

Music Files

ISSUE NO1

OCTOBER

1993

HASTINGS NEW GIG GUIDE AND REVIEW MAGAZINE

Including Reviews of: The Moonshots
Spit Sunset
More Mushrooms Vicar



Hastings Live Music Forum Press Bulletin Number 2

Following another well attended public Forum at the Marina Pavillion on 2nd August the elected committee met for the first time at the James Burton pub the following Tuesday.

The five members voted in the structure as follows :-

Chairman	- Phil Little
Vice Chairman	- John Ballard
Secretary	- Martin Ritcher
Treasurer	- Jackie Pentecost
PUBLICIST	- Jez Gillett

The meeting was dominated by the discussion of ideas collected during and since the last Forum and various responsibilities were taken by individual committee members. These ideas included :-

A petition to record the level of support for live music. Please look out for the petition and make sure you add your signature.

A need for the committee to have a greater understanding of the licensing laws as outlined in the Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1982. This is partly what all the fuss is about because this act contains all the laws that local councils use to administrate licensing for almost any kind of entertainment, including the "duo law" which is rapidly gaining notoriety. As a means to support both local and national campaigns we will be gathering more detailed information on this act so that we will know what we are talking about. Is there something you know that we don't? For details on how to pass us information read on.

A HMLF noticeboard in the town centre. The management of "The Street" have already indicated that they will be co-operative. The venues will be investigated. Hopefully these notice boards will have a kind of suggestion box attached so that you can post stuff to us. Also bands could advertise their gigs there and copies of "Music Files" will be available. If there is a carpenter out there who wants to volunteer to help please get in touch.

List of gigs / bands - Gig guides are being compiled and these will be made available in time. Information welcome!

THE MOONSHOTS

*Nelson Tigers / Lifeboat Beach
Concert
Hastings 7th August 1993*

Following the Bolivian Brothers, The Moonshots took the stage at about 5pm and opened with a rip-roaring version of blues classic "Rolling and Tumbling". By this time the crowd had swelled to in excess of 1000 and they were in the mood to be entertained. Last year the Moonshots closed the concert following the non appearance of the advertised John Martyn and worked the audience into a frenzy, winning themselves a lot of new fans. This year however, most people were unaware that Mr Martyn had indeed arrived, along with his touring band, who were waiting in the wings.

Setting the atmosphere down, prior to the main onslaught, the band delivered an extended slow blues jam and their original slow blues "Gonna Get Better"

The Moonshots four piece line up consists of Jake Weekes - Drums, brother Marcus Weekes - Lead Guitar, Nick Litherland - Bass and Quentin Holway on Lead Vocals, Guitar & Harmonica. The band are celebrating the signing of a deal with Dutch / Belgian label "Indisc", which licenses the release in 12 European countries of their self financed album "Bad Times Past". The album will appear on "Tight and Juicy Records" and the next six months will see the band consolidate their European following with promotional gigs in these

Advice pack for landlords thinking of putting music on. This is a big job and could do with some input from you successful landlords and promoters.

Gigs. Following appeals from the membership the Forum plans to put on a series of "Double Header" gigs featuring two local bands. We are also going to get sponsorship for a one day annual festival.

"Music Files". A lot of time was spent discussing this publication and how to organise and fund it. It was decided that MUSIC FILES should be a guide and that here there was an excellent opportunity to run it together with the Audio-Guide, where listing information was already being handled. There have been a number of requests for more band reviews and this is an area that is just not covered anywhere else, locally. Details of where to send your reviews are available in this edition. We will also have a letters column for you to air your views and publicly submit your ideas, which frequently are unbelievably creative.

Hastings "Band Aid" single. One of the unbelievable creative ideas was to hustle some free time in a studio and record a song about what we are doing, in Band Aid fashion. Then seek national publicity for our aims, through it's promotion. Firstly we have to get some free studio time. Any offers?

Hastings Bands Cassette. If we could get a dozen tracks each donated by a different gigging band we could make a compilation tape which :-

- 1: would act as a promotional aid for all the bands.
- 2: could be sold to raise some funds.

If any of these ideas, or elements of them, were yours, then thanks on the behalf of everybody.

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN!

Welcome to the first full edition of "Music Files", which we hope will become your regular guide to the Live Music Scene in Hastings. The Committee have been meeting every two weeks to organise themselves and the launch, and it has been "a good laugh", so we hope that you will get as much out of reading it, as we did putting it together.

The last really local gig-mag that I can remember was "Southern Music News" which was an excellent effort. "Music Files" will no doubt be less Folk orientated but, hopefully, exclude nobody that is helping to "Keep Music Live".

"Music Files" has come out of the forming of the "Forum" and as such is designed to reflect what you feel and think about the town's music. So let's have your contributions. For the price of a stamp, as Martin says, you could be reaching a thousand people.

Our thanks to

Mike Mercer (Marina) - Mike Ford (Carlisle)
Kevin (James Burton)

For The Use Of Their Facilities For Our Meetings!

Phil Little

drumming from Jake Wilkes and long harmonica and guitar solos curved through several dynamic crescendos and really had the crowd on their feet. This might normally have signalled the end of a Moonshots set, but they had one more up their sleeve and quickly launched into "Boogie Chillun". Another atmospheric number that is synonymous with John Lee Hooker, it also features guitar and harp solos and took the now thoroughly stimulated assembly that one step nearer.

The Moonshots will be spending much of their time in Europe over the next few months but hope to maintain their popularity in Hastings.

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Grapevine

Pete Prescott's C.D. sounding good on Hastings Rock Radio, showing that his 'quality' voice is the kind that sells lots of records. Good luck with it Pete! "Turn It Up" can be purchased at JADE in Castle St.

What's Next advertising in "Friday-Ad" for a drummer. Any candidates phone Dennis on 0424 713714. What's Next play a variety of covers but superb guitarist Steve Marwood is capable of throwing anything in.

Music Files Editor and Forum committee member Jez Gillett recently enjoyed success in the form of £75 in the recent Hastings Song Contest, which was the first of what is hoped will become an annual event. Jez's song "Another World" won him third prize after he got up and sang it "live" with a backing track in front of a packed Marina Pavillion.

Two local bands have been tackling the London circuit over the last few weeks in a new wave of Hastings Rock transmitting to the outer reaches of the universe. On August 25th The Ordinary Men played The Mean Fiddler and on Sunday 26th September, The Pullbacks played at "Hang the Drummer" in Norbury. The venue is in a pub called *The Norbury* which is situated at 1300 London Rd. Norbury, London SW16. This comparatively newer venue is already a major cog in the London machine and bands will be asked back if they can muster an audience. So if you feel like doing something useful, next time a band in this area plays there, get a mate with a car to drive up there and help a local band widen the scope of local music.

What's Next played at the Marina Pavillion, again on Sunday 26th September, in a gig that they arranged themselves. Entrance was just £1.

string of name and semi-name bands. Yet the recent appearance of top indie band "Voodoo Queens" drew only 150 people. Other less known bands presumably draw even less people into the club and manager Peter Wilkes wonders why more people aren't responding to his and Playhouse's efforts to entertain them. The Crypt is the only "Nightclub" in Hastings that regularly supports live music yet does not seem to enjoy the support of live music fans that it did a few years ago. The place went through a few management changes but has settled down now with brothers Simon and Peter running both the Crypt club and The Street. The Crypt is a groovy club and you couldn't find a more professional team of people staffing and running it. So try and support the band nights. A hassle free good time is assured.

Any ideas, comments, letters or contributions should be sent to.....

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We want your input now!

THE COMET

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GILMP MEETING

at the MARINA PAVILLION

MONDAY 15th NOVEMBER
Be There!

*If you don't let us down,
we wont let you down.*

Hastings newest band faced up to their first Crypt audience by starting the set with two original numbers. A brave move some might say. The fact is, for a band that does seventy per cent covers, **Spit Sunset's** self-penned songs stand up favourable and in three cases seemed wasted in their position in the set.

The four piece garage band kicked off with "Drowning", featuring nice wah-wah guitar and neat interlocking riffs. Tight breaks and drum fills feature all through "Sleezed", which had the big sound of the Cult and the timing of Tom Petty.

Then somehow, we changed down a gear into the covers beginning with "Search and Destroy", the first of several Iggy Pop songs. Jim the doorman did say that he liked the Stones' "Wild Horses" which came next.

"Tried It Fine" is another original with well structured riffs and great drumming from **Melvin Goulding**, but it's more Iggy and the stooges and Pearl Jam before we are back on the original wave length with "Thoughts" which features more sensitive guitar from **Eddie Done** on Lead. **Spit Sunset's** line up is completed by **Joff Weeks** on Guitar and Vocals, and **Lee Meredith** on Bass. Joff dedicated this number to their followers who had showed up and it has to be said the performance had "Spirit".

Prior to the conclusion of their set Joff started chatting with an American Wrestler who was in the audience, and invited him on the mike to say Hi! Twenty stone **AVALANCHE**, from Atlanta Georgia, had been wrestling at the *White Rock* and was relaxing after his show. **Avalanche** jumped up and delivered a short heavy-heavy rap about "One World" before handing back to the band who wound up with **Lenny Kravowitz's** "Are You Really Gonna Go My Way", throwing a few **Lynyrd Skynyrd** riffs for free. The massive **Avalanche** animated the climax of the set with a cartwheel across the Crypt dancefloor.

There are a couple of numbers where it seems they are in the wrong key to suit the singers voice and the running order of the set needs looking at but in six months time this band will be "Stonking".

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PHIL: "Did you hear about the drummer who had a parrot?"

Ed: No?

Phil: "Did you hear about the drummer who had a parrot?"

Ed: I said No!

PHIL: "Did you hear about the drummer who had a parrot?"

Ed: Didn't you hear me! I said No!!!

Phil: Did you hear

Reviews, contributions & letters for further issues must be in by 15th of each month.

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Son of Grapevine

You may think that there could be more gigs in this listing. You may be right. Landlords and Promoters..... This is free publicity we are offering here. Direct to your target group. In fact, the best kind of publicity you can get. If we get in touch with you, please help us by giving us your gig details, even if it is your turn to change the barrel. If we don't get in touch with you, please get in touch with us, and help us to help you and the music fans.

The natives are getting restless in St Leonards. Regular Jam Sessions are being organised by people with funny accents. Though an Interpreter, one participant, who preferred to remain nameless, said.... "We have had enough. And now we are going to get some more!"

Local Musician and part-time Mayor, **Richard Stevens**, told **Martin Ritcher** recently, "I was useless at school, but since I have been going to the Lifeboat Concerts on the beach, everything seems to be going my way... can I have a blow with the band!"

How many have you ever been to a gig and thought..... "I could do that!". You must be a drummer. Sticks and practice pads cheaply available at B&T Keyboards in Claremont.

There was some static in the air at The Band From Nowhere's recent Crypt gig, where the lead singer, who looked to be made up like an Aunt Sally Doll, carried out a character assassination of a local politician over the P.A. in between out of tune Sex Pistols riffs. Later on frank views were exchanged with the vastly superior support band, **More Fruitgums Missus**, who the **Nowhere Band** also rubbished and nobody had much fun. Grow up lads!

There once was a band from Hastings,
 They Played seaside blues far and wide,
 If they'd have learnt some more scales,
 They'd have had better sales,
 And might have got a gig at the Carlisle.

Last week, in the Pig, I asked **Bob Falconer** (Owner of the Plathouse Group ie. Pig, Crypt, Saturdays) what was the secret of running a successful pub or club. He replied...

"I think it's something to do with how often you replace the carpets."

"What about the staff?", I asked

"Yeah them too!", said Bob.

What we wanted to know was, why it has

taken Jacob's Noak over a year to mix their new Cd. Guitarist, England Cricketer and Managing Director of B&T Keyboards, Roger Flack, said.....

"We had a bit of trouble with the wiring of the CD production line and my brother got mugged by a scots comedian. He's the drummer you know? But I can play the drums too. In fact.....". Yes thankyou very much Roger.

When asked the question "Why does the audience at the Carlisle seem to applaud less or not at all?", Mike Ford answered.....

"Well Joe, It's because they are tuned in to a higher consciousness and they have perfected the art of conversation to the point where the conversation takes precedence over subliminal activity like The Pullbacks, for instance."

Dave Arnold has brought in Nigel Millichamp on drums with the Added Family. Dave said "He's just the kind of drummer I was looking for. Straight on the beat and not at all bald." Nigel commented, "I've always been into the classics, and Dave let's me do backing vocals so the money's not such a problem."

BOOK EARLY! While tickets still available.....
New Years Eve 1999

at
The Stables Theatre
The Children On Stun with Jack Peach

We were sitting in The Precinct and checking out the buskers as they swopped thier pitches every couple of hours. As one was finishing, a pigeon landed and strutted over to the busker. Through it's beak pecking at the floor, it seemed to be saying.....

"Look, is there any chance of a bit of rent here because this is my pitch really, and you seem to have done very well."

"You're having a laugh aren't you?" scoffed the busker.

"Oh! You are in the Bolivian Brothers are you? Forget it then."

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Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor or the HLMF Committee.

To the best of our knowledge, all details are correct at the time of printing and we regret we cannot be held responsible for alterations or cancelations.

MORE MUSHROOMS VICAR

The Crypt / 25th August

If gig lists are anything to go by, More Mushrooms Vicar, with twenty bookings already for September and October, are becoming quite a popular band in Sussex. Having established an audience at the Carlisle, this gig was a first attempt to broaden their popularity in Hastings.

Their entirely original set whips through a variety of styles, mixing Rock, Ska and even a taste of Jazz in the opening numbers "Cut Like A Knife", "Eldorado". This is quite a brave path to take when, these days, it seems most Rock Pub audiences want to hear a selection of songs they are at least partly familiar with.

For "Celtic Dream" lead vocalist Duncan Pope swiftly dons a makeshift tartan kilt, presumably as a mark of respect for the Big Country, whose sound the band successfully emulate here.

More Mushrooms Vicar are without doubt a Rock band although they feature the Reggae "feel" in several numbers and in "Eat Me" tight guitars from Johnny Kitcher and Sacha Holloway pin the rhythm down neatly. Keyboard melodies from Steve Young, using a convincing violin sound have a very special effect in "Spaceman" and the rhythm section of Robin Brown on Bass and Paul Ray on drums really let rip in the Pogues styled jig "Fenny".

Excellent drumming from Paul Ray features all the way through the closing number "Preacher Man" and they really work up the straight backbeat to a climax which would have had a larger audience clamouring for more. However this was a Wednesday night, and even then a crowd of seventy represents a good turnout for a weeknight.

The band's ten track demo tape, "More Mushrooms Vicar", is on sale at gigs for £5 and you can see them live at the Carlisle on Saturday 9th October.

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To Attend or not Attend, That Is The Question ?

What defines a punter....., and indeed what defines a gig? Is not the answer to both these questions synonymous with the true meaning of LIVE MUSIC?

To have a gig with no punters is really just a Jam or Practice. For the band members, if this J&P is in a pub, it can be a little embarrassing if not to say detrimental to the bands ego and may even have an affect on whether the band will play there again. Of course visa-versa, if the band doesn't turn up and the place is packed, there's a sure chance that the public wont be too pleased either, and could also end up in the band not playing there again. Ok, the band's van may have broken down, or someone may have been ill. This can't be helped and should be over looked, but generally this doesn't happen much. Most bands take pride in being a professional unit and bussness like, and bands just "not turning up!" are far and few between.

This can't be said of all punters though. I'm sure there's a lot of you reading this who have thought "Oh, I'll go down the pub tonight and see a band" and so you trundle off to find the paper, and find out that there is 3 or 4 bands playing that evening, but you haven't heard the names of any of them, so you better not take a chance, or "I think, John said they were naff..... better stay in and have a Chinese."

Now if your'e reading this in a pub, and it wasn't just sitting under your drink, or you've taken it home to read, then there's a good possibility that you're interested in the local music scene, or at the very least want to find out who's in the Gig Guide (page 7). So why is it that there are still people who wont go to see a band just because they don't recognise the name, or the latest edition of "It'll be alright on the Nigh" is on T.V., as far as T.V. goes I thought that was what a video was for. It seems to me as if it is only by the punters and fans turning up to more local gigs, that "going to see live music" in the area will ever return as a past time worth "being into."

By Jerry Wilkinson

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GIG LIST FOR OCTOBER

Friday 1st

Nimbus - The Comet
Sensei - The Carlisle
Dance night (Featuring Live P.A) - The Crypt

Saturday 2nd

The Dukes - The Comet
Flying Anvil - The Carlisle

Sunday 3rd

Doghouse - Rockwells
Ratamonda - James Burton , Lunch 1-3ish

Wednesday 6th

Daze Amaze - The Crypt

Thursday 7th

Zap Club - Pig in Paradise
Disorganised Crime - The Cellars
The Selected & Too Many Crooks - The Crypt

Friday 8th

Original Fling - The Carlisle
Boys Own present One Dove - The Crypt

Saturday 9th

More Mushrooms Vicar - The Carlisle
John Pearson & Roger Hubbard - The James Burton

Sunday 10th

Kangeroo Moon - George Street Hall
Truce - Rockwells
The Bolivian Brothers - Two Sawyers Pett

Wednesday 13th

Pig Keepers Daughter - The Crypt

Thursday 14th

Pat Valentine Experience - Pig in Paradise
Band of Two - James Burton
The Thunder Birds - The Cellars

Friday 15th

The Gringos - The Carlisle

Saturday 16th

Sarajevo - The Carlisle

Sunday 17th

Ratamonda - The Two Sawyers, Pett

Wednesday 20th

Lung & two supports - The Crypt

Thursday 21st

Benefit Gig - Pig in Paradise
Nimbus - The Cellars
Tom Martin - James Burton

Friday 22nd

Hackney Slim - The Comet
Scarecrowze - The Carlisle

Saturday 23rd

TBA - The Comet
TBA - The Carlisle

Sunday 24th

TBA - The Two Sawyers, Pett

Wednesday 27th

Energy Orchard - The Crypt

Thursday 28th

The Addled Family - Pig in Paradise
The Lost Boys - The Cellars

Friday 29th

Bolivian Brothers - The Comet
Panting Skeletons - The Carlisle

Saturday 30th

The Lost Boys - The Comet
Gilt - The Carlisle

Every Tuesday

Accoustic Duo - The Crown

Every Thursday

Blues Duo - The Crown

Every Saturday

Live Cabaret (with dinner) - The Entertainer

Every Sunday

Jazz - The Crown

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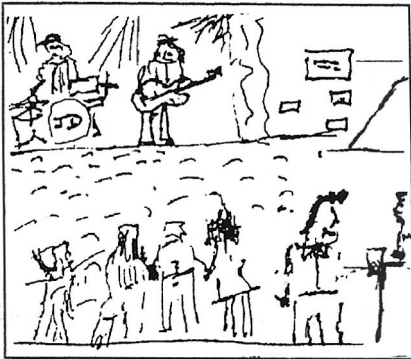
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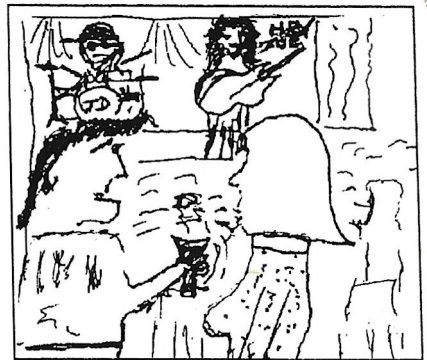
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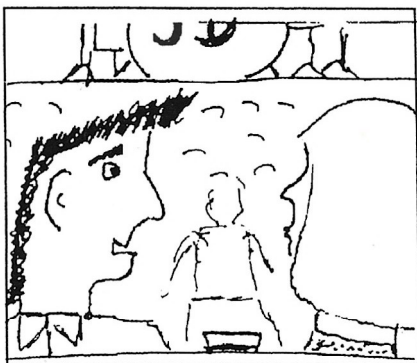
DAVE the Bass - The Making of a STAR



I reckon I could do better than this lot!



Yeah, I play the bass guitar!



I'm playing down here soon. I'll put your name on the door.



Oh Wow! I've never even picked up a guitar.

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