

COMPLETELY SOLD OUT City of Manchester

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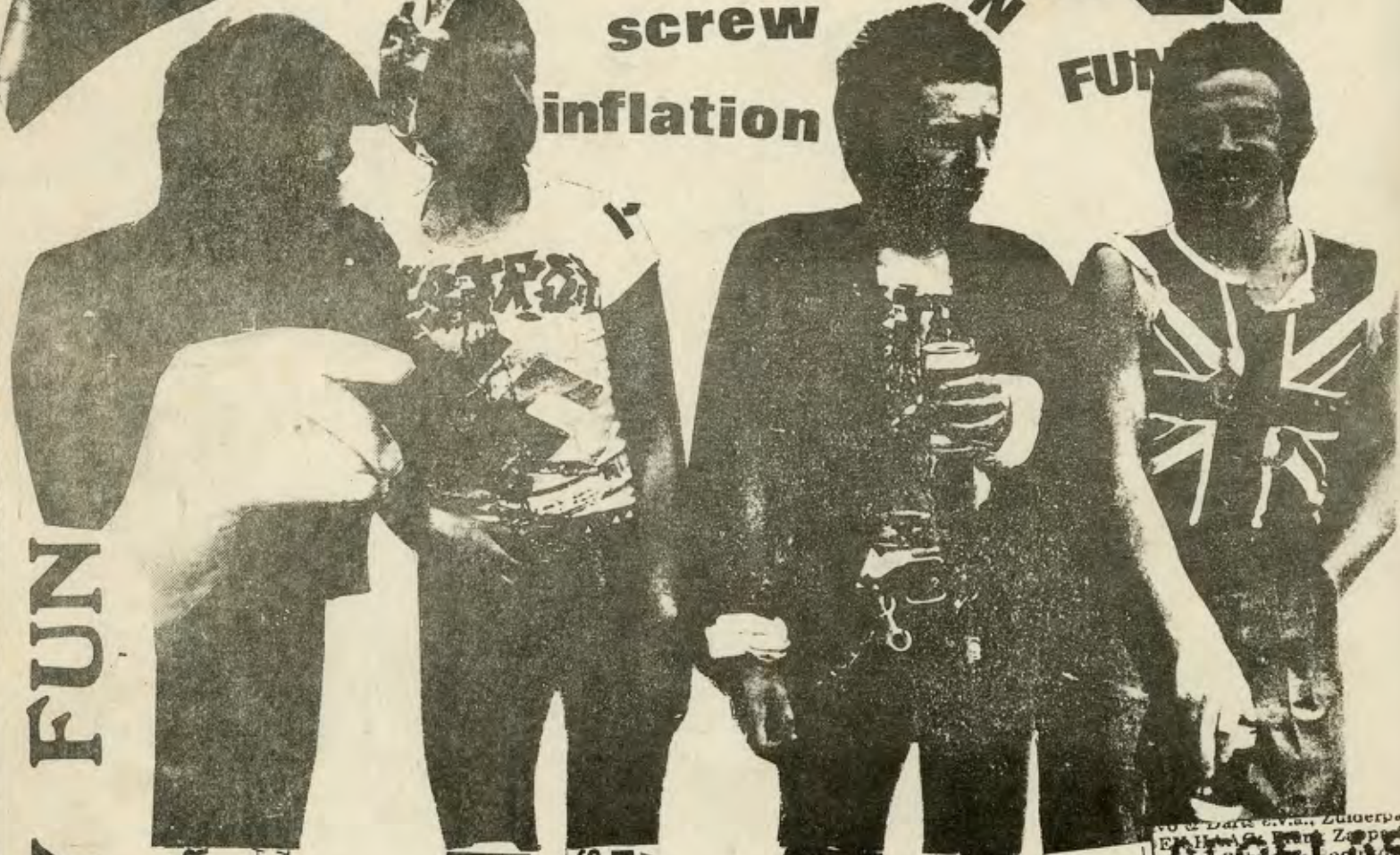
The 4th

C.I.T.Y.

FUN FUN FUN

10p

screw inflation



CITY FUN

THE ORIGINAL WINKLE PICKER

DAILY TELEGRAPH THE OBSERVER

SOLD OUT

Record Reviews STARTS MONDAY

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MUSICAL EXPRESS

GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE

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JOURNEES PROFESSIONNELLES

WHAT EVERY WOMAN SHOULD KNOW ABOUT VIBRATORS

NEWS 'The Change'

TRAIGHT MUSIC PRESENTS Harvey Goldsmith Entertainments presents

GALLERY SARPHATI-STRAIT 62

THE FACTORY (RUSSELL CLUB) Royce Road, Hulme

TRUE LIFE CONFESSION.

Yesterday I realised that I was nothing but a pathetic little creep who enjoys seeing my own wonderful name in print. Here it comes.....mick middles..mick middles....(lets try it in larger type).. MICK MIDDLES....oh that's super.. my horrible human ego is exploding with glee.....what a cunt I am, all I can do is talk about myself.....I sink to the depths of pure self indulgence every day.. I convince myself that I am well worthy to dent the budding careers of hard working individuals who never would consider touching a hair on my precious golden (as in godly) brown hair.....Then again I could be helping them.....have I anything worthy to contribute to anything? Do I really give a shit about anything other than my own happiness?...why should I continue to exist if have no outside interests at all...(outside myself that is---) ?? Shall I continue to (Jimi) live in this room full of mirrors or should I crash through it.....lets face it , i am a normal cunt.

Just like every shitty buisness man, every rock star, every politician..every T.V. newsreader, every anarchist....every writer, everyone who has the chance.. and everyone who bothers to live.....Yet again we must face the fact that if I were to commit suicide then I would be giving every other cunt a slightly better chance of moving on..I would (for once) be doing something that is socially worthwhile.... yes,that's it.. the answer.. I'll kill myself.. of course I DON'T mean it...do I?? Why should I kill myself? I'd just be helping people like me.... and I hate people like me.. that is..untill i see people who are even worse.....untill i read the papers... watch the old box and generally observe the modern day ethics of buisness(ooh.. that word again).. sod 'em, I'll stay alive for the time being and continue to be a pathetic little cunt who just loves to see his stinking wimpy name in print...Here it comes again.....mick middles..MICK MIDDLES M I C K M I D D L E S M I C K M D D I

John Ritchie,

in appreciation.

So it finally took the U.S.A to do what
Britain couldn't. Another press success,
did just what they all wanted him to.
But the damage was already done,
The Pistols had kicked The media in
it's poxy, lying, self satisfied gut.
Is an overdose of smack better than
massive pollution of the mind? I
don't want either, but Sid, for all his
so called faults, went cleaner than
the bastards who put him there.
Another field day for the vultures.
Not a hero, just another death in
the attempt, but it'll be a black
day when we all have to toe
their line. So long kid, was
it something they say
you did?

X.

ARMED FORCE.....6th JAN..RUSSELL

It was wet , miserable, and there were no buses. I managed to get down to the Russell, ONLY TO FIND a white piece of paper pinned to the door . The message declared that V.2. will not be playing due to the cold weather, The Straits and Armed Force will play instead. I decide to risk my 75p and go inside.

Myself and a few others tht made the effort to get down there were justifiably rewarded. Not by the Straits but by the local and highly entertaining Armed Force. Once they took the stage I realised they had already built up a following at the Russell in any case. Some 20 to 30 regulars stood, danced, shouted and genrally had a good time at the front of the stage with the band. The rest of the people in the Russell at the time (40 TO 50) seemed content with playing out the part of bored teenagers

reluctantly at first I joined the joyous bunch at the front, recognised a few faces, talked, laughed, ENJOYED IT.

Armed Force themselves are a six - peice band with a strong "punk" image and two vocalists, bassist and lead guitarist. Surprisingly for such a little - known band, they perform a very

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tight, original, entertaining set. They did about ten songs, all their own exept for "Right to Work" and "Wild Thing". The titles I can remember are "Cancer Ward", a song crowded with atmosphere, the girl singer reminding me of Nico at her very best. "T oys", a reggae - cum - punk song - excellent. Illiterate HOMOSAPIENS, the opening number, fast, clean, produced a good reaction from such a small audience. There were others, if not good, strong songs, Armed Force made them entertaining. For the last number, the group swapped instruments and basically had a good laugh and enjoyed themselves, which they did throughout the set. I certainly did, and was glad I decided to go inside after finding that V.2. could not be bothered to turn up.

The Straits, who Armed Force were supporting, concentrated totaly on their sex - appeal and not their music. Talk about sexism, they were a joke, didn't want to play and made it obvious they probably couldn't. A four - peice all girl group advertised as " Sex Bombs", what a laugh.

But at least they're better than the nuclear kind After the first three numbers I was totaly bored, so got pissed. But at least I was left with the memory of my first Armed Forces gig, It won't be my last by any means.....

Seen loads of bands since the last issue. cant even remember half of them - sound the same boring bland, uninspired modern musik (band forming, needs musicians into 80's style musac, artschool computers/crap preferred)- this ones for you "hey, hey, music sailor missed the boat whats new" (pere ubu, thankyou).

All the same, most aren't as bad as they could be if they tried. ACERTAIN RATIO- saw them again, at the factory. modern industrial doom music guitars and no drums all fuzzed etc etc they dont impress me etc.....

Food upstairs at the russel.... seemed to get better for a bit but now they don't even do chips

The NOT SENSIBLES from burnley i dont remember much of but it was at band on the wall. Simplistic, naive, charming - remind me of the pathetix but comparisons stop. somrthing they've got is better than nothing, a lot think they're good but i dont think.

Seen a couple of great gigs by THE DISTRACTIONS supported by PRIVATE SECTOR..... ofce in burton, once at band on the wall. Buxton- also a local punk band who i do the disservice of not knowing their name; reworkings, cover versions, 'holidays in the sun' might have done their own songs (ramalama shaa 69) everyone danced, pogoed, had a good time. Private Sector played as confidently as always clear sharp R'n'B. Distractions come on and it's one of their best gigs and i dance among broken glass on the floor. Band on the wall- Private Sector play good as always- music to get pissed to and its great...why are Private Sector only a support band??? The Distractions play some new songs and i dont want to think, just dance and dance. The place is full, dance floors packed, i love it.

John DOWIE at the factory started off ok but his words piss me off- his sense of humour isnt mine- the guys certainly got something...manic crazed, eyes bulging as the lines are drawn on his face...a mad man from the nut house. just about exclusively a white male audience pays the attention.

LUDUS at the factory. 2nd time i've seen them, enjoyed it more than before, they played more as a band...cohesive whole, not so intense, tension and sharpness, i recognised and enjoyed songs, stage presence...vocals on 'bleeding' still haunt my mind...i mean when are they next playing manchester.

Gang of FOUR, the factory. they play a sharp, riffing, rocking new music. they play well. the place is packed, i retire upstairs.

BATHROOM, now a 5 peice. i like what i hear especially the title song. well paced guitar neat riffs and melodies.

Andy Zero

-Manchester Musicians' Collective

The Manchester Musicians' Collective was formed on the twenty fifth of April 1977 by composer Trevor Whishart and NorMedia percussionist Dick Witts with the aim of promoting new music in the Manchester area. It is a non-profit making association, partially supported by the North West Arts in whose basement (52 King St.), it meets fortnightly (Mondays 8.00pm-Free) to provide an opportunity for all sorts of musicians to meet, to discuss music and to help each other.

In April 1978 the collective started to promote weekly concerts at Band on the Wall (Tuesdays 8.30-12.00 admission-70p) to give new bands a chance to present their music to an audience. There are usually three collective bands on each night and all profits go to the bands playing. Although most members of the collective are involved in Rock-Punk-New Wave it is open to any musician, composer or listener who wishes to help. Anyone interested should phone 061 434 6340 or go along to Band on the Wall some Tuesday.

Recently the collective has started to branch out with evenings of improvised music (e.g. Lol Coxhill, Steve Beresford, John Stevens) at the North West Arts as part of a northern circuit run in conjunction with other collectives and the Jazz Centre Society. Also it is hoped to promote a package tour of colleges that do not normally have live music, to release an E.P. featuring bands without record contracts and to organise a musicians switchboard.

"THE REDUCERS" "BUS-IN" Boxing Day 1978

The Bus-In is Boltons one and only regular New Wave venue and every Tuesday night 2 local bands entertain the populace for a measly 30 pence. There's a late (2.00am) bar but the booze is pricey- 40pence for a pint of lager (and its sodding Hemelin-youve got to drink about 93 pints to get drunk). The good choice of disco records is ruined by the appalling P.A. system - the distortion was so bad some of the bootlegs were virtually inaudible. The place reminded me of the Ranch - but dont let that put you off, it's well worth a visit.

Support band - The Addicts. They've certainly improved a lot since I last saw them - despite the departure of the near legendary Peter Mor is. Unfortunately their vocalist was too sick to perform but a worthy attempt was made by two last minute recruits from their ligger crew. The addicts do a breif set but they do at least entertain people - which is what it all should be about.

Next on the Reducers- who consist of Reggie on vocals, Roy on guitar, Doug on bass and Graham on drums. The fab four hail from Bury, which is some achievement since the place is normally as lively as a senile snail on barbs. They've had one single released "Things Go Wrong"/"We Are Normal", which got rave reviews in NME/ Record Mirror + Zig Zag (by Danny Baker). They're an Honest straight- down-the-line New Wave band with none of the sickly pretentions common to many bands today i.e, Cab Voltaire, Joy Division etc, etc,

On stage the boys are a bit unpredictable, they've turned in some memorable performances next to some fairly dire ones. A dodgy mix ruined some of the early songs- "We Are Normal" and "Surrounded" were turned into a messy heavy meatal drone. Things went right later on though and warmed up by "Out Front" (about eneffers) and "Man With a Gun". They've dropped their version of the Velvets "Pale Blue Eyes"- which is a pity since they make a fucking good job of it. The last two songs are undoubtedly the best - "Happy Families"+ "Raw Power" - red hot searing amphetamine rock at its utmost. The reducers are worth seeing for these two numbers alone. If you get the chance dont hesitate - they are one of the most exiting local bands currently doing the rounds. Also watch out for a new single - possibly "Happy Families" on the vibes label. Happy new Year.

Alan Aiker

Armed Force, The Straits. Russel Club sat 6th jan. Advertised as V2 headlining the word was round the night before that they wouldnt turn up. true to form they didn't. All sorts of rumours why not, officially: one of them was ill. no announcement was made, they didnt make any friends.

It never got very full but there were no buses. Start off at about 10. ARMED FORCE obviously very punk(is this the 8th generation). lots of energy. the p.a. and sound was shit as it was for the Straits. tell us about their album 'Elvis costello and te attractions' "well he ripped off our name" its two days after that i write this and my memory's a bit blurred. they sounded ok not pure ramalamapunkerama. i went upstairs cos i wanted to talk- wastched through the glass 'wild thing' sounded pretty good. the next thing i know i turn round and theres about 30 people on stage -chaos that sounded and looked ok. all the band had swapped instruments. management asked them off the stage they go and its over. a break. THE STRAITS. Four women kept reminding me of Blondie but others disagree. parts of the music sound good - bits of riffing- i keep watching the drumming. the songs they sang haven't stuck in my brain. Drums, lead, rhythm, bass the guitarists all sing. Not expecting to headline. completely fucked the continuity and impact of their set. something went on the lead guitar. she stopped playing and the others did a few songs as a three peice; they have a break and return 15 minutes later.... the lead guitarist breaks a string and goes to the dressing room to replace it. The others do "get it on" (again) as a threepeice, a bit later and theres a break for tuningup. the gaps broke continuity. The Straits played confidently and competently - kept checking up on one another. they got away with a lot because they're women. Quite a few people clapped.

andy zero

GEORGE DAVENPORTS COUNTRY MUSIC CENTRE is on Oxford St next to roترز discoteque. They have a small selection of 'new wave' albums and various fanzines. anyone showing them this should get £1 off any album. o.k.

a problem.....XMAS FESTIVITIES, YULETIDE JOY AND ALL OF THAT PRODUCT.....

two eyes: and me i'm a consumer; one of those little numbers that placed that really terrific, honest, communicative, profound clash hi-fidelity long playing record on order. a creature you try to ignore. yes, a little pimple, a small blemish upon your face because YOU TOO ARE A CONSUMER. You are a sweet supermarket trolley, with four wheels of different direction. WILL SOMEBODY PLEASE TELL ME WHICH WAY TO GO..... ah! consumer confusion creeps.

with glazed eye, glazed room. that yuletide fayre, xmas jollities to you etc. and all of that. gobble gobble gobble i devour. christmas product offerings Boney M boney m boney m??? could be a god or just another Jesus christ.

tell me who is the next new prophet? tell me of those trendy trends, oh great one magic radio or maybe new musical express / oracle and what must i dig to be number one on the swinging 'scene'? and what views must i hold to be at one with the most highly hippest? ... little god, give to me, give to me food. eat. devour. gobble. digest. gorge. cram stuff engulf.

SPECIAL VINYL; SPECIAL PICTURE DISC, SPECIAL FREE SHOPPING BAG, SPECIAL LABEL; SPECIAL GIFT; SPECIAL EFFECTS TO BUILD SPECIAL STARS ON PICTURE COVER WITH SPECIAL GIVE WAS RECORDED IN SPECIAL STUDIO. YES! SPECIAL STARS WITH SPECIAL CARS AND AN INSTANT READY MIX MESSAGE AND WITH ALL THOSE SPECIAL PROMISES OF all makes me feel not so special: SMALL

and here lies i, swimming in a sea of marketable goods i SCREAM. I AM A SCREEN MEDIA IMAGES PROJECTED AT ME. I am a movie of a gullible public of a bewildered purchaser of lies; of fakes; of imitations; of shoddy; of dishonesty; of second-best; of THAT GAME.

Yes siouxsie, oh siouxsie i buy your record. i love you. i pay my £4 to that lady. i take away with convenience my cut-price fantasy. i listen to £4's worth of: METAL, METAL YEH! YEH! METAL IS TOUGH yes, but i already know that, my homely one, - anything else in there for me, petal? yes, why t rev's METAL. METAL. METAL IS TOUGH — but, me i've got blood running through me and love and a broken heart and metal aint no

consolation.

if this reads like a nightmare, those petulant outpourings of one confused
— it works. this is a meandering to find REALITY.

i'm in a crowd and noone—just a little person you've never met, but my head wants
the truth. WHAT/WHO/WHERE IS REAL? IS HONEST IS SINCERE

IS PEOPLE SINGING ABOUT METAL/ABOUT JEWS/ABOUT GENOCIDE/ABOUT GREY/
TRENDY MINIMALISM..... ABOUT YOU?

give them a guitar and all of those things that money can buy, and does it
give them the right to stand upon a stage, [A PEDESTAL FOR MIDGETS?], and to
be as a star, are they better than you, is that why you clap? did you give
the lady your money or did you sneak in the back... WITH THE AMPLIFIER

— such handy poetry is pretentious shit.

A QUESTION: is musical entertainment provided to transport ^{WE} ~~the~~ eager masses,
to lose we cheery consumers into that clean, successful television magazine world
of boy meets girl and happy ever after conclusions; clean and perfect people with
no problems no screw-ups and no tight balls of loneliness to eat away at their
stomachs — yes! you sell. we'll dream. life in a paperback.

OR waste of space etc.

is it something to do with people. bond of reality, uniting living human beings.
bringing we jolly consumer types into that real light. a ruck awakening to what
was always there: a filthy black world. inadequacy. rejection fuck-ups.
unsavory deficiencies. corruption of relationships with all we stars in our films:
gays; blacks; mentally ill; handicapped; chinese; ugly; transvestite; deformed;
mutilation — TERRIFIED.

yes, i know my answer

mummy, mummy, do those pop stars know? what are they doing up there, mummy?

yes, popular singers of a coincidental age yes, popular
swingers of the swinging, groovy scene

BRING IN EXAMPLES. WORSHIP A HERO. FIND A CONVENIENCE GOD. ASK THEM LOTS OF
QUESTIONS to examples etcetera and all of that.

those bastions of intellectualism for anti-intellectuals — THE FALL
[did that name originate from THAT super intellectual book or did they just FALL upon it?]

XMAS FESTIVITIES, YULETIDE JOY AND ALL OF THAT PRODUCT continued dot dot dot.

yes, YOU ~~my cynical ones~~ ^{my cynical ones} - LOATHE THEM. they seem to be so annoyingly BLOODY GOOD and BRILLIANT and a circle / a parody of what they have become. very wonderful and etcetera and all of those gushing superlatives HATE / LOVE and nomatter how hard i try can't IGNORE them - and that is a high compliment mr. smith [do you read anything but 'titbits' and 'Blue jeans?']

There's groups A.T.V., progVEC, gang of four, mekons, scitti politti. PUBLIC IMAGE LIMITED [ha! ha! joke etc.]. There are groups who seem to be HONEST, but confusion is such i do not know. am not certain.

Play dance tunes. singalong, swingalong, popular; could be orchestrated by James last tunes AND those words. STRONG / SHARP / REAL / POWER / BITE. let it slide into minds. slip in sideways through the seams and crawl around inside re-activate a brain for xmas

THIS IS REDICULOUS AND SINCERE AND DEFEATIST IDEALISM

i havnt put my real and boring name to it ?

well, think ill vegitate in my armchair and watch variety shows at peak-viewing periods

think ill darn sox for pleasure or something

where's rock n' roll ???

hide away

that rock and roll is LYING TO ME

love from Doris Day xxxx

New bands in manchester include:- The Renegades, The Things, Property of..., Gods gift Cyco-s-Matik, red, Hi-Phen...several others hopefully these are the tip of the iceberg that sank NME's titanic. TJM records have already released 'You cant go out dressed like that' by the distractions and 'Man in a box' by V2 soon to be released ere singles by Slaughter and the Dogs, Screwdriver (who have split up with their drummer joining V2) and The Frantic Elevators. Also under TJM management are The Straits. Bent records will soon (??) be releasing Jon the Postmans 2nd lp and the Not Sensibles ep. Teardrops are reportedly recording a second ep. City Fun has vague plans to start a record label. Its first release will be a 4 track ep featuring 4 different manchester bands. Each band paying 1/2 of the estimated £300-500 recording and pressing costs and receiving 1/2 of the profits. Tentatively lined up are The Renegades (rockabilly), Private Sector (R'NB), The Things (psychedelic), we still need at least one more band. If YOU are intresed contact Mark at 061-445-3797. The 1st stage will be recording costing £80 - £20 per band. Approaches have been made to band on the wall and the russel for benefit gigs. watch this space...

1979 - so is this the year of the pay-off? name who? on what records? the lists too big but so what, fuck them. still make good music. elvis costello's new 1.p. sounds alright on john peel. john peel sounds like he did in 1968 -or was it sounds of the seventies?? karl burns leaves the fall the fall look for a drummer karl burns plays with 'teardrops' also steve 'get it while you can' garvey + others(whose names) i dont know but look pretty good. for further liggig life news read martin 'are you getting the beer in or what' x. who? is the music scene.

meanwhile marvellous high technology society falls apart and piccadilly radio starts a crisis desk so that we know theres a crisis on. its all pretty funny what with solving the housing shortage building igloos out of the 48ft snowdrifts. worst winter since '43. largest snowflakes since 6.33pm march 19th 1428. gritters on strike, buses on strike, weather on strike. social workers on strike, lorrys on strike, oil on strike, schools not opening, trains striking. its all good fun. pubs still have beer and the social still has giros so theres nothing too serious.....

seems to be a lot of new/unknown? bands about.... getting formed.... good, best thing. begoing, borrowin and stealing the gear's the work. hope they all start giggering and get people out and off whatever there on. hope more people get bands. fuck the music...have fun while it lasts.

Mr and Mrs Statistic did fuck-all over christmas.

andy zero

Dear CITY FUN, Especially Andy Zero,

With reference to a bit in "ish No.3.

I conclude that Mr. Zero was either asleep for half an hour during the HUNT SABOUTER'S BENEFIT gig at the VENUE, or he could do with a good (and tolerant) mathematics teacher.

contrary to his claim that "BATHROOM" played their "two number set", we in fact, did ten whole songs with gaps in between for you to applaud. We", thanks for clapping anyway- so you were the rowdy extrovert who admitted to being there.

Since that gig, BATHROOM has split (surprised?), to undergo refitting of components So look out in the future for a renovated BATHROOM- perhaps Mr. Zero will have learned to count by then. Thanks for the "plug", (Ha Ha)

Dear City Fun,

-so here I am. At the Squat. 7.30pm. Not much action. Sound-checks. Eventually, the Nives come on to "perform", first "song": "I'm a wanker". Very commendable of you to admit it, sir. But who cares? And, who cares about the Nives? Not me. Boring crap. The Distractions - in retrospect, a strange looking bunch. The sound wasn't too hot. Awful drum sound, no punch, no power. Presumably not the drummers fault, he looked pretty active. The rhythm guitar was too far down in the mix. The bass? Sounded ok. Lead guitar was-jumbled. A very boring review. I couldn't understand the words. They have promise. Reminded me of the Jags, who supported squeeze at the university in November. Lets just say that the Distractions were better than the Smirks when I saw them at the university, and, given a clearer sound, would (or should) get people dancing. I didn't dance I'd have been too embarassed. The Gags- I stayed for two numbers, seemed to be going down well, very professional, yawn, no future, yawn, depressing to see yawn. Hope I havent mis-judged them.

Christ, that was a boring review:

Alternative review:

Wednesday, 13th December, The Squat, - featuring: Gags, Distractions, Nives.

Nives- about as sharp as Arthur Mullard. Gags- about as intresting as Yes. Distractions- promising, need a clearer sound. They looked bored, cant blame them, was that Bob Geldof in the audience? No atmosphere at the gig. The squats too high and always empty? Most of their songs sounded better than the Buzzcocks latest (awful) single. The Small Faces song they did was (seemed) the most effective. A good /great dance band, given the oppertunity.

"Ambition"- Subway Sect: A bouncy, delightful pop song, verging slightly too much towards heavy metal, but ignore that. Strangled words from a singer who can't sing. This is a plea to anyone booking bands for Manchester gigs - we/I want to see Subway Sect. Dont ignore a brilliant, amazing, fantastic, superb, lyrical, dynamic band. Forget the Buzzcocks, they're past it.

love GODZILLA, the boring one

← I certainly did see a 2 number set by 2 men & 2 women calling themselves 'BATHROOM'. I then drank & sold City Fun FOR ABOUT 1/2 AN HOUR BEFORE LEAVING. ALL I CAN THINK IS :- SOMEONE'S LYING, SOMEONE IMPERSONATED BATHROOM, I SAW THE SOUNDCHECK, OR ONE OF THE GAPS FOR APPLAUSE LASTED OVER 1/2 AN HOUR. I Did like Bathroom and was actually quite impressed that they...

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT:-

V.D. -anoccupational hazard. I got it a bit back. A couple of weeks after screwing with a woman, i'd have a piss and get a burning sensation in the end of my prick. Also my bed and groin started smelling rotten. It took about 3 days before i realised something was up and about another /3 days before i made it to a clinic. Theres a V.D. clinic at every general hospital, or your doctor can treat you. I went to St Lukes 'special' clinic just off liverpool rd off Deansgate. Go round to the mens entrance- go in- go to counter. "youre a bit late" go round to interview cubicle, tell the woman me name and get given a card with my number. "wait for doctor No 1". didnt have to wait so i went straight in - the doctor was more like a dirty old man than anyone i've ever seen; he peered over his glasses and said "get it out then, lets have a look at it". He wrote something illegible on my card and sent me through to a waiting room at the back. When my turn came a male nurse called me into a side room, i rolled up my sleeve and he took a blood sample with a syringe. I then went into another room, another nurse, i pissed in a couple of bottles. the nurse put on a surgical paper glove and held my penis, the next thing i know he's shoved a long peice of wire with a loop on the end up the tube inside my cock, he then repeated this with a long peice of of wood with a small cotton wool dab on the end - both times he did this i just realised i was in agony when he pulled it out. he wrote a few thingz on the card and i went back to the doctor; he grunted and said "no sex, no drink, see them at the back, come back next week" - seeing as he even said what i'd got i asked "N.S.U.- non specific utheritis" this means they dont know what it is. I see them at the back and get given some orange pills, "no birds, no booze, tara". After drinking orange juice and taking 4 big orange pills a day for a week, i went back. The burning sensation when i pissed had gone after a few days. 1st waiting room, 2nd doctor - a bit more pleasant. A few questions (no birds? no drink? - right), piss in a jar - he has a look at it and there are only a few small bits, (when there are bits,, especially large ones, in the piss; theres something up). "Right" he says, "you can drink a bit but take it easy with the women for a week or so, come back in a week for a final check up"; i didnt bother going back.

Incidentally, if you go to the clinic with someone, they'll have to wait out siide(preserve anonymity of the clients). If its your 1st visit and you go within ½hour of closing you'll have to go back another time. The only time you give your name is at the start - on your treatment card which you're supposed to bring each time, there's only your number. The reason you cant drink is because it stops the antibiotic working (also it hurts when you piss!).

I told the woman i'd screwed with and she went for a check-up but had nothing. It is possible, when two people have sex, for a chemical reaction to occur between all the germs on the two bodies, which can lead to an infection. andy zero

NOTSENSIBLES/A CERTAIN RATIO/BATHROOM TUES 16th JAN BAND ON THE WALL

The Band ON The Wall, for all those who've never been there, is just a pub. A big pub, but still a pub. Consequently any bands playing there find that the audience hasn't come just to watch them play- the band provides you-don't-have-to-watch-if-you-don't-want entertainment whilst the pub-goers down their pints. Still, its one of my favourite gigs. On Tuesdays Manchester Musician's Collective Band bands play there- Three of them come on before midnight, which is closing time. You don't have to be good to be in the Collective; could be the reason why the place is always half-empty, cos you get all sorts of crap coming on stage. Most of the bands are good, though, so its a good place for talent spotters.

Tonite there were three fairly good bands on, and the audience was larger than usual; as well as the usual pint-downers/sceptics there was a contingent of people who'd come just to see the bands! Could have been due to a fifty-seater seater coach parked outside, which I later saw Notsensibles loading their gear into.

First act of the night was Bathroom, a twopiece comprising guitarist/singer and Mark Perry lookalike/bassist. I deduced that this was their last gig together- a kind of sad farewell. Their repertoire consisted of humour/nostalgia songs, including a mutated version of the Smurf Song, with three extra vocalists on stage. The guitarist even had the nerve to do a song on his own. Good, though.

Next came A Certain Ratio- spot the unusual band time. Two guitars, bass, moaning vocalist. The vocalist looked more like an ape than anything; the vocals were inaudible. (They were meant to be. When someone offered to turn the p.a. up, he wouldn't have it, cos the vocals were meant to blend in with the music.) So the two guitars farted away in the background, the bass, which was deafening, emitted occasional notes, the singer wailed like a banshee. The effect was quite good. Most of the audience was stupefied.

Finally came Notsensibles, one of the few bands in Manchester who seem to have become popular in the space of a few months. Guitarist, keyboardist, drummer, vocalist, but no bass. I won't say they lacked it, cos it didn't seem to matter much. I think the keyboardist had a function on his synthesiser which sounded like a bass; he managed to play this and his electric piano at the same time. The music was new wave, but Notsensibles aren't quite the conventional punk band. Their songs were entirely different from those of any other punk band, what's more, each of their songs was different from the next. Their average age seemed only about seventeen. Certainly the singer was no older than 16. Considering this, the music they produced was fantastic, as well as being as far as I could tell all original. Their "stage presence" was enormous; they seemed to radiate confidence- bit like The Fall, but without the "we are superior" attitude and with more humour. Their act ranged from hard-core punk, touches of all kinds of new wave, ending with a superb two-notes-on-the-synthesiser song entitled "Lying on the sofa", to which all members of the band contributed some kind of backing vocal. To the surprise of all, during the song some type of chimp, hitherto unnoticed, clambered up onstage and started gibbering into a mike. Personally I think Notsensibles are going to be the second Beatles, well worth seeing at any rate.

M. HARTLEY

HELLO SWINGERS !!

A LETTER TO YOU
GERT AND BERT



PRINT THAT ARTICLE?
It's probably too long edit if so.
can't spell too well.

CITY FUN IS O.K.
keep up good work
and other crawly compliments
It's good FUN.

If you don't print it
I'll come and visit
you. WATCH OUT

ABOVE found in evening news
I agree, BUT WHICH
DISTRACTION CAN I HAVE?

really. crawl etc. distractions
wonderful group are
SWINGING DANCE MUSIC
FOR MODERN FAMILIES

MY GRANNY WANTS TO MARRY
MIKE FINNEY which is O.K.
because they belong to the same
GENERATION - the one

after
Martin x's
generation
[generation X?]

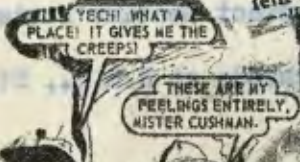
grace, n. charm; goodwill; ornament,
accomplishment; unmerited favour;
divine kindness and mercy; delay
granted; thanksgiving at meals. v.t.
adorn; honour. grace'ful, a. charm-
less, attractive. grace'less, a. charm-
less, worthless. [*L. gratia*; cf.
grate'ful]

charm'less, n. *charm*, n. word, act, or object having
mysterious power; thing worn to avert
evil; attractiveness. v.t. bewitch; de-
light. charm'er, n. beautiful woman.
charming, a. [*F. < L. carmen* song]
charm'el-house, n. place containing
corpses or bones. [*F.*; cf. GARNAL]

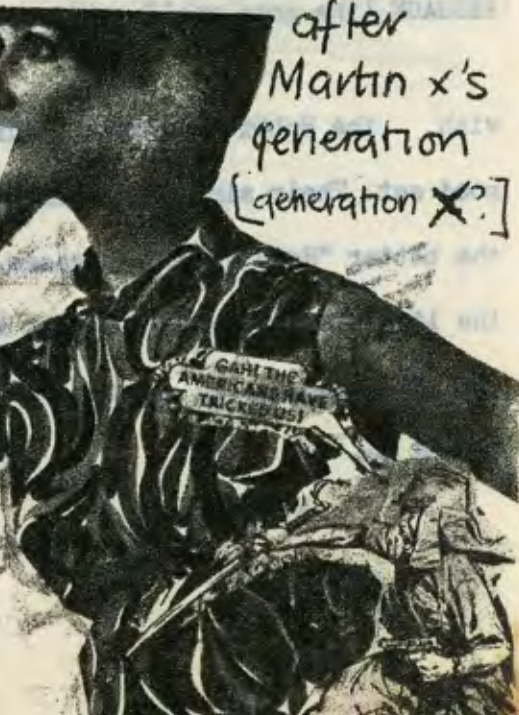
distilled from eye. [*Ituss.*]
vogue (-s), n. popular favour; the
prevailing fashion. [*F.*]
voice sound uttered by the mouth;

fem'inine, a. of women; womanly;
(Gram.) of the gender proper to
women's names. feminin'ity, n.
[*L. femina* woman]
fem'inism, n. the claims of women to
equality with men

class (-es), n. rank, order of society; set
of students taught together; division
according to quality. v.t. place in a
class. [*F. < L. classis* assembly]
class'ic, a. of the first class; standard;



GAVE THE AMERICANS A TRICKEDUS!



The Wingeing bit goes on and on and on..

Haven't been to many gigs recently , so I've not seen many bands to slag off . Went to the Band on the Wall sometime over the holiday, far too stoned to remember exactly when.It was one

of the Postman's numerous days off, I recall. (No wonder this country's going to the fucking dogs...sooner the better I say.....Still , cheer up, grown ups can't hang on for ever)

The highlight of the night, though, apart from the aforementioned Postperson's legendary stomach capacity, was when the arty - farty types, and the orang- utan impersonators had done their bit for culture, and SPHERICAL OBJECTS came back on, blues harp and all and really shook the joint.Old skinhead ain't bad is he? I wish he was MY dad. . Nice one . Devoto may be full of piss and wind but I bet HE can't play a harp like that. The

PASSAGE (the poor man's amadeus string quartet with the Hobbit on drums) turned in a good set. Their single's definately one of the better "Home Grown" releases, but why the little twat has to use such fucking appalling language on a cunt in' record is beyond me.

When is that doyen of sartorial elegance (snappy dresser) Bentley going to get off his overfed arse and get the POSTMAN'S follow- up record out? Havn't had a laugh like the first one since the piano fell on the vicar.....

The pigs have been remarkably quiet of late, are they too busy persecuting pickets or is Anderson too busy cleaning up the Vatican or what? Still, no news is good news so if they're persecuting someone else at least they're leaving us alone

NOTSENSIBLES.....FOOTNOTE

Sorry we went to press too late to put in your gig plug, Mike. Yes ,we've heard of BENT RECORDS(In fact it was my association with the aforementioned firm that finally did my brain in (The Postman's went years ago) Seriously though, NOTSENSIBLES ARE Dave's next studio project, and the bewhiskered old bleeder usually knows what he's about In fact I tend to respect Bentley's view rather than the shitheads at N.M.E., Etc.

You can ring Mike on BURNLEY27382.....

Martin.x.

THE VYE, 999, the Factory, Friday 5th Jan. I get there early and 999 are on stage - the under 18's show. They look good, enjoying themselves, 100+ people, mostly in front of the stage. jumping up and down, dancing. 999 playing their usual set - obviously not out to knacker themselves but don't mess around. giving the microphone to the kids - sing the chorus. Drummers got a big grin on. someone gets on stage and joins in the singing - knows the words, dancing and doing the bit, its good. Do an encore and more songs. The fans leave. "a lot of our fans are under 18, it's not the first time we've done kids shows. i like kids."

come back a bit later and it's filling up with over 17's. someones been painting pictures on the walls upstairs, they look good and it bodes well for the future.

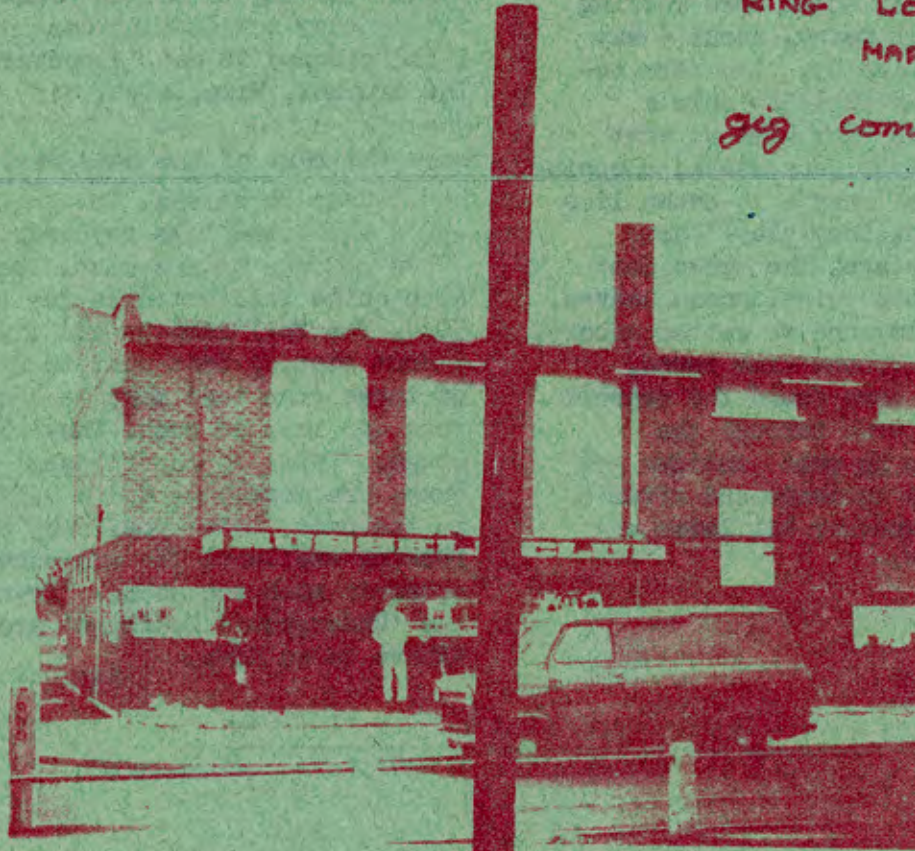
Wanted.

Female Drummer
Rhy/Lead Guitar/Vocal
For all-girl band

"Property of....."

RING LOUISE 434-6340
MARTINE 764-6344

gig coming up!



CATCH THIS SPACE FOR DETAILS

Manchester
Soundboard!
Soon to be in operation.
Information needed urgently
PA HIRE FACILITIES,
PHOTOGRAPHERS, VENUES,
PRINTING FACILITIES, VAN
HIRE, RECORDING FACILITIES
REHEARSAL SPA

The VYE are on first- i didn't take them in. sounded ok but thats all. it's got pretty full, theres no buses but it doesn't seem to have stopped many. 999 come on and start off with something thats alright- it's got people dancing. 77 punks made it to 79. clash style riffing and then bring out the power chords. solid pulse ramalama bass and drums. 'feeling alright with the crew' lots of echo "feeling alright with you" a highlight. 'Homicide'. fast pace all through the set. lots of short songs to dance to. nothing to make me think they're brilliant but i dont care. i think they've got some good songs. 'feeling alright' they're doing. do it

OTHER SERVICES SOON AVAILABLE FREE

BAND ON THE WALL

March 6th (Tuesday)

SLIGHT SECONDS
CINDY AND THE VIRGINS
THE VIBRANT THIGH

March 13th (Tuesday)

THE FIRE PLACE + 2
BANDS TO BE ANNOUNCED.

Jambo picks daffodils. He can't think of a reason why except he's climbed into someone's garden and there's nothing else to do now he's here. So he picks all the daffodils because the bright sunshine makes him, but when he gets outside in the street again he can't think what he'd say to anyone who asked him why he's got them - so he gives them away to an old lady in a wheelchair and goes off whistling, hoping it wasn't her garden.

BAND ON THE WALL

March 20th (Tuesday)

TO BE ANNOUNCED.

Jambo inks tattoos on his arm with a biro. Pirates and lovehearts and mermaids. A death's head skull and "NUM" - all writhing and dancing together.

Underneath he does his name. "JAMBO ACE OK". Jambo would like to be an artist - just so he could sign his name.

But he can't be bothered with paintings. Paintings take too long. So he just signs his name in all the places where they ought to be. On empty walls, on the back of bus shelters, on the sides of houses, on the stairs in tower blocks.. "JAMBO ACE OK".

RUSSELL CLUB
THURSDAY
MARCH 8TH
"THINGS"

*110

Jambo goes to church every Sunday. He's a very conscientious Christian. He wants to know how to be good to his neighbour and help old ladies across the road and how to turn the other cheek and how to get to heaven and how to get the lead off the roof.

BAND ON THE WALL

MARCH 27th (TUESDAY)

SPHERICAL OBJECT
THE MANCHESTER MERRIANS
PROPERTY OF.....

Dave Ward
23a Brent Way
Halewood
Liverpool L26 9XB

BAND ON THE WALL (POB) IS ON SWAN ST. (NEAR THE OLD SMITHFIELD MARKET). TUESDAY NIGHTS ARE ORGANISED BY MANCHESTER MERRIANS' COLLECTIVE. ADMISSION IS TOP. START 8.30 PM. TILL 12. MIDNIGHT. FOOD AVAILABLE AT THE BAR.

HULME + MANCHESTER 13/2/79

I've got to write it down!—My home,
my country, my castle in the sky!

3 bedrooms, 2 bogs, full central heating,
constant hot water, panoramic windows
cheap rent -no rip off landlord, even
a nice friendly caretaker thrown in.

Whats going on..... no I have'nt
come up on the pools, I'm not dreaming,
this is Manchester, hulme, 1970'S ..I've
been allocated a council flat.It was worth
the three months wait, living in and off
the streets. The council plan to turn
most of Hulme into a student conabation
(perish the thought') but it means that
bums like me can share with students and
actually get off the streets. All it takes
is a plee of homelessness down at the town
hall and if N.U.P.E. are'nt on strike,
they'll do the rest - up the welfare state,
things are'nt that bad after all!?

Land of the Russel club, real green
grass, space age walk ways like safe
getaway branches above the jungle, a
£300,000 + Pedestrian footbridge leading
to Oxford Rd. Right where it'S at man
You can't get much nearer the city center'

Seriously folks living in Hulme is
alright. You don't get mugged by urban
gorrillas every time you step out after dar!
There are no slimy snakes lying inwait
The place does'nt smell of sweet scottish
heather, but it's clean enough and neither
does anywhere else in this city.

It's just that whenever anyone where
I live they shudder and sigh a sympathetic
frown.- "the prime example of an ugly
dirty, concrete jungle, a planning mistake,
a con by successive governments to "improve
the standard of living" Wellthis is it

Hulme your time of recognition is long
over due' The people are there they're
real they have to be housed . there has
to be a degree of sophistication to fit
us all in, and I think it's certainly
been done adequately. The neighbours
live up to the true mancurian tradition
and the general relative poverty binds
the people together (if you or them allow
it!) The pubs may be a little dangerous
if your the wrong type of posser but
that often just adds to the flavour of
the area

Hulme is a modern attempt to over-
come acute population concentration
and the old dirty slums. People are always
suspicious of anything new, the eternal
(possibly freudian)fear of the unknown
like they have'nt recovered from chidbirth
yet. -It might not be ideal for all you
hippy snobs in damp old Didsbury, dying
of bronchitus.. But I'm alright.....
resident of Bonsall st.....

EDITORIAL BIT:- apologies for the delay
in getting this issue out. thanks to:-
resident of bonsall st, Alan Alker, John
Bidet, Godzilla, Doris Day, Martin A, Andy
Zero, Neil, Martin Carver, Mick Middles,
Wimpy 401/52, M Hartley, Dave Ward, St
Johns College, The Russel Club/Wise Moves,
Anonymous, M.A.R.C., Simon and anyone ive
forgotten. We should have another issue out
soon . CITY FUN has a NEW ADDRESS:- City
Fun, c/o The Russel Club, Royce Rd, Hulme,
Manchester.

If anyone wants to send in any articles,
poems, reviews, pictures etc,we will print
them. Thanks

City Fun would like some free office
space in or near the city centre, all offers
gratefully received- rich parents anyone?
see you.

Phone Number For Gigs Listings or
other Messages is Neil 061-440-8452
THAT IS 061-440-8452



Director of Public Prosecutions
 4-12 Queen Anne's Gate London SW1H 9AZ

Telephone Direct line 01-213 4223 or 4191
 Switchboard 01-213 3000

JUSTICE
 PREVAILS?

The complaints made against the police, relating to the assaults on customers at the venue (Issue 2) resulted in the forces of 'law + order' winning again. (see left)
 'Sorry if we damaged your knuckles officer'

Mr [redacted]
 [redacted]
 25 [redacted]
 [redacted]

Your reference
 Our reference [redacted]
 Date
 7 February 1979

Dear Sir,

Re: P.C. [redacted]

I have received from the Chief Constable, Greater Manchester Police a file relating to an investigation of your complaint of assault for decision as to whether criminal proceedings should be instituted against the above mentioned.

I should explain that the Chief Constable is required by the Police Act 1964 to refer to me the investigation of any allegation made against a police officer in his force which may involve a criminal offence.

Having carefully considered all the evidence I have reached the conclusion that it is not such as to justify the institution of criminal proceedings.

I have informed the Chief Constable accordingly.

Yours faithfully

A Whitfield

A WHITFIELD



Again, sorry about the delay in getting your stuff out, folks. Delays due to Christmas, Hangovers, Colleges closed, Capitalist pigs on the staff working during the day, Etc. We have a big backlog of work to get through, so if you submitted anything DON'T WORRY, IT WILL EVENTUALLY GET PRINTED SOON. I have several interviews with various bands on file which I shall move Heaven and Earth and Andy Zero to get into the next issue

Martin.X.

Of course you will, Martin. Have a nice time in Wales did we?

DAVE WARD

Jambo trying to figure the crossword out. He can't do it. All the answers he thinks of seem to be either too short or too long

But when Jambo asks people questions he never gets just one answer - he gets a different answer from everyone he asks. So how come the man who makes up the crossword decides what the answers are and how long they can be as well as asking all the questions?

35

THE RUSSELL CLUB



SATISFIED



For the seas of rock fans are growing stormy. The ever-growing numbers of hardcore freaks are turned off by the incredible concept of helping the police. There are thousands of students who started out straight before they realised there is no place for them in industry and commerce - a release from affliction for which they're glad. There are over two hundred thousand different individual mentalities being prompted by the heat and paranoia towards the singleminded mass insanity of the rioting mob -

CITY



*Ta
Bernard*

Piccadilly Gardens Manchester