

# Hillcrest Tavern HAMILTON'S ROCK VENUE

**HAMMOND  
GAMBLE**

**Feb 16-18**

**RODENTS**

**Feb 19**

**TIGERS**

**Feb 20-21**

**RODENTS**

**Feb 23-24**

**FLYING  
DOCTORS**

**Feb 25-28**

**VALENTINOS**

**March 2-3**

**DEALER**

**March 4-5**

**LIP SERVICE**

**March 6-7**

**BOOKINGS  
PHONE  
HAMILTON 80431**

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was well spent, since the band had settled in with its own material.

## Tougher Live

On stage, the songs from *Icehouse* have a rougher edge. Davies confesses a liking for the HM guitar sound, but the influence of the Eno/Numan/Ultravox connection is also very strong, particularly on the song 'Icehouse', with its floor-shaking synthesisers. In fact, most of the songs sound better live than on record, a difference which Davies appreciates and finds advantageous.

"Some bands go to a lot of trouble to get that rough edge, but generally speaking, I think people prefer these days to hear a smoother sound on record. I approach records with a completely different end in mind than I do a live situation. I think they both have points of their own which should be exploited.

"You can't get that rough sound on record unless you go to ridiculous ends, and even then it sounds faked."

## Festival Fun

Playing Sweetwaters was a new experience for Flowers, having never played to a crowd of that size before, let alone a festival.

"I enjoyed it, I thought it was amazing. I was nervous, but only because it was such a different situation. Open-air is always hard physically, from a sound point of view or whatever, and also because we started in daylight. We're a very dark sort of band normally, and we don't like working in daylight because it doesn't suit us. Fortunately for us, the sun set at just the right time."

Of the future, the giant American market awaits. A US recording deal is still being negotiated, and this will determine the next priorities. The next album will probably be delayed for release here until it's also ready for other parts of the world.

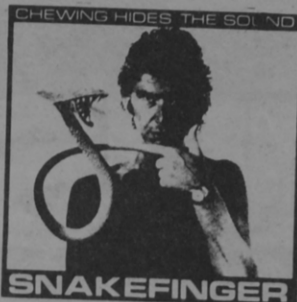
Flowers are now supporting Roxy Music in Australia, and then have a tour of their own to finish. This will take them through to sometime in March, when they'll start recording their new album. Four tracks are in the can, and some are already in the stage set. Davis has very definite ideas about how the new LP will sound.

"With the experience of listening to the songs as they sound on *Icehouse*, I've changed quite a few things, as far as the way I approach writing songs. I think we'll probably go for something a little bit looser next time. Everything on the last album was done a little bit too clinically, and I'm trying to go for a bit more immediacy in writing."

Are you still enjoying yourself?

"Oh sure. The band is working the best it's ever worked, and there's just a little bit of extra confidence that everybody's got. The band is coming to me with some really good ideas, which is making it easier for me and more fun for them as well."

*Duncan Campbell*



## Tours

Expect **Split Enz** in March and **John Mayall** and two jazz shows in the meantime. In April there is a surprise tour from Muchmore Associates, namely Ralph recording artist **Snakefinger**. His debut album *Chewing Hides The Sound* is produced by Snakefinger and label mates the Residents. Expect it in NZ through RTC.

**John Mayall** and band are playing five dates in NZ, Feb 25 Christchurch, 26 Dunedin, 27 Palmerston North, 28 Wellington and March 1 Auckland.

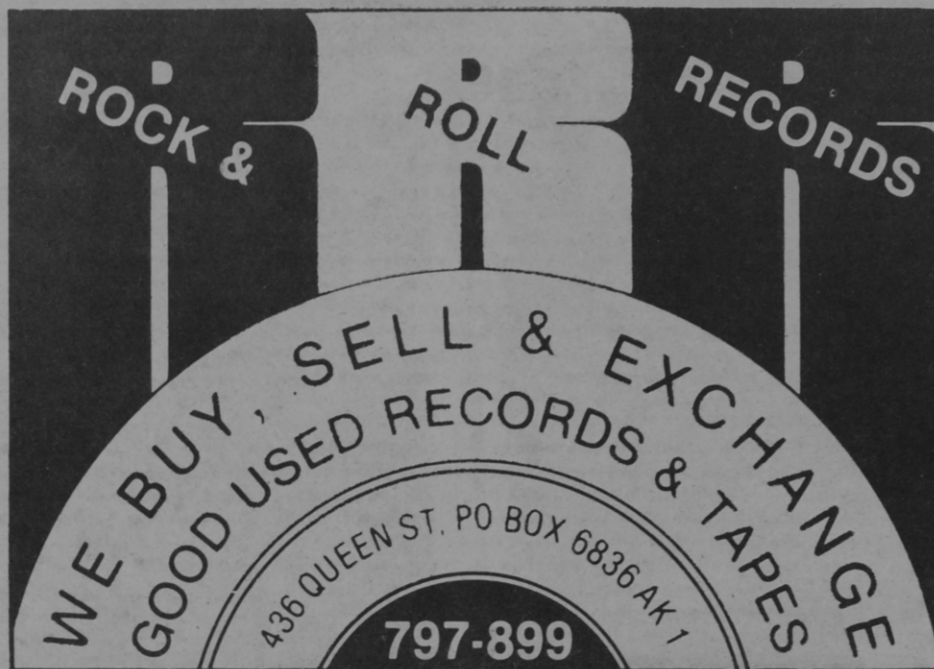
The **Dave Brubeck Quartet** (Dave Brubeck, Chris Brubeck bass, Randy Jones drums, Jerry Bergonzi sax) play Wellington Town Hall March 1, Christchurch Town Hall March 2 and Auckland Town Hall March 3.

An all-star four piece plays Repertory Theatre Christchurch on March 24 and Auckland's Maidment Theatre March 25. The players are **Charlie Hayden** bass, **Don Cherry** pocket trumpet, **Dewey Redman** tenor sax and **Ed Blackwell** drums. The band recently recorded *Old And New Dreams* for ECM Records.

## Late News

Stiff Little Fingers were described as "a poor man's Clash" in LA/SPF prestigious freebie *BAM* (Bay Area Magazine). Expect *Hanx* (SLF live) in NZ late February ... Mr 'Rock Around The Clock', **Bill Haley** died Feb 10 aged 53 ... **Broken Dolls** have signed a three year recording deal with Stebbings. A single is due in six weeks. Ian Morris and Rob Aickin will produce and CBS will distribute ... out on Sausage 004 is a 4 track EP by **Six Impossible Things**. The three piece includes ex members of Vacuum, Kaziportico and Mummy's Boys. The EP can be purchased by writing to Six Impossible Things, 95 Wallace St, Wellington ... Auckland University's **Radio B** is on 1404 khz for four weeks from Feb 15 ... Feb 9-27 *Cartoon Art Show* at Closet Artists features work by Barry Linton, Chris Knox, Fane Flaws and Joe Wylie. The latter's animated video of **Toy Love's** 'Bride Of Frankenstein' was a hit at the opening. The band's interest in seeing the animated clip completed and paid for caused their September 20 split to be hush-hushed. It has been un-hush-hushed for several months but *RIU* forgot to print the split news. An Alec Bathgate/Chris Knox 45 is being talked about.

In February EMI Stores will have a limited import of Rough Trade albums, Pere Ubu's *The Art Of Walking*, the Stiff Little Fingers first *Inflammable Material* and the label's sampler *Wanna Buy A Bridge* with Raincoats, Young Marble Giants, Swell Maps, SLFs, Essential Logic etc ... the Pistols film *Rock'n'Roll Swindle* opens in Christchurch in March, Auckland in April. The delayed *Secret Policeman's Ball* opens Feb 27 at AK Odeon.



**THANKS**

**RADIO HAURAKI**



**FOR  
HELPING**



**TO  
NO.1  
IN  
AUCKLAND**

**THE GOOD GUYS ALWAYS WIN**  
(You heard the new single first on Hauraki)