

prevailing mentality of a lot of the regulars there, the people going to gigs there learnt to develop a meat-head, tough boy, bullshit attitude, to be able to feel comfortable being there. Whatever the reason, the staunch, supposedly cool, harder than thou crap is slowly but surely killing live music in New Plymouth.

Over a number of years, the number of people checking out visiting bands (kiwi and international) is going down. The main reason for this appears to be that the rest of the population in New Plymouth with an interest in live music and the pop/rock culture don't want to be, or can't be bothered, going to gigs where a small group of people act out tough boy fantasies. They aren't scared or anything, they are just not interested in being in the same room as tough boy wankers. Craig from **Sticky Filth** told me he noticed that negative feel in New Plymouth, compared to other places, on their recent tour. Rock 'n' roll gigs should be a celebration of energy and inspiration, not a place for seen-it-all-before staunchness.

The same crappy feel was there at the **DOA/No Means No** and **Pungent Stench** gigs in New Plymouth. In the rest of the country their gigs were great fun, but once hitting New Plymouth, the negative bullshit factor took over. How can it change? Should bands play in an alcohol free environment which would result in all age shows the staunch dudes would not be interested in 'cause there would be no piss drinking? That might result in the people with a real interest in live music returning to live shows. It's pretty damned obvious the spoilers I'm talking about here only have this effect at not so high profile gigs (the big, mass appeal bands do okay). Joe Public out numbers the idiots at these shows. But with the newer touring bands and the harder edge bands, this attitude is resulting in

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smaller audiences, and therefore making life even more difficult for these bands to keep themselves afloat. This, in turn, makes it less appealing to come and do shows in New Plymouth, and eventually kills the local live music scene.

I'm sure some of you local New Plymouth people reading this will be saying the bands charge too much to get in and that people in New Plymouth are too broke, or all on the dole. This is bullshit. People in New Plymouth are no richer or poorer than anywhere else, and rock 'n' roll gigs are not the exclusive domain of the unemployed.

When the *Mushroom Ball* happens on May 12 and 13, this negative feeling won't be present as there will be a large number of people from outside New Plymouth, and they will mainly be there to celebrate and enjoy the buzz of a full on rock 'n' roll gig, not to celebrate the staunchness and coolness. Whatever, New Plymouth hardcore sucks. The music can be inspirational, but the tough boy attitude is a total downer.

On to better things, the **Sticky Filth** single 'Def Thru Misadventure' is now out. Expect to see them playing down South in June. ... **Hideously Disfigured** are going to be playing a few North Island towns in the next few months ... a request: New Plymouth does need a decent music orientated radio station all year round (not an advertising selling machine with classic rock) — hot new music as listener bait. All unemployed or disillusioned radio people should move to New Plymouth and set one up ... if you want to play in New Plymouth or comment on any of the above, write to: Ima Hitt Records, PO Box 407, New Plymouth, or phone/fax (06) 758-9988.

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MISCELLANEOUS

● WANTED

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● TAX RETURNS/ REFUNDS

Most entertainers (full and part time) should get large refunds! Do you? Also partnerships, company formations, band agreements, GST etc. Ph: John Allan 534-1932, Entertainment Tax Consultant.

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Midem Asia May 23-25

The first Midem Asia Conference takes place May 23 to 25 in Hong Kong. The event is organised by the Midem Reed organisers of the annual Midem industry conference in Cannes, France. For further info contact Mirko Whitfield in Hong Kong at (852) 824-1069.

Musical Chairs

Darryl Parker is acting General Manager of Festival Records after the resignation of **Stuart Duncan** who is now running the music division of Christian Marketing ... **Dave Jordan** has left BMG to work freelance. He will continue to do special projects for BMG. **George Spence** is now General manager Sales & Marketing. Financial Director **Steve Green** has left BMG to become Chief Financial Officer at MTV Asia in Singapore. The new Financial Director is **Sue Smith**. BMG now has a Video manager **Brent Christie**, ex Manhattan Entertainment and **Megan Chittick** is now Promotions Assistant ... **Sandii Riches** has resigned from Mushroom Records. The Mushroom office will move back to the Festival Records building after being located in the Queen Street Flying Nun office for a year ... **Mark Phillips** is moving from Polygram Auckland to the Sydney Polydor Label & Marketing Manager's. Also in Australia, **Adam Holt** is now National Marketing Manager. Back in NZ, **Kerry George** is now Polydor Label & Marketing Manager and **Nicole Gilbert** has moved from the Heat in Wellington to do promotions/PR at Polygram ... **Jeremy Freeman** has moved from Roadshow to TV3 ... **Nicki Tololei** has left Virgin and is now Polydor Label Assistant at Polygram ... **Yvonne Dudman** has left her Festival PR job to be the music advertising representative at BFM ... former BFM Music Director **Juht Avery** is now Flying In Promotions & Sales Assistant.

Dates & Deadlines

Closing date for the next **NZ On Air Video Grants** is Friday May 12. The meetings take place June 12 & 13. For further info write to NZ On Air, PO Box 9744, Wellington ... the new address for **Hark Records** is PO Box 19360, Hamilton ... **Virgin** have scrapped their Hong Kong megastore due to declining sales and heavy competition in the city. **HMV** open there in July.

NZ ON AIR Music Videos

The acts who have received NZ On Air video grants at the April meeting are:

Chris Knox Half Man Half Mole (Flying Nun)
Colors Stomp (Papa Pacific)
Crash Day At The Fair (Failsafe)
Dave Dobbyn It Dawned On Me (Sony)
Headlong I Want (Papa Pacific)
Jan Hellriegel Geraldine (Warners)
Jungle Fungus Crushed (Roadshow)
Lodger Forever (Wildside)
Matty J Cruisin' (EMI)
Purest Form Lady (Madame X)
Semi Lemon Kola Otherwise (Chronic)
Strawpeople Beautiful Skin (Sony)
Superette Killer Clown (Flying Nun)
Tufnells Pettibone (Sony)

NZ ON AIR Kiwi Hit Disc

The tracks selected for the Kiwi Hit Disc No.14 are:

Chicane Downtime (Failsafe)
Colors Stomp (Papa Pacific)
Cosa Nostra Still Water (Antenna)
Crowded House Pineapple Head
Dave Dobbyn It Dawned On Me (Sony)
Dead Flowers Not Ready (Wildside)
Jacinda Klowens Chardonnay (Papa Pacific)
Jan Hellriegel Geraldine (Warners)
Jungle Fungus Crushed (Roadshow)
LMB Give Me Time (Black Daw)
Malchicks Weatherman (Failsafe)
Matty J Cruisin' (EMI)
Nixons Basement Static (Pagan)
Pumpkinhead Third Eye (Wildside)
Semi Lemon Kola Otherwise (Chronic)
Strawpeople Beautiful Skin (Sony)
Tufnells Pettibone (Sony)

NZ ON AIR Radio Hits Funding

The following NZ artist qualified due to the "significant airplay" achieved, for funding by the NZ On Air Radio Hits Scheme:

D Faction First Cut Is The Deepest (Southside)

inchworm

may

4th Hillcrest Hamilton

12th River Bar Gisborne

18th Mill New Plymouth

19th Bodega Wellington

20th Stomach Palmerston Nth

26th Exchange Hamilton

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