

MAD RAT MAGAZINE

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

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Issue #21 May '07



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May edition



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SPIKE SPOUTS



In the last two months we have said sad and tragic goodbyes to three of our local heroes Trudy Collins Nuttal who passed after a long battle against cancer.

Trudy was the power behind Essex based band Fever. She leaves her husband Will and two young sons. She will be missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing her.

Secondly, Dickie Franklyn a legend amongst the Southend rockers passed suddenly in March and was laid to rest at Pitsea. The small room could not hold many of the 300+ mourners he will be missed by many all over the country.

On the 18th March a true gent passed suddenly from a heart condition. Kingcats keyboard player Dave Allen will be missed by everyone who knew and respected him. His life was celebrated by a jam session at Carshalton.

Our thoughts are with each of the families.

This month inside this mag you will read a fantastic review of the Cavan / Rat Pack Minerva gig in Southend. I would just like to add my thanks and appreciation for both bands and CJ the DJ and Wildcat Pete for making this event so memorable. Ten hours of good solid

rockin' an atmosphere you couldn't buy and a crowd that drank the pub dry! LITERALLY!!!!

A special thank you to Karen who did the door the raffle took a million photos mopped up and

managed to have a dance and enjoy herself, thanks to Big Mike, Nick and Tom for their help on the door.

Thank you to all the bands and DJ's that have contacted us after last months editorial, it appears that some are going to have my spout in their contracts so watch out world, but a big good on ya goes to The Raven who played a completely different set at the Ford Club in Basildon and won his crowd over.

Here's my moan (yes you knew it was coming) if you pay 5 or 6 quid to get in and have a great night and the place is packed just remember that everything you experience that night costs money, the hall, the doorman, the barstaff, the DJ, the Band, the raffle prizes the fliers, the posters, the advertising so let's not worry if the promoter is making loadsa money as that is very rare. You obviously missed all the nights he lost a packet because you had somewhere better to go.

Keep on turning up to the gigs, keep buying the CDs and keep reading the hottest mag on the planet. Rockin' relies on you guys!

Rockin Regards

Spike

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Band: Crazy Cavan / The Rat Pack
Venue: Minerva, Southend-on-Sea
Date: 24/03/07

Hi there my name's Terry, better known as Lofty to those that know me; anyway Spike has asked me to do a review on the Minerva gig.

Southend was a hub for the Rock n Roll scene in the 70's with places like The Pier bar (Long bar), Kursaal, Queens Hotel, Baz's café and of course The Minerva. I can remember the first Rock n Roll gig I went to was way back in 1972 at The Kursaal appearing was Heinz, Shakin' Stevens and The Sunsets, Screaming Lord Sutch and a very young Dr Feelgood all dressed in drapes.

This nostalgic event put on by Spike and Linette had many of us travelling down memory lane for the night as The Minerva was a lively Rock n Roll pub in the mid 70's. I myself have not set foot in the place since that era and found a few changes to the place. Mainly the stage which was on the left as you walked in is now at the back. The outside apart from a few licks of paint looks pretty much the same.

A few of us met in the car park opposite and went in shortly after 7pm, not being the first to arrive it did not take long for the place to fill up. There

was a lot of old faces and strange faces as people had travelled far and wide to be there. Portsmouth, London, Clacton to name but a few places that I know friends had come from.

CJ the DJ a friend from the Haverlock/Old Maypole days kicked off the evening with some choice music which soon had the strollers, jivers and boppers filling the dance floor. This had the mood set for The Ratpack's first set around 9pm. I sure a lot of you are familiar with this group as there has been a few reviews on them in previous Mad Rat mags. For those of you who aren't this local group are very lively and are always up for a party performance. I follow The Ratpack as much as I can and in fact they played for me at my 50th party last year.

A good mixture of Rockabilly /Rock n Roll was played by them in this first set and everybody was certainly warmed up (if they wasn't already) by the end of the set.

The next DJ needs no introduction 'Wildcat Pete' as I'm sure many of you can remember him from the 70's and beyond. Pete dug out some classics including the famous bopper 'Jungle Rock' and at the end of his session Spike got him up on stage to present him with a 60th birthday cake complete with candles for him to blow out.

Now the moment had arrived which we had all been waiting for it was now around 11.30pm and Crazy Cavan and the Rhythm Rockers were about to perform. A crowd had massed by the front of the stage full of anticipation as Spike announced them. Then as they started singing classics like 'Are you still crazy' 'My Little Teddy Girl' 'Teddy boy boogie'

etc the crowd joined in doing the Cavan Rock and going wild just like the old days.

It was good to see Graham Price back on bass again replacing Steve (Vance) Vincent and Brian (or Bunna as he likes to be called) Standing in for Mike Coffey who has gone back to Canada.

Throughout the performance various people joined them on stage including Little Brian some of you may remember him as a DJ from the Adam & Eve/Pembury Tavern. He done the backing vocals to Knock Knock from the album 'Rockabilly' which was recorded on his uncle's farm. Also my wife Sandra encouraged by our friend Lou jumped up there for a few numbers. The first encore was the Teddyboy anthem 'Old Black Joe' and the performance was rounded off with 'Rockabilly Rools! My all time favourite.

We were now into the early hours of the morning with the clocks going forward shortly but this did not deter everyone. CJ the DJ started spinning the wax again whilst The Ratpack got ready for their second set. A formidable task you would have thought after an explosive performance by Cavan by these boys are professional and soon had the dance floor filled again throughout the set. They are a very versatile band with both guitarist Spike and Drummer Steve having a go on vocals.

CJ the DJ rounded off the night (or what now was morning) with a final stint before we all staggered out at what was now 5am.

This event will be remembered for a very long time and hopefully won't be the last in Southend! Are you still Crazy are you still wild? We are!

Terry Mead

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DISC JOCKEY JAMBOREE

NOW...

We are lucky enough on today's rock 'n' roll/rockabilly/jive scene to have some excellent D.J.'s that not only play some great records (both rare and classic) but also put on a bit of a show too. I am not talking about all-talking and all-juggling cats and kittens that want to be the centre of everyone's attention, but the type of D.J. that actually thinks about his set beforehand.

I am going to ramble on about one such wax spinner, At Koning. I was bar-hopping and browsing the vintage stalls with my wife Fi at



the 'Rhythm Riot' in 2004 when I first came across 'At's Crazy Record Hop'. It was an excellent mixture of rockabilly, 'rock 'n' roll', western swing and jive. In fact, I believe he was the perfect D.J. for the riot, as he catered for everyone's tastes. It was not just his choice of tunes, we stayed awhile and were glad we did, the energy he put into his gig was amazing, and this guy obviously loves what he is doing, his arms were waving, and his fingers were popping, he even jumped off of the stage to have a jive or two and made it back in time for the next platter. If you are at a weekend somewhere on this rockin' planet and you see this guy's name on the D.J. list, check him out, you will be glad you did. If my memory serves me correctly, it was also at the riot that I came across another cool pair of D.J.'s. On that particular occasion it was Jerry Chatabox and Robin's 'Bakelite Boogie' dishing up the sounds in a kind of duelling D.J. type format. One played a record and the other had then to match it, it appeared off the cuff and was a very enjoyable listen. As I have said, we have a fine selection of latter day wax spinners, but it is all too easy to forget the pioneers, those

D.J.'s whose innovative styles paved the way for us to be able to go to an event like the riot and have such a good time now.

THEN

I would have loved to have lived in Memphis, Tennessee circa 1954 (as you may already have detected from previous ramblings!), I can imagine myself tuning into Dewey Phillips 'Red Hot & Blue' radio show. In the segregated south in the fifties Dewey plays the records he liked, whether they were rhythm 'n' blues, country, or bluegrass (rockabilly was just starting to make noises around this time). He did not care what race a singer was, if he thought the sound was hot he would play it. On air, he acted like a madman, hitting microphones, yelling and singing along to the tunes as they played.

If you moved the dial on the radio just a touch you could have tuned into WHHM and listen to Sleepy Eyed John's 'Hillbilly Hit Parade'. Sleepy Eyed John, the radio moniker of John Lepley, was a champion of country music. While Dewey Phillips heavily promoted Elvis's 'That's All Right Mama' John played the flip-side of the Sun 209 single 'Blue Moon of Kentucky'. If I had been a D.J. back then, I would have chosen 'Blue Moon' it has more of a zip to it. WHHM broadcasts from West Memphis in Arkansas, just across the Memphis Bridge from downtown Memphis, Tennessee. He was not a fan of Sam Phillips or the releases that came out of the Sun recording studio. On air, he was always making disparaging remarks about the Sun recordings, musicians and singers. Vernon Presley had to be physically stopped from going to his radio station after one such comment, about Elvis's singing, left him fuming.

He did and said what he liked on air, often playing a record and ripping it from the turntable halfway through and tossing it into the rubbish bin and then playing something he considered to be more tuneful. John may not have liked what he heard in Elvis, but he knew a good thing when he saw one, and booked him for an appearance at the 'Eagles Nest', a night club that he promoted. In doing so, he

became one of the very fist promoters to book Elvis Presley. It was situated in Memphis, on the intersection of Lamar Avenue and Winchester Avenue, above a swimming pool called the 'Clearpool Entertainment Complex'.

John also fronted a western swing band that had a residency at the 'Eagles Nest', they may have been the 'Starlight Wranglers', but unfortunately information about John is hard to come by, and he seems destined to fade into musical obscurity. .

In an article written by Reggie Young, (Eddie Bond's guitarist in 'The Stompers' from 1955 to 1958) it is mentioned that local disc jockey, 'Sleepy Eyed' John Lepley heard 'The Stompers' play (this was probably at 'The Eagles Nest') and invited them to record the song 'Rocking Daddy' at WHHM studio, although in an interview with Eddie in the September/August 1974 edition of 'Rockville International' he says that the tune was recorded at 'WMPS' studios in Memphis. Wherever the case, 'Mercury Records' heard

the song and then promptly signed them to a record deal. Lepley also loved to promote himself as much as possible. Elvis played on the back of a flatbed truck at The Lamar-Airways Shopping Centre on September 9th. 1954 with Scotty and Bill but they were introduced as 'Sleepy Eyed John's Eagles Nest Band'. Considering how influential John was in the Memphis area and his love of self-promotion, it is surprising that I have not come across any pictures of him as yet. Johnny Cash mentions him in his autobiography 'CASH', and apparently he had the looks for stardom as well as the drive. To this day, however, he remains something of an enigma, an urban myth in the history of rock 'n' roll D.J.'s. Thanks to Don Jones for all his help in putting this 'Sleepy Eyed John' segment together. If any of you out there know anything more about Sleepy Eyed John Lepley, please let me know via www.jaustinduke.net

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LIGHTEN UP OR LOSE BANDS

Being in a rock n Roll band in these days of garage, grunge, electro hip hop, rap, house and various other styles of what passes for music in the modern world, is not the way to get famous. Or rich or indeed attract any recognition at all.

In fact, if you want to be criticised for your style, instrumentation, the fact that you don't play cover versions note for note as they were on the originals, then being in a rock n roll band is the place to be! Especially in the UK.

The UK audiences have a reputation for being blinkered and narrow minded to the point of being almost impossible to please! For instance, recall Big Sandy & The Flyrights who's last appearance in the UK was widely criticised for their set, which was a mixture of the eclectic, laid back, fifties lounge lizard cum crooning style, which has adorned their last few albums. They haven't played out and out rockably for nearly 10 years....what did people expect?

Many other bands too, have found that the UK rock n roll scene with it's unforgiving patrons is a particularly hard one to overcome, so much so that they no longer regard the scene as their primary source of income! Kav & the Kavmen for instance have stopped doing the UK rock n roll scene altogether, concentrating more on corporate function work, where people appreciate the music they are playing for what it is. Other bands have found that cruise ship work and playing the scene in Europe is far more rewarding in terms of audience feedback, especially in Holland and Germany where crowds are wildly enthusiastic and simply having 'a damn good time' is the order of the day! So....should we expect bands to be totally faithful to the originals or not? My particular feeling is that if people want to listen to the original tunes, as they were played, then ditch the band and play records or CD's all night!

If a band is to cover songs, and a lot do, then there are two schools of thought as to how it should be done.

Stay faithful to the original spirit of the recording but without playing the song note for note or perform the song in a totally different way....slow it down, use different instrumenta

tion, change the emphasis of the lyrics. It can work....a good example is Rockin' Rocket 88's version of "Please Don't Touch", where the distinctive and well known guitar intro and repeated riff is replaced with an electric violin! Radical when you think about it, but it works like a dream!

Don't forget that many of the original recordings were speeded up, slowed down or messed about with at the production stage, which made them sound totally different to the way that they were originally performed! So if you are a band that is considering covering a song, don't be afraid to perform YOUR interpretation of it.

As for audiences, well, I think that perhaps we all need to lighten up a bit and be a bit more forgiving, after all, if we keep criticising hard working bands they'll soon get fed up and go to where they receive more appreciation for what they are doing, even if that does mean wedding receptions and birthday parties!!

"Wildkat" Mike



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**MAD RAT HIGHLY
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RAT MAIL

Having been reading your magazine since the first edition (first time round) I thought it was about time that I put pen to paper and added some controversy.

Am I alone or are there more of you out there who take great amusement in watching all of the (what I call) new age dancers who have taken over all of our clubs in the past few years. In over thirty years of watching rock-'n'roll I have never seen so many couples dancing as there are now. I have never been a dancer myself although I enjoy a bop now and then but I do enjoy watching others. Anyway while attending a venue recently I was watching the dancers and noticed couples jiving, lindy hopping, doing the shag, the balboa, the absolutely awful ceroc, and the quickstep and for gods sake even the argentine tango. Now all of these dancers were dancing to the same Elvis song and as the idea of dancing is to keep in time with the music then god knows what some of them were listening to in their

heads. The argentine tango to Elvis surely takes the biscuit. Poor Elvis must be turning in his grave. All these new age dancers are coming week in and week out and keeping our clubs and music alive so good luck to them and long may they keep coming. As I've said they give me great amusement. So there it is over to you now readers.

Mick from Grays.

Mad Rat: I think Micks point is quite valid. It used to be that a certain record denoted how and what dance you did to it but now it appears that anything goes the charlston or line dancing instead of a stroller? Is it time to bring back the tea dance? I have to say I visited a dance class night to go and see a friend's band and the modern jivers were in fact jiving to the spice girls from the DJ and the band had to slow the tempo right down. The question is; does it matter what dance you do to any particular track?

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RECORDINGS



The Borderlines
Big Money
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FT026

As mentioned in a previous issue this band are fab u lous there is no doubt in my mind that

anyone with a chance to see them would be a raving loon if they passed up this chance. The second album we review (*Big Money*) is more dedicated to the scene and is less commercial in its choice of tracks than the other but is still a must have for any collector containing three originals *Crazy Nights* the second original, one for the swingers i think this is great it shows off the versatility of the trio perfectly , *She's The Guilty One* a nice steady bopper, my least favourite im afraid but still a good track and *Borderline Boogie* the first of the originals on the album this rocks big time , the other eleven are covers with twist read on to find out why. *Play My Boogie* just as good as the original with that pounding piano some great vocals and a big beating bass break a great start to this album, *Your True Love* great dance stuff harmonies and a very authentic feel , *Love Me again* this is an excellent cover lots of voices and a steady beat some nice fills and a big dance beat, *Big Money* one for the strollers could have been recorded in the fifties great sound, *Crazy Arms* bum clutching time a terrific country ballad outstanding, *Rock Island Line* a very laid back arrangement to this one this is too cool and when it kicks it really kicks, *All Shook Up* an interesting arrangement of this old cherry but its ripe for the pickin' another excellent track , *Paranoia* brilliant nothing else to say , *Pucker paint* back to the dancers a great track and very well performed , *All Over A Kiss* another nice jiver with a bluesy feel , *Deep Elm Blues* a trip to hillbilly country with this more verstility and a great

original style. A front porch track! The whole album like the last we reviewed is incredible these guys are good! Very Good! a very authentic sound to this album each track well thought out and a must for the record collector. All this album is missing is the scratches. Somebody send me this bands gig list.



The Jets
The Singles

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20 popular Jets tracks from way back when including a 12 page booklet with unseen photos and lyrics. *Love Makes The World Go Round*, *Party Doll*, *Best Looking Gilr In Town*, *Somebody To Love*, *Mandy*, *Tonight Will Be Alright*, *Sugar Doll*, *Rockin' Around The Christmas Tree*, *Hold On Honey*, *Heatwave*, *Ring And Ring*, *Who's That Knocking*, *I'm Just A Score*, *Yes Tonight Josephine*, *The Honeydripper*, *Tonite Tonite*, *Wallflower*, *Alligator*, *Cheap Shots* And *Alibis*.

One of the worlds best loved rockin trio's with commercial fame and the accalaide of keeping the scene going for many of its down years this is a collection of greats. There isnt much more to say except that all your favourites are on this album and its well worth having in your collection. If you haven't seen or heard *The Jets* before then look in the mirror and ask yourself *Where have I been?* *The Jets* set the scene for the greatest rockin' revival ever and have continued to produce quality performances and recordings ever since.

Contact info@thejets.co.uk
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V8 Rumble Old Dawgs, New Tracks Vampirette CD 112

14 tracks of hard hitting rockin' 10 of which are originals.... Wayne guitar and vocals , Steve

Bass and backing vocals and Adam Drums and backing vocals. Wayne we have known for many years and always produces good quality neo rockabilly and always with a shock or two and this album is no different. Reading the sleeve notes i read Baby One More Time and yes its a cover like no other Britney Spears (whose she) this rocks.... anyhow its very powerful stuff and not for the feint hearted among you this is rockin' at it's wildest and it's excellent, no shouting and hollaring though this is very cleverly constructed big beatin fast boppin' rockin' check the guys out at these gigs:

25 May 2007

The Poachers Pocket Motel
Walcott Road, Bacton, Norfolk NR12 0LS
Tel: 01692 650476

08 June 2007

The Blue Moon Rock 'n' Roll Club
North Walsham Community Centre, New
Road, North Walsham Norfolk NR28 9DE
Tel: 01692 403594
(with Porky's Hot Rockin')

09 June 2007

The Lighthouse Inn
Coast Road, Walcott, Norfolk NR12 OPE
Tel: 01692 650371
(with The Hound Dogs)

to contact the band send a message via
<http://www.myspace.com/v8rumblerockabilly>

Vampirette CD 112
available via the internet <http://www.mcdp.de>
info@vampirette.de

also available at gigs.

THE TRACKS

Jump To It, Baby One More Time, Take A Chance, Prison Walls, Where Can I Find You?, Enough Is Enough, So Long Baby Goodbye, Nobody Listens, We Say Yeah, V* Rumble, My Best Friends Girl, This Town Aint Big Enough, 100 Miles, Worry Bout You.

B52 Charity Easter Egg

The charity Easter egg night at the B52 was a cracking success! Sorry couldn't help that.

The recorded music as usual was provided by Radar record hop and for this special night Radar was totally on form, pulling some sensational dance music from his box, baring in mind The B52 is not a dance venue the small but adequate floor was packed all night long.

The Sundowners provided the live stuff and they did it with their usual enthusiasm for a party, Lee Nick and Dave belted through some classic rock n roll and some authentic rockabilly and then some! Johnny Cash,



Charlie Feathers, Jerry Lee Lewis, Charlie Rich, Johnny Burnette and even Shaky all got The Sundowner treatment and there wasn't a moan in the house. The boys do what they do with such professional ease they got the crowd going and going their encores included the much requested Unchained Melody first aired at The Rockers Reunion a couple of years ago.

Lots of banter and hollering and shouting whistling and cheers led us to 4 Encores and 123 Easter Eggs donated as part of the entrance fee for children in hospital over Easter. A very entertaining evening with one of the best bands on the scene. Everybody this evening worked at a discounted rate.

Thanks Guys



THE TOP CATS Q 'N' A

Now, here is a band guaranteed to give you what you want, their not so average set can combine anything from Maniac to Veronica all done in a Top Cat way that combines the authentic with the modern great vocals harmonies and all this from a trio that has been gigging for nearly twenty years but until now have been seemingly the norths best kept secret. Their latest CD which we will review next month is an incredible mix of good rockin' and you will see from this interview with Steve, Topcats standup drummer why they have a firm and loyal forever growing fanbase.

Right Steve I know that you have played a few clubs in the south and I know that you have been gigging for many years as the topcats, many of your fans saw you first two years ago at the rockers reunion. What made you decide it was time to break out and head south?



We have played South quite a bit over the years BUT since doing the Rockers Reunion our followers keep

asking us when are you back down south, so it's good for us when we do, hopefully we will be back down soon.

It appears that once you're a topcats fan your hooked for life how easy is it to manage a social relationship with fans that may have an opinion on your latest album. Do you ever fall out with people because they think your last album was better than the new one etc.?

Our fans mean a lot to us without them there wouldn't be Topcats, we try and keeping contact with as many as we can through text, email or phone, and our fans suggest songs to us that we could convert and "Topcat", so in someways they have an input as well which we think is good.

You incorporate a lot of tracks in your set that are not from the fifties but are played in a rockabilly way is this a deliberate attempt to give everyone in your audience something they know?

Even though it may offend the rockin' crowd. What we try to do as The Topcats is do songs that people know, turn them into rockabilly which gives us a wider audience to play to, on top of our fifties stuff so everybody gets a fair share, as we do a lot of private functions weddings, parties you have to mix and match to suit all of your audience.

You've been zooming off around the world for the last two years your popularity abroad has really grown, why do you think this has happened and why now? And where have you been?

We thought it was about time we branched out further and take the Topcat sound to as many countries as possible so far we have toured Bulgaria and Spain and we are off to Finland in April for 4 gigs with two Finnish bands and then at the end of April Belgium and Holland.

Due to this sudden popularity in Europe and beyond your CD's need to be available worldwide, how do you go about getting distribution in foreign climes?

All distribution is done by the band. We have just been approached by a distributor in Japan they have heard our last 2 albums in Japan and want to stock our CD's including our latest CD which is called Viva Las Topcats our CDs have gone to New Zealand, USA, Venice, Czech Republic, Germany and Spain.

What do you think has done the topcats most good career wise, you have some big things coming up I see from your gig guide your off to finland and you will also be playing hemsby this year, and I understand there is a big label interested in hearing your recordings .. can you tell us about anything like that or is it still hush hush?

I think just being true to our fans giving them what they want to hear. Yes we have been approached by a big label but it's still early days.

How long have you guys been friends?

20 plus years, more like a lifetime.

What do your better halves think about you disappearing for days on end?

They don't mind they know its all we have ever wanted so its great to have their support.

Does the band have an ultimate ambition, do you know where your heading or do you take every opportunity as it comes?

Nothing too big keep working our way across Europe and maybe fit in another CD at the end of the year.

Tights or Stockings?

Stockings, tights make you itch!

Is there anywhere that you wouldn't play?

No we give everyone a chance I don't think its right to restrict where you play as you never know what might come along.

You work hard with your arrangements and your vocals and harmonies Is there a song that has beaten you?

Again NO! you tend to know what songs will work but we are always open to suggestions for any new material.

Favourite Soup?

Minestrone with crusty bread.

Is this the original line up or have there been line up changes over the years? This is the original Topcats, Topcats wouldn't be the same without any one of us.

Steve I know that its mostly you that does the promotion and the bookings etc, how much time do you put into it and after a days work how hard is it to get motivated?

I'm constantly on the phone organising gigs, tours ,even when im at work so you could say yes its 24/7 non stop but I wouldn't have it any other way.

What do you think would have been your best gig from day one?

There is so many Linette I could be here all day but the Rockers Reunion was good we had a good

response from the crowd and the organisers and we are really looking forward to unleashing the Topcats at Hemsby in October.

Is there a gig that you just don't want to talk about?

No all our gigs give us something to take home and remember.The overall plan for the group is it shared by all members or is this one persons dream. The plan is shared by all members we have no divas or prima donnas in the band its all equal aiming for the same goals.

How many albums do you have and are they still for sale and from where?

We have 3 albums now, Full Throttle, Rockabilly Trash and Viva Las Topcats they are for sale at gigs, through our websites or through all good rockabilly stockists In the UK.

You go to town on the merchandising is this for advertising purposes or is it purely financial?

This is due again to our fans they ask for it there is no financial gain as we tend to give most of it away to our loyal fanbase as a thank you from the band for all their support.

Is there something that your really excited about that you would like to tell mad rat readers?

We are excited about our new CD and tours of finland Belgium and Holland, Hemsby in October and HOPEFULLY another gig down there with my mate Spike, anyone who knows Spike will know that your in for a good night when you gig at his we enjoy playing his gigs.

The Topcats are:

Graham 'Curly' Bateman Vocals /Guitar

Jez Jordan Slap Bass and Vocals

Steve Clark Drums Vocals

Viva Las Top Cats will be reviewed next month but in the meantime here is where you can get it from ..

www.topcatsrockabilly.co.uk

cat no TTC003

Mad Rat



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JANIE'S JAUNTS

Rockin' Greetings hope you all had a crackin' and Egg-ixting Easter.....I know groan but some one has to say it...ha ha!

So then our first venture on the 3rd March was to see Reservoir Cats play at Stage One In Long Eaton Derbyshire. These are real good mates of mine and I always have a great night listening to these guys, it was my turn to drive tonight and Boy oh Boy..... it sure is interesting and fun to watch others getting slowly intoxicated as the night wore on...know what i mean?....Ha ha!

Busy in the place tonight got ourselves a good table not too far from the bar and soon started to spot familiar faces amongst the crowd.



The band has had a new guitarist since i last saw them, Rob (Livestock) Davies well known to many of you on the rockin circuit so it was great to see him with Dave and Tim and Sean, I wondered how they would sound together but i needn't have worried they sounded wicked.

First set the band came on stage about 9pm with good strong opening numbers, Dave's voice as clear as ever as he delighted us with song after song. With classic's such as 'Pretty Baby' 'Twenty Flight Rock' and 'I knew The Bride'. The dance floor was busy too and packed for the strollers especially ' Stray Cat Strut' it was like I had never been away!

We had Rockin Ray playing his Vinyl tonight and it great to hear those records sound as they should, with a bit of hiss and crackle. Nostalgia! ..hey man you cant beat it!

Second set around 10:40pm with 'Rock this Town' and a very long and superb version of 'Hip Shake

Baby' well done to the Boppers who lasted this one out!

With 'Blue Jean Bop' ' Rumble In Brighton' and Long Black Shiny Car' amongst some of the other goodies that followed i was having a mint of a night. With a well deserved encore after 11:20pm of 'Johnny B Goode' and Shakin All Over' and the dance floor finally emptying, we went over to say good bye to our friends from Wales as they packed away thier gear, ready for the long drive back home. As always they keep you laughing with thier tales of on the road and it was a shame we had to go ourselves, still it just makes you want more doesn't it?

Then our second outing was to see Revolutionaires at kirk Hallam Derbyshire, they had just not hours before come across on the ferry from France, were they had been playing and they said how much they had enjoyed it over there, So it had been a very long day for all of them, i just dont know where they get all thier energy from.

No Boogie woogie piano playing tonight and i have to admit i kinda missed it, still they had someone playing the sax so not all bad. With Our Ed singing and playing his Harmonica and his amazing dancing we were well satisfied as the rest of this talented band members played to thier usual high quality performance.

Again a full house to see these guys and tonight i wasn't driving..lol....so i was having a great night of music and Buds I didn't think I drank that many but they ran out of them near the end of the night!, As the band members came up and chatted it was lovely to ask them about how they all were and catch up on stuff. After all its a big part of the rock and roll scene isn't it as well as the music and the beer, but i think most of all its the people you meet and the special friends that you make along the way that make it like no other on earth.

Till next month keep on rockin ...

Janie xx

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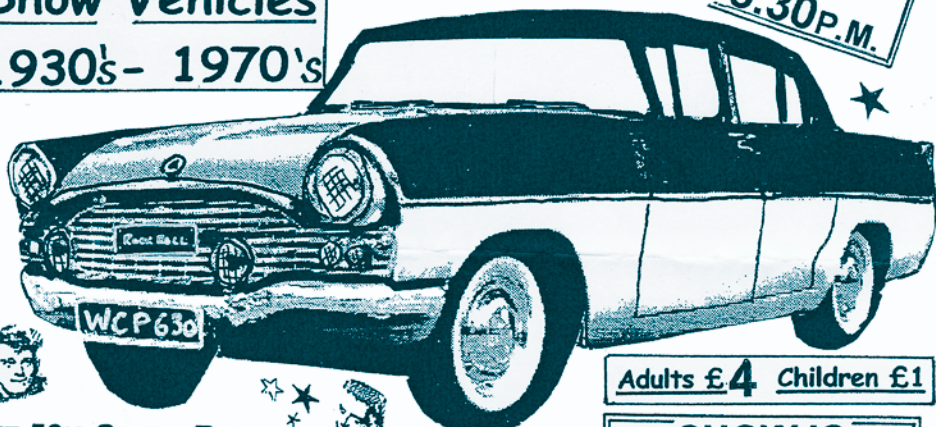
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Robert Gordon

The Interview

Up to 1976 you were the singer in the band The Tuff Darts. What was the nucleus that changed Robert Gordon from punk singer to (as the press at the time were saying) leader of the rockabilly revival of the period?

I was never a punk singer. Even with the Tuff Darts, I did stuff like 'Twenty Flight Rock' and 'Heartbreak Hotel'. The Tuff Darts was a good band and we had some great times together, but it wasn't really what I wanted to do.



How did the association with guitarist Link Wray happen?

Richard Gottehrer and I discussed various people that we admired, and Link's name popped up. The first time I saw Link was at a gig at Glen Echo Amusement Park in my hometown, and he was just amazing.

I felt that it would be a great idea to do an album with him. So Richard contacted Link, who was living in San Francisco at the time. He came over to New York right away. That first album was recorded at Plaza Sound in April 1977. We selected most of the songs on the spot.

And at about the same time in the late 70's Bruce Springsteen was seen at your gigs both as a spectator and performer can you give us a little insight into that?

I met him through his bass player, Gary Tallent. We used to hang out a lot back then. Bruce gave me 'Fire' and even played piano on the session.

The first LP 'Fresh Fish Special' on the 'Private Stock' record label, did you have ideas for the tunes that would appear on it beforehand or was all this worked out at the recording session?

That's actually the second LP. Most songs were selected by me. They were mostly old favourites, songs that I've always loved.

RCA were the main distributors for 'Private Stock' how did you feel when you were signed directly to

RCA?

It was like a dream come true. RCA has always been associated with Presley, so it was very special for me to be on the same label.

You parted company with Link Wray before you signed for RCA was your association with him on a record by record deal or musical differences?

I don't know the whole thing had run its course, I guess. Link was a great player, but it was always a bit hard on the road. We both wanted to do our own thing.

I had heard of Chris Spedding from a record he released in the UK in the mid seventies called 'Motor Bikin' but how did you guys get to meet?

Through my producer Richard Gottehrer, but I was aware of him, and I was already performing 'Wild Wild Women'.

Having the 'Jordanares' as your backing vocal group must have given you a bit of a buzz. Can you tell us a little about their involvement on the first RCA LP 'Rockabilly Boogie'?

They did not sing on 'Rockabilly Boogie'. They sang on 'Fresh Fish Special'. It was very special for me to have them sing on the record. In fact, I've just recorded another album with them. It's a tribute to Elvis, and it's titled "It's Now Or Never".

The movie 'The Loveless' that you did with a young Willem Dafoe can you tell a little info on how this came about?

I can't remember that's a long time ago! Initially, they wanted me to record a couple of songs for the movie, and one thing led to the other.

Can you give us a little info on life with Robert Gordon today?

I'm very fortunate to be performing as often as I still am. I am on tour in April, and I'm very excited about that. We will be celebrating the 30th anniversary of my first hit 'Red Hot'. We're doing shows in Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Spain, France, Switzerland and the U.K. I have a great band with me, the Red-hots from Finland. Those guys are the real deal.

Duke

Hemsby Rock 'n' Roll Weekender 19th - 21st April 2007

Review Part 1.

I have so much to tell you all and very little space so im gonna take a big breath and just go for it. Arrived checked in found our chalet fondly known as the chicken shed one of the original chalets on the site very endearing and definitely quaint the real deal 50's holiday experience.

Found the restaurant and some friend's, food was adequate and value for money nothing fancy but filling and hot. Camp very clean with friendly staff and lots of chat and smiles. Two ballrooms one medium sized and very authentic looking and one huge ballroom with all mod cons but no air conditioning. Stall areas scattered around the camp made for interesting shopping I thought it was nicer than the huge cramped market place we are used to.

Thursday Night started with Skinny Jim playing the tracks whilst the meet and greet was taking place and people shrugged off the journey, first band up was Phil Friendly USA and The Loners. This has got to be the worst spot in the world, but this four piece rockin' combo owned it, approximately 400 of the 650 that booked for the extra night were in and around the room and in traditional style surrounded the front of the stage so there was no escape. Punchy up tempo rockabilly with that authentic yank twang with a Dutch accent told us stories and belted Glen Glenn Mac Curtis, Ricky Nelson and the like. Well worth seeing .

Tony Thorpe took to the booth to fill the gap til the next band almost instantly the now warmed up crowd dashed to find a dance spot or a place at the bar and the place was buzzing.

Final band for this evening The Lonesome Valley Boys a five piece from the Isle Of Wight (soft spot emerging) the guys had a wee bit of sound trouble but nothing too bad and they flew through a set of mixed rockin' changing styles every few numbers, rock'n'roll, rockabilly, western swing, cajun, literally a bit of everything very tight and all at the right tempo percussion/stand up drums, double bass, steel guitar, accordion, harmonica, guitar, rhythm guitar, very original sound, my first of two valley boy performances this weekend. Excellent stuff and here comes Skinny Jim again and the floor is packed with boppers and jivers til 2am and then g'night campers see you in the morning.

Friday 2pm, Flintstone on the decks boppers on the floor J20 in my hand, friends to the left friends to the right YAY the next band up is The Barnshakers from Finland. This band is one I haven't seen for a while as I missed their latest visit but this visit they reminded me why they have such a huge UK following. These guys

are good, very good!

Buck Stevens and The Sugar Creek Trio. Well now then, one of the UK's finest bands fronted by Buck Stevens on this occasion had the crowd hanging on every note a very nice young man with a great voice. This 45 minutes went far too quick for my liking.

Marti Brom kicked off the events in the main ballroom in the evening backed by the Barnshakers. This was an incredible set this young lady has some voice I can tell ya and oddly its much better live than on her cd's which makes a nice change she wooed her crowd male and female and spent ages in the foyer chatting and signing. What a star!

Ray Campi on his birthday, what more can you ask? Ray was up for it the second he joined the Hemsby House band on stage. Caterpillar kicked off the set and it ended with Tore up and there was a whole career in between fantastic belt off a skip and a jump and rapturous applause screaming cheering and whooping.

Bloodshot Bill, last months featured interview joined by the Hemsby House Band. Again, Bloodshot whipped up the crowd and himself until he leaped over the barrier and danced and sung in with the crowd. His set was a very interesting experience and as wild as it gets, this guy has all the moves the looks etc very entertaining.

Last of the night The Caravans. I had waited all night for this and from the introduction I shed twenty years after the first couple of numbers. A huge crowd of hard core fans started wrecking in front of the stage and there it was 80's rockin' at its best. The band did all their old stuff and other peoples old stuff and they were electric...

DJ's for his evening were Tony Thorpe, Wildcat Pete, Dave Crozier, Tojo & Skinny Jim who entertained into the dark and beyond.

A great start to the weekend.....

More next month.

Mad Rat





NEWS

Billy Lee Riley - Benefit Gig - 19th May LONDON.. Boston Arms Rockabilly Club London

May, 19 2007 at BOSTON ARMS .. Billy Lee Riley Fund Raiser Night Junction Rd , Tuffnell Park, LONDON, London and South East NW5 8pm til 1am Cost : £10 on the door.

Sun recording star and idol to millions Billy Lee Riley had a very nasty fall a while back and took the case to court and lost . Billy has had to pay for all the court fees and hospital bills and now he is nearly homeless and has no money . Time to do our bit !!!

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BIG NEWS FROM THE RHYTHM RIOT

If you thought that Janis Martin, Dennis Binder, Roscoe Chenier, Harvey Fuqua, Earl Carroll, Herb Cox and Eugene Pitt was a seriously tasty line-up for this year's Rhythm Riot.... What about this.....?

We have just confirmed that Frank 'Sugar Chile' Robinson will also be coming to grace our stage in November.It's taken several years to find him and even longer to negotiate the deal, but this is one we are delighted to have

secured in time to bring him to the UK in 2007.Supporting this amazing array of headline artists, we will welcome some of the most awesome talent from around the world, with bands from Sweden, Finland, Latvia, France, Germany and the UK completing the bill.

In addition, there will be several exciting new features this year: Mark Lamarr will be producing an exclusive Rhythm Riot Radio Show Legendary low-brow artist, Vince Ray, will be signing copies of his books

A vintage Dakota DC3 aircraft will be offering pleasure flights over Camber and The White Cliffs, throughout the weekend and we will be providing a free vintage shuttle bus service, in a fully restored 1956 coach, from Camber to Rye and Lydd Airport. Booking Forms are already available from the website at www.RhythmRiot.com or call Robin or Colette on 020 8566 5226 for more information.

Mike Tobin's Rock ' n ' Roll melting pot returns to the airwaves.

Following the success of the series in November Mike Tobin will be hosting another 4 " Rock,n,roll Melting Pot " shows on Thornbury FM. a community Radio Station based just north of Bristol. U.K. The station can be heard via the Website. THORNBURY FM. & goes out on Saturday 28th April/ Saturdays May 5th/12th & 19th between 8.00pm & 10.00pm (GMT) . Mike will be delving back into the history of the music playing Boogie/Swing/Blues/Hillbilly from the 40,s & 50,sall the ingredients that created Rock,n,roll. during the first hour, then in the second hour you will hear familiar "classics" obscure Rockabilly & Doo Wop as well as tracks by bands & singers on the current gig scene.

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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

Tue 1 May 07 Parklands Ballroom (ex ICI/Dupont SC), Wheatley Hall Road, Doncaster, S.Yorks tba Dave B 01302 884707

Wed 2 May 07 Mad Hatters Swing Dance Club-CWMC Coventry WMC, White Friars Lane, Coventry, Warks CV1 2DT record hop only (40's & 50's jive) incl lesson Woody 07968 988442

Wed 2 May 07 Roadrunner Club Biggleswade WMC, Church Street, Biggleswade, Beds SG18 0JS record hop only (rockabilly/r&b) guest DJ 07832 369373

Thu 3 May 07 Mad Hatters Swing Dance Club-TVH Trent Valley House WMC, New Street, Bedworth, Warks CV12 9DL record hop only (40's jitterbug/50's jive) Woody 07968 988442

Thurs 3 May Rock'n'Rollin' @ Ruislip Manor Sports & Social Club £5 Grosvenor Vale, Ruislip Manor, Middx. HA4 6JQ Classes & Club, Record Hop with Rockin' Rico 8:15 -11:30 020 8866 9093

Fri 4 May 07 Austin S&S Club 30 Tessall Lane, Longbridge, Bham B31 2SF Kingcats no details 0121 475 1641

Fri 4 May 07 Begbrook RnR Club - BH Belgrave Hotel, Seafont, Torquay, Devon TQ2 5HE Alleycats see special events 0117 969 7326

Fri 4 May 07 Bolton Tonge Ward RnR Club Tonge Ward Labour Club, Ainsworth Lane, Tonge Moor, Bolton, Lancs BL2 2QL Rockin' The Joint Jivin' Jim 01204 410483

Fri 4 May 07 C'mon Everybody Record Hop - SM St Marys Social Club, Melton Street, Crossbank, Batley, W.Yorks WF17 8PT Jive Crazy Johnny Whiteshoes 0113 229 4196

Fri 4 May 07 Crazy Jo's Hillside Club (ex-Western Club), 257a Derby Road, Lenton, Nottingham, Notts NG7 2DZ Rhythm Boys Kool Kat Charlie 07901 766863

Fri 4 May 07 Dale Tavern West Street, Worsborough Dale, Barnsley, Yorks S70 5PG Some Like It Hot Dave B 01226 205611

Fri 4 May 07 Ferryhill & District WMC Market Place, Ferryhill, County Durham record hop only (50's rock'n'roll/stroll/jive/bop) Rockin Andy 01740 651347

Fri 4 May 07 Jolly Jivers Of Ilkley Hollygarth Social Club, Leeds Road, Ben Rhydding, Ilkley, W.Yorks LS29 8LY record hop only (r'n'r/jive/stroll) Jolly Jivers 01943 601070

Fri 4 May 07 King Creole RnR Club Biggleswade WMC, Church Street, Biggleswade, Beds Ramblin Rockers Kev 07748 306989

Fri 4 May 07 Lady's Mile Holiday Park Dawlish, Devon EX7 0LX Memphis Rockers no details 01626 863411

Fri 4 May 07 Pink Cadillac Club Unionist Club, 28 St Johns Street, Newport Pagnell, Bucks MK16 8HJ Revolutionaires Rockin' Rick 01604 696123

Fri 4 May 07 Queens Hotel (Theatre Bar), South Promenade, Blackpool, Lancs FY4 1AY Wildkats Northwest Mike Rossi 01253 342015

Fri 4 May 07 Rayners Rock'n'Roll Village Hall, The Village, Stockton-on-the-Forest, York, N.Yorks YO32 9UP Juke Box Jive plus DJ 07752 333094

Fri 4 May 07 RBL - Dubmire Royal British Legion, Britannia Terrace,

Fence Houses, Tyne & Wear DH4 6LJ Colin Paul & the Persuaders Bob M 0191 584 1266

Fri 4 May 07 Ritz Ballroom 73 Bradford Road, Brighouse, W.Yorks Lennerockers (Germany) Bradford Dude 01274 392380

Fri 4 May 07 Rockin' The Fens Hiam Sports & Social Club, Putney Hill Road, Prickwillow, Ely, Cambs Danny & the Seniors Rockabilly Bob 01638 741402

Fri 4 May 07 Rockin' The Post Winning Post, Chertsey Road (A316), Whitton, Twickenham, Middx TTs Big Bounce 020 8894 2772

Fri 4 May 07 Rosecroft Club Chelsfield Road, Orpington, Kent Darrel Higham & the Enforcers Pete Bruce 01322 407110

Fri 4 May 07 The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Slim Slip & the Sliders n/a 020 7622 4001

Fri 4 May 07 Winlayton RnR Club Blayden, Newcastle, Tyne & Wear Rock Back The Clock no details no details

Sat 5 May 07 Acacia Ballroom Glaxo Wellcome Club, High Street, Dartford, Kent DA1 1DJ Revolutionaires/Bernie Woods & the Forest Fires Pete Bruce 01322 407110

Sat 5 May 07 Begbrook RnR Club - BH Belgrave Hotel, Seafont, Torquay, Devon TQ2 5HE Crazy Jay & the Partytimers see special events 0117 969 7326

Sat 5 May 07 Brum Retro - LSC Ladywood Social Club, Ladywood Middleway, Birmingham, W.Midlands B16 8SY Muskrats Hepbeat Record Hop 07811 965630

Sat 5 May 07 Embankment Club Wellingborough Road, Wellingborough, Northants Alan Mills & the Back Beat Boys Bill Guntrip 07785 501848

Sat 5 May 07 Festival Inn Ilkeston Road, Trowell, Notts NG9 3PX Colin Paul & the Persuaders plus DJ 0115 932 2897

Sat 5 May 07 Halifax RnR Club Siddal Ex-Servicemen's Club, Halifax, W.Yorks HX3 9JS Cadillacs (ticket only event) D. J. the DJ 01422 354876

Sat 5 May 07 It's Only Rock'n'Roll Sale Masonic Lodge, Sale, Cheshire M33 7EE Vintage Jivin' Jim Killey 0161 929 0413

Sat 5 May 07 Jukebox RnR Club 147 S&S Club, The Surrridge Centre, 2 Stepfield, Witham, Essex CM8 3TH Slim Slip & the Sliders Little Carl's Record Hop 01245 260506

Sat 5 May 07 Luton RnR Club The Roman Way, Tomlinson Avenue, Luton, Beds Reservoir Cats Tartan Ted 01582 518211

Sat 5 May 07 Newtown Social Club Durham Road, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland TS19 0BS Hotwires Rockin' Jukebox Record Hop 0191 410 2914

Sat 5 May 07 Oasis Club California Sands Holiday Village, California Road, Scratby, Norfolk NR29 3QW Rhythm Boys no details 01493 377175

Sat 5 May 07 Prince Of Wales - Strood 9 High St, Strood, Medway, Kent Cat & the Hot Tin Trio n/a 01634 711797

Sat 5 May 07 Redditch Rowdies RnR Club Bridley Moor & Batchley Social Club, Bridley Moor Road, Redditch, Worcs Rhythm Aces Blast From The Past 01527 595156

Sat 5 May 07 The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX tba n/a 020 7622 4001

Sat 5 May 07 The White Rabbit Unit 14, Bretonside Bus Station, Plymouth, Devon PL4 9NB record hop only Fury Rockin' Wax Show 07866 255693

Sat 5 May 07 Warners - Corton Resort The Street, Corton, near Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 5HR Alleycats no details 01502 730288

Sat 5 May 07 Westwood Hotel 85 Mayors Walk, Peterborough, Cambs PE3 6EY Hound Dogs Johnny Be Good 01733 702976

Sat 5 May 07 Woodfield Club Woodfield Road, Woodfield, Doncaster, S.Yorks Jack Rabbit Slim Didge/Fred the Ted/Crock 07808 828551

Sat 5 May 07 Worcester RnR Club Christopher Whitehead School, Bromwich Road, Worcester, Worcs Rockin' The Joint Big Colin 01905 21313

Sun 6 May 07 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 6 May 07 BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol BS34 7RG Lennerockers (Germany) Rockin' John 0117 976 8065

Sun 6 May 07 Beaconsfield RnR Club Beaconsfield Football Club, Slough Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks HP9 2SQ Kingcats Wildcat Pete 01494 672605

Sun 6 May 07 Boston Arms Junction Road, Tufnell Park, London NW5 record hop only (50s/60s rock'n'roll 9pm - 1am) Cosmic Keith + guests 020 8925 3050

Sun 6 May 07 British Railway RnR Club Broad Green, Wellingborough, Northants Jets/Juke Box Eddies/Firebirds/ Strollin Steve/Houndog Jim 07748 306989

Sun 6 May 07 British Railway RnR Club Broad Green, Wellingborough, Northants Rockin' The Joint/Jive Romeros all dayer 07748 306989

Sun 6 May 07 Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Persuaders n/a 020 8647 1951

Sun 6 May 07 C'mon Everybody Record Hop - D21 Dance 21 Club, Conservative Club, Branch Road, Batley, W.Yorks record hop only Johnny Whiteshoes 0113 229 4196

Sun 6 May 07 Ellesmere Recreation Club 24 Ellesmere Road, Morris Street, Bolton, Lancs Wildkats Northwest no details no details

Sun 6 May 07 Erith RnR Club Erith WMC, 1 Valley Road, Erith, Kent DA8 1BT Flying Saucers Cruisin' Record Hop 07973 170056

Sun 6 May 07 Market House Tavern 129 High Street, Weston-super-Mare, Somerset BS23 1HN Honey B & the Kings Of Sting/ Moon/Little Carl/Dean Strange 01934 622567

Sun 6 May 07 Market House Tavern 129 High Street, Weston-super-Mare, Somerset BS23 1HN Sundowners/Fallen Apples all dayer 01934 622567

Sun 6 May 07 The Woodgrange 62-64 Southchurch Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2RR Cat & the Hot Tin Trio plus DJ 01702 460133

Mon 7 May 07 Exmouth RnR Club Railway Club, 15 Victoria Road,

Exmouth, Devon record hop only (50's rock'n'roll) Eddy Falcon 01392 433411

Wed 9 May 07 Mad Hatters Swing Dance Club-CWMC Coventry WMC, White Friars Lane, Coventry, Warks CV1 2DT record hop only (40's & 50's jive) incl lesson Woody 07968 988442

Wed 9 May 07 Roadrunner Club Biggleswade WMC, Church Street, Biggleswade, Beds SG18 0JS record hop only (jive/doo-wop/stroll) Timeshift Record Hop 07832 369373

Thu 10 May 07 Carlton Hotel Rosemary Road, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex record hop only Rockin' Roy 01255 434405

Thu 10 May 07 Mad Hatters Swing Dance Club-TVH Trent Valley House WMC, New Street, Bedworth, Warks CV12 9DL record hop only (40's jitterbug/50's jive) Woody 07968 988442

Thurs 10 May 2007 Rock'n'Rollin' @ Ruislip Manor Sports & Social Club Grosvenor Vale, Ruislip Manor, Middx. HA4 6JQ Classes & Club, Record Hop with Harry J 8:15 -11:30 020 8866 9093

Fri 11 May 07 Athletic Club - Kettering Rockingham Road, Kettering, Northants ?uestionmarks Dion 01536 510779

Fri 11 May 07 Beaconsfield RnR Club Beaconsfield Football Club, Slough Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks HP9 2SQ Itchy Feet Trio Wildcat Pete 01494 672605

Fri 11 May 07 Birdwell Club Sheffield Road, Birdwell, Nr Barnsley, S.Yorks S70 5UY Glenn Darren & the Krew Katz Clive the Jive 01924 376141

Fri 11 May 07 Blue Moon RnR Club North Walsham Community Centre, New Road, North Walsham, Norfolk NR28 9DE Danny & the Seniors Eddie's Bluemoon Record Hop 01692 500863

Fri 11 May 07 Bolton Tonge Ward RnR Club Tonge Ward Labour Club, Ainsworth Lane, Tonge Moor, Bolton, Lancs BL2 2QL Emperors Of Rhythm Jivin' Jim 01204 410483

Fri 11 May 07 Brigg Pavilion Scawby Brook, Brigg, Lincs DN20 9JH Cat & the Hot Tin Trio plus DJ 01652 656591

Fri 11 May 07 C'mon Everybody Record Hop - AMW Askern Miners Welfare Club, Manor Way, Askern, Doncaster, S.Yorks DN6 0AJ Aces (featuring Alan Kilvington) Johnny Whiteshoes 0113 229 4196

Fri 11 May 07 Kirk Hallam Social Club Dallimore Road, Kirk Hallam, Ilkeston, Derbys Meanstreak plus DJ 0115 932 9909

Fri 11 May 07 Rockin Jukejoint Denton Labour Club, Ashton Road, Denton, Cheshire Phil Haley & his Comments Poor Boy Paul + guests 07833 682201

Fri 11 May 07 Rock-Ola (Members Only) Club The Paddocks, Long Road, Canvey Island, Essex tba Dinger 01268 515696

Fri 11 May 07 Taunton RnR Club North Petherton RFC, Beggars Brook, North Petherton, Somerset record hop only (rock'n'roll/jive/bop/stroll) Tony Sullivan 01823 332180

Fri 11 May 07 The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Rockin' The Joint n/a 020 7622 4001

Sat 12 May 07 Begbrook RnR Club - KCC Kingswood Community Centre, High Sreet, Kingswood, Bristol BS15 4AB Wildkats Northwest Bo Duddley 0117 969 7326

Sat 12 May 07 Chicken Shack Brogborough Club, Bedford Road, Brogborough, near Milton Keynes, Beds Blue Flames/Hicksville Bombers Rollin' Rock Record Hop 07960 991236

Sat 12 May 07 Conservative Club - Dartford Dartford Conservative Club, 46 Spital Street, Dartford, Kent DA1 2DT Alleycats n/a 01322 223300

Sat 12 May 07 Ford Sports & Social Club Gardiners Close, Basildon, Essex SS14 3AN Cavaliers The Raven 01268 584789

Sat 12 May 07 Guildford Hot 50's RnR Club Fairlands Hall, Fairlands Avenue, Guildford, Surrey Jack Rabbit Slim Jimmy Slick 01483 856744

Sat 12 May 07 Hoptown RnR Hoptown Liberal WMC, Nelson Street, Normanton, Yorks WF6 2ET Bill Fadden & his Rhythm Busters plus DJ 07901 597391

Sat 12 May 07 Juke Joint RnR Club - GYH Great Yarmouth Hospital Social Club, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR30 1BU Jets The Professor/Rockin Shades 01760 338894

Sat 12 May 07 Northampton RnR Club - FC Far Cotton WMC, Main Road, Far Cotton, Northampton,, Northants NN4 8EN Porky's Hot Rockin' AJ The Rockin' DJ 01604 713851

Sat 12 May 07 Paris Rock Club - WAC Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road, London SE1 7AA record hop only Mad French Wolf/Dave 07944 775556

Sat 12 May 07 Pit Stop RnR Club Coventry Colliery S & S Club, Bennett Road, North Kersley, Coventry, W.Midlands Rockin' The Joint plus DJ 024 7633 6533

Sat 12 May 07 Preston RnR Club Deafway Centre, Brockholes Brow, Preston, Lancs Rusti Steel & the Star Tones Cry Baby 01253 852594

Sat 12 May 07 Ritz Ballroom 73 Bradford Road, Brighouse, W.Yorks Juke Box Eddies Bradford Dude 01274 392380

Sat 12 May 07 Shoreham RnR Shoreham Centre, Pond Road, Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex Corvettes plus DJ 01903 243392

Sat 12 May 07 Swindon RnR Club The Ballroom, Gorse Hill WMC, Chapel Street, Swindon, Wilts SN2 8DA Wildcats (Germany) Cherished Memories 01793 612378

Sat 12 May 07 The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Lucky Strike n/a 020 7622 4001

Sat 12 May 07 Thorngate Halls Bury Road, Gosport, near Portsmouth, Hants Persuaders/Ricky Aron/Danny & the Seniors Wild Wolfie Smith 023 9242 8732

Sat 12 May 07 Zodiac RnR Club Kingsway Arms, Kingsway, Luton, Beds LU4 8EH Flames plus DJ 01582 861240

Sun 13 May 07 BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol BS34 7RG Kingcats plus DJ 0117 976 8065

Sun 13 May 07 Beauwaters RnR Club Beauwaters Club, Nelson Road, Northfleet, Kent Meanstreak Pete Bruce 01322 407110

Sun 13 May 07 Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey tba n/a 020 8647 1951

Sun 13 May 07 The Sporting Green corner Hertford Road & Green Street, Enfield Highway, Enfield, London Cavaliers Captain Cave-man 020 8926 8577

Tue 15 May 07 Mynster RnR Club Coronation Hall, Westyeo Road, Burrowbridge, Somerset TA7 0RJ record hop only Ian's Blue Jean Bop 01823 698618

Tue 15 May 07 Parklands Ballroom (ex ICI/Dupont SC), Wheatley Hall Road, Doncaster, S.Yorks Jump & Jive Dave B 01302 884707

Wed 16 May 07 Bewicks Live Music Jam Bewick Suite, The Swan, 73 High Street, Maldon, Essex CM9 5EP Johnny Gunner & the Raiders rock'n'roll jam night 01621 843001

Wed 16 May 07 Mad Hatters Swing Dance Club-CWMC Coventry

WMC, White Friars Lane, Coventry, Warks CV1 2DT record hop only (40's & 50's jive) incl lesson Woody 07968 988442

Wed 16 May 07 Roadrunner Club Biggleswade WMC, Church Street, Biggleswade, Beds SG18 0JS record hop only (rockabilly/r&b) The Wolf 07832 369373

Thurs 17 May 2007 Rock'n'Rollin' @ Ruislip Manor Sports & Social Club £5

Grosvenor Vale, Ruislip Manor, Middx. HA4 6JQ Classes & Club, Record Hop with Rockin' Rico 8:15 -11:30 020 8866 9093

Thu 17 May 07 Mad Hatters Swing Dance Club-TVH Trent Valley House WMC, New Street, Bedworth, Warks CV12 9DL record hop only (40's jitterbug/50's jive) Woody 07968 988442

Fri 18 May 07 3R's RnR Club Reading Civil Service Club, James Lane, Burghfield, near Reading, Berks RG30 3RS Juke Box Eddies Wild Wolfie Smith

Fri 18 May 07 55 Jive RnR Club - ESC Ex-Services Club, St Georges Road, Barnstaple, Devon EX32 7AU Revolutionaires Nutrocker 01271 816352

Fri 18 May 07 Badderley Green WMC 922-924 Leek New Road, Badderley Green, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs ST2 7xx Kingcats 01782 537292

Fri 18 May 07 Blackburn Hall Commercial Street, Rothwell, Leeds, W.Yorks LS26 0AW record hop only Clive the Jive 01924 376141

Fri 18 May 07 Bolton Tonge Ward RnR Club Tonge Ward Labour Club, Ainsworth Lane, Tonge Moor, Bolton, Lancs BL2 2QL Earl Jackson Band Jivin' Jim 01204 410483

Fri 18 May 07 Brant RnR Club Brant Road, Lincoln, Lincs Hicksville Bombers Tony 01522 811204

Fri 18 May 07 Crazy Jo's Hillside Club (ex-Western Club), 257a Derby Road, Lenton, Nottingham, Notts NG7 2DZ Hi Voltage Kool Kat Charlie 07901 766863

Fri 18 May 07 Dale Tavern West Street, Worsborough Dale, Barnsley, Yorks S70 5PG Juke Box Jive Dave B 01226 205611

Fri 18 May 07 Dance Jive Memorial Hall, Bodhyrd (off Chester Street), Wrexham, N.Wales LL12 7TP record hop only (May Ball) guest DJ 07812 369702

Fri 18 May 07 East Coast RnR Clifton Hotel, Queens Parade, Scarborough, N.Yorks YO12 7HX Jump & Jive Roger 07835 388820

Fri 18 May 07 Hill Park Memorial WMC 78 Highlands Road, Fareham, Hants PO15 6JD Firebirds Rockin Billy 01329 280782

Fri 18 May 07 Leabrooks Club Greenhill Lane, Leabrooks, Nr Alfreton, Derbs DE55 1LU Glenn Darren & the Krew Katz plus DJ 01773 833035

Fri 18 May 07 March Jive Club Windmill Rooms, Whitemoor Road, March, Cambs PE15 OAF Flying Saucers The Professor 01354 742309

Fri 18 May 07 Memphis Belle's Mytchett Community Centre, 140 Mytchett Road, Mytchett, Camberley, Surrey GU16 6AA House Rockers Two Hounddogs 01276 504898

Fri 18 May 07 Queens Hotel (Theatre Bar), South Promenade, Blackpool, Lancs FY4 1AY Ian Fenn & the Starcats Mike Rossi 01253 342015

Fri 18 May 07 Rhythm Club RC Technology College, The Headlands, Darlington, County Durham DL3 8RW Oo Bop Sh' Bam 01325 390130

Fri 18 May 07 Rosecroft Club Chelsfield Road, Orpington, Kent Paul

Ansell's No 9 Pete Bruce 01322 407110

Fri 18 May 07 South Wales RnR Club British Legion Club, Penline Road, Whitchurch, Cardiff, S.Wales Heartbeats Crazee Dave 029 2061 9271

Fri 18 May 07 St Anne's Castle Main Road, Great Leighs, Chelmsford., Essex CM3 1NE record hop only (rock'n'roll/rockabilly/jive) Maurice's Rocking Machine 01245 361253

Fri 18 May 07 The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Flames n/a 020 7622 4001

Sat 19 May 07 B52 Club Diner Eastern Perimeter Road, Southend Airport, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS2 6YF Bernie Woods & the Forest Fires Radar Record Hop 01268 457767

Sat 19 May 07 Banbury RnR Club - BNNSC Broughton & Nth Newington Social Club, Banbury Road, North Newington, Oxon Blue Sapphires Mick the Mike 01295 278127

Sat 19 May 07 Broken Cross Club Fallibroome Road, Broken Cross, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK11 8TU Rock Back The Clock plus DJ 07887 754834

Sat 19 May 07 Clacton Weekender Highfields Holiday Park, London Road, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex CO16 9QY Rhythm Aces see special events 020 8593 4413

Sat 19 May 07 Clitheroe RnR Club Swan & Royal Hotel, Castle Street, Clitheroe, Lancs BB7 2BX Great Balls Of Fire Revive 45 01200 443480

Sat 19 May 07 Crondall RnR Club The Village Hall, Crondall, near Farnham, Surrey GU10 5QG tba Oh Boy! Record Hop 07903 145018

Sat 19 May 07 Cuxton RnR Club Sturdee Sports & Social Club, Stoke Road, Hoo, Rochester, Kent ME3 9LT Beyonders Moonshine Mama 01732 780076

Sat 19 May 07 Dance Club 21 above Conservative Club, Stock Lane, Batley, W.Yorks Skyrockers Bradford Dude 01924 478777

Sat 19 May 07 Easington Colliery Welfare Hall Seaside Lane, Easington Colliery, Easington, County Durham Spittires n/a 01845 525293

Sat 19 May 07 Exning Road RnR Club Exning Road WMC, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 0AB Ramshackle Daddies Rockin Lee's Record Machine 01638 750724

Sat 19 May 07 Hardy Spicers RnR Club Hardy Spicers Club, Edgerton Road, Erdington, Bham Mark Keeleys Good Rockin' Tonight Juke Box Johnny 01827 250303

Sat 19 May 07 Jive Party - Rivoli Rivoli Ballroom, 350 Brockley Road, Crofton Park, London SE4 2BY Jiving Miss Daisy Ken/Graham 020 8946 2664

Sat 19 May 07 Mid Devon RnR Club Magelake Hall, Bridge Street, Uffculme, Devon EX15 3DR record hop only (r'n'r/rockabilly) Mooncrest Record Hop 07731 481814

Sat 19 May 07 Moondog Mayhem Coed Eva & Hollybush Hall, Penylan Roundabout, Coed Eva, Cwmbran, Gwent NP44 7AG Revolutionaires/John Lewis Rock'n'Roll Trio/ Moose/Simeon/Jumping Hawk 07771 822206

Sat 19 May 07 Moondog Mayhem Coed Eva & Hollybush Hall, Penylan Roundabout, Coed Eva, Cwmbran, Gwent NP44 7AG Severn Delta Boys/Reservoir Cats/Numbers Racket all dayer 07771 822206

Sat 19 May 07 New Pines Holiday Park Dyserth Road, Rhyl, Wales Wildkats Northwest

Sat 19 May 07 Newtown Social Club Durham Road, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland TS19 0BS record hop only (r&b/r'n'r/jive/swing) Rockin' Jukebox Record Hop 0191 410 2914

Sat 19 May 07 Pink Cadillac Club Unionist Club, 28 St Johns Street, Newport Pagnell, Bucks MK16 8HJ Itchy Feet Trio Rockin' Rick 01604 696123

Sat 19 May 07 Port Slade Town Hall Victoria Road, Port Slade, Sussex Micky Hart & the Hartbreakers Stompin' Steve 07745 453765

Sat 19 May 07 Rockin' At The Legion British Legion, 399 High Road, Tottenham, London N17 5QX tba Dixie Sounds 07759 874167

Sat 19 May 07 The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX TTs n/a 020 7622 4001

Sat 19 May 07 The Shant Sharpness Dockers Club, Sharpness, near Berkley, Gloucs GL13 9UN Something Else plus DJ 0117 904 2658

Sun 20 May 07 BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol BS34 7RG Phil Haley & his Comments Rockin' John 0117 976 8065

Sun 20 May 07 Beaconsfield RnR Club Beaconsfield Football Club, Slough Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks HP9 2SQ Bernie Woods & the Forest Fires Wildcat Pete 01494 672605

Sun 20 May 07 Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Flames n/a 020 8647 1951

Sun 20 May 07 Rocky Road R&R Club Road & Courtenhall Ex-Servicemens Club, 55 London Road, Roade, Northants NN7 2NL Strollers Strollin' Steve (from 5pm) 01604 862861

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Mon 21 May 07 Exmouth RnR Club Railway Club, 15 Victoria Road, Exmouth, Devon record hop only (50's rock'n'roll) Eddy Falcon 01392 433411

Wed 23 May 07 Roadrunner Club Biggleswade WMC, Church Street, Biggleswade, Beds SG18 0JS record hop only (jive/doo-wop/stroll) guest DJ 07832 369373

Wed 23 May 07 The Shipley Boat Inn Shipley Gate, Eastwood, Nottingham, Notts NG16 3JE Boogie Children 01773 530313

Thurs 24 May Rock'n'Rollin' @ Ruislip Manor Sports & Social Club Grosvenor Vale, Ruislip Manor, Middx. HA4 6JQ Classes & Club, Record Hop with Harry J 8:15-11:30 020 8866 9093

Fri 25 May 07 Barnsley RnR Team - BHSSC Barnsley Hospital Sports & Social Club, Pogmoor Road, Barnsley, S.Yorks S75 2EP Glenn Darren & the Krew Katz Jive Bop Record Hop 01977 613841

Fri 25 May 07 Basingstoke RnR Club Westside Community Association, Paddock Road, South Ham, Basingstoke, Hants RG22 6QB Willie & the Hotshots plus DJ 01256 462305

Fri 25 May 07 Bolton Tonge Ward RnR Club Tonge Ward Labour Club, Ainsworth Lane, Tonge Moor, Bolton, Lancs BL2 2QL Jets Jivin' Jim 01204 410483

Fri 25 May 07 Borough Green RnR Club Village Hall, Borough Green, Kent TN15 8BJ Tony & the Saints Rock-a-Various 01732 887033

Fri 25 May 07 British Railway RnR Club Broad Green, Wellingborough, Northants Oo Bop Sh' Bam Strollin Steve 07748 306989

Fri 25 May Band Nights a' Rockin' with 59 Ford @ Loudwater Royal British Legion £7 Queensmead Road, Loudwater, High Wycombe, Bucks. HP10 9TZ 020 8866 9093

Fri 25 May 07 London Road S&S Club 279 London Road, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs ST4 5AG record hop only (rock'n'roll) Rockit Roadshow 01782 845817

Fri 25 May 07 Rhythm Hall Hayes Cricket Club, Grange Road, Hayes, Middx record hop only (rockabilly/blues boppers/r'n'r) Digger/Fifties Flash 07887 686040

Fri 25 May 07 Rock-Ola (Members Only) Club The Paddocks, Long Road, Canvey Island, Essex Rockin' The Joint Two Houndogs 01268 515696

Fri 25 May 07 Rolls Royce Club Moore Lane, Allenton, Derbys DE24 9HY Ian Fenn & the Starcats plus DJ 0115 849 6008

Fri 25 May 07 Taunton RnR Club North Petherton RFC, Beggars Brook, North Petherton, Somerset record hop only (rock'n'roll/jive/bop/stroll) Boppin' Darrin 01823 332180

Fri 25 May 07 The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Flying Saucers n/a 020 7622 4001

Sat 26 May 07 Brookfield Riding Centre Cannock Road, Shreshill, near Wolverhampton, W.Midlands Ian Fenn & the Starcats 01384 864344

Sat 26 May 07 Cardigan Bay RnR Club Village Hall, Cilgerran, near Cardigan, Pembroke Jester Band n/a 01239 810675

Sat 26 May 07 Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Class Of 58 (ticket only) n/a 020 8647 1951

Sat 26 May 07 Conservative Club - Halstead High Street, Halstead, Essex record hop only Rockin' Roy 07791 757676

Sat 26 May 07 Crescent WMC 8 The Crescent (rear of the Odeon), York, N.Yorks Furious Melbourne 01904 690311

Sat 26 May 07 It's Only Rock'n'Roll Sale Masonic Lodge, Sale, Cheshire M33 7EE Jive Street Jivin' Jim Killey 01611 929 0413

Sat 26 May 07 Junction 27 RnR Underwood Miners Welfare, Alfreton Road, Underwood, Notts Persuaders Tel'Star 0115 953 4918

Sat 26 May 07 McLeans (Pentre) Sandycroft, Deeside, Flint Pink Cadillac Cadillac Record Hop 01244 830905

Sat 26 May 07 Melksham RnR Club Assembly Hall, Market Place, Melksham, Wilts Rock Back The Clock Cockney Rebel 01225 706463

Sat 26 May 07 Nifty Fifties RnR Club Lowton Labour Club, 214 Newton Road, Lowton, Cheshire Blue Flames plus DJ 01942 724166

Sat 26 May 07 RBL - Leighton Buzzard Thrift Road, Heath & Reach, Leighton Buzzard, Beds Kingcats Tartan Ted 01525 237923

Sat 26 May 07 Ritz Ballroom 73 Bradford Road, Brighouse, W.Yorks Rockin' The Joint Bradford Dude 01274 392380

Sat 26 May 07 Rossington Welfare Social Club West End Lane, New Rossington, Doncaster, S.Yorks DN11 0DU Phil Haley & his Comments O' Dell Boy 01302 863125

Sat 26 May 07 Starfighter RnR Club Village Hall, Wrenningham, near Norwich, Norfolk Flying Saucers Rockin Roland 01508 494735

Sat 26 May 07 The Mayors RnR Club 147 S&S Club, The Surridge Centre, 2 Stepfield, Witham, Essex CM8 3TH Porky's Hot Rockin' Houndog Jim 01708 500033

Sat 26 May 07 The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Rat Pack n/a 020 7622 4001

Sat 26 May 07 The Web Spiders Web, 256-260 Morrison Street, Edinburgh, Lothian EH6 8DT Fret Tones plus others all dayer 0131 476 2209

Sat 26 May 07 The White Rabbit Unit 14, Bretonside Bus Station, Plymouth, Devon PL4 9NB Sugar Bullets/Mighty Atoms/Big 3 (all nighter) Fury Rockin' Wax Show+guests 07866 255693

Sat 26 May 07 Virginia Creepers Club, The Gramophone Bar, 60-62 Commercial Street, Shorditch, London E1 6LT. Opposite Spitefields Market .

Sat 26 May 07 Viva Cake St Aloysius Club, 20 Phoenix Road (off Evershot Street), Camden, London NW11 Sugar Creek Trio (r'n'r tea dance 4.30-midnight) plus DJ 07941 251112

Sat 26 May 07 Worcester RnR Club Christopher Whitehead School, Bromwich Road, Worcester, Worcs Mark Keeleys Good Rockin' Tonight plus DJ 01905 21313

Sun 27 May 07 BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol BS34 7RG Porky's Hot Rockin' Rockin' John 0117 976 8065

Sun 27 May 07 Boston Arms Junction Road, Tufnell Park, London NW5 record hop only (50s/60s rock'n'roll 9pm - 1am) Cosmic Keith + guests 020 8925 3050

Sun 27 May 07 Jive Jive Jive Rivermead Leisure Complex, Richfield Ave, Reading, Berks Cat & the Hot Tin Trio The Firebirds The Spitfires The Avengers Big Band Rockin The Joint The Tonemasters The Kingcats and Meanstreet 01522 752453

Sun 27 May 07 Northampton Rocks On A Sunday Ex-Servicemens Club, Sheep Street, Northampton, Northants Nervous Breakdown (open 4pm till 7pm) AJ The Rockin' DJ/JukeboxQueen 01604 493713

Sun 27 May 07 Rockin' The Fens Hiam Sports & Social Club, Putney Hill Road, Prickwillow, Ely, Cambs Firebirds/Sunsetters/Heartbeats/ Rockabilly Bob/The Professor 01638 741402

Sun 27 May 07 Rockin' The Fens Hiam Sports & Social Club, Putney Hill Road, Prickwillow, Ely, Cambs Rock Island Rebels (ticket only) all dayer (1pm-11pm) 01638 741402

Sun 27 May 07 Stafford RnR Club White Eagle Polish Club, Riverway, Stafford, Staffs Darrel Higham & the Enforcers Jukebox Johnny 01785 240140

Sun 27 May 07 The Sporting Green corner Hertford Road & Green Street, Enfield Highway, Enfield, London Flying Saucers Captain Caveman 020 8926 8577

Mon 28 May 07 Duke Of Wellington - Gt Yarmouth 37 St Peters Road, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR30 3AA Small Town Giants 01493 842498

Thu 31 May 07 Shipley RnR Club Shipley & District Social Club, Saitaire Road, Shipley, Bradford, W.Yorks record hop only Swinging Sue 01274 641800

Thur 31 May Rock'n'Rollin' @ Ruislip Manor Sports & Social Club £5 Grosvenor Vale, Ruislip Manor, Middx. HA4 6JQ Classes & Club, Record Hop with Rockin' Rico 8:15 -11:30 020 8866 9093



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Call Viv on 01522 752453
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