

# SMASH HITS



## PET SHOP BOYS

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO MAKE THESE MEN HAPPY?

MADONNA ● THE DAMNED ● JOHN TAYLOR  
MIDGE URE ● MICHAEL J. FOX ● OZZY OSBOURNE  
DEPECHE MODE ● THE BANGLES ● JIM KERR

OF THE COUNTRY LES IN VS 181

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Photo: Mark Farrant

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### SELF PORTRAITS

Who is this supposed to be? (Clue: his name's Simon in Don.)  
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JIM KERR



## B i r t h d a y s

### FEBRUARY

- 27th Steve "Inglemask" Harley (35)
- Adrian Smith of Iron Maiden (29)
- Paul Quinn (27)
- Paul Humphreys of OMD (26)

### MARCH

- 1st Mike Read ("34")
- Nik Kershaw (28)
- 4th Rod "Ingle bonce" Stripe of the Flying Pickets (30)
- Shakin' Stevens (36)
- 8th Mel Galley of Whitesnake (38)
- Cheryl Baker of Bucks Fizz (32)
- Clive Burr of Iron Maiden (29)
- Gary Human (26)
- Paul of Frankie Goes To Hollywood (26)
- 9th Martin Fry of ABC (28)
- 10th Prince "yore a toff Prince Edward" Edward (22)
- 11th Bruce Watson of Big Country (25)
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Mmmmmmmmmmm, love the f!se dearsies. This lot are called Gene Loves Jezebel, and although it's a bit of a pretentious name they released a really good single a while back called "Desire" which was an immerse. . . well, flop actually. Now they're going out on tour - details in *Concerts* (page 34).



## Foreign Skies: A Wham! Movie

**t**het's the official title of the "long-awaited" *Wham!* in China film which, after about a million years laffing around, is finally ready. A couple of weeks ago George, Andrew and about 150 friends and relatives turned up at a small London cinema to

see the first-ever screening, and were "thrilled with it" (which is just as well, seeing as the two hour documentary has cost them a reported £5 million to make). The reason it's taken so long is that the original director Lindsay Anderson (something of a "cult" figure, respected for prickly evant-garde British films like *if. . .* and *O Lucky Man*) walked out during the editing stage, apparently because George kept sticking his car in.

Anderson says he was keen to get a flavour of Chinese culture across, whereas it seems Wham! had other ideas: "Wham!'s people weren't very interested in the documentary content. All they wanted was a music video made from the performance footage at the end of my film, and this man demolished the whole film to get at that stuff," he commented at the time, adding that he'd "never have anything to do with an infantile pop group like Wham! again." After he left, the film was re-edited, and now consists mainly of hefty chunks of concert footage, backstage shennigans and

sight-seeing trips. Hopefully the football match featuring Andrew toggged up in full kit and posing away like nobody's business has been salvaged, even if George's bits, complete with Kevin Keegan hairstyle (due to heavy condensation in the air, and not heated Carmen rollers as reported elsewhere) haven't.

The film's due out on general release in the summer; also expected are a possible George Michael solo single by Easter and a new Wham! LP in the Autumn - ver lads are supposed to start recording in Abba's Swedish Polar Studios next month.

● While *Biz!* is on the subject of George n'things, take a look at these two (below). They're supposed to be Wham!'s "doubles" - very convincing, don't you think? Quite frankly *Biz!* a cat looks more like Wham! and *Biz!* hasn't even got a cat



(Russian for Sige Sige Sputnik, fact fans)



● Sige  
"Sige"  
Sputnik:  
are they  
really, as  
they claim,  
"the fifth

generation of rock'n'roll"? Who knows? But doesn't really care, actually, and reckons their single "Love Missile FI-11" is OK but sounds like "I Feel Love" speeded up and with the tune missing (not surprising, since it's produced by the same bloke, Giorgio Moroder). The vid's pretty good though – sort of a cross between *Mad Max* and *A Clockwork Orange*, the v. influential '70s film which got banned because it "incited violence" and which Ver Siges seem to have based rather a lot of their image on. They've even called their tour "A Clockwork Sputnik" (geddit?), just in case anyone misses the point (details in *Concerts*). Anyway, to get to le point: time for a competitionette...



The prize: 20 sets of four 12" singles (same record, but the sleeves are written in different languages), a 7" single, and a Sige Sige T-shirt. The first five people get a copy of the VHS vid (including a

special two minute "promotional trailer" concept thinge chucked in for good measure.)

**The question:** The dodgy looking geezer above was the first man in space. But is he (a) Yur Andropov (b) Yur Gagarr (c) Some Russian bloke (d) Reg Varney? Answers on the back of a Cruise missile to **Smash Hits Sputniks Are Spiky Competitionette, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF** – to get here before the end of the world. Bang!



**The Greeks** have got a lot to answer for. Demis Roussos\*, for instance. Or squid (urgh!). Mousakka. Pythagoras' Theorem. Squidgy pink fish eggs i.e. taramasalata (bleeeesaaauuuurrrgh!!!). And now they've foisted Nana Mouskouri on us, too. Not content with the success of "Only Lova", the short-sighted Greek so-called "songbird" (ha!) is releasing yet another single, a version of Abba's snoozesome "I Have A Dream". And she's doing a concert at the London Palladium (details in *Concerts*, page 34). Boo! Avant!



★ Our Demis Roussos expert (T.R. Hibbers) writes: During the late '60s, Aphrodite's Child became the most famous Greek pop combo ever, which isn't saying very much actually, but following the release of their spooked-out devilily double-concept LP called "Bast 666" or something, their bass player got so overweight that he couldn't play his instrument any more and so he had to go "solo". Hence Demis Roussos! He made so much swag by singing in a squaky voice whilst standing in a tent that he was able to buy solid gold tape and surround himself with "emerald" ladies. When last heard of, he was singing his "gleeic" "Happy To Be On An Island In The Sun" aboard a hijacked airliner whilst observing a strict high-fibre diet...



## WANT TO BE A POP STAR?

● Remember **JobBoxers**? A very long time ago (i.e. May 1983) they were on the cover of *Smash Hits*, but now – sniff – they are no more. A couple of weeks ago they finally "admitted defeat to the abominable pressures of the music business mafia" and split up. As a result, ex-members Sean McClusky, Chris Bostock and Rob Marche (drums, bass and guitar – fact fans) are looking for a singer/lyricist to join their new group. So if you think you're completely brilliant hugely talented, the right person for the group etc. etc. send a tape of yourself (singing, or *boobies*) and a recent photo to **Starcrest Management, 163 Caledonian Road, London N1**. Who knows – they might choose you. Then again they might not. Life, eh?



# D E F J A

is the name of a record label. It's also the loudest, brashest, most "trendy" and talked-about kind of hip-hop music around at the moment. *Bitz* spins around on its head and finds out all about it. . .

**D**ef Jam Records was founded about two years ago by Rick Rubin, a bearded young hippie-looking sort of person (who reckons AC/DC are one of the greatest groups ever) and his

(charming!), read dirty magazines and were booted off stage every night when they supported Madonna on her last American tour. Their single "She's On It" sounds like Mötley Crüe crossed with Kurtis Blow and a little bit of Benny Hill type humour - i.e. the lyrics are rather sexist and not particularly subtle.

**L.L. Cool J**, meanwhile, is 17 years old and ruthlessly confident. He wears tons of gold medallions and a floppy Kangol "bush hat" (currently de rigueur for serious breakers), and his favourite rapping topic is his huge JVC ghetto-blaster (or "beat box"). In fact, one of his loyal side-kicks is always close at hand at concerts to make sure no-one pinches this beloved machine, and he's even named his record after it - his single's called "I Can't Live Without My Radio", his LP simply "Radio".

Both L.L. Cool J and The Beasties (along with The Fat Boys, Kurtis Blow and Run DMC) star in a new hip-hop movie called *Krush Groove*, which is based loosely around the story of Russell Simmons and his management company, Rush Productions. But although the film has been a huge success in America, it doesn't look as if it will be released over here - probably something to do with its



The Beastie Boys - yum!

mate, Russell "Rush" Simmons. The label's two major groups are The Beastie Boys and L.L. Cool J, both of whom specialise in a minimal kind of rapping music based around drum machines, with the occasional blast of heavy metal chucked in for good measure.

**The Beastie Boys** are a trio of bratish teenagers who swear on stage, throw food out of hotel room windows



L.L. Cool J (centre) and "loyal side-kicks".

# " S T A R S T Y L



● **Number... er... lost count, actually.** Well, it's not a star and it's not stylish either, but who cares? It's certainly weird, and that's good enough for *Bitz*. This so-called "hair sculpture" (left) is the work of "environmental" (emphasis on the "mental" if you ask moi - Ed.) artist Terry Niedeck, and the stuff on the model's head includes cement (yum!), polystyrene, twigs, spray paint, electrical components and - blimey! - a working television. Apparently it's all meant to give "wearable expression to your sense of alienation in the post-industrial world". Give you a ruddy bag headache, more like. . .



David Hinds with



and without

● **Number lost-count-plus-one.** Good grief! This man (left) has got a yukka plant on his head. He's **David Hinds**, singer with reggae group Steel Pulse, and he hasn't cut his hair for seven years, as his Rastafarian beliefs forbid it. "It's about 18 inches high now," he explains proudly, and adds that since the sight of it can literally stop the traffic, he keeps his hat on a lot. "I don't like to cause car accidents!" Apparently

people give him hats all the time, "although for every ten I'm given only one ever fits - I've only got three. I can actually wear 'em." He washes his "tree" regularly in the bath (without taking it down), and lets it dry naturally, "which takes very long time in this sunless country." It's not supported by anything and he reckons it's going to topple over soon. "I'm getting very heavy and starting to lean. . ." But wouldn't he contempla

# M

specialist nature, not to mention the amount of "weaving and 'colourful' language used in the catalogue. Still, a soundtrack CD is available. It's called *Krush Groove: Music From the Original Motion Picture Soundtrack* (Warner Brothers), and as well as featuring all the groups mentioned, it also includes songs by Debbie Harry, Chaka Khan and Sheila E.

If you fancy hearing all this stuff without spending a quill-pounds down at Ye Olde Pop Innem'Listen record Bar, try answering this question: Which "new wave" group was Debbie Harry once in? (a) The Belle Stars (b) The Fat Boys (c) Benanarama (d) Plondie or e) The Scoffer Postock Doo Dah Band? First 15 correct answers out of the useless cardboard box get a *Teastie Boys 12"* and a *Krush Groove* LP. Get them to **Smash Hits So-Called "Trendy" Beat Box Competition, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF** by March 11.



**H**ey look, Back With A Why, The New Romans, What Time Is It, of course, then there's **Steven Strange**. The last Blitz heard of him he was playing "elephant polo" in the jungle. That might be, but in between you just sat around or giant whisky grey beasties he's a bit, man. Had to find time to put a new group together. They're called *Strange Cruise* (v. dodgy name if you think about it) and their first single, "Rebel Bug A Doodle", is just out on EMI Records.



**Paul Weller's** very own record label, Respond Records, has officially stopped operating. Since it started in 1981, groups signed to the label have included **The Questions, Big Sound Authority, A Craze and The Main T Posse**; however the only person left these days is **Tracey Young**, who must be feeling a bit lonely by now. Apparently she'll be "signing to a major label shortly."

## FREE SIMPLY RED STUFF

Record or cassette, which is better? Well, cassettes are really easy to carry around, but they come in horrid little plastic cases which always get lost, and then the bits of brown tape peeping out get all tangled up, and it's really boring having to rewind them all the time. (Not to mention the fact that, if you think about it,

the whole "concept" of having music contained on a weeny little strip of tape is very, very spooky and "uncanny" indeed.)

Records, on the other hand, are a bit clumsy and get horribly scratched, but they do have better covers, look more impressive on the shelf, and you can always bung them on tape anyway (if you don't mind being arrested and thrown in jail for a million years for illegal taping). It's a tough decision and no mistake, but *Blitz* has come up with a solution: the patent **Simply Red** Eeze-Solve Best Of Both Worlds Competition, incorporating a copy of their new single "Jericho" and the "Picture Book" LP in both record and cassette form. There's an album-sized carrier bag, a dinky little cassette wallet and best of all, a customised carrying case with room for 30 cassettes. *Blitz* has got 20 of these sets to give away, so here's a question: What's French for "red"? Not v. hard, is it? Answers on the back of something red to **Smash Hits Simply Red Eeze-Solve Competition, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF** to get here by March 11.



# E

having even a little, teeny weeny bit chopped off? "No! Never. The barber, he is my number two enemy." So who's number one? "My number one enemy? That is Babylon..."

© Interesting etymological pop fact: "Babylon" is the Rastafarian term meaning strength, dedication, Western civilisation, which explains why *Steel Pulse's* new LP, just out on WEA Records, is called "Babylon The Buzza". The group are going out on tour, too—details in Concerts.

**Yum! What's for dinner today, mum? This, in case you can't make it out, is Morten "Horten" Harket of famed Nordic beat combo A-ha with his head in a dustbin. Why? Too much goats' milk yoghurt, no doubt.**



Charles Clarke/Michael Angeliotti



Art is good. So is this picture (below). So are **The Go-Betweens** (the Aussie group in this good arty picture). They've got a single out called "Spring Rain". That's good too. Goodbye. (*Shut up - Ed.*)



**H**ey, mannequin, we called **The Cherry Bombz**, right, and we're really, like, paid our dues. Two of us hail from Finland and used to be in Hanoi Rocks, drummer Terry Chimes is listed under "ex-Generation X and Clash" and the fox lady with not very many clothes on was called from Toto Corbo. Our vinyl debut is a 12" EP called "Hot Girls In Love" which is, simply, like, mannequin, and we're going to be delivering a really tight set on the *Tab* on February 28. Touch base then, OK.

## ODE TO A TREE

By Sir William "Yore A Toff" Shakespeare

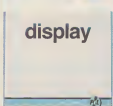
**Oh Tree**  
**Why do you cost such a lot of money,**  
**Tree?**  
**Smash Hits is made of thee,**  
**Tree**  
**Which is why from the next issue it's going to cost**  
**Another two pee,**  
**Tree (you complete bastard)**  
**Which isn't that much real-ee,**  
**Tree,**  
**But you're still a complete bastard anyway.**



Little Welsh "songbird" **Aled Jones** has just released an LP - it's called "Where E're You Walk", Mmmmmmm and it's reviewed in Albums. Bleesssaugh . . .



# c o m p e t



# T H E P R I M E M O V E R S

**T**elekinesis (i.e. moving objects with the power of thought) - fact or fiction? Belousov some believes in it, and now there's a Californian group - **The Prime**

**Movers.** "The name's taken from an episode of *The Twilight Zone* (ancient American fiction series currently being re-run on Channel 4) called *The Prime Mover*," draws vocalist Joe Ramsey down the *Bitz* spook-line. "It was all about a guy who had telekinetic powers, and could move

things with his mind. The story was real creepy, and the name had kind of a heavy meaning, so we used it. . ." There are also, *Bitz* ventures, a few creepy things about *The Prime Movers'* excellent first single, "On The Trail". Why, for instance, are there four people on the record, but only three in the group? "We brought in another singer, just as an experiment - it didn't really work, so now we're back down to three." And why does Joe give himself the mysterious title of "Severs"? Ramsey on the sleeve? "Severs is my father's middle name, but he really hates it, so I used it as a joke." Well, doesn't Joe think "On The Trail" sounds uncannily similar to Scottish spruifles *Simple Minds*? "I can't see it, myself. I take it as a compliment though, because I

really like their stuff." Other "stuff" he likes includes *The Stranplers*, *Echo & The Bunnymen* and *The Comsat Angels* - pretty unusual tastes, *Bitz* suggests, for a man from Pasadena, home town of ultra-heavy metal groups like *W.A.S.P.* and *Van Halen* (who he went to school with). "I've always liked British music," he explains. "British people are just really in touch with music. I grew up with *The Beatles*, you see, and that was what made me want to play guitar in the first place." But can he play his guitar by telekinesis, *Bitz* wonders? "Well, I do believe things like that are possible, yeah. I've got this book, an elmanec of strange occurrences, and I've read a lot about telekinesis - it's really interesting. I can't actually do it myself, though. . ."



● *The Prime Movers* - left to right: Gary Peterson, Joe "Severs" Ramsey and Curt Cooper attempt to turn the page by telekinesis.



● Why, oh why oh why, oh readers, is this thing called "life" so tricky? It's the so-called "simple", everyday things that always fox Biz. Things like morning tea. How often have we fumbled around amidst the kitchen jumble searching for a mug and ended up pouring said tea into a sieve instead? Most unsuitable for drinking purposes. But it doesn't matter anyway because there's no milk due to the fact that when you were writing a note for the milkman last night saying "Two Pints Today Please Milkie" you couldn't find a biro and had to use a clothes brush instead and even if the milkman had been able to read the note and had left you two pints you wouldn't dare go out the front door to collect them because if the door accidentally slammed behind you, you'd be locked out due to the fact that you've been using the cat as a key-ring and the cat's run away from home... Day-to-day living? - it's enough to make your head spin. And just *think*, if only things were properly labelled most of these little headaches would simply disappear! After all, a mug is a *mug*, so it should jolly well say so. John Lydon agrees: that's why he's gone all "generic" and called his single "Single", his album "Album" etc. And look at all these other P.I.L.L. items he's produced to make everyone's life go more smoothly. Yust! You could win this entire collection of generic things by answering this:

A mug is a mug but 'mug' has three other meanings. Name two.

Answers on a thing to **Smash Hits Competition Competition, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF**. First correct answer out of the

thing on March 11 wins everything in the picture. Next two get Can containing Mug, Key-ring, Biro, Label, Badge plus Single & Album. Next 22 get Single & Album. Goodbye.



● Martin Luther King

annual national holiday in the U.S. The group is called King Dream Chorus & Holiday Crew, which is actually a collection of young black "artists" including Whitney Houston, EI DeBarge, Lisa Lisa And Full Force, Grandmaster Melle Mel, The Fat Boys and loads of others (there are one squill-names on the back of the cover). It's the "brain child" of Kurtis Blow and was apparently financed by Prince, who flew the performers from all over America to meet up and record the single and make the vid. The single's out on March 7, and all proceeds will go to The Martin Luther King Centre For Non-Violent Social Change, in Atlanta, Georgia.

"King Holiday" is the name of the latest charity record. Dedicated to the memory of the black American civil rights leader Martin Luther King (who was assassinated in 1965), it celebrates the fact that his birthday - January 20 - has just been declared an

● First, two addresses which have changed:

**THE WORLD OF MICHAEL JACKSON**, PO Box 1804, Encino, California 91426-1804, U.S.A.

**THE WATERBOYS**, 3 Monmouth Place, Monmouth Road, London W2.

● And here are two addresses which haven't changed:

**THE DAMNED**, Flashman's Society, PO Box 19, Brentford, Middlesex, TW8 0TW.  
**OZZY OSBOURNE**, c/o Winterland, 37 Soho Square, London W1V 5DG.

● Rock 'oldders' **ELO** (that's Electric Light Orchestra to you, mates) have crawled out of their mothballs to do their first live concert in three years. Appearing alongside them will be lots of... zzzzzzzzz. Uh, sorry. Seem to have nodded off there. Um, where were we? Oh yeah, lots of other "famous" people from Birmingham (eg Roy Wood and the Move, Brixton), and the tickets cost about a million pounds each. Still, it's all in aid of charity - details in *Concert*.



**M**ost Brilliant. You've probably met them before, ackchewie, seeing as they had a rather tunesome version of James "grandfather of punk" Brown's "It's A Man's Man's Man's World" but quite recently, but since then they've gone all post-apocalyptic and Mad Max-ish (Hain everyone? - Ed). Their new single's called "Love Is War" (yeah, right) and the Brit nuclear banker is fair chocker with copies of them just wading to be distributed to the needy and the poor. So here's a question: what do you use to measure radioactivity? Is it a) a canary in a cage b) a radio activity-o-meter c) a gelpet counter d) a clockwork orange? Answers on the back of an atom to **Smash Hits Nuclear Holocaust Competition, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF** to get here quite soon. First 25 out of the fast-out shaver get a 12" and 7" single and a groovy little postcard thingette.



Sweater: S M L XL. £10.99. Trousers: Waist 28-36". £16.99. Shirt from a range.



IMAGES CHANGE



**Avanti:** (Italian) Hurry Up, Faster, Ahead.

**Avanti:** A new collection for fast dressers.

**Avanti:** Don't get left behind.



Where value is always in fashion

They were the first punk group ever to make a record and the first punk group to split up. Then they got back together again. Then Captain Sensible, their bass guitarist, had a solo number one record and left. Then... *nothing*. Till now. They've just had their first proper big hit single and, as Vici MacDonald discovers, have earned enough money to buy a Sherman tank, start a family and have a video installed in the family tomb.

## ROMAN JUGG

Roman Jugg has just given birth. Ok, to be precise, his wife has, it's just come back from the hospital, and he's still being born. "It's a boy our first child. He's got big hands... he's either going to be a road sweeper or a guitarist." Roman was there at the birth. "That experience will never be beaten. It must be the most brilliant thing that can happen to anyone. Top that? No, way!" He doesn't mind the event though, as so many "enlightened" couples do nowadays. "I think that's a bit sick, really." He's called the young lad Jake - Jake Jugg Hermin. Weird name. Jugg, Did Roman get it because, he, erm, looks a bit like a Jugg Roman becomes distinctly upset at the suggestion. "It's my real name - not the rest of the group. Honest it is. My mum and dad are Yiddosha, so it's pronounced 'Yooj' really."

Despite the exotic name, Roman was born and brought up near Caerphilly in South Wales. "My parents moved there after the war because that's where the work was. After leaving school (where he was "very busy"), he had spells as a cab driver and supervising in a factory.

It was around this time that punk found its spiky old head, and Roman soon became involved. "Me and Bryn were in a group right from the very start. It was difficult in South Wales, though - there's nowhere to play, and there's no interest. It's still the same now, which is a shame. After five years of struggling in various groups, he joined The Damned in 1981. "They had this young wizard kid who was a brilliant keyboard player, but his mum wouldn't let him go on tour with them. So they called me instead and asked me to do that for one tour, and they haven't been able to get rid of me since."

These days he seems very much the "moss" of the group, and here that he has rather a surge hand in writing most of the Damned's songs. "It varies, though. It's more of a joint effort now. Before, we all used to have our own little projects but on the last album we collaborated more." He explains that, no matter who writes a song, they split all the credits evenly. "I might write a song, but what makes it a Damned song is the way Bryn plays bass, Rippl plays drums, and Dave sings it. It's a bit unfair if you've got a group promising a song and then one guy cops all the money for it, just because he wrote it."

So, what about the rest of the group then - how would he describe them? "Well, Rip is a convincing English gal. I've got to say that, because last time we did an interview in *SixtySix* His called me a convincing Welsh gal. Dave's pretty gnomish, I suppose. I suppose Bryn I'd describe as... ah... And... Confused."

## RAT SCABIES

In 1975 Chris Miller contracted a horrible itchy skin condition called scabies, ever since then he's been known as Rat Scabies. The name was invented by Mick Jones (ex-Clash and now of Big Audio Dynamite). Rat explains: "We were in the studio in this really seedy place that actually had rats in it. And this bug just kept happening to scabiate along at the very moment I was telling them I had scabies. Do I regret it? No - it's only a name. At the time he was in a group called London SS with Mick Jones, Tony James (ex-Generation X, now ex-Sighe "Sugar" Spinakis) and Brian James (ex-Damned, now in Lords Of The New Church). "I don't think Mick and Tony wanted me very much, because I had long hair and probably flaired trousers, but Brian thought I was the man for the job so we fell out and so we. The Damned. Why did we call ourselves that? Because we felt we were damned. I wasn't anything to do with cheap Hammer horror films. I despise the way that tag gets put on us."

Rat seems to despise quite a lot of things, his age is "inevitable". *Top Of The Pops* is a "torer" and "like a Tupperware party" (which doesn't stop him appearing on it), and a simple question about whether or not he's married seems to reduce him to a "no". "You interview Rat Scabies from The Damned, you don't ask Chris Miller about his private life," he shrugs. Does he see the two as being separate, then? "Yes. I bloody well do. When I'm not poring around in a gossip mag it's my own 'no' to these things he will talk about, then." Well, I'll talk to you about Russia if you like. "So Rat talks about Russia."

"It's really interesting," he says, calming down. "My parents know some of the Russian education people - they come over here on cultural exchanges. The last time they were over my parents gave them a copy of 'The Secret Diary Of Adrian Mole' to take back to the next thing we knew it was like a best seller in Russia!" And the Russians took some Damned records back with them, too. "So now they're popping up in Moscow and Leningrad!"

But given the choice of living anywhere in the world, he returns he'd choose Cornwall. "I could live at the edge of a cliff and watch the waves break." So is he a bit of a normal? "I suppose I am a bit, really." And how would he sum himself up? "Very disturbed," he replies satirically (though it's a bit difficult to tell him "But, then what's normal? I'm kind of sane normally, but I don't think it's Richard Brins on television. I don't think it's Coronation Street." He's always wondered what normal people are and what they do. "I suppose they just all sit home in detached houses in suburbs watching *The Good Man or something*."

## BRYN MERRICK

Bryn, the Roman, comes from Wales. A doing little town called Barry - the only thing it's known for is having the biggest steam-engine graveyard in the world. "He joined The Damned three and a half years ago, when Roman recommended him."

Before that, he'd tried joining the Navy - Barry is a dock town, and lots of his family were at sea. The Navy weren't too keen on him, though, mainly because he'd managed to pick up a criminal record. "When I was 16 I couldn't stop nicking people's cars, you see. I had nine years conditional discharge and a suspended sentence by the time I applied to the Navy, so they wouldn't let me in." His only other "work experience" was two-and-a-half days spent in a butcher's shop. "I left a Wednesday because it was a half day away."

He regards his past antics with amusement now. "When I look back at what I did when I was a lad, it was more like a comedy act. I've always been a clown." It's ludicrous the rest of the group regard him as a bit of a "clown" too, in fact they're often teasing him about various ludicrous daunties he's escaped. He's been involved in Bryn, good-guards as ever, takes their spots in good part. "In this group, everybody gets teased. If anyone can find a flaw in anyone else they all pick on it."

The main cause of today's enmity is Bryn's tale of how he once got locked in the loo, with only his Swiss Army penknife for company. "There was this old wooden door, see, and it got jammed at the bottom. There was no handle on the inside, so I jammed the saw bit of my pen knife in the keyhole instead. I was just trying to get a grip on it when the bloody thing snapped. It was a black one, as well - you don't often see them, you can only get red ones normally." Apparently all the Damned have got Swiss Army penknives. "We went to Geneva, see, and what better place to get one? They're really useful in the van when you're trying to put sandwiches together. And how many times have I been someone and no-one's got a toilet paper roll?" It's really good for opening cans of cat food, too - everything's possible.

There's one thing he writes more than a new Swiss Army penknife, though a tank. "I've just always had this thing about owning a Sherman tank. What's wrong with that? After the 2nd World War there were loads of tanks left over, and there are still some around. Sherman tanks are best, because they're really small. I know someone in Wales who owns a Scorpion and it's got one. Just because he puts the cars in the crusher he drives his Sherman tank all over them, just for a job. Incredible."

## DAVE VANIAN

When Dave auditioned for The Damned in 1976, he had still competition. "It was me or Syd Vicious. Syd didn't turn up though, and I got the job." It he hadn't got the job he'd have had to be a comic-book illustrator. "I always fancied getting across to America and working as an inker on the *Beetle* comics." His own "Court Dracula" image isn't based from comic books, though, but from him. "I've always dressed like this. It's linked to old movies from the '30s and '40s, really. I've always loved the medium of films." At the moment he's avidly watching the old horror flicks Channel 4 are showing on Saturday nights. "Do you see *Dracula's Daughters* the other week?" I've always loved that, it's great. It might seem lame now, but in the '30s they actually had nurses in the cinema because so many people were fainting from fright."

Perhaps his love of gothic dress has something to do with his ancestry, too, he's had Latvian on his father's side, Latvia being a creepy little East European state. "A lot closer to Transylvania than England, let's say. Despite all this, he's not frightened of the supernatural in fact he used to go on ghost hunts to try and observe their existence. His research led him to Boris Reilly (supposedly the most haunted house in Britain), where a process team of ghost hunters had managed to tape-record sounds of growling and cattering cats. "We recalled the whole experiment, exactly, and proved there was something funny going on." Dave remembers, "In that church there's a clock - it's been running for years, and never stopped. It was clearly audible on our tape but not on theirs at all, so it must have been tampered with."

He's even worked in a cemetery, and retains a bit of an expert on burial chambers, although he doesn't - as reported - sleep in a coffin. "Coffins aren't very comfortable - they're a bit restricting across the shoulders. Coffins are better, they're much larger. We were going to build a double casket for our house, but I haven't got round to it." Instead, he and his American wife Laurie sleep in "an extremely high bed wedged in fabric", which, like everything else in his house, is Victorian. He wants to move to a much larger place though, where he can raise a family (Vanian can be buried when the time comes).

"I've always thought it would be a great idea to have a videotape of yourself playing records. People would put money in to see it and it'd help pay for the upkeep of the place." And the message he'd give... "Maybe I'll be back



A ROMAN JUGG

A RAT SCABIES

A BRYN MERRICK

A DAVE VANIAN

# CULTURE CLUB



MOVE AWAY

NEW SINGLE  
7" AND EXTENDED 12" MIX  
PRODUCED BY LEW HAHN AND ARIF MARDIN  
OUT NEXT WEEK

VS 845



# GET SMART

Get Smart has had so many letters about a certain American female pop "sensation" that we've given in and produced the first in an occasional series of "Everything You Ever Wanted To Know About . . ." specials.

If there's something you're bursting to know about your favourite pop star, write to Get Smart, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF and we'll see what we can do.

## MADONNA



**Can you please tell me whether Madonna's hair is permed or just naturally curly and whether she has thick or thin hair?**

Madonna fan, Leicester.

● According to Madonna's British "spokesperson", "as someone who has sat in the back of a car with her, I'd say her hair is definitely natural though it's actually more wavy than curly. I'd also say it's more thick than thin."

**Please help! Is Madonna's real name Madonna Louise Ciccone OR Madonna Louise Vernon Ciccone OR Madonna Louise Veronica Ciccone — or is it something completely different?**

Two Madonna Fans Desperately Seeking The Truth, Norwich.

● Madonna was christened Madonna Louise Ciccone, but when she was confirmed (the reaffirmation of the Catholic faith and confirmation as a "soldier of Christ" which happens when Catholics are 12 or 13) she was allowed to choose an additional "confirmation name", and she chose Veronica (snigger). As she once explained, "If I had to change my name I'd use my confirmation name Veronica. I chose her because she wiped the face of Jesus, which I thought was really dramatic." Oooeer . . .

**Can you tell me whatever happened to a song called "Ain't No Big Deal" which was intended for the "Madonna" album and where I might hear it now?**

D. Waipole.

● The song — which was one of the first she ever recorded and was written by her drummer and "partner" at the time Steve Bray — was, as you say, left off the "Madonna" LP. It was put instead onto an American "ampler" compilation album called "Killer Bees" — a mishmash of songs by people on the same record label as her. It's also — as you can see on the discography over the page — on the B-side of the Japanese "Dress You Up" 12" and is, we can reveal, really rather good. Unfortunately the Japanese 12" costs about £10 and the American compilation is no longer available but Madonna's British record company say that "we may well release it in some form in the future".

**When you featured Madonna's picture with the "Into The Groove" songwords (13 July — 13 August issue) her eyes were bright blue. This also appears on the cover of the latest album. Yet in about a billion other pictures they are brown! Is it my eyesight or hers?**

A very confused person, Sussex.

● Well, it's certainly not your eyesight — a quick check confirms that her eyes are different in some photos. Our photography expert David "Scoffer" Bostock suggests it may be that the photos were "touched up" (in other words, they had changes painted on after they were taken — quite a common practice, especially in America). The real colour — judging by the photos which Smash Hits took when she was on the cover at the beginning of 1984 and which definitely weren't fiddled about with — is greeny-bluey-brown. Sort of.

**Please could you tell me why Madonna wears so many crosses and why she laughs at the beginning of "Angel"?**

A Wham! Fan, Barnsley.

● Yes, why does she wear so many crosses? Her "spokesperson" (the one who sat in the back of a car with her) puts it down to her Catholic upbringing and to the fact that she was christened Madonna (meaning "mother", but in particular, "the mother of Christ", the Virgin Mary). Though perhaps you should bear in mind that, according to Talking Heads' Tina Weymouth, Madonna has said in American interviews that "I love crucifixes because there's a naked man on them" As for that rather sweet little chuckle at the beginning of "Angel", her spokesperson simply puts it down to "charm".

**In the first scene of *Desperately Seeking Susan*, who is the bloke who Madonna takes a potshot of in bed who later gets hurled out of the window to his death?**

Tom, West Kensington.

● He's an American called Richard Hell and, though he now makes his living as an actor, he is perhaps most famous as "the man who really invented punk rock" when he was the first person to wander round wearing a ripped t-shirt held together with safety pins in 1974 while in a band called the Neon Boys (who became very trendy band, Television). Later on, when he came to England with his band Richard Hell And the Voidoids, he claimed he'd been swizzled because the Sex Pistols had stolen all his ideas and given him no credit.

**Did you know that in *Desperately Seeking Susan* Madonna is listening to the Flizz's "One Thing Leads To Another" on her headphones when somebody rings her up?**

Shri, Kendal.

● No.



**Has Madonna achieved the most top five hits in a row by the same person in one calendar year (1985)?**

Madonna's *Belly Button* Norfolk

● As far as we know, no-one has ever even come close to her eight top five hits last year, and no female singer has ever before sold 3 million singles in a year. Fancy that!

**Please could you tell me whether it's true that Madonna has a son as there is a rumour that she does. Also it said on the radio the other day that she's getting divorced. Are these rumours true?**

Jane Benson, Sheffield

● As far as we know, insists Madonna's spokesperson, "there's absolutely no truth at all in these rumours. All these stories are getting completely out of hand — if anything like this were true I'm sure we'd know."

**I think it's horrible when they make fun of Madonna's belly button on *Spitting Image* — if you ask me her belly button is rather nice. Can you find out if Madonna minds?**

Rob Smith, Lincoln

● Madonna seems to be maintaining a dignified silence about such matters but she has long been on record as being extremely proud of her navel. "I have the most perfect belly button," she once boasted. "There's no fluff in it. If 100 belly buttons were lined up against the wall I could definitely pick out which one is mine."



Spot the difference



**Me and my "friend" have been arguing about Madonna's beauty spot. Is it real? My friend says it isn't because sometimes in pictures it's on one side and sometimes it's on the other so he thinks it's a fake stick-on. Please set the books straight.**

Emma Peter, Tolinton

● Yes, it is real. The reason it appears on different sides in photos is that sometimes magazines print the photos in reverse, either because it looks better on the page or simply by mistake. In real life the spot is on Madonna's right upper lip (in other words on the left of the picture as you look at it).

**Can you give me any information about the green silk jacket with a cosmic pyramid design on the back that Madonna and Rosanna Arquette wore in *Desperately Seeking Susan*?**

Madonna fan, Gloucester

● But of course. The jacket was especially made for the film by the production designer, and after the film's release in America you could buy replicas for around \$50 (£35) though sadly they were never on sale over here. And, incidentally, the design on the back — a pyramid with an eye on top — is actually taken from the back of an American dollar bill.

**What is Madonna up to?**

Bobbi and Shona, Worcester

● At the moment she's in the UK filming sequences with "hubby" Sean Penn for the film *Shanghai Surprise*. Though the finished film probably won't be seen over here until Christmas at the earliest. She has, however, nearly finished another LP which should be out in the summer.

**Please could you give me a list of all the singles and albums that Madonna has made on her own as I would like to complete my collection.**

Madonna fan, Wiltshire

● All of them? Well, even once we'd been to Madonna's record company, scoured nearly every shop in London and pined a few things from Stephen Duffy's private Madonna collection ("I love her," he confessed) this is all we could find. Bear in mind though, that apart from most of the singles in "normal" versions and the most recent versions of the albums, most of these are now unavailable.

**EVERY SINGLE MADONNA**

**S I N G**



"Everybody"/"Everybody (Like)" 12" — her first single (released Oct. 80) A/R 10



"Borderline"/"Lucky Star" (U.S. Remix) 7" and 12" — released May 84 (reissued No. 38)



"Into The Groove"/"Shoo-Be-Do!" 7" and 12" (Eurovision) — first released July 83 (reissued No. 1)



"Lucky Star"/"I Know It" 7" and 12" — released Sept. 83 (reissued No. 17)



"Like A Virgin"/"Blay" 7" and 12" — released Nov. 84 (reissued No. 3)



"Into The Groove"/"Shoo-Be-Do!" picture disc



"Lucky Star"/"Holiday" (reissued) 12" — never available in the shops



"Holiday"/"Faded" 7" and 12" — released Feb. 85 (reissued No. 3)



"Holiday"/"Think Of Me" 7" and 12" — released July 85 (reissued No. 7)



"Holiday"/"Think Of Me" 7" and 12" — released Jan. 84 (reissued No. 7)



"Crazy For You" 7" only, (50 cent) by Sammy Hagar — released April 83 (reissued No. 6)



"Holiday"/"Think Of Me" 12" picture disc



"Lucky Star"/"I Know It" 7" and 12" — released March 84 (reissued No. 4)



"Crazy For You" picture disc



"Angel"/"Burning Up" 7" and 12" — released Sept. 85 (reissued No. 1)

**A L B U M**



"Madonna" (reissued) 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025



"Like A Virgin" (reissued) 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025



"Like A Virgin" (reissued) 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025



# RECORD IN THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE (Well almost...)

## L E S



"Angel"/"Burning Up" picture disc.



"Dress You Up" poster sleeve 12".



"Dambor" 7 and 12 (b-side by Black'n'Blue) - released Sept. 12, reached No. 1.



"Dambor" 7 with poster sleeve.



"Dress You Up"/"I Know It" 7 and 12 - released Oct. 25, reached No. 5.

## M S



"The First Abuser" - Madonna's album with new title and colour sleeve.



"Like a Virgin" picture disc (with all original versions of "Like a Virgin").

## I M P O R T S



Imports are foreign versions of records which have been put on sale in this country - usually because they contain different or unobtainable songs, or because they have different sleeves. (And, sometimes, because the artist sings the song in a foreign language, though all of these Madonna records are in English.) They're quite hard to find - the best places to try are chain stores like HMV, Virgin and Our Price in big cities - and, be warned, they're rather pricey. Cheapest of this lot are the Japanese 7" (about £4) and the American and European 12" (£5-6). The interview picture disc costs £9, the Japanese 12" £10 and the Japanese mini-LP - gulp! - £12.



"Everybody"/"Everybody" (club American 12" - Madonna's very first release)



"Burning Up"/"Physical Attraction" American 12".



"Borderline"/"Lucky Star" American 12's - both the U.S. versions.



"Like a Virgin" (extended dance remix)/"Blay" American 12".



"Material Girl" (extended dance remix)/"Pretender" American 12".



"Crazy For You" American 12 (with remix by Tommy Page and Journey).



"Angel" (extended dance remix)/"I'm The Groove" American 12".



"Lucky Star"/"I Know It" German 12".



"Holiday"/"Lucky Star" German 12".



Madonna Limited Edition (1,500) interview picture disc.



"Holiday"/"Lucky Star" Spanish 12".



"Dress You Up" Japanese 12" - also includes "Anti-100 Deal" (see previous page).



"Holiday"/"I Know It" Japanese 7".



"Borderline"/"Physical Attraction" Japanese 7".



"Like a Virgin" Japanese 7".



"Holiday"/"Lucky Star" Japanese 7".



"Dress You Up" Japanese 7".



"Like a Virgin" Japanese 12" - also includes "Anti-100 Deal" (see previous page).

Words and music by Mark Fisher  
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# DEPECHE MODE

## STRIPPED

Take my hand  
To the land  
Where every body  
For one

Let me see you  
Stripped down to the bone  
Let me see you  
Stripped down to the bone

Let me see you  
Stripped down to the bone  
You're breathing in fumes  
I taste when we kiss

Take me back some kick in the land  
Where every thing's ours for a few hours

Let me hear you make love to me  
Without you talking to me  
Let me hear you speaking just for me

Let me see you  
Stripped down to the bone  
(Let me hear you speaking) (Just for me)

Let me see you  
Stripped down to the bone  
(Let me hear you speaking) (Just for me)

Let me see you  
Stripped down to the bone  
(Let me hear you speaking) (Just for me)

Let me see you  
Stripped down to the bone  
(Let me hear you speaking) (Just for me)

Let me see you  
Stripped down to the bone  
(Let me hear you speaking) (Just for me)

Words and music by M.L. Garcia  
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On Music Records



# MATT BIANCO

## JUST CAN'T STAND IT



Help me beat this losing streak  
I'm running round here like a dog on heat  
I've got it bad I know it's sad

Chorus  
Every time I'm round you baby  
I just can't stand it any more  
And I just can't stand it any more

You play me up you cut me down  
I must be blind when you fool me around  
It's bittersweet this love you keep

Repeat chorus

A love/hate emotion  
I can't hide as I let each day tick away  
And I fight and you hurt me more  
Each time I try to say goodbye

Repeat above

I can't believe that I do the things that I do for you  
I've seen your tricks a hundred times yeah  
It's bittersweet just a losing streak

Repeat chorus

I tell you baby  
I just can't stand it any more  
And I just can't stand it any more  
Every time that I'm round you baby  
And I just can't stand it any more  
Oh baby  
And I just can't stand it any more

Words and music by Mark Reilly/Mark Fisher  
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On WEA Records

A black and white portrait of a man with dark hair, heavy eye makeup, and a small mustache. He is wearing a dark leather jacket with a studded shoulder and four large buttons down the front. He is looking towards the camera with a serious expression. The background is plain and light-colored.

**KISS**  
THE SINGLE

**ALEXANDER O'NEAL**



**IF  
YOU  
WERE  
HERE  
TONIGHT**

As the night moves in  
Love takes on a new meaning  
If you were here  
You would know what I mean to say  
The circumstance leaves me only waiting  
For the chance I only want to love you more  
More

Can't you understand it  
Girl you know how much I care  
It's not the way I planned it no  
If you could only know my feelings  
You would know how much I do believe  
If you were here tonight  
By my side  
If you were with me now

When the lights go out  
I cannot pretend  
This bed's too big oh  
For me to be in alone oh

Can't you understand it  
Girl you know how much I care  
It's not the way I planned it no no no no no  
If you could only know my feelings  
You would know how much I do believe  
If you were here tonight (ell night)  
By my side

if you were with me now

Every night alone I just wait here anticipating  
For the day I won't feel this pain baby  
Please don't keep me waiting  
'Cause to me  
If you were here tonight  
Oh girl  
Be by my side  
If you were with me now

Words and music by M. Mor  
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*Maitai*

**FEMALE INTUITION  
NEW 7" & 12" SINGLE**

7" SINGLE NOW AVAILABLE WITH IMMENSE  
VALUE CONTINUOUS PLAY CASSETTE

**"FREE"**

TRACKS INCLUDE: FEMALE INTUITION, HISTORY  
(SUPERIOR 'MELTDOWN' MIX) & BODY AND SOUL

VS 844



VS 844-12

# RSVP

Want someone to write to? Send us a postcard with a few words about yourself so people can get in touch. All cards to: RSVP, Smash Hits, 52-53 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF. And please enclose a phone number where we can contact you. This won't be published.

● **Are there any boys out there (17+) into The Cult, U2, The Alarm, nightclubbing and dressing way out?** If so then please write to me, Anna, at 3B Bakers Way, Brycethorn, Nr Bridgend, Mid Glam, S Wales

● **I need somebody like you!** I'm 16, female and into Bryan Adams, Corey Hart, Midge Ure and so on. Please write to: Riekae Komatsu, 31-33 Hmuto-cho 2-chome, Takazuki - shi Osaka 569, Japan

● **Hi! I'm a 14 year old lad who wants to write to some female.** I'm into most funk and electro such as Whedon, Level 42, Cameo and Paul Hardcastle, so get writing to: Same, 33 Fitzlands Walk, Swymington, Stone, Staffs ST15 0PF

● **If you're a 16+, into U2, Gn West, UB40, Ultravox, Springsteen, FOTM, TFF, DD, Bryan Adams, A-ha** and trillions of other groups and also a member of ATHMBFAONI (allergic to homework, heavy metal, Bucks Rizz and other half things), then you can write to me: Jake O'Brien, 44 Miles Hill Terrace, Leeds LS7 2E3

● **My name is Emma Clarka and I would like a female penpal from Britain aged 10-12 years.** My interests are swimming, Wham! and Guides. Please write to: 43 Dunehorpe Vale, Sherwood, Nottingham NG5 3ER

● **I'm a 17 year old Gary Numan fan looking for anybody (any age or sex) who's mad about the following:** Gary Numan, The Cars, Japan, Tik & Tok, Bauhaus, Echo & The Bunnymen, black clothes and weird multi-coloured hair-dos. Paul, "Junction Motel", Botton Road, Bradford BD2 4JX

● **I'm Jonathan, I'm 16 and I'm looking for a girl of the same age to write to.** I'm into U2, Go West, The Cult and most of the pop groups so get writing now to: J Martin, 34 St Michaels Close, Perkeridge, Nr Stafford

● **Hi! I'm an 11 year old girl and I'd like to hear from any boys or girls around my age.** I like swimming, reading and George Michael. Please write to: Emma Gaborony, 110 George Street, Birmingham, Cheshire, Derby S43 1HG.

● **Calling all Gary Numan fans.** I'm also mad about Depeche Mode, Frankie and Doree Or Alive. If you're interested please write to: Tasha, "Walkers", Rase Lane, Little Stanley, Nr Chester CH2 4HS

● **Calling all fans of Level 42, Scritti Politti, Feargal Sharkey and A-ha.** We are two wonderful 15 year old girls called Tracy and Arvon. We're looking for two good looking male penpals aged 15-17 who like the above groups but hate heavy metal and punks. All boys scribble a letter (and send a pic) to: 46 Grove Road, Uxxtovter, Staffs ST14 7DW

● **My name is Sarah and I am 17 years old.** I'm into The Style Council, The Specials and all good '80s music. I also like athletics and going out with my friends. I'd love to hear from anyone, boys or girls, so get writing to: Sarah Thomas, 9 The Hollow, King Street, Bowley, Telford, Shropshire TF4 2AE

● **Are you lonely? Are you bored? Then you need me!** I'm a 15 year old boy and I love fun, pop music (except Wham!), all sports and I also like writing, so put pen to paper and drop me a line. Brian Beckett, 72 Foise John Way, Woodlands Park, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 5XB

● **I'm desperately seeking a penpal (female) aged 12-14.** I'm 13 years old and madly in love with Madonna. If you look anything like her then you're my type. I also like any other music and my other interest is playing sport. I'll reply to all letters so write to me (with a pic if poss.) Jason Thom, 6 Lon-y-Bedw, Cose Mow, Bangor, Gwynedd, North Wales

● **Hi! I'm a 13 year old female into Paul Young, Nik Kershaw and A-ha.** If there are any good looking blokes out there aged 13-16 who are interested, please write to: Rebecca Daley, 99 Simpson Lane, Biddington, East Yorkshire YO16 5HA. (Please send a photo if possible)

● **My name's Merik and my friend's name is Simon.** We like Madonna, Simple Minds, TFF and most current pop music. We're looking for two good looking girls aged 14-16 to write to. Drop us a line at: B4 York Road, Lurhparth, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS5 6L

● **I am a girl aged 16 and would like to write to any boys or girls who like Manic Roxx, Mötley Crüe and The Scorpions.** My hobbies also include dancing, reading and volleyball. Write to me, Kukka Suomalainen, at: Puske 3, 15680 Soramaki, Finland

● **Hello! I'm a 17 year old girl and a great David Bowie fan.** I'd like to write to penpals all over the world, but especially from Japan. It doesn't matter about your age, sex or interests. Please write to: Pami Toisa, Keskuskatu 20020, 4B100 Korke, Finland

● **I'm a 17 year old boy who is into most music on the pop scene, especially U2, Marillion, Eurythmics and Strawberry Switchblade.** If you're 15-20 years old and female write to me (with a picture if possible): Graham Hastie, 21 Kappenberg Avenue, Fairlie, Ayrshire, Scotland KA25 0BA

● **My name's Phil and I'm a Billy Idol lookalike.** I'm a rebel with a yell and would like to hear from anyone 16+ into Bauhaus, The Damned, The Cult, Billy Idol and Black. So all you way-out, mad people get writing to: Phil: Robin Hood Caravan Site, Bossensworths, Kenwick, Cumbrs. (Please send a photo if possible)

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# The Bangles

● Four girls from America who think that TV is mashed potato and Prince is "a little crispy round the edges." Oh...

Tom Hibbert meets Vicki, Debbi, Susanna and... Michael?!

The Bangles are a quartet from Los Angeles. And they're all girls – but woe betide the bloke that points this out: "If people keep asking us those 'the role of women in rock' type questions," fumes Michael Steele (the one who plays the bass), "we're going to have to start saying 'Ask us something more interesting, puh-lease!' I mean, it's so boring – what's the difference between men making rock and women making rock? It's a stupid way to make a living either way..."

Too true, Michael (which, if I might say so, is a rather "odd" name for a woman – a bit like Princess Michael Of Kent, actually: "Well, I guess it's not as normal as 'Pam'; I changed my name legally in 1976 and, no, I won't tell you what it was before. It wasn't a horrible name or anything – I changed it for personal reasons...") Most mysterious...

The Bangles formed in LA (men) in 1981. To start with, it was just the two Peterson sisters, Vicki and Debbi, and their friend Susanna Hoffa making a terrible noise in Susanna's parents' garage. They called themselves The Bangs. 18 months later, Michael had joined, another poxy group called The Bangs had threatened to sue them so the girls had become The Bangles, and they were starting to make records. "We're not a garage band anymore," said Vicki. "We're a living room band now..."

The group drew a lot of their "inspiration" from the music of the '60s: the first record Michael ever bought was "Fun Fun Fun" by The Beach Boys and they can all blather on about yesterday's "artists" – The Byrds, The Beatles, Jefferson Airplane, The Electric Prunes, Sky Saxon etc – till the cows come home. Sky Saxon? He's this

chop who used to sing in a band called The Seeds a thousand years ago and was a pop star in America for about two minutes; Michael keeps bumping into him in clubs these days and "he's definitely a little fried. He talks for hours and goes on and on saying things like 'God is Dog spelt backwards' and it's true..."

Another slight "oddball" in the life of The Bangles is Prince who, of course, wrote their current hit "Manic Monday": "Prince has been interested in us for a while," says Michael. Why, I wonder? "Well, he just seems fascinated with women, uh, women making music. So he submitted the song and came to watch us playing it in rehearsal. That was real nerve-wrecking: we're standing there playing and he's lying right there on the couch... He's a little crispy round the edges..."

...fan't everybody these days, Mick? "Well, the world is a funny place – it just gets weirder and weirder." And so The Bangles like to escape whenever they can into a nether-world of rosey old television programmes: "We all have our favourite shows; I like *The Men From U.N.C.L.E.*, we're all into *Gidget*, and the Petersons like *The Brady Bunch* – I can't imagine why. It's very scary at the end where all those heads are looking at you. TV is mashed potato forever!" Yum!

So tell us, Mike, how did you girls sort of like end up doing something as stupid as "rock"? "I used to be a cashier at a car wash, Susanna worked in a factory making a welly-welly (ick) and Debbi worked in this American art museum and Debbi even worked very briefly at a McDonalds. So we've all had weird jobs – and playing music may be crazy but it's a whole lot nicer."



## manic monday

Six o'clock, already I was just in the middle of a dream  
I was kissing Valentino by a crystal blue Italian stream  
But I can't be late 'cause then I guess I just won't get paid  
These are the days when you wish your bed was already made

Chorus  
It's just another manic Monday  
I wish it was Sunday  
'Cause that's my fun day  
My I don't have to run day  
It's just another manic Monday

Have to catch an early train get to be to work by nine  
And if I had an airplane I still couldn't make it on time  
'Cause it takes me so long just to figure out what I'm gonna wear  
Blame it on the train but the boss is already there

Repeat chorus

All of my nights why did my lover have to pick last night to get down  
(Last night last night)  
Doesn't matter that I have to lead the both of us employment's down  
He lulls me in his bedroom voice  
Come on honey let's go make some noise  
Time it goes so fast (when you're having fun)

Repeat chorus

I wish it was Sunday 'cause that's my fun day  
It's just another manic Monday

Words and music by Christopher  
Reproduced by permission Warner Brothers Music Ltd  
On CBS Records

# T H I S I S I D E

... HE'S THE FRIENDLY, LIKEABLE 37 YEAR OLD WHO'S MARRIED WITH FIVE CHILDREN, COLLECTS WORKS OF ART AND LIKES WHAM! AND VISITING THE SEASIDE WITH HIS FAMILY...

"I don't enjoy going to clubs or anything like that. I'd much rather find a nice little coffee shop and chat to my wife."



"Is that all I'm ever going to be asked?" sighs Ozzy Osbourne. "What does 'bat taste like blahhhhhhhhhhh...' That's really wearing a bit thin: the bat-biting incident happened four years ago, I haven't done anything like it since, and I don't intend to do it again..."

Ozzy Osbourne groans. Ever since he bit the head off a live bat on stage in America (he thought it was a rubber one, or so he claims) that's all anybody has wanted to talk to him about. And though he admits that "it was a rather unusual thing to do", he's not too keen on spending the rest of his life known as "the-man-who-bites-off-bats'-heads". After all, why should this one incident overshadow Ozzy's exploits? Exploits like biting the head off a dove, robbing gas meters and clothes shops when he was young, weeing on police cars, spending endless nights in jail, blowing a flock of chickens to smithereens with a shotgun...

"I've always been outrageous and eccentric," Ozzy confesses. "I like to do the things which people think of doing but never have the guts. I think there's a little bit of Ozzy in a lot of people. Like throwing TV sets out of hotel windows - we all do that, don't we?"

No actually, we don't - but O. Osbourne reckons it's tremendous fun: "I threw one into the ocean once in Hawaii from 17 floors up. It blew up and they threw me out of the hotel." He sniggers at the memory. And then there was the time he "made two hotel rooms into one. I knocked the wall in between down with one of the drawers from the desk. It's all a part of growing up."

Perhaps so, but Ozzy still doesn't seem particularly "mature", even though he's now 37 years old, married and the father of five children, three of them by his current wife and manager, Sharon.

"I'm just like a mad clown who does bizarre things. It's just my way of being somebody, it's just a role I play. I don't purposefully go 'oh, tonight I'll go and urinate over the crown jewels' but whatever happens happens and I wake up thinking 'oh nooooo, I didn't really puke over Mrs Smith's new cat, did I?' I feel like death warmed up and the wife says 'you deserve to. You know what you did last night?' and I go 'no, don't tell me'. But she does and she forces me to make the phone call - 'oh I'm ever so sorry for what I did last night!'"

"On my own I'm like an ostrich - I want to dig my head in the sand and forget about it but she shoves it down my throat. She keeps me sane in

order - she's like a lion tamer. She always knows what to listen when I go out because I come back with it down the front of my shirt. I tend to get sloppy and wear my food..."

Beginning to form an impression of what Ozzy Osbourne's like? A rather violent, disgusting, ill-mannered, irresponsible rock'n'roll? Yes, he's all that - but there is another side when it comes to him. When he's not running wild, chewing live animals etc., he likes to sit round his posh London home and play with his children Amy (2½), Carrie (1½) and Jack (three months), look at the objets d'art on his walls ("some of my paintings are supposed to be worth £15,000 - I quite like them") and watching videos ("TV in this country is so boring," he complains. "There should be more war films...").

He even quite likes Wham! ... "I met one of them. Who's the one who drives those motorcycles?" Andrew Ridgeley - and it's cars ... "Yeah. Well, I met him and he's a really nice guy. He came up to speak to me in a London club. I mean, people crash cars every day of the week but because he's a rock performer, it's headlines: 'Andrew Ridgeley wrecks another car - fifth this week!'. Still, I suppose he can afford it."

Ozzy isn't so keen on other pop stars though: "Who was that half of the Duran Duran thing that was on Wogan?" he splutters with disgust. "Arcadia? I don't even know what the song was about. Bit 'deep'n'meaningful', wasn't it? Not Ozzy Osbourne's cup of tea."

He's even less fond of The Smiths. The last time Ozzy talked to Smash Hits he announced that "there's nothing I wouldn't do if it's a laugh - except listen to The Smiths". Fifteen months later he still hates them just as much. "Thank God they seem to have disappeared," he sighs with heartfelt relief. "I mean, there's a point where you've just got to say 'it ain't music'. Some things are interesting but not some sod with a private hedge hanging out of his arse. He's like a gay gardener. Even my mother, who doesn't know anything about music, said to me 'who's that bloke with a plant sticking out of his bum?'. It's like music to hang yourself to."

Making music, says Ozzy determinedly - about entertainment and he misses music who disagree. Like the people involved in Red Wedge - "it makes me sick when people with guitars go all political". The reason he got involved way back in the '60s was, he explains, "to earn a few quid and hopefully have a bit of fun along the way."

"Nineteen years later," he admits,

# OSBOURNE . . .

**... HE'S THE VIOLENT AND OUTRAGEOUS "WILD MAN OF ROCK" WHO WEEES ON POLICE CARS, THROWS TVs INTO THE SEA, LIKES WAR FILMS, CURRIES AND, OF COURSE, BITING THE HEADS OFF BATS.**

"I wonder how much longer it can go on. I can't stand to think that people could ever see me down and out pushing a wheelbarrow along and say 'see him - he used to be Ozzy Osbourne'. That really frightens me."

So for the moment, the singer has no intention of giving up showbiz and frittering away his remaining days pottering around in the garden.

"Me?" he screams. "Gardening? You must be joking! I'm the one who wanted to concrete the lawn and paint it green! I do like cooking though," he admits, going on to describe in rather repulsive detail a curry he cooked for some "friends": "It gave them a suntan just looking in the bowl - they were drinking jugs of water and sticking their heads in the fridge!"

It's probably no surprise to learn that Ozzy's taste in clothes is similarly, um, individual. Unlike most pop stars he doesn't like trendy designer stuff ("that's for nerds, isn't it?"), preferring huge over-the-top affairs with "each sequin sewn on individually". Like the subtle little number he's wearing on the right - a snip at just (gulp) £7,500: "I'm becoming the Liberece of heavy metal. I wore a lime green dress once with a blonde wig and a German helmet just for a giggle."

But in private he's a perfectly normal dresser - "I just look like a slob" - doing perfectly normal things like going down to Brighton with the family, walking along the beach and visiting the fun fair. "I always win teddy bears on the raffle range." In fact, to tell the truth Ozzy Osbourne doesn't really like the wild party life that much after all. "I don't enjoy going to clubs or anything like that," he admits rather guiltily. "I'd much rather find a nice little coffee shop and chat to my wife."

**Ozzy and his £7,500 stage suit: "I'm becoming the Liberece of heavy metal. I wore a lime green dress once with a blonde wig and a German helmet just for a giggle."**



# SURVIVOR



# BURNING HEART

Two worlds collide  
 Aival actions  
 It's a primitive clash  
 Bidding ymrs of frustration  
 Bravely we hope  
 Against all odds  
 There is so much at stake  
 Seems our freedom's up  
 Against the ropes  
 Does the crowd understand  
 Is it East versus West  
 Or men against men  
 Can any action stand alone

Chorus  
 Is the burning heart  
 Just about to burst  
 There's a quest for answers  
 An unquenchable thirst  
 In the darkest night  
 Rising like a spire  
 In the burning heart  
 The unmistakable fire

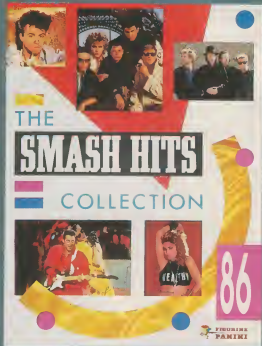
Is the burning heart  
 Is the warrior's code  
 There's no surrender  
 Though his body says stop  
 His spirit cries ever  
 On in our soul  
 A quiet ember  
 Knows it's you against you  
 In the paradox  
 That drives us all  
 Is it battle of wills  
 Is the heat of attack  
 It's the passion that kills  
 That victory asserts a love

Repeat chorus  
 Is the burning heart  
 Just about to burst  
 There's a quest for answers  
 An unquenchable thirst  
 In the darkest night  
 Rising like a spire  
 In the burning heart  
 The unmistakable fire  
 Repeat above

Is the burning heart  
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SIDE TWO RANGOON MOON • LARRY NOMARK • LOU F IS A PLACE • TOMORROW



LAURENCE MCHEMETER TELLETT 2012

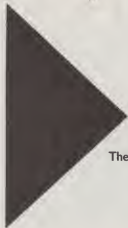
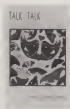
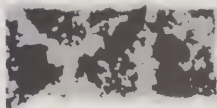
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## ONE DANCE WON'T DO AUDREY HALL

One dence one dence just won't do  
One dence one dence just won't do

You think one dance will do  
Then I'll go home with you  
You're crazy  
It takes much more you see  
Just to go out with me  
You're crazy

Chorus

Thet man stending in your wey  
He's my men end he don't play  
No no he don't play

Ooh I just wanted to see what he would do  
If I denced with enother men  
I wes flirting with you  
Just to see what he would do

I let you hold me tight  
Squeeze me with all your might  
While dencing  
I didn't know my touch  
Turned you on so much  
While dencing

Thet men stending in your wey  
He's my men end he don't play  
Ooh I just wanted to see what he would do  
If I denced with enother men  
I wes flirting with you  
Just to see what he would do oh  
Wooo wooo wooo

I've got to go right now  
But I think I know how  
You're feeling  
I'd like to stay a while  
Just to console your pride  
Your feelings

Repeat chorus

Wooo wooo wooo

One dence one dence just won't do  
One dence one dence just won't do no  
One dence one dence just won't do  
One dence one dence just won't do no  
One dence one dence just won't do  
I seid one dence one dence just won't do  
One dence It can't do  
I seid one dence one dence just won't do

Words and music by Audrey Hall  
Reproduced by permission Beverly Music  
On German Records



# The Blow Monkeys



# DIGGING YOUR SCENE

45  
r.p.m.

RCA





Alison Moyet

Jon Moss

Phil Wanktash

Curt Smith

Alanah Currie

Neil Arthur

Roger Taylor

Adam Ant

Mags

# f t h e A R T I S T



10



12



14



17



11



13



15



18



16

## ANSWERS

1. Tom Bailey (Thompson)
2. Alison Moyet
3. Adam Ant
4. Phil Wanktash (A-ha)
5. Mags Currie (A-ha)
6. Maren Morris (Fears)
7. Curt Smith (Tears For Fears)
8. Jon Moss (Culture Club)
9. Roger Taylor (Arcadia)
10. Nick Rhodes (Arcadia)
11. Alanah Currie (Thompson)
12. Mags Currie (A-ha)
13. Simon 'Bo' Bon (Arcadia)
14. Neil Arthur (Blancmange)
15. Joe Leeway (Thompson)
16. Andy Fletcher (Dope)
17. Stephen (Dope)
18. Roland Orzabal (Tears For Fears)
19. Lusccombe (Blancmange)

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- AC/DC
- A-HA
- ALED JONES
- ALEXANDER O'NEAL
- AMAZULU
- ARCADIA
- ARETHA FRANKLIN
- BELOUIS SOME
- BILLY OCEAN
- BRONSKI BEAT
- CHERELLE
- DIRE STRAITS
- ELTON JOHN
- EURYTHMICS
- FEARGAL SHARKEY
- FINE YOUNG CANNIBALS
- FIVE STAR
- FULL FORCE
- GRACE JONES
- JAMES BROWN
- JENNIFER RUSH
- KING
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 INJNBUM2EGSDAEIRUE  
 MGALAOAON4NNLCAARC  
 HDMSADTOKALTIYACRR  
 TAEHAEJSESOEPTREEO  
 YNANPDNCUNUAVASJFF  
 RNNKEEOOJOROTEKOIL  
 UA4LLYUORKHMMBLNLL  
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 S IUNNESCH4NCILLCW  
 EHLACOVAGAOTS2ASHAO  
 ISUNMMNIFAKPRJEDGR  
 DRZEENRRFIHTBRRAIB  
 AAALIBAMBSYSHROIMBS  
 LTMGBHNOEEIEEPHPHE  
 FSAAKTA4RSLNPOYSAM  
 LLRLL212IALTOIASJRA  
 SAIENKNDMEASERFMRJA  
 SNYEKRADHSLAGRAEFSM

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

ANSWERS ON PAGE 61

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RIMINI AIRPORT

### ELO: Birmingham NEC (March 15)

This is a charity concert in aid of Birmingham Children's Hospital. The line-up will be comprised by other Midlands-based acts including The Moody Blues, Robert Plant, Denny Laine and Roy Wood plus Jasper Carrott and "nostalgic reunions" for the Appletons, The Move and the Rockin' Berries. Tickets for the concert are £15 (plus a booking fee of 50p) and are available from the following agents: Birmingham - Cyclops Sounds, Ticket Shop, Odeon Theatre, Wolverhampton - Goudie, Hartley, Newcastle Under Lyme and Stafford - Miss Lloyd, Nottingham and Derby - Way Ahead.

**GENE LOVES JEZEBEL:**  
 London U.L.U. (March 6), Brighton  
 Sussex University (7), Colchester  
 Essex University (8), Swansea  
 Marina (11), Keele University (12),  
 Bangor University (13).



Birmingham Polytechnic (14),  
 Coventry Polytechnic (15),  
 Sheffield Leadmill (16), Manchester  
 Fagns (18), Huddersfield  
 Polytechnic (19), Newcastle  
 Trianfians (22).

**NANA MOUSKOURI:** London  
 Palladium (March 1).

**SIGUE SIGUE SPUTNIK:**  
 Norwich University of East Anglia  
 (February 27), Reading Bridges  
 Hall (28), Colchester Essex  
 University (March 1), Coventry  
 Polytechnic (2), Stoke-on-Trent  
 Shelleys (4), Dunstable  
 Queensway Hall (5), Manchester



International (7), Leicester  
 Polytechnic (8), Birmingham  
 Powerhouse (9), Leeds Polytechnic  
 (11), Newcastle Trianfians (12),  
 Aberdeen Ritz (13), Glasgow  
 University Queen Margaret Union  
 (14), Edinburgh Empire (16).

**STEEL PULSE:** Leicester  
 Polytechnic (February 28),  
 Manchester International (27),  
 Oxford Polytechnic (28), Hull  
 University (March 1), Exeter  
 University (3), Leeds University (5),  
 Aberystwyth University (6), Bristol  
 University (7), Birmingham Odeon  
 (8), Southampton Mayfair (9),  
 Penzance Demitza's (10), Brighton  
 Top Rank (12), Polkstone Lead  
 Cliff Hall (13), Nottingham Marcus  
 Gerry Centre (14), London  
 Hermsmith Peles (16).



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— MIDGE URE —



— SMASH HITS —

# MR MISTER • KYRIE

KYRIE EISELSON KYRIE EISELSON & TYNE EISELSON

THE WIND BLOWS HARD AGAINST THIS MOUNTAINSIDE  
ACROSS THE SEA INTO MY SOUL  
IT REACHES INTO WHERE I CANNOT HIDE  
SETTING MY FEET UPON THE ROAD

MY HEART IS OLD IT HOLDS MY BREATH  
MY BODY BURNS A GEMLIKE FLAME  
SOMEWHERE BETWEEN THE SOUL AND SOFT MACHINE  
IS WHERE I FIND MYSELF AGAIN

CHORUS

KYRIE EISELSON DOWN THE ROAD THAT I MUST TRAVEL  
KYRIE EISELSON THROUGH THE DARKNESS OF THE NIGHT  
KYRIE EISELSON WHERE I'M GOING WILL YOU FOLLOW  
KYRIE EISELSON ON A HIGHWAY IN THE LIGHT

WHEN I WAS YOUNG I THOUGHT OF GROWING OLD  
OF WHAT MY LIFE WOULD MEAN TO BE  
WONDER I HAVE PHILADELPHIA DOWN MY CHOSEN ROAD  
OH ONLY WISHED WHAT I COULD BE

REPEAT

OH OH OH

OH OH OH

OH OH OH

OH OH OH

OH OH OH

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# LATIN QUARTER RADIO AFRICA

I'M HEARING ONLY BAD NEWS  
(FROM RADIO AFRICA)

THEY STILL GOT TROUBLE WITH A MONSTER IN THE SOUTH  
READS MURDER DEEP OPEN THAT LONG MOUNTAIN  
LEG & ARM SHARPER WHAT IT KEEPS THEM AWAY  
IF THEY JUMP GOT BLOOD IT WOULD BE A STAIN

I'M HEARING ONLY BAD NEWS (FROM RADIO AFRICA)  
I'M HEARING ONLY BAD NEWS (FROM RADIO AFRICA)

THE WEST STILL COMPLAINS ABOUT THE BOMBERS AND  
THEY'DO BETTER TO CHANGE THE TERMS OF THE TRADE  
THERE'S MORE TANKS THAN FOOD IN THE OASIS  
IT LOOKS LIKE MOSCOW GOT IT WORSE AGAIN

I'M HEARING ONLY BAD NEWS (FROM RADIO AFRICA)  
I'M HEARING ONLY BAD NEWS (FROM RADIO AFRICA)

ROZAMONDE AND MUGABE  
STILL GOT PROBLEMS I HEAR THEM SAY  
THEY EXCHANGE MEANS (EXCHANGE MEANS)  
WHEN BUYING MEANS (RECESSION MEANS)  
IT ALL MEANS IT'S HARDER TO FIND  
THEIR AREA PROBLEMS MOVING UP A HEAD  
INDEPENDENCE IS A STEP IN THE MIDDLE

I'M HEARING ONLY BAD NEWS (FROM RADIO AFRICA)  
I'M HEARING ONLY BAD NEWS (FROM RADIO AFRICA)

THEY WANT TO KNOW THE INTEREST RATES  
IT'S HARDER TO FIND  
THEIR AREA PROBLEMS MOVING UP A HEAD  
INDEPENDENCE IS A STEP IN THE MIDDLE

I'M HEARING ONLY BAD NEWS (FROM RADIO AFRICA)  
I'M HEARING ONLY BAD NEWS (FROM RADIO AFRICA)

I'M HEARING ONLY BAD NEWS (FROM RADIO AFRICA)  
I'M HEARING ONLY BAD NEWS (FROM RADIO AFRICA)

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I'M HEARING ONLY BAD NEWS (FROM RADIO AFRICA)  
I'M HEARING ONLY BAD NEWS (FROM RADIO AFRICA)





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# CROSSWORD

## ACROSS

- 1 - See photokius (4,2)  
 7 On moon, show Wiz and discover  
 - **Artha's** big hit (anag 4,6,3)  
 11 "The --- Came  
 (Blencmanga 3,6,3)  
 12 Just **Bryan Ferry's** sort of music  
 18 It was home to **Sarah and Steve's**  
 - pianics  
 18 The girl **Full Force** wanted just for  
 them

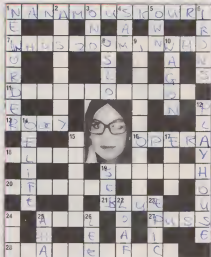
- 19 **The Limit's** advice on agreeing  
 (3,4)  
 20 See 24 down  
 21 - The colour of a **Fine Young**  
 - **Canibals** hit  
 25 **Herold Feltnermeyer's** Mr F  
 27 Felina that **Adam Ant** had in boots...  
 28 "It --- Best" (**Bronski Beet**  
 4,7)

## DOWN

- 1 - They delivered the perfect kiss (3,5)  
 2 "Never Never" men  
 3 **Yoko** aimed "Union Of The Snake"?  
 4 - Short **Mis Fox** amid "It's A Miracle"  
 5 "Life On Your ---" (**Human League**)  
 6 Ron is the other half of "Brideshead"  
 actor **Jeremy** (anag)  
 8 Norwegian city that two thirds of 25  
 - down came from  
 9 How **Chaka Khan** expressed her  
 love in '84 (1,4,3,3)  
 10 - Vehicle **REO** speeded on?

- 12 **Paul Young** wanted to tear yours  
 down  
 14 - Just **Dire Straits'** sort of walk (2,4)  
 15 "Toot Toot" **LaSella**  
 17 **George Hanson** was in yours  
 19 - Athlete **Gee** in "Cantonese Box"?  
 22 - Bread you add to **Meat**  
 23 **Wham's** record label -  
 24 and 20 across Once they were close  
 to the edit (3,2,5)  
 25 TV - sunshine songsters  
 26 Eel - turns for **D.C.** (anag)

ANSWERS ON PAGE 61



# ELTON JOHN



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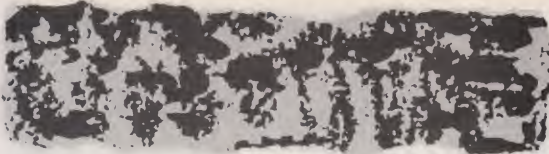
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LIVERPOOL LUTON MANCHESTER NIDDERSBROUGH NEWCASTLE NORWICH NOTTINGHAM OLSHAN PLYMOUTH PORTSMOUTH PRELON SHEFFIELD SOUTHAMPTON SUNDERLAND SUTTON SUTTON COLDFIELD SWINSEA WOLYBAMPTON

# WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO MAKE THESE MEN HAPPY?

A NUMBER ONE RECORD? GETTING ON THE COVER OF SMASH HITS? LOTS OF LOVELY MONEY? WELL, THEY'VE HAD ALL THAT AND THEY STILL LOOK LIKE THE GRUMPY MEN IN POP MUSIC. BUT WHY? "WELL..." CHUCKLES A PET SHOP BOY. "I THINK SMASH HITS READERS SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THIS ISN'T JUST AN IMAGE..."

People endlessly ask us what it's like having a number one. But what it feels like is vaguely nothing. It's like having a cup of tea."

Neil

Tennant laughs a little guiltily. He knows that, to thousands of other pop stars who'd love to have the kind of success the Pet Shop Boys have just had with "West End Girls", it must seem awfully easy for him to compare it with "having a cup of tea". But he insists that the day they found out they were number one was hardly the most magical, happiest moment of their life and he sees no reason why it should have been. In fact, he remembers, Chris was positively fad up for most of the day after discovering that their record company had started to sell "West End Girls" 12" singles without picture sleeves. "The fact that you're number one," Neil points out, "doesn't automatically mean that you're in a good mood."

From their mean/moody expressions on TV and in their photos you could be forgiven for thinking that they were the grumpiest men in pop. Chris particularly seems to be cultivating an image of looking so miserable that it's hard to believe he's ever looked happy in his life.

"Well..." chuckles Neil, "I think *Smash Hits* readers should be aware that it isn't just an image..."

"The thing is," explains Chris, "in all those situations where the public sees me –



NEIL TENNANT • CHRIS LOWE

being photographed or making videos – I am genuinely miserable."

In fact, far from being the deadly serious duo you might imagine, most of the time they're so flippant and jokey that it's hard to believe they take this pop star business seriously at all. Though Neil does start getting a little earnest and gives Chris a ticking off when he starts being horrible about other pop stars.

"We're definitely anti-King," sniggers Chris.

"We're not saying anything nasty in this interview," says Neil firmly, "not even about King." He doesn't want a repetition of the last time

they spoke rather too freely and a newspaper branded them "The rudest man in rock".

Instead they start laughing about some of the other ridiculous questions they've been asked in interviews since their success. "Someone asked us 'did you always dream of being a star?' – that's my favourite," says Neil, who finds the idea of someone referring to him as a "star" fairly ludicrous. "I just sniggered."

He doesn't take questions about his private life much more seriously. "Am I married?" he ponders. "Perhaps I should say I am. No," he decides. "I

think I've had a secret broken heart. That's it – I'm nursing a secret broken heart." Really?

"It's too upsetting for me to talk about," he continues, trying rather unsuccessfully to sound distressed and heartbroken. "But if you listen very carefully to the lyrics of our songs you'll get some idea of what I'm talking about..."

So what's their new single, "Love Comes Quickly", all about?

"It's very angst ridden," explains Neil. "It's about falling in love. We wrote it about a year ago when Chris used to come down from Liverpool at the

weekends and we'd go to a friend's studio in Camden Town every Saturday night.

"Normally when you write a song you just sing a boring phrase – like, when Paul McCartney wrote 'Yesterday' he sung 'scrambled eggs' as the lyric for ages because he couldn't think of any words – but this time I just started singing 'Love Comes Quickly' and it all just came into my head. I think the best songs are like that – they come into your head at one go."

Nevertheless, the song probably didn't sound much like it does now, because, as Neil's only too ready to admit, his singing has only really begun to shape up since he started having lessons last June. "I go to a woman called Eva. She used to teach Marilyn – she says he had a marvellous, very strong voice but he wasn't prepared to work on it."

Neil is, and goes twice a week to practise singing classical stuff. "She wants me to join the London Baroque Choir," he reveals. "She says I've got the most perfect Baroque voice which means, I think, that I've got a voice that's not very rich in emotion but is very clear sounding."

Sadly, Eva's not very enamoured with the Pet Shop Boys: "When I play her the records," laughs Neil, "she always goes 'I can't hear your voice – the drums are too loud.' She can't understand why they have such loud drums on pop records. She says 'Really, Neil. Something should be done about it. It's ridiculous...'"

It may be ridiculous to Eve, but it's been successful enough for Neil and Chris to start

getting stopped in the street ["Unless I wear my glasses - then no-one recognises me at all," says Neil, for "West End Girls" to have been played in the background on EastEnders, South Of Watford and Only Fools And Horses and, presumably, to have considerably swollen their bank accounts.

"I've no idea how much we've earned," says Neil, "I'm still actually being paid slightly less than I was getting when I left Smash Hits though we may pay ourselves a bit more in a few weeks."

That's assuming that things go well. And if they don't? "I won't slash my wrists," says Neil. "If the new single's not a hit, I'll just go 'oh dear, we're-down-the-dumper-I-knew-we-would-be-time-to-get-a-job'."

Considering how good "Love Comes Quickly" is, that's not very likely, so we can expect their album (called "Please" so that people can walk into the shop and say "can I have the Pet Shop Boys album, 'Please'?") to be out next month and for them to tour near the end of the year.

"It'll be really theatrical," says Chris, "with lots of entrances and exits..."

And, "adds Neil, "if we have any backing musicians they won't be on stage, they'll be in the orchestra pit. We don't want some tragic bass player wandering around..."

And after that, who knows?

"We're not exactly thinking of retiring," explains Neil, "but we've got this plan. Everyone thinks it's a joke but actually it's serious. The Pet Shop Boys will carry on, but we'll stop being the front men. Instead we'll change the line-up every year or so - suddenly there'll be four 16-year-old boys as the Pet Shop Boys and then the next thing you know they'll have been replaced by two 35-year-old Elaine Paige types. We'll be fed up with it all by then so we'll just write the music."

"We'll be able to spend our time doing the nice things like going to bed early. We won't have to have our photograph taken or be asked why we're called The Pet Shop Boys. We can just make the records. And make lots of money."

Interview: Chris Heath  
Photos: Eric Watson

## Neil Tennant

### HOW DID YOU MEET?

We met in an electrical shop on the King's Road. I was getting a plug for my synthesiser, Chris was buying something and we started talking and Chris came back to my flat to look at my synthesiser. After that we became friends and started writing songs together. No-one will believe that a) we met like that and b) we got the name the Pet Shop Boys from some friends who worked in a pet shop - people think it means something rude. But both stories are true.

### WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST IMPRESSION OF CHRIS?

He was kind of nervous and funny, and he laughed a lot. He's the kind of person who talks to strangers whereas I'm not really.

### HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE CHRIS NOW?

He's moody - that's the key to Chris's personality. He's a very up-and-down person - when

he's in a good mood he's very, very funny and light. When he's in a bad mood he makes everything a bit grim, there's no communicating with him. I'm more even-tempered.

### WHAT ARE HIS FAULTS?

Being too moody. And he picks his nose a lot - he often sits and picks his nose. I'm always worried he'll do it on television. It's good that he's moody though because it keeps our standards up. I'll go along with things to be polite to people and to make life easy. I'm kind of the Paul McCartney of the group and he's the John Lennon. And that's probably quite a good thing.

### WHAT ARE CHRIS'S FAVOURITE RECORDS?

His favourite ones at the moment is one by Angie Gold called "Eat You Up", but I've never heard it. His others are "Passion" by The Flirts and "Lovevide" by Nuance, which is also one of mine. He hates most stuff in the charts and all rock music - though, rather bizarrely, he's liked Simple Minds' last few records.

### WHAT'S THE NICEST THING ABOUT CHRIS?

When he's funny. Some people have the ability to create a good atmosphere and make everything seem funny. Chris can do that. When he's in a good mood it seems as if nothing can go wrong.

**WHAT REALLY ANNOYS HIM?**  
He absolutely hates people smoking. He doesn't like it when people put him in embarrassing situations either. And people who drink and drive annoy him.

### WHO'S THE BOSS?

There isn't a boss. I'm the bossy one and I get more involved in things like money but Chris makes a lot more of the musical decisions.

### WHAT'S THE BIGGEST ARGUMENT YOU'VE HAD?

Until recently I could have said that Chris and I have never had an argument. But we had an argument about doing things for radio stations. He drove me absolutely mad! All he had to say was "This is Neil and Chris from the Pet Shop Boys" but he put on this gruff voice and said it really fast. And then he started to think I was being really bossy and I just got irritated. Eventually I slammed the headphones down and said "OK, let's not bother to do it." He slammed his down and we sat down in the next room facing away from each other. The engineer and Chris's sister were screaming with laughter.

### WHO IS THE 'COOLEST'?

Chris is. Well, he tries to be cool anyway. I think I'm a bit uncool really in many ways. At the moment I'm a bit concerned that this top I'm wearing doesn't go



## Chris Lowe

### HOW DID YOU MEET?

This is like interrogation, this! I was working and living in Chelsea, Neil was living around the corner and we met in the shop on Saturday. I can't remember what we talked about - I've got a terrible memory.

### WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST IMPRESSION OF NEIL?

I thought he was sort of brainy. Um... I don't know what I think of half the people I know.

### HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE NEIL NOW?

Wicked question! I can't answer these! How would I describe Neil? Talented... generous... stylish... musical... I'm going to be dead nice actually.

**WHAT ARE HIS FAULTS?**  
He's a bit bossy, he's too tidy and if you've got to do something he realises you've got to do it, whereas I'll say "I'm not doing that." He has a sense of

with this shirt I'm wearing. Whereas Chris wouldn't wear this unless he knew it was right. He always buys the "right" everything - I'm a bit sloppy about things like that.

**WHO'S THE POSHEST?**  
Me. Although our backgrounds are almost identical - my father is Sales Manager for the legendary rubber company and Chris's father, certainly until recently, also did a job like that. I think I've got the poshest voice. I think Chris rather likes having a more street-cred one.

**DESCRIBE CHRIS'S FLAT...**  
It's a studio flat in North London on a main road. He only moved there in November so I've only been around about six times. The kitchen's quite nice - it overlooks a building site. It has amazing '60s foam rubber chairs and he's got a futon, a black and white television and a record player. Um... it's not a very nice flat. For a while Chris was staying at my flat and I used to get irritated because he was so incredibly messy. Then he got his own flat and his sister Vicky moved in, and now he complains how messy she is.

**WHAT DOES CHRIS SAY WHEN YOU WATCH YOUR PERFORMANCES ON TOP OF THE POPS?**  
He kind of groans and laughs. It's not nerve-wracking recording

**Top Of The Pops** but it's terrible watching it with other people there. The first time Chris just went "Oh, nooooooo."  
**TELL US A SECRET ABOUT CHRIS...**  
He goes to fitness classes on Saturday mornings. And he's scared of being burgled - he's got a real paranoia about people breaking into his flat at night.

**HAS HE CHANGED?**  
I used to think he was incredibly immature - because he was. He wasn't interested in politics and he never used to read anything. But these days he's more responsible because I make decisions on the spur of the moment and have disasters, whereas he thinks about things very carefully.

**WHICH WOULD YOU RATHER GO ON - A) A CLUB 18-30 HOLIDAY B) THE MAGIC BUS TO MARRAKESH C) PONY TREKKING IN WALES?**  
Pony trekking, because I always wanted to go horse-riding and that's the nearest thing there is. Also I've never really been to Wales. I wouldn't really like to go on a Club 18-30 holiday even though I'm only, ahem, 26 (Neil Tennant is 31 - Ed.) - I don't think I'd like the people. I wouldn't like the hippie trail to Marrakesh because I don't like hippies and they wouldn't stay in nice hotels.



"I'm kind of the Paul McCartney of the group and Chris is the John Lennon. And that's probably quite a good thing."

obligation. From my point of view that's a bad thing though it's quite a good thing really.

**WHAT ARE NEIL'S FAVOURITE RECORDS?**  
"Sanctify" by Simple Minds, Medonna records, "You And Me" by The Flirts and "Who's Zoomin' Who" by Aratha Franklin. And "The Sun Always Shines On TV".

**WHAT'S THE NICEST THING ABOUT NEIL?**  
His generosity. And his sense of right. He's very good at telling if someone's a good person, if their intentions are good. He'll quite often say about somebody "Oh yeah, they're a good person." If there's a charity thing he'll always want to give money.

**WHAT REALLY ANNOYS HIM?**  
I can annoy him quite a lot by being silly or stropic. It's part of my basic nature that he has to throw a spanner in the works every now and then. Sometimes we can argue about something that really isn't very important and I might even know he's right but won't say - that really annoys him. Also incompetence annoys him - like if something's been changed on the record sleeve and it looks awful.

**WHO'S THE BOSS?**  
Neil tends to be the boss, I think. He's very good at organising

things - I'm a bit lazy really. I'm the Andrew Ridgeway of the... no no no, I shouldn't say that. It'll make people think I don't do anything at all.

**WHAT'S THE BIGGEST ARGUMENT YOU'VE HAD?**  
Well, we just argued about the level of the vocals on the "12" (of "Love Comes Quickly"). Neil didn't think they were loud enough and I thought they were too loud. We took them down in the end. We also had an argument recently in a restaurant about whether prisoners should be allowed to make vast amounts of money out of publishing their stories. My argument was that I didn't see why they shouldn't as they are paying the price of their crime by being in prison. Neil didn't agree.

**WHO IS THE "COOLEST"?**  
Neil. All I ever wear is jeans, trainers, a t-shirt, a sweat shirt and a nice coat. Neil wears different clothes and I think he looks really good - especially in those tight black cycling trousers. I'm not a cool person - I've always been a bit of a pret myself. It's more fun. I like winding people up.

**WHO'S THE POSHEST?**  
I think that Neil would say that he is the snootiest because he is

quite snooty. I don't think I'm posh. I don't like the whole concept of posh because it's real class system stuff. I don't think it's good that working class people sneer at posh people and posh people think "pooh - working class people". So I don't even like to think in those terms.

**DESCRIBE NEIL'S FLAT.**  
It's a studio flat with a really good view into the King's Road (Chelsea) and the best thing about it is that he's got a water heater and central heating. I'd love to have a flat like that. It's very, very tidy flat and it's naff - horrible uncomfortable chairs - because it's rented. But all in all it's not a bad flat - it's a lot more homely than mine. Mine doesn't look as if anyone lives there.

**WHAT DOES NEIL SAY WHEN YOU WATCH YOUR PERFORMANCES ON TOP OF THE POPS?**  
The first time we were appalled - we both hated it. Because the lighting was so terrible. I can't remember what he said though because of my terrible memory. But by the third time I thought we looked pretty good. You think I look as if I really hate being there? Well, I'm just thinking "what am I doing here?". I don't really like doing those things - I can't smile inane so I just let

my face be natural. A lot of people through my entire life have come up to me and said "Cheer up - it might never happen." Which really winds me up. I've just got one of those faces that look miserable.

**TELL US A SECRET ABOUT NEIL...**  
A secret? Oh, this is a real cunning exercise. (Too hard.) All of them are too horrible to say! (Thinks again.) He's got an Action Man! It's dressed in combat uniform and he keeps it on his bookshelf.

**HAS HE CHANGED?**  
The main thing that's changed is his dressing - he's become more stylish. But other than that I don't think he's changed at all - he's still a jolly dancant chap.

**WHICH WOULD YOU RATHER GO ON - A) A CLUB 18-30 HOLIDAY B) THE MAGIC BUS TO MARRAKESH C) PONY TREKKING IN WALES?**  
I'd rather go on a Club 18-30 holiday. I like the whole package holiday thing - it's just a good laugh. I want pony-trkking once in Wales when I was young, with the family. It was good but scary - the ponies would lean over these big drops to eat some grass and I was like... eeyyyyywww.



# CONTEST WINNERS

## Mousse Competition (December 18)

Five weren't enough room to print all 250 winners but prizes will be posted within the next couple of weeks

## Bryen Art Competition (December 18)

Correct answer at John Lennon: Five winners of a sweatshirt, video and 12" single of "Wings" are: Ann Williams, Harmsen, Sara Hunt, Suffolk, Kate Williams, Luton, John Lister, North Yorkshire, Jeremy Boughey, Suffolk

## Crow Competition (December 18)

Correct answers of both a & b a tractor. Five winners of a crown are: H.L. Jolley, Lewes; N. Sanders, Ghyssels; Lynn Nease, Avon; B. Kasnad, County, Harlow, Essex; C. Campbell, Carmarthen

## Crazy For You Competition (January 1)

Correct answer: Madonna Coccola of Madonna Penn. The twenty winners of a "Crazy For You" sweatshirt are: Marjory Norton, Halwadd, Angus Farnberton, Clackmannanshire, Karen Northon, Glasgow; Jan Hunt, Maidstone, Victoria Bennett, Hales, Sarah Walton, Dorset, N. Wilanowska, Derby; Julie Spencer, Birmingham, Catherine Hall, Lancs, Julie Duffe, London, Denise Rordan, Farnley, Susan Little, Swale; Lindsay Hart, Billinge, Tracy Forme, Hull; Stephanie Miles, Llantrisant; Diana McDonagh, Leamington, Krysna Skibinski, Ruckersfeld, S. Ireming, Essex, Michael Brown, Cardiff; Nicola Allen, Newport; David Fulton, Twestdale.

## Hit Video Competition (January 1)

Correct answer: Madonna Coccola of Madonna Penn. The ten winners of a Hit video are: Dennis Gould, Jnr, Hartlepool; Steven Greenough, Derbyshire; G. Carnings, London; Roberts Balcher, Yorkshire; Shary Deakin, Barnbury; Lisa McGeag, Coventry; Tracy Dennis, Carl; James Broadrick, Harfield, U. James, Leicester; Carolina McCarthy, Cheshire

## Levi's 501 Competition (January 1)

Correct answer (a) "So Red The Rosa" by Arcada. The very lucky person who won a pair of jeans, a sweatshirt, contact tickets and got to meet Sade was Deborah Neway from Leeds, near Coventry. The second prize winner of a pair of contact tickets, jeans, sweatshirt and LP was Janet Waite, Putney, London. The following forty five won a pair of Levi's 501 jeans: Tommasa Tommasi, Hursley, Surrey; Joanna Coogan, Anglewood, R.K. Minter, Suffolk; G. Evans, Northwich, Cheshire; Cam Southampton, Essex; Gordon Norfolk, Canada Chesham, Dorset; Paul Favaro, Eastbourne; Louise Thomson, Middlesbrough, S.E. Innes, Andover; Kim Laughon, Gornow, Hampshire; Andrew Jackson, Farnham; Alexander's Pearce, London; Andrew Valientes, Bristol; Carol Bolton, Leeds; Stephen Doherty, Stratford; Sasha Conder, Wolvercot, Sally-Ann Burgess, Chesham; Jane Merton, Southampton, Mark...  
Highways, Elaine Owen, Dyfed; Helen White, Fotherham, Vicky Angus, Cheshire; Jeremy Pugh, Birmingham; Gita Pritchard, Raine, Andrea Barry, Huddersfield; Mel Hunter, Warwickshire; Steve Williamson, West Midlands; Carol Mason, Evington; Vickie Oates, Cambridge; D. Lee, Berks; Natasha Granger, Glasgow; D. Wood, Doncaster; James Banks, Grimsby; David Nyoman, Hounslow, Rosalind Hills, Enfield; Susan Hassan, Fulham; Jane Grant, Oxon. The most twenty won n.p. Sarah Harris, Peterborough; Lisa Jones, Wokingham; Fane Small, Kington; Christine Tyson, Devon; Denise Silva Almeida, London; Clara Virelay, Havill, Wales; David Jones, Lancaster; Nicola Jennings, Cheshire; Suzie Curtis, North Devon; Sarah Coombes, Dorset; Kate Lambert, Whitby Bay, Shabean Anant, Surrey; Claire Alderson, Co Durham; J. Firth, Luton; Tracy Clouston, Darrington, R. Bewick, Rydall, Susan Thomas, Northumberland; S. Kasman, Slough; James Pollock, Walsley, and Elaine Satchell, Luton. The next twenty won a poster: Neil Dixon, Berkshire; Sara Smith, Bedfordshire; Helen Johnson, Sunderland; Naomi Barbour, Warr; James British, Midlands; Richard McElis, Dyfed; Seena Biscoe, Suffolk; Lisa Jones, Wokingham; Brian Anderson, Sunderland; Keith Davidson, Seaham; Nicola Houghton, Cleveland; Joanne Hellings, Oxford; Cathalene Moloney, Wiltshire; Margaret Bell, Lancashire; Brigg Williams, Cheshire; Louise Twinkl, Bedford; Jim, Acton, London; Steve Aubus, Southampton; Neil Hilyar, Hants; Julian Molloy, Haywards Heath.

## Wetba Competition (January 15)

Correct answer at a brand: Ten winners of a Wetba t-shirt and a "blend chip" are: Peter Dewhurst, Bristol; Stuart Armstrong, Walsand; Michael Hillon, Manchester; Sarah Woods, Chesham; N. Croxson, Bedford; Steve Staffordshire, Reshal Kallit, Preston; Tracy Eke, York; Lane Ross, Derington; Sharon Richards, Dyfed.

## Pat Shep Competition (January 15)

Correct answer CD 360: Five winners of a fantastically rare 10" limited edition round sleeve version of "West End Girls" are: David Scott, Perth; Wendy Marshall, Lincs; Anne-Marie Stanley, Surrey; A. Bennett, Cheltenham; Susan Wang, Liverpool.

## A-Ha Competition (January 15)

Correct answers are "Morton Harker" and "Theology is the study of God and religion". One hundred people entered but the next five winners of a picture disc, a signed 12" single and poster are: Yvonne Salmon, Torquay; Jennifer Pinchbeck, Boston; F. Haining, Springfield; Linda Collier, Liverpool; Esther Finch, Great Wyrley; Jane Madrasch, Midlands; Charlotte Morris, Chester; Wendy Cunniff, Essex; Jo Kwango, Barnwell; Annie Mieskwa, Tockwahan; V. Byr, Southampton; Elaine May, Colchester; Joanne Jeppling, Birtley; Sara Pitt, London; Louise Kidd, Devon; Catherine D'Neil, Torquay; S. Armstrong, Durham; Claire Maitland, Garsington; Rachel Lafferty, Dorset; Julia Kerrigan, Wiltshire; Lee Etherington, Surrey; Carla Robinson, Blackpool; Jane Outtrix, Beds; Simon Thompson, Coudon; Louise Hodgson, Norfolk.

## Lyce Cole Competition (January 28)

Correct answer!!! Biz asked for the answers "on an infanting stam" and this was the result: one revolting roller ball "sock" (which probably walked here by itself), a horned pair of knickers covered in a picture of an ancient Egyptian (and a rather artfully decorated) and a pair of ancient t-shirt. All three senders got the correct answer, which was of an "access" pretending to be a morose "housewife" in a completely public and socially washing period ad. They and the other 13 people listed here each won a 12" single of "Cut Me Down" and a shirt. C.E. Lane, Southampton; Sandy Williams, London; Joya Dixon, Leicester; J. Natherton, Rugby; Mervyn Grant, Narm; A. Daniels, London; Paula Johnston, Bedford; P. Fox, Southampton; Simon Marshall, Manchester; Ian Hallwell, Leighton; Michael Bithell, Chwyd; Andrew Buchanan, Sliding; Ed "horrible sock" Young, Tisbury. Alan "horrible knickers" Rolger, Lancs; Andy "horrible t-shirt" Watson, Manchester.

## Boys Competition (January 28)

Correct answer of Busby. Five winners of a 12" single, video and diary are: Vicki Hipkiss, Billingham, Gary Purry, Romford; Gill Raftery, Hants; Susan Hunter, Essex; Eileen Hogan, Surrey. The following twenty won a 12" single: Charlotte Learning, Leicester; L. McLaugh, Glasgow; J.R. J. Carmel, London; Elaine MacGregor, Ayr; Catherine; Julia Smith, West Mids; Joyce Calder, Hull; Helen Wala, Somerset; Louise Hades, Bristol; E. Fimen, Barmuloch; Sarah Greenhalgh, London; Lisa Jones, Wokingham; Alan; Altair McGroady, Nottingham; Julia Presswell, London; Alison Chong, Maryon; David Sylvester, Colchester; Paul Loader, Dumfries; Samara Balthamers, Shafford; Jo-anna Gibbs, Reims; Ed Wood, Exeter; Janet Birch, Leicestershire.

## Chewis Competition (January 28)

Amazingly enough, lots of people got this right - the correct answer was David Bowie because he had different coloured eyes, right! There was only supposed to be one prize, but since three people were silly enough to send the answer on an actual sweatshirt, they'll all get some Chewis and Opal Fruits. The "lucky" winners are: Amanda Hart, Warwickshire; Victoria Lidstone, Cornwall; Anna Carrero, High Wycombe.

# SUPPERD STARTING TOGETHER



We're starting together  
We're taking a chance on what we feel  
We're starting together  
Because we believe our love is real  
We'll promise to have and to hold  
From this day on  
Until we're frail and old  
There's no chance of breaking  
Not thinking of us we're making

We're starting together  
And suddenly everything is new  
We're starting together  
Not thinking of us we're making  
Any more but two  
We both have so much  
That we can learn  
Trust and respect  
We've got to earn  
It can only get better  
Now we're starting together

# PAUL HOGCASTLE FEASTURING CAGYON

You keep coming around  
Knocking at the door  
But now I just won't answer  
I've heard it all before  
All you did was keep me  
Within your web of lies  
But I've got a message for you boy  
You'll find it a big surprise

Chorus  
I won't let hard's my reply  
Don't waste my time  
Nice try goodbye  
Don't waste my time  
You won't lie this is my reply  
Don't waste my time  
Nice try goodbye  
Don't waste my time

Next time you gonna play your games  
There's something you ought to know  
I've been around for a while boy  
And I can see through your show

I'm not impressed  
By your high and mighty ways  
All you got coming  
Are dark and lonely days  
There was a time  
I was willing to be your wife  
But that's all changed now  
I'm starting a brand new life

Repeat chorus  
Repeat first verse  
Repeat chorus

Next time you gonna play your games  
There's something you ought to know  
I've been around for a while boy  
And I can see through your show

Don't waste my time  
Nice try goodbye  
Don't waste my time  
I won't lie this is my reply  
Don't waste my time  
Nice try goodbye  
Don't waste my time

You keep coming around  
Don't waste my time  
Nice try goodbye  
All you did was keep me  
Within your web of lies  
But I've got a message for you boy

It seems only yesterday  
We met and fell in love  
Who'd have believed  
We'd come this far  
The future's a mystery

We're bound to make some mistakes  
But we'll get through the heartaches  
So here we are

Starting together  
You're learning to live  
With all my faults  
We're starting together  
What's yours is mine  
What's mine is yours  
And when the years  
Have slipped away  
Maybe you'll turn to me and say  
That we were so clever  
Starting together

The future's a mystery  
We're bound to make some mistakes  
But we'll get through the heartaches  
So here we are

Starting together  
(Starting together)  
You're learning to live  
With all my faults  
We're starting together  
(Starting together)  
What's yours is mine  
What's mine is yours

Starting together  
Starting together (starting together)  
Starting together (starting together)  
Starting together (starting together)

Words and music by Bill Buckley  
Reproduced by permission  
Bill Buckley Music London SE1 7JL  
On Rainbow Records

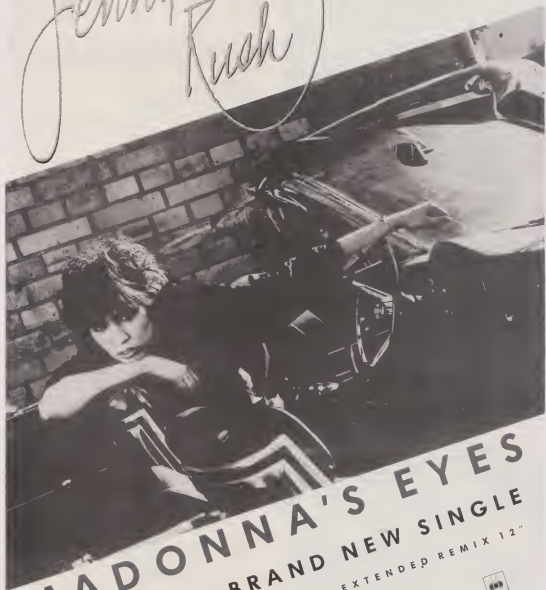
Words and music by Paul Hoggcastle  
Reproduced by permission Over Music Ltd  
On Chrysalis Records

# DON'T WASTE MY TIME





Jennifer  
Rush



**MADONNA'S EYES**  
**THE BRAND NEW SINGLE**  
ON 7" + EXTENDED REMIX 12"

  
6910  
TA6910

# HIPSWAY

## THE HONEYTHIEF



FEB 22ND STRATHCLYDE  
 25TH DEPENDRE  
 27TH LIVERPOOL  
 MARCH 1ST LEICESTER  
 COVENTRY

THE DANCEFACTORY  
 THE HOUSE OF LONDON  
 THE  
 WARRICK (N.I.)



77 MER 212  
 12" MERX 212



# LETTERS

WRITE TO: SMASH HITS, 52-55 CANNABY STREET, LONDON W1V 1PF. THE MOST SPLENDID LETTER GETS A £10 RECORD TOKEN AND A BLACK TYPE TAE TOWEL. EVERYONE ELSE GETS A COMMEMORATIVE PENDANT (i.e. a badge).

### Dear Black "Type",

Shows how much you know about smookey in point of sckchewel fact, as every "bit" of the "green bazz" knows the "People's Champson" is not Dennis "very horrible specs" Taylor (*Letters*, February 12) but Alex "Hurricane" Higgins. By the way (v interesting non pop fact ths), Alex was the first to have a "nickname" between his other names, even before your completely brilliant "design" editor David "Scoffer" Bestock. Alex "Nothing Shupid Between My Names" Scott Colchester.

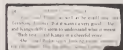
Well, Nothing Stupid, looks like you've got me well and truly smookeyed wiv regards via one! SMOOKEHEAD Get It? Coo, I ain't laughed so hard since quipsome raconteur Mr Roy Walker related a rib-tickling anecdote about his wife's cooking on the "uproarious" new TV "quiz" "show" Catchphrase, l'autre soir. "My wife's not a very good cook," he said (or words to that effect) - got quite a "utter" from the studio "audience", I can tell you!



- 18 (19) Life's What You Make It - Talk 'n' Walk
- 17 (20) How Will I Know - Whitney Houston
- 16 (21) Single - Public Image Ltd
- 15 (22) Sweet As The Day - O'Jays
- 14 (23) Osbourne
- 20 (15) In A Lifetime - Clamnd
- 21 (11) You Little Thief - Feargal Smeo, K-r

### Dear Black Type,

Hurrah! Fine 'n' dandy! A newspaper clipping gotten from a well known newspaper. It's an accurate description of "tot-very-toe-tapping-American-songstess" W Houston! Fine 'n' dandy! Joe Cool Spooky 'n' wacky, eh? Well 'n' truly ottercaige, I thought! The Strange Quark Hyde. Cheshiro



Gosh! Pigtel has given up listening to his "terrifyingly boring Journey LPs and got into the three Norse pop Gods at last. But only Kangra - with her tell-tale "Beth first" exclamation seems to know the truth! i.e. Tears For Fears are really

where it's at!

Winnu The Who, Norwich

Do I get a prize for what I just figured out? You know all the numbers on the back of ARCADIA records? Well, they are the songs themselves. On the back of the 12" of "The Promises" it says "Heaven's Eyes" and all around the cover of their LP are the words "Is Bon", "Taylor", "Rhodes". From all this information, the numbers on the backs of the covers are in a pattern from A-16, B-18, C-20. It goes up in twos until the letter "T", in which this is number "2" and it ends at "14-2", add another "2" and you've got "A". Golden Disc, Postypridd

Ram indeed! I hold in my hand a copy of Ms Sarah Brightman and Mr Steve Harley's ethereal "waxing", "The Phantom Of The Opera" (a current turntable "hit" at Type Towers). On the back of said disc I find the number 4228 28146. Using your "system," I decode the digits... BAAEEADGGC! Blimey! These are dark forces we're meddling with...

I think Smash Hits missed the point in its review of the Sex Pistols book, *Rebel Rock* (Review, 28 January). You stated that there was too much emphasis on "the punters" and that most of those pictured in the book have "beards and don't look much like punks at all", but to my knowledge, there is only one bearded gent in the whole book (although his picture occurs no less than seven times). The "punters" chapter in this brilliant photographic documentary of such a tragic band, gives us an insight into what an early punk gig was like and what sort of people attended. To say that the audiences captured in the book don't look like punks is ridiculous - what was a punk supposed to look like? When the photos were taken, the stereotype punk image of bondage trousers and ripped T-shirts had not yet fully materialised, and punk had to become a commercialised industry.

As Smash Hits recalls, the idea of punk was something in which the punters could get involved (as the book proves), not a device aimed at commercial success. It's far enough that the Clash, P.I.L., Darned, Billy Idol are getting into the charts again, but where has that original spark of punk gone? Rebel Rock serves as a reminder that the

public and the bands were once on the same level. They should not have been allowed to drink apart again.

The Bear **DREAD POWER**  
**COMRADES**, Dundee

Dearest **B.T.**,

I was sitting quietly in my room, when suddenly I felt "vibes" coming through into my thick skull. I knew then that I had to write to you to tell you about a really cosmic experience that happened the other week.

One "mid-winter's" afternoon, I was feeling pretty bored - so I decided to read *Smash Hits*. As I was doing so, *The Smash Hits Scrapbook Diary 1985/86* suddenly "materialised" into my paws. I opened it and the **CRAFT CORNER** of the February 1986 page leapt out at me. And there before my eyes was the recipe of the "Not at all tasty 'treat' for Shrove

Tuesday" *Dagusting Pancakes!* Immediately I "beamed" down to la cuisine and beavered about searching for the various ingredients.

When they had all been gathered, I then followed the instructions meticulously. The finished "pancakes" looked absolutely mouth-watering, but I resisted the temptation to eat it and served it up. Sugar Puffs and all, just as instructed, to Scamp (our faithful four-legged friend). I then remembered that I didn't like Twiglets, so I gave them to my brother. Then I went back to la cuisine and found that Scamp had gratefully "bonked up" just about everywhere. Panic! Perhaps you could make a *Dagusting Pancake* for Mr & Mrs Perkins?  
*Waxoo, Wool, Doozer*

**Mr Perkins (typewriter maintenance engineer and the most boring man in the world) writes:** "Pancake Day" or Shrove Tuesday as it is sometimes known - has not been "celebrated" in the Perkins household for some years now due to an unfortunate occurrence that took place in the vicinity of the kitchen when one morning, in an attempt to "toss" a pancake in the customary fashion, I underestimated the velocity of said culinary mixture, causing slight but permanent damage to a framed portrait of our lovely Princess Diana on her wedding day, much to the annoyance of Mrs Perkins. Pancakes are of French origination, I believe, hence the term *Crepe Suzette* - a phrase most often employed. **(Be off with you, you dreary old git!**

**JOHN LENNON**  
Reproduction of John Lennon and Yoko Ono  
with permission of the John and Yoko Ono Trust  
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Printed in Great Britain. ISBN 0 00 000 000 0

Whilst searching through the Irish Times for the cartoon page, I came across this v. ghostly advertisement. Would you please consult your parapsychologist (Annea Rice) on what steps I should take from here?  
**V. Frightened Nix Kershaw Fan, Co. Cork.**

Dear **B.T.**,  
How dare you? How dare you?! I actually heard you say all foreign sweeties are horrible. Well! I was "fortunate" enough to go on holiday

to Canada (unhuh "holiday resort" full of gruesome Japanese tourists and polar bears) and while I was in the Eaton Centre (two glass place with squillions of naffy shops in it), a large orange "jelly bean" with dead thin brown legs came scuttling towards me and commenced to force jelly beans down my throat. They were passion fruit-flavoured (they come in every flavour you can think of and seven more which are rather horrible) and tasted "very nice", so you better take it back, orrrrh? And if you see a jelly bean walking the streets looking lost, point him in my direction, OK? Luv'n kisses (creep, crawl, record token please)  
*St Bob's Snubble*

**Alright, alright, I take it back: all foreign sweeties are delectable (just as all Dolly Parton jokes are very funny and all photographs taken by Ms. Koo Stark are of outstanding artistic merit).**

I am writing to complain about what *Airz* said about Aquarians in the January 29 issue:  
1) All the most select muscians are Aquarians  
2) Aquarians do not carry jugs of water on their heads  
3) Capricorns are pathetic  
*Angry Aquarian, Chorley, Lancs.*

**A World Famous Astrologer writes:**  
**Your Stars**  
**SCORPIO (March 28-June 7):** Be particularly careful with kitchen scissors this week as they can be quite sharp.  
**TAURUS (April 19-Dec 25):** You were born under the sign of the "bull", therefore you might well have a "Taurus" mug.  
**GEMINI (Oct 23-Jan 23):** Be particularly careful with soup this week as it can be quite hot.  
**AQUARIUS (Sep 12-Sep 16):** Be particularly careful when carrying jug of water on your head this week as (That's enough 'Stars', thank you very much. - Ed.)

**Paul McCartney**  
**GENERAL DEALER**  
**Suppliers of cleaning Rags**  
●  
**SPOT CASH FOR**  
**Copper, Wire, Brass, Lead, Alum., Car Radiators and Batteries etc.**  
●

Dear **Black Type**,  
Surely that man McCartney has made enough money without having to resort to supplying cleaning rags.  
*Mourze Observer, Co Down*

Dear **Mr Type**,  
I was leading through my copy of 'The Poems

# SIMPLY RED

## JERICHO



**THE NEW 7 INCH**  
**AND 4 TRACK 12 INCH SINGLE**

**WARG**  
DISTRIBUTED BY CBS RECORDS LTD. © A WARNER COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY

# LETTERS

of Venice (Act 1, Scene 2).  
*Nurses! How say you by the  
 French Lord, Monsieur le Bon?*  
*Portia: God made him and  
 therefore let him pass for a man.  
 Obviously Portia wasn't as  
 impressed as Yasmim  
 George Michael's Trusty Rusty  
 Caliente Blues II*

**French Lord indeed! And was it not  
 also said W. Shakespeare who  
 "quilled" the timeless lines:  
 "Ezther Thane Of Rantzen: If  
 music be the food of love, play on!  
 Old Cross In Street: No can do,  
 ducks, I ain't got me tuff in cov my  
 old man can't get enough of it  
 heeheeheecheechee  
 ?  
 I somehow doubt it.**

**Dear Black Type,**  
 I have just seen the BPI Awards  
 and I am disappointed at Mr Tebbit's  
 speech commending the British  
 record industry.

Firstly, I realise that he credited  
 the industry as being one of the most  
 prosperous left in Britain but surely  
 he is hampering that progress by the  
 tax put on records at the moment. Mr  
 Tebbit's speech comes at a time  
 when, due to education cuts by his  
 government local councils are  
 unable to employ peripatetic music  
 teachers to teach the basic skills. If  
 Mr Tebbit wants Britain to remain at  
 the forefront of the music industry  
 then there must be more money for  
 the schools from these taxes.

Secondly, as Bob Geldof has  
 pointed out countless times, the  
 government still has not sent the  
 masses of excess food stocks to  
 Ethiopia at what seems to be no extra  
 cost to them. If the government have  
 not done that then surely Mr Tebbit  
 can not whole-heartedly back Bob  
 Geldof.

Mr Tebbit's speech was a good  
 attempt at trying to associate the  
 government with the glamorous  
 music business, so if the government  
 believe in the industry, why are the  
 taxes not spent on the schools and  
 colleges and why is the food not with  
 the starving? Young Conservatives  
 answer me that  
 Mike Ramsden, Stoke-on-Trent

I have just left my television set  
 where Noel Edmonds closed the  
 1986 BPI awards with the words "over  
 the past hour and a half we have

Dearest readers in and out of the country, dear **Black Kite** (or so) - a very  
 special greeting from me to you (sounds a bit Beattie doesn't it?) Here is the  
 latest so-called "Smasher" from a pearly forgotten man, ex-hero of the pop  
 heaven, today he has nearly reached again the level of his youth. Following the  
 story "At The Job Centre" or "Popstar As Last Resort" found in a German English  
 school book called "A New Profile In Exaggeration" (how pathetic, but not written by  
 "Moustache" Mercury, the king of English!) I have underlined the  
 so-called "key-words" - replace "work in the evenings" with "singing in a pop  
 group". Best wishes!  
 Gregor, so-called "so-called", also "King of The Mountains" (not Tarzan Boy),  
 Ramsau (What?) - The author/ Bavaria, West Germany

Tom Halsey "Inquiring, Mr Taylor You 'I' (tall me to come back again if I don't find a job,  
 so have I an

Mr Taylor: Ah, hello, Tom. How long 'I' (he, you unemployed?)

Tom Halsey: "Nine I 'I' (have) school last summer, sir I 'I' (try) for about ten jobs so far  
 but they all 'I' (speak) a proposition 'I' (see, have) ordinary level GCSE. The  
 qualifications 'I' (I have) aren't enough.

Mr Taylor: I can see it's the same old story, Tom. If a youngster 'I' (not, pass) his exams  
 at school, he 'I' (have) trouble 'I' (find) a job. You're an intelligent lad, Tom,  
 why 'I' (not, you, not) better qualifications at school?

Tom Halsey: Well, we 'I' (not, back) much, and there 'I' (is) the street, I'm in my class  
 I 'I' (not, can) do much homework because I 'I' (must) work in the evenings  
 to earn some money I 'I' (have) six brothers and sisters, you know, all younger  
 than me.

**Blooming heck! And who, pray, is "Mr Taylor? Take this £10 record  
 token (w. useful in Bavaria hawhaw) and this wondrous Black Type  
 tea towel and never darken my doors again!**

helped prove the power the British  
 music industry holds in the world  
 today" or something to that effect.

Do Mr Edmonds and the BPI feel  
 that they have the power to  
 determine nationality? Or can we still  
 assume that place of birth  
 determines one's nationality?  
 Apparently not. U2 were nominated  
 in the Best 'British' Group category,  
 yet, to the best of my knowledge, U2  
 are and always have been Irish. This  
 arises from the fact that all four  
 members of the group come from  
 Dublin which happens to be the  
 capital of Ireland. I challenge any  
 member of the BPI to tell the citizens  
 of Dublin that they are still British. 80  
 years after they shed blood and rid  
 themselves of that title.

Maybe the BPI feel that Ireland is  
 incapable of giving a group of U2's  
 stature the credibility they deserve.  
 Not so as was clearly visible at the  
 Homecoming concert in Dublin (26/  
 5/85). The group described this  
 concert as one of the highlights of  
 their careers. U2 came home and a  
 nation was proud. What the BPI did at  
 their award ceremony was blatant  
 robbery of a nation's pride, and it  
 must be stopped.  
 Annette O'Donnell Co. Donegal,  
 Eire

**Dear Black Type,**

Remember last year's "brilliant"  
 BPI Awards? Well, on the back of the  
 Smash Hits' review of said Awards  
 (written by one Neil Tennant!) there  
 was an advert for Phil Collins' No  
 Jacket Required - which was voted  
 the Best Album in THIS year's BPI  
 Awards! Spooky or what????  
 Steph, Ickford, Bucks

**What indeed! This can mean only  
 two things. 1) Next year's Best  
 Album award will go to  
 Mutterings!?! 2) Tom Hibbert (who  
 "wrote" this year's review) will  
 soon be a member of a chart-  
 topping combo (heaven forbid!?!)  
 Readers everywhere, . . .  
 (everywhere, that is, except the  
 Kettering branch of W. H. Smith's -  
 yes, I'm referring to you, "matey",  
 you in the stupid blue cap who's  
 thumbing through Britain's  
 brightest pop magazine going  
 "dear-oh-dear-gawd-strewh-  
 help-us-what-a-bunch-of-bleedin'-  
 anancies" under your breath and  
 getting the paper all wrinkled and  
 dirty - either fork out your 43p (a  
 snip!) like everyone else or be off  
 with you, my "good" man). . .  
 AVANTI!**

**God wot indeed! And was it not  
 also said W. Blake who "penned"  
 the immortal lines:  
 Tiger Tiger burning bright  
 In the forests of the hang on a  
 mo**

**If I stuck a "bludgeoning" riff  
 on this  
 I could sell it to hard rock  
 combo Survivor for the  
 Soundtrack of Rocky V in a few  
 hundred years  
 ?  
 I rather think not.**

**Dear Black Type,**

In your recent ramblings about  
 Shakespeare (Letters 29 January),  
 you failed to mention the fact that  
 William also knew Duran Duran.  
 Note this extract from *The Merchant*



THE SINGLE  
**ANOTHER DAY COMES  
 (ANOTHER DAY GOES)**

PRODUCED BY

DAVID A. STEWART & PATRICK SEYMOUR

AVAILABLE AS 7  
 AND FOUR TRACK 12

**WIKI  
 DEE**

HOT CHOCOLATE have spent more time on the British Singles Chart than the BEACH BOYS, ABBA and MICHAEL JACKSON.

**Q** How many weeks in total have they spent on this chart?

225 WEEKS

**Q** Which is the only group to have a hit single every year from 1970 to 1984 inclusive?

HOT CHOCOLATE

THE NEXT HIT SINGLE

# HOT CHOCOLATE

---

# HEARTACHE No 9

RAK  
RECORDS



**STRANGE  
CRUISE**

(featuring STEVE STRANGE)

the debut single

**REBEL BLUE ROCKER**

AVAILABLE ON 7" AND EXTENDED 12"

EMI



# MY OWN WAY

"I know people probably won't believe it," says John Taylor, "but I've been working really hard." He has, too; directing videos, taking piano lessons, learning all about those complicated synthesiser things with loads of knobs on and singing for the first time on his new solo single "I Do What I Do". But, discovers Peter Martin, when he does take a rare day off, he likes to curl up in his New York apartment with his girlfriend, a pizza and a naughty video . . .

23 storeys in the sky, John Taylor's New York apartment has a magnificent view.

Situated on the fashionable Upper West Side of town, it towers over Central Park, and in the misty distance you can pick out the formidable hulk of the Manhattan skyline.

This aside's not bad either: 50% of the wall space is glass, the rest is all black and chrome and resembles the nerve centre of the USS Enterprise. It's got everything — 4, compact disc, enormous flat-screen TV, video machine, professional "pneumatic" video recorder, and, on the floor, a sound and video camera unit. Swanky. In the kitchen thuds a space-age washing machine, while in the "spare" room beats a DMX drum machine locked into ricks of melt black synthesizers and bass gutters.

John's girlfriend Renee Simonsen is lounging about in the bedroom, drying her hair and watching the Marlon Brando Mefie film *The Godfather* on another video, while John, in white toweling dressing gown, is wandering around talking to his Mum on the portable "bat" phone — Mrs and Mr Taylor are across the ocean minding their son's London fiat. I mean, do some people make you sick or what?

John is taking a rare day off today. "Honestly, it's my first in ages," he assures me. "I know people probably won't believe it but I've been working really hard. When I used to come to New York, all I ever did was go to nightclubs and hang out. But now I spend all my days in the studio, then I come home and stay in with Renee. The most exciting thing we ever do is phone out for pizzas . . ."

Strolling back and forth between bedroom and living room, putting on layer after layer of clothing — silky, baggy trousers, silky, baggy shirt, silky, baggy jacket, all bought

from a posh shop down the block — John explains just what it is he's been up to in the months since The Power Station and Duran Duran's appearance at Live Aid.

For a start, he's been taking piano lessons. And he's also been learning his way around the memory banks of the new music technology — DMXs, Fairlights etc. — under the tutelage of Jonathan Elias. Elias is a complete whizzkid in this department. He owns a three studio complex in Manhattan that houses the most technologically advanced sound equipment in the world, he's created sound effects for numerous TV ads and films (like *Alien*, *Blade Runner* and *Alien 2*), and it was while he was working on the *A View To A Kill* video that he first met John.

John was greatly impressed with Elias' handwork and invited him to play on the Duran Duran "View To A Kill" single (he's credited on the sleeve). And once back in New York, with The Power Station dismantled and Duran Duran "on ice", John got in touch with the whizzo soundperson once more. As fate would have it, both were doing work with separate projects in the US film charts (John with a Power Station song on the Arnold Schwarzenegger film *Commando*, Jonathan with the soundtrack for *Jagged Edge*), and so they decided it would be a splendid time to sell themselves to Hollywood as the hottest new soundtrack team in the business. The plan paid off almost immediately when they were commissioned to write some of the soundtrack for 9½ Weeks starring Mickey "stop-calling-me-the-new-Marlon-Brando-or-I'll-give-you-one-of-my-nigh-legendary-moody-stars" Rourke and Kim Basinger (from the James Bond film *Navar Sey Navar Again*). 9½ Weeks has been described as "the biggest budget pop movie since *Last Tango in Paris*", but the scissors of the US censor have taken care of all that saucy nonsense — and, unfortunately, quite a bit of John's music has been dropped in the process. You can hear the unedited track, though, on the B-side of John's very own single, "I Do What I Do", which is a remix of the film instrumental with vocals by

John's first solo single "I Do What I Do."



J.T. himself. It's the first time he's sung on record — "apart from shouting in the background on 'Wild Boys' — and very David 'I'm-mean-moody-and-restless' Bowie he sounds too.

"I didn't want to sing," John stresses. "But it looked like it'd never come out otherwise. I hardly want to push myself as a frontman — I get enough attention from Duran as it is." As well as making his singing debut, John is also trying his hand at video direction for the first time with "I Do What I Do" — as he says, "This single has



John and Jonathan Elias

been a marvellous education for me . . ."

In the bedroom, Renee has finished drying her hair and is about to whizz off to another "top modeling assignment". "I'll see you tonight," says John all lovey-dovey like and plants a smacker on her lips. And now, with the "wife" (as he calls her) out of the way, he sits down at last and sticks a cassette in the video. *Coo* — it's the rather steamy film *Body Heat* starring Kathleen Turner, John's vote for "the most fanciable parson in the universe" in the *Smash Hits* poll. He turns the sound down end, when he can tear his attention away from Mrs Turner wailing not very many clothes, he continues the saga of his latest career moves.

With Simon now back on (presumably not in) the briny on his *Round The World* yacht thingie, there's still a few months before Duran get back together. The group have a studio in London booked for June 1. John has a couple of other projects with Jonathan to squeeze in when he can. Next in the pipeline is some music for the new Rosanna Arquette (*Desperately Seeking Susan*) film, *Eight Million Ways To Die* — "that probably won't go into production for ages so we'll probably finish it after the Duran LP" — and then there's a new Ridley Scott (director of *Alien* and *Blade Runner*) movie — which probably won't get started for ages either. "It's like that, the film industry," says John. "Everything

seems to take ages to get done — if it gets done at all. The more money involved the weirder and slower things get. . . ."

The *Body Heat* video comes to an end and before John has a chance to feed something away saucier into the player — bong! — Jonathan Elias arrives carrying treats — a bottle of wine and some *Hasagendazis* ice cream. "Chocolate chip — my favourite!" squeals John, leaping to his feet to greet his partner. They get on famously, these two: "We're hardy out of one another's sight these days," says John. Jonathan agrees: "I'm sure that Renee sometimes thinks there is something going on between us." Crumbs! So what does the futura hold for the two collaborators? "The possibilities for us are limitless," reckons Elias. "As yet this thing is untested. It could go anywhere. We'll try anything if it sounds fun." But where does this leave Duran Duran? "Well . . ."

John composes his reply. "The last thing we want to get back into is that album-tour-album-tour syndrome. It just takes all the excitement, all the adventure, out of things. But we are still a band and I think we're all excited in getting back together. Which doesn't mean I won't be getting back together with Jonathan too . . ."

Renee returns, her day's work done, and we settle back for a cosy evening in front of the telly — nothing rude, mind.

We pump for watching the Country Music Awards hosted by the bloke out of *Knight Rider*.

And mid-way through, John decides he wants to do something very exciting. So he phones out for pizzas . . .

A close-up portrait of John Taylor, a member of the band Duran Duran. He has long, dark, wavy hair and is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. He is wearing a bright red scarf and a dark jacket with a silver zipper pull. The background is a plain, light color.

JOHN TAYLOR

■ Photo: Mike Pritchard

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THOUSANDS MORE IF EVER YOU DO BEAT THE  
PANTS OFF THOSE TWO.



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# This Time Bryan Adams

I think about her all the time  
She's my fantasy  
An image burning in my mind  
Calling out to me  
While my imagination's running wild  
Yeah things are getting clearer oh

Chorus  
This time everything is alright  
No way she's gonna get away  
This time everything is easy  
Any day I'm gonna make her mine

I thought of every word I'd say  
Give or take a few  
But she turns and slowly walks away  
What do I have to do  
Hey turn up your radio  
Oh there's something I want you to know yeah

Repeat chorus


Yeah I'm gonna make her mine  
This time

It's hard to take 'cause she's miles away  
And I've waited a long time  
But she feeling's right  
Darling one of those nights  
Yeah I'm gonna let you know

Repeat chorus twice

Yeah I'm gonna make her mine  
Oh yeah  
This time

Words not written by Bryan Adams  
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## The Damned Eloise

EVERY NIGHT I'M THERE  
I'M ALWAYS THERE  
SHE KNOWS I'M THERE AND HEAVEN KNOWS  
I KNOW SHE GOES (CLOSED)  
I FIND IT HARD TO BELIEVE  
THAT LOVE WAS IN HER EYES  
IT'S DYING NOW  
SHE KNOWS I'M CRYING NOW

CHORUS  
AND EVERY NIGHT I'M THERE  
I BREAK MY HEART TO PLEASE ELOISE  
ELOISE

YOU KNOW I'M ON MY KNEES YEAH  
I SAID PLEASE  
YOU'RE ALL I WANT TO HEAR MY PRAYER  
MY PRAYER

MY ELOISE IS LIKE THE STARS THAT PLEASE THE NIGHT  
THE SUN THAT MAKES THE DAY  
THAT LIGHTS THE WAY (CLOSED)  
AND WHEN THAT STAR GOES BY  
I'LL HOLD IT IN MY HANDS AND CRY  
HER LOVE REALS MINE  
YOU KNOW MY SUN WILL SHINE

REPEAT CHORUS

YOU'RE ALL I WANT YOU'VE GOT TO HEAR MY PRAYER  
MY PRAYER

MY ELOISE I'D LOVE TO PLEASE HER  
I'D LIKE TO COME BUT SHE'S NOT THERE  
AND WHEN I FIND YOU  
I'D BE SO KIND YOU'D WANT TO STAY  
I KNOW YOU'D STAY



AND AS THE DAYS GROW OLD  
THE NIGHTS GROW COLD  
I WISH I COULD HOLD HER NEAR TO ME  
YOU KNOW SHE'S DEAR TO ME  
AND ONLY TIME WILL TELL  
AND TAKE AWAY THIS LONELY HELL  
I'M ON MY KNEES TO MY ELOISE

REPEAT CHORUS

YOU ARE MY LIFE SO HEAR MY PRAYER  
YOU ARE THE PRIZE I KNOW YOU'RE THERE

I KNOW YOU'RE THERE  
YOU'RE ALL I WANT YOU GOTTA HEAR MY PRAYER  
YEAH YEAH YEAH  
YOU'RE ALL I NEED BUT YOU'RE NOT THERE  
OH NO YOU'RE NOT THERE  
NO NO NO  
YEAH YEAH YEAH YEAH YEAH  
MY ELOISE  
OH I'D LOVE TO PLEASE HER  
OH MY ELOISE  
OH MY ELOISE OH MY ELOISE  
DON'T LIE TO ME  
I SAID NO NO NO NO  
MY ELOISE  
AD LIB TO FADE

WORDS AND MUSIC BY PAUL RYAN  
REPRODUCED BY PERMISSION CARLIN MUSIC CORP  
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## Diana Ross Chain Reaction

You took a mystery and made me want it  
 You got a pedestal and put me on it  
 You made me love you out of feeling nothing  
 Something that you do ooh  
 And I was there not dancing with anyone  
 You took a little then you took me over  
 You set your mark on stealing my heart away  
 Crying trying anything for you

I'm in the middle of a chain reaction (chain reaction)  
 You give me all the after midnight action  
 I wanna get you where I can let you make all that love to me  
 I'm on a journey for the inspiration  
 To anywhere and there ain't no salvation  
 Need you to get me nearer to you  
 So you can set me free

We talk about love love love  
 We talk about love  
 We talk about love love love  
 We talk about love

You make me tremble when your hand goes lower  
 You taste a little then you swallow slower  
 Nature has a way of yielding treasure  
 Pleasure made for you  
 Oh you gotta plan your future is on the run  
 Shine a light for the whole world over  
 You never find your love if you hide away  
 Crying dying all you gotta do is

Get in the middle of a chain reaction (chain reaction)  
 You got a medal when you're lost in action  
 I wanna get your love all ready for sweet sensation

Instant radiation  
 You let me hold you for the first explosion  
 We get a picture of our love in motion  
 My arms will cover my lips will smother you  
 With no more left to say

We talk about love love love  
 We talk about love

Let me hold you for the first explosion  
 Arms will cover you  
 All you gotta do

(Get in the middle of a chain reaction)  
 A chain reaction  
 (You get a medal when you're lost in action)  
 Don't pass me by  
 (I wanna get your love all ready)  
 Your love with me  
 (Sweet sensation instant radiation)  
 Oh oh  
 (You let me hold you for the first explosion)

A first explosion  
 (We get a picture of our love in motion)  
 Don't let me down  
 (Arms will cover my lips will smother)  
 Smother our love boy  
 (With no more left to say)  
 All you gotta do is  
 Ad lib to taste

Words and music by B. R. & M. Gibb  
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## Midge Ure Wastelands

THE BOY IS LISTENING TO THESE RECORDS FROM THE PAST  
 HE WANTS TO MAKE THEM LAST  
 FOR THEY MAKE HIM FEEL ALIVE  
 THEY ARE THE VOICES OF THE FACES ON THE WALL  
 HE LISTENS TO THEM ALL  
 HANDS ON EVERY TALK THEY TELL  
 REMINDS THEM ALL AND THEIR LIFE STORIES  
 SHARES THEIR PAIN AND SHARES THEIR BLOODIES

ONE DAY HE EVER CUT THEIR NAMES UPON HIS SKIN  
 THEY MEAN THAT MARCH TO HIM  
 FOR THEM HE'D TAKE THE TEST  
 HIS BEDROOM WINDOW OPENS TO THE EVENING SKY  
 THE FOX IS IN HIS LAIR  
 THE VOLCANO OF HIS SYSTEM IS PULL ON  
 BUT THE NEIGHBORING MEAN AND THE PARADES CALL  
 THIS ANGRY MOUSE IS THE MEXIAK OF THE WASTELANDS

(WASTELANDS) THE WASTELANDS (WASTELANDS)

THE BOY IS DRESSING IN THE FASHION OF THE DAY  
 THE BOSS ALL DRESS THAT WAY  
 YOU CAN TELL THEM ANYWHERE



THE BOY LOOKS OUT AND SEES HIS FRIENDS ARE WAITING THERE  
 IN THE COLD ELECTRIC GLAZE  
 OF THOSE LAMPS THAT MAKE YOU THINK THAT NIGHT IS DAY  
 THEY DRAG THEIR LIPS INTO YOUR SIGHT  
 WITH SHOUTS AND SCREAMS THEY MEET THE NIGHT  
 THEY BLOCK YOUR WAY IN TWOS AND FOURS  
 IN UNIFORMS FROM CITY STORIES  
 THEY'RE CLIPPING IN WHO KNOWS THE SCORE  
 IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE  
 A MIGHTY'S BLOOD IS SOARING THE WASTELANDS

(WASTELANDS)  
 YES IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE  
 THE MIGHTY'S BLOOD IS SOARING THE WASTELANDS (WASTELANDS) ON WASTELANDS  
 (WASTELANDS)  
 YES IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE  
 THE MIGHTY'S BLOOD IS SOARING THE WASTELANDS  
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# V I E W ALBUMS



**D.C. LEE: Come Hell Or Water High (CBS)**

I didn't like "See The Day" – it was a bit of a rip-off of an old Earth Wind & Fire song – but her voice sounds better this time. The music still sounds fairly boring, though: there's no real hook.

**KING CREAM CHORUS & HOLIDAY CREW: King Holiday (Mercury)**

Yet another benefit record (see *Biz* for details). Although I sometimes question the motives of the people who do these charity things, this is a admirable. It's trying to get across to people what Martin Luther King was about and that's good because a lot of kids don't know about him and they should be educated. In fact, they should be educated in this sort of history at school – the history of the Normans is a load of crap. You probably get a lot more information from the sleeve than you do from listening to the record, though, because it's a bit bland and boring.

**NANA MOUSKOURI: I Have A Dream (Phonogram)**

She still looks exactly the same as she used to when I was about five. Do I have to listen to that? Oh well, every record deserves one listen – but after you've listened to this once you can smash it. This is an Abba song, isn't it? She's got a nice voice... but I don't like it: it probably appeals to 80-year-old grannies.

**PRINCE: Kiss (WEA)**

The thing about Prince is that he always grooves – apart from that terrible song "Purple Rain" which was crap. I thought the last album, "Around The World In A Day", was a lot better than the "Purple Rain" album anyway – it wasn't as commercial but it was much groovier. There's a bit of James Brown in this new single – but I don't think it's a great single. It's a little too stodgey.

**KATE BUSH: Hounds Of Love (EMI)**

I really liked "Running Up That Hill" because it didn't sound like anything else that was on the radio. I'm sure it was so successful because there's a lot of people out there who are just sick of most current pop music. She's got a really good voice and she's really sexy sounding – rock'n'roll was all about sex originally, and I think people forget that. I don't know if this is a particularly good single commercially – but then I can never work out what is, anyway.



**AMAZULU: Things The Lonely Do (Island)**

I'm sure there are millions of worse bands than Amazulu – I just can't think of one. What was that last hit they had? "Don't You Just Know It"? Wish that terrible bit in the middle – "ah ah ah!" That was horrible – this is just totally boring. I actually prefer "Don't You Just Know It" – at least that was "wocky", like The Belle Stars. This is "let's be serious". It's the sort of thing I expect to hear in a fairground. I like fairgrounds, by the way. I used to work on a speedway in a fair when I was young and I thought about running away with them when I was about 14 (remixes in this fashion for several decades – Ed)...

**THE ICICLE WORKS: Seven Singles Deep (Beggars Banquet)**

They might well have called this "the greatest hits" if... well, the thing is that after a couple of successes with happily named songs like "Love Is A Wonderful Colour", Liverpool's Icicle Works have had a truly remarkable string of flops. Seven 12" remixes of their singles are gathered up here and, quite frankly, you can see why they missed the boat. They sing these grandiose songs about love, but they're so all-over-the-place and over the top that you can't take them seriously, ever. And their "cult following" has probably got all this lot anyway. (4 out of 10)

William Shaw

**SOPHIA GEORGE: Fresh (Jetstar)**

Anyone who says that "Girle Girle" wasn't a completely loveable single and without a doubt one of the best reggae singles for years gets my big brother coming around to see them after his karate class. OK! But, apart from that song, the rest of what we've got here is just run-of-the-mill "lovers' rock" (technical reggae term for very dippy songs) and chug-along-beard-it-all-somewhere-before stuff. Pity really. (5 out of 10)

William Shaw

**DOUBLE: Double (Polydor)**

Yes, the finest thing to come out of Zurich since the Swiss Roll (which isn't Swiss, anyway). Double release their first British album with "Captain Of Her Heart" (included here) still lolling about the charts. Some very "laid back" and restrained vocals, a lot of gentle guitar, piano and saxophone all give the impression that Double's sort of music would be best suited to a sleazy old jazz club in the early hours of the morning, and, apart from a couple of dodgy tracks ("Urban Nomads" is particularly worth avoiding), it all re-affirms the fact that Double are really rather good. (7 out of 10)

Simon Bradshaw

**THE COSTELLO SHOW: King Of America (F. Beat)**

On the cover of this, Elvis Costello's new LP, he looks sad, old and rather serious. And on the record made he sounds pretty similar. These days he's almost completely abandoned the soulful pop he always used to dabble in, instead larking about with rock'n'roll, folk and country & western. The trouble is that, in nearly all the songs, he's far too busy

cramping in lots of clever complicated phrases and pessimistic views to actually remember putting a tune in. Only a couple of songs – "The Sleep Of The Just" and "Little Palaces" really stand out – still, probably enough to make his fans happy though I doubt it will win him any new ones. (7 out of 10)

Chris Heath

**THE GO-BETWEENS: Liberty Belle And The Black Diamond Express (Beggars Banquet)**

The Go-Betweens are another one of those bands like Lloyd Cole. The Smiths and Prefab Sprout who max slightly complicated, wordy lyrics with highly complicated but very hummable pop tunes. The main difference is that, although they've been releasing records a lot longer than those three, they've never really had any success. I doubt whether this will do too much to change that – the catchiest song, "Spring Rain", has already flopped as a single – but this is rather good, even if one of the songs is called "Palm Sunday (On Board The S.S. Within)". (8 out of 10)

Chris Heath

**ALED JONES: Where E'er You Walk (10)**

They tried to put me in a choir once so I had to fake chicken pox. Dear me – there's something not "quite right" about this fairy-light type of singing. I reckon, perhaps you like it – but if you do, be warned. There's none of the semi-"pop" of Aled's recent hit on this LP – just a lot of "classical" stuff mostly sung in Welsh. It's all very "nice" – not nearly as fearful as Bonnie Langford singing "Good Ship Lollipop" at the age of four, for instance – but rather "creepy" all the same. He's a grand singer but I'm afraid I must pass. (Pass)

Tom Hibbert

**THE BANGLES: In A Different Light (CBS)**

On stage the Bangles usually "deliver" a not very "tight" set indeed – i.e. completely out of tune and very, very loud. On "record", however, they're altogether more polished – and burry for that. With their urbane harmony singing and spangly guitars, the girls make a wonderful noise – romantic, reminiscent of the best 60s pop, jingly and almost exciting at times. The only slight problem is that all their best songs – "September Gurls", "Manic Monday" – are written by other people. Never mind. (7 out of 10)

Tom Hibbert

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# PUZZLE ANSWERS

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A C A T A L O G U E O F S H O P S

# NIGHTS OUT

**F E A R G A L  
S H A R K E Y  
E D I N B U R G H**

▶ "Did you have a good time?" enquires a tremulous Irish voice from the stage. Behind Feargal Sharkey stands a simple, stylish backdrop. Around him the disco lights are a-flashin', the dry ice is e-spookin' and a very large backing group are playing a sinky electronic version of the Rolling Stones ancient hit "It's All Over Now". It's all very modest, very carefully planned and very different from Feargal's days in the "happy-go-lucky" Undertones.

Inevitably some of the show still seems slightly makeshift — take one distinctive solo singer, add a quantity of experienced professional musicians, a few new songs and a couple of well-known "oldies" and — Twingo Bingo! — an instant concert. Some songs, like "A Good Heart" or "Listen To Your Father", actually benefit from this beefier, bouncier treatment, but give Feargal a good strong song and a lot of the

**A rather large girl escapes onto the stage, plants a kiss on Feargal's cheek and scampers off again. . .**

razzmetazz seems like so much unnecessary baggage. However, Feargal himself does his very best to overcome this: coaxing the audience into action, bouncing around the stage, teasing the eight musicians and play-acting with the two razor sharp girl backing singers, climbing onto the giant loudspeaker things like Bono to make someone's evening by waving to them, and generally never giving less than one hundred percent.

The high point of the evening comes during the impassioned encore of the soul "classic" "When A Man Loves A Woman", when a rather large girl escapes onto the stage, plants a kiss on Feargal's cheek and scampers off again. Feargal, true to form, never misses a note . . .

... "Did you have a good time?" enquires a tremulous Irish voice from the stage — and it is answered by a huge roar of approval. Of course we did.

Ian Crahan



Feargal "delivering" a "light set" and getting his shoes polished into the bargain.

# WITH LOVE FROM MANCHESTER

## THE SMITHS/NEW ORDER/THE FALL

### LIVERPOOL

► Quite why it should be Councilman acts rallying to the support of Liverpool

Council rather than local Liverpoolian ones, nobody seems to know. But then it doesn't really matter – Liverpool's "radical left" council are being sued by the Government for not making massive cuts in jobs and services and not implementing huge rises in rents and rates. They've set up a £100,000 legal fund appeal – and tonight's benefit show, "With Love From Manchester," should help. New Order come on first. For a bunch of so-called "doomy, gothic intellectuals" they have a surprising amount of headbangers with beer-bellies as fans. I mean, the sight of a thousand or so blokes pogoing like mad to a song whose main "hook" line is, "oh oh, I couldn't bear the thought of you" is very weird. After a handful of very long versions of unannounced songs, they finish with their "angst" anthem "Love Will Tear Us Apart" and they're off.

For the next two hours The Fall, punk-poet John Cooper-Clarke,

**For a bunch of so-called "doomy, gothic intellectuals" New Order have a surprising amount of headbangers with beer-bellies as fans.**

Margi Clarke (no relation to John, our star of the film *Letter To Brazzaville*) and Deputy Leader of the Council Derek Haston (the small one on *Spotting Image* with the goggy eyes) appear on stage to a warmish reception.

Last on (or so we think) are The Smiths. It only seems like yesterday when they were popping up on *Top Of The Pops* with their perky, post-punk pop, Morrissey waving gladiators in the air and daubing "Will You Marry Me?" on his fat, white chest. But those days are sadly gone, and tonight Morrissey looks embarrassingly self-conscious, the band very nervous, and all their best songs – from "This Charming Man" to "How Soon Is Now?" – are conspicuous



"We've got a really long song with a funny title and we're not telling you what it is bar har..." Two blokes from frizzling pop combo New Order.

A councillor and a film star on stage at a pop concert? Cor, 1989 eh? It's a rum old year.

Morrissey "I'm not saying I'm thin but I have to take a book mark-to-bed-with-me" of The Smiths.

Mark E. Smith of The Fall.

Unannounced! Heint Muni: Oh... it's John Cooper-Clarke? Phen! ... thought it was Bob Dylan for a second...

by their absence instead we get most of their new LP "The Queen Is Dead" and the best bits of "Meat Is Murder".

Things now go from dismal to v. dismal after The Smiths have shuffled away, Bernard from New Order, a couple of The Fall, The Redskins and The Lloyd Collection shuffle on to perform a version of Bob Dylan's ancient whiner "Maggie's Farm" (also a single by

The Lloyd Collection, royalties from which go to the council). But they spend so much time faffing around setting up their equipment that the audience, already peeved by a weedy Smiths "set" and no encores, start to show their annoyance. "We want Morrissey... we want Morrissey!" they chant, the people at the front start gobbing and someone chucks a beer can. The makeshift group

manage a few notes before a million more cans hurtle towards the stage though Bernard from New Order carries on defiantly. Most of the audience start making for the exits and an agitated Margi Clarke rushes on stage with a plea to let the group play the song. No-one listens, no-one seems to care and the title of the concert just seems like a bad joke.

Peter Martin

# THE BRIT AWARDS

While you were watching the awards ceremony on TV the other week, a select few music biz "nobs" were there in person at a big London hotel, nibbling bits of salmon, guzzling free booze, gossiping and picking up the odd award. People like Wham!, Tears For Fears, Phil Collins, Howard Jones, Go West, Alison Moyet, Tom Hibbert... Tom who? Oh, actually he's the one from *Smash Hits* in the Mr Byrte suit (£19.99), leather bowtie and Um Bongo-stained notebook chatting to Dracula. What?!

**C**rushed up behind steel barricades outside the Grosvenor House Hotel, the massed hordes of pop star spotters are becoming distinctly disgruntled. For one thing, it's the coldest February night in London for 40 years; for another, none of the smartly-dressed nobs filing past and into the hotel foyer seem to be terribly famous. Look! Here comes **Kenneth Jones**, drummer of The Who. Who? Look! Here comes celebrated actress **Ms Ruks Lenake!** Who? Look! Here comes **me!** Who? "Huh! I was a crosser off from the crowd." And that ain't nobody neither! "Har autograph book remains empty..."

Hard cheese — all the truly glistening guests have chosen to sneak in the back. This is indeed a wise decision — for stepping through the front doors, the very first thing one encounters is the probing microphone of **Steve "Knock Your Block Off" Blacknell**. Oh no! "So, ladies, who have you got your money on tonight?" The "zany" TV "personality" has comarad **Banenerama**, poor things, so I move swiftly on upstairs following in the footsteps of... good lord! Is it touza-topped millionara composer **Andrew Lloyd Webber** standing in front of me? No, it is not, as a matter of fact: it's his lesser-known brother **Julian** who plays the cello a bit. "Hello Julian," I quip. "Oh, hum, aah, hello," he replies plummyly and scuttles off to lose himself in the throng.

And what a throng! The bar is jam-packed with "top" music industry persons — men with beards and cigars, ladies with "glamorous" gowns and lashings of make-up and... I do not recognize these people. Hang on, though — there's a familiar face. Greet heavens! It's **Bryan Ferry** in lustrous bb, tucker end suava bow tie. How respiciant ha looks. Ha always does. "Hallo Bryan," I quip. "Oh, hum, aah, hello," he replies casting his gaze about the room. "Why is everyone dressed up like this?" It's wall-to-wall dinner jackets as far as the eye can see. Thara's salmon on the menu, thara's a Conservativa minister on the bill — cor, ain't it posh, Mum? Ain't it quar? Come with me, won't you, into the ballroom where the evaning's pop festivities are about



● Bryan Ferry! He's so suave (usually)

to commence...

Here we sit with all the super soaraway journalists at the press table in the balcony. We're a million miles away from the stage (on which people we can hardly see are making speeches we can hardly hear — was it any good on the tally?) and so instead of trying to follow the "action", we scour the tables below for nch and famous household names. Lat us see now... Corrk! Who's that in the Australian bush-whacker's hat and most distasteful shirt ever conceived by man? Could it be? Yes, it's **George Michael** with his "pal" Andrew, skulking and sulking in the darkness. Hoop-la — once they have collected their "special" award from **Tory skinhead Norman "on-yar-bika" Tebbit** they'll be a-whoooshing off into the night never to be heard of again. Rork! Who's that in the garish Harlecun two-piece and disgusting kippar tie? Could it be? Yes, it's **Howard Jones**. Huppy-hup — once he's delivered his weany "speech", he'll be away too — whisking the v, pregnant Jan home to bed. And who's that with the sparkling... oh, it's **Elsaine Page**. Time, I think, to "wash my hands..."

Imagine the scene. There you are in the gentleman's toilet minding your own business when this little chep comes in, stands next to you and starts telling you what a big swizzie avanything is because ha wanted to gat **Madonna's** eutograph but **Madonna** ain't here and... Crums! If it ain't world-famous choral superstar **Aled Jones!** Bilmey! I wander out into the comidor to composita my thoughts

and — bump! — straight into an aged, crag-faced gent in sober gray suit. Is **Mo ayas decava**, me or is this world-romer croaker from the U.S. of **A Huey Lewis?** The vary same! Quite a matey gazair is Huey, as I soon discover. Ha seems a trifle bemused about tonight's proceedings — he's not too sure quita why ha has won an award and ha is thoroughly puzzled by **Norman Tebbit**: "Who was that guy?" ha asks huskily. "Ha looked like Dracula..."

A tall, pallid fellow with starting raven hair strolls our way: "Hava you met my good friend **Charlie Sexton?**" enquires Huey and — boom! — I am shaking hands with the 17-year-old-boy-buganus-and-futura-of-rock'n'roll in person! Bilmey! "Thasa occasions are, well, they're okay," says **Cherie** "but they kinda give awards to the wrong people, y know?" Like **Huey Lewis**, I just wiffy? "No, like **Kate Bush** — I think she is great. She should hava got something but..." A slight, baiding figura trundles past, distracting my attention — for it's not any old slight, baiding figura trundling past, it's... **Phil Collins**, winner tonight of not one, not one-and-a-half, but two awards. Cripes! "Hallo Phil," I quip. "Ta-ra, grunts our homaly haro. And he is gona... "Hey! I thought you were talking to **ME!**" snaps **C. Sexton**, placing his hands around my throat... Amancans, ah?... Why, hara comes another one — a tiny cova in a danim jacket — unless I'm greatly mistakin, it's **Nile** "bong bong" **Leifgreen**. Cool Nile has just been on stage accepting an award

● Everyone else is in formal biz n' tucker — but not Howard! "Haw, haw, I'm a bit of a webel, aren't I, ain't?"



Photo: LIT



● Top: Paulie and some old dookroom attendants... Oh, sorry, it's Roger Daltrey of The "Who"

on behalf of **Bruce** "who-shadly-can't-be-with-us-tonight" **Springsteen**; Nile feels pratty "honoured" by this, actually, and, ha tells ma "confidentially", ha wants to go on playing guitar with Bruce forever and avar and ever because ha thinks that Bruce is the absolute TOPSI Well, I'll be blowed! This calls for a dmrk, so come with me, won't you, to the "akxclusive" celebrity bar up on the 6th floor or thereabouts...



● Charlie Sexton — the future of rock'n'roll definitely.

Making my way to the lifts, I am accosted by a couple of wizzily old blokas asking where the "khazi" might be. Recognising them as **Francis Rossi** and **Rick Parfitt** of world-famous boogie team **Stetius Quo**. I send them off in the wrong direction — and next — swoosh! — who might this be waiting out of the aviator? Goodness! It's **Alison Moyet** who greets ma in chummy fashion and then relates some awful naws about her chickens. They all died. "Oh, I do miss them," she says



Oh! **Dowd** Pass the Sellers (as in "Sellers bring express relief"), shipmates, and make it snappy 'cos Mutterings is losing very "off" "colour" indeed after being eaten up by one of **US-40** a fortnight back. Oh, well, nothing like a good bit of disgusting pop gossip to "settle" the stomach is there? Like, did you know that **Paul Webb** from **Talk Talk** goes on tour with just three shirts in a plastic bag? "They get better with age," he splutters. ... Or, even more disgusting, that rock "giants" **Led Zeppelin** are reforming and are rumoured to be rehearsing in a bath. Good job too, Oh. ... apparently that bit should read they're rehearsing in Bath. How "droll" /?

**Samantha Fox** is about to release a record called "Touch Me?" Too horrible to even think about so I'll move swiftly on to something more like **Howard Jones**, shall we? Howard is going to Ireland soon to start recording his new LP with trendy-but-very-old-producer **Arit Mardin** who produced the new **Culture Club** single. And, peculiarly enough, what is it that has just landed on Mutterings lab but a copy of that very single "Move Away"? It's too late to ask **Dave Gahan** what he thinks of it so **Mutterings** (who has always secretly wanted to "do" the singles) can pronounce that it's... quite good. A fairly humerous spauling pop disc which is, not surprisingly, several million times better than most of "Waking Up With This House On Fire" we say "Misanthropic".

**Boy George** and **Marilyn** have been cavorting round the gents' loo of New York's Limeight club with an American senator. "He wouldn't leave Marilyn alone," tutted George. "We went to the toilets and he even followed us there. So we went into a cubicle together and..." Enough! Spare us the sordid details! Be off with you, oh low life denizen! This is a wholesome magazine full of untainted popsters like **Michael Jackson**. Hurry! **Michael's** just started his new LP with the equally or, normal **Quincy Jones** who explains "we'll be trying on some fabrics... thinking of the music first in colour, shapes and densities. Then we'll go with what we feel and Enough! Spare us the grisly minutiae, oh madcap of the mixing desk! You're almost as bad as that tiny piper of yore, **M Jackson**, who, we hear, has been causing a bit of a rumpus by getting in a bit of a fl at the suggestion that "We Are The World"

# Mutterings

should be replaced as the official USA For Africa song by "Hands Across America" by two nobodies who probably can't even spell **Iama**. And here's a comicalness! **M Jackson's** **Iama** is called **Louis**, which is almost exactly the same as the middle name of - grunt!

- **Madonna**, who has just done her first interview for yonks chatting to actor **Harry Dean Stanton**. She explains how when she was 4 she always wanted to sleep with her parents, or "the A team" as she calls 'em. Her father never wanted the little miss in bed but she got in anyway and "rubbed against my mother's gown and went to sleep just like that. To me that was heaven, to sleep with my parents. I felt rarely lonely and to form, you see..." Blimey! And here she is chatting about her wild adolescence. "I used to be just a brazen, outgoing, crazy lass. I would wear one crumpled sock and one purple one." Grimey! This is the stuff! The crazy lass goes on to spill the beans about her, ahem, classical tastes, her fondness for Picasso,

Shakespeare, James Joyce, Henry James and Ernest Hemingway, and, naturally, her deep love for **Sean Penn**. Sean is my hero and my best friend, she gushes, and reveals how Sean "pepped the question" - "We were in Tennessee at the 'Something Inn'. It was a Sunday morning and I was jumping up and down on the bed, performing one of my morning rituals and all of a sudden he got this look in his eye and I felt like I knew what he was thinking. I said 'Whatever you're thinking I'll say yes to'. That was his challenge. So he pepped it."

Coo-er! Time we think for a weeny "update" on "morning rituals" elsewhere around the global village of pop. **Dave Stewart** is "seeing" Eurythmics backing singer **Clare Evans**, **Annie Lennox** (who says she'll never make another film after the critical panning the useless **Revolution** has received) has been "holding hands" with US person **Billy Paveza** who danced on the "Would I Lie To You?" show. **Steve Dagger**, **Spandau Ballet's** "sixth member" and

manager, is "good friends" with singer **Patsy Kensit**, **Simon "the" Ben**, who has finally left New Zealand on **Dunzi**, is keeping in touch with Yasmin by radio telephone. **David Sylvian**, who has - gasp! - stopped wearing make-up, has a Japanese girlfriend called **Yuka Fuji**, and **Elvis Costello** who has changed his name back to **Declan Patrick McManus** and added an "Abeyard" somewhere in between the dead comedian **Tony Hancock's** middle name is living with **Chaline D'Rondan**, bass player of **The Pogues**. She calls him "Uncle Brian", he calls her "The Bulgarian Ambassador". **P J Harvey** stays all this moonlight 'n' spinnin', isn't it? But it all melts into nothingness alongside the news that the "steely voice" who has been making the same record for several decades) is living with "sexy vicar's daughter" **Tracey Adams** the "chick" who was on the sleeve of his memorable single, "Miracle". The pair have been discussing "babes"

names" while her father claims that Gary and him have "long theological discussions" - Very likely "Misanthropic". **Kirsty MacColl** has her second pop on the way! **Hurrah!** and **Genesis** have a new album out soon!

**Noooooo!** and **The Faces** (a v. dodgy old group from 400 years ago) are reforming! **Cursed! Rod Stewart**, **Rolling Stone Ronnie Wood**, **Kenney Jones** and **Ian MacLagan** will be joined on bass by - crows! it can't be! - **John Taylor**! Who apparently used to be a **Bar?** But it's only for a concert or two, thank heavens!

Is it true **George Michael** is making a record with **Nana Mouskouri** as a heartfelt tribute to their common Greek heritage? No... is it true that **George Michael** is working on a new British soap opera, **The Lagoon**? Apparently... is it true that **George Michael** snubbed **Norman "Dracula" Tebbit** at the **PIF Awards** and "may" be donating his support later this year for **CND** (the Campaign For Nuclear Disarmament)? Indeed... whatever next?

**Rochelle** once had a parakeet that talked but it died. **Elton John** reckons the **PIF Awards** were "a joke". "I'll never go again," he laments before going off with his wife for ten days tennis in Miami. "It's a load of rubbish." Perhaps he's not completely off his rocker after all so let's put on the funny **Madonna** interview picture disc from page 17. "My new dress is so miserable and innocent and impudent and sexy", she chaps, so let's take it off again. She's got squally, we reckon. Why, it's even "suggested" that when she'll Sean walked down the aisle, the wedding music was "Mornin' in Love" by the **Art Of Noise!**

**Ridiculous!** Let's have a bit of order here! Send for the lot! E. Sir **Billy Idol** tell us, oh wise one, why is your new LP taking so "long" to complete? The difficulty I'm finding," he admits, "is getting songs to be confessions without sounding like stop there's a huge difference between being honest and some kind of wimp." And with that cosmic venty from the King of the Toffs we leave you for another fortnight. Oh no we don't, says here's... you guessed it... **Madonna!** "I don't care what anyone says," she pouts, "there is something valid and artistic about a Lionel Richie song!" The woman has quite clearly gone utterly stark, staring bonkers, so let's sneak away and leave her to it.



When A-ha lived in a run-down flat in London before they were successful they were so poor that they could only afford one light bulb. If one of them wanted to go to the loo he had to take the bulb with him. . .



MICHAEL J. FOX  
SMASH HITS

