



UK & USA

The **Band Aid** phenomenon continues to expand, with a special compilation video featuring **Wham!**, **Frankie**, etc linked with message from wealthy megastars like **David Bowie** and **Mick Jagger**, and plans for a spectacular both-sides-of-the-Atlantic double concert featuring the biggest names in pop playing turn about (while the people on the other side of the ocean at the time get to see them on a giant video screen) in simultaneous concerts ... the Americans are also working on their own Ethiopia record, a compilation LP, with names like **Michael Jackson**, **Lionel Ritchie** and **Barbra Streisand** involved ... members of **Madness** weren't able to participate in the Band Aid record when asked, so they gathered together a bunch of fellow musicians and recorded the old Pioneers' ska classic 'Starvation' for the same cause. Members of **Madness**, **UB40**, the **Specials**, **General Public** and even the original Pioneers were involved ... now that topic's over with — oops, not quite; there's a giant peace festival featuring the likes of **Stevie Wonder**, **Bob Dylan**, **Duran Duran** and **Culture Club** being

planned later this year in Japan ... the **Boomtown Rats** undergoing a remarkable resurgence in popularity, having to add dates to their current UK tour ... **Orange Juice** have split, apparently mainly to get out of a contract with Polydor that neither party was feeling good about. Drummer Zeke will stay with the company and has his debut LP due out soon ... the **Gun Club** are no more, but singer **Jeffrey Lee Pierce** has a solo album out soon ... a "new" **Velvet Underground** record? The tapes to the legendary "lost" **Velvets** LP, which would have been the fourth on **MGM/Verve**, have been recently unearthed. Of the 10 songs, only 'Andy's Chest' (which appeared on **Transformer**) has been officially released before. The new LP is titled simply **VU** ... first **David Bowie** release for 1985 is single 'This Is Not America', taken from John (Midnight Cowboy) Schlesinger's new movie **The Falcon and the Snowman** ... **ZTT**, after doing about all that was possible with marketing pop records has now gone into publishing, with the release of a look back at Frankie's first year, the book **And Suddenly, There Was A Bang**. The label also has the soundtrack to the new **Nic Roeg** pic, **Insignificance** ... NZ film **Vigil** (director, Vincent Ward) got rave reviews in **NME** recently and apparently enthusiastically received at the Cannes festival ... the **Clean** have 'Point That Thing' and 'Billy Two' on Aust compilation **Beyond the Southern Cross**. **NME** said "excellent" of the two tracks ... legendary mime artist **Lindsay Kemp** has orchestrated a very camped-up dance version film of Shakespeare's **A Midsummer Night's Dream** ... the still more

legendary (and considerably heavier) **Orson Welles** has recorded a single 'I Know What It Is To Be Young But You Don't Know What It Is To Be Old' ... severe doubts about whether the "Ex Pistols" version of 'Land Of Hope and Glory' (reputedly recorded in 76 and released this year on the day copyright restrictions ran out) contains much, if any, genuine Pistols content. Looks to be mainly the work of producer Dave Goodman (who claims it's OK, 'cos he played on several tracks on **Rock 'n' Roll Swindle**).

Albums: The **Smiths** **Meat Is Murder**, **Associates** **Perhaps**, Paul Young **The Secret Of Association**, Van Morrison **A Sense Of Wonder**, Joan Armatrading **Secret Secrets**, Killing Joke **Night Time**, Pale Fountains **From Across the Kitchen Table**, the Kane Gang **The Bad and Lowdown World Of the Kane Gang**.

Auckland

A variety of artists have gathered together to record a pointed message to the **NZ Rugby Union** — a single called 'Don't Go'. **Don McGlashan** and **Frank Stark** are the prime movers/producers and **Steve Garden** engineered at Progressive. Singers are **Rick Bryant**, **Chris Knox**, **Peter Morgan** and **McGlashan**, plus "a chorus of hundreds". Musicians are **Mark Bell**, **Ivan Zagni**, **Alastair Dougal**, **Karen Hill**, the **Newton Hoons** and **McGlashan and Garden**. The record should be out on Virgin NZ before the end of March. Auckland film maker **Alison McLean** is already working on the video.

Recording and mixing just completed on new **Dance Exponents** LP, tentatively titled **Ex-**

pectations. They're looking at an April release, followed by a tour ... meanwhile, possible individual Exponent projects include a **Brian Jones** solo record and a **Chris Sheehan/Anton Jenner** blues record ... former Exponents drummer **Harry** is happily bashing the skins with **Grey Parade** and getting up late.

After consultations with the wise **Go-Betweens**, the **Chills** are considering skipping Australia and heading straight for England in July, possibly recording their debut album there. In the meantime there is a lost **Chills** EP (which may actually be called **The Lost Chills EP**) comprising six tracks recorded last year at Progressive, which was recently finished off and will be released soon.

Netherworld Dancing Toys have parted company with their regular horn section and will now take on the **Newton Hoons** (**Mike Russell** and **Chris Green**) when they're needed for tours ... **Debbie Harwood** has put together a band which will begin playing at school concerts. The band will soon record a follow-up to her debut CBS single 'If That'll Make You Happy' ... the **Mockers** have gone to Australia to have a look round and record a new single. If the single goes well, RCA Australia are keen for the band to stay round longer and do a second album. All this will mean no **Mockers** gigs (well, no more than a couple ...) until July or so.

Former Children's Hour bassist **Johnny Pierce** has joined **This Kind Of Punishment**. The second TKP album was cut recently and should be out soon, self-released but distributed thru F Nun ... **You're A Movie** currently undergoing a major reappraisal

and a new vocalist. Call Denny 498-026 or Brendan 766-879 ... the attractive **Albert Northee** book/tape package from **This Is Heaven** is now available for \$8.00 from P.O. Box 8809, Auckland ... those loveable guys at **TV Eye HQ** are soon to unleash the **Say Yes To Apes** 2LP set **Decline and Fall** (with "enormous and terrifying gatefold cover"). Next will be a fabulously ominously titled **Hyphenears** LP called **What Are the Stars? The Stars Are What Separates Us From the Animals, You Son Of a Bitch!**

NZers in the UK: **Kelly Rogers** and **Ben Staples** of the **Miltowns** are apparently playing in a band with legendary rock 'n' roll journo **Nick Kent** ... former **Penknife Glide** **Stefan Morris** is one of three DJs going by the name of **Beat To Beat Response**, who have been attracting attention Tuesday nights at London's Wag Club, being asked to provide an **NME** dance chart (9/2/85) and attracting stars like **Melle Mel** and **Paul Morley** (twice!) along to hear the funk. Manager is good ol' **Simon Grigg**, once of **Propeller**.

Exploding Buddies broke up when drummer **James** went to England but still have an **F Nun** EP due for release sometime. Other thangs developing at the North Shore practise room they share with **Goblin Mix**, including **Glenn Budgie** recording with his 4-track ... **Working With Walt** are playing again and support **Hunters & Collectors** in **Palmerston North** & **Wellington** and intend to tour soon ... **Since Sunday** have played a few gigs in Akid, including a **Chills** support. They are **Merlene Chambers** (vocals/guitar, ex **Barbaric Bunnies**), **Roy Martin** (bass), **Mark Shellman** (drums), **Gayne Ihia** (percussion). They're

looking to play and record some "upmarket funk" in about August.

New Akid band the **Crew** are supporting **Legionnaires** on tour. Difference is that **Guy Davidson** (vocals), **Matthew Hudson** (bass, ex **Rose Bayonet**) and **James Rowe** (drums) are also the **Legionnaires'** roadies. Fourth member is guitarist **Manutai** ... **Napier's Bed-side Manner** are looking to break out and tour in June. They describe their stage performance as "very lively". Lineup is **Keith Lawson** (vocals), **Steve Blair** (bass), **Adrian Sherwood** (guitar), **Brett Taylor** (guitar) and **Dave White** (drums) ... **Narcs** drummer **Steve Clarkson** is giving drum tuition at Big City Music. Phone Big City 32-202 for details.

Finally, don't forget: every Tuesday at 6.35pm on 1YA Auckland acoustic musicians are featured ... **Dee Snider** of **Twisted Sister** appears instore 12.30 to 1.30pm at 256 Records March 6 ... and **Campus Radio** is now **BFM** and is broadcasting in glorious stereo — watch for the free monthly station mag too!

Wellington

Victoria University's orientation programme this year covers two solid weeks, with high class entertainment. The organisers stress that these concerts are not for students alone; any discerning member of the public can pay the entry fee and enjoy whatever bands are playing ... **Radio Active** goes to air on Feb 17 and will broadcast from 7am till 1am for the first month. Thereafter, hours will be 7-10am and 4pm-1am. This year more of Wellington (hopefully this will include **Karori**) will enjoy FM radio as a 100 watt **CONTINUED ON PAGE 8**

• John Fogerty •

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