

# RUMOURS



Graham Brazier

## Christchurch

**Vapour and the Trails** played a one-off gig at the *Gladstone* after the **Kippers** offered them their spot for the night. And one off-night it turned out to be. P.A. Problems, uncharitable patrons etc meant that it needed a mercy dash to get a better P.A. to put the **Trails** back on the right tracks.

In complete contrast, **Vapour and the Trails** managed to cap off an interesting evening at the *Club de Rox* in fine style just a few days later.

First up was a brand spanking new bluesy-rock band from Lyttelton named appropriately enough the **Waterside Blues Band**. Although probably lacking just a teeny bit in adventure (nothing unusual), they went down well with a musically unaccustomed crowd and achieved an encore (no mean feat). An interesting sideline is that they include an ex **Doomed** bassist.

Playing next, local rhythmic new-wavers **Basket Cases** managed to reveal a new but rather abrupt way to end an act. Anyone knowing the whereabouts . . .

The highlights of the night was the farewell appearance of the **Baby Boogie Band**. Its always been a mystery to many why they've never gone on to bigger and better things. Their final performance (in their present state at any rate) did nothing to solve that mystery. They included a fine version of Jefferson Airplane's "White Rabbit" and also "River Deep, Mountain High". Their musicianship and general inventiveness was appreciated to the fullest by the crowd.

Some little bits. **Shady Lady**, a conventional type rock band, are currently touring around the country and may be near you.

The **Doomed**, as you may have gathered, have called it quits following a somewhat less than successful appearance at the *De Rox* last month. Oh, win a few, lose a few. **M. Moore**

## Auckland

A message to all of you boys and girls who have been dying to get your ugly mugs on TV — your chance has arrived. **Graeme Hodgson**, producer of *Radio With Pictures*, is keen to hear demos from aspiring bands, singers and performers of any kind. You can send tapes, bios etc. to Graeme at SPTV, Box 3819, Auckland . . . also new music show *Starzone*, produced by **Andy Shaw**, begins its season in late September. The show will beam out on Saturdays between 5 and 6pm and will be a showcase for NZ entertainers and bands, says Andy. Again the compilers of the programme are interested in new acts, bands etc., so get in touch if you feel you've got something to offer. The first show, all going well, will feature Rick Steele (first performance of his new single), Sharon O'Neill and, if negotiations succeed, Dragon . . . seems we erred last month in saying that Midge was fired from the Country Flyers. We have it on good authority that he quit . . . has Midge left the Phil Manning Band in Australia?? . . . joining the regular **Suburban Reptiles** on the *Radio With Pictures* clip for their new single "Saturday Night Stay at Home" was Phil Judd on guitar and Des from the Scavs on drums. Usual drummer Buster played guitar. But **Phil Judd** will not be doing any live work with the Reps . . . Phil has been into Harlequin Studios recently laying down

## Robman Revue

By the time this issue is published "Robman and Brian Up the Bloody Gluepot" will already have premiered. However, the Radio Hauraki/Rumpelstiltskin Revue will be doing the rounds so watch out for it.

Total Theatre, the show encompasses the talents of Spats, Limbs, as well as actor/writers Ian Watkin and Derek Paine. Inventor, Robin White has designed the props as well as handling the Special Effects Department.

The script, songs and dance routines are all original so the show promises to be a good night's entertainment.

some demos with Messrs Chunn and Eccles of C.B. . . . **Split Enz** recently completed a session in Manchester which has apparently produced a "great single". No-one knows who's releasing it or whatever but at least they've recorded something. Makes a change from writing letters to your friends . . . **Hello Sailor** left for the States at the end of last month and they've left producer **Rob Aitken** to mix the tapes of their second album. Rob reckons the album will be "realistically" at least two months away, though a single will be released before then. The tracks that will be on the album (in no particular order): are "I'm a Texan", "Here Comes Johnny", "For the Hell of It (On Parade)", "Disco's Dead", "Blackpool", "Boys in Brazil", "Dr Jazz", "Mexican Stand-In", "Chained All Round", "Tube and Train", "Do the Silver Jive" and "Tears of Blood" . . . **The Scavs** are currently playing less Sex Pistols and working on some new material while saving for a leap across the Tasman . . . Philip Buckleton has joined Gibbons Rd . . . The Assassins have split, Dave Burgess is forming a new band, the activities of the others is unknown . . . during the August 19th performance of *The Rocky Horror Show*, Zero plunged 25 feet from the scaffolding into the orchestra pit. The show stopped and Gary Glitter inquired in a cam-



Reps with Judd

pish tone whether she was O.K. Zero, largely unhurt gave a plaintive cry of "Yes Master". In her plummet downwards Zero bent two mike stands, put a microphone through a drum, grazed her leg and cracked sternum (that's a breast-bone we're informed) and the show went on . . . **Johnny and the Hookers** have loads of energy but a limited wardrobe. Dave of the Hookers wants to buy a second-hand black leather bike-jacket, so write to *Rip It Up* if you've got one for sale. Yet another *Rip It Up* community service . . . **The Suburban Reptiles** will have two songs featured in forthcoming NZ flick, *Angel Mine* — the two songs will be — newsingle "Saturday Night Stay at Home" and an old song "Razor Blade Rosie" . . .

Vince Eager

## Dunedin

The **Enemy** are leaving for Auckland this month where they are going to record under the auspices of Derek King (an Assassin) who is organizing a punk compilation album. The **Enemy** will be playing in the North Island until early next year and by the time this goes to print they will have played their farewell concert in Dunedin along with the **Clean**, **Johnny Vex** and the **Vauxhalls** and the **Vamp**. That's the night before the Graham Parker concert, it's definitely going to be a great weekend.

Doug, lead singer with the continually improving **Clean**, is also manager of the **Enemy** and since he will be in Auckland with them the future of the **Clean** is in jeopardy.

The excellent **Night Musique** have just completed a very successful two week stint at the Cook. They have a new line-up since Canadian sax player Bob Olofon left/was dismissed two months ago. Graham Webb has been recruited on lead guitar and has really added edge to the band and Kim Bryant (ex *Glide*) has come in on percussion.

Sixty per cent of their material is original, mostly written by key boards player Liam Ryan.

Local boys make good **Mother Goose** are in Los Angeles for recording and they are playing at the Whiskey-A-Go-Go. They are writing frantically to try and get a song in the American charts.

**Cozy** have changed their name to **Back to Back**. After *Dark*, Dunedin's aspiring young jazz-rock band have picked up a few hints from **Night Musique's** very polished presentation. **The Garden's Tavern** is re-emerging as one of Dunedin's major pub scenes with rock acts once again being booked.

Things are looking up, be sure to tune in to next instalment.  
George Kay

## Wellington

Are there any bands left in Wellington? **Redeye** have joined the long list of disintegrations. Ex-**Redeye** keyboardist **Bob Smith** has gone to England to work alongside Manfred Mann's Earth Band member Chris Thompson in a band that also includes NZers Billy Kristian and Mike Walker and also includes a drummer of unknown origin who's worked with Robert Palmer.

Recent Opera House gig with **Neville Purvis**, **Rough Justice** and **Alastair Riddell Band** was a flop — unfortunately all the promotion was mucked up with the newspaper strike. Nobody deserves that to happen in this city — it only makes things bleaker. **Rough Justice** and **Neville Purvis** went down with a storm at the *Last Resort* drawing a record Friday night crowd. **Rough Justice** are working up to being one of the best bands we've ever produced.

Would you believe that there's an album in the wind from **Roger Gascoigne**? And maybe a children's storytime one by ZB's **Dick Weir**. EMI report remarkable sales of the **Jodi Vaughn** LP among Country and Western clubs etc.

September's Group of the Month of ZM is **Dave Luther's** band — he used to be in Hogsnot Rupert's Original etc etc.

Apolitical blues? **Bunny Walters** has just recorded the non-political version of the Labour Party theme song "Born to Be Free".

Still no definite release date for **Kim Hart's** album but the **Mike Harvey** album is almost finished. Alan Parsons sat in on some of the mixing on his recent trip to Wellington and was very impressed with Mikes songs and production.

Good response to the Children's theatre at **The Last Resort** — there have been two shows of "The House at Pooh Corner" through the school holidays. The *Last Resort* have been granted a BYO wine licence and are opening earlier for pre-theatre meals, and for lunch too.

The Royal Tiger Hotel was once Wellington's oasis of good bands and music — four years ago Midge Marsden and the Country Flyers were packing the place out. Now there are ugly stories that they are dropping their live bands and going disco. **Buzz** had the Cricketer's Arms residency but that's all fallen through and they're putting a disco in too.

**Ziggy's** don't want to be forgotten — on Thursday nights they have new wave band 52, Fridays they have a disco, and dance competitions, Saturday is rock 'n' roll night and there's a talent quest, and Sunday nights are sleaze with cabaret and burlesque.

**Rocky Horror Show** has had disappointing reaction in Auckland but bookings are good in other centres — they've put an album together in a 3-day session at the EMI studios for Stetson records and there's a chance that it will get international release because of **Gary Glitter's** involvement.



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