

MAD RAT MAGAZINE

rock'n'roll ~ rockabilly ~ rhythm & blues ~ jump 'n' jive

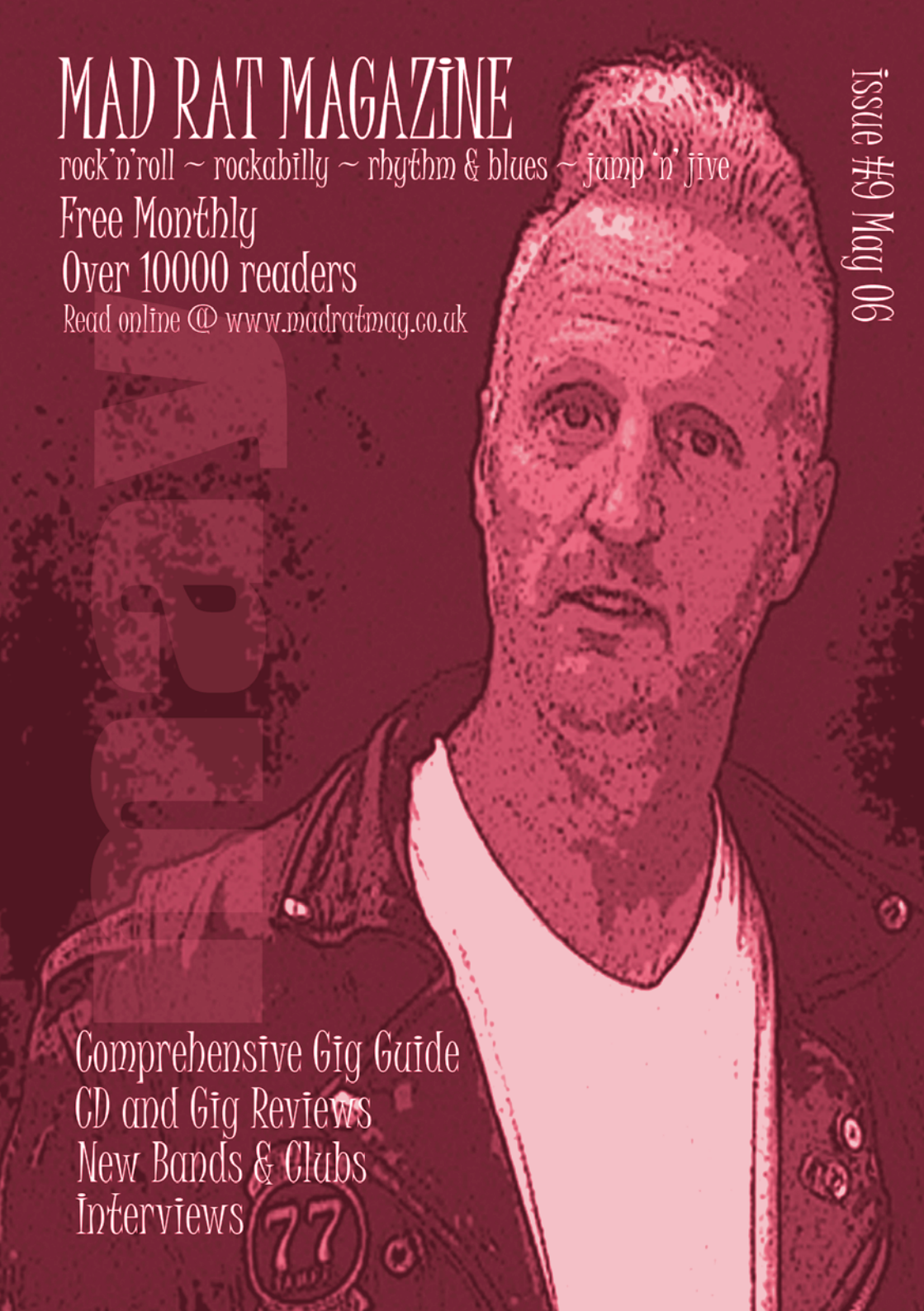
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issue #9 May 06

Comprehensive Gig Guide
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New Bands & Clubs
Interviews



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SPIKE SPOUTS

Oï Oï

Well here we are again, only this time the sun is shining and its time to be out and about in your best halter neck and peep toes...and I am talking to the females among you!

There have been a few near misses this last month, where established events that would normally be sold out by this time of the year are struggling and threatening cancellation, and I thought that the implosion of the scene was upon us. Phew how close and how pleased I am to say that panic over, they are saved. So, it's left for us promoters to sweat till the very last minute. It appears that buying tickets is out of fashion, I assume in case something better comes along, fair play I guess that's only natural and after all the scene is about choice. And here

comes the moan, we had an email asking us why so much was omitted from the gig guide, well if we don't know its happening then we can't put it in. So if you spot a club that isn't being listed then tell us about it or tell the promoter about us, one or the other.

Once again I put on my clever head to tell you that the Mad Rat Mag website at www.madratmag.co.uk has been revamped and its fabulous we now have an online gig guide and an online news page where we will include all the news you send us. The site isn't quite finished yet, but the Rat will pull his mouse out this month and get it all together.

Bands can sign up for distribution of their merchandise and clubs can give us all there details DJ's can contact us or you can just send your reviews features and information... you can book an ad, pay for it and send it all online and be seen all over the world and I mean all over the world, Canada, Lithuania, Sweden, Australia, USA, Germany, Finland and many more far flung places. Once again I thank you all for your support, your nice comments, your reviews and your input generally.

Don't forget that your contributions and advertising keep the Mag going. So, please keep your articles and ads flowing in, either by snail mail or over the Net.

See you in the daylight

Rockin' Regards
Spike

KEV'S KAPERS



Having booked the lavish sounding Gracelands Recording & Rehearsal Complex, we turned up on a wet and windy Spring evening to be greeted by a building that looked like a couple or three allotment sheds spliced together with tarpaulin. "I don't suppose the King would have recorded here" said Nev. "I don't think Jimmy Crankee, would've recorded here", I replied.

We strode towards the entrance door which swang open with a creak that could have come from the BBC horror FX archives. In the dimly lit doorway stood a figure that resembled a cross between Marylin Manson, Charles Manson and that singer from Depeche' Mode. "You've brought me to a studio to record a rockabilly album run by the spawn of the devil?" I whispered to the boys. "Nah, Jane's alright, bit of a Goth but she knows her slap bass. How ya doin' Jane" said Nev. "This is woman?" I muttered.

"Come on in" gruffed Jane "Let's get set up and crack on. Anyone fancy a tea or something stronger?" "Got any JD" replied Nev. "Leave it out son" I retorted forcefully. "The last time we recorded you were three sheets to the wind" "But, I was bloody good, give us a small triple Jane....cheers"

It was gonna be one of those sessions where Nev and the other anibreates were more interested in caning the mini-bar than getting down to the business in hand!

It didn't take long to haul the instruments into the studio and Jane got the mics into position ready for the sound check. We had opted to record all the tracks live with as few overdubs as possible, which is always a bit scary as like

many musicians, a touch of red light fever can come at any time during a recording and send limbs into states of seizure.

Nev was getting ready to roll and started sticking bits of surgical tape onto his bass fretboard to remind him where the notes are. He's been playing for fifteen years but still can't quite grip the root, third and fifth pattern in C#. Each to their own, I thought. His bass is one of those Chinese jobs that you can buy in any pound shop, although he insists it's German Bow Back. In my mind it sounds like a Taiwanese Stickleback.

Big J was warming up under the unshaded 60 watt Osram in the kitchen. Another heavy night on the sauce meant that he wanted to keep close to the sink just in case the redelivery of his pizza occurred!

Chas was soundchecking the drums in the main room. "A bit more talent in the cans, please" he jokingly called to Jane.

I decided to go through the restringing the guitar ritual that I should have done the night before. I am famed for breaking strings at gigs and this time I thought I'd bring a few sets just in case. Unfortunately the only strings the local shop had were the weight of coat hanger wire and likley to slice and dice my fingers before the first chorus of Mabeline!

Within half an hour of our arrival we were almost ready. The instruments tuned, the drums dampened, the mics set and the cans bellowing. A signed picture of Stu Francis stuck on the wall looked over proceedings as J legged it for the sink. "CrackerJack", I called.

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**Pikey Butler's Jumpin' Five
Yakarocker, Armetieres, France
1st April 2006**

Some of you may know of Pikey (Peter) Butler as one of the members of 80's pop doowop outfit Darts. Well, I managed to catch up with him and his band, Jumpin' Five, while on the same bill last month...and what a nice guy and what a great dance band.

The venue was a village hall in the polite town of Armentiers situated about 40 miles from Lille in France. The event was a dance/jive/ceroc/le roc type of thing and included a dance demonstration from a troop from Amsterdam. The sets were split between my band and Pikey's by way of two 45 minutes sets each with enough time in between to sample the hospitality provided (very rarely seen in the UK) of a baguette avec fromage et jambon and copious amounts of Leffe bottled beer.

After our first set we made way for the next act. Hearing Jumpin' Five them at sound check I realised that this wasn't just another tempo dominated "Nobody Here But Us Chickens" band! The Band consists of Peter on double bass and lead vocals, Michael Pronost, guitar and BVs, Phillippe Guennou, tenor sax and BVs, Sylvain Duthuille', piano and Hammond plus a dep drummer whose name I can't remember. Their first set comprised of a number of jive classics with a mixture of self penned numbers featured on their CD. The musical talent of the "Five" is obvious from the tight performance and the tasty licks put into arrangements that with lesser performance could have sounded a little bland. The backing vocals and harmonies were delivered

well as you would expect from a band whose leader doowopped his way through the 80's and 90's.

By their second and last set the crowd of approx 250 were hot and ready to dance some more. Tunes of sassy swing and pumpin r'n'b such as Ray Charles' Mess Around were executed with great aplomb.

The dance floor was kept full all evening only to deplete a little for the avid photographers to flash at the bands, which was evident when both bands joined together for a encore of Joe Turner classics. All in all a very enjoyable gig and well recieved by our chums across the Channel.

I can whole heartedly recommend the Jumpin' Five for any jive event. They're entertaining on all fronts and they can do the 'tempo' thing to suit the crowd. Their CD is also well worth a listen and can be purchased at www.pikeybutler.com . If you would like more information on booking the Band, then please contact the Mad Rat - 01268 454494. Merci.

Paul Richardson



Hi All

Having picked up the Mad Rat Mag at a recent gig here in the Pit Stop rock n roll Coventry ,I open the first page an Oi Oi Spike Spouts I can't belive my eyes praise indeed for US the unsung heroes the DJ .Well, having just finished DJaying for the Outstanding Kingcats it made Loading up the van at 1am just that little bit easier.So cheers mate for your support and a great Magazine.

Cheers

D.J.Nostalgia

ps. the dj top ten list in the March issue cracking.

Hi Ya

Just got back from the rave and I'm knackered. Fantastic weekend! Jerry sure knows how to put a show on.The bands were top notch, best DJ, I personally thought, was Danny from spain. Played great sets. Mouse played some great music to. As for the others well done.

but why is it the same DJs are always playing at the Rave? Why is there no out siders allowed in? They don't play no different to the unknown DJs who only play at the small clubs, who would love to play to 2500 rockin cats. I know of four DJs on the southcoast alone who could rock the socks off at the Rave and Hemsby i.e. Marvin, Robbie Knight, Moon & Stack of Wax. They all play small clubs, got great record collections, but get no chance at the big time. why is this? Anyway I've said my bit.

By the way your mag is just to coooooool for words, keep it going.

KB

On behalf of us all, I would like to say a very big word of thanks from everyone at Bristol for making us so welcome. For everything you did to help us in raising funds for the memorial of our idol Eddie Cochran.

We arrived at the Ace Cafe around 5.30pm, we were welcomed by Sandy Ford, from flying saucers who was filming the cruise coming in. Our journey had started much earlier that day from bristol.

Kwiff Kwipps (#7)

by the Sherriff



Where mark honeychurch from the Red Hot Band + Rockin' Gerry did their rendition of the cochran brothers. They were really excellent. The cars + bikes were parked all around the city centre.

Our cruise set off at around 11am we made our way to chippenham on the a4 the same route that eddie + gene had taken 46years before. We were welcomed here by a very large crowd of dedicated fans that had travelled in from surrounding areas. However there was a man and his family who had travelled all the way from ireland to be with us on this very special occasion. That is dedication.!!!!!!

At this point the crowd gathered around the roadside plaque and we all paid tribute to our idol Eddie Cochran, I placed some flowers here on behalf of all the fans from everywhere all over the world. There were some personal floral tributes as well. We all had that special moment to reflect our memories.

Our lady of Chippenham, Angela Powell was present here, and it is with thanks to her that this roadside plaque was put here by her several years ago.

We left Chippenham at 1pm and travelled on to marlborough we had a short stop here gathered a few more fans and then made our way to reading services on the m4. Making sure all were present etc we made our final leg of the journey to the ace cafe, we were welcomed here by sandy ford who filmed the cruise coming in. After some refreshment we had a fantastic evening being entertained by our djs the flat top brothers (booked for Sept 2007 Chippenham)We had a good attendance for the evenings entertainment around 350 to 400 fans

First band of the evening was Red Hot from bristol + a little help here from the Muskrats drummer + bass player it was a tremendous set well done lads.

Our next band Chris Black with Blackcat. I have known Chris for close to 30 years he

and his band did a fabulous set the crowd didnt want him to stop. At this point there was a guest appearance of one of Bristol's ted's Gerry Shore he sang "three steps to heaven" "Cut along shortie" and a couple more. Gerry was backed by Blackcat.

Then came the presentation of a special plaque that I presented to Mark Willsmore {owner of the Ace Cafe}

We continued with the Muskrats, who did a rockabilly set. These guys are very dedicated to the cause.

To finish the evening off was the guy we all love and appreciate so much Sandy Ford with his band Flying Saucers. Sandy went down a storm as usual. The evening was finished off by the great flat top brothers our DJs who simply love Eddie Cochran music.

I would like also to say a big thank you to Tina + Sonya from Bristol who collected £240.00 on our raffle proceeds will go to our fund-raising for the memorial of Eddie Cochran.

As regards to further fund raising we have written to the National Lottery to see what they might do to help us. We are also looking for donations as well, from any one who feels that they would like to help us in the good cause. Maybe there are clubs out there that would like to put on a gig or have a raffle and give the proceeds to the fund-raising. Perhaps anyone that reads this may have an idea that they would like to let us know. We are open for suggestions!!

Kind regards

Gwen hale
Showtime enterprises

Thanks for your mail. Keep sending us your news, views & comments to:
mail@madratmag.co.uk

Slim Slip & The Sliders

When did it all start and whose idea was Slim Slip And The Sliders?

It all began in the minds of man many many years ago, but actually came together when Darren (Bass) got the urge to be in a band performing the music he knew and loved, together with his very close pals who shared the same enthusiasm and not being afraid of criticism. Tony (drummer) and Darren would jam frequently together and realised they had the need to form a band. And soon after, acquired Greg (Vox) and Andy (Lead Guit) who jammed for a spell realising they were on to something worth performing to an audience.

It wasn't until Little Carl (DJ and very good friend of the band) asked the band to perform their debut show at his birthday gig at the Ace Café London on 19/3/04 that the



band realised they had to come up with a name and treat the whole thing a little more seriously.

Where did that name come from?

Another very good friend of the band, Mini Dave Prince inspired Greg with this title. Names, sometimes being one of the hardest things to come up with, somewhat

became appropriate when drunkenly suggested by Greg and Dave.. apart from being a bit of a tongue twister, it is noted in the medical dictionary..?!...somewhere, under "intoxicated" or so our GP tells us...?

Who is the leader? Does anyone have the last say?

Erm.. someone once said "Gary Glitter" until he did a runner to Thailand, but erm.. No, in this band there are no "leaders"! Guess that's why the guys in it get on so well, there are way too many egotistical, so called, leaders around...who needs rules! We are all so close as friends, we always come to mutual agreements, or beat the **** out of the one who doesn't agree until he does. Always seems to resolve things.

Why did you feel the need for Slim Slip And The Sliders?

As said, it was about time we played the music that WE really wanted to hear and not have to follow suit, going by what some audiences on the rockin' scene always want. It seems that deep down, this has been what our audiences have been missing and appears to be working so far..?

All of you play extensively on the scene bar one of you, were you unhappy in your usual bands or just frustrated at a scene that just didn't want what you wanted?

We still do play with the other bands and always will, its never a case of being unhappy or frustrated, its weird really, as we all play in many other bands and enjoy them immensely, but here's our chance to really let our hair down (before we really lose our thatches).

Slim Slip is very popular and has a very tight rockin following? Is the rest of the scene ready for Slim Slip and Do you

feel that you have fulfilled a plan to prove the scene wrong?

Slim Slip is proud to have the following we have and we love them dearly but we're not a closed shop and welcome anyone from any scene so long as they enjoy themselves. We're not about proving anyone right or wrong but are purely out to have fun. So many people take this scene wrong, thinking they can cash in on it or think they're bigger than the next person, but to us, its not a competition.

I have yet to see you perform a Slim Slip set but I did catch you at the jam session at Hemsby a couple of years back from what I remember it was Wild and I can see the attraction after years of dance number sits good to have some energy back in the scene? Do you feel that this was why you felt the need to do something different? Where you going out of your minds like most of us regular gig goers on the scene?

Hell.. yeah! We've been individually influenced by many live acts over the years on and off the scene, but the one thing that always shines through is the energy in the appealing bands. Its not all about the music, as you may as well sit at home and spin some vinyl if its just about that, but to us, when you go to a gig, pay to see a live act, you want to be entertained visually too! Right? Well, that seems to come naturally with us as we enjoy what we do so much, people tell us it comes across to our audience and as you may see for your self, we're not one of those bands that just goes through the motions.. I mean, what's that all about? Wake up!

Did you style Slim Slip on anything or anyone in particular?

Not particularly, what we have just seems

natural.

Which gig do you think was the one that made you realise this is it Slim Slip And The Sliders are here?

The Debut, Ace Café! Kickin! Anyone who was there will tell ya!

What do you think you will be doing in ten years?

Well, the youngest in the band being 22, we all hope to be retired from our jobs some how and have saved up enough in our pen-



sions to afford new thatches...hmmm, maybe a bungalow by the sea... But most of all, keep on Slim Slippin'!

Do you have a CD? Is there one planned? Do you have a label interested?

Sorry, not as yet! So many people are asking so yes, a release is on the agenda for this year! From day one, we have been messing around with 4-track recordings and have since built our own studio but the final result is something never to be rushed as an old wise man once told. We have been approached by a few record companies, and even one in the states but you will all have to wait I'm afraid! Eek!

Are there many Slim Slip gigs? Is there room for more!!!

A steady flow, we can always do with more but we all have other commitments, work and other bands so, its whatever fills the diary 1st.

Would you take a gig in a jive club, for the sake of education?

We don't believe anyone particularly needs educating as such. Its each to their own on this scene. Some people may like what we do and some people may detest it, its kind of like saying "should Bob Marley fans be educated into liking Soft Cell", not liking us to any of those artists in any way but you get the drift! People like what they like, its not a case of educating or brainwashing them.

Are you of the mind that you would only play to an audience that you know will like what you do?

We endeavor to entertain everyone whether they feel they can dance or just tap their feet to our music, the main thing for us is ensuring they enjoy it. Of course, there are going to be people out there who have never heard our music and you would never move forward just playing in front of the same people over and over again.

If you had to write a review on yourselves what words would you use to describe your style sound and set?

That could be quite tricky without ever being too vain. We always try to keep away from being too authentic or too modern in any way, its kind of a niche of its own really, only to be witnessed and decided upon by the audience at one of our shows. Fast paced would be another one, don't expect ballad after ballad, blink and you will miss something! A comment from our pal Mr. Ansell

recently said "Slim Slip play their music from their souls with true passion", which we cant help but agree. To sum it up in three short sharp words I guess; Heavy, Sleazy and Dark...

Do you all get on or have there been moments?

We all hate each others guts to be honest! The only 'moments' to note would be the good moments when we do get on, like when its Tony's round at the bar!

Worst gig to date

With our hands on our hearts (and we have all sat long and hard on answering this question) there truly hasn't been any. Yep, there's been bad journeys with blow outs 3 miles away from home on the return leg from Wigan (5 hrs away) and typical trash like traffic etc. but seriously, gig-wise, we have been very lucky to answer the following question as we have...

Best gig to date

The Surf Ballroom, Wisconsin.... (we wish), it seriously has to be THEM ALL!!!!

\$\$\$ would just like to thank all the promoters, DJs, friends and families for their support and most of all YOU! for reading this!

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**Jump, Jive & Boogie Weekend -
Sinah Warren, Hayling Island:
31/3-3/4/06**

This was a marvellous weekend by the wind-swept south coast, featuring fabulous music and entertainment from six mainly British bands over three nights, courtesy of Boogaloo Promotions.

Opening proceedings on the Friday evening were the sharp suited **Slammers Maximum Jive Band**, who lived up to their name by serving up a succulent selection of tunes that had the room swinging immediately. The essential rhythm was evident from the start, with Gary's tight percussion and Neale's double bass driving the dancers into a frenzy, supplemented superbly by Claire's keyboards and "Smokin'" Bob's guitar, all topped off by a the big fat brass sound from Andy and James on twin sax attack, the latter leading the vocals throughout. Classic tracks by the likes of Wynonie Harris, Ray Charles, Chuck Berry, Louis Jordan and Louis Prima, including "Good Morning Judge", "What I'd Say" and "Just A Gigolo", featured great vocal harmonies and culminated in a stomping encore of "Caledonia" to a packed dance floor. Lovely stuff!

Thirty minutes later, the **Cadillac Kings**

proved they could do anything and make it fun from the opening bars of Joe Hill Louis' "Tiger Man". The relaxed style of "Uncle" Roy Webber's solid backbeat was complimented nicely by Orlando Shearer's energetic double bass. Out front, Del Van Dee's ringing guitar duelled with Gary Potts' razor sharp harp to enhance the distinctive vocals and slide guitar from Mike Thomas. They played a fantastic set of mostly own compositions from their Lou Ann and Highway 17 CD's. "Hilde's Hop" and "Exercising Baby" put smiles on faces, whilst "Turn Your Damper Down" and "Bombshell Blonde" induced perspiration for the dancers, before "Who's Bin Licking..." reminded us of the dangers of bird flu. Mike Adcock's multitalented piano and accordion added the final ingredient, with Carole Lateman also guesting on washboard for a Louisiana style interlude, before Champion Jack's "Shake Baby Shake" ended a superb show.

Saturday night brought us an enjoyable interpretation of boogie-woogie and R'n'B classics from **Oo-Bop-Sh'bam**, who kicked off the dancing with a tune emphasising

their name, leaving it implanted in the brain for the whole evening. Jackson Sloan's rich vocals led the way through a rollicking selection by Tiny Bradshaw, Rosco Gordon and Fats Waller, including "Breaking Up The House" and "Ain't Misbehaving", ably assisted by the rhythm section of Dave Lagando and Alan Savage on double bass and drums. Paul Garner's fretwork was featured during "My Kinda Baby" (Larry Darnell), before handing the baton to James Lunn for some boogie-woogie piano during "Honey Hush" (Turner) and finally to Andy Dummett, who blew



up a storm on tenor sax. They are definitely a band to watch out for in the future.

The excellent **Maria Vincent and the Millionaires** then transported us back to the 40's and 50's style jazz and blues era, for a set that catered for all tastes. Maria herself held the attention with impeccable vocals, whether leading the band through swinging numbers like "Good Rockin' Daddy" and "Choo Choo Ch'Boogie", or faster paced songs like "Walk Right In", "My Money's Green" and "Bim Bam". The other band members delivered lively backing vocals, at the same time replicating the big band sound, from Dave Falshaw and Richie Vincent on drums and bass, to Zac's talented guitar and Stuart Goodhew's boogie-woogie piano, not forgetting Casey Green's sax antics, including a walkabout during "Ding Dong Daddy".



On Sunday evening, **West Weston's Bluesonics** demonstrated how to keep the dance floor packed with happy dancers without playing conventional swing or jump jive. Their brand of West Coast swing and Chicago style blues and boogie easily convinced any of the doubters in period cloth-

ing from the first notes of "Rock This House", fuelled by Chilly Mike Watts on percussion and Matt Radford on double bass. Chris Corcoran engineered classy tones and a vintage feel from his guitar, particularly during "Night Train" and the instrumental "Mambo At Midnight". For a four-piece, they produce a full sound, helped enormously by West Weston's dazzling harmonica, whether during "Shame Shame Shame" or the call and response for "Pink Champagne". His vocal talents were also demonstrated during the audience walkabout without the aid of a microphone for Sonny Boy Williamson's "Checking On My Baby". "Every Day I Have The Blues" really swung and a raucous encore of "Route 66" left everyone breathless. Blues you can definitely rock 'n' roll to!

To finish things off in style, a big show from the amazing the **Jive Aces** completed the weekend's live entertainment. They catered for every need with a popular set of well known numbers, from fine versions of "Mack The Knife" and "Beyond The Sea" to "Shake Rattle 'n' Roll" and their own "Jive, Jive, Jive Aces". Ian Clarkson combined first-rate lead vocals and trumpet with all band members adding harmonies, including Peter Howell and Ken Smith on lively drums and bass and "the Professor" Vince Hurley on acrobatic keyboards. The high kicking brass section of Alex Douglas on trombone (and tables) and John Fordham on sax combined perfectly for "In The Mood", a sweltering "Fever" and jumping "Caledonia". They deservedly earned the biggest cheer for an encore, before bowing out with a ridiculously fast demonstration of musical dexterity that even the best dancers failed to keep up with. A big band for a big occasion!

Darrell Parsons

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RUNICORN RECORDS STALL
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RAT'S GIG GUIDE

Gratuitously pinched from the web and
from information sent by bands & promoters.
Please check with venue before travelling

Monday, May 1st

Mon 1 May Cadbury Heath Jive Club Cadbury Heath Social Club, Cadbury Heath Road, Bristol/Heartbeats/Rockin Dave Dee/Just Rockin' Will 0117 938 0483

Mon 1 May Holtwhites Sports Club Enfield, Middsx Rat Pack

Mon 1 May May Day American Car Show St Cleres Golf Club, St Cleres Hall, Stanford-le-Hope, Essex SS16 0LX
Lighthouse Howlers 01277 373770

Tuesday, May 2nd

Tue 2 May Parklands Ballroom (ex ICI/Dupont SC), Wheatley Hall Road, Doncaster, S.Yorks Glenn Darren & the Krew Katz Dave B 01302 884707

Wednesday, May 3rd

Wed 3 May Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 record hop only (hot rod night)
Little Carl's Record Hop 020 8961 1000

Thursday, May 4th

Thu 4 May Hanworth RnR Club Royal Naval Club, Park Road, Hanworth, Middsx Cat & the Hot Tin Trio Wildcat Pete 01464 672605

Friday, May 5th

Fri 5th 6th 7th may Hemsby Rock'n'Roll Weekend Pontins Holiday Centre, Beach Road, Hemsby, Norfolk Carl Mann/Roddy Jackson/Barrence Whitfield/Velours/Bobby Brown/Bobby Crown/Lil Esther & the Tinstars/Wildfire Willie & the Ramblers/Boppin' Steve/Skiprats/ Blue Flames/Planet Boppers/Fat Cat Trio/Junior Marvel & the Hi Flyers/High Strung Ramblers

Fri 5 May Bolton Tonge Ward RnR Club Tonge Ward Labour Club, Ainsworth Lane, Tonge Moor, Bolton, Lancs Revolutionaires Jivin' Jim 01204 410483

Fri 5 May Bristol Jive Club – BHRFC Barton Hill RFC, Duncombe Lane, Speedwell, Bristol Heartbeats Will 0117 938 0483

Fri 5 May C'mon Everybody Record Hop St Marys Social Club, Melton Street, Crossbank, Batley, W.Yorks WF17 8PT record hop only Johnny Whiteshoes 01924 376141

Fri 5 May Crown & Column Devonport, Devon record hop only Slim Jim's RnR Disco

Fri 5 May Dale Tavern West Street, Worsborough Dale, Barnsley, Yorks S70 5PG Glenn Darren & the Krew Katz Dave B 01226 205611

Fri 5 May Folkestone RnR Club – DHB Dover Harbour Board SC, White Cliffs Business Pk, Whitfield, Kent Bad Boys plus DJ 01303 257786

Fri 5 May McCoys Red Hot RnR – BAC Bexhill Athletic Club, Little Common Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, E.Sussex TTs plus DJ 01424 211996

Fri 5 May Midnite Club – HK Horton Kirby Village Hall, Horton Road, Horton Kirby, South Darent, Kent DA4 9AX Firetones 07944 590610

Fri 5 May OuterLimitz – LA Ley Arms, Kenn, Exeter, Devon EX6 7UW record hop only Willy/Tony 01626 872903

Fri 5 May Queens Hotel (Theatre Bar), South Promenade, Blackpool, Lancs Mike Rossi Band Del Boy Jacobs 01253 342015

Fri 5 May Rosecroft Club Chelsfield Road, Orpington, Kent Strollers Pete Bruce 01322 407110

Fri 5 May Shipley WMC 2 Mill Bank, Marlpool, Heanor, Derbys DE75 7BQ Jump & Jive 07714 190386

Fri 5 May Taunton RnR Club North Petherton RFC, Beggars Brook, North Petherton, Somerset record hop only Tony Sullivan 01823 332180

Fri 5 May The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Midnite Flyers 020 7622 4001

Fri 5 May The Crooked Billet Billet Lane Stanford Le Hope Essex SS17 0AR 01375 672159 The Cavaliers featuring Cliff Edmunds DJ Suzy Q

Saturday, May 6th

Sat 6 May Halifax RnR Club Siddal Ex-Servicemen's Club, Halifax, W.Yorks HX3 9JS Glenn Darren & the Krew Katz (ticket only event) D. J. the DJ 01422 354876

Sat 6 May Horsham RnR Club Drill Hall, Denne Road, Horsham, W.Sussex Earl Jackson Band plus DJ 07966 526260

Sat 6 May Cat & the Hot Tin Trio may Hemsby Rock'n'Roll Weekend Pontins Holiday Centre, Beach Road, Hemsby, Norfolk

Sat 6 May Luton RnR Club Roman Way, Tomlinson Avenue, Luton, Beds Reservoir Cats Tartan Ted 01582 518211

Sat 6 May Pit Stop RnR Club Coventry Colliery S & S Club, Bennett Road, North Kersley, Coventry, W.Midlands Porky's Original Hot Rockin' Woody 024 7633 6533

Sat 6 May Stage One Cobden Oxford Street, Long Eaton, Derbys Bad Boys plus DJ 0115 973 4928

Sat 6 May Stockcross Rock'n'Roll Village Hall, Stockcross, near Newbury, Berks record hop only (50's

rock'n'roll/jive/bop/stroll) 01488 658186

Sat 6 May The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Moonshiners 020 7622 4001

Sunday, May 7th

Sun 7 May Barnsley RnR Team – BG Barugh Green WMC, Higham Common Road, Barnsley, S.Yorks S75 1LD record hop only Jive Bop Record Hop 01977 613841

Sun 7 May BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Kingcats Rockin' John 0117 976 8065

Sun 7 May The Rat Pack Woodgrange Southchurch Avenue Southend Essex 01702 460133

Sun 7 May Beauwaters RnR Club Beauwaters Club, Nelson Road, Northfleet, Kent Meanstreak Pete Bruce 01322 407110

Sun 7 May Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey B17s 020 8647 1951

Friday, May 12th

Fri 12 May Athletic Club – Kettering Rockingham Road, Kettering, Northants Rockin' The Joint Bill Guntrip 01536 510779

Fri 12 May Bankfield Social Club Huddersfield Road, Elland, W.Yorks record hop only DJ the DJ 01422 354876

Fri 12 May Barnsley RnR Team – BHSSC Barnsley Hospital Sports & Social Club, Pogmoor Road, Barnsley, S.Yorks S75 2EP Cadillacs Jive Bop Record Hop 01977 613841

Fri 12 May Birdwell Club Sheffield Road, Birdwell, Nr Barnsley, S.Yorks S70 5UY Reno Brothers Clive the Jive 01924 376141

Fri 12 May Bolton Tonge Ward RnR Club Tonge Ward Labour Club, Ainsworth Lane, Tonge Moor, Bolton, Lancs Jive Street Jivin' Jim 01204 410483

Fri 12 May Borough Green RnR Club Village Hall, Borough Green, Kent Persuaders plus DJ 01732 887033

Fri 12 May Cheshire Bopcats – DLC Denton Labour Club, Ashton Road, Denton, Cheshire Bad Boys Poor Boy Paul 0161 438 0468

Fri 12 May Eastleigh RnR Club Comrades Club, Leigh Road, Eastleigh, Hants record hop only Long Tall Girl/Rocking Glenn 023 8061 1953

Fri 12 May Kirk Hallam Social Club Dallimore Road, Kirk Hallam, Ilkeston, Derbys plus DJ 0115 932 9909

Fri 12 May Lady's Mile Holiday Park Dawlish, Devon EX7 0LX Be Bop Daddies 01626 863411

Fri 12 May Queens Hotel (Theatre Bar), South Promenade, Blackpool, Lancs Ian Fenn & the Starcats Mike Rossi 01253 342015

MAD RAT MAGAZINE
rock'n'roll - rockabilly - rhythm & blues - jump 'n' jive

OH OH and welcome to the home of the Rat. Yeah folks we've rigged the web site to make it more accessible to all our readers and reader's duties around the planet. This is the place to read the nation's favourite and most read rock 'n' roll magazine. The team sing, play and hard each month to produce a feature on the latest groups, artists, reviews and all the news, gossip, the rockers scene. So if you want...

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01268 454494

Fri 12 May Freight House Bradley Road Rochford Essex SS4 1BU 01702 316300 Cat & The Hot Tin Trio + DJ The Raven

Fri 12 May Rock House Club Sports & Social Club, William Street, Saxilby, Lincoln, Lincs Hicksville Bombers Wainyboy + guest 01522 681221

Fri 12 May Rock-Ola RnR Club The Paddocks, Long Road, Canvey Island, Essex Mike Berry + Blast Off Dinger 01268 515696

Fri 12 May Swindon RnR Club Moonrakers (Crossways Suite), Cricklade Road, Swindon, Wilts SN2 5AA John Lewis Rock'n'Roll Trio Steve's Stack of Wax 01793 612378

Fri 12 May The Horseshoe Inn Windmill Hill, Herstmonceux, E.Sussex Jets 01763 241301

Fri 12 May The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Corvettes 020 7622 4001

Fri 12 May Zodiac RnR Club Houghton Regis Centre, High Street, Houghton Regis, Beds Jellybean/Rhythm Stompers 01582 861240

Saturday, May 13th

Sat 13 May Banbury RnR Club General Foods S & S Club, Spiceball Park, Banbury, Oxon Colin Paul & the Persuaders Mick the Mike 01295 278127

Sat 13 May Bristol Jive Club - FFC Filton Folk Centre, Elm Park, Filton, Bristol Juke Box Eddies plus DJ 0117 938 0483

Sat 13 May Chicken Shack Brogborough Club, Bedford Road, Brogborough, near Milton Keynes, Beds Infernos Rollin Rock Record Hop 07960 991236

Sat 13 May Civic Hall – Brighthouse 5 Bradford Road. Brighthouse., Yorks HD6 1RW Jive Street (invitation only) Clive the Jive 01924 376141

Sat 13 May Clifton Arms 110 Chaldon Road, Caterham, Surrey CR3 5PH Alleycats plus DJ 01883 343525

Sat 13 May Cuxton RnR Club Village Hall, Norman Road, West Malling, Kent Revolutionaires The Raven 01732 780076

Sat 13 May Guildford Hot 50's RnR Club Fairlands Hall, Fairlands Avenue, Guildford, Surrey Rat Pack Jimmy Slick 01483 856744

Sat 13 May Hamble RnR Club Aerostructure Club, Kings Avenue, Hamble-Le-Rice, Southampton, Hants Fever Wild Wolfie Smith 023 9264 0208

Sat 13 May Juke Joint RnR Club Shrublands Community Centre, Hawthorn Road, Gorleston-on-Sea, Norfolk Moonshiners The Professor/Rockin Shades 01760 722803

Sat 13 May Miners Welfare Club - Staveley Market Street, Staveley, Chesterfield, Derbys Blue Flames
Dino's Good Rockin' Tonite 01246 281522

Sat 13 May Newtown Social Club Durham Road, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland record hop only (r'n'r/rockabilly/jive) Rockin' Jukebox Record Hop 0191 410 2914

Sat 13 May Northampton RnR Club – FC Far Cotton WMC, Main Road, Far Cotton, Northampton., Northants NN4 8EN Reno Brothers AJ The Rockin' DJ 01604 713851

Sat 13 May Old Goole WMC Goole Road, Goole, Humber DN14 6RG Corsairs plus DJ 07859 322746

Sat 13 May Paris Rock Club – WAC Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road, London SE1 record hop only Mad French Wolf 07944 775556

Sat 13 May Pear Tree Hotel 7 Devonport Road, Stoke, Plymouth, Devon PL3 4DJ record hop only Slim Jim's RnR Disco 01752 563260

Sat 13 May Preston RnR Club Deafway Centre, Brockholes Brow, Preston, Lancs Country Cattin' Poor Boy Paul 01253 852594

Sat 13 May Ritz Ballroom 73 Bradford Road, Brighthouse, W.Yorks Kingcats Bradford Dude 01274 392380

Sat 13 May The Horseshoe Inn Windmill Hill, Herstmonceux, E.Sussex Rayburn Anthony (USA)/Stealin' Corn see special events 01763 241301

Sat 13 May The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX TBA 020 7622 4001

Sunday, May 14th

Sun 14 May BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Crazee Jay & the Partytimers Slim Reed - Not Before '54 0117 976 8065

Sun 14 May Beaconsfield RnR Club Beaconsfield Football Club, Slough Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks HP9 2SQ Tony & the Saints Wildcat Pete 01494 672605

Sun 14 May Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Persuaders 020 8647 1951

Sun 14 May The Sundowners Woodgrange Southchurch Avenue Southen Essex 01702 460133

Sun 14 May Erith RnR Club Erith WMC, Valley Road, Erith, Kent Jellybean Cruising Record Hop 07973 170056

Sun 14 May The Horseshoe Inn Windmill Hill, Herstmonceux, E.Sussex Fever/Country Cattin' 01763 241301

Sun 14 May The Sporting Green corner Hertford Road & Green Street, Enfield Highway, Enfield, London Cavaliers Captain Caveman 020 8926 8577

Tuesday, May 16th

Tue 16 May Parklands Ballroom (ex ICI/Dupont SC), Wheatley Hall Road, Doncaster, S.Yorks Rock n Roll Knights Dave B 01302 884707

Thursday, May 18th

Thu 18 May Hanworth RnR Club Royal Naval Club, Park Road, Hanworth, Middlesx record hop only (rock'n'roll) Wildcat Pete 01464 672605

THE RAT PACK

MAY 2006

1st - Holtwhites Sports and Social Club, Enfield
6th - Ford Club, Basildon
7th - Woodgrange, Southend
13th - Guildford Hot Fifties, Surrey
18th - Cardinal Wolsey, Hampton Court
20th - Walton Weekender
28th - The Bowling Green, Enfield



01268 454494

Friday, 19th May

Fri 19 May 3R's RnR Club Reading Civil Service Club, James Lane, Burghfield, near Reading, Berks Avengers Mick the Mike

Fri 19 May Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 record hop only (rockers n' classic bike night) Big Beat Kris 020 8961 1000

Fri 19 May Badderley Green WMC 922-924 Leek New Road, Badderley Green, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs ST2 7xx Class Of 58 Mr Rusty's Roadshow 01782 537292

Fri 19 May Jolly Abbott Lower Hilmorton road Rugby Northamptonshire 07967860308 Johnny Red + DJ Nostalgia.

Fri 19 May Birdwell Club Sheffield Road, Birdwell, Nr Barnsley, S.Yorks S70 5UY Something Else Clive the Jive 01924 376141

Fri 19 May Bolton Tonge Ward RnR Club Tonge Ward Labour Club, Ainsworth Lane, Tonge Moor, Bolton, Lancs record hop only Jivin' Jim 01204 410483

Fri 19 May Hill Park Memorial WMC 78 Highlands Road, Fareham, Hants PO15 6JD 80 Cube 01329 280782

Fri 19 May Hillside Club (ex-Western Club), 357a Derby Road, Lenton, Nottingham, Notts Drugstore Cowboys Charlie 07901 766863

Fri 19 May Leabrooks Club Greenhill Lane, Leabrooks, Nr Alfreton, Derbys Rip It Up Mr Jive 01773 833035

Fri 19 May March Jive Club Windmill Rooms, Whitemoor Road, March, Cambs PE15 OAF 59ers The Professor 01354 741501

Fri 19 May MBM's Mytchett Community centre, 140 Mytchett Road, Mytchett, Camberley, Surrey GU16 6AA House Rockers Steve's Stack of Wax 01276 504898

Fri 19 May Melksham RnR Club Assembly Hall, Market Place, Melksham, Wilts Rockin' Bandits Cockney Rebel 01225 706463

Fri 19 May OuterLimitz – LA Ley Arms, Kenn, Exeter, Devon EX6 7UW Wildcards/Willy/Tony 01626 872903

Fri 19 May Rosecroft Club Chelsfield Road, Orpington, Kent Bill Fadden & the Rhythm Busters Pete Bruce 01322 407110

Fri 19 May South Wales RnR Club British Legion Club, Penline Road, Whitchurch, Cardiff, S.Wales Meanstreak Crazee Dave 029 2061 9271

Fri 19 May Taunton RnR Club North Petherton RFC, Beggars Brook, North Petherton, Somerset record hop only Flintstone 01823 332180

Fri 19 May The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX TTs 020 7622 4001

Fri 19 May Ye Olde St Annes Castle Main Road, Great

Leighs, Essex record hop only (rockabilly/rock'n'roll/jive) Maurice's Rocking Machine 01245 361253

Saturday, May 20th

Sat 20 May Crondall RnR Club The Village Hall, Crondall, near Farnham, Surrey GU10 5QG Meanstreak Oh Boy Record Hop 07903 145018

Sat 20 May Easington Colliery Welfare Hall Seaside Lane, Easington Colliery, Easington, County Durham Something Else 01845 525293

Sat 20 May Fairwater Social Club Fairwater Way, Cwmbran, Gwent Barnstompers (NL)/Gene Gambler & the Shufflers/ John Gough/Dave Bratcher/ 07771 822206

Sat 20 May Fairwater Social Club Fairwater Way, Cwmbran, Gwent Sureshots/Broadcasters/Anita & the Starbombers(NL)Simeon - alldayer 07771 822206

Sat 20 May Festival Inn Ilkeston Road, Trowell, Notts NG9 3PX Ian Fenn & the Starcats plus DJ 0115 932 2897

Sat 20 May, Swamp Rock presents The Earl Jackson Band at All Saints Arts Centre 122 Oakleigh Road North Whetstone London N20 Carole 020 8810 7454

Sat 20 May Heptonstall Jive Club Heptonstall Social&Bowling Club, Acre Lane, Heptonstall, Hebdon Bridge, W.Yorks HX7 7LT TC & the Swingcats Hep Cat Mike's Swing Shift 01422 844049

Sat 20 May Jive Party – Rivoli Rivoli Ballroom, 350 Brockley Road, Crofton Park, London SE4 2BY Ocean's Seven Ken/Graham 020 8946 2664

Sat 20 May Koolsville The Lemon Tree, 5 West North Street, Aberdeen, Scotland AB24 5AT Crystalairs/Bricats Rockin' Gogs 01330 811734

Sat 20 May Martello Caravan Park Walton-On-The-Naze, Essex Old No 7 020 8593 4413

Sat 20 May Cat & The Hot Tin Trio The Birchwood Swanley see www.catandthehottintrio.org.uk for details

Sat 20 May Mynster Club – CH Coronation Hall, Burrowbridge, Somerset TA7 ORJ record hop only (no bar - BYOD) Tel'Star 01823 698618

Sat 20 May Newmarket RnR Club Exning Road WMC, Newmarket, Suffolk Crazee Jay & the Partytimers Rockin Lee's Record Machine 01638 750724

Sat 20 May Old Georges Dance Hall Conservative Club, Pitt Street, Barnsley, S.Yorks S70 1AW record hop only (r'n'r/stroll/rockin'n'boppin) Dave B 01226 244804

Sat 20 May Quorn Jump Jive & Swing Village Hall, Leicesters Road, Quorn, Nr Loughborough, Leics record hop only (hawaiian beach party) Steve 01455 843292

Sat 20 May Rockin' At The Legion British Legion, 399 High Road, Tottenham, London N17 5QX Cavaliers Dixie Sounds 07759 874167

Sat 20 May Shoreham RnR Shoreham Centre, Pond Road, Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex B17s plus DJ 01903 243392

Sat 20 May Tam O'Shanter Club Hertford Place, Earlsdon, Coventry, W.Midlands CV1 3JZ Jive Street Kool Kat Keith 024 7633 6533

Sat 20 May The Famous Firkin 2 Adelaide Place, Stonehouse, Plymouth, Devon PL1 3JD record hop only Slim Jim's RnR Disco 01752 201566

Sat 20 May The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Roosters 020 7622 4001

Sat 20 May Worcester RnR Club Christopher Whitehead School, Bromwich Road, Worcester, Worcs Jive Crazy 01905 213313

Sunday, May 21st

Sun 21 May BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Colin Paul & the Persuaders Slim Reed - Not Before '54 0117 976 8065

Sun 21 May Beauwaters RnR Club Beauwaters Club, Nelson Road, Northfleet, Kent Jets Pete Bruce 01322 407110

Sun 21 May Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Kingcats 020 8647 1951

Sun 21 May The Midnight Howlers Woodgrange Southchurch Avenue Southend Essex 01702 460 133

Sun 21 May Denaby & Cadeby Miners Tickhill Square, off Wadworth Street, Denaby, Yorks DN12 4AW Jump & Jive

Sun 21 May Martello Caravan Park Walton-On-The-Naze, Essex Moonshiners 020 8593 4413

Friday, May 26th

Fri 26 May Bolton Tonge Ward RnR Club Tonge Ward Labour Club, Ainsworth Lane, Tonge Moor, Bolton, Lancs Al Kilvo & the Aces Jivin' Jim 01204 410483

Fri 26 May Borough Green RnR Club Village Hall, Borough Green, Kent Gregg G & his Crazy Gang plus DJ 01732 887033

Fri 26 May Braunstone & District WMC Braunstone, Leics Gene Gambler & the Shufflers Bill Guntrip 01530 813540

Fri 26 May British Railway RnR Club Broad Green, Wellingborough, Northants Wildkats Northwest plus DJ 07748 306989

Fri 26 May Dale Tavern West Street, Worsborough Dale, Barnsley, Yorks S70 5PG Dave B 01226 205611

Fri 26 May High Royds RnR Club High Royds Social Club, Menston, Otley, W.Yorks LS29 6AQ Furious Flashback Billy 07818 246823

Fri 26 May Houndogs RnR Club - CSC Chelmsford Social Club, 55 Springfield Road (behind Tesco), Chelmsford, Essex Sugar Creek Trio Mark's Happycat Record Hop 01279 654205

Fri 26 May Cat & The Hot Tin Trio + DJ Frog Virginia Creepers Club 2 Duke Of Cumberland Hotel Whitstable Kent 07956 295842

Fri 26 May Jive Inn RnR Club Bridgewater Sport & Social Club, Bath Road, Bridgewater, Somerset Jets Dynamite Dave 01823 259193

Fri 26 May Jive Jive Jive Rivermead Leisure Complex, Richfield Ave, Reading, Berks record hop only Mr Rusty's Roadshow 0118 986 0624

Fri 26 May Pear Tree Hotel 7 Devonport Road, Stoke, Plymouth, Devon PL3 4DJ record hop only Slim Jim's RnR Disco 01752 563260

Fri 26 May Basingstoke Rock n Roll Club Mark Keeleys Good Rockin Tonight Westside Community Centre Paddock Road Southam Basingstoke 01256 464571

Fri 26 May Rock-Ola RnR Club The Paddocks, Long Road, Canvey Island, Essex Wildkatz Pete Bruce 01268 515696

Fri 26 May The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Flames 020 7622 4001

Saturday, May 27th

Sat 27 May Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 Tornados (Joe Meek tribute night) Big Beat Kris 020 8961 1000

Sat 27 May AFS Club Victoria Place, Carlisle, Cumbria record hop only (rock'n'roll/swing/rockabilly) Fat Mossy & guests 01228 537523

Sat 27 May Durley RnR Appreciation Society Durley Memorial Hall, Durley, near Southampton, Hants tba Switchback 023 8040 5121

Sat 27 May Eastleigh RnR Club Comrades Club, Leigh Road, Eastleigh, Hants Rockin' Bandits plus DJ 023 8061 1953

Sat 27 May Gloucester RnR Club YMCA, Sebert Street, Kinsholm, Gloucs Jive Crazy 01242 232188

Sat 27 May Holiday Rock RnR Club Royal British Legion, Heath and Reach, near Leighton Buzzard, Beds Al Kilvo & the Aces Tartan Ted 01525 372994

Sat 27 May It's Only Rock'n'Roll Sale Masonic Lodge, Sale, Cheshire Blast Off Jivin' Jim Killay 0161 929 0413

Sat 27 May Jive Jive Jive Rivermead Leisure Complex, Richfield Ave, Reading, Berks Kingcats/Sundowners see special events 0118 986 0624

Sat 27 May Junction 27 RnR Annesley Social Club, Derby Road, Annesley (A611), Notts Dynamite Dave 0115 953 4918

Sat 27 May Lord Nelson - Dunholme 1 Market Rasen Road, Dunholme, Lincs LN2 3QR Hip Bones 01673 860101
Sat 27 May Newtown Social Club Durham Road, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland record hop only (r'n'r/rockabilly/jive) Rockin' Jukebox Record Hop 0191 410 2914

Sat 27 May North Staffs RnR Club Joiners Square Community Hall, Cornes Street, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs Rock Back The Clock 01782 373310

Sat 27 May Port Slade Town Hall Victoria Road, Port Slade, Sussex Class Of 58 Stompin' Steve + guest 07745 453765

Sat 27 May Hopetown Liberal Club, Nelson Street, Casleford Road, Normanton, WF6 2ET. Gene Gambler & The Shufflers + DJ

Sat 27 May Ritz Ballroom 73 Bradford Road, Brighouse, W.Yorks Mark Keeleys Good Rockin' Tonight Bradford Dude 01274 392380

Sat 27 May The B52 Club Diner Eastern Perimeter Road London Southend Airport Rochford Essex Country Cattin' and Radar Record Hop 01268 457767

Sat 27 May Riverside RnR Club Moorlands Club, Newark Road, Lincoln, Lincs Smokey Mountain Boys The Rockin' Gents 01522 750883

Sat 27 May Starfighter RnR Club Village Hall, Wreningham, near Norwich, Norfolk Darrel Higham & the Enforcers/Rockin Roland 01508 494735

Sat 27 May Starfighter RnR Club Village Hall, Wreningham, near Norwich, Norfolk Johnny Bach & his Moonshine Boozers double bill 01508 494735

Sat 27 May Strictly Jive - VH Victoria Hall, Saltaire, Shipley, near Bradford, W.Yorks Earl Jackson Band Strictly Jive 01274 611259

Sat 27 May The Greyhound - Redhill 82 Brighton Road, Redhill, Surrey Alleycats plus DJ 01737 767147

Sat 27 May The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Cavaliers 020 7622 4001

Sunday, May 28th

Sun 28 May Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 Crazy Cavan & the Rhythm Rockers Little Diane 020 8961 1000

Sun 28 May BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Avengers Rockin' John 0117 976 8065

Sun 28 May Boston Arms Junction Road, Tufnell Park, London NW5 record hop only Cosmic Keith + guests 020 8925 3050

Sun 28 May Boston Arms Junction Road, Tufnell Park, London NW5 record hop only (rockabilly/rock'n'roll/blues Cosmic Keith/Jerry Chatabox 020 8925 3050

Sun 28 May British Railway RnR Club Broad Green, Wellingborough, Northants John Leyton + Rapiers/Dakotas/Bumps In The Night Strollin Steve 07748 306989

Sun 28 May Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey TT's 020 8647 1951

Sun 28 May Cat & The Hot Tin Trio The Bell Frinsbury Kent

Sun 28 May Ex-Servicemens Club - Northampton Sheep Street, Northampton, Northants Ramshackle Daddies (afternoon 4pm - 7pm) AJ The Rockin' DJ/JukeBoxQueen 01604 493713

Sun 28 May Ferry House Inn 888 Wolseley Road, Plymouth, Devon PL5 1LA record hop only Fury Rockin' Wax Show 01752 361063

Sun 28 May Jive Jive Jive Rivermead Leisure Complex, Richfield Ave, Reading, Berks Jets/Rockin' The Joint/Doomsday Rockers/ see special events 0118 986 0624

Sun 28 May Jive Jive Jive Rivermead Leisure Complex, Richfield Ave, Reading, Berks Rip It Up/Fever 0118 986 0624

Sun 28 May Stafford RnR Club White Eagle Polish Club, Riverway, Stafford, Staffs Meanstreak Jukebox Johnny 01785 240140

Sun 28 May The Sporting Green corner Hertford Road & Green Street, Enfield Highway, Enfield, London Captain Caveman 020 8926 8577

Sun 28 May Welfare Social Club West End Lane, Rossington, Doncaster, S.Yorks TBA Ol' Dell Boy 01302 863125

Wednesday, May 31st

Wed 31 May Gloucester RnR Club YMCA, Sebert Street, Kinsholm, Gloucs Ian Fenn & the Starcats 01242 232188

Forthcoming Weekenders

2 Jun 4 Jun 3 Warner Break Festival Weekend Bembridge Coast Hotel Fishermans Walk, Bembridge, IOW Ocean's Seven (Fri)/Pete G & the Magnitones (Sat)/Big Al's Hoodoo Kings (Sun) no details 01983 873931

9 Jun 11 Jun 3 Rockabilly Weekend Shades Skegness, Lincs/Skiprats/Infernos/Sureshots/Hicksville Bombers

Flashback Record Hop 01754 765232

30 Jun 3 Jul 4 Ultimate Weekender Wildest Cats In Town Pontins Seaside Village, Pakefield, near Lowestoft, Suffolk Jack Scott/Johnny Burnette/Rocky Burnette/Randy Burnette/Matchbox/Lennerockers/Crazy Cavan & the Rhythm Rockers/Rudy la Crioux & his All Stars/Skyrockers plus 10 bands tba Wildcat Pete/Steve's Stack O' Wax/Ol' Del Boy/Cockney Rebel/Tartan Ted/2 Hound Dogs/Bradford Dude 020 8372 1958

PLEASE NOTE
deadline for gig listings is the
15th of the month
please mail to
mail@madratmag.co.uk

On the road with The Alleycats

Some weeks are more hectic than others!

The Alleycats were looking forward to their Thursday evening slot at the annual Butlins Rock'n'Roll Week up at Skegness. They'd done the same spot last year and it had been a great success. The plan was to stay over the Thursday night, catching up with old friends such as Matchbox and Cat & the Hot Tin Trio, before heading home in a leisurely manner on Friday. Then it was to be down to Warmell in Dorset on the Saturday night, catch whichever band was playing that night, stay over and then do our Sunday afternoon spot. All very relaxed!

That was until the bad news came from our agent that our Skegness spot had been moved up to 1pm on the Thursday afternoon and that we had to be there at 11am to sound check. So the only practical thing to do was to drive up the night before. Hurried re-arrangements took place, changing the accommodation from the Thursday night to the Wednesday night.



Then late Wednesday afternoon came a call from the organisers of the Saddlers Rock'n'Roll Club in Walsall, near Birmingham. They had a two band show lined up for that Friday, but had just learned that their headline act, Phil Haley & the Comments couldn't make it. Apparently their sax player had injured himself recently and they hadn't found a replacement. Now, the Alleycats have deputised for Phil's

band on several occasions over the past few years as we're capable of slinging a strong selection of Comets classics and similar stuff into our set, so it was agreed that we would somehow get on up to Walsall and do the business. I wasn't even sure at this point whether everyone would be available.

We all gathered at 10pm on Wednesday night to drive the 175 miles up to Skegness, at which point the news was broken to the rest of the guys about the new gig. The chief concern was drummer, Les Bailey, who was only filling in on a temporary basis because JB, our regular guy, can't handle very long van journeys at the moment. Les thought about it briefly, then said he'd much rather be gigging than doing what was otherwise planned for him Friday afternoon.

After a fairly uneventful and traffic free drive through the night, we got up to Butlins at half two in the morning and checked into the really nice apartment we'd been allocated. It took a while to unwind, someone, either Butch or Mick, produced a huge bottle of rum, the TV was switched on and it was gone four before the last head hit the pillow.

Luckily breakfast was served until quite late in the morning so most of us piled down for the Full English, leaving young Dan, the Piano Man, to grab some extra zees. It wasn't cordon bleu, but there was plenty of it and the coffee was surprisingly good! Then Dan joined us and we ambled over to the Centre Spot for our sound check through the club's PA. Typically, we now discovered all the times were slightly different to the ones we'd last been told and we were to do two spots, not one as we'd thought. But it was a beautiful sunny day and nothing was going to spoil it for us.

The camp was apparently sold out for the week, though on such a day a good many would be out in town or on the beach rather than in a smoky cabaret room. But there was still a good crowd in when we actually hit the stage at 1.30pm. The stage is enormous there and we were really able to move about and

get some energy going. We got a good reception for the first spot, lots of applause, but nobody was ready to dance.

After a half hour break we did our second set and this time we did start to get the jivers up off their seats, not a huge number, but they made all the difference. I'm sure we played over time, but everyone was having fun. The best applause came when we put down our guitars and did "In The Still Of The Night" with just the piano and a little drums backing up the vocals. We could really hear ourselves properly in the stage monitors and sang our hearts out, the rest of us fully supporting Johnny's soaring lead. I don't think we've ever done it better! The audience lapped it up and then we picked up the guitars and bopped and rocked our way through the last few songs, finishing on our "Rock'n'Roll Is Here To Stay" medley. After we'd wound down we only had a minimal amount of gear to pack so we were heading out of the camp gates by five-o'clock, having just said hello to Cat & the Hot Tin Trio as they arrived. We'd decided that in the circumstances we would forget about hanging out, but would get back home for a decent night's sleep. Besides, most of us needed some clean clothes before Friday night's show and one or two remembered urgent tasks that needed to be done on Friday morning. We got back to London about 9pm, just in time for me to catch the second half of the football on the TV.

The journey up to Walsall the next day went fairly smoothly, avoiding most of the Friday afternoon traffic, but the weather turned steadily wetter as we approached the West Midlands. The Saddlers Rock'n'Roll Club takes place in the supporters lounge of Walsall Town Football Club, whose nickname is, of course, the Saddlers. It's a pretty good venue, a good large rectangular hall with a big stage, decent sized dance floor and comfortable seating area behind.

Things were made slightly complicated because we had a new local rockabilly band as support, doing only their second gig. This

meant their soundcheck became a mini rehearsal, only not so mini. We felt some sympathy as they had just lost their drummer to yet another accident and the vocalist had to play the drums as well as sing. As a consequence, however, we then had only the briefest of soundchecks as people began to come in. There was then a little time for a few (reasonably) cheap drinks before we had to change into our gold patterned tuxedos and black bow ties.

I'm still not quite sure what the Walsall folk made of us! We kept the dance floor busy enough and there was some nice applause after most numbers. We rang the changes between jivers, strollers and boppers. But only a couple of people bothered to speak to us during the break. It was getting quite late by the time we started our second set so it was no great surprise that quite a few drifted away about 11pm. But we really thought we'd done enough to get a decent encore and so we were a little surprised when it didn't really happen. There were shouts for more, but it was hardly overwhelming, so the resident DJ sensibly got the records going again. In football terms I'd think we'd class that gig as a hard won draw away from home. You can't win them all!

It was 5am Saturday morning before most of us got home and we'd long since given up on the idea of going down to Warmwell that day. A day's rest, a good night's sleep and up at crack of dawn Sunday was the decision. And so it was we all rolled out of London at 8.30am the next day. We had regular drummer, James, with us for this one and so there was plenty of chit-chat as he caught up on what he'd missed out on. The weather started fine, but became patchier as we got nearer to Dorset, a touch of *déjà vu* since it had chucked it down last time we played the Party Weekender.

Our timing turned out to be pretty spot on, despite a small diversion for a closed road just before we got there. Not much equipment to set up as PA was provided! So we hit the

stage dead on 2pm to the strains of "Rocket 88". Keeping the tempos to the steady side of medium, we soon had the huge dance floor absolutely packed. Party Weekender is mainly about Modern Jive, though it can get pretty exotic at times (dirty dancing!) We conclusively proved it can be done to classic rock'n'roll, provided it's played at the proper tempo (not "too darned fast") OK, we slipped in one uptempo number, just to give the more energetic a good workout, before finishing with the evergreen "Johnny B Goode". That earned an emphatic encore, our extended version of "Rock'n'Roll Is Here To Stay". We definitely won that game, earning ourselves a rebooking for next November.

We hung around for a little while, having a good chat with Paul Richardson drummer from Ocean's Seven, who was also playing there that evening with the re-named Bus Stop Boys (now Juke Joint Jump). But that wouldn't be for several hours yet and we were beginning to flag. So just before 5pm we all hopped into the faithful bandwagon and made our way back home for a well earned rest.
Drew



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Keepin' Rockin' Rollin'



TOP TEN



This month's top ten current, fave tunes is provided by **Robin Weathersbee**. Bakelite Boogie DJ, co-organiser of the Rhythm Riot and co-owner of Maddy's Jiving School & Maine Events. Robin is a well known face on the scene and can be seen spinnin' the wax at many events across the UK including his upcoming night at the Jitterbug Ball to be held on 3rd June at Hammersmith Town Hall, London.

In no particular order:

Midnight Ramble Tonight – H-Bomb Ferguson
 Lucille – Little Richard
 Out With The Wrong Woman – Washboard Sam
 Midnight Shift – Buddy Holly
 Bad Bad Whiskey – Amos Milburn
 Slow Down – Larry Williams
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 Hit Git & Split – Young Jessie



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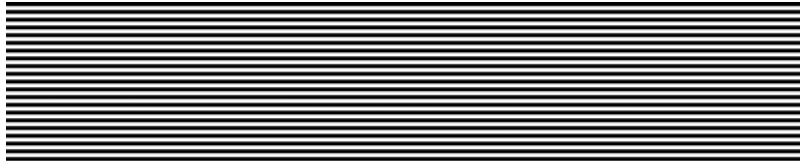
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COMING SOON: ROCKIN' THE JOINT



On June 3rd at **Sharpness Dockers Club** South Gloucestershire an all day 12 – 12 event will take place featuring Red Hot, Somethin Else, The Itchy Feet Trio, Leon Oddsocks, Ian Webster and Rockabilly 1953 in remembrance of Rick Porter who sadly passed on 17th March 06. Proceeds of this event will go to Ricks Family. Phone Gwen or Ken for details on 0117 9042658 if any other band would like to join in the celebration of Ricks life the fee is traveling expenses.

The rumours that have marred the success of the 10th annual **Rockabilly Rave** are quashed this month on planet jive. According to rumor the 'plague' was due to an outbreak of Legionnaires which has been investigated and the site and the revelers cleared of any such illness. Health authorities unanimously claim its just a bad bout of flu.

See www.planetjive.com for an in depth report and interview with the organiser.

The **Crooked Billet** in Stanford Le Hope Essex reopens its doors this month to the rock'n'roll scene and its opening event is with The Cavaliers and Suzy Q. The Cavaliers fronted by Cliff Edmunds of The Avengers with their Essex debut..... watch the mag for a review. The Crooked Billet will be rockin' monthly see advert.

A freelance journalist looking for people to **interview** for an article on 50s fashion. Whether you are a Sandra Dee or a pink

lady, would love to talk about your style. Please e-mail me on becs1009@mac.com or call 07861 669080. Any help would be brilliant. - Rebecca

We're **looking for a rock'n'roll/rockabilly group** to play at a pub in Dagenham once a month on a Friday night. We have built up a good crowd who regularly come to see Flying Saucers. Now we need another group to play in-between the Flying Saucers bookings. There's private off-road car parking next to music bar (with plenty of room for your van!) We'd like original 1950s music only - straight rock'n'roll/skiffle/rockabilly/rockin' instrumentals etc. NO Stray Cats material please. Contact rockolaray@hotmail.com

Are **any serious singers** in East London/Essex/North London etc interested in forming a doo wop acapella singing outfit? Real singers with voices and knowledge. Get in touch now! kingdel@gmail.com

A junior male **dance partner** is needed for Heather from Maidstone in Kent, who is 15 in March. She's looking for a dedicated and hard-working partner. She is a Blackpool finalist and qualifier. She belongs to GDC Dance school. Heather dances both Latin and ballroom and trains with Karen Day and Michelle & Ricky Drummond. She trains a lot and is a great dancer. E-mail BallroomBeauty@hotmail.co.uk

NEWS

Rockin Rocket 88 have been asked for permission to use one of their tracks as part of the sound track for a film being made by a movie producer in California. Things are looking promising, so we hope to release more info soon.

We have started to work on new material for a 2nd CD and plan to go into the studio in the 2nd half of 2006.

Watch this space for more Rockin Rocket 88 News in future issues.

Jive Jive Jive continues to rock reading this year!!!

Its official, contrary to rumour, the Jive Jive Jive event at the Rivermead Leisure Centre will take place in May....

The only change is that you can now pay on the door, Saturdays event featuring The Sundowners and The Kingcats, a complete steal at only £6

And The Best of the UK Rockin' Scene on Sunday for just £17 per person on the door.

Jukebox Eddies, Doomsday Rockers, The Jets, Fever, Rip It Up, and Rockin The Joint, Mick The Mike, Wildcat Pete and Compere Rob James Sunday 28th may 1pm to 12amSee ya there!!!!

60's Southend Rocker and bass player **John Bobin**, has written and published a book entitled "Bark Staving Ronkers" which is available at Amazon.com. The book is a meander through the rockin' scene in the late 1950's and 60's and mainly features bands based in and around the Essex area, such as the Fingers, Legend (Mickey Jupp Band), Procul Harem and many others. It's a great read for nostalgia fans and all profits go to a Cancer charity. Buy it now !

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RIPPIN' ROCKIN' & ROLLIN' The Wildkats

The Wildkats have been around over five years, in which time they have presumably had time to regret choosing that particular name due to confusion with another UK band of similar title and style. Deciding they had already attracted a big enough following not to change it altogether, they let themselves be known generally as Wildkats North West since that's the region they come from.

In those five years they've already released two CDs and it's the second, *Rippin' Rockin' & Rollin'* that has just landed on my desk for review.

Nineteen tracks are listed on this platter, all of them rock'n'roll circuit favourites. First one up is the perennial Mean Woman Blues and, from the opening Elvis drawl, the drums, bass and guitars kick into solid no-nonsense rock'n'roll in the most classic mode. I seem to remember some great piano on the original version in the *Loving You* film, but it's not missed too much. Next up is a rather more laid back offering in the form of Bobby Darin's *Dream Lover*. The opening guitars almost creep in before the drums add a gentle Latin beat. Then the nasal, sub-Elvis vocal is back to remind us that this is rock'n'roll. Slowly the singer starts to soar a little into the melody, just a glimpse of the inimitable smoothness of Bobby. It's nice, it shows they're not all shout'n'holler, but I'm not totally convinced by this one. Maybe it should have been later in the album?

Third track is back to Elvis with an arrangement of *All Shook Up*. Unfortunately I really can't enjoy this one at all. The lead guitar rolls slowly in with the classic Perkins rockabilly feel, then the drums kick in a little faster before the rest suddenly remember the real tempo and speed it up. The backing seems too

sparse behind the Presley growl and it has the hallmarks of a karaoke sing-a-long gone badly wrong. Maybe they should have left this one off and made it 18 tracks!

No such problems with *Yes Tonight, Josephine*. The drums set up the Bo Diddley beat, the bass triple slaps in, the guitars next and it's away. The Jets had a minor hit back in the 80s with their version of this Johnny Ray song. The Wildkats do a sterling job on it, too. The energy is kept going for a rousing version of *Mystery Train*. Bob Mayson, the lead vocalist, doesn't seem to have the vocal range to match the early Elvis wail fully so he sensibly keeps to what he does best.

The over familiar slow intro to *Go Cat Go's Please Mama Please* indicate it's stroll time/slow jive time again. This is a song that I always felt owed everything to the brilliance of the late Darren Spears and the multitude of covers do little to enhance it.

It's back to rockabilly mode with a raunchy rendition of the Burnette Brothers' *Rock Therapy*. Rousingly revived by the Stay Cats in the 80s, this is a mean mother of a song and is given the treatment it deserves. Good track! As is *Reddy Teddy*, more in a Cochran mode than Little Richard, but a good rock'n'roll track that really moves.

Not so keen on *Paralysed!* It rather plods whereas the Elvis original really rips along. And the backing is too sparse. This is corrected on the next track, *Rock With Me*. The crisp jazz chords and slap bass walk-down set up a lively number complete with a nice harmony on the middle eight. I'm not familiar with this number so maybe it's a rare original from the band. But I stand to be corrected. Like it, though!

No Particular Place To Go is a great Chuck Berry track, but doesn't quite get the full feel

from the Wildkats. The guitar rather fluffs the famous augmented chord scrub at the beginning and the deep nasal growl of the vocals makes rather heavy weather of the wonderful narrative of this song. Maybe I'm just too familiar with the original, but this version doesn't do it for me. You could certainly dance to it, though.

The steady chug of a bass guitar brings in Cochran evergreen, Summertime Blues. I love Eddie's record, both the song itself and the crisp production that relies so heavily on the handclaps. Very few bands ever capture that perfect moment in recording history, but this isn't a bad effort. The addition of a sparkling little guitar solo works well, making this a good, solid dance track. Does anyone else ever notice that Eddie's record goes round the riff five times at the end, not four?

The nasal twang whines into the familiar intro to Tear It Up, which bops along in time honoured fashion. Not the most exciting version of this Burnette song I've heard, but it does a workmanlike job. Do like the slap bass break. Baby Let's Play House is pretty much part two of the previous song. Same key, same guitar sound. Actually there's more Burlison style riffing on this than on Tear It Up.

Some clean cut Berry guitar brings in the classic Roll Over Beethoven. The vocal seems pitched a little higher than usual. Is this still Bob? If so, he should go for the higher ranges more often. If not, then they let this guy sing more songs. It makes a nice change. It's a pretty good rendition all round with some great guitar work.

Blue Suede Shoes is a slightly up-tempo version of the original Perkins format with some added touches. It shifts along in great rockabilly fashion. Nothing new here, but it's thoroughly enjoyable all the same. Much the same can be said of the next track, Rock This Town. The jangle of Setzer's guitar intro is faithfully reproduced before the rest kick wholeheartedly into this Stray Cats hit. It's a great rockabilly number, even if it isn't vintage 50's, and the

Wildkats show where they probably got some of their biggest influences from originally.

Penultimate song is a great cover of the Elvis version of That's Alright Mama. This time they capture it all perfectly. The guitar work is Scotty Moore all the way and the rhythm section is spot on. And this time the vocals do almost soar. Some nice backing vocals help it all push along. Cracking stuff!

And so to the final number and it's back to hard rockin' rockabilly on this rendition of Red Hot. Owing far more to Billy Riley's version than the Billy Emerson original, or maybe they had Setzer's cover in mind, nevertheless it trucks along in fine fashion to round this album off in rockin' style.

It has to be said what a wonderfully crisp production job has been done on this CD. All the tracks are recorded beautifully without too much of anything. The guitars sound bright, the bass has just enough click on the slappin' where it's appropriate. I'm not a huge fan of Bob Mayson's vocals. I think he overdoes the sub-Elvis nasal growl, but that's a very subjective view. As a unit, the Wildkats (North West) make a great rockin' sound. If they sound as good live as on this CD then they'll be worth seeing

Al Heacatt



CABIN DOWN BELOW Kidd Kane & The Pirates

Before I review this record, just a few historical notes about Johnny Kidd and The Pirates for those who don't know.

In 1959, The Fabulous Fred Heath Band went in to Abbey Road studios and recorded 28 takes of 'Please Don't Touch', a song written by Fred Heath. The band consisted of Fred Heath (lead vocal), Tom Brown (backing vocals), Alan Caddy (lead guitar), Ken McKay (drums), Johnny Gordon (bass guitar), and Tony Docherty (rhythm guitar). They emerged from that session as 'Johnny Kidd & the Pirates' a name chosen for them by their manager without their knowledge or consultation!!

Only Fred Heath (now Johnny Kidd) was signed to a recording contract, all the other band members were paid £7.50 each for the session as side men.

A year later in 1960, Alan Caddy was the only original member remaining, but drummer Clem Cattini and bassist Brian Gregg had joined to form the classic Pirates trio line-up behind Johnny Kidd. They wrote 'Shakin' All Over' in about 6 minutes in a coffee bar the day before recording it, as they needed a B side track.

In the studio, session guitarist Joe Moretti, who had previously played the lead guitar on Vince Taylor's 'Brand New Cadillac', sat in as a guest and played the lead on 'Shakin' All Over'. They recorded just one take, live, and assumed it would be the B side of the next single. Of course, everyone was knocked out by this great rockin' number and it was released as the A side.

Ironically, within 12 months all three of the Pirates deserted Johnny Kidd to go on a tour of Italy with another band!! They sub-

sequently signed to Joe Meek and had the instrumental hit 'Telstar' as The Tornados.

Johnny then recruited a fresh trio of Pirates, Mick Green (guitar), Johnny Spence (bass) and Frank Farley (drums). Now to me, and many others, these will always be the 'classic' Pirates line up, and indeed they still do the occasional gig under that name. Johnny Kidd died in a car crash in October 1966 aged just 27.

Fast forward 40 years and what do we have here?? This CD is coming out to mark the 40th anniversary of Johnny Kidd's death, and the Pirates line up here is none other than Clem Cattini, Brian Gregg and Joe Moretti. So we have together the original band that recorded 'Shakin' All Over', with Kidd Kane (aka Aaron Kane) on vocals.

As a Johnny Kidd & the Pirates fan since 1960, I was quite excited to get this CD to review. Well let me say straight off that instrumentally this album is GREAT!! And so it should be, with the band members being the exact line up that recorded 'Shakin' All Over'!!

The opening track is a cover of Vince Taylor's 'Brand New Cadillac', which although Johnny Kidd never recorded it, I guess it is included because Joe Moretti played on the original - and it's a number that Johnny Kidd probably would have performed in his live sets. This is certainly one of the best on the album. The title track 'CABIN DOWN BELOW' is a Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers number from 1994, not an obvious number to include in a tribute to our best rocker from the '60s - but a moody sort of song that maybe could have been a Johnny Kidd number.

Other tracks that were never Pirates numbers are Jack Scott's 'Baby She's Gone',

Simon Scott & The LeRoys' 'Move It Baby', Jody Reynold's 'Endless Sleep' and a song I don't know, 'I Got to Know the Reason'.

Joe Moretti plays his signature Shakin' riffs perfectly of course, and does a good take on Mick Green's style (but a bit less beefy) on tracks like My Babe. For me, Clem Cattini's drums could have had a stronger presence in the mix, but these are minor observations, the band are tight and solid.

But what of Kidd Kane? Well he belts out the vocals with energy, but for my money he's more Vince Taylor than Johnny Kidd, who of course was always going to be a hard act to follow. The covers of original Pirates numbers just don't have that spark that made them so good, and just maybe Kidd Kane is trying a little too hard to mimic Johnny Kidd rather than sing the numbers as himself. As Aaron Kane he also performed as an Elvis lookalike, so maybe the band live is a good Pirates tribute act.

If you're a Johnny Kidd fan, you'll have to buy the CD and make up your own mind, but remember 6 of the 12 tracks are not Pirates numbers. If you're just a lover of good British rock, then you can't go wrong with this selection of numbers played by one of the best combos of the early '60s.

Brian Hill

The Life Of One Of America's Top Pin Up Models Of The 1950's.

Information Courtesy Of Sneaky Peek TV

The HBO/Killer Films' production "THE NOTORIOUS BETTIE PAGE", stars Gretchen Mol as 1950's model 'Bettie Page', one of the first dark-haired sex icons in America and target of a government 'witch hunt' based on her posing for 'bondage' pin-up photos. Newmarket Films

will release the feature March 10, 2006.

Born April 22 1923, in Nashville, Tennessee, the real Bettie Page had a difficult childhood including a stint in orphanage. But she did well in high school and voted 'Most Likely to Succeed'. In 1950, while walking along the beach at New York's Coney Island, she was approached by Jerry Tibbs, a police officer and amateur photographer who put together her first portfolio. Bettie evolved into an underground sensation and in 1955 became a "Playboy" magazine centrefold. In 1957, Bettie quit modelling, had a failed marriage, then entered a religious seminary, where she worked as a Christian missionary. Eventually she was institutionalised for mental problems.

Now in her 80's, Bettie Page lives in southern California. In retrospect, she says, "I wasn't trying to change society, or to be ahead of my time. I didn't think of myself as liberated and I don't

believe that I did anything important. I was just myself. I didn't know any other way to be..." Filmed in New York City and Miami, Florida, "NOTORIOUS BETTIE PAGE" also stars Lili Taylor, Jonathan M. Woodward, David Strathairn, Cara Seymour, Tara Subkoff and Kevin Carroll.



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CATMAN'S QUIZ

Who else sung the song "Judy" recorded by Elvis?
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April Quiz answer: Stick McGhee, 1949, Atlantic Records
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The DUKE's Rockabilly Raves

The 10th Rockabilly Rave (part two)

'Wow! Thursday night was cool, and there are still three days to go'.

Those were my first thoughts upon waking up on the Friday morning in the all too familiar Camber chalet. Okay, maybe not all of the bands were not to my liking, but that is to be expected, there are three thousand 'rockabillys' here to be entertained.

And what was all the commotion about 'The Rave' being too long this year? No way! Four days is way too short in my opinion!

I had to be at the downstairs stage before noon to be ready for the lunchtime sessions as they were billed. I was there just after ten thirty. I wanted to check on power points and lighting, and to make sure the first D.J. of the day was going to turn up. You know, all that boring stuff everyone takes for granted. Everything was in order and I felt a lot better about stage-managing now than I had last year.

The first D.J. of the day was 'Skinny Jim', a cool guy and a great D.J., and to top it all off, I didn't have to go and find him. He was ready to start, right on time. About halfway through his set a very cool looking Willy Briggs strolled up to the stage with guitars in hand. The 'Radio Ramblers' were in the building. They are a great little three-piece band (lead, rhythm and bass), and they really look the part. I have seen Willy before with 'Lynette Morgan and her Blackwater Boys', so I had a general idea of the kind of set I was going to see ('I'm Coming Home', 'Find Somebody New', 'How Come It' to name a few). I found them great musically, but the lead singer didn't make it vocally for me. Willy's nasal vocal twang, when he did take over on vocals, was, I feel, more suited to this band. I enjoyed 'The Radio Ramblers' set and I will definitely see them again if they ever breeze through my neck of the woods.

The next D.J. was 'Boppin' Vic' from New York. I have chatted with this cat online several times and I was glad to finally get to meet the guy, even

though he almost gave me a heart attack by turning up just minutes before he was due on. But he made up for it by playing the Mean Devil's 'Bop-A-Rama' to kick off his set.

'The Taildraggers' from Holland were another band that I had not seen before. I had grouped this band into the same category as 'Big Sandy' (western swing), but I enjoyed them far more. Comprising steel guitar, rhythm, lead, double bass and a very energetic drummer, their set consisted of a mixture of tunes such as 'Go Boy Go', 'Sweet Woman', 'Don't Bug Me Baby' and 'Hey Little Dreamboat' (with guest vocalist Miss Maudy on vocals).

I remember surfing the 'net way back in 2001 using the word 'Rockabilly' as a keyword. One of the results I got was a sample of the song 'Starlight Starbright' by 'Ruby Ann and her Boppin' Boozers'. I was amazed by what I heard, a strong voice from such a petite lady. This was the first time I was to see her live, albeit without the Boozers. As soon as she launched into her first number I could hear her voice was still the same as I heard back then. Backed more than 'caperably' by 'The Capers', Ruby rocked through songs such as 'Enie Meanie Minie Mo', 'Jumpin' Jack', 'Hoy, Hoy, Hoy', the excellent 'Your Kisses Turned Sour' and a new song written for her by Shaun Mencher of 'High Noon', called 'Don't Call Me Honey', a cool little stroller for the dance floor. For some reason she didn't sing the Faron Young song 'I Hear You Talking' a song that has become a 'MySpace' hit amongst users of that particular website. But that took nothing away from an excellent set from **Miss Ruby Ann**. (right)

D.J. Dave Crozier blasted the crowd with some cool tunes to end the lunchtime club sessions at six p.m., and I was off for a quick shower and a bite to eat before all the fun started again at seven.

One thing I find with the Rave is I never manage to see all the bands. Something happens or gets in the way. Grabbing something to eat takes longer than expected, or as in my case, I fell asleep after my shower. I woke at a quarter past seven with 'The Infernos' playing on the T.V.! I

have been meaning to see this band for ages. I have their excellent C.D. 'Don't Know What You're Missin', so I was more than cheesed off to miss them. I couldn't really judge what they sounded like through the tinny sound coming from television, but from what I heard from other cats it was a good show. Damn and blast.

I got back to the main ballroom just as Buzz Wayne was starting his set. I loved the entire 'Buzz' that the Flyers created way back in the early 1980's. I was looking forward to a good show, but for me it did not come, and after a few numbers I retired downstairs for a quiet drink. My good buddies Volker and Landon told me that his set improved greatly once he got into it and in fact I had missed a damn good show! I feel another 'damn' coming on (and blast!).

I love the Sonny Burgess sound (yes, that includes the trumpet too), and 'Mars Attacks' do a fantastic job backing him. I never tire of seeing this guy perform and at the age of 75 (I think I'm right there) he still puts everything he has in to his act. While I was downstairs having that quiet beer, I was hooked into 'The Matrix' so to speak, listening to backstage chat via my earpiece and also checking in to see if I was needed in any



way. I (over) heard a conversation between Jerry and Mick (the stage manager) that went something like this;

Jerry: "Mick, Sonny wants to thank you for looking after his sound-check, would you like a t-shirt?"

Mick: "Yeah I'd love one"

Jerry: "What size?"

Mick: "Medium"

Me: (under my breath) "Extra large I think!"

Jerry: "Would you like it signed?"

Mick: "Yeah, that'll be great"

At this point I un-hooked and went and got a bottle of Newcastle Brown (before they sold out) cursing Mick all the way to the bar. I felt really bad later that night when he handed me a 'We Wanna Boogie' Sun t-shirt signed by Sonny, 'To The Duke'. What a cool guy to work for. Damn.

I hung around upstairs and talked and listened to 'Cosmic Keith' spinning the tunes while drinking beer and generally socialising until 'Dave & Deke' were due on stage. I have never seen them as an act together before. I had heard their recordings and was looking forward to a great show, but again, for me it did not occur. Musically they are spot on, but I wished that they would leave the comical look along with the silly patter out of their act. But as I have said, that is just my personal opinion. So I left early and went downstairs to catch the of the other D.J.'s sets. I do not mind when bands and D.J.'s stretch the borders of 'Rockabilly' a little, but what the hell was 'Word Up' all about? I am sure that all the Kats and Kittens that spin the disks at hops and events know their 'Rockabilly' and their knowledge on it outdoes mine greatly, I am sure, so there must be a reason why they do things like this. (Alcohol?)

As the night wore on my surroundings became very blurry, so I decided to call it a night, I had somewhere to be in the morning...

Tune in next month for an overview of Saturday's shenanigans!

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