

ALTERNATIVE ULSTER ALTERNATIVE ULSTER ALTERNATIVE ULSTER

Nº 31 "w'ere so bored
with d.d.t."

25p



'GREENHOUSE
GUITAR
DOORS'

"CLASH CITY ROCKERIES!"

L.A.M.F.

WE'RE ALREADY WELL INTO 1978 AND THE NEW-WAVE SCENE IN N. IRELAND HAS REACHED A VERY INTERESTING STAGE. AT LEAST ONE OF OUR OWN BANDS IS ON THE VERGE OF A "BREAK-THROUGH" OF SOME DESCRIPTION. THE BAND, OF COURSE, IS STIFF LITTLE FINGERS. AS THE BAND THEMSELVES KNOW, "A.U." HAS BEEN CHAMPIONING THEIR CAUSE FOR SOME TIME NOW. WE TRY TO DO THAT WITH ANY GOOD, POTENTIALLY GREAT BAND. STIFFS' CURRENT POSITION, HOWEVER, IS IMPORTANT IN THE SENSE THAT THEY ARE THE 1ST OF OUR BANDS TO REACH A POSITION OF THIS SORT. EVERYBODY HERE AT "A.U." HAS GREAT RESPECT FOR THE INTEGRITY OF JAKE, ALLY AND THE OTHERS, YET WE MUST ADMIT TO FEELING VERY DISAPPOINTED. JAKE'S RECENT INTERVIEW IN N.M.E. AND HIS APPARENT ACCEPTANCE OF COLIN "MUCKY PRESS-CAT" McCLELAND'S OVERLORDSHIP IS, TO SAY THE LEAST, WORRYING. WE NEED A BAND THAT WILL SHOCK, A BAND, IN SHORT, THAT WILL FORCE THE SICK, BIGOTTED AND INSECURE ULSTER POPULATION TO REALISE THAT, AS DYLAN PUT IT, "SOMETHING'S GOIN' ON" AMONG THEIR KIDS. STIFFS COULD KICK INTO ACTION WOT ROGE, GAV. & I TERM THE "ALTERNATIVE ULSTER". TAKE THE EXAMPLE OF THEIR FORTHCOMING IRISH TOUR: THIS SHOULD BE "AN EVENT", WITH STIFFS BATTLING TO SAY SOMETHING TO MUSIC AND, MORE IMPORTANT, THOUGHT STARVED ULSTER KIDS. INSTEAD, THE TOUR SEEMS TO HAVE THE POINT OF A GLEEFUL

ROMP AROUND THE PROVINCE DISTRIBUTING "I'M A SUSPECT DEVICE" BADGES TO KIDS WHO HAVEN'T THE FOGGIEST NOTION OF WOT THE PHRASE THEY, SPORT MEANS, COZ THEY'RE BEING PRIMARILY SUCKED-IN TO THE "MUCKY-PRESS-CAT'S" BIG-BUSINESS SCHEMES. MEANING & ENLIGHTENMENT (GOD KNOWS, THEY ARE PRECIOUS GEMS IN ULSTER'S WASTELAND) BECOME PRODUCT & UNITS TO SHIFT. ITS ALMOST TOO HORRIBLE TO THINK ABOUT. YOU COULD ALMOST INTERPRET IT AS SOME GREEDY, STUPID BASTARD DENYING YOU A FUTURE... ITS SICK....

McCLELAND IS ONE OF THE LEADING CULPRITS. HE RECENTLY ATTACKED ONE OF US IN HIS LAUGHABLE "THING" IN THE "SUNDAY SCREWS". HE INFERRED WE DID "A.U." FOR MONEY. CHRIST, IF ONLY HE KNEW! WE DO THIS, NOT AS A HOBBY, BUT AS A DUTY, A TASK, SURE, WE'LL SELL IT TO BLOCKED NOUVEAU-RICHE UPSTARTS (AS PLAGUED & FELL AROUND THE GREENHATCHEN THE WED. NITE HE REFERS TO), BUT WE DO IT TO MAKE SURE THE NEXT "A.U." COMES OUT. OUR "MUCKY PRESS CAT'S" CLEARLY OBSESSED WITH THE IDEA OF MONEY, SO MUCH SO THAT HE INTERPRETS OTHER PEOPLE'S ACTIONS THROUGH THIS IDEA. READ SOME BERNARD SHAW, LAD, IT MITE HELP! YOU WORK IN A NO FUTURE JOB IN, A NO FUTURE LAND & YOU'RE SMUG & CONTENTED. YOU USE WORDS TO MAKE MONEY FOR YOURSELF, NOT TO COMMUNICATE MEANINGFULLY. NOW YOU'RE TRYING TO DO THE SAME WITH MUSIC - DO US A FAVOUR, YOU WORTHLESS, SMUG AND EVIL PIECE OF DOG'S VOMIT, STICK TO SATISFYING MR. & MRS. AVERAGE OF CAVEHILL WITH YOUR PAINTED DIAROEHA.....

THE ABOVE EXAMPLE OF A "WASTED LIFE" (SORRY, JAKE, BUT THE

IRONIES IN YOUR LYRICS ARE INCREDIBLE!) IS A WILL NOT BE THE ONLY ONE OF COURSE. ITS A WRETCHED PIECE OF ADVICE, BUT STRUMMER SHELLEY HAVE CONVINCED ME OF ITS WORTH IN THE PAST, ALL OUR BANDS & INDIVIDUAL NEW-WAVERS MUST BEWARE, MUST HA THEIR WITS ABOUT THEM IN ALL SITUATIONS. IT OFTEN DOES COME DOWN TO US AND THEM....

ON TO MORE PLEASANT THINGS. I'VE BEEN VERY IMPRESSED BY OTHER "UPCOMING BANDS" PARTICULARLY "RUDI" (OF COURSE!), "PROTEX-BLUE" AND THE EXCELLENT "VICTIM". PROTEX ARE YOUNG, FAN AND (THANK GOD IN MIND OF THE UNFORTUNATE NAMED "STIFFS") RIGHTLY WRECKLESS ON STAGE. THEY ARE ONE OF THE MOST EXCITING YOUNG BANDS I'VE SEEN THIS YEAR. GOOD ON YER LAD. "VICTIM" ARE SIMPLY A SUPERB, GOOD-TIME ROCK/ROLL SHOW. I DON'T THINK THEY COULD EVER PLAY A "BAD" SET NOW THAT COLIN'S GOT THEM TOGETHER AS WITH "RUDI", WHOSE SINGLE MITE BE OBTAINED FREE IN THESE PAGES, WE HOPE THEIR DEBUT 45 DOES WELL!

AT THIS POINT, I JUST WISH TO SAY THE PATTI SMIVE IS THE BIGGEST LOAD OF SPECIOUS CRAP THIS SIDE OF JOHNNY COUGHLIN. IF YOU WANT AN IDOL, AN EXTRAORDINARY HAND BEING, TO WORSHIP PLUM FOR G.T. PARKER OR ED HOLLIS, THEY DO HAVE GEM

"ALTERNATIVE ULSTER" IS : DAVE ANGRY, GAV, ROGE. [formerly the gr. Gory

OUR THANKS TO : GOOD VIBRATIONS, CAROL RECORD + TAPE CENTRE, BANGOR + ALL OUR LONDON FRIENDS ESP. AT ALBATROSS + ROUGH TRADE + VIRGIN + COMPENDIUM FOR STOCKING A.U.

SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO CENTRE, 106 ABBEY ST., BANGOR. LEAVE THEM IN WITH TERRI AT "GOOD VIBES"

GOOD VIBRATIONS

Backing their artists —

RUDI

Victim

OUTCASTS IDIOTS

FLYING SQUAD

ALL THE WAY

GOOD VIBRATIONS

THE BIG RIP OFF

GOOD VIBRATIONS

IN A PLOY TO DRUM UP SALES ON THE FIRST SINGLE BY RUDI - "BIG TIME" RIP OFF THE VOUCHER + GET THE SINGLE FOR A MERE 50p (The cunning devils!!) AT ADDRESS BELOW.

GOOD VIBRATIONS

102 GT. VICTORIA ST.

RUDI VOUCHER

Live & Kickin' presents
EDDIE & THE HOT RODS
plus Radio Stars
ULSTER HALL

Thursday, 30th March, '78
Doors Open at 7.00 p.m.

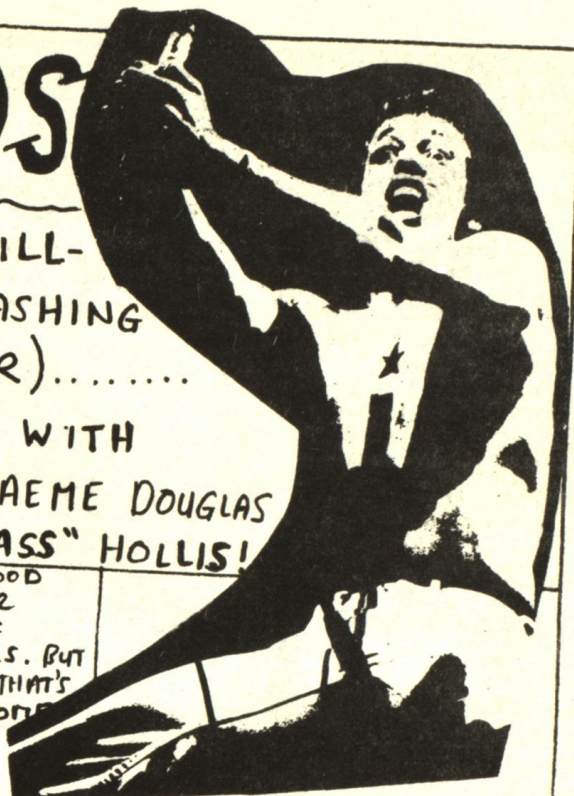
BLOCK C
ROW SEAT
8 3

Ground Floor — £3.00
This portion to be handed up

Hot-Rods

A CASE OF STILL-LIFE (AND STILL CRASHING IN THE SAME CAR).....

"A.U." EXCLUSIVES WITH
BARRIE MASTERS, GRAEME DOUGLAS
& ED "BACKSTAGE PASS" HOLLIS!



I FELT LIKE TELLING THE ZOMBIE FROM "DOWNTOWN" (?) RADIO TO TAKE A WALK & DON'T COME BACK. HERE WE WERE - AN EXCLUS. WITH B. MASTERS - AN' HE GOES & RUINS THE...UH...VIBES BY SITTING - IN ON OUR "LITTLE CHAT" - COLD, SHOWBIZ GLOSS ENSUED - JEEZ, I FELT LIKE BLOOMER HARRIS..... ANYWAY, THE DUDE LOLLS - IN & BUYS BARRIE A DRINK & IGNORES US. FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF YOUNG MASTERS ARE, TO SAY THE LEAST, SURPRISING NOT THE BRASH, GRINNING, STREET-KID I'D EXPECTED - RATHER, A SOBER, EXTREMELY WELL-SPOKEN, POLITE-EVEN, YOUNG GENTLEMAN. SMALL & INCONSPICUOUS. I START BY ASKING - HIM ABOUT THE RODS 1ST & LAST ULSTER GK (CIRCA "T. DEPRESSION" RELEASE). "WE ENJOYED THAT. YEAH I STILL REMEMBER IT..." I NOTE THAT THE BAND'S IMAGE HAS CHANGED A BIT SINCE THEN - BARRIE, FOR ONE, HAS GROWN HIS HAIR A BIT. HE SEEMS A TRIFLE ANNOYED... "OH, I ALWAYS LIKED TO BE DIFFERENT..." (LAUGHS - "DOWNTOWN" LAUGHS OBLIGINGLY). BUT THE BAND HAS GONE THROUGH A LOT OF CHANGES IN STYLE - R&B-NEN-WAVE-NOW FAST ROCK... "I THINK THAT'S THE GREAT THING ABOUT THE RODS - MUSICALLY WE NEVER STAND - STILL. THE NEXT L.P. WILL PROBABLY SOUND DIFFERENT FROM THE LAST - I WOULDN'T STAY WITH THE RODS IF IT WASN'T LIKE THAT." HE GOES ON... "IT'S NOT THAT WE GO THROUGH DIFF. "STAGES" - ITS MORE LIKE PHASES - A COLLECTION OF DIFF. TRENDS WORKING ON MUSIC." A BIT BAFLED, I GO ON TO ASK HIM OF HIS VIEWS ON THE NEW-WAVE. "I THINK ITS BEEN AN AMAZING THING, REALLY.

ITS FORMED SO MANY GOOD BANDS, LIKE SQUEEZE FOR EXAMPLE, AND LET MUSIC BREAK-OUT TO ALL LEVELS. BUT IT HASN'T PROGRESSED & THAT'S WHERE THE RODS HAVE COME OUT ON TOP. WE'VE HAD THE LAST LAUGH... SENSING HE'S COME-ON A BIT DEFENSIVE, I ASK ABOUT CRITICISMS IN THE MUSIC-PRESS - I.E. TONY PARSONS COMMENT ABOUT THE RODS "TORY-ROCK". "AH, THAT GUY.. HE'S JUST A... (HE RECOVERS, NO DOUBT HEARING "DOWNTOWN" NERVOUS COUGH). THEY DON'T BOTHER US..." GULP! WE BELIEVE YOU, WE BELIEVE YOU!! I MOVE-ON & REFER TO SIMILAR CRITICISMS OF THE RODS LYRICS BEING WRITTEN BY AN "AGEING PSEUDO-REBEL" - ED HOLLIS. THE ANSWER IS PLEASINGLY HONEST. "I ADMIT I CRINGE SOMETIMES WHEN I SING SOME OF HIS LYRICS. BUT I WOULDN'T

TOUR HAVE BEEN THE BEST RODS TOURS EVER. CERTAINLY, THE REST OF THE BAND AGREED - PITY BELFAST HAD TO BE THE EXCEPTION. THEN AGAIN, I SUPPOSE WE WERE USED TO THAT. ANYWAY, IT WAS GREAT OF BARRIE TO SPEND MOST OF THE AFTERNOON TALKING TO US. IT WASN'T HIS FAULT, I'M SURE, THAT THE ATMOSPHERE WAS A BIT STIFLED AT TIMES. BUT OUR CHAT WITH ED HOLLIS, THE RODS INFAMOUS PRODUCER, NOW THAT WAS A DIFFERENT STORY.....



BARRIE BEAMS AT DAVE'S COMMAND

SING THEM IF I DIDN'T FEEL THEM. I WOULDN'T, FOR INSTANCE, SING ANY DYLAN LYRICS BECAUSE I COULDN'T FEEL ANYTHING FOR THEM. I WRITE A LOT OF WORDS MYSELF. WHO'S YOUR FAV. VOCALIST & BANDS? "JIM MORRISON, I THINK. HE'S INFLUENCED ME A LOT, BUT I'D NEVER TRY TO COPY HIM. I LIKE MCS & J. GEILS BAND." HE ENDS BY SAYING THE U.S.A. TOUR & THIS PACKAGE

ED HOLLIS: MR. ROCK AND ROLL.

RITE, I HEAR YOU ASK, WHO THE FUCK'S ED HINDLEY & DOES HE MATTER ANYWAY? TAKE YER MARQUEE E.P. IN YER HANDS - SEE THE FAT GUY WHOS NOT A ROD - TO THE RITE, STUPID - THAT'S ED. AND, YIP, HE DOES MATTER! HE'S THE... AH... 6TH ROD - THE "ED" THAT IS "EDDIE & THE HOT-RODS". HE WRITES MOST OF THE BANDS LYRICS AND WITH GRAEME DOUGLAS ("A TRUE GENTLEMAN" - G. HATRICK) SOME OF THE BAND'S BEST SONGS. HE'S A ROCK'N' ROLL JUNKIE - A SORT OF GROWN-UP MODEL OF "A.U."

OWN LOVEABLE GAV & DAVE ANGRY. IN FACT WE BOTH SPENT ABOUT 5 OR 6 HOURS TALKING TO THE GUY, GAV FIRING BANDS NAMES AT HIM & I (DAVE) MESMERISED WITH HIS PROMISES OF LONDON SCOOPS FOR ME WHEN I GET BACK TO THE CAPITAL IN A FEW WEEKS TIME. HE'S GOT MORE CONTACTS THAN COLIN MCCLELAND'S GOT PERSONALITY-PROBLEMS. WE ASK HIM FIRST ABOUT THE BEGINNINGS OF "EDDIE'S RODS".

"WE JUST STARTED DOIN' STUFF THAT WE'D ALL LOVED FOR YEARS. WE'VE ALL GOT OUR R'n'B HEROES - PEOPLE IN MUSIC WE LOOK UP TO. IT WAS AFTERWARDS WE REALISED ALL OUR MAJOR INFLUENCES WERE COMIN' OVER IN THE MUSIC - STONES, R.C.S AN' THAT..."

THE SLEEVE OF "DO ANYTHING" "YEAH, I'M INTO CROWLEY. HE ALMOST HAD IT SUSS'D-OUT, HE WAS IN A WAY THE 1ST PUNK BUT HIS MOTTO (THE SONG, TITLE) WASN'T ENOUGH - THAT'S WHY I DREW BIG EARS ON HIS HEAD ON THE COVER."

NOT ABOUT THE LYRICS TO "BEGINNING OF THE END" (BY DAVE HIGGS)?

"THEY'RE ABOUT THE ROCK PRESS, THE BAND...."

"AND HE..."

"SO, YET ANOTHER MYSTERY SOLVED! WOT BANGS ARE YOU PRODUCING"



"2 BANDS SPARKS-OF A FLOW OF THOUGHT & IDEAS. "Y,KNOW I BOUGHT THOSE MCS L.A.S. WHEN THEY FIRST CAME-OUT. NOW, EVERYBODY'S SAYIN' THAT! & ITS SO FALSE. SOME OF THE EARLY 60'S STONES STUFF IS STILL AMAZING. THE BOOTLEGS, TOO, THEY'RE CLASSICS IN THEIR OWN RIGHT YET, I ALSO LOVE "BLACK AND BLUE". HE MOVES ACROSS THE ROOM & SWITCHES ON THE T.V. - ITS A "BBC 2" OPEN-UNIV. MATHS PROG. SUDDENL, HE & GRAEME TRY TO DO THE COMPLEX EQUATIONS! ED TAUGHT MATHS, LIKE G. DOUGLAS, FOR A FEW WEEKS! A SURPRISING COMMON LINK BETWEEN THE WRITING DUO. REMEMBER THOSE DART LINES OF "AND DON'T BELIEVE YOUR EYES"? ABOUT SCHOOL? DON'T SEEM SO NAÏVE & STUPID NOW, DO THEY? ED GOES-ON, "SCHOOL'S USELESS! IT DOESN'T PREPARE YOU FOR THE BIG, BAD OUTSIDE WORLD. IT DOESN'T TEACH YOU LIFE. HEY, IMAGINE THE MINDS OF THE PEOPLE WHO SIT WATCHING THIS BOX ALL DAY. CHRIST!"

PAUL GRAY- POST GIG-BELOW- PRE-GIG!

AT THE MOMENT, APART FROM LES RODS? "WELL, I'M REALLY EXCITED BY THE HITS, FORMALLY THE SNIVELLING SHITS. THEY'RE - ALMOST- A SERIOUS BAND NOW & VERY GOOD AT THAT. ALSO, I'M IN THE STUDIOS WITH THE ONLY-ONES, WHO'RE VERY GOOD & GREAT GUYS. OH YEAH, THERE'S ALSO JOHN ROTTEN..."



ED GOES-ON, "SCHOOL'S USELESS! IT DOESN'T PREPARE YOU FOR THE BIG, BAD OUTSIDE WORLD. IT DOESN'T TEACH YOU LIFE. HEY, IMAGINE THE MINDS OF THE PEOPLE WHO SIT WATCHING THIS BOX ALL DAY. CHRIST!"

I ASK HIM ABOUT THE ALISTAIR CROWLEY LOGO. ON



"COURSE WE FALL-OFF OUR COLLECTIVE SEATS! FUNNY THING IS, HE WASN'T TRYING TO BE THE IMPRESSIVE BIG-SHOT. NOT AT ALL. "YEAH, I'VE KNOWN JOHN FOR A LONG, LONG TIME..." GO ON, ED, GO ON, DON'T KEEP US IN SUSPENSE. "I GET ON REALLY WELL WITH ALL THE PISTOLS, BUT PARTICULARLY JOHN. I LIKE HIM. HE'S A VERY GOOD LYRICIST, BUT AS A SONGWRITER I DON'T RATE HIM ALL THAT HIGHLY." HE PAUSES TO REFLECT. "THE PISTOLS WERE A REALLY GOOD TEAM. JOHN WITH THE WORDS AND STAGE-PRESENCE, STEVE & PAUL WITH THE SONGS. IN FACT, STEVE & PAUL ARE OVERLOOKED &

UNDERATED FAR TOO MUCH. THEY'VE NOTHING PLANNED AT THE MOMENT, BUT I THINK THEY'RE GOING TO DO SOME AMAZING THINGS IN THE FUTURE." LATER IT TRANSPIRES THAT ED HAS SHOWN US, MORE NEW OF THE ILL-FATED PISTOL FILM THAN MOST OTHERS, HAVING HEARD SOME OF THE TAPES WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS "VERY FUNNY". AS ED HOPS-IN TO A TAXI WITH US TO THE ULSTER-HALL, HE'S STILL TALKING, BUT STILL BEING INTERESTING, AND, JUST AS IMPORTANT, BEING GENUINELY CONCERNED & INTERESTED IN US & WOT WE SAY. HE TALKS ABOUT THUNDERS & DEE DEE RAMONE. "I LOVE THE RAMONES. YOU'LL REALLY HAVE TO (LOOKING AT ME) TALK TO THEM NEXT TIME THEY PLAY LONDON. THEY'RE GREAT PEOPLE, VERY FRIENDLY." ED, IN FACT, SPORTS A RAMONES TEE-SHIRT "I GOT IT OF DEE-DEE..."



STEVE NICHOLL. NOT ABOUT POWER-POP, I ASK - "THE PLEASURES ARE STUPID." WELL SAID! WOT ABOUT NICK KENT, GAV. INQUIRES: "... A FRUSTRATED KEEF RICHARD WUFF SAID, MR. HOLLS. I ASK HIM ABOUT THE RODS NEW 12" - "WE HATE THAT COVER - THE OLD PICTURE..." ANOTHER REVELATION EMERGES, NAMELY THAT THE 3 TRACKS ON THE FLIP-SIDE OF THE "LIFE ON THE LINE 45" WERE NOT RECORDED AT THE RAINBOW, AS STATED

ALTERNATIVE ALTERNATIVE ALTERNATIVE ULSTER ULSTER ULSTER

Nº 31 "w're so bored with d.d.t." 20p.



L.A.M.F.

WE'RE ALREADY WELL INTO 1978 AND THE NEW-WAVE SCENE IN N. IRELAND HAS REACHED A VERY INTERESTING STAGE. AT LEAST ONE OF OUR OWN BANDS IS ON THE VERGE OF A "BREAK-THROUGH" OF SOME DESCRIPTION. THE BAND, OF COURSE, IS STIFFS. AS THE BAND THEMSELVES KNOW, "A.U." HAS BEEN CHAMPIONING THEIR CAUSE FOR SOME TIME NOW. WE TRY TO DO THAT WITH ANY GOOD, POTENTIALLY GREAT BAND. STIFFS' CURRENT POSITION, HOWEVER, IS IMPORTANT IN THE SENSE THAT THEY ARE THE 1ST OF OUR BANDS TO REACH A POSITION OF THIS SORT. EVERYBODY HERE AT "A.U." HAS GREAT RESPECT FOR THE INTEGRITY OF JAKE, ALLY AND THE OTHERS, YET WE MUST ADMIT TO FEELING VERY DISAPPOINTED. JAKE'S RECENT INTERVIEW IN N.M.E. AND HIS APPARENT ACCEPTANCE OF COLIN "MUCKY PRESS-CAT" MCLELAND'S OVERLORDSHIP IS, TO SAY THE LEAST, WORRYING. WE NEED A BAND THAT WILL SHOCK, A BAND, IN SHORT, THAT WILL FORCE THE SICK, BIGOTTED AND INSECURE ULSTER POPULATION TO REALISE THAT, AS DYLAN PUT IT, "SOMETHING'S GOIN' ON" AMONG THEIR KIDS. STIFFS COULD KICK INTO ACTION WOT ROGE, GAV. & I TERM THE "ALTERNATIVE ULSTER". TAKE THE EXAMPLE OF THEIR FORTHCOMING IRISH TOUR: THIS SHOULD BE "AN EVENT", WITH STIFFS BATTLING TO SAY SOMETHING TO MUSIC AND, MORE IMPORTANT, THOUGHT STARVED ULSTER KIDS. INSTEAD, THE TOUR SEEMS TO HAVE THE POINT OF A GLEEFUL

ROMP AROUND THE PROVINCE DISTRIBUTING "I'M A SUSPECT DEVICE" BADGES TO KIDS WHO HAVEN'T THE FOGGIEST NOTION OF WOT THE PHRASE THEY, SPORT MEANS, COZ THEY'RE BEING PRIMARILY SUCKED-IN TO THE "MUCKY-PRESS-CAT'S" BIG-BUSINESS SCHEMES. MEANING & ENLIGHTENMENT (GOD KNOWS), THEY ARE PRECIOUS GEMS IN ULSTER'S WASTELAND BECOME PRODUCT & UNITS TO SHIFT. ITS ALMOST TOO HORRIBLE TO THINK ABOUT. YOU COULD ALMOST INTERPRET IT AS SOME GREEDY, STUPID BASTARD DENYING YOU A FUTURE... ITS SICK....

MCLELAND IS ONE OF THE LEADING CULPRITS. HE RECENTLY ATTACKED ONE OF US IN HIS LAUGHABLE "THING" IN THE "SUNDAY SCREWS." HE INFERRED WE DID "A.U." FOR MONEY. CHRIST, IF ONLY HE KNEW! WE DO THIS, NOT AS A HOBBY, BUT AS A DUTY, A TASK, SURE, WE'LL SELL IT TO BLOCKED NOUVEAU-RICHE UPSTARTS (AS PLAGUED & FELL AROUND THE GREENMACHEN THE WED. NITE HE REFERS TO), BUT WE DO IT TO MAKE SURE THE NEXT "A.U." COMES OUT. OUR "MUCKY PRESS CATS" CLEARLY OBSESSED WITH THE IDEA OF MONEY, SO MUCH SO THAT HE INTERPRETS OTHER PEOPLE'S ACTIONS THROUGH THIS IDEA. READ SOME BERNARD SHAW, LAD, IT MITE HELP! YOU WORK IN A NO FUTURE JOB IN A NO FUTURE LAND & YOU'RE SMUG & CONTENTED. YOU USE WORDS TO MAKE MONEY FOR YOURSELF, NOT TO COMMUNICATE MEANINGFULLY. NOW YOU'RE TRYING TO DO THE SAME WITH MUSIC - DO US A FAVOUR, YOU WORTHLESS, SMUG AND EVIL PIECE OF DOG'S VOMIT, STICK TO SATISFYING MR. & MRS. AVERAGE OF CAVE HILL WITH YOUR PRINTED DIARHOEA.....

THE ABOVE EXAMPLE OF A "WASTED LIFE" (SORRY, JAKE, BUT THE

IS :
DAVE ANGRY,
GAV.
ROGE. [formerly the gr. Gory]
OUR THANKS TO :
GOOD VIBRATIONS, CAROL LANE
RECORD + TAPE CENTRE, BANGOR
+ ALL OUR LONDON FRIENDS
ESP. AT ALBATROSS + ROUGH
TRADE + VIRGIN + COMPENDIUM
FOR STOCKING A.U.
SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO
CENTRE, 106 ABBEY ST., BANGOR, N.I.
LEAVE THEM IN WITH TERRI AT
"GOOD VIBES"

IRONIES IN YOUR LYRICS ARE INCREDIBLE! IS WILL NOT BE THE ONLY ONE OF COURSE. ITS A WRETCHED PIECE OF ADVICE, BUT STRUMMER SHELLEY HAVE CONVINCED ME OF ITS WORTH IN THE PAST, ALL OUR BANDS INDIVIDUAL NEW-WAVERS MUST BEWARE, MUST HAVE THEIR WITS ABOUT THEM IN ALL SITUATIONS. IT OFTEN DOES COME DOWN TO US AND THEM....

ON TO MORE PLEASANT THINGS, I'VE BEEN VERY IMPRESSED BY OTHER "UPCOMING BANDS" PARTICULARLY "RUDI" (OF COURSE!), "PROTEX-BLUE" AND THE EXCELLENT "VICTIM". PROTEX ARE YOUNG, FANCY AND (THANK GOD IN MIND OF THE UNFORTUNATE NAMED "STIFFS") RIGHTLY WRECKLESS ON STAGE. THEY ARE ONE OF THE MOST EXCITING YOUNG BANDS I'VE SEEN THIS YEAR. GOOD ON YER LADS "VICTIM" ARE SIMPLY A SUPERB, GOOD-TIME ROCK & ROLL SHOW. I DON'T THINK THEY COULD EVER PLAY A "BAD" SET NOW THAT COLIN'S GOT THEM TOGETHER AS WITH "RUDI", WHOSE SINGLE MITE BE OBTAINED FREE IN THESE PAGES, WE HOPE THEIR DEBUT 45 DOES WELL!

AT THIS POINT, I JUST WISH TO SAY THAT PATTI SMIVE IS THE BIGGEST LOAD OF SPECIOUS CRAP THIS SIDE OF JOHNNY COUGAR. IF YOU WANT AN IDOL, AN EXTRAORDINARY HUMAN BEING, TO WORSHIP PLUMP FOR G.T. PARKER OR ED HOLLIS, THEY DO HAVE GENIUS

ON THE SLEEVE. YEP, ED'S QUITE A CHARACTER! THOSE TRACKS WERE RECORDED AT LAST SUMMER'S CANVEY-OIL-ISLAND GIG - MR. HOLLIS JUST DUBBED THE APPLAUSE FROM THE RAINBOW!

FEW DAYS AFTER THE GIG, I WAS TALKING TO A SECURITY-GUARD FROM THE HOTEL WHERE THE RODS STAYED. HE MENTIONED HOW ONE GUY FROM THE BAND'S PARTY ("THE ONE WITH THE STICKY-UP BLOW DRY HAIR") WAS FOUND BY HIM WANDERING ROUND THE HOTEL AT 4 A.M., COMPLETELY OUT OF IT. HE LAUGHED AND SAID, "Y, KNOW, THAT GUY WAS UNBELIEVABLE... JUST UNBELIEVABLE..." YEAH, THAT ED HOLLIS ALL RITE!

GRAEME DOUGLAS "THE RODS' TOKEN PHILOSOPHER"

THIS BIT OF THE ARTICLE IS DEDICATED TO LOVERS OF THE LEGENDARY KURSAAL-FLAWERS, WHOSE FIRST 3 L.P.S WERE, I RECKON, CLASSICS. LITTLE IS KNOWN ABOUT G.D.'S ANGRY DEPARTURE FROM THE KURSAALS SO I ASK HIM WOT WENT ON DURING THE SUCCESS OF THE "GOLDEN MILE" L.P.

"WE'D SOME GOOD SONGS BUT FAR TOO MUCH IMAGE. I MEANT "LITTLE DOES SHE KNOW" TO BE THE ULTIMATE IN KURSAALS SORT OF PISS-TAKE HUMOUR. THE REST WOULDN'T ACCEPT THAT, BUT, I ASKED HIM ABOUT THE OTHER MAIN INGREDIENT OF THE KURSAALS - WILL BIRCH.

"I SAW HIS NEW BAND LAST WEEK. THERE'S D.K. GO ON, GRAEME... AT THIS POINT, THE GUITARIST EXPLODED: "WILL IS A CUNT!!! HE WAS INTO THE WHOLE "SUCCESS-AT-ANY-PRICE" TRIP & I JUST WASN'T. HE ACCEPTED MIKE BATT IN THE STUDIO... YEAH, WOT ABOUT THE WONBLE? "GAWD, I HAD A RITE 'OLE PUNCH-UP WITH THAT GUY. YEAH, IN THE MIDDLE OF THE STUDIO. I CAME OUT ON TOP, THOUGH I WROTE ALL THOSE FUCKIN' SONGS MONTHS BEFORE HE CAME ALONG. HE RUINED EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THEM..." AS HE

SAID ALL THIS, GRAEME WAS ALMOST SHAKING WITH ANGER. HE TAKES A SIP FROM HIS BEER. HE ENDS BY MAKING WOT I THINK IS A SUPERB COMMENT ON NEW-WAVE FASHION HYPOCRISY IN SOME QUARTERS:

"ITS ONE SHORT STEP FROM CRITICISING THE TYPE OF CLOTHES THAT PEOPLE WEAR, TO CRITICISING THE COLOUR OF THEIR SKIN..." THINK ABOUT IT, OUT THERE... YOU KNOW IT MAKES SENSE....



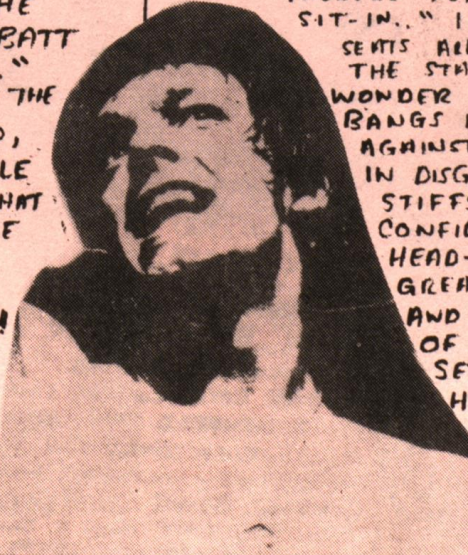
ACTION ON STAGE & THEY CAN TAKE ANYBODY ON. GREAT SONGS. "A.U." IS DEDICATED TO US - OUR SONG. TANX, LADS! "JOHNNY WAS IS MOVING. GET RID OF C.M.C. BOYS & YOU'RE LANDED. BACKSTAGE, ED HOLLIS IS OVERAWED BY STIFFS' SET & ASKS ME TO INTRODUCE 'EM TO HIM. YET ANOTHER FAN JAKE, OLD SON! RADIO STARS ARE SOON ON. LOOK, I KNOW YOU ALL LOVED

RODS RAGGED AND ANGRY

TIME - 6.45 P.M. DAVE HIGGS, PAUL GRAY & STEVE NICHOLL RETURN BACKSTAGE FROM THE SOUND-CHECK. THEY'RE VERY VEXED THE HIRED P.A. IS CRAP. THE SOUNDS GOING TO BE A PROBLEM TONITE. ANYWAY, BY 8 P.M. THE ULSTER HALL IS FAIRLY PACKED. BARRIE & I WALK UP BEHIND STAGE AND LOOK-DOWN. "WOT ARE THOSE SEATS DOING THERE?" THE SINGER INQUIRES.

"THERE'RE FOR PEOPLE TO SIT-IN..." I REPLY. THE SEATS ARE BEHIND THE STAGE! NO WONDER BARRIE BANGS HIS HEAD AGAINST THE WALL IN DISGUST. THE STIFFS LOOK CONFIDENT. THEY HEAD-OUT TO GREAT APPLAUSE AND DO ONE OF THE BEST SETS I'VE HEARD THIS YEAR. ALL THEY NEED NOW IS A BIT OF

THEM, BUT WE AT "A.U." & ASSORTED RUDIS THOUGHT THEY STANK. I ADMIT ANDY ELLISON'S A GREAT PERFORMER, BUT THE MUSIC'S JUST HEAVY METAL, BADLY PLAYED. THEY ARE BORING. THE RODS STROLL ON STAGE AFTER A SHORT WAIT. THEY CRASH THROUGH "WAY IT USED TO BE", "QUIT THIS TOWN & "SCHOOL-GIRL LOVE" - THE SOUND IS REALLY ATROCIOUS. GAWD, PAUL'S BASS BREAKS-OUT TWICE DURING "STILL-LIFE", BARRIE YELLS & SHOUTS AT THE P.A. DUDES - THROWS HIS MIKE AT A SPEAKER - STEVE KICKS A DRUM OVER IN DISGUST, GRAEME THROWS HIS GUITAR IN THE AIR & LETS IT CRASH TO THE GROUND. ITS BEDLAM OUT THERE!! "DO ANYTHING" & "BEGINNING OF THE END" SOUND BETTER, BUT THE BAND DON'T EVEN BOTHER COMING BACK FOR AN ENCORE VERY FEW WANT ANY MORE ANYWAY. AFTERWARDS, I TALK TO PAUL - HE'S REALLY DEPRESSED, HAVING HAD A £500 BASS PINCHED. "IT WAS THE WORST GIG I'VE EVER REMEMBER... EVER..." YEAH, IT WAS THAT BAD. ONLY GOOD POINT WAS THAT STIFF LITTLE FINGERS BROUGHT THEIR MUSIC TO A WIDER AUDIENCE & PEOPLE GOT A OFF ON A 4TH DIV. HEAVY METAL OUTFIT. RODS? THEY QUIT OUR TOWN - FAST!



LITTLE FINGER

+ RUDI

+ PRETTY BOY FLOYD + FLYING SQUAD

ALL AT THE ARTS COLLEGE

BUILDINGS, YORK ST.; 2-3-78.

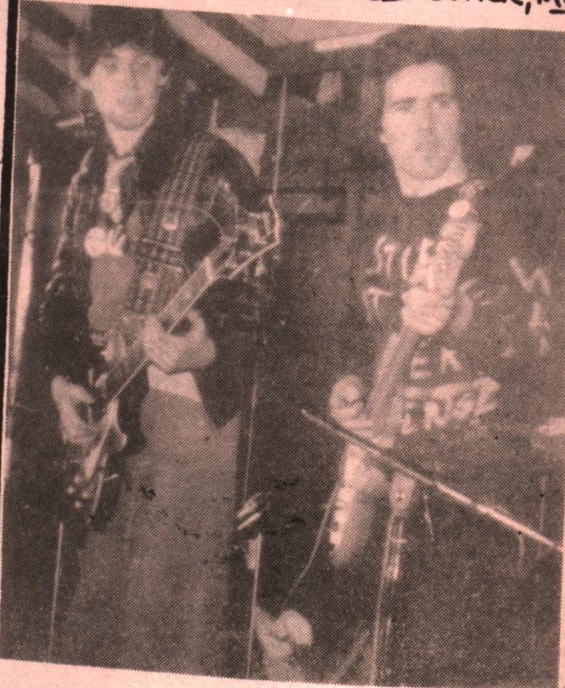
FIRST PROBLEM: COULDN'T FIND THE DAMN PLACE! AND CONSIDERING IT WAS AN IMPOSING GROUP OF BUILDINGS 3 STOREYS OR MORE HIGH COVERING MANY ACRES, I'M SURE THAT SOUNDS PRETTY DAMN TO YOU! BUT IT NEVER BEEN TO THE PLACE BEFORE, GOT THERE EVENTUALLY + ENCOUNTERED PROBLEM NUMBER 2: THE... UH... AUDIENCE. SEE, IT WAS REALLY ONLY GUESTS OF THE BANDS + STUDENTS WHO WERE INVITED + APATHY REIGNED SUPREME AS THE STUDENT/HIPPIE-TYPE ACTION OCCUPIED SUITABLY INCONSPICUOUS POSITIONS AT THE BACK OF THE HALL AND EVEN UP IN THE BALCONY! IT SEEMED OBVIOUS IT WOULD BE A DIFFICULT TASK TO GET THEM UP MOVING, BEING APPARENTLY, SO ANTI-NEW WAVE. ANTI-PROGRESS, BUT SOMETHING AMAZING DID HAPPEN, HOWEVER, MORE OF THAT LATER.

AN EVENTUALLY V. GOOD NITE STARTED WITH ASSORTED JAMMING SESSIONS BETWEEN MEMBERS OF THE TWO TOP BANDS THERE: RUDI + THE STIFFS. SOME GT. MUSIK - REALLY ENJOYABLE TO WATCH + LISTEN TO. THEN RONNIE OF RUDI ANNOUNCED TO A 'CROWD' OF ABOUT... OH, AT LEAST A DOZEN, THAT A NEW BAND CALLED THE 'IDIOTS' WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A BASH, SO THEY WERE GIVEN THEIR CHANCE. THE ATMOSPHERE WAS GREAT! FUN, HUMOUR + UNABASHED ENJOYMENT FOR ALL THERE - A DISTINCT CONTRAST TO PRETTY BOY FLOYD'S SURLY, DO-IT-LIKE-WERE-SUPPOSED-TO- PERFORMANCE + UTTER INDIFFERENCE + CONTEMPT WHICH THEY SHOWED TO BOTH AUDIENCE + THE OTHER BANDS ALIKE. WELL, BACK TO 'LES IDOTS' 'MES AMIS', WITHOUT I SHOULD ADD THEIR DRUMMER OR VOCALIST BUT WITH BARRY YOUNG (POP STAR BRIAN'S BROTHER) ON GUITAR + DEE WILSON, SOMEWHAT TAMED, (A LOCAL FOLK HERO) ON, DARE I SAY IT, BASS. WELL, THEY ALMOST DID A NUMBER BUT I'D WAIT TILL I SAW 'EM ALL AS A BAND PLAYIN' A PROPER CHG BEFORE SLAGGING OR PRAISING [SEE P. FOR JUDGEMENT]. ANYONE KNOW WHERE I CAN GET A DRINK? NO... A DRINK! [BELOW: ALL A HOME + MOST OF BRAD FALON OF...]

STIFF LITTLE FINGERS



NOW TO THE MEAT FOLKS! STIFF LITTLE FINGERS TAKE TO THE STAGE + PLAY ANOTHER GREAT SET. THIS BAND CAN DO NOTHING WRONG - TAKE 'ON THERE - IS - AN - AUDIENCE, IS - THERE? BURNS IS A GUITAR GENIUS, HE'S PROVED THAT ON MANY OCCASIONS THEIR OWN SONGS SOUNDED EVEN BETTER TONITE THAN USUAL IN A HALL WITH SUCH GOOD ACOUSTICS + THEY DID THE NEW ONE CALLED, WAIT FOR IT... 'ALTERNATIVE ULSTER' - A SOLUTION TO NORTHERN IRELAND'S TROUBLES OR A TRIBUTE TO ITS BEST FANZINE? IT'S NOT THE LATTER I'M AFRAID, TWO WE WERE THE INSPIRATION FOR THE SONG. JAKE, RIGHTLY, TREATED THE LARGELY APATHETIC AUDIENCE WITH SCORN + WAS SUPREMELY SARCASTIC COMING OUT WITH GEMS LIKE 'THIS IS JUST LIKE THE ROXY IN IT?' + MANY MORE WITH A FINE SPRINKLING OF EXPLETIVES THOUGH. HENRY, GOOD - HUMOURED AS USUAL, DID HIS OWN 1-MAN SHOW, STAGE - LEFT, INTRODUCING A BIT OF FUN INTO THE PROCEEDINGS AND THE SCENE OUT FRONT? WELL, FEW DANCED + TO BE HONEST WE DIDN'T EXPECT ANYTHING ELSE FROM THE 90% NURD AUDIENCE, BUT A FEW BODIES DID START MOVING TO 'GO PARSELY GO'. THEY FINISHED AS USUAL FREAKING OUT COMPLETELY AS THEY THRASHED OUT THE LAST FEW, DEMENTED, CHAOTIC CHORDS OF 'I FEEL ALRIGHT'. FEW CLAPPED, ONLY THE SMALL PUNK CONTINGENT UP FRONT; BUT THEY DESERVED BETTER; MUCH BETTER.



JAKE BURNS (LEFT) + HENRY (RIGHT) [ALSO: JAKE BURNS (LEFT) + HENRY (RIGHT) - NOT SWAPPED CLOCK] COULD HAVE BEEN? - A PICTURE OF A PICTURE

SO, A SHORT BREAK THEN RUDI. WE PREPARED OURSELVES TO BE BLASTED ONCE AGAIN BY THE POWER + ENERGY OF RUDI'S PARTICULAR BRAND OF ROCK'N' ROLL POP. CHEERS OF ENCOURAGEMENT FROM HARD-CORE FANS GREETED THE BAND. BRIAN YOUNG - MINUS GLAM GOLD HAIR SPRAY, THOUGH STILL IMPRESSIVE - LOOKING, RONNIE MATTHEWS + GORDON BLAIR DISPLAYED GREATER CONFIDENCE THAN THE LAST TIME I SAW THEM, NOT FORGETTING GRAHAM MARSHALL KEEPING RHYTHM, INCONSISTENTLY THOUGH SUBTLY MURDEROUS BEHIND THE TRAP.

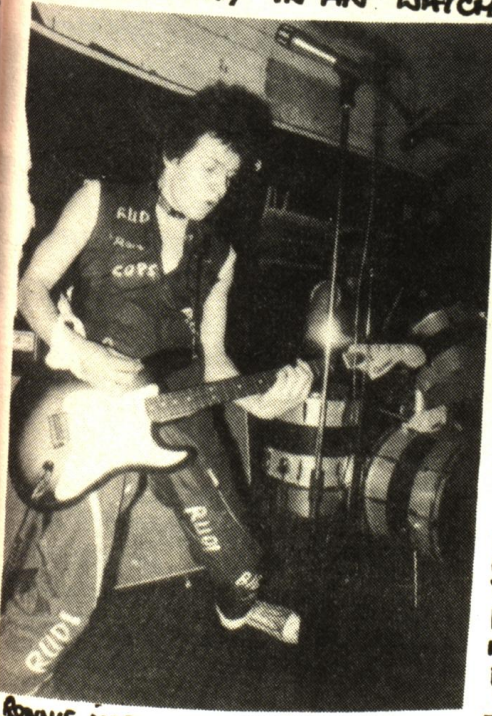
THEIR GROWING CONFIDENCE IS CLEARLY SEEN IN THEIR LATEST-PENNED SONG - 'TIME TO BE PROUD' A'FOLLOW UP TO THE SINGLE' + VERY APT IT IS TOO! TONITE WAS THE FIRST TIME THEY'D PLAYED IT OUTSIDE THE REHEARSAL ROOM + IT IS, I TELL NO LIE, A V. FINE SONG, EVEN BETTER THAN BIGTIME METHINKS - VERY CATCHY, AN INSTANT FAVE.

JUST ONE MORE THING. I DUNNO WHETHER IT WAS SIMPLY AS THE EVENING PROGRESSED + BEER WAS SWILLED + PEOPLE BECAME LESS INHIBITED BY THE LARGE EMPTY DANCE FLOOR OR WHETHER IT WAS RUDI'S QUOTA OF 'BOMIE + DOLLS' NUMBERS + THEIR OWN V. POP-INFLUENCED TUNES, BUT THEY GOT THE APATHETIC BASTARDS UP DANCING! YEAH, PUNK, HIPPIES STUDENTS, THEY WERE ALL UP (BAR ONLY A FEW) ENJOYING THEMSELVES, HAVING A GOOD TIME. THIS WAS WHEN THE NITE REALLY TOOK OFF.



PIC. OF GRAHAM MARSHALL OF RUDI - MOSTLY NOT MUCH ATTENTION IS GIVEN TO DRUMMING BUT A.U. ARE OUT TO PUT AN END TO THIS - GRAHAM DESERVES SOME PRAISE - HE'S A VERY FINE DRUMMER!

RUDI PLAYED A MAGNIFICENT SET, BRIMMING WITH CONFIDENCE, FINISHING, LIKE THE STIFFS, ALL OVER THE PLACE - CHADS UTTER + COMPLETE, GORDON FALLING TO HIS KNEES, COLLAPSING IN A POOL OF SWEAT, HAMMERING AWAY AT HIS BASS. YEAH! A 5-STAR PERFORMANCE FROM A 5-STAR BAND - I MEAN, WHO'D STAY IN AN 'WATCH' TOTP' WHEN



THERE'S AN EXCITING BAND LIKE RUDI, NOT FORGETTING THE STIFFS, RIGHT ON YOUR DOORSTEP! SEE THEM BEFORE THEY GET TOO BIG. MAYBE NOT TOO FAR IN THE FUTURE YOU'LL BE QUEUING UP OUTSIDE THE HAMMERSMITH ODEON TO SEE 'EM! AFTER ALL AS RONNIE CONFIDENTLY STATES "WE WANNA BE... WE'RE GONNA BE BIGGER THAN THE 'CLASH'."

RONNIE MATTHEWS' GUITAR POSE/STANCE NO. 1. A.U. - THE 1ST ULSTER FANZINE + WITHOUT DOUBT THE BEST! A.U. THE 1ST TO SPOT S.L.F. + RUDI + TIP THEM FOR THE TOP!

I WAST ABOUT TO ARGUE WITH HIM! WHEN! TIME FOR A REST I FINK. WELL WE GOT THAT WHILE PRETTY BOY FLOYD WERE ON. 'JEEZ ISN'T THIS BAND JUST GREAT. I MEAN THIS IS REAL PUNK FOR YA' - K-TEL STYLE, AS THE FENDERS BLAZED. HUH! YEAH, I KNOW THEY'RE GREAT MUSICIANS BUT YOU GOTTA DRAW THE LINE WHEN A SHOWBAND DECIDES TO GET THEIR HAIR CUT + 'TURN PUNK'. THEY TREAT US WITH CONTEMPT SO WHY SHOULD WE HAVE TO LIKE THEM? NEXT PLEEZE!

Uh, well, LAST ON WERE FLYING SQUAD BUT I MUST STRESS THEY WERE NOT THE HEADLINERS - DID I REALLY NEED TO TELL YA? THEY CAME FROM PORTSMOUTH. IN SHORT THEY WERE A 60'S HEAVY METAL BAND, SORT OF QUD LOOKALIKES. O.K. SO THEY WERE LABELLED HIPPIES + A MEMBER OF THEM A "BUNCH OF REPTILES" - COLD-BLOODED MAYBE, SLOW THEY CERTAINLY WERE, BUT THEY WERE, IT MUST BE SAID, A GOOD BAND, THE DRUMMER IN PARTICULAR BEING VERY COMPATANT INDEED BUT THEN... THEY'VE BEEN PLAYING FOR CENTURIES!

TO SUM UP... RUDI + STIFFS AFFIRM THEMSELVES AS THE FOREMOST NEW ULSTER BANDS - ALBEIT 2 COMPLETELY DIFFERENT STYLES (BUT WHO'LL MAKE IT FIRST?) WHERE RUDI SING:

"I WANNA... BE YOUR GEETAR HERO
"... SEE MY PICTURE ON YOUR SISTER'S WALL
"... SEE MY FACE ON THE T.V. SCREEN"

...IN SHORT, POP FANTASY, THE STIFFS CRY OUT: "INFLAMMABLE MATERIAL PLANTED IN MY HEAD / IT'S A SUSPECT DEVICE THAT'S LEFT 2000 DEAD"

AND "I COULD BE A SOLDIER / GO OUT THERE AND FIGHT TO SAVE THIS LAND / BE A PAPER SOLDIER / PARAMILITARY GUN IN HAND / (I) DON'T WANNA BE A SOLDIER / AINT GONNA TAKE NO ORDERS FROM NO-ONE" ETC.

RATHER SIMILAR TO "I HATE THE ARMY AND I HATE THE R.A.F. / I DON'T WANNA GO FIGHTING IN THE TROPICAL HE... EFT!" etc. (YOU KNOW THE REST). STIFFS SING ABOUT WHAT ITS LIKE TO LIVE IN N.I. TODAY - SLIGHTLY EXAGGERATED? MAYBE, BUT THEY SEEM OBSESSED BY IT - TITLES LIKE 'SUSPECT DEVICE' 'WASTED LIFE' 'STATE OF EMERGENCY' 'BREAKOUT' 'REVENGE' + 'WHITE NOISE', ALL POINT TOWARDS A CLASH-LIKE POLITICAL STANCE + THEY'VE DROPPED 2 SONGS (WHICH I'VE NEVER EVEN HEARD) "KEEP RUNNING" + "WORKING GIRL" APPARENTLY TO FIT IN WITH THIS IMAGE. BUT THIS ISN'T CRITICISM - FAR FROM IT, BUT, LIKE IT OR NOT FELLAS, YOU'RE ULSTER'S "CLASH" - THE HARSH SIMILARITIES BETWEEN JAKE VOICE + STRUMMER'S BEING ONLY TOO OBVIOUS.

HOWEVER, RUDI ARE MORE, WELL, POPPY, DOLLY-LIKE; BUT ITS HARD TO MAKE COMPARISONS 'COS THEY'RE SO ORIGINAL. BUT WHICH WILL BREAK THROUGH FIRST? WELL THE STIFFS EXCELLENT DEBUT SINGLE IS OUT NOW, PEEEL HAS BEEN PLAYING IT + RAVING ABOUT IT + A SPREAD IN THE NAME TOO, SO IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE DONE IT, DOESN'T IT? CERTAINLY ON THE BASIS OF THAT 'AS THEY'RE SURE TO STIMULATE A LOTTA INTEREST ACROSS THE WATER, BUT NOT ABOUT RUDI' I HEAR YOU ASK? WELL, THEY'RE FOLLOWING CLASH BEHIND - 1ST GT. SINGLE OUT BY THE TIME YOU READ THIS + DATES LINED UP IN ENGLAND TOO, SO IT LOOKS AS THOUGH THEY'LL MAKE IT TOGETHER - NOPG SO! ANYWAY, WE WISH THEM BOTH ALL THE BEST - Genny.

A.U. - ANOTHER FANZINE IN A DIFFERENT WRAPPER



JUST WATCHING THE REHEARSALS WITH...

THE CLASH AND DAVE ANGRY

WHY I CHOSE THAT SATURDAY TO TRY & GET IN CONTACT WITH JOE STRUMMER. SEE, HE'D MORE OR LESS INVITED ME TO TALK TO HIM IN LONDON WHEN WE SPOKE TO HIM IN BELFAST AT CHRISTMAS. I GUESS IT WAS JUST PURE IRISH LUCK....

ANYWAY, I ARRIVED AT THE "GREAT WHITE MANSION" IN W.I. EARLY IN THE AFTERNOON. THE DISTRICT IS TYPICAL OF LONDON - THERE'S NOWHERE LIKE IT IN N. IRELAND. I PASSED BY EUSTON TOWER WHERE THE HUGE CAPITAL RADIO BUILDING STANDS. JOE TRIED TO ADD A BIT OF SPRAY-CAN COLOUR TO THE UGLY EDIFICE A YEAR OR SO BACK. BUT THE THING IS CLEAN AGAIN. CLEAN, STERILE & SMUG. DOWN JOE'S STREET THERE'S A BIT OF SUITS GRAFFITI, BUT APART FROM THAT IT'S VERY MUCH A COOL MAFIA



ATMOSPHERE, ALL BIG CARS & WEIRD FACES... AND POLICE CARS. BUT

JOE ISN'T AT HOME. HE'S MOVED ELSEWHERE SINCE HIS SOJOURN IN HOSPITAL. THE LOUS ARE HERE, BUT, WANNA SPEAK TO THEM?

AH, NO THANKS, I'LL PHONE THE STUDIOS WHERE YOU SAY THE BAND ARE AT THE MOMENT. BY THE WAY, MY SPIKY-TOPPED HOST SHOWED ME AROUND THE HOUSE.

LOOK, IT'S NO BIG WHITE MANSION.

NO WAY. IT'S A SQUAT. THAT'S ALL. JOE HAD A ROOM THERE.

I SAW A SIGN ON ONE DOOR. IT SAID. "DO NOT DISTURB BETWEEN 9-12 A.M. & 2 P.M."

-5 P.M.

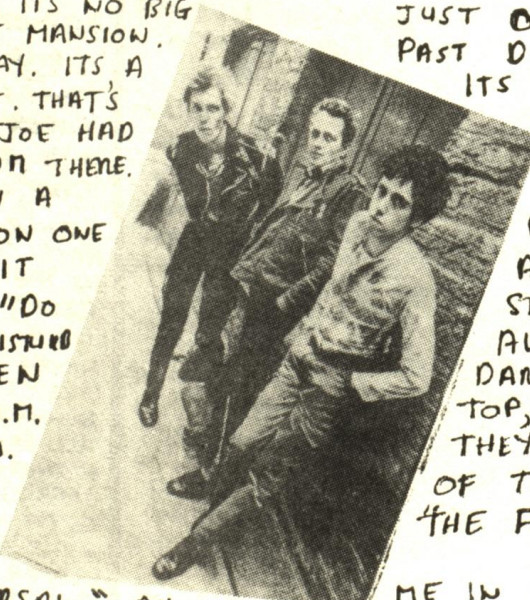
-LOUS

IN

REHEARSAL. "AH, THE GLAMOURSE LIVES THAT THESE YOUNG PUNK-ROCKERS LEAD...."

I PHONE-UP. GIRL ANSWERS. WAIT A MINUTE. "ALTERNATIVE ULSTER?"

... JOE SAYS IT'S O.K. THERE IN A CAFE AT THE MOMENT. HURRY OVER.



NOW, THE ATMOSPHERE OF CHALK-FARM-ROAD IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT. I RECKON ITS ONE OF THE BEST AREAS OF LONDON - ALL MARKETS, ALL HUSTLE & BUSTLE, AND, THANK GOD, FRIENDLY VIBES. THE STUDIO IS JUST OVER THE BRIDGE, PAST DINGY DINGWALLS.

ITS DOWN A SORT OF ENTRÉE. WE KNOCK ON THE DOOR & A BOUNCER (?) SHOWS US UP A FLIGHT OF VERY STEEP WOODEN STAIRS. ALL SMOKE & DARKNESS AT THE TOP, BUT THERE THEY ARE, THE 4 OF THEM, WATCHING "THE FONZ" ON T.V....

JOE GREETED ME IN HIS USUAL RELAXED, FRIENDLY MANNER. I SIT DOWN BESIDE HIM & SHOW HIM THE "GREEN" AL. HE REMEMBERS US & HE'S GOT ONE ALREADY! HE SAID, "YEAH I'M PLEASED WITH IT, IT TURNED INTO A GOOD STORY, I S'POSE..."

SUDDENLY NICK JONES EMERGES FROM

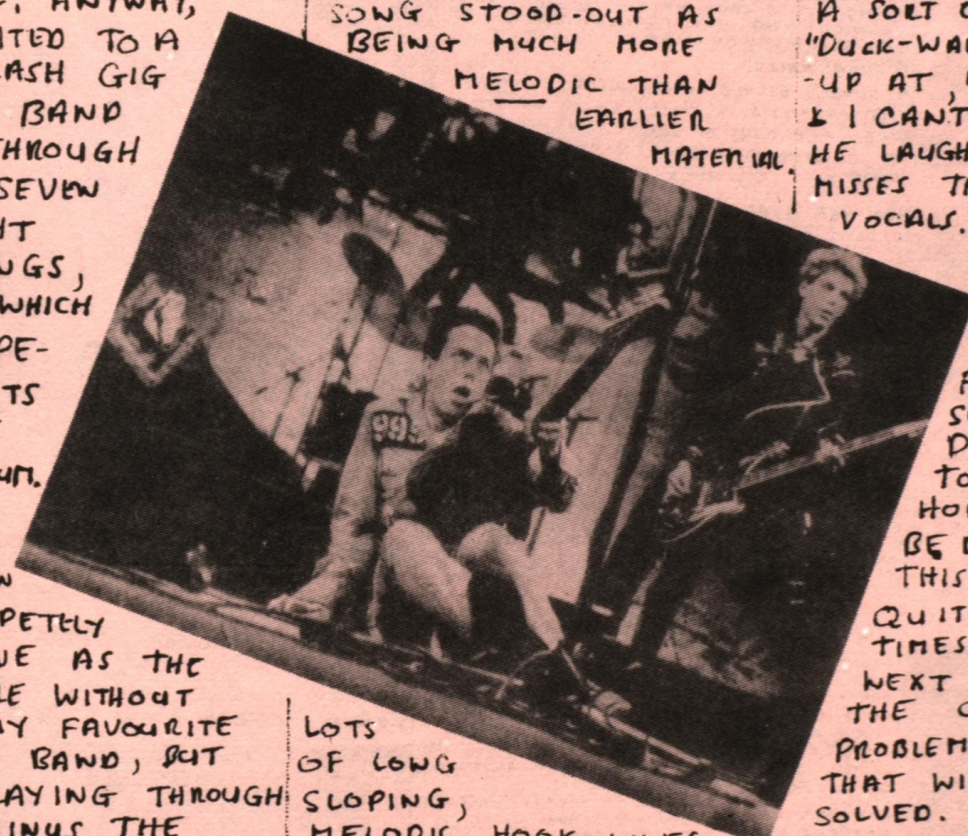
THE FAR CORNER AND LOOKS AT THE FANZINE. HE'S GOT ONE TOO, BERNI RHODES HAVING BOUGHT ONE THAT POODLE "NICKED" ONCE THE FONZ WAS OVER, THE BAND GET-UP & JUMP DOWN BELOW WHERE A DRUMKIT & ASSORTED GUITARS LIE. IT TRANSPIRES THAT THE BAND ARE REHEARSING A PROGRAMME FOR B.D.C. 2. ANYWAY, I'M TREATED TO A FREE CLASH GIG

AS THE BAND SLASH THROUGH ABOUT SEVEN OR EIGHT NEW SONGS, ALL OF WHICH ARE (HOPEFULLY) CUTS FOR THE NEW ALBUM. I'LL BE HONEST, MY OPINION

IS COMPLETELY SUBJECTIVE AS THE CLASH ARE WITHOUT DOUBT MY FAVOURITE ALL TIME BAND, BUT EVEN PLAYING THROUGH SONGS MINUS THE LYRICS, THEY'RE MILES AHEAD OF ANYBODY ELSE. THEY MAKE BANDS LIKE SHAM LOOK POSITIVELY STUPID. THE POWER, RAW, BUT RESTRAINED & REFINED TO PERFECTION IS AWESOME. THE SONGS

STIR SOMETHING INSIDE OF YOU; I KNOW IT SOUNDS PAFT, BUT THEY MOVE YOU IN THE WAY THAT HYMNS & THE NATIONAL ANTHEM ARE SUPPOSED TO MOVE YOU. I SAW THE BUZZCOCKS LATER THAT SATURDAY AND, TO BE PERFECTLY HONEST, THERE'S NOT EVEN IN THE SAME

LEAGUE AS THE CLASH. THEY STARTED OFF WITH A SONG WHICH COULD BE CALLED "COLD IN YOUR HEART", STRUMMER JUST CUTTING THROUGH THE SONGS AND YOURS TRULY TRYING TO PICK-OUT THE HOOK LINES. EACH SONG THEY PLAYED TWICE. ONCE WITH LYRICS, ONCE (BEFORE THAT) WITHOUT WORDS. EACH SONG STOOD-OUT AS BEING MUCH MORE MELODIC THAN EARLIER MATERIAL.



LOTS OF LONG SLOPING, MELODIC HOOK-LINES LIKE THAT IN THE MIDDLE OF "CLASH CITY ROCKERS" - THE GARY GLITTER BIT. AFTER ABOUT THE THIRD SONG, PAUL & NICK SUDDENLY BROKE INTO THE RIFF (?) OF "COMPLETE CONTROL". ITS A SIGN OF THE HIGH STANDARD OF THE 3 PRECEDING NEW SONGS THAT I DIDN'T WANT THE BAND TO PLAY WOT IS PROBABLY MY FAVOURITE SINGLE OF ALL TIME. ANYWAY, JOE CALMLY STOPS THE TEMPORARY DISORDER - IT DOESN'T REQUIRE HAND-WAVING, IT DOESN'T REQUIRE EVEN

SO MUCH AS A NOD - JOE JUST LOOKS AT THEM & HIS EXPRESSION IS ENOUGH TO RECAPTURE THE DUO'S ATTENTION. "ROIGHT, 'CITY ROCKERS'. O.K.?" JONES YELLS AN EXCITED "WOWE, TWO, FREE, FAWE!" AND THEY'RE AWAY, THE POODLE ROCKING AROUND ON THE SPOT, ATTEMPTING A SORT OF CHUCK BERRY "DUCK-WALK" AND LOOKING UP AT US FOR APPROVAL. I CAN'T HELP LAUGHING. HE LAUGHS TOO...AND MISSES THE BACK-UP VOCALS. SUDDENLY,

JOE STOPS IN MID-SONG.

"ITS TOO FAST, TAKE IT SLOWER..." HE DRAWLS, TELLING TOPPER HEADON HOW IT SHOULD BE DONE. IN FACT, THIS HAPPENED

QUITE A FEW TIMES DURING THE NEXT HOUR - P'RRAPS THE CLASH DRUMMING PROBLEM IS SOMETHING THAT WILL NEVER BE SOLVED. ANYWAY, NICKS WORK ON "TOMMY GUN" WAS VERY IMPRESSIVE TO THESE EARS, JOE WORKING UP A RITE OLD SWEAT ON THE CLOSING BIT, HIS LEFT LEG & RIGHT ARM POUNDING UP & DOWN IN A FRENZY. THEY END WITH A NEW REGGAE NUMBER - VERY IMPRESSIVE. THEY RETURN UPSTAIRS TO SEE T.R.B. ON T.V., JOE TELLS ME THERE BE MORE SAX. ON THE NEW ALBUM, THE PLAYER ONCE AGAIN BEING C.C. CURTIS OF GLORIA HUNDI. NICK SAID SOMETHING ABOUT KEYBOARDS, BUT HE WASN'T IN A STATE TO BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY. A, BAND CALLED SAD CAFE COMES ON T.V. JOE TAKES A DRAG AND MURKS: "THERE'S NOT SAD, THERE'S PATHETIC."

ELVIS COSTELLO

VENUE: ULSTER HALL, DATE 17th MARCH

LIKE A HURRICANE IN MY BRAIN - THE POWER, THE PUNCH, THE STYLE + THE PACING. COSTELLO TOINS THE SELECT PANtheon OF PERFORMERS THAT INCLUDES DYLAN, 1969 + TOWNSEND. THE SHEER INTENSITY OF HIS FEVER PITCH COMMITMENT TO EVERY NOTE + SYLLABLE SHOWED WITHOUT A DOUBT HE IS ONE OF ROCK 'N' ROLL'S PRIME TIME GENIUSES.

HE ENTERED A PACKED ULSTER HALL WITH A SET STARTING FROM A QUIRKY FEET-FINDING "WAITING FOR THE END OF THE WORLD" CULMINATING IN A GRIPPING 4TH ENCORE OF THAT VIBRANT GEM "I'M NOT ANGRY". IT WAS A NIGHT THAT RAN THROUGH THE GAMUT OF EMOTIONS - THE IMPASSIONED SEXUALITY OF "LITTLE TRIGGERS" TO THE ANGER, FEAR + RAGE OF "NIGHT RALLY".

EACH SONG A FINELY ETCHED MASTERPIECE, ELVIS BEING THE OBVIOUS FOCAL POINT AS YOU SLIP INTO SYNCH WITH HIS EVERY MOVEMENT AND THE SEVEN FLAVOURS OF SWEAT THAT DRIP FROM HIS BROW. YOU LOOK ROUND TO SEE THE IDIOT DANCER AT THE FRONT OF THE HALL IS AND YOU FIND OUT IT'S YOURSELF - ITS ONE OF THOSE GIGS.

MORE PEAKS THAN YER AVERAGE MOUNTAIN RANGE, WHEN HE PLAYS MY PAVES FROM "MODEL" THIS BEST L.P. THUS FAR - AS IF YOU HAD GUESSED I WONDER ABOUT THE SET'S PACING BUT DAMMIT ALL THE GUY CAN PLAY FOR AN HOUR OR MORE AND STILL LEAVE WITHOUT PLAYING CLASSICS LIKE "ALISON" + "NO DANCING".

IT'S HARD TO PICK OUT INDIVIDUAL NUMBERS BUT "NIGHT RALLY" STRAP A MENTION. WHILE THE NEW-WAVE TROOPS DREAM OF A BUCKLES + EXAMPLE - ELVIS STEPS TO THE FORTH BATHED IN A BLUE LIGHT, THE ORGAN DROVES THEN HE SINGS "THEY'RE PUTTING ALL OUR NAMES IN THE FORBIDDEN BOOK" I KNOW WHAT THEY'RE DOING BUT DON'T WANT TO LOOK? YOU THINK THEY'RE SO DUMB, YOU THINK THEY'RE SO FUNNY BUT JUST WAIT TILL THEY'VE GOT YOU RUNNING TO THEIR NIGHT RALLIES.

QUITE A DIFFERENCE THEN BETWEEN ELVIS + HIS SUPPORT ACT-THE CATASTROPHICALLY BORING MICKY SHUP BAND. PERHAPS IT WAS SOMETHING OF A SHREWD MOVE AS THERE IS OBVIOUSLY NO HOPE OF THE M.J.B. EVEN BEGINNING TO WARM UP THE AUDIENCE NEVER MIND BLOW COSTELLO OFF-STAGE (CHRIST, THE VERY THOUGHT). ON ANOTHER SONG NOTE THERE IS JUST NOWAY THE GIG PUMP OUT THEIR OBSESSIVE RHYTHM IS LIKE TRYING TO GET AN ELEPHANT TO TAP-DANCE ON A PINHEAD.



IT WAS IN EVERY SENSE A VERY SPECIAL PERFORMANCE ONE OF THOSE OCCASIONS WHEN THE BAND GIVE THAT LITTLE MAGICAL TOUCH WHICH LIT A FIRE THAT EVEN NOW STANDS STRONG IN MY MEMORY. Y'SEE FOR ME WHAT THE ATTRACTIVE + ELVIS AND REMEMBER ITS THE FORMER'S SHOW JUST AS MUCH AS THE LATTER; LET'S CUT OUT ALL THAT "BACKING BAND" CRAP OUT RIGHT NOW! ARE DOING IS AS FRESH + ORIGINAL AS ANYTHING IS LIKELY TO BE IN THE 70S.

THE IDEA OF AN ORGANIST, BASSIST + DRUMMER HOLDING FORT ON STAGE - AS OFTEN HAPPENS WHEN ELVIS DISCARDS HIS GUITAR - IS ITSELF ORIGINAL, AND IS IT A SUCCESSFUL COMBINATION? - IS WATER NETS, IS COLIN MCCLELLAND A BIG DRIP? IT RENDERS THE OBSOLETE.

BRUCE, STEVE + PAUL'S ABILITY TO GRASP AN UNDERSTANDING OF ELVIS' SONGS IS FAR MORE APPARENT ONSTAGE THAN ON VINYL. WHAT THEY ARE ABLE TO ACHIEVE IN FUTURE VENTURES HOLDS SUSTILLATING PROSPECTS.

EACH SONG SEGUES INTO THE NEXT, THE ATMOSPHERE NEVER LETS UP. "CHELSEA" RECEIVES A RAPIDIOUS RECEPTION IT'S A SPINE BUZZER ELVIS' GLAZED EYEBALLS PROWL OVER THE AUDIENCE PSYCHE - ACCUSING, DRAWING OUT EACH WORD MAKING THE LYRICS FAR MORE MEANINGFUL THAN ON PAPER. - "I DON'T WANT TO CHECK YOUR PULSE/I DON'T WANT NOBODY ELSE - I DON'T WANT TO GO TO CHELSEA" AND YOUR JUST TAKEN AWAY BY THE SHUDDERING AND SHAKING HOOKLINE.

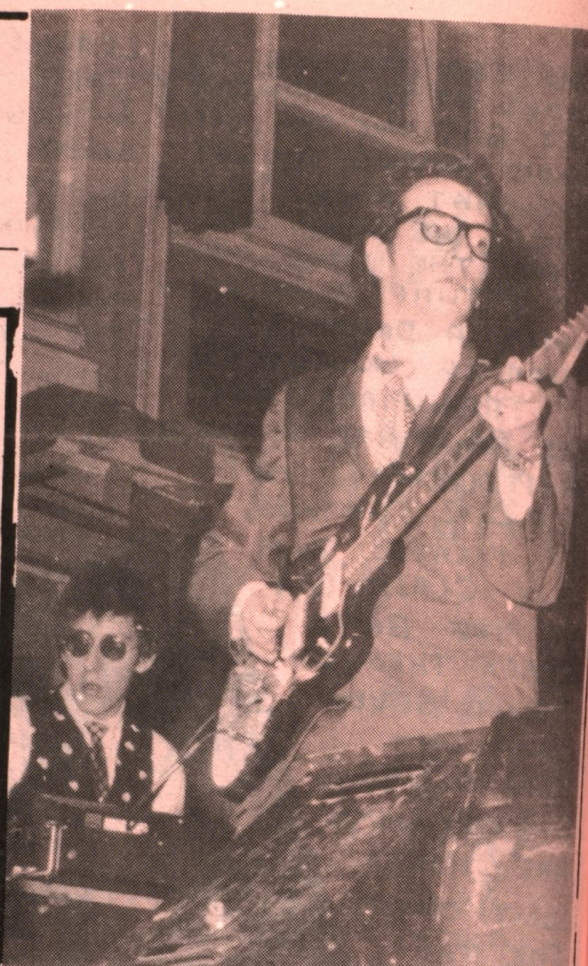
HE'S BEEN OCCASIONALLY CRITICISED FOR A DRAB ONSTAGE VISUAL BUT I'VE NEVER BE SO IMPRESSED BY A ROCK 'N' ROLL STAR WHO MAKES NO ATTEMPT TO PERFORM - GESTURES + EXPRESSIONS ARE NOT EXAGGERATED PREENINGS BUT PART + PARCEL OF THE SONGS: EXPLAINING + COMPLEMENTING.

TAKE THAT KILLER LINE FROM "THE BEAT" "I DON'T WANT TO BE YOUR LOVER/I JUST WANT TO BE YOUR VICTIM." HE HANGS OVER THE MIKE STAWO SKEWNS + CONTOURTS HIS FACE - VIRTUALLY PLEADS YOU TO UNDERSTAND.

COSTELLO IS CURRENTLY DELIVERING THE GOODS WITH MORE

AS THE MAN SAID WHEN HE SAW THE NEWLY TRIMMED BORDERS - "NEAT, NEAT, NEAT"

"I WANT MOWER?" "WE HATE THE CROPS"



ABOVE: LEFT - THE ORGANIST
RIGHT - THE GUITARIST

ROOT LEVEL COMMITMENT THAN ANYONE SINCE OLD BOB DYLAN. AND, YES, I TOO AM BEGINNING TO FORGET WHO BOB DYLAN WAS + I'M NOWHERE NEAR 23.

BELOW: THE MAN!
A VERY BIG THANK TO TERRY BOWMAN FOR ALL THE PIX ON THIS PAGE



ELVIS COSTELLO IS CURRENTLY DELIVERING THE GOODS WITH MORE

LOCAL SCENE:

ASK MOTHER

"THE THING ABOUT YOUR MAGAZINE IS THAT YOU NEVER HAVE A SITUATION WHERE MEMBERS OF A GROUP ARE GIVEN A DIRECT INTERVIEW," SAYS WILLIE OVER THE PHONE. YEAH BUT WE HARDLY EVER HAVE THE ROOM - THIS MONTH A CHANGE - A TALK WITH 2 MEMBERS OF A BAND THAT I'VE NEVER EVEN HEARD.

THIS IS WHAT I GLEANED FROM BOOTS + WILLIE VIA AN INFORMAL CHAT ABOUT THE ASK MOTHER EXPERIENCE. FOR A START THEY ARE TAKING A DRASTICALLY DIFFERENT COURSE, ESPECIALLY IN THE METHODS USED TO WRITE THEIR SONGS, THAN ANY OF THE OTHER LOCAL GROUPS I'VE TALKED WITH.

THE CONCEPTS BEHIND THEIR SONGS ARE OFTEN INTRICATE + COMPLEX + AS BOOTS EXPLAINS AS THE IDEAS IN THE SONGS COULD OFTEN BE IN THE FORM OF AN ESSAY - IT IS UP TO THE GROUP TO PRESENT IT IN A SUCCINCT LYRIC.

IT IS THE LYRICS ON WHICH THEY PLACE THE GREATEST EMPHASIS BEING INFLUENCED GREATLY BY JIM MORRISON'S WORK BOTH AS A POET + WITH THE DOORS. BURROUGHS, HUXLEY + JOYCE HAVE ALSO INFLUENCED THEIR WORK.

REALISM + PERHAPS SURREALISM ARE KEY-WORDS RELATING TO THE GROUP. THEY'VE WRITTEN A SONG SLAPPING VAN MORRISON FOR HIS ROMANTICISING. BOOTS ATTEMPTS TO EXPLAIN HOW SONGS MERGE IDEAS TOGETHER THRU THE USE OF VARIOUS SYMBOLS AND I GET A BIT LOST.

WILLIE SAYS ONE OF THE MOST DISTURBING SIGHTS THEY'VE WITNESSED IN THE TROUBLES WAS FIVE KIDZ KICKING A BURNING TEDDY BEAR TO DEATH, AND I BEGIN UNDERSTAND THE TALK ABOUT USING SYMBOLS - THE AFOREMENTIONED ACT REPRESENTING SO MUCH MINDLESS AGGRESSION.

THEIR SONGS INTER-MINGLE FEELINGS - THE VIOLENT + OBSCENE WITH BITTERNESS + SORROW IN "STRANGE NEWS".

ONSTAGE WILLIE + BOOTS SEE THEMSELVES AS PLAYING OUT BOTH THEIR OWN FANTASIES + THEIR AUDIENCES. BUT SOMETIMES THE AUDIENCE WANTS A SLICE OF THE ACTION - WILLIE TALKS ABOUT A RECENT GIG WHERE A LOT OF "STRAIGHT GUYS" CAME FOR A BIT OF A CRACK + ENDED UP USING HIS GUITAR AS A PHALLUS + SIMULATING MASTURBATION WITH IT.

OF THE SMALL PIECES I HEARD OF

ASKMOTHERASKMOTHERASKMOTHERASK

ASK MOTHER ARE (READING IN A CLOCKWISE DIRECTION): SUIT-BASS, BOOTS-VOCALS WILLIE-RHYTHM, CLIK-DRUMS, GEOFF- LEAD GUITAR.



THE GROUP THERE IS A DEFINITE 1964 TINGE. BOOTS' VOCALS + GEOFF'S GUITAR ALTHOUGH THEY CLAIM THE LATTER NOT TO BE A DIRECT COPY OF WILLIAMSON'S STYLE BUT A SYNTHESIS OF ALL THE GUITARISTS. HE'S LISTENED TO AND THE RESULTING SOUND IS VERY SIMILAR TO WILLIAMSON'S GRANITE CRUNCHING CHORDS.

THE NAME ASK MOTHER COMES FROM A FILM BY FRENCH DIRECTOR JULES OGAN IN WHICH THE PHYSICATH KILLER HERO STRANGLES HIS VICTIMS + EMBLAZONES "ASK MOTHER ABOVE THEM IN LIPSTICK."

BOOTS + WILLIE DECIDED ON THE NAME BECAUSE IT BROUGHT TOGETHER BOTH ENVIRONMENTAL AND HEREDITARY ELEMENTS, THE REST OF THE GROUP AGREED.

IT WOULD BE THE EASIEST THING

BEEN TOGETHER SINCE LAST SEPTEMBER, THEY FEEL THAT THEY'VE BEEN TREATED LIKE COUNTRY HICKS. NOW IT'S TIME TO PAY BACK.

IN THE WORLD TO DISMISS ASK MOTHER AS EITHER PRETENTIOUS PSUEDS OR COMPLETE NOOTERS (BOOTS MAKES A POINT OF SAYING HELLO TO EVERYONE HE DOESN'T KNOW).

BUT WHAT THEY ARE TRYING TO DO IS USE ROCK 'N' ROLL IN AREAS THAT ARE NOT OFTEN EXPLORED. BY MERGING THE REAL AND THE UNREAL, THE CONSCIOUS + SUBCONSCIOUS AND PRODUCING A NEW AND ULTIMATE MUSICAL REALITY. DOES IT WORK? MOST IMPORTANTLY IS IT ENJOYABLE TO LISTEN TO?

WELL YOU MAY BE ABLE TO JUDGE FOR YOURSELF IF BAND MANAGE TO SECURE THE GIG AT THE POUND FOR WHICH THEY'RE TRYING AT PRESENT.

THE IDIOTS, PROTEX BLUE + VICTIM AT THE GLENMACHON STABLES-31ST MARCH

ORGANIZED BY TERRI HOOLEY WITH VICTIM TAKING THE PLACE OF THE PORTRUSHED RUDI, IT WAS A GREAT EVENING WITH A STRONG SEX, DRUGS + ROCK 'N' ROLL ATMOSPHERE. THE COPS TURNED UP TO CAUSE TROUBLE (YOURS TRULY BEING HIT BY AN OFF DUTY OFFICER) BUT THE KIDZ KEPT ZEN COOL, GROOVING TO THE GROUPS WHICH RANGED FROM THE RIDICULOUS TO THE OWN WAY.

FIRST UP IT WAS THE NOW DEFUNCT IDIOTS WHO TURNED ALL THE HOURS WITH TENNIS RACKETS IN FRONT OF THE MIRROR INTO A CRUDE BARRAGE OF NOISE. IF PUNK MEANT ANYTHING IT MEANT THE IDIOTS. ALL 16, ALL TANKED OUTTA THEIR SCONES WITH A SINGER WHOSE TOO DRUNK TO REMEMBER THE WORDS, A BASSIST MORE INTERESTED IN POSING FOR THE PHOTOGRAPHER, A DRUMMER WHO CONSTANTLY FLUNG HIS STICKS AT THE BASSIST IN DISGUST AT HIS POSTURING + A GUITARIST DETERMINED TO KEEP HIS CREW ON A STEADY COURSE.

THE IDIOTS SEND TEARS TRICKLING DOWN YOUR INSIDE LEG IN PERVERSE APPRECIATION AT THE NEW CONCEPT OF... FRICTION-ROCK!! THE ULTIMATE HILARITY FACTOR IS THAT HUMOUR WASN'T INTENTIONAL - THESE GUYS WERE ACTUALLY SERIOUS. THEIR MUSICAL ABILITY WAS A CROSS BETWEEN SID VICSOS ON SMACK + THE ROOFWRECKS AT THE TRIDENT, BUT SINCE WHEN HAS THAT MATTERED? I LOVED 'EM.

NEXT IT WAS THE IMPRESSIVE + POTENTIALLY TIGHT WHITE BUTTONEED SHIRTS, SKINNY LEG PIPES + TRAINERS, ALMOST WORKMANLIKE, A DEFINITE READY FOR ACTION APPEARANCE. BATTERS WILKO DERIVED(?) CHICKEN STRUT FLANKING A SINGER OWEN ON ONE SIDE + PAUL'S SIMONESQUE EXPRESSIONS + GUITAR HERO POSES ON THE OTHER.

PROTEX ARE ANOTHER VERY YOUNG BAND WHO'D FRIGHTEN SHIT OUT OF ALOT OF ESTABLISHED ACTS WITH THEIR POWERFUL DYNAMICS CONTROL + OVERALL CONFIDENCE.



PIC: PROTEX BLUE - L-R PAUL MAXELL-BASS, AIDAN: GUITAR, BATER: GUITAR, OWEN: DRUMS

"GETTING SICK OF YOUR IRRIGATION"

IT WAS A DEBUT PERFORMANCE + A VERY MEMORABLE ONE. THE SET WAS MOSTLY COVER VERSIONS BUT CLEVERLY CHOSEN TO DISPLAY THE BAND'S BEST FACETS.

"JANE JONES" BEING A POINT IN CASE WITH OWEN FLEXING MUSCLE SUPERBLY ON THE SKINS. THE CHUNKY CHORDING OF "READY STEADY GO" CAME OFF A TREAT AND CLASSIC BUZZCOCKS TOWN "WHAT DO I GET?" WAS VERY WELL EXECUTED, AS I SAID MOSTLY COVER VERSIONS BUT ALL PLAYED REFRESHINGLY.

"LISTENING IN" WAS THE STAND-OUT GROUP COMPOSITION, FOR ALL ODM GREPS AT DOWNTOWN, WHERE THE GROUP WENT THE FOLLOWING WEEK TO RECORD A DEMO - USE THEM WHILE YOU CAN, LADS.

THE SET CULMINATED IN NEO- NOSTALGIA WITH FISTS PIERCING THE AIR + THE WHITE RIOT CLARION CALL RAISING THE ROOF.

BY THE TIME VICTIM TOOK THE FLOOR CONSTABULARY MEMBERS WERE OUT IN FORCE + AS OFTEN HAPPENS ULSTER'S PUNKY-WAVER WERE UNDER CLOSE SURVEILLANCE.

VICTIM PLAYED A VAGUELY ENJOYABLE SET STARTING OFF WITH SUPER-TIGHT SONG ARRANGEMENTS + GRADUALLY LOOSENING UP IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AUDIENCE ALCOHOL INTAKE.

LIKE PROTEX THEIR VOCALS ARE NOT THE STRONGEST + SUFFERED DUE TO AN IDIOT-MUTILATED MICROPHONE RENDERING HARMONIES IMPOSSIBLE.

THE SET NOW INCLUDES 8 ORIGINALS, TWO OF WHICH ARE BEING PREPARED FOR RELEASE AS A SINGLE. THE SONG INTRODUCED BY TERRI MOLEY AS **GOOD VIBRATIONS 2ND SINGLE** WAS REALLY STRONG + A NO-NOSENSE SENSE OF MELODIC CONTROL WAS APPARENT ALTHOUGH THIS WAS LACKING IN ONE OR TWO OF THE BAND'S OTHER SONGS.

THE JAUNTY BACK AND FORTH RHYTHM OF "LEAVIN' HOME" LEFT ITS MARK AND THE GROUP CAREERED THROUGH SUCH NOTABLES AS "ONE TRACK MIND" + "NON STOP DANCING" CONSTANTLY THE NOW FAMED RUDI CHANT OF SS RYC WAS MADE BY THE BAND + AUDIENCE ALIKE (IT BEING AT ONE OF THESE JUNCTURES I RECEIVED MY BASHING) + TENSION BEGAN TO BUILD.

AN OFFICER WAS AT FIRST THOUGHT TO "HAVE BROKEN ONE OF VICTIM'S GUITAR PLUGS BUT THE NEXT DAY MALCOLM, THE IDIOTS MANAGER, ADMITS TO THE CRIME.

EVERY TIME THE BAND ARE ABOUT TO STOP SOME DRUNKEN IDIOT WILL GET UP AND SCREAM FOR AN ENCORE + THE GROUP REPEAT NUMBERS OR ASK FOR REQUESTS AND EVERYONE BEGINS TO FREAK OUT.

YOU CAN ALMOST FEEL THE DISGUST OF THE BOYS IN BLUE AS THE AUDIENCE FAIL TO RISE TO THEIR BAIT + SOONER OR LATER THEY BEGIN TO TROOP OFF MAKING AS MANY DEROGATORY REMARKS AS POSSIBLE BEFORE THEY GO. IT WAS SO OBVIOUS THE COPS WERE ONLY THERE TO IRRITATE NOTHING HAPPENED THIS TIME BUT IT'S SO EASY FOR TROUBLE TO START WHEN A GIG'S NEAR OVERFLOWING WITH COPS. MAYBE THAT'LL BE THE END OF THEIR INTERFERENCE, SOMEHOW HOWEVER I DOUBT IT.

NOTWITHSTANDING IT WAS A GREAT NIGHT + I'D LIKE TO SEE MORE GROUPS PLAY THE 'MACHEN BECAUSE IT'S A REALLY GOOD GIG.

A BIG THANKS TO KEN + HIS MUM + DAD FOR THE BED 'N' BREAKFAST.

OUTCASTS + FLYING SQUAD SIGNED TO GOODBYES

GRAHAM PARKER

"FREE FORM, YEAH FREE FORM," CHUCKLES

DRUMMER MAN STEVE

GOULDINGAS WE ROUNDED

UP A LITTLE CHAT ABOUT THE NATURE OF HIS INVOLVEMENT WITH LOVEABLE STIFF LOONEY WACKLESS

ERIC. STEVE'S BEEN INVOLVED WITH

THE MADCAP THRU SESSION WORK BUT AT THE MOMENT HIS CONCENTRATION IS FIRMLY IN LINE

WITH THAT OF THE REST OF THE CREW IN ANTICIPATION A TONIGHT'S GIG AT THE WHITLA HALL. AS THE

TOUR BUS MOTORS INTO TOWN HE TALKS ABOUT THE PROTECTED 2ND

RUMOUR ALBUM WHICH WILL PROBABLY BE UNLEASHED AROUND NEXT AUTUMN(?) BEING

RECORDED IN DA SUMMER. THE NIGHT BEFORE THE LADS

HAD PLAYED TO A SMALL-BUT- PACKED LITTLE HALL IN GALWAY +

DESPITE EARLY RESERVATIONS 'BOUT THE SOUND THE AUDIENCE DUG IT SO

EVERYTHING WAS COOL. THE ATMOSPHERE ON THE COACH IS ONE OF CHEERY, LEVEL HEADED BUT QUIETLY

CONFIDENT ROCK 'N' ROLLERS OUT TO LAP THE KIDZ.

AT THE SOUND-CHECK IN THE WHITLA THERE IS SOME PROBLEM WITH WHAT THE TECHNICIAN CALLED

A HALL FREQUENCY BUT GRAHAM RIGHTLY OPINES THAT WHEN THE HALL

IS PACKED WITH HUMAN BODIES THE FAULT WILL BE CORRECTED.

AFTER THE SOUND-CHECK GRAHAM FACES UP FOR HIS DEBUT A-Y

INTERVIEW. AFTER A DISCOURSE ABOUT HOW THE TOUR HAS BEEN GOING SO FAR + VOICING MUTUAL DISGUST AT THE

TICKET PRICES WE CHECK-OUT WHAT THE PARKER EAR-BUDS ARE PRESENTLY

TREATING THEMSELVES TO + HE'S HEAVILY INTO RAMONIC ROCKETS TO RUSSIA +

SURPRISE XTC, BUZZCOCKS SAYS HIS OWN SONGS ARE MORE

CONCERNED WITH EMOTION THAN IMAGERY + WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE NEXT

PRODUCER HE'S LIKELY TO ENLIST SAYS IT COULD WELL BE JEFF YUNNE OF G.L.O

ALTHO "THERE'S A DANGER HE'LL TURN IT INTO AN G.L.O ALBUM."

WHY "LORD DON'T ASK ME QUESTIONS" AS THE NEW SINGLE? "WELL

PRODUCER JOHN LANGE THOUGHT IT A REALLY STRONG SONG + A NEAT

ARRANGEMENT OF IT." THE NEW DOUBLE ALBUM? "WE'RE SELLING IT AT THE

PRICE OF A SINGLE L.P." (JUST AS WELL CONSIDERING ONE SIDE IS A



INTERVIEW. AFTER A DISCOURSE ABOUT HOW THE TOUR HAS BEEN GOING SO FAR + VOICING MUTUAL DISGUST AT THE TICKET PRICES WE CHECK-OUT WHAT THE PARKER EAR-BUDS ARE PRESENTLY TREATING THEMSELVES TO + HE'S HEAVILY INTO RAMONIC ROCKETS TO RUSSIA + SURPRISE XTC, BUZZCOCKS SAYS HIS OWN SONGS ARE MORE CONCERNED WITH EMOTION THAN IMAGERY + WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE NEXT PRODUCER HE'S LIKELY TO ENLIST SAYS IT COULD WELL BE JEFF YUNNE OF G.L.O ALTHO "THERE'S A DANGER HE'LL TURN IT INTO AN G.L.O ALBUM."



WHY "LORD DON'T ASK ME QUESTIONS" AS THE NEW SINGLE? "WELL PRODUCER JOHN LANGE THOUGHT IT A REALLY STRONG SONG + A NEAT ARRANGEMENT OF IT." THE NEW DOUBLE ALBUM? "WE'RE SELLING IT AT THE PRICE OF A SINGLE L.P." (JUST AS WELL CONSIDERING ONE SIDE IS A EXPERIENCE WHICH GRAHAM RECOLLECTS AS BEING AN EXPERIENCE FROM WHICH SOME PEOPLE RETURN ENLIGHTENED (OF WHICH HE WAS ONE) + ALTHOUGH HE SAYS IT DOESN'T MAKE HIM IN ANYWAY SUPERIOR TO ANYONE ELSE IT'S STILL A VERY HEAVY EXPERIENCE THAT ACTS AS A BIG INFLUENCE ON HIS SONG-WRITING.

PARKER: AND HIS ATTITUDE TO THEM. IS HE REALLY AS BITTER AS THE SONGS SUGGEST?

HE LAUGHS, "NO I'M NOT REALLY BITTER THE SONGS ARE A FORM OF RELEASE (NOT WALLOWING IN HIS MISERY A LA JAMES TAYLOR ET AL)

HEAT IN HARLEM ON THE LAST L.P. CAME IN FOR A FAIR BIT OF CRITICISM, I OPINE THE PEOPLE WHO TOOK IT TO TASK WERE BEING HYPOCRITICAL.

"YEAH, AITE THE SONG HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH BLACK OR WHITE OR ANYTHING. ITS JUST ABOUT THE INCREDIBLE, WELL, HEAT, BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT IT IS, THAT'S YOU FEEL IN HARLEM."

"I TRIED NOT TO DISGUISE ANYTHING + MAYBE THAT WASN'T TOO COOL." HE SAYS THE SONG ITSELF MUST IN SOME WAY BE UNIQUE WITH "STAP-DANCE" SEQUENCE ETC.

SO WHY DIDN'T "N.Y.S" GET INTO THE 30 - "IT WAS ONLY ON THE

NORTHERN RADIO STATIONS AT THE START + BY THE TIME IT MADE THE RADIO ONE PLAYLIST + TOP CHANCES

HAD DIMINISHED." WHAT ELSE DID HE SAY?

LAST YEARS DOLY MONT WAS GREAT BUT THE TIME ALLOCATED WAS TOO

SHORT. FANLINES ARE GREAT BY G.P. HE SAID THERE'S NO SUCH

THING AS A MOVEMENT OR NEW WAVE, THERE'S NO UNITY ITS

JUST BANDS MAKING MONEY THEY'LL NEVER AFFECT ANY

CHANGE OVER THE POWERS THAT BE AND THE DIRE STATE OF

ROCK AND ROLL + THE MEDIA RELATIONS, BUT ITS STILL A HEALTHY

RELATIONSHIP WAS THE GENERAL GIST OF HIS REASONING.

INTERVIEWS ARE ALRITE ONCE IN A WHILE BUT HE SOON GETS FED-UP

WITH THEM. HE'S VERY MUCH INTO ATTITUDE AS FAR AS SONGWRITING GOES

HE GETS IDEAS ON TOUR BUT DOESN'T WRITE ON TOUR. ELVIS COSTELLO

ENJOYS HIS STUFF + "I KNOW HE ENJOYED MY FIRST L.P." THERE YA GO

POP-PICKERS THATS ALL I CAN DECIPHER FROM MY NOTES + I CAN ASSURE YOU

IT WASN'T AS BORING AS IT SOUNDS AND MAYBE SOMEDAY GRAHAM'LL COME

BACK, WE'LL HAVE A TAPE RECORDER + WE CAN DO IT RIGHT, HOPE SO!!

THE GIG ITSELF WAS AMAZING, TOTAL EXCELLENCE

APPROACHING COSTELLO-LIKE PEAKS OF ECSTASY WITH JUST

ABOUT EVERY PARKER FAVE RAVE IN TOWN.

THERE IS NOT ONE FLABBY GILL IN THE WHOLE SET-UP -

BEEFY, CUD CHEWING RHYTHM PLAYER MARTIN BELMONT CHOPS

PERFECT FODDER FOR DAPPER BRINDLEY SCHRANZ'S FLUENT

TEAZING GUITAR BREAKS. THE RHYTHM AXIS IS JUST ABOUT

THE BEST IN EXISTENCE. WHILE PARKER'S LARYNX, KEYPING HORNST WEAVING

THE FULLEST SOUND EVER HEARD ON + THE SOUND ITSELF WAS BEAUTIFULLY CRISP + CLEAR - TREMENDOUS.

CHRIST IT WAS A GIG THAT MUST HAVE SURPASSED EVEN KYLE'S EXPECTATIONS. GRAHAM HAD SED

EARLIER IT WOULD BE GREAT IF EVERYONE GOT UP AT THE SAME TIME + THEY DID - I FORGET WHICH NUMBER,

IT WAS JUST ONE BIG ANDRENALIN RUSH TO THE STAGE. WAS HE + THE

BOYS BLASTED THRU A MORE THAN VALUE FOR MONEY SET WHICH INCLUDED

3 ENCORES. OH YEAH A NOTE TO THE JERK

IN THE MELODY MAKER - ENCORES AREN'T "CUSTOMARY" IN BELFAST.

THE AUDIENCES HERE JUST HAVE A

SUSS FOR WHAT IS GOOD + PARKER COULD HAVE HAD ANOTHER 3 ENCORES

(AT LEAST). IT WAS JUST BLATANTLY OBVIOUS YOU HAD AN AXE TO GRIND -

(WORKING FOR TIM NICHOLSON?)

JEELYS THEY TALK ABOUT THE RAMONES BEING CARTOON MATERIAL

NOT ABOUT RUDI - PURE POP FOR DRUNK PEOPLE. BESIDES I LIKE 'EM, THEY FILL

UP SPACE, GIVE US PICS + SINGLES - PAYOLA SCANDAL!! OUR HEROES

HAVE BRAVED THE ELEMENTS + MADE IT TO PORTRUSH WHERE THEY BY ALL

ACCOUNTS DIDN'T GET THE KIDZ ROCKS OFF WITH THE SAME GUSTO AS

PLAY-SAFE-COVER-VERSIONS-TIME-STIFFS

THEY STAYED THERE LONG ENOUGH FOR ERSTWHILE SOUND LIGHTS

MAN MARTY TO FALL THRU A PINBALL MACHINE WHILE EVERYONE ELSE -

FANGE ALBERT, KEN + GUS ETC SLEPT ON THE STONE COLD FLOOR - REAL

BIG TIME, EH WOT. BIG TIME IS OF COURSE THE

NAME OF THE AWE-INSPIRING NEW DOUBLE 'A'-SIDED SINGLE. TO PROVE IT

AIN'T A ONE OFF + BECAUSE THEY ENJOYED MAKING IT SO MUCH THE

FOLLOW-UP "TIME TO BE PROUD" OF WHICH YOUNGBOY SAYS - "IT

BRINGS OUR SONG WRITING ABILITIES FORWARD IN LEAPS + BOUNDS" IS

BEING RECORDED TRES VITE. AND THAT MAY BE THE LAST

THINK OF PLAYING. KEEP COOL.

THINK OF PLAYING. KEEP COOL.

THINK OF PLAYING. KEEP COOL.

THINK OF PLAYING. KEEP COOL.

THINK OF PLAYING. KEEP COOL.

THINK OF PLAYING. KEEP COOL.

EVER ULSTER RECORDED RUDI 45 COL THEY'LL SOON BE SELLING THEIR P.A IN FAVOUR OF A

VAN + SETTING UP HOME IN ENGLAND.

BUT BEFORE THEN THERE'S A GIG IN BANGOR'S LITTLE

THEATRE WITH 2 OTHER UNDECIDED BANDS (POSSIBLY BUZZCOCKS + CLASH) ON MAY 5TH AT 6TH.

WOT ELSE? RONNIE'S GETTING SONG-WRITING INSPIRATION FROM HORROR STORIES, GRIMY'S

GETTING DRUNK, GORDY'S GETTING A NEW AMP + I'M

GETTING WRITERS CRAMP.

LOCAL STUFF LAST BITS ARE ALWAYS SCRAPPY, HA, HA.

FREE THE STIFFS "CAMPAIGN - LETTERS OF SUPPORT TO AU - YES, FOLKS, AU'S

LATEST TRIP INTO THE REALMS OF THE SOCIAL CONSCIENCE IS THE CAMPAIGN TO FREE THE

STIFFS FROM THE CLAMMY, MURDER ORIGINATOR CLUTCHES OF THE PRESS - TES, MCGILLAND'S

+ HIS ENTOURAGE OF SO-CALLED JOURNALISTS - MINDLESS, UNINTELLIGENT COCKTAIL-

SIPING TARDS WHO DELIGHT AT SEEING THE NASTY PUNK "BONGO" (YEAH, THAT'S

ACTUALLY NOT 100% 'EM SAID) THE STIFFS POTENTIAL HURRICANE POWER FORG + INCLUDING

WHICH SHOULD BE UNLEASHED ON THE COMPLACENT A-S ULSTER POPULACE IS BEING HARASSED

THE MAD DOG STRAINING AT THE LEASH HAS BEEN SEATED + MURDERED - AAAAH! ANDROIDS - LET MAKE ME SICK!!

AT A "DRY" (NO BOOZE!) GIMMICK + THEY HAVE A CERTAIN SOMETHING

BUT TO SAY THE LEAST THEY'RE ER, MONOCROMATIC + AN EAR

ACHE AFTER A FEW NUMBERS. BUT CONGRATS TO THE EVER HELPFUL + CO-OPERATIVE ALA FOR LETTING

4 GROUPS PLAY ALTHOUGH ONE WAS THE REALLY ATROUSIOUS BATTERIES.

SURPRISE OF THE EVENING WAS THE IDIOTS - SOBERED + ALMOST GOOD!!

LAST BIT ON VICTIM WHOSE NEW SINGLE IS BEING RECORDED

A FEW DAYS FROM WRITING. AN E.P. IT IS WITH THE V. STRONG "STRANGE

THINGS BY NIGHT" ROUGHLY ABOUT NIGHT-TIME PUNKS. WITH 2 OTHER

FAVES ON THE FLIP VICTIM WILL BE APPEARING AT THE BELFAST

PUNK FESTIVAL [DESTINED TO BE A DISASTER WITH A.G ORGANIZING]

ON SOME SAT 4TH IN MAY(?) WITH EVERY OTHER LOCAL GROUP YOU CAN

THINK OF PLAYING. KEEP COOL.

THINK OF PLAYING. KEEP COOL.

THINK OF PLAYING. KEEP COOL.

THINK OF PLAYING. KEEP COOL.

THINK OF PLAYING. KEEP COOL.

THINK OF PLAYING. KEEP COOL.



OUTCASTS + FLYING SQUAD SIGNED TO GOODBYES

G. 3

G. 4

GARDENERS LAND? NEW ROSE?



PATRIK FITZGERALD: REJECT!

BY DAVE ANGRY.

PATRICK FITZGERALD IS ONE OF THE MOST WEIRD, STRANGEST, MOST MYSTERIOUS NORMAL PERSONS I'VE EVER MET. IF YOU HAVEN'T HEARD HIS E.P. ON SMALL WONDER, "SAFETY-PIN IN MY HEART" THEN YOU'RE REALLY MISSING SOMETHING. HE PLAYS NOTS BEST DESCRIBED AS ACQUSTIC NEW-WAVE, OR AS HE PUTS IT "FAST SONGS & SLOW SONGS." HE'S SMALL, ABOUT 21-22 SHY AND TOTALLY UNASSUMING. YET, I'VE WATCHED THE GUY STAND UP ON STAGE AND PLAY TO CROWDS WHO WANT FAST H.N./PUNK MUZAK, GET PELTED WITH ABUSE & THEN TOTALLY CONVERT THE MEATHAM INTO FAWNING, ADMIRING FANZ. THERE USED TO BE A WORD FOR IT - A HERO.

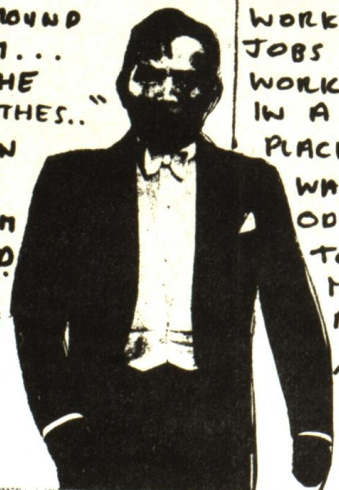
I FIRST ASK HIM ABOUT HIS BACKGROUND: "I PLAYED FIRST IN OLD ROCK BANDS. FOR MONEY. I GOT REALLY PISSED OF WITH IT."

DID YOU STAY ON AT SCHOOL, LONG? "WHAT! NO WAY. I LEFT WHEN I WAS 14 - NO QUALIFICATIONS NOFIN'." YEAH, BUT YOU WRITE REALLY GOOD VERSE NOW... "I USED TO SIT AT THE BACK DURING AROUND ME, OVER EVERYTHING. I HAN-OUT - EVERYBODY STARTED YELUNG SHOUTIN'... I'VE NEVER BEEN BACK, SINCE..." HE WORKED AT ALL SORTS OF JOBS - 2 YEARS OFFICE WORK - THEN HE WORKED IN A FASHION DESIGNER'S PLACE. ALL THIS TIME HE WAS STILL WRITING THE ODD BIT OF VERSE, TRYING TO FIT IT IN TO THE MUSIC OF DIFFERENT ROCK-BANDS AND NOT SUCCEEDING. "THAT'S WHEN I DECIDED TO GO ACQUSTIC & PLAY THE SONGS I WANTED TO PLAY,

HE GOES ON TO TELL ME A STORY FROM HIS CHILDHOOD. SEE, HIS PARENTS WERE IRISH R.C.'S AND AS HE GOES ON... "I NEVER

USED TO GO TO CHURCH. THEY DIDN'T HIND ALL THAT MUCH. BUT ONE CHRISTMAS, I CAME IN DRUNK (IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I EVER GOT PISSED.) AND MY MUM ASKED ME VERY NICELY, 'PAT WILL YOU NOT GO TO CHURCH WITH US?.. BEING DRUNK, I SAID YES. SO WE ALL GO TO CHURCH. ALL THE FAMILY. I WAS ALL RITE UNTIL I GOT INSIDE THE CHURCH. BUT,

PUNKS PUT THE BOOT IN!



THE WAY I WANTED THEN PLAYED.. "HE WENT ON THE DOLE AND OF COURSE, WHEN THE NEW-WAVE SCENE BROKE HE ADMITS HE FOUND IT "A VERY FASHIONABLE WAY TO LIVE..." BUT, AFTER OVER A YEAR THIS WAY, HIS MIND WOULD CHANGED. HE'S STILL ON THE DOLE, YEAH EVEN WITH THE E.P. SELLING IN LORRY-LOADS AND LUMINARIES (!) SUCH AS JOHN PEEL (WELL, HE IS A LAMP!) RAVING ABOUT OUR DIMINUTIVE HERO. NO-ONE SIGNED-HIM UP FOR AGES, OF COURSE!

"ISLAND JUST LAUGHED AT THE TAPE I GAVE THEM.. THEN ONE DAY I GAVE A TAPE TO COLIN

AT SMALL WONDER (I USED TO SPEND MY TIME HANGING ABOUT THE SHOP. I JUST POSTED IT THROUGH HIS LETTER-BOX, COZ THE SHOP WAS CLOSED AT THE TIME. HE LIKED IT SO MUCH THAT IT BECAME THE "SAFETY-PIN" E.P..." DURING THIS TIME, PAT TRIED THE NOVEL TASK OF BUSKING BUT NOT IN THE USUAL CENTRAL LONDON PLACES, BUT, RATHER ON THE FURTHER-OUT, SUBURBAN TUBE-STATIONS: "PEOPLE GOT REALLY ANNOYED WITH ME.. I'D PLAY AN ACQUSTIC 'SATISFACTION' AND THEY ACTUALLY CAME UP AND TELL ME I SHOULD BE DOING SOMETHING MORE RESPONSIBLE!!..." PATS MOST CONTROVERSIAL TOON AT THE MOMENT IS "LEWISHAM". IT LASTS 18 SECONDS AND CONSISTS MAINLY OF THE LINE: "LEWISHAM.. ITS GONNA HAPPEN.. AGAIN AND AGAIN.. AND AGAIN..." EASILY

WHEN I WENT UP TO THE ALTER AND EVERYBODY WAS WATCHIN, I SUDDENLY PUKE UP ALL AROUND ME, OVER EVERYTHING. I HAN-OUT - EVERYBODY STARTED YELUNG SHOUTIN'... I'VE NEVER BEEN BACK, SINCE..." HE WORKED AT ALL SORTS OF JOBS - 2 YEARS OFFICE WORK - THEN HE WORKED IN A FASHION DESIGNER'S PLACE. ALL THIS TIME HE WAS STILL WRITING THE ODD BIT OF VERSE, TRYING TO FIT IT IN TO THE MUSIC OF DIFFERENT ROCK-BANDS AND NOT SUCCEEDING. "THAT'S WHEN I DECIDED TO GO ACQUSTIC & PLAY THE SONGS I WANTED TO PLAY,

THE BEST ANTI-NAZI SONG YET WRITTEN. ITS THE A-SIDE OF HIS NEXT SINGLE. I ASK HIM IF HE'S NOT FRIGHTENED OF RETRIBUTION FROM THE NAZIS: "... I'VE ALREADY HAD A FEW DEATH-THREATS AND THINGS, BUT I DON'T CARE.. I SING IT EVERYWHERE." ANOTHER OF HIS SONGS IS CALLED "THE BINGO CROWD", ANOTHER "THE LITTLE PIPPERS" - BOTH MILES HEAD OF FAKES LIKE INMURY FOR LONDON STREET AWARENESS. UNLIKE DURY, IT DOESN'T GIVE THE IMPRESSION OF ACTUALLY GOING INTO THE STREETS FOR MATERIAL, RATHER IS NATURALLY A PART OF THE STREET. HE'S JUST ONE SMALL FELIA WITH A GUITAR. HE TRAVELS AROUND THE COUNTRY BY BUS, OR ON HIS OWN TWO FEET. HE USUALLY GETS PAID A PANNER FOR A GIG. MOREOVER, LACKS ANY SORT OF EXTENSIONS, WHICH, IN MY VIEW, ALREADY PLACES HIM ABOVE PRATS LIKE JOHN COOPER-CLARKE AND THE APPALING PATTI WITH. COMPARE "PISS FACTORY" TO SOMETHING DIRECT AND CUTTING THIS:

THE BLACK & WHITE RACIAL DISHARMONY IS JUST A COVER STORY concocted to HIDE THE FACT, THAT WORKING-CLASS PEOPLE, ARE STILL BEING KICKED ALL OVER THE PLACE.. THINK ABOUT IT, PROD. & CATH. KIDS. ITS YOUR LIFE.... "ITS ALL BEEN DESIGNED TO SAY LETS KEEP ANOTHER OF THE FUCKERS DOWN..."

ONE OF HIS MAIN INFLUENCES IS, OF COURSE, BOWIE. "I LOVE HIS COCKNEY ACCENT. THAT'S STILL THERE IN HIS SONGS. HE SHOWED ME THAT YOU OUGHT TO BE PROUD OF THAT ACCENT, AND NOT TO PUT ON AN AMERICAN VOICE IN YOUR SINGING..." HIS VOICE AND SONG STRUCTURES ARE VERY REMNESCENT OF EARLY BOWIE, AND THATS ONE OF THE BIGGEST COMPLIMENTS I KNOW I CAN PAY PAT. I ASK HIM ABOUT THE NEW-WAVE SCENE. HE DOESN'T LIKE MOST, INDEED ANY, OF THE ALBUMS THAT HAVE COME, COZ "THEY'RE ALL MUSICALLY ON THE SAME LEVEL.. THE SAME SOUND THROUGHOUT TWO SIDES OF MUSIC IS NOT GOOD..." BUT, IF YOU MAKE AN ALBUM OF ACQUSTIC SONGS WON'T THAT BE JUST THE SAME THING, ONLY IN REVERSE? "AH, BUT THATS NOT GOING TO HAPPEN.. I'M ALREADY THINKING OF USING A BAND IN THE STUDIO FOR ONE SIDE OF THE ALBUM, AND HAVE THE OTHER SIDE JUST ACQUSTIC SONGS.. THE BAND WOULDN'T TOUR WITH ME, BUT; I LIKE IT FAR TOO MUCH BY MYSELF!" IT CERTAINLY TAKES A HELL OF OF A LOT OF GUTS TO SUPPORT THE BUZZCOCKS & THE SLITS, STANDING UP THERE ON HIS TOD. HE'S HAD A FEW ROUGH GIGS, BUT APPARENTLY, EVEN THOUGH MOST PEOPLE STILL THINK HE'S A BAND, HE WINS MOST OF HIS STAGE BATTLES. HE DOESN'T MIND ADMITTING, HOWEVER, THAT HE ALWAYS GETS

ONE OF HIS MAIN INFLUENCES IS, OF COURSE, BOWIE. "I LOVE HIS COCKNEY ACCENT. THAT'S STILL THERE IN HIS SONGS. HE SHOWED ME THAT YOU OUGHT TO BE PROUD OF THAT ACCENT, AND NOT TO PUT ON AN AMERICAN VOICE IN YOUR SINGING..." HIS VOICE AND SONG STRUCTURES ARE VERY REMNESCENT OF EARLY BOWIE, AND THATS ONE OF THE BIGGEST COMPLIMENTS I KNOW I CAN PAY PAT. I ASK HIM ABOUT THE NEW-WAVE SCENE. HE DOESN'T LIKE MOST, INDEED ANY, OF THE ALBUMS THAT HAVE COME, COZ "THEY'RE ALL MUSICALLY ON THE SAME LEVEL.. THE SAME SOUND THROUGHOUT TWO SIDES OF MUSIC IS NOT GOOD..." BUT, IF YOU MAKE AN ALBUM OF ACQUSTIC SONGS WON'T THAT BE JUST THE SAME THING, ONLY IN REVERSE? "AH, BUT THATS NOT GOING TO HAPPEN.. I'M ALREADY THINKING OF USING A BAND IN THE STUDIO FOR ONE SIDE OF THE ALBUM, AND HAVE THE OTHER SIDE JUST ACQUSTIC SONGS.. THE BAND WOULDN'T TOUR WITH ME, BUT; I LIKE IT FAR TOO MUCH BY MYSELF!" IT CERTAINLY TAKES A HELL OF OF A LOT OF GUTS TO SUPPORT THE BUZZCOCKS & THE SLITS, STANDING UP THERE ON HIS TOD. HE'S HAD A FEW ROUGH GIGS, BUT APPARENTLY, EVEN THOUGH MOST PEOPLE STILL THINK HE'S A BAND, HE WINS MOST OF HIS STAGE BATTLES. HE DOESN'T MIND ADMITTING, HOWEVER, THAT HE ALWAYS GETS

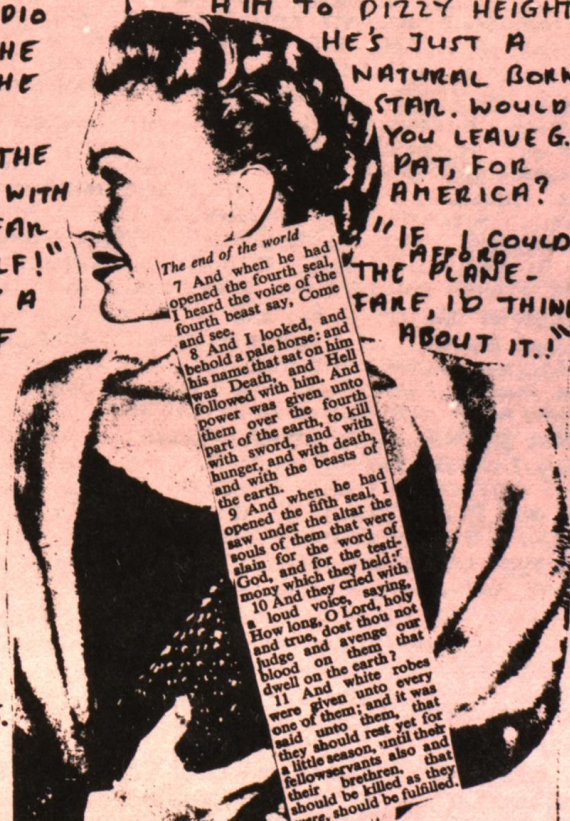
NAME WILL CAUSE TROUBLE. I REASSURE HIM ON THAT POINT & I'M CERTAIN HE'LL BE OVER HERE BEFORE VERY LONG. YOU MAY NOT KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE GUY NOW, BUT I'M WILLING TO PREDICT THAT WITHIN THE NEXT FEW YEARS, THE LITTLE MAN FROM LINERICK IS GOING TO BECOME A FRIGHTENINGLY BIG NAME. HIS PROGRESS AT THE MOMENT REMINDS ME OF BOWIE'S - IT JUST REQUIRES THE SORT OF BREAK THAT THE THIN WHITE DUKE RECEIVED WITH 'IGGY', TO ZOOM HIM TO DIZZY HEIGHTS. HE'S JUST A NATURAL BORN STAR. WOULD YOU LEAVE G.B., PAT, FOR AMERICA? "IF I COULD THE PLANE-FARE, I'D THINK ABOUT IT."

FOLLOWING A FASHION I SPOSE.. I ASK HIM ABOUT COMING TO BELFAST. HE'S OPENLY FRIGHTENED, THINKING HIS R.C.

NAME WILL CAUSE TROUBLE. I REASSURE HIM ON THAT POINT & I'M CERTAIN HE'LL BE OVER HERE BEFORE VERY LONG. YOU MAY NOT KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE GUY NOW, BUT I'M WILLING TO PREDICT THAT WITHIN THE NEXT FEW YEARS, THE LITTLE MAN FROM LINERICK IS GOING TO BECOME A FRIGHTENINGLY BIG NAME. HIS PROGRESS AT THE MOMENT REMINDS ME OF BOWIE'S - IT JUST REQUIRES THE SORT OF BREAK THAT THE THIN WHITE DUKE RECEIVED WITH 'IGGY', TO ZOOM HIM TO DIZZY HEIGHTS. HE'S JUST A NATURAL BORN STAR. WOULD YOU LEAVE G.B., PAT, FOR AMERICA? "IF I COULD THE PLANE-FARE, I'D THINK ABOUT IT."

THE end of the world
7 And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see.
8 And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.
9 And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for they held: money which they cried with loud voices, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them?
10 And unto every one of them was given a white robe, and they were told to wait a little season, until their fellow-servants also should be killed as they were.
11 And I saw, and there were given unto every one of them a white robe, and they were told to wait a little season, until their fellow-servants also should be killed as they were.

NF LIES!



THE 'GOOD VIBRATIONS' PARTY, STARRING: THE IDIOTS, VICTIM + RUDI AT THE WINDSOR HOTEL; BELFAST - 9/3/78.

All proceeds towards the alternative production of RUDI's latest single "Mr. Big Time" [IN THE GOOD VIBES LABEL] YES, THIS WAS THE NITE OF THE GOOD VIBES PARTY STARRING RUDI + FOR WHOM THE FESTIVITIES WERE ARRANGED, AND, PRESENTING THE FIRST EVER PERFORMANCE OF THOSE UP- + - COMING 'IDIOTS' - HARVEY, DEE, BARRY + GORDY.

OK, SO IT WAS A PARTY, RITE? A...UH... 'BENEFIT' FOR RUDI; DID THEY NEED IT? YES, IF YOU WANNA GET YOUR MITS ON THE STAR SINGLE WHICH YOU ALL SHOULD HAVE BY THE TIME YOU READ THIS.

GOOD OLE' TERRI (WELL, NOT THAT OLD!), THAT GREAT GUY FROM 'GOOD VIBES' RAN THINGS ON THE NITE + THOUGH HE CONFIDED IN ME LATER THAT HE THOUGHT THE PARTY WAS A FAILURE DUE TO 1) A BAD P.A. + 2) THE LOSS OF A MIKE WHICH SOME MISGUIDED NURD MADE OFF WITH ACTUALLY DURING VICTIM'S SET - LUDICROUS ISN'T IT? SO MUCH FOR BEING CLOSE TO THE AUDIENCE, EVERYONE THERE, HOWEVER, SEEMED TO REALLY ENJOY THEMSELVES ESPECIALLY THE MEMBERS OF THE FIRST BAND ON, PLAYING THEIR 1ST GIG, WHO WERE: THE **IDIOTS**: (Barry, Gordy, Dee + Harvey).

WELL, THE FAB FOUR GOT UP AND RATHER CAUTIOUSLY AT FIRST BUT WITH STEADILY-GROWING CONFIDENCE, DID 3 NUMBERS WHICH, CONSIDERING THAT THEY'D ONLY BEEN TOGETHER FOR ABOUT A WEEK BEFORE THIS GIG + HAD ONLY 4 NITES OF PRACTICE BEHIND THEM, WERE PRETTY GOOD BY ANYONE'S STANDARDS - OBVIOUSLY NOT AS POLISHED OR PROFESSIONAL AS THE MORE ESTABLISHED BELFAST BANDS SUCH AS RUDI, THE STIFFS OR VICTIM, BUT THAT ONLY COMES WITH TIME + LACK OF PRACTICE/EXPERIENCE SHOWED ITSELF ONLY TOO CLEARLY WHEN THEY FINISHED WITH A RATHER DISAPPOINTING, SOMEWHAT 'LEADEN' 33 R.P.M. VERSION OF "WHITE RIOT". BUT, ON THE WHOLE, THEY SHOWED SIGNS OF PROMISE - THEY'RE ALL YOUNG, PLenty OF TIME FOR IMPROVEMENT ETC. - AFTER THE INITIAL JITTERS, AND EVERYONE THERE ENJOYED THEIR BRIEF PERFORMANCE - SO THERE'S A BASE TO BUILD ON ANYWAY. GORDY'S A DECEPTIVELY FINE DRUMMER WHO "LIKES TO DO THE ROUNDS OF THE KIT"! BIG BARRY, BRIAN YOUNG'S PROTOGE BROTHER, IS A FAIRLY COMPETENT GUITARIST WHILE DEE WILSON, ALWAYS THE EXTROVERT, FELL ABOUT ALL OVER THE PLACE, BASS SLUNG LOW + MEAN, HAMMERING AWAY AT IT IN A HAIL OF NOISE AS THEY FINISHED THEIR SET WITH HARVEY (VOICED) WALKING OFF INTO THE CROWD! MEN, IT CAN BE DONE! ANYWAY, ITS GOOD TO SEE GUYS LIKE THIS GETTING UP + DOING SOMETHING, PARTICIPATING; IT CAN ONLY BE BENEFICIAL TO THE UP-TILL-RECENTLY STALE + STAGNATING + MONOTONOUSLY APATHETIC MUSIC SCENE OVER HERE. ITS YOUR CHANCE NOW FELLAS (+ GURLS) - YOU'LL NEVER NEVER GET IT AGAIN! (THE CHANCE, I MEAN!) BUT BACK TO 'LES IDIOTS' - MANY WERE IMPRESSED BY 'EM - RUDI, FOR EXAMPLE, BRIAN (TOTALLY UNBIASED) SAID: "I THINK THEY'RE BLOODY GOOD!" OK, ENUFF HEAD-SWELLING!

STOP PRESS: IDIOTS' BREAK-UP HORROR SHOCK! - REPORT ON (PERHAPS) FAREWELL GIG P.

NOW IT WAS THE TURN OF **VICTIM**, PROBABLY THE UNLUCKIEST OF ALL ULSTER BANDS AND THIS WAS FURTHER HIGHLIGHTED TONITE WITH SOME 'JUNT' TAKING 1 OF THE MIKES DURING THEIR SET - IN PARTLY TO THERE BEING WHAT OTHER FANZIN' SAID "A FREE GOBLE SINGLE TO EAT AT YOUR LEISURE!"

NO STAGE, THE BAND CONSEQUENTLY ENGLTFED BY THE AUDIENCE. WELL, VICTIM (COLIN, JES, KEN + JEFF) HAD RATHER AN UNHAPPY TIME WITH A LESS THAN HEALTHY P.A. BUT, DESPITE THESE MISHAPS, PLAYED A VERY 'COMPETANT SET', I REALLY LIKE THIS BAND - THEY HAVN'T BEEN AROUND TOO LONG (THEY'VE ONLY PLAYED A HANDFULL OF GIGS) BUT STILL THEY PLAY A V. PROFESSIONAL SET - IMPRESSIVE - JEFF, ON THIS PARTICULAR NITE SURPASSING ALL BOUNDS WITH A RED SATIN JACKET, WES TOO WITH A SORT OF SILVER BRAIDED JACKET AND THE, BY NOW, CUSTOMARY LEATHER TROUSERS + PINK SHOES! UM... YEAH, OF THEIR OWN COMPOSITIONS "LEAVING HOME" (THE BAND'S 1ST SINGLE, WHICH THEY ARE GOING INTO THE STUDIO SOON - MID-APRIL - TO RECORD) BEING PROBABLY THE STRONGEST. SO FAR, IT'S HARD TO CATEGORISE THEIR MUSIC - MAYBE THAT'S GOOD - THEY ALWAYS PLAY AN INFINITELY VARIED SET - ALWAYS DIFFERENT FROM THE LAST TIME YOU SAW 'EM THAT'S WHY THEY'RE ALWAYS SO ENJOYABLE. SOMETIMES A SPRINKLING OF MONKEES/BEATLES (60'S) NUMBERS COUPLED WITH THEIR OWN MATERIAL + A VARIETY OF TODAY'S FAVES - GIVES YOU A DISTINCT + VARIED SELECTION OF MUSIC TO GET UP + DANCE TO. WELL, THE PARTY'S GETTING INTO FULL SWING NOW (!); VICTIM FINISH THEIR SET; APOLOGIES FROM COLIN + THEN:

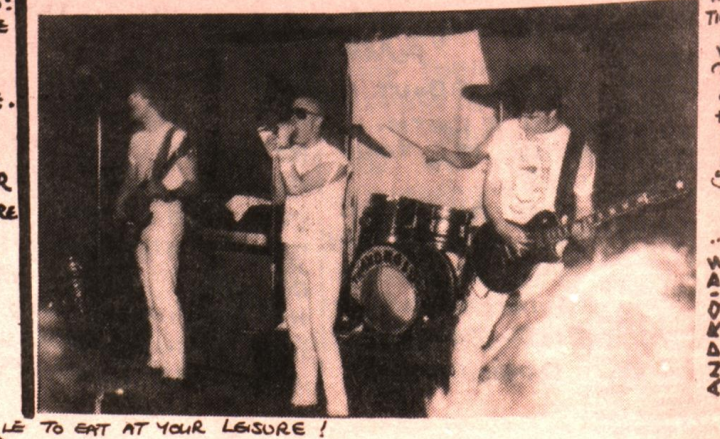
Rudi - ANOTHER CLASSIC SET FROM THE LADZ, DESPITE LOUSY P.A. - AIR OF EXPECTATION FROM (CROWD) - THEY GOT WHAT THEY EXPECTED, NOT JUST A BAND - AN EXPERIENCE. THE 2 TRAX FROM THE SINGLE "BIGTIME" + "NO. 1" WERE, PREDICTABLY WELL RECEIVED + THE NEW ONE "TIME TO BE PROUD" ALSO - V. CATCHY - UNMISTAKABLY RUDI - NOT MUCH ELSE TO BE SAID ABOUT RUDI'S PERFORMANCE THAT HASN'T ALL BEEN SAID BEFORE SO, TO FINISH, JUST SOME GENERAL STUFF. MARCH 25TH, 31ST + APR. 1ST (I THINK) RUDI PLAYED A FEW GIGS WITH THE STIFFS UP IN PORTURUSH AT KELLY'S. A.U. WASN'T THERE UNFORTUNATELY, BUT FROM WHAT WE HEAR BOTH BANDS WENT DOWN V. WELL - THAT'S VERY ENCOURAGING - LET'S HOPE SOMEHOW A.U. WILL FILTER UP TO THE NORTH AS WE'VE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN PERSUADING SHOPS UP THERE TO SELL THE MAG FOR US. HUH! VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO RUDI THEMSELVES FOR PROVIDING US WITH 50 COPIES OF THEIR DEBUT SINGLE TO GIVE AWAY FREE WITH THIS ISSUE OF A.U. (REALLY'S BEST FANZINE; IF YOU GOT A COPY YOU'VE BEEN LUCKY; IF NOT, NEVER MIND, YOU'VE STILL GOT A GREAT MAG TO READ!!)

NOW, ... AN IMPORTANT REVIEW OF ONE OF BELFAST'S NEWER BANDS AT ONLY THEIR 1ST REAL GIG SUPPORTING THE OUTCASTS WHOSE SINGLE (10") WAS RELEASED RECENTLY, SUBTLY ENTITLED "YOU'RE A DISEASE" - BUY IT!

The Outcasts - AND, THE, Glenmachan Stables Tuesday 21st March

Androids - RECENTLY, SUBTLY ENTITLED "YOU'RE A DISEASE" - BUY IT!

"FRAID "A.U." WASN'T AT THIS GIG... TRANSPORT DIFFICULTIES + ALL THAT... O'DUM D'DUM. SO INFO IS 2ND HAND (FOR THE MOST PART) + REVIEW RATHER BRIEF. BUT HERE GOES ANYWAY. FROM WHAT MANY PEOPLE HAVE SAID, IT APPEARS THAT THE **ANDROIDS** (FULL MARK FOR THE NAME!) UNDER THE WATCHFUL EYE OF 'MANAGER' ALLYN GREER OF 'PRIVATE WORLD' (TO WHOM WERE ARE INDEBTED FOR THE PIX!) BLEND THE OUTCASTS OFFSTAGE. JOE IN PARTICULAR CURRENTLY SPORTING A DEVASTATING KOSTAK-TRIM, VOCALIST WITH THE 'BRONDS, IS A V. COMPETANT STAGE PERFORMER (BRIAN OF RUDI WAS MUCHO IMPRESSED BY HIM). THE OTHERS WEREN'T THAT BAD EITHER! AZA ON BASS IS EQUALLY COMPETANT ON GUITAR (BUT THEN HE'S GOT EXPERIENCE - HE'S BEEN WITH SOMETHING LIKE 8 BANDS BEFORE THIS). STEVE IS A FINE GUITARIST + BILLY (GOD BLESS 'IM) IS JUST BILLY. THEY PLAYED AN HOUR TONITE - DID ALL THEIR OWN STUFF WHICH I, HAVING PLAYED WITH THE LADS FOR A WHIL, KNOWN TO BE V. GOOD, IF JUST A LITTLE TOO "ONE-DIMENSIONAL" + REPETITIVE.



HE NEED NOT SAY ANY MORE. WE TRY TO COMMUNICATE IN OUR MUSIC... I DISAGREE STRONGLY. I THINK THE IDEA IS ELITIST + WRONG. YET, I SEE PETE'S POINT. MAYBE ITS ALL IN MY HEAD... MAYBE ITS IN MY HEAD...
BUT REALLY, NO. WE DON'T REALLY THINK IN THOSE TERMS. WE'LL NEVER REALLY GET ANY AIRPLAY.. "THE COVER OF THE ALBUM + RECENT 45" SLEEVES ALSO INTERESTED ME: I ASSUMED THEY WERE THE IDEAS OF THEIR COMPANY, "A." "OH NO, NOT AT ALL! IT ALL BEGAN WITH "GARGASH". I MAY DID THAT SUEVE FOR ME. WE LIKED THE IDEA. "U. LIKED IT. SO WE WENT AHEAD AND CONTINUED THE IDEA

THROUGH THE NEXT SINGLE AND THE ALBUM." ANY THOUGHTS ON THE NEXT SINGLE? "MAYBE 'I DON'T IND..", BUT WE'VE LOTS OF NEW-SONGS THAT MIGHT PRODUCE A SONG FOR A SINGLE.. I MADE SURE THERE WAS NONE ON THE ALBUM OF COURSE.. "HE SALES, KNOWING THAT HIS PRESENT WILL WIN MY FULL APPROVAL.. "WE PUT IN ECHO OF 'BOREDOM' AT THE BEGINNING AS A SORT OF JOKE, I SUPPOSE." I ASK HIM ABOUT THE BAND'S POSITION IN THE WHOLE NEW-WAVE SYNDROME, AND AFTER LAUGHING AT THE IDEA OF THE BUZZCOCKS ON "T.O.T.P." (THEY ARE WILLING TO APPEAR, EVEN THOUGH THEY THINK ITS "KRAZZE") THE CHAT SOMEHOW TURNS TO THE SUBJECT OF INTELLECTUAL PUNKS. "YEAH, I THINK ITS A VALID TERM. I SUPPOSE THE BUZZCOCKS OF INTELLECTUAL PUNKS, AND YOU MUST BE AN INTELLECTUAL PUNK.. YOU.. COMMUNICATE TO OTHERS THE SAME IDEAS THAT

WE TRY TO COMMUNICATE IN OUR MUSIC... I DISAGREE STRONGLY. I THINK THE IDEA IS ELITIST + WRONG. YET, I SEE PETE'S POINT. MAYBE ITS ALL IN MY HEAD... MAYBE ITS IN MY HEAD...

Buzzcocks, Slits, Patrik Fitzgerald, Woolwich March '78. Penetration



LOOK, HERE'S N. IRISH GIG PRICES FOR YA. I SAW THE ABOVE 4 BANDS V. GOOD. TROUBLE IS, IT - EACH BIG NAMES IN THEIR OWN WAY - FOR JUST £1.50! MAKES YOU ANGRY, DON'T IT? ANYWAY CENTRAL LONDON POLYTECHNIC IS A SUPERB VENUE. GOOD STAGE. GOOD SIZED HALL. GOOD, TENSE, BIT FRIGHTENING, ATMOSPHERE. JUST RITE FOR BANDS LIKE THE BUZZCOCKS + SLITS. BUT, ITS PENETRATION FIRST ON.

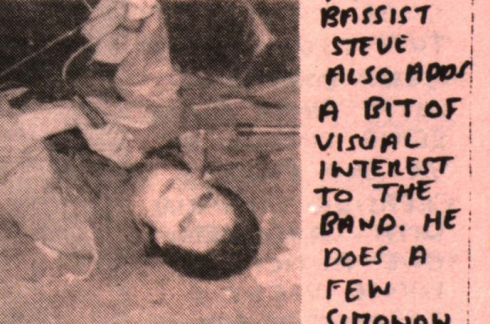


THEY COME A LONG WAY IN LONDON LATELY. THEY WERE SELLING THE BAND'S TEE-SHIRTS OUTSIDE! I MISSED MOST OF THEIR SET, BUT APART FROM THE DELICIOUS MISS. PAULINE I DON'T RATE THEM THAT HIGHLY. I WON'T SAY TOO MUCH ABOUT PAT. FITZGERALD'S SET. YOU'LL READ ABOUT IT ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISH. OF "A.U."

THEN, BACK FROM THE BAR (WORST GUINNESS IVE EVER GULPED-DOWN.), ITS ALL GONE DARK. CHRIST! THERE'S A SCREAM THAT WOULD GIVE JOHN ROTTEN A HEART-ATTACK! WOT ARE THESE CREATURES? HAIR ALL OVER THEIR HEADS, (IE. FACES) AND BODIES. THERE'RE GOALS! THE GUITARIST - A BLOWD.. AH.. BOMBHELL(?) - IS VERY GOOD - SHE PLATS NOT AT ALL BADLY, EITHER. THEIR MUSIC IS LIKE SHORT BURSTS OF THE BUZZCOCKS MOVING AWAY FROM THE PULSEBEAT" HARD, UGLY. MESS UP A FEW SONGS AND SO DO THEM TWICE. VISUALLY GREAT, BUT MUSICALLY JUST AVERAGE. FRIENDLY YOUNG LASSES, THO. THEY ACTUALLY GO INTO THE AUDIENCE TO SEE THE BUZZCOCKS. AND WHO CAN BLAME THEM? SHELLEY + CO. KICK-OFF WITH "TIMES-UP" THEN GO INTO THE L.P. MATERIAL. THEY PLAY ALL ITS SONGS

SINGLES + SOME NEW SONGS WHICH SOUNDED LIKE THE ABOVE 4 BANDS V. GOOD. TROUBLE IS, IT - EACH BIG NAMES IN THEIR OWN WAY - FOR JUST £1.50! MAKES YOU ANGRY, DON'T IT? ANYWAY CENTRAL LONDON POLYTECHNIC IS A SUPERB VENUE. GOOD STAGE. GOOD SIZED HALL. GOOD, TENSE, BIT FRIGHTENING, ATMOSPHERE. JUST RITE FOR BANDS LIKE THE BUZZCOCKS + SLITS. BUT, ITS PENETRATION FIRST ON.

NEW BASSIST STEVE ALSO ADDS A BIT OF VISUAL INTEREST TO THE BAND. HE DOES A FEW SIMONOW POSES AND LOOKS IMPRESSIVE. LATER, I SPOKE AGAIN TO PETE, AND HE BLAMED THE SLUGGISH START ON A PASSE AUDIENCE. I THINK HE'S RITE. BUT THE BUZZCOCKS AREN'T "NEW" ANY MORE OVER HERE. MAYBE A BIT MORE VISUAL INTEREST WOULD HELP. EH, PETE?



POSES AND LOOKS IMPRESSIVE. LATER, I SPOKE AGAIN TO PETE, AND HE BLAMED THE SLUGGISH START ON A PASSE AUDIENCE. I THINK HE'S RITE. BUT THE BUZZCOCKS AREN'T "NEW" ANY MORE OVER HERE. MAYBE A BIT MORE VISUAL INTEREST WOULD HELP. EH, PETE?

(ALL THREE GROUPS ON GOOD VIBES LABEL) IN THE FUTURE NO ONE WILL BE FAMOUS - IN THE FUTURE NO ONE WILL BE!

LONDON CALLING!

THE BOYFRIENDS

- PATRIK FITZGERALD
LONDON UNIV. SURREY.

EUGH! HOW CAN 4 GUYS WITH MAXIMUM FINANCIAL BACKING GET BLOWN OFF STAGE (ALMOST, WAIT FOR IT, LITERALLY) BY ONE TINY MAN WITH AN ACOUSTIC GUITAR AND JUST HIS TRAIN-FARE HOME IN HIS POCKET? ANSWER: THE WEE-MANS GOT TALENT - LES BOYFRIENDS HAVE NONE. PAT WENT DOWN GREAT - 2 ENCORES. THE BOYFRIENDS STROLL ON STAGE LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF JOHN COLLIER'S WINDOW AND PROCEED TO A) SMILE, GRIN & SMIRK. B) SWAY LAUGHABLY C) PLOUGH TROUGH WOT PAT COLLIER INSISTED TO ME AS "GOOD-TIME POWER-POP", BUT WOT I'D DESCRIBE AS CRINGE-INDUCING, PAINFUL SLOP. THEY TRY TO BE THE HOLMES AND, VIA "EMMERDALE FARM" AND "MR. & MRS." BECOME THE WALTONS. SURE CAN BE A TUFF RIDE, EH JOHN-BOY? WOT WITH THOSE GLASS BEING THROWN AT YA AND PEOPLE CREASING THEMSELVES WITH LAUGHTER. ONE MUSIC-FAN WHOSE VIEWS I RESPECT & ADMIRE SUMMED-UP THE VALUE OF THE BAND IN ONE ASTUTE STATEMENT:

"THE KEYBOARD PLAYER LOOKS LIKE RONNIE CORDETT, DOESN'T HE?" SORRY, PAT, YOU'RE A SWELL GUY ETC. AND THANKS FOR THE INTERVIEW ETC., BUT ITS A BIG THUMB- DOWN FOR

YOUR WUNNERFUL TAYLOR'S DUMMIES... I MEAN BOYS. SORRY... AH, CAN'T WAIT TIL YOU PLAY BELFAST AS YOU SO SINCERELY PROMISED ME, YOU WOULD... JUST HOPE IM IN LONDON AT THE TIME, THAB ALL... COME-BACK THE VIBRATORS, ALL IS FORGIVEN.

ALBERTOS Y LOS TRIOS PARANOIAS

- THE SMIRKS.
SLOUGH TECN.

THIS WAS ALMOST THE PERFECT GIG. BOTH BANDS STAND HILES OUTSIDE ANY SORT OF STUPID CATEGORISATION - THEY ARE ROCK'N'ROLL SATIRE. THEY TAKE THE NICKY. THEY ARE ESSENTIAL. THE SMIRKS CAME ON QUITE LATE AND PLAYED ONE OF THE BEST SETS I'VE SEEN IN AGES. THEY HAVE EVERYTHING - HUMOUR, APLENTY, LOTS OF CATCHY GOOD SONGS & 4 GEEZERS EACH OF WHOM HAS A SEPARATE STAGE PERSONALITY. THE DRUMMER - A FRUSTRATED STAR WHO LONGS FOR THE LINELIGHT: THE BASSIST - THE RUDE SCHOOLBOY: LEAD-



THE ALBERTOS - DON'T TOUCH ME THERE?

SINGER & RHYTHM G. - THE CURLY-HAIRED BOY NEXT-DOOR, AND LAST, BUT NO WAY, LEAST, THE AMAZING LEAD GUITARIST, WHO MAKES THE GUY FROM CHEMP THICK LOOK THE PICTURE OF SANITY. HE'S

HAD, BONKERS. HE FRIGHTENS THE AUDIENCE. THEY DURT ON AND DO "I SAW HER STANDING THERE" WITH THE 3 FRONT-MEN DOING A TILLER-GIRL SIDEWAYS DANCE. SO FUNNY. THEY GET STUDENT HECKLERS. "IF YOU'RE THE FUCKERS THAT ARE GOING TO TEACH OUR KIDS, WELL, ALL I CAN SAY IS, GOD HELP US!!!" GREAT STUFF. BUT THE 45 "U.K.O.K." OUT SOON. THE ALBERTOS WERE SUPERB AS USUAL. LIKED C.P. LEE'S DEBBIE HARRY IMPERSONATION.

DEAF SCHOOL SORE THROAT

SORE THROAT - FEELGOODSIE RNB OUTFIT. PITY HADN'T THE LATTER'S FEEL FOR THE GENRE SINGER HAS A V. GOOD VOICE THOUGH. G.P. LIKES 'EM. DEAFS WERE EXCELLENT. ITS A PITY, REALLY, THAT THAT, MUSIC PRESS ETC HASN'T "GROUPED" THEM IN WITH THE NEW-WAVE. THEY COULD EASILY FIT THE BILL.

SUPERB BASSIST, DRUMMER & GUITARIST. 2 FRONT-MEN & GIRL-SINGER V. GOOD ALSO. LOTS OF LIGHT & SHADE IN THEIR STUFF. TRY, TRY, TRY, TO HEAR AT LEAST THE TITLE TRACK FROM THE LATEST "ENGLISH BOYS/WORKING GIRLS" L.P. IT IS SHATTER-INGLY GOOD. FORGET THE ART-SCHOOL TAG, THEY'RE ALL RITE, 'SPECIALLY THE YOUNG LADY.

RUNNING-SAWS - PEGASUS PUB LONDON 14.

THIS IS A 25 27 PIECE CULT BAND. THEY'RE THE BEST THING SINCE THE BEATLES. AND RUBBER BANANA



ANDROIDS [CONT'D]: BUT HAVING SAID THAT, THEY DO HAVE SOME CATCHY TUNES & WITH SOME EXPERIMENTING WITH PIRAPS THE ODD GUITAR SOLO FROM STEVE IN SHORT, A BIT MORE VARIETY, I THINK THEY COULD BE A BAND TO WATCH. THEY'RE A VERY VISUAL BAND & THE 'ANDROID' IMAGE (AN ASTUTE OBSERVATION ON TODAY'S SOCIETY) IS CERTAINLY ORIGINAL & THEIR THEME SONG 'ANDROIDS' IS, I THINK, ONE OF THEIR BEST COMPOSITIONS. THEY'VE TAKEN A VERY (I HATE TO USE THE WORD 'POLITICAL') CAUSE JUST EXISTING IS POLITICS - YOUR POLITICS OR MINE) SO LET'S JUST SAY - THEY'VE TAKEN A HARD-LINE SOCIAL 'REACTIONARY' STANCE - THEY ATTACK THE N.F. IN A SONG APTLY TITLED 'SUGGESTIONS' - NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT 'COZ EVERYONE SHOULD BE AGAINST THEM - BUT THEIR RECENT 'FREE NOREEN' CAMPAIGN IS NOT TO MY PERSONAL LIKING - JUST LIKE THE 'MOORS MURDERERS' FREE M.H. CAMPAIGN - A BIT FRIGHTENING - MAKES ME FEEL SOMEWHAT UNEASY - YOU'RE BETTER TO STAY AWAY FROM THAT I THINK LADZ.

WELL, THEIR OTHER SONGS - THEY ATTACK THE PAPERS & T.V. IN 'MEDIA' & THEY SPEAK OUT AGAINST THE BORING LIFE OF OFFICE-WORKERS IN "9 TO 5" - THE SAME NAME, ACCIDENTLY, OF MZA'S FANZINE CUM INFO. LEAFLET WHICH IS WELL WORTH ITS MODEST 10P. AND THE BEST OF THE REST? - "NOBODY UNDERSTANDS ME" GREENA IS A TRANSVESTITE" (SEE THE 'HOMONES' INFLUENCE BLATANTLY EXPOSED?) "INCEST" (OBVIOUSLY THE LAUNCH FOR THE "FREE N." CAMPAIGN.

ANYWAY, THEY'RE WELL WORTH TRYING TO SEE - IF YOU HAVN'T GOT A SOCIAL CONSCIENCE WHEN YOU GO, YOU WILL HAVE WHEN YOU LEAVE! SEE 'EM AT THE FORTHCOMING MAY-DAY PUNK FESTIVAL AT THE

MARK: "NO, WE DO TEND TO PUT RECORD CO'S OFF - WE'VE GOT THIS REPUTATION FOR BEING 'IDEALISTIC' ABOUT SIGNING UP & FOR BEING DISORGANIZED - ALWAYS CHANGING THE LINE-UP & SO ON"

MARK: "WELL, I LIKE THE VELVETS, STOOGES AND CAN A LOT, YOU KNOW, THE 'OLD WAVE' (HE CHUCKLES; AS IF THAT'S SUCH AN INCREDIBLE THING"

MARK: "WELL AFTER ALL" I REPLIED "THAT'S WHERE THE NEW WAVE HAD ITS ORIGINS" - "YEAH, RITE!" MARK AGREES. AU: "YOU'VE BEEN CALLED A POLITICAL BAND - WHAT DO YOU SAY ABOUT THAT?" MARK: "WELL, WE DON'T LIKE TO USE THE WORD 'POLITICAL' 'COZ MOST PEOPLE THINK POLITICS IS ALL PARCITS, COMMUNISTS ETC. BUT WE SING ABOUT 'PERSONAL POLITICS'."

MARK: "OH I LIKE THE BUZZCOCKS, THEY'RE A VERY GOOD BAND - I ALSO LIKE JOHN COOPER CLARKE - HE'S A GREAT GUY! OUR BASSIST ERIC USED TO PLAY GUITAR IN HIS BACKING GROUP."

NOW, YET ANOTHER "A.U." EXCLUSIVE-AD (EXPENSIVE) PHONE-CALLED INTERVIEW WITH MARK SMITH OF THE FALL

[BUT ROGE THOUGHT IT WAS WELL WORTH IT]

THE PHONE WAS RINGING AT THE OTHER END. SOMEONE ANSWERED IT - "HELLO" SAID A FRIENDLY VOICE WITH A TYPICALLY MANCHESTER ACCENT: I WAS THROUGH TO MARK SMITH, MYSTERIOUS MANCHESTER NEW WAVE BUT FIRST LET ME TELL YOU WHO THE FALL LEAD VOCALS: MARTIN GRAMAH/GUITAR; KARL BURNS/DRUMS - UNA, THEIR LEFT A FEW DAYS EARLIER. RITE, THE INTERVIEW WENT SOMETHING LIKE

ROGE (FOR A.U.): "I HEARD YOU WERE PLAYING NITE, HOW'D THAT GO?" MARK: "WELL, IT WAS A BIT WEIRD - BIT OF A.U. "OK MARK, ALL OF US AT A.U. ARE REALLY THE NAME OF THE BAND - HOW DID THAT MARK: "WELL, WE GOT IT FROM A NOVEL BY CAMUS CALLED 'THE FALL' WHICH MARTIN A.U. "YEAH, IT'S A REALLY AMAZING NAME PROBABLY THE BEST OF ANY OF THE N.W. BANDS - EH, HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN TOGETHER?" MARK: "WELL, THE PRESENT BAND HAS BEEN TOGETHER ABOUT A MONTH, BUT UNA LEFT A FEW DAYS AGO. BUT THE FALL ITSELF HAS BEEN TOGETHER FOR ABOUT A YEAR NOW."

MARK WAS ORIGINALLY IN A BAND CALLED THE OUTSIDERS WITH GUITARIST MARTIN GRAMAH.

A.U.: "ARE YOU PLAYING MANY GIGS AT THE MOMENT?" MARK: "WELL, NOT THAT MANY SO FAR - BUT THEY'RE STARTING TO COME IN NOW - HAVE NO AGENT OR PROMOTOR YET SO GIGS ARE VERY DIFFICULT TO GET. IT WAS WORSE BEFORE NOVEMBER LAST YEAR 'COZ WE DIDN'T HAVE A MANAGER BUT THEN KAY JOINED US & THINGS ARE A BIT BETTER NOW. BUT BEFORE THAT WE WERE GETTING SERIOUSLY BECAUSE OF THE CONSTANTLY CHANGING LINE-UP."

MARK: "ANY PROSPECTS OF A RECORD CONTRACT SOON?" MY QUESTION WAS MET WITH A FIRM "NO!"

MARK: "WELL WHAT HAPPENED WITH 'NEW HORMONES' WAS, THAT IT RAN OUT OF MONEY! THEY COULDN'T RAISE THE CAPITAL NEEDED TO PRESS IT - WE TOOK IT TO A LOT OF OTHER COMPANIES BUT THEY DIDN'T LIKE IT - SAID IT WAS TOO ROUGH - THEY SAID THEY'D DO A SINGLE FOR US - A ONE-OFF THING - BUT HE WANTED THE E.P. OUT. I'LL SEND YOU A TAPE OF IT IF YOU LIKE!"

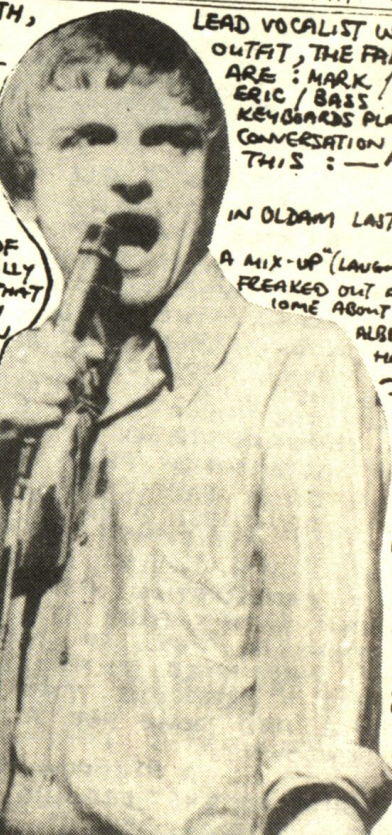
MARK: "JUMPING UP & DOWN WITH EXCITEMENT UNBOUNDED" "GREAT, YEAH THAT WOULD BE FANTASTIC - THANKS."

MARK: "WELL THEY'RE ABOUT MANY THINGS - I BELIEVE SONGS SHOULD BE ABOUT DIFFERENT THINGS - I'D LIKE PEOPLE TO LOOK AT THE BAND IN DIFFERENT WAYS 'COZ YOU CAN SAY A LOT WHEN YOU'RE IN A BAND"

MARK: "ANY PERSONAL INFLUENCES?"

MARK: "WELL, I LIKE THE VELVETS, STOOGES AND CAN A LOT, YOU KNOW, THE 'OLD WAVE' (HE CHUCKLES; AS IF THAT'S SUCH AN INCREDIBLE THING"

MARK: "WELL AFTER ALL" I REPLIED "THAT'S WHERE THE NEW WAVE HAD ITS ORIGINS" - "YEAH, RITE!" MARK AGREES. AU: "YOU'VE BEEN CALLED A POLITICAL BAND - WHAT DO YOU SAY ABOUT THAT?" MARK: "WELL, WE DON'T LIKE TO USE THE WORD 'POLITICAL' 'COZ MOST PEOPLE THINK POLITICS IS ALL PARCITS, COMMUNISTS ETC. BUT WE SING ABOUT 'PERSONAL POLITICS'."



BELOW: MARK SMITH. LEAD VOCALIST WITH OUTFIT, THE FALL. ARE: MARK / ERIC / BASS & KEYBOARDS PLAYER, CONVERSATION / THIS: -

IN OLDHAM LAST A MIX-UP (LAUGHS) FREAKED OUT AT SOME ABOUT 2" ALBERT HAD"

A.U. REQUESTS THE FALL WILL BE ON...

MARK: "NO, THAT WAS A MALICIOUS RUMOUR WHICH THE MUSIC PRESS STARTED - ACTUALLY HE USED TO BE OUR ROADIE - WE ALL KNOW HIM VERY WELL."

MARK: "OH I LIKE THE BUZZCOCKS, THEY'RE A VERY GOOD BAND - I ALSO LIKE JOHN COOPER CLARKE - HE'S A GREAT GUY! OUR BASSIST ERIC USED TO PLAY GUITAR IN HIS BACKING GROUP."

MARK: "FINALLY MARK, WHAT ABOUT N.I. - WOULD YOU COME OVER?" MARK: "YEAH, WE'D LOVE TO COME OVER - HEAR THERE'S A LOT HAPPENING OVER THERE NOW" LET'S HOPE THE FALL DO COME & SOON!

MARK: "NO, THAT WAS A MALICIOUS RUMOUR WHICH THE MUSIC PRESS STARTED - ACTUALLY HE USED TO BE OUR ROADIE - WE ALL KNOW HIM VERY WELL."

MARK: "OH I LIKE THE BUZZCOCKS, THEY'RE A VERY GOOD BAND - I ALSO LIKE JOHN COOPER CLARKE - HE'S A GREAT GUY! OUR BASSIST ERIC USED TO PLAY GUITAR IN HIS BACKING GROUP."

MARK: "FINALLY MARK, WHAT ABOUT N.I. - WOULD YOU COME OVER?" MARK: "YEAH, WE'D LOVE TO COME OVER - HEAR THERE'S A LOT HAPPENING OVER THERE NOW" LET'S HOPE THE FALL DO COME & SOON!

MARK: "NO, THAT WAS A MALICIOUS RUMOUR WHICH THE MUSIC PRESS STARTED - ACTUALLY HE USED TO BE OUR ROADIE - WE ALL KNOW HIM VERY WELL."

MARK: "OH I LIKE THE BUZZCOCKS, THEY'RE A VERY GOOD BAND - I ALSO LIKE JOHN COOPER CLARKE - HE'S A GREAT GUY! OUR BASSIST ERIC USED TO PLAY GUITAR IN HIS BACKING GROUP."

MARK: "FINALLY MARK, WHAT ABOUT N.I. - WOULD YOU COME OVER?" MARK: "YEAH, WE'D LOVE TO COME OVER - HEAR THERE'S A LOT HAPPENING OVER THERE NOW" LET'S HOPE THE FALL DO COME & SOON!

MARK: "NO, THAT WAS A MALICIOUS RUMOUR WHICH THE MUSIC PRESS STARTED - ACTUALLY HE USED TO BE OUR ROADIE - WE ALL KNOW HIM VERY WELL."

The BUZZCOCKS: SHOWDOWN!



AN INTERVIEW WITH PETE SHELLEY

RISKING HIS LIFE - DAVE ANGRY.

Now
Rogé

ALL 3 "A.U." Scribes AND, IN PARTICULAR, MR G. HATRICK HAVE BEEN BUZZCOCKS FANS FOR A LONG TIME. I INTERVIEWED PETE SHELLEY AT THE CROYDON GREYHOUND LAST YEAR BUT IT WASN'T PRINTED, COZ WE THOUGHT WE'D GET AN EXCLUSIVE WHEN THE BAND PLAYED B'FAST IN JANUARY '79. OF COURSE, ITS HISTORY NOW THAT THE GIG DIDNT TAKE-PLACE. THERE WAS OBVIOUSLY A GREAT DEAL OF BITTERNESS AMONG IRISH NEW-WAVERS ABOUT THE CANCELLATION. I MET UP AGAIN WITH SHELLEY AT WOOLWICH POLY.. SO, WITH HE SURROUNDED BY ASSORTED SLITS & BUZZCOCKS, THE TIME HAD COME FOR A SHOWDOWN...

AS SOON AS I ENTERED THE DRESSING-ROOM IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT SHELLEY KNEW WAT I WAS GOING TO INQUIRE-ABOUT. HE'S ONE OF "A.U.'S BIGGEST FANS, AND, AS I THOUGHT HE MIGHTNT HAVE SEEN OUR LATEST ISH, I OFFERED ONE TO HIM, "I'VE GOT IT ALREADY..." HE SMILED, PRODUCING THE FAMILIAR GREEN COVER FROM HIS COAT PACKET. PAT. FITZGERALD (WHO WAS A SUPPORT ACT THAT NITE HAD GIVEN HIM A COPY). RITE, I DECIDED TO BE SUBTLE ABOUT GETTING THE NECESSARY INFORMATION OUT OF YOUNG PETER: "WHY DID YA NOT PLAY BELFAST THEN?" I ASKED, WHICH SHOULD HAVE BEEN ENOUGH TO HAVE YOURS TRULY KICKED OUT OF THE DRESSING-ROOM AND FEED TO THE HUNGRY BOUNCERS. THE EXPRESSION ON PETE'S FACE STAYED



DO THE SAME WITH THE BAND-MEMBERS & ROAD CREW, COZ WE COULDN'T GET THEM INSURED WITH THE VAN. SO, WE WERE IN A REAL MESS AT THIS STAGE. BUT, AT ABOUT 4'O'CLOCK THAT AFTERNOON WE MANAGED TO SET-OFF IN ANOTHER VAN THAT WE'D BEEN LUCKY TO GET HOLD-OFF. EVERYTHING WAS FINE. WE THEN STARTED TO HAVE

TROUBLE WITH THE VAN. FIRST WE WERE STOPPED BY THE POLICE. THEN, AT ABOUT 5 IN THE MORNING, IT BROKE DOWN COMPLETELY, JUST OUTSIDE CARLISLE. WE'D BEEN MEANING TO CATCH THE LARNE-STRAIKER FERRY... IT WAS SNOWING, VERY COLD & WE'D ABOUT 2 HOURS TO CROSS THE SCOTTISH BORDER & GET THE BOAT. WE GOT THE M.A. TO THE VAN, BUT BY THE TIME THEY'D FIXED IT, WE'D ALREADY MISSED THE FERRY. IT WAS JUST TOO LATE, AND WE'D OTHER DATES ON. SO WE JUST HAD TO GO THE WHOLE WAY BACK-

DOWN TO LONDON. BELIEVE ME, WE FELT REALLY SICK ABOUT IT... SO THERE WE ARE, SHELLEY'S OPEN LETTER TO N.IRISH NEW-WAVERS. HE WAS SINCERE IN ALL HE SAID. AT WOOLWICH, HE ALSO PROMISED AN IRISH GIG. HE MENTIONED BELFAST - 15TH APRIL. AT TIME OF PRINTING, THIS SEEMS

UNLIKELY. ANYWAY, HE ASKS WITH GENUINE INTEREST ABOUT POSSIBLE SUPPORT-BANDS. I MENTION STIFFS & TRUDI. HE SEEMED VERY IMPRESSED BY WOT I TOLD HIM OF JAKE & HIS BOYS. I WENT ON TO OTHER TOPICS. ARE YOU PLEASED WITH THE ALBUM? "...ITS GOOD.. VERY GOOD..." HE SMILES A SMILE OF DEEP SATISFACTION

WE NEED NOT SAY ANY MORE. IT'S OBVIOUS ITS TURNED-OUT REALLY WELL. I ASK HIM IF HE'S DISAPPOINTED "WHAT DO I GET" NOT THE TOP TEN HIT THAT ALL THOUGHT IT WOULD BE. "NOT REALLY, NO. WE DON'T REALLY THINK IN THOSE TERMS. WE'LL NEVER REALLY GET ANY AIRPLAY..." THE COVER OF THE ALBUM & ABOUT 45" SLEEVES ALSO INTERESTED ME: I ASSUMED THEY WERE

WE TRY TO COMMUNICATE IN OUR MUSIC... "I DISAGREE STRONGLY. I THINK THE IDEA IS ELITIST & WRONG. YET, I SEE PETE'S POINT. MAYBE ITS ALL IN MY HEAD... MAYBE ITS IN MY HEAD..."

BUZZCOCKS,
SLITS,
PATRIK FITZGERALD,
WOOLWICH MARCH '79. PENETRATION



THOUGH THE NEXT SINGLE AND THE ALBUM... ANY THOUGHTS ON THE NEXT SINGLE? "MAYBE 'I DON'T WANT'... BUT WE'VE LOTS OF NEW-SONGS THAT MIGHT PRODUCE A SONG FOR A SINGLE... I MADE SURE THERE WAS NONE ON THE ALBUM OF COURSE..." HE SMILES, KNOWING THAT HIS COMMENT WILL WIN MY FULL APPROVAL. "...WE PUT AN ECHO OF 'BOREDOM' AT THE BEGINNING AS A SORT OF JOKE, I SUPPOSE." I ASK HIM ABOUT THE BAND'S POSITION IN THE WHOLE NEW-WAVE SYNDROME, AND AFTER LAUGHING AT THE IDEA OF THE BUZZCOCKS ON "T.O.T.P." (THEY ARE WILLING TO APPEAR, EVEN THOUGH THEY THINK ITS "KRAZEE") THE CHAT SOMEHOW TURNS TO THE SUBJECT OF INTELLECTUAL PUNKS. "YEAH, I THINK ITS A VALID TERM. I SUPPOSE THE BUZZCOCKS ARE INTELLECTUAL PUNKS, AND YOU MUST BE AN INTELLECTUAL PUNK... YOU... COMMUNICATE TO OTHERS THE SAME IDEAS THAT

THEN, BACK FROM THE BAR (WORST GUINNESS IVE EVER GULPED-DOWN.), ITS ALL GONE DARK. CHRIST! THERE'S A SCREAM THAT WOULD GIVE JOHN ROTTEN A HEART-ATTACK! WOT ARE THESE CREATURES? HAIR ALL OVER THEIR HEADS, (IE. FACES) AND BODIES. THERE'RE GOALS! THE GUITARIST - A BLOND... AH.. BOMBHELL(?) - IS VERY GOOD - SHE PLAYS NOT AT ALL BADLY, EITHER. THEIR

MUSIC IS LIKE SHORT BURSTS OF THE BUZZCOCKS MOVING AWAY FROM THE PULSEBEAT" HARD. UGLY. MESS UP A FEW SONGS AND SO DO THEM TWICE. VISUALLY GREAT, BUT MUSICALLY JUST AVERAGE. FRIENDLY YOUNG LASSES, THO. THEY ACTUALLY GO INTO THE AUDIENCE TO SEE THE BUZZCOCKS. AND WHO CAN BLAME THEM? SHELLEY & CO. KICK-OFF WITH "TIMES-UP" THEN GO INTO THE L.P. MATERIAL. THEY PLAY ALL ITS SONGS

LOOK, HERES N.IRISH GIG PRICES FOR YA. I SAW THE ABOVE 4 BANDS V. GOOD. TROUBLE IS, IT - EACH BIG NAMES IN THEIR OWN WAY - FOR JUST £1.50! MAKES YOU ANGRY, DON'T IT? ANYWAY CENTRAL LONDON POLYTECHNIC IS A SUPERB VENUE. GOOD STAGE. GOOD SIZED HALL. GOOD, TENSE, BIT FRIGHTENING, ATMOSPHERE. JUST RITE FOR BANDS LIKE THE BUZZCOCKS & SLITS. BUT, ITS PENETRATION FIRST ON.

SINGLES & SOME NEW SONGS WHICH SOUNDED V. GOOD. TROUBLE IS, IT WORK UP A LATHER ON STAGE. THEY ACCUMULATE ENERGY - A SORT OF SNOWBALL EFFECT! - TONITE IT REACHES A CLIMAX ON ONE OF THE LAST SONGS "PULSEBEAT" WHERE JOHN MAHER REALLY EXCELLS HIMSELF. THE SOUND-WALL IS DEAFENING.



THEY COME A LONG WAY IN LONDON LATELY. THEY WERE SELLING THE BAND'S TEE-SHIRTS OUTSIDE! I MISSED MOST OF THEIR SET, BUT APART FROM THE DELICIOUS MISS. PAULINE I DON'T RATE THEM THAT HIGHLY. I WON'T SAY TOO MUCH ABOUT PAT. FITZGERALD'S SET. YOU'LL READ ABOUT IT ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISH. OF "A.U."

NEW BASSIST STEVE ALSO ADDS A BIT OF VISUAL INTEREST TO THE BAND. HE DOES A FEW SIMONOW POSES AND LOOKS IMPRESSIVE. LATER, I SPOKE AGAIN TO PETE, AND HE BLAMED THE SLUGGISH START ON A PASSE AUDIENCE. I THINK HE'S RITE. BUT THE BUZZCOCKS ARENT "NEW" ANY MORE OVER HERE. MAYBE A BIT MORE VISUAL INTEREST WOULD HELP. EH, PETE?

LONDON CALLING!

THE BOYFRIENDS

— PATRIK FITZGERALD
LONDON UNIV. SURREY.

EUGH! HOW CAN 4 GUYS WITH MAXIMUM FINANCIAL BACKING GET BLOWN OFF STAGE (ALMOST, WAIT FOR IT, LITERALLY) BY ONE TINY MAN WITH AN ACOUSTIC GUITAR AND JUST HIS TRAIN-FARE HOME IN HIS POCKET? ANSWER: THE WEE-MANS GOT TALENT - LES BOYFRIENDS HAVE NONE. PAT WENT DOWN GREAT - 2 ENCORES. THE BOYFRIENDS - GAWD, THEY STROLL-ON STAGE LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF JOHN COLLIER'S WINDOW AND PROCEED TO A.) SMILE, GRIN & SMIRK. B.) SWAY LAUGHABLY C.) PLOUGH TROUGH WOT PAT COLLIER INSISTED TO ME AS "GOOD-TIME POWER-POP", BUT WOT I'D DESCRIBE AS CRINGE-INDUCING, PAINFUL SLOP. THEY TRY TO BE THE HOLUES AND, VIA "EMMERDALE FARM" AND "MR. & MRS." BECOME THE WALTONS. SURE CAN BE A TUFF RIDE, EH JOHN-BOY? WOT WITH THOSE GLASS BEING THROWN AT YA AND PEOPLE CREASING THEMSELVES WITH LAUGHTER. ONE MUSIC-FAN WHOSE VIEWS I RESPECT & ADMIRE SUNNED-UP THE VALUE OF THE BAND IN ONE ASTUTE STATEMENT:

"THE KEYBOARD PLAYER LOOKS LIKE RONNIE CORDETT DOESN'T HE?" SORRY, PAT, YOU'RE A SWELL GUY ETC. AND THANKS FOR THE INTERVIEW ETC., BUT ITS A BIG THUMB- DOWN FOR

YOUR WUNNERFUL TAYLOR'S DUMMIES... I MEAN BOYS... SORRY... AH, CAN'T WAIT TIL YOU PLAY BELFAST AS YOU SO SINCERELY PROMISED ME, YOU WOULD... JUST HOPE IM IN LONDON AT THE TIME, THAT ALL... COME-BACK THE VIBRATORS, ALL IS FORGIVEN.

ALBERTOS Y LOS TRIOS PARANOIAS

— THE SMIRKS.
SLOUGH TECH.

THIS WAS ALMOST THE PERFECT GIG. BOTH BANDS STAND MILES OUTSIDE ANY SORT OF STUPID ROCK'N'ROLL SATIRE. THEY TAKE THE NICKY. THEY ARE ESSENTIAL.

THE SMIRKS CAME ON QUITE LATE AND PLAYED ONE OF THE BEST SETS I'VE SEEN IN AGES. THEY HAVE EVERYTHING - HUMOUR APLENTY, LOTS OF CATCHY GOOD SONGS & 4 GEEZERS EACH OF WHOM HAS A SEPARATE STAGE PERSONALITY. THE DRUMMER - A FRUSTRATED STAR WHO LONGS FOR THE LIMELIGHT: THE BASSIST - THE NMDE SCHOOLBOY: LEAD-

HAD, DONKERS. HE FRIGHTENS THE AUDIENCE.

THEY BURST ON AND DO "I SAW HER STANDING THERE" WITH THE 3 FRONT-MEN DOING A TILLY-GIRL SIDEWAYS DANCE. SO FUNNY. THEY GET STUDENT HECKLERS. "IF YOU'RE THE FUCKERS THAT ARE GOING TO TEACH OUR KIDS, WELL, ALL I CAN SAY IS, GOD HELP US!!!" GREAT STUFF. BUT THE 45 "U.K.O.K." OUT SOON. THE ALBERTOS WERE SUPERB AS USUAL. LIKED C.P.REE'S DEBBIE HARRY IMPERSONATION.

DEAF SCHOOL SORE THROAT

SORE THROAT - FEELGOODSIE RNB OUTFIT. PITY HADN'T THE LATTER'S FEEL FOR THE GENRE SINGER HAS A V. GOOD VOICE THOUGH. G.P. LIKES 'EM. DEAFS WERE EXCELLENT. ITS A PITY, REALLY, THAT THAT, MUSIC PRESS ETC HAIN'T "GROUPED" THEM IN WITH THE NEW-WAVE. THEY COULD EASILY FIT THE BILL.

SUPERB BASSIST, DRUMMER & GUITARIST. 2 FRONT-MEN & GIRL-SINGER V. GOOD ALSO. LOTS OF LIGHT & SHADE IN THEIR STUFF. TRY, TRY, TRY, TO HEAR AT LEAST THE TITLE TRACK FROM THE LATEST "ENGLISH BOYS/ WORKING GIRLS" L.P. IT IS SHATTER-INGLY GOOD. FORGET THE ART-SCHOOL TAG, THEY'RE ALL RITE, ESPECIALLY THE YOUNG LADY.



THE ALBERTOS - DON'T TOUCH ME THERE?

SINGER & RHYTHM G. - THE CURLY-HAIRED BOY NEXT DOOR. AND LAST, BUT NO WAY LEAST, THE AMAZING LEAD GUITARIST, WHO MAKES THE GUY FROM CHEMP THICK LOOK THE PICTURE OF SANITY. HE'S

RUNNING-SAWS - PEGASUS PUB LONDON 14.

THIS IS A 25/27 PIECE CULT BAND. THEY'RE THE BEST THING SINCE THE BEATLES. AND RUBBER BANANAS.

