In what is quite possibly the most eccentric cover story we have ever done, we meet the man who makes action figures of the Pink Fairies. Doug muses upon Styx, while Jon and Thom say goodbye to Sir George Martin. We look at a book by the ex-Archbishop of Canterbury about the works of C S Lewis, and John eulogises Record Store Day, whilst Ray critiques Bill Mallonee. It doesn’t get much better than this pals...

meeting the man who MODELS THE FAIRIES
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 peculiar little magazine which I started three years ago, and which has come out pretty well every week for 173 weeks now. I have a sneaking suspicion that while I sleep a large amount of the editing, compositing and design is done by a family of music journalist elves who live behind my tortoise vivarium, because I truly have no idea how we put out a magazine of this size every week. But somehow we manage it.

That being said, the last couple of weeks have been a complete pain in the arse to do because of a string of computer issues, and knock on effects from the computer issues, and as I sit here writing this on my iPad on Wednesday evening, I am hoping against hope that we won’t have three weeks of digital bollocks in a row, because I truly don’t think I can handle another stupid fraught late night.

The big music news this week is of course the death of Sir George Martin; a man who undoubtedly changed the face of the music business forever. If he had not existed I believe that the world would have been a completely different place, and I am not just talking in some sort of vague, quantum, butterfly effect sort of way.

Whether or not he deserved the appellation that he was so often given of being the fifth Beatle, I am not sure. The title could have been given equally to Brian Epstein, or even
If he had not existed I believe that the world would have been a completely different place

Mal Evans or Neil Aspinall. Now all four of them are dead they can fight it out for the title somewhere in that portion of the afterlife reserved for Beatlefolk.

The Beatles were certainly talented enough to have made it without any of the above listed people, but it was Martin who gave them their musical literacy, and not only gave THEM the freedom of using string quartets on Yesterday, string octets on Eleanor Rigby and whatever the fuck he did to Tomorrow Never Knows which fifty one years later still makes it one of the most far out pieces of music ever committed to vinyl, but gave tacit permission to everyone who followed to do the same. Without George Martin, I think that it is true to say that none of the musicians whom we celebrate each week in the pages of this peculiar little organ

اللعنة لهم إذا كانوا لا تأخذ نكتة
(oooe Missus) would be doing what they do. And that is a pretty long shadow to have cast upon history.

Vale Sir George.

One of the projects that I am currently engaged upon is a book about the men from the village in which I live who fought in the First World War. It is peculiar to think that a century ago these young men were plastered in the mud of Flanders, with primitive aeroplanes (only twelve years after the Wright Brothers first took to the air at Kitty Hawk) in the sky above. But to think that mid-way between the horrors of WW1 and the horrors of our post-millennial 2016, George Martin was steering the Fab Four through their sonic experiments which would change popular music forever, is a peculiar thought.

As I have mentioned in these pages before, I am mildly OCD, although nowhere near as much as some members of my family whom I could (but won’t) mention. And because of this I sometimes find my mind wandering off on peculiar tangents that I wouldn’t really have expected. And this is not one of them. I was thinking about the fifty year gap between WW1, the Irish Easter Uprising and all the other terrible beauty of 1916, and the Beatles album Revolver. And, of course, the half century gap between 1966 and the present day, and I found myself wondering which of those five decades saw the greatest technological or social advancement.

On the surface it would be the former. The jet airliners of 1966, for example, have more in common with the aircraft of today than they do with the fragile stringbags of the First World War, but if you look at period dramas on TV set in the sixties, the man in the street in 1966 would appear to have far more in common with his peers of half a century earlier than he does with the man in the street today. Go to London today and you will be hard pushed to see bowler hats or wing collars, for example, and the noise and bustle of 2016 London does my head in let alone the effect it would have on time travellers from one of the earlier epochs that I have arbitrarily listed.
But it is the digital revolution that would, I suspect, be most surprising to those from 1966, or 1916. We live in a world that even I find hard to understand; a world where eight year olds have telephones in their pockets, where everyone is on Facebook, and even my house contains over ten computers. This is a world that the science fiction of half a century ago singularly failed to prophecy. We may not have jetpacks, monorails and household robots, but the technological advances which we do have are staggering. Even when I look at my life twenty years ago when I was basically doing much the same as I am now, it seems staggering to think that I was working with an Amiga 1200 (that’s a whole megabyte of memory, guys) and without a scanner, a cellphone or a digital camera.

But if you look at the technological advances that happened during George Martin’s tenure as Beatle producer, it was seven years which started off with two tracks in mono, and ended with moog synthesisers and sixteen track stereo, or if you look at WW2, it started with cavalry charges and ended with atom bombs.

The truth is, boys and girls, that I have managed to get myself bogged down in the whole impressive vista of technological advancement, and still haven’t managed to answer the question that I started out with. So, I am going off to listen to Revolver, while I leave it to you to answer the question.

1916-1966 or 1966-2016? Which was the biggest leap in terms of technology? The best answer gets a free copy of Ian Abrahams’ and Bridget Wishart’s sizzling book Festivalized...

eMail me
Toodle pip
jd


IT’S A LEGAL MATTER BABY

A lot of the time the pictures that we include in this publication are unique to Gonzo Weekly, and used with the photographer’s permission. However, this magazine is free, and at least at the moment only available online, and so in our opinion we are covered by a recent decision by the European Courts of Justice.

Websites can link to freely available content without the permission of the copyright holder, the European Court of Justice says. The court’s decision came after a dispute in Sweden between journalists and a web company that had posted links on its site to online news articles.

A Swedish court had asked the EU court to consider whether this broke copyright law.

Some of the pictures in this magazine are hotlinked to other websites where they are freely available. It is our opinion that we are covered by this ruling. So there!

Of course if someone objects to our using their material we will be good fellows and take it down, unless (and this is a big unless) we feel that it is not in the public interest to comply.

But normally we shall not stand on ceremony. If you want to read more about this decision go to:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-26187730
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,
Bideford, North Devon
EX39 5QR

Telephone 01237 431413
Fax +44 (0)7006-074-925
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.
THE WALRUS WAS PAUL: After a couple of years on his “Out There Tour”, Paul McCartney has decided to retool and relaunch on the road with his new “One on One” product. The ‘One On One’ Tour will debut a brand new production, as always utilizing state of the art audio and video technology and to ensure an unforgettable experience from every seat in the house. Employing massive screens, lasers, fireworks and, of course, a staggering selection of the best songs ever written or performed, every Paul McCartney show promises a once in a lifetime evening that transcends and elevates the potential of live music. McCartney hasn’t been off the road for that long, ending the Out There tour in Buffalo, NY on October 22 of last year. The new tour starts on April 13 in Fresno, CA and plays seven North American dates, including two in Vancouver, before moving to Europe starting May 28 in Dusseldorf, Germany.

EAGLE OF DEATH MENTAL: Former Eagle Randy Meisner has reportedly been committed to a psych ward in the wake of the death of his wife Lana Rae. Lana Rae accidentally was killed when she was moving a soft gun case that contained a loaded rifle. According to authorities, something in the case shifted and made the gun fire, Meisner’s attorney Troy L. Martin told the New York Daily News’ Page Six “He threatened to kill himself. He was very distraught. I can’t imagine what it’s going to be like for him to return to the house.” Randy entered the hospital a couple of hours after his wife’s death and is under a 72 hour hold which expires Wednesday night; however, it can be extended an additional two weeks if deemed necessary.

STONE ALONE: Original Rolling Stones bassist Bill Wyman has been diagnosed with prostate cancer. Wyman’s team released a statement on his condition via his website Tuesday, saying: Bill has released a message to his fans, who have been left upset about the news about Bill’s health and battle with cancer. Bill has revealed that he has been diagnosed with prostate cancer – and the news has understandably caught fans unaware and who have been saddened and concerned by the news of Bill’s battle. In response, Bill’s team have released an official statement to his fans: Bill has been diagnosed with prostate cancer. He is undergoing treatment and is expected to make a full recovery as it was caught in the early stages. Please post your wishes and support on this site, and we all wish Bill a speedy recovery and a return to full health as soon as possible. Our thoughts are with Bill and his family during this time.

BRUCE IN A JAM: Original The Jam bassist Bruce Foxton is releasing ‘Smash The Clock’, co-written with From The Jam band mate Russell Hastings and featuring guest appearances from Paul Weller, Wilko Johnson and Paul Jones. The album was recorded at Paul Weller’s Black Barn studios. With ‘Smash The Clock’, Bruce and Russell have captured From The Jam’s inimitable live energy on record. Driving bass riffs sit beneath layers of inventive guitar parts, piano, brass, and each chorus feels like it is tailor-made for a crowded venue to sing their hearts out to. Bruce says the meaning of title track “Smash The Clock” is simply...
that “good music is ageless and timeless”. Like Bruce’s last full length “Back In The Room” (2012), the album was crowd-funded through Pledge Music, with a campaign in which fans could purchase items such as handwritten lyrics, signed CDs, LPs, artwork, etc. The band say “its success was made possible by you the public getting involved, for which we can’t thank them enough.” Bruce was reunited with Paul Weller recently at Somerset House exhibition ‘About The Young Idea’, which showcased previously unseen items from The Jam’s archives such as early scrapbooks, personal photographs and unreleased music videos. Read on...

TANGLED UP IN BLUE: Bob Dylan will release his 37th studio album, Fallen Angels, on May 20 and, to promote the new set, has announced a new list of tour dates. Dylan will hit the road starting June 4 & 5 in Woodinville, CA and finish up July 17 in Gilford, NH on a tour that includes opener Mavis Staples. Tickets for all dates except for Indianapolis and Boston will come with a voucher for a CD copy of the new album. There are no firm details on Fallen Angels so far although it is thought to be another album of standards. Dylan’s last set, Shadows in the Night, was based on the repertoire of Frank Sinatra. Read on...

BUST: AC/DC lead singer Brian Johnson has been told to stop touring immediately of risk permanent deafness bringing AC/DC to an immediate halt. AC/DC has been put on hold midway through their current North American tour with all upcoming shows postponed until later in the year. However, AC/DC warns that they will most likely make good the remaining shows with a “guest singer”. There is no hint as to who AC/DC could replace Johnson with. In a statement the band advised: AC/DC are forced to reschedule the 10 upcoming dates on the U.S. leg of their “Rock or Bust” World Tour. AC/DC’s lead singer, Brian Johnson, has been advised by doctors to stop touring immediately or risk total hearing loss. 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
A woman driving a minivan painted to resemble "Scooby-Doo's" Mystery Machine evaded Northern California police in a high-speed pursuit Sunday. Sharon Kay Turman, 51, was driving a 1994 Chrysler Town & Country minivan when she outran Redding police just after noon, officials said.

The vehicle had been painted teal and green and bore the words "The Mystery Machine" mimicking the Saturday morning cartoon van used to haul the famous Great Dane and his Mystery Inc. gang of amateur detectives Fred, Daphne, Velma and Shaggy. Although the official Scooby-Doo website notes that the Mystery Machine "is always ready to provide a quick getaway," Redding police were not amused.

A truck smashed into a tree and witnesses think this dog was driving it. The golden Labrador retriever was alone in the vehicle in Minnesota, United States, at the time so he is the prime suspect. He was even snapped sitting in the driver's seat after the incident at the petrol station in Mankato. Police also confirmed the semi had strangely been put into gear from neutral before it crashed.

Luckily a member of the public had entered the vehicle, moving the dog aside, before it arrived at a car park.

"I heard the tree snap and I thought somebody decided to turn around, but then it just kept going forward," eye witness David Stegora told The Free Press of Mankato.
"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...

PETITION AGAINST THE CULL

The government wants to spend huge amounts of money needlessly killing badgers in Devon. They’ve been culling badgers in two test areas to stop cows getting TB, but scientists say it’s not working. And now they’re ignoring the evidence and plan to extend the cull. It could result in thousands of badgers being killed for no good reason.

38 Degrees member Heather from just outside Exeter was horrified by the news and is running a campaign to stop the cull in Devon. The government’s launched a consultation to find out what the public thinks about their plans. It closes in a few days, so a huge petition now could persuade them that public opinion is against them, and make them back down.

Please can you support Heather, and sign the petition? It only takes 20 seconds:

http://tinyurl.com/jbxcbyn
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…

Remember this, folks - I am a Hillbilly, and I don't always Bet the same way I talk. Good advice is one thing, but smart gambling is quite another.

Hunter S. Thompson

THE BURDON OF HOME OWNERSHIP

Eric Burdon, the 1960s British Invasion vocalist who sang with the Animals and later the funk band War, is looking for a fan for his Joshua Tree retreat.

Priced at $888,888, the gated Southwestern-style ranch house was built in 2007 and sits on 2.5 acres enclosed by an adobe wall. There are panoramic views of the mountains and high desert.

The 3,120-square-foot-plus courtyard-style home features a great room with a barn-wood wall and corner fireplace, a studio with a wood-burning stove, an office, four bedrooms, three bathrooms and a laundry room and an office.

The 600-square-foot master suite has a custom walk-in closet and heated bathroom floors.
As readers of this magazine well know, I have been an avid reader of things to do with The Beatles for many years, but this week my favourite roving reporter told me something that I didn't know. I had no idea that John Lennon collected stamps:

“Beatles fans and philatelists alike will be able to view John Lennon's childhood stamp collection during the World Stamp Show in New York City, May 28th through June 4th.

According to the Smithsonian National Postal Museum — which first housed Lennon's stamps in 2005 — the budding musician began collecting stamps after his older cousin, Stanley Parkes, gifted him a partially filled in album. Over the years, Lennon filled the book with stamps taken from letters sent from the United States and New Zealand.

When the National Postal Museum first purchased Lennon's "lost album," late curator Wilson Hulme did note to Smithsonian Magazine that the collection did not boast any notable stamps. "Typically, young boys aren't interested in rarity," he said. "They tend to concentrate on geography and colors. If they come back to collecting when they have more time and money, that's when collections become exceptional."


http://tinyurl.com/hbx6qwh
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.
arsydeedee@yahoo.co.uk

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

MICHAEL DES BARRES ON
LITTLE STEVENS UNDERGROUND GARAGE
MAXIMUM ROCK AND ROLL
MORNINGS 8AM - 11AM ET CH21 SIRIUSXM
(pulling 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.

Plague of the black beetles: Beaches in Argentina are infested with millions of insects leaving experts baffled

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 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:**
- We Could Build an Empire
  - http://www.facebook.com/wcbae/?fref=ts
- Eduardo Aguillar
- United Progressive Fraternity – UPF
- AleXperimental
  - http://www.facebook.com/AleXperimental?fref=ts
- Jacqueline Taylor
- Dog and the Universe of Swine Dirt
  - http://www.facebook.com/MarquissMusic/
- Weston and Knade
- Ad Astra
  - http://www.facebook.com/groups/23359419585/
- Kinetic Element
- Moonwagon
  - http://www.facebook.com/Moonwagonband?fref=nf — with We Could Build an Empire, Jacqueline Taylor, Grant C Weston, DUSD King of Progtropolis, Eduardo Aguillar, Joe Nardulli, Jani Korpi, Mark Truey Trueack, Marcus Pehrsson, Waldek Knade, Mike Visaggio and Alessandro De Cristo Moleta.
Both yer esteemed editor and yer Gonzo Grande Fromage are interested in the great mysteries of the universe, and so it was truly only a matter of time before Fortean related content began to seep its way into the magazine and onto Gonzo Web Radio...

"Mack Maloney is the author of the best-selling "Wingman" science-fiction series, plus "UFOs in Wartime, What They Didn't Want You To Know," (Berkley Books).

He's a member of SKY CLUB, Gonzo recording artists. He's been a radio host since 2010. He lives with his wife, Doreen, on an island off the coast of Massachusetts."

AND LOOK WHAT MACK HAS FOR YOU THIS WEEK

Mothman Meets Lois Lane
Mack talks to Steve Ward about all things Mothman, Rob Beckhusen on "Weirdest Weapons Ever." Commander Cobra on UFO sightings during international air shows, plus reporter Lois Lane in studio.
MICK ABRAHAMS
50 years of music

9th MAY
LIVE AT THE BORDERLINE, LONDON
www.theborderlinelondon.com
Sir George Henry Martin CBE (1926 – 2016)

Martin was an English record producer, arranger, composer, conductor, audio engineer and musician. He has been referred to as the "Fifth Beatle", including by Paul McCartney, in reference to his extensive involvement on each of the Beatles' original albums. Martin had 30 number-one hit singles in the United Kingdom and 23 number-one hits in the United States.

Following his graduation, he worked for the BBC's classical music department, then joined EMI in 1950, as an assistant to Oscar Preuss, the head of EMI's Parlophone Records from 1950 to 1955. After taking when Preuss retired in 1955, Martin recorded classical and Baroque music, original cast recordings, and regional music from around Britain and Ireland Martin's career spanned more than six decades of work in music, film, television and live performance.

Martin was contacted by Sid Coleman of Ardmore & Beechwood, who told him about Brian Epstein, the manager of a band whom he had met. He thought Martin might be interested in the group, even though they had been turned down by Decca Records. After the telephone call by Coleman, Martin arranged a meeting on 13 February 1962 with Brian Epstein. Martin listened to a tape recorded at Decca, and thought that Epstein's group was "rather unpromising", but liked the sound of Lennon's and McCartney's vocals.

After another meeting with Epstein on 9 May at the Abbey Road studios, Martin was impressed by Epstein's enthusiasm and agreed to sign the unknown Beatles to a recording contract without having met them or seen them play live. The contract was not what it seemed, however, as Martin would not sign it himself until he had heard an audition, and later said that EMI had "nothing to lose," as it offered one penny for each record sold, which was split among the four members. Martin suggested to EMI (after the release of "From Me to You") that the royalty rate should be doubled without asking for anything in return, which led to Martin being thought of as a "traitor in EMI".

The Beatles auditioned for Martin on 6 June 1962, in studio three at the Abbey Road studios. The verdict was not promising, however, as Richards complained about Pete Best's drumming, and Martin thought their original songs were simply not good enough. Martin asked the individual Beatles if there was anything they personally did not like, to which George Harrison replied, "Well, there's your tie, for a start." That was the turning point, according to Smith, as John Lennon and Paul McCartney joined in with jokes and comic wordplay that made Martin think that he should sign them to a contract for their wit alone.

Martin oversaw post-production on The Beatles Anthology (which was originally entitled The Long and Winding Road) in 1994 and 1995. Martin decided to use an old 8-track analogue deck—which EMI learned an engineer still had—to mix the songs for the project, instead of a modern digital deck. He explained this by saying that the old deck created a completely different sound, which a new deck could not accurately reproduce. He also said he found the whole project a strange experience (and McCartney agreed), as they had to listen to themselves chatting...
Martin stepped down when it came to producing the two new singles reuniting McCartney, Harrison and Starr, who wanted to overdub two old Lennon demos. Martin had suffered a hearing loss, so he left the work to writer/producer Jeff Lynne of the Electric Light Orchestra.

In 1979, Martin published a memoir, *All You Need is Ears* (co-written with Jeremy Hornsby), that described his work with the Beatles and other artists (including Peter Sellers, Sophia Loren, Shirley Bassey, Flanders and Swann, Matt Monro, and Dudley Moore), and gave an informal introduction to the art and science of sound recording. In 1993 he published *Summer of Love: The Making of Sgt Pepper* (published in the US as *With a Little Help from My Friends: The Making of Sgt Pepper*), co-authored with William Pearson), which also included interview quotations from a 1992 South Bank Show episode discussing the album. Martin also edited a 1983 book called *Making Music: The Guide to Writing, Performing and Recording*.

Martin died in his sleep on the night of 8 March 2016 in his home in Wiltshire, England at the age of 90.

---

**Raymond Samuel Tomlinson**

(1941 – 2016)

Tomlinson was a pioneering American computer programmer who implemented the first email program on the ARPANET system, the precursor to the Internet, in 1971. It was the first system able to send mail between users on different hosts connected to ARPANET. Previously, mail could be sent only to others who used the same computer. To achieve this, he used the @ sign to separate the user name from the name of their machine, a scheme which has been used in email addresses ever since. The Internet Hall of Fame in its account of his work commented “Tomlinson's email program brought about a complete revolution, fundamentally changing the way people communicate”. Tomlinson is internationally known and credited as the inventor of the email.

The first email Tomlinson sent was a test. It was not preserved and Tomlinson describes it as insignificant, something like “QWERTYUIOP”. This is commonly misquoted as “The first e-mail was QWERTYUIOP”. Tomlinson later commented that these “test messages were entirely forgettable and I have, therefore, forgotten them.”

At first, his email messaging system was not considered important. Its development was not a directive of his employer, with Tomlinson merely pursuing it “because it seemed like a neat idea.” When Tomlinson showed it to a colleague, Tomlinson said “Don't tell anyone! This isn't what we're supposed to be working on.”

Tomlinson said he preferred "email" over "e-mail", joking in a 2010 interview that "I'm simply trying to conserve the world's supply of hyphens" and that "the term has been in use long enough to drop the hyphen."

Tomlinson died at his home in Lincoln, Massachusetts, on March 5, 2016, from a suspected heart attack at the age of 74.
Jonathan James "Jon" English (1949 – 2016)

English was an English-born Australian singer, songwriter, musician and actor. He emigrated to Australia with his parents in 1961. He was an early vocalist and rhythm guitarist for Sebastian Hardie but left to take on the role of Judas Iscariot in the Australian version of the stage musical *Jesus Christ Superstar* from May 1972, which was broadcast on television. English's first rock gig occurred when his neighbour's band needed a guitarist, he was about 16 and mid-performance was called upon to do vocals, he sang the Beatles' "Twist and Shout". His earliest known band was Zenith in 1965, formed at Cabramatta High School, and according to English "they were crap". Next was Gene Chandler & the Interns, which included guitarist Graham Ford, drummer Richard Lillico, bass guitarist Peter Plavsic and English as vocalist and rhythm guitarist. Ford founded Sebastian Hardie Blues Band in 1967 with Lillico and new band members. When Ford reformed the band later in 1968, he recruited English and Peter Plavsic again, and added Anatole Kononewsky on keyboards, and Peter's brother Alex Plavsic on drums.

In January 1972, English left Sebastian Hardie when he won the role of Judas Iscariot in the Australian version of *Jesus Christ Superstar* from May 1972. During 1990 - 93, English played the main role of Bobby Rivers in the TV sitcom *All Together Now*. His role of a faded one hit wonder rock star displayed his acting and comedy skills during 101 episodes.

In late February 2016, English was hospitalised due to "unexpected health problems" and he was forced to cancel several scheduled performances due to planned surgery for an aortic aneurysm. He died following post-operative complications late in the evening of 9 March 2016.

Joey Martin Feek (1975 – 2016)

Joey Martin Feek was lead vocalist in husband and wife duo Joey + Rory; an American country & bluegrass duo.

In June 2014, Joey was diagnosed with cervical cancer.
cancer not long after the birth of the couple's daughter, Indiana, who was born with Down syndrome. In 2015, Joey announced that the cancer had returned and spread to her colon. That October, Rory revealed Joey's cancer was terminal, and they were stopping all treatment.

Joey died on March 4, 2016, aged 40.

**John Morthland**

(1948 (?) – 2016)

Morthland was a journalist and former associate editor of *Rolling Stone* and contributor to *Texas Monthly* and *Creem*. He was first introduced to music journalism as a high school student, when he managed to conduct an interview with the Rolling Stones in 1964 before the first show of their first U.S. tour. He began contributing to *Rolling Stone* in the summer of 1969, and joined the staff of the magazine in early 1970 after contributing to a cover story on the Rolling Stones' fatal Altamont concert. He served as assistant editor before being promoted to associate editor within a matter of months, exiting before the year was up.

In the Seventies, Morthland worked for *Creem*. In 1984, he published his book, *The Best of Country Music*. He later relocated to Dallas and then Austin, where he worked as a freelance writer, contributing to *Texas Monthly* and other outlets and writing album notes, and worked as a panels coordinator for South by Southwest.

He was found dead at home in Austin on 9th March. It has been reported that he had been in ill health in recent years and had recently recovered from a broken leg.

**Gayle McCormick**

(1948 – 2016)

McCormick was an American singer, best known for her work with the rock band Smith, formed in Los Angeles in 1969. Her recording and performing career stretched from 1965-76. McCormick started her career singing songs by Tina Turner and Etta James before joining Smith.

In 1967, she was the lead singer in a band called the Klassmen and released a single called “Without You” which had success in Missouri. In 2015, McCormick was hospitalized for pneumonia and during the treatment it was discovered that she had cancer which had metastasized from a tumour in a lung to the rest of her body. McCormick died of cancer March 1, 2016 in suburban St. Louis.

**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
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 has been described as one of fusion's greatest drummers with an influential style that combines explosive power and exacting precision.

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 created a multi-national musical platform with his guest artists that speaks to many peoples across the world.
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.”

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!
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 fraticious 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 Krankshaft 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 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.

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.
**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**
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

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
I am always particularly fond of obsessives and enthusiasts, and even fonder of enthusiastic obsessives; those who do things that nobody else would have dreamt of doing purely because they can.

Years ago when I was on the phone to dear departed Mick Farren, he told me of one such obsessive—a man who made action figures of the Pink Fairies no less. Mick promised to hunt out this man’s address, but then he died and all sorts of plans that we had disappeared into the aether.

Then, three years later along comes famed Gonzo artist and graphic whatnot dude Martin Cook. Had I heard of the bloke who made action gigs of the PFs he asked me? Yes, but I have been wanting to get in touch with him for years, I replied, and in two shakes of a gnat’s tail the deed was done, and I was in touch with a jolly nice fellow called Tony who sent me this:

“My PF’s themed model making really started back in ’04 when Larry Wallis released his solo album 'Death in the Guitar Afternoon'. There was a PO box address printed on the fold out CD insert for City Kid productions.

Myself being a long time fan of Larry’s & the PF’s I came up with an idea to make and send a small gift to Larry via his PO box address on the CD. My gift to Larry came in the shape of a PF’s themed model. This was a 7 inch tall clay pink pig dressed in a clay tu-tu similar in style to the Edward Barker cartoon pig which is the main feature of the cover of the PF’s - live at the Roundhouse 1975 album. This was my way of thanking Larry for his excellent solo album and just to let him know how long I’d been a fan of his and also the PF’s etc. At the time I thought that there’s no harm in doing this and at least it will give Larry a good laugh when he opens my parcel.

About a month passed and out of the blue I received a letter from Larry saying how thrilled he was to receive my gift of the clay pig which he liked a lot and that he wanted to keep in touch with me via e mail. As time passed we became e mail buddies and I took my model making a stage further when I was asked to make a clay replica figure for Larry’s home studio.

This figure was of the Zombie/Cowboy character...Joe Death.

Joe Death was Savage Pencil’s brilliant illustration which was featured on the cover and fold out insert of Larry’s solo album. Luckily for me Larry was very pleased with his JD figure I made for him, and over time, this resulted in me making further figures of the JD character for Larry in various paint finishes and poses. Around this time Larry was interested in me making a pre production JD model with the idea of getting Joe Death made into a plastic action figure, but sadly this never materialised due to the large production costs involved.

Through my model making activities for Larry I was
LEATHER FOREVER
MODEL MADE FOR
LARRY WALLIS
where my Hawkwind album cover remake actually ended up.

I made a model for the Deviants/PF’s and presented this to the band at the anniversary memorial gig they played for Mick Farren. This model was of Mick’s very last paperback that he wrote and featured small crows on top of the book reading Various copies of Mick’s novels. The band really liked this one but I don’t know which member of the Deviants/PF’s that this model was given a home. I owe a lot to the cartoonist Edward Barker for the influence that he’s had on me with his cartoon creations of “Musical Crows” , “Flying Pig’s” and many others which I’ve tried to bring to life in 3D.

As for the future I’d really like to get involved with other Band’s /Musicians which could incorporate my clay creations in a creative way.

I’m really pleased to be making a contribution to the new PF’s album cover/CD insert with designer Martin Cook....Can’t really say anything until the album is released, I’m sworn to secrecy!”

This whetted my appetite massively so I gave Tony a ring...

Through my contact with Boss. G this got the attention of various members of the PF’s - drummer Russell Hunter and bass player Duncan ‘Sandy’ Sanderson who began to like my work and overtime this also led me on to make clay replica models of these two band members for there homes.

I also made clay replica album covers of the three PF’s albums that they recorded for Polydor and posted these on FB just for other like minded fan’s to see...etc.

I was also asked by Esoteric Records in 2013 they commissioned me to make 2 clay album cover remakes of the remastered Hawkwind classic album - ’Warrior on the Edge of Time’. These remakes were offered as part of a prize consisting of the deluxe CD version of this album and 1 cover remake. The competition was held in the Prog Rock magazine. Esoteric were very pleased with what I’d done for them at the time which I was very pleased to hear.

To this day I’ve no idea who won the competition and

eventually asked by one of Boss Goodmans close friends. Boss. G being the pf’s road manager and this request was to make a small model relating to Boss. G. Around this time Boss was in hospital getting over a very bad stroke and the idea was to hold small party within the hospital grounds as a means to cheer Boss Goodman up etc. I was very pleased to attend this gathering and present the model to Boss Goodman in person. To my surprise this brought a big beaming smile to Boss G’s face when he clapped eyes on what I’d made for him and a good time was had by all on that day. I went onto make further PF themed models for Boss Goodman on his following B’day including his 60th.

I was also asked by Esoteric Records in 2013 they commissioned me to make 2 clay album cover remakes of the remastered Hawkwind classic album - ’Warrior on the Edge of Time’. These remakes were offered as part of a prize consisting of the deluxe CD version of this album and 1 cover remake. The competition was held in the Prog Rock magazine. Esoteric were very pleased with what I’d done for them at the time which I was very pleased to hear.

To this day I’ve no idea who won the competition and

where my Hawkwind album cover remake actually ended up.

I made a model for the Deviants/PF’s and presented this to the band at the anniversary memorial gig they played for Mick Farren. This model was of Mick’s very last paperback that he wrote and featured small crows on top of the book reading Various copies of Mick’s novels. The band really liked this one but I don’t know which member of the Deviants/PF’s that this model was given a home. I owe a lot to the cartoonist Edward Barker for the influence that he’s had on me with his cartoon creations of “Musical Crows” , “Flying Pig’s” and many others which I’ve tried to bring to life in 3D.

As for the future I’d really like to get involved with other Band’s /Musicians which could incorporate my clay creations in a creative way.

I’m really pleased to be making a contribution to the new PF’s album cover/CD insert with designer Martin Cook....Can’t really say anything until the album is released, I’m sworn to secrecy!”

This whetted my appetite massively so I gave Tony a ring...

Listen
Here
DECKCHAIR PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

‘LOSTINFOLK’

FRI 16TH TO SUN 18TH SEPTEMBER 2016

Lostwithiel’s First Major Folk-rock & Acoustic-roots Music Event. Featuring...

JEZ LOWE & THE BAD PENNIES
RICHARD DIGANCE
SALLY BARKER
JOHNNY COPPIN & MIKE SILVER
SPIKEDRIVERS
GERRY COLVIN BAND
HUT PEOPLE
ROVING CROWS
BROADSIDE BOYS
DANIEL NESTLERODE
WILLOWOOD KIN

PLUS A LATE NIGHT CEILIDH SATURDAY NIGHT AFTER THE CONCERT FEATURING THE FABULOUS FOLK-ROCK DANCE MAESTROS

TICKLED PINK!

All concerts £15 each or £55 for all four, subject to availability

BOX OFFICE 01208 872207
LOSTWITHIEL COMMUNITY CENTRE
PLEYBER CHRIST WAY LOSTWITHIEL CORNWALL PL22 0HE

Further information at: www.deckchairproductions.co.uk

DESIGNED BY MARTIN COOK AFTIER ALEX STEHWEISS
Styx is a Chicago based rock band that released nearly a dozen records from the start of their most enduring lineup in 1972, through 1983's Kilroy Was Here. Three multi-talented singer-songwriters Dennis DeYoung (vocals, keyboards, accordion), Tommy Shaw (vocals, guitars), and James Young (vocals, guitars, keyboards), backed by brothers John Panozzo (drums) and Chuck Panozzo (basses) penned a dramatic blend of rock and pop that placed them in league with stateside brethren Kansas and Journey. This author caught the group on tour supporting the Pieces of Eight album on January 27 1978 at the Long Beach arena. It was an exciting, powerful presentation, featuring a tight performance that showcased the soaring vocal prowess and instrumental credentials of each principal musician. As of the time of this writing Shaw and Young represent Styx on annual tours.
Bill Graham's Winterland

Jan 14 Sex Pistols
Avengers - Nuns

Jan 28 Styx
Sanford Townsend
Eddie & Hot Rods
while DeYoung tends to his solo career. As to their concert history, several films of varying quality and interest capture the band during their initial tenure.

**Styx Live and In Concert (2011) Tommygun Video, 142 min B&W, 1.33:1**

This unofficial release from Tommygun video presents Styx live on two tours at San Francisco’s Winterland Ballroom, the Equinox tour April 2, 1976 and the Grand Illusion outing, January 28, 1978. The first includes eight songs at 48 minutes while the second, filmed in black and white has thirteen tracks at 88 minutes. The Grand Illusion set is the better of the two, and the DVD sports a crisp transfer with lucid, high contrast B&W photography and decent sound. Extras include 6 minutes of rare footage from 1972 & 1977, and an entertaining kitschy television advertisement for Styx live.

**Styx: Caught in the Act (2007), A&M Records, 142 min, 1.33:1**

While the Tommygun release is key for any fan or collector, the high resolution color film transfer on the official Styx DVD Caught in the Act (2007) remains the best way to view the band in a live setting. Directed by Jerry Kramer and recorded for ‘In Concert’ by Westwood One, the main feature is a live performance from the tour supporting 1983’s Kilroy Was Here. This concept album about the demise and resurrection of rock 'n roll music in a dystopian future led to a creative blending of rock and theater performed...
on tour. In fact, it’s one of the few examples of a rock opera or concept album that was presented live with actual staged interludes that incorporated a bit of acting and actual dialogue. The show begins with an opening video that establishes the concept, after which Tommy Shaw and Dennis DeYoung take the stage to act out the first two songs, “Kilroy Was Here” and “Mr. Roboto” wearing costumes designed by Ray Brown and Peggy Martin along with wireless microphones, freeing the players to traverse a stage full of props and lighting effects. Special effects luminary Stan Winston designed “Mr. Roboto” which is worn briefly by DeYoung. James Young reprises his role as “Dr. Righteous” the mouthpiece for the fascist regime, for the first of four additional tracks that include dialog and staging. These are interspersed with a number of Styx 1970s classics, most notably “Come Sail Away” from The Grand Illusion and “Renegade” from Pieces of Eight each delivered in tight performances that rival the original tours for those albums. Director of photography Daniel Pearl arranged a flawless multi-camera shoot (eight cameramen and eight assistants are credited!) that captured the band in perfect form, alternating pit and perspective camera angles to present the creative staging and rocking performances to the best possible advantage.

One wonders how comfortable band members were with DeYoung’s Kilroy concept, and the fact that they were obliged to act out parts of the story on stage with actual written dialogue, some
of it admittedly a bit cringe-worthy. The official story is that band members were unhappy with the musical direction of Kilroy leading to a somewhat acrimonious split. However, any misgivings are not evident on film, as the musicians deliver their lines and performances with aplomb and dramatic intensity. Adding further credibility to the concept, DeYoung’s story about the criminalization of rock by the “Majority for Musical Morality (MMM)” ended up being somewhat prescient. Just two years after Kilroy’s release, in 1985 Tipper Gore, wife of future vice president Al Gore, led a campaign as part of the “Parents Music Resource Center (PMRC)” seeking to add warning labels to albums deemed to contain offensive content. At U.S. Senate hearings, artists as diverse as Frank Zappa and John Denver argued against the labels, protesting the attempt to restrict their freedom of expression. Given the lens of history, Kilroy was a very successful, unique way to blend rock and theater that ended up influencing rock musicals through to the current day. As the critics of the work say, maybe it is a bit too much “rock meets show tunes” or “Andrew Lloyd Weber swallowed a robot!” But looking back through a kinder lens, it’s a milestone event in rock lore that’s entertaining on A&M’s home video release.

The DVD release includes 54 minutes of bonus material consisting of twelve music videos, filmed between 1977 and 1983. The transfers on these videos are richly detailed, with clear stereo sound available in Dolby stereo and Dolby 5.1. It’s a reminder that the 70s-era Styx was the more successful incarnation, and that they split after the theatrical Kilroy work in 1983, just as the music video market, hungry for artists that worked with mixed media, was skyrocketing.

Film Strip: (top to bottom) (a) DeYoung’s disguise, demonstrating the film’s rich, vibrant colors (b) Young’s Dr. Righteous, caught with perspective (c) Shaw at mid range, one of eight camera placements (d) DeYoung at the grand piano, Young behind, from discreet on-stage cameraman (e) Band caught in the act

http://diegospadeproductions.com/
Fruits De Mer & Mega Dodo

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.

Alan Dearling is one of the leading British alternative publishers. I first met him online when he sent me a review copy of his extraordinary Travelling Daze; a history of the new age traveller movement. Enabler Publications have published some innovative and challenging books focusing on alternative lifestyles, creative work with young people, Travellers, the counter culture, and crime and social work.
Alan’s Top Ten albums

Alan Dearling was lucky enough to enjoy a wonderfully mis-spent youth in the 1960s, travelling to the early rock and pop festivals and experiencing the delights of early Pink Floyd, the Captain Beefheart, Zappa, Hendrix, the Doors and Jefferson Airplane. Early in his life, he contributed a few drawings and words for the UK’s underground press in *International Times*, and more later in *Melody Maker*, and became a respected writer and active festival/gig organiser. Subsequently, he has been active in promoting punk, reggae, psychedelic, jazz, blues and EDM gigs and extravaganzas alongside more old-school events.

Alan has written, edited and co-produced over 40 books on youth cultures, alternative lifestyles, eco-protest, festivals and new Travellers including: *A time to travel?; No Boundaries; Alternative Australia; Another kind of Space; Battle of the Beanfield; the Youth Africa Experience* and the *Youth Africa Music Experience*, and *Travelling Daze*. He has lived and worked in the UK, Australia and Africa, including at many universities and places of learning (we hope!) and made extended visits to many countries and tribes across Europe. In the last four years he has spent a lot of his time with friends and colleagues at ‘Free Cultural Spaces’ events and Symposia at Ruigoord, Amsterdam, Boom Festival in Portugal, and Christiania Freetown, Copenhagen. His current passion is to link up the World’s free cultural spaces so that festies, activists, communards, eco-farmers, nomads, in fact - all the Diggers and Dreamers can make contact with each other.

His base is in the Scottish Borderlands where he spends many hours and days out on the braes. He is custodian of the Free Cultural Spaces Web of Hubs at: www.freeculturalspaces.net
His books and blogsite is at : www.enablerpublications.co.uk
Alan says:

We’ve all rummaged in the remains of our brain cells contemplating the music for the mythical Desert(ed) Island, or, perhaps for Our Funeral and Wake (as we enter even more decay-eds of our life-span). When asked by Jonathan to make a contribution, I thought it would be actual fun if in future ‘Gonzo’s’ that this could be linked to a podcast or similar. Then the readers could actually listen to us having a John Peel moment or three…but in the meantime...

My choice of ten tracks or albums will change every day, I hope. So, today’s choice reflects what I’m doing with my life in the recent past couple of years. Listening is a greater skill than talking, so I try to soak up other people’s likes and dislikes. That way, their passions can become mine too. For the last 18 months I’ve been part of the League of Semi-Retired (or Retarded, as I like to call it). Much travelling in places like Egypt with a night-time clamber up Mount Sinai (Gebel Musa) to witness the spectacular sunrise, and hours marvelling at the temples of Karnac. Walking and jogging on the ten kilometre long beach at Patara on the Mediterranean coast of Turkey. Helping make presentations, films and taking photos at festivals in Ruigoord...
Christiania, Edinburgh, Solas, Loch Fyne and in London. My soul and heart are fuelled by the music I listen to and the musos, performers and bands I’ve been lucky and privileged enough to see ‘live’, work with, talk to and photograph. This is a pic of the Salon at the surreal, Landjuweel Festival at Ruigoord.

So, here goes with my Desert Ten. I’ve purposely chosen some old favourites, mixed with tracks that I think deserve repeated listening, and some new-to-me sounds that I hope will become favourites of the future. They are not ranked in order.

Two of the ‘new-fers’ first:
Grace – her version of the song ‘You don’t own me’ is bang up to date, modern, with mixes and beats from G-Eazy. It’s a feminist anthem. I remember the Lesley Gore version from my youth. Powerful, emotional and an important message in a great song. Grace, like Lesley back in 1963, was only 17 when she cut the record.

Elle King – Her album ‘Love Stuff’ struts its pedigree and credentials. Brimful of attitude. But it’s the standout track, ‘Ex’s and Oh’s’ that has my attention and makes the list. Elle could be the next Janis, now that Amy Winehouse is sadly no longer with us.

Amy Winehouse – In such a short time she gave us 24/7 access to her spirit, her pain and her soul. I’d take her first album, ‘Frank’ to the Desert island. Such an old head on young shoulders. Or, even better, the acoustic recordings made in a church in Dingle, 2006, for the BBC Arena programme: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9xVqkpDRDPY

Bob Dylan – one track or one album? Hard choice. My track would be ‘Love minus zero’, but possibly the version by Steve Harley. For an album, I always find myself returning to ‘Blonde on Blonde’ with the ecstatic, drop-dead gorgeous, ‘Sad-eyed lady of the lowlands’.

Dr John – provided me with one of my entry tickets into the weird and the wonderful. Enter the dark unknown swamps of Louisiana with the good doctor, the world of ‘Gris-Gris’ and ‘Walk on guilded splinters’.

Jimi Hendrix – it has to be the album, replete with the original non-PC cover, of ‘Electric Ladyland’. Still a one-off, unique experience so long after his passing. I’m just pleased that I
saw him at the Isle of Wight Festival, playing new tracks like ‘Machine Gun’ alongside old favourites such as ‘Voodoo Chile’.

**Joni Mitchell** – provided the background sounds and stories that became woven into my own life’s tapestry. A story-teller, a queen of music. So many wonderful albums, but oddly I’d choose one of her least known, ‘Mingus’. I think it would well-deserve many spins on the Desert island!

**The Grateful Dead** – They’ll always be with us, even when the last original member has returned to dust. ‘What a long, strange trip it’s been’. My island choice would be ‘**Workingman’s Dead**’. Especially for ‘**Uncle John’s Band**’ and ‘**Casey Jones**’ – watch that speed!

**The Beatles** – back in the 60s we liked many great bands, but had to own up to loving one. For me, it would be a hard call between the early Pink Floyd with Syd, or, The Beatles as they evolved into an experimental outfit, pioneering psychedelia with ‘Sgt Pepper’ and for me, my island album, ‘**The White Album**’. Lots of treats to rediscover there! From ‘**No 9**’ to ‘**Helter Skelter**’ and lots more in between!

**The Doors** – Jim Morrison was a god-like presence. A poet and a shaman. I saw The Doors at their spectacular, theatrical peak at the Roundhouse in London and later at the Isle of Wight. I bought each album on the day of release, obtaining America-import copies where possible. One track that sums them up is, ‘**When the music’s over**’. Remember, ‘...Music is your only friend. Until the End’.
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
A few days after he came out we saw that Stackridge, one of his favourite bands, was playing at The Marquee. We all piled into Tom’s bus to go along to see them. Jacko got pretty wasted at the gig and when we came out we could see he was a bit worse for wear. We drove up Wardour Street behind a 3 tonne truck, which came to a halt because someone had parked a Luton Transit half on the kerb, so that the top of the van overhung the road. The truck driver did not think he could get through.

Now, one of the things Jacko had been doing to earn money was driving a truck.

‘You could get a bus through there’, he snorted, and jumped out of Tom’s bus to tell the driver. We could hear him saying:

‘Give me the keys and I’ll drive it through’. The truck driver was understandably reluctant to pass control of his vehicle over to a drunken hippie.

He came back to the bus complaining, and Tom put the vehicle into reverse to get back to the nearest turn off. As we shot backwards a police van pulled out of the turning we were going for. We missed hitting it, but stopped. Once more Jacko disembarked and went over to them to remonstrate about the recalcitrant truck driver. As we watched, a door slid open and a hand emerged, grabbed his jacket and hauled him into the van. Another officer got out and strolled over to us.

‘Is he your mate?’ he asked.

‘Yes.’

‘He will be spending the night with us.’

‘He has only just come out of prison,’ I said.

‘Well, he’ll be used to it then, won’t he?’

One other incident with him springs to mind. He came along to our gigs, ostensibly as a roadie. The usual course of events was that he would help us load in, be there for the gig and then we would load out, go off and try to find where he was and then, if we found him, load him into the bus to go home. We were trying to get a gig at The Roundhouse in Chalk Farm and, not knowing any of the agencies that were

---

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 ion this august publication..
He opened the door and we left. At the bus Tom refused to take him at first, convinced he was going to throw up. We convinced Tom he was not going to do that, and sat Jacko in the bus.

‘If he starts to throw up I am going to push him out,’ said Tom, so we followed them all the way home. Jacko did not get ejected, but when we arrived back at the house he was upside down, head under the seat, feet in the air. We helped him in and he lay on the sofa for a while. After a few minutes he stirred and turned the music up really loud.

‘Can’t hear it,’ he slurred.

We turned it back down again, but the sudden movement involved in getting up stirred something in his stomach and he lurched to his feet and made for the back door, and with one hand over his mouth, he stood there tugging furiously at the handle. The door would not budge. It was bolted. I leaned over and withdrew the bolt and the door flew open, smashing into my forehead as he rushed by to throw up in the outside loo. He drifted off to stay with other people after this and we did not see him for a while.

61

booking the bands for the gigs, we naively called the number on the adverts. After a preamble about wanting a gig, the guy on the phone asked, ‘Do you mic up the drums?’ Seemed an odd question, but I said we didn’t and he offered a series of shows for the next month. We were elated until we found out that it was not The Roundhouse we were playing at, but a restaurant/club round the corner, and the stuff we were doing was not really what they had in mind. Jacko and Dee, Jimmy’s girlfriend, had been arguing about who could drink the most, so they had a competition during the show. Jacko lost and Dee seemed unaffected. When we had finished the load out we went looking for him as usual. He was nowhere to be seen. I tried the toilets and the grounds of the place, but no trace. We were about to leave but I decided to check the toilets one more time. I had been calling his name and got no answer, but one cubicle was closed so I thought he may have passed out. I climbed on the toilet beside the locked one. There he was sitting on the closed seat, head in hands, but awake. Our conversation went like this:

‘Come on, we are leaving.’

‘I can’t get out.’

‘Why?’

‘Door won’t open’, he said pushing at the section in front of him.

‘That is a wall. The door is to your right.’

‘Oh.’
Now recognised as the leading online magazine of its type. Phenomena Magazine is a FREE magazine from Manchester’s Association of Paranormal Investigation and Training. (MAPIT)

Recognised as the leading online magazine of its type, now distributed worldwide, 'Phenomena Magazine' is a FREE monthly publication. Phenomena looks into the whole realm of the Strange, Profound, Unknown and Unexplained, delving into subjects of the Paranormal, Ufological, Cryptozoological, Parapsychological, Earth Mysteries, Supernatural and Fortean Events. Guest writers along with reviews of books, movies and documentaries add to the content as does recent news from around the world. Phenomena Magazine can be downloaded from our site every month for FREE in PDF Format.

GET YOURS FREE TODAY!

DOWNLOAD YOUR FREE COPY AT...
WWW.PHENOMENAMAGAZINE.CO.UK

PHENOMENA
The Official UPIA & MAPIT Update

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

Misty Mysteries
 Paranormal Visits

An American In Suffolk
SAINSBURY’S CAR PARK
COMES UNDER SIEGE

FREE!
Welcome to My Dad’s LPs, Exploring the Cosmos of Rock ‘n’ Roll…I’m your host, A.J. Smitrovich. This week we celebrate the mid-to-late 1950s and the parts of the 1960s in a chronological journey of sound. We lead off with some serious hits like “Shotgun” from Junior Walker & The All-Stars, “Hey Bo Diddley” and “I Like It Like That” and a few more that’ll give you some flashbacks. If you’ve ever heard K-Earth 101.1 FM out here in Los Angeles, this playlist will be very familiar. We’ll also touch on Little Richard and Fats Domino before we make a left turn into the blues.

We start with three b-sides that exemplify 1960s electric blues, which some bluesmen abhorred, like Howlin’ Wolf, while others embraced the new sound like Buddy Guy, Slim Harpo, Jimmy Reed, etc.

Hell, even Bob Dylan went electric.

As we make another left turn, we do so into the psychedelic ’60s sound of the Standells covering Jimmy Reed’s “Big Boss Man”, along with the Electric Prunes, a little-known psychedelic group from my hometown of Los Angeles, CA. We’ll also have the Jefferson Airplane, cleared to land from San Francisco, non-stop to your radio or device of your choosing!! We’ll close with another San Francisco psychedelic outfit, but to find out you gotta tune in….

We air Saturdays and Sundays 4pm and Monday 12am Pacific Standard Time on the KONG Monster Rock Radio Network. Also on FM radio on 93.3 KRHV in Mammoth, CA Sunday nights at 11pm, PST. So head on over to mydadslps.com and join the conversation on Facebook and @mydadslps as we…

Explore the Cosmos of Rock ‘n’ Roll…
As I grew up in West London this often involved getting the tube into town and heading for Notting Hill Gate and the Portobello Road. My favourite was the Record & Tape Exchange, jam packed with goodies, graded for condition on the cover. Every week or so they would go through their stock and reduce prices, you could often get mint condition records for a quid or less. They also seemed to be the place where international travellers and reviewers sold their unwanted items for cash so you could also find a lot of US pressings too, many of which you could not get anywhere else. I quickly decided that if it was an American act, the American pressings sounded better than the UK version (if there was one). My theory being that the American pressings would be closer to the ‘masters’ than copies further down the production line, assuming the masters were made in the States in the first place. I also remember the original Virgin Records Shop, sofas and headphones everywhere. You could stay in there for hours and the smoke seemed more green than grey! However, Mr Branson, being a complete breadhead from the word go, quickly realised that some of his staff didn’t care how many records they actually sold and things quickly became far more commercial.

That’s another big difference between the past and now. In the 20th century you sat down and listened to music with your friends. You would often see people carrying albums in the street. Nowadays they are all listening on their headphones in private.

The main focus of RSD every year is hundreds of exclusive releases come out, both LPs and Singles, and usually in limited numbers, eg 500 pressings only. On the face of it, if you want any of them you have to move your arse, get down there and quite probably queue, which of course, we are still supposed to be very good at. I’ve never been down to a store in the morning, the crowds putting me off, but this year I’m going to have to go for it because there’s at least two things I really want plus the new Hawkwind album, The Machine Stops is out the day before too. I will head to Rise in Bristol which will open it’s café at 8am and then the main shop at 9. Their staff hand out ticket numbers to the queue and then once open, you are called upstairs in groups. Like many other record shops, they will also have some live music during the day too.

As the years roll by of course the rip-off merchants have tried to cash in and most shops will only allow you to buy one copy of each LP or single. You can be lazy and just sit at home and watch eBay. I’ll bet from about 10am on that very morning you will start to see the first records appearing! I have to confess, the LP I wanted last year had gone by the time I got there so I did, er um, buy one off eBay myself but didn’t actually pay over the odds for it. Some of the records will not sell out on the day and will be available for weeks and even months afterwards but don’t bet on it. I’ve not heard of many of the artists, many are re-issues on coloured vinyl etc but there is also some genuinely new stuff too.

The RSD website is a mine of advance information and already has the listings of this year’s releases, both in pdf as a great long list but also with the cover images and some background info with more detail. There is also a short video about RSD which will give you a good feel for what it is all about. Pleasingly most of the punters seem to be under 40, lots of hipsters and students but also a few older folk too.

The main sponsors this year are Rega, makers of fantastic budget turntables and hi-fi in general (see Gonzo 167). Their superb budget record player, the RP1 will be available as a limited edition designed by artist Pete McKee for £250. This is only £20 more
than the standard version although for my money, if you can stretch to it I would go for the Performance version for £298 for the even better SQ.

I don’t really want to tell you what I’m after but there’s no secrets with the web anymore so I’ve trawled through the lists for you. The following may well be of interest to Gonzo readers, but do take a look yourself!

**Bevis Frond – Inner Marshland and Miasma**
Both re-issues I believe but I’ve become a bit of a Nick Saloman fan of late. He is incredibly prolific and I’ve never heard a duff one yet. I found a unplayed copy of his LP with Twink, Magic Eye, the other day at Bath Market!

**Captain Beefheart – Live at Knebworth 1975**

**Charles Rumback & Ryley Walker – Cannots**
This is the big one for me, a new one by the amazing Mr Walker (see Gonzo 171), a ‘freeform jam’ with Ryley on guitars and piano and his friend on drums and organ. Amusingly some American putz made a derogatory comment on Ryley’s FB page about it, boy did he get it in the neck….

“I find it upsetting that you come to this page looking to take some sort of moral high ground for the way an artist puts out a record. I was there from the very beginning of this album and paid for it out of my own pocket. For you to assume that I’m sort of capitalist pig for putting out music on record store day cracks open a treasure trove of how misunderstanding you
can be. It's a day where big stupid box sets can be sold yes...but also weird far out records. It's a good
day to find an audience for that certain type of
record, so label decided it would be cool. So be it
right? Not according to you. You see me as a
commodity and not a human being who wants to
make a living. I have slept on every shitty surface
and have driven tens of thousands of miles around
the world to make no money whatsoever. All so I can
play music to people. And for you to come in acting
like you know me or what my intentions are really
hurts my feelings as a working musician. I am
making absolutely no money from these album sales.
My label is taking a risk putting out an experimental
record when they typically put out more straight
ahead tunes. Sure, record store day can be a bit
much- but it's seriously for kids. Kids get in line for
the records. Isn't that exciting? A new generation
digging for new music? I worked my ass off on this.
My friend worked his ass off on mixing it. Hours
upon hours upon hours. All you have done is criticize
somebody who just wants to get good music out
there to an audience who will appreciate it. To this
day, I really struggle to make ends meet. You're
telling a poor artist what they are entitled to. How
dare you? You don't know how bad this music
business can be. Nobody is getting rich off this
album. It's a huge risk for everybody involved and I
applaud the people behind it. I have devoted every
fiber of my being for the last 7 years- ESPECIALLY
with money. So don't even get on me about how I am
abusive and I have no right to speak my mind. I'm
not the one flipping the records. People buy them and
do whatever they want with them, as they should be
allowed to. They bought it. And God forbid the
asshole who actually spent a week in the studio
making the music ends up seeing a few dollars in the
end. You are completely out of line here. You have a
myopic point of view that is based on absolutely no
merit. Just don't go to record store day. You could
have just left it at that. I really don't owe you any
explanation but whatever. All the best, no bad blood.
I genuinely mean it. Just please understand where I'm
coming from. Also- the actual record stores typically
have deep discounts on used stuff if you don't wanna
buy stupid new records! Go for that- or don't!"

You can hear one of the tracks from his FB page too.
Told you he has real spirit!

The Deviants – You’ve Got to Hold On/Let’s Loot
the Supermarket

The Doors – Live at the Aquarius Theatre Vol 1 –
A triple LP

FZ – Joes Garage and My Guitar – both singles

Grateful Dead – Capitol Theatre 1977 – a 4 LP set

Hawkwind – Hassan I Sahba / Damnation Alley
Part 2 – a single

Howard Marks – Reads Dylan Thomas (!)

Jefferson Starship – Tales from the Mothership 1 
& 2

John Renbourn – The Attic Tapes – Double LP

Levellers – A Weapon called the Word

Motorhead – Bad Magic

Pink Fairies – Chinese Cowboys Live 1987
This is a nice surprise, a red vinyl version of the
Japanese released CD. Featuring Lazza and Andy,
Im hoping the SQ might be better than the CD. (That
reminds me, where’s the new one then Gonzo????)

Steve Miller Band – The Joker Live

Sun Ra – 3 different LPs

The man himself is probably now on Saturn, the
most prolific artist ever recorded surely? I believe the
Archestra are back in the UK again this summer, go
see them, a real treat.

Traffic - Traffic

Finally on the record front, “Turntable Tales”, two 30
minutes documentary’s recently broadcast on BBC
Radio 4. Both presented by Colleen Murphy of
Classic Album Sundays fame. You can still listen to
them on the BBC’s radio iPlayer, she takes us
through the history of record players, finishing in the
present day including ‘high-end’ state of the art
players. If you are familiar with CAS it’s an excellent
concept of regular events in London and now
worldwide where a chosen album is played to an
audience on a top flight hi-fi system. Each playing is
prefaced by a talk, often by someone involved in the
record eg the producer. I’ve not been to one yet but
intend to, their website is another great online
resource although some of their classic choices seem
a bit odd to me. But that’s the beauty of music, one
man’s meat is another man’s poison……..

www.recordstoreday.co.uk

www.classicalbumsundays.com
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.

13 OF THE MOST BAFFLING ACTION FIGURES EVER
Toys! If only we'd kept all our toys in their original packaging, we'd be cleaning up right now, thanks to eBay. And when we say "cleaning up" we mean "making enough money to afford to buy a mop, to wash that putrid filth, whatever it is, off our bedroom floor".

Frankly, toys have never been more popular. Thanks to the invention of irony, you can now get action figures of everyone from Albert Einstein to Sigmund Freud to Steve "Big" Jobs.

Oh, how we all laugh at such unlikely collisions of pop culture. Quick! Let's stick a plastic lobster in a typewriter, and drink some microbrewery craft beer!

Here are 13 action figures and dolls that weren't ever intended to be ironic; they're merely the product of toy company idiots, who thought somebody might actually want to play with them

13 OF THE MOST BAFFLING ACTION FIGURES EVER

http://tinyurl.com/gur77vn
Bill Mallonee is one of the most under-appreciated artists working in music today. If you’re not familiar with any of his nearly 80 albums, either his solo work, or as the heart of Vigilantes of Love, you’re missing a chance to examine life in a multi-layered exposition of soaring transcendence and the gritty, down-to-the-bone drudgery of daily life.

And this unflinching look at our humanity never fails to cause me to ponder and reflect on the unquenchable ember of hope that finally stands as the foundation of all of Mallonee’s work. Mallonee writes about faith in much the same way as Flannery O’Connor did in her stories: nearly invisible, yet overwhelmingly powerful as it speaks to our humanity. No preaching or sappy sentiments, just real life.

In the liner notes to his soon-to-be-released album Slow Trauma, Mallonee writes that “I always felt the world was “off axis.” Not “the thing it should be.” I knew early on “I” was part of the problem, as well. And of course, good people, friends, loved ones “leave the party too soon…” Mortality.

“I know some movements across the spectrum of human history have glorified it, romanticized it, even reveled in it… Death. What’s to revel in?”

---

RAY BOECHE
“Me? I don’t see it that way. At all. I think it’s more like an aberration. A blasphemy.

“God, damn it. (That’s a prayer. Not an expletive.)”

A stellar lyricist and songwriter, Mallonee, who got his start in Athens Georgia, was voted number 65 in PASTE magazine’s “100 Top Living Songwriters.” Bill, 61, has collaborated with luminaries like Peter Buck of R.E.M., Emmylou Harris, Buddy Miller, Mark Heard, and others.

Influenced early on by the British-invasion bands, and then by the punk and post-punk UK scene, as well as stalwart North American icons Bob Dylan and Neil Young, Mallonee has steered over a wide spectrum of styles: from full-bore rock and roll, to alt-country, Americana, roots, and indie folk. And it’s never a boring ride.

There is an irresistible draw to his music. I can’t pass it up. I need to listen to him. And when you find yourself caught up in the music itself, then the tales he tells in his lyrics begin to cut deep impressions as you walk with him through the struggle to make sense of life, and faith and the human condition. He has the ability to take everybody’s everyday struggles — loss, grief, poverty, joy, longing, boredom, sameness — and turn them into therapeutic treatments for the listener.

Commenting on Mallonee’s songwriting, PASTE magazine said, “How does one combine belief and doubt in the same song? Or higher meaning and lower urges? Mallonee remains a fascinating songwriter, because he wrestles with these dichotomies as few others do.”

“I remember clearly when I first pulled into town / There was something in the air, there was something in the ground / Something in the language all broken and fractured / Harsh & cold & always manufactured...

“(The King’s Highway, from Slow Trauma)

Bill Mallonee is able to take that broken and fractured language of life and mold it into a living, breathing work of art, certainly not something manufactured. This is haunting music that tugs at your heart through your mind.

That may be why success with record companies eluded both Vigilantes of Love and Bill as a solo act. He creates work too deep to serve as background music to life, and which demands to be considered; pondered, chewed on. And because of that dedication, that calling that he feels to communicate his view of the world to us, he’s been too-long ignored. Recently, Bill’s even been forced to try and sell equipment to make ends meet. And when a master craftsman has to sell his tools, what a tragedy for all of us. People need to buy his music, not his tools!

“You're gonna have to speak up when talking to the deaf / I say a prayer while still holding my breath / Too many tears in a dry & barren land / Too many ghosts inside every man” (The King’s Highway, from Slow Trauma)

Mallonee has produced, on average, more than two albums per year over the last 25 years or so. When asked how he managed such prolific output in a recent interview, he said, “Three things, I think. The first is that ever since I was a kid, I think I was in touch with a certain wounded-ness within me. After you walk around feeling weird for years you start to develop a nomenclature to describe it. For me, it came out in lyrics, in songs.

“The other two would be the road and poverty. Both have been teachers; they're very demanding instructors. I've learned more from the times of deprivation and by being a troubadour than from any other source. I've been on the road almost continually for 22 years, mostly just trying to make ends meet.

“I've never written with a particular audience in mind, Christian or otherwise. I wrote to make sense of what seemed like a very fragile world—the one within mostly, and sometimes the one without. Sure, I had my influences like Neil Young, Dylan, and Springsteen, but after that it was more about just trying to be authentic. I turned off the radio in '95, and just sorta gave myself to finding my own voice. A good artist starts to name his or her vision, to do it your way and make not apologies. There's something liberating with just getting comfortable in your own skin.”

Slow Trauma is a collection of 10 outstanding tracks. Mostly medium-tempo, with a predominantly indie-folk, alt-country feel. After about a dozen listenings, it continues to unfold new layers, musically and lyrically, each time I hear it. With Bill on vocals, guitars and drums, and his wife Muriah Rose on keyboards and backing vocals, these songs are rich, yet spare at the same time. This is a master craftsmen at his best, looking at the rough journey over which life has taken him with both a sense of harsh realism, and a certain hope that there is a purpose for it all.

The opening track, “One and the Same” is a falsetto dirge of sorts that sets the tone: “What to hold on to / and what to let go of, / what you should give away, / What’s gonna save you / and what makes you smile? / Sometimes they’re one and the same.”

“Only Time Will Tell” offers a commentary on the uncertainty of life, from a musician who lives that uncertainty day to day. “Waiting for the Stone to be Rolled Away” gives us a look at life, faith and mortality: “Baby, gimme those keys & sit back and just watch me / navigate this thing back home with considerable ease / down these sad, back streets of
doubt / to a new & brighter day / waiting for...waiting for...waiting for the stone to be rolled away”

A Western movie-in-a-song follows with ‘Hour Glass.” “The heroes always die with just the right words on their tongues. / in the arms of the most beautiful woman / you ever laid your eyes on / He would kiss her tenderly and then he’d breath his last. / Only so many grains of sand in the hour glass.

Life’s rough edges show up again in WPA: “Well, they say you can’t ever miss / what was never yours to keep / i see you when i close my eyes, honey you’re all i’ll ever trust / Say “good~bye” to the family / I promise I’ll write regularly / when i get to where they’re taking us / tossing me a scrap...throwing me a crust / it's all ashes to ashes...and dust to dust.

Ironclad, High-Beam, Doldrums in Denver, and The King’s Highway follow.

“Well, you didn't come with much, and God? / He only knows / you won't be leaving with a lot when you go / and go you surely will and if you're lucky you'll be missed / you can go with God or with a clenched fist.” (The King’s Highway, from Slow Trauma)

The album finishes with a weary but undefeated declaration, “That Last Hill”: “You know time is such a precious thing to kill / I just want to see over that last hill / I just want to see over that last hill”

Rolling Stone Magazine once wrote that "Bill Mallonee... [has] remained fascinated with the shadowy emotional toils and struggles inherent in the American experience, compelling, insightful, [he] continues to probe through Americana rock and roll proving that sometimes the only story worth telling is that of the journey.”

Bill Mallonee is an American treasure; no, he’s a treasure for humanity. That’s who he speaks to — everyone who lives.

Here’s how he closes his liner notes:

Slow Trauma.
Life beckons. You only get the day, one day at a time…And the world? It is starving and hurting.
Best get about doing one’s part to lessen the grief.
Do your part, in your corner and among your friends, to kick at the darkness and at death itself.

That’s some of what this album is about…

bill mallonee
Everybody likes to think that they were THERE: that they were at the beginning of something, the first to engage in some activity which later became of cultural significance.

Maybe you saw Pink Floyd at the UFO club in Notting Hill Gate in 1967? Or the Sex Pistols on their Jubilee bash on a boat on the Thames ten years later? What about the massive rave at Castlemorton in the 1992? Or the road protest on Twyford Down near Winchester which kick-started the anti-roads movement at around the same time?

Personally, I always like to say that I am responsible for Reclaim the Streets. The basis for my claim is that before the first march and rally against the Criminal Justice Bill, in May 1994, my name was one of three registered at Scotland Yard as being responsible. It was a beautiful sunny day and people danced in the fountains at Trafalgar Square to the Rinky Dink bicycle-powered mobile sound system. Later, maybe, people thought that it would be a good idea to hold a party in the street.

It’s an absurd claim, of course. I can imagine
veterans of RTS going purple in the face right now, knowing that CJ Stone hardly ever attended a single meeting, certainly took no part in any action, and that when he did attend meetings, he made no noticeable contribution to the proceedings.

It’s true. And yet I still maintain that I was there, on the ground floor as it were: in spirit, if not in body. It’s possible for many people to have the same thought at the same time.

The word is Zeitgeist. The spirit of the times. To have been around in any era, to have participated, even on a peripheral level, is to have absorbed some of its imperatives, some of its meaning. So even if even you didn’t actually see the Sex Pistols in 1977, you will have understood their milieu, you would have been a part of the movement that brought them about.

I can’t speak for people younger than me. Chances are you will have your own cultural moments: your own measure of what is significant to you. Possibly the anti-capitalist mobilisations in Seattle and other places - in Prague or Genoa - will be part of that.

It’s a similar claim that forms the basis of the book: From ACT UP to the WTO, which traces the history of the anti-capitalist movement back to the work of American Gay Rights and AIDS activists in the late eighties (ACT UP: the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power).

It is a claim that is both true and false at the same time.

What you can probably say is that Gay Rights activists played a significant part in developing the milieu of the anti-capitalist movement, both in the US and in the UK. Certainly the style of street protest over the last 20 years or so has changed, protest now being a much more lively process than it used to be: more like a carnival, less like an exercise in political tub-thumping. More music, more dance, more style, more costume, more theatre, more irony, more pleasure. Less of the dreary speeches.
Housing Benefit Hill:
http://www.amazon.co.uk/Housing-Benefit-Hill-Other-Places/dp/190259343X

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

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

The Last of the Hippies:
http://www.amazon.co.uk/Last-Hippies-C-J-Stone/dp/0571193137/
weird weekend 2016

19-21 August 2016
Three Days of Monsters, Ghosts and UFOs
The Small School, Hartland, North Devon

YOU'VE NEVER HAD IT SO WEIRD

www.weirdweekend.org
The Masters of the Universe do seem to have a steady stream of interesting stories featuring them, their various friends and relations, and alumni. Each week Graham Inglis keeps us up to date with the latest news from the Hawkverse.

The annual Hawkeaster event at Seaton's Gateway is on Sat 26 & Sun 27 March, and Membranes and Jane Weaver were added to the running order, a while back. Hawkwind have now issued another redesign of the promo poster, updated to include Mojo Sinners, but intriguingly Elves of Silbury Hill (an alternative incarnation of Hawkwind) have been deleted from the list.

Meanwhile a Hawkeaster Picnic has been announced, the name implying that it's an outdoor event. Catering is by Tierra Kitchen, a Lyme Regis vegetarian restaurant, so perhaps they're bringing the food over to Seaton in a van. More details as and when they emerge.

And just a reminder that Tim Blake has announced he's taking a break from Hawkwind activities, to work on the celebration of 40 years of Crystal Machine. At a recent gig, Niall Hone mainly did electronics rather than guitar, so perhaps that's how things will shake down in his absence. Following Hawkeaster, the Hawkwind spring tour is in April.

The radio station Planet Rock has a 'Planet Rock Plays It In Full' slot on Monday nights, and play an album from start to finish, without breaks for jingles or radio announcements. "Just the album played as the artist intended it to be," as their website puts it. This coming Monday, it's Hawkwind's turn, and visitors to the website are invited to choose which album.
A sci-fi adventure ... resurrected by Don Falcone & Mack Maloney, with Hawkwind family members Dave Anderson, Alan Davey, Paul Hayles, Jerry Richards, Nik Turner, Twink, & Bridget Wishart, plus Daedal-Allen (Gong), Robert Berry (3), Keith Christmas, John Ellis (The Vibrators), Kev Ellis (Space Cadets), Matt Malley (Counting Crows), Nigel Mazlyn Jones, Pete Pavli (High Tide), Ken Pustelnik (The Groundhogs), Billy Sherwood (Yes), Judge Smith (Van der Graaf), Steiffe Sharpmstrings, Cyrille Verdeaux (Clearlight), Steve York, & 24 more musicians ...

Polls conducted on the Hawkwind Forum, back in the days before Facebook became so popular, almost invariably had Space Ritual Alive and Quark as the top two albums. It will be interesting to see which album makes it, this time around.
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)
.............................................................................................................
.............................................................................................................
.............................................................................................................

Full Earth Address: ..................................................................................
.............................................................................................................
.............................................................................................................

Post Code: .................................................................................................

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

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

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

XXII

The world in which we live today, or at least the world in which I live today, is almost unrecognisable as the world in which I lived forty years ago… even though I actually find myself living in the same house as the one I lived in back then. For example, although I have put advertisements up in the village shop over the past few years, I have found it nigh on impossible to find a schoolboy who wants to earn a few extra quid working in my garden. These days, the younger generation is
(an elderly Scottish lady named Hattie) had died a few months earlier - she had approached them for a job.

Others in her family were less industrious. Although he was the same age as me, and had failed his O Levels just as ignominiously, Stevie Wingford had sneered at the idea that he should get a job, opting instead to hang around the town square of Bradworthy, leering at the girls and making a nuisance of himself. Emboldened by their experiences with Hazel, Stevie and his gang became notorious amongst the young women of the little town, very few of whom were lucky enough to have escaped their predations entirely.

Now, this is something that I am pretty sure would be a completely alien concept to young people today. In those days girls didn’t complain about sexual and emotional abuse. Whether it was because they felt that they wouldn’t be believed, or whether they felt that they would be tarred by the indelible brush of public opinion if they did so, I don’t know. My personal suspicions are that it was a mixture of the two. I remember when one of
the young women of my village was raped in the late 1980s my mother behaved as if it was somehow the girl’s fault, and insisted on referring to her as “that village wench” who was now “damaged goods”.

So for all sorts of reasons Stevie and his coterie of unpleasant ruffians continued to cast a long and unpleasant stain upon the social organism of the little town of Bradworthy, and as the long hot summer of 1976 continued, they got more indolent and more threatening.

Then they discovered car theft. It started off with what was then (and may still be, for all I know) known as ‘Joy Riding’, but when they found that there was a tumbledown garage out on the Liskeard road that dealt in ‘bent MOTs’, the gang discovered that there was actually money to be made in car theft. Stevie Wingford had found a job at last!

Hazel, however, was happier working for the Potts ménage than she had ever been before. Because unlike her parents who doted on him, the elderly gentlefolk for whom she was now working found nothing admirable in young Stevie. And one day when Hazel arrived at work with a black eye after Stevie had come home drunk and Hazel had tried to resist his boorish advances, ‘Miss Britannia’ had inveigled the truth out of her.

These days, of course, one would like to believe that things would be completely different. There are specialist police officers, social workers and family therapists trained to deal with cases of familial sexual abuse, but if indeed people like that existed four decades ago, they certainly didn’t exist in Bradworthy. And whilst little Hazel, still only thirteen, felt better now she had someone to confide in, she refused point blank to go to the police, or even to let Miss Britannia go and talk to her mother and father.

And so things continued for another three years. I went off to boarding school and was expelled two and a half terms later. My parents were so embarrassed by all this that they tried to bully me into joining the army, and when I failed the entrance physical on the grounds that I was completely insane, procured for me a series of jobs that I couldn’t possibly do, with old business associates of my father in different parts of the Home Counties. All of these jobs were pretty disastrous, and I ended up destitute, unable to even claim Unemployment Benefit (as it was called then).

I came back to Woolsey with my tail between my legs, with another job that I was completely unable to do, working for my Father. I soon made friends with the relatively small number of arty alternative types in the vicinity, and until I passed my driving test a year or so later I was totally reliant on public transport.

But I was still away, working for a company in Reading which specialised in installing plasterboard office partitioning, when the word went around the gentlefolk of my particular sector of North Devon that the Rev Cymbaline Potts had been caught soliciting the sexual favours of a little boy in the public lavatory in the middle of Bradworthy Square.

Except (and it was nearly forty years before I found this out) it wasn’t a rosy faced choirboy. It was Stevie Wingford!
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!!"

LIKE TIDES, YOU WILL NOT MOVE

unless under some celestial impulsion
Like rocks, you will sit and gather
in the gravity of each situation
Whether it be THE DOME or DAMANHUR
Uluru or Rodin or Vigeland or Olgas
Rock attracts with vortices of energies
bringing people together like magnetic poles
You may be attracted to Waterfalls-to Springs, Rivers, Wells
You may voyage all your life in skies or oceans
Eventually you may journey to a Holy Mountain
Meditate in Andes, Himalayas or Tibet
You may calcify, ossify, turn to stone or dust
when you have met your true alignment
with ALL THAT IS (for you alone..
This is why you pilgrimage
This is where you find your home,
publisher the fact that people are less interested in books, and as a result the price of them drops year upon year is a disaster. But as a bibliophile, it is a godsend. And this is why I have a library of something in the region of 5,000 books on a wide range of esoteric subjects.

One of the things that particularly interests me is the genesis of children’s books. I have been vaguely planning a book about the real places described in children’s fiction for about a decade now, and though I doubt whether I shall ever actually finish writing the thing, I am still collecting source material.

And so, when I found a second hand copy of this book which purported to be an examination of C S Lewis’ classic Chronicles of Narnia for less than the price of a packet of Rizlas, I jumped at the chance. What I had not realised was that the author was Dr Rowan Williams, ex Archbishop of Canterbury, and avid fan of the Incredible String Band. I was a little disappointed when I found that out, because I was hoping for a book of literary criticism and biography, rather than one on theology. But, I argued to myself, trying not to think that I had wasted 38p (plus £2.80 post and packing, which would make it an expensive packet of Rizlas) if I was going to get a book looking at the Narnia stories from a Christian theological perspective, who better than an Archbishop of Canterbury to have written it?

C S Lewis has come in for somewhat of a kicking in recent years mostly because of his Christian faith. He has been accused of writing the books as Christian propaganda. He has been accused of ignoring the sexuality of his characters by banishing them from Narnia as soon as they approach sexual maturity. And he has been accused of racism, which, along with sexism and homophobia is
one of the unholy trinity of contemporary thought crimes.

I was interested to see what this book had to say about these claims. But, having the opinion that I have about the contemporary Church of England, I wasn’t particularly hopeful. However, much to my pleasure, Williams refuted them all, especially the charges of anti Muslim bias; The Calormenes worship a pantheon of demons and practise human sacrifice. No-one outside the lunatic fringe would make these claims about followers of Islam. Williams even took a very gentlemanly pop at Philip Pullman who has spent much of his writing career working from an atheist perspective.

And this is really what has always disturbed me about the current anti-Lewis backlash. Mentioning no names, one of the young people in my extended family became very upset some years ago when one of her teachers told her that the Chronicles of Narnia were “just Christian propaganda”.

Well first of all, that’s just not true. The seven Chronicles of Narnia are not JUST anything. They are complex stories which can be read and enjoyed by both children and adults, and which work on a number of levels. Yes, one of them is an allegory based vaguely on the story of Christ from the New Testament, but so what?

Lewis wrote from a Christian perspective.

Pullman writes from an Atheist one.

Everything I write, both fiction and non fiction is from a green anarchist perspective.

So what?

It doesn’t matter.

Every artist creates from the perspective of their own unique world view. That is what an artist does, and it is what being an artist is all about.

I can understand why contemporary Christianity irritates people. It irritates the living crap out of me, and I have a sneaking suspicion that it also irritates this ex-Archbishop. But it is for the Church to put its affairs in order, not for non-believers to deny Christians the right to write about their own beliefs as Williams has done in this book, and as Lewis did in the books that Williams wrote about.

Grow up people. I am going off to get drunk.
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...

Greetings discerning cabinet perusers. Nothing much to say about the week, other than it was much like the week before, and the week before that. But...

I got all in dither
When I came across this zither
But is this a crocodile or is it an alligator?
I will check with Mr Ed and get back to you later.

The crocodile zither (mi gyau ng), which is a traditional instrument from Burma that is a fretted, and played by plucking its three strings. It dates back to the 19th century.
Isn't Dr Nick in The Simpsons? Wow...I wonder if Elvis shouted "Hi, Dr Nick!"

Elvis Presley Hair Very Rare - US $2,499.99

Elvis Presley's hair. Yes you read correct, His actual hair. This was purchased from Alexander Autograph's a few years back and was in one of there auctions. Comes with there coa and a letter from Toni Cirstino her father was

“Medical bag And Instruments used on Elvis Presley On tour Direct From His Nurse - US $10,000.00

This medical bag was used to care for Elvis while on tour. The rotation while on tour was between Dr. Nick and Tish Henley. Dr. Nick sold his medical bag some years back. The one of Tish Henley has NEVER been offered.

All of the contents are still inside untouched since 1977. This comes with COA, a free copy of Tish's book.”

SHAMELESS SELF PROMOTION TIME

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

Check it out now...
the barber who cut Elvis hair and saved it. Comes in a locket pictured. Roughly 20 pieces of hair. Kind of hard to count them.”

Last week we had a fairly substantial wad of hair from John Lennon, but this week we have a few scraggy strands from Elvis. Oh well, Elvis fans can take solace in the fact that we have two Elvis items back to back this week.

Charles-François GOUNOD (Composer):
Presentation Laurel Wreath - US $1,800.00

“Gounod, Charles-François. (1818 - 1893)
Presentation Laurel Wreath from the Société Royale d’Harmonie
Enormous wreath or symbolic crown of artificial leaves, Antwerp 1879, framed with a printed card and original event ribbons under glass in its original massive black wood frame (diameter 48 cm, 65 x 65 cm) as owned by the composer himself. Numerous chips to the frame, unexamined out of framed, but quite visually striking indeed.

Large wreath of artificial oak leaves with acorns and gold ornaments, with wide ribbons embroidered with the inscription "La Société Royale d’Harmonie d’Anvers à Charles Gounod, Témoignage d’admiration", and the date of 1879.

Gounod made several trips to Antwerp in 1879: on 17 April for a performance of Polyeucte, again at the end of May for a concert, and, after two preparatory meetings in late August and 13 September, for a great ‘Gounod Festival’ on 2-4 November by the Société royale d’harmonie and Société de musique, under his direction. On November 11, the Société royale d’harmonie presented him with a certificate as an honorary member, and performed a Serenade in his honor the next day: It was on this occasion that they present him with this wreath.”

This is quite exquisite in more ways than one. Not only has it been in existence since 1879 and been looked after ever since, it is so much better than most of the tat that is obtainable as memorabilia of well-known, and not so well-known, members of the broad music fraternity. Oh, and by the way, 1879 was also the year that one of the best national anthems, "La Marseillaise", was restored into usage.

Original Color "C" print Captain Beefheart TROUT MASK REPLICA VERY VERY RARE - US $2,200.00

“Up for auction is THE ORIGINAL PHOTO USED FOR THE CAPTAIN BEEFHEART ALBUM TROUT MASK REPLICA. This photo was taken by Cal Schenkel, the great artist that did album covers for Frank Zappa and The Mothers of Invention, as well as other musicians. This ORIGINAL photo was taken for the great album TROUT MASK REPLICA, by the great Captain Beefheart aka Don Van Vliet. This is the third album for the Captain Beefheart Band. It was released in June 1969.

This a one of a kind item and is a very collectible item. There is a crease horizontally, but does not interfere with the image. There is no emulsion loss.

This is a Chromogenic Print also known as C Print. The mounted photo measures 21”x18”, the image size is 16”x20”

This image is made from a film camera. This is not
a digital image or reproduction. There was no photoshop when this was shot.

This picture will look incredible mounted and framed. On each corner, registration marks were placed so when it was shot to make a plate for printing, the color separations would line up.

So, Mr Ed. What would you pay for this very familiar picture eh?

A rare opportunity... £10,000 or buy it now £50,000

“Hi, This is a unique opportunity to become part of music history.

I am at present, recording a Country/folk Album.

(1) The winning bidder will choose the Album cover (Art Work)
(2) All legal documentation will be provided on request. Signed contracts for all parties, for peace of mind.

This is a great opportunity not to be missed, for someone who wants to be involved in a musician’s career from the beginning.

100% legitimate venture.....No managers fees, producers fees or taxes...etc...”

Is this fishy or what?

Thank you and goodnight.
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 surrealist world peopled by talking rock buns and elephants on wobbly stilts. They mooch around in their minimalist universe suffering from an existential crisis with some genetically modified humour thrown in. I think Peter McAdam is one of the funniest people around, and I cannot recommend his book The Nine Henrys highly enough. Check it out at Amazon. Each issue we shall be running a series of Henrybits that are not found in his book about the nine cloned cartoon characters who inhabit a surreal world nearly as insane as mine...
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.

Donald Bradshaw-Leather: The Distance Between Us
(Distance, 1972)

What? Nightmare-ridden masterwork; record collectors’ gold!

One of the most sought after vinyl rarities is a mystery on almost every level. Along with the usual confusion in this area about who the artist might be, there’s the perplexing question of exactly what is going on over the four sides of the original vinyl. Don Bradshaw-Leather is reportedly elusive and enigmatic and (allegedly) deceased.

Rumours of him being either a member of Barclay James Harvest and/or an alter-ego of prog-rock maverick Robert John Godfrey appear spurious. His only album is just plain strange. A slowly unfolding, mainly instrumental, collection of four lengthy tracks, The Distance... distorts normal notions of melody and sound, offering up snatches of melody but building each track around subtly shifting sonic arrangements suggesting the man conceived the thing more like a classical piece. Any classical notions are undermined by the dark and very rock sounds and instruments, any notions that it’s a rock album are undermined by the radio unfriendly long-impenetrable tracks, buried vocals and unnerving arrangements that come over more like early synth experiments, and any notions it belongs with the synth pioneers are undermined by the fact our man, or maniac, prefers organs to synths and has a pretty old-school rock notion of how they should sound. Strangely symphonic, rumbling like rolling rocks and meandering like the mind of a man obsessed but permanently unable to make his point, The Distance Between Us is perfectly titled because it continues to fascinate, whilst its secrets remain hidden. As perplexing and downright strange as anything recorded, anywhere, anytime, and not recommended for those of a nervous disposition.
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 Burden 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 Alban’s African Express and collaborate live with Amadou & Marlam featuring Beth Orton.

CD and book available soon from Gonzo Multimedia
From Saint Petersburg, Troll Bends Fir ("Troll Gnet El" in Russian) is a Russian band in such genre as "folk-rock-humppa-metal". The musicians themselves describe their style as "beer folk" and this is also a part of the group’s brand. TBF’s lyrics are full of praise for divine frothy drink and funny stories about characters of pagan Scandinavian and European folklore.

The band have celebrated their 10th anniversary, brought out 4 albums, prepared a new concert program, which will become the 5th album later, and played about 300 gigs, 50-60 per year in the last 3 years.

TBF apply a song structure and devices that are specific to “metal” music using light “overdrive” and clear guitar sound, getting dynamic, original “fresh” recognizable sound; of course, there is “distortion” in part of the songs. Another unique thing about TBF is their ability to conform to metal format as well as to ethno, folk and folk-rock formats; the diversity of material allows multiple versions of a playlist for the audiences of different age and taste. (Facebook)

Current members:
Konstantin "Troll" - vocals, guitars
Maria "Jetra" - vocals, Irish whistle
Andrey Tepper - violin
Sergey "Skjoldy" - bass
Aleksey "Ainar" - drums
Andrey "Lukich" - drums

Facebook
Wikipedia
Website
Spirit of Metal
You Tube
Ave Celia!
Vrag Moy (Foe of Mine)
Конунг Хмель (Konung Hop)
And so it ends for another week.

Once again it has been a week fraught with computer problems, or - to be more accurate - with the continuing fallout from the previous two weeks’ computer problems. I have said before in these pages that computers are the work of the devil!

This week this assertion is more true than ever. Graham tried manfully to upgrade the CPU of my new machine and then to upgrade the RAM (by which I mean something to do with computers and not a male sheep) but to no avail. After all this buggering about (and I want to stress that none of this was Graham's fault and that he tried manfully under difficult circumstances although I thought that things were going to get easier.

Enter my part time secretary with the lovely Marianne. Every week she comes to help me with my weekly letters. The third computer in my office is even worse than the other two; dear Marianne bought along her laptop (after having spent a week wrestling with it to make it work) only the laptop spell checker was doing all sorts of particular things and eventually stopped working at all.

Then this morning the keyboard on my machine stopped working and the video display on Corinna’s machine (also newly purchased) packed up. Dear Graham worked tremendously hard on both problems, and after a serious amount of fiddling around managed to get both machines working again.

Thank you Old Friend. I truly do not know what we would do without you.
BEEFHEART AT HIS BEST
Live on stage

ADMIT ONE $5.50 STALLS

Somewhere Over Detroit
11 Dec 1980
From Harpos Concert Theatre, Detroit
11 Dec 1980
On Stage 20.30

Captain Beefheart & The Magic Band

Eric Drew Feldman, Robert Williams, Richard Snyder, Jeff Tipton/White, Jeff Morris Tepper

LIVE

GONZO MULTIMEDIA

www.gonzomultimedia.co.uk