

RUMOURS

AUCKLAND

Singer Fiona McDonald and keyboardist Michael Lawry have left the **Headless Chickens**. Angus McNaughton of Incubator Studios has replaced Lawry, and the band will continue with recording plans for their third full-length album ... **Dead Flowers'** bassist Dave James has left the band. They are currently looking for a replacement ... **Martin Philipps** has formed a new band and will be recording and gigging in Auckland on completion of contracts ... after a series of frustrating delays, **Grace** will release their debut album, *Black Sand Shore*, on February 27 ... new **Second Child** drummer is Ben Sciasia from Balance ... **Upper Hutt Posse** have a new single, 'As The Blind See', out soon thru BMG ... country music singer/songwriter **Glen Moffatt's** debut album, *Somewhere In New Zealand Tonight*, will be released by Sun Pacific Records in March ... spotted at Foodtown Grey Lynn: **Thorazine Shuffle's** Josh Hetherington, shopping at 11.30 at night with his sunglasses on ... **Moana and the Moahunters** recently returned from Malaysia after performing two shows at the indigineous music festival. BMG Records have released the Moahunters album *Tahi* in Asia ... **AKA Young & Ruthless**, winners of the secondary schools Smokefree Rockquest funk section, have recorded 'Run For Cover' at York Street Studios. The single will be released by Southside in March ... Catherine O'Dwyer (ex-Fatal Jelly Space) has joined **Virginia Reel** on drums ... free weekly gig guide **The Fix** will be back in stores during the last week of February ... **OJ & Slave** have signed directly to BMG Records for the release of an EP due in the shops late March ... Darkness Productions are presenting **Voodoo Jungle**, featuring DJs Riddle, Jonathan Stowers, Jungle Jay, D-Rave, Stephen Green and New Zealand's first jungle performance by Kaos Theory, at the Box, Thursday March 2 ... **Chris Knox** has a new single, 'One Fell Swoop', out mid-month, which includes a cover of Abba's 'SOS'. An album, *Songs Of You & Me*, will follow in March, prior to Knox touring Europe ... the **95bFM Summer Series Concerts** take place on February 5 (Tufnells, Breast Secreting Cake, Chris Knox, Garageland, DLT, Applicators) and 19 (Hallelujah Picassos, Able Tasmans, Urban Disturbance, Future Stupid, Sniff, Repeater) at Albert Park. It's not what you know ... **Flat Hampster Man** have split up ... **King Loser** have been recording with **Billy TK Snr** ... *The Bob Marley Exhibition* continues at the Auckland Museum until Sunday February 19 ... spotted at the Powerstation: tough guy **Al**

Jourgensen, of Ministry, taking almost a minute to remove the cap from a bottle of DB Export Dry with his teeth — they twist off much easier ... **Tim Finn** has formed a new band called ALT, featuring Hothouse Flowers vocalist Liam O'Maonlia and Irish Songwriter Of The Year, Andy White.

JOHN RUSSELL

HAWKES BAY

Local country artist **John Fletcher** is off to Tamworth in January to compete in the festival after doing well at the country music awards in Gore. A fundraiser at the Century Theatre featuring his band **Ingenue** has gone some way towards helping out with the cost of the trip ... **Kaweka Flyers** have been recording with Phil Tilbury at Digital Sound ... Iron Pot Cafe held their own Big Day/Night Out on December 18 in support of local musician Roy Brown. Performers included **Beat Not Fish**, **Woody Allen's Daughter**, **Ingenue**, **Fine Tunings** and **Kaweka Flyers** ... **Juniors Gone Wild** wound up with three nights at the Cri. Jason, Matt and Chris are combining with Dan Fern and Rick Toner to form a new band called **Peace Pipe** ... **Rockinfreakapotomous** have been organising gigs at the back of the old Wine Bar with **Static Black** and both bands have a mini North Island tour organised ... Wine Bar has re-opened under new name Mossy's, providing another venue for solos and duos ... replacing Peter Thwaites in **The Pickups** is Graeme Hyde ... Saturday and Sunday afternoon gigs at the Iron Pot were short lived with little support and are now no more ... **Hanging Tree** have completed their studio and are busy recording. They also have a gig organised at Squid, in Auckland, with **Rockinfreakapotomous** ... Hawkes Bay Musicians club have a warehouse gig lined up for February ... **MAD** have resurrected themselves and are playing around town ... **Beat Not Fish** are recording an album of originals in Auckland with a working title of *Bait*, to be released in February on their own label. The band has a residency at the Iron Pot on Sunday nights and are also beginning to play gigs further afield.

TONY PARKER

CHRISTCHURCH

After a lot of speculation, guitarist Jason Harmon has left **Pumpkinhead** (and, by the time you read this, will be married — congratulations). Jason's replacement is Supertanker's David Hunt. Pumpkinhead release their second single, 'I Like', on Wildside next month ... **Supertanker** have regrouped (and will continue with David) and recently debuted their new line-up and latest songs at the Dux ... **Chicane** have returned from a break and will have their debut single

out soon on vinyl ... **Human** have been busy playing around town and the South Island, as well as appearing on Cry TV and recording a cassette which will be out soon ... the latest Human off-shoot band is **Caravan Pigs** ... the latest issue of **Sunburn** recently made it to selected outlets ... issue two of **Subside** is out now and issue two of **Savage State** will be out soon ... drummer Kane Tares returned from a holiday/promotional visit to Australia in time for **Excellent Soul Therapy** to perform on New Year's Eve. The band's future is still uncertain though ... with the first pressing of their new CD *Syzygy* almost sold out, **Hampster** are pressing the second run with a few changes to the play list. They will be doing the same with their first release, *Hampsterdam*.

JOHN GREENFIELD

HAMILTON

Orange Recording have recently been working with **Hand of Glory** and **Wendy House** ... Douglas Ewan is now managing **Bwa Da Riddim** and the **Romantic Andes**. Douglas has also formed a funding consultancy group with Clinton Swan and Mike Clarkin called Hidden Talent ... **Nodrog** is busy recording at the Fridge for a follow-up to his debut tape, released last year ... **Dribbly Cat Attraction** reformed momentarily in December for one gig ... **Armice Pumb Pit** have split, with two members leaving Hamilton ... **5 Girls** and **Inchworm** are touring the North Island in February (dates in *Gig Guide*). Inchworm are also near completion of the NZ On Air funded video for 'Come Out, Come Out, Wherever You Are', from their forthcoming CD ... Contact 89FM are planning the third annual busking competition for Orientation week ... **Blackjack's** new single, a cover of Promises' 'Baby It's You', is out now on Hark Records ... also on Hark, the new **Knightshade** single 'Television Eyes' will be released at the end of January, accompanied with a video by Greg Page ... and again on Hark, the second single off the forthcoming **King Biscuit** album will be released in late January ... Jacqui Keelan Davey is to release her debut single 'Parihaka' on February 17 ... rumour has it **5 Girls** are contemplating a move to Gisborne.

JUSTIN HARRIS

PALMERSTON NORTH

Master Cheese Maker have released a self titled cassette of original songs, available in local shops. The band will perform at the all ages new band night, at the Stomach on Friday February 10, along with other new bands: **Fluid**, **Shoe Shine** and two others yet to be named! **Shoe Shine** features Boris of **Blunt**, Chris McNicholl of the **Ashvins**, and Andrew Coy, ex **Feast Of Stevens**. They seem

to be influenced by the Blues Explosion ... **the Susans** have a new guitarist and have begun performing again with a new, more vibrant sound ... Adam Greenwell is still working on a recording project that began as a compilation of Palmerston North artists nearly two years ago. The original project, *Get Some Vision: A Tribute to Leonardo Da Vinci*, combines "the curiosity and discovery of the Renaissance with modern Kiwi music". The spinoff project, *Individuality By Stealth*, is about "a struggle for and the celebration of uniqueness". Huh? ... speaking of drawn out projects, **Radio Massey 99.4FM** has decided the *Mutant* CD is to be distributed to student and community radio only, and may be followed by a cassette release. Radio Massey puts their full support behind Palmerston North music with a free open air gig to celebrate their new building and studio. The gig is on March 18 (25 if wet) and will feature **Blind Idiot God**, **Foisemaster**, **the Livids**, **Mind Shaft**, **Froit Head**, **the Ashvins**, **Dog Tooth Violet** and **Polly** ... Polly have been touring New Zealand with the Exponents, rapidly increasing their accessibility to the general public. Front man of Polly, Darren Knight was recently quoted on the front page of Palmerston North's *Guardian*, saying: "The average Top 40 listener could cope with us a lot better than say Froit Head." Really? ... people recording at the Stomach lately include **Greg Malcolm** with memebbers of long gone **One Leg Too Short**, **E Haw**, **Wholesale Drainage**, **Zigsaur** and the **Livids** ... **Greg Malcolm** is recording for a release on Braille, which is being funded by the new recording artists scheme grant ... the Stomach is working with the **Foxton Sound Museum** to set up a recording pressing plant using real vinyl. Progress is dependent on the success of funding applications. Fingers crossed ... **Cunt** (aka Claire's Un-Natural Twin) are soon to perform as a three piece, with Frances Krsinich on saxophone, adding a new dimension ... Kate Wilks of the infamous Palmerston North shop **WYRD** is rumoured to be moving her shop and herself to Christchurch ... bands wishing to get DIY releases on sale in Palmerston North should contact **Pretty On the Inside** record and clothing shop at PO Box 1500, Palm Nth ... skater, free-form, noise-core band **Stump Thumper** are proving to be a refreshing addition to the PN music scene. Sadly, Thumper freak brother Mike McKelvey (vocalist/guitarist) is heading for Greymouth to study sound engineering ... several bands have recording sessions planned at the Stomach, including **Squirm** from Christchurch, **Blunt**, **Foisemaster**, **Meat Market**, **Paranymph**, **the Monsters**, **State Of Hate**, **Darren Harkness** and co., and **Tom Adams**.

CLAIRE PANNELL

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