERY fine Christmas offering from young and talented Paul Anka. I was beginning to wonder where he had got to in the LP field, but it is good to see him back again and in such form.

The first side has Paul swinging out strongly on some seasonal pop songs, while the flip shows him in more subdued frame of mind.

Paul opens the album with his own Christmas message and he closes the programme with a special new Christmas song from his own pen.

which could stand playing long after the festive season is over. In fact you'll probably find it becoming a perennial.

Difficult to select special tracks as it is very much a matter of taste and loyalty for the individual but I loved the Dean Martin, Sinatra, May and Les Paul tracks.

**DAVID KOSOFF** . . .  
\* "Alf Larkin" is a name to add in the disc fans autograph books.  
(DISC PIC)

*Home; They Built Piccadilly For Me; It's A Great Big Shame; The Golden Wedding; If It Wasn't For the 'ouses In Between.*  
(Oriole MG20043)\*\*\*\*

**O**RIOLE have come up with some excellent EP and LP material in recent months and this one is well up to standard. The history of the British entertainment business is studded with great Cockney names such as Harry Champion and it is a welcome sound to hear their songs revived in this way.

**DAVID KOSOFF**  
**Larkin Singin'**  
*Wot Cher! (Knock'd 'Em In The Old Kent Road); For Old Times Sake; I'm Shy Mary Ellen, I'm Shy; The Hob-nailed Boots That Furver Wore; Across The Bridge; Don't Have Any More Missus Moore; When Father Papered The Parlour; The Miner's Dream Of*

thinking of giving record presents this year.

*Walk Hand In Hand (Ronnie Carroll); Donna (Marty Wilde); We'll Keep A Welcome (Harry Secombe).*

**VARIOUS ARTISTS**  
**Golden Hits . . . Vol. 2**

*Hold Me, Thrill Me, Kiss Me (Muriel Smith); I May Never Pass This Way Again (Robert Earl); Lay Down Your Arms (Anne Shelton); Sisters (Beverly Sisset); The Cat From Coas Bay (Wally Stott); As I Love You (Shirley Bassey); The Green Door (Frankie Vaughan); Paper Roses (The Kay Sisters); Rachmaninov's 18th Variation On A Theme By Paganini (Winifred Atwell);*

(Philips BBL 7422)\*\*\*\*

An ideal Christmas gift for the record fan with a slightly wider taste than most. The LP caters for all fans from rock to light classical music and this may either be its downfall or the means to success—who is to know?

The artists are all home grown and all popular names with the family.

The songs too are top favourites, or have been in former years, therefore this alone should swing the balance to the credit side.

**WARREN COVINGTON and TOMMY DORSEY ORCHESTRA**  
**It Takes Two To . . .**

*In The Mood; Charleston; The Bunny Hop; Clarinet Polka; Artist's Life; High Fever; Bye Bye Blackbird; Ebb Tide; The Hokey Pokey; Shadow Waltz; La Raspa; The World Is Waiting For The Sunrise.*  
(Brunswick LAT 8353)\*\*\*\*

**L**EDED by trombonist Warren Covington, the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra ("Tea For Two Cha Cha" etc.) swing out with some party dance favourites in big band style which are pretty sure to please.

The band's popularity is still pretty high despite the fairly long absence from the best-selling single charts but their previous albums have proved reasonably successful.

I enjoyed it very much and, as I have said, it is ideal for your party dance.

## DON NICHOLL'S round-up of the best singles

**ELLA FITZGERALD**

"Jingle Bells" (HMV POP 809), four-stars, slick and punchy performance of old faithful. "We Three Kings of Orient Are"; "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (HMV POP 817)—four stars for carols sung with sweet sincerity.

**LONNIE DONEGAN**

"Virgin Mary" (Pye N 15315), collected a DNT and I hope it makes it. Delicate version of West Indian carol.

**LYN CORNELL**

"The Angel And The Stranger"; "Christmas Stocking" (Decca F 11301). Slow, distinctive Nativity ballad performed sincerely. That's the top side—and it's streets ahead of "Christmas Stocking." Four stars.

**TENNESSEE ERNIE FORD**

"Little Klinker" (Capitol CL 15171) is corny, happy bouncer about Santa's pup, not Mr. Faith's. Three stars.

**CHIPMUNKS**

"Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" (London HLG 9243). Typical Chipmunkian adventure with old favourite. Four stars.

**EDD BYRNES**

"Yulesville"; "Lonely Christmas" (Warners WB 27). I liked the modern novelty Yulesville enough to pin a DNT on it, but the label seems to be concentrating on "Lonely Christmas," a plaintive, slow ballad.

**NINA AND FREDERIK**

"Little Donkey" (Columbia DB 4536). A four-star revival which shot the song into the hit parade for the second year in succession. And I don't know anyone who isn't glad about that.

**RAY CONNIFF SINGERS**

"Here Comes Santa Claus"; "Winter Wonderland" (Philips PB 1071). Four stars for old friends smoothly presented.

**PINKY AND PERKY**

"Feny Meeny Miney Mo"; (Columbia DB 4538). Amusing, bouncy novelty from the quick-tape puppet voices. Three stars.

**LORNE LESLEY**

"We're Gonna Dance"; (Polydor NH 66 956) got three stars. British beater happily chanted.

**THE CARSON TWINS**

"Cosy The Bear"; "My Christmas Dream" (Decca F 11304). Three-star disc featuring a bouncy novelty number and a slow, sweet ballad.

**JOE HENDERSON**

"Swingin' Sleigh Ride" (Pye N 15309). A four-star rating for Joe's performance of his own easy-going composition.

**BOB WALLIS**

"Jingle Bells" (Pye NJ 2039). A traditional jingle from Bob's Storyville Jazzmen. Three stars.

**THE PLANETS**

"Like Party" (Palette PG 9008). Twangy instrumental group and chattering chorus to get the party atmosphere. In a special Greetings envelope. Four stars.

**WINIFRED ATWELL**

"Old Pi-anna Party" (Decca F 11296). Typical selection of Winnie's seasonal toe-tappers. Four stars.

**BILLY COTTON**

"Wakay Wakay Medley" (1 and 11) (Columbia DB 4555). Not just an instrumental, but a bright sing-along from Billy and the Bandits. Rousing oldies. Three stars.

**Christmas**  
**POP**  
**Christmas**

**A wonderful improvement on last year**

**T**HERE has been quite a flood of Christmas releases this year, certainly more than last. And in general they're much better, too: more serious approach to the ballads, more melodic. If you're still trying to make up your mind about the Christmas discs here's a brisk run through of the better ones. I'm giving original ratings of the sides concerned . . . some of which have already climbed to big sales.

**ADAM FAITH**

"Lonely Pup" (Parlophone R 4708). Sentimental lilt with kiddie chorus. A DNT disc which has made the Top Twenty.

**JOAN REGAN**

"Must Be Santa"; "Will Santa Come To Shanty Town" (Pye N 15303). A three-star disc, coupling the jingly "Must Be Santa" with sentimentality of flipside.

**TOMMY STEELE**

"Must Be Santa" (Decca F 11299). A four-star version of the bouncy novelty. Tommy plus plenty of kids.

**ALMA COGAN**

"Must Be Santa" (HMV POP 815) another four-stars with chirping children again in evidence.

**EMILE FORD**

"White Christmas" (Pye N 15314), revival in rippling modern way. Three-star disc, selling on other side — non-Christmas item "Counting Teardrops."

# GREETINGS

from **PHILIPS** and **fontana**



...with this grand selection of Christmas L.P's

Merry Christmas (Johnny Mathis)  
TFL 5031 (m) STFL 506 (s)

Christmas Sing-Along with Mitch Miller  
BBL 7345 (m) SBBL 584 (s)

Christmas with Conniff (Ray Conniff Singers)  
BBL 7402 (m) SBBL 582 (s)

Season's Greetings  
A Christmas Festival of Stars!  
(Bing Crosby, Johnny Mathis, The Hi-Lo's, etc., etc.)  
BBL 7405 (m) SBBL 586 (s)



# Bob Luman is back with another great chance

AND SO, OF COURSE,  
**ARE THE  
 EVERLYS**

**BOB LUMAN**  
 Why, Why, Bye, Bye; Oh, Lonesome Me  
 (Warner Bros WB28)

**D N T**  
**B**OTH sides of this single are taken from tracks of Luman's long-playing disc "Let's Think About Living." "Why, Why, Bye, Bye" is a very good rocker written by Boudeaux Bryant, who also penned Bob's recent hit as well as many of the Everly Brothers recordings.

It is not such a smart song as "Let's Think About Living" but it moves compulsively and I have a hunch it will get Luman into the parade again. He is a very solid artist, this Texan.

"Oh, Lonesome Me" is the number with which Don Gibson had considerable success. A rhythmic, rock-a-billy item well performed by Luman with girl group assisting.



**EVERLY BROTHERS**  
 Like Strangers; Leave My Woman Alone  
 (London HLA9250)

**D N T**  
**O**NE of the records the Everlys left behind them when they moved across to Warners, "Like Strangers" is a Boudeaux Bryant composition, a plaintive, slight-beat romancer which the boys duet in typical style. Probably one of the most melodious vocal sounds they have achieved.

Melody and lyric are both so easy to hold I cannot see this one missing the Twenty.

"Leave My Woman Alone" speeds things up with a quick rock chant by the boys, amplifying the title threat. Good guitarish backing.

**JANE MORGAN**  
 Somebody; The Angry Sea  
 (London HLR9249)\*\*\*

**A**NOTHER version of the Somebody ballad from the film "Cinderella"—and it is a very smooth one, as you might expect from Jane Morgan.

She sings the slow wistful number with warmth and an easy, relaxing manner. Backed by plenty of strings.

The *Angry Sea*, as the title implies, is a much more dramatic ballad. Jane tells of the love for a seafaring man which was wrecked by the angry sea. Sturdy lyric and melody.

**THE BOBBETTES**  
 Have Mercy Baby; Dance With Me George  
 (London HLU9248)\*\*\*

**T**HE girl group come out growling with a steady rock rhythm as they chant *Have Mercy Baby*. Lead voice sounds rather like a female Satchmo. Side could sell on its enthusiastic rhythm alone.



The girls composed the flip, *Dance With Me George*, themselves—and they have not looked very far for their idea or their tune! Steady rock 'n' roller.

**RAY PETERSON**  
 Corrina; Be My Girl  
 (London HXL9246)\*\*\*

**T**HE old blues song, *Corrina Corrina*, is sung in rather appealing fashion by Ray Peterson. Takes it on the up-tempo and gives himself a girl group accompaniment. I say "gives himself" because Ray now records for his own independent label in the States.

Strings sweep up the theme for the middle before Peterson comes in to finish strongly, as he began.

The new *Be My Girl* song is taken at a very slow pace by Peterson, making the romantic plea of the lyric for all it is worth.

**ANITA BRYANT**  
 Wonderland By Night; Pictures  
 (London HLL9247)\*\*\*

**W**ONDERLAND By Night was a German instrumental hit, and this is the first vocal treatment. I believe it could be a tremendous hit

your weekly  
**DISC DATE**  
 with DON NICHOLL

for the girl. Tune is good and the lyric is fairly simple. Bryant is given a first-class frame by the Lew Douglas orchestra, using strings and a lush trumpet. Sales will depend hugely on how much exposure the side receives.

**P**ictures is a slow beat ballad which Bryant sings sentimentally to a rhythm backing supplemented by accordion and male chorus.

**JIMMY REED**  
 Hush-Hush; Going By The River  
 (Top Rank JAR533)\*\*\*

**J**IMMY REED with two of his numbers. *Hush-Hush* is a slow rocker which he sings to the girl friend who keeps "yakkling." Group accompaniment is dark and inclined to monotony.

Bass guitar sets the mood for flip-side, *Going By The River*, before harmonica comes in hauntingly like a train whistle. And it is good bluesy material.

Vocal seems entirely unnecessary on this deck—particularly as it is so very brief and so very bad.

**BRIAN MATTHEW AND PETE MURRAY**  
 What's It All About, Eh?; Gee Ma I Wanna Go Home  
 (Decca F11305)\*\*\*

**P**ETE MURRAY and fellow disc jockey Brian Matthew enjoy themselves with a comedy disc for Decca. *What's It All About, Eh?* will please listeners to Murray's Luxembourg shows because it features the record spinner's moronic "Mabel"



BOB LUMAN'S latest singles taken from his "Let's Think About Living" LP.

character. Saucy dialogue between her and an amorous Frenchman at the Palais... with Matthew as the Frenchman, of course. It will get giggles and sales, I think. Talked out to a razz-a-ma-tazz backing by Martin Slavin.

On the reverse, *Gee Ma I Wanna Go Home* is a slight, mucky-taking session aimed at American marching songs.

**DICK JACOBS**  
 Spartacus, Love Theme; Midnight Lace  
 (Coral Q72416)\*\*\*

**T**HE Dick Jacobs Orchestra and chorus playing the film theme from *Spartacus*. Jacobs takes it to a steady

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Gene Vincent



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| Eddie Calvert  | Wee Willie Harris | Marion Ryan    |
| Freddy Cannon  | Ronnie Hilton     | Dave Sampson   |
| Tsai Chin      | Les Howard        | Harry Secombe  |
| Alma Cogan     | Joni James        | Peggy Seegar   |
| Jess Conrad    | Kaye Sisters      | The Shadows    |
| Dallas Boys    | Jerry Keller      | Anne Shelton   |
| Lonnie Donegan | Eartha Kitt       | Jo Shelton     |
| Craig Douglas  | Lana Sisters      | Tommy Steele   |
| Duane Eddy     | Ewan McColl       | Gene Vincent   |
| Peter Elliott  | The Mudlarks      | Bert Weedon    |
| Adam Faith     | Donald Peers      | Marty Wilde    |
| Emile Ford     | Mike Preston      | Danny Williams |
|                | Tommy Price       | Mark Wynter    |

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**THE TONY HATCH ORCHESTRA**  
**"TWO-SOME"**  
 B/W  
**"LAST SUMMER"**  
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**DAVID KINNAIRD**  
**"MAIRI'S WEDDING"**  
 B/W  
**"NORTHERN LIGHTS OF OLD ABERDEEN"**  
 7N 15317 45 rpm.



SEASONAL GREETINGS

TO ALL



FROM

**GEOFF LOVE**

XMAS 1960

BEST WISHES FOR A

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A  
HAPPY AND PEACEFUL NEW YEAR**

*Mantovani*



A Merry Christmas  
to Everyone

**Ruby Murray**



**Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year**

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**Wishing you  
the happiest  
of Xmas's**

**Tony Osborne**

# Modern Jazz

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

## PRESENTS?

# Give him jazz

**HAVE** you coped with your Christmas present problem yet? As always, I have left everything 'till the very last moment. And now, the panic is on!

Actually, jazz fans are probably the easiest people to please. As long as you know their particular tastes. Just give 'em records.

Here are a few suggestions, which I hope will make everybody happy...

### BIG BANDS

No doubt about it, the four best big bands just now are those of **Count Basie**, **Duke Ellington**, **Maynard Ferguson** and **Quincy Jones** (Note that I've listed them alphabetically; not necessarily in order of preference!). Each has a new LP on the market. So if your friend's taste takes in the big band scene, try these for size: "Dance Along With Basie" (Columbia 33 SX 1264); Ellington's "The Nutcracker Suite" (Philips BBL 7418); Ferguson's "Boy With Lots Of Brass" (Mercury MMC 14050); or "The Great Wide World Of Quincy Jones" (Mercury MMC 14046).

Others that come into this category and which are well worth considering are **Swing Is Here** by the Terry Gibbs Big Band (HMV CLP 1394); **Great Jazz Standards** by the Gil Evans Orchestra (Vogue LAE 2234); **The Thelonious Monk Orchestra at Town Hall** (Riverside 12-300); and **The Prestige Blues Swingers** (Esquire 32-110).

### SMALL GROUPS

Here, of course, tastes are strongly divided. Say your friend digs Brubeck and the MJQ. Then choose between the MJQ's excellent **Pyramid** (London LTZ-K 15193) and either Brubeck's **Time Out** (Fontana TFL 5099) or **Gone With The Wind** (TFL 5071).

If their tastes are much meatier, there's always **Charlie Mingus' Blues And Roots** (London LTZ-K 15194).

If I didn't already own them, I know I'd be happy as a sandboy to be given any of the Miles Davis' on Esquire. Either **Workin' With The Miles Davis Quintet** (32-108) or **Miles Davis And The Modern Jazz Giants** (32-100).

### PIANO

The Les McCann Ltd LP, **The Truth** (Vogue LAE 12238) has a very broad appeal and appears to have pleased everyone who has bought it. Then there's **The Red Garland Trio In Bluesville** (Esquire 32-116), or an excellent unaccompanied piano record, **Ray Bryant's Alone With The Blues** (Esquire 32-106).

Finally, the ultra-lyrical **Bill Evans (Everybody Digs Bill Evans—Riverside 12-291)** and the ever-popular **Erroll Garner (Music, Maestro, Please—Philips BBL 7426)**.

### AVANTE-GARDE

If his or her tastes are for this type

of jazz, then Ornette Coleman's **Change Of The Century** (London LTZ-K 15199) or **Tomorrow Is The Question** (Vogue-Contemporary LAC 12228) are guaranteed to keep controversy raging for months to come.

### CONVENTIONAL

For slightly more conventional saxophone jazz, there's the incredible **John Coltrane's Giant Steps** (London LTZ-K 15197). Or **Paul Desmond sans Brubeck (Paul Desmond And Friends—Warner Bros WB 4020)**. Or **Sonny Stitt** at his most superb with the **Oscar Peterson Trio** (HMV CLP 1384).

### BRITISH

If, like me, you sincerely believe that Britain's best tenorman can hold his own against almost any competition, then **Tubby's Groove** by the Tubby Hayes Quartet (Tempo TAP 29) will fit famously into any Christmas stocking. Cannonball and Nat Adlerley each insisted on taking a copy back to America with them.

### COMMERCIAL

The albums I've mentioned above should cover the personal preferences of just about every modernist fan. But, say that your girl or boy friend is just a fan, not a fanatic. In that case, I'd choose something a bit more "commercial".

An ideal gift would be **The Ray Conniff Hi-Fi Companion** set on Philips BET 101—the cream of the Conniff crop on two LPs for only 39s. 9d.—the price of one!

**TV Jazz Themes**, by the **Video All-Stars** on the Pyc Golden Guinea label is another good buy at only 21s. And **The André Previn-David Rose** collaboration, **Like Blue** (MGM C828)

by TONY HALL



MAYNARD FERGUSON

should also please plenty of non-purists.

Ray Charles is just about the most electrifying in-person performer on the jazz scene today. Choose between **Ray Charles In Person** (London HA-K2284) and, in more subdued mood, **The Genius Hits The Road** (HMV CLP1387). This is the LP from which comes his American hit single, **Georgia On My Mind**.

A special mention should also be made on the most enjoyable and sensitive **June Christy** set since "Something Cool"—entitled **Ballads For Night People** on Capitol T-1308.

With this lot, you should certainly have a swinging Christmas. And one final reminder... possibly the most rewarding records anyone can give at Christmas (or at any other time) are the **Charlie Parker Memorial Albums** on London LPTZ-C 15104/5/6/7/8. No collection is complete without them.

All you need now is to win the pools!

## It's rough and ready—but good

### THELONIOUS MONK ORCHESTRA

#### At Town Hall

*Thelonious; Friday The 13th; Monk's Mood; Little Route To Rio; Oh Minor; Crepuscule With Nellie.*

(12in. Riverside 12-300)\*\*\*\*\*

PERSONNEL: **Thelonious Monk** (piano); **Phil Woods** (alto); **Charlie Rouse** (tenor); **Pepper Adams** (baritone); **Donald Byrd** (trumpet); **Eddie Bert** (trombone); **Robert Northern** (French horn); **Jay McAllister** (tuba); **Sam Jones** (bass); **Art Taylor** (drums).

At long last, the great Riverside label is available again in Britain. And at very reasonable, competitive price—39s. 9d. Their first release features Monk in an unusual and controversial setting.

A classical composer-pianist, **Hall Overton** (who has ventured into jazz on several occasions) was selected to translate Monk's ideas into an orchestral idiom. The band itself, obviously due to lack of sufficient rehearsals, is somewhat rough and ready. But it's very virile and most of the record comprises extended solos.

Monk is in good—if not exceptional form throughout and there are similar solos from **Woods, Rouse, Adams, Byrd** and **Bert**. **Charlie Rouse**, Monk's regular Quartet hornman, was probably more familiar than the others with the tunes and impressed me most amongst the soloists, who all get solid rhythm section support.

Healthy, raw, rugged stuff, **Rootie Tootie** is the most ambitious track.

Anyway, it's the most recent Monk recording (February 1959) to be issued here. And well worth a place of honour in your collection.

### BILL EVANS TRIO

#### Everybody Digs Bill Evans

*Minority; Young And Foolish; Lucky To Be Me; Night And Day; Epilogue; Tenderly; Peace Piece; What Is There To Say; Oloro; Epilogue.*

(12in. Riverside 12-291)\*\*\*\*\*

PERSONNEL: **Bill Evans** (piano); **Sam Jones** (bass); **Philly Joe Jones** (drums).

A COUPLE of years ago, **Ahmad Jamal**, a most musically, but not really "purist" jazz pianist, became very popular in the States and made a lot of money. Since then, almost every modern jazz pianist has become heavily Jamal-influenced. With the result that many today tend to sound too similar. And, if they're not on a Jamal "kick" they're "soul" players.

That's one reason why **Bill Evans** (formerly with Miles) is such a wonderfully refreshing player. He is probably the most lyrical pianist in jazz today. So sensitive—yet still a swinger when he wants to be. Though not a hard, relentless one.

He is a romantic. But not in the Brubeck interpretation of the word. I sincerely suggest, if you buy this record, that you will stay with **Peace Piece** for a long time to come. It's an unaccompanied, heavily modern, classically-influenced improvisation. But it is BEAUTIFUL!

Bill is at his best, I believe, on the ballads. But the medium and up tempos swing along lightly, though far from politely. **Sam** and **Philly Joe** provide constantly stimulating support.

Listen to this record. As I said, Evans is such a refreshing player.

# A CHRISTMAS FABLE



There was an old woman who lived in a shoe  
Which rumour per-suedes was a luminous blue  
And moreover contained such a plentiful crew  
Of young rockers she did not know what to do.

**O**FTEN, this old woman—name of Widow Twangy—would be heard to complain that she was feeling the pinch. That despite her industry and ingenuity, she was down on her uppers. That the young rockers whom she accommodated in her shoe, and for whom she “worked and slaved, morning ‘till night,” were not proving to be the pillars of comfort and assistance to her in her old age that she had anticipated.

On the particular morning which we are concerned she was in a mighty rage, storming from heel to toe, brandishing a wad of bills before the eyes of each terrified young singer, and exclaiming at the top of her voice

*This pedestrian life is getting too tough*

*A mere forty per cent isn't nearly enough*

*And if you heels don't make me a little more loot,*

*'Pon my sole, I regret you'll be getting the boot!*

**T**HE sound of her fury penetrated to the darkest shadows of the blue suede shoe, and the young rockers whispered among themselves, huddled in corners, ashamed that their silvery haired old Ma, who had done so much for them, should be so wild on their account.

Eager to help, however, they swallowed their pride, steeled themselves against her anger, and one by one, they nervously approached her to sign the paper she thrust before them. Each one knew that the shoe must go on, come what may.

Only one of her boys did not step forward—young Sonny Simple (known to all his fans as Sonny Simple of the Convex Dimples) remained where he was, sitting in the heel of the shoe.

He could not bear to consider all that Ma had done for him, all the trouble she had gone to on his behalf,

## by JACK 'Scrooge' GOOD

without feeling utterly ashamed that his record “Ugh” had only climbed to the 332nd spot on the hit parade. That his show in the Outer Hebrides—which everybody had forecast would be his big break—had been very meagerly attended.

But all he had in the world was his guitar. Ma, he knew, would never ask him to part with it, for she knew how he loved to hold it and polish it and so on.

It's no good, he said to himself, it's no good, I'll never be big time and do the things my Daddy never done, I haven't enough faith in my own lack of ability.

Thus despairing, Sonny resolved to creep away and hock his guitar at the local pop-shop.

*Fondly fing'ring the frets and feeling forlorn*

*Sonny said "Here's a geezer I'm wishful to pawn—*

*How much at the most are you willing to pay?*

*Man: I wouldn't take THAT if you gave it away.*

*Sonny: But man it's the most—and I'm desperate for dough*

*Man: Ain't nothin' shakin'—so go, Daddy, Go.*

**S**ADLY Sonny Simple walked out of the shop, and, determined to hang up his rock 'n' roll shoes, he went off into the woods and dug a deep hole. Man he really dug that hole. Ceremoniously he buried his guitar, shedding a bitter tear.

He covered his old faithful friend with the cold earth, musing that

### Pop Panto

The Cast?

Cinderella.....Tommy Bruce  
Widow Twangy... Duane Eddy  
Captain Hook.....Johnny Kidd  
The Pirates.....The Pirates  
Peter Pin.....Jess Conrad  
Windy.....The Big Burper  
The Leader of the Lost Boys.....Vince Taylor  
Mr. and Mrs. Darling...Marty and Joyce Wilde  
Red Riding Hood.....Red Price  
The Big Bad Wolf...Billy Fury  
Grandma.....Don Lang  
Prince Charming...Wee Willie Harris  
Scrooge.....Jack Good  
Tiny Tim.....Cherry Wainer

### Greetings To All

and may we have

**MORE and MORE and MORE**

BRITISH Hit Records

during 1961

**NORRIE PARAMOR**

Exclusively Columbia Records

### Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas

from

**LARRY PARNES**

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37/39 OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.1

### IT'S YOU THAT I LOVE .....

so have a very happy Christmas!

**MARION RYAN**

### MENU

BROWN WINDSOR SOUP  
MEAT LOAF SALAD or BOILED COD  
CHOICE OF SEMOLINA FLAVOURED GOO  
COFFEE TYPE HOT WATER

Folks—don't eat this—eat LPs.  
They're good for you!

GET LPs TODAY

... I never eat anything else ...!

SIGNED **Peter Sellers** E. ACTON

TO "DISC" READERS and OUR MANY FRIENDS in the MUSIC BUSINESS

**"A Very Happy Christmas"**

from ALL AT SOUTHERN MUSIC  
8 DENMARK STREET, W.C.2

**Sonny:** *Hey let me go. What chew trying to do?*

**Giant:** *My boy, I can see something different in you—We'll teach you to dance, get you suitably dressed, And Presto! On screen you'll look just like the rest. I have twenty-three blackbirds exactly the same, You'll make twenty-four—but you'll have to be tame. So get in with the others and get baked in my pie.*

**Sonny:** *But I want to stay different, just give me a try— I promise you'll find there is nothing I lack.*

**Giant:** *Stay by this phone, son, I'll ring you right back. With that the Giant vanished and Sonny is still waiting.*

**MORAL:** — Everything comes to him who waits—especially old age.



ADAM FAITH (left) chats to the producer of "Face To Face," Hugh Burnett, before the interview. (DISC Pic)

# 'FACE'—A TRIUMPH FOR FAITH

ADAM FAITH came through one of the toughest ordeals ever to confront a teenage pop star when he was interviewed by John Freeman on the BBC TV programme, "Face To Face" last Sunday.

This is the programme that has presented such famous personalities as Gilbert Harding and Lord Reith, but Adam was not the least bit overawed, nor was he the inarticulate pop star that many people must have been expecting.

In fact, his performance was so sincere and composed that there can be no doubt that he did the whole of the music business a great service, for few people could have watched the programme without admiring the modesty and the honesty of someone who had "only" really been in the business a year.

Said Adam afterwards: "It wasn't really a big ordeal. I was very comfortable and relaxed. More so than when I'm going on stage.

## Just chatted

"I'd never met John Freeman before the interview though I've watched 'Face To Face' several times. I met him about a quarter of an hour before the programme began.

"We just chatted, and I didn't know what I would be asked. But he has a talent for putting people at ease."

Only one of the questions surprised him.

"That was the last one, because Mr. Freeman said 'Finally' before asking it, and I had no idea the time had gone so quickly."

Frankness and sincerity—two of the qualities Adam said he wanted to be admired for—were evident in his replies. For instance, he politely corrected Freeman on the subject of his records, mentioning the three unsuccessful singles as well as the hits. And when Freeman talked about Adam's "house" in Acton, Adam quickly stressed that it was only a flat and part of a council estate.

## The Interview

This is part of the interview between Adam Faith and John Freeman.

Freeman: What do you like best about it (being a star)?

Faith: First and foremost, I like the independence. I like the glamour, I like the feel of the audience, and I like the luxury.

Freeman: Do you choose your own songs that you record or does your manager choose them for you?

Faith: No, I choose all the material. Freeman: So the success and failures—there aren't any so far—but still, that's your responsibility?

Faith: Yes. Freeman: How hard do you work? I mean—when did you last have a week off?

Faith: Well, it wasn't so long ago actually. I went to Spain for six days, maybe 10 weeks ago.

Freeman: Is that the only holiday you've had this year?

Faith: Apart from a few odd days, yes.

Freeman: Now this does seem a very heavy work cycle. It can't be just making seven records.

Faith: Oh, no. I takes maybe a few hours in a recording studio to cut a disc. But travelling takes up a lot of the time. When you're on one-night stands, we work. I get to the theatre at 7.30 and leave at 10.30, then go to the hotel, sleep, get up the next morning and travel the whole day to the next venue.

Freeman: How many times do you have to sign your autograph a week, do you know?

Faith: Well, I counted one week, and I kept it up for three days and it was over 700, so I gave it up then.

Freeman: Do you make friends among your fans?

Faith: A few of them, but the trouble with that is I'm never at one place long enough to get familiar with them, so it's very difficult.

Freeman: Would you like to marry?

Faith: Eventually, yes.

Freeman: But not yet?

Faith: No.

## Classical music

Freeman: Do you enjoy music when you're not working?

Faith: Oh, yes, all the time.

Freeman: The newspaper cuttings say that you like classical music. Now is that just a story or is it true?

Faith: Most of it—what you read in the newspapers—is true, if not, just slightly exaggerated. But I do enjoy classical music.

Freeman: What particular composer?

Faith: Sibelius and Dvorak I enjoy very much, Tchaikovsky I like.

Freeman: Do you read a lot?

Faith: Fair amount, yes. As much as I can.

Freeman: Again, any particular tastes?

Faith: Well, it varies again. I've read some of Huxley's books.

Freeman: What's the most valuable lesson you've learned in this year that you've had?

Faith: Well, I've become more tolerant to advice over this past year, because I came into show business knowing completely nothing and I only know just a little bit more now, and you need people to tell you where you're going wrong. You must have them to tell you, I've relied on people to help me and it's overflowed into my personal life.

Freeman: Well now, let me ask you one last question. What is quite certain is that whether the teenagers copy you or not, you are very much admired by millions of teenagers. Now if you could say it for yourself, what are the qualities you would most like to be admired for?

Faith: Sincerity. Being an individual—I think all teenagers should try to be individualists—and let me see, there are so many different things I'd like people to like me for. But I think that being an individual, being sincere and being frank with other people are the most important things.

# TRAD JAZZ

# Yes, I liked Acker

**ACKER'S EARLY DAYS**  
Johnny Bastable's Chosen Seven  
*Travelling Blues; Ad Lib Blues; Don't Go Way Nobody; Dippermouth Blues; Storyville Blues; Come On And Stomp, Stomp, Stomp.*  
Bob Wallis And The Storyville Jazzmen  
Featuring Hugh Rainey  
*Low-east-ans-a; High Society; Snag It; Sing On; Tartan Socks; Red Wing.*  
(77 Records 77 LEU 121)\*\*\*

IT will come as a surprise to many readers to hear that I enjoyed this more than either the recent Bob Wallis or the latest Acker Bilk. The later recordings are more musical, but they lack completely the "guts" and vitality of these Seventy Seven recordings. There was a certain "robustness" about the Colyer/Bilk/Wallis/Hugh Rainey jazz scene three years ago that has not successfully

You can hear Ray Foxley's piano on the Bastable sides, in effect the Colyer band with Ken Sims on trumpet. And the banjo is kept down to a reasonable level on much of the Wallis tracks, except perhaps behind Bob's gruff vocal on the lovely *Low-east-ans-a* where Hugh Rainey comes to the fore. And amazingly enough, someone has managed to get a bass player on wax and keep the tone and notes there.

**LOUIS ARMSTRONG**  
*My Good Old Good Ones*  
*Once In A While; Fireworks; My Monday Date; You Made Me Love You.*  
(Fontana TFE 17298)\*\*\*\*

A HANDY little EP for anyone who hasn't yet got all the Hot Fives, Hot Sevens and Savoy Ball-room Fives he ought to have. The first and last tracks were made with Dodds and the middle two with Jimmy Strong and Fred Robinson.

Folk tend to think the boys got into a studio and jammed their way through a half dozen numbers. But that just wasn't true. There's plenty of working out to get your teeth into on both *Fireworks* and *Monday Date*.

*Fireworks*, particularly, has a delightful bell-like passage. *Monday Date*, the Earl Hines composition, has delightful sub-toned clarinet behind Louis's solo; a clever, but not too clever ending.

Yes, there's a lot more to these than appears on first playing. The reason is that there's so much jazz poured out in such a short space of time that it's only after concentrated listening that you notice the bridge passages, the harmonies, the breaks, the intros, the endings, the stop chords, the arranged concerted passages.

## BROTHER BONES AND HIS SIDEMEN

*Sweet Georgia Brown; Margie; Poor Butterfly; Russia.*  
(Orion EP-7031)\*\*\*

BROTHER BONES and his Sidemen get dangerously near to swinging in places. Most of the time, however, they sound like some weak Continental near-jazz band of the middle thirties. And you know how dire they were.

Not to grumble though because I don't think they intended to play anything very hot. It just happens that when you play good "swinging" tunes of the twenties and you relax and you don't have to prove anything it often comes out better than the forced music of the "aren't we great jazzmen" sessionaires.

Bones plays the bones and presumably whistles. The personnel lists over 20 names, some of whom might be present. Only one means anything and that's Joe Darensbourg, ex-Kid Ory clarinetist. But I don't think he actually plays on this.

## Reviewed by

Owen Bryce



been captured elsewhere on record. By the way, in case you did not realise, Acker Bilk plays in all these tracks, hence the title.

The faults are all musical. Faults of intonation, faults of harmony, faults of tone. As regards balance they are a hundred times better than the recent Ashman, Bilk, Wallis, Lightfoot, Colyer "commercially" pressed records.

Don't forget to tell him he will enjoy "Rugby World" it's the great new magazine for all rugby enthusiasts  
P.S. Even better - buy him a copy. It's on sale at all paper shops for two shillings

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# WHO WHERE WHEN

Week commencing Sunday, December 18

Grosvenor Ballroom:	AYLESBURY Acker Bilk (Tues.).
Roof-top Room:	BELFAST Elaine Delmar (Wk.).
Locarno:	BIRMINGHAM Billy Tennant (Fri.).
Tigers Head:	CATFORD Acker Bilk (Wed.).
Odeon:	CHELMSFORD Emile Ford, Bobby Deacon (Sun.).
Regal:	COLCHESTER Chris Barber (Sun.).
New Theatre:	CREWE Ricky Valance (Wk.).
Town Hall:	DEWSBURY Humphrey Lyttelton (Thurs.).
Theatre Royal:	DUBLIN The Sovereigns (Wk.).
Monaco Ballroom:	FARNWORTH The Avons (Thurs.-Sat.).
St. George's Ballroom:	HINCKLEY Acker Bilk (Fri.).
Ranch House:	ILFORD Davy Jones (Wk.).
Top Ten Club:	LIVERPOOL Michael Cox (Wk.).
Town Hall, St. Pancras:	LONDON Humphrey Lyttelton (Fri.).
Jazzshows Jazz Club:	Acker Bilk (Mon.).
Town Hall, Ealing:	Acker Bilk (Thurs.).
Marquee:	Chris Barber (Wed.).
Southern Sporting and Palace Theatre Clubs:	MANCHESTER Craig Douglas (Wk.).
Cabaret Club circuit:	Hi Fi's, Joan Small (Wk.).
Hulme circuit:	Kenny Lynch (Wk.).
Empress Cabaret Club:	Terry Dene (Wk.).
Casino:	ROCHESTER Danny Rivers, Ricky Wayne, Wild Ones (Fri.).
Guildhall:	SOUTHAMPTON Ken Mackintosh (Thurs.).
Assembly Hall:	TONBRIDGE WELLS Chris Barber (Fri.).
Adelphi:	WEST BROMWICH Nelson Keene (Mon.).
Scala:	WOLVERHAMPTON Nelson Keene (Tues.).

# Now a Yank writes panto



## Teddy Johnson

WRITES FOR YOU

LAST week-end American screen writer Tom Boyd flew into London on six weeks leave from his film studio in Hollywood. He is here for the opening of his "panto-for-adults" at the Theatre Royal, Stratford, London, on Boxing Day.

An American writing a panto? A new unhackneyed theme for panto too? Yes, it is surprising to see Cinderella, Mother Goose, etc., supplanted. But then Tom is a surprising young man.

At 28 he is a top flight film and TV writer—and he first got the idea of making the Mark Twain classic "Tom Sawyer" into a panto when he was studying some years back.

All credit to the adventurous Theatre Workshop for giving this musical about Tom its world premiere... they launched Lionel Bart's "Fings Ain't Wot They Used T' Be," "The Hostage" and "Taste Of Honey," among others.

### RCA AND THAT

#### HMV DOG

AN interesting fact I discovered the other day as a result of a query from a reader was that rival disc labels RCA and HMV have the same trade mark in America—that of the famous listening dog. Over here, of course, RCA are issued by Decca, and use a different identity motif.

According to Julian Lewis Watkins in his book "The One Hundred Greatest Advertisements" (Dover in America—Constable in London) the idea for the HMV label "was the inspiration of Francis Barraud, an English painter. One day his dog Nipper... sat hunched before a talking machine listening quizzically to the voices coming from the horn. Nipper's pose caught the eye of his

master... and one of the greatest trade marks in the world was born. Barraud gave it the title which has never been changed "His Master's Voice" and sold the English rights to the Gramophone Company, London.

In 1901, the Victor Talking Machine Company acquired the American rights to the painting and adopted it as its trade mark.

### DAN MAKES A FORECAST

LOOKING for the next Duane Eddy hit? Then take the tip of Dan Dailey—singer, dancer, humorist.

This "Just Man" of TV writes from his 30,000 acres of ranchland in California that Duane has made a smash version of the title theme music from Dan's next Columbia Picture release, "Pepe."

This George Sidney production is due to be seen here "around the turn of the year," says Dan... and it co-stars that fabulous comedian from "Around The World In 80 Days," the Mexican Catinflas.

### WELL-EARNED HOLIDAY

PEARL and I are off to Switzerland for a well-earned holiday... and taking in the snow on the mountains, and the sunshine by the lake is something we shall greatly appreciate.

Pearl is already looking up the latest styles in ski-wear... me? I'm looking for somewhere to relax pleasantly... I shall not read a paper, hear a record, turn on the radio... and the TV doesn't start until 8.30 in the evening.

This is living... well, just for a few days—anyway.

# TRAD JAZZ NEWS by Owen Bryce

## Illness hits our bands

ILLNESS is unfortunately still in the news around the trad bands. After 10 days in a coma Bob Wallis' drummer Kenny Buckner finally regained consciousness last Thursday. He had been out since November 28. Poor Teddy was unable to speak and early this week was completely paralysed down one side. Doctors are still trying to find out why and how. A benefit night is being planned for him sometime in January.

On Friday, December 2, Eric Silk trombonist Alan Dean fell ill and was duly rushed to Enfield Hospital. He was operated on the same night for appendicitis. Gordon Blundy, who left Mike Daniels' Band two months back, is currently depping for him.

The Silk band can be heard at Jazzshows Jazz Club on Friday, December 16, and at Colyer's Club on the 18th. They play a private dance at Dunmow on the 17th and an annual affair at Greenways School, Uxbridge, on the 19th.

Eric is still without a vocalist since Patti Clarke left in October. According to Dad Silk, who manages the band, "Eric's not really looking for anyone else at the moment."

## Owen Bryce

Me? After doing well over a hundred miles I was stopped by two trees which blew down in front of me less than half a mile from home. All the same, 800 yards in evening dress shoes through six inches of water at 4 a.m. isn't my idea of fun!

★ ★ ★

FOLK singer Steve Benbow is doing well for himself. He has two singles out on Parlophone, "The Amateur Whiteshaver" and "Seven Gypsies" and "O'Rafferty's Pig" / "Sixteen Come Monday."

The first two sides are solos with backing by Ken Jones. On the second disc Steve has Fitz Coleman and Denny Pursood on guitars, Jack Peach on drums, and a flute and bassist.

He is doing a Luxembourg spot every Friday at 7.45 with Jack Fallon on bass, Johnnie Scott, flute, Lennie Hastings, drums and Fitz Coleman. The series started in October and is going strong.

The Steve Benbow Folk Four have two "Whistle Stop" BBC TV programmes, one on December 19 and one in January. They also have two "Roundabout" spots for BBC sound on February 2 and 9.

The group also appears every other Friday at the St. Albans Folk Club.

IN spite of the fact that British bands spend most of their time on the road very few indeed were affected by the severe flooding. Jimmy Godbolt said all his bands fulfilled their engagements and intimated that they would have played in four foot of water if required to do so.

Bob Wallis had to cancel his road trip to Swansea and take a train. Charlesworth got through to Ipswich although he had to travel through water-logged areas. The Pete Ridge wagon seized up when water swished around the engine.

Kenny Ball turned his van over near Perth, in Scotland, early last week, but very fortunately no one was hurt. Their day tour took in Hamilton, Dundee, Ayr, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Forres and MacDuff. On the way back they played at Bradford on the 11th and Ipswich on the 12th.

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here's hoping you get the party spirit this Christmas

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**Gordon's stands supreme**

The first two sides are solos with backing by Ken Jones. On the second disc Steve has Fitz Coleman and Denny Pursood on guitars, Jack Peach on drums, and a flute and bassist.

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# DISC 1961 CALENDAR

## Elvis Presley

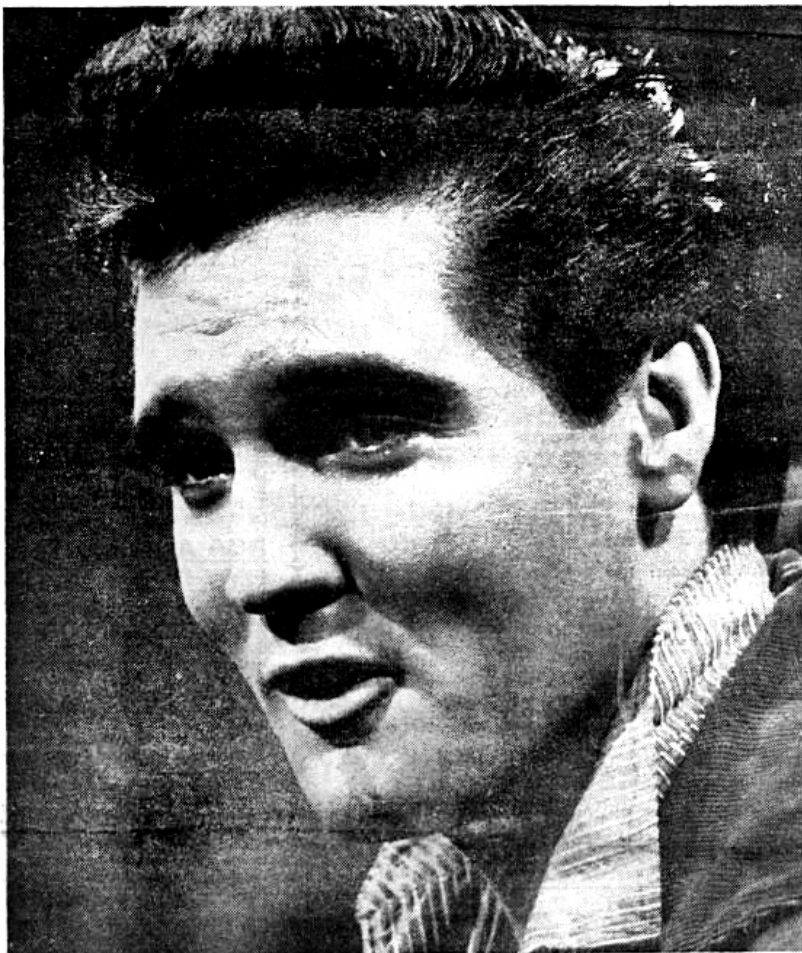
**B**ORN January 8, 1935, at Tupelo, Mississippi. Full name Elvis Aron Presley. One of twin boys, but brother Jesse Garon died at birth. Six-footer and averages around 185 pounds. Likes sports shirts and jackets, pork chops, brown gravy and apple pie, sports cars, athletics, collecting teddy bears, Frank Sinatra, Hank Snow and The Ink Spots. Won prize singing at state fair before his teens.

Moved with mother and father to Memphis in 1948, graduating from high school and working as theatre usher, then truck driver. Made private record for his mother's birthday, attracting attention of Sun Records who signed him up a year later.

Drew attention of "Colonel" Tom Parker, who became his business manager, and RCA Victor, who bought out his Sun contract and masters. Five singles released simultaneously by RCA at end of 1954. Appeared on Jackie Gleason's TV show, singing "Heartbreak Hotel" which became his first nationwide and then international disc hit. More TV followed and then a successful film test for Haj Wallis.

Starred in "Love Me Tender," "Loving You," "Jailhouse Rock" and "King Creole" before entering U.S. Army in March 1958. Demobbed in March of this year. Filmed "G.I. Blues" and the forthcoming "Flaming Star," and resumed string of disc hits.

"It's Now Or Never" broke British records by achieving over a quarter million in advance orders alone. Holds 33 gold records for exceeding the million sales mark on each. Ambition is to be a successful film actor.



### January

#### DATES TO WATCH

Max Bygraves undertakes short Granada tour, from January 9-21. Frankie Vaughan concludes British tour with a date at the Colston Hall, Bristol, January 1.

Russ Conway commences a new ATV series for six weeks on Thursday, January 5.

A radio Luxembourg and ATV series for Cliff Richard, and a concert at the Royal Albert Hall on January 15.

American jazz pianist Dave Brubeck returns to Britain for a second tour, opening at the Royal Festival Hall on January 21.

Johnny Burnette and Roy Orbison, possible for a nationwide tour, also Gene Vincent.

#### BIRTHDAYS

Shirley Bassey (8), Gracie Fields (9), Johnnie Ray (10), Sal Mincio (10), Sophie Tucker (13), Danny Kaye (18), Phil Everly (19), Danny Pughes (19), Joan Regan (19), Slim Whitman (20), Ronnie Hilton (26).

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				