

ROGERS
THE DRUMS TO BEAT

MIDLAND BEAT



GEORGE CLAY ❀❀
 The Midlands Largest Band Instrument Showrooms
 FULL RANGE OF
 AMPLIFIERS : ECHO UNITS : GUITARS
 DRUMS - ALL WOOD WIND & BRASS
 HIGHEST PART EXCHANGES - LOWEST EASY TERMS
 285-286, BROAD STREET, BIRMINGHAM.
 Tel. - MID 0593 & 4956

No. 39 DECEMBER 1966 Price 1s.

A Merry Christmas to all our readers



IT'S a far cry from the quiet Worcestershire market town of Kidderminster to the bustling industrial city of Detroit in the United States. Yet pop music has created a link between the two towns.

Detroit is the home of Tamla Motown, the record company whose catalogue includes most of America's top coloured artists. And the style of music being performed by several groups in the Kidderminster area is in the Tamla Motown idiom.

TRUE REFLECTIONS

...of Tamla Motown

Such a group is the Reflections, whose boast is that they are able to produce an authentic Tamla Motown sound without organ or brass in the line-up.

"Our ambition is to be the first British group to sign for the Tamla Motown label", states rhythm guitarist Rod Simmonds. "We want to develop an image

like the Four Tops only with our own instrumental backing."

The Reflections were formed with their current line-up three months ago with musicians who had been working with other groups in the area for some time.

Three of the boys came from the Secrets (formerly the Cruisers) — Rod Simmonds,

Picture JIM SIMPSON

Graham Drewe (lead guitar) and Trevor Jones (bass). They were joined by lead singer Dave England and drummer Paul Mackreath.

"We feature what we believe to be a unique double Fender Jazzmaster line-up on rhythm and lead guitars coupled with a Fender Precision Bass to insure a full sound", says Rod Simmonds.

The Reflections are an "independent" group, handling their own affairs without being solely represented by any agency. They are concentrating on producing original material with Graham and Rod as the songwriters.

FOR EVERYTHING MUSICAL

GUITARS · STRINGS
 AMPLIFIERS ·
 DRUMS · HOHNER
 HARMONICAS and
 ACCORDIONS · ETC.

and for the best service in the Midlands with cash bargains or easy terms, come to

Ireshne Law Music Ltd.

NORTHAMPTON · 26 Newland. Tel. 36814
 KETTERING · 22 Montagu St. Tel. 3020

MIDLAND BEAT

Editor **Dennis Detheridge**
 Picture Editor **Jim Simpson**

Registered Offices:
 WINDERMERE HOUSE, 110 WAKE GREEN ROAD,
 MOSELEY, BIRMINGHAM, 13.
 Telephone: SOUTH 1575.

ATMOSPHERE!

Two events in recent weeks have established just what is wrong with the beat scene in the Midlands. Both occasions reeked with something that is usually completely lacking at local beat functions. Atmosphere!

And it was the enthusiasm of the fans for the performers they had turned up to see that provided the atmosphere. The scene would be so much more exciting if it happened more often.

Fans of the Bobcats provided the first example. It was quite an experience to see the banners waving and the chanting of B-O-B-C-A-T-S at the finals of the contest at the Locarno Ballroom.

Then there was the appearance of Birmingham City winger Trevor Hockey at Birmingham Town Hall. His admirers gave him a rousing reception when he made his bow as a singer — even though their rowdiness while others performed was unforgivable.

Local groups and singers would aspire to much greater achievements if audiences gave them such encouragement. But they are usually lucky if they get just a few claps at most of the places they play.

So come on, fans. Take a leaf out of the book of the football crowds. Get out the rattles, scream your heads off and you will find your groups will perform all the better for it.

TO BOOK THE REFLECTIONS

contact
 MR. PETER JAY (Manager),
 17 Severn Grove, Kidderminster, or
 Mr. R. Simmonds at Kidderminster 2129 (evenings)

A diary you just can't afford to miss

Have you got your "Midland Beat" 1967 Diary? It's a "must" for everyone connected with the beat scene in the Midlands. And it costs only 3s.
 The diary is a real boon to anyone wanting to avoid

adopting a name for their group that is already being used by another outfit in the Midlands because it gives the names of every group on the unique "Midland Beat" Group Register.
 And the diary also con-

tains a list of just about every group in the Midlands that has recorded for a major record label — the only list of its kind ever compiled.
 Many readers were disappointed when the 1966 "Midland Beat" Diary was

sold out.
 So make sure of your copy of the 1967 Diary by sending a 3s. postal order, payable to "Midland Beat," to "Midland Beat" Diary, 110, Wake Green Road, Moseley, Birmingham 13.

Trade Talk

MANY men with knowledge, experience and a decided flair in the musical instrument field have played a vital part in creating today's "Do it yourself" attitude in musical entertainment.

Dr. O. H. Meyer, who will be retiring at the year's end, is one such veteran. And because we owe so much to his great work in popularising musical instruments, we offer this brief tribute.

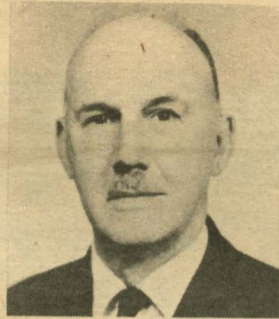
As Managing Director of Hohner, London, for the past 35 years, he has seen many changes.

When he took over at the beginning of the thirties, Britain was in one of the deepest depressions.

Yet within a few years Dr. Meyer had been able to boost Hohner business to an enormous extent. He first concentrated on harmonicas, but by 1935 he had the accordion fully in the limelight and intensified its popularity by founding the British College of Accordionists.

The Hohner manufacturing programme has expanded considerably with the passing years and embraces — in addition to harmonicas and accordions — melodicas, clarinas, recorders; a superb selection of electric and electronic portable and console organs, also amplifiers, together with the British representation of Sonor drums and Sonor Orff school instruments, Hutt brass instruments and Kay guitars.

The benefits of Dr. Meyer's experience will not be withdrawn entirely, because his services in a consultative capacity will continue. He can cer-



Dr. O. H. Meyer

tainly look back in satisfaction and we salute the veteran, wishing him health and happiness in his retirement.

Selling to Czechs

ROY Morris, a director of Rose Morris and Co. Ltd., the musical instrument wholesalers, has just returned from a trip to Eastern Europe with Czechoslovakia's first-ever order for sound amplifying equipment.

The order, now officially confirmed, is for Marshall amplifiers, free-standing speakers, combination units and "Supafuzz" distorters, manufactured at Marshall's Bletchley factory.

Arbiter happy

THE Arbiter Organisation of Gerrard Street, London, W.1, report they are extremely happy with the way sales have been going during their first year as sole suppliers for FENDER guitars and amplifiers for the U.K.

Arbiter are confident that now more than ever before, the Fender enthusiast can be more selective in his choice of instruments.

Although the Telecaster and Telecaster Bass are obviously very much in demand — there can be no doubt these are Britain's most used instruments — enthusiasm has not declined in the Stratocaster, Jaguar, Jazzmaster guitars or Precision and Jazz basses.

A great deal of interest has been shown in the new Fender Jumbo range, particularly the Newporter model retailing at only 77 gns.

Soon to be delivered, the new Fender "Solid State" series of amplifiers. The 100 watt

P.A. outfit complete with column speakers, will be of special interest to groups and vocalists.

The "Solid State" or transistorised amps have been thoroughly tested under all conditions in the States and have proved very successful.

The Arbiter aim is to maintain, at all times, a comprehensive stock of Fender instruments, amplifiers and spares.

They even have the complete range of Fender Steel and Hawaii guitars in stock, so if there are many C. and W. steel-men who have been thinking of a change Fender-wise give Arbiter a call or have a word with your local instrument dealer.

HOBO ENTERTAINMENT AGENCY

Staffordshire Branch:
 7 Knoll Croft, Aldridge Solely Representing:
 Telephone: Aldridge 51917
THE FEW featuring **RICKY THE CAPITALS** and **Go-Go Dancer CUDDLY KIMBLE**

CLUB — GROTTO — CLUB FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY — RHYTHM & BLUES

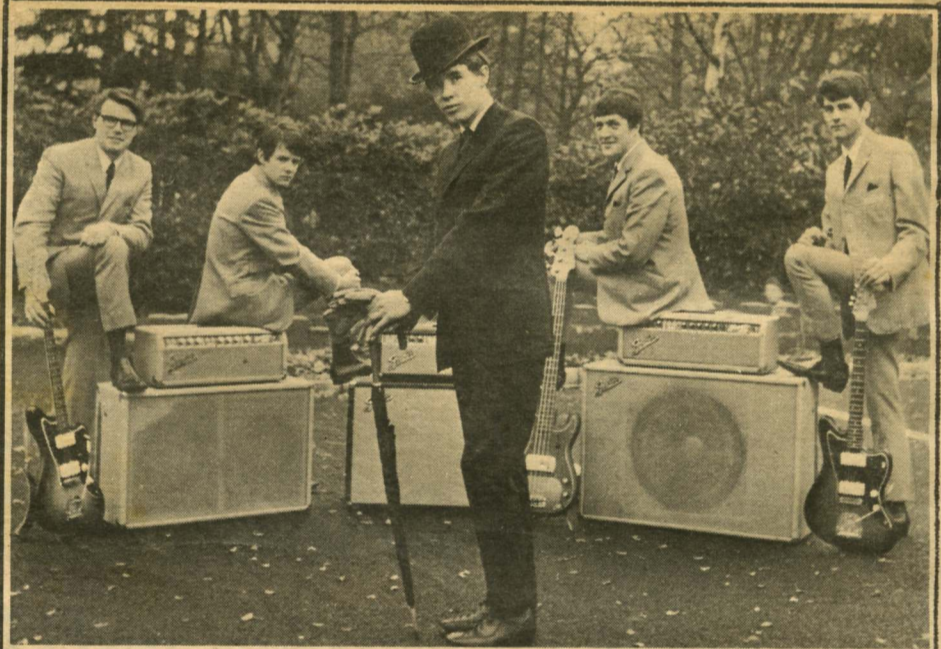
8 p.m. — 11 p.m.
 SATURDAY, SUNDAY —
MODERN JAZZ
 2.30 p.m. — 6 p.m.
 TUESDAY —
DISCOTHEQUE
 8 p.m. — 11 p.m.
 Licensed Bar
 MID 1589 BROMSGROVE ST. B'HAM MID 1589

FROM arbiter THE MOST WANTED GUITAR IN BRITAIN TODAY



TELECASTER by Fender

See your Arbiter dealer today, see the whole fabulous range of Fender Guitars from the sensational solid electric guitars — right through the range to the finest country & western round holes. You want the worlds best in amplification? Turn again to Fender for the last word in Style, Selection, Power and Performance!



The Reflections

use Fender guitars and amplifiers purchased from Jones and Crossland. Now their latest addition is

Park P.A. System

Remember Park is only obtainable in Birmingham from

JONES & CROSSLAND

Albany Hotel Buildings,
 Smallbrook Ringway,
 Birmingham 5.

Telephone : MID 1655





★
Pity the poor Ugly's. They endured the discomfort of wading into the water at Earlswood Lakes, all in the cause of an original publicity picture, only to receive the next week a photograph of an American group called the Ugliers — showing them standing knee deep in a lake! But there was some consolation for the Birmingham boys. Their American counterparts put forward an attractive suggestion concerning an exchange visit.



★
Where else would one expect a group with a name like New Street Station to pose for a publicity photograph than ... New Street Station! Line-up of the group, formerly known as the Outer Limits, is Trevor Bown, sax, Mick Walsh, drums, Dean James, vocals/organ, Dave Vedmore, bass guitar, and Dave Lloyd, lead guitar. New Street Station intend to augment their line-up shortly to a six or seven-piece band. They decided to change their name to go along with the redevelopment of New Street Station — symbolising Birmingham's changing image!



The first picture of the new Rockin' Berries line-up — with Rod Clark stepping in for Geoff Turton.



Some groups rush into engagements before they are ready for them. But this was far from the case with the What-Nots, now regarded as one of the city's most promising groups. When leader-drummer Robin Walker brought the boys together just over 12 months ago, he summoned them to rehearsals twice a week for six months before accepting their first paid engagement. They have now progressed sufficiently to enter contests with confidence. In fact, they were well satisfied with their achievement in reaching the finals of the recent Locarno contest. Line-up of the What-Nots is Robin Walker, 17, drums; "Ricky" Leek, 17, lead guitar; Kevin Sherlock, 16, rhythm and vocals; Ron Preece, 16, bass; and Bob Crane, 17, vocals.

THE departure of Geoff Turton from the Berries and the signing of the Bobcats by Carlton Johns Entertainments have dominated the headlines during the past fortnight.

It was a brave decision on the part of Geoff to leave the Berries with such work ahead as nine days in Germany, pantomime at Stockton-on-Tees, a month in Bermuda, a tour of Australia and a summer season in Bourne-mouth.

But his concern over the welfare of his wife, who is expecting a baby next May, is understandable. The beat scene will miss him — but we wish him well.

Geoff's replacement, Rod Clark, is no stranger to Birmingham groups. He has worked with the Moody Blues and was with Carter-Lewis and the Southerners before they became the Ivy League.

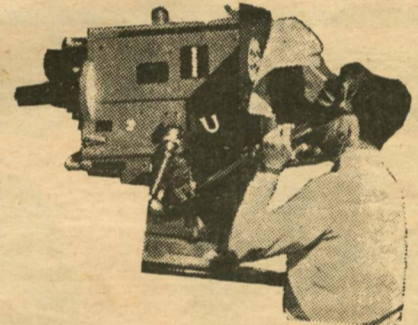
Incidentally, Berries' drummer Terry Bond has invested in the baby wear business. He's a partner in Kay and Dawn at 1368-1370 Pershore Road, Stirchley. Mike and Bernie Winters joined the Berries in performing the opening ceremony.

Disc debut

LONG-AWAITED debut disc from the Move is set for release by Deram, Decca's new subsidiary label, on December 9. Both sides — "Night Of Fear" and "Disturbance" — are Roy Wood compositions. Decca promotion man Tony Hall and Move manager

SECOND CITY SCENE

*
by
Dennis Detheridge
and
Pete Gittings



Tony Secunda are planning a big promotion campaign for "Night Of Fear", which must stand a good chance of making the charts.

Quiet but good

"A group that will keep the volume down yet still turn out a good performance" — that's what promoters are saying about the Orions, a Birmingham group with a promising future.

Formed two years ago, the boys came near to a record release when E.M.I. were impressed with demo discs they submitted.

Unfortunately, the material was not considered commercial enough for release.

A recent addition to the Orions is lead singer John Davis, whose "coloured" approach to singing has been compared to the style of Stevie Winwood.

The rest of the Orions: Trevor Buck (rhythm guitar/vocals), Neil Blackwell (bass), Peter Beale (lead guitar/vocals) and Stewart Wilcox on drums.

'Angel' Jones

YET again, John Jones of Jones and Crossland, has proved himself the Guardian Angel of the city's groups. This time, it was The Locomotive who were in a fix. Due to a misunderstanding the entire band equipment was locked in the club they had played the previous night, whilst at Birmingham's

Rainbow Suite the seven-piece band was ready to start, minus their gear.

Johnny Jones was hastily dragged from his tea and telly, and made the supreme gesture of completely equipping The Locomotive on the spot. No half-measures. P.A., drum-kit organ, saxes and trumpet — the complete outfit — was put at their disposal.

The story, though, is not without a twist in the tail. The Locomotive were so impressed with the borrowed P.A., that they decided to invest in a set of their own.

Date Annie

HERE'S a date no-one who appreciates singing in the modern style will want to miss. It's the appearance of Annie Ross with the Pat Smythe Trio at the Elbow Room from December 12-15.



No prizes for guessing the new name of the Nightriders when you look at this picture. Yes, they have decided to call themselves the Idle Race. John Lines took the picture of the group, whose new record, "It's Only The Dog," is issued on Polydor under their old name.

32 Bristol Street, Studio MID 3792
Birmingham, 5. Home JAMES Bridge 2413

LADBROOKE SOUND

RECORDING STUDIO
Full professional facilities at only 4 guineas per hour

Sole representation:
MERCIAN AGENCY THE SECRETS
C.B.S. Recording Group
We are proud to represent this excellent group and congratulate them on their fine new record "I Suppose" c.w. "Such a Pity"
120a, Coventry Street, KIDDERMINSTER, Wores.
Tel.: 61951

JOIN THE P-SET
at THE PENTHOUSE
BIRMINGHAM'S ONLY SIX-DAY RAVE CLUB
ALL NIGHTERS EVERY SATURDAY
* BIG SOUND DISCOTHEQUE *
EVERY MON, FOLK—EVERY THURS, TRAD JAZZ
TWO BARS LICENSED TILL 2 a.m.
Membership Only 5/- New members welcome.

THE PENTHOUSE
1—7 Constitution Hill,
Birmingham 19
(Above Surfside Stop Coffee Bar — CEN 1686)

CRANE'S CAN SOLVE YOUR GIFT PROBLEMS THIS CHRISTMAS.

BUY HIM AN ELECTRONIC ORGAN or a NEW PIANO OR BOTH!

We will then teach him to play — Before Xmas

We can also offer you **RECORDS AND SHEET MUSIC** All the latest Classics and Pops.

Home Demonstrations—Easy Terms—Part Exchange

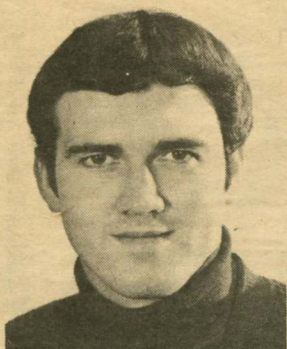
PORTABLE ORGANS FROM 14 Gns.

30 Organs to choose from. 70 Pianos to select from
RECORD PLAYERS — RADIOGRAMS by Dynatron, Bush, Pye, Ferguson, H.M.V., Dansette, Etc. Etc. only at
CRANE & SONS LTD.
34 36 COLMORE CIRCUS, PRIORITY RINGWAY
BIRMINGHAM 4 TEL.: CEN 3734

MEET THE GROUP 1

The band was formed in June and comprises lead guitar/vocalist, bass guitar, rhythm guitar doubling baritone sax, tenor sax and drums. They are finding that their style of commercial rhythm 'n blues with a touch of originality in the arrangements is proving very popular with the audiences. The boys are operating on a semi-professional basis even though three members have had five years experience in groups. The saxes are helping to produce an Alan Price/Edwin Starr sound which few groups in the Birmingham area can get.

SCARAB



GRAHAM JEBB

Rhythm Guitar/Baritone Sax
After trying for five years to master the guitar, he finally switched to baritone sax! Graham is one who tries without success to manage the group.

Evolved on the 21st October 1945, much to the joy of everybody except his closest relatives, he has brown and black hair, brown-green eyes and white and yellow teeth. Ugh!

Collects antique guns, this proving rather expensive and dangerous. The rest of the band say his chief hobby is "tuning his guitar".

Equipment consists of Gretsch guitar, Vox A.C.30 amplifier and Vox microphone.



MICHAEL DUNN
Bass Guitarist

PLAYS bass guitar and piano. Born in Walsall but emigrated soon afterwards to Wednesbury for health reasons. Tastes in music vary from Mulligan and Lionel Hampton to Fats Waller or Edwin Starr and Major Lance.

Educated at Joseph Leckie Comprehensive School, Walsall, and now works as a roofing estimator. Joined SCARAB from The Spartans along with John and Graham.

Equipment consists of Fender Jazz Bass, Vox T60 Bass Amplifier with two 15 inch speakers (by arrangement with Jennings) and Shure microphone.



JOHN SHIPLEY
Lead Guitar/Vocals.

AS well as being lead vocalist, John plays lead guitar and drums. His musical tastes include Mulligan, Shearing and Chet Atkins. Employed as a slotting escalator, he has been playing lead guitar for six years, having joined SCARAB from The Spartans.

Hobbies include eating and complaining about his throat whilst singing. He is also an avid collector of dirt on his Austin car.

John's equipment consists of Fender Stratocaster, Vox A.C.30 amplifier and Shure microphone.



MEL GORROD
Tenor Sax.

APART from tenor sax, doubles also on baritone.

Graduating from the field of Modern Jazz, Mel joined SCARAB because he found his tastes included the Temptations and Junior Walker as well as Paul Desmond and Mulligan.

At a recent gig at Nantwich he was mistaken by a fan for Tony Holland, the muscleman. Ha! Ha!

Main two hobbies are football and beer, but he is also a fanatic for comic picture jokes in the "Reveille" etc.

Favourite food is fish and chips and favourite drink is bitter.

Uses a Selmer tenor sax.



BARRY HILL
Drums

IT is rumoured that he plays drums. The shy and reserved member of the group, he is also the youngest at 18.

He is easily recognised by his vast array of neckties, some believed to be pre-war.

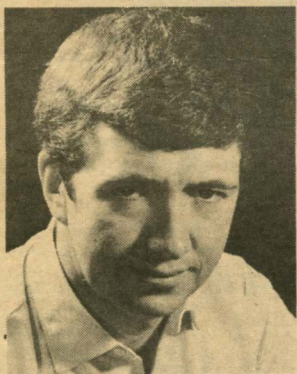
Joining SCARAB from Beat Anonymous, who recently split up, Barry digs Tony Morello and Spencer Davis.

He is most outspoken about his two favourite television programmes "Crackerjack" and "Action".

His favourite food is also fish and chips and bitter is his favourite drink.

Uses a Premier drum kit.

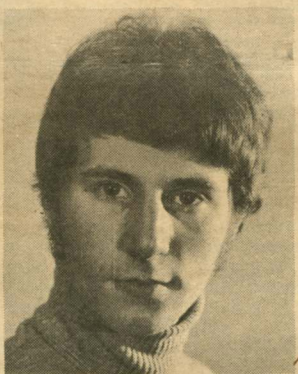
MEET THE GROUP 2



JIM SIMPSON

Leader/trumpet/trombone.

"Midland Beat" Picture Editor, led his own mainstream jazz band with Mick Burney, was resident at Tower Ballroom. Drives the wagon - fondly known as "the Red Cow" - at great speed and generally creates havoc on the roads wherever the group travels. 5'11" tall, hobbies are photography and is an authority on bullfighting. Likes old motor cars, aeroplanes and Newcastle Brown. Dislikes turning up for bookings and not getting paid. Musical tastes are distinctly jazz-inclined and revolve around Count Basie.



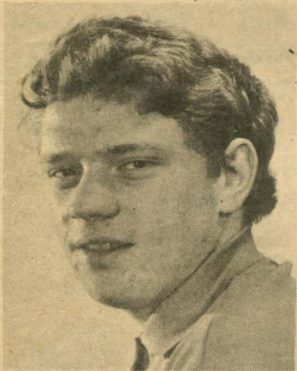
PETE HODGES

vocalist

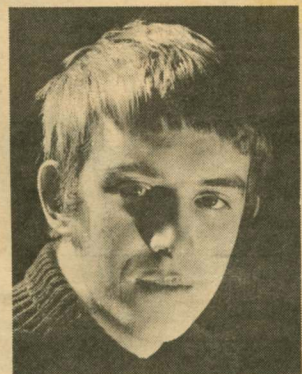
Ex-Jimmy Cliff Sound and Mark Leeman Five. Is a very easy-going guy with a taste for good things such as well-cut clothes, Tamla Motown, Oscar Brown Jr., Roland Kirk, good beer and slim blonde girls. 5'9" tall, blond hair, hobby is taking it easy. Recently criticised as looking like Michael D'Abo and singing like Stevie Winwood. Some criticism! Ambition is purely professional in wanting to be top singer with a top group. Spends nights off digging other groups.

JOHN BARRY
Tenor and flute

Somewhat of a prodigy as at the tender age of 16 he is fast becoming one of the most promising tenor players in Brum. Likes eating and drinking but due to imminent weight problems only drinks halves - unfortunately he seems to drink twice as many! Seems to spend every spare moment practising and can always be found in Cannon Hill Park Arts Centre, where he is now regarded as part of the fittings. 5'10", blond hair, blue eyes, his hobby is lusting over Selmer Mark VI's in Jones and Crossland's window. A big Coltrane man.



STEAMING on to the Birmingham scene earlier this year, The Locomotive was soon rated as one of Birmingham's top groups. Always arousing interest with their unusual line-up, this jazz-based group seems to appeal to all audiences, probably because of the excitement and heat generated in their stage act. The sound can be described as partly James Brown, partly Georgie Fame, partly Alan Price, but wholly Locomotive. There have already been offers of recording, management and agency contracts - the only one so far accepted being that of I.M.A. boss, Ioan Allen, who manages the Ian Campbell Folk Group.

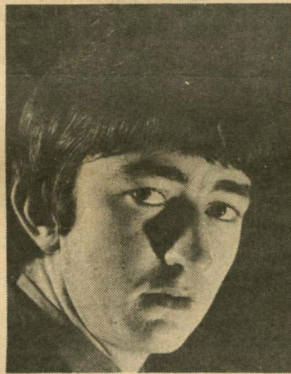


PETE ALLEN

6-string Fender Bass, vocals

One-time lead vocalist with the Ladies' Gentlemen and played with many other top Brum groups. His 6-string Fender Bass can give a sound similar to a cross between guitar and bass. Pete likes the Beach Boys and is influenced by them in playing and singing. 5'11" tall, fair hair, hobby is lying underneath the van getting oily. Dislikes draughts, favourite likes are his "bird."

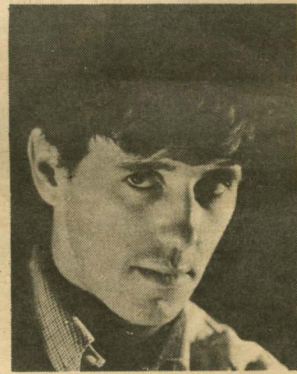
THE LOCOMOTIVE



MIKE KELLIE

Drums

Has had playing experience with the Jaymen and Pat Wayne and the Beachcombers. Tall and thin, has a fascination for shirt collars reaching half-way to the waist. A non-drinker, is responsible for fifteen per cent of lemonade sales in the Midlands. Collects Gene Pitney and Roy Orbison records, spends leisure time attired in smock and large red hat. 6'2" Mike is now the proud owner of a new Ludwig kit. Ambition: to own a big, fast car - digs intervals.



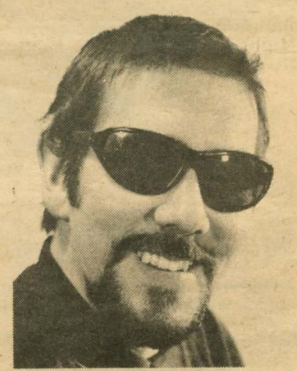
RICK STORY

Organ, alto, vocals, and arranger.

Rick hails from Newcastle-upon-Tyne where he earned a comfortable living as a school-teacher. Led his own group there, is a great friend of Alan Price. 5'9", dark hair. Hobbies are rugger and swimming, spends his spare time arranging and teaching music to private pupils. Ambition is to own a warehouse full of Hammonds. Likes gigs where he has time to kip in the van en-route, dislikes payment by cheque. Rates the Beatles and The Move as his favourite groups.

BRIAN "MONK" FINCH
Baritone and alto

Experienced, past groups include Jaymen and Beachcombers. Another jazzier - especially digs Charlie Parker. Big and bearded (6'), occasionally and righteously featured on invisible mending. Hobbies range from mild ale to scotch. Well-known in Northamptonshire under the pseudonym of George Inn. Ambition to have law passed against feedback.



BEST WISHES to

SCARAB

from the

George Clay Music Centre

SCARAB

ALL ENQUIRIES FOR BOOKINGS, ETC., TO:

GRAHAM JEBB

41 Woden Road East, Wednesbury

Tel.: WED. 0976.

Best wishes to SCARAB from their agent.

Terry Matthews

Tel. Walsall 23081.

Also representing Love's Lot, The Denims, The Boll Weevils and many others.

Jazz

I AM feeling angry about the system which operates in this country for allowing jazz fans to hear famous American jazz stars.

Why, for example, has it been so long before Edmond Hall was brought over to let us hear a New Orleans clarinet with a difference? Secondly, why has it taken those who run these shows so long to join a visiting musician with our Second City Jazzmen?

These thoughts are with me as I write following a wonderful evening's jazz at the Midland Jazz Club on 5th November.

Forget the obvious topical remarks about "musical fireworks" (I have my own suggestions for guys anyway!).

Following a fine first set by George Huxley's New Orleans Jazzmen (not advertised as appearing, by the way), Edmond Hall joined the S.C.J. and two numbers, "Memories of You" and "Struttin'" with some Barbecue, were sufficient to impress on me the strength and drive of this clarinetist.

This veteran has played with the bands of Claude Hopkins, Lucky Millinder and Red Allen, among others, and he reminded me of the authoritarian lead as played by Red.

Edmond Hall filled the clarinet post with the Louis Armstrong All-Stars for three years and nowadays, he informed me, he has a quartet with whom he has been playing recently around Texas and Colorado.

There was little time for conversation while the band were off, for a pile of music which Edmond Hall brought with him demanded the attention of the S.C.J. men, and considering this limited rehearsal, they backed their distinguished visitor admirably, particularly on "Lonesome Road", "Dawn on the Desert" (a mood piece) and "Basin St. Blues". A virtuoso display of clarinet jazz came from the good old "Dardanella."

We should have heard Edmond Hall in 1962 with the Chris Barber Band had not those in charge of these visits thought otherwise.

What a heap of frustration lies behind the laconic explanation "work permit"! You can hear Edmond Hall on three tracks of a Barber L.P. World Record Club T.368, recorded in Germany four years ago.

He also made a disc in Czechoslovakia with the Gustav Brom Band earlier.

So how about somebody arranging for Edmond Hall to record in this country? Preferably with — the Second City Jazzmen, of course!

It is not merely digging back to past discs that has occasioned a slight feeling of nostalgia, following that of anger just mentioned.

I was reminded of that club operator's pipe-dream, a place where jazz can be heard seven nights a week, when I met Leo Dobbs at the "Salutation Stomp" the other Friday.

Leo runs the Continental Jazz Club at 5-7, Soho Hill, and the hours (11-2) are convenient for those whose love of late hours equals that of jazz.

You can go on to the Continental after the

other clubs finish. At least this is in the tradition of jazz. Mr. Dobbs told me he would like to be able to operate every night with a jazz band.

This revival of the idea of jazz-each-night took my mind naturally back to the era of our lamented "Jazzland" and the Sunday night jazz club which flourished for a spell at the West End Ballroom.

One of the best nights at the latter locale was provided by the music of Eric Silk's Southern Jazz Band.

The last record, "The Silken Touch", made by this long-standing classic-style outfit received a "rave" review by "Midland Beat" Editor Dennis Detheridge, in the old "Birmingham Evening Despatch."

This disc was for Esquire, now news has come to me that the Silk band are to make another, this time for Polydor Records; release for December, name: "Off the Cuff" No. 582002.

I shall get it and I hope we may hear the band live in Birmingham again soon. Of course, the music-nightly idea is being pursued still at the "Old Crown" in Deritend, where the Ken Ingram Eagle J.B. play on Saturdays and Sundays.

New clubs and bands which are doing well: Eddie Matthews' Band at "The Junction," Harborne on Mondays. (No "Up the Junction" cries, please!).

Also, the New Lansdowne Band at the "Woolpack," Birmingham 19, on Tuesdays. Dick Chapman now plays clarinet both here and with the Crescent City Stompers.

The "Metro" club in Livery Street continues to have exciting evenings of jazz on Fridays, with this month's music coming from the bands of Alan Elsdon, Charlie Galbraith and Ken Colyer, amongst others.

On this visit, the Galbraith front-line included Kenny Ball's clarinetist, Dave Jones, and trumpeter from the old Bruce Turner Jump Band, Ray Crane.

We look forward to seeing the Galbraith Band again on the tour with Willie Lion Smith shortly.

The Ken Colyer Jazzmen (lately bereft of bassist Bill Cole and drummer Bryan Hetherington) played a storming set at Malvern on 4th November, the same night as the Ged Hone Ragtime Band from Manchester played "Salutation Stomp" with the Artesian Hall Stompers.

Ged's boys played some very good Colyer-style numbers ("Kinklets" is lovely).

I'm sure "Midland Beat" readers will have enjoyed the jazz of the Zenith Hot Stompers, who were on the bill of "Second City Jamboree" for 18th November at Birmingham Town Hall, alongside the Ian Campbell Folk Group and the Johnny Patrick Quartet; also "Jazz at the Philharmonic", for the 28th at the same place, with Dizzy Gillespie, Coleman Hawkins among other stars.

The Perdido St. Jazzband had a successful date at the "Briars Jazz Club" at Kidderminster (7th).

Wild Bill Davison was the star for Midland J.C.'s birthday night on 26th.

The 7th also saw Ronnie Ross at the Elbow Room, Aston.

The Artesian Hall Stompers had another London date, at 100 Oxford St. on 21st. Leader Dan Pawson was enthusing about a trumpeter he heard and played with recently in New Orleans: name is Milton Batiste. Perhaps some kind jazz friend will arrange a tour?

On Fridays one can hear jazz at two venues in Bath: Bell Hotel with the Riverside Jazzmen and Grosvenor Club, Jerry Bath's J.B. Mondays see La Vida J.B. at the "Bull" Bletchley.

On Saturdays don't forget the "Mercer's Arms", Coventry; the "Crown", Peterborough; and the Dancing Slipper Ballroom at Nottingham.

Finally, with the season of good will upon us, may I thank all those readers of this who have written to me about their particular bands or clubs.

I hope to get around more in the New Year and hear the music in as many different places as possible.

All the best to you all, may Santa arrive with bulging record-boxes, unwearing styli and supplies of the jazz spirit — "Take it easy, man."

A FINE evening of jazz at the "Metro" Club on the 11th November, when Ken Colyer again played the music we love. Surprise drummer on this occasion was Ken Ingram's Barry Norman.

A permanent replacement joins soon; new bassist is Vic Barton, formerly with Terry Lightfoot but out of the jazz scene for a year or two. Vic told me he would rather be back playing the music he loves than earning more in a job in doesn't like.

Another record of the Colyer Jazzmen live in concert in Hamburg is announced; this time the company is Polydor.

While you are waiting for this, another record of Colyer Skiffle Group has come to hand from K. C. Records, 17, All Saints, Villas Road, Cheltenham. An E.P., this record (No. KCS.11.EP) includes "New York Town", "Green Corn" "I can't Sleep" and "Casey" Jones.

Les Page

HELD OVER

We regret that some regular features have had to be held over due to pressure on space.

What would YOU have done?

WONDER how many group members would have made the same decision as Geoff Turton if they had found themselves in similar circumstances ... John Singer's bank manager must have raised his eyebrows when he read those Bobcats' stories...

How about Gordon Andrews as Chancellor of the Exchequer? ... So Danny King wasn't on the right lines after all ... A son for Showmen saxist John Gainer ...

Elegant Set live up to their name ... Sombros and D'Fenders back from the Continent ... Listen's lead singer signs his name Rob3ert ("The 3" is silent")

Lee ... Favourable reaction to our "Beauty and the Beat" picture last month ...

It's not true that Pat Wayne liked his summer job so much that he's planning to appear as "Mr. Whippy" in future! ... What Not's drummer uses illuminated bass drum ...

On the Beat with Bo Berry

Fans pulled off the lead guitarist's shoes when New Street Station shared the stand with the Spencer Davis Group ...

Cheetahs in the charts in Austria ... Newcomers to the Moody Blues — currently high in the French hit parade — are John Lodge and Justin Hayward ...

Wedding bells for Cheetah Euan Rose on December 31 ...

Ironic that one of the Bobcats, unable to appear at public houses, should be the son of a licensee ... The Move have an explosive act in more ways than one! ...

Roger Spencer not betting on Nightriders' disc making the charts ... Roger Allen married his secretary, Suzanne Derry, on November 5 ... Cannock's Zero Five now solely represented by Barr Enterprises ...

Said the secretary of a well-known local agent: "I'm the most punctual secretary around yet he's never in the office early enough to appreciate it!"

SHELDON ACCOUNTANCY & ENTERTAINMENT SERVICES LTD

INCORPORATING BARR ENTERPRISES, EASYBEAT LTD. AND SHOWMEN ENTERPRISES

D'FENDERS

can be seen at the following venues during December :

- 2nd—T.I. Ballroom, Oldbury
- 3rd—Majestic Ballroom, Wellington
- 4th—Beeches Hotel, Great Barr
- 5th—Alcester Trades & Labour Club
- 6th, 14th,
- 20th & 29th—Club Cedar
- 9th—Lanchester College, Coventry
- 10th—Brooklyn Technical College, Great Barr.
- 11th—Throstles Club
- 12th & 19th—Private Functions
- 13th—Edward Street Club, Cannock
- 15th—Bel-Air Club, Casle Bromwich
- 16th—Bournville Boys
- 17th—Ship & Rainbow, Wolverhampton
- 18th—Highfield Social Club, Stafford
- 21st—East Birmingham Trades and Labour Club
- 22nd—George Hotel, Walsall
- 23rd—Borough Hall, Halesowen (Private)
- 24th—Bournbrook Hotel, Selly Oak
- 26th—Midnight Session — Silver Blades Ice Rink
- 27th—Sportsman, near Coventry
- 30th—3 Men in a Boat, Walsall
- 31st—Le Metro Club

All enquiries—
Ring GREat Barr 6238

BARR ENTERPRISES

66 TIDESWELL ROAD, GREAT BARR, BIRMINGHAM 22A

All bookings — Agency enquiries GRE 6238
Accountancy & Administration SHE 3472

Solely Representing

D'FENDERS
THE MODERNAIRES
THE ZERO 5
STRINGBEATS

THE SHOWMEN
THE STAFFORDS
BOBBY ASH SOUND
CONCLUSIONS

Sole Booking Agents for

MACKADOWN
THE RAVEN
THE HARLEQUIN
CLUB PANDORA
ALCESTER TRADES and
LABOUR CLUB
BOURNBROOK HOTEL
(Sunday)
ETC.

BEECHES HOTEL
BEL-AIR CLUB
THE CROWN
THE SPORTSMAN
COLESHILL and
MAXSTOKE
EX-SERVICEMEN'S
CLUB

THE SHOWMEN

featuring The Valets, Janet Anne and Gordon Andrews, can be seen at the following venues during December :

- 2nd—Lyndon, Sheldon
- 3rd & 31st—Trees, Great Barr
- 7th—Swan Village Gas Club, West Bromwich
- 3th—Bromsgrove Baths
- 10th—Willenhall Baths
- 11th—Handsworth Social Club
- 15th—Cleveland Arms, Wolverhampton
- 16th—Smethwick Labour Club
- 17th—Tettenhall W.M. Club
- 18th—Barn Social Club
- 22nd—Raven, Shard End
- 23rd—Beeches Hotel, Great Barr
- 24th—Avenue Social Club, Weoley Castle
- 26th—Allens Cross W.M. Club

All enquiries :
Ring GREat Barr 6238

Very Best Wishes for Christmas and The New Year

to all our Fans, friends, agents, promoters and fellow groups from Max, Dave, Mick and John

The D'FENDERS

PETE GITTINGS

wishes to thank all his fellow Agents, Promoters, Entertainment Secretaries, Group Managers and all Groups for their co-operation during 1966 and wish them

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
A SWINGIN' NEW YEAR

A REAL SWINGIN' CHRISTMAS AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR

to all our Friends, Agents, Promoters and fellow Groups from the

MODERNAIRES

SEASON'S GREETINGS

to all our Friends, Agents, Promoters and fellow Groups from the

SHOWMEN

Featuring

THE Valets
Janet Anne &
Gordon Andrews



The Bobcats with their trophy and a mascot after carrying off the first prize in the Locarno contest — the second big competition won by the group this year.

The judges confer at the finals of the Locarno contest — (left to right) Arthur Smith, Pete Gittings, Albert Archer (Locarno manager) and Dennis Detheridge (standing) and Billy Walker and John Jones (seated).



YOU CAN BOOK THE WHAT-NOTS (Jones and Crossland Competition Finalists) by contacting W. WALKER, 191, Stoney Lane, Birmingham, 11, or ringing ACOcks Green 5669.

Bobcats win finals ...and a £20,000 contract!

WHAT a month for the Bobcats! They have hardly had time to catch their breath after winning the contest at the Locarno Ballroom in Birmingham.

They hit the headlines when they signed a contract with Carlton Johns Entertainments, guaranteeing them £20,000 in the next 12 months. Days later they were in the Pye recording studios making their first disc.

Exciting developments indeed for four boys whose average age is only 14! Second in the Locarno contest, organised in conjunction with Jones and Crossland, were the Elegant Set, with the Seen taking third place. The other worthy finalists were the Cast, Virus and What-Nots.

The judges were Mr. John Jones (Jones and Crossland), Dennis Detheridge (Editor of "Midland Beat"), Arthur Smith (of A. D. S. E. L.), Billy Walker (Locarno resident bandleader) and Pete Gittings (of Barr Enterprises).



Freddie's double

FREDDIE met his "double" when he brought his Dreamers to star in cararet at Birmingham's Run Runner Club. He's John Singe of Carlton Johns Entertainments. Freddie the one on the left, by the way!

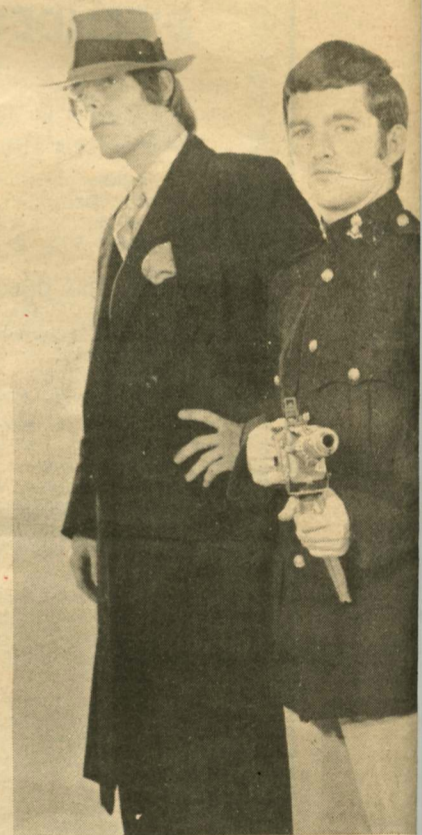
They'd better run!

On our right, Listen. On our left, the 'N Betweens... The stage is set for the biggest disc battle yet between two Midland groups. For they have both recorded the same number!

Neither was aware that the other had recorded the American song "You Better Run" when their record companies gave them a release date.

The version by Wolverhampton's 'N Betweens comes out on the Columbia label. Birmingham's Listen have recorded their rival rendering of the song for CBS.

"Midland Beat" wishes both groups the luck. May the win!



Carlton - Johns Entertainments Ltd.

Congratulate THE BOBCATS

on Winning the Locarno Contest and on their Pye Recording Contract

Sole Representation :

Carlton-Johns Entertainments Ltd.

Telephone SOUTH 4097

For Top Stars :

THE UGLY'S BARMY BARRY THE BOBCATS TOP PRIORITY

Who are the groups' group?

Who are the groups and individual performers in the Midlands most admired by members of groups? The "Midland Beat" 1966 Awards will provide the answer.

The winners of the Awards will be announced in the January, 1966, issue of "Midland Beat". Ordering a copy from your newsagent is the best way of ensuring you don't miss it.

• 'N Betweens

• Listen



IDLE GROUPS WHO GET FRAMED AND HAVE NEW LEAD SINGERS USE

JOHN LINES

of

ACRO - PHOTOGRAPHY

(Specialists in Group Publicity)

SPR 5430 or ACO 4020

242a Spring Road, Birmingham 11



SOUND!

LATEST TECHNOLOGY
ESTABLISHED REPUTATION
REASONABLE FEES
OPEN EVERY DAY

'STUDIO 36'

NORTHAMPTON SOUND RECORDING

36 Spring Gardens, Northampton

Phone 33933

DEMO-DISCS • PRESSINGS • FAN-PHOTOS

TETLOW RECO

Now recording the top bands from all over

Demo Tapes

— ALL

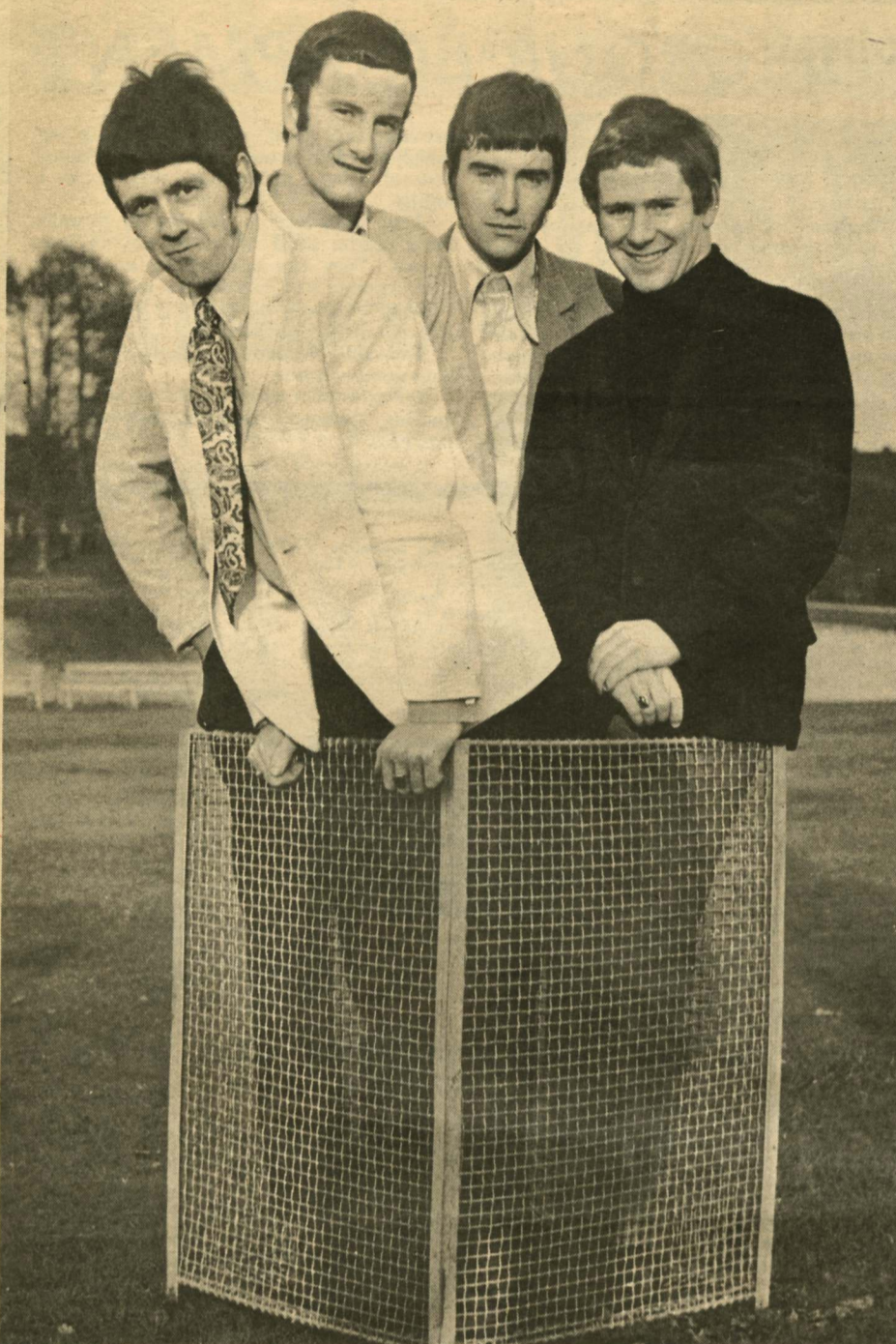
Tape To D

Original material and session service any time of

TETLOW RECO

261, Stratford Road

Phones: Studio (021)—772—



WALES

MARK GALE,
7 Hanover Street,
Canton, Cardiff

A GOOD name usually means something special in inspiration that shows up in a group's music — well, that's a theory of mine, for what it's worth.

Following from that, it shouldn't be long before Wales starts making it big on the British music scene. These are just a few of the resounding newcomers.

Amen Corner, featuring Fair-weather Low; Nuff Said; New Pieces of Mind; True to Life; Beti a'r Gwylliaid Gleision (I'd like to see THEM on a label — Betty and the Blue Bandits).

Of course, The Mediocres are still around — the Thingbeats, the Oojahs, the Grebbles, the Other People's.

But all in all, South Wales is finally making up its mind to be DIFFERENT.

How many times have I promised that before? Don't count. Wrexham's Silverstone Soul Set have been pretty busy down South just lately, but they still found time — of course they found time — to appear on Hughie Green's "Opportunity Knocks", though beat groups seem to put that weird and wonderful clapometer to flight.

Newport's second discotheque has opened at Kensington Road, Maindee. It is called — somewhat foreseeably — the Kensington Discotheque. Recent visitors were the New Pieces of Mind.

The Uplands, from Neath, shared a week at Pontypridd's Basement Club with True to Life.

Looks as though that safe driving bit I suggested caught on. No recorded road mishaps this month. Now wait for it ...

Beat groups, like other young people, have been giving themselves regularly and happily to concerts in aid of the Aberfan Disaster Fund.

Naming just a few would be unfair on the others — and it would take much time and space to identify them all.

Suffice it to quote what a spokesman for the South Wales Variety Agents' Association said: "The boys (and girls) have given themselves unsparingly to raise contributions for the fund. I think they have shown the cynics once and for all that they are not just long hair and trousers."

**Opportunity
knocks
(via Jimmy
Powell)
for Brum
groups**

IF ever anyone gets around to writing a history of the Brum Beat scene, the name Jimmy Powell will figure very prominently in it. For this energetic young man was one of the pioneers of soul-style singing in the city.

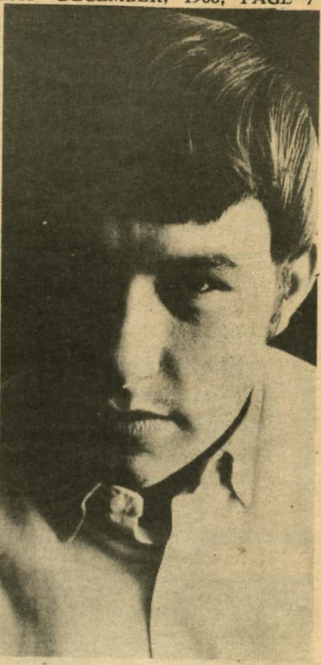
Indeed, Jimmy can claim the proud distinction of being the first Brum Beat personality to make a record. His disc debut came before his former group, the Rockin' Berries, became the first Birmingham group on disc back in July, 1963.

So it is now fitting that Jimmy should be providing the groups of today with a wonderful chance to earn themselves a recording contract. In fact, anyone recording at his Strike Recordings studios at the rear of 678 Bristol Road South, Northfield, gets three chances of having a disc released.

"There are three recording companies prepared to take material from me for release," explains Jimmy, whose own discs are now issued by Strike. "I recently negotiated contracts for five groups out of nine whose material I took to London."

Jimmy Powell is also on the look-out for songwriters whose work might be suitable for recordings. He is able to offer contracts with a music publishing company to anyone whose writing is up to standard.

"My aim has always been to provide Birmingham groups with the same sort of opportunities as those in London," says Jimmy. "I think we are now achieving this aim with our set-up."



**THIS MONTH'S
BARGAINS**

- GUITAR, Left-handed
Gretsch Jet Firebird £100
- GUITAR, Guild Acoustic Electric £80
- BASS GUITAR, Hard
made, 5 Strings £25
- ECHO UNIT, Swiss,
Late Model £35
- SAXOPHONE, Selmer
Tenor Mark VI, as
new £110

**Kay Westworth's
Melody House
17, Cannon Street
Birmingham 2.
MIDLAND 9043.**

Disc debut for...

The Frame

IT was as William's Conquerors that Brian Harbison and his boys won the "Midland Beat" Contest. But it's under their new name, The Frame, that they make their disc debut this month on the RCA Victor label.

Since it was originality that helped the group to win the "Midland Beat" Contest, it is appropriate that their disc should feature two of their own songs.

The "A" side, "She", was written by Brian Harbison (lead singer and bass guitarist) whilst Bob Adams, their rhythm guitarist and backing vocalist, wrote the flip-side, "My Feet Don't Fit In His Shoes."

Brian and Bob, along with lead guitarist-singer Mick Webley, are original members of the group. Drummer-vocalist Peck Woodward took over from Brian Miles shortly before the name change.

Why did the group decide to have a new name?

"Because we felt our old one was old fashioned," said a group spokesman. "We had changed our musical style towards Tamla Motown and thought we ought to have a new name to go along with our new sound."

The Frame have signed a management and agency contract with Kemal Entertainments, of Birmingham.

best of
best disc



SHE

c/w
**My Feet Don't
Fit in His
Shoes**

by
**THE
F
R
A
M
E**



**IN
YOUR
SHOPS NOW.**

**BUY IT
TODAY!**

**RCA
1556**



RECORDING STUDIO
for solo artists, and groups
throughout the Midlands
Records or Discs
SO —
Disc Service
for men provided at your
convenience DAY or NIGHT.
RECORDING STUDIO
11, Birmingham, 11
7323; Home (021) SPR 3944

STRIKE RECORDS
rear of 678, Bristol Road South, Northfield,
Birmingham, 31,
in conjunction with Strike Records/Go Records/
Ariola Records offer you a
3 — 1
chance of a recording contract.
All material recorded in our studios is considered
for submitting to one of our associate labels with a
view to release on a single.
We can also arrange for all original material
to be published by
MILLWICK MUSIC
Enquiries to
JIMMY POWELL or JAMES ALLEN
at PRI 7304.

YARDLEYS

87-89 SNOW HILL, BIRMINGHAM - GEN 7411
EQUIPMENT & SERVICE

GO OVER BIG with
MARSHALL 200 Watt
IN STOCK
with All other Models
at
YARDLEYS

Now it's

"200"

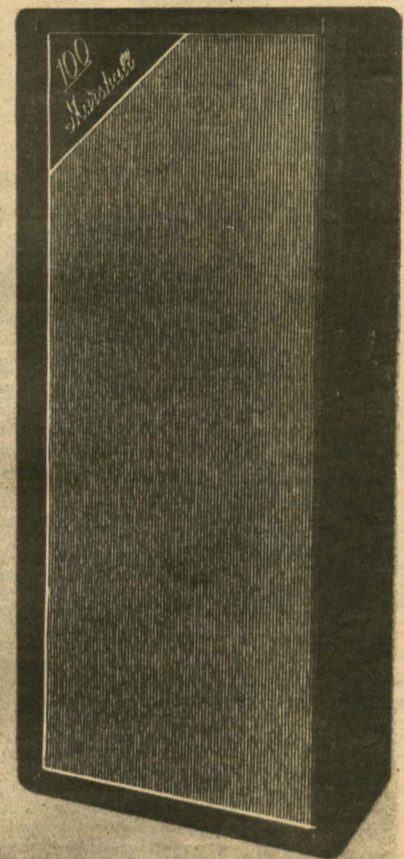
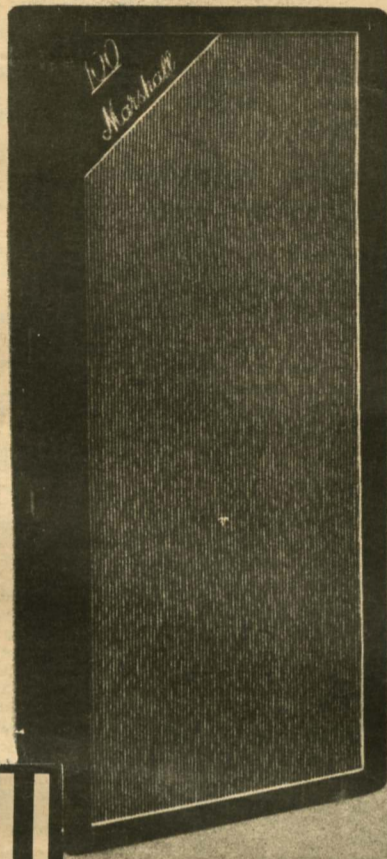
Call & Discuss Your
Amplification Problems
with Our Amplification
Adviser
Ask for

PAUL



He will give You Service
and Satisfaction

Marshall



OXFORDSHIRE

MIKE CHARLETON,
34, Edinburgh Drive,
Kidlington,
Oxford.

MR. KING, of "Stanton King,"
St. Aldates, has started a sound
studio for making demo discs, tapes
etc.

I can recommend it to any group
or singer requiring this type of
service; reasonably priced and in a
relaxed atmosphere. Mr. King has
won most of the top national
honours with his own tapes in com-
petitions. I remember one in
particular "Bathroom Sounds,"
being broadcast by the BBC.

Decco Attractions would like to
know how many Oxfordshire
groups would be interested in a Beat
Contest to select Oxford's top group
for entry into a national competi-
tion next year as area representa-
tives. All expenses will be paid by
the agency and other prizes will
be awarded.

How would you like to have a
holiday in Rome and get paid for
it? Well, this is precisely what the
Primitives are having at this
moment.

I spoke to their manager only
a few days ago and got an up-to-
date account of Primitive move-
ments. It appears they intend to
stay in Rome for as long as the
Romans can stand them.

If their liking for Rome is as
great as their popularity, they will
be there for some time. Already
released is a single in Italian and
an L.P., half Italian, half English,
on R.C.A. Victor.

The boys hope to come home
for a couple of days over Christmas
if it can be arranged. Lead guitarist
Dave Somnor plans to take his
family back with him.

Throughout my career with the
Spirits (Mal and), right up to the
not-so-distant Primitives, I have
always managed to keep in touch
with the Falling Leaves. So you
can imagine how shaken I was to
learn of their break-up. I wonder
who will take their place?

The break-up of the Leaves
brings a new chance for Rod Crisp,
ex-lead singer, who in future will be
known as Mr. Crisp.

He has landed himself a five-
year recording contract with C.B.S.
Records. His first release will be
his own composition, "Loving
Machine." It should be on release
soon after Christmas. Lots of luck,
Mr. Crisp.

Mr. D. E. Clare, of Decco
Attractions, wrote to me recently
to say he has formed a new group
whose name will soon be a "house-
hold word" in Oxford.

Mr. Clare revealed that three
of the members of his group re-
cently returned from France,
adding that they have a great
sound and lots of talent. As yet they
have no name. Good for you, Mr.
Clare. But when do we see them?

I have made reference to Decco
Attractions throughout this
month's round-up. It is just possible
that some of you may not be
acquainted with this name. Well,
Decco Attractions are an agency
capable of finding replacement
musicians and providing an outlet
for musical instruments no longer
required.

And Decco offers the usual ser-
vice given by a well-organized the-
atrical agency.

LEICESTERSHIRE

ARTHUR KIRBY
24 Tolcarne Road,
Leicester

CLIVE Denson Trio did a guest
spot at the Boot and Shoe club
and earned lots of plaudits for a
really professional show.

Saints have now decided to call
themselves Fantasia 67. The Folk
introduced two vocalists at Gipsy
Lane recently — a young coloured
boy and an attractive female. Indi-
vidually, they were good but on
duets they were fantastic.

Resident singer at the local Con-
tinental, Miss Maureen Laverne,
has a great feel for jazz standards.
Thurmaston Progressive club
are experimenting with mid-week
spectaculars. First to top the bill
were the mighty X'Caliburs.

Lancers Three appealed to a
London editor to find them a few
dates, not in London but up North.
Jan and Eddy played their first
date at Scraftoff and gave a first
class programme of authentic coun-
try and western.

Why did Mal Darren appear on
TV without the Ramblers? Broodly
Hoo making a name for themselves
in the Metropolis. It's about time a
local group hit the headlines but I
thought the Mozletoff would be
first in the queue.

Colin Thornley, concert boss of
New Parks club, is still interested
in groups, but they must display
a minimum of volume and a
maximum of talent.

Buzz Ford Band Show hoping
to turn fully professional in the new
year with a brand new act, which
will feature lots of comedy and
some original music.

Saketa Four still declaring that
they are the youngest semi-pro
group in the business. Average age
14. What about it, Bobcats?

Boss of the Royal Oak is hopping
mad with groups who fail to turn
up for bookings. He threatens to

sue the next truant group for loss
of bar takings.

Young newcomers The Carna-
tions took over at the last minute
after the booked group had been
paid off for playing too loud at
Scraftoff Valley recently. Playing
a number of Seekers songs, they
went like a bomb.

Kenny Pete Five one of the most
polished groups ever to appear in
Leicester.

Comedian Billy Street is also a
fine guitarist and once played with
the Jimmy Crawford Trio.

Record attendance recorded for
Scraftoff Valley's show for Aberfan
Disaster Fund. Ten acts on the bill,
including the Rangers Showband,
Dave Houston Four and J. H.
Four.

Noted promoter Arthur Kim-
brell showing great interest in the
Dave Houston Four. He has
already booked them in with Tom
Jones and may include them on
the Cliff Richard/Shadows tour.

Birmingham group The Limeys
may soon be coming to Leicester
to visit local composer Ray Kirby
regarding the possibility of record-
ing a few of his latest songs.

DERBYSHIRE

NEIL HALLAM,
Raymond News
Agency,
4 Victoria Street,
Derby

PATRICK Shippey, the deejay who
is embarking on a new venture
with his own group, has finally
decided on a name for the outfit
he will front.

With surprising, not to say
astonishing, self-effacement, he has
declined to use his own name in the
title and has decided on Bogdon's
Assorted Soul Personalities.

Bogdon is the first name of one
of the three guitarists, a chap with
the unlikely surname of Sudn'ck.
Patrick explained: "I have used
so many names in my career as a
deejay that I could not decide which
to use for the group's title. Bog's
name is unusual (to say the least)
so we plumped for that."

The group has yet to make its
debut for Patrick wants to be sure
they are ready before accepting
bookings. He has a coloured girl
backing trio who have not previ-
ously been with a group and is
practising them regularly.

"No group from Derbyshire has
really made it to the top but we
are dedicating ourselves to making
a hit record," he said. "We will
play dates for a while until I think
we are ready to make a record
and then we will cut a couple of
demo tracks." Only problem so far
has been the difficulty in getting
hold of an organ at a reasonable
price.

Another deejay has also been
playing the name-game: Discovery
spin-man Milt James, alias Jim
Milton, has clicked with a name
for the eagerly awaited discotheque
and soul club shortly to open in
Derby.

After it seemed likely to get
tagged the Cymbal, he had a
change of mind and decided upon
"The Clouds."

The interior structural work is
almost finished and Jim, who will
manage the club, hopes to be able
to open early this month.

He has already booked many
of the big name soul circuit groups
and intends to present popular
music on a wider scale than in some
clubs. Planned is a rather more
sophisticated Jazz night. Local
groups, who have failed to get
into the clubs in other Midland
towns with any regularity, will
probably get their chance at the
Clouds.

Godfrey's Grit 'n' Soul Band,
reshaped since the departure of
brothers Roger and Doug Smith,
have not felt the pinch anything
like so badly as they felt they might.
In fact the upheaval has had
several desirable results.

Roger Smith, who still follows
the fortunes of the group very
closely, feels in fact that they are
now better than ever and improv-
ing fast.

Guy Jones, the coloured ballad
singer who joined them shortly
before Roger left, has clicked
straight away as an up-tempo
vocalist and the group's only worry
on his score is that he is too good
to keep.

The group, who at first planned
to swing to a smoother brand of
music when Guy joined them, have
in fact moved further out than ever
and specialise in little-known
numbers by American coloured
soul artists.

Soon Guy's wife is to join hubby
as a vocalist and then the group
feel they will be ready to try and
break into the big club circuit.
The line-up at present is: John
Whysall (drums), John Benning-
ton (bass, lead or rhythm as the
mood demands), Ray Jones and
Dave Shakespeare (saxes) and Guy
Jones (vocals).

The group had hoped to have a
lay-off after the brothers Smith left,
to enable them to adapt, but book-
ings kept on coming in and now
they are as busy as ever.

The Centors have moved on
from the U.S. Air Force Base near
Orleans and are now playing clubs
around Nancy in France. They are
resident at a hotel called the Soleil
D'Or and are also playing at clubs
in the town and surrounding towns.

John Frawley, the group's
manager, in a letter home, says they
will stay in France until Christmas
and then return home for a short
stay.

The pickings on the Continent
are so big, however, that they will

not stay in England long before
crossing the Channel again.

They play an average of three
clubs a night at a minimum of ten
guineas each as well as the hotel
residency.

At present he is discussing the
possibility of cutting a record in
France and is also exploring a
suggestion that they should try to
get work in America.

Several of the GI's at the base
where they played felt they would
go down well Stateside but John
is finding it difficult to discover
whether a trip over the Atlantic can
be arranged.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

MARK GRIFFITHS,
6, Cowper Street,
Northampton.

A GROUP steadily building a repu-
tation for themselves are the
Kontax. They were formed about
12 months ago and have had per-
sonnel changes during that time.

They are now settled with their
six-strong line-up. Their pro-
gramme consists of Pops and Blues
and they are hoping to cut a demo
disc soon. The two sides will be
written by the lead guitarist.

The group consists of John
(Benny) Tallet, 19, vocals; Alan
McIlravie, 16, lead; Dick Rebel,
16, rhythm; Bob Skarret, 18, bass;
Tim Morton, 17, and Bob Warral,
20, organ. They have too much
work in Northamptonshire and are
looking for bookings further afield,
as the local scene is very slow.

The Missing Links have recently
changed line-up. They lost their
drummer and rhythm guitarist and
have gained a new drummer and
organist to replace their other mem-
bers.

The Phoenix have now settled
down after forming about 3 months
ago and are proving very popular
wherever they appear. They have
already been offered several book-
ings in the Manchester area and I
think this group will build a very
strong name for themselves, in other
areas as well as locally.

The Grade I were mentioned last
month. I have now obtained more
information on the group. About
a year ago, the group, (not the
same personnel as at present) were
steadily getting along with their
old amps and kit.

At this time, they became asso-
ciated with their new manager, Mr.
F. D. Clements, who decided to buy
a complete amplification system out
of his pocket. This move has paid
off and the group's bookings are
now flowing in. Most of the work
they are doing is in the Leicester
and surrounding areas, where they
have a very large following.

Paul Williams, lead; John Clues,
bass; Terry Green, organ; Mick
Gilkerson, drums; and Bob Far-
mer, vocals, make up the line-up
of Grade I.

EAST ANGLIA

R. G. TUDOR,
92, Christchurch Road
Norwich

WITH the departure from the group
of Andy Field, pianist and singer,
The News, Norwich's only record-
ing group, have revised their pre-
sentation to fit a three-man line-up.

Pete Miller, who took over on
lead guitar when Ivan Zagni left
last month, now takes care of most
of the vocals.

So far, the three-man policy has
paid off and the group faces a busy
period of bookings ahead.

Pete Miller has a good reason to
be thankful. His custom-built
Gretsch guitar was lost when the
band played a date at R.A.F.
Wattisham in Essex. After two
days of frantic searching the guitar
was returned.

The Anglian Set (formerly
Garry Freeman and the Contours)
have been hard at work in the
recording studio and a first release
is, according to a source near the
group, "in the offing."

Making a Christmas Eve return
to the city where he started his
singing career is Mike Patto, Mike
has re-organised his band (the Bo
Street Runners) and they are now
going out as Patto's People. Just
joined and playing lead guitar is
ex-Newsman Ivan Zagni.

Disappointment in Norwich last
month when Brum group The Move
failed to make a date at the Orford
Cellar because of a breakdown in
transport. It's at times like that
the name is more of a hindrance
than a help. Cellar promoter
Howard Platt has re-booked the
band to appear later this month,
on 21st December.

Five nights of music is now
the rule at the face-lifted Bedford
Cavern. New decor and a juke-
box discotheque system has boosted
the Cavern's popularity to the ex-
tent that opening on the extra nights
was a welcome must for Eric Welch,
Cavern organiser. Groups now
appear there on Fridays and Satur-
days.

Mondays, Wednesdays and
Sundays, the juke-box belts out
the beat.

Extending their area of opera-
tion, the Versions have been rais-
ing the roofs in Kettering, Wat-
ford and Welwyn Garden City.

GO TENPIN BOWLING

AT THE
ABC CINE-BOWL

STIRCHLEY
KINGS NORTON 4444
OPEN WEEKDAYS from 10 a.m.
SATS and SUNS from 9 a.m.
CAR PARK - GRILLETTE - LICENSED CLUB
You can book your lane in advance

Price of Games:
6.30 p.m. to 11.30 p.m.
and all day Sunday 3/6d
per game.
Other times: Adults
2/6d per game; Children
1/6d per game.

The BAND BOX
(Wolverhampton), Ltd.

All Leading Makes
GUITARS & AMPLIFIERS
SAXES, CLARINETS
TRUMPETS, TROMBONES
DRUMS & ACCESSORIES

28, SNOW HILL,
WOLVERHAMPTON
21420 — Telephone — 21420

"NU-SUITE"
ENTERTAINMENTS
AGENCY

Wores. 22935. Wores.
Top Midland Groups,
Bands and Acts.
for your Parties, Dances
and Functions
BOOK NOW

The Maurice Cooper Quartet.
Music in the Modern Manner

All Enquiries:
B. P. FINCH,
24, Church Rd., Worcester.

Abbey Music Company

for
DRUMS:
Premier Agents.
All Accessories.
GUITARS: Large Stocks
AMPLIFIERS:
Popular Range.

5 & 6 Market Place
Burton-on-Trent
Telephone: 2404.

ALLWAYS ELECTRIC LTD.
LOWER GROUND FLOOR
RUSSELL & DORRELL LTD.,
HIGH STREET :: WORCESTER
Branch: RONALD WILSON & CO. LTD.,
Blackwell Street :: Kidderminster

.. Group Business a Pleasure ..
PREMIER — SELMER — VOX
MARSHALL PA — HOFNER — GIBSON, Etc.
Telephone: Worcester 28571/2

ANDY'S CLAPPERS
(Dave, Mel, Jan, Mick and new singer Terry)



Would like to thank all their fans, friends, promoters
... and even agents ... at home and abroad, for
their support during 1966 and wish them all the best for
Christmas, New Year and 1967.

THE 'MIDLAND BEAT'...

So many groups have just been formed, broken up or changed their name since the introduction of the "Midland Beat" Group Register that we have decided it should be revised. Therefore, any group wishing their name to be entered in the new register must complete the form below and send it to "Midland Beat" without delay. Remember, inclusion in the register is one way of helping to prevent another group coming on the scene with YOUR name!

TO: "Midland Beat" 1966 Group Register, Midland Beat, 110 Wake Green Road, Moseley, Birmingham 13.

Name of group: _____

Manager's Name and Address _____

Telephone No: _____

Here are the latest additions to the Group Register: The Alipers (Blackheath) Apex Rhythm and Blues Allstars (Northampton), The Bitta Sweet (West Bromwich), Deep Meditation (Blackheath) Dee Bee 5 (Bromsgrove) Exmour Extremists (Worcester) The Eye Society (Birmingham), The High Numbers (Cheltenham) The Hot-Spots (Birmingham), The Ides of March (West Bromwich), The Line (Birmingham), The Morons (Birmingham), The Orions (Smethwick), Roy Barrie Sounds (Birmingham) The Roving Saracens (Blackheath), The Revolution (Birmingham), Sun-Set (Crophorne, Worcs.), The Silhouettes (Calverton, Notts), The Starfinders (Newport, Shrops) 1066 (Birmingham) The U. K. Bonds (Birmingham).

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

ANDREW M. JAMES,
1 Priors Court,
Priors Road,
Cheltenham.

I WOULD like to sort out the situation of Newhams' Good Goods. The boys have not split up, as I mentioned in last month's report.

They had decided to turn professional, except for the organist and lead guitar / saxophonist. That is, the bass player of the group (brother of the quitting saxophonist) decided that he would play organ if a suitable replacement bass and saxophonist could be found.

Unfortunately, they were unlucky in this respect and have decided to remain together on a semi-pro basis. Incidentally, they have now completely split with the Norman Reid Agency and are doing more and more work for Jack Fallon's "Cana Agency".

This is interesting in that Jack Fallon is Bill Reid's partner in Mr. Mago's Club at Stroud and the Friday sessions at Lydney's Severn Bridge Ballroom. Of course, Bill Reid is partner in the Norman Reid concern, so presumably there is no bitterness in the split, since both agencies have business connections.

Alan Walker plays his first gig with the new Long John Baldry Package on the 3rd of this month.

His agent John Norman told me that the final line up has now been fixed at Long John, Alan, another male vocalist Stuart Brown, two coloured girl dancers from T.W. W's "NOW" programme and backing groups of Fontana recording artists Bluesology. The Package appears at Cheltenham's Blue Moon Club on January 14th.

Incidentally, Alan's manager also has connections with the Spencer Davis Group and is hoping to obtain material from Stevie Winwood with a view to Alan cutting his first disc.

Chris Letheridge previous bass

player in Alan's now redundant group, is to act as Road Manager for the Package. He'll move up to London with Alan, and after making himself known hopes to eventually join a professional group as bass, so John Norman told me.

Zoot Money, The Move and Gerry Farr and the T-Bones all make appearances in Cheltenham at the Blue Moon on the 10th, 12th and 24th of December respectively.

I had a letter from Pat Brownnet indignantly that I had suggested the Pattern no longer existed (November issue). Although The Dedicated Soul Set is now his main group, the Pattern still functions in London when Pat visits the other member Martyn Ford.

Apparently they played several London Clubs together in October. The most interesting part of Pat's letter was the fact that he was visiting London at the time to have some of his own material published.

Apparently local outfit, Ramrods feature a couple of his numbers in their repertoire, which was completely new to me. Pat says that he still has plenty of original material left and any group who may be interested in his compositions are welcome to contact him at 31A, Rodney Road, Cheltenham.

News of my backing group "The Sack 'O' Woe". Bass player Dennis Carpenter announced his desire to leave the group at Christmas. However, former Sonics bass Stuart Henderson stepped into the breach. Another addition is that of saxophonist Colin Gibbons, recently returned from Nottingham.

The group now lines up: Dimples Ralphe on organ, Colin Gibbons (saxophone), Rikky Anlebrooke (guitar), Stuart Henderson (bass) and David Townsend (drums).

Dennis has now teamed up with former Hawks, Fayetones etc.... and at present James Nielson group lead guitar Jimmy Whittle and former Just Us drummer John Elliot to form a modern jazz trio.

The James Nielson group, formed about 9 months ago of ex Faytone and Deemen members one of Cheltenham's newest groups, which somehow despite all signs to the contrary, has just failed to get off the ground and is therefore, soon to disband.

The new trio, nameless as yet, intends to turn professional in London as soon as possible with Jimmy Whittle (former professional) and Dennis, two of Cheltenham's most capable men on their instruments, not to mention young John Elliot.

I look forward with much interest to hearing them play. Dennis is to marry Carol Roberts in the new year. However, this will not affect his future with the trio. Jimmy Whittle is, of course, already married.

News of two newish Cheltenham outfits. The first is the Klan. They line up Norman Bevan (lead guitar), Kenny - Oh my hair is so long Steager (rhythm guitar), Colin Short (bass guitar) and Ronnie Gough on drums. All members participate in vocals.

They recently played at a United Nations Dance at Leckhampton Hall in Cheltenham. Although I was unable to attend, Colin Short, group bass, told me that the dance was well attended and the promoters were well pleased with his group's success.

Point to note here is that this must be the first successful dance to be held in this Hall for about 3 years, and the boys deserve a genuine pat on the back in helping to continue the trend in Gloucestershire of opening rather than closing dance halls recently.

The other group is called The Reaction. They line up Tony Newman (lead/vocals), Ian Biggs (bass/vocals) and Mike Newman (drums). I heard the boys perform at Cheltenham's renowned Gas Club last month.

Their act, although a little promise and together with the boys' ebullient enthusiasm and their

obvious talents, they should compact into a good study group.

Young Tony is perhaps the outstanding member of the outfit. He handles the vocals with great competence and makes effective use of his fuzz-box to achieve a Spence Davisish Sound.

The group would do much better if they invested in a decent P.A. system, even so we should hear a lot more of them in the future. Rumour has it that "Major" M.J.D. Henderson is to take over the management of the group in the near future.

I am still not receiving enough information from Gloucestershire outfits. For instance, I have to discover that Cheltenham's Nightshades are now known as The John Raymond Sound from an advertisement by Tewkesbury's 61 Club.

There is already a local outfit known as The Mark Raymond Sound. I guess they must be one and the same group?

WARWICKSHIRE

Paul Connew,
32 Pinnock Place,
Pile Hill,
Coventry.

IF YOU are nearer thirty than twenty, married now with a couple of kids, and with a pop history that goes back to the days when Elvis was king, Jerry Lee crown prince and Little Richard "in" and James Brown nothing but the name of a corny old song, then I have news for you.

Take a trip to Coventry's Walsgrave Hotel on a Sunday morning. The pop clock turns back a few years there every week. There are raving jam sessions at which the city's "rock idols of the past" meet up again for a chat and some impromptu gigs.

You might see Shel Naylor (now with The Flamingoes) back to his old style when he could shake around like Elvis and play rock-a-boogie piano just like Lee Lewis.

Big Johnny B. Great (still doing well in London) often drops home and looks in, while there are some swinging guys around who made something of a name for themselves and also quit the business before The Beatles even existed.

Speaking of Jerry Lee Lewis. He was booked in at Coventry's Matrix Hall to give another of his incomparable performances — the southern country gentleman, putting on a little mature surplus weight too, but still capable of getting a "whole lotta shakin' going on."

A couple of editions back, I asked why Coventry's outstanding blues singer-harmonica man, Tim James, had drifted from the scene with the demise of The Bow Weevils.

Now I am glad to report that he is back — with the fast-rising Soul Sect. And, at the risk of sounding repetitive, I wonder why the Bow Weevils three sax players, Gregg Taylor, Gordon Wood and leader Freddie Liggins, have all disappeared from the scene.

There were plenty of protests from fans when the group folded, more from disension in their own ranks than from lack of work and support.

Freddie Liggins told me: "I am finished with the scene. I am going to sell my horn. The scene is being ruined, overplayed."

Friar's Promotions are spreading their wings and booking groups from — and into — every part of the country. They are now almost a national agency from Coventry.

One "international" date almost certain to come off is a 4-week tour of Portugal (never knew they had a beat scene) by The Matadors, but one report which will NOT be coming off is their hope to book groups into Spain despite growing interest there.

"The work permit position is just impossible," commented

Coventry's first all-nighter proved a great success at the Locarno ballroom with an attendance of 500. John Mayall gave a brilliant start to the proceedings.

Former "Chicanes" seemed close to breaking up not so long ago when a recording contract with Joe Meek hit trouble. Now they are back under the name "The Sing-Song Band" and are being guided toward another record chance by Mrs. Dot Calvert, Reg. Calvert's widow.

Name-dropping for a new tag seems quite the thing in Warwickshire right now. Also back on the scene, working Coventry's still healthy pub scene, are the ex-Angstroms, now called "Davy Jones's Crew."

Also starting to build a name for themselves are The "Inside Outs," a young, emerging pop group. Managed by one of "The Matadors" (a good guiding hand, there) they took their name from the ill-fated one and only record by Rugby group, The Beat Preachers, who have since folded.

A clever, distinctive group who seem to be making a real name for themselves are "The Joneses" from the Nuneaton area. And while we are talking about Nuneaton, congratulations to Pinkerton's, (now unassorted) Colours with the chart success of "Magic Rocking Horse".

Former Coventry chartbusters, The Sorrows, are still doing quite well, I am informed by an ambitious publicity handout from Hanley promoter, Terry Blood, who used to run Coventry's ill-fated Matrix Hall.

They still go out for between £40 — £80 and are continuing to work the Continent a great deal. Bass player Phil Packham quit after his marriage and now works in a garage.

Sorrows manager and Top Variety Agency boss, David Owen, also wed recently.

Liverpool songstress Lynne Curtis, who used to work in the Coventry area, is thinking about coming back South and has approached Friar's Promotions.

A new name group about whom I hear good reports are Chapter Two, a quartet from Ludlow, Salop who work the West Midlands and Wales.

The Cream made a quick return to this area ... at The University of Warwick. They did turn up — unlike one top London soul band who were booked in to the University but forgot to inform them when they folded up. Result — a hard night for the talented Mike Cotton Sound, who were without support.

And then to cap it all, students had to hitchhike home when, due to a telephone mix-up, Coventry Corporation late buses failed to turn up!

Lee Dorsey was a big disappointment at the Leofric jazz club ... mainly because his backing

Midland Beat Ten - Pin League

	Won	Lost	Points
1. TOMBSTONES	27	9	54
2. TIERNEY'S FUGITIVES	25½	2½	51
3. ANDY'S CLAPPERS	16½	15½	33
4. THE KATDZ	13	11	26
5. MIDLAND BEAT	12	5	24
6. THE NAZZ	11	17	22
7. THE APPLEJACKS	6	6	12
8. JENNY & THE PACK	5	11	10
9. THE MOVE	0	4	0

Hi-game, team: Tierney's Fugitives, 664; Hi-series, team: Tierney's Fugitives 1811.
Ind. Hi-game: Mick Gilmore 219; Ind. Hi-series : Graham Walsh 554.
Matches are played at the ABC Bowl, Stirchley, every Sunday at 12 noon.

agency manager Brian Ridge, of Friar's. They are also having great success with their "soul scene" at the County Arms, Blaby, Leics.

One feature every week, chaps, is a competition for the tiniest mini-skirt — and if you're a bit hard up you can enter your girl friends because there's a £5 prize.

"I thought our last winner had come in a wide belt," said a Friar's spokesman. They are to relieve their "soul" Tuesday nights at Coventry's Walsgrave Hotel too in the near future. The Shotgun Express have been booked in for the re-opening.

Ex-Smokestacks lead guitarist, Jeff Giles, was back in Coventry this week — on leave! He quit the scene a few months back and is now building a new career in the R.A.F.

Last line on an alarming note: Promoters of one Coventry dance are to step up their "security" after a nationally-famous group sat smoking reefers in their dressing-room.

The fact that they had "reefers" was obvious to some of the audience. This can only lead to a bad reputation for pop music — and this area — in general.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

HARRY SHARPE,
4 Craster Street,
Sutton-in-Ashfield

BACK home after once more entertaining the American Forces in Europe are the Mansfield based group, the Scott Gibson Five.

The group first made the trip to Germany last year and completed a month's contract. This year, the group were again offered an extended contract and this time they accepted.

The result was the S.G.F. worked for six months touring bases in both Germany and France. Whilst in Germany the group made their television debut — excepting vocalist Keith Reavill, who appeared on "For Teenagers Only" with the all-girl group The Sugarbeats — in a broadcast from a beat festival in aid of the starving children of India.

The group appeared as guest artists and the audience exceeded 5,000.

The Scott Gibson Five are only in England until February when they again invade the Continent.

They have definite contracts for both France and Germany and it could develop into a world tour, taking in Italy, Denmark, Sweden and Turkey, if all the offers of work are confirmed.

Jazz has always held some sway in Nottingham and it is good to see names like Ball, Barber and Bilk appearing at the Jazz Club and Harry Smith, Danny Moss and Phil Seaman at The Gallery.

The jazz scene has quietened considerably since the "trad boom" but these items certainly help in keeping up interest.

Tempo Victors have been to the recording studios and produced a record called "Let me tell you". Obviously hoping to sell the record to a large company, the group is now fully professional and has just finished touring in Germany.

Whilst they were doing their month's work in Germany, they met an Austrian organist, who, subject to obtaining a work permit, hopes to join them in this country early in the new year.

GROUP DIRECTORY

<p>Clear The Track Here Comes THE LOCOMOTIVE Phone : MID 5210</p>	<p>THE GROUP WHO TRAVEL ANYTIME/ANYWHERE THE SHOOTING STARS Manager : R. WHITTLESTONE, 141, TANHOUSE AVENUE, BIRMINGHAM, 22a. GRE 2912 : GRE 4538</p>	<p>THE IN-PACK Manager: P. CRADDOCK Burntwood 8966</p>
<p>"MELODY MAKER" CONTEST FINALISTS THE VOGUES Contact: Den Caney RUB 2433</p>	<p>THE REEFER SET — Manager : — ROBERT JOINES, Oxford 78623</p>	<p>Runners-up, Silver Blades "Sounds of '66 Contest" THE ORIGINAL "IN" SECT For That Big Band Sound. DEREK BRUCE AGENCY 64, PORT STREET, EVESHAM, WORCS. Tel. : EVESHAM 2819.</p>
<p>THE Ambassadors An ORGAN-ised Group Contact : J. TURTON, 9, OUNSDALE ROAD, WOMBOURNE, WOLVERHAMPTON, Phone: WOMBOURNE 2108.</p>	<p>THE FRAME OF MIND MANAGER : B. P. SOUTH 227, COLES LANE SUUTTON COLDFIELD — Phone — KIN 5233 ERD 6326</p>	<p>NEW STREET STATION Phone: CAS 6773. Mr. D. Lloyd Management: Mr. T. R. BOWN 39, KITTS GREEN ROAD, KITTS GREEN, BIRMINGHAM, 33.</p>

WORCESTERSHIRE

B P FINCH,
24 Church Road,
Rainbow Hill,
Worcester

MOST exciting news of the month for beat fans in Worcestershire is the release of another disc by Raynor's Secrets. It brings both a change of name and label for these popular Kidderminster boys.

After making their disc debut with EMI, the group, formerly known as Cliff Ward and the Cruisers, turn up as simply The Secrets on their new CBS disc. "A" side is one of Cliff's own compositions, "I Suppose."

GAINING popularity are the Maurice Cooper Quartet, from Bromsgrove, who recently gave up a resident Saturday job in Redditch to freelance.

The lads, all from Bromsgrove, are now represented by the Nu-Suite Agency. They report bookings from a wide area. Pianist Maurice Cooper was joined over a year back by Lionel Panting on drums, and they have added Sam Bright on lead/rhythm guitar, and former Hobos' bass player Glenn Woodward, who at 20 is the youngest member of the band.

They feature strict-tempo, pop and beat numbers, also Shearing-style swing, and are in great demand for parties and socials. Any enquiries?

Exists hope to go to Germany early in the New Year, following the Quiet Few, in the hope of enjoying the same luck that groups in the past have had on the continent.

By the way, Buddies back again, now calling themselves the Problems. Name changes too, for the End, soon to become the New Inventions; and Bob James Set to the Motivations.

Bromsgrove's Bent Society now four-piece, following departure of Wicker Priest who only joined recently. He is replaced by Martin Webley (bass and vocals). Lead is Dave Joynes, John Dobson handles percussion and Roy Watts doubles vocals and bass. Former vocalist John Byng rumoured to be looking for a new group so is former Cellarman Paul Nicholls, who is learning to play sax.

Worcester's New Sense gigging out of the area, recently auditioned for E.C.C. Entertainments, of Nottingham.

Malvern's Graham Plimmer, who manages the End, The Mood (a Malvern Trio) and the Chatterry, has started an agency—officially though he has been making bookings for several years now.

Chatterry folded, and then reformed, enlisting former Imps lead Bob Beale and Sett's Ray Vivian on bass, who replace Roy Taylor and Dennis Morgan respectively. Mick Casey remains as drummer with rhythm/vocalist Mick Mann. They hope to be ready for the Malvern Contest Finals which they were expected to reach from semi's on November 25th and December 9th. Other contenders include This Kind, Exits, Cert X. Strictly for the Birds, Nova Sounds and Sound Barrier. See you at the Finals, Friday December 23rd.

Deep Feelin's record release, on the Marmalade label, is "If You're Mine", self-penned and very commercial. They also have a psychedelic-type issue, "Pretty Colours", released on Fontana in the States, plus an E.P. to be issued

shortly in France.

Chances Are taped several originals at the John Graham Studios and hope these will interest the E.M.I. selections board. Shakedown Sounds doing great business at present.

Former Sundowners' drummer, Barry Goode, joined the ex-group members' marriage stakes recently. Lightning Blues bass man Doug Constant rumoured to be retiring shortly.

Ledbury-based Mondays have taped an original, "Never Ending Love", and will copyright it unless accepted by a recording company. News too that Pershore's Knak had their efforts turned down by a top record firm, although Parlophone were interested. Composer of the "A" side, Cinderford's Steve Daly, is hoping his song, "More and More", will be taken up soon.

He is now plugging a folk-cum-C and W - trio, The Lucky Charms, from Cinderford, and hopes they can all make the professional grade together - Steve as a composer and group manager, and the lads as a cabaret-style group, or even as soloists. They are presently considering several offers from Northern concerns. I wish them well for 1967.

Spencer Davis and Zoot Money recent attractions at Big Beat Sessions at Malvern, drawing capacity crowds two weeks running.

Atlantics backed Tony Jackson group at Stourport Civic Centre recently. Name attractions include Screaming Lord Sutch, who still has one of the most original acts; Wayne Fontana; and his former colleagues, the Mindbenders. Booked in successive weeks too.

Stringbeats drawing crowds at Frank Freeman's club after recent residency. Nightriders and lovely dollies, showing the latest mood outfits, drew large audience at Grotto club, during display of Fashion clothes by Birmingham's Immediate Boutique. Apper Clarse made Worcester debut at Top Rank club.

Chris Sinfield, former Daisy-cutters lead, has joined little-known city outfit, Just Three, now renamed the Harlem Shuffle. Protection Racket delighted with response to new format, even though an over-enthusiastic agency gave them three club bookings for one night, as well as two others previously accepted. This meant the cancellation of their return date at the Catholic Club, who had hoped to offer the group a regular monthly gig. Anyone else interested?

R.I.P., the Huskies. With the departure of Rich Mc. Gowan and pending departure of rhythm Dave Conway, the lads changed name, management and personnel all at once. They are now the Profits and former Simonals lead, Ian Simmonds (18) and ex. pro. organist Bob Baker (21), join vocalist "Butch" Humber (18), bassman Mick Dickenson (23) and drummer Bill Simmonds, youngest at only 16. New manager is Mr. A. G. Hutton.

New from the Halesowen area are the Allipers, surely the most unusually named Worcestershire group. Manager Keith Richardson's charges are lead John Southall 15, in his first group; Kevin Hackett 16, rhythm/vocalist Martin Rudge, 15, bass and John Williams 17, a Keith Moon fan.

News next month of the Smoke Stack Image, Redditch-based the Union, Nova Sounds, Sound Barrie and others.

CORNER CARTOON
by Ian Laird

SORRY SON! BUT THESE DAYS YOU MUST HAVE A GIMMICK!

AGENCIES

Group Musicians — are you looking for a group to join? Phone or write to address below and we will do the rest. **GROUP MANAGEMENT**—If you require a replacement for your group, we can supply you. Phone or write your requirements to address below. Also Stand - ins supplied for holidays or illness at short notice. — Randle's Replacement Agency, 1233 Warwick Road, Acocks Green, Birmingham 27. ACO.2761.

CLASSIFIEDS

PERSONAL

Accountant: Already preparing taxation accounts for several well-known Beat Groups and Artists; can save you TAX. Confidential and reliable service at very reasonable charges. — Box No. 100. Midland Beat.

Have You Kept Every Copy of "MIDLAND BEAT" since publication in October 1963? Back issues can be obtained from: "MIDLAND BEAT"

GROUPS WANTED

Group Wanted to compete in "Midland Beat" Tenpin Bowling League. — Apply SOUTH 1575.

PRESENTING...
THE REST
Beat Group
All Enquiries to Personal Manager : A. CAPALDI,
183, WHEELWRIGHT ROAD,
ERDINGTON,
BIRMINGHAM 24.
Telephone : ERD 8831.

THE LYMIES
RHYTHM GROUP
Have the Sound YOU Want
BILL MALLARD,
384, Rotton Park Road,
EDGBASTON
Birmingham 16
Phone: SME 3323 (Manager)

Pen Friends. — Teens/Twenties, Home/Abroad. M.F.C., 9, The Arbour Farnhill, Keighley, Yorkshire.

Teenagers! Penpals, anywhere Send s.a.e. to Teenage Penpal Club, Burnley.

Penfriends Wanted by many, all ages.—S.a.e.: Pen Society (E.67), Chorley, Lancs.

Three Pop Posters in colour, decorate your bedroom. — Send 5/- postal order, large s.a.e.: Platt Posters, 4, Exchange Street, Norwich.

MUSICIANS WANTED

Versatile Bass Guitarist required for new group forming. Must be willing to start from scratch. Age 18-23. — Apply SHE.2689 (Mr. Edwards).

Organist/Vocalist, own transport, required by Midland recording group. — Apply SPR 6472.

Birmingham's ELBOW ROOM
High St., Aston

Not a "Night Club" an informal Late Bar (2 a.m.) with Dancing, Buffet and inexpensive GREEK speciality Grills.

Cards and Roulette.

Location a few minutes from the city centre on the main Perry Barr, Walsall, Manchester Road (A.34).

Music Programme and Door Cover.

DISCS — MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY. No admission charge.

GROUPS — WEDNESDAY FRIDAY, SATURDAY.

Seasonal Greetings
From The
Officially
Registered Groups

Christmas good wishes from
Northampton's
PHOENIX
137, Broadway East,
Northampton.

NEW STREET STATION
would like to thank all their fans for their support and all agents and promoters who have helped them in the past year, and wish them all good luck for Christmas and the New Year.

THE NAZZ
Would like to thank all fans and promoters for their support during the past year, and wish them all a good '67.
Manager: K. Shaw.
Tel. 475.2654.

Dek, Tone, Tony, Paul, Steve, Bren
Best Wishes & Good '67 to all Fans and Agents who have Contracted
THE SHINGLES!

GREETINGS to FRIENDS & FANS
THE ORIONS
MUSIC IN THE MODERN MANNER
Manager: E. F. WILSON
SME 2258

The three-man Quartet, Birmingham's loveliest group
The LOVIN' KIND,
wish all fans, agents, promoters, and all who have helped them in the past year, a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

The U.K. BONDS
Send their greetings to all fans, agents and promoters and thank them for their support during the past year.
Manager: Mrs. D. Millicheap,
33, Howard Road East,
King's Heath, Birmingham 13.
Tel. HIGhbury 2667.

THE GROOVY KIND
SEND THE SEASON'S GREETINGS AND THEIR THANKS TO AGENTS, PROMOTERS & FANS for helping to make this a successful year
SHE 5262

NEVILLE TUSTIN
(Late Solihull Entertainments Agency)
wishes to thank all Agents, Promoters and Groups for their help throughout 1966 and wishes them
A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS 1967

And of course a
Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year
from the staff of "Midland Beat"

THE DIRECTORS AND STAFF OF **NELSON HOUSE**

WISH ALL READERS OF MIDLAND BEAT
**A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR**



Call at any Nelson House branch for Gifts sure to please
SHIRTS by:
RAEL BROOK
PETER ENGLAND
and many other Famous Makers.
TIES
CUFF LINKS & JEWELLERY
SCARVES
GLOVES
PULLOVERS
CARDIGANS
SUEDE & LEATHER CLOTHING
SOCKS
HANDKERCHIEFS
CRAVATS
BELTS
CAR COATS
and many other Items of
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR

KEEP AN EYE ON NELSON HOUSE.....

for the vast selection of Style setting clothes we have available for you ● As Nelson said "England Expects" so you can expect that our shirts, jackets, trousers, jeans, suits, casual wear and shoes are second-to-none for style and value ● Birmingham Branches at 12 High Street Subway ● 1136 Warwick Road, Acocks Green ● 62a High Street, Smethwick ● 234 Soho Road, Handsworth ● **Nelson House, 1-2 Dale End**