

Band Directory

The New Zealand Students' Arts Council is putting together a directory of New Zealand bands and other performers, including theatre groups and poets, who are interested in campus work. The information will be made available to the student organisations in universities, training colleges and technical institutes.

A campus can often offer work at lunchtimes or Sunday nights, free time for bands making their rent in the pubs.

Send information, including photo and/or cassette recording if available and projected itinerary, to Paul Davis, NZ Students' Arts Council, PO Box 9266, Wellington.

Write now and make sure they know about you before the 1979 orientation controllers' meeting in early November.

Dude Raunch

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show they did for the 12M Radio Workshop seem to indicate that they could pick up the tempo occasionally for increased impact.

But assuming little inconsistencies are ironed out (and the band are very critical of their own mistakes) more significance will lie within song-writing. At present Th' Dudes are able to present a full bracket of original songs to receptive audiences. "We're getting a lot of real good positive encouragement lately from people saying 'have you written any new songs?'" "When we announce a new one," says Dobbyn, "people are actually clapping. The people we've been playing to lately, they want to hear original stuff. Maybe next month we'll be doing two brackets of our own material."

Even if there are arrears of someone like Citizen Band who have firmly established a right to play originals, Th' Dudes are thinking carefully about their songs. For dances and pubs, they play a

large measure of gutsy, primitive rock and roll — Rolling Stones, MC 5, Troggs. But this tendency is discarded for Morris's and Dobbyn's own song composition. In the future, the band claim, there will be a leaning away from the heavy metal approach. "Any of the heavy stuff we do is just for fun. It's a lot of fun doing that raunchy material," Dobbyn, in claiming that his real idols are the Beatles and not MC5, speaks for the rest of the band.

Of the fourteen or fifteen originals at Th' Dudes' command, there are several which fit the three minute, pop song prescription the band gives as an ideal. Ian Morris's "Right First Time" a song that is about a year old, has a chorus which might have felt at home with the early Kinks. Dave Dobbyn's "Tonight Again" evokes memories of The Dave Clark Five. Songs like "Here comes the Money" display that while Th' Dudes also have their aggressive side, it is in the tighter and more strictly melodic of their songs that they shine. Dobbyn, with numbers like "On a Sunday" and the tense, insistent ballad "Quite Frankly" is Th' Dudes greatest asset in this regard. His songs (although Morris does most of the arrangements) are the ones in which the band sound most committed.

There is no doubt that Th' Dudes as a whole have become committed to their own material. Criticism is sometimes levelled at them for putting more energy into the half of a set that contains their own work and Th' Dudes themselves say they have lost interest in cover versions over the past two months. Their noisy version of "White Punks on Dope," a crowd favourite, comes over as much more jokesy than tough. It characterises much of the heavy covers they do.

Yet provided the song writing continues to develop, such an attitude is no real hazard. Ulrich is becoming a strong and flexible singer, a useful frontman, and the band behind him is learning its business well. There is no reason for Th' Dudes not being able to stand on their own merit in the near future.

The band thinks the same way. They intend to go fully professional in early November. A tour is on the books. Around provincial towns for promotion and in the words of Peter Ulrich "to toughen up". Suitably toughened and polished, Th' Dudes should return as obvious candidates for recording. Surely not even New Zealand's wayward recording policies can ignore them for long.

Bruce Belsham

RUMOURS



Citizen Band's guitar corps.

AUCKLAND

Suburban dances (remember them?) may be the latest rage. Promoter Charley Gray ran some in September with **Citizen Band** and **Th' Dudes** which were particularly successful. More are planned... ever pondered on the mentality of some pub managers? "If people see a group with three or four members on the stage they know they're not getting value for money," said a representative of the species to an Auckland band manager when offering low money for a four-piece... **Bamboo** have returned to Auckland to stay a while and air their new bass player John Dodd, drummer Bud Hooper and pianist Derek Gander... **Rough Justice** are finding their national tour an expensive treat. Some promoters aren't helping either... **Stiff Records** boss **Dave Robinson** has cabled for tapes of **Johnny and the Hookers** following interest from **Graham Parker** who caught their act while in Auckland... **Flight 7-7** have added guitarist Bruce Leyton... **The Rockets** have left **Tom Sharplin**... it's rumoured that the **Windsor Castle** pub faces a blacklisting by top Auckland bands... **Streetwork** are in the studio recording two tracks, "Blood of Stone" and "Echoes", for WEA... 12M's Bryan Staff has a Kiwi quarter hour from 10.30 nightly, featuring in-performance recordings and interviews with local groups. A boost for the local scene. Thanks, Bryan... Sunday nights on Radio Hauraki (7 pm) is a series of live concerts (known in the States as the **King Biscuit Flour Hour**) sponsored by Frank Curulli Stereo... that charming Italian animated film **Allegro Non Troppo**, a hit at the Auckland Film Festival, returns for a season at the Lido in November... Auckland bands took the two major titles in the New Zealand Phonographic Federation record awards. Predictably, Hello Sailor waltzed off with the album title, while Golden Harvest received the single of the year award for "I Need Your Love"...

Vince Eager and L.B. Sands

WELLINGTON

Rocky roads? Ex-Rockinghorse vocalist **Barry Saunders** becomes the third Rocky in the **Rocky Horror Show** New Zealand season. The season was extended in Christchurch, and returns to Wellington early in October for an extra week, including another midnight session.

Reel to Real are having their share of traumas too, as singer David Bates has a bad case of laryngitis, and the band have had to cancel several gigs.

Jazz muso Colin Hemmingsen is currently working in about four bands simultaneously — he occasionally gigs with the **1860 Band**, is a soloist in the **Rodger Fox Big Band**, and also has two new bands — **Filter** (with vocals) and **Cohesion** (without vocals). **Cohesion** played a successful Sunday night gig at **The Last Resort**

and are putting some of their original material down at Crescendo Studios.

Slack Alice's nightclub was closed by the owners some weeks ago, and doesn't show any signs of re-opening for a while. When they do however, it'll be with a new name and decor.

Sharon O'Neill is getting together with some of Wellington's best-known professional musicians to form a casual working band... other members include Brent Thomas — guitar, Clinton Brown — bass, Kevin Bayley — guitar, and Steve Garden — drums. The three latter members are all ex-Rockinghorse, but emphasise that they won't be performing any Horse material — they're rehearsing a whole bunch of new rockers, along with some of Sharon's original music. You can catch the band at **The Last Resort** mid October.

Lynne Attwood

DUNEDIN

The Enemy have left for Auckland after a lukewarm gig down in Invercargill. A month ago they had their own private video performance and the results have been submitted to **Radio With Pictures**. **The Clean** have entered a period of intensive rehearsal following the departure of Doug, their lead singer, who is also the Enemy's manager.

Christchurch's **Cheap 'n' Nasty**, formed from the remnants of **Odyssey**, have changed their name to **Bare Wires** and have just completed a stint at the Cook. **The Cruze** are contemplating a North Island tour after Christmas and they are rehearsing some **Graham Parker** material for future gigs.

Speaking of the great man, apparently after his comparatively disappointing reception in Christchurch (the TV cameras didn't help) he said that when he was driving into the city he could tell "that it wasn't a rock and roll town". I could have told him that. Nice to have it confirmed though. Needless to say this part of the world is still talking about GP's concert. **Citizen Band** weren't bad either.

Rocky Horror Show meeting similar success here. Gary Glitter seen to walk by Geoff Ruston's **Eureka** shop window, and didn't go in. Raven ya snob.

George Kay and Keith Tannock

CHRISTCHURCH

A little blue on my part last month. Our promising new bluesy-rockers should be more correctly termed the **Waterfront Blues Band**. Sorry chaps.

Graham Parker came and went and left a couple of interesting sidelines. 3ZB, the local output of the Tonight show network monster, managed to broadcast an ambiguously advertised **Graham Parker** "live" show at exactly the same time as yer actual concert in the Town Hall. The advertising went on to use the "if you can't afford the real thing" line. So you can see what we're up against with the radio in this part of the woods.

After Mr Parker's concert (the real one), many headed off to a post-Parker party at Mollitt Street (alias **Club De Rox**). Two bands played, and first up the multifarious **E.S.T.** were in one of their quieter moods, but still managed to reveal one or two interesting things. Playing next, **The Kippers** included in their methodical set Elvis Costello's "Mystery Dance". Now that wouldn't mean a hell of a lot of anyone, but alas, included in the audience was Mr Costello's discoverer, creator and general nurturer **Dave Robinson**, who also happens to be GP & the R's manager and supreme at Stiff records. Mr Robinson was seen to tap his feet politely as the song was performed.

More recently the multi-membered **Tearoha** headlined a group of four bands in a concert at the Chateau Comodore. The classy sounding line-up was completed by **Vivre**, **Spiral** and **Bon Marche**. Most seemed to enjoy themselves despite a four dollar entry fee and a 60c glass of beer levy. However proceeds did go to charity.

Did you know that **The Vauxhalls** are travelling around the country? Minimalism at its best! Now try to work that one out.

M. Moore.

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Sailor on the Coast

Hello Sailor are playing campus and club dates in Los Angeles. A UCLA gig is to be followed by a stint at the Starwood with expatriates Mother Goose. Dave McArtney reports an enthusiastic response from Sailor's audiences and manager Dave Gapes says his boys are playing well. McArtney says the pressures of trying to break into the West Coast have been the catalyst for a more "up-and-at-'em" approach.

The group's material is centred around "Pacific Amour" and **Graham Brazier** has been introducing "Son of Sam" with a rap about how America's killers aren't unknown in the Antipodes.

The group has new amplification (Music Man and Ampeg) and McArtney reports able-bodied assistance from various expatriate New Zealanders, including former Hauraki DJ Brian "Rocky" O'Toole and the staff and stewardesses of Air New Zealand.



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