

Youth For A Price

'Yeah Yeah Oooo Baby' (Dillon-Stark). Recorded October 1980, Harlequin Studio. Engineer: Simon Alexander.

Jacqui Brooks saxophone/percussion

Grant Dillon piano/organ/accordion

Alison McLean bass guitar

Peter Reed drums

Frank Stark guitar

Formed gradually between May and December 1980. Bookings: 771-233.

Vivid Militia

'Let's Go (To Australia)' (Derek Zilch). Recorded November 1980, Harlequin Studio. Producer/engineer: Simon Alexander.

Greg Murdock (20 yrs) drums

David Wood (17) bass/vocals

Derek Zilch (19) guitar/vocals

We came together as Vivid Militia in October 1980. All of us had been in one punk or new wave band but nothing seemed to work. The band is now a good outlet for all of us. Bookings: 797-899.

Rhythm Method

'Carousel' (Rhythm Method). Recorded November 1980, Harlequin Studio. Producer/engineer: Simon Alexander.

John Quigley (18 yrs) guitar

Gill Civil (21) keyboards

Dave Harris (19) bass

Simon Mark-Brown (20) drums

Mathew Flynn (20) part-time sax

Bill McGeachie (20) vocals/percussion

Formed September 1980. First gig at New Station. Fast pop/ska but now moving towards own danceable sound. New vocalist soon. Bookings: 797-899.

Rebel Truce

'The Man Inside' (Toweling-Zubielevitch). Recorded September 1980 at Harlequin. Engineer: Steve Kennedy.

Adolf (24 yrs) voice

David O'Donoghue (18) bass guitar

Phil (19) drums

Elf Zubielevitch (20) guitar

Formed April 1980 in attic of 111 Queen St. Terry Toweling left to join a band in Wellington but moved to Mt Eden. Bones (drummer) vanished. Phil joined, then Dave and we all lived happily ever after. Bookings Adolf: 483-667.

Gripes: doesn't snow at Christmas and promoters that hold *Class Of 81* dances with only four bands. There are 12 on the album.

Killjoys

'I'm Normal' (Bob). Recorded October 1980 at Harlequin. Steve Kennedy engineered.

Phillip Campbell (19 yrs) vocals

Robert Andrell (19) bass

Malcolm Smith (18) rhythm guitar

Rowan Shedden (22) lead guitar

John Crawford drums

John Duckett guitar

Formed one year ago. Bookings: 493-873.

Gripes: people over 22 who aren't bald.

THE CLASS OF 81



YFAP



Rebel Truce



Vivid Militia



Ainsworths

Blam Blam Blam

'Motivation' (Mark Bell). Recorded at Harlequin with Doug Rogers and Blams in control.

Don McGlashan (22 yrs) sax/drums/percussion

Mark Bell (21) guitar/vocals

Tim Mahon (20) bass/vocals

David Rudolph (21) sound technician

Formed October 1980 after Whizzkids split. Only three of us left, therefore we decided since we were still talking to each other we'd play together.

Gripe: lack of second gear in the van.



Moderns



Rhythm Method



Bombers

'Dance' (Webster-Senn-BangMoore-Ben). Recorded October 1980 (pre Mekons) at Harlequin Studios with John Garde and Doug Rogers in control.

Webster vocals/bass

Jann Senn vocals/guitar

Brian Bang-Moore Sutton vocals/drums

Benjamin bass/drums

Formed in 1980. New music for wartime. Covers all pre 1964 to separate Bombers from the ska/mod revival. Bookings: 437-515 til May 26, then 487-134.

Gripes: waiting until June to play as other bassist/singer holidaying in USA.

Ainsworths

'Danger Man' (Rowan-Hilary). Recorded November 1980 at Harlequin. Ainsworths with

The four Techtones, Steve Roach, Chris Burt, Jimmy Juricevich, Peter Solomon and sound man Doug Hood are grouped around the inevitable formica table in a Dunedin motel. The tape recorder's switched on and immediately the conversation becomes more guarded, more self-conscious for a while.

Sheerlux taught them a few things:

Steve: "We had a lot of difficulties song-writing as we were going about it the wrong way. We wanted to get into songs not the bloody chants we were writing. We wanted something with a bit of melody and that wasn't happening and we were sick of the hype and the frontman scene."

Resolutions were made?

Jimmy: "Yeah no frontmen, no lead singer, no gym shoes and jumping up and down on stages. Just an understanding of the sort of music we really liked and wanted to write."

When the Techtones formed out of the ruins of Sheerlux the social disaster horrorshow bands were still in ascendance. Times must've been hard?

Steve: "Oh we got arseholes for a while from the kids."

Chris: "We were classified as kind of pappy."

Jimmy: "Yeah but we couldn't afford to stop playing for the first few months so we just had to sort things out while we were playing."

Let's talk about 'That Girl'.

Steve: "To record 'That Girl' we had an eight track tape recorder but we found we needed an extra one to put on the backing vocals and so we rigged up this other four track. Then when we were mixing and it was all manual so we had to keep the two tape recorders synched all the time and this was four o'clock in the morning and they kept on going out of synch at the very end and you'd hear 'f**k it's out' and you'd go back to the beginning again."

After two all night sessions recording and producing 'That Girl' the Techtones have brought in Doug Rogers to produce their next single 'Shed A Tear', a laid back ditty. Was it a wise choice as the next single?

Steve Kennedy produced. Steve engineered.

Adam Holt (17 yrs) bass

Hilary Hunt (18) vocals

Phil Jackson (18) drums

Rowan Shedden guitar

Formed when Hilary discovered Rowan jamming at a Killjoys' practise and asked him to form a band. Adam and Phil joined later.

Moderns

'Day Is Ended' (Moderns). Recorded November 1980 at Harlequin. Moderns produced and Simon Alexander engineered.

Peter Wilberfoss (20 yrs) bass

Kim Gailer (19) keyboards

Larry Zoete (17) drums

Geoff Crohurst (17) vocals

Grant Hannis (17) guitar

Band formed May 1980. In January 1981 guitarist replaced by Perry Marshall and vocalist replaced by Lincoln Mail. A change of name is imminent. Bookings 403-9644.

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Techtones' Talk



Jimmy: "We thought a long time about this and maybe a slower, softer song has a chance of being played on the radio. There's no point in getting a new song played only on Barry Jenkins' show. It would be okay if you were a punk band but we want to be popular, successful."

The band reckon that 'That Girl' sold about 800 copies, hardly a 'White Christmas', but undeterred they plan to tackle an album in a few months. But are doors opening?

Chris: "Yeah they're opening now. We've gone through the pissed off stage and we could've split like anybody else but it's just a question of hanging in there."

So the Techtones are persevering, patiently, with realistic horizons and music that owes less to fashion than to their ability to delve perceptively into established pop structures. But they've gotta make it soon.

George Kay

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