

# 48 THRILLS

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Maximum Penalty 20p.

# REMOTE CONTROL FROM THE CIVIC HALL...

...or how about Guildford's Burning? It doesn't really matter, except that this was the first gig on the White Riot Tour that's making May a great month for the nation.

The trouble when a band is as exciting as the Clash are, is that if a gig is anything less than brilliant, it seems a let down. This one took place only hours after the groups return from France (they played gigs in Paris, Le Mans and Rouen) and that could be the reason why something vital was missing. It took until 'Police and Thieves' near the end before things really started to burn.

It was nothing like that great event in the Paki flea-pit at Harlesden a few weeks back, but it must still have been the best rock n roll Guildford has seen in ages.

As usual, they hit the stage with London's Burning, following it with most of the tracks from the album (What's my name and Protex Blue were the only exceptions).

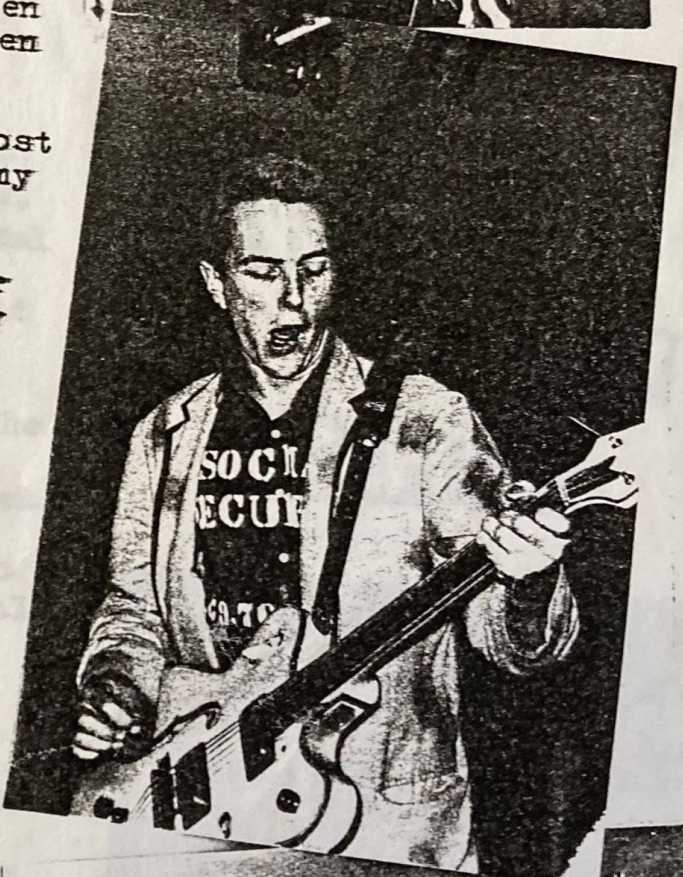
Hearing Police and Thieves live for the first time was an experience. They played the full six minutes and it looked great against the backdrop of the coppers running under the Westway. Strummer spat out the words, screwing his face and twisting himself round the mikestand. At one point he fell backwards onto the stage and just kept on singing lying flat on his back. pol-eece...pol-eece...pol-eece... was incredible.

Almost as good was 'Pressure Drop', originally by Toots and the Maytals (part of the great soundtrack to 'The Harder They Come').

Capital Radio was introduced with words, "This is from an e.p. I haven't got my copy yet...but I know Peel has". The song is built around a typically sharp Mick Jones and has a great "In tune with the times" chorus (more scandal about the later on).

Deny ("for all the women in the world") still sounds good live - better than it does on the album.

Opportunities was dedicated to the kids not at Guildford University, why did Strummer sing the song?



photos by legendary fanzine lensman WALT DAVIDSON

