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Photo: Max Pridgen

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**THE FUTURE OF ROCK 'N' ROLL OR SOMEONE DRESSED UP IN A STUPID COSTUME?**  
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"I never wanted to be a race car driver or

an astronaut," says **Charlie Sexton** (right). "But I was a normal kid..." That is not absolutely true - for most normal kids don't go on tour with **The Clash** or play on records by old togeys like **Bob Dylan** or **stun blokes** in the **Rolling Stones** with "meaty" guitar "licks" before they're even out of short trousers, so to speak. **Charlie Sexton** did. Yus, we're talking serious "child prodigy" of **Shirley Temple**sque proportions here...

**Charlie Sexton** was born in **San Antonio, Texas**, a mere 17 years ago. He was four when he was given his first guitar; he was out "gigging" by the time he was 11 ("people thought I was like a trick dog") and at 13 was playing in a proper group as lead guitarist for country and western star **Joe Ely**. Pretty damned

impressive, eh, rock spotters? - especially when you think that most **C&W** "pickers" are at least 200 years old...

And now **Charlie Sexton** is a recording "artiste" in his own right with a single, "Beat A So Lonely", and an LP, "Pictures For Pleasure", just released. But what's he like? Well, imagine if you can, a preposterously good-looking **Bruce Springsteen** who can actually *sing* crossed with a moody old **Billy Idol** who's a "demon" "sex" "merchant" and *not-very-old-at-all*, and - hey presley! - **Charlie Sexton!** Just seventeen! Brilliant!!! But wait, what is this the young "blonde" talking us... "As far as cosmic years go, maybe I'm not seventeen." What can he mean? And why does he say that by the time he is 30, he hopes to be playing with **Barbie Dolls** and skateboards? "Veteran" tunesmith **Bob Dylan** comments: "I'd like to see him become a big star." The plot thickens - **Charlie Sexton** is going to be **HUGE**...



**CHARLIE SEXTON**



**Hooraah!** At last *The Tube* — currently on at the stupid time of 5.30 pm — is going to be repeated at a later hour, so

people who get home late and haven't got videos (e.g. *Bitz*) can see it. Starting from February 18 each Friday's episode is going to be re-run the following Tuesday at "about" 10.30 pm, depending on what time the Tuesday so-called "movie" ends.



Urgh — overstate! The things people do in the name of "fashion", eh? This motley crew are called **Sigue Spatnik** (named after an obscure Russian street gang, *Isat "Isan"*), and they've been described as "the next big thing" by... well, by one or two so-called "trendy" people in London, anyway. They've finally got round to releasing a single, "Love Missile F1-11", so now all us not-very-trendy people will be able to judge whether they really are the next big thing or (har har) just a bunch of bambos in foolish plastic clothes and coloured "Bonnie" Tyler frightwigs.

## B I G C O U N T R Y

**Mark Unpronounceablenameofbigcountry** is back! Back!! YES!!! The group (i.e. **Big Country**) what everybody thought had split up about a thousand years ago, are going on tour in March (details in *Concerts*). So they couldn't have split up after all, could they? (Unless — spooky thought — these are four alien imposters just pretending to be Big Country. Brrrrr...)

**Mark Unpronounceablenameofbigcountry** (left) and chuma trying to look like "earthman".



# "Aaaaaiiee"

That's what happens if you're standing around in a record shop during a "personal appearance" by a very famous pop group called A-ha. And *Bitz* should know because *Bitz* was there. . .

It's Thursday, 23rd of January: this evening A-ha are doing a "P.A." ("personal appearance") at HMV's giant record shop in London's Oxford Street. It's only been publicised at the shop — even the national "news" papers have only just found out about it — but that hasn't stopped thousands of fans turning up. Some people have been queuing in the freezing cold since nine in the morning, and by the time darkness falls the shop is absolutely jam-packed with people. Outside, the police are holding back a huge, 3-deep queue which shivers and shakes right round the building and down the road. Brrrrrr.

As the "magic" hour of 5 o'clock approaches, the crowd gets more and more excited, singing (and screaming) along with A-ha's latest vid. Everyone's clutching a camera, loads of people have got bouquets of flowers, and two girls at the front have even brought along three cartons of bleughghious goat's milk yoghurt — "We follow Moeren, Maps and Pål everywhere, you see, and they told us they like it," they explain. Suddenly *vee lads* themselves appear, dwarfed by a giant stack of their records (for them to sign and the fans to buy — HMV are making a *lot* of money out of this). Aaaaaiieeeraaaaargh!!! Everyone goes *omigod* bankers. But before any autographs can be signed there's the "photocal" — millions of photographers bonking each other on the head with cameras and practically killing each other in the mad scramble to get "exclusive" photos (i.e. blurry shots of the backs of other photographers' heads).

Eventually the "gentlemen of the press" get checked out and it's time for the *real* fans (who are far more well behaved) to meet A-ha. For the next two hours a seemingly *endless* stream of girls file past, getting records signed, handing over pressies, having their photos taken with the tropic and — *gasp!* — getting kissed. "This is the biggest crowd we've had since Shakin' Stevens did a P.A. in 1981," confides a bemused

# aaaargh (jostle jostle) ummmffffff (bump) ouch!!!"



One cheer, smile down... then, "Thank you, go home, & sign a book" (from "I'm" spooky old "ster-type" "sign" "book")



Worms start - and they have to own me! A-ha yet.



"Show us your best dance on your phone - are you?" - the "press" at "work".



This is just the FRONT of the queue - there are about 1000 fans waiting in the outside.



"Sign it to 'my darling night' because my girlfriend and I really love you instead of my own kissy kissy" and put your phone number at the end please..."

HMV person, and even A-ha themselves seem amazed (not to mention extremely chilled) by their immense popularity.

By seven o'clock Morley, Mags and Pal are smothered in lipstick, surrounded by flowers, suffering from writer's cramp and kissing

anything in sight (even *Bob* gets a cheek smooch), but it's time for them to go. There's still an enormous crowd outside, so crash barriers are erected, police and burly security guards form a barricade and a taxi is placed strategically at the end of the fortifications with its door open

and the engine a-raring to go. A-ha and their entourage haul themselves out of the shop, into the taxi and zoom off into the night, with a few kami-kaze fans chasing down the road after them.

Back inside the store the staff wander around surveying the

damage. "You'd think Duran Duran had just appeared here", mumbles a stunned salesperson. "Anyone want this stuff?" shouts someone else, holding aloft three rather battered and yucky-looking cartons of goat's milk yoghurt. Oh well... it's the thought that counts.

Want to see a million dollar stage show which includes a giant crystal ball, two 12 foot high battling robot knights, an enormous fire-breathing, smoke-spewing dragon and - but *naturelement* - squillions of multi-coloured laser beams? Yes? ... Really? Then

go and see **Dio** (the heavy metal group "fronted" by Ronnie James Dio, the bloke who used to sing with Rainbow) when they tour Britain in May, because that's what their concerts are like. Details - as ever - in *Concerts* (page 27)

# JELLYBEAN



▲ Jellybean "Look, no medication!"

28 year old John "Jellybean" Beattie is a very busy man. In fact he has four jobs at the moment - as a DJ (he's one of the most famous in New York), as a "remixer" (doing 12" versions of records for very famous people like Michael Jackson, David Bowie, Madonna and Paul McCartney), as a producer (standing behind one of those huge desks with lots of lights and knobs on saying "let's, like, up the snare sound a midgem" etc) and now as an artiste - his single, "Sidewalk Talk", has already been a hit in America. But it's not really his record at all - Madonna (who he went out with for ages before she met Sean Penn) wrote it and does the backing vocals, someone called Catherine Buchanan sings it and all "Jellybean" does is play some synthesizers, hang a few things and stand behind one of those huge desks with lots of lights and knobs on saying... *Brrrring brrrring*... hang on a mo, ruddy phooe as per usual... "Hallo!" "Hello!"

Blimey, it's Jellybean *in person!* Funny old name, 'Jellybean', isn't it?

"No."  
Oh, Well, er, where did you get the not-very-funny name 'Jellybean'?"  
"My sister Debbie gave it me when I was about 10 years old."

Let *Bitz* guess! Because you used to eat lots of jellybeans when you were a boy, eh?

"No."  
Oh, Well, why are you called 'Jellybean' then?

"My initials are J.B. and all my friends had nicknames so they gave me this one - as in 'jellybean', d'ya know what I mean?"

Um, well, um... isn't it a bit weird having a record out which you didn't write or sing on?

"No."  
Oh, Did Madonna write the song especially for you?

"I really don't know."  
Ooh, well, ahem, were you going out with her when she wrote it, Jellybean?"

"Mmmm."

"When did you meet her?"  
"When her first record, 'Everybody' had just been out for about a week. I thought she was really special and had the potential to be a really big star."

Have you met Sean Penn?  
(Silence)... Next question.  
Are you still in touch with Madonna?

"We'll always be friends."  
Crikey! That's Jellybean for you!!!!



**Valentine's Day.** Don't you just hate it? Everybody else in the whole world gets a card except for you, there's loads of girly cry-baby means and flowers everywhere and people being all soppy and kissing each other which isn't very hygienic at all and even if you do pluck up enough courage to send a card to a "secret" so-called "love" you're not allowed to say who it's from, so there's absolutely no ruddy point in the whole thing anyway. Bah! As far as *Bitz* is concerned it's all a complete waste, so here's a re-imagined *hit* Valentine to cut out if you give to someone you hate.

● **St Valentine** writes: it's not a Valentine's card, it's a picture disc by heavy metal "combo" *Blitz* called "You're In Love", achcwoerly. I've got 20 of them littering up my soul, and quite frankly they're getting in the way. Send a nice Valentine message to poor old *Blitz* and might "reward" you with one. Address it to Smash Hits Hello Darling *Blitz* I Love You Muddy Competition, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF to get there by February 25. Kissy kissy!



**Stephen** "I haven't got anything stupid between my names any more" *Duffy*'s got a new single out. It's called "I Love You" and he'll be singing it on *The Tube* on St Valentine's Day. Aaaaah... *Bluurgh*...

# HALF M



▲ Nigel (right) and Neil of *ver* *Beatus*

**Half Man Half Biscuit:** Is it a) the title of "magician" Paul Daniels' sizzling new autobiography b) the medical term for the latest disease sweeping America i.e. people turning into chocolate digestives or c) a weird "indie" group from Liverpool?

The answer is, of course, a weird "indie" group from Liverpool or, more precisely, from Birkenhead (a not very posh bit on the "other" side of the Mersey). They were formed three years ago, when the name came "as a vision



## ● These are The Flaming Muslins

● They're from Middlesbrough (which is - interesting non-pop fact - one of the most violent towns in England).

● They're called Sav, Kit, Jeff, Doug and Gluse.

● They describe themselves as "a marriage of parody and directors."

● *Blitz* doesn't know what they're on about but reckons their new single - "My Cleopatra" - is pretty good anyway.

**Jennifer** "very horrible leather mini-skirt" *Rush* is going on tour in April and follows up the phenomenally successful "The Power Of Love" and the not-quite-so-phenomenally successful "Ring Of Ice" with a single called "Madonna's Eyes", out this week.

# Mai Tai have just released a new s...

# AN HALF BISCUIT



"We're getting into rally drivers at the moment. Hanna Mikele is a bit of an unsung hero. And Lev Yashin, the Russian goal keeper in the 1966 World Cup. Pat Jennings rated him as one of the all-time best."

But Nigel's big hope for '86 is Robin Askwith, the "actor" in ITV's *Bottle Boys*. "Urgh! Have you seen him in that car maintenance ad? Horrible!"

So what do they think of Sir Terence Wogan?

"Those kind of people are too obvious," reckons Nigel. "We



▲ Robin Askwith

prefer the ones who are lower down the scale. Clive Dog is a bit of a dark horse. You always see his name on programmes like *Tomorrow's World* and things with

to singer Nigel while he was having a bath: "I think I was looking for the soap at the time..."

Their first LP, "Back In The D.H.S.S." is fair chocker with "pop anthems" dedicated to obscure and tawdry TV "personalities" like "99% Of Gargoyles Look Like Bob Todd" and "I Hate Nerys Hughes - From The Heart". Does this mean ver Biscuits spend all their time in front of the telly, then?

"Oh yes," says Nigel. "I'm either doing that or listening to me Fall records. I don't like going out..."

PHOTO: JOHN BOWKILL



## Hello, little girls

... we're Depeche Mode and we're a bit penny. Want to come down to the basement and listen to our new single? It's called "Stripped" har har knowrrimean and the 12" version's got live tracks and lasts 25 minutes - plenty of time for a bit of howsyerfather knowrrimean woocooaaarrrgh har har har. You don't? Well, come and see us on tour then. Take a walk over to *Concerts* on page 27 and we'll tell you all about it har har woocooaaarrrgh knowrrimean etc etc etc.



▲ Nerys Hughes

Derek Griffiths in them. And that newsreader Carol Barnes. We couldn't stand her, I'm glad Leonard Parkin's back on now - far more class. Carol used to talk as though she had a boiled sweet in her mouth and a wry grin always appeared when she went through the job losses. Urgh!"

● You can get *Half Man Half Biscuit's* rather brilliant LP from most independent record shops or by mail order from Probe Records, 8-12 Rainford Gardens, Liverpool.



▲ Bob Todd

As a grand finale to Marillion's current totally-sold-out-within-one-quill-second-of-being-announced tour, Fish and his chums will be appearing at a huge open-air "happazzz" (mean) at Milton "zzzzzz" Keynes in June. The event's called "Welcome To The Garden Party", and though the identity of the four support bands is still a mystery, the tickets are already on sale (details in *Concerts*, page 27). It's the last chance to see Marillion for quite some time, as they're spending the rest of the year on a v.v. long American tour, and then preparing for a new LP due out at Christmas.

## TOFFS CORNER



▲ Business Connection - they don't look like toffs, do they?

● What a simply frightful sheik they are, these pop singer gharrio wallahs, don't'ahh know? Most of 'em are pimply oaks who've never debagged anyone called Algy or decanted their Pater's best claret or ewin gorm gorm snooting with a sissy young litch called Benedah, the bender! So yaroo for **The Business Connection** - e dapper crew of young blades who can uncork Britz's vintage bubbly anytime, what, what, hawhaw, ya? Meet Lady Teressa Manners and her muscel snootigans - Lord Michael Cecil; Bunler, Marquis Of Worcester, Lord John Somerset, and Tony Hambro, heir to the Hambro millions. Fifty nch, the lot of 'em - and why not? Their new single is called "Bring You Down". And why not? Toppin' will hop off you toffs! (Delete according to class.)



single - it's called "Female Intuition".

**B**onjour, mes petites choufleurs de la nuit. Remember *Britz* told you about a songstress called **Renaud** who's zooming up the French charts with "Miss Maggie", an insulting little ditty about Maggie Thatcher? Well, that was bad enough, but now something even *worse* has happened – a bunch of "journalists" from the *Six* "news" paper have recorded their answer to it, called – pretty subtle, this – "Hop Did You Frogs? Very 'hilarious' and 'witty', non? No? That's what *Britz* thought, too. With lyrics like "even the hunchback of Paris was queer" ("sang" in a stupid, tuneless drone), the "song" succeeds in being racist, sexist, completely unfunny and an insult to almost everything – even the *label's* spelt wrongly. It is, in actual fact, the worst record ever made in the entire history of the universe ever ever ever, (except "*Born To Suffer*" by *The Who* – Ed.) and so – voila! – *Britz* has smashed the ruddy thing to smithereens. And let's hope everyone else does the same.



## GULP!

Is this sad and dishevelled waif (right) the woman who, a mere few months ago, set millions of hearts a-flutter with her "yungusting" wiggling? And – heaven forbid – could this seedy-looking spiv be the once-proud man she married? Isn't fate cruel? Poor **Madonna**. Poor **Sean Penn**. Down on their uppers Penniless and homeless on the streets. How the mighty have fallen. sob. sauffe.

● **Boring legal dept writes:** "Actually, they're just promoting it's all we and of a film they're making called *Shanghai Surprise*, a "romantic" melodrama in which Madonna plays a "missionary" (how low-knowledgeable) and her hubby (Penn) as a salesman caught up in the drugs trade. (ed.)" (reprinted in *AdWeek*, page 54)



... is the name of a medieval Italian artist who painted pictures of saints, the name of a poem by 19th century "Romantic" poet Robert Browning and the name of a late 20th century Norwegian "pop" duo...

It's a tricky sort of name, but a ruddy sight easier than the names of its members: Rune Kristoffersen, who's 28, and Per Oystein Sørensen, who's 24. They come from Norway where things are tough for "up-and-coming" groups, what with hot competition from "Norway's answer to Bruce Springsteen – a 35 year old guy who sings in Norwegian," mutters Rune, and the fact it's just about impossible to play any concerts. "Unless," continues Rune, "you want to play hours of *Stevie Wonder* and *Beatles* conversations out in the countryside where people are probably drunk out of their heads anyway. If you don't want to do that, you can only play three or four places and that's only in the summer because in the winter the mountain roads might be closed."

Fra Lippo Lippi decided to concentrate on making records, and, having been turned down by all the big Norwegian record companies, released three LPs and three singles independently before trying their luck in the UK. Following in A-ha's footsteps? "Well actually," Rune points out, "we were signed up over here before anyone had even heard of A-ha. But comparisons are understandable and they've maybe made things a bit easier for us by being successful, because people haven't always been open-minded about music from outside Britain."

Because there were so few good groups around, Rune and Per took a keen interest in the struggling A-ha who released their first LP around the same time as their own. "Morten and Pål used to be in a band called *Bridges*," recalls Rune.



Per (left) and Rune pining for the fjords.

"They were a sort of Doors rip-off. They brought out an LP that sold only 600 copies... and I bought one of them." They remember the days – not so long ago – when A-ha were so hard up they used to hitch-hike back to Norway, and compare it with their most recent visit: "The press went totally crazy – following them round everywhere. Now all the politicians want to meet them and get their pictures taken with them, too. They reckon A-ha are the best thing that's happened to Norway in years."

But though Fra Lippo Lippi have emerged from the same set of fjords as A-ha, they're very different, describing their music as "melodic and maybe a bit melancholy." Until recently they were a four piece, but now Per sings and plays keyboards, while Rune plays bass and writes most of the lyrics. With Rune liking stuff like *New Order* and *The Cure* and Per preferring American rhythm

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

● Semi-interesting mathematical pop facts: The total age of all the fortnight's birthday people is 282 years, and (excluding "Bruce" Forsyth who – luckily – isn't a pop star) their average age is 25.45-545 years which is pretty ruddy old.

### FEBRUARY

- 13th: **Peter Gabriel** (36)
- Peter Hook** of *New Order* (30)
- 15th: **All Campbell** of *UB40* (27)
- Mickey Crang** of *Culture Club* (26)
- 16th: **Duran**: **Andy Taylor** (24)
- 22nd: **Bruce**: "very horrible toupee"
- Forsyth** (58)
- Rankin Roger** (25)
- 23rd: **Howard Jones** (31)



**David Sylvian** (26)  
**Linda Nolan**: **Nolan** (27)  
25th: **George Harrison** (43)  
**Mike Peters** of *The Alarm* (27)

● **The Colourfield** are going on tour – see *Concerts* for details.





and blues and old "folkie" singers like Joni Mitchell, they're a strange song-writing team. "That's true," agrees Rune, "but it's good." And the proof of that is their single "Shouldn't Have To Be Like That" taken from their "Songs" LP which was recorded last year in Norway and at this very minute is being remixed ready for re-release in spring.

But what about their name? All this pop star business hasn't got an awful lot to do with dead poets and painters, after all. Why are they called Fra Lippo Lippi? "I just saw the name in a poetry book," says Rune, "and I liked it. It's special." And he grins mysteriously. Must be all that goat's milk yoghurt.

• Semi-interesting pop fact:

The Doors were a '60s band from LA (mean) who did lots of doomy "poetic" songs about lizards and drowning horses and whose singer, Jim Morrison, kept getting arrested for waggling his willy on stage until he died in a bath tub in Rome.



# My Magic Man Rochelle

When my night's freezing cold  
No one there for me to hold  
And puff like a magic dragon  
You appear in a cloud of smoke  
With all my dreams and my hopes  
I'm so proud I'm hragging

'Bout my magic man (you're magic man magic)  
You're my magic (magic man baby)  
My magic man (you're my magic man magic)  
You're my magic man (magic man baby)

Change-o range-o range-o ree  
I've turned around you're there for me  
Whenever I need you  
Assurance that reassures  
Whatever I need you'll find the cure  
Wave your wand and allcazam

You're my magic man (you're my magic man magic)  
You're my magic (magic man baby)  
You are (you're my magic man magic)  
My magic man (magic man baby)

Twinkle twinkle lucky star  
Got to know just where you are  
You're my Mr Magic  
Wish I'm there I wish I might  
Fill your stock of love tonight  
Abracadabra I've got to have you

(You're my magic man magic) ooh you are  
(Magic man baby)

Change-o range-o range-o ree  
You must have put a spell on me  
Magic man (magic man baby)  
(You're my magic man)  
(You're my you're you're you're my magic man)  
Ooh (magic magic)  
You are (I mean it you're my magic)

Twinkle twinkle lucky star  
Got to know just where you are  
Magic man (ooh ooh yeah) you are (magic magic)  
My magic man (you are my magic)  
Just don't change-o range-o range-o ree  
Must have put a spell on me  
Magic man (you are my magic)  
You are (you're my magic man)  
My magic man (you're my magic man)  
Ooh you are ooh you are ooh you are  
(You're my magic man) my magic man  
(You're my magic man)  
Ooh you are ooh you are

Words and music by Gary Henry  
Reproduced by permission Screen Gems/  
EMI Music In Time Music  
On Warner Bros Records



# And She Was Talking Heads

Hey

And she was lying in the grass  
And she could hear the highway breathing  
And she could see a nearby factory  
She's making sure she's not dreaming  
See the lights of a neighbour's house  
Now she's starting to rise  
Take a minute to concentra  
And she opens up her eyes

Chorus

The world was moving  
She was right there with it  
And she was  
The world was floating above it  
And she was end she was

And she was drifting through the back yard  
And she was taking off her dress  
And she was moving very slowly  
Rising up above the earth  
Moving into the universe  
And she's drifting this way end that  
Not touching the ground at all  
And she's up above the yard

Repeat chorus

Gled about it no doubt about it  
She isn't sure about what she's done  
No time to think about what to tell them  
No time to think about  
What she's done and she was  
Hay hey hey hey hey

And she was looking at herself  
And things were looking like a movie  
She had a pieceent salvation  
She's moving out in all directions oh oh

Hey hey hey hey hey hey hey  
Hey hey hey hey hey hey  
Hey hey hey hey hey hey hey  
Hey hey hey hey hey hey

Repeat chorus

Joining the world of missing persons  
And she was  
Missing enough to feel alright  
And she was and she was

And she was end she was  
And she was and she was and she was

Words and music by David Byrne  
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On EMI Records



● Feelin' good 'n' lookin' great – the John Lydon way:

"I decided to start not combing my hair and it formed this whacking great lump and so I tried to break the bits up – and that's what the pointy bits are. It's just lumps of matted hair with bits of wire in the bottom to make them stand up. If you just keep leaving it, it stays like this and I like dying it when it's all knotted and matted. That's the killer because the dye goes in and it forms a solid rock base. It's like taking a clump of hair and painting it with emulsion. It doesn't hurt."

# THE MAN WHO INVENTED PUNK

Ten years ago he was Johnny Rotten of the Sex Pistols. He swore on telly, sang songs like "Anarchy In The UK", insisted sex was "boring" and almost single-handedly abolished long hair and flared trousers. These days he's John Lydon of Public Image Ltd. He lives in Los Angeles with his German wife, wants to write a book about sharks and makes the occasional brilliant record (like "Rise"). And he's rich. But apart from that, he assures Tom Hibbert, he hasn't changed very much at all . . .

Knock knock knock . . .  
Knock knock knock knock  
knock . . .  
"Who is it?"

It's us, John.  
"You bastards! You're  
EARLY!"

The door of the decaying  
Fulham house swings

open and there in the hallway is a figure grinning wickedly with strands of orange hair snaking and spiralling akimbo to the heavens. What a sight! Yes, it is John Lydon – Johnny Rotten of yesteryear – "welcoming" us to his humble (errr) London residence. What a state! Inside the "living" room, old nicotine-stained P.I.L. posters flop off the peeling walls, an un-named kitten snuffles about amongst a clutter of empty beer cans and a colour TV flutters in the corner, showing out-of-focus horse racing from Chesham. . . "The socket on the back of the telly's gone and there's no hot water in the bathroom," says John, snickering proudly. "This place is where they got the inspiration for *The Young Ones*, you know. You'd never think I was a millionaire, would you?"

No, I wouldn't.  
"Well, I'm not – hahahahaha!"

It is almost ten years ago exactly that Johnny Rotten emerged with the Sex Pistols, spitting on carpets, enraging "decent society", bearing up the hit parade with fine tunes like "Anarchy In The UK" and "God Save The Queen", and inventing punk rock in general. The punks were going to kick out all the old rock music "dinosaurs", they said; they were going to change ver industry, they said; they weren't going to become tax exiles and live in LA (man), they said. So the big question now can only be . . . has John Rotten Lydon SOLD OUT? He's been living in America for the past four years – first in the remote wilderness near Pasadena where he got chased by a gigantic, snibbling racoon and found lizards in his bed so decided to move to his present home in much more "civilised" . . . LA (man). And on his new Public Image LP, "Album"

he's used old rock music "dinosaurs" (including Ginger Baker who used to drum for Eric Clapton's "progressive" troupe Cream twenty years ago) as his backing musicians. Not very "punk" all this, is it, eh, John? Lydon cracks open another can of lager, lights up another jag, fixes me with those piercing blue eyes and prepares to answer the charges. Sell out? He's having none of it . . .

"Nobody has any right to accuse or to say ANYTHING to me," he testifies. "I am the instigator of punk – of that whole situation – so I am the one that surely should comment. I cannot be commented on. I know that might sound egotistical," he concedes, "but it's TRUE. I haven't changed at all philosophically. I don't give a damn if the musicians I'm working with are old and got boards and long hair – that's nothing to do with it and never has been. It just goes to show how narrow-minded people can be. I don't give a damn – it works. It's well thunderous, the album; it's very intense, that's for sure. So if you're out for mellow-ness (he spits the word out slowly with maximum contempt) or mood music (ditto), look elsewhere, hahahahahaha . . ."

Point taken. But what of the glossy pop star tax exile existence in LA (man)?

"It's not what you'd think. It's not one of those awful big huge sprawling swimming pool estates up in Beverly Hills, it's a nice small little house near the beach where me and Nora get on with our domestic bliss – hahaha – completely unbothered by anybody."

Domestic bliss? What is this? Yes, John Lydon – former punk shocker, now going on 30, the boy who once claimed to despise sex as a futile activity and to believe that love is something one can only feel "for puppies" – is a happily married man! Gasp! And his wife, Nora Forster, a German some 15 years his senior, seems to have had something of a *shlem* – "mellowing" affect on the rascally non-toff

"One very valuable lesson my loved one has taught me is to enjoy



# THE MAN WHO INVENTED PUNK

life and to have FUN and not to worry about money. The brass monkey is now off my back so let's NOT save for a rainy day because it doesn't matter. I used to be so stingy, such a mean old skinflint tight-fist - it was a working-class thing. I think - but now I just spend money because it's such a wonderful feeling. . . Or rather, my darling spends it on my behalf. . . In the most charming manner. . .

But as for "mellowing" in the head, rather than in the wallet. . . "I'd like to mellow out in my old age but I'm finding it increasingly impossible. If anything I'm becoming much more tense. Times they just seem to be getting worse - hahaha - so that's why I have as much fun as I can because I honestly can't see myself enjoying life in the future - what there will be of it."

Oh dear. Grim gloom and despond. As John says on "Album", he sees mushroom clouds just o'er the horizon, so prepare to duck and cover, pop kids!

"I can definitely see nuclear war coming. I can't see anybody doing very much to stop it. Both those camps - Russia and America - despise each other so much and that malignancy will not go away overnight. They are not going to put their bombs and bullets away. You can't get rid of all that. You can't. It's there. How are you going to dismantle all that. . . DANGER?"

Elsewhere - on the "Rise" single - John turns his attentions to equally disgusting topics, singing about "hot wires" being strapped to his head.

"You can't keep pumping out happy-go-lucky records and completely avoid reality. I read this manual on South African interrogation techniques and 'Rise' is quotes from some of the victims. I put them together because I thought it fitted in aptly with my own feelings about daily existence."

So where's all the FUN John Lydon's supposed to be having? The daily enjoyment of life's rich tapestry. Eh? Wow, there's, er, there's, er, there's, er, there's. He loves 'em. Sort of. . .

"I've become almost a university lecturer on the subject of sharks. I'm an expert. I'm thinking of writing my own shark book because the ones I have are not detailed enough, not for me. I've always wanted to go out in one of those shark cages and meet one eye to eye but, well, living in LA we went out in a boat and - oook - when I see them in the water it's 'nooo!' I'm not going anywhere near that. *Shear FEAR!* Recently they gave me a 20-foot-long, 10-inch-wide - about two miles out from where we live. That is frightening stuff! 20 foot of, like, killing machine, you know, in the sea. . . where *Nora* goes swimming every morning!!! OOOOOOH - I don't need that!"

So, one takes it, J. Lydon is not a great one for padding in the ocean. Not even the occasional dip? He fixes me with another sleazy blue-eyed gaze that says 'What? Are you mad?' "Swimming? Not in the sea! NO!! I got so fascinated with all the bad things that live in it that it became like a total paranoia. Now I'm just into dolphins and nice things. I watch endless repeats of *Flipper* (useless old US TV show about a sandy-haired boy and his dolphin "pal"). . . hahaha. . .

Which brings us on to that global source of "fun" and "enjoyment" . . . the telly. . . "That's the worst thing about

had a bloody documentary on that with Geldorf of course (maximum sneer) right in the middle of it - as if that makes any bloody difference. . .

... and this is England. . . "You're being fed nothing here, but this small, little narrow-minded attitude about 'this is the centre of the universe and the rest of the world stinks'. As if this little island, this 'sanctuary', is the only sane place on earth. . . well, it isn't. It's very twice here. I mean, those qualities that did that record "Hop Off You Frogs" - those lyrics - "up your Eiffel" - oh, yeah, well literature-wise. It's pathetic! It's desperate! No, I do not miss England at all. It's pretty dreary

very rich mixture of cultures. They have much more fun out there, you know. I can walk around quite happily and fit in with all the other loonies and blend into the background. Which is bloody difficult to do here. Just walking to the end of the street here I get yelled at by truck drivers who grind their lories to a halt and come out and give me verbal abuse for ten minutes Still, it doesn't hurt vicious and nasty like it used to. Time seems to have healed the wounds. I now seem more like a folk hero than a demon. But what do people expect of me? To be their guiding light or whatever? The role some people want me to adopt - that of being everybody's hero - is one I find offensive. Wrong, wrong, wrong! And when I don't adopt that role, when I use musicians who can actually play their instruments, well. . . how awful of me! What a disease! Does that make me like the gout?"

Well, we've covered that territory already, actually, so let's get back to having FUN. There's a lot of us and there's *Flippa* and there's, er. . . friends?

"Well, I don't go out much so I don't have very many friends in LA. . . apart from the occasional lawyer - hahaha. I don't hang around with musicians - I don't like those cliques. If I was a plumber, I would see no reason on earth to want to meet loads of other plumbers, so why should it be different in this industry? I like Chrissie Hynde and Jim Kerr, they're nice people. I think Annie Lennox is a really nice person. And there's Heaven 17, of course - dear chaps. But I'm not particularly in love with the idea of being a pop star and leading that stupid existence. A lot of these new pop stars have very little in the brain department. They like to be manipulated and they seek after something as vague as fame - which is ludicrous. I was recording in New York when Duran Duran were there and they'd keep seeing me in places and their noses would go up in the air about four miles which was a HOOT. Perfect stuff. Fear joy. That saved an hour of insults."

John Lydon cracks open another can of lager, lights up another flap, and snickers another wicked cackle. . .

"Don't you want to ask why I don't have kids? Everybody wants to know why I don't have kids. That's an odd one, don't you think? Utterly irrelevant, surely?"

Tell me, John - why don't you have kids? John Lydon opens his arms in a mock embrace and adopts his very most sarcastic nasal drawl. . . "I've always had kids. That's an odd one, don't you think? Utterly irrelevant, surely?"

Hahaha. . . " . . . and if the current trend continues it's going to be a well small-sized family."

**The Sex Pistols** - Johnny Rotten, Steve Jones, Paul Cook and Glen Matlock - made their stage debut on *Newsround* in 1975 at St Martin's School of Art, London, but came in "national prominence" in December 1976 after appearing on the London ITV news programme *Today* on which they used some not very decent language. They caused further public outrage by being sick at airports and making ruckus "anti-establishment" pop discs like "Anarchy in the UK", "God Save The Queen" and "Pussy Riot". A billion gobs followed their head, thrashing out three chords on tinny guitars and



inspiring a lot (i.e. Generation X) featuring William "Yon As I Tell Sir William" (Idol). Glen Matlock was expelled by Sid Vicious in March 1977. Johnny Rotten was attacked by razor-wielding punks, hitting "patriots" in jail. The group's "controversial" LP "Nervous Mind The Bollocks. . . Here's The Sex Pistols" was released in November. They toured America in 1978 and then split up. Sid Vicious was charged with the murder of his girlfriend Nancy Spungen in New York and died from a heroin overdose in the spring of 1979. Johnny Rotten, meanwhile, had reverted to his real name and formed . . .

**Public Image Limited (I. Lydon, Keith Levene, Jah Wobble)** and had a hit single with "Public Image" (1978). . . followed by . . .



**P. I. L. (Mk. 2 - I. Lydon, Keith Levene, Jeanette Lee)** who had a hit single with "Flowers Of Romance" (1983). . . followed by . . .

**P. I. L. (Mk. 3 - I. Lydon on his own with 4 few bearded session chums)** who are in the middle of having the hit single "Single" (or "Rose") available at all good record stores NOW.

American television - the endless repeats. But bad as that is, the telly here is appalling. It's disgraceful. No imagination at ALL. That *EastEnders* is the worst thing I've ever seen in my life. It really is. And *Coronation Street* is still the same old lopsops doing exactly the same thing. . . It's a four year gap since the last episode I saw and I came back and I could follow it quite easily. I saw Ken Barlow's punch which I've ever seen - it's very difficult to get Ken Barlow across as a dashing young hunk - and Deirdre. . . GAWD. . . There was a documentary on that John Cleese BBC TV licence advertisement the other night. Un-be-LIEV-able! They

here, isn't it? So bland! Don't be bland! Don't be bland, Susan and Norman, you dreary couple with the Ford Cortina and your names on the windshield. There's actually a Susan and Norman out there right now driving around in a blue Ford Cortina feeling well proud of themselves for being utterly dull. . .

And, of course, he's absolutely right. There go Susan and Norman right now, listening to their Lionel Richie tape - but doesn't the "good old" U.S. of A. have its fill of Susans and Normans too?

"Of course it does. There's millions and millions of them out there. But in LA, they're much more open - it's a

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# DAVID BOWIE



DAVID BOWIE'S TITLE TRACK FROM THE ORIGINAL MOTION PICTURE MUSICAL

# RED W

## The politicians have their say ...

### "It's junk!"



**Norman St John-Stevas**  
Conservative MP and ex-Minister for the Arts  
"Red Wedge? Is it a pop group? (Short explanation of exactly what Red Wedge is and who's in it follows). Actually I met Spandau Ballet once. They all seemed very nice to me. I object to the idea of pop musicians recruiting for a political party? No, not at all. Why should it? It is dragging politics down to the level of pop? No. If anything it's dragging pop music down to the level of politics."



**Ken Livingstone**  
Leader of the Greater London Council which is about to be dissolved by the government  
"This is a break through. We've never had pop music in politics which is part of the reason why the Labour Party has been dead from the neck up. What I hope is that if you bring youth music into politics those politics will change. The question is, why should politics be boring? The answer is because most politicians are boring. That's what these people are here to change."



**Neil Kinnock**  
Leader of the Opposition  
"We're not interested in using performers just to add pizzazz to politics. That is not what we want and Billy and the boys would not let us get away with it. The people involved in Red Wedge are serious about their politics and they want to make sure that Labour listens to young people and responds to what they say. We are delighted that so many people have given their time to get Red Wedge on the move."



**Matthew Paris**  
Conservative MP  
"Politically Red Wedge is junk, musically it's boring and I think young people see through that kind of thing."



**Mark MacGregor**  
Chairman of the Federation of Conservative Students  
"We think it's all a bit of a scam. The Labour Party are trying to hide the fact with Red Wedge that their Youth Section is controlled by a distant, tedious, so they're hiding a lot of nasty persons who are far to the left, and covering up for the fact that they've only got tired old policies. The musicians who are doing it are getting good publicity out of it."

**"It's no good just complaining in your beer about things. Ballet's Gary Kemp. He's just one of many pop musicians – a tour that's not all champagne binges, wrecked hotels and a political conscience. And it's not boring!" William Shaw**

A couple of weeks or so ago it seemed like half of the entire population of the British pop world suddenly dubbed

themselves "Red Wedge", dashed off on a tour of the nation and turned up on all sorts of TV programmes talking about politics. There was Paul Weller and The Style Council, Spandau Ballet's Gary Kemp, The Communards, Madness, Billy Bragg, D.C. Lee, Junior Giscombe, The Smiths, The Kane Gang, Prefab Sprout, Jerry Dammers of The Special AKA, reggae singer Loma G, all telling everyone that they were trying to use pop to bring politics to young people and turning up at concert halls with all these politicians.

Why? Well, everyone involved had their own reasons, but the clearest explanation came from funk singer Junior Giscombe: "Political awareness is a need now," said Junior. "With Red Wedge we're just trying to make people more aware. Regardless of who gets in at the next election – Conservative or Labour – Red Wedge is still going to be a good thing because it's necessary to keep young people aware of politics."

There were seven concerts in all on the tour – each one a superb two-and-a-half hours worth of music without too much sermonizing from the stage. When the audience arrived, they found brown paper bags on their seats, these contained a selection of political pamphlets – one on apartheid in South Africa, one about unemployment among young people, another about the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, another on women's rights.

And then in the foyer there were assorted Labour politicians milling about for the audience to meet – "Go and have a word with them," shouted Paul Weller from the stage. "Give them a bit of stick as well!" But most people didn't recognise them – apart from famous Labour person "Red" Ken Livingstone who was beset by autograph hunters and hardly got the chance to get a word out.

As you might have twigged by now, the Red Wedge people aren't big fans of Margaret Thatcher. The organisation got going at the end of last year, partly prompted by Live Aid and partly by Paul Weller and Billy Bragg getting together during the miners' strike. Those involved state that they're all committed to the creation of a "fairer, saner society", and they all reckon that to get that you need to get rid of the present government. And though nearly all of them say they aren't totally committed to the Labour Party, they believe that



Billy Bragg, Paul Weller, the Red flag flying ...



Gary Kemp: "I'm playing with people I wouldn't normally dream of going on stage with. . . That sums up Red Wedge"



The Red Wedge massed chorale perform an exuberant "Move On Up"

Labour is the best option we've got – the lesser of two evils.

Spandau Ballet's Gary Kemp explains why: "Red Wedge hasn't got any strict manifestos or policies and this is how we see politics stuff. It's not about that. I think the Labour Party is all we have, and if you don't like it, change it. Live Aid showed the power of people

It's no good just complaining in your beer about things, you've got to come out and say it. . .

The idea of getting people like Gary Kemp involved is to make people think twice about it all, because Spandau Ballet aren't usually thought of as a "political" act. Gary knows this and admits it with disarming frankness:

# EDGE



— you've got to come out and say it. . ." So says Spandau who've been roaming the country on the Red Wedge tour rooms and the usual pop nonsense. . . No, this is pop with attends the rally. . .



Junior Giscombe: "I don't have to show I support the Labour party, they have to show they support ME!"



Paul Weller — singing out against spathy



Jimmy Somerville: "Gay rights and socialism have to go hand in hand"



D.C. Lee



The Red Wedge collective — pop music's united front

"It's not really the people in the venue that we want to get to. It's the people who didn't come. It's the people who are going to wake up tomorrow morning and see that Gary Kemp was here and they're going to wonder why. People who've seen the Style Council before will probably know Paul's politics already but there

won't be many Spandau fans who've thought like that."

Paul Weller knows that too. He knows he's a big crowd puller, but he says, "The best thing that could happen to Red Wedge in the future is if we could get John Taylor or George Michael involved. I can't see the Durans doing it but George should do

it because I think he's smart enough to see that it's a good thing to do."

Before Red Wedge "hit the road" everyone was a wee bit worried that all these pop stars would be at each other's throats in no time at all, but they all ended up getting on like nobody's business, traveling from town to town in one big coach, all staying up far too late after the shows and having intense and deeply meaningful political chit-chat. "I think," explained an extremely chuffed Paul Weller, "that's because all of us were doing it for a fundamental reason. That's why you don't get ego clash. That's why it all went so smoothly."

The shows themselves were absolutely flipping marvellous. Imagine two-and-a-half hours (sometimes more) made up of short "sets" ("Not long enough to get boring," as D.C. Lee put it), with everybody on stage having a whole of a time and all joining in to help each other's groups.

There were the regular acts — Billy Bragg jangling his guitar and singing all about love and (of course) politics, The Style Council playing a very "laid back" selection of jazzy tunes, The Communards shocking everyone by being extremely good indeed, not to mention Lorna G's rather fine reggae.

Then there were all the guests who just turned up for one or two nights like Lloyd Cole & The Commotions, Madness, Prefab Sprout, The Kane Gang and, as mentioned, Gary Kemp who did a very sensitive folkie number called "Between The Barricades" about conflict in Northern Ireland and also, he explained back-stage, "about my girlfriend's sister who's going out with a coloured boy."

But the biggest fun of the lot was when they got together to do versions of well known tunes, like Johnny Marr and Billy Bragg murdering The Rolling Stones' "The Last Time" or the entire cast getting up to perform wondrous versions of very old soul songs.

The stars actually threw everything into it. Not only were there all sorts of political meetings and press conferences before the shows (where Billy Bragg talked the hind legs off everyone about . . . erm, politics), but even after the shows they chatted to members of the audience and answered questions about Red Wedge.

"Oh yeah!" grunted Jimmy after an awkwardly. "The questions they all asked were great. I got well and truly cornered last night. But that's a good because it shows that people aren't just saying 'Oh great! Paul Weller and Billy Bragg!' It's important that people have a go at us as well as the MIP's, so there isn't just end up thinking that socialism is just the new thing to be into. Bullshit! It's a serious thing."

PHOTOGRAPHY: SPANDAU

## The punters answer back . . . "It's brilliant!"

Friday 31st January,  
Newcastle City Hall



"It's preaching to the converted in our case," Pauline Murray and Penny Rogers, students at the University of Newcastle. "It was good, exactly what we wanted to hear."

► Leon, in the foyer after one concert, handing out Labour Party leaflets. "I came expecting what I got. It didn't really change my mind about anything because I agree with what was said. There might have been a few people who just came for Paul Weller who might have had their minds changed, though."



"I didn't really come here for the politics," Alan Ellis and Michael Gardner. "They passed us by. I mean, I don't like things like racism," says Alan, "but the only thing it really changed my mind about was The Stones. I didn't end up to think that much of them."

► Lucy Mudge and Jodie. "I'm in love with Paul Weller!" moored: "A lot more people need to be attracted to things like this," says Jodie. "A generation needs to be. It's much better that you get young people involved because all the people who are in power are all old white men. I think this converted some people. I was sat next to a moid and she wasn't clapping at the beginning, but by the end she was clapping her head off!"



MATT **B**ianco



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# HAVE YOU SEEN THIS MAN?



**Smash Hits is offering a "substantial reward" i.e. loads of Swatch watches and Feargal Sharkey LPs in the "it-fell-off-ver-back-of-a-lorry-oh-alright-then-it's-a-fair-cop-guv" supergrass competition.**

## **GREAT COURT CASES NO. 162: THE CROWN VS. FEARGAL SHARKEY**

**Denzil Fogey Q.C. (prosecuting):** M'lud, this photograph, Exhibit A, clearly shows the accused, Mr Feargal Sharkey, with a number of watches concealed within his clothing.

**Chief Justice Oide-Buffer: Disgracefull** Tristrem Smarmy Q.C. (defending): I protest, m'lud. My client is a popular singer by profession and his forthcoming tour is being sponsored by the Swatch company, therefore...

**Oide-Buffer:** Swatch? What, pray, is that?

**Smarmy:** A Swatch is a rather

swish'n'twizley type of wristwatch, m'lud...

**Feargal Sharkey:** Dead good clobber, a

Swatch is, your worship...

**Oide-Buffer:** Silence, young man! You have been found guilty of concealing the storementioned valuables about your person. You shall, therefore, surrender 75 Swatch wristwatches and 100 copies of your own LP platter "Feargal Sharkey" to Smash Hits magazine for a competition...  
**Sherkey:** It's a fair cop, guv...

**Oide-Buffer:** And go to prison for ever and ever.

**Sherkey:** Oh, heck! That's tom ill!

And so there we have it! Thanks to the workings of the British legal system, Feargal's swag could be yours. We have 25 first prizes of Swatches and LPs, 50 second prizes of Swatches and 75 third prizes of LPs.

There are eight different types of Swatch to choose from - mark your first and second choices on the coupon below once you've solved these "posers":

- a) Who wrote the science fiction novel *The Time Machine*?  
b) What time is it when the big hand is on 6 and the little hand is on 12?

Fill in the coupon and send it to  
**I Didn't Nick This Swatch Honest Guv I Won It**  
in **A Competition Competition, Smash Hits, 14**  
Holkham Road, Orton Southgate, Peterborough  
PE2 6YJ to get here by February 25.

The answers are: a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

If I win a Swatch, my first choice is number , my second choice is number

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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**50 Second Prizes**

A Swatch watch of your choice

**75 Third Prizes**

The "Feargal Sharkey" LP

EXHIBIT A



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8

# Turning Away

None of your friends come near you  
Given it up trying to steer you  
'Cause you're turning away turning away from love  
Lately you look so ragged  
The edge of your heart's become jagged  
And you're turning away turning away from love

Chorus

I see you're turning away turning away from love  
I said you're turning away turning away from love  
Well she gives it to you without asking (turning away)  
A piece of her heart everlasting (turning away)  
But you're turning away turning away from love

Just when this old world needs  
All of the love it can get  
You're turning away  
Turning away from the one  
Who really cares  
Turning away from love

Repeat chorus

Just when this old world needs  
All of the love you can give  
You're turning away  
Turning away from the one  
Who really cares  
You're turning away from love

Repeat chorus

Well she gives it to you without asking (turning away)  
A piece of her heart everlasting (turning away)  
But you're turning away turning away from love

Repeat chorus twice

No no no  
Turning away turning away from love  
I said you're turning away turning away from love  
Love love love  
You're turning away turning away from love love love  
I said you're turning away turning away from love love love

Words and music by Tim Knefel  
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On Epic Records



## Shakin' Stevens



## If You're Ready (Come Go With Me)

### Ruby Turner (Featuring Jonathan Butler)

If you're ready (come go with me)  
If you're ready now (come go with me)  
If you're ready (come go with me)  
Come go with me (come go with me)

No hatred will be tolerated  
Peace and love between all the races  
Love is the only (transportation)  
To where there's total (communication)  
If you're ready (come go with me) right on  
Take me by the hand y'all come go with me

No disasters will ever enter there  
(Enter there) no no (no no no no)  
No wars no wars will ever be declared  
(Will ever be declared)  
No economical exploitation  
No political (domination)

Now everybody (come go with me)  
Take me by my hand all (come go with me)  
Better get ready (come go with me)  
Everybody get ready (come go with me)

Love is the only transportation  
To where there's total communication  
If you're ready (come go with me)  
Take me by my hand all (come go with me)  
If you're ready (come go with me)  
Come go with me (come go with me)

Woah woah woah hear the sound  
(Come go with me come go with me)  
Between all the races (come go with me)  
Lord Lord liar (come go with me)  
Take me by the hand all (come go with me)

Woah woah woah hear the sound  
(Come go with me) come go with me lets go  
Better get ready (come go with me)  
I'd like to take you to the races  
(Come go with me lets go)  
Better get ready now (come go with me)  
Come go with me

Ad lib to fade

Words and music by H. Banks/R. Jackson/C. Hampton  
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On Jive Records



## Train seats reduced by up to 80% in February with a Young Persons Railcard.


Anyone with a Young Persons Railcard can have a reduced seat.

For the whole of February you can travel on a Saver ticket at up to 80% discount any day (except Fridays on trains departing between 1200 and 2000).

A Saver ticket that normally costs £20, for

example London to Crewe, now costs £4. For more details of our offer see the special leaflet from stations and travel agents.

So if you're 16-23 now's the time to pick up a Railcard for just £12. Don't miss our offer before the seats disappear altogether.

We're getting there  Young Persons Railcard

# RSVP

Want someone to write to? Send in a postcard with a few words about yourself so people can get in touch. All cards to: **RSVP, Smash Hits, 25-25 Canary Street, London W1V 1PP.** And please enclose a phone number where we can contact you. This won't be published.

● **Hi! I am 15 years old and I live in Norway.** My interests are music, reading and writing. I would love to hear from anybody aged 14-17. Please write to Rachel Johnson, Ørnveien 3, 3523 Skyttank, Norway

● **My Name is Theron Harris and I'm into Duran Duran, Madonna and Bucks Fizz.** I am 14 years old so write to me at: 43 Uncom Lane, Easton Green, Coventry CV5 7LN

● **I'm a Scottish girl called Karen who is mad about Simple Minds, Queen, Ver Boss and U2.** I'd write to anything and anyone especially foreign guys (even if you're not bald, handsome and full of muscles). So send a pic and a letter to: Karen, 18 West Main Street, Broxburn, West Lothian EH62 5RH

● **Are you a wonderful Wham! fan or a great Go West fan or maybe even a marvellous Madonna fan?** If you are and you're keen to write to Mark, 16 Outway, Rye Park, London SW20 (I'd reply to all letters received)

● **I'm into Howard Jones, Madonna, King and Scritti Politti and I also think that Michael Praed is the best thing on two legs since Donny Osmond.** I'd like a male or female penpal, preferably born abroad and aged 16+. Write to: Elaine Wood, Greenwells Farm, Melrose, Roxburghshire, Scotland TD6 9HE

● **Hi! I'm 11 and I'd like to hear from any girls who like Madonna, King and most other pop music.** I also like sailing, rock climbing and walking. Please write: Neil Smith, 60 Ash Road, Southwiler N Horstam, Sussex RH13

● **Hallo peeps!** I'm a strange 12 year old into The Cure, The Banshees, Hoodoo Gurus, Weezer, Violent Femmes, The Slints, The Smiths, New Order, Easy Beats, The Monkeys, The Trilbys, The Buzzcocks, Blow Maways and X-Ray Spex. I also love The Young Divs, '60s trash, black clothes, dancing, smudged lipstick, morbid lyrics, eyeliner and dyed hair. Write to: Charlotte 22 Wilman Road, Bourcraig, Western Australia, 6023

● **Hi, My name is Kevin and I would like to write to anyone, anywhere, any age, any colour.** I like Kim Wilde, TFF and swimming. Write to: Kevin Szeel, 33 Tooty Walk, Frome, Somerset BA11 3DJ

● **Attention all crazy Cult and Damned fans.** Do you love extremely loud music and a good laugh? Yes? Then get your name in out to: Julie, 68 Airedale Road, Parson Cross, Sheffield S5 8LD

● **WANTED: Two Rambo lookalikes aged between 14 and 16 (biceps/sunburn - f!d), to write to two friendly girls.** We're into Madonna, Scritti Politti and Rex Brown and hate Wham!, DD, Frankie and any other bubble groups. Write to: Rach and Sam, 76 Suezeyhill Road, Heme Hempstead, Herts. (and please send a pic too)

● **I'm a 14 year old boy who would like to hear from anyone aged between 13 and 15 who are into Madness, UB40 and The Style Council.** If you are interested write to: Laurel, 5 Beckton Road, Dagenham, Kent BR6 9JS

● **I'm a 14 year old boy who wants loads of penpals!** They can be any age, race or sex and I don't care what music they like. I like Howard Jones, Madonna, TFF and many more. Don't hang about, write to: David Heiler, 33 Chapel Street, Alconbury, Huntingdon, Cambs PE17 5DU

● **I'm a 15 year old male and madly into Madonna, Duran, Japan and Depeche Mode.** Any young females out there aged between 14 and 16 get writing to: Denis, 15 Tivecourt Road, Longford, Coventry CV6 7DX

● **My name is Yvonne and I'm 15 years old.** I'm into U2, Spandau Ballet, Paul Young and most chest music. I would like to hear from boys and girls of my age. Hope to hear from you soon. Write to: Yvonne Fredericks, Grandunen 49, 2635 Ibsen, Denmark

● **Anybody out there look like Roger Taylor?** No? Well, it doesn't matter. I'd like to write to you anyway. I'm a blonde Swedish girl living in Switzerland and I'd like to hear from all nice guys aged 15+. I'm into Duran and other chest music. Write to: Cecilia Bredius, Geengrüb 62, 8049 Zurich, Switzerland

● **I'm 15 years old and I'm called Billy.** I love music and I'm into almost anything - The Cranps, The Medsons, Earthyrics, Billy Idol, Kiss, Mötley Crüe and lots more. Any letters into any of these (or anything like them) please write to me at: "Lander", Bostenack Close, Faugan Parc, Newlyn, St. Penzance, Cornwall

● **Hi! Are there two gorgeous blokes out there between 13 and 15?** We are two gorgeous girls looking for you. We're into DD, Madonna, Go West and Wham! So get writing to: Jo and Vicki, 20 Downsway, Dated, Surrey RH2 0N2

● **My name is Robert Webster and I like all pop groups.** I'd like a girl penpal from USA, Great Britain, Canada or Australia so write to me now at: 10 Francis Place, Longwell Green, Bostok BS15 6DR

● **Hallo, Louise here!** I like all kinds of music especially The Sex Pistols, The Damned and Frankie. I would like to hear from anyone aged 14+. Please send a pic and a letter to: Louise Rawlins, 80 Fowler Road, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 8DG

● **My name is Tracey Hyatt and I'd like a female penfriend from the USA aged 13-15.** I like Wham!, Duran and Madonna and a few others. So write to me at: 67 Gadsbane Street, Baskett, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs ST4 6UG

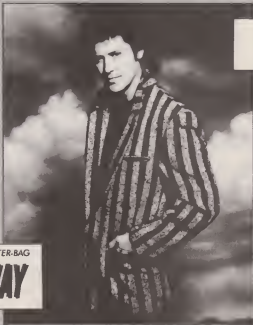
● **Hi, I'm a Mod, I'm 15 and I'm into The Jam, The Who and the whole mod scene.** I would like to hear from all you other mods and moddies out there, so get writing to: Thomas Spalding, c/o LBOR Spalding, CM Dept (Mar), 47 Fild Rd, R A, B F P D 113. (Please send a pic if possible)



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OUT NOW-LIMITED EDITION POSTER-BAG

# TURNING AWAY



Shakiri  
Stevens

Spice

# KIDS AID RAFFLE

## YOUR LAST CHANCE

It's still not too late to enter the Kids Aid raffle we told you about in the last issue. What you have to do is:

1. Make out a cheque or postal order for £1 (made payable to Kids Aid) or more if you can afford it.
2. Fill in your name and address on the coupon at the bottom of the page.
3. Choose which of the list of First Prizes you'd prefer to win and circle the appropriate letter on the form.
4. Bung the form and the cheque or postal order into an envelope and send it to: Kids Aid, St. Benedict's School, Norman Way, Colchester, Essex CO3 3US.
5. Wonder whether you'll be lucky enough to win either a first prize or one of the squillions of fab runners-up prizes we told you about last time when the draw is made on April 18, happy in the knowledge that even if you don't win your money has gone to help famine relief in Africa.

### FIRST PRIZES

**A.** A V.I.P. day for two at a racing circuit including a ride with an international racing driver. **B.** A day on location for two people with the cast of *EastEnders*. **C.** A meeting with Paul McCartney. **D.** An autographed photo, t-shirt and lots of records from Paul Young. **E.** A trip for two to see Dr Who being made. **F.** A d6football autographed by all of Liverpool F.C. **G.** A day for two on the set of *Dempsey And Makepeace*. **H.** A 10 day Sunseekers Mediterranean holiday for four people in the South of France. **I.** A day on location at *Grange Hill* and a meeting with the cast. **J.** A Yamaha-Kemble "Personal Studio System" drum machine. **K.** A trip for two to watch the recording of *Wogan* and meet the man himself. **L.** A British Telecom Snoopy "fun" phone. **M.** Booby Prize – an "expenses paid" trip to the horrible *Smash Hits* offices and a year's subscription to *Smash Hits*.

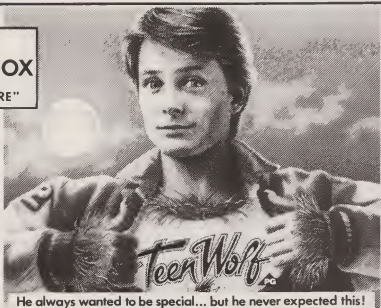


Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (if any) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M  
 If I was a first prize I would like the following one (Please circle your choice)  
 I enclose a post order/cheque made payable to Kids Aid for £1. My cheque will go to the charity Kids Aid to help the children which I have enclosed in a separate envelope. I enclose a separate cheque or postal order to St. Benedict's School, Norman Way, Colchester, Essex CO3 3US.

A NEW COMEDY  
 STARRING  
**MICHAEL J. FOX**  
 OF  
 "BACK TO THE FUTURE"

**In the West  
 End and  
 on General  
 Release all  
 over the UK  
 NOW**

SEE LOCAL PRESS  
 FOR SHOWING DETAILS



He always wanted to be special... but he never expected this!

FROM ATLANTIC  
 RELASING CORPORATION

THOMAS COLEMAN and MICHAEL ROSENBLAT present MICHAEL J. FOX in "TEEN WOLF"  
 with JAMES HAMILTON, SCOTT PAUL, IVY SUSAN LISHTI, JERRY LEVINE and JAY BARUSE  
 Special Music: Lyrics by THE BURNING STUCCO; Director of Photography: TIM SANDRISTE; Music by MILES GOODMAN  
 Written by JOSEPH LOEBER II & MATTHEW W. WICKHAM; Executive Producers: THOMAS COLEMAN and MICHAEL ROSENBLAT  
 Produced by MARK LEVINSON and SCOTT ROSENBLAT; Co-Producer: KEO GAMBLE

AN  
**ENTERTAINMENT**  
 WEEKLY

# DREAM

**Brrrrr... they're blimmin' creepy, ain't they? One minute you're knitting a dog and chatting to Eamonn Andrews at a race meeting and then the dog turns into your auntie and you're not at a race meeting at all but you're dressed as a haddock and addressing a meeting of Polish farmworkers. Brrrrrrrrrrrrrrr...**



and as long as I carried on doing the breaststroke. I'd be going down the road talking to people then I'd say 'just going for a fly!' I went back to visit my old school and flew over the swimming baths and past the chemistry labs and then put my feet on the ground. Suddenly I thought 'that's it - I can't fly anymore' and all these people were saying 'Come on, we want to see you fly!'



## Neil Tennant (Pet Shop Boys)

'I have this dream where I'm stuck in a lift and it's going up quite fast and getting smaller and smaller and smaller so that I'm getting squashed. It's horrible. I'm quite claustrophobic and I hate lifts anyway - if they're really full I refuse to go in them.'



## Robert Smith (The Cure)

'I always used to have a dream that I was falling through a window and I could feel all the glass going into me. I had this idea that it'd happen and I'd die on February 14 last year I'd convinced myself. In fact I don't even remember what I did on that day, it was only when I got into bed that night that I thought 'Shit! It didn't come true'. I was quite disappointed in a funny way.'



## Stephen Luscombe (Blancmange)

'If I can't breathe when I'm sleeping, I dream I'm drowning. It's because I love water; I love to be part of water and I feel a great affinity for it. Sometimes I get past the stage of drowning and I'm alive in the water - I've transcended death but I'm not dead. It's difficult to explain... it's like a transmutation into an amphibious person and I feel really at home. When I wake up I feel quite disappointed.'



## Alannah Currie (Thompson Twins)

'There are a couple of houses I go to at nightmares. They're full of dead people and they come out of swimming pools with their bloody hands and they grab at my legs. Pretty revolting, really.'



## Barney Albrecht (New Order)

'I used to have two recurring dreams. One was where I was dead small and in this sort of

machinery - lots of cogs and stuff - and my head was being crushed. I think it may have been about being born because your head gets crushed when you're being born, doesn't it?'

'The other one was me sitting in this wooden garden hut with no front to it, waiting for this curved laser beam which would come from down below and land right in front of me. I sat on the beam and came down it. I think that might be about being born as well because I was a caesarean birth and if you're in the womb and someone cuts your mother's stomach open you get a white line of light, don't you?'



## Alan Wilder (Depeche Mode)

'All my dreams involve the group unfortunately. Just when I'm trying to get away from them and go to sleep they're there again, looming up in the subconscious. I usually dream about equipment collapsing in front of me on stage and feeling really exposed.'

## Roland Orzabal (Tears For Fears)



'I have recurring sexual dreams. I have some really great I-do-NOT want-to-wake-up type dreams. But I also have a lot of fighting dreams where I'm beating people up. I think I'm a very angry person.'

When I was a very young kid, about 5 or 6 years old, I used to really bash my brothers about and one time I was in a temper my father put a wet sponge on my face and I was choking and it was horrible. But that one swift action put a stop to my tempers and now I find it difficult to be aggressive, although it does come out verbally.'



## Mags (A-ha)

'I do have two dreams that I get again and again. One is falling off a specific bridge that I used to pass every day on my way to school. I always tried to walk on the outside of the railing and just hold on with my hands. In my dream I fall off, though I never did in real life.'

'The other dream is driving in a car very fast and coming up to a

crossroads with cars going by each way. I go full speed towards it and I don't know whether I'm going to be hit by a car or go straight through without a problem because I always wake up just at that moment.'



## Bruce Dickinson (Iron Maiden)

'I only remember them now and again. I had this one recently where I had the ability to fly but only at about shoulder height



## Nick Rhodes



'I don't remember that many of my dreams, but I went through a stage recently when every time I thought I was dreaming something good I used to half wake myself up and actually write something down. Then I'd wake up in the morning and look at it

and I'd often not even remember having written it. And I can tell you, some of the things were so strange. I trained myself to do it because I get a lot of my ideas from dreams. The glass bird in the 'Election Day' video was in one of my dreams. I was travelling down an entire glass street and there was a glass bird floating above me and I couldn't reach it. I tried to touch it and it vanished.'

'I was speaking to someone about it the other day and they asked if I dream in colour and yes, I do. But do you dream in 70mm 3D - that's the new one.'

# S



**Nick Laird-Clowes  
(The Dream Academy)**

"Since I was 4 or 5 I've dreamt I was in The Beatles. First I played bangs with them, but recently I dreamt I was touring Japan and there were millions of flowers everywhere and I'd hang out with John Lennon.

"I also have this one where I'm picking a very light flower - like in those eastern European cartoon films - and it becomes the heaviest, heaviest weight. It's a terrible feeling. I'm sure it's something to do with something I had before I was born and the weight of actually coming into being. I sometimes get it when I'm awake, too."



**Simon Le Bon**

"I used to have loads of recurring dreams when I was a kid, usually falling dreams - blue sky falling dreams. They weren't scary - they were really great. I never hit the bottom - when I got to the bottom I'd go straight through, like going through ice or glass or something. I don't know what it all stands for, but I don't believe in all that Freud rubbish - he was so wrong. He was just a paranoid-egoist-complex case himself and he thought everyone else was like him."

# IF I RULED THE WORLD

## KURTIS BLOW



(If I ruled the world)  
(And I love love girls)  
(Wear diamonds and pearls)  
(If I ruled the world)

If I ruled the world  
I'd be king on the throne  
I'd make peace in every country  
Build houses at home  
Not running for congress or the president  
I'm just here to tell the world how my story went  
You see first it was a dream I was living in Rome  
And then I moved to London bought a brand new home  
And everywhere I went I drew lots of attention  
Like a stretch limousine  
One of these new inventions  
It took a few years before the day had come  
But I was ruler of the world ranked number one  
So I headed for Washington to claim the crown  
Let the whole world know that the king was in town  
As I arrived the crowd started to cheer  
And then someone yelled out the king is here  
So I headed towards the stage to make a speech  
About the new style of living I was gonna teach

(If I ruled the world)  
(And I love the girls)  
I love 'em love 'em baby  
(Wear diamonds and pearls)  
Ooh yeah yeah  
(If I ruled the world)

People start bowing as they reach for my hand  
I said a thank you groove to the promised land  
But now I must go say goodbye to everybody  
Tonight I see you all at my super dinner party  
And late that night at my super dinner party  
I was dancing to the beat and entertaining like a de  
The music started thumping it was time for a speech  
The crowd started singing as I rose to my feet  
And this was once a dream I explained to the crowd  
Now I rule the world  
And I feel so very proud  
Excuse me please  
For stopping this show  
I just had to thank you all huh  
My first day in the office as the king on the throne  
I spent my first three hours on the telephone  
You know with newsmen reporters and voters too  
I had so many calls I didn't know what to do  
You know all at once I continued to work  
I signed so many papers that it started to hurt  
Then I shook off the pain  
I said this ain't no game  
'Cause nothing in the world like being number one king

(If I ruled the world)  
Ho he he he he he he he  
(And I love love girls)  
I love 'em love 'em baby  
(Wear diamonds and pearls)  
Ooh yeah ya-ya-yeah yeah yeah  
(If I ruled the world)  
Yeah yeah ooh ah

Words and music by Blow/Raevee/Scratch  
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On Club Records

# CROSSWORD

## ACROSS

- 1 See photocube (5,5)  
 6 That tree-like **Lesley**  
 7 See 24 down  
 8 Weepy connection for **Faers**  
 9 "— And Tumng" (**Windjammer**)  
 11 A plea once made by **Yasoo** (4,2)  
 12 What **Bryan Ferry** was to love  
 13 "— You Up" (**Medonne**)  
 14 **Rusty** found amid the Kane Gang

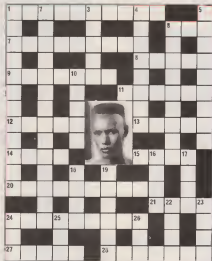
- 15 Dome spins round for **Depeche** s other half (anag)  
 20 **Comeo** hit not really suitable for an album? (6,4)  
 21 **Annika** or lyricist **Tim**?  
 24 Where **Art Of Noises** were close? (2,3,4)  
 27 **Break Machine** s was of the Break Dance kind  
 28 Mod ends Noel's name (anag)

## DOWN

- 1 Spooky movie that provided a **Ray Parker** hit  
 2 and 6 They certainly won't play "Sun City" (7,7,9)  
 3 **David Sylvian** s old group.  
 4 **Clint** who'd like to make your day, punk  
 5 The residence of **Big Sound Authority**? (4,5)  
 6 See 2 down  
 10 "— Love" (**Bronski Beat**) (1,4)

- 16 "—kul" (**Men At Work**)  
 17 **Wham!** s record label  
 18 Like **Nick Hayward** s hat and **David Bowie** s Jean  
 19 That sisterly toboggan (EY? Ed.)  
 22 **Malden** s metal  
 23 **George Benson** was in yours  
 24 and 7 across T F Pope's photos form a musical TV show (anag 3,2,3,4)  
 25 How some like it, according to the **Power Station**  
 26 Sort of cat **Mr Beley** is

ANSWERS ON PAGE 51



## MADNESS • Sweetest Girl



NOW AVAILABLE AS A LIMITED EDITION GATEFOLD CONTAINING FREE VALENTINE SINGLE

SWEETEST GIRL ♥ JENNE (A PORTRAIT OF) ♥ TEARS YOU CAN'T HIDE ♥ CALL ME

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*MODE*

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**M**



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april 9th BIRMINGHAM NEC april 10th BIRMINGHAM NEC april 12th MANCHESTER APOLLO april 13th BRISTOL HEPPODROME april 14th BOURNEMOUTH INTERNATIONAL CENTRE  
april 16th LONDON WEMBLEY ARENA april 17th LONDON WEMBLEY ARENA





# CONCERTS

## BIG COUNTRY:

Nottingham Royal Concert Hall (March 17), Manchester Apollo (18), Sheffield City Hall (19), Newcastle City Hall (21), Dundee Caird Hall (22), Edinburgh Playhouse (23), Birmingham Odeon (25), London Hammersmith Odeon (26), Bristol Hippodrome (28)

## CHEMISLLE/ALEXANDER

O'NEALS London Hammersmith Odeon (February 27/28, March 7), Croydon Fairfield Halls (2)

## CLANNAD:

Oxford Apollo (February 13), Hemel Hempstead Pavilion (14), Ipswich Gaumont (15), Norwich Theatre Royal (16), Newcastle City Hall (18), St Andrews University (19), Aberdeen Ritz (20), Edinburgh Usher Hall (22), Glasgow Pavilion (23), Stockport Davenport Theatre (24), Leicester De Montfort Hall (25), London Palladium (27).



## THE COLOURFIELD:

Hull University (February 20), Reading University (21), Leicester University (22), Manchester International (26), Warwick University (27), London Town And Country Club (28), Newcastle University (March 1)

## DÉSPICHE MOOE

(EXTRA DATES):

Birmingham N E C (April 9), Manchester Apollo (12), London Wembley Arena (17).

## SOPHIA GEORGE

(RESCHEDULED DATE):

The date for Hammersmith Palace on February 9 has been changed to February 23. If you've already got tickets, you'll be able to use them for the February 23 show.

## HIPSWAY:

Strathclyde University (February 22), Dundee Dance Factory (24), Manchester Polytechnic (26), University of London (27), Leicester Polytechnic (28), Warwick University (March 1).

Compiled by Sue Miles



DIOL: Birmingham N E C (May 7), Newcastle City Hall (8), Edinburgh Playhouse (9), Leeds Queens Hall (10), London Hammersmith Odeon (12/13/14).

● Tickets for the Newcastle and Edinburgh shows are £7.50 and £8.50 and are available from the box office at the venue. The Birmingham tickets also £7.50 and £8.50 are available from the box office and the following ticket agents: George Gaskell, Birmingham; Gaults TV, Wolverhampton; Lotus Records, Stafford; Mesa Label Music, Hareley and Newcastle; Piccadilly Records, Manchester; Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool; Way Ahead, Derby and Nottingham (all listed in a booking list).

● Tickets are all £7.50 and are available at the box office, from several ticket agents (listed in a booking list) and by post from PO Box 124, Watral West Midlands, Walsall B71. Postal orders and cheques should be made payable to MCF Ltd and you should also send a stamped 30p return envelope and include a 40p booking fee and allow 21 days for mailing (allow 28 days for London tickets, as £7.50 from the box office and usual ticket agents). If you've got a credit card, you can also order tickets by phoning 01-74 8989.



## OMD:

Oxford Apollo (February 12), Reading Hexagon (13), Manchester Apollo (15), Bradford St Georges Hall (16), Nottingham Royal Concert Hall (17), Bristol Colston Hall (19), Crawley Leisure Centre (20), Cornwall Coliseum (22), Cardiff St Davids Hall (23), London Hammersmith Odeon (24/25)

## WELCOME TO THE GARDEN PARTY:

The Milton Keynes Bowl (June 28)

● This concert features with **Motion** (topping the bill and the other acts to be announced shortly). Tickets are £12 plus a 40p no-refund "bookers fee" (which contains a lot of a usefully really) and are available from your nearest destination only from MCF Ltd, PO Box 124, Watral West Midlands, Walsall B71. Cheques or postal orders should be made payable to MCF Ltd, and you should include a stamped addressed envelope (see list) and an order for delivery (A credit card "hot line" will also be in operation, and the number to call is 01 741 8989).



# OSBOURNE SHOT IN THE DARK



OUT ON THE STREET I'M STALKING THE NIGHT  
I CAN HEAR MY HEAVY BREATHING  
PAID FOR THE KILL BUT IT DOESN'T SEEM RIGHT  
SOMETHING THERE I CAN'T BELIEVE IN

VOICES ARE CALLING FROM INSIDE MY HEAD  
I CAN HEAR THEM I CAN HEAR THEM  
VANISHING MEMORIES OF THINGS THAT WERE SAID  
THEY CAN'T TRY TO HURT ME NOW

BUT A SHOT IN THE DARK ONE STEP AWAY FROM YOU  
A SHOT IN THE DARK ALWAYS CREEPING UP ON YOU  
ALRIGHT

TAUGHT BY THE POWERS THAT PREACH OVER ME  
I CAN HEAR THEIR SMITTY REASONS  
I WOULDN'T LISTEN I LEARN HOW TO FIGHT  
I OPENED UP MY MIND TO TREASON

BUT JUST LIKE THE WOUNDED AND WHEN IT'S TOO LATE  
THEY'LL REMEMBER THE Y'LL SURRENDER  
NEVER A CARE FOR THE PEOPLE WHO HATE  
UNDERESTIMATE ME NOW

BUT A SHOT IN THE DARK ONE STEP AWAY FROM YOU  
JUST A SHOT IN THE DARK NOTHING THAT YOU DO  
A SHOT IN THE DARK ALWAYS CREEPING UP ON YOU  
ALRIGHT

BUT JUST LIKE THE WOUNDED AND WHEN IT'S TOO LATE  
THEY'LL REMEMBER THE Y'LL SURRENDER  
NEVER A CARE FOR THE PEOPLE WHO HATE  
UNDERESTIMATE ME NOW

BUT A SHOT IN THE DARK ONE STEP AWAY FROM YOU  
JUST A SHOT IN THE DARK NOTHING THAT YOU CAN DO  
JUST A SHOT IN THE DARK ALWAYS CREEPING UP ON YOU  
ALRIGHT

JUST A SHOT IN THE DARK  
JUST A SHOT IN THE DARK  
JUST A SHOT IN THE DARK  
JUST A SHOT IN THE DARK  
JUST A SHOT IN THE DARK

Words and music by Osbourne/Coonan  
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**The World's Best Music Stores.**







# GET SMART

Could you please give me any information of the Cocteau Twins and the address of their fan club. They're one of my favourite groups but they never seem to do any interviews.

Alison Welwood,  
Slake-On-Trent.

● The very brilliant but shy and retiring Cocteau Twins don't have a fan club and aren't too keen on doing interviews either, but they do make lots of records. Formed in 1980 by Robin Guthrie, then a technician in an oil refinery, and his mate Will, they were soon joined by Elizabeth Frazer (Robin's girlfriend) and toured Europe with OMD. Will left before they made their second LP ("Head Over Heels") and was replaced by Simon Raymonde.

They've recorded three LPs — "Garlands", "Head Over Heels" and "Treasure" and lots of weirdly-named singles, "Lullabies" (3-track 12" only); "Peppermint Pig" (7" and 12"); "Sunburst And Snowblind" (4-track 12" only); "Paarty Dewdrops/Drop" (7" and 12"); "Aikea Guinness" (7" and 12"); "Tiny Dynamite" (4-track 12" only); and "Echoes In A Shallow Bay" (4-track 12" only). There's also a compilation album called "The Pink Opaque" including some of their best songs (often in slightly different versions) and one unavailable song, "Millimillenary".

Unfortunately this record is only available in America, though the compact disc version has been released over here, for some reason. And, finally, the group have just finished a new LP called "Victorlaland" which should be out in late March. All these records are on the 4AD label, but get brilliant covers, and — hurray! — are fairly easy to get hold of (try ordering them from your local record shop).

## FAN CLUBS

● Firstly, another couple of "updates" (i.e. corrections) on last month's

Fan Club Directory  
PAUL MCCARTNEY  
& WINGS  
P.O. Box 4UP  
London W1A 4UP

(Thanks to Sophie Roberts of Barbury who corrected the mistake, and deserves this club as "toppy" indeed!)

LOOSE ENDS  
GARY GLITTER

file of a prob here — the addresses we gave in both cases turned out to be their managers's offices, who now inform us that they haven't actually set up a fan club yet. So you'll have to wait a bit for a reply we'll give you more details when we get them.

● And here's some new ones

BRYAN ADAMS  
Apartment 406, 68 Water Street, Vancouver, Canada

DOUBLE  
Caram Street 12,  
8030 Zurich, Switzerland  
(This isn't a fan club, but mail will be passed on to the group)

FRA LIPPO LIPPI  
c/o Virgin Press Office,  
Virgin Records, Kensal House,  
563-579 Harrow Road,  
London W10

BILLY IDOL  
Details to follow shortly (we hope).

● Bear in mind that record company addresses aren't actual "fan clubs" — all they can do is pass mail on, not necessarily reply. And, as ever, don't send any money in your first letter.

## SCARY THIEVES SPLIT SHOCK!

● Please please can you tell me what's happened to Scary Thieves? I think they're absolutely brilliant but I haven't heard anything about them recently. Have they released an album? I've been looking for it for months. . .

Scary Thieves fan,  
Mansfield.

● Sadly Scary Thieves are — sob! — no longer together and their long-awaited album was never released. They did manage to release three singles —

"The Fattening Game", "Tail Me Girl" and "Dying In Vain"; they're all on the EMI label, but you'd probably have to hunt around to find them. Apparently the dreadful end came when their drummer left shortly after they'd finished supporting Nik Kershaw on his last UK tour; the three remaining members, Raife Phil and Chris then parted company with their record label. Just like that



▲ Latin Quarter. (left to right (steep breath) — Steve Skellish (main vocals, guitar); Richard Wright (guitar, vocals); Greg Harwood (bass); Yona Durskold (vocals, piano); Martin Lacey (the new keyboard player, replacing Steve Jeffries) and Carole Douet (vocals, percussion). New drummer Dave Charles must be hiding in the loo

## LATIN QUARTER

Could you please give me some information on Latin Quarter? I have been trying for a few months to find out about them. Is there an address through which I can contact them, and will they be touring Scotland this year?

Stobhan Ferrie, Glasgow.

● Latin Quarter are one of those British groups who, like Talk Talk, are currently far more successful in Europe than back home — they've sold 52,000 albums (i.e. quite a lot) in Germany alone, and are just embarking on a long European tour which will last till the end of March. They're a very, like, double-edged group — there are seven permanent members, but they've got a "phantom" eighth member called Mike Jones who, although he doesn't appear onstage with them, writes 90% of their highly-acclaimed "political" lyrics (he sends them down from his Liverpool home by post). They've released five different singles, in order "Radio Africa"/"Eddie", on their own Iginlon label (v. rare, Sep. '84); "Toulouse"/"Thin White Duke" (on the Rockin' Horse label), Feb. '85;

"Radio Africa"/"Voices Inside" (Rockin' Horse), April '85; "New Millionaires"/"This Side Of Midnight" (Rockin' Horse), July '85; and "No Rope As Long As Time"/"Radio Africa" (a double A-side on Rockin' Horse/Arista), Oct. '85. The version of "Radio Africa" hobbling up the charts at the moment is a re-release of the April '85 version with "Voices Inside" on the B-side, although the 12" has got "Toulouse" on there too. Apart from all these singles they've released one album, "Modern Times", which contains all the aforementioned A-sides; it's available on record and cassette, and was re-released last week. (Initial quantities of the cassette include a coupon which entitles you to a free "dub" 12" single of the group.) You've just missed their British tour, but when they return from Europe they'll be starting work on a new album and just might squeeze in a few concerts. If you want to write to them, the address is: Latin Quarter, c/o Helen Lee, Arista Press Office, Arista Records, 3 Cavendish Square, London W1. She'll pass on all letters, but can't promise a reply!



# THE MIDGE

He's had a hand in almost every type of pop group imaginable: he was number one in 1976 with "teenybop" group Silk, almost became singer with original punks the Sex Pistols, more or less invented New Romantics with Steve Strange in Visage and co-wrote Band Aid's "Do They Know It's Christmas" and the music that ended up as the theme for *Top Of The Pops*. And all this from someone who used to live in a Glasgow tenement with a river under the floorboards and slugs on the carpet. Yeeuuuuk . . .

## Interview: Chris Heath



● It's 1974 and James "Midge" Urquhart, of Scots teen combo Salvation, is doing a spot of hang-kicking on his bar stools! Heaven?

"I shared a bed with my brother until I was ten. "The five of us — my parents, my older brother Bobby, my younger sister Linda and me — lived in this typical Glasgow tenement in what they used to call a "room-and-kitchen" (just one bedroom and this sitting room with a wee kitchenette in there used to be water running underneath the floorboards, a wee river. I can remember listening to it and thinking it was quite a novelty. We were on the bottom floor so our toilet was out in this desolate wasteland, this barren area where no grass grew. It was freezing out there and I used to be petrified because it was pitch black — more often than not the wee gas manifies that if the area were gone and nobody would replace them. We never had a torch. "I never saw any rats —

our house was incredibly clean — but in the morning there used to be slugs or snail trails over the carpet, a sort of mish mash of silver sparkly trails where they'd gone in the night. You had to be careful where you walked. That's just how little we was. I didn't realise how little we'd got until I went to secondary school. "Midge Urquhart smiles at the thought. These days he's got all the money he needs but when he was born at 8.30am on the morning of the 10th October, 1953, at 24 Park Street, Cambuslang (a Glasgow suburb) his father, Jim, a van driver, and his mum, Bet, weren't that well off at all. Early on James (as Midge was christened) decided that this wasn't quite the life for him.

"There was a choice you definitely made in Glasgow," he explains, "that you're either going to



● Jerry Dilly? Midge? Kerry? Yes, it's the big cheer-leaping sound of SNA — 1970?

be one of the lads and play football for the rest of your life and end up being a plumber, or you're going to do something else. I went for music — I was useless at football anyway. We always had the radio on and even before we moved out of the tenement (when Midge was 10) I must have thought that being a pop star would be a good thing to do, an easy way to make money."

So he started messing about on the guitar, eventually forming his first band, Stumble, with some schoolfriends when he was about 14. Aside from music, Midge remembers being quite "light-headed" as a child. He wasn't interested in school "apart from Art and English," but nor was he much of a rebel. "I can't ever remember getting into serious trouble," he admits rather sweetly. "The hooligans at school used to take you round with them when they'd go shoplifting and I'd stand outside with my heart going boom-boom-boom-boom-boom — twenty to the dozen — while they were stealing a bar of chocolate. I never went in and did it myself. I was too scared."

Nor did he get interested in rumpy pumpy very early on. "Even at the beginning of secondary school I was a lot of talking but never much action," he sighs, "a lot of chasing and not much else." In fact on one occasion he was so determined to discourage any of that "funny stuff" that he shoved a cream pie in a girl's face so that would leave him alone.

"She was a horror!" he brings with embarrassment. "Well, actually she was alright, but she was very tall and for some reason had a crush on me. When you're 13 or 14 you just don't want to show any interest and at this party she kept messing

about constantly so she ended up getting a cream pie in the face. It was a terrible thing to do but it was quite funny at the time."

Midge's first stage appearance had been at the Scout Gang Show in 1965 singing "I'm Into Something Good" by Herman's Hermits — a not much to base a career upon — but after he left Rutherglen Academy at 15 (because "they wouldn't teach me enough art") he began to take Stumble rather more seriously. Meanwhile, he wasted six months at Motherwell Technical College then started an apprenticeship at the government-run National Engineering Laboratory earning £4 10/6 (£4.52½) a week. "I was always good with my hands and I was taught that that's what you did — go off and learn a trade."

So he did, all the time dreaming of being a pop star and growing his hair horrendously long. "It was highly fashionable at the time," he says defensively, "though I wince looking back at it now. But that was the fashion — I think it'd be much worse looking back at your photos thinking 'my God I look a specy clown' with glasses, unfashionable

to play Top 40 hits and "close harmony songs, things like Neil Young's (bloke who puffed a mouth organ on Live Aid) "Southern Man". He gave up his job and soon after got rid of his "long hair and stack-heeled boots". Instead getting his hair cut "very short and spiky on top. From then on it turned into the James Dean short back and sides that stuck ever since."

Salvation piddled on for a while until the singer left and the four remaining members got a record deal, changed their name to Silk and shot straight to number one with a song called "Forever And Ever".

"It was great. Success on a plate. You sign a contract and within six months you're number one."

There were, however, a few drawbacks. Silk were fashioned as one of the last "bubblegum" teen pop groups like the Bay City Rollers and the Rubettes — good-looking boys who sang catchy little pop songs. The only thing was, not only were Silk not allowed to write their own songs, they weren't even allowed to play on them.

"We didn't play a single note on 'Forever And Ever'. Our records drove a three



● Steve! Midge! Rusty! Gan! Yes, it's the big Pop-songs sound of the Rich Kids — 1979?

clothes, short back and sides which your mum used to comb at the front. At least it was the fashions that were funny — not me."

He also proudly wore a pair of pyjama-like flared jeans — 22" Levi bell bottoms — "the thing to have" — though he was too poor to get the rest of the outfit. "I couldn't afford a leather jacket. I was a cut-price rocker. Rockin' on a shoe-string budget."

All this changed after he was offered a job in a professional Scottish band called Salvation who used

ton truck from Glasgow to London full of equipment — we never used it. When we walked into the studio we heard this thing playing in the background. We thought it was a Christmas jingle — it was the backing track for our single. I had an almighty row with the producer — he took me out into the middle of the street and screamed at me: 'do you want a bloody hit or not? What do you mean you want to play on your own records?!' So I went back in and just sung it." Soon even the

# U R E S T O R Y



▲ Above on stage Midge twangs a fiddly guitar and "warms up" for another pathetically bad "Rich Kids concert"

Duran and Depeche Mode. "It became blatantly obvious things were changing. It was anti-punk, the opposite of everything that had happened the year before. The attraction was the glamour of the '80s."

Midge joined in wholeheartedly, borrowing clothes off Steve Strange, "getting into" music by people like Kraftwerk and Brian Eno and starting a new group, Visage, with Rusty. "I'd decided though that I didn't really want to be in any more bands—I wanted to be a record producer or a solo artist—so we needed a frontman. Steve was at the forefront of this fashion and he desperately wanted to be a singer so we used him. He wasn't too bad."

Visage became a "studio project" involving five or six musicians from different bands which, after the novel electronic disco of their second single, "Fade To Grey", reached the top ten, was very successful indeed. One of the other members of Visage was Billy Currie from Ultravox,

around a maze—at that point I discovered exactly what I wanted to do."

So, after a brief jaunt round America with the heavy metal pop band Thin Lizzy (he was an emergency replacement for guitarist Gary Moore), Midge became famous yet again when Ultravox's "Vienna" zoomed up the charts.

The rest is "history" i.e. Midge has enjoyed continued success with Ultravox and as a solo "artiste", he's made records with Japan's Mick Karn and also the late Phil Lynott—they did the Top Of



▲ A master of disguise, here's Midge with Mick Karn in '83

The Pops theme together—produced lots of unknown bands and also, of course, made some solo records. The first was in 1982—"No Regrets" (originally intended to be a duet with the Human League's Phil Oakley but something went wrong), and the most recent, "Wastelands", is in the stores now.

And it was Midge who wrote the basic song for "Do They Know It's Christmas?" and who, behind the scenes, helped Bob Geldof organise the whole thing. And, he emphasises, none of this means that Ultravox have split up at all.

"I'm seeing them all tomorrow," he reveals. "The other three have been in Billy (Currie)'s studio working on some ideas. This time we're going to do something slightly different. I wasn't exactly feeling stable but I was 70 over-enthusiastic with the idea of doing another Ultravox album that took six months to write and six months to record. It's ridiculous. This time we're going to try to do it quickly, like the "Vienna" LP.

But the most exciting thing to have happened to Midge of late is giving up his bachelor life and marrying model Annabel Giles.

"It was a great way to top 1985," he beams. "The Band Aid record, Live Aid, my solo record—it was the perfect way to cap a great year. I'd never met anybody before who I could talk to for more than a couple of days. I just thought "this is too good to be true"

"I don't really think it's



▲ Like Midge, Warren Bily's kids it's the big (glacial) paradigm sound of Ultravox

changed me—though people say I've become less manic, more relaxed. It's great now because I can go on holidays and things. I couldn't really ever go on holidays before because I didn't want to go alone and I'd never go with anyone in case they became too attached."

Nevertheless he says they're going to wait a while before inflicting lots of little Ures on the world. "Be like Simon le Bon?" he sniggers. "No—we got married for the right reasons. Actually I know Simon and Yasmin and they're a perfectly matched couple—they both enjoy enjoying themselves. It was always on the cards they'd marry—I've never seen a couple who kiss and canoodle and hold hands as much as those two."

So isn't Midge like that? "Nah," he bushes, "I'm too serious." Really? "Actually I'm a great romantic," he whispers confidentially. "I've just never really had anyone to be greatly romantic with before."



▲ ...and so the raindrops, Midge and Annabel, stroked away to live happily ever after. Fm

consolation of being famous and successful disappeared. People got fed up of bubblegum bands and, by late 1976, Sirk—who only that March had been described as having "the same kind of potential as the Beatles"—were well and truly down the dumper.

"The whole thing had changed in the course of about six months. Nobody wanted bubblegum bands, they wanted Johnny Rotten."

Which was a particularly cruel twist of fate for Midge, considering that months before he had been offered the job of singer with the Sex Pistols. "I met Malcolm McLaren in Glasgow outside a music shop before 'Forever And Ever' came out. He was up there selling some equipment—I bought an amp off him. He asked me to join his band but he didn't even care if I was a musician. It didn't make any sense to me—I wasn't the least bit interested."

So Midge stuck with Sirk until they eventually fizzled out. Meanwhile one of the people who did join the Sex Pistols, Glen Matlock, got chucked out for "hiking Paul McCartney" and generally being rather too clean out to fit in with their "re-rodigious" image. A mutual acquaintance phoned Midge and suggested he joined Glen's new band, The Rich Kids.

"I popped down to London for the weekend and played three concerts with them. It was the most chaotic weekend I've ever spent in my life. It was all the clichés that have ever been said about 1977 punk—there was all this energy,

a threat hanging over you. There was always the feeling that somebody was going to stick a knife in your back. I met The Clash, Siouxsie & The Banshees and saw Sid and Nancy (Sex Pistols' Sid Vicious—see page 12), screaming at each other."

But after the concerts, one of which was at a tiny pub supporting three other young hopefuls called The Police, Midge decided it wasn't for him—"too



● Steve Strunge, Midge Ure and some blokes in a bush. Yes it's the big (big) new romantic sound of Visage—1982

anarchic and chaotic"—and went back to Scotland. A few months later he relented and the Rich Kids were spoken of everywhere as the "next best thing". It didn't happen. Their poppy first single—also called "Rich Kids"—was a hit but they never had another one. Their album, "Ghosts Of Princes In Towers", was a disaster. "I can't listen to it now," cringes Midge. "I find it pathetically bad."

So they too split up but, yet again, Midge was in the right place at the right time. The Rich Kids drummer, Rusty Egan, had just started a club called Blitz with Steve Strange which was to become the centre of the whole New Romantic movement that launched Spandau Ballet. Duran

an unsuccessful synthesiser band who'd just lost their singer John Fox. Midge agreed to take over "simply because I thought the music was great. I was in heaven. Those few initial days have been the highlight of my career so far. I'd never written music like that before. Up until then I'd been walking

● Midge back in those halcyon headbashed days of 1981




# HOW MUCH IS HEROIN LIKELY TO COST YOU?




*It'll Cost You  
Your Friends*



*Your Looks*



*Your Possessions*



*And Your Health*

*Even if a friend offers you heroin for nothing, there's still a price to pay. Because, once you start, you could soon find yourself unable to stop.*

*Then your old friends will get fed up with the way it has taken over your life.*

*You'll sell everything in sight (or steal it) to get more and more money for your habit. You'll look ill, you'll lose weight and you'll probably feel like death.*

*And one day you'll wake up knowing that, instead of you controlling heroin, it now controls you.*

*So, if a friend does offer you heroin, tell them you can't afford it.*

*Even if it's free.*

**HEROIN SCREWS YOU UP**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I've just finished reading your "rag" and I'd like to thank you for the intellectually stimulating interview with Mrs Yasmin le Bon and her pathetic husband.

With this country's present unemployment and inner city deprivation, I'm quite sure that there are a great many of the population who would be extremely grateful for a Pyrex dish, toaster or any other "horrible" gift. All this piffle about yachts, holidays abroad and Ferraris is way out of most people's vision and extremely patronising. Obe Charles and Diana is quite enough, thank you. I notice that Yasmin said very little during the interview but then I suppose it's beyond the fat one's sights to marry a person with a brain.

Never have I read so much and learned so little - a 2 page spread may be necessary to accommodate le Bon's vile and bloated ego, but a postage stamp would suffice his knowledge  
L. Matthews, Chelmsford, Essex



Good God! And we all thought that Morrissey believes that "Haddock is Horncore"! Oh, well, 'tis not my place to interfere...  
Deranged Schoolboy, Ayrshire.

Dear **Black Type**,  
Answer this and I'll be suitably impressed.

During last year's series of *Miami Vice*, one episode was titled "Nobody Lives Forever". Crockett & Tubbs are in hot pursuit of three

# LETTERS

WRITE TO: SMASH HITS, 52-55 CANNARY STREET, LONDON W1V 1PF  
THE BEST LETTER GETS A £10 RECORD TOKEN

drug-crazed punks with a penchant for comics and hamburger stalls. Meanwhile, Crockett is falling blindly in love with a high flying architect named Brenda. Obviously women and cop work don't mix and so after a few "cock ups", he realises it's one or the other. Now to get to the point - he's pondering over his future whilst drifting in the Miami Bay on his power boat. The scene is perfect and as the song on the cake, a song fades in called either "Heartbeat" or "Listen To Your Heartbeat" - very American and very AOR. The question is who the hell is this band?  
A Worried Miami Vice Fan

"Heartbeat", eh? Why, wasn't that the name of a hit for those happy-go-lucky-twangsters-with-the-ageing-rock'n'roll-quiffs-and-Mister-Byrite-teddy-boy-"suite"-as-used-by-Shakin'-Stevens-and-other-fine-Elvis-Presley-impersonators-of-yesteryear, Showaddywaddy? Yes! From guest spots on *Little & Large* to starring roles in *Miami Vice* - it's a topsy turvy world, make no mistake! But on second thoughts, the group in question probably wasn't Showaddywaddy as their jumbo-stacked platform boots would have undoubtedly ruptured the bottom of Crockett's power boat and it would have been watery graves all round.

Dear Dave Rimmer,  
Regarding your singles reviews

(January 28)

ROMFORD

Romford is not at all a bad place. It has loads and loads of shops where you can buy just about EVERYTHING. It's even got a PDSA, although when I took my tortoise there, because he felt slightly ill, they gave him an injection which must have been the wrong one because he died the next day (R.I.P. Tummy). I've never tasted the beer so I don't know if you're right about that. The brewery had some good adverts made, though.

And apart from Five Star and their fan club being based in Romford, the Elkie Brooks fan club is based there too. And men with gold chains? Well, maybe but only the cheese you mix with.

And Romford can't be such a bad place, because I was born there! A-ha Fan, Essex.  
P.S. You're right about the Ford Capris though...

Dear **Black Type**,

As if poor old Ken Barlow hasn't got enough problems! Not only is his sorry daughter Susan galivanting around Weatherfield with that debonair deam devil Mike Baldwin, but his wife has been tempted into leaving him for the second time. This time it is not the sad Mr Baldwin who has seduced Deirdre, but the splendour and grooviness of the crazy pop idol! No sooner has Ken manfully strode into the factory, biscuits flying, to

"sort out" Mike than Deirdre hangs up her penny in "Alf's Mini Market" and swaps Coronation Street for rock's lost highway. Next thing we know she turns up on *Top Of The Pops* (23/1/86), dodgy outfit and dancing glossy lipstick to the fore, singing a typically wet bedded with a typically clichéd title (something like "Only Love" - youch!). And to cap it all she goes and changes her name to Nana Mouskouri! OK, so I too think of the things I'd rather be called than "Deirdre", but even so!!!

One parting thought, however, must go to Deirdre's... sorry, Nana's daughter Tracy. She'd only just learnt that her name was to be legally changed from Langton to Barlow when Deirdre, in her infinite wisdom, has to go and saddle the poor unfortunate with that monstrosity of a surname. I don't know about you **Black Type**, but the only conclusion I can draw is that Deirdre Barlow is an unfit mother, an unfit wife, and what's more, AN UNFIT POPSTAR!!  
Nick, Gainsborough.

And, I hasten to add, AN UNFIT SNOOKER PLAYER! As if she thought she could fool us by wearing her specs the wrong way round and cracking tiny jokes in a flimsy Irish accent. David Vine may call "Dennis" "Taylor" "The People's Champion", but we know better! Pshaw! Avanti!



"Huray!" cheered Simon. "My boat is sailing again."

Whilst browsing through my sister's copy of "the picture paper especially for little girls", I came across this v. trendy article about Simon and Yasmin. Here we see our two chums waving goodbye to Drum as it sets off to "win" the Whitbread race. Huray!  
Jane, Stafford

everybody's talking about...

## SIDEWALK TALK

written by  
**MADONNA**

+ WAS DOG A  
DOUGHNUT

featured on the EMI America album "wotupskit!?"



# LETTERS



Do all Norwegian children behave like this? A nation wonders "The" A-ha Fan, Skerries, Eire

I am writing to object to Shang's latest video, "Russians". Although I like the song and its lyrics, the video does nothing to show that Russians are "just like us", "love their children" and should not be considered "The Enemy" etc.

The old man, the thin child, the greyness of the video, everything reinforces the impression of Russia we are always given by the media. I think Shang should have shown ordinary Russian people buying clothes, going out or doing anything enjoyable.

Peace, London



Do all Norwegians live in such humble dwellings, I wonder? Sincie The Choul, Prestwich

Following your disgusting, sick and totally unnecessary "joke" about Elvis Presley (Ritz, 28 January), I have decided never to buy your magazine again. I am not an old Elvis-loving fogey. I am a perfectly normal 16 year old A-ha fan. But even I know that without Elvis Presley there would be no pop music at all - and therefore no Smash Hits! But all you can do is make cheap cracks at someone who can never answer back. Even *Spring Image* never reduce themselves to that level of "humour". Annette Basley, Shrewsbury.



Ugh. And where, might one ask, is Morten? Freddie Mercury's Toothbrush, Gosforth

Dearest **Blackford**,

After reading in *Smash Hits* that poor old Get Smart doesn't know tuppence about The Industrial Revolution, I thought I'd come to your aid, so here goes:

**The Industrial Revolution**  
The reasons that Britain was in a favourable position to be industrialised during the 18th and 19th centuries were that the demand for manufactured goods increased and means had to be found for greater production and innovation bred innovation.

The demand was stimulated by several factors. Firstly, the population was rising simultaneously with the standard of living, so the people of Britain needed more goods. Britain had spent many years at war with France during the period between 1700 and 1815 and whilst these wars retarded the steady growth of industry in general, certain industries and some regions were

## QUITE IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!



**Crums!!! It's the Black Type Tea Towel** - the sizzling wash time accessory that everyone is talking about!!! . . .

**ESTHER RANTZEN** (TV "presenter") "It's simply marvellous and now here's an avocado pear that looks like a lady's bosom tee hee!"

**"SIR" CLIVE SINCLAIR** ("inventor") "I know a good idea when I see one and this is just the job for polishing teeny weeny motor cars tee hee!"

**SAMANTHA FOX** ("model") "A tasty dish cloth for a tasty dish i.e. me goddit! coo ain't I sassy tee hee???"

**STEPHEN DUFFY** ("pop" singer) "It's totally amazing in fact I'm thinking of changing my name to Stephen 'Tea Towel' Duffy tee hee!"

**DIRTY DEN** (of TV's *EastEnders*) "As a geezer wot plays a dodgy pub handled on yer telly, punters are always askin' me fings like 'Ere Den,

stimulated

As an example, iron production in the Midlands grew, whilst the tin mining industry in Cornwall . . . (smiiiiiiiiip!!!) . . . an abundance of coal and iron as steam power became an essential of increased production. The End. Class dismissed.  
Dr JB Clevertrousers

wot kind of tea towel do you use for dryin' up the glasses in the Queen Vic, mate? Imagine their surprise when I gwe 'em a knuckie sandwich, nosy bawks! Tee hee!"

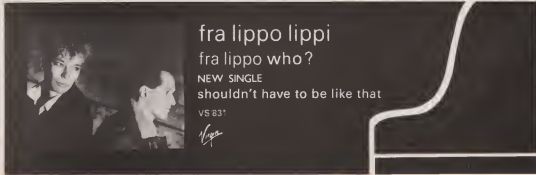
**Black Type** (pop "collumnist" who made all those quotes up) "**Make no mistake! My super Tea Towel** - made from the finest ingredients and designed entirely by myself - is the best thing ever invented since Mother Nature, in her wisdom, created peaches that don't have that nasty fuzzy skin i.e. nectarines. Yaa! There I was the other day in the kitchen dealing with a stubborn stain on my egg poacher when I suddenly thought 'Lumme, you know something, Type, this washing nark is a tricky business not to mention not very interesting. Is there no way to lighten this irksome household chore?.. Eureka!!' Yaa!!! I'd cracked it!!!! A Tea Towel that doesn't have a map of Kent on it!!!! And now I cannot wait to share my gift of joy with the world - so each fortnight from now on I shall be rewarding some supremely blessed letter writer with a **Black Type Tea Towel** as well as ver usual dreary old £10 record token. **Plus every single letter published** (and even some that aren't) be getting a - gasp! - **mercy!** - **Black Type Commemorative Pendant** (I.e. a badge that I drew myself only my felt-tip went a bit skew-wiff but it's not bad!!!!) Pipey o' gripsey! **Twingo Bingo!** Beat that! If you can Mr Rupert Maxwell or whatever your name is!"

You've been an education to us all, J.B., and just think, if my scissors had not "accidentally" "slipped" whilst I was reading your essay we could have printed it in its entirety i.e. all the way to **Mutterings**. Bravo! You have won the first ever **Black Type Tea Towel!** And so until next time, dear readers everywhere . . .

fra lippo lippi  
fra lippo who?  
NEW SINGLE  
shouldn't have to be like that

VS 83\*

Vega



# GET SINGLED OUT!



GRACE JONES  
LOVE IS THE DRUG



DEPECHE MODE  
STRIPPED



DAVID BOWIE  
ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS



PAT BENATAR  
SEX AS A WEAPON



STING  
MOON OVER BOURBON STREET

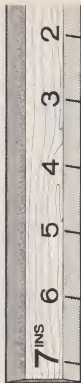


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## SINGLES

Reviewed by Simon Braithwaite



### SINGLE OF THE FORTNIGHT

#### POWER Soul In My Shoes (Arista)

One of the best records of last summer was "Work Hard" by Power, a couple of blokes from Liverpool who came up with something so infernally catchy and "danceable" I thought it had to be a hit. Needless to say it wasn't, but this worthy follow-up certainly deserves to make it for them. Pounding white soul music, what it lacks in lyrical variety (the line "I've got soul in my shoes" must be repeated at least 30 times) it makes up for with sheer driving energy.

have a fab video and get played absolutely everywhere so it's bound to be a hit.

string arrangement for good measure. It seems a bit bland and then you find yourself humming it for the next half hour. Mmmmm...

about going back to nature and "discovering yourself". Slow and atmospheric, even though you can't work out what he's going on about.

#### SIMPLY RED Jericho (WEA)

One of those frustrating songs with a brilliant intro and verse — blues and jazz combining perfectly with Mick Hucknall's soulful voice and then ruined by a ridiculously out of place chorus which sounds like a stupid football chant. A shame, but still a good single.

#### MAI TAI Female Intuition (Virgin)

This is pretty similar to "History", i.e. it's a wonderful dance record, it's brilliantly produced, it'll be a really big hit and it'll have people bopping for many a week ahead.

#### BRYAN ADAMS This Time (A&M)

A re-release from the 1983 album "Cuts Like A Knife", this is one of his better songs. As usual, Bryan's having problems with one of his "chicks", but he's a lot more restrained and less over the top than a lot of his recent material. It even verges on the boppiness of his music still reminds me of one of those appalling American "highschool" movies where a lot of uncouth college kids ride around in open top Chevy's swigging cans of Budweiser and causing "wacky mayhem" wherever they go.

#### DAVID BOWIE Absolute Beginners (EMI)

From the forthcoming film with Patsy Kensit, Sade and the man himself, the song "Absolute Beginners" sounds a bit like something David Bowie was singing 14 years ago. There's some gentle strumming guitar, a lot of "bo bo bowws" (presumably because the film is set in the late '50s) and a lavish



#### DEPECHE MODE Stripped (Mute)

Depeche Mode were becoming very predictable but this is the best thing they've done in ages. "Let me see you stripped," sings Dave Gahan and bang goes their appearance on Saturday Superstore. Actually, I think it's all

#### HOWARD JONES

**No-one To Blame (WEA)**  
Undoubtedly the best Howard Jones song since "Hide & Seek". Taken from the "Dream Into Action" album, the recording (produced by Phil Collins) sounds a bit like an early Elton John ballad, just some light piano and a few guitars. It's nice to see that old Howie has given up trying to save the world and is now concentrating on writing better songs.

#### MIDGE URE Wastelands (Chrysalis)

Pretty heavy stuff here as our Midge unfolds some of the horrors of 1980's Britain. Now, normally with Midge Ure this means not finding the right size Yamamoto jacket, but this time it refers to some of Britain's urban "wastelands" and the misery of living there. Starts with a solitary cello and builds itself into a crashing crescendo of every instrument they could find in the ruddy studio.

#### BRILLIANT Love Is War (WEA)

When I first played this record I was really disappointed, especially after their excellent version of "Man's World". On the second play my feet began a-tapping (I'm allowed one cliché) and the THIRD time round (dedication showing through here) I thought it was brilliant (har har). A powerful dance record which reminded me of Prince's last record and deserves to be a hit. (P.S. Sorry about all the brackets.)

#### COLONEL ABRAMS I'm Not Gonna Let You (MCA)

For sheer cheek Colonel Abrams deserves some sort of prize with this one. It's such a blatant rip-off of his previous hit "Trapped" that you wonder why the record company bothered to release it in the first place. They may as well have just re-mixed "Trapped" and banged that in the shops. A total, complete and utter swizzle.



#### MR MISTER Kyrie (RCA)

Sounds horribly like all those other Foreigner and REO Speedwagon-type songs and it'll probably be a hit and the singer will probably wear those ghostly white cowboy boots on Top Of The Pops again...

#### SISTER SLEDGE

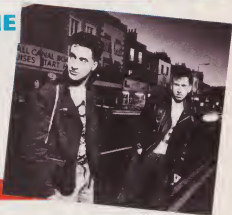
**Boys Meet The Girls (WEA)**  
Horribly cute single in the same vein as "Frankie", (probably with another dodgy video which looks as though it's been shot on a Super 8 one camera). "Jump to the beat, all over the world, when the boys meet the girls", drone the girls "meaningly". It's a wonder how they ever came up with something as brilliant as "Lost In Music".

#### REGINA

**Baby Love (PRT Records)**  
Well, it had to happen sooner or later — the first Madonna pop clone. This is a mindless pop dance record in the true Madonna tradition. "New York. Songstress takes the UK dance scene by storm", the cover informs us (what else does it?). I have this sneaking feeling it's going to die a quiet and quick death.

#### STEPHEN DUFFY I Love You (10)

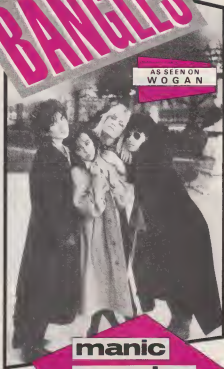
Everyone seems to love to knock Stephen Duffy, but he has a knack of churning out perfectly pleasurable and cheerful little melodies and this is no exception. Besides, it will probably





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FEBRUARY  
1986

MONDAY  
**17**  
FEBRUARY  
1986



# R E

# F I L T H E S U R E



This, apparently, is a 'sure thing'. (Funny - I could have sworn it was a sexist picture of a "chick" - Ed)



The "please-please-please-don't-leave-me-here" method  
windscreen-cleaning



"Song title, six words . . ."



"Gib" stops off for a beer with a couple of members of ZZ Top

M S  
T H I N G S  
V I D E O**(Rated 15, 94 minutes)**

The film begins with a horrible sexist sequence of a blonde girl strapping to sunbathe on a beach. Rod Stewart's horrible "Infatuation" blaring on the soundtrack and review in a very bad mood indeed at having been sent to see yet another film about spoiled American brats "growing up" (moan groan mutter mutter).

At which point the film makers are probably going "fooled you" because this soon turns out to be what Barry Norman would probably call a modern "comedy of manners" — i.e. people struggling unwillingly with their "true feelings" and making complete fools of themselves by having too much pride to let it show. And it's very, very funny.



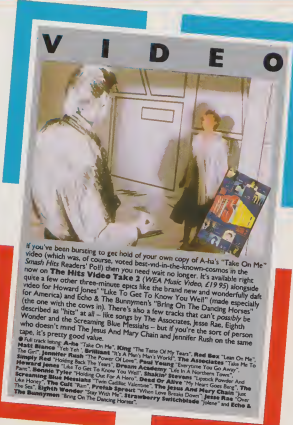
"Uh — I'll have another Um Bongo on the rocks."

The story concerns two opposite types who meet in the Creative Writing class in their first year at college. He is Walter "Gib" Gibson, a rough, sloppy but amusing bloke who lives on pizza and beer, plays football on the college lawn and dreams about rumpy pumpy. She is Alison Bradbury — the kind of swotty girl who has everything perfectly planned (even down to noting the time for her shower in her Fitlog diary). Naturally he fancies her but of course she's having none of it and the inevitable "chat-up" doesn't go terribly well.

Anyway, at Christmas he's invited over to California by a mate who's fixed him up with this "sure thing" — i.e. the blonde of the opening sequence. He gets himself a lift across America but lol — who should be his fellow passenger but Alison on her way to see her equally organised law student boyfriend! She is not at all pleased to see him, the drivers are a glibly couple who sing "jolly" songs and the journey goes downhill from there. The rest of the film deals with their adventures, how in the process slobsly Walter smartens up, prim Ms Bradbury loosens up and what happens when they finally get to their destinations in Caleeforn-eye-ay. It's all killing funny — not just because of the couple's inexperienced blunders but also because of some genuinely hilarious situations and brilliant quips.

This being an American "youth movie" aimed at "the kids", large dollops of grotesque rock 'n' roll are inevitable — you know, The Cars, Huey Lewis & The News and that sort of thing — but it's mostly background music so don't let it put you off. Don't let the dreadfully naff cinema poster put you off either — *The Sure Thing* is both smart and an absolute hoot.

Ian Cronin



If you've been bursting to get hold of your own copy of A-ha's "Take On Me" video (which was, of course, voted best-vid-in-the-known-cosmos in the now-on *The Hits Video Take 2* (WEA Music Video, £19.95) alongside quite a few other three-minute epics like the brand new and wonderfully daff for America) and Echo & The Bunnymen's "Bring On The Well" (made especially for the one with the covers in). There's also a few tracks that can't possibly be described as "hits" at all — like songs by The Associates, Jesse Rose, Eighth who doesn't mind The Jesus And Mary Chain and Jennifer Rush on the same tape. It's pretty good value.

Full track listing: A-ha "Take On Me", King "The Taste Of My Tears", Red Box "Lean On Me", The Gipsy "Jennifer Rush", Brilliant "It's A Man's Man's World", The Associates "Take Me To The Top", Simply Red "Holding Back The Years", Dinosaur "Excuses You Can't Live", Howard Jones "Like To Get To Know You Well", Shakira "Whenever You Are Away", Bonnie Tyler "Holding Out For A Hero", Shakin' Stevens "Spooky Powder And Like A Horse", The Cult "Sun", Primal Scream "When Love Takes Over", The Jesus And Mary Chain "Just The Girl", Eighth Wonder "Say What You Mean", Strawberry Switchblade "Yellow" and Echo & The Bunnymen "Bring On The Dancing Queen".

## R E V O L U T I O N

**(Rated PG, 124 minutes)**

This is Annie Lennox (right) all dressed up as an 18th century revolting peasant in *Revolution*, a film that cost millions of billions of pounds to make and, if first reactions are anything to go by, looks set to single-handedly bankrupt the British film "industry".

It's actually not that bad — just a dull tale of larva, fighting and "crowd" scenes in 1776 America. Annie's only in the film for the first three minutes and doesn't sing any songs or dress up as a man (swizzle!) but does get to say something like "the battle is in the market", Great.

The other two hours or so are taken up with Al Pacino searching for the love of his life, Nastassja Kinski, and thousands of extras dressed as soldiers shuffling aimlessly about on mountains. And the film's only entertainment value comes from watching the cast's desperate attempts to try and keep talking in the same accents. A waste of time.

Poul Moor



## ALBUMS

**CHARLIE SEXTON: Pictures For Pleasure (MCA)** This is the music they're all calling "the smouldering sex bomb from Texas and the future of rock 'n' roll as we know it..." This is his very first LP and... well... one minute your eyes are glazing over and you're getting that awful "my-name-is-Bryan-Adams-and-I-just-wanna-rock" feeling; the next you're being shaken awake by the husky mumble and somnolently subliminal geezah tweaking. At times as gripping as Rick Springfield, at others as unmemorable as the drummer from REO Speedwagon, Charlie Sexton is a very double-edged thing. I suppose what I'm trying to say is "Promising"... (A **weeny bit less than 7 out of 10**)

Tom Hibbert

**KURTIS BLOW: America (Mercury)** This LP has the longest "Special Thanks To..." list I've ever seen. Despite all this help the result's repetitious, "rap 'n' scratch" American funk. Side one drones on so much it's difficult to tell the change in tracks, except when Kurtis suddenly yells "Super Sperm" at the beginning of one song. Side two (which includes the bearable hit "If I Ruled The World") "hip-hops" along and ends with a track called "Don'ta Feel Like Making Love". Frankly I just felt like nodding off. (2 out of 10)

Kez Owen

**OZZY OSBOURNE: The Ultimate Sin (Epic)** Since Ozzy Osbourne would seem to have rather more wit and humanity (unless, of course, you happen to be a bat or a dove) than the rest of the long hair and denim brigade, it's a bit depressing to find such a grim collection of heavy metal clichés inside a truly gashy couple. Dumped dump ret-o-tut-tut dump go the drums, blum blum blum blum goes the bass, chuggo chuggo wuh wuh myowweeweeWEE goes the guitar, "Mountains of madness standing so tall etc etc" goes Ozzy, "Yeah right" go the headbangers. "Not ogani" goes the reviewer, "ZZZZZZ" goes everybody else. This is not a "good" record. This doesn't matter to Ozzy's fans. Can I go now? ("Bat" out of "hell")

Jan Crane

**VARIOUS: 9½ Weeks Original Motion Picture Soundtrack (Capitol)** The only interesting thing about this record is that the title track "I Do What I Do (Theme For 9½ Weeks)" is John Taylor's first ever solo record. Pretty good it is too, especially when he tries to sing in a deep mysterious voice. Sadly the rest of the soundtrack is fairly ropey — old songs from Bryan Ferry and Eurythmics that you'll already have if you want them and lots of snoozy laidback American pop from people with names like Luba, Dalabello

and Corey Hart. Wait til next month and get "I Do What I Do" as a single. (4 out of 10)

Chris Hezch

**TALK TALK: The Colour Of Spring (EMI)** It's taken Talk LP Mark Hollis one year, two choirs, 2000 musicians and a variety of instruments ranging from the "varnophon" (?) to the "dobro" (!?) to make this album. Luckily he's resisted the temptation to dump everything in together; he admits to being influenced by late 19th century classical composers such as Bartok and Delius, and the result is seven long, surprisingly restrained songs, sparsely orchestral and incredibly well "constructed" — every instrument is there for a good reason. It's terribly depressing, though — his gloomy lyrics, reedy voice and melancholy, remorseful tunes all combine to conjure up a cold-rainy afternoon sort of atmosphere. An impressive record, but not something to listen to if you're feeling down in the dumps. (7 out of 10)

Vic "Mac" Donald



**NANA MOUSKOURI: Alone (Philips)** "Thes song tell of an old, old fisherman who mends his fishing nets by the beautiful Aegean sea and dreams memories of long ago — How I wish I was a leetle butterfly, my darleng'..." That is how the bespectacled Greek songbird used to introduce folk offerings from her homeland when she was on BBC2 a long time ago. She was brilliant then — if you were into Greek folk songs, that is. But now — well, horrifyingly enough, she has SOLD OUT. Her most "commercial" album thus far finds Nana doing stuff like Abba's "I Have A Dream", the truly hideous "evergreen" "Amazing Grace" and a mish-mash of "easy-on-the-ear" pop ballad nonentities like her "chart-toppin'" "Only Love". She sings quite prettily but almost everywhere connected with this LP is French. Get back on the balalika, little lady. Why don't'cha? (2 — for the stunning cover — out of 10)

Tom Hibbert



## CALL ME

**O**r even "Nev". That's what Belouis Some says to anyone meeting him for the first time — after all, it is his real name. He was born plain old Neville Graham Keighley (pronounced "Keithley") on December 12 1959, and grew up in the posh South London suburb of Dulwich. When his parents split up he became a student at the Royal Russell boarding school in Croydon — "not a public school, it was the next grade down" — where, apart from gaining 11 "O" levels he learnt about quite a few other things, too. Like life. "I knew more about life at the age of 13 than most people. It sounds arrogant, but when you're away from home you grow up. You don't have your parents checking up on you the whole time because they think you're happily

locked away somewhere. But a teacher's never going to control you, so I had lots of fun." Like girls: "It was a mixed school, and although I sometimes went home at weekends, it was more fun to stay at school — it was a riot. You could say I discovered girls there..."

Like levitation: "I've never to this day understood it. This was this bloke there — he's a merchant banker now, really serious — and he lifted a guy who was the same size as me, with just one of his fingertips. Used to do it all the time. He'd hypnotise him, take him back to when he was a kid, then levitate him. So to this day I believe in things that can't be explained — for instance, if we were trained, I'm sure we'd be capable of moving objects just by thinking about them, by telekinesis..."

And — of course — he learnt about music. "I remember going to my first concert — David Bowie at the Croydon Fairfield Halls in 1972 — when I was 13. We were supposed to wear this pathetic school uniform with a maroon blazer, so I had to climb out of the window in my massive high-beeled platform shoes and get changed in the woods. I was nervous and scared, but I saw the show twice in one evening, and after that, I thought — well, this is it. This is what it's all about."

By the time punk came along in 1976 he'd started writing songs of his own, staying on at school "so no-one'd be hassling me to get a job." After failing all three of his "A" levels "and taking a few of my friends down the drain as

well", he went on the dole for a couple of years, making "demo tapes" (with, amongst others, Graduate — nooow Tears For Fears) and even going round the record company offices with his acoustic guitar, playing his songs to the people there in the hope of being "discovered". "It's very embarrassing to look back on," he remembers. "They were all very nice to me, though I don't think anyone had ever seen it happen before."

But, although people were interested, he just never seemed to get anywhere. "I always thought success would happen next week but of course it never did. It was such a terrible time. I was manic. It was so depressing and distressing wanting to do something and not being able to do it. But I didn't ever lose hope — I was very bloody minded and carried on and on."

He'd been carrying on and on like that for four years when the truth suddenly dawned on him — his lack of success might be due to the fact that he didn't have a group and, worse still, he didn't have an "image". He didn't have any money, either, so there wasn't a lot he could do about it. Then help came in the form of an old family friend, "Auntie Jane". "She was in her 70s — she's dead now — but she was very young in spirit and in mind, and I think she felt sorry for me." She lent him a few hundred pounds, enough to make a fresh start.

"I'd been going round with all these wonderful songs," explains Nev, "but I hadn't been playing the game. So I thought 'OK, you bastards, I'm going to start all over again.' I dyed my hair white and got together a great band that looked wonderful... and suddenly people started offering me recording contracts."

Easy as that? Well, not quite... there was the problem of finding a name. "Names are a pain — I always feel really embarrassed when I explain how I got mine. It seems so tacky. But where do you start when you're choosing a name? If you're politically motivated you take a name from a book you've probably never even read, but I wanted something that was showbizzy. 'Belouis' sounded soft and colourful, but I couldn't think of a second name — it was always Belouis 'Something'. So in the end I just used 'Some'. At the time it didn't seem stupid, because everyone had weird names, and at least it was better than Kajagoogoo. I always believed that when I had a name I was happy with, things would start going right..."



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# DOUBLE

They're two Swiss blokes who like Toblerone and used to rehearse in a nuclear fallout shelter. But, wonders Chris Heath, do they ever dress up in those little leather pants...?

leather pants?!" screams Kurt Maloo indignantly. Oh dear. Double don't take very kindly to the suggestion that everyone from Switzerland spends all their time dressing up in leather pants and snacking each other on the bottom.

"That's Austria!" Apparently the Swiss have much more sensible customs. Like?

"Er... well, there's blowing the Alpenhorn. And a sort of dance where you throw the Swiss flag up in the air, catch it and sort of turn around."

Oh yeah... Then of course there's yodelling," says Felix. "I tried it once when I was drunk - it freed me somehow."

However they both insist that not many of these goings-on ever happen in their home town, Zurich - a "fairly normal urban situation". Good thing too, if they'd lived miles from anywhere they'd probably still be scoffing yoghurt, n' music and skiing and yodelling and doing silly Swiss flag dances and Double would never have been formed. As it was, Felix Haug and Kurt Maloo were both born in Zurich a rather long time (33 years) ago and very early on decided they wanted to be musicians. Kurt fought a lot in street gangs ("not too heavy, though"), played football and took up the guitar at 11. He played his first concerts at 20, joined "experimental cut band"



Tropo, left, made a solo EP called "Maloo's Nervous Home Videos" and then joined a group with the atrocious name of Ping Pong.

Felix was quiet as a child but then left home at 15 because "my parents didn't believe the things I believed." After that he whizzed round the world, became a jazz drummer, played with weird avant-garde group Yello then also joined a group with the atrocious name of Ping Pong. "I'm glad we weren't successful men because I



A Double: Felix Haug (left) and Kurt Maloo

didn't feel that comfortable with the name," he admits sensibly. In 1983 Ping Pong disintegrated and the two of them formed Double. But, if there's only two of them, why are there four people on the record sleeve?

"It is each of us twice," explains Kurt mysteriously. "Our Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde sides. When I'm the saxophone player I'm quiet and introverted - when I'm the guitar player and singer I want to be loved which is much more what I'm really like."

And Felix? "As the drummer I'm much more a closed person. The piano player personality is much more lyrical."

Quite. They also want you to know a) that the single, "The Captain Of Your Heart", is about "a lady who has been waiting for the captain of her heart. It's about the moment, the switch, when she decided I'm not going to wait any longer. It's a bit sad",

b) that they don't mind being

so old and c) that Felix says strange things like "if you make music that really comes from your soul then it's so important you feel a response. Otherwise it's like running naked in the streets... But I'm not an exhibitionist."

Er... exactly. But let's talk some more about Switzerland. Is it true that everyone has a nuclear fallout shelter in their garden?

"No!" insists Kurt. "Though when big flats are built they have to build one at the bottom by law."

"They say that in the event of war 90% of the population can get to one," says Felix. "But I don't want to think



about it." "We did use to rehearse in one though," says Kurt. "A

lot of groups do that because it doesn't disturb anyone."

Have they got one of those fancy Swiss penknives with about a hundred corkscrews and forks and things on?

"I had one as a child," confesses Kurt. "They're just gadgets to look at and show off to friends who don't have them."

Swiss bank accounts? "Of course," says Kurt. "I'm living in Switzerland so I have a Swiss bank account. If I lived in France I'd have a French one."

Do they like Toblerone? "I think this is a very good chocolate," answers Kurt. "though I'm not much into sweets. I prefer cheese."

"I like the shape," pipes Felix. "There are hundreds of different brands so in the end you choose because of the shape. It's like in the record business - all records are actually black plastic (except for Double's single which you can get in blue vinyl hardhat - v. clever Ed.) but the outdates are more colourful."

Very profound. What about

The Captain Of Her Heart

"I met very good girlfriends and the girls usually fell asleep. The night the dream was having Felix's hand on him to keep him from falling over. One time I had a couple who even got a dog."

"I think the only time we ever had a fight was when we were in a restaurant and I was drunk and I was shouting at the waitress."

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cuckoo clocks?

"I haven't any clocks," states Felix boldly. (This is obviously very important to him.) "I feel time. I know when I have to go somewhere."

Alright then: have you ever been rescued from an avalanche by a St Bernard dog with a little barrel of brandy round its neck?

"I don't like dogs," says Felix "I'd rather be rescued by a beautiful nurse."

Finally, who are the most famous Swiss citizens?

"Um..." considers Felix, wracking his brains. "Er... I think most of them have died already. The man who started the Red Cross? I can't really think of anyone else. Apart from Double, that is."



# LOT OF THINGS

## 11 Howard Jones

**Q:** Why is this the best competition ever thought up by anyone ever?

**A:** Because we say so... no, because you can choose which prizes you want to win, that's why. And all you have to do to be in with a chance of winning is: a) look at all our stuff over there (easy); b) answer the question that goes with the prize you'd like to win (not that hard); c) write the answer down on a postcard or the back of an envelope with your name and address (easy peasy weasy); d) write the number of the prize in the top left hand corner of the front of the postcard (simple); e) send it off to: Smash Hits Win Drive A Lot Of Things Competition, 14 Holkham Road, Oxon Soufham, Peterborough PE2 0YJ by February 25 (really easy). You can enter for as many prizes as you like but each entry must be on a separate postcard. Right, here we go then...

**1 MIKE & THE MECHANICS:** 5 first prizes of a boiler suit, a Mike & The Mechanics LP and a "Silent Running" 12" single, plus 5 runners' up prizes of an LP and a 12" single.

**Q:** Var Mechanics are actually one bloke, Mike Hutchinson, "bouncer" member of a snootsome '70s mega-group... but was it a) The Wombles b) Genesis c) Manton d) I can't remember?

**2 THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA:** 5 spooky old glow-in-the-dark prizes consisting of a luminous "Phantom Of The Opera" T record, a sweatshirt with a luminous logo, and a not-luminous-but-very-creepy-anyway Steve Hatzky "Ingh-t-mash" LP.

**Q:** Who's Sarah Brightman married to - is it a) Andrew Lloyd Webber b) Andrew Lloyd Blank c) Lloyd Cole d) Alan Jones?

**3 DIRE STRAITS:** First prize is a completely brilliant ultra-trendy customized Filofax "pocket thing system" (worth about £50), a snug 'n' cozy Dina Shirelis jumper and a 12" "Week Of Lids" single; the next 24 winners get a 12" single.

**Q:** Which two of the following seas do the Straits Of Gibraltar lie between? a) The Pacific Ocean b) The Atlantic Ocean c) The Arctic Ocean d) The Mediterranean

**4 DOUBLE!** The first 3 winners get a yungsting jazzy shirt, an enamel Double badge to wear on it, and - craps! - 7" and 12" versions of "The Captain Of Her Heart"; the next 22 winners get everything except the shirts.

**Q:** It's made of triangular almonds from triangular trees and triangular honey from triangular bees, oh, Mr Confectioner please, give me... which Swiss cheese?

**5 LEVEL 42:** Ten copies of their "World Machine" LP - signed by every member of the group!

**Q:** What instrument does Brian Auger play? Is it a) The Tibetan nose-flute b) The Tibetan reed-flute c) The Tibetan bamboo-flute d) The Tibetan?

**6 THE FACTORY COLLECTION:** 10 prizes of five swankily packaged cassettes by "artists" on the Factory label: New Order's "Low Life", A Certain Ratio's "The Graveyard & The Ballroom", The Durutti Column's "The Rahum Of..." and Joy Division's "Closer" and "Unknown Pleasures".

**Q:** Which one of these people was in New Order and Joy Division: a) Peter Hook b) Sarah Brightman c) Bonnie Langford d) Ian Curtis?

**7 MÖTLEY CRÜE:** Groo! The "lucky" winner gets this bloughsting genuine-as-worn-on-stags spotty outfit (including Bonnie Langford "Ingh-t-mash" plus two Interlocking picture discs and a 12" with-tour-poster version of their current "Smokin' In The Boys' Room" single; the next 9 winners get a set of 3 singles but - phew! - no outfit).

**Q:** Which TV programme did Bonnie Langford sprout to ferns on? Was it a) EastEnders b) Coronation Street c) Crimewatch d) The Inbetweeners?

**8 THE ISLAND COLLECTION:** Five first prizes of a toffing Island Records bomber jacket (stale small, medium or large on your entry) and a "Beauty And The Beast" double LP a-brimming with dancefloor soul singles; the next 45 runners up get the LP.

**Q:** Whon of these has an island a) The Tale Of Two Cities b) Brian c) Roland Orzabal

**9 STARSHIP:** Five first prizes of a Starship "designer" sweatshirt (available in your favourite white or black) and their new LP, "Knee Deep In The Hoopla"; then 20 runners' up prizes of an LP.

**Q:** Which of these "people" weren't aboard the Starship Enterprise in Star Trek: a) Captain James T. Kirk of the USS Enterprise b) Mr Spock c) Markingson d) USS Enterprise e) Alanah Cume e) A trout?

**10 MR MISTERS:** Complicated, then. First two winners get a sweatshirt, not available in the shops (VHS vid of "Kyrin" and "Broken Wings"), a "Welcome To The Real World" LP and a 12" version of their new single, "Kyrin" (so now we haven't got a picture of it). Next four get everything except a sweatshirt, then 19 runners up get a set of records. Phew-yoooo-wooooo.

**Q:** What's French for Mister? Is it a) Johnny Foreigner b) Monsieur c) Monsewer d) e) Tibetan bottom flute?

**11 HOWARD JONES:** Five prizes of a "Dream Into Action" songbook and a supremely rare signed one-of-a-limited-edition-of-50 prints taken from the cover of... of which album? (That's the question by the way.)

## 7 Mötley Crüe

## 8 The Island Collection

## 9 Starship

## 10 Mr Mister

## 11 Howard Jones





# LOOK WHO'S TALKING.



BELOUIS SOME ON CHARTBUSTERS STAR INTERVIEW THIS WEEK.

· NEWS & GOSSIP ·

0066·2222

*Chartbusters*

· STAR INTERVIEW ·

0066·11122



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# STAR TEASER

- A MA
- ARCADIA
- ARETNA FRANKLIN
- COLONEL ABRAMS
- DAVID GRANT
- OEE C LEE
- OIONNE WARWICK
- OIRE STRAITS
- OODS & FRESH
- ELYON JOHN
- EURYTHMICS
- FAR CORPORATION
- FEARGAL SNARKEY
- FINE YOUNG CANNIBALS
- GO WEST
- JAKI GRAHAM
- JAM MAKER
- JENNIFER HUSN
- JUNIOR
- KATE BUSH
- KING
- LIONEL RICHIE
- MADONNA
- MARILLION
- MARILYN MARTIN
- MATT BIANCO
- MIK KERSHAW
- PAUL HARCROFT
- PAUL MCCARTNEY
- PHIL COLLINS
- PREEB AS SPROUT
- PRINCE
- QUEEN
- STARGAMP
- TALKING HEADS
- THE CULT
- WHITNEY HOUSTON
- ZZ TOP

S L A B I N N A C G N U O Y E N I F  
 D T T P E E I L Z N A T E S L E P P P  
 I A A E R D L H Z N N C E A A H S  
 O J U A E D D O T I N I N U I T T  
 N O A C S J F I O L O M O L I M A A  
 E J R K N H L M L U C P M D A I A  
 W A E O T L L O A I C M R A L P R  
 A H T N I A C P R D C E I A K M D G  
 R L I R Y L L E A N L F N H I O D  
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 A D N E W U G A T S T O I I N I J  
 P E A R T A M A H O R I L D K O A L  
 J M J P T I K W A H S R E K K I N J

# SMASH HITS

52-55 Canary St. London W1Y 1PF  
 Telephone 01-437 8000

**Editorial**  
 Editor: Steve Bush  
 Deputy Editor: Tom Hibbert  
 Assistant Editor (Design): David Sossick  
 Design: Jacqui Doyle  
 Features Editor: Chris Heath  
 Staff Writer (Play): Ivo Macdonald  
 Reader Services/Lyrics: Sue Miles  
 Editor's Secretary: Jo Collins

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 William Shaw

**Photographers**  
 Peter Ashworth/Andrew Cohen/Jill  
 Furmanovsky/Michael Pullard/Steve  
 Kappoff/Paul Rodes/Sheila Rock

**Cartoons**  
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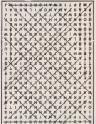
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# PUZZLE ANSWERS

**CROSSWORD**  
**Across:** Grace Jones; 6 (Lies) Ash; 8 Tears (For Fears); 9 Tossing (And Turning); 11 Don't Go; 12 Slave (To Love); 13 Dress (You up); 14 (K)an (E)gan (I); 15 (Des)peche; Moot; 20 (Single) Liza; 21 (Am)erica; Race; 24 (Close) To The Ed; 27 ('Breek) Dance Party'; 28 (Dave) Edmunds  
**Down:** 1 Crostbusters; 2 and 6 Artata Agnes Apartheid; 3 Japan; 4 (Om) Eastwood; 5 The House; 10 'I Feel Love'; 16 ('Over)all; 17 Eve; 18 Blue (Jean); 19 (Sister) Sledge; 22 Iron (Medien); 23 ('In Your) Eyes; 24 and 7 across Top Of The Pops; 25 (Some Like It) Hot; 26 Tom (Bakley)

# STAR TEASER



All the names above are hidden in the diagram. They could run horizontally, vertically or diagonally. Some run backwards. But remember that the lines are all in an uninterrupted straight line. The whichever way they run

ANSWERS OVER THERE!  
 (No Cheating)

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3. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	13. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	23. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	33. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)
4. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	14. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	24. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	34. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)
5. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	15. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	25. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	35. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)
6. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	16. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	26. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	36. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)
7. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	17. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	27. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	37. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)
8. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	18. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	28. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	38. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)
9. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	19. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	29. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	39. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)
10. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	20. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	30. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)	40. THE BEE GEES - How Deep Is Your Love (P)

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**DESMOND FOAM!**  
 He's the man they cannot gag! He shoots from the lip! He's the voice of the people! He's a stupid old stool!

**OZZY OSBOURNE**  
 Why's making both heads? Big deal! What's wrong with that? In France they eat hamsters! Good grief! And now Britain is building a channel tunnel! I wish everyone gone bang! Why does OZZY OSBOURNE think he is anyway? The Ethel Bleeding Tower!

**D.C. LEE**  
 That is his name I have often heard on television! And why not? Because I don't have a television! Good grief! They are all made in Japan! Does D.C. LEE have a television? I do not know! You say!

**JOHN TAYLOR**  
 John Osborne 'I am not rich and famous! Big deal! So was Bonnie Prince Charlie! But he never took one off from David! David's name is on the memorial stone outside. Why not? You don't know! JOHN TAYLOR, look he is anyway! Winston Churchill!

**THE DAMNED**  
 Return to me Mr. Parade once again! What's wrong with that? Nothing - apart from the fact that one of them's Welsh! Good grief! Why for you, Yaffy. I say! Who do THE DAMNED think they are anyway? Henry Baccarat!

**THE PET SHOP BOYS**  
 I got a name this year's mentioned often in the Queen's Christmas address to the nation! Why ever not? Typical! (Look up your names!) We're all talking on the same side!! Good grief! Who do THE PET SHOP BOYS think they are anyway? Ian Botham!

So I have been sacked from this magazine for being a raving bore!! Good grief! Well, you won't catch me reading the next D.C. Lee-Ozzy-Osbourne-John-Taylor-Damned-Pet-Shop-Boys-stacked issue of

# SMASH HITS

ON SALE FEBRUARY 27

# P I L R I S E

I could be wrong  
I could be right  
I could be wrong

Chorus

I could be wrong I could be right  
I could be black I could be white  
I could be right I could be wrong

I could be white I could be black

Your time has come your second skin  
The cost so high the gain so low  
Walk through the valley  
The written word is a lie

Second chorus

(May the road rise with you)  
(May the road rise with you)  
(May the road rise with you)  
(May the road rise with you)

I could be wrong  
I could be right  
I could be wrong  
I could be right

Repeat chorus

I could be black I could be white

They put the hot wire to my head  
'Cause of the things I did and said  
And made these feelings go away  
Model citizen in every way

Repeat second chorus

Anger is an energy  
Anger is an energy  
Anger is an energy  
Anger is an energy

I could be wrong  
I could be right  
I could be wrong

They put a hot wire to my head  
'Cause of the things I did and said  
They made these feelings go away  
A model citizen in every way  
Your time has come your second skin  
Cost so high their gain so low

Repeat second chorus

Anger is an energy

Repeat to fade

Words and music by Lydon Laswell  
Reproduced by permission Copyright Control  
On Virgin Records



## CLANNAD FEATURING BONO I N A L I F E T I M E

**Meire:** Hard to tell  
Or recognise a sign  
To see me through  
A warning sign

(First the thunder)

**Bono:** Satisfied gave them hands  
(In the storm)  
'That will not be'  
(Tom asunder)  
The future you and I  
Get blown away  
(In the storm)

(In a lifetime in a lifetime)

**Meire:** And as the rain it falls

**Bono:** We begin again

**Meire:** Heavy in my heart

**Bono:** As the storm breaks through

**Meire:** Believe the light

**Bono:** So the light shines in you

**Bono:** Without colour

**Meire:** Faded and worn

**Bono/Maire:** Tom asunder

in the storm

**Bono:** Oh let the sound

Save your body's soul

One less he disappear

Such as storms

Hold on the inside

(Tom aside)

In the storm

(In a lifetime in a lifetime in a lifetime in a lifetime)

Words and music by Brennan Brennan  
Reproduced by permission Clannad Music/RCA Music Ltd On RCA Records



# BILLY OCEAN

## WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH THE TOUGH GET GOING

When the going gets tough  
The tough get going (going, going) tough tough huh huh huh  
When the going gets tough the tough get ready yeah (tough, tough)

Yeah ooh  
I got something to tell you  
I got something to say  
I'm gonna get this dream in motion  
Never let nothing stand in my way  
When the going gets tough  
The tough get going

I'm gonna get myself across the river  
That's the price I'm willing to pay  
I'm gonna make you stand and deliver  
And give me love in the old fashioned way (yeah)

Chorus

(Darling) I'll climb any mountain  
(Darling) I'll do anything  
Ooh (ooh) can I touch you (can I touch you)  
And do the things that I lovers do  
Ooh (ooh) wanna hold you (wanna hold you)  
I gotta get it through to you ah

When the going gets tough  
(The tough get going)  
When the going gets rough  
(The tough get rough)  
Hey hey hey hey hey  
Oh baby

I'm gonna buy me a one way ticket  
Nothing's gonna hold me back  
Your love's like a slow train coming (slow train coming)  
And I can feel it coming down the track (yeah)

Repeat chorus

'Cause when the going gets tough  
(The tough get going)  
When the going gets rough  
(The tough get rough)

Yeah yeah yeah yeah yeah  
Yeah yeah yeah yeah  
Touch me baby

(Darling) I'll climb any mountain  
(Darling) I'll swim any sea  
(Darling) I'll reach for the heaven  
(Darling) with you loving me  
Ooh (ooh)

(Ooh) can I touch you (can I touch you)  
And do the things that lovers do (can I touch you)  
Ooh (ooh) wanna hold you (wanna hold you)  
I gotta get it through to you

When the going gets tough  
(Going gets tough)  
Going gets rough  
(Going gets rough)

Repeat to fade

Words and music by Bradshaw-Eastmond-Lange-Olsen  
Reproduced by permission Zomba Productions Ltd  
On Jive Records



# WHITNEY HOUSTON

## HOW WILL I KNOW

There's a boy I know  
He's the one I dream of  
Looks into my eyes  
Takes me to the clouds above (mmm mmm)  
Ooh I lose control  
Can't seem to get enough ah ha  
When I wake from dreaming  
Tell me is it really love  
Ooh

Chorus

How will I know  
(Girl trust your feelings)  
How will I know  
How will I know  
(Love can be deceiving)

How will I know  
I say a prayer with every heartbeat  
I fall in love whenever we meet  
I'm asking you 'cause you know about these things  
How will I know if he's thinking of me  
(I try to phone but I'm too shy (can't speak))  
Falling in love is so bitter-sweet  
This love is strong why do I feel weak

Oh waka ma  
I'm shaking  
I wish I had you near me now eh he  
Said there's no mistaking  
What I feel is really love  
Ooh fall me

Repeat chorus

If he loves me  
If he loves me  
Ooh if he loves me  
If he loves me  
Oh how will I know  
How will I know  
How will I know  
Oh how will I know  
Ooh

How will I know if he really loves me  
I say a prayer with every heartbeat  
I fall in love whenever we meet  
I'm asking you 'cause you know about these things  
How will I know if he's thinking of me  
(I try to phone but I'm too shy (can't speak))  
Falling in love is so bitter-sweet  
This love is strong why do I feel weak

How will I know (how will I know)

Repeat and fade to 'ring  
Words and music by Armi Ruzaimi-Watson  
Reproduced by permission Arista Music (London) Ltd  
On Arista Records

Do you ever stop what you're doing, walk out the front door without closing it, and wander freely through the countryside pondering on the mystery of man's humble existence in this universe? Yes? Well, then, you're almost certainly stork raving bonkers and *Mutterings* suggests that you consult a doctor otherwise you'll end up like **Billy Duffy** of The Cult

who recently said "we're sort of an Edwardian Viennese motorcycle gang with a bit of Gustav Klimt". Or like **Mike Scott** of The Waterboys who reckons "woods aren't the salad dressing on top of the meal of music". Or **Sade** who says "I think I'm a bit strange looking. My forehead sits on top of my head like a large grapefruit". Or like **Paul King** who confesses "I realise I'm blessed".

Apparently Paul is suffering from the delusion that every female in the world is in love with him. "I am masculine and I enjoy females." "Yaoshi. I am young and single and free to do what I wish." "Eurrghhhhh! (And what happened to his female Moxie all of a sudden?)" "I had my first girlfriend when I was six years old." "Bleuuuurghhh!" "When I was ten I held the school snogging record." Pass the sickbag, Maureen! Enough inanity and dogshit-gingness - let's talk about, erm, **Nana Moeskoper!** Apparently the sexy songstress wears up to fifteen pairs of glasses every day and admits that "maybe I'm a bit vain." Hmmmm.

**George Michael** turned up at the American Music Awards with his hair all black again, in an "incredibly vile" shirt split open to the navel, said something nice but embarrassing about **Bob Geldof** and apologised for Andrew's absence - "my hand missed his plane". . . The **Wham!** in China firm is apparently now going to be made - producer Lindsay Anderson wants nothing to do with it but someone else is knocking it into shape for projected summer release.

Misrable, **Princess Di** announced to 13 year old Dawn Armstrong that she thought **George Michael** was "very very gorgeous", which is probably why George is thinking about buying Dr's husband's mother's father's father's father (i.e. Edward VII)'s old country house, **Witley Court** in Worcestershire for £250,000. A lot of cry from the nothing but a group of young hopefuls and Amanda Washburn (who?) was one of the backing singers before she was replaced by **B.C. Lee**. Amanda was kicked out by

"hysterical" George for missing a performance, something she seems very miffed about now though then she probably couldn't have given a sausage Anyway, she revealed in a "sensational exposé" in a recent "news" paper that Andrew used to annoy George by bursting into puny rock songs on the guitar and that, even then, he would lendy people by driving at 90mph down narrow streets. "He drove me from Bushey to London once. It was one of the most horrendous journeys of my life," she grieved. Apparently **Andrew Ridgeley** is fed up with everyone laughing at him every time he crashes a car (i.e. quite often) and intends to compete in at least a dozen Formula 3 races next season. . . Astonishing Fact 1 - **Cert Smith** of Tears For Fears has just bought a "huge Georgian mansion". Astonishing Fact 2 - **A-ha** like playing ping pong. Astonishing Fact 3 - **Michael Jackson** has just made a three-dimensional video "short", called **Capote**. Ep. Astonishing Facts 4-7 - **Roby Tormer** a) likes cheese cake out of a packet b) hates snakes c) has a boyfriend

called **Clive Guthrie** d) once bought a lawnmower. Astonishing Fact 8 - **Sting** has just made a record with ancient guitarist **Jeff Beck** called "Live For Life" which was nothing whatsoever to do with **Opus** but is to raise money for American Cancer Research. . . There are also rumours that **The Police** will get back together in the Autumn to make an album and do a tour, possibly a "farewell" one. It's also rumoured that **Sing**, who is fairly socialist in his outlook on life, is pretty fed up with his manager **Miles Copeland** (who is fairly right wing in his outlook on life), and **Sing** has demanded that all traces of music by The Police be removed from a forthcoming TV programme in which Miles babbles on about the world and his wife. . . The Sun "news" paper stooping to an all-time low (not counting "Hop Dil You Frogs", that is) by running a front page "exclusive" claiming that **Simon is Ron** had deserted **Yasmin** and run off with 21 year old model **Maree Herbert** while shooting a years commercial in New Zealand (for which, incidentally, he gets

£150,000). *Mutterings* doesn't believe a word of it, especially as **Simon 'n' Yaz** are the soppiest, most low-keyed twosome in the history of holdings hands. **Yasmin** has flown out to Sydney to meet **Simon** anyway. **Feargal Sharkey** wants to take his 4-year-old son, **Sean**, to Dachau concentration camp "to give him one quick lesson in humanity, show him what men are capable of doing to each other". . . Have **Frankie** spit up? Probably not, but there are some very funny rumours going round. Does **Paul Rutherford** "rip" on his next single? Or **Mark, Ped and Nasher** looking for a new singer? Do all their new songs sound like **ZZ Top**? *Mutterings* doubts it, though it is a rather - hemmm - strange sign that **Paul Rutherford** now claims he doesn't have enough money to open his planned chain of **Rutherford's** clothes shops. He's also revealed that he used to have a crush on **Bryan Ferry** - "but now I think he's too cool and I don't like people who are too cool" - and that his favourite sexual fantasy is to make love in the mountains of Peru. Per-verse. . . And now - they're back! Back!! Yes,

**Bananarama** have a new LP called "True Confessions" out in March and insist that afterwards they'll be... gasp! going on tour!! Which is what they've been saying for about a squillion years... Meanwhile wedding bells are a-linking in the distance to **Chorelle** (marrying Randy David in August) and **Jennifer Resh** (Missusston tress player Steve Englemston)... **Madonna** has written a song for the film *At Close Range* which, as the courtiers tell us, stars **Sean Penn**. . . **The Teles** are planning an hour-long special on **Madonna**. Unfortunately **Paola T** jiggie a lot and forget to ask any interesting questions. **Yates** will be interviewing her. **Grace Jones** stared the big **D**, death, in the face on holiday in Jamaica recently - she was within a hair's breadth of drowning after a speedboat had run her over when her boyfriend **Detlef Lundgren** (the badde in *Risky B*) swag her to safety. **A-ha**, currently in the studio recording their new second LP before going on a world tour, also know the meaning of danger. Taking their life in their hands, they apparently decided it'd be a giggle to jump from the second floor of Mags' Oslo home into the soft snow below. Unfortunately Mags hit a hard bit but, luckily, after much screaming and squawking and a dab of TCP, he was soon as right as rain again. There, there. . . **Mad** man of rock **Ozzy Osbourne**, famous for biting the heads off a dove and a bat, trained for these show-stopping decapitations many years ago when he worked in a slaughterhouse. "I really enjoyed the job and loved killing animals". **Spandau Ballet** will finally unveil their new "rockier" sound on their new single "Everybody (We Hate Got To Fight For Ourselves)". They haven't got a new record company yet but they expect to sign a contract "very soon" and have already made a video for the song starring **Paul Young's** girlfriend **Stacey Smith** - the story is apparently "a bit like Letter To Brezhnev with two smart girls giggling and stealing things". The band have gone to Munich to record the LP. . . Finally, *Mutterings* categorically refuses to believe accounts that **UB40** had reviews scapposed **Brian Travers** actually, grrr, eat them in fact. *Mutterings* can prove it: "UB40 last night were completely useless and..." schlluuuuurpp!!! Bon appetit!!!



Despite objections from local residents, **Boy George** has been given permission to build a swimming pool at his Hampstead home underneath the garden. "There'll be a diagonal skylight in the middle about 15ft across like a large blister on the lawn," explained a bemused housing official. "You do get a lot of strange people in Hampstead. . ."

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