

MAD RAT MAGAZINE

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

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issue #16 December '06

Merry Christmas to all our readers

Comprehensive Gig Guide
CD and Gig Reviews
New Bands & Clubs
Interviews

December edition



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SPIKE SPOUTS



In a month where the Mad Rat travelled to Nottingham with The Rat Pack on a road trip that will hopefully make you think twice about the price of bands (read more inside) I

found myself on the doorstep of the Westcliff Hotel ready to go and enjoy The Polecats, now how about this then (Twilight Zone approaching) as I approached the welcome desk with my tenner clasped firmly in my hand..... did I get a welcome smile er Nah! Did I get a great big OI OI er Nah! Go on go on guess, well your wrong! I got a grimace and a "You're barred"!

Now then I put my tenner back in my pocket and turned around and left and Rat Pack Mick left with me, it wasn't until the following Sunday that someone said to me, Well that's great aint it half the people there wouldn't have known it was on without your listings in the Mad Rat Mag. Indeed we had advertised the gig in the gig guide in Novembers mag and had put it on our website as we have done many gigs throughout the land, so if I should be barred from any of these gigs that we list without prejudice and in good faith could you please bloody well phone me and tell me and save me the bother of leaving work early eating rubbish from the local greasy spoon and hanging around in the bloody cold just to be turned away!



I have to say I did laugh like a drain and I'd say the score between myself and the promoter is now 2 -1 to him. Will I advertise his next gig, of course I will because contrary to popular belief i'm a grown up!!!!

Now moving on I am going to give myself and the B52 a great big plug I don't often but I'm going to this month, on Dec 23rd at The B52 diner in Rochford see gig guide I will be holding a gig with The Rat Pack and Radar Record Hop admission is £4 and a childs toy, Teddy, Car, Doll, Colouring Book, Pens anything you like as long as its new and for children all these toys will be donated to the Childrens Wards on Christmas Eve when Santa visits them. I'm one hundred percent sure that the children will welcome your support.

On that note it remains for me to say a very big festive Oi Oi! Have a wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year, be safe, be happy and be lucky,

MERRRY CHRISTMASSSSSSSSSSSS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
from all at the Mad Rat Mag.
See You Out There!

Rockin Regards

Spike

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Printed by Bedwells - 01277 634444

Mad Rat Magazine is published by Roaming Mad Rat Enterprises. We reserve the right to alter any correspondence as we see fit. The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the publisher. Thanks.

Oliver Darling

1. How long have you been playing R'n'B and what or who influenced you to play this style?

I've been playing guitar about 15 years now, and always been into R'n'B. My Dad's into it, so I had all the records there from the start. My guitar teacher got me playing the Eric Clapton Unplugged stuff, so I looked up other Eric material, then the people who he listened to, and other guys doing the same sort of thing.

My Dad was also a big Big Bill Broonzy fan. I guess it might be hereditary, as I love him too. He was a big influence, and still is. My other hero is Peter Green. I always liked him, but never got into him fully until about 5 years ago. Something about the way he plays is really haunting. Mick Fleetwood, John McVie and Peter were a great unit.

2. Which bands are you currently playing with?

At the moment, my main thing is playing in the Mike Sanchez band. This is a great honor, as I've been a fan for a long time. I'm also playing with Palookaville!, who are involved with the Candy Box Burlesque show. This is something that Al Gare and his wife

have put together. It involves the addition of two saxes, a trumpet and the vocals of Imelda May. There are also some Burlesque dancers who are female and take their clothes off. It can be difficult to concentrate!

I'm also playing some solo gigs, and trying to put a new band together.

Hopefully we'll be getting some gigs in early next year.

3. What are Palookaville up to and any ideas of recording another CD?

As I just mentioned, the Burlesque thing is the main gig at the moment.

There is talk of more recording, but it's really not my place to say! Best ask Al!

4. I understand that you've stepped into Andy Sylvester's shoes with Mike Sanchez's band. How do you feel about filling this role?

As I said, this is a great honor-Mike really taught me a lot about music. I first saw him play when I was about 15, and it really showed me the sort of level you should be aspiring to. He really is head and shoulders above the rest.

I didn't see the band for a couple of years. I remember they played at my local village hall, just a 4 piece, with Andy, Mike, Al Gare on bass, and Mark Morgan on drums. Again, they were just so good, far better than any other group I'd seen doing that sort of material.

I tried to go to as many gigs as I could, and gradually got to know them. I enjoyed talking to Andy, as he always had

loads of great stories about Fleetwood Mac. He was also a Peter Green fan, and knew him in the 60's when he was working with Chicken Shack. I think Peter even tried to put together a band with him after he left Fleetwood Mac.

I also used to ask him to teach me little riffs and stuff he'd been playing during the evening. He knows all the stuff, really studied it. He helped me loads, sending me cds and stuff he thought I might like or should have.

Andy had to have an operation on his arm, which would take a couple of months to recover from. I was thrilled when I got the call from Mike to come and fill in. It also meant I got to go up to Mikes, and sit there with him and Andy showing me all the songs, which was a great learning experience.

The first gig was a tricky one-it was a revue gig with Imelda May, the Extraordinaires, Lisa Mills and Andy Fairweather Lowe! Andy Fair was another big hero of mine, having worked with everyone over the years, including Eric Clapton. I think the next gig was in Monaco performing to Prince Albert. I was slightly thrown in at the deep end!

Unfortunately, I don't think Andy's arm is feeling any better. He came and did a guest slot with Mike a couple of months ago. He was still great, a massive sound. Mike was talking about having two guitarists when Andy got better, and I hope this happens, as I still have so much to learn from him.

5. Are there any plans for a new Sanchez CD?

Well, there might be, but again, you'll have to ask Mike that question!

6. How do you find the rockin' crowds in the UK compared to abroad?

It depends on the gig really. The best crowds I've ever played to were Spanish. Palookaville! did a couple of festivals over there, and the crowd were absolutely crazy, really into it. But then I think half of them had come over from the UK! I don't know, I think it really just depends on the night.

7. What are your aspirations as a musician?

I'd like to just be as good as I can be, and play with good musicians. To meet and be good enough to be respected by people who have influenced me would be nice too. Ideally, I'd like to have my own little R'n'B band, and be working 4 or 5 nights a week. It's great traveling and meeting people, and getting paid for it too!

8. What's your favorite soup?

A tough question. Leek and Potato is great, but also Chicken, with noodles of course, Mushroom soup, maybe just a plain Tomato, and also Carrot, Orange and Coriander. As long as it's made with good fresh ingredients. And you've got to have it with some fresh warm crusty bread, thickly spread with margarine. I prefer it to butter with soup. Just a preference. My Auntie does a lovely soup-Mrs Browns Tea-room, Shipston-on-Stour!

9. What's with all the chicks on your My Space?

I dunno. None of them talk to me anymore!



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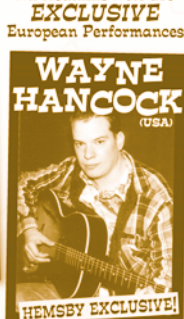
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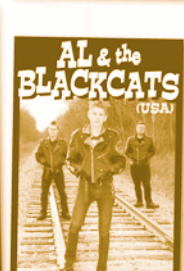
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WHERE YOU AT ? - Rockin' Lee Hugman

Most know me as Rockin' Lee, "a tireless promoter of Rock & Roll!" (Steve Aynsley) or "The Voice Of Rock & Roll!" (Dell Richardson) or that guy mucking about up on the Hemsby stage, but my involvement in Rock And Roll started back in the early Seventies, with the influences of my Mother and Father, Listening to their Eddie Cochran, Ricky Nelson, and Hank Williams records. Also Charlie Gillett on Radio London's Honky Tonk show.

I was always tapping out a beat on anything at hand, like knives and forks where parents nerves got frayed at dinner time. So eventually a drum kit was sort, and I joined my first band APACHE, my Father was the roadie and manager, we went on to be the warm up act for Crazy Cavan and Riot Rockers and Impalas. I would have been 12 or 13. At this point I desperately wanted a new Haymen drum kit (Saucers and Cavan had Haymen) Mum & Dad put up half the money, on the condition I lied about my age got a Paper round to pay for the other half, and practiced at least one hour every day!

But looking back even before then I found Rock & Roll, with my Father at the Royal Albert Hall, at a Johnny Cash show, where Carl Perkins opened with a Rock & Roll show. Who could of guessed that years later I would Dj and Introduce Carl, I once at a festival in Scotland got Carl to step on my Blues suedes with his blue suedes. And before that, when I was 10 or 11, Dad took me to see Bill Haley, who actually shook my hand!

After several bands, through the 70's & 80's (like The Rockin' 50's were I did my apprenticeship at places like the Perrinorth festivals) I formed and managed SESSION '57, we got around many Rock & Roll clubs throughout England and abroad, doing a total of 8 months in Norway, where we performed in front of the King at Oslo Palace Square.

Many people don't realise I was ever in a band, but I have always been happiest behind a kit! Session highlighted with an album for Rockhouse Red Hot & Rollin' Tracks on an

album called THE BEST OF BRITISH ROCKABILLY, Winning the Elvis Fan Club Battle Of The Bands, performing at the famous Weymouth festivals, were often I was invited to Dj and ended up being one of the Comperes.

The last serious band I was in was the Rover Boys (Combo), we toured many R&R festivals and clubs, recorded an album in Spain for Welcome Records Rockabilly Blues, did a weeks residency in Istanbul. Been to over 20 Countries. Not bad for someone who when asked what he was going to do when he left school he replied I don't mind really, as long as I don't work nights or away from home!

When I did finally leave school, and before touring with bands, I became a qualified motor mechanic, that came in handy, on the road!

I had the huge pleasure of drumming behind, Sonny Burgess, Sid and Billy King, Johnny Carroll and Judy Lindsey, Ray Sharpe, Seymore Duncan, Jerry Donahue, Tony Claiden (CSA), Tony Claiden & Trevor Hawkins (Impalas), Darrel Higham, also for Matchbox, Flying Saucers, Bob & Bearcats.

When I wasn't working the circuit, I supported it, crown at Lowestoft, Kingsway in Luton, Adam in London, Swan at Kingston, Royalty Southgate, Two J's in Braintree, and and and.

I went to most the early Caister's, including the first one, you can catch a glimpse of me in the Film Blue Sued Shoes, also the Roger Daultry film, Buddy's Song.



In various bands I performed for TV in England, Spain, and Turkey.

I have run many R&R clubs over the years, notably Isleham, Cambridge, Wellingborough's Thunderbird and more recently the Newmarket Rock & Roll Club.

In the late 80's slowly but surely my Drumming career was over, due to a motor bike accident, and a badly damaged arm. I got so depressed, not being able to perform, Mum &

Dad (again) came up with the idea, that with all their records,

Dad running me about in his 59 mark two consul, and a cheap set of decks from the club book, I could BE a Dj. The Record Machine was born.

I have Djed at most all the big R&R festivals in England including The Teddyboy for 10 years, Wey-

mouth, Brean Sands, Skegness, Cleethorpes, Ayr in Scotland, also in Switzerland, France and Germany, where I have met many of my idols. I think I must be the only person who has Djed, Drummed and Compared all on the same day the Hemsby R&R Festival. I first Djed Hemsby with my then partner Strollin' Steve in October 1993 and I am very proud to say that I am now resident Compare for Hemsby and hold the all important job of being the stage manager, I could not begin to list the Rock & Roll icons I have met just there alone!

Here are some of my greatest memories, I have set the PA for Jack Scott, had breakfast with Rose Maddox, had fun with Linda Gail

Lewis, shared jokes with Lee Hazlewood, Jived on stage with Chuck Berry, I was shot by the Bobbettes, I got Janis Martin to sign a pair of shoes and throw them out in the audience, shook hands with Shaky, I have been thrown over the barriers with Crazy Cavan, in 1982 on the Isle Of Wight I won my first talent contest (drumming to Wipe Out), I helped Lavern Baker off with her petticoats, I drummed behind Paul Ansel and Pete Pritchard in front of Scoty Moore, I took Charlie Hodge to a truckers Café, spent a day with Paul Lamat (John Milner American Graffiti), spent a night with Country R&R icon Becky Hobbs, had personal phone calls from Narvel Felts, Wanda Feathers and Rocky Burnette, and I was the last person to announce on stage Merrill E Moore. I have been asked to write sleeve notes for video's, DVD's and even for a Freddie Fingers Lee album.

My father and I wrote a song about my little sister Kerrie Jane, at a weekend in Yarmouth, a guy came to me and asked me if I would say hello to his wife, under their table was a small baby girl, they had just named Kerrie Jane after our song!

I have been lucky enough to have my introductions on Ray Campi, Darrel Hihgham and Avengers albums.

For 9 years, twice a year I take three British bands to a Rock & Roll show in Evian. And this year I have been booked to DJ the main stage at the mighty Notts Americana festival in July.

To say ALL my wildest dreams have come true, would be a huge understatement, don't you think?

My sincere thanks go to all the Rock & Roll fans, promoters, my Mother and Father, and of course my wife Trixie Trish.

Rock On and Ride Easy!

Lee



THE SUNSETTERS AT THE B52 DINER

I received an email from Linette from this very magazine with an attached MP3 by a band called 'The Sunsetters'. After listening to 'Got Love If You Want It' I knew I had to see this band play live a.s.a.p., and just by coincidence they were due to play at the 'B52 Diner' that very weekend (ha, ha). The bait was set and I was easily reeled in.

The Diner has been running as a rockin' club for three years now, and I am ashamed to say that this was my first visit there. After some excellent directions we arrived with plenty of time to have a look around and say our 'hellos' to Spike and Linette. Looking at the 'B52' from the outside made me imagine I was about to enter an American small town diner, complete with neon signs and rock 'n' roll/rockabilly music. Outside was a collection of 1950's cars (Consol, Zephyr, Zodiac, Vauxhall, Chrysler, etc.) and beyond them the airfield; the B52 Diner certainly looks the part. Inside did not disap-

point either, very Rockwell-esque looking design with chequered floors and blinds on the windows. I was instantly reminded of the film 'LA Confidential'.

On entering 'The Radar Record Hop' was warming up the crowd with a fine selection of rockin' tunes. I was told the DJ preferred psychobilly music, but you would not have guessed it from the music he played. A mixture of old and new tunes from the like of 'Mac

Curtis', 'Ray Scott', 'The Blue Dots' and the 'Flea Bops'.

'The Sunsetters' consist of Frank Ryan on vocals and rhythm guitar, Paul Gaskin on lead guitar, Damion Pearce on double bass and Rob Tyler on drums. On this particular night Bill Lambert was bashing the skins as Rob was away touring with Restless.

They launched into their first set with Elvis's 'Ain't That Loving You Baby'. Frank it seems loves Elvis/Sun records type tunes and why not. He sings them well and with plenty of enthusiasm too. Paul's, 'Scotty Moore' influenced guitar playing is a joy to listen to and is capably supported by an excellent bass and drum rhythm section. So you can judge from my comments here, that I am quite a fan. The

next two tunes performed were also Presley numbers, 'Blue Moon of Kentucky' and 'I Don't Care if the Sun Don't Shine' followed by a good version of Johnny Cash's 'Rock n Roll Ruby'.

'The Sunsetters' are a covers band, and many of the songs they play are well known numbers and not just to those on the rockin' scene. But when you sound as good as they do, you have to take notice of them. As various promoters have, for when I checked their gig list, it looked pretty extensive.

Favourite tunes they did on the night for me were, 'Got Love If You Want It', 'Rockin Rollin Stone' for the boppers and for the strollers out there you can not beat 'Cattin Around'.

If you like Elvis/Sun styled rockabilly, you cannot go wrong with 'The Sunsetters'.

THE RHYTHM BOYS

On Sept 30th a brand new band took the floor at The B52 in Rochford it's now November and the smoke is just lifting from the embers they left behind. The Rhythm Boys from in and around Norwich have started on a journey that im sure guarantees them fame and fortune at the end of the yellow brick road trip. I have to say that should you have the opportunity to see them then you should go you really wont be disappointed. The set consists of solid covers of the rock'n'roll and rockabilly type sung mostly by Mike with his very authentic vocal style although I hear Baz has a song or two up his sleeve I am yet to witness this. Occasionally a self penned number sneaks its way into the set and fits snugly into the style and sound the guys create. This band sprung from nowhere and without a doubt will be around for a long time to come. We asked the guys some questions to help tell their story and here is what they had to say.

Q.Who started the band and how did they decide on the final line-up, have their been any other variations and did you have a direction and a plan of action?

A.Mike and Baz started The Rhythm Boys. The final line up was fate, they had been friends for many years and had often discussed the sound they would like to play, after deciding the time was right they actively starting think of a line-up. Mark was the obvious choice for Lead Guitar as his style of playing is a perfect match. Keef was our gift from the Rockabilly God!! After not playing for some years he had decided he would like to play in a band again,



answered an ad and the rest as they say is history. The Rhythm Boys were born - A new Band in the space of 2 weeks!

Q.The band is making some serious promoters sit up and listen a lot of them are very excited about The Rhythm Boys, what do you attribute this too, are you doing anything different to any other new band?

A.We suppose the fact that we are not trying to sound like anybody else, we play a mixture of songs with a good strong full sound which drives a long well. Good musicianship and great lead vocals. What more can we say?

Q. We at Mad Rat Mag predict a great future for the band, you blew the roof off the B52, how much planning goes into a set list, do you research the clubs your playing in or is it just hit and miss.

A.The band do try to play a mixture of songs so people can bop,jive and stroll. of course you cant please all of the people all of the time, But we do try!!

Q. What are the bands influences?

A.We are 4 guys with a mixture of tastes and a love of good music, so really there are too many to mention.

Q. What other bands have you played in?

A.Keef was a Rock Musician for many years playing in various rock bands including Slowbone, and released several Albums on the Decca and Motown Labels.

Baz formed Norfolk's Dawghouse , played with Mark Keeley's Good Rockin' Tonight in Spain, and has played in numerous other bands over the years.

Mark formed Shock Therapy and more recently Big Black Cadillac, he also played in Dawghouse and several other bands.

Mike has guested with several bands including Mark Keeley's Good Rockin' Tonight, won the Hemsby Weekender Talent show several times, but is a Band Member virgin!!!

Q. How long where you in rehearsal before you ventured onto the stage, and when did you know you were ready for a live performance?

A.We benefit more from live performances, than rehearsals because of feedback audiences give us.

Q.As active members of the rockin scene did

you see a gap in the market which you are trying to fill?

A.The majority of the band has always had a passion for the Rock'n'Roll scene, hence the orientation of the bands music, but we hope to bring a uniqueness to this style.

Q.You have just recorded your debut CD (which is very good) How did you find the recording experience and do you have a label or are you doing it yourselves? Where can people buy the CD? Is there a Demo available for promoters?

A.We recorded our Album in just 10 hours!! We loved being in the studio but it would have been nice to spend more time there. The album is not on a label it is self released, we sell the cd's at our gigs or people can email us through the website and we can arrange to post a copy to them. We do have demo's for promoters again they can contact us through the website www.rhythmboys.co.uk or call Tracey our Booking Manager on 07729210352.

Q. So far what has been your best and worst gig, your favourite songs to play and your worst song?

A.We find the enjoyability of the gig is down to the audience reaction to our music rather than the venue its self, although we know there is always more to strive for, so the band believe each performance is better than the last. We enjoy bring favourite songs, old and new to our audiences, but especially love to perform our original songs.

Q.What overall is the bands ambition and how do you see yourself fulfilling this ambition?

A.Our ambition is to take our music to as many audiences, in as many places as possible and have a ROCKIN' good time in the process.

It just remains for me to say Good Luck boys and enjoy the ride!

Spike



RECORDINGS



Title: Teddy Boy Rocking
Artist: Johnny Angel
Label: L & L Records LR106

Hi Folks, CJ The DJ here and this is my first CD review and hopefully not my last. I had heard some time ago that this CD was coming out and I eagerly waited for my copy to turn up, when it did I went straight to the CD player and put it on and turned it up WOW 18 red hot tracks of 70's nostalgia, I have had the pleasure of seeing Johnny playing live in the 70's and this CD brought back a lot of fond memories. The CD starts with, Lone-



some Train and to steel a line from the sleeve notes it will melt the soles of your dancing shoes, with its driving lead guitar and gutsy singing from Johnny this is followed by another great rocker, With The One I Love, but the track that stands head and shoulders above the rest for me is WHY with Bob Burgos pounding on the drums and the legendary late great Tony Vincent on lead, and the steady bass of Terry Glasse and a RIPING, RASPING sax break from Randy McDonald, this will be on my playlist for some time. They also have put their own slant on Mick Satan's (rockin devils the worlds only 21/2 piece group) classic Teddy Boy's Lament which always puts a smile on my face when I hear it played.

Then we have a track penned by Bob Burgos, Rockin' At The Raven, what can I say, this will be a classic Teddy Boy Anthem for years to come. This CD has something for everyone, if you want to get smoochy and up close and personal just listen to Important Words, it's haunting, this track will make the worst dancers get up and smooth around the floor. This CD has that 70's rawness about it which is sometimes missing from today's CD's, so get your copy (Runicorn Records) put it in, turn it on and blast it out! See ya a t a gig near you

CJ THE DJ

Title: What You Been Prayin' For?
Artist: Big Boy Bloater
Producer: Darrel Higham and Bloater
Label: Bloat Record Company (BRC 2006)

Tracks:

Everybody Rock/Hey Pretty Baby/I'm Still Drinkin'/Moonlight/Six Foot Of Rope/Those Lonely, Lonely Nights/Don't Cut Out On Me/Bernadette (How Come You Ain't Dead Yet?)/What You Been Prayin' For?/I Wanna Do More/Don't Happen No More/Monkey See, Monkey Do
Summary:



There once was a time that when British bands played jump blues, I felt there was something missing which I could never quite put my finger on until recently. Albums by Ocean's Seven, The Big Heat, Oo-Bop-Sh'bam to name but three have come out within the last year or two and now this brand new album by Big Boy Bloater & His Southside Stompers have changed all that. "What You Been Prayin' For?" was recorded over the first three days in August this year at the Embassy Studios, Upton Grey, the home of "Foot Tapping Records" in Hampshire. July was of course the hottest since records began and the heat is very prevalent on this CD.

Kicking off with Jimmy McCracklin's "Everybody Rock" it is strikingly obvious that once again, the missing link isn't missing anymore. This band have been working hard since 1993 to capture both on record and to a live audience the heart and soul of 1940s/50s deep south American Jump Blues and now the evidence is absolutely crystal clear. Nothing here is pretentious or contrived. Lisa Jane's switch to baritone saxophone coupled with Tim Chimes' Tenor puts even more meat on The Southside Stomper's bones and demonstrates what fabulous musicians they are. I have seen this band perform many times and when they are at their best, boy are they good! As I was saying, the opening track sets the trend for the next eleven where five are originals penned by the big man himself. "I'm Still Drinking" with smooth vocals from the very cool Lisa Jane, "Six Foot Of Rope", the mellow, bluesy, intoxicating "Bernadette (How Come You Ain't Dead Yet?)", the classic in the making title track "What You Been Prayin' For?" and the closing "Monkey See, Monkey Do" sit comfortably alongside the seven covers which must have been carefully selected for this project. I say carefully selected because there are no obvious choices. In fact, the second and fourth tracks "Hey Pretty Baby" and "Moonlight" which is a terrific instrumental are new to me. Of the originals, "Six Foot Of Rope" with some wonderful tinkling of the 88 keys by Deacon Turner is one of many highlights as is Bloaters' performance on the title track.

The blues ballad "Those Lonely, Lonely Nights" composed by Earl King and Johnny Vincent is no way inferior to the Johnny 'Guitar' Watson version and Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller's "I Wanna Do More" is a fair match for the Ruth Brown original.

Bloater, although still only 34 years of age is maturing vocally and his guitar playing is good throughout and even exemplary at times especially on Tender Slim's "Don't Cut Out On Me" and Young Jessie's "It Don't Happen No More".

Dave Terrey on drums and Stewart Pannaman's double bass come together to produce a rhythm section that sounds so natural. Like DNA, this style of music was the blueprint for everything that came after and I am positive that it will be around for decades to come and may well be the answer to what all future enthusiasts will be praying for. The future looks good. For more information, view: www.bigboybloater.com

Strollin' Steve Ashdown

Title: Kick Start With The Spitfires

Artist: The Spitfires

Label: Foot Tapping Records
FT037



Rag Mop, Teenage Boogie, Red Hot, Clairly Dairy, Hay Hay Baby, Wow Wow Baby, I'm Ready, Roll On, Tired And Sleepy, Bop A Lena, Red Cadillac & A Black Moustache, Rock Around The Island.

Yet another CD from the Foot Tapping stable although this is not NEW it has been out for quite a few months and this copy has waited patiently for review.

So here goes, stand up covers of some of the scenes greatest covers, a very young front man attacks the vocals with a pleasant and enthusiastic delivery.

Some tracks leave a lot to be desired tempo wise but ill put that down to the enthusiasm for the music that blatantly oozes from this CD. I don't think my humble hi-fi paid much justice to this CD and I definitely think I need to hear some of these tracks through the decks of one of the DJ's or better still catch the band live.

The CD is however a valiant debut and im sure is a real hit all across the country, the young man is lacking the emotion and strength that age brings to a singer of his impending character, altogether though musically its sound I think there would be a few jive clubs that would struggle to keep up with tracks of this speed. By far the most outstanding track for me was Tired And Sleepy, which has for me got it all, the delivery, the music, the addictive foot tapping essence of any good rockin' track.

All comments accounted for this CD wouldn't hurt anyone's collection, I will look forward to a live performance and prepare myself for the day this young man becomes an older man with a voice to die for, which inevitably he will!

CD is available from www.foottappingrecords.co.uk

Title: Stuff

Artist: Crazy Jay

Label:

Unbelievable this act is, after touring for almost a decade, still Fresh & New, why? You only have to see the cover of their brand new album STUFF to see the five cartoon like, larger than life images that make up this band. I couldn't

help but notice their individual CRAZY caricature's explode onto my Newmarket club stage, and having the great pleasure of watching the faces of the French in Evian Lee Bain, twice for what can only be described as indescribable performances..... You'll just have to check 'em out LIVE for yourself, PARTY TIME! You could knock the album for only having 12 tracks, but it's not the quantity but the quality of these recordings that count.

The album's opening track That's All, kicks off like a cross between Horton and Burnette, an excellent Jiver I quite often blast on the Record Machine. Brenda Lee's Weep No More is given the CJ treatment, a fraction speedier than the original and features some attack percussion from Andy Anderson who had the main hand in the Photography, Production and Engineering of this album. Ruth Brown's As Long As I'm Movin' is where Jacqueline's gravely voice really comes into effect.

As for the title track Stuff, Jay's husband Conrad's guitar work is second to none. Have you ever heard a ROCKIN' band sing about scented soap, cricket bats, book ends, cycle pumps and a long black coat to keep off the rain? See You Later Alligator is driven by the Electric Bass of Graham John Parker, but for me is the weakest track of the project, possibly because I have heard this song by so many artistes and the Harmonies could of done with a re-arranging.

Riot in Cell Block is belted out by the Partytimers, living up to their name, you certainly realise that they do truly enjoy their job.

Another one of their own songs Tough Luck, in my opinion the strongest track, it has a great mix and like the first track an excellent Honky Tonk piano, I wonder if Charles used drawing pins under the 88 hammers, like the original Honky Tonk pianists did?

Wanda's Fujiyama Mama, has always been a favourite of mine and has a real nice feel to it. Brown Eyed Handsome Man is given a Cajun flavor, Hot & Spicy!

A very brave attempt tackling I Can't Believe You Want To Leave, but the Gal & Guys can stand proud at the end of any night when the disc Jockey spins his last slow plays. The very catchy, self penned, penultimate track on STUFF, I'm Not Like That, both Rocks and Rolls so well I just had to re-wind and hear it again.

The Bluesy guitar licks gives Rip It Up a fresh coat of paint, colorful and bright, with a massive ending, finishing off this album with polish, style and a crescendo of dynamics..... HALLELUJAH!

Stuff is a real neat package and the sleeve has been well designed with a bar code for the distributors, sharp photos and room for autographs and the lyrics to the self penned title track STUFF.

The album proves CJ and the Boys are firmly on the ladder of success (don't believe me? See page 17, back issue of Mad Rat #10 June 06).

Great STUFF!

Rockin' Lee

RAT ON THE ROAD

Now if you think that bands have a really hard time gigging up and down the country then you'd be right! I recently tagged along with The Rat Pack to a gig held by the Queen of crazy (Jo) of The Hillside Club, we had met at Hemsby and had a great time thank you so much for a great night and wonderful hospitality. The four of us piled in the van and headed north, we stuck on a dvd, sat back and enjoyed the ride.

All too soon hunger took hold and the need to relieve oneself became overwhelming so we headed for the services. The slow food chain of restaurants that are known as buggered thing in our house, was the only option, I really dislike these places starving hungry, pictures of burgers everywhere and not one of them to eat, well that's what it felt like. I admit to giving the guy behind the counter a hard time so much so that the guy behind me actually moved away. How long can it take to chuck a pre cooked pre packed burger in the microwave? All these places are the same, there is no such thing as fast food he could have

caught the cow killed the cow chopped the cow patted the cow and cooked the cow quicker than he could nuke the burger.

Anyhow I digress, it had been a long time since I had taken a road trip with The Rat Pack and spirits were hi and the jollities, humour general abuse and maniacal behaviour multiplied by the mile and there were plenty of miles.

Finally we arrived at the club (too early) although it was 5ish and we had been on the road for hours so we stuck on another dvd and tried to relax. Eventually there were people and we unloaded and the guys set up and sound checked. Then all of a sudden there was an audience and it was time for the Rat Pack to take to the stage, as ever they performed two hard hitting danceable sets of popular rockin and came off stage exhilarated, exhausted and very pleased with the response they had received. Now if you think this band or any other band charges too much money then you need to read on by the time the band had packed all their gear away and said their goodbyes it was way passed my bedtime and looming ahead was a four hour drive

into the middle of the morning. Although the guys seem to have some organisation (they swap drivers part of the way) this part of the road trip is not only long and arduous it is also very very scary, the obligatory stay awake sing song and the dissecting of last nights gig and the jokes kept the tiredness at bay for a while and then it all goes quiet and faint snores can be heard and then the driver is alone and there's that dark few miles on the motorway that no one can afford to light and your eyes are getting heavy so you open the window for some fresh air and your eyes hurt from the headlights of oncoming vehicles and your eyes slowly begin to shut you jump and pull over ready for the swap over, and so it begins all over again.

I arrived home at 13 minutes past 4 am totally shattered. The guys went home and got up a few hours later to do the same again in Devon. The Rat Pack are one of the hardest working bands on the scene they are very popular and they do gig a lot so they are very used to the long haul but this particular gig meant the guys were on the go for fifteen hours.

How much would you expect to be paid for a fifteen hour a day? Hats off to you guys I couldn't do it week in week out, travelling miles to a gig performing for two hours like you just got out of the shower and then travelling miles back home. Next time you book a band or go to see a band and you think you wouldn't mind getting all that money for a couple of hours think again it took me three days to get over it and yet The Rat Pack did Devon the next day and Northampton on the Sunday could they earn a living just doing the music maybe they are certainly popular enough but three gigs a weekend wont keep them and their families so what drives them to do it its simple really the answer is passion. Passion for a musical genre that is only kept alive by bands trucking up and down motorways three days a week and aren't we glad they do!

Three Cheers!!!

Oi Oi



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JANIE'S JAUNTS

Happy Xmas & a New Rockin 2007 and here we all go with another twelve musical months of our kind of Rock and Roll...Boiy OH Boiy.....bring it on I say!!

Where have you been?, I hear you cry well my dear friends we went out on the 26th October to Kettering Athletic Club to see Lennerockers from Germany.

Seeing has it was my Ade's birthday as well we decided to go for a meal first to start the celebrations early so to speak, so after parking the car at the club we took a short walk from the club into Kettering town centre and we started the night off with a lovely meal in the town at the Earl Of Dulketh, which has really

nice food i had a l a m b shank and it was very tasty.

Then we walked back and into the club, good to be back here as i

hadn't been in ages, great atmosphere and a good venue too and it was real good to see Brian and Mike and have a good chat and catch up.

The Lennerockers first set started at nine twenty and they started as they meant to go on playing lots and lots of thier very well known songs. I chatted with them after the first set and it was lovely to see them all looking so well and enjoying themselves on stage.

They have a new CD called out Far From The Charts and which they kindly signed for me and that first set just seem to fly by and before we all knew it is was ten o clock and we were clapping and cheering as they went off for a break before returning later to entertain us all over again.

A great crowd in tonight and it was lovely to see some friends i hadn't seen in ages, is'nt it strange but nice when you can still have a good old chat with them yet feel like it was only yesterday when you last spoke to each other!

The DJ tonight was Strollin Steve and he played some great little numbers for people to dance too we

were really enjoyed his choices of music.

A good strong second set from Lennerockers when they started at 10:50pm with 'Rattlesnake Boogie' 'Old Black Joe' and how could we not mention the great rockin classic of 'High Class Lady' that we all seem to get up and dance too. With a piano slapping, foot tapping, guitar twanging 'Great Balls Of Fire' and 'Whole Lot Of Shakin Goin On' for the encore just after 11:30pm, We really had a rockin' great time and we look forward to going down there again soon.

Then two days later on the 28th October Ade and I were in for another Rockin Treat as we drove up the M1 to Junction 27 then onto Underwood Miners Welfare to a packed house to see the talented Mr Darrell Higham and the Enforcers, two great sets from these guys and the floor was non stop as we danced to the powerful beat, i didnt know who to dance with next. Thanks to Lee and julia for a brilliant night, you are great company and to make the night even better we had in the house my very good friend DJ DynamiteDave, who took three hours to get there, playing us yet again some excellent choices from his large collection and repertoire. Also nice to see Denise the charming wife of Glenn Darren the lead singer with the Krew Cats, who unfortunately wasnt there due to hurting his backhe really missed a brill night and hope you are feeling better soon.

Once again when we got home in the wee hours of the morning and we were still smiling and chatting about our night out together, Rock and Roll I LOVE IT!

Till next month keep on rockin'

Janie xx



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THE PERFECT ROCK'N'ROLL SHOW - LAS VEGAS

Hi everybody last night I attended the perfect rock n roll show featuring as JJ Walker (the MC) put it the founding fathers show. WHAT A SHOW as I get into this I want everyone to know that I love all 3 of these guys like many of you do so any of my comments are constructive and surely not meant to offend any of these giants. Anyway, how can you offend the BEST?

Since moving to the Las Vegas area last March it has afforded us to see some of these shows, this show was at the Orleans Hotel and Casino Nice place and a great buffet too. Upon going there I was filled with a lot of anticipation cause after all the killer is now 71 with Little Richard almost 74 and Chuck Berry just had his 80th birthday, but in the back of my mind I knew these friends of mine (with the exception of Chuck I never met him) were rockers in the 50s and I knew they would be rockers now.

I will go through the show as best as I recall it was pretty much a sold out show. As far back as I could see it was full and it is a huge arena, we sat on the upper right side about 15 rows from the front, not too bad seats.

At 8:10 out comes Jerry Lee looking real good, he had Kenny Lovelace and his band with him, with a kick butt drummer, he opened and they had great sound and amplification and the piano was super, clear as heck.

JERRY LEE LEWIS

1 ROCKIN MY LIFE AWAY,

He pounded this out and his piano playing was better than ever and he had no trouble stretching his arms and staying at the high notes on the keyboard pushing his hands up and down ferociously, a lot like in the old days.

2 DOWN THE LINE...

Another great early rocker he used a lot of the right hand in this

3 DRINKIN WINE SPODEE O DEE

He always rocks this one and man did he speed this up, this song helps show

The greatness of the killer and how he CONTINUES TO ROCK BETTER THAN ANYONE. After this song he talked a little and said to the audience, ha never drank much wine did too much whiskey (LOL)

4 MEXICALI ROSE

A standard he usually does a lot because of his love for Gene Autry as he stated

After the song (they were close friends) he starts it up slow and then pumps it up

And rocks this standard and after the song stated that Mr Autry never did it this fast though (LOL)

5 WHOLE LOT OF SHAKIN GOING ON

The killer was in top form as always on his number 1 song doing his best to show his artistry with BOTH hands intermixing and rolling down the keys

6 OVER THE RAINBOW

JLL shows here how he can also play a great piano while he does this standard as only he can using the full keyboard and holding his keys while playing others pretty stuff and his voice excelled

7 YOUR CHEATIN HEART

His friend Hank Williams great song done in JLL style

8 ME AND BOBBY MC GEE

Yes sir he rocks on this putting in some dynamic powered rock n roll and singing as

If he's in the story, his friend Kris Kristofferson wrote this and Janis Joplin made it a hit

And so did the killer...great job.

9 GREAT BALLS OF FIRE

His final song but as always, he made it count, pounding out the keys as exciting as ever and did everything and believe it or not as fast as in 1957...he rocked, at the end he stood up and the stool fell over (and he picked it up) unlike the killer and continued rocking to the end and walked off with his famous wave.....WHAT A PERFORMANCE and I thought he might have slowed down, NOT A CHANCE...ALL KILLER NO FILLER. On the David Letterman show recently I don't feel he was at his best but he sure made up for it last night, the set was a little shorter than I thought it would be, but as for rocking and rollin he was best of the three...but with the next guy putting on the best SHOW as only the architect of rock can do

LITTLE RICHARD

Upon introducing Little Richard, they played a intro of a blaring horns and a kick ass solid band (the best I've heard him have since the days in the 50s) and introduced him three times, Sandy had said maybe something's wrong and the band kept rocking and I said no, he sometime takes his time, and then he came...he walked out slowly with a cane in each hand while the band, smoked and as his brother helped him sit...then came that familiar sound of that staccato beat in his piano with a driving beat

1 GOOD GOLLY MISSES MOLLY

He moved with hands NOT SLOWED AT ALL and gave it his all and did all parts of the song with full enthusiasm as opposed to Jerry , he talked a lot and he makes you know your at a show (I first met Richard at a show at the Chicago theatre and it was a cold cold night and if he had twenty five people in the audience he had a lot and he announced as he sat down...ha! ha! watch this show you think cause its a slow crowd I will leave...watch this and he hammered for 2 hours what a show AND HE MET EVERYONE...great guy, have seen and talked with him many times since. lots of funny stories but on with last night)

2 BAMA LAMA LOO

He hammered right into this song, an early rocker also very strong piano playing being backed by a fantastic horn section and a kick ass band very full sound.

3 TRUE FINE MAMA

Another early rocker where he howls and growls and does his fine little Richard style

4 BLUEBERRY HILL

Does a great job on Fats song and really reaches in the bridge and gets that high little Richard sound,

5 MISS ANN

One of my favourites and he played it better than the record and after the song he says ARE YALL HAVING A GOOD TIME...everybody yells and claps and he says I MEAN A REAL GOOD TIME and again the audience responds and he says SHUTUP (LOL)

6 LUCILLE

Pounding into this famous song the audience is on its feet and rockin and rollin with him and he was into it and when Richard gets into it...His whole being is concentrated on him and his band and he's yelling c'mon...c'mon He then said do you people like the blues every-one yelled yes. Good I'm doing the blues

7 DIRECTLY FROM MY HEART

He did such a pretty version of this early ballad and gave it a definite blues feel it was really quiet, while he did This...see when Richard wants to play pretty he knows how to get that bluesy feel to his songs

8 ALL AROUND THE WORLD

One of my favorites, he did a short version of this great song. He then said recently I lost my good friend Ray Charles and I miss him greatly and were doing his song right now

9 I GOT A WOMAN

GREAT RENDITION OF THIS SONG THE PARTY AND LITTLE RICHARD NOW STARTED PICKING UP,,he YELLED whew ooh ooh let me hear you, the audience responded he said my my

my..whew, I'm going to be 74 in December and a lot of my friends are gone but I'm still beautiful and I remember as a child I had a bronze tan (the audience laughed with approval) and then I started the Beatles and Jimi Hendrix and WHEW...my man is crazy but what a man and then he went into a fast version of

10 SHES GOT IT.

Man did he rock sounded like the Girl Cant Help It all over again, after he ended this...the band kept playing and he talked, he said I want a big white woman that screams real loud and a big black juicy woman too..oh and the white woman has to be juicy too and also a skinny Jewish woman and I want you up here on the stage right now and here they come right to the stage and then more came and the stage got full and as the band played a rock intro he still talked and he said WOW HONEY you are a big woman and audience cracked up and then he saw a real young girl...cute thing and he said WOW YOUR PRETTY...NO YOUR REALLY PRETTY come over here they lifted her on top of the piano and the whole stage rocked to a fantastic version of

11 I KNOW IT'S ONLY ROCK N ROLL...

The girl on the piano looked like she was about 15 but she danced like she was born in the 50s. Richard just kept hollering the line I know its only rock and roll over and over. This lasted about 10 minutes G-R-E-A-T...THIS CONTINUED ON INTO

12 BONEY MARONIE...

While the whole stage still rocked Richard brought down the house...at its best and told his piano player BOOGIE WOOGIE BROTHER.(he said I wont go there)...the audience was rockin for most of them he COULDN'T MAKE A MISTAKE...INCLUDING SANDY AND I

13 JENNY JENNY..

MAN did he fly ripping up the keyboards going from bass keys to high keys just downright rocking, by now people weren't sitting anymore...after a 5 minute stretch they helped him off the stage as the band continued and he said I LOVE YOU....this is why Little Richard is the Architect of rock n roll and all this at almost 74 years old...what a great performer and showman
As little Richard left just as did Jerry Lee we ALL had tears in our eyes, just that we were ALL so glad to see these great performers 50 years after their start. OOH MY SOUL

CHUCK BERRY

JJ again was out and just went off about these 2 great performers and he said yep and were not done...you know who's coming and everybody screamed and then quicker than Johnny B Goode out he comes...with no help at .80 and he moved like his old self and had that famous kick in his leg (no duck walk though) but damn he's 80 and he's rockin and rollin and for his age doing it good. The only thing Chuck does that's different and he's done it all his life , is that he has a very small band, himself, a bass player and a piano player (and not Jimmy Johnson) that was noticeable but he wasn't bad , what he knew, and he had a kick butt drummer also. Chuck walked out and immediately went into

1..ROLL OVER BEETOVEN his famous song but as in Chucks style in the later years he misses chords here and there. but again he's 80 and was more agile then his previous 2 entertainers. He then headed right into

2 .JOHNNY B GOODE and here he excelled and found his groove as did his other band mates people shouted out this song and he rocked like always talking the stage.

3 MEAN OLD WORLD a song he wrote in later years, a bluesy song about real life as it is today

4 ROCK AND ROLL MUSIC

He found his groove definitely with this...this definitely sounded like Chuck on Bandstand the audience rocked

5 MEMPHIS TENNESSEE

He felt his way through this song and the piano player had a rough time with this, but Most of the audience showed their respect EVEN IN MISTAKES to this great showman some were starting to walk out , but my feeling on this is that THEY really don't know rock n roll...CHUCK COULD BE A 100 AND HE'D STILL ROCK plus as ELVIS found out early on Vegas crowds can be rough...especially those that aren't into the REAL ROCK N ROLL Chuck didn't talk a lot but made up for it in this next song

6 MY DING A LING

He had the audience cracking up to this , improvising new verses and didn't miss a word ...got it down perfect , his only number 1 song...should've had a lot more.

7 MEAN OLD WORLD

He did it a second time

8 YOU NEVER CAN TELL

I love this song but his band said we don't know that and he said now you can do it and the piano player couldn't do this at all but Chuck stormed through this getting the chords right but stopping in the middle to help the piano player (only Chuck can get away with this) but the audience cheered him on and gave him a standing ovation when he finished (for the most part a very supportive audience) Now his famous intro into

9 OH CAROL

and he boogied and didn't miss a note ...perfection from chuck berry at its best and told his piano player BOOGIE WOOGIE BROTHER.(he said I wont go there)...the audience was rockin for most of them he COULDN'T MAKE A MISTAKE...INCLUDING SANDY AND I

10 I SING THE BLUES

And he can, I think he sort of favours his early favourites and does them great.

11 REELIN AND ROCKIN

A kick ass tune that also had the people cracking up he changed the lyrics in this too but the song rocks and he did it perfect...about 6 to 7 minutes long. And did a lot of kicking in this (the old Chuck Berry moves)

12 SWEET LITTLE SIXTEEN

Great song but he had a problem with this one, the band was off key...but it still sounded good, Chuck can make that happen, he'd break and start over but he made it happen.

13 LITTLE QUEENIE

A favourite of mine, if you can't get a crowd to dance, this one will do it and he did...CHUCK BERRY AT HIS BEST. The crowd now wasn't sitting down...

14 JOHNNY B GOODE

Chuck when starting this song was definitely in the mood he told the audience well we gotta go, we gotta folks BUT IF YALL COME DOWN HERE AND DANCE WE WILL PLAY ANOTHER 10 MINUTES...WELL THE WHOLE JOINT WENT DOWN and we all danced by the stage (or as close as we could get about the 3rd row) and he rocked his famous anthem and then slowly slipped off the stage as everybody still danced and he played from behind the curtain and he ended the song and he was gone. Most loved the show as did Sandy and I (first time for her seeing Chuck and Jerry) She's had a memorable time with Richard as I have many times before

They were all fantastic if all of you get the chance to see this show...see it as JJ says dynamite.

**Mike and Sandy Vincent Pahrump NV
USA**



news

Message from Yesterday Once More's Kelvin Ford

It is with great sadness we have had to cancel our planned first rockin' weekend due to a clash of dates. Many thanks to all of you who booked and showed interest in the event. We will certainly try again in the future. Special thanks to Linette Richardson, Willie Jefferies and Paul Barrett for their help and advice. You know it makes sense. Kelvin

.....

Hi Spike

I am planning a one off 21 year reunion and I need your help! need you to put out a notice, to all those that know us in 1984 - 85, and remembers the pink elephant (Dumbo's) Southgate, Trent park, and ye old Cherry tree Southgate.

To anyone that knows:

Ian Smith (south London Smith) Colin Barry (Joe cool), Duncan, Chris and Danny, Lee Watkins, Charley, Poo, Jessie, David James, Julian Betts,



Colin Nufer, Dale Nufer, Chris Manning, T C, Ian (tatty). I am looking for Vanya, Paul Redgrove, David Pickett, Lee Cogging, Jackie Price, Ursula Hesinbeck, Kate Parker Tufty, Dale Palmer, Ian Tomah, Mat (freckles), Blond Karen.



If anyone knows the whereabouts of any of the people listed above, or remembers us as a group of friends please contact me on 07759664881, email mr.ian-smith@btinternet.com

.....

Rockin' Dave Taylor remanded in custody as jury finds him guilty of fraud.

Rockin' Dave Taylor's health worries as his long term heart condition worsens.

For the full story www.planetjive.com

.....

The FatCat Trio are in the process of changing the bands name to "MOJOKINGS". We feel that this name suits the musical path that we are taking, because as i'm sure you are all aware, we are not a straight rockin' band. THE MUSICAL POOL IS WAY TOO DEEP TO RESTRICT OURSELVES TO JUST THAT!!! You can still find us at www.thefatcattrio.com for the time being, but we will soon be changing to www.mojokingsrock.com very soon. Keep you posted.

Thanks
KingSmiley Paul

.....

Cat & The Hot Tin Trio launch their latest CD this month, entitled RIGHT NOW! It will be available to buy Dec 23rd at the Clifton Arms in Caterham Surrey. www.catandthehottintrio.org.uk

.....

Hemsby announce river boat cruise...

April Hemsby is to feature the very first rock'n'roll weekenders river cruise, Sunday afternoon will see cruisers leave the camp and head off to the boat for a two hour trip featuring music from The Lonesome Valley Boys. A flier featuring details and booking information will be available shortly. So Hemsby goes SHIP AHOY! and Rock On!!!!

.....

Chess Records Blues guitarist Robert Lockwood Jnr passed away on Nov 21st . Robert Lockwood Jr. was born in Turkey Scratch, a hamlet west of Helena, Arkansas. He started playing the organ in his father's church at the age of 8. The famous bluesman Robert Johnson lived with Lockwood's mother for 10 years off and on after his parents' divorce. Lockwood learned from Johnson not only how to play guitar, but timing and stage presence as well. Lockwood was an early influence of B.B. King and played with King during his early career in Memphis, Tennessee.





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RUTH BROWN - Teardrops from our Eyes

Legendary Rhythm n Blues queen Ruth Brown passed away on November 17th in Nevada.

Ruth Brown (January 12, 1928-November 17, 2006) was an American R&B singer. Born Ruth Alston Weston in Portsmouth, Virginia, Brown brought a popular music style to rhythm and blues in a series of hit songs for fledgling Atlantic Records in the 1950s.

Following a resurgence that began in the mid-1970s and peaked in the eighties, Brown used her influence to press for musicians' rights regarding royalties and contracts. Her performances in the Broadway musical *Black and Blue* earned Brown a Tony Award, and the original soundtrack won a Grammy Award. Ruth Brown's father was a dockhand who directed the local church choir, but the young Ruth showed more of an interest in singing at USO shows and nightclubs. In 1945, Brown ran away from her home in Portsmouth along with a trumpeter, Jimmy Brown, whom she soon married, to sing in bars and clubs. She then spent a month with Lucky Millinder's orchestra, but was fired after she brought drinks to the band for free, and was left stranded in Washington, D.C.



Blanche Calloway, Cab Calloway's sister, also a bandleader, arranged a gig

for Brown at a Washington nightclub called Crystal Caverns and soon became her manager. Willis Conover, a local DJ, caught her act and recommended her to Atlantic Records bosses, Ahmet Ertegun and Herb Abramson. Brown was unable to audition as planned though, because of a serious car accident that resulted in a nine-month hospital visit. In 1948, however, Ertegun and Abramson drove to Washington from New York City to hear her sing in the club. Although her repertoire was mostly popular ballads, Ertegun convinced her to switch to rhythm and blues. His productions for her, however, retained her "pop" style, with clean, fresh arrangements and the singing spot on the beat with little of the usual blues singer's embroidery.

In her first audition, in 1949, she sang "So Long", which ended up becoming a hit. This was followed by *Teardrops from My Eyes* in 1950. Written by Rudy Toombs, it was the first upbeat major hit for Ruth Brown, establishing her as an important figure in R&B. Recorded for Atlantic Records in New York City in September 1950, and released in October, it was on *Billboard's* List of number-one R&B hits (United States) for 11 weeks. The huge hit earned her the nickname "Miss Rhythm" and within a few months Ruth Brown became the acknowledged queen of R&B.

She followed up this hit with "I'll Wait for You" (1951), "I Know" (1951), "5-10-15 Hours" (1953), "(Mama) He Treats Your Daughter Mean" (1953), "Oh What a Dream" (1954), "Mambo Baby" (1954) and "Don't Deceive Me" (1960). She also became known as Little Miss Rhythm and the girl with the teardrop in her voice. In all, she was on the R&B charts for 149 weeks from 1949 to 1955, with 16 top 10 blues records including 5 number ones, and became Atlantic's most popular artist, earning Atlantic records the proper name of "The House that Ruth Built."

During the 1960s, Brown faded from public view to become a housewife and mother, and only returned to music in 1975 at the urging of Redd Foxx, followed by a series of



comedic acting gigs, including a role in sitcom *Hello, Larry* and the John Waters film *Hairspray*, as well as earning a Tony Award for her Broadway performance of *Black and Blue* and a Grammy award for her album *Blues on Broadway*, featuring hits from the show.

Brown's fight for musicians' rights and royalties in 1987 led to the founding of the Rhythm and Blues Foundation. She was inducted as a Pioneer Award recipient in its first year, 1989. In 1993, she was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, as The Queen Mother of the Blues.

According to an article in *JazzImprov* magazine by Stephen Thanabalan, she has become an iconic symbol to many black women for later generations, where she is also a favourite artist and inspiration for later blues artists such as Bonnie Raitt. Brown recorded and sang along with fellow rhythm and blues performer Charles Brown, a member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, and toured with Raitt on Raitt's tour in the late 1990s, "Road Tested". Her 1995 autobiography, *Miss Rhythm*, won the Gleason Award for music journalism.

She will be sorely missed by lovers of R'n'B the world over.

R.I.P.

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RAT'S GIG GUIDE

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

Fri 1 Dec 06 Bolton Tonge Ward RnR Club Tonge Ward Labour Club, Ainsworth Lane, Tonge Moor, Bolton, Lancs BL2 2QL Firebirds Jivin' Jim 01204 410483

Fri 1 Dec 06 C'mon Everybody Record Hop - SM St Marys Social Club, Melton Street, Crossbank, Batley, W.Yorks WF17 8PT Juke Box Jive Johnny Whiteshoes 0113 229 4196

FRIDAY 1 DECEMBER 2006 LIVE AT THE FLAMING STAR! PHIL HALEY & THE COMMENTS (UK) (swinging rock&roll, jive) CATHOUSE CREEPERS(UK) (wild rockabilly) STARTS: 20.00 HOURS PRICE: 12 EURO !!!LIVE RECORDINGS FOR STREETCLIP.TV!!!! FLAMING STAR AM NEUEN RHEINHAFEN 6 SPYER www.flaming-star.de

Fri 1 Dec 06 Dale Tavern West Street, Worsborough Dale, Barnsley, Yorks S70 5PG Jump & Jive Dave B 01226 205611

Fri 1 Dec 06 Eastleigh RnR Club Comrades Club, 55 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, Hants SO50 9DF record hop only Marvin Hemsby Bound 023 8061 1953

Fri 1 Dec 06 Exeter RnR Club St Thomas Cricket Club, Grace Road West, Marsh Barton Ind Est, Exeter, Devon record hop only (rock-'n'roll/rockabilly) Eddie Falcon 01392 425025

Fri 1 Dec 06 King Creole RnR Club Biggleswade WMC, Church Street, Biggleswade, Beds Heartbreakers Kev 07748 306989

Fri 1 Dec 06 Pontiac Roadhouse New Road, Acle, Norfolk NR13 3QE Rhythm Boys 01493 750263

Fri 1 Dec 06 Queens Hotel (Theatre Bar), South Promenade, Blackpool, Lancs FY4 1AY Juke Box Eddies Mike Rossi 01253 342015

Fri 1 Dec 06 Rayners Rock'n'Roll Village Hall, The Village, Stockton-on-the-Forest, York, N.Yorks YO32 9UP Glenn Darren & the Krew Katz Dave B 07752 333094

Fri 1 Dec 06 Revival Night High Royds Social Club, Menston, Otley, W.Yorks LS29 6AQ Revolutionaires Shoe Shine Boy/Tallulah 01943 465457

Fri 1 Dec 06 Rosecroft Club Chelsfield Road, Orpington, Kent Jack Rabbit Slim Pete Bruce 01322 407110

Fri 1 Dec 06 St Anne's Castle Main Road, Great Leighs, Chelmsford., Essex CM3 1NE record hop only (rock'n'roll/rockabilly/jive) Maurice's Rocking Machine 01245 361253

Fri 1 Dec 06 Taunton RnR Club North Petherton RFC, Beggars Brook, North Petherton, Somerset record hop only (rock'n'roll/jive/bop/stroll) Tony Sullivan 01823 332180

Fri 1 Dec 06 The Cellar 73 Wilson Street, Derby, Derbys DE1 1PL Stilletos/Speed Kings/Duo Sonics 01332 206902

Fri 1 Dec 06 The Eagle 156 Cornwall Street, Plymouth, Devon PL1 1NJ record hop only Slim Jim's RnR Disco 01752 266158

Fri 1 Dec 06 The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Flying Saucers 020 7622 4001

Fri 1 Dec 06 Victoria Hotel Stavely, Chesterfield, Derbys S43 3TT record hop only Little Tim's Record Hop 01246 472458



SAT 2 DECEMBER 2006 ROCKIN AT THE PAPERDOME PHIL HALEY AND THE COMMENTS (UK) MISCHIEF!(NL) THE CATHOUSE CREEPERS(UK) RECORD HOP STARTS 20:00 PRICE 15 EURO LOCATION:PAPERDOME HOGE WEIDE 3A UTRECHT mailto:bazookamedia@yahoo.com

Sat 2 Dec 06 Amersham RnR Club White Eagle Hall, Polish Club Complex, Raans Road, Amersham, Bucks HP6 6LX JetHarris/BilleyDavis/Rapiers/Songbirds/CliffHall Christmas show 01494 727173

Sat 2 Dec 06 Banbury RnR Club - GFSSC General Foods S & S Club, Spiceball Park, Banbury, Oxon Darrel Higham & the Enforcers Mick the Mike 01295 278127

Sat 2 Dec 06 Begbrook RnR Club - S&B Stapleton & Begbrook Community Club, Frenchay Park Road, Bristol Honey B & the Kings of Sting Bo Duddlely 0117 969 7326

Sat 2 Dec 06 Bluebirds Social Club Longham, Dorset Memphis '56

Sat 2 Dec 06 Ford Sports & Social Club Gardiners Close, Basildon, Essex SS14 3AN B17s The Raven 01268 584789

Sat 2 Dec 06 Halifax RnR Club Siddal Ex-Servicemen's Club, Halifax, W.Yorks HX3 9JS Skyrockers (ticket only event) D. J. the DJ 01422 354876

Sat 2 Dec 06 Horsham RnR Club Drill Hall, Denne Road, Horsham, W.Sussex Metrotones Wildcat Pete 07966 526260

Sat 2 Dec 06 Indian Inn Devonport Road, Stoke Village, Plymouth, Devon record hop only (50's to 00's) Rollin' Rock Plymouth

Sat 2 Dec 06 Indian Queen 4 Dolphin Lane, Boston, Lincs PE21 6EU Curse 01205 360688

Sat 2 Dec 06 Marjons Derriford, Plymouth, Devon Mark Keeleys Good Rockin' Tonight Fury Rockin' Wax Show 07866 255693

Sat 2 Dec 06 Nifty Fifties RnR Club - LLC Lowton Labour Club, 214 Newton Road, Lowton, Cheshire Colin Paul & the Persuaders tribute to Elvis 01942 724166

Sat 2 Dec 06 Pit Stop RnR Club Coventry Colliery S & S Club, Bennett Road, North Kersley, Coventry, W.Midlands TR & the Rockets Nostalgia Disco 024 7633 6533

Sat 2 Dec 06 Pizza Express - Maidstone 32 Earl Street, Maidstone, Kent Keytones 01622 683548

Sat 2 Dec 06 Quorn Jump Jive & Swing Village Hall, Leicester Road, Quorn, Nr Loughborough, Leics Swing Commanders Steve/GI Jive 01455 843292

Sat 2 Dec 06 Rock House Club Sports & Social Club, William Street, Saxilby, Lincoln, Lincs Revolutionaires Wainyboy + guest 01522 811411

Sat 2 Dec 06 Stage One Cobden Oxford Street, Long Eaton, Derbys Paul Neon & the Saints plus DJ 0115 973 4928

Sat 2 Dec 06 Swamp Rock Club All Saints Arts Centre, 122 Oakleigh Road North, London N12 tba 020 8810 7454

Sat 2 Dec 06 The Foyer University House, University of Sheffield, Western Bank, Sheffield, S.Yorks S10 2TN Ben Waters & his band 0114 222 8777

Sat 2 Dec 06 The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Craze Jay & the Partytimers 020 7622 4001

Sat 2 Dec 06 The Railway - Lowdham Lowdham, Notts record hop only Slim Jim's RnR Disco

Sat 2 Dec 06 The Tap Shop (Midcalder Inn), Main Street, Mid Calder, Livingston, W.Lothian EH53 0AW Uncle Red 01506 880222

Sat 2 Dec 06 Towcester Conservative Club Watling Street, Towcester, Northants Rockin' Crusaders Dynamo Dave 07860 943334

Sat 2 Dec 06 Woodfield Club Woodfield Road, Woodfield, Doncaster, S.Yorks Jets Didge/Fred the Ted/Crock 07808 828551

Sat 2 Dec 06 York 2000 RnR Club - HSC York Health Services Club, White Cross Road, Haxby Road, York, N.Yorks Persuaders (ticket only) Soundsright 01904 795105

Sun 3 Dec 06 Barn Social Club Brookvale Road, Witton, Bham B6 7AJ Restless Hep Beat Record Show 0121 784 8264

Sun 3 Dec 06 Barnsley RnR Team - BG Barugh Green WMC, Higham Common Road, Barnsley, S.Yorks S75 1LD record hop only Jive Bop Record Hop 01977 613841

Sun 3 Dec 06 BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Colin Paul & the Persuaders plus DJ 0117 976 8065

Sun 3 Dec 06 Beauwaters RnR Club Beauwaters Club, Nelson Road, Northfleet, Kent Kingcats Pete Bruce 01322 407110

Sun 3 Dec 06 Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Rockin' The Joint 020 8647 1951

Sun 3 Dec 06 Rocky Roade R&R Club Roade & Courteenhall Ex-Servicemens Club, 55 London Road, Roade, Northants NN7 2NL Ghostriders (from 5pm) Ol' Dell Boy 01604 862861

Sun 3 Dec 06 The Woodgrange 62-64 Southchurch Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2RR Alleycats plus DJ 01702 460133

Mon 4 Dec 06 Duke Of Norfolk 8 Norwich Road, Ditchingham, Norfolk NR35 2JL Rhythm Boys

Mon 4 Dec 06 Holtwhites Sports Club Enfield, Middsx Bernie Woods & the Forest Fires plus record hop

Mon 4 Dec 06 Stompin' at the 100 Club 100 Club, 100 Oxford Street, London W1D 1LL Jive Aces plus DJ 020 7387 1011

Tue 5 Dec 06 Hula Boogie South London Pacific, 340 Kennington Road, Kennington, London SE11 4LD record hop only (r&b/n'r/swing/w.swing/blues) Miss Aloha/Rev Boogie 020 8672 5972

Tue 5 Dec 06 Parklands Ballroom (ex ICI/Dupont SC), Wheatley Hall Road, Doncaster, S.Yorks Rock Back The Clock Dave B 01302 884707

Wed 6 Dec 06 Roadrunner RnR Club Biggleswade WMC, Church Street, Biggleswade, Beds record hop only (jive/stroll/doo-wop) The Wolf 07832 369373

Wed 6 Dec 06 Robin Hood - Barnsley Briery Common, near Barnsley, S.Yorks tba Perry Wilde 01226 716977

Fri 8 Dec 06 Athletic Club - Kettering Rockingham Road, Kettering, Northants Rockin' The Joint Dion 01536 510779

Fri 8 Dec 06 Beaconsfield Rockabilly Club Beaconsfield Football Club, Slough Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks HP9 2SQ Planet Boppers Wildcat Pete 01494 672605

Fri 8 Dec 06 Birdwell Club Sheffield Road, Birdwell, Nr Barnsley, S.Yorks S70 5UY Ian Fenn & the Starcats Clive the Jive 01924 376141

Fri 8 Dec 06 Bolton Tonge Ward RnR Club Tonge Ward Labour Club, Ainsworth Lane, Tonge Moor, Bolton, Lancs BL2 2QL Kingcats Jivin' Jim 01204 410483

Fri 8 Dec 06 Brigg Pavilion Scawby Brook, Brigg, Lincs DN20 9JH Blue Suede Nights plus DJ 01652 656591

Fri 8 Dec 06 Daddy Kool's Brackley Town Football Club, Churchill Way, Brackley, Northants NN13 7EJ Oo Bop Sh' Bam Pin Up Record Hop 01295 276848

Fri 8 Dec 06 Half Moon - Putney 93 Lower Richmond Road, Putney, London SW15 1EW Darts 020 7773 2000

Fri 8 Dec 06 Hillbilly Hop! - BG Bethnal Green WMC, 42 Pollards Row, Bethnal Green, London E2 6NB Lynette Morgan & the Blackwater Valley Boys Little Carl's Record Hop 07974 226380

Fri 8 Dec 06 Hillside Club (ex-Western Club), 357a Derby Road, Lenton, Nottingham, Notts Unknowns Kool Kat Charlie 07901 766863

Fri 8 Dec 06 Jolly Jivers Of Ilkley Hollygarth Social Club, Leeds Road, Ben Rhydding, Ilkley, W.Yorks LS29 8LY Class Of 58 The Jolly Jivers 01943 601070

Fri 8 Dec 06 Kirk Hallam Social Club Dallimore Road, Kirk Hallam, Ilkeston, Derbys tba plus DJ 0115 932 9909

Fri 8 Dec 06 Queens Hotel (Theatre Bar), South Promenade, Blackpool, Lancs FY4 1AY Wildkats Northwest Mike Rossi 01253 342015

Fri 8 Dec 06 Rockin' The Fens Hiam Sports & Social Club, Putney Hill Road, Prickwillow, Ely, Cambs Rock Island Rebels Rockabilly Bob 01638 741402

Fri 8 Dec 06 Rock-Ola RnR Club The Paddocks, Long Road, Canvey Island, Essex Firebirds Two Hounddogs 01268 515696

Fri 8 Dec 06 The Eagle 156 Cornwall Street, Plymouth, Devon PL1 1NJ record hop only Slim Jim's RnR Disco 01752 266158

Fri 8 Dec 06 The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Midnite Flyers 020 7622 4001

Fri 8 Dec 06 The Wheatsheaf - Leighton Buzzard 57 North Street, Leighton Buzzard, Beds Drugstore Cowboys 01525 374611

Fri 8 Dec 06 The Wishing Well The Avenue, Burnhope, Durham, County Durham DH7 0DB record hop only Now Dig This 01207 529247

Sat 9 Dec 06 Balby Ashmount Club Balby Road, Doncaster, S.Yorks Oo Bop Sh' Bam Didge/Fred the Ted/Crock 07808 828551

Sat 9 Dec 06 Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Spitfires 020 8647 1951

Sat 9 Dec 06 Cuxton RnR Club Sturdee Sports & Social Club, Stoke Road, Hoo, Rochester, Kent ME3 9LT Rudy la Crioux & the All Stars The Raven 01732 780076

Sat 9 Dec 06 Duke Of Edinburgh Coast Road, Bacton, Norfolk
Rhythm Boys

Sat 9 Dec 06 Dunnington Sports Club Dunnington, near York,
N.Yorks Class Of 58 (charity event) Daz 01904 489984

Sat 9 Dec 06 Eyre Court Hotel Queen Street, Seaton, Devon Be Bop
Daddies 01297 21455

Sat 9 Dec 06 Glusburn Institute Colne Road, Glusburn, near Keigh-
ley, Yorks Swing Commanders Company 'B' 01535 630223

Sat 9 Dec 06 Guildford Hot 50's RnR Club Fairlands Hall, Fairlands
Avenue, Guildford, Surrey Firebirds Jimmy Slick 01483 856744

Sat 9 Dec 06 Hardy Spicers RnR Club Hardy Spicers Club, Edger-
ton Road, Erdington, Bham Colin Paul & the Persuaders Dancin'
Dave 01827 250303

Sat 9 Dec 06 Hill Park Memorial WMC 78 Highlands Road, Fare-
ham, Hants PO15 6JD Gregg G & his Crazy Gang Wild Wolfie
Smith 01329 280782

Sat 9 Dec 06 Indian Inn Devonport Road, Stoke Village, Plymouth,
Devon record hop only (50's to 00's) Rollin' Rock Plymouth

Sat 9 Dec 06 Juke Joint RnR Club Shrublands Community Centre,
Hawthorn Road, Gorleston-on-Sea, Norfolk Porky's Hot Rockin' The
Professor/Rockin Shades 01760 338894

Sat 9 Dec 06 Junction 27 RnR Underwood Miners Welfare, Alfreton
Road, Underwood, Notts Craze Jay & the Partytimers Dave B 0115
953 4918

Sat 9 Dec 06 Luton RnR Club Roman Way, Tomlinson Avenue,
Luton, Beds Flying Saucers Tartan Ted/Gary Densham 01582
518211

Sat 9 Dec 06 Newtown Social Club Durham Road, Stockton-
on-Tees, Cleveland record hop only (r'n'r/rockabilly/jive) Rockin'
Jukebox Record Hop 0191 410 2914

Sat 9 Dec 06 Northampton RnR Club - FC Far Cotton WMC, Main
Road, Far Cotton, Northampton,, Northants NN4 8EN Meanstreak
AJ The Rockin' DJ 01604 713851

Sat 9 Dec 06 Paris Rock Club - WAC Waterloo Action Centre, 14
Baylis Road, London SE1 7AA 2-Tones (Netherlands) Mad French
Wolf/Dave 07944 775556

Sat 9 Dec 06 Pear Tree Hotel 7 Devonport Road, Stoke, Plymouth,
Devon PL3 4DJ record hop only Slim Jim's RnR Disco 01752
563260

Sat 9 Dec 06 Preston RnR Club Deafway Centre, Brockholes Brow,
Preston, Lancs Memphis Flashers Cry Baby 01253 852594

Sat 9 Dec 06 RBL - Blandford Royal British Legion, Church Lane,
Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7AD Memphis '56 01258 459102

Sat 9 Dec 06 Ritz Ballroom 73 Bradford Road, Brighouse, W.Yorks
Cadillacs Bradford Dude 01274 392380

Sat 9 Dec 06 Rock'n Red Hot Club - SH Royal British Legion, Sta-
ple Hill, Bristol Pontiacs Cockney Rebel 07879 228451

Sat 9 Dec 06 Shoreham RnR Shoreham Centre, Pond Road, Shore-
ham-by-Sea, Sussex Jets plus DJ 01903 243392

Sat 9 Dec 06 Swindon RnR Club Moonrakers (Crossways Suite),
Cricklade Road, Swindon, Wilts SN2 5AA Big Boy Bloater & his
Southside Stompers Leon Oddsocks 01793 612378

Sat 9 Dec 06 Tam O'Shanter Club Hertford Place, Earlsdon, Coven-
try, W.Midlands CV1 3JZ Phil Haley & his Comments Woody 024
7633 6533

Sat 9 Dec 06 The Blueberry 20 Cowgate, Norwich, Norfolk NR3 1SY
Rhythm Boys 01603 475001

Sat 9 Dec 06 The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea,
London SW8 4BX tba 020 7622 4001

Sat 9 Dec 06 Virginia Creepers Club The Water Rats Theatre, 328
Grays Inn Road, Kings Cross, London WC1 Slammers Maximum
Jive Band Tracy Dick 07956 295842

Sat 9 Dec 06 Wealdstone Social Club Station Road, Harrow, Middsx
Rock Of Ages

Sat 9 Dec 06 Worcester RnR Club Christopher Whitehead School,
Bromwich Road, Worcester, Worcs Jive Street Mr Rusty's Road-
show 01905 213313



Sun 10 Dec 06 BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589
Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Earl Jackson Band plus DJ 0117
976 8065

Sun 10 Dec 06 BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589
Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Slammers Maximum Jive Band
Rockin' John 0117 976 8065

Sun 10 Dec 06 Butlins - Bognor Regis Bognor Regis, W.Sussex
Darts

Sun 10 Dec 06 Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Car-
shalton, Surrey Meanstreak 020 8647 1951

Sun 10 Dec 06 Erith RnR Club Erith WMC, 1 Valley Road, Erith,
Kent DA8 1BT House Rockers Cruisin's Record Hop 07973 170056

Sun 10 Dec 06 Eyre Court Hotel Queen Street, Seaton, Devon Be
Bop Daddies (4pm) 01297 21455

Sun 10 Dec 06 The Woodgrange 62-64 Southchurch Avenue,
Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2RR 2 Tones (Belgium) plus DJ
01702 460133



Tue 12 Dec 06 BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589
Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Heartbeats (xmas special) Pete
The Feet 0117 976 8065

Tue 12 Dec 06 Hula Boogie South London Pacific, 340 Kennington
Road, Kennington, London SE11 4LD record hop only
(r&b/r'n'r/swing/w.swing/blues) Miss Aloha/Rev Boogie 020 8672
5972

Wed 13 Dec 06 Roadrunner RnR Club Biggleswade WMC, Church
Street, Biggleswade, Beds record hop only (jive/stroll/doo-wop)
Timeshift 07832 369373

Wed 13 Dec 06 Robin Hood - Barnsley Brierly Common, near
Barnsley, S.Yorks Moonshiners Perry Wilde 01226 716977



Thu 14 Dec 06 50's Jive Club Honiton Motel, Honiton, Devon Mem-
phis Rockers plus record hop

Thu 14 Dec 06 Begbrook RnR Club - S&B Stapleton & Begbrook
Community Club, Frenchay Park Road, Bristol Rockin' The Joint Bo
Duddley 0117 969 7326

Thu 14 Dec 06 Crigglestone WMC High Street, Crigglestone, near
Wakefield, Yorks record hop only Jive Bop Record Hop 01274
600632

Thu 14 Dec 06 Hanworth RnR Club Royal Naval Club, Park Road,
Hanworth, Middsx Sundowners Wildcat Pete 01464 672605

Thu 14 Dec 06 Honiton Jive Club Honiton Motel, Turks Lane, Honi-
ton, Devon Memphis Rockers Eddie Falcon 01404 46942

Fri 15 Dec 06 Austin S&S Club 30 Tessall Lane, Longbridge, Bham B31 2SF Juke Box Jive 0121 475 1641

Fri 15 Dec 06 Badderley Green WMC 922-924 Leek New Road, Badderley Green, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs ST2 7xx Rip It Up Mr Rusty's Roadshow 01782 537292

Fri 15 Dec 06 Bolton Tonge Ward RnR Club Tonge Ward Labour Club, Ainsworth Lane, Tonge Moor, Bolton, Lancs BL2 2QL Juke Box Eddies Jivin' Jim 01204 410483

Fri 15 Dec 06 Bop A Boogies War Memorial Club, Innage Road, Shifnal, Shrops TF11 8AD Jack Rabbit Slim Ramblin' Rich + guest 07890 748716

Fri 15 Dec 06 Borough Green RnR Club Village Hall, Borough Green, Kent TN15 Lee Scott's Jive Mob plus DJ 01732 887033

Fri 15 Dec 06 Dale Tavern West Street, Worsborough Dale, Barnsley, Yorks S70 5PG Crazeey Jay & the Partytimers Dave B 01226 205611

Fri 15 Dec 06 Dance Jive Memorial Hall, Bodhyrd (off Chester Street), Wrexham, N.Wales LL12 7TP tba resident jive DJ 07812 369702

Fri 15 Dec 06 Freddy Boy RnR Orford House Social Club & Institute, Orford Road, Walthamstow, London E17 9QR Brick Lane Boogie Boys Jimbo 07930 544312

Fri 15 Dec 06 Heptonstall Jive Club Heptonstall Social&Bowling Club, Acre Lane, Heptonstall, Hebdon Bridge, W.Yorks HX7 7LT TC & the Swingcats Joyce's Jivin' Jukebox 01422 844049

Fri 15 Dec 06 Hounddogs RnR Club - CSC Chelmsford Social Club, 55 Springfield Road (behind Tesco), Chelmsford, Essex Tri-Sonics/Cathouse Creepers Hounddog Jim/Mark Happycat 01279 654205

Fri 15 Dec 06 March Jive Club Windmill Rooms, Whitemoor Road, March, Cambs PE15 OAF Good Rockin' Tonite The Professor 01354 742309

Fri 15 Dec 06 Mayfair Club Birch Road, Louth, Lincs record hop only (40's & 50's) Jump Jive Alive 01472 230037

Fri 15 Dec 06 MBM's Mytchett Community centre, 140 Mytchett Road, Mytchett, Camberley, Surrey GU16 6AA Corsairs Wildcat Pete 01276 504898

Fri 15 Dec 06 Queens Hotel (Theatre Bar), South Promenade, Blackpool, Lancs FY4 1AY Rock Back The Clock Mike Rossi 01253 342015

Fri 15 Dec 06 Rosecroft Club Chelsfield Road, Orpington, Kent Sugar Bullets Pete Bruce 01322 407110

Fri 15 Dec 06 South Wales RnR Club British Legion Club, Penline Road, Whitchurch, Cardiff, S.Wales Heartbeats Crazeey Dave 029 2061 9271

Fri 15 Dec 06 Taunton RnR Club North Petherton RFC, Beggars Brook, North Petherton, Somerset record hop only Paul Stamps 01823 332180

Fri 15 Dec 06 The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Rockin' The Joint 020 7622 4001

Fri 15 Dec 06 Westland Leisure Complex Yeovil, Somerset Be Bop Daddies 01935 421927

Fri 15 Dec The Sunsetters Paignton Conservative Club Palace Road Paignton , Devon , Tel For Details 01803 551065

Sat 16 Dec 06 Amersham RnR Club White Eagle Hall, Polish Club Complex, Raans Road, Amersham, Bucks HP6 6LX Legend/Bungle Flint/Zoe McCulloch/Secrets/Shadders Shadows Christmas concert 01494 727173

Sat 16 Dec 06 Banbury RnR Club - GFSSC General Foods S & S Club, Spiceball Park, Banbury, Oxon Colin Paul & the Persuaders/Blue Sapphires Mr Rusty's Roadshow 01295 278127

Sat 16 Dec 06 Bumbiters Club Applegarth Club, 52 Heath Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey CR4 8NE Lucas & the Dynamos/Spitfires Pete Bruce 020 8665 9834

Sat 16 Dec 06 Crondall RnR Club The Village Hall, Crondall, near Farnham, Surrey GU10 5QG Skyrockers Oh Boy Record Hop 07903 145018

Sat 16 Dec 06 Crown & Column Devonport, Devon record hop only Slim Jim's RnR Disco

Sat 16 Dec 06 Durley RnR Appreciation Society Durley Memorial Hall, Durley, near Southampton, Hants tba Switchback 023 8040 5121

Sat 16 Dec 06 Easington Colliery Welfare Hall Seaside Lane, Easington Colliery, Easington, County Durham Juke Box Eddies 01845 525293

Sat 16 Dec 06 Eastleigh RnR Club Comrades Club, 55 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, Hants SO50 9DF Ghostriders plus DJ 023 8061 1953

Sat 16 Dec 06 Erith RnR Club Erith WMC, 1 Valley Road, Erith, Kent DA8 1BT Furious Cruisin's Record Hop 07973 170056

Sat 16 Dec 06 Ex-Servicemens Club - Burwell Burwell Ex Service & Social Club, Burwell, Cambs Ramshackle Daddies

Sat 16 Dec 06 Gloucester RnR Club YMCA, Sebert Street, Kinsholm, Gloucs Dynamite 01242 232188

Sat 16 Dec 06 Harston Village Hall Harston, near Cambridge, Cambs Shaun Horton & the Tennessee Trio Dave Crozier 01223 573339

Sat 16 Dec 06 Hersham Comrades Club 128 Hersham Road, Hersham, Surrey KT12 5QL Rockin' The Joint plus DJ 01932 224361

Sat 16 Dec 06 Indian Inn Devonport Road, Stoke Village, Plymouth, Devon record hop only (50's to 00's) Rollin' Rock Plymouth

Sat 16 Dec 06 It's Only Rock'n'Roll Sale Masonic Lodge, Sale, Cheshire M33 7EE Jive Street Jivin' Jim Killey 0161 929 0413

Sat 16 Dec 06 Jeanette & Michelle's RnR Club Village Hall, Westfield Road, off Church Rd, Uphill, Weston-super-Mare, Somerset tba Rockin' Don 07881 912798

Sat 16 Dec 06 Jive Party - Rivoli Rivoli Ballroom, 350 Brockley Road, Crofton Park, London SE4 2BY tba (xmas party) Ken/Graham 020 8946 2664

Sat 16 Dec 06 Market House 129 High Street, Weston-super-Mare, Somerset BS23 1HN Planet Boppers plus DJ 07821 765799

Sat 16 Dec 06 Mynster Club - CH Coronation Hall, Burrowbridge, Somerset TA7 0RJ record hop only (no bar - BYOD) Ian's Blue Jean Bop 01823 698618

Sat 16 Dec Klubtastic at The Skala Restless + Support 07970 81 91 27

Sat 16 Dec 06 Rockin' At The Legion British Legion, 399 High Road, Tottenham, London N17 5QX Sun-Rays Dixie Sounds 07759 874167

Sat 16 Dec 06 Roosters RnR Club - DI Danish Invader, Empingham Road, Stamford, Lincs PE9 2SX Corsairs Poor Boy Paul 01778 560664

Sat 16 Dec 06 Sandhills WMC Broxtowe Drive, off Southwell Road, Mansfield, Notts NG18 2JE Boogie Children

Sat 16 Dec 06 Stage One Cobden Oxford Street, Long Eaton, Derbys Rudy la Crioux & the All Stars plus DJ 0115 973 4928

Sat 16 Dec 06 Starfighter RnR Club Village Hall, Wrenningham, near Norwich, Norfolk Sureshots Rockin Roland 01508 494735

Sat 16 Dec 06 The Charlotte 8 Oxford Street, Leicester, Leics Tri-Sonics/Cathouse Creepers/Top Cats Andy Roberts 0116 255 3956

Sat 16 Dec 06 The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Rat Pack 020 7622 4001

Sat 16 Dec 06 The Shant Sharpness Dockers Club, Sharpness, near Berkley, Gloucs Ian Fenn & the Starcats Mr Whizz/Mr Gough 0117 904 2658

Sat 16 Dec 06 Thorngate Halls Bury Road, Gosport, near Portsmouth, Hants Persuaders 023 9242 8732

Sat 16 Dec 06 Thorngate Halls Bury Road, Gosport, near Portsmouth, Hants Phil Haley & his Comments Wild Wolfie Smith 023 9242 8732

Sat 16 Dec 06 Yeadon Town Hall High Street, Yeadon, Leeds, W.Yorks LS19 7PP Cadillacs/Haleys Swinging Sue 01274 641800

Sun 17 Dec 06 BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Big Boy Bloater & his Southside Stompers Rockin' John 0117 976 8065

Sun 17 Dec 06 Beaconsfield RnR Club Beaconsfield Football Club, Slough Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks HP9 2SQ Something Else Wildcat Pete 01494 672605

Sun 17 Dec 06 Beauwaters RnR Club Beauwaters Club, Nelson Road, Northfleet, Kent Meanstreak Pete Bruce 01322 407110

Sun 17 Dec 06 Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Kingcats 020 8647 1951

Sun 17 Dec 06 Rock Inn RnR Club Railway Club, Hunting Tower Road, Grantham, Lincs Tri-Sonics (Germany)/Cathouse Creepers (2pm-8pm) plus DJ 07828 846175

Sun 17 Dec 06 The Woodgrange 62-64 Southchurch Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2RR Midnight Howlers plus DJ 01702 460133

Sun 17 Dec 06 Valentines Tavern High Street, Lambourn, Berks RG17 8XN Rudy la Crioux & the All Stars Jukebox 01488 72891

Wed 20 Dec 06 Batley Frontier Club Bradford Road, Batley, Yorks WF17 6JD Elderberrys (featuring Garth Cawood) Swinging Sue 01924 442122

Wed 20 Dec 06 Bewicks Live Music Jam Bewick Suite, The Swan, 73 High Street, Maldon, Essex CM9 5EP Ocean's Seven (plus guests) rock'n'roll jam night 01621 843001

Wed 20 Dec 06 Cadbury Heath Jive Club Cadbury Heath Social Club, Cadbury Heath Road, Bristol Mark Keeleys Good Rockin' Tonight Will 0117 938 0483

Wed 20 Dec 06 Roadrunner RnR Club Biggleswade WMC, Church Street, Biggleswade, Beds Porky's Original Hot Rockin' Strollin' Steve/Hounddog Jim 07832 369373

Wed 20 Dec 06 Robin Hood - Barnsley Brierly Common, near Barnsley, S.Yorks tba Perry Wilde 01226 716977

Thu 21 Dec 06 Boxmoor Beat - DH De Havilland Sports & Social Club, St Albans Road West, Hatfield, Herts AL10 0TA Jive Aces plus DJ 01727 856508

Thu 21 Dec 06 Crawley Rugby Club Willoughby Field, Crawley, Sussex Be Bop Daddies 01293 533995

Thu 21 Dec 06 Crigglestone WMC High Street, Crigglestone, near Wakefield, Yorks record hop only Jive Bop Record Hop 01274 600632

Fri 22 Dec 06 Basingstoke RnR Club Westside Community Association, Paddock Road, South Ham, Basingstoke, Hants RG22 6QB Predators plus DJ 01256 462305

Fri 22 Dec 06 Batley RnR Club St Marys Social Club, Melton Street, Crossbank, Batley, W.Yorks WF17 8PT Juke Box Eddies Jacko 01924 454864

Fri 22 Dec 06 Beaconsfield Rockabilly Club Beaconsfield Football Club, Slough Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks HP9 2SQ Unknowns Wildcat Pete 01494 672605

Fri 22 Dec 06 Bude Jive Club Parkhouse Centre, The Castle, Bude, Cornwall EX23 8LF Play It Cool Rockin Trev 01288 359966

Fri 22 Dec 06 Dale Tavern West Street, Worsborough Dale, Barnsley, Yorks S70 5PG Some Like It Hot Dave B 01226 205611

Fri 22 Dec 06 Eastleigh RnR Club Comrades Club, 55 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, Hants SO50 9DF record hop only Simon Moon 023 8061 1953

Fri 22 Dec 06 Embankment Club Wellingborough Road, Wellingborough, Northants Darrel Higham & the Enforcers Bill Guntrip 07785 501848

Fri 22 Dec 06 Exeter RnR Club St Thomas Cricket Club, Grace Road West, Marsh Barton Ind Est, Exeter, Devon record hop only (rock'n'roll/rockabilly) Eddie Falcon/BJ 01392 425025

Fri 22 Dec 06 Hallgarth RnR Club Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Tyne & Wear Ian Fenn & the Starcats Crazy Ken

Fri 22 Dec 06 Hayes Cricket Club Grange Road, Hayes, Middx Slim Slip & the Sliders Brendan 020 8573 4115

Fri 22 Dec 06 Mid Devon RnR Club Magelake Hall, Bridge Street, Uffculme, Devon EX15 3DR Itchy Feet Trio Mooncrest Record Hop 07731 481814

Fri 22 Dec 06 Queens Hotel (Theatre Bar), South Promenade, Blackpool, Lancs FY4 1AY Mike Rossi & his band - Christmas show Del Boy Jacobs 01253 342015


Fri 22 Dec 06 Rockin Jukejoint Denton Labour Club, Ashton Road, Denton, Cheshire Mike Sanchez & the Portions Poor Boy Paul 07833 682201

Fri 22 Dec 06 Rock-Ola RnR Club The Paddocks, Long Road, Canvey Island, Essex Avengers Radar Record Hop 01268 515696

Fri 22 Dec 06 The East Quay Harbour Street, Whitstable, Kent CT5 1AB Keytones 01227 262003

Fri 22 Dec 06 The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Corsairs 020 7622 4001

Fri 22 Dec 06 The Wishing Well The Avenue, Burnhope, Durham, County Durham DH7 0DB Flames Now Dig This 01207 529247



Sat 23 Dec 06 B52 Club Diner Eastern Perimeter Road, Southend Airport, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS2 6YF Rat Pack Radar Record Hop 01268 457767

Sat 23 Dec 06 Basford Social Club 47 Eland Street, Basford, Nottingham, Notts NG7 7DY Jump & Jive 0115 978 6567

Sat 23 Dec 06 Bell Inn Creech St Michael, Taunton, Somerset TA3 5DP Memphis Rockers 01823 443703

Sat 23 Dec 06 Boston Arms Junction Road, Tufnell Park, London NW5 record hop only Cosmic Keith + guests 020 8925 3050

Sat 23 Dec 06 Crescent WMC 8 The Crescent (rear of the Odeon), York, N.Yorks Ghostriders/Furious (rockabilly xmas party) Melbourne 01904 690311

Sat 23 Dec 06 Indian Inn Devonport Road, Stoke Village, Plymouth, Devon record hop only Rollin' Rock Plymouth

Sat 23 Dec 06 Melksham RnR Club Assembly Hall, Market Place, Melksham, Wilts Jets Cockney Rebel 01225 706463

Sat 23 Dec 06 Newtown Social Club Durham Road, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland Ramshackle Daddies Rockin' Jukebox Record Hop 0191 410 2914

Sat 23 Dec 06 Nifty Fifties RnR Club - LLC Lowton Labour Club, 214 Newton Road, Lowton, Cheshire Phil Haley & his Comments plus DJ 01942 724166

Sat 23 Dec 06 Redditch Rowdies RnR Club Bridley Moor & Batchley Social Club, Bridley Moor Road, Redditch, Worcs Rockin' The Joint Blast From The Past 01527 595156

Sat 23 Dec 06 Riley Smith Hall 28 West Gate, Tadcaster, N.Yorks LS24 9JB Some Like It Hot (ticket only) Jive Bop 01274 600632

Sat 23 Dec 06 Rock Inn RnR Club Railway Club, Hunting Tower Road, Grantham, Lincs Country Catlin/Hicksville Bombers/Rootin Tootin plus DJ 07828 846175

Sat 23 Dec 06 Stage One Cobden Oxford Street, Long Eaton, Derbys Skyrockers plus DJ 0115 973 4928

Sat 23 Dec 06 The Jukebox 147 Club, 2 Stepfield, Witham Industrial Estate, Witham, Essex CM8 3TH Sundowners Skinny Jim 01245 260506

Sat 23 Dec 06 The Oddfellows West Hill, Dartford, Kent record hop only Slim Jim's RnR Disco


Sat 23 Dec 06 The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Flames 020 7622 4001

Sat 23 Dec 06 The Spread Eagle Main Road, Margaretting, Chelmsford, Essex record hop only (rock'n'roll/rockabilly/jive) Maurice's Rocking Machine 01277 352052

Sat 23 Dec 06 Weymouth WMC Weymouth, Dorset Memphis '56

Sat 23 Dec Cat & The Hot Tin Trio and DJ Terry the Ted Clifton Arms 110 Chaldon Road, Caterham, Surrey, CR3 5PH [01883 343525

Sat 23 Dec Somethin Else The Victoria Pub, Hucclecote Rd, Gloucester 07806554513



Sun 24 Dec 06 BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Jive Street Rockin' John 0117 976 8065


Sun 24 Dec 06 Halifax RnR Club Siddal Ex-Servicemen's Club, Halifax, W.Yorks HX3 9JS Ian Fenn & the Starcats (ticket only event) D.

J. the DJ 01422 354876

Sun 24 Dec 06 Hegarty's 197 Duke Street, Plymouth, Devon PL1 4EF record hop only Slim Jim's RnR Disco 01752 560077

Sun 24 Dec 06 Jive Inn RnR Club Bridgewater Sport & Social Club, Bath Road, Bridgewater, Somerset Rockin' The Joint Tel'Star 01823 259193

Sun 24 Dec 06 The Woodgrange 62-64 Southchurch Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2RR Rat Pack plus DJ 01702 460133



Tue 26 Dec 06 Begbrook RnR Club - S&B Stapleton & Begbrook Community Club, Frenchay Park Road, Bristol Heartbeats Bo Dudley 0117 969 7326


Tue 26 Dec 06 British Railway RnR Club Broad Green, Wellingborough, Northants Rip It Up Strollin Steve 07748 306989

Tue 26 Dec 06 Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Bernie Woods & the Forest Fires 020 8647 1951

Tue 26 Dec 06 Lord Protector Mayfield Road Huntingdon, Cambs PE29 1NH Ramshackle Daddies 01480 454720

Tue 26 Dec 06 Pear Tree Hotel 7 Devonport Road, Stoke, Plymouth, Devon PL3 4DJ record hop only Slim Jim's RnR Disco 01752 563260

Tue 26 Dec 06 Rossington Welfare Social Club West End Lane, Rossington, Doncaster, S.Yorks Class Of 58 Ol' Dell Boy 01302 863125




Wed 27 Dec 06 Festival Inn Ilkeston Road, Trowell, Notts NG9 3PX Juke Box Jive plus DJ 0115 932 2897

Wed 27 Dec 06 Link Club Parsloe Road, Harlow, Essex CM19 4RT Fever Strollin Steve 01763 241301

Wed 27 Dec 06 Robin Hood - Barnsley Brierly Common, near Barnsley, S.Yorks tba Perry Wilde 01226 716977

Wed 27 Dec 06 Rock'n Red Hot Club - SH Royal British Legion, Staple Hill, Bristol Johnny Carr & the Cadillacs/Dean Austin (Elvis) Dynamite Dave 07879 228451

Wed 27 Dec 06 The Town Mill Bridge Street, Mansfield, Notts NG18 1AN Boogie Children 01623 632451




Thu 28 Dec 06 Hanworth RnR Club Royal Naval Club, Park Road, Hanworth, Midsx Rockin' The Joint Wildcat Pete 01464 672605

Thu 28 Dec 06 Nifty Fifties RnR Club - LLC Lowton Labour Club, 214 Newton Road, Lowton, Cheshire Bill Fadden & the Stringbusters plus double bill 01942 724166

Thu 28 Dec 06 Nifty Fifties RnR Club - LLC Lowton Labour Club, 214 Newton Road, Lowton, Cheshire Wildfire Willie & the Ramblers Cheshire Cat Tom 01942 724166

Thu 28 Dec 06 Tam O'Shanter Club Hertford Place, Earlsdon, Coventry, W.Midlands CV1 3JZ Jive Aces Woody 024 7633 6533



Fri 29 Dec 06 Barnsley RnR Team - BHSSC Barnsley Hospital Sports & Social Club, Pogmoor Road, Barnsley, S.Yorks S75 2EP Colin Paul & the Persuaders Jive Bop Record Hop 01977 613841

Fri 29 Dec 06 Bolton Tonge Ward RnR Club Tonge Ward

Labour Club, Ainsworth Lane, Tonge Moor, Bolton, Lancs BL2 2QL Rock Back The Clock Jivin' Jim 01204 410483

Fri 29 Dec 06 British Railway RnR Club Broad Green, Wellingborough, Northants Blue Sapphires Strollin Steve 07748 306989

Fri 29 Dec 06 Chilton & Windlestone Club Darlington Road, Chilton, Ferryhill, County Durham record hop only (50's style rock'n'roll) Rockin Andy 01388 720340

Fri 29 Dec 06 Gold Star RnR Club Red Lion, Great North Road, Hatfield, Herts AL9 5EU Rapides Houndog Jim 07752 672334

Fri 29 Dec 06 High Royds RnR Club High Royds Social Club, Menston, Otley, W.Yorks LS29 6AQ Cadillacs Flash-back Billy 07818 246823

Fri 29 Dec 06 Hillside Club (ex-Western Club), 357a Derby Road, Lenton, Nottingham, Notts Hicksville Bombers Kool Kat Charlie 07901 766863

Fri 29 Dec 06 Jolly Jivers Of Ilkley Hollygarth Social Club, Leeds Road, Ben Rhydding, Ilkley, W.Yorks LS29 8LY record hop only (rock'n'roll/jive/stroll) The Jolly Jivers 01943 601070

Fri 29 Dec 06 Queens Hotel (Theatre Bar), South Promenade, Blackpool, Lancs FY4 1AY Juke Box Eddies Mike Rossi 01253 342015

Fri 29 Dec 06 The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX TTs 020 7622 4001



Sat 30 Dec 06 Ford Sports & Social Club Gardiners Close, Basildon, Essex SS14 3AN Flying Saucers The Raven 01268 584789

Sat 30 Dec 06 Ritz Ballroom 73 Bradford Road, Brighouse, W.Yorks Mark Keeleys Good Rockin' Tonight Bradford Dude 01274 392380



Sun 31 Dec 06 Basingstoke RnR Club Westside Community Association, Paddock Road, South Ham, Basingstoke, Hants RG22 6QB The Sundowners +DJ 01256 462305

Sun 31 Dec 06 Beaconsfield RnR Club Beaconsfield Football Club, Slough Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks HP9 2SQ Darrel Higham & the Enforcers with guest Cat Cane and DJ Wildcat Pete 01494 672605

Sun 31 Dec 06 Begbrook RnR Club - S&B Stapleton & Begbrook Community Club, Frenchay Park Road, Bristol Jive Krazy Bo Duddley 0117 969 7326

Sun 31 Dec 06 Bristol Jive Club - KRFC Keynsham RFC, Crown Fields, Bristol Road, Keynsham, Bristol BS31 2BE tba Will 0117 938 0483

Sun 31 Dec 06 Cuxton RnR Club Sturdee Sports & Social Club, Stoke Road, Hoo, Rochester, Kent ME3 9LT B17s Two Houndogs 01732 780076

Sun 31 Dec 06 Ferry House Inn 888 Wolseley Road, Ply-

mouth, Devon PL5 1LA record hop only Fury Rockin' Wax Show 01752 361063

Sun 31 Dec 06 Festival Inn Ilkeston Road, Trowell, Notts NG9 3PX tba plus DJ 0115 932 2897

Sun 31 Dec 06 Hardy Spicers RnR Club Hardy Spicers Club, Edgerton Road, Erdington, Bham tba plus DJ 01827 250303

Sun 31 Dec 06 It's Only Rock'n'Roll Sale Masonic Lodge, Sale, Cheshire M33 7EE Colin Paul & the Persuaders (ticket only) Jivin' Jim Killey 0161 929 0413

Sun 31 Dec 06 Mynster Club - CH Coronation Hall, Burrowbridge, Somerset TA7 ORJ tba? (xmas rock'n'roll party - no bar - BYOD) plus DJ 01823 698618

Sun 31 Dec 06 Nelson Club Stockton, near Southam, Wings Dynamite

Sun 31 Dec 06 Newtown Social Club Durham Road, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland record hop only (r'n'r/rockabilly/jive) Rockin' Jukebox Record Hop 0191 410 2914

Sun 31 Dec 06 Northampton RnR Club - FC Far Cotton WMC, Main Road, Far Cotton, Northampton,, Northants NN4 8EN Blast Off Dynamite Dave 01604 713851

Sun 31 Dec 06 Rayners Rock'n'Roll Village Hall, The Village, Stockton-on-the-Forest, York, N.Yorks YO32 9UP Rip It Up Dave B 07752 333094

Sun 31 Dec 06 Ready2Rock The Hall at Musmajas, Priory Hill, Wolston, Coventry, W.Midlands CV8 3FZ Jive Street Blast From The Past 01926 850324

Sun 31 Dec 06 Rock-Ola RnR Club The Paddocks, Long Road, Canvey Island, Essex Kingcats Galaxie Bob 01268 515696

Sun 31 Dec 06 Stockcross Rock'n'Roll Village Hall, Stockcross, near Newbury, Berks RG20 8LN record hop only (rock'n'roll) Dave The Rave 01488 658186

Sun 31 Dec 06 Swan & Royal Hotel Castle Street, Clitheroe, Lancs BB7 2BX Rock Back The Clock 07989 760101

Sun 31 Dec 06 Tabu @ D'n'R Live Snig Hill, Sheffield, S.Yorks Arousers + tba Big Daddy/Go-Go-Gorilla 0114 257 6953

Sun 31 Dec 06 The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Flying Saucers 020 7622 4001

Sun 31 Dec 06 West End Club Chippenham, Wilts Zig-Zag Band

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LADY ROCKABILLIES RUBY ANN AT THE HILLBILLY HOP

I have to tell you something now about the gig I saw at 'The Hillbilly Hop' on Friday 13th October. Leo (DJ, promoter and organiser of this excellent club) arranged for Ruby to come over from her base in France to play at his excellent looking friendly club in Bethnal Green, London. It was her first time back in the U.K. since appearing at the 'Rockabilly Rave' in March of this year. Why Ruby is not booked to play over here more often is a complete mystery to me.



This girl has one hell of a voice. She came over with Gautier, a guitarist with an amazing ability to make playing lead look like a stroll in the park. The rest of the band was put together by Leo himself, using www.MySpace.com to contact the musicians!

Woody from 'Rudy La Croix' was playing on bass, Tony from 'Slim Slip & the Sliders' was on drums, and Phil Morgan, formerly from 'Lynette Morgan and the Blackwater Boys', was on steel guitar. Considering this band was only put together that very afternoon to rehearse demonstrates the professionalism of them all. It was, in my opinion, perfect.

I had arranged to meet two friends, 'Suzy Q' and 'Red Hot Ruby', at Bethnal Green underground

station. Yes, I was a Hillbilly Hop virgin! Our timing was perfect, I only had to wait a couple of minutes before rushing across a busy high street and jumping into the back of Suzy's yellow auto. Another five minutes and we were there. Parking was a piece of cake. We got out of the car, went into the working men's club, paid, went up the stairs, and we entered a cool looking club, with a friendly smiling bouncer (do they still call them bouncers?), and a bar to our right. What got my attention was the good-sized stage with a heart shaped backlight. It was good to see Ruby Ann and Gautier again. They stayed with Fi and me before the rave back in March. After our hellos, kisses (Ruby) and handshakes (Gautier) we made a base camp and headed for the bar.

Not too many cats and kittens on the scene today really listen to the background music that the D.J.'s play while the clubs are filling up and the pre-gig chatting is going on. Leo played some great hillbilly numbers, some I knew but a lot I had never heard before. Suzy Q tells me these are wasted tunes, sounds that the audience never take in. But they are great tunes none the less.

Ruby opened her set with Bob Luman's 'Hello Baby' Ruby's voice was just as I had remembered it. Powerful. The backing band sounded as if they had been backing her for years. I knew we were in for a great nights entertainment. 'Seven Lonely Nights' followed the opener. That voice takes some beating, and from such a petite lady too, it's totally amazing, but not unexpected. Next was 'Jump Cat Jump', and this was followed by 'Your Kisses Turned Sour' one of my favourite tunes from her second C.D. 'Boppin' like a chicken'. Before the next number Ruby had me blushing like a schoolgirl as she dedicated 'Starlight Starbright' to me. Shucks! Standout tunes for me were...to be perfectly honest it was all of them. I loved the different arrangement to 'Don't Call Me Honey' (written by Shaun Young of High Noon, for Ruby) a slower

version than the one she did at the Rave with 'The Capers', but equally good.

Halfway through her set she stopped to catch her breath and asked steel guitarist Phil to play something in G. He duly obliged and launched into an excellent instrumental, off the cuff I believe. The band, as expected, followed seamlessly. I asked Phil about the number later that night.

"You're right Duke, it was off the cuff. I use the basic tune for my sound check. Ruby Ann said "G" and I play it in "C" - so "G" it was (ha)! It was just something I made up as I went along - I'll call it "Rockin' Little Ruby" - she was great that night and a pleasure to work with, as were the other guys - Gautier is a great guitarist and hopefully we'll work together again sometime soon."

The great music and favourites of mine kept coming 'I Love Honey', 'Look At That Moon', 'Everlasting Love' and 'I Need A Man', as well as some tunes I had not heard before 'That's The Way It's Gotta Be', and 'Looking At The Moon And Wishing On A Star'. Then came the icing on the cake. A song Ruby has made her own, 'I Hear You Talking'. For some reason she did not perform it at the Rave, which was a bit of a surprise to a few audience members as well as to myself. But looking backing it took nothing away from her performance there. However, it definitely added something to the 'Hillbilly Hop' gig.

I can honestly say that this was the best club gig I have been to in a long while, the music played by the D.J.s Leo and Mark Lamborn, as well as the featured artists, and the club, people and the beer (Newcastle Brown Ale) made this an entertaining and very enjoyable evening.

My only disappointment was the fact that I could not make her gig the following night at the Rock 'n' Bowl...

Duke



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thanks for reading - c u next month

Ol' Rockin Chair's got me!

Not yet it bloody hasn't! But I was there at the birth of the Rock and Roll era. "How soddin' old are you then?" "Not going to tell you! Work it out for yourself!"

When I left school in 1955 the Hit Parade, (if it even existed then, I think it did) was full of records by Jimmy Young, Donald Peers, Mario Lanza, Max Bygraves, Dorothy Squires, Alma Cogan and Vera Lynn. Nothing against any of these but it was bloody boring! THE Pop music station was Radio Luxemburg 208 metres medium wave. This was difficult to listen to in the South of England, as after the hours of darkness it used to fade in and out. Due I believe to the height of the heaveside layer (what ever that is!). In Scotland, my friend Jock told me, it worked perfectly. The music was also interrupted by numerous adverts for the Infra Draw Method for pools forecasting and BMK carpets and rugs. So what did we do for entertainment? Victor Sylvester's ballroom dancing classes at the local Odeon cinema restaurant, I don't think so! We went into the cinema itself and watched a film called Blackboard Jungle about racial conflict in the Deep South. In it was a piece of music; at least I think it was music, entitled Rock Around the Clock. This was totally unlike anything we had heard before. We got out of our seats, danced in the aisles, tore up the seats and went wild! The Rock and Roll era was born! At about the same time we heard on Luxemburg a completely new sound from the US of A, Heartbreak Hotel by a young Elvis Presley! Popular music had changed forever!

The late Fifties and early Sixties were a fabulous time to be young (I was then!). It was all happening around us and to us! We were there, we were the Fifties and Sixties, we had the haircuts, mine was a crew cut not a DA (duck's arse), the clothes, Parkers or Drainpipes, (Mods or Rockers) and the music was just unbelievable and you Mad Rat readers are still doing it!

Very soon after Blackboard Jungle the first Rock and Roll film was released, Rock Around the Clock. I think I saw it at least once a week

for months. Clubs and music venues were springing up everywhere. Soho was awash with Coffee Bars, they were the in place to be (after you came out of the pub) and a great place to pick up the birds, their parents would let them go to a Coffee Bar, little did they know! I used to frequent the most famous one of the all the Two Is. It was a dingy basement packed every night with spotty youths and girls with miles of petticoats. The bands were the same (Tommy Steele was spotty once!), no one got paid, and you just had to be seen there! We worked away at our Likely Lads apprenticeships all week and spent all our wages (£5 14s 6d) on beer and coffee in Soho every Saturday night. It was fabulous. We would visit 100 Oxford Street, and I still do today. The only change is they have moved the stage from the far end to the middle. So much for fifty odd years of progress!

Then at last Bill Haley and the Comets came to England! (Elvis never did!). There were look alike Bill Haleys everywhere, in the newspapers, on TV, on cinema newsreels. Where was he, would he come, where would he be, would we see him? The Daily Sketch chartered a train to bring him from Southampton to Victoria Station. They had a competition, for fans, for a limited number of places on the train; he had come by boat from across the pond. The first concert was at the Dominion Theatre, Tottenham Court Road and, dear Mad Rat Reader, I was there! Weeks before I had queued for 8 hours outside the Theatre for tickets. Christ knows where I got the money, probably stole it from my mum's purse (sorry, mum), but what a night that was! The music was so exciting it got into your sole it became a part of you; none of us had heard anything like it before. Many other groups and bands followed, better and bigger and even more exciting but nothing will replace those early days. It was all-new, we knew every song in the hit parade and, Ratters you are still crazy about that music today. You still get the excitement and crack from the same tunes and new ones.

Keep on Rocking! I will! That bloody Rocking chair can wait!

Brian Hammett

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