

MAD RAT MAGAZINE

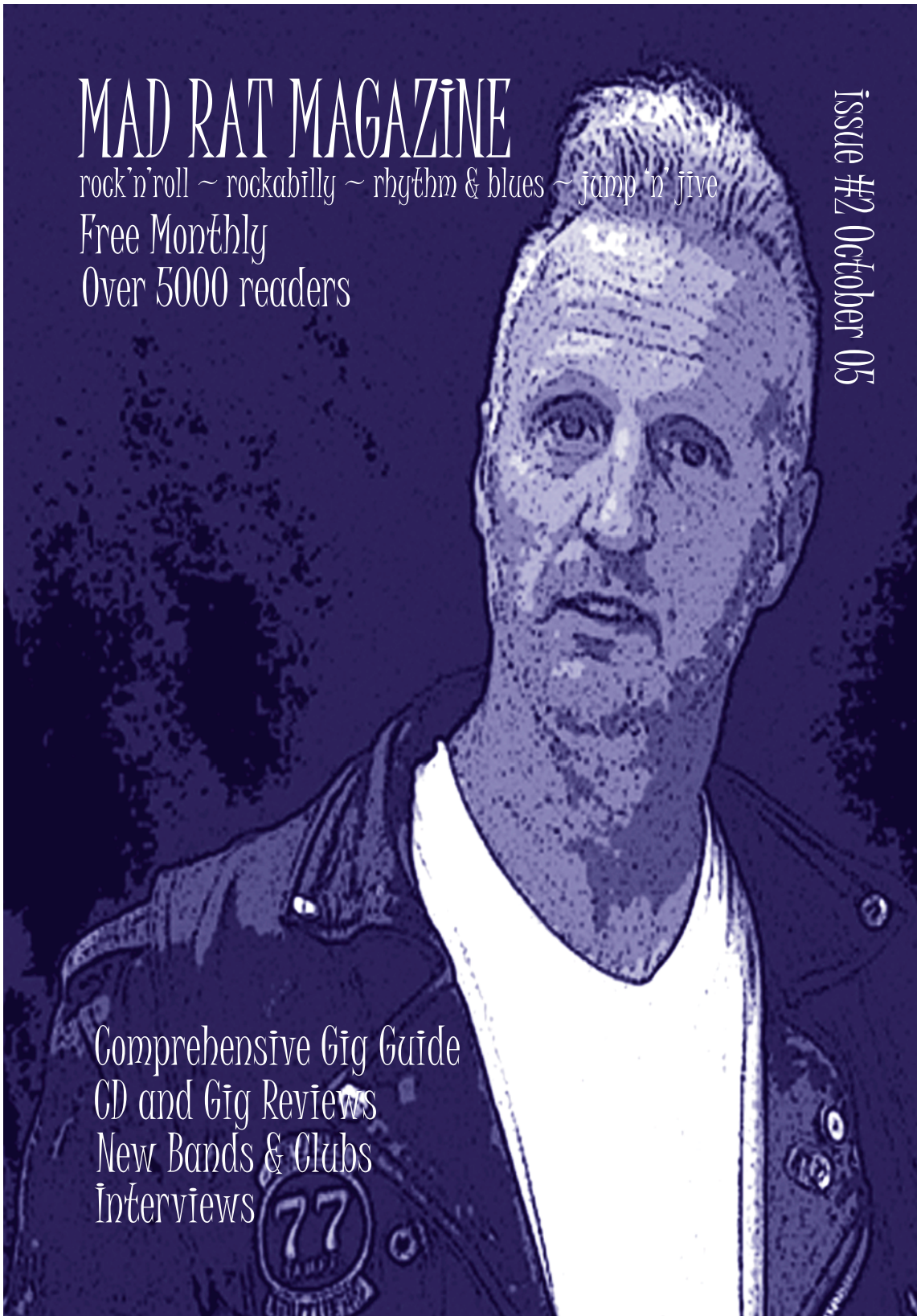
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Wow Wow Baby!

Well what a response we have had, you lot are just brilliant. We've had loads of you contact us to say what a great quality mag and what a good read we've created.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed this month and many thanks to all the advertisers and those of you round the country that are willingly distributing; you're stars all of you.

A very special thank you to Mike Cookson who has been an incredible one man advertising campaign on behalf of the mag, thanks and hurry up and get well soon.

Oh boy I've been having fun this month, I have been up hill and down dale delivering mags to the waiting hauds and i am loving it! Gently coaxing those who can write their name to write reviews and articles and features, a bit of chinese torture here and there to extract the gossip and the news its been brill! I cannot begin to tell you how excited the Mad Rat team are about the response, so I wont, I'll shut up now!!! Yeah right that'll be the day!

Well you can guess I'm about to moan so let's get on with it. Well it's like this, if your gig has been missed off the gig guide then get it to us by phone by email by snail mail, you got to be in it to win it and with thousands of magazines going round the country free of charge then you'd be daft not to. All our details are in the mag over and over again so there really is no excuse. Bands; email us your gig list, promoters; just send us your dates for the year, we can separate them into months come on use it.

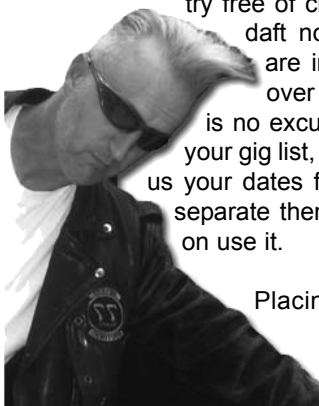
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costs no more or less than getting flyers done, that maybe get lost or thrown very few people will throw a magazine away. So come on, we haven't got time to chase you up, get those ads and gigs in and quick, space is limited. Use it or lose it, you've heard that before I know, but we are here to promote a scene that we are very proud to be a part of. END OF MOAN !

Thanks for reading and enjoy October's edition of the world famous, Mad Rat Mag...it's stonkin'!!!

Til the next time

Rockin regards
SPIKE




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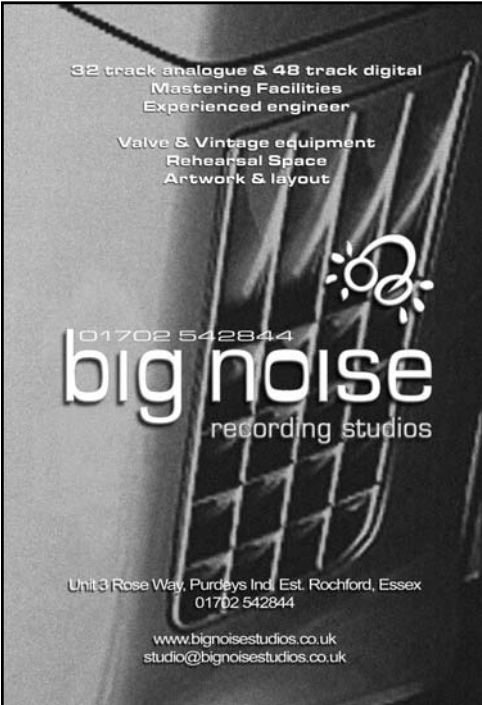


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CARLO LITTLE

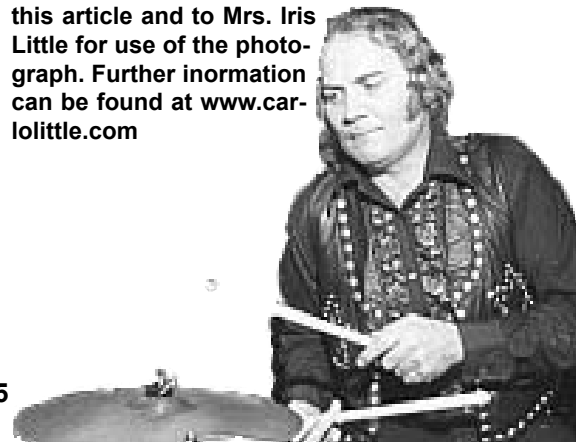
Carlo Little - 1938 -2005

Where can I start! Well let's go back to 1960 when Carlo was a young drummer scratching round to earn a living. Carlo had a mate called Mick Jagger who formed a band called the "Rolling Stones". The band were getting a few gigs here and there and one day Mick asked Carlo to join them full time. Carlo said they were earning about ten shillings a week (that's 50p today). He told Mick that he couldn't survive on that money and suggested his school mate Charlie Watts was looking for work. The rest of that story is history and the media to this day call Carlo "The Nearly Man". Carlo then joined Cyril Davies as his drummer and they had some success on PYE records. You may know "Country Line Special" one of their better known releases. Also at this time Carlo had met "Screaming Lord Sutch" at the famous 2 I's coffee bar in Soho. Carlo is featured on all of those classics like "Till The Following Night" and "Dracula's Daughter" and many more. Carlo was with Dave Sutch for years. Carlo was also a session drummer and worked with many big names on the scene. On the 11th August 1997 I got Carlo to come with his daughter Gizell to our radio station in central London called "Country Music Radio". I shared my show with country DJ Bryan Chalker. I remember Carlo telling our listeners some amazing stories about Joe Meek, the Stones and Dave Sutch. Carlo decided to start his own band called "The Carlo Little All Stars". They wrote a great jive number called "Ace Cafe" but sadly it was never released. A couple of years later I got Carlo to come on to a new radio station called "Merlin Network One" which was based in the city of London. Carlo bought some of the All Stars with him and they played a "live" set for our listeners. What a night that was!! I wanted to get Carlo to come to Radio Caroline but it never happened. When Carlo moved from his

home in Wembley to live in South Shields we saw less of him. The first day he moved into his new house he phoned me to say "Dell, get me tuned in to your SKY programme" and from that night on Carlo would phone me on a Thursday night to make his request for the following day. His favourite artists were Bill Doggett and the Champs. I miss those calls now that he has gone. Carlo was a fighter and he fought hard with his cancer in the latter part of his life. When the doctor's gave up on him and said he only had days to live he fought on for another 2 months! Karen and I went to his funeral in South Shields and there were many stars attending. The Rolling Stones sent a lovely wreath as well. Another mate turned up, even though he had suffered two strokes and now walks with a stick was Freddie Fingers Lee. Freddie wept at losing his old mate for many years. The music at the funeral was "Honky Tonk" and Nick Simper from Deep Purple read out a celebration of Carlo's life.

I am privileged to say I have known Carlo for many years and he was a good mate. His wife Iris is a lovely lady and they have two fine girls called Gizelle and Emma.

Our thanks to Dell & Karen Richardson for this article and to Mrs. Iris Little for use of the photograph. Further information can be found at www.carlolittle.com



Rhythm & Blues Reviewed

This month's R'n'B reviewed looks briefly at two of the great record labels that brought us some of the artistes that we know and love today. Firstly, **Aladdin Records** which was formed in late 1944 in Los Angeles, California by Eddie and Leo Mesner. The label was originally called Philo, but the Mesners were forced to change the name to Aladdin in 1946 due to a lawsuit. The Mesners recorded Rhythm and Blues, Jazz and Gospel. They were one of the first labels to issue R & B albums, with five of their first nine releases being of that genre. The albums on Aladdin are some of the rarest in the record collecting field with eight appearing on the Goldmine list of "The 100 Most Valuable U.S. Albums". Jazz West and Intro were jazz subsidiaries. Orefeo was a classical subsidiary.

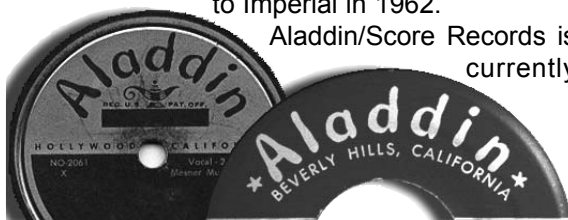
In 1957, the Mesners formed a budget label named Score. All of the Score albums were \$1.98 and many of the Aladdin, Jazz West and Intro albums were reissued on Score. The establishment of the Score label may account for the scarcity of the Aladdin albums, as many were only in print for a short time before being deleted and reissued on Score. In fact, several intended Aladdin releases may not have been issued at all before being transferred to Score.

The Mesners sold their entire catalogue to Imperial in 1962.

Aladdin/Score Records is currently

owned by the EMI Records Group. Artistes from the Aladdin stable included the great Amos Milburn, Charles Brown, Lester Young, Five Keys and Shirley and Lee to name but a few. Sadly, Shirley Mae Goodman-Pixley, the female half of the 1950s New Orleans rhythm and blues duo Shirley & Lee, died July 5 of complications from a stroke at Cedars Sinai Hospital in Los Angeles. She was 69. Born in New Orleans, Ms. Goodman-Pixley was a high school student when she first teamed with Leonard Lee, a family friend. The legendary Dave Bartholomew produced the duo's first single, "I'm Gone," for Aladdin Records. The song hit No. 2 on the national rhythm and blues charts in 1952. After the demise of Aladdin Records, Shirley & Lee recorded for both the Warwick and Imperial labels. But their heyday had passed, and they broke up their act in the early 1960s. Mr. Lee died in 1976. R.I.P.

You just can't imagine what the world of rock'n'roll would look like if



Specialty Records had never existed? After forming in Los Angeles by Art Rupe (real name Arthur Goldberg) in 1946, it had raised to one of the leading independent companies, and had released a countless number of hit recordings over the years. The list seems to have no ending: Little Richard, Lloyd Price, Jimmy & Joe Liggins, Earl King, Don & Dewey, Larry Williams, Wynona Carr, Sam Cooke & the Soul Stirrers, Art Neville... there ain't no doubt that this was the most important label of all-time, when it comes to black rock'n'roll, gospel and rhythm'n'blues. However, Rupe's career in the music business had started already in 1944, when he formed Atlas Records with Robert Scherman, recording for instance Nat "King" Cole, Charles Brown and Frankie Laine. After a couple of months Rupe decided to set up his own label Juke Box Records. In 1946 Rupe sold his share to the company-partner Al Middleman, but kept the masters he had produced on Roy Milton, the Sepia Tones and the Buddy Banks Sextet, and that's when the Specialty Records got started.

See ya next month.....

Jim McLaren




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KEV'S KAPERS

The lads didn't look too chuffed with the fact that I'd left them waiting at Spider the drummer's house for over eighteen minutes. However, Frank the Transit et arrive' and it was time to climb on board and head north to the gig....for the second time tonight!

"I've left my bass in the car Kev", cried Nev as we cruised towards thirty-two mph. "Oh for Rocks sake, how can you forget a six foot bass, you plank?!" exclaimed Kev. "Sorry man, was more concerned with bagging up me cans of Kestral Extra...you know, provisions and all that" said Nev. I wasn't happy, but begrudgingly did the 180 and sorted bass retrieval.

Back on the road, John, the other guitarist, slaps his new tape into the Alba and suggests that we should try covering one of Kajagoogoo's hits in rockabilly style. I called out "Is there a doctor on board" but was only greeted by popping cans of warm lager and the clink of a closing Zippo. Tape replaced with Radio 2's traffic reports, we slip onto the M1 to be greeted by a relatively clear highway, nevertheless seen before on a Friday.

Sigh of relief!

There's always a strange anticipation in the Band before a gig, but tonight all seemed jolly other than Spider who'd managed to lose his fake Rolex watch or Rollocks,

as we'd referred to it. "I must have left it in here somewhere". He continued to scrabble through the debris,


between, under and around the seats in the back. A selection of Esso, Wild Bean Cafe & Julies Pantry wrappers and the odd page from a gents interest magazine spilled into the air. "You can get another from the Grabber at Southend amusements" I quipped. Eventually, Big Joe the sax player produced it from his pocket with a hearty snigger. Expletive followed from Spider, but we were all used to Joe's antics, especially kicking a footie around in the cab while mobile and asking "Are we there yet?" every five minutes.

With the Traffic still looking good, I passed the duty of drafting the set list onto John. Tonight was to be one of these Modern Jive affairs. Hopefully, Johnny wouldn't be placing "Too Shy" or "Life in the Big Apple" into the list!

We've done a few of these type of gigs, which have been a little frustrating on occasions especially when usually the biggest applause on the night is for the winner of the litre of Blue Nun (sparkling) in the raffle. It has been said that modern jivers could dance to the rhythm of loose change dropping on the floor! Personally I quite like the gigs as it gives the band a chance to play their songs at half the normal speed, therefore saving energy for drinking!! "Shall we start off with our version of Ace of Spades, just to whip up a frenzy?", I quipped. Johnny was whistling "Too Shy", worryingly.

Newport Pagnell Services appeared on the horizon. "P*** break" came the shout from behind. This time I was happy to stop, as I was gagging for fish & chips...






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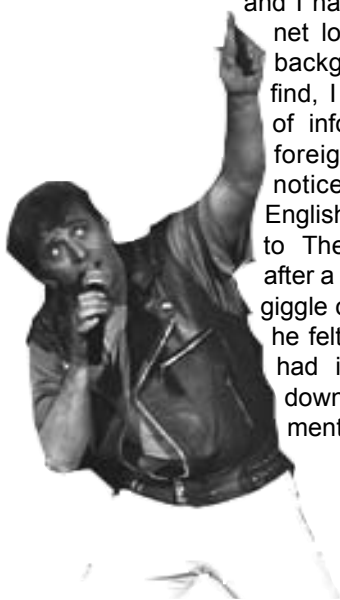
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MAL GRAY

In the summer of 1967, while I lay asleep in my crib, one of the most influential men in R'n'R music, Mal Gray, together with his pals of a few years Mitch Mitchell(bass), John Hawkins(Lead Guitar) Bob O'connor (Drums) and John Huggett (keyboards) were forming what would become the legendary Wild Angels.

Did Mal know how famous he would be?
Did he know that he would be described as the eternally cool Mal Gray?
Did he know that he would be in it for the long haul?

Well, the Mad Rat Mag picked up the phone and asked him and here is what he had to say of his, 40 odd year, music career, the British rock'n'roll scene, modern bands and the American greats that have advised, influenced and relied on his friendship and professionalism. Mal had agreed to this interview just a couple of days before hand



and I had trawled the internet looking for as much background as I could find, I found an awful lot of information written in foreign tongue and noticed that very few English sites paid homage to The Wild Angels, so after a brief chit chat and a giggle or too I asked Mal if he felt that the UK scene had in anyway let him down by its abandonment?

'Not at all' replied Mal, 'If it hadn't of been for the kids of north Kent London and Orpington and there support of the

Wild Angels in the early years we would have gone nowhere. We were really the only ones playing live and regular and people followed us about and made us very popular, it was only when their pushing us to the forefront got us onto the commercial ladder that the fanbase didn't like it'. I then added; but that is a trait of the rock-'n'roll scene which began very early on, the fan base likes it to stay



underground and looks down to anyone they think sells out. To which he agreed. When Radio One broadcast live for the first time you did the roadshows is that right? 'Yes, we did more radio one roadshows than anybody that year, I think because we did as we were told and we did it quick and well, it meant we worked well in that situation and we were the only band of that genre doing the roadshows, a very big right place right time scenario. No radio show was going to play our music so we used this to its full advantage and it paid off, we gained more popularity. In 1968 the Major-Minor record deal was a huge coupe, yes again we were very lucky to get that but again the kids loved us and they wanted to take the music home with them.' In 1969 you were band leader for the Gene Vincent tour in UK and Ireland, and I quote your interview on Radio Caroline; you said that this time was very special to you

why was that? "Gene was a real nice guy, his label treated him terribly, he was earning them fortunes and he was my idol and they treated him like nothing. He gave me good advise that I have never forgotten, Never trust a record company, stick with what you believe in and if they make you change in the toilets, then they don't really want you there. On that tour somewhere in Manchester we were given the toilets to change in, Gene was livid, but it was the last time I ever changed in the toilet. He knew that he was just the road to bums on seats for the promoters and his record company did nothing to change that attitude. Gene was a good man a great singer who could and did sing any style. But the material he was made to do wasn't always what he wanted. We belted up and down motorways in a van that shouldn't

"if they make you change in the toilets, then they dont really want you there"

be right." The success of the Wild Angels was beyond dreams and with its success came a lot of attention mostly directed at Mal, soon the ugly head of the green eyes showed itself and Mal who had had many offers from other bands decided it was time to step down and move on on his own. Sha na na was where he learnt the most, 'Leaving the Angels was a very traumatic time I had already had the offer from Sha Na Na who were doing an incredible rock-'n'roll show at the time, they were the best they could be, they were just a bunch of hippies and had offered me the job. I had to wait for a visa so that I could work in the States. There were problems so I began to play with another band which included Stewart Coleman, Carlo Little and Freddie Fingers Lee. Just in the nick of time my visa came and I was off to tour with Sha Na Na ten weeks at a time. It was hard work and you just had to learn from it."

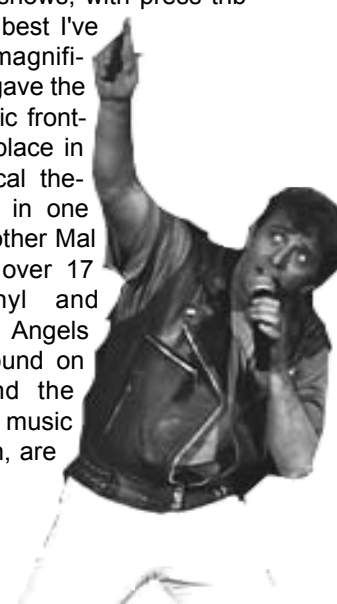
In 1976 you were opening for Bill Haley what was that like. "Well again people said and wrote terrible things about Bill but mostly he was a good guy a gent, he liked me I

liked him and things progressed until I became band leader the following year. If you get to know how these people work and how they like to do things, you treat them honest not much can go wrong." Mal was Bill Haleys band leader for 4 years so he must have got it right!!!! At around about the same time Mal began a tour opening for Fats Domino, Fats and Mal were to become friends and the tours which lasted for eight years cemented a friendship that would last to the present day. Mals latest album contains three numbers that were written for Fats and Mal quotes his influences for the album 'Louisiana Angel' as being, Haley, Presley, Vincent and Fats. He believes that Fats has actually recorded the three numbers but what he will do with them he

doesn't know. In 1988 Mal opened for Chuck Berry on the European tour and again in 2002, of Chuck he says, "the man knows what he wants and I make sure he gets it....."

From the early nineties to the early noughties Mal and the American Pie Rock'n'Roll Theatre Show wowed audiences. The sell out shows, with press tributes the like of 'the best I've seen', 'faultless', 'magnificent', 'breathtaking' gave the show and its fantastic front-man a well earned place in the history of musical theatre. All of this time in one band or show or another Mal Gray has released over 17 discs through vinyl and CD. The early Wild Angels stuff can only be found on rare vinyl sites and the prices are hefty. The music and the man, though, are everlasting.

Linette Richardson



Great British R 'n'B Festival Colne, Lancashire August Bank Holiday - 2005

A pleasant five hours spent on the motorways across seven counties brought me to the normally sleepy town of Colne, home of the GB R'n'B Festival, this year celebrating its 16th anniversary. Not the sort of festival I would usually frequent, but this year's line-up included a few bands from our Rockin scene and I was intrigued to see how they faired in the blues arena.

I arrived on Sunday evening, missing the first two days due to other commitments, and headed through the crowded streets full of beer drinking bluesers and busking artists, for a fringe venue to see one of the best rockin' blues guitarists around, namely **Rollin' Jimmy** and his band **Bullet** featuring B.B.Nichols on electric bass and Shaun on the kit. The Band, having played the main stage on Friday night, were on their first gig of two this evening and sounded raw and fat. Standard rock 'n'roll numbers were given a bluesy, gritty feel while adding subtlety and cream to others such as "Kiddio" and Johnny Guitar Watson's "Hot Little Mama". Three encoures proved their worth and talent. A good start, me thought.

Back up the hill to the high street, where the Municipal Hall is located and hosts the Festival's International Stage. After getting wristbands, I entered in to catch the last couple of numbers by the **Jive Aces**. On form as always and got even some of the more hardened blues travellers tappin their feet. The yellow suited boys came off stage and were engaged in serious PR with many of the audience before disappearing off to carry on their extremely busy schedule. Next up was the stylish **Paul Lamb and the Kingsnakes**, who grabbed the crowd by the proverbials and threw them around the room for a good sixty mins of Rockin' R 'n' B. Joined by the Fat Jacket horns, Nick Lunt & Lee Badou on some tunes, added dimension was given. However, the sound guys didn't get the brass mix and

EQ quite right, which was a recurrent problem for some of the other bands.

Off again, up t'hill - wrong county but I know how the Hovis delivery boy felt - to another (pub) fringe venue, packed to the anaglypta ceiling with rockin' blues fans and the second coming of Rollin' Jimmy and his Band. Fuelled by the blackstuff I left the venue fulfilled.

Bank Holiday Monday saw the usual Uk weather, four seasons in a day type stuff. The "Muni" was the official venue for what appeared to be a dance day. **GI Jive**, from Manchester provided Jive lessons followed by the Big Boy himself, **Bloater and his Southside Stompers**. It was apparent however from his first number that he wasn't firing on all cylinders, having to leave the stage at one point and take a seat during another. This was clarified when he announced that he was suffering from a bad dose of food poisoning. Nevertheless, he soldiered on with a cracking but safe set of R'n'B including a cooking version of Lloyd Price's, "Where You At". Following the show the poor chap was whisked away by the paramedics for treatment. By time of writing I hope all is well.

A 30 minute break and next to the stage, the well anticipated, **Ocean's Seven** - Well, first number in set the scene with a blasting version of Tommy Ridgeley's instro "Jam Up" followed by a mixture of R'n'B/Rockin' and Jive friendlies. The floor was busy throughout and the balcony was rocking during "Walks Right In" and the sort after encore of Eddie Boyd's "Driftn". Hopefully these guys will be invited to next years Festival - a big crowd pleaser.

Ever conscious of the BH traffic I decided to stay for one more act. **Les Gigoles** hail from France and performed some extremely slick swing and jive, covering all your Prima & Jordan favourites, with an amusing stage show. Not sure about the seeming orange velvet jackets though !

Shame I couldn't stay longer as the other acts looked promising, but the lure of the M6/M1 was too great, however I'll be heading back to the North next year to sample some more R'n'B. **Guy Lawless**

FEATURE

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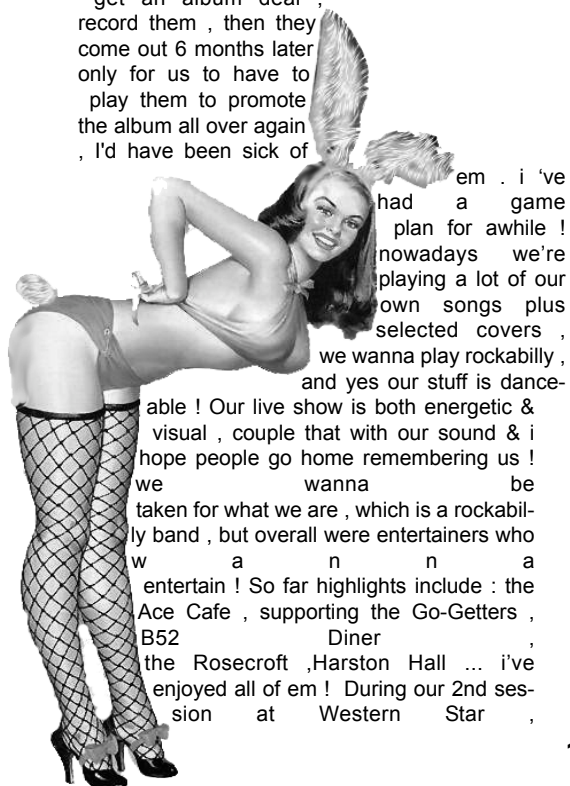
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JACK RABBIT SLIM

Jack Rabbit Slim was formed around June 2004 when Bob Butfoy, former frontman for Bob And The Bearcats who had been off the scene since the Bearcats split ran into Paul, who had also been away from the scene since the Tin Tax split. I naturally asked him if he was up for something and he said he was. I called up Tom, who was one of the last guitarists I'd worked with & he said that Nick would play bass for us, we then had ourselves a band!! I'm in Hertfordshire, Paul Northants, Tom n Nick live near Maidstone. Up to now i've written all the songs, but its not a closed shop. I'd record a song by anyone if i thought it was good enough & i thought i could do it justice. i'm hoping to team up with Alan Wilson to write some stuff. also, I would like to write for someone else! When we started out we did just covers, but i always saw us doing the songs I'd written, i just didn't want to play them for 12 months, get an album deal, record them, then they come out 6 months later only for us to have to play them to promote the album all over again, I'd have been sick of



em. i've had a game plan for awhile! nowadays we're playing a lot of our own songs plus selected covers, we wanna play rockabilly, and yes our stuff is danceable! Our live show is both energetic & visual, couple that with our sound & i hope people go home remembering us! we wanna be taken for what we are, which is a rockabilly band, but overall were entertainers who want to entertain! So far highlights include: the Ace Cafe, supporting the Go-Getters, B52, Diner, the Rosecroft, Harston Hall ... i've enjoyed all of em! During our 2nd session at Western Star,

Paul broke down on his way to Bristol, we jammed til he arrived, then Tom's amp packed up, then Alan had trouble with the desk. The finger was pointed at me for writing a song called "Gypsy Curse"! Working at Western Star was great Alan Wilson gave us the opportunity to go there and record a few tracks for his compilation so he could get a look at us. I was hoping that he'd love us and wanna do an album which is exactly what happened. Alan and I hit it off, we both have a real passion for the music and for doing it right which shows through everything he does so working with Alan was fantastic he knows exactly how to get the sound you are looking for and he's been there and done it and got a suitcase full of t shirts! We owe a lot to Alan, he has done us proud! I hope that in the future whenever people think of us they automatically think of Western Star and visa versa its certainly the hottest label around! we did a demo early on, recorded it in a cellar. it was songs from the set, some were good, some not so good! Western Star Rockabilly vol2, out now, features 3 songs from the album. I asked Bob, Do you think you have a fanbase from the Bearcat days and what do they think of the new band? Bob answers...I don't know, I tend to assume no one remembers them, but I have been surprised on a couple of occasions. One incident which was a big influence on me getting back was at the Rhythm riot in 2002. I spotted a face from the bearcat days, it was Susie Diamonds, who used to produce a mag called "clubs". I asked her if she remembered me. she said she'd only just been thinking about me & that i had been her favourite singer, everyone knows what Darrel's been doing & it was time i was back out there singing again! i was knocked out at what she'd said, it changed my mind about the future. Susie married mini Dave from the Nightshakers recently, i've never told her what an impact she had on me



that day ,i'm glad to say that they're my mates ! We have a couple of nice gigs although we would like to be busier : 1st Oct @ reef bar ,8th Oct we launch our new CD at the Ace Cafe 19th Nov@ wax shack , fox pub w. Kensington supporting the sugar creek trio , should be a wild night !! **Western Star On Jack Rabbit Slim** The Western Star Label was started 2 years ago by Alan Wilson - probably best known as frontman/founder member of 80's neo Rockabilly/Psychobilly band The Sharks. Signed to the fledgling Nervous records in 1982 the band went on to record one of the scene's classic album's Phantom Rockers. Later they signed to the much bigger label Cherry Red and there followed numerous European, Scandinavian and Japanese tours.Growing tired of life on the road, Alan - who had always had an interest in recording - started to produce other bands in between tours. He had built his own studio as early as 1983 and by the mid 90's he was working freelance in stu-

dio's all over the world, and had produced dozens of albums by French, German, Danish and American bands - as well as ones from the UK. In 1999 Alan built Western Star studio from scratch. This his newest venture was his final attempt to get away from live work and settle in a studio. Built onto the side of his house, this small studio was geared towards Rockabilly music. "I record all styles here, but because of my background I tend to get a lot of Rockin' bands here" After a few busy years Western Star Studio then grew into a label. "I loved the idea of being self sufficient and in this respect our label is quite unusual. We can write, perform, record, publish and now release the tracks all in-house". Within two years the Western Star label has become one of the coolest labels on the scene with currently 12 releases to date."You know when your label is getting a good name when you get the likes of Bob Butfoy calling you up" said Alan. "He called and said he had a new band called Jack Rabbit Slim, well I knew if Bob was in the band they'd be good. I invited them here for a test recording so that we could see if I liked working with them and they liked working with me. This was back in Feb 2005. It snowed that day and they had a fair distance to drive as I live down near Bath in the West Country. They showed up, set up, played 3 tracks, packed up and were gone in a few hours. I was stunned, they were fantastic. It goes without saying that I offered them an album. The album they subsequently recorded is out any minute now, in fact by the time this magazine is out, the CD will be available. It is a great album. Bob is a great songwriter and performer and I'm really impressed with his songs. He also has a

great band and the album is fantastic. What I like most is that they aren't you're average middle of the road, corny Rockabilly club band. They're one of the few credible Rockin' bands that I've seen in years".Alan put a few of the tracks on his "Western Star Rockabillys Vol. 2" sampler CD a while back and the reaction was incredible. The tracks 'Cherry Pie' (Butfoy) and 'Tonight' (Butfoy) got a lot of airplay and respected BBC rock n roll broadcaster Geoff Barker positively raved about the tracks, saying that 'Cherry Pie' had "a devastating sound". Jack Rabbit Slims' debut CD is titled "Sin-uendo" and has 14 tracks (11 of which are written by Bob Butfoy) and it can be obtained from your usual Rockabilly Stockist or from www.western-star.co.uk The Mad Rat Mag On The Album For someone who has been off the scene for a while Bob certainly knows how to create an impact, He couldn't have made a bigger splash if we had loaded him into a cannon and fired him into

"...a rockabilly band , but overall we're entertainers who wanna entertain !"

the Thames.The album Sin uendo is without a doubt one of the finest debuts I have ever heard. Beware no amount of words can replace the sound and style

of **JACK RABBIT SLIM**. (CD review next issue)





The Sharks CD is now available on Raucous records. It's a 6 track-mini album, nicely put together and released as a gatefold-digipack. None of these tracks have ever been released before and were all from the 1980-81-ish period, some recorded when the band were still called The Dixie Rebels. I must have been about 17-18 at the time and whilst I find the tracks mildly embarrassing, they are nonetheless part of my past and are I think fairly typical of that era when Rockabilly revival was all about being a Ted-Band. To order a copy visit www.raucousrecords.com (by Alan Wilson)

Good news - finally rockabilly music has a serious organisation which cares about business and musicians ...support your Rockabilly Music Association ! See www.r-m-a.org for details !

Saturday October 29th Virginia Creepers Club

THE HALLOWEEN HORROR BLOOD BATH BALL!!!

THE BLACK DAY COMETH!! FREAK!!!!

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For the 12th year running The Blackpool Rock'n'Roll Illuminations Weekender takes place at The Savoy Hotel and features The Jets Mike Berry Linda Gail Lewis and Mark Keeleys Good Rockin Tonite Nov 4th To 6th call for details 01332 872320

The first Eddie Cochran Collectors Plate with a strictly limited edition of 1850 worldwide will be launched and available at this years Eddie Cochran Festival in Chippenham - see details above. Each plate will contain it's own unique back-stamped number and a 22 carat gold rim and also a signed certificate of authenticity. Apply to today to avoid disappointment - via the website: www.memphisabilia.com A percentage of sales will be donated to the Eddie Cochran Statue appeal

The Rattlesnakes from Russia a fine rockin' surf band are looking to tour england in 2006. To check out the band go to www.rattlesnakes.surfmusic.ru/ the site contains music photos vids etc but is written in russian. Email alex via the site for pigeon english details of when they would like to come.

Check out Tall Paul's promotional video on his site at www.horshamrocknroll.com

It's a classic, well done you lot its brilliant. Oh yeah its in the media section.....

On Fri Nov 4th Pete Bruce has an exclusive **Big Sandy & His Fly Rite Boys** gig it will be held at **Acacia Halls Dartford** more information can be obtained from 01322 407110

NEWS

news

Boola ,manager of The 2Tones from Holland has contacted us to say that the band will be in England in 2006 and have two gigs one on 8th April in London and on the 9th in Essex they are looking for two more dates the 6th and 7th any promoter interested can contact Boola on nooij@zeelandnet.nl the band website is www.ritojo.com This is a very good dance band as you will see from the website, go on you know you want to.....

Ron Shiel asks if anybody knows of any rockin' clubs in Brittany he will be leaving our shores in about six months time and needs to find some rockin' before he goes, you can email us at the mag and we will pass on your information.

Fats Domino lost, found and then lost again in the horrendous storms of New Orleans, has now been reunited with his family. The family who have lived in the area hit by Hurricane Katrina since the 60's have lost everything. 77 Year old Fats told the Washington Post that he 'did not know what the family were going to do and that he'd never wanted to leave'. "It was God's will. That's all I know," Domino said. "I'm worried about all the people in New Orleans. Tell them I love them and I wish I was home with them. I hope we'll see them soon." We will endeavour to keep you informed.

Fans of rock 'n' roll icon Jerry Lee Lewis will no longer be allowed to tour his home. Lewis' residence has been closed to the public for more than a year during his lengthy divorce proceedings with his sixth wife, Kerrie McCarver Lewis. This is a private residence now," Lewis' daughter, Phoebe, said, "We don't plan to open it back up." Lewis bought the 15-room house on 30 acres in April 1973. It has been a popular tourist attraction for the past decade. Lewis opened the house for tours when his fan club was under the direction of Kerrie McCarver Lewis. She no longer manages the Jerry Lee Lewis fan club. The couple, married in 1984, were legally divorced in June. Under terms of the agreement, which was sealed, Lewis was to reportedly keep the house. Kim Terrell, DeSoto County Tourism Association director, said the Lewis ranch will still be listed as a tourist destination. "They've (tourists) heard a lot about the piano-shaped swimming pool and his antique car collection. They can still drive by and see it." Terrell said

Finally distribution points for the mag are as follows:-

Nifty Fiftys Manchester - Rosecroft Kent - Beauwaters Kent - Acacia Halls Kent - Erith Kent - FPC Ilford Essex- King Creole Upper Caldecot Beds - Banbury Rock n Roll Oxon - Daddy Cools Northamptonshire - Melksham - Leabrookes Derbyshire - Basingstoke r'n'r , - Carshalton Ex Service Mans Surrey - Virginia Creepers London - The Robins Nest 55 Jive North Devon - Rock - Ola Canvey Essex - The B52 Diner Rochford Essex,- The Ford Club Basildon, Any Houserocker gig - any Cat & The Hot Tin Trio gig - Any Rat Pack Gig - Any Ocean's Seven Gig - Any Top Cats Gig - Bus Stop Boys Gigs - Raucous Record Stalls - **Generally most weekends will be covered - This information will be updated as soon as we have a full list but if you fancy a copy delivered straight to your door then you should send us at the mag address on the front pages an A5 envelope with your address on it and postage of 46 pence, if you do this everymonth then you can have the mad rat at breakfast every month. Any promoter wanting the mag for his/her club should contact us on 01268 454494 or email info@madratmag.co.uk**

COMPETITION CORNER

rockin' anagrams

rearrange the words to find band leaders and their groups

BALANCED HES YET HOT MILL
HUNCHBACKED TEDDY TILL ROYS
RADIATE DUNNS JOHNNY
DRAMATICAL TENTED WILD WHYS

email your answers to info@madratmag.co.uk

Last months answer: photofit - Bill Haley, Billy Lee Riley & Tommy Steele
winner: Steve Jones from Bury St. Edmunds



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Oct 8th THE SUNDOWNERS
Oct 20th HOD ROD DELUXE
NOV 3RD THE NIGHT SHAKERS
NOV 17TH FEVER
DEC 1ST CAT + THE HOT TIN TRIO
DEC 15TH THE HOUSEROCKERS

SUPPORTED BY ADOR RECORD HOP

Holiday Rock all-dayer Tower Ballroom, Edgbaston 28th August 2005

On Sunday August 28th, Mark Keeley and John O'Malley's Holiday Rock staged what was to be the last rock and roll event at Birmingham's renowned Tower Ballroom. Designed and built 30-40 years ago (I'm guessing) the Tower dancing and banqueting suite is situated next to Edgbaston reservoir in the heart of Birmingham City centre and has been home to many rock and roll events over the years. The building is owned by Birmingham City council who have made the decision in the interests of the people of Birmingham to demolish this fine venue and turn it into something else. Locals told me that in the past, they have witnessed up to 1,000 rock and roll fans at the Tower, but today there couldn't have been much more than a quarter of that figure. Half the venue's perimeter was taken up by stall holders and without them, the place would have appeared less full than it was.

The doors opened just before 1pm and by 2.15, The KingCats were on stage ready to perform their one-hour set before heading off to Bristol for an evening gig. After one or two sound teething problems, the band led by vocalist and guitarist Bill Crittenden launched themselves into The Mavericks' "If You Only Knew". By the time the second number, The Blasters' "Marie Marie" was halfway through, the band had won over the sparse audience and this all-dayer was off to a great start. The KingCats have been on the circuit for only two or three years and have during that time have established themselves as one of the UK's top acts. Keeping the huge dance floor busy with one of their own compositions from their debut CD "Saturday Nite" confirmed this. The title track was a firm favourite with the jivers as was "KingCat Boogie" with some terrific boogie woogie piano triplets from Dave Allen. The performances of cover versions such as "Honey Don't", "I Ain't Givin' Up Nothin'", "Grandaddy's Rockin'", "Teenage Heaven" were top drawer and in hindsight, the forced timing of The KingCats set was perfect. A per-

sonal favourite of mine was hearing Buddy Knox' "Swinging Daddy" performed live. By the time we heard the introduction to Stephen Foster's "Old Black Joe", during the band's encore, the size of the audience had grown considerably and we all knew that today was going to be good.

Unusual for an occasion such as this, was a one-man rock and roll show. Was this Karaoke rock and roll? Darren Davies from West Bromwich is a big man with a big voice. Singing mainstream covers by 1950s stalwarts such as Gene, Ricky, Elvis and Cliff, Darren kept the dancers occupied through the majority of his 45-minute set which concluded with Alan Jackson arrangements of "Chattahoochie" and for the encore, "Summertime Blues". I had only seen Darren's name previously on a Holiday Rock advertisement for the holiday in Spain and though I would love to see this 'big bopper' front his own band, I bet his solo performance goes down well on a hot Costa Brava afternoon by the pool as much as it did here. All credit to the man.

To complete the afternoon's line-up were Mark Keeley's Good Rockin' Tonight's tribute to Shakin' Stevens. With the current line-up of Mark on vocals (acoustic guitar) John O'Malley (vocals, lead guitar) Jason King (backing vocals) and Ethan King (backing vocals, drums) we were once again reminded of what a first rate outfit this band is. Billing themselves as the tongue-in-cheek Fakin' Stevens, the band paid tribute to the UK's most successful recording artist of the 1980s performing hit after hit as well as a few rockin' scene favourite album tracks. Having seen Shaky a few years back, I'm sorry (apologies to Shaky fans) to say that in spite of 'doing it one more time', I doubt if even he could of matched the vocal talent let alone the stamina and charisma of Mark Keeley today. Halfway through the set, John gave Mark's vocals a well-earned rest when he gave a brilliant recital of the Matchbox smash; "Rockabilly Rebel" which coming from the same era, fitted nicely into this highly polished tribute. The bands' chosen number for the encore "Green Door" was quite stunning.

The first band billed in the evening were The Revolutionaires from Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Having seen these guys along with fellow members of Juke Box Jive perform in a Theatre show (At The Hop) a few years back, I knew that musically the standard would be good and after reading recent reviews, my expectations were high. What I didn't expect though was that for more than an hour after twenty minutes past six, The Tower was treated to one of the best rock and roll stage shows that I have ever had the pleasure to witness. Okay, the opening number "Shake, Rattle and Roll" has been done a zillion times but it got the jivers on the dance floor. Then the first spark to light the ignition was a rhythm and blues version of Hank Williams' "Jambalaya" followed by Bobby Troups' "Route 66". Then came the first of the band's own instrumental compositions "Al's Boogie Woogie". Now the fuse was lit! The Chess records catalogue was raided with re-arrangements of Tommy Tuckers' "High Heeled Sneakers" and Chuck Berry's "Roll Over Beethoven". The latter much covered and sometimes murdered, had been rearranged, reinvented and almost rewritten into a reborn rhythm and blues masterpiece. Suddenly, The Revolutionaires were as cool, welcome and refreshing as a summer breeze and the sheer ecstasy that was evident on stage soon began to rub off on an audience who didn't know whether to dance or stand, watch and listen. Even classics like "Kansas City" and "Lawdy Miss Clawdy" were given a new lease of life. To the amazement of an ever enthusiastic West Midlands crowd, interpretations of Chicago blues classics including the great Elmore James were given The Revolutionaires treatment. Now the explosion; "The House Is Rockin'" just as Stevie Ray Vaughan would have done it, brought on cheers and hollers and the question of whether or not this was authentic rock and roll didn't matter. It was so good! By now, a small crowd had gathered evenly spread across the dance floor a few feet from the stage and John Lambert (drums, backing vocals) Alex Bozic (piano, backing vocals) Rich Stephenson (Double bass, backing vocals) and Ed Stephenson (Lead vocals, guitar) with harp in hand, tore into their very own "Eddie Boy's Jump". With wailing harmonica

coupled with Ed's crazy foot stomping dance routine backed by three excellent musicians, delighted the happy throng with a rock and roll stage show rarely seen at Europe's top week-enders (promoters take note!) let alone an all-day. Absolutely brilliant! Junior Parkers' "Mystery Train", Slim Harpo's "Shake Your Hips", Moon Mullican's "Seven Nights To Rock" and Paul Williams' "The Hucklebuck" complete with drum and bass solos were well received. By the way, drummer John Lambert is an exceptional talent and has a bright future to say the least.

Finishing off with not one but two encores, the band concluded their set with The Treniers' arrangement of "Rockin' Is Our Business" before treating the dancers to Chuck's "Little Queenie". The crowd wanted more and there could easily have been much more, but due to the fear of putting the programme more than 10 minutes behind schedule, I had to call time on this fantastic musical experience. Wow! Check out The Revolutionaires debut CD album "Route 66" and website; www.revolutionaires.co.uk for where to see them.

There a few bands on the circuit who could have followed The Revs, but I figured that if a poll were to be conducted in rock and roll clubs across the UK to name the five favourite bands over the past ten years then we could well find Jive Street sitting proudly in an all-time 'top five'. And they deserve to be there! Mick, Inge, Dixie, Kev and John have been club favourites for many years and today, they kept the dance floor packed from the opening number "Deep In The Heart Of Texas" through to a jive version of "It's Only Make Believe" for their second encore. In between, the audience were treated to a stroll version of "Endless Sleep" and a fine version of Carl Perkins' "Movie Magg" which I particularly enjoyed. Another highlight of the set was when 13 year-old Sam Pagett from Stourport-on-Severn was allowed to join the band to play his tenor saxophone on Jerry Lee's "Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On".

Finally just after 10 o'clock, Mark Keeley and the boys were back on stage for an hour of back-to-back quality rock and roll music.

Running through club classics such as "Mais Oui", "Hey Mae", "Fabulous", "Move It", "I Got Stung" there was hardly time to pause for breath. Johnny Earle's "Jive Time" and Mark Harman's neo-rockabilly bopper "Ice Cold" were a neat distraction from the 1950/60s originals which were highlighted by Elvis' "Wonderful Life", Andy Starr's "Rockin' Rollin' Stone" and the theme from "Highway Patrol". Harping back to the Shaky tribute earlier in the day and the many times that I have worked with and seen these guys perform, why MKGRT is not a British household name beggars belief. It doesn't matter where or when a person is born, this is popular good-time music of the highest quality.

In between the artistes, myself and Leicester based DJ Dancing Dave played as many requests as we would find and Dave did a good job of keeping the dancers on the floor with wall-to-wall club favourites.

Holiday Rock must be congratulated for putting together a professionally organised and quality music event and thanks must go to the smiling faces who supported all that was on show at The Tower's last rock and roll all-day-er ever.

Strollin' Steve Ashdown

Woodgrange The Rat Pack Sunday 18th September

As with all bands, when a member leaves for musical pastures new, rumours are abound, so with the departure of Ian Rivers from the pack it is no wonder that the crowd stood with that (will they / wont they) look of antipipation on their faces as Spike, no not the mad rat one! stepped up to the plate. However, before they had finished the first number a real rockin' ver-



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From £169 per person

Valentines weekend

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Phil Haley & The Comments
Good Rockin' Tonight
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sion of Andy Starrs Rollin' Stone it was clear they would remain as strong and solid as ever with Spike bringing a new enthusiasm. Whatever the number from Gene Vincents, Five Feet Of Loving to Burnettes Sweet Love On My Mind the boys delivered and the crowd loved them. With Spike doing vocals on Bi I Bicky and the other Spike(yes the mad rat one) doing a spot on bass, an all round rockin event and a fitting debut for Spike no not the mad rat one but Spike The Rat Pack's new guitarist. Janine Higgs



RAT'S GIG GUIDE

THIS GUIDE IS FOR REFERENCE ONLY - PLEASE CHECK WITH VENUE BEFORE TRAVELLING.

Sat 1 Oct Begbrook RnR Club - EAH East Anglia Hotel, Bournemouth, Hants Rockin' The Joint/Spitfires 0117 969 7326

Sat 1 Oct Crescent WMC 01760 722803
Charlie Gracie (USA) + Class Of 58 plus DJ
01904 690311

Sat 1 Oct Eternit Sports Club Whaddon Road, Meldreth, near Royston, Herts Rock Of Ages

Sat 1 Oct Ex-Servicemens Club - Sunbury Crossways, Staines Road West, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middx TW16 Cat & the Hot Tin Trio

Sat 1 Oct Festival Hall Hodgkinson Road, Kirkby-In-Ashfield, Notts Colin Paul & Persuaders/Glenn Darren & Krew Katz Dave B 01623 743837

Sat 1 Oct Folkestone RnR Club - DHB
Dover Harbour Board SC, White Cliffs Business Pk, Whitfield, Kent Gene Gambler & the Shufflers plus DJ 01303 245683

Sat 1 Oct Halifax RnR Club Siddal Ex-Servicemen's Club, Halifax, W.Yorks HX3 9JS Skyrockers (ticket only event) D. J. the DJ 01422 354876

Sat 1 Oct Horsham RnR Club Drill Hall, Denne Road, Horsham, W.Sussex Rockin' The Joint plus DJ 07966 526260

Sat 1 Oct Indie American Style Roadhouse Falcon Park, Totnes Road, Paignton, Devon record hop only (rockabilly/rockin' blues) Crazy Legs 07785 962318

Sat 1 Oct Kings Hall Ilkley, W.Yorks Big Heat (advance ticket only) GI Jive 01943 465457

Sat 1 Oct Luton RnR Club Roman Way, Tomlinson Avenue, Luton, Beds. The Flames Tartan Ted 01582 518211

Sat 1 Oct South Coast Rockabilly Club
Avon Social Club, 51 Avon Road, Bournemouth, Dorset tba plus DJ
01202 589837

Sat 1 Oct Stage One Cobden Oxford Street, Long Eaton, Derbys Juke Box Jive plus DJ 0115 973 4928

Sat 1 Oct Tam O'Shanter Club Hertford Place, Earlsdon, Coventry, W.Midlands Topp Katz
Woody 024 7633 6533

Sat 1 Oct The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW11 Rhythm Cats 020 7622 4001

Sat 1 Oct The Who'd A Thought It
Timbercroft Road, Plumstead Common, London SE18 Old No 7

Sat 1st Oct Ford Sports & Soc Club Gardiners Close Basildon FLYING SAUCERS 01268 584789- 07930 552996

Sun 2 Oct Acacia Ballroom Glaxo Wellcome Club, High Street, Dartford, Kent Lennerockers (Germany) Pete Bruce 01322 407110

Sun 2 Oct BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol
Charlie Gracie + Class Of 58 Rocking Jon
0117 976 8065

Sun 2nd Sunny 56 The Woodgrange Southchurch Ave Southend on Sea Essex Free Adm
Sun 2 Oct Begbrook RnR Club - EAH East Anglia Hotel, Bournemouth, Hants

Rockin' The Joint/Spitfires 0117 969 7326

Sun 2 Oct Boom Boom Club Sutton Town FC, Borough Sports Ground, Gander Green Lane, Sutton, Surrey SM1 2EY Matchbox 020 8644 4440

Sun 2 Oct Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Rhythm Cats

Sun 2 Oct Erith RnR Club Erith WMC, Valley Road, Erith, Kent
tba

Cruising Record Hop 07973 170056

Sun 2 Oct Painthorpe House Country Club Painthorpe Lane, Crigglestone, Wakefield, W.Yorks record hop only (rock'n'roll)

Brian/John 01977 613841

Wed 5 Oct 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

Thu 6 Oct Hanworth RnR Club Royal Naval Club, Park Road, Hanworth, Middx record hop only Wildcat Pete 01464 672605
Thur 6th The Sundowners Charlies Bar 2b Pier Hill Southend On Sea Essex free admission 01268 457767

Fri 7 Oct Birdwell Club

Sheffield Road, Birdwell, Nr Barnsley, S.Yorks S70
5UY Top Cats Clive the Jive 01226 742377

Fri 7 Oct Daddy Cool's Brackley Town F C, Churchill Way, Brackley, Northants record hop only Pin-Up Record Hop 01295 276848

Fri 7 Oct Dale Tavern West Street, Worsborough Dale, Barnsley, Yorks Jump & Jive Dave B 01226 205611

Fri 7 Oct McCoys Red Hot RnR - BAC Bexhill Athletic Club, Little Common Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, E.Sussex Rip It Up Moonshine Mama 01424 211996

Fri 7 Oct Rockaboogie Jive Club Victoria Club, Victoria Road, Coulsdon, Surrey record hop only Rockin Robin/Jiveman Pete 020 8681 6583

Fri 7 Oct Rosecroft Club Chelsfield Road, Orpington, Kent Paul Ansell's No 9 Pete Bruce 01322 407110

Fri 7 Oct Taunton RnR Club North Petherton RFC, Beggars Brook, North Petherton, Somerset record hop only Flintstone 01823 332180

Fri 7 Oct The Diamond Golden Diamond, Stoney Street, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts Hicksville Bombers Gary C 01623 456617

Fri 7 Oct The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW11 Flying Saucers 020 7622 4001

Fri 7 Oct The Lennerockers East Anglian Air Ambulance Benefit Adm £6. The Marina Centre Great Yarmouth The Professor 01760 722803

Fri 7th Oct The Doomsday Rockers Lea Hall Rock'n'Roll Club Lea Hall Miners Welfare Centre Sandy Lane (A460) Rugeley Staffs Adm £6 01902 561921

Sat 8 Oct Bristol Jive Club - FFC Filton Folk Centre, Elm Park, Filton, Bristol Darrel Higham & the Enforcers Rockin' John 0117 938 0483

Sat 8 Oct Coronation Hall Burrowbridge, Somerset TA7 ORJ record hop only Ian's Blue Jean Bop 01823 698618

Sat 8 Oct Dale Tavern West Street, Worsborough Dale, Barnsley, Yorks Lennerockers (Germany) Ol' Dell Boy/Dave B 01226 205611

Sat 8 Oct Golden Fleece Cattle Market, Stamford, Lincs Red Rockets

Sat 8 Oct Paris Roc Club The Victory Club, Royal British Legion 227, Selhurst Rd, Sth Norwood SE25 6XY The Alleycats - 0208 688 9148

Sat 8 Oct Indies American Style Roadhouse Falcon Park, Totnes Road, Paignton, Devon Just Rockin' Crazy Legs 07785 962318

Sat 8 Oct Melksham RnR Club Assembly Hall, Market Place, Melksham, Wilts Rockin' The Joint Cockney Rebel 01225 706463

Saturday 8th October - 8pm - 11pm - JACK RABBIT SLIM with DJ Bill Guntrip - Entry Free Ace Cafe Ace Corner North Circular Stonebridge London NW10 7UD 020 8961 1000
Sat 8 Oct 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 8 Oct Nifty Fifties RnR Club - LLC Lowton Labour Club, 214 Newtin Road, Lowton, Cheshire Hicksville Bombers/Corsairs (tbc) plus DJ01942 724166

Sat 8 Oct Northampton RnR Club Spencer WMC, Tennyson Close, Dallington, Northampton, Northants NN5 7HL Firebirds Dynamite Dave 01604 713851

Sat 8 Oct Paris Rock Club Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road, London SE1 Alleycats Mad French Wolf/Dave 07944 775556

Sat 8 Oct Path Tavern Mid Street, Kirkcaldy, Fife

Buick 55s plus DJ

Sat 8 Oct Redditch Rowdies RnR Club Bridley Moor & Batchley Social Club, Bridley Moor Road, Redditch, Worcs Detours Blast From The Past 01527 595156

Sat 8 Oct Ritz Ballroom 73 Bradford Road, Brighouse, W.Yorks Big Boy Bloater & his Southside Stompers Bradford Dude 01274 392380

Sat 8 Oct Riverside RnR Club Moorlands Club, Newark Road, Lincoln, Lincs Crawdads/Shawn Horton & the Tennessee Trio Skinny Jim 01522 750883

Sat 8 Oct Seadell Club Hemsby, Norfolk Red Hot Rockin'

Sat 8 Oct St Marys SC - IOW Newport, IOW Meanstreak Wild Wolfie Smith

Sat 8 Oct Starfighter RnR Club Village Hall, Wrenningham, near Norwich, Norfolk Blue

Flames Rockin Roland 01508 494735

Sat 8 Oct The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW11 Lucky Strike 020 7622 4001

Sun 9 Oct BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Lennerockers (Germany) Slim Reed - Not Before '54 0117 976 8065

Sun 9 Oct Beaconsfield Football Club Weedon Road, Northampton, Northants Doomsday Rockers Wildcat Pete

Sun 9 Oct Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Fever

Sun 9 Oct Ex-Servicemens Club - Northampton Sheep Street, Northampton, Northants record hop only (afternoon)

JukeBoxQueen/AJ The Rockin' DJ01604 493713

Sun 9 Oct Pogmoor Social Club Pogmoor West Road, Barnsley, S.Yorks record hop only (rock'n'roll/jivers/strollers) Clive the Jive 0114 2641046

Sun 9th Oct The Rat Pack Woodgrange Southchurch Ave Southend On Sea Essex 01268 457767

Fri 14 Oct Athletic Club - Kettering Rockingham Road, Kettering, Northants Jive Aces (advance ticket only) Dynamite Dave 01536 510779

Fri 14 Oct Blue Moon RnR Club New Road, North Walsham, Norfolk The Rat Pack 01692 500863

Fri 14 Oct Club Bang! Bang! 100 Oxford Street, London WC1 Stargazers/Paul Ansell's No 9 Boss Goodman's Juke Joint 020 7636 0933

Fri 14 Oct Rayners Rock'n'Roll Grove WMC, Penleys, Grove Street, York, N.Yorks Strollers Dave B 07752 333094

Fri 14 Oct Rock-Ola RnR Club The Paddocks, Long Road, Canvey Island, Essex Flying Saucers Pete Bruce 01268 515696

Fri 14 Oct South Wales RnR Club British Legion Club, Penline Road, Whitchurch, Cardiff, S.Wales Jellybean Craze Dave 029 2061 9271

Fri 14 Oct The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW11 Midnite Flyers 020 7622 4001

Sat 15 Oct Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 special guests (Billy Fury tribute night)

Big Beat Kris 020 8961 1000

Sat 15 Oct Cradley RnR Club Cradley Labour Club (Wilson Hall), Colley Gate, Cradley, Halesowen, W.Midlands B63 2BU Wanderers 0121 427 9113

Sat 15 Oct Ex-Servicemens Club - Sunbury Crossways, Staines Road West, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middsx TW16 Rock Of Ages

Sat 15 Oct Folkestone RnR Club - HCC Hawkinge Community Centre, Spitfire Way, Hawkinge, Folkestone, Kent Jets plus DJ 01303 245683

Sat 15 Oct Gloucester RnR Club YMCA, Sebert Street, Kinsholm, Gloucs Some Like It Hot 01242 232188

Sat 15 Oct House Of Bop Windsor Club, Windsor Road, Neath, Glam Bill Fadden & the Rhythm Busters Simon Flintstone 07815 158585

Sat 15 Oct Jive Party - Rivoli Rivoli Ballroom, 350 Brockley Road, Crofton Park, London SE2 record hop only (plus lesson) Graham/Ken 020 8946 2664

Sat 15 Oct Moot House Social Club The Stow, Harlow, Essex CM20 3AG Alleycats

Sat 15 Oct Pit Stop RnR Club Coventry Colliery S & S Club, Bennett Road, North Kersley, Coventry, W.Midlands Razzle Dazzle Kool Kat Keith

Sat 15 Oct Preston RnR Club Deafway Centre, Brockholes Brow, Preston, Lancs Johnny Bach & his Moonshine Boozers plus DJ 01253 852594

Sat 15 Oct Rockin' At The Legion British Legion, 399 High Road, Tottenham, London N17 5QX Doomsday Rockers Dixie Sounds 07759 874167

Sat 15 Oct Rockin' Round The Post Winning Post, Chertsey Road (A316), Whitton, Twickenham, Middsx Kingcats Big Bounce 020 8894 2772

Sat 15 Oct Roosters RnR Club - RVH Village Hall, Ryhall, near Stamford, Lincs Strollers Poor Boy Paul 01778 560664

Sat 15 Oct Royal Regency Banqueting Suite Wharncliffe Road, Ilkeston, Derbys Louis Rockafella (Elvis tribute)/Houndogs Al's Flyrite Boogie 0115 917 6530

Sat 15 Oct Shoreham RnR Shoreham Centre, Pond Road, Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex Tony & The Saints plus DJ 01903 243392

Sat 15 Oct St Georges Club Pitt Street, Barnsley, Yorks record hop only Dave B 01226 282571

Sat 15 Oct The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW11 tba 020 7622 4001

Sat 15th Oct The Greyhound Redstone Hill Redhill Surrey 01737 767147 The Rat Pack

Sun 16 Oct BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Mike Berry & the Outlaws Rockin' John 0117 976 8065

Sun 16 Oct Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Rat Pack

Sun 16 Oct Erith RnR Club Erith WMC, Valley Road, Erith, Kent Top Cats Cruising Record Hop 07973 170056

Sun 16 Oct Wild In The Country Festival Cladhan Hotel, Falkirk, Scotland Paul Ansell's No 9/Country Cattin'/Accelerators Paul Downie plus guests 01324 633 057

Sun 16th The Houserockers Woodgrange Southchurch Ave Southend On Sea 01268 457767

Thu 20 Oct Hanworth RnR Club Royal Naval Club, Park Road, Hanworth, Middsx Night Shakers Wildcat Pete 01464 672605

Thu 20th Oct The Zoltans Charlies Bar Pier Hill SOuthend On Sea Free Admission 01268 457767

Fri 21 Oct 3R's RnR Club Reading Civil Service Club, James Lane, Burghfield, near Reading, Berks Mark Keeleys Good Rockin' Tonight plus DJ

Fri 21 Oct Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 record hop only (rockers & classic bike night)

Big Beat Kris 020 8961 1000

Fri 21 Oct Badderley Green WMC 922-924 Leek New Road, Badderley Green,

Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs Big Boy Bloater & his Southside Stompers Dancin' Dave

Fri 21 Oct Leabrooks Club Greenhill Lane, Leabrooks, Nr Alfreton, Derbys Rudy la Crioux & the All Stars Brian Dee 01773 833035

Fri 21 Oct Lyons Robin Hood Holiday Park Coast Road, Rhyl, Powys Stargazers/Ruby & the Rockers/Wildkats Northwest 07782 166342

Fri 21 Oct McCoys Red Hot RnR - BAC Bexhill Athletic Club, Little Common Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, E.Sussex Good Rockin' Tonite Brian (the unknown) 01424 211996

Fri 21 Oct Pink & Black RnR Club Cadbury Heath Social Club, Warmley, Gloucs Earl Jackson Band Rockin' Frank 07990 556165

Fri 21 Oct Rockaboogie Jive Club Victoria Club, Victoria Road, Coulsdon, Surrey record hop only Rockin Robin/Jiveman Pete 020 8681 6583

Fri 21 Oct Holbrook Social Club North Heath Lane, Horsham, W.Sussex 80 Cube

Fri 21 Oct Rosecroft Club Chelsfield Road, Orpington, Kent Skiprats Pete Bruce 01322 407110

Fri 21 Oct Taunton RnR Club North Petherton RFC, Beggars Brook, North Petherton, Somerset record hop only Tony Sullivan 01823 332180

Fri 21 Oct The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW11 Roosters 020 7622 4001

Sat 22 Oct B52 Club Diner Eastern Perimeter Road, Southend Airport, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS2 6YF The Rhythm Aces plus Radar Record Hop 01268 457767

Sat 22 Oct Cuxton RnR Club Village Hall, Norman Road, West Malling, Kent Persuaders Pete Bruce 01732 780076

Sat 22 Oct Gosport RnR Bury Road, Gosport, near Portsmouth, Hants Skyrockers Wild Wolfie Smith 023 924 28732

Sat 22 Oct Kingsway 330 330 Kingsway, Brighton & Hove, Sussex BN3 4LW Night Shakers Stomper 07745 453765

Sat 22 Oct Lyons Robin Hood Holiday Park Coast Road, Rhyl, Powys Rapiers/Razzle Dazzle/Class Of 58/Juke Box Eddies 07782 166342

Sat 22 Oct Mechanics Theatre Burnley, Lancs Cat Pack 01282 664400

Sat 22 Oct 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 22 Oct Ritz Ballroom 73 Bradford Road, Brighouse, W.Yorks Rockin' The Joint Bradford Dude 01274 392380

Sat 22 Oct Sounds That Swing RnR Club Shrublands Community Centre, Hawthorn Road, Gorleston-on-Sea, Norfolk Doomsday**Rockers plus DJ 01760 722803**

Sat 22 Oct The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW11 Rat Pack 020 7622 4001

Sat 22 Oct Thorngate Halls Bury Road, Gosport, near Portsmouth, Hants Skyrockers Wild Wolfie Smith 023 9242 8732**Sun 23 Oct BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Rockin' The Joint Rockin' John 0117 976 8065****Sun 23rd Hot Rod Deluxe The Woodgrange Southchurch Ave Southend On Sea Essex 01268 457767**

Sun 23 Oct Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Good Rockin' Tonite

Sun 23 Oct Lyons Robin Hood Holiday Park Coast Road, Rhyl, Powys Jets/Bad Boys/Rave On/King Beats/Dave Wickenden 07782 166342

Sun 23 Oct Pogmoor Social Club Pogmoor West Road, Barnsley, S.Yorks record hop only (r'n'r/jump/doo-wop/rockin' 50s) Dave B 0114 2641046

Sun 23 Oct Stafford RnR Club White Eagle Polish Club, Riverway, Stafford, Staffs**Heartbreakers Jukebox Johnny 01785 240140**

Sun 23 Oct The Annexe Mapperley Plains Social Club, Plains Road, Mapperley, Nottingham, Notts record hop only (40s&50s r'n'r/jive/r&b/stroll) Spinning Rock Boogie 0115 878 4935

Thu 27 Oct Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 record hop only (Harley night) Fly 020 8961 1000

Thu 27 Oct Shipley RnR Club Shipley & District Social Club, Saltaire Road, Shipley, Bradford, W.Yorks Spitfires (halloween party-fancy dress please!) Swinging Sue 01274 641800

Fri 28 Oct Bankfield Social Club Huddersfield Road, Elland, W.Yorks Heebie Jeebies 01422 372580

Fri 28 Oct Basingstoke RnR Club Westside Community Association, Paddock Road, South Ham, Basingstoke, Hants RG22 6QB Midnight Howlers Jimmy Slick 01256 462305

Fri 28 Oct Birdwell Club Sheffield Road, Birdwell, Nr Barnsley, S.Yorks S70 5UY Starcats Clive the Jive 01226 742377

Fri 28 Oct Borough Green RnR Club Village Hall, Borough Green, Kent Mike Berry + Blast Off Two Houndogs 01732 887033

Fri 28 Oct British Railway RnR Club Broad Green, Wellingborough, Northants Topp Katz Houndog Jim 01767 317124

Fri 28 Oct Elvis Aberdeen Scottish Horse Reg Club, Crown Terrace, Aberdeen, Scotland record hop only

Fri 28 Oct Elvis Touch Queen's Club, 46 Queen

Street, Glasgow, Scotland record hop only
 Fri 28 Oct Jive Inn RnR Club Bridgewater Sport & Social Club, Bath Road, Bridgewater, Somerset
 Heartbeats Blue Jean Bop 01823 259193
Fri 28 Oct Nifty Fifties RnR Club - LLC
 Lowton Labour Club, 214 Newtin Road, Lowton, Cheshire Big Boy Bloater & his Southside Stompers plus DJ 01942 724166
Fri 28 Oct Rockin' The Fens Hiam Sports & Social Club, Putney Hill Road, Prickwillow, Ely, Cambs Rock Island Rebels Rockabilly Bob 01638 741402
 Fri 28 Oct Rock-Ola RnR Club The Paddocks, Long Road, Canvey Island, Essex Lennerockers (Germany) Radar Record Hop 01268 515696
Fri 28 Oct The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road, Battersea, London SW11 Rockin' The Joint 020 7622 4001
 Sat 29 Oct Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 record hop only (blacktop boogie cruise night) Hellzapoppin' Tim 020 8961 1000
Sat 29 Oct AFS Club Victoria Place, Carlisle, Cumbriarecord hop only (rock'n'roll/swing/rockabilly) Fat Mossy & guests 01228 537523
 Sat 29 Oct Agricultural Club Bellfields Road, Guildford, Surrey Cat & the Hot Tin Trio
Sat 29 Oct Dance Jive Memorial Hall, Bodhyfrd (off Chester Street), Wrexham, N.Wales tba plus jive DJ 07812 369702
 Sat 29 Oct Ex-Servicemens Club - Sunbury Crossways, Staines Road West, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middsx TW16 Rock Of Ages
 Sat 29 Oct Harston Village Hall Harston, near Cambridge, Cambs Slim Slip & the Sliders plus DJ 01223 573339
Sat 29 Oct Holiday Rock RnR Club Royal British Legion, Heath and Reach, near Leighton Buzzard, Beds Blast Off Tartan Ted 01525 372994
 Sat 29 Oct It's Only Rock'n'Roll Sale Masonic Lodge, Manchester, Cheshire Class Of 58 Big Jim Killey 0161 929 0413
Sat 29 Oct Junction 27 RnR Annesley Social Club, Derby Road, Annesley (A611), Notts Belvadares Woody 0115 953 4918
 Sat 29 Oct Metro Rockabilly Club 19/23 Oxford Street, London W1 Radio Ramblers Cosmic Keith 020 8925 3050
Sat 29 Oct Nifty Fifties RnR Club - IHC Irish World Heritage Centre, 10 Queens Road, Cheetham Hill, Manchester, Lancs plus DJ 01942 724166
 Sat 29 Oct Ritz Ballroom 73 Bradford Road, Brighouse, W.Yorks Jets Bradford Dude 01274 392380
Sat 29 Oct The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park

Road, Battersea, London SW11 Flames 020 7622 4001
 Sat 29 Oct Winding Wheel Hollywell Street, Chesterfield, Derbys Firebirds Moggie 01246 230576
Sat 29 Oct Woodfield Club Woodfield Road, Woodfield, Doncaster, S.Yorks Linda Gail Lewis + Some Like It Hot Fred theTed/Crock/Didge 07808 828551
 Sun 30 Oct BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Rat Pack Slim Reed - Not Before '54 0117 976 8065
Sun 30 Oct Beaconsfield Football Club Weedon Road, Northampton, Northants Rockin' Bandits Wildcat Pete
 Sun 30 Oct Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey
Sun 30 Oct Erith RnR Club Erith WMC, Valley Road, Erith, Kent House Rockers Cruising Record Hop 07973 170056
 Sun 30 Oct Ex-Servicemens Club - Northampton Sheep Street, Northampton, Northants Ghostriders (afternoon) AJ The Rockin' DJ 01604 493713
Sun 30 Oct Stevenage RnR Club Broadhall Suite, Stevenage Borough FC, Broadhall Way, Stevenage, Herts Meanstreak Strollin Steve 01763 241301
 Sun 30 Oct The Woodgrange 62-64 Southchurch Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2RR Cat & the Hot Tin Trio plus DJ 01702 460133
Sun 30 Oct Twenty Flight Rock RnR Club - QAH Queens Arms Hotel, Kings Lynn, Norfolk record hop only The Professor 8 The Crescent (rear of the Odeon), York, N.Yorks



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**Hicksville Bombers/ Country
Cattin/ Houserockers
B52 Diner/Club
Southend-on-Sea, Essex
20th August 2005**

Well, where else can you see three of the best Rockabilly bands in the country for just a tenner? The Mad Rats of course! Those of you who didn't spend that tenner I guess will be very sorry by now! What a night! **Country Cattin'** a real fave of mine, fronted by Dave Brown the man that delivers, not just good rockin' country like your right, i'm left She's gone! but can also melt your heart with real gone ballads like I forgot to remember to forget and I love you because, took to the stage with yet another very impressive line up and gave us a full hour of fantastic rockin'. A fifteen minute set from **Radar** was followed by local favourites **The Houserockers**. You just cannot fault The Houserockers and if i tried this review would never get written! The true fifties sound untouched by time, a sensational set as always! The crowd loved them and surged forward so there was little room between the crowd and the Houserockers, although they played some real danceable tracks; 'Little Linda' springs to mind, dancing was just impossible and the crowd stood their ground firmly in front of them and even the Mad Rat himself jumpin about to 'Sneaky Pete' didn't move them.

Last but by no means least Lincoln legends **The Hicksville Bombers** throwing Dave Brown back into the spotlight. I Like most pondered the bands future when Pete left and when I heard that Bryn had also left I was really concerned, I needn't have worried they were great!

All action fun and wild solid rockin', blues boppers like 'Hip Shake Baby' had the floor packed with guys showing their moves, Forevers much too long, had all us girlies strollin'. You request it and they will do their best to play it. We had at least four versions of Lonesome Train 'Thanks Spike' and as some psychobilly was requested they finished their four encores with 'maniac'. Not a static person in the place, this was the night of the year. Radar who held it all together didn't get to play much but the tracks he did play were chosen well! In summing up I think this night will be talked about for a very long time to come.

Members of The Roaming Mad Rat Kafe @ The B52 Club/Diner would like to thank all three bands, Radar and everyone who visited us for the first time and travelled a long way for a brilliant night.

Janine Higgs



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Bernie Woods & The Forest Fires.**Venue - The Horns - Watford****23rd July 2005**

Picked up the guys in the van got to the Horns around 7.30pm; some road trip, no getting lost, no major traffic problems and the guys were far too well behaved for my liking. Anyway entered the venue had a quick look around from the door, stage to my left, three screens around the room, tables chairs, dance floor, hang on what's that a signed pic of Gene Vincent, oh and hey Buddy Holly, the walls are packed with musical nostalgia and memorabilia, guitars, autographs, photos, wow that could keep me entertained all night!

No unloading of huge heavy speakers here, so drinks in and the instruments and amps plugged into the walls and hey presto set to go, place is filling up and filling up daren't go to the loo in case I can't get back in, boy it was busy! A gentleman at the bar informed me this was a relatively quiet night due to holidays, amazing. On the screens the venue played loads of old fifties clips, helping to set the scene for the evening, and when the band came on the band appeared by magic on the screens too.

Bernie Woods and the Forest Fires took their places on stage and after an uproar of an introduction from Denis the entertainments manager, DJ and other half of Pam who runs the Horns began their first set with a lively version of Honey Don't, the audience were up on their feet from the very first note, they are living it and loving it live in this venue I can tell you.

They followed Honey Don't with Boogie Woogie Country Girl then after a whirlwind of boogieing on down from the audience and some terrific versions of Big Boss Man and Dance To The Bops, Alec took over the vocals for a Big Fat Mama and some Kansas City, the numbers kept flowing the dancers kept moving and Colin's Good Rockin' Daddy really rocked the joint. Back over to Mick with the House Is Rockin', Pretend and C'mon Everybody, the first set ended on 20 Flight

Rock.... Well of course the audience erupted at the versatility of this band that are back here by popular demand.

Well lots of chit chat in the break met some really nice friendly people, a real nice welcome and a lovely crowd that just lap up every minute of the live entertainment, from Chas and Dave to Mark Robinson and The Counterfeit Crickets and their resident Elvis tribute band, they have it all here. The Horns is situated at 1 Hempstead Road, Watford, Hertfordshire WD17 3RL Tel: 01923 225020.

Ok time for the second set with guests no less, Fool About You. The opening number met great appreciation from the crowd, Rock around with Ollie Vee and Everybody's Trying to be My Baby, these guys are Red Hot, well they are but that was the next track, more and more songs, more and more response from the ever filling Horns audience, unbelievable. Bernie Woods and The Forest Fires are: Mick Lead Vocal - Alec Lead Guitar - Colin Rhythm Guitar - Buddy Double Bass and Kenny on Drums. Mid set the guys were joined by Paul Packer who treated us to his horn and Wait And See, Teenage Heaven, Sick and Tired, Rock The Joint and a few more before he finished his guest spot with Slow Down, the end of the second set left Kenny alone on the stage banging out Jungle Rock a sensational stunt and a brilliant end to a wonderful performance. The guys worked hard, went down an absolute storm and although the eventless journey there and the tired but hi trip back went without a hitch this gig will be talked about for a very long while. There will be forest fires smoldering near you soon, go get engulfed!

Kathy Gunner

Band: The Nitemares
Title: Do the Calandraca Boogie
Label: Sleazy Records
Genre: Rockabilly



The Nitemares are a four-piece rockabilly outfit from Spain. The Band is made up of Marcos Sendarrubias on vocals, Isaac Gonzalez on guitar, Jesus Sanz on contra bass and Mario Garcia keeping up the rear on bateria (drums). The CD features 13 self penned tracks by the four amigos plus additional material supplied by Cobo & Rowson. The CD opens with 'Teenage Vamp' , a strange opener in my view and certainly not the strongest of intros. It could only get better ?! 'Betty Joan' kicks off in typical Rockabilly style, more of a straight rocker with shout-backs and all your favourite guitar licks. Onto the title track, Calandraca Boogie which is quite catchy but nothing extraordinary other than a nice bridge before the chorus and some nifty guitar work. Track 4, 'Spanish Love' starts off promisingly but lacks substance after a while, flicked onto the next one pronto. 'Nitemares Shuffle' is an instrumental that is more swing than shuffle, however some nice solo breaks and uplifting chords. 'Lonesome Traveller' is the longest track on the CD, unusually for this genre it lasts over four minutes. Most of this is taken up with a laborious intro which leads into a 'Shake Your Hips' type riff which turns into an acceptable bopper. 'It's Not True' is a jolly ditty in Carl Mann style...well arranged and the tightest the Band sound so far. The CD carries on in similar fashion 'til the end, where the final track 'Beware of the Fly', includes a brief sound effect of, yes you've guessed it, a fly, no doubt lifted from a BBC nature FX record or possibly recorded live at a roadside Tapas bar. On the whole, this offering from the guys isn't bad, but it isn't great either. It would sit in the 'heard it all before' category. However, the recording is crisp and the playing is certainly of authentic style and riddled with enthusiasm. I would imagine that they are a good live act. The Band should be congratulated on producing an album that isn't infested with covers of covers of covers.....which is the trait of so many today, therefore I'll give this one three out of five. **Guy Lawless**

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Clockwise: Cat Kane, Alleycats, Houserockers, Terry Lee

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RADIO ROUNDUP



Hi again,

Last Month I talked about Terrestrial radio, not much has changed since then, but due to space limitations I could not include BBC Regional Programs for Rockin sounds.

There used to be Brian, The Big Bopper , who did a two hour show in the East Midlands, though there is recent documentation on this elsewhere. My observations were that it was the best thing for the region at the time. Unfortunately the Station's Bosses at the BBC wanted Brian to play something other than Rock n Roll, the result was he refused and left.

His program was replaced by another program, and later, on Radio Nottingham by JC's Jukebox, which was quite good but mixed in other obscure tracks from other eras.

Now, there is the new "Community Radio" licence that has currently been set up, watched over by OFFCOM. There has been lot of response for this low power broadcasting option, so much so that it may take time to sort through all the applications sent.

This makes one think, if there's that many applying for this new format, how are the frequencies going to be freed up. There has been rumour that some of the BBC Stations may give way, though only where there is alternative options to receive those that exist already.

But what about our rockin' music being catered for in all this, well it's quite possible to get something together, but it requires a

great deal of financing and commercial effort, what's more, under these new licensing options you are not allowed to make any profit, then there are all the regulations and rules that need to be adhered to.

So If you know a rich Aunt, Uncle or business person, you could be in with a chance, but don't expect to get any broadcast allowed to spread more than a 15 mile radius. However you could still apply for a restricted service licence, which usually lasts for 28 days, your radius and power would be slightly higher.

Staying on a more positive regional basis though, the BBC Currently have on board Geoff Barker, who has a two hour Saturday show which is in some ways reminiscent of the Radio One program of 20 years or more ago called "It's rock n Roll" this was presented by Stuart Coleman and featured competitions, New releases, rare tracks and a weekly gig guide. Geoff's current program has a similar feel to it, although only available on FM in the South West of England. Though you can Hear it via the Internet, which I will give out details in a future column.

On a Sunday BBC Radio Humberside has Henry Ayrton doing a Swing Club program of R&B and sometimes rare 40s/50s & roots tracks . Mixed in is later blues related material.

Next month, Rockin' Satellite Radio and previous pirate stations.

Happy listening

Dave B



SUZY Q



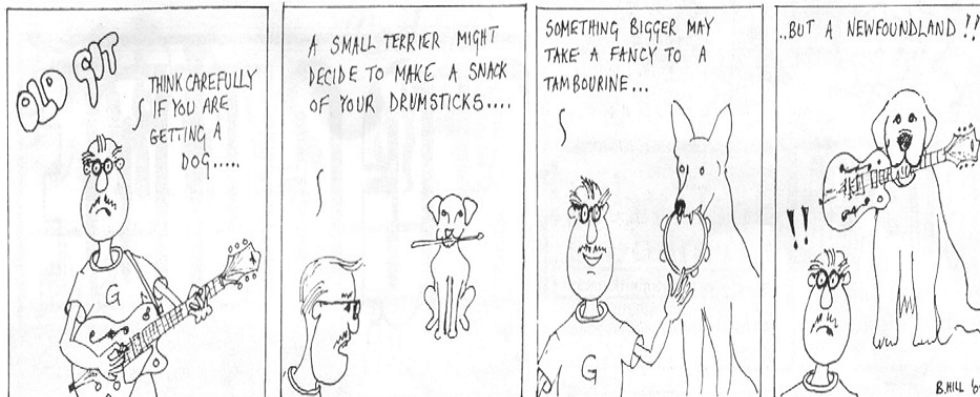
I caught up with popular DJ Suzy Q in a Rockin' Chat on My Space, I asked her if she would like to give us her top ten all time favourites and a bit about herself and a pic this is her reply... It wasn't meant for print but hey' its a good and honest reflection of Suzy Q's style and what makes her so popular.....

"How can I give you an all time top ten, depends on my mood....but I guess these records I never tire of:

1. Mr Locomotive - The Bellfuries
2. It Aint Right, Fool - Paul Ansell
13. Just Can't Help Believin & Suspicious Minds oh! and I Was The One - Elvis..Oh!
and Girl Next Door Went A Walkin etc etc ...love em all, im a BIG Elvis fan
4. Etcetera - Jackie Wilson
5. Long Gone Lonesome Blues - Hollis Champion
6. Rebound - Charlie Rich
7. Gunfight With Cupid, Fever, Unchain My Heart - Carlos & The Bandidos
8. Forever's Much Too Long - Go Cat Go
9. Wondrous Place - Billy Fury
10. Careful Baby - Groovey Joe Poovey

"Soooooooooooooooo many I can't really have a top ten ...what about you can you list ten...as for pics I hate pics of myself and this laptop isn't connected to my scanner so no pics yet maybe one day, have a cool pic of me and Paul Ansell on my phone but dont know how I could put it on so ...any ideas???

Surely you didnt mean this for the mag, no-one would wanna know bout me, i'm just me.... " Suzy Q xxx



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Robin, Colette and Jerry, organisers of the Rhythm Riot 1950s Rhythm & Blues and Roots Rock'n'Roll Weekend, are launching a fund to raise money for the displaced musicians of New Orleans. Many of you will have spent many happy hours listening to the great recordings of Smiley Lewis, Dave Bartholomew, Fats Domino, Professor Longhair, Frankie Ford, and so many others who have come out of the Crescent City. Now, New Orleans is empty and the musicians are going to need a lot of help to get back on their feet.



Clarence 'Frogman' Henry, a genuine New Orleans legend, played at the Rhythm Riot last year - and was absolutely fantastic. He was greeted like a hero and gave one of the best shows ever seen at the festival.

We know that Clarence and his family are, thankfully, all OK - but their home has suffered extensive damage. Many others, like them, are now unable to return to their homes, out of telephone and email contact, and facing an uncertain future.

We are launching our fund with \$1000 and we will add \$5 for every person booking for the Rhythm Riot in October (our busiest month of the year), which should add another \$3000.

Ace Records have made a very generous donation and have matched our initial \$1000. We will also be arranging a collection at the Rhythm Riot in November, with the intention of closing the fund on 1st December, to send the money in time for Christmas. We will announce the grand total, after that, on our website at www.RhythmRiot.com. Anyone wishing to add to our fund, should send donations to us at:

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Band: The Moonshiners
Name: That Ain't Nothing But Right
Label: Moonshiner Records
Genre: Rock 'n' Roll/Rockabilly



This is the bands debut cd, 20 good solid floor filling covers, no frills no spills rock'n'roll from a hard working trio. The Track listing is as follows You Can Do No Worng, That Ain't Nothing But Right, Whenever Your Ready , You Don't Love Me, All I Can Do Is Cry, Pink'n'Black, Twenty FLight Rock , Hot Dog Buddy Buddy, Rio De Rosa, Matchbox, Long Blond Hair, Move Around, Coast Awhile, Drinkin' Wine Spodee Ode, Rockabilly Boogie, Forever's Much Too Long, Who Was That Cat, Rockin' Daddy, No Heart To Spare, Race With The Devil. The Moonshiners Are Luke Dodd Vocals and Double Bass, Martin Botley Guitar, Eddie Gentry Drums, all of them well known and respected faces on the Rock'n'Roll Scene. The tracks although essentially very good choices and guaranteed to get you dancing and the band booked are not very adventurous although performed well they exude eagerness and the energy of a first recording which is a sound and feel that I love. Overall the CD is well worth anybody's tenner, theres a few bum notes but it was recorded live ! So what you see is what you get, the band are heavily booked around Kent and parts of Surrey, although they have had their moments in Bard country for the hot rod show of which they were rebooked on the spot. These are good guys with a good sound,not afraid to attempt any track, heading for big things this band is already a popular choice for the clubs i look forward to reviewing the original material that has been promised for the next album. So hot off the press this CD will be available to fill your christmas stocking, check out the moonshiners website for gig info and arrival of CD www.themoonshiners.co.uk

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THE INTERNET'S BOOTFAIR?

One of my little pleasures in life is delving into the categories on Ebay just to see what is listed. I sometimes find a bargain...more often than not I log out in total frustration, swearing at the screen. Now what sort of thing could possibly make me do that I hear you ask.

Well, in a nutshell, it's the utter rubbish put up for sale on there, under the banners of Rockabilly or Rock n' Roll! As an experiment I typed in ROCKABILLY into the search bar, and in the interests of good research for this piece, went through 29 pages of items! (& You thought I just threw this bit together!!).

Apart from the tons of vinyl being sold (complete set of SUN singles? A snip at £14.99 each!!) as people convert to CD's, and the one or two drape jackets on offer, I found some VERY odd bits and pieces. For instance, a set of "my little pony" hair-clips, described as '...very rockabilly..!' What?! Then I found a brown suede bomber jacket, the type that were so popular in the 1970's, again, described as Rockabilly. An Elvis pillowcase? Er no thanks. A waste bin then...now that WOULD be useful, if only to put the rest of this rubbish in!!! My frustration began to grow when I noticed this...a ra ra skirt...very rockabilly.

(See picture).

Since when? I duly looked at the item and was quite astounded to see that the seller really DID think that rockabilly girls would



want one of these!

(hands up who'll be wearing one at the next rave?). OK, so I took a deep breath and ploughed on....now



I've seen poodle skirts under rocka-

billy....but poodles? Ok...let's take a look. Here we have two ceramic podles.....again, "....very rockabilly...."! Sorry but I can't take any more of this.

There is a facility to contact the seller with a question on Ebay, and I must admit that I have been tempted on occasion, not to post a genuine question, but to simply contact them and let them have a few choices words! However, I have yet to succumb to the temptation....but the poodles (see picture) have bought me pretty close.

Ebay is a great idea; I have purchased and sold loads of things. However, whereas it was once regarded as a cut above your average boot fair, nowadays it seems to be a market place for any old tat that happens to be cluttering up your house! Of course there are notable exceptions, but they are few and far between.

My advice is to be extremely selective on ebay, be careful about what you are buying and read the description carefully. With rockabilly/ rock n' roll in mind, if it's rock n' roll or rockabilly orientated, it will be a super bargain...so make sure you place an exorbitant bid that reflects the quality of my items. Anyone want a pair of rockabilly clogs? **Mike George**



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