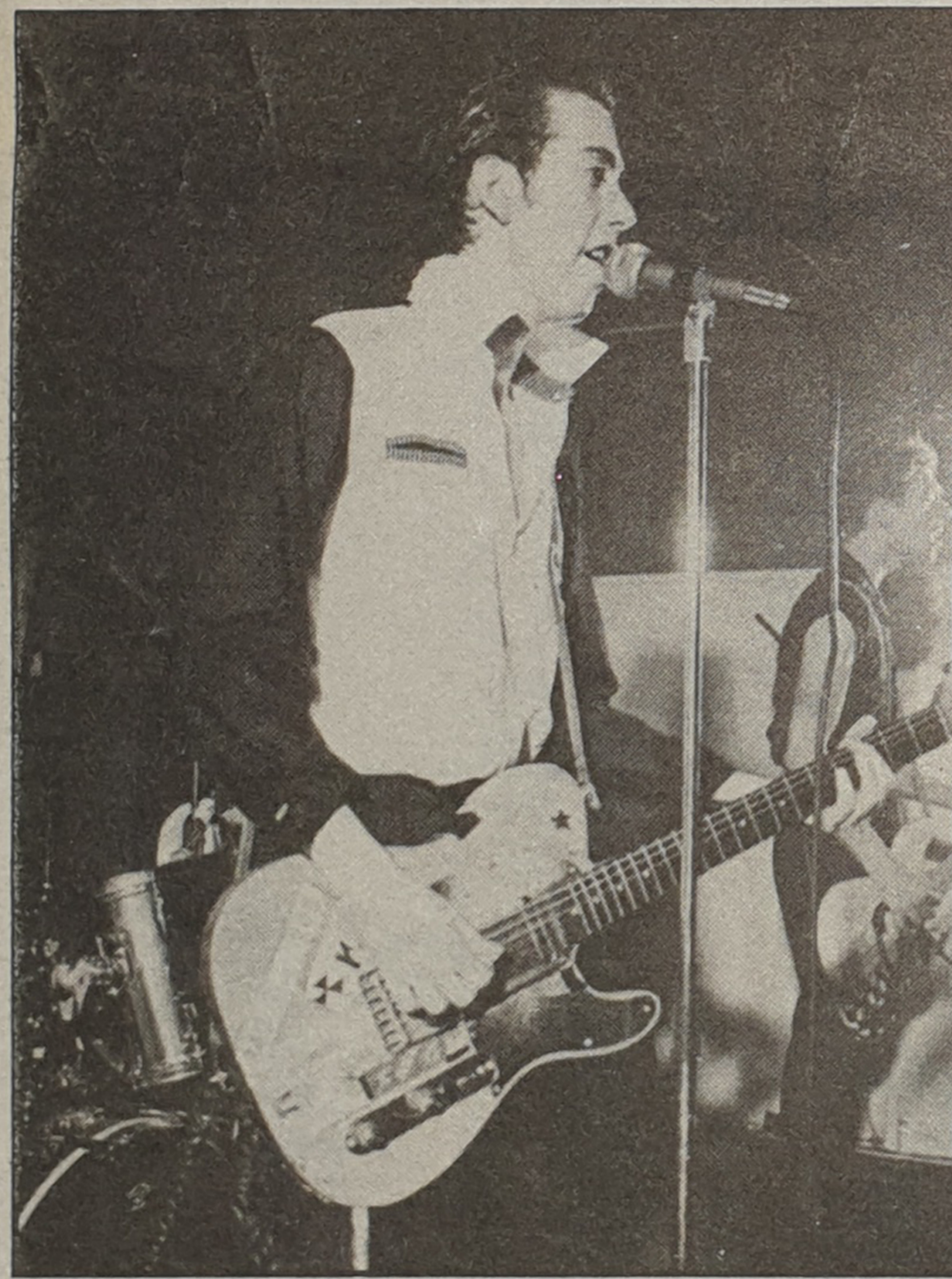


Christmas crackers



Pic by Gervaise Soeurouge



CHARITY CHEER: Above, various members of Jimmy Lydon's 4be2's join Steve Jones, Youth from Killing Joke, anonymous punters, and Jock MacDonald for a spiffing rendition of 'Pretty Vacant' down Oxford Street's Studio 21 club on Xmas day. The 'supergroup', also consisting of leading Mod vocalist Billy Idol, Paul Cook and a session saxophonist, rounded off events at a charity do organised by the Strapping Jock for London's Orphans with a selection of Pistols faves.

Tickets cost 20 smackers a piece, with all remainders flogged for 'donations', and the audience included the likes of John Lydon, various other PiL-heads and the rest of Gen X. All in all around £1,700 was raised for the capital's neediest saucepan lids. The rest of the bill starred electronic band Annorexia, the delightful Honey Bane's Fatal Microbes combo, Killing Joke (minus one) and the 4be2's themselves featuring la Jock on out of tune guitar. Jock assures us this was definitely his one and only active musical sortie into the great rock 'n' roll universe (Hang out the flags — Ed).

Meantimes down the road at Acklam Hall The Clash (left) played two secret gigs on Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Doors opened at 4.30 and the well attended events were over by 7pm both nights. Well informed sources close to Jaws were heard muttering that the band's performances, including sizeable extracts from the new double album, were unusually good.

Jimmy jazz

SHAM THE HAM, NEW HORRORS: Jimmy Pursey up to his old party-disrupting tricks just two days afore Christmas, we hear, when he led a motley rabble consisting of Dave Parsons, Jamie from the Dials, Jimmy Edwards and a roadie on stage at the Rock City Xmas Party down Shepperton Studios.

Thus assembled the mob didth rendereth (note seasonal spirit in writing) a miserable din which they tried to pass off as 'Jumping Jack Flash' (a little known Clash original). Natch the party was brought to a standstill as everyone was reduced to unblinking stares of disbelief, including Denny Laine and missus, and Gary Numan with male clone companion (Gal was well into the party spirit impersonating a wall and turning down Chrissy trinkets). Eventually Rock City's director recovered from the nasty shock long enough to usurp the pretenders from the stage, claiming that they were "over the top". Surely not.

CAPTIVE AUDIENCE: Veteran Bridge House old-timer and co-author of such timeless Status Quo classics as 'Again And Again And Again And Again ... etc ad nauseum' Jackie Lynton played a gig at Maidstone Jail last Thursday evening. This is believed to have something to do with the new tough line taken with prisoners by the Toryite Home Office.

BUSHELL ROCK (THE BIG ONE FOR THE EIGHTIES): After the Notsensibles trendsetting b-side 'Garry Bushell's Band Of The Week', groups seem to be falling over themselves to compose paeans to *Sounds'* much loved artiste d'urine. First off the Todd Band were heard singing a charming number entitled 'Garry Bushell Did It' down Canning Town last week, a touching tale of public flashing, and then those loveable family entertainers Crass recorded a very nice number called 'Hurry Up Garry' on their latest double album yawno. Reports that Pink Floyd are currently at work on a triple album called 'The Gal' have been denied by an EMI spokesman.

DEATH (OF A) DISCO: Studio 54, the preposterous elite New Yoik disco patronised by the likes of Liz Taylor, Mick Jagger, Diana Ross, Tony Curtis, Liza Minelli, Stinky Turner (*Are you sure?* — Ed) and Bianca is facing the big close down after its owners admitted to a six figure tax fiddle. On top of that Hamilton Jordan, Peanut Carter's White House Chief Of Staff, is alleged to have sniffed cocaine there, and Yank law chiefs are currently investigating a list of famous people who are rumoured to have used the place for 'deals' (a technical term used by druggies). It's also said that the well-guarded basement area of the disco

JOHN FOX X



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