



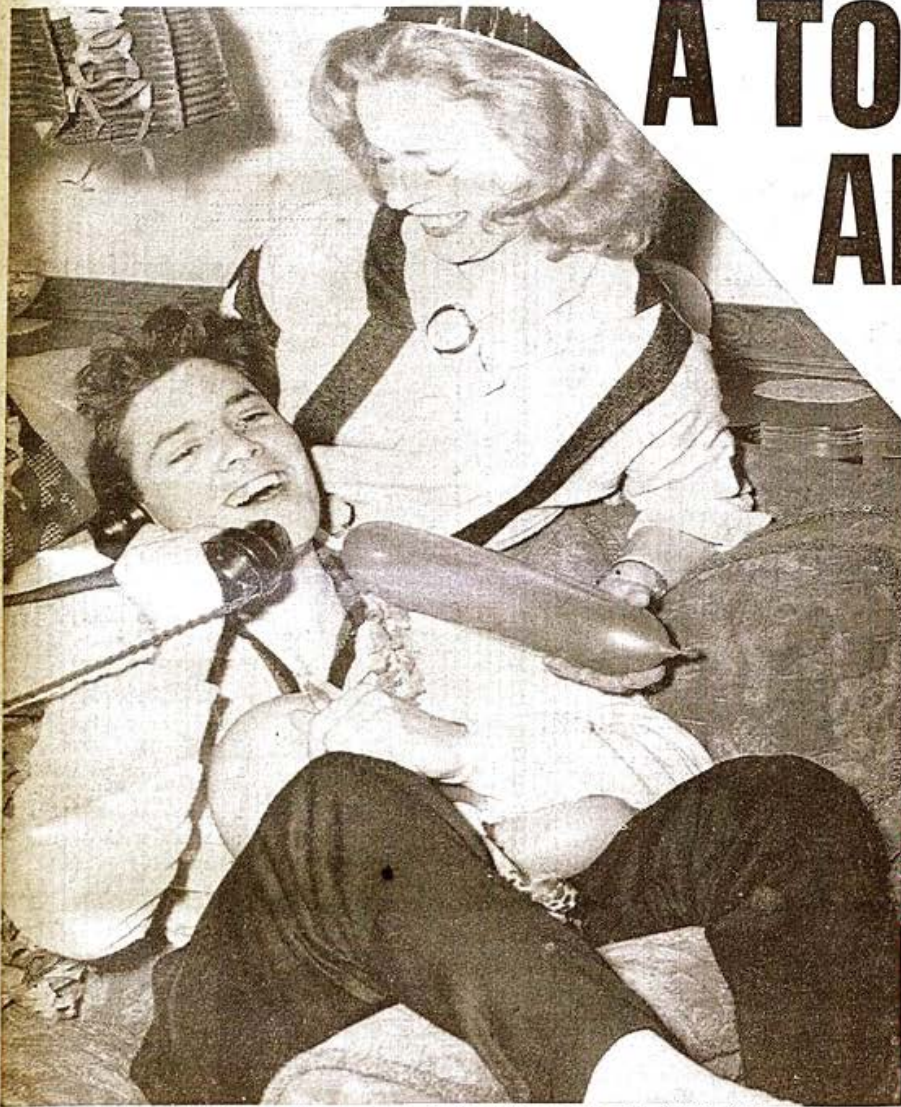
No. 248 Week ending December 22, 1962 Every Thursday, price 6d.

20 PAGES

Field talks about his Golden Year

PRESLEY—secrets of his parties revealed

CLIFF ★ ADAM ★ BILLY HELEN ★ JOE ★ BRENDA



Christmas time is party time for everybody, including top stars like CLIFF RICHARD,

A TOAST TO ALL YOU FANS



CONNIE FRANCIS

Connie tries to repeat U.S. hit

AS we near the end of 1962 here's a toast from DISC on behalf of Britain's musical stars for making this the greatest year yet in pop music.

You've set new records, created new stars and lent support to those who have found international stardom this year. You've made it a great year for pop films too.

So at DISC we raise our glasses to you all and wish you the warmest of greetings this Christmas. And here's looking forward to a New Year that holds even greater promise.

On behalf of Cliff, Elvis, Billy, Adam, Helen and everyone else here's wishing you A HAPPY CHRISTMAS.

'DISC' MAKES POP HISTORY

DISC achieves a notable landmark in pop music history by the inclusion of the colour EMI front and back page advertisements. This is the first time that any paper of the British music press has carried an advertisement in two colours.

CONNIE FRANCIS looks set to celebrate the end of 1962 and beginning of 1963 with a new hit—"I'm Gonna Be Warm This Winter."

The song features Connie in her most sparkling, beat-nal-ladeering style, and has already sprung into the American hit parade within a fortnight of its release.

The value Connie and MGM place on the British disc market is revealed by the fact that a line of the lyrics has been changed specially for this country.

The American version says, "We met in a ski lodge," but for our benefit Connie dubbed "we met on a winter's day."

CONNIE FRANCIS

I'm gonna be warm this winter

45-MGM 1185



M-G-M RECORDS

E.M.I. RECORDS LTD., E.M.I. HOUSE, 20 MANCHESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

E.M.I. RECORD TOKENS MAKE WONDERFUL GIFTS! (6/- TO 50/-)

WRITE TO POST BAG, DISC

161 FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.4

Each week an LP is awarded to the writer of the Post Letter's, and once a month there is a grand prize of a Ramson lighter and ashtray set.

# IT'S TIME WE HAD BETTER VALUE!

PRIZE LETTER

Season's Greetings  
to all my  
FRIENDS and FANS  
in GREAT BRITAIN



PAUL ANKA

Season's Greetings  
from

LIONEL BART  
LESLIE ALAN  
PAUL LOCKEY

APOLLO MUSIC LTD.  
164, SHAFESBURY AVE., W.C.2.

NOW that the record companies have increased their prices, perhaps they will give a little more consideration to the buyers.

There are two things they should keep in mind. First, it is the public who buy the discs, NOT the DJs, so how about making discs a little longer?

Second, no matter how good a record is, one copy is quite sufficient. Why release the same thing again on an LP?—C. GILES, 108a, Pinfold Lane, Cheslyn Hay, Walsall, Staffs.

HE KNOWS

I MUST say "Thank you" to Larry Parnes. He not only knows what the teenager of today wants, but he gives it to them.

I am talking of the fabulous shows he sends on tour, I find that every package I have really enjoyed has been presented by Larry, and surely one of the reasons for this must be his policy of presenting at least four top names on a bill instead of one big one and a few small ones.—BARBARA RAWLINS, 28, Worcester Road, Blackburn, Lancs.

POOR DUO

I WAS most disappointed when I heard the new Lonnie Donegan-Max Miller record. After its build-up, I expected a



good comedy record, but the result has nothing to recommend it. You can't dance to it and there is no tune to hum or sing.

The only thing the disc seems to have to its credit is the names on the label. It is a pity that two such great artists could not have done something better.—MARTIN PETAVEL, 32, Richmond Park Road, Bristol 8.

IMMATURE

IN my opinion the basic requirements of a successful pop singer are sincerity and originality. Many of today's singers are trying to mature far too quickly and consequently lose much of their own individuality.

Stars like Frank Sinatra have many years experience behind them. Even among the present generation Presley, Boone and Anka have five or six years experience.—W. H. BULCOCK, 36, Albert Street, Padiham, Nr. Burnley, Lancs.

THE FACTS

THE release of the new Eddie Cochran LP "Cherished Memories" shows once more the lack of information supplied to record buyers.

For instance, the sleeve could have pointed out that "Skinny Jim/Half Loved" were commercial recordings done at the beginning of Eddie's career, and that Eddie played piano on the first title.

In cases of discs by Cochran, Hank Williams and Buddy Holly, recording times and information on the backing group is very interesting and should be given.—JIM NEWCOMBE, 56, Graham Street, St. Helens, Lancs.

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

## The world's top pops

### AMERICA

Week ending December 15

Last This Week	Week	TITLE	ARTIST
5	1	Telstar	Tornado
4	2	Limbo Rock	Chubby Checker
2	3	Return To Sender	Elvis Presley
3	4	Bobby's Girl	Marcie Blane
1	5	Big Girls Don't Cry	Four Seasons
6	6	Don't Hang Up	Orlons
10	7	Go Away Little Girl	Steve Lawrence
9	8	Release Me	"Little Esther" Phillips
11	9	You Are My Sunshine	Ray Charles
14	10	Love Came To Me	Dion
7	11	The Lonely Bull	Tijuana Brass
13	12	Keep Your Hands Off My Baby	Little Eva
8	13	Ride	Dee Dee Sharp
15	14	Hotel Happiness	Brook Benton
17	15	Dear Lonely Hearts	Nat King Cole
25	16	Zip-A-Dee-Do-Do	Bob B. Soxx & the Blue Jeans
12	17	Rumors	Johnny Crawford
23	18	Ruby Ann	Marty Robbins
20	19	Let's Go	Routees
22	20	Chains	Cookies

### Australia

(Courtesy Music Maker, Sydney)

Last This Week	Week	TITLE	ARTIST
1	1	Workin' For The Man	Ray Orbison
4	2	Lovesick Blues	Frank Ifield
2	3	The Cha Cha Cha	Bobby Rydell
8	4	Big Girls Don't Cry	Four Seasons
3	5	Alley Cat	Bent
5	6	Limbo Rock	Chubby Checker
7	7	The Pommy Jackaroo	Buster Noble
7	8	The Lonely Bull	Tijuana Brass
9	9	Connie-O	Four Seasons
9	10	Telstar	The Tornado

### Hong Kong

Last This Week	Week	TITLE	ARTIST
1	1	The Longest Day	Mitch Miller
8	2	The Cha Cha Cha	Bobby Rydell
7	3	Sheila-Tommy Roe	Sheila
2	4	He Thinks I Still Care	Connie Francis
4	5	Return To Sender	Elvis Presley
9	6	Devil Woman	Marty Robbins
7	7	Cindy Oh Cindy	The Highwaymen
5	8	Love Me Tender	Richard Chamberlain
9	9	Two Bess	Paul Anka
10	10	A True True Love	Bobby Darin

### Ire

(Courtesy Teenage Express, Dublin)

Last This Week	Week	TITLE	ARTIST
1	1	Devil Woman	Marty Robbins
2	2	Lovesick Blues	Frank Ifield
5	3	Let's Dance	Chris Montez
4	4	Kid Galahad (EP)	Elvis Presley
7	5	Bobby's Girl	Susan Maughan
9	6	No One Can Make My Sunshine Smile	Everly Brothers
3	7	Telstar	The Tornado
6	8	Swiss Maid	Del Shannon
9	9	Guitar Man	Duane Eddy
8	10	Send Me The Pillow	Johnny Tillotson

### Norway

(Courtesy Verdens Gang)

Last This Week	Week	TITLE	ARTIST
2	1	King Of The Whole Wide World	Elvis Presley
1	2	Loco-Motion	Little Eva
4	3	Let's Dance	Chris Montez
7	4	Lovesick Blues	Frank Ifield
3	5	Send Me The Pillow	Johnny Tillotson
5	6	Ramblin' Rose	Nat King Cole
10	7	Tresko Og Buserull	Gunnar Engedahl
8	8	Jag Har Bort Vid En Landsveg	Ray Adams
6	9	She's Not You	Elvis Presley
10	10	Swiss Maid	Del Shannon

### Holland

(Courtesy Platennieuws, Amersfoort)

Last This Week	Week	TITLE	ARTIST
1	1	Paradise	Anneke Gronloh
2	2	Sheila-Tommy Roe	Sheila
3	3	I'll Be Me	Cliff Richard
4	4	Speedy Gonzales	Pat Boone
5	5	Brandend Zand	Anneke Gronloh
6	6	She's Not You	Elvis Presley
7	7	Loco-Motion	Little Eva
8	8	Lewons In Love	Cliff Richard
9	9	Roses Are Red	Bobby Vinton
10	10	Guitar Tango	The Shadows

### S. Africa

(Courtesy South African Record Manufacturers and Distributors Association)

Last This Week	Week	TITLE	ARTIST
3	1	Telstar	The Tornado
1	2	Loco-Motion	Little Eva
2	3	Kiss Me Quick	Elvis Presley
7	4	Spanish Harlem	Jimmy Justice
5	5	Things	Bobby Darin
6	6	Al Di La	Emilio Pericoli
4	7	I'll Be Me	Cliff Richard
8	8	Ramblin' Rose	Nat King Cole
9	9	Roses Are Red	Bobby Vinton
10	10	Spanish Harlem	Ben E. King

Compiled by courtesy of the American trade paper, "Billboard"

STOP PRESS . . . .

## A CERTAIN HIT ! !

STOP PRESS . . . . . CAN'T  
STOP PRESSING

## RAY BENNETT'S GO AWAY LITTLE GIRL



DECCA  
F11550

CHART CHATTER BY JOHN WELLS

# Backroom boys of disc biz can celebrate now!

**NORRIE PARAMOR** and Peter Gornley, two of the most successful backroom boys in the business, have more cause than most for wild celebrations this Christmas.

Paramor is A and R manager for Columbia which this week has four of its artists in the top five. He was responsible for cutting Cliff's, Frank's, and The Shadows' hits.

The only one he didn't do was "Sun Arise," which was recorded by fellow Columbia A and R man George Martin.

And Cliff, Frank and The Shadows are all managed by

Peter Gornley, who came to this country three years ago from Australia.

Christmas 1962 should be one none of them will ever want to forget.

The Shadows, too, look as if they're going to round off the year with one of their biggest hits. "Dance On" has leapt up from 13 to 5 and they're really piling on the pressure.

SOMETHING'S gotta give in that top four soon.

There's also Mark Wynter coming up strongly, hoping to carry his winning streak into the New Year with "Go Away Little Girl."

When Mark originally cut the disc he said that the song itself would be a hit whoever recorded it. It looks as if he's proving to be right, for newcomer Ray Bennett has also

made the Thirty with HIS version.

Just about everything Ray Charles records these days turns out to be a smash hit and there's another on the way. "Your Cheating Heart" comes in this week at 25.

Adam Faith is back with us again via "Baby Take A Bow," a real break in style from his previous hit "Don't That Beat All."

## CHARMAINE

The Bachelors

F 11559 45 rpm

DECCA

## THE HIPSTER

Cyril Stapleton & his Orchestra

F 11558 45 rpm

DECCA

# Top four stay still

# TOP 30

Week ending December 15, 1962

Last Week	This Week	Title	Artist	Label
1	1	Return To Sender	Elvis Presley	RCA
2	2	The Next Time/ Bachelor Boy	Cliff Richard	Columbia
3	3	Lovesick Blues	Frank Ifield	Columbia
4	4	Sun Arise	Rolf Harris	Columbia
13	5	Dance On	The Shadows	Columbia
6	6	Bobby's Girl	Susan Maughan	Philips
11	7	Rockin' Around The Christmas Tree	Brenda Lee	Brunswick
7	8	Guitar Man	Duane Eddy	RCA
5	9	Let's Dance	Chris Montez	London
8	10	Swiss Maid	Del Shannon	London
9	11	Devil Woman	Marty Robbins	CBS
15	12	It Only Took A Minute	Joe Brown	Piccadilly
10	13	Telstar	The Tornados	Decca
18	14	Desafinado	Stan Getz and Charlie Byrd	HMV
17	15	Main Attraction	Pat Boone	London
19	16	Must Be Madison	Joe Loss	HMV
12	17	A Forever Kind Of Love	Bobby Vee	Liberty
—	18	Go Away Little Girl	Mark Wynter	Pye
21	19	Like I Do	Maureen Evans	Oriole
14	20	Sherry	Four Seasons	Stateside
24	21	Always You And Me	Russ Conway	Columbia
30	22	Me And My Shadow	Frank Sinatra and Sammy Davis Jr.	Reprise
—	23	Your Cheating Heart	Ray Charles	HMV
—	24	Baby Take A Bow	Adam Faith	Parlophone
—	25	Just For Kicks	Mike Sarne	Parlophone
20	26	James Bond Theme	John Barry	Columbia
16	27	Venus In Blue Jeans	Mark Wynter	Pye
—	28	Up On The Roof	Kenny Lynch	HMV
22	29	No One Can Make My Sunshine Smile	Everly Brothers	Warner Bros
—	30	Go Away Little Girl	Ray Bennett	Decca

Compiled from deccas' returns from all over Britain

# SWINGING! Joe Brown picks discs that make parties go a bomb

WHICH discs to make a party swing? When the question was put to him this week, Joe Brown's well-known grin seemed to stretch a couple of inches wider than usual at the thought of seasonal living it up.

"Of course," he said, "a party needs more than discs. But the right ones can still do plenty to keep a ring-a-ding atmosphere."

He thought a while—running his fingers through his cropped-straw hair—then came up with his disc for kicks...

### • storming

"Might as well get off to a storming start by playing Ray Charles' 'What'd I Say.' Don't expect there'd be any ice left to break after that one; but just to make sure—and to get everyone up on their feet and dancing like crazy—I'd bring Chubby Checker into things."

"I'd choose his 'Huckleback.' That may not be one of his best-known numbers—but, man, it certainly sizzles. Really great dancing beat—try it and see!"

"Then another disc that's not been overworked—Debbie Reynolds' 'Hully Gully.' He plays a pretty wild harmonica—and you get singing to match. You won't get anybody sitting this one out!"

### • swinger

"Next—one from the charts: Duane Eddy's 'Guitar Man.' That's a great swinger. By the time you've spun these four discs I expect the carpet will be taking a bit of a bashing—so roll it up!"

"Have you heard Joe Turner's 'Corrina Corrina'? If you haven't, it's a sure bet for your party. A big, beating, shouting sound. If the neighbours are going to complain about the noise, this is when they'll do it!"

"Whether they do or not, let's bring the tempo down a bit. Bobby Darin is a must for any

party of mine—and my favourite is the oldie, 'Nature Boy.'

"Then we've gotta have trad at some time. Give a spin to 'Salty Dog'—by the Clyde Valley Stompers with Fiona Duncan."

Joe suddenly hesitated. He explained, "There has to be something by The Coasters. They are such a stand-out rhythm 'n' blues group—and I dig so many sides they've made—it's a job to pick out one. But I'll settle for 'Poison Ivy'."

"Mustn't forget modern jazz... Though, for party purposes, maybe it's as well to choose a disc that has a bit of pop atmosphere as well. So here's plumping for the Stan Getz-Charlie Byrd 'Desafinado.'

### • contrast

"If you want a real contrast to that, there's the Isley Brothers' 'Shout!'—a roaring up-tempo if ever there was one."

"Doubt if anyone will be able to dance to my next choice—it's too blinkin' fast! I mean Louis Prima's 'When You're Smiling'—to which he adds 'Sheik Of Araby' on the same side. That disc generates enough atmosphere to blow every fuse in the house."

"Much the same could be said for Brenda Lee's 'Lover Come Back'."

"Now I know this is supposed to be about discs, but I wonder if I could cheat a little and imagine that someone had brought to this party a tape of Matt Monro—made when he sang 'I Remember You' on TV."

"It was fabulous; just right

JOE BROWN—A tough guy pose, but he isn't having down the law about his party discs. He's got some swinging tips, though (DISE Pict.)

for late-night listening—and for a party when you want to ease off on the excitement and get a relaxed, romantic atmosphere.

"For the same reason, you have to play a Sinatra disc—and here's where I choose one which hasn't made any headlines, but which for my money is among the best things he's done: 'The Moon Was Yellow.'"

"That makes 14 party choices I've made. Maybe that's not enough to last a party out. So—just to be on the safe side—it's probably as well to lay in a good stock of Joe Brown discs beforehand..."

Dick Tatham



YOUR CHRISTMAS HITS ARE ON



CAMEO PARKWAY

CHUBBY CHECKER & BOBBY RYDELL

JINGLE BELL ROCK

C 205

CHUBBY CHECKER LIMBO ROCK

P 849

BOBBY RYDELL THE CHA-CHA-CHA

C 228

and still the greatest CHUBBY CHECKER'S 'LET'S TWIST AGAIN'!

P 824

# SEASON'S GREETINGS

from

Winifred Atwell



GREETINGS  
TO YOU ALL

FROM

CHRIS BARBER'S  
JAZZ BAND

AND

OTTILIE PATTERSON

Season's Greetings

FROM

JOHN BARRY

AND THE

JOHN BARRY  
SEVEN

All Good Wishes  
to all our friends  
At home and abroad  
from

Jack Heath, Woolf Phillips, Bruce Trent,  
Geoffrey Heath, Adrian Cannon.

BATON MUSIC  
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BATON AGENCY  
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39, NEW BOND STREET, W.I. HYD 1251

# NAT COLE HAS A BALL PRODUCING AN LP

NAT KING COLE made his first record last week, as A and R producer, that is. Nat took the LP session with his discovery JOE BAILEY who will be issued on Nat's own label, KC Records. Nat chose all the titles recorded and the arrangers as well, and said he had a ball and intends to do more and more.

An all-star album has been recorded by United Artists to benefit various agencies of the United Nations. The album takes the form of a musical comedy which was especially written for the LP. It's called "Three Billion Millionaires" and features Jack Benny, Judy Garland, Danny Kaye, Terry Thomas, Bing Crosby, Wally Cox,

Carol Burnett and Adlai Stevenson. It will be released for world distribution on January 1.

Frank Skinner has been signed to compose all the music for "The Ugly American," which should prove to be one of the biggest films for 1963. It stars Marlon Brando.

Pat Boone has a new discovery. He is Randy Newman and his first disc will be written by Pat.

With the signing of Tony Fisher to Smash Records a new policy has started for the company. When it was formed just over a year ago, it intended just buying ready-made master discs and finding new talent. They now intend to strengthen the label by adding big established names.

One of the fastest and biggest selling albums at the year has been the Cadence LP "The First Family," which is a parody of the Kennedy family. Now the other labels have started cashing in on this success, and Roulette have just issued "At Home With The Other Family," which deals with Klenschew, while Laurie Records have a similar release with their "The Other Family." Both are very funny and it will be a major fight over which makes the charts first.

Todd Records have signed gospel singer Sister Rosetta Tharpe to a five-year contract, and will record her teamed with Joe Henderson on a religious album.

Bobby Darin and Jackie Wilson were in great form when they appeared before a star-studded audience at the dinner given by Motion Pictures Pioneers at the Americana Hotel in New York this week.



ONE thousand three hundred well known Thom McAn shoe stores throughout the States are to promote, along with Colpix Records, both the newly styled "Bossa Nova" shoes and the Zoot Sims album "New Beat Bossa Nova." This last, incidentally, has begun to move in a big way.

Steve Lawrence helped write, along with John Lehman, the title song for the next Danny Kaye movie.

SHIRLEY BASSEY — Congratulations pour in after her recent New York opening.

# CABLE FROM AMERICA

edited by  
Maurice Clark

"The Man From The Diners Club" Steve is to be heard singing this himself on the sound-track of the film, and will have it issued as a single on Columbia when the film is released.

England's Shirley Bassey was there to see Keely Smith's successful cabaret opening at the Americana Hotel; Shirley thought Keely was just great.

HITMAKER Johnny Crawford will shortly be facing strong competition from his brother, Monument Records have signed Bobby Crawford and his first single is due out at any time. It's "Good Buddies."

The Highwaymen opened this week at New York's "Blue Angel," making their New York club debut. They were a great success and still can hardly believe all the things that have happened to them since they recorded, as a joke, "Michael Row The Boat" two summers ago while still at college. It sold over a million, of course, and they haven't looked back since.

# Continent is full of chances says Justice

JIMMY JUSTICE had just returned from a lightning recording trip to Munich. He was tired, shaken-up after a Mini-cab accident, but enthusiastic about the chances awaiting our singers on the Continent!

"If they'd only go out there and cut records in the language they'd find a marvellous market," he said. "I cut four titles in German and in January I'm hoping to go to Paris to cut some titles in French.

"I speak a little Swedish so I didn't find the German language barrier much of a problem and working there doesn't differ very much from here. Their system of recording is different, because they cut the

group, the singer and any chorus quite separately, but I found my voice was coming over pretty much the same as it does in the British studios.

"Sixty per cent. of the chart records are cover jobs by German singers of British or American material and they've got some good artists. Some of our stars, like Cliff and Helen, are getting in there and there's certainly room for a lot more."

On the home side Jimmy's current record "A Parade Of Broken Hearts" has undergone a change and the "A" side now emerges as "Dawning." It's come as quite a disappointment to Jimmy, who had high hopes for the original "A" side.

## I'm sorry

"I thought 'Parade' was one of the best things I'd done and that it stood an excellent chance because it's a song that knows where it is going. It has this wonderful build-up to a climax and although I like 'Dawning,' I'm sorry the other one didn't make it."

Jimmy's previous disc, "Spanish Harlem," still remains his most controversial and in his opinion, his most successful. "All right, I know it didn't get far up the charts, but it did more to establish me than my previous records 'When My Little Girl Is Smiling' and 'Am I That Funny' although it sold far less.

"I find that wherever I appear



JIMMY JUSTICE — "We must go over and cut in their language."

they ask for 'Spanish Harlem' and I owe that song a great deal. On my first album I've tried to select the right numbers but there hasn't been a great deal of time to get down to working on it. When you're on tour and have to rush back for conferences and recordings your mind just isn't with it."

First plans for 1963 involve a new single and, he hopes, another hit.

"I'm going into the studios in January. We already have the number which is up-tempo and still secret. I'm concentrating on improving my act and getting a hit in the New Year would be the ideal way of starting it off."

Brian Gibson

Joan and Tony  
Osborne

Wish all their friends

Very Happy Christmas

NO PERSONAL CARDS  
THIS YEAR—A DONATION  
TO CHARITY INSTEAD



# EMI NEW POPS

SILENT  
NIGHT  
BY  
DOTTIE  
WAYNE  
45-POP 1093

# FURY—the forgotten star behind The Tornados



## HE'S BEEN OF TREMENDOUS HELP TO ALL OF US

**BEHIND** The Tornados' tremendous success with "Telstar" is Joe Meek, the man who wrote and recorded the number in his home-made studio in North London. But there's also another name probably just as important—Billy Fury, whom they back on stage dates. He's almost been forgotten in all the back-slapping, BUT NOT BY THE TORNADOS THEMSELVES.

Said drummer Clem Cattini: "He's been of really tremendous help to us. We haven't had much chance to say thank you to him publicly, so we'd like to do it now through DISC.

"He's spent hours of his time with us, working out a stage act, and generally giving all the help he can.

### on stage

"He's come up with some really good suggestions. On our stage appearances together he'd sit out in front at rehearsals and advise on the way we moved, and he helped a great deal with our sound balance.

"BUT MORE IMPORTANT HE'S BEEN OF TREMENDOUS ENCOURAGEMENT.

"Before 'Telstar' became a hit we were just like any other backing group . . . we didn't

really feel we were much better than the hundreds of other struggling groups . . . except that all along Billy had made it clear he was on our side. We found his confidence infectious."

The Tornados also told me how they hoped to build themselves up alongside Billy. "Very similar," said Clem, "to the way Cliff and The Shadows have done.

"And with Billy helping us I'm sure we can do it. The biggest thing will be to develop each member of the group as a personality, just as The Shadows have succeeded in doing.

"It's already beginning to happen in a small way. When we walk down the street we sometimes overhear a fan say: 'that's one of The Tornados.' In time, of course, we want them to know which one of us it is. But that takes time, of course."

Billy took over The Tornados after Joe Meek, who had formed them as a backing group, recommended them to him, knowing Billy was looking for a new group to support him on stage appearances.

"Telstar" has been such a phenomenal hit—they'll be lucky ever to repeat it—but the boys

and everyone connected with them are convinced they're not going to be just another one-hit wonder.

"What Joe Meek says goes as far as we're concerned," said Clem. "We've got absolute confidence in his judgment. After all, he said 'Telstar' was going to be a hit as soon as we cut it.

"That's why we think the next disc, 'Gibbetrotter,' will be a hit. Joe wrote it and recorded it and the sound is much the same. It's not a pinch from 'Telstar,' but it has the same construction.

"Even more important is that Joe's sure it will be another hit. That's it, as far as we're concerned.

"But there's another reason we're happy about the future.

All of us have had some musical training which will stand us in good stead.

"The days when a group of mainly skiffle-type players could make it are over. You've got to have some training now.

"It also makes us feel with people like Joe Meek, Larry Parnes and Billy Fury all helping; just how lucky we are!"

### JAZZ BOOK

## Terrific value

HEAR ME TALKIN' TO YA Nat Shapiro and Nat Hentoff Penguin, 6s.

At six shillings this is a tremendous value. Apart from Eddie Condon's recent cheap edition, it's the best set.

Here are the men that made jazz, that brought it up the river, popularised it, gave it new ideas, fought for it, speaking about it themselves, in their own language. It is taken from interviews, articles, tape recordings, casual conversations.

Much of it is of paramount importance, most of it is significant, and some controversial. The editors have done a great job of work, and the touches of humour that seep in are fabulous.

O.B.

The Chaps  
POPPIN'  
PARLOPHONE 45-R4979

Les Cooper  
WIGGLE WOBBLE  
STATESIDE 45-SS142

John Doe & Co  
SWINGING PARTY No.1  
COLUMBIA 45-DB4946

Connie Francis  
I'M GONNA BE WARM  
THIS WINTER  
M-G-M 45-MGM1185

The George Mitchell Choir  
THE VIRGIN MARY HAD  
A BABY BOY  
H.M.V. 45-POP1095

The Shadows  
DANCE ON!  
COLUMBIA 45-DB4948

Listen to ALAN DELL'S 'SHOWCASE' \* RADIO LUXEMBOURG  
208 metres medium wave • 49.26 metres short wave  
EVERY SUNDAY 8 P.M.

- Next Sunday's programme will include excerpts from these LPs
- OH! LOOK AT ME NOW Bobby Darin Capitol 11791 (mono) stereo to follow
  - I LOVE EVERYBODY Dave Howard MGM-C-909 (mono)
  - SWING LOW The Staple Singers Stateside SL10015 (mono)
  - THE JAZZ SOUL OF DOCTOR KILDARE AND OTHER T.V. THEMES Harry Belafonte and his Orchestra MGM-C-907 (mono)
  - MUSIC FOR LATE NIGHT LATINOS Francisco Cavéz and his Orchestra Parlophone PCS3037 (stereo) PMC1189 (mono)
  - GOLDEN THEMES FROM MOTION PICTURES Ferrante and Teicher United Artists SULP1010 (stereo) ULP1010 (mono)
  - JAZZ SAMBA Stan Getz/Charlie Byrd Verve VLP9013 (mono) stereo to follow

From the STAR CLUB, HAMBURG

# THE BEATLES

Send best wishes to their fans and friends

"We'll be back JANUARY 1 and our new single is out on the 11th — see you!"

JOHN, PAUL, GEORGE and RINGO

Wishing you the Season's Greetings from

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**Al Leslie**        **Paul Rich**  
**Geoff Morris**    **Malcolm Forrester**  
**17 Savile Row, London, W.1**

## Seasonal Greetings

to all our friends from

Len Ridgewell & Johnny Marsden

Light Music Department  
**Boosey & Hawkes**  
295 Regent Street, London, W.1  
LANgham 2060

Christmas Greetings and a Prosperous New Year TO ALL OUR FRIENDS

from  
**BURLINGTON MUSIC CO. LTD.**  
and  
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ACKER BILK—Rehearsals at the Prince of Wales but he hasn't forgotten where he was four years ago (DISC Pic)

## ACKER BILK:

# Christmas wasn't always so good

ACKER BILK will spend this Christmas with his wife and two children in their comfortable home at Potters Bar in Middlesex. There will be plenty of everything that makes for contented living... a far cry from the sort of Christmas Acker and his wife Jean spent four years ago.

Then Acker was regarded for a few horrible days as the villain of his home village of Pensford in Somerset—and it was no pantomime role!

His brother David, now his business manager, told DISC the story a few days ago:

"Almost five years ago—Acker and I were having a kick-about football match at the time—he told me that he was going to come into the music business full time. He was then an engineering blacksmith in Bristol. 'I told him I thought it was

a great idea but I had second thoughts a few months later when I found him and Jean living in a one-room Fulham flat. He was earning about fifty bob a week.

"Anyway, towards the end of the year Jean was expecting their first child and it was decided that she should have it at a cottage hospital near Pensford.

"Acker was working at the time and he probably couldn't have afforded the fare down anyway. Almost on Christmas I dug my way through the snow to the hospital to see how Jean was feeling.

"It seems that everybody in the ward thought I was the husband and had deserted poor old Jean—you should have seen the looks they gave me. A fellow whose wife was in the bed next to Jean's gave me a lift back, but he wouldn't speak to me for half the journey!"

Now, of course, the picture is a different one. Acker's children are sure of a bumper Christmas, and despite the stardom he's shot to, the clarinet king devotes a lot of time to his family.

With the Christmas incident of four years ago now fully understood, Acker is regarded in his

rightful position as the unrivalled celebrity of the village.

Mrs. Bilk may be proud of both her sons, for David too is now regarded as one of the most successful men in show business—on the business side.

Both Bिल्ks are conscientious. They are dedicated to their task of entertaining and providing—one a major star, the other a big business man.

But in David's office hangs a reminder of their humble, small-time beginnings... a solitary horseshoe.

Chris Hutchins

## DECCA RUSH U.S. LPs

TWO comedy LPs which are the current sensations of the American disc world were rash-released in Britain by Decca at the end of last week. They are Allan Sherman's "My Son The Folk Singer," which adapts folk songs to lampoon American business life, and Vaughn Meader's "The First Family" which hits out at President Kennedy.

The Sherman disc—on Warner—was issued in the States on October 15 and is already said to have passed the 750,000 mark and to be likely to top the million.

Meader's LP—released five weeks later—has gone into orbit even more powerfully. Last week the Cadence label reported 750,000 copies sent to eagerly-waiting dealers; another 450,000 ordered and waiting delivery; and a probable sale of 2½ millions.

### Unknowns

Till now both Sherman and Meader have been comparative unknowns. The former has worked mainly as a radio producer and writer of comedy scripts.

A year ago—at a dinner marking the retirement of Warner Records president Jim Conkling—Sherman came up with a parody of "Big Bad John" called "Big Bad Jim." It was funny enough to get Warner's interested.

Meader also came to notice through a dinner—in Washington a few months ago. He did a take-off of President Kennedy—in front of President Kennedy.

D.T.

## Sincere Christmas Greetings

from

## THE ALLISONS (Bob and John)



CURRENTLY ENTERTAINING THE FORCES IN THE NEAR EAST  
Back in January—'til then  
"I'LL CROSS MY FINGERS"

FONTANA 267255

FOSTERS AGENCY • PICCADILLY HOUSE • LONDON • W.1

# HELEN: SHE'S FULL OF HER NEW HOME



## Big party plans

**HELEN SHAPIRO** just can't wait to move into the new home which she has bought in Hendon, North London. When I spoke to her earlier this week she was full of her plans to decorate it, and as far as I can gather she would like to tear it apart and re-design it to her own tastes!

"But don't expect too much," said Helen. "Remember, I haven't had too much opportunity to develop any ideas in interior decorating. But it's fun working things out, and there's plenty of scope."

The house has four bedrooms and is 35 years old. Moving date is expected to be round about Easter. In the meantime Helen and her family are still living in a council flat in Hackney.

### KNOCKING DOWN

"At the moment, the builders are in the house," said Helen. "They're knocking down walls and putting in a new door and porch. In fact, it's all in a horrible mess!"

"The colour outside is ghastly. A kind of red brick effect. However, we're getting rid of all that, although we haven't decided what the new colour will be."

"The house has a big hall, dining room and a lounge which

**HELEN** — She should be moving in around Easter.

### BY JUNE HARRIS

leads out on to a patio and a huge garden.

"This is something I really appreciate, and in the summer I plan to throw big barbecues, weather permitting, with coloured lights all round the house and garden."

"I'm having a stereogram specially built for me. I'm going to have speakers in every room and then if I do throw any parties, in the garden or anywhere else, there won't be any lack of sound."

"I'm leaving most of the decorating to my mother, but I've got all sorts of plans for my own room."

### FITTED CUPBOARDS

"First of all, I'm having fitted cupboards put in all along one wall. I need these for all my clothes. In the flat my bedroom looks exactly like a junk-shop because there isn't enough room to get everything in."

"Then I'll probably have brackets built to take my collection of stuffed animals given me by fans. For the moment, these are just put down anywhere and left to gather dust."

"What I'd love to have, if I've got room, is either an upright piano or a baby grand. If I can't get this into my own room, we'll put it somewhere else. In any event, we'll be having a piano in the lounge."

"And I must get a desk for all my papers."

I suggested that maybe Helen would be better off keeping her bedroom feminine and taking over another one and using it as a den.

"No," she said. "I don't need a study yet. Later, when I can turn my attention to writing songs and need somewhere for business a couple of hours a day, I may do this, but for the moment I find it unnecessary."

### A GOOD OLD BED

"What I might do, though, would be to get a kind of put-up instead of a bed. Depending if I can find one that's out of the ordinary. If not, then there's nothing quite like a good old fashioned bed for a night's sleep!"

"I've decided on a colour scheme for my bedroom. It sounds messy I know, but I'm having a very pale green velvet paper and peach paint."

"I didn't like the combination either until I saw it, but actually the colours are great together."

The first thing Helen wants to do when she and the family finally move in is make friends with her neighbours.

"I'll also at last have somewhere to entertain my own friends," she told me. "I've been to so many people's houses in the past that it'll be nice to invite them back to mine."

"But really I guess that top of my list is a big, big party. A sort of housewarming cum return shindig, because this is something I'll get a real kick out of doing."



## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

and all you wish yourselves

for

1963

from

**FRANKIE VAUGHAN**

*Happy Holidays  
to you all!*

*Love*

**Alma Cogan**

*Happy Christmas  
and all that—*

*Best wishes*

**Russ Conway**

**Sincere Christmas Wishes**

and thanks

to all our fans

from

**SHANE FENTON  
AND THE FENTONES**

*May it be your merriest  
Xmas yet*

*followed up by*

**SUCCESS and HAPPINESS  
in 1963**

**ALAN FREEMAN**

**JET  
HARRIS**

wishes  
**EVERYONE**

all that's  
**GOOD**

for **CHRISTMAS** and 1963



Christmas Greetings  
from ROLF HARRIS  
and friend



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

Sincerely

EDMUND HOCKRIDGE

Thank you everybody  
a Very Merry Christmas  
and a whole mess of blues  
for the New Year

Alexis Korner and Blues Incorporated

### Christmas Greetings

From: COLIN BATES  
JOE McINTYRE  
ROY WILLIAMS  
JOHNNIE RICHARDSON  
WAYNE CHANDLER  
VIC BARTON and  
TERRY LIGHTFOOT

## 'Just For Fun' star Cherry Roland writes about MARK WYNTER I can't tell if he's feeling sad or not

MARK WYNTER, who plays the lead opposite me in "Just For Fun," is the most modest, unassuming chap you could wish to meet—but I only wish I knew what he was really thinking half the time!

You see, Mark has no outward way of displaying his emotions. You never know whether he's happy or sad, because he always keeps the same cheerful front, but at the same time he always regards everything very seriously.

Probably the best mannered star I've met so far (and, believe me, some of them could do with a little self respect), Mark has that wonderful talent of putting you at ease from the moment he's in the room.

The first time I ever met him was a good example of that. You may remember that when "Roses Are Red"

hit the charts, it was decided that Bobby Vinton would be the star of the film. Something happened and he had to drop out, and one day we were all in the office trying to think who could take his place.

Somebody suggested Mark and I agreed. "It would be a good idea to keep the main part to a British artist, as there are so many American guests in the film," I suggested.

Mark was chosen, and on the day he came down to sign his contract I was standing at the back of a rather crowded room. As Mark made his way in he spotted me and came straight over to say, "You must be Cherry—I'm Mark."

From that moment on I was more than glad they'd plumped for Mr. Wynter.

As well as a wonderful voice, he really is relaxed when he sings. There are no fits and starts in his movements—everything is so natural. And you can't put Mark off balance.

When he eventually gets married I'm sure he will make a wonderful husband—he's so considerate. If anybody hurts himself in the smallest way on the set, he does all he can to help—and worries about it if he can't.

Crazy but nice, isn't it?  
MARK WYNTER—looking serious on the set of "Just For Fun."



## TRY THIS AT YOUR PARTIES!

A Christmas message from  
Professor Brian Innes of The  
Temperance Seven.

WITH the approach of Christmas, we fondly recall the many ancient English seasonal party games which we feel should not be forgotten. It is our policy to revive one such game every Christmas for the benefit of young England and this year have selected a game known as "The Three Cocoa Spoons." The rules are simple and to the point.

When the party is in full swing, wager any sum with another happy soul that you will give him three cocoa spoons, to hide and will be able to tell him where he has deposited the last spoon. Give him each of the spoons separately and be agreeable that he be allowed to hide them outside the room.

Having hidden the first spoon in secrecy, the gambling gentleman who has accepted your wager will return for the second. Whilst he is depositing this put the remaining cocoa spoon into the fire—discreetly removing it and handing it to him on his return.

Since the spoon will be somewhat heated, he will doubtless deposit it on the floor.

At this point, confront your opponent with the words: "There it is—you have deposited the last spoon on the floor. Sir, you have lost the wager!"

This trick generally causes much laughter and should win many friends in high places!

## Two smash hits

# MONEY

### Satisfaction is all that really counts

FOR Frank Ifield this has been a Golden Year, but all this success, as I discovered when I spoke to him recently, isn't measured by money in the bank. IN FACT THAT SIDE OF IT MATTERS LEAST OF ALL,

"The only important difference it's made," said Frank "is to give me a great deal of personal satisfaction. Money, never has, and I hope never will, mean much to me. Success is what I've been fighting for all along, but not for what it can buy. It has made a tremendous difference to me, though not, I imagine, in quite the way some people expect."

Reluctantly at first, Frank explained to me exactly what stardom did mean. "I guess that basically I'm one of those guys who wants to be liked," he said. "I'm sure everybody has this feeling to a certain extent, but to me it seems even more important. And the more they like me the happier I am . . . and that goes for all the pleasure I can give people, too. This is what success really means to me."

"When I know I'm making people happy . . . that's what really counts."

In cold type Frank's attitude might sound glib. I can assure you it's not. He is one of the

BY  
JOHN WELLS

niciest people I've ever met, in or out of the business. He hasn't changed personally one jot since he came into the DISC office three years ago fresh from Australia and ready to try his luck in Britain.

"I don't want to give the impression that I'm not deeply grateful to everyone for giving me these hits. They have meant a tremendous amount, but finan-

Contd. opposite



May I take this opportunity  
of wishing you a  
Merry Christmas

John Wells



have brought fame and fortune, but..

# DOESN'T MATTER

says **FRANK IFIELD**

cially, as I hope I've tried to explain, they're not important.

"Look at it this way," he continued. "I'm making good money now, but then I've never had financial troubles.

"I've only got myself to look after and provided I've been able to afford one meal a day that's all that has really mattered. And you know, it hasn't been too tough all the time I've been over here.

"I've not been out of work anyway.

"Surrounding myself with expensive possessions doesn't mean a thing to me. I still share the same flat with a friend and I like it there, so I don't see much point in moving into somewhere more grand.

"About the only thing I have done with the money is to buy some really good stage suits and a nice guitar. I don't even think

I've bought myself any clothes. I don't really need them."

Frank also revealed that, from his own point of view, "I Remember You" wasn't his most important disc.

"This is only a personal thing, of course, but in a way 'Lucky Devil' was my big break. "It was only a small hit, I

know, but that disc gave me sufficient fans to encourage EMI to keep on issuing other records. Norrie Paramor, my A and R man, had a lot of faith in me, but the fans I got from 'Lucky Devil' meant that I stayed in the black as far as the label was concerned.

"The only thing that used to upset me in those days was people saying that if I didn't have a big hit sooner or later, then I wouldn't be around in the business much longer.

"These sort of remarks, I admit, did worry me. All I could do was to try and carry on making what I felt were good records. That's what I hope I'm still doing.

"I Remember' put an end to the pessimism."

But two smash hits have necessitated changes. Not in Frank, but in the way the public now visualises him.

## Hotels now

He told me: "I'm now expected to stay in hotels rather than digs. This is all right, of course, but I'm not sure I didn't have more fun when I was in digs with my friends from the show.

"Now it wouldn't look too good if I left the stage door in pouring rain wearing a tatty old mack and foot-slogged it back to the boarding house.

"They wouldn't like it at all, but I can't honestly say it would make much difference to me. I have had to rough it enough previously and I didn't particularly mind then. But I do feel I have certain responsibilities now."

On stage Frank has changed. From "also ran" spots, as he puts it, he's now become an extremely polished performer.

"But I still don't feel polished or confident," said Frank. "I don't really think I ever will.

"I'm sure that the only reason people think I'm not nervous is because there's a couple of spare inches in my trousers and you can't actually see my knees knocking.

"But they do. I get really terrible nerves every time I appear before an audience. And the more success I attain the worse it seems to get.

## Nervous on stage

"There are times, you know, when I'm so nervous that I come off stage and haven't a clue how I went down. So I'll ask somebody and this can get you an unfortunate reputation... especially if you're told you took the roof off. They just think you want to hear them say how good you were. They find it hard to believe that you honestly don't know.

"Not that this automatically makes things easier. The fans still know exactly what they want.

"On stage appearances they are more ready to accept you, but far more critical if you make a mistake.

"I suppose I should have got used to this by now, but if just one person in the audience is disappointed by me, then I get terribly upset.

"Everybody tells me you can't please all the people all the time... but you can have a darned good try!"

That's what Frank is out to do. "I don't count myself a success yet," he said. "A lot of people now know my name because of my two hit discs. That's wonderful. But there are still an awful lot of people who don't know me. When they ALL do then I'll say I'm a success."



FRANK IFIELD—A toast to all the fans who made him a star... but there's a long way to go before he will really feel a success (DISC Pic).



**KARL, GERRY AND KEVIN  
WISH YOU ALL A  
Very Happy Christmas**

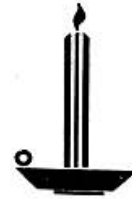
A Merry Christmas  
and a Swinging  
New Year  
to you all.

**GEOFF LOVE**

A Happy Christmas

and a

**RECORD YEAR  
FOR ALL**



**MANTOVANI**

From ALL of me  
to ALL of you

have a

**Merry Merry Christmas**

and a

**Happy, Healthy  
New Year**

sincerely

**DON MOSS**

Greetings!

from

**MIKI and GRIFF**

"ALADDIN"  
Grand Theatre,  
Wolverhampton

**1962 WAS GREAT!  
BUT**

let's make 1963 even  
greater for

**BRITISH TALENT**

**NORRIE PARAMOR - COLUMBIA RECORDS**

# Tornados hit number one in America

**THE TORNADOS** have reached No. 1 in the American charts with "Telstar," and have beaten Presley's "Return to Sender," which has been at number two since the end of November! And Frank Ifield is set for a second U.S. hit with "Lovesick Blues," which has entered the Hot Hundred at 82.

Sales of "Telstar" are now approaching two million, and Joe Meek, who wrote and produced "Telstar," told DISC: "I knew it would happen. 'Telstar' is an American invention, so it was natural the song should be a hit in that country."

The Tornados' follow-up, "Globetrotter" — another Meek composition — will be issued here on January 4, and in the U.S. six days later.

### Ken Colyer in Dors film

**KEN COLYER'S** Jazzmen and the Tony Kinsey Quartet have been signed to appear in a new film which Diana Dors is making, "West 11."

The bands, who record Colyer and Kinsey compositions for the film tomorrow (Friday), will be seen in Soho jazz club sequences.

### Bid for U.S. R and B

**A BID** for two American rhythm-and-blues stars to tour here with Alexis Korner in 1963 is being made by Korner's manager, Ronan O'Rahilly.

Korner's residency at London's Marquee Club ends on New Year's Eve, and he moves to the Flamingo (Wardour Street) from January 3.

### 'Lucky Stars' Janice waxes

**BUNNY LEWIS** will record Janice Nicholls — the regular "Thank Your Lucky Stars" panellist — for his Decca-Ritz label on December 29 for a New Year issue.

Title of the number is "O'ril Give It Foive."

## Faith, Conway, Williams, Denver in Yuletide TV shows

**A DAM FAITH,** Russ Conway, Hayley Mills, Danny Williams and Karl Denver are some of the top stars who will feature in Christmas Day viewing on BBC TV.

Faith and Conway star in the 90-minute spectacular "Christmas Night With The Stars" which Eamonn Andrews compères. The programme also headlines Billy Cotton, Andy Stewart and the George Mitchell Minstrels as well as a light-hearted edition of "Juke Box Jury," in which David Jacobs presides over a panel of Sid James, Terry Scott, Jill Curzon and Sydney Tafler.

Earlier in the day Jacobs will introduce a programme in which Hayley Mills acts as guide to Walt Disney's famous Disneyland amusement park in California.

At lunch time BBC screen an edition of "Like... Music" starring Danny Williams and the Karl Denver Trio.

# FURY IN HOSI FOR OPERA

### Savile to compere new-style package

**JIMMY SAVILE** will compere his first major tour when he joins guest stars Johnny and the Hurricanes in January. But it will be on a new-style package that will feature impersonators of the world's top stars.

The show is called "Juke Box Doubles," and it will feature several artists — some of them professionals, others selected from recent auditions held by the promoter Don Arden.

In January the show will visit Granada theatres at Harrow (17), Bedford (21), Maidstone (22), Aspleybury (23), Kingston (25), Tooting (27) and Grantham (28). Independent dates are Portsmouth Guildhall (24), Slough Adelphi (26), and Bradford St. George's Hall (29) and in February the show will play Kettering Granada (3) and Coventry Hippodrome (10).

### Boone film trouble

**PAT BOONE'S** film, "The Main Attraction," has failed to pass the American censors, but a spokesman for Seven Arts Productions, who made the film in Britain, told DISC that it would still be shown in America without any alterations.

Boone completed the picture at Shepperton Studios in the summer and it was given an "A" certificate by the British censor.

It goes on general release here on the ABC circuit on January 7.

Songwriter-saxist Paddy Roberts begins three weeks in cabaret at the Society Restaurant, Piccadilly, on January 7.

### Billy Fury left St. Mary's

**BILLY FURY** left St. Mary's, days after a sudden operation to the hospital last Thursday. A recurrence of a kidney complaint. The operation took one day. A recording session planned for Friday has been cancelled, as well as an appearance on "Thank Your Lucky Stars" on January 5. Billy is going home to Liverpool to spend Christmas.

### Vincent, too

**GENE VINCENT** will enter hospital after Christmas for a bone-grafting operation. The decision was taken at the weekend as the result of further pain from his eight-year-old leg injury. He is expected to spend three weeks in a London hospital from the end of this month.

## BBC — big pop shows for Christmas

"PRESENTS FROM PRESLEY" is the highlight of BBC radio's pop plans for Christmas, as exclusively revealed in last week's DISC. The programme will be aired in the Light at 6 p.m. on Boxing Day, and will consist of 45 minutes of songs from Presley films introduced by Jack Watson.

Sam Costa will handle the Light's "Twelve O'Clock Spin" of pop records on Christmas Eve, and Continental singing star Caterina Valente will introduce Continental and Latin American records later that afternoon.

From 10 a.m. on Christmas Day, Carole Carr compères a "Round Britain Favourites," and David Attenborough presents 60 minutes of "Around The World With Music And Stories" in the Home at 2.30 p.m. Pete Murray introduces "Show Time" — an 85-minute Light presentation starring Frank Ifield, Susan Maughan and Bert Weedon — from 4.45 p.m.

Bing Crosby will be heard on the Light at 8.30 in an hour's programme of reminiscences. And from 9.30 until 11.45 there will be party dance music from the Karl Denver Trio, Shane Fenton, The Viscounts and the Rabin band.

On Boxing Day morning "Joyride" will feature Colin Day, Marion Williams, the Lorne Gibson Trio, the Don Riddell Four, Brian Poole and The Tremeloes, Alan Esdon's band and the Eric Delaney group.

### Kallman in show

**AMERICAN** cabaret singer Dick Kallman, currently in Britain to film his part in "It's All Happening," has been signed for a leading part in the U.S. touring version of "How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying."

Kallman, who completed an LP with accompaniment by John Barry and Geoff Love in London last week, will fly home in January to begin rehearsals.

### Kay quits 'Go Man Go'

**AFTER** a two-year stint with the Rabin band in "Go Man Go," Barbara Kay is leaving to take up a solo career.

Her place is being taken by Kay Garner — current Syd Dean band vocalist — who takes over the BBC Light Programme spot on January 28.

**NO.4! AND STILL CLIMBING!**  
in the U.S.A.

**THE ORLONS**

*"Don't Hang Up"*

**CAMEO PARKWAY** C 231

**NEXT WEEK'S DISC**

will be on sale Monday, December 24

**Don Riddell tours**

**THE** Don Riddell Four will tour Europe from December 28 until January 27. Among the places they will play are Naples and Wiesbaden. The group will play both U.S. service bases and civilian dates.

**Pete Murray — compere**

**PETE MURRAY** will compere the December 30 edition of "London Lights" introducing a bill that includes Louise Cordet and harmonica star Tommy Reddy.

**MATHIS TV SHOW IS PUT BACK**

**CHRISTMAS** screening plans for two major TV shows, starring Johnny Mathis and Bob Hope, have been changed.

The 30-minute show Mathis tele-recorded for the BBC with Ted Heath and his Music, originally planned for Boxing Day, will not now be seen until Friday week (December 28).

Bob Hope's ATV show, "There's Always Hope With Yana," will be transmitted on two different dates. Viewers in the North, Scotland, Wales, Tyne-Tees, Anglia, Ulster and Westward will see it at 10.10 p.m. on Christmas Eve. London, Southern, Granpian and Border TV will see it four days later.



**Hungry at Christmas**

can you help?

No child on earth should go hungry at Christmas... "two months old with malnutrition"... "even the grown ups have little more than a starvation diet..." Send the most wonderful gift of all, the chance to live.

£2 a £2 Christmas gift seeds 4 children a month's meals. £10 can start a small poultry farm with 165 chicks — helping people to help themselves.

**OXFORD COMMITTEE FOR FAMINE RELIEF**

Please, please send quickly... Famine Relief, c/o Room 16 Barclays Bank Ltd, Oxford.

<p><b>Tommy Steele</b></p> <p>HE'S GOT LOVE</p> <p>F 1555</p> <p><b>DECCA</b></p>	<p><b>THE GOSPEL THEME</b></p> <p>Ted Heath &amp; HIS MUSIC</p> <p>F 1556</p> <p><b>DECCA</b></p>	<p><b>Bing Crosby</b></p> <p>THE LITTLE DRUM</p> <p>WB 33</p> <p><b>WARNER BROS.</b></p>
<p><b>STORMY EVENING</b></p> <p>Dean Parker &amp; THE REDCAPS</p> <p>F 1555</p> <p><b>DECCA</b></p>	<p><b>ECHO</b></p> <p>The Emotions</p> <p>HLR 9640</p> <p><b>LONDON</b></p>	<p><b>ALADDIN</b></p> <p>Bobby Cooper</p> <p>NIL 80P</p> <p><b>LONDON</b></p>

# PITAL ATION

Paddington, on Monday—three (tion that followed his admission His rush admission followed the nt which has troubled him in the tour.

## Spotnicks here for tour in February

SWEDISH hit instrumentalists The Spotnicks are returning in February for a month of dance hall, radio and television dates.

The group will guest on "Saturday Club," "Parade Of The Pops," "Thank Your Lucky Stars" and "Easy Beat."

## 'West Side' star flies in

ACTOR-SINGER George Chakiris, star of "West Side Story," arrived in London last week for a short stay. Tomorrow (Thursday) he flies to Mexico to begin work on a new film with Yul Brynner.



BILLY FURY bids a cheerful farewell to two nurses at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, on Monday after his shock operation (DISC Pic).

## Eden Kane: Summer season at Blackpool and spring tours

EDEN KANE will star at a Blackpool summer show at the South Pier with Karl Denver, Marty Wilde and probably Bert Weedon. He will be taking the place of Mark Wynter who will join Joe Brown and The Tornados at Great Yarmouth.

He will also join either one of the Helen Shapiro spring tours or the Larry Farnes package which opens on February 15, and he may even do both!

Kane was kept out of a summer show last year pending developments on two films. Neither film has materialised yet and the decision to involve him in a season and spring tours make it seem that he is returning in earnest to the pop field.

On Monday it was likely that he would join the first of Helen Shapiro's spring tours on February 2 and then go on to the Farnes package.

Matt Monro—who was at Westmouth last summer—will head the bill at Blackpool North Pier for 18 weeks from May 31.

## Cordell film scores

BRITISH MD-composer Frank Cordell has been commissioned by United Artists to write scores for two American films.

He will fly to the States on Sunday, and after discussions in Hollywood, will leave for Japan to record his sound-track for "Flight From Ashiya," which stars Richard Widmark and Yul Brynner.

From Japan he goes on to Israel to compose the music for a comedy called "Who Stole Irving." The completed score will be recorded when he returns to England.

Ray Ellington and his Quartet are booked for cabaret at Bournemouth Green Park Hotel for the Christmas period.

# ELVIS AND CLIFF TIE IN SILVER DISC RACE

ELVIS has at last drawn level with Cliff Richard in the Silver Disc race! This week he has won TWO—for "She's Not You" and "Return To Sender"—making his total 12.

Altogether, this week five records have passed the quarter-million British sales mark to gain the DISC award. In addition to Presley, Susan Maughan, The Shadows and Rolf Harris win one each.

Susan Maughan gains her first DISC award for "Bobby's Girl," and becomes only the fourth British girl to win a Silver Disc.

The Shadows win their fifth for "Dance On," which puts the British group way ahead of any other instrumentalists. Written by the Avons, "Dance On" entered the charts at number 11 last week.

Rolf Harris, who had a big hit with the sleeper "Sun Arise," re-written by the singer from an Aborigine chant, wins his first Silver Disc.

MATT MONRO was seen off by his wife and daughter at London Airport on Sunday at the start of his mammoth trip to Hong Kong to appear in a charity show.

Johnny and the Hurricanes booked for 'Lucky Stars'

JOHNNY and the Hurricanes and Little Eva will probably appear on "Thank Your Lucky Stars" during their visits to Britain. Frank Ifield, Susan Maughan and Rolf Harris are among other bookings for the programme.

Little Eva is tentatively signed for February 2, and Johnny and the Hurricanes will appear either on January 19 or February 9.

Frank Ifield, John Leyton and Susan Maughan are expected to headline on January 26, and Rolf Harris will join Little Eva on February 2.

The Back O'Town Syncopaters and Maureen Evans have been added to the January 5 bill, and David Macbeth and Carole Deane are new bookings for January 19.

## Palladium TV switch

A TV will screen a 90-minute star-studded variety show on December 30, organised by the Stars Organisation for Spastics. It will replace the usual Palladium TV show.

Compered by Norman Vaughan, the show stars Alma Cogan, Joyce and Lionel Blair, Alan Freeman, Michael Holliday, David Jacobs, Dennis Lotis, Vera Lynn, Pete Murray, Tony Osborne, Anne Rogers, Cyril Stapleton, Dickie Valentine and Bert Weedon.

# Hyland, Lee, Little Eva in British film

BRIAN HYLAND has been offered the leading role in a new British screen musical which may also star Brenda Lee. Others who will probably take part are Little Eva, Gene Vincent and British instrumental group, Sounds Incorporated.

The film represents promoter Don Arden's first venture into pictures.

News of a bid to sign Brenda Lee for the film was first revealed in DISC three weeks ago. She is currently awaiting a copy of the script.

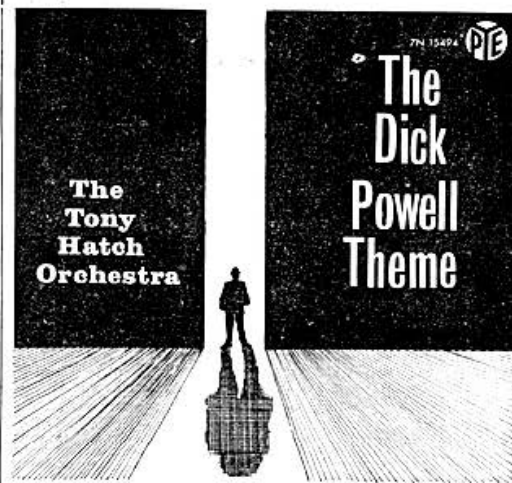
Arden told DISC this week: "The film will go into production in April. If Brenda agrees to take part it will mean an extension of her March stay. Little Eva and Brian Hyland—whom I am promoting here in February—will have to come back for filming.

"A team of writers will pen the musical numbers and I have invited Gene to write a song for himself."

The Brenda Lee film "Three Little Bears—in which she sings "Speak To Me Pretty"—will go on general release as second feature to "Five Weeks In A Balloon" from January 13.

## Guest spot for Conway

RUSS CONWAY will be guest of the week in the Light Programme's "Woman's Hour" on January 2. He will be interviewed for ten minutes about his life and work by Teresa McGonagle.



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<p>IN etola</p>	<p><b>LET'S DANCE</b> Chris Montez HLU 9508 LONDON</p>	<p><b>FUNNY ALL OVER</b> The Vernons Girls F 11549 DECCA</p>

THE DECCA RECORD COMPANY LTD DECCA HOUSE ALBERT EMMENTANT LONDON SE1

# DISC DATE

WITH DON NICHOLL

# CONNIE KEEPS ON THE TWIST KICK



New to you

### Johnny O'Keefe

**B**ILL HALEY was the inspiration for Johnny O'Keefe's entry into pop music. Back in the early days of rock, Bill heard O'Keefe while touring Australia, and said "I already he has the feel for real beat music."

Now Johnny is a leading personality in Australian show business, writing big-selling pop songs, recording big-selling pop records, copiere of his own TV series and voted top Australian TV star.

With his first release over here he is hoping to follow in the successful footsteps of Frank Ifield and Rolf Harris.

### Sol Raye

**S**OL RAYE, who is 26 and comes from Georgetown, capital of British Guiana, got his chance as a singer when he was noticed in 1960 by music publisher Bill Phillips while acting in a Royal Court Theatre production.

Since then he's sung spiritual music as vocalist in Salisbury and Canterbury Cathedrals, as well as appearing on the TWW and Southern TV channels.

Aussie star could sell big here

### Connie Francis

I'm Gonna Be Warm This Winter; Pretty Little Baby (MGM 1185)

**C**ONNIE keeps to the up-tempo and you'll go twisting with her to keep warm this winter, all right. Double tracking on voice as orchestra lays down an infectious beat. A first-rate disc for parties around this time of the year—and early next year, too.

Miss Francis is in happy romantic voice as she hands this one out. Some good instrumental moments, too, will please the dancers.

"Pretty Little Baby" on the other side has a quieter but no less happier rhythm. Connie goes into the Latin field for this pleasant ballad, and there will be many individual sales for this half. In fact, with these contrasting dance rhythms the disc may become a double-header.

### The Shells

(It's A) Happy Holiday; Deep In My Heart

**R**ACE-ALONG Happy Holiday chanted by The Shells as if they're trying to pack three minutes of music into the 1.50 running time of this half. Cheerful.

Deep In My Heart is sung to a slower beat which seems to be standing still by contrast.

### Johnny Pearson

Theme From "The I-Shaped Room" (I And II)

**J**OHNNY PEARSON at the piano playing the theme music

used in the film of The I-Shaped Room. The music will seem familiar to you—and should, because it is by Brahms.

Harry Rabinowitz conducts the orchestra, coaxing an insistent mood out of the cellos before Pearson comes in sensitively and with concert lucidity.

Not a pop by any stretch of the imagination, but a performance adult in construction and admirable in execution.

### Jeff Rowena Five

Diddle-De-Dum; Dance Baby Dance

**R**ISING swiftly in the States, the Diddle-De-Dum number for

What Happens When Your Love Has Gone) is sung edgily and noisily by the Jeff Rowena Five on this release.

Has a very strong and compulsive beat—a well-recorded thudding item with American polish.

Dance Baby Dance is a steady heater—again, good sound—but it fades to ordinary status beneath the impact of the other half.

### Bill Black's Combo

Joe's Song; Hot Taco

**T**HE familiar Joe's Song is played with a crisp Latin touch by the Bill Black Combo on this release, and I should say that the tune will begin selling once more. Some very attractive instrumental effects to keep the colour glowing throughout.

Hot Taco lays down an interesting beat for the other side, using the hesitation gimmick occasionally and containing some nice sax work.

### Alexander Murray Smith

Follow, Follow; Canal Street Blues

**F**OLLOW, FOLLOW is the theme song of supporters of the Glasgow Rangers soccer team. Here, it's played by Smith and his Back of Town Syncopators . . . no lyric sung, but a happy trad beat laid down for those followers who aren't dejected by the defeat suffered at the feet of Tottenham Hotspur!

Produced by Denis Preston and issued by Decca under the Ritz mark of Bunny Lewis, it ought to sell well.

Canal Street Blues captures a good earthy feeling for the other side. But I think it wrong that Alex Allan, the bearded tuba player from Ayrshire, should get no credit on the label . . . he blows a fine fat wind on both halves.

### Jimmy Shand

The Bonnie Strathyre Waltz; Rag Time Medley

**T**HERE just has to be a big Jimmy Shand release every time the year comes to a close—and Parlophone aren't making any exceptions this time. Here's the dancers' delight from North of the Border squeezing out a couple of medley sides that'll be heard in many a home before the bells ring out.

The Bonnie Strathyre Waltz

Crisp Latin touch from BILL BLACK.

medley includes such tunes as "Rothesay Bay," and "Bonnie Galloway," as well as the title item which lays down the tempo.

In his Rag Time Medley, Shand offers "Alexander's Ragtime Band," "Lady Be Good" and "Pasadena."

### Sol Raye

I'm Wonderin'; The Evergreen Tree

**T**ED TAYLOR directs the accompaniments for Sol Raye on this disc, which is why the organ punches so prominently through the ballad I'm Wonderin'. Raye sings this huskily and fluently for young lovers. On the turnover, The Evergreen Tree is a little more dramatic, with something of the western feeling in its treatment.

### In short

**NORMAN WARREN SEXTET**—Swinging

Sleigh Bells; Street Of A Thousand Memories (Windor WPS 111) \*\*\*—The Swinging Sleigh Bells go prancing away in the hands of the Norman Warren Sextet to provide one of the smoothest sounds I've heard this season. Not overdressed but not too thin either. Street Of A Thousand Memories, another Donald Phillips composition, is a gently haunting item.

**DEAN PARKER**—Stormy Evening; Blue

Eyes and Golden Hair (Decca F 11555)\*\*\*—Dean Parker and The Redcaps in a gimmicky Stormy Evening in which he chants dramatic romantic metaphors to twangy accompaniment and sound effects. Quick heater for the turnover leaves me cold.

**JOHNNY CRAWFORD**—Rumors; No One

Really Loves A Clown (London HL 9638)\*\*\*—The American 16-year-old hit maker Johnny Crawford might repeat some of his U.S. success here with Rumors. Extra tracking on the voice helps the production to make its impact, and there's good vocal group assistance.

# MORE SILVER DISCS for ELVIS

SHE'S NOT YOU

RCA 1303

RETURN TO SENDER

RCA 1320

He now has a total of 12 Silver Discs and our heartiest congratulations!



45 RPM

# FOLK Peggy brings out the best in these

### Peggy Seeger

The Nutting Girl; The Lolly Beggars; The Boatman; A 100 Years Ago

**T**he scene here is developing in its own way. We don't have the professional American groups, such as The Weavers and The Traverses. We go for the amateurs get-together once a week in a room over a pub in Newcastle, Glasgow, Birmingham, Liverpool or Soho. This way, anyone can join in, and after a couple of loosening-up drinks, they usually do.

The mixture is typical of any night in one of these clubs. We have some solo singing, some fiddle playing, a couple of numbers where all join in, and even a song from one of the audience spontaneously jumping up to do her bit.

It's all very jolly, and back to traditions. It doesn't always come off, but this is one exception, faithfully captured by the Topic people.

### Ian Campbell Folk Group

Catfish At The Crown; Paddy On The Railroad; The Two Corbies; Our Ship Is Ready; Buy Broom Besoms; Apples, Peaches And Cherries;

The Nutting Girl; The Lolly Beggars; The Boatman; A 100 Years Ago (Topic TOP 76)\*\*\*\*

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PEGGY SEEGER—Soft, delicate voice (DISC Pic).

You Know Baby; Freedom Road; Scarlet Ribbons; The Man Who Couldn't Walk Around; Where Were You Baby When My Heart Went Out; Sam Hall; Strange Fruit. (HMV CLP 1588)\*\*\*\*

**A** FOUR star affair for the folk collector, but add one if you like Josh's sophisticated appeal . . . and even another if you think that Josh White is still a jazz singer. I don't know; the man has been the subject of too much controversy as to his real worth. Personally I like him immensely, in spite of the polished manner of his performances.

The singing of Sam Hall is incredible and I'm sure it's only this that let the blasphemy get past the censor, if there is one for artistic records!

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Impresario

# ARTHUR HOWES

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FOR THEIR CONFIDENCE



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WITH  
NIGEL HUNTER

# Charles: unique in the history of pop

## Ray Charles

**I Can't Stop Loving You**  
*I Can't Stop Loving You; Georgia On My Mind; You Don't Know Me; Ruby.*  
(HMV 7 EG 8781)\*\*\*\*\*

RAY'S classic hits since entering the wider pop world are gathered together here in one handy EP package. It's great stuff, not in the strictest definition

of singing as such, but because of the raw, earthy, time-tempered wealth of experience and hardship which sounds through in the Charles voice.

In short, a collector's piece from a unique personality in the history of pop music.

## George Melachrino

**The World's Greatest Melodies**  
*Snowy; My Mother Taught Me; Shearwater; Cicilico; Lunko; Londonderry Air.*  
(HMV 7 EG 8772)\*\*\*\*\*

FOUR immaculate arrangements immaculately played by one of our best and most reliable light music outfits. Whether you agree with the choice of these tunes under this title or not, you'll have a job to fault the performances.

## Craig Douglas

**Cuddle Up With Craig Douglas**  
*Snowy; White Snow; I've Got My Love To Keep Me Warm; Give Me A Cozy Corner; Jingle Bells;leigh; White Christmas; Rudolph The Red Nose Reindeer; White Christmas.*  
(Decca DFE 8509)\*\*\*\*\*

THE front of the sleeve shows Craig cuddled up with a load of teddy bears, and it's not until

CRAIG DOUGLAS — He's climbed aboard the Yuletide bandwagon.

you turn him over that you discover he's actually climbed aboard the Yuletide bandwagon. So what's with the teddy bears, dad? The tinsel tithing, get melody treatment, with Craig swinging easily from one to the next over smooth Harry Robinson accompaniments. The usual Christmas jazz, admittedly, but with a touch of something different and less hackneyed as well.

## Kenny Ball

**Hit Parade**  
*March Of The Siamese Children; So Do I; Green Leaves Of Summer; The Payoff.*  
(Pye NIE 1087)\*\*\*\*\*

THE Ball boys blow their lusty way through three of their hits plus *The Payoff*, which certainly didn't pay off in the event. Good, lively pop-vaunted stuff, suffering a bit these days because there's so much of it about. But why do trad handleaders have to "sing?"

## The Countrymen

**Four Winter Songs**  
*Where Have All The Flowers Gone? I Saw Three Ships; The Virgin Mary; Silent Night.*  
(Piccadilly NEP 34015)★

OUCH! A week or two after I praise the three lads to the skies for their previous EP, they go and do this to me. The fatal mistake is trying to

make these numbers "commercial." The boys have tried to add beat to these ballads, and the results are quite horrible, especially in the case of the first one on each side. What a pity.

## Shirley Bassey

**The**  
*Fill; Angel D'Amore; Where Shall I Find Him?; It Might As Well Be Spring.*  
(Columbia SEG 8200)\*\*\*\*\*

SHIRLEY doesn't sound at her usual best in this lot, somehow. The dodgy notes are more numerous, and the dramatic impact and emotion are not so impressive as they could be.

Nice songs nicely accompanied by Messrs. Geoff Love and Tony Osborne, but I think Shirley could have done much better.

## Bobby Vee

**Sincerely**  
*What Do You Want?; My Love Loves Me; I Can't Say Goodbye; Sincerely.*  
(Liberty LEP 2053)\*\*\*\*\*

LIBERTY and his hairless MD have certainly been listening closely to the Adam Faith-John Barry original version of Johnny Worth's "What Do You Want?" The Vee voice is uncannily close to the Faith accent and inflection, and the backing takes a big leaf out of the Barry pizzicato string book. But it's enjoyable listening for all that.

The rest of the disc didn't raise my temperature much. It's predictably able stuff, with the seemingly inevitable multi-tracking in the Gerry Goffin-Carole King number. *I Can't Say Goodbye.*

## Gene McDaniels

**A Change Of Mood**  
*Chip Clegg; Another Tear Falls; A Tear; She's Come Back.*  
(Liberty LEP 2054)\*\*\*\*\*

THE sleeve note provides no enlightenment on the exact significance of this EP's title, but a change of mood is just what Gene needs.

He gives every impression of having the makings of a darn good ballad singer—*providing he's given darn good ballads to work with.*

All he has here are some particularly undistinct and lightweight items, leaning towards beatdom at its most monotonous, and he hasn't a chance of registering his full impact as a result.

## Bob Newhart

**The Button-Down Mind Of Bob Newhart, Vol. 2**  
*Abe Lincoln Versus Madison Avenue; Nobody Will Ever Play Baseball; Merchandising The Wright Brothers.*  
(Warner Bros. WEP 6101)\*\*\*\*\*

THE button-down mind man looks back into American history, and offers us his impressions of what might have been said if Abe Lincoln had employed a publicity manager; the reaction of a games firm to the inventor of baseball; and efforts to sell the Wright brothers' aviation ideas to the public.

Not the most brilliant Newhart exactly, and slightly handicapped by the Americanism of some of the subject matter, but very funny nonetheless.

**THE FOUR COURTS CEILDHE BAND** (Starline STEP 30)★—The sleeve tells me these Irish boys have started in "Sunday Night At The London Palladium" and are in great demand everywhere for Irish dance music of the traditional kind.

But they still sound the worst group of this type I've ever heard, and I was expecting Peter Sellers to make a vocal contribution in his best Irish accent all the way through the disc.

**IN SEARCH OF THE CASTAWAYS** — Songs From The Sound-track (Decca DFE 8512)★—I know it's nearly Christmas, but really I can take extracts from film sound-tracks up to a point when they are virtually meaningless by themselves, but this is the end.

The Camarata instrumental track is a big load of nothing which could hardly mean much in the film itself—let alone away from it. And Hayley Mills is so flat and out of tune in *Castaway* that she must be joking—I hope!



BY  
CHRIS  
HUTCHINS



## Joe works, and wins a £50 bet

ABOUT the only pop music star in the business who will be working on Christmas Day is JOE BROWN—"I'm always lumbered"—but the day's efforts will bring him in a bonus £50 as the result of a bet he had with his manager, George Cooper.

"I've been working so flippin' hard this year that I bet George he would have me grafting on Christmas Day too. He bet me £50 he wouldn't and I took him on. Now it seems that I'm in one of the very few pantomimes in Britain that runs on Christmas Day," Joe told me.

So next Tuesday he will report at Stockton Globe complete with Wishee Washee costumes for his part in "Aladdin"—and the following day he'll collect.

## Off to U.S.

WITH the prospect of a lengthy pantomime season in Manchester, KARL DENVER is hoping he'll be able to fly to America for a week's holiday at the end of it. But Karl is lucky to be able to return to the U.S. for as a merchant seaman he "skipped ship" those a few years ago.

All sorts of stories were pulled to save me from being deported and I was eventually sent home as a distressed seaman. It had been the other way I should have been denied entry again," he told me.



KARL DENVER

SPENDING their first Christmas away from home are THE Allison's. The boys are currently on a tour of Forces bases in the Near East. "But we've been promised a Christmas dinner somewhere in North Africa," said John,

Worth hearing: Adam Faith's skit on Tony Hancock's album... Rolf Harris says he is thinking of recording "Smog Arise"!... On Christmas Day Little Richard celebrates his 30th birthday... Will Neil Christian (we're just good friends, says Miss Maughan) wax "I Want To Be Suzy's Boy"?

BILLY FURY'S illness prevented him from attending a party on Sunday to celebrate the engagement of his road manager Hal Carter to glamorous showgirl Jill Harris.

Among those helping the party to go with a swing were Hal's friends Marty Wilde, Eden Kane, Michael Cox and Larry Parnes.

Merry Christmas  
and  
A Happy New Year  
from

LARRY PARNES  
AND HIS ORGANISATION  
INCLUDING  
BILLY FURY  
MARTY WILDE  
THE TORNADOS

\*\*\*  
MERRY CHRISTMAS!  
I wish you well  
to enjoy 1963  
MARION RYAN  
\*\*\*

Bruce

## Seasonal

Hank

# The SHADOWS

Liquorice

## Greetings

Brian



**Friends reveal the inside story**

# A PRESLEY PARTY WOULD SHOCK YOU



ELVIS as he twisted with Joan Blackman in "Kid Galahad" . . . and it looks to us as if he's really enjoying himself. But at home, at one of his parties, he's more likely to spend the time talking . . . about cars.

If someone suggested, "let's dig the scene over at Presley's house," I doubt that anyone would refuse . . . it would be like a dream coming true.

Here would be the chance to meet the world's greatest pop star at his home in the fabulous Brentwood mansion, high up on the Hollywood hills. You'd expect champagne and rooms filled with glamorous people in show business.

**YOU'D BE IN FOR A SHOCK!**

Elvis never throws parties in the traditional Hollywood fashion. When he's home, he follows the American policy of "open house" get-togethers, and anyone who knows where he lives, or happens to be "in" with any of his friends or acquaintances, can just drop in, which is probably what will be happening all the time at the Presley family home in Memphis this Christmas.

I have a couple of American friends who have been lucky enough to attend a few of these Presley gatherings, and they were just as surprised as I was to discover that here's at least one star who throws glamour to the wind once he's outside the studios.

"Elvis is a great host," they confided, "but honestly his parties—if you can call them that—are square!"

"Nobody does very much, least of all El, who welcomes you, offers you a drink and then leaves you to your own devices.

**BY JUNE HARRIS**

would get up and dance, but most of the time the room was split up into groups.

"The crowd was young, girls around 18 and fellas of Presley's age. It was very mixed, and the ratio of boys and girls worked out about even. Some of the girls seemed a little star-struck, but they soon got over it when they realised that El wasn't going to play the big star, or make a play for anyone in particular.

"The evening wore on like a high school party, and towards the end, the boys gathered on one side of the room and talked about cars, and the girls had to be content just sitting and waiting for their dates to get through with chatting!

**● car talk**

"We got into a conversation about cars, and although Elvis has the edge on everyone, all he would do was comment on what other people were saying, rather than discuss any of his own cars.

"The boys told me that apart from discussing cars, Elvis would chat about one or two other outside interests, but never once talk shop in his own home.

"When he invites a crowd over it's to relax," they said. "Most of his friends are from his old Memphis days, especially the boys, and he prefers to sit and talk about what's going on there. People were dropping in and leaving all evening. Elvis remained the perfect host.

"When we left, he thanked us for coming and told us it was an 'open house' anytime he was home.

"Guess it was around 3 a.m. by the time we split, but there were still people there. This may have been because he hates being alone, or because some people just wanted to see how the gathering would wind up. When we got out of there we were under the impression that this could have been a party at anyone's home!"

**● no guards**

"We were invited out to the house one night with an old friend of El's from Memphis. There were no security guards on the gates. We just drove in and walked through the front door.

"There were quite a few people in the place, but then, like any normal guy, Presley likes to be surrounded by his friends.

"And that's another thing. All these people were friends. Of course, some of them had never been there before, like us, but he soon put them at ease, never once acting like a great star.

"We didn't meet one other star at the house, although Elvis knows many in show business. Even his so-called security guards seemed to have the night off.

"Everybody meets in the main living room, which has a bar in one corner, and a 100 disc selector juke box. This is bang up-to-date with all the current hits, and a few Presley discs thrown in, El prefers playing other people's records in preference to his own. "Occasionally, a few people

STAR treatment on the film set as three actress fans get Elvis to sing them a number, but this is obviously something which he likes a break from.



The Season's Greetings to everyone

from

## HARRY SECOMBE

in preparation:—

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with HARRY SECOMBE in the title role

Presented by: BERNARD DELFONT

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## Season's Greetings

from

## ELVIS

and

The Colonel



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and a

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Mark

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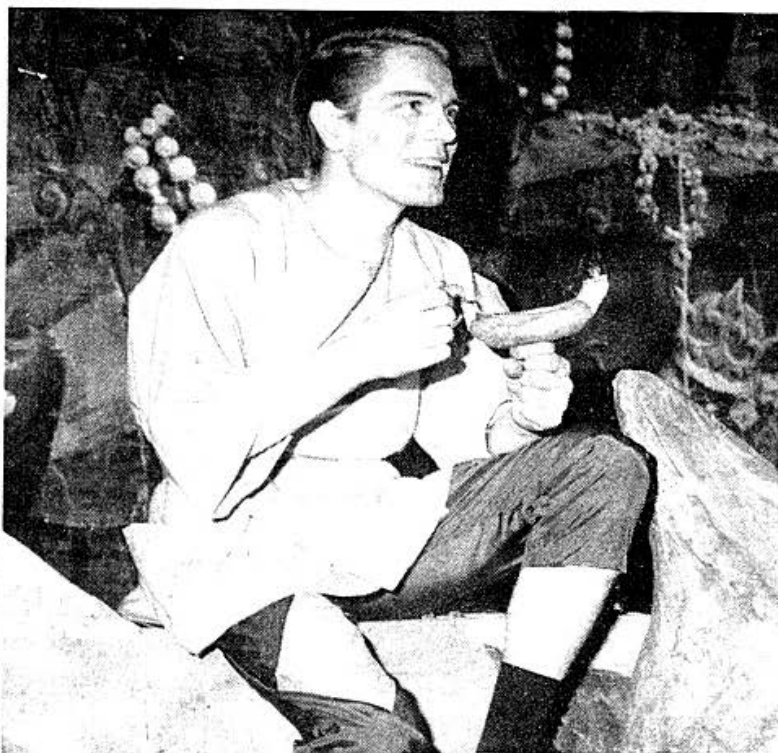
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ADAM—Christmas Day at home, but on Boxing Day it's back to "Aladdin" at Bournemouth Pavilion.

**Adam Faith**

## PRESENTS—THANKS MATE, I NEARLY FORGOT ALL ABOUT 'EM

**A**DAM FAITH was relaxing in his dressing room at the Pavilion, Bournemouth, with his feet up on a chair. He wore one of those close-fitting suits that accentuate his slight, small figure. He held a cigarette in his right hand.

Suddenly he slammed a fist on the table beside him. "Crumbs, I've forgotten, mate. Haven't bought a single present. Must nip round to the old shops in the morning and see what's left. And then they ask me why I need a holiday—I don't even get time to remember!"

"You know," he mused, "I used to get some nice Christmas boxes a few years ago when I was doing the old paper round—

funny how much 'alf a crown used to mean. Still, there was all that cold and it was no fun going home soaked through every night in the rainy season and trying to dry off your clothes."

"I'll have Christmas Day to myself this year, but first thing on Boxing Day morning it will be back to Bournemouth and work on the pantomime—still we will be sure to have plenty of parties to keep the spirit going."

**Brenda Lee family**

## Rockin'

On the day itself his family will lock up the house he bought them last year and travel down to Adam's own manor-type home in Esher, Surrey.

There they will have a family gathering with all the trimmings. Adam's mother, Mrs. Williams, will be able to sit back for the day while Christmas dinner is served to her.

"Don't expect I'll do much, though I'm hoping dad will fancy a few games of snooker. We will probably watch television in the evening and I'll be off to bed before it gets too late—there's work to be done the next day."

C.H.

## round that tree

**C**AN you imagine Christmas in the recording empire of Nashville, Tennessee? A lot of stars will be spending the Yuletide there, but I reckon Brenda Lee has been looking forward to it most.

She has done everything to ensure an authentic Christmas in the white house where she lives with her family and pets. Whether she'll be rockin' around the Christmas tree I don't know, but one thing's for real round here, she added with a chuckle.

"I'm helping to decorate it, but my sister Randall—she's 13—and brother Robin—he's 7—won't let me do it all. They're kinda young, so I have to let them help.

"... Oh, and my elder sister Linda—she's 21—will be with us as well. That makes for a cosy party, with my ma, too."

### tomboy

Christmas at home must be a happy time for Brenda, for there the tomboy instincts in her can run wild.

Dub Albritten, the man who noticed the talent behind her pile-driving voice and built her into a star, often has to chastise Brenda for behaving in an un-star-like manner.

"She does so many things a star shouldn't do—things like chewing gum at important receptions and slapping in dirty stacks. She often lets people step on her, and gets pushed into the background when she shouldn't be.

"I wish she had a little more temperament," sighs Dub.

But Brenda's natural talent is probably one of her greatest assets. She's friendly to people she likes and takes no notice of those she doesn't—no matter how important they are.

"That's why there'll be no star complexes in the Lee household this Christmas. Just good fun—the young way.

C.H.

*Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and a Swingin' New Year*

JOHN LEYTON • MIKE SARNE  
GRAZINA • IAIN GREGORY  
MIKE BERRY • CHARLES BLACKWELL • BILLY BOYLE  
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# WITH THE STARS



Cliff — with Mum

**Cliff Richard**

## This is one day I won't watch my diet!

HOW do you imagine Cliff Richard spending Christmas? On a sun-drenched island? In a glittering West End hotel? Wrong on both counts—Cliff will spend the holiday period **AT HOME WITH HIS MUM!**

For two days at least he will do nothing but sit back in front of a log fire and occasionally fill himself with Christmas fare.

"On Christmas Day I shall have a huge dinner—it's the one day of the year when I don't worry about diet. Believe me, I normally do have to watch the old figure—if I eat like a pig I begin to look like one!"

"But on Christmas Day anything goes, even if I do have to pay for it afterwards." And here's what Cliff's Christmas dinner—cooked by his mum, Mrs. Dorothy Webb—will consist of:

"Roast duck, with more than my share of stuffing, two different kinds of potatoes and six different kinds of vegetables—all covered in thick brown gravy. I'll follow that with Christmas pudding and custard."

"Oh, and by the way, I'll be drinking wine with my dinner this year—I acquired the taste for it when we went to Greece for 'Summer Holiday.' They used to serve it to us outside the little cafes—very romantic."

"If I'm up early enough I'll light the fire—otherwise it'll just be a case of fetching the coal to keep it going; I'm going to have a pretty lazy time on the whole." Cliff said.

Sharing Christmas with Cliff and his mum will be his three sisters and his brother-in-law. "We shall watch some television and probably pull a few crackers—just like we've always done."

"Presents? Well, we give each other gifts all the year round and to be perfectly honest I can't think of anything I want for Christmas. Still, no doubt we'll all come up with something and surprise each other."

C.H.



Jet — Audiences were great, but home is better.

**Jet Harris**

## FIRST CHRISTMAS AT HOME IN FOUR YEARS

"CHRISTMAS? I'll be spending it at home with the family this year," said Jet Harris, "and I'm pretty glad. For the past three years I've been on the road."

"I've really had no choice," he went on. "Last year I was appearing with *The Shadows* at Stockton in pantomime, and we all felt like crying on Christmas Day. It was so gloomy and depressing being away from home."

"The audiences were great, but they don't make up for home comforts."

"Mind you, although I'll be at home, I'll be working. Five days after Christmas, Tony and I go up to Birmingham to tape 'Thank Your Lucky Stars,' and I'll be pretty busy with arrangements."

J.W.

"But I'll still be able to indulge in the usual Christmas festivities. I don't eat turkey, can't stand the stuff, but I'll have a bash at the old Christmas pudding."

Jet's celebrating the New Year a day earlier than usual.

"Well, I'll be up in Birmingham with Tony, and we figured we would bring it in then—as a kind of salute to our first date together. Actually, Tony doesn't know anything about it yet, but I think it's a pretty good idea!"

J.H.



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and  
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AND  
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FOR  
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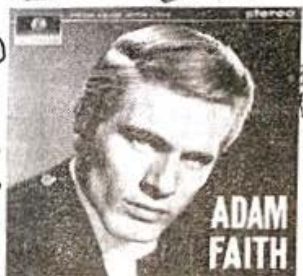
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