

Rumours

UK & USA

Cliff Burton, bassist of **Metallica**, was killed in late September when the group's tour bus overturned in Sweden. The rest of their European tour was cancelled, and according to a spokesman, "The band is in a state of shock, and for now, everything is on hold" ... **Luther Vandross** is half the man he used to be, having shed 120 pounds. His new LP *Give Me the Reason* is out early Dec ... **Billy Bragg**'s new LP *Taxman* features a duet with country star/gynaecologist **Hank Wangford**.

In the **Pretenders** lineup for the *Get Close* LP, only guitarist Robbie McIntosh returns from 1984's *Learning to Crawl*. New rhythm section is bassist T M Stevens and drummer Blair Cunningham ... **David Bowie** is in seclusion in Switzerland working on his new album ... **Dave Stewart** of the Eurhythmics hurt his back at a NY concert recently, causing the band to cancel four dates of their US tour ... **Charlie Watts** is taking his big jazz band to NY for concerts in December, and a live LP is planned.

Plans are underway for the NZ release in '87 of compilations from **Creation** (the UK indie that released *Kaleidoscope World*) including the Weather Prophets, Jesus & Mary Chain 'Upside Down', and the Subway label, with the Razorcuts (for whom NZ *NME* writer **David Swift** drums) ... on route to UK **No Tag** stopped off in San Francisco to see the **Dead Kennedys** and provided sweet backing vocals on three tracks for the Kennedys' new LP ... former **Exploding Budgies** drummer

James Murray has turned up with the **Turncoats**, who are attracting attention with their debut EP *Motor Ball Meltdown* on Rough Trade. Murray has also drummed for Slaughter Joe and played guitar and vocals with a reconstituted **Eight Living Legs**.

Expect autobiographies next year from **James Brown** and the **Temptations** Otis Williams ... **Stevie Ray Vaughan** was hospitalised for exhaustion upon arriving in London for a UK tour ... **Lionel Richie** needs some sexual healing: "I know more people make love to my music than anyone else," he said recently, "but I have to admit that I'm no terrific lover."

Auckland

Zulu Records wish to point out that, contrary to last month's comment in the Dance Exponents' story, the **Roy Phillips** project has not been "shelved." On the contrary, its release has been "delayed until early next year, as there are too many releases on the market prior to Christmas." Apologies for any confusion ... Wellington's Brothers Gorgonzola, now called the **Elementals**, are playing the Cascade Room with Robert on December 5 and 6. Speaking of **Robert**, they've been working on several films and recording an LP for release later this month ... **Maya** (that's Hindu for "illusionary") are Marama Noakes (vocals), Stephen Watson (guitar), Danny Milligan (bass) and William Griffiths (percussion).

After their rare-but-well-received support for Shriekback, the **Car Crash Set**'s new *Another Day* is out on Nov 17; also available will be a five-track chrome cassette ... with the **Netherworld Dancing Toys** winning the Ampex-Golden Reel Award, \$1000 is awarded to a charity of the band's choice.

They chose the NZ music quota petition, to help pay for the organisers' telephone and postage expenses.

Playing at the Gluepot corner bar recently have been **Working Holiday**, with Lynne Campbell on guitar, Daryn Karaitiana (son of Billy Kristian) on bass (natch), Penni Bousfield singing, Brendan Power on harmonica, and Marty Vreede on drums; they've recently been recording ... **Dave Dobbyn** will contribute guitar on **Al Hunter**'s album, and possibly do a duet too ... **Heartwarrior** are a north Auckland reggae/rock band based around singer/songwriter Tony Littlejohn.

Organisation is underway for a **Women's Festival** at Mangawhai (two hours north of Auckland) from February 13-15, 1987. For further information, write Sandra Morris, Box 46-211, Herne Bay, Auckland ... Wellington's **Stonehenge** visit Australia this month, playing 14 dates in 11 days in Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney and promoting their Jayrem EP *Wings of Steel*. **Chris Bourke**

Palmerston North

The **Remarkables** have gone into recess for an indefinite period. They gave their final performance to a full-house at the Superliquor, with new band **Iota Quota** supporting. The Superliquor has been well supported in the two months it's been open as a venue. Watch for the Warners, Bananamen, Cement Garden and Three Leaning Men in coming weeks ... **Three Leaning Men** have nearly finished recording their mini-album, for March '87 release. Also scheduled for Feb/March are debut LPs from **Harry Death** and **Paul Campbell and the End**.

Appearing at PN's own **Farm Aid**

at Linton Farm last month were Iceland Bars, Fetch Jones, Harry Death, Goldilocks and the Free Bears, Three Leaning Men and Overdrive. Proceeds went towards paying for the marquee ... **Melt-down** Records have a one day, open air music festival set down for late March, featuring a couple of international bands, among others ... in New Plymouth, Brian Wafer's **Ima Hitt** Records is soon to release a compilation of North Taranaki's finest.

Gerard Martin

Wellington

The **Trephines** have been recording for a South Indies release early next year ... **Aotearoa** have finished recording at Marmalade and their LP *He Waiata Mo Te Iwi* ("Singing for our people") will be out on Jayrem soon ... after a successful foray north, rockabilies **Junglemice** are distributing their live cassette. Send \$8 (plus p&p) to Junglemice, 178 Tasman St, Newtown, Wgton ... the **Primates** head south for dates in December; see the calendar for details.

At Frontier studios have been **Let's Planet**, **Kiwi Zoo**, **Coldshot**, **Hammerack**, **Manson Family**, and a new duo called **Back and Forwards** ... finally, the release of the long overdue **Paras** EP is imminent, Nov. 17 in fact.

Andre Upston

Christchurch

Recent Flying Nun releases include the **Bats** 12" single, the **Headless Chickens** LP and **Jay Clarkson**'s self-titled EP ... the **Expendables** may be performing again in January ... the **Jean Paul Sartre Experience** are embarking on their first tour to include both the North and South Islands, starting at Chippendale House on

November 14 and concluding in December at the Gladstone. The band hopes to complete its next album while in Auckland.

Proving that there is life after the War of the Bands, **Murder Inc** should have their EP out by the time they've finished supporting the Johnnys in Wellington and Auckland ... such was the response to the **Haemoglobins** reunion to support the Builders at the Gladstone that they've decided to stay together ... the **Aranui** has been taken over by Ian McKenzie, and as the Playroom will feature only touring bands. According to the manager there are no local bands up to standard.

New bands include the **Avengers**, (Rhys Dagg, Brent Williams and co), **Nux Vomica**, **Glorious Dead**, **Nameless Few** and **Eyes Have It** ... and the big question is, where do we all go if the Gladstone goes back to having a resident band?

John Greenfield

Dunedin

Some doubt hangs over the completion of the **Rips** album with the imminent departure of singer/guitarist Alistair Galbraith to Australia ... meanwhile the **This Kind of Punishment** album that the Jefferies brothers have been working on with newly drafted member Michael Morley has been put on hold following Graeme Jefferies shift to Christchurch ... the **Weeds** are mixing four tracks for prospective posthumous release, including a version of Hot Chocolate's kitsch epic 'Emma'.

Former Goblin Mix bassist **Alf Danielson** has teamed up with **David Kilgour** (guitar/vocals) and **Jeff Huani** (drums) ... the **Cactus Club** are a new band having sprung from the seeds of Government Life ... the **Bend Correctors**

have reformed ... the new **Verlaines** album, nearing completion, includes a remixed version of the Dunedin EP classic 'You Cheat Yourself' complete with new vocal.

The **Eskimoos**, a conglomeration of such bands as the Idles and Martian Picnic, recently made their debut ... **Rational Records** recently held a four-band weekend at the Oriental to celebrate the release of the new Dunedin compilation *Art for Chart's Sake* which has been selling extremely well in the city.

The Cartilage Family

Video

Flesh and Blood (Roadshow)

A weird historical epic set in the 1500s about a bunch of mercenaries getting their own back on their past master. A Hollywood film but more attuned to other revisionist works like Boorman's *Excalibur*, where the politics of violence and a sense of sexual perversion are the real themes, rather than the picture book quality most Hollywood epics tend to become. Starring Australian Jack Thompson in a gruff commanding role of Captain Hankwood, and the finely chiseled features of Rutger (*The Hitcher*) Hauer in another nasty role.

Quite an interesting movie but I wonder if a lot of it didn't end up on the editing room floor. There are also some strange historical problems, the language is more 20th century, as is the colourful tattoo on Hauer's shoulder. A spectacle of sex and slaughter that goes beyond most others of its type.

Kerry Buchanan

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