

MAD RAT MAGAZINE

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

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Issue #13 September 06



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Well what dy'a think? New look mag, duotone inside and out, me still on the cover of this quality publication & absolutely FREE!!!! Thank you, thank you, thank you each and everyone of you that has kept us going for a whole year!. Ok that's it I know i've said it before but. you're absolutely brilliant, also a very special thank you to Linette & Paul Richardson (no relation), without whom the mag would definitely stop.

Well, we have had a couple of hiccups this month, Linette has asked me to send apologies for the email which was sent out containing spy ware, she hopes that everyone got her apology but if you didn't and you received the email with the abusive text attached to it then we are really sorry.

Due to demand distribution was spread very thin last month and we have had to up the anti this month so you will receive your usual number of mags from this month. The agency side of things is picking up and with over 300 bands on our books this year has seen us very busy (and here comes the moan) what's with the post. First class gets delivered later than second and now you have to fit your post into a little slot to see how much it costs. Crazy! Well, the good news is that to have your mag delivered to your door is still possible and you



can either send us a cheque for £12 or you can send us SAE with 49p stamp for one issue. How's that for service!? I now have my own myspace which Linette is teaching me to use. It's

www.myspace.com/madratmag, where you can read my life story and view saucy pics. From there you will be able to view all my friend's sites including our very own Duke.

The all new Mad Rat Mag T Shirts are available, please see enclosed ad for details and get the Rat on your chest.

You will notice that the website will change again shortly and we will be including a donations link on it, this is where, should you feel the need to contribute anything even your loose change to keeping the Mag running smoothly. We would be very grateful but it's not compulsory, the Mag will continue without it as long as our sponsors keep advertising with the most popular rockin' mag in the universe.

We have had some great comments over the last year and we would have liked to print some of them but the fact that we know your loving the mag and loving contributing to the editorial is enough for us, but we still need more. Why not review a gig, a cd, a shop, a show, we cant do it all you know! Well that's not true we can but we don't want to that's not what we set out to do, remember a mag for the people by the people. KEEPIN' ROCKIN' ROLLIN' that's the name of the game. Now roll the dice !!

Rockin Regards

Spike

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FESTIVAL FEATURE

RHYTHM FESTIVAL

August 4th, 5th, 6th, 2006
Twinwood Arena, Clapham, Near Bedford

As per usual I was unable to make the whole Festival due to other commitments of a band nature, but I was glad that I had set Sunday aside for this feast of R n R and Rockin blues. Twinwood Bowl near Bedford was the venue for this year's Rhythm Festival, famous for the fact that this was the aerodrome that Glen Miller took his last flight from. Destination; Bermuda Triangle !

The Festival is a three day affair spanning two stages with loads of reasonably priced concessions, camping area and a great sound system and lighting rig. Jim Driver is the impresario of the event and had put together an impressive (and no doubt expensive) lineup including on this nights agenda the Killer himself Jerry Lee Lewis. Also, on the main stage Nine Below Zero, the Blues Band featuring Paul Jones and those knees up rockers Chas & Dave (and Mick).



Having taken a diversion from the M25, we arrived too late to see the opening number from Nine Below but we caught the second half of the set which

demonstrated that good time British blues is very much alive and kicking. Some good tunes played with real enthusiasm and talent that kept the crowd at the front of the stage clapping and singing throughout their set. Calls for encores were unfortunately ignored as I presume time restraints were placed on the acts to keep the show rolling to time.

Time for another Guinness and a burger while the stage was set for the Blues Band, who were apparently delayed from a gig in Scotland. The Band arrived on stage on time and for me were very pedestrian, possibly "jet lagged"! However, ardent fans seemed to be



happy with their hour long stint. Enough said. The Guinness had now run out at the bar but a nice pint of local bitter was a good substitute in the absence of the iron intake. Next up the inimitable pub rockers, Chas and Dave. Come on admit it, you've all done a shimmy around your aunt's lounge to The Sideboard Song or Gercha at some point? No, well neither have I then !!!

The trio kicked off with "Wallop" featuring some great piano from Chas, even though the sound guy was struggling a little with the overall mix, which until now had been spot on. All the hits and more delighted the crowd of circa two thousand, including a great version of "Rabbit". Those purists of R'n'R will no doubt be gnashing their teeth at the thought of C & D being associated with Rockin' but hey, music is meant to be fun and these guys put a smile on a lot of people's mashes. A great show, again with some great musicianship on exhibition.



By now the sun was dipping below the rim of the Bowl and the crowd, who had been generally stuck to their fishing chairs for most of the day, meandered closer to the stage front in anticipation of the arrival of Jerry Lee. It had been rumored that this would be his last trip to Europe, so I was curious as to why there weren't too many of the Rockin' scene in the crowd. Perhaps more recent poor performances had put people off !?

The stage was now set and the band members wandered on in their smart black and white attire. The grand piano sat centre stage waiting to be pounded by the "Killer" in person. Mr. Lovelace introduced the Band and kicked off the show with Honey Don't ably sung by the drummer. The crowd however were pointing their cameras at the wings of the stage where Kate Moss and Pete (was' his name from rehab) were standing with some other "C" list OK Mag populaters. But then, the real, authentic, talented star, ambled onto the apron and what a reception he got. There was the main event, although looking his full years and slow in gait, he got straight onto the 88 and rocked through a set of all the classics. Jerry Lee's playing was, although a little laboured at times, faultless. He is grasping onto the magic still and still rattles out the lyrics with a hint of passion through the now croaky larynx. All in all his show was very enjoyable, if only for being in the company of a true legend. Set complete JLL meandered from the stage in the same way he came on, leaving the Band to play the send off. A good day out, I'll certainly be booking for next year.

The promoter of the Festival has a Blog where you can leave comments about this event and suggest acts for next year. Go to rhythmfestival.com for details. Discounted tickets for next year are available for early purchase.

Jim McLaren

Charlie Gracie

FEATURE

THIS BUTTERFLY IS FLITTING AROUND THE UK

Charlie Gracie is one of a diminishing number of rock-n-roll innovators, who continues to actively perform. A native of South Philadelphia, he became the first successful recording star of the "Rock Era" to emerge from that neighborhood. In 1957, Charlie's 'Butterfly' topped the American and British music charts, selling over 3 million copies. His other late fifties big sellers include: 'Fabulous', 'Ninety-Nine Ways', 'Wanderin Eyes' and 'I Love You So Much It Hurts'. These hits bankrolled Philly's famous Cameo-Parkway record label, making it a dominant force in the music industry for nearly a decade! At the height of his fame, Charlie frequently appeared on 'Dick Clark's American Bandstand', 'The Ed Sullivan Show', and 'Alan Freed's TV Specials'. He headlined shows at the Brooklyn Paramount, the Casino Royale in Washington, The 500 Club in Atlantic City, and Old Connie Mack Stadium in Philadelphia. Charlie's star burned even brighter in Great Britain where he became the second American artist to bring rock-n-roll to the English concert stage. Preceded only by Bill Haley, Charlie headlined the London Palladium and Hippodrome receiving outstanding receptions from the press and public. To this day, Charlie Gracie, is a much loved and respected performer the length and breadth of the United Kingdom.

While Charlie has earned a place in rock music history, this is only one dimension to a career that spans forty years. His versatility makes him the consummate music man! Today, Charlie enjoys a strong following at clubs and resorts along the northeast corridor of the U.S. Twice, annually, he performs to large audiences in countries such as: England, Italy, Germany, Austria, Finland, Spain and Holland. His superb guitar playing elicits the highest of praise from music legends like George Harrison. The ex-Beatle referred to Charlie's guitar work as 'brilliant' in a March 1996 interview with Billboard Magazine. Paul McCartney paid tribute to Charlie by Recording an updated version of 'Fabulous' in his new 1999 CD series enti-

itled: "Run Devil Run". McCartney honored Charlie again that fall by inviting him to the album's premiere party in London.

The year 2000 found Charlie on the road with Irish blues rocker, Van Morrison. Van, another Charlie Gracie admirer, commissioned him to open his shows at the Wiltern in Los Angeles and The House of Blues in Las Vegas. A short time later, Graham Nash of Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young fame, declared that Charlie inspired him to a musical career. Nash then proceeded to contribute vocally on Charlie's latest CD release-his first of the new Millennium.

It is obvious why Charlie Gracie has lasted the course longer than most. He is an accomplished musician and an exceptional talent - a devoted family man who conducts himself as a gentleman both on stage and off. He is a credit to his industry. *Charlie was voted into Great Britain's Rock-n-Roll Hall of Fame (1998) founded by "Now Dig This" magazine. Biography from www.charliegracie.com this site contains biography, photos, merchandise, articles and much more the real deal from Charlie Gracie

After asking permission to use the biography from the website I received this email;

Hello Linette: Charlie's son, Charlie, JR here. Yes, by all means, use the biography as you see fit and thank you for asking. I will send you a few NEW promo photos in my next emails that I hope you will use in any articles promoting his gigs.

Also, could you do me a big favor...and plug his PBS TV documentary entitled: "CHARLIE GRACIE: FABULOUS!" The program was featured in American TV in June and is now available to the general public. Please remind your readers they can see the 2-minute trailer at

www.character-drivenfilms.com and purchase one if they'd like.

Paul McCartney, Jack Scott, Graham Nash,



FEATURE

Peter Noone, D.J, Fontana, Andy Williams, Mike Berry, Chubby Checker all pay tribute to my dad in this program. There is great film footage of my dad on stage in the UK and the USA--old and new footage, great old photos and lots of surprises. (have watched the trailer and it truly is fabulous!)

Also... ABKCO RECORDS is doing a WORLD-WIDE CD release called THE BEST OF CHARLIE GRACIE--all of my dad's hits, b-sides and a few unreleased items--all coming this fall. If you could cover these two big items in any articles--I would be so grateful. Thank you for your interest and warmest regards from all the Gracies.

Well, all plugging done for the UK's favourite touring rock'n'roller watch this space for further Gracie news.

HERE IS WHERE YOU CAN SEE HIM

September 14, Barnsley Hospital S & S Club
Pogmoor Road Barnsley South Yorks 079914
415986

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September 15, 2006 Rockola Club
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September 16, 2006 Shoreham R n R Club
Shoreham Centre Pond Road Shoreham By
Sea Sussex
01903 243392 supported by Class Of 58

September 17, 2006 EDDIE COCHRAN
FESTIVAL
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Chippenham
0117 904 2658
OLYMPIAD AUDITORIUM - Charlie headlines
and will dedicate new memorial to his late,
great friend.

September 18, 2006 The Roadhouse Club
Birmingham,
Charlie is backed by the Roger Hill Band!

September 21, 2006 The 100-Club
100 Oxford Street London, 0207 636 0933
Charlie is backed by the Strollers!

September 23, 2006 CRUISE INN
Amsterdam, Holland
Charlie is backed by the Stacy Cats!

September 24, 2006 HOTEL REMBRANDT
(Dorchester Road) WEYMOUTH, DORSET,
ENGLAND

September 25, 2006 - September 28, 2006
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September 29, 2006 RAILWAY CLUB
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September 30, 2006 CULVER CLUB
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October 1, 2006 CULVER CLUB
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October 2, 2006 HOLTWHITE SPORTS AND
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RECORDINGS

Band: Bernie Woods and The Forest Fires

Title: Hot Love

Label: Foot Tapping Records FT046

www.foottappingrecords.co.uk



Well here it is now the long awaited 2nd CD from Bernie Woods and the Forest Fires, produced by Darrel Higham it's butt kickin' rock 'n' roll/rockabilly. I have never seen this band but I do know

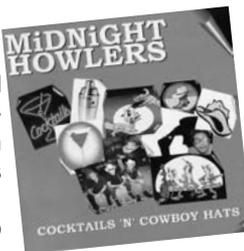
how popular they are on the scene although I have to say the shirts are very very scary however the music is very very good. This is good old fashioned rockin' in the height of the modern rockabilly sound, A Fool About You, Shim Sham Shimmy, Wait & See, Pretend, Kansas City, Ram Bunk Shush, Good Rockin Daddy, Running Around, Someday Ill Make It up to you, Wasted Days, Hot Love, Route 66, Big Boss Man, Folsom Prison Blues. This is one for the classic car run windows open and your hair if you still have it blowing in the wind. Very dance oriented but not in an obvious we are a dance band style but a wer'e enjoying ourselves and you can dance if you want to kind of way. Ill definitely be going along to a Forest Fires gig soon. For some this CD may be a bit tame, but least we forget why we are all here in the first place then ill see you at the next Forest Fires gig too. Everyone of these tracks is a great version as far as rockin' albums go its hard to fault however a little more info on the sleeve might be helpful like who sings what cos' there is definitely more than one voice on here and who plays what and oh how about a band contact detail in case someone wants to book em, but that's just me being picky. I love Shim Sham Shimmy and Kansas City and found myself singing pretend like a good rockin gal should. Boppers, Ballads,

Instrumentals, Strollers, Jivers the only thing missing is the raffle a rockin club night in a sleeve. Another great CD can someone send us some rubbish please lol no not really receiving the CD's we do shows just how much talent we have on the scene and how much we care about quality. Well done lads it's a hit in this house. Oh and guys where did that name come from?

Band: Midnight Howlers

Title: Cocktails 'n Cowboy Hats

www.midnighthowlers.co.uk



Hot off the press and yet to be launched on the anticipating Howler fans Cocktails n' Cowboy Hats is an impressive selection from three men playing it real.

This album contains 12 tracks officially and the three howlers take on Drums, Washboard, Guitars, Baritone Guitars, Harmonica, Sax, Mandolin, Double Bass, Banjo, Lap Steel, Accordion, Piano, and acoustic guitar divide that lot by three and you can see just how talented these guys are. Hidden depth and meaning to this album nicely explained in the sleeve notes but still the Howlers manage a giggle at themselves with lots of photos and a twist or two. It's no secret that we in Southend are big Howler Fans and when each album is launched we all turn out in our Howler T Shirts ready to purchase.

8 original foot tappin' boppin' jiving strollin' tracks and four well chosen tracks from the boys list of favourites. Still with the traditional Midnight Howler sound that we all know and love but with layers and layers of surprise, energy and heart.

Johnny Cool, All My Tears, I'm Coming Home, Do You Ever, T'Bags And Hash, Early Morning Rain, Rockabilly Beat, Howlin' At Midnight, Copperhead Road, Why Did You Leave, You & Me, Blue Moon. Hard at this stage to pick a favourite but I really like Johnny Cool which is a Johnny Cash style song written about a guy one of them met in Austin Texas, Do You Ever is a slow strollery type ballad and the lyrics are brilliant! Of the covers Early Morning Rain does it for me.

Lyricaly most of the songs are just pure sing along poetry and everyone can identify with every word. Definitely their finest work! Available at gigs or via the website www.mid-nighthowlers.co.uk or Pollytone or Nervous.

Special credit goes to Summer aged 7 who designed the CD label.



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GIG REVIEW

Arsen Roulette and The Drugstore Romeos
B52 Diner, Southend Airport
Sat 24th June 2006

From hence they came! No from California via Europe and then they tore up the UK like any good rockabilly hurricane. On a recent and very quick tour of the UK I caught Arsen Roulette and the Drugstore Cowboys featuring Nick Hoadley on Bass from The Cordwood Dragers who was the only stand in and had been touring with the band for a month.

The gig at the B52 was the last of three in and around the London area and as it was a sort of last minute thing so I had wondered about the attendance. Well I arrived at a quarter to eight and the place was pretty much half full with thirty or so out side in the grounds as well



so my fears were allayed and I settled in to enjoy the evening.

Radar as usual got the evening off to a great start with some well known ditty's that had everyone tappin' their feet (remembering the B52 is not a dance venue

although there is a tiny dance area) he still managed to get the place rockin'.

And so it came to pass that with the absence of cardboard Spike still on everyone's minds that the real Spike took to the mic to introduce our visitors with their name written on his hand (which everybody noticed by the way) in his usual way he abused the waiting throng and introduced the band who launched into their first number with Matt on guitar kicking it off, well as any good promoter Spike was too afraid to turn around and face the audience and not until the final note and the screams and cheers from the crowd did our host finally relax and get into his usual whip em up mode. I don't know why he was worried according to

a friend the band had sold twelve cd's at sound check so there you go it really is all about the audience.

The band's new CD on El Toro and their T shirts practically flew out of the bag an incredible response for any band but according to Nick it was like this all round Europe. The boys set a good mix of new and old consisted of Love Me Never Leave Me, Boppin' Lil' Betty, Bop-a-Lena, Strollin Back To You, Bip,Bop,Boom, Gone Crazy and Honey Hush, the two sets ended in six encores and a half naked Arsen and Spike trying to convince the Drummer to take his shirt off too, with the help of a very excited audience. What a night it was true rockin at its best clothes on or off these guys really know how to rock it right in the UK, so much so that they will feature at Hemsby in a future event.

The guys have a very authentic sound, Arsens vocals are full of that American drawl and his stage presence is hypnotic, Matt The drugstore romeos guitarist is probably one of the best guitarists on the circuit and all in all the band were enjoyed by everyone. Not a complaint, a criticism a bum note or a whistle from the PA incredible. I'd be glad to welcome Arsen Roulette and The Drugstore Cowboys back any day. **Mad Rat.**

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Hello once again

I come across a tendency that some people associate 50's & 60's music together when in reality the whole start and emergence for both decades was different.

The late 40's and during the 50's was the first time Youth could identify with their own music, it was the first time that it was commercially viable to have a new source of buyers for the major and many independent recording labels.

Many Radio Stations in the States were playing the new music to the new generation.

The only rock n roll to be heard on UK Radio was controlled by the BBC, or if you were lucky enough to get AFN or later, Radio Luxemburg, you might have heard a poor Medium Wave signal with lots of whine and whistle over some tracks played there.

The sixties attempted to stamp out Rock n Roll in the form of scapegoating certain promoters and DJ's with the Payola scandal trials. This softened and sanitised the music which became in some instances quite bland or dire.

During this period in the UK, Rock n Roll and its followers went sort of underground until the late sixties when New 50's Rock n roll Bands were forming, people of my generation became interested and a resurgence of Rockabilly and the original sounds began. This was known as the "Rock n Roll Revival" period or "Second generation". Radio was silent for the most part for Rock n Roll

Clubs were formed, such as "the Vintage Rock n Roll Society" of which other organisers affiliated to, RnR DJ's started playing the music in pubs and at organised events across the UK.

In the 70's the Rock n Roll scene had grown, Teddy Boys were back both old and second generation, the Rockers and Bikers who had always been around were also part of that shared liking for 50's Rock n Roll, though it was not all dayglow as perceived now by many, although there was an element of that as portrayed by the media.

Fed up with the lack of our music on the Radio, a March on BBC's Broadcasting House was organised primarily by Stuart Coleman and Geoff Barker which was successful in gaining a Saturday Slot on Radio One, weekly at 6pm.

The eighties saw a diversity of genre's with peoples preference for rock n roll emerge, some went in a more specialised direction, Some of these factions were generated from a crossover between Punk Rock, Phychobilly and neo Rockabilly .

The Teds were still strong in number, and then there was the US Hepcat and sodapop influence, plus a following for

Doo-Wop and original 50's Rhythm & Blues Rockin' music.

The Radio One program continued for a few years with a series of "It's Rock n Roll" programs hosted by Stuart Coleman

The nineties saw another change in the scene but only the occasional local Radio station had any Rock n Roll programming, however the Midlands BBC Regional stations had "The Big Bopper" who had a weekly program for a couple of years playing tracks from rockin' bands, interviews with people involved on the scene and requests from listeners.

The Millennium continued with More CD's being obtainable; more Bands were emerging that wrote their own material. The internet began to attract a listening audience for Local, National and global RnR information, Radio and contacts.

Some, like Rocket Radio, started to stream specialist programming, other stations too, such as Radio Caroline and shows such as Dell Richardson's Good Rockin' tonight (and his former station slots) were available for the UK and Europe via Satellite as well as being webcast.

Mark LaMarr had a series of about 12 one hour specialist shows on the BBC each year which could also be heard on the Internet

I started my shows on Northern Broadcasting in 2002

During 2000, Rockabilly Radio started playing tracks by independent artists and bands of the Genre on the Internet, (Which I later joined in 2004).

Geoff Barker has a Saturday Show on Local BBC Radio which can also be heard on the Net.

Recently a few local stations have started to have Rock n Roll as part of their specialist evening programming, most notably Forest FM which is one of the New Community Radio Stations putting out two Rockin programs weekly being webcast.

Information is available which you will find via some of the links below.

That's it, tune in till next time,

Dave B.

www.dbrighton.rockabillyradio.net
www.thisgigguide.fsnet.co.uk
www.carolinerockers.co.uk
www.myspace.com/3083505
www.northernbroadcasting.co.uk
www.myspace.com/rockabillyradio

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SEPTEMBER 2006
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NIGHT SHAKERS

FRIDAY 10TH
NOVEMBER 2006
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Rob 01869 327348 or 07950 384234
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Rock 'n' Roll Extravaganza Warners, Lakeside, Hayling Island 28th - 30th July

Rock 'n' Roll, Boogaloo style was the name of the game for this Boogaloo Promotions' first foray into the presentation of Rock 'n' Roll weekenders in collaboration with Warners. On the back of the extremely successful Jump Jive & Boogie & Blues weekends, the event just had to be equally successful and guess what...it was. The event had sold out weeks before deadline encouraged no doubt by an entertainment line-up of mixed blends of Rock 'n' Roll including the Rat Pack, Big Boy Bloater, The Borderlines, Jean Vincent, The Alleycats and Mike Berry and the Outlaws plus dance lessons, late night jam sessions, retro market and some quality DJing and MCing by yours truly.

The Friday night kicked off well with the Alleycats providing a good mix of R'n'R classics to an enthusiastic crowd of Rock 'n' Roll fans and Warner regulars. The dance floor was constantly busy through the ninety minute set where Drew and the crew pulled out all the favourites and stops to keep the crowd entertained. The following act was Ms Jean Vincent & her band Memphis in the Meantime, who played some good rockin' stuff but didn't keep the audience on their toes quite as well as the Alleycats, more due to the punters being tired from travelling than the performance.

After a few tunes from the decks at Midnight, I put my Jam leader hat on and strolled around to the lounge bar to start up the late night jam with colleagues Rollin' Jimmy on guitar and Paul Moules on electric bass. Jim kicked off the Jam with a few classics before inviting members of the audience to jump up and join in with Drew and Butch from the Alleycats and the guys from Jeanie's band helping out and a couple of guys from the crowd who got up, namely Keith on piano and Martin on bass. These guys proved to be extremely helpful throughout the weekend in keeping the Jams going way into the night and beyond. Thanks fellas.

Saturday arrived too soon and with it emerged the retro market featuring stalls from Runicorn Records and memorabilia plus clothes and other 50s stuff, which was appreciated with interest by the rockin' and non-rockin' guests.

After my record hop in the afternoon and a quick siesta it was on with the glad rags and on duty again to present Saturday's goodies. First up was the phenomenal Borderlines. A new group to me who really gave it their all. They are a 3 piece outfit that consist of familiar faces on the scene and just play Rock 'n' Roll how it should be played, with passion. Jim the guitarist switches from guitar to piano with equal talent and pushes the show along with great aplomb. I didn't need to call for an encore, the crowd beat me too it. Book this band!!

After 30 mins of Jivers, Strollers and more jivers from moi, it was time to introduce that colossus of R'n'B; Big Boy Bloater, who got the crowd in the palm of his hand from the off. A good set of dance floor stompers, which was greeted with delight by the crowd. Again, encore call not really required but I can't resist being on stage with a mike in my hand!

Jam time again, following a similar format, but with a bigger audience. Word had obviously got around about Jimmy's incredible guitar style and that he could drink more lager than anyone else. Mark and Jim from the Borderlines joined in and almost played a whole new set. At about 2a.m. Mick and Spike from the Rat Pack arrived, following their gig in London. Within two sips of a pint they were both up and jamming some good ol' rockin' tunes with me on the kit. We finished at 4a.m. and left a few stragglers in the bar contemplating if it was worth going to bed or not!?

Sunday started off a little hazy and a day of rest was had by the Jam Band and MC, however for those who don't imbibe quite as much, there were dance classes to participate in and a few stalls to part with some cash. In addition, this venue has other facilities such as swimming pool, archery, shooting, bowls and more.

8.30.p.m - the tables were cleared and the floor was open to all for another good nights' entertainment. The billing of Rat Pack had caused a bit of confusion to some guests who were expecting the trio from the legendary Sands of Las Vegas, however I introduced them as from the legendary sands of Southend-on-Sea, which caused a titter from the crowd. The Rat Pack didn't mess around, they came in hard and fast and got the floor buzzin' straight away, although I did see some fingers in ears from the older generation, due to volume rather than performance. A good set from the Essex (Leicester) rockers, bringing another dimension of R'n'R.

After some more wax (?), it was time for the main event. Yes, Mike Berry was in the house and definitely what the, predominantly older generation, guests had come to see. Mike Berry put on a great show and kept the dance floor full and put smiles on faces. His show is slick, bordering on holiday camp cabaret but undoubtedly professional and well executed. He played all the hits and more and encouraged at least two encores before he came into the ballroom to sign pictures and CDs. A really nice guy who brought the schedule to a close leaving people with fond memories. Nice!

But hey, it wasn't over yet. The Jam #3 got started at 12:30 and assisted by Keith, Martin, Glen (the guest talent) we rocked until about 3am before taking up a bar stool and mulling over the weekend with Monica the promoter. Jim decided he was tired and quenched his tiredness with another Carling. It didn't work. We drifted back to the chalet, in good cheer and content that all had had a good time including the crowd of over 400.

There are two Rock 'n' Roll Extravaganzas scheduled for next year, which will take a similar format. So if you like your Rock'n'Roll live and varied in venues with nice surroundings and that don't possess sticky carpets. Dance lessons, Jam nights, car show, late bars and a good atmosphere, then check out the Boogaloo website for details of these and other events at Warners holiday resorts.
www.boogaloopromotions.com

See you there!

Paul Richardson

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For those of you with nothing much to do mid week then **Steve's Stack o Wax** has the answer for your mid week rockin' needs..... Steve is broadcasting a 2 hour rock n roll show LIVE for Forest FM 8pm til 10pm every Wednesday two hours of varied and fantastic sounds from one of the UK'S finest wax spinners.... The programme we caught had Steve playing Mike Sanchez, Bill Haley and The Saddlemen, Pep Torres from California, Boyd Bennett requests and plugging of gigs cant be bad!

A SUMMER RAVE!

We are pleased to announce that The Rockabilly Rave is moving to the Summer!The Rave will no longer take place in March in the freezing weather... but will take place over four days, 21st - 25th June 2007!!!

Because the Rockabilly Rave is now officially the biggest Rockabilly festival in Europe, Pontins have closed their site for one week during their summer season - so that we can hold the biggest Summer Rockabilly Party that Europe has ever seen!

The Rockabilly Rave is known throughout the world for its fantastic International line ups, and now you can add summer sunshine, BBQ's and one of the sandiest beaches in the UK to the list of reasons, which make the Rave the Worlds number one Rockabilly destination!The full line up will be released soon!

Rudy La Crioux and The Allstars launch their third CD at the Ace Café on Sept 8th the new release on Foottapping records titled Beer n Bourbon was produced by Darrel Higham resident music producer for Foottapping. Rumor has it that their will be a Darrel and Rudy album out soon but for now if you cant make the party Beer n Bourbon is available from the end of August. Stargazing At The Policemans Ball A Date For Your Calendar!

The legendary Thunderbird Club in Wellingborough opens its doors for a one off gig on Saturday 16th September featuring Germany's Big Bad Shakin call Brian on 07973 703483 for details.

JIVE JIVE JIVE

A Short blast to thank all those involved in the recent Jive Jive Jive weekend particularly the 3R's crowd and none more so than John and Jan, Mick And Ce and Wildcat Pete for all their help. The master plan is to move the event just down the road to Wembley Stadium within 15 years, Don't worry they will have a roof by then! Meanwhile I will stick to the winning formula. Willie Jeffery Organiser, Hemsby Rock'n'Roll Weekender, Rockers Reunion and Jive Jive Jive.

CHARLIE GRACIE, Philadelphia's first native rock 'n' roll star and the artist who put Cameo (Parkway came later) Records in the big leagues gets a worldwide CD release this fall on ABKCO RECORDS !All of Charlie's American and European Chart Hits will be there along with B-Sides and previously unreleased material--completely remastered. This is the real deal folks! Kudos to Jeff Tamarkin who penned the liner notes and Teri Landi--of course, who worked hard on the digital transfers and session research. She did the same for the Rolling Stones couple years back. Watch this space of news of when and where to buy it!

*Peter Basey returns to frontline of **The Zoltans**. Peter left The Zoltans earlier this year due to musical differences, after a search for a replacement failed Peter returned to the fold at the beginning of August.*

Ike Turner's three UK dates in August were cancelled due to administrative problems and work permits. People who purchased tickets will be refunded.



NEWS

For those into the blues check out www.bluesinbritain.org Each month, Blues In Britain reports on the blues scene, with emphasis on what's happening here in the UK. You can read about the latest CD releases, live blues as it happens, check out upcoming blues gigs both home and abroad with full venue details, and get the inside information on the music you like to hear.

www.borderradio.com if you like me and like to listen to internet radio and have been following the border radio programmes then you would have noticed that it seemingly disappeared for a few days and then came back with just the radio link well its back and up and running after being hacked and severely disrupted. Back to its full glory with Ooh Bop Sh Bam with Well Alright at No 2 in the stateside chart.

Cuxton Rock n Roll Club SILENCED! Council officials have silenced Cuxton rock n roll club after neighbours complained of noise. A limiter was fitted and then set at the clubs last gig with The Rat Pack at 84 decibels which is ludicrously low which means any music band or dj would cut it out. The limiter was set so low that the band had to play practically acoustic for the first set. Then kept cutting out when the Band tried to pick up the sound and completely ruined the event. Club boss Martin Griffiths has given up the venue in a pointless fight over noise as have many others that have been hit with the noisy neighbour syndrome. Cuxtons Aug 12th gig was held at Beauwaters with the aid of Pete Bruce who normally uses this venue for his club nights.

STOP PRESS we recently received this email.....

its been an absolute nightmare finding a new venue, a lot of the village halls now have these noise limiters fitted, the new legislation is crazy, all one sided for residents, not to mention the village hall that has been there for years before certain no life residents move in!! We have been lucky to find a private club, husband

& wife team who are prepared to take us in, its a 60's style venue on the banks of the river med-way overlooking fields & just the river, with no noise limiter. Hoorah! The dance floor is slightly larger than our last venue & all doors & windows can be opened for ventilation plus it has 2 bars! ,with an upstairs lounge area. Parking is also good. We have needed to change just two dates from our booked gigs for the rest of this year

The 9th Sept has been changed to the 8th Sept with Good Rockin tonite & the 14th Oct with the Kingcats has been put back a week now to 21st October. All other dates are the same Thanks Martin Cuxton RocknRoll Club - New Venue Sturdee Sports & Social Club Stoke Road off Ropers Lane Hoo Nr Rochester Kent ME3 9LT



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www.pinknb.com

RAT'S GIG GUIDE

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

Fri 1 Sep C'mon Everybody Record Hop St Marys Social Club, Melton Street, Crossbank, Batley, W.Yorks WF17 8PT record hop only Johnny Whiteshoes 01924 376141

Fri 1 Sep Dale Tavern West Street, Worsborough Dale, Barnsley, Yorks S70 5PG Alleycats Dave B 01226 205611

Fri 1 Sep King Creole RnR Club Biggleswade WMC, Church Street, Biggleswade, Beds Rhythm Stompers Kev 07748 306989

Fri 1 Sep OuterLimitz - LA Ley Arms, Kenn, Exeter, Devon EX6 7UW record hop only (rockabilly/w.swing/jive/doo-wop) OuterLimitz DJ's 01626 872903

Fri 1 Sep Pink Cadillac Club - Onley Onley WMC, High Street, Olney, Bucks Moonshiners no details 07940 368960

Fri 1 Sep Rayners Rock'n'Roll Grove WMC, Penleys Grove Street, York, N.Yorks YO31 Rockin' The Joint plus DJ 07752 333094

Fri 1 Sep Rockin' The Fens Hiam Sports & Social Club, Putney Hill Road, Prickwillow, Ely, Cambs Crazee Jay & the Partytimers Rockabilly Bob 01638 741402

Fri 1 Sep Rockin' The Post Winning Post, Chertsey Road (A316), Whitton, Twickenham, Middsx TTs Big Bounce 020 8894 2772

Fri 1 Sep Rosecroft Club Chelsfield Road, Orpington, Kent tba Pete Bruce 01322 407110

Fri 1 Sep Ryan Hall The Boulevard, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs ST6 6DW Tonemasters no details 01782 811850

Sat 2 Sep Ford Sports & Social Club Gardiners Close, Basildon, Essex Persuaders The Raven 01268 584789

Sat 2 Sep Halifax RnR Club Siddal Ex-Servicemen's Club, Halifax, W.Yorks HX3 9JS Rock Back The Clock (ticket only event) D. J. the DJ 01422 354876

Sat 2 Sep Hamble RnR Club Aerostructure Club, Kings Avenue, Hamble-Le-Rice, Southampton, Hants Spitfires Wild Wolfie Smith 023 9264 0208

Sat 2 Sep Hardy Spicers RnR Club Hardy Spicers Club, Edgerton Road, Erdington, Bham Revolutionaires Kool Kat Keith 01827 250303

Sat 2 Sep Horsham RnR Club Drill Hall, Denne Road, Horsham, W.Sussex John Lewis Rock'n'Roll Trio Memphis Gee 07966 526260

Sat 2 Sep Luton RnR Club Roman Way, Tomlinson Avenue, Luton, Beds Jack Rabbit Slim Tartan Ted 01582 518211

Sat 2 Sep 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 2 Sep Rock House Club Sports & Social Club, William Street, Saxilby, Lincoln, Lincs Drugstore Cowboys/Sun-Rays Wainyboy + guest 01522 811411

Sat 2 Sep Rockabilly Boogie 3 Pontins, Prestatyn Sands, Prestatyn, N.Wales Rudy la Crioux & the All Stars see special events 01905 330586

Sat 2 Sep Rock'n Red Hot Club - PT Pavilion Theatre, The Esplanade, Exmouth, Devon Matchbox/Ricky Ford/Jean Vincent/Blast Off Cockney Rebel 07879 228451

Sat 2 Sep Stage One Cobden Oxford Street, Long Eaton, Derbys Flying Saucers plus DJ 0115 973 4928

Sat 2 Sep Stockcross Rock'n'Roll Village Hall, Stockcross, near Newbury, Berks record hop only (50's rock'n'roll/jive/bop/stroll) no details 01488 658186

Sat 2 Sep The Mop Weavers Arms, Brunel Street, Halliwell, Bolton, Lancs BL1 8AS record hop only (50s rock'n'roll) Big G 01204 849008

Sat 2 Sep The Spread Eagle Main Road, Margaretting, Chelmsford, Essex record hop only

(rock'n'roll/rockabilly/jive) Maurice's Rocking Machine 01277 352052

Sat 2 Sep Tyne View Catholic Club Pelaw, Tyne & Wear Big Boy Bloater & his Southside Stompers Rocking Boys Record Hop 0191 415 5342



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

Sun 3 Sept The Woodgrange Midnight Howlers CD LAUNCH PARTY Southchurch Avenue Southend on Sea 01702 460133

Sun 3 Sep BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Wanderers Slim Reed - Not Before '54 0117 976 8065

Sun 3 Sep Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Persuaders n/a 020 8647 1951

Sun 3 Sep Pontins - Prestatyn Sands Prestatyn, N.Wales Country Cattin' see special events 01394 691203

Sun 3 Sep The Sporting Green corner Hertford Road & Green Street, Enfield Highway, Enfield, London Cavaliers Captain Caveman 020 8926 8577



Mon 4th Sept Rockin The Joint Holtwhites Sports and Social Club 1 Kirkland Drive Enfield 8 - 11 0208 363 4449



Tue 5 Sep Parklands Ballroom (ex ICI/Dupont SC), Wheatley Hall Road, Doncaster, S.Yorks Whiskey Pete & his Boppers Dave B 01302 884707



Wed 6 Sep Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 tba (hot rod night) Little Carl's Record Hop 020 8961 1000



Thu 7 Sep Byker PTE Social Club Millers Road, Byker, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Tyne & Wear Revolutions/Cutloose/Scott Rollo (alldayer) Stews Hotwax/Rocking Jock 0191 276 7541

Thu 7 Sep Fedora Club Erith WMC, 1 Valley Road, Erith, Kent DA8 1BT record hop only (40s/50s rhythm'n'blues/swing) Pat The Kat/Two-Tone Boogie

07931 674158

Thu 7 Sep Hanworth RnR Club Royal Naval Club, Park Road, Hanworth, Middsx record hop only (rock'n'roll) Wildcat Pete 01464 672605

Thurs 7 September 2006 Rock'n'Rollin' @ Tithe Farm 151 Rayners Lane, Rayners Lane, Harrow, Middx. HA2 0HX Classes & Club 8 - 12 Classes & Club, Record Hop with Harry J 8-11:30



Fri 8 Sep Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 Rudy la Crioux & the All Stars (CD launch) Bill Guntrip 020 8961 1000

Fri 8 Sep Beaconsfield Rockabilly Club Beaconsfield Football Club, Slough Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks HP9 2SQ Trash Canz Wildcat Pete 01494 672605

Fri 8 Sep Birdwell Club Sheffield Road, Birdwell, Nr Barnsley, S.Yorks S70 5UY Cadillacs Clive the Jive 01924 376141

Fri 8 Sep Daddy Kool's Brackley Town Football Club, Churchill Way, Brackley, Northants NN13 7EJ Night Shakers Pin Up Record Hop 01295 276848

Fri 8 Sep Dance Jive Memorial Hall, Bodhyfrd (off Chester Street), Wrexham, N.Wales Jive Street plus DJ 07812 369702

Fri 8 Sep Eastleigh RnR Club Comrades Club, 55 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, Hants SO50 9DF record hop only Long Tall Girl/Rocking Glenn 023 8061 1953

Fri 8 Sep Hegartys 197 Duke Street, Plymouth, Devon PL1 4EF record hop only Slim Jim's RnR Disco 01752 560077

Fri 8 Sep Hillbilly Hop! - BG Bethnal Green WMC, 42 Pollards Row, Bethnal Green, London E2 6NB Sugar Creek Trio Little Carl's Record Hop 07974 226380

Fri 8 Sep Hillside Club (ex-Western Club), 357a Derby Road, Lenton, Nottingham, Notts Jack Rabbit Slim Kool Kat Charlie 07901 766863

Fri 8 Sep Houndogs RnR Club - CSC Chelmsford Social Club, 55 Springfield Road (behind Tesco), Chelmsford, Essex Big Boy Bloater & his Southside Stompers Hounddog Jim/Mark Happycat 01279 654205

Fri 8 Sep Kirk Hallam Social Club Dallimore Road,

MAD RAT MAG

Kirk Hallam, Ilkeston, Derbys Skyrockers plus DJ
0115 932 9909

Fri 8 Sep OuterLimitz - LA Ley Arms, Kenn, Exeter,
Devon EX6 7UW record hop only
(rockabilly/w.swing/jive/doo-wop) OuterLimitz DJ's
01626 872903

Fri 8 Sep Rockin Jukejoint Denton Labour Club,
Ashton Road, Denton, Cheshire Colin Paul (solo -
Elvis show) Poor Boy Paul 0161 438 0468

Fri 8 Sep Cuxton RnR Club Sturdee Sports & Social
Club Stoke Road off Ropers Lane Hoo Nr Rochester
Kent ME3 9LT Good Rockin' Tonite The Raven
01732 780076

Fri 8 Sep Rod & Line Church Road, Tideford,
Cornwall PL12 5HW Mighty Atoms no details 01752
851323

Fri 8 Sep Swindon RnR Club Moonrakers
(Crossways Suite), Cricklade Road, Swindon, Wilts
SN2 5AA Slammers Maximum Jive Band Steve's
Stack of Wax 01793 612378

Fri 8 Sep Taunton RnR Club North Petherton RFC,
Beggars Brook, North Petherton, Somerset record
hop only Tony Sullivan 01823 332180



Sat 9 Sep Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular
Road, Stonebridge, London NW10
Broadcasters/Go Getters (4pm till late) Bill
Guntrip/Tracy Dick 020 8961 1000

Sat 9 Sep Amersham RnR Club White Eagle Hall,
Polish Club Complex, Raans Road, Amersham,
Bucks HP6 6LX Craig Douglas + Tornadoes no
details 01494 727173

Sat 9 Sep Banbury RnR Club General Foods S & S
Club, Spiceball Park, Banbury, Oxon Jive Romeros
Mick the Mike 01295 278127

Sat 9 Sep Bristol Jive Club - KRFC Keynsham RFC,
Crown Fields, Bristol Road, Keynsham, Bristol
BS31 2BE Johnny Earle + Jive Street Will 0117 938
0483

Sat 9 Sep Chicken Shack Brogborough Club,
Bedford Road, Brogborough, near Milton Keynes,
Beds Blue Flames Rollin Rock Record Hop 07960
991236

Sat 9 Sep Concorde Suite Manchester Road,
Droylsden, Manchester M43 6PA Cadillacs no
details no details

Sat 9 Sep Cranage Hall Knutsford Road, Cranage,
Holmes Chapel, Cheshire CW4 8EW Alleycats (tick-
ets in advance) no details 01477 536666

Sat 9 Sep Guildford Hot 50's RnR Club Fairlands
Hall, Fairlands Avenue, Guildford, Surrey Fever Two
Houndogs 01483 856744

Sat 9 Sep Jeanette & Michelle's RnR Club Village
Hall, Westfield Road, off Church Rd, Uphill, Weston-
super-Mare, Somerset Skyrockers Rockin' Don
07881 912798

Sat 9 Sep Juke Joint RnR Club Shrublands
Community Centre, Hawthorn Road, Gorleston-on-
Sea, Norfolk Spitfires The Professor/Rockin Shades
01760 338894

Sat 9 Sep Mynster Club - CH Coronation Hall,
Burrowbridge, Somerset TA7 ORJ Rockin' The Joint
Ian's Blue Jean Bop 01823 698618

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

Sat 9 Sep Paris Rock Club - WAC Waterloo Action
Centre, 14 Baylis Road, London SE1 7AA record
hop only Mad French Wolf/Dave 07944 775556

Sat 9 Sep Ritz Ballroom 73 Bradford Road,
Brighouse, W.Yorks Juke Box Jive Bradford Dude
01274 392380

Sat 9 Sep The Bandstand Grand Parade,
Eastbourne, Sussex Lucky Strike n/a 01323 641984

Sat 9 Sep Thorngate Halls Bury Road, Gosport,
near Portsmouth, Hants Flames Big Bounce 023
9242 8732

Sat 9 Sep White Horse - Highworth
Rudy la Croux & the All Stars no details



Sun 10 Sep Ace Café Brighton Burnup Seafront,
Madeira Drive, Brighton, Sussex Crazy Cavan & the
Rhythm Rockers/Tritons Big Beat Kris 020 8961
1000

Sun 10 Sep Bar Rouge Royal Albion Hotel (opposite
pier), 35 Old Steine, Brighton, E.Sussex BN1 1NT
Ghostriders (Ace Café run 4pm till late) Stompin
Steve/Rockin Bones 07745 453765

Sun 10 Sep BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare
Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Maria
Vincent & the Millionaires Slim Reed - Not Before
'54 0117 976 8065

Sun 10 Sep Beaconsfield Rockabilly Club
Beaconsfield Football Club, Slough Road,
Beaconsfield, Bucks HP9 2SQ Moonshiners
Wildcat Pete 01494 672605

Sun 10 Sep Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West
Street, Carshalton, Surrey Bernie Woods & the
Forest Fires n/a 020 8647 1951

Sun 10th Woodgrange The Alleycats Southchurch
Avenue Southend On Sea Essex 01702 460133

Sun 10 Sep Shoreham RnR Shoreham Centre,
Pond Road, Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex Charlie
Gracie + Class Of 58 plus DJ 01903 243392

Sun 10 Sep Swamp Rock Club All Saints Arts
Centre, 122 Oakleigh Road North, London N12
Juke Joint Jump 020 8810 7454



Wed 13 Sep MFN (Shipley Boat) Shipley Gate,
Eastwood, Notts Boogie Children no details no
details



Thu 14 Sep Barnsley Hospital S&S Club Pogmoor
Road, Barnsley, S.Yorks S75 2EP Charlie
Gracie/Big Heat Jive Bop Record Hop/Dave B
07914 415986

Thu 14 Sep Begbrook RnR Club - S&B Stapleton &
Begbrook Community Club, Frenchay Park Road,
Bristol Moonshiners no details 0117 969 7326

Thurs 14 September 2006 Rock'n'Rollin' @ Tithe
Farm 151 Rayners Lane, Rayners Lane, Harrow,
Middx. HA2 0HX Classes & Club, Record Hop with
Rockin' Rico 8-11:30



Fri 15 Sep 3R's RnR Club Reading Civil Service
Club, James Lane, Burghfield, near Reading, Berks
RG30 3RS Rockin' The Joint Mick the Mike no
details

Fri 15 Sep Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular
Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 record hop only
(rockers n' classic bike night) Big Beat Kris 020
8961 1000

Fri 15 Sep Birdwell Club Sheffield Road, Birdwell,
Nr Barnsley, S.Yorks S70 5UY Rip It Up Clive the
Jive 01924 376141

Fri 15 Sep Chilton Catholic Club Brooklyn Road,
Chilton, near Ferryhill, County Durham DL17 0PW

record hop only (50's rock'n'roll) Rockin' Andy
01388 720856

Fri 15 Sep Hill Park Memorial WMC 78 Highlands
Road, Fareham, Hants PO15 6JD Kingcats Boppin
Robin 01329 280782

Fri 15 Sep Leabrooks Club Greenhill Lane,
Leabrooks, Nr Alfreton, Derbys DE55 1LU Gregg G
& his Crazy Gang Mr Jive 01773 833035

Fri 15 Sep March Jive Club Windmill Rooms,
Whitemoor Road, March, Cambs PE15 OAF Bad
Boys The Professor 07875 208291

Fri 15 Sep MBM's Mytchett Community centre, 140
Mytchett Road, Mytchett, Camberley, Surrey GU16
6AA Meanstreak Oh Boy Record Hop 01276
504898

Fri 15 Sep OuterLimitz - LA Ley Arms, Kenn, Exeter,
Devon EX6 7UW record hop only
(rockabilly/w.swing/jive/doo-wop) OuterLimitz DJ's
01626 872903

Fri 15 Sep John Lewis Rock N Roll Trio + Record
Hop The Market House High Street Weston
Supermare Free entry 8 til late 07821 765799

Fri 15 Sep Rosecroft Club Chelsfield Road,
Orpington, Kent Big Bad Shakin' (Germany) Pete
Bruce 01322 407110

Fri 15 Sep Showtime Enterprises Olympiad Leisure
Centre, Monkton Park, Chippenham, Wilts SN15
3PE Spitfires/Itchy Feet Trio/Black Cat/Stargazers/
see special events 0117 904 2658

Fri 15 Sep The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road,
Battersea, London SW8 4BX Alleycats n/a 020 7622
4001

Fri 15 Sep The Twickenham Boogie Chertsey Road
(A316), Whitton, Twickenham, Middsx
Revolutionaires Jumpin' Jim 020 8894 2772



Sat 16 Sep Bell Inn Creech St Michael, Taunton,
Somerset TA3 5DP Memphis Rockers no details
01823 443703

Sat 16 Sep Dino's Club Hady Social Club,
Houldsworth Drive, Hady, Chesterfield, Derbys S41
0BS tba Dino'sGoodRockin' Tonite 01246 281522

Sat 16 Sep Durley RnR Appreciation Society Durley
Memorial Hall, Durley, near Southampton, Hants tba

MAD RAT MAG

Switchback 023 8040 5121

Sat 16 Sep Easington Colliery Welfare Hall Seaside Lane, Easington Colliery, Easington, County Durham Spitfires n/a 01845 525293

Sat 16 Sep Hayes Cricket Club Grange Road, Hayes, Middsx record hop only (rockabilly/blues/rock'n'roll) Brendan 020 8573 4115

Sat 16 Sep Jive Party - Rivoli Rivoli Ballroom, 350 Brockley Road, Crofton Park, London SE4 2BY Jive Aces Ken/Graham 020 8946 2664

Sat 16 Sep Newmarket RnR Club Exning Road WMC, Newmarket, Suffolk Jack Rabbit Slim Rockin Lee's Record Machine 01638 750724

Sat 16 Sep 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 16 Sep Pink Cadillac Club - Onley Onley WMC, High Street, Olney, Bucks Rudy la Crioux & the All Stars no details 07940 368960

Sat 16 Sep Plinston Live Plinston Hall, The Broadway, Letchworth, Herts Juke Joint Jump/Oo Bop Sh' Bam Strollin Steve 01763 241301

Sat 16 Sep Preston RnR Club Deafway Centre, Brockholes Brow, Preston, Lancs Rusti Steel & The Red Hot Wranglers Cheshire Cat 01253 852594

Sat 16 Sep Riverside RnR Club Moorlands Club, Newark Road, Lincoln, Lincs Fat Cat Trio Skinny Jim 01522 750883

Sat 16 Sep Rockin' At The Legion British Legion, 399 High Road, Tottenham, London N17 5QX Reservoir Cats Dixie Sounds 07759 874167

Sat 16 Sep Roosters RnR Club - DI Danish Invader, Empingham Road, Stamford, Lincs PE9 2SX John Lewis Rock'n'Roll Trio Poor Boy Paul 01778 560664

Sat 16 Sep Rossington Welfare Social Club West End Lane, Rossington, Doncaster, S.Yorks Porky's Hot Rockin' Ol' Dell Boy 01302 863125

Sat 16 Sep Showtime Enterprises Olympiad Leisure Centre, Monkton Park, Chippenham, Wilts SN15 3PE Crazy Cavan & the Rhythm Rockers/ see special events 0117 904 2658

Sat 16 Sep Showtime Enterprises Olympiad Leisure Centre, Monkton Park, Chippenham, Wilts SN15

3PE House Rockers/Black Cat/Chas McDevitt see special events 0117 904 2658

Sat 16 Sep Showtime Enterprises Olympiad Leisure Centre, Monkton Park, Chippenham, Wilts SN15 3PE Wee Willie Harris/Red Hot/John Leyton/Rapiers see special events 0117 904 2658

Sat 16 Sep Thunderbird 2 RnR Club Embankment Club, Wellingborough Road, Wellingborough, Northants Big Bad Shakin' (Germany)/Strollers Dion 07973 703483

Sat 16 Sep Trimmingham House Caravan Park nr Mundesley, Norfolk Rhythm Boys no details 01603 488666

Sat 16 Sep Yeadon Town Hall High Street, Yeadon, Leeds, W.Yorks LS19 7PP Colin Paul & the Persuaders Swinging Sue 01274 641800



Sun 17 Sep BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Gregg G & his Crazy Gang Rockin' John 0117 976 8065

Sun 17 Sep Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Ghostriders n/a 020 8647 1951

Sun 17 Sep Link Club Parsloe Road, Harlow, Essex CM19
4RT Rockin' The Joint Strollin Steve 01763 241301

Sun 17 Sep Showtime Enterprises Olympiad Leisure Centre, Monkton Park, Chippenham, Wilts SN15 3PE Charlie Gracie/Strollers/Big Bad Shakin' (Germany) see special events 0117 904 2658

Sun 17 Sep Showtime Enterprises Olympiad Leisure Centre, Monkton Park, Chippenham, Wilts SN15 3PE Flying Saucers/Blue Flames/Rockin Gerry see special events 0117 904 2658

Sun 17 Sep The Sporting Green corner Hertford Road & Green Street, Enfield Highway, Enfield, London Slim Slip & the Sliders Captain Caveman 020 8926 8577

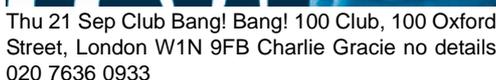
Sun 17 Sep The Woodgrange 62-64 Southchurch Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2RR Moonshiners Catman John or CJ the DJ 01702 460133



Tue 19 Sep Parklands Ballroom (ex ICI/Dupont SC), Wheatley Hall Road, Doncaster, S.Yorks Rock n Roll Knights Dave B 01302 884707



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



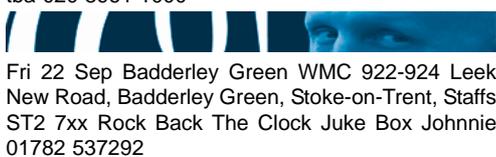
Thu 21 Sep Club Bang! Bang! 100 Club, 100 Oxford Street, London W1N 9FB Charlie Gracie no details 020 7636 0933

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

Thu 21 Sep Hanworth RnR Club Royal Naval Club, Park Road, Hanworth, Midds Tony & the Saints Wildcat Pete 01464 672605

Thu 21 Sep The Luminaire 311 Kilburn High Road, Kilburn, London NW6 7JR Wanda Jackson (USA) Ace Records staff 020 7372 7123

Fri 22 Sep Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 Sugar Creek Trio tba 020 8961 1000



Fri 22 Sep Badderley Green WMC 922-924 Leek New Road, Badderley Green, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs ST2 7xx Rock Back The Clock Juke Box Johnnie 01782 537292

Fri 22 Sep Birdwell Club Sheffield Road, Birdwell, Nr Barnsley, S.Yorks S70 5UY Danny & the Seniors Clive the Jive 01924 376141

Fri 22 Sep Borough Green RnR Club Village Hall, Borough Green, Kent Charlie Gracie + Class Of 58 plus DJ 01732 887033

Fri 22 Sep Dale Tavern West Street, Worsborough Dale, Barnsley, Yorks S70 5PG AV8tors Dave B 01226 205611

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

Fri 22 Sep Inn On The Park - Skegness Tower Gardens, Rutland Road, Skegness, Lincs PE25 2AX Sugar Creek Trio (8pm) see special events 01754 898029

Fri 22 Sep Mayfair Club Birch Road, Louth, Lincs record hop only (40's & 50's) Jump Jive Alive 01472 230037

Fri 22 Sep OuterLimitz - LA Ley Arms, Kenn, Exeter,

Devon EX6 7UW Bonneville Barons (rockabilly club) OuterLimitz DJ's 01626 872903

Fri 22 Sep Skegness RnR Society Richmond Park Holiday Camp, Richmond Drive, Skegness, Lincs PE25 3TQ Rudy la Crioux & the All Stars see special events 0115 932 2897

Fri 22 Sep Taunton RnR Club North Petherton RFC, Beggars Brook, North Petherton, Somerset record hop only Paul Stamps 01823 332180

Fri 22 Sep Ye Olde St Annes Castle Main Road, Great Leighs, Essex record hop only (rockabilly/rock'n'roll/jive) Maurice's Rocking Machine 01245 361253



Sat 23 Sep Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 record hop only (Hank Williams/Johnny Cash night) Big Beat Kris 020 8961 1000

Sat 23 Sep Bentley WMC (Top Club) Mill Gate, off High Street, Bentley, Doncaster, S.Yorks DN5 0DF Jump & Jive no details no details

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

Sat 23 Sep Cobham Village Hall Lushington Drive, Cobham, Surrey KT11 2LU B17s no details 01932 868905

Sat 23 Sep Conservative Club - Chadderton Stanley Road (off A62), Chadderton, Oldham, Lancs Cadillacs no details 0161 624 7721

Sat 23 Sep Crondall RnR Club The Village Hall, Crondall, near Farnham, Surrey GU10 5QG Heartbreakers Oh Boy Record Hop 07903 145018

Sat 23 Sep Elvis Convention - Arena Holidays Quebec Road, Mablethorpe, Lincs LN12 1QJ Alleycats (9pm) see special events 01394 691203

Sat 23 Sep Holiday Rock RnR Club Royal British Legion, Heath and Reach, near Leighton Buzzard, Beds Rock Back The Clock Tartan Ted 01525 372994

Sat 23 Sep Inn On The Park - Skegness Tower Gardens, Rutland Road, Skegness, Lincs PE25 2AX Rhythm Aces (4pm)/Infernos (8pm) see special events 01754 898029

Sat 23 Sep Lilycroft WMC 55 Toller Lane, Bradford, Yorks BD8 9DD DeSoto Six Paul'n'Pete 01535 274764

Sat 23 Sep Melksham RnR Club Assembly Hall, Market Place, Melksham, Wilts Sundowners Cockney Rebel 01225 706463

Sat 23 Sep Ritz Ballroom 73 Bradford Road, Brighouse, W.Yorks Jive Street Bradford Dude 01274 392380

Sat 23 Sep Skegness RnR Society Richmond Park Holiday Camp, Richmond Drive, Skegness, Lincs PE25 3TQ Alleycats (2.30pm) see special events 0115 932 2897

Sat 23 Sep Starfighter RnR Club Village Hall, Wrenningham, near Norwich, Norfolk Smokey Mountain Boys Rockin' Roland 01508 494735

Sun 24 Sep BAWA Club Bristol Aerospace Welfare Assoc, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol Phil Haley & his Comments Rockin' John 0117 976 8065

Sun 24 Sep Carshalton Ex-Servicemens Club West Street, Carshalton, Surrey Cavaliers n/a 020 8647 1951

Sun 24 Sep The Houserockers Woodgrange Southchurch Avenue Southend On Sea Essex 01702 460133

Sun 24 Sep Ex-Servicemens Club - Northampton Sheep Street, Northampton, Northants Meanstreak (afternoon 4pm - 7pm) AJ The Rockin' DJ/JukeBoxQueen 01604 493713

Sun 24 Sep Inn On The Park - Skegness Tower Gardens, Rutland Road, Skegness, Lincs PE25 2AX Hicksville Bombers (6pm) see special events 01754 898029

Sun 24 Sep Skegness RnR Society Richmond Park Holiday Camp, Richmond Drive, Skegness, Lincs PE25 3TQ Ian Fenn & the Starcats see special events 0115 932 2897

Sun 24 Sep Stafford RnR Club White Eagle Polish Club, Riverway, Stafford, Staffs Spitfires Jukebox Johnny 01785 240140

Mon 25 Sep Elvis Convention - Arena Holidays Quebec Road, Mablethorpe, Lincs LN12 1QJ Miss Rock'n'Roll see special events 01394 691203

Tue 26 Sep Ace Café Ace Corner, Old North Circular Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 Jack Rabbit Slim Bill Guntrip 020 8961 1000

Thu 28 Sep Elvis Convention - Arena Holidays Quebec Road, Mablethorpe, Lincs LN12 1QJ Gregg G & his Crazy Gang see special events 01394 691203

Thursday 28 September 2006 Rock'n'Rollin' @ Tithe Farm 151 Rayners Lane, Rayners Lane, Harrow, Middx. HA2 0HX Classes & Club, Record Hop with Rockin' Rico 8-11:30

Fri 29 Sep Barnsley RnR Team - BHSSC Barnsley Hospital Sports & Social Club, Pogmoor Road, Barnsley, S.Yorks S75 2EP Al Kilvo & the Aces Jive Bop Record Hop 01977 613841

Fri 29 Sep Basingstoke RnR Club Westside Community Association, Paddock Road, South Ham, Basingstoke, Hants RG22 6QB Blast Off Rockin Billy 01256 462305

Fri 29 Sep Bop A Boogies War Memorial Club, Innage Road, Shifnal, Shrops TF11 8AD Slim Slip & the Sliders Ramblin' Rich 07890 748716

Fri 29 Sep British Railway RnR Club Broad Green, Wellingborough, Northants Charlie Gracie + Class Of 58 Houndog Jim 07748 306989

Fri 29 Sep Hillside Club (ex-Western Club), 357a Derby Road, Lenton, Nottingham, Notts TR & the Rockets Kool Kat Charlie 07901 766863

Fri 29 Sep Jive Inn RnR Club Bridgewater Sport & Social Club, Bath Road, Bridgewater, Somerset Crazee Jay & the Partytimers Tel'Star 01823 259193

Fri 29 Sep Lady's Mile Holiday Park Dawlish, Devon EX7 0LX Be Bop Daddies no details 01626 863411

Fri 29 Sep OuterLimitz - LA Ley Arms, Kenn, Exeter, Devon EX6 7UW record hop only (rockabilly/w.swing/jive/doo-wop) OuterLimitz DJ's 01626 872903

Fri 29 Sep Rolls Royce Club Moore Lane, Allenton, Derbys DE24 9HY Gregg G & his Crazy Gang plus DJ 0115 849 6008

Fri 29 Sep Saddlers RnR Saddlers Club, Bescot

Stadium, Bescot Crescent, Walsall, W.Midlands
WS1 4SA Ian Fenn & the Starcats plus DJ 01902
561921

Fri 29 Sep South Wales RnR Club British Legion
Club, Penlline Road, Whitchurch, Cardiff, S.Wales
Rockin' The Joint Crazee Dave 029 2061 9271

Fri 29 Sep The Foyer University House, University
of Sheffield, Western Bank, Sheffield, S.Yorks S10
2TN Dominic Halpin & the Honey Bs n/a 0114 222
8777

Fri 29 Sep The Pavilion 135 Battersea Park Road,
Battersea, London SW8 4BX TTs n/a 020 7622
4001

Friday 29 September 2006 Band Nights a' Rockin'
with Berni Woods & the Forest Fires @ Loudwater
Royal British Legion £7 Queensmead Road,
Loudwater, High Wycombe, Bucks. HP10 9TZ



Sat 30 Sep Brighton Rumble The Engine Rooms,
Preston Street, Brighton, E.Sussex Slim Slip & the
Sliders no details 07961 390084

Sat 30 Sep Clacton Club 60-62 Station Road,
Clacton-on-Sea, Essex SG1 5QU Rapides no
details 01438 236333

Sat 30 Sep Southern Jivers The B17's + DJ
DingerTriangle Club EEC Sports and Social Club
Duke Street Chelmsford CM1 1QH 07767 745770

Sat 30 Sep Crescent WMC 8 The Crescent (rear of
the Odeon), York, N.Yorks Jets plus DJ 01904
690311

Sat 30 Sep Festival Inn Ilkeston Road, Trowell,
Notts NG9 3PX Rockin' The Joint plus DJ 0115 932
2897

Sat 30 Sep It's Only Rock'n'Roll Sale Masonic
Lodge, Sale, Cheshire Juke Box Eddies Jivin' Jim
Killey 0161 929 0413

Sat 30 Sep Junction 27 RnR - LFC
Jellybean Rhythm Stompers (note different venue)
Dave B

Sat 30 Sep Kessingland Beach Holiday Park Beach
Road, Kessingland, Suffolk Gregg G & his Crazy
Gang no details no details

Sat 30 Sep Little Lever WMC 56 Church Street,
Bolton, Lancs BL3 1BE Ian Fenn & the Starcats

Sat 30 Sep 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 30 Sep Nifty Fifties RnR Club - LLC Lowton
Labour Club, 214 Newton Road, Lowton, Cheshire
Seatsniffers (Belgium)/Blue Flames Cheshire Cat
Tom 01942 724166

Sat 30 Sep North Staffs RnR Club Joiners Square
Community Hall, Cornes Street, Hanley, Stoke-on-
Trent, Staffs Crazee Jay & the Partytimers no details
01782 373310

Sat 30 Sep Port Slade Town Hall Victoria Road, Port
Slade, Sussex tba Stompin' Steve + guest 07745
453765

Sat 30 Sep Ritz Ballroom 73 Bradford Road,
Brighouse, W.Yorks Tonemasters Bradford Dude
01274 392380

Sat 30 Sep The Pig & Truffle Oxford Street, Weston-
super-Mare, Somerset BS23 1TF Memphis '56 no
details 01934 414094

Sat 30 Sep The Web Spiders Web, 256-260
Morrison Street, Edinburgh, Lothian EH6 8DT Jack
Baymoore's Hillbilly Band/Tennessee Drifters Tojo
0131 476 2209

Sat 30 Sep Virginia Creepers Club The Water Rats
Theatre, 328 Grays Inn Road, Kings Cross, London
WC1 Jim Carlisle & the Jumping Jacks plus Al & the
Black Cats (USA)
Danny/Big Beat Kris 07956 295842

Sat 30 Sep Rhythm & Blues Revue Worthing
Assembly Hall, Stoke Abbott Road, Worthing, West
Sussex The Jive Aces + Oo-Bop-Sh'Bam 01273
560480

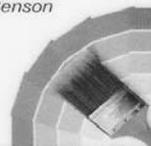
Sat 30th Sept the B52 Club Diner
Eastern Perimeter Road Rochford Essex
The Rhythm Boys and Radar Record Hop
01268 457767

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AT THE FLICHS THE NOTORIOUS BETTIE PAGE

A film review by Wildkat Mike

Bettie Page has found a niche in the consciousness of the rockin' crowd in the last few years, although sometimes one wonders whether that interest is more because she more often than not posed in a variety of exotic lingerie than anything else.

No doubt anyone who goes to see this film will have to contend with a handful of lecherous males in the audience, and I must admit to more than a passing interest in beautiful women wearing silk and satin lingerie! However, after a while those base desires tend to take a back seat as one discovers that actually this is a bloody well made film!

Notorious is a lovingly rendered film and Gretchen Mol is utterly convincing, it's easy to believe that Gretchen Mol IS Bettie, even though she doesn't really look like her. But it's also a very honest performance, with Mol cheerfully recreating some of Bettie's most famous poses - which these days seem more comic than erotic.



Bettie Page was, of course, a real person and a world famous pin-up. Mary Harron, who co-wrote the script with Guinevere Turner, takes us back to Bettie's beginnings in the Deep South. A good girl, Betty dreams of being a actress, but is also a

quiet, intelligent A student. After an early unsuccessful marriage, and being sexually assaulted, Bettie leaves the South and heads for New York where she takes acting classes.

Her acting career goes nowhere, though she meets a nice boy, Marvin, but poses for a photographer who she meets on the beach. Her willingness to strip off, and the vitality and joy that she radiated in shots soon found her work, mainly with the Klawns who run a small fetish studio and make films for private clients. Bettie's sweet, cheerful good-nature sees nothing wrong in posing in leather and stilettos, pretending to hit other models with a riding crop - as long as she's happy and making others happy, it's fine with her. Gradually her work becomes better and better known, and

eventually her fame causes some conflicts between her and Marvin. Of course, this being the repressive 1950s, police are constantly on the look out for anything of a sexual nature, and when the Klawns - and consequently Bettie - find themselves the subject of a senatorial investigation Bettie's notoriety was assured - and her career over.



The only problem with the film it's that it never really seems to get under Bettie's skin. There are hints that she was abused as a child; as an adult she exudes natural sexuality and an innocently healthy quality; she also never, ever seems to question what she's doing, even when she's posing bound with a snooker ball in her mouth. She seems to love Marvin, but we're never sure what their living arrangements are, or if they plan to marry; she also cheats on him when on vacation in Florida. Visually it's a treat, with Harron recreating a noir feel for New York, reminiscent of Good Night and Good Luck, contrasting with Bettie's trips to Florida, filmed in garish Technicolor like South Pacific.

But there are no real emotional highs or lows, very little depth to Bettie's character. Quite often one sits there wondering why the main character does this or that or why certain people acted the way they did, and the film sadly, doesn't provide the answers. The film is good, but could have been so much better, if it had portrayed the events and the political machinations behind them in more depth, rather than just gloss over most of them.

Wildkat Mike

Official website:

<http://www.thenotoriousbettiepage.com/>

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 <p>FORD TRANSIT 190 Wide body Coachbuilt, diesel, 2 berth, lower: bathroom, good upholstery, a good conversion, 3 owners, appliances hardly used, MOT until October, smooth drive..... £25,995</p>	 <p>FORD TRANSIT 190 Wide body Coachbuilt, diesel, 2 berth, lower: bathroom, good upholstery, a good conversion, 3 owners, appliances hardly used, MOT until October, smooth drive..... £25,995</p>	 <p>FORD TRANSIT 190 Wide body Coachbuilt, diesel, 2 berth, lower: bathroom, good upholstery, a good conversion, 3 owners, appliances hardly used, MOT until October, smooth drive..... £25,995</p>	 <p>FORD TRANSIT 190 Wide body Coachbuilt, diesel, 2 berth, lower: bathroom, good upholstery, a good conversion, 3 owners, appliances hardly used, MOT until October, smooth drive..... £25,995</p>

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Dear Mad Rat,

I would like to reply to the letter from Dave in your April issue.

In the first instance I had booked The Wildkatz and Deuces Wild some months ago for an agreed fee. However four weeks before the gig I heard a rumour that Trevor had left so tried to contact the band to establish my position in relation to the gig.

I was unable to make contact so left several messages and a band member got back to me a week prior to the gig stating that Trevor was no longer with them and that they would still come as the Wildkatz but that Deuces Wild would be replaced by a psychobilly band. This was not acceptable to me since my club members were expecting rock'n'roll music.

The fee reduction as described in the April issue was for £100 and not £150 as stated which I felt was fair given that the band had in fact altered the original arrangement without informing me. I did feel the replacement band was inappropriate but still offered the Wildkatz to come and play for the stated fee reduction but they refused.

Like Dave, I too am steeped in the music but as a club organizer, I would like bands to contact me well in advance of any changes to the booking. This ensures that any grey areas especially concerning fees can be resolved to both parties satisfaction and any changes to the club programme can be published well in advance to prevent club members from being dissatisfied with unexplained changes.

Phil Launders -
Roosters Rock'n'Roll Club, Stamford.



Dear Readers

I work for an Inspector at Weston-super-Mare Police Station, and last September, I had an idea of producing a Police Calendar, with all proceeds going to a local children's charity called Safety Zone. Since then I have been fund-raising, and now have enough money to pay for the printing of the calendar.

The calendar is, at the moment, at Police HQ having its final art work done, and then will be off to their print shop, and hopefully, at the latter end of August, I will have 5000 calendars to sell!!!

Hopefully we will do well - I shall be selling them at £5 each, which will be a bargain as they are A3 size, and very good quality. All the months feature different film themes from

The Good, The Bad and the Gorgeous to Viva Las Weston and Officer Jones Pocket Book. Also all the pictures have been taken around Weston, which I believe will be good publicity for the town. Police Officers and civilian staff have all given up their spare time to help make this venture a success. To mark the launch of the Calendar, I have arranged a 1940's/50 Ball at The Royal Hotel, South Parade, in Weston-super-Mare. 8 pm. - 1 a.m. Saturday 16th September Tickets are £10 each and can be obtained by phoning 01934 638129.

I'm proposing that this will be a glamorous Oscar night, with Oscars handed out for the best male, female, costume, etc. I am also hoping to have red carpet and paparazzi outside as well, just to make the evening more fun. I've booked The Stargazers, a 1940's/50's swing/jive band for the evening, and also have a rock n roll DJ. Over the last 10 months I've managed to acquire numerous items from various sources to auction. At the Ball, one of these will be a signed photograph of Arnold Schwarzenegger in an official folder saying "Arnold Schwarzenegger - Governor of California." (Of course it is spelled correctly on that! I am hoping that this evening will be a big success, raising much needed money for a worthwhile cause, and I would be grateful if you could possibly find a small space to advertise it for us!

Unfortunately, I wouldn't be able to pay you, but I'm sure that with your many readers, the charity would benefit greatly.....

With best wishes Shirley Daly.



Dear Rat Fans

I write to apologise on behalf of Juke Joint Jump, to the promoters and all those who attended Hiam Rock 'n' Roll Club on Friday, 11th August and The Scarborough Spa Complex on Saturday, 12th August expecting to see the Band perform. Our absence was due to the airport disruptions of Thursday, 10th and the resultant cancellation of the flight following a gig in Italy. The earliest flight me and others from the band could get was at 10.30 p.m. on Saturday night from an airport some 300 miles from the original. Thanks to the promoters for their understanding and apologies again to all.

Regards

Paul Richardson



Hi Spike,

I am double bass player for gloucestershire based band, somethin else and am also a regular reader of your great mag. A couple of issues ago there was an article about Border radio in Texas and you gave their website address which I logged onto, sent them our cd which our track 30 days is at number 9 (and still climbing) in their rocking chart. Cheers mate for the information, if it wasn't for you this wouldn't have happened.

Good luck with your mag.
Rocking Regards, Terry.



BAND PROFILE **Midnight Shift**

Midnight Shift consists of two brothers: George; slap bass and vocals; and can the boy sing! He has played slap bass for many years with various bands, Cut Records, etc... (Apparently one of his records with the Oakville Tune Wranglers turned up on a rare record site in Holland at a very good price) Colin; does the business with the axe, playing a Gibson Chet Atkins Country Gent. Brandon; plays the drums. Has played for 6+ years, also has experience with Ice Cold/Darrel Higham on the slap bass trying to follow in his dad's footsteps (Nick Hoadley, Cordwood Draggers)



He also has cut records with other bands and currently works with the band (Midnight Shift) and also helps other bands, so basically a session

worker, so if ya need him get in touch and I'm sure the band will let him go for a night or two!!.

Think, Sun Records and that is their sound. They keep things very raw and basic...

Think, early Elvis, Carl Perkins. Midnight Shift play rockabilly but are adapting and adding some rock and roll classics to play for the jivers amongst us. Midnight Shift were originally a four piece family rock and roll band but it was disbanded after the skins and strings decided to either have more children or go to America and get married! Midnight Shift originally started with George playing with his son who was learning guitar in his shed (sorry office!). Colin was into classical guitar and played mostly to himself and anyone else that was curious enough to listen. Then one day George asked if he would go along and add a bit of lead. This was quite a change for Colin who was not used to playing with a bit of plastic on steel strings.

At first they couldn't even do one song together, but after many hours of listening to early Elvis and reading about Scotty Moore's style.

Colin bought a thumb pick and was able to play Mystery Train. Wayne, (George's son) was by then able to string along three chords and between them they made a reasonable sound. George's daughter was then asked to play drums, and despite never having played before, she approached it with her usual enthusiasm, learned to play... after mishaps and moving on, we've found a new drummer Brandon. After much thought, Midnight Shift are pleased to announce that Brandon has agreed to join as the regular drummer... not yet in his twenties, we see him as an asset who can only improve with age and experience, already with experience, this can't be hard!

Midnight Shift have a fantastic 7 track demo which is a true and believable reflection of what your gonna get. Contact the band for details

contact: Brandon @
madaboutpocket@hotmail.com
contact: The band @
midnight_shift@hotmail.com

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Welcome to 'Duke's Bar', a place where you can relax with your drink of choice and talk rockabilly while tucking into your favourite meal. All this in an establishment that was designed as it would have been in the early to mid 1950s. Meet Duke your barman, you can bend his ear on most subjects' rockabilly, but more than likely he will dig information out of you.

It was as hot as hell last week and I was in the bar early, filling shelves and checking stock, but mainly I was there to feel the benefit of the air-conditioning. While I was cleaning some Jack Daniels' Old No 7 nip glasses, I noticed a yellow 1954 Cadillac coupe Deville pulling into the car park. After a brief period of jealousy, I noticed my buddy Phil White was the driver. After all those years he has finally got his pride and joy on the road.

Every time we bump into each other we talk rockabilly music and although we both love it, our opinions on it differ greatly.

Phil is five years younger than I am (so that makes him a very young dude), but we got into the rockin' scene at about the same time. Our paths must have crossed several times over the years but it was only just recently that we became friends and realised how different our views were on the rockin' scene of today were.

I offered him a Kronenbourg 1664 (I wanted to get him talking), but he asked for a fruit smoothie and vegetarian salad. Cool, I'll pick his brains over breakfast. I got the conversation started by asking what lead him down the rockabilly path. He took a sip of his smoothie, considered the question carefully, and then replied;

"I first got into rock 'n' roll in 1976 when I was 11 years old. I found the music in the 1970's had nothing to offer me and got into the '50's stuff first from a friend called Ricky Appleby and then from a number of people at my school. There was a rock 'n' roll club at lunchtimes run by a teacher who taught us to dance, but this was closed down, I believe, due to objections from other teachers as they didn't like Ted's, and for other reasons (put it this way, it was an early example of political correctness). The first club I went to was 'The

Lyceum' in the Strand when I had reached the grand age of twelve! Sometimes I was let in other times I bunked in! I saw Crazy Cavan and the Rhythm Rockers there, and Shakin' Stevens and the Sunsets. I quickly moved more to the American look of baseball jacket and Levi red tags (502's not 501's) and when the rockabilly thing became a breakaway group from the Ted's I was there. This was about summer 1977 when we were fighting the Punks (one thing I really regret in my life, it was wrong)."

I told Phil that I thought most of us that were around at the time felt regrets about what we got up to along Kings Road in Chelsea at the time. They (Punk Rockers) were rebelling against the music that was around at the time, as the Teddy Boys did back in the 1950's.

Phil complemented me on the salad and then carried on with his story;

"I was and still am into British motorbikes and did dress as a rocker at times (oh, oh, from plastic Ted to plastic Rocker!!). I stuck with the scene apart from being into the Cramps and then the Meteors for a very short time in 1980 - 1981."

I responded by saying I never did get into the Cramps myself, although I do know that they put a lot of people around at the time on to rockabilly music. The Meteors I never got at all. Phil drank some more of his smoothie, shrugged his shoulders and continued.

"During the 1980's I got so entrenched in the scene that I really didn't know what was going on in the then current music scene apart from the few rockin' acts that got in the charts (I was, and still am, good mates with Tim and Phil Polecat). But I think the Stray Cats were one of the worst things that happened to the scene - awful band and an awful influence on the scene. I could go on forever with my opinions on them!"

I told Phil that on the subject of the Stray Cats I believe they did a good thing for rockabilly, but maybe not musically. I like some of their material, but most for me was too heavy and some of Brain Setzer's songs were too similar (I am being diplo-

matic here) to 1950's recordings to sound anything like an original tune! But one thing they did do was making the record companies dig into their vaults and re-release old rockabilly tracks that were long deleted from sales. I also saw Crazy Cavan and the Rhythm Rockers and Shakin' Stevens and the Sunsets back in the 1970's too, but back then Shaky spoke with a Welsh accent, not the Memphis drawl he picked up after finding fame in the 1980's. Shaky music also made record companies dig into their archives in search of rare and hidden tracks. The downside to this was the fact that they also re-released a lot of bad tunes too.

I decided to spice the conversation up a bit by asking Phil what he thought of modern rockabilly bands. This was his reply;

"My opinion on modern rockabilly bands is that they are boring and they are boring to watch, they either do covers so close to the original fifties recordings that there is no point to them at all. Or they throw modern songs in (by modern I mean post '59!), what's all this 'Hey Joe' rubbish about? I haven't seen a good stage act on the rockin' scene for years. And why oh why do the D.J.'s play records by these new bands? Especially covers of great original records. The northern soul scene doesn't do this; it is all about the original



music and before you ask Duke, I don't care for northern soul, but I like the purity of that scene."

After Phil explained that he mentioned Northern Soul as a comparison, I clicked into what he was getting at.

Okay now for the carrot, what did he think was the ultimate 1950's Rockabilly recording?

"As for the perfect recording from an original rockabilly artist it is so hard to pick one. Let me first say that I would be quite content to spend the rest

of my life listening to Gene Vincent and nothing else!! 'Bebopalula' is my all time favourite record, however he is really in a category of his own, not strictly rockabilly. So it would have to be Jack Earls, or Pat Cupp, or Charlie Feathers, or Mac Curtis, or Carl

Perkins, or Roy Orbison (most of the Sun stuff anyway), oh yeah, that other bloke Elvis - the first and best rockabilly (king of rock 'n' roll where Gene is the GOD of rock 'n' roll!). If you need to ask why I like this stuff you'll never get it!"

Now this is where Phil and I totally agree with each other. We both saw Jack Earls at the Rave and straight away we agreed that what we saw was excellent.

But with my next question, we ended back at square one. I asked Phil what he thought of the rockin' scene at present.

"Ho, ho, ho, it's bloody awful and, in Britain especially, it's dying on its feet. It has been so watered down with the emphasis in the clubs being around so few records and a large dose of bad sixties garage and modern bands' records. The only young people into it are the kids of people my age who are on the scene. Most of the girls and a lot of the blokes make no effort to dress rockin'. Don't those tattoos look bad after a few years eh?"

(Phil smiles every time he sees my bad Elvis tattoo).

"Lets hear the brilliant original records again and could the D.J.'s please stop playing from the same play list. There is room for new stuff* on the scene, but somewhere along the line the important stuff (original rockabilly music) has got lost. I have no problem with people having different tastes in music to me, but when I pay to go to a rockabilly gig, that's what I want to hear, not the Sonics, Johnny Cash's last album (nothing wrong with it, but not rockabilly) or 'Word up'. There is so much good stuff that people on the scene now have never heard."

I had to agree with Phil there, I am always coming across music that I have not heard before and the records that I bopped to when I was 16 (Slow Down - Jack Earls, If I Had Me A Woman - Mac Curtis, etc.) I still listen to now, although the bop-pin' ceased a few years ago.

Phil finished his food, drained the last of his smoothie, left a handsome tip, said his goodbyes and drove off in his '54 yellow Cadillac coupe

Deville and once again my jealousy returned.

I wondered to myself who my next rockin' customer would be, I get so many of them in here these days, all willing to answer my questions as long as the drinks keep flowing. Tune in next month to find out...

Duke

* Phil explains more. "What I meant about that there is room for new stuff is that the scene should still be based mainly around the original stuff? The scene will never be new and wild again as we are dealing with a musical style that is over 50 years old now. However, there is room for new bands and records whether I like them or not, but I really feel the emphasis should be on all that original stuff, as I feel that the scene has really lost it's way. I have already said how I think the scene has been watered down with sixties garage etc. During the early 1980's when bands like 'The Polecats', 'The Deltas', 'The Bluecats', etc. were big I don't recall their records being played at the clubs (mainly original stuff was played) but they were a great live draw. They had an exciting stage presence that is sorely missing in today's bands, even though some of today's bands have a more 'authentic' sound they are boring to watch. Why do I want to hear a new band do a note for note cover of a Sun record when I can listen to (the superior) original record? Also why are those 1970's-1980's bands written off as 'neo rockabilly', I can assure you that they were 100 % into the original stuff.

Now to the new bands that you mention, I'm pretty sure that I have seen them all, but I must admit that I was underwhelmed by them all. The only one that I really remember out of the ones you have mentioned in the past is 'The Go Getters'. Sorry Pete, you seem like a nice bloke but I have seen your band three times and the only thing that sticks in my mind is a very poor cover of a Ramones track. 'The Ramones' were a great band, but were firmly influenced by the early sixties Phil Spector wall of sound, not rockabilly. It brings to mind mistakes made by 'The Polecats' with likes of 'John I'm Only Dancing'.

Why is it that many a new rockabilly band only comes into their own when backing an original artist like the late Ronnie Dawson, or Jack Earls etc.? I think it is because those original artists put the zing into the stage show - they have stage presence or charisma (whatever you want to call it).

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