

DON'T PAY MORE THEN 20p FOR THIS,

no.2

Über Alles

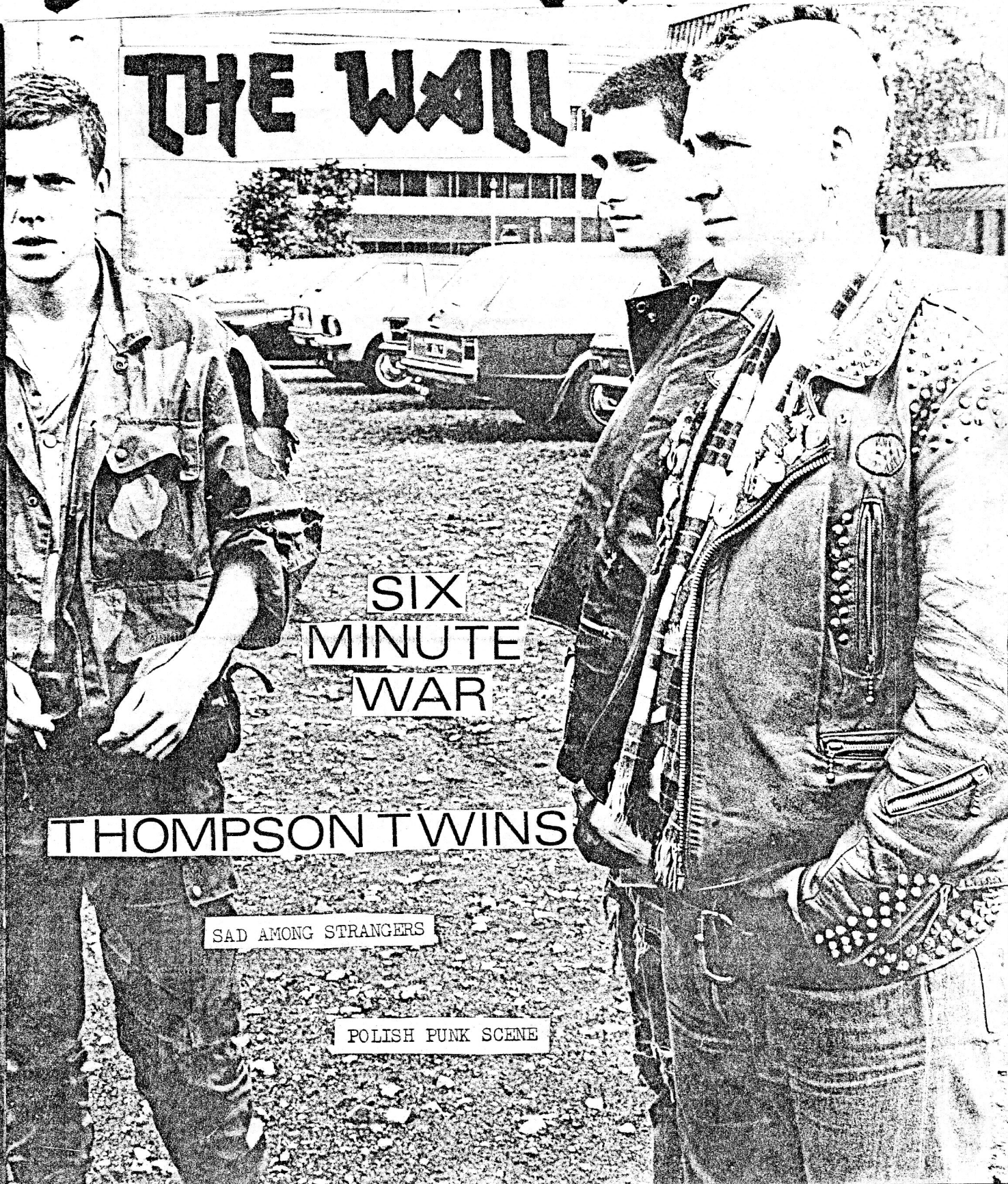
THE WALL

SIX
MINUTE
WAR

THOMPSON TWINS

SAD AMONG STRANGERS

POLISH PUNK SCENE



ÜBER ALLES ÜBER ALLES ÜBER ALLES ÜBER ALLES ÜBER ALLES ÜBER ALLES ÜBER ALLES

THIS IS THE BIT WHERE I'M SUPPOSED TO SAY EVERYTHING AND NOTHING AT THE SAME TIME.

ALLRIGHT !

It's only been 3 months since our last issue. Pretty good by our standards, although many people still don't think so. Since then many interesting things have happened. Among the more important ones has been the release of the debut Lp by the WALL, the first STRAPS single and the crisis in Poland has continued.

You're probably wondering why the hell we write about the Polish punk scene, well because it is INTERESTING. Anyway many of our readers are (surprisingly) Polish and where else can they find out about all the great groups (and they are, 'cos we've heard them). As the scene is just developing over there, none of the groups have lost their ideals (yet), (HELLO CLASH !) so it's all very healthy and exciting at the moment.

Anyway for all you who are still not convinced (fools !) we've got some English (London actually) stuff, such as the WALL, THOMPSON TWINS & SIX MINUTE WAR. See you in a couple of years, sorry, months time.

Love ADAM XXX

This is done by myself (Adam Stelmach) and Stan Metelski with help from Maciej, Andy O., Jack & anybody who was bothered to be interviewed and lastly to everyone who helps in the distribution.

Send everything to:

STAN METELSKI

SWITCHBOARD ROAD,
LONDON SW 17 7RY

← Records, fanzines
for reviewing
+ MONEY!

Hello to: Sean, Bogdan,
Chris, Andy, Lech, Laurence,
Peter, Paul, Greg, John +
all the South London
Punx.

We're thinking of organising an Über Alles gig ourselves. If anybody knows how to go about it, we'll be pleased to hear.

ÜBER ALLES STAFFS POLL

1980

STAN

45's

1. MORE SHORT SONGS - SIX MINUTE WAR
2. ATMOSPHERE - JOY DIVISION
3. HOLIDAY IN CAMBODIA - DEAD KENNEDYS
4. GHETTO - WALL
5. LOVE WILL TEAR US APART - JOY DIVISION
6. TIME OF MY LIFE - MANUFACTURED ROMANCE
7. REALITIES OF WAR - DISCHARGE
8. WITCH HUNT THE MOB
9. LEGION - THEATRE OF HATE
10. THE FLOOD - BLUE ORCHIDS

LP'S

1. TOTALES TURNS - FALL
2. GROTESQUE - FALL
3. FRESH FRUIT FOR ROTTING VEGETABLES - DEAD KENNEDYS
4. PARIS AU PRINTEMPS - PUBLIC IMAGE LTD.
5. CRASH COURSE - U.K. SUBS

45's

ADAM

1. GHETTO - WALL
2. REALITIES OF WAR - DISCHARGE
3. DECONTROL - DISCHARGE
4. TIME OF MY LIFE - MANUFACTURED ROMANCE
5. MORE SHORT SONGS - SIX MINUTE WAR
6. JUST CAN'T TAKE ANYMORE - STRAPS
(yes, it did come out in 1980)
7. 14 MINUTE EP - SIX MINUTE WAR
8. HOLIDAY IN CAMBODIA - DEAD KENNEDYS
9. FIGHT BACK - DISCHARGE
10. I'M THE ONE - SLAUGHTER AND THE DOGS

LP's

1. FRESH FRUIT FOR ROTTING VEGETABLES - DEAD KENNEDYS
1. PERSONAL TROUBLES & PUBLIC ISSUES - WALL
1. CRASH COURSE - U.K. SUBS
4. BRAND NEW AGE - U.K. SUBS
5. KILLING JOKE - KILLING JOKE

THIS YEARS THING - ALTERED IMAGES
RE-RELEASE OF THE YEAR - 4 TRACK - PACK

Free ad space next issue, so send your wants/needs in now.

LETTERS etc - % BOGDAN - 41 ELMFIELD ROAD LONDON SW17

RECORDS-RECORDS-RECORDS

EINSTEIN'S BRAIN/MUZAK - THE DARK

Super start, sounds like the U.K. Subs but even more powerful. The singing is like the Damned but yet again, better. There's a good bit when the drums become suddenly louder. Although there is no real chorus, it's the Darks best record so far. B-side is just as good. This time there is a strong chorus as well as the verses with the swopping of vocalists in the middle of lines. Very complicated, but it works. Another noticeable feature of this record is the guitar which gives the feeling of anticipating something great. Chuga, chuga.

WITCH HUNT - THE MOB

Great screaming start which leads to a powerful song due to the bass which produces a great rhythm. Very strong versus with a pretty catchy chorus. The best thing to do is to turn up the bass up full and dance.

PERFECT GAME - THOMPSON TWINS

Pop music for 1981. This is the type of stuff the radio stations should be playing. It's there for the taking/making/playing, radio stations so play the single! It's the Twins third single and their best. Sounds more livier and the vocals are clear as well.

LAST ROCKERS - VICE SQUAD

Great single. Punk rock as we know it and love it. The song is pretty long and has an original and eerie start and end. Flip side is just as good and has strong Discharge/Dead Kennedys influences.

STYLE WARS - PRODUCT

This 10 track mini-Lp is vey good. It's certainly worth the £2 it sells at. The record captures the bands distinctive sound, although at the same time it must be said that there are definate early Banshees influences. Some of the songs sound like Altered Images, although they are not as poppy. The guitar is very sharp and this is most effective when combining only with the drums. Some of the songs on the other hand are bass powered and they too work well. On 'My Life' there is a great bit when the clapping and "la, la, la, la's" come in. I could go on for ever about this but why should I when you'll all buy it, 'cos you will.

see charts for current releases

fanzines-fanzines-fanzines

Although if you look at the Better Badges page somewhere in this issue and see most of the current fanzines, we thought it would be good to mention some of the better ones. Here goes,

BACK ISSUE No.3 includes Flux of Pink Indians, TV Personalities, Swell Maps, and Damned interviews. Layout is alright as well as lots of spirit. From Rough Trade for 25p and large S.A.E.

KICK has interviews with U.K. Decay, Fall, Bauhaus and Pneumania. Good punk fanzine. 25p and S.A.E. from 19 Barnard Hill, Muswell Hill, London N. 10

ENIGMA AND SHORT SHARP SHOCK stuff on Discharge, U.K. Decay, Flux of Pink Indians and the Rondos. Original cover. No idea where you can get it.

BARRICADE interviews with Discharge and Stiff Little Fingers. Pretty good fanzine although lacks in originality. Available from Rough Trade for 25p.

INTENSIVE CARE really good fanzine with stuff on the Milkmen, Charge, U.K. Decay and Flux of Pink Indians. No.2 from Rough Trade for 30p (worth it).

SCREAMING ANARCHY features the Mob, Flux of Pink Indians, Frenzy Battalion and U.K. Decay. Different type of fanzine with sketches and lyrics. No. 5 is available, yet again from Rough Trade. Price 20p.

HARSH REALITY brilliant fanzine from Ipswich. No.11 had stuff on the Adicts, U.K. Subs etc. No. 12 has stuff on the Damned, Retarded, Lurkers and a pretty good interview with the Wall. Available from Laurence, 64 Corder Rd, Ipswich. or from Better Badges 20p.

If you've got a fanzine send it in and if we like it we'll give it a plug. I want something to read anyway.

MORE NEXT
ISSUE.

BY ADAM
JUST GOT IT - U.K. SUBS NEW L.P. IS GREAT!!!

THE WALL

Things seem to have started picking up again for the WALL and that's good news. London certainly needs a band like them. With the release of their excellent debut Lp 'Personal Troubles and Public Issues', the WALL proved to everyone that they could play their instruments (although I thought they had proved that years ago). Lately, people have started taking interest in the powerful trio, especially in the north where punk is still as relevant to the kids as it was back in '77.

The band at the moment is :

ANDZY - Vocals and Bass.

HEED - Guitar.

RAB - Drums.

Although only RAB was present at the interview, he was still able to answer the questions put forward to him.

ÜBER ALLES: Tell us something about the departure of Ivan and Nick ?

RAB: Well Nick left 'cos he was just pissed off with the music business really, I mean he's went back to 9 to 5 jobs again, he's just given it up completely and well Kelly, we went out with him one day and he hit some old man so we just got rid of him. He was getting a pain in the arse anyway 'cos he was turning out to be a bit of a rock star.

Ü.A.: Why is the guitarist called Heed ?

RAB: Well it's because he's always got a rockabilly hairstyle and he looks as if he's got a square head.

Ü.A.: How do you feel about your long awaited debut album ?

RAB: I think it's good, why what's your feeling over it ?

Ü.A.: Well it's good, but it's like too mellow in some parts of it. I expected it to be heavier, like the singles.

RAB: Aye, you see, that's what a lot of people have been saying, like they look at the way we dress and they expect 'boot and the bollocks' as Sounds put it. But this is the 1980's now, you're not supposed to judge on dress anymore.

Ü.A.: Do you place much importance on something like the Sounds album review, do you care much about it ?

RAB: It was alright. It was a good review really, it was 4 stars or $3\frac{3}{4}$. I mean it was more than the the Rejects album got or Sham or the Lurkers.

Ü.A.: What are your views on fanzines ?

RAB: What are ma views on them ? They're alright, well I mean we've done loads of fanzine interviews. I mean it's just press really init, if you want press, do them.

Ü.A.: What's the reason in writing something like 'Windows'. Where did the idea come from ?

RAB: Well you see everyone writes the song but we all do our own little bit and all the lyrics are down to (Ivan) Kelly so fuck knows what he was writing about there, I don't know what half the songs are about.

Ü.A.: Who is going to be writing now, just you three ?

RAB: Aye, just the three of us together now.

THE WALL

Ü.A.: What type of music do you all like ?

RAB: I like loads of things, I like loads of old wave and everything. I like anything really.

Ü.A.: What type of stuff will you be doing now ?

RAB: We should be doing another single next month (late February) but we're gonna try to put six tracks on it. the reason, we're musical change a bit now.

Ü.A. What, going back to '77 ?

RAB: Well it be going in the direction of the Pack really, see 'cos I wrote all the songs for the Pack.

Ü.A. : 'Cos what, you were on the 1st single or something ?

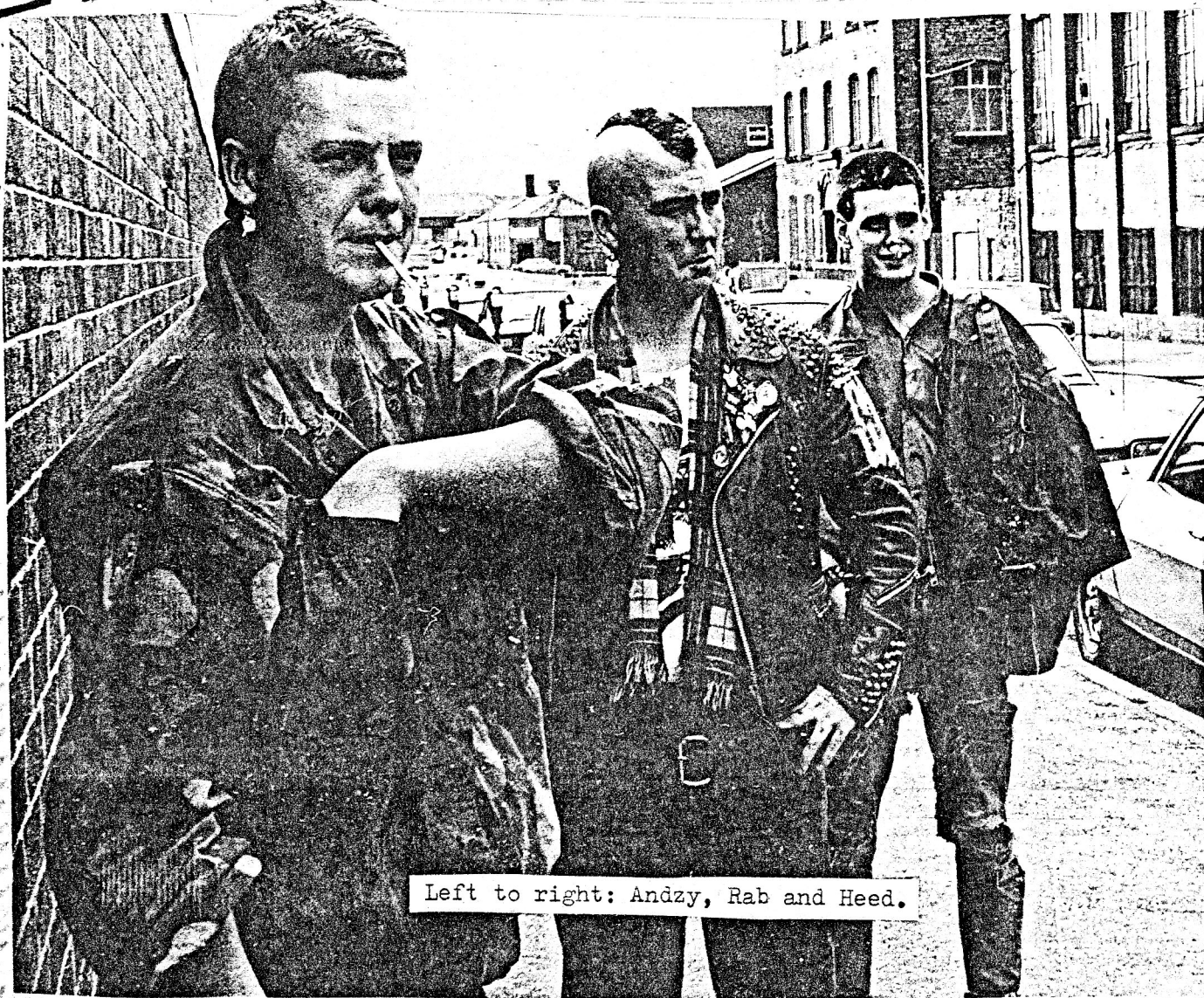
RAB: Aye, well I formed the Pack with Kirk Brandon, there really only was two of us, because there was different musicians in a lot of Pack things. Basic-ally it was me and the singer all the time.

Ü.A.: Does the current set consist of all the Lp or does your set have more emphasize on 'pogoing' music ?

RAB: Well we do all the singles, we've got to do them really 'cos people shout for them anyway. That's why we still do 'Uniforms' 'cos that's ev-erybodies favourite.

Ü.A.: How about stuff like 'Cancer', do you do that live ?

RAB: No, well we couldn't really do slow stuff live, I don't think it would go down well. I mean things like 'Cancer, Unanswered Prayers' and the other slow one 'Storm', they're really album tracks and not live things.



Left to right: Andzy, Rab and Heed.

THE WALL

UNIFORM!!!

GO TTA HAVE A

BUY A UNIFORM AND THEY ALL WANT ONE, EVERYBODIES

THE WALL

U.A.: When are you going on this nationwide tour with the Dark ?

RAB: Well it won't be 'till April now 'cos like we're trying not to do any gigs 'till about March 'cos we keep losing money, so we want the record to sell a bit and try and get a bit of money for a change. The next gigs we'll do will be in March. We're going to Germany and Holland, we're doing a tour over there.

U.A.: How about London ?

RAB: How's about London ? I dunno ! (laughter) If somebody offers us a gig in London we'll play it, but I mean we don't really go out of our way to play London 'cos the music scene is a bit dead here just now. You see when you get outside London practically everyone out there is still living in 1977 and it's better really if it's like that and you're playing a gig and everyone is going mad and you're dancing about 'cos you play better really as well.

U.A.: What kind of fans are they , '77 ?

RAB: Aye, well it's still the old bondage zips and everything like that. I mean it's a big crowd really outside London. I mean London's getting taken over by all this synthesisers bollocks that's coming out.

U.A.: What type of group would you say you are ?

RAB: I suppose it's just new wave really.

U.A.: What about political views ?

RAB: Well we havn't got any, that's why we don't sing political songs. That's why I'm against bands such as Discharge, Crass and all that lot because they talk a lot of shit. Like Crass, they turn back on themselves, they've always been against making money. See I know for a fact that they make a pound for every album that they sell and they've sold 45,000 of 'Stations of the Crass', so they've got £45,000, you know and we havn't.

FRESH 17

'Hobby For A Day'
OUT
LATE FEBRUARY!!

WALL INFO

%Chris,

232, Elmhurst St Clapham.

Sw 4

U.A.: What about bands on your own label Fresh, what do you think of them ?

RAB: The thing is that the Dark and Manufactured Romance only sell their records in London and that's it, they don't sell outside at all. Then again we sell much more records then them, by selling outside London, 'cos the Dark and Manufactured Romance have done between 2-3 thousand and 'Ghetto' has done 5½ thousand now.

U.A.: What about your other singles, how much have they sold ?

RAB: I think 'Exchange' has done 5000 or something like that, but 'New Way' has done 11,000, so that's the biggest seller like.

With the imminent release of their six track Ep under the name of 'Hobby for a day' as well as a tour in April things look brighter for the band then they did a couple of months ago. So if there are any of you who ain't familiar with the WALL'S previous records (what the hell are you doing reading this then, fool !) do yourself a favour and snap up the new one. You'll soon be asking yourself where the hell you've been for the last two years.

ADAM.

FRESH RECORDS, 359 Edgware Rd W2.

COVER DESIGN
THE WALL

ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

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echo and the bunnymen, U2, section 25, joy division.

BACK ISSUE 3 25p

tv personalities, girls at our best, swell maps, damned, athletic spizz 80

DEAD YANPY 20p

the world as seen through the bottom of a pint glass.

0533 no. 5 20p

volksvagens, no one screams, gig reviews - androids of mu, uk decay, the 012, dispossessed, leicester vinyl scene.

FANZINES

VAGUE 5 30p - ants, specials, undertones, human league

VAGUE 7 30p - ants tour, cure, passions.

REUTERS 20p - interviews with feargal sharkey, come, etc.

YOUNG MARBLE GIANTS 25p - words by moxham, pics by wendy smith

WOOL CITY ROCKER 9 30p - interviews with distributors, lindsay frost.

PRETENTIOUS 1 25p - citizens, shrink, classix nouveaux interviews.

GRINDING HALT 6 25p - siouxsie, motorhead, distractions interviews.

1984 no. 8 20p - ob radio, pirate radio.

SIGN OF THE TIMES - 25p - au pairs, mo dettes, cure, chords.

GRINDING HALT 7 25p

interviews with misty, peel, stranglers, specials, sector 27, plus stuff on dead kennedys, the time etc.

CROSS NOW 30p

john peel interview, martian dance interview, dolly mixture, pink flag, poems, reviews . . . etc.

INTENSIVE CARE 2 30p

uk decay, crass, girls at our best, charge, milkmen, flux of pink indians.

STILL AVAILABLE

TOXIC GRAFTY 50p

with Crass flexi disc, plus all the usual toxic stuff.

GRINDING HALT 8 25p

interviews with passions, dead kennedys, skids, killing joke, gig reviews, singles page.

MAKING TIME 7 20p

athletico spizz, wasted youth, cards, another pretty face, silent moves, mark stowe.

READY TO RUCK 2 25p

plodge interview, little roosters, criminal class, x's discharge, the vex

STH. CIRCULAR 3 25p

paul weller interview, purple hearts, ian page interview.

ITS DIFFERENT FOR GIRLS no. 2 30p

comsat angels, minny pops, throbbing gristle pics, past seven days, they must be russians pics, specimen no. 2

NO CURE 7 20p

jam, comsat angels, piranhas, section 25, U2, springsteen, no nukes, CND.

ALTERNATIVE SOUNDS 17 30p

good toys, abstracts, fall, wild boys, civil servants

POSER 1981 calender 50p

new piece of siouxsie, clash, pink military, ruts, slits etc.

PANACHE 14 25p

security risk, uk decay, the leopards, uglies, adam and the ants, temporary title, etc.

RISING FREE 2 25p - jam, ants, charlie harper interviews

VAGUE 8 30p

echo and the bunnymen, bauhaus, program, adam and the ants, sci fi festival, skids, bowie, revillos.

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4 45p

6 55p

8 80p

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THE
OF

UMBRELLAS
CHERBOURG

THE UMBRELLAS OF CHERBOURG from Balham have got their amps mended and recently recorded a 3track demo with new vocalist Mark Cook. The band have got a couple of gigs lined up at the Half Moon in Herne Hill, and are also planning to play at St. Georges medical school in Tooting with SAD AMONG STRANGERS and THE THOMPSON TWINS.

TOOTING'S TEDDY BOY TERROR

SAD AMONG STRANGERS.

The SADS, who continue to pack out the Two Brewers every Saturday, are shortly releasing a new single "IT'S SO GOOD ITS INCEST, MY KIND OF LOSER" on their own Brave Tales label.

METABOLIST

METABOLIST are currently taking a 6 month break from the stresses and strains of the rock music world, but meanwhile guitarist Malcolm Laine is working on a solo LP which he will release under the name CATABOLIST. METABOLIST contribute a track (LE GRAND PRIQUE) to one side of a single on the french Bain Total label. The band will also appear on a compilation LP which featuring The Lemon Kittens, Cabaret Voltaire, and The Virgils, which Bain Total are releasing soon.

Victim of
brutal

I shot terrorist... a fairly long burst

A SECRET residents meeting-called to halt prostitution in Balham-sparked off fervent protests this week.

Arson at

Council

YOUR LOCAL PAGE

Death fall

on tube

SUPPORT Local talent! (I JUST CAN'T TAKE ANY MORE) now cos it's brilliant.

4 TRACKS

TV detector vans

rowl with Lond

ENDS

AMPA

TV detector vans

THOMPSON

TWINS

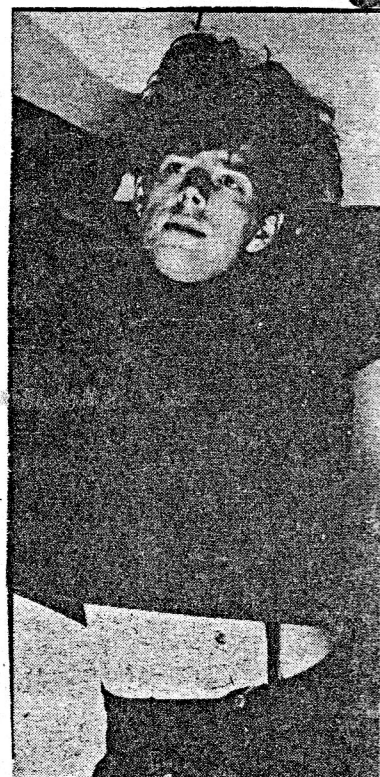
PETE →

← TOM



THE THOMPSON TWINS are:-Tom Bailey(vocals,bass); Peter Dodd(gtr,vocals);John Roog(gtr); Chris Bell(drums);Joe Leeway(congas,vocals)and Jane Shorter(tenor sax),the last two being relatively recent additions to the line up.

Tom,Peter and John are all from Chesterfield were the band originally emerged around the fringes of the 'Sheffield scene' about two years ago.After coming down to London about 1½ years ago they were joined by Chris.Apart from playing the London small club circuit the band also supported Teardrop Explodes on their recent national tour.They've also made several vinyl contributions over the last year:-Two singles,"SQUARES AND TRIANGLES" and "SHE'S IN LOVE WITH MYSTERY" as well as tracks on the first two 101 club LPs.A new single "THE PERFECT GAME" has just been released to coincide with the bands forthcoming national NO NUKES tour.

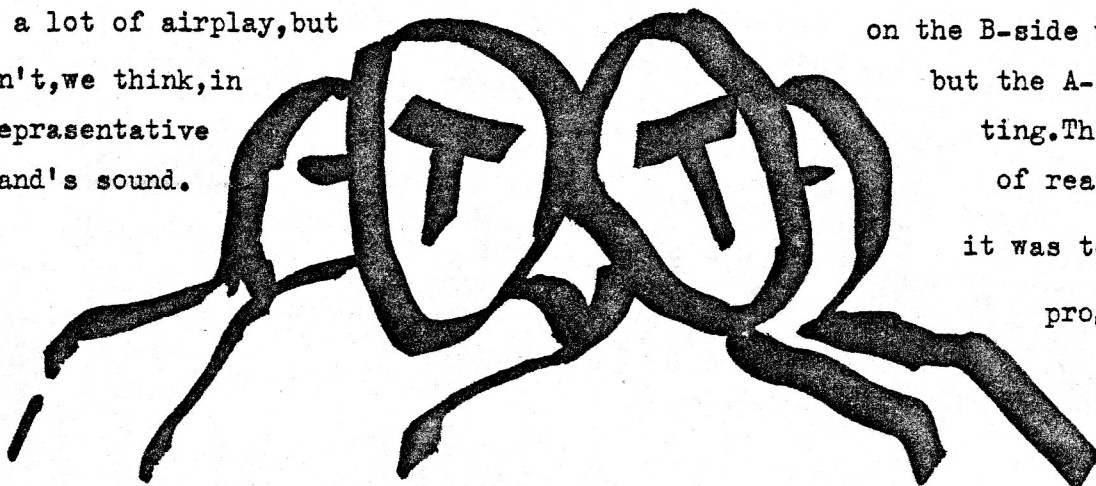


Anyone who's seen the THOMPSONS will know what a dazzling and spectacular set they play. The songs range from extremely poppy and boppy tunes like SHE'S IN LOVE WITH MYSTERY to more complicated serious,sometimes haunting numbers like ELECTRICITY or their excellent opening song P&C.They even do an African drum song with additional percussion and wailing vocals for an encore.I should add that the bands own light show does much to create a great atmosphere for the band to perform in.

We called round at the band's HQ in Clapham to interview them thinking that they would all be there waiting for us,but all we found was Tom and the band's manager Joe.After deciding that one twin was enough we went ahead with the interview,the whole length of which Joe was on the phone,making it very hard for us to ~~var~~ make out any of the taped interview.We did,however, manage to salvage some of it,so here goes....

We first asked Tom about the single "SHE'S IN LOVE WITH MYSTERY" which has been getting a lot of airplay,but sadly isn't,we think,in really representative of the band's sound.

TOM:"I think basically the problem was in the production.Both the songs on the B-side were really good, but the A-side was disappointing.There's a whole list of reasons and by that time it was too far in the program to say we're not gonna release it when a lot



of effort had been put into it, so it was a bit of an embarrassment to us" And the next thing we went on tour and it started selling and getting radio play which is nice in a way.

A lot of people say the record's not how we did it live and that's a big problem 'cos people who've really enjoyed the live show will go away and buy the record and be really disappointed."

UBER ALLES:-How did you get on the 10¹ LP?

TOM:-"We did one gig there and immediately after that they invited us to do the first LP and then the second one as well which was a live album!"

UBER ALLES:-How long have the new members been in the band?

TOM:-"Well Joe joined when we toured together with Teardrop. He was stage managing for us on that tour and the last three or so gigs he started playing with us"

UBER ALLES:-"How did the tour go ?

TOM:-"Really well, brilliantly, twenty two dates. We're just lining up a tour with NO NUKES. We'll have a local band supporting us at every place we play. I'd really like to play some more gigs with the Mighty Observer Sound System, it should be a really interesting package"

UBER ALLES:-When and where are you going to be playing?

TOM:-"The tour starts on Feb 6th. It looks like we're probably gonna do the Central London Poly and I think we're doing ULU as well. It's gonna be all sorts of universities colleges and clubs, some big, some small, and for the starting off we're using another band. There's talk of the Slits. It's costing us £2,00, but basically it's a miracle that it's not 6,000, 'cos 6 or 8 is the normal sort of thing. A lot of people tell us that by rights a band in our position shouldn't be doing a headlining tour, and I don't think we could do it really without the NO NUKES thing".

The conversation now turns to the subject of influences as well as the bands to which the THOMPSON TWINS have been compared:-

TOM:-"I pick up on individual things, but I tend to take what drifts into my space rather than go looking for stuff. For example, I think the Comsat Angels single is really good, but I haven't bothered looking for the album. My influences are obscure. They range from the Talking Heads and Eno to this (showing us his African DJOLE record of pygmy music from New Guinea).

P.T.O.



TOM BAILEY
AND JOHN RYDGE

As we go on to talk about PAs, Stage lights, expensive music centres and other similar equipment in the THOMPSONS' possession, the question of finance arises. Where do these unemployed musicians get the money to pay for it?

TOM: - "Well we sort of bullshit it out of a lot of people. We used to be on the dole, but we stopped signing on a couple of months ago. I always find that when there's a lot of money around you just sort of spend it, and when there's not, you just do without it. I haven't had any money for about three weeks.

He writes the word INTENTION on a piece of paper in block capitals, and hands it to us. If you have it he claims you can achieve whatever you want to achieve. Lets hope that The THOMPSON TWINS succeed in doing what they intend to do.

VOKALISTS
PETE
DDDD
AND
TOM →
BAILEY

STAN.

1981



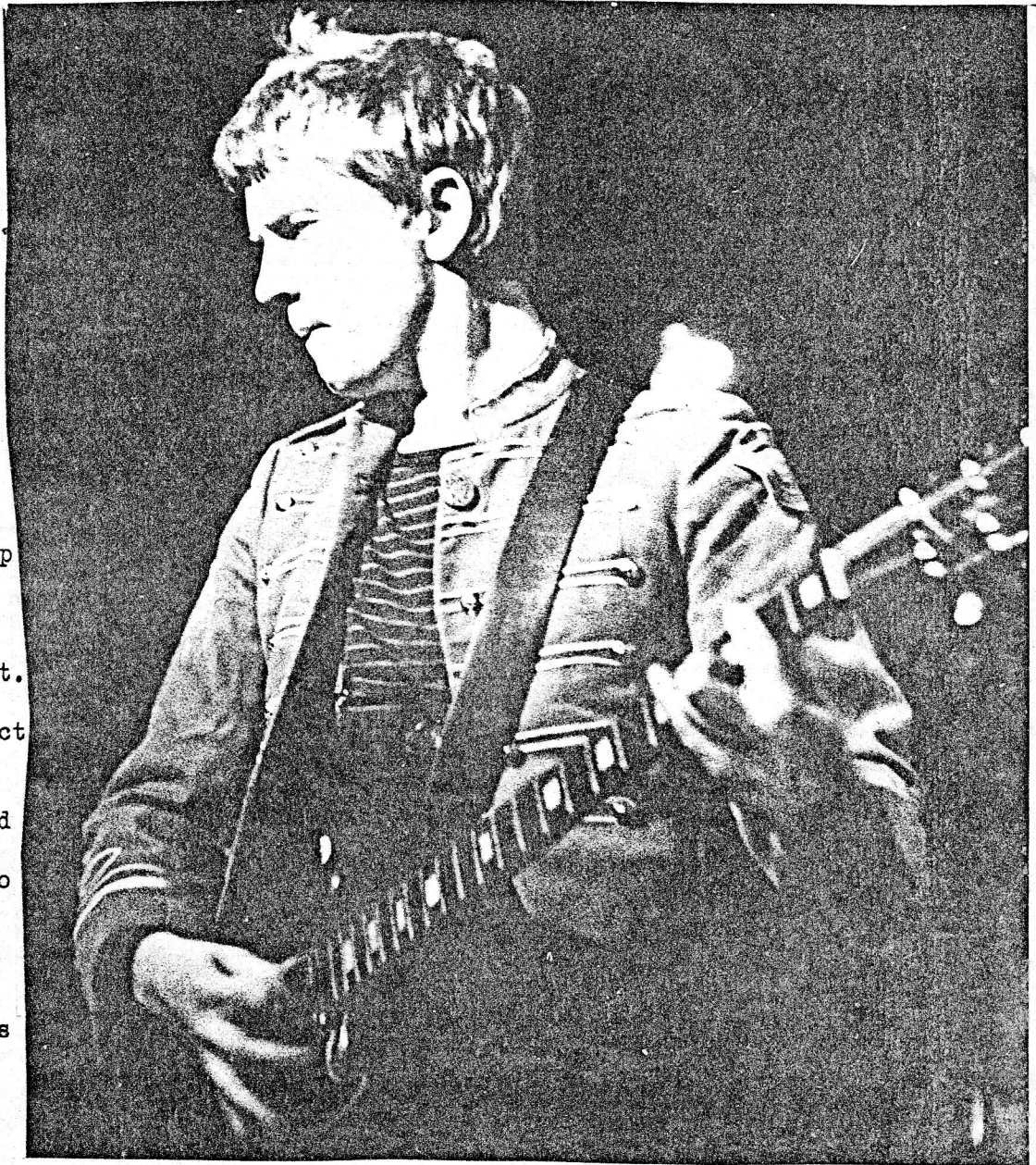
BLURT/SAD AMONG STRANGERS.

CLARENDON.

As they got onto the stage SAD AMONG STRANGERS were greeted by cheers from quite a substantial number of loyal fans who had made their way from south London, where the band's popularity is still increasing as they continue to pack out the Two Brewers every week. They played their usual set, starting off with an instrumental, and followed by some faster crowd favourites like "MY FRIEND THE CHAMELEON", "A BETTER VIEW OF BAXTER", "MY KIND OF LOSER" and the current single "HERE COME THE CAESARS" with it's brilliant militaristic drumming. The rest of the set comprised of a variety of fast, ~~slow~~ slow, catchy, and very original tunes with the SAD'S characteristic layered sound of thumping, but imaginative bass and drums, hypnotic hurdygurdy synthesiser and short and weedy guitar solos, providing an excellent backdrop for Lyndon Morgans's biting vocals.

The band come back for a well earned encore, and only a shortage of time prevents them from returning for yet another, leaving the crowd screaming for more in vain.

It's great to see that SAD AMONG STRANGERS are finally beginning to reap in some of the recognition they deserve, even though they haven't got anywhere record-wise yet. They're lack of success is mainly due to the fact that there's been no label, trend or category ~~XX~~ which they can call part of, ~~XXX~~. I can only hope that more people go to see them and that their new single "IT'S SO GOOD IT'S INSCEST" gets a bit more airplay than their previous ones so that they can start to get a bit more recognition, and consequently, success.



I found BLURT extremely wierd. Solid monotonous drumming together with three or four monotonously repeated chords provided the background for the vocalist and his saxophone which he played most of the time, producing the same kind of sax/clarinet Cpt Beefheart sound that so many obscure bands you hear on John Peel seem to be making nowadays. Occasionally he went to the mike to sing some incomprehensible slurred vocals, even reciting a poem in french between songs..

All this did absolutely nothing to me, but there were a few Blurt fanatics at the front who went totally wild right from the start. The rest of the crowd nodded or tapped, especially to "MY MOTHER WAS A FRIEND OF AN ENEMY OF THE NATION", but most of the people watched with puzzled or bewildered looks on their faces, or smiles, maybe trying to hide their bewilderment.

I left unimpressed, consoling myself only with the fact that SAD AMONG STRANGERS' brilliant performance made up for BLURT'S failure.

STAN

NEXT ISSUE:- STRAP/KHARLIE HARPER ALLEN KULTURE/YOUTH RIVT/+ MORE

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF

SIX MINUTE WAR

Unfortunately Six Minute War are no longer with us, having split up recently, but not before releasing two excellent Ep's. Firstly in the form of the '14 minute ep' (11 tracks for 75p!) and secondly in the form of the 'More Short Songs ep' (6 tracks for 50p!), both truly great pieces of plastic. I managed to get hold of Rob Taylor, Six Minute War's bassist who was very helpfull in clearing up why the band decided to go their own ways as well as many interesting points. Now read on.

Why did you split up? Was it a sudden decision?

WE SPLIT UP IN LATE NOVEMBER 1980 MAINLY BECAUSE FOR SOME TIME SOME OF US HAD WANTED TO DO DIFFERENT THINGS (MUSIC WISE) AND ALSO BECAUSE A LOT OF THE TIME THE GROUP WAS LIKE A CHORE AND WE WERE NOT ENJOYING IT AT ALL, AND ENJOYING THE BAND WAS IMPORTANT TO ALL OF US. NOBODY IS GOING TO CONTINUE DOING SOMETHING THEY DO NOT LIKE DOING IF THEY HAVE A CHANCE TO STOP.

Who was in the band at the time and what did each member do in the band?

AT THE TIME OF THE SPLIT THE LINE UP WAS :

Rob B- drums and shouts of "carry on" on 'guitarist'

Charlie D-guitar + vocals on 'so sad', synthesister (gasp!!) on 'nurses'

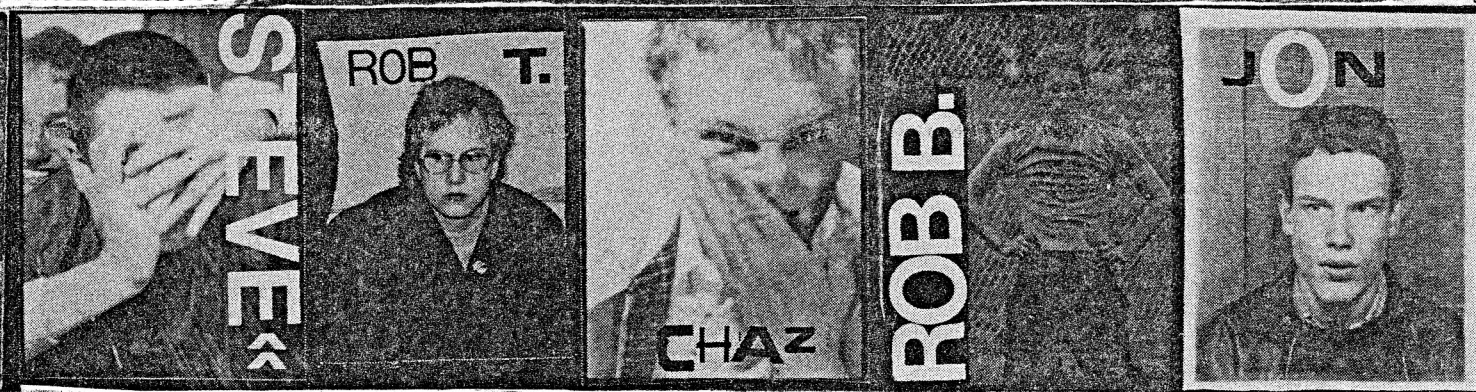
Jon G-guitar, non-bodged on 'guitarist'

Steve K-vocals, bass on 'strike', guitar on 'so sad' and bodge guitar on 'guitarist'

Rob T-bass and vocals on 'strike' and 'guitarist'

THIS LINE UP HAD BEEN TOGETHER SINCE APRIL 1980. BEFORE THEN (WE FORMED SEPT. 79)

CHARLIE'S BROTHER DAVE DRUMMED. HE LEFT AROUND FEB 80. JON JOINED WHEN CHARLIE WAS "MISSING", AND WE ASKED ROB TO DRUM AFTER HE HELPED US OUT WHILE WE WERE DRUMMERLESS.



Did all the band share the same ideals?

WE DID NOT ALL SHARE THE SAME IDEALS ALTHOUGH WE ALL AGREED ON MOST THINGS.

Where did you rehearse?

IF WE HAD 4 REHEARSALS THEN THAT WAS ALL. AT DIFFERENT PLACES.

How many gigs did you manage to play? Where was your first gig and your biggest?

WE DID AROUND 12 GIGS BETWEEN DEC. 79-OCT. 80. FIRST GIG WE ORGANISED OURSELVES, AS WERE MOST OF THE OTHERS, AT A HALL IN SUTTON. BIGGEST GIG VENUE-WISE WAS AT ACTIONSPACE. THE BIGGEST AUDIENCE WAS AT SPENCER HALL RAYNES PK ABOUT 300 PEOPLE.

What type of crowd did you pull? Was it the one you wanted?

NORMAL "PUNK" AUDIENCE. I WAS GLAD OF ANY AUDIENCE PREPARED TO LISTEN.

Did you do any covers ?

IF YOU MEAN SONGS BY OTHER GROUPS, YES. SILVER MACHINE BY HAWKWIND ABOUT 3 TIMES.

Who were the bands main influences ?

NO ONE IN PARTICULAR. WE DIDNT SAY "OH LETS BE LIKE ..." WE JUST DID WHATEVER SONGS WE THOUGHT SOUNDED GOOD.

Which current bands do you like nowadays ?

THE ONLY BANDS I REALLY LIKE AT THE MOMENT ARE SIOUXIE + THE BAMSHEES, THROBBLING GRISTLE THE FILTH, PARTING SHOTS: THESE ARE THE ONLY GROUPS I WANT TO SEE LIVE.

Would you call yourselves a punk band ?

I'M NOT SURE REALLY I'D SAY WE WERE A PUNK BAND. I MEAN SO MANY BANDS SAY THEY ARE PUNK LIKE THE VIBRATORS, 999 ETC. WHO ARE BASICALLY JUST THE SAME AS THE OLD ROCK BANDS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF COLOURED HAIR. PUNK TO US MEANS BEING YOURSELF SO IN THAT RESPECT I SUPPOSE WE WERE A PUNK BAND.

Tell us about your song, 'Strontium 90'.

STRONTIUM 90 IS ABOUT A TYPE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR THEY HAVE IN AMERICA, WHICH IS WATER-COOLED. THIS TYPE OF REACTOR WAS INVOLVED IN THE FAMOUS HARRISBURG NEAR DISASTER. NOW THEY WANT TO BUILD THIS SORT OF REACTOR OVER HERE. NO THANKS !

STRONTIUM 90 - 'went to Harrisburg for my holiday, Pennsylvania U.S.A, saw a nuclear reactor like we have at home, another fast breeding Chinese syndrome. scientists said it was fine, but on the twenty eight of March 1979, the cooling pump failed and it all went wrong and the three mile island became a bomb. radioactive gasses escaped into the air, but nobody bothered, nobody cared; are you worried do you share my fear that Harrisburg could happen here.'

As you don't wear what can be called a 'punk uniform', are you against it because of principle or the fact that it costs too much ?

YES WE ARE AGAINST ALL "UNIFORMS" IN PRINCIPLE, BE THEY PUNK, ROCKABILLY OR WHATEVER ITS ALL A RIP-OFF. IF PEOPLE WANT TO WEAR CERTIAN CLOTHES THEN OK BUT I DONT SEE WHY I SHOULD BE ASSOCIATED WITH A PARTICULAR "CULTURE" JUST COZ OF WHAT I WEAR. SUPPOSE I LIKED EX-ARMY PARKAS + LAMBRETTAS? (I DONT). WOULD I BE A MOD? IN MOST PEOPLES EYES I WOLD BE. WHAT BOLLOCKS. ITS WHAT YOU ARE NOT WHAT YOU BLOODY WEAR THAT COUNTS.

What are your views on politics ? Do you think anarchy is any good ?

POLITICS (THIS IS MY PERSONAL OPINION) ANARCHY: OK WHAT HAPPENS IS ANARCHISTS BEST LEFT NAMELESS IN CASE THEY RING ME UP AGAIN RECKON THAT THERE HAS TO BE A REVOLUTION BUT A PEACEFULL ONE WELL THATS CRAP AND DAYDREAM STUFF. ONCE EVERYBODY HAS BECOME "FREE" THERE IS NO GOVT. POLICE ARMY ETC WHICH IS NO BAD THING, WOT IS TO STOP SOME CRANK FORMING AND ARMY AND TAKING OVER WHILE ALL THE PEOPLE ARE WALLOWING IN THERE FREEDOM. AND WHAT HAPPENS IF MY IDEA OF LIFE HAPPENS TO BE DIFFERENT TO YOURS? SUPPOSING MY IDEA OF ANARCHY INCLUDES BEATING ANYONE I DONT LIKE THE LOOK OF UP? WHOS TO STOP ME? I AGREE IT WOULD BE GOOD IF EVERYBODY HELPED EVERYONE ELSE AND WAS 100% HONEST BUT LETS FACE IT PEOPLE ARENT. SOMEBODYS STILL GOING TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OTHERS EVEN ON AN ANARCHIST SOCIETY. WOT HAS TO HAPPEN IS EVERYONE MUST BE EQUAL. THERE HAS TO BE SOME FORM OF GOVERNMENT AND SOME FORM OF POLICE TO MAKE SURE NOBODY IS BEING OPRESSED. MY VIEW IS THERES TOO MANY COOKS OR WHATEVR THE EXPRESSION IS? TO MANY BOSSES GETTING PILES OF MONEY AND DOING SOD ALL. THE WORKERS SHOULD OWN + RUN THE FACTORIES OR WHATEVER. M.Ps ARE A RIP OFF AND SHOULD BE ABOLISHED, AS EVERYBODY HAS A RIGHT TO SAY WHAT THEY FEEL ON GOVT MATTERS NOT JUST A FEW TWITS. ALSO IF YOU ARE INCLINED TO BE A "LEFTY" LIKE ~~ME~~ ALL MY FAMILY AND YOU LIVE IN A PREDOMINANTLY CONSERVATIVE AREA YOUR VIEWS NEVER GET HEARD COZ THERE IS NO ONE TO REPRESENT YOU IN POXY PARLAMENT. I COULD GO ON AND ON. I KNOW WHAT I AM AGAINST BUT I DO NOT ALIGN MYSELF WITH ANY POLITICAL PARTY, I AM DISSATISFIED WITH THE WHOLE LOT BUT ANARCHY IS NO SOLUTION FOR ME, EITHER.

SIX MINUTE WAR d.i.y. not emi.

Which of the two EP's did you think was best and did everyone agree on that ?

WE ALL AGREED THE SECOND EP WAS MILES BETTER, SOUNDWISE, QUALITY WISE (THE FIRST EP WAS CRAP QUALITY PRESSINGS AND THE COVER WAS 1,000,000 TIMES BETTER.

Why did you include 'guitarist' on your second ep ? Was it to show people that the band did possess a sense of humour instead of always being serious and cynical like on 'Nurses'?

GUITARIST: LYRICS ARE ABOUT WHEN CHARLIE DIDN'T TURN UP TO A STUDIO AND WE HAD A FIT EVEN THOUGH HE WAS ILL WITH ALCOHOL POISONING. THE WAY IT TURNED OUT WITH ALL THE MISTAKES WAS ACCIDENTAL BUT WE THOUGHT IT WAS RATHER A LAUGH TO PUT IT ON SHOWING THAT ALL THESE OTHER GROUPS ALSO MAKE MISTAKES BUT GO OVER THEM, BUT WE WERE NOT THAT BOTHERED ABOUT THE ODD COCK UP.

In the 'Intensive Care' fanzine you said that people should release their own records without any help from even independent labels. It's alright for you to say that because some of you work etc. What about groups who don't do anything except be in a band. They have to sell their records for a quid as well as have a good distribution because they have to make a living out of their music. How much did you lose on both your ep's ?

THOSE GROUPS COULD DO WHAT WE DID: SELL OUR BLOODY EQUIPMENT TO DO THE RECORD. WHEN THE FIRST EP CAME OUT ONLY I HAD A JOB. THE SECOND ONE ONLY ROB + MYSELF WERE EMPLOYED THE OTHERS BORROWED MONEY. IT COST ABOUT £530 FOR 2000 OF THE LAST EP INCLUDING THE "COVER". YOU SOON GET THE MONEY BACK, IN FACT R. TRADE AND SMALL WONDER GIVE YOU CHEQUES ON THE SPOT. R. TRADE HAVE EVEN PAID US A COUPLE OF HUNDRED QUID CASH. ONLY FRESH ARE BAD PAYERS. IT TAKES ABOUT 6-7 WEEKS TO GET ALL THE MONEY BACK, BUT OBVIOUSLY, YOU PAY THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST BACK AS IT RETURNS. I (AND I THINK THE OTHERS WOULD AGREE) RECKON BANDS THAT PLAY THE SO CALLED PUB CIRCUIT FOR MONTHS WITHOUT GETTING ANYWHERE ARE BLOODY DAFT THEY SHOULD SELL ALL THEIR FLASH EQUIPMENT, DO A RECORD AND THEN THEY WILL GET PLAYED BY MR. PEEL + IF PEOPLE LIKE THEM THEN THEY WILL BECOME PRETTY WELL KNOWN AND WILL BE ABLE TO GET GOOD CROWDS AT GIGS THEY CAN BUY CHEAP EQUIPMENT THEN MIKE IT ALL UP. I SAY WHEN A GROUP IS READY TO DO GIGS INSTEAD OF BUYING MASSIVE AMPS THEY SHOULD EX DO A RECORD. WE LOST FIFTY QUID ON THE FIRST EP BUT GOT IT BACK ON THE LAST ONE.

What do you think of Reagan becoming president ?

REAGAN. WHAT A WINKER WATSON. SO LONG, PLANET.

Although Six Minute War have now split up, are there any records of the band planned for release in the future ?

THERE ARE ONLY 2 or /3 UNRELEASED SONGS NOT WORTH RELEASING.. NO MORE SMW RECORDS.

What is everyone doing now and have any of you formed new bands ?

CHARLIE HAS RECORDED AN EP WHICH IS BEING PRESSED AT THE MOMENT. SHOULD BE OUT IN AROUND FIVE WEEKS. I THINK THE WHOLE THING IS UNDER THE NAME 'FALLOUT'. ALSO STEVE (EX SMW VOCALIST) PLAYS BASS AND I DRUM (BADLY) ON IT. STEVE AND ROB B. (EX SMW DRUMMER) ARE STARTING A GROUP. I AM HOPING TO START A GROUP BUT I'M NOT SURE WHAT SORT OF STUFF TO DO, I WOULD LIKE TO DO STUFF LIKE CRASS'S 'ASYLUM', THROBbing GRISTLE ETC. LOTS OF TAPES AND EFFECTS, BUT ANYTHING I'VE DONE LIKE THAT SOUNDS CRAP RATHER THAN EERIE SO MAYBE I'LL CARRY ON DOING THE SAME SORT OF STUFF, I DON'T REALLY MIND WHAT IT IS SO LONG AS IT'S GOOD.

So there it is, most probably the last interview with/about Six Minute War. If you missed them when they were around that was your loss and not theirs. Remember, if anybody is interested in forming a band like a weird tape thing, give Rob a ring on 542-4407.

SIX MINUTE WAR

Adam.



Strontium 90

JUST CAUSE YOU SOLD OUT,
I DON'T HAVE TO SELL OUT TOO.

THOMPSON TWINS

As we arrive at the Old Queens Head the PA blasts out dub, and a few people dance in front of the stage. It's good to see that

bands have started playing there again after an apparent temporary break, cos it's a nice small pub; ~~XXXX~~ a rectangular room with a stage at one end and a few tables and chairs round the sides, a perfect setting for the THOMPSON TWINS (though I'm told they were even better at the Thurlow arms in Norwood the night before).

The lights go out and the THOMPSONS start with their opening number "P and C". Bass, sax, clarinet, and guitar all contribute to the noise coming from the PA as the members of the band get onto the stage one by one. The multicoloured lights flash on and off, spotlighting on the bass player as he sings. The crowd is captivated right from the start, and dance in agreement to the extremely boppy tunes. The set includes all three singles: - "SQUARES AND TRIANGLES", "SHE'S IN LOVE WITH MYSTERY", and "THE PERFECT GAME", as well as other favourites like "ELECTRICITY" and "POLITICS" (on the B-side of the new single).

The new additions to the line up, Joe Leeway on congas and percussion, and Jané Shorter on tenor sax both prove worthwhile additions to the line up, especially on the excellent "COULD BE HER, COULD BE YOU", and do much to improve the general sound, which was already good enough without them. It just proves that there's always room for expansion.

The band return for a well deserved encore, playing their african drum song with wailing vocals from singers Tom(bass) and Pete(gtr). It's just a pity ~~XX~~ that they're not going to play London for another month while they're on tour. I can hardly wait to see them again.

STAN.

CHARLIE HARRER

Hearing of the gig only a few hours before it actually happened, as the case tends to be with these secret one-off gigs, we arrive half way through the first set. The band plays mostly old rock 'N' roll and R'n'B covers: "JOHNNY BE GOOD", and "ROUTE 66" as well as a cover of The Lurkers' "PILLS". It's probably

+ FRIENDS.

TWO BREWERS

a welcom change for Charlie to get a band together and delve back into his past and do a few oldies, and the crowd enjoy it as much as he does. It is, however, obvious that most of them are eagerly xwaiting for Charlie to do a few SUBS numbers, and there are constant requests for some or other song.

We notice that among the 'friends' in the band are two ~~men~~ ex SUBS, namely Pete Davies and

Paul Slack's brother, the SUBS' first bassplayer, now with the ALLIES. They start the second set with "LOUIE LOUIE", and as they go into the SUBS numbers the Punks and Skins move in, attacking the stage, and consequently sharing vocals with Charlie. After CID, I COULDN'T BE YOU, TOMORROWS GIRLS, and WARHEAD (before which Charlie has to show the guitarist how to play WARHEAD in three easy chords) follow, and the band ~~return for~~ ~~XX~~ blistering ^{XX} rerecitations of STRANGLEHOLD and I LIVE IN A CAR.

Even though it wasn't really the UK.SUBS, it was still great to be able to go down to the local pub and see Charlie Harper free. I can only hope that Charlie or even THE SUBS decide to do it again sometime, cos the prospect of having to go to the Lyceum to see them, and paying £3 to get in doesn't seem to appeal to anyone right now.

STAN.

↳ THE MOUTH OF

THE SOUTH HIMSELF.

PS:-INTERVIEW WITH MMW

CHARLIE IN NEXT ISSUE (hope)





SLYM
L TOR-VAN
IVAN, MARS
VAVA →
OF SLYM



Polska! Polska! VBER AIKS!

~~XXXXXX~~ After getting the tapes of the 2nd National Polish New Wave festival which took place in Toruń in november last year, we decided that it was a good excuse for giving the Polish Punks yet another plug in this fanzine, as they never get mentioned anywhere else. ~~HEHE~~ In any case, I bet you're all dying to hear more about them aren't you? ~~WELL I NEVER HEARD OF THEM UNTIL I GOT THE TAPES~~

Since our review of the 1st national Polish New Wave festival in Kolobrzeg, quite a lot has been happening over in Poland. Many new bands have emerged, and some of the more well known bands have been going in completely new directions. The general attitude of the authorities towards the New Wave movement is also changing for the better. There's much less Police interference at gigs, there are more gigs, some bands have had tapes played on the radio, and KRYZYS have even been on TV, but there have still been no vinyl contributions from the State controlled record companies. The number of bands and followers, however, is continually increasing, ~~xxxxxx~~ in spite of all the efforts to stamp them out.

The most notable of the new bands that appeared at Toruń are probably POLAND ~~from~~. The band played their first gig in August last year, and play a set of original poppy and very energetic numbers, all in Polish, including a cover of the Subs' "WARHEAD". They don't seek to achieve anything as they say that they have no time for ~~xxxx~~ stupidity. They don't have any specific influences, but their favourite bands are Joy Division, Dead Kennedys and KSU (Another polish band who rip-off the UK Subs). Anyway, they play some very good stuff and I can only wish them luck and they continue to do so.

KRYZYS, probably the best and most original of the Polish bands also played at Toruń. After a change in the line up, however, the band has gone in a completely new direction. They used to play very original ~~xx~~ punk/pop tunes with Polish words, a bit like a Polish version of the early Buzzcocks, but now they play a set of very reggae influenced numbers, still singing in Polish. They are still very popular though, and have set up their own musical agency called METAL GURU LTD. through which they hope to organise gigs in Poland for English bands like The Slits, The

Pop Group, Cabaret Voltaire and other. DEADLOCK from Gdansk have also started playing SLF type Punk/Reggae crossover stuff, including a fast version of GET UP, STAND UP. However, they still play a few fast and raw Punk numbers, which their whole set used to consist of. They're one of the oldest Polish New Wave bands, and are still very popular.



POLAND.
↪ ☺ ☮

SLYM, a new band from Gdańsk were only allowed to play four songs (probably because ~~it~~ that's all they play anyway), but were very good. Their short set comprised of very bassy original numbers, all sung in Polish.

KAJAKI VARIETE were formed by two members of the excellent FORNIT, (pictured in the last issue) after that band sadly split up last year. They sing in English and Polish, and play 3chord/Six Minute War/77 style, and of course are very good, though not as good as FORNIT were.

TILT, the Polish Reggae band seem to have had a great influence on the whole Polish New Wave scene (especially KRYZYS and DEADLOCK). The band was formed in Autumn '79, and since then has probably played more gigs than any other Polish band (23 last year). They believe very strongly in Rastafarianism and feel ~~very much~~ themselves part of that movement, and this is reflected in their songs (all in English).

They are very popular and have had quite a lot written about them in the Polish press. Their drummer Luti di Vine has even written a pamphlet called 'The Passenger' in which he ~~it~~ writes about Punk ideals and criticises all the popular Polish moneygrabbing musicians etc.

KANAL are another Reggae band, who regard themselves as an experimental band, basically influenced by Jamaican music. They played their first gig at the first New Wave festival last year.

ATAK from Warsaw also played at Toruń, but without bassplayer Beton, who ~~hasn't~~ is now in KRYZYS. Their set hasn't changed much since the first New Wave festival, and they still play very raw punk with screaming vocals (in English), and are still very popular.

Another of the new bands to appear at Toruń was ~~XAWA~~ OSKARZONYCH (The bench of the accused), who proved to be one of the most interesting bands if only because they were so different from all the others. Their songs were a mixture of ~~organs~~ organs with raw discordant guitar and a solid powerful backing of bass and drums. They also played a straight 3 or 4 chord Ramones type song with added organ, but all together they only played three songs..

~~THE~~ From all reports, the 2nd New Wave festival seems to have gone very well, i.e. no Police interference and no arrests or beatings, and everyone seems to have enjoyed it judging from the crowd reactions on the tapes. It's just a pity that none of these bands can come over to England, or even put out ~~it~~ records so that they can in some way reach a larger audience. Why don't Rough Trade or some similar label get hold of tapes and release a compilation LP of all the Polish bands? ~~Are~~ Are you reading this out there! It's certainly well worth trying, as some of the Polish bands are better and more original than a lot of the stuff that's coming out here. And it's only just starting over there. Every ~~thing~~ thing's still fresh and new and exciting, young people genuinely pissed off with what's happening in their country playing to kids their own age, not old rock musicians trying to cash in on the latest thing ~~thing~~.

ROBERT BRYLEWSKI
OF KRYZYS



KAZEK
OF
POLAND



VERBALES

TOP
25
SONGS.

CHARTS

1. I JUST CANT TAKE ANY MORE - STRAPS
2. LAST ROCKERS - VICE SQUAD
3. EINSTEINS BRAIN - THE DARK
4. WITCH HUNT - THE MOB.
5. LEGION - THEATRE OF HATE
6. WHERE HAVE ALL THE BOOT BOYS GONE -
7. YOUTH RIOT - YOUTH RIOT SLAUGHTER + DOGS.
8. GHETTO - THE WALL
9. DEAD POP STARS - ALTERED IMAGES
10. NEW FACE IN HELL - THE FALL
11. PERFECT GAME - THOMPSON TWINS.
12. KRZYS ENERGETYCZNY - POLAND
13. DECONTROL - DISCHARGE
14. PRIVATE EYE - THE UMBRELLAS OF CHERBOURG.
15. HITCH HIKE - LILIPUT
16. KIDS ON THE STREET - ANGELIC UPSTARTS
17. BRAVE NEW SOLDIERS - PACK
18. MORE SHORT SONGS - SIX MINUTE WAR.
19. BLACKOUT - THE DAMNED
20. CAREERING - P.I.H.
21. VERTIGO - TWISTED NERVE
22. THE FLOOD - BLUE ORCHIDS.
23. ATMOSPHERE - JOY DIVISION
24. ASIAN YOUTH - ALIEN KULTURE
25. TIME OF MY LIFE - MANUFACTURED ROMANCE.

6. PARIS AU PRINTEMPS - PIL
7. FRESH FRUIT FOR ROTTING VEGETABLES - DEAD KENNEDYS
8. CHRISTMAS ALBUM - THE YOBBS
9. CRASH COURSE - UK. SUBS
10. SUPERMUSIC PA HIRE - VARIOUS

1. DIMINISHED RESPONSIBILITY - UK. SUBS
2. PERSONAL TROUBLES AND PUBLIC ISSUES - THE WALL
3. GROTESQUE (AFTER THE GRAMME) - THE FALL
4. STYLE WARS - PRODUCT
5. THE BLACK ALBUM - THE DAMNED

LPS