



STRUMMER: Are you out there?

CLASH POSTPONE DATES

Bring me the guitar of Joseph Strummer

THE CLASH have now postponed the first half of their spring 'Know Your Rights' tour, due to the continued absence of lead singer Joe Strummer, and all 11 dates up to and including May 13 have been re-scheduled for July. It's hoped that the remaining eight shows in the original itinerary will be able to go ahead as planned, but obviously a question mark hangs over them until Strummer puts in an appearance — and there was still no sign of him at press-time this week.

There have been reported sightings of Strummer in Paris, Scotland and even London's Portobello Road — though the other members have had no word from him, and haven't been able to locate him. Even so, they remain optimistic, and bassist Paul Simonon commented: "Having known Joe for so long, I have faith that he'll return once he's reassessed his situation. And thanks to everyone who's trying to help."

The re-arranged dates are Stoke Mandeville Sports Stadium (July 12), Hanley Victoria Hall (13), Newcastle City Hall (14 and 15), Bradford St George's Hall (17), Birmingham Bingley Hall (18), Derby Assembly Rooms (19), Leicester De Montfort Hall (20), Irvine Magnum Leisure Centre (22), Edinburgh Playhouse (23) and Inverness Ice Rink (24).

Existing tickets for the postponed shows remain valid for the revised dates — though if refunds are required, they must be obtained before May 14. At present, the other dates are still on — at Poole Arts Centre (May 14), Portsmouth Guildhall (15), Bristol Locarno (17 and 18), Brighton Centre (19), London Brixton Fair Deal (22 and 23) and Leeds University (24) — though they will also have to be re-scheduled for July, if Strummer doesn't show up within the next few days.

Final word from the band's spokesman Kosmo Vinyl: "Christ knows what will happen if he's still missing in July!"



STRUMMER: Phoned relatives

Clash blow last dates

ALTHOUGH JOE Strummer was reportedly on the point of returning to the fold on Tuesday, it was decided — as a safeguard — to re-schedule the last three dates in The Clash's tour, in order to catch NME's press deadline.

Events took a dramatic turn last weekend, when the band's spokesman Kosmo Vinyl claimed that a private detective had been working on the Strummer case, and had now located the absentee. On Monday, Vinyl told NME: "I think we'll soon be back in business. I'm just off now, hopefully to bring Joe back." When last seen, Vinyl was

heading in the general direction of Paris. But on Tuesday morning, agent Ian Flukes of Wasted Talent took the decision to re-schedule the remaining dates. He explained: "I've not heard from Kosmo since he left for Europe — so, in view of the time factor, I've had to take the initiative."

The two concerts at London Brixton Fair Deal, planned for this Saturday and Sunday (22-23), are now re-set for July 10 and 11 — existing tickets remain valid for the respective dates, though cash refunds may be claimed if desired. The Leeds University Show next Monday (24) is also being moved, and the revised date will be announced next week.



Joe — still missing

Clash postpone five more dates

Still no Joe show

THE CLASH have now postponed a further five dates in the UK 'Know Your Rights' tour, due to the continued absence of Joe Strummer — and the only original dates now remaining in their schedule are London Brixton Fair Deal (May 22 and 23) and Leeds University (24), though even these must remain in doubt until Strummer shows up.

There have now been no sightings of him for nearly two weeks, and drummer Topper Headon said on Monday: "We've tried everything to find him, but it now looks like we'll just have to wait for Joe to get in touch. We'll make it up to everyone when we do the shows in July."

After re-arranging 11 gigs last week, the latest batch of date



Mystery man Strummer

revisions are Poole Arts Centre (July 27), Portsmouth Guildhall (28) and Bristol Locarno (August 2 and 3) — existing tickets remain valid, though cash refunds may be obtained if desired, providing application is made by May 22. The Brighton Centre show on May 19 is also postponed, but a revised date hadn't been set at press time.