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The Clash Newcastle Mayfair June 12th 1980

Posted July 17, 2012 by vintagerock in Rush, The Clash. Tagged: concert, concerts, gig, gigs, music, pop, punk, rock, rock n roll. [Leave a Comment](#)

The Clash Newcastle Mayfair June 12th 1980

Support Joe Ely

(And a trip to the City Hall to see Rush)

This was one of those nights where I was torn between two gigs. Rush were playing at Newcastle City Hall and The Clash were playing at Newcastle Mayfair on the same night. I already had a ticket for Rush, I was going with a group of mates, and the gig was sold out, when The Clash gig was announced. What a dilemma for me! I hadn't missed a Newcastle gig by either band; what could I do? I decided to buy a ticket for The Clash and try and times things so I would see both bands. Now on the rare occasions I have tried to do this, it usually hasn't worked out very well, and I've ended up not enjoying either gig that much. So on the night of the gig(s) I went along to the City Hall with my mates to see Rush. This was the Permanent Waves tour, and my mates were big Rush fans who couldn't believe that I would leave the



gig early to see The Clash. But that's exactly what I did. The norm at The Mayfair was for the band to take the stage around 10pm at that time, so I watched around one hour of The Rush gig then drove down the road to the Mayfair to see The Clash. By then I had missed support act Joe Ely. In fact I arrived in the venue just as The Clash had started the first song of the night. I always find it strange entering a gig late. It's like coming into a party uninvited when everyone is already drunk. Picture this. I enter a packed ballroom, The Clash are playing Safe European Home, and the place is going nuts. I stood on the balcony and wandered around the place, taking it all in. The Clash played much longer that night than the previous times I'd seen them. Of course by 1980, they had a much larger repertoire of songs to draw from. They were great as usual, but I didn't see as much passion and energy as at the Newcastle Poly gig a couple of years before. I thought the gig dragged at times, but picked up towards the end, and the place went nuts when they finished with White Riot. So

my aim of taking in two gigs on the same night sort of worked, although I didn't see that much of Rush, and couldn't really get into their set as my mind was more focussed on getting my timings right in order to catch The Clash. Setlist: Safe European Home; Jimmy Jazz; Revolution Rock; The Guns of Brixton; Train in Vain; London Calling; Spanish Bombs; (White Man) In Hammersmith Palais; Somebody Got Murdered; Koka Kola; I Fought the Law; Jail Guitar Doors; Hit the Road Jack; Police and Thieves; Clampdown; Stay Free; English Civil War; I'm So Bored With the U.S.A.; Complete Control; Armagideon Time; Tommy Gun; London's Burning; Capital Radio; What's My Name; Garageland; White Riot.

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