We meet up with 4th Eden to talk about the new single Our Last Breath and also the whole culture of file sharing musical collaboration. Doug goes to see American Football, (that's the band, not the game) we review a book by David Crosby, get concerned about Chaos Chaos, Neil plays 'What if?' with David Bowie, see a slice of obscure Frank Zappa memorabilia, and lots more stuff and nonsense...

Oh, yes. Rick Wakeman's single on Gonzo is #1.

HOORAY!

#172 THEIR LAST BREATH
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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 the world's most "wing and a prayer" magazine. My computer packed up last Friday morning, and so, even though I had already written the bulk of the material for last week's issue, it was nearly six on Saturday morning before issue #171 was out.

Over the years, whenever I have had a computer mishap, the digital Job's comforters have always carped on about how I should have made backups of my data, and I never had. But last year, high speed broadband came to the village, and I discovered a special offer for unlimited storage with one of the cloud drive people, and I now back up anything of any importance. So it appears, so far at least, that I haven't lost any data at all. It has just been a pain in the arse dealing with it all.

But it has meant that I have had a little more time than usual to rest and recuperate whilst waiting for the new computer to arrive. And I have spent some of that time pottering around on the Internet, doing my best not to get into mischief.

And, once again, I have found something peculiar, and something which I would like to share with the Gonzo readership.

Once upon a time a friend of mine sent me a link to a band called Smoosh. They were two teenage girls from The Pacific Northwest, sisters, who had been playing music together since they were twelve and ten years old. And
...there was something particularly captivating about their innocent enthusiasm.

there was something particularly captivating about their innocent enthusiasm. And I wasn't the only person to think so.

Critics have compared their sound to that of Tori Amos and PJ Harvey, and have been impressed with the young writers and performers. Smoosh opened for many leading Pacific Northwest bands including Pearl Jam, Death Cab for Cutie, Sleater-Kinney, and the Presidents of the United States of America, as well as for other acts such as Mates of State, Jimmy Eat World, Cat Power (who also covered their song, 'Rad'), Nada Surf, Sufjan Stevens and The Go! Team. Asy collaborated with Seattle indie band Head Like a Kite to create the songs "Noisy at the Circus" (which can be found on Head Like a Kite's first album Random Portraits of the Home Movie), "Daydream Vacation" (which can be found on their second album There Is Loud Laughter Everywhere), and "Let's Start It All Again".

Asy, the elder sister, also lends her voice to the soundtrack of the musical film God Help the Girl created by Stuart Murdoch of Belle & Sebastian, where she sings on the songs "I Just Want Your Jeans" and "A Down and Dusky Blonde". She also provided the vocals on the song "I Fell for the Fall" by Swedish band Karma Tree. In early 2008, they toured with Tokyo Police Club and The Dresden Dolls. In June 2010, Smoosh released their third album, Withershins (previously titled The World's Not Bad).

Then it all changed. For reasons that I am not hip enough to pop culture to understand, and which - to be honest - I am not interested enough to bother to find out - the term 'Smoosh' became a catchphrase linked via South Park to some Reality TV star, and the girls changed their name to Chaos Chaos.

During my enforced absence from the office computer last weekend I came across the Chaos Chaos website, and I was in for somewhat of a shock. The girls have shed their indie roots and are now making complex, semi-experimental electronica, and Chloe is developing into a remarkably good percussionist. However, they have moved to Brooklyn from Seattle, and the website is full of arty, near naked photographs of them in which, in contrast to their earlier promo shots which showed them smiling and happy, they pout and look sulky, surly and ill at ease.

The music is actually better than it was, and they can stand up alongside much of the best of the new electronica artistes like Bee and Flower, but during whatever process they have been through to get to where they are today, something has been lost.

Now I don't want anyone to start accusing me of some feminist thought crime or other; how I am frightened of women taking control of their
bodies and their sexual identity. Because I am not, and as far as I am aware never have been. I am not at all prudish about pictures of young (or any age, to be honest) women without their clothes, but I find the expressions on Asya and Chloe's faces in these new pictures to be quite disturbing. It is almost as if waving their nipples around on the Internet is something that they feel that they have to do for some reason, but it is something that they don't particularly want to.

And let me stress. These pictures are not on some pornographic, or even semi pornographic website. Nakid Magazine (which is, I am afraid, something that I have not encountered before) is not pornography at all. Their mission statements read:

**Mission**
To find the most amazing underground artists and showcase their work/talent/process in a documentary fashion in their own environments to expose to the world! We want the weird, we want the different, odd, out there artwork that is considered not mainstream and we want to show everyone how badass it is!

**Description**
We take any type of art submission, doesn't have to be strictly photography. We love out of the norm, different, weird, interesting, not mainstream type of submissions, all work needs to be unpublished and original in case we feature it in our quarterly magazine issue. All submissions are entered to be our feature of the week, as well each winner of the feature of the week is entered to go against 3 other artists for feature of that month and if they win is guaranteed a feature in our quarterly issue, as well wins a printed issue that they are in and a chance to win our artist of the year award.
I spent about ten minutes perusing the site, and no, it is not all nudity. And I think it would be a very peculiar person indeed who decided to get their rocks off visiting the site, because there is so much more filth out there if you want it. But I am still disturbed by it all.

Because unlike the other naked artists on the site who seem to be embracing the process as part of their artistic expression, Chloe and Asya still look unhappy, uncomfortable and like they wish they could be anywhere else but there. Is this some weird Emo thing of which I am not aware? Could this be a very well thought out performance piece about some abstruse issue of sexuality? Or am I missing the point entirely?

Once again, Boys and Girls, I truly don't know the answer to this one. Suggestions please.....

Om Shanti
jd
THE GONZO WEEKLY
all the gonzo news that’s fit to print

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,
Myrtle Cottage,
Woolfardisworthy,
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Telephone 01237 431413
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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.
HIS BACK PAGES: The Bob Dylan Archive has been acquired by the George Kaiser Family Foundation (GKFF) and The University of Tulsa (TU) and will be permanently housed in Tulsa, under the stewardship of TU’s Helmerich Center for American Research, for subsequent public exhibition in the city’s burgeoning Brady Arts District, it was jointly announced today by GKFF Executive Director Ken Levit and TU President Steadman Upham.

Comprised of more than 6,000 items spanning nearly 60 years of Bob Dylan’s unique artistry, singular career and worldwide cultural significance, the archive includes decades of never-before-seen handwritten manuscripts, notebooks and correspondence; films, videos, photographs and artwork; memorabilia and ephemera; personal documents and effects; unreleased studio and concert recordings; musical instruments and many other items.

The alliance of GKFF and TU was chosen by Dylan’s representatives over other suitors vying for this historic collection, and both entities view the archive as an important acquisition for Tulsa in many ways. As Levit explained, “Bob Dylan is a national treasure whose work continues to enrich the lives of millions the world over, and we are proud to be bringing such an important, comprehensive and culturally significant archive to Tulsa. Our combined philanthropic and academic approach made a strong case for assuring Mr. Dylan and his representatives that Tulsa would provide the ideal environment to care for and exhibit this collection, and the result is a boon for Tulsa that will soon attract Bob Dylan fans and scholars to our city from around the world.”

ROTH’S WRATH: The internet is abuzz with speculation this morning that David Lee Roth may soon be an ex-member of Van Halen again. Roth has released a new solo single, Ain’t No Christmas, that appears to address a split, saying “Sure looked good on paper, once upon a lie. Happily never after, and I’m not okay to drive. / Let’s put the pin back in this one, and say we both survived. Last blank space on the map I think we’ve arrived. / Quittin’ while you’re ahead ain’t quittin’, and I’m quittin’.”

Initially, Roth said that the song was about his band, telling Van Halen News Desk “It’s poetry. It has nothing to do with Van Halen” but he later took to Twitter to say “On second thought, if all work is autobiographic, maybe this song is about Van Halen.”

IZZY? APPARENTLY NOT: Former Guns N’ Roses guitarist Izzy Stradlin has told Rolling Stone the he is not a member of the group’s upcoming reunion. Stradlin, who was with the band from 1985 to 1991, was rumored to be joining Axl Rose, Slash, Duff McKagan, Dizzy Reed, Chris Pitman, Richard Fortus and Frank Ferrer in the resurrected group, mainly because of work he did in the studio with McKagan during the holiday season. On February 22, a new Twitter account attributed to Stradlin posted “Izzy Stradlin fact..At this point in time , I’ve no involvement in the upcoming April 2016 GNR shows.”

POCKET MAN: Elton John won't leave his entire fortune to his two sons in his will, as he wants them to earn their wealth. The Candle in the Wind singer has an estimated £200 million ($279 million) fortune after more than 50 years in the music business, but despite his incredible wealth, he will not be passing it all on to Zachary, five and Elijah, three. "Of course I want to leave my boys in a very
sound financial state but it's terrible to give kids a silver spoon, it ruins their life," he said, according to British newspaper The Mirror. "Listen, the boys live the most incredible lives, they're not normal kids, and I'm not pretending they are. But you have to have some semblance of normality, some respect for money, some respect for work." The 68-year-old and husband David Furnish welcomed both boys via surrogate, and the star has regularly spoken about how much fatherhood has changed him.

When it comes to money, Elton has given up many of his most extravagant expenses, and the star will be forever grateful to his sons for reminding him of life's simplest pleasures. "Having children changed everything about my life," he continued. "I've learned that the simplest things in life - like having a minute with them - are worth more than any painting, any photograph, any house or any hit record. Before we had the children we just had our lives, and would spend money because we didn't have anything else to focus on. We have really toned things down because we have enough stuff."

There is nothing else we need." Read on....

POORLY BAKER: Ginger Baker has cancelled his Baker's Air Force Trans-Atlantic Tour after being informed he has heart problems. The details of the diagnosis is not known, but it appears to be serious based on Baker's statement on his blog. Ginger is shocked by the news of his health just seen doctor...big shock...no more gigs for this old drummer.... everything is off....of all things i never thought it would be my heart....The statement can be interpreted in two ways, that there are no more gigs for the current tour or that health problems are forcing Baker into a permanent retirement. Baker's management team gave a little more information on Facebook including the fact that the problem was "serious". Read on....

STONES HAVANA GOOD TIME: The Rolling Stones will perform a groundbreaking concert in Havana, Cuba on Friday 25 March 2016. The free concert will take place at the Ciudad Deportiva de la Habana and will be the first open air concert in the country by a British Rock Band. Always exploring new horizons and true pioneers of rock, the Stones, who have toured every corner of the globe, will bring their high octane performance and incredible music catalogue to the Caribbean for the first time ever.

This once-in-a-lifetime concert event follows the band's America Latina Ole tour, which is currently receiving rave reviews, playing to huge audiences in stadiums in Santiago, Buenos Aires, Montevideo, Rio De Janeiro, São Paulo and Porto Alegre with Lima, Bogotá and Mexico City following next week. The band are also leading a musician to musician initiative in which much needed musical instruments and equipment are being donated by major suppliers for the benefit of Cuban musicians of all genres. Donors include The Gibson Foundation, Vic Firth, RS Berkeley, Pearl, Zildjian, Gretsch, Latin Percussion, Roland and BOSS with additional assistance from the Latin GRAMMY Cultural Foundation. Read on....
"Capitalism is the extraordinary belief that the nastiest of men for the nastiest of motives will somehow work for the benefit of all."

John Maynard Keynes
Autopsy on mummified German sailor floating on ghost yacht
http://tinyurl.com/jqfegul

The sailor whose mummified body was found aboard a drifting yacht last week may have died only seven days earlier, an autopsy report has revealed. Manfred Fritz Bajorat, from Germany, was discovered hunched over a table on the ghost vessel off the coast of the southern Philippines last Friday. The 59-year-old adventurer was so mummified it was initially thought he passed away as many as seven years ago after setting sail across the world. But now, a startling autopsy report found that he actually died from a heart attack around a week ago, according to AFP news agency. "The cause of death is acute myocardial infarction based on the autopsy by (the) regional crime laboratory," national police spokesman Chief Superintendent Wilb en Mayor said. Quoting a police statement, he added: "The German national is estimated to have been dead for more or less seven days."

911 Ghost
http://tinyurl.com/glsvd8o

A video released this week shows what appears to be a white figure rising from the scene of what was the World Trade Centre. The footage shows the rubble from Ground Zero in the days after the New York attacks on September 11, 2001. In it, a camera pans around the scene of collapsed steel, twisted metal and rubble from the two building But in the distance, a strange white figure can be seen rising up from behind the buildings and 'flying' off to the right. The smoke-like object looks almost see through as it shoots off behind the building and a group of workmen come into the frame.

The Corpse Bride
http://tinyurl.com/z6hd2w1

The bodies of dead women in China are being snatched from graves and sold for thousands of pounds to feed a growing demand for 'corpse brides'. In parts of the country an ancient superstition that it is bad luck for a man to die unmarried has been seeing a resurgence. To prevent misfortune, families are finding corpse brides for their bachelors by reinforcing female skeletons with metal wires, dressing them and burying them next to the man. An increasing number of female bodies are being stolen from graves to be used in 'ghost marriages', leaving distraught families trying to track down their late relatives. At least three dozen bodies have been reported stolen in the past three years in Southern Shanxi's Hongtong County, according to Lin Xu, deputy director of the county police department.
“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.

WE DO NOT CLAIM THAT ANY OF THESE STORIES ARE TRUE—ONLY THAT THE PEOPLE WHO POSTED THEM CLAIM THAT THEY ARE TRUE...

WHAT THE RSPCA HAS TO SAY ABOUT THE BADGER CULL

The pilot badger culls began in Somerset and Gloucestershire in August 2013 as part of government measures to try and control the spread of bovine TB (bTB). However, the culls failed and fell short of their so-called ‘targets’. Take a look at the embarrassing and costly catalogue of errors from start to finish on our blog. Scientific consensus doesn’t support the badger cull. More than 30 of the top animal disease experts described the cull as a ‘costly distraction’ that risks making the problem of tuberculosis in cattle worse and that will cost far more than it saves.

As culling can’t be selective, many healthy badgers have been slaughtered as ‘collateral damage’. As many as six out of seven badgers killed by the cull could be bTB free. Despite all of this, badger culling continues. However we’re delighted and relieved that the Welsh Government has decided not to proceed with plans put forward by the previous government for a badger cull in the Intensive Action Area. We believe that vaccination, increased levels of testing and improved biosecurity are more effective ways of dealing with bTB in the long term.

Download the RSPCA report Backing badgers - Why the cull will fail (PDF 974 KB) for more information about the flawed scientific arguments used to justify the cull.

http://www.rspca.org.uk/getinvolved/campaign/badgers/takeaction

“Killing me won’t stop TB”

STOP THE CULL - join.greenparty.org.uk

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I have to admit that I have always thought that Chris Packham was a bit of a dick. But on this issue at least I agree with him 100%

Right On Chris

IT IS TIME TO STAND UP AND BE COUNTED
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 CLEAVIER

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.
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 man himself...

"March is a month without mercy for rabid basketball fans. There is no such thing as a 'gentleman gambler' when the Big Dance rolls around. All sheep will be fleeced, all fools will be punished severely... There are no Rules when the deal goes down in the final weeks of March. Even your good friends will turn into monsters."

Hunter S. Thompson

RICK'S BOWIE TRIBUTE IS #1

www.officialcharts.com/charts/physical-singles-chart/

Rob Ayling says: "I am delighted that we have managed to get to number one in the physical charts. I would like to thank the team behind this project, they have worked day and night to make it happen. It is a brilliant way to remember David and raise money for an amazing charity."

https://www.youtube.com/watch?
**LOOK WHAT ELSE I FOUND ON CRAIGSLIST**

Rare Vintage 1982 FRANK ZAPPA In Concert Poster

Original first printing of concert poster featuring Zappa at the Feste Marienberg in Germany, June 13, 1982

http://gonzo-multimedia.blogspot.com/2016/03/another-rare-frank-zappa-poster-on.html

---

My favourite roving reporter sent me an interesting piece about a project called Pedal Giant Animals, together with a cryptic comment: "know these guys?" he wrote. So I checked them out and was very impressed:

"PEDAL GIANT ANIMALS is a project that Stan Whitaker and Frank Wyatt founded and developed after or instead of HAPPY THE MAN, a classic and somewhat intriguing prog band these two artists also founded. So to say, PEDAL GIANT ANIMALS's light of appreciation can be tightly connected with the past records and the good glory of HAPPY THE MAN; meanwhile, this modern side-project is strongly based on anything but past references and rehashed music, except perhaps some vintage HTM sounds fans might find it hard not to mention.

The musical work in what's, for now, PEDAL GIANT ANIMALS's only released album shades a lot of art groove, moderately complex (or various) fragments and a light load of perfectly senseful music. The surprise is (in a bit of a way) that it was done over a couple of good years, the long period denoting how hard PEDAL GIANT ANIMALS reached its elegant, modern kind of essence. Withaker and Wyatt show both the old-school skills and the original impulse of modern rock and "new music, the album certainly having what to gain from being more of a "duo & guests" punch than just a simple work of art-rock. In the duo's vision, the share of a music based on favourite songs and several arrangements is very well at the edge of PEDAL GIANT ANIMALS's main course. Both Whitaker & Wyatt are particularly good at vocals & lyrics and at deciding what the feeling of a musical piece should be before properly composing it, otherwise each one's approach of multi-instrumentality (Whitaker playing guitars, bass and drums, while Wyatt is the more eccentric type, able to play keyboards, sax and flutes) is a part of the entire fusion."
I always promised that this magazine would never endorse a political candidate. I am afraid that, as a person of integrity, that I have no option but to rescind that promise...

In New Hampshire, a man calling himself Vermin Supreme filed for the presidential primary. He said in his administration, every American will receive a pony. He also plans to defeat ISIS by going back in time.
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.

arsiyoedee@yahoo.co.uk

Portobello Shuffle

I stand with the volunteers on the Greenpeace ship Esperanza to speak for the Arctic.

I'M ON BOARD!

MICHAEL DES BARRES ON

LITTLE STEVEN'S UNDERGROUND GARAGE

MAXIMUM ROCK AND ROLL

MORNINGS 8AM - HAM ET CHZI SIRIUS SAT 1 SATELLITE RADIO

(FILLING IN FOR ANDREW LOOG OLDHAM)
"If you don't want your tax dollars to help the poor, then stop saying you want a country based on Christian values, because you don't."

Jimmy Carter
Each week Richard Freeman: world famous cryptozoologist, explorer, author, and one of the most peculiar people I know picks a suitably off story from the world’s press.

Incest and necrophilia 'should be legal' according to youth branch of Swedish Liberal People's Party

http://tinyurl.com/zqv7h7b
Gonzo Web Radio started off as a medium by which interviews and radio programmes about the various acts covered by Gonzo Multimedia could be broadcast to an eagerly attentive world.

But over the past few years, it has become more than that. We now host regular weekly shows by Neil Nixon, a lecturer in professional writing at North West Kent College who uses his weekly radio show, Strange Fruit, as a learning experience for his students on the Foundation Course. I’ve known Neil for years, and he approached me with the idea of syndicating his show.

I agreed, and then the floodgates opened. We have regular weekly shows from Tim and Jaki on their submarine, and from the mysterious M Destiny on the other side of the pond with Friday Night Progressive. We also have a regular visit to the world of the Canterbury Scene courtesy of our friend Matthew Watkins. There are several other shows in the wings, waiting to join us, so stay glued to your seats boys and girls, your life is never going to be the same again!
Strange Fruit 152 – Let the Train Take the Strain

Songs about trains, what a great idea for a radio show, even though I say it myself!

Featured Album: Michelle Shocked: Short Sharp Shocked

Tracks
1. The Who: 5:15
2. Dillard & Clark: Kansas City Southern
3. The Clash: Train in Vain
4. The Grateful Dead: Casey Jones
5. Woody Guthrie: The Wreck of the Old 97
6. Michelle Shocked: The L&N Don't Stop Here Anymore
7. Michelle Shocked: (Making the Run to) Gladewater
8. Peter Cook: The Great Train Robbery
9. Swell Maps: Ammunition Train
10. The Cure: Jumping Someone Else's Train
11. Half Man Half Biscuit: Time Flies By (When You're The Driver Of A Train)
12. UFO: Mystery Train
13. Soul Asylum: Runaway Train
14. Gang of Four: Outside The Trains Don't Run On Time
15. Steve Goodman: City of New Orleans
16. The Psychedelic Furs: Into You Like a Train
17. R.E.M.: Carnival of Sorts (Boxcars)
18. The Monkees: Last Train to Clarksville
19. Willard Grant Conspiracy: Southend of a Northbound Train
20. New York Dolls: Subway Train
21. Michelle Shocked: If Love was a Train
22. Michelle Shocked: Memories of East Texas
23. The Grateful Dead: Big Railroad Blues
24. Gene Clark: I Remember the Railroad
25. Underworld: Born Slippy
26. The O'Jays: Love Train
27. The Train Wrecks: Girl from the North Country
28. The Jam: Down in the Tube Station at Midnight

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). The show is broadcast on Miskin Radio every Sunday from 10-00-midnight. Every other week the show is now presented by Jeremy Smith and as the two promotional pictures that he sent consisted as one of him covered in mud and the other of him covered in guinea pigs he is obviously mad as a bagful of cheese, which means he will fit in here just fine!

He writes: I’ve been a huge music fan ever since my parents bought me a transistor radio and I would listen to the sixties pirate music stations at nights under the covers. This love of live music has stayed with me to this day and I still love standing in a small club like the Borderline in London with some mates and watching a band with a pint in my hand. With the Strange Fruit radio show, I want to continue the trend of doing themed shows and playing the music I love.
I first came across Friday Night Progressive totally by accident, but I soon found myself beguiled by the style and taste of presenter M Destiny who presents a weekly two-hour show showcasing all sorts of progressive music that you are unlikely to hear anywhere else. This is surely a man after my own heart. I also very much approve of the way that it is the hub of a whole community of artists, musicians, and collaborators. I hope that you enjoy them as much as I do. Welcome aboard, chaps.

Hello, I am M Destiny host of Friday Night Progressive. You will find it to be an incredible independent internet broadcast show. But it's more than that. We tend to boast that the musicians played on FNP are above the status quo. This includes the multi-instrumentalist and the educated musician. We tend to shy away from computer generated creations and rely on talent using musical instruments and steer this talent for purposes of shear inspirational indulgence. It is only in the FNP chat room where you will find the most talented musicians packed at one time into such an honored space.

ARTISTS:
The Luck of Eden Hall
http://www.facebook.com/theluckofedenhall/
Alberto Rigoni

http://www.facebook.com/AlbertoTHEBASSRigon/?fref=nf
Children in Paradise
http://www.facebook.com/Children-in-Paradise-128677017168142/
Heartscore
http://www.facebook.com/heartscore/?fref=ts
Hats Off Gentlemen It's Adequate
http://www.facebook.com/itsadequate
Telergy
http://www.facebook.com/telergymusic/
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Blank Manuskript

Listen Here
AND LOOK WHAT MACK HAS FOR YOU THIS WEEK

What to do When Your Blowtorch Talks to You
Mack and Juan-Juan talk to Steve Ward about the famous "Shaver Case" -- a tale of a secret civilization below Earth that began when one man received signals from these aliens via his blowtorch. Also, Juan-Juan on Apple vs the FBI, Rob Beckhusen on the mess in Syria and Commander Cobra on UFOs and Wiki-Leaks.
Because of last weekend’s computer malfunction, we were not able to post our shows to Gonzo Web Radio, instead putting them in a secure bit of the Gonzo Weekly site. This, however, has now been rectified, and here they are:

STRANGE FRUIT

FRIDAY NIGHT PROGRESSIVE

MACK MALONEY

CANTERBURY SANS FRONTIERES

KEITH LEVENE INTERVIEW
MICK ABRAHAMS
50 years of music

9th MAY
LIVE AT THE BORDERLINE, LONDON
www.theborderlinelondon.com
Lennie Baker
(1946 – 2016)

Baker was an American singer and saxophone player for the 1950s rock group, Danny and the Juniors.

He was born in Whitman, Massachusetts, and went on to become a member of the musical group Sha Na Na, doing vocals and playing sax. He toured with the group, and appeared with them on the television series, Sha Na Na, which aired from 1978-1981. He was also in the movie Grease with them, singing lead on the song, Blue Moon. He appeared in several other movies with the group, as well. Baker retired in 2000 to Martha’s Vineyard in Massachusetts.

He died on February 24, 2016 in Weymouth, Massachusetts, at the age of 69. He had been hospitalized with an infection.

Frank Kelly (né Francis O'Kelly)
(1938 – 2016)

Kelly was an Irish actor, singer and writer, whose career covered television, radio, theatre, music, screenwriting and film. He played Father Jack Hackett in the Channel Four sitcom Father Ted, and was the son of the cartoonist Charles E. Kelly.

Kelly was born, in Blackrock, south County Dublin, where he lived most of his life. He studied law and tried journalism, before moving on to acting. Kelly’s first film role was as an uncredited prison officer in The Italian Job (1969), escorting Charlie Croker (Michael Caine) out of prison in the film’s opening sequence.

Kelly was best known outside Ireland for playing Father Jack Hackett in the comedy
series Father Ted, which aired in the United Kingdom in April 1995 and ran until May 1998.

Father Jack is an old and offensively rambunctious priest who usually shouts only "feck!", "arse!", "drink!" and "girls!" and the occasional scream of "what!" and "women's knickers".

For his role in Father Ted, he wore contact lenses (to show Father Jack's blank eye). People would not eat lunch with him during filming if he was in his Father Jack make-up because the false flaky skin he was wearing would fall off into the food.

In 1982 Kelly released a single, "Christmas Countdown", a comedy song by Hugh Leonard, based on the Christmas song the "Twelve Days of Christmas". It reached number eight in the Irish Singles Chart in 1982 and peaked at 26 in the UK Singles Chart in 1984. Kelly died on 28 February 2016 after suffering a heart attack. His death came exactly 18 years after the death of his Father Ted co-star Dermot Morgan.

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Ranney was the bass player for Gomers, which have been playing regularly in Madison for more than 30 years. The band got their start as the house band for the ComedySportz improv group, where they developed their collective ability to adapt to any musical situation. Ranney also played with Steely Dane and Prog, and was a regular sub for VO5.

Ranney died on 28th February after suffering from cancer.

James Atkins
(1967 - 2016)

Atkins was the bassist in Hammerbox (1989-1994, 2004) and a stalwart of the Seattle music scene. In the late 1980s, Hammerbox formed in Seattle, where they amassed a cult following and played shows with Iggy Pop, Joan Jett, L7, Red Hot Chili Peppers, and others. In 1994 they split, and Atkins went on to play in Seattle bands such as Anodyne, which also featured Hammerbox guitarist Harris Thurmond, and Softy.

Atkins died on 27th February after suffering from esophageal cancer.

**THOSE WE HAVE LOST**
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
Gregg Kofi Brown has been a member of the world class African pioneers OSIBISA for over 22 years and has travelled all over the world promoting the music of Ghana. ‘Together as One’ is Gregg Kofi Brown’s first solo album and features the likes of STING, STANLEY JORDAN, GABRIELLE, DES’REE & BILLY COBHAM. This album is a combination of the African & jazz music that have driven Gregg’s career. With conscience laden lyrics and funky afro-rhythms Gregg has a created a multi-national musical platform with his guest artists that speaks to many peoples across the world.

William Emanuel "Billy" Cobham (born May 16, 1944, Panama) is a Panamanian American jazz drummer, composer and bandleader, who permanently relocated to Switzerland during the late 1970s. Coming to prominence in the late 1960s and early 1970s with trumpeter Miles Davis and then with Mahavishnu Orchestra, and on countless CTI releases, Cobham according to AllMusic's reviewer is "generally acclaimed as fusion's greatest drummer with an influential style that combines explosive power and exacting precision."
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<th>Artist</th>
<th>Kevin Ayers featuring Ollie Halsall</th>
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<td>Title</td>
<td>As Close As You Think</td>
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When Kevin Ayres died a few years ago many of us mourned. John Peel wrote in his autobiography that "Kevin Ayers' talent is so acute you could perform major eye surgery with it. He was an amazing songwriter with a gloriously expressive voice. But he never received the acclaim that he so richly deserved. On this 1986 album he is teamed up with Peter John 'Ollie' Halsall (d.1992) an English guitarist and vibraphone player, and best known for his role in The Rutles, and the bands Timebox, Patto and Boxer. Halsall was also notable as one of the few players of the vibraphone in rock music. He was known as Ollie because of his distinctive way of pronouncing his surname with a dropped 'h'. This is truly an album that is not be missed!

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<th>Title</th>
<th>Country and Western Hits by Country Queens</th>
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In 1963, Somerset Records released “Hits Made Famous by Country Queens,” a compilation album featuring Dolly Parton and Faye Tucker. Dolly sang six songs including one of her own original tunes. The list included Kitty Wells’ breakthrough song, “It Wasn’t God Who Made Honky Tonk Angels.” Wells’ original 1952 release sold more than 800,000 copies and became the first single by a female artist to top the country music charts. When asked about Kitty, Dolly said, “Kitty was the first and only Queen of Country Music, no matter what they call the rest of us.”
Robert Calvert, born in South Africa, was best known as the resident poet of Hawkwind co-wrote Hawkwind's hit single "Silver Machine", which reached No. 3 in the UK singles chart. Although Lemmy sings on the single version, this is an overdub of a live recording taken at the Roundhouse in London, with Calvert on vocals. Calvert suffered from bipolar disorder, which often caused a fractious relationship with his fellow musicians. At one point he was sectioned under the Mental Health Act. Despite his sometimes debilitating mental health, Calvert remained a fiercely creative, driven and multi-talented artist. During periods away from Hawkwind duties, he worked on his solo career; his creative output including albums, stage plays, poetry, and a novel. His first solo album, Captain Lockheed and the Starfighters, was released in 1974.

An anonymous describes this show from 1986 as: “Originally released on vinyl, but in very limited quantities, this CD allows us a chance to hear the Captain at his best - banter with the audience, some of his favourite songs and a few oddities as well. The performance isn't the finest ever, but even as Calvert and Krankshäft struggle through 'Catch a Falling Starfighter', you will find yourself reminded of happier times. Thanks Bob, heading for the Gods alone know where.”

The Flying Burrito Brothers was an American country rock band, best known for their influential 1969 debut album, The Gilded Palace of Sin. Although the group is perhaps best known for its connection to band founders Gram Parsons and Chris Hillman, the group underwent many personnel changes and has existed in various incarnations to the present day. One of the most important members has been multi-instrumentalist Greg Harris. Gene Humphrey and Dale Davis impressed by Greg's guitar playing on the Sneaky Pete Kleinow solo album for Shiloh records offered him a solo record deal for Shiloh Records. Gene Humphrey remembers: "I first heard Greg at one of Sneaky's sessions for his solo album. Greg was playing acoustic guitar that night and when I heard him pick, I told Dale that this was the guy to do an acoustic album for Shiloh. We gave him a budget and let him pick the songs and musicians. His first album was fabulous." Greg's first solo album "Acoustic" was released 1979 with David Vaught, Chet McCracken, Doug Atwell, Peter Washer and Larry McNeely.
The TV show, 'On Second Thought' claims to: 'challenge the cult of the Omnipotent Government And seek to expose Government Corrupt practices, especially in the current Exceedingly corrupt, for Lawyer [LawLiars] profits.' They continue: 'If you are seeking Truth and not big media hype, you have come to the correct place". Here they shine the spotlight upon music legend Michael Jackson's murky affairs.

The Kentucky Colonels were a popular bluegrass band in the 1960s. They included Clarence White, later with The Byrds. The White brothers started out as the Country Boys in 1954, with their brother Eric. With the addition of Latham, Mack and Sloane, and Roger Bush replacing Eric, they changed their name to the Kentucky Colonels in 1961. They soon became well-known on the bluegrass scene, performing at folk and country festivals. They appeared on Andy Griffith's television show twice. In 1964, they released their most popular album to date, Appalachian Swing!. The band's last performance was in the Fall of 1965. They reunited with Clarence White and performed a number of shows in 1973 as the New Kentucky Colonels, also known as the White Brothers. Clarence was killed by a drunk driver in July 1973. Before Clarence was killed, the White Brothers recorded an album called "Live in Sweden 1973." This excellent album came out a few years later.
Artist Michael Livesley and Brainwashing House feat Rick Wakeman, Neil Innes and Susie Honeyman
Title Vivian Stanshall's Sir Henry at Rawlinson End
Catalogue Number MFGZ008CD
Label Rick Wakeman

Vivian Stanshall, widely acknowledged as one of the most influential recording artists of the 20th Century may sadly no longer be with us but the incredible words he created live on via the celebrated rave-reviewed recreation of his meisterwerk ‘Sir Henry at Rawlinson End’ by actor, singer and comedian Michael Livesley accompanied by his trusted Brainwashing House band.

Originally created for John Peel’s Radio 1 show in the 1970s, ‘Sir Henry at Rawlinson End’ – the meandering gin-soaked saga of a crumbling English stately home and the grotesques who inhabit it headed by the heroically drunk Sir Henry - perfectly distilled and encapsulated Viv’s absurdly hilarious wordplay and songwriting which first hit the public consciousness during the 1960s via his work helming the cult Bonzo Dog Doo-Dah Band.

The show, now in its 6th year and with the full blessing of the Stanshall family, has earned the praise of Viv’s fans, friends and celebrity fans alike including keyboard wizard Rick Wakeman who, due to his admiration for this unique piece, has joined the show on piano as a

Artist Leonard Cohen
Title Bird on a Wire (Special Edition)
Cat No. TPDVD194
Label Tony Palmer

On March 8th 1972, Leonard Cohen began a 20 city European tour, beginning in Dublin and ending in Jerusalem on April 21st. Other cities included London at the Royal Albert Hall, Paris, Stockholm, Vienna, Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Berlin and Tel Aviv. This film is an impression of what happened during that tour.


This edition features a brand new bonus DVD featuring 23mins of previously unreleased footage.

Running Time: 131 mins

English and French Subtitles
guest many times. This has led to RRAW Records, the exciting new label from Rick and music industry veteran Robin Ayling, proudly presenting this brand new original cast recording of this critically acclaimed stage show as their debut release.

The recording features Rick guesting on piano, and also Viv’s Bonzo bandmate and sometime Rutle and Monty Python member Neil Innes plus Viv’s favourite violinist Susie Honeyman of The Mekons. For more information please visit www.sirhenrylives.com

‘Michael Livesley embodies to perfection the spirit and brilliance of Vivian Stanshall and adds his own measure of outrageous talent too’ – Stephen Fry

‘A tour-de-force and a work of Art’ Neil Innes

‘Sir Henry’s bluster and his epic lack of drawing room manners are still winning fun. All very odd, all very Stanshall!’ Clive Davis, The Times

‘A work of lyrical genius and poetry, on a different plane to the rest of the world’ Rick Wakeman

‘Mike is absolutely remarkable. I’m thankful that Mike keeps the memory of Viv well and truly alive for all of us’ Danny Thompson

‘What a night, an ensemble of madmen at their best, smashing!’ Rupert Stanshall, Vivian’s son

‘Brilliant! Berserk! Simply wonderful!’ Suzanne Moore, The Guardian

‘Rare facility and nimble erudition, as powerful an experience as one could wish for outside Hallucinogens!’ Danny Baker

‘Livesley’s performance gives weight and truth to that old theatrical cliché - a comic tour-de-force’ Andrew Male, MOJO

“A distorted-mirror celebration of English eccentricity rooted in a riot of linguistic lasciviousness” Andy Gill, The Independent
You have met my mate Martin Eve before, when—about six months ago—I interviewed him for the pages of this magazine, about his Organik Reflektion project which boldly took a disparate collection of found sounds, and manipulated them into something that even I could once have danced to.

The name '4th Eden' is just a re-work of Martin's name. Martin has been writing music since the early 1980's and has been compared to artists such as Mike Oldfield, Depeche Mode, Moby, Ulrich Schnauss and Ultravox.

He only started re-recording compositions back in 2009. To date he has written in excess of 100 tracks (of which some are available to hear on his Soundcloud page) with many collaborations. In 2012, his first CD was released called 'Infinity' through Global Journey. Currently he is a full time 'immature' student at Falmouth University.

He has just released an extraordinary new record on which he collaborates with two lovely ladies, one of whom is his lovely girlfriend Marianne...
However Marianne is an immensely talented artiste in her own right, with her debut CD as Stargrace very imminent indeed. So I gave them a ring to find out what was and is going on...

who also doubles occasionally as my secretary and the person who does all sorts of esoteric things with the Gonzo podcasts and iTunes (a subject upon which, as I only have the vaguest idea what it is she actually does, I shall not elaborate).

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DESIGNED BY MARTIN COOK, AFTER ALEX SCHRINER
One album and an EP, active for just three short years. Not exactly a recipe for enduring fame. But, against all odds, it worked for the band American Football, formed in the late 1990s in Illinois. Founders Mike Kinsella (vocals, guitars, bass), Steve Holmes (guitars, Wurlitzer) and Steve Lamos (drums, trumpet) released a self-titled EP in 1998 on Polyvinyl records. A full-length debut album followed this in 1999. While the record did well on college radio stations at the time, the band broke up as members moved away from the college town of University of Illinois and went on to other pursuits. Since that time, it has become a cult classic.

Influenced by a range of artists including Steve Reich, the dreamy sound of American Football is an amalgam of alt-rock, emo and jazz, with varying time signatures and polyrhythmic interlocking guitars. Lyrics are simple and confessional, sung in a loose manner that brings to mind the confusion and alienation that can inflict high school and college aged students. It’s music with and about feelings. Kinsella called their musical ideas “noodly and meandering” yet the songs are carefully built with precise counterpoint. While rooted in emo and math-rock, listeners may notice the influence of bands as diverse as King Crimson, and Radiohead hidden in these songs. They are unique, and comprise an album that was and remains a classic, must-have record. Even the cover art adds to the whole, featuring a photo of an iconic Midwestern home near the University, taken by Chris Strong, used ever since as their defining iconography.

After the band decided to revisit the work and to reunite for some live tour dates in 2014, the album was reissued as a deluxe...
edition with extra tracks, and a music video directed by Chris Strong for the lead-off track “Never Meant” was released. Apparently Polyvinyl’s website crashed under the weight of traffic, such was the pent up interest in this band, and their only full length record. New live shows that have been staged in the U.K. and USA feature Kinsella’s cousin Nate on bass, and occasional percussion by, to this writer, an unknown band tech.

The band made their way to San Francisco as part of the Noise Pop music festival last Saturday night, February 27, and the Regency Ballroom. It was a fantastic show that as one would expect featured nearly their entire debut album, along with a many new and rare tracks. Among these were “Tamborine,” “Letters,” “Emotional,” “Leaving Soon,” “New Song,” and “Five Silent Miles,” the leadoff track on the set list. Lighting was simple and tasteful, illuminating a full size image of their only album’s iconic cover photo. The show ended as that album began, with the first track from their debut album, “Never Meant.” It was a fantastic concert, attended by fans and newcomers alike, heaping praise on this multi-talented band.

Asked if there were any questions before they played the final encore, described as “the last song we know how to play,” one audience member asked if they would go on another long hiatus. Kinsella mused, “We’ll be back in another 15 years when I’m 54. I’m going to keep these jeans and wear them again!” Let’s hope it doesn’t come to that....
AMERICAN FOOTBALL
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27
THE REGENCY BALLROOM

INTO IT. OVER IT.
THE WORLD IS A BEAUTIFUL PLACE
& I AM NO LONGER AFRAID TO DIE
THE SIDEKICKS & PINEGROVE

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GAMES FOR MAY

SENDELICA,
THE HONEY POT, MAGIC BUS,
SOFT HEARTED SCIENTISTS,
CHRIS LAMBERT (MC AND STORYTELLER).

MAY 29, HALF MOON, PUTNEY.
DOORS OPEN 4PM.
You know the score as well as I do. I’m not even going to try to pretend that this is an original idea of mine; the BBC thought it up decades ago and it was Rob Ayling’s idea to apply it to the Gonzo Weekly. The concept is a simple one: one takes a celebrity and plonks them on an unnamed desert island with a bible and the complete works of Shakespeare. Although any of our celebrities would be welcome to take a copy of the Bible and the complete works of Shakespeare with them, this being Gonzo, we can think of other, more appropriate accoutrements – what was it the good Doctor took with him on his most well known expedition? “We had two bags of grass, seventy-five pellets of mescaline, five sheets of high-powered blotter acid, a salt shaker half full of cocaine, and a whole galaxy of multi-colored uppers, downers, screamers, laughers and also a quart of tequila, a quart of rum, a case of Budweiser, a pint of raw ether and two dozen amyls.”

I wouldn’t necessarily go that far, but if we may again quote the good Doctor: "I hate to advocate drugs, alcohol, violence, or insanity to anyone, but they’ve always worked for me." I am not going to lay down the law as to what luxury, or indeed essential items, our castaways are going to be given. The only thing we are going to ask them is for ten records which they believe would be utterly essential for their wellbeing if Gonzo Multimedia really were going to plonk them on an island in the middle of the ocean, which I have to say that, after the week I’ve had, sounds like my idea of utter bliss.

I first met Film Director John Keeling some years ago when he was managing an episode of a US TV show on which I was appearing. We spent a happy day on Dartmoor talking about Hawkwind, and I ended up piling up my expenses so I got nearly a grand for about an hour’s work. Happy Days. He scripted a Hawkwind documentary that was never made, but what would he take to a desert island?
John’s Top Ten albums

Paper Plane – Status Quo
Wuthering Heights – Kate Bush
High Hopes – Pink Floyd
Pearl Necklace – ZZ Top
Hassan I Sabbah – Hawkwind
Let The Music Do The Talking – Joe Perry
Space Station No 5 – Montrose
Back In The Night – Dr. Feelgood
Follow You Follow Me – Genesis
You Took My Breath Away – Traveling Wilbury’s
IF YOU'D LIKE
TO TALK
ABOUT CANCER.
YOU'RE NOT
ALONE

Cancer can be the loneliest place,
and can leave you with many questions.
Our cancer information specialists are
here for you or a loved one.
For information, advice or a chat, call us free on 0808 808 00 00.
macmillan.org.uk/talktous

Find out more about Zahida, a specialist on the
Macmillan Support Line, at macmillan.org.uk/Zahida
RICK WAKEMAN plays DAVID BOWIE’s LIFE ON MARS

In aid of Macmillan Cancer Support
This is the most important moment in history to do something for African elephants. Because it's the worst time in history to be an elephant.

In 1980 there were 1.2 million elephants in Africa. Now there are just 430,000 and 20,000 were killed last year alone to fuel soaring demand for ivory. About one every 20 minutes.

That's why The Nature Conservancy has teamed up with music industry icon Martin Guitar on #SaveElephants -- a movement to provide people with simple actions to help elephants that will add up to make a difference.

Martin Guitar has been a leader in elephant protection since the 1970s when the company made the decision to stop using ivory on its guitars and started to phase the material from its supply chain. As the founding sponsor of #SaveElephants, Martin has donated five custom elephant-themed guitars for raising funds.

#SaveElephants is part of a partnership between the Conservancy's programs in Africa and China to increase wildlife security, expand habitat, reduce demand, and reduce poverty and instability in places where elephants range -- the root cause of poaching.

Ultimately, this is bigger than elephants. Poaching spreads crime and instability, threatening lives and tourism-based income that's desperately needed by the people who live among elephants.

We have to do more. That's why we're thrilled to be working with Martin Guitar -- and with you. Together, we're powerful.

Asante sana (thank you very much),

David Banks
Director, Africa Region
The Nature Conservancy

p.s. Start helping elephants today at nature.org/elephants and follow us on Instagram, Facebook or Twitter to get action alerts.
Weekly Acoustic Jam Session Hosted by Dogleg

@The Village Inn, Westward Ho!
Every Tuesday from 7.30pm

All styles, levels and listeners welcome

facebook - dogleg Musician/Band
We were setting up the stall and Mick was bustling around trying to sort the stock and get it all ready. He was, at the same time, having the odd swig of beer. Mick Worwood, who ran the company, had called the hotel that morning saying he was going to fly out that day and collect the money so we did not have so much to carry back. Mick, the ‘Ahead of Hair’ stooge was absurdly bothered by this. A lifetime of subservience to bosses had left him afraid of being castigated when they came out to see him working. He compensated by drinking a bit more and, pretty soon, the effects of the alcohol began to show. Trev suggested that he stopped drinking and maybe went and slept it off in the van, but he said he needed to get everything right for when Mick W arrived. Trev then suggested that he should maybe have a line of coke to straighten himself out a bit. After the line he went back to sorting out the stall with a bit more gusto. A few minutes later Trev asked him what he thought of the cocaine.

‘Didn’t affect me, didn’t affect me at all. Can’t feel anything, no effect, nothing,’ he replied in a very rapid way.

Hmmmm we thought.

At the end of the tour we went back to the UK and sorted all the stuff out. I handed in the accounts from the first part, and Mick did the rest. I did not really see what he had done so I had no idea of how he handled it. A week later we were called into the office. Paul Pike, who was Mick Worwood’s main partner in running the office, was there as were a couple of people from ‘Ahead of Hair’. They spoke first.

‘We have checked the accounts and there is either some stock or some money missing,’ they started, looking directly at me.

‘Which part of the tour was this from?’ I asked.

‘At the end of the tour – the final accounts.’

After a life spent in and around music Roy Weard has finally written it all down. From his beginnings in the folk clubs of the early sixties, to playing the free festivals of the seventies with his own band ‘Wooden Lion’, to touring as a merchandiser with acts like Santana, The Pink Floyd and Genesis, to fronting cult London bands ‘Dogwatch’ and ‘Roy Weard and Last Post’, then touring again as a sound engineer and tour manager for many different bands and solo acts. A wide and varied life - this book spans all of that and more and is freely sprinkled with backstage stories and tales of a life spent on many different roads. It also contains many photographs, mostly taken by Roy, the crews he toured with, or by the fans of his various bands.

Even now he is unable to give up being involved in music. He still fronts the revived band ‘That Legendary Wooden Lion’, is part of the team that puts on monthly gigs in Brighton and Hove under the name of ‘The Real Music Club’ and does a weekly one hour radio show on Tuesdays at 4pm on Brighton and Hove Community Radio. As of now, he also writes a regular column in this august publication.
‘Ah, well, if you look at this paper here,’ I said, producing the second copy of the accounts that I had got Mick the stooge to sign, ‘You can see that, when I handed the money and stock over we did an inventory and he signed to say it was all correct. After that it was all down to him. I suggest you ask him what went wrong.’

‘Why did you hand it over to him?’ they asked me.

‘He said you told him to do that,’ was my answer. ‘I’ll leave you to work it out, eh?’ and I stood up and left.

Paul came up to me later, laughing. He said they gave Mick the stooge a right grilling because they had not asked him to take over at all. During the course of the conversation he said that Trev and I were both on drugs, as if that explained everything. The two managers turned to Paul.

‘Is this true?’ they asked. ‘Does Roy smoke cocaine?’

Paul said he replied ‘No – he sticks it up his nose.’

This was a complete revelation to them. They did not last long as partners in the business.

Paul was a funny guy. Quite straight in most ways, but very relaxed and together in others. He was a little bit naive about drugs though. On my birthday that year, Jill, Tom Barrett’s girlfriend, made me a chocolate hash cake. This was made with some quite potent dope. So potent, in fact, that she licked a little of the mixtures from a spoon after she had made it and then went to catch a bus. Apparently she passed out at the bus stop and came round to find two old ladies helping her.

‘Must be something you ate,’ one said.

‘Sure ways,’ Jill agreed.

I cut a couple of pieces of cake and took them in to the office. I dropped one off to Mick W and warned him that it was quite strong. Mick had a meeting that afternoon to discuss a forthcoming tour and so put the cake to one side. The meeting went on for some time and suddenly, out of the blue, Paul said:

‘Actually, Mick, I don’t give a fuck.’

Mick looked at him astonished, and then looked at the cake – which was half consumed.

‘Did you eat the cake? Did I not tell you it was a hash cake?’

‘Yes, I picked the lumps out,’ he said.

‘The lumps were chocolate. The hash is in the cake itself.’

Paul was clearly completely ripped and Mick suggested he went home. He did have one last thing to do before going home though. The company’s secretary was an interesting woman. Judy was largish and, to me at least, it seemed to me she would put her make up on at the start of the week and then just layer over the cracks until the end of the week, when she would remove it, probably with a cold chisel, and prepare the surface for the next week’s application. She always struck me as being a very tough person but, when I sliced a hole in my hand with a Stanley knife I saw a different side to her. I went to ask if we had a first aid kit and if she thought I should go to hospital for stitches. She took one brief look and said that we should go to hospital. I wrapped a handkerchief around my hand and we set off – with me driving. After a few moments she said she was feeling ill so I had to take her home first before driving myself to the hospital to get stitches in my hand.

I had put a water bed together for her a couple of weeks before, but left quickly when she seemed to be suggesting we tried it out. Paul’s last errand, before going home, was going to be to call in to her flat and drop in some letters and notes from the less stoned part of the meeting with Mick.

Paul recounted the above story to me the next day. He was looking a little worried. He said he got to Judy’s flat and sat down on her waterbed to sign something. A water bed is not the most stable surface to sit on and he said it made him feel very wobbly, and she suggested he lay down. He woke up in bed with her in the morning and he could not recall if anything had happened or not. Best not to know I feel.
THE SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION OF THE UNEXPLAINED

PHENOMENA MAGAZINE

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ALIEN ABDUCTION OF CHILDREN
OR IS THERE ANOTHER EXPLANATION?

IN THE NEWS LATEST INVESTIGATIONS A PARANORMAL VISIT TO CHESTER AND MUCH MORE!

THE FOURTH KIND MOVIE REVIEW WHAT IS THE TRUTH BEHIND THE HIT MOVIE THE FOURTH KIND

Mysteries in Morecambe

An American in Suffolk

SAINTBURY'S LAW PARK COMES UNDER SIEGE

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FREE!
My name is A.J. Smitrovich and I’m a 28 year-old “disc jockey” out of the San Fernando Valley region of Los Angeles, California. I was introduced to the blues by my father and consequently, I fell in love with rock ‘n’ roll and as the 1990s progressed and my passion grew deeper. I started listening to the classics: The Beach Boys, The Beatles, Jimi Hendrix and got rock history lessons from The Drifters, Jerry Lee Lewis and Chuck Berry. In college this grew deeper still, basking in The Doors, Bob Dylan, The Grateful Dead, The Byrds, Janis Joplin, and so many more. Then, on a trip home from college, I discovered my father’s record collection and My Dad’s LPs was born.

I strive to provide an eclectic radio program playing the hits, b-sides and forgotten classics of the rock ‘n’ roll era, the formative years of blues music and the melting pot of the 1960s and 1970s in a way that keeps you guessing…as we Explore the Cosmos of Rock ‘n’ Roll.

Our weekly column in Gonzo Weekly provides you, the reader, with ruminations on rock ‘n’ roll music, previews of the upcoming show and an outlet crucial for my personal sanity. It also allows for my research to unearth more than I can cram into a one-hour internet radio program. The mission of this show is to explore sonically the Universe of Rock ‘n’ Roll, in all its many forms. Join us!

We hit the internet airwaves Saturdays and Sundays at 4pm, Monday 12am PST on KONG Monster Rock at rdsn.net/kong. If you’re all about FM radio, catch us Sundays at 11pm on 93.3 KRHV-FM out of Mammoth, California or on TuneIn Radio here. For listening live, streaming episodes, air dates and much more head to mydadslps.com!
The Misinterpreted Metamorphosis of Jewish Rap
ner Matisyahu

Matt Miller, aka Matisyahu, recently faced an anti-Israel mob-mentality hatred that was aimed at him for the fact that he is a Jewish-American artist.

Matt Miller, aka Matisyahu, has gone through some changes. Not since the Beatles traded their cherubic and cute mop tops and Cardin collarless suits for the transcendental look of facial hair and Nehru-psychedelic fashion has someone gone through a transformation so severe.

You need only to Google “Matisyahu” to see the radical change that’s occurred over the years.

Where The Beatles’ artistic growth was arguably fueled by copious amounts of psychedelics and the passion to exceed the technical limitations of their art, Matisyahu’s own “evolution” was a conscious decision to “reclaim” himself from a lifestyle and appearance that mirrored his “intuition to accept an ultimate truth.” The rules that Orthodox Judaism places on the individual kept Matisyahu from “falling apart” and provided an identity that was palatable to his community, yet hindered his growth as an artist.

Matisyahu’s comparison to the greatest band of all time doesn’t end with the shape-shifting of personal appearances. Having recently been drawn into the controversy of Israeli socio/economic politics, Matisyahu faced an anti-Israel mob-mentality hatred that was aimed at him only for the fact that he is a Jewish-American artist.

Harken back to the days when Lennon’s statement that The Beatles “are bigger than Jesus” — it was the other three Beatles that were caught in the headlights of a rabid controversy, only for the association that they had with their famous bandmate.

by Richard Stellar
Although Matisyahu now resembles a taller and more sinewy version of Sal Mineo, the echoes of his original iteration that included a rabbinical beard and side curls was evidently still in the minds of those who tried to block him from the Sunsplash festival. There was no reclamation in the eyes of those who greeted him on that stage holding Palestinian flags and giving him the finger … and there was probably no braver example of performing under duress when Matisyahu stared down his detractors, and sang his heart out.

The transformation now took a new turn. Matisyahu was morphing from musician to diplomat. By the time Matisyahu left the stage, the catcalls had been replaced by a crescendo of love. The hate-filled banners and Palestinian flags were lowered as people locked arms and swayed to a different mantra where the percussive beating of the heart sync’d up with Matisyahu’s beat-box vocals.

This time, the political divide was bridged by music.

Listening to Matisyahu’s epic “Live At Stubb’s” while finishing this blog, I’m struck at how political everything has become. Music seems to be obfuscated while bluster trumps talent. The concert stage has been usurped by political performers adorned with Flock of Seagulls golden hair and Oompa Loompa-esque bloated, orange faces. Their shield is a podium and not a Fender Stratocaster — yet they wade into the flames of controversy and body surf over throngs of rabid fans. They claim victory with rock anthems announcing their approach to the microphone.

Matisyahu’s metamorphosis continues. There is something in Matisyahu’s music that transcends his changing persona yet defines the changing times. When his bravery is mentioned, he looks down, partly embarrassed and mostly wishing that this too shall pass. The politics of division have no place in his music. As he sings in “One Day”:

“Sometimes in my tears I drown 
But I never let it get me down 
So when negativity surrounds
I know some day it’ll all turn around because...
All my life I’ve been waiting for
I’ve been praying for
For the people to say
That we don’t wanna fight no more
There will be no more wars
And our children will play
One day.”

Matisyahu is as much an Israeli as John Lennon was an Irishman [Miller was born in West Chester, Pennsylvania; Lennon in Liverpool, England]. He might have before his metamorphosis looked like the proto-typically ignorant stereotype of “a guy from Israel,” but he’s actually from Crown Heights and not Israel. He is however Jewish, and that along with the memory of his former self was enough for the anti-Israel forces to categorize him and therefore boycott him. Unlike Lennon, Matisyahu never made any incendiary statements. Matisyahu’s vision of tolerance and unity is expressed in his music. The song “One Day,” which has over 30,000,000 YouTube hits celebrates the day when the violence ends and a new era of peace and understanding shines on all people in all corners of the globe. As Matisyahu explained, “it is an anthem of hope with a big beat, the kind of song that makes you bob your head and open your heart at the same time.”

An invitation by the Rototom Sunsplash Festival last summer was pivotal to Matisyahu’s evolution. Caving in to pressure from pro-BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanction of Israel) factions, the promoter demanded Matisyahu sign a declaration endorsing a Palestinian state. Imagine the scene from “The Godfather” when the hulking Luca Brasi enforced Don Corleone’s threat that “either your signature or your brains will be on that contract.” As life imitates art, the mob mentality that sought to insure Johnny Fontaine’s release from his big band contract was repeated with Matisyahu, and to Matisyahu’s credit, he took a stand against taking a stand. The promoter informed him that he would not be performing.

The backlash was formidable as an outcry led by not only Jewish organizations, but the Spanish government itself condemned the decision to drop Matisyahu from the festival.

Responding to the controversy, Matisyahu took to social media and made a statement: “Honestly it was appalling and offensive, that as the one publicly Jewish-American artist scheduled for the festival they were trying to coerce me into political statements.”

Creative Community For Peace, an entertainment industry organization that was founded to promote music and the arts as a bridge to peace, according to CCFP director Jill Hoyt, worked behind the scenes with Matisyahu’s team in assisting them with ‘strategy, response and messaging to ensure the public understood the very anti-Semitic underpinnings of the anti-Israel movement.”
As regular readers of these pages will probably know I have a strange, disparate, and diverse collection of friends, relatives, and associates, many of whom who are extraordinarily creative in one way or another. And as my plan was always to make this magazine the sort of magazine that I would want to read, many of them turn up in these pages with monotonous regularity. Meet Mr Biffo.

From 1993 for a decade he was the editor of an anarchic video games magazine on Channel Four Teletext. It was called Digitiser and contained some of the most gloriously funny bits of off the wall dicking about that I have ever read. Biffo happens to be a friend of mine and as the re-launched Digitiser2000 is just as stupid and just as funny as ever, we shall be featuring a slice of Biffo every week from now on.

12 BOOTLEGGED 16-BIT GAMES FROM THE GOLDEN ERA OF PIRACY

Piracy isn't what it once was.

Back in the 80s, 90s and Noughties we constantly had the anti-piracy message rammed under our eyelids.

We've no idea whether piracy is less of a threat, given that The Kids all do streaming, or whether everyone's just gotten bored of talking about it, but you don't hear as much about it these days.

Piracy was theft, of course, but it did at least give us some unique artworks - as valid, in its own way, as the official cover art offered by the legitimate publishers.

Here are 12 such cartridges from the golden age of video game piracy.

http://tinyurl.com/jf4f6vj
Pronoia
Synchronicity. It is a word invented by the psychoanalyst Carl Gustav Jung (right) sometime in early part of the 20th century.

The first time he used the word publicly was at a memorial address for Richard Wilhelm in 1930. Wilhelm was the German translator of the I-Ching. The word was used, in this context, as an explanation for how the I-Ching achieves its magic. Later Jung worked with the physicist Wolfgang Pauli to develop the idea into a full-blown theory.

It refers to a series of coincidences that appear to have some kind of meaning.

When two or more events conspire by their unlikely coincidence to lead you on a journey, that is known as synchronicity. Some people live by it.

Another word might be serendipity, a happy accident. Or you could call it “pronoia”, the positive form of paranoia, meaning that the world isn’t out to get you, it is out to guide you.

Other words might be “fate” or “wyrd” or “destiny”.

Fate doesn’t necessarily refer to something inevitable, as if the story of your life was prewritten in the stars, and all you have to do is to live it. Rather it refers to a kind of force acting upon the world, something primal and ancient that breaks in on the ordinariness of our lives. You know when it is there. Something happens and it startles you. You stand back from it shaken and amazed. The whole world
seems to turn to you at that moment. It is like the eye of the universe is bearing down upon you. But it doesn’t tell you what to do. Instead it asks a question. It asks what you will do next. Will you rise to the challenge, or will you fall? Will you be brave enough to stand up to your fate, or will you crumble beneath its challenges?

It may be the word “fate” and the word “fairy” are related, as is the word “fey”. The Fey are spectral beings from another dimension whose job it is to question you, to prod you, to lure you, to tempt you, to challenge you.

Sometimes the Fey appear in the form of human beings, and maybe then they challenge you on an emotional as well as a psychic level, as Morgan Le Fey challenged King Arthur.

The word “wyrd” too refers to a form of fate. We spell it this way, with a “y”, in order to distinguish it from the modern use of the word, as something just odd or out of the ordinary, although, in fact, they are the same word.

The weird sisters in Macbeth are weird in that they represent fate, not because they are old or ugly or strange. They are archaic beings, like the Fates of ancient Greece; and like the Fates, there are three of them. When they tell Macbeth his future, they do not tell him how he should act. It is hubris, his own vanity, which brings him down, not the weird sisters.

The wyrd is the web of life. It is the vast, all-encompassing fabric of being, which binds us together. It weaves the universe into a whole. We are held together by it, all of us, as one.

In Jungian terms synchronicity is an acausal principle which links coincidental events into a meaningful pattern. One example Jung gives is when he was talking about a dream in which a scarab beetle appeared, and a real beetle flew in through the window at the same time, which Jung interpreted as a sign.

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Blake was present at the first Hawkwind gig in 1969 (as Group X), joined the band in 1979, and left during the 1980 tour that famously had Ginger Baker on drums. Returning for the reunion Hawkestra event in Brixton in 2000, he then guested with Hawkwind in 2002 and rejoined the band in 2007 for the December dates and all activities subsequently. His last performance with Hawkwind was in January.

Referring to the history of his serious car accident, when he was declared dead, but which he actually survived, Tim Blake said on Facebook:

Tim Blake has announced he's taking a break from Hawkwind activities, to work on the celebration of 40 years of Crystal Machine - that being the name of his studio/live album recorded and released in 1977, and of his performing entity that has been active since then, releasing a further seven albums.

"As a result, I'm taking a little 'Time Out' from everyday Hawkwind activities," Tim has said on his Facebook page. "Of course, I will be joining the Ship for a few Special Occasions, so watch Hawkwind HQ announcements!

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Referring to the history of his serious car accident, when he was declared dead, but which he actually survived, Tim Blake said on Facebook:
Playing this time round with Hawkwind, since suffering the aftermaths of my accident 12 years ago has been fantastic fun, and I can only thank Dave and Kris for dropping round at my place to invite me onboard again!

The annual Hawkeaster event at Seaton's Gateway is on Sat 26 & Sun 27 March, and the Hawkwind spring tour is in April.
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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www.hawkwind.com
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The Song of PANNE
Being Mainly About Elephants
JONATHAN DOWNES
The first book of Xtul stories comes out in book form next week, and will be available via all good retailers, through Fortean Fiction. But the story is far from over, and having taken a few weeks off to restore my battered savoir faire I am recommencing…

Are you sitting comfortably? Good. I shall begin.

XXI

IN THE GREY HALF-LIGHT BETWEEN FACT AND FANTASY

I was outside talking to Lysistrata for over an hour, but it was an hour that felt like only a few minutes. But in that hour I learned things which filled in a lot of the gaps in both my own personal story, and the stories of others whom I held dear. I don't remember the evening in an entirely linear fashion, and suspect that the communication was partly non-verbal, but I cannot be sure, and - indeed - as far as the narration of the story is concerned it truly doesn't matter.

I knew that Stevie was a vicious, manipulative, and sadistic little scrote. When I was a child at the cutting edge (quite literally in some cases) of his
psychopathic gunsights I had a re-occurring dream that one day the worm (with me in the role of the vermiform revenger) would turn, and I would end up killing him. I never did, of course, but for many years throughout my adult life I had the same nightmare every month or so; that I had not only killed him, but that I had disposed of his body down a deep drain underneath a manhole cover round the back of where Woolsery Village Hall used to be before they replaced it with what I believe are bungalows for sheltered housing.

Well into my adult life I would dream that I was back in Woolsery, and feeling the immeasurable guilt which I would imagine is felt by someone who had unlawfully killed his fellow man no matter how large the temptation. But I think if I had realised then what depths of depravity the little bastard had sunk to, I would have been even more tempted.

Because as well as knocking me about, and - worse - applying psychological torture to me, just because I "talked posh" and wasn't the slightest bit interested in sports, he was also doing much the same to his little "sister". This was bad enough, but in addition, from about the age of nine she had been forced by him into being a sexual plaything for him and his friends.

The (I'm not entirely sure that he is) completely fictional character Lazarus Long is alleged to have said that one should not underestimate the power of human stupidity, and this is a maxim whose veracity I have seen over and over again during my life. But I have noticed something else. When the aforementioned stupid people are highly religious, despite being on a Veritable Crusade against sin and wrongdoing in all its forms, they are remarkably gullible and have enormous blind spots when it comes to character flaws in those whom they love.

And there is no doubt whatsoever that Mr and Mrs Wingford loved both their children very much and they loved them both equally. It could never be said that they favoured their own natural born daughter over the surly young wild man whom they had adopted. And indeed they trusted him implicitly and were so proud that, despite his unfortunate genesis as part of a tribe of semi feral savages, he had adopted so many of the behaviour traits that one would have hoped for in the scion of a family of gentlefolk.

"And his little sister loves him sooooo much", they would gush to their friends at the Methodist church coffee mornings, totally mistaking terror for adoration. Because by this stage in her young life, Hazel Wingford was almost mute with terror.

Stevie took advantage of this, and claimed to his adoptive mother that the little girl had continual night terrors, which was why his guardians continually found her in his bedroom, and often in his bed. He was only being a good brother he protested, and Mr
and Mrs Wingford so used to accepting all the unlikely things which are chronicled in the Old Testament, were gullible enough to believe him. Stevie went on to explain that his younger 'sibling' continually wet herself, which was why she was so often in a state of partial undress. And Mr and Mrs Wingford not only believed him, but praised and rewarded him for being such a good son.

And they were so proud of him for taking his little 'sister' out with him even when he had his friends over to play. What a lovely boy he was, they told everyone, and a complete vindication of their own personal beliefs in the power of the Church in the ongoing debate of nature versus nurture.

It was the same at school. I was not the only child that was the brunt for Steve Wingford's terrifying attentions, but not only was nearly everyone scared into submission, but when someone did complain about him to someone in authority, like I did once, no action was ever taken.

Why?

Because boys like me - the ones who were the victims of bullying - were always the peculiar; the disabled, the eccentric, the artistic, the ones who wrote poetry and composed peculiar songs, whereas the bullies (I use the plural because there were a whole clique of them, although Steve Wingford was the uber bully) were usually teacher's favourites. Many of the teachers at what was then Bideford Grammar School had a distressingly old fashioned view of school life, in which the 'manly' boys were those who were accomplished at sports, and it was they who upheld the honour of the school. Stevie Wingford, for example was Captain of the Under 14s First XV, and all the teachers liked him. So when somebody who was universally seen as a thorn in the side of the old fashioned school ethos made a complaint about him, it was not treated with any great seriousness.

I would like to think that things would be different if these events had happened today. I would like to think that we as a society know more about bullying, sexual and physical abuse, and post traumatic stress disorder than we did four decades ago when I was a boy. And I would like to think that sensitive boys with an obvious mental illness would have been dealt with differently, and I like to think that shy little girls are no longer sexually and emotionally abused by their brothers and his thuggy friends.

But human nature being what it is, I wouldn't bet on it.
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!!"

MY CAT SLEEPS BY MY SIDE

EVER SINCE A NEW WILD CAT CAME IN our rescued one turned angry,then insecure
(no one ever taught her HOW TO BE A CAT so she does not know how to purr or meiow just scratch and hiss and claw. Are cats their owners?
She would not let us touch her, nor lift her up without a risk of cat scratches from insecure sources
Now she is curled like a REAL cat on my clothes UNTIL cat#2 attempts to enter ELECTRIC HISS!
#2 likes this home. Well fed and left alone
Our cat was rescued once and needs to be so again
I guess we are all insecure and need some space in our lives Cats do not need to talk. They eat and sleep and watch this world

It is a two cat world.
of the motivation behind this book which redefines the concept of 'warts and all'. I have never before come across an authorised biography in which one of the main contributors describes the main protagonist as "utterly foul", and I can only guess that this level of self-excoriation is part of some type of therapy. One of the twelve steps, or something like that.

But putting cynicism aside, this is an extraordinary tale, and the way it has been told is extraordinary. It is co-written by Carl Gottlieb, an old friend of Crosby's and furthermore someone who suffered at his hands during the darkest days of his drug addiction.

Although marketed as an autobiography, this isn't really anything of the sort. About thirty percent of it is Crosby telling his own story in his own words, with an additional twenty percent being from Gottlieb telling the story, or at least expanding on Crosby's words from a third person point of view. And the other half consists of interjections and comments from people important to the tale, with the addition of a few legal documents, letters, press cuttings and whatever.

It doesn't read like a conventional book, which is probably a good thing, because this is the least conventional story of a mainstream rock and roller that I have ever read. Note that I say "mainstream", because things that I have read about Wildman Fischer and G.G Allin knock this into a cocked hat, but I digress.

No, this reads like a film script, which - I suppose - is not surprising, as Gottlieb is a well known screenwriter, having written the script for Jaws and the Ringo Starr movie Caveman. The cinematic mode of storytelling works fine, because - believe me - this would make one hell of a movie.

Bizarrely the emotional structure of the book is reminiscent of a film I once saw about Joan of Arc. All the way through you knew that it would end with her being burned at the stake, but peculiarly when that savage denouement finally came, it was an emotional relief after the harrowing scenes of her interrogation and trial. Similarly with this book, you knew from the public record that Crosby was going to end up in prison. And furthermore, you knew from the earlier parts of the book that Crosby was such an emotional mess that one would have supposed that prison would probably destroy what was left of his fragile psyche.
The scene where Crosby himself decided that enough was enough, and gave himself up to the police was so redemptive that it came close to making this book a proper work of literature, which is something that one cannot say about very many rock music biographies. It was the beginning of the healing process, and as Crosby described his experiences in prison one finds oneself cheering him on from the sidelines (or at least I did).

Which is something that one cannot say about the younger Crosby described in the first three quarters of the book. The younger Crosby was a thoroughly unpleasant wretch, and it is difficult to see from his own self-descriptions, or the descriptions of him from other people who had contributed to the book, why he engendered such immense loyalty. One suspects that in some cases it was purely because of financial or professional interests, but in some cases - Graham Nash, and Carl Gottlieb to name just two - he appears to have engendered very real love.

And the most important subtext of the book is the story of his love affair with the woman who became his wife, with whom he shared the squalidest of relationships, and to whom he is still married.

This is where I return to my question from the beginning of this review. Why, exactly, did Crosby write this book? I have already suggested that it is fundamentally a part of his therapeutic journey. Robert Burns once wrote:

\[
O \text{ wad some Pow'r the } \text{gifte gie us} \\
\text{To see oursels as others see us} \\
\text{It wad frae monie a blunder free us} \\
\text{An' foolish notion} \\
\text{What airs in dress an' gait wad lea'e us} \\
\text{An' ev'n Devotion}
\]

This verse contains the often quoted lines and shows Burns depth of understanding of human nature. Note the capital P in Pow'r denoting God. This last verse translates as

Oh, that God would give us the very smallest of gifts
To be able to see ourselves as others see us
It would save us from many mistakes
and foolish thoughts
We would change the way we look and gesture
and to how and what we apply our time and attention.

And this is what much therapy is actually about. I know that in my case it helped me to discover the effect that my bipolar disease had on the other people with whom I deal, and to moderate my actions accordingly. And I truly believe that that is what this book is about. It charts the course of his redemptive journey, and in a completely secular way gives thanks for his salvation and eventual redemption.

I am not going to pretend that this is an easy book to read, or even an enjoyable one. Somewhere along the line there is, I think, a book about Crosby's musical journey waiting to be written. But this is a very important book, and even a heartwarming one, and I am glad that I read it.
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...

And so another week comes to a close; with the opening and shutting (with gusto) of the cabinet. Once again I have not fully achieved what I set out to do, although have made some progress so must be grateful for that. With the fallout of Mr Ed’s computer catastrophe and the ungratefulness and up-their-own-arseness (no that isn’t a real word, but it damn well can be for today) of those who shall remain nameless – at least until the warts and all memoirs are released - it is again a bittersweet goodbye to another week of existence on this planet.

I read the news today, oh boy.

John Lennon: Beatles star's locks sell for $35,000
21 February 2016
A lock of hair snipped from the head of John Lennon 50 years ago has fetched $35,000 (£25,000) at auction in the US.

The four-inch (10cm) lock was kept by a German barber who gave him a trim as he was about to film How I Won The War in 1966.
The unnamed buyer was a British-based collector of memorabilia, auctioneers said.

"This is the largest lock of Lennon's hair ever sold at auction," Heritage Auction in Dallas, Texas, said. Spokesman Garry Schrum said the bidder got a "good chunk of Lennon's hair", adding: "It was a good size with quite a lot of strands."

Lennon's locks were chopped by Klaus Baruck in Hamburg, Germany, just before the rocker's starring role as Gripweed in Richard Lester's dark comedy about a British army platoon and their misadventures in World War II.

The haircut took place just a month after the release of the band's legendary 1966 Revolver album.

50 Original Vintage Beatles "HELP" Movie Prevue Tickets Mint from BOX RARE US $800.00

"WOW! Incredible Chance to own 50 Beatles Movie Tickets. 50, Yes 50, Beatles Movie Prevue Tickets from the 1965 Showing of the Movie "Help" at the Colony Theater in NY. These are from a box of unused tickets that have been boxed for 50 years. Just found, and on the market for the first time. I was fortunate enough to buy from a serious collectors estate. These tickets are all Numbered in sequence and are in MINT condition."

Wow indeed. And incredible chance, although unless you have access to a time machine not much mileage out of them.

Joy Division Juvenes Rare Book With Ian Curtis Print Edition Of 26 - £2,000


Absolutely nothing I can add to this.
**Original sculptured brass Portrait Sculpture - Sandie Shaw with her signature! - £485.00**

Sculpture Original cast and signed by the artist. Size: 42 H x 33 W x 33 cm

Medium: Cold Cast Brass, beautiful color of brass, symbolizing the music instrument and music soul.

I had a pleasure to life sculpt a worldwide known celebrity - SANDIE SHAW - British singer Sandie Shaw an idol, co-singer and close friend of Saint Morrissey.

Wonderful person, wonderful music, still very active and beautiful. Sandie Shaw liked to sing barefoot and she was posing barefoot too :)

"Puppet on a String" is the name of her famous Euro-vision Song Contest-winning song in 1967. It was her thirteenth UK single release. The song was a UK Singles Chart number one hit on 27 April 1967, staying at the top for a total of three weeks. Ready to sing in someone's house ;)

I am not sure about this to be honest, but I don’t think I would have immediately thought it was her.

**Buddy Holly and The Crickets Souvenir Programme 1958 - £400.00**

"A4 Programme 8 pages Excellent condition. Has been folded in half. Staples rusting."

Just feast your eyes on that awesome cover!

**THE BEATLES 1964 FOB BROOCH WATCH**

by SMITHS working, never used beautiful - £280.00


The Beatles Fob Brooch watch made by Smiths in
the 1960s, NEVER worn/used is in WORKING condition. The watch is wound up (not battery).

Keeps perfect ticking time for 9 hours when wound. The watch in the shape of a Beetle is made from silver tone metal. Studded with marcasite and red stones for the eyes. No stones missing. The face of the watch is white with numbers and SMITHS 5 JEWELS shockproof. The back of the watch still has the stock label number attached.

Genuine memorabilia of the 1960s now over 50 years old. Kept in a draw all this time. Any questions please ask, see photos.

Of all the Beatles memorabilia that I have clocked and chucked in the cabinet over the issues, I think this has to be one of the best. In fact, I would even go as far as admitting that I would like actually like this.

1:1 Lifesize Michael Jackson Bust Thriller Statue Prop NOT Hot Toys – US $1,490.00

"This is a lifesize head. The bust is made of latex and stuffed with polyfoam. The skin painted to match the zombie look that Michael wore in his video "Thriller". The eyes are made of resin.

This bust comes complete, painted, with hair, realistic resin eyes and red t-shirt. (Jacket not included in this auction). Dimensions: 43 cm high x 28 cm wide (17 inches x 11 inches wide hight approx.)."

My oh my - this is what I see in the mirror at 5.30 on a cold, dark, winter’s morning when I have to go out early to work! Spooky the resemblance.

Probably time to say ta-ta.
We need to raise as much money as possible for The Small School in Hartland, which is not state funded like a Free School or Academy, and relies on parental contributions and donations. Money is needed from proceeds from the faery fayre and ball for Creative Education and essential spending on such things as a new boiler, so we are hoping to cover all expenses so that even more proceeds are directed towards the school than from the last two years' events.

Many people are expending vast amounts of time, money and creative energy to enable this third annual faery fayre and ball to be even more amazing, and raise even more money for the school. All of the many entertainers are unpaid, although we are feeding them, and some are travelling very large distances (eg from Yorkshire) to make the day wonderful for everyone and support the school. If none of the money raised is sucked into expenses, then we should be able to double proceeds for the school.

£150 is needed for the soundman, and £50 towards food and drinks for sale at the event to increase proceeds for the school, the remainder coming from sponsors who have promised to donate bread, cheese, tea, salads etc for sale at the faery fayre and ball.

A few days after the event, we will publicly announce all proceeds from ticket sales, food sales and profits from The Small School table at the event for Creative Education and General Funds at the school.

https://crowdfunding.justgiving.com/northdevonfirefly
Stray into the woods and forests and you will enter into another world; a world of creatures that live by their own rules, protect their own kind with fierceness, and view all strangers who venture under the protective boughs with deep suspicion. Tread the forest floor with care, for this is also the home of the hairy man - the wildman of the woods. Is he a man? Is he a beast? Is he something in between? Whatever he is, he is spoken about by humans in hushed voices. They are scared of him and they tell tales of him to their children to scare them from entering the hushed darkness of the tree kingdoms. They call him many names; the woodwose, the wudawasa, the wodwos amongst them. The bane of a high-born daughter takes her unintentionally through such a forest on her last journey as a single woman to wed the man of her father's choice. Imposters from another land tramp through such a forest on a mission of their own, killing everything that comes across their path. The lives of some of the creatures that dwell in this place become unavoidably entwined with both these trespassers. The lives of some will change. Some will cease completely.
"Ev’rywhere I hear the sound of marching charging feet, boy"

http://www.zazzle.co.uk/streetfightingshirts

AULD MAN'S BACCIE

RESONATING WITH THE BLUES
There are nine Henrys, purported to be the world’s first cloned cartoon character. They live in a strange lo-fi domestic surreal world peopled by talking rock buns and elephants on wobbly stilts. They mooch around in their minimalist universe suffering from an existential crisis with some genetically modified humour thrown in. I think Peter McAdam is one of the funniest people around, and I cannot recommend his book The Nine Henrys highly enough. Check it out at Amazon. Each issue we shall be running a series of Henrybits that are not found in his book about the nine cloned cartoon characters who inhabit a surreal world nearly as insane as mine...
This book, which was released by Gonzo last year is an erudite catalogue of some of the most peculiar records ever made. The authors have lined up, described and put into context 500 "albums" in the expectation that those of you who can't help yourselves when it comes to finding and collecting music will benefit from these efforts in two ways.

- Firstly, you'll know you are not alone.
- Secondly, we hope that some of the work leads you to new discoveries, and makes your life slightly better as a result.

Each issue we are featuring one of these remarkable and peculiar records in a crass attempt to flog you the book.

**David Bowie: David Bowie (Deram, 1967) What? What if?**

Hypothetical discussions about musical what ifs exist wherever sound hounds meet to drink and converse. The present book tries to avoid most of these but we’ll make an exception here because the stakes are simply so high. David Bowie’s original Deram album was released on the same day as Sgt. Pepper. The tapes he recorded for Deram and Philips have been recycled into so many compilations that it is easy for all but the most ardent Bowieites to lose sight of the original album. Let’s get pedantic. David Bowie looks like this:

Side one:
1. “Uncle Arthur” 2:07
2. “Sell Me a Coat” 2:58
3. “Rubber Band” 2:17
4. “Love You Till Tuesday” 3:09
5. “There Is a Happy Land” 3:11
6. “We Are Hungry Men” 2:59

Side two
1. “Little Bombardier” 3:23
2. “Silly Boy Blue” 4:36
3. “Come and Buy My Toys” 2:07
4. “Join the Gang” 2:17
5. “She's Got Medals” 2:23
6. “Maid of Bond Street” 1:43
7. “Please Mr. Gravedigger” 2:35

Those tracks exist in varied running orders on repackages, so it isn’t that hard to hear the original album, even if you don’t own it. Of these 14 cuts, one – “Rubber Band” – had already been released as a single the previous year, achieving no chart placing and another, “Love You Till Tuesday” would be unleashed as a single six weeks after the album’s release, also achieving chart oblivion. “The Laughing Gnome” a chirpy piece of novelty nonsense, had been released in April. But that single and its B-side did not appear on David Bowie.

David Bowie presents the Thin White Duke’s
characteristic menagerie of character studies and surreal vignettes but sounds more like a quaint pop album, or the sound track to some mildly challenging and arty stage musical. Bowie’s more compelling work has explored issues of madness and a seemingly endless search for identity. A harsh critique of David Bowie might suggest it is this process, done lite. What if, he’d achieved a decent hit single, or a significant commercial breakthrough with this stuff? What chance then of a headline appearance on Soul Train inside a decade, a trio of alienating and ground-breaking electronic albums or the Chic collaboration that marked a commercial high point in the early eighties?

David Bowie explores sexuality and gender identity in a quirky way, “She’s Got Medals” presents a girl with the military success of a hard man as Bowie confesses himself bemused as to how she passed her army medical. It is also, quite literally, dramatic: “Please Mr. Gravedigger” is mainly a spoken word piece with Bowie’s unaccompanied vocal forming part of the narration. David Bowie was released in the US, but it is a very British record (citing the “14-18 war,” for example), and much of the material is very English and concerns itself with a lifestyle mainly enjoyed in “swinging London.” It’s also quite jokey and very free with lyrical puns. As the trendy-suited, floppy haired, would be pop star around town Bowie cut an arty and slightly fey figure, straddling the pop industry and the fringes of film and stage crowds.

It is not beyond the bounds of possibility that David Bowie could have launched a career of significant success. “Love You Till Tuesday” was unleashed in Britain’s “summer of love,” a technicolour whirl of musical experimentation, where Engelbert Humperdinck could still command the singles charts and a government act ensured the pirate radio stations would be outlawed by September. That act gifted the BBC a virtual monopoly of all the popular music radio that really mattered that they held until local commercial stations were allowed in by a new act in the mid-seventies. This world loved apparently wholesome pop stars with bright clothes, some quirky ideas and the ability to give a good three minutes on a television show (everything on David Bowie is short enough to fit on one side of a single). Between the release of David Bowie and Bowie’s first hit in 1969 the British charts were a welcoming home for the likes of The Amen Corner and Dave Dee Dozy, Beaky, Mick and Titch. Bowie with a hit, like “Love You Till Tuesday,” in 1967 would have been launched squarely at the same pop magazines, variety shows and teenage audiences that bought their product by the shed load. When he did finally hit the charts in 1969 it was because “Space Oddity” struck a chord, and found television use, in the coverage of the first Moon landings. The single had already tried, and stiffed, before then. So his first hit was, in effect, a novelty record. By the time that same single hit UK#1 in 1975 it was ready to appear alongside “Starman” and “Drive in Saturday” on a hit compilation presenting Bowie as an insatiable changeling with inexhaustible reserves of creativity. By then, the man was a world star.

Had some DJ, or quirk of fate brought him to widespread attention earlier he would still have possessed the same talents. But, the demand would have been for more of the same product. London’s theatres and the kind of chirpy television shows fronted by Lulu or Cilla Black would have been the bookings of choice and it’s likely that his publishers would have taken phone calls saying: “that lad can write a decent tune, could he see his way to penning a couple for Sandie Shaw?” In this reality David Bowie would have been the blueprint from which to develop the artist.
Gregg Kofi Brown has transcended many genres of music...

Rock ‘n’ Roll and UFOs is an anthology of music from Gregg Kofi Brown’s career and contains previous unreleased songs, remixes and demos, with many guest musicians and artists such as Sting guitarist Dominic Miller, Bomb da Bass, Osibisa, the cast of the Who’s Tommy, The Chimes’ Pauline Henry, the Who’s former keyboard guru John Rabbit Bundrick and Seal guitarist Gus Isidore.

The CD is a companion to Gregg Kofi Brown’s autobiography of the same name which covers his early career in Los Angeles and London. From his first pro tour with Joe Cocker and Eric Burdon to close encounters of a third kind in a California desert and his adventures touring the world with African rock pioneers Osibisa. His journey includes starring in hit west end productions in London, recording and touring with infamous rock bands like Hanoi Rocks and the Members.

His first tour in Gambia and Senegal West Africa supporting African superstar Youssou N’Dour is well documented, as is his work in the African and West Indian music scene in the UK.

The last few years has seen Kofi perform with Damon Albarn’s African Express and collaborate live with Amadou & Mariam featuring Beth Orton.

CD and book available soon from Gonzo Multimedia
Radogost

Formed in 2006, Radogost is a folk metal band from Brenna, Poland.

Radogost is an old god of Slavic mythology. Since the name can easily be translated as meaning something like “Dear guest”, Radogost was proclaimed as the Slavic god of hospitality and as such entered the hypothetical, reconstructed Slavic pantheon of modern days. Even myths concerning him were constructed based on various folk customs of sacred hospitality. Similar customs, however, are known in many Indo-European mythologies without a distinct deity associated explicitly with them. Another possible etymology may be from Slavic “rada” - council, and “gośćc”, “hostit”, “goszczączy” - to host, Radogost being the name of the council or assembly host, leader, or speaker, and one of the attributes of the god. This view could be supported by the political role Radogost temple played in the life of West Slavic tribes. According to some literary sources he is also the god of war, night, fire and the evening sky. He likes to invite to the banquets, is completely black and is armed with a spear and helmet. (wiki)

Current members:
Łukasz "Mussi" Muschiol (lead guitar, vocals)
Jan "Młody" Musiol (violin)
Marian Kolondra (rhythm guitar)
Rafał Bujok (bass)
Marcin "Talar" Tatar (drums)
And so it is Friday, and another week has rushed by. Matthew Watkins from Canterbury Sans Frontières tried to explain to me why it is that as we get older time seems to go by so much faster. But he is a mathematician and I still count on my fingers, and I didn’t really understand most of it, and the bits I did understand I have basically forgotten.

But all of you youngsters out there please just take it from me. As you get older, time goes faster. My late mother, who died fourteen years ago next week, used to say that you knew that you were getting older when policemen looked young. As I do my best not to have anything to do with policemen, I would add to that my own adage: that one knows one is rapidly ageing when both the British Prime Minister and the American President are younger than I am.

But as I so often do, I digress.

This has been a most peculiar week. Both Corinna and I have started playing the on-line scrabble game on Facebook which somehow manages to be different enough to be called ‘Words with Friends’ rather than ‘Scrabble’. But my bad tempered old gittishness has been inflamed by the words in it’s lexicon. It allows all sorts of foreign words, abbreviations and other things that would not pass muster in the original game, but allows others.

What are we to make of a game that disallows “JEW” but allows “JIHAD”. Or allows “YONI” but disallows the good old Anglo-Saxon word beginning with C that means exactly the same thing?

Is this just an example of the incongruity of contemporary culture? Or is it just a sign that I am a rapidly ageing old twat (a word it does allow)?

In fact, don’t answer that question. I don’t think that I want to know the answer.

See you next week.

JD
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ADMIT ONE $5.50

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