

THE CLASH launch into the new decade in style, by way of a major British tour starting early next month and taking in over 30 dates. They'll be supported throughout by top Jamaican act Toots & The Maytals, and there will also be an additional opening act. The first 25 dates were confirmed this week by promoters Straight Music, and they are:

Aylesbury Friars (January 5), Brighton Top Rank (8 and 9), Bath Pavilion (11), Taunton Odeon (12), Leicester De Montfort Hall (16), Dundee Caird Hall (18), Edinburgh Odeon (20) and 21), Blackburn King George's Hall (25), Chester Deeside Leisure Centre (26). Sheffield Top Rank (27), Bridlington Spa

(31), Hanley Victoria Hall (February 1), Manchester Apollo (3 and 4), Birmingham Top Rank (5 and 6), Poole Wessex Hall (10). Cardiff Sophia Gardens (11), Southampton Top Rank (13), London Camden Electric Ballroom (15 and 16) and London Lewisham Odeon (18).

Remainder of the dates are currently being finalised, and will be announced next week they're expected to include gigs in Blackpool, Bristol, Coventry, Glasgow, Leeds, Portsmouth, Purley and Newcastle. Admission prices will be £3. £2.50 and £2 at all seated venues, and £3 only at unseated venues - tickets will be on sale very shortly, and readers are advised to contact individual box-offices for further details.

 The Clash say they had hoped to play some dates before Christmas, but couldn't find suitable venues at such short notice - but they hope their supporters will be recompensed by this lengthy New Year schedule, which goes out under the banner of 'The 16 Tons Tour'. The opening acts are likely to be drawn from local bands in the areas being visited by the tour.



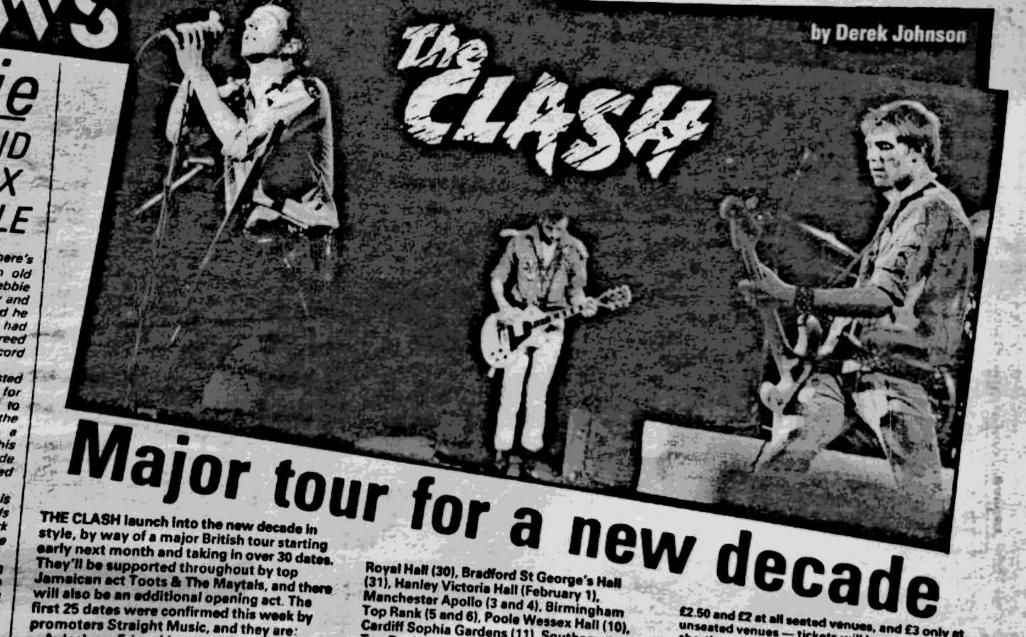
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