

MAD RAT MAGAZINE

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issue #3 November 05

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THE GUV'NA

To go or not to go, that is the question, it's cold it's dark and its teaming down, gravel car park at the club my new shoes will be ruined, I will have to sit on my wet coat as the club has no cloakroom, Oh please pass me a bucket!!!!!!

This could be the best night ever, the band could be incredible and probably will be, you could meet your one true love as you glance passed the hundreds of people standing on the dance floor so that you may see the band that you really only need to hear and if your eyes can focus through the billowing smoke then and only then will you find your seat.

If this is how you get out on a weekend then it's time to remember those who we have lost over the last couple of years, the die hard all weather real lovers of the music.....Those that travelled up hill and down dale to support the bands, the clubs, the promoters and DJ's we all knew at least one person that went absolutely everywhere followed their favourite act all round the country or just had to be in the thick of it all that have left us for a better place.

So as winter arrives yet again let's not turn our back on the scene for that cup of cocoa ,x factor and central heating get out and live it live while you still can.

Buy a really good mac and a pair of wellies if need be but don't let this be the winter of our discontent!!!!!!

Check it out!!! Playing bass, singing and now waxing lyrical but I think you get the point!!!!
See you out there, it's a date!

Rockin' regards
SPIKE



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Band: Cat & The Hot Tin Trio
Venue: Daddy Cool's, Brackley
Date: 9th September 2005

There was only one thing more wild and rockin' than Cat and the boys on this particular Friday night, and that was the weather outside. Torrential rain and a thunderstorm; which for one brief moment cut the power to my DJ equipment and the band, just as they got on stage. Thankfully after a bit of fiddling with the sockets all was ok.

Cat kicked off with her version of Gene Vincent's 'Say Mama', followed by great tracks by singers including Ray Smith (Right Behind You Baby), Roy Orbison (Ooby Dooby), Sonny Fisher (Pink and Black), and many more.

Cat and the Hot Tin Trio put on a powerful rockin' show, playing some great songs that don't get heard enough. Such as a fantastic version of 'Summertime', and the Danny Dill track 'Hungry For Your Lovin' - brilliant!

They also covered some of the best femme rockers, such as Laura Lee Perkin's 'Don't Wait Up', Kim Lenz's 'Fit To Be Tied', Joyce Green's 'Black Cadillac', as well as a couple of Janis Martin songs, and two of their own : 'Seven Deadly Sins' and 'Dumb As Dirt'. (Both written by Brian Hill)

The other band members also took lead vocals on some tracks: Brian Hill (lead guitar) on Pink Peg Slacks. Drummer, Tony Wood sang Sid King's 'Purr Kitty Purr', plus a couple of others. Double bass player, Terry Simpson sang Gene's 'Blue Jean Bop' and Johnny Burnette's 'Tear It Up' - all good stuff. It's great to see a band who are obviously enjoying themselves.

Cat even got up to stroll to several songs whilst singing, including Tommy Sand's 'The Worrying Kind', Gary Sheldon's 'The Trance', 'Black Cadillac' and Lavern Baker's 'Hey Memphis'.

The second set started with a rockin' version of 'Happy Birthday'. Apparently it was someone's 40th . It can't have been me, as I'm only 21!!!!

The band encored with two songs: Slim Harpo's 'Shake Your Hips' and their take on The Animal's 'The House Of The Rising Sun', done as a tribute to New Orleans, with respect to the disaster caused by Hurricane Katrina.

Cat and the Hot Tin Trio really are a great entertaining band who obviously enjoy what they are doing. Buy the CD - 'Seven Deadly Sins' and go see the band.

We even had two car loads of people all the way from Wolverhampton , braving the horrific weather, to come and see these guys, and it was such a good night no one seemed to want to leave at the end.

Graham Urquhart (Daddy Cool's and Pin-Up Record Hop).



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The French Session Connection Evian, France

Friday 23rd of September 2005, I was chauffeured by my wife Trixie Trish with a worn out tape of Steve Earle's Guitar town, heading for the picturesque French Alps town of Evian (Les Bains) situated on Lake Geneva. For years, it has been famous for its bottled water and more recently for housing the G8 summit but steadily becoming known as the Elvis Rock & Roll capital of the world. For the latter my job... to look after three UK bands for the show the next day. After about an hour I arrived at London Stansted I got a call from the Firekatz (an amalgamation of Toppkatz & Firebirds for a special unique performance), they had remarkably beat me to the airport bar even though their journey time from Bristol was 6 hours longer than mine.

You could not miss this Bright

luminous pink suitcase, belonging to Marie, partner to the Ex Session '57 bass man and the Ramshackle Daddies Guitarist 'Colin Fluffy' Lomas. Their drummer Steve 'Mad Man' Merry exclaimed, "You would never lose that bag at an airport!"

I spied Johnny Gunner & the Raider (mark the drummer), one Raider short explained Johnny.... at this late stage to be told that the Bass player had been taken ill and would not be at the show, is any manager's worse nightmare. Next nightmare... at Check In desk, Ryan air wanted £32 more for the extra weight I was carrying, Blinking Spike & his Mad Rat Mag's I shouted!

On take off I was wondering how a plane could catch fire, due to the wheels facing side ways (as seen on the TV news the previous day) longing for a huge Cat Flap in the fuselage to appear. Then my attention was directed to the hostess trolley, where Steve CHADWICK Gates from the Ramshackle Daddies won HANDS DOWN the who-could-drink-the-most-Heinekens during the flight, with Brandy buy one get one free sachet chasers.

A short meet and greet in Grenoble's airport bar with beers and introductions all round. Then Monsieur Jacquet Xaviet vehicle collection convoyed us rapidly to a welcome-to-Evian drink at Madam Jos-

sette's LaVaudaire, restaurant on the lake, filled with Elephants of all shapes and sizes, which doubles as H.Q. of Elvis R&R promoter Eric Graviou, the master mind of this unique fifties Las Vegas style show.

I first met Eric 21 years ago when Session '57 (Session Who) played the Rock & Roll festival at Weymouth. We have become great friends, and work together on many of these twice yearly Spring & Autumn Elvis R&R shows, this one would proudly be the organisation's eighteenth.

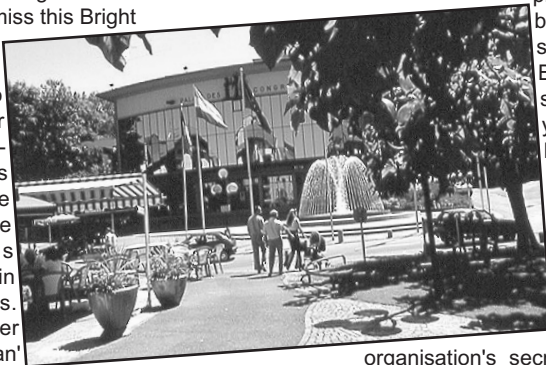
Throwing our instruments and luggage into our hotel rooms at Hotel Du Palais, and a quick Grizzly in the bar opposite. We were then taken for some food at a Pizza Parlour, also situated on Lake Geneva, managed by Eric's Daughter Marie Marie. Tonight would be a laid back relaxing evening, until Wayne (Firekatz) spotted an all-glass Yamaha piano, within seconds his keyboard skills had the whole place singing to ol' Hank My Boy My Boy and Jerry Lee sing-a-longs songs, taking me back to my youth, a Sunday night, Swan in Kingston and Hawky with the Impalas..

After our meal and a toast to all of the Mother's of France and England, the musicians left to explore the Casino, the nightlife and night clubs, of Evian. Eric and I went with the organisation's secretary Alexandrine (famous for her strong cocktails and flaming sugar cube drinks) to her family's bar for a nightcap (or two) FUNSVILLE!

On the way back to the hotel, Eric and I sat on the edge of the lake 'till sun up watching the twinkling lights of Lausanne across the lake, sipping bottles of Krone, reminiscing about the Session days, previous shows, and future shows, strategically planning the big one, the worlds biggest Rockin' Festival on a floating stage on lake Geneva.

Saturday and the morning of the show, I met Eric (who was proudly displaying his Session '57 Fan Club Badge) at Madam Jossette's panoramic lake-side view. Coralie and Eric's other daughter Jessica happily served the gang Pasties (Ricard) and Madam Jossette's special secret recipe, followed by Cheese and Cheese and more Cheese.

While waiting for the Sound crew to organise the PA system, the bands tried to translate the local newspapers articles about themselves. Then up the hill to the glorious venue for sound checks, always undertaken in reverse order, this meant that the Firekatz went first.



No leads for the Electric piano, gave me a problem, so AGAIN it was time to improvise adapt and overcome. Whilst Steve Mad Man got out his BUGS and turned the orchestral instrument into a DOGHOUSE-BASS.

Sound checks over Jim Plummer from the Firebirds but today the Firekatz, (who was actually the stage manager at Weymouth during both of Session '57s performances) brought me a beer, and we chatted about those great Weymouth festivals.

I stood in front of the Congress Palace with its huge fountain in front. The venue that most every entertainer and audience alike agree is the best there is, although being an auditorium it proves difficult to get a good sound, especially when all the seating is empty, but the professional sound crew done their job and got it right!

At 7pm all the stage lighting had been checked and the audience started filling in, warmly welcomed by Eric's wife Valerie and her Sister. Spike would have been proud, the latest issue of Mad Rat, given away freely at the door, I had to sign

many a page 3, thank you!

Back ground music from BR5-49, beer and a chicken dinner. Normally the Mayor of

Evian would

have a table

for the show;

after all, it is

his venue.

T o n i g h t

though he

was else-

where, no

doubt sorting

out the world's

latest turmoil.

Last May's show

was a sell out,

where on the bill

was Pollytone

Record's group

the Blue Jays, the

band on stage would not have been any easy one for any band. Ex Session '57 and Rockin' Rebel's front man Steve (Chadwick) Gates on Rhythm Guitar and Vocal, Sheffield Geoff on drums, Mad Man Merry on bass and Colin FLUFFY Lomas on Lead guitar.

However, Chadwick's experience and ability to blend his own voice with Presley or Burnette, soon encouraged one couple at a time onto the dance floor, until all left their dessert's that Eric's youngest daughter Morgane had proudly presented to the Diner's!

The rawness and authentic sounds of the Daddies prevailed.

Rocking up Runnin' Gun, an old Marty Robbins Gunfighter Ballad and Horton's stroller Honky Tonk Man, then cleverly changing pace to a slower Frankie Ford song Whisky Heaven followed by Setzer's "And The Girl On My Left Is Getting Better Every Beer!"

"...steadily becoming known as the Elvis R'n'R capital of the world..."

During their set I was invited by Fluffy to get up and bash out a couple, much to Eric's delight (and mine I might add). I realised this was the closest one would ever get to the original Session '57 line up.

Too soon the set had ended, the stage lights blacked out and the Ramshackeler's left the stage to deafening applause.

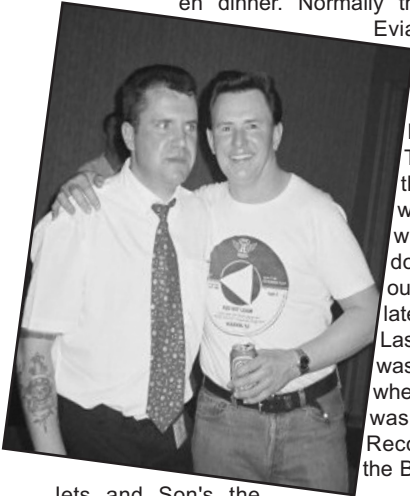
After a few words from the Compere, there was a real BUZZ amongst the audience, as the Daddies marched single file back on stage, Steve Merry with his snare drum at the front "He Fought All The Way Johnny Rebb, Johnny Rebb" an emotional crowd kept time with handclaps throughout, the Daddies exited the stage leaving many tearful eyes.

Johnny Gunner up next and although, Steve Merry and Colin Lomas volunteered their services, it was Firebird Bass Player Richie who stood in for the missing Raider, and I take my hat off to him, his playing, his performance, his harmonies, where faultless, and I'm sure no one in the room would of known any difference.

Into Blue Suede Shoes, as I watched Madam Josette being mesmerised by the pure brilliance of John centre stage. Then Mark (the Drummer) Hewitt did a Excellent version of Surfaries Drum Solo - Wipe Out, Johnny did his normal mixed set of Sharp Smooth sounds of Classic and obscure songs, with a couple of his own thrown in for good measure, finishing with echoes of all audience voices in unison shouting "Johnny!" "Johnny!" "Johnny!"

Jets and Son's the Bad Boys. Although tonight's show seemed down on numbers, a warm atmosphere was quite apparent, and I watched driver's Oliver, Michael, Christophe and Patrick transform into Bar men.

Swiss promoter Janott did a fine job with the announcements, introducing "your third chance to be Ramshackled by the Daddies from England!" Although this was to be the Ramshackle Daddies third performance in Evian, the task of being first



Jannott in the end had to let them go, as the stage had to be set for this one off SPECIAL Super Group the Firekatz, an idea from Toppkatz drummer/manager Craig Dunn. Putting his piano player Wayne Conn, because

the rest of the musicians could not make the gig, with two of the Firebirds, Bass player extraordinaire Ritchie, along with legendary guitarist Jim

Plummer to do the show... AND WOW! They hit gold, feeding off the audience participation, all stops where professionally pulled out, ten minute medley's of Classic Elvis and Standard Rock & Roll, Rare Rock-a-billy and Doo Wop kept the dance floor packed. Valerie at the door was Jumpin' Clapping, Screaming and having a ball to Shake your Mother for ya!

Local gangster and mister nice guy Maximo was swirling with his female to Craig's solid percussion, Wayne's piano pounding and blues harp, their tight vocal harmonies and a stage act from circa '56 brought the show to a frenzy, that lasted for 3 encores! Another Top Rate performance, you would have thought these boys had played together for years! Time had beaten us again, in the end the applause did die down, but not the beaming smiles of the audience as they left the Congress concert hall, to hand shaking goodbyes from Eric and Valerie, all the organisation, myself and the three bands.

After a van equipment jamming contest it was time for a banquet, beer and wine, then onto the late bars, for a calibration. Sunday morning... and we had just enough time before hitting the road, to have crepe (omelettes) Pomme frites (chips) and Red Wine at Madam Jossette's, listening to an in-house loop tape from Mark Keeley's GRT, Darrel Higham, Rockabeats, Phil Haley & the Comments, they had all been thrown into this situation by myself and Eric, in shows past. I overheard Ritchie and Mark, discussing the pro's and con's of Modern Country onto our scene, little did they know back in the 80's I was the one to

blame getting Session '57 to cover Dwight Yoakam's Guitars and Cadillac's Etc Etc.

I made Madam Jossette cry, by giving her a thank you painting of Elephants that my Dad had painted for her.

After a 3 hour drive and much hassle with Ryan air about guitars being 230 kilos over weight and that's 13 Euros per Kilo's please, Eric and myself, reached an agreement with the check in desk clerk, that it just wasn't going to happen, then we kept our appointment with a cool glass of beer in the Grenoble Airport bar! Then the regrettable sad farewells.

Geoff's humour, more beer, sachets of Brandy and a couple determined to join the Mile High Club, in the loo of the plane, gave the flight home some interest. On landing the only piece of luggage missing was, you guessed it Marie's Bright Pink Suit Case!

The Daddies and I had one last drink in O'Neil's Irish Pub while Johnny Gunner, the Raiders and the Firekatz, thanked me for a great Rock & Roll weekend, and headed home.

I had a few more grizzlies on my own and thought how there is not many people know that I was even in a band and I wondered how Session would have gone down at one of Eric's shows. Trixie Trish picked me up and we stopped at Ex Session '57 road manager Dollarp and wife Jenny's to watch a Jerry Lee DVD. Then we went home for, as Chadwick would say a Beer and Kebab supper! I hoped for a lay in the morning as Hemsby and Johnny Powers were waiting for me on Thursday! So until April then, when Country Cattin' carries out a special Early Elvis set, Northamptonshire's Dynamite make their French debut performance, and the eagerly awaited return to Evian of the Wildest Kitten In town, Crazy Jay and her Partytimers, when we'll do it all again!

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KEV'S KAPERS

It took almost 15 minutes to negotiate the purchase of a Bacon Roll with no extra sauces from the Wimpy chef & server. Both spoke little English. In fact neither seemed to understand the words roll and bacon and certainly couldn't put them into any semblance representing a menu item. Anyhow, it finally arrived suspiciously looking, smelling and indeed tasting like a cheese hotdog. Nice!! Bladders were emptied, fish and chips had been devoured, nudie mags purchased...we were back on the road heading away from Newport Pagnell towards the gig of the century.

Our Sat Nav system a.k.a. Joe with a dog-eared Menzies Road Atlas circa 1992, navigated us through the M6 road works towards the heart of jive land. "Not far now lads", I called. I had played this club some months before with another band and had a reasonable idea of it's location. "There ya go, there on the left. Pull over next to the Austin Maxi on bricks - the stairs to the venue are just behind the Biffa bins". The van was silent as they all gasped at the façade of the club. Well, all comparisons to Phoenix Nights were justified and just to add to their angst the knowledge of humping the gear up three flights of stairs was also dawning.

"Welcome to Vegas" exclaimed Nev. "Come on son, I'm sure it'll be fine inside" I retorted. "...and I can't hump up three flights, not with my back" cried Nev. The old dicky back line again....a perennial swerve of duty cry. There's always one in

a band who shirks the muscle jobs, ours is Nev. I would feel sympathy, but his injury was caused by almost impaling himself on

his Roy Orbison garden statue after popping wheelies on his sons' Raleigh Chopper. "All hands on deck son, let's get crackin, we've only got 40 mins before doors open"

With military (Dad's Army) precision the van was unloaded and equipment marched towards the back door. The stairs were rickety and reminded me of those leading to Fagin's den in the film, Oliver. As I got to the top step, the fire door swang open. "Hello boys", I was greeted by a smile that looked like a witch doctor's necklace and the faint whiff of Blue Stratos for women. "You must be Cheryl?" I choked. "ello darlin, how's it hangin'?" she replied in a tone lower than Barry White.

The Band filed into the hall laden with equipment and onto the stage. "Any moment now we're gonna see Peter Kay in a wheelchair" said Nev. Yes, the outside certainly advertised what the interior of the Brom Jive, Salsa & Bootscoot Club looked like. Spangly stage backdrop, full length tan velour drapes, furniture from the set of George & Mildred and a bingo machine built circa 1476. It was nice to see a piece of British history preserved so well. We giggled as we started setting the stage and then to our horror we spotted the curse to all live bands - the noise limiter!! "B***er", I exclaimed. Not only having to play at half speed but at half volume as well. What a great night this was going to be. Then Barry White called from the kitchen end "I got yer a fish & chip supper, for after you've set up". Life ain't that bad, I thought!



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Rhythm & Blues Reviewed

On the eve of the **Rhythm Riot**, the best R'n'B festival in Europe if not the world, we centre our attention on some of the headline acts by giving a brief history of their contribution to the Rhythm & Blues society.

Top of the bill are the **Five Keys** featuring one of the original line-up namely **Maryland Pierce**, who is 72 this year. Originally named the Sentimental Four, Pierce joined the Band in 1949 along with fellow artiste Dickie Smith and took on most of the lead vocal work. The Four soon became The Five Keys and progressed to a recording deal with Aladdin records in 1951. In this year they cut a record called "Glory of Love" which became their first US R&B chart number one. Further hits were not spawned from the Aladdin camp and after the departure of Rudy West & Smith in 1954 the Band joined up with Capitol records, which propelled the group to stardom, although modification of sound and genre to a more popular feel was made. However, this proved to be the right move and a string of hits including "Ling Ting Tong", "Close Your Eyes" and a remake of the Inkspots' "The Gypsy" cascaded into the charts across the US. Rudy West rejoined the group for this period but retired in 1958. At this point The Five Keys moved onto King records which was not a successful partnership. Between 1958 & 1961, personnel changes hindered the group which resulted in a lack of hits.

Subsequent reunions of the Keys have bred the odd recording session, but the best you will find on Aladdin, Capitol & King sessions. In the UK today and especially at jive events, you will no doubt hear a Five Keys track played and that will probably be the jive anthem "She's The Most".

The Riot is the European debut for **Shirley Gunter**. Born in Kansas in 1934, she soon moved to LA where 20 years later in 1954, Shirley put together a vocal group called The Four Queens. Flair records, a subsidiary of Modern records, was introduced to the Group by Shirley's brother, a member of vocal group the Flairs. It has been reported that The Four Queens were the first all-girl vocal group and apparently Etta James commented that they were "the first female vocal group where all the girls could sing." High praise indeed! Their big tune "Oop Shoop" was released in 1954 under the name Shirley Gunter and the Queens and rose to number 8 in the R&B charts. However, the track did not hit the mainstream market until it was covered by the CrewCuts who had already made a big noise with "Sh-Boom". Shirley toured with Queens through four singles and eventually joined up with her brothers' group, the Flairs. After a few minor successes, she decided to quit the music business returning occasionally, one instance being invited to record Ray Charles' Tangerine label. Shirley and fellow singer Lula Piper were reunited in 1990 by the Doo-Wop Society



to perform. Reports say that this was outstanding. Now blind, Shirley Gunter lives in Vegas and still exhibits that distinctive rich voice that has survived over 45 years of professional singing.

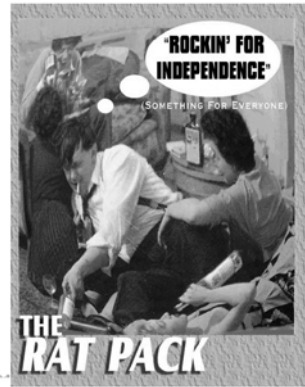
Roy Gaines was brought up Houston, Texas and apparently displayed a musical talent from his early years. Roy was given a piano and between the age of six and fourteen played it day and night. His switch to guitar was made after witnessing the admiration given to his sax playing brother by the girls, as he strode through the audience. "I want some of those girls" exclaimed Roy and the transition was complete. At 16 years Roy was touring clubs and bars across California with Roy Milton and has since worked with Chuck Willis, Ray Charles, Bobby Bland and Junior Parker. Still going strong, he received the "Comeback Artist of the Year" award from Living Blues in 1999.



Born in 1937, top session drummer and R&B artist, **Warren Storm** has delighted people with his style and enthusiasm over decades. Dubbed as the Swamp-Pop pioneer, he began his professional career at the age of 12 when sitting in for his father in a Cajun band. After minor successes with Larry Brasso's Rhythm-aire, the Herb Landry Band and the WE-Wows, Storm finally hit gold in 1958 with his solo single "The Prisoner's Song".



With all this talent and more, I'm sure this years Festival will live up to, if not exceed, previous events. **Jim McLaren**



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 E info@shackstudio.co.uk

IT'S ONLY ROCK 'N' ROLL, BUT I LIKE IT

I sincerely hope that the majority of you out there in rock 'n roll land are earning well above the national average, which the Government defines as being £21, 000 a year. Because, my friends.....you are going to need every penny of your hard earned cash to be able to afford the rock n' roll scene.

I and a couple of friends looked at the state of the scene a couple of years ago, and specifically at the number of events, that we knew about, coming up. We were amazed to find that there were 76 scheduled weekenders....and I stress, those were the ones we knew about! Now, I was crap at maths at school, but even I realise that 76 into 52 doesn't go. Somewhere there would be 25 weekends when there were two or more weekend events clashing. Don't even ask about all dayers and club events. And, lest you forget, this was two and a half years ago. Bring the whole thing up to date and the situation is even more worrying!

Now, on almost every weekend, we have the choice of club event, special all day event or weekend event to go to. If your local pub isn't putting on a gig, don't panic, because someone somewhere within 25 miles probably is.....great eh?

Well, no, not that great actually. Because what has been happening for a while now, is that clubs and pubs are really beginning to feel the pinch. Even booking a top class band is no guarantee of a full house.

I can think of one gig within the last six months, that boasted a well-known American name, and yet the event was attended by barely 150! Now 150 punters is not bad for a club night.....until you consider that the headliner would have been charging around £5,000 for the gig!! Then there's the backing band and presumably the hire of the hall....let's call it about £7,000 for the night. Each of those 150 paying punters would have had to pay £47 to make the gig break even....and I know that the door price was less than £10!! OK, hands up who can afford to run a gig on that loss making

basis? Not many huh?

I think it's fairly reasonable to assume that the majority of rock n' roll fans on the scene at the moment will attend one or more of the following weekenders; The Rockabilly Rave, The Rockers Reunion, Hemsby 1 or 2, Americana, Shake, Rattle n Roll, The Rhythm Riot. Those I think are regarded as the big ones....and yet in addition to those weekenders there are also more than 75 others planned for the coming year.....and get this, one promoter has announced plans to stage 15 new ones!! Now I don't have a problem with this promoter, in fact I quite like the things his organization puts on....but 15 MORE events for the coming year? And don't forget that there will be other people announcing new events. I'm sorry, but frankly the situation is now getting ridiculous. If I put myself out, I might make two of the big weekenders and maybe one smaller one. I would though have to cut down on attending club events to afford it. I wonder then...how are the rest of you people going to arrange things? Given that the average punter spends £250 at a weekend, including the ticket....that's some arranging!

It's been said before, people more respected and qualified by me and will no doubt say it again, but something has GOT to be done to regulate this scene one way or another. Forget your pride and individual prejudices, but it's really time for individual promoters, preferably the big ones, to get together and sort the whole scene out.

Form some sort of committee, organization, but for Rock n' Roll's sake, get together and give the whole scene a great big Shake, rattle and roll!!!

If they don't, then not only will the small club gigs lose money, but some of the big ones will as well. And with the EU and our own Government throwing restrictive legislation at the live music scene in the UK, promoters have got more than enough to worry about.

The bottom line is, that unless some of these big promoters show some real bottle and sort the scene out, then there may not be much of a scene for much longer to sort!

E. Dover

Band: Jive Romeros
Venue: Rock Ola Club Canvey Island
Date: 30th September '05

On my part this is only the second time that I have had the pleasure of listening and dancing to the Jive Romeros. They impressed me the first time around, but this time the impression will stay for a long time yet.

Taking songs and music from early British rock'n'roll from the likes of Tommy Steele and Tony Crombie (for those of you who don't know of Tony Crombie & The Rockets were launched in August 1956). Tony Crombie and the Rockets caued as much sensation as The jive Romeros did this night. The Jive Romeros lead singer, Nobby has a great voice and the Band is one of the most professional I have seen for a long time. The and has been together for six years playing mostly int he midlands



where they live other than Johnny the saz player who lives in London. Johnny was a member of the sensational Stargazers (great sax player).The

other members of the band are Zac on lead guitar and 'oh yeah' he can play! Rich on double bass and Luke on pots and pans. Wild man Luke, plays a wicked drum solo..... If you have not yet seen The Jive Romeros then go and see them , great music - great vocals - great to dance to.

Lets hope we will see them back at the Rock ola again soon.

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THE JIVING JAMBOREE will return to Ealing Town Hall, London W5 on Saturday 10th December, for a very special one-off Christmas Party featuring a rare appearance by doowop favourites, THE METROTONES, who will be recording their new CD live on the night. This will be one of the biggest rockin nights in London this year, with top DJs JERRY CHATABOX and ROBIN'S BAKELITE BOOGIE keeping the floor busy between the band's sets. The night is being billed as CHRISTMAS TIME IN TINSELTOWN and the dress code is 'Dress To Impress', with a free bottle of champagne for the most glamorous Hollywood couple. There'll also be free mince pies, free Christmas crackers, a free cloakroom and free car parking. For an extra touch of period glamor, 1950s STYLE CIGARETTE GIRLS will be distributing vintage-style candy cigarettes, imported specially from America, and Gordon Ayres will be offering his specialist black & white portrait service. Full details are on the website at www.JivingJamboree.com, or call the ticket and information hotline on 020 8566 5226.

UK Rock is always seeking new distributors for the magazine around the country's rock'n'roll clubs. You could earn extra money for yourself or your club at no financial risk, since the magazine is supplied on a Sale or Return basis. call John Howard 01702 512512 ROCK'N'ROLL RECORD FAIR: Specialist record dealers Sun Kats will be combining a record fair and concert at the White Hart Bristol on Saturday November 5, when the Cordwood Draggers will be playing, and Paul Sandford and his team will be manning the stalls selling the rarities on vinyl CD video and all other formats known to man. Tel: 020 8599 8147 for more details

Joe Vincent (Treniers) R.I.P.

YISKLA ADIAKIA-HANNA a.k.a. JOE VINCENT - Yiskla Adiakia-Hanna, 63, passed away peacefully at his home in Hesperia, California on October 5, 2005. He was the husband of Lynn

NEWS

D. (Viero) Adiakia-Hanna for 16 years. Joe was a member of the trailblazing Rock n' Roll group called the Treniers, some of you out there may remember the group from the movie "The Girl Can't Help It", featuring Little Richard and Marilyn Monroe. <http://www.thetreniers.com/disc-film.html>. Joe was born February 17, 1942. As he was a man of diverse interests and talents, he touched the lives of many people. Joe was perhaps best known for his love and active participation in the music and entertainment industry. His career as a musician in his early years blossomed later in his life to his establishment of SSV Music Publishing and Production Co., where he was a driving legal advocate for the rights and recognition of original artists. Out of his avid interest in Egyptology, ancient peoples, cultures and religions, Yiskla established the Shem Su Hru Foundation, Inc. which upheld the beliefs and ways so dear to him. In lieu of flowers, donations may be mailed to the Shem Su Hru Foundation, Inc. at 20162 Hwy 18 Ste G-233, Apple Valley, CA. 92307

INFORMATION TAKEN FROM NEWS TO ME ROCKABILLY HALL OF FAME THE ORIGINAL ROCKIN' WEBSITE

CUXTON ROCK'N'ROLL ALL DAYER RAISED £ 2,700 FOR THE NICHOLLS CHILDREN. MARTIN AND LYN WOULD LIKE TO THANK everyone who attended, everyone who donated prizes for the auction and raffle and special thanks to Two Houndogs John who raised an extra £100 by wearing a pink tutu green and black stripe tights and hob nail boots, he also raised over £500 by dying his hair pink. Good On Ya John!!!!

The fight for support on the Acacia Halls Big Sandy night is over, **Jack Rabbit Slim** will support Big Sandy & His Fly Rite Boys on the 4th November this event is an exclusive gig and it'll cost you only £10 to be a part of it. 01322 407110 for details

Kwiff Kwipps (#1)

by the Sherriff



COMPETITION CORNER

rockin' lyrics

guess the song titles from the lyric snippets below

1. I chew my nails and I twiddle my thumbs
I'm really nervous but it sure is fun
2. the engineers used to see him sitting in the shade, Strumming to the
rhythm that the drivers made
3. The wind in the willow played
Love's sweet melody

email your answers to info@madratmag.co.uk

Last months answer: anagrams - Bill Haley and the Comets, Buddy holly and the Crickets
Danny and the Juniors, Marty Wilde and the Wildcats



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Band: The AlleyCats
Venue: The Woodgrange, Southend-on-Sea
Date: Sunday, 25th September



It's quite rare these days to find a Rockin' venue that offers free entertainment on a weekly basis. One such oasis is the Woodgrange near to the infamous Kursaal in Southend, Essex. A small pub frequented by locals, bikers, rockers and punters who enjoy a bit of live stuff. This Sunday the pub played host to the Alleycats, a six piece Rock 'n' Roll band who have been bubbling on the scene for many years. 8.45pm and the Mad Rat himself takes centre stage to introduce the Band in his inimitable style "right you lot, here they are, they've come a long way....the Alleycats". I heard a casual behind me say "ain't that the geyser from the front of that mag". At this rate Spike will be more famous than Christopher Biggins ! The Cats slickly kicked into they're opening number with a great fat sound from the bands' awesome EV PA system. Drew leads the Band with a raunchy and sometime comical vocal style which is not unpleasant and certainly breathes enthusiasm. Rockin through classics the band comprising of drums, electric bass, two guitars, keys and tenor sax, gave us Great Balls, Tutti Frutti and myriad other jukebox hits with accuracy and dynamics. Tempos are good and lead the now filling pub onto the dance area (bit in front of the band) to jive and stroll. I move my pint, spillage is expensive. I could only stay for the first set, but what I did see and hear I enjoyed. The Band are tight, smartly dressed, have a good stage presence and keep the show rolling by segueing numbers with little if no BS in between. If you like popular Rock n Roll played well, with a smidge of humour and bundles of enthusiasm this is the act for you and seemingly the act for the patrons of the Woodgrange on this night. The bikers loved it.

Watch out for the AlleyCats CD - "Alley Palais".

Basingstoke Rock'n'Roll Club

West Side Community Assc
 Paddock Road
 Southam Basingstoke Hants
 RG22 6QD
 Fri 23rd December
 The Sundowners

Supported by DJ Jimmy Slick
 Admission £7
 01256 462305



<http://groups.msn.com/Sugardollsdiner>



DEREK SINGLETON THE TRI SONICS

Your recent tour of the UK was suddenly cut short, the rumour was that your drummer did a disappearing act mid tour after a barney with someone. Are you able to tell me why, without getting anyone of us sued?

Well, you know like they say "if you can't say something nice about somebody..."

and Ralf and I go back a long way so I think I'll refrain. Things just came to a head I guess and he decided he couldn't carry on. Was he unhappy before you came to England?

Yes and no. I guess there'd been plenty of water under the bridge, but there were good times too. Mighty good. Was this the first time he had walked out or is it habitual!

There'd been a few near walkouts on his part, but we always seemed to sort things out in the end. So I was surprised to see him split like that. Probably regrets it now.

Now that we have that established, and everyone that came to see you and was disappointed knows the truth, will you come back when you have the new drummer in place and let everybody else see what the nifty fiftys audience is raving about.

You Betcha! And soon. Where do you get your inspiration for your music, do you draw on life or just make up a story. **It varies really. Sometimes all I have is a nice guitar riff and I'll take it from there. That's how the good rockin' ones usually start off. Just fun songs about gettin' wasted or whatever. Lately I've spent a little more time actually sitting down to write about whatever's on my mind and kind of build it from there.** Why are you based in Germany? Did you move there knowing you wanted a band and what sort of musicians you wanted or have you been there a long time and had known the musicians for a while.

Not a clue. I moved here kind of involuntarily after my folks divorced when I was 15 and I did have dreams of being the next Angus Young, but no real plans. Things just started to happen.

Did you play in the States and with whom?

Not unless you count playing the trombone in my high school marching band. A few jam

sessions here and there I guess, but I was already in Germany before I got serious about music.

How did the UK tour come about and who arranged the gigs for you.

Howard at our label Raucous Records arranged the gig with Restless at Nifty Fifties for us and helped us get in touch with a lot of folks. I also manage the band, so I pretty much took it from there.

Do you have good memories from the UK, had you been before and give us your opinion of the UK scene and the rockers you have met in the UK.

Are you joking? The UK's like home for me. I mean, there's the language, the mentality and folks drink like fish. As far as the rockin' scene is concerned, we all felt right at home too. People took good care of us and we're itchin' to come back.

Do you have any big festival bookings? anything your really looking forward to?

Well, with the summer just about over, we've only got one outdoor festival left to play, which is a charity gig for flood victims on 5.10. here in Germany. And then of course we'll be playing bars and dives all over Germany.

Will you be recording again anytime soon.

I've got a handful of new songs already written, so my guess is yeah, we should definitely be back in the studio sometime this winter.

How old is Rock'n'Roll Remedy, when was it released?

Recorded last winter. Released this summer.

When did you know that you really had a sound that would appeal to the masses in any country?

Well, of course there's the response from live audiences. We always test our material live before we lay anything down on tape, but you can never tell.

Only thing you can do is keep pushing, have a good time doing it, and hope folks like it.

Have you toured any other countries?

This year we've toured Greece, Austria, Holland and of course the UK.

Any ambitions? Concert on the moon that sort of thing!

The Moon? Close. We intend to tour my home state of Texas next May and of course we'd like to return to England to take care of some unfinished tour business. Beyond that? Japan would be very cool.

Can you give me a story, meaningful, poignant, funny..... something that means a lot to you and the band -

hmm. too many stories to tell really. Most've 'em involving booze or crazy mixed up people or both. People charging the stage wearing nothing but leather s&m masks, collapsing stages, waking up and not even remembering last night's gig. That sort of stuff.

What do you think of UK bands, have you seen many, heard many, if you were stranded in England and weren't gigging who would you go and see.

We were all very impressed with the bands we shared gigs with. Our label mates Cathouse Creepers and Drugstore Cowboys and of course Restless. All of 'em are formidable musicians. I've never managed to catch a Darryl Highham gig so I guess that'd be at the top of my agenda.

What do you think is your most requested track?

Mystery Lady gets a lot of attention as well as Move On Out. We also get a lot of requests for our version of I'm On Fire. Mystery Lady is played a lot over here, where you satisfied with the album, most musicians say there are bits we should've re recorded, so can you point out a bit that your not happy with?

Overall I'm really happy with it. A few folks have pointed out that we might've overdone the reverb on vocals just a tiny bit and there's some merit to that. But I still think it feels right. For the next album we'll probably go for a cleaner, more direct sound ala Sam Phillips. How did you end up with This bird will fly parts one and two? was that deliberate or spur of the moment,

Spur of the moment. Classic Rock'n'Roll. Part II was a studio jam. Never planned it. Funny thing is, I like it better than the original, Part I.

So whats next for the Trisonics?

Well for starters, we need a new cat on drums. That's numero uno. Luckily, Munich has a good crop of drummers to choose

from. Must be something in the water. So we're checking the best of'em out. After that, record, keep workin' our butts off, y'know.

Why did you decide to play Rock'n'Roll, Rockin' music, where does your sway to the 1950's come from, have you always been a rockin' cat? What musical influence would you say has helped shape the sound of the Trisonics.

It's the other way around. Rock'n'Roll chose me! It's a calling really. I remember listening to the radio as a five-year-old in the states in the seventies and it was all boring soft rock and pop. But every now and then they'd put on a rockin' record and it would completely blow me away. First time I heard Little Richard scream Lucille I was speechless, motionless for minutes. Whoa, that energy!

I'm into just about any form of what nowadays they call "americana". Y'know jazz, soul, r&b, gospel, country, and especially the blues. Don't care if the band's from Memphis or Manilla. As long as there's passion in it. Real people playing the crap out of real instruments, yes! So that's my taste and that's how I approach my own music. I'd rather play a two note guitar solo that grab's you by the throat than race up and down scales at two gazillion notes per minute. It's all about attitude I guess.

Linette Richardson

Ford Sports And Social Club
Aldborough Road South
Newbury Park
Ilford

Friday 4th November

JIVE STREET +

Legendary Sounds Vintage Rock'n'Roll
Discotheque

Adm £6.00

Information Big Mike 0208 550 4639

RATS GIG GUIDE

PLEASE CONTACT VENUE FOR CONFIRMATION.

Sun 30 Oct Beaconsfield RnR Club Beaconsfield Football Club, Slough Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks HP9 2SQ Rockin' Bandits Wildcat Pete 01494 672605

Sun 30 Oct Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Corvettes

Sun 30 Oct Erith RnR Club Erith WMC, Valley Road, Erith, Kent House Rockers Cruising Record Hop 07973 170056

Sun 30 Oct Ex-Servicemens Club - Northampton Sheep Street, Northampton, Northants Ghostriders (afternoon) AJ The Rockin' DJ 01604 493713

Sun 30 Oct Stevenage RnR Club Broadhall Suite, Stevenage Borough FC, Broadhall Way, Stevenage, Herts Meanstreak Strollin Steve 01763 241301

Sun 30 Oct The Lion - Huddersfield Almondbury, Huddersfield, W.Yorks Jimmie & the Jackdaw (3pm)

Sun 30 Oct The Woodgrange 62-64 Southchurch Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2RR Cat & the Hot Tin Trio plus DJ 01702 460133

Sun 30 Oct Twenty Flight Rock RnR Club - QAH Queens Arms Hotel, Kings Lynn, Norfolk record hop only The Professor 01760 722803

Mon 31 Oct Shepwell Green Social Club Bilston Lane, Willenhall, W.Midlands WV13 2QF Maria Vincent & the Millionaires 01902 602553

Wed 2 Nov 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

Wed 2 Nov The Deco Abington Square, Northampton, Northants NN1 4AE Bobbie Vee in concert 0870 888 899

Thu 3 Nov Hanworth RnR Club Royal Naval Club, Park Road, Hanworth, Middsx record hop only Wildcat Pete 01464 672605

Thu 3 Nov Charlies Bar Pier Hill Southend On Sea TBA 01268 457767

Fri 4 Nov Acacia Ballroom Glaxo Wellcome Club, High Street, Dartford, Kent Big Sandy & the Flyrite Boys (USA) + Jack Rabbit Slim Pete Bruce 01322 407110

Fri 4 Nov Bolton Tonge Ward RnR Club Tonge Ward Labour Club, Ainsworth Lane, Tonge Moor, Bolton, Lancs Darrel Higham & the Enforcers Jivin' Jim 01204 410483

Fri 4 Nov Daddy Kool's Brackley Town Football Club, Churchill Way, Brackley, Northants Night Shakers Pin-Up Record Hop 01295 276848

Fri 4 Nov Dale Tavern West Street, Worsborough Dale, Barnsley, Yorks Crazee Jay & the Party-timers Dave B 01226 205611

Fri 4 Nov Floral Pavilion Theatre Virginia Road, New Brighton, Wirral, Mersey CH45 2LH Bobbie Vee in concert 0151 639 4360

Fri 4 Nov McCoys Red Hot RnR - BAC Bexhill Athletic Club, Little Common Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, E.Sussex Belvadares Brian (the unknown) 01424 211996

Fri 4 Nov Railway Club - Nottingham Bestwood Road, Bulwell, Nottingham, Notts Boogie Children Paul 07919 120929

Fri 4 Nov Rockaboogie Jive Club Victoria Club, Victoria Road, Coulsdon, Surrey record hop only Rockin Robin/Jiveman Pete 020 8681 6583

Fri 4 Nov St Peters Hospice Charity Dance Pill Memorial Hall, Pill, Easton-in-Gordano, Bristol Colin Paul & the Persuaders plus DJ 01275 374965

Fri 4 Nov Starfighter RnR Club Village Hall, Wrenningham, near Norwich, Norfolk Skiprats Rockin Roland 01508 494735

Fri 4 Nov The Diamond Golden Diamond, Stoney Street, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts Topp Katz Gary C 01623 456617

Fri 4 Nov The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW11 Flying Saucers 020 7622 4001

Fri 4 Nov The Wheatsheaf - Braunston Braunston, near Daventry, Northants Dynamite

Fri 4 Nov Party Weekender, Warmwell Holiday Camp, Gregg G & his Crazy Gang

Sat 5 Nov Party Weekender, Warmwell Holiday Camp, Ocean's Seven

Sat 5 Nov Folkestone RnR Club - DHB Dover Harbour Board SC, White Cliffs Business Pk, Whitfield, Kent Kingcats plus DJ 01303 257786

Sat 5 Nov Halifax RnR Club Siddal Ex-Servicemen's Club, Halifax, W.Yorks HX3 9JS Rockin' The Joint (ticket only event) D. J. the DJ 01422 354876

Sat 5 Nov Horsham RnR Club Drill Hall, Denne Road, Horsham, W.Sussex Firebirds Wildcat Pete 07966 526260

Sat 5 Nov King Creole RnR Club Biggleswade

WMC, Church Street, Biggleswade, Beds Flames
Kev 07748 306989

Sat 5 Nov Luton RnR Club Roman Way, Tomlinson
Avenue, Luton, Beds Doomsday Rockers Tartan
Ted 01582 518211

Sat 5 Nov 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 5 Nov Pontins - Brean Sands Pontins Holiday
Centre, Brean Sands, Burnham-On-Sea, Somerset
Porky's Original Hot Rockin' 0870 601 0471

Sat 5 Nov Redditch Rowdies RnR Club Bridley
Moor & Batchley Social Club, Bridley Moor Road,
Redditch, Worcs Top Cats Blast From The Past
01527 595156

Sat 5 Nov Rock House Club Sports & Social Club,
William Street, Saxilby, Lincoln, Lincs Hicksville
Bombers/Riot Rockers Be Bop Boogie Boy 07780
833283

Sat 5 Nov Rockin' Round The Post Winning Post,
Chertsey Road (A316), Whitton, Twickenham, Mid-
dx Darrel Higham & the Enforcers Shaun 'Nappy'
Maxwell 020 8894 2772

Sat 5 Nov Royal British Legion - Amersham 91
Woodside Road, Amersham, Bucks Rock Of Ages
01494 872247

Sat 5 Nov Shoreham RnR Shoreham Centre, Pond
Road, Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex Linda Gail Lewis
+ support plus DJ 01903 243392

Sat 5 Nov Sounds That Swing RnR Club Shrub-
lands Community Centre, Hawthorn Road, Gor-
leston-on-Sea, Norfolk Big Boy Bloater & his
Southside Stompers plus DJ 01760 722803

Sat 5 Nov South Coast Rockabilly Club Avon
Social Club, 51 Avon Road, Bournemouth, Dorset
record hop only Kat Talk Record Hop 01202
589837

Sat 5 Nov St Marys SC - IOW Newport, IOW Blast
Off Rockin' Dave

Sat 5 Nov The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road,
Battersea, London SW11 Alleycats n/a 020 7622
4001

Sat 5 Nov The Stables Laine Dankworth Centre,
Stockwell Lane, Wavendon, Milton Keynes,
Northants MK17 8LU Bobbie Vee in concert 3pm &
8pm 01908 280800

Sat 5 Nov The Village Hop Stockcross Village Hall,
near Newbury, Berks record hop only Dave Bratch-
er 01488 658186

Sun 6 Nov BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare
Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Topp
Katz Slim Reed - Not Before '54 0117 976 8065

Sun 6 Nov Cambridge Corn Exchange Wheeler
Street, Cambridge, Cambs CB2 3QB Bobby
Vee/Chris Montez/Johnny Preston in concert
01223 357851

Sun 6 Nov Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West
Street, Carshalton, Surrey Doomsday Rockers
Sun 6 Nov Painthorpe House Country Club
Painthorpe Lane, Crigglestone, Wakefield, W.Yorks
record hop only (rock'n'roll) Brian/John 01977
613841

Sun 6 Nov Warmwell Holiday Park Warmell Holi-
day Camp, near Weymouth, Dorset Alleycats
(afternoon) 020 8593 1947

Mon 7 Nov Pavilion Theatre - Bournemouth
Westover Road, Bournemouth, Dorset BH1 2BU
Bobbie Vee in concert 01202 456456

Tue 8 Nov Cliffs Pavilion Station Road, Westcliff-
on-Sea, Essex SS0 7RA Bobbie Vee in concert
01702 351135

Tue 8 Nov Whitesidewalls RnR Club Ashford Com-
munity Centre, Woodthorpe Road, Ashford, Middx
record hop only (jive/bop/stroll) Whitesidewalls
RnR Revue 01784 248950

Wed 9 Nov Bishopthorpe Social Club Main Street,
Bishopthorpe, York, Yorks Dr Jive (charity evening)
plus DJ 07752 333094

Wed 9 Nov Fairfield Halls Park Lane, Croydon,
Surrey CR9 1DG Bobbie Vee in concert 020 8688
9291

Fri 11 Nov Athletic Club - Kettering Rockingham
Road, Kettering, Northants Crazee Jay & the Par-
tytimers Dion 01536 510779

Fri 11 Nov Bankfield Social Club Huddersfield
Road, Elland, W.Yorks record hop only DJ the DJ
01422 372580

Fri 11 Nov Birdwell Club Sheffield Road, Birdwell,
Nr Barnsley, S.Yorks S70 5UY Rip It Up Clive the
Jive 01226 742377

Fri 11 Nov Bolton Tonge Ward RnR Club Tonge
Ward Labour Club, Ainsworth Lane, Tonge Moor,
Bolton, Lancs Linda Gail Lewis Jivin' Jim 01204
410483

Fri 11 Nov Borough Green RnR Club Village Hall,
Borough Green, Kent Avengers Two Houndogs
01732 887033

Fri 11 Nov Cheshire Bopcats - DLC Denton Labour
Club, Ashton Road, Denton, Cheshire record hop
only Poor Boy Paul+3 guests 0161 438 0468

Fri 11 Nov Fantastic Fifties Jive Concerts Riddell
Hall, Deans Lane, Walton on the Hill, Tadworth,
Surrey Big Boy Bloater & his Southside Stompers
Max 07703 472824

Fri 11 Nov Fantastic Fifties Jive Concerts Riddell
Hall, Deans Lane, Walton on the Hill, Tadworth,
Surrey plus Betty Davila and the Blues Busters
double bill 07703 472824

Fri 11 Nov Grand Opera House Cumberland
Street, York, Yorks YO1 9SW Bobbie Vee in con-
cert 01904 671818

Fri 11 Nov Lea Hall RnR Lea Hall Colliery Miners
Welfare Centre, Sandy Lane, Rugeley, Staffs tba

JD's Record Hop 01902 561921

Fri 11 Nov Rock-Ola RnR Club The Paddocks, Long Road, Canvey Island, Essex Porky's Original Hot Rockin' Dinger 01268 515696

Fri 11 Nov South Wales RnR Club British Legion Club, Penlline Road, Whitchurch, Cardiff, S.Wales Meanstreak Crazee Dave 029 2061 9271

Fri 11 Nov Taunton RnR Club North Petherton RFC, Beggars Brook, North Petherton, Somerset record hop only Peter Bryant 01823 332180

Fri 11 Nov The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW11 Corsairs n/a 020 7622 4001

Sat 12 Nov Acacia Ballroom Glaxo Wellcome Club, High Street, Dartford, Kent Lucas & the Dynamos/Moonshiners Pete Bruce 01322 407110

Sat 12 Nov Banbury RnR Club General Foods S & S Club, Spiceball Park, Banbury, Oxon Darrel Higham & the Enforcers Mickthe Mike 01295 278127

Sat 12 Nov Boot & Shoe North Wingfield Road, Grassmoor, Chesterfield, Derbys Jump & Jive 01246 850251

Sat 12 Nov Brighton Rumble The Engine Rooms, Preston Street, Brighton, Sussex Dave Collins/LuckyPhil 07961 390084

Sat 12 Nov Bristol Jive Club - SH Somerset Hall, High Street, Portishead, Bristol Good Rockin' Tonite Rockin' John 0117 938 0483

Sat 12 Nov Charlies Bar 2b Pier Hill, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2AJ Crazy Cavan & the Rhythm Rockers/Rat Pack Radar Record Hop 01268 457767

Sat 12 Nov Court Inn Witney, Oxon Sugar Creek Trio

Sat 12 Nov Cradley RnR Club Cradley Labour Club (Wilson Hall), Colley Gate, Cradley, Halesowen, W.Midlands B63 2BU Skyrockers 0121 427 9113

Sat 12 Nov Crescent WMC 8 The Crescent (rear of the Odeon), York, N.Yorks Wildkatz plus DJ 01904 690311

Sat 12 Nov Embassy Theatre Grand Parade, Skegness, Lincs PE25 2UG Bobbie Vee in concert 01754 768333

Sat 12 Nov Foresters Club Forest Park Caravan Site, Northrepps Road, Northrepps, Cromer, Norfolk Alleycats 01263 515600

Sat 12 Nov Gloucester RnR Club YMCA, Sebert Street, Kinsholm, Gloucs Doomsday Rockers Glawstern Rocker 01242 232188

Sat 12 Nov Guildford Hot 50's RnR Club Fairlands Hall, Fairlands Avenue, Guildford, Surrey John Lewis Rock'n'Roll Trio Jimmy Slick 01483 772567

Sat 12 Nov Hardy Spicers RnR Club Hardy Spicers Club, Edgerton Road, Erdington, Bham Blast Off plus DJ 01827 250303

Sat 12 Nov Jive Inn RnR Club Bridgewater Sport & Social Club, Bath Road, Bridgewater, Somerset Meanstreak Tel'Star 01823 259193

Sat 12 Nov Jukebox RnR Club Spring Lodge Centre, Powers Hall End, Witham, Essex Paul Ansell's No 9 Cat Talk Lee 01245 260506

Sat 12 Nov Melksham RnR Club Assembly Hall, Market Place, Melksham, Wilts Rudy la Crioux & the All Stars Cockney Rebel 01225 706463

Sat 12 Nov Nifty Fifties RnR Club - LLC Lowton Labour Club, 214 Newtin Road, Lowton, Cheshire Blue Flames plus DJ 01942 724166

Sat 12 Nov Northampton RnR Club Spencer WMC, Tennyson Close, Dallington, Northampton, Northants NN5 7HL Wanderers AJ The Rockin' DJ 01604 713851

Sat 12 Nov Paris Rock Club - WAC Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road, London SE1 record hop only Captain Caveman 07944 775556

Sat 12 Nov Path Tavern Mid Street, Kirkcaldy, Fife Buick 55s plus DJ

Sat 12 Nov Pavilion Gardens St Johns Road, Buxton, Derbys Hollydayz/ Ian Morley/Haleys Bulldog 01298 70194

Sat 12 Nov Plinston Live Plinston Hall, The Broadway, Letchworth, Herts Bus Stop Boys/The Opus 17 Swing Band (40s) Strollin Steve 01763 241301

Sat 12 Nov Preston RnR Club Deafway Centre, Brockholes Brow, Preston, Lancs Swing Commanders Cry Baby 01253 852594

Sat 12 Nov Quorn Jump Jive & Swing Village Hall, Leicester Road, Quorn, Nr Loughborough, Leics record hop only (jump/jive & swing) Steve 01455 843292

Sat 12 Nov Ritz Ballroom 73 Bradford Road, Brighouse, W.Yorks Al Kilvo & the Aces Bradford Duce 01274 392380

Sat 12 Nov Riverside RnR Club Moorlands Club, Newark Road, Lincoln, Lincs Hi Voltage/Infernos Skinny Jim 01522 750883

Sat 12 Nov The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW11 Johnny & the Midnight Trio n/a 020 7622 4001

Sat 12 Nov White Lyon Perry Hill, Worpleston, near Guildford, Surrey GU3 3RE 80 Cube no details 01483 232417

Sun 13 Nov Barnsley RnR Team - PCC Paignthorpe Country Club, Paignthorpe Lane, Griggstone, Wakefield, S.Yorks record hop only Brian and John 01977 613841

Sun 13 Nov BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Jive Aces Rockin' John 0117 976 8065

Sun 13 Nov British Railway RnR Club Broad Green, Wellingborough, Northants Linda Gail Lewis/Razzle Dazzle/Doomsday Rockers/ Strollin Steve/Houndog Jim 07748 306989

Sun 13 Nov *British Railway RnR Club Broad Green, Wellingborough, Northants Rockin' The Joint/Ray Thompsons A-tomic Trio all dayer 07748 306989*

Sun 13 Nov *Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Ghostriders Sun 13 Nov Erith RnR Club Erith WMC, Valley Road, Erith, Kent Rat Pack Cruising Record Hop 07973 170056*

Sun 13 Nov *Ex-Servicemens Club - Northampton Sheep Street, Northampton, Northants record hop only (afternoon) JukeBoxQueen/AJ The Rockin' DJ 01604 493713*

Sun 13 Nov *The County Huddersfield, W.Yorks Jimmie & the Jackdawz (afternoon) Sun 13 Nov The Woodgrange 62-64 Southchurch Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2RR Ocean's Seven 01702 460133*

Sun 13 Nov *Wulfrun Centre North Street, Wolverhampton, W.Midlands WV1 1RQ Bobbie Vee in concert 01902 552121*

Mon 14 Nov *Spa Pavilion Undercliff Road West, Felixstowe, Suffolk IP11 2DX Bobbie Vee in concert 0870 1451151*

Tue 15 Nov *Huntingdon Hall Crowngate, Worcester, Worcs WR1 3LD Bobbie Vee in concert 01905 611427*

Tue 15 Nov *Parklands Ballroom (ex ICI/Dupont SC), Wheatley Hall Road, Doncaster, S.Yorks Jump & Jive Dave B 01302 884707*

Thu 17 Nov *Hanworth RnR Club Royal Naval Club, Park Road, Hanworth, Middsx Top Cats Wildcat Pete 01464 672605*

Thu 17 Nov *Princes Hall Princes Way, Aldershot, Hants GU11 1NX Bobbie Vee in concert 01252 640622*

Fri 18 Nov *3R's RnR Club Reading Civil Service Club, James Lane, Burghfield, near Reading, Berks Revolutionaires plus DJ*

Fri 18 Nov *Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 record hop only (rockers & classic bike night) Big Beat Kris 020 8961 1000*

Fri 18 Nov *Badderley Green WMC 922-924 Leek New Road, Badderley Green, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs Gregg G & his Crazy Gang Mr Rusty's Roadshow 01782 537292*

Fri 18 Nov *Bolton Tonge Ward RnR Club Tonge Ward Labour Club, Ainsworth Lane, Tonge Moor, Bolton, Lancs Rockin' The Joint Jivin' Jim 01204 410483*

Fri 18 Nov *Chester Arms Chester Street, off Iffley Road, Oxford, Oxon Sugar Creek Trio*

Fri 18 Nov *Grimsby Auditorium Cromwell Road, Grimsby, Humber Bobbie Vee in concert 0870 0602331*

Fri 18 Nov *Leabrooks Club Greenhill Lane,*

Leabrooks, Nr Alfreton, Derbys Dynamite Mr Jive 01773 833035

Fri 18 Nov *Nifty Fifties RnR Club - LLC Lowton Labour Club, 214 Newtin Road, Lowton, Cheshire Starcats plus DJ 01942 724166*

Fri 18 Nov *Rockaboogie Jive Club Victoria Club, Victoria Road, Coulsdon, Surrey record hop only Rockin Robin/Jiveman Pete 020 8681 6583*

Fri 18 Nov *Rock'n Red Hot Club - GH Grand Hotel, Exmouth, Devon Heartbeats 07879 228451 Fri 18 Nov Rosecroft Club Chelsfield Road, Orpington, Kent Hicksville Bombers Pete Bruce 01322 407110*

Fri 18 Nov *Tara Suite The Solstice, Northminster Road, Peterborough, Cambs Lee Rocker & his band/Hounddogs no details 0115 917 6530*

Fri 18 Nov *The Hop Pole Bromsgrove, Worcs Ritz Bros*

Fri 18 Nov *The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW11 Rhythm Cats 020 7622 4001*

Fri 18 Nov *Twenty Flight Rock RnR Club - PBC Pentney Bowls Club, Narborough, near Swaffham, Norfolk Red Hot Rockin' The Professor 01760 722803*

Sat 19 Nov *Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 Tritons (Johnny Kidd tribute night) Big Beat Kris 020 8961 1000*

Sat 19 Nov *Aikmans Bistro Bell Street, St Andrews, Fife Accelerators*

Sat 19 Nov *Broadway Theatre Peterborough, Cambs Bobbie Vee in concert 01733 316100*

Sat 19 Nov *Chicken Shack Brogborough Club, Bedford Road, Brogborough, near Milton Keynes, Beds Top Cats Rollin Rock Record Hop 07960 991236*

Sat 19 Nov *Clitheroe RnR Club Swan & Royal Hotel, Clitheroe, Lancs Revolutionaires Revive 45 01200 443480*

Sat 19 Nov *Coronation Hall Burrowbridge, Somerset TA7 ORJ record hop only Dave's 55 Jive 01823 698618*

Sat 19 Nov *Dance Jive Memorial Hall, Bodhyfrd (off Chester Street), Wrexham, N.Wales tba plus jive DJ 07812 369702*

Sat 19 Nov *Folkestone RnR Club - CLF Village Hall, Capel Le Ferne, Folkestone, Kent Mark Keeleys Good Rockin' Tonight plus DJ 01303 257786*

Sat 19 Nov *Gosport RnR Bury Road, Gosport, near Portsmouth, Hants Avengers Wild Wolfie Smith 023 924 28732*

Sat 19 Nov *Haig Club 10 Cromer Road, Mundesley, Norfolk Porky's Original Hot Rockin' 01692 500863*

Sat 19 Nov *Jive Party - Rivoli Rivoli Ballroom, 350 Brockley Road, Crofton Park, London SE2 band*

tbc Graham/Ken 020 8946 2664

Sat 19 Nov The Sundowners Virginia Creepers Club, Water Rats, Gray's Inn Rd, London WC1 0207 436 7211 Marilyn - 07956 295842

Sat 19 Nov Kings Langley Services Club 3 Hempstead Road, Kings Langley, Herts Rock Of Ages 01923 262982

Sat 19 Nov Miners Welfare Club - Staveley Market Street, Staveley, Chesterfield, Derbys Will Lambert & Memphis Dino's GoodRockin' Tonite/Edsel 01246 281522

Sat 19 Nov Newmarket RnR Club Exning Road WMC, Newmarket, Suffolk Jets Rockin Lee's Record Machine 01638 750724

Sat 19 Nov 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 19 Nov Pellon Social Club Pellon Lane, Halifax, W.Yorks HX2 0HF Cadillacs D. J. the DJ 01422 354876

Sat 19 Nov Rockin' At The Legion British Legion, 399 High Road, Tottenham, London N17 5QX Flying Saucers Dixie Sounds 07759 874167

Sat 19 Nov Rock'n Red Hot Club - GH Grand Hotel, Exmouth, Devon Rockin' The Joint 07879 228451

Sat 19 Nov St Georges Club Pitt Street, Barnsley, Yorks record hop only Dave B 01226 282571

Sat 19 Nov St Marys SC - IOW Newport, IOW Persuaders Rockin' Dave

Sat 19 Nov The Highgate Oakes, Huddersfield, W.Yorks Jimmie & the Jackdawz (afternoon)

Sat 19 Nov The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW11 Cat & the Hot Tin Trio n/a 020 7622 4001

Sat 19 Nov Thorngate Halls Bury Road, Gosport, near Portsmouth, Hants Avengers/Pontiacs Wild Wolfie Smith 023 9242 8732

Sat 19 Nov Walton Comrades Club Walton-on-Thames, Surrey B17s

Sat 19 Nov War Memorial Club High Street, Esher, Surrey Gregg G & his Crazy Gang

Sat 19 Nov Wax Shack - Kensington The Fox, 3 North End Crescent, West Kensington, London W14 8TG Sugar Creek Trio/Jack Rabbit Slim 07984 034468

Sat 19 Nov Woodfield Club Woodfield Road, Woodfield, Doncaster, S.Yorks tba Fred the Ted/Crock/Didge 07808 828551

Sun 20 Nov BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Jive Street Rockin' John 0117 976 8065

Sun 20 Nov Beaconsfield RnR Club Beaconsfield Football Club, Slough Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks HP9 2SQ Persuaders Wildcat Pete 01494 672605

Sun 20 Nov Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club

West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Meanstreak
Sun 20 Nov Rock'n Red Hot Club - GH Grand Hotel, Exmouth, Devon Lennerockers (Germany)/John De Bara 07879 228451

Sun 20 Nov The Annexe Mapperley Plains Social Club, Plains Road, Mapperley, Nottingham, Notts record hop only (40s&50s r'n'r/jive/r&b/stroll) Spinning Rock Boogie 0115 878 4935

Sun 20 Nov The Woodgrange 62-64 Southchurch Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2RR Red Rockets plus DJ 01702 460133

Sun 20 Nov Theatre Royal - Windsor Thames Street, Windsor, Berks Bobbie Vee in concert 3pm & 8pm 01753 853888

Mon 21 Nov Queens Hotel South Promenade, Blackpool, Lancs Wildkats Northwest/Fortt Bros/Mike Rossi Del Boy Jacobs 01253 695418

Mon 21 Nov The Orchard Dartford, Kent Bobbie Vee in concert 01322 220000

Wed 23 Nov Congress Theatre Eastbourne, Sussex Bobbie Vee in concert 01323 412000

Thu 24 Nov Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 record hop only (Harley night) Fly 020 8961 1000

Thu 24 Nov Beck Theatre Hayes, Midds Bobbie Vee in concert 020 8561 8371

Fri 25 Nov Basingstoke RnR Club Westside Community Association, Paddock Road, South Ham, Basingstoke, Hants RG22 6QB tba Jimmy Slick 01256 462305

Fri 25 Nov Birdwell Club Sheffield Road, Birdwell, Nr Barnsley, S.Yorks S70 5UY Blast Off Clive the Jive 01226 742377

Fri 25 Nov Blue Moon RnR Club New Road, North Walsham, Norfolk Small Town Giants 01692 500863

Fri 25 Nov Bolton Tonge Ward RnR Club Tonge Ward Labour Club, Ainsworth Lane, Tonge Moor, Bolton, Lancs Rip It Up Jivin' Jim 01204 410483

Fri 25 Nov Borough Green RnR Club Village Hall, Borough Green, Kent Gregg G & his Crazy Gang Two Houndogs 01732 887033

Fri 25 Nov British Railway RnR Club Broad Green, Wellingborough, Northants Flying Saucers Strollin Steve 07748 306989

Fri 25 Nov Brooklands Hotel & Restaurant Barnsley Road, Dodworth, Barnsley, S.Yorks Rock Back The Clock Brian/John 01977 613841

Fri 25 Nov Deal Welfare Club Cowdray Square, off Mill Hill, Deal, Kent CT14 9EU Alleycats plus Elvis tribute

Fri 25 Nov Elvis Aberdeen Scottish Horse Reg Club, Crown Terrace, Aberdeen, Scotland record hop only

Fri 25 Nov Elvis Touch Queen's Club, 46 Queen Street, Glasgow, Scotland record hop only

Fri 25 Nov McCoys Red Hot RnR - BAC Bexhill

Athletic Club, Little Common Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, E.Sussex Doomsday Rockers Brian (the unknown) 01424 211996
 Fri 25 Nov Pink & Black RnR Club Cadbury Heath Social Club, Warmley, Gloucs Jive Street Rockin' Frank 07990 556165
 Fri 25 Nov Rhodes Centre Bishops Stortford, Essex Bobbie Vee in concert 01279 651746
 Fri 25 Nov Rock-Ola RnR Club The Paddocks, Long Road, Canvey Island, Essex Jive Aces The Pirate 01268 515696
 Fri 25 Nov The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW11 Rockin' The Joint 020 7622 4001
 Fri 25 Nov The Peppermill Westerborg Square, Daventry, Northants Dynamite
 Sat 26 Nov Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 record hop only (blacktop boogie cruise night) Hellzapoppin' Tim 020 8961 1000
 Sat 26 Nov Carter Lane WMC 90 Carter Lane, Shirebrook, Mansfield, Notts NG20 8PF Jump & Jive 01623 742381
 Sat 26 Nov Crondall RnR Club The Village Hall, Crondall, near Farnham, Surrey GU10 5QG Sky-rockers Oh Boy Record Hop 07903 145018
 Sat 26 Nov Cuxton RnR Club Village Hall, Norman Road, West Malling, Kent Flying Saucers Mick The Pirate 01732 780076
 Sat 26 Nov Hamble RnR Club Aerostructure Club, Kings Avenue, Hamble-Le-Rice, Southampton, Hants Jive Street Wild Wolfie Smith 023 9264 0208
 Sat 26 Nov Holiday Rock RnR Club Royal British Legion, Heath and Reach, near Leighton Buzzard, Beds Meanstreak Tartan Ted 01525 372994
 Sat 26 Nov It's Only Rock'n'Roll Sale Masonic Lodge, Manchester, Cheshire Jets Big Jim Killey 0161 929 0413
 Sat 26 Nov Junction 27 RnR Annesley Social Club, Derby Road, Annesley (A611), Notts Rapids Dynamite Dave 0115 953 4918
 Sat 26 Nov King Creole RnR Club Biggleswade WMC, Church Street, Biggleswade, Beds Johnny Red Kev 07748 306989
 Sat 26 Nov Kingsway 330 330 Kingsway, Brighton & Hove, Sussex BN3 4LW Sundowners Stomper 07745 453765
 Sat 26 Nov Metro Rockabilly Club 19/23 Oxford Street, London W1 Mean Devils Cosmic Keith 020 8925 3050
 Sat 26 Nov Olympia Theatre Liverpool, Mersey Bobbie Vee in concert 0151 263 6633
 Sat 26 Nov Pit Stop RnR Club Coventry Colliery S & S Club, Bennett Road, North Kersley, Coventry, W.Midlands Avengers Woody 024 7633 6533
 Sat 26 Nov Ritz Ballroom 73 Bradford Road, Brig-

house, W.Yorks Mark Keeleys Good Rockin' Tonight Bradford Dude 01274 392380
 Sat 26 Nov The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW11 Flames 020 7622 4001
 Sat 26 Nov The Stix Greetham Community Centre, Great Lane, Greetham, Rutland Elvis tribute party - fancy dress Vegas Stu 01572 759877
 Sat 26 Nov Welfare Social Club West End Lane, Rossington, Doncaster, S.Yorks Doomsday Rockers Ol' Dell Boy 01302 863125
 Sat 26 Nov Whitenash Sports & Social Club Leamington Spa, Warks Dynamite
 Sat 26 Nov Winding Wheel Hollywell Street, Chesterfield, Derbys Rockin' Bandits Moggie 01246 230576
 Sat 26 Nov York 2000 RnR Club York Health Services Club, White Cross Road, Haxby Road, York, N.Yorks Darrel Higham & the Enforcers Sound-sright 01904 639145
 Sun 27 Nov BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Linda Gail Lewis Rockin' John 0117 976 8065
 Sun 27 Nov Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Moonshiners
 Sun 27 Nov Erith RnR Club Erith WMC, Valley Road, Erith, Kent Planet Boppers Cruising Record Hop 07973 170056
 Sun 27 Nov Ex-Servicemens Club - Northampton Sheep Street, Northampton, Northants Rudy la Crioux & the All Stars (afternoon) Tartan Ted 01604 493713
 Sun 27 Nov North Wales Theatre Llandudno, Wales Bobbie Vee in concert 01492 872000
 Sun 27 Nov Stafford RnR Club White Eagle Polish Club, Riverway, Stafford, Staffs Jets Jukebox Johnny 01785 240140
 Sun 27 Nov Stevenage RnR Club Broadhall Suite, Stevenage Borough FC, Broadhall Way, Stevenage, Herts Rockin' The Joint Strollin Steve 01763 241301
 Sun 27 Nov Twenty Flight Rock RnR Club - QAH Queens Arms Hotel, Kings Lynn, Norfolk record hop only The Professor 01760 722803
 Mon 28 Nov Lees Cliff Hall Folkestone, Kent Bobbie Vee in concert 01303 253193

PLEASE NOTE
 deadline for gig listings is the
 18th of the month
 please mail to
 mail@madratmag.co.uk
 thanks.

BUDDY HOLLY

Buddy Holly, was, in my humble and probably not very important opinion, a huge influence on music, in general and indeed on other levels as well.

I believe that Buddy was so important that without him, popular music may well have taken a different direction to the one that it did.

If we were to take the important elements of what rock n' roll music was, and create a monster of a human, then I would consider Chuck Berry for his lyrics, Elvis for his charisma and good looks and Buddy Holly for his music.

From inauspicious beginnings, along with Bob Montgomery, as the Buddy and Bob duo, Holly approached the mighty Decca Corporation and was invited up to Nashville to record a session. The whole thing was a disaster. Not only did the studio musicians consider Buddy to be a hick from the sticks, but Holly was of the opinion that they didn't understand what he was trying to do anyway! Ironically, one of the best ever raw rockabilly songs of all time, "Blue days, Black nights" emerged from the session and I feel that it's one of the most underrated songs of all time.

As if to add insult to Decca's injury, Buddy and the Crickets ended up signing with Coral records, which was one of Decca's subsidiary companies anyway!!

Record companies have never really changed in their handling of artists. They are, at the

end of the day, trying to make as much money as possible. The job of the A & R (Artist and Repertoire) men was to

find raw talent and nurture it with a view to making some hit songs.

The raw talent of Buddy Holly, both with and without the Crickets can be heard on such recordings as "Reddy Teddy", "Down the line" and his version of "Good rockin' tonight". However, Buddy was lucky in that he had Nor-



man Petty to help guide the sound that he wanted, and whilst Petty's later influence on Holly's material has been argued to be detrimental, it is without doubt fortuitous that Petty allowed Holly and the crickets to explore and experiment at their leisure in Clovis.

Because Holly and the band had the luxury of time at Petty's studio in Clovis, they were able to 'play' with the music and try ideas out....unlike many other

artists at the time. Without doubt, Gene Vincent at Capitol would have been under some pressure to get his material played and recorded...studio time was not cheap after all. But Buddy and the Crickets were under no such pressure. Jerry Allison was renowned for trying new things....hence the knee slapping on "Everyday" and the use of a cardboard carton rather than a drum on "Peggy Sue". But, Buddy too was experimenting. Not only was his guitar technique unique....he only played upstrokes on the Strat, but so was the way he wrote chords sequences.

At some point in his early life, Buddy was exposed to classical music from composers such as Mozart, Brahms and Tchaikovsky. It is documented that Buddy studied the way in

which some of their work was constructed and directly lifted some of the chord changes from them, adapting them for his own purposes!! Not only that, but with the freedom of the studio at Clovis, Buddy experimented with overdubbing, something that no one else was doing at the time.

Later in his life, after the move to New York, Buddy continued to experiment with overdubbing techniques, in his apartment. He used two reel-to-reel tapes to produce a primitive overdubbing system and some of the output can be heard on the tracks he left on the recorders. The first thing that strikes the listener is the remarkable quality of the music. Almost everyone has tried to record something at home, but rarely achieves the studio quality that Holly managed. The impact is heightened when one realises that there are several 'layers' of music on the recordings...a result of his experimentation.

Of course, Holly was still contracted to Coral, and was required to produce some output. Tracks such as "It doesn't matter anymore" and "Early in the morning", show that he was still prepared to experiment and also the direct influence of the classical composers. The orchestration is extensive.

Holly's death was premature and shocking. The music world reeled at the news of his death, most people realised that the world had lost an immense talent. However, rather than ignoring him, the output of Holly recordings has been bettered only by RCA's handling of Elvis. How many reworked and revamped "Greatest hits" albums have you seen of Buddy Holly's? Of course until John Beecher's fantastic box set, "The complete Buddy Holly", emerged, most of us were listening to Buddy Holly playing behind The Fireballs. Norman Petty had remixed most of the tracks to the extent that Holly's own guitar playing was so far back in the mix, that it might as well have not been there at all!

Holly's influence continued long after he'd gone, his songs being recorded by artists as diverse as Skeeter Davis, Linda Ronstadt and

Paul McCartney. The latter was so taken by Buddy's music that he bought the copyright to everything, which he holds to this day. There is an argument amongst rock n' roll fans that Buddy's music was far more pop than rock, and that argument has some credence. But, given that Holly was essentially a solo artist at the end of his career, there was little else that Coral could have done with him. Not only that, but the heady years of 1956-57, when rock n' roll at it's meanest and most exciting, had given way to a softer more commercial sound. Of course Buddy could have kept belting out raw and raucous songs, but as I have explained, he was as much about experimentation and diversity as he was rock n' roll. Buddy Holly for me, stands as the most influential of all the rock n' rollers. The way he wrote and broke down barriers with his music was influential and traces of that influence are still evident today. Although the word is used far too liberally, I would suggest that if nothing else, Buddy Holly deserves the title of Genius!

Wildkat Mike



Band: Jack Rabbit Slim
Name: Sin-u-endo
Label: Western Star
Genre: Rockabilly

The Touch – Cherry Pie – Day & A Dollar Late – Power Of My Love – Shake A Billy Baby – Gypsy Curse – Bad Girls – Doin' All Right – Voodoo Slide – Gas Tanks And Bellies – Long Time Dead – Hard Luck Story – Whistle Bait – Tonight –



Guest Artistes Steve Holbrook – Andy Stradling – Alan Wilson

What The F*** Is This Place? It's the place where all good rockabilly goes to die! The band, consisting of Paul Sanders (Drums), Nick Linton Smith (Bass), Bob Butfoy (rhythm & Vocals) and Tom Hayes (Lead), have created a trademark driving rhythm, with Paul and Nick pounding out an irresistible beat, over the top of which Bob and Tom compete with searing guitar licks and enthusiastic vocals. Basically if you ain't tapping your toes to this, I would consult a doctor, because there is a danger that you are dead! The CD kicks off with an up tempo number called "The Touch", which is a great opener ...and indeed the tracks that follow are equally good rockabilly fodder.... but it's track 4 that knocked me out. "The power of your love", is complimented by an awesome bit of harmonica playing (Some bloke from Bristol, Tom told me!)....a terrific driving rock track...I've played it over and over!

The next highlight for me though was "Long time dead", complete with Paul Birlison/rock n'roll trio sound-alike guitar from Tom....such a difficult technique that he had to do it in bits, and had his wrist in a bandage!! Excellent. Other tracks that floated my boat...were "Bad Girls", "Doin'Alright", "Tonight" and "Cherry Pie". Like I said, this is red hot off the presses, and doesn't have official packaging just yet...but watch out for this CD, because it will blow you away! Who said we Brits can't produce great rockabilly? Review stolen from Crackerjack Magazine due to lack of time and Linette Gushing profusely at the mere mention of Jack Rabbit Slim ! On Friday 4th November Jack Rabbit Slim will support Big Sandy And The Fly Rite Boys at Acacia Halls DartfordOn Friday 18th November Bob Butfoy will be live on radio Caroline's Good Rockin' Tonight with Dell Richardson 6pm til 9pm.

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the

WOODGRANGE

seaside rock n roll

FREE

Oct 30th Cat & The Hot Tin Trio

Nov 6th The Sundowners

Nov 13th Ocean's 7

Nov 20th The Red Rockets

Nov 27th Fever

Dec 4th The Planet Boppers

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RESIDENT DJ

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RADIO ROUNDUP

So Far I haven't found or heard of any other satellite station that plays our type of Rockin' music for this side of the pond though there may be

Hello again,

This month I'll inform you of Satellite and some Internet Radio programs that you may wish to tune into.

Firstly Satellite. In Europe the main transponders are on Astra and Worldspace which also serves the Northern African Continent but will cover other global areas in future years as development progresses.

The Main Contender for Rock n Roll is Radio Caroline which can also be found on the Internet.

Dell Richardson's "Good Rockin' tonight" can be heard currently between 6pm - 9pm UK time every Friday, this may change to a weekday evening in the New year. Content is a varied mix of Rock n Roll, Doo-Wop, Rockabilly Jump-Blues and other similar Genre music. With Dell's show being three hours long, there's time for a varied selection of tracks and a guest, artist or band most weeks that are interviewed live at their Maidstone studio's.

You can phone in your request, Fax or e-mail your answers and enter the weekly competition for which there can be good prizes.

As I informed you last Month, Dell's shows also have to be paid for. He does this through membership of the "Good Rocking Tonight" Radio Club where membership is £25 per year for which you get a discount off the Fury Lable catalogue and a newsletter. This also helps keep the program on air along with sponsorship from various members, Bands, Artists and interested people.

You can find more details elsewhere in this and other publications.

others in America or Australasia that you may know of.

The Internet, on the other hand, has plenty to offer, varying from Rockabilly, Doo-Wop, Jump-Blues and Rock n Roll, the European ones being English, French and Spanish.

Boppin' Brian's Website for Radio rampage
<http://www.teddyboycollared.com>

Dell richardson's GRT Website
<http://www.caroline.rockers.co.uk>

French Station
<http://rockandrollrevue.org>

Doo Wop Station
<http://www.doowopdreams.com/>

More Doo Wop
<http://www.doowopcafe.net:8000>

My program of Rockin' Roll Flavours
www.northernbroadcasting.co.uk

Geoff Barker on BBC Radio Wiltshire Saturday's
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/england/realmedia/live/loc/alradio/wiltshire.ram>

Rockabilly Radio 24/7 Rockin' music on Live 365
www.rockabillyradio.net

You can find them yourself and try them in the meantime.

More about the US Stations next month.

Dave B



DJ TOP 10

Strollin' Steve's Sun Top 10 - October 2005

Hillbilly

1. The Prisoner's Song - Sonny Burgess
2. Fiddle Bop - Rhythm Rockers
3. Tell Me Who - Warren Smith
4. Bad Girl - Slim Shodes
5. Slow Down - Jack Earls
6. Big River - Johnny Cash
7. So Long, I'm Gone - Warren Smith
8. Do What I Do - The Slim Rhodes Band featuring Sandy Brookes
9. I'm Left You're Right, She's Gone - Elvis Presley
10. Gonna Dance All Night - Hardrock Gunter

Rockabilly

1. Got Love If You Want It - Warren Smith
2. Red Hot (alt.) - Billy Lee Riley
3. Put Your Cat Clothes On - Carl Perkins
4. Miss Froggie - Warren Smith
5. Pearly Lee - Billy Riley
6. Mean Little Mama - Roy Orbison
7. Come On Little Mama - Ray Harris
8. I Vibrate - Mack Self
9. Sweet Sweet Girl - Warren Smith
10. Get Rhythm - Johnny Cash

Rock and Roll

1. Ain't Gonna Do It (alt.) - Sonny Burgess
2. Right Behind You Baby - Ray Smith
3. Flying Saucers Rock and Roll - Billy Riley
4. All Mama's Children - Carl Perkins
5. Pumpin' Piano Rock - Jerry Lee Lewis
6. I Feel Like Rockin' - Kenny Parchman
7. Find My Baby For Me - Sonny Burgess
8. Ubangi Stomp - Warren Smith
9. Boppin' The Blues - Carl Perkins
10. Rock 'n' Roll Ruby - Warren Smith

Blues

1. Feelin' Good - Little Junior's Blue Flames
2. The Boogie Disease - Doctor Ross
3. That's All Right - Elvis Presley
4. Bear Cat - Rufus Thomas Junior
5. We All Gotta Go Sometime - Joe Hill Louis
6. Mystery Train - Little Junior's Blue Flames
7. The Woodchuck - Billy 'The Kid' Emerson
8. Chicago Breakdown - Doctor Ross
9. Bourbon Street Jump - Raymond Hill
10. Jukebox Boogie - Doctor Ross

Strollin' Steve Ashdown

01763 241301

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www.strollinsteve.co.uk



Zoltans Receive Praise

This 7-piece jump R & B band from Southend is new to me, but some of you southerners might know them. If you don't, try and see them, because you're missing a treat.

Louis Jordan, Big Joe Turner, Wynonie Harris... you'll already be thinking 'King Pleasure and the Biscuits'. Comparisons are inevitable but facile. Their style is different in every way save one: they're as hot as tamales.



Curiously, the leader/vocalist doesn't seem to play an instrument; those who do comprise saxes, rhythm section, keyboards, and a young, pert, blonde with dancing eyes and the toughest push-up bra since Buffy, who plays trumpet with great panache. They played inside, but faced out, so we could all see from the outside tables, and their sound had been very well engineered by someone; I could hear every note of every instrument.

"Caldonia" was the inevitable opener, followed by the horn-rich "Somebody Changed The Lock On My Door." Great piano led boogie "Rollin' Log", then "Saturday Night Fish Fry". 'Buffy' showed she could play as well as gyrate on "Choo Choo Ch'Boogie", and on "5 Guys Named

Moe". And I got that feeling you sometimes get, and you'll know what I mean, when the sound, weather, venue, band, everything are gloriously just a point; and even though you've seen a thousand gigs, right here is where you want to be, melting into your seat, without moving a peg.

Review by Bob Jones Blues in Britain magazine Volume 1/ Issue 45/ dated September 2005

The Zoltans have a DVD for sale comprising of footage from various live appearances including the Tsunami Relief Concert at the Brentwood Centre plus a performance on an open top bus and interviews with the Band members.

www.zoltans.co.uk for further info.



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Band: Cathouse Creepers
Name: Fast Lane
Label: Raucous Records
Genre: Rockabilly/Stray cat style

I don't know much about the Cathouse Creepers, although a little bird told me they supported the Stray Cats on their last major UK tour. The bands 14 track Digi pack CD (I do like this type of album packaging) kicks off with albums title track "Fast Lane". It sets the pace of the album and very much the "sound" of the band. The whole album concept is very much hard kicking Rockabilly, or is it Psychobilly? I'll admit that I'm not a big fan of Rockabilly or into trio groups and it's probably why I found the first 8 tracks sounding very similar, not only in sound and tempo but the song keys sounded like they were all in "E" and "A" - those popular open chords which give guitar players, especially in trio's, more room to fill out the sound. The track I liked on the album is the one song that the band probably won't play live, track 10 "Monroe Eyes" which is an acoustic song - almost jazz! Of the entire up tempo songs the finale song



"Big night out" has a great guitar riff. It's a well produced album, some nice guitar playing, well executed drums, although the bass sound could have been produced better (I know bands love the slap sound but to me it always sounds very thin and makes the whole band sound too trebly). I'm sure that the band are very busy with gigs and the album I'm sure sounds very close to the bands live sound. If you like Setzer and his crew, you'll love this.

Paul Moules

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THE DUKE

I've been digging rockabilly music for 30 years and I'm still amazed at how many of the original recordings I've still got to hear, and with the current bands around today releasing some excellent original material, it seems our music will be around for some time to come. So when Linette sent me an email via the excellent 'MySpace' website (rockabilly fans and bands have signed up to this site, and it has MP3's, gig guides and reviews. Check them out at www.myspace.com) asking if I'd like to write a column of general 'Rockin' Ramblings', I jumped at the chance.

Everyone I've met at weekenders and gigs have an opinion on what real rockabilly is, or what constitutes a real rockabilly band. Is it just lead guitar, bass and rhythm guitars? The use of drums? What about a trumpet? Are today's modern rockabilly bands a match on the originals? I've asked various cats and kittens these questions over the years and received very different answers. I'll be putting their views along with mine in future 'Rockabilly Ramblings', as well as reviews on any gigs and weekenders I manage to get to. But let me start with how I got the bug...

Close Encounters of the 1st Rockabilly Kind!

In 1975 I was a spotty teenage kid with a lacquered quiff and fondness for Elvis's 1950's recordings ('Don't Be Cruel' still takes some beating as the ultimate rock n roll record). Around this time I started digging further, and discovered the likes of Eddie Cochran, Gene Vincent, Buddy Holly, Jerry Lee Lewis and thanks to my dad (a real big fan of the man in black) Johnny Cash. I was busily listening to these recordings and collecting as much wax as was possible, a paper round being my only

source of income at that stage of my life.

Now 1976 was a major turning point in my life, being employed for the very first time and with a handful of cash to

spend, I headed for the local record shop and started shifting through the wax in search for anything I considered really rockin'. This is where I first came across the name Carl Perkins. I asked the owner if he could play a few tracks from the LP ('Rockin' Guitar Man' on the Charley label circa 1975) and sensing a sale, he agreed. As soon as I heard 'Honey Don't' I knew I had to have the album. It was just like the first time I listened to 'Elvis Golden Records Volume 1' - "Mum, I want this for Christmas!" I shouted. It was the middle of summer and Christmas was a distant dream, as was the album. It took a few weeks of delivering papers before I had the money to buy a copy. But now with my own cash I was in charge! I was ushered to another rack of records, this contained more

names that I was unfamiliar with. Johnny Burnett & the Rock n Roll Trio sounded very interesting (I'd heard 'Dreamin' and loved it). Without me asking, the owner put the LP on and without thinking of the cost, I bought that too. Just hearing that guitar sound was enough. The next bit of vinyl in my mitts was 'Planet of the Drapes' by a band called 'The Flying Saucers'. The dude with dollar signs as eyes played this too, a slightly different sound. Why? I found out this band were new-ish and they played classic 50's rockabilly and their own original material and after hearing 'Digging the Boogie' that album was in my possession too. There were other albums I discovered that day but those three vinyl long players were the ones that still stand out in my mind.

And I'll always remember what happened when I got home, my mum asked for some housekeeping money. Damn, I'd forgotten about that!

The Duke





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Thankyou and Keep Rockin. Spike, Linette & Paul.

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