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JOE DOLAN * FARE * EQUALS

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Georgie Fame

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BILLY PRESTON



THAT'S THE WAY GOD PLANNED IT
(THE new Billy Preston album from Apple)

LIFE-LINES

of Ireland's

JOE DOLAN



JOE DOLAN — doing his version of "Singing In The Rain" (1)

Speeding when he's relaxing

Road manager: John Jugga Delemere. **Manager:** Johnny Arthey. **Name of accompanist:** The Drifters. **Major awards:** Spotlight Award 1967, '68, '69. **TV acting appearances:** A pantomime "Cinderella" on Telefe Eireann. **Important engagements abroad:** Appeared in Irish clubs in USA. **Biggest influence on career:** My brother Ben. **Former occupation before show business:** Printer in local paper. **Hobbies:** Speedboating, fast driving. **Favourite:** Colour: Green; Food: Mostly Italian; Drink: King and Tonic and Harp; Clothes: casuals. **Singers:** Tom Jones, Ella Fitzgerald, Cilla Black; **Actor/actress:** Richard Harris; **Susannah York;** **Bands/Instrumentalists:** Divines Showband, Chet Atkins, Al Hirt;

Composers: Hammond and Hazelwood; **Group:** Equals; **Car:** Fiat 124 Coupé. **Miscellaneous dislikes:** Rudeness, slow drivers, especially drivers who haven't yet fitted indicators on their cars. **Miscellaneous likes:** Sleep; just living; I love my home town Mullinga. **Best friend:** Tony Coppola. **Most thrilling experience:** "Top Of The Pops". **Tastes in music:** Very varied. **Forthcoming disc project:** LP in September. **Pets:** Abolitions (Kim and Bruce). **Personal ambition:** To settle down sometime get married and have loads of children. **Professional ambition:** To be an international artist.

Professional name: Joe Dolan. **Real name:** Joe Dolan. **Birthdate:** October 16, 1943. **Personal points:** 5ft 10ins; 11st; green eyes; brown hair. **Parents' names:** Ellen and Patrick. **Brothers' and sisters' names:** Ben, Patrick, James, Vincent, Imalds, Ita, Dumphila. **Marital status:** single. **Present home:** Mullinga, Westmeath, Ireland. **Instruments played:** piano, guitar, drums. **Where educated:** Mullinga. **Musical education:** piano. **Age entered showbusiness:** 16 years. **First public appearance as amateur:** Mullinga "Beginners Please," local radio station programme, aged 14. **First professional appearance:** Dublin, 1963. **Biggest break in career:** "Make Me An Island" making the British charts. **Biggest disappointment in career:** None. **TV debut:** Telefe Eireann (Dublin), 1965. **Radio debut:** Radio Eireann, 1965. **First important public appearance:** Dublin Capitol Theatre. **London theatre or cabaret dates:** None. **No 1 hit discs in Ireland:** "Pretty Brown Eyes," "Tar And Cement," "Make Me An Island" and "House With The Whitewashed Gable." **Other discs which appeared in best selling:** "The Answer To Everything," "Love Of The Common People," "My Own Peculiar Way," "Aching Breaking Heart." (All in Ireland). **Current hit:** "Make Me An Island." **Albums:** "The Answer To Everything" (Pye Golden Guinea), Joe Dolan's Greatest Hits "Marble Arch." **EPs:** Joe Dolan and The Drifters." **Present disc label:** Pye. **Other labels in past:** None. **Recording manager:** Geoffrey Everitt. **Personal manager:** Seamus Casey.

IT'S BEEN A VERY BAD SCENE FOR GEORGIE

"IT'S essential from a business point of view to get a single out. People think that if you don't get one out for six months you're finished." That was Georgie Fame explaining the recording scene during our meeting at "Top Of The Pops" recently. Well now, Georgie's current hit, "Peaceful," was released in June and the one before that was "By The Time I Get To Phoenix" which first saw the light of record shops in May last year.

Not commercial
"There's just been a bad scene in the studios," Georgie explained. "Nothing I've written has been considered commercial, I did go to the studio several times but there was nothing to release at a single." That, I can imagine, is pretty frustrating, especially when you've been working with someone as talented as Bob Johnston who also records Bob Dylan. "He's a very talented guy and easy to work with," Georgie commented, "and I'd like to do some more with him if I go to the States. If we had more time we could have got an album out, but we spent a lot of time getting the sound and arrangement right." "Peaceful" isn't the sort of song I'd normally associate with Georgie and ask him how he got hold of it.

I was chatting to Tony Bramwell of Apple in the Speakeasy one night about three or four months ago and he mentioned it," he replied. "Apple were just publishing it here and I thought it'd be right for me. It was recorded as a single and it's not what you'd call an instant smash by a long shot. In fact, no one liked it at first, but it's doing quite well. The trouble is, after a long time people expect something special."

Changed
Georgie's road manager came into the dressing room to sort out some arrangements for the show. Georgie began to change and, as he did so, we talked some more about recording.

I did an album with strings for CBS, but I don't want to release it just yet. We kept going into the studio but nothing for a single came out, so we did the album. The first thing I want to do now is get the recording side organised, then go on the road."

But going on the road for Georgie will mean long cabaret stints. He tried it recently and decided that, though he was doing well, he could be stuck in it for ever unless he did something else quickly. The



EXCITING BILLY

BILLY FURY may qualify as a pop veteran but he's lost none of his stage excitement over the years, as audiences who saw him at the Excel Bowl, Middlesbrough and Stockton Fiesta recently will testify.

There's still plenty of movement from Billy, who uses every square foot of stage, singing to a girl in the front row, and then bounding across to the other side. His voice is a lot stronger these days, and his patter, although not perfect by any means, is a lot less nervous. Billy's act consists mainly of chart hits like "I Will," "I'd Never Find Another You," "Hello To Paradise," "Last Night Was Made For Love" and "It's Only Make Believe," which received thunderous applause.

Don't write Billy Fury off the good single and he'll be right back — G.C.

By RICHARD GREEN

"something else," he has hit on will be a small group to accompany him and he has already started approaching some musicians he has in mind.

"I want to handpick some guys for a single and then, if I could persuade them, go on the road with them," he said. "I don't want to devote my whole career to cabaret or special concerts."

He plans some work with the Harry South Band, beginning with a couple of broadcasts, and also wants to set some good material written.

"I'm a very casual person," he said with a grin. "I have to be pushed into things."

WELL BOB I'D LIKE TO SINK THE ISLE OF WIGHT IN AUGUST 31st

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NME'S RICHARD GREEN HELPS

OH happy day! Vanity Fare were celebrating the fact that "Early In The Morning" was in the Top Ten, but didn't quite know how to go about it. So the NME suggested a river trip from Westminster to Greenwich and they accepted. With but a few minutes to spare before the boat left, the group rushed up to manager Roger "Baby Beast" Easterby and I and we sped down the gangplank giving tourists a field day with their cameras.

Once on board, we went below to the saloon where Roger produced two bottles of champagne and opened one. The resounding bang interrupted the running commentary of the Thames-side sites up above and our party was requested to report to the captain. Thoughts of being clapped in irons entered our heads, so a glass of bubbly was offered as a bribe. All to no avail. We had to be quiet.

Once at Greenwich, the Gypsy Moth was inspected, also the Cutty Sark, then more glamorous sites, like the local talent. The comments from Vanity Fare when only their road manager and I successfully managed to chat up two girls will not be mentioned.

Replies to questions like "How's it feel to be in the chart again?" were met with replies like "Well, I'm gonna buy me 'mum a nice 'ouse in Epping Forest" and "I fink I'll buy a couple of dozen Rolls Royces."

When we did, finally and after much brow-beating, get down to some serious chat, we talked about the label that has been hung on Vanity Fare as goody-goodies.

"I know," replied Tony Goulden, they all reckon we're nice and quiet and don't do anything wrong and you've got to be like the Cream or Jimmi Hendrix or someone to mean anything. But, we work all the time and still draw big crowds, so who are these people who say we're wrong?"

Nice lads

"We haven't let anyone down, yet because we were built up as nice, clean-living lads a lot of people don't want to know. On stage we do a varied act, and that includes a bit of raving. We've not had any complaints, anyway."

"Early In The Morning" is the group's second hit after a spell of absence from the charts. It retains

the sound that is associated with the group and I wondered if this might not tend to get them cast into a particular mould.

"We've been through this and I know what you mean, but there really isn't any set plan when we record as far as singles go," Tony Jarrett told me. "We don't go into the studios and say 'oh, we've got to get a nice, summery sound' or anything like that."

"If you listen to us on stage and on record you'll find that our music has changed quite a bit since we started. Since we got Barry in on organ, we've been able to get a heavier sound, and he's writing a hell of a lot. We like to write, but he's at it all the time."



Celebrating in the time-honoured manner with a champagne cruise... that was not quite so grand as it sounds. This was a hire boat on the Thames, but still a very pleasant way to spend a lazy afternoon. (L to r) DICK ALLIX, manager ROGER EASTERBY, NME'S RICHARD GREEN, BARRY LANDEMAN, TONY JARRETT, TONY GOULDEN and TREVOR BRICE.

VANITY FARE FIND TWO GOOD WAYS TO CELEBRATE TOP 10



Still traditional, but much more enviable. Vanity Fare pose with Miss Sandra Brown (left) and the runner up LYNETTE MARCHANT.

A PUSH-OVER, REALLY!



This was the NME photo session which didn't go quite as planned. When our photographer Stuart Richman asked Vanity Fair to lean a little more to the left this was the result. The picture they were actually posing for is on the extreme right.

GENE LATTER

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Columbia SX/SCX 6351

Today, with all the hard competition in the music business, it's almost impossible to come up with anything totally original. So we haven't—

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THE GREATEST RECORDING ORGANISATION IN THE WORLD

'MAN' IS A BETTER HIT FROM ENGEL

CATCHING UP with Engelbert Humperdinck these days is no mean feat when our "Better Man" seems to spend so much of his time zooming in a privately-hired Piper Comanche between Great Yarmouth — where he's in summer season — and recording sessions and TV dates in London.

Little do many of the Yarmouth holidaymakers realise — when a superbly-groomed Engel steps out onto the stage of the ABC to sock it to 'em with a crisp new act with a lot more action than in the past — that he's probably spent most of the day several hundred miles away. And that as soon as he finishes, they'll probably whisk him to a private airfield in a fast blue Rolls and that he'll be home in Surrey and asleep around 1 a.m. I know I had a tough enough time making contact; I was due to meet Engel at the "Dee Time" studios at 3.30 p.m. on Saturday afternoon . . . got there at 3.34 p.m. . . . and found him just about to make for the airport to get back in time for the first house!

Convenient

Said Engelbert, when I eventually caught up with him: "I don't fly every day. But it's convenient and quick, especially now I have a record out and it's often a case of trying to be in two places at the same time."

"No, I don't co-pilot the plane . . . but I'm interested, and one of these days it would be nice to get some time and try for a pilot's licence. I must say it's a great kick looking at the world down there, and there's something about a small plane that seems to give you confidence and care a fear of flying."

Added Engel, referring to his manager and friend Gordon Mills, who has been joining him on the Comanche hops: "The greatest thing is the time that's saved, and the fact that we can sleep while we travel."

By ALAN SMITH

"Mainly, I've been coming up to finish off stuff for the album, which is due out in about a month. There's no special theme to it . . . it's just good songs, and the public can decide if it's good singing!"

Other things are happening on the Engelbert transport scene, in that at the moment he's got two Rolls-Royce and a nip-about car, a Mercedes.

But getting him to talk about them isn't easy, and I found it's because that while he likes the luxury and the style of elegant driving, he doesn't want to be thought flash by those people who always take these things the wrong way.

In fact, he's already in the throes of selling the second Rolls because the other one is a new model, and he's more than happy with that.

Certainly, both or all of them are due for a spell in the garage shortly, when Engel's summer season ends and he goes to America for several months of cabaret and TV.

Quick return

He told me: "I go to the Greek Theatre in Los Angeles in four weeks, I come back very quickly here to do my television special for America, then I go back to the States to do Philadelphia, the Americana and Las Vegas."



"It means being away for Christmas, but I accept that, and it's not as if it's the first time I've been away at that time . . . at least, not for anything as big as this!"

"I'm A Better Man" is a different and deeper song for Engelbert, and I asked him if it was a deliberate move on his part.

He answered: "It's a little away from what I normally do, and I think it's a classic piece of music. I think this is what the public are going for these days. They like something with meaning."

Particularly meaningful for Engelbert at the moment is the fact that he's been able to help a local organisation in Great Yarmouth raise money for a hospital heart machine. "Things like that are the only things I like doing in charity," he told me. "Sometimes you get requests to help a dog's home or something — and no disrespect to dogs, but it's far more rewarding for me to feel I'm doing something positive and practical that can help to save lives."

He didn't say it helped him feel a "Better Man." But the thought was there.

from you to us Thank you, Tom for making Elvis work

TOM JONES has Elvis Presley to thank for his act? (FYTU Aug 16) Well—maybe I think we Elvis fans have to thank Tom because the fact that Elvis is performing live again. If Tom hadn't been America's "King of Showbiz" then El would probably still be sitting at home taking it easy.

His return wasn't because of pleas by fans or tempting financial offers. He is back because Tom's

them could be investigated and it could be ensured that the public getting the best possible value for his money. — JEFFREY D. NICHOLLS, Wolverhampton, Staffs.

LP TOKEN WINNER

huge success in America has forced him into it, after all, he's never had any competition before! Well done Tom Jones, here is one Elvis Presley fan who is very, very grateful. — SHELAGH HAYDEN, Nuneaton, Worcs.

I WAS ONE of the lucky people to see the ninth National Jazz and Blues Festival. I did not think that Richard Green said that the Who and the Nice were far above all the other groups (NME, Aug 16).

All of the artists — the best, in my opinion, were undoubtedly the Family. Their stage act and music were brilliant and they excited the audience so much that the London Cast of "Hair" following them were drowned by the shouts of people wanting more from the Family. — LINDA WATSON, Westbury-on-Tweed, Ctes.

THE DEPRESSING drive played on "Top Gear" wouldn't sound as bad if played by a more cheerful DJ. John Peel is wasting his talents playing records. He should be a cricket commentator. Preferably overseas. — C. G. WOOLER, Preston, Lancs.

Readers' Letters should be sent to: Tony Bromley, New Musical Express, 112 Strand, London, W.C.2. Each week an LP record will be chosen and sent to the writer of the best letter.

I HAVE BEEN very pleased to see that during the past few months, and up until this week, that albums by Johnno Tull, Led Zepplins, Blindwyg Pig, Moody Blues and the Pink Floyd have all successfully reached the NME LP charts.

I HOPE PEOPLE in these islands realise how lucky we are in our performers. Musicians such as Keith Richard and Billy Preston, Jeff Beck and Eric Clapton, who, besides playing for their own groups, play for each other on a very wide basis.

However I feel that if Radio One played the Underground, Blues and Progressive records more, other than just the one John Peel show each week, they would sell even more widely and have a greater impact on the music world.

When the cream of our performers join forces to please the public surely, it's a hearing, musical perfection? — W. WHITNEY, Leeds, Yorkshire.

So how about if you BBC DJ's, what about more of these kind of shows and cut down just a little on the "Commercial Pop" shows? — MIKE NICHOLLS, Hale, Cheshire.

I FIND IT ridiculous that all those who were mourning about the manufactory sound and status of the Monkees have completely disregarded them now when they are doing everything themselves, including writing, arranging and producing their own records.

SURELY IT is time that an independent body was set up to protect the recording public's interest. Such a committee could ensure that tracks of LP's released as singles are clearly marked as such, and are released at the same time so that the public is not misled into buying something needlessly by the record buyer.

How many have actually listened to their latest LP? Instant Replay which illustrates the many talents of this group?

Complaints concerning the quality of records or the material contained on

It would be a great loss if the Ford family illustrates the many talents of this group? It would be a great loss if the Ford family illustrates the many talents of this group? It would be a great loss if the Ford family illustrates the many talents of this group?

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Stoney Davy will do anything for more money we aim to

"I'M broke," said Davy Jones to the attractive girl talking to him. "You've got more money than I've got. I owe the tax-man quite a bit, I owe money to almost everybody I know, and I've got a pile of unpaid bills at home."



DAVY JONES pictured in his London hotel recently with wife LINDA and their daughter THALIA.

The setting for this startling revelation from the Monkee was a plush suite in London's Savoy Hotel, hardly the pied a terre for a near bankrupt.

"I'm here to work on the Tennessee Ernie Ford special with Harry Secombe and Terry Thomas," he said. "Me? With them? You know me, I'll do anything for money."

"Well, that's not strictly true, but the way I see it is this. I'm not a singer or a musician. I never have been, the Monkees never were, I'm an entertainer, and if somebody wants to pay me for being around on the top of a London bus, looking at all the sights, and riding a few lines, why should I refuse?"

The girl started talking about her integrity, referring to the line "You bet your sweet booty, David had to speak on his Rowan and Martin TV appearance."

"How the hell should I know what it means? But when they asked me to appear on the show to say that line, I didn't see the script, I saw green pieces of paper and spent the next three days rehearsing the line."

"They must know what it means, and I suppose the audience knows. I don't have to, as long as I do exactly what I'm told."

by GORDON COXHILL

"Falling off? Who says our popularity is falling off? People come up and say we aren't as big in Britain as we are in the States, and they only think that because our music papers aren't writing about us like they used to."

Give up

"If they can't get hold of what they want, they give up and use something they can get easily. We can still play almost anywhere in the world and in British theatre. In the States we have a new series of peak hour television which will run for two years."

"But you mustn't think of the Monkees as danger of money being spent needlessly by the record buyer. We joined Screen Goms as actors

who could play a bit of music, not actors who play music. It's a group, a music group, the best that ever happened. How could anyone compare us with them. But I loved what they put in the same bracket as the Beatles."

"But let's be honest, what a job! If you put a bass guitar in your hands, it becomes an actor's prop. I can play a couple of notes but it's a prop, that's all. I don't care ever happened. How could anyone compare us with them. But I loved what they put in the same bracket as the Beatles."

"While I'm here doing the Ernie Ford thing, the others are heading shows, complex things. Not guessing in them but actually running the show. That's how separate we are."

Somehow the subject of money came up again, with Davy giving his arm through the air as he told us that Screen Goms take a straight 50 per cent of every dollar he earns.

"That's half," he said, as if he had just realised the significance of that. "That's why I have to carry on working. I've got another two and a half years to go on my contract at Screen Goms, and then they would see me for dust. Then I'll be the big guy behind the desk, hiring and firing."

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SWINGING SINGERS

EDWIN HAWKINS SINGERS: * Ain't It Like Him (Buddah).

A MAGNIFICENT gospel disc that's charged with vibrancy and magnetism. A change of style from "Oh Happy Day," it's an up-beat routine that sizzles along at a rattling pace. The impassioned uninhibited vocal is supported by enthusiastic chanting from the rest of the Hawkins Singers.

The whole thing swings along to the accompaniment of organ, piano and handclaps. It's a full, dynamic, utterly absorbing sound.

But, whereas the group's hit had an element of commerciality about it, this hasn't! It's pure unadulterated gospel — which, under normal circumstances, would probably be too limited in appeal to set into the Chart.

But I suspect that Hawkins has now whetted the fans' appetite for the genuine article, and this could well make it two in a row for his group — though I doubt if it will be as big as "Happy Day."

A boy called Sue

JOHNNY CASH: † A Boy Named Sue (CBS).

A N amusing country ditty, about the disadvantages of a boy being saddled with a girl's name! Effortlessly drafted in Johnny Cash's dark-brown tones, and set to a peppy, finger-clicking beat.

This is one of the tracks from his LP recorded at San Quentin, and it's performed against a background of cheers and laughter from the prisoners. It's good fun, even though it's a good song that a rift phrase repeated over and over, and therefore has no substantial value. An ideal personality showcase, but the LP sales may detract from its success.

SHACK'S TEST

CHICKEN SHACK: † Tears In The Wind (Blue Horizon).

THE moment of truth for Chicken Shack, which features its new line-up for the first time on disc. With Christine Perfect now having left the group, the new lead vocalist is guitarist Stan Webb, who also wrote this number. It's a good song, too — lyrically poignant and reflective.

Stan's styling opens quietly, then builds into a powerful heartfelt outpouring, before it settles down into subdued mood again.

His voice doesn't have the inherent blues quality of Christine's, but this is amply compensated for by the earthy blues sound which Shack dispenses instrumentally.

It's a slow-paced item, which didn't hit me so hard on first hearing as "I'd Rather Go Blind." But Shack's current popularity could well carry it — and deservedly so!

* TIPPED FOR CHARTS
† CHART POSSIBLE

DEAN MARTIN: † I Take A Lot Of Pride In What I Am (Reprise).

IT'S obvious that Dean Martin had "Gentle" on his mind when he elected to record this. In many respects, it's very similar to his recent smash hit — it has the same flowing and liting quality, the same snappy beat, the same reminiscent and philosophic outlook in the lyric.

And one or two snatches of the melody instantly remind you of "Gentle On My Mind." But — as often happens in such cases — as a whole is not nearly as good. Dino is his usual easy-going nonchalant self, as he casually draws the words, supported by soothing strings and a girl group.

But in a way, I don't see it as hit material, even though it's extremely pleasant listening. And it gets into the Chart with it, as well he may, it will be largely on the strength of his last one.

Dino has 'Gentle' on his mind

SING-ALONG WITH ORBY

ROY ORBISON: † Penny Arcade (London).

A HAPPY-GO-LUCKY novelty that, for me, was rather spoiled by a carelessly-constructed lyric. At times, Roy Orbison has to hang on to syllables to make them fit the melody, and on other occasions he has to gabble the words in order to fit them all in!

But apart from this, it's a jaunty bouncer with a carnival quality and an infectious sing-along chorus — and far removed from the tear-jerking ballads we've come to expect from the Big O. All about the pleasures (?) of wasting your money on the slot machines! Stands an outside chance.

TOP SINGLES REVIEW



American group CRAZY ELEPHANT who look like getting their second British hit with "Sunshine, Red Wine" reviewed below.

Second hit for Elephant

CRAZY ELEPHANT: * Sunshine, Red Wine (Major Minor).

ANOTHER hunk of bubblegum from the Crazy Elephant that unashamedly follows the same pattern as "Gimme Good Lovin'." Hal King's thick fruity croak solos

the verses, then all four boys get together in the catchy and repetitive chorus — and I must say they have a good full sound in the ensemble passages.

The predictable backing consists of organ, rasping saxes, brass phrases, handclaps and that irresistible throbbing beat we've come to associate with the idiom.

Before the advent of the Elephant, I began to think that bubblegum had hit its day, but clearly this isn't! I don't rate this as so instantly catchy as the group's initial hit (and that's important with bubblegum). But it's a wonderfully happy and immensely danceable disc (which is equally important).

CYRIL STAPLETON ORCHESTRA: Department 5/Somerset Maugham (Pye).

A disc with two A-sides, both themes from popular TV series — and both, incidentally, composed by Edwin Astley.

Crisply, dramatically and busily performed by the immaculate Stapleton Orchestra. I imagine that most of you will already be familiar with these melodies via the juggle-box, and presumably only fans of the series in the question will be interested in securing this record.

THE GUESS WHO: Laughing (RCA).

A slow introspective ballad, soloed by the leader of the Guess Who, erupts into a faster-paced chorus — in which the other members of the group chip in with ear-catching harmonies.

The lyrical idea is original and well-conceived but, like so many discs these days, a severe handicap in the absence of any worth-while melody.

WATTS 103rd STREET RHYTHM BAND: The You Get Enough (Warner).

A 'must' for discotheques, with its nagging compulsive beat. First half of the disc is instrumental featuring a mean bluesy guitar. Then into a blues-shouted solo vocal punctuated by biting brass.

Virtually no melody, but all the time there's that insidious jerk beat and the effect borders on the hypnotic. An intriguing blend of soul, jazz and r and b from the Watts group.

JAMES ROYAL: Send Out Love (CBS).

British boy who's big on the Continent, but has yet to register here at home. It's an intense blues ballad, soulfully delivered by James Royal, and backed by enveloping gospel chanting and plinking Piano. Composed by Fleet and Fletcher. Have clearly been influenced by Edwin Hawkins' success, and most admit that arranger Keith Mansfield has given it a distinctly American sound.

JEFFERSON CHASES BLUES AWAY

JEFFERSON CHASES BLUES AWAY

JEFFERSON: † Baby Take Me In Your Arms (Pye).

JEFFERSON takes full advantage of this catchy rhythmic ballad, and projects his personality and song-selling ability to the utmost. Penned by the Macleod-Macaulay team, it's one of those busy routines with a full orchestral backing — blaring brass, swirling strings and double-time tambourine. The singer dual-tracks the sing-along chorus, which is repeated several times, so there is ample opportunity for it to register. A bright blues-chaser — but, with so many big names released this week, all will depend on the number of air-plays it gets.

EDWIN STARR: † 25 Miles (Tania Motown).

Recorded last year by Edwin Starr, this is Tania at its most exhilarating and stimulating. Swings along at a tear-up pace, with Edwin's galvanic and explosive vocal framed in a bustling backing.

I remember being very enthusiastic about Starr's last single — but it didn't get into the Chart — and even though this is as good, I clearly can't be too optimistic about it.

JUNIOR'S EYES: Star Child (Regal Zephonah).

I commend this disc to anyone who likes something a bit off the beaten track. It has a strong melodic content and a strangely exotic quality, plus a well-constructed lyric. Grom Kelly's gripping solo is supported by chanting and occasional drum-thumps. Not everyone's cup of tea, but a good one from Junior's Eyes.

Bobbie Gentry

sings the latest Burt Bacharach/Hal David composition from the hit Broadway Musical "Promises, Promises"

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New Singles

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4460 **Johnny Cash**
A Boy Named Sue

4465 **January** It Sings For Me

4463 **James Royal** Send Out Love

4466 **Sean Dunphy And The Hoedowners**
When The Fields Are White With Daisies

4443 **The Gun Hobo**

4468 **John Barry**
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57-3160 **Chicken Shack**
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NME TOP 30

(Week ending Wednesday, August 20, 1969)

LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	TITLE	ARTIST	RECORD	WEEKS ON CHART
1	1	HONKY TONK WOMEN	Rolling Stones	(Decca)	7 1
2	2	SAVED BY THE BELL	Robin Gibb	(Polydor)	7 2
3	3	MY CHERIE AMOUR	Stevie Wonder	(Tamla Motown)	6 3
11	4	IN THE YEAR 2525	Zager & Evans	(RCA)	3 4
5	5	MAKE ME AN ISLAND	Joe Dolan	(Pye)	8 5
4	6	GIVE PEACE A CHANCE	Plastic Ono Band	(Apple)	7 2
9	7	EARLY IN THE MORNING	Vanity Fare	(Page One)	4 7
8	8	CONVERSATIONS	Cilla Black	(Parlophone)	7 8
6	9	GOODNIGHT MIDNIGHT	Clodagh Rodgers	(RCA)	6 5
18	10	TOO BUSY THINKING ABOUT MY BABY	Marvin Gaye	(Tamla Motown)	4 10
15	11	BRINGING ON BACK THE GOOD TIMES	Love Affair	(CBS)	5 11
7	12	IN THE GHETTO	Elvis Presley	(RCA)	10 1
15	13	CURLY	Move	(Regal Zonophone)	4 13
10	14	I CAN SING A RAINBOW/LOVE IS BLUE	Dells	(Chess)	5 10
22	15	VIVA BOBBY JOE	Equals	(President)	3 15
13	16	BABY MAKE IT SOON	Marmalade	(CBS)	9 9
19	17	WET DREAM	Max Romeo	(Unity)	10 17
12	18	IT MEK	Desmond Dekkar	(Pyramid)	8 8
19	19	BAD MOON RISING	Creedence Clearwater Revival	(Liberty)	1 19
27	20	SI TU DOIS PARTIR	Fairport Convention	(Island)	2 20
28	21	GOOD MORNING STARSHINE	Oliver	(CBS)	2 21
29	22	NATURAL BORN BUGIE	Humble Pie	(Immediate)	2 22
14	23	GOO GOO BARABAJAGAL	Donovan & the Jeff Beck Group	(Pye)	6 14
24	24	I'M A BETTER MAN	Englebert Humperdinck	(Decca)	3 24
25	25	DON'T FORGET TO REMEMBER	Bee Gees	(Polydor)	1 25
26	26	WHEN TWO WORLDS COLLIDE	Jim Reeves	(RCA)	7 21
23	27	PEACEFUL	Georgie Fame	(CBS)	4 22
28	28	JE T'AIME... .. MOI NON PLUS	Jane Birkin & Serge Gainsbourg	(Fontana)	1 28
17	29	THAT'S THE WAY GOD PLANNED IT	Billy Preston	(Apple)	7 6
20	30	HELLO SUSIE	Amen Corner	(Immediate)	9 4

Britain's Top 20 LPs

LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	TITLE	ARTIST	RECORD	WEEKS ON CHART
1	1	STAND UP	Jethro Tull	(Island)	4 1
2	2	2001 SPACE ODYSSEY	Soundtrack	(MGM)	12 2
3	3	ACCORDING TO MY HEART	Jim Reeves	(RCA)	9 2
4	4	FROM ELVIS IN MEMPHIS	Elvis Presley	(RCA)	2 4
4	5	FLAMING STAR	Elvis Presley	(RCA)	9 1
7	6	LIONEL BART'S OLIVER!	Soundtrack	(RCA)	19 4
9	7	UNHALFBRICKING	Fairport Convention	(Island)	4 7
5	8	HAIR	London Cast	(Polydor)	29 3
6	9	THIS IS TOM JONES	(Decca)	10 1	
12	10	AHEAD RINGS OUT	Blodwyn Pig	(Island)	3 10
15	11	AT SAN QUENTIN	Johnny Cash	(CBS)	2 11
10	12	BEST OF CLIFF RICHARD	(Columbia)	7 5	
14	13	LED ZEPPELIN	(Atlantic)	17 5	
20	14	THE WORLD OF VAL DOONICAN	(Decca)	32 4	
15	15	AS SAFE AS YESTERDAY IS	Humble Pie	(Immediate)	1 15
11	16	ON THE THRESHOLD OF A DREAM	Moody Blues	(Deram)	18 1
18	16	RAY CONNIF, HIS ORCHESTRA, HIS CHORUS, HIS SINGERS, HIS SOUND	(CBS)	10 8	
15	18	MY WAY	Frank Sinatra	(Reprise)	12 1
19	19	THE PIOUS BIRD OF GOOD OMEN	Fleetwood Mac	(Blue Horizon)	1 19
17	20	BEST OF GLEN MILLER	(RCA)	3 17	

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5 YEARS AGO

TOP TEN 1964 Week ending Aug 21

- 1 DO WAH DIDDY DIDDY Manfred Mann (HMV)
- 2 HAVE I THE RIGHT Honeycombs (Pye)
- 3 A HARD DAY'S NIGHT Beatles (Parlophone)
- 4 CALL UP THE GROUPS Barron Knights (Columbia)
- 5 TOBACCO ROAD Nashville Teens (Decca)
- 6 I WON'T FORGET YOU Jim Reeves (RCA)
- 7 ITS ALL OVER NOW Rolling Stones (Decca)
- 8 YOU REALLY GOT ME Kinks (Pye)
- 9 ITS FOR YOU Cilla Black (Parlophone)
- 10 I GET AROUND Beach Boys (Capitol)

10 YEARS AGO

TOP TEN 1959 Week ending Aug 21

- 1 LIVING DOLL Cliff Richard (Columbia)
- 2 DREAM LOVER Bobby Darin (London)
- 3 LIPS TIC K ON YOUR COLLAR Connie Francis (MGM)
- 4 BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS Lonnie Donegan (Pye)
- 5 LONELY BOY Paul Anka (Columbia)
- 6 ONLY SIXTEEN Craig Douglas (Top Rank)
- 7 BIG HUNK O' LOVE Elvis Presley (RCA)
- 8 HEART OF A MAN Frankie Vaughan (Philips)
- 9 ROULETTE Russ Conway (Columbia)
- 10 A TEENAGER IN LOVE Marty Wilde (Philips)

15 YEARS AGO

TOP TEN 1954 Week ending Aug 20

- 1 CARA MIA David Whitfield (Decca)
- 2 LITTLE THINGS MEAN A LOT Kitty Kallen (Brunswick)
- 3 IDLE GOSSIP Perry Como (HMV)
- 4 SECRET LOVE Doris Day (Philips)
- 5 THREE COINS IN THE FOUNTAIN Frank Sinatra (Capitol)
- 6 MY FRIEND Frankie Laine (Philips)
- 7 WANTED Al Martino (Capitol)
- 8 THREE COINS IN THE FOUNTAIN Perry Como (HMV)
- 9 WANTED Four Aces
- 10 BEST OF THREE LOVES Winifred Atwell (Philips)

BEST SELLING POP RECORDS IN U.S.

By courtesy of "Cash Box."

(Tuesday, August 19, 1969)

- 1 HONKY TONK WOMEN, Rolling Stones
- 2 IN THE YEAR 2525, Zager & Evans
- 3 A BOY NAMED SUE, Johnny Cash
- 4 SWEET CAROLINE, Neil Diamond
- 5 BUT A LITTLE LOVE IN YOUR HEART, Jackie De Shannon
- 6 SUGAR, Sugar, Archies
- 7 RUBY, DON'T TAKE YOUR LOVE TO TOWN, Ken Rogers & First Edition
- 8 LAUGHING, Guess Who
- 9 POLK SALAD ANNE, Tony Joe White
- 10 GET TOGETHER, Youngbloods
- 11 FRIENDS, QUASTON, Tommy James & Shondells
- 12 GIVE PEACE A CHANCE, Plastic Ono Band
- 13 LAY LADY LAY, Bob Dylan
- 14 WAIT A MILLION YEARS, Grass
- 15 GREEN RIVER, Creedence Clearwater Revival
- 16 BABY I LOVE YOU, Andy Kim
- 17 MY CHERIE AMOUR, Stevie Wonder
- 18 SOUL DEEP, Box Tops
- 19 I'M A MAN, The Miracles
- 20 WHAT DOES IT TAKE, Jr. Walker & The Stars
- 21 I'M A BELIEVER, The Belairs
- 22 I'M A BELIEVER, The Belairs
- 23 WORKING ON A GROOVY THING, 5th Dimension
- 24 HURT SO BAD, Lettermen
- 25 I'LL NEVER FALL IN LOVE AGAIN, The Miracles
- 26 BIRTHDAY, Underground Sunshine
- 27 MY PLEDGE OF LOVE, Joe Jeffrey Group
- 28 YOUR LOVE WITH ME, Aretha Franklin
- 29 QUENTIN'S THEME, Charles Randolph
- 30 I'M FREE, Who

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Big country package coming for concerts

A BIG country-and-western package, consisting of artists who record for RCA, is to undertake a European tour in the autumn and will take a minimum of four concerts in Britain. Line-up includes George Hamilton IV, Bobby Bare, Shaefer Davis, Nat Stuebel, Connie Smith, the Hilliards and Country Fever. British dates are at BIRMINGHAM Odeon (October 31), SHEFFIELD City Hall (November 1), MANCHESTER Odeon (2) and LONDON Royal Albert Hall (17). Chet Atkins is added to the bill for the Albert Hall

concert, and this will be his only British date. The package arrives in Britain on October 29, and the following night two of the artists will appear at London's Nashville Room. November 3 and 5 are being held for concerts in Belfast and Dublin, but these will only be confirmed if the current unrest in those cities subsides. The tour, which is promoted by Arthur Howes, plays concerts in Holland, Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Finland during the November 7-13 period, prior to returning to London for the Albert Hall date.

OBITUARIES

THE NME deeply regrets to announce the death at 62 of Jack Marshall, who was the paper's best-known music critic from 1953 to 1956. He had previously been with another trade paper and on leaving the NME continued in journalism as a freelance.

The death has also been announced of Syd Richardson (64), a director of Lawrence W. King Music. He was one of Tim Pan Alley's best-known behind-the-scenes personalities, and had been responsible for promoting many of his songs which have subsequently become evergreen.

Mr. Richardson was affectionately known as "Hutch" and died this week aged 69. He was a big-selling recording artist for HMV in the years before and during the war.

The death occurred last Friday of agent Jean Lincoln, who discovered Kenny Lynch and managed him in the New York area in the New York Bar where she was staying with her fiancé Rick Curtis, vice-president of Bert Stigwood Inc. The couple had planned to marry later this year. Jean was 34.

The death occurred last Friday of agent Jean Lincoln, who discovered Kenny Lynch and managed him in the New York area in the New York Bar where she was staying with her fiancé Rick Curtis, vice-president of Bert Stigwood Inc. The couple had planned to marry later this year. Jean was 34.

HUMBLE PIE - EUROPE THEN NATURAL BORN BUGIE

HUMBLE PIE — whose debut single "Natural Born Bugie" climbs to No. 21 in this week's NME Chart — is to undertake a British tour in the autumn. No venues have yet been finalised, but the NME understands that the tour will open in London on October 2. It will then play a minimum of 12 other principal cities, before returning to London for its closing date. Although the majority of the venues will be theatres, Humble Pie will also take in a few university and club dates. It is said to be anxious to visit a cross-section of contrasting venues, in order to "assess their suitability for the fusions and total involvement of the group."

Meanwhile, today (Friday) Humble Pie was leaving on the first leg of its initial European tour, and is tonight appearing in the Bilzen Pop Festival in Belgium. After playing club dates in Rotterdam and Amsterdam on Saturday and Sunday, the group stars in its own Dutch-TV show in Hilversum on Monday. It then flies to Germany to give a free concert on Wednesday at the Deutscher Fernsehfunk and the following day travels to Bremen for a guest spot in German-TV's "Beat Club." Other European dates are being set for September.

Although its debut album has only just been released, it comes into the NME LP Chart at No. 15 this week—Humble Pie has been spending this week working on its second LP, which is now more than half completed. The disc will be finished during the first week of September, and it is tentatively planned for release in time for the Christmas market.

LATEST RADIO STAR BOOKINGS

Live interviews from the I.O.W. Festival

RADIO 1 is visiting the Isle of Wight Festival on Sunday, August 24. Johnny Moran will be reporting live from the festival site during the mid-morning "Symonds On Sunday" show and among artists he will be interviewing are Bob Dylan, Keith Richards and members of The Who and the Moody Blues.

Another scoop for Symonds On Sunday is the new single "Humble Pie" by the same name, which is being released at the end of next month, which is replaced by an alternative Symonds show, although it will continue to be heard in "What's New" and "Radio 3's Choice."

Keith Skuse introduces a 24-hour special of the evening of Bank Holiday Monday (September 1). Studio guests include Simon Dupree and the Big Sound, The Arrival, Lisa Carroll, Alan Cartwright and James Ray. Also on Bank Holiday Monday, Radio 1 presents one hour of excerpts from the recent Bratislava Song Festival in Czechoslovakia, in which David Gell will introduce the Beach Boys, the Tremeloes and the Lowells.

Latest bookings for Radio 1 shows include: **JIMMYE LEE** and the Big Sound, **John Leybor** with Almond Marzipan, **Honeybus**, **Lorne Gibson Trio**, **Scott Peters** and **Sam and Lesley**, **Ray Kay** and **Johnny Arcey** (all next week, 25-29); **Marmalade**, **Foundations**, **The Davey Trio**, **Bea Davies**, **Art Movement** and the bands of **Acker Bilk** and **Kenny Ball** (September 1-5).

CHRIS GRANT shows the holiday replacement for the Dave Cass series: **Move**, **Fortunes**, **Cliff Bennett** and **his Searchers**, **Grass**, **New Overlanders**, **Rebel Rousers** and the bands of **Bob Miller** and **Tony Evans** (all next week, 25-29); **Marmalade**, **Foundations**, **The Davey Trio**, **Bea Davies** and **his Button Down Brass** (September 1-5).

SOUNDS LIKE TONY BRANDON, **Vanity Fare**, **Equels**, **Jimmy Ryan**, **Jimmy James** and the **Vagabonds**, **Jimmy Powell** and the **Dimensions**, **Sons And Lovers**, **Setters** and the **John Howard Band** (all next week); **Status Quo**, **Symbols**, the **Alan Brown**, **Timeless**, **Sons And Lovers**, **Callierney**, **Bea Davies** and the **John Howard Band** (September 1-5).

SATURDAY shows are hosted by **Don Hoes** with **Lesley Murray** (on holiday); **Flowerpot Men**, **Lou Lane**, **Don Lusher** Quartet and the **Dennis Wakeford** Quartet; **Home**, **Home**, **Home**, **Honeybus**, **Dave Shepher** Quintet and **Bob Miller's Millermen** (August 30).

GRAVEYARD includes **Patricia and Bridget St. John** (this Sunday, 24); **Michael Chapman** (August 24); **Johnnie Walker**, **Andrews**, **Jimmy Powell** and the **Bob Lesper** Orchestra (Saturday, August 30).



LISA CARROLL

Latest bookings for Radio 1 shows include: **John Leybor** with Almond Marzipan, **Honeybus**, **Lorne Gibson Trio**, **Scott Peters** and **Sam and Lesley**, **Ray Kay** and **Johnny Arcey** (all next week, 25-29); **Marmalade**, **Foundations**, **The Davey Trio**, **Bea Davies**, **Art Movement** and the bands of **Acker Bilk** and **Kenny Ball** (September 1-5).

MAC'S REPRIS DEBUT IS 7-MINUTE DOUBLE-SIDER

A DOUBLE-SIDED number, penned by Peter Green and running for less than seven minutes, will be Fleetwood Mac's first single on the Reprise label—titled "Oh Well." It will be issued in Britain alone. Another Peter Green number "Rattlesnake Shake" will be released throughout the rest of the world as the group's Reprise debut — but as this track is taken from Mac's forthcoming album "The Lay On," it was considered unwise to issue it as a single in this country.

Christine Perfect — former Chicken Shack lead singer, who is married to Mac's John McVie — is recording "When You Say for Blue Horizon." This is one of the three covers from the Fleetwood album, the others being "Before the Beginning" by Mac's manager Clifford Davis and "Closing My Eyes" by Davis' discovery David Mervor, both of which will be issued by Reprise.

Mac's U.S. tour, which was to have begun last month, has now been re-arranged for "later in the year" and will last eight weeks. Prior to this, the group visits Scandinavia from November 1-9. Latest British dates for the group include Plymouth Penryn's Stadium (September 22), Redcar Coatham (14), Sutton Coldfield Belfry (27), Glasgow Celtic's Playhouse (October 16) and London Lyceum Midnight Club (24).

STUART HENRY TV SERIES

Stuart Henry will be resident in BBC-1's new series from Glasgow. The Robin Hall and Jimmie McGregor Show, starting mid-September. He is also heard as a disc-jockey in the forthcoming United-Ediffy "Start Counting." Stuart's regular Sunday show on Radio 1 moves to the new 4-6 pm slot from September 28.

FAMILY DOGG: NEXT SINGLE, LP DETAILS, MEMBER QUILTS

FAMILY DOGG'S follow-up to "A Way Of Life" will be issued by Bell in mid-September and is expected to be the Kenny Young composition "The Sun." The group's debut LP comes out on September 12—among the tracks are Paul Simon's "Save The Life Of My Child," the Presley hit "In The Ghetto," Bob Dylan's "Love Minus Zero," the Hammond-Hazelwood composition "The Day After Tomorrow," "Moonshine Mary," "A Place In The Sun" and the title track "A Way Of Life." Remaining items on the album—all of which are linked by poetry—are originals.

A Co-manager Ronnie Oppenheimer said that several girl singers are at present under consideration as a replacement for Zoey, who left the group in July. "It will be recalled that the second girl singer, Debbie De Vee, left Dogg in June and was replaced by Christine Palmer."

Family Dogg is to undertake a series of concerts starting in December and running through early 11 February. Oppenheimer revealed this date when he set up the group both in Britain and America.

EQUALS OFF TO EUROPE

The Equals fly to Germany today (Friday) to start in two concerts in Duisdorf with Graham Bonney. They then go to Hilversum to record the current hit single "The Hollies" before travelling on to Paris for two days of radio and TV promotion on August 29 and 30. New British dates include Hereford Flamingo (August 29) and Sutton Coldfield Belfry (30).

Damone: London season

Jim Damone is to star in cabaret at London's Talk Of The Town Theatre-Garden from Friday, September 5, to Saturday, September 20. He follows Sammie Davis' ten-day season at this venue — which, as previously reported, opens next Monday (25).

BIG SCREENS OF THE YEAR

MONKEES' SPECIAL

THE Monkees' TV special—previously seen on BBC-2—is to be repeated by BBC-1 on Saturday, August 30. It will be shown only, it will replace "Dee Time" while Simon is on holiday. Among guests in the show are Julie Driscoll with the Brian Auger Trinity, Fats Domino, Little Richard and Jerry Lee Lewis.

DUSTY SERING: FULL GUEST LIST

Full line-up of guests has now been announced for Dusty Springfield's eight-week BBC-1 series which begins on Tuesday, September 9. It comprises Spike Milligan (9), Jimmy Ruffin (10), Danny La Rue (23), the Bee Gees (30), Murray James (October 7), Frida Soccara (14), Tom Springfield (14) and the Fouries (28). Bob and Earl, originally set for a guest spot, have now withdrawn.

HANK RESIDENT IN CLIFF'S TV

Hank Marvin and Una Stubbs will be resident in Cliff Richard's new BBC-1 series—which, as exclusively reported last week—is scheduled to begin early in the New Year. The series will follow the pattern of Cliff's BBC-1 special screened in May, and will include big-name guests.

PRICE—FAME SCREENING PLANS

The first edition of the Alan Price-Georgie Fame series—titled "Price Of Fame"—will be transmitted by BBC-2 on Wednesday, September 17. There will then be a gap until mid-November, before the series proper begins on a weekly basis.

ANDY, DIORNE IN JOSE SPECIAL

Andy Williams, Dionne Warwick, Glen Campbell and Burl Ives are the guests in a 60-minute colour special, which BBC-2 screens on Saturday, August 30. It is titled "Very Special," and replaces "International Cabaret" for one week only.

CILLA, FELIX, HOLLIES ON BBC-1

Cilla Black introduces the Bank Holiday edition of BBC-1's "Disney Time" on Monday, September 1.

The BBC-1 special "Julie Felix In Concert," originally screened three months ago, is being repeated by the same channel next Tuesday (26). Star guests in the show are the Hollies and Marian Montgomery stars in her own one-woman show on BBC-2 on Tuesday, September 2. On the same channel, Kenneth McKellar, Edward Woodward and the Patrons in the Theatre Morecambe and Wise Show" on Sunday, September 7, and Anne Anderson guests in Mantovani's show the following Sunday (14).

SAMMY WITH DAVID JACOBS

As we closed for press, it was announced that Sammy Davis will guest in David Jacobs' LW-TV show this Sunday (24). Susan Maughan is already set.

LONDON CONCERT FOR CONVENTION

AIRPORT CONVENTION

is set for its first concert date since May when it stars at London's Royal Festival Hall on Wednesday, September 24. This will mark the concert platform debut of the group's two new members, Dave Black and Dave Swarbrick.

GENESIS TO REVELATION

You don't need to take a for it, you can go and li your own opinion—I Genesis to revelation' is to be made by a young in ages. Miles ahead of also downright enjoyable The number is SKL or LT

ROY ORBISON'S

completely new departure generally records his own 'Penny arcade' is b songwriter, Sammy King up-tempo number, full o fair, and in spite of the c

THE HOLLIES

THE AARDVARK

THE EVOLUTION

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U.S. SHOWS FOR BRITAIN

Creedence, Aretha, Cash added to Andy's series

MORE star names have been added to the guest list of U.S.-TV's "Andy Williams Show" which—as reported last week—is to be screened by BBC-1 from mid-autumn onwards. New bookings are the Creedence Clearwater Revival, Aretha Franklin, Johnny Cash, Bobby Goldsboro, Roger Miller, Buck Owens and Blood, Sweat and Tears. These are in addition to Armstrong, Donovan, Nancy Sinatra and Jose Feliciano. Four guests will be featured in each edition of the show, which begins in America on September 20 and is expected to commence transmission in this country soon afterwards.

Feliciano due for TV with Tom, Engelbert

Jose Feliciano arrives in Britain at the end of next month to assist in two major TV shows. He spends one week from September 30 singing a week from inclusion in the Tom Jones series, and the following week recording a guest spot in the first edition of Engelbert Humperdinck's world-wide series. Other dates are currently being set for him, one of which is expected to be a London concert.

CLIFF-HANK DUET; MATTRESS LP DELAY

Another Supremes—Temptations disc

DIANA ROSS and the Supremes combine with the Temptations on a new Tamla release announced this week. Also scheduled are singles by Julie Driscoll and Brian Auger, Dionne Warwick's "Odds and Ends" and the Supremes' "Temptations disc". Barry Ryan's first for Polydor is now confirmed, as is the title of P.P. Arnold's next issue. Cliff Richard's next single will be a duet with Hank Marvin. Fat Mattress' debut LP has been put back until the end of this month. Georgie Fame and Chicken Shack have new albums coming out.

JEFFERSON SET FOR HYDE PARK FREE CONCERT

THIS year's last free open-air concert in London Hyde Park will be a showcase for visiting American groups, and Jefferson Airplane and the Grateful Dead are already booked. It is being staged on Saturday, September 6 at 2 p.m. The location is being moved from the Cockpit to a site adjacent to Speakers' Corner.

Herb Alpert in London concert

HERB ALPERT and the Tijuana Brass are to undertake a major European tour from November 4 to 15. The only British date so far included in the itinerary is London's Royal Festival Hall on Friday, November 14, for which the box office will open shortly with tickets priced at 50s., 42s., 35s., 30s., 21s. and 15s. It is understood that Alpert and the band will also play another important date in London during the course of their tour, and details of this second event will be announced later. The group opens its tour in Vienna on November 4, then subsequently plays Munich (5), Hamburg (6), Frankfurt (7), The Hague (9), Brussels (11), Copenhagen (12) and Stockholm (13) prior to its Festival Hall concert. It then flies to Paris on November 15 to film a TV spot with Nana Mouskouri, which may subsequently be seen in this country.



ARTHUR BROWN SOLO PLAN —and Atomic Rooster is born!

ARTHUR BROWN has resigned a management contract with Kit Lambert and Chris Stamp, co-managers of the Who and Thunderclap Newman. He is this week beginning rehearsals as a solo artist backed by an orchestra. "We will work out a change of image and start recording as soon as possible," a spokesman for Track Records said the NME. Brown, 30, who was a member of Crazy World of Arthur Brown, which broke up in New York six months ago — have formed a new group to be known as the Atomic Rooster. They are organised and part-composer of "Fire", Vincent Crane, and drummer Carl Palmer. Third member of the team is Nick Graham (bass, flute and vocals). The group is to make its debut next Thursday (28) at London's Royal Festival Hall. They are also playing at clubs and college dates, including London Lyceum Midnight Club (29), Plymouth Lyndyke (September 1), Hampstead Club Club (7), London Marquee (12), Manchester Marquee (13), Southampton Concord (25), Birmingham Mothers (28) and Croydon Star (28). Its debut LP will be issued by Polydor next month.

ELVIS FAN CLUB WILL SCREEN HIS TV SPEC

THE first British showing of Elvis Presley's NBC-TV spectacular is likely to be at his Fan Club Convention which, as reported last week, will be staged at Leicester De Montfort Hotel, London, on September 21. NBC's European director Peter Marriott is currently visiting America, and has promised the Presley fan club that he will be present at the special for screening at the convention. Among personalities expected to attend the event are Anita Turner, Sheik Williams, Emperor Rosko, David Symonds and Tommy Vance. Yet another offer has been made to Colonel Tom Parker for Elvis to appear in Britain. It was made personally by Lord David Sutch when he visited Las Vegas International Hotel, where Presley is appearing in cabaret. The offer involves £1 million for two performances in one day at Wembley Stadium, which would include the rights for closed-circuit TV to cinemas throughout Britain and a documentary film of Presley's visit. According to Sutch, the Colonel has agreed to discuss the matter further.

DUSTY IN TOM'S TV—TWICE!

DUSTY SPRINGFIELD has been booked for two guest appearances in the second series of ATV's Anglo-American "This Is Tom Jones" — she records the first on November 23 and the second shortly after Christmas, although no transmission dates have been set. The singer flies to Cologne in mid-November to star in her own long-running German TV special. Apart from a guest spot by a leading German artist, it will be entirely a one-woman show. Producer is Bob Ruycens, Nottingham Playhouse, who is also presenting a TV Festival of Christmas, although no transmission dates have been set. Dusty was occupied last weekend in the Philips recording studios, cutting several tracks from which it was hoped to find a single for September 8. She will be in London on September 15 to spend a fortnight recording further tracks for Atlantic.

Scaffold autumn tour

SCAFFOLD is to take its new "Zones" revue on tour, following its fortnight at Edinburgh George Square Theatre from next Monday (28). The show plays Coventry Belgrave (September 28), Salisbury Playhouse (October 6), Bradford University (7), Southampton Nuffield (16, 17 and 18), Nottingham Playhouse (18) and Canterbury Gulbenkian (24 and 25). Additionally, the group plays concerts at Bristol Colston Hall (October 2) and Sunderland Empire (5), and a charity cabaret date at Bristol Top Rank on October 27. Scaffold spends three days from October 30 completing Christmas cards and is now confirmed for a promotional visit to America in November.

***** THE WHO *****

THE WHO

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Stones' British tour should start at end of November

THE Rolling Stones—who retain the No. 1 spot in the NME Chart for the fifth successive week—are planning their eagerly awaited and long-delayed British tour for late autumn. It would open towards the end of November and would run through into December. The British itinerary would come at the end of an extensive seven-week schedule of overseas dates, involving 3-4 weeks of concerts in America (October) followed by at least a fortnight playing major venues throughout Europe (first half of November).

No details have yet been finalised, nor can they be until after Mick Jagger's adjourned drugs charge is heard on September 29. But tentative arrangements are being made, in the hope that the tour will be able to go ahead as planned. During Mick's absence in Australia, where he is filming "Ned Kelly", the remaining Stones are continuing to record several backing tracks for a forthcoming single and LP. Tapes of these recordings are being sent to Australia for Mick's approval, though he is unlikely to add his own vocal tracks until after he returns to London in the early autumn. As reported two weeks ago, Granada-TV's film of the Stones' concert at Hyde Park is being networked on Tuesday, September 2. Despite this, it is still hoped that when a gun he was using during the filming of "Ned Kelly" exploded. He was rushed to hospital for treatment, but doctors said afterwards that the injury would not affect him seriously. Jagger was expected to be back at work on the set yesterday (Thursday).

STARS AT BATTERSEA

A MOST of personalities will attend a festival of pop stars and fashion to be staged at Battersea Festival Gardens on Sunday, September 7. Among those who have accepted invitations, subject to availability, are: Bee Gees, Family Dog, Marmalade, Georgie Fame, Alan Price, Jack Bruce, John Rowles, P. P. Arnold and Cuipei's Inspiration. Several groups will perform during the afternoon following the fashion parade, which will be emceed by comedian Ray Fell. Stars will mingle with fans, signing autographs and posing for pictures, and Radio Luxembourg will be hosting its own stand.

★ POPLINERS ★

THE Who confirmed for its own two-hour non-stop concert at Croydon Fairfield Hall on Sunday, September 21 (7.30 p.m.). ● Scott Walker booked for two weeks in cabaret at Manchester Golden Garter Club from September 8. ● Dave Dee makes final appearance with Doozy, Beaky, Mick and Tich at Sutton Coldfield Heliport on Monday, September 29. ● One-nighters at Birmingham are: Pretty Things (tomorrow, Saturday), Family (Sunday), Edgar Broughton Band (Wednesday), Clouds (August 29) and Liverpool Scene (30). ● Incredible String Band commences its next U.S. tour on September 13. ● Garnet Mimms to Britain in October for 12-day club and ballroom tour, and among dates confirmed are London Douglas House (5), Liverpool Mardi Gras and Victoriana (10), Boston Starlite (11) and Chester Quaintways (13). ● Rockin' Berries in "Mother Goose" pantomime at Doncaster Gaumont from Boxing Day to January 10. ● U.S. jazzman Wild Bill Davison tours here for 17 days from October 17 with specially-formed British band. ● Kinks' first Canadian tour now confirmed for October 13-8. ● George Washington and Ram Jam band at Sheffield Top Rank tonight (Friday). ● Family solo concert at London Royal Festival Hall on Monday, September 15. ● Fat Mattress at London Brunel University on October 30. ● Nine-day tour of Canadian colleges by Harmony Grass from September 16. ● Clouds writing musical score for Lindsay Anderson's film "The Groupies" now being shot in America. ● Cellist Clare Denis has joined Strawbs. ● Deep Purple playing concerts in Holland (this weekend), Germany (September 23) and Spain (27-October 1); group also appears at Montreux Casino in Switzerland on October 4. ● Southampton group Mike People invited to back Martha Reeves and Vandellas on their forthcoming U.S. tour. ● Negotiations in hand for Crazy Elephant to undertake promotional visit to Britain later this year. ● Gun plays ten-day German tour from August 28.

GARNET MIMMS

Garnet Mimms has switched from RCA to Bell, and his first disc for his new label is being produced by Mickie Most.

Les Reed movie score

Les Reed is writing the entire musical score for the new Sammy Davis-Jr. Lawford movie "One More Time," now nearing completion in this country. In conjunction with Geoff Stephens and Jackie Raz, he is also writing three songs which will be featured in the movie.

Gees hit by nud and theft

FRANKIE HOWARD and Spike Milligan are the latest star names to be added to the guest list for the Bee Gees' TV film "Cucumber Castle" filming is at present running behind schedule owing to inclement weather, and director Mike Mansfield "phoned the NME on Monday to say that the location set was "bogged down in a sea of mud." Despite this, it is still hoped that the film will be shot next Thursday (with Richard Harris) and Friday (Sammy Davis Jr.). The Bee Gees told an estimated £10,000 worth of equipment last week and when a thief walked into the grounds of Robert Stigwood's home — drove the special is being filmed — and drove away with the group's Ford Transit van. Among the instruments stolen was a Les Paul guitar, owned by Maurice.

Bee Gee Colin Petersen this week

Bee Gee Colin Petersen this week announced that he has formed a new agency company. His first signing — drove away with the group's Ford Transit van. Among the instruments stolen was a Les Paul guitar, owned by Maurice.

says Genesis is a force for good.

body's word then form think "From the best album in English group it's time and to listen to. 4990.

Roy's already vast horde of devoted fans. The number is HLU 10285 London.

LES REÉ is a busy man, writing and arranging and producing and things. Fortunately not too busy to make records himself. His latest single is a song he co-wrote with Geoff Stevens titled "Rain of love". It's a lovely slow sad ballad and he sings it with great sensitivity. On Chapter One, the number is CH 108.

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THE WAY GOD PLANNED IT

THE NICE

THE NICE (Immortal mono and stereo JMSF 026; 38s. 6d.)

YOU'VE GOT TO BE A TRICKY CAR

BILLY PRESTON: THAT'S THE WAY GOD PLANNED IT (Apple, stereo SAMPOR 9; 37s. 6d.)

PLenty of joyous gospel singing here from young Billy Preston, who was brought up on it with such groups as Mahalia Jackson's and Clara Ward's.

The Way God Planned It, Billy's first British single hit, is given a long airing, parts one and two merging into an exciting experience, and in Morning Star, he thumps out that church hall piano sound and sings the hymn-like song with great zest. Most joyous, however, is Everything's All Right. Billy gets into a rhythmic kick on Bob Dylan's She Belongs To Me, with his girl backing group really going to town, as they do in Keep It To Yourself. I liked

NEW ALBUM FROM MUDDY

Muddy Waters: After The Rain (Chess mono and stereo CRL 453; 37s 9d.)

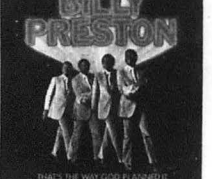
UNLIKE a lot of blues albums currently being released, this one, by Muddy Waters, one of the all-time greats, is a recent recording and has people like Phil Upchurch (guitar) and Otis Spann (piano) among the musicians.

The blues don't seem to have changed much over the years, either in their concept or treatment and this 1969 collection is in the tradition.

Am The Blues is a good opening track as it sums up the whole theme of the album. Roving And Tunin' features Muddy on lead guitar and has some funky passages. It drives along with a whole collection of instruments complementing the brief vocal which are similar in style — slow and heavy.

Instead, it is lighter and gives the musicians more of a chance to show their paces. The content of the album is good but the cover deserves some sort of award for repugnant — a slime-covered Muddy with a horrid (and clichéd) expression on his face.

Other tracks: Rumble'N' Mind, Bottom Of The Sea, Hurin' Bee, Blues And Trouble, Sea, You'll Be.



THAT'S THE WAY GOD PLANNED IT

Other titles: Do What You Want, I Want To Thank You, It Doesn't Matter, Hey Brother, What's About You, This It.

COUNTRY TWITTY

CONWAY TWITTY: DARLING, YOU KNOW I WOULD LIE (MCA mono and stereo MUP 386; 37s 6d.)

If you still associate Conway Twitty with rock and roll, this album will be a surprise. Here is Conway Twitty, the country singer. He is a respected artist in America in that field now and, upon listening to this LP, it's easy to see why. Sound Of An Angel's Wings has all the heartbreak and misery of traditional country music. It's about a girl who dies under a train looking for her ring.

As a contrast, Ballad Of Forty Dollars is a toe-tapper with some fine guitar-picking. There are some amusing comments on a funeral. Back To The gloom and despondency of a man's son who is about to be hung on Papa Sing Me A Song, which includes a sad and touching ballad by Carlton Haney, then Conway's own composition about a gunslinger, Bad Man. Eat And Light, I also especially liked Table In The Corner, when The Great One Over Me and Hungry Eyes. The Jordaires do a sterling job backing Conway's highly satisfying singing both musically and vocally. **AC.**

Other tracks: Darling You Know I Wouldn't Lie, Window Up Above, Bad Girl, Kaw-Liga.

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BILL HALEY

CLODAGH'S VARIETY

CLODAGH RODGERS (RCA Victor stereo SF 8033; 37s. 6d.)

A ROUSING mixture of country, rock and big-waved ballad is offered on this first album since Clodagh's big single hit, Come Back And Shake Me, which is one of the 12 tracks here. Similar to it in tempoed gauge is Paul and John's Get Back and Without The One You Love.

I liked the milder rocker, Captain Of Your Ship, and her best country efforts are I Will, and I Am A Fantasy. Only criticism is that the sometimes overtaxes her voice on high passages, but that is very infrequent. Track that really got me going was Madeleine Tell My Mind, cute, catchy, well sung, one of seven written by Kenny Young for the album, which he has also produced. Arrangements are above average and from Ian Green, Johnny Arthey and Reg Guest. Very attractive LP. Good girl group vocal backing and instrumental support, is top class.

Other titles: Under The Broadwalk, Arizona, The Colours Are Changing, Together, Tuesday Afternoon.

LP personalities

BLODWYN PIG

on page 14



THE NICE (l to r) BLINKY DAVISON, KEITH EMERSON and LEE JACKSON.

BRIAN BENNETT: THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NOISE (Columbia Studio 2 Stereo, TWO 248; 37s. 6d.)

Some fascinating sounds here, arranged in the main by ex-Shadow's drummer Brian Bennett, aided in production by Norris Parmar and Nick Ingram. Brian also takes four composing credits. Some of our best instrumentalists take part — Alan Hawkshaw and Jill Sullivan on organ-piano, Ritchie Taylor on guitar, Harold McInair on flute and Herbie Flowers on bass.

On the twelve non-vocal tracks, you'll find many tone patterns and fascinating breaks, as in Just Lookin', Soul Mission and Ticks To Ride. Good listening at all times.

Other titles: Love And Occasional Rain, I Heard It Through The Grapevine, Cha Cha Cha, The Linsman, General Mejo's Well-Laid Plan, In The Heat Of The Night, Like Me In Your Arms And Love Me, Rocky Racoon, Air.

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Other titles: Under The Broadwalk, Arizona, The Colours Are Changing, Together, Tuesday Afternoon.

CHAMPION JACK DUPREE: SCOOBY DOOBY DOO

(Blue Horizon, TW-5321; 37s 6d.)

Self-voiced veteran Dupree, a bluesy funk man from way back, sings in his own slow, rhythmic style I Want To Be A Hippie, with amusing lyrics, and goes on to amuse further with Grandma (You're A Bit Too Young For Me), Whisky In The Well, and Stumbling Block. He pours sentiment into Old And Grey and other numbers, all backed in a lively jazz mood by hand-picked British musicians, under Terry Noonan. — **A.E.**

Other titles: Puff Puff, Blues Before Sunrise, I'll Try, Going Back To Louisiana, Ain't That A Shame, Postman Blues, Lady's Laundry.

WHO'S WHERE

WHO'S WHERE
Week beginning Aug 22

ONE NIGHT
WHO: Shrewsbury Music Hall (22)
VANITY FARE: Birmingham Cedar and Becher's (23)
MARLAJADE: Bournemouth Pavilion Club (23)
MARLAJADE: Weston-Super-Mare Winter Gardens (23)
THEONERAP NEWMAN, PRETTY THINGS, CHICKEN SHACK: Burton Constable Hall, near Hull (22)
THEONERAP NEWMAN: Birmingham Mothers (23)
ALCOY DRINKER: WHO: Margate Pavilion Grays, Essex (23)
KINKS, WEBB: Hull City Hall (23)
BONZO DOGS: Bournemouth Winter Gardens (23)
THEONERAP, PEERS, BACHELORS: Blackpool Opera House (24)
CLODAGH RODGERS: Blackpool ABC (24)
EDGAR BROUGHTON BAND, BARC AND JAMES HERVEY: Hull East Park free concert (24)
KING CRIMSON: London Inst of Contemporary Art (26)
SAMMY DAVIS: Cabaret Of The Town For 10 days (from Aug 25)

NICE: THE NICE (Immortal mono and stereo JMSF 026; 38s. 6d.)

ANYONE who doubts that the musical side of pop in this country in recent years has either never heard the group or is a fan of the Love Affair.

Unbelievers now have the perfect opportunity to reconsider their misbeliefs with the release of the Nice's third album. Recorded here at New York's Fillmore East and half in the studio, it is a near-perfect example of what good pop music is all about. I'll deal first with the "live" side because of it's importance. The recording is amazingly good and the quality is a tribute to the club's acoustics and the engineers' skills.

Rondo 69 must be the fastest version ever recorded. The pace is incredible and though the number is familiar to most people, here is a new look at it. All the Nice's musical "tricks" are included, as they are on the epic version of She Belongs To Me. It's good to hear that Bob Dylan has to say about this treatment of his song.

It begins softly, the organ being almost inaudible in its church-like tone, then explodes into a heavy and harsh sound that Carl Perkins helped to invent. The organ and the number runs for over half of the side and deserves high praise.

Lee Jackson's throaty voice which can be at times violent and at others almost peaceful is suited to Azrael Revisited, which he cowrote with Keith Emerson and which was a "B" side in its original form. Keith plays guitar and there are lots of dramatic high-

CARL PERKINS' GREATEST HITS

(CBS stereo 63670; 37s 6d.)

A rousing rock collection of some of the songs that Carl Perkins helped to make famous, like Blue Suede Shoes, Mean Woman Blues, Don't It, and Reelin' in the Clouds by Johnny Cash, who calls Carl his brother and tells how they grew up together, but there is nothing to tell you when the track was recorded.

Other titles: Match Box, Turn Around, Folsom Prison Blues, Daddy Sang Bass, Beppin' The Blues, That's Right, Your True Love

NERO (CBS, stereo 63683; 37s 6d.)

A versatile group which is equally at home rocking or Eddie Cochran's (CBS, stereo 63683; 37s 6d.) A versatile group which is equally at home rocking or Eddie Cochran's (CBS, stereo 63683; 37s 6d.) A versatile group which is equally at home rocking or Eddie Cochran's (CBS, stereo 63683; 37s 6d.)

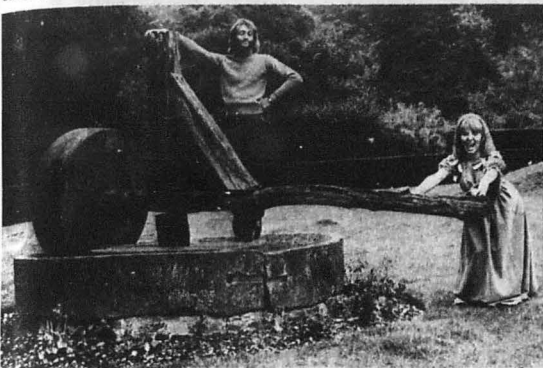
OPEN-AIR POP SHOW AT ALTON TOWERS

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Alton Tower, between Leek and Uttoxeter, North Staffordshire



That's the way to treat 'em, MAURICE. Lovely LULU is being put to work grinding out the corn as SQUIRE MAURICE acts as overseer.



MAURICE GIBB AND LULU seem to find HME's RICHARD GREEN's coaxing of one of ROBERT STIGWOOD's dalmatians funny. Wonder why?



Baby BEE GEE ANDY asks big brother BARRY if he can ride on the small Honda, but Barry isn't sure about the machine's safety during a break in filming.



DAVE DEE doesn't seem to be having much trouble chatting up actress SUE AVERY who plays his tear-away bird in "Every Home Should Have One."

BEE GEES, LULU, DAVE DEE IN THE FANTASY WORLD OF FILMS

THERE'S a world of difference between the Bee Gees and Dave Dee, yet the films both are making have one big thing in common: fantasy. While the group's movie is strictly in that vein, Dave's has certain imaginary sequences featuring that ace comedian, Marty Feldman. In the past two weeks, I have been, with photographer Stuart Richman, to both sets and discovered quite a few interesting facts.

Like, in addition to the Bee Gee and Lulu, Sammy Davis Jr., Vincent Price and Eleanor Bron have actually shown keen interest in appearing in "Cucumber Castle"; Dave Dee has had no difficulty with his first screen part; a Simon and Garfunkel hit is featured in the Gees' film; Dave wants to go into rep for a while.

Dave plays the part of Ern, described as "the oversexed leader of a motor cycle gang." In one sequence, Marty imagines himself in that part while Dave talks over the action.

"It's difficult to say whether I've gained much experience from a part like this because you're playing a young job—which with some people

words: RICHARD GREEN
pictures: STUART RICHMAN

is not difficult!" said the forthright Dave.

"Basically you're the age of the part you're playing and you're aware of the way the person behaves. In rep, one week you would be a vicar, the next week a murderer and the next a jip or something which you never are in real life.

"I think I'd like to go and do a few months in rep somewhere. I feel that, above all things, this will iron out a few of the pits that there

are going to be with me through not being an actor."

So from British Lion's "Every Home Should Have One" to the BBC TV musical "Cucumber Castle" which is being filmed in the splendor of manager Robert Stigwood's Stanmore mansion.

Barry, looking much taller and slimmer than I imagined him, approached bearing a cup of tea and told me: "The film is a colour fantasy that will run for an hour, or

maybe a bit longer, say an hour and a quarter. We have a budget of \$50,000.

"It began as a fairy tale a year ago when I began writing it, but now it's become a classic. It's about the King of Cucumber and the King of Jelly whose countries are always fighting each other, but there's not allowed to be any bloodshed.

"This is my way of saying 'wipe out war.' The governments should do the fighting, not the people."

Maurice and Barry have written most of the music for the film, a notable exception being Paul Simon's "Mrs. Robinson." Lulu sings the number and was shooting it on the day I visited the set.

What struck me most was her marvelous facial expressions. She really gets better every time I see her and I think a number of people will be pleasantly surprised.

Dave's film should be ready for release in January or February and the Bee Gees' late this year. Two events worth waiting for.



Comedian MARTY FELDMAN discusses a point with DAVE while small fans admire the motor cycle. Producer NED SHERRIN is on the right in the background.

Nellum Nek Penpoem on...

ENGELBERT HUMPERDINCK
Put an Engel and a Humper,
With a Dink, all in a jumper;
Or put a Humper and a Dink,
With an Engel, dressed in pink;
Then mix them up and make
them jump;
Bumblebee Dinglebert, Humpty
Dump!

TOM JONES

Tom Jones, rubber bones,
Voice of superionic tones,
Extracting cheers from old dears
Gasping near the microphones.
Tom Jones gave a shout,
And all their handkerchiefs came out.

DEAN MARTIN

Dino at the vino,
Dino at the rum,
Dino at the whisky,
Acting like a bum.
Dino gives the message,
Out the guitars come,
And out again a glass of scotch,
As Dino starts to hum.
Dino acting tipsy?
No, sir — not a bit!
He's really merely pulsy —
He's made another hit!

3 FOR RCA THE TOP

Three more climbers from RCA, each certain to be a hit!

The Monkees

"Daddy's Song" RCA 1862 (from the film "Head")

Nilsson "Maybe" RCA 1864

New Overlanders "These Are Not My People" RCA 1861

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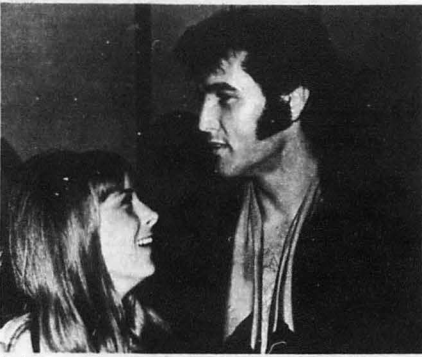
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A picture our Hollywood correspondent ANN MOSES cherishes — with ELVIS PRESLEY at the recent Press reception, where she interviewed him for NME.

AMERICA'S Diana Ross sponsors group of children

DIANA ROSS introduced her proteges last Monday night to 350 invited guests at Beverly Hills' private Daisy Club. The Jackson Five is the group's name, of which eight-year-old Michael Jackson is the lead singer and centre of attraction!

ANN MOSES
Editor of 'Tiger Beat'
in Hollywood

● Rumour has it that Blind Faith will be breaking up following its American tour. Mick Palmer, former bass guitarist with the Buffalo Springfield, has joined Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young. The group opened Monday at Los Angeles' Greek Theatre... Tom Jones arrived in town last week and began taping the first six of his TV shows for fall...

Tanglewood Festival features the Who

IT'S been very hard keeping up with the run of summer music festivals in this country. The U.S. is so enormous that it all boils down to catching what you can, where you can and when you can.

Undoubtedly, the most important festival on the East Coast have been Newport, Atlantic City, Tanglewood and Woodstock which, over a period of three months, have been more responsible for bringing acts here in huge quantities than possibly all the rest combined... The concert bowl is under a shell which I don't know how many of those glorious Woodstock villages nestled in Surrey, only it's just inside the Massachusetts state line.

June Harris in New York

return the compliment. The important point is that if all festivals could be the same way that Tanglewood is — one more concert to go — they would all become permanent annual events. And just think what an encouragement that could be!

Canned Heat kicked off a series of four concerts being held at the Kennedy Stadium among the other acts scheduled to appear in coming weeks are Blood, Sweat and Tears, the Fifth Dimension, Vanita Fudge, B. B. King and Joe Cocker.

The concert is part of the Summer Musical Celebration, and being sponsored by the city of Bridgport. Meantime, Carnegie Hall, which, as I reported last week, will play host to Led Zeppelin, is also planning to open its doors to more rock acts this coming fall.

Howard Stein has reserved five dates to present the best in British and American rock acts.

No plans for England

I WISH I could report on a spate of American acts going to England, but as has been the case in the last two years, once again the fall will bring the usual flux of British acts across the Atlantic.

Blood, Sweat and Tears have for the time being postponed plans to visit England, but the M.C.S. now finishing up their first album in Detroit under the supervision of top rock scribe, Jon Landau, are ready, willing and able to go. Crosby, Stills, Nash have put their trip back in January, but the Iron Butterfly will be coming your way at the end of September.

And in exchange? Once again we have an exciting line-up of English acts ready to arrive in late September/October, some for unprecedented dates, like the entire week the Who will do at the Finsbury East starting September 29, prior to appearing in the Ed Sullivan Show (with Raquel Welch) on October 5, and then going out on a coast to coast tour which will bring them their first gold disc, and huge financial rewards.

Led Zeppelin, just awarded their first gold disc, will open their three-and-a-half week fall tour with a date at New York's Carnegie Hall on October 17. Outside of Donovan, I have a feeling that the first British rock act in the Hall

MY REQUEST CAUSED ONLY HITCH AT

Love Affair's debut in Cup Cabaret

"WE haven't done any cabaret before," said a slightly anxious Steve Ellis to an expectant first night audience at Wetheralls Club in Sunderland last Sunday. It was by way of an apology, thus making the Love Affair the first group I've seen to make excuses before their act had begun!

But he needn't have bothered. Thirty-five minutes later, the audience (including myself), could have been excused for thinking Steve, Rex, Mick, Morgan and Mo were old hands entertaining the very old hands entertaining the scampi and chips set.

The Love Affair's performance, which really does get better and more ambitious all the time, was necessarily a little more restrained than their bathroom shows, but it lacked in visual excitement, the group more than made up for it with a good selection of songs, powerful singing from Steve, and a brand of musicianship from the others well in advance of their years.

Hit opener

They kicked off with their current hit, "Bringin' On Back The Good Times", which brought screams and claps from the 'teenies' in the audience. Then another next time "Day Without Love", which strange as it may sound, they sang in brass and string at all without the brass and string.

And then, a surprise — Old Man River, which Mick Jackson announced by saying "Here's a song by Robeson, who is now sadly dead!"

Sorry, Mick, you'll have to cough up with the five pounds next time I see you. Paul Robeson is still very much alive and well.

But never mind, the arrangement of the song was great and the rendition better. Steve enjoys singing this type of material and judging from the reception Old Man River got, so did the audience.

At this stage in the show it struck me that Steve or any other of the

LOVE AFFAIR (1 to 5) RE BRAYLER, MICK JACKSON, MO, BACON, MORGAN AND STEVE ELLIS.

BLACKPOOL IS SINGIN' AT GOLF

IN Blackpool summer show circles, you're not in the 'swing if you haven't got the golf bug. I went up there (writes NME editor Andy Gray) to see if Val Doonican really can hit the ball as far as it seems he does during the introductory shots of his TV series or with Roy Castle in the golf song in one of Roy's recent TV shows.

Val Doonican swings away his impressions on the first tee at St Anne's Old Links and from his look he's pleased with the drive.

Chambers Brothers begin their second European tour on August 28. In addition to Denmark, Germany, and England, the brothers will also do concerts in the French Riviera, as well as in Austria, Holland, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy and Israel. They are due to arrive in England November 11. When Nancy Sinatra follows Elvis into the international on her show will be the Osmonds, the singing brothers on the week 1.

Andy Williams' "The Andy Williams Show" continues in its international lounge are the Ike and Tina Turner Revue.

All-rounder

Roy is a good all-rounder and played the last four holes like a pro, while Freddie is the best chippie I've ever seen off his handicap. But as he said: "My chips may be okay but my fish isn't so hot." Val needed two 5s for a 75, a poor round for him at St. Anne's, but a good score in anyone's book.

Also on the course last Friday morning were comedian Harry Worth playing singer Robert Earl; and several backing



FREDDIE GARRITY is in rough trouble and enjoying his plight are (1 to 4) VAL DOONICAN, ROY CASTLE, ANDY GRAY and ROBERT EARL. (Pictures by NME)

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EQUALS ARE BOUNCING BACK' GROUP

SOME groups have a smash hit and then vanish from the face of the earth. Others have one hit now and again, and then again and again. Yet a third bunch have a love-hate relationship with the charts, having one hit followed by a miss or two, then bouncing back with a highly successful disc, only to disappear for a further six months.

One group who without a doubt come into the last category are the Equals, Eddie Grant, Derv and another Lincoln Gordon, Pat Lloyd and John Hall. Five ultra-friendly people who accept their lot, and even enjoy it.

Since "Baby Come Back" went to No. 1 early last year, the Equals have had very mixed fortunes chartwise, but their latest attempt, "Viva Bobby Joe" is shooting up the charts, a fact which, needless to say, enlarges Eddie Grant's ever-present grin to enormous proportions.

The record started selling so quickly, he told me earlier this week, "that it took everybody by surprise. The factory that presses our records had gone on holiday and there was a danger that there would be a shortage for the shops.

That would have been funny wouldn't it? Here we are with a record that people want, and they couldn't even buy it. We couldn't allow that to happen so we went down to the factory in Dagenham and helped ourselves.

It really feels great to have another record in the charts. Apart from anything else, it's a big morale booster, and if we ever felt we were slipping away, which we don't, seeing "Bobby Joe" at No. 15 makes us a lot happier."

The outstanding feature of the Equals' music is that it is designed to make everybody else feel a lot happier. And while Eddie and the boys realise they can't please all the people all of the time, they're not going to stop trying.

"Fessie," beamed the lad, who looks like an ice cream coner from a distance, his brown body, topped

BY GORDON COXHILL

with a creamy barnet. "We are basically happy people in the group, and that is reflected in the songs we write, and our live shows. As you know yourself, we keep up a fairly hectic pace on stage, and don't usually include more than one slow number.

Our aim is to take the audience right out of itself for the forty minutes they are with us. We make them laugh, dance, clap their hands, and generally feel they are part of the act."

Sign of success

"If they leave the dance hall feeling good, then we have succeeded, and they'll come back next time. We are quite proud of our little act, you know. We've worked hard on it, and that work is being rewarded now."

Anybody who hasn't seen the Equals on stage should remedy that, they are one of the few groups who feel they are entertainers, and who so all out to give value for money.

I asked Derv Lincoln, the group's lead singer, and first rate comic to boot, how long they would record only their own material.

"As long as we've got suitable material to record, and until we find a song that we think is better than the stuff we are writing," was his reasonable reply.

Eddie writes most of the numbers, perhaps with a bit of help from one of us, but there's no danger of the songs getting stoney.

"I write, and Lincoln writes, and I think Pat and John are getting down



There's always a danger, even if they're as happy as the EQUALS, of groups splitting. 16-year-old SUSAN DYER from Harlow, Essex, decided it wasn't going to happen to her favourites so she came up with the novel, if slightly impracticable idea, of sewing all their trouser legs together. We shudder to imagine some of the complications but the boys don't look as if they're too worried. Holding the five-in-one trouser are DERV GORDON, EDDIE GRANT, SUSAN DYER, PAT LLOYD, JOHN HALL and LINCOLN GORDON.

Try," which Eddie wrote some time ago. "A group called Black Velvet are recording it this week," said Eddie, "and they are changing the title to 'Peace And Love Is The Message.' They've asked me to play guitar on the session, and I'm taking that as a great compliment.

Like Lennon's

"The message in the song is very much the same as John Lennon's 'Give Peace A Chance.' I wrote my song before John, and I think there is room for another record with the same feel to it."

Even while the group enjoy a yo-yo sort of affair with the charts in Britain, their popularity on the continent, particularly Germany, remains constantly high.

"Germany is a much bigger singles market than Britain now, so we don't really have to worry about records here, but we do.

"It's nice to have hits in your homeland merely because we like to think our own kids are enjoying the sounds we are making."

Well said Eddie, and viva the Equals!

to it as well. So there shouldn't be any shortage of material for quite a while.

"I know there are people who decry us for our records and say they aren't worth the material they are made of, but as Eddie said, we

aren't trying to put across any message or educate anybody. We like to think our records are good for dancing, cheerful, and musically as good as we can make them."

The one exception to the Equals' 'happy' songs, is "Give Love A

JANE SIGHS HER WAY TO CHARTS!

IT'S all very well for people to scream and shout that the BBC won't play their records enough, thus giving them no chance of becoming hits, but Jane Birkin and Serge Gainsbourg haven't had a single airplay of "Je T'Aime... Moi Non Plus" which enters the NME chart this week.

One of the most pleasant interviews this year — if not ever — was given round Jane Birkin in the Chelsea to see one of the dolliest dishes on the scene. She really is as attractive as her pictures make out and she's got a personality to match.

We sat informally on cushions on the floor while her little daughter by her broken marriage to composer John Barry made pies out of coffee and sugar beside us.

"I met Serge when I went to France to audition for a part in a film, Jane recalled. "He was quite rude and I thought 'Pig.' What a horrible man." Later, I realised that he's really very nice and his shyness is often mistaken for aggressiveness.

Anyway, Serge — heralded throughout France as a great poet, actor and songwriter — had written a song which he and Brigitte Bardot had recorded together, lucky that Brigitte decided she didn't want it released and Serge asked Jane to do it with him.

"I jumped at the chance... she told me but the man from Philips said he wouldn't release it until we did an LP, so we did and the record came out."

It was immediately banned by French radio and almost as quickly got to No. 1 in the chart out there. It's not really surprising that it got banned as anyone who has heard it will agree.

But Jane doesn't find the record's content in the least suggestive or immoral.

"There's nothing unnatural about what's on the record, is there?" she asked. "And when you read the poem that the song comes from, it's really very moral. I don't think people are offended by it."

I must agree. It's certainly a lot milder than Max Romeo's current hit, and the tune is pretty. There is,

though, going to be controversy surrounding it for a long time and it would be a pity if it spoiled the record's chances.

Twenty-two-year-old Jane and

forty-one-year-old Serge are currently in Oxford making another film together and plan another album to follow the one which was released here a few weeks ago.

There's no news yet of a new single, but if word-of-mouth plus the hard work of Philips' Press officer, Nick Massey, work as well, we may well find another Jane-Serge record in the chart. Which will be a good thing. — RICHARD GREEN.



JANE BIRKIN and (inset) SERGE GAINSBORG.

DON'T JUDGE A RECORD BY IT'S 'COVER'

THE ORIGINAL 'EASY SQUEEZY' is by LOVE CHILDREN on

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NEW STAR IN 'FIDDLER'

LONDON'S most successful, long-running musical (over 1,145 performances) Fiddler On The Roof" at Her Majesty's Theatre, looks like going on forever.

On Monday the third Teyze, the leading part, appeared in the Person of Dutchman Lex Goudami. He lived the part and his strong singing voice won admiration immediately. He played the part in Holland, where he is a top star. He followed the high standard of Aille Bass and Topol, the two former Teyzes, with ease.

According to tradition, there is a new wife for Teyze — By Hazel, taking her most serious acting part and doing it with great restraint and charm. The rest of the players are all perfectly cast and the show is as fresh as on first night over three years ago.

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Two reasons why SAMMY DAVIS is looking forward to his forthcoming stint at London's Talk Of The Town are the stars of the earlier floor show, "Out Of This World." — NORMA TAYLOR and ANTONIA ELLIS. They greeted him at a Press reception on Saturday to herald his coming season, which starts next Monday for ten days.

TAILPIECES

by the Alley Cat

FOLLOWING trouble in America Arthur Howes concerned about Aretha Franklin's availability for November tour here... U.S. Gold Disc for Johnny Cash's "San Quentin" album; also single track, "Boy Named Sue"... At Vegas International, Tom Jones received ten-minute ovation when introduced to audience by Elvis Presley...

Despite national reports, Bob Dylan will not appear at London's Albert Hall... According to friends, Sammie Davis will marry Lola Falana, who appeared with him in "Golden Boy"...



5th Dimension married in Hollywood... Property settlement delaying Mama Michelle's divorce from Papa John Phillips... Currently teamed at Hollywood's Coconut Grove: Ray Charles and protégé Billy Preston... Constant companions: Frank Sinatra's ex-wife Mia Farrow and Andre Previn... U.S. Gold Disc for Three Dog Night's "One," which missed here... Pyle chief Louis Benjamin hopeful of big improvement now that Brian Gibson (ex-Decca) and Sid Gillingham (ex-EMI) handling press through Chris Hutchins' Enterprise... After Peter Frampton, will Gary Taylor be next to quit Herd?... Don't mention Everton FC to Hattie Terry Sylvester... Inspired by Equals' hit, West Ham FC supporters now singing "Viva Bobby Moore"...

Leslie Bricusse flew from Portofino for Tony Newley's Las Vegas Caesars opening... Al Delory producing/conducting Glen Campbell's first live album... A Gold Disc for U.S. sales of 5th Dimension's "Age of Aquarius" LP... Nancy Wilson retiring?... Marilyn McCoo and Billy Davis of

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Now in the US top 10 breaking into the British charts

Ruby, don't take your love to town

by Kenny Rogers & the First Edition

on Reprise RS 20829

Val Doonican BBC TV series in colour... New home for Don Partridge near London Airport... How about Oliver waxing LP of Lionel Bart songs?... Acting roles for trumpeter Al Hirt and pianist Bobby Troup in "Number One," Charlton Heston's next film... Infanticiding in February: Jackie, wife of Adam Faith... "Record World" calls him Christ Hutchins!... How many calories in Humble Pie?... Impressions in Dion's Warwick's cabaret act include Diana Ross, Pearl Bailey and Marlene Dietrich... Divorce for Keely Smith and husband Jimmy Bowen, producer of Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin's records... Big success: Anthony Newley's U.S. night club debut... Offer for Engelbert Humperdinck to guest-star on Bob Hope's U.S. TV show... Richard Harris hopeful of persuading Peter O'Toole to wax vocal discs... In Ray Stark's "No Strings" screen musical, Rock Hudson may co-star with singer Barbara McNair—protégée of late Nat "King" Cole... According to German correspondent, Dozy, Beaky, Mick and Tich lucky to be a foursome now... Im't Family Dogg getting a little too bitchy?... Tony Barrow now publicist for Tyannosorus Rex, Pretty Things and Pink Floyd... Promising U.S. golfer, Chuck Montalbano sponsored by Glen Campbell... Musical score for George Peppard-Judy Geeson "Executioner" film by Ron Goodwin... How about Engelbert Humperdinck, ill' retilled for Marmalade "I'm A Bitter Man" or for Dean Martin "I'm A Bitter Man"?

NME POPWORD

Compiled by Trevor Parks, Barton on Humber, Lincs.

1 Recorded "La dy Madonna" (6, 6)	2 Replaced Tony Meads in shadows (5)	3 Fat Matress member	4 A Move or Beach	5 Pat wrote love	6 Sunday d.j.	7 "Keep Searching"	8 Size of a Tulip	9 Ex Ex Ex	10 Recorded same song as Pet Clark	11 Married Jackie Irvine	12 Kevin "King"	13 Ten Years After member	14 Former Bee Gee	15 Producer of Herman's hits	16 "What is (3)	17 Les - Singers (2, 2, 2, 2)	18 Need say more!	19 Recently married d.j. (5, 7)	20 Wanted one next down you love	21 Miss Shelton	22 Manager of Mrs. Jeff Banks (3, 6)	23 6 boys and a girl	24 Former Drifter	25 Ken's people are	26 Classical fuel	27 She's not a Tina!	28 Not Rick of the Move	29 "Down Without"	30 Waxed guitarist for Manfred Mann	31 End of Welsh hymn	32 Wrote "Dick a dum-dum"	33 Irish comic (4, 5)	34 Fruitly colour of	35 Song dedicated to Gibraltar (1, 2, 1, 4)	36 Dylan's label	37 Dick a dum-dum" (1, 2, 3, 4)	38 John Entwistle's group	39 A Whale's favourite fruit	40 Diane/Arnold	41 Group with a sting?
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Answers next week and here is last week's solution

ACROSS — 1 (Roy) Hudd; 3 ("Hello Susie"; 6 (Humble) Pie; 8 Airwave; 9 (Bill) Wyman; 10 ("Harper Valley PTA"; 12 Asher; 13 (15 Days); 16 P. Proby; 18 ("Frank) Zappa; 20 Elmore James; 24 Jones; 25 Anita; 26 Edwin; 27 "First Of May"; 28 (Steve) Ellis; 29 "Last (Waltz)"; 31 Supremes; 33 Lennon; 34 Pigmeat (Markham).

DOWN — 1 Herman; 2 "Diana"; 3 Starr; 4 Step 5; 5 Etta (James); 7 Arthur Brown; 9 "Waltz"; 11 Truitt; 14 Apple; 15 Dylan; 17 Jam Session; 19 "Penny Lane"; 21 Janis; 22 Millie (Small); 23 Sarsted; 24 Jim Dale; 30 "Rudie's (In Love)"; 32 R.P.M.

Jackie de Shannon

Put A Little Love In Your Heart
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BLODWYN PIG and friend, L to R: RON BERG, MICK ABRAHAMS, JACK LANCASTER AND ANDY PYLE.

LP PERSONALITIES From Tull to Pig!

IT takes a brave man — or a stupid one — to leave a highly successful group like Jethro Tull and set up his own outfit. Mick Abrahams is the former and his courage and self-determination are now paying off.

When Mick left Jethro he formed a group which became Blodwyn Pig. Some months later, the group's album "Ahead Rings Out" was released and went straight into the NME album chart. "I never thought I'd get in the chart," Mick confessed. "We enjoyed making it, but thought there'd just be some people who liked us who'd buy it." Following the trend of a lot of hairy groups these days, Blodwyn Pig set out to play first music that satisfied themselves and second music that the audiences would also enjoy. "It was no good just playing for the audiences because we wouldn't enjoy it," Mick told me. "We didn't want to just play what we wanted and say... the audience, but we found that what we enjoyed, they liked, too." Mick and I were sitting in his East Dulwich flat while his wife prepared tea and Blodwyn's amazing performing cat, did an impression of a cross between Jackie Stewart and a trapeze artist.

Why leave? Just what made Mick take the step of leaving Jethro? "I got hung up as a musician and I was hung up as a person," he revealed. "It was happy with the music Jethro was playing and I had to decide to either stay and be unhappy or leave and do something else. I can see this, so when I said I was going to leave he agreed."

"We're nothing like Jethro Tull — we concentrate on musicianship, he wants to put on a good show all the time. That's not a thing that bothers us, showmanship, though sometimes I leap about a bit if I feel like it." Some time before Jethro Tull became big, Mick had spoken to Andy Pyle, a young bass player, to watch us. "Sometimes I go round the audience and ask them what type of music they like, and they'll go round as a member of the group, just talk to them. Sometimes we've had the pub boys in with their shaved heads and boots and they're just stood and listened to the music. Thank God! All in the garden seems pretty good for Blodwyn Pig at the moment and they are starting work on another album. The biggest surprise I got was when Mick told me what number they had been rehearsing the disc before — Larry Williams' "Sue Down". How about that?"

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Recorded by: CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVIVAL on LIBERTY LBF 15230


BURLINGTON MUSIC CO. LTD. 9 Albert Embankment, London, S.E.1. Reliance 2692 & MALDEN 7507. Sole Selling Agents: Southern Music, 8 Denmark St., London, W.C.2

Published by the IPC Magazine Limited, Old Fleetway House, Farringford Street, London, E.C.4, at the recommended maximum price shown on the cover. Editorial and Advertisement Offices, 112 Strand, London, W.C.2. Printed in England by GB Newspapers Ltd., 112 Strand, London, W.C.2. Sole Agents: Australia and New Zealand, Gordon & Gotch (A/asia) Ltd.; South Africa, Central News Agency Ltd.; Rhodesia, Malawi and Zambia, Kingstons Ltd.; East Africa Stationery & Office Supplies Ltd. Subscription rates including postage for one year to any part of the world, £4.16.

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written
& produced
by Barry Gibb

sole representation:
Robert Stigwood Organisation
67 Brook St W1 Mayfair 9121

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