



Mailman

Write to Mailman, Record Mirror, Spotlight House,
1 Benwell Road, London N7 7AX

WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?

WHAT'S THE bloody idea of having these so called 'new wave bands' featured in this paper every single week? Every time I see a picture my blood boils at these low form creatures. If they appear like this in your paper again then that's one more sale lost.

The only good thing about your paper (oughtn't you call it 'Punk Weekly'?) is the charts as it's the only one with the radio charts. But bloody hell, why change the layout? It's just downright stupid. So count your money cause in one week's time you'll be 15p short.

Chris Tomlin, Shakespeare Close, Swadincote, Derbyshire.

● Complaining little bugger ain't ya. Okay, you maybe entitled to your opinion but before you stop buying the paper have a quick glance at the charts and you'll find albums and singles by the Sex Pistols, Stranglers, Clash, Jam, Heartbreakers. So tell me how you're gonna ignore it?

There's far too much prejudice amongst pop fans and this page bears that out. Why the hang up? It's only music after all. Don't take things so seriously, then you might even begin to enjoy what's happening. Besides, you've got nothing to shout about. Didn't Jack Bodell come from Swadincote...?

Big is beautiful

I GOT IT. At last I got it. I lay on the bed and my mum handed me a packet which contained none other than your T-shirt. I opened it and pulled the shirt out. I jumped out of bed and put it on. Well!!! I'm not saying it's big, I know you want me to advertise your great mag (the thought couldn't have been further from our minds, Mailman) but I didn't expect to have to walk around with my left arm poised in the air without looking conspicuous. And I know that my bust measures 90 but that's centimetres not inches. So is there anybody out there with a rather large chest who owns a rather small T-shirt?

Carole Stevens, Garrod Ave, Duvant, Swansea.



I FEEL I have to knock the ill-fated Tony Palmer 'All You Need Is Love' programme (Right, go on then) I looked forward immensely to last Saturday's showing — 'Glitter Rock'. Great I thought. About time marvellous Marc got some TV coverage. Yes, beloved Marc Bolan — the one who started Glam Sham rock. No, instead we were treated to a film of Bowie from 'Omnibus' which we've all seen before, and

the Queen of Glitter Rock herself — Helen Reddy!?

Blimey, she's got as much to do with glitter as Hitler's got to do with The Osmonds. Marc didn't even get his name dropped. What promised to be an interesting and fulfilled programme turned into a pathetic,



Where to next, Tony?

ridiculous waste of an hour.

How I marvelled at Eric the Cas he taught me how to do the blues. How I relished Bob Marley telling me to get lively. I look forward to this week's 'New Directions' programme. Maybe we'll see a film of Gene

Vincent, Frank Sinatra and Lena Zavaroni. Sorry Tony — your work was all wasted.

Samantha, Wood End Hill, Harpenden, Herts.

PS: Do I get three quid?

● How dare you ask for money. I'm not a fool you

know. I can see you've just written this letter as a cheap stunt to get some financial reward. Well hard luck. You ain't getting none. Instead three pounds will be donated to the 'Hi, I'm Tony Palmer I'm out of work with a wife and three kids to support' fund.

● Welsh people always did have funny figures. Must be the leeks.

The pain, the pain

WHAT A great idea it would be if the Beeb or 208 had a programme devoted solely to playing both sides of all the new singles released each week. It would easily fit into a two hour slot. This would not only benefit the artist and companies but would reflect a truer

picture of the record buyer's tastes in the charts. More money would be earned because of the increased sales in records and maybe then prices would drop a little. By the way, your paper's good (crawl crawl) Better than Melody Maker and Sounds anyway.

Steve Hovington, Greylands Park Road, Scarborough.

● Hold it. Have you really thought this out? Firstly, do you actually realise how many singles are issued each week? I'd estimate an average of 60. So to play both sides of all those records would take up at least six broadcasting hours. Secondly, a vast majority of those singles are garbage and are lucky to see the light of day. I ask you, would it be fair to inflict such torture on unsuspecting listeners? It's more likely to turn people off the idea of buying singles than what you suggest. Think again. Wholeheartedly agree with your sentiments in the last sentence though. But why leave out NME?

write such junk. If he's got a sexy body why shouldn't he show it off? You must be a creep.

Paula McKeown alias London Leslie Lover, Montbelle Road, New Eltham London.

Atchoo!

IS ONE permitted to point out to Sheila Prophet that her remarks on David Soul at the Royal Variety Show, Glasgow, were deliberately out of line? (No, SP) His so called condition of 'paralyzed nerves' as put by her was in fact the start of his pneumonia which thankfully wasn't all that serious. And thanks to people who care he is now well on the way to recovery. My view is that Sheila Prophet owes one

David Soul an apology for her unnecessary remarks.

Marie Downey, Sandylane, Peckersham, Richmond.

● Sheila would like to make it clear that she atchoo! 'Scuse me, thought wheeze! atchoo! Unfortunately she seems to be suffering from a bad bout of paralyzed nerves and is not available for comment at the moment.

Growing pains

At 13 I became a T Rex fan.

For the next three years I was a totally obsessed, extremely boring (to

anyone who couldn't stick Bolan) teenybopper. But I grew out of that, thank God. At 17 I spent most of my time in London with fellow T Rex fans, tracking down the band, waiting outside recording studios in the snow till three in the morning and that sort of thing. It seemed worth it at the time.

At 18 I became more critical of my idol (?) and was fed up with 'Futuristic Dragon'. But the wonderful simplicity of 'I Love To Boogie' restored my faith. And now I'm 19 and 'Dandy in the Underworld' has just found its way into my house. And no it isn't the greatest T Rex album since 'Electric Warrior' — it's 10 times better.

All I can say after all these years is — Marc, for chrissakes, why do you keep doing this to me? I'll never grow up at this rate — thank God! (Who wants to be an adult anyway?)

Gail, The Guinness Queen, Snowdown Avenue, Oakham, Leicester.

● Ahhhh.

Senile section

WITH REFERENCE to Ros Russell's rather sarcastic remark in her review of the Shadows concert. Although I attended their concert in Sheffield, not London, I can assure you that the majority of the audience were under 20 — and several were under 16. The point I'm making is that we are not all 'Old folks'. I'm 17 and have been a fan of theirs for some years and as yet nobody can be compared with Hank's genius on the guitar. So come on RR, admit your defeat. We're not all old folk that love

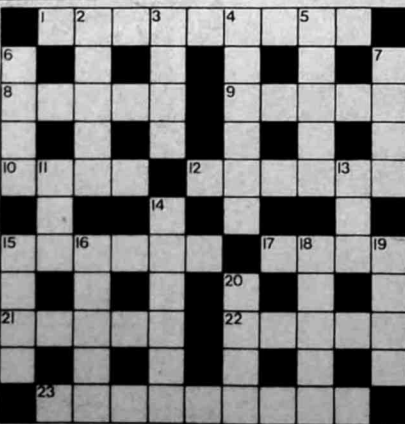
Discword

ACROSS

- 1 Hang on to the new Manhattan Transfer release (4,3,2)
- 8 Jesse is a coloured singer (5)
- 9 Miss Jones has elegance and beauty (4)
- 10 Cat time? (4)
- 12 Return to this person, sang Elvis (6)
- 15 Little green fruits... (6)
- 17 ... and John gets only the skin! (4)
- 21 Performances by Marilyn McCoo and Billy Davis Jr., for example (5)
- 22 One of the little things Leapy Lee sang of (5)
- 23 Brother Jukebox brother (3,6)

DOWN

- 2 unusual music to find in an Alice Cooper album! (5)
- 3 Tim size (4)
- 4 Fast lane life group (6)
- 5 Punk railroad description (5)
- 6 Scoops leader (4)
- 7 " — Prudence" (Beatles) (4)
- 11 They play a fantasy for the common man (3)
- 13 Girl in the Temperance Seven! (3)
- 14 The blues-singing Miss Smith (6)
- 15 Mr Gibb is from England, you know (4)



- 16 Name to go with Umlilani (5)
- 18 Sign on with Loren, perhaps (5)
- 19 Nick sounds depressed (4)
- 20 Cliff's story teller! (4)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Jenny, 4 Dream, 8 Jewell, 9 Warm, 10 Mary, 11 Castle, 12 Shadow, 13 Toby, 17 Kris, 18 Lonely, 19 Union, 20

Tokyo. DOWN: 2 Ele-na, 3 Niece, 5 Rawls, 6 April, 7 Blackwell, 13 Heron, 14 Disco, 15 Tango, 16 Nelly.

You need glasses

I JUST want to thank Sheila Prophet for the terrific interview she did with Eric Faulkner. I've been a Roller fan for three years and that's the best interview I've read for ages. And in answer to Janice from Epsom I certainly wouldn't put me off of buying anything if the Rollers were naked on the front cover. And if the picture of Les McKeown sitting on a bed with just a towel on didn't do anything to you, you must either need glasses or your head examined. If you claim to be such a loyal fan you wouldn't



SANDIE SHAW (above) has some hopes if she thinks she can come back to the scene now. I mean, she is about as dated as Cilla Black, so I suppose we'll be seeing her on those variety shows on the telly on Saturday nights. Save yourself the trouble

Sandie — you were good once, don't spoil it by trying compete against the punks.

S. Liddle, Birmingham

● I DUNNO, looking like this she has a pretty good chance of making a comeback.