EXCLUSIVE:
Jaki Windmill interviews Mick Farren
EXCLUSIVE:
Jon interviews XNA
EXCLUSIVE:
Archive Bob Calvert video

JAKI’N’MICK
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 issue of Gonzo Weekly. I don’t know whether there is truly any significance to numerology or whether I can just add OCD to my impressive list of symptoms, but 2014 is an important year in my eyes, and it seems appropriate to explore that as we reach the issue when the two sevens clash.

It has been forty years since the first Stonehenge Festival, forty years since I first learned to play the guitar and formed my first (not very good) band, forty years since my favourite album (‘The Psychomodo’ by Cockney Rebel) was released, thirty years since the last Stonehenge Festival, thirty years since Crass broke up, thirty years since the humiliating end to the Miner’s Strike when Thatcher finally managed to do her best to prove that there was, indeed, no such thing as society, and I could continue, but I won’t because on the whole I think that numerology is nonsense. For example, it has been claimed that by counting the number of bricks in the Great Pyramid of Cheops one can foresee the dates of both world wars, the date of the death of Princess Diana, and even the date of the end of the world.

I always thought that this was nonsense, and so a colleague and I once amused ourselves by counting the tiles in the Gent’s loo at our local pub in Exeter and extrapolating similar data from it. When I published that piece of information, I received an email from an anonymous fellow calling himelf Malaclypse the Younger (as the person most famously known for using that pen name had died four years previously, I thought that unlikely), in which he claimed that it was
possible to replicate the results found in *The Bible Code* by counting up the individual consonants found in the text of a specific issue of *Hustler*. I never bothered to check this assertion out, but it wouldn’t have surprised me.

When did all this happen? Ten years ago to this very month! Spooky huh?

Numbers do, indeed, rule our lives, but I think that it is possible to get hung up over anniversaries.

The important thing is that much of the music that we write about in these pages is current and being made NOW. Sixty years after Elvis Presley made his first rock and roll record (see, there I go again) the music which contains the very DNA of *That’s Alright Mama* is still making waves, and is still relevant, and still trying to change the world, despite what the more cynical media pundits would like to tell us.

Many years ago my cousin’s first husband played me an album by *Sha Na Na* which opened with a quote that I would like to take as my text for the day:

“I’ve got one thing to say to you fucking hippies - Rock and Roll is here to stay”, and believe it or not, gentle readers. They were right!

Mick Farren, Chuck Berry, Led Zeppelin, Morrissey, Pussy Riot, Nirvana, Monty Python, Stonehenge, Galahad, Michael des Barres, Fish, Robert Calvert, Rab Noakes, Barbara Dickson, Sendelica, Erik Norlander, Rocket Scientists, Clepsydra, Rick Wakeman, Ginger Baker, Rush, Marillion, Strange Fruit, Sub Reality Sandwich, Jaki Windmill, Tim Rundell, Howard Smith, Elaine Sturtevant, Leslie Thomas, Jean Philippe Rykiel, Joey Molland, David Jackson, Rene van Commenee, Pierre Moerlen’s Gong, Clearlight, Planet Earth Rock ‘n’ Roll, Kevin Ayers and the Whole World, Ian Anderson, Damon Albarn, Mike Oldfield, XNA, John Lennon, Yes, Steve Howe, Steve Hackett, Michael Jackson, One Direction, Bay City Rollers, Bob Dylan, Justin Beiber, Kataklysm, Lives & Times, Asmegin
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)

**Richard Freeman,**  
(Scary stuff)

**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,  
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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.

You will have certainly noticed that it has all changed. In fact there is no certainly about it. But if you haven’t noticed I would like to know what you have been smoking, and can I have a large packet of it please.

Yes. It has indeed all changed. Basically I have been wanting to upgrade the visuals of the magazine for some time, but now the technology to do what I have wanted to do for yonks has finally become within our budget (i.e free) and we are going to give it a go.

If things don’t work out we can still go back to the previous method of putting the magazine together, and we shall still be utilising those jolly nice fellows at MailChimp in order to send out the subscriber notifications.

In fact, now is an even better time than usual to subscribe because, not only is it FREE (yes, Oxford English Dictionary free, not yer usual publisher free which means that we sell all the mailing list emails that we garner to a company trying to flog Viagra and/or Double Glazing. No this is FREE as in Gratis. Not a Sausage. But I digress. Not only is it FREE but there will be some exclusive offers for folk who avail themselves of them, so make an old hippy a happy chappy and SUBSCRIBE TODAY.
IT'S GOT A BACK BEAT, YOU CAN'T LOSE IT. Rock 'n' roll pioneer Chuck Berry is to be honoured with an award said to be the musical equivalent of a Nobel prize. The Johnny B Goode musician is one of two recipients chosen for this year's Polar Music Prize, following in the footsteps of figures such as Sir Elton John, Bob Dylan, Pink Floyd and Led Zeppelin. The award was founded by the late Stig Anderson, who was the manager and publisher for music stars Abba. It was created to "break down musical boundaries by bringing together people from all the different worlds of music".

MORE TO COME IN THRU THE OUTDOOR Led Zeppelin have hinted they may release more compilations of unheard material, following forthcoming expanded versions of their first three albums. The band release Deluxe Editions of their first three albums, 'Led Zeppelin', 'Led Zeppelin II' and 'Led Zeppelin III', on June 2. Each has a second disc featuring unheard live tracks and previously-unreleased studio songs. Guitarist Jimmy Page, who oversaw the expanded albums, says he may work on future compilations of unavailable material. "There's certainly more things that can be done," Page told Rolling Stone. "But these reissues took a lot of time, and I don't want to start proposing another project, because it'll take me another six months or a year. I'd rather spend time practising my guitar and going out to play."

MANCHESTER, YOU’VE SO MUCH TO ANSWER FOR Morrissey began his US tour in San Jose, California, with a 90-minute show at the City National Civic venue. After the former Smiths singer had postponed and cancelled his tours of North and South America due to illness last year, local media reported fans were anxious over whether the show was going ahead. However, Morrissey took to the stage as promised, performing The Smiths' 'Hand In Glove' at the start of the show, following with 'That's How People Grow Up', 'Ganglord' and 'I Have Forgiven Jesus' early on in the set. He also previewed forthcoming new album 'World Peace Is None Of Your Business', playing the title track as well as 'The Bullfighter Dies' and 'Earth Is The Loneliest Planet' as well as Smiths songs, 'Meat Is Murder' and 'Asleep', plus tracks from earlier in his solo career, including 'Everyday Is Like Sunday' and 'The National Front Disco'. READ ON

THERE'S A RIOT GOING ON The two freed members of Pussy Riot, Nadezhda Tolokonnikova and Maria Alyokhina, have set up an English Twitter account. The pair, who were released from prison in December 2013 after being given two-year sentences in August 2012 after their now infamous "punk prayer", have been Tweeting in Russian from their individual accounts. Their first tweet, posted on May 5, takes a swipe at censorship in Russia. "Russia is not China or Iran YET, so since we can still use Twitter, we will give a shot at running it in English, so hi to everyone here!" READ ON

A LOUSY SONG Monty Python have revealed a previously unheard track titled 'Lousy Song'. The track will be included on the comedy group's forthcoming re-release of their 'Monty Python Sings' album, and is a collaboration between Eric Idle and Graham Chapman. Speaking previously, Idle said that 'Monty Python Sings (Again)', which will be released on June 9, would feature five new tracks alongside some of Monty Python's best known comedy songs. The album was first released in 1989 and features tracks from the group's films and TV work, including 'Always Look On The Bright Side Of Life' and 'Knights of the Round Table (Camelot Song)'. READ ON

COLLECTOR'S NIRVANA Two park benches in Seattle which became an unofficial memorial to Nirvana frontman Kurt Cobain are up for sale. The benches are located in Seattle's Viretta Park, near to the home Cobain was living in when he committed suicide, 20 years ago. The benches are covered in messages from Nirvana fans with dedications to the late frontman also carved into the wooden slats. In 2008 the scratch marks on the slats were replaced and the old ones were put into storage. The old marked-up slats are fixed to new frames and up for sale at Hamilton's Antique & Estate Auctions in Tacoma. READ ON
"At midnight, all the agents and superhuman crew go out and round up everyone who knows more than they do."

— Desolation Row by Bob Dylan

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? We just make stupid jokes about them.

- AND THEY EXPECT US TO VOTE FOR THIS MORON? Time and time again we see the same old images shared on Facebook and Twitter, and yet we still have no idea what UKIP have against stronger wildlife protections. What have UKIP got against seals? Check out Roger Helmer’s views on seal clubbing: he said beating “dumb” cubs over the head was “humane” and that they deserved to die because they were “guilty” of eating too many fish. And I won’t even start on his views on rape. READ ON

- CALL THE FIRE BRIGADE A DERBY MP has said Prime Minister David Cameron is "culpable" for firefighters striking. The Government wants them to work up to the age of 60 but the union says that is too old and they believe the national pension age of 55 should remain. Derby North MP Mr Williamson said: "I feel very sympathetic to the firefighters. They rightly feel aggrieved at the issue of the pension age and this is a public safety issue. Fire-fighting is a very physical occupation and officers need to be fit for the task in hand." Mr Williamson said: “Firefighters risk their lives on a daily basis and deserve better than their treatment by this government.” READ ON

- NO IFS OR BUTTS A mum-of-two is challenging a fine for dropping a cigarette butt – because she says she doesn’t smoke. Anna Taylor said she offered to turn out her handbag to prove her innocence when two enforcement officers accused her of the environmental crime. They told the 38-year-old they were unable to search through her belongings and continued to issue the fine regardless. Anna said: “I was walking along Russell Road in Rhyl when I saw two enforcement officers staring at me from across the road. “They crossed over and came towards me and told me they were fining me for dropping a cigarette butt. I was shocked and thrown and couldn’t believe what I was hearing – I don’t even smoke.” READ ON

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.
OH HOW THEY DANCED, THE LITTLE PEOPLE OF THE STONES

This June sees a very special anniversary – no, in fact it sees two special anniversaries.

Forty years ago, in 1974, Wally Hope started the Stonehenge free festival, and thirty years ago, in 1984, was the last event at the stones before Thatcher demolished it.

Our good friend Oz Hardwick has suggested that – in the same way as we did a montage of reader’s memories for the Hawkeaster event – we do a collection of memories from people who have been at the last Stonehenge festival.

However, as we had already invited Wally Dean to write a retrospective of the first Stonehenge festival, it seemed like a jolly good idea to extend Oz Hardwick’s concept and get memories, photographs, and even film from those people who attended either of them.

These will appear in the summer solstice edition of Gonzo Weekly.
CELEBRATING GALAHAD

The massively talented Galahad who fuse techno and prog metal in ways that - as far as I am aware - are completely unique, will be playing on the Saturday at the Celebr8 festival at the end of the month.

Unfortunately I won’t be there, but if there are any Gonzo Weekly readers who will be attending the event, is there any chance you could write a review for us?
FISH TOUR POSTPONED UNTIL SEPTEMBER

Fish writes:

It deeply saddens me to announce that I have to cancel the entire UK tour in May.

The shows at Norwich 8th May, London 9th, Cardiff 10th, Exeter 11th, Brighton 13th, Bristol 15th, Northampton 16th, Holmfirth 17th and Glasgow on the 18th will be rescheduled in September and December and I will give you more information as soon as I have it.

Robin Boult is still seriously unwell with chickenpox and he was incapable of performing to anywhere close to his abilities.

His condition has been worsened by a suspected blood infection from aggravated sores on his back chaffed by his guitar strap in rehearsals and he has also picked up an ear infection as his immune system is on the floor.

Everything has happened so fast it’s impossible to bring in and rehearse a replacement to cover the shows and I am left with no other option but to cancel the entire tour.

The virus has hit Robin badly and he is exhausted. Playing any shows in his condition would have been physically dangerous and recovery on a tour bus impossible.

I seriously doubt if he could have played through a soundcheck never mind a full gig and any shows we could have done would have been a shadow of our capabilities and totally unrepresentative of what we have built up a solid reputation for in the last year.

This decision is the only one that can be made for all concerned but especially for Robin who we are all feeling for just now.
I’d lost them, so these will be sold on eBay shortly. Also Bob’s own copy of Road Hawks, which I think has an angry correction to the 'Drug Cabinet Key' name in Biro, which amused me.

To spread the love, any proceeds will go to Arts Emergency (http://www.arts-emergency.org/) this time - which is a fantastic charity, have a read up.

Just to be clear - this is the fan released VHS from the 80s. Someone has gone to a lot of trouble to stitch it all up with linking material, but I have no idea who. If anyone has names so I can credit them, then please let me know.

Nick Calvert

NICK CALVERT (SON OF ROBERT) WRITES:

Hi all,

Right, I did promise this group I’d sort The Kidout at some point. I’m a man of my word, but a little late sometimes.

Here are parts one and two of the full recording, there are seven parts in total, I’ll do the rest over the coming weeks.

I hope there are those in this group that enjoy it.

As there is some new content to release again, like last year I’m going to try and raise a few quid for charity in August. I also found the test pressing of Test Tube Conceived and the (sadly quite battered) signed Freq over the long weekend, having thought
about pretty much everything else, including her current tour with Scottish folk legend Rab Noakes, with whom she has just released an EP.

A few days later my postbag included a letter from the aforementioned Scottish folk legend and a copy of their delightful EP. Listening to it, the emotional connection between the two artists is palpable, and I feel very privileged to have heard it.

Thank you Rab. Thank you Barbara. On her Facebook page this week, Barbara writes about the tour:

I’m quite liking the on-off nature of the shows I’ve been doing with Rab…it spans three months but we only have 18 dates which is less than my usual concert tour. I’ve been developing the show with him as we go, as well.

I really hope that I will be able to catch the duo on stage sometime this year. In the meantime, check out these links.
NEWS FROM THE FABLED PLANET OF THE SENDELICANS

On Thursday I had to go to a review by my diabetic nurse, who talked long and portentously about my blood sugar. I returned to this note from the ever effervescent Pedro Kaldini:

GREAT REVIEW OF THE 'FABLED VOYAGES OF THE SENDELICANS' ALBUM IN SHINDIG MAGAZINE.

"The new LP from Sendelica mixes together some of the best tracks from their albums released between 2007 and 2011. The first side will be familiar in style to most fans, including bonkers space-rock assault and roller coaster guitar solos they’ve become famous for. Side two opener, 'Screaming and Streaming Into The Starlit Nite', is a bit of a departure, however - a downbeat sax-powered groover recalling late 70’s floyd at their finest that grows into a synapse frying cosmic jam. Although the rest of the album is great stuff it’s worth owning the album for this one track alone"

THERE ARE NOW ONLY TWO COPIES OF THE BLACK VINYL LEFT AND WE’VE PUT A FEW OF THE WHITE VINYL TOUR COPIES ON OUR BANDCAMP SITE FOR THOSE THAT CAN’T MAKE IT TO ANY OF THE TOUR DATES....
https://sendelica.bandcamp.com/album/the-fabled-voyages-of-the-sendelicans

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. arsydeedee@yahoo.co.uk

IT’S NOT ROCKET SCIENCE (IT IS, ACTUALLY)

Here is a new lengthy Australian radio interview with Erik Norlander by his friend Michael Pursche discussing the new Supernatural Highways album and more things Rocket Scientists.

the week that’s past
From what I can ascertain, Clepsydra’s appearance at Rosfest last weekend was a considerable triumph.

George Roldan, one of the organisers of the event, writes:  

I am very honored and blessed to have witnessed one of my favorite bands that I have always wanted to see play at RoSfest. I have been a longtime fan, and the band definitely did not disappoint with their performance, it was stellar! Thank you so much to everyone in the band who made this possible. I look forward to the live at RoSfest CD, and good luck with your resurrection and I wish the band the best! From all of us at RoSfest we appreciate what you do I am very grateful that your band had a great time!

But I have a bone to pick with them. They are pictured above in a typically anodyne American hotel room, of the sort that I have been in on a number of occasions. But there is something wrong.

Terribly so.

Gentlemen, you are sitting there smiling politely at the camera. But you are supposed to be creating havoc and smashing the place up. That is what rock and rollers are supposed to do! I bet you didn’t even throw the TV set out of the window did you?

In further Clepsydra news, if you go to You Tube there are several good quality bits of film of the band live at their first comeback show in Holland a couple of weeks ago. Check them out; I guarantee that you won’t be disappointed.

**CLEPSYDRA ROCK THE JOINT**

Currently In Stock At Gonzo (UK)
Currently In Stock At Gonzo (USA)
And with Rick W, surely no-one takes things like the ice dancers at the original King Arthur shows at Wembley wearing stockings and suspenders as a serious comment on the feminist subtext of Geoffrey of Monmouth. Of course it was tongue in cheek. It is not the prog rockers who don’t have a sense of humour, but those both in and out of Her Majesty’s Press who take the subject (and themselves) too bloody seriously.

Lighten up guys, and check out RW 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.

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

My favourite roving reporter has once again surpassed himself and sent us several interesting stories this week.

The first involves the world premier of the first new song for 16 years by the legendary bad ass drummer, Ginger Baker, who is, as Bart says with magnificent understatement, “still a character”.


The next piece of news is all about an impressive new edition of Rush’s self-titled debut album which was first issued 40 years ago. The new version comes on audiophile-quality vinyl that was processed and remastered at Abbey Road. The packaging – a custom box with a lift-off top – features the album’s original art. It also comes with a reproduction of Rush's first promo poster, a Rush Family Tree poster, a download card and five-by-seven lithographs of the group's lineup at the time of the album – vocalist-bassist Geddy Lee, guitarist Alex Lifeson and drummer John Rutsey.


And finally Marillion are pleased to announce the dates for their Christmas “Pandamonium” tour:

- Sunday 7th December Leamington, Assembly
- Monday 8th December Glasgow, 02ABC
- Wednesday 10th December Manchester, Academy
- Thursday 11th December London, Forum
- Saturday 13th December France, Venue TBC
- Monday 15th December Utrecht, MusicCentrum
- Tuesday 16th December Eindhoven, MusicCentrum
- Wednesday 17th December Germany, Venue TBC

The week that’s past
A Suffolk village famous for its knicker bunting has decided to make decorations for their summer fete from donated orphaned socks. This interesting bunting choice will be used on July 19 to help publicise the village summer fayre. Stansfield, near Haverhill, has previously taken a novel approach to bunting by using knickers in 2009 and CDs and DVDs in 2010. For the Diamond Jubilee in 2012, they made pennants from photos of the 100 homes in the parish.

The village hall treasurer, Fay Grindley said of their choice: ‘Garlands of socks maybe doesn’t sound as eye-catching as knicker bunting, but we thought it was still quirky enough and should publicise the village fete quite nicely.’

http://metro.co.uk/2014/05/06/village-famous-for-underwear-bunting-wants-your-unwanted-socks-for-summer-fete-4719754/
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 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 EPISODE

- Lavender Country: Come out Singin’
- The War on Drugs: Red Eyes
- Black Sabbath: Planet Caravan
- Linda Perhacs: River of God
- Music Emporium: Gentle Thursday
- Miss Pat Collins: Turn On
- Lothar and the Hand People: Space Hymn
- Juxtavoices: Drawn From no Well
- Les Baxter: The Enchanted Sea
- Smokey: Strong Love
- Micah P. Hinson: Sons of the USSR
- Flaming Lips: My Cosmic Autumn Rebellion
- Hannah Peel: Solitude
- Mimi Kamara: Nyarara
- Sheila Chandra: Shehnai Song
- Ruth Keggin: Graih Foalsey
- Alaisdair Robinson and Robin Robertson: Leaving St. Kilda
- The Magnetic North: The Black Craig
- The Beach Boys: Hold on Dear Brother (Killer B)
- Juxtavoices: Nine Entries for the Enclyopaedia of Natural Sexual Relations
So I waited to see what would happen. Soon after that I got approached by Jaki. Apparently she has been co-hosting a radio show broadcast from a conceptual submarine together with Tim for some time.

Would we like a whole slew of brand new shows for Gonzo Web Radio? Of course we would. And this is the third of them featuring – amongst other things – a lesson about Bo Diddley, and what it actually is, and yet another argument about sandwiches and whether or not Tim has a new hat. What’s not to like?

The revolution may not be televised, but it’s certainly coming over on the virtual airwaves. Listen to it live on Gonzo Web Radio.

Gonzo Web Radio is chuffed to bits to present the world premier of a remarkable new radio show put together by none other than the lovely Jaki Windmill and the irrepressible Tim Rundall. An anarchic mixture of music, politics, current affairs and all sorts of other things really wrapped in a surreal miasma of post-psychedelic credibility.

Sounds good? You bit sweet pondos it does.

Tim approached me some weeks ago. Apparently before he died Mick Farren told him about Gonzo Web Radio and some of the plans Rob and I had tentatively began to put together.

Would we like to broadcast some of the stuff he had recorded with Mick?

I’ve heard some silly questions in my time, but this takes the biscuit. Of course we would. Mick Farren was one of my greatest heroes, and the fact that he took an interest in this magazine and helped me steer it into the direction in which it is currently sailing, meant that dear Tim’s question was completely superfluous.
HOWARD SMITH
(1936-2014)
Howard Smith was an American Oscar winning film director, producer, journalist, screenwriter, actor and radio broadcaster.

In 2012 a series of digital copies of his interviews from 1969 to 1972 were released as digital downloads and, later, as a CD box set. The collection featured full length audio interviews with many influential artists of the day, including Lou Reed, John Lennon and Yoko Ono, Eric Clapton and Jim Morrison.

Smith had kept the original audio tapes in his basement for many years, until his son Cass Calder Smith discovered them. He took them to New York film maker Ezra Bookstein, who decided to ready the tapes for a full release after 40 years.

Several interviews were released on a monthly basis, culminating in the release of the CD box including twelve CDs and a USB drive with five hours of additional audio.

Smith was the divorced father of two sons. His son Cass Calder Smith, is a restaurant architect in New York City and San Francisco, California. His younger son Zachary Charles Smith, is a Master Scuba Diving Instructor, sailor, naturalist and world traveller.

Smith died of cancer on May 1, 2014 in Manhattan, New York at the age of 77.
Elaine Sturtevant, also known simply as "Sturtevant", was an American artist. She achieved recognition for her carefully inexact repetitions of other artists' works that prefigured appropriation.

All of her works are copies of the works of other artists; none is an original. She initially focused on works by such American artists as Roy Lichtenstein, Claes Oldenburg, Jasper Johns, and Andy Warhol. Sturtevant copied Warhol's silkscreens so often that Warhol himself, when bombarded with questions about his working practice, once said, "I don't know. Ask Elaine." Indeed, Sturtevant's mastery of copying other artist's work was so great that in 1965 a Jasper Johns flag painting that formed part of Robert Rauschenberg's combine “Short Circuit” was stolen, so Rauschenberg commissioned Sturtevant to paint a reproduction of Johns’s flag. In the late 1960s, Sturtevant concentrated on replicating works by Joseph Beuys and Duchamp.

Nearly all of the artists she chose to copy are today considered iconic for their time or style. This has given rise to discussions amongst art critics on how it had been possible for Sturtevant to identify those artists at such an early stage. Her later works mainly focus on reproductions in the digital age. Sturtevant commented on her work at her 2012 retrospective Sturtevant: Image over Image at the Moderna Museet: "What is currently compelling is our pervasive cybernetic mode, which plunks copyright into mythology, makes origins a romantic notion, and pushes creativity outside the self. Remake, reuse, reassemble, recombine - that's the way to go."
Leslie Thomas, OBE (22 March 1931 – 6 May 2014) was a British author best known for his comic novel *The Virgin Soldiers*. Thomas was born in Newport, Monmouthshire. He was orphaned at the age of 12, when his mariner father was lost at sea and his mother died only a few months later from cancer. Thomas was subsequently brought up in a Dr Barnardo's home; the story of this upbringing was the subject of his first, autobiographical, book, *This Time Next Week*.

In 1949, Thomas was called up for National Service and embarked on a two year tour of duty in Singapore with the Royal Army Pay Corps. While there he was briefly involved with the military action against communist rebels in the Malayan emergency. He also began to write short articles for publication in English newspapers.

On his return to England in 1951, Thomas resumed his work for the local newspaper group in North London where he had worked before his National Service, but within five years he was working for *The Exchange Telegraph* news agency, now Extel, and eventually with the London Evening News newspaper, first as a sub-editor, later as a reporter. He stayed with the *Evening News* until 1965, when he embarked full-time on his writing career.

In 1984, Thomas published *In My Wildest Dreams* recounting his childhood in South Wales, his days in Doctor Barnardo's Homes in London, his National Service in the Far East, and his career in journalism.

His novels about 1950s British National Service such as *The Virgin Soldiers* spawned two film versions, in 1969 and 1977, while his *Tropic of Ruislip* and *Dangerous Davies*, *The Last Detective* have been adapted for television (the former as *Tropic in 1979* and latter having also spawned a film version, in 1981).
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
Jean Philippe Rykiel

*Inner Spaces*

Cat No. FGBG4898

Label: Musea

Jean-Philippe RYKIEL may be the son of the famous fashion stylist Sonia RYKIEL, his fame in the music scenes owes all to his great talents.

Born blind, he started to show them with CRYSTAL MACHINE, battling with his synthesisers against Tim BLAKE.

Published on the Musea label in the year 2012, "Inner Spaces" gathers various tracks, recorded or re-recorded during all his career. Jean-Philippe says:

"I wanted to share these memories of a time long gone, made of happiness and careness.

These compositions were removed from my studios albums because of their variety of styles, and started to accumulate for years and years, until I realised they were all me!

Why shouldn't I introduce myself as I really am, multiple and open-minded? From spacey Progressive rock to funk music, African rhythms to French melodies, jazz to Tibetan mantras, I'm feeding myself up with all, and all inspires me... ."

On the icing of the cake is "Close To You", the only sung-track here... By a certain Jon ANDERSON!

Recording with VANGELIS at that time, in the middle of the Eighties, the YES singer was kind enough to lend his voice.

Just unmistakable!
Joey Molland  
*Demos Old And New*  
Label: Gonzo  
Catalogue Number: HST185CD

Poor Badfinger; if ever there was a pop group “born under a bad sign” it was them. Things started off quite auspiciously. As The Iveys they signed to The Beatles’ Apple Records and had a hit single. However, they decided that their name, and their image were a little old fashioned and for reasons that remain obscure they also decided to change their guitarist. Exit Ron Griffiths and enter Joey Molland.

Badfinger was born. They had hit singles with the Paul McCartney penned Come and Get It (recorded just as Griffiths was leaving the band) and No Matter What, and perhaps their greatest moment was when Harry Nilsson had a massive worldwide hit with their song Without You in 1972. After that it was all downhill. And downhill very very fast.

The band were the last non-Beatles artists to release an album on Apple, and a move to Warner Brothers was not a success. There were grave management issues (which were so contentious that even now it is probably not safe to put in writing) and – probably as a result of these internal pressures – two members of the band (Pete Ham in 1975 and Tom Evans in 1983) committed suicide by hanging.

Joey Molland, who had written the vast majority of the group’s later output, remains an immensely under-rated and very talented songwriter, whose career has been blighted by the appalling catalogue of disasters which had overtaken his band. This collection of demos from various parts of his long career only proves to confirm, (as if any confirmation were needed) what an extraordinary songwriter this man is.

David Jackson & René van Commenée.  
*Batteries Included*  
Cat No. ET201103  
Label: Equally Tuned

In 1992, when he was halfway through his forties, the legendary Van der Graaf Generator saxophonist David Jackson left teaching full time to practice, write, record and play gigs again. He created a one-man show of new and old historic pieces; some he had reworked in his studio and were never performed live before. At that time, Jackson had been seeing and keeping up with his young Dutch friend René van Commenée and knew of his percussive powers at the time.

“He had recently spent a whole night at our house in Wokingham in the room below our bedroom practicing for an immanent 24 hour Indian Tabla exam - which was a strange and exhilarating sound to wake up with!” (D. Jackson)

Van Commenée invited his legendary friend to perform at his birthday-party. Jackson took the invitation and insisted to perform, at least a part of the show, together.

Both musicians enjoyed performing together very much and Van Commenée proposed playing duo-shows together a year later.

"In Utrecht I felt a strange Hammill/VdGG connection kicking in. Something strange and magical would be happening very soon. This was great chance to play gigs with René at last. He loved my new repertoire and we loved to improvise together," (D. Jackson)
Pierre Moerlen's Gong

**Pentanine**

Cat No. FGBG4606.AR  
Label: Musea

A famous drummer-percussionist from Strasbourg, France, Pierre MOERLEN had a prolific career filled with prestigious collaborations. He imposed his very particular percussive style, and created a reference in the style of Progressive jazz-rock. And this is in this musical style that Pierre MOERLEN'S GONG take us: proudly assuming his part of the great inheritance left by Daevid ALLEN and company, his interpretation is less focused on the psychedelic or space-rock. "Full Circle - Live 1988" is nevertheless and excellent witness of a German tour: a truly indispensable album!

As the Progressive rock world has been grieving to hear the disappearance of Pierre MOERLEN (GONG, Mike OLDFIELD, BRAND X...), the legendary French drummer comes back today with a new album! "Pentanine" was recorded in Moscow in 2002 and is eventually released three years later by the Musea label. On that occasion, the new embodiment of the mythical band Pierre MOERLEN'S GONG was composed of local skilful musicians on electric guitar, bass and keyboards. Thirteen instrumental pieces full of groove, power and sophistication are to be heard, some more hypnotic or peaceful moments being also present in a very melodic jazz-rock fusion style.

The splendour of Pierre MOERLEN's playing whatever instrument between drums, percussions, xylophone and vibraphone is very sensible. A posthumous account of a definitely exceptional musician!

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Clearlight

**Tribal Hybrid Concept**

Cat No.HST212CD

**Gonzo**

Clearlight became the first French progressive rock band signed to a major British record label. Clearlight has/have continued to produce remarkable music ever since. But this album is particularly poignant.

Pascal Menetrey passed away accidentally in 2006. This album is dedicated to his memory. RIP, Pascal...

The music on this album is powerful, selected to illustrate the yang side of the first chakra, the one in charge of life and death energies; designed to energize the body and to celebrate life. Samples of Inuits, Papoos, Tuvas, Ethiopian and Kurdish singers as well as samples of various wild animals facing extinction collected one per one by Pascal Menetrey between 1992 and 1999 are musically shaped by Cyrille Verdeaux to boogie for the pleasure of the ears. The aim of Tribal Hybrid Music (THC) is to help in the stopping of all these trails of tears, these massacres of innocents all around the globe. The base chakra (Muladhara) is the root of the Kundalini, the coiled serpent representing untapped potential and sexual energy.

It also represents security and the need for basic needs (air, water, food) that all life requires for sustenance as well as fundamental human desire. The chants of various tribes facing extinction represent the death aspect of this chakra, since most of the beings heard on this album are probably already dead: As Pascal is already...
Kevin Ayers and The Whole World

Howling At The Moon
Cat No.HST244CD
Label: Gonzo

Kevin Ayers (16 August 1944 – 18 February 2013) was an English singer-songwriter and a major influential force in the English psychedelic movement. Ayers was a founding member of the pioneering psychedelic band Soft Machine in the mid-1960s, and was closely associated with the Canterbury scene. He recorded a series of albums as a solo artist and over the years worked with Brian Eno, Syd Barrett, John Cale, Elton John, Robert Wyatt, Andy Summers, Mike Oldfield, Nico and Ollie Halsall, among others. His last album was The Unfairground, recorded in New York City, Tucson, and London in 2006

Ayers died in his sleep on 18 February 2013 in Montolieu, France, aged 68. BBC DJ John Peel once celebratedly wrote that "Kevin Ayers' talent is so acute you could perform major eye surgery with it." It is hard not to agree with him. He was a major talent, who - sadly - never got the respect that he deserved, and even now I don't really know why...

This album was recorded live in Hyde Park back in 1970. Ayers' bandmate, the late and very much missed David Bedford remembered it: "There was a really nice gig in Hyde Park when Pink Floyd premiered Atom Heart Mother with orchestra and choir. The chap conducting that had just commissioned me to write a piece for his choir, so it was sort of my two worlds mixing up. It was a really hot day and really nice, it was a good piece Atom Heart Mother. After that came the first band album Shooting At The Moon and it was a typical mixture of things that happened at gigs; straight forward pleasant whimsical songs and crazy avant-garde plinky plonk stuff of the sort that I was doing in my concert music pieces".

Planet Earth Rock 'n' Roll Orchestra
Wally Heider Recording Studios
Cat No.OSCCD1
Label: Respect

The Planet Earth Rock and Roll Orchestra (PERRO) was a loose conglomeration of Bay Area musicians who recorded together in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Best known as members of some of the greatest and most successful recording ensembles of the era, such as The Grateful Dead, Jefferson Airplane and Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, what many people don't realise is that these musicians had been playing together for a decade or so before these home recordings were made.

Paul Kantner, Jerry Garcia, David Crosby and others had been friends for a long time. Way before they were famous they had played together in various folkclubs and coffee houses, as well as at private parties and in each others' homes. It is all too easy to perceive Superstars as having arrived into our communal consciousness fully fledged and with their repertoire fully formed. But, of course, the truth is nothing of the sort. These extremely rare recordings give a uniquely valuable look behind the scenes at the creative processes of some of the most important songwriters and musicians of their generation, and it shows how the creative bond between them survived all the vicissitudes of fame and fortune, and was just as important in the early 1970s as it was when they were first starting out. These recordings are so intimate and special that listening to them almost makes you feel like you are intruding on a series of private moments, and everyone involved should be congratulated for making such personal material available to the public at large. Well done to you all.
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:

“Yesterday's weirdness is tomorrow's reason why”

Hunter S. Thompson
I was very fond of Mick Farren. I only met him the once – pretty much a year ago – but we spoke on the telephone several times, and although we didn’t know each other well enough to be friends, I truly believe that had he lived we would have become friends very quickly.

It was Mick who looked at what I was doing with Gonzo Weekly and encouraged me to radicalise it and – especially as it had been his writing during the ‘60s and ‘70s which put me on the path that I have followed ever since as a rock journalist – I took his advice, and the Gonzo Weekly that you are reading now is, in great part, down to him.

As I am sure you all know, he died in the summer of last year, ironically on a day that I, together with my wife and niece, was on my way to visit him.

I wrote the following essay for the booklet to accompany what turned out to be Mick’s final album. For various technical reasons it didn’t appear, although it will appear in the next pressing. I thought, therefore, as we are looking back at the achievements on the dear fellow in this issue, that I would like to share it with you all:

What I’m saying is that I don’t want a grey world. Or rather, because this is the way it’s going, a grey world that’s painted day-Glo wild colours. Fuck that, it’s just disguising
the real situation. I’m wanting a world that’s multi-tiered, that has real variety, real levels of difference. I think things will function without theory, we can work out the maths behind the machine later. And I think if you start engagement with politicians then you become a politician — you might as well be Bill Clinton.


Mick Farren was a great man. Many people have described him to me as having been “barking mad”, but – even if this is true – it does not negate his greatness one iota. Born in 1943, he was an integral part of the counterculture of the 1960s and 1970s. If Richard Neville was the public face of said counterculture, Mick was its heart. The two men had very different approaches to the cultural revolution that they both believed that they were spearheading, but Mick’s is the one which has stood the test of time.

Mick was a crazy-passionate activist, anarchist, and street politician. When I met him, about a month before his death I asked him whether he was still a revolutionary. He bristled “Certainly”, he said, and went on to describe the ills of modern Britain, the iniquities of the Government, and his hope that the new technology of the 21st Century might bring about the anarcho-syndicalist utopia that he dreamed of. All the time he was talking, he quaffed Jack Daniels, and smoked my cigarettes, while taking the occasional toke on his oxygen mask. We were surrounded by friends and well-wishers, and it was obvious that here was a man that demanded great love and respect.

I am not going to claim that Mick Farren and I were friends. I only met him once, and had about three enjoyable telephone conversations as well, but I like to think that he and I would soon have become friends. Because Mick was everything that I aspire to be. A massively principled man with the heart of a revolutionary, a childlike and wicked sense of humour, an immense talent and a social conscience second to none. His version of that much maligned term anarchism, and mine, were and are almost identical. Above all he was a kind, ethical and gentle man, whom - one would suspect much to his amusement - my late father would have described as very much a gentleman. I had great love and respect for him, and I hope that in the weeks, months and years to come, as part of Gonzo Multimedia we shall help bring his invaluable work, and inspirational legacy to new generations.

Anarchy, peace and freedom

Jon Downes,
Devon,
August 2013

I recently got hold of this recording made by Mick Farren and the lovely Jaki Windmill just over two years ago and it seems – as we approach the first anniversary of his death – appropriate to re-broadcast it now on Gonzo Web Radio.

Not a day goes by that I don’t miss the old bugger, and I sincerely hope that when you hear the interview you will understand why.
Ian Anderson
*Homo Erraticus*

Ian Anderson’s exceptional new record, his first since ditching the *Jethro Tull* moniker which has served him well since 1968, breaks new ground in its fusion of techno, death metal, and Mongolian throat singing, completely performed by an all-midget orchestra - and sung in Serbo-Croat. No of course it isn’t!

This record is precisely what you would expect: a synthesis of traditional British folk motifs, with a smattering of jazz and a rather more obvious dollop of progressive rock stylising.

The lyrical concerns are, apparently, a look at contemporary Britain through the eyes of Gerald Bostock, formerly with Protagonist of Tull’s *Thick as a Brick* and *Thick as a Brick II* albums and now a middle-aged ex-rock and roll band tour manager looking back at the history of his village in an attempt to make sense of the contemporary world that he sees all around him, and - like so many of us - singularly fails to understand.

It is fine if you like that sort of thing, and I feel mildly as if I’m being churlish here and believe me I am not meaning to, but there is something missing in the same way as when, in the early 1970s, Paul McCartney had to come to terms with the fact that the *Beatles* were far more than just his backing band, and that something was seriously missing when he tried to record with them, Anderson really has got to come to terms with the fact that although he may have been the principal songwriter, singer and multi-instrumentalist, *Jethro Tull* were more than just a vehicle for his music, and that Martin Barre in particular, acting as foil to and for him, brought much more to the feast than just being an exceptional guitarist.

That synergistic chemistry cannot be replaced by session musicians.

I really don’t want to upset anyone here. This is a perfectly good and very well crafted record, but it lacks bite, it lacks focus, and it could have been so much better.

**Damon Albarn
Everyday Robots**

I really admire Damon Albarn; he has to go down in recent rock and roll history as one of the
greatest polymaths since Neil Young or Frank Zappa, and it is extraordinary to discover that over 25 years after his musical career began he has only now got around to releasing his first proper solo album. And what a cracker it is.

_Everyday Robots_ is a beautifully crafted and immaculately produced selection of melancholy songs during which the few upbeat moments do come as an almost unwelcome surprise. The song _Mr Tembo_ for example initially appears to be an almost irritating slice of afro-beat until you discover that it is about an orphaned baby elephant that he met during his travels in Africa. And then somehow, suddenly, it not only manages to make perfect sense but fits in perfectly within the conceptual chemistry of the album.

It is a very personal record and lets one further into Albarn’s singular private life than I think any previous album he has released either with _Blur, Gorillaz, The Good, The Bad and The Queen_, or indeed any of his other musical outings over the years. On several songs, for example, he alludes directly to his period of heroin use that he had previously only hinted at on songs like _Blur’s_ _Beetlebum_. I always got opiate references from that song, but – it has to be admitted – that I too was sampling the delights of the fruits of the poppy at that time.

The album is far less upbeat than his work with _Gorillaz_, but manages to fuse his unique take on hip hop which has made the cartoon band so massively successful over the last decade and a bit with the well-crafted and grown up melancholy of his recent opera _Dr Dee_, which tells the story of the much-maligned and fascinating character of Queen Elizabeth I Court Magician, John Dee.

Doing what I do, I am in the remarkable position of listening to a lot more music than a lot of people I know do, but I have to say that, for the moment at least, this record stands out head and shoulders above anything else released this year. I can’t wait to see what he does next.

**Mike Oldfield**

_**Man on the Rocks**_

When I was 14, like most other teenage boys with an eye to pretension, I bought _Tubular Bells_. I first heard about it from friends at school, and when totally by chance I went into a record shop in Taunton with great racks of this peculiar looking LP stacked up everywhere, I decided to buy it and when I received £5 as a birthday present from by godmother, that was exactly what I did. I played it to death, and even today I could probably hum every note to you.

Two years later I was less impressed with the follow up – _Hergest Ridge_ – and although I liked his third album _Ommadawn_, by then I had been seduced by the lure of the new wave and as Oldfield’s records got dreamier and more new age I lost interest and with very few exceptions stopped listening to him for the next 30 years. This was probably not that good a move, but it is the way that things go and both artists and humble journalists like me progress and move on.

The other day I got an email from a friend of mine who suggested that I check out Mike Oldfield’s latest record. Feeling in a good mood that day, I did, and was over the moon. What I wasn’t expecting was it to be song-based rather than conceptual suites of instrumental music, and the record is basically by a band with M. Oldfield on guitar etc., rather than a showcase for his limitless talents. His gift for arranging is put to good use on a collection of clever, literate and eminently tuneful songs which have a tendency to jump out of the record and bite you on the bum.

These songs occasionally stray into early King Crimson territory, which is no bad thing, but are all firmly in literate prog rock territory.

Well done, Mike, more please.
Last month Doug and friends went to Neil Finn's most recent tour, supporting his solo release Dizzy Heights. Neil spent his early career leading the New Zealand based group Split Enz with his brother Tim. He then formed Crowded House and has alternated between this band and solo work. Doug reports that it was an impressive show both visually and sonically.

Neil played lots of the new record, some of his original solo release including the smooth slow burner "Sinner," several Crowded House favorites and a couple of Split Enz tracks as is his want. For a bit of history, here is Doug's review of the last Crowded House tour:

Crowded House came to the Warfield Theater this summer, touring in support of their latest release Intriguer. I have a long history of patronizing all manner of audio, video, and performances from this band, from Neil Finn and Tim Finn, and from their original band, Split Enz, and so am likely to be a bit biased about their capabilities. But to me, almost anything Neil and/or Tim are involved in will always be special as they are basically the Beatles of New Zealand. Personal favorites amongst all their projects over the years include “Conflicting Emotions” from Split Enz, Tim Finn’s self titled third release, and the self titled “Finn Brothers” album. For me, Crowded House’s best work is “Together Alone”, though after a series of listens, the new release “Intriguer” does intrigue – buy it with the DVD which sports the band running through most of the tracks in their home studio live and up close – it’s a wonderful document of a mature, precision band.

At the Warfield, the group was in top form in front of an enthusiastic crowd of fans. New tracks like “Amsterdam” and “Either Side of the World” were standouts during the set, which was neatly comprised of Crowded House staples going back to their first release.

For the first time in my experience, they did not include a track from the Enz era, though it was not missed amongst so many favorites from their back catalog. Neil’s voice is remarkable for it’s durability after all these years, and given every group member sings backup, including his wife who lent her voice for one track, the harmonies were lush and heart warming. All in all a great night from a great band fronted by this important artist and entertainer.
As regular readers will know, late last Autumn I discovered the music of a remarkable little ensemble from the City of Angels called XNA, and like one of the more annoying Evangelists who come and knock on your front door while you are trying to do something else, and totally disrupt your morning’s work I have been proselytising about them ever since.

In these degenerate days it is rare to find a band like this and in my review of my favourite records of 2013, which for some years now I have been publishing over what is euphemistically know n as the festive season, I described them as sounding like Nursery Cryme period Genesis with Judge Smith on vocals and gave a caveat, yes they are that good. I was particularly taken with the first track that they released, a sprawling piece of literate Fortean prog called The Flying Dutchman, which gave their take on the legend of the ghost ship which has been seen by so many people including a future British king and other luminaries sailing around the Cape of Good Hope.

One of the things that I find most impressive about this band is that while they are consummate musicians, they do not let that go to their heads, and always put the narrative of their story first.

WHEN WE CHANGED YOU, the band’s debut recording, produced by the extraordinary Billy Sherwood, who also contributes all bass playing on the album, is a 65-minute journey through strange, cinematic stories, including 2 epics of over 15 minutes each.

It’s the culmination of years of dreams, work and love, very much in the style of the classic greats of Prog and with a decidedly unique, symphonic, theatrical sound.

Their debut CD WHEN WE CHANGED YOU chronicles the chaos of human civilization and development with a chilling cautionary tale on the consequences of our moral choices. XNA wrote and performed 7 ambitious, long-form tracks, each its own

It is this clever craftsmanship which avoids the pitfalls which so many narrative based progressive rock bands fall into; they neither over-simplify the story in order to shoehorn it into the structure of a song, nor get carried away either with the words of the music in an attempt to impress their audience that they are indeed ‘serious artists’.

I have been looking forward to talking to them again for some time, and when I telephoned singer David Hussey I was very pleased to find
out that he had one of his band mates Adam Malin there with him, and we talked for what seemed like hours on all sorts of subjects. I was very pleased and tantalised to hear that the band have several new projects in the offing and as you will hear, if you listen to this interview, they are equal in scope to that of their debut album, *When we Changed You*, which tells nothing less than the history of the human race as manipulated by an alien intelligence.

You can never accuse this band of shying away from the higher concept.

I sincerely hope that if you listen to this interview, you will, like I have, soon find yourself totally enthralled in this little ensemble and very much wanting to know what happens next.
Russell Brand’s interview with Jeremy Paxman on Newsnight was one of the most watched YouTube clips in the UK last year.

It’s not surprising. Brand is always entertaining, and to see him go head to head with one of the UK’s heavyweight political pundits had something of the air of an intellectual sparring match about it. Indeed it was billed that way. The BBC’s own YouTube channel calls the interview “Paxman vs. Brand”.

So it was the old guard vs. the new, political commentary vs. anarchic comedy, seriousness vs. facetiousness, democracy vs. revolution, politics vs. spirituality.

I’ve heard a number of opinions about the interview. People are polarised about it. A lot of people don’t like Brand. They think of him as a foppish, over-sexed attention-seeker, only really interested in what goes on in his underpants and his wallet. Why did he do the interview, they ask? Because it was good for his bank-balance..

On the other hand, no one can deny that he raised a lot of issues, and that the kind of views he was airing went global as a consequence.

Brand is a significant figure. He has a major public profile. He could use it to support all sorts of things, instead of which he is talking about the underclass, about the environment, about exploitation and world poverty, while name-checking the Occupy movement along the way.

What makes Brand fairly unique, at least in the mainstream media, is that he attaches the idea of spirituality to these issues. As he says in the New Statesman, in the article which was the stimulus to him being invited onto Newsnight:

For me the solution has to be primarily spiritual and secondarily political. This, too, is difficult terrain when the natural tribal leaders of the left are atheists, when Marxism is inveterately Godless… By spiritual I mean the acknowledgement that our connection to one another and the planet must be prioritised.

As the article goes on he refers to paganism, Yogananda, Celtic spirituality and the Nordic tradition, while talking about consciousness. And he has this to say about socialism:

Socialism’s historical connection with spiritual principles is deep. Sharing is a spiritual principle, respecting our land is a spiritual principle. May the First, May Day, is a pagan holiday where we acknowledge our essential relationship with our land.

These are not the kind of thoughts you would normally expect to hear aired in that venerable old magazine of the left, the New Statesman.

**Talking about revolution**

Equally you would not expect to read words such as “the underclass”, “exploitation”, “Marxism”, or “socialism” in a magazine like Kindred Spirit. “East is East and West is West, and never the twain shall meet”, as Rudyard Kipling put it.

What has politics got to do with paganism? What has spirituality got to do with the world economy?

Well everything. At least according to this old political pagan it has. Doesn’t spirituality imply egalitarianism? What’s the point of meditation if it doesn’t inform you in your relationship with the rest of the planet? And while I am, and remain, a committed trade unionist, fighting for economic justice in the workplace, does that mean that I can’t be seen at Stonehenge at the summer solstice doing sunrise rituals with the Druids?
Of course not. Heraclitus tells us that All Things Are One. For me all of these elements are part of the same reality, as indistinguishable from each other as individual drops are from the ocean as a whole. To be caught up in the “fierce urgency of now”, as Martin Luther King put it in his most famous speech, is to be engaged in the process of change, both inner and outer. We change the inner world while engaging with the outer world. We engage with the outer world while bringing our inner perspectives to bear. We allow our spirituality to inform our politics and our politics to influence our spirituality and we learn from both at the same time.

As it happens, Russell Brand and I have a few things in common. We have both written for the New Statesman: me in July 1994 when I wrote the cover piece for the magazine, called “Party Politics: let’s have a revolution for fun.” I too raised the idea of an Engaged Spirituality, of a spiritual revolution. This was in the heyday of the Criminal Justice Act protests which were taking place throughout the UK that year, and which culminated in riots outside Hyde Park.
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/
My name is Jonathan and I am an addict. It’s been ummmmmmmmm about two and a half hours since my last book. I am an inveterate reader, and have adored, devoured and collected books since I was about seven years old. This column was intended as a place to review books sent me by kindly publishers, but although such people do exist, and whilst I continue to get review books on occasion, and include them here, this column has evolved into reviewing the books—old and new—that I devour each week.

I don’t know why this particular tome had passed me by, because of all the *Beatles*-related books I have read in the last year or so, this is the one that most deserves the overused appellation of “**ESSENTIAL!**”

I had always heard that John Lennon was an inveterate letter writer, but apart from oft quoted missives full of bile directed at the music press in the immediate aftermath of the break up of the *Beatles*, and similarly bilious missives during his boozy lost weekend of 1973/4, the only personal letters of his that I had read were few and far between.

Now this has all changed.

Veteran journalist Hunter Davies, who was — after all — in 1968 the author of the first major biography of the band, has produced a remarkable work of scholarship. He unearths letters written by Lennon from when he was a schoolboy in 1951 up until the day before his tragic and untimely death, and he brought tears to my eyes by including something that John wrote, at the age of eight in 1948, in an autograph album belonging to his cousin.
These letters reveal a completely new, human, and rather likeable side to Lennon. We all know how the Beatles became the biggest thing in the world. We all know how John discovered drugs, medication, Yoko and politics, but I had never expected the man to write such sweet letters to his fans. Letter number 74, for example, written to someone called ‘Christine’ describes what a guru is, what meditation meant to him, and politely and sensitively points out the parallels between TM and the Christianity that this unidentified fan had apparently thought that Lennon had forgotten.

His letters to Ringo in 1971 offering a weird sort of Zen consolation for all the turmoil that the Fab Four were going through is beautiful, and even the letters to staff members that he was forced to lay off are done sensitively and with kindness.

Bizarrely the little caricatures which became more and more prevalent as he got older, one of which I have, signed by Yoko, framed on my sitting room wall, are reminiscent of the off-the-cuff drawings by another one of my heroes – Gerald Durrell. If I could explain that synergy then I think I would know a damn sight more about the universe than I do at the moment.

However, as John and Yoko knew only too well, we are all just seekers in this Approximately Infinite Universe.

This is an utterly gorgeous book both in terms of its literary and historical value, and indeed in the way that it has been laid out. Whoever the art designer is deserves an OBE, because he or she has done an absolutely remarkable job in interspersing facsimiles of the original letters with the text, and Hunter Davies’ commentary.

This book provides a real benchmark for those of us that are involved in rock and roll publishing, and I – for one – am humbled both by the content and by the presentation.

It is hard to think of other rock and roll luminaries who would deserve such a meta-biographical treatment, but I would love to see a book like this done about – say – David Bowie, Bob Dylan, Morrissey, or our very own Mick Farren.

Congratulations to all involved.
Details of Hawkwind's autumn tour are gradually emerging, with some interesting variations from gig to gig.

What's currently still the opening night - Exeter - was announced as far back as last autumn, a rather unusual 12 months' warning for this 26th September show. The Leamington Spa's Assembly is reportedly hosting Hawkwind and the Pink Fairies on October 2nd, while The Crazy World Of Arthur Brown is on the bill for Hawkwind's bash at the Nottingham Rock City a day later.

And the Pink Fairies *and* Arthur Brown are both on the bill for a special event in Manchester the following day, called Hawktoberfest. The venue is Academy 1, and it's early doors there - 4pm.

The Pink Fairies are playing gigs of their own in May, and the predictions for that could provide a clue as to what's in store for the autumn shows.

Paul Rudolph and Twink reportedly have declined due to logistical reasons, while Larry Wallis cites health reasons, but a return to the two-drummer format is eagerly anticipated.

The two other announced Hawkwind dates are St Ives (the lumpy one in Cornwall, that is - not the flat one in Cambridgeshire) and Salisbury, these being on the 27th and 28th Sept respectively.

It's quite likely that further dates will be added in due course, so maybe Londoners or Scots shouldn't hit the panic button just yet.
Special Offer for fans who attended tonights show
Limited Edition Double CD & DVD £19.99 plus postage & packing
This offer is only available via this leaflet.

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Post Code: Country: 

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Card Holder’s Name: 

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*Postage & Packing:* UK - £2.50 Europe - £4.00 Rest Of World - £6
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
WHAT A FISHING TRIP!

A book does not need "sedenary."

M.A. Raines

M.A. Raines
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...

Well this week hasn’t seen quite as rich a harvest of stories from the Yes camp and from the offices of the various Yes alumni, as there have been in some weeks, but with both the motherband and Rick Wakeman on tour at the moment there has still been at least one story a day in the Gonzo Daily news pages.

Let’s start off with an interesting interview with Steve Howe and a review of a gig in Glasgow...

- Never One for Striped Trousers: Talking Shop with Steve Howe
- Gig review: Yes, Glasgow

The next story is particularly interesting because it revisits one of the less discussed parts of prog rock history when Steve from Genesis and Steve from Yes teamed up to form a band, which - unfortunately - they did not call The Two Steves. Possibly things would have worked out differently had they done so

- ‘The price of success was very high’: Remembering Steve Hackett and Steve Howe’s ill-fated GTR supergroup

However the biggest tranche of stories of the week come from the ever entertaining Mr Wakeman. I spoke to Rob Ayling (who has been doing the merchandising on the tour) late one night after one show and he told me how the tour had been a complete triumph on every level.

Sadly, due to family commitments I had to cancel plans to go and see Rick in Plymouth, but I very much hope that I shall be able to catch up with the tour at some point.

- RICK WAKEMAN INTERVIEW
- Grimsby Auditorium’s Rick Wakeman masterstroke proved a sensational evening
- AUDIO: Wakeman’s journey to centre of Sheffield
- Flatulent dinosaurs and tales from the centre of the earth

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!
JOURNEY & RETURN TO THE CENTRE OF THE EARTH

Celebrating the 40th anniversary of the release of his landmark concept album, Rick Wakeman presents the repackaged, re-recorded, extended JOURNEY TO THE CENTRE OF THE EARTH.

Based on the novel by Jules Verne, which will also mark its 150th anniversary in 2014, the album is one of the rock era’s landmark achievements - a record that sold 15 million copies and rewrote the rules.

“This is the start of a new Journey,” says Rick Wakeman, “the original score for the album had been lost for so many years, making any new performances impossible, but after it turned up without warning, we managed to restore it and add previously missing music that was not included in the original performances.”

Return To The Centre Of The Earth was originally released in 1999 as a sequel to ‘Journey’. The album has been out of print and unavailable for many years, ‘Return’ has now been re-issued and re-packaged to complement the newly extended and re-recorded edition of ‘Journey To The Centre Of The Earth’

LIMITED EDITION BOX SET containing
- Double 180gm heavyweight LP of the newly recorded Journey To The Centre Of The Earth,
- Double 180 gm heavyweight LP of the newly reissued Return From The Centre Of The Earth
- Full length Cd of both albums, exclusive 24 page 12x12” in-bound book featuring never seen before photos, images & AND a numbered certificate of authenticity all packed in full colour case bound 12” gatefold sleeve, all housed in a slipcase with foil-blocked cover
- All artwork - outbox, LP sleeves, inner & labels are all beautiful brand new Roger Dean designs.
- This highly desirable item will be limited to one pressing only, will be kept in stock for initial demand only and will not be repressed - Preorder now to avoid disappointment!

£129.99 + postage - www.rickwakemansmusicemporium.com

SUPER DELUXE COLLECTORS EDITION
In addition to the Limited Edition Box Set, the Super Deluxe Collectors Edition will feature;
- A brand new exclusive frame ready Roger Dean 11”x11”
lithograph print signed & numbered by both Rick Wakeman & Roger Dean
- This highly desirable item will be strictly limited to 100 copies worldwide, available on a first come first served basis and will not be repressed

£299.99 + postage
www.rickwakemansmusicemporium.com
JOURNEY TO
THE CENTRE
OF THE EARTH

DELUXE VINYL EDITION
- Double 180gm heavyweight LP of the newly recorded Journey To The Centre Of The Earth in Roger Dean designed gatefold sleeves, with brand new covers, inners & labels
£24.99 + postage - www.rickwakemansmusicemporium.com

DIGIPACK CD EDITION
- Full length Cd of the newly re-recorded extended Journey To The Centre Of The Earth in new Roger Dean designed artwork & packaging
£9.99 + postage - www.rickwakemansmusicemporium.com

RETURN TO
THE CENTRE
OF THE EARTH

DELUXE VINYL EDITION
- Double 180gm heavyweight LP of the newly recorded Return To The Centre Of The Earth in Roger Dean designed gatefold sleeves, with brand new covers, inners & labels
£24.99 + postage - www.rickwakemansmusicemporium.com

DIGIPACK CD EDITION
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£9.99 + postage - www.rickwakemansmusicemporium.com

ALL TITLES CAN BE PRE-ORDERED FROM WWW.RICKWAKEMANSMUSICEMPORIUM.COM
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 Daevid 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!!"

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**ELEMENTAL**

Today is blue-and heat.I sit by the garden -and weed  
Slow as summer (even though still Spring)  
Warmth is everything.Worlds away-speed!  
Today is slow as heat.Afternoon brings out these seeds  
Soon wildflowers and not so wilde  weeds  
Soon it will be one hundred degrees.  
Slow now-as if swimming in a creek  
Seconds become drowsy hours.Time slips off  
Sleeps through this.Awakens-pink.Kissed by Sol.  
Sleep! Siesta sings in gardens and in heat  
Soon there will be no other  dream-just bee...
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...

Why thank you, oh mighty ruler of the potato shed.

So what did I find this week whilst fumbling ham-fistedly within the cabinet? Hopefully a fair few bits here and there to tantalise, titillate and amaze you.

And we’re off:

Michael Jackson Mystery Drink Cans Very Rare History Tour

“Very rare set of 24 cans of Michael Jackson Mystery drink cans

These are very rare to find still sealed in the case, part of the history tour you may find single cans but never a case sealed.

These can are out of date and still full.”

Well, as this tour was in, I think, 1996/1997 then it should come as no surprise that these tinnies are out of date somewhat. But what would someone want with a pack of 24 out-of-date cans of whatever it is;
especially due to the fact they are going for £800?  

I expect that the pack could be used as a talking point, perhaps as a draught-excluder, or something to sit on when there are no seats left. But if you did purchase this, where would you store it, after all it is not very discreet is it?

Tiny tots could have a children’s tea party around it if it were to be draped in a pretty tablecloth perhaps. Or you could shake them all up a bit, then construct some kind of Heath Robinson mechanism that allows long-distance opening, before sitting comfortably, pulling the rings with the aid of the non-patented contraption and watch the fizzy spectacle.

http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/Michael-Jackson-Mystery-Drink-Cans-Very-Rare-History-Tour-/151274646248?pt=UK_Music_Music_Memorabilia_LE&hash=ite m2318abeae8

ONE DIRECTION IN A STIFF OVER CONDOMS

‘One Direction are (shouldn’t it either be One Direction is or the members of One Direction are?) apparently considering a lawsuit against condom company ‘One Erection’ over some unofficial condom products that use the One Direction image.’

Not exactly ‘Is She or Isn’t She’ Harmony fly - sorry - hair spray. But, you know, as the weeks pass, I am seriously wondering whether there was anything in the cosmetic line that had packaging that didn’t have the famous Liverpudlian four emblazoned all over it. However, in saying that, I haven’t yet come across soap or toothpaste, but I am sure time will cough up something of the sort eventually.

http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/BEATLES-Vintage-1964-Original-Hair-Spray-/351063135518?pt=LH_DefaultDomain_0&hash=item51be5e551e

http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/BEATLES-Vintage-1964-Original-Hair-Spray-US-$3,000.00 (Approximately £1,778.04)

‘1964 original 7.75” tall & 2.5” diameter can of Beatles hair spray. All original can, label, and cap (NOT a vintage label on an modern can as seen elsewhere). Original Gertz price sticker on top of plastic cap. Some very mild rust marks on the metal rim, but in otherwise beautiful condition. This is the best condition one of these we’ve seen in 35 years, and possibly one of the nicest ever offered for sale! Condition: VG++’

http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/Michael-Jackson-Mystery-Drink-Cans-Very-Rare-History-Tour-/151274646248?pt=UK_Music_Music_Memorabilia_LE&hash=it e m2318abeae8

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http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/BEATLES-Vintage-1964-Original-Hair-Spray-/351063135518?pt=LH_DefaultDomain_0&hash=item51be5e551e

BEATLES Vintage 1964 Original Hair Spray US $3,000.00 (Approximately £1,778.04)

‘1964 original 7.75” tall & 2.5” diameter can of Beatles hair spray. All original can, label, and cap (NOT a vintage label on an modern can as seen elsewhere). Original Gertz price sticker on top of plastic cap. Some very mild rust marks on the metal rim, but in otherwise beautiful condition. This is the best condition one of these we’ve seen in 35 years, and possibly one of the nicest ever offered for sale! Condition: VG++’
The Beatles Magnetic Hairs Game - £250

When I saw this I nearly choked on my cheese and tomato sandwich (on rye). I love the slogan: ‘It’s Dynamic! It’s Magnetic! It’s The Beatles Hair!’ An anonymous call to the Trades Description Department methinks - no it’s not The Beatles Hair! It is a packet of metal shavings that you pretend is hair when you move the wand around.

But once you realise that it is not authentic The Beatles Hair! just imagine what fun could you have with these. Hours and hours of amusing family antics I can tell you. It could even become the tradition at Yuletide to pass it around the various members of the assembled family, as a warm up to charades perhaps. Or even as a wind-down after a thoroughly rousing and energetic game of Twister. And just imagine all the ‘it’s my natural magnetism’ jokes that could ensue.

I bet you wouldn’t ever get those with Wooly Willy, Hair-do Harriet or the inimitable Magnetic Doodle Balls!


MICHAEL JACKSON PERSONALLY OWNED & USED MAKEUP VICTORY TOUR not signed stage (yes the picture is clearly not of a signed stage) US $475.00 (Approximately £281.52)

‘This is your unique opportunity to own two items [Rachel Perry makeup jars] that were personally owed (and to whom did he owe them? Pray, do tell) and used by the legendary King of Pop at his most creative period and the height (I am ignoring it) of his fame. These two unique collectibles are sure to escalate in value over the coming years. Guaranteed authentic.’

A tad skanky though I would imagine.

On a dark winter’s Monday morning, slightly worse for wear after a jovial weekend (perhaps playing the magnetic hairs game) and in great haste after over-sleeping; it would not do to mistakenly apply the contents of the jars. No sirree, that would not be good. The thought of it makes my hair curl, and my pores close in united defence.

http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/MICHAEL-JACKSON-PERSO

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

Available from www.gonzomultimedia.co.uk
Full box unopened Bay City Rollers gum cards £230 (I am going to ignore the missing capital letters – just for this one time only mind)

‘full box unopened gum cards 48 packets with gum from 1976 very rare to see full box all in vgc worldwide posting...’ (and the lack of punctuation)

Now here is a gimmick that – I believe – is still around today: packets of themed gum. Yes, you can still charm the socks off the person seated opposite you on a train, whilst you chew with your mouth open and finger through the cards to see which you haven’t got and which you can swap with some other open-mouthed gum-chewing pal. And just think, 48 packets of the things to while away the hours, whilst you chew for England (or from whatever country you hail), pull out the odd filling, and make disgusting noises as you nonchalantly ruminate.


THE BEATLES ILLUSTRATED 1970 LYRICS PUZZLE 800 Pieces + 33"x 20" Colour Poster - £199.99

‘This Very Rare The Beatles Illustrated Lyrics Promo Puzzle In A Puzzle Was Illustrated By Alan Aldridge And Issued In 1970 By Philmar’ (‘Many Capital Letters’ Alert In This)

Nice – I love a challenging puzzle.

‘Unfortunately One Piece Is Missing And So Are The Answers To Songs In Jigsaw’

Well that ruined it.

‘But The Giant Poster Of Front Of Box Is Included This Is Usually Missing When I Have Seen Others Of This Jigsaw On Sale On Ebay’ (something else missing in that sentence too I believe.)
THE BEATLES
ORIGINAL ROYAL
GRAFTON 1963
BONE CHINA PLATE - DISH 4 INCH
AWESOME - £54.99

'THE BEATLES ORIGINAL OFFICIAL 1960's ROYAL GRAFTON BONE CHINA MADE IN ENGLAND MINT CONDITION NO CHIPS (no fish) Hey that was my joke from last week! NO fading CAN SEE NO FAULTS!

Interestingly, I did find at least one other auction for the same item, and - guess what - there was one piece missing in that too.


Beatles Collectors Memorabilia: 2010 Yellow Submarine Nowhere Man Promo Statue - US $149.95 (Approximately £88.87)

‘This unbelievable Nowhere Man 6” Statue comes to you just as you remember him from the Beatles movie Yellow Submarine. And this time he knows where he's going to... your collection!’

Nice sales pitch. But wasted on me because I fell in love with Jeremy the first time I watched Yellow Submarine.

I want one! Hello there, Mr Potato Man in the potato shed, have I told you lately how awesome, loveable and downright spiffing you are?

‘Isn't he a bit like you and me?’ Well, maybe not.’

http://www.ebay.co.uk/tm/Beatles-Collectors-Memorabilia-2010-Yellow-Submarine-Nowhere-Man-Promo-Statue-/161287853973?pt=LH_DefaultDomain_0&hash=item258d8d1579d5

I like this too. Cute.


Bob Dylan Lighter - dad 60s 70s christmas fathers day - Mens Retro Music Gift (I am not saying anything)

Nice, but I can’t see that a Blowin’ in the Wind lighter would be much good. You can’t light up in an outside designated smoking area if the flame keeps blowin’ out. Strike a light. It would be as much use as an ashtray on a motorbike.

JUSTÍN BEÍBER MUG & KEYRING GIFT SET - BEÍBER FEVER - £4.75

For all the JB fans out there, this is probably a must have. However, for all of those who aren’t fans, I shall just assume that they will agree with the following observation:

What an ugly mug.


ONE DIRECTION SECRET PILLOW & Stationary

‘Opens up to reveal pockets with pencil, pad and purse. Plus MP3 pocket with hole for earphones to go through. Has one direction picture on front and back. Unwanted gift, never used and in excellent condition…


Gosh.

But what will the money-makers think of next to squeeze more pocket money out of this band’s fans?

Ah, of course … there is always, tale, fly – sorry again - hair spray, hair pomade, bubble bath, hair shampoo and so on and so forth. And how could I forget; a One Direction Magnetic Hairs Game. It’s Dynamic! It’s …


SENTIENT is the new home ground for guitarist Steffe Sharpstrings, co-founder of the acclaimed band Here & Now in the 1970s.

Sentient celebrated their debut gig in July 2012 at Real Music Club in Brighton, which was recorded and re-released on 4Zero Records ‘Live at The Real Music Club’ one year later. Now they return to Real Music Club with a gig at the Albert.

here’s the ticket link: http://www.wegottickets.com/event/271278
There are nine Henrys, purported to be the world’s first cloned cartoon character. They live in a strange lo-fi domestic surrealist 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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<td>7 - 7.15</td>
<td>Nigel Mortimer: Opening Portals</td>
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<td>10.00 - 11.00</td>
<td>Lars Thomas: Tales from the CFZ Laboratory</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.45 - 11.00</td>
<td>Silas Hawkins: A bedtime story</td>
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<tr>
<td>SATURDAY</td>
<td>Jon and Richard: intro to Cryptozoology</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.00 - 12.30</td>
<td>Nick Wadham: Alien Abductions</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.15 - 1.45</td>
<td>Tony Whitehead (RSPB): C.O.P. birds</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.45 - 2.45</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.45 - 3.15</td>
<td>Kids Nature walk with Lars and Nick</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.15 - 3.30</td>
<td>Quiz</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.30 - 4.30</td>
<td>Carl Marshall: Out of Place animals at Stratford Butterfly Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.30 - 5.00</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.00 - 6.00</td>
<td>MAX BLAKE: Genetics for Cryptozoologists</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.00 - 6.30</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.30 - 7.30</td>
<td>Judge Smith: The Judex Trilogy</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.45 - 8.00</td>
<td>CFZ Awards</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.00 - 8.30</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.45 - 9.00</td>
<td>CFZ Awards</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.30 - 10.00</td>
<td>John Higgs: Chaos, Magick, and the band who burned a million quid</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.00 - 11.00</td>
<td>Richard Freeman: Tasmania 2013 Expedition Report</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUNDAY</td>
<td>Silas Hawkins: A bedtime story from Richard Freeman's <em>Hyakumonogatan</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>12.00 - 1.00</td>
<td>Matt Salusbury: Baron Walter Rothschild's Deinotherium caper</td>
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<td>1.30 - 2.00</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.00 - 3.00</td>
<td>C.J. Stone: a MODERN King Arthur</td>
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<td>3.00 - 3.30</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.30 - 4.30</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.30 - 5.00</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.00 - 5.15</td>
<td>Results of nature walk (Lars/Jon)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.15 - 6.00</td>
<td>Ronan Coghlan: The Amphibians from Outer Space</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.00 - 6.15</td>
<td>Jon Downes: Keynote Speech</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.30</td>
<td>Raffle</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Speaker's Dinner 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.
CLASSIC LOST BROADCAST RELEASES FROM

The secrets of what made YES the massively successful band they became is visible here for all to see and hear on these 2 DVDs, featuring rare TV performances from the 70s.

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.

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HS16890/2
CAPTAIN BEEFHEART & HIS MAGIC BAND
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HS17680/2
CURVED AIR
HS17680/2

ATOMIC ROOSTER
THE LOST BROADCASTS
HS17690/2
RICHIE HAVENS
THE LOST BROADCASTS
HS17700/2
THE BYRDS
THE LOST BROADCASTS
HS17710/2
THIRD EAR BAND
THE LOST BROADCASTS
HS17720/2
JOHN MAYALL
THE LOST BROADCASTS
HS17730/2
ERIC BURDON
THE LOST BROADCASTS
HS17740/2
IRON BUTTERFLY
THE LOST BROADCASTS
HS17750/2
STEPHEN STILLS & MANASSAS
THE LOST BROADCASTS
HS17760/2
NEW RIDERS OF THE PURPLE SAGE
THE LOST BROADCASTS
HS17770/2
SPOOKY TOOTH
THE LOST BROADCASTS
HS17780/2

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ALL AVAILABLE FROM www.gonzomultimedia.co.uk

Distributed by

GONZO MULTIMEDIA
LIVES & TIMES were formed in 1988 by Richard Wileman (guitars, keys, percussion) and Lorna Cumberland (vocals). For the next three years they recorded demos, wrote songs and played gigs with various line-ups but never succeeded in getting a record deal. In January 1991 they split through frustration and later that year Richard formed the No Image label with musician friend Nick Weaver. The first release was a compilation of material by Nick and Richard and Richard then contacted Lorna and they recorded four old Lives & Times songs. As it went so well Nick decided to start a new project, Eternal Energy, and Richard and Lorna resurrected Lives & Times.

‘Rattlebones’ was released in 1992, with Teresa Griffin joining on bass while Richard provides the rest of the instrumentation. Lorna’s voice is clear and pure, immediately bringing forward thoughts of Kate Bush and Maryen Cairns. The music itself moves between straight pop, classical and even New Age, truly a Crossover band if ever there was one. The vocals and music combine well together, but it is the voice to which the listener is really drawn. All of the songs here are good, but nothing really stands out, and while enjoyable is probably the weakest album they released. But given the scarcity of all of their material if you see it, then grab it! www.kardaestra.co.uk

KATAKLYSM
WAITING FOR THE END TO COME (NUCLEAR BLAST)

From their debut album back in 1995, right through until today, these Canucks have managed to create quite a name for themselves, although many feel that the last 10 years or so aren’t all that they might have been. They are famed for describing their music as ‘Northern Hyperblast’, and in their early year were seen as a fairly chaotic outfit who pursued sheer speed over everything else. These days they still have plenty of speed, but have morphed into something that is melodic yet brutal, powerful and essential, and somehow bringing a feel of Swedish metal into it as well. The more I have played this album the more I have enjoyed it as this hits again and again. The blastbeats are still there, and given how important the drumming is to this album I was surprised to see that ex-Neuraxis drummer Oli Beaudoin has been brought in just as a guest as he is key to the overall sound.

This is melodic death metal as it should be played, with a band firing on all cylinders and creating an incredible metallic monster that takes no prisoners. The fact that this album hit the charts in multiple countries on its’ release shows that I’m not the only metalhead that thinks so.

Richard Wileman and I were in contact recently when I was involved in getting Lives & Times listed as an artist on www.progarchives.com. He then sent me digital copies of all of the L&T albums and even after all these years I am amazed that this band never became more widely known. I also find it hard to believe that Richard hasn’t made them available to purchase – hopefully that will be in the near future. So, if you find these albums grab them, but at present they are very rare indeed.

LIVES & TIMES
RATTLEBONES (NO IMAGE)

‘Rattlebones’ was released in 1992, with Teresa Griffin joining on bass while Richard provides the rest of the instrumentation. Lorna’s voice is clear and pure, immediately bringing forward thoughts of Kate Bush and Maryen Cairns. The music itself moves between straight pop, classical and even New Age, truly a Crossover band if ever there was one. The vocals and music combine well together, but it is the voice to which the listener is really drawn. All of the songs here are good, but nothing really stands out, and while enjoyable is probably the weakest album they released. But given the scarcity of all of their material if you see it, then grab it! www.kardaestra.co.uk
After two CDs on their own No Image label, two more on SI and another on Cyclops, L&T released their sixth (and final) album back on their own label. Richard Wileman is still there of course, along with Andy Skittrall on bass (his third album for the band) and Phil Legende who guested on drums on their third album ‘Waiting For The Parade’, but the most important aspect to note is that vocalist Lorna Cumberland was no longer with the band! Her place was taken by Ileesha Bailey, who heralded a slight musical shift for the band. This is now a more forthright songs-based outfit producing songs that wouldn’t sound out of palce either in the charts or on any singer-songwriter connoisseur’s playlist. There is far more emphasis on guitars and much less on keyboards. Some of the songs such as “Let The Clouds All Melt Away” are commercial with only a few (such as “Landmarks”) sounding rocky and more challenging.

The result is the most immediate album to date from the Swindon swingers and it is one that will definitely appeal not only to die hard fans but also who to many others who like female vocals and most importantly damn good songs. Of course, what no-one realized at this point was that this was going to be the final album from Lives and Times as Richard decided to follow a different musical direction and formed a new project, Karda Estra. Of course, Richard and Ileesha still work together in that project, but her voice is used in a very different way indeed, and I’m sure I’m not the only one who looks back at these albums and wonders why they were never well-known, as it was certainly deserved.

This is L&T’s fifth album, and at the time I said that I felt that it was their most complete work to date, and I see no reason at all to change that opinion now. As with the previous album Andy Skittrall provides bass, Lorna Cumberland vocals and Richard Wileman everything else. Released in 1995 this was very different indeed to the rest of the British underground prog scene at the time (and yes, it was very much underground with only fanzines daring to write about prog at all, totally different to today), but they never felt that they needed to follow anyone else and indeed followed their own path. The album opens with an air of menace on “Why Do I Watch?” which leads into a characteristically atmospheric number. The tempo is increased along with the volume and menace but Lorna’s voice still rises like a soaring angel above it all. Classical guitar plays an important part in this song, adding little touches here and there which manage to emphasise the electric riffing guitar. The music is often complex but never wanders into realms of self indulgence.

“Darker” shows a totally different side to their music, with overlaid vocals and a musical background that switches themes and style, yet with the melody underpinning it all. Again, this is a portent of things to come with Karda Estra, combining loads of different musical elements with vocals being just part of that. Hackett is again a main influence, and overall this is a superb piece of work. [Link to Karda Estra website]
Ásmegin

Ásmegin is an Old Norse word meaning "Might of the Æsir" or "Might of the Gods" and this band hail from Jevnaker in Norway. The band was formed in 1998 and are listed in the genres of black metal, folk metal and Viking metal.

The current members are:

Erik Rasmussen - harsh vocals, drums (2003 - present)
Lars Fredrik Frøislie - keyboards, piano, mellotron (2003 - present)
Marius Olaussen - guitars, bass, mandolin, accordion, mellotron, piano (1998 - present)
Raymond Håkenrud - guitars, bass, vocals, piano (2001 - present)
Tomas Torgersbråten - bass (1998 - present) (is not playing on "Arv")

Ásmegin's lyrics are written in Norwegian as well as some in Old Norse and older Norwegian. Some of the tracks on Hin vordende Sod og Sø are modeled after the Norwegian play Peer Gynt by Henrik Ibsen. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C3%85smegin

Have a listen

Over Aegirs Vidstragte Sletter
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R5VAiwRymnU

Op Af Bisterlitjernet
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ov2JFBHP1z0
And so the end is near, and we must face the final curtain. Oh no, I forgot. I’m not quite reduced to becoming an Elvis Presley impersonator just yet, although as he died mad and fat, I am two thirds of the way there.

Thank you for reading our inky fingered ramblings; I have particularly enjoyed putting together this issue, and my lovely wife and helpmeet and I, feel rather bullish about it and believe that we have actually got this weekly publication schedule thingy off pat.

The week began with a druid ceremony performed by my mate Andy in the garden, and continued with a plethora of tiny creatures responding to Andy’s fertility rite in the form of baby tropical water snails, and newly hatched sharp ribbed newt tadpoles.

My apple snails and even the goldfish in the pond have all been spawning this week, and yesterday my darling stepdaughter announced that my first grandchild will be a little girl.

The trees in the garden are now covered with pale green foliage which almost literally appeared overnight, and the spring of 2014 is rapidly appearing to be a very fruitful and beautiful one.

We even finished work on this issue of the magazine at a sensible time, for once. It is only half-past ten as I dictate these final words to Corinna and she prepares to proof the whole bloody thing.

Thank you for your support in reading, commenting on, publicising, and contributing to this magazine and, although I may not be an Elvis Presley impersonator just yet, I can only finish by saying “Thank you very much Ladies and Gentlemen, uh–huh–huh.”
BEEFHEART AT HIS BEST

Live on stage

SOMEBODY OVER DETROIT

11 DEC 1980

FROM HARPOS CONCERT THEATRE, DETROIT

11 DEC 1980

ON STAGE 20:30

CAPTAIN BEEFHEART

& THE MAGIC BAND

ERIC DREW FELDMAN • ROBERT WILLIAMS • RICHARD SNYDER • JEFF TAPIR / WHITE • JEFF MORIS TEPPER

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