EXCLUSIVE:
Judge Smith on the early days of Van der Graaf Generator

EXCLUSIVE:
Erik Norlander on the new Rocket Scientists album

EXCLUSIVE:
Craig High vs Michael Moorcock

EXCLUSIVE:
Crowdfunding Keith Levene’s new project

JUDGE’S VERDICT
THE THREE COMMANDMENTS OF GONZO WEEKLY:

1. Art is as important as science and more important than money

2. There is life after (beyond and before) Pop Idol

3. Music can and sometimes does change the world

If you think those three ideas are stupid then you should probably give up reading this magazine now. Otherwise... enjoy
Dear friends,

Welcome to another edition of the Gonzo Weekly magazine. As I think that I have mentioned quite a lot recently we are living in strange and disturbing times. But they are undeniably interesting ones.

The other day I had an email from a reader accusing me of being a “Communist weirdo”. I am certainly weird by the standards of most of the human race, but I am about as far from being a communist as it is possible to be. I believe that if we can’t actually remove our political leaders and live in a halycon state of peace and love and here comes the sun, we should at least ridicule them at every slightest possibility. A communist, on the whole believes that our political leaders should be replaced by even more stern looking political leaders with peaked caps and big epaulettes.

The fact that my political philosophy seems to work has been highlighted on several occasions in the past few weeks, when on two occasions the UK Government has backed down in the face of popular opposition.

As it happens, both of these campaigns were ones with which I was involved, because they both involved animals. The first one, was briefly mentioned in the news pages of this magazine last week. The Government had been planning to introduce legislation to allow farmers to use a pack of dogs to hunt foxes which would have effectively made the hunting ban impossible to enforce.

However, due—largely—to the groundswell of public opinion against fox hunting in all its forms the government changed their minds a few weeks ago.

Then today it has been announced that “Plans to roll out the controversial badger cull pilots nationwide
across England have been dropped by Owen Paterson after a damning independent report found the shoots were not effective or humane.

The two pilot culls, in Gloucestershire and Somerset, will continue with improvements recommended by the independent expert panel (IEP), including more and better-trained marksmen. But plans to start badger culls in 10 other areas have been abandoned, the environment secretary announced on Thursday, telling MPs he was taking the responsible approach.

"This disease is the most pressing animal health problem in the UK," Paterson said, noting that 26,600 cattle were slaughtered in 2013 and that the disease had cost taxpayers £500m in the past decade. But he accepted that "on effectiveness … the culls did not make as much progress as we hoped." He said the cull operators had often faced a "disgraceful amount of intimidation from some of the more extreme protesters".

This isn’t a complete victory, because the culls in Somerset and Gloucestershire are still going ahead, although I am sure that plans are afoot from the so-called “extreme elements” to disrupt them further and make them unworkable.

I am proud of the small part that I played in this campaign. I doubt whether the song and video that we made, featuring Graham dressed up as David Cameron and two glove puppet badgers had that much effect, although a certain socialist pop group got huffy with me accusing me of not taking parliament seriously, a charge to which I will gladly plead guilty.

But I did point out to Le Grande Fromage that the old English name for Badger was ‘Brock’; something which he pointed out to the Captain of Spaceship Hawkwind a few days later. It wasn’t long before the band threw themselves wholeheartedly into the campaign to stop the cull; a campaign that has largely succeeded.

So, in these degenerate days at least, people power does work. So I hope that I will be seeing you at the barricades!
This is quite simply the best magazine you will ever find that is edited by a mad bloke (and his small orange cat), and produced from a tumbledown potato shed on the outskirts of a tiny village that nobody's heard of in North Devon. The fact that it is published with Gonzo Multimedia - probably the grooviest record company in the known universe - is merely an added bonus.

**NAMING THOSE RESPONSIBLE**

This issue was put together by me and Captain Frunobulax the Magnificent, (who is, in case you didn't know, an insane orange kitten on the verge of adulthood) ably assisted by:

- **Corinna Downes**, (Sub Editor, and my lovely wife)
- **Graham Inglis**, (Columnist, Staff writer, *Hawkwind* nut)
- **Bart Lancia**, (My favourite roving reporter)
- **Thom the World Poet**, (Bard in residence)
- **C.J. Stone**, (Columnist, commentator and all round good egg)
- **Kev Rowland**, (Kiwi Reviewer)
- **Lesley Madigan**, (Photographer *par excellence*
- **Douglas Harr**, (Staff writer, columnist)
- **Jessica Taylor**, (PA and laughing at drunk pop stars)

**Dave McMann**, (He ain't nothing but a) Newshound-dog
**Orrin Hare**, (Sybarite and literary *bon viveur*)
**Mark Raines**, (Cartoonist)
**Davey Curtis**, (tales from the north)
**Jon Pertwee** (Pop Culture memorabilia)
**Dean Phillips** (The House Wally)
**Rob Ayling** (The *Grande Fromage*, of whom we are all in awe)
and **Peter McAdam** (McDada in residence)

This is the nearest that you are ever going to get to a posh weekend colour supplement from the *Gonzo Daily* team. Each week we shall go through the best bits of the week before, and if there aren't any we shall make some up, or simply make our excuses and leave (you can tell the editor once did contract work at the *News of the World* can't ya?)

This weekly magazine is free, and will remain so. It is published by Gonzo Multimedia in conjunction with CFZ Publications, or is it the other way round? We're actually not that sure. Contact us with bribes and free stuff:

**Jonathan Downes**, Editor: *Gonzo Daily* (Music and More)
Editor: *Gonzo Weekly* magazine
The Centre for Fortean Zoology, Myrtle Cottage, Woolfardsworthy, Bideford, North Devon EX39 5QR
It is simple; my name is Jon and I'm the editor of the Gonzo Multimedia daily online bloggything, and wot what a long, strange trip it is gonna be…

I keep on thinking that I ought to have some sort of a mission statement in each issue, but it is more than a little difficult to do one.

Basically, (if you don't mind me sounding more like a wishy washy old hippy than my haircut in the photograph on the previous page would imply) I think that books and music are immensely important.

I look around and see that we are living in a world where the things that I think are important are valued less and less by society as a whole; a world where asinine gameshows and so-called reality TV (which is actually a complete oxymoron, but don't get me started) are of more importance to most people than anything of cultural or spiritual value.

I am also very disappointed by much of what the contemporary music press puts out, and I decided many years ago, that probably the only way I could read the things that I want to read, would be to publish them myself.

So this is what I have been doing for much of my life. I am also naive enough to think that music and art can change the world, and as the world is in desperate need of change, I am gonna do my best to help.
WE ALL KNOW WHAT TONY WILSON CALLED HIM. A dispute between two members of Simply Red and a neighbour over hunting rights at an estate that the band members own in County Donegal has been settled. Letterkenny Circuit Court was told on Monday that the dispute between Mick Hucknall and Chris De Margary of Simply Red, and John Wilde had been resolved. READ ON

SAVE THE TROUT Walter Trout’s friends and family have launched an urgent campaign to raise $125,000 for him to have a liver transplant. Even though the guitarist – who as well as having his own bands has been a member of Canned Heat and John Mayall’s Bluesbreakers – is too ill to hold a guitar, he is said to have an excellent chance of survival – but only if the surgery takes place in the next three months. READ ON

KINKY AFRO The Kinks guitarist Dave Davies has told how he and estranged brother Ray recently played music together – and their private reunion was more important than any public event could be. The siblings have both recently spoken positively about the chances of hitting the stage together to mark the band’s 50th anniversary. READ ON

IT WAS HARRY AND KEITH WHO PISSED ON THE CONCOLE An angry note written by John Lennon to producer Phil Spector has sold at auction for £53,000 – nearly ten times the expected price. The letter, penned in the early 1970s, contains references to Who drummer Keith Moon and singer-songwriter Harry Nilsson misbehaving in Hollywood’s Capitol Studios, while they were supposed to be recording with the ex-Beatle. It reads: “Phil – See ya around 12.30! Should you not yet know, it was Harry and Keith who pissed on the console! We left at 11.30… READ ON

Black Sabbath have confirmed their first-ever appearance at London’s Hyde Park – they’ll headline the British Summer Time festival on July 4. They’re to be joined by Soundgarden, Faith No More, Motorhead and many others at what will be opening show of a 10-day multi-genre extravaganza. Organisers have renamed the first night Black Sabbath Time in honour of the headline act. And frontman Ozzy Osbourne says he’s delighted to return to London after a whirlwind year that saw them reclaim their heavy metal throne with award-winning album 13. READ ON
A woman was facing possible charges of consuming alcohol and having consensual sex with a Yemeni man - who denied rape and said he had agreed to have sex with her for money. Islam bans extramarital sex and alcohol for Muslims. In Dubai, the most cosmopolitan of the seven-member United Arab Emirates federation, non-Muslims can drink at certain hotels and bars.

A still-classified Senate Intelligence Committee report contains damning information on both the extent of US torture methods and the lies of top CIA officials about these programs, according to information in a *Washington Post* article. The government torture methods revealed by the Post, based on information from anonymous administration officials, include sadistic forms of inflicting pain that are associated with the most brutal police state and fascistic regimes.

I have always said that this magazine will never endorse a political candidate. Well, I am afraid that—like all politicians—I will have to go back on my word. Why? Because Bez is standing for parliament. I will let *The Guardian* take over: “Happy Mondays star Bez has reportedly announced plans to stand for parliament at next year’s general election. The wacky dancer said he hopes to become MP in his home town of Salford, and plans to run on a platform of redistributing wealth, tackling cancer and dementia, and an end to all war.”

An Austrian Muslim woman at the center of a rape case in Dubai has returned home with the help of Austria's foreign ministry after a storm of publicity and an online campaign on her behalf. The unidentified 29-year-old tourist told authorities she was raped in the underground garage of a luxury hotel in early December and was then jailed herself for several days. She reported the case to the Austrian embassy four days later, the foreign ministry said. According to the *Gulf News*, a local newspaper, the woman was facing possible charges of consuming alcohol and having consensual sex with a Yemeni man who denied rape and said he had agreed to have sex with her for money. Islam bans extramarital sex and alcohol for Muslims. In Dubai, the most cosmopolitan of the seven-member United Arab Emirates federation, non-Muslims can drink at certain hotels and bars.

The 49-year-old, best known for shaking the maracas with the 1980s band, told the *Manchester Evening News* he plans to "stir things up" in his bid to succeed former Labour cabinet minister Hazel Blears. He told the paper: "I've been saying we need a revolution, and there's no good shouting about it when you're not actually doing anything. "If you want to do something about things you've got to get into the corridors of power and take them on.”

Whereas we just laugh at them.

When those who are in power over us, do something spectacularly stupid, or when something highlights their idiocy and ineffectualness, it turns up in this section. *Que Ipsos Custodes? Us dudes*...
THE LAST WEEK AT GONZO DAILY

Sunday
Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday

IF YOU ARE NOT A PART OF THE SOLUTION YOU ARE A PART OF THE PROBLEM.
ELDRIDGE CLEAVER

Two types of people visit rhino in the wild

The strong and courageous take a camera
The weak and cowardly take a gun

What sort of person are you?

Celebrate wildlife on World Wildlife Day don't shoot it.
As I was putting this issue of the magazine to bed, I found the following note, together with the above picture on Steve Hackett’s Facebook page.

He writes:

The tour exploded into life at Washington DC’s Lincoln Theatre. Now back at the extraordinary haunted Scottish Rites venue near Philly for two shows.

Cold outside but bubbling inside last night with Francis Dunnery guesting with us to thunderous applause, and tonight promises to be a real blinder! We’re all excited to be here...

Warmest wishes to all,
Steve

Both Corinna and I would have liked to have seen him on this tour. I gave her a copy of the first of the Genesis Revisited CD for her birthday last year, and it has—unsurprisingly—become a firm favourite on the Downes hifi.

Check him out at Gonzo:

A FEW MINUTES JOUSTING WITH JAKKO
As I mention in nearly every issue, I dislike Facebook intensely, but it is an undeniably groovy tool for the lazy journalist, or even the journalist who has a tiny budget, so prefers to do his or her news sleuthing online.

On Wednesday evening, just before I telephoned Erik Norlander, I saw our old friend Jakko Jakszyk online, so I grabbed him and asked him whether he has any news for us. He replied: "Err ELP’s Brain Salad Surgery to be released this month (I think?) which I’ve re mixed from the original multi tracks. The new Jethro Tull/Ian Anderson album is released in a week (album launch party tomorrow)"
which I also mixed in stereo and 5.1 along with a live version of 'Thick As A Brick' parts 1 & 2 for DVD (stereo and 5.1 again) I finished this afternoon.

There is also a BBC Radio 3 commission (using speech as part of the composition) which in doing with Lenny Henry about the unusual but unlikely friendship between TS Elliot and Groucho Marx which we've nearly finished and will be broadcast in June.

Plus I'm learning lots of Crimson stuff for our first full band rehearsals this summer. Apart from that not much!:

Well I may be a journalist but I can tell irony when I see it, but on this occasion I decided to ignore it. Jakko is always a busy fellow, but this is ridiculous even by his standards. So I typed back: "Blimey mate - and that is what you call "Not Much"! How are the rehearsals for KC going?"

"It's early days. I've been working with Robert", he continued. "Did a few days with Robert and Bill. Then Tony Levin came to stay and work at my place for a few days in February". "Not much!! - I was being ironic as I'm sure you realise" he typed. "Of course I realise", I replied. "Good luck with it all".

"Thanks" he typed. "I may well need it!!!!"

Jakko is a real polymath and I am always amazed at the sheer level of work he manages to get under his belt. I look forward to chatting to him again soon...
ACID MOTHERS TEMPLE ARE STILL RIDICULOUSLY BUSY
This Oriental psychedelic collective have a workload which really puts many of the rest of us to shame. They are insanely busy, and it seems that every week I am writing about a new project for them.

The above artwork is apparently the T Shirt artwork for an item of apparel which will be available at all the gigs on the forthcoming “Astr orgasm From The Inner Temple Tour” - the Acid Mothers Temple & The Melting Paraiso U.F.O. US & Canadian tour 2014! The drawing by Kawabata Makoto.

I go to America every few years, and invariably get stopped and questioned quite vigorously by the Immigration Department. I strongly suspect that this is because I have written several books that are scathing about various successive American governments. (By the way, before you start accusing me of bias, I am equally scathing, if not more so, about our own). On my last visit the powers of law and boredom were not spectacularly impressed that my luggage consisted of various video cameras, butterfly nets and test tubes and a handful of anarchist T Shirts, and took my explanation that I was visiting Texas to investigate the Blue Dog of Elmendorf very scathingly indeed.

If I can be perceived as a threat to truth, justice and the American Way, I hate to think what those jolly nice folk at immigration, will think of a posse of Japanese gentlemen engaged on the “Astr orgasm From The Inner Temple Tour”

It is conundra like this that keep me happy through the day. Above is the poster for the band’s annual festival in Japan which, apparently is taking place next week. I have only got into the band in the past few weeks.

I had heard of them, of course, for well over a decade, but never engaged with them properly until recently. Their arcane brand of organic psychedelia is a wonderful soundtrack to the strange and often disturbing times in which we are living.

Do yourself a favour and check them out at Gonzo.

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Do yourself a favour and check them out at Gonzo.
THIS LOT AIN'T GOING TO DISAPPEAR IN SMOKE, OR AT LEAST I BLOODY WELL HOPE NOT.

Over the last week or so I have spent quite a lot of time chatting to Craig High, frontman, singer and sax dude with Alan Davey’s magnificent band The Psychedelic Warlords. It really does seem that he and I are singing from the same socio-political hymnsheet.

Every couple of days he sends me something. Here, taken almost at random is a selection of the goodies that he has sent me over the past few days. Regular readers will, I hope, remember that last week we ran a piece about the forthcoming project by The Psychedelic Warlords which will see them putting an end to singing Hawkwind material as their main oeuvre, and collaborating with Michael Moorcock on a new project. This naturally led on to me discussing Moorcock’s universe with him, which in turn led on to this:

“A bunch of us did a load of Cornelius stories that he gave us an intro for regarding the cover which had Bob Calvert on it. Although the paperback was banned (always flattering when that happens) you can still read it on mine and my partner’s web site. It might be to your taste.... http://highpanch.org.uk/fluxus/index.htm”

The band are currently rehearsing for their new tour which is very imminent. The last I heard from Craig was the other day when he wrote:

“I’m off to Alan’s tomorrow morning. Journey of 300 miles so I’m leaving early. Once at his I shall resume FB correspondence amid rehearsals and the first leg of our tour. I may have crashed by the time you read this so apologies for any tardy response times.

I am very much enjoying my new relationship with Craig, and look forward to seeing The Psychedelic Warlords at some point in the next few months. In the meantime check out Alan Davey at Gonzo...
For immediate release –
April 2, 2014: Clash/affiliate founder Keith Levene’s “Commercial Zone 2014” initiative on Indiegogo has reached 27% of its targeted financial objective.

The crowdfunding campaign for Levene’s Commercial Zone release which is referred to as the “post punk opus” by L.A. Record Magazine, is scheduled to end on April 28, 2014. In 1982-1983, Levene composed what was intended to be PiL’s fourth album, the Commercial Zone. However, lack of support and creative differences over that album led Levene to leave PiL and abandon the project in the Spring of 1983.

“Finally producing the Commercial Zone my way will allow me to finish important unfinished business,” explains Levene. “I know there’s been a gap in time of thirty years.”

“CZ2014 is very special to me. It contains original material and has the benefit of 30 years of my work. So it’s not another tired, old re-release of stuff that’s been out since 1978 or 1981. It’s fresh. I’ve had time to reflect. So yeah, it’s better,” he states.

A 30 page picture book preview of original artwork, photos, and words from Levene’s forthcoming book “Diary” will accompany Commercial Zone 2014. Amongst other campaign offerings are $300.00 USD “producer” role pledges, of which two have been taken by backers.

The link to the Indiegogo campaign is: 

For further information, contact Kathy DiTondo at kathy197778@gmail.com or go to www.keithlevenelive.com.

Portobello Shuffle CDs still at special low price of £5.00 each, 1 x CD inc. p&p = UK £6.80; Mainland Europe £8.90; USA £9.95; Rest of the World, contact Rich Deakin for postage price. arsy-deedee@yahoo.co.uk
A WEIRD FEW DAYS ON PLANET GALAHAD

The feat of le poisson d’Avril, as our French cousins call it, has always been one of my favourite times of the year, because it is the one day when my idiotically childish sense of humour can be given full reign.

So when the following post appeared on Galahad’s Facebook Page I initially took it cum grano salis:

Records Store Day April 19th is shaping up to be another Cracker! We can now announce members of the Progtastic Galahad will be performing live set as ‘Galahad Stripped’

I had horrible visions of Stu et al doing for prog rock what various Hollywood actresses do for PETA, and the thought quite put me off my breakfast.

But soon it transpired that this was actually true, but that—hopefully—the band will be keeping their kit on.

Two days later, however, Stu posted this:

I have to say I’m a little bored with the whole rock and roll thing, it’s just too mundane and the excitement levels are negligible these days, all the travelling, never knowing quite where you are going to end up next, the paid for flights and hotels, it’s just so predictable and dull! I guess I’m just too old for this stuff these days thus I’ve decided to spend more time getting involved with my beloved Accountancy projects, so much more fun and the exhilaration levels are second to none when you get that Balance Sheet to finally balance, it’s an amazing feeling. You try and explain it to a musician and they just don’t get it, yep, Accountancy is the way forward...

Hmmmm. I wonder whether he means it this time. I hope not, because Galahad are one of the few prog metal acts that I really do like a lot. Check ‘em out at Gonzo...
North Devon Firefly
Faery Fayre and Ball, Saturday 26th
July 2014

This is a one day faery fayre and ball on 26th July 2014; any proceeds to go to The Small School in Hartland, North Devon.

NO COVER BANDS!

Description
This is North Devon's first celebration of faery culture, art, crafts, and music for both children and adults, and any proceeds will go to The Small School in Hartland, North Devon, England.

The event will take place on Saturday 26th July 2014 at the Anchor Inn in Hartland, where there is plenty of B & B accommodation (but book early), and food will be on sale in the evening for the ball only. There is a camping and caravan site a few yards up the road, and local shops are just next to the pub, which also has a music licence.

There will be a faery fayre through the day, including stalls and children's entertainment, and a faery ball with a range of musical acts in the evening.

Non-food stallholders and musicians and other entertainers, please contact us at this email: malachitebabz2014@gmail.com

Musicians and other entertainers will be fed, but we cannot offer payment or travel expenses. Tickets are on sale for stallholders (including the faery ball) and for anyone else attending the ball. Entrance to the faery fayre alone is free.

BOOK YOUR ACCOMMODATION NOW AT THE ANCHOR INN OR LOCAL CAMPSITES TO PREVENT DISAPPOINTMENT!

- FREE ENTRY TO THE FAERY FAYRE
THROUGHOUT THE DAY

- **STALL HOLDERS**: £20.00 PER STALL INCLUDING ENTRY TO THE FAERY BALL IN THE EVENING.
- **SHARED STALLS**: £20 PER STALL PLUS £10 FOR EACH EXTRA ADULT, (SO £30 FOR 2 ADULTS SHARING A STALL, INC. BALL ENTRY FOR BOTH.)
- **FAERY BALL ONLY**: ADULTS £10.00, CHILDREN UNDER 16 £5.00.
- **CHILDREN UNDER 16**: £5.00.

WE ARE NOW TAKING PAYMENT FOR ALL TICKETS BY PAYPAL:
northdevonfirefly@gmail.com

OR BY PERSONAL CHEQUE, POSTAL ORDER, OR CASH to Nigel Hewlett--Beech

We already have a fabulous line-up of stalls, bands and entertainers for the faery fayre and ball, with more to be added soon:

**At the fayre** - Aya Designs, Last Chance Hotel, Greenhart and Kind, Jewellery by Danni, Sajja Crafts, Sew Fae, Phil Moseley Pyrography, Awen Alive and Tangled Tendrils who all have stalls; Matt Kitchener, Freddie Diablo and Angel du Cirque all from The Small School teaching circus skills; and Matt also doing fire performances for us.

**At the ball** - Taking the Piskies (folk), Sembalance (psychedelic etc rock), Pure Mischief (original dance music), and Mysterious Freakshow (steampunk).

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO BART

Later in this issue you will find an illustrated account of what happened when my favourite roving reporter met the legendary Jon Anderson. But Bart also sent me this important missive from his mate Oliver Wakeman: “There has been a venue change for the upcoming tour with Gordon Giltrap and band. The show on the 5th April has been moved from Montgomery Hall in Wath to The Wesley Centre, Blyth Road, Maltby, Rotherham, S66 8JD. Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause. Here is the tour in full - if you can get to a show - please do! Oliver Wakeman & Gordon Giltrap’s ‘Ravens & Lullabies’ Band Tour 2014.

- **Saturday, April 5**: Classic Rock Society, The Wesley Centre, Blyth Road, Maltby, Rotherham, S66 8JD [http://www.classicrocksociety.co.uk/shop/oliver-wakeman-and-gordon-giltraps-ravens-and-lullabies/]
  **Enquiries**: 07914 929690
- **Sunday, April 6**: The Robin 2, Mount Pleasant, Bilston To book tickets: [http://www.therobin.co.uk/whats_on/giginfo.asp?gigid=3619]
  **Enquiries**: 01902 401211
- **Thursday, April 24**: The Bedford. 77 Bedford Hill, Balham, SW12 9HD To book tickets: [http://www.seetickets.com/Event/gordon-giltrap-and-oliver-wakeman-s/the-bedford/767800]
  **Ticket Sales**: 0845 6890793
- **Friday, April 25**: Tithe Barn, Cheltenham Road, Bishop's Cleeve GL52 8LU To book tickets: [http://cleeveconcerts.weebly.com/]
- **Saturday, April 26**: Mr Kyps. 8a Parr Street, Parkstone, Poole, Dorset BH14 0JY Web ordering - [http://mrkyps.net/events/event-155.html]
  **Ticket Sales**: 01202 748945
- **Sunday, April 27**: The Vic. 88 Victoria Rd, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN1 3BD To book tickets: [http://www.seetickets.com/Tour/oliver-wakeman-gordon-giltrap]
now the potential to make our work of the last 29 years instantly accessible for the benefit of all, thereby helping Buddhist thought develop in cultures and countries well beyond those of its origin. After many years of recording, preserving and careful curating we are finally in a position to 'Open the Vaults'.

Our goal is to build a NEW website through which this rare film archive can be shared over the Internet, for free, for the benefit of all. Here authentic Buddhist teachings and culture can be accessed at the click of a button.

By Opening the Vaults Together we can fulfill our

FULFIL A PROMISE TO THE DALAI LAMA: transform a Buddhist Film archive into a free online learning resource, for the benefit of all.

Making the insights of Buddhist Wisdom available to ALL.

In 1985 The Dalai Lama asked as a matter of urgency that The Meridian Trust preserve Tibetan culture at a time when its very existence was threatened. Since then we have created an archive of over 2,500 hours of footage: these recordings collectively make one of the largest and most authentic resources of Tibetan Buddhist film in the world.

With developments in digital technology there is

I'm supporting this amazing project on KICKSTARTER
www.meridian-trust.org/kickstarter

the week that's past
promise to The Dalai Lama, giving Tibetan’s access to their cultural heritage; giving back to those who have lost so much. We hope to develop a website that will benefit people from all walks of life, who wish to enrich their lives through a deeper knowledge of Buddhist wisdom.

The goal of the project is to facilitate access, for present and future generations; to make authentic sources of learning on Buddhist philosophy, culture, art and related practice, and provide opportunities for the culture to evolve anew.

HOW?

Develop a New Website: Meridian Trust will work with web designers and developers, Piction Media and Designed2Perform who (using Open Source technologies) will develop a new website with film-streaming and search capabilities onto which the Trust will upload the Archive and its current Buddhist filming projects.

Navigation: A major aspect of usability of the website is the need for people to be able to find what they want, and find it quickly. Due to the large amount of video content, the Trust will present clear, consistent, well-ordered Navigation and Sub-Navigation including Search facilities. The site will have a search engine to allow users to find videos in the archive by categories such as Teacher, Buddhist teachings, Art, Rituals, Initiations, Political, Documentaries, Conference, Interviews, Public Talks, Tibetan Culture and Western Buddhism.

Security: The website’s privacy options will make it easy to make the videos public, private or password protected. The Trust will have full control of who can see them, for some content is restricted and only viewable by people who have had certain teachings or initiations. Content will be editable and publishable by Meridian staff and security will be in place for all elements of the site.

Device Support/ Mobile Playback: The website will be supported by all desktop computers, mobile devices such as iPad and Android tablets and smartphones.

Social Media Integration: The website will be integrated with social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter to help the Trust reach its target audience and develop awareness and interest.

A Buddhist Film Archive (Est 1985)

We are a charity dedicated to the preservation and dissemination of Tibetan Buddhist thought, culture and artistic heritage. Our archive holds over 2,500 hours of footage, focusing primarily on the endangered traditions of Tibet. Footage focuses mainly on teachings and public talks given by leading Buddhist teachers, especially the Dalai Lama, our patron.

We believe that Tibetan cultural heritage, with its profound message of Buddhism, has the potential to not only benefit Tibetans but also the whole of humankind with its globally relevant values of non-violence, the appreciation of interdependence, the development of compassion, respect for the environment and the cultivation of creative approaches to adversity.

Our goal is to ‘Open the Vault’: to facilitate access, for present and future generations to authentic sources of learning on Buddhist philosophy, culture, art and related practice.

With your support we will build a NEW website through which this rare film archive can be shared over the Internet, for free, for the benefit of all. Here authentic Buddhist teachings and culture can be accessed at the click of a button.
They say that some people will say *anything* to get into the papers, but this takes the biscuit. “THERE can be no finer a treat than tucking into a piping hot Gregg’s chicken bake pasty in one of Britain’s peeling and windswept town centres. But oddball Howard Russell took his admiration for the flaky pastry snack to an extreme and, some would say, warped new level. For the 32-year-old sales manager developed a sexual fetish for having SEX with the piping-hot pasties.”

He injured himself and now plans legal action. However, the fact that this story appeared in the *Sunday Sport* means that it should, perhaps, be taken *cum grano salis*. But then again that could be said of all savoury patisserie.


**THE LIFE OF PIE**
Strange Fruit, Miskin’s Radio’s home of alternative, off-the-wall and otherwise generally strange sounds is looking for a co-presenter. This is not a paid job, but would give the lucky individual the chance to present two hour shows of music generally ignored by radio, and broadcast them twice a month to be heard by Miskin Radio’s audience online and then archived on Gonzo Multimedia’s website, where their audience would devour them. Radio experience would be useful, but isn’t necessary. The ideal candidate would be able to come to our Dartford studios, be trained and begin work when ready. Alternatively, anyone capable of self-producing and Dropboxing shows will be considered. Fame and wealth are unlikely but the chance to indulge your most maverick musical tastes knows few limits in this job. In the first instance email Neil Nixon, nlnxn@aol.com to express an interest. Also check out our shows on Gonzo Multimedia’s web radio page and Miskin Radio’s own site – www.miskinradio.co.uk

STRANGE FRUIT:
Episode 64 Part One

the week that’s past
Strange Fruit is a unique two-hour radio show exploring the world of underground, strange and generally neglected music. All shows are themed and all shows set out to give the most hardened of sound-hounds some new delight to sample. The show is also unique in providing homework for undergraduate students on North West Kent College’s Foundation Degree in Professional Writing (who dig up many of the odd facts featured in the links between tracks). Strange Fruit presenter Neil Nixon is currently working on a book about rare albums for Gonzo Multimedia.

The show is broadcast on Miskin Radio every Sunday from 10-00-midnight.

PLAYLIST FOR THIS ISSUE

RACHEL SWEET/THE SPACE LADY AND RELATED

16-02-14

Rachel Sweet: It’s so Different Here
Perplexer: Da Capo (Classic Cut)
Marijuana Death Squad: Ewok Sadness
Julia Holter: Horns Surrounding me
The Band of Heathens: Shotgun
Nico: Innocent and Vain
Daniel Johnson: Love Enchanted
Rachel Sweet: Tonight Ricky
The Space Lady: Born to be Wild
Cian Nugent and the Cosmos: Grass Above my Head
Musician Frankie Knuckles, known as the Godfather of House music, has died unexpectedly, it has been announced.

A pioneer of house - the sparse, electronic dance music that emerged from Chicago in the 1980s - Knuckles was just 59.

He was known for remixing tracks by Michael Jackson and Whitney Houston, as well as his own songs, such as Your Love and The Whistle Song.

His death was confirmed by fellow DJ David Morales on Twitter.

Those we have Lost:
Frankie Knuckles (1955-2014)
Now, I don't know whether this is a good idea, a bad idea, or just an idea, but - as I believe you know - this magazine is put out each week on a budget of £25, and is free. It will remain free, but I would like to be able to generate some income so I can pay our contributing writers. So, 'why not flog Gonzo Weekly T Shirts?' I thought. 'Why not', I answered...

http://www.zazzle.co.uk/gonzoweekly
Artist: Mick Abrahams
Title: Mick's Back
Cat No. HST182CD
Label: Gonzo

An anonymous internet reviewer called only Dave42 writes: "Mick's Back" is Mick Abraham's third solo album after coming out of retirement. It may not be quite up to the level of his 1991 album, "All Said and Done", but it isn't far off. Released in July of 1996, this album features over 50 minutes of blues, with Mick playing the guitar better than ever. Mick is backed by The Norman Beaker Band, and the combination is dynamic. My personal favorites on this CD are "The Rivers Invitation", "Bad Feeling", "Time to Love", "Long Grey Mare", and "Yolanda", but all the selections are well worth a listen.

Artist: Clearlight
Title: Forever Blowing Bubbles
Cat No. HST209CD
Label: Gonzo

Forever Blowing Bubbles is a progressive rock album by Clearlight, released in 1975 on Virgin Records in the UK. It is their first album to use this artist name, but is regarded as their third album. Following the success of Clearlight Symphony, Delired Cameleon Family changed their name to Clearlight and returned to the Manor studio in England to record a second album for Virgin. It covers many contrasting genres including psychedelic, new age, folk, rock and jazz fusion jamming, and the closing track of abstract electronic music experimentation. Only two songs have vocals, and are sung in French.
Artist: Galahad
Title: Seize The Day
Cat No. GHEP1
Label: Avalon

Following on from the release of two critically acclaimed full length albums in 2012 (Battle Scars and Beyond the Realms of Euphoria), Galahad are back again with an EP ‘Seize the Day’, the first of several which will be released during the coming year. ‘Seize the Day’ has been edited, tweaked and re-mixed by the band and Karl Groom and makes a perfect single, in our opinion of course! It will be available as a download from the band’s website as well from the usual digital on-line platforms such as I-tunes, CD Baby, Amazon etc.

It will be available in physical form as a limited edition CD EP which will also contain the full re-mixed album version as well as a couple of other re-recorded and re-worked Galahad songs: ‘21st Century Painted Lady’ is based upon ‘Painted Lady’ which was one of the first Galahad songs ever written and was first recorded in the mid 1980’s but now has been given a major overhaul and now includes a second verse which should have but didn’t appear on the original version!

‘Bug Eye’, originally from the 1998 album ‘Following Ghosts’ has also been re-worked and brought up to date for 2013. A live version of the original arrangement is also included on the EP.

‘Seize the Day’ should appeal to existing fans of the band as well as those who are intrigued and interested in the band but have yet to dip their toes in to the murky world of Galahad music.

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Artist: Alain Blesing
Title: Songs From The Beginning
Cat No. FGBG4655.AR
Label: Musea

Alain Blesing is a French guitar player, known for having been part of the legendary progressive/zeuhl rock band Eskaton, who are considered to be one of the most gifted disciples of Magma. From the late Seventies, he extended his capacities by studying musicology, then in discovering jazz music. With the Turkish female singer Senem Diyiici, he got involved in the universe of world-music.

Now firmly established on the French scene, Alain Blesing returns to his roots and publishes an album revisiting 1970s progressive rock classics by King Crimson, Led Zeppelin, Soft Machine, Henry Cow and Hatfield and the North among others.

Songs From The Beginning” presents legendary songs such as “Slightly All The Time” (Soft Machine), “Beautiful As The Moon” (Henry Cow), "California" (Led Zeppelin), "Mumps" (Hatfield and the North), "1983" (Jimi Hendrix), "Behind Blue Eyes" (The Who) and "Fracture" (King Crimson).

His reputation attracted big names like John Greaves and Hugh Hopper, respectively taking the singing and bass duties here. At the end, you get an opus both masterfully performed and intimately personal, revisiting all of Alain Blesings musical aspects.
Rick writes: There were just three performances of King Arthur on Ice and it was “crucified” by most of the media before it had even had its opening night! Amazingly though, the demand from the press and media for tickets was unprecedented and which was met with a total refusal to all who had “pre-reviewed” the event.

It was undoubtedly for me, a high point of my musical career. I was pleased with the music and to this day feel that the main theme is probably the best I have written and will be hard to surpass. The shows were just great fun and were put on with virtually no outside assistance as very few people believed in it and indeed wanted it to happen. Numerous people, who will remain nameless, tried in vain to get me to do a basic show at the Royal Albert Hall and to “forget all this nonsense about an ice show”!

Ice skating was not popular back in 1975 and so I enlisted the help of some of the world’s greatest skaters from all over the world To the best of my knowledge it was also the first time a PA of that size had been “hung” in a venue the size of Wembley Arena. I shipped in a Clair Brothers system from America as there was nothing in the UK that could handle the task. Thanks to people like Tony Burdfield at A&M Records, my band, the conductor David Measham and the English Chamber Choir, and the foresight of Alan Yentob, who filmed much of the show for the BBC, the memory still lives on. …And my thoughts now? I’d just love to do it one more time!!!

Andy Colquhoun is a guitarist with a peerless pedigree. He first came to the notice of the music press when in 1977 his band Warsaw Pakt recorded an album (Needle Time) that was in the shops 24 hours after the first note was recorded (viz the session ended at 10 p.m. on Saturday 26 November 1977 and the album was ready to be sold by 7a.m. on Sunday 27 November 1977.).

The band was trying to make a point about technology in doing this, and the album sleeve was a 12” square brown bag with stickers and rubber stamping to display the band name and album title. After Warsaw Pakt, he joined Brian James’ Tanz Der Youth, (described as the world’s first hippy punks) subsequently moved on to the band The Pink Fairies, and then a band with ex-MC5 guitarist Wayne Kramer.

For the best part of thirty years he was songwriting partner and collaborator with the legendary Mick Farren; a partnership which only ended with Mick’s sad death in July 2013.

He told me about this album:

“It’s got twelve original tunes on it that I wrote, and I originally recorded those in 2010. And then there’s been an addition of another seven tracks that are all covers of songs that I like, and like playing. This is an instrumental album.”
Clepsydra is a Swiss neo-progressive band that was formed in 1990 by Aluisio Maggini (vocals), Lele Hofmann (guitars), Philip Hubert (keyboards), Andy Thommen (bass) and Pietro Duca (drums). In 1991 Clepsydra released their first album 'Hologram', which was followed by the EP 'Fly Man' in 1993. Clepsydra then signed to InsideOut, who released their second album 'More Grains of Sand' in 1994. This CD included the song “Moonshine on Heights”, which by many is regarded as neo-prog classic. 1994 also saw them performing two songs on national Swiss TV, a rare occurrence for a progressive rock band at that time. 

The one thing I want to know is how come an old prog-head like me had never heard of Clepsydra? I knew Andy Thommen, of course, because of his work with Zenit; their album The Chandrasekr Incident was one of my favourites in 2012, and following my first conversation with Andy he sent me the other Zenit albums, which I enjoyed immensely.

But, last night, after my first aborted attempt at telephoning Switzerland, Andy was kind enough to send me the mp3 of the four Clepsydra albums. I had a joyous experience today, listening to them in full, back to back as I went about my daily business. Seldom have I been so impressed.

Musician, producer and former Yes member Billy Sherwood has put together what he’s dubbed “the biggest super group of progressive rock players ever assembled,” to form The Prog Collective.

The group’s self-titled album features John Wetton (Asia), Tony Levin (King Crimson), Jerry Goodman (Mahavishnu Orchestra), Richard Page (Mr. Mister), Geoff Downes (Yes/Asia), Alan Parsons (Alan Parsons Project), Chris Squire (Yes), Rick Wakeman (Yes), Gary Green (Gentle Giant), Annie Haslam (Renaissance), Steve Hillage (Gong), John Wesley (Porcupine Tree), Tony Kaye (Yes), Colin Moulding (XTC) and others.

Billy Sherwood writes: 'The idea of assembling a collection of amazing artists from the progressive rock genre all on one record was an especially exciting concept to me. Inspired, I began writing and recording the 7 songs that would become this album. I then sent those recordings to some of my friends and musical heroes from bands like King Crimson, XTC, Asia, Gentle Giant, and of course my former band Yes. Soon I started receiving vocal tracks and guitar and keyboard overdubs from studios all over the world, which I then mixed at my recording studio in Los Angeles. Despite the distances in geography, however, the feeling of the entire production is one of musical and spiritual unity - The Prog Collective!'
Beverly Paterson writes:

“Over the years, the band has reunited off and on, and the current incarnation includes original member Gary Duncan on guitar, vocals, bass and keyboards, along with John Bird on guitar, Jimmy Guyette on bass, Tony Menjivar on percussion, and former Sly and the Family Stone drummer Greg Errico. Slimming their name down to simply Quicksilver, the band still does the jam thing and they do it mighty well.

Tuned to a funky frequency, "Boo-Hoooin" shudders and shakes with style and substance, where tracks like "Nica’s Dream" and "Samba Triste/Green Dolphin Street" swing and swagger with jiving jazz rhythms. Strumming a wicked acoustic guitar, Jorge Santana stages a guest appearance on the blissful, breezy Latin fragranced “Cancion Para Dios,” while “Selling Miss Murphy,” in certain parts, particularly in the beginning and in the middle of the cut, pinches notions from the kind of creepy, crawly moody measures occasionally practiced by Led Zeppelin. Ablaze with nimble fretwork, stimulating keyboard passages, and dynamic drum patterns, The Hermit exhibits how incredibly intact and incisive Quicksilver’s chops are. The band trades and shares tasty licks with effortless ease, their timing is impeccable, and the energy is positive. Bluesy undertreads collide in harmony with jazzy arrangements and rocking beats, culminating in a marvelous melting pot of various sonic accessories.”

Happy Trails dudes.

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Beverly Paterson writes:

“The Social Deviants were founded by singer/writer Mick Farren (born Michael Anthony Farren, 3 September 1943, in Gloucester, Gloucestershire) in 1967 out of the Ladbroke Grove UK Underground community, featuring Pete Munro on bass; Clive Muldoon on guitar, Mike Robinson on guitar and Russell Hunter on drums (born Barry Russell Hunter, 26 April 1946, in Woking, Surrey).

The band shortened their name to "The Deviants" after Munro and Muldoon left and were replaced by Sid Bishop on guitar (born Ian Bishop, 17 December 1946, Balham, South West London) and Cord Rees on bass.

With the financial backing of Nigel Samuel, the 21-year-old son of a millionaire, whom Farren had befriended, the group independently recorded their debut album Ptooff!, selling copies through the UK Underground press before it was picked up by Decca Records.

At the end of the 1970s Farren again concentrated on his writing and relocated to New York. He would resurrect The Deviants name for occasional live performances, such as these shows recorded in Japan with long-time friend and collaborator Andy Colquhoun and featuring Wayne Kramer from the MC5’s backing band.
**Pink Fairies**

*Chinese Cowboys Live 1987*

**Artist:** Pink Fairies  
**Title:** Chinese Cowboys Live 1987  
**Cat No.:** HST239CD  
**Label:** Gonzo

Mike Reed writes: "Chinese Cowboys is an archive, unreleased live CD title that was recorded at two 1987 gigs the band had played in support of their '87 comeback album, Kill 'Em and Eat 'Em. These two shows took place at Leeds and at the Long Marston Speedway. Good sound quality. On a ten scale I give it a 9 / 9+. Not perfect but awfully darn nice to listen to as well as fully take in. Glad to see the Fairies decided to play material from their first three albums, like '71's Neverneverland. There's drummer Twink stepping out for a rousing performance of "Do It". Then off '72's What A Bunch Of Sweeties there are the band's two drummers, Twink and Russell Hunter totally cutting loose on the ten minute "Walk Don't Run". Also, you get from '73's Kings Of Oblivion the stunning instrumental "Raceway", "Street Urchin" and "City Kids". One lesser known track here that I was surprised to hear was off the Previously Unreleased EP, the rocking "Waiting For The Lightning To Strike". From the afore mentioned Kill 'Em and Eat 'Em album (never thought I'd hear live versions of these tunes) the guys serve up "Takin' LSD", "White Girls On Amphetamine", "Seeing Double" and the jamming "Waiting For The Ice Cream To Melt". Whew! What a trip.

My only regret is I wasn't there. Simply a fun CD to listen to. This will stay in my 'current listening stack for quite some time. I also dug "The Snake", with its wicked lyrics, but I wasn't able to find out where this tune originally came from. Not completely sure but I think it might've been a 45 single when it first came out. If you're a Pink Fairies fan you need to get yourself a copy of this CD."

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**Captain Beefheart**

*Harpo's Detroit Dec 11th 1980*

**Artist:** Captain Beefheart  
**Title:** Harpo's Detroit Dec 11th 1980  
**Cat No.:** GZO104CD  
**Label:** Gonzo

Don Van Vliet (born Don Glen Vliet; January 15, 1941 – December 17, 2010) was an American musician, singer-songwriter, artist and poet known by the stage name Captain Beefheart.

His musical work was conducted with a rotating ensemble of musicians called the Magic Band (1965–1982), with whom he recorded 13 studio albums. Noted for his powerful singing voice with its wide range, Van Vliet also played the harmonica, saxophone and numerous other wind instruments. His music blended rock, blues and psychedelia with avant-garde and contemporary experimental composition.

Van Vliet has been described as ‘...one of modern music's true innovators’ with ‘...a singular body of work virtually unrivalled in its daring and fluid creativity.’ Although he achieved little commercial or mainstream critical success, he sustained a cult following as a ‘highly significant’ and ‘incalculable’ influence on an array of New Wave, punk, post-punk, experimental and alternative rock musicians.

Known for his enigmatic personality and relationship with the public, Van Vliet made few public appearances after his retirement from music (and from his Beefheart persona) in 1982.

This extraordinary record catches the Captain at his best; live on stage in 1980 during the tour for ‘Doc at the Radar Station’.
This is all very exciting and things are changing very rapidly. There is now a dedicated website at www.gonzoweekly.com. At the moment it is extremely skeletal, but it will be titivated and enhanced and augmented with other stuff over the next few months.

In my defence, I have never pretended to be any sort of web designer, and I have never worked out how to use Dreamweaver or any of those clever things, and I don't understand anything but basic raw htm.

But it does the biz as Graham would say, and it contains links to all sixty-nine back issues. I will be guided by you, the readership as to what else should be on the magazine's website. There will also be special things there which are only available to subscribers, which as the subscription costs now't, is—I think—a reasonably good deal.

Somewhere along the line I will call upon members of my ever expanding Robot Army of the Undead and get someone to transfer all the back issues from the Mailchimp format in which they were originally composed, to this swish new page turney flip book thingy. But it ain't gonna happen any time soon because - believe it or not - the rigours of putting out a 70 page magazine every seven days with a team of volunteers, and a budget of twenty five quid, are quite considerable.

But it will happen….in the fullness of time...

**WHO GONZO? WHY GONZO? WHAT GONZO?**

What? You don't know who Hunter Thompson is/was/might have been/will be? Without Hunter Thompson there would be no Gonzo Multimedia. It would have been completely different and that would have been an unforgivable pity. So here is:

- A potted history of his life and works
- Rob Ayling explains why he called his company 'Gonzo'

C.J.Stone suggested that as well as explaining Gonzo to those wot don't understand, we should do a weekly quote from the great man himself. So here goes:

"The TV business is uglier than most things. It is normally perceived as some kind of cruel and shallow money trench through the heart of the journalism industry, a long plastic hallway where thieves and pimps run free and good men die like dogs, for no good reason”.

Hunter S. Thompson,
Last week we had a very welcome visitor here; our old mate Judge Smith, songwriter, singer, author and all round good egg. He came down to work on his second book with CFZ Press; the sequel to *The Universe Next Door* which we published last year.

These are probably the most erudite non-religious books on the subject of life after death that I have ever read. It is an honour and a privilege to be working with him.

However, in the evenings Corrina surpassed herself with tasty vegetarian dishes and I broke out the wine bottles.

Judge told us so many remarkable stories about his extraordinary career that we decided we really had to share them with you, so we pointed a video camera in his general direction, asked him questions about his early days in Van der Graaf Generator, and attending the same gallery show where John met Yoko.

Although I have been listening to the band for about thirty five years, ever since I saw them playing at Exeter University in the autumn of 1977 I have never known very much about them at all, and I found out from talking to Judge that an awful lot of what has been written about them on the Internet is simply wrong. I felt a little churlish asking Judge about things that had happened so long ago, and ignoring his fine solo career. But Judge is a sweetie pie and great fun to have around, and didn’t seem to mind at all.

Sadly I didn’t have the camera on when he told possibly the funniest rock and roll war story of the evening involving the late Graham Bond, and another involving Jimi Hendrix, but—no doubt—when he comes down again next time I shall be able to bribe him with wine and point a camera at him again...
Erik Norlander is an extraordinarily talented musician and composer. I have been following his career for the last couple of years ever since Gonzo released his two *Galactic Collective* DVD sets. I interviewed him first a couple of years ago, and within minutes realised here was a chap with whom I felt an extraordinary affinity with. We have similar tastes in music, curry and books, and whenever we talk the conversation ends up going off onto arcane tangents that no body could have foreseen.

He has just resurrected his band *The Rocket Scientists* who have just released an extraordinary new record called *Supernatural Highways*. He was kind enough to send me a copy, and it arrived on the day that some of the prophets of gloom were predicting that unusual activity amongst the wildlife at Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming meant that the long dormant super volcano situated beneath the park was about to erupt for the first time in seventy thousand years.

The projected result of this will be catastrophic for the future of mankind, and will solve the problems of global warming and human over-population at a stroke, but not in a good way.

Back in the day, *Duran Duran* claimed that they wanted to be the band to dance to when the bomb dropped. After listening to the intense, melodic, and cinematic sounds on *Supernatural Highways*, especially the title track, (ok it’s not a title track but you know that I mean) I quipped to Erik that *The Rocket Scientists* were the band to listen to as we watch the end of western civilization as we know it.

Listen to our conversation here.
Distracted from distraction by distraction
Filled with fancies and empty of meaning
Tumid apathy with no concentration
Men and bits of paper, whirled by the cold wind
That blows before and after time.


**God of the blind**

I first came across the Hypostasis of the Archons one rainy day in mid December 2005. I’d been sitting around nursing a hangover all day. It was grey and wet and miserable out there in the world, and I didn’t feel like going out. Later I would be going to watch the Christmas lights turning-on ceremony in our town. Meanwhile I’d been surfing the internet, looking for obscure political and religious texts, mainly about the various sects that exist in the region around Iraq. It’s something I was thinking at the time. Why did the American invade Iraq? Yes, because of the oil, but also – so I thought – because Iraq contains the key to an understanding of the origins of Christianity.

There are several Christian sects in Iraq. There are Chaldean, Assyrian and Syriac communities, who all practice variations on traditional Christian rites. Some of them do so in Aramaic, the language of Jesus himself, while several so-called heretical sects also find their home in Iraq. Plus there are two other religious groups, the Yazidis in the North, and the Mandaeans in the South, who are also clearly from the Judeo-Christian line. This is obviously aside from the two main Islamic sects which make up the majority of the population: the Sunni and the Shi’ites. The Mandaeans are particularly interesting as they are followers of John the Baptist, practicing daily baptism as part of their rite. They are also a Gnostic sect - “Manda” means “knowledge” - which casts a revealing light on the history of Christianity. If John the Baptist was a Gnostic then that must mean that Gnosticism precedes Orthodoxy, something that traditional Christians would be loath to admit.

It was just before I was due to go out that I found the Hypostasis of the Archons. I’m not sure what query I’d put into my search engine to come up with this particular...
piece of writing. I already knew some of
the Gnostic texts, and had been intrigued and
fascinated by them for years. I’d never read this one
before, but there was something about it which
seemed familiar somehow, and which seared into
me from the very first words.

Here are the opening lines:

On account of the reality of the
authorities, (inspired) by the spirit of the
father of truth, the great apostle -
referring to the “authorities of the
darkness” - told us that “our contest is
not against flesh and blood; rather, the
authorities of the universe and the spirits
of wickedness.” I have sent this (to you)
because you inquire about the reality of the
authorities.

The reason that it seemed familiar at first is that, in
fact, it was familiar, as I later found out. The quote,
which is attributed to “the great apostle”, is from a
Biblical text, Ephesians 6:12, which in the King
James version reads as follows:

For we wrestle not against flesh and
blood, but against principalities,
against powers, against the rulers of
the darkness of this world, against
spiritual wickedness in high places.

What the Hypostasis of
the Archons represents is an interpretation of that
text in terms of the Creation Myth of Genesis.
The thing that struck me immediately – and which
sent a shiver of recognition through me – was that
line: “our contest is not against flesh and
blood”. It’s the body he is talking about. This is an
explicitly political statement. It is a statement of
solidarity for all creatures of flesh and blood, for
human beings in all their weakness and fragility,
their vulnerability and their susceptibility to pain,
and against “the authorities of the universe and the
spirits of wickedness”, which, the King James
version makes clear, is a specifically political target:
“principalities… powers… the rulers of the
darkness of this world…. spiritual wickedness in
high places.”

I read the line with a surge of gratitude to St. Paul
for his tacit acknowledgement of the body, as a
defence of the body against the powers that can
control and inhibit the body - the authorities,
the archons – which I understood as psychological
forces, forces emanating from the invisible realms,
but which have a specifically political dimension.
I have to be clear at this point, so there is no
confusion later on: to me the terms
spiritual and psychological are the same. Spirit is
from the Latin and means breath, while Psyche is
from the Greek and also means breath. Both words

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sensitivity."

Times Literary Supplement

"Wry, acute, and sometimes hellishly
entertaining essays in squalor and rebellion."

Herald

"The best guide to the Underground since
Charon ferried dead souls across the Styx."

Independent on Sunday
refer to an invisible animating principle in the Universe, which the Hypostasis of the Archons recognises a few lines later in the following terms: “for by starting from the invisible world the visible world was invented”. For me the really interesting stuff lies at the junction between these two worlds: between the visible and the invisible, between the body and the mind, between the social and the ideological, between what our natural human inclinations would lead us to express in our lives – our creativity, our human kindness - and what is imposed upon us by a system of domination and control. It is this realm, it seems to me, that the Hypostasis of the Archons is concerned with.

I was just getting ready to go out at this point and I printed out the text to take with me, but, before I did, I had time to read the next lines, which are as follows:

Their chief is blind; because of his power and his ignorance and his arrogance he said, with his power, "It is I who am God; there is none apart from me."

When he said this, he sinned against the entirety. And this speech got up to incorruptibility; then there was a voice that came forth from incorruptibility, saying, "You are mistaken, Samael" - which is, "god of the blind."

Again, there was a surge of recognition as I read these words. I immediately equated the god of the blind both with the God of the Old Testament and with George Bush, then in power in the White House. “His power and his ignorance and his arrogance ” seemed an apt description of the then President of the United States, who at this time had mobilised the world into a vain and futile war to seize the economic assets of Iraq. I knew that, as a Gnostic Text, the Hypostasis of the Archons was written during the years of the Roman Empire, and would have had the Roman Emperor in mind, and I was struck by the similarity of the worlds we inhabited, then and now. I also saw that the God of the Old Testament, who is also clearly being referred to here, represented the ego in psychological terms. "It is I who am God; there is none apart from me."

I folded up the sheets of paper, grabbed my jacket, and went out to meet the world.
Housing Benefit Hill:
http://www.amazon.co.uk/Housing-Benefit-Hill-Other-Places/dp/190259343X

The Trials of Arthur:
http://www.amazon.co.uk/Trials-Arthur-Revised-Ronald-Hutton/dp/0956416314/

Fierce Dancing:
http://www.amazon.co.uk/Fierce-Dancing-Underground-C-J-Stone/dp/0571176305/

The Last of the Hippies:
http://www.amazon.co.uk/Last-Hippies-C-J-Stone/dp/0571193137/
This is a particularly peculiar Beatles book; most books about the band stress the joyous nature of their music, the positive aspects of their work and the deep personal bond which exists/existed between them. This book is completely different. Joyous comradeship is something which makes hardly an appearance in these pages, which describe - in tortuous, but fascinating detail - exactly how they broke up, why they broke up, how at any one of a dozen times they could have got back together again, why they didn’t and – most grippingly (and disturbingly) – how they spent much of the four decades which transpired between Paul McCartney leaving the group in April 1970 and the book being written some five years ago – screwing each other over in a vicious and quite remarkable manor.

It is not just the Beatles themselves who have come off worse in this book, but the whole concept of fame itself. In what seems a Faustian twist, the four Beatles attained a level of fame and fortune unparalleled by anybody else in the music business before or since, and it seems to have done nothing but make them utterly miserable. Their marriages collapsed, all four of them indulged in substance abuse at an industrial level, and even their business affairs seemed to bring them nothing but misery.

I hadn’t realised, for example, that George Harrison had been facing bankruptcy with the collapse of handmade films and the revelations of misconduct by his manager of many years Denis O’Brien. In 2001, Harrison even took the unprecedented step of trying to keep O’Brien from declaring bankruptcy in order to try and claw back the $11 million O’Brien owed him.

Even for a Beatle $11 million is a huge amount of cash. What makes this new revelation so extraordinary is that Harrison was on his death bed at the time.

It appears that the only reason that Harrison agreed to become involved with the Beatles anthology, and the two attendant singles teaming up the three surviving members of the band playing on some not very good John Lennon demos from 1977, was because he needed the money. It also turned out for...
out — if not actually smelling of roses — appearing to be as nowhere near as history has painted him is Allen Klein who appears not to have been quite the black hearted knave that hindsight and history have painted. Indeed it could be argued that he was not treated very well by the Fab Four. However, with a very few exceptions neither was anybody else, so Klein didn’t really have anything much to complain about.

Reading this book was not a pleasant experience, however it was an undeniably fascinating one. It was akin to watching a train wreck out of which some people of whom you had always been rather fond came crawling out, their reputations disfigured for life. I strongly urge any Beatles fan to read this book.

Something else that I hadn’t realised was that the famous press release McCartney put out in 1970 was not meant to split the Beatles. However, as Paul was actually the last of the four member to have left it was meant to have levelled the playing field. I also discovered that there had been a very real possibility that the band would have regrouped during 1971 despite the fact they were all at each other’s throats.

Bizarrely, the one character in the story who comes quite a time during the 1970s Harrison was having affair with Ringo Starr’s wife, Maureen. However, as I discovered from reading Chris O’Dell’s book a few weeks ago, at the same time Ringo was sleeping with The Pisces Apple Lady. The whole thing appears remarkably sordid from a vantage point of four decades on.

Bizarrely, the one character in the story who comes
HAWKWIND NEWS
(The Masters of the Universe do seem to have a steady stream of interesting stories featuring them, their various friends and relations, and alumni). Each week Graham Inglis keeps us up to date with the latest news from the Hawkverse...

Two different stories relating to Seaton, here...

Hawkwind's "Hawkeaster" event in Seaton is this month (Sat 19th, Sun 20th) and followers of Hawkwind on Facebook have been invited to select some tracks that they'd like to hear. The list of 70 candidates bizarrely includes "Cum on Feel the Noize," a 70s chart hit by glam rock outfit Slade.

It's been said that at least three of the top five requests will get played.

Currently in the lead is "Hassan-i Sahba" with 26 votes. This is odd, because that one's seldom been absent from the Hawkwind set-list for over 20 years!

"Psi Power," "Treadmill," "Spirit Of The Age" and "Levitation" make up the rest of the current Top Five. Seeing it as an opportunity to request rarer items, I went for the likes of "Damage of Life" and "Paradox" but since they're languishing on nine votes each, they've got a lot of ground to make up.

Meanwhile, video editing of the Hawkwind Rehearsal footage from Seaton is almost finished, and hopefully it'll find its way onto the DVD release of Hawkwind's recent Space Ritual performance in London.
People who are putting a DVD package together generally like to have plenty of stuff to choose from - having an embarrassment of riches, as it were - but I'd be sorry if this footage ends up on the cutting-room floor. We only had 3 cameras at the rehearsal, but shot-selection has been quite a time-consuming process. I've now got more of an appreciation of just how much work can go in to editing a multi-camera performance. Some gigs might have 6 or even 10 cameras scattered around!

Perhaps, though, that makes the job easier in a way, as each camera can be assigned a certain responsibility, rather like zonal marking or man-marking during a football attack. Then, editing could be driven by what the music's doing at the time. At the Seaton rehearsals, Jon and I both 'roamed at will' from very different positions, while the third camera got a static overview of the stage and backdrop.

! An oft-heard criticism of some Hawkwind gig vids in the past has been that they don't show enough of the overview. That's something I've been keeping in mind all the time, while editing. Hawkwind are a very visual outfit, but don't go in for 'guitar hero' posturing, so my approach is somewhat different to the average rock vid. Also, this was a rehearsal, not a high-energy stadium rock event with people crowd-surfing or slam-dancing.

Accordingly, changes of view are somewhat leisurely in pace, rather than your dramatic high-speed chopping between one camera and another, say during a drum roll or whatever.

The editing's been an interesting experience, and hopefully it won't get a panning from *The Times*' art review critic...
Special Offer for fans who attended tonight's show

Limited Edition Double CD & DVD £19.99 plus postage & packing

This offer is only available via this leaflet.

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or please debit my credit card number □□□□□□□□□□□□□□

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*Postage & Packing:*  UK - £2.50  Europe - £4.00  Rest Of World - £6
A weekend indoor festival of music, dance, arts and psychedelic fun for all the family!

Things are shaping up nicely for HawkEaster 2014 and with Easter weekend falling almost a month later than last year, (19/20th April), we are hoping the weather will be a lot warmer....

The same as last year, there will be a bus running between the campsite and the venue after the show.

The tourist attractions, shops, pubs and cafes of Seaton are again giving us a warm welcome and will be offering discounts to everyone attending the weekend.

We will be opening the doors on the evening of Friday 18th April for registration, wristbands and a social get together with music and DVDs on the big screen and a full bar..... This worked very well last year and it was a great evening...

We will again open the venue on Easter Monday morning/lunchtime to meet for a goodbye picnic lunch.

Children are welcome at HawkEaster, there will be a Kidszone provided where children can take part in activities during the day and be supervised during evening performances.

Tickets available from www.hawkwind.com
Any enquiries hawkeaster@hawkwind.com
Greetings space travellers!
This is your Hawkwind Earth Visitors Passport application form.

Please fill it in and return to Mission Control, at PO Box 617, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE15 7WA, together with two passport sized photographs, signed on the back and a 16cm x 11.5cm stamped addressed envelope.

The idea is for Hawkwind fans to have access to special Hawkwind events such as Hawkfest, obtain limited edition DVDs and CDs of exclusive material and to attend private Hawkwind parties.

Pass. No..............................................(Leave blank)

Volunteer Crew Register

Name...........................................................................................................

Please give details of your occupation/profession for inclusion in crew register and possible duty roster (optional)
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Full Earth Address: .......................................................................................
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Post Code .......................................................................................................

E-Mail Address: (Please print clearly)...............................................................

Telephone Number: ......................................................................................

Additional info: ............................................................................................

www.hawkwind.com
Any enquiries hawkwindpassports@hawkwind.com
ACCOMMODATION

We have again booked the private camping field at Manor Farm, go to their website at www.manorfarmcaravans.co.uk for more information about prices, booking and facilities.

- Eve is now taking orders for tipis, visit her website for prices, details and booking at: www.eves-tipis.co.uk/festivals/hawkeaster/

For information on the area and local hotels, B&Bs and accommodation go to www.seatonbay.com

HAWKEASTER 2013 PHOTOS

Tickets available from www.hawkwind.com
Any enquiries hawkeaster@hawkwind.com
Very excited to be going on the Cruise to the Edge trip to Honduras and Cozumel this coming April 7, 2014. To date I’ve been a bit wary of going on a cruise as I’m not quite seaworthy and typically regret any time spent without feet on terra firma!

However, as this particular cruise will have as entertainment over a dozen famous progressive rock bands of the 1970’s and beyond - I’m intrigued.

Besides Yes who host the event, we have:

- **Genesis Revisited** (Steve Hackett),
- **UK** (John Wetton, Eddie Jobson, plus),
- **PFM** (Premiata Forneria Marconi from Italy),
- **Three Friends** (former members of Gentle Giant - Gary Green and Malcolm Mortimer),
- **Marillion**, and **Tangerine Dream**.

Plus having ace keys player Patrick Moraz, stick man Tony Levin, and the great Simon Phillips on skins, among so many others made it too hard to say “no” to this cruise event.

As we’ve been able to catch Yes, UK and Steve Hackett recently, the biggest draw for me is being able to meet and see Gary Green play live once again after all these years.

**Three Friends** has not made it to the west coast in the states to perform the music of Gentle Giant, so this is a rare treat. Also key is the inclusion of PFM from Italy. Its rare to catch them outside their home country and this is arguably one of the best ever progressive rock bands of the past, and present. Check out their latest disc for proof – the wonderful PFM in Classic da Mozart – a Celebration to witness how they have sustained their craft.

Planning to file reports as we go, as long as the Dramamine kicks in!

http://douglasharr.wordpress.com/
The Court Circular tells interested readers about the comings and goings of members of The Royal Family.

However, readers of this periodical seem interested in the comings and goings of Yes and of various alumni of this magnificent and long-standing band. Give the people what they want, I say…

This is probably the best week we have had all year for news from the Yes camp and from the various alumni, not just in terms of volume, but in terms of contact as well. For example we have Jon Davison talking about his role in the composition of the new album…

‘I had lots of material’: Jon Davison on the fast-paced sessions for Yes’ Heaven and Earth

… and two interviews with Chris Squire, one about the new album and the other announcing that he is working on his autobiography…

Chris Squire - Yes bassist Chris Squire writing autobiography

Chris Squire of Yes Talks ‘Heaven and Earth’ Album, New Singer, Rock Hall

… and some nice little overviews of where the band are at the moment…

Yes appearance a harbinger of things to come

Concert: Yes to play ’70s albums at Congress Center

Yes, prog rock coming to the NAC

…and changing the subject a little, a nice little piece on Jon Anderson…

Jon Anderson brings the sunshine to NJPAC

Back to the Mothership, here is an official looking announcement about the new album and the forthcoming US tour…

Yes announce new album and US tour

But now another odd one, Jon Anderson, with typically impish humour makes a surprise appearance on a US radio show…

Jon Huntsman gets surprise radio call from Jon Anderson of Yes

And a profile of my favourite drummer…

DRUMMERWORLD: Alan White

…and a nice article about Rick Wakeman from his biographer Dan Wooding

‘Shot’ on the Steps of the Royal College of Music; It Was All in the Cause of Rick Wakeman’s ‘Success Story’

And finally a sad story from Trevor Horn’s local paper

Producer’s wife in shooting tragedy dies at 61

I am probably getting a bit OCD about all of this, but I find the Yes soap opera of sound to be absolutely enthralling, and I for one can’t wait to see what happens next!
small intimate theater known as ‘The Victoria Theater’, and this is a perfect place to see my musical hero – JON ANDERSON.

Before the show, I’m among the lucky few who get to meet with Jon, and he’s as gracious as always. He tells me of his upcoming project with Jean-Luc Ponty, and that the rumors of he and Rick Wakeman going out again are untrue, due to Rick’s involvement with his “Journey To The Center of the Earth” revival project. A quick kiss for my wife, and we wish him a good show, and it’s off to our seats.

A simple stage set-up is what we find, with an acoustic guitar, an electric piano, a strange ‘stick-like’ instrument resembling a guitar, and, of all things, a ukulele. Candles fill the stage with soft light, and Jon enters to a standing ovation. He plays several YES songs with the guitar, his
voice as clear as ever. 'Yours is No Disgrace', 'Long-Distance Runaround', 'And You and I'.

He moves back and forth to the various instruments, singing a song of his adventures with his brother Tony, in their “Warriors’” days, and getting the crowd to sing along with his tiny ukulele to the Beatles hit, “A day in the Life”.

One of my personal favorites is his rendition of a song from his 1976 solo record 'Olias of Sunhillow', and I found myself lost in its magic.

Jon tells stories in between songs, and shows a great sense of humor, and delights with the crowd's enthusiasm.

Jon ends his set with “Your Move/All Good People”, followed by “Roundabout”, and he commands the audience to stand, sing, and clap, and we do so, with joy.

He seems to truly be at peace with his audience, and we all feel it. He returns for an encore of “Wondrous Stories”, and “Soon”, the ending movement from “Gates of Delirium”.

I find myself shedding a tear when he leaves the stage for the last time. Looking around, I'm not the only one

Bart Lancia
CLASSIC LOST BROADCAST RELEASES FROM

THE LOST BROADCASTS

Featuring archive performances that have rarely been seen since their original German TV transmission, along with previously unbroadcasted takes and different versions of performances that were transmitted.

ALL AVAILABLE FROM www.gonzomultimedia.co.uk

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The worldwide Freecycle Network is made up of many individual groups across the globe. It's a grassroots movement of people who are giving (and getting) stuff for free in their own towns. Freecycle groups match people who have things they want to get rid of with people who can use them. Our goal is to keep usable items out of landfills. By using what we already have on this earth, we reduce consumerism, manufacture fewer goods, and lessen the impact on the earth. Another benefit of using Freecycle is that it encourages us to get rid of junk that we no longer need and promote community involvement in the process.

http://uk.freecycle.org/
Rob Ayling writes:

"Thom the World poet is an old mate of mine from way back in my history. Even pre-dating Voiceprint, when I was running "Otter Songs" and Tom's poetry tapes and guest appearances with Daevd Allen, Gilli Smyth Mother Gong are well known and highly regarded. It just felt right to include a daily poem from Thom on our Gonzo blog and when I approached him to do so, he replied with in seconds!!! Thom is a great talent and just wants to spread poetry, light and positive energy across the globe. If we at Gonzo can help him do that - why not? why not indeed!!"

### Cloaking Spray in Development at University of Michigan

INVISIBLE CULTURES
No trace, no evidence - no one could tell where word had ever lived
Blue plaques photographed. H G Wells revisited.
Before we were here - trees, springs, indigenous
Plastic replicas and sculptures still exist
Word came and made a book. None sold. Remaindered
Marketing Exercises replaced Table of Contents.
DEVELOPMENT moved in - made movies (blue screen)
Special Effects covered all Black Budgets
What was hidden (line items) - white-out!
What was a snowstorm becomes a space exercise
In space, no one can see you.
SMILE!
In Victorian times every well-bred Gentleman had a ‘Cabinet of Curiosities’; a collection of peculiar odds and sods, usually housed in a finely made cabinet with a glass door. These could include anything from Natural History specimens to historical artefacts. There has always been something of the Victorian amateur naturalist about me, and I have a houseful of arcane objects; some completely worthless, others decidedly not, but all precious to me for the memories they hold.

But people send me lots of pictures of interesting, and, may I say, peculiar things. But once again this week it is over to my lovely wife...

Grab yourself a fashionable wall clock to enhance your fashionable sitting room. Pop over to Ebay today to get a:


It lights up! It is officially licensed! And feels like your back in the swinging 60's apparently. I am not too sure how a clock can feel like my back did in the 60’s, so I am going to assume the seller means ‘you’re’.

But – wait for it - most impressive of all: “……with this great flashing Elvis wall clock”.

Elvis Presley flashing? When? Quarterly or on the hour? Goodness gracious, great … oops wrong singer.

http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/Wall-Clock-Vintage-Light-Up-Clock-1960s-Elvis-Presley-Flashing-Clock-/331159386974

I would like to know who Cliff Richard's friend is in this little treasure. A Summer Holiday pal perhaps?:

---

EI LVS
CLIFF RICHARD SIGNED 1960s PROMO POSTCARD THE SHADOWS

£85 and fully hand signed to boot.


The headline I saw this week, which caused me to break out the bunting, pop the party poppers and generally gambol around with as much exuberance as a spring lamb, was:

Justin Bieber booed at Canada’s Juno Awards

Not much to add there really, apart from two things:

- unfortunately, he wasn’t actually there to receive such a worthy accolade
- shame on the person who defended him. Tsk.

http://metro.co.uk/2014/03/29/from-freddie-mercury-to-david-bowie-and-even-james-brown-7-cracking-musicians-immortalised-as-peanuts-4673181/

From Freddie Mercury to David Bowie and even James Brown: 7 cracking musicians immortalised as peanuts

“Ever wondered what your favourite musicians would look like as a peanut? Happy days - you’re about to find out.

Lovingly crafted by artist Steve Casino, aka Painter of Nuts, each sculpture takes him around 20 hours to construct.

From musicians to superheroes, he even takes custom orders for special occasions from his website and Facebook page.

Now, without further ado, take a look below to see seven music legends immortalised as nuts!”

Unfortunately, they would not last long with me around. I would be popping open those shells and eating those redskins as fast as you could say Jumping Jack Flash. Although I must admit that the Jimi Hendrix one is just too cute to be consumed.

http://metro.co.uk/2014/03/29/from-freddie-mercury-to-david-bowie-and-even-james-brown-7-cracking-musicians-immortalised-as-peanuts-4673181/
Backstreet Boys: 'One Direction remind me so much of us'

Sssshh you really shouldn’t say such things out loud.

“Backstreet Boys’ Howie Dorough says One Direction remind them of the “mania” in their heyday but warns the boys to “pace” themselves before they “burn out”.

“It’s a marathon, not a sprint, so pace yourselves so you don’t burn out too quickly.”

Haha don’t take any notice 1D – just one of those good ol’ April Fool jokes. You just turn up the heat and keep on sprinting.

http://www.list.co.uk/article/59868-backstreet-boys-one-direction-remind-me-so-much-of-us/

BEATLES MOTHBALLS WITH DISPLAY CARD ULTRA RARE MADE IN THE PHILIPPINES 1960’S

For £99.99 – yes nearly £100.00 for 54-year-old mothballs.

I kid you not.

“Here we have 12 individual Beatles mothballs packets still hanging on their display card. These items were made in the 1960’s in the Philippines and packaged later, the display card measures 14” X 8” approx, each pack contains around 12 mothballs.”


BEATLES HAIR POMADE PACKET MADE IN THE PHILIPPINES IN THE 1960’S

As the seller writes: “Another wacky item of early Beatles Memorabilia.”

And what, you may ask, is pomade? I admit

SHAMELESS SELF PROMOTION TIME

Just in case you are interested, here is yer beloved Editor at iTunes

Check it out now...
ON THE BLUE ROAD

Fankhauser Cassidy Band

A double CD of classic blues from Merrell Fankhauser and Ed Cassidy

GONZO MULTIMEDIA

Available from www.gonzomultimedia.co.uk
that I had to look it up. Hitherto, for £2.99 you can receive a packet of a greasy, waxy substance to style your hair. You can be the envy of your family, neighbours, friends and colleagues when you reveal your hair looking slick, neat and shiny. But beware buyers, pomade doesn’t dry and may well take several sessions under the shower to be removed. Or you can try the shorter route of washing your locks in washing-up liquid.

However, considering the age of this particular item I would probably err on the cautious side and not actually attempt to use it. It may well cause a premature and unwanted Yul Brynner look. Although, I must say, he was rather dishy.

There are nine Henrys, purported to be the world’s first cloned cartoon character. They live in a strange lo-fi domestic surreal world peopled by talking rock buns and elephants on wobbly stilts. Over the years the Henrys have been published in a variety of local NE magazines and now here for the first time. 

The Nine Henrys are a quirky bunch of cloned cartoon characters. They live in a strange lo-fi domestic surrealist world peopled by talking rock buns and elephants on wobbly stilts. Over the years the Henrys have been published in a variety of local NE magazines and now here for the first time thanks to Gonzo Multi-Media the Nine Henrys are brought together in a compendium of line art craziness.

"a five ya aad can draw better than that!" Authors brother.

There are nine Henrys, purported to be the world’s first cloned cartoon character. They live in a strange lo-fi domestic surreal world peopled by talking rock buns and elephants on wobbly stilts.

They mooch around in their minimalist universe suffering from an existential crisis with some genetically modified humour thrown in. I think Peter McAdam is one of the funniest people around, and I cannot recommend his book The Nine Henrys highly enough. Check it out at Amazon.

Each issue we shall be running a series of Henrybits that are not found in his book about the nine cloned cartoon characters who inhabit a surreal world nearly as insane as mine...
For three days, once a year the little North Devon village of Woolsery becomes the weirdest place in the land.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>THURSDAY</strong></td>
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<td>Drinks at Myrtle Cottage</td>
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<td><strong>FRIDAY</strong></td>
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<td>7 - 7.15</td>
<td>Intro</td>
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<td>7.15 - 7.45</td>
<td><strong>Nigel Mortimer:</strong> Opening Portals</td>
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<td>7.45 - 8.15</td>
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<td>8.15 - 8.45</td>
<td><strong>Ronan Coghlan:</strong> Bogus Bibles</td>
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<td>8.45 - 9.30</td>
<td><strong>Lee Walker:</strong> Urban Legends of Liverpool</td>
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<td><strong>Lee Walker:</strong> Book Signing</td>
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<td>9.30 - 10.00</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.00 - 11.00</td>
<td><strong>Lars Thomas:</strong> Tales from the CFZ Laboratory</td>
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<td><strong>Silas Hawkins:</strong> A bedtime story</td>
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<td>Raffle</td>
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<td><strong>SATURDAY</strong></td>
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<td>12.00 - 12.30</td>
<td><strong>Jon and Richard:</strong> intro to Cryptozoology</td>
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<td>12.30 - 1.15</td>
<td><strong>Nick Wadham:</strong> Alien Abductions</td>
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<td>Break</td>
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<td>1.45 - 2.45</td>
<td><strong>Tony Whitehead (RSPB):</strong> C.O.P. birds</td>
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<td><strong>Kids Nature walk with Lars and Nick</strong></td>
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<td>3.15 - 3.30</td>
<td>Quiz</td>
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<td><strong>Carl Marshall:</strong> Out of Place animals at Stratford Butterfly Park</td>
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<td><strong>Mad Hatter's Tea Party</strong></td>
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<td>5.00 - 6.00</td>
<td><strong>MAX BLAKE:</strong> Genetics for Cryptozoologists</td>
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<td>6.30 - 7.30</td>
<td><strong>Judge Smith:</strong> The Judex Trilogy</td>
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<td><strong>Book Launch</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Judge Smith:</strong> The Judex Trilogy</td>
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<td>7.45 - 8.00</td>
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<td>7.45 - 8.00</td>
<td><strong>CFZ Awards</strong></td>
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<td><strong>John Higgs:</strong> Chaos, Magick, and the band who burned a million quid</td>
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<td><strong>Richard Freeman:</strong> Tasmania 2013 Expedition Report</td>
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<td><strong>Silas Hawkins:</strong> A bedtime story from Richard Freeman's <em>Hyakumonogatan</em></td>
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<td>Raffle</td>
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<td><strong>SUNDAY</strong></td>
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<td>12.00 - 1.00</td>
<td><strong>MATT SALUSBURY:</strong> Baron Walter Rothschild's Deinotherium caper</td>
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<td>1.30 - 2.00</td>
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<td><strong>C.J. Stone:</strong> a MODERN King Arthur</td>
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<td><strong>Results of nature walk</strong> (Lars/Jon)</td>
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<td><strong>Ronan Coghlan:</strong> The Amphibians from Outer Space</td>
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<td><strong>Jon Downes:</strong> Keynote Speech</td>
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<td>6.30 Raffle</td>
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<td><strong>Speaker's Dinner</strong> at the Community Centre</td>
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The Weird Weekend is the largest yearly gathering of mystery animal investigators in the English-speaking world. Now in its fifteenth year, the convention attracts speakers and visitors from all over the world and showcases the findings of investigators into strange phenomena.

Cryptozoologists, parapsychologists, ufologists, and folklorists are descending on Woolfardisworthy Community Centre to share their findings and insights. Unlike other events, the Weird Weekend will also include workshops giving tips to budding paranormal investigators, and even a programme of special events for children.

The Weird Weekend is the only fortean conference in the world that is truly a family event, although those veterans of previous events should be reassured that it is still as anarchically silly as ever!

The event is raising money for the Centre for Fortean Zoology, the world’s only full time, professional cryptozoological organisation. The profit from food and beverages goes to a selection of village charities, mostly working with children.
ROBERT WYATT '68 (CUNEIFORM)
Just four songs, a fraction over 45 minutes long, comprise this release, which is a complete set of Robert Wyatt's solo recordings made in the US in late 1968. Until reappearing last year, the demo for "Rivmic Melodies" (all 18 minutes of it), an extended sequence of song fragments destined to form the first side of the second album by Soft Machine, was presumed lost forever while the shorter song on the same acetate, “Chelsi”, wasn't even known to exist! Wyatt recorded these songs during some down time during and after Soft Machine's second American tour with the Jimi Hendrix Experience. He multi-tracked the recording, playing piano and organ as well as drumming and singing, and even some bass - although Hendrix himself provided the bass for “Slow Walkin’ Talk. There is something incredibly fragile about these recordings, with Wyatt alone in the studio setting the scene for what the Softs were going to be doing in forthcoming years. It is quite hard to judge this music on its own merits, given its importance historically, but fortunately this is something that every Softs/Matching Mole/Wyatt (and even Hendrix) fan will want to have not because it was going to form the basis for so much musical experimentation, but because it is so damned good.

There is a depth and quality to this music that belies the fact that these songs were recorded on acetate 45 years ago. They have been cleaned up incredibly well and I am sure that they sound better now than when they were first heard all those year ago. Robert’s pianowork is strident, structured and fluid yet also staccato, while his drumming is an incredibly important part of the overall sound. His vocals are delicate, emotional, fraught and another sound to be utilized. To me “Rivmic Melodies” is a stunning piece of work, with the repeated high notes taking the song into another area altogether. This has been made available on CD with a 16 page booklet, and as seems

ROADFEVER
WOLF PACK
(avenue of allies)
This is the second album by Swiss female-fronted power metal outfit Roadfever who have more than a passing similarity to Heart in many ways. But, the major difference is that Heart really know how to write great songs while Roadfever have good bits. Let’s take the title cut which unfortunately opens the album (it took a lot of effort for me not to skip the album altogether during that song). The chorus is “We’re a wolf pack – desert wolves”.

I know that, as they sing it 17 times during a song that is under five minutes long. I actually played it again just so that I could count it – take it from me it seems way more than that when you’re listening to it.

The really frustrating thing about this album is that there is no doubt that they are all good musicians, and that Stevie “Manou” Pike has a wonderful voice, and that parts of the songs, and indeed some of the songs, are well worth hearing.

But, there are times when playing this that I start to wonder how long until I can turn it off and play something else instead.

Given what I can hear I am sure that they are a cracking live act and well worth catching in concert where the lack of song quality won’t be so noticeable, but when it comes to this album I’ll give it a miss, sorry. www.avenue-of-allies.com
fitting it is also available on limited edition vinyl (with the same information on an insert). Released with Robert’s approval and full co-operation, this is essential stuff.

BLOODGOOD  
DANGEROUSLY CLOSE  
(DOOLITTLE GROUP)

Towards the end of the Eighties I became aware of a growing White Metal movement in America, led by Petra and Stryper. I particularly liked the latter, while my sister went for bands like Joshua and Bloodgood. So, although I haven’t come across any of their music for a long time I am aware of these guys, and know the impact of their second album ‘Detonation’ when they became one of the few WM bands ever to sell a million copies of an album. This is their first album for a considerable number of years, but founder members singer Les Carlsen and bassist Michael Bloodgood are still there, along with guitarists Paul Jackson (who joined at the end of the Eighties) and Oz Fox who joined in ’06 (yes, this is the same Oz Fox who is a founder member of Stryper and still plays with them after 30 years). Strangely, although their website shows a five man line-up there are no details as to who plays drums on this album, so I don’t know if there has been a recent change in the band.

But what about the music? Is it likely to have the same impact as they did when they first burst onto the scene in 1986? Well, no. This is middle of the road hard rock with some melodic metal elements – in some ways it reminds me of Magnum, but without the complexity. Everything is, well, pleasant. But, it does have to be remembered that the target audience here are not going to be your everyday metalheads, but rather Christians who want something a bit more vibrant than Larry Norman. This is sanitised even by American standards, with lyrics that are pushing the Christian message throughout, and with song titles such as “Pray”, “Lamb of God” and “The Word” there isn’t going to be much confusion as to what this is about. One thing I used to like about Stryper is that their songs were great songs, with hooks and melodies, but this seems to concentrate more on the message and less about the quality. www.bloodgoodband.com

TAYLOR’S UNIVERSE  
EVIDENCE  
(MARVEL OF BEAUTY)

So here we have the second album from 2013 for Robin (guitars, keyboards, bass, flute, percussion), and he has been joined again by Karsten Vogel (sax, clarinet), Klaus Thrane (drums) and Louise Nipper (gentle vocals on one number). But, he has also brought into the band for the first time both Claus Bøhling (guitars) and Thomas Thor Viderø Ulstrup (synthesizer). I have long since learned that Robin has an immensely broad musical palette, and I should never really be surprised at what I hear, but yet again I find myself nodding sagely and wondering just how he does it. What we have here is an album that in many ways is more restrained and immediate that many of his works, just four songs giving us 44 minutes of music. The gentle keyboards provide the foundation for Claus and Karsten to let loose when they feel the need. Such is Claus’s control and feel I did some searching on the web to discover a bit more about him, and was not surprised to find that he has been around for a large number of years, most notably in the power trio Hurdy Gurdy at the end of the Sixties (Donovan wrote the song “Hurdy Gurdy Man” for them, but after a disagreement on how it should sound he release it himself). He is fluid and dynamic, with plenty of attack and pace while also knowing how to be restrained and emotional.

There is a lot of space within this album, and a feeling of a timelessness as the listener gets taken away to a different world where there is nothing but the music. The only thing wrong with the album is that it is too damn short! The more I have played it the more I have enjoyed it, and though there are some elements of Oldfield, the guitar especially takes it to a different level. 31 albums down, and Robin shows no sign at all of slowing, I just wonder what the next one will be like as this is one of his very best. www.progressor.net:robin-taylor/index.htm
By the time Iggy Pop came on it was like a Cliff Richards gig. Nirvana's set has now gone down in history which is hype and bollocks. They were so ponderous after the all-girl Babes In Toyland and the mad Scots in Silverfish that me and my then girlfriend went back to the tent cos it was bringing us down off our green gelatinous cubes made out of MDMA.

We come back out for Sonic Youth but wished we hadn't and then halfway through Iggy's set we went for a walk along the river.

Then the drugs came back up again. As Leary and Anton Wilson rightly said it's all about set and setting. It was a great day but proves that "The Emperor's New Clothes" is one of thee most important fables in human history. I bet Primal Scream were better at a GPC gig than the lame pop shit they come out with these days.

Babes In Toyland never went off the boil. No siree bob! They ushered in the strongest ecstasy hit we'd had by that time.

OMG I've just found their whole set from that festival ON YOUTUBE! FUUUCKING HELLLLLLLLLLLLL! Right I'm of Fto watch this all over again. Better see what's in the fridge! 9.09am on a Monday morning and I'm already puttin off all the things I had to do! Uh oh I've kicked the link off immediately.... it's a home vid {even for 93} but who cares about broadcast quality! It's the content that counts! Sounds fucking wicked as I write this! Cobain probably shot himself cos he felt for all the acts that were as good as his but gettin nowhere in comparison. I'd feel angry about that! Cxx

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UJge0E8fRgQ
Eluveitie is an 8-member folk metal band from Zurich, Switzerland. They were formed by Chrigel Glanzmann in 2002 and:

"...infuse traditional Celtic folk melodies with Gothenburg-styled melodic death metal. Eluveitie uses traditional folk instruments in their music, such as fiddles, tin whistles and flutes, bagpipes and hurdy gurdies. The traditional folk tunes in their songs have been drawn from various sources, including traditional Irish reels. While many of their lyrics are in English, some are in the ancient extinct Gaulish language. All of the lyrics on their 2009 release Evocation I - The Arcane Dominion are in Gaulish (except the first song "Sacrapos - At First Glance"). Their lyrics are based on texts written in Gaulish such as prayers, invocations of the gods and other spirits." - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eluveitie](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eluveitie)

Chrigel Glanzmann – vocals, mandola, whistles, pipes, gaita, acoustic guitar, bodhrán, harp (2002–present)
Merlin Sutter – drums (2004–present)
Ivo Henzi – rhythm guitar (2004–present)
Anna Murphy – hurdy gurdy, vocals (2006–present)
Kay Brem – bass guitar (2008–present)
Patrick Kistler – bagpipes, whistles (2008–present)
Rafael Salzmann - lead guitar (2012–present)
Nicole Ansperger - violin (2013–present)

Havoc (Official Music Video)
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XM1v-00C6AM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XM1v-00C6AM)

Inis Mona (Official Music Video)
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ijiKLHCOwS0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ijiKLHCOwS0)

[https://www.facebook.com/eluveitie](https://www.facebook.com/eluveitie)
[http://eluveitie.ch/](http://eluveitie.ch/)
And so, boys and girls, it comes to the end of another fun packed week. We are beginning to get our heads around this new method of production, and the fact that I have dragged Andrea, my lovely and incredibly useful secretary into the production team has made an immeasurable difference to our efficiency and speed of production.

Everything went wrong with last weekend’s issue with the result that we didn’t get it posted online until it was very late on the Saturday evening—something like six hours after we should have done.

This had the result that the readership of this last issue was nowhere near as high as we have come to expect. I hope that we have better luck with this one.

The demographics of online publishing is a subject completely new to me and I am doing my best to learn how it all works.

I have not got there yet, but I think that we are making slow but sure progress, and that The Gonzo Weekly is a magazine of which we can all be justly proud.

It has been a peculiar week; Archie has not been well, Graham has been gallivanting around the countryside, and I had Mike Davis in the studio, recording new material and doing mastering of his long awaited and slightly delayed new EP.

I have also been working with a project named after an obscure village on the coast of Mexico which for some years in the mid sixties was home to a group of notorious occultists from Swinging London. This is some of the most exciting and vibrant music I have ever recorded, and I am very much looking forward to sharing it with you all at some stage.

But until next week, I am gone…
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