

RUMOURS

AUCKLAND

The Pod **Hatching battle Of The bands** preliminary heats are almost complete, with semi-finals being held throughout September, and the Grand Final taking place on September 30. Check the *Gig Guide* for full details ... Huh! Records, home to **Nathan Haines**, have signed the **OMC**. Their first single for the label, 'How Bizarre', is due out in September. Meanwhile, Haines' debut album *Shift Left* is to be released worldwide on Verve Forecast in November... 'Suffer Never', the first single from **Neil and Tim Finn's** forthcoming album *Finn*, is out next month ... **Nothing At All's** debut album will be released in early October. The current working title is *Get Some* ... the **Exponents** have inked a deal with Warner Music and will release the double A-side single 'Lulu'/'Summer You Never Meant' this month ... former Braintree drummer **Darryn Harkness** has formed a label called Chant Music, to release his solo material. Out now is a limited edition seven inch single, taken from a forthcoming album recorded in Auckland and Palmerston North with Julian Reid (also ex-Braintree) ... **Figure 60** have completed recording eight songs for a forthcoming CD release ... new band in town is **Bloom**, featuring ex-Blue Marble Pip Brophy, and Cameron and Andrew Pollack, formerly of Shrink ... **BPM Records** opens in late September in High Street. The brainchild of Box/Celebre co-owner Simon Grigg, BPM will stock weekly imports of US, UK, Australian and Japanese dance releases ... bands performing at the **1995 Rescue Rock Concert** at the Powerstation on September 23 are: **the Nixons, Hello Sailor, Jungle Tongue, Quiet Earth, Nacho Mama, the Spirals, the Cartoon, Benevolence, the Susans, and the Monsters**. First band is on at 3pm. Tickets are 10 dollars at the door ... new label **Earwig Records** are looking for 'alternative' bands to appear on their CD compilation. See *Small Ads* for details.

JOHN RUSSELL

PALMERSTON NORTH

Spotty Dog will release *Hard Of Hearing 3* on October 1, featuring **Dog Tooth Violet, Paranymp, and Vortex Victims** ... sadly, **Blunt** did their final gig at the Wild Horse Saloon in August with **Ape Management** and

State of Hate ... the New Royal has opened up to more bands for live gigs, again ... the death of **Dog Tooth Violet** is leading to some interesting new developments in the pipeline — stay tuned for more details ... the Palmerston North Visual Arts Collective and the Stomach crew are organising an extravaganza evening, multimedia event, with financial assistance from PN Community Arts Council. Planned for October 21, the night features visual performance, art exhibitions and noise from the likes of **Froth Head** and **Meat Market** ... **Rob Thorne** is currently on his national tour of New Zealand. Look out for his manic one-man show in a town near you ... **Motorsheep** were spotted performing on their front verandah on a sunny (rare event in Palmy) Saturday recently, looking very happy, due to great sales of their recent independently released single, on luscious blue vinyl ... **Greg Malcolm** has finished recordings at the Stomach, to be included on his forthcoming CD album ... **Bruce Russell and Alastair Galbraith** host a music seminar at the Stomach at 2pm on September 15 ... check this out!! So far about 60 bands have recorded at the Stomach this year ... **Full Noise** are soon to release their second cassette EP, this one entitled *Headstoned*, a three track metal outing ... *Rescue Rock* took off at the end of August at the Albert, with many local and out of town bands donating their time to the cause ... any Palmerston North rumours, phone (06) 356-8199 Extension 7780.

CLAIRE PANNEL

NEW PLYMOUTH

New Plymouth — 'where it's happenin'', as the sign outside the Nitespot says ... **Premature Autopsy, Afterbirth** and **Burnt Offering** were happenin' there a few weeks ago. Other happenin' events have been **Figure 60**, at Ima Hitt Record Store, **Shihad** and **Short**, who were really happenin' at the Mill, **The Nixons** also happenin' there — enough of that! To the future ... **A Handful of Dust** play at Ima Hitt Record Store on September 14 at 5pm ... **Sticky Filth** are looking for a new drummer ... the nucleus of **Tension** are planning to reform ... originals nights are starting to work well at the Red Room, despite management problems. The **Nod and Jallal** play September 14 ... The Citadel has had a couple of live events: **Banshee Reel**, who've had two full houses, and **the Pet Rocks**, whose gig is basically a trial to see if the venue is receptive to more ... **Nomeansno** are not playing in New Plymouth

on their tour in November, but **the Porkers** will be at the Mill on September 26 ... **Burundi** is not doing anymore live events, but is still a fine place to eat and drink ... **Tarantula** released their first cassette, and promptly withdrew the 100 copies because of a threat of legal action over its sampling of some MC Hammer song ... **Nefarious** have refueled themselves and are rehearsing again ... **Hideosly Disfigured** and some covers band called **Dehumidifier** played a Friday night gig in the back room of Evo leather shop, after the Okato Tavern pulled the pin on a Hideously Disfigured gig. Must have been some nervous rednecks out there. Another date is being worked on for the same venue ... if you want a gig anywhere in New Plymouth, get in touch. We will find the best deal we can for your band. Phone (06) 758-9988.

IMA HITT LTD.

WELLINGTON

Not really a rumour, more a reality, but it seems everyone in the Capital has fallen ill with something incredibly nasty: sort of like a non-fatal Ebola virus. Non-fatal, sure, but it still knocks ya on ya arse ... speaking of Ebola, well, *Ebola Cola* — that being the name of the new **Lichen Pole** CD, recorded at Word of Mouth — watch out for the release party some time this month ... likewise on the release front, **Breathe** have their CD out and will shortly be heading off for a wander around the North Island ... don't turn your back on the past — it's coming to get you. In this case, in the form of that fantastic beast, the rock opera. The name of the opera is *Moses Sings the Blues*, and it is co-written by **Lemon Spitfire** guitarist Geoff Day. It will be grand-standing around the city in September ... country boy ('feet in LA, mind on Tennessee') **Barry Saunders** will be showcasing songs off his new album *Weatherman* this month ... **Bilge Festival** and **Letterbox Lambs** will be playing together at an Antipodes gig this month ... **Scote** have released their *Straightophile* cassette. Their release party also featured **Monster** and **Late Night Shopping** ... the debut **Short** CD, *Shagpile*, is charming all who go near it. They'll be playing live with the 3Ds when they head north ... **Moeski** are a new band playing this month ... **the Pauas** are all set for another round of live action as we head towards summer ... **Fat Mannequin** have demoed material for their debut album, and are currently finalising a deal with Hamilton label Hark. They begin

recording late September at The Zoo ... **The Oaks Tavern** now has an in-house PA and is open to touring acts. Once renovations are completed, capacity will be 500+ punters For bookings, phone (04) 499-5880.

DONALD REID

CHRISTCHURCH

Hampster are in Europe until November. They have arranged a number of gigs in Britain, Norway, Germany and France, and will also be negotiating with a German jazz label which plans to distribute their material in Europe and the United States ... **The Bats'** first single off their *Couchmaster* album, 'Afternoon in Bed', is due out at the end of October. They also play the *End of Lectures Stein*, on October 13 ... **Squirm** have North Island tour dates with **Loves Ugly Children** in Wellington, Palmerston North, Hamilton and Auckland as part of LUC's national tour to promote their new album ... after initial difficulties, 'Dimension 5' is looking to establish itself properly as a live venue. If you didn't already know, it's opposite Java ... **Chicane** tour the North Island in September ... **Nerve** have released a seven inch single on clear vinyl, featuring 'Captain America' and 'Executive Bathroom Key' ... **Pumpkinhead** made *Newsnight* recently, after the police got concerned about Brent Milligan's supposed attempt to rob a bank with a banana during the filming of the video to their new single ... **I & I** plan a CD release for November ... **Trawler** have just finished recording tracks in the IMD studios in Dunedin ... new on the RDU are recordings from **Golf Course Alligators, Squirm, The Rams** (an offshoot of Sifter), and two projects from Anabell from **Hawaii 5-0**, *Stethoscope* and *Hurricane Bob* ... appearing again recently was **Fence**, featuring Dave (ex-Prodigies), James and Paul Sutherland (Into the Void). Fence have a "distorted yet ambient sound, and like to let the guitars speak for themselves, without human interference" ... **Astralchain** are reforming ... reported on a national student radio was the 'real' reason that **Mick Elborado** (Spacedust) appears on the cover of **King Loser's** new album 'You Cannot Kill What Does Not Live': "At a **Terminals** gig at the Gluepot, Elborado used everything from a piece of 4x2 to his glasses to play organ. He then proceeded to dance across stage with a burning log down his trousers, and tried to set his keyboards alight."

HAT

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SEPTEMBER GIGS

- 1st - Circus Animals
- 2nd - Circus Animals
- 3rd - Circus Animals
- 7th - Hallelujah Picassos
- 8th - FBI
- 14th - Dead Flowers
- 15th - The Heat
- 16th - The Heat
- 21st - Head First
- 22nd - Head First
- 24th - The Porkers