

45p 14-27 JANUARY 1987
(Germany Dm3, Holland Hfl.2,35, Singapore S\$3)

SMASH HITS

Black Type
Back From
The Dead:
"It was all
a dream!"

NICK BERRY

"I can't sing
for toffee!!"

The U2 story Mike Smith 1994 BA Jesus & Mary Chain
Mags (A-ha) Jon Bon Jovi Psychedelic Furs Pepsi & Shirilee



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Thursday
Ahoy!

Michael Bond



Q UITE FUNNY
TOKES OF OUR
TIME THAT
FAILED MISERABLY
BECAUSE RITZ IS A
BIMBO
**PART 1: A Book Called
"Thursday Ahoy"
Yes! A few weeks ago, Ritz
adorned the shelves that it
had invented a novelette
called "Thursday Ahoy"
(except it hadn't because
some bloke called Michael
Bond did) but true to form
Ritz forgot to show you it so
here it is now**

Ha ha ha! Er... well, it
seemed quite funny at the
time.



Cynosity Killed The Cat. (l-r): Julian, Mig, Ben, Nick

BLACK TYPE

- BACK FROM THE "DEAD"!!

Sol! It was all a dream!! **Black Type** is not dead after all (see Letters) and the tributes have been flooding in from around the rejoicing globe. . .

"I feel elated!" - Gyles Brandreth
"So do I, mate" - Boris Becker
And in recognition of **Black Type's** stunning return from the grave, **Biz** announces the most intriguing contest in publishing history. Yust! From Friday January 16 to Monday January 19 inclusive, members of our staff (easily spottable by a discreetly placed tennis racket) will be mingling with the crowds at the January sales in all major shopping centres of the country. If you spot one, just go up to him/her, brandish the badge (which you have stuck carefully onto your lapel) - or similar convenient garmental location) and say "Hullo! I am Boris Becker and I claim my £500!". At which, said member of staff will give you a carton of *Um Bongo* (They Drink It In The Congo) fruit juice - entirely free of charge!! What could be simpler?!



INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Snip out badge.
2. Pin to clothing.
3. Approach likely-looking staff member.
4. Say "Hullo! I am Boris Becker and I claim my £500!"
5. Hey presto! Happy drinking!!

JUST FANCY THAT!!

What, Mutterings wordsers, do the following utterly compelling rumours have in common? a) **Bruce Springsteen's** real name is Dominic Croft but he changed it because he thought it was "too weedy"

▲ **Mutterings, Smash Hits** (December 3, 1986)

Of course, if Steve had read a little further, he would have discovered this "rumour" was just a giant fib we'd made up for a lark. The chut!

★ **MY spies tell me that Bruce Springsteen's real name is Dominic Croft... and he changed it because he thought it was "too weedy."**

▲ **Steve Wright On Saturday, The Mirror** (December 13, 1986)



ASTONISHING SIOUXSIE AND THE BANSHEES POP FACTS

- They're back!
- They still look exactly the same!
- Their new single "This Wheel's On Fire" sounds just like a **SioUXsie And The Banshees** tune!
- And they didn't even write it!
- Because ancient old hippie "legend" Bob Dylan did!
- Along with another ancient old hippie "legend" Rick Danko from ancient old hippie "legends" The Band, whose name was ripped off by the **EastEnders** "pop group" except they called themselves **The Banned** to be "outrageous"!
- The original tune is to be found on The Band's LP "Music From Big Pink" which doesn't make any sense at all
- This tune was first a hit in Britain in 1968 for Julie Driscoll, Brian Auger & The Trinity!
- Er... Bob Dylan was born in Hibbing, Minnesota in America, which "boasts" the world's biggest chousticks factory!
- These are the least astonishing **SioUXsie And The Banshees** Pop Facts in the history of anything... (SniillP!!!)



Hi! Bob says... **Saint Bob of Galdof K.O.B.** to my friends. And though I'd have a squint at that funnyman "new paper" too, I've nothing much to do these days. . . Mmmm... **Steve, Billie, Klaus, His Own Fossil, Yvan, Freddie, Starr, Ate My Last Victory W! Snore** . . . **Saint Bob Of Galdof K.O.B. Goes On Tour In A July And The Details Are In "Happening"** "How thoroughly preposterous!"



Witness above a photograph of two very horrible-looking blokes. Don't they look utterly useless (Yes - The cosmon.) Correct. BUT! They're not utterly useless because they're one half of a quite good Scottish twatshoxy group called **Lowlife** who've got a new so-called "EP" out called "Vain Delights". Their names are Craig Loresant, Stuart Everest, Will Heggie (who used to be in the Cocteau Twins - hence the group sound rather like the Cocteau Twins) and Grant McDowell, who just happens to be on the **Biz** "blower" right now. . .

Are you a bunch of miserable doomsters? "No! No, not at all. Er... we get drunk! Constantly! Er... the thing is, you see, we're kind of trying to create a bit of mystery round ourselves at the moment because a lot of people are talking about us and, but not quite very much about us and, er, don't put that down though! Too late!" Oh no. . .

Do you think your music is bleak? "Bleak? No, I don't think so. I think... er, you've got to be in the mood for listening to it though. I mean, there's some things you couldn't listen to 24 hours a day like The Smiths, so I think probably you're better off listening to us when you're a bit beved up."

Oh. Do you think people like depressing music? "Pardon? Wait a wee minute. I'm just going to jump under these covers because I'm a bit cold. It's not very comfy on top of this bed."

Did you deliberately not answer that question? "Pardon? Eh? No, no no ba ba! Er... I think I should have been a lawyer." (?)

Have you ever grown parsnips in a gumbroof? "Have I ever grown...? Er... not that I can recall. I don't like parsnips."

Which one of you has the horrible beard? "That's me! Ha ha, no it's not - that's Will. It is a bit horrendous isn't it?"

Yes. You're not exactly the most handsome group in the world, are you? "I am! Oh yes, I am - it's just that our photographs always seem to look horrible, that's all. I'm actually quite nice! I think so anyway. We just always end up looking like used-car salesmen. You've got to take into consideration that every time we get our photos taken we're drunk. I also look incredibly bald. The other two have got the right idea - there's no pictures of them."

Is that because they look even worse than you two? "Aw, thanks very much! I love you too! Here I am, getting up early in the morning to speak to you and what do I get? Insults! Mend you, I don't blame you because we always manage to look like we've got great big huge double chins too... and, well, they're not that big. Er... I think."

7

The Curiosity Killed The Cat Fact "File"

- The singer's name is Ben Preposterous-Surname (i.e. Volpeiere-Pierrot) and he once had the "honour" to appear on the cover of the Mike Read Pop Quiz Game box.
- The guitarist's name is Julian Brookhouse and he likes to "get away from it all" by reading in the toilet.
- The bass guitarist's name is Nick Thorp and he used to be a wine waiter in Ibiza.
- The drummer's name is Mig Drummond and he used to sell Rubik Cubes outside the *Smash Hits* office and dye his hair the same colour as the aforesaid Cubes in a bid to attract attention to himself.
- They're all rather ugly.



Glass Tiger, ah? What a strimbling bunch of spokesbars. Not only have they got a new single out called "Someday" but they've just been voted "Best New Band" in *Genesie* by some music thing called "Juno" which sounds like a planet (?) And they swiped the "Best Single Of 1986" award for "Don't Forget Me (When I'm Gone)" which just goes to show that Canadians are all completely "strange".



STUPID SPORTS OF THE WORLD NUMBER 6: IAN BOTHAM

- Ian Botham is a very stupid sport because...
- 1) He wears a helicopter on his head for a lark.
 - 2) He wears two pairs of skiing goggles on his head and doesn't manage to get either of them anywhere near his eyes for a lark.
 - 3) He goes to the pub in a wheelbarrow for a lark.
 - 4) He puts water in his wife's washing-up gloves for a "lark".
 - 5) He's made a pop record called "Take Time To Care" with his good "pals" Bobby Duck and "Poacher" for a lark.
 - 6) Except all he does is mumble a sort of poem thing in the middle of it and it's not really very good in the least but all the money from it is going to the Leukaemia Research Fund so maybe he's not such a bimbo after all. Curses!

© P. MORGAN

HOW TO RUN AWAY FROM A COUGAR IF YOU'RE A VERY FAMOUS POP STAR CALLED MADONNA PART 4.

FRANKIE GOES TO HOLLYWOOD



- 1 Say "Where is the cougar than matey? (Oh not this again - Ed)" (Right under your nose arschweil except it looks rather like a lion.) reply a cast of thousands.



- 2 Shriek with horror when two cougars appear, then try to kill them by standing on their backs!



- 3 Escape in a useless car that doesn't have any wheels and administer some spooky old hand signs.

A boring Blitz person writes: I think you'll find these are photographs of Frankie Goes To Hollywood strimbling around playing "live" in a West German nighterie called "Discotheq TARM-Center" which is a very useless name for a nighterie. And it was recorded "live" for a German television programme called Peter Illman Treff which is a very useless name for a television programme. And they were spotted frolicking with members of the Human League, Iron Maiden and The Hoosemartins who were also playing "live". Apart from all that, they spent most of their time "dismantling" a caravan (i.e. vandalising it) much to the disgust of The Hoosemartins. "Frankie Goes To Hollywood vandalising a caravan," piped Morrissey, "is the undiscussable." (Except he didn't.)

THE BANGLES COLLECTION

- Win practically everything that's ever had anything to do with those Californian loveletters, **The Bangles**, why don't some of you? How? Try totting down your answers to the following questions on a piece of jewellery and sending them to **The Smash Hits Bangles Competition, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF** to get there by January 27.

- A) Michael Steele once said she likes eating Milky Ways while having a shower. True or false?
- B) Prince once gave Sassaparilla Hoff a herd of cattle as a birthday present? True or a barrowa fib?
- C) Debbie and Vicki Peterson were forced to quit The Bangles at the end of last year after being eaten by a giant hamster. True or a preposterous tissue of lies?



WHAT YOU MIGHT WIN

- A copy of The Bangles' new single "Walking Down Your Street" in a special gatefold sleeve.
- "Going Down To Liverpool" 12" single.
- "Going Down To Liverpool" 12" single.
- "Manic Monday" 7" single plus poster calendar.
- "Manic Monday" 12" single.
- "If She Knew What She Wants" 7" picture disc.
- "If She Knew What She Wants" 12" single.
- "If She Knew What She Wants" four track double pack.
- "Walk Like An Egyptian" 7" single plus poster sleeve.
- "Walk Like An Egyptian" 7" single plus extra

"Manic Monday" 7" single.

- "Walk Like An Egyptian" playing cards.
- "All Over The Place" LP.
- "Different Light" LP.
- Giant Bangles "Manic Monday" tour poster.
- "Different Light" poster.
- Bangles pin-up poster.
- Set of two Bangles postcards.
- Ten promotional press photos which you can't get anywhere else.
- Pyramid-shaped sales display thingle for "Walk Like An Egyptian".
- Five copies of the new Tommy "Roe" single.
- The last bit of a ke.

Photo: L.F.I.

THE GIGANTIC MONSTROUS TWINGORILLIANT VIDEO COMPETITION

In which one hundred pop music video tapes (i.e. ten of each item) are given away to one hundred *Blitz* readers... hence the name... **GIGANTIC**. A monstrous regiment of visual bliss... hence the name... **MONSTROUS**. It's quite good... hence the name **TWINGORILLIANT**.

A) THE COMMUNARDS: The Video Singles



The Communards – worraband, eh? One of them looks like a goose and the other one looks like a pig (or potato – delete according to preference). And this “item” contains our fermyard friends jiggling along to four – four – of their riddicant his i.e. “You Are My World”, “Disenchanted”, “Don’t Leave Me This Way” and “So Cold The Night”. The question: What is the French for “pig”? Is it: a) moo cow; b) coochin; c) housemarlin or d) vache?

B) WHAM!: The Final



Wham! – worraband, eh? One of them looks like a golf course and the other one doesn’t and now they’ve split up. And this “item” contains our epic parpsters swimming along to three – three! – of their radiant “items” i.e. “The Edge Of Heaven”, “A Different Corner” and “Where Did Your Heart Go?”. The question: what is gammon made from? Is it: a) anchovies; b) pigs; c) oranges or d) Doris Stokes?

C) JAKI GRAHAM: Set Free



Jaki Graham – worrestress, eh? Part of her looks like a shiny, rubber red dress – end that’s because it is. And this “item” contains our revere-haired touselstress booming along to seven – seven! – of her glowing things i.e. “Could It Be I’m Falling In Love?”, “Set Me Free” and five more. The question: who assassinated Robert Kennedy? Was it: a) Gary Moore; b) Jaki Graham; c) Oliver Cromwell or d) Sirhan Sirhan?

D) PET SHOP BOYS: Television



The Pet Shop Boys – worraband, eh? One of them looks like an ex-Smash Hits “journalist” and the other one looks like a bloke in a silly hat. And this “item” contains our flouncing friends tripping along to six of their heraided fabrications i.e. “Opportunities” (twice), “West End Girls”, “Love Comes Quickly” and more. The question: what is the French for “shop”? Is it: a) W.H. Smith; b) ouibette; c) Richerd Clyedermen or d) megasin?

E) KATE BUSH: The Whole Story



Kate Bush – worratmpstress, eh? She keeps saying things like “boomerang” and “baboshka” all the time and her boyfriend has a moustache. And this “item” contains our hypon-eyed concocstress spooling away to thirteen – thirteen! – of her beloved offengs i.e. “Wuthering Heights”, “Breeding”, “Wow”, “Cloudbusting” and pots of others. The question: who set a bush on fire in the Bible? Was it: a) Noah; b) Eve; c) Billy Graham or d) God?

F) BANANARAMA: Video Singles



Bananarama – worra“band”, eh? One of them drinks blackcurrant juice and is sick on carpets, another one walks about with a fish on a stick (or something)... And this “item” contains our trio of tristestresses swooning about to four – four! – of their mirreculous inventions i.e. “Venus”, “More Than Physical”, “Do Not Disturb” and “Trick Of The Night”. The question: what is the French for “banana”? Is it: a) other; b) Citroen; c) um bongo or d) banane?

G) BIG COUNTRY: The Seer: Live In New York



Big Country – worraband, eh? They’re from Scotland and they’re called Big Country. And this “item” contains the lads skirring away to ten – ten! – of their “committed” “compositions” i.e. “Steeltown”, “Look Away”, “Fields Of Fire” etc. The question: what is the French for “country”? Is it: a) pays; b) campagne; c) graveyere or d) a pair of socks?

H) MADNESS: Utter Madness



Madness – worraband, eh? They denved like toothpaste tubes and used to hang upside down from flying saxophones (or something) only they’ve split up. And this “item” contains our nutular friends madding away to quite a lot – quite a lot! – of their indispicable pearls i.e. “Our House”, “Michelle Caine”, “Waiting For The Ghost Train” and quite a few more. The question: what is the French for “mad”? Is it: a) berking; b) complement of votre trolley; c) boof le la! or d) tou?

I) HITS 5: Video Selection



Hits 5 – worrathing, eh? Contains The Bangles, Paul Young, Five Star, Nick Kamen, Sheku Stevens and a galaxy of stars. The question: what is the French for “selection”? Is it: a) selection; b) pot pourri; c) mince; d) Hedley Verity (famous spin bowler of the 1930s)?

J) NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC 8



Now That's What I Call Music 8 – worracommodity, eh? There's always a comotion in its trousers thanks to Daren Duran, QMD, The Housemartins, The Demmed, Ultravox, Kim Wilde and a further galaxy of stars. The question: what is French for “now”? Is it: a) tout; b) Giscard D’Estaing; c) maintenance or d) a submarine full of coconuts?

Select one item per postcard and send answers to **Smash Hits Gigantic Monstrous Twingorilliant Video Competition, 52-55 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PF** to arrive by January 27.



● **Wimper.** Cascading waves of bluntness have swamped the *Blitz* "office" for the news to tell its grave indeed. The *Radakin* have split up. (Boo whoo noo... — Two readers.) Yes, the world's leading "revolutionary" socialist thingie has ceased to exist after five years, seven singles and one LP. "The group was out of time, out of date and out of step with the political reality of Britain in 1986," stated lead person **Chris Daan**. "We were becoming more rock 'n' roll than political — it'd become too safe." In a mad moment of emotional instability, *Blitz* attempted to phone him but... he wasn't in, instead he'd left a recorded message in which he pretended to be Jimmy Savile L.A. It's all been too much for him and he's gone completely off his rocker.

ANOTHER SAD THING



● **The Smiths** have split up. Except they haven't have-not-very-haw. BUT! **Craig Gannon**, the bloke from *Aztec Camera* who joined to play rhythm guitar a mere eight months ago, has fallen into a hole in the atmosphere i.e. he's left. Gone! "He just wasn't very interested in the band. He'd started not turning up for rehearsals to be Jimmy Savile L.A. It's all been too much for him and he's gone completely off his rocker." pipes a record company "spokesperson".

Craig is now determined to invent his own band. "That's really what I've always wanted to do. I knew the band weren't happy with me over the past few months, personally. I think they thought I was a bit too wild as well — drinking. They all do it, but I just do it more," moans Craig. "Craig Gannon," snorted Morrissey, "is the undiscussable." Except he didn't...

POP STARS BEING PATHETIC:
PART 7 MILLION%

Sevilla



Daryl Hall being eaten by a bush

Exhibit



Owes Paul on the "blower" in a cougar

Exhibit

Nik Kershaw pretending to be an Arabian man and going to do his shopping in Self-sew because he thinks he's Michael Jackson. (Not a very good series this is 4th — Ed) Er... so.

POP GROUPS WHOSE MEMBERS ARE ALL CALLED CHRISTIAN PART ONE:

THE CHRISTIANS



● The Christians (from left) Garry Christian, Henry "Christian" Priestman, Russell Christian, Roger Christian

These are **The Christians**, a group who've been a birrova "tip for the top" for a while now — without even releasing any records! But all that's changed because they've just put out their first single "Forgotten Town." So.

A SPOOKY FACT ABOUT THE CHRISTIANS:

Originally they were three brothers whose last name was Christian. They decided to form a singing group in Liverpool and then found themselves doing backing vocals for fellow Liverpudlians *It's Immaterial*. And they got on so well with it's *Immaterial*'s keyboard player Henry Priestman that they decided to ask him to join their group. And here's the spooky bit: Henry's middle name is Christian! Well. Who'd have thought it? "Yeah," says Roger Christian. "Some kind of fate." (7)

A NOT PARTICULARLY SPOOKY FACT ABOUT THE CHRISTIANS:

Because most of them are brothers they argue a lot. "We have barneys? Who told you that?" asks Roger Christian, eldest brother in a family of eleven. "Yeah, well, I wouldn't call it animosity. Just little tantrums and things." Oh. That's alright then.

BIRTHDAYS

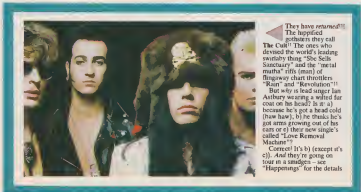
JANUARY

- 14 **Carl Smyth** of Madness (except they've split up — blub...) (28)
16 **Sade** (27)
17 **Paul "Young"** (31)
18 **Tom Bailey** of The Thompson Twins (30)
19 **Robert Palmer** (38) **Micky Virtue** of UB40 (30)
20 **Malcolm McLaren** (40)
22 **Ray Mayhew** of Sigue "Sigue" Spunkit (22)
23 **Earl Falconer** of UB40 (28)
26 **Norman Hassan** of UB40 (29) **Eddie "Van" Heien** (30) **Andrew Ridgeley** (24)
27 **Mertin "Fright-Mack" Devgille** of Sigue "Sigue" Spunkit (26) (hem hem)

CHINESE ASTROLOGY CORNER



1987 is the year of the Tortoise. So watch out for lawnmowers. (???????)



◀ They have returned! The hipified

gethers they call **The Cure!** The ones who devised the world's leading swishy thing "She Seals Sanctuaries" and the "metal mutha" riffs (man) of Ringway chart thrillers "Rain" and "Revolution 11." But why is lead singer Ian Ashbury wearing a white fur coat on his head? Is it a) because he's got a head cold (how how), b) he drinks he's got arms growing out of his ears or c) their new single's called "Love Removal Machine?"

Correct! It's b) (except it's c). And they're going on tour in a saundee — see "Happenings" for the details

ASTONISHING POP FACTS OF THE
NINETEEN SEVENTIES:

PART TWO: THE ASTONISHING MUD FACT



Mud believe it or no, are the only group with only three letters in their name ever in the history of anything to have three number one hits apart from The Jam and they don't count because they had six letters if you count "The 1st and second Mud were much better than The Jam and didn't go on about yer kids in yer street all the time, such was their incredible style.

At first Tony hadn't realized his new Philips came with detachable speakers.



take



PHILIPS



a closer



look!



RED BOX



New Single 'HEART OF THE SUN'
on seven inch & 3 track twelve inch.

Remixed from the debut album 'The Circle & The Square'
on Cassette, LP & Compact Disc.

Distributed by  Records Ltd. © A Warner Communications Company



I am being haunted
It's four o'clock in the morning
And I'm sitting on my stairs
And there's banging round the bedroom
Even though I know there's no one there
And I am here all by myself
And you're somewhere else with someone else
And I am being haunted by a love that isn't there

Chorus
There is something in my house my house
It's just a ghost of a long long dead affair
There is something in my house my house
I just keep a-hearing you running on up my stairs
But you're not there

I am being haunted
I really got to say it to you
You showed me a good time
But for every minute that you spent laughing
There are hours that I cried
And I think about what might have been
If I'd never met that wicked queen
And my heart broke into pieces
At midnight on Halloween



Repeat chorus

It's just a ghost of a long long dead affair
There is something in my house my house
But you're not there
I am being haunted
And I am here all by myself
And you're somewhere else with someone else
And I am being haunted by a love that isn't there

Repeat chorus

It's just a ghost of long long dead affair
There is something in my house my house
It's just a ghost of long long dead affair
There is something in my house my house
I just keep a-hearing you running on up my stairs
But you're not there
It's just a ghost of a long long dead affair

Words and music by Dead Or Alive
Reproduced by permission
Wamer Brothers Music Ltd/Lateband Ltd
On Epic Records

Rat In Mi Kitchen UB40



Wah wah wah yeah oh yeah

There's a rat in mi kitchen
There's a rat in mi kitchen
I'm gonna fix that rat that's bad
I'm gonna fix that rat

When you smell your mouth
You don't talk to me
And you give me good news
But when they catch you
They will shut you up
And you got no one to

Repeat chorus
Wah wah wah yeah oh yeah yeah

You got out on the street
You got the cops and
And you got the cops and
But when they catch you
I'm gonna shut you up
I'm gonna shut you up
Wah wah wah yeah oh yeah yeah

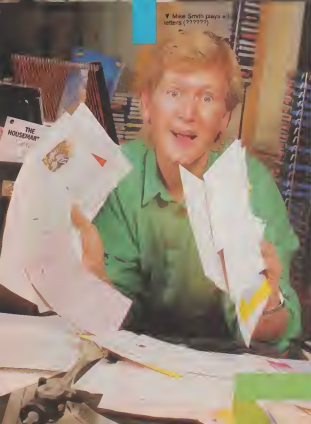
Repeat chorus

When you def pon the scene
You make everyone scream
Because they know you're unjust
But when they catch you
They will lock you up
Because you're someone they just can't trust

Repeat chorus
Wah wah wah yeah oh yeah yeah

Wah wah wah yeah oh yeah yeah

Words and music by UB40 Reproduced by permission New Claims/ATV Music On Dep International



▼ Mike Smith pays a letter (1977?)

1 MILLION PEOPLE MAN EVERY SIN (except for Saturday)

William Shaw makes it t

It's horribly early on a disgustingly cold and wet Thursday morning and Mike Smith is telling all the listeners to Radio One's Breakfast Show that he's just seen a "flying saucer". He was getting up as he usually does at 5 o'clock and he peeked out of the bathroom window, and lol, there was a big white light hovering in the sky.

Later, of course, it transpires that this "UFO" was actually the planet Venus which was shining particularly low in the sky, but not before the BBC's switchboards have, apparently, been jammed with hundreds of phone calls to Mike Smith telling him how they've also seen the "UFO". One woman says she's seen it landing on people's houses, another that she's seen it swooping across the Welsh hillsides. The "UFO sighting" even gets into the next day's "news" papers. You see, an awful lot of people listen to Mike Smith's breakfast show. Twelve million of them to be precise.

And all this for a man who got his big break in radio when another Radio One DJ once smashed up his car in a racing accident.

Mike Smith was born in Hornchurch, Essex, in 1955 which, he says, makes him "exceedingly old". He admits to doing "dismally" at his O Levels and even worse at A Levels but by the time he left school he'd already tried his hand as a DJ at the sixth form disco. But what he really wanted to be was a racing driver. A year after passing his test he was already racing cars at the Brands Hatch course. All was going well until one day he spotted a chap called Noel Edmunds who was down there competing in a Radio One Djs race. Mike went up to Noel, introduced himself, and ended up lending him his racing car. Only trouble was when it came to the race.

"He stuffed it into a crash barrier," remembers Mike. "Wrote it off completely. My sponsor couldn't afford another car so he pulled out completely. I didn't have a car, and my chances were wrecked for the rest of the year. And then Noel and me got surprisingly friendly, because he felt so guilty. We kept in touch and I used to go and watch him on The Breakfast Show. I used to sit there and think, 'Oh, I fancy doing that.' So Noel told me to make up some audition tapes."

In 1975 Mike got his first job at the BBC, getting paid £12 a week for helping out with bits of editing. Since then he's gone on to become a DJ on London's Capital Radio, a presenter of BBC TV's Breakfast Time, as well as a host of the ill-fated Late Late Breakfast Show which was taken off the air at the end of last year when a stunt went fatally wrong. He lives in London with his girlfriend Sarah Greene, presenter of Saturday Superstore...

● **Weren't the other Radio One DJs a bit miffed when you took over as the Breakfast Show?**

"Well, I'm the only DJ who's gone from Capital Radio to Radio One and I think there may have been a bit of a problem at first, but I hope that's gone now. I mean, there's no competition between me and Gary Davies or Steve Wright. Of course it's hard to make friends if you get up at five in the morning. At the end of the day it's quite a lonely life doing The Breakfast Show."

● **You don't have hundreds of pop star friends popping round for tea then?**

"Well, there's no way you can ever make friends with pop stars because they're always off on their world tours and everything. But there are one people I get on well with when we meet up on television shows or something and we have a bit of a laugh, but I'd never say so-and-so's my friend."

● **How come you don't write for a "news" paper, like all the other Radio One DJs seem to?**

"I've had offers, but I thought all the other DJs were already writing for newspapers and I didn't feel I could add anything to the art. If you're really clever you takes the £50,000 from the newspaper and employ a researcher for £10,000 to write the column for you - you don't actually write any bits yourself. I don't want to get involved in that. If I've got anything to say I'll say it on the show."

"Besides, my relationship with newspapers has always been... erm, 'interesting' ever since the Late Late Breakfast Show accident. I'm very wary of print."

● **How do you feel about The Late Late Breakfast Show now?**

"I miss it dreadfully. I've known bereavement. My father died when I was 21 so I've been through the shocks of all that before. That's why it was me who said to Noel 'I think we've got to go and see the family' the day after it happened. We did that, and that's a very tragic and personal side of the affair."

"The other side of it is that it's a tragedy for the television audience and for me and Noel because of that incident. The Late Late Breakfast Show is no more. I can't tell you how much I miss it. I don't miss the money because



▲ Two spoon-feeding the editing producer on the left, the technical operator on the right keep things "running" smoothly

EYES ON THIS GLE MORNING!

and Sunday, that is)

twelve million and one . . .

they're still paying me, so that's not the reason. The reason is that we had a formula there that worked. We had a relationship that was described as the best double act on television. It was a magic show and there was nothing else like it.

"I hope we can do it again in the future, but I can't say that I hold much hope in the current atmosphere that exists in the BBC. Anything that comes back that looks at all like *The Late Late Breakfast Show* is going to be frowned upon at the BBC TV Centre and by the papers, and it appears that the papers have an awful lot of power when it comes to determining what the BBC puts on."

● And what about all these "news" paper rumours about you and Sarah Greene getting wed?

"They're always trying to make us get married. The other week was a classic. I'd booked a holiday and it just so happened that it coincided with the ending of *The Late Late Breakfast Show*. So *The Mirror* thinks 'Aha! We know why they've taken two weeks off, so they're going to get married!' and I said 'Oh yes. Please leave me alone!!! I'm NOT getting married!!! There's no truth in the story!!' So *The Mirror* goes ahead and print a story which says because of *The Late Late Breakfast Show* tragedy I cancelled my plans to get married!"

"Now when you've got 'journalism' like that you've just got to sit back and smile. When I close the door all that stops. What we do behind the front door is our business. That's why we never do those magazine articles 'Sarah and Mike at home!'"

● So what about the story that you're going to take over from Gareth Hunt and act opposite Sarah Greene in those almost legendary Nescafe TV adverts?

"I read that too but unless Gareth Hunt knows something we don't, it's news—we didn't do a screen test for them a while back with a few other people like Paul Nicholas which they then did a bit of market research on to see how it went down, but I haven't heard the results yet and I certainly have no plans at the moment. It's irrelevant that me and Sarah would be together on it if it did happen, because I don't think that Nescafe know we are 'as one'. Anyway, I only drink decaffeinated coffee."

● As a bit of a racing driver yourself, what do you think of Andrew Ridgeley's efforts?

"I've never seen him race, and that's the God's honest truth. I've spoken to him about it and we've had long chats, but not having seen him race, I can't tell. Racing is the sort of sport where you have to have accidents to know your limits. I had all my accidents when I was younger; Andrew's having all his in public. Mind you, I do think he's trying to progress too fast. I wish him luck though."

● Last year you were known as the man who tried to ban the Jesus And Mary Chain single "Some Candy Talking". Are you a bit of a prude?

"That whole incident was blown out of proportion! It's not even true! I didn't ban the record; I was sitting in on Janice Long's show and the producer said to me before the show 'Look, there's a bit of a furore about this Jesus And Mary Chain record' and I said 'Are you sure it's not a hype?' (i.e. the company trying to whip up a hubbub to get some free publicity). He said no, that people were a bit worried about the word 'candy'—that it might be a reference to drugs."

"Then the controller of the BBC suggested we interview someone about it, but I ended up talking to the head of their record company who obviously knew how to create a furore. He just disagreed with everything I said about the record. And afterwards it just got blown out of proportion. Everyone was trying to relate it to the Mike Read 'Relax' thing (when Mike Read refused to play the Frankie Goes To Hollywood song because of 'suggestive' lyrics), but it wasn't like that at all. I'm not a prude though, I'm far from being a prude."

● Do you actually enjoy being hurriedly rude to people on your "Rude" wakenings spot in *The Breakfast Show*?

"Ha! Ha! Ha! It's something left over from the days when I used to listen to Noel Edmonds doing the show and he started all these funny phone call things off. It's not actually me doing the phone calls—it's me being rude on someone else's behalf. There was the Hoke who hung up on us the other day. I was pretending to be from the Post Office and I was telling him how he didn't have a letterbox—which he didn't—and it was illegal not to have



▲ Mike Smith's programme schedule listing every record he is supposed to play in one, together with instructions as to when he should fit in jingles etc. . . .

one. He said he was putting one in and I said could he do it by 7.30, because someone was coming round with the post. He said 'Why don't you bug off!' and slammed down the phone! I just ring him right back to make sure he didn't go round and hit someone at the Post Office!"



ROBBIE NEVIL • C'EST LA VIE



Got a job that's okay
But they got me working night and day
Punching in punching out
Is this really what life's all about

(Whatcha gonna do whatcha gonna feel) I don't know
(Whatcha gonna feel whatcha gonna do) won't someone tell me
(Whatcha wanna say whatcha wanna do) there's only one thing left to say
(Whatcha wanna do whatcha wanna say)

CHORUS

(C'est la vie c'est la vie)
That's just the way it goes (that's life) oh yeah
(C'est la vie c'est la vie)
That's just the way it goes (that's life) oh oh

Baby's gone all alone (all alone)
Are you sad because you're on your own
Get back up party down
There's so many good ones still around

(Whatcha gonna do whatcha gonna feel) I don't know
(Whatcha gonna feel whatcha gonna do) ohh won't someone tell me
(Whatcha wanna say whatcha wanna do) I guess there's just one thing to say
(Whatcha wanna do whatcha wanna say)

REPEAT CHORUS

Hay it's JJ what you been doing
You say your car broke down and the thing just isn't moving
Say JJ don'tcha know
When you're down there's just one way to go now sing it

(C'est la vie c'est la vie)
That's just the way it goes (that's life) sometimes
(C'est la vie c'est la vie)
That's just the way it goes

REPEAT AND AD LIB TO FADE

Word and music by Nevil/Pain/Holding
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De Winton Records

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- 2 **Kate Bush** The Whole Story
- 3 **Paul Simon** Graceland
- 4 **Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band** Live '87-85
- 5 **Madonna** True Blue
- 6 **Queen** Live Magic
- 7 **Police** Every Breath You Take
- 8 **Wham!** The Final
- 9 **Michael McDonald** Sweet Freedom
- 10 **Eurythmics** Revenge

★ HOW TO ENTER

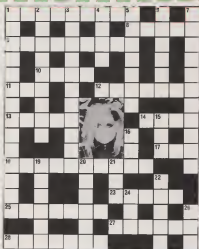
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- Snip out the coupon (including the crossword grid), stick it in an envelope and send it to the following address (to arrive by January 27):
Smash Hits Prize Crossword Competition Number 22, 14 Holkham Road, Orton Southgate, Peterborough PE2 0YJ.
- The first correct entry out of the Editor's nice new jumper gets HMV's top ten LPs (at the time of going to press).

● ACROSS

- 1 Not always the time for an **Erasera** hit
- 2 "— Love" (**Bronski Baat**) (1,4)
- 9 **Europe** provided the final one
- 10 "You ——— Me Hangin' On" (**Kim Wilde**)
- 11 Heavy band at close of radio?
- 12 Their talk provided a hit for **Tears For Fears**
- 13 See 6 down
- 14 A bird in the hand is worth one in the **Kate**?
- 17 **Aled Jones** once went walking in it
- 18 **Diana Moran** forms a heavy outfit (anag 4,6)
- 23 and 3 down Song that had **Grace Jones** best bound? (5,2,3,6)
- 25 "— — — — To Be Forgotten" (3,4)
- 27 **Boy or Michael?**
- 28 Zany **Kenny** or movie star **Rupert**

● DOWN

- 1 And now, a weather forecast from **The Communards!** (2,4,3,5)
- 2 Here's a right **Nana** for the charts
- 3 See 22 across
- 4 **Clubs** had it from the **Rah Band**
- 5 It's **Tina** who sang about that so macho man (anag)
- 6 and 13 across See photo clue (6,5)
- 7 Song the **Marti Webb** did Howards' Way? (6,5)
- 15 Where a certain blonde went French kissin' (1,1,1,1)
- 16 Cold stuff **Jennifer Rush**'s ring was made of
- 19 "Glory — — —" (**Peter Catara**) (2,4)
- 20 A clergyman like "Shake You Down" **Gregory**
- 21 **O'Connor** who recently teamed up with Whistlin' Rog
- 22 "— — — — Loser Wins" (**Nick Barry**)
- 24 "Would I — — To You" (**Eurythmics**)
- 26 Affirmative, if **Five Star** say it



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Gary Moore

Over the hills and far away

They came for him one winter's night
Arrested he was bound
They said there'd been a robbery
His pistol had been found

They marched him to the station house
He waited 'til the dawn
And as they led him to the dock
He knew that he'd been wronged

You stand accused of robbery
He heard the bailiff say
He knew without an alibi
Tomorrow's light would mourn his freedom

Over the hills and far away
For ten long years he'll count the days
Over the mountains and the sea
A prisoner's life for him there'll be

He knew that it would cost him dear
But yet he dare not say
Just where he'd been that fateful night
A secret at most stay

He had to fight back tears of rage
His heart beat like a drum
For with the wife of his best friend
He'd spent his final night of freedom

Over the hills and far away
He swears he will return one day
Far from the mountains or the sea
Back in her arms again he'll be
Over the hills and far away
(Over the hills and over the hills and)
(Over the hills and far away)

Each night within his prison cell
He looks out through the bars
He reads the letters that she wrote
One day he'll know the taste of freedom

Over the hills and far away
She prays he will return one day
As sure as the rivers reach the sea
Back in his arms again he'll be

Repeat above

Over the hills and far away
She prays he will return one day
As sure as the rivers reach the sea
Back in her arms is where he'll be

Over the hills

Over the hills and far away

Repeat above

Words and music by G. Moore
Reproduced by permission J.J. Music Ltd
On 10 Records



SWING OUT SISTER • SURRENDER



Try to forget the moment
Lying behind a smile
Tears for sentiment
Now I've done my time
You filled my head with your opinions
Blind to your lies I listened

Chorus
Still waiting for love to take revenge
(Waiting for love's revenge)
For that sweet surrender (surrender)
Still waiting for love to take revenge
(Surrender surrender surrender surrender)
Revenge (surrender surrender surrender surrender)

You'll get what you deserve
Hiding behind a lie
Revenge says more than words
You'll pay for your crime
I fooled myself you'd change your ways
Blind to your lies I listened

Still waiting for love to take revenge
(Waiting for love's revenge)
For that sweet surrender (surrender)
Still waiting for love to take revenge
(Surrender surrender surrender surrender)

Repeat chorus

Still waiting for love to take revenge
(Waiting for love's revenge)
For that sweet surrender (surrender)
Still waiting for love to take revenge
(Surrender surrender surrender surrender)

Still waiting for love to take revenge
(Waiting for love's revenge)
Sweet love (surrender)
Still waiting for love to take revenge
(Surrender surrender) waiting for love for love love

Still waiting for love to take revenge
(Waiting for love's revenge)
Still waiting for love (surrender)
To take revenge sweet revenge
Waiting for love for love for love love
Ooh

Words and music by Jackson/Cannon/Denney
Reproduced by permission Copyright, Carlisle
On Mercury Records

SIOUXSIE AND THE BANSHEES

THIS WHEEL'S ON FIRE

If your memory serves you well
We were going to meet again and wait
So I'm going to unpack all my things
And sit before it gets too late
No man alive will come to you
With another tale to tell
But you know that we shall meet again
If your memory serves you well

Chorus
Wheel's on fire rolling down the road
Best notify my next of kin
This wheel shall explode

If your memory serves you well
I will go to confiscate your face
And wrap it up in a sailor's knot
And hide it in your case
If I knew for sure that it was yours
But it was oh so hard to tell
And you know that we shall meet again
If your memory serves you well

Repeat chorus

If your memory serves you well
You'll remember that you're the one
That called on me to call on them
To give you your favours done
And after every plan had failed
And there was nothing more to tell
You know that we would meet again
If your memory served you well

Repeat chorus

If your memory serves you well
If your memory serves you well

Words and music by Bob Dylan
Reproduced by permission EMI Music Publishers Ltd
On Wonderland/Tony Joe Records

- He used to be an Iguanau
- He once played the vacuum cleaner with his thumb!
- His pants kept falling down!
- He invented "punk" rock all on his own!
- He got locked up for



Iggy Pop spent Christmas Day on a golf course, driving and putting with his dad. Sooner or later he'll be off somewhere skiing because David Bowie has taught him the sport and he loves it. And in 1987 he plans to learn to surf properly because last time he tried it he kept falling off the board. Nothing very odd about all this sporty activity, you might think – until you consider that Iggy Pop was once the most debauched and outrageous performer in the entire pop firmament.

This is the man who, with his group The Stooges in the late '60s and early '70s, used to spit and swear on stage, used to leap into audiences and be rude to anyone, used to masturbate himself with broken beer bottles and was an all round bawling diogenes. This is the man who virtually single-handedly invented punk rock, the man who shocked a generation. But hold on – the Iggy Pop I meet today is the cleanest, most polite rock star you could ever hope to encounter. Can such things be? Indeed they can.

So who is this gentle ex-lunatic, this person who David Bowie admires to the point of distraction, this raddled folk hero who is going on 40 and has just his first big commercial hit with "Real Wild Child (Wild One)", this man who claims – fact – that the Pet Shop Boys' "West End Girls" is his favourite video of all time (????) We shall see...

James Jewel Osterberg was born on 14 August 1947 in Ann Arbor, Michigan. His father was a teacher, his mother was a "very talented" private secretary, and together they gave the boy a highly careful upbringing.

"They gave me a very fruitful childhood," Iggy says in his deep drawl. "I grew up with very particular parents and they gave me a great deal of attention. They really went to lengths to make sure I didn't hang out with the wrong elements or get run over by a truck. I had a lot of supervision – maybe too much. When I got to the point where I was 11 or 12, the other kids could all go and see Frankenstein movies, cheap horror movies, but I couldn't go because my parents thought it would rot my mind. And when other kids in the summer were riding around wild and going out and starting to learn how to pick up girls and presumably smoking their first cigarettes and drinking their first beers, I was always in a summer camp in a very supervised situation. I became an excellent swimmer..."

But when young Jewel announced that he wanted to be a drummer, his parents were very encouraging: "We lived in a trailer that was 50ft by 10ft – so we're talking 500 square feet – and

a full set of drums was too big for the room that I had so they gave me their bedroom – that's the kind of people they were. It was a lovely set of drums – gold glitter – and when I would practise, the whole trailer would shake for hours and they'd just smilingly put up with it. That's pretty fantastic, you know – Jesus!"

By the time he was 15, he'd formed a group, The Iguanau, so called because "there had been a Life magazine cover with a beautiful big green iguana on the cover for an article about the film *Of the Night Of The Iguanau* with Liz Taylor and Richard Burton. And I'd never seen anything like that animal. The greenness of it spoke of lush jungles and things I'd never experienced. I mean, I'd never even seen the ocean – can you imagine that?"

The Iguanau made "pretty serious money" playing local colleges and dives but the rest of the band weren't as committed as Osterberg – who already had platinum white hair: "I dyed it. I was into individualism even



▲ Iggy with no clothes on (as usual)

then..." – and when they all went off to college, James dropped out, joined a blues band called The Prime Movers and got a job in a record store.

"I was the stock boy and the manager started teasing me derisively and referring to me as 'Iggy'. He was one of those kind of people that have to have someone to look down on so I was the brunt of his humour. Then the guys were blue and I picked it up and they would call me Iggy to put me in my place when I was out hustling girls to come to our gigs. So that's how I got that name. I acquired something of a local reputation under that name so it stuck. Iggy it was."

In 1967, Iggy gave up the drums to become the frontperson of a band of his own – The Psychedelic Stooges, later The Stooges. They were a pretty weird group from the start.

"We were using instruments that I had scavenged and built from junk from scrap, because I knew we had to stand out in some way and make a virtue of our ineptitude. The first time we played anywhere was on Halloween,

1967, for friends in a living room – and we drove them all right out of the room. They were so embarrassed for us: badly embarrassed."

"Then our first real gig was in March 1968 supporting Blood Sweat & Tears (horrible but successful jazz rock group). I wore a shower cap, I made myself a wig which was a shower cap with thick aluminium curl strips coming out of it, so it was a big Afro. And I had a white face and I'd shaved my eyebrows because I wanted to be invisible. And I wore a white maternity dress and white satin pants because I wanted a flowing look and I wore golf shoes. And the reason I wore golf shoes was I had a galvanised sheet of steel with a contact microphone and I would scat dance on the steel.

"And then there was a large cone which I called the 'jimmophone' which was a large cone about four and a half feet tall and if you lowered a mike into it you got a shriek of feedback and it went 'eyore eyore'. And there was another one where I just took a blender (American for electric food mixer) and put a little water in the blender and turned it up and when you turned it on, it sounded like a rushing waterfall on the Amazon. And the drums were made from oil cans and they were painted white with little vaguely obscene symbols on – like 'tits' – and then there was a vacuum cleaner on stage which I played with my thumb and it sounded like the desert wind... Basically, all this was to torture people's ears. We gave people heart attacks..."

Now all this might sound pretty run-of-the-mill by today's standards but in 1968, it was simply outrageous. And that first gig became even more outrageous – by accident...

"What happened was my satin pants had been made by a girlfriend of the band and the zipper started to come down and my pants started falling down as I was singing. I was losing my pants and I'm losing them some more and I'm ready to die – until I realise that the audience are digging it and think it's all part of the show. That was one of the first things I learnt about stagecraft – I'm losing my pants, the audience are digging it and I'm thinking 'Oh, ah, I get it... yeah!'"

After that first attention-grabbing show The Stooges began to get mildly famous in Michigan: "We shocked a lot of people and ran into various troubles. Once I got very drunk and by the time I should be telling you this, but what the hell, I got carried away at a gig at a town called, oddly enough, Romeo, Michigan. It was one of those nights and I just took all my clothes off. I was naked as the day I was born. And I don't know if the gig was next door to a State Police post so they surrounded the place. The kids, meanwhile, loved the gig so I said 'Don't let them take me' and the kids

were shouting 'We'll save you! You can't have him!' and they put me in one of the kid's trucks (American for a car) but and tried to smuggle me out in the car but the police had the place surrounded and they found me and put me in jail for indecent exposure. It was just one of those things."

The Stooges had by now caused enough of a stir to get a record contract and released their first LP, "The Stooges", in 1968.

"Audiences in Michigan were mostly just kids who were as bored as we were and they'd just go 'Wow! Look at that! That's great!', but after the first album we went out to places like Boston and Philadelphia and Cleveland and we encountered heavy resistance. They hated us and that would get me a hundred times more aggressive and I started spending a lot of my time amongst the audience, leading on them or gobbling or whatever it took to get some reaction. We were doing very short sets – 15 minutes to 35 minutes is all we ever played. And nobody ever asked The Stooges to do a longer set. It was always 'Play! They're off. Thank God!' 'Ha ha ha'."

Iggy did have one fan, at least, however: David Bowie, who brought him over to England in 1972 and co-produced The Stooges' "Raw Power" LP. This was a completely brilliant record but it was already too late to save The Stooges because "everybody was well out of their brains by that time. I am not proud to say, Gee, I was a mess."

The Stooges' last ever gig was chaos. "The night before our last gig I got beat up by a biker. Apparently, he'd been drunk by this biker gang he wanted to join – they were called The Scorpions – to come to Iggy Pop's gig and egg Iggy. And I just got sick of him throwing eggs at me so I jumped into the audience and the audience parted and here's this enormous lumberjack and I was like 'I dare you, I dare you, one of those leather gloves with the studs. And I had to go and do battle with this guy and he just decked me and I saw the proverbial stars and everything."

"And I was on the radio next day and I said 'These Scorpions think they're tough. I dare the whole gang to come down to my gig tonight. [I'll annihilate you! I am the greatest!], you know, and they did come and it was really silly. They threw everything at



- taking all his clothes off
- His favourite video ever is "West End Girls"
- He molests teddy bears!
- He likes golfing and skiing!
- He's talking to Tom Hibbert!
- Photos: Andrew Catlin

me - bottles, cameras, big jugs of wine, everything. The rest of the band was real scared - and I think I'd have been better off to be a little scared too. These days I have a healthy respect for missiles..."

So after that The Stooges split up and it was not until 1977 that David Bowie "rediscovered" Iggy and produced two masterful albums for him, "The Idiot" and "Lust For Life". By now, with every punk band in the universe doing versions of old Stooges songs, like "No Fun" and "1969", Iggy was being "hailed" as The Godfather Of Punk. Apart from the welcome publicity, it was a tag Mr Pop did not care for much: "I was always uncomfortable with that. It was something cooked up by the press. There was a movement and so they were looking for a leader. But I knew it wasn't me. I don't think the punks wanted to emulate me. I mean, I'm not really good at being aggressive off stage. I'm just not that kind of person and a lot of people I met in that movement were real tough to the point of being gratuitously nasty off stage. I couldn't cope with that."

"If I had any influence, I think it was just that my songs were convenient, get-together songs and my equation of what live music was about was useful to people because it was fun to play. That's really the three little words: 'FUN TO PLAY'. The way that a lot of the fancy records are made today is like painting by numbers - there isn't a lot of kick to it, no fun. And I think I stumbled on a process that was FUN!"

Iggy Pop is still having fun and he's still causing a modicum of outrage - like his recent performance on TV's Number 73 show in which his molestation of a teddy bear gained him a threatened ban from all British television. Honestly!! And he's such a clean living soul, these days. Golfing, surfing, rarely drinking, never drugging, and trying desperately to kick tobacco.

"Yeah, it sounds really sick but I guess you could call me a clean living rock star. It sounds horrible but that's what I am, ha ha ha."

Oh, yes, and skiing...

"Skiing's taught me a lot about fear because it's real frightening looking down a mountain. It's all about fighting the cave man in yourself..."



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I KNEW YOU WERE WAITING (FOR ME)

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Flummoxed!!! i.e. A rather tricky quiz readers...

A TOM HIBBERT "SPECIAL"

● Faces

- 1) Who thinks she has a forehead like a grapefruit? Is it: a) Elaine Paige b) Toyah c) Sade or d) Vic from We've Gotta Fuzzbox And We're Gonna Love It?
- 2) Who reckon they are like a cross between Valerie Singleton and a slug? Is it: a) Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band b) Huey Lewis And The News c) Phil Fearon and Galaxy d) Dr And The Medics?

Photo: Peter Frazzetta



- 3) Which of the following have had a nose job? Is it a) Andrew Ridgeley b) Cilla Black c) Michael Jackson or d) Pete Burns?
- 4) Whose eyes are different colours? Is it: a) Cyndi Lauper b) David Bowie c) Richard Butler of The Psychedelic Furs or d) The Housemartins?
- 5) Which of the following wear gas-permeable contact lenses? Is it: a) Stan of The Housemartins b) Mike Read c) John Taylor of Duran Duran or d) Deoxy of Five Star?

● Lyrics

The endings of these lines from recent chart hits have gone seriously wrong. How should the lines end and what are the songs?

- a) We made our love on wasteland/And our trousers got very cold indeed . . .
- b) "I'm on a train now/I'm moving through the buffet car with a toasted ham and tomato sandwich . . .
- c) "And who really gives a damn for a flaky bendit/Or a flaky twill for that matter . . .
- d) "Well now she's my cutie my little fruit/My heart my love my bathing cap . . .
- e) "You can tell all our desperate jokes/If Jimmy Tarbuck hasn't told them already which he probably has . . .

● Answers

- LYRICS**
 1) We made our love on wasteland/through the kitchen and Howard Jones 2) Sade 3) Phil Harcourt
 4) Neil Young 5) Paul Hardcastle 6) Commodores 4) Nk
ANSWERS
 1) Elaine Paige 2) Toyah c) Sade or d) Vic from We've Gotta Fuzzbox And We're Gonna Love It?
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Pets



- a) Who has a cat called Zero Algebra Waldorf Churchill?
- b) Who has a cat called Margate?
- c) Who has a cat called Puppy?
- d) Who has a cat called Clancy?
- e) Who has a cat called Demon?
- f) Who has a cat called John?
- g) Who has a cat called Tam (only it's not a cat, it's a turtle)?
- h) Who has a cat called Bubbles (only it's not a cat, it's a chimpanzee)?
- i) Who has a cat called Fluffy (only it's not a cat, it's a fruit bat and it's in London Zoo)?
- j) Who used to have two exotic parrots that he tested out new songs on - "If they squawk that's generally a good sign" - until he gave them away to Chessington Zoo?

Disguises

These pop "stars" have all got disguise kits on, the silly fellows. Who are they?



● True or False

- a) Bruce Springsteen's real name is Dominic Croft but he changed it because he thought it was "too weedy".
- b) Mike Nolan of Bucks Fizz used to be in a group with Limahl.
- c) Tony James of Sique "Sigue"

Photo: Chris Craymer



▲ Tony James



▲ Sir William Idol

- a) Sputnik used to be in a group with Sir William Idol.
- b) George Michael used to be in a group with Andrew Ridgeley.
- c) Kim Wilde used to be in a group with Shekin' Stevens.
- d) Steve Wright's real name is Bruce Springsteen but he changed it because he thought it was "too weedy".
- e) Cheryl Baker of Bucks Fizz's real name is Rita Crudgington.
- f) Chissie Hynde used to be in a group with Rat Scabies of The Damned.
- g) Barry McIlheny used to be in a group with Chris De Burgh.

● Previous Careers

- Who used to be . . .**
- 1) A yoghurt salesman? Was it: a) Jimmy Somerville b) Morten Harket c) Huey Lewis or d) Lionel Blair?
 - 2) Who used to be a pop journalist? Was it: a) Neil Tennant b) Chnsise Hynde c) Bob Geldof or d) Jeffrey Archer?
 - 3) Who used to be a child actor? Was it: a) Simon Le Bon b) Phil Collins c) Gary Kemp or d) Martin Kemp?
 - 4) Who used to sell "ham" burgers in MacDonalds? Was it: a) Madonna b) Debbi Peterson of The Bangles c) Morrissey or d) Howard Jones?
 - 5) Who used to work in British Home Stores? Was it: a) Boy George b) George Michael c) Bob Geldof or d) Tony Hadley?
 - 6) Who used to work in a weedkiller factory and was sick whenever he got home? Was it: a) Shane MacGowan of The Pogues b) Philip Oakey of The Human League c) Chris Lowe of Pet Shop Boys or d) Paul Young?
 - 7) Who used to be a plastic tent putter-together? Was it: a) Madonna b) Demis Roussos c) Howard Jones or d) The Ansdin Brothers?
 - 8) Who used to be a professional ice skater? Was it: a) Tern Num of Berlin b) Tina Turner c) Simon Toulson-Clark of Red Box or d) Fish of Marillion?

● What do the following have in common

- a) Harry Secombe and Bob Geldof?
- b) Nick Berry's mum and Leslie Crowther?
- c) Nick Kamen and Sting?
- d) George Michael and Andrew Ridgeley?
- e) Una Stubbs and David Bowie?
- f) Janet Jackson and Elton John?
- g) Chris Lowe of The Pet Shop Boys and Nana Mouskouri?
- h) Ronald McDonald and Terri Nunn of Berlin?
- i) Sarah Brightman and Nigel Planer?

- THREE ON THE PLUMP**
 1) Peter Dinklage 2) George Michael 3) George Michael
 4) George Michael 5) George Michael 6) George Michael
PREVIOUS CAREERS
 1) Yoghurt 2) Journalist 3) Yoghurt 4) Yoghurt 5) Yoghurt
 6) Yoghurt 7) Yoghurt 8) Yoghurt 9) Yoghurt 10) Yoghurt
WHAT DO THE FOLLOWING HAVE IN COMMON?
 1) They've both been knighted 2) They've both been in
 3) They've both been in a group with Sir William Idol
 4) They've both been in a group with Sir William Idol
 5) They've both been in a group with Sir William Idol
 6) They've both been in a group with Sir William Idol
 7) They've both been in a group with Sir William Idol
 8) They've both been in a group with Sir William Idol
 9) They've both been in a group with Sir William Idol
 10) They've both been in a group with Sir William Idol
TRUE OR FALSE
 1) True 2) True 3) True 4) True 5) True 6) True 7) True 8) True 9) True 10) True
 11) True 12) True 13) True 14) True 15) True 16) True 17) True 18) True 19) True 20) True
ANSWERS
 1) Bruce Springsteen's real name is Dominic Croft but he changed it because he thought it was "too weedy".
 2) Mike Nolan of Bucks Fizz used to be in a group with Limahl.
 3) Tony James of Sique "Sigue"
 4) Sputnik used to be in a group with Sir William Idol.
 5) George Michael used to be in a group with Andrew Ridgeley.
 6) Kim Wilde used to be in a group with Shekin' Stevens.
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 9) Chissie Hynde used to be in a group with Rat Scabies of The Damned.
 10) Barry McIlheny used to be in a group with Chris De Burgh.
 11) Yoghurt 12) Journalist 13) Yoghurt 14) Yoghurt 15) Yoghurt 16) Yoghurt 17) Yoghurt 18) Yoghurt 19) Yoghurt 20) Yoghurt
 21) Yoghurt 22) Journalist 23) Yoghurt 24) Yoghurt 25) Yoghurt 26) Yoghurt 27) Yoghurt 28) Yoghurt 29) Yoghurt 30) Yoghurt
 31) Yoghurt 32) Journalist 33) Yoghurt 34) Yoghurt 35) Yoghurt 36) Yoghurt 37) Yoghurt 38) Yoghurt 39) Yoghurt 40) Yoghurt
 41) Yoghurt 42) Journalist 43) Yoghurt 44) Yoghurt 45) Yoghurt 46) Yoghurt 47) Yoghurt 48) Yoghurt 49) Yoghurt 50) Yoghurt
 51) Yoghurt 52) Journalist 53) Yoghurt 54) Yoghurt 55) Yoghurt 56) Yoghurt 57) Yoghurt 58) Yoghurt 59) Yoghurt 60) Yoghurt
 61) Yoghurt 62) Journalist 63) Yoghurt 64) Yoghurt 65) Yoghurt 66) Yoghurt 67) Yoghurt 68) Yoghurt 69) Yoghurt 70) Yoghurt
 71) Yoghurt 72) Journalist 73) Yoghurt 74) Yoghurt 75) Yoghurt 76) Yoghurt 77) Yoghurt 78) Yoghurt 79) Yoghurt 80) Yoghurt
 81) Yoghurt 82) Journalist 83) Yoghurt 84) Yoghurt 85) Yoghurt 86) Yoghurt 87) Yoghurt 88) Yoghurt 89) Yoghurt 90) Yoghurt
 91) Yoghurt 92) Journalist 93) Yoghurt 94) Yoghurt 95) Yoghurt 96) Yoghurt 97) Yoghurt 98) Yoghurt 99) Yoghurt 100) Yoghurt

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BALLERINA GIRL

Ballerina girl you are so lovely
With you standing there
I'm so awestruck
Of how much I care for you
You are more than now
You are for always
I can see in you my dreams come true
Don't you ever go away

You make me feel like there's nothing I can't do
And when I hold you I only want to say
I love you

Ballerina girl the joy you bring me
Every day and night
Holding you tight
How I've waited for your love

Sometimes I've wondered
If you'd ever come my way
Now that I've finally found you
This is where my heart will stay woah woah

Never gonna break your heart
Never will we drift apart
'Cause all I wanna do
Is share my whole life with you

'Cause you make me feel like there's nothing I can't do
I guess I finally realised
There's nothing else like loving you oh

Ballerina girl you are so lovely
I can see in you my dreams come true
Don't you ever go away

Ballerina girl

Words and music by Lionel Richie
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On Motown Records



THE
ARMOURY SHOW

Love In Anger

NEW SINGLE



SEVEN INCH - R6149. TWELVE INCH - 12R6149.

NICK BERRY

- He doesn't think he can sing.
- He *knows* he can't play the piano
- And the only thing he likes about his LP is the cover photos
- Oh dear. . .



▲ Nick Berry: "What ho, Puss! Time for my chart topper!" Puss: "Leave it sh!"



▲ Nick Berry: "Hallo again, Puss! Would you puss 'No to hear me sing my chart topper'?" Puss: "No was: warr!"



▲ Nick Berry: "Well, hullooooo, Fair daniel! Would you like to hear me sing my chart topper?" Fair daniel: "No to very much."



▲ Nick Berry: "Tally ho, old croon! Time for my chart topper! Old croon: "Boo!"



▲ Blotie in camel suit: "Quick. Get out of here before Nick Berry sings his chart topper!"

The sign outside the Assembly Hall Theatre in Tunbridge Wells promises "The Girls' Favourite Barman". There's absolutely no mistaking who that is as the outside of the building is simply covered with posters of Nick Berry – the man better known (to his eternal dismay) as Wicksy, the chirpy Cockney in *EastEnders*. Inside the theatre foyer there are yet more posters, and even a larger-than-life-size cut out of him looking very dapper, but all references to "Wicksy" rather than Nick Berry have been tactfully pasted over by the theatre management.

Nick Berry is starring in panto here in Tunbridge Wells – which is why there are so many people clustering around to see what would otherwise be a very ordinary production of *Dick Whittington And His Cat*. All the usual panto routines provoke a polite enough response from the crowd, but when "The Girls' Favourite Barman" appears on stage – looking, acting and sounding every inch like Wicksy but in a fetching brown leather jerkin and a feathered hat – gasps and wolf-whistles come up from the stalls. Never mind the panto – there are obviously a lot of girls here with the express purpose of having a quick oggle at *EastEnders'* smoothy barman.

Nick, naturally, is the star attraction as old Dick Whit himself and even the antics of his "cat" (a woman in a furry all-in-one) don't really get a look in. There are excited squeals as Nick steps on stage and the audience go positively gooey later on when he sings a love-lorn duet. Unfortunately, not only does he *grin* throughout this tragic scene but the chosen song is "All I Ask Of You", the swoonsome ballad normally crowned by Sarah Brightman and Cliff Richard. Still, virtually every song performed by anyone in the entire panto is gruesome – the audience are subjected to the old classic "Riding Along On The Crest Of A Wave", a painful version of "Agadoo", and of course "Every Loser Wins", which Nick croaks through just before the interval.

As soon as the curtain comes down the audience are reminded by a mysterious voice booming through the loudspeakers that copies of the single (a snip at £1.60) and Nick's new album are on sale in the foyer, presumably with all the *Klorax* and ice-creams.

The second half is pretty much the same thing (lots of boozing and hissing), except the audience are treated to Dick rescuing his true love from the tentacles of a giant octopus (the plot does seem to meander somewhat) and the whole show gets a rapturous response.

After the show is over, Nick Berry, alias Wicksy alias Dick Whittington, is relaxing in his rather shabby dressing room which bears the evidence of a stack of fan mail. He's changed out of the tights and boots and slipped into something a little more low-key – a rather fetching striped dressing gown. *EastEnders* has given him three weeks off from pulling panto to do the panto but as the series is filmed six weeks in advance he's appearing in the current episodes anyway. (Not that he'd know, as he doesn't usually watch it and doesn't even know what happened in last night's episode.)

The panto is the latest step in a career which has taken Nick Berry from the chorus of the stage play of *Oliver!* and parts in Greek tragedy to being a pop star – something he feels was rather forced upon him.

"I did hate it and think, 'Ooh, I don't want to be a pop star.'"

He's really enjoying the panto though, which he agreed to do way back in March 1986.

"It seemed like a good idea back in March," he explains, "because Christmas was 300 miles away and it was something else to do."

All this was a long time before he had the massively successful

Number 1 hit with "Every Loser Wins" and has recently released an album of smoothy love songs, "Nick Berry".

Mention the album though and his eyes start rolling. When I ask how it's doing (it certainly seemed to be shifting by the lorryload in the foyer) he huffs and puffs awkwardly.

"I think it's plummeted. I wouldn't be surprised because I'm very definitely not happy with it and really I feel very manipulated into all of it. Fair enough, I had to do the single in the show (*he performed it on the piano in the Queen Vic*). That was what my contract said. When the BBC wanted to release the single I said, 'might as well.' I'd had to lose face doing it on the show in the first place so I thought I might as well reap the rewards if there were going to be any."

His contract also had an option for an album. The BBC wanted to do the album – and wanted it in time for Christmas as they already had advance orders before it was even made, which is why it was eventually recorded in *three days*.

"I have you heard it?" he asks. "It's just nothing. It's just... let's put 10 songs on a record and call it an album. It would be OK... apart from the fact it's got my name on it. Ha ha. (?)

Given a free hand though, he doesn't really know what he'd prefer to do.

"I couldn't go out and do stuff like *The The* or Lou Reed because people just wouldn't accept it. I'm sort of known for being the romantic on the piano. Bobby Crush (*doing oldie oldie TV show Opportunity Knocks*) or somebody like that. And I can't even play piano at all! It's never me playing in the pub in *EastEnders*. They always shout it over the top of the piano and you see my face going (*gives gormless grin*) and my shoulders going like that" (*shakes them up and down*).

Nick did once attempt to play keyboards when he was 16, with a group called the Sharp Young Men – who wore a lot of black and attempted to live up to their name. They didn't do very well though, despite or perhaps because of the fact that "we were desperately trying to be like Madness." And – surprise surprise – Nick doesn't think much of his vocal abilities either.

"I can't sing for toffee! Basically I just don't like the sound that comes out."

In fact, the only thing he does like about his album is the rather smooth and trendy photo of him on the cover.

"The photo is the best thing about it actually. I think it's good. I've never looked like that ever. Yes, everyone comments on the designer scrubble in the photo. I just didn't bother shaving. When I was 16 I had a beard. And I was still asking for half fare on the bus. The bus conductor told me off."

"I hate shaving. My mum and my nan used to say 'go and shave, you scruffy sod'. Suddenly I go out with a bit of stubble on my face and everyone says 'Ooh, look. He's like George Michael. He's got designer stubble and that means he's trendy.' But I'm still the same scruffy person my mum always said I was."

The photo on the back of the album sleeve sees him looking very un-Wicksy-like, thanks to the stylist at the photo session.

"I'm wearing my normal shoes and jeans which is all I ever wear. And they said, 'Right put this shirt on and leave it hanging out, and put this jacket on.' And I said, 'But my mum will kill me – it's not ironed.' They said, 'No, no, it looks great.' So that's the silly photo on the back. Trendy? Ah, so they tell me. . ."

- Interview: Lola Borg
- Photos: Paul Rider

P STAR!"



▲ Nick Berry: "Avanti, citizens! And now for my chart topper!" Citizens: "Scrag here!"



▲ Nick Berry: "Ah, there you are, Puss! And now..." Puss: "Oh do shut up!"



▲ Nick Berry: "Aha, my pretty maid. You look as if you know a good song when you hear it!" Pretty maid: "Got say Billy Idol?"



▲ Nick Berry: "What now my merry..." Blokes: "Beg off!"



▲ Nick Berry: "Evenest lozer wissess..." Audience: "Geroo!!!!!!"



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ANGELS DON'T CRY



TOUR FEBRUARY 1987



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PSYCHEDELIC FURS

"A P I N N S"



BOB GELDOF: Glasgow Pavilion (February 28), Aberdeen Capitol (March 1), Newcastle City Hall (3), Nottingham Royal Centre (4), Bristol Colston Hall (6), Manchester Apollo (7), Birmingham Odeon (8), London Hammersmith Odeon (10/11).

● Tickets are available from the venues and usual agents. Prices for London are £8.50 and £7.50, and for all the rest £7.50 and £6.50.



WOMACK AND WOMACK: London Royal Albert Hall (January 15). ● Tickets cost £10.50, £9 and £7.50 and are available from the box office and usual agents.



DEEP PURPLE (EXTRA DATE): Birmingham NEC (March 8).

● Tickets are available by post from PO Box 77, London SW4 6LH. Please enclose a SAE and make cheques and postal orders payable to Deep Purple Box Office for £9 or £8 plus a 50p booking fee. Please allow four weeks for delivery. Tickets are also available from usual agents.



THE CULT: Newcastle City Hall (March 4), Edinburgh Playhouse (5), Glasgow Barrowlands (6), Nottingham Royal Centre (9), Bradford St Georges Hall (10), Birmingham Odeon (13), London Hammersmith Odeon (14/15), Brighton Dome (17), Sheffield City Hall (19), Manchester Apollo (21), Bristol Colston Hall (22), Cardiff St Davids Hall (23), Portsmouth Guildhall (25), St Austell Coliseum (26).

● Tickets for London are priced £8 and £7, and £5.50 and £6 for everywhere else and are available from the box offices and usual agents.



ELKIE BROOKS: St Austell Coliseum (March 23), Bristol Colston Hall (25), Gloucester Leisure Centre (26), Brighton Conference Centre (27), Manchester Apollo Theatre (29), Edinburgh Playhouse (31), Birmingham International Arena (April 2), Liverpool Empire Theatre (5), Newcastle City Hall (6), Oxford Apollo Theatre (8), Boumemouth International Centre (9), London Wembley Arena (12).

● Tickets are available from the box offices and usual agents.



THE SOUP DRAGONS: Coleraine University of Ulster (February 12), Glasgow CMU (13), Newcastle University (14), Sheffield University (16), Leeds Warehouse (17), Manchester International (18), Liverpool University (19), Birmingham University (20), Essex University (21), Bristol Bierkeller (24), Treforest Polytechnic (25), Coventry Polytechnic (26), London ULU (27), Brighton Cockcroft Hall (28).

● Please contact venues for tickets and prices.

IT DIDN'T MATTER

I remember all the early days
Trying to think of the right things to say
I didn't want you to think I was like the rest
Who think they own you just because you've laid with them

It didn't matter really didn't matter
Oh it didn't matter now we are together

There are crystal hearts just waiting to be smashed
And out to break them are the ones that never last
Too soon today and gone tomorrow
And taking with them just another little piece of you cool

You know that it didn't matter
Oh it didn't matter now we are together
(Repeat above)

There are those who think it's smart
Thinking that they've stole your love and broke your heart
Too much too soon and gone tomorrow
Well my love doesn't need to lend or borrow

It didn't matter know that it didn't matter
(Repeat twice)

Really didn't matter it didn't matter
You know that it didn't matter
Oh it didn't matter it really really didn't matter
It didn't matter it really really didn't matter

It didn't matter
Too soon today and gone tomorrow oh
Know that it didn't matter
And taking with them just another little piece of you
It didn't matter know that it didn't matter
I know now I know now
It didn't matter oh oh

Know that it didn't matter oh it didn't matter
We may have lost a little time
But now it's all worked out fine
Know that it didn't matter
So it really really didn't matter
Know that it didn't matter it didn't matter
Know that it didn't matter

Words and music by Paul Weller-Mark Taylor
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THE STYLE COUNCIL

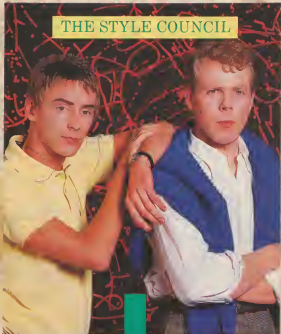


Photo: LPT

DIAMONDS WERE A GIRL'S BEST FRIEND... UNTIL

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AIDS is incurable and it kills.

Up until now, the virus has been confined mainly to small groups of people, but it's spreading all the time.

The virus can definitely be passed on during sex between a man and a woman, if one of them is infected.

A woman can catch it from a man's sperm. A man can catch it from a woman's vaginal fluid.

So in the future, the more sexual partners you have, the more you're at risk.

To reduce the risk, have as few partners as possible.

And when you do have sex, remember that only one thing can protect you from infection. A condom.

If you ever have sex with anyone you're not completely sure about, always use one. Because these days, sex can be a matter of life and death.

For more information and advice, please phone 01-981 7140 or 0345 581858. (If dialling from outside London, use the 0345 number and you will be charged at local rates.)

D O N ' T | A I D | A I D S

Competition Winners

VIDEOS COMPETITION (19 November)

● Correct answer: b) *Die Strasse*
 ● Five winners of *Style Council* Jim videos are: **Kathy Mosson**, Orpington; **Samantha Savage**, Upton; **Adam Turnbull**, Neighington; **Nick Carter**, Swalecliffe; **M. Calderwood**, Worsley.

Ten winners of an *Unser* The Cherry Moon video are: **Joanna Core**, Erdington; **Sharon Cox**, Cobham; **Philip Standley**, Warrington; **Mark Evans**, Bristol; **Pione Pringle**, Stevenage; **Carolyn Rivers**, Epsom; **Meri Milne**, Aberdeen; **Pamela Kuepfer**, Marley; **Christine Layton**, Peterborough; **Neil Hodgson**, Snye.

Ten winners of an *Indiana Jones* And The Temple Of Doom video are: **S.O. Woodhouse**, Northwick; **Rosalynn Harris**, Bedford; **R. Jones**, Swansea; **Pione Speight**, Howwood; **Tony Rose**, Woking; **Gillian Wilkinson**, Redditch; **Tracey Holt**, Bamsley; **Stephen Davies**, Borough Green; **His Lordship**, Pottershall; **Shirley Jacques**, Northfield.

FUZZBOX COMPETITION (19 November)

● Correct answer: b) a drug.
 ● The 25 winners of a set of Fuzzbox things are: **Mark Henry**, Bradford; **Joan Westwood**, Chesterfield; **Tracy Blotch**, Westcott-on-Sea; **Alien Barnes**, Puffton; **Lynne Jones**, Jamaica; **N.O. Name**, Coventry; **Bryan Cawray**, Tayside; **George Courts**, Fleet; **G. Kunkowicz**, Walsgrave; **David Heffer**, Alconbury; **Tim Dickson**, Woodbury; **Sallyon**, Christine Southwell, Harlow; **Carol Lindsay**, Poynton; **Suea Saunders**, Marnthorpe; **Paul Pratt**, Mora; **Sally Cornwell**, Norwich; **Jeon Atkinson**, Kingfisher; **A.P. Jennings**,

Hackney; **Mark Butler**, Havant; **A. Palmer**, Bury St Edmunds; **Dave Jones**, Hove; **Elizabeth Rutherford**, Clonfert; **Ian Easton**, Fiskeston; **Vanessa Szasz**, Middlesbrough; **David Reiston**, Polok.

MAXELL TAPES COMPETITION (19 November)

● Correct answer: c) Max Headroom.
 ● The 25 winners of a Maxell pack are: **D. Martin**, Hull; **Jenny Perkes**, Troston; **Annette Curry**, London EC4; **Francis Colbraire**, Chadderton; **Carol Wright**, Luton; **Garry Green**, Prestwich; **N.O. Name**, Saltburn-by-Sea; **Nicole Keran**, Nelson; **Brigitte**, Marle; **Wilson**, Rainford; **Yvonne Campbell**, Armadale; **Tracey Coppock**, Westbury; **Anthony Goller**, Old Hatfield; **M. Bainbridge**, Washington; **Louise Nightingale**, Headington Hill; **Louise Jacobs**, Iston; **C. Kerr**, Symington; **Donne Taylor**, St George; **Amande Murch**, Great Winton; **Z. Palmer**, Nottingham; **Sharon Onion**, Leyfields; **Helen Richards**, Colwyn Bay; **Angele Tann**, Worcestershire.

JEB MILLION COMPETITION (19 November)

● Correct answer: All can be correct.
 ● Ten winners of a calculator and a 12" single of "Speed Up My Heartbeat" are: **Susan Doble**, Harlow; **Martin Campbell**, Edinburg; **Richard Warburton**, Frinton; **Kristen Courage**, Falmouth; **Pernice Moody**, Gierforth; **Tracey McMahon**, Ramsgate; **Lynne Gammam**, Stanley;

Danise Barnett, Chesterfield; **Rebecca Frenkin**, Dinton; **G.M. Jackson**, Hartlepool.

The next 15 win the single **Joan Westhead**, Croastfield; **Jay Jay**, Old Basford; **Michael Tighe**, Daventry; **Sarah Best**, Babbington; **Steve Williamson**, Finchfield; **Paul Lord**, Thetford; **Paul Barrett**, Hendon; **Graham Peters**, Dorking; **Paul Carberry**, Inveresk; **Vanessa Hooper**, Winterton; **Tracey Wallis**, Newcastle Upon Tyne; **David Cook**, Wendover; **John Watson**, Shirley; **A. Boothwell**, Huron; **Karen Morris**, Little Ringfield; **Mary Wilson**, Loughton.

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN COMPETITION (19 November)

● Correct answer: c) "Santa Claus Is Coming To Town".
 ● Five winners of a cardboard cut out, box set, sample box set, poster and calendar are: **Gamma Bullard**, Highgate; **Mitchell Sander**, Edgware; **P. Townsend**, London N1; **Mandy Sprunt**, Leston; **Jonathan Bayly**, Southport. The next five win the calendar: **Donna King**, Port Talbot; **Ian Buxton**, Swanton; **John Chatterton**, Chestwick; **Carl Davidson**, Hopton; **Anders Herbert**, Flackwell Heath.

A-HA COMPETITION (19 November)

● Correct answer: a) three times.
 ● The winner of a programme, 12" single of "Cry Wolf", two 1-shirts and some stickers and two badges is: **Rob Long**, Pontefract.
 The next 24 win the 12" and the programme: **Gillian Irving**, Farnle; **Sara Brown**, London E4; **P. Hawkins**,

Norwich; **J. Harrison**, Dudley; **Stewart Seven**, Dublin 14; **Shirley Lewis**, Barmouth; **Haley Strutt**, Shalford; **Caz F.**, Winstford; **Zoe Wilson**, Earfield; **Marion Jerry**, Sprowston; **Katie Ogden**, Blackpool; **Jenice Loury**, Cammeray; **Alison Rodgers**, Inver; **Ozzy Triller**, West Hoo; **Jean Wall**, Bradford 9; **Blue O'Neil**, Crosby; **Julie Colveridge**, Sandbach; **Caroline Manning**, Orpington; **Dawn Coles**, Gillingham; **N.O. Name**, Gierforth; **Jayne Musill**, Liverpool; **Gavin Yellet**, Rushmore; **Lynne Barrett**, Hythe; **Beki Marsh**, London SE3.

ELTON JOHN COMPETITION (19 November)

● Correct answer: a) Renata something or other.
 ● Ten winners of a watch and a 12" single of "Heartache All Over The World" are: **Helen Mumford**, Walsington; **Jackie Wilson**, Portmouth; **Jackie Bourke**, Mutfamham; **Louise Nightingale**, Headington; **D. Townsend**, Greenock; **Pernice Gavin**, Cockermouth; **Angie Heron**, Gateshead; **Jonathan Jones**, Cannock Wood; **Mark Akers**, Sheriff, Rebecca Tipton, Bonyon Heath.

The next 15 win the single: **Lesley Lambert**, Middlesbrough; **Nicola Llewellyn**, Cardiff; **Gillian Lach**, Bakewell; **Samantha Radall**, Altonville; **Vanessa Montancho**, London NW4; **Chitra Chandan**, London W4; **Gilly Postinger**, Halkyn; **Annexa**, Venables; **Williamson**, Beaumont Leys; **P. Enes**, Milton Keynes; **Nell Davies**, Port Talbot; **S. J. Boleas**, St. Sampson; **Lina Lloyd**, Owen; **A. Drake**, Doncaster; **Alison Pickard**, Grimsby.

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I am a 15 year old male looking for female pals aged 14-17 from South-East England, and Scandinavia. I like Madonna, Pet Shop Boys, Depeche Mode, U2, Howard Jones, Janet Jackson and drawing. If you are interested please write to: Martin Rowell, 6 Woodfield, Wickford, Essex SS12 9RT.

I'm a desperate 11 year old girl looking for other 10-12 year olds to write to. If you come from anywhere in the world and are into A-ha, Falco and Five Star get writing to: Annabel Port, 57 London Road, Benlét, Essex SS7 5TG.

Hallo world. I am a 19 year old into Depeche Mode, Pet Shop Boys, Tears For Fears and Human League I also really like Charlie Sexton and going to the pictures. I would like to write to anyone around my age, especially females. Get writing to: Paul Foong, 15 JLN, BILIS, off JLN, Bangsar, 66100 Kuala Lumpur, West Malaysia.

Are there any A-ha fans out there? My name is Ian and I also like Madonna and Chris De Burgh. I am 12 years old and would like to hear from anybody around my age group. Please write to: 32 Dartmouth Square, Leeson Park, Dublin 6, Ireland.

My name is Karan Ward and I'm into Five Star, Wham!, Madonna and soul music. I am 10 years old so if you're a girl around the same age please write to: 21 Cricket Fields Road, Lower Clapton, London E5 8NR.

Hi, my name's Karan Kay and I'm 17 years old. I like Level 42, Phil Collins, some 60s music and lots more. I enjoy reading magazines, watching EastEnders and Big Deal and I like meeting new people. Please write to: 28 Rowdout Court, Sunnyside Road, London N19 3SN.

Hallo, I'm a 12 year old boy into Bruce Springsteen, Dire Straits, Madonna, Wham!, A-ha and Queen. If you are interested please write to: Anthony Donoghue, Main St, Ballinacree, Co. Longford, Ireland.

I would like to get in touch with anyone aged 15-17 and interested in Wham!, A-ha, Tears For Fears and lots more. My hobbies are horses and horse riding and I also like dogs. My name and address is: Jayne Doot, 7 Broadford Road, Fern Gort, Accrington, Lancs BB5 0NL.

Hi, I am a 15 year old guy who would like to hear from anyone, anywhere, any age. I love The Cure, The Smiths, Siouxsie & The

Banshees and Dead Or Alive, but the group I love the most are Culture Club. If interested please write to: Ruben Amador, 30510 Rossinda St, San Diego, CA 92154, USA.

My name is Sue, I'm 13 and madly into A-ha and Pet Shop Boys. If you're aged between 12 and 15 then write to me at: 37 Banquettes Avenue, Worcester WR3 8DA.

Hi, I'm a 23 year old guy and I'm into U2, Big Country, U40, Dire Straits, The Smiths and The Cure. I'd love to hear from anyone aged 17 or over from anywhere in the world. Please write to: Mohammed El Ajady, 8 Hameit 200-el Naga St, El Galaa St, Mansoura, Egypt.

Hallo, my name is Andraa and I'm 18 years old. I like to go out and enjoy myself and I like most kinds of music except Heavy Metal. So if anyone out there would like to write to me I live at: 25 Murray Street, Llanelli, Dyfed, Wales SA15 1AQ.

Hallo, I'm 14 years old and I enjoy most chart music. If you would like to write to anyone, and from anywhere in the world especially Germany or France. Please write to me: Terry Davies, 13 Newmans Lane, Loughton, Essex IG10 1TW.

I'm a 15 year old female who likes Billy Idol, The Damned, The Sex Pistols, spiky hair and black clothes. Please write to: Kellie Baker, Shockwell House, Mill Road, Stock, Essex CM4 9RU.


I'm 17 years old and I would like pals from America, Canada, China and anywhere else I like Five Star, Madonna, Sam Fox and I also like sport. Please write to: Thomas Houlihan, 9 Chapel Place, High Valleyfield, Newmilns, Dumfrieshire, Fife, Scotland KY12 5UH.

16 year old female seeks pals of similar age from anywhere in the world I like Simple Minds, A-ha, Zerra One, The Communards, The Blue Nile, The Smiths and many more. Please write to: Angela McFarlane, 129 Glenvarloch Crescent, Edinburgh EH16 6BB.

Hallo, I'm a 16 year old Malaysian and I'm into tennis, Duran Duran, Wham!, Pet Shop Boys and Paul Young. My hobbies are collecting stamps, match boxes, listening to music and travelling. If interested please write to: Derrick Soffiano Tan, 33 Jalan Hujan Gemilang, Devensia Uluam Garden, 55200 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Hallo, my name is Leslay and I'm 14 years old. I like Wham!, Queen and Shakin' Stevens. If you are 11 and live anywhere in the world please write to me: Leslay Richardson, 7 Walgrove Road, Wavertree, Liverpool L15 7JL.

Hi, I'm Louisa, I'm 14 and I'm into Bryan Adams, Spandau Ballet, Bon Jovi, Tina Turner and most chart music. If you would like to write to me at: 1 South Crescent, Cotham, Gloucester, Kent.



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Photo: U2

▲ U2 from left: Adam Clayton, Bono, Larry Mullen Jr. (7), The Edge



▲ A young U2 in lovely boots



▲ A young U2 in lovely jeans



▲ A young Bono in a lovely "lar" coat



▲ A young U2 in a lovely field



▲ A young U2 in a, um, lovely street

the

Paul Hewson was a fairly strange boy. He lived in a rough district of Dublin called Ballyman with his father, a house painter. When he was young his mother died and later he used that to explain his rather odd behaviour at school. "I couldn't put in the work because I was too erratic," he remembers – instead he turned to chess, of all things. "I found a game like chess suited me because I was able to put everything from my mind and work with something abstract," recalls Bono.

Still, all this fiddling about with Brazilian openings and muttering funny phrases like *en passant* didn't mean that he was exactly *sty*. At Mount Temple Comprehensive, an experimental Dublin school, run far more freely than the traditional Irish religious schools, he marched in one day with spiky hair and a chain from his ear to his nose, the first punk. Even his girlfriend at the time was shocked enough to leave him (they were later reunited). He did it, he remembers, "in the interest of vibing people up. I was like the child who is eating coal. He knows he wants to eat something and I ate the coal and went 'euchh'". He realised it wasn't quite right for me in some senses.

That wasn't the only weird thing he did. Along with some friends also in their early teens, he invented a secret imaginary place called Lypton Village where they would all "live" and play act different roles. Part of this involved them giving each other new names – names which they thought more appropriate for the grown person than the ones they had been christened with. So Paul Hewson became Bono Vox (Latin-ish for "good voice"), his friend Dave Evans became The Edge, Dave's brother Richard became Dik, and there were also many others: Guggi, Strongman, Bottle Of Milk, Gavin Friday and so on.

"It's something we developed in our imagination to give us an alternative lifestyle as kids. We grew up studying people on street corners, we laughed at the way they talked and at the expressions they made. We mocked the adult world and agreed we'd never grow up because all we saw was silliness."

Maybe Bono's new name was also a touch prophetic – after all, he already had some rather primitive thoughts about pop stardom: "I remember watching *Top Of The Pops* and seeing this group called Middle Of The Road singing 'Cherry Cherry Cheep Cheep'. I must have been about 11 at the time and I thought 'Wow, this is what pop music is all about – you just sing like that and you get paid for it.'"

Apart from that he had "a very heavy adolescence... emotionless... traumas, that kind of thing" and often his self-esteem would nearly vanish altogether. "I remember seeing heroes on television – people like James Bond – and thinking 'I'm not good-looking – I'm not going to get things like that and being unhappy about it.' Later he

U2

U2 might be dead famous now but once upon a time they were just four spotty lads in Dublin. And one of them wore a kilt! And one of them was called a Bottle Of Milk(!?) And one of them was a birrova raver! And they all lived happily ever after!
Narrator: Chris Heath.



▲ A young Paul Hewson in a kiltly (without a kilt) (he's a dreamer)

confessed that by the time he was 16 he "felt bullied by the need to succeed, to find a good job, a pretty girl. Forming U2 was a way out..."

Being in a band was nothing but a dream, however, until shy young drummer Larry Mullen, who'd previously been exercising his talents in the Artane Boys Band (a famous Irish brass band), put a notice on the Mount Temple School notice board asking if anyone was interested in forming a group. They were. Along came "The Edge", "Bono" (who apparently needed some persuading), Dik and a bloke called Neil. McCormick, Dik and Neil soon left and were replaced by a rather flash bloke called Adam Clayton (ex-Max Q Band!) who'd arrived at the school rather suddenly after being expelled from St. Columba's public school. He "stuck out like a sore thumb," says Bono. "He used to drink coffee in class and the teachers just got used to it. He got accepted as being really quirky. He wore a kilt. He also took off his clothes at one rehearsal when he got very excited..."

In the early days they called themselves Hype, then Feedback (a name they later resurrected when playing "secret" Dublin concerts). Finally in 1977 a bloke called Steve Rapp (later to design all their album sleeves) suggested the name U2 as "something that suggested communality". U2 they became.

"We were four completely different people, four people going nowhere and we decided to go there together," reflects Bono. "Four rejects, all on different levels, from the system. Four people - four intelligent people - who probably wouldn't be accepted for the ESB (the electricity board) or The Civil Service. The only thing we had in common was the music..."

From their earliest song, "Street Mission", they were, as The Edge put it, "trying to avoid being shallow and one-dimensional. It's like the difference between the comic and the hard-covered book."

Which means that already Bono was singing some rather, er, strange lyrics - the song, called "Street Mission", went "I walk tall / I walk in a wild wind /

I love to start / I love to watch myself grow / Some say maybe tomorrow / Resurrection, hello, oh no no no / Street Mission."

Soon they had a huge repertoire - around 40 songs with titles like "Jack In The Box", "Carton World", "The Dream Is Over", "In Your Hand", "Concentration Cramp", "Judith", "The Fool" and "Trevor", most of which would never be released.

To begin with they rehearsed at school with the school's full encouragement and they also rehearsed in Larry's kitchen - where one time the local girls infatuated with Larry kept looking through the windows until eventually he turned a hose on them.

"He's not interested," said Bono afterwards. "Larry likes to play drums."

Soon they were playing proper concerts using backing tapes with no live effects, rather, doing video and light shows. Bono (who by now had given up playing guitar) studied mime for a while "to loosen up", to try to perform on stage". Most groups played in pubs and clubs barred



▲ A young Adam Clayton in a lovely headband, a young Bono having - gasp! - a drink!

to people under drinking age so U2 started playing on Saturday afternoons in Dublin's Dandelion Market to anyone who could afford 50p on the door. Soon they were playing concerts with Dik and Guggi's weird experimental band The Virgin Prunes and rather unwise adverts - U2 CAN BE A VIRGIN PRUNE - were plastered all over Dublin.

By the time they entered the Guinness and Harp talent competition during Limerick Civic Week - first prize £500 and an audition for CBS Records - on St Patrick's Day 1978 they were good enough to win, even though, according to Bono he had "lost his voice - we were a shambles". The audition they won didn't go quite so well - no one was happy with the results and they had to finish prematurely when Larry's dad insisted he leave so he wouldn't be too tired for school the next day.

Luckily a few months later CBS changed their minds and in September 1979 "Out Of Control" - "about waking up on your 18th birthday and realising that the two most important decisions in your life have nothing to do with you: living and dying" appeared as their first ever single

(released in Ireland only). It went to number one there, was followed by "Another Day" and suddenly just months after playing their first ever London concert to nine people - U2 had a worldwide record contract.

Neither their first British single ("11 O'Clock Tick Tock") nor their first album ("Boy") sold especially well but at least the band were being noticed outside Ireland at last. It wasn't always for the right reasons though - the cover of "Boy" showed Guggi and Strongman's 11 year old brother Peter (who later also appeared on the cover of their "War" LP). This was to illustrate in symbolic form Bono's vision of the group as a growing child but in America they had to change the cover "to stop any concern there might have been about paedophilia". They also got rather a lot of stick for being such a normal "straightforward" "rock" band but Bono was having none of it.

"I distrust anything that's obvious, like someone saying 'let's be original'. So they hang bananas out of their ears or start using a xylophone. I see no reason to say we're something else so we're going to play on a chandelier tonight and that'll make us different. It doesn't mean you're different, it means you're trying to be different."

Bono also started explaining that he wanted U2 to be very very successful because he reckoned they were much more important than so many other groups.

"I think if we're number one we're doing people like Rush (dodgy old pomp rock hippie group) out of a place. If we're on the radio we're doing people like Sheena Easton (dodgy old songstress) out of a job - a factory product. They might be nice people but I don't like that attitude: a tin of beans, a tin of music, dress it up and launch it."

Next year, 1981, they had their first small hit, "Fire", and another, rather moodier, more subdued LP, "October". The group had said from the beginning that three of them - Bono, The Edge and Larry - were Christians but with songs like "Gloria (In Te Domino)" and "Rejoice" they found themselves having to talk about it a lot more. Slightly unwillingly it turned out.

"We don't want to be the band that talks about God," explained Bono. "If there is anything in what we have to say it will be seen in our lives, in our music and in our performance." Or as he said another time, "people have got



▲ Bono, a wall, lots of graffiti, 1981



▲ Bono, a sweater and a microphone, 1981

to find their own way - I'm not standing up saying 'Hey, you should be into God'."

According to The Edge, "it's not U2 that's creating this great art. That's why I can be so arrogant about what we do, because I don't think it's us essentially. There's something that works through us to create in this way... I have bands that come across like 'we're geniuses' because I don't believe it. I don't believe that the greatest art in the world has been created by Man consciously. I think there's something else, a far deeper thing, that comes out and does the work."



▲ U2, shimmering shades, etc

Not that any of this helped too much - they still got loads of stick. "They're vile Christian creatures," said Killing Joke and quite a few other people seemed to agree.

"People don't understand so they lash out," sighed The Edge. "It doesn't bother me though - I'm past caring what people think about our beliefs... I think there's something peculiar to spirituality - or Christianity in particular - that brings on that sort of shock..."

"Meanwhile, as the rest of them rather frowned on the traditional "rock'n'roll lifestyle" (though, as they had to emphasise again and again, they do laugh, they do enjoy a drink etc.) Adam went a bit wild. As he later admitted, "I think it probably did send me batty for a year or so... I used to be terribly into being a rock star." For a while, "being the weakest member of the band emotionally," he longed to

the U2 story



▲ U2 and absolutely loads of equipment



▲ Bono waiting for a bus



▲ U2 waiting for an ambulance



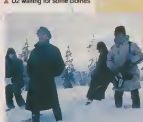
▲ U2 waiting for a steamer



▲ U2 waiting for some clothes



▲ Bono and "trends" (i.e. "Bruce" Springsteen)



▲ U2 waiting for some skins



▲ Bono and "things" from Clannad



▲ Bono and "trends" (except it's his wife)



▲ The Edge and "trends" (except it's his guitar)

be a member of "the fashion scene that was sweeping Britain." But he couldn't. "It was the forbidden fruit," he reflected ruefully. Then, he says, the novelty of "being high on limos and pads and girls and stuff" wore off. "Now," he was able to say in 1984, "that's not what it's all about for me."

Things really took off in 1983 with their "War" LP. The first single, "New Year's Day," about the Solidarity movement in Poland, leaped into the charts and spookily enough on the day it was released, Martial Law was lifted in Poland. This was the first real sign that U2 were beginning to take a more direct interest in the world around them. "As we mature," said Adam, "the frantic teenage issues that we were concerned with early on are changing into something else, something more complex."

It wasn't just that they were growing up (Bono had married his girlfriend Alison in 1982, The Edge had married his girlfriend Aislin the year before and they were soon to have a daughter, Holly). Bono had recently met the Irish Prime Minister-to-be Garrett Fitzgerald at Heathrow Airport.

"I walked through the security cordon, pushed them aside, went up and had an argument with him for about half an hour."

They met again and Bono was invited to join an emergency committee set up to tackle unemployment. In the end though he pulled out, deciding that there was just as much wrong with committees as with politics in general and that he could be more useful in other ways. One of those was writing songs – as well as "New Year's Day" they wrote about the Irish situation ("Sunday Bloody Sunday") and the bomb ("Seconds") and on stage Bono started waving around a huge white flag: "a symbolic gesture – I was sick of the green, white and orange. I was sick of the Union Jack. I wished all the colours could be drained from them."

Later that year they also released a live LP, "Under A Blood Red Sky." "It came to me," said Bono, "that this walking out on the carpet that covers our stage was much more familiar than the carpet in my front room – if I had a carpet in my front room." Indeed.

"They say home is where the heart is but I think home is where the carpet is, the carpet box on stage means a lot more to me than any lightstand or colour TV."

Round this time Bono also started doing slightly mad things like diving 20ft into the crowd, something he soon regretted when people started copying him. He also started dragging people out of the crowd to dance with him – most famously at Live Aid when one and a half billion people saw him leap off the stage during "Bad" and quietly sway with a girlie fan.

"A lot of the time," says The Edge explaining this rather over-the-top activity on Bono's part, "it's just trying to think of something to do. He's always saying 'if only I could bloody well play guitar I wouldn't have to do all these stupid things.'"

During the "War" tour they also had a huge backdrop of the "boy" looking "ravaged" and "war-torn." After the tour it was donated to the Chicago Peace Museum where it was displayed next to a collection of drawings by survivors of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombs in Japan at the end of the Second World War. The exhibition was called "The Unforgettable Face" and when U2 retired to write their next album in Slane Castle, a castle in rolling green pastures aching with Irish history, that was the name they decided to use for the LP. (Originally it was going to be called "Bits And Pieces Of America" because, says Bono, "the Irish built America.")

They decided to record the LP with eccentric balding avant-garde musician Brian Eno, someone they greatly admired. "The question," said The Edge at the time, "shouldn't be why we wanted to work with Eno but why he wanted to work with us, this pathetic little rock'n'roll band from Dublin who hadn't made a good record since 'Boy.'"

Whatever it worked, especially on the first single, "Pride (In The Name Of Love)" which became their biggest hit ever. Originally, the basic song had been written in 10 minutes at a soundcheck in Hawaii but then Bono spent ages working out the lyrics. "I originally wrote it about Ronald Reagan," he explains, "Reagan and the ambivalent attitude in America. It was originally meant to be about the sort of pride that won't break down, that wants to build nuclear arsenals. But that won't work. And I remembered a very old man said to me 'don't try and fight darkness with light; just make the light shine brighter.' I was giving Reagan too much importance. Then I thought of Martin Luther King (black civil rights leader in America) who was assassinated in 1967 – there's a man."

With the success of "Pride", U2 suddenly found they were one of the biggest groups in the universe. Not that it has gone to their heads. They're all immensely sincere about what they do and Bono in particular has spent much of the last two years travelling around trying to find out what the troubled areas of the world really are like – he's rumoured to have visited both Central America and Ethiopia incognito. Meanwhile, he's also made a couple of other records – a song called "Rattle And Go" he made up and recorded in one day for the anti-apartheid "Sun City" LP and, of course, his belated contribution on Clannad's "In Our Lifetime". The Edge has done a soundtrack LP for the film *Captive*. They've also been working on a new LP directed at and March which they promise will be quite weird (The Edge: "I hate this idea of U2 as a nice safe band") and spent several weeks last summer touring America for Amnesty International just the sort of thing they would do because, as they've always emphasised, they'd much rather be a group who actually put their energy and time behind their mouths.

"There are ways we can do things," explains The Edge, "but we must never be seen as a charity, the noble boys doing out slops. Just keep our mouths shut and get things done."

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PIN & CROSSWORD ANSWERS

No. 30 (December 17) ● The winner: A Linda Saward from Market Harborough in Leicestershire
No. 31 (December 31) ● Winner in next issue: here are all our!

ACROSS: 1 Greetings To The All Over Readers; 2 (KC And The Sunshine Band); 3 Kate Bush; 15 Dead Or Alive; 16 (Nick); 18 Heroes; 17 (Robert Delino); 18 Rat; 19 KC And The Sunshine Band; 20 Every Time You Go Away; 23 Taylor; 24 I Heard It Through The Grapevine; 26 (Hearst); 28 Through The Grapevine; 27 Eat It; 30 Owen; 31 See (The Day); 32 Rat; 33 Owen (Paul); 38 Elaine; 40 I Heard It Through The Grapevine; 43 (Owen) Paul; 44 (Wherever I Lay My Hat); 46 Mouth Of Ash; 48 (On My Own); 49 See (KC And The Sunshine Band); 50 Starr; 51 Khan; 54 Min; 55 Money's Too Tight To Mention; 59 Enc; 61 Pilot; 63 CBS; 65 Horne; 66 Hark; 69 A New England; 71 Tyler; 73 (Rolling) Stones; 76 Modern Talking; 78 Only Love; 79 Evert; 80 News; 81 Steve; 82 The Tough

DOWN: 1 George Michael; 2 Europe; 3 Take My Breath Away; 4 Nik (Kershaw); 5 (See) The Day; 6 Living In America; 7 Live; 8 Rod; 9 Adams; 10 Rat; 11 (Unon Of The Snake); 12 Berry; 14 Adams; 15 Do Do Ya; 21 (Total Eclipse) Of The Heart; 22 Agnes; 23 (KC And) The Sunshine Band; 25 Edge; 26 Two; 29 Stephen; 34 Whurr; 35 Nelson; 36 Are (Of) Now; 37 Tiger; 39 Aha; 41 (EMC); 42 (Kate) Bush; 45 Alko (Alco); 50 (Unon Of The Snake); 51 Alvin; 53 Art; 54 (see) McCulloch; 55 The Mixer; 56 Elton; 57 Songs; 58 Kim Wilde; 60 Run To You; 62 (Are) Of Now; 64 Steve; 66 Alko (Alco); 67 Right; 68 In Love; 70 Notes; 73 Over; 74 Eyes; 75 Arms; 76 MTV; 77 Den

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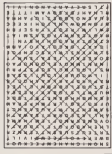
● All the names on the right are hidden in the diagram. They could run horizontally, vertically or diagonally. Some run backwards. But remember that the words are all in an uninterrupted straight line whichever way they run.

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N F O N M O W L N L Y O H I K E C E
E U A E N O L O O E S I U F A H H A
L R H A H F D F S O V A M I T T T E
F T L S R E Y A R P A N O N I V I L

● The answers are strimbling about on the right.

- ALL FALL DOWN
- ALL I ASK OF YOU
- ALMAZ
- BECAUSE I LOVE YOU
- BREAK OUT
- CARRY
- CARAVAN OF LOVE
- CRY WOLF
- DON'T GIVE UP
- BREAKING
- EACH TIME YOU BREAK MY HEART
- EVERY LOSER WINS
- FOR AMERICA
- FRENCH KISSIN' IN THE USA
- IF I SAY YES
- LAND OF CONFUSION
- LYIN' ON A PRAYER
- MEET PETITE
- SHAKE YOU DOWN
- SHIVER
- SHINING OUT
- SLOW RIVERS
- SO COOL THE NIGHT
- SOMETIMES
- STEP RIGHT UP
- SWEET LOVE
- TAKE MY BREATH AWAY
- THE FINAL COUNTDOWN
- THE MIRACLE OF LOVE
- THE RAIN
- THE SKYE BOAT SONG
- WAR
- WATERLOO
- WING UP
- YOU KEEP ME HANGIN' ON

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"Us groovy
chicks want
to get on
down"

Quite. That's what Wham!'s former backing singers Pepsi and Shirlee told George and Andrew anyway. Now they're out there on their own but there seems to be a slight problem, as William Shaw discovers . . .

It's Shirlee and Pepsi! "No, it's not. Pepsi and Shirlee sounds far better," protests an indignant voice from the other side of the room.

The two ex-backing singers from Wham! are having a bit of an "argument." They're in a dressing room getting ready for a photo session. Shirlee is ironing a blouse for Pepsi while Pepsi is having her make-up done. And while this is going on they're gradually raising their voices over that vexed question—should it be "Pepsi and Shirlee" or "Shirlee and Pepsi"? Actually it sounds like a discussion that they've had a few times before.

"It really makes no difference to me."

"Well," says Shirlee in mock resignation, "it makes her happy. . . a simple little thing like that makes her happy. . ."

"It's up to you," says Pepsi, sounding a little miffed. "But in our record contract it's Pepsi and Shirlee."

"You see," says Shirlee, pretending to ignore Pepsi's interruption, "I'll always say 'Shirlee and Pepsi' . . . in my head. I just think 'Shirlee and Pepsi.' She begins to giggle, sensing that she's managed to well and truly wear up her singing partner. "And I think you'll find that most intellectuals will agree with me."

"Oooooohhh! Intellectual! Very Adrian Mole," splutters Pepsi, making life difficult for the woman doing her make-up. "Well," Shirlee goes on, not wanting to let the matter drop, "you say 'sall and pepper,' don't you? I mean, let's get technical about this, shall we?"

Whatever, their record company really does bill them as 'Pepsi and Shirlee.' And that's Shirlee, who was one of the original backing singers with Dee C. Lee back in the Wham! "Young Guns" days, and Pepsi who teamed up with them when Dee joined forces with The Style Council.

It's been more than six months since Wham!'s final concert at Wembley and now Pepsi and Shirlee (*Sure about that? - Ed*) are releasing their "debut" single, "Heartache". Apart from this sudden burst of activity, Shirlee has been hanging around in her beautiful, luxurious house that she shares with her boyfriend, Martin Kemp of Spandau Ballet.

They've also spent odd moments in the recording studio but they've done no performing at all—unless you count them singing for charity at St Paul's Cathedral, or Pepsi rehearsing a part in a Buddhist musical version of *Alice In Wonderland* in which she's going to play a giant hamburger. . . A giant hamburger in a Buddhist musical? Yes, but that's all she's saying.

In fact, both Pepsi and Shirlee

are practising Buddhists: they both "chant" a great deal and "read an awful lot of books about it," though Shirlee says Pepsi is "a lot more advanced at it than I am." Anyway, back to their new career as backing singers turned pop stars.

"Mmm," says Shirlee, "people will be a bit cynical, but they'll get over it."
"We'll get slagged off rotten," says Pepsi laughing at the prospect.
"Do you think that the single sounds 'Wham'-my?" asks Shirlee. "We certainly didn't set out to sound 'Wham'-my."



▲ George Michael, Pepsi and Shirlee in China, 1995: "I'm just glad we don't have to wear all those horrible things and do ridiculous dance routines. We're not very good at any more."

Someone else wrote it and presented it to us and we said, 'Yeah, we'll do it.'"

"The reason we did it was 'cause we like it," says Pepsi, "and if it does sound 'Wham'-my, so what?"

"It's funny," continues Shirlee, "some people did ask us whether George sang on it. In fact we went out of our way to make sure that he was nowhere near when we recorded it. We've made sure he's had nothing to do with it. If we'd really wanted him to do it he would have, but you know what people would have said. Him and Andrew have heard all our stuff though—well, Andrew hasn't heard this single yet. They're our biggest fans."

"George couldn't believe it!" announces Pepsi.

"He said 'You two are going to do well,'" Shirlee interrupts. "In fact my mum said we're going to do well, so we're bound to, aren't we?"

Shirlee says that she's actually ridiculously confident about how well they're going to do. She's been planning this for ages, since well before the Wham! split, in fact. At first they were both aiming to go solo, but Shirlee decided it would be far too boring.

"I thought I'd hate it on my own. First I asked a friend of mine to do it, but . . . erm, she wasn't a very good singer."

"So she had to persuade me to do it," interrupts Pepsi.

"Yeah," lies Shirlee, "I had to buy her a fur coat."

Because I was basically doing my own songwriting and trying to get my own record deal, but it didn't work out. So I just

called up Shirlee and said, 'Yeah, let's do it.'"

So by the time Wham! split, Shirlee and Pepsi had already been planning for a year and a half. All the same, the pair of them must have been a bit upset when George told them that he was going to disband the group.

"Upset??? No. I was excited; blurs 'Shit!'" "I was waiting for the split! In fact I went up to them and said, 'Look guys, you're both getting old. Us groovy chicks want to get on down!'"

"The whole reason they split was because we were getting together," grins Pepsi.

Oh. But you must have been a bit sad. Surely you shed one or two tears at that final Wembley concert?

"No, I didn't. I was quite glad really," protests Shirlee.

Pepsi: "I think we were both glad."

"I'm just really glad that we don't have to wear all those horrible things and do ridiculous dance routines that we're not very good at," explains Shirlee. "I hate dance routines. I was absolutely useless at them. I'd try so hard to concentrate on getting them right that I looked hopeless. And the costumes . . ."

What, like that "lovely" air hostess costume you had to wear in the "Club Tropicana" video when Dee C. Lee was still in the group?

Shirlee: "That was hysterical!"



▲ Andrew Ridgeley, Dee C. Lee, Shirlee and Pepsi in the "Club Tropicana" video, 1985: "We looked like we worked in Woolworth. It was one of the most revolting air hostess uniforms ever designed."

Dee and I thought we looked like we worked in Woolworths. It was one of the most revolting air hostess uniforms ever designed. But the whole thing was meant as a joke anyway so it was quite funny. But some of the things that we were seriously asked to wear on tour! You're supposed to be looking glamorous and beautiful and all you can think is 'God! I look really stupid!'"

"There was one outfit that made me look like a lollipop wrapper," grins Pepsi.

And, of course, the other thing they don't miss is all the "news"papers hounding them for stories about George and Andrew.

"We used to get approached all the time," says Shirlee. "I remember I did one with The Sun



▲ Pepsi and Shirlee in cowboy outfits on stage for "Young Guns", 1984: "All you can think is 'God, I look really stupid!'"

when we were still with the group and they said 'We want a story about how you met the group' and I just went along and said 'Yeah, I met them like this.' And in the end it turned out as 'The Love Affair I Had With Wham!'"

In other words the "news"paper had cobbled together a load of old nonsense and thrown in a bit about when Shirlee did have a birrova fling with Andrew.

One story that is actually true about the "old days" is that Shirlee taught Andrew how to drive. Actually he wasn't very good even then, was he?

"No," agrees Shirlee. "I remember the first time I took him out he was sweating so much his t-shirt was completely wet. . . Luckily we were going round country lanes so there wasn't anything serious to hit. I told him to turn right—change gear and indicate. So he went straight for a bush. We were OK, but he nearly ran over a horse. No, he wasn't too bad, but I'll never teach anyone again."

Shirlee has now finished ironing her blouse and Pepsi is examining her make-up in the dressing room mirror. It's time to depart and let them change.

"Come on, Dons," says Shirlee. "Hurry up."

"Hey, shut up!" retorts Pepsi. Dons and Shirlee??? Now that has a certain ring to it, does it not?





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FROM JAN 16 IN THE WEST END and ALL OVER LONDON & SOUTH EAST and YORKSHIRE

BONG! Wake up, viewers. Type here. **Black Type.** You remember me. **Smash Hits'** esteemed and distinguished Letters editor, **Corky O'orky**, what a lot of snoozers you are. There I was in the shower, toying with my soap on a rope (£1.99 from Boots and all good High Street chemist outlets) snip! and whistling a vetted selection of popular tunes (most, it has to be said, by Red Box - my tip for the top in '87) when in stumbled Mr Perkins looking for his prunning shears or somesuch. "Oh, hallo," said Mr Perkins (the most boring man in the world), slightly puzzled look animating his brow. "We thought that you were dead. But now it appears that you are not. It's a rum old business and no mistake. Mrs Perkins will be disappointed!" Charming!! Anyway, further investigations into the affair led me to the conclusion that the entire readership of **Smash Hits** has been asleep for the last couple of months and has been sleeping a ghoulish and vivid nightmare in which I was murdered by a gigantic Thermo flask or something. But, viewers, it is simply not true. In fact, nothing that's happened since my "demise" before Christmas has been as at all boring as you imagined the whole thing and that includes the Readers Poll Results which, as every fool should have realised, were, in fact, swept up by R. Box, Sir Clifford Richard (Lord Clifford since the Honours), She-Ra, Wincey Willis and Jayne Christoper and Christopher Dean (Burrall! Hejdelche!). . . On the other hand, perhaps it was I who had the nasty dream. It's so very hard to tell, isn't it? Still, let us press on regardless. Avanti!!!!

Dear Black Type,
Raspberries galore to the idiot who "penned" the article on "The Rock Show" in Gibraltar (December 17).
You seem to have really enjoyed exploiting "backward" Gib. Well, let me tell you - it's not our fault we are so old-fashioned. The only ever pop "band" that has visited Old Gib is China Crisis (oh, and Gerry And The Pacemakers about five years ago - haven't we been "favoured"?). I, personally, am not a true Gibraltarian being half Irish (cheers Bob) and born in London, but still I am proud of my "Gibbo" blood.
When I found out that Go West were coming to do the rock, I was ecstatic seeing as they're my fave group. And I'm not impartial to Paul Young either. Admittedly, not all Gibraltarians had a clue who half the bands performing were but taking into account our condescension of pop rock, it is not surprising. Most of them don't seem to have realised that Bob Marley died a century ago and that Flamenco is not in fashion.
Anyway, I too skipped school and skipped to Eastern Beach to see my idols. We enjoyed the concert tremendously and we even clapped at the end of each song.
So having got that off my chest, I'll just pop down to my newspapers and buy a copy of the Gib Chronicle which, incidentally, is much more informative and

LETTERS

WRITE TO **Smash Hits**, 56-58 Canaby Street, London W1V 0HF
The most splendid letters get a CD record token and a **Black Type** tea towel. Everyone else gets a commissioner's pencil (i.e. a badge)

entertaining than **Her Vits** (ahem) **Noleem**, *The Girl Meant For Peter Cox*. Gibraltar.

You clapped at the end of each song? Are you sure you're not getting confused with the Gerry And The Pacemakers concert? What an enormous bunch you Falkland Islanders (or wherever it is!) must be! Coo!

Dear Kaz Frisbee (Letters, December 17).
So Nick Kamen is an effeminate, blobby-nosed greaseball is he? Why oh why, then, pray tell, has he got 89% of the world's female population drooling over his dreamsome face (and other bits)? And if Jon Bon Jovi is not effeminate then who is?!? Dear Santa, please can I have some long, ringlety goldlocks like his for Christmas and some of that v. pretty make up that he wears too? (Thank you.)
Nickpoos has not got a labby bod either. If he had then he would not have had such a successful career as a male model nor would he have been chosen to do the 50! ad. (So there.)

There is no doubt that Nick Kamen is one of the most beautiful males ever to invade the pop world, so why, **Smash Hits**, did he not win the "Most Fanciable Male" section in your Readers' Poll? I voted for him, but he didn't even appear in the "runners up"!!!! I demand an explanation. Someone who would really like to get her teeth into Nick Kamen, *Notting Hill Gate, London Laundrette* (well, actually I'm from York, but there are hardly any laundrettes here because everyone's got their own washing machines).

Dear Black Type,
Ever since seeing a picture of A-ha in which Mags and Pal were both wearing braces AND belts, and Morten was wearing TWO belts, I wondered if Norwegian jeans were attracted to the ground by the strange, mystical forces of gravity more than most jeans were or if, maybe, this was just part of a strange Norwegian religious cult.
At last I have discovered the true reason for this unusual practice. Yes, the truth is that those poor, innocent Norwegians are suffering from the fearful and frightsome "restless jeans syndrome".
I came across this disturbing fact while listening to "Whales" (a song on A-ha's new LP) where Morten reveals all with a heart-rendering and sorrowful line that goes thus: "Restlessness is in our jeans. . ."
Yes, indeed, it brought tears to my eyes to think of these poor hapless creatures having to suffer unmentionable agonies from the

frantic activities taking place in their trousers. Can nothing save them?
An Extremely Concerned Leather Bracelet, *Glastonbury, Somerset*.
P.S. What does Mr "incredibly boring" Perkins have to say about this?

A-ha? There's always a commotion going on in their trousers. As for Mr Perkins, I could not draw him to comment on your quandary except to say that he swears by braces only the elastic tends to go if Mrs Perkins puts them through a hot wash'n/rinse cycle and as for Mrs Perkins well she wouldn't be seen dead in trousers after all you never catch our lovely Princess Diana in a pair of trousers do you why it's most unladylike though she suspects that Princess Michael of Kent who has brought such untold vexation to our gracious majesty probably slops around in a pair of trousers doing nothing (Sniiiiiiiit). . . Have a token'towel, Bracelet, for putting up with the royalist rantings of the world's most pedulous man (i.e. Mrs Perkins). . .

You know Mark Ooto from F.D.G.T.H? He looks like Adolph with a moustache. Woh! Hitler. Heav! Woh! What does this "Woh" mean? Zymen le Bon say it. . . "WOH!". Does he?!!!! Yeh! At end of song he say "woh woh". I luv you. A revver from me. Ciao! *Christina And Darjo, Forest Gate, London*.

A Publisher writes: Nice to have some comprehensible correspondence for a change, don't you think, Miss Pringle? I say, Miss Pringle. . . you are not wearing your horn-rimmed spectacles this morning. And that scent, Miss Pringle. . . I suggest we adjourn for a highly expensive and lengthy luncheon somewhere discreet where we might go through a few, ahem, "invoices" and suchli (Sniiiiiiiit!) Be off with you silly old sod. - BT

Dear idiot who thinks people dressed up as mice are stupid (re. advert for next fortnight's **Smash Hits**, December 31).
If you look close enough you will see that the so-called "idiot" in the costume is, in fact, meant to be a KANGAROO (i.e. a thing that jumps up and down in Australia).
An Extremely Annoyed Idiot, *Sidcup, Kent*.

I do so agree with you. Why, I dressed up as Roland Orzabal once and look where that got me!

(????? Are you SURE you're not dead? - Ed.) Quite sure, thank you. Next!

Dear Successor To The Dearly Beloved And Sadly Departed Black Type (Wake up you fool! Yoo hoo! 'C'est moi, Black Type!).

I would like to clear up a couple of points about your infamous Readers' Poll. I am afraid I must disagree with your readers on a few fundamental points.
1. The "Most Completely Useless Person": Surely Ronald Reagan (9th) is more useless/less useful (delete as applicable) than George Michael (1st)? I mean, have you seen old Ron in tight leather pants recently?
2. The "Best Non-Music TV Programme": I think that *Brookside* is the rightful winner - nobody in their right mind would call EastEnders a non-music programme. . . (Besides which I fancy Simon 'I wear very tight jeans' O'Brien!!)
3. The "Most Very Horrible Thing": Isth George Michael, 3rd Spiders? Hah! I know which I'd prefer to find in my bath!
And while I'm here, I'd just like to give your postman a hernia by observing that most of Duran Duran's fans seem to have defected to the A-ha camp; they have obviously recognised the extreme "wit" and "good taste" of the trio. . . (See Morten and Pal's poll choices for details.) Prepare for the battle of the teenies!!! Sindy dolls ahoy!! *Caron 'I Went To See An A-ha Concert And Thought The Support Band Were Ten Times Better'* *Smith, Zaynes Park, London*.

The battle of the teenies be blowed. What about the battle of the gonks? Barbie dolls ahoy!!!! I've said it once and I'll say it again: Sindy is a weed! Hah! And now a "free-for-all" to Barbie's paramour e.g. Ken:
Ode To Ken
Oh Ken, Ken, Ken, Ken, Ken, Ken, Ken
With your plastic head
You are magnificent
Voila!

To put an end to all claims and counter claims re **Black Type's** very timely death, we take the responsibility - the sole responsibility - for **Black Type's** assassination because of its ultra-conservative, revisionist, right wing tendencies and because it had been wearing a black t-shirt for a long time. Long live the red t-shirts. In fact, long live anything red. *The Commanders Simply Red Box Brigade And The Paul Waller Red Wedge International Freedom Fighter Commandos*.

1. You are having a very bad dream and it is high time you got out of bed.
2. I am not wearing a black t-shirt. In fact, I am wearing a "groovy" way of saying "in fact" which came to me in a dream, I am wearing a blue, yellow and red t-shirt with the Red Box on the front.
3. Long live Red Teleguns.
4. Byeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee!
5. For Gawd's sake, keep awake this time, youveur!!
6. Byeee (again). . .
7. P.S. It's jolly good fun not being dead. Hoorsy!!!

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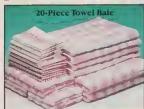
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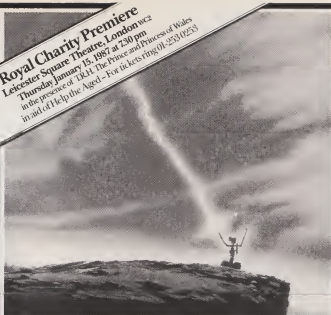
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REVIEW SINGLES



REVIEWED BY WILLIAM SHAW



SAM MOORE AND LOU REED: Soul Man (A&M)

The original "Soul Man" was sung 20 years ago now by a duo called Sam and Dave. Last year Sam decided to re-record the song as the title track to a forthcoming film *Soul Man*, but he split up from Dave yonks ago, so they had to find another singing partner. Lou Reed was certainly an odd choice. For a start, he's a vestige 1960's weirdo "underground" rock star who can't actually sing for coffee and his voice sounds decidedly croaky alongside the belting vocal chords of Mr Moore. However, as luck would have it, the re-working of this bounding old soul song actually turns out to be...well, quite interesting really! Who would have thought it?

HURRAH!: If Love Could Kill (Kitchenware)

Like their label-mates Prefab Sprout, Hurrah! come from somewhere or other outside of Newcastle, but though they've been around as long they've never had anything that remotely resembled a hit. Not that this new song is likely to change that of course, but it really is quite nice, as mournful, haunting guitar and voice songs go.



ANITA BAKER: Caught Up in the Rapture (WEA)

Anita Baker's songs are sort of pink and fluffy and they have a tendency to send me to sleep. Doubtless scores of

her loyal fans would disagree and insist that she is a truly great "jazz vocalist" but to my ears this suffers from the same malaise as her hit "Sweet Love". There's a few these super smoothie chord changes and far too many bits of ornate, sugary singing.

PAUL JOHNSON: When Love Comes Calling (CBS)

This is the first single by a man who's made quite a reputation for himself as a British gospel singer. It's a lightweight piece of soppy soul that bounces along in a most catchy manner and I've an inkling it may do rather well. Most pleasant.

PAUL JOHNSON



LITTLE RICHARD: Somebody's Comin' (WEA)

One surmises that the "Somebody" Little Richard refers to is in fact God, from the reverential, gospelly manner in which he sings. Long gone are the rampant, wicked days of Little Richard's youth, but what a tinglingly magnificent voice this man still has. It transforms this simple, slow, well-behaved song into something quite remarkable.

STEVIE WONDER: Stranger On The Shore Of Love (Motown)

Despite being a complete genius Stevie Wonder is capable of writing the odd simply wretched song. "I Just Called To Say I Love You" hits many years ago and both quite mad, have written this awful thing that might loosely be described as a rap. The two of them wall away in sort of union in an effort to convert the meat-eating public. Somehow I don't think it will work.

LOVE AND MONEY: River Of People (Mercury)

Hoist the flags, cheer loudly and abandon yourselves to wild behaviour. Amongst this fortnight's somewhat tawdry collection of singles there is this gem by this Glaswegian group. You may remember that they've already had one undeserved flop with last year's rock-along "Candybar Express", which was produced by former Duran Duran "guitarist" Andy Taylor, but perhaps they'll escape such shabby treatment this time with this optimistic, soulful thing that swings along at a joyful pace. Very enjoyable, praise the Lord!

NINA HAGEN AND LENE LOVICH: Don't Kill The Animals (Arista)

Allow me to quote at length: "Life is worth living, the animals are free! If they were meant to be eaten they'd be growing on trees! If we wanna

avoid this endless human riot/ Why don't we start by changing our diet!" Now, wherever the arguments for and against vegetarianism there is simply no excuse at all for this mess. Honestly, it's terrible. These two, who both had individual "punk" hits many years ago and who are both quite mad, have written this awful thing that might loosely be described as a rap. The two of them wall away in sort of union in an effort to convert the meat-eating public. Somehow I don't think it will work.

RUN D.M.C.: You Be Illin' (London)

This is a story about an unintelligent dunderhead who wanders into a Kentucky Fried Chicken emporium and orders some tasty pieces and chips and somehow gets palmed off with a can of dog food which he eats and declares is rather tasty. As stories go, it's quite entertaining, but unfortunately as a single it has got none of the get up and go of "Walk This Way" and is also entirely devoid of those splurging guitars that made that one so utterly brilliant.

THE SMITHEREENS: In A Lonely Place (Enigma)

A boy/girl duo in which the female voice belongs to US folkstress Suzanne Vega. She helped out this not very famous American group by singing in a very wispy voice on this rather charming, soppy strum-along love song and the result is very, very wonderful indeed.



STEVE WINWOOD: Back In The High Life Again (Island)

On the one hand records like this are quite good because they allow people over 30 who are a bit out of touch to maintain an interest in pop music because they all fondly remember a bloke called Steve Winwood being in something called The Spencer Davis Group when they were nippers. On the other hand records like this are a ruddy nuisance because all these people then go out and put it in the charts. This particular one is very tasteful, very chirpy, full of strumming jingly guitar bits, a bit more laid back than "Higher Love", and rather unexciting.

PHIL LYNOTT: King's Call (Vertigo)

Macabre, I call it. Here we have one dead pop star singing about another dead pop star. Brrr. The "King" is Elvis Presley, and Lynott recorded this doomy, lugubrious "tribute" to him back in 1980 helped out by the guitar and vocals of "Mumbling" Mark Knopfler. One day somebody will bring in a law that decrees that all posthumous singles are banned until five years after the pop star's death and that way none of us will find ourselves suspecting that posthumous singles are a bit of a "cash in", will we!

JULIAN COPE: Trampoline (Island)

What a talented person the Rt. Hon. Julian Cope is. There are so many boringly unimaginative love songs about the "my love is like a flower" ilk. Only Julian would liken his love to a trampoline. One minute you're up, the next you're down, eh? And then BOOOOING, you're up again. So true, so very true. Of course the other thing about Julian Cope is that his spelling is hopeless. T-R-A-M-P-O-L-I-N-E. Not E-N-E. Got it? Now run along and write another few classics please.

SINGLE OF THE FORTNIGHT



Photo: LP

ARETHA FRANKLIN AND GEORGE MICHAEL: I Knew You Were Waiting For Me (Epic)

As a musical partner for George Michael, she who has been dubbed "The Queen Of Soul" is probably rather more talented than Andrew Ridgeley, and what's more she's been at it since George was a mere stripling! So could this be post-Wham! George trying to reach a more "serious" audience by teaming up with a "soul legend"? Yes, it probably could. And how does he acquit himself? Not too badly at all, really, in spite of the fact that the soul song they've chosen isn't really up to much, they both have a fine old time swapping lines and belting them out boisterously at the top of their voices, and the whole thing turns out to be very - jolly indeed. Good-oh!

CONCERT

THE JESUS AND MARY CHAIN London

The Jesus And Mary Chain never used to be any good at playing live. When they first started they were usually so abominably drunk on stage that they kept falling over all the time. Then when they did play all you'd get was four people standing around and looking sulky as they delivered loud noise for 20 minutes or so before they wandered off stage. Now, though, in their first proper concert since their hit single "Some Candy Talking", an astonishing transformation has taken place.

For starters, these days, they play for well over an hour. And singer Jim Reid, who used to be just slumped motionless over the microphone, now appears to have gone completely mental. He crouches down on stage, rocking the small "monitor" speaker in front of him back and forth, or he kneels forward with his forehead touching the stage while he sings. During one song - "Inside Me" - he gets all worked up and sets about demolishing his microphone stand by flailing it about hither and thither, and when it comes to "Inside My Head" he picks up a nearby guitar and then casually drops it - THUNK! - on to the stage.

Between songs, he is completely silent, wandering off absent-mindedly while the others go off into a huddle - presumably to decide what song they're going to do next. At one point Jim actually seems to drift off into a world of his own, lifting up the microphone and dropping it down, picking it up, dropping it, picking it up, dropping it, to see what noise it makes. Very curious.

As for the rest of the group, which now includes a new drummer and guitarist, well... one imagines that their mothers often tell them to stop ruddy well slouching: in fact, their heads are permanently fixed on their guitars. But, although the music's still completely rough and ragged, and they don't always seem to play the right notes, the whole thing's definitely a lot more organised than it used to be.

Since the success of the single they've obviously won a lot of new, more "ordinary-looking" fans who've come to witness this slightly menacing spectacle, but there's still hundreds upon hundreds of black-clad boys who cram around the stage in a sweaty mass, executing an exhausting "dance" which consists of jumping up and down and pushing and shoving everyone around them and trying hard not to fall over, and shouting abuse at the group in the quieter moments. The group naturally don't take the slightest bit of notice and the moment they have worked their way through their lengthy performance they slope off stage with no intention at all of coming back for an encore.

Strange, but in their own sulky and demented way, The Jesus And Mary Chain have now become a brilliant live act.

William Shaw



▲ "Mad" Jim Reid scratching his head and wondering where his microphone stand is



▲ "Mad" Jim and his brother William looking for the mike stand



▲ "Excuse me," says "Mad" Jim, "has anybody out there seen my mike stand?"

NICK BERRY: Nick Berry

(BEC) Nick Berry may be jolly good at pulling cheeky smirks in the boozier and saying "Leave it sit, Mum, sing!" and winking at the Mary the so-called punk etc. etc. but a pop singer he is not... and he knows it. His apologetic warblings on this hastily assembled (and as embarrassing as the songs aren't much cop neither - though it has to be said that the horrendously mawkish "chart topper" "Every Loser Who's Ever" is the worst. Elsewhere we find some tinky country and western-sounding tunes courtesy of Mike Bate (who invented the Wombles), some mediocre pop courtesy of Andy Hill (who invented Bucks Fizz) and a half-hearted attempt at soul which still remains namby. Dear oh dear oh dear oh dear. Why oh why oh why oh why! As N. Berry is the first to admit, this is simply not very good. (1 out of 10)

Tom Hibbert

very pleasant if you're one of the mega-billions who "dig" the Koolhaas, but if you're not, then the LP, like the formula, the title and probably the group, will go on for ever and ever and ever... (4 out of 10)

Derrin Schlesinger

BORIS GARDINER: Everything To Me

(Creole) And so that all-important question raises its ugly head once more. Who's Boris Gardiner and why is he doing this to us? (That's two questions, ockleho - a smart "ole.") It was bad enough having to suffer "I Wanna Wake Up With You" at the top of the flungaway charts a few months back but the 12 little gems included here are really pushing things just a bit too far. "Kiss To You" and "Cara Mia" meander along in a not unpleasant manner but that's the only good news and Boris himself still looks like a member of the 1970 Brazilian World Cup squad. (3 out of 10)

Barry McIlheney

GREGORY ABBOTT: Shake You Down (CBS)

This is what might unfortunately be termed a "smoochie" record. Right sensitive, spare, gentle, slow-paced, rhythmic, tender, harmoniously crooned "ballads" about L.O.V.E. all in the same vein as his single "Shake You Down" and each one showing that Gregory is quite one of the most accomplished singers of "smoochie" songs in the spinnery. By the by, did you know that Gregory Abbott is actually Professor Gregory Abbott and that he gave up his academic career to become a singer of "smoochie" songs instead? (5 out of 10)

William Shaw

SOFT CELL: The Singles

(Phonogram) Melodramatic, hysterical and fit of pique ahoy! "Soft Cell: The Singles" is the land of bedded blues, clubland capers and lovers' laments, all part sung/part spoken/part acted out by that great dramatist of electro-pop Marc Almond. Employing a technique guaranteed to wring the last squill-drop of emotion out of every note, he wails, whispers and warbles his way through the group's 10 singles, packed into the years between '81 and '84 before they disappeared in a puff of smoke and spike up. Behind all this lyrical trauma, Dave Ball twiddles the knobs of his synthesizer to a deadpan, steady beat, especially designed to show up what a great big show-off Marc really is. Oh yes, Soft Cell were totally brilliant, and so's the LP. A dead cert to have 'em blubbing in the asses. (9 out of 10)

Derrin Schlesinger

KOOL & THE GANG: Forever (Phonogram)

Take one set of co-ordinated spangled outfits, one set of co-ordinated toothsome smiles, intersperse blues of brass section type parings, platter on layer after layer of useless old pop clichés ("people get ready", "let the party begin", "spread the word" etc) and you cross someone backing vocals on chorus and all to fade. Freshly, rub hands together smartly whilst running all the way to the bank. In other words, Kool & The Gang are onto a very nice little money spinner: millions of records, making millions of dollars and writing songs to a formula. This LP's all



William Shaw



THE DAMNED: Anything

(MCA) The Damned used to be a "punk" band way back in 1976 when you could go out for the night, buy 10 fish suppers and still have change from a shilling. Then they split up because they were no good any more, then they got back together again and they weren't really a punk band any more. Instead they became quite famous because Captain Sensible played with them, because singer Dave Vanian looked like Dracula and because they used to be a punk band. Nowadays though they're just another "rock" band. Anyway, "Anything" includes the single of the same name, some rather fancy piano doodlings here and there and a few thumping rock anthems like "Psychomania" and "Festiva". As very nice if you like the sort of black comedy rock but not much fun otherwise. Wonder what happened to the Captain! (5 out of 10)

Barry McIlheney

MICRODISNEY: Crooked Mile

(Virgin) Microdisney are a rather odd pop group from Ireland with a rather odd name. Nobody knows quite why they ever decided to call themselves Microdisney, being neither particularly small nor being any great resemblance to any famous cartoon characters, but Microdisney they are and this is their first "proper" LP. "Crooked Mile" has obviously had about a squillion pounds spent on it and it shows in the big "production" here which does not seem to smooth out the rather attractive rough edges as Cathal Coughlan and Sean O'Hagan's songs. Still, singer and lyricist Cathal continues to write lines like "the Anglo-Saxons make their love in frogman suits and boxing gloves" (!) and it's his quirky contributions without that make "Crooked Mile" (ie Microdisney, one of the more exciting discoveries of the New Year. (8 out of 10)

Barry McIlheney

GRANGE HILL CAST: Grange Hill - The Album

(BBC) If there has ever been anything more bizarre in the history of popular music than Grange Hill's Imelda singing Cymdeiriau's "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun", it is probably Grange Hill's Banksie singing Dave Straits' "The Walk Of Life". And if there has ever been anything more bizarre than that, it must be Grange Hill's Ant singing of all things, "I Don't Like Mondays". In fact, this whole LP is very bizarre indeed. One side consists of "old favourites", the other of not particularly good songs about school written by Grange Hill's creator Phil Redmond and Steve Wignall (who wrote the Brookside theme) plus "Just Say No" - Is it any good? In fact, it's a Ricky Simmons. (And is the only member of the Grange Hill cast who appears able to sing at all. It there's any point to it? Er, you tell me mate. I can't work it out at all. Very, very... RUM. (3 out of 10)

Tom Hibbert

PEGGY SUE GOT MARRIED (15) 103 mins

From the moment when Peggy Sue, a housewife just about to get divorced from her useless husband Charlie, walks into her 25th High School Class Reunion and says "If I knew then what I know now, I'd do things a lot differently", you just know that any moment the world's going to go all black and swirly and she's going to go careering back into the past a la Back To The Future.

And, lo and behold, so she does - back to 1959 where she soon gets over her rather irresponsible urges to do things like "go to Liverpool and discover the Beatles" and settles down to really important matters - should she still get engaged to Charlie knowing that in 25 years time he'll be the biggest rat in the universe, or should she consummate her secret lust for Michael Fitzsimmons, an athletic, mysterious beatnik who sits in cafes reading books all the time! And what's the use anyway if everything's going to still be as horrible when she gets back to 1986? If she does get back, that is...

Bit by bit all these questions are answered as the film wanders on in a way that couldn't, in fact, be much further removed from Back To The Future. There's no huge explosions, no ridiculous twists (apart from the time travel itself) and no side-splitting jokes - instead Peggy Sue Got Married is just quiet, thoughtful and really rather touching.

Chris Heath



▲ Two people with funny clothes on

▲ Two people



▲ Dany D'Angelo and his mates "putting their heads together".

Booi Rings here. That's Mutterings to you, ship goods. Yes sirees, now's this for a "hot" item? **Andy Bell** of **Erasure** had to stop recording right in the middle of a brand, spanking new LP because... because... his appendix exploded! Whooooo nee???????? So that's all from Mutterings for another issue.

Byeeeeeeeeeeeeee!!! (What on earth are you talking about? We've got quite a lot of space to fill up here, you know - Ed.) Oh, Okay, okay, old timer. Let's go back to poor Mr Bell from Erasure who was really quite poorly and had to be operated on by a nice doctor but he's okay now so hurrah! Get very well soon big boy!... And being of bursty energy what do

George Michael and **Andrew Ridgeley** have in common? Give up? That's right! Not only did they both used to be in **Wham!** but also George has been busy crashing his super Mercedes sports car (well, he's crashed it twice) just like his erstwhile pal!... And here's another brain buster: What is sometimes "all lary and warm" but sometimes "all scratchy and it hurts"? Give up? That's right - that's how modern **Madonna** describes being in love with **Sean Penn**...

And talking of Sean Penn, did you know that **Jimmy Somerville** had said the world that he actually thinks Sean is "handsome"? And talking of Jimmy Somerville, did you know that **Alexander** extraordinaire (see his skin problem) i.e. **Gary Moore** has told the world that Jimmy is an "ugly, no-talent creep"? Grrrr!!!

Jings!... And here comes yet another mind twizzler, what do **Elkie Brooks** and **Keren Woodward** of the **Pams** (i.e. **Bananarama**) have in common? That's right - they've both just given birth to little baby boys. Elkie's is called Joseph and Keren's isn't because it's called Thomas... Mind twizzler 2: What do **Wethor** **Theresa** of **Calcutta** and **Manchester's** **Piccadilly** **Radio DJ Tim Grundy** have in common? Give up? That's right - they're both lolly pood gods. Mother Theresa because she's a lolly good egg in general and Tim Grundy because he recently refused to play **Nick Berry's** "Every Loser Wins" on his show because he thinks it is "appalling rubbish". And for this act of unblemished generosity to Manchester's innocent radio listeners, Tim almost got the sack. What cheek!... Mind twizzler 3: What do **Pat Benatar** and **Margaret Thatcher** have in common? That's right, they both have voices like chainsaws! But the real

answer is that "Saucy" **Samantha Fox** admits them both supremely. Grrrr!!! And talking of Saucy Samuel, did you know that the buxom groover is about to launch a brand of cosmetics called **Jumela**? Well, according to a certain "news" paper, she is but it's probably not true because, say "reports", the key ingredient of the Jumela range is to be crushed pearls which means that a tub of moisturiser would cost about a squillion pounds which doesn't strike Mutterings as overly likely. And still talking of Saucy Sir Samuel, here is all the latest low-down on her get dog **Banza**. Fact 1: **Banza** is a bichon frise (whatever that is). Fact 2: It was acquired by a friend of Samuel's when she (the friend) went into **Fiamco** to buy a shower curtain but ended up purchasing the dog instead and when she (the friend) got it (the dog) home, it (the dog) ate her (the friend's) husband's shoes and he (the husband) got rather cross so she (the friend) gave it (the dog) to Saucy Samuel. So there we have it, **Murrah!**... Mind twizzler 4: What do **Prince William** and **Princo Harry** have in common? That's right - they're both snooty

little princes. But the real answer is they've both been given leery weeny tour jackets as presents from **Genesis** and **Dire Straits** and **Eurythmics**. Cool!... Mind twizzler 5: What do **Dire Straits**, **Genesis** and **Eurythmics** have in common? That's right - they're all appalling crawlers **Royal Family**-wise... Mind twizzler 6: What do **Larry Blackmon** of **Cameo** and **Jackie Wilson** have in common? That's right - they both appeared on stage together dancing the mashed potato (stupid American dance) when **Larry** was just five! (Actually, Larry was just a member of the audience at a Jackie Wilson show and his grandmother popped him up onto the stage for a wheeze.) And talking of the late Jackie Wilson, did you know that since he's had a posthumous Number 1 hit with "Feel Right" no less than three women have turned up claiming to be his ex-wife and demanding royalties from his disc?... And here's a thing! Before **Elton John** was taken poorly, he and director **Russell Mulcahy** popped over to **Sylvester Stallone's** for a drink and **Elit** and **Russ** thought it would be a great wheeze to show

Syl some videos of this great English TV program (the happened to have in the car. The programme in question was **Spitting Image** featuring a puppet of **Sylvester "gnip"** **Stallone** himself! And when **Rambo** saw his puppet he got so mad he threw the telly and the video recorder out the window. **Crikey!**... and back to mind twizzler 7: What do **Phillip Michael Thomas** (aka **Tubby** in **Miami Vice**) and **Morten Harket** have in common? That's right - **PMT** sleeps under a six foot pyramid to enhance his "creative" powers and **Morten Harket** doesn't. But **Morten** did used to live in a cage. Well, he didn't actually, but his parents did used to lock him up in a cage whenever he was naughty. Well, they didn't actually, but according to a certain "news" paper they did, so it must be true. **Musn't**? What is definitely true is that certain American astrologers have been making predictions like **Madonna** will give birth to twins and **Sex** will invite the press in to strap the lols.

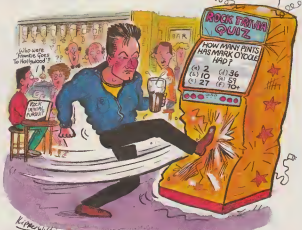
Michael J. Fox will have an accident at **Niagara Falls**. **Joan Collins** will fall in love with **Paul Hogan**. **Jon Bon Jovi**

will turn into a pot of French mustard and eat himself... **Paul McCartney** will have a number one hit with a reggae version of "Everybody Wants To Run The World" (except he won't)... **Cyndi Lauper** will get married to her boyfriend whilst dressed as a couple's clerk and **Ian "Joe"** **Granna** will be the best man - **Dire Straits** will split up and **Mark Knopfer** will retire to a Tibetan monastery before returning as the co-host of a BBC2 series about ornithology with **Bill Oddie**. **Cactus World News** will split up (golly). **Bono** of **U2** will record a solo LP produced by the **Rev Ian Paisley**.

Dave will finally accept a presenter's job on **Blue Peter** but will be sacked after three weeks for refusing to go out on the new **Lands End** **Infoboo**. **Bryan Ferry** will be given an OBE in the **Queen's Birthday Honours List** for his services to crooning over the last 300 years... **Kevin Rowland** of **Dexys Midnight Runners** will take over from **Leslie Crowther** as the presenter of **Ant and Dec's Saturday Night** but will be sacked after three days for headbutting one of the contestants... **Lionel Blair** will be appointed features editor of a new pop magazine to be launched in April but will resign after the first issue because he is refused the offer to make his regular appearance on **This Is Your Life**... **Morten of A-ha** will make his acting debut as **Mark Grant's** new boyfriend in **Brookside** but will leave after three episodes because he's useless and he doesn't get on with **Harry Cross**. **Madonna** will divorce **Sean Penn** and start going out with **Aled Jones** before leaving him because his woe finally gives all husky... **Boris Becker** will have a number one hit with his megamix version of "So Do I, Mate", starting a whole series of singles by nice German tennis players...

And **Black Type** will finally die peacefully after kissing the world goodnight with his dying words, "oh what I would give for one more cante of **Um Bongo** (he drink it in the Congo)... just you wait and see!!!!!!!

... Mind twizzler 3: What do **Pat Benatar** and **Margaret Thatcher** have in common? That's right, they both have voices like chainsaws! But the real answer is that "Saucy" Samantha Fox admits them both supremely. Grrrr!!! And talking of Saucy Samuel, did you know that the buxom groover is about to launch a brand of cosmetics called Jumela? Well, according to a certain "news" paper, she is but it's probably not true because, say "reports", the key ingredient of the Jumela range is to be crushed pearls which means that a tub of moisturiser would cost about a squillion pounds which doesn't strike Mutterings as overly likely. And still talking of Saucy Sir Samuel, here is all the latest low-down on her get dog Banza. Fact 1: Banza is a bichon frise (whatever that is). Fact 2: It was acquired by a friend of Samuel's when she (the friend) went into Fiamco to buy a shower curtain but ended up purchasing the dog instead and when she (the friend) got it (the dog) home, it (the dog) ate her (the friend's) husband's shoes and he (the husband) got rather cross so she (the friend) gave it (the dog) to Saucy Samuel. So there we have it, Murrah!... Mind twizzler 4: What do Prince William and Princo Harry have in common? That's right - they're both snooty little princes. But the real answer is they've both been given leery weeny tour jackets as presents from Genesis and Dire Straits and Eurythmics. Cool!... Mind twizzler 5: What do Dire Straits, Genesis and Eurythmics have in common? That's right - they're all appalling crawlers Royal Family-wise... Mind twizzler 6: What do Larry Blackmon of Cameo and Jackie Wilson have in common? That's right - they both appeared on stage together dancing the mashed potato (stupid American dance) when Larry was just five! (Actually, Larry was just a member of the audience at a Jackie Wilson show and his grandmother popped him up onto the stage for a wheeze.) And talking of the late Jackie Wilson, did you know that since he's had a posthumous Number 1 hit with "Feel Right" no less than three women have turned up claiming to be his ex-wife and demanding royalties from his disc?... And here's a thing! Before Elton John was taken poorly, he and director Russell Mulcahy popped over to Sylvester Stallone's for a drink and Elit and Russ thought it would be a great wheeze to show Syl some videos of this great English TV program (the happened to have in the car. The programme in question was Spitting Image featuring a puppet of Sylvester "gnip" Stallone himself! And when Rambo saw his puppet he got so mad he threw the telly and the video recorder out the window. Crikey!... and back to mind twizzler 7: What do Phillip Michael Thomas (aka Tubby in Miami Vice) and Morten Harket have in common? That's right - PMT sleeps under a six foot pyramid to enhance his "creative" powers and Morten Harket doesn't. But Morten did used to live in a cage. Well, he didn't actually, but his parents did used to lock him up in a cage whenever he was naughty. Well, they didn't actually, but according to a certain "news" paper they did, so it must be true. Musn't? What is definitely true is that certain American astrologers have been making predictions like Madonna will give birth to twins and Sex will invite the press in to strap the lols. Michael J. Fox will have an accident at Niagara Falls. Joan Collins will fall in love with Paul Hogan. Jon Bon Jovi



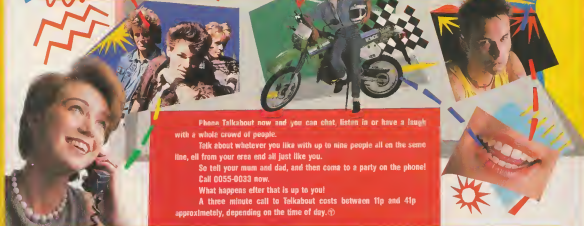
Mark O'Toole of **Frankie Goes To Hollywood** was "spotted" in a London pub kicking and swearing at a trivia quiz machine after it had asked the question "Who did Midge Ure marry?" and gave as one of the possible candidates **Laura Cairn**... **Mark's** fiancée!

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