

MAD RAT MAGAZINE

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

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Issue #15 November '06



Front Pic. Spike & Rudy Grayzell

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

November edition



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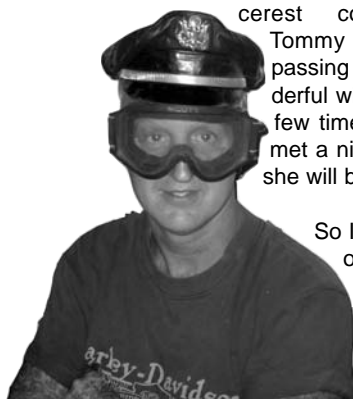


This was the month that was.....

Well, first Linette and I would like to say a huge thank you for a very nice welcome at Holtwhites for the Charlie Gracie gig, what a great night, an audience with Charlie Gracie, was as always impeccable. A small and cosy feel to the club that has a very eclectic gathering a few teds, a few rockabilles some young some more mature and all having a blast, cheap beer and the dance floor filled all night. This club is well worth the visit it only took us an hour to get there and that's even with the road works on junction 24, if its rockin' on a Monday night your looking for you can look forward to The Sundowners on November the 6th and Berni Woods and The Forest Fires on December 4th in Enfield, may see you there you never know?

Just returned from Hemsby thanks for the Oi Oi's had a really good time met some new friends and some old mates and talked and shouted me way through the weekend in between great acts, great music, great DJ's and a lumpy sofa... now I know im a nutter but 4 guys in 2 singles and one double that brings a new meaning to the words Oi Oi, anyhow apart from that it was the nuts weekend and I think apart from the odd few everyone I spoke to said the same. You can read a full review inside this issue.....well done to all involved... blinding!

On a very sad note I would like to send our sincerest condolences to Tommy Hogan on the passing of Linda his wonderful wife, we met but a few times but I've never met a nicer, warmer lady she will be missed.



So I have to say that our journey to Swindon was long and ardu-

ous but the reward at the end of the yellow brick road was a pot of gold two incredible bands from Europe playing non stop rock'n'roll hits real teddy boy's travelled for miles to support Zoe and Johns event and the whole place rocked and rolled with Thank God I'm a teddy boy etched firmly on every square foot of Moonrakers. Well done to everyone involved what a brilliant night. There will be interviews with both bands featured in future issues.

My first moan in a long time and its again about people who think they have the monopoly on the rockin scene, I'll keep it short, you haven't got anything of the sort.... People will go where they want to go and that is exactly how it should be! Once again big thanks to everyone who has sent something in, be it a review, feature, gossip, jokes, or an advert, keep 'em coming, Remember to keep rockin rollin you got to be in it to win it so phone us or email us and take advantage of our subscription or our very reasonable advertising prices, you never know we may surprise you.

For advertising in the December issue deadline is the 5th November. For anything else for the Magazine then it's the 2nd.

Only one moan this month, well the rest of 'em I can't print!

See you out there
Rockin Regards

Spike

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Rockin Beat & Boogie

Well me old rat fans, this month I caught up with a few of the geezers who keep the rockin' rollin' from the backseat. Yes, the guys who keep the rockin beat good and steady, have the most equipment and are usually the last to pack up. I'm of course talking about the drummers. I am pleased to say that some of the best known beaters on today's scene put down the sticks and picked up the pen. Oi Oi.

'Bomber' Wade

Q.1 How long have you been bashing the pots and pans and what encouraged you to start?

My main influence to start drumming was my dad, Ricky Wade. He was a drummer in the early 60's with a Birmingham band called 'El Riot & the Rebels'. That band later evolved to become the 'Moody Blues', but the old man had already left to join the Navy!

He started me off drumming and I suppose I was about 11 when I really decided I wanted to drum.

Q.2 Who is or are your drumming mentor/s?



Truth be told I love Jazz and all the 50's drummers like Max Roach, Sonny Payne, Jo Jones are real influences. The fellas I listen to to try and emulate their style in my own playing are guys like, Sonny Freeman (BB King), Earl Palmer (legendary session player), Jimmy Vincent (Louis Prima). There are modern drummers like Stanton Moore and John Vidacovich who play that New Orleans second line feel with a modern twist who I really like as well.

As for closer to home, Dean Beresford has always inspired me and Mark Morgan plays some beautifully subtle stuff.

Q.3 How many and what kits do you own, what's your favourite and why?

I just got rid of an white marine pearl 50's AJAX kit and an 80's Pearl kit, to get my hands on a late 50's/early 60's Gretsch kit with the round badge design. That kit is my absolute favourite. The only thing that could improve it is to have it finished in Champagne Sparkle, but as for sound? Well it's got 'that great Gretsch sound' as the advert says. My cymbals are Paiste 602's which are getting harder to come by and I split an 18" crash a few years back and have to replace it. They're going for big money though and I'm toying with going for something from the Bosphorous range when I get the dough.

Q.4 Which bands have you appeared with?

Started off in punk bands and messing about with mates, but moved on and played with 'Now Dig This', Red Peters

& her Solid Senders' as well as helping out Big Boy Bloater on occasions and other projects such as a trio with American guitarist, Steve Jarosz and Graeme Grant from 'Demented Are Go'.

Currently I play with Otis Grand & his Big Blues Band, The City Shakers, which is a side project of Big Boy Bloater's, and every year at The Rhythm Riot where I play with the house band, The Kings of Rhythm backing the original 50's stars. This year we've got Lloyd Price, so gotta get some serious studying done to get his set right.

I've played with loads of bands over the years and depped for quite a few as well. I used to play every Sunday night at The 100 Club at Paul Ansell's Sands Club where I played with Mike Sanchez, James Hunter, Imelda Clabby...the list goes on.

Q.5 Do you play other styles?

I seemed to have moved over to the Blues circuit a bit and played with the likes of Little George Sueref and Big Joe Louis which opens new doors and different experiences. Some of the bigger blues festivals are really well organised and its nice to enjoy the luxury that goes with them that you don't really experience on the 'rockin' scene.

I'm really into Cuban music and listen to alot of Samba and Mambo as well so I play my congas when I get the chance, although I've only played them once in public.

Jazz is something I'd like to move into soon, but it's a whole different style and its something I'm working on.

Q.6 Best and worse gig and why?

Some of my most memorable gigs have been backing the stars at The Rhythm Riot. Young Jessie was amazing 'cos it was like playing along to the record. He still had the voice and stuck to the arrangements and it seemed magical.

Sometimes when you're playing with the original stars and playing the numbers we all know so well it sends shivers up your spine. Last year we backed The Five Keys and playing the first few bars of 'She's The Most' made me tingle.

Worst gig? Probably the flip side of The Rhythm Riot. Playing with a Western Swing man (not mentioning any names here) who insisted on having his amp so loud, and right in front of me, so I couldn't hear the rest of the band and then playing all out of time. That was a long and embarrassing set because I knew there were alot of his fans who were expecting a good show.

Q.7 Are you a drumming anorak?

I'm not too bad! I do get genuinely excited when I see a nice vintage Slingerland or Gretsch, and I scour the internet trying to find good footage of drummers to pick up tricks and things, but I wouldn't say I'm an anorak.

I tap constantly though and if allowed I could practice for eight hours straight, but that never happens.

Q.8 What's your favourite soup?

Hmmm, home made lentil and bacon.

Q.9 Stockings or Tights?

Stockings please!!!!



Mark Morgan

Q.1 How long have you been bashing the pots and pans and what encouraged you to start?

I had my first drum lesson in 1980, i'd been playing accordion before that encouraged by my parents but really wanted to be tub thumpin man so proceeded to create a kit out've chairs&bins

in the kitchen&whack hell out've 'em with 2 pieces of dowel which my dad turned into drumsticks! eventually they let me have lessons. My uncle Raymond was a drummer& a huge influence, he had a gorgeous Champagne sparkle Rogers kit in the garage& i used to play along to Elvis, old r n' r, Shadows til my hearts content. Ray was great drummer in the oldschool sense with lots of taste& finesse so yeah a big impact on me.

Q.2 Who is or are your drumming mentor/s?

Damn..how can I answer this without going overboard...I like so many even some new guys but that probably wouldn't relate to the article.

Earl palmer, Odie Payne, Francis Clay, Buddy Harman, Jerry Allison, Panama Francis, DJ Fontana, Dickie Harrell, Fred Below, Al Jackson, W.S Holland, Jimmy van Eaton, Hal Blaine, Tony Meehan, Brian Bennett, Clem Cattini, Bobby Elliot, Ringo Starr, Little John Badanjek, Zigaboo Modeliste, Buddy Rich, Art Blakey, Joe Morello & so many others i know, the list goes on but as you can tell most of my influences cover great rock, country, blues, beat & jazz drummers from the 50's & 60's. Special mention to my first drum teacher& always the best. Roger Whitehouse.

Q.3 How many and what kits do you own, what's your favourite and why?

I only have 2 kits at the mo'(wish i had room for more)! Still have my old '64 ludwig super classic but bought a reissue ludwig in jazz sizes last year which is my main kit now, the bass drum ain't got the roundness or boom of the old super-classic though..bit too 'clakky' but nice overall& the fittings are reliable. I still love vintage drums though& often use my '61 WFL Snare drum in the studio as it sounds fab' in the right room. I'm still using cymbals i bought 20 odd years ago my favourites being a late 60's 22" A ride..my baby plus a pair of 14" mismatched 1960's hats a ziljian top&zyn bottom!

The best kit i ever had though was a late 60's Rogers USA which i regret ever getting rid of as it was such a great example.

Q.4 Which bands have you appeared with?

I've been with Mike Sanchez for over 13 years now (inc' Big Town Playboys). Played with a few other people related to scene/circuit. James Hunter, Paul Ansell, various rockabilly, jive& blues bands. Backed a few americans over

MAD RAT MAG

DRUMMERS FEATURE

the years..Charlie Gracie, Roscoe Gordon, little willie littlefield(i back him again at this years rhythm riot).

Q.5 Do you play other styles?

The only time i diverted slightly from my style was about 10/11 years ago when i was involved in a very interesting project with a girl singer which was slightly more contemporary but she still wanted me for my style of playing, the old kit etc so maybe it wasn't that far removed. I do love listening to all sorts of drumming though, always learning.

Q.6 Best and worse gig and why?

So many of each..i must say most of my best gigs have been on the continent& a lot of my worse ones have been in the UK..What does that tell you!

Q.7 Are you a drumming anorak?

I have elements of anorakness, but not as bad as some!

Q.8 What's your favourite soup?

Carrot & coriander

Q.9 Stockings or Tights?

Oh definately stockings of the fishnet variety. I look great in those.

Rob Tyler

Q.1 How long have you been bashing the pots and pans and what encouraged you to start?

I started playing on a set of oil drums my Nan stole from a local garage when I was about 10 years old. I'm not sure why but I just always knew that I had to play the drums. I think listening to Ringo Starr on my parents Beatles albums was probably to blame. I got my first kit around about the age of 12 and taught myself by playing along to records.

Q.2 Who is or are your drumming mentor/s?

I think I spent most of my summer holidays as a kid watching and pestering the drummers at Butlins holiday camps. I wanted to be like Keith Moon in "That'll Be The Day". When I started listening to Rock n Roll I became a huge fan (still am) of Dickie Harrell, Gene Vincent's drummer. I also listened a lot to Earl Palmer and tons of Buddy Rich, Max Roach and Art Blakey. On the scene I always admired Steff Edwards from The Bluecats and Ricky Lee Brawn (Stargazers/Big 6) to whom I owe a huge debt of gratitude for getting me started and introducing me to Dave Phillips.

Q.3 How many and what kits do you own, what's your favourite and



why?

I've owned a few over the years, starting off with a late 1950's Red Pearl Trixson which I used on the Wild Youth album, then moving on to a champagne sparkle late 60's rectangle badge Gretsch that I used mainly for Restless live work and recording. I am now on my dream kit - a mid 60's white Marine Pearl Slingerland. I think this is my favourite so far.. it's got a beautiful tone and just looks so damn good.

Q.4 Which bands have you appeared with?

I started off with Dave Phillips Hot Rod Gang in the early Eighties. Had a taste of some of that Klub Foot action with The Outer Limits, then I joined Restless for most of the Nineties. Played with Vincent's Blue Caps, had a couple of years with Darrel Higham and The Enforcers and am now back with Restless and working with a new band The Sunsetters. I've depped for The Space Cadets, played the Rave with Buzz and the Flyers and worked with many function and tribute acts along the way.

Q.5 Do you play other styles?

Nahh, not really.. I love jazz and can swing a little but really I'm just a rockin' drummer. I've had stints in various function bands over the years and had a go at most things. Absolutely cannot cope with Heavy Metal or Reggae.

Q.6 Best and worse gig and why?

Most memorable gig has to be playing Stella McCartney's wedding reception with Darrel Higham in front of the great and the good, and Sir Paul himself jumping up for a few numbers.

Worst.....

Being attacked on stage by an angry mob of restauranteur's at an open air gig in Rome. Apparently the big beat was disrupting business!

Q.7 Are you a drumming anorak?

Nahh.... well maybe just a little bit.

Q.8 What's your favourite soup?

Duck Soup

Q.9 Stockings or Tights?

Stockings.. when I put one over my head it makes me look like Bob Hoskins !

Steve Hallford

Q.1 How long have you been bashing the pots and pans and what encouraged you to start?

Gigging in pubs and social clubs when i was 14 (1972/73). Music and dancing runs in the family. I was literally bashing pots and pans with wooden spoons when v young so my

interest in music grew with me.

Q.2 Who is or are your drumming mentor/s?

When i started playing the main guy i liked was john coghlan from status quo, not technical but a good solid drummer. Today there are many good drummers on the scene . I like mark kemlo from gene gambler ,a young mark matthews from the revolutionaires and ricky hughes from number 9 just to name but a few.

Q.3 How many and what kits do you own, what's your favourite and why?

I only have one kit ,which is a pearl silver satin rock kit which i brought new in 1976. Its a wood fibreglass which is loud and has some nice tones.i use a tama maple artwood snare with a fibreskin which gives me the sound i want.

Q.4 Which bands have you appeared with?

Loads of different types of bands, the chicago sunsets ,a chicago blues band. Black cat in the 80s the jaguars to the present day rat pack.

Q.5 Do you play other styles?

I try to play as many different styles as i can.

Q.6 Best and worse gig and why?

I do not have a best gig ,as all the gigs are enjoyable. The only bad one was liskard cornwall a gig that never was.

Q.7 Are you a drumming anorak?

No (it restricts my movement) !!!!!!!

Q.8 What's your favourite soup?

Thai green curry soup

Q.9 Stockings or Tights?

Neither they make my legs itch !!! Stockings for a woman though



Terry Leigh

Q.1 How long have you been bashing the pots and pans and what encouraged you to start?

I started playing in earnest at about the age of 12. My earliest recollections as a young boy was watching my teddy girl/boy aunts and uncles jiving to Haley, Vincent, Presley etc. and that music was burned into my brain....

I was fascinated by watching the drummers on all the old pop shows of the 50's and 60's as a little boy and having pestered my long suffering dad he finally managed to bring home some old kit from a friend that probably dated back to

the 1940,s! I just copied what id seen the drummers do and took to it like a duck to water.....

Q.2 Who is or are your drumming mentor/s?

Mentors? Well I was certainly influenced by all the drummers Id seen over the years but my earliest recollections as a young boy would be of Pete Appleby(Lonnie Donnegan) and Tony Meehan of the Shads..... In the following years then a whole host of great names such as Krupa and Rich spring to mind. I also loved the rythmic feel of the Gene Vincent section---just listen to Crazy Legs and youll know what I mean....

Q.3 How many and what kits do you own, what's your favourite and why?

I own three kits now---Haymen, Mapex and Yamaha. The haymen kit dates from the 60,s and probably has the warmest sound but its falling to bits so, for convenience I mostly use the Yamaha which cost an arm and a leg.At one time I had so many kits and bits of kits---Premier, Ludwig etc and ,now, I wished I had kept them all...

Q.4 Which bands have you appeared with?

After a spell in the military I took up playing again and havnt stopped since.In the late 70.s I helped form a band called Blackcat then, in date order,Sunny 56, Sugar Ray Ford & the Hotshots,Ricky Cool's Allstars, Sugar Ray,s Flying Fotress, The Stingrays and now Lee Scotts Jive Mob....I have also depped, as you can imagine with a number of Bands like the Questionnaires, The Stargazers and, quite recently, Oceans Seven.I have also had the pleasure of backing artistes such as Ray Campi, Sid & Billy King, The Jive 5, Barbara Pitman,Wanda Jackson, Jack Scott, Wee Willie Harris, Jess Conrad, Tommy Bruce & Dave Sutch. You can do an awful lot in 25 years.....

Q.5 Do you play other styles?

I can play anything.....but I only really get a hard on when Im on stage with a good rocking, jump jiving/ swing ensemble, (and after, in the dassing room with a large breasted groupie....).

Q.6 Best and worse gig and why?

Jeez--that's a difficult one....but after careful thought the best would have to be playin in front of a vast Wembly like audience at the Zenith in Paris, in the mid eighties, with Sugar Ford & the Hotshots,(we were quite well known in France at that time and did a lot of large gigs and TV shows)...The sound of Paul Diffin's double bass through that almighty sound system took your breath away---he



was, and still is, one helluva mother on that thing..... But, hey, size is not important (as well you know) for I did a gig last week with Sunny 56 at the Woodgrange when a lot of rockin peeps was still in the ballroom at Hemsby and we had a great time with a truly appreciative audience....

The worst, without question, was backing Dave Sutch at a personal appearance in a typical mid eighties Disco in the Home Counties, to a couldnt care less audience eager to get dancing round their handbags to Chaka Khan--or whatever....Of such things nightmares are fabricated.....

Q.7 Are you a drumming anorak?

Well I have been known to salivate at the sight of a nicely shown pair of cymbals and my breathing can get heavy at the sight and feel of an expensive drum. I have also been near to orgasm at the sight and sound of a great drummer and I just love mooching around drum shops---but Anorak ? NAAAAAH....

Q.8 What's your favourite soup?

I am a soup Anorak--I just love the stuff. If pushed, however, I would have to come down fairly and squarely in the Leek and Potato camp....

Q.9 Stockings or Tights?

Tights always remind me of the image of a bankrobber but I suppose you would lose vital cred when ordering staff and customers to hit the floor and remain quite with a suspender belt on your head and a stocking over your face....Stocking's are the Almighty's gift to Mankind and, in previous generations, they were worn by women as a matter of course, as ubiquitous as modern jeans and trainers.....ah nostalgia.....The government should bring in legislation enforcing the wearing of them, (preferably for females only).... Im just off for a cold shower...

Please ensure my fee for this article is paid into my usual offshore account in US dollars....

Thanks to all who took part. Nice one! I also tried to ask DJ Fontana to give me a few answers, unfortunately due to contractual obligations he was unable to join in, but sent his good wishes.

Next time, the pounders of the 88.

Mad Rat

RUNAROUND-SUE 'D THE FIREBIRDS SUE AND WIN OVER FIRST NON GIGGING NEW YEARS EVE IN 24 YEARS.

You may have read in UK Rock or on Planet Jive that The Firebirds have successfully sued Folkestone rock n roll club for a cancelled gig that was supposed to take place on New Years Eve 2005. Mad Rat Magazine spoke to Colin Plummer (Father of Jim and Manager of The Firebirds) and this is what he had to say.

'On 10th November 2004 Peter Bradley booked The Firebirds to play Folkestone on New Years Eve 2005, I sent him a contract which he duly signed and returned. In May of the following year I was speaking to another promoter who asked if he could book the band for New Years Eve I said no the band was already booked to play Folkestone, to which he replied are you sure I heard there were problems..... I did no more than pick up the phone and contact Peter Bradley who informed me that yes



indeed it was cancelled. Three days later I received a letter from Peter cancelling the gig officially and a copy of the letter he had received from the venue in February 2005. Remembering that it was now May 2005 and I had now turned down three offers of work for New Years Eve between February and May needless to say I was a bit miffed.

The Reasons for cancellation.....mainly due to the fees required to hire the venue for the event and a break down of costs from the manager which eventually totalling in the region of £1224 but again he couldn't promise the venue as it generally closes from 24th dec to 2nd January.

All this is pretty irrelevant our problem was if Peter Bradley had picked up the phone in February and told us that the gig was cancelled then we would have taken one of three bookings that we had

turned down.

We wrote to Peter Bradley saying that we would accept payment of £150 each for the members of the band as way of a cancellation fee, and we called him and we wrote to him and we heard nothing. Jim then contacted the musicians union who advised us that they would then write to Peter Bradley which they did and they heard nothing, I personally left 16 messages and heard nothing. I even phoned Peters partner to check that he hadn't moved and that we all had the right contact details.

So we landed in court, there was some nastiness from members of the club, which was to be expected I suppose but our case was not the fact that the gig was cancelled it was the time lapse between Peter Bradley knowing the gig was cancelled and him telling us that the gig was cancelled and the irritation of silence from him. The judge ruled in our favour and awarded us a third of the initial gig fee plus costs and court fees, which is a lot more than we had originally asked for in cancellation fees. Folkestone rock n roll club now has time to pay it and that's fine by us it shouldn't have got to this stage it would only have taken a phone call in February to inform us, we then could have replaced the gig. Instead, for the first time in 24 years, The Firebirds were home for New Years Eve.

We really didn't want any upset and we initially started to sue Peter Bradley but, because he is President and treasurer of the club, then it was the club that had to be held accountable for Peter's actions. We have worked with Peter for many years and have played at Folkestone approximately 19 times over the years, but we are one of few bands on the scene that are a business and as such this is our living.'

Earlier this year one of the Mad Rat team received a phone call explaining that this had happened (by which time it had gone to court and had as far as The Firebirds were concerned been settled,) the man, who was from Folkestone Rock'n'Roll Club explained that he was trying to trace where the Firebirds played New Years Eve so that they could appeal the case and turn the tables on the Firebirds, because it was out of order etc, etc.,

Our questions to you are:

Is it out of order?

Should The Firebirds have sued?

If this was your business would you be able to shrug

it off?

Is the blame on The Firebirds or on Peter Bradley?

Who should Folkestone Rock n Roll Club be angry at?

Would this one off incident stop you booking the Firebirds?

Your comments to info@madratmag.co.uk

Colin added, that a letter from a member of Folkestone Rock'n'Roll Club was printed last month in UK Rock and that he is surprised that the club would be in such a hurry to publicise the incompetence of their president.

Just in is the response to the letter from Tom Wraite published in October UK Rock magazine.....

Having read your letter in the October edition of UK Rock Magazine, I am under the impression that both club members and yourself have not been given the full facts which eventually resulted in the recent court action.

May I start by correcting two statements made by you in your letter. The Community Centre wrote to Mr Peter Bradley in a letter dated 22nd February 2005 (and for all intents and purposes) cancelling the venue, not in May as you stated (copy enclosed) You also stated that we played nineteen times during the last fifteen years, our books record less than half this number.

Following your letter I wrote to the Editor of UK Rock Magazine who rang me to say that as he did not want this matter to drag on, his intention was not to print it, however because it contains information that I feel sure you and the club members are unaware, I have enclosed a copy together with copies of other letters and the contract which you may find useful.

It has come to my notice that a club member is making exhaustive enquiries to establish whether or not we played New Years Eve, would you please inform this person that we did not in fact play New Years Eve 2005, and that The Firebirds are one of the handful of bands who are run on a legal basis. May I offer an invitation to this person to visit us where he or she will be given sight of our books together with Tax and VAT returns.

What Is Rock'n'Roll?

Last month I ran a spot on the Mad Rat My Space asking you to give your definition of Rock 'n' Roll. Here are some of the answers:

Rock n Roll is waht you hear when you go and see the Brick Lane Boogie Boys. !!

Marky Blue Devil

Wow! That's a big questions. In today's age it's easier to say what isn't Rock n Roll. But from my viewpoint it's a huge mix of musical styles from the forties through the fifties and into present time.

It's early RnB, mixed with a jazz swing beat, wrapped up with country guitar licks and some muddy blues thrown in. Add some be-bop and some doo-wop, sprinkle liberally with boogie-woogie and then throw in a melody and raw vocals then call it Rockabilly, Swing, Hillbilly, or whatever you like - but just play it, let it get inside your head, let it move through your body and then finally play your own symphony as a wild dance to let it all out." crazee man crazeee.....

Rockin' Georgie -The Fat Man.

Hi Spike!

Rock 'N' Roll, the music of the gods! First coined by Mr. Alan Freed.. But what really is Rock 'N' Roll? It's the beat and rhythm of the music from the 1950's and early 60's. Not the mamby pamby shandy drinker stuff that was acceptable in the charts, but the hard hitting stuff that excited the creature from the black lagoon, stuff that made your grand-parents turn in their grave, and the stuff that got you banned from the cinema! Rock 'N' Roll isn't just a phrase, it's a life style, it's part of being you as an individual and not as part of everyday cloned society where everyone needs to look the same.. Where you all buy your clothes and CD's from the same shops.. Naaaa Rock 'N' Roll is where you want to be, but always too afraid to ask..

Jeez! I need a drink after all that!

Rockin' Regards

Mike Cookson

Webmaster @ The Nifty 50's Rock 'N' Roll Club..

Jerry Lee Lewis is rock'n'roll.

Ken Burke

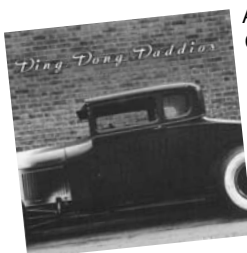


Title:

Artist: Ding Dong Daddios

Label: DDD001

The tracks contained on this CD are; Oh Babe, Almost Like Being In Love, Chattanooga Choo Choo, Everybody Loves Somebody, Buona Sera, Is You Is?, Roof Over My Head, Fools Fall In Love, Long Tall Girl, Georgia On My Mind.



Don't dare denigrate or doubt the depth of dedication of doo-wop devotees the Ding Dong Daddios !!

Now it's not often you'll see a review in Spik'es Mag discussing the merits of a band's lead trombonist - and I'm talking about Jon Bone on the Trom Bone !

The Ding Dong Daddios have a new line up for 2006: alongside original members French Pete on guitar, Jon Bone on slide (as opposed to valve) trombone and Pip on drums, they have Bigshot Phil on double bass and vocalist Louis. Specialising in swinging four-part harmonies and 40's / 50's doo-wop style jiving numbers, the D D Daddios have this genre down to a fine art.

Rock and Roll it ain't, but if a more gentle and melodic approach to 50's music like the Marcells, Dell Vikings, Platters etc., is your bag you will surely love this collection of eleven favourites from their playlist.

For me, their specialisation is perhaps the down side to this album. Every number performed faultlessly, yet somehow just a little too similar in arrangement to all the others for my taste. The typical set list on their web site www.dingdongdaddios.com has some instrumentals and even a Stray Cats number listed, I think it's a pity that they didn't take the opportunity to demonstrate their versatility on this CD.

But hey, what do I know ?? I'm sure their fans will love it and they will sell shed loads at gigs. If you love to Jive, Jitterbug and Lindy Hop then you won't

be sitting down from the first to the last track with The Ding Dong Daddios.

Brian Hill

Title: Groups Galore 1960-2005

Artist: Various

Label: Krown Elektrik



The Bristol Comets, Rockola, Sandra McCann, and Last Chance feature on this Cd based on a show that occurred over forty years ago....

Originally in 1960 it was a mad idea to take local groups and book the biggest venue in the town and then to do it again in 2000 forty years later with annual events since. It's a mad world but both events were highly successful and this CD is the outcome, and what a CD this is good old fashioned from the heart rockin' the track listing is huge so I will break it down, featuring The Bristol Comets Rock Around With Ollie Vee, Be Bop A Lula, A Fool Such As I, Sweet Little Sixteen, When Will I Be Loved, Wake Up Little Suzie. The with Rockola, Move it, Honey Don't and Slow Down,

Sandra McCann lets us have it with Sweet Nothin's and Here Comes That Feeling.

Last Chance Have the last nine tracks with Blue Moon, Nut Rocker, At The Hop, My Babe, Baby That Is Rock n Roll, Don't Be Cruel, Blue Jean Bop, Dreaming, Wonderful Land, Too Old To Boogie.

The Album recorded live in 2005 also features bonus tracks from the original 1960 show. FANTASTIC.

This is a great CD a real trip down memory lane, which just shows you that the scene may have forgotten why we are all here, and this CD is it.

Guest artists on this CD, from the original recordings feature The Antones, this particular recording has the audience clapping and the girls screaming brilliant. Wake Up Little Suzie, is also recorded by the Antones not sure which year. Oh I cant say enough good things about this CD there is a host of players, vocalists and scene celebrities its worth putting this CD on your Christmas list just for the memories.



Title: That Be-Bop-A Lula Cat
Artist: Gene Vincent
Label:

Gene Vincent. The name conjures up one of the most definitive images from the rock 'n' roll era: Gene looking upwards as if in a trance, his black gloved hands wrapped firmly around the mike, one knee bent and the crippled leg stretched. Dressed in black leathers, with a huge chain around his neck, singing 'Be Bop-A-Lula' with an otherworldliness that was both intimidating and enthralling at the same time.

To commemorate the 35th anniversary of his passing, Virginia Records is celebrating his legacy with this new release, titled 'Gene Vincent: That Be-Bop-A-Lula Cat!', which contains 78+ minutes of rare and unreleased recordings from his final years. Near the end, Gene was fighting a losing battle against his personal demons, and no doubt he realized that. One of the few things that remained a constant in those last years was his commitment to his music. In an interview recorded just weeks before his death, he told journalist David Simmons: "Now politically, business-wise, husband-wise, I might be a no-good son-of-a-gun, but there's one thing I can do – I know my music. Can't mess me up on it, baby. Try it!".

Highlights on 'That Be-Bop-A-Lula Cat!' include an unreleased rehearsal and concert in Lyon, France (09-28-67) as well as the never-before released songs 'Sunday Morning Coming Down' and 'Corrine, Corrina' from a June 1971 gig in California. He instills both songs with all the Gene Vincent characteristics, and 'Sunday Morning Coming Down' in particular is a moving performance. Much the same can be said about Gene's version of the Jim Reeves hit 'Distant Drums', an unrehearsed performance recorded less than a fortnight before his death.

"I'm a rock 'n' roller and I'll die a rock 'n' roller", Gene told Ronnie Weiser in '71, and perhaps that credo goes some way in explaining his continuing popularity. Unlike Elvis, he never went Hollywood, and unlike Jerry Lee, he never went country. He stuck to what he loved best – rock 'n' roll. He was one of the prototypes of the rock 'n' roll lifestyle, and was one of the first to pay the ultimate price, an early grave. Gene Vincent was one of the main inspirations behind the punk revolution, with bands like The Sex Pistols clearly being inspired by his fatalistic 'dying-for-the-art attitude and lifestyle.

All 29 tracks on 'That Be-Bop-A Lula Cat!' were digitally remastered using the latest state-of-the-art technology, and even those tracks that have been released before now sound significantly better. The 16-page booklet contains a generous amount of unpublished photos and memorabilia, as well as detailed liner notes. Only 500 copies will be pressed, so 'That Be-Bop-A Lula Cat' is bound to become a true collectors item. Order your copy today from: transalpinus1@yahoo.com



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Eye'm On Fire - The legend that is, Freddie Fingers Lee

One night in Basildon I asked him if he got bored with singing and playing the same set for years and years, even when he tried to change it the shouts from the audience sent him straight back to his normal set, and he replied 'while there still paying me loads of money to do it I'll play what they want to hear' apart from a telephone conversation that we'd had a few years before hand where we chatted about the prospect of him retiring and how much time he would spend with his family at long last, that was the most sensible thing I'd ever heard him say. Freddie was worth every penny of that loads a money and when Freddie suffered a stroke retirement came all too soon when he officially retired leaving a huge whole in the rock n roll scene as we knew it. Recently a nagging voice in my head keeps asking me 'How the hell is he' 'whats he doing' and is he missing us as much as we miss him. So I thought that we should take a trip down memory lane and remember the rock 'n' roll antics of Freddie Fingers Lee.

I know that every few years we get a new lot of people onto the scene and each time we do this they love the stuff that they can see readily at their local club, BUT they miss out on the legends and the characters that we grew up with and have travelled miles to see, got drunk with,



shared the rock 'n' roll lifestyle and the stage show with and there was none that threw all that together in an hours set better than Freddie.

One of British rock 'n' roll's most colourful

characters is Freddie 'Fingers' Lee, a guy who never lost the true spirit of rock 'n' roll. Freddie's career started in the fifties as a guitarist in a skiffle group, playing between films on the Star Cinema circuit. His life profoundly changed in 1957, when Jerry Lee Lewis released 'A Whole Lotta Shakin' and that inspired him to take up the piano. Freddie said, "All I had heard as a kid was Winifred Atwell and I just didn't believe that a human being could play piano like that."

Freddie started down the road to nuttyness playing piano for Screaming Lord Sutch, his long time partner in crime, while the young Ritchie Blackmore took over his job on guitar. He later joined Eden Kane's band touring with Cliff Richard and Marty Wilde until, like many other British acts in the sixties, he found his way to Hamburg, initially playing with Sutch and later joining the houseband at the legendary Top Ten Club and The Star Club. When asked the inevitable questions about the Beatles, Freddie said

"Lennon was a nut case but they were the same as the rest of us, just a bunch of working-class lads playing the circuit, we didn't see them any differently; it just happened for them and they got on." Years later Paul McCartney paid Freddie the ultimate tribute by inviting him on stage at The Hammersmith Odeon. It was, however, visiting Americans who made Hamburg memorable for Freddie, when he met and sat in with all of the rock 'n' roll greats. "I played with Jerry Lee Lewis for a week, Chuck Berry, Little Richard, Fats Domino, The Crickets and Gene Vincent, I also met Sam Cooke there, who was a real gentleman".

These musicians, particularly Jerry Lee, remained an enduring influence on Freddie's prolific writing career which eventually resulted in 19 singles, 8 albums, 12 compilations and had stars such as Tom Jones and Charlie Gracie covering his songs. "In my mind and in my music, I stayed in the fifties; I love country music though and do a few country numbers in the set, there are so many facets to it, from Cash to Lewis. Rock 'n' roll is pure excitement, there is nothing else that can make an entire audience, of all ages and descriptions, start stamping their feet. It's that incessant drive in the beat. Fads come and go but rock'n'roll has stayed. I have been playing it since day one and I'm still playing it now".

For many people, Freddie burst into prominence with the 1979 revival of the Jack Good TV show 'Oh Boy' which made him a household name, especially on the continent. "I have followed the re-runs of it right across Europe, playing major dates of the back of it. 'Oh Boy' sparked a massive following in Italy, Spain, France, Portugal, Germany and, believe it or not, in Africa". Freddie's life now consists of jetting backwards and forwards across European capitals playing festivals and TV dates, sharing billing with his own heroes like Sleepy Labeef, Scotty Moore and Chuck Berry. "I'm glad that the TV success happened later in life because I could handle it, a lot of people couldn't. It also saddens me that some missed it the second time around, people like Johnny Kidd who could have taken the whole scene by storm".

Freddie Lee is an unassuming bloke, with no time for the superstar syndrome he simply reckons that "If you can't mix with people what can you do? I am lucky to have travelled the world, met some great people and got paid for what I love to do".

www.myspace.com/freddiefingerslee

Freddie's act was as eccentric as entertaining, pyrotechnics, glass eyes, axes and a great big smile, his recording history is vast and this discography which is not complete shows the best of Freddie and his career.

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Rockabilly Rumble In Lowton!

The Blueflames & The Seatsniffers Go Head-To-Head At Lowton!

Hi Folks.. Last Saturday was our 18th wedding anniversary, my how time flies.. Which just happened to coincide with The Blueflames and The Seatsniffers gig at Lowton.. So that was it, it was the night of the Lowton Rockabilly Uprising! And what a night it was.. Both Julie and I didn't get there till around 7.30(ish), and already the place was looking busy. Tom & Stuart did what they do best, and what a great job they did too! Noeline was full of anticipation for the nights events.. It wasn't long before Howard and Annushka from Raucous Records arrived to set up shop, and as ever there never seemed to be a shortage of interest in their stall.

Time had now started to gather pace as the first band of the evening took centre stage. Stuart gave the introduction to a band that I have been eager to see for quite some time.. Ladies & Gentlemen, live on stage.. The Blueflames! The band consists of: Kev on Vocals/Harp/Guitar - Shaun on Guitar/Slide - Mick on Slap Bass - Andy on Drums.. They set the night off with a scorchin' version of Sonny Terry & Brownie McGee's Ride 'N' Roll which was rapidly followed up by Ben Hewitt's My Search.. At this point the dance floor was flanked by boppers who pounded out the beat and rhythm as they bopped the night away. Soon enough it was a great little version of Little Sister that would have made the king proud. Having not seen these before, I was unsure to the material they would be playing, and the response the band would get from the audience.. Well for one thing, I was heavily impressed! and so was the audience. Mickey Lee



Lane's Senior Class was an instant hit, and more of the audience flocked to the dance floor.. These boys just rock! Not only are they talented, they can sure entertain too.

The Sonics hit Have Love Will Travel got the strollers going, but Dr. Ross' Cat Squirrel soon got the boppers back to pole position.. It was time for the band to bid their farewell and exit stage right.. Not a chance!

An old favourite of mine got almost everybody onto the dance floor with Take Five, Gonna Miss Me and finally Worried About You Baby brought an end to the first of tonight's bands. What a brilliant first half of the night.. Time now for Cheshire Cat Tom and Rockin' Stu to spin those discs.. Of late, both Tom and Stuart have gathered quite a following, never does a week go by without me receiving e-mails from people who have seen them and they just keep on asking the same question: "Can we have more of Tom & Stu?" Well, this in turn was passed onto Noeline.. well folks, both Tom & Stuart will be appearing again soon! Doesn't time fly when you're havin' fun. However plagued

by problems with the sound system it was time now for the second of tonight's bands, and all the way from Antwerp, Belgium.. The Seatsniffers!

Now if you've never seen these guys perform before, you'll be in for a surprise! The Seatsniffers are one of Europe's most powerful and entertaining bands on today's rockin' scene.

The bands line up: Walter Broes - Guitar & Vocals / Roel Jacobs - Vocals, Sax & Guitar / Jack Fire - Slap Bass & Vocals / Piet De Houwer - Drums & Vocals.. They hit the stage with 110% enthusiasm as they pounded out such red hot hits as Assembly Line, Ready, and another on of their title tracks from their list of albums; Let's Burn Down The Cornfields, which had quite a country feel to it.. One of the best versions of Jimmy McCracklin's Georgia Slop had my feet pounding out the beat, and for the first time ever, Johnny Kidd's Castin' My Spell On You.. What made this of interest was the fact

no body was dancing, however, from the applause and the cheers for more it was evident that the audience liked what they saw and heard. Still, their sound system still hadn't recovered from it's earlier breakdown, and caused them problems for most of the evening. But that still didn't stop the



lads from pounding out song after song.. Now being a drummer I tend to watch the bands drummer more than anything else, and it was a real treat to watch Piet hammer out the beat to the rhythm.. He's in a class of his own, and 100% an entertainer!

Well it was time for the band to give their final bow and exit stage left.. Well, that's what you think! Not a chance, the audience bellowed and shouted for more, feet banged on the floor, and hands clapped as Stuart asked them to come back on to give us some more.. The guys returned to give us an absolute brilliant performance and in return the audience still wanted more.. So they returned back not once, not twice but three times.. Now that's some encore! After that performance, they really did deserve a well earned rest.. Rockin' Stu took up pole position again with more dance floor fillers.. And I was quite surprised to see the dance floor so full to Benny Goodman & Gene Crupa's Sing Sing Sing.. I do love that track! Anyway, it was time for me to call it a night and bid my own farewell to everyone.. All in all tonight, it was a resounding success! The atmosphere was warm and friendly, and the evenings entertainment from both Tom & Stu, plus The Blueflames and The Seatsniffers made it all the more enjoyable and complete.. Well done to all of you! And an extra special thanks to you, the audience.. It you who made this an even more enjoyable event..

So till next time! You all keep on rockin!

Mike Cookson



Rockin Greetings and here I am yet again with some of my Janie's Jaunts. A lot has happened since I last wrote and we have been out and about seeing all sorts of great bands and music.

We went to the Skeggy weekender in sept and all of the bands played well, and it was great to see Wildkatz having a good time and showing the crowd they can hold their own when it comes to singing and playing. Everyone was entertained but for me the bands and music of Alligators, Porky Hot Rockin and Juke Box Jive on Sunday night just stood out and made the weekend end on a high note!

But I have to say that on 7th October 2006 while we were on hols in Amsterdam, we went in our rockabilly gear to Cruise Inn and watched with eyes wide



open and delight the mighty POLECATS. They started from beginning to end with a stage power and performance and with excellent song after song that just made you stand and totally enjoy the show as you just watched these four entertaining musicians. With Boz, Tim, John and Phil on stage you know you are in for one well wicked night.

We took a tram to Cruise Inn from Amsterdam Centraal Station, only a six minute ride to get there. Outside the club we met up with Gordon from Wiltshire, he travels all over to see the polecats, he sells Polecats merchandise and they know him well, Gordon had drove here to see them and though it took him many hours he said it was well worth it!

Inside Cruise Inn, I found it to be well set up and decked out with all manner of musical and strange objects adorning the walls and ceilings, It looked great and the atmosphere was really electric. They don't have as much seating like we do, as many tend to stand and watch the bands. Though who wants to sit all night when you can dance!

To get drinks in the club you have to buy a strip of tickets from one side of the room and then go and use your tickets to get your drinks from the bar. It worked well and the bar staff were quick and friendly.

A special friend of mine Ron (the soundman) met us at the door as he knew we were coming. It was such a pleasure to meet him and talk with him, Ade and I felt we had known him for years. He was a very busy man all night and he sure knows his stuff!

Catmen were on first to wet our musical appetites then on came, the legend that is the Polecats at 10:50pm a later start than we are used to because the club was open till three in the morning. There were people from all over even some from Paris who had driven especially to see these guys. I even got to chat with the band afterwards and they were fun and interesting to talk with.

Finally you Rock and Rollers I have some wonderful news of my own on the very next day 8th Oct, Ade took me to the Coster Diamond Museum In Amsterdam where he proposed to me and I accepted, he then said to me go and pick out a ring then! and then Ade had to sit down. I think he was more in shock than I was..lol! So I picked out a gorgeous sapphire and diamond engagement ring, we are so happy that I just wanted to share it with all you good people and its good to know that after all I have been through last year that with the love of a good man, my life is once again at its rockin best.



Finally on Fri 13th Oct we went to see our good friends the Revolutionaires at Kirk Hallam and boy oh boy it just doesn't get any better than these guys.

So till next month keep on rockin,

Jane xx



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HEMSBY ROCK 'N' ROLL WEEKENDER

Having managed to resist the temptations of Hemsby 36 times, I decided it was time to succumb and finally made it up there. And I am glad that I did!

The talk amongst regular Hemsby goers included debate on how the new Seacroft site measure up as opposed to the old Pontins site, what the weather would be doing (a good British trait!) and what the hell was going on with beer tokens and what was wrong with cash!?!?

Well, the weather did us proud...on the Friday it was warm with blue skies and sunshine...obviously someone up there likes rock n' roll!!! As for the beer tokens? A faintly ridiculous, but obviously British idea! Go to one of the bar staff, give her £10, she gives you tokens....then walk three yards to your left, ask for a beer and give the tokens back to another bar person! ONLY in the UK!!!

Anyway, we arrived at around 3 in the afternoon, made our way up to our chalet, noting the distance from main stage...important to calculate how difficult it might be if one was pissed out of one's head! Obviously I can't make a comparison with the chalets on the old site, but I can tell you that the ones we were allocated were superb. Clean, well decorated, and everything seemed to be in place. Nice.

We immediately headed off to see what was going on around the bars and find out who had made it up. However, this was cut short, when we discovered that Porky's Hot Rockin' were already into their set, adjacent to the CD hall, so a few valuable moments were spent taking them in, excellent as usual, before browsing and catching up with faces we hadn't seen for a while. Then a quick bite to eat before heading for the main hall and the evening's festivities.

Rudy "Tutti Frutti" Grazell, was the first one we saw, and I have to say I was not entirely impressed. At least not by Rudy, who kept telling everyone that Roy Head, who would be appearing the next day, owed him \$60 from 1958, although this figure kept changing and eventually ended up as \$80!!

The impressive Sugar Creek Trio, fresh from Americana, which seems to have done them a power of good, backed Rudy. They are talented, tight and are getting better each time I see them. .

Having endured that and the excessive heat in the main hall, air conditioning is obviously something that needs to be sorted, I was not hopeful for Gene Summers. I As far as my fast becoming numb (Good stuff that Budweisers) brain could remember, Gene had two records for which I could identify him with..." School of Rock n Roll" and "Straight Skirts", I wondered if he would have to do much padding out to make up a set.

I was pleasantly surprised therefore, when Gene Summers bounced onto the stage and roared into a very impressive set, taking songs from everywhere and everyone. Warren Smith, Sonny Fisher and others were all mentioned as Gene ripped through them all, much to the delight of the Hemsby audience. Backed by the Hemsby

House band, which was basically Wayne Hopkins and Rob Glazerbrook (The house Rockers), Paul Atkinson (drums), Clive Osbourne (Sax) and the Very impressive Dan Edwards on keyboards, Gene certainly knew what he was about. I got the impression that here was a rock n' roller first and an entertainer second. Many American performers are country musicians that may have done a single rockabilly track to try and tap into what they regarded at the time as a passing fad. But Gene made some impressive rockin' music and as I said gave the impression that this is what he is about, a true rock n roll performer. Certainly the crowd responded and he got better as the set went on. Gene Summers was certainly the hit of the night.

It was clearly time for some serious dancing and drinking and I have to admit I joined in with gusto, ending up completely slaughtered and tottering back to my chalet at around 4:30 in the morning! I didn't see the Polecats, who were never one of my favourite acts, but from what I could gather, reaction was mixed between " yeah they were ok" to " they were poor" . Not having seen them I cannot comment further.

Breakfast by the sea front....the full English! That'll do for me! In fact the breakfast was so large I could have probably fed a village in Ethiopia for a couple of days on it!! I spent most of the day browsing around the stalls, well actually quite a bit of time recovering from the dead feints having seen the prices that some people were charging for their goods!

I dont mind paying out for quality, but there has to be some reasonable balance. £60 for an original 50's shirt, with a scuffed collar and mothballs is not my idea of a reasonable balance! There seemed to be a problem catering for anyone over 5'8" tall, and it was actually quite sad to see loads of big fellas (and some big girls!) frantically searching for anything that might fit! Still, this is not the fault of Hemsby, but of the traders themselves. I appreciate that they have to make their money, but come on people, dont give us a raw deal!

Saturday night promised much, the main event as it were, and rightly so

I managed to get down to the front of the stage in anticipation of seeing Eva Eastwood. Willie Geoffrey, organiser and grand master of Hemsby, had made me aware of her three years ago and I had waited to see her since then. She had even bought, The Major Keys, her backing band with her....and it was they that took the stage first, followed by Kav Kavanagh who proceeded to make the faux pas of the weekend, by announcing her as Eva Westwood!!!

Eva came onto the stage, then stormed straight into ' Hot chicks and cool cats', woa! This was going to be good! What followed was without doubt the hottest set I have ever seen from a rockabilly band. The major keys are a superbly tight, precise in detail and content, with Eva's infectious enthusiasm, especially for Hemsby and the

crowd, which she acknowledged early on, even those that weren't sure or who had never seen her before were impressed! Where as the front of stage crowd for most acts was five or six deep, for Eva it was jam packed from front to just a few feet from the bar! The incredibly popular, "Wendy's wedding" was being sung by most of the crowd, and then Eva asked, " So you like a bit of rockabilly huh?" , and launched into " Diggin' the street", which had everybody bouncing!

Kav re-emerged on stage to apologise to her and stated quite rightly, " It doesn't matter...north, south, east or west Eva is still top quality!" , fair play because he was right and frankly that sounded like an understatement! For her encore, she went into Sonny Burgess "Aint got a thing", and even she looked shocked when the crowd roared back the chorus line at her with such gusto! Eva didn't try particularly hard to play the crowd, but they recognised a kindred spirit...someone that loved them and acknowledged the part they had in making the event so special. The crowd responded and there was a magical connection between performer and audience. Some entertainers struggle for years to achieve that and never make it!

This was absolutely top notch quality entertainment, and I would honestly have paid the full Hemsby Price to see that alone! It WAS truly awesome!

None could have reasonably been asked to try and follow Eva Eastwood's act and better it, but there was certainly a lot of talk about Travis LeDoyte around the camp. For one reason or another, he had not gone down as well as he might have at Americana. There had been wide criticism, mostly from the rock n roll crowd, it has to be said, because he didn't use a stand up bass but did augment the sound with back up tracks.

However, whatever the failings he was certainly garnering curiosity value and the hall was filled to see what he was all about. This would also be a chance for those that had been at Americana and had not been able to get close, to see whether he really did look like Elvis or not. So once again, I wedged myself down at the front of the stage and waited whatever was to come. He came flying onto the stage like someone who was short of time and went straight into " Shake, rattle and Roll". I was shocked.....I honestly can say that I was unable to tell the difference between Elvis and Travis Ledoyte. He has obviously worked hard on perfecting the movements; facial expressions and I know that he's studied archive film footage. Yes, I have to admit, that the guy really does look and sound like Elvis Presley as a young man. And those factors appear to work entirely in his favour as I was surrounded by screaming (yes screaming) women!! I tactfully pointed out that he wasn't Elvis, to which the reply was, " Yeah, but he's gorgeous!" , in fact the woman next to me kept shouting " Get your kit off" and " Go naked!". Right. I quickly extracted myself from the nearest regions of the stage to watch and listen further back!!

He went through numbers such as " Are you lonesome tonight", " Wear my ring around your neck", "Dont be cruel", " Hound Dog", and others from the early RCA years. However, significantly, given the criticisms over the use of electric bass, his set didn't include any of the SUN numbers!! Very Shrewd!!

After his show, there were assorted Magazine and fanzine editors, questioning people about what they thought of him. I heard various comments ranging from, " Yeah it's ok but it's not Elvis" and "at the end of the day he's just another Elvis impersonator" , through to " He's fantastic....the nearest to Elvis we'll ever see" and " Oh my God he's sexy!", the latter mostly from women!

To Summarise, Travis LeDoyte is very good at what he does, he has the look and the feel of Elvis Presley, and I would agree that he's as close to the real thing as we are ever likely to see. He has the potential to attract the general public in huge numbers. So to be honest, its probably of no consequence to his management team that a handful of purists are dismissing him as a gimmick or a passing fad.

The Go Getters were the last act on Saturday night, and I wasn't sure what to expect. I have listened to many of their CD's trying to get my head around what they do, and to be honest, I'm not sure I can pin them down. One minute they are tackling a traditional number like " Bull by the horns" and the next have launched into some high-energy psychobilly! So I vowed to give them a chance to impress me and listen to their set.

They failed to disappoint me and I still don't know which is the real Go Getters. On the straight rock n roll numbers, The Go Getters are up there with the best of them, but having said that they then follow it with their psychobilly stuff, which doesn't float my particular boat at all. Their set was interrupted, albeit briefly, when the security staff became over anxious when the Psychos began bashing each other about.... apparently that's what they do...and it certainly looked like a fistfight. Anyway, I managed to listen to an hour of the set before fatigue and beer got the better of me, and I retired to my pit at around 4 am!

My overall experience of Hemsby was that it was very well organised, the Seacroft site is superb, and the entertainment, on the whole was great quality.

I am no longer a Hemsby Virgin....and I hope to return again. But now I have done Hemsby, the Rave, Americana and most of the other big festivals, the only one left is Viva Las Vegas....given the state of my bank account, it looks like being a while before I can make that one!

Mike George





Border Radio has ceased to broadcast

Unfortunately, we have run out of time and funds to continue with the station. Our apologies to all of you that have supported us in this endeavor and also a huge thanks! We have truly appreciated all of the listeners, the bands and the labels.

It is our hope that many of you have been able to discover new bands through our broadcast and will continue to support these artist. That was the whole reason for Border Radio, really. Adios, friends!

Strollin' Steve is pleased to announce the line-up for the 8th Railway Rock and Roll All-dayer with is to be held at The Railway Sports & Social Club, Broad Green, Wellingborough NN8 4LH on Sunday, May 6th 2007 (bank holiday weekend). Appearing live will be The Jets, The Firebirds, The Jive Romeros, Rockin' The Joint and The Juke Box Eddies. Doors open at 12.30pm and the show which includes a jive competition and prize raffle will run non-stop until 11pm. The venue has a huge dance floor and plenty of car parking for both caravans and mobiles. Hot and cold food will be served through out the day and there are licensed bars serving drinks at social club prices. Strollin' Steve and Houndog Jim are the DJs and MCs. The price is £20 on the door (£10 after 8pm) or £15 in advance. Under 14s £5 anytime (under 5s free). CIU Members, Affiliated Members and Bonafide Guests Welcome. For details on how to obtain tickets, telephone Steve or Carol Ashdown on 01763 241301 / 07808 340776 or email: steve_ashdown@hotmail.com
View: www.strollinsteve.co.uk

Hemsby- What a fantastic weekend was had by all. Just one thing that took the edge off the fun was the asshole that decided it would be good fun to try to kill my buddy by letting her tyres down, ripping out the wires and pissing over her bike on the way back to their chalet.

I assume this was because it was a 'N' reg Red Suzuki Bandit and not a 1947 Harley low rider!!!!!!

If anybody knows who this was please let them know that she did survive their efforts!!!!

Also let them know that she has been on our scene for the last 25 years and thought, as I did, that this crap had stopped happening back at Caister!!!!!!!!!!!!

I would like to think that this is not one of our crowd please PRINT this so that as many people can see it as possible and hopefully it will reach the right people eventually. Many thanks Cindy xx

Vocalist/Front man wanted for **Sugar Creek Trio**.

Tel: Martin 01865 516732.

Friends Of The Shadows Guitar Club meets every last tuesday of the month at the Ecko Club Southend. Established for nearly ten years, playing to backing tracks, bring a guitar if you like or just come for a beer, everyone welcome ,friendly bunch. Colin Chandler 07752012540 FOR DETAILS

Danny 'tequila' Flores, dead at 77

HUNTINGTON BEACH, Calif., Friday, Sep 22, 2006 - Danny Flores, who played the saxophone and shouted the word "tequila!" in the 1950s hit song "Tequila!," has died. He was 77. Flores, who lived in Westminster, Calif., died Tuesday at Huntington Beach Hospital, said hospital spokeswoman Kathleen Curran. He died of complications from pneumonia, the Long Beach Press-Telegram newspaper reported.

The man sometimes called the "godfather of Latin rock" was born in Santa Paula, Calif., but grew up in Long Beach. By age five he was playing guitar in church and at 14 he was a member of a trio that performed Mexican music. In 1957, Flores was in a group that recorded some work with rockabilly singer Dave Burgess. One of the songs was based on a nameless riff Flores had written. He played the "dirty" saxophone part and repeatedly growled the single-word lyric: "Tequila!"

The next year it appeared as the B-side of a single, credited to the Champs. Flores used the name Chuck Rio because he was under contract to a different record label. "Tequila!" went to No. 1 on the Billboard chart and won a Grammy in 1959 for best rhythm and blues performance. Flores continued to play it for the next 40 years.

The song has been used in numerous commercials and TV shows. It became popular with a new generation after it was used in the 1985 movie "Pee Wee's Big Adventure."

The Canadian Press, 2006



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Lynette Morgan

A silly giggle was had by all when she answered the phone and I said, Lynette its Linette, we had pre arranged this chat which would form the rest of the feature on **Lynette Morgan and the Blackwater Valley Boys**.

I expected like many (faces) on the scene to find her to be guarded instead I found a confident outspoken woman with very definite opinions on the rockin' scene and her love of it, the scene, the music and the lifestyle, we chatted for a couple of hours about growing up with the love of the music, how she found her first real club from a newspaper cutting and she begged her mum to let her go to the next event, about old haunts,



broken tapes and those long flat tape recorders with the big buttons, hairdo's and clothes, the difference between the genres and whether or not it should be segregated and eventually we got to the questions here they are.

The Questions.....**1. At what age did you discover Rock'n'Roll, how and where?**

I was quite young and my dad use d to listen to Elvis and all the early rockabilly stuff i started buying it at about age 10 and 11, the first single I bought was Danny And The Juniors At The Hop, my first rockabilly album was on the cascade label and I bought it for the cover i thought it was rock n roll but i loved it.

2. Where you on the scene before you had your first band?

Yes, the first band started when i was 22/23, since the age of 15, Tennessee Rhythm Riders.... my favorite club at the time was Dingwalls. My first place i went to at age 15 was Presleys in tottenham court road

3. What was the very first Lynette Morgan performance?

Was at Crondall Village Hall supporting Big Boy Bloater and His Southside Stompers and i was

a nervous wreck.

4. Who decides on the material in the current band?

We all do but mainly its me and Willy, generally everybody likes it but everyone is invited to bring stuff along.

5. Switching from a more Hillbilly sound with the Rhythm Riders to Western Swing was that a natural progression or was there a conscious decision made.

We didnt make a conscious decision changing the line up lent it self naturally to the new sound, having the piano helps with the western swing authentic sound.

6. Is it harder work for a female entertainer on the scene?

I dont really think so, I just think that i love the girl singers on the scene, men get all the best songs, thats one thing. If you enjoy what you do and the music that you do is of a relatively good standard then it makes no difference if your male or female. I hate it when people say this band is rubbish or that band is crap, I think to myself you have no idea how much work goes into getting a band together and getting it out and about.

7. Is Western Swing a popular genre on the scene?

I think the scene goes in cycles its still popular, but fashions change, it peaked a few years ago but there are more bands now doing the country hill-billy sound than at its peak. We are spoilt for choice and the band all believe in what they are doing, it means more to me if five people in a pub really enjoy it.

8. Do you have lots of female artists in your CD/Record collection, who is your idol and do

you model your self and your phrasing on anyone in particular.

I do have some female artistes in my collection Charlene Arthur, Patsy Cline, Rose Maddox, Janis Martin, Peggy Lee, Kay Starr, and many more. These are the people that I aspire to even though I enjoy the girl singers on the current scene my inspiration is what's in my cd collection and that includes many male singers.

The modern day inspiration for the whole band were The Lucky Stars, they were a huge inspiration for us when we were the Riders.



9. For readers who have never experienced Lynette Morgan and The Black Water Valley Boys, can you describe your music?

ly hillbilly and western swing, the style is a mix of Jerry Lee Lewis with Hank Williams, Johnny Cash, Rose Maddox, and many more that make up The Blackwater Valley Boys sound.

10. Where did you get that beautiful skirt and is it authentic?

This question comes from a man! It's not an original and it came from a well known high street store it cost 8 quid but don't tell anyone.

11. Do you find it disheartening that bands never know where they stand with English audiences until the last ten minutes of the second set?

I used to be disheartened! But it doesn't bother me now, now people come up after the show and I realize people are actually enjoying it, but the more appreciation for the band or the dj the better it is. It is generally the British audiences, in Europe they go mad from the first song.

We like to think it's an authentic mix of rockabil-



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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

Wed 1 Nov Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 record hop only (hot rod night) Little Carl's Record Hop 020 8961 1000

Wed 1 Nov Roadrunner RnR Club Biggleswade WMC, Church Street, Biggleswade, Beds record hop only (jive/stroll/doo-wop) Timeshift 07832 369373

Thu 2 Nov Barnstaple RnR Club Cedars Inn Hotel, Bickington Road, Barnstaple, Devon EX31 2HP record hop only (rockabilly/rock'n'roll/jive) Blue Jean Bop 07899 701498

Thu 2 Nov Honiton Jive Club Honiton Motel, Turks Lane, Honiton, Devon record hop only The Nutrocker 01404 46942

Thu 2 Nov Mad Hatters Swing Dance Club-TVH Trent Valley House WMC, New Street, Bedworth, Warks CV12 9DL record hop only (East Coast swing lesson & dance) Woody 07968 988442

Fri 3 Nov Bolton Tonge Ward RnR Club Tonge Ward Labour Club, Ainsworth Lane, Tonge Moor, Bolton, Lancs BL2 2QL Revolutionaires Jivin' Jim 01204 410483

Fri 3 Nov Dale Tavern West Street, Worsborough Dale, Barnsley, Yorks S70 5PG Juke Box Jive Dave B 01226 205611

Fri 3 Nov Eastleigh RnR Club Comrades Club, 55 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, Hants SO50 9DF record hop only Simon Moon 023 8061 1953

Fri 3 Nov 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 3 Nov King Creole RnR Club Biggleswade WMC, Church Street, Biggleswade, Beds Lennerockers (Germany) plus DJ 07748 306989

Fri 3 Nov Rockin' The Post Winning Post, Chertsey Road (A316), Whitton, Twickenham, Middsx B17s Big Bounce 020 8894 2772

Fri 3 Nov The Eagle 156 Cornwall Street, Plymouth, Devon PL1 1NJ record hop only Slim Jim's RnR Disco 01752 266158

Fri 3 Nov The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Alleycats n/a 020 7622 4001

Sat 4th Nov Elvis Party at The Fusilier Pub, 652 Harrow Road, Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 2HA. 9pm - 2am. Free Entry. This event is organised by the Middlesex Fan Club with a top specialist Elvis DJ, playing all the favourites as well

as rare material, from his huge repertoire of Elvis Material. The pub is 5 mins walk from Sudbury Town Tube Station on the Piccadilly Line. For more info call Neil on 07788 454237.

Sat 4 Nov Amersham RnR Club White Eagle Hall, Polish Club Complex, Raans Road, Amersham, Bucks HP6 6LX John Leyton/Mike Berry & the Outlaws no details 01494 727173

Sat 4 Nov Banbury RnR Club General Foods S & S Club, Spiceball Park, Banbury, Oxon Porky's Original Hot Rockin' Dancin' Dave 01295 278127

Sat 4 Nov Bristol RnR Appreciation Society White Hart, 64 Bedminster Parade, East Street, Bedminster, Bristol Severn Delta Boys no details 0117 931 1991

Sat 4 Nov Broken Cross Club Fallibroome Road, Broken Cross, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK11 8TU Flying Saucers Cadillac Dave 07887 754834

Sat 4 Nov Crescent WMC 8 The Crescent (rear of the Odeon), York, N. Yorks Lennerockers (Germany) Ol' Dell Boy 01904 690311

Sat 4 Nov Embankment Club Wellingborough Road, Wellingborough, Northants Alan Mills/Darrel Higham/Colin Evans/Paul Crosby Bill Guntrip plus guests 07785 501848

Sat 4 Nov Greyhound Inn Main Street, Letcombe Regis, Wantage, Oxon OX12 9JL Sugar Creek Trio no details 01235 771093

Sat 4 Nov 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

Sat 4 Nov Hardy Spicers RnR Club Hardy Spicers Club, Edgerton Road, Erdington, Bham tba plus DJ 01827 250303

Sat 4 Nov Hegartys 197 Duke Street, Plymouth, Devon PL1 4EF record hop only Slim Jim's RnR Disco 01752 560077

Sat 4 Nov Hersham Comrades Club 128 Hersham Road, Hersham, Surrey KT12 5QL B17s plus DJ 01932 224361

Sat 4 Nov Horsham RnR Club Drill Hall, Denne Road, Horsham, W. Sussex Ocean's Seven Wildcat Pete 07966 526260

Sat 4 Nov Luton RnR Club Roman Way, Tomlinson Avenue, Luton, Beds Flames Tartan Ted 01582 518211

Sat 4 Nov Nifty Fifties RnR Club - IHC Irish World Heritage Centre, 10 Queens Road, Cheetham Hill, Manchester, Lancs Madmen (Croatia)/Cathouse Creepers plus DJ 01942 724166

Sat 4 Nov Rock House Club Sports & Social Club, William Street, Saxilby, Lincoln, Lincs Go Getters/Sun-Rays Wainyboy + guest 01522 811411

Sat 4 Nov The Mop Weavers Arms, Brunel Street, Halliwell, Bolton, Lancs BL1 8AS record hop only (50s rock'n'roll) Big G 01204 849008

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

Sat 4 Nov The Shant Sharpness Dockers Club, Sharpness, near Berkley, Gloucs Bill Fadden & the Rhythm Busters Slim Reed - Not Before '54 0117 904 2658

Sat 4 Nov Weston-Super-Mare WMC Weston-Super-Mare, Somerset Zig-Zag Band no details no details

Sun 5 Nov 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 5 Nov BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Lennerockers (Germany) plus DJ 0117 976 8065

Sun 5 Nov Beauwaters RnR Club Beauwaters Club, Nelson Road, Northfleet, Kent Mark Keeleys Good Rockin' Tonight Pete Bruce 01322 407110

Sun 5 Nov Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey B17s n/a 020 8647 1951

Sun 5 Nov The Vault Esplanade, Seaton, Devon Be Bop Daddies (4pm) no details 01297 625333

Sun 5 Nov The Woodgrange 62-64 Southchurch Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2RR House Rockers plus DJ 01702 460133

Sun 5 Nov Warmwell Holiday Park Warmell Holiday Camp, near Weymouth, Dorset DT2 8JE Alleycats (afternoon)/Jive Aces (evening) see special events 020 8593 1947

Mon 6 Nov Holtwhites Sports Club Enfield, Middx Sundowners plus record hop

Mon 6 Nov The Lady Luck Two2Much, 11 Walkers Court, Soho, London W1 Robert Gordon & Chris Spedding no details 020 7734 0377

Tue 7 Nov 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

Tue 7 Nov Parklands Ballroom (ex ICI/Dupont SC), Wheatley Hall Road, Doncaster, S.Yorks Glenn Darren & the Krew Katz Dave B 01302 884707

Wed 8 Nov Roadrunner RnR Club Biggleswade WMC, Church Street, Biggleswade, Beds record hop only (jive/stroll/doo-wop) The Wolf 07832 369373

Thu 9 Nov Barnstaple RnR Club Cedars Inn Hotel, Bickington Road, Barnstaple, Devon EX31 2HP record hop only (rockabilly/rock'n'roll/jive) Swinging Rock Boogie 07899 701498

Thu 9 Nov Crigglestone WMC High Street, Crigglestone, near Wakefield, Yorks record hop only Jive Bop Record Hop

Thu 9 Nov Dance To The Bop Westcliff Hotel, 18-20 Westcliff Parade, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex SS0 7QW Polecats/Steve Hooker Band Timebarrier Express 01702 390916

Thu 9 Nov Mad Hatters Swing Dance Club-TVH Trent Valley House WMC, New Street, Bedworth, Warks CV12 9DL record hop only (East Coast swing lesson & dance) Woody 07968 988442

Fri 10 Nov Athletic Club - Kettering Rockingham Road, Kettering, Northants Mosquitos Dion 01536 510779

Fri 10 Nov Bankfield Social Club Huddersfield Road, Elland, W.Yorks record hop only DJ the DJ 01422 354876

Fri 10 Nov Beaconsfield Rockabilly Club Beaconsfield Football Club, Slough Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks HP9 2SQ Sugar Creek Trio Wildcat Pete 01494 672605

Fri 10 Nov Birdwell Club Sheffield Road, Birdwell, Nr Barnsley, S.Yorks S70 5UY Strollers Clive the Jive 01924 376141

Fri 10 Nov Bolton Tonge Ward RnR Club Tonge Ward Labour Club, Ainsworth Lane, Tonge Moor, Bolton, Lancs BL2 2QL Mark Keeleys Good Rockin' Tonight Jivin' Jim 01204 410483

Fri 10 Nov Borough Green RnR Club Village Hall, Borough Green, Kent TN15 Kav & the Kavemen plus DJ 01732 887033

Fri 10 Nov Brigg Pavilion Scawby Brook, Brigg, Lincs DN20 9JH Rockin' Boppers Dave B 01652 656591

Fri 10 Nov Cadbury Heath Jive Club Cadbury Heath Social Club, Cadbury Heath Road, Bristol Kingcats Will 0117 938 0483

Fri 10 Nov Chilton & Windlestone Club Darlington Road, Chilton, Ferryhill, County Durham record hop only (50's style rock'n'roll) Rockin Andy 01388 720340

Fri 10 Nov C'mon Everybody Record Hop - SM St Marys Social Club, Melton Street, Crossbank, Batley, W.Yorks WF17 8PT record hop only Johnny Whiteshoes 0113 229 4196

Fri 10 Nov Daddy Kool's Brackley Town Football Club, Churchill Way, Brackley, Northants NN13 7EJ Jack Rabbit Slim Pin Up Record Hop 01295 276848

Fri 10 Nov Dale Tavern West Street, Worsborough Dale, Barnsley, Yorks S70 5PG Ian Fenn & the Starcats Dave B 01226 205611

Fri 10 Nov Hillbilly Hop! - BG Bethnal Green WMC, 42 Pollards Row, Bethnal Green, London E2 6NB Western Aces Little Carl's Record Hop 07974 226380

Fri 10 Nov Hillside Club (ex-Western Club), 357a Derby Road, Lenton, Nottingham, Notts Rat Pack Kool Kat Charlie 07901 766863

Fri 10 Nov Houndogs RnR Club - CSC Chelmsford Social Club, 55 Springfield Road (behind Tesco), Chelmsford, Essex record hop only (rockabilly/r'n'b/rock'n'roll) Houndog Jim/Mark Happycat 01279 654205

Fri 10 Nov Kirk Hallam Social Club Dallimore Road, Kirk Hallam, Ilkeston, Derbys Rip It Up plus DJ 0115 932 9909

Fri 10 Nov Queens Hotel (Theatre Bar), South Promenade, Blackpool, Lancs FY4 1AY Jumpback Mike Rossi 01253 342015

Fri 10 Nov Rockin Jukejoint Denton Labour Club, Ashton Road, Denton, Cheshire Hicksville Bombers Poor Boy Paul 07833 682201

Fri 10 Nov Rock-Ola RnR Club The Paddocks, Long Road, Canvey Island, Essex Lennerockers (Germany) Pete Bruce 01268 515696

Fri 10 Nov Taunton RnR Club North Petherton RFC, Beggars Brook, North Petherton, Somerset Blast Off Tony Sullivan 01823 332180

Fri 10 Nov The Eagle 156 Cornwall Street, Plymouth, Devon PL1 1NJ record hop only Slim Jim's RnR Disco 01752 266158

Fri 10 Nov The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Flying Saucers n/a 020 7622 4001

Fri 10 Nov Three Nuns 30 Church Gate, Loughborough, Leics Drugstore Cowboys no details 01509 611989



Sat 11 Nov Balby Ashmount Club Balby Road, Doncaster, S.Yorks Big Boy Bloater & his Southside Stompers Didge/Fred the Ted/Crock 07808 828551

Sat 11 Nov Barnstaple RnR Club Cedars Inn Hotel, Bickington Road, Barnstaple, Devon EX31 2HP Jive Romero's/Memphis/Rat Pack/Dimestore Gamblers Blue Jean Bop - all dayer 07899 701498

Sat 11 Nov Chicken Shack Brogborough Club, Bedford Road, Brogborough, near Milton Keynes, Beds Unknowns Rollin Rock Record Hop 07960 991236

Sat 11 Nov Cuxton RnR Club Sturdee Sports & Social Club, Stoke Road, Hoo, Rochester, Kent ME3 9LT Fever Moonshine Mama 01732 780076

Sat 11 Nov Dursley RnR Club - LH Listers Hall, Long Street, Dursley, Gloucs GL11 Flying Saucers Rockin Mike 07766 010362

Sat 11 Nov Fantastic Fifties Jive Concerts Riddell Hall,

Deans Lane, Walton on the Hill, Tadworth, Surrey Big Boy Bloater & his Southside Stompers Max 07703 472824

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

Sat 11 Nov George Lawton Hall Stamford Street, Mossley, Lancs OL5 0HR Ian Fenn & the Starcats Moggie no details

Sat 11 Nov Guildford Hot 50's RnR Club Fairlands Hall, Fairlands Avenue, Guildford, Surrey Hi Voltage Jimmy Slick 01483 856744

Sat 11 Nov Hamble RnR Club Aerostructure Club, Kings Avenue, Hamble-Le-Rice, Southampton, Hants tba Wild Wolfie Smith 023 9264 0208

Sat 11 Nov Juke Joint RnR Club Shrublands Community Centre, Hawthorn Road, Gorleston-on-Sea, Norfolk Rockin' The Joint The Professor/Rockin Shades 01760 338894

Sat 11 Nov Kings Langley Services Club 3 Hempstead Road, Kings Langley, Herts Rock Of Ages no details 01923 262982

Sat 11 Nov Melksham RnR Club Assembly Hall, Market Place, Melksham, Wilts Persuaders Cockney Rebel 01225 706463

Sat 11 Nov Newtown Social Club Durham Road, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland record hop only (r'n'r/rockabilly/jive) Rockin' Jukebox Record Hop 0191 410 2914

Sat 11 Nov Northampton RnR Club - FC Far Cotton WMC, Main Road, Far Cotton, Northampton,, Northants NN4 8EN Rock Back The Clock AJ The Rockin' DJ 01604 713851

Sat 11 Nov Paris Rock Club - WAC Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road, London SE1 7AA record hop only Mad French Wolf/Dave 07944 775556

Sat 11 Nov Pear Tree Hotel 7 Devonport Road, Stoke, Plymouth, Devon PL3 4DJ record hop only Slim Jim's RnR Disco 01752 563260

Sat 11 Nov Pit Stop RnR Club Coventry Colliery S & S Club, Bennett Road, North Kersley, Coventry, W.Midlands Revolutionaires Woody 024 7633 6533

Sat 11 Nov Plinston Live Plinston Hall, The Broadway, Letchworth, Herts Slammers Maximum Jive Band Strollin Steve 01763 241301

Sat 11 Nov Preston RnR Club Deafway Centre, Brockholes Brow, Preston, Lancs John Lewis Rock'n'Roll Trio Andy Roberts 01253 852594

Sat 11 Nov Riddell Memorial Hall Deans Lane, Walton-on-the-Hill, Surrey KT20 7UA Big Boy Bloater & his Southside Stompers Maxx 07703 472824

Sat 11 Nov Riddell Memorial Hall Deans Lane, Walton-on-the-Hill, Surrey KT20 7UA plus Betty & the Cherry-D's 50s concert 07703 472824

Sat 11 Nov Ritz Ballroom 73 Bradford Road, Brighouse, W.Yorks Spitfires Bradford Dude 01274 392380

Sat 11 Nov Satans Hollow Princess Street, Manchester
Polecats/Kid Voodoo/Tailshakers Captain Fido/Dr Danny
Ace 01253 782018

Sat 11 Nov Shipdham Village Hall Shipdham, Norfolk Small
Town Giants no details no details

Sat 11 Nov Shoreham RnR Shoreham Centre, Pond Road,
Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex Lennerockers (Germany) plus
DJ 01903 243392

Sat 11 Nov The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road,
Battersea, London SW8 4BX tba n/a 020 7622 4001

Sat 11 Nov Yatton Social Club The Causeway, Yatton, Bristol
Be Bop Daddies no details 01934 832931

Sun 12 Nov BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc,
589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Darrel Higham & the
Enforcers plus DJ 0117 976 8065

Sun 12 Nov British Railway RnR Club Broad Green,
Wellingborough, Northants Lennerockers (Germany)/Rock
Back The Clock/ Strollin Steve/Hound Dog Jim 07748
306989

Sun 12 Nov British Railway RnR Club Broad Green,
Wellingborough, Northants Porky's Original Hot
Rockin'/Meanstreak/Rat Pack all dayer 07748 306989

Sun 12 Nov Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street,
Carshalton, Surrey Good Rockin' Tonite n/a 020 8647 1951

Sun 12 Nov Erith RnR Club Erith WMC, 1 Valley Road, Erith,
Kent DA8 1BT Moonshiners Cruising Record Hop 07973
170056

Sun 12 Nov King Edward VII 63 Aylsham Road, Norwich,
Norfolk NR3 2HF Small Town Giants (3pm till 5pm) no
details 01603 414851

Sun 12 Nov Lord Protector Mayfield Road Huntingdon,
Cambs PE29 1NH Ramshackle Daddies no details 01480
454720

Sun 12 Nov The Sporting Green corner Hertford Road &
Green Street, Enfield Highway, Enfield, London Brick Lane
Boogie Boys Captain Caveman 020 8926 8577

Sun 12 Nov The Woodgrange 62-64 Southchurch Avenue,
Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2RR Cat & the Hot Tin Trio
plus DJ 01702 460133

Wed 15 Nov Bewicks Live Music Jam Bewick Suite, The
Swan, 73 High Street, Maldon, Essex CM9 5EP Lee Scott's
Jive Mob (plus guests) rock'n'roll jam night 01621 843001

Wed 15 Nov Roadrunner RnR Club Biggleswade WMC,
Church Street, Biggleswade, Beds record hop only
(jive/stroll/doo-wop) Timeshift 07832 369373

Thu 16 Nov Barnstaple RnR Club Cedars Inn Hotel,
Bickington Road, Barnstaple, Devon EX31 2HP record hop

only (rockabilly/rock'n'roll/jive) Eddie Falcon 07899 701498

Thu 16 Nov Crigglestone WMC High Street, Crigglestone,
near Wakefield, Yorks record hop only Jive Bop Record Hop
01274 600632

Thu 16 Nov Mad Hatters Swing Dance Club-TVH Trent
Valley House WMC, New Street, Bedworth, Works CV12
9DL record hop only (East Coast swing lesson & dance)
Woody 07968 988442

Fri 17 Nov 3R's RnR Club Reading Civil Service Club,
James Lane, Burghfield, near Reading, Berks RG30 3RS
Tony & the Saints Mick the Mike no details

Fri 17 Nov Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular Road,
Stonebridge, London NW10 record hop only (rockers n' clas-
sic bike night) Big Beat Kris 020 8961 1000

Fri 17 Nov Badderley Green WMC 922-924 Leek New Road,
Badderley Green, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs ST2 7xx Colin Paul
& the Persuaders Juke Box Johnnie 01782 537292

Fri 17 Nov Birdwell Club Sheffield Road, Birdwell, Nr
Barnsley, S.Yorks S70 5UY Juke Box Eddies Clive the Jive
01924 376141

Fri 17 Nov Blue Moon RnR Club North Walsham Community
Centre, New Road, North Walsham, Norfolk NR28 9DE
Greggi G & his Crazy Gang Eddie's Golden Sounds 01692
500863

Fri 17 Nov C'mon Everybody Record Hop - AMW Askern
Miners Welfare Club, Manor Way, Askern, Doncaster,
S.Yorks DN6 0AJ record hop only Johnny Whiteshoes 0113
229 4196

Fri 17 Nov Contented Pig 249 Fratton Road, Portsmouth,
Hants PO1 5PA Mosquitos no details no details

Fri 17 Nov Dance Jive Memorial Hall, Bodhyfrd (off Chester
Street), Wrexham, N.Wales LL12 7TP Night Train plus DJ
07812 369702

Fri 17 Nov Eastleigh RnR Club Comrades Club, 55 Leigh
Road, Eastleigh, Hants SO50 9DF record hop only Long Tall
Girl/Rocking Glenn 023 8061 1953

Fri 17 Nov Ex-Servicemens Club - Warsop Carr Lane,
Warsop, Mansfield, Notts NG20 0BN Jump & Jive/Black
Cadillacs Sean's Echoes Of The Past 07817 285206

Fri 17 Nov Leabrooks Club Greenhill Lane, Leabrooks, Nr
Alfreton, Derbys DE55 1LU Ian Fenn & the Starcats Mr Jive
01773 833035

Fri 17 Nov March Jive Club Windmill Rooms, Whitemoor
Road, March, Cambs PE15 0AF Hound Dogs The
Professor 01354 742309

Fri 17 Nov Mayfair Club Birch Road, Louth, Lincs record hop
only (40's & 50's) Jump Jive Alive 01472 230037

Fri 17 Nov MBM's Mytchett Community centre, 140 Mytchett
Road, Mytchett, Camberley, Surrey GU16 6AA Rockin' The
Joint Oh Boy Record Hop 01276 504898

Fri 17 Nov Mo Cooper Charity RnR Gig Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College, Altrincham, Cheshire Colin Paul & the Persuaders/Sonny Webb Jive Inn Jim Killey 0161 928 9599

Fri 17 Nov Phoenix Hotel East Dereham, Norfolk Small Town Giants no details no details

Fri 17 Nov Queens Hotel (Theatre Bar), South Promenade, Blackpool, Lancs FY4 1AY Wildkats Northwest Mike Rossi 01253 342015

Fri 17 Nov Rock'n Red Hot Club - GH Grand Hotel, Exmouth, Devon Fever Mr Rusty 07879 228451

Fri 17 Nov The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Rat Pack n/a 020 7622 4001

Sat 18 Nov Acacia Ballroom Glaxo Wellcome Club, High Street, Dartford, Kent DA1 1DJ Bernie Woods & the Forest Fires/Skyrockers Pete Bruce 01322 407110

Sat 18 Nov Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 Diamonds (Johnny Kidd tribute night) Big Beat Kris 020 8961 1000

Sat 18 Nov Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club-TO West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Joey & the Jivers (ticket only) n/a 020 8669 9116

Sat 18 Nov Castle Cary RnR Club Constitutional Club, Castle Cary, Somerset Memphis '56 no details 01963 351739

Sat 18 Nov Exning Road RnR Club Exning Road WMC, Newmarket, Suffolk Ramshackle Daddies Rockin Lee's Record Machine 01638 750724

Sat 18 Nov Jive Party - Rivoli Rivoli Ballroom, 350 Brockley Road, Crofton Park, London SE4 2BY Cadillac Kings Ken/Graham 020 8946 2664

Sat 18 Nov Pellon Social Club Pellon Lane, Halifax, W.Yorks HX2 0HF Cadillacs D. J. the DJ 01422 354876

Sat 18 Nov Rockin' At The Legion British Legion, 399 High Road, Tottenham, London N17 5QX Lonesome Valley Boys Dixie Sounds 07759 874167

Sat 18 Nov Rock'n Red Hot Club - GH Grand Hotel, Exmouth, Devon Jets Mr Rusty 07879 228451

Sat 18 Nov Stage One Cobden Oxford Street, Long Eaton, Derbys Bad Boys plus DJ 0115 973 4928

Sat 18 Nov Swamp Rock Club All Saints Arts Centre, 122 Oakleigh Road North, London N12 tba no details 020 8810 7454

Sat 18 Nov Tam O'Shanter Club Hertford Place, Earlsdon, Coventry, W.Midlands CV1 3JZ Rockin' The Joint JD's Record Hop 024 7633 6533

Sat 18 Nov The Foyer University House, University of Sheffield, Western Bank, Sheffield, S.Yorks S10 2TN Paul

Lamb & the King Snakes n/a 0114 222 8777

Sat 18 Nov The Jukebox 147 Club, 2 Stepfield, Witham Industrial Estate, Witham, Essex CM8 3TH Blue Flames Skinny Jim 01245 260506

Sat 18 Nov The Mixing Tin 9a Albion Street, Leeds, W.Yorks LS1 5AA Cathouse Creepers plus DJ 0113 246 8899

Sat 18 Nov The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Flames n/a 020 7622 4001

Sat 18 Nov Thorngate Halls Bury Road, Gosport, near Portsmouth, Hants tba Wild Wolfie Smith 023 9242 8732

Sat 18 Nov Virginia Creepers Club The Water Rats Theatre, 328 Grays Inn Road, Kings Cross, London WC1 Rudy la Crioux & the All Stars Suzy Q 07956 295842

Sun 19 Nov Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 record hop only (noon - ton up day) Little Carl/Rocketeer 020 8961 1000

Sun 19 Nov BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Juke Box Eddies Rockin' John 0117 976 8065

Sun 19 Nov Beauwaters RnR Club Beauwaters Club, Nelson Road, Northfleet, Kent Rockin' The Joint Pete Bruce 01322 407110

Sun 19 Nov Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Sundowners n/a 020 8647 1951

Sun 19 Nov Rock'n Red Hot Club - GH Grand Hotel, Exmouth, Devon Kingcats Cockney Rebel 07879 228451

Sun 19 Nov The Woodgrange 62-64 Southchurch Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2RR Planet Boppers plus DJ 01702 460133

Tue 21 Nov Butlins - Skegness Ingoldmells, Skegness, Lincs Darts no details 0870 242 2002

Tue 21 Nov 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

Tue 21 Nov Parklands Ballroom (ex ICI/Dupont SC), Wheatley Hall Road, Doncaster, S.Yorks Rock n Roll Knights Dave B 01302 884707

Thu 23 Nov Barnstaple RnR Club Cedars Inn Hotel, Bickington Road, Barnstaple, Devon EX31 2HP record hop only (rockabilly/rock'n'roll/jive) Blue Jean Bop 07899 701498

Thu 23 Nov Mad Hatters Swing Dance Club-TVH Trent Valley House WMC, New Street, Bedworth, Warks CV12 9DL record hop only (East Coast swing lesson & dance) Woody 07968 988442

Fri 24 Nov Barnsley RnR Team - BHSSC Barnsley Hospital

Sports & Social Club, Pogmoor Road, Barnsley, S.Yorks S75 2EP Rock Back The Clock Jive Bop Record Hop 01977 613841

Fri 24 Nov Basingstoke RnR Club Westside Community Association, Paddock Road, South Ham, Basingstoke, Hants RG22 6QB Jive Street plus DJ 01256 462305

Fri 24 Nov Bolton Tonge Ward RnR Club Tonge Ward Labour Club, Ainsworth Lane, Tonge Moor, Bolton, Lancs BL2 2QL Earl Jackson Band Jivin' Jim 01204 410483

Fri 24 Nov Borough Green RnR Club Village Hall, Borough Green, Kent TN15 Alleycats plus DJ 01732 887033

Fri 24 Nov British Railway RnR Club Broad Green, Wellingborough, Northants Gregg G & his Crazy Gang Strollin Steve 07748 306989

Fri 24 Nov Gold Star RnR Club Red Lion, Great North Road, Hatfield, Herts AL9 5EU Chris Black & the Black Cats Hounddog Jim 07752 672334

Fri 24 Nov Higham RnR Club Higham WMC, Hermitage Road, Higham, Rochester, Kent ME3 7DD Midnite Shift Suzy Q 07721 489489

Fri 24 Nov Hill Park Memorial WMC 78 Highlands Road, Fareham, Hants PO15 6JD Good Rockin' Tonite Rockin Billy 01329 280782

Fri 24 Nov Hillside Club (ex-Western Club), 357a Derby Road, Lenton, Nottingham, Notts Fat Cat Trio Kool Kat Charlie 07901 766863

Fri 24 Nov Jive Inn RnR Club Bridgewater Sport & Social Club, Bath Road, Bridgewater, Somerset Rat Pack Blue Jean Bop 01823 259193

Fri 24 Nov Rock-Ola RnR Club The Paddocks, Long Road, Canvey Island, Essex Jellybean The Pirate 01268 515696

Fri 24 Nov Starfighter RnR Club Village Hall, Wreningham, near Norwich, Norfolk Restless Rockin Roland 01508 494735

Fri 24 Nov The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road,

Sat 25 Nov Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 Blue Flames Bill Guntrip 020 8961 1000

Sat 25 Nov Crondall RnR Club The Village Hall, Crondall, near Farnham, Surrey GU10 5QG Flying Saucers/Hicksville Bombers-30th anniversary Wildcat Pete/Oh Boy Record Hop 07903 145018

Sat 25 Nov Dinos Speedwell Rooms, Staveley, Chesterfield, Derbys S43 3JL Polecats/Restless/Un-Named Rampton JohnnyKrazy Kat/Dino 01246 281522

Sat 25 Nov Festival Inn Ilkeston Road, Trowell, Notts NG9 3PX Firebirds plus DJ 0115 932 2897

Sat 25 Nov It's Only Rock'n'Roll Sale Masonic Lodge, Sale, Cheshire Rip It Up Jivin' Jim Killey 0161 929 0413

Sat 25 Nov Jack rabbit Slim and Radar record Hop The B52 Club Diner London Southend Airport Eastern Perimeter Road Rochford Essex 01268 457767

Sat 25 Nov Market House 129 High Street, Weston-super-Mare, Somerset BS23 1HN Rockin' Bandits plus DJ 07821 765799

Sat 25 Nov Port Slade Town Hall Victoria Road, Port Slade, Sussex Slim Slip & the Sliders Stompin' Steve + guest 07745 453765

Sat 25 Nov Ritz Ballroom 73 Bradford Road, Brighouse, W.Yorks Colin Paul & the Persuaders Bradford Dude 01274 392380

Sat 25 Nov Rossington Welfare Social Club West End Lane, Rossington, Doncaster, S.Yorks Skyrockers Ol' Dell Boy 01302 863125

Sat 25 Nov Southern Jivers RnR Club - EEC EEC Sports & Social Club, Duke Street, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1QH Sundowners Dinger 07767 745770

Sat 25 Nov Stevenage CIU Club High Street, Stevenage, Herts Rapides no details no details

Sat 25 Nov The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW8 4BX Cavaliers n/a 020 7622 4001

Sun 26 Nov BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Rock Back The Clock Slim Jim's RnR Disco 0117 976 8065

Sun 26 Nov Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Fever n/a 020 8647 1951

Sun 26 Nov Link Club Parsloe Road, Harlow, Essex CM19 4RT Cat & the Hot Tin Trio Strollin Steve 01763 241301

Sun 26 Nov Stafford RnR Club White Eagle Polish Club, Riverway, Stafford, Staffs Flying Saucers Jukebox Johnny 01785 240140

Sun 26 Nov The Woodgrange 62-64 Southchurch Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2RR Sunsetters plus DJ 01702 460133

Tue 28 Nov 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 29 Nov Roadrunner RnR Club Biggleswade WMC, Church Street, Biggleswade, Beds record hop only (jive/stroll/doo-wop) Timeshift 07832 369373

Thu 30 Nov Hanworth RnR Club Royal Naval Club, Park Road, Hanworth, Middx TTs Wildcat Pete 01464 672605



TOP TEN



LARRY FOSTER has been DJ'ing for 37 years and was resident DJ at The Townhouse in Enfield for nearly twenty years, it was Larry that instigated the Townhouses very successful rock'n'roll night, it was also Larry who managed to coax

Stuart Coleman into hosting the key events.

Although Larry has DJ'd successfully under many musical

genres, his first love is rock n roll which started in the 70's when he used to frequent the legendary Black Raven (didn't everyone?)

The Pink Elephant in Southgate was another of his favourite haunts. We caught up with Larry at Holtwhites Sports and Social club where he is resident DJ for their first Monday or every month rockin' nights and we asked him to think quick and provide us with his Top Ten, dance floor fillers, here are his answers the paper ripped from a notepad and scribbled between sets....

Crondall Rock 'n' Roll

Crondall rock 'n' roll club was established on Nov.26th 1976 in Crondall village hall, and is one of the longest if not the longest running rock 'n' roll club in Britain.

The club is lucky to be able to celebrate, almost to the actual day come the 30th anniversary gig, 30 years of non stop rockin' in the same venue, being run by various promoters over the years.

Starting the club 30 years ago was Gordon Gillingham, late father in law of d.j. Stompin' Steve, who d.j'd for the first gig at Crondall village hall supporting the band - Wild Angels. Other DJ's that I know of that played at Crondall on a regular basis were - Be Bop Bella (perhaps the first female rockin' DJ?), Shani Gillingham (Gordon's daughter), Wildcat Pete, & presently, our own resident d.j's Oh Boy Record Hop (Boppin' Robin & Dynamite Adi).

We chose to have Sandy Ford & his Flying Saucers for the clubs anniversary night as the Flying Saucers were a regu-

1. Roy Melton - Boppin' Guitar
2. Elvis Presley - Judy
3. Dave Edmunds - The Shape I'm In
4. Jackie Wilson - Come Back To Me
5. Eddie Cochran - Skinny Jim
6. Marvin Rainwater - I Dig You Baby
7. Cliff Richard - Blue Suede Shoes
8. Moon Mullican - 7 Nights To Rock
9. Wanda Jackson - Mean Mean Man
10. The Tractors - Choo Choo Train

Well there you have it a varied and eclectic list of greats which Larry demonstrated to a full dance floor all night at Enfield.

Thanks for some great sounds that night Larry!

If you're a DJ on the scene or just a bedroom wax spinner, send us your top ten tunes, a small profile and a picture and we'll give you some space. Thanks.



lar band in the early days at Crondall. And they also represent the successful, dedicated, forever loyal, longstanding bands on the rock 'n' roll scene. Hicksville Bombers were chosen as they represent more of the rockabilly side of the scene. And they are also a comparatively younger band, whom without the likes of, the rockin' scene would not continue so strongly.

D.J. Wildcat Pete was selected for this event to play between the bands as he was probably crondalls longest running d.j. and became an important feature of Crondall rock 'n' roll club and with our own Oh Boy Record Hop, that completes the forthcoming event.

All that for a mere £10, and a chance to win £50 cash. I reckon thats a great bargain for such a GREAT party to be!

Stay Rockin' y'all, Janie

www.crondallrocknrollclub.co.uk



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 TOYOTA DOLPHIN SMALL WINNEBAGO 2.2 PETROL LHD MOT given, new carpets, updated cushions, 4/6 berth, new cooker & fridge, air con. Lots of space £5,950	 BAMBI SUZUKI TX CARRIER 1987 Taxed, 68,200 miles, 3 berth, new carpets, long MOT. Looks a lovely little camper, clean upholstery and on the body £3,999	 TALBOT EXPRESS 2.5 Diesel 1992 2 owners, new MOT given, 4 berth, Nicely fitted out inside, toilet room, large tool box area, twin motorbikes, FVS, S/S BOX £2,995	 DODGE CRUISER PETROL 1981 6 berth, shower, Clean body £7,500	 BEDFORD CF 2.3 1983 4 berth, new MOT given, shower room, clean upholstery £2,275

1991 CITROEN C25 COACHBUILT Long long wheelbase, 6 berth, diesel, shower room, solar panel, nearly new upholstery, W/out awning, bike rack £10,495

1994 FIAT DUCATO 5 berth, petrol, 1971cc, B/shower room, sleep over the cab, bike rack, lots of space inside, new MOT given £6,250

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1987 TALBOT EXPRESS HIGH TOP 2 berth, fully loaded, taxed, fully equipped £3,750

BEDFORD CF LWB Coachbuilt body, long wheel base, 6 berth, diesel, awning, shower room, lots of space, drive away, needs some work, grab a bargain £2,999

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in memory

Linda Hogan

It is with great sadness we have said goodbye to Linda the lovely wife of Tom Hogan who passed on 22nd September 2006.

The two of them have been on the rock n roll scene since the beginning Tom being an original teddy boy they had been married for 44 years and there's not many can say that. She was a wonderful girl, and wife anyone who met her would agree between them they had five children and all of them are into rock n roll.



Linda was the one to encourage Tom to start the first Edwardian club at the Loughborough in Brixton and to help him with his disco for the last 33 years he says he could not of done any of this without her she will be sadly missed by everyone.

Rest in peace sweetheart

Tommy

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The DUKE's Rockabilly Raves

From the counter I could see my new toy, a 1954 Seeburg Jukebox sitting in pride of place between the gents and ladies' toilets at 'Duke's Bar'. I had spent the last week lovingly filling it with my records of choice. And what a task that turned out to be. I had this feeling I would be judged by the music that came from the latest piece of 1950's memorabilia to be added to the place. I was not wrong about that, as you will find out by reading on. The only thing that had been changed on the Seeburg was the electrical transformer. So it still accepted American quarters, of which I had an endless supply, just what I wanted. The idea was that you gave me a pound and



I would give out five quarters in exchange. S o u n d s good? Well, I thought so.

As the owner of this fine establishment I have the honour of not paying to hear a tune or two. After filling the machine with count-

less coins, Charlie Feathers 'Bottle to the Baby' was the first tune to fill the bar. While this was playing the first customer of the day entered the building.

I greeted a lady with my customary "Howdy", and I got a pleasant smile and a "Good Afternoon" in return.

Wow, American! I thought. "What can I get you?"

After a long pause, during which time she was obviously looking for some menus (which were still stacked under the counter), she asked rather hopefully but not expectantly;

"Do you have any 'Deep fried Crabbie fish fillet', and maybe a strawberry daiquiri or screwdriver to drink?"

It came as a complete surprise to her when I said "Yes, not a problem, take a booth and I'll bring it over as soon as it is ready."

I received another of her pleasant smiles and she selected a booth and made herself comfortable. As I walked to the kitchen area with the order I was wondering to myself where I had seen this lady before.

With the order placed I was back at the bar pretending to look busy when I saw and heard Jerry Chatabox pull into the car park in his 1932 three window coupe, with a wicked roof chop, no fenders, no bonnet and a hot 350 Chevy with triple carbs hotrod. I could feel a bit of intense questioning on my part coming on as to what he had been up to lately.

"Hi Duke" said Jerry as he came up to the bar and placed some flyers for the then upcoming 'Hotrod Hayride'. "How's things?"

"I'm fine Jerry. Hey" I said, "a summer Rave. Any reason for change of date?"

Jerry checked his watch and sat down at the counter.

"We have been trying to get a summer date at the Rave for years... and now finally!!! Think of all the cool cars and bikes coming from all over Europe, think of no more freezing chalets and sub zero temperatures, think of a vast sandy beach over the road and certainly no more winter colds and flu!!!! It has to be an improvement."

I told Jerry I was all for a summer Rave, even if it was close to other summer festivals. The Rave in March was close VLV, but people got on with that. So I could not see a problem. I then asked about how the editing of the filming at the 10th Rave was coming along.

"The Rave documentary is completing filming at 'The Hotrod Hayride' in a few weeks. After that it's the final edit, so hopefully we can put out a nice package nearer the end of the year!"

I was about to ask another question when Jerry stopped me.

"Duke, I know you want to know stuff, but I've got

to go. And by the way, you need more Carl Perkins on that Juke Box of yours, and where's 'Dixie Fried?'"

"Okay Jerry" I replied, smiling. "No problem, see you later."

Just as he got to the door he turned to me and said.

"I see Wanda Feathers has popped in for some of your excellent food."

And with that he was gone.

It took a moment for the penny to drop.

The lady with the nice smile, I thought.

I looked over to the booth where she was sitting. Wanda had finished her meal and was reading a copy of 'MadRat magazine' (I always place copies on the tables as I am opening up). Should I bother her with questions?

I went over to clear the table.

"How was your food?" I asked.

"Thank you that was lovely" replied Wanda.

After introducing myself, I asked if she would mind if I asked a few questions about her father, the great Charlie Feathers.

I asked what her fondest memory was of her father. Her answer was a considered one;

"Gosh, this is such a tough question as I have so many fond memories of my Dad. My wedding day when my Dad walked me down the aisle, Christmas time, my Dad's birthday and Father's day, these all hold very fond memories of my Father. Also, I have very fond memories of when I played with my Dad in the 1970's. During the mid 1970's, 1976-77, I played on the road with my Dad doing shows at air force and army bases all over the USA. This was a lot of fun and a chance for me to see a lot of the U.S. that I would probably have never got to see. Here is one of my fond memories I have when we played in New Mexico. We played at a base in Clovis, New Mexico and the next day decided to go shopping and take a look at the town. Well, my Dad goes in this store and comes out with a funny looking cap on his head. My brother, Bubba, calls it a Russian looking cap that had snaps that snapped on the top of the hat. Anyway, the hat had these big earflaps too and my Dad was walking down the sidewalk as if he didn't know he had the cap on. It wasn't cold enough for a hat, as a matter of fact, I believe it was still summer. I asked my Dad if he was gonna take that hat off? I was kinda embarrassed walking down the street with him with that hat on. He said, "No, don't you like my hat?" Oh boy, I thought to

myself, I know him well enough to know that he was gonna wear that hat all the way back to the hotel. So, I crossed the street and walked on the other side. I bet he was laughing the whole time I was walking across that street...ha ha! He would sometimes do crazy stuff like this or say something crazy just to see other people's reactions. There was never a dull moment around my Dad and I'll always cherish the time I was on the road playing with him. He never cared what anyone thought of him, he was his own man, a proud man, he spoke his mind and usually did what he wanted, I always admired him for that. My Dad, you really had to know him to love him for the man he was."

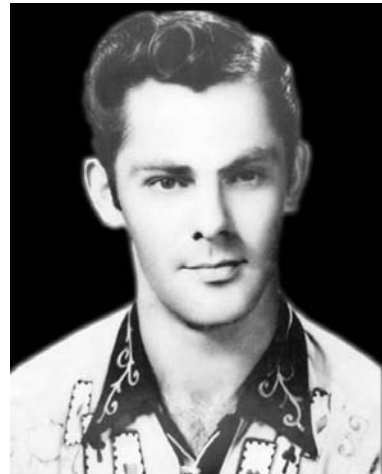
I probed further. "Growing up in a musical family did you pick up any instrumental or singing abilities?"

"Well, my Dad did show me a few chords on his guitar but I never really spent the time to learn how to play it. So, I never played any musical instruments but I did sing and also do harmony with my Father some."

"Did you ever attend any of Charlie's studio recordings in the 1960s? This is something I would love to have seen."

"During the late 1960's my father spent a lot of time at Mr. Tom Phillip's Select-O-Hits Studio. Mr. Tom had a record shop right next door to the studio and usually a couple of his kids would be there, helping him in the record store. I remember buying my first 45 record there while my Dad was recording in the studio next door. Other than that, I do remember being at the studio some with my Dad in the late 1960's while he was just working on songs and not really a studio recording session!

I asked one last question before getting back to



work.

"What did Charlie consider was his best recording period, Sun, Meteor, or King, etc?"

"I am sure my Father would say his best recording period was with King because he was doing the music he loved and had wanted to do at Sun. My dad made a demo of 'Tongue Tied Jill/Get With It' at Meteor and took it to Sam Phillips/Sun Records but Sam didn't care for them, he strictly wanted to record my Dad as a country artist and had him with Quinton Claunch and Bill Cantrell who were mainly country writers. Sure, I can understand where Sam was coming from but if an artist can't do or record what they feel then it's time to move on and you better believe if my dad can't

do it his way then he will move on and he did. My father loved the sound that came out of that little studio at Sun and I have often heard him say that it was like going from a Cadillac to a Ford when he went to King. IMO, those King recordings sound pretty dang good and when it comes to rockabilly it don't get no better than 'One Hand Loose'.... Hope I didn't get off track here."

She had not. As far as I was concerned, I could

have listened to Wanda for ages and asked more questions but I thought I would leave that for another time. The bar was beginning to fill up too, so I excused myself, gave her a peck on the cheek and went to serve some people that were obviously waiting for some drinks at the bar.

Having served my thirsty buddies at the bar, who commented that the jukebox was good, but could use some more modern rockabilly bands playing on it, I began my daily ritual of polishing glasses. This is a boring task, and I find a little daydreaming helps to pass the time. I posed myself the question of who I would have play a gig in my bar, if only I had an entertainments licence. Would it be 'The Mean Devils'? How about Ruby Ann? Would Elvis (circa 1955) return from the grave to guest with 'Jack Rabbit Slim? Possibly, but not today. Today there were customers to be tended. How about tomorrow?...

Duke

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