



FEBRUARY
13-16 NGAMOTU, NEW PLYMOUTH
18-21 WILLY'S WINE BAR, WELLINGTON
20, 23 ORIENTATION PROGRAMME HERETAUNGA POLYTECH
25-28 WILLY'S WINE BAR, WELLINGTON

MARCH
3-6 WILLY'S WINE BAR, WELLINGTON

REEL TO REEL



START THEIR SOUTH ISLAND TOUR

FEBRUARY 10
11-16
26-MAR 1

DUNEDIN CONCERT
SHORELINE, DUNEDIN
HILLSBOROUGH TAVERN,
CHRISTCHURCH

MARCH 5-8
13-15

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TERMINUS, TIMARU

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AUCKLAND

After a day in the countryside, the **Toy Lovers** returned to Auckland to record a hit single. The AK Anniversary session was produced by ex-Dragon bassist, **Todd Hunter**. To witness the mixing of "Don't Ask Me" and "Sheep" (the "I don't know where I'm going to" song), bandmembers were obliged to stay sober throughout the 15 hour session. (Last month's *Rumours* failed to mention that Jane and Paul are engaged.) Now the Michael Browning (ex-AC/DC manager) management/recording deal is signed, Toy Love vinyl will feature the Deluxe Records logo (through WEA Locally). The new single will be out mid Feb in a pic sleeve by ace scribblers Knox and Dooley. On March 9 the band intend to fly to Sydney (the town where they named the harbour bridge after a dead Sex Pistol). Toy Love will work there until they record their debut album (April or May).

On the day after the above session, **Costello** and band went shopping. At Record Warehouse they selected some albums and WEA paid the bill. They all grabbed Graham Parker's *High Times* (Australasia only, Best of). Elvis got Aretha Franklin *Gold*, a Sanford Townsend and the two latest Al Greens. Bruce the bassman got a Kinks *20 Golden Greats*. Drummer Pete got Randy Newman's *Little Criminals*, B52s and XTC *Drums & Wires*. We're told that tinkler, Steve Naive, got three Alice Coopers, Donna Summer's *On the Radio* and the first Led Zeppelin. (Maybe they were Christmas presents?)

Young Elvis could not buy AK 79, because all 300 copies sold out in just one week. Pressing two is on sale at Record Exchange, Record Warehouse, Taste and Colin Morris or by post (see ad page 11).

THE CORPORATION

WELLINGTON

Christmas in Wellington was as exciting as the annual reunion of the Perry Como fan club. With the **Last Resort** (first, last and only resort in fact) closing for a few weeks, the capital sure lived up to its reputation as the dead centre of New Zealand.

Nearest thing to a highlight has been the 'coming out' of the **Crocodiles**, firstly at the Last Resort and latterly at the **Brown Trout Festival** at Norsewood. The festival also featured a once and only return from the grave by **Rough Justice**.

Radio Windy's first outdoor concert of the year was a 'farewell appearance' by favourite daughters **Wide Mouthed Frogs**. Support acts were new band the **Ravens** making their public debut, and Dunedin based 'sounds-just-like-the-radio' band **Rockylox**. Lox were in town to record at EMI. Windy's Feb 3 show, is a floating extravaganza, on a raft off Oriental Bay with **Red Mole** and **Toy Love** plus the notorious **A.N. Other**. De Mille is directing.

Others around town have been **Bad Breaks** and a re-edited **Reel to Real** at Willy's, **Furys** and 1977 nostalgia bands, **Frizz Kids** and the **Steroids** at the Last Resort.

Tigers are still looking for a guitarist... meanwhile at **Marmalade** hit factory, **Sharon O'Neill** and **Jon Stevens** have completed recording a duet. O'Neill has a special on TV 1, Feb 23... Special Prize, to the management of Willy's Wine Bar for attempting to give a touch of reality to the 60's revival craze by banning denims from the premises.

R. SOLEZ
PS. Anyone who feels they're not getting the plugs they deserve, phone Robert 759-376.

CHRISTCHURCH

To avoid confusion with a chain of European fashion stores, **Bon Marche** have changed their name to **Newz**. The band return to Auckland on March 24... also heading North are Vapour and the Trails (Feb) and Androidss (March) — take it away Androidss.

Recent band bust-ups include Dizzy Blonde and Scandalar Dolls ... new bands in town — **Cowboys** (Mike Waldegrave, John Lloyd, Don Bean, Phil Tuuta and Geoff Farmer) and **Breathless** (Nameless remnants plus Normals vocalist)... Charlie White has joined the reformed **Spitfires**.

After being fired by three South Island pubs,

Whizz Kids packed the Hillsborough as did **Furys** at the Gladstone. Both the Whizzs and the Swingers rate Christchurch support bands as the best in the country.

Vaccums have lost their bassist... **Head Office** are to reform... the city eagerly awaits Tony Peake's new band... **Roland Kileen** (ex-Sheerlux) is alive and well, and has been working in a plastics factory. Will he join Citizen Band?

JIM WILSON

DUNEDIN

Despite a farewell night at the Captain Cook in December the **Heavenly Bodies** have decided to remain together for another six months. It'll probably be longer.

After **Dark's** bassist, Russell Scoones has decided to stay with the band after an earlier decision to quit. **Shuffle** have called it a day. Bassist Neil Henderson described the split as "amicable" as the band as a whole were just bored stupid playing the same old stuff.

Tibet have incorporated some impressive new original songs in their set. New band, **Stains**, has been formed featuring ex-Clean guitarist David Kilgour, "Bodge" Armstrong, drums, and Damon Durex, presumably bass and vocals.

4XO Battle of the Bands at the Town Hall on 29 January. First prize \$800 and free studio time.

GEORGE KAY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Amsterdam early April ... Wanganui raves Feb 16, with a big concert at the Stock Car Track. Bands are Split Enz, Russell Morris Band, Phil Manning Band, Tigers, Billy TK and Midge Marsden's Kiwi Connection, ... Dudes enter the studio mid Feb to record two new singles ... seen at new licensed late-nighter 'Kicks' (where Shoreline was, top of Shore City carpark) were Hello Sailor performing Nancy Sinatra's million seller, "These Boots are Made for Walking". Very fab! ... recent demo layers at Mascot studios have included Toy Love, Spelling Mistakes and Primmers ... Mike Chunn will be assisting Bryan Staff in the further adventures of Ripper Records ... Billy TK and Band are touring NZ until April 12 ... new 500 capacity rock room in Hamilton is Waikato Motor Hotel's 'Framptons' on the main drag. **THE END**

Midge Back!

After nearly two years in Australia, Midge Marsden is back home and putting together a new band for a national tour.

The group will be known as Midge Marsden's Kiwi Connection. "It's not a backing band for me," says Midge, "but I would be silly not to use my name after all those years of slog. I'm probably the best-known unknown in the country."

Eighteen months with Australia's Phil Manning Band, a group that spends a lot of time on the road, left Midge tired, even disenchanted. A car crash was a further blow to morale, and he talked of giving up music altogether.

But today he's a different man. Always a volatile personality, he is brimming with enthusiasm for his new band and the tour.

The band is Midge (vocals, guitar and harp), Sonny Day (vocals and guitar), Sid Limbert from Raglan on bass, and two former members of Rick Steele's Hot Biscuit Band, Mike Abbott and Ray Chaber on drums and guitar respectively.

The band's first tour will be a six-week one, and Midge says the line-up may not stay the same for future gigs. He plans to take the band out for tours lasting perhaps six weeks, with maybe a two-month lay-off in between.

"I don't feel inclined to chase my tail, trying to get ahead, and wind up getting over-exposed."

The band will be playing "basically R&B, some juicy blues, and certainly a Lowell George song in there somewhere," and Midge and other members of the line-up are writing. He describes the originals as being reminiscent of Springsteen, Petty and Parker.

In between gigs, Midge wants to pursue other interests, such as taking on some work in radio, although he is rather disappointed in the local radio scene. He feels strongly that New Zealand radio remains oblivious to musical developments across the Tasman and continues to favour American and English product.

At age 34, Marsden has seen a lot of music and has had his share of ups and downs, but he is full of confidence for the Kiwi Connection.

"Maybe I should stop and do something else, but I can't keep away from playing."



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