

Number 6

# *Billy Fury*



**THE SOUND OF FURY**

Official Billy Fury Fan Club



*Billy Fury*

*Tribute Night*

*The New Montrose Club  
Whitefield Road  
Liverpool 6*



COLIN PAUL  
& THE PERSUADERS

The ORIGINAL  
UNDERTAKERS

ALBIE WYCHERLEY

FRANKIE CONNOR  
from RADIO MERSEYSIDE

FEBRUARY 17TH 7.30 p.m. - 1.00 a.m.

Tickets £5 from:-

Mrs M Bowden  
Gorffwysfa  
Llanddaniel  
Gaerwen  
Anglesey LL60 6DT



Please enclose stamped addressed envelope and make  
cheque payable to A. E. WYCHERLEY



*In Support of*

*The Billy Fury Bronze Fund*





# THE SOUND OF FURY



Official Billy Fury Fan Club

c/o 36 Manbey Grove, Stratford, London, E15 1EX

Witty words and pretty pics  
Feast your eyes on number six

Hello Fury Followers

A couple of apologies are needed first. In the last mag the photo of Billy with the article on the jacket held by the Hard Rock Cafe was supposed to show Billy wearing the jacket. It didn't. This was our mistake and not the fault of Lesley Johnson who gave us the information. Sorry Les.

The phone number for "Spinning Disc" shown on the Christmas Newsletter was wrong. The correct number is 0181 994 4606. They're selling "The Anthology" CD at least £2 cheaper than any of the big record stores and they also have some other nice "Billy" items in stock. Give them a ring and ask for Terry.

Many thanks to Chris for all his hard work in getting "The Anthology" out. He's done a terrific job. Thanks also to Dot and Dennis Chappel for helping Clare with the enveloping of the mags and calendars and to Rebecca Bowden for helping me with the enveloping and stamp licking of the Christmas newsletter. Thanks too to "Lolly" Whitaker for saving the Phantom Typist many, many hours of typing address labels. Also thanks to Jenny Payne who came to our rescue when we needed help with typing some of Chris's articles. Finally thanks to Nalle for producing another wonderful calendar and his dedication in getting the Billy web site on the Internet -<http://www.dlc.fi/-nallew>.

Welcome to all our new members and on with the show.

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





## *Gonna Type a Letter*

\* Cheers for no. 5. I cannot believe there is going to be a documentary on Billy! Thanks for letting us know in advance. I have a radio (BBC) recording of "The Billy Fury Story" - that was a while back (thanks to a friend). I can never understand just why Billy is omitted from so many things. (*Neither can we, Caroline*). I will make sure our local radio stations don't forget to play Billy's "My Christmas Prayer" in December. Cheers to you all. Many thanks to Nalle for designing the calendars.

**Caroline Weeton**

\* Regarding the Omnibus documentary, it's true that everybody showed a lot of affection for Billy - not that that's surprising is it? Billy left perhaps one of the best legacies - you say his name and someone smiles. Actually the documentary did have one very amusing effect. A friend of mine - a great fan of 50s and early 60s music and a record dealer in Norwich - has a father who completely dislikes Rock'n'Roll, pop music and records of any kind, to the point that when I rang him to leave a message for John to reserve a Billy Fury EP for me, he told me we were "all mad". But boy, has he had to eat his words! He watched the programme and on its finish exclaimed "that guy's better than Elvis! Have you got any of his records, John?" ... I look forward to the release of the new Billy Fury CD - I'm sure Chris Eley's work will have paid off.

**Sue Taylor**

\* Thank you for mag 5. Brilliant again, full of news and more! It was wonderful to see such a great documentary of Billy on "Omnibus". It was our 28th wedding anniversary that weekend and we had booked to go down to the South Coast for the week. We cut short the evening to go back to our room to watch Billy. My son was recording it here at home for me and my eldest daughter was watching it with her friends in Sussex, also putting it on video (to cover the risk of power cuts). The reviews were good, it was "Pick of the Day" in the Daily Telegraph. I hope it has renewed interest in his music from old and new fans alike. I was told that the following week, at a Billy J Kramer concert he paid tribute to "a great Singer" by singing "Halfway to Paradise". Best regards and sincere thanks to you all. **Christine Nunweek**

\* I'm thrilled to pieces about Omnibus and the super publicity card. Thanks to whoever mailed out number 5. The usual great read. Dunno how you all keep up this level of energy - I've never read a fan club publication that's powered by such a dynamo. You? Chris? The Syndicate? Billy himself? Gales of fun and, as I say, energy wafts from its pages. Well done! **Lesley Johnson**



\* Thanks to everyone at The Sound of Fury for another great mag. I have just received no.5 and really enjoyed reading it. At the time of writing I'm waiting with bated breath for the Omnibus TV production. I met Paul Pierrot earlier in the year at a record fair in Birmingham and he came across as a sincere Fury fan and also a very kind and friendly guy. I was searching for the "Don't Worry" Decca single and he said that he thought he had found 2 copies during his research for the programme and he would mail one to me if I wanted. He was as good as his word and I was very grateful. So with this experience I've every confidence that he will serve the memory of Billy Fury well. Recognition of the great man is long overdue and hopefully the TV exposure will not only jog lapsed memories but also introduce Billy's music to a whole new generation. It's a pity that the release of the new CD does not coincide with the BBC production, as this would surely generate sales. Thanks again for all your hard work. I had better run and set the video, or the next letter you get will be "full of tears". **William McNeil**

\* The magazine gets better with every issue. Long may it continue. I was privileged to see Billy a few months before he died at the Blue Boar Rock'n'Roll Festival, Hucknall. I vividly recall that he sang "Don't Worry" and in announcing the song it was as if he was asking the audience not to worry about him as he took a sip at a drink. The emotion in that song just oozed out, he was brilliant. I also remember several people videoed the show and that Central TV showed clips on its regional news programme. All the best to everyone at The Sound of Fury. **Steve Cutts**

\* Many, many thanks for the video of "Play It Cool". Great! My first Billy video. I sent a £30 cheque made out to The Billy Fury Bronze Fund soon after receiving the video. I couldn't believe I was so lucky. Michael thanks you all for your kind wishes, he has now been told he will not be returning to work. We now have to take a day at a time. I do so hope I can make it in January to see you all, also Michael. I'll pop along to Billy's grave before Christmas. Until next time, bless you for keeping in touch, your letters are a great comfort. **Eileen Weston** *(Thanks for your comments Eileen and give Michael our very best wishes. We're all thinking of you both. Maureen)*

\* I would like to take this opportunity to say what a great job you are doing with the fan club. Being a music buff, I enjoy most kinds of music, although I consider myself to be a rock'n'roller at heart. This is why I enjoy your contributions to the fan club mags, as they are always packed full of info, and keep fans informed of developments and new releases in this area of music. The information you have provided has

been invaluable in my search for rarer and more obscure titles by various artistes. Keep up the good work! **Darren Copley**

*(Darren many fans appreciate the hard work that Chris does but it's nice to see it in print. Jean)*

\* I've recently got your address from a fellow fan to inquire about becoming a member of the fan club. I've been a Billy Fury fan for the past 25 years and idolize him and his music and as you can see I've enclosed a tape of my own tribute to him, and hope you enjoy my performance of his music. I'm not an impersonator of him as such although I have had 3 auditions for the show "Stars in their Eyes" as Billy Fury and I love to sing his music. Maybe in the future I'll get the chance to meet Billy's brother Albert and his mother, and if they ever get the chance to listen to my tape I would be very thrilled. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and I hope to hear from you soon.

**Allan Heyes** *(As you now know Allan, your tape has been a "hit". Thanks very much for sending it and welcome to the club. Maureen)*

\* I've advertised my t shirt on the net about 3 months now but so far nobody has contacted me. But if some of your friends or fans are interested give them my address. My price is £10 and that includes the postage. At the moment I'm studying multimedia and Internet at an institute for grown ups (!) and in the near future I'm able to add sound and moving images to the Billy Web Site. At the end of the course we're supposed to do a project and I've decided to use the Billy Fury Web Site as my project - meaning that I make it more interactive and "cool" (let's see what it actually means). I've decided to add a new Mill Hill section on it and now I need The Sound of Fury's help. Could you or anyone else from the syndicate loan some photos (something like 6-10 pictures) for me, featuring Billy's grave from different angles and maybe some other pictures from the site. The pictures doesn't have to be any master shots, I can easily manipulate the pictures with the computer (as long as they are sharp). Also if anybody has any home video footage from Mill Hill I'd like to put it on "the net". Better yet, if somebody could put Frank Bull in front of a camera and let him tell the story of Mill Hill!

**Nalle Westman** *(Photos sent, Nalle and we're working on Frank. Watch this space!)*

**Nalle's address: Suomensuontie 15 C 29, 00870 HELSINKI, Finland**

\* Many thanks for your letter about the Chicago Rock Cafe in Northampton. We've been a few times this year, it's a really great atmosphere. In January 1998 on Billy's anniversary we saw The Gamblers, they played a lot of Billy's songs. Two weeks ago we saw Marty Wilde. He mentioned the Omnibus programme and sang his tribute to Billy, so I'd say he has been well represented already, and it's



only been open a year. I'd think with the history of one of Billy's last performances being at The Sunnyside in Northampton it would be quite appropriate for the Chicago Rock to have a spread about Billy. Fingers crossed. Bye for now. **Cecilia Darvell**

\* I had to write straight away and say a HUGE THANK YOU for the video tape - brilliant. I can't tell you how much I enjoyed watching that BBC Omnibus video of Billy. The first time I watched it I just sat with tears streaming down my face the whole way thru. I've watched it half a dozen times since last week. We watched it at work in the staffroom over 2 lunchtimes too and we are having a girls nite up here to watch it next week. It was lovely to see Jean again - even if it's on the tele. Nice to see Albert too. Our Billy has not died - he's just stopped breathing and I still love him just as much as I always did. I can't believe it's 40 years next year since we met and there is still not a day goes by where I don't talk about him, play a song or two or think about him. I got a lovely Omnibus photo of his face. I took it to a computer place where they erased the writing over it and blew it up to 8 x 8, cost me \$42 but it's gorgeous. I'm having it put on a t shirt. **Moya Gleave New Zealand**

\* Just a line to say what a fantastic CD - *The 40th Anniversary Anthology*. I've never heard the tracks with such clarity - the people at Polygram should be congratulated. The selection is also excellent and cuts across all Billy's styles of music. Obviously there are some tracks that I would have liked included but I'm very happy with the choices made. And the sleeve notes ... well done Chris. We're all proud of you. How you managed to condense Billy's story into so few words without losing anything is beyond me. And the collages of Fury memorabilia just adds to the occasion. By far the best Fury compilation CD to date (love the comprehensive track listings). I hope it sells well, it deserves to. On Monday in my local HMV they had 3 copies, by today they had all gone. I bought mine from a local shop called Music Zone who had about 16 copies. They were on a wall display which actually quite shocked me. I'll keep my eye on how they go. The sleeve picture is very eye catching and classic cool. And the new tracks...superb. You've made one Fury fan very happy. I desperately hope that more releases will follow in time, especially those elusive Parlophone singles. Keep up the good work Chris, and congratulations again on your contribution to this great CD. **Tony Philbin**





## ONLY HALFWAY TO PARADISE: NOTES ON MAKING A TELEVISION DOCUMENTARY ABOUT BILLY FURY.

I've been a rock'n roll fan since as a thirteen year old I'd paid my seven shillings to get me into the "Rock 'n Trad Show !". Billy Fury in gold lame all over the stage singing Sweet Little Sixteen was etched into my consciousness. From that time I'd been an avid collector of 45's and 78's up until the late sixties when I went off to the States where I was able to catch up with a live performance of Elvis. Two years ago after twenty five years working in television I decided it was time to make films for myself, about my own heroes, and Billy was the first in line. I pulled out my boxes of 45's and found I had most his output already, not to mention scrapbooks and magazines, ..my research was underway.

It took me two years to sell the idea as a subject to the BBC. I could have made it earlier with a much smaller budget, but I knew the story couldn't be crammed into a twenty five minute slot, and the music was too important to throw it away. Finally Peter Salmon, controller of BBC1 and a rock fan, showed enough interest to take a chance on the script and recommend the project to Omnibus.

Two years, during which time I'd talked to as many people as possible, Marty, Joe, the Vernons, John Leyton had all been encouraging. Hal Carter, Jean, Billy's mum had told me stories with good grace, although I knew that they were thinking "Oh no, not another one who says he's going to make a film!" At last I was able to start, but the BBC wanted the documentary delivered in four months, without the work I had already put in it would have been impossible in the time.

First we had to contact all those I had talked with to see if they were still available for interviews, and together with my researcher, Tory, we had to find all the archive. The clips of interviews and performance, the radio shows, recordings that no-one had heard for years, or if possible stuff that no one even knew about.

First stop was the BBC and they had very little. "Top of the Pops" had all been junked, so had all the early "Saturday Clubs". There was the obvious Nationwide and Russell Harty from Billy's final years when he looked sickly, to say the least. This meant that most of the archive if we could find it would be outside the BBC and therefore very costly (a thousand pounds a minute is not unusual), with performance and music rights on top of that. But where was it to be found, archive houses are notorious for not knowing what they have got.

The BBC had a very early film interview of Larry Parnes that we wanted, but the negative was missing. Tory kept on at them and we managed to get film of Lonnie Donegan in 1957 and some very early popsters. The librarian insisted that it didn't exist, we said it did, until finally a brand new copy came through and it turned out to have not only live performances of Duffy Power and Johnny Gentle....but glory be, a brief interview with Billy Fury himself filmed in early 1959, and with it came another Nationwide in black and white of Billy filmed in 1970 talking about his Teddy Boy experiences. Things were looking up. We knew this must have been in colour and after a few more calls we had our colour version.



We tried desperately to find his first ever television performance "Strictly for Sparrows", but this time we had no luck at all, despite finding his contract. He was paid fifteen gns. to perform Maybe Tomorrow, and that included his rehearsal time. Our research took us to Boston, Mass. where we thought that a copy might still exist or even a photograph.... but nothing.

I had seen the live performance of Billy singing Just Because on "Parnes, Shillings and Pence", but where was it. Since that documentary had been made the archives had all be sold on to mostly foreign companies. Archive libraries are peculiar places, their attitude is to deny everything just to test the researchers metal or to make them think laterally, but with some persistence we had our copy of Just Because...only to find that it was a live version of I'll Never Find Another You, what a bonus. The library had no idea it was there, so we encouraged them to turn up our original request and another part of the puzzle fell into place along with a live version of "The Saints" which we never used.

Sitting in a quiet cottage in the country I couldn't believe what I was hearing. Live soundtracks from Boy Meets Girl and Wham. We had had no luck finding the pictures although we are pretty certain that they exist, but Billy's version of Baby Let's Play House, My Babe with Gene Vincent and Eddie Cochran, Colette in a duet with Marty was fresh and vibrant, far better than the records of the period. Why on earth is this stuff not on record. Original recordings that no one has heard of for years and better than all the alternate takes and B sides that make up the countless compilations since Billy's death. I'd heard the twenty odd tracks in the BBC sound archives, and they had knocked me out for quality and the purity of his voice, but these were from that earlier period and showed Billy at his rockin' rollin' best. I was determined to use at least a little in the film. Then out of the blue came another call. An old friend of Billy's, and he just happened to mention that he had some of the original live shows from Saturday Club recorded in 1961. They arrived and were fantastic. Live versions of Just Because and Don't knock Upon My Door with the Blue Flames that had to be heard to be believed. Billy singing Have I Told You Lately That I Love You that is exquisite putting him right up there with Elvis. Versions of Hank Williams songs complete with yodels that show him in completely different light. Things were looking up.

For weeks we had been chasing up the long lost Shindig. We'd read reports that he had appeared on Jack Good's American show, but Hal Carter had no knowledge of it, nor had anybody seen it. We were getting very frustrated when we received a fax from the States, "yes we have Billy Fury on Shindig", the only problem was the Americans wanted an arm and a leg to show it. To transmit the whole song would have blown most of our archive budget. Viewers don't realise how much it cost to show these old clips. We pay by the minute and second, and with rights on top of that it gets very expensive, which is the reason that very rarely do you get the chance to see a complete song in these documentaries. Also contractually we are only allowed so many minutes in a programme. As producer I have to count the seconds and work it in very carefully.

By this time word had got around and we were getting offers from various people who wanted to be in the show. Everything was scripted as tightly as possible. There



were people we wanted who would complete the story. At the last moment Georgie Fame said he would be available on one day only between gigs. He lives in the middle of nowhere, but now the gods were on our side and it just so happened that we were to be filming in the next village on that day... talk about a million to one chance. Then with only one days shooting left, we received a call that Jack Good would be in the country and was willing to do an interview. He was coming over for a holiday from the States where he lives and he wasn't going to be available for any other programmes. That was the icing on the cake, a real coup. He rarely agrees to interviews and it was a measure of his esteem for Billy that he agreed to show. That final days filming fell into place. We were already into our second weeks editing so we knew that the film was working, but we stopped and chatted with three of the music biz's true gentlemen and Fury fans all. Good, Dury, and Bob Stanley, it was lovely to talk with them about Billy and they came out with gems which we knew would lift the documentary and make it something a little bit special.

We were pleased, we knew that the film was working for us at least. The first viewing lasted well over an hour and left us bawling tears. It told the story too well, made the viewer too involved, so that the end came with considerable emotive clout. We just had to tone it down and leave the viewer wanting more. We had to lose sequences to get the film to length and it was difficult, great sequences and interviews hit the cutting room floor or at least got lost in the computer editing machine. Bit by bit it was cut down, some of our favourite pieces went missing but that's what making a documentary making is about.

The reviews generally have been good, the audience figure was high, the response has been brilliant. It is always difficult to try and please everybody, the fans, his peers, the family are still around and the film was important to them. If I'm honest there is a little bit of my life in there as well. Billy touched us all, so that is the way it should be. I wanted to get across that feeling I had when I first saw him on that Larry Parnes Show, backed by the Blue Flames singing Sweet Little Sixteen....I hope we succeeded.

### 10.40 Omnibus

#### *Billy Fury – Half Way to Paradise*

**CHOICE** Forty years ago, 17-year-old Billy Fury made his stage debut at the Essoldo, Birkenhead. He became an overnight sensation, a teenage idol they called the British Elvis. This profile of the rock star includes contributions from Marty Wilde, Joe Brown and Ian Dury. **See today's choices.**

Producer Paul Pierrot; Series editor Gillian Greenwood Subtitled .....228270



**10.40pm Sound and Fury: Omnibus** examines the whirlwind success of legendary rock 'n' roll star Billy Fury

**Paul Pierrot, 1998.**



# This 'n' That



with Chris Eley

Another brilliant Blackpool Bronze Fund weekend with an incredible atmosphere - as Val Deavoll said "If only you could bottle this"! So many people contributed in so many ways; it remains to be seen (as I write) exactly how much has been raised but it went well! The Bronze miniature looked great, the real thing will be stunning I'm sure. A great big thank you to Ian and Sheila Alexander for opening their doors and laying on beautiful meals again - with absolutely no financial gain to themselves, two wonderful people and the 'Home' of the Billy Fury Bronze Project. Such generosity is extremely rare in today's world.

Thanks too, to Billy's Mum for being guest of honour and singing for us, also for bringing Billy's Auntie Rose along, to Albert for his impromptu performance ('Cross my Heart' was really good) and for Ken Riley and Mike Quinn (great enjoyable performance lads). Ken actually managed to sing Billy numbers, even 'Jealousy', convincingly (not easy) and there was such a poignancy about Mike's accoustic and different version of 'Halfway to Paradise', not a dry eye in the bar!

Many people contributed to the auction/raffle so thanks to you all, especially to Gill Nicholson whose 'Meet Billy Fury' I think, was the top bid item of the weekend. I must mention Arlene Jones and Sue McAvoy who have come loaded with raffle prizes on both occasions now, and Lyn Quinn who donated a 78 for auction. The bid wasn't realised so it will be going back up again in the future. Thanks to Jean Wycherly, for the Billy 10 X 8, Teresa Illingworth for a music sheet, Mo Dossa for LPs, Terry from Spinning Disc for CDs, LP and a music sheet and to everyone else for CDs, chocolates etc. It all helps. Sorry if I've forgotten anyone - my memory really is degenerating, along with my sight, (who said hair!). The new Anthology CD is out but sales in the High Street shops are apparently not encouraging, specialist dealers are moving reasonable quantities however. It got an offhand review in 'Lounge Lizard' records catalogue but I'll let them off because they did put a picture of Billy on the front cover of their magazine. Disappointing to discover that many fans still don't have a copy - if we don't buy enough (I bought 6 to give to friends, and family) we've only ourselves to blame if Polygram fail to open the door again, especially for the boxed set we all long for. I fully understand that not everyone can afford a copy, especially at this time of year, but we do need to push sales. 'Our Price' are pretty lacking in that I have yet to find a single copy in any store! It was a labour of love, and although not perfect, took a lot of work. It was my tribute (helped by others of course), and my thanks to my lifelong hero. I've loved Billy since I was 13 years old and saw him on TV. In 1963 I brought the 'Billy' LP, 6 months before I got a record player! The first record I owned. How I wish that I could hear that voice say to me once more, 'Thanks Lah'. Thank you so much to everyone who took the trouble to write to us and show appreciation. There is a favourable review in the 'Beat Goes On' magazine for December and Trevor Cajaio of 'Now Dig This' tells me that Stu Colman will review it in the January NDT (my knees are knocking already!). Take up NDT and its sister Elvis mag, great magazines. A big thank you to Colin Gold and the 'Boys' who were so warm and courteous to Linda and myself at the sell out Southsea Venue recently. We enjoyed the show and met new Fan Club member Jean French (good job you were wearing the Billy T-shirt Jean!) and her husband Bill. It's nice to meet other fans in your own area so it does pay to wear something, which gives the 'Billy' game away. I only wear mine from April to September Jean - thin blood and all that! Backstage I learned the story of how Billy's performance at Trevellas outside Perranporth in Cornwall, went, only two miles from my



parent's home! I had to go back abroad one week before Billy was due to appear at the Night Club (which I could see from my bedroom window). Talk about heartbroken, so thanks for filling me in on what I missed lads, and for the Birthday number for Linda, she was 'made up'. Nearly forgot, special thanks to Jackie Clark for doing the bookings, not easy and very time consuming and Mo for helping out on the day. 'Play it Cool' was notable for capturing Billy at his peak but also featured a much maligned yet really good U.S. Artist - Bobby Vee, who sang 'At a time like this'. Unfortunately that nice track is not featured on 'The Essential and Collectable Bobby Vee' EMI 7243 4 9778? 25, a celebration of 40 years of recording. Despite not including the still unreleased stereo version of the film song, nor the excellent 'Tears Wash Her Away' or 'No-one Can Make My Sunshine Smile' this essential set does include some nice rarities amongst the hits. 'His Shadow' would have been a hit, as would 'On the Street Where We Grew Up'. Inside is a picture of Billy and Bobby on the set of 'Play it Cool' and on his recent tour Bobby has said some nice things about Billy. Thanks Bob! Apparently Billy liked the Bobby Vee arrangement of 'Devil or Angel' (as opposed to the Clovers original) that he copied it in 1982, so we may guess that he admired Bobby as well.

Disappointing to find that, after finally getting 'The Night' and 'I Wonder' onto CD, (Cliff Richard 1960's - EMI 7243 4 97133 21) the versions turned out to be Mono. Cliff was recorded in stereo from at least 1960 so this is not acceptable in my view. Elsewhere in the magazine you will see a really interesting article by Paul Pierrot on the making of the BBC Omnibus documentary. Long overdue it was well worth the wait, so on behalf of fans everywhere Paul, many thanks indeed! Didn't Billy look great in that 1970's colour interview and wasn't 'I'd Never Find Another You' from 'All that Jazz' quite incredible. I'm pretty certain that this was the clip that turned me on to Billy (and then 'pop' music) all those years ago. For many of us, I'm sure the highlights were the unreleased tracks playing in the background, from the Sound of Fury rehearsal session, Boy meets Girls and BBC radio (Saturday Club 1961). Never having heard any of these numbers before I was knocked out. 'Baby, Lets Play House' is just so superb, puts Billy undeniably at the top of the league, and what about 'My Babe' with the wonderful Gene Vincent. What a pity only segments can be heard evidently the owner(s) won't let out more than segments of the numbers. The live radio version of 'Don't Knock Upon My Door' is just so superior in every way to the Decca cut (I agree with you that much Paul although I still stand by the best of the Decca work!). If only this handful of songs, including that incredible 'My Baby Left Me' and 'Low Down Blues' could have been fitted onto CD1 of the Anthology! But then so many good tracks would have to have been left off. These tracks, plus whatever other radio shows can be found and obtained from those individuals holding them, would make the double CD (probably) of the century - we really must not give up on this. Interestingly enough, the vocal on the 1961 'My Baby Left Me' is R 'n' B as opposed to Rock 'n' Roll, and differs little from the 1967 version, pity Billy didn't cut it on the 'We Want Billy' album in 1963.

Thanks again Paul for adding a totally different and new dimension to the Billy Fury we thought we knew. Those of us who started with the early 60's ballad sound never had the chance to compare it with the 'Rockin' Billy', because in truth, the available Rock 'n' Roll tracks, good though they are, pale against some of these I've just mentioned. In my view however, 'Like I've Never Been Gone' is just as valid as 'Turn my Back on you' - its all subjective. I see that an advert for Elton John on Radio Century 205 claimed that Reg Dwight used to be a member of one of Billy's 60s backing bands - news to me, can anyone help with that one please? On the 'Many Happy Return's' CD (available from BBC Radio Merseyside) there is not only Albie's track of 'I Know I Gotta Heart' but also a tribute to Bobby Darin ('Borrowed Time') by Billy



Kinsley (who I'm told is responsible for that beautiful guitar solo on Billy's 'Going round the bend' - '82 version).

Bobby Darin was a great vocal stylist but the standard of his 'pop' work, as opposed to his excellent standards (which do nothing for me personally), was variable. 'Dream Lover' was as good as a 'pop' songs get but too many of his tracks were buried under inappropriate so called 'standard' arrangements much like the Adam Faith tracks on his 'For You' LP. Nice version of 'Forget Him' though Adam! (still not on CD!). Anyway, currently available at a snip for £10.99 is a Darin boxed set - EMI 7243 4 971K7 24.

CD 3 features the better work, 'If a Man Answers', '18 Yellow Roses' etc and unfortunately many stereo masters are not here, it's a Mono/Stereo mix throughout the set, but all in all, quite worth having. No-one does 'Ruby Baby' like Dion, or 'La Bamba' like Ritchie Valens, but its interesting to hear these versions. I wonder what Billy thought of Bobby Darin. Two tragic stories, two immense talents

Thanks are due to Craig Scurfield up there in the North East for his dedication to the Sound of Fury on Brian Matthews Radio 2 Rock 'n' Roll show. Brian played three rockers including 'I Got Someone' at Craig's request. Helps to make all our efforts worth it when people are nice to us like this.

There was a nice complimentary review of our little magazine in November's Record Collector. Anthology has been priced between £14.50 and £19.99! around the shops, the latter is a blatant rip off, about £16.99 isn't too bad, although in my view £14.99/£15.99 is about right. Overpricing will only put people off, especially casual buyers who may choose to settle for the Hit Parade, or one of the dead cheap K Tel things (yet another one is now available).

Only just heard 'At This Moment' by Billy's old stable mate Crispian St Peters, not so much stable as recording studio, both were at Decca. Crispian, with his Adam Faith style vocal, was much heralded to become the new mega sensation. So much for hype, but his voice was pleasant and the above track plus his two major hits are included on 'Anthology' Repertoire RFS 4608 W7. 1996 issue but copies still seem to be available.

On Mike Quinn's (not to be confused with our very own ace Blackpool performer) Radio Show in 1982 Billy selected, amongst many other tracks, Roy Orbisons 'Oh Pretty Woman', describing it as being a good rocker, well sung. Praise indeed, and 'The Worlds Greatest Singer' (says Elvis) can be heard to full advantage on 'The Big O' - The Original Singles Collection - Monument 492743-2. This double CD set (which should be a companion Xmas stocking filler this year to the Vee and Billy doubles) is excellent, featuring 26 'A' sides and 26 'B' sides. Truly great stuff here, most in beautifully mastered stereo, but unfortunately without an accompanying booklet. 'Say You're My Girl' is superb, also the Egypt evoking 'Shadharoba' and of course the familiar classic's, 'Blue Angel' etc.

Plenty of Del Shannon around these days, the EP collection 'See For Miles' SEECD 677 is worth the price for the cover alone. No! I don't get offered freebies to review, I just love all of the 50s/60s scene (well not all of it!). Some nice new Gene Pitney 2 on 1 CDs out again but I do wish they would locate the stereo mixes for the tracks on Just For You/Worldwide Winners', instead of this mono/stereo mix. I'm sure Polygram have more stereo Billy masters but they just seem unable to find more rare Billy because so many tapes (I'm told) are not listed in any way. 'I Wanna Love My Life Away' by Gene Pitney has always been a classic and its nice to hear, for the very first time in my case, Billy's old stable mate Vince Eager airs his tonsils on it. I think its only available through a Readers Digest Rock 'n' Roll set, on one CD entitled 'Rock

Brittania' RDCD 2611-3. Also on it is Wee Willie Harris's version of Bobby Rydell's 'Wild One'. I believe as I write that Wee Willie is not too well at present so our best wishes go out to him, a major and highly colourful contributor to the UK Rock 'n' Roll heritage, which, contrary to general belief, was pretty important. Rock 'n' Roll, by the way, in my view, is a musical art form popularised internationally between about 1955-60. It is not Deep Purple or the Rolling Stones etc. We have the USA to thank for misuse of this terminology, and for no longer having a Rock 'n' Roll section in so many CD stores – diabolical indeed!.

The story goes that Gene Vincent once gave Billy one of his belt buckles. I don't know if its true but their duet on 'My Babe' certainly is sweet. This guy was a true great and possessed such a superb and unique voice. The Gene Vincent EP Collection Vol 2 joins the first volume still on the shelves – See for Miles SEECD 492. Great cover and worth it for 'I'm Going Home' and 'Where Have You Been All My Life' alone, let alone 'Pistol Packing Mama', 'Wild Cat', etc. What a pity that Billy's EP collection on this label has been deleted for so long. I'll be pilloried for this but I actually prefer Gene's version of 'Be Bop a Lula 62' to the original!

Did anyone hear the Radio 2 Billy Fury story spread over four short segments one part each day just before 11am? I caught parts of it on the road but was unable to tape it. Seemed like a nice little tribute, with a couple of numbers each day.

Albert will be 'gigging' on 17 February at the Montrose Club again and I understand that the Carousel have organised another Billy weekend (they did one in 1991 and another in 1992). The Sound of Fury has nothing to do with this weekend other than Fan Club Members have first choice (quite right too, you've shown your support for Billy by joining) and we obviously hope to raise more money with raffles etc.

It seems that the only (apparently) pressing of Billy's 1966 recording 'How's the World Treating You' (from the stage play of the same name featuring the acting debut of one Patricia Routledge) recently went for £400 at auction. Lets hope this renewed interest in Billy helps to bring to official light all of the unreleased gems from 1958 to 1982. There is a market there, it just needs someone who is prepared to believe in it, and invest in it. For their loyalty it's the least that the fans deserve, and the music buying public should be made aware of how truly great and diverse an artist he was.

Interesting to find out on the grapevine that Billy actually wrote 'Cheat With Love' 'What Did I Do' 'Don't Tell Me Lies' and 'Love Sweet Love' back in 1960! 'Cheat' turned up in 1989 on the 'Once Upon a Dream' CD (the track was cut in 1962), 'What Did I Do' on the 1963 BF and Tornados EP, and the last two numbers of course, ended up as Polydor 45 'B' sides. Billy used to do Jerry Lee Lewis numbers on stage, he even recorded 'Break Up' (Charlie Rich) during the Decca years, but it seems to be lost. Now out on the same budget label (Spectrum) as Billy's excellent little 'Paradise' CD is a grand selection of the Killers late 60's and 70's output. 'The Killer Collection' – 554193-2 features the best version of 'Chantilly Lace' you'll ever hear plus different but great workings of 'Brown Eyed Handsome Man', 'Shake Rattle and Roll' 'Flip' 'Flop and Fly' 'Just Because' and others. 'Blueberry Hill' by this performer was a new one on me. Well worth the budget price, we could well do with another budget Billy of Decca tracks. Woolworth's planned one last year I'm told, but the project was cancelled. Teresa Illingworth tells me that Billy's jumper (shown on the 'Forget Him' picture cover) is featured in 'Millers Book of Collectable' – value £400,00. I noted that Billy is mentioned on several pages in 'Dear Boy – The Life of Keith Moon', out now in hardback. Hal Carter is also mentioned.



Finally, a big thanks to those people who helped me with the Anthology Project, including Dorian at Polygram who made it happen, against the clock and budget constraints!, and to those who sent in lists. Yes, I know there is a typing error in the notes! Many of you will have forgotten the snippets you passed to me over the years, and letters etc, whilst some of you helped with the typing, proof reading etc, plus moral support when complications came along, such as you can't use these tracks, 'Please Love Me' won't clean up enough (it sure did – listen to it!), etc. Thanks too, on behalf of The Sound of Fury, and personally, for all your support, nice letters and Christmas cards. It's not always possible to reply to all the cards, many thanks.

Until the spring, take care in all you do, and please try to share Billy, don't keep him to yourself, spread a little bit of Billy's happiness wherever you can. Ask for requests, attend 60's shows, wear the T shirts or badges, just talk about him, tell your 60's friends about the new CD, write to the BBC requesting a re-show of the documentary. (Don't tell them you're a Fan Club Member though – they'll think it's a concerted effort by a minority group and ignore it – that's how I see their minds working anyway!). So long for now it's time to dig out the Elvis and Narvel Felts Christmas albums to play together with Billy's and St Etienne's 'My Christmas Prayer' (and the Bobby Vee Xmas Album).

GREAT LATE NEWS: PAUL PIERROT, PRODUCER OF THE EXCELLENT BILLY OMNIBUS DOCUMENTARY INFORMS US THAT THE FILM HAS BEEN NOMINATED FOR A ROYAL TELEVISION SOCIETY AWARD FOR BEST ARTS PROGRAMME. WE ALL WISH PAUL, TORI. THE PRODUCTION TEAM (AND BILLY OF COURSE) EVERY SUCCESS WITH THIS NOMINATION. IT'S TIME THAT BILLY ENJOYED THE FULL RECOGNITION THAT HAS LONG BEEN HIS DUE!



**Published Monthly**

**EDITOR: TREVOR CAJIAO**

**ASSISTANTS TO THE EDITOR:**

**MARGARET CAJIAO and GORDON MINTO**

**Send all correspondence,  
copy and advertising artwork to:  
19 SOUTH HILL ROAD, BENSAM,  
GATESHEAD, TYNE & WEAR  
NE8 2XZ, U.K.**

**(Fax: 0191 234 2496)**

**Distribution: 01424 220028**

**(Wholesale enquiries only)**

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **SUBSCRIPTION RATES**

##### **UK**

**1 copy direct - £3.50**

**6 copies - £20.00**

**12 copies - £40.00**

##### **OVERSEAS**

**1 copy direct - £3.75**

**6 copies - £21.50**

**12 copies - £43.00**

##### **OVERSEAS AIR-MAIL**

**(All countries outside Europe)**

**1 copy direct - £4.70**

**6 copies - £27.00**

**12 copies - £54.00**

\*\*\*\*\*

**NOW DIG THIS**

**(Est. 1983)**



## **FORTHCOMING BILLY EVENTS**

Albert's doing a "Billy Night" at the New Montrose Club in Liverpool on 17<sup>th</sup> February. I have tickets available now. Details are in the magazine.

The Carousel Hotel, Blackpool are doing a "Billy" weekend 26-28<sup>th</sup> February. Details are enclosed. Please send booking forms and any other enquiries **DIRECT** to the hotel, not to the fan club.

There's a "Billy Night" at Stotfold Social Club near Baldock, Hertfordshire on 17<sup>th</sup> April. Details are on the inside back cover of mag no 5. If you've lost mag no 5 (perish the thought) you can obtain details from Mrs G Brady 01767 317124.

There's another "Billy Birthday Bash" at the Monaco Ballroom Hinley on 16<sup>th</sup> April. For details ring Nancy Wynters 01942 255138, and ....

If you've any energy left after that lot the next two fan club reunions at Mill Hill will be 18<sup>th</sup> April and 3<sup>rd</sup> October. Don't say we don't take care of your social life.



**"THIS n THAT" EXTRA**



The City of Westminster Department of Environment and Planning have agreed to refurbish the Memorial Bench opposite Billy's grave, free of charge. We've sent a letter of thanks to Mr Bob Bradfield, the Contract Manager.

Marleigh Enterprises new phone number is 01582 521602.

If you send a letter to us which needs a reply we'd be very grateful if you'd enclose a stamped, addressed envelope.

Please let us know if you're interested in a top quality digital copy of the Omnibus TV documentary "Halfway to Paradise". When we know how many of you are interested we'll negotiate a price (remember to enclose an sae please).

If you haven't renewed your membership for 1999 yet, please do so (renewal date is 28th January each year). Send your cheque made payable to The Sound of Fury for £7.50 (UK & Europe) or £9.50 (rest of the world) to the fan club address.

### **HELP WANTED**

If you have a computer and some time to spare would you volunteer to type up some magazine articles for Chris Eley three times a year. If so please write to us care of the Fan Club address.

## BILLY FURY

### The 40th Anniversary Anthology

Decca Originals (Double CD)

DERAM 844 874-2 Release Date: 16th November 1998



Disc One Maybe Tomorrow\*/Gonna Type A Letter/Margo/Don't Knock Upon My Door/Angel Face/My Christmas Prayer/Collette/Baby How I Cried/That's Love/My Advice/Turn My Back On You/Wondrous Place/A Thousand Stars/You're Having The Last Dance With Me/Don't Worry/Talkin' In My Sleep/Halfway To Paradise/Cross My Heart/Fury's Tune/Jealousy/Don't Jump/I'd Never Find Another You/Please Don't Go/Don't Walk Away/Letter Full Of Tears/King For Tonight/Last Night Was Made For Love/Once Upon A Dream/Running Around/Because Of Love/Like I've Never Been Gone/What Do You Think You're Doing Of (Playing time: 76:32)

Disc Two All I Wanna Do Is Cry/We Were Meant For Each Other/How Many Nights, How Many Days/When Will You Say I Love You/I'll Never Fall In Love Again/In Summer/Tell Me How Do You Feel/Wondrous Place-Version 2/Somebody Else's Girl/Go Ahead And Ask Her/Please Love Me\*/What Am I Gonna Do/Do You Really Love Me Too (Fools Errand)/Nothin' Shakin'(But The Leaves On The Trees)/I Will/It's Only Make Believe/Baby What You Want Me To Do/I'm Lost Without You/This Diamond Ring/Stand By Me/In Thoughts Of You/Away From You\*/Run To My Loving Arms/Where Do You Run/Turn Your Lamp Down Low/Give Me Your Word/I'll Never Quite Get Over You/I Belong To The Wind/Don't Let A Little Pride -(Stand In Your Way)/That's The Way It Goes\*/Magic Wonderland\* (Playing time: 77:28)

\* Special bonus tracks - previously unreleased

It's hard to believe that it is forty years since Billy Fury first entered the Decca Recording Studio in London, but this superb collection celebrates that milestone. It's the one that a legion of Fury fans have been waiting for, and its appearance so lovingly presented is due primarily to the sterling efforts of Chris Eley. During the past year he has compiled the track listing by asking the members of the official Billy Fury fan club, The Sound of Fury, to submit their own lists of favourite recordings. Additionally, he has managed to get five previously unreleased tracks on to CD for the first time and to produce a first-rate detailed and accurate booklet to accompany the collection. For his endeavour Chris is worthy of more than mere thanks: he deserves a medal!

Hot on the heels of the excellent Omnibus tribute to Billy, HALFWAY TO PARADISE (BEC-1, 12th October), this double CD will undoubtedly attract considerable interest and rightly so. Billy's appeal transcends easy classification, reaching fans of all ages and musical tastes. Recently I went into my local record shop to place an order for this anthology, and I was served by a young lady of about twenty. I was pleasantly surprised when she declared: "I'll be getting myself a copy, as I think Billy Fury was very talented as well as very tasty."

The tracks are arranged in chronological order, starting with the poignant self-penned MAYBE TOMORROW, and for the first time we have the stereo cut of this classic. From the start of the collection, we are taken through 63 slices of sheer delight, including all the 29 Decca singles (26 of them top 40 entries; 19 of them top 20). The selection cannot be faulted, containing as it does 19 of my own 20 favourites - the missing title being STICK AROUND. Most of the tracks are already well-known to fans, but it is worth mentioning the quality of just a few of the recordings: we have the intensity of the beautiful ballads like JEALOUSY (my own favourite Fury track), ONCE UPON A DREAM, KING FOR TONIGHT and HOW MANY NIGHTS, HOW MANY DAYS; there is the haunting excitement of WONDROUS PLACE and the rockabilly power of TURN MY BACK ON YOU and MY ADVICE. And then we have the little gems such as FURY'S TUNE and DON'T WALK AWAY. The previously unissued tracks are classics in their own right and on their own are worth the price of this set. I have already mentioned MAYBE TOMORROW, but in addition



to this, we are treated to a substantially different, faster stereo take of **AWAY FROM YOU**, and the first official release of Hal Carter's **PLEASE LOVE ME**, presented here in remastered form from an original acetate. The final two stereo numbers on Disc Two will undoubtedly be the "icing on the cake" for all of Billy's fans: **THAT'S THE WAY IT GOES** and **MAGIC WONDERLAND** do not appear anywhere in the Decca recording sheets and there is no known information about them. They were clearly recorded late in Billy's time with Decca, for they are closer in sound to the Parlophone recordings made in the late sixties and it could be said that they provide the "missing link" between the highly successful Decca years and the chart barren but prolific and highly entertaining Parlophone years.

If I have any small quibble with this collection, it is with the recording level of one or two of the tracks on Disc One. However, this is a minute piece of nit-picking and does not really detract from the overall quality of this momentous release.

What more can I say? I urge you to go out and buy this shiny double set of classics from Britain's **NUMBER ONE** rock'n'roll and ballad master, and sit back and tap your feet in unadulterated enjoyment. This anthology is worth its weight in gold!

Eddie Muir.



# *Cross My Heart*

by Maureen Bowden

Continuing the ongoing saga of the "Billy Nights" ....

Entrepreneur extraordinaire Jim Brady organized two "Billy Nights" for us in his home town of Biggleswade in Bedfordshire. Great name Biggleswade, sounds like something out of a Disney film! Paul Neon provided the entertainment. (Nice guy with a great voice, give him a listen if you haven't already.) The place was packed to the gunnels. Joe Boyle who was researching for the "Sound of Fury" musical at the time, came along and was very impressed with the atmosphere and the enthusiasm for Billy's music, even though he was stuck in the hallway and couldn't see a thing. Everyone was in a party mood, there was no room to dance but we sang along with Paul and Danny Rivers contributed his own particular brand of wit out in the bar. (I won't give you any examples because they'd be so rude I'm sure you wouldn't understand them.) Due to either the lack of oxygen or the strobe lights I developed a pounding headache but after a couple of Monica O'Bierne's Solpadeine and several rum and cokes I managed to forget about it and carry on boogying. Jim Brady got me up on the stage, thanked me for publicizing the event and asked me to say a few words. I haven't a clue what I said (probably an effect of the Solpadeine) but I mentioned Billy so everyone clapped. The next morning Jim told us he'd arranged some "very special transport" to take Jean Wycherley and myself back to London where we were catching a train to Liverpool. It turned out to be a 1950 something red Chevrolet, a real Chuck Berry car. We felt like Queens sitting in back as we sped along the M25 in the rain. It was showing its age just a little and at one point one of the windscreen wipers flew off and landed in a ditch. Great car though. (Before anyone writes and tells me there aren't any ditches alongside the M25, I know. We'd come off the motorway by then to avoid the traffic and I've no idea where we were.)

The following year Jim did Biggleswade again for us at a bigger venue. As well as Paul he'd booked the excellent Darrell Higham and the Enforcers. Darrell does a great Eddie Cochran. In the mini-bus on the way back to the hotel a dozen or so of us sang a stirring version of "The Black Hills of Dakota". I think Albert was more or less in tune but I have serious doubts about the rest of us. It was excruciating.



December 1997 we had our first "Billy weekend" at the Allendale Hotel, Blackpool, hosted by Ian and Sheila Alexander. Any time you're up that way "The Legends Bar" at the hotel is well worth a visit. It's full of Rock'n'Roll memorabilia with Billy taking a prominent place of course. We enjoyed Sheila's wonderful home cooking and the entertainment was provided by Mike Quinn, Wayne Sugrue, Malcolm York, Malcolm's skin tight white flares, a young lady called Wendy (I think it was Wendy, I'm sure you'll correct me if I'm wrong) and Steve Baker who did a potted performance of "Play It Cool" (the film, not the song) with dialogue, actions, the lot. He performed the title song with my jacket draped across his shoulders for dramatic effect. Exhibitionist!

We had another great weekend at The Allendale in December 1998. Chris is telling you about it elsewhere in the magazine but I bet he doesn't tell you about him, Pete Keller and Steve Baker "helping" Mike Quinn with a couple of numbers and Pete's artistic interpretation of "Teenager in Love". What a rabble! Watch out for the evidence in "The Rogues Gallery" in future editions of the mag. You're worried now aren't you lads? Did I manage to catch the French kiss on camera?

We have a few "Billy events" lined up this year. I'm sure they'll be the civilized, dignified occasions we've come to know and love. See you there.



"Thank Your Lucky Stars" line-up: L to R: Peter Jay, guest DJ Muriel Young, the Three Vernons Girls, Dick Kallman, Eddie Calvert, Billy Fury, Bernard Cribbens and Brian Matthew.

**Review of "The Billy Fury Royal Performance"**  
**performed by the New Zealand Billy Fury Fan Club**  
(reproduced from the Newsletter of "The Elite"  
Rock'n'Roll Club, New Zealand, May 1998)

From the opening number by a Prince Charles lookalike, complete with corgi, telling us what a thriller Camilla was, supported by the Spice Girls singing they knew what he wanted, what he really, really wanted to the closing number, a stirring rendition of Elvis's "Glory Glory" with "Billy Fury" transposing Halaluya, this was a Cabaret to behold. Some 70 talented people gave their time to make the Royal Variety Performance 1998 just that. Billy's mum had flown in from England as the special guest and Moya in her usual enthusiastic manner did Billy proud.

The acts that made up the show came from every corner of the world. The Barbie Dolls song, was performed by ladies whose figures could be described as womanly and they gave credence to the saying more is better, having us all in hysterics with their rendition. The Andrews Sisters in their usual slick harmony mode had us rocking with the Chatanuka Chu Chu. Al Jolson sang of his Mammy and Auntie Alice gave us a fine reminder of "what she gave us". All through the show the rooster and his hen told us of their courtship, marriage and finally the long awaited arrival of the "chickettes". Willie Nelson and Hulio told us of all the women they had loved while the two tramps showed that Love conquered all. Rod Stewart asked us if we were feeling sexy. Jon English fresh from the Mikado showed us his dark eyes while Michael Jackson complete with gloves and monkey brought whistles and cheers.

All the women held their breath in anticipation of a Full Monty from the "Boys at the Laundromat" in a skit to the beat of Leader of the Pack. Gary "Glittered" and Moya's rendition of "Chloe" complete with tiger slippers showed her endless talents. Demi Rouso complete with hand maidens, transported us to Greece with his haunting voice then our own Ginny and Alex brought the place down with their interpretation of "Cinderella Rocka Fella". I can now tell you all that when they finished with the rock'n'roll drop, Ginny's wig was not supposed to fall off, but it all added to the fun. No show is complete without Mr Universe who could have used a trip to the YMCA. This guy would have made a stick insect look fat. He slowly removed each item of clothing climaxing in a hysterical finale of posing in his jockeys to the adoration of the Spice Girls. Eartha Kitt sang she only wanted a millionaire - don't we all? The final number performed by the entire cast was as I said a rousing rendition of "Glory Glory Billy Fury" to the folding of the Billy Fury banner. Moya, then lovingly handed it to Billy's mum, who had a tear in



her eye after two of Billy's hits had been performed by his lookalike. A truly golden night was enjoyed by everyone lucky enough to have brought a ticket, in the knowledge they were supporting wonderful charities and helping to keep alive the memory of a great performer. Thank you Moya and the cast for a truly outstanding show.



### ***JEAN REMEMBERS***

**Personal Memories of Billy's Mum, Jean  
Interviewed by Maureen Bowden**

It was 1964. Billy was touring the country as top of the bill on a show produced by Jack Good. He was taken ill and was spending a few days with his parents in Liverpool to recuperate. Jack Good rang him and begged him to come to the next date of the show which was at Cleethorpes and go on stage even if he didn't sing. Jack said the fans would lynch him if Billy didn't appear. Jean protested that he wasn't well enough to do it but Jack promised to send a chauffeur driven car to take him and bring him home after the show. He even said Jean could accompany him. Billy finally agreed and he, Johnny Laker who was his road manager at the time and Jean were chauffeur driven to Cleethorpes.

Jean stood in the wings and watched as Billy went on stage. He wore a blue bomber jacket with white fleecy lining and pale blue trousers. He stood on stage, turned up his collar in the time-honoured Fury fashion and sang "I Will". The audience went wild.

After the show Billy asked Johnny Laker to get Jean safely out of the theatre. He tried to smuggle her and Billy to the car but they were mobbed by fans before they could get away. They finally made their escape and Billy, Jean and Johnny fell asleep in the back of the car with a rug over them. They woke up somewhere in the middle of nowhere and the chauffeur had disappeared. The car had broken down and he'd gone to find a taxi. They eventually arrived home at 4 o'clock in the morning. No doubt Jack Good was safely tucked up in bed by then with his neck intact!

UK CD Discography  
by Chris Eley  
(With special thanks to Roy Harvey)

TITLE	TRACKS	CAT NO.	RELEASE DATE
THE BEST OF BILLY FURY (Yellow Spine And Back-Also Issued with light blue spine and cover )	Same track as vinyl. (1978 re-recordings)	Ktel ONCD 5125	June 1987 Deleted Stereo
THE BILLY FURY HIT PARADE (Initial issue had extra picture on a flap)	Same tracks as vinyl.	London 820 5302	1987
THE SOUND OF FURY + 10	Thats Love (Stereo And Alternate Take) /My Advice (Stereo) /Phone Call (Stereo) /You Don't Know (Stereo) /Turn My Back On You /Don't Say It's Over (Stereo) /Since You've Been Gone (Stereo) /It's You I Need (Stereo) /Alright Goodbye (Stereo) /Don't Leave Me This Way (Stereo) /Gonna Type a Letter /Margo (Don't Go) /Don't Knock Upon My Door /Time Has Come /Angel Face /The Last Kiss /My Christmas Prayer /Baby How I Cried /I Got Someone /Don't Jump	London 820 6272	November 1988 (Deleted) Re-issued 1993 as Deram 820 6272 (Stereo-not all tracks)
ONCE UPON A DREAM	Play It Cool /You're Swell /Lets Paint TheTown /The Twist Kid /Don't Walk Away /Begin the Beguine /King For Tonight /Once Upon a Dream /Running Around /What Do You Think Your're Doing Of /Love Sick Blues /Nobody's Child /What Did I Do /I Can't Help Loving You/ Keep Away /Cheat With Love /I'm Hurting All Over /Candy Kisses /All I Wanna Do Is Cry /From The Bottom of My Heart	Deram 820 7912 (Deleted)	January 1989
BILLY	Same tracks as vinyl release plus, I'll Never Fall in Love Again /Kansas City /Go Ahead And Ask Her /What Am I Gonna Do	London 820 6252	March 1989 (Deleted)
BILLY FURY EP COLLECTION	Tracks as vinyl release	See For Miles SEECD 59	October 1990 (Deleted)
HALFWAY TO PARADISE	Tracks as vinyl release plus, Wondrous Place - Version 1 /Open Your Arms /Magic Eyes/ Sleepless Nights /Please Don't Go /If I Lose You /I Love How You Love Me /Letter Full of Tears	Deram 820 9242	August 1990 (Deleted)
ROUGH DIAMONDS AND PURE GEMS (Purple lettering on cover)	Tracks as for Two Magnum Force LP's plus; Things Are Changing /Lady (Parlophone era tracks 1967 -71)	Magnum Force CDMF 072 (Re-issued about 1997 with pink/red lettering instead of purple)	April 1991 (Stereo)
IN THOUGHTS OF YOU (The Best Of Billy Fury)	It's Only Make Believe /Jealousy /A Thousand Stars /Push Push /Angel Face /I Will /Letter Full of Tears /I'll Never Quite Get Over You /In Thoughts Of You /Wondrous Place (Version 1) /Nobody's Child /Kansas City /Candy Kisses /Glad All Over /If I Lose You /Give Me You Word	Pickwick PWKS 4053P	May 1991
THE COLLECTION	Tracks as vinyl release	Castle Communications CCSCD 160	June 1992 (Some tracks stereo) (Deleted)
AM I BLUE	Wondrous Place (version 2) /That's Enough /Tell Me How Do You Feel /Am I Blue /What Am I Living For /Baby, What You Want Me To Do /Give Me Your Word /I'll Never Quite Get Over You /Didn't See The Real Thing Come Along /Letter Full of Tears /Last Night Was Made For Love /I'm Hurting All Over /Somebody Elses Girl /I Will /Don't Jump /Don't Walk Away /Here Am I) Broken Hearted /I'm Lost Without You	Deram 820 9822	1993



TITLE	TRACKS	CAT NO	RELEASE DATE
BILLY FURY - PARADISE	Halfway to Paradise /It's Only Make Believe /Last Night Was Made For Love /I Will /Wondrous Place (version 1) /Don't Worry /We Were Meant For Each Other /Our Day Will Come /I'll Never Fall in Love Again /Forget Him /Love or Money /Begin The Beguine /Be Mine Tonight /Don't Leave Me This Way	Spectrum 550011-2	1993 (Some copies appeared in 1997 with Deram instead of Decca on the rear cover) (Stereo - Polydor tracks plus last track) Re-issued December 1998 with new colour cover
THE OTHER SIDE OF BILLY FURY	Tracks as for vinyl release	See For Miles SEECD 383	1993 (Deleted) (Stereo - same tracks only)
THE BEST OF BILLY - 20 ETERNAL CLASSICS	Same K-Tel tracks as 1987 "Best of" release	Musketeer ECD 3008	1993 (Stereo)
ALL THE BEST - BILLY FURY 20 TIMELESS CLASSICS	Same K-Tel tracks as 1987 "Best of" release - has some title errors	K-Tel ECD 3041	1993 (Stereo)
THE VERY BEST OF BILLY FURY	Same tracks as K-Tel 1987 "Best of" release	Sound Waves SOW 709	1993 Re-issued in 1997 with same picture but in black and white and with writing variations
BILLY FURY - LEGENDS	18 K-Tel tracks. Missing are Colette and Somebody Else's Girl. Has song title errors	Wisepack LECD 086	1994 (Deleted) (Stereo)
THE VERY BEST OF BILLY FURY	Gonna Type a Letter /Maybe Tomorrow /Don't Knock Upon My Door /Margo /My Christmas Prayer /Turn My Back on You /That's Love /Alright Goodbye /Cross My Heart /I'd Never Find Another You /Last Night Was Made For Love /Once Upon a Dream /Because of Love /Running Around /Play It Cool /I Love How You Love Me /Letter Full of Tears /Like I've Never Been Gone (misspelt as Gongi) /When Will You Say I Love You /In Summer /Do You Really Love Me Too /I Will /Nothin' Shakin' /It's Only Make Believe /In Thoughts Of You /Run to My Loving Arms /I'll Never Quite Get Over You /Nobodys Child	Presto PREST CD 1001 (Country of Origin not Known)	About 1995
WE WANT BILLY / BILLY	Tracks as original vinyl releases - excellent sleeve notes. <u>Essential</u> release!	Beat Goes On BGO CD 2258	1995 (Stereo - live album only)
THE ONE AND ONLY	Tracks as original vinyl release - a missed opportunity should have included Forget Him /Don't Tell Ne Lies (the fast version) /Devil or Angel (alt no strings version) /Going Round the Bend (still unreleased)	Polydor 529 8612	1996 (Stereo)
THE ROCKIN' AND BOPPIN' BILLY FURY	I Will /Halfway to Paradise /Angel Face /Wondrous Place (version 2) /Letter Full of Tears /What am I Gonna Do /Cross My Heart /Don't Jump /What Do You Think Your Doing Of /Jealousy /I'd Never Find Another You /I'll Never Quite Get Over You /I'll Never Fall in Love Again /Last Night Was Made for Love /We Were Meant for Each Other /In Thoughts of You /King For Tonight /Give Me Your Word /This Diamond Ring /Begin the Beguine /Be Mine Tonight /In Summer /Do You Really Love Me Too /Somebody Elses Girl /All I Wanna Do Is Cry /You'd Better Believe It Baby /Gonna Type a Letter /Don't Knock Upon My Door /Turn My Back on you /Like I've Never Been Gone /Magic Eyes/ (Here Am I) Broken Hearted	Marginal MAR 018 (European Import) Features one Polydor track. Title is misleading - more ballads than rockin'	
BILLY FURY	16 K-Tel tracks first picture disc - missing tracks are: Colette /I'm Lost Without You /Wondrous Place /Somebody Elses Girl	Flute FLCD 2029	1996 (Stereo) (Deleted)
BILLY FURY HALFWAY TO PARADISE	16 K-Tel tracks - picture disc. Missing tracks are: Wondrous Place /Run to My Lovin' Arms /Give Me Your Word /Somebody Else's Girl	PRISM PLATCD49	1997 (Stereo)

TITLE	TRACKS	CAT NO.	RELEASE DATE
HALFWAY TO PARADISE	16 K-Tel tracks - nice cover. Missing are 'Run to my loving arms', 'Give me your word', 'Somebody Else's Girl' and 'Wondrous Place'	Pegasus PEG CD 043	1997 (Stereo)
THE VERY BEST OF BILLY FURY	20 K-Tel tracks - picture disc	Summit SUMCD 4144	1997 (Stereo)
THE ONE AND ONLY BILLY FURY	20 K-Tel tracks as 1987 "Best of" release - nice picture but reverse image	Pulse PLS CD 279	June 1998 (Stereo)
HALFWAY TO PARADISE	20 K-Tel Tel tracks (Sold in Peacock's stores)	QED 274	July 1998 (Stereo)
THE VERY BEST OF BILLY FURY - HALFWAY TO PARADISE	18 K-Tel tracks only. Missing are 'I Will' and 'Give Me Your Word'	Hallmark 309172 (lovely cover)	1998
THE 40th ANNIVERSARY ANTHOLOGY	<i>Disc One</i> - Maybe Tomorrow (Stereo Alternate Take) /Gonna Type a Letter /Margo /Don't Knock Upon My Door /Angel Face /My Christmas Prayer /Colette /Baby How I Cried /That's Love-with the Four Jays (Stereo Alternate Take) /My Advice-with the Four Jays (Stereo) /Turn My Back on You-with the Four Jays /Wondrous Place /A Thousand Stars /You're Having the Last Dance with Me /Don't Worry-with the Four Kestrels /Talkin' in my Sleep-with the Four Kestrels /Halfway to Paradise /Cross My Heart /Fury's Tune /Jealousy /Don't Jump /I'd Never Find Another You /Please Don't Go /Don't Walk Away /Letter Full of Tears /King For Tonight /Last Night Was Made for Love /Once Upon a Dream /Running Around /Because of Love /Like I'd Never Been Gone /What Do You Think You're Doing Of <i>Disc Two</i> - All I Wanna Do Is Cry /We Were Meant for Each Other /How Many Nights, How Many Days /When Will You Say I Love You /I'll Never Fall in Love Again /In Summer /Tell Me How Do You Feel /Wondrous Place version 2 /Somebody Else's Girl /Go Ahead and Ask Her /Please Love Me (Previously Unreleased) /What Am I Gonna Do /Do You Really Love Me Too (Fools Errand) /Nothin' Shakin' (But the Leaves on the Trees) /I Will /It's Only Make Believe /Baby What You Want Me To Do /I'm Lost Without You /This Diamond Ring /Stand By Me-with the Gamblers (Mono Version) /In Thoughts of You Away from You (Stereo Alternate Take) /Run to My Loving Arms /Where Do You Run /Turn Your Lamp Down Low-with the Gamblers /Give Me Your Word /I'll Never Quite Get Over You /I Belong to The Wind /Don't Let a Little Pride (Stand in Your Way) /That's The Way It Goes (Stereo Master - Previously Unreleased) /Magic Wonderland (Stereo Master - Previously Unreleased)	Deram 844 874 2  Track compilation, memorabilia and liner notes by the Sound of Fury. 63 tracks in total.	November 1998
THE VERY BEST OF BILLY FURY	16 K-Tel (No 'Wondrous Place', 'Give Me Your Word', 'Somebody Else's Girl' or 'Run To My Loving Arms')	PLAT CD 1118	December 1998 (Mail Order)





**BILLY FURY UK CASSETTE DISCOGRAPHY**  
 Non Exhaustive - no compilations included here  
 Special thanks to Frank Bull

TITLE	TRACKS	CAT NO	RELEASE DATE
BILLY FURY - THE GOLDEN YEARS	Re recordings - No picture cover. Cover as LP	K-Tel (Deleted) CE 2030	1979
THE WORLD OF BILLY FURY	Reprocessed Stereo. Also issued on stereo 8 cartridge with same picture as LP but with variations.	ECSP 188 (Deleted)	1972 (Pressed in 1971)
ROCK ECHOES - THE BILLY FURY HIT PARADE	Blue lettering - 4 hits listed on front in black lettering and red and white. Same cover as LP	Decca (Deleted) KTBC 37	1982
THE BILLY FURY HIT PARADE	As above but with pink and red lettering - no hits listed on front. Also issued with red and white lettering, may be other variations	Decca (Deleted) KTBC 37	1982
THE ONE AND ONLY	Cover as LP	Polydor (Deleted) POLDC 5069	1983
WE WANT BILLY	Cover as LP	Decca (Deleted) KTBC 62	1983 (Stereo)
MEMORIES - BILLY FURY	Cover as LP	K-Tel (Deleted) CE 2227	1983
BILLY FURY - THE MISSING YEARS	Cover as LP	Redbus (Deleted) ZCBUS 1003	1983
BILLY FURY - JEALOUSY (Import)	Reserved image pink shirt shot on front. Cassette release only.	Pickwick Spot (Deleted) SPC 8573	1980's
THE BEST OF BILLY FURY	Cover as LP/CD	K-Tel (Deleted) ONC 2354	1983
BILLY FURY - LOVING YOU	Cover as LP	Magnum Force (Deleted) MFC 1027	1984
BILLY FURY - THE EP COLLECTION	Cover as LP	See for Miles (Deleted) SEEK 59	1990
BILLY FURY - THE COLLECTION	Cover as LP/CD	Castle Communications Part 1 CCSMC1 Part 2 CCSMC2 Two part tape set CCSMC 160 Double play single cassette (re-issued)	1992
THE BILLY FURY HIT PARADE	Cover as CD	Deram 820 530 4	1987
THE BEST OF BILLY FURY - IN THOUGHTS OF YOU	Cover as CD	Pickwick Music PWKMC 4053	1989
BILLY FURY - PARADISE	Cover as LP/CD	Spectrum 550 0114	1993
ALL THE BEST - BILLY FURY	20 Timeless Classics - Re-recordings. Cover as CD	K-Tel EMC 2041	1993
THE VERY BEST OF BILLY FURY	K-Tel tracks. Cover as CD	Sound Waves SOW 909	1993
BILLY FURY - HALFWAY TO PARADISE	16 K-Tel tracks. Cover as CD	Pegasus PEC MC 043	1997
THE ONE AND ONLY BILLY FURY	Cover as CD	Pulse PLS MC 279	1998
HALFWAY TO PARADISE	Cover as CD	MC QED 274	1998

NB. Many cassettes have the same cover picture as the CD release but elongated and therefore distorted. Coming soon - compilation CDs.



# DISC

THE TOP RECORD & MUSICAL WEEKLY



253 Week ending January 26, 1963  
Every Thursday, price 6d.

## THE BILLY FURY HIS FANS NEVER SEE

WHY he's not yet ready  
for marriage



WHY some people don't  
get on with him



WHY he doesn't enjoy a  
wild life





**Mean? Moody? Maybe he is, but**

# THIS IS THE OTHER SIDE OF BILLY FURY

January 26, 1963

**"HE'S one of the nicest people I've ever had the privilege of calling a friend," Hal Carter told me, "and I know how to get along with him. But I don't honestly know what makes him tick. I DON'T THINK ANYBODY EVER WILL !**

"I've been Brenda Lee's road manager in America, worked with Johnny Burnette and met Fury's great idol Elvis Presley, but I reckon Billy is the most fascinating person of them all.

"But he's certainly not easy to understand, and that's one reason why I can't ever see him getting married. Not for a long time to come, anyway. He's a wonderful character, but I've had a lot of people tell me in these four years that they didn't like Billy.

"They could never give any reason why, and invariably it turned out they'd never met him. When this happened I used to try and arrange an introduction. And they'd always be converted! You can't dislike him . . . on the other

hand you can't really get to know him. He's much too deep.

"And what chance would a girl have? He spends most of his time tearing over the country . . . and you've really got to understand before you can accept him.

"If he talks about a steady girl friend . . . that usually means he's dated her twice!"

On his stage appearances Billy gives the impression of being mean and moody. I couldn't think of a better person to ask if this applied off stage too.

"Mean? Never!" said Hal. "But he's certainly a very deep thinker. There have been occasions, and not necessarily when he has been annoyed or upset,

*For four years now Billy Fury has been a top star with a fan following that rivals even that of Cliff Richard. Yet do the fans who buy his records and travel miles to see him know what he is REALLY like? Now, in an interview with John Wells, his former road manager, Hal Carter, reveals something of the star the fan never sees.*



HAL CARTER

that he hasn't spoken a word to anyone for hours on end.

"Occasionally it'll happen when someone is talking to him. Doesn't matter how important that person is, something will click and he'll be off.

"And when he gets upset he goes silent, too." I remember once when we were cruising along the road to Great Yarmouth. Quite suddenly, the car struck two birds as they flew across the road.

"What the true effect on Billy Fury was only he will ever know. But he didn't speak to me for

two and a half days afterwards. He was that upset and annoyed!

"Do you know, when we shared a flat in London he used to keep dozens of birds, but he had to get rid of them when we started travelling so much. He didn't think it fair to keep them if he couldn't look after them properly. He gave some of them to Joe Brown's mother and the others to Dickie Pride's mother. He still likes to go round and see them whenever he can."

This was the side to Billy I would never have expected . . . but then he's not the sort of person one gets to know easily.

"You know," went on Hal, "Billy doesn't have much time to relax, but when he does everyone seems to expect him to do something really wild. But he doesn't. He likes nothing better than to listen to his records. And has he got a collection! He must have about a hundred LPs, everything from Ravel's 'Bolero' to Bo Diddley.

"And again, this might seem out of character, but whenever we are on the road travelling it isn't swanky restaurants we stop at.

"If we spot a quaint pub or tea house that's the place we'll stop for a meal.

"If the fans could see this side of Billy I'm convinced they'd love him all the more. He's a great character."



## THE MAKING OF "THE SOUND OF FURY"

It was in August of 1993 that I saw the musical 'BE BOP A LULA' at the Liverpool Playhouse Theatre.

It was the story of the 1960 tour which Billy Fury did with Eddie Cochran and Gene Vincent. (The actual play never toured, in fact, for reasons unknown, because it was quite a good effort, so the only chance that *anybody* had to see it was at Liverpool.)

The actor Gary Mavers played Billy (Gary is better known now for his part as one of the doctors in the on-going serial 'PEAK PRACTICE') I enjoyed the play, and I enjoyed his performance, though at the time, I wasn't a particular fan of Billy's music.

And neither was I when I left the theatre.

The thing that *did* impress me, was the reaction of the audience each time the Billy Fury character came on.

O.k. it was a Liverpool audience, but, even accounting for bias, to me, it was obvious that a musical play about Billy Fury's life was needed.

I began to research his life and his music, and found great help from not only Albert and Jean, but from others in whose direction I was pointed, namely, Maureen Bowden and John Kingstree. Little did I know at the time that there were others to whom I might have turned and gotten the same, unselfish assistance, people like Chris Ely, Jean Prosser, Frank Bull, in fact most of those who now make up the syndicate which runs the fan club.

By the time I had gathered enough information to begin the first draft, I found I was involved in a number of other projects, all of which threatened to supply me with money. The golden rule when writing for a living, is 'always work on that which will put bread on the table', and 'FURY' (original title) was speculative i.e. not only did I still have to write it, I had to interest somebody enough in it for them to buy it - and make a living meanwhile.

However, I also felt that 'FURY' was not a project I could put aside for long - it was a story crying out to be told, and somebody might get round to telling it before I did.

So, I contacted a young writer I had recently been introduced to, Gary Waterman. I asked him would he like to share the workload, he liked the idea, and we began to write it together late in 1993.

We had the first draft finished by, I think, June 1994, and we looked around for someone we might offer it to. The first (and obvious) choice was Bill Kenwright, a Liverpudlian through and through, whose history is firmly rooted in the sixties and the early pop culture.



We sent it to him, and a week later, he rang me from Euston station having just gotten off the train from Liverpool and having read the script on the journey.

He loved it.

He normally only reads scripts *after* they have been recommended to him by the people he employs to read them first. As it happened, he had stuffed this one into his bag just to have something to read on the train. I've often thought since, that had someone else been designated to read it, they might not have been as taken, and it might never have reached Bill.

A second draft was needed, of course, and at this stage, John Kingstree was called in to provide us with the lyrics of all the songs in the show. John actually wrote them all out, in longhand, in what he called 'a labour of love'.

The show was set to open at the Liverpool Playhouse Theatre in June 1995, the title having been changed to 'THE SOUND OF FURY' but before then, there was casting to be done, and rehearsals. Happily, Gary and I were allowed to be involved in all this (it doesn't always happen) though Gary was less able to attend auditions and rehearsals than I was since he is a long-term sufferer from ME (Chronic Fatigue Syndrome) and cannot travel far.

Gary Mavers *almost* got the lead role, but a cock-up with his agent allowed a young, talented actor/singer called Danny McCall to show what he could do. Danny accepted the part, and rehearsals went ahead in London, then in Liverpool.

I remember Gary and I in attendance at the final day of rehearsals in the Playhouse, sitting with notebooks and pencils, and having to write extra or substitute dialogue for the cast whenever what they were saying either didn't work, or when new lines were needed to link scenes etc. At these times, when the actors, crew, technicians, everybody were waiting for us to be 'creative', we knew the pressure was on.

Opening night, 28th. June 1995, was nerve-tingling. Happily, Gary was able to be there, and we shared a handshake as the curtain went up. I'll never forget the sound of the cascading piano at the start of 'In Thoughts Of You'. It was only then I realised that we had made a good choice of opening song.

That first show was magic, and drew a standing ovation from a packed house.

'THE SOUND OF FURY' ran for eleven weeks at the Liverpool Playhouse Theatre, each house a virtual sell-out, before transferring to the much larger Liverpool Empire Theatre (2,000 capacity) for a further two weeks prior to touring.

The 1995 tour took it to Manchester, Woking, Plymouth, back to Manchester, then back to the Liverpool Empire, and audiences were exceptional. We caught it at the end of the tour, and agreed that the cast had honed it into a really slick, poignant, funny, show, and standing ovations had become the norm.

We expected that another tour would be mounted in 1996, but that never came to be. I believe that a lot of Fury Fan Club members petitioned for its return, as did a lot of fans that the show (and Danny McCall) had picked up on its travels.

However, in early 1997 we recieved the news that a further tour was being planned for the Summer, and sure enough, this was the case, with the opening night being in Newcastle, followed by Birmingham, Manchester (the Opera House this time), then Liverpool Empire, Bradford, and ending in Billingham.

We caught it in Manchester, and its worth noting that 'BUDDY' was showing at the Palace Theatre at the same time - we sold them out!

Now, 1998, sees the story being taken a stage further. Bill Kenwright has commissioned us to write the screenplay, and in fact, as I write, we are at second draft stage. There'll be a few more drafts before it's finished, but we expect shooting to begin, in Liverpool, in the Summer of next year. Casting should be interesting.

One thing that might be worth remembering when you go to see the film, is that, of necessity, you will be watching a *dramatised version* of Billy's life.

Real life (even one such as Billy's) is boring to watch, and after all, we are not doing a documentary. Consequently, events which really happened, have to have an element of drama added in order to create the tension and conflict and suspense which is vital to a filmed story.

Of course, we'll tell the story as it happened, but not necessarily, letter for letter, in the way that it happened. So, if you spot a song being sung at a time when, in real life, it wasn't sung, just remember, there's a good reason why.

I hope you're looking forward to the screening as much as Gary and I are. Oh, and by the way, I'm a fan now.

Joe Boyle



## QUESTION TIME

Questions asked in this issue will be answered in the next. If you have any information on the following questions please write to Chris Eley at the Fan Club address.

### BILLY ON TOUR

1. Billy toured extensively from 1959 to 1965. Do records exist of these tours with dates, etc? Can you list what tour programmes were produced at this time?
2. What was the first tour programme to feature Billy's name?
3. What was the average duration of Billy's live set during the early sixties?
4. There was a tour with Billy headlining with "The Pretty Things" in 1965. Was this his last package tour or were there later ones?
5. When did Billy tour Europe and in what countries?
6. Billy visited America and met Elvis in 1962, but a tour of the States was cancelled previously in 1961. Did he ever play any gigs in the USA?
7. Billy performed Elvis numbers on stage, "Just Because", "Mean Woman Blues" and "Baby, Let's Play House", what other unreleased songs were in Billy's repertoire?
8. Billy had several backing bands throughout his career, "the Blue Flames", "The Tornados", "The Gamblers", and "Fury's Tornados". Were there others and can you give dates when these groups were with Billy? The names of the various band members would be helpful.
9. At what time did Joe Brown cease to be in Billy's band and who recorded the song "Stick Around" first, Billy or Joe?



### WANTS, SWAPS AND PENPAL COLUMN



If you would like to include an entry in this page but don't want your address to appear in the magazine, please use the Fan Club address and we'll send any response on to you. Remember, however, to send us a stamped, addressed envelope.

### WANTS

**TERRY JOWETT** 6 Plumpton Walk Wrose Bradford W Yorks BD2 1PB wants any rare/live (audio or video) recordings of Billy. Quality is not important.

**"HALFWAY TO PARADISE"**  
**BBC "OMNIBUS" 12th OCTOBER 1998**  
**Reviewed By Maureen Bowden**

The documentary, produced by Paul Pierrot took an affectionate but refreshingly unsentimental look at Billy, his career and his life. It revealed a complex, sensitive individual and how he dealt with personal tragedy and his own inner demons. People who knew him well shared their memories with us and their comments clearly expressed their regard for him as an artiste and a human being. Here are a few quotes to give you a taste.

*"He had a brilliant voice. He was Britain's best ever Rock'n'Roll singer .... a very handsome geezer."* Ian Drury

*"When people think of British Rock'n'Roll they think of him straight away."* Bob Stanley (St Etienne)

*"He was self taught. He'd sit for hours working out chords. The noise he used to make sometimes! His dad would go mad."* Jean Wycherley

*"I was about fourteen when I met Ronnie. All the girls were head over heels. He was absolutely gorgeous."* Yvonne Ellis

*"There was always one he was going out with, one he was trying to go out with and one who was trying to go out with him."* Brian Johnson

*"He was a sexy 's\*\*'. He just oozed it."* Billy Hatton

*"I think his looks got him the interview."* Brian Gregg

*"They were hysterical, the girls in those days. They used to tear bits off him."* Lee Everett Alkin

*"I immediately took to him because he was so genuine and so shy."* Jack Good

*"He was shy but he had these drop dead gorgeous looks. He was a magnet and he was so sweet."* Sheila of the Vernons Girls

*"Billy was a great artiste."* Joe Brown



*"Billy was a pioneer - a singer songwriter."* Tony Prince

*"He felt things so deeply and he would sing from the heart."* Maggie Stredder

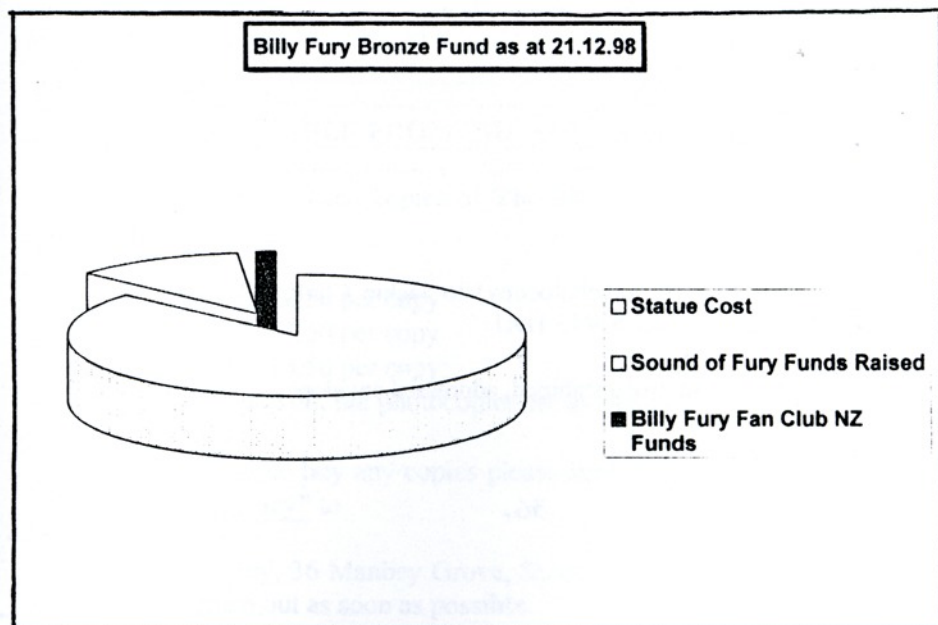
*"The cinema was packed. You couldn't get in. They cheered and shouted. They quite obviously adored it."* Michael Winner about "Play It Cool".

*"He enjoyed singing and writing and doing shows. What he didn't enjoy was all the razzmatazz."* Hal Carter

*"Although he was my brother he was also my idol."* Albert Wycherley

The programme was very well produced, has been unanimously acclaimed and has been nominated for an award.

Thank you Paul and everyone who contributed to it and thank you Billy, just for being Billy. We'll get you your statue babe, you earned it.



## **JACKIE CLARK - "I'LL SHOW YOU A MOUNTAIN.."**

Over the weekend of 21st to 23rd May 1999, Jackie Clark will attempt to climb Ben Nevis to raise funds for *The Billy Fury Bronze Fund*. Would you be willing to sponsor her? If so, please send your sponsorship form to her at 2 Stanbridge Mansions, Putney, London SW15 1DU.

If you don't want to tear the page out of your magazine, please either photocopy the form or write it out on a plain piece of paper.

Good luck with the climb, Jackie.

**Sponsorship form for JACKIE CLARK  
to climb BEN NEVIS in aid of  
THE BILLY FURY BRONZE FUND  
21st TO 23rd May 1999**



I will sponsor Jackie Clark for £ ..... to climb Ben Nevis.

Signed .....

Name .....

Address  
.....  
.....

Phone No .....

Please send this form (or a photocopy) to Jackie Clark, 2 Stanbridge Mansions, Putney, London, SW15 1DU

Please remember to enclose a stamped, addressed envelope.



## BILLY FURY PUBLICITY PHOTOS

The following are available from:-

Ray & Dee Johnson, PO Box 4, Haverhill, Suffolk, CB9 0JG  
(They also run the **Joe Brown Fan Club** from this address)

£

Fury P1	A great 10" x 8" b/w head & shoulders pic	3.95
Fury P2	Unusual 10" x 8" b/wt pic, on the farm	3.95
Fury P3	6" x 4" set of 3 colour close ups	7.50
Fury P4	A super 10" x 8" b/wt close up, head in hands	3.95
Fury P5	A great 10" x 8" b/wt ½ length, towelling down	3.95
Fury P6	A nice 10" x 8" b/wt press pic, in jacket & tie	3.95
Fury P7	A super 10" x 8" b/wt close up, great smile	3.95
Fury P8	A great 10" x 8" b/wt casual pic, sitting on a couch	3.95
Fury P9	A good 10" x 8" b/wt close up, head & shoulders	3.95
Fury P10	A super 10" x 8" b/wt press pic, on the phone	3.95
Fury P11	A great 10" x 8" b/wt moody pic, leaning on wall	3.95
Fury P12	A great 10" x 8" b/wt still from "Play It Cool"	3.95
Fury P14	A good 10" x 8" b/wt pic, with fan in the street	3.95
Fury p15	A good 10" x 8" b/wt live pic, "Play It Cool"	5.95
Fury P16	A good 10" x 8" b/wt pic, with his great love – horses	3.95

Although Ray & Dee Johnson are not connected with "The Sound of Fury" we thought we would bring the availability of these photos to your attention.

### AVAILABLE FROM THE SOUND OF FURY

A limited number of back copies of **The Sound of Fury** magazine are available.

Magazine No 1 @ £2.50 per copy

Magazine No 3 @ £3.50 per copy

Magazine No 4 @ £3.50 per copy

Magazine No 2 sold out but photocopies are available @ £1.50 per copy

If you would like to buy any copies please send your cheque payable to "The Sound of Fury" to

The Sound of Fury, 36 Manbey Grove, Stratford, London, E15 1EX and we will post them out as soon as possible.

## *IN THOUGHTS OF YOU*

Our special thoughts in the New Year go to Jean Prosser and Jacqui Gall, both of whom lost their dad last year.

Eric Lander who was involved in a road accident but thankfully is now recovered.

Rita Smalley and Maureen Bowden's mum who recently underwent surgery.

Frank Bull, Clare, Michael Weston, "Lolly" Whitaker and Jean Wycherley who continue to have health problems but battle on regardless.

Janet Coote, her dad who's recovering well and her grandson Daniel who's still receiving hospital treatment,

and

Anyone else out there for whom 1998 wasn't a particularly good year.

We wish you all you wish yourselves for 1999.





# ROGUES GALLERY

---



Maureen & Mick



Jackie



Jean P



Chris & Jean W



Clare & "friend"

---

The Rogues Gallery is based on an idea from Elaine Ashbrooke.  
Thanks Elaine. I'll be writing to you shortly about your other idea.  
Maureen.

---



## **THE SOUND OF FURY**

**Official Billy Fury Fan Club**

**c/o 36 Manbey Grove, Stratford, London, E15 1EX**