

# *Billy Fury*



**THE SOUND OF FURY**  
Official Billy Fury Fan Club

Number 11

## BILLY FURY HEADS THE PACKAGE

A DISC Exclusive  
by Ray Fox-Cumming

**BILLY FURY**, who recently made a come back in the film "That'll Be The Day," is to headline a major Rock 'n' Roll revival tour which will go out on the road in Britain in February. Other artists on the bill are Marty Wilde, Tommy Bruce, The New Tornados, Heinz and Karl Simmons (see dates for full list of concerts).

Promoter Derek Block told Disc exclusively this week: "The original idea was to do just three or four isolated dates, but the whole thing snowballed. First the film 'That'll Be The Day,' then the BBC's 'History Of Pop' and the Arcade and K. Tel record series have all stimulated interest in the past and now it looks as if the whole tour will be a sell-out.

"It's not all down to the motor bikes brigade, the interest is coming from all those people who are reminiscing and it will be like a flash back to the past since the stars on the bill have changed so little in appearance.

Tickets are already on sale at all venues.

# Billy Fury

Rock  
'n' Roll  
Revival

## Rock and Roll Revival Tour dates

Barrow Civic Hall (February 1); Halifax Civic Theatre (2); Darlington Civic Theatre (3); Lewisham Concert Hall (5); Grays Civic Hall (7); Battersea Town Hall (8); Hemel Hempstead Pavilion (9); Crewe Lancastrian Hall (12); Barking Assembly Hall (14); Chatham Central Hall (15); Leamington Royal Spa (16); York Theatre Royal (17); Wythenshawe Forum Hall (18); Aldershot Prices Hall (20); Ebstree Civic Hall (20); Southend Cliff Pavilion (23); Croydon Fairfield Hall (24).





# **BILLY FURY**

*Always Remembered ....*

## **THE SOUND OF FURY**

**Official Billy Fury Fan Club**

**C/o 36 Manbey Grove Stratford London E15 1EX**

Plump or sylph-like, short or tall  
Mag eleven's for you all

Hello Fury Followers

There were lots of "Billy events" to keep you going throughout the summer. Any we haven't reported on in this mag, we'll cover next time.

Good news about the film of the stage show "The Sound of Fury". Joe Boyle says it's definitely on and shooting should start October'ish.

Apologies to Stormy Tempest. His tribute to Ian Dury somehow missed being printed in the last mag. It's in this one Stormy, unless the gremlins strike again. (*Stormy – no gremlins I've put it in and Mick sends his apologies for omitting it from the last mag – Jean P - Temp Ed.*)

We all send tons of love and best wishes to Mick who has health problems at present. Many thanks to Jean Prosser and her husband Mike for putting the mag together for us this time.

Hope to see loads of you at Mill Hill and at Blackpool in November.

Love and Fury / Maureen

**Maureen Bowden, Jackie Clark, Chris Eley  
Clare Mehmet-Nugent, Jean Prosser**

October 2000



## **THE OFFICIAL BILLY FURY SHOW WITH ALBIE WYCHERLEY**

**Reviewed by Kelly Warner**

When I saw the advert for Albert singing Billy's songs, in a venue close to home, I thought this could be interesting – why not give it a go? An evening of Billy songs can't be bad, whatever the singer.

So I booked two tickets for my mum and I, and about a month later off we went on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> August to the Worcester Park Club, looking forward to the evening but not really knowing what to expect in either the venue or the artist. We had previously asked several people if they knew the Worcester Park Club but were usually given blank looks or were told – yeah, it's a pub.

When we arrived there was a small crowd of people – all around middle age (at 29, I felt like the baby!) queuing to get in. We joined the end of the queue and soon went in. First impressions were favourable as there were flyers on the walls advertising earlier gigs and others for later in the year which all looked interesting. As we ventured further into the building, we saw there was a stall selling Billy memorabilia and apparently anything bought would be signed by Albert and also Billy's mum Jean, who was also there for the evening. We found ourselves seats as near to the stage as possible and soon the first act came on – Colin Paul and The Persuaders who we were told were the foremost band from Manchester. They were primarily an "Elvis" act. The singer had a great voice and did justice to the Elvis songs he did but also to the couple of Billy songs he did. He was a brave man to do this we thought in view of the large number of Billy fans there – many wearing tee-shirts to prove it. This band finished to great cheering and clapping and then after a short break on came whom we had really come to see. If I'd known before I went I would be asked to do a review I would have taken more notice of what Albert sang but I can tell you he went through a repertoire of all Billy's greatest songs. The performance was brilliant! The voice superb and where did he get that head of hair! I imagine from his mum who seemed to be enjoying the evening as much as everybody else. She was very friendly – chatting to everybody and looked wonderful for her age. She was trying to catch Albert's eye to take a photo – she must have been really proud, but we thought too – how sad it must be for her – although she was singing along with all the numbers as was everyone else. Unfortunately, the evening came to an end with what must be the biggest favourite of all – Halfway to Paradise. It was so easy to imagine it was Billy on stage – the voices are so similar. How would Billy have sounded now I wonder? Of course there was an encore. I have to admit that being carried



it was an evening to be remembered and hopefully Albert will sing Billy in many more gigs down south!

## **THE "STARS IN YOUR EYES" EXPERIENCE**

**By Guy Clover**

After Chris's very kind words in This n That Extra (mag no 10) I was asked to write a few words about the whole experience in black and white, for you all, I suppose it all started when I was about four, driving my mum mad by repeatedly asking her to put on records for me (Elvis, Ricky Nelson, Connie Francis and many others). My grandmother's influence of playing Elvis, Joe Brown and R 'n' B, is where my interest in music began. Then, later on, aged about fourteen or so (not as early as I could have done), I bought my first Billy Fury tape: The Billy Fury Hit Parade – KTBC 37-Decca. I remember being surprised that although both my parents could tell me a lot about Billy and my dad had been to Oh Boy and 6-5 Special, neither had any of his records any more! However, thinking about it, I had already been influenced by some of the same artists and styles that Billy represented. I remember, in particular, one person at school, Jason Baker, who was a big fella, constantly bullying and teasing me about my hair (quiff!) and my choice of music. When it was time to leave school, he said to me that he actually admired me for being individual!

Anyway in January this year, having been coerced by my wife, Suzi, and two good friends, Rodney and Tony, I applied to Stars In Their Eyes. With the help of a pal of mine, Nigel (who very kindly worked out the backing track for me), I sent off my application. Having put Exeter and Bristol as my first and second choices for audition venues, I was thrilled to be asked to attend the first audition, but in Manchester!

After the initial shock of being selected for an audition, I set the alarm for 4 O'clock (the O standing for Oh my gosh that's early!). At 5.30 a.m. I boarded the train to Manchester at Truro station, eight hours later I was in Manchester. A quick bite to eat, followed by an equally quick taxi ride and I arrived at Granada Studios. Not realising what I'd let myself in for, we were asked to sit and relax (well not relax, nervously sit) in the reception area, then Sally (one of the researchers) led myself and one other contestant down to the audition. There was probably six or seven of us altogether, waiting to do our bit. Waiting ... waiting ... then my moment came. Now I started to shake with

nervous fear! I was led into a smallish room with a panel of people. After a brief introduction the music started ..... "I found a place full of charms ..."

Within an hour I was back on the train home, with a promise of being contacted either way with the decision. Eight hours later (12.30 a.m.) I was home.

Later the next day, still feeling as if I had only just got home, the phone rang. Thinking it was just another phone call, I answered it. It was actually Anna, a researcher, informing me that I would be required for a second audition that same week! Wow!

This time I was to stay overnight, which made the trip seem not too bad. The hotel was very smart, although I went to bed early as it was quite an early start the next morning.

After a familiar taxi ride, I was back at Granada Studios. This time in the reception area where there were a couple of people assembled for the second round. We were collected and led to another room, a little larger than the one before, and with a few more people as well. This audition was more performance related, which made me feel even worse, as there is no real relevant footage of the 1960 period on video to watch or study. Anyway, seeing a few familiar faces took the edge off a little, although I was now a bag of nerves. The music started .... at about .... 'but I don't care ..... everything's right when she holds me tight!' I got something in my eye. Great! Not only was I trying to remember the words and perform, I was also thinking that I'd totally blown it! .... 'A Wondrous Place' ... The music stopped, I was thanked for coming back, etc, said our goodbyes and Anna led me out. I can remember saying to her, that that was it, blown it, etc. She reassuringly told me that my nerves didn't show!

It felt a long eight hours getting home. The same "We'll contact you either way" filling my every thought. "Oh well never mind." I think it was the Tuesday of the following week at about 6.30 p.m., just preparing supper, the phone rang! Butterflies, etc. "Hello?" ... "Hello, it's Anna." My stomach sank. "Just put me out of my misery." "It's good news, you're on the show! Congratulations!" ... "You're kidding?" or something similar, was my reply, followed by "Yes!" and "Thank you very much!" There was to be quite a long gap now until the show, but there would be the odd costume fitting, etc. At this stage, I would like to say that, during all of this time I was in touch with a group of people, without whom, my preparations for the show would have been impossible. So a huge thank you to Clare M-N, Maureen B, Frank B and Chris and Linda E. With there being no footage of the song, apart from stories of how Billy would do the song with a cigarette in his hand (not allowed to on TV). My performance is based on what they could remember, being lucky enough to have seen him! Frank Bull was very chatty on the phone and couldn't have been more encouraging (Hi Frank, how are you?). Clare was my

first point of contact and with her being so friendly and helpful, it was very easy to be on the phone for ages. So on one occasion, whilst in London, I decided to go and see her. It was pouring with rain, so when I knocked on the door her husband would have seen a drowned rat standing there! Anyway after tea and jam tarts and chats about this, that and the other, it was time to go. Clare is as she is on the phone, very amusing and welcoming. Chris and Linda came down to Cornwall to visit his parents at Easter, and when they said that we should meet up, it was great. Chris had very kindly put together a video to help me with my studies, but the main reason was to show me some moves. Sadly, he was in a great deal of pain with his back, so our plan was not to be. "I will see you do the French Twist yet I hope Chris!" I have found all this genuine help and support very humbling.

Anyway, having asked all the family to come up for the show and only having a few tickets, their plans excluded them from coming. So next I asked Clare if she would like to come, but alas she couldn't. I decided that my wife and mum would be two and the others should be Chris and Linda. They accepted. Meanwhile, the dates were changed, but eventually everybody could work round it.

The Big Night came round as quickly really. We were put up in another very pleasant hotel along with the other performers. It was good to know who I was to be on stage with, we had never actually met. Suffice to say though, they couldn't have been a 'nicer' bunch. No bitching or 'ego's'. They were great! Best wishes to all of them. Anyway with rehearsals over, family and friends arrived for tea prior to going in to be seated. Seeing everybody there made all our nerves come back. Having had no sleep the night before due to 'nerves', I felt very shaky. Fine for Dickie Pride, but not for me! I was still asking Chris for tips, etc. right up until we had to go to our dressing rooms.

Make up ... clothes for chat with Matthew ... chat with Matthew ... He is as he is on stage, slightly zany, but above all a very likeable, genuine man, who made us all feel comfortable. Then the famous words "Tonight ... singing live .. Guy Clover is Billy Fury!" It did feel very odd hearing my name mentioned in the same sentence as Billy's, especially when going back to my dressing room with Billy Fury on a gold star on the door. I know it's only one song, but even so, it actually felt quite strange. Stage make up ... stage costume ... the transformation was done .. "Tonight singing live ..." Smoke ...! The doors opened ... And on! The microphone was set, the lights dimmed ..... the music started. All thoughts before had gone now. "Just do it!" was going through my mind. Because so many people knew, or would know before it was televised from Clare to Billy's mum and Albie, I had really set my self up. No mistakes ... but what do I do on stage? Heart racing ... "Just feel it" ... "I found a place full of charms .... A Wondrous Place!" I'd done it. It was over. I just

hope I didn't let anybody down and that my performance had done Billy justice and Billy's family would think that it was OK. Also all of the SoF readership. Finally just a big thank you to everybody involved. I hope to be at the next gathering at Mill Hill, so perhaps will see some of you there?

Best wishes / Guy

Since this article was written we have been told that Guy will be appearing on "Stars in their Eyes" on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2000. Our advice though, as programmes have a bad habit of changing without warning, is to watch the next series.

"After the show"



L to R Chris Eley, Suzi Clover, Matthew Kelly, Guy Clover,  
Sue (Guy's mum), Linda Shawley

## CROSS MY HEART

By

Maureen Bowden

Over the course of the last seventeen years I've done more radio interviews about Billy than I care to remember. I've also done a TV interview so I'm looking towards the Silver Screen next. Joe Boyle and Bill Kenwright take note. If you need a "walk-on" artiste with a scouse accent who won't make too great a demand on your budget, I'm your girl!

Here are some of my memories of the media.

When I was organising a "Billy Night" in Liverpool, Neil Hiley invited me onto his programme on Greater Manchester Radio to publicise the event and choose my "Billy Top 5". Neil had already earned me a certain notoriety when in a prior interview with Larry Parnes he had told Larry, and thousands of GMR listeners, about the time I sewed a piece of Billy's towel into my bra. (I was a waif-like fourteen year old and there wasn't much else in there at the time. If anyone says "there still isn't" I shall be deeply hurt.) Anyway, I took the opportunity to slap Neil's wrist about that but he mentioned it again during his interview with me, just in case anyone missed it the first time.

The programme went really well and it was a very enjoyable evening. Veronica West and Linda McCaw turned up to offer me moral support and Frankie Connor rang for a chat. He jammed up the phone line for a quarter of an hour before I got a word in edgeways. That's Frankie!

When Veronica, Linda and I left the studio and were making our way home, we spotted Neil grinning at us out of the window of a double-decker bus. We all gave him a wave and a car full of confused, but hopeful, Rasta-men waved back. We fled! Sorry lads but we had a train to catch.

For my TV appearance I was interviewed by Eamon O'Neil outside the Liverpool Empire in a howling gale. He then interviewed me again inside the Empire. I had very long hair at the time and after the effects of the wind and rain I probably looked like "Mad Madge".

The film crew were lovely. They shared their sweets with me and Eamon told me I was "a natural". I didn't ask "a natural what?"

When I did a phone interview with Radio Stoke I had a severe throat infection and I croaked and coughed all the way through it. I sounded like Cleo Laine but not so melodic. Neil Hiley rang me after the show to say he'd heard it. I asked if he could hear me coughing and he said "yes". That wasn't what you were supposed to say, you cad!

Another occasion that springs to mind is the time I did a phone interview during a family reunion at my mum's house. The place was crowded with

aunts, uncles, children and grandchildren so I did the interview on the bedroom phone extension to get away from the rabble. I can't remember which station it was. Pauline Barker may know as the DJ gave her a mention.

Halfway through our conversation my little granddaughter, who was about eighteen months old at the time came trotting in to share her lollipop with me. Have you ever tried to take part in a serious radio interview while a very sticky baby is climbing all over you trying to shove a lollipop into your mouth? There's no business like show business!

## **MONICA REMEMBERS**

### **Personal Memories of Monica O'Bierne**

#### **Interviewed by Maureen Bowden**

It was the late fifties. Billy was appearing in Dublin and he, his group and his road manager Mitch were staying in a boarding house not far from where Monica lived. At this time Monica was a very pretty nineteen year old and being a well brought up young lady she knew little about Billy except that he had a certain notoriety for being "too sexy" on stage.

Monica's mother asked her to take a message to a lady called Mrs O'Toole whose house was in the same road as the house in which Billy was staying. This is where it gets complicated so you'll have to concentrate. Mrs O'Toole lived at number 15; Billy was staying at number 51. When Monica and her friend Pat reached the road it was crowded with girls, mostly a few years younger than Monica, screaming and yelling and generally behaving in a most disgraceful manner. These young reprobates asked Monica and Pat if they were going to see Billy. When Monica expressed bewilderment they told her he'd probably love her because she looked so good. Well, what could she do? She and Pat toddled off to number 51 on the pretext of having misread the number on Mrs O'Toole's message. How devious can you get?

She thinks it was Clem Cattini who answered the door to them but she's not sure. He said "You must be looking for Billy". She said "No I'm not", brandishing the letter for the elusive Mrs O'Toole.

Billy then came to the door. He was wearing grey flannel trousers, a green and grey check shirt and a cowboy hat. He looked gorgeous. Monica whispered to

Pat something along the lines of "He's mine. Hands off or I'll never speak to you again!" She then said to Billy "You're the one they pulled the curtain down on, aren't you?" He told her he'd like her to have better memories of him than that and he asked if he could take her out that evening. Although Monica was nineteen she normally had to be home by 8.30 p.m. On this particular day however, she had an extension because she'd agreed to deliver her mother's message to Mrs O'Toole. After some discussion it was agreed that Monica and Pat would return at 7.30 p.m. and they'd spend the evening with Billy and Mitch, his road manager.

They were back at 7.00 p.m. A lot of the fans were still around so they hid in a hedge and Pat complained about the earwigs. At 7.30 p.m. Billy let them in then they went for a walk down by the canal.

Later that evening when it was getting dark they were standing near a street light and Billy told Monica the light shining around her head looked like a halo. He called her his "little Irish angel". She pulled off his hat and ruffled his hair. They agreed to meet the following day and as a pledge that they'd both turn up Billy lent her his gold locket which he said had been given to him by someone special and Monica lent him a bracelet.

The arrangement for the following day was that the girls should turn up at breakfast time and throw stones at the bedroom window of the boarding house. When they turned up Mitch was already up but he said "Face is still in bed". Monica asked why he called Billy "Face" and he said it was because he was so good looking.

Mitch invited the girls in and the landlady, mistakenly believing that they'd been there all night, accused them of bringing her house into ill-repute. Mitch defended them, telling her she had entirely the wrong idea but she threatened to evict Billy and Mitch. Mitch asked Monica if they could stay at her house. She had to tell them that her father wouldn't let Billy under his roof because he thought he was a "Teddy Boy".

In spite of the fuss caused by the landlady, Monica saw Billy again that night. The tour was then cancelled and she didn't see him again for two years.

These memories have lived with Monica all her life. She's now the mother of a large family but Billy has a special place in her heart. She wanted to call her first born son after him but her lovely husband Joe put his foot down about that so they called him Kieron instead. Never mind Monica, it's a very nice name and I'm sure Billy would have understood.

Incidentally, I wonder if Mrs O'Toole ever received her message!

## **Billy Fury on stage during the 60s**

By Peter Davies

With thanks to Peggy Swarbrick

I recently got passed more information connected to Billy's touring in the 1960s. The lady concerned is Mrs Peggy Swarbrick who has an interesting story to tell of when she lived in Nelson, Lancs and was Billy's landlady.

Peggy went to see Marty Wilde when he was appearing in a Rock and Roll show at Southport in the very late 1950s. Apparently she got talking to Marty on the Theatre car park and said that if the show was in the area and they needed accommodation, they could stay at her house. The stars and musicians took up her offer and they stayed with her on a regular basis over several years. One evening one of Larry Parnes' roadies called Pete Braddock, who was an extremely tall gentleman, knocked on her door. He asked if Billy Fury could stay with her but said that there was one small problem. At this stage Billy bobbed his head round from the back of Pete and said that the problem was Crackers!

Apparently Billy had brought his boxer dog Crackers with him and he wanted Peggy to look after them both. Fortunately Peggy was an animal lover and so Crackers also stayed for lodgings. Whilst talking to Billy, Peggy found out that Crackers had previously belonged to Diana Dors and Denis Hamilton.

One day Crackers was let out into the back garden of the property early in the morning to attend to a call of nature. However being a fit and strong dog it also decided to clear the back fence and head across the open fields to the rear of the house. Fortunately Crackers was also obedient and came back when shouted, but you can imagine the headlines if he hadn't done so! Everyone would have been in the dog house.

Peggy took several photos of the artists who stayed with her over the years including Marty as well as Duffy Power and some of the others including members of the Tornados. She has let me have copies of a couple of the photos of Billy. Obviously Billy on his own in the garden and Billy with Crackers as well as Pete Braddock and Peggy's daughter who is called Elaine. Peggy also had two more daughters, Avril and Collette!

Peggy Swarbrick now lives in South Lancashire close to her daughters and speaks in very high regard of Billy and says that he was a lovely man. She thinks that the photographs were from 1958. She talks with great affection of the times that the boys stayed with her and it is obvious that they became one of her family whilst they stayed there.



As a parting shot Peggy has mentioned to me another roadie called 'Brushes' who looked after Tommy Steele who also stayed with her. Apparently Brushes was a lot older than the usual roadies and at one stage he had been in the Merchant Navy and also The French Foreign Legion – he sounded like a real character. No doubt, some of these roadies have some wonderful stories to tell!

**L to R**  
**Pete Braddock,**  
**Elaine (Peggy's daughter),**  
**Billy (with Crackers)**  
Photo courtesy of P. Swarbrick



## **UK Discography Update**

<b>Title, Format and Track listing</b>	<b>Label and Cat. No</b>	<b>Release-Date</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
1960 Still Rockin' The Rock n Roll Era 'That's Love' – CD	Time Life TL 516/19	1993	No pic of Billy
1964 The Rock 'n' Roll Era – 'It's Only Make Be- lieve' 'I Will' – CD	Time Life TL 516/12	1992	No pic of Billy
Beach Party – The Rock Roll Era – 'In Summer' – CD	Time Life TL 516/27	1992	No pic of Billy
Rave on – The Rock 'N' Roll Era – 'Wondrous Place' – CD	Time Life TL 516/29	1992	1963 version
Cruisin' – The Rock 'n' Roll Era – 'Somebody Else's Girl' – CD	Time life TL 516/28	1992	No pic of Billy
That'll be the Day (Film Soundtrack) – Double Cassette Tracks as per LP and CD	Ronco 4C/MR 2002/2003	1973	Hard to find
Summer in the 60s CD – 'Its Only Make Believe' (Decca version)	Marks and Spencer (In store CD) MS 4920	2000	Says stereo – bit naughty really because it's ob- viously not all stereo! Including Billy.

Title, Format and Track listing	Label and Cat. No	Release Date	Remarks
The Best TV ADS ... Ever Double CD 'Wondrous Place' (1960 version)	Virgin VTD- CDX 306 7243 8 4942021	May / June 2000	Decca original – a bit naughty claiming it to be from the TV ad!
The Story of Rock n Roll – CD 'Colette' and 'Wondrous Place' – K Tel	K Tel QVC TV ECD 3560	2000	8 CD set Mostly re-cuts (Thanks to Mick Bessant)
The Sound of Fury Double CD and Limited Edition '10' vinyl re-issue CD1– That's Love ,My Advice, Phone Call, You Don't Know, Turn My Back On You, Don't Say It's Over, Since You've Been Gone, It's You I Need, Alright, Goodbye, Don't Leave Me This Way. CD 2 – As CD 1 only stereo (apart from Turn My Back On You) plus Maybe Tomorrow (stereo) My Christmas Prayer I Got Someone, Open Your Arms, Don't Jump, Magic Eyes, Sleepless Nights, Please Don't Go, If I Lose You, I Love How You Love Me. Album tracks as per CD 1.	Decca 844 990-2 (CD) LF 1329 (LP)	July 24 2000	40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary re- lease – should have been late May/early June. Released with collaboration between Universal and Sound of Fury. LP has b/w insert extracted from CD booklet. Original artwork. Small picture – head and shoulders on CD discs.  Vinyl album – N.B. Ensure the insert is in your copy of the album before you leave the store.

## THIS 'N' THAT

with Chris Eley

Linda and I had a wonderful time as guests of Guy and Suzi Clover on 'Stars in Their Eyes'. To actually set foot in the Granada Studios where Billy would have appeared so often!! The atmosphere was electric when Guy, resplendent in gold suit, took to the stage. People all around us were really impressed and all the artists and their families were friendly. The suit was not strictly authentic (wardrobe decide what's what) but it looked the business! Matthew Kelly is zany, but very professional, as were the acts. It was a – rare and special privilege and something we will always treasure – thanks Guy.

As I write (having received a deadline from our very own temporary editor Jean P.), the Sound of Fury CD and LP is due out tomorrow. It looks great and the album is a limited edition, so get a copy while you can. It's being heavily promoted by Universal. Decca was right in wanting the original cover artwork for the Sound of Fury re-issue – it looks stunning. So nice to see the original in CD format in the shops. The CD is set for a 3 year UK only run, according to an internal sheet, but who knows. I'm told the Anthology has shipped 20,000 units (official Decca figures), but of course some copies still languish in stores, so sales of about 15,000 may be estimated I guess.

I am not so much an exhibitionist Mo!, it's just that when you love music but don't have any talent what else can you do but let it out the only way you know, on the dance floor. I did once try, influenced by Billy, to get into the business – failed miserably (see the photo at the end of this article – and weep! – like I do for my hair!).

A big thank you is due to Paul Pierot and Hal Carter for helping me out with the latest CD, once again it was a tight deadline to meet, and still it ran over, but without their contributions it would not have had the necessary authenticity. I was really worried about letting Billy down, because it's such a classic album. A big thank you to Universal Decca as well. We take releases for granted, but in an 'older' market of limited returns, we should be grateful to anyone who puts Billy material out.

Our old mate Mick Hill is unwell and taking a break from 'Rock You Sinners' and S.O.F. – we wish you well Mick – thank you for your hard graft (and skill as editor) and look forward to your return, should you choose to do so. Get well me old mate!

Worth checking out in the World of CD releases: The Searchers – The Pye Anthology, double budget price CD, Sequel NEECD 381. This band was second only to The Beatles, and at the time, much preferred by me (and I suspect the Phantom Typist!) (*No other band even comes close as you'll witness if you catch one of their shows in this the 21<sup>st</sup> century/Phantom Typist*).

Highly influential, most especially to the West Coast bands in the States, this is a testament to their ability. True, they could be very average on some cover versions, 'Stand By Me' etc. but the stuff here constitutes their finest hour. I was particularly taken with 'I Pretend I'm With You' and 'I'll Be Missing You' (in addition to the more well known tracks) such as the brilliant 'Needles and Pins', 'When You Walk in the Room' (definitive version) and 'Sweets for my Sweet' (also the definitive version).

Three fine Elvis releases, firstly the 3CD set 'That's the Way It Is' (only £24.00 or less in some stores). Probably the best performances from the 1970s, many not officially released before. 'The Country Side of Elvis' is a neat Aussie import, 25 'Country' Tracks and some good liner notes. Some tracks are not Country and I could have done without 'Fairytale', but it's a nice package, especially the front cover shot lifted from the start of 'Tickle Me' (Elvis, complete with cowboy hat and guitar, getting off the Greyhound Bus).

The real gem, a must for any lovers of Elvis music is the mail order only 'Long Lonely Highway', Nashville 1960-1969, 74321 76749-2, the latest in the Follow That Dream Collector Series. Mostly alternative versions, 'Too Much Monkey Business' and the slow version of 'Stay Away' are quite wonderful. This should be an official release.

Nice to hear Joe Brown on his Radio 2 evening Rock n Roll programme reminiscing about Billy and The Sound of Fury, also 'I'd Never Find Another You' played by Brian Matthew on Saturday Club. Billy loved r'n'b. He would cover the Clover/Ray Charles 'One Mint Julip', and sometimes open with Ray Charles 'The Night Time is the Right Time'. He also, for my money, actually improved on Ray Charles 'Hard times'. 'Baby What You Want Me To Do', the B side of 'Make Believe' was handled beautifully by Billy and the writer, bluesman Jimmy Reed, attempted the song again in 1966, 'Tell Me What You Want Me To Do'. This is a great stereo re-treatment, and it's joined by 'Big Boss Man' and yet another version of 'Baby', called 'Peepin' and Hiding'. I also like the more uptempo 'Two Ways to Skin a Cat' (sorry Lesley!). CD, Jimmy Reed The New Jimmy Reed Album/Soulin' See for Miles SEECD 468 (1997). Still prefer Billy's version!

It's unfortunate that the Allendale Hotel (home of the Bronze) R & R weekend clashes with the Carousel do in November. One thing for sure, there won't be a Billy Fury rarity or CD left in the shops come Monday!

Highly recommended for those of you not rooted solely (musically) in the 50s and 60s, a new CD by the King 'Return to Splendour' EMI 7243 5259862-5. Of particular note are 'The House is Rockin' and Roy Orbison's 'You Got It' (tongue in cheek but good). Someone should sing 'contemporary' songs in the 'Fury Style', a bit like Gavin Stanley's rather nice 'April Fools Day' (thanks Roy!).

Just arrived, a CD no-one can afford to be without, 'Rock n Roll Memories' – Eddie Cochran and Gene Vincent, Rockstar RSRCD 018. We all obviously wish that Billy was on CD from both Saturday Club and Boy Meets Girl, but this has been blocked for release for years. We can hope, and try to influence its eventual release (before we're too old)!

Anyway, this CD is brilliant in all respects. The live tracks by Gene and Eddie have been beautifully re-mastered and presented. What truly great talents these guys were and the Wildcats and others like Joe Brown who provide the backing are no slouches either.

The liner notes by Steve Aynsley (a nice and knowledgeable guy I once met at a hotel in London where Navel Felts was also staying) and Roger Nunn (also a RnR/Gene Vincent aficionado from way back) are excellent. There are four pictures featuring Billy, all of which I've seen before, but it's especially nice to see the shot of Billy, in a room with Sharon Sheeley, Eddie and Eddie's guitar! (Or is it Billy's?)

Gene and Eddie are superb live, just like Billy, they could reproduce live what their recordings delivered, Eddie perhaps more than Gene, but the latter's voice has just got to be one of the most beautiful and poignant in the history of recorded music. Though what a perfect pairing Eddie and Billy would have made! Rock n Roll does not get any better than this, the bluesy version of 'Milkcow Blues', complete with Coasters 'I'm a Hog for you Baby' guitar riff, is streets ahead of Elvis and 'Sweet Little 16' chops even Chuck Berry into the shade. How I envy those of you who saw any part of that 1960 Tour, you saw the finest show on earth, Eddie, Gene and Billy. There are some kind words about Billy too, referring to his 'stunning and very sensual performance'.

Also included are two interviews, the Monty Lister interview with Billy (among others) at the Liverpool Empire, and Monty Lister with Spencer Leigh (a discussion based on the early interviews and mentioning Billy). Pick up a copy folks, an essential slice of Rock n Roll (in its purest sense), history.

I must say a big thank you to Alan and Jan French, also Sylvia Cowleard for the warmth and hospitality afforded to Linda and myself when we visited Radio St Helier recently. I apologise for ending up in Kent instead of Surrey!, being 50 minutes late and subsequently having no rehearsal. Also for the mistake I made which ardent fans may notice, we were all under real pressure folks, due to my car going right instead of left! Enjoyed it immensely though.

A big thanks is due to Fan Club member Roy Harvey for flogging up to my pad from Kent, just to pick up the raffle prizes etc. for the Krys gig. Thanks for your effort Roy, and for representing the six of us at Dartford. Thanks in advance to the Krys band and also Paul Shed for organising the event, which I am told is in support of the Bronze Fund.

Disappointing to discover that Billy didn't write the hauntingly beautiful 'In

My Room' after all. It was actually Jimmy Campbell from his 1971 Album 'Half Baked'. The information on Rough Diamond and Pure Gems CD would seem to be wrong. It seems that I was wrong in assuming that the tracks on the magnagraph acetate were from the same Radio Luxembourg show, it seems they were from several shows. (Thanks George)

The contents of my This n That column are my own personal views which are not necessarily shared by the other syndicate members.



## **THE DEREK LOWE TRIO**

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Chris Eley (Vocals and Hips!)  
Johnny Wood (Rhythm)**

**C. 1963**

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## IN MEMORY OF IAN DURY

### **Personal Memories of Stormy Tempest**

Born in Upminster, Essex in 1942, his father was a bus driver and his mother a health visitor. He contracted polio whilst on holiday with his grandparents, aged seven, and spent many years in special disabled schools away from his parents.

He became a teacher at the Cantabury School of Art until the day his idol, Gene Vincent, died and he left to become a rock 'n' roll singer.

Ian was a big fan of Billy's and he told me that Billy tried to talk him into buying a farm for relaxation purposes and was only too pleased to present Billy's Omnibus programme.

Ian Dury passed away at 9 a.m. at home with his family on the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2000, he had been diagnosed with liver cancer about two year's before.

Underneath his fierce, brash exterior was a very sensitive and gentle man. Our love goes out to his wife Sophy and their young children, Billy and Albert.

To be an original in the music industry today is almost impossible; to be original and brilliant (not to mention disabled) has never been heard of before. God bless my pal.

Love Stormy

## WANTED

**BOB WILKINSON** of 12 Pendine Crescent North Hykeham Lincoln LN6 8UR wants any Billy Fury Concert Programmes from 1960 to 1963.

**DI & ANN VICKERS**, 260 Station Road Bagworth Leics LE67 1BN wants video footage of Billy (not his films or Omnibus documentary as they have those). They would willing meet any expenses incurred.

**MRS M TAYLOR** 12 Purcell Walk Innscourt Bristol BS4 1XT wants any Billy Fury music on video, including live recordings (e.g. Unforgettable). She already has his films.

**JIMMY CORKIN** 22 Annandale Crescent Crosshouse Kilmarnock Ayrshire KA2 0EP wants the following singles. Mr Christmas Prayer F11102. All the Way to the USA (R5819). Why are you Leaving (R5845) Paradise Alley (R5874). Will the Real Man, etc (FY301). Jealousy (reissue F13767). Long Live Rock EP (MREP001). Also 10" Stuart Coleman Interview disc and any other foreign releases by Billy plus photos/postcard photos of Billy.

## PENFRIENDS

**MRS CAROL HANDLEY** of 70 Collins Road Wednesbury West Midlands WS10 0RZ is 56, 5' 1" tall, widowed with one son. She has rheumatoid arthritis now which has stopped her dancing, something that she really loved to do. Although it's painful she doesn't let it keep her in. She doesn't smoke or drink but enjoys eating out at a local pub or restaurant with her friend. She likes sixties music (of course), enjoys going to concerts and the theatre, reading, gardening and her home. She's looking for a penfriend of a similar age and interests.

**MARC WELLENS** Clementinastraat 86 B-2018 Antwerpen Belfium is 29, single and would like to correspond with other Billy Fury fans to improve his English. His interests are music (50s and 60s especially Fury, Presley and Meek) and also the international language Esperanto.

## FOR SALE

A black "silk effect" zip jacket (100% nylon). Size 41" chest approx. On the back of the jacket in gold is "The Legend Lives On" and "Billy Fury" in red. On the left front "Rock 'n' Roll" has been embroidered in gold. Offers in excess of £50 please. If you are interested in buying this, please write to Clare at the Sound of Fury. Remember to enclose that all important stamped, addressed envelope please.

## DOCTOR MARIGOLD'S PRESCRIPTION

In issue no 10 we printed an article by fan club member Peter Davies on Billy Fury on Stage during the Sixties. Alan French, a member of Doctor Marigold's Prescription read the article and has written to us as follows.

"I hope you are well. I read your article in mag no 10 "Billy Fury on Stage in the 60's". I must correct a couple of points.

Ellen Worthington says she remembers Dr Marigold's and Billy having a real falling out session over some instruments or equipment. This was not the case. What did happen was Billy asked us to look after his PA system as he had nowhere to store it at that time. As we had no contact number or address for Billy, we waited for instructions. Bill Friend returned the PA system to Judith's parents house in Crouch End, Hornsey London. We went into the house. There was never a serious difference between Billy and ourselves, in fact we never had a cross word.

As for the title song "Pictures of Life" on the album, I never knew Fred wrote this song for Ellen until she told me of this during a telephone conversation I had with her in 1999 (30 years after the event). I have no reason to doubt her word.

To me, it reads as if Dr Marigold's had a row with Billy; we were always on good terms.

I have formed a group (no name yet). We are all very good friends and play for fun, if it did lead to anything that would be nice.

Kind regards / Alan"

*Thanks for writing, Alan. We are happy to put the record straight.*



## WEB SITES

We know of two very good Billy Fury web sites. If any of you find any others please let us know and we can publish them.

[www.billyfury.co.uk](http://www.billyfury.co.uk) & <http://www.nic.fin/~nallew/fury.html>

## Mill Hill Reunions

The dates for the next Mill Hill reunions are:

28<sup>th</sup> January 2001, 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2001 and 7<sup>th</sup> October 2001

## Jottings from the Diary of a Billy Fury Fan

Roy Harvey remembers Billy Live in 1974

Cost	Date	Venue
Tickets £1.20	5 <sup>th</sup> February 1974	Lewisham Concert Hall

Billy back on stage. Only the second time I'd seen him. Would it be like back in the 60s, after being so ill and then his semi-retirement?

The New Tornados opened the show with two Little Richard songs 'Tutti Frutti' and 'Lucille'. Gravel voiced Tommy Bruce varied but entertaining with 'Chantilly Lace', 'Shaking All Over', 'Blueberry Hill', 'Ain't Misbehavin'', 'Always', and 'You Must Have Been a Beautiful Baby'. Up popped the New Tornados again with a couple of numbers including 'Sugartime'.

A grand piano was on the stage. Heinz made his entrance from behind the audience and at one point during the act he was actually rocking on top of the piano! Songs included 'C'mon Everybody', '20 Flight Rock', 'Just Like Eddie', 'Hound Dog', 'Blue Suede Shoes', 'Summertime Blues'.

Marty Wilde sat on a stool and reminisced about 1957, sang a few of his hits and introduced us to his family. The audience greatly applauded his act, the highlight of which was 'I've Gotta Woman'.

Carl Simmons played the piano and sang pure Jerry Lee Lewis rock and roll and Elvis Presley's 'Jailhouse Rock'. Then it was time for Billy. But no! The New Tornados came on again with 'I Saw Her Standing There' and 'It'll Be

Me'. Where was Billy? Had he turned up? Was he sick? Worry not, for through the curtains he came, dressed in a blue silk draped suit with fashionable 70s type platform shoes, longer hair than in the 60s. I wondered if the voice was still there? Yes, yes, yes, 'Sticks and Stones', fast and loud. Just like Billy of old.

Now we can all hear this performance on CD – 'In Thoughts of You', 'A Wondrous Place', 'That's All Right Mama', 'Halfway To Paradise', 'Like I've Never Been Gone' and 'Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow'.

There are only eight songs because Billy was not allowed to finish the act. During the performance Billy was constantly heckled and shouted at by a bunch of Teddy Boys. You can hear this on the recording, especially when Billy is speaking. While Billy was singing his ninth song a rocker brought some bully boys to the front of the stage, they threatened Billy, but he carried on singing in between telling them to stop spoiling the show for everyone else. They overpowered the security men, grabbed a side curtain and jumped onto the stage. Billy ran to the back of the stage followed by the Teds. Down came the curtain, end of show. Next evening watching local London news on Bill Grundy's TV show Marty Wilde was being interviewed regarding an incident at the show. Evidently the Teds had got to Billy and he ended up in hospital.

On reflection incidents like this did not help Billy's confidence. The recording of the show proves Billy could deliver. I saw the show again at Chatham on 25<sup>th</sup> May and again Billy was fantastic. Unfortunately it was the last time I saw him live.

#### Some venues and dates of Rock and Roll 1974

Civic Hall, Barrow	1 <sup>st</sup> Feb	7.30	
Civic Theatre, Darlington	3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	8.00	
Concert Hall, Lewisham	5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	7.30	
Pavilion, Hemel Hempstead	9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	8.00	
Crewe Theatre, Crewe	11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	7.30	
Spa Centre, Leamington Spa	16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	7.45	
Theatre Royal, York	17 <sup>th</sup> Feb	7.30	
Forum Hall, Wythenshawe	18 <sup>th</sup> Feb	7.30	
Civic Hall, Borehamwood	21 <sup>st</sup> Feb	7.30	
Cliffs Pavilion, Southend	23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	8.00	
Fairfield Hall, Croydon	24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	7.30	
Central Hall, Chatham	25 <sup>th</sup> May	8.00	£1.25

Also Aldershot where Billy collapsed and was taken to the Cambridge Military Hospital.

Picture from 1974 Tour Programme



Billy's career has been studded with success. After 29 hit records, including *Half Way To Paradise*, *Jealousy*, *I Will, Only Make Believe*, and *Like I've Never Been Gone*, Billy has emerged as a major attraction at the top cabaret venues throughout the country.

During December 1972, Billy underwent a major heart operation, which was a complete success. For a number of years Billy had been having recurring bouts of illness, but since the operation has felt on top of the World. Since completing his convalescing on the sun soaked beaches of Jamaica, Billy has

worked non stop throughout the length and breadth of Great Britain.

One of Billy's favourite hobbies is Ornithology and much of his free time is spent watching and photographing Britain's wild-birds. This hobby should soon see a handsome financial return, as Billy intends publishing the photographs in a book entitled 'A Mixed Bag of Birds'.

May 1973, saw the successful release of Billy's third film *That'll Be The Day*. The film received great reviews and the album of the soundtrack reached No. 1 in the national charts, being the biggest selling double album to be released in this country. During November 1973, Billy successfully negotiated a new recording agreement, the new company being Warner Reprise. Future records will be produced by ex Shadow Tony Meehan, a close friend and fan of Billy's.

**BILLY  
FURY**

## **The Official Billy Fury Show – Worcester Park 4 August 2000**

A review by Chris Eley

‘And the joint was rockin! going round and round’.

It was with some trepidation that Linda and I drove up to the Surrey venue. It’s one thing performing in and around the North West where reputations have already been built up, but would Colin Paul and the Persuaders and Albie Wycherley manage to cut it down South, despite the well-deserved accolades afforded to Colin up North. We didn’t know that Albie had already been gigging around the South in the 60s and 70s. As it turned out, we needn’t have worried anyway.

‘And the joint was packed’ – Elvis and Billy fans, familiar faces from Mill Hill gatherings to Birmingham lined the club, buying merchandise and talking to Billy’s mum Jean. Outside Albie, Colin and Paul Atwell (the drummer) chatted to fans and it was great to talk to Colin about his trip to Memphis and New Orleans.

8.45 p.m. and the Persuaders were on stage, Colin in white pants and a shiny greenish shirt, the show kicking off to a great start, ‘I Need Your Love Tonight’. ‘Treat Me Nice’ was followed by a cracking version of ‘Little Sister’ and then it was Billy’s turn to be showcased with ‘Don’t Knock Upon My Door’. The band does this well and Colin now incorporates some of the moves from the famous ‘Oh Boy’ clip – great stuff!

The atmosphere and the level of applause left no doubt but that all present were having a ball, particularly the inevitable ‘Rockabillies’ who danced alone in front of the stage, and some couples who couldn’t resist the beat. ‘Stuck On You’, ‘Heartbreak Hotel’ (complete with female audience participation!) and then a tremendous version of ‘Promised Land’, Elvis 70s style. The band was really cooking and the sound balance was superb, something unfortunately not always achievable at other venues, this really is the way to hear this highly professional band. ‘Break Up’ (my favourite by the band) complete with Orion style vocal, a powerful ‘Good Rockin’ Tonight’ and ‘Nothin’ Shakin’, kept the momentum going. To attempt a song like ‘Hurt’ a singer really needs a ‘voice’ and Colin, as Albie said later in the show, has one to die for. This Timi Yuro/Roy Hamilton/Elvis classic was beautifully and powerfully delivered (I love the P.J. Proby touch part way through, perhaps unintentional but I think not!).

Colin really should try a P.J. Proby set, especially ‘Watch Me Walk Away’ and ‘Good Things Are Coming My Way’. ‘Suspicious Minds’, was followed by a terrific ‘Burning Love’, then ‘20 Flight Rock’, the ‘Wonder of You’ and climaxing with ‘American Trilogy’. Paul Atwell’s drumming on the finale fascinated the audience, just as some of the earlier guitar solos and the quality

of Colin's voice had done. No jumpsuits or gimmicks are needed here, quite frankly this band is the business! The audience were left wanting more.

The Persuaders opened the second half with a rockin' little number and then, to the strains of 'Someday', Albie Wycherley was on stage. Clad in black and in fine form, the opening number was well performed and well received. A string of Billy's hits followed, all well handled and with the band providing their customary excellent backing. 'Like I've Never Been Gone', 'Last Night Was Made For Love', 'Maybe Tomorrow', interspersed with humour and reference to Billy. 'When Will I Say I Love You', 'That's Love' (with Colin on backing vocals), 'A Thousand Stars' and 'I Will'.

Sadly no 'Cross My Heart' which Albie always does well, but the atmosphere created by Colin and the Boys in the first half was maintained and by now the floor area in front of the stage and the steps area leading down, was packed with fans, singing along and applauding loudly. "Our Kid used to do some Elvis songs" – then straight into a surprise version of 'A Mess of Blues' (selected for Albie by Colin) that left us open mouthed. There was an air of dignity about this particular performance, which must be remarked upon. This number, delivered in especially fine style, seems to suit the timbre of Albie's voice perfectly and was the highlight of the set. 'Wondrous Place' complete with bubbles (from the TV ad.) led into the more bluesy '63 version of the number, which was very well received, and then to 'I'd Never Find Another You' and 'Once Upon a Dream'. 'My Babe' (shades of Billy '82 style here), 'In Thoughts of You' was dedicated to Jean (her favourite Billy number) and after a mention of the famous '10' album; a nice version of 'You Don't Know'. 'That's Alright Mama' (1982 style) followed with a reference to 'Our Kid on stage' and then it was time to announce 'Billy Fury's Anthem – 'Halfway To Paradise'. Brought back on for an encore the show was rounded off with 'It's Only Make Believe', leaving the punters happy.

It was a great night for Elvis and Billy fans and was very well received, which in truth, given the nature of the performances, it should have been. Both Colin and Albie promised to come back down again and you know, what's the betting that it's full again when they do. A special thanks is due to Colin and the band for donating more CDs for sale in aid of the Bronze Fund. Thanks lads. This excellent band must all be given credit for their excellent musicianship: Lead Guitar – Jeff Morgan, Bass – Martin Davies, Keyboards – Dave Lee, Drums and Percussion – Paul Atwell (formerly with Eddison Lighthouse).

#### Footnote: Tribute Acts

There will never be anyone to match Billy's combination of stage presence,



looks, and distinctive voice, he was a one off, as was Elvis, Gene Vincent, Little Richard and a few others. Many readers I know, cannot abide tribute acts at all, but I would say this. In addition to the three excellent stage productions, the plays if you like, I remember Paul Neon whipping up the atmosphere at the Penny Lane Festival, giving it life, and helping with the BBC documentary. Women crying at a performance by Colin Gold and the BFE at Southsea Theatre (Phantom Typist/*I was one of them, when the band play 'Forget Him' it's awesome, I was not at Southsea though!*), and the dignified, sincere and fine performances by Brian Lee at Bognor and the Palladium, especially the former where we heard 'Stand By Me' before the curtains opened (a lovely surprise). I haven't seen Johnny Red, or the Krys, although every gig they do brings in a cheque for the Bronze Fund, and that speaks for itself in terms of dedication and respect.

When you add to all this, the sort of truly excellent show I have just reviewed, no, it's not Billy, but without all the efforts of these talented people Billy's profile would not today, be so high as it is. For many years now thousands and thousands of people have, for 50 minutes, perhaps a couple of hours, been taken back to their youth and memories of a performer who was such a big part, an integral part, of our lives.

I personally wish to thank every act I've witnessed so far, for taking me out of this humdrum existence, and back to the 60s, and for your courtesy also. If I, for instance, could sing even half as well as these tribute acts I would be up there on stage too, believe me! (Not a pretty sight it's true!) Without this music our lives would be so much the poorer.



# BILLY FURY

the  
sound  
of **FURY**

**40th  
ANNIVERSARY  
ISSUE**



RELEASE DATE: 17TH July 2000



This year is the 40th anniversary of the birth of one of Britain's most important and best-loved singers. Billy Fury, born in Liverpool on April 1941, was England's best and performer of the pre-Beatles era and a talented songwriter who had a controversial and captivating stage presence that took its influence from Elvis Presley.

June 2001 also marks the 40th anniversary of the release of Billy's classic album *The Sound Of Fury*.

Admired by critics and fans alike (from John Lennon to Morrissey) his music is still highly regarded today, hence the recent *Twentieth* TV advert using his haunting song 'Wonderous Place'.

His range takes in a myriad of styles - from r'n'b to rockabilly through country, pop, romantic ballads and of course, epic rock'n'roll.



The album will feature in Mojo magazine's book of the best albums of all time, to be published in the autumn.

Released on limited edition 19" vinyl to replicate its original 1960 release.

A double CD set: Disc One features the original 10-track mono album while Disc Two contains the stereo version of the original album, except for 'Turn My Back On You' which is not available in a stereo version, with ten extra tracks including 4 b-sides that were not included on the recent *Anthology*.



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## THE BILLY FURY BRONZE FUND

By Jean Prosser

In an earlier mag I told you all that Tom Murphy was going to start work on the full size clay sculpture even though we did not have enough money to pay for it. I'm now delighted to inform you that at the beginning of August I sent a cheque to Tom for the balance outstanding.

Tom has informed us that work on the clay sculpture is progressing well and it should be ready for inspection by a Sound of Fury representative by the end of August/September. Once the Sculpture is finished and passed by us, Tom will then make a mould to protect the image. We also hope to be able to generate some publicity to help with fund raising.

So far, we have paid just under £5,000 for the original maquette; the full size clay sculpture has cost us £15,275. We now need to raise £16,000 approximately for the bronze casting and a final amount (not yet known) for the base of the sculptor. The Billy Fury Bronze Fund bank account is obviously almost empty now.

Tom has, however, again agreed to take a chance and start work on the bronze casting if we can raise around £9,000 with the balance to follow and we would all like to thank Tom for the trust that he has shown in us; and his generosity and understanding.

Again I am delighted to thank everyone who has sent in donations and all of you who have supported our efforts to raise funds for the Bronze Fund.

Copies of the original maquette are for sale priced at £1028.00 plus a minimum donation of £250 to the Billy Fury Bronze Fund. If you are interested in buying one please contact the Sound of Fury.



## MILL HILL CEMETERY

Sadly we have to tell you that some graves and a Dutch war memorial at Mill Hill cemetery have been targeted by thieves recently. According to a newspaper article in the Evening Standard they stole loose items from graves, as well as flowers and bushes. The article then goes on to say that the council said it was going to employ a full-time security guard to patrol the site and that Scotland Yard were due to charge a man in connection with the thefts.

Clare first informed us about this recently when she read the article in the Evening Standard. Billy's grave didn't suffer too much and our thanks go to Clare and Dennis Chappell who went up there as soon as they could. As Clare is still recovering from her back operation, she wasn't able to do too much but helped by Dennis they managed to clear up broken glass and other debris. Dennis tidied the grave and left fresh flowers and plants there.

## Gonna' Type a Letter

\* I would like to thank you and everyone else involved in running the club, I just wish I'd joined years ago. I have been a fan of Billy's since I first became interested in music at the age of ten in 1974. I have also been a fan of Ian Dury since 1978 and I remember in an interview in 1979, Ian saying how big a fan of Billy's he was and he would like to make an album with the title "Songs by Ian Dury sung by Billy Fury". I can't imagine Billy singing "Rhythm Stick" but I would have loved to hear Billy covering "Sweet Gene Vincent". Also, Billy is one of the Jewels in the Crown of England's glory according to the song "England's Glory" written in 1976 by Ian. It was covered by none other than Max Wall in 1978 and put out as a single by Stiff Records. It made no impact chart wise which is hardly surprising but I have both versions in my collection.

.....Perry Luff

*That album sounds like the collector's item that never was Perry. There's a nice tribute to Ian from Stormy Tempest elsewhere in the mag. .... Maureen*

\* Just a line to say how much I enjoyed the "Billy Night" at the Montrose. I was given Albie's number when I rang about tickets and he said he'd get me three but I'd have to pick them up in Liverpool. I drove over and met him for the first time. He made us very welcome. Billy's mum came round and it was

very nice for me to be talking to Billy's mum and brother. I found them very nice people. I even played the guitar at Albie's. I bought Albie's CD and I like the track "Helpless". I was pleased the show was a sell out.

During a weekend in Blackpool we bought two Billy CDs in the market and the trader said "We're selling a lot of this guy at the moment" which was very nice. It was nice to meet you in Liverpool and I think you're doing a fine job with the fan club. .... **Johnny B Goode**

*Thanks very much Johnny. It was lovely meeting you too. I hope I can catch your act sometime (Johnny's a singer) .... Maureen*

\*The following is an extract from two letters from Linda Gehres who's been blind from birth and is a bit of a wizard with new technology. Linda lives in Ohio – Maureen.

\* My desire to learn more about Billy, the man and his music, was one of the reasons my family invested in a computer and accompanying software for me. At that time they knew nothing about computers but they recognised that having a computer, scanner and appropriate software would open many new horizons for me and indeed it has.

My mom heard of a web site called [www.listen.com](http://www.listen.com), with Billy's music on it. She plans to show it to me.

I received a tape from Chris of a radio show he did. Great show and wonderful selections! Not the songs one would expect (greatest hits). Chris mentioned also that perhaps a box set of CD's could be released. Wow! And "The Sound of Fury" LP on CD! I'm sure I'll be ordering that from some place like Amazon.com when it does come out! .... **Linda Gehres**

*It's good to hear Billy has reached the United States, Linda. See elsewhere in the mag for details of "The Sound of Fury" CD.*

\* I've just received my copies of the Sound of Fury CD and 10" LP. It was great to see that Decca used your talents again in the sleeve note writing. I told you that the Anthology notes were brilliant and it is so good that they have involved you again.

This album is my all time favourite and your background notes, together with the pictorial content, make it a very worthwhile 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary memento. I look forward to further re-releases of Billy's Decca LPs in the future. It's great to see the Decca logo back in business – I always associate it with Billy. It takes me back to those old Radio Luxembourg days, and the Decca sponsored programmes that started with the jingle D E C C A – Decca, Decca, Decca ... fading away.

Do Universal have any tie up with EMI? I'm still desperate for the Parlophone singles to appear on CD.

For the first time I have seen the Musicbank CD (APWCD 1045) on sale, plus cassette, in our local garden centre. These CDs have a habit of turning up

months after they have been released. Are you aware of any new K-Tel track CDs? I keep looking but some of the outlets are so unlikely!

An idea I have been thinking about for the mag could be an article on Billy's TV appearances, although it would not be so easy to get this info to hand, I think. My favourite Billy TV moment was on BBC TV's Crackerjack in the early 1960s with Eamon Andrews. We were so used to seeing Billy sing (or mime as was/is the fashion) his latest hit on the pop shows, this was a rare live performance with backing group (I can't remember which, but probably Tornados). Billy sang, almost certainly Just Because, with all the excitement of a live performance. This was the nearest thing ever on TV to the Billy Fury stage act, with shiny suit and all! Nothing sexual (it was kid's TV) but all those inimitable movements were there. Such a rare, and magical TV moment with the presence of Billy Fury almost overwhelming the 12" black and white TV screen. It sounds awful to say but this performance was just too good for children's TV – strange lot the BBC.

Thanks again, Chris, for your input on the new releases,. .... **Tony Philbin**

The following article appeared in a recent issue of the Daily Telegraph. Thanks to Rita Smalley for sending it to us.

### **"Pomp & Fury**

Luke Goss, the blond vocalist, is set to make a comeback, as an actor. The former lead singer with the 80's pop group Bros is being heavily tipped to play the late Billy Fury in a film about the rocker's life. Goss has recently jetted back from LA where he was auditioning for other film roles. His former teeny bopper rival Chesney Hawkes is also after it. But Goss looks more likely to get it. Fury's widow Lisa Voice is executive producer of the film and is backing him to the hilt.

"Lisa seems to want Luke after having a few dinners with him" a production insider said. "She says that his resemblance to Billy in his pomp is remarkable". "

We'll update you if we hear anything further.



## **ROCK n ROLL CHRISTMAS**

Weekends at the  
ALLENDALE HOTEL  
BLACKPOOL

All you Rock n Roll fans, why not come along to one of our  
pre-Christmas weekends during November and December

Five course dinner on two nights, breakfast two days, plus buffet  
Supper Saturday night

Cabaret and Karaoke Friday and Saturday

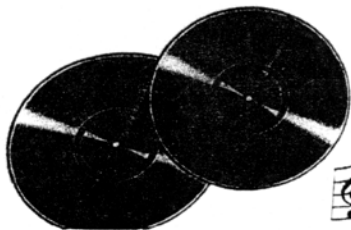
10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> November Confirmed,

25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> November, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> December provisional dates  
but if not fully subscribed to, will not take place. If not, deposit will  
be refunded.

Total cost £55 per person

The Allendale is a small hotel in the centre of Blackpool run by Ian  
and Sheila Alexander, members of the Billy Fury Fan Club.

Tel 01253 623268 or e-mail [salexander@ukonline.co.uk](mailto:salexander@ukonline.co.uk)





The following newspaper cuttings were supplied by Pauline Barker, who found them by chance. They come from June 1964, when Billy had a Derby runner at Epsom.

How about a "Horseography" about Anselmo for a future magazine, if any of you have the racing knowledge ?.

# THE FIELD

## 3.25 Pedigree, owner, colours, 1 m. 4 f. trainer, rider, W Factor

- |   |         |                      |  |    |
|---|---------|----------------------|--|----|
| 1 | 10-210  | <b>CON BRIO</b>      | (ch Ribo-Petronella) (D) Mrs J F Bryce<br>(Red, orange triangle and cap) F Armstrong<br>R Hutchinson   | 84 |
| 2 | 02-214  | <b>INDIANA</b>       | (b Sayajirao-Willow Ann) (D) Mr C W<br>Engelhard (Green, yellow sleeves, scarlet sash)<br>J F Watts ..... J Lindley  | 85 |
| 3 | -014    | <b>ANSELMO</b>       | (b Aureole-Aranda) Mr B Fury (Royal<br>blue and white hoops, red sleeves, hooped cap)<br>P Prendergast in Ireland (T).....P Cook                                   | 79 |
| 4 | -0      | <b>DILETTANTE II</b> | (b Sicambre-Barizonnette) Mr L M<br>Gelb (Yellow, blue sash, blue sleeves with yellow<br>spots and cuffs, blue cap) P Prendergast in<br>Ireland (T).....P Matthews |    |
| 5 | 0410-00 | <b>DROMOLAND</b>     | (br Umberto-Lily Ophelia) Mr C R<br>Harper (White, claret sleeves and cap)<br>H Wallington.....J Mercer  | 76 |
| 6 | 003-311 | • <b>ONCIDIUM</b>    | (b Alcide-Malcolmia) (D, f) Ld H de<br>Walden (Apricot) J A Waugh.....E Smith  | 96 |
| 7 | 01-1    | <b>SANTA CLAUS</b>   | (ch Chamossaire-Aunt Clara) Mr J<br>Ismay (Black, green hooped sleeves, gold star,<br>green cap) J M Rogers in Ireland (T) .. A Breasley                           | 95 |
| 8 | 3120-21 | <b>BALDRIC II</b>    | (b Round Table-Two Cities) Mrs H E<br>Jackson (Maroon, mauve cap) E Fellows in<br>France (T).....W Pyers   | 94 |

9	43-210	<b>HOTROY</b>	(b Aureole-Jungle Jewel) (C and D) Mr A Kennedy (Black, red and yellow cross-belts, quartered cap) W Nightingall .....	G Lewis	77
10	243-301	<b>COLD SLIPPER</b>	(br Arctic Time-Blaith na Greine) Mr J McGrath (Green, red seams and cap) S McGrath in Ireland (T).....	J Roe	78
11	102-104	<b>PENNY STALL</b>	(ch Ommeyad-Rockface) Lady Marks (Black, turquoise sash and striped cap) W Nightingall.....	R Poincelet	80
12	34-23	<b>BALUSTRADE</b>	(b Ballymoss-Minstrel's Gallery) Mr R B Moller (Chocolate, gold braid and sleeves, quartered cap) H Wragg.....	Williamson	88
13	21-22	<b>CORAH IV</b>	(ch Shantung-Corioline) Baron G de Rothschild (Blue and yellow hoops, yellow cap) G Watson in France (T).....	J Deforge	93
14	212-211	<b>SWEET MOSS</b>	(b Ballymoss-Sweet Angel) Lady Sassoon (Peacock blue, old gold hoops and sleeves) N Murless.....	L Piggott	92
15	011-003	<b>ROQUEFEUIL</b>	(b Doutelle-Marie Christine) Mr H A Silly (Emerald green, mauve sleeves, mauve cap, green spots) W Stephenson.....	D Ryan	72
16	4-3	<b>CRETE</b>	(b Mossborough-Carezza) Lady H Svejdar (Brick red, black seams, collar and cuffs, brick red cap with black spots) P Prendergast in Ireland (T).....	G Bougoure	89
17	3-33	<b>LIONHEARTED</b>	(b Never Say Die-Thunder) (e.w.) Sir H de Trafford (Scarlet and white quartered) C Boyd-Rochfort.....	W H Carr	90

All 3-Y-O colts carrying 9st.

Favourites : 3, 3, 0, 0, 1.

1963 : Relko (Y Saint-Martin, 90), 5-1 fav, F Mathet in France.



## MY HAT !

I doubt whether Indiana will finish any nearer than fifth or sixth.

And, while wishing Lord Derby's box-guest Mr. Billy Fury well in his first venture with Anselmo, I shall eat my hat if he is in the first three.

It looks to me like a "backers' Derby" -with the two favourites fighting it out.

Well-handicapped Miss Nibs (2.0) is chosen for the nap in the Stewards Handicap.

And - If all else fails - we should be able to rely on Lester Piggott and Crepes Braves (5.5) as a rescuing medium.



## —He's dressed to win

**F**ANS crowd round racehorse owner Billy Fury as he steps out at Covent Garden in his newly-hired Derby Day morning suit.

Today the pop singer puts his new status to a more rigorous test—when as a guest in Lord Derby's personal box he watches his horse Anselmo run in the Derby.

