

Rumours

Christchurch

Ex-Solitude **Chris Tindall's Burning House Promotions** is booking bands into the Old Star Tavern and the Playroom, opening early week for local bands ... Nostalgia seems to have been the theme recently at the Playroom, with both **Roco Cola** and **The Edge** (complete with **Dick Driver**) reforming briefly for a couple of early week nights each ... there has been a whisper of a semi-resident band filling in at the Playroom on weekends when touring bands are lacking.

Business at **Audio Access** has improved immensely with a large influx of bands, (including **Mea Culpa** and **Small Rifleman**) making use of the studio, which no longer is thinking of closing its doors ... **Fallsafe's** new portable recording facilities are being put to good use by the **Greens**, **Rue**, **Chamelias** and **Jawp** and the **Rhubarb Collective** — all of whom are now being managed by **Rob Mayes**.

Flying Nun's Gary Cope is now in Germany with the **Chills** and will be overseeing Nun operations in Europe. Meanwhile partner **Roger Shepherd** is hunting for a new home for the label as their

premises in the Square have to be vacated. Flying Nun releases coming up include a **Max Block** EP and a **Bats** compilation tape ... the **Bats** report they have plenty of new songs and will record at Nightshade in early April for an LP release in July (half of which will be stuff recorded last year in Glasgow). They're currently mixing two tracks recorded live at Horrelville Hall for a US compilation. Watch for them in **RWP's** coverage of the Palmerston Nth rock festival. Oh, and didya see the Dec 6, '86 **NME** rave review of 'Made Up in Blue'?

Jean-Paul Sartre Experience have been performing occasionally as a three-piece while **David Yeaton** is in England. Dave's absence hasn't stopped the band from recording their first album. They're planning an Oz tour with the **Bats** ... anyone having trouble keeping their posters up round town should contact **Phantom Promotions** (ph 65 374), who seem to have the situation under control.

Hammerack's Hard Rock Fever tape is available from Grunt Records, PO Box 291, Timaru, for \$11.90 plus \$2.25 p&p. The band's guitarist **Jamie Dickson** has moved to Christchurch and has teamed up with **Steve Townsend** (ex-Fat Sally); they're in search of a vocalist and bass player. Ring Chch 68 955 or 820 248.

Nightshift has a new studio and will be running a series of weekend courses aimed at helping musicians get a better understanding of studio work. Those interested, phone Arnold at 810 955 ... **Jazz Earthquake** at the Playroom raised a sizeable sum for the earthquake fund ... **Max Block**, the **Sacred Sisters** and the **Indians** are three of the bands performing at the **Aids Benefit Concert** at the Venue on April 11 ... **Rony Peake** is back from overseas ... new bands around include **Point Blank**, **Silhowetas** and **Jawp** and the **Rhubarb Collective** ... the **Curious George Club** is a new alternative venue at varsity; curious performers should contact Andrew at 583 925 ... and ... there is possibility of a single from the near-legendary **Paddy Parton** and the **Saddle Hoons** eventuating ... so stay tuned! **John Greenfield**

Dunedin

This Kind of Punishment have finally finished their new album, completing mixing last month. **Peter Jefferies** also recently recorded an instrumental album with guitarist **Jono Lonie**. Both records are being cut this month, along with an EP from the **Rip** ... about 300 people attended a recent Basement Sounds' organised festival at Chingford Park, featur-

ing, among others **Lets Get Naked**, the **Moon**, the tentatively-titled **Chumbs**, **Aardvark** and **Cactus Club**. The latter plan to go vinyl soon.

New rockabilly/country types and recent support for the Johnnys, **Giddy Up & Go**, consist of Gary Muir, bass; Alistair Anderson, drums; Jim Taylor, gtr ... the soon-to-be-released EP by the **Moas** has been christened 'Spaz Out With the Moas' ... **Dead C** are putting the finishing touches on their forthcoming tape release **Max Harris** ... new(ish) bands around town include **ABC** and **Pink Polyester**. **The Cartilage Family**

North

Contributing to the next **Car Crash Set** single will be several members of **Shriekback** while they're on tour this month ... a **Music Centre Trust** is being formed in Auckland to try and solve some of the problems facing young bands — lack of live venues and rehearsal rooms, cheap demo studios, advice and facilities. They're looking for a base in town and money to fund the trust. A fundraising gig will be held at Devonport's Esplanade on Easter Monday featuring the **Barbs**, **Doubting Thomases**, **Fish for Life** and **Graham Brazier** ... a winter venue for hardcore music will be

the **Industrial Club** situated, appropriately, in Penrose.

Kim Willoughby, former Gurl, current Cat and star of **Queen City Rocker**, has joined **Soul on Ice** as lead vocalist ... **Wayne Gillespie's New Locations** band now features **Narc Steve Clarkson** on drums, **Peking Man's Tim Calder** bass, **Nigel Gavin** guitar, **Denny Stanway** vocals, and **Rick Roberston** on sax. They'll be touring the South Island in May ... **Johnny Specific** now features **Lyn Buchanan** on drums, **Ross McDermott** bass, and **DD Smash's Gary Verberne** on guitar.

Are You Lonesome Tonight, the Elvis tribute musical by **Boys from the Blackstuff** writer Alan Bleasdale, is to be produced in NZ from June for four months. The producers, a new company called **Encore**, are looking for performers. The two lead roles are Elvis aged 22 and Elvis at 42, plus there are about a dozen other male and female parts. Auditions (held recently in Auckland and Christchurch) take place in Dunedin on April 9, and Wellington on April 11, 12 & 13. Ring **Encore** at 04-847284 ... **Herbs** recently received a platinum disc (15,000 sales) for **Long Ago**. A second one shouldn't be too far off — the LP has now sold 23,000 copies ... **Otis Mace** and the **Psychic Pet Healers** have a new bassist for this month's tour

— **Peter Hanneveld**.

Palmerston North's **Thin Red Line** are recording their debut LP at Mascot next month, with **Phil Yule** producing. Their lineup is now Dave White, keyboards; Greg Finucane, guitar; Jim Lovell-Smith, vocals; Kirsten Finucane, bass; Valerie Wycroft, vocals ... **Waihi's Ebony Sye** have finished recording their LP at Progressive; new to the band is second keyboardist Neil Pepper.

Wellington news: contrary to rumour the **Jonahs** have not split. They have recorded an EP at Frontier and are negotiating its release ... the **Wild Poppies** debut album **Heroine** is on Skank Records ... **Number Nine** have recorded an LP **Nowhere Fast** and plan to tour soon ... **Skank Attack** will tour the North Island soon to promote their EP; they play the Gluepot on April 22 ... the **Cattlebirds** and **Crawbilly Creeps** made the most of the Texas Rangers' absence at Orientation ... the **Manson Family** and **Wazzo Ghoti** had a successful weekend at the Clyde Quay recently. The Saturday night gig was recorded on the **Skeptics** new 16-track mobile (ph 04-850985) ... the **Primates** album is out on Onset/Offset ... **Flesh D-Vice** have had a newly recorded LP licensed in the US which will be available here only as an import thru Jayrem.

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